# Propylaeum: Virtual Library Classical Studies – Egyptology

#### Introduction

Since 1949 Heidelberg University Library has been participating in a system of national cooperative acquisition, financed by the German Research Foundation (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft/DFG) which is called 'Sondersammelgebiete/Special Subject Collections'. The aim of this cooperative acquisition scheme is 'to build systematic, comprehensive and specialised subject collections of printed and electronic resources', and to make these sources of information accessible throughout Germany and beyond in a user-friendly and service-oriented way. In Germany more than 60 proficient academic libraries contribute on the basis of this cooperative system to the Special Subject Collections. These collections are distributed according to disciplines and regional aspects. Together they form a network of information sources in the manner of a virtual national library.

Heidelberg's collection focuses – among others¹ – on Egyptology and Classical Archaeology. For this reason Heidelberg University Library entered into a commitment to do its utmost to add to the collection every scientific work from both Germany and abroad that has been written in these disciplines. In Egyptology the Special Subject Collection covers all aspects of Ancient Egypt including art, archaeology, history, language and so on within the period from about 4000 BC to Coptic times, and also comprises archaeology of the Sudan and Christian Egypt. Altogether, Heidelberg holds around 90 periodicals and owns around 20,000 volumes on Egyptology as well as other media like microfiches or CD-ROMs.

The term 'virtual' library already reveals that it is a virtual union of all Special Subject Collections that deal with the spectrum of Classical Studies. Its members are the

- University Library, Heidelberg: Egyptology, Classical Archaeology
- Bavarian State Library, Munich: Ancient History, Classical Philology, Pre- and Early History, Byzantine Studies, Medieval and Neo-Latin Philology
- · University Library, Tübingen: Ancient Near East
- Humboldt University, Berlin, Institute of Classical Philology (KIRKE)

Further partners are the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) as well as the University of Eichstätt with its Chair of Ancient History. Altogether, they 'form' the virtual library called Propylaeum. Thus, all Special Subject Collections are united within a single point of access. The Virtual Library Classical Studies has been financed by the German Research Foundation since 2006.

**Fig. I** gives you a screenshot of the homepage of Propylaeum and the subjects that are – so far – covered: the topics are shown at the top of the page and the different menu items on the left side.

The other Special Subject Collections at the University Library Heidelberg comprise 'Art History' and 'South Asia'.



Fig. I. Propylaeum: Virtual Library Classical Studies

## **Library Catalogues and Ordering Literature**

First of all, there are the 'classical' library services, like the catalogue and its holdings. Here the reference to the catalogue of the 'Special Collection Catalogue of Egyptology' and further the Catalogue of the German Archaeological Institute (DAI) in Cairo can be found. Books and articles of journals can all be ordered nationally and internationally via conventional Inter Library Loan or Subito, the actual document delivery service of research libraries. In Propylaeum both links can be found under 'Ordering Literature'.

# **New Acquisitions**

The item 'New Acquisitions' gives access to the latest acquisitions made each month by the Special Subject Collection and the German Archaeological Institute (DAI). This service helps the user to keep up-to-date with the latest publications in the field of Egyptology. The new titles of the list are also directly linked to the catalogue from which the literature can be ordered. As a special service, all Egyptologists interested in new acquisitions lists, can subscribe to a mailing list and receive an e-mail with an attached PDF-file of the new acquisitions every month ('e-mail subscription').

## Journals/Articles

Under 'Journals/Articles' a complete list of 'E-Journals for Egyptology' can be accessed. The retrieval of the E-Journals varies according to the location from which the user is accessing the website – for example the institute. The availability of the full-text is expressed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Http://www.subito-doc.de.

by traffic light symbols: Journals marked in green are freely available and form the major part of all e-journals. Furthermore, a complete list of all printed journals collected by the Special Subject Collection is offered.

A further link under the menu item 'Journals/Articles' refers to 'OLC-SSG Classics – Online Contents-Special Subject Collection'. The link is not only relevant for Egyptologists but also gives access to tables of contents from journals in all fields of Classical Studies, like Prehistory, Ancient History, Classical Archaeology, Classical Philology and soon also Ancient Near Eastern Studies. In this database 240 journals have been indexed since 1993 until today, so it is very much up-to-date. A useful side-effect is also that you can search systematically in certain journals for its content. As well as providing bibliographic details the database offers connection to Inter Library Loan and Subito.

## **Subject Databases**

Another offer in Propylaeum is the 'Subject Databases for Egyptology', of which most of them are available free of charge and without any restrictions (**fig. II**). Altogether, there are at least around 20 Egyptological databases free on the Internet.

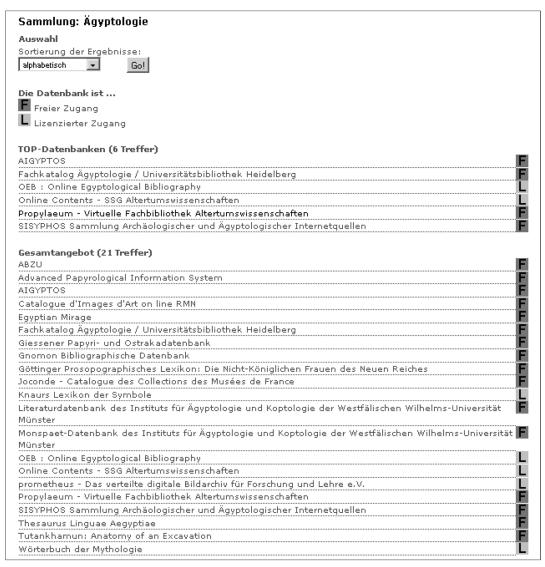


Fig. II. Databases in Egyptology

# **Digital Collections**

The menu item 'Digital Collections' in Propylaeum offers an overview on the institutions providing digitised works in Egyptology (for example the 'Giza Digital Library' in Boston, the 'Bibliothèque nationale de France' and further more, **fig. III**). In addition, the Special Subject Collection digitises books from its own holdings. Under German law it is allowed to digitise books generally up to the year 1900 and books by authors who have been dead for 70 years. These digitised books can be found at http://aegyptologie-digital.uni-hd.de.

A special feature within these books digitised by the Special Subject Collection in Heidelberg is the 'Full Text Search' which enables the user to search for a special word within the whole text of the book (**fig. IV**). Of course, page preview, zooming, and printing are further options.

Moreover, in September 2009 a new project has started to digitise books from the year 1500 to 1900 that deals mainly with excavations and finds from ancient cultures around the Mediterranean Sea (called 'Rezeption der Antike im semantischen Netz: Buch, Bild und Objekt digital'). This project is also funded by the German Research Foundation. The joint project of the Heidelberg University Library, the German Archaeological Institute (DAI), the 'Forschungsarchiv für Antike Plastik' at the University of Cologne, and the Winckelmann-Society (Stendal) aims to digitise and to index more than 1,000 books related to Egyptology and Classical Archaeology. Furthermore of course, this project will be integrated in Propylaeum as 'Thematic Portal'.



> Start > Egyptology > Digital Collections

#### Digital Collections

#### Heidelberg University Library: Egyptological literature - digital

This contains selected digitized Egyptological works from the special subject collection of Heidelberg University Library. The collection is currently being developed and will contain works dating from the 16th up to the early 20th centuries. All titles are searchable via the Subject Catalogue-Egyptology of the University Library that contains also other relevant online books.

#### <u>Akademieschriften of the Berlin-Brandenburgische Akademie der Wissenschaften - digitized</u>

With these treatises that are now digitized for the years 1804-1900 have published some reputable German Egyptologists like Borchardt, Erman, Lepsius, and others more.

#### Altägyptisches Wörterbuch (of BBAW)

Access to navigation within the Digitalisierten Zettelarchiv is possible via the headings list in the Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae. Use of the Thesaurus Linguae Aegyptiae requires registration, but use is free of charge.

#### Altägyptisches Wörterbuch (with Belegstellen)

The "Altägyptisches Wörterbuch" was published between 1926 and 1963 in seven volumes und five corresponding volumes of "quotations". Is is based on approx. 30 % of all surving texts from Ancient Egypt.

#### Ann Arbor (Mich), University of Michigan: Digital General Collection

The "Digital General Collection" contains around 30 digitized volumes from the University of Michigan on the subject of Egypt (Search in: "Subject", Find: "Egypt").

#### Boston, Giza Digital Library

The "Giza Archives Project" presents information about Giza, including the digitized series "Giza Mastabas" and an alphabetical list of all authors that have published work on Giza.

#### Chicago, University Library: Electronic Open Stacks (EOS)

"EOS" presents around 30 Egyptological and related texts, which are searchable according to various criteria

#### ETANA - Electronic Tools and Ancient Near Eastern Archives

More than 100 digitized books containing texts from the Near East, including ancient Egypt. Text are <u>searchable</u> according to various criteria, including "Author", "Title", and "Subject".

Paris, Bibliothèque nationale de France: Gallica: bibliothèque numérique

Fig. III. Digital Collections, listed in Propylaeum

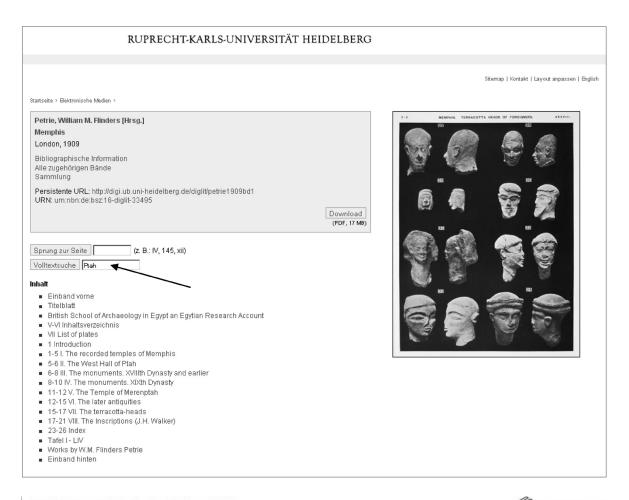




Fig. IV. Digitised literature in Egyptology, held in Heidelberg: Full Text Search

Another feature worth mentioning is the digitised literature that is included into the online catalogue Egyptology in Heidelberg, and is not digitised by the Special Subject Collection itself: Meanwhile there are around 300 digitised books and genuine online books (mainly PhD theses). These digitised books of Egyptology can also be found separately via the link to 'Digital Literature in Egyptology – worldwide' (link from http://ssg-aegyptologie.uni-hd.de).

#### **Internet Resources**

Another relevant matter of 'Propylaeum' is Sisyphos that offers a wide range of Internet resources for the areas of Egyptology and Classical Archaeology (and soon for Ancient Near East). At the moment, Sisyphos contains about 1,700 Internet resources, and each website is tested for its quality and subject relevance. This means, that in contrast to – for example Google – you get only web sites of high quality and scientific relevance. The descriptions of the websites include details such as the author/publisher of a site, a brief indication of its content, standardised keywords and subject descriptions (see **fig. V**).

#### Propylaeum-Search

A very useful instrument is the meta-search 'Propylaeum-Search', which makes it possible to look up selectable catalogues, databases, electronic literature, and Internet resources within one search. The idea behind is, to provide a single 'google-like' slot as first entry. When sending a search term to the meta-search all results are given sorted by database. Even the 'links' are 'clickable', for example to the different tables of contents. 'Refine search' offers a further selection within the result list, for example by year or author.

#### **Academic and Research Services**

Another functionality in 'Propylaeum' is the 'Academic and Research Services', which offers up-to-date announcements for Egyptologists, with links to relevant conferences and current job offers.

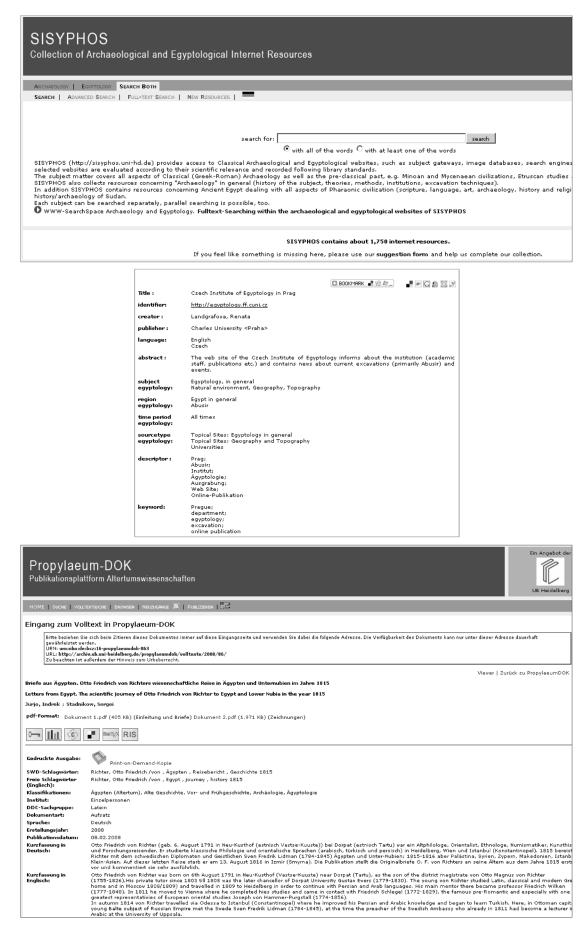


Fig. V. Sisyphos: Collection of Archaeological and Egyptological Internet Resources

## **E-Publishing**

One of the highlights of the Virtual Library Classical Studies is Propylaeum-Dok, the full-text server of Propylaeum for publishing PhD-theses and other academic works in the field of Classical Studies. This publication platform offers academics from around the world the possibility to publish their texts in Egyptology fast and free of charge. In accordance with the principles of Open Access, these publications are freely available via Internet. They are given standardizsed addresses (URN) that make them permanently quotable – like a printed book. Additional indexing as authors and subject heading is included by Propylaeum. Propylaeum-Dok was put online at the end of 2006, and now, one and a half years later, we have nearly 300 texts online.

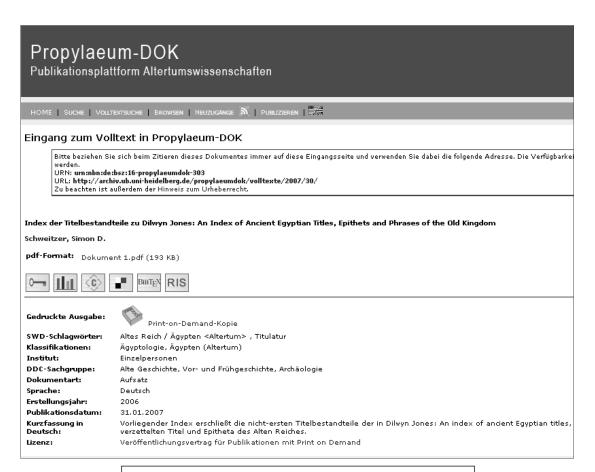
The following works are allowed to be published on Propylaeum-DOK:

- · PhD thesis
- · Writings of authors with a PhD
- Writings of people who already graduated (grading 'good' or 'very good')
- · Writings of people with a recommendation by their professor.

As a general principle all documents have to fulfil basic, formal standards.



Fig. VI. Propylaeum-DOK example: Genuine online-publications



# Index der Titelbestandteile zu Dilwyn Jones: An Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles, Epithets and Phrases of the Old Kingdom

Simon D. Schweitzer

Vorliegender Index erschließt die nicht-ersten Titelbestandteile der in Dilwyn Jones: An index of ancient Egyptian titles, epithets and phrases of the Old Kingdom. Oxford: Archaeopress, 2000, verzettelten Titel und Epitheta des Alten Reiches. Er gliedert sich in drei Spalten. In der ersten ist der Titelbestandteil aufgeführt, in der zweiten die Nummer des Titels bei Jones. Als Transkriptionssystem dient aus Gründen der Langzeitkompatibilität das MdC. (Zur Transkription nach dem Manuel de Codage vgl. Jan Buurman; Nicolas-Christophe Grimat; Michael Hainsworth; Jochen Hallof; Dirk van der Plas: Inventaire des signes hiéroglyphiques en vue de leur saisie informatique: Manuel de codage des textes hiéroglyphiques en vue de leur saisie sur ordinateur. Paris: Institut de France, 1988.) Die englische Übersetzung des Bestandteils nach Jones findet sich in der dritten Spalte. Liegt keine englische Übersetzung vor, ist die bei Jones zitierte deutsche übernommen. Die Kommentare in dieser Spalte beschränken sich auf Verweise. Das "siehe auch" verweist auf dreierlei: 1) auf ein größeres Kompositum 2) auf eines, welches nicht notwendigerweise nicht-erster Bestandteil ist, 3) auf eine andere Lesung. Als Abkürzungen werden verwendet: GN = Göttername; KN = Königsname; ON = Ortsname; PN = Personenname.

Titelbestandteil	Nummer	Übersetzung und
		Kommentare
2	422,	
4	532, 785, 964, 3218,	
5	998-999, 1470-1471,	
6	443-444, 474, 515, 630-631, 822-823, 1512, 2256, 2287, 2327,	
	2359.	
9	413.	
10	557-567, 1092, 1357, 1432-1439, 2592, 3085, 3390,	
100	534,	
200	383, 1401-1403,	
1000	956.	
Aw.t	462,	offering / gift;
Abw	257, 899, 2283, 2288, *22,	ON;
Abd	228, 2168, 2766, 3630,	month;
AbDw	92, 102, 127, 143, 211, 1639,	ON;
Apdw	258, 424, 430, 933, 955, 1323, 2364, 3042, 3681,	bird / fowl;
Ams	291, 463, 1703, 1888,	a sceptre;
AH.t	259-261, 377, 392-394, 405, 747, 770-774, 797-798, 2695-2696,	field;
	3043-3047, 3058, 3742,	_
Ax	3, 3036-3037, 3140, 3722, 3738,	spirit;
Ax.t	41, 1555, 1995, 3236,	horizon;
Ax.t-raw	1057, 1996,	ON;
Ax.t-xwi=f-wi	578, 775, 872, 1383, 2089, 2234, 2588, 3316, 3386, 3464,	ON;
Ax.t	2196,	flame;
As.t	2129,	GN;
Aqs	1872,	a ornament; siehe auch
		iAqs;
Atf.t	2383-2384, 2427,	ON;

Fig. VII. Propylaeum-DOK example: Text-additions to printed books

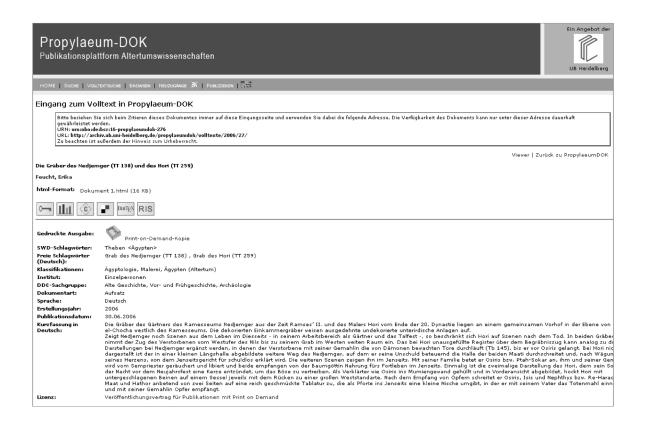




Fig. VIII. Propylaeum-DOK example: Illustration-additions to printed books

In addition, scholars are allowed to publish (in accordance with the copy-right-law) their own articles that are older than the current year. Therefore, we have writings from several scholars (called 'Schriften') for which we have — of course — the author's permission for their digitisation. In Egyptology we started with the writings of Joachim F. Quack.

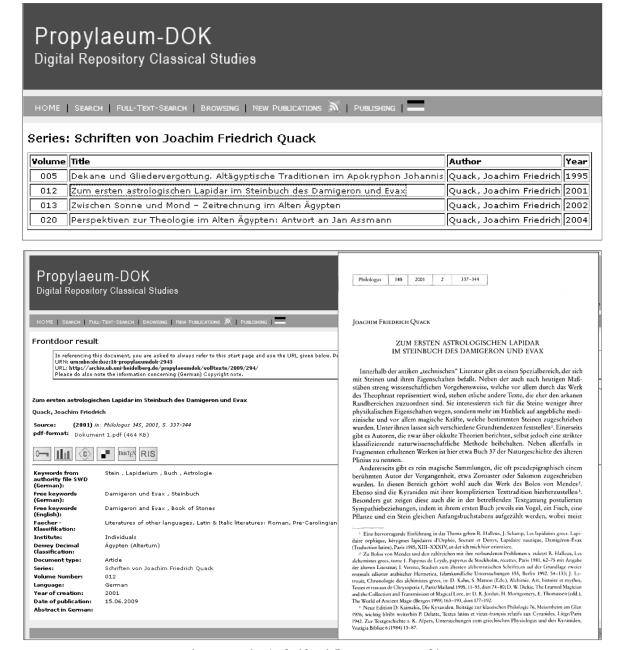


Fig. IX. Series 'Schriften' (here: J. F. Quack)

#### Conclusion

Altogether 'Propylaeum: Virtual Library Classical Studies' (Egyptology) offers a variety of information and services, electronic resources, reaching from the traditional printed book to modern digitisations plus a full-text server for Classical Studies.

Also in Propylaeum 'thematic portals' are planned in the field of Ancient Egypt and Classical Studies in general as well. Their aim is to give a complex access to comprehensive matters or epochs of academic research. In interaction these gateways will grow towards

a complex information system, which provides scholars with the possibility of making their resources available to the public and to benefit from the knowledge and achievements of their colleagues. Therefore the specific subject gateways will be maintained by external cooperation partners, who will have the editorial responsibility for their project. In any case, we welcome further questions, comments or suggestions for Propylaeum!