


PRESERVATION AND DESTRUCTION
AT THE
RED AND WHITE MONASTERIES, SOHAG



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Two fifth century Coptic monasteries in the region of Sohag, in Upper Egypt, have endured for centuries, well preserved in the arid desert. In recent years, the pace of change at both the Red and White Monasteries has been increasing, and continues to increase exponentially. I will discuss the evidence and reasons for this and also the steps which are currently being taken to study and preserve these two monasteries, and the remains of monasticism in the area. Eternal life is no doubt an impossibility for physical remains, but hopefully we can become involved, during this period of great transformation, in the preservation of knowledge about them.

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