

ANCIENT EGYPT IN FOCUS



Lecture Series at RAFFMA, California State University, San Bernardino
October 2019 | Part 1 | Thursday, October 10 at 6-8 p.m.
Digital Giza: Visualizing Archaeological Archives in Context

By Nicholas Picardo, Associate Director of the Giza Project at Harvard University, Field Director for the South Abydos Settlement Excavation E Project and the Kom el-Hisn Provincialism Project.

This presentation explores the interplay of old records from museums and excavations with newer technologies, not only for research purposes but also in service of cultural heritage preservation, appreciation, and education. The Giza Project is a collaborative international initiative based at Harvard University. Its goals include the collection, electronic organization and preservation, scholarly study, and public presentation of data on Giza: the pyramids, their surrounding cemeteries, and their associated settlements. The Project has assembled and interlinked the largest electronic archive of Giza archaeological records ever created. Digital Giza, the Project's website (currently under construction), aims to integrate this more than 100 years of Giza documentation with Giza 3D, the Project's virtually reconstructed Giza environment. Together, the Giza Project's archival database, Giza 3D, and Digital Giza are the foundations for developing new interactive ways to experience the archaeology of Giza, including virtual and augmented reality apps, 3D printing of ancient artifacts, and online educational initiatives.

Nicholas Picardo studied Anthropology/Archaeology and Egyptology at the University of Pennsylvania. A specialist in household archaeology, he has excavated in Egypt at Abydos, Giza, Kom el-Hisn, and Saqqara. Previously he has served as a Visiting Instructor of Egyptology at Brown University and a Research Associate in the Art of the Ancient World Department of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where he co-curated the exhibition *The Secrets of Tomb 10A: Egypt 2000 BC*. His publications include scholarly and popular articles on his research interests, including ancient Egyptian houses and households, settlements, society, and religion.

