



Middle Kingdom Royal Art and Architecture

29 February 2012

A digression on calendars and time in ancient Egypt:

Ways of dividing the year:

- agricultural seasons

 - flood

 - growing

 - harvest

12 month lunar calendar (354 days)

civil calendar

- 12 months

 - 3 weeks of 10 days each (360 days)

 - + 5 days for gods' birthdays

New Year's Day the helical rising of Sirius (Sothis in Greek)

"Sothic Cycle" is 1460 years







Nebhepetre Montuhotep
(pre-unification style)
From Deir el-Bahri



Nebhepetre Montuhotep
embraced by the gods (post-
unification style)
From Deir el-Bahri



Montuhotep III and Iunyt (consort of the god Montu) from Armant

Middle Kingdom Chronology

11th Dynasty (starting in the middle)

Nebhepetre Montuhotep (II)

Montuhotep III

Montuhotep IV

12th Dynasty

Amenemhat I (former vizier?)

Senwosret I (sometimes transliterated Senusret; in Greek this is Sesostris)

Amenemhat II

Senwosret II

Senwosret III

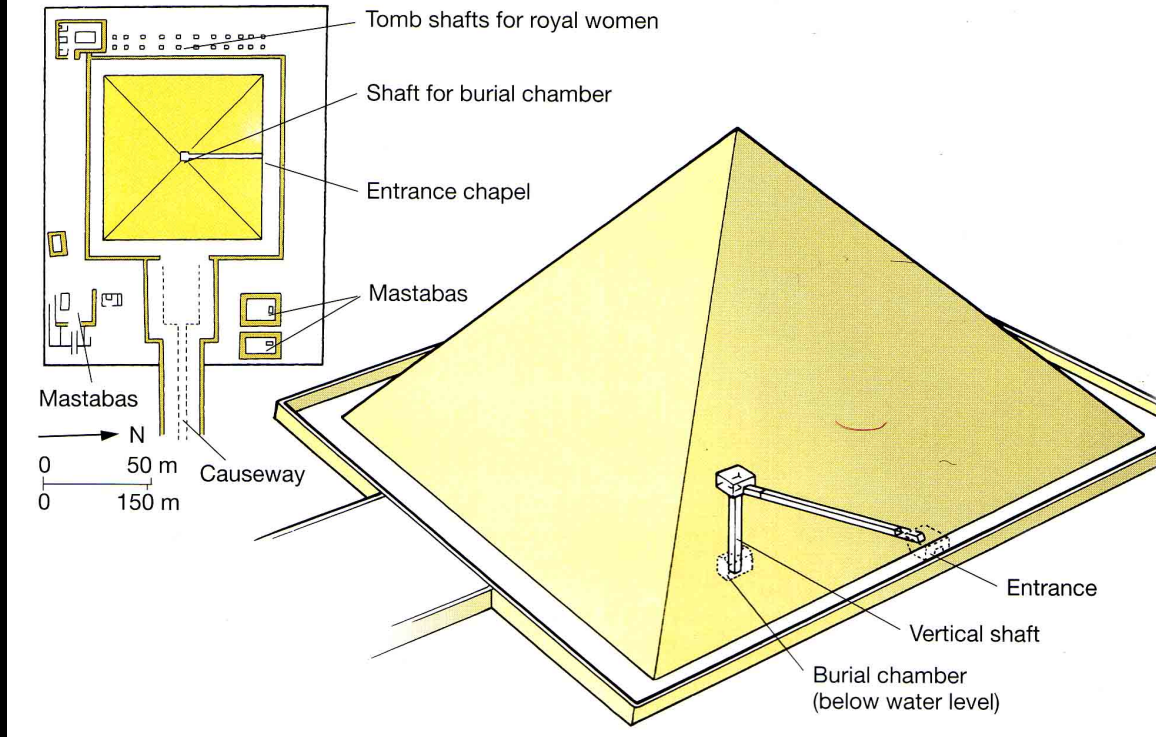
Amenemhat III

Amenemhat IV

Sobeknefru

13th Dynasty

many kings of whom Neferhotep I and Sobekhotep IV are the best attested



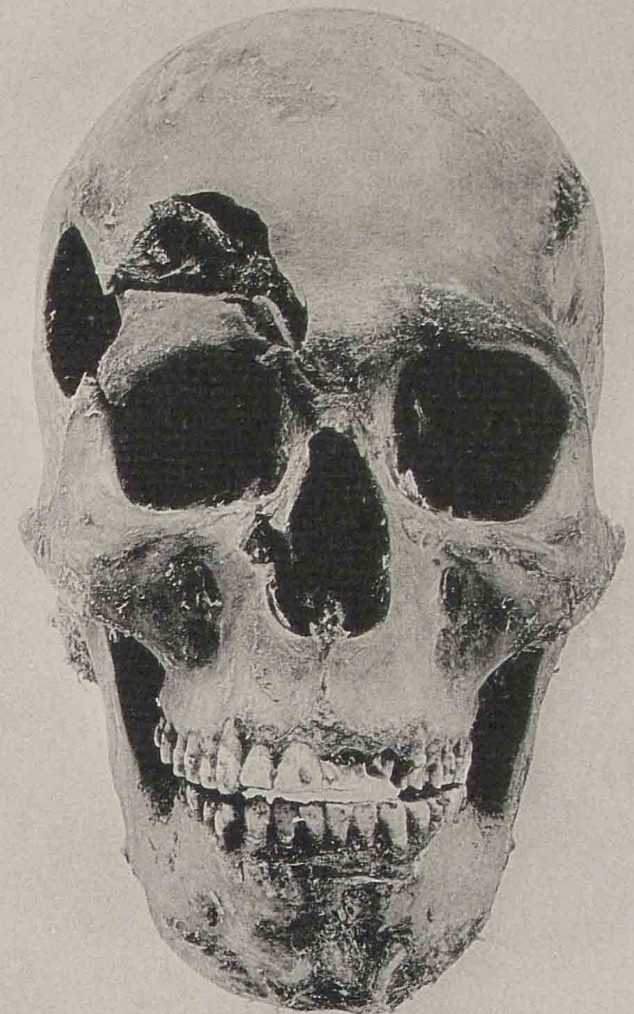
Pyramid Complex of Amenemhat I at Lisht



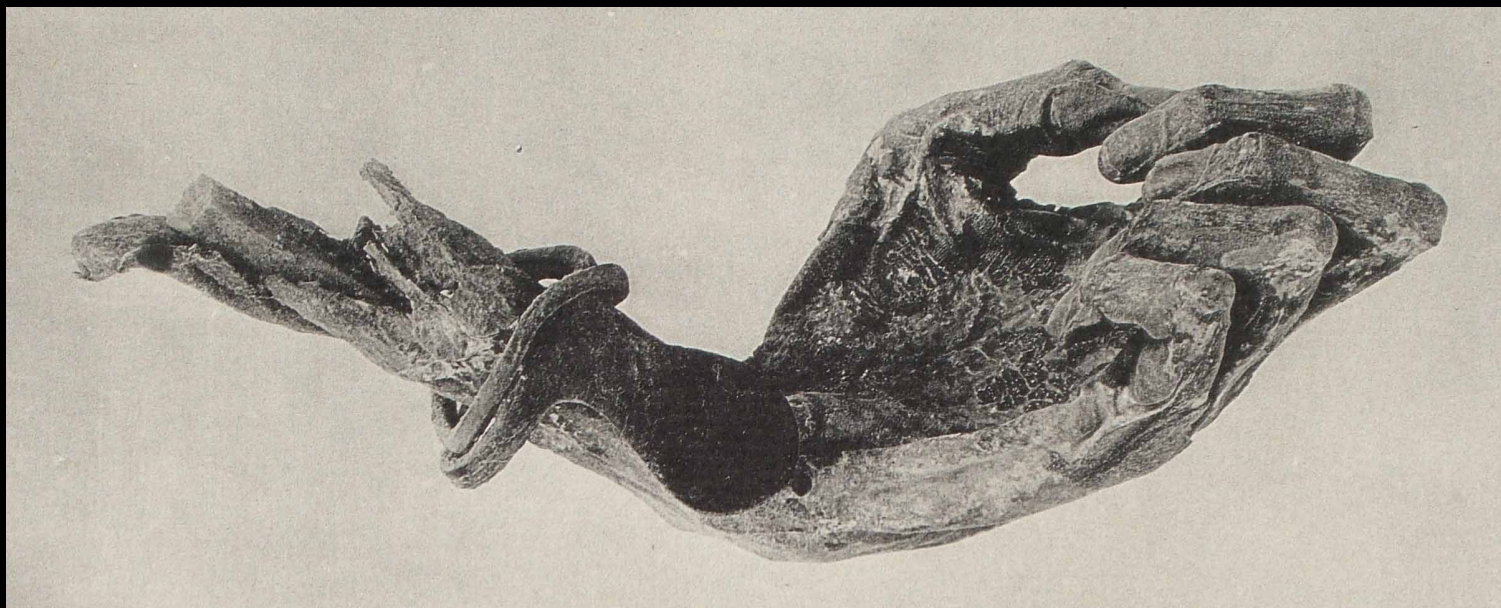
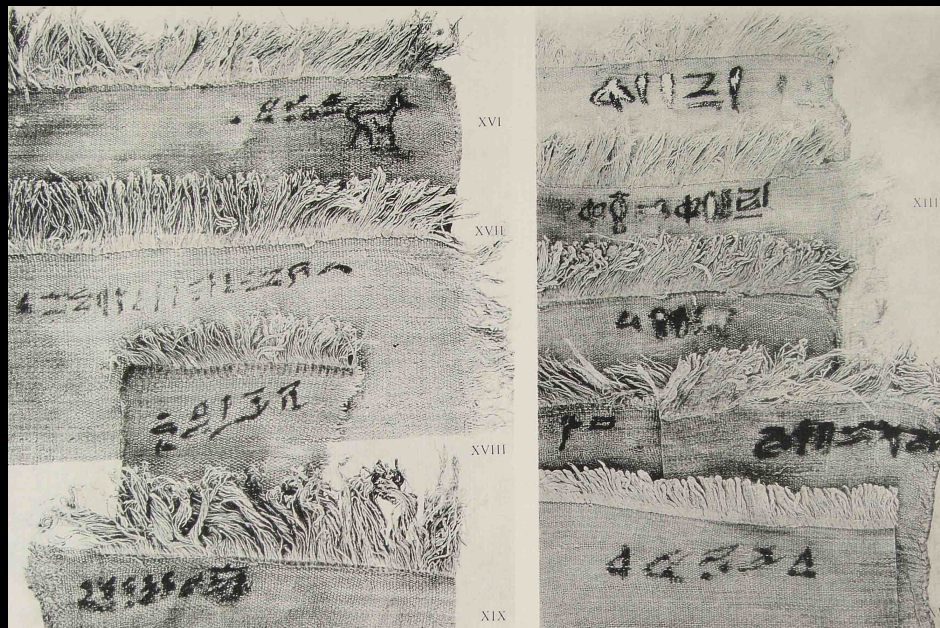
Reliefs of Amenemhat I



Where is Amenemhat-Itj-Tawy?



The “slain soldiers” of Thebes: ongoing warfare in the 12th Dynasty?

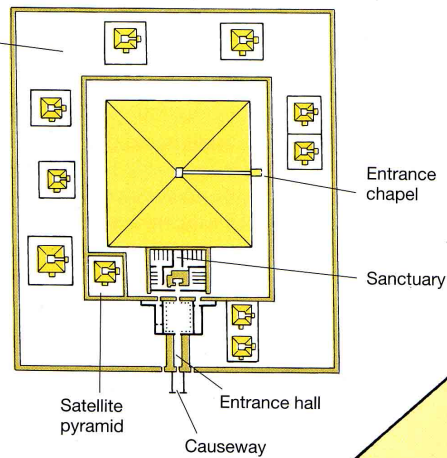




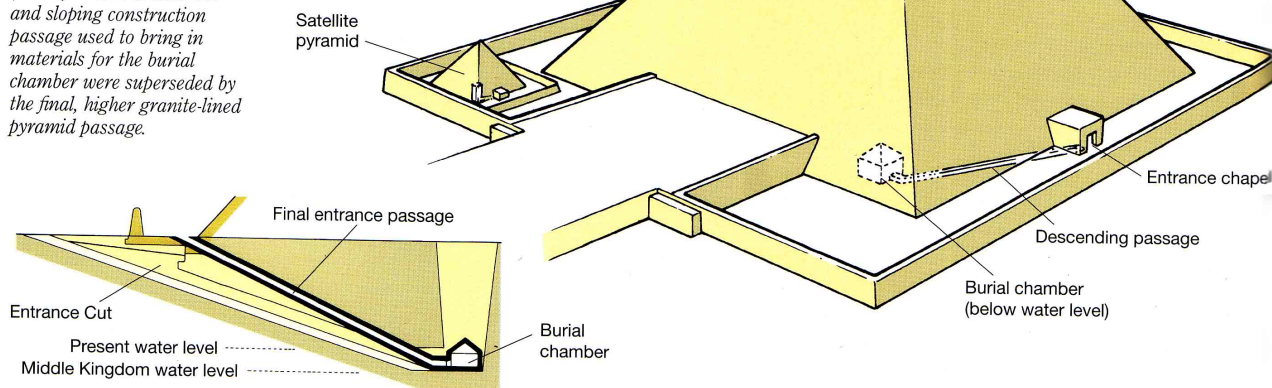
Outer enclosure with
9 queens' pyramids



N
0 100 m
0 300 ft



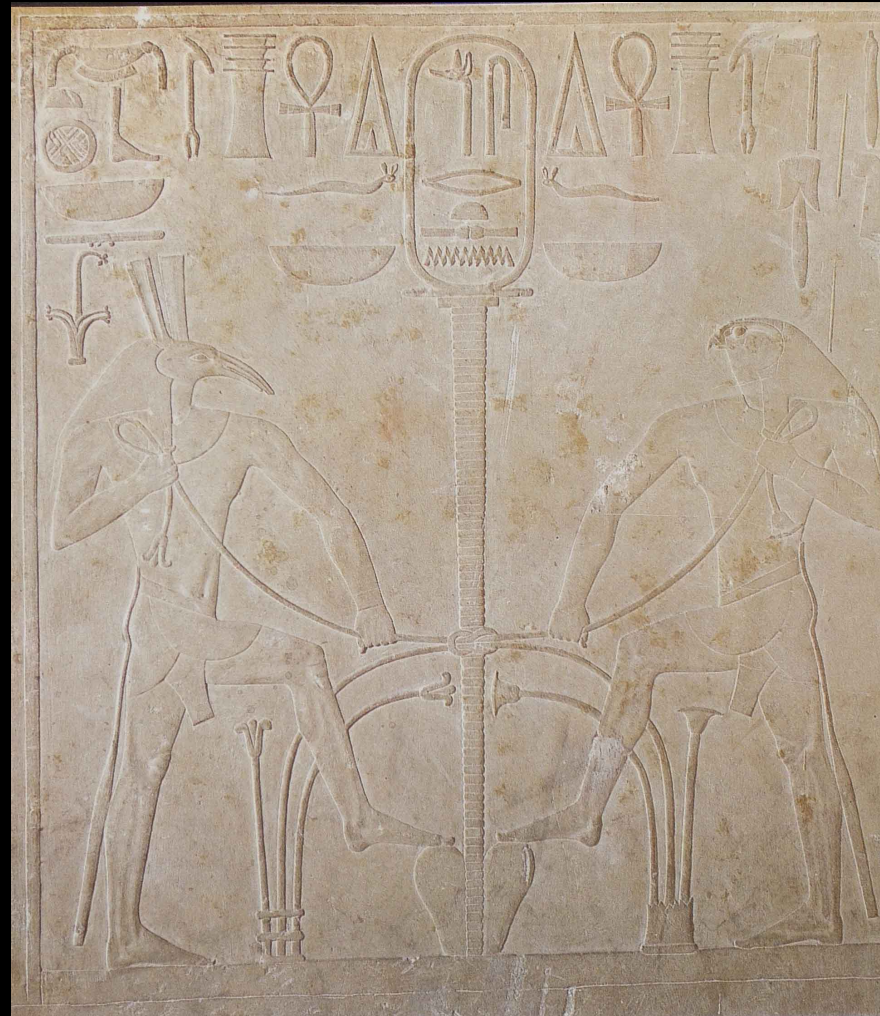
*(Below) The Entrance Cut
and sloping construction
passage used to bring in
materials for the burial
chamber were superseded by
the final, higher granite-lined
pyramid passage.*



Senwosret I Pyramid Complex at Lisht



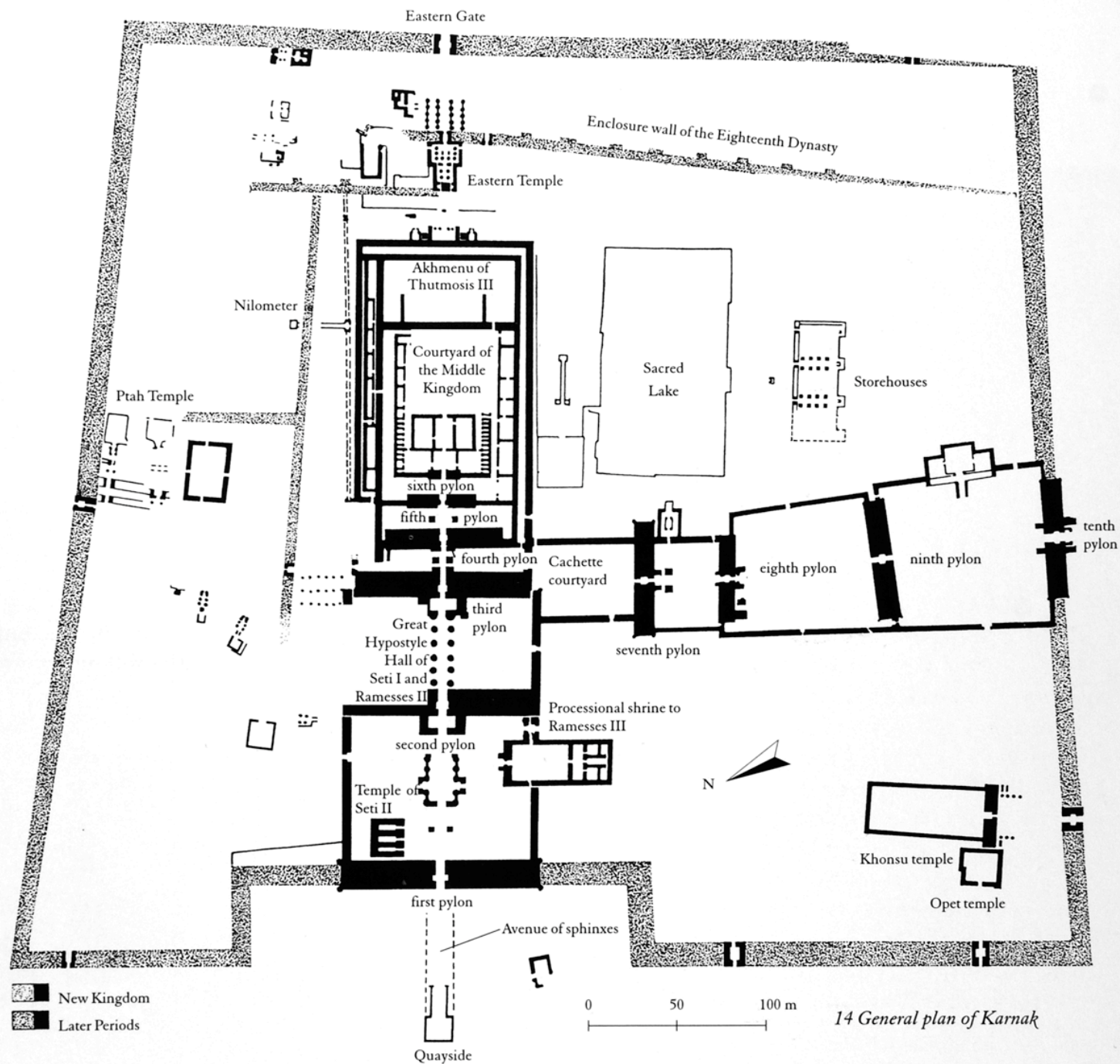
Senwosret I Osirian statues and serekh panels from his pyramid complex at Lisht



Senwosret I statuary from his pyramid complex
(the sema tawy is on the side of his throne)

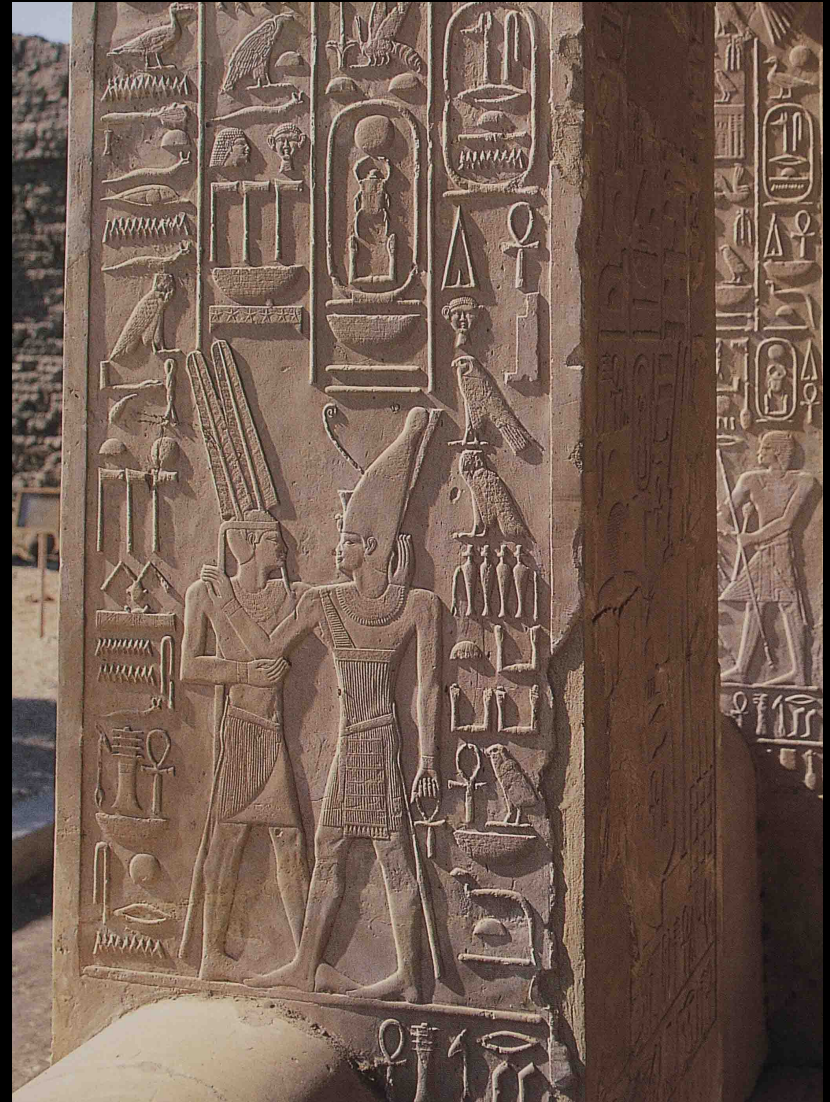


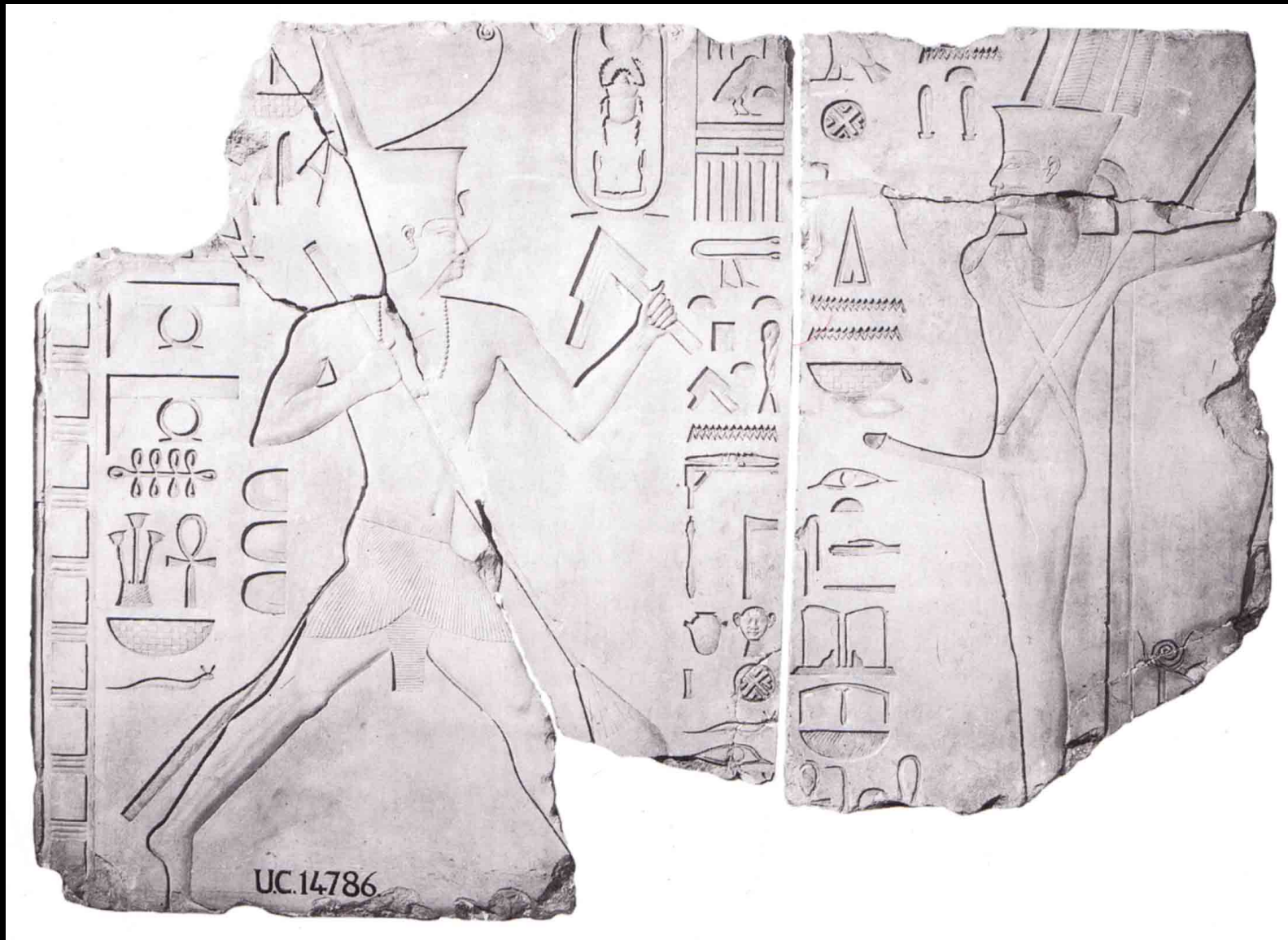
The “White Chapel” of Senwosret I at Karnak (more properly a barque shrine)





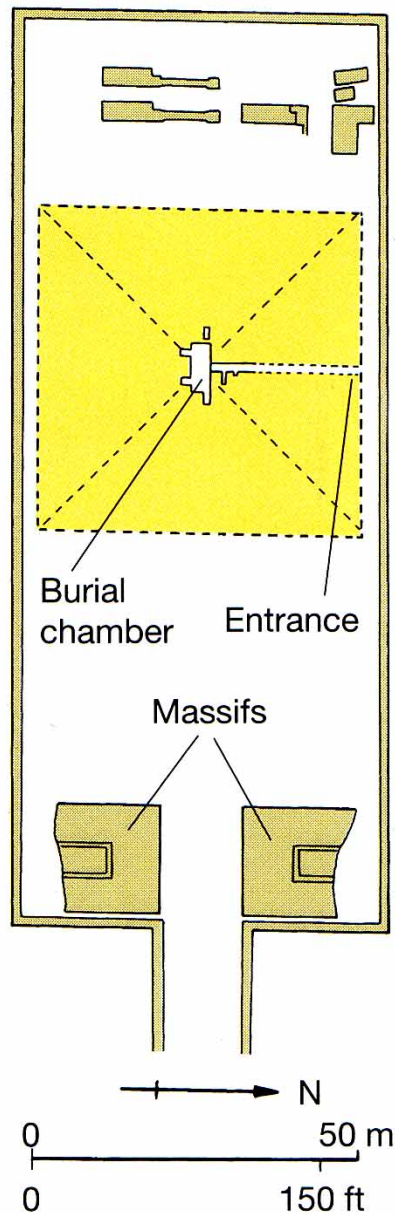
The White Chapel



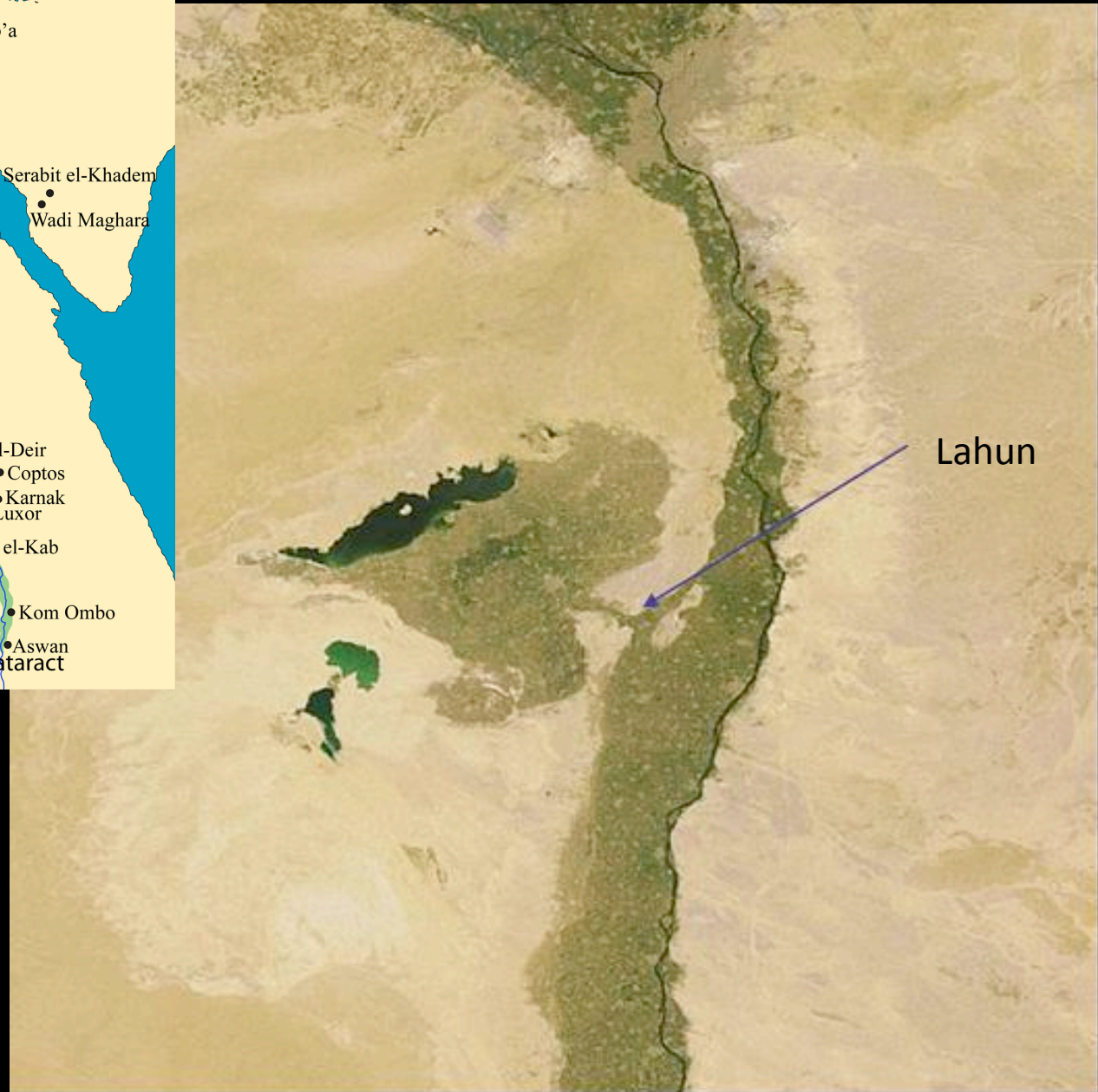


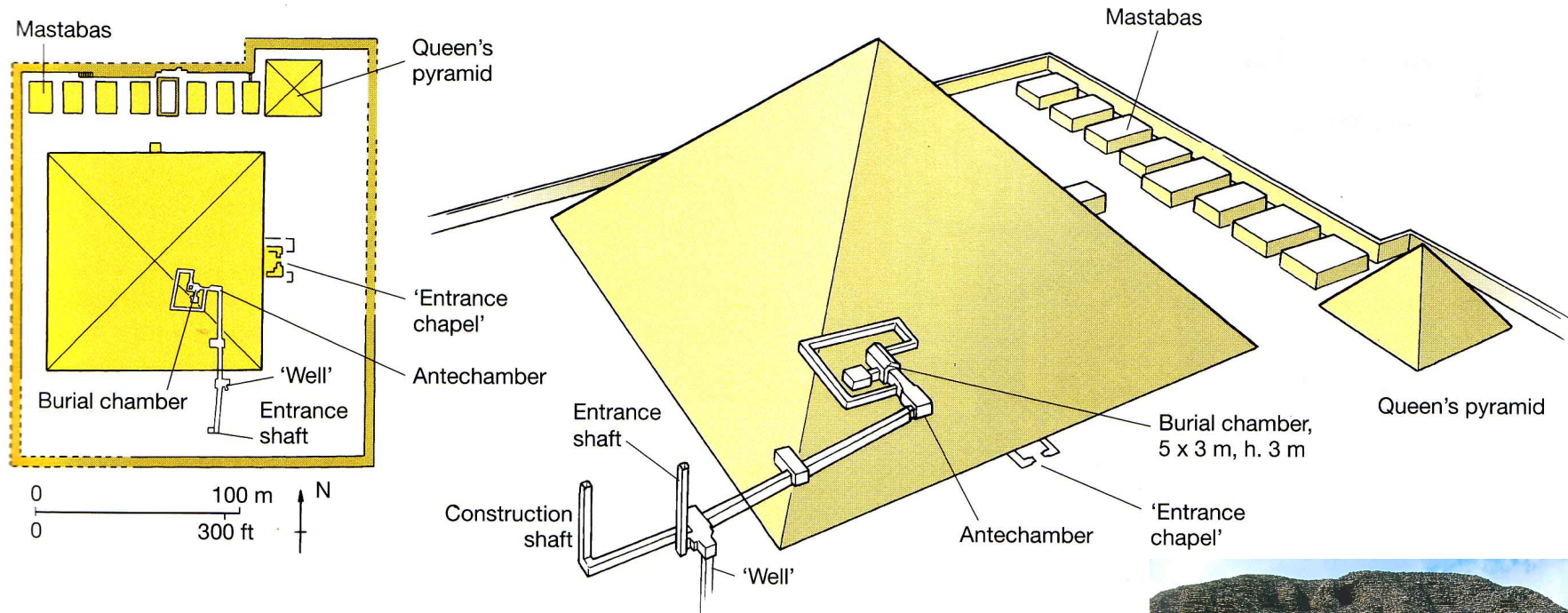
Senwosret I and Min, from the temple at Coptos

Amenemhat II's Pyramid Complex at Dahshur
A second phase of Middle Kingdom pyramids

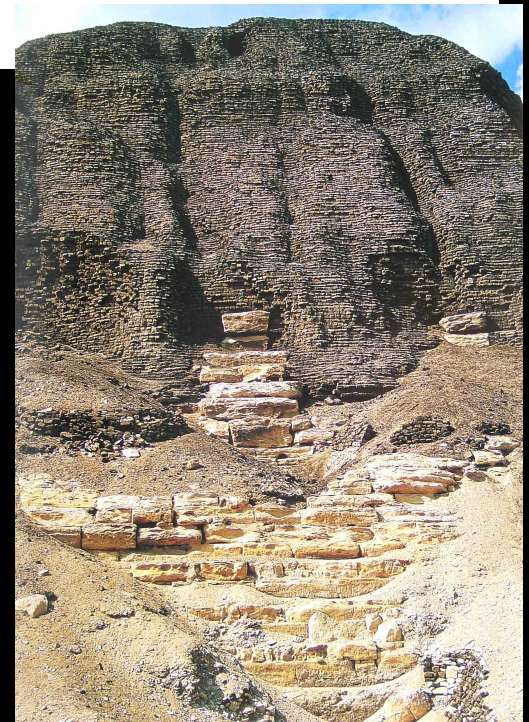








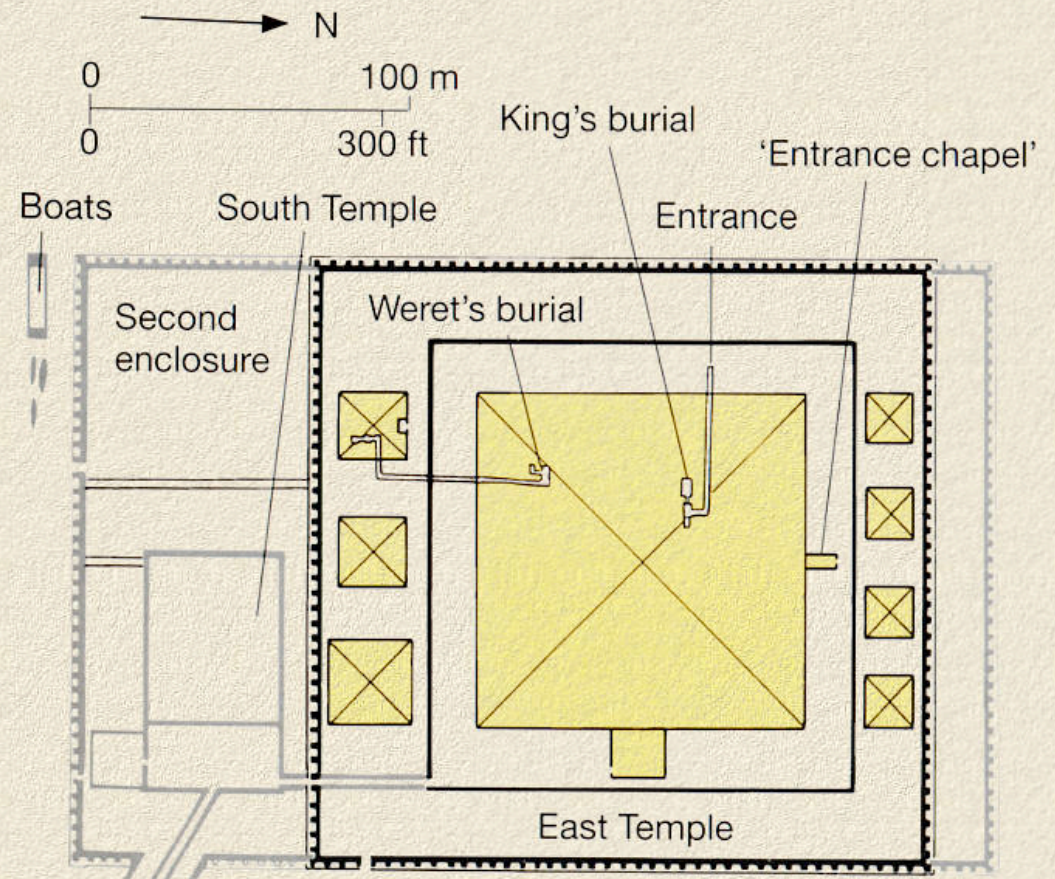
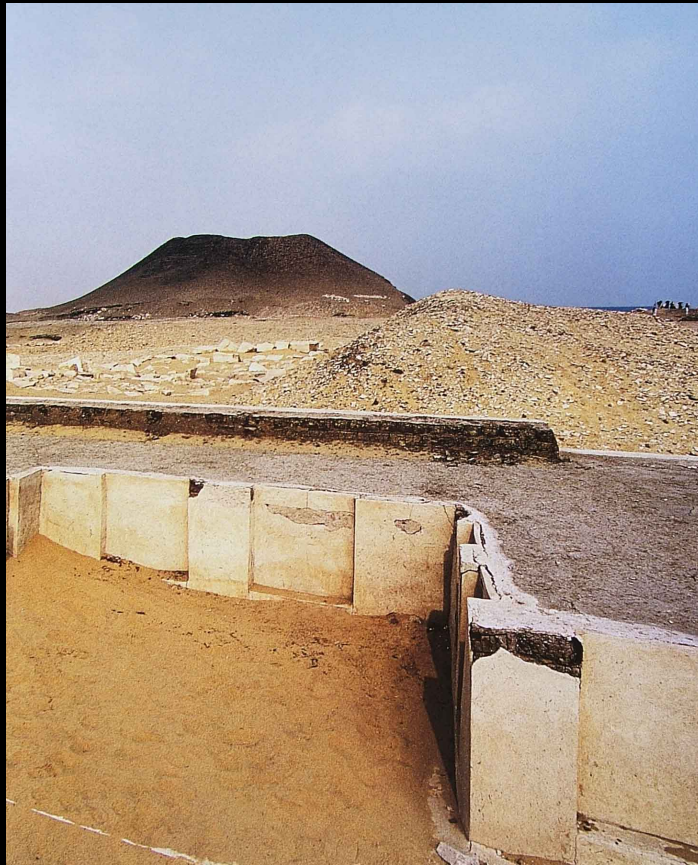
Senwosret II's pyramid at Lahun



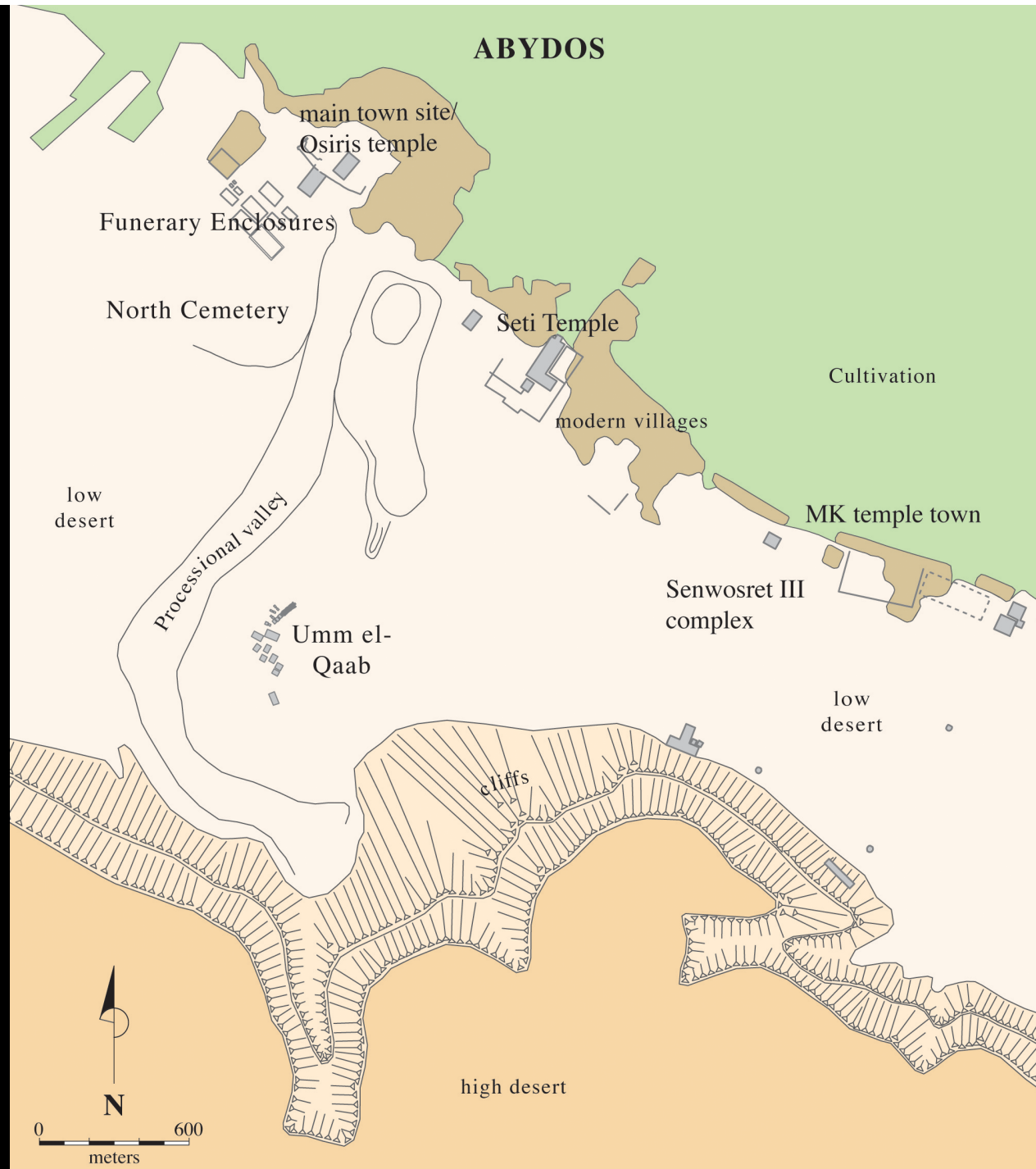


Jewelry of Princess
Sithathoriunet from Lahun

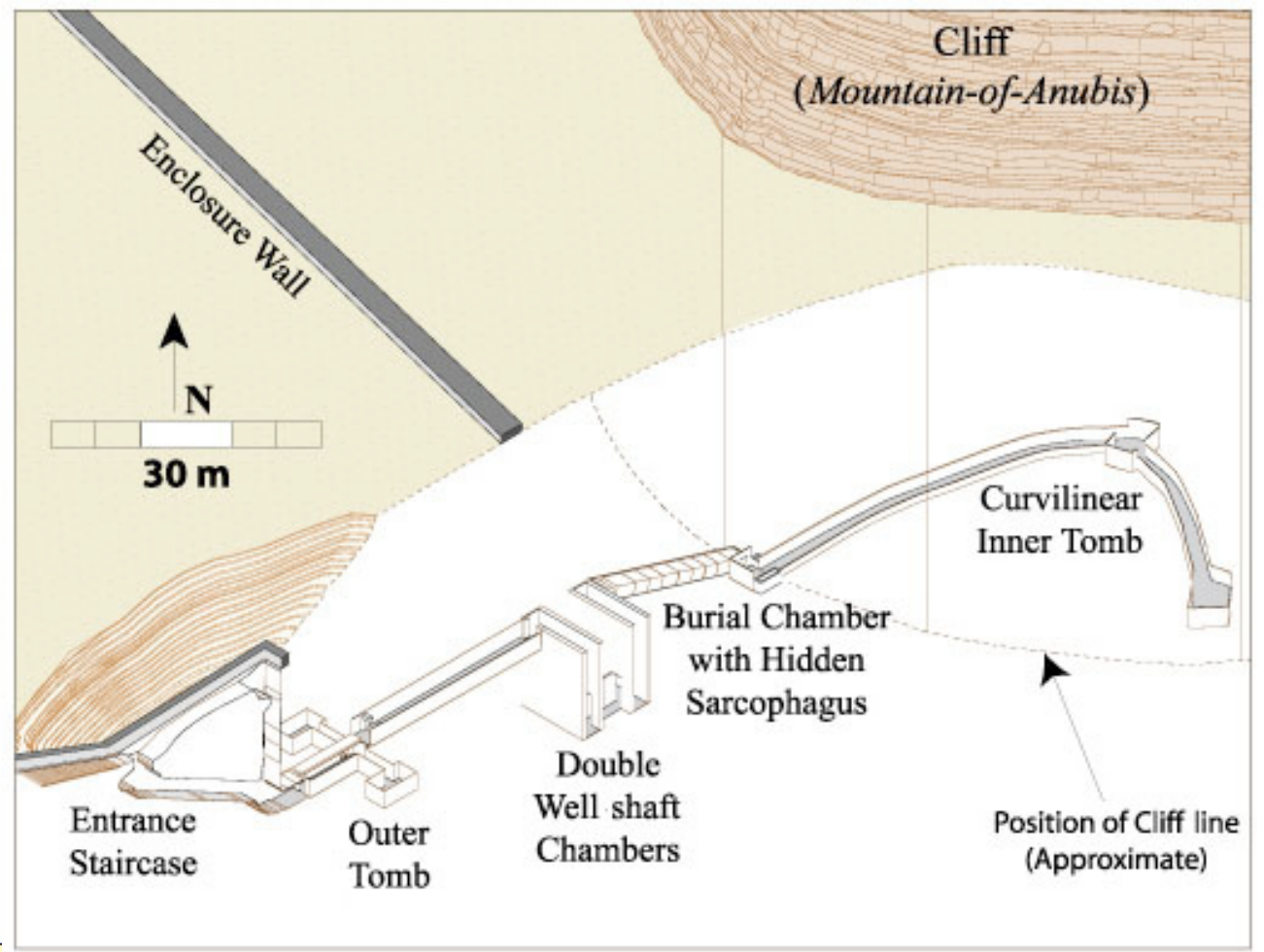
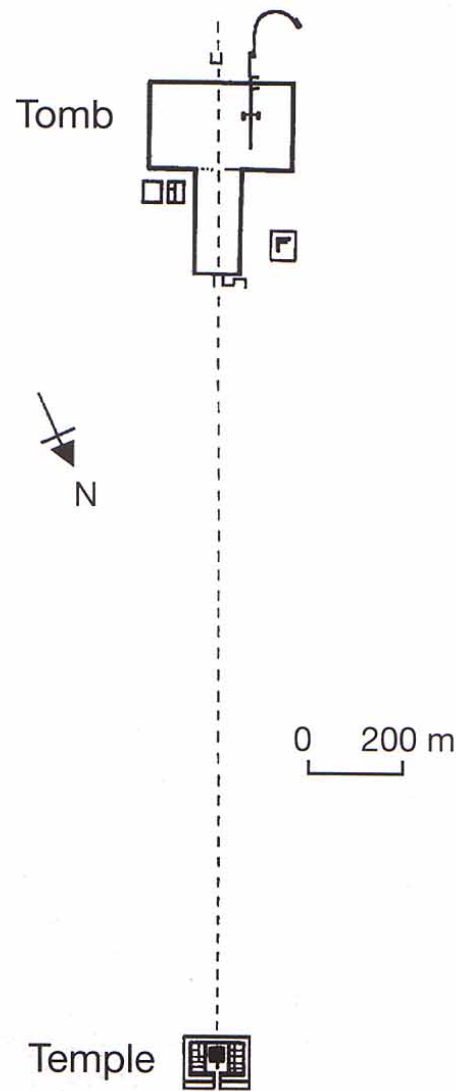


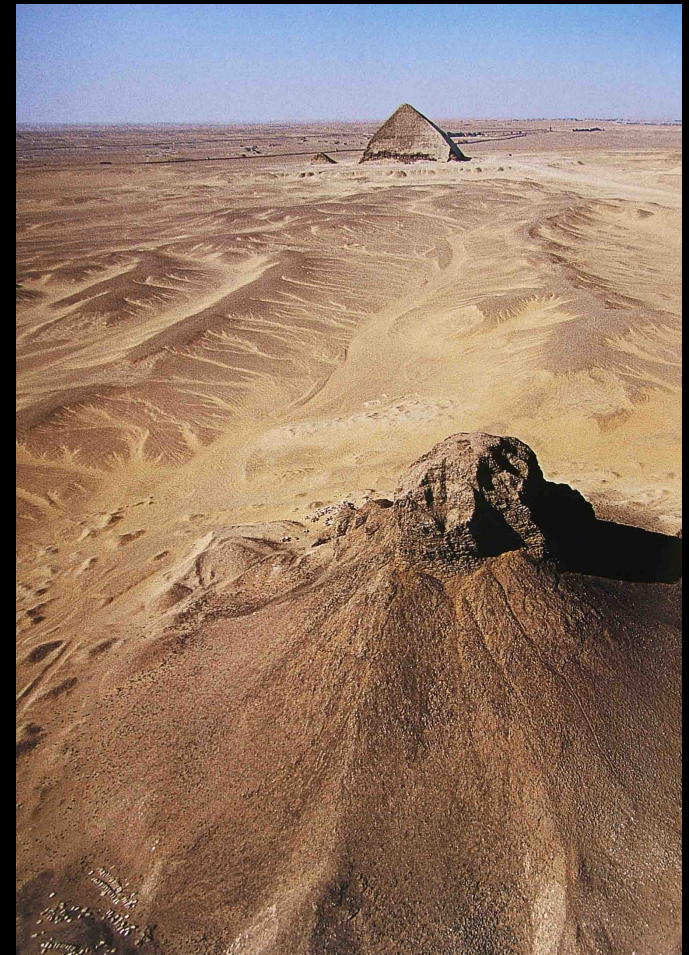


Pyramid of Senwosret III at Dahshur

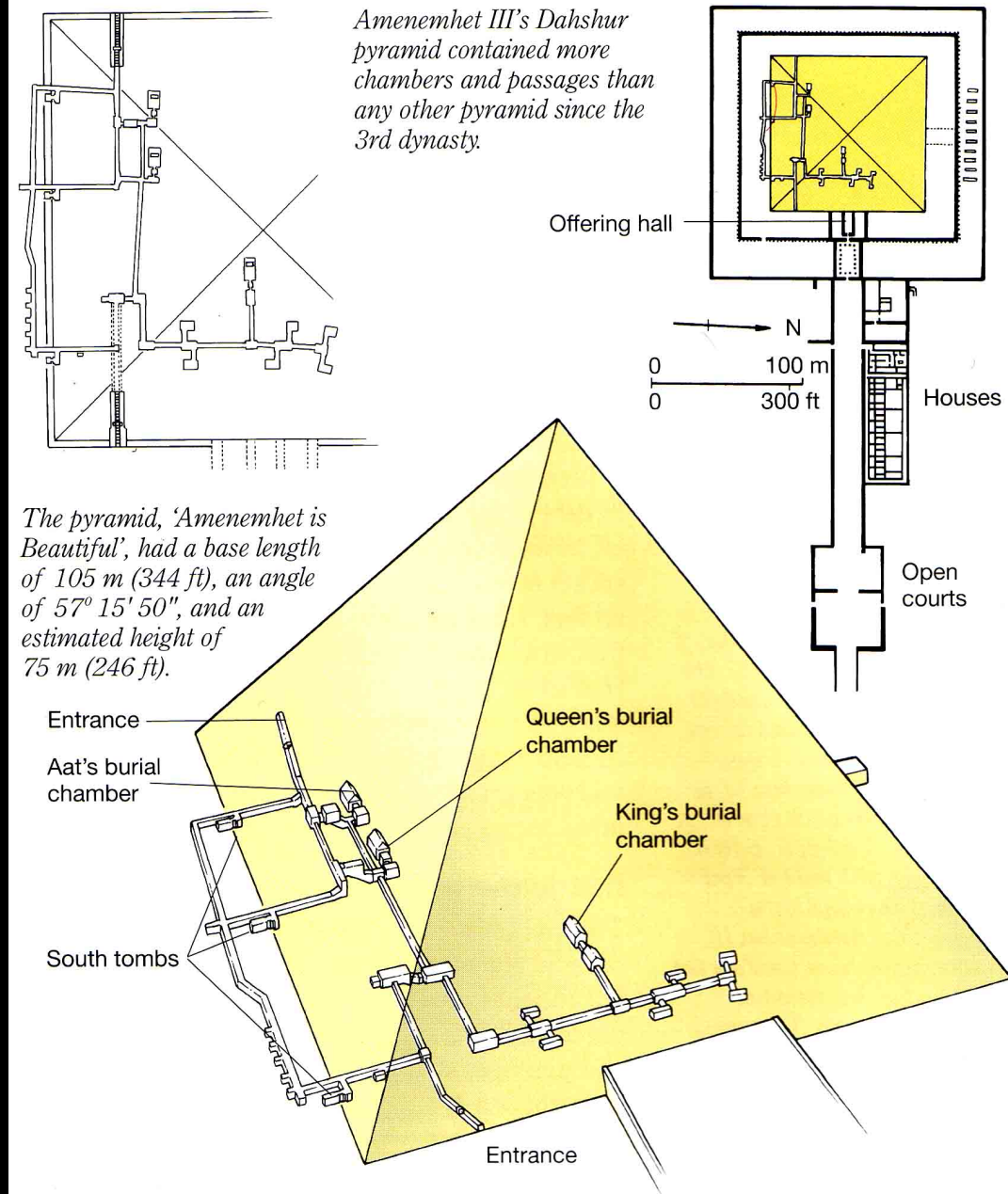


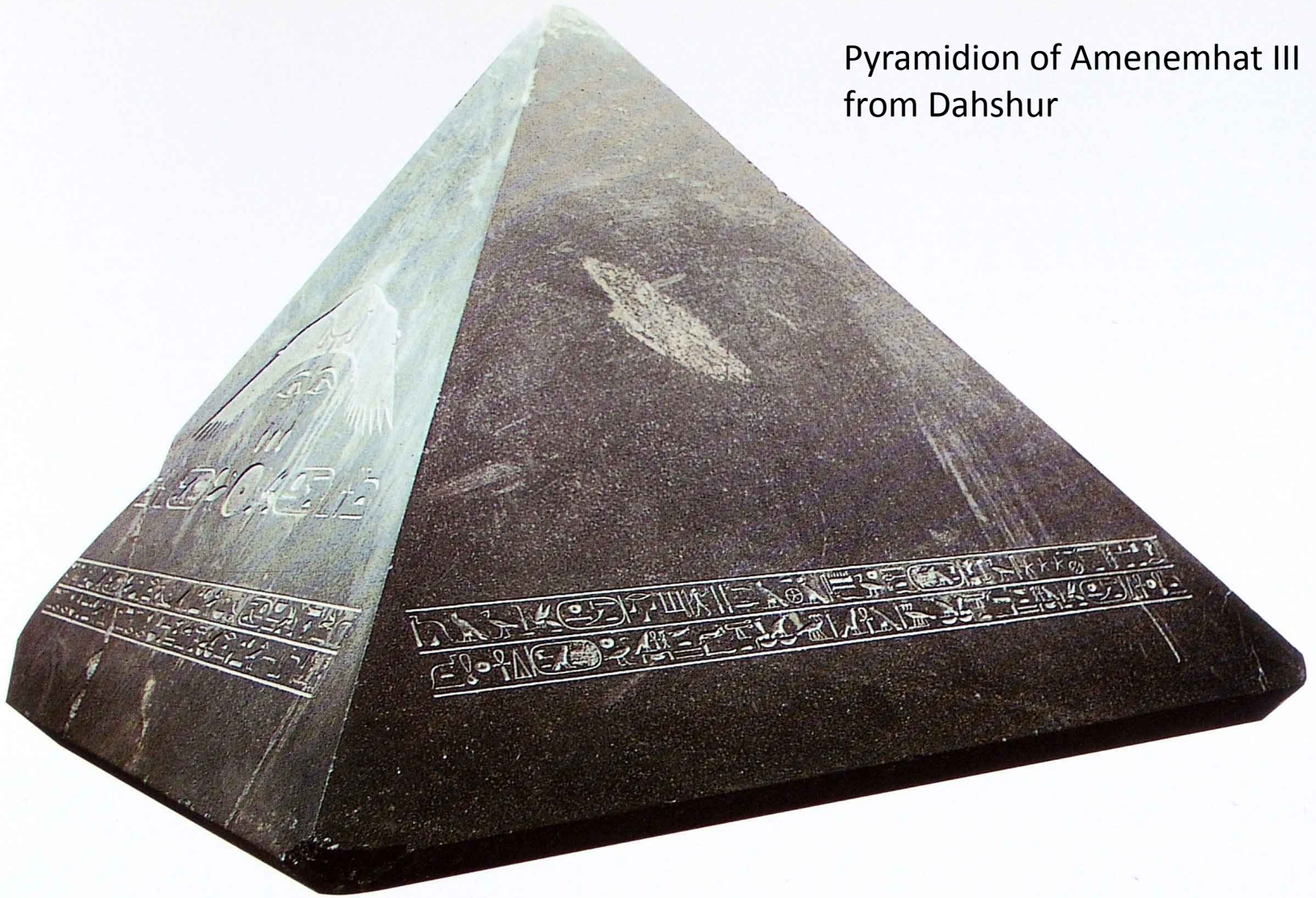
Senwosret III at Abydos



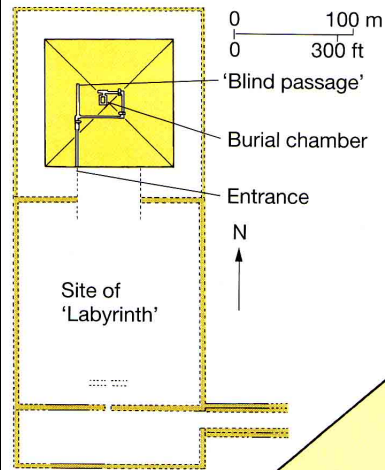


Amenemhat III's
pyramid at Dahshur

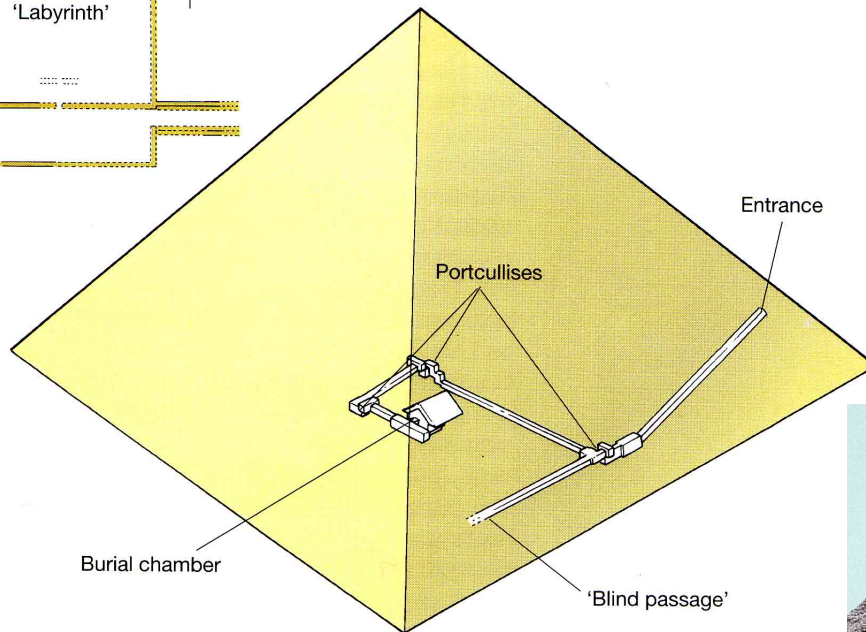




Pyramidion of Amenemhat III
from Dahshur



For his pyramid at Hawara, possibly called 'Amenemhet Lives' Amenemhet III chose the 'Djoser-style' complex, with a long rectangular north-south enclosure. The pyramid's base length was 105 m (344 ft). It rose about 58 m (190 ft) at an angle of $48^{\circ} 45'$.



Amenemhat III's pyramid at Hawara



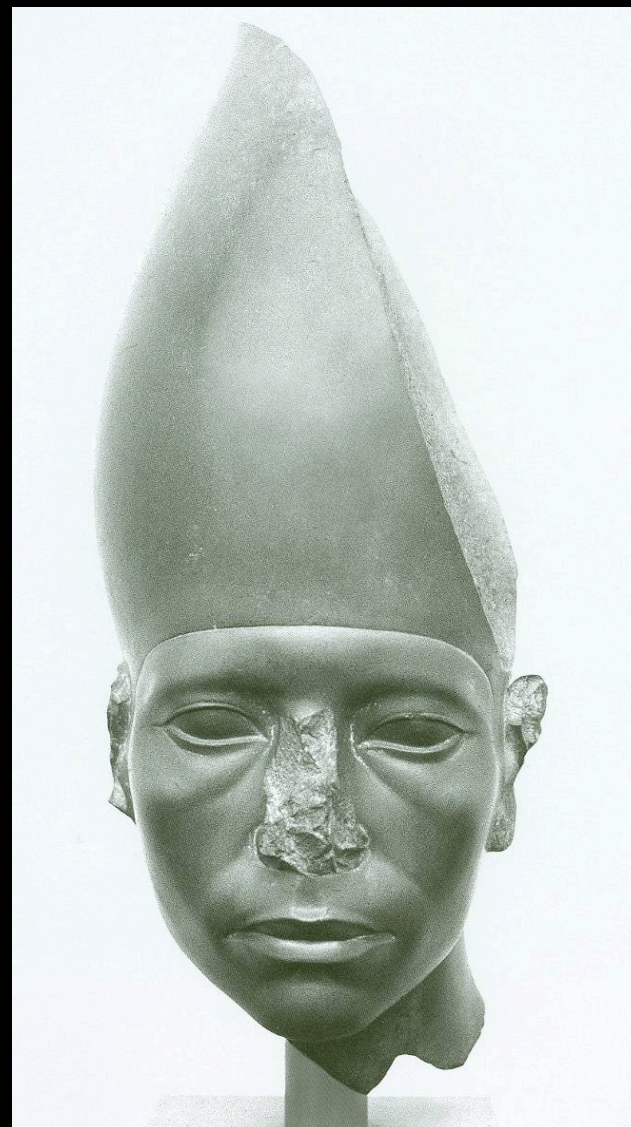
Sculpture of Senwosret III





Senwosret III from Deir el-Bahri

Amenemhat III





Amenemhat III





Amenemhet IV: an ill-attested king



Sobkenerferu, last ruler of Dynasty XII





Sobekhotep IV, Dynasty XIII



Scarabs from the 13th Dynasty



