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**Lithic Tools Collection from Seton-Karr's Excavation at Fayum**  
**"Egyptian Museum, P55"**  
**(Publishing, Techno-Typological, and Environmental Study)**

MA Thesis submitted in Faculty of Archaeology, Cairo University  
for the partial fulfillment of MA Program of Environmental Archaeology.

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Cairo 2020

## **Abstract**

The climatic conditions played a major role for humans during prehistoric times; such conditions effect on the availability of the different resources, during the terminal Pleistocene the Sahara was not occupied and there is no any settlement outside of the Nile Valley. After the hyper aridity happening during this time, early Holocene started with what's known as "The reoccupation phase of the Early Holocene", with wetter conditions supporting means of life for humans, animal and flora. The Sahara during this time covered by the savannah, but later during the Mid-Holocene the changing in the climatic conditions to aridity forced humans to settled several sites along the Nile Valley, Thus climate change had a significant impact on the human occupation particularly on the Eastern Sahara and the Fayum region, and People had to deal with these changing climate conditions, where the availability of faunal and floral resources is associated with the climatic conditions and the availability of water. In earlier times hunting game and gathering wild plants was a way of human subsistence. At a later date the use of domesticated animals and plants became an essential step towards a new lifestyle that provided a wider variety of food supplies through combining different subsistence patterns. Since the Neolithic farming, herding, and raising domesticated animals became the dominant lifestyle in the Nile Valley.

The stone artifacts are one of the culture materials can used as indications how the people were adapted to these unstable environmental conditions and availability of the resources by either producing and developing the tools that they have it or innovating a new type of tools. The collection of Seton-Karr from the Fayum considered as a unique collection which serves as an example for the evolution of lithic tools from the prehistoric period into Old Kingdom. The collection derives from the surface along the northeastern shore of Qarun Lake and the stone tools have been chosen selectively by Seton-Karr, thus they do not represent a closed or coherent archaeological find context, but it is important not to neglect these older or museological assemblages from previous centuries and to re-analyze them anew as well as to document them more comprehensively. Since it's contains a various type of tools, which used for many purposes and reflect the importance role of these tools for the human subsistence in Fayum region.

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