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The Allard Pierson Museum has implemented a research project in coordination with the British 'Artefacts of Excavation' project about the distribution of objects from British excavations in Egypt in the first half of the last century. For this museum, it concerns objects from excavations by Petrie in Sidmant el-Gebel, Lahun, Gurob, Qau el-Kebir, Badari and Abydos, and additionally from the Fayum and also from his exploits in Palestine, Gerar / Tell Jemmeh. The objects consist mainly of pottery, stone vases, jewellery and some shabtis, and flints from the Fayum. The collection was transferred to the Allard Pierson Museum after the dissolution in 1934 of the original receiver, the private Museum Scheurleer in The Hague. Small parts of it went to the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague and to the Archaeological Institute of Utrecht University, but these have now all been transferred to the Allard Pierson Museum.

However, of the 350 inventory numbers (sometimes with more than 1 item per number) on the Petrie distribution lists,

41 items are still not traced: objects from all sites mentioned, and mainly consisting of pottery of all periods, but also some jewellery. After the dissolution of the Museum Scheurleer, most of its collections went to the Allard Pierson Museum, but substantial lots, mainly those originally from the Von Bissing Collection, went elsewhere, like to the National Museum of Antiquities in Leiden, but also to the Museum Kestner in Hannover. Where the missing objects have gone is so far a complete mystery to me: an educated guess is that they went to German collections, but I have nothing to corroborate that.

Initial archival research and enquiries have so far produced no results.

So I'm putting this problem now in front of you all: has anybody any idea what became of the objects concerned? Any clues at all would be very helpful for my research. Many thanks in advance,

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