

Scenes represent parts of Karnak and Luxor temples in Theban monuments Form and content

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Abstract:

Parts of Karnak and Luxor temples are represented in some special scenes in Theban monuments. In TT16, the tomb of Panehsy, a priest from the time of Ramesses II, the second pylon of Karnak temple is represented two times. An important scene of Karnak temple is found in TT 49, the tomb of Neferhotep.

In TT75 the tomb of Amenhotep Si-se, "the second prophet of Amun" during the reign of Thutmosis IV, there is another representation of Karnak temple.

On the walls of the Karnak and Luxor temples themselves, there are some representations of the two temples. In Karnak temple two scenes represent parts of the temple are found on the northern wall of room XV, one of the rooms north of the granite sanctuary dates to the reign of Thutmosis III, and on the wall west of the eighth pylon, a scene may dates to the end of the eighteenth dynasty.

In Luxor temple there are two scenes represent the temple itself; the first scene is found on the inner face of the eastern wing of the pylon and represents Ramesses II consecrating temple before Amun. The second scene on the western side of the southern wall of the first court shows the first pylon of the temple as the last destination of Opet festivals.

Karnak temple third pylon is represented twice in the Opet festival scenes on the colonnade; on the western wall as the beginning of the festival at Karnak and on the eastern wall as the end of the returning procession back to Karnak.

Keywords:

Karnak temple, Luxor temple, Pylon, Scenes, buildings, TT16 Panehsy, TT 57 Amenhotep Si-se, TT49 Neferhotep.

Introduction:

Parts of Karnak and Luxor temples are represented in important scenes in Theban monuments; the important parts of the temple, specially the pylons and gateways have the precedence in representation; these parts are represented larger than other less significant parts. The main gateway of a temple might be larger than any other entrance, for these parts have more important symbolic function¹

The main characteristic features in pylon representations are two towers with inclined faces flanking a portal with a smaller doorway in its axis. Flagstaffs rise in front of each tower, they vary in number according to which pylon is represented, and these flagstaffs are protected at the bottom by stone or wood gratings².


The date of the scene is an essential factor and according to the date it can be suggested which part of the temple is represented, and to which king this part is ascribed.

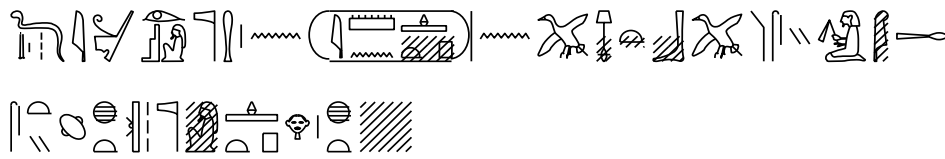
These scenes that represent parts of Karnak and Luxor temples are depicted on the walls of Karnak and Luxor temples themselves, where it represent festivals or some religious activities performed in this part of the temple or connected to it. The

scenes of temples also can be found in some tombs of officials who had close relation with the temples like priests and high officials who supervise work at the temples.

A-Scenes represent parts of Karnak and Luxor temples in Theban tombs:

1- TT16 , Tomb of Panehsy:

Panehsy was priest of Amenophis I and chief singer of the alters of Amun during the time of Ramesses II³. The post of Panehsy as chief singer of the alters of Amun made him with a close relation to the temple of Amun at Karnak, that the temple is represented two times in his tomb; in scene (3) (plate 1) Panehsy libates offerings before temple of Amun-Re⁴. The temple is titled  *pr Imn-R^c* Temple of Amun, of course this is Karnak temple during the time of Ramesses II, the text describes the scene as:



dd mdw in Wsir hm-ntr n (Imn-htp) n p3 wb3t P3-nhsy m3^c-hrw

sti ht-ntr htp hr ht

A recitation by Wsir the prophet of Amenhotep of the court Panehsy justified Pour divine offerings, which are offered on the offering table.....

The pylon which is represented here is the second pylon with its four flagstaffs as appear in the time of Ramesses II. Another representation of Karnak temple in scene (5) of the tomb⁵ (plate 2), Panehsy is represented at the head of the procession of the great vase of Amun coming out from the temple, this is another representation of the second pylon; the façade of the temple at this time.


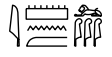
Panehsy shows a close relation to Karnak temple in these scenes, where he is represented offering and sharing some ceremonies in front of the temple. The pylon here is the second pylon the façade of the temple during the time of Ramesses II, the time when Panehsy occupied his post.

2-TT49, Tomb of Neferhotep:

An elaborate representation of Karnak temple exists in TT 49, the tomb of Neferhotep. Neferhotep was "Superintendent of oxen and heifers of Amun", he also bears the title "chief scribe of Amun", a title with a rare occurrence⁶. Neferhotep may occupied this position during the reign of Ay⁷. A scene on the northern wall of the inner room (PM 15-16)⁸ (Plate 3) represents the deceased receives bouquets in Karnak temple. Karnak temple representation in the tomb of course reflects its plan toward the end of the eighteenth dynasty. The first pylon to the left in the scene for Davies⁹ is the third pylon built by Amenhotep III, behind the pylon in the scene stands a sole obelisk, for Davies this may be a simple representation of the pair of obelisks once a time stood here, it is seem that the representation of the this part of the temple is not a real one, for the artist must omitted the second pair of obelisks erected here behind the third pylon for simplicity sake. It is suggested also that the artist omitted the third

second pylon of Karnak depicted in Khonsu temple does not show the gateway depicted in a similar fashion in both the Luxor and in the Meriamun scenes. So it could be concluded that this scene represent the third pylon, and Meriamun himself must be another personality who bears the name during the time of Horemheb²²


3- Temple of Khonsu:

A very famous representation of the second pylon of Karnak temple on the east wall, bottom register, first scene north of the south door of the court of Khonsu temple dated back to the time of Herihor (Plate 7). The scene here represents the second pylon with its eight flagpoles²³. The text speaks of Herihor's "renewing"  *shd W3st* 'Illuminating Waset' anew, this is the name of the second pylon, this name is found in the tomb of Ramose at Thebes, and on the gateway of the second pylon itself in a Ptolemaic text, another name for the pylon in the text is  *Imn m rswt* 'Amun Rejoices.'. The significance of the two names is not clear; may Herihor rename the structure²⁴.

C-Scenes represent parts of Karnak and Luxor temple in Luxor temple:

1- Scenes represent Luxor temple:

On the walls of Luxor temple there are two important scenes representing the first pylon of Luxor temple. The first scene represents the temple pylon is found in the first court, on the western part of the southern wall²⁵. The scene represents the arrival of the Opet festival to Luxor temple, a head of the festival procession are represented seventeen sons of Ramesses II with priests and decorated bulls and offering bringers, at the left end of the scene the procession reaches Luxor temple pylon, the representation of the pylon (plate 6) shows the four flag staffs and the two seated colossi of Ramesses II and the four standing statues of Ramesses II two front of each wing of the pylon, here the standing statues are represented with the double crown despite that the right side standing statue now front of the western pylon wears the white crown of Upper Egypt.

The second scene exists on the inner face of the eastern wing of the first pylon itself (plate 5), of course the scene dates back to the reign of Ramesses II and represents the king consecrating temple before Amun²⁶. In the right side of the scene the name of the temple is given as  *hwt-ntr R^c-ms-sw-mry-Imn* [*hnmt-hh m-pr-Imn*] "The temple of Ramesses Mry-Amun [united with eternity in the place of Amun]". This scene represents the just the pylon of the temple with the two seated colossi of Ramesses II, the four standing statues are not represented in this scene, this means that this scene is representing the pylon in a stage of construction before the first scene in the court which represent the pylon with two seated colossi of Ramesses II and the four standing statues.

2-Scenes represent Karnak Temple:

Karnak temple is represented twice on the eastern and western walls of the colonnade, within the context of the scenes represent the Opet festival journey from Karnak to Luxor temple and back to Karnak. The part of Karnak temple represented here is the façade of the temple during the time of Amenhotep III that is the third pylon. The scenes on the western wall depict the journey from Karnak to Luxor

temple²⁷ (plate 10). The third pylon of Karnak temple was the place where the Opet festival comes out from Karnak at this time till the construction of the second pylon.

Here the two towers of the pylon are represented, each tower with four flagstuffs front of it. The artist has successfully conveyed the rough, knotty texture of the tall flagstuffs that stand in niches flanking the entrance, as well as the offering scenes carved on the gate between the two towers.

The Opet festival scenes on the east wall of the colonnade represent the procession from Luxor to Karnak temple, PM scenes 82-86²⁸ (plate 11). Here is represented the third pylon again, as a place where the festival ends, showing the same features of the scene of the pylon on the west side wall of the colonnade.

Conclusion:

There are some scenes on Theban tombs and temples represent parts of Karnak and Luxor temples. A part of these scenes can be found in Luxor and Karnak temples themselves. The pylons are the most important parts of the temples to be represented in scenes.

The second pylon of Karnak temple is represented two times in TT16, the tomb of Panehsy, a priest from the time of Ramesses II, where Panehsy represents himself makes offerings and participates in ceremonies front of the temple. An important scene of Karnak temple is found in TT 49, the tomb of Neferhotep, "Superintendent of oxen and heifers of Amun", during the reign of Ay. Neferhotep is represented receives bouquets in Karnak temple. The plan of the temple in the scene shows three pylons, these may be the third, fourth and fifth pylon, so the scene omitted the sixth pylon and shows just the sanctuary.

Another representation of Karnak temple exists in the tomb TT75 of Amenhotep Si-se, "the second prophet of Amun" during the reign of Thutmose IV. The scene of the temple simply shows the frontage of Karnak temple during the time of Thutmose IV, the southern face of the eighth pylon.

Some representations of Karnak and Luxor temple are found on the walls of the two temples themselves. In Karnak temple two scenes represent part of the temple are found on the northern wall of room XV(scene PM 309), one of the rooms north of the granite sanctuary dates to the reign of Thutmose III, and on the wall west of the eighth pylon, scene PM (532). The first scene dates to the time of Thutmose III represents the vizier of Upper and Lower Egypt before the southern entrance of the seventh pylon, and the second scene represents "The high priest of Amun, Meriamun" front of the third pylon. A scene in Khonsu temple represents the second pylon during the time of Herihor.

In Luxor temple there two scenes represent Luxor temple itself; the first scene is found on the inner face of the eastern wing of the pylon and represents Ramesses II consecrating temple before Amun. The second scene on the western side of the southern wall of the first court shows the first pylon of the temple as the last destination of Opet festivals. Karnak temple third pylon is represented twice in the Opet festival scenes on the colonnade; on the western wall as the beginning of the festival at Karnak and on the eastern wall as the end of the returning procession back to Karnak.

Plates

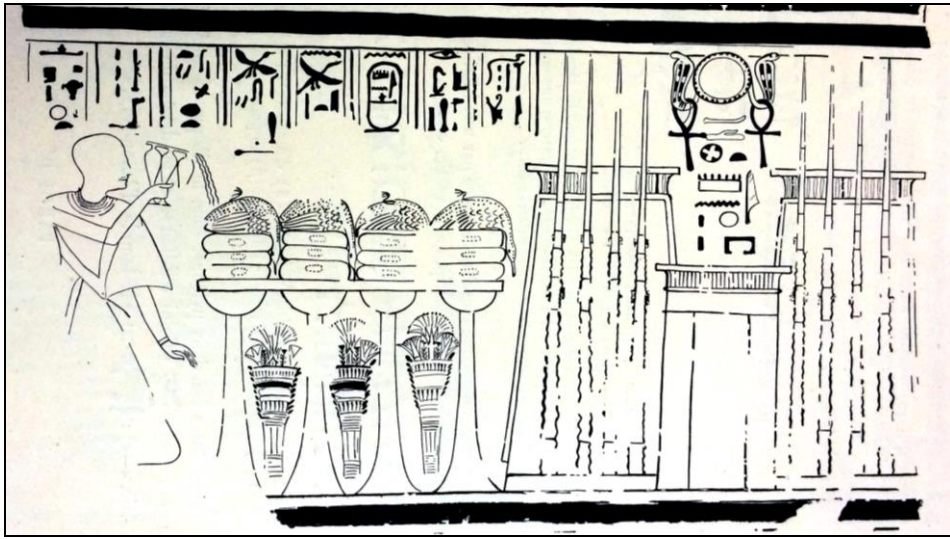


Plate 1
Panehsy offers front of the second pylon of Karnak temple TT16
(Baud and Drioton 1932: 22)

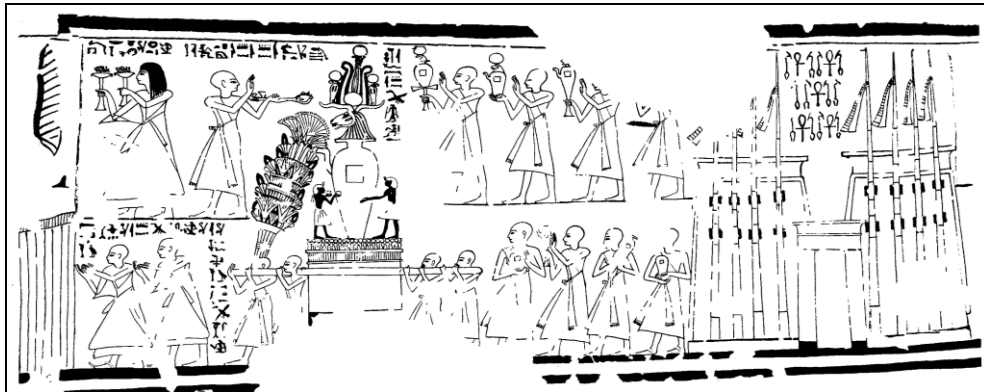


Plate 2
Panehsy is represented at the head of the procession of Amun TT16
(Baud and Drioton 1932: 30)

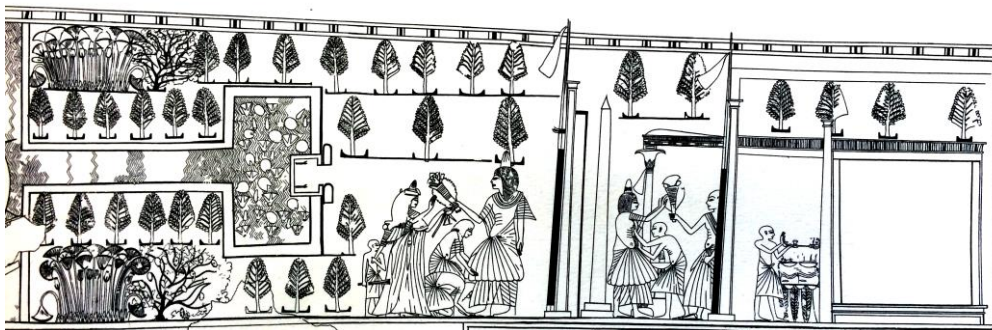


Plate 3

Karnak temple scene in the tomb TT49 of Neferhotep
(Davies, N De Garis 1933, 31)

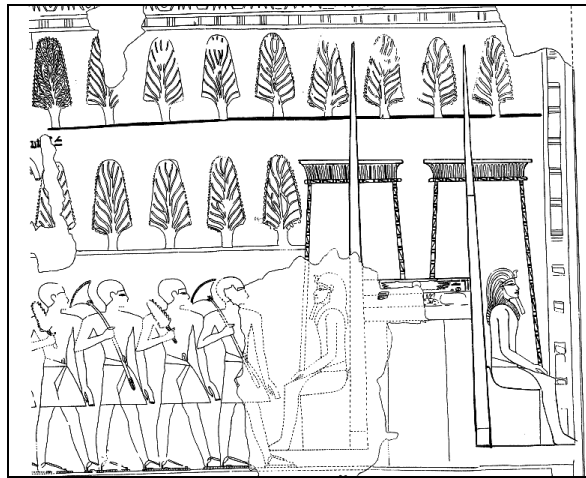


Plate 4

Eighth pylon of Karnak temple in scene in the tomb TT75 of Amenhotep Si-se
(Davies, N De Garis 1923, pl. 14)

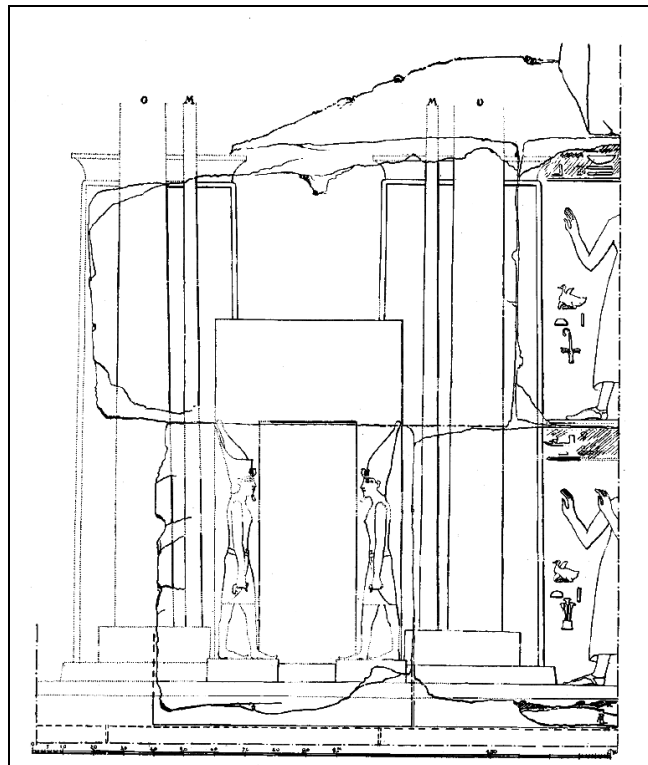


Plate 5

The southern face of the seventh pylon in scene PM 309 in Karnak
(Pillet 1939, fig. 3)

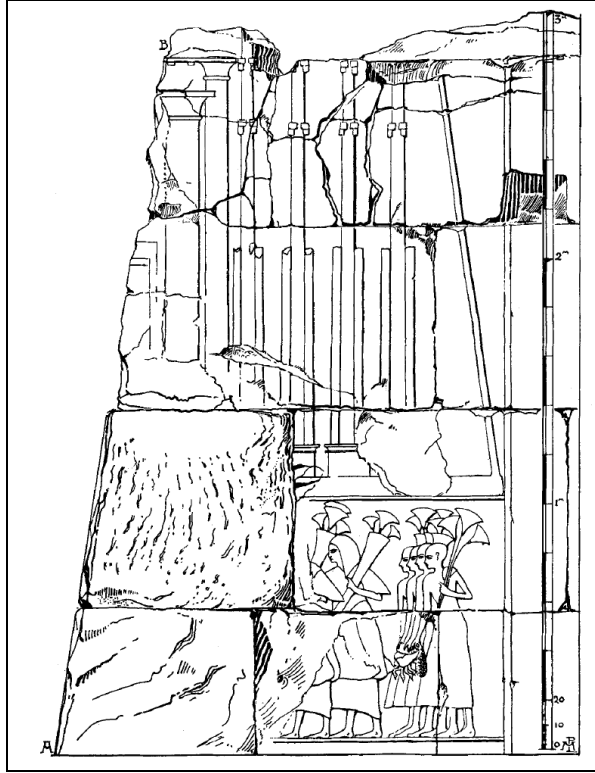


Plate 6
Karnak second pylon as represented in scene PM 532 in Karnak
(Pillet 1939, fig. 2)

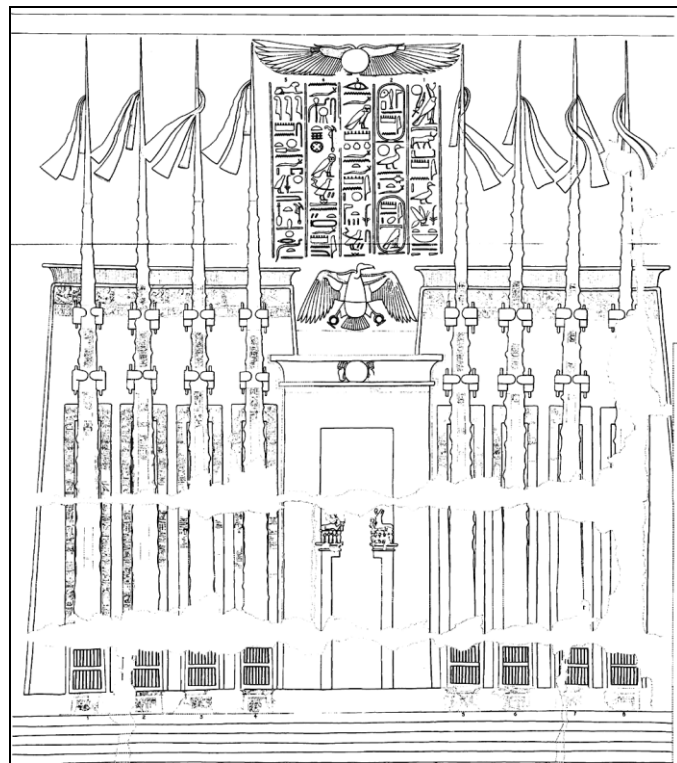


Plate 7
Karnak second pylon as represented in scene PM 20 in Khonsu temple

(OIP 100, pl. 52)

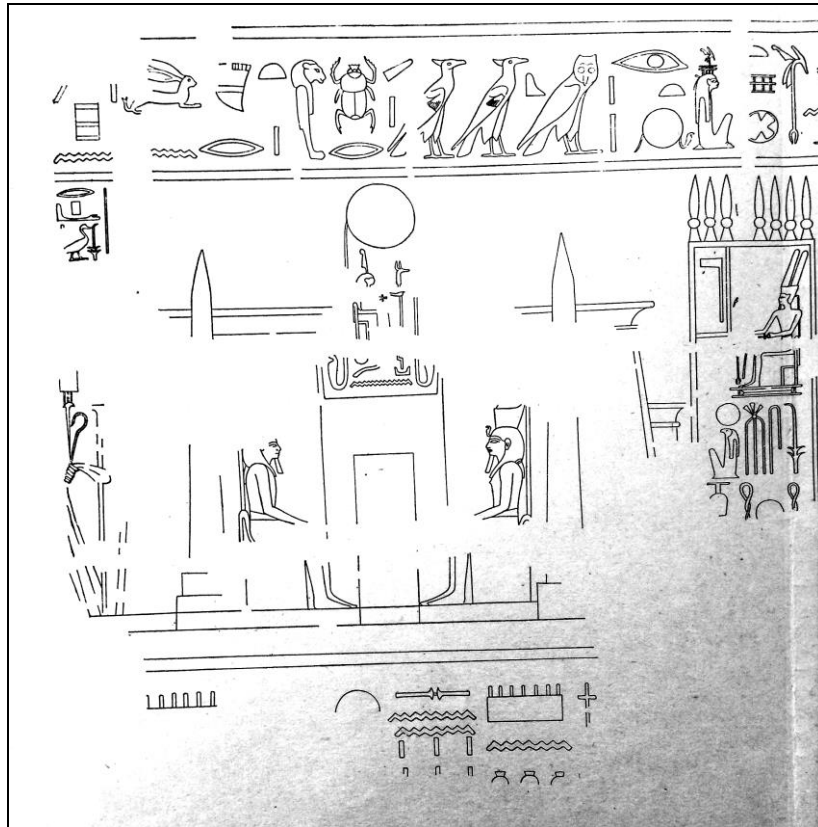


Plate 8

First pylon of Luxor temple in scene on the inner face of the eastern wing of the pylon
(Kuentz Ch., 1971, Pl.20)

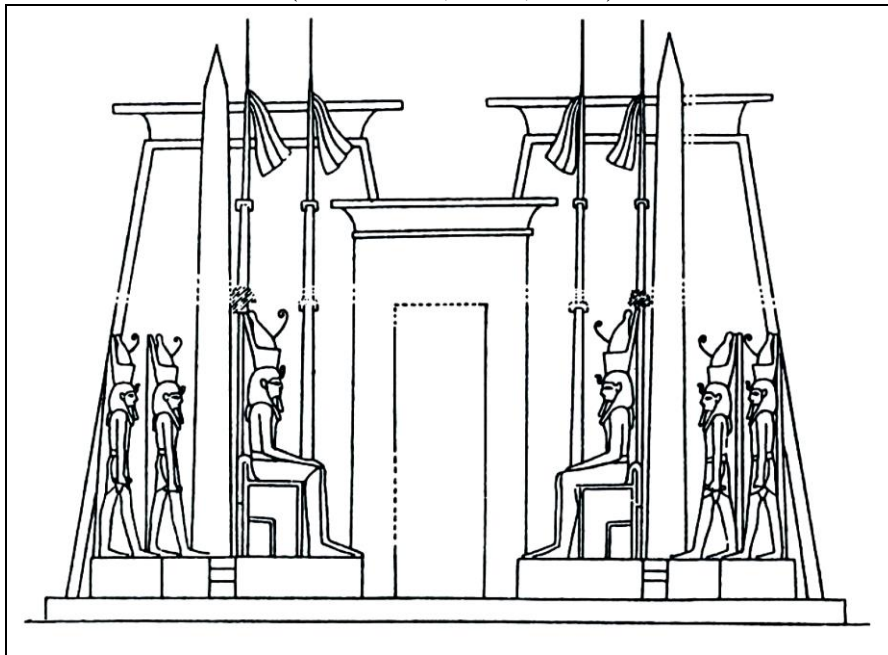


Plate 9

pylon of Luxor temple in scene 30 in the first court

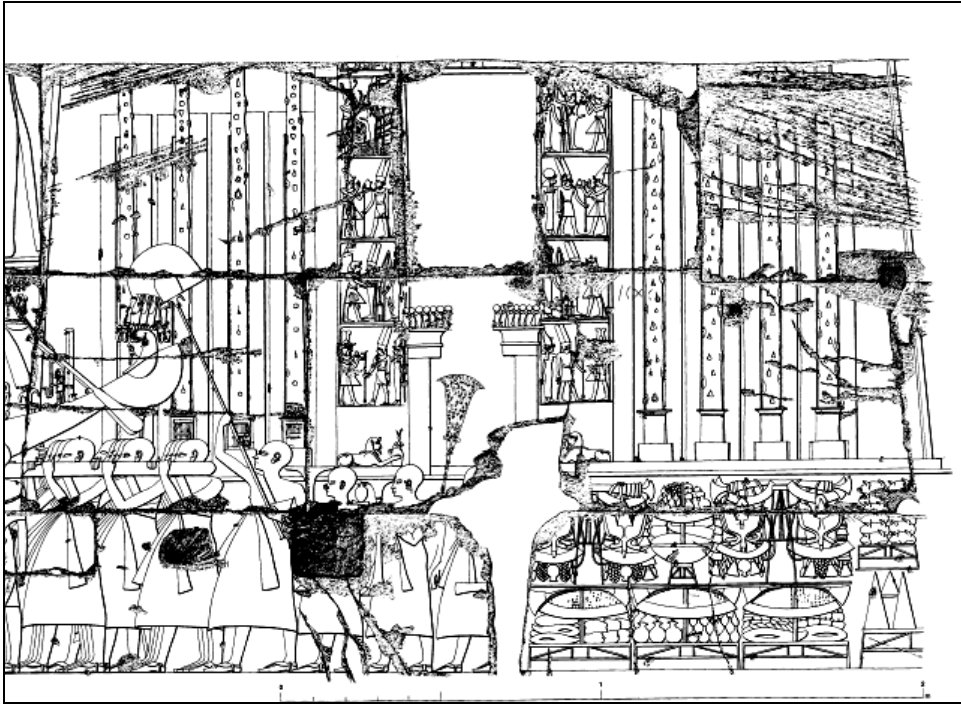


Plate 10
First pylon of Luxor temple in scene PM 30 in the first court
(Epigraphic Survey 1994, pl. 16)

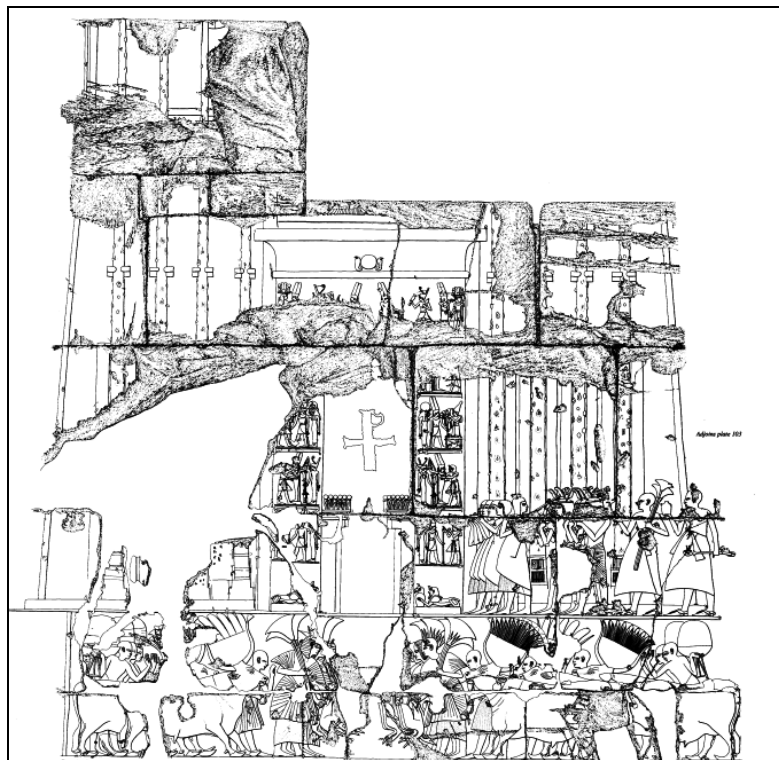


Plate 11
First pylon of Luxor temple in scene 30 in the first court
(Epigraphic Survey 1994, pl. 105)

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- ⁴ PM I (part 1), 28; Baud and Drioton 1932: 22.
- ⁵ PM I (part 1), 28; Baud and Drioton 1932: 30-32.
- ⁶ Davies, N De Garis 1933: Tomb of Nefer-Hotep at Thebes, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Egyptian Expedition, p. 17.
- ⁷ Davies, N De Garis 1933, 19.
- ⁸ PM I (part 1), 93.
- ⁹ Davies, N De Garis 1933, 31.
- ¹⁰ Badawy 1968, 172.
- ¹¹ Davies, N De Garis 1933, 31.
- ¹² Davies, N De Garis 1933, 32,34.
- ¹³ Davies, N De Garis 1923: The Tombs of Two officials of Tuthmosis the Fourth (Nos. 75 and 90) In Davies, N De Garis and Gardiner a. (eds.) *Theban Tombs Series*, Third Memoir, Egypt Exploration Society, p. 4.
- ¹⁴ PM I (part 1), 149
- ¹⁵ Barguet P. 1962: Le Temple D'Amon-Re a Karnak, Essai D'Exégèse, Le caire, IFAO, p. 258-264, Davies 1923, 10 and note 1.
- ¹⁶ PM II, 104; Pillet M. 1939: Deux représentations inédites de portes ornées de pylônes, à Karnak, *BIFAO* 38 (1939), p. 249-250.
- ¹⁷ Barguet 1962, 266 n.1.
- ¹⁸ Barguet 1962: 268-272; PM II, 167-172.
- ¹⁹ PM, II, 178; Pillet 1939, 241-246.
- ²⁰ Pillet 1939, 243-244.
- ²¹ Epigraphic Survey, University of Chicago Oriental Institute 1994: The Festival procession of Opet in the colonnade hall. Chicago: Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago, *OIP* 112.
- ²² Epigraphic Survey 1994, p.38 n. 129.
- ²³ PM II, 231, scene 20; Epigraphic Survey 1979, The Temple of Khonsu vol.1, scenes of King Herihor in the court, *OIP* 100, pl. 52, p. 26-28.
- ²⁴ Nimes JNES, Vol. 14, No. 2 (Apr., 1955), p. 116.
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- ²⁶ Kuentz Ch., 1971, La face sud du massif est de pylon de Ramses II a Louxor, Le Caire. Pl.20 p.17.
- ²⁷ PM II, 314; Epigraphic Survey 1994, p. 5, pl. 12-16.
- ²⁸ PM II, 315; Epigraphic Survey 1994, p. 38, pl. 105.