Peter F. Dorman

Although a good portion of Peter F. Dorman's research time was spent on editorial duties involved with the second volume of the Epigraphic Survey's documentation of Luxor Temple (The Facade, Portals, Upper Registers, Columns, and Marginalia of the Colonnade Hall), he prepared an article, "Creation on the Potter's Wheel at the Eastern Horizon of Heaven," to appear in the forthcoming volume of studies in honor of Professor Edward F. Wente. The article discusses the potter's instrument as a potent means of daily self-rejuvenation by the creator sun god in the first hour before dawn, a concept illustrated in several Theban and Tanite royal tombs, as well as in the cosmological composition known as the Book of Nut. References to the spinning wheel recur later in several temples of the Ptolemaic period as symbolic of the creative powers of local deities, such as Khnum of Esna, Hathor of Dendera, and Horus of Edfu.

Dorman also submitted an article to be published in a volume dedicated to the memory of Abd el-Aziz Sadek, entitled "A Relief Fragment from the Tomb of Senenmut (Theban Tomb 71)," which reconstructs one the missing walls of the stone-lined niche in the tomb, the funeral focus for Senenmut's mortuary cult.

During the course of the year Dorman made visits to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Brooklyn Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, the Louvre, the British Museum, and the Cairo Museum to complete his initial cataloging of selected ceramic canopic jar lids. This research is now being incorporated in a projected monograph that will define a typology for these objects and will explore the links between potter's and sculptors' workshops, the existence of bona fide ceramic sculpture in ancient Egypt, and the textual and mythological references to the potter and his spinning wheel.