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REPORT ON THE WORK OF KARNAK

DURING THE SEASONS 1954–55 AND 1955–56

BY

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The present report comprises all the work done of an archaeological and architectural nature in the great temple of Karnak during the seasons 1954–55 and 1955–56. Although it had become customary that a report on the work at Karnak be published almost annually in the *Annales* at the end of each season, this was difficult, for certain reasons, in the case of these two seasons. M. H. Chevrier, who had been in charge of work in this important temple since 1926, resigned in November 1954 and thereafter other changes in personnel took place. A. Lutfi, M. Chevrier's assistant, was transferred to El-Qurna and Mr. M. Hammad who was being trained by M. Chevrier was also, a short time later, transferred to the Department of Buildings in which he had previously served The second of the present authors was then appointed architect at Karnak and has since been responsible for the architectural work, while the first was concerned with all work of an archaeological nature. The architectural work was supervised by M. Lauer of Saqqara during the winter 1955–56 and Mr. Taha El-Shiltawy, the Chief Architect of the Department. The archaeological work was supervised by Mr. Labib Habachi, the Chief Inspector for Upper Egypt. All these gentlemen offered valuable advice which helped towards the success of work.

The report on the work of the last seasons (1956–58) will be issued very soon, and we hope that succeeding reports will be published annually. Objects of unusual significance found during the work will be dealt with in separate studies by ourselves or by others especially interested in them

Among these is the stela of a Montuhotep which was discovered in the Third Pylon. This is now under study by Mr. Labib Habachi.

The work in the seasons 1954–56 achieved the following results :

I.—Rebuilding of the IInd Pylon.
II.—Soundings in the entrance to the IInd Pylon.
III.—Restoration work at the VIIth Pylon.
IV.—Reconstruction of the statue of Pinozem I.
V.—Continuation of the work on the IIIrd Pylon.
VI.—Clearance of the area east and south of the Sacred Lake.
VII.—Various other works in the temple.

I.—Rebuilding of the IInd Pylon

After M. Chevrier's resignation in the autumn of 1954, it was decided that the program of the work in Karnak through the 1954–55 season should, in the first place, involve the continuation of the rebuilding of the IInd Pylon. To avoid the buckling and eventual collapse of the walls of the IInd Pylon, M. Chevrier had since removed the blocks. Through the ensuing years, he had been able to rebuild only the north end of the south tower to a height of approximately 8 or 9 metres.[1] At the south end of the north tower he had gone as far as to begin laying the foundation just before his departure for the summer of 1954. Under the direction of M. Hammad and A. Lutfi this foundation was completed by October (pl. I, A). Mr. Lutfi was then transferred to El-Qurna and Mr. Hammad was in sole charge of the work at Karnak. At a meeting in Luxor on the 25th of December 1954, Mr. Taha El-Shiltawy, the Chief Architect, at the request of the Inspectorates, instructed Mr. Hammad to devote full time to the rebuilding of the IInd Pylon. Work was

(1) H. Chevrier, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak* (1948-49), *Ann. Serv.*, XLIX, pp. 240 ff., fig. I.

therefore started on the 15th of January 1955 at the south end of the north tower. Three or four courses of blocks were laid when, in April, the second of the present authors was put in charge of the architectural work at Karnak.

With daily observation and close supervision work went on with good discipline and great enthusiasm. Although we had no records at hand of the blocks which had been removed we were able to do the reconstruction very accurately. With the help of photographs kindly supplied us by Mr. Hughes of the Oriental Institute in Luxor, and owing to the excellent arrangement and numbering of the detached blocks done by M. Chevrier the work went on systematically.

The disassembled blocks of the pylon had been arranged in an orderly fashion by M. Chevrier in the area east of the temple of Khonsu.[1] We had to transport them from there to the Hypostyle Hall. Some of the blocks were placed on Décauville wagons pulled by labourers to a washing basin which had been built by Mr. Hammad near the administrative offices of Karnak (pl. I, B). There for approximately 24 hours they were washed in clean water. This washing was necessary for the extraction of the salt with which they were impregnated. From there each block was taken to the Hypostyle Hall where it was treated by our restorers. Some of the stones of the pylon were in bad condition and these were carefully handled. They were washed for only a few minutes if possible, and each was also treated before it was handed to the builder,

Before the end of the summer of 1955 we were able to reach in the reconstruction of the north tower, the height of the previously reconstructed part of the south tower. Up to this height we had hoisted each block from the Hypostyle Hall with the use of the *pont roulant*. Now it became difficult to carry on our work by that method, so we transferred operations to the south tower. There we begun by building

(1) Cf. H. Chevrier, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak* (1953-54), *Ann. Serv.* LIII, pl. XVII.

a wooden bridge connecting the reconstructed parts of the two towers. More scaffolding was rigged up and the *pont roulant* was placed on it (pl. II). The Décauville rails were laid on the bridge and it was then possible for the wagons to come direct'y from the area south of the Hypostyle Hall onto the north tower via the wooden ramp which M. Chevrier had built. We first removed a large amount of debris in the core of the north end of the south tower, apparently left there during previous work to consolidate the rebuilding and then began the reconstruction of this tower. We placed our materials in the court south of the Great Hypostyle Hall and the area became the *atelier* for the restoration of the blocks before they were placed on the wagon and pulled up the ramp to the towers.

After the wooden bridge was built we continued the rebuilding of the south end of the north tower of the pylon. At about the end of January 1956 we had completed the rebuilding of this part of the pylon. Work was then transferred to the south tower and we resumed the rebuilding of the north end of that tower. By April work on this part of the pylon had also been completed, and before us now remained only the restoration of the reveals of the passage through the pylon. By the end of May the rebuilding of both towers of the IInd Pylon had been completely executed. In order to free the stone of whatever salt they might still contain, the whole structure was washed daily with water until finally it regained some of its original solidity. Having finished our task of reconstruction, we had still to remove the extensive scaffolding, some of which had marred the appearance of the pylon for many years. Before the end of June no piece of it remained on the pylon. The long drifting parts of the towers of the IInd Pylon are now finally rebuilt and the whole edifice rises once again in grandeur and magnificence. Nothing now obscures the view of the visitor who wishes to photograph the IInd Pylon or the Great Hypostyle Hall behind it (pls. III and IV).

II.—Soundings in the Entrance of the IInd Pylon

One of the important recent events in the field of Egyptian archaeology and history was the discovery, in the summer of 1954, of the stela of king Kamose at Karnak. The stela was found in the foundations of the northern statue of Ramses II in front of the gateway of the IInd Pylon. The historical information provided by this stela made it imperative to examine the foundation of the southern statue of Ramses II as well.[1] This also involved soundings in the entrance to the IInd Pylon and around the above-mentioned colossi of Ramses as well as around the base of the newly discovered colossus of King Pinozem. As was shown in Mr. Labib Habachi's preliminary report on the stela of Kamose, the stela is the continuation of another one, two fragments of which were previously discovered by M. Henri Chevrier whithin the IIIrd Pylon.[2] We hoped that perhaps another equally valuable stela might be discovered under the colossus of Ramses II. Unfortunately the examination of the foundation of this statue turned up no stela whatsoever, nor did any very valuable block turn up in the soundings. Neverthless these soundings were not at all fruitless. Here is an account in brief of the objects discovered in them:

(*a*) Two inscribed granite door jambs bearing the cartouche of Amenophis II, each 244 cm. high (pl. V, A).

(*b*) Two new fragments of the stela of Psamtik II which is set up in front of the gateway of the IInd Pylon.

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(1) Cf. LABIB HABACHI, *Preliminary Report on Kamose Stela and other Inscribed Blocks found Reused in the Foundations of Two Statues at Karnak, Ann. Serv.*, LIII, pp. 198 ff.

(2) *Ibid.*, pp. 199 ff.

(*c*) A sandstone block 115×46×109 cm. broken to two pieces.

It is part of a cornice coloured white, red and blue, with black lines between. The block is the right angle of a cornice, as the shape and the decoration on two sides indicate (pl. V, B).

(*d*) A sandstone block 94×39×93 cm. bearing the *ḥkr*-sign in white, red and blue. The latter two blocks seem to belong to the same small chapel and they resemble in technique the work of Amenophis IV (pl. VII, B).

(*e*) The left side of the head of a person in hard limestone, very likely of a queen or goddess wearing the vulture head dress.

The fragment is shown on pl. VI, A.

(*f*) A head in black granite, very likely that of an 18th Dynasty Queen (pl. VI, B).

(*g*) Fragments of blue granite statues. One fragment represents the hand of apparently a King embracing what seems to be a baboon (?). Another fragment represents two hands on a larger scale embracing or holding something circular in shape.

(*h*) A chip of black granite bearing the prenomen of King Amenophis III.

(*i*) The torso of a sandstone statue of a man wearing a toga from the Late Period (pl. VI, C). M. Chevrier had previously found a similar piece which we noticed in one of the magazines of the temple.

Other inscribed and uninscribed sandstone blocks were found in these soundings. The cornice blocks with the *ḥkr* decoration were in the foundation of the southern statue of Ramses II. The foundation itself consisted of three courses of plain sandstone blocks.

III.—The VIIth Pylon and the Cour de la Cachette

Along the north side of the VIIth Pylon there are seven royal statues of red granite. Four of these statues (nos 1-4 from the left in pl. VIII, B) flank the gateway of the pylon, two on each side. These four rest on pedestals and belong to King Thutmosis III.[1] The three remaining statues nos 5–7) in the photo) are along the west tower beside those of Thutmosis. Two of them (nos 5 and 6) represent the King seated on a throne, while the third (no 7) represents the King standing wearing a long kilt. The two seated statues bear no inscriptions and although one of them was reported by M. Legrain to have the cartouche of Sobek-hotep,[2] we could not detect any trace of a cartouche now. The third statue (no 7) bears the prenomen of King Amenophis II in a cartouche on the belt. The three latter statues were found resting on the ground without foundations, and the head of one of the statues of Thutmosis III (no 4 in the photo) lay on the ground (pl. IX, A). The pedestals of the statues of Thutmosis III and the lower parts of the three other statues were found to be badly eroded by ground salts and moisture (cf pl. IX, B). It was urgently necessary that we try to save as much as possible of these statues as well as any stela or other blocks exposed to destruction by salt and moisture. The treatment must include not only the establishment of new foundations for the pieces but also the restoration of the objects themselves inso far as possible. Thus we removed each statue, treated each fragment found on the ground and dug up the foundations. It was found that the statues of Thutmosis III were erected on foundations consisting of huge plain sandstone blocks. The three other royal statues, as stated above, had no foundations, so we

(1) Cf. Porter & Moss, *Top. Bibl.*, II, 53 f.; Georges Legrain, *Rapport sur les travaux exécutés à Karnak, Ann. Serv.*, II, pp. 270 ff., G. Legrain, *Second rapport sur les travaux exécutés à Karnak, Ann. Serv.*, IV, pp. 6 ff.

(2) *Op. cit.*, p. 270.

made concrete foundations for all the seven statues following the usual technique of placing an insulating material between the foundation and the bases of the statues. Then the statues were set up after having been completely restored (Pl. VIII, B). A part of the feet of the eastern most statue of Thutmosis III (n° 1 on the plate) and a part of the feet and the left shoulder of the western statue of the paire on the right (n° 4 on the plate) were reconstructed with the use of modern granite powder. This technique was one which had previously been employed by way of experiment and which it was decided would be used only when persistent technical or architectural difficulties dictated.

The effect of moisture and salt on the bases of these statues was also noticed on all the fragments of other statues and blocks scattered in the *cour de la cachette*. Halfa grass and camel thorn had also grown through the stones in the court and in consequence they had crumbled into several pieces. Some of these stones are of great importance. They belong, as stated by M. Legrain, to a portal of Amenophis I and are of fine limestone.(1) The relief on these stones is beautifully sculptured and still preserves some of its ancient yellow paint. It was urgently necessary to save the fragments of this portal and other fragments from a complete destruction. It was decided that these blocks should be immediately restored and transported from the *cour de la cachette* to a safer place. By the end of the 1955–56 season all of them were removed and those which had disintegrated were reassembled and restored. The limestone blocks of Amenophis I were placed for the time being in the *musée*.(2) The sandstone blocks

(1) G. Legrain, *Second rapport sur les travaux exécutés à Karnak*, *Ann. Serv.*, IV, pp. 14 ff.; G. Legrain, *Rapport sur les travaux exécutés à Karnak*, *Ann. Serv.*, V. pp. 271 ff.

(2) The *musée* (usually called Misewi مزوى by the guards of Karnak) is the area where M. Chevrier erected the famous limestone shrine of Sesostris I and the alabaster shrine of Amenophis I. The blocks of queen Hatshepsut's temple and other Middle and New Kingdom blocks are gathered in the *musée*. Owing to the importance of these monuments the area is always considered prohibited to tourists.

needed a quick but thorough chemical and technical treatment. This task was handled by Dr. Zaki Iskander, the chief of the aboratory of our Department. The principal purpose was to save the incised face, in particular, from being disintegrated by the salt or any other agency. This purpose was achieved by the end of December 1954 and on a visit to Karnak on 10-2-55, Dr. Iskander was able to assert that the stela was free of salt. The next step was the restoration of the broken pieces and this was executed by A. El-Dibawy, a restorer in the laboratory and one of Dr. Iskander's assistants. El-Dibawy worked on the stela twice, first in 1955, then in 1956. The job was well done and the inscribed face as well as the sides of the stela are now in a satisfactory condition.[1] The stela at the time of the work upon it lay in the *musée*, a little to the south of the shrine of Sesostris I (pl. X). It was then decided that it should be kept in a much safer place and the choice fell upon the southern magazine, now called the magazine of Sheikh Labib. The transfer was executed and a support for it was built of burnt bricks and cement to a height of 40 cm. The support was left partly hollow and the interior was filled with clean sand. Wooden planks were placed on the brick support and the stela was placed face upon the planks. In order to keep the inscribed face clean the stela is covered with a thick cloth. For the time being the stela will remain in this magazine until it becomes favorable to erect it.

The Kamose stela was found as a result of the clearance of the ancient foundation of the statue of King Pinozem (?). After the clearance was completed new concrete foundation was laid in the summer of 1954. Through the year 1955 work on this colossus was mainly concentrated on the replacement of the small fragments and chips from it, which were gathered on tables in the First Court. The actual restoration and erection

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(1) We leave the technical details to Dr. Zaki Iskander, who will undoubtedly give his report on the treatment of this important stela.

of the colossus was begun later on in 1956. This was done when the reconstruction of the IInd Pylon had been finished and the soundings in the area in front of the gateway of the pylon and around the foundation of the statue of Pinozem (?) were completely executed. Work was begun with the restoration of the socle and the small statue of the queen standing on the feet of the colossus of the king.[1] Next came the erection of the torso of the statue. Scaffolding was set up and the heaviest portion of the statue, namely the torso, was raised (pls. XI, XII). By the end of the 1955–56 season the restoration of the badly broken colossus was nearly finished. It was completely restored piece by piece with the exception of the head and the crown which had to be raised during the 1956–57 season.

The statue was erected in its original place west of the statue of Ramses II which stands on the north side of the entrance of the IInd Pylon. It faces south and now stands aloof attracting the attention of everyone by its peculiar attitude. The figure of the queen stands on the feet of the king. M. Chevrier believed that this figure was that of one of king Pinozem's wives or a divine adoratrice.[2] M. Christophe, on the other hand, believes that the statue originally belonged to Ramses II and that the lady is one of his wives, probably Bent-Ante.[3] The figure, elegantly conceived, is most likely one of the wives of Ramses II. But if this is so, did Ramses II intend to erect the statue where it stands now, or did he intend to erect it somewhere else? Is it not peculiar that Ramses II would erect more than two standing statues of himself confronting each other in front of the IInd Pylon? If the statues were seated or if they had their backs to the pylon (as is the case in front of the pylon of Luxor temple)

(1) Cf. H. Chevrier, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak* (1952-53), *Ann. Serv.*, LIII, p. 10, pl. VI, B.; *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak* (1953-54), *Ann. Serv.*, LIII, pp. 26 ff., pls. IV-VI.

(2) *Ibid.*, p. 26.

(3) L.-A. Christophe, *Deux notes sur le rapport de M. Chevrier. Ann. Serv.*, LIII, pp. 46 ff.

it would not have been strange, but more than two statues and in such different style would be astonishing. Definitely the statue was not erected in the time of Ramses II, as the cartouches of the other Ramsessides on the underside of the base would indicate. However, it seems that the size of the statue and the style of sculpture as well as the elegance and the grandeur of the workmanship of the statue of the queen point to Ramses II rather than to Pinozem. Nevertheless it seems that the statue was not erected until the time of Pinozem I, whom we believe to be responsible for its erection in the place where it now stands. In that case it is understandable that the statue should be erected in front of the statue of Ramses II without a similar statue symmetrically confronting it on the other side of the entrance. It is very probable that the statue was made at the end of the reign of Ramses II but, as a result of Ramses II's death, was not erected. Ramses II would have prepared two statues of the same form to erect them in symmetry as one would expect. It seems likely that Ramses II had prepared this colossus and possibly had the intention of preparing two collossi and of erecting them somewhere in Karnak, probably but strangely enough, in front of the IInd Pylon. Ramses II and Ramses VI, each had his name cut on its base, but it seems rather likely that it was Pinozem I who erected it as the inscriptions on the dorsal pillar at least indicate. Whether the statue of the queen is that of Bent-Ante or some other wife of Ramses II cannot be definitely determined. Nevertheless M. Christophe's attribution must be given consideration.

V.—The IIIrd Pylon

The infiltration water makes digging in the foundation of the IIIrd pylon impossible most of the year. It is only on April, May and June that one can make a sounding to extract the heavy blocks of which the foundation consists. In 1956 the work of extracting some of these blocks was continued and at the same time other blocks of the foundation were consolidated to keep them safe from drifting after the extraction

of adjacent ones. Owing to the difficulty and slowness of this method of sounding, at the end of this season the possibility of employing some other method was considered. The feasibility of removing all the blocks, of systematically digging up the foundation and afterwards wholly rebuilding the pylon was discussed. This, if done, would supply us within a short time with the blocks which had been reused in the pylon and are still undiscovered. At the same time it would allow us to record the hitherto unseen inscriptions and reliefs on the western facade of this pylon of Amenophis III, as well as to reconstruct the eastern wall of the great Hypostyle Hall of Karnak. However, this new procedure is still a matter of debate.

There were discovered in 1956 in the foundation of this pylon four sandstone blocks. Three of them bear incomplete hieroglyphic inscriptions with the representation of either the god Amon or a standing person, apparently the King. The fourth block bears beside the representation of the King the cartouche of Thutmosis IV (pl. XIII).

But the most fascinating discovery in these soundings was that of five fragments and a chip from a limestone stela of one of the Montuhoteps of the XIth dynasty. These fragments give us nearly half of the stela. They bear nineteen incomplete lines of hieroglyphic text running horizontally from right to left. It is hoped, if the missing pieces are found, that the stela will contribute significantly to our knowledge of the period. The stela was badly eroded but was chemically treated at the time of its discovery. Meanwhile it is under study by Mr. Labib Habachi, the Chief Inspector of Upper Egypt.

VI.—Clearance around the Sacred Lake

In December 1955 we started to do some clearing within the temple. We first got rid of some earth and debris which had accumulated in the outer court, the Hypostyle Hall, the central court, the area between the granite sanctuary and the

Festival Hall of Thutmosis III, and the area around the Sacred Lake. To the north of the lake many blocks had been placed and these were moved a little further north where they were placed on protective brick supports. The halfa grass and the camel thorn, which flourish in this area, were removed. A certain amount of clearance was also done to the east and south of the lake with the purpose of making a walk around the lake more pleasant for visitors (pl. XIV). As a result of this clearance ancient mud brick structures were reached to the east of the lake. To the south stone structures were uncovered. Among these we cleared a covered staircase with two entrances which reminds us of the staircase attached to the edifice of Taharqa north of the lake.[1] This new staircase was discovered on the southeast side of the lake as is shown in the photograph (pl. XV). It is built of sandstone blocks and the stairs go far down. Since we have not yet cleared the area above the staircase we have not ventured down it.

Getting rid of the halfa grass and the camel thorn is one of the main problems we face in Karnak. The question of how to get completely rid of them is still a subject of discussion. Experts from the Ministry of Agriculture as well as from our Department have been consulted, but we had not yet reached a definite solution. Any advice on the problem will be welcome.

Another problem is that of the ground salt and the infiltration water. This problem was partly solved by the modern Diesel pumps which the Department now has.[2] These pumps replaced old ones and by the autumn of 1956 they were in operation. They draw water from the Karnak drain and now work only for about three months of the year. During the flood season of 1956 the experiment was very successful. Underground water which used to cover a large portion of the main temple during the inundation no longer rises above the ground.

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(1) Cf. PORTER & MOSS, *op. cit.*, p. 72.

(2) Cf. H. CHEVRIER, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak*, *Ann. Serv.*, LIII, p. 9.

VII.—Various Works

In addition to the above work the following tasks were also executed during these two seasons.

A.—The statues of Seti II in the Hypostyle Hall.

In the great Hypostyle Hall of Karnak we have three statues of Seti II; two of them represent him standing and the third represents him kneeling. In 1955 we noticed that the bases of these statues were affected by salt and moisture to such an extent that it was very necessary that we should restore the bases and establish new foundations for them. Following our method of washing every piece under restoration in clean water, each statue was carried to the basin outside the temple and there washed for a considerable time. When we were sure that the salt had been removed and the statues were in perfect condition we began restoration and the building of new foundations for them.

As usual tar was used as an insulating material between the foundation and the base. We use this material to protect the restored object from the moisture caused by the infiltration water which rises annually during the Nile flood.

The two standing statues of Seti II stood face to face in the southern portion of the Hypostyle Hall north of columns n^{os} 70 and 71 of Porter and Moss's plan.[1] The socle of the latter statue had deteriorated and a new socle was made for it. The doubled right fist of the statue which stands north of column n^{o} 71 was found in one of the magazines of Karnak and the fragment was affixed to the statue. It is fitting to give here a brief description of these three statues.

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(1) Porter & Moss, *op. cit.*, p. 10. The location of these statues is apparently modern. Their original placement is, as far as we know, unidentified. We preferred to leave them where they had been. Fragments of two other standing statues of Seti II lie in the outer court in front of the gate-way of the IInd Pylon.

The statue of Seti II facing east represents the king standing, wearing a short kilt and a necklace. He holds between his left arm and his body a standard, the head of which, originally that of a ram (the god Amon), is missing. The hand holding the standard is flat while the right fist is doubled. The head of the statue, part of the neck and the right arm are all missing. The statue stands on a rectangular base. It bears inscriptions consisting mostly of the names and titles of the king on his belt, the kilt, the standard, the base and the dorsal pillar. On the left side between the dorsal pillar and the king's leg is depicted in bas-relief the figure of the king's wife.

The statue facing west represents the king standing wearing a long kilt and a necklace, and holding a standard placed between his left hand and his body. The left hand is flat. The head, neck and the right arm of the statue are missing. The upper part of the standard, which must also have originally been a ram's head is also missing. The statue stands on a rectangular base. It too bears inscriptions consisting mostly of the names and titles of the king on the kilt, the standard, the base and the dorsal pillar.

The third statue of King Seti II is situated in the northern portion of the Hypostyle Hall north of column number 4, facing west. It represents the king kneeling and holding between his hands an offering table. He wears a short kilt. The statue has a rectangular base. Inscriptions, mostly consisting of the names and titles of the king appear on the offering table, the dorsal pillar and the base. It is noteworthy that this statue had no pedestal and in consequence its base was badly damaged by the infiltration water. It was necessary to establish a new pedestal to protect its base and at least save the remaining inscriptions on it. The photographs on pls. XVI, XVII show the state of this statue and the others before and after their restoration.

B.—Re-emplacement of the blocks in the north wall of the great Hypostyle Hall.

In the area north of the great Hypostyle Hall of Karnak there are many heavy blocks lying one beside the other. Among these two blocks attracted our attention. It was found that they fit one with the other. The blocks bear inscriptions in bas-relief including the prenomen and nomen of Seti I. The figure of the king is partially preserved on one of these blocks making offering to the God Amon-Min who appears on the second block with the goddess Ḥat-Ḥor behind him.

The next step was to find the original location of these two blocks. This was soon discerned to be the inner face of the upper part of the north wall of the great Hypostyle Hall just east of the doorway. Being sure of this conclusion, we set up scaffolding, raised the two blocks and inserted them in the wall of the Hall where they had been in ancient times. Pls. XVIII and XIX show that quarter of the wall of the Hypostyle Hall before and after the reinsertion of these two long-missing blocks.

C.—Protection of the stones of Akhenaten.

A large number of the fragments of Akhenaten's temple previously found by M. Chevrier were arranged by him on supports especially built for the protection of these valuable pieces. But a group of these stones were left on the ground north of the temple of Khonsu. A large number of these latter fragments still preserve their vivid colours as well as their reliefs which are still in a perfect condition. It was then necessary to carry on M. Chevrier's plan of protecting these stones. Three long supports were built of burnt bricks west of the temple of Khonsu, and nearly all the fragments on the spot were arranged on these supports so that they now form three parallel rows (pl. XX). This arrangement is temporary, for it has been decided that all the fragments belonging to Akhenaten's temple should be sheltered from the heat of the sun which effaces the colours. These shelters have not yet been built, but we hope that when these shelters are

built, all the fragments of Akhenaten which are estimated to be more than 15,000 pieces[1] will be gathered, arranged and well protected.

D.—Removal of some of the blocks of the Thutmosis III Festival Hall from Badran Canal.

Since it has long been the desire of many scholars the southern wall of the famous Festival Hall of Thutmosis III at Karnak be reconstructed, some steps have been taken by scholars to study the blocks and arrange them. Some of these blocks had been transported several years ago from the temple and put in the Badran Canal which passes a short distance from the first Pylon of the temple.

This had been done by M. Chevrier who hoped thus to free the blocks of salt.[2] Still other blocks had been left in the area between the Sacred Lake and the girdle wall of Ramses II.

During the last season it was decided that the administration of Karnak should take steps to reconstruct the south wall of the Festival Hall. First our attention was attracted by the blocks placed in the canal where it was noticed that mud nearly covered them. It was clear that time had come to transport them back to the temple.

It was not possible to transport all the blocks from the canal to their proper place north of the Sacred Lake in 1956. However, it was possible to transport most of them, clean them of the mud, and place them on supports built of burnt bricks especially for them. The rest still in Badran Canal will be transported later on. No reconstruction of the south wall of the Festival Hall has yet been done.[3]

With this work the seasons of 1954–56 ended.

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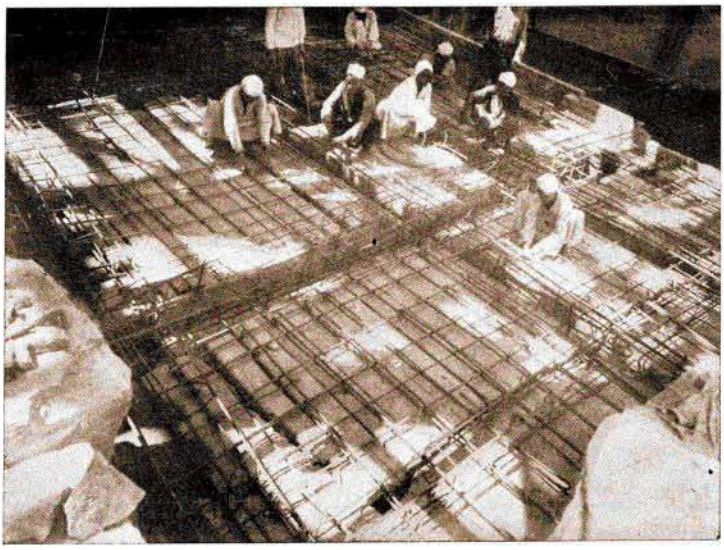
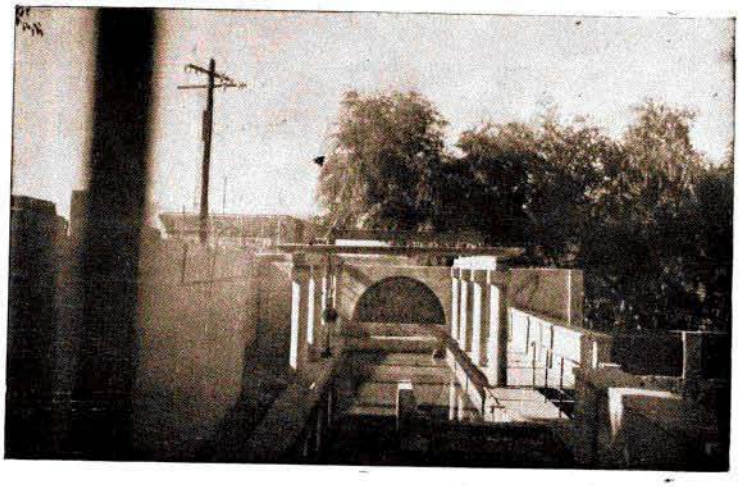
(1) Cf. H. CHEVRIER, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak, Ann. Serv.*, LIII, p. 36.

(2) Cf. H. CHEVRIER, *Rapport sur les travaux de Karnak, Ann. Serv.*, XLVII, p. 180.

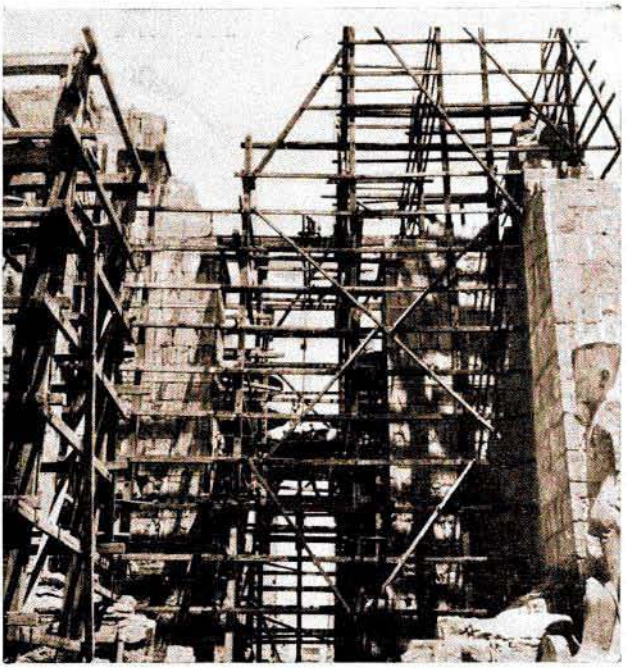
(3) On the subject cf. Sir ALAN GARDINER, *Tuthmosis III Returns Thanks To Amūn*, JEA, 38, pp. 6-23. Also cf. V. HELCK, *Urkunden der 18 Dynastie*, Heft 17, 1955, 1251 ff.



A.—The concrete foundation of the north tower of the Second Pylon.



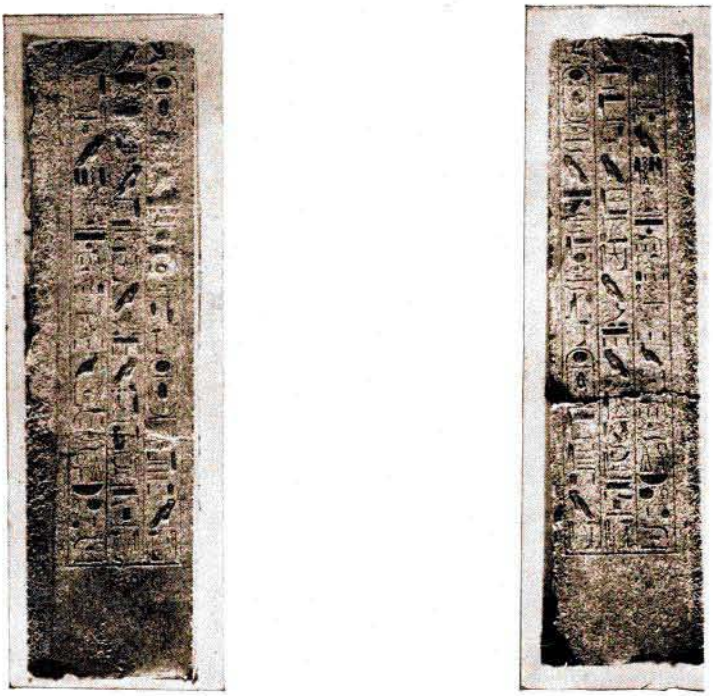
B.—The washing basin built near the offices of Karnak.



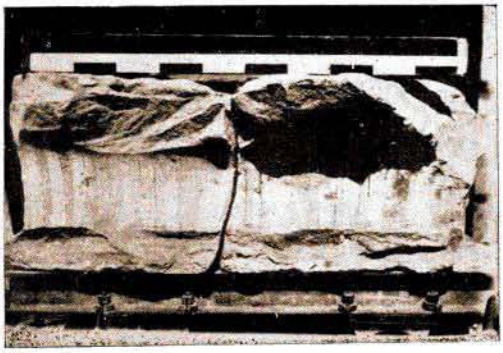
The Second Pylon during the restoration.

The Second Pylon after the restoration.

The Second Pylon after the restoration.



A.—Door Jambs of Amenophis II.

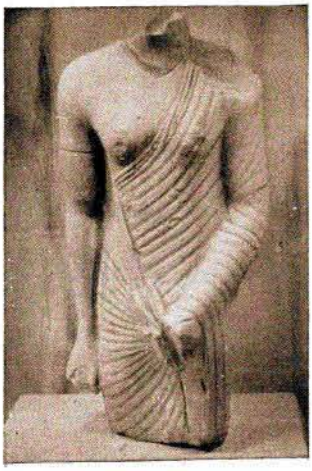


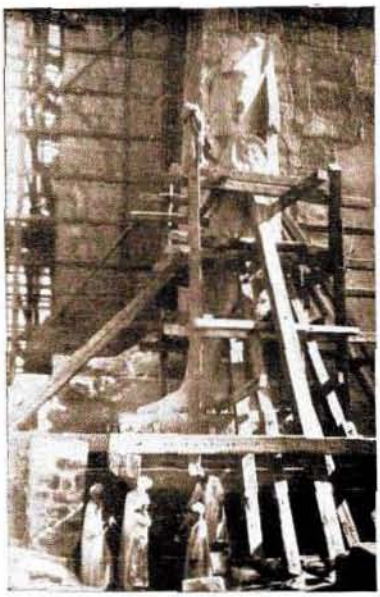
B.—Decorated block found in the soundings in the entrance of the Second Pylon.

A

B

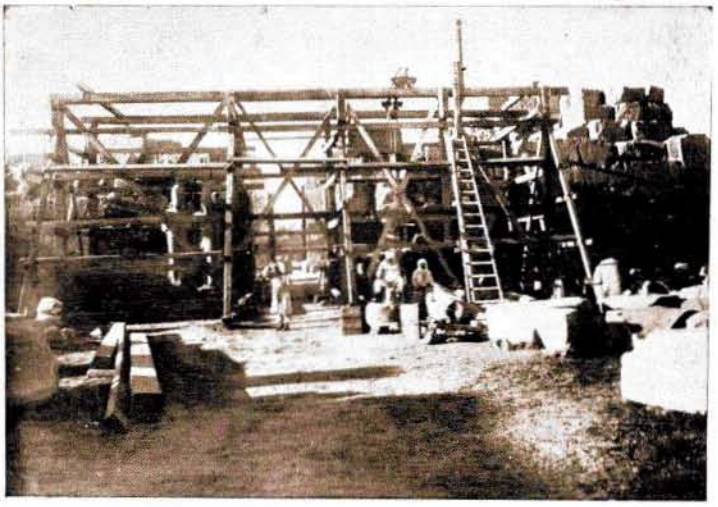
C





A.—The southern statue of Ramses II
in front of the Second Pylon.

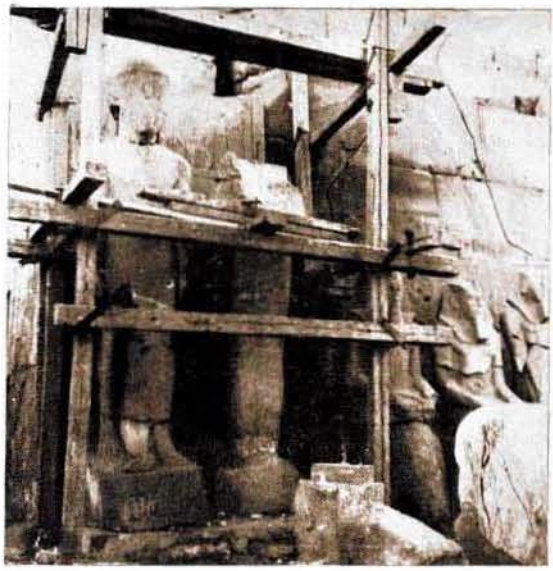
B.—*Decorated block found in the foundation*
of the statue of Ramses II.



A.—The Statues during the restoration.

B.—The Statues after the restoration.

A



B

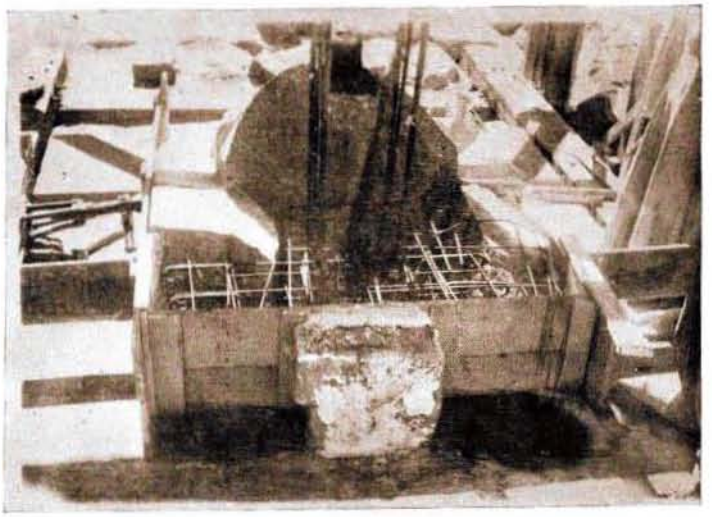
A

B

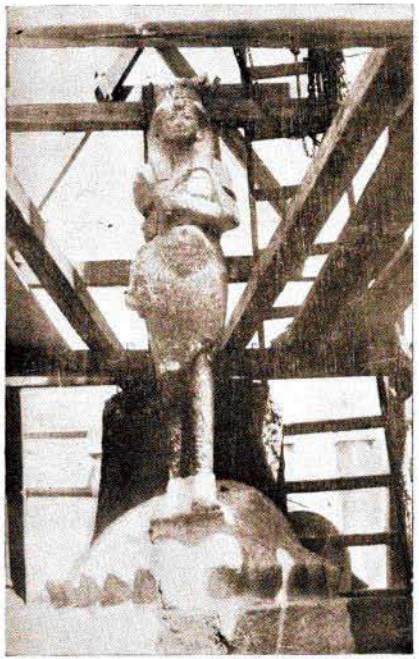
A, *B*.—Transportation of the Kamose Stela.

A

B



A, *B*.—Reconstruction of the statue of King Pinozem I (?)



A.—Restoration of the statue of the Queen.

B.—Socle and feet of the statue of King Pinozem I (?)

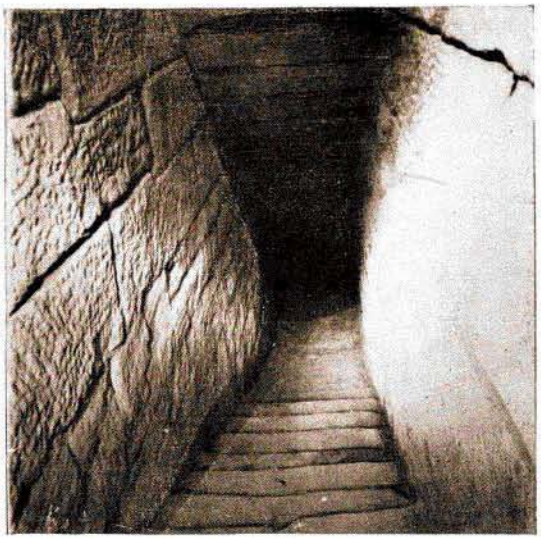
A

B

A, *B*.—Two of the blocks discovered in the foundation of the third Pylon.

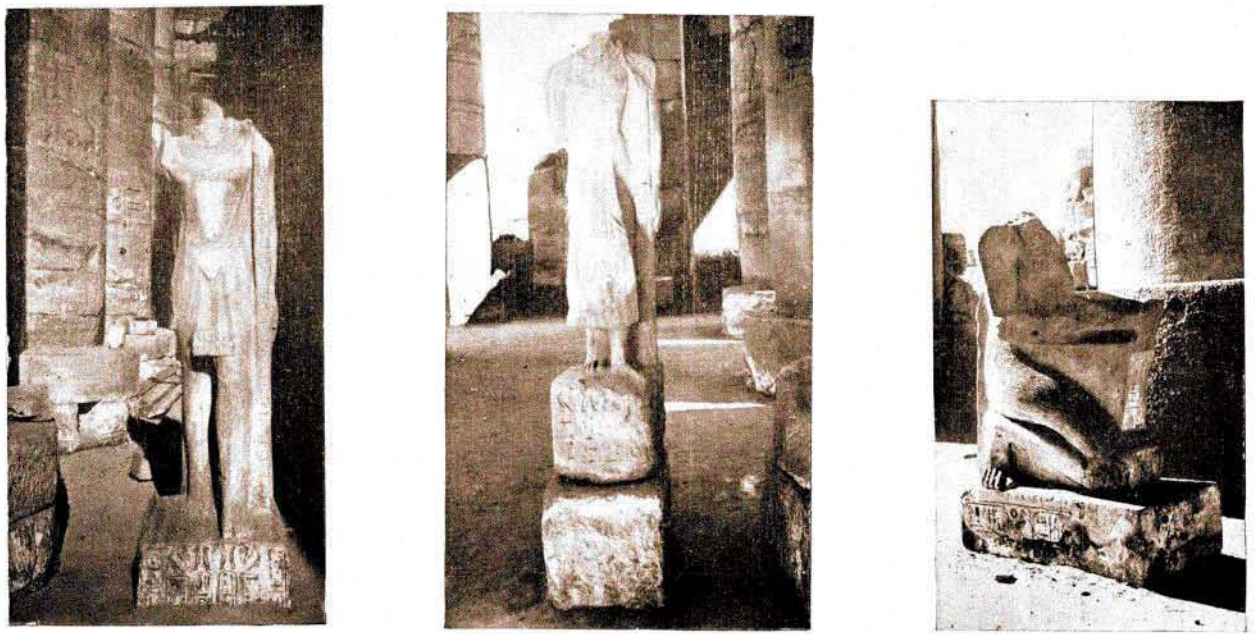
Mud-brick buildings east of the lake.

A.—One of the two entrances of the staircase.



B.—The staircase from inside.

A B C



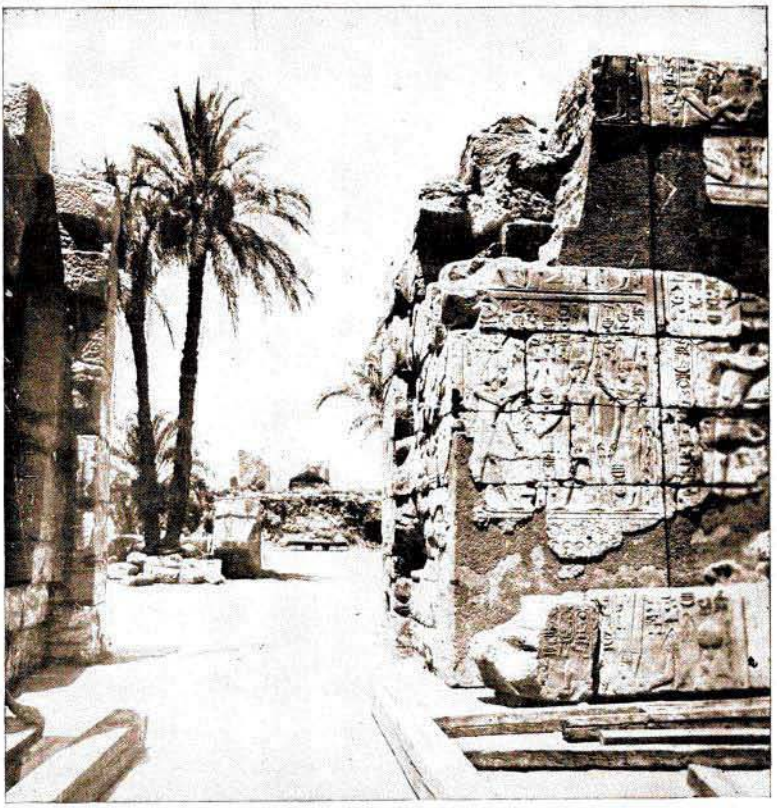
A, *B*, *C*.—The statues of King Seti II after the restoration.

A

B

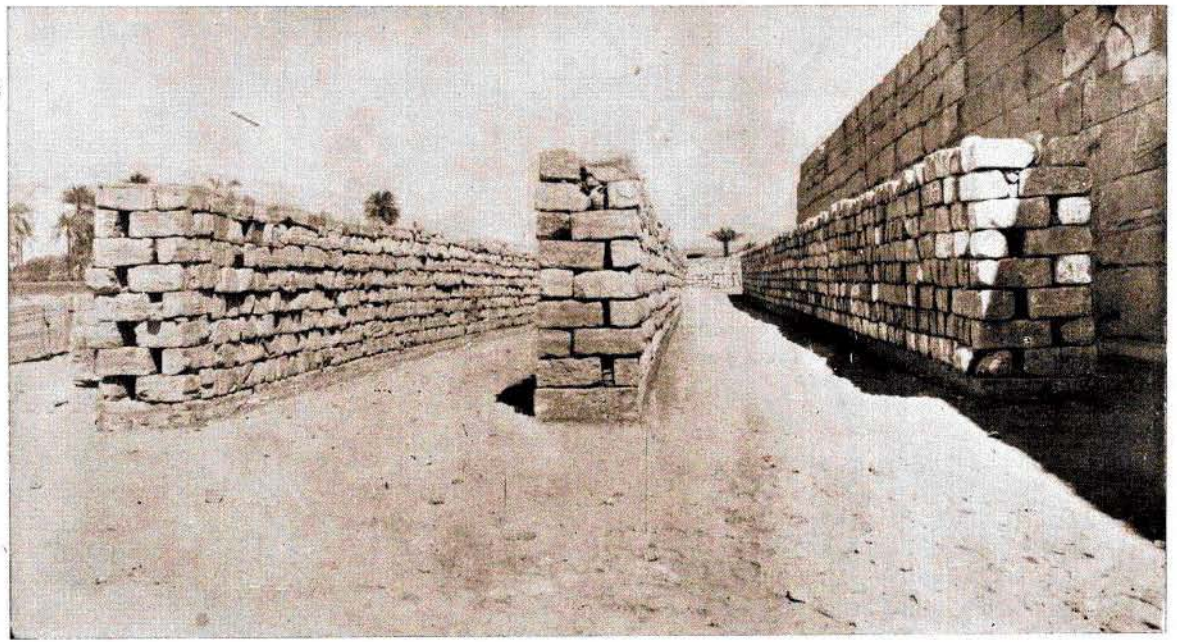
C

A, *B*, *C*.—The statues of King Seti II before the restoration.



The wall of the Hypostyle Hall before the restoration.

The wall of the Hypostyle Hall after the restoration.



Arrangement of the *Talatates* stones of Akhenaten.