

Mark Lehner

Mark Lehner was on leave from the University of Chicago for the academic year 1992–93 in order to catch up on reading, filing, analyzing, and publishing material from his work at Giza going back to the American Research Center in Egypt Sphinx Project that began in 1979. During this year of leave he was a Visiting Scholar with the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University. His three principal writing projects included *The Archaeology of an Image: The Great Sphinx of Giza* for publication by the University of Chicago Press; a book about the Egyptian pyramids for publication by Thames and Hudson; and *Giza Reports* for publication by the Oriental Institute.

In September 1993 National Geographic financed the reconstruction of a bakery in Egypt like those discovered in the last season of excavation at Giza. Results of the experimental baking will be published in an article for which he is co-author with Ed Wood, the specialist in yeast and sourdough bread for the project. Mark returned to Egypt in May to begin to prepare for the 1994–95 season of the Koch-Ludwig Giza Plateau Project and visited with Dr. Zahi Hawass, Director General for Giza and Saqqara, shortly after his reappointment to that position.

On April 10 he delivered a lecture, sponsored by the Harvard Semitic Museum and the Peabody Museum, about the excavations at Giza. The lecture was followed by a preview of the exhibit, “The Sphinx and Pyramids: 100 Years of American Archaeology at Giza,” for which he is curator. Scheduled to open November 1, 1994 at the Harvard Semitic Museum, the exhibit features the work of George Reisner and the Museum of Fine Arts as well as the American Research Center in Egypt Sphinx Project (1979–83), the Giza Plateau Mapping Project sponsored by the American Research Center in Egypt and Yale University (1984–88), and the Koch-Ludwig Giza Expedition sponsored by the Oriental Institute. On April 12 he

delivered another lecture, "The Lost History of the Great Sphinx," sponsored by the Boston Society of the American Institute of Archaeology and the Harvard Semitic Museum about the unpublished excavations of the Sphinx site by Emile Baraize from 1926 to 1936.
