**Dr. Kimberley Watt**

Patterns in the form of secondary epigraphy: a comparison from Nubia and Egypt in the

New Kingdom

The written traces of ancient Egypt actively participate in creating cultural representation and

expression, revealing societal aspects. In Egypt and Nubia, graffiti are mainly found along the

course of the Nile and the old wadi. These individual practices of cultural expression mark the

landscape. Graffiti located between the Second and Fifth Cataracts differ significantly from

those found along the Nile north of the First Cataract. Indeed, among the inscriptions with

similar textual content, the figurative aspect, defined as one or more symbols larger in size than

the signs of the text, is largely absent from sites rich in epigraphy. Whether in the desert or

remote sites such as Sinai, sites in Egypt regularly contain these scenes or characters engraved

and painted. As a result, practices were different south of the First Cataract, in Nubia (modern

south of Egypt and North Sudan). A selection of graffiti from sites in Nubia and Egypt, dating

from the New Kingdom, is presented to identify the similarities and differences in style and

the geographical, logistical or social reasons for these disparities. These written sources offer

a glimpse into the daily lives of the groups and people who left these traces and appropriated

these marginal spaces.