The primary objective of this project is to conduct interdisciplinary research on the urban layout and domestic architecture of the town of Pathyris in the Ptolemaic period (332-30 BC). Pathyris is the Greek name of a site located about 30km southwest of Luxor, in the Gebelein micro-region (Egypt), on the top and slopes of the East Mountain of Gebelein. What distinguishes this town is its strategic importance as a stronghold dominating the Nile Valley. Due to its significance, this place was inhabited from prehistory onward, receiving a new impulse for its development after 186 B.C. when the Great Revolt in Upper Egypt was suppressed. As a result, a Ptolemaic military camp was erected there between 165 and 161 B.C., where local people could serve as soldiers-serving-for-pay. Pathyris was a nome capital from the 2nd century B.C. to 88 B.C. After the new revolt, during the reign of Ptolemy X Alexander, the garrison that existed in the town was transferred elsewhere and Pathyris disappeared from written sources. What makes the town unique is a large number of Greek and Demotic papyri, dated between the half of the 3rd century B.C. and 88 B.C., belonging to the official, temple, and family archives. They show how the government took several initiatives to Hellenise the town, resulting in a bilingual community with coexisting Greek and Egyptian practices, institutions, and languages. Thus, they offer a unique view of various socio-economical aspects of Ptolemaic society. Despite significant visibility in the source material, which cannot be omitted by any scientist dealing with the Ptolemaic period in Egypt, Pathyris is very little known from an archaeological point of view.

As dynamite had been used to make space for the modern village, most traces of this ancient town are lost definitively by now. Therefore there is a risk of its complete disappearance not only from the face of the earth but also from the world of science. How can we then recreate its appearance? What sources do we have at our disposal? They are many and varied. First of all the archival sources, in the form of the unpublished *Notebook with sketches* and photographs from Italian excavations at the beginning of the 20th century. The *Notebook* contains drawings and descriptions of excavated architectural structures together with detailed measurements of lengths and widths of the preserved walls – the plans include information about the dimensions of individual rooms, as well as wall thicknesses, the location of stairs, stoves, etc. This information, combined with photos, that are showing houses in the town, sometimes preserved up to 2-3 meters, will allow us to understand what the architectural remains on the site looked like. Numerous and often accurate information about the topography of the town and features of domestic architecture can also be found in the papyri and ostraca discovered there. Documents such as contracts of sale, division, or rent of houses or vacant plots, as a standard element, include an enumeration of typical building elements (e.g. courtyard, vaulted room) as well as an enumeration of neighbours on all four sides. Linking those documents will allow for the reconstruction of the layout of larger parts of the town, and by identifying the characteristic elements of houses (such as vaulted structures, dovecote, light wells, etc., mentioned in papyri) then put them in an archaeological context. We hope that in this way we will be able to identify, for example, the house of Gi, Psenmenthos, and maybe even the famous Dryton and his wife Apollonia.

The analysis of papyrus documentation will also allow the reconstruction of the street grid within the town, as well as at least an approximate location of public structures such as a temple or fortress. Finally, the town plan obtained in this way will be embedded in the field thanks to georeferencing. This in conjunction with the Digital Elevation Model (raster representation of the relief of the terrain) will permit a theoretical 3D visualisation of Pathyris to be made, which will allow an understanding of how its architecture was adjusted to the natural topography of the Eastern Gebelein Hill.

All those analyses will serve to understand whether the Hellenisation process found reflection also in the domestic architecture and urban landscape of Pathyris and how the domestic architecture of Pathyris looked like compared to other Ptolemaic towns, contributing significantly to the knowledge of urbanisation in the Ptolemaic period.

The goal of the project is also to digitalise and make available as much data as possible online about the Pathyris, to preserve knowledge on this unique and important site. An online website and papyrological database will be then an integrative part of the project. The program website will serve as a publication hub for archival documentation, and plans. The papyrological database will organize the now much dispersed papyrological evidence in a clear and easily accessible manner, creating a homogenous thematic catalog, concentrated on the urban layout of Pathyris. After a basic contextualisation of each document (edition reference, type of document, date, provenance, language), all terms or phrases related to the urban layout. All parts of the website will be linked to each other and the database by cross-referencing.

The PI will publish a large paper in an international journal as the most tangible result of the project as well as a series of shorter papers in international journals. Both, publications and a prepared website and database will constitute a reference tool for papyrologists, archaeologists, Egyptologists, historians, or experts in geoscience.