

Contents

List of figures	xi
List of tables.....	xvii
1. The Copts in context	1
The Copts of Egypt: a brief historical context	4
The Copts and the rise of orientalism in Egypt.....	8
The Copts in modern Egypt	14
Conclusion.....	16
Aims, scope and methods of the study.....	16
Structure of the study	18
2. The theoretical context: significance, value and meanings	21
Assessing significance: the experience from English heritage practice.....	21
The global vs local heritage debate.....	24
Conclusion.....	26
3. The practice of conservation and management.....	29
Restricted intervention and the retention of authenticity	30
Compatibility and reversibility	34
Reconstructing historic buildings.....	36
Conclusion.....	39
4. Heritage management and tourism in Egypt	41
Heritage tourism.....	41
Egyptian tourism	43
Management, protection and interpretation at Christian heritage sites in Egypt	46
Conclusion.....	52
5. The heritage policy context: England, Egypt and the world	53
Heritage legislation in England: The Ancient Monuments Act to Historic England	53
The current state of English archaeology and heritage management: Weaknesses and strengths	56
UNESCO and its role in world heritage protection	59
Conclusion.....	60
Current issues in Egyptian heritage policy development.....	61
The way forward for Egyptian heritage discourse	67
6. A case study of Coptic monuments in urban Cairo: The churches of al Adra and Abu Sefain (Haret Zuwaila complex).....	71
Introduction	71
Historical background and environmental issues.....	72
Description of the church of Al Adra and Abu Sefein	74
Condition survey of both churches.....	75
Walls	75
Walls of Abu Sefain.....	77
Entrance to Abu Sefein	79
Floor	80
Pillars.....	81
Ambon	82
Well	84
Significance	85
Discussion	86
Visitation to the church	89

Conclusion.....	90
7. The Monastery of St Paul.....	91
Historical background	91
Description of the Monastery of St Paul, its churches and ancillary buildings	93
Cistern and spring of St Paul.....	96
The Mill.....	98
Reception rooms.....	99
Church of St Michael	101
Pharmacy/bakery	103
Old stables	105
Keep.....	105
Refectory	108
Church of St Mercurius and The Cave Church of St Paul	108
Assessment of significance	109
Previous conservative work	111
Discussion	113
Conclusion.....	116
8. The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Abu Mina.....	119
Location.....	119
Historical background to the site and description of the church complex	120
Description of the site of Abu Mina.....	122
Great Basilica	122
Modern church within the Great Basilica.....	124
Martyr Church	127
Baptistery	129
Central gathering square	130
The Roman town	134
Assessment of significance	135
Assessment of current conservation and management measures at the site	136
Previous conservation plans	136
Discussion	138
Tourism impacts	140
Conclusion.....	141
9. Conclusion	143
Glossary of Coptic architectural terms.....	145
Bibliography	147