**Joanna Dębowska-Ludwin**

**The catalogue of graves from Tell el-Farkha (status for 2006)**

The site of Tell el-Farkha is located in the Eastern Nile Delta, Egypt, 120 km NE to Cairo. It is under the investigation of the Polish Expedition to the Eastern Nile Delta since 1998 (Chłodnicki, Ciałowicz 2002: 89-117, Ablamowicz et al. 2004). Up to now research revealed seven occupational phases on the site. The most important for the following study are the last three ones corresponding to the age of burials registered at the Eastern tell.

The cemetery in Tell el-Farkha was found on the Eastern tell. Fieldworks on the necropolis are carried out since 2001. Discoveries revealed 53 graves and one mastaba, so far. The burials can be divided into four main categories, basing on general features of their construction, typical offerings and their orientation. The oldest graves in Tell el-Farkha belong to the first group. They are to be dated to the end of Dynasty 0 (Naqada IIIB-C1) and the beginning of the First Dynasty (Naqada IIIC1-2). They apparently belonged to Tell el-Farkha's middle class. Economic status of people buried in graves of this group is confirmed by differentiation in offerings assemblage. Each of these rather large mudbricked structures was erected employing significant effort, carefully lined with mattings and often secured with a massive superstructure. Some of them display also extra architectural features like: additional storage chamber, so-called annexes, bottom burial niche or particularly massive walls. Graves of the second type are rarely equipped with objects. They are interpreted as belonging to the society's lower group and dated to the end of the First Dynasty (Naqada IIIC2-NIIID). However, most of them is rectangular in shape and lined or paved with mudbricks, the main difference revealing in smaller measurements and lesser effort invested in their construction (twisted, thin walls, lack of any traces of preserved superstructures). Although much poorer in form, graves of this part of Farkha's population seldom are simple pits (in this group always of clear shape and lined with mattings), which become popular not before later period. The third group of graves consists of simple pit burials (sometimes oval but chiefly their exact shape remains undefined) rarely lined with mattings and devoid of any offerings. This group of graves is dated only by its archaeological relation to the Old Kingdom structures, most probably to the end of Early Dynastic Period. Lack of grave goods should be regarded the main reason, thanks to which the majority of burials assigned to this category was found undisturbed. The rest of them being damaged by later building activity in the settlement but not robbery as it was the case of previously described groups of graves. Finally, graves of the fourth group are the youngest on the site create a separate necropolis that was founded on ruins of a poor settlement. The present state of research does not enable to define its actual range. All graves of the group were found in the upper most layers of the tell, just beneath its surface. They were simple pits furnished with nothing but a few beads or some pottery fragments, typical for the Old Kingdom times. Bodies were oriented along the EW axis, their heads always to W. The deceased were lying in a straight position mostly on their right side.

The majority of graves registered in Tell el-Farkha are single burial, while double ones – mostly women with children – consist only a small percentage of the whole number. Bodies were buried in contracted position on their left or right side in the predynastic period or straight on their right side in the dynastic period. The
orientation of deceased varies, as their heads were found pointing to the south, east, west and most frequently to the north. Most of the Farkha graves were found undisturbed.

Particular categories of offerings are investigated in details by the Tell e-Farkha team members and we soon expect their publication. Anthropological analyses were done by Prof. M. Kaczmarek and Dr. M. Skrzypczak. In the following table all graves registered on the site were gathered. There was also marked to which the group of graves every burial belongs. The grave labelled no. 10 represents a mastaba type and will be the subject of a separate publication, therefore it is not mentioned in this article. It is also worth to mention that the mastaba is the oldest sepulchral structure on the whole site and all other graves were found dug out in its ruins or in the overlying layers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grave no.</th>
<th>construction type</th>
<th>burial</th>
<th>group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>double</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>free-standing, mudbricked</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>double</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>simple pit, bottom paved with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>mastaba</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>simple pit?</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>double</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>pit lined with mudbricks</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>simple pit, partially lined with mudbricks and mud</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>simple pit</td>
<td>single</td>
<td>IV</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The catalogue

Grave no. 1
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 44b
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.84m; bottom 4.8m
(below surface): approx. 0.4m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.3m long; 1.2m wide; 2.04m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: mudbrick cover with a central recess – 2.3m long; 1.2 m wide;
1m high (as preserved)
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.9m long; 1m wide; 1.04m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 6 pottery vessels, fragments of burnt animal bones

BURIAL: double
1. SEX: female
   AGE: adult (over 20 years old)
   BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: weak
2. SEX: unknown
   AGE: 0-1 years old
   BODY POSITION: unknown
   BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: the mudbrick superstructure was very thick and considerably larger than the burial chamber. It had in its centre a rectangular pit, filled with brown earth mixed with potsherds. The grave goods had been placed close to the body's feet, in the southern section of the burial chamber. The chamber had been lined along all the walls, including floor and roof, with a mat preserved as white fibres.

Grave no. 2
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 44b
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.81m; bottom 4.8m
(below surface): approx. 0.4m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.6m long; 1.3m wide; 1.99m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: compact mudbrick cover – 2.8 m long; 1.65 m wide; 0.67 m high (as preserved)
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.22 m long; 0.96 m wide; 1.32 m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 21 pottery vessels, 2 small bone vessels (found inside jar no. 8 - E/01/7, E/01/8), 1 ceramic cone (a possible gaming piece – E/01/9), 1 stone bowl (E/01/3), 1 pestle, 1 large almost square palette (E/01/4) with grinder (E/01/5), small carnelian beads (E/01/6) and 434 fragments of burned animal bones (remains of food offerings discovered in and around the crushed pots)

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 30-40 years old
BODY POSITION: not fully anatomical, on its back, head to N, face to E
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the structure is very similar to that of grave no. 1 but larger and also equipped with significantly more valuable funerary goods mostly arranged along the northern, southern and eastern walls of the burial chamber. The grave was secured with a compact and rectangular layer of mudbricks. Upon and just beneath the skeleton the remains of a mat could be observed. The way in which the body was found is of great interest. It was discovered lying on its back, the head turned to face NE, the legs translocated. They had been squeezed in between the vessels and the eastern wall of the burial chamber. This may indicate that the woman died some place away from the neighbouring settlement at Tell el-Farkha or that for some other reason a longer period of time elapsed between the moment of her death and the actual burial.

Grave no. 3
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 44a/54c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.01 m; bottom 6.31 m
(below surface): approx. 0.1 m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.66 m long; 1.4 m wide; 0.7 m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.4 m long; 1.1 m wide; 0.7 m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 18 pottery vessels, 113 fragments of burnt animal bones

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: adult (over 20 years old)
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: In the northern part of the burial chamber vessels had been stacked in layers one on top of the other. The rims of the biggest jars were covered with white, organic rests of a mat and were visible immediately below surface. The skeleton had been originally wrapped in a mat similar as mentioned above.
Underneath the human bones a layer of mud was recovered, possibly intended as floor for the chamber. In the immediate vicinity of the grave a fragment of a cylindrical seal impression was also found.

**Grave no. 4**

CONDITION: undisturbed  
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 43b/53d/54c  
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.49m; bottom 5.84m  
(below surface): approx. 0.1m  
CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks  
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 4.13m long; 2m wide; 0.65m deep (max)  
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none  
SUBSTRUCTURE: 2 chambers; northern chamber – 0.9m long, 1.5m wide, 0.65m deep (max); burial chamber – 2.4m long, 1.58m wide, 0.55m deep (max)  
OFFERINGS: 36 pottery vessels, 1 stone bowl (E/03/7), 1 stone bead (E/03/8), 1 fragment of a stone palette (E/03/2)  

BURIAL: single  
SEX: male  
AGE: 30-40 years old  
BODY POSITION: contracted (partly dismembered), left side, head to N  
BONES PRESERVATION: medium  

DESCRIPTION: it is a big two-chamber-tomb. The skeleton had been placed in the southern chamber on a kind of mudbrick-catafalque and was discovered in a position not entirely anatomical: crushed and dislocated scull, vertebrae in front of the face, phalanges thrown round the body. The offerings (mostly pottery jars of medium dimension and rather small bowls) were largely stacked in a few layers one on the other’s top in the smaller, northern chamber. Both rooms had been covered with mats, remains of which were unearthed in a form of white fibres.

**Grave no. 5**

CONDITION: disturbed  
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54a/64c  
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.59m; bottom 6.2m  
(below surface): approx. 0.1m  
CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks  
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 4.65m long; 2.25m wide; 1.39m deep (max)  
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none  
SUBSTRUCTURE: 2 chambers; burial chamber – 2.7m long, 1.9m wide, 1.39m deep (max); southern chamber – 1.3m long, 1.54m wide, 0.9m deep (max)  
OFFERINGS: 34 pottery vessels, limestone bead (E/02/65), 1 flint knife or sickle (E/02/62), burnt animal bones, charcoal  

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 30-35 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: medium (secondarily burnt)

DESCRIPTION: the grave had been robbed already in antiquity. The plunderers set fire to the matting and other perishable material in the main chamber, but some pottery vessels, apparently considered worthless, had been thrown outside. They were found east of the grave on a level close to that of the burial itself, suggesting that the grave was above surface at the moment of looting. The smaller southern chamber was found with pottery and had apparently not attracted the attention of the looters. 1 vessel was found in the eastern wall of the construction and 4 other in a kind of passage in the wall separating both chambers. A significant amount of charcoal concentrated in the north-eastern corner of the southern chamber suggests that there have been some objects made of organic material, which are at present impossible to identify.
Thanks to the burning of the main chamber, the human remains were found in slightly better condition compared to the other graves.

Grave no. 6
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54d
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.08m; bottom 5.13m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: mudbricked, rectangular, free-standing and massive
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 3.45m long; 2.56m wide; 1.95m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: compact mudbrick cover – 3.45m long; 2.56m wide; 0.5m high (as preserved)
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.02m long; 1.44m wide; 1.45m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 20 pottery vessels, 1 necklace of limestone (E/02/49A) and carnelian beads (E/02/50B), 1 stone pendant (E/02/51C) with 1 thin golden leaf (E/02/52D)

BURIAL: single
SEX: unknown
AGE: 10-12 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: Grave no. 6 differs from the other graves of Tell el-Farkha by its almost square shape and massive brick walls 0.5m wide. A brick cover m placed on top of the grave had additionally secured the whole of this absolutely undisturbed structure. The body had been placed on a kind of catafalque made of dark mudbricks and was surrounded by pottery vessels. The body and the vessels had been covered with a mat. Judging by value of the grave goods, the child must have been a member of a significant and wealthy family, which could afford to offer a necklace consisting of small red carnelian beads combined with white limestone beads and a triangular stone pendant covered by a thin golden leaf.
The layers overlying the grave revealed among numerous thick and rough potsherds also an interesting seal impression and one more stone pendant of a completely different shape.

Grave no. 7
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54a/b/c/d
LEVEL (above sea): 6.95m top; bottom 6m
(below surface): approx. 0.2m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks accompanied by “annexes”
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 3.8m long; 1.6m wide; 0.95m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 3.4m long; 1.4m wide; 0.95m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 39 pottery vessels, fragments of a travertine/calcite jar (E/02/22, E/02/23, E/02/24), 1 fragment of a round palette with a hole (E/02/16), 1 pottery gaming piece (E/02/18), carnelian beads (E/02/47A), 1 fragment of a golden leaf (E/02/48B), 1 rhinoceros rib, 2 cattle horns

BURIAL: double
1. SEX: female
   AGE: 25-35 years old
   BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: very weak
2. SEX: unknown
   AGE: 8-9 years old
   BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: this grave is especially worth noticing because of its architecture. It consists of an elongated rectangular burial chamber, lined with a single row of mudbricks, from its eastern side connected to a system of so-called “annexes” (small mudbrick chambers creating additional space for grave goods). Many pottery vessels have been found in this grave, despite the fact that it was already robbed in antiquity. This caused a certain disorder which is especially noticeable in the position of the crushed pots unearthed in the “annex”. The largest jars had been placed in the southern part of the chamber, the smaller vessels in the northern part and in one of the so-called “annexes” as well as around and beneath the bodies. The “annex” with 16 pottery vessels deserves a closer look because here were also found small fragments of a stone jar (possibly the same vessel broken into pieces) and two cattle horns preserved with a fragment of the skull. One may accept that some kind of jewellery, unfortunately robbed, was present as well, because of recovery of a tiny fragment of a gold leaf and 4 carnelian beads.

The grave comprised numerous animal bones and also a rhinoceros rib with a probably worked edge. The whole burial had been covered with well preserved mats, one of them over the bodies and their grave goods, the two others lining the walls and the bottom of the construction.
Grave no. 8
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54c
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.69m; bottom 6.39m
  (below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: round pit, bottom paved with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.3m in diameter; 0.3m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 45-55 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the grave was situated in a small space between the south-western corner of grave no. 7 and the north-eastern corner of grave no. 4, almost immediately below the present surface. The grave consists of a simple round pit, the bottom of which is lined with two circular layers of mudbricks with sand inclusion. The skeleton was so tightly contracted that a tight binding of the body seems to be the only possible explanation. Remarkably, the deceased was not accompanied by any kind of goods, if not for a single ceramic cone found right above the grave.

Grave no. 9
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 55a/c
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.87m; bottom 4.51m
  (below surface): 0.74m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 4.13m long; 2.18m wide; 2.36m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: massive trick cover with a central niche, measurements:
  4.13m long; 2.18m wide; 1.07m high (max.)
SUBSTRUCTURE: 2.04m long; 0.96m wide; 1.29m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: 27 pottery vessels (3 wine jars, 4 jars of middle height, 4 small jars with flat body, 9 cylindrical vessels, 6 bowls, 1 miniature vessel), 2 geometric cosmetic palettes of schist (E06/66; E06/67), 1 stone bowl of basalt (E06/61) and 1 of alabaster (E06/62), 1 bone spoon (E06/63), 53 beads of carnelian found on the right hand and by the left heap (E06/78), 1 bead of faience (E06/78), 1 fragment of a pottery miniature vessel and probably some ochre

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man
   AGE: 40-50 years old
   BODY POSITION: constructed, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: very weak
DESCRIPTION: this burial deserves attention because of its undisturbed condition, in which it was discovered, its interesting architecture and diverse offerings. Matlings that inlayed walls of a very deep burial chamber were also perfectly preserved. Its massive mudbrick superstructure with a central recess was oriented along the N-S axis with a small declination to E. It was preserved to the height of over 1m and was nearly touching another neighbouring tomb’s superstructure. Ca. 0.5m beneath the superstructure’s top and on its eastern side an external wall was built ca. 0.7m wide and ca. 0.5m high. The face of the wall had a wavy outline (however, it is possible that the effect is thanks to some damages), while the whole wall was clearly separated from the superstructure with a light joint. It seems possible that the complete structure was thoroughly plastered in this way.

The burial chamber was trapezoid in section, visibly narrowing to its bottom. An interesting set of offerings was deposited in the grave. Pottery vessels were grouped by its shorter walls, cylindrical jars and palettes were placed on the body. On the deceased right forearm there was some carnelian beads registered – probably composing a bracelet. Although the burial was undisturbed, the skeleton was badly preserved, legs in particular. The deceased was lying on a mat on which close to the body’s back a layer of most probably ochre was found.

Grave no. 11
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 74c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.17m; bottom 7.08m
   (below surface): approx. 0.92m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.7m long; 0.4m wide; 0.09m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 35-40 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: the skeleton was found in a small, very dusty pit of indistinct edges. The burial had been placed beneath younger mudbrick constructions of economic character. No other dating hints were recorded, hence it is believed that the grave should be connected to the older phase of the tell.

Grave no. 12
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64a/74c
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.98m; bottom 6.37m
   (below surface): approx. 0.7m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.8m long; 1m wide; 0.61m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.6m long; 0.8m wide; 0.61m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 6 pottery vessels, 1 stone bead (E04/47), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/42)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: dismembered, head to S?
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the skeleton was dismembered, not in an anatomical arrangement and many its parts were missing. Probably, the head was pointed to S. Vessels were found in two layers, the upper one consisting of items which might originally belong to the neighbouring grave no. 20 (bowl no. 3 from grave no. 12 matches bowl no. 7 from grave no. 20). The whole burial creates impression of a cemetery dump.

Grave no. 13
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54b
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.49m; bottom 7.26m
(below surface): approx. 0.5m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.4m wide; 0.23m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 25-35 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, right side, head to W
BONES PRESERVATION: quite good

DESCRIPTION: a very simple construction, no offerings and no pit’s edges traceable. The quite untypical orientation of the body as well as relatively good state of human bones’ preservation point to a younger date of the grave.

Grave no. 14
CONDITION: severely damaged
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64c

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: pit lined with mudbricks?
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: unknown
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: unknown
OFFERINGS: 2 pottery vessels

BURIAL: single
SEX: unknown
AGE: unknown
BODY POSITION: unknown
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the construction had been severely damaged probably by the neighbouring grave no. 5, so almost nothing, except a single row of mudbricks (1.7m long, oriented EW) and two crushed vessels survived. However, the most intriguing feature of the grave is the localization of human bones. Only scull was recorded and, what is more, inside one of the vessels.

Grave no. 15
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75c
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.44m; bottom 8.37m
(below surface): approx. 0.15m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.6m long; 0.4m wide; 0.1m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 30-40 years old
BODY POSITION: stretched, right side, head to W
BONES PRESERVATION: very good

DESCRIPTION: the splendid state of bones’ preservation and perfectly anatomical arrangement of the skeleton make impression that it should be regarded as much younger than the other graves of Tell el-Farkha.

Grave no. 16
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75a
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.18m; bottom 7.98m
(below surface): 0.3m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and oval simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.7m long; 0.6m wide; 0.2m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 1.7m long; 0.6m wide; 0.2m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: sickle blades, a grain (?), 2 pottery counters (E06/1; E06/14), a seal impression (E06/4), a bead of faience (E06/8)

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man
   AGE: 30-35 years old
   BODY POSITION: straight, left side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION KOŚCI: good
DESCRIPTION: the grave was oriented along the WE axis. Its outline was only partially visible. The poor offerings and the straighten position of the deceased together with stratigraphy point to the Old Kingdom date of the burial.

Grave no. 17
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 74c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.32m; bottom 7.17m
(below surface): approx. 0.83m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.7m long; 0.6m wide; 0.15m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: together with grave no. 18 – fragments of seal impressions (E04/29, E04/30, E04/31), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/45)

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 18-23 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to W
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: the very decayed burial was found next to a mudbrick wall of structure no. 13 and merely 0.5m from much alike grave no. 18. It seems that the burials were not in connection to the building, which should be regarded as of younger date. It is uncertain if the fragments of seal impressions recorded in both presently inseparable tough probably self-contained pits are in actual relation with the graves.

Grave no. 18
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 74d
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.42m; bottom 7.35m
(below surface): approx. 0.83m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.3m wide; 0.07m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: together with no. 17 – fragments of seal impressions (E04/29, E04/30, E04/31), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/45)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, slightly turned to its right side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: the very decayed burial was found next to a mudbrick wall of structure no. 13 and merely 0.5m from much alike grave no. 17. It seems that the burials were not in connection to the building, which should be regarded as of
younger date. It is uncertain if the fragments of seal impressions recorded in both presently inseparable tough probably self-contained pits are in actual relation with the graves.

Grave no. 19
CONDITION: unknown
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.27m; bottom 7.17m
(below surface): approx. 0.45m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit?
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.2m long; 0.16m wide; 0.1m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male?
AGE: adult
BODY POSITION: solitary scull, probably oriented NS, facial part up
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: only solitary scull was recorded. It was lying its facial part up in a dusty pit on a mat. Below the matting a compact bricked level was found covering the whole trench surface.

Grave no. 20
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64a
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.32m; bottom 6.37m
(below surface): approx. 0.3m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.8m long; 1.14m wide; 0.95m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.66m long; 0.96m wide; 0.95m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 18 pottery vessels, 1 unidentified stone object, 1 pottery idol (E04/35), 1 counter? (E04/65), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/38, E04/40, E04/46)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 40-45 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, right side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: a rather small construction. The offerings consist mostly of pottery, though in an interesting set. The majority of pots was found crushed and dumped over the lower part of the skeleton in the southern section of the burial chamber.
Grave no. 21
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64a/c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.43m; bottom 6.37m
(below surface): approx. 0.32m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.6m long; 1.28m wide; 1.06m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: 2.6m long; 1.28m wide; 0.11m high (as preserved)
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.26m long; 1.16m wide; 0.95m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 10 pottery vessels, 1 fragment of a stone vessel (E04/55), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/39), animal bones

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 35-40 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the grave goods consist of relatively few pottery vessels representing common and uninteresting types. However, careful distribution of the pots (the biggest in the southern section of the chamber, while the rest of them in the northern one) and at least partially preserved superstructure with a thick mudbrick cover protecting the burial make the grave one of the most interesting in Tell el-Farkha.

Grave no. 22
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 74b
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.17m; bottom 6.98m
(below surface): approx. 0.98m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple, oval pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.94m long; 0.64m wide; 0.19m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 35-45 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, right side, head to E
BONES PRESERVATION: medium

DESCRIPTION: a very simple burial, without any traces of mattings or offerings. The head was found on a much higher level than the rest of the body, the feet pressed against the pit’s northern side. The grave was discovered beneath younger mudbrick constructions, unrelated to the cemetery. No other dating hints were recorded.

Grave no. 23
CONDITION: disturbed?
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64d
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.16m; bottom 6.4m
(below surface): approx. 1.02m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: roughly rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.5m long; 1.26m wide; 0.76m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.24m long; 1.1m wide; 0.76m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 8 pottery vessels, steatite beads (E04/84), 1 unidentified metal object (E04/51), fragments of clay jar stoppers (E04/36)

BURIAL: double
1. SEX: female
   AGE: 20-30 years old
   BODY POSITION: contracted, probably right side, head to S
2. SEX: unknown
   AGE: 15-18 years old
   BODY POSITION: difficult to ascertain, head to S
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the grave goods were insignificant (with the exception of few beads found in vessel no. 7 and the unidentified metal object) being placed on the deceased, in the northern section of the chamber and – the biggest jars only – in its southern part. Both skeletons were discovered lying very close to each other, unfortunately the weak state of bones' preservation – particularly the younger one – makes impossible to ascertain the original position of the bodies. Once again the construction had been carelessly built, having its walls irregular and twisted.

Grave no. 24
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 54b/64d
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.12m; bottom 6.1m
(below surface): approx. 0.6m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.46m long; 1.6m wide; 1.35m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: 4.5m long; 3m wide; 0.33m high (as preserved)
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 2.12m long; 1.4m wide; 1.02m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: 24 pottery vessels, 1 stone grinder, 1 deposit consisting of bone implements (1 compete representation of a fish, fragments of 2 other fish, 3 partly preserved bone miniature vessels – E04/67), 2 bone awls (E04/48, E04/50), fragments of a clay jar stoppers (E04/37)

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: unclear (probably contracted, left side), head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak
DESCRIPTION: the grave was discovered undisturbed (secured with a covering mat), though the burial and its offering were severely damaged. In general, the grave goods are quite numerous, but they represent an average set of pottery types. Again, the largest storage jars had been placed in the southern part of the chamber, while the smaller ones in its northern section. The most interesting elements of the offering are bone implements: 2 awls (one complete) and so called deposit, that is at least 3 miniature cylindrical vessels and 3 figurines or plaques in a form of fish. The skeleton was badly preserved and partially dislocated.

Grave no. 25
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 64a
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.91m; bottom 6.75m
(below surface): approx. 1.05m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple, oval pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.88m long; 0.56m wide; 0.16m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 35-55 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the burial itself was found in a very weak condition, though the little pit had clear edges carefully lined with mattings. Particularly well preserved was the matting covering the whole grave from above.

Grave no. 26
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 63d
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.86m; bottom 6.23m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks and with a kind of bottom niche for the burial
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2.06m long; 1.1m wide; 0.63m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: main chamber – 1.8m long; 0.88m wide; 0.63m deep (max)
bottom niche – 1.08m long; 0.5m wide; 0.2m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 19 pottery vessels, steatite beads (E04/77), 1 flint knife, animal bones (food offerings)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 35-40 years old
BODY POSITION: firmly contracted, left side, head to N, face to E
BONES PRESERVATION: medium
DESCRIPTION: the grave revealed an interesting set of offerings – many miniature vessels, numerous bowls placed beneath the biggest jars and crushed by them. The skeleton had been so tightly fit in the bottom niche, that it is impossible to unhesitatingly define its original position. All vessels were found beyond the niche.

Grave no. 27
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 63b
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.99m; bottom 6.61m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.5m long; 0.86m wide; 0.38m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.34m long; 0.7m wide; 0.38m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 1 pottery vessel, 1 fragment of a clay jar stopper with a textile impression (E04/68)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: adult
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to S, not fully anatomical
BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: the grave had been equipped only in a nominal way; its construction was rather simple having its lined walls low and narrow. The skeleton was found in a dislocated, though there was no sign of robbery recorded.

Grave no. 28
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 63b
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.99m; bottom 6.89m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: roughly oblong pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.76m long; 0.5m wide; 0.1m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: medium

DESCRIPTION: a very simple and poor burial. The small pit had clear edges, carefully lined with mattings. No offerings were recorded except an isolated piece of rough pottery in the filling.
Grave no. 29
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 63a
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.83m; bottom 6.62m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.5m long; 0.78m wide; 0.18m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.35m long; 0.6m wide; 0.18m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 1 bead (E04/71)

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: adult
BODY POSITION: contracted, right side, head to S
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: although the grave had been lined with bricks, lack of offerings (with exception of the single bead) makes it rather poor. Similar is its state of preservation.

Grave no. 30
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 73d
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.8m; bottom 6.23m
(below surface): approx. 0.1m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular pit lined with mudbricks
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.9m long; 1.06m wide; 0.57m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: single chamber – 1.72m long; 0.8m wide; 0.57m deep (max)
OFFERINGS: 3 pottery vessels, 1 fragment of a seal impression (E04/82)

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: medium

DESCRIPTION: the grave represents a more elaborated kind of construction, though it had been rather carelessly built, what is clear when considering its twisted walls and hardly interesting offerings.

Grave no. 31
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 73d
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.63m; bottom 6.51m
(below surface): 0.36m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple, roughly oblong pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.7m long; 0.32m wide; 0.12m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: unknown
AGE: 5 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to W
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: a very simple construction, lined with mattings, unfortunately badly disturbed by another pit of dusty filling. The bones were in a very poor condition, partly burned, probably thanks to the later cutting.

**Grave no. 32**
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 73d
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.62m; bottom 6.47m
(below surface): approx. 0.25m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: roughly rectangular pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.02m long; 0.65m wide; 0.15m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: male
AGE: adult
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
BONES PRESERVATION: medium

DESCRIPTION: the unusually good state of mattings’ preservation deserves extra stressing. Mats were recorded as white fibers covering the burial and lining the pit’s bottom. Quite untypical is also the rectangular shape of the pit itself, which chiefly implies the usage of mudbricks.

**Grave no. 33**
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 84d
LEVEL (above sea): top 6.18m; bottom 6.08m
(below surface): approx. 2.2m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oval pit, partly lined with mudbricks and thin layer of mud
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1m long; 0.9m wide; 0.15m deep (max)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
SEX: female
AGE: 20-25 years old
BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to E
BONES PRESERVATION: very weak

DESCRIPTION: the burial was found on a relatively low level and far to N, considering the localization of the rest of the graves recorded in Tell el-Farkha. Equally puzzling is the context of the burial surrounded by mudbrick-constructions which had no relation to the cemetery itself but to everyday life-settlement-activity. The diseased had been placed in a rather large pit partly lined with few mudbricks and partly plastered with a thin layer of mud. Its filling was unusually compact. The whole burial had been covered with mattings. No objects, except few sherds in the filling, were recorded.

Grave no. 34
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 65a
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.33m; bottom 8.21m
(below surface): 0.13m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit burial
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.76m long; 0.34m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.76m long; 0.34m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 18 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: A child burial, the outline of the pit was untreaceable. There were some pottery fragments found by the but presumably they were not intentionally deposited as offerings.

Grave no. 35
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75a/b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.43m; bottom 8.25m
(below surface): 0.01m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and rectangular simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.98m long; 0.30m wide; 0.18m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.98m long; 0.30m wide; 0.18m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: child
   AGE: 2-3 years old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: A child burial, its regular outline was shaped as an oblong rectangular with a rounded western edge. The grave was registered just beneath the tell’s surface.

Grave no. 36
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75a
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.44m; bottom 8.32m
(below surface): 0.01m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.22m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.8m long; 0.22m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 18 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: A child burial, the pit’s outline was untraceable. The body was oriented along the WE axis, the left hand was straight, the right palm under the head.

Grave no. 37
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75c/d
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.21m; bottom 8.04m
(below surface): 0.25m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and rectangular simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 2m long; 0.48m wide; 0.17m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 2m long; 0.48m wide; 0.17m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: a bead of limestone

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man
   AGE: 35-45 years old
   BODY POSITION: straight, partially on his stomach and partially on his right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: the pit’s outline was clearly visible, particularly in its eastern part – an oblong rectangular with rounded shorter walls. The pit was V-shaped on its section. The single piece of offering was a bead of limestone which was found close to the deceased feet.
Grave no. 38
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.4m; bottom 8.26m
(below surface): 0.03m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.2m long; 0.36m wide; 0.14m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 1.2m long; 0.36m wide; 0.14m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: juvenis
   AGE: 14-16 years old
   BODY POSITION: straight on its stomach, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: this was most probably a child burial, unfortunately incomplete – feet and knees are missing, scull is severely damaged. The deceased was placed in an untypical way on its stomach. The pit’s outline was untraceable.

Grave no. 39
CONDITION: undefined
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.41m; bottom 8.33m
(below surface): 0.07m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.3m long; 0.24m wide; 0.08m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.3m long; 0.24m wide; 0.08m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single, secondary
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 24 months old
   BODY POSITION: unanatomical, undefined
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: a small deposit of bones arranged in an unanatomical position. Most of them were long limbs bones of a child and a few vertebrae and phalanges. The scull is missing, the pit’s outline was untraceable. It seems possible that the bones were buried in a bag or another container of some organic material.

Grave no. 40
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 65b
LEVEL (above sea level): top 8.19m; bottom 8.09m
(below surface): 0.09m
CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and oval simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.78m long; 0.3m wide; 0.1m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.78m long; 0.3m wide; 0.1m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infants I
   AGE: 6-9 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: an infant burial, the pit was shaped as an oblong oval and its outline was clearly visible. Orientation of the body along the WE axis.

Grave no. 41
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75d
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.24m; bottom 8.04m
   (below surface): 0.17m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.68m long; 0.26m wide; 0.2m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 1.68m long; 0.26m wide; 0.2m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man
   AGE: 35-45 years old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: a burial of an adult man. His scull and pelvis are well preserved. Close to the skeleton that was oriented along the WE axis there were some fragments of the Old Kingdom pottery found. The pit’s outline was untraceable.

Grave no. 42
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.04m; bottom 7.91m
   (below surface): 0.42m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.2m wide; 0.13m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.8m long; 0.2m wide; 0.13m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none
BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 24 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: an infant burial. The skeleton was relatively well preserved, the pit’s outline was untraceable. The body was oriented along the WE axis.

Grave no. 43
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75a
LEVEL (above sea): top 8m; bottom 7.83m
   (below surface): 0.41m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.7m long; 0.35m wide; 0.17m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.7m long; 0.35m wide; 0.17m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: a stone vessel (E06/64)

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 16-18 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight in general, right side, legs slightly bent in knees, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: an infant burial, visibly weaker preserved. The pit’s outline was untraceable and the body oriented along the WE axis.

Grave no. 44
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.17m; bottom 8.05m
   (below surface): 0.27m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.6m long; 0.2m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.6m long; 0.2m wide; 0.12m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 16-18 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good
DESCRIPTION: an infant burial, the pit’s outline was untraceable. One hand was bent in the elbow. The body was oriented along the WE axis.

**Grave no. 45**

CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75c
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.92m; bottom 7.81m
(below surface): 0.47m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.3m wide; 0.11m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.8m long; 0.3m wide; 0.11m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 18 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, legs slightly bent in knees, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: an infant burial, badly damaged, probably secondarily as a result of its exposition to an intense drying. The body was oriented along the WE axis.

**Grave no. 46**

CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.14m; bottom 7.99m
(below surface): 0.24m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and probably close to rectangular simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.98m long; 0.3m wide; 0.15m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.98m long; 0.3m wide; 0.15m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: fragments of a single pottery bowl, fragment of a seal (E06/68)

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 24 months old
   BODY POSITION: straight, right side, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: a small child burial in a position slightly turned to its stomach, one palm under the head. The pit’s edges were nearly untraceable, but within it close to the child’s feet there was a fragment of a bowl typical for the Old Kingdom. The body was oriented along the WE axis.

**Grave no. 47**

CONDITION: undefined
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75d
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.10m; bottom 7.94m
(below surface): 0.18m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.4m long; 0.2m wide; 0.16m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.4m long; 0.2m wide; 0.16m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: probably secondary, single
1. SEX: infans I
   AGE: 9 months old
   BODY POSITION: partially unanatomical, head to SW
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: an infant burial with clearly visible pit’s edges. Bones were partially disorganized, probably even primarily it was not a burial in the fully anatomical position. The scull was turned to S, while the whole grave was oriented along the NE-SW axis.

Grave no. 48
CONDITION: disturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 75b
LEVEL (above sea): top 8.06m; bottom 7.79m
(below surface): 0.32m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: oblong and nearly rectangular simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 1.54m long; 0.4m wide; 0.27m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 1.54m long; 0.4m wide; 0.27m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: none

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: juvenis
   AGE: 17-20 years old
   BODY POSITION: probably straight, right side, slightly turned to the stomach, head to W
   BONES PRESERVATION: good

DESCRIPTION: an interesting case. First, there was a loose scapula and a rib without any traceable outline of the grave or of any other bones. Then, 10cm below, exactly beneath the scapula the scull was found and a level deeper the outline of the grave pit. The head was divided from the rest of the body just after the third cervical vertebra but without its damage. The skeleton was incomplete – one hand and the chest are missing. Since some parts of the body were found outside the grave pit, it seems possible that the burial was primarily in anatomical position, then disturbed not long after the funeral (the hand bones together with phalanges were found in their proper position). The body was oriented along the WE axis.
Grave no. 49
CONDITION: damaged by animals
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 55a
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.60m; bottom 7.41m
(below surface): 0.55m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.8m long; 0.4m wide; 0.19m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.8m long; 0.4m wide; 0.19m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: probably a fragment of a seal impression (E06/21)

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man?
   AGE: adult
   BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: a severely damaged adult burial, the chest and pelvis in particular. The pit’s edges were nearly untraceable, while the body was oriented along the NS axis.

Grave no. 50
CONDITION: undisturbed
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 55a/b/c/d
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.63m; bottom 5.23m
(below surface): 0.38m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: rectangular, two-chamber pit lined with mudbricks with mudbricked superstructure
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 4.92m long; 2.36m wide; 2.4m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: massive mudbrick cover, probably freestanding, 4.92m long; 2.36m wide; ca. 0.9m high (max.)
SUBSTRUCTURE: 2 chambers – northern chamber: 1.5m long; 0.86m wide; 0.79m deep (max.); southern chamber: 1.25m long; 1.2m wide; 0.92m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: 37 pottery vessels (35 small jars, 2 bowls), 11 stone vessels, probably of alabaste and sandstone (?) (1 large plate – E06/48 – and 1 cylindrical jar – E06/46, 2 small cylindrical jars (E06/40; E06/45), 1 bowl – E06/47, 2 spindle-shaped miniature vessels – E06/41; E06/42; 3 miniature jars with straight arms – E06/36; E06/37; E06/39; 1 small jar – E06/43), a bowl of basalt’s fragment (E06/75), an impression of a decorated seal, a seal impression’s fragment (E06/59), a bead of faience (E06/23), a rattle’s fragment (E06/16), a faience object’s fragment (E06/17), a pottery counter (E06/57) and a deposit of 5 pottery granary models (E06/31; E06/32; E06/33; E06/34; E06/35)

BURIAL: single
1. SEX: man
   AGE: adult
   BODY POSITION: tightly contracted, left side, head to N
   BONES PRESERVATION: very weak
DESCRIPTION: the superstructure was preserved to the height of ca. 0.9m – a massive, very compact cover of light sand and mud bricks in a very regular rectangular shape, oriented almost ideal along the NS axis. A clear break between the superstructure and the top of the substructure walls measuring ca. 0.4m of height was registered. The substructure was slightly dislocated to the E, still there is no doubt that both parts create the same structure. In the middle of the layer between the super- and substructure there was a deposit of 5 pottery objects found. Presently, they are interpreted as granary models.

The offerings were grouped along the southern wall of the southern chamber – three layers of pottery jars in a very similar shape as well as a deposit of stone vessels concentrated in the chamber’s NE corner. One bowl was found on the top of the substructure walls, while a plate of alabaster, 1 jar and a pottery bowl in a niche in the eastern wall of the northern chamber. Directly by the body there were no objects registered. Both chambers were covered with some poorly preserved mats, also inlaid with matings – parts found in the corners where mats were turned up on the walls belong to the best preserved.

**Grave no. 52**

CONDITION: undefined, probably damaged by later building activity above the burial pit
LOCALIZATION: tell E, trench 65b
LEVEL (above sea): top 7.42m; bottom 7.13m
(below surface): 1.04m

CONSTRUCTION TYPE: simple pit
TOTAL MEASUREMENTS: 0.86m long; 0.7m wide; 0.29m deep (max.)
SUPERSTRUCTURE: none
SUBSTRUCTURE: 0.86m long; 0.7m wide; 0.29m deep (max.)
OFFERINGS: pottery fragments, a bead of faience, a quern stone close to the second body’s head

BURIAL: multiple
1. SEX: woman?
   AGE: adult
   BODY POSITION: unclear, probably contracted, left side, head to E
2. SEX: woman?
   AGE: adult
   BODY POSITION: contracted, left side, head to S
3. SEX: man?
   AGE: adult
   BODY POSITION: undefined
   BONES PRESERVATION: weak

DESCRIPTION: a multiple burial, bones in a weak state of preservation deposited in an unclear position. The best preserved was skeleton no. 2 – a visibly anatomical postion, the left hand slightly moved from its original place. Over deceased no. 2 there was skeleton no. 1 deposited – poorly preserved, her head was placed on a large pottery bowl fragment. A fragment of pelis and one leg most probably belong to this deceased. Then, the worst preserved was skeleton no. 3 – only the scull and
some very grated teeth. The pit’s outline was untraceable. The burial was registered beneath narrow walls of structure no. 70 of a typically utility function.

**Grave no. 53**

**CONDITION:** disturbed  
**LOCALIZATION:** tell E, trench 65b  
**LEVEL (above sea):** top 7.42m; bottom 7.31m  
**(below surface):** 0.93m  

**CONSTRUCTION TYPE:** oval simple pit  
**TOTAL MEASUREMENTS:** 0.5m long; 0.36m wide; 0.09m deep (max.)  
**SUPERSTRUCTURE:** none  
**SUBSTRUCTURE:** 0.5m long; 0.36m wide; 0.09m deep (max.)  
**OFFERINGS:** a few pottery fragments

**BURIAL:** single  
1. **SEX:** woman?  
   **AGE:** adult  
   **BODY POSITION:** probably contracted, left side, head to N  
   **BONES PRESERVATION:** weak

**DESCRIPTION:** an incomplete burial – only a fragment of the pelvis and one leg was preserved. It was probably disturbed as a result of later building activity above the burial pit (walls of structure no. 70), maybe even originally the burial was not thoroughly anatomical. The pit itself was nearly untraceable, possibly, its bottom was plastered with a thin layer of mud. The pottery found over the bones do not have to consist the grave offerings. Nevertheless, the poor state of the grave preservation disables any further opinions in the field.

References:
