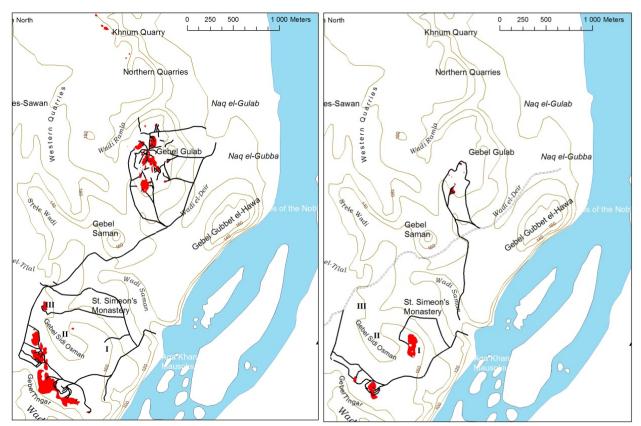
Example sheet 3

Analysing logistics

A key question is where the stone was transported. At the Aswan West Bank, quarries from different periods and for different purposes are overlapping each other, and so the overall picture is complex. But when putting together the logistical elements that, through the detailed characterization, have been connected to each other, we see systems of logistics from different quarrying operations. Here, we have separated the Pharaonic quarrying of ornamental stone (obelisks, statues) from that of the Roman Period. In the former case, we see a "draining" system of roads leading down to two harbours along the Nile. In the northern part of the area ("Khnum Quarry") there are several quarries containing unfinished obelisk bases and statues.

However, there is a complete lack of roads in this area, indicating that no large stone objects were taken away from the quarries. This halt of production (particularly obelisks) may coincide with the death of the king Seti 1.

The Roman quarrying was far less extensive and partly the old logistic system was re-used. However, it seems that the Roman road system all points towards the southern harbour. A wide desert road (El-Deir road) from the Roman Period passes through the area, and part of this may also have been used for transport of stone.



New Kingdom logistics (left) showing ornamental stone quarries in red and interpretations of ramps and roads in black. To the right is the same visualization of the Roman Period ornamental stone quarrying; the New Kingdom roads were partly re-used, but also, new roads were constructed.