

GRIFFITH, FRANCIS LLEWELLYN (1862-1934)

A British Egyptologist. As longtime professor of [Egyptology](#) at Oxford University, he was a pioneer in the study of medieval Nubian archaeology and philology. Between 1910 and 1912 he directed the excavation of several churches and other Christian archaeological remains at Faras in Lower Nubia. At Faras and at 'Abd al-Qadir he also made the first important discoveries of medieval Nubian wall paintings. This work produced "Oxford Excavations in Nubia" (*University of Liverpool Annals of Archaeology and Anthropology* 13, 1926, pp. 50-93; 14, 1927, pp. 57-116; and 15, 1928, pp. 63-82) and "Christian Documents from Nubia" (*Proceedings of the British Academy* 14, 1928, pp. 117-46).

Griffith was, in addition, one of the first students of the Old Nubian language, publishing a [translation](#) and [commentary](#) on three documents that he found in the [British Museum](#) and in the Royal Library in [Berlin](#) as *The Nubian Texts of the Christian Period* (Abhandlungen der Königlichen preussischen Akademie der Wissenschaften, Jahrgang 1913, Philosophisch- historische Classe 8, Berlin, 1913).

Griffith was also a pioneer in the study of the Meroitic [language](#) and culture of pre-Christian Sudan. He excavated a number of important Meroitic sites, [chiefly](#) at Faras, and published many articles on the Meroitic language.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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