A RECONSTRUCTION OF SENWOSRET I’S PORTICO AND OF SOME STRUCTURES OF AMENHOTEP I AT KARNAK

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Outline

1. Senwosret’s Limestone Portico
   1.1. The Limestone Radier is too Short Westward to Place Senwosret I’s Portico
       The north-west corner block of the radier
       The slicing of the radier’s west edge
   1.2. The Original Decoration on the South Outer Face of the Hatshepsut Suite
   1.3. The Hypothetical Superimposition of Two Similar Scenes with Different Proportions
   1.4. The Change in Direction of Senwosret I’s Portico
       The new placement of the Osirian pillar n°11
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       Eastward orientation like the contra temple of Tuthmosis III
       Placement of the portico
   1.5. The Existence of a Double Portico
   1.6. The Date and Reason for the Dismantling of Senwosret I’s Portico
   1.7. Blocks of Senwosret I’s That Do Not Come from the Portico’s Facade
       Two limestone chapels
       Two large limestone gates probably embedded in a stone wall
       Small limestone doorways probably built into mud brick walls
       Elements of a wall
       Elements of a sandstone portico
   1.8. The Furniture in Senwosret I’s Name
       Naos in diorite
       Socle with steps in calcite
       Altar with a cornice in hard limestone
   1.9. Conclusions

2. Senwosret I’s Sandstone Colonnade

3. The New Kingdom Foundations in the So-Called “Middle Kingdom” Courtyard
   3.1. The Limestone Radier
       The radier’s dimensions
       The radier’s top face

4. Proposed Plan of Amenhotep I’s Monuments
   4.1. First Stage: The Constructions Built On and Around the Limestone Radier (in gold on the plan)
       The sanctuary
       The enclosure wall C+C’
       The wall D+D’
       The wall A+A’
   4.2. Second Stage: The Constructions Built to the West of the Limestone Radier (in yellow on the plan)
       The bark shrine R+R’
       The enclosure wall around the bark shrine B+E and B+E’
       The two lines N+S of 16 niches, the predecessor of the 6th Pylon
       The chapels G and P for the royal cult
The chapel of Ahmes-Nefertari
The copy of Senosret I’s White Chapel

4.3. **The Stages of Deconstruction**
The first stage of deconstruction under Tuthmosis I
The second stage of deconstruction, during the coregency of Hatshepsut and Tuthmosis III
The third stage of deconstruction under Amenhotep III

**DEFINITIONS:** These architectural terms will be defined as follows:

- **“+”:** altitude above sea level.
- **Header:** a stone block occupying the entire thickness of a wall, that is to say with two visible faces.
- **Face:** The visible surface of a wall.
- **Doorframe:** The slight projection of the doorjambs and the lintel on a gateway which forms a frame around the doorway.
- **Reveal:** The inner reveals are between the rebate and the inner face. The outer reveals are between the rebate and the outer face.
- **Rebate:** A projection of the reveal in order to receive the edges of the doorleaf.
- **Socle:** A raised platform supporting another structure.
- **Colonnade:** A line of columns and their roofing.
- **Peristyle:** A colonnade on the perimeter of a building or courtyard which completely or almost completely surrounds it.
- **Portico:** An open gallery at ground level, but which is not necessarily bordered by a colonnade.

**DESIGNATIONS:** These designations for architectural structures will be defined as follows:

- **Senwosret I’s portico:** This formed the facade of Senwosret I’s temple, “le Grand Château d’Amon,” of which there remains no certain vestiges.
- **So-called “Middle Kingdom” courtyard:** The empty space bounded by Hatshepsut’s suite to the west and the storerooms surrounding this courtyard to the east, north and south. No Middle Kingdom remains are visible, and it would have been better to name it the “New Kingdom” courtyard. Since, however, this space has long been known as the “Middle Kingdom,” it will be designated here as the so-called “Middle Kingdom” courtyard.

**Limestone radier:** A stone foundation platform covering the entire surface to be built upon. The limestone radier refers to the thick foundation (height: 3 cubits) made of thin courses of small limestone blocks, which is buried under the surface of the so-called “Middle Kingdom” courtyard. The blocks are all reused and were produced by cutting off the faces of larger blocks.

**Platform:** A foundation made of flat blocks of sandstone, limestone and granite, which occupies a small surface of less than 100 m², and built at the west side of the limestone radier. The blocks are all reused and at least two limestone blocks are decorated.

**Storerooms surrounding the radier:** A group of 10 storerooms was built around the east, north and south sides of the limestone radier from which they are separated by a U-shaped corridor. Set on a thick layer of sand, their foundations are made of two green sandstone courses surrounding the limestone radier.

**Enclosure tied to the 5th Pylon:** This enclosure is made up of four perpendicular walls delimiting a wide rectangular space, the west one being divided by the Pylon. Each half of this west wall is bonded to the Pylon and to the north or south enclosure walls, while the east wall is perpendicular to both the north and south ones. The Akh-menu abuts the east face of this east enclosure wall.

**Service corridor:** The north side of this corridor borders the outer wall of the storerooms surrounding the limestone radier. Its south side is bordered by a range of rooms with or without columns. The corridor leads to the south door of the Akh-menu.

**Enclosure tied to the 4th Pylon:** This enclosure consists of three perpendicular walls delimiting the courtyard between the 5th and 4th Pylons, with the west one being bisected by the 4th Pylon. Each half of the wall is bonded to this Pylon and to the north or south enclosure walls.

**Hatshepsut’s podium:** Similar to a high platform and accessed by several steps, Hatshepsut’s podium is the massive structure built three cubits above the pavement of the temple in order to elevate the superstructures (of the Chapelle Rouge + her north and south suites). The east side of Hatshepsut’s podium abuts both the limestone radier and the platform.

**Hatshepsut suite:** These rooms were built by the queen to either side of the Chapelle Rouge.