

## SECOND SPHINX

By Gerry J.M. Cannon assisted by Joseph. P. J. Westlake



Author

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It seems clear from Vivant Denon's etching (Fig.1) that at the time of Napoleon's visit in 1798–99, all that was visible of the Great Sphinx was its shoulders and head.



(Fig. 1) *View of the Sphinx, near Cairo* by Vivant Denon, c. 1798, published in 1802–03.

(Source: <http://www.freemaninstitute.com/Sphinx.htm>)

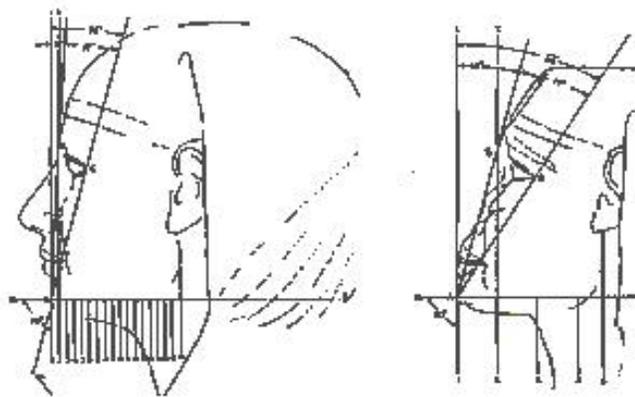
The first attempt to dig it out dates back to 1400 BC, when the young Tutmosis IV, falling asleep beneath the giant head, dreamt that he was promised the crown if he would only unbury the Sphinx. After much effort, only the front paws were uncovered. To commemorate this effort, Tutmosis IV had a granite stele known as the Dream Stele placed between the paws.

In 1817 the first modern dig, supervised by Captain Caviglia, uncovered the Sphinx's chest. It was shown in a photo taken in 1893. (Fig.2). Apparently, Egyptology ages the Sphinx structure to around four thousand years.



(Fig.2) Sphinx 1893. Photo Brooklyn Museum, lantern slides.

A body of a lion and the head of a man!.....How can such an enigma be explained? Again there are differing interpretations as to how or why the riddle has arisen. In the view of many Egyptologists the head of the Sphinx is likened to that of the pharaoh Khafre, (also read as Khefren and Chephren). The comparison is derived from disputed evidence, which was a documentary on TV which was about computer imaging work carried out by Dr. Mark Lehner who demonstrated that Khafre's face and that of the Sphinx are identical but John Anthony West was not convinced and, with the aid of a forensic artist from the New York Police Department, Frank Domingo, he challenged Lehner's conclusion. Domingo's professional skills led him to the conclusion, for example, that the Sphinx face (Fig.3) has a distinctive African, Nubian or Negroid characteristic absent in that of Khafre as seen in a single statue found in the nearby Valley Temple.



(Fig. 3)

Domingo's conclusions also included that 'If the ancient Egyptians were skilled technicians and were capable of duplicating images then these two works cannot represent the same individual.'

Many people find this sort of evidence pretty convincing but, judging by his public statements, including in at least one Television Documentary, Dr Zahi Hawass, the then Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities (SCA), naturally

shared the view of his American friend and fellow Egyptologist Dr Mark Lehner, that the Sphinx face is that of the pharaoh Khafre.

Unlike the pyramids constructed with innumerable blocks of rock one atop another, the Sphinx is carved in one piece from the indigenous, underlying, natural rock (although in places it has subsequently undergone quite extensive repair using individual blocks. This anomaly immediately leads to the thought that it might have been so carved by different people motivated by different and even unrelated purposes from that of the pyramid builders. On the other hand, if the building of one or more of the three pyramids was concurrent with the carving of the Sphinx, what then was its purpose and significance? But who were the pyramid builders? Mainstream Egyptology seems to cling to Khafre as the architect of the second pyramid as well as the Sphinx, largely on the basis of archaeological evidence such as the statues of him that were found in the nearby Valley Temple; however, more recently and controversially, West and Schoch have quite persuasively disputed this.

What is most interesting is the topographical location of the Sphinx in relation to its neighbours, the three principal pyramids. Unlike the pyramids constructed with innumerable blocks of rock, the Sphinx is carved in one piece from the indigenous, underlying, natural rock.

Why carve just one? Why, in an otherwise incredibly precise mathematical layout of the Giza Plateau's features, locate this one Sphinx in an oddly offset alignment with its supposedly related neighbours? Now things are getting more interesting and there are a number of discrepancies to look into later.

After considering this veritable compendium of data I now found my attention being seriously drawn to the matter of the Giza Sphinx.

It was in December 2003, that I made the acquaintance of Dr Zahi Hawass who was then the Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Antiquities . I also met and became friendly with Adel Hussein Mohammed , the General Director of Giza Pyramids(Fig.4) and Mansour Boraik, the Chief Inspector of the Giza Plateau, and their staff for whose help I am extremely grateful (Fig.5).



(Fig.4)Adel Hussein Mohammed and me. (Fig.5) Mansour Boraik, the Chief Inspector of Giza Pyramids (seated) with his staff

During my visit to Cairo in March 2005, Adel gave me permission to enter the Khafre pyramid with a guide, after it was closed to the public.

Before we left his office I unaccountably turned to Adel and blurted out; "When I return, I'm going to tell you something about the Sphinx!" I had no idea what made me say that as I had never been that interested in the Sphinx.

Yet, when I was inside its chamber I suddenly had an overwhelming feeling that there was more than one Sphinx on the Giza Plateau!

As soon as I came out of that Pyramid I gazed in the direction of the Sphinx which is situated on lower ground than the pyramid.. It was then that I noticed that it was offset and not directly lined up with the centre of the pyramid.

With that thought in mind, I could not help saying to myself that there is more than one Sphinx. As the Sphinx was offset from the Pyramid and facing east, then perhaps it was there to act as a guardian. If so, then it was feasible that there could have been a pair of them, just like the Chinese Imperial Guardian Lions, also called Fu Dogs that guard temples and palaces and they too are in pairs.

Apparently pairs of Sphinxes in Egypt flanked avenues or entrances to important buildings.

As I studied the terrain, I noticed a large mound to the north of the Sphinx. This would be the location of my proposed buried second Sphinx. My later superficial examination of the hard surface suggested that this was compacted sand that had not been disturbed for a very long time, perhaps centuries

Since the Sphinx had only been re-excavated in the mid twentieth century then this was clearly not the spoil heap resulting from that excavation. Nobody seems to know what did happen to all that sand and rubble.

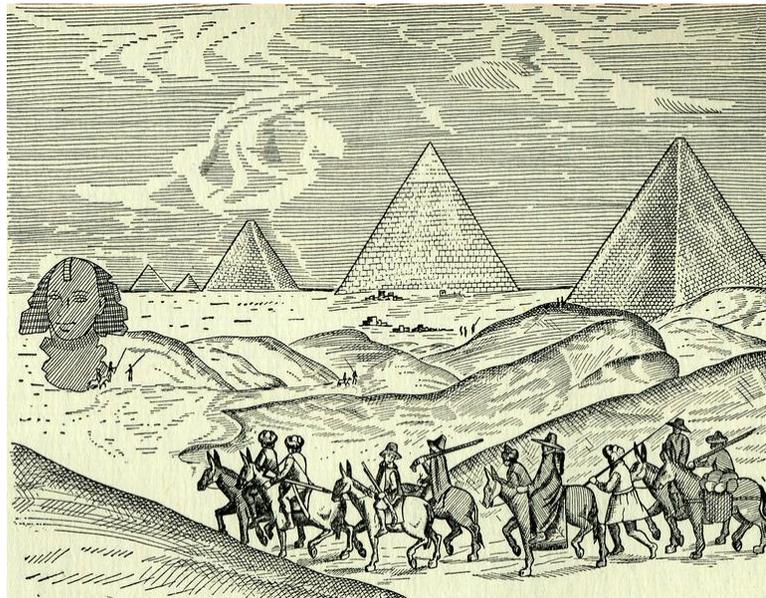
I came across an old slide taken from the top of the Great Pyramid around 1900 by the Keystone company that clearly shows the mound (Fig.6).



(Fig.6)

The mound was approximately the same length and width as the Sphinx in its enclosure, and the top of it was at a somewhat higher elevation than the top of the Sphinx's head!

Also George Sanders etching in 1610 clearly shows that mounds were then visible on the north side of what appears to be a pathway hundreds of years before where a road is now, between the mound in question and the Sphinx (Fig.7)



(Fig.7) George Sanders etching

If my theory was valid, then that mound was not just sand but could well be concealing the area where another Sphinx might lie buried .

I visited Adel, a year later, reminded me about what I had said concerning the Sphinx. I described what I had observed and asked him if the mound had ever been explored. Looking closely at my illustrations he replied that, as far as he knew, no one had ever suggested that there could be other major structures buried out there. I asked if I could discuss it with Dr Hawass but he was not in Cairo..

I needed to find out the approximate distance from the top centre of the head of the existing Sphinx to the eastern base of Khafre.. The easiest way to do that would be by checking the distance on a car odometer. Adel let me use his truck where I stood on its back and his driver drove down the road from the Pyramid to the Sphinx (Fig.8). The distance was 600 meters.



(Fig.8)

The approximately Sphinx-shaped markings in the sand of the mound, seen in an aerial photographs (Fig.9 and 10) could have resulted from differential settlement due to the presence of some solid object or structure below the present surface, as it looks as if there is something buried under the sand?



(Fig.9)



(Fig.10)

It would be no great task, and would certainly not disturb any construction as the area is only sand, for a pilot hole to be drilled into the spot calculated from the Sphinx's head to the mound where a head might be.. If the drill were to hit something hard at the appropriate depth into the sand, then it would be worth investigating by digging the short distance down to it. On the other hand there is the standard archaeologist's technique of scanning the mound with Ground Penetrating Radar. Even more technologically advanced and sophisticated is the use of scanning satellite images by Sub-Terrain Prospecting.

I needed to discuss the whole matter with Dr Zahi Hawass but he was not in Cairo when I was in Adel's office but as luck would have it, Ade told me that Dr Mark Lehner who mapped the Giza Plateau. I asked Adel if he had a contact number for Dr Lehner in the USA and was surprised and delighted when he , Adel told me that Dr. Lehner was currently in Cairo and had just finished working on some excavations. Apparently, he was in his hotel preparing to return to the USA. Adel dialled Lehner's mobile number and passed his phone over to me.

I briefly told Dr Lehner about the possibility of there being another Sphinx on the Plateau and said that I would like to discuss this with him and that I was willing to meet him at his hotel or at the Giza office. He replied that he was in a great hurry and was about to leave for the USA and that he had no time to see me. He was quite adamant in declaring that there was only one Sphinx on the Plateau and abruptly hung up.

I handed the phone back to Adel and told him that Dr Lehner had sounded hostile, at which he shrugged his shoulders.

I stayed talking to Adel for about another thirty minutes when, without warning, the door burst open and I instantly recognised the man who unceremoniously strode in as Dr Mark Lehner.

I do not know whether his face was red from the sun or from embarrassment that I should see him there. Without a word to me he spoke sharply to Adel in Arabic in a raised voice and though I could not understand a word, it was obvious from his gestures that he was grumbling about me.

When Lehner had finished talking to Adel I attempted to offer a brief explanation of my theory but he cut me short saying it was not possible as the Giza Plateau was rock and no Sphinx could be buried under it. I suggested that one could not rule out the possibility that, over a few thousand years of sandstorms, there could be a variety of things buried beneath the Plateau and that is why he and others were still digging!. He reiterated that there was no other Sphinx. He then gave a scowling look at Adel and left, slamming the door behind him.

Why would Dr. Lehner, supposedly anxious to leave for Cairo airport, take the trouble to come to Adel's office when it would have been easier simply to phone him?...A few weeks later I learned that Hawass had dismissed Adel from his post..... I wonder why?

Although many believe that the Sphinx on the Giza Plateau has a male face it is generally agreed its original face has been altered. The fact is that there is some evidence that there was another Sphinx – a female Sphinx.

On my return home,my internet search revealed that an Egyptian amateur Egyptologist named Bassam El Shammaa believed that there was a second Sphinx on the Giza Plateau. He based his belief on the Egyptian tradition of always placing Sphinx statues in pairs, as guardians for temples and that certainly matched my theory. Like me, Bassam el Shammaa has had problems trying to persuade Dr Hawass to take his hypothesis seriously."

As I had mentioned, between the paws of the Sphinx is a stele with two Sphinxes depicted at it's top (Fig.11)



( Fig.11) The Dream Stele of Thutmose IV in front of the Sphinx  
(Source: Wikimedia Commons)

El Shammaa suggests that we should take this image literally, whereas conventional archaeologists believe that the two Sphinxes are just a repeated image of the same Sphinx.

I emailed Dr Zahi Hawass repeating that I wished to discuss the possible existence of another Sphinx. He kept evading me . Perhaps, he did not want another Sphinx found and may have known there was something under the mound. If there were then it might prove that the Egyptians did not carve it or built some of the ancient pyramids.

I needed a close up photo of the Sphinxes on the stele and fortunately my friend the Egyptologist and author, Robert Bauval was to visit the Plateau and offered to get me a high definition photo of the stele.



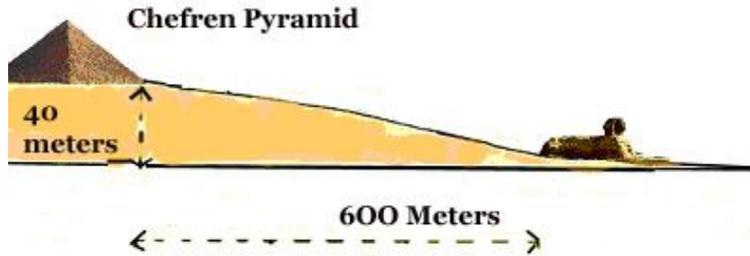
*(Fig.12) The two Sphinxes from the Dream Stele  
Photograph taken by Robert Bauval.*

As you can see from this excellent photograph the two Sphinxes undeniably differ from each other in a number of important ways, a matter which to the best of my knowledge has never been raised before by anyone, including the archaeologists! It appears that the left hand Sphinx face looks male with a masculine body and the left face, female with a slightly smaller body

There seems little room for further doubt that the sculptor intended to create an integrated image of a biologically identifiable pair of creatures.

I am now, more than ever, convinced that the existing Sphinx on the Giza Plateau is male and that whichever civilisation carved it also carved its female counterpart.

Another interesting observation is the discrepancy between the level of the base of the Sphinx and the level of the base of the Khafre Pyramid , also called Chephren Pyramid (Fig.13).



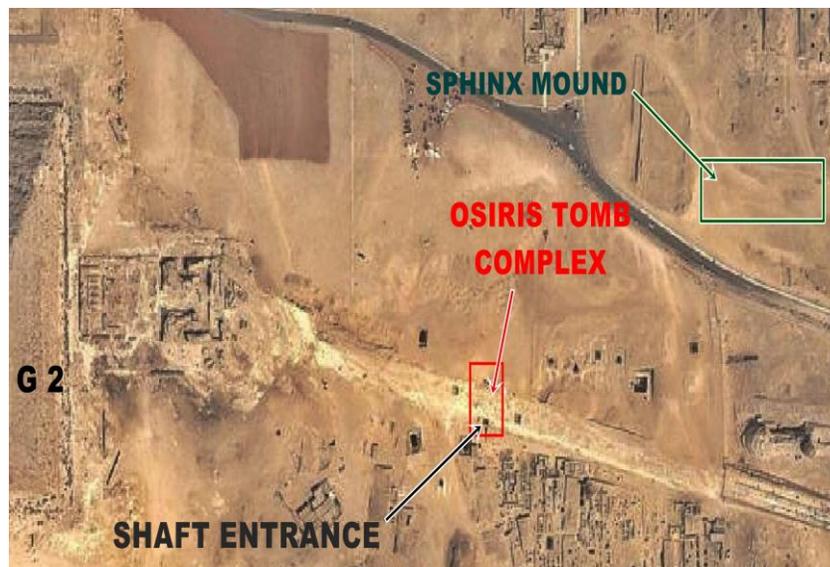
(Fig, 13)

The Sphinx is some forty metres lower than Chefred Pyramid. If our hypothesis has any foundation at all then the pair of Sphinxes was carved in order to perform as guardians of..... What? Surely not the Khafre Pyramid itself since all would have been constructed at the same level as the Sphinx.

Many learned scholars and scientists proposed that if the Sphinx is much older than the pyramids, then there could be chambers or construction beneath the Pyramids. That could be at the same level as the supposed guardian Sphinxes.

My proposal that the function of the Sphinx (or pair of Sphinxes) is to guard 'something beneath Khafre, is not without foundation. I have suggested that whatever that 'something' might be, it is reasonable to suppose that it could lie at the same horizontal level as the base of the Sphinx and the two could be connected at that 40 meter level Nevertheless it should be borne in mind that, among the many and varied investigations, explorations and excavations that have taken place on the Giza Plateau in recent decades is the Tomb of Osiris project.

The Tomb was an incredible find. The extent of the tunnels, passageways and chambers explored is remarkable. It lies some 197 metres behind the Sphinx) (Fig,14) along the line of the causeway that leads from the Sphinx Temple towards the Khafre Pyramid and descends some 30 metres underground.



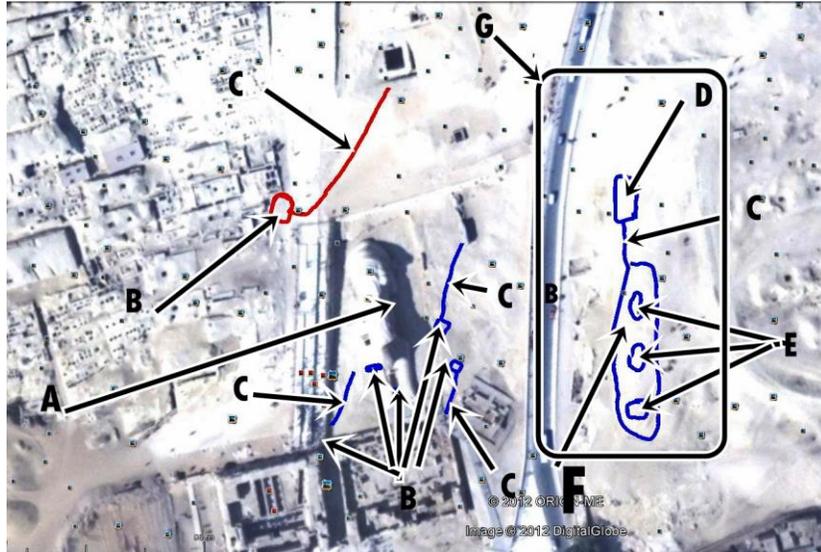
(Fig, 14)

Modern technology has revealed a variety of undiscovered and unexplored tunnels, chambers and fissures in the rock underlying the Plateau.

Only when we have uncovered our 'hypothetical' second Sphinx, examined its 'face' will our work be vindicated.

The evidence we present is based on informed topographical observations taken in the course of our investigation into other aspects of Egyptology. We can only wonder why others, better placed than we are, have not been prepared to examine this evidence and pursue what appears to us to be an obvious course of exploration.

I was introduced to Klaus Dona who calls himself a "spiritual archaeologist, living in Vienna After hearing about my Second Sphinx investigation, he told it to his German colleague named Peter who had developed a program using satellite imagery to get impressions of what lies under the sand and sea. Klaus, asked him to check out what was beneath the mound and he sent me an illustration (Fig.15)

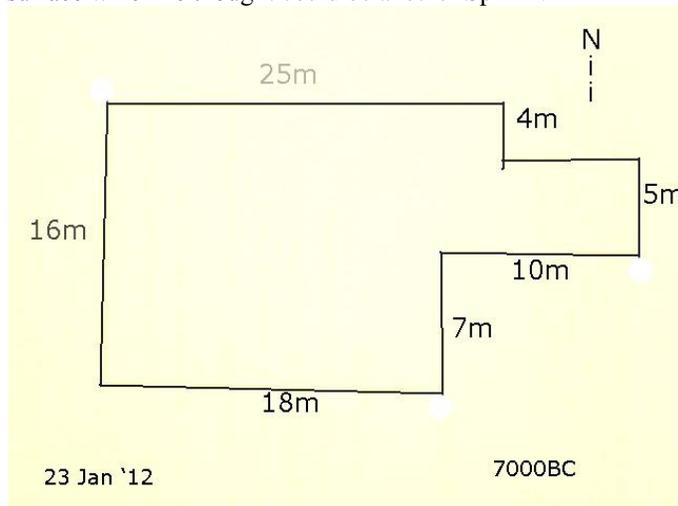


(Fig.15)

(A) SPHINX (B) CHAMBERS (C) PASSAGES (D) LARGE CHAMBER (E) CHAMBERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE MOUND (F) LONG ELONGATED SHAPE, A MADE CONSTRUCTION NEAR THE SURFACE OF THE MOUND (G) THE MOUND AREA

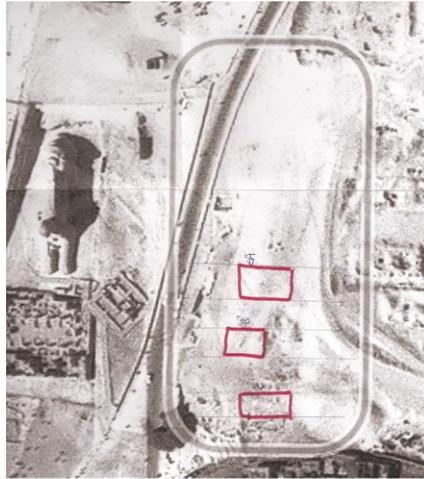
Perhaps dowsing may show more results so I contacted The British Society of Dowsers and spoke to Helen Lamb (The Editor).

She suggested that I contacted two of their archaeology dowsers, Laurie Booth and John Baker and, not telling them anything about the mound, ask if they would dowse it. Apparently Laurie knew very little about the Giza Plateau. But much to my amazement, Laurie's dowsing showed (Fig.16) that the area of the bedrock was first inhabited about 10,000 years ago. That coincided with the period when many researchers believe some of the Pyramids were erected. Laurie had sent a drawing of a large shape just beneath the mound's surface which he thought could be another Sphinx.



(Fig,16)

John Baker, whose skills are in archaeology dowsing in the UK sent me his hand drawn diagram (Fig.17).



(Fig.17)

The oblong shapes are chambers below the mound. The top shape is 62ft. below the surface – middle shape, 98 ft. below surface and bottom shape 72ft. below surface.

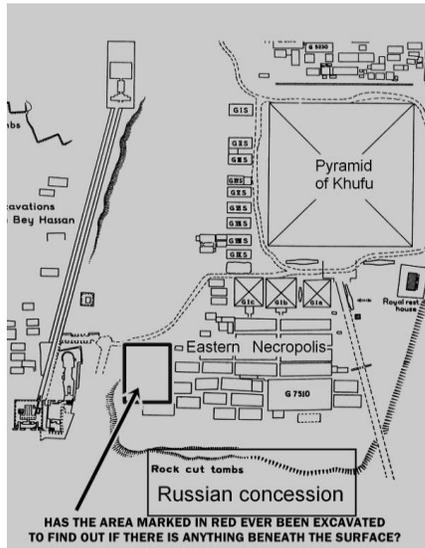
That somewhat compared to Peter's using his Infra red satellite enhancement program and Laurie's dowsing, they both had very similar results of the three chambers at the bottom of the mound!

I needed to get more information about the mound so I contacted Egypt Exploration Society in London which has been working in Egypt for 125 years. They publish *The Journal of Egyptian Archaeology (JEA)* and as I wanted to get the *Second Sphinx* article published in it, I was put in touch with the Editor-in-Chief, Dr Roland Enmarch in the University of Liverpool..

After hearing about my supposed *Second Sphinx* Dr Enmarch advised me to submit my story. It would first have to be read by two of their archaeologists who would determine if the article would be worthy to print. That would take a couple of weeks.

A few weeks later I received an e mail stating that they would not accept the article because it was based on speculation and dowsing and above all, the mound in question had been investigated. Apparently, a Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza Excavations 2006–2008, conducted by Eleonora Kormysheva and Svetlana Malykh, investigated the mound and did not mention another Sphinx although their work was published in their journal under the heading 'Lepsius Tombs in the Giza Necropolis Rediscovered.' When I asked to see the report Enmarch told me that it was not available to non subscribers. It seemed that I had reached an impasse.

Without giving up, I contacted the Russian archeologist, Eleonora Kormysheva by email and a few weeks later she sent me the report. Much to my surprise and delight this included a drawing from their article in the *JEA*. (Fig.18).

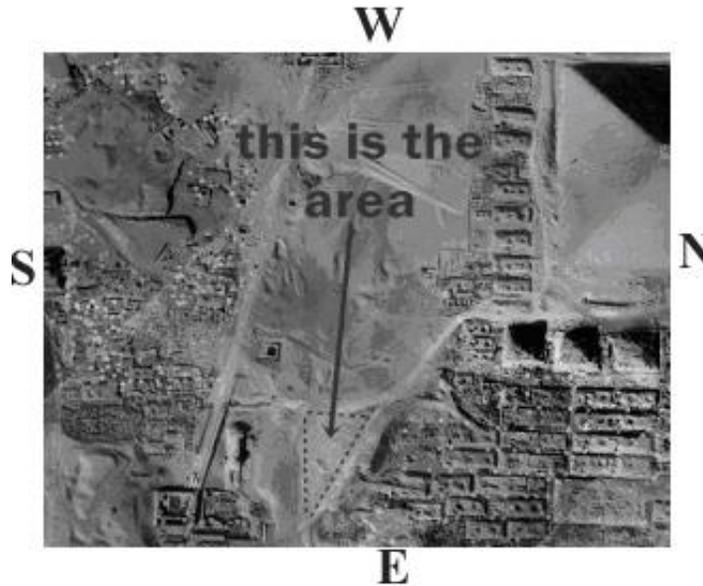


(Fig..18)

I noticed that there was a blank area, which I have indicated in the drawing, where I predicted a buried Sphinx and sent the drawing back to Eleonora Kormysheva, asking what they discovered in the area I had marked.

In her reply she wrote, *“The area, marked on your plan is out of our concession. You have to address Boston Museum, to which that area belong.”*

I wondered why the SCA would not give a concession for the Russian team to investigate that area. I contacted the Boston Museum (BM) in the U.S.A but they did not know who had a concession and whether it has ever been investigated. When visiting the BM web site I enlarged their aerial photo of the Giza Plateau which distinctly showed the area in question, as not having any tombs on it. (Fig.19) .



(Fig.19)

The north side of the mound has a specific area where there are tomb . However, there are no tombs, or anything else, in the area, indicated on the photo, south of the tombs.

Whether the Boston Museum or anyone else had applied to the SCA for a permit to investigate the mound then surely they would have requested a permit for not only the area of the tombs but also for the complete mound!

I thought it was time to try and obtain infra red satellite remote sensing imagery of the mound and contact a UK based company called Fugro NPA Limited.

Charlotte Bishop MSc, their Remote Sensing Projects Manager proved exceedingly sympathetic to my project and, for no more than a couple of hundred English pounds, provided me with some seriously helpful pictures. Among them was this image of the relevant area of the Giza Plateau. In order for the reader to see, I indicated it with an oblong band showing where a second Sphinx could be buried (Fig.20)..



(Fig.20)) The mound, marked with an oblong band, could be where a Second Sphinx is buried.  
 (Source: Charlotte Bishop, Fugro NPA Ltd)

No doubt a discovery of a Second Sphinx would boost the well needed tourism in Egypt to help its economy as besides the public there would also be archaeologists from around the world wanting to investigate it..

Perhaps an archaeological university, institution or influential society will find this article interesting enough to get involved. It would then require a permit from the now named Ministry of State for Antiquities (MSA) to investigate the mound using ground penetrating radar or other device. If favourable signs of a Sphinx shaped abnormality under it are detected then an application would have to be submitted to the MSA for a permit to carry out a detailed investigation and excavation.

Food for thought.....The so called Sleeping Prophet, Edgar Cayce predicted that the Hall of Records would be found under the paw of the Sphinx.....Could he had meant The Second Sphinx?

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