Figure 2. Aerial photography of the northeastern Nile Delta led to the discovery of the disused artificial waterway called the Eastern Canal. The southern section of the canal, a 2-km portion of which is shown here, is distinctly marked by an embankment dump along its sides. The southern trace is located about halfway between Tell Abu Seifah and Tell el-Hair, in sandy terrain.

Figure 3. The trace of the Eastern Canal found north of Tell el-Hair, completely silted up with the alluvial mud of the delta, is more difficult to recognize than the southern trace. Along the 2.5-tm segment shown in the aerial photograph, ancient irrigation canals can be seen as the diagonal lineations leading north-northeast from the right bank of the canal. The white patches are salt sabkhas.

Figure 7. The relief in the Hypostyle Hall of Ammon’s Temple at Karnak may be a representation of the Eastern Canal. Pharaoh Seti I (1309-1291 B.C.) returns in triumph from Asia with his captives. The rejoicing Egyptians welcome him across a reed-lined waterway teeming with crocodiles, referred to in the inscription as Tu Denit, “the Dividing Waters.” Topographic and paleographic evidence suggests that this waterway, elsewhere called the “Ways of Horus” and “Shur of Egypt,” is identical with the Eastern Canal.