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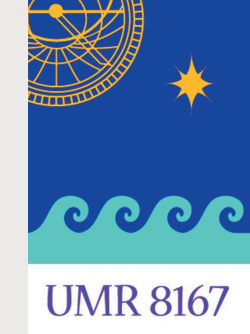
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Reconstructing the history of Medamud's temple (Egypt) : A multidisciplinary approach.



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A theban temple documented formerly.

The Medamud temple is located 4 km north east from Karnak in Upper Egypt. Nowadays the site is a preserved area of about 15.5ha. During the first excavations (1924-32 by F. Bisson de la Roque, and 1933-39 by Cl. Robichon) a Ptolemaic temple was discovered, built with reused material of the Middle and New Kingdoms. Some of these excavations are still unpublished (Fig. 1) and the surrounding area has never been explored.

New studies for new perspectives

Various plans were formerly proposed by the archaeologist without accurate fittings. A GIS has been created to the whole datasets and especially :

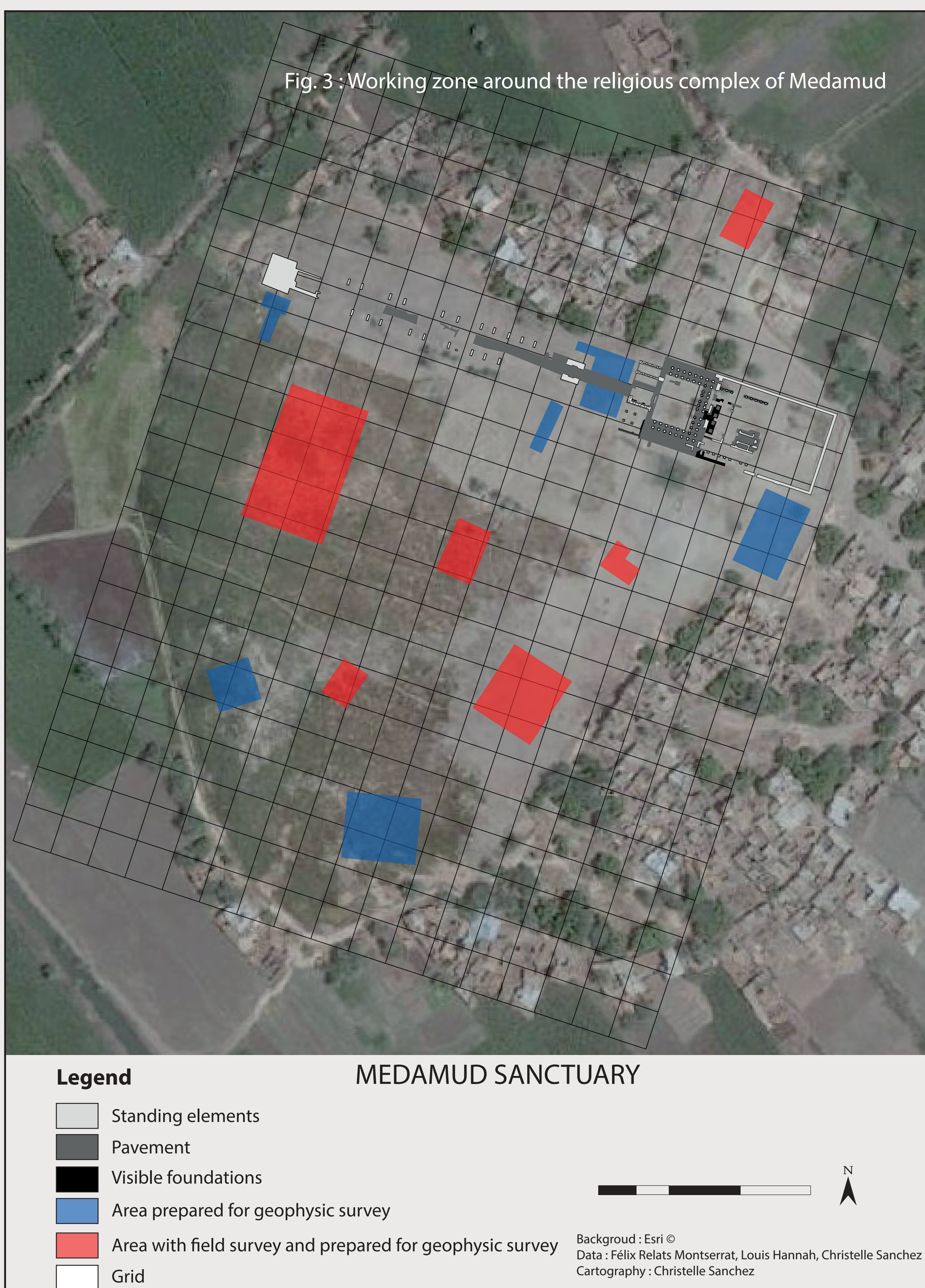
- a new plan of the temple structures
- a ceramic study: field walking
- the study of old excavations : archives
- a geophysical survey



Fig. 1 : Bisson's excavations of the northern kiosque, 1931, archives of the Università degli Studi di Milano

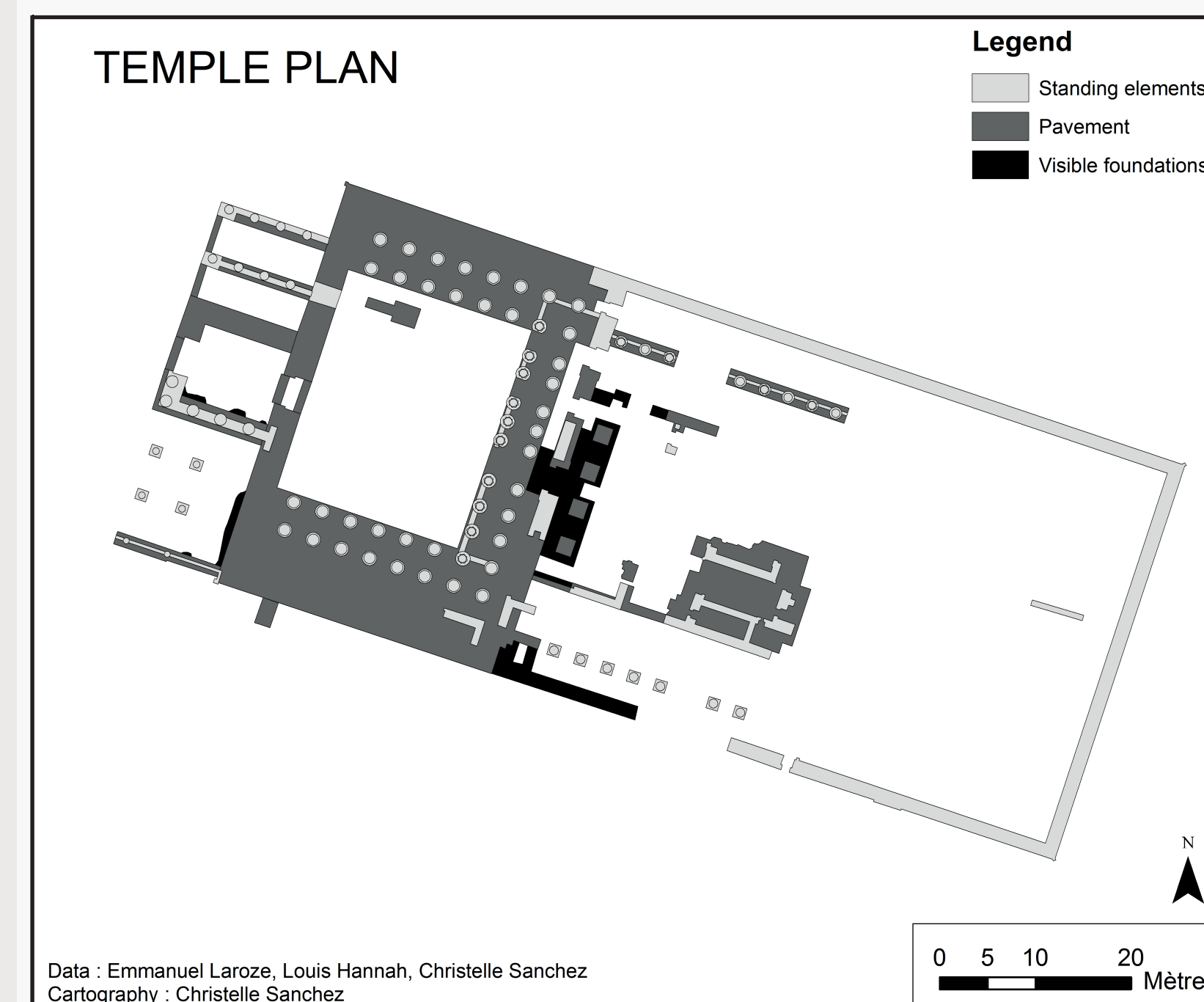
Surveying

Two missions have planned : one in may and the second in october. Infortunatly, the geophysics could not be done (customs problems). We present here the works realized to prepare the geophysics surveys.



Temple plan

The temple's plan had not been updated since the 1930s. To document this religious building in a precise way, a new topographic plan of the structures still preserved is compiled in the GIS (Fig. 2). The final objective is to understand the global chronology.



Field walking

During the mission of May, a field walking was made on the various selected zones (Fig. 3). Chronological data, provided by the study of the artefacts (Fig. 4), will be put in perspective with the geophysics planned in october.



Fig. 4 : Oil lampe, coptic period, zone G7, Medamud 2015.

The study of pottery is in progress by Zulema Barahona Mendieta.

Every zones has been described (Fig. 5) and mapped to show various concentrations (Fig. 6).

0	Nothing
1	Ceramics presence
2	Ceramics density
3	5 cm of thickness of ceramic
4	High ceramic density
NA	Non available

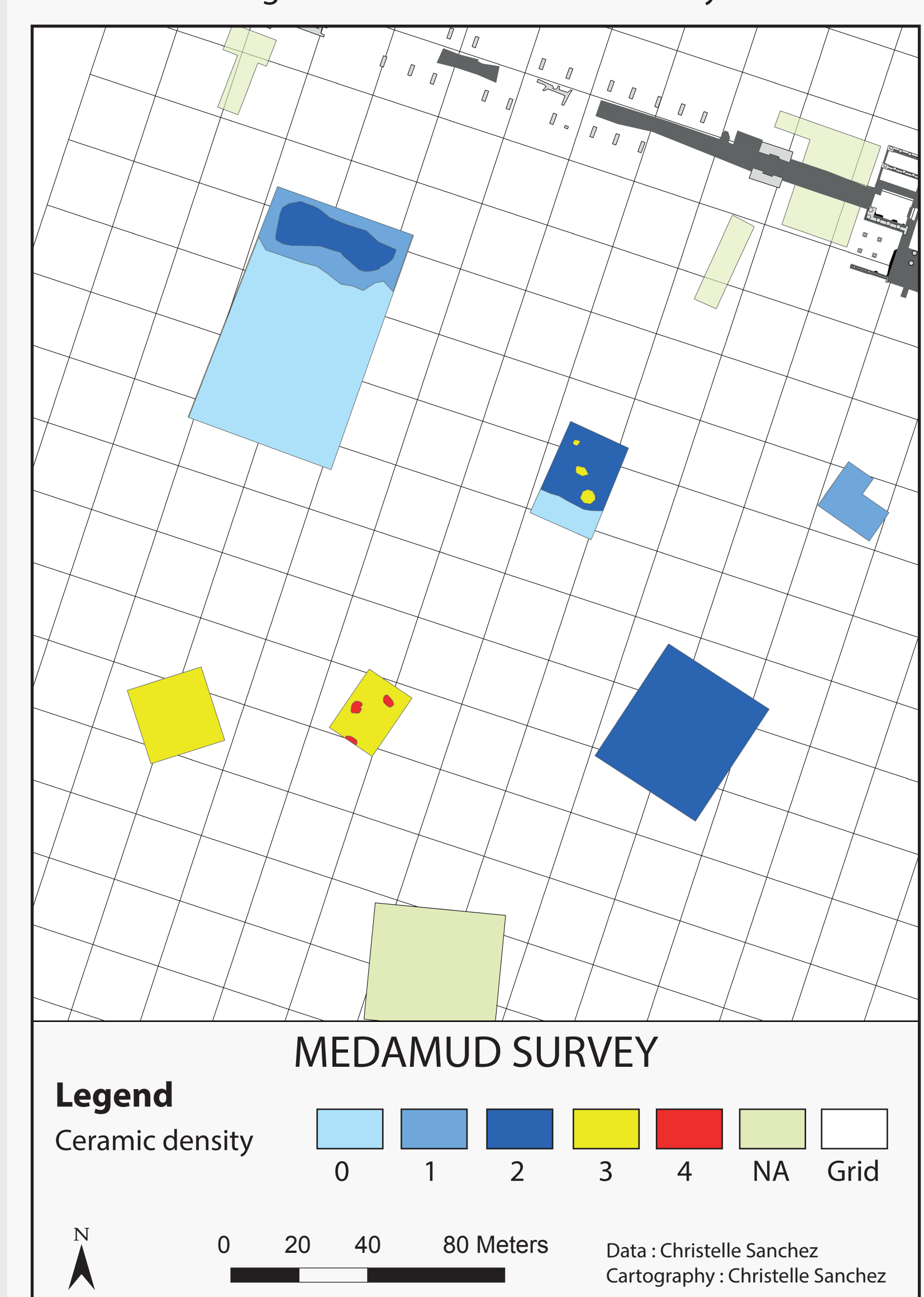
Fig. 5 : Index of ceramics density

Geophysical prospection

This site could be quite complex (various transformations in the buildings, several old excavations...) the objective is to combine different methodes : Magnetometry and EMI. The geophysical areas have been implanted (Fig. 3) in order to answer three questions:

- clarify the plan of the former excavated zones (unpublished)
- understand the coptic city surrounding the temple (a part of it has been founded in 1928)

Because of customs' problems, it was not possible to start geophysics acquisitions last May. They will be realized in october 2015.



Conclusion

The final aim of this programme is to deliver a new history of Medamud as part of the reopening project of the site. An open air museum and new excavations will follow our project.

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