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# LEPSIUS TOMBS IN THE GIZA NECROPOLIS REDISCOVERED: PRELIMINARY REPORT ON THE RUSSIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL MISSION AT GIZA EXCAVATIONS 2006–2008\*

By ELEONORA KORMYSHEVA and SVETLANA MALYKH

Preliminary results are presented of the excavations of the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza in 2006–2008. The objective of the mission's work was the Fifth Dynasty rock-cut tombs on the eastern edge of the Eastern Necropolis. Several tombs were noted by Lepsius and Mariette, but they have never been the subject of a full report. The iconographic, epigraphic, and pottery materials from Tombs 12 (=LG 77) and 15 (=LG 76), as well as one further tomb newly discovered in this area (Tomb 11), are presented and analysed. The preliminary dating of the tombs in this area is to the end of the Fifth Dynasty.

## General stratigraphy of the area

THE area investigated (fig. 1) comprises a rock slope descending from west to east. It is covered by a mound of debris, composed of grey sand and limestone fragments of differing sizes. This debris partly comprises naturally weathered rock, and is partly material excavated during the construction of the tombs situated higher up. Some artefacts connected with the destruction of these tombs were also located, together with later funerary finds, and there was also a discernable redeposit of the cultural layer related to the excavation of the tombs at the beginning of twentieth century AD.

Overall, this area can be divided into two zones, following two distinct rock strata which lie one above the other. The uppermost Zone 1 comprises a gently sloping ledge, about 4–5 m in width, with some burial shafts and traces of mud-brick structures. In cleaning the sector, eight archaeological objects were revealed. Zone 2 comprises the eastern extremity of the ledge, which breaks off suddenly, forming a cliff. This cliff is partly natural, and partly man made.

During the excavation of the Eastern Necropolis undertaken by the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza (RAMG) in 2006–2008,<sup>1</sup> a number of tombs noted

\* The authors are deeply thankful to P. A. Morozov and V. V. Kopeikin (Russian Academy of Sciences, Institute of Earth Magnetism), the inventors of the GPR device 'Loza-V', for their help with the mission. Anthropological research was undertaken by A. P. Buzhilova, M. V. Dobrovolskaya, and M. B. Mednikova, to whom the authors express their deepest gratitude.

<sup>1</sup> On the previous seasons see E. Kormysheva, 'Report on the Activity of the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza, Tomb G7948, East Field, During the Season 1998', *ASAE* 74 (1999), 23–38; E. Kormysheva, 'Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza, East Field, Season 1999', *ASAE* 75 (2000), 28–40; E. Kormysheva, 'Report on the Activity of the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza, Tomb G7948 and the Adjacent Area, Eastern Field, Season 2000', *ASAE* 77 (2003), 91–130; S. Malykh, 'The Ceramic Import in Late Roman, Byzantine and Early Arabic Giza: On the External Contacts of the Memphite Area', in E. Kormysheva (ed.), *Cultural Heritage of Egypt and Christian Orient*, IV (Moscow, 2007), 117–120; E. Kormysheva, 'Minor Cemetery on the Eastern Edge of the Eastern Necropolis in Giza', J.-C. Goyon and C. Cardin (eds), *Proceedings of the Ninth International Congress of Egyptologists* (OLA 150; Leuven, 2007), I, 1023–35.

by R. Lepsius and A. Mariette were rediscovered. Their location was established with the help of the Russian GPR device 'Loza-V'. Surveying the area with GPR, several cavities in the rock were revealed (fig. 2). Cleaning the area revealed three rock terraces, where several funerary structures were discovered:

- Terrace 1, 43.59–40.79 m above sea level;
- Terrace 2, 35.47–38.73 m above sea level;
- Terrace 3, 30.90–34.12 m above sea level.

On the uppermost terrace, shafts and the remains of mud brick and limestone walls were revealed. Three of these shafts (fig. 3, nos 1, 3, 5) seem never to have been completed due to natural defects in the rock, while three others (nos 4, 6, 7) were completely robbed out and filled by debris. The mud brick wall remnants (nos 2 and 8) evidently belonged to the chapel of a mastaba, while the remaining limestone blocks were not further identified.

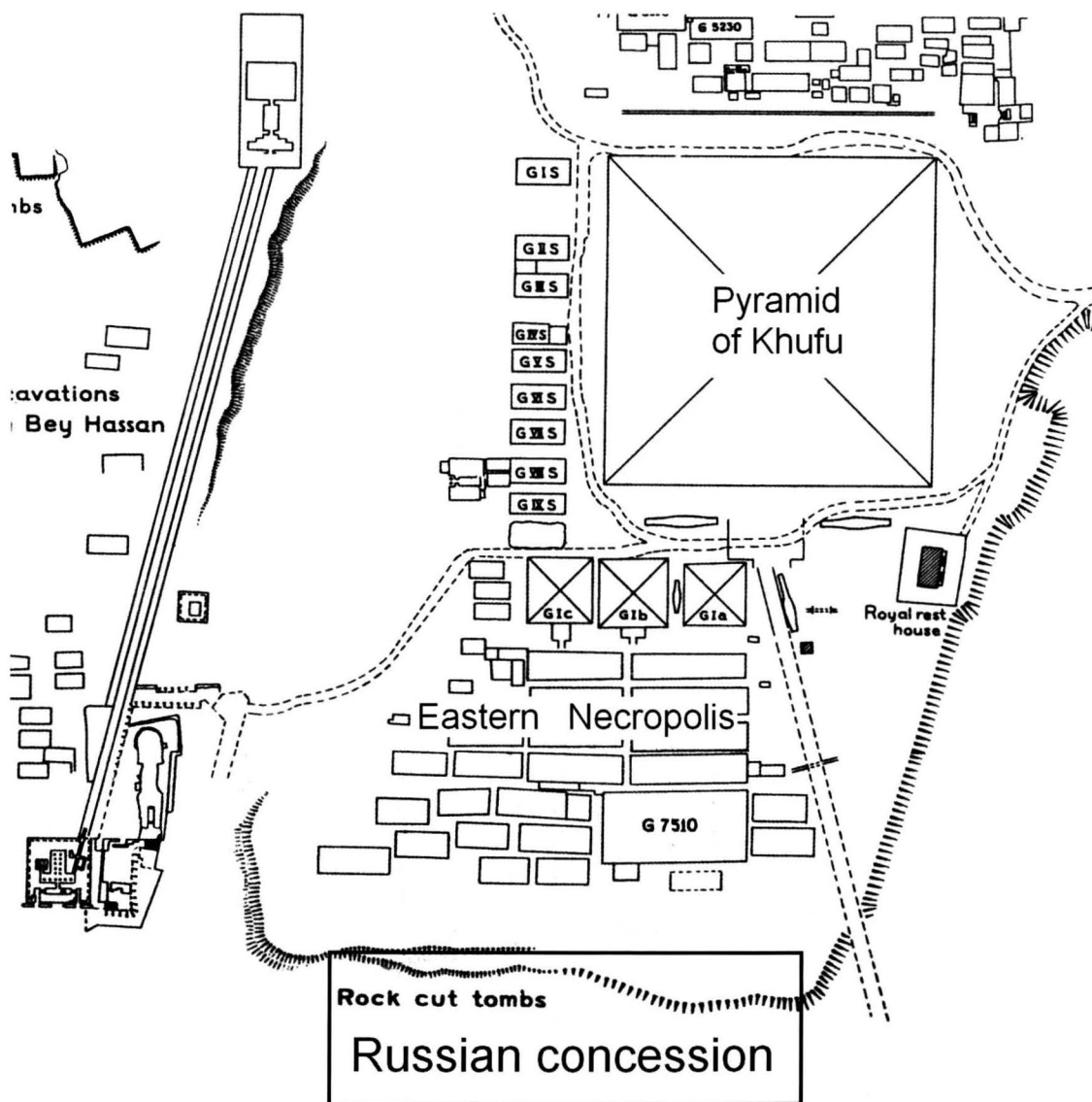


FIG. 1. Plan of the Eastern Necropolis of Giza, with the area of the Russian concession; after G.A. Reisner, *A History of the Giza Necropolis* (Cambridge, 1942), I, map 3.



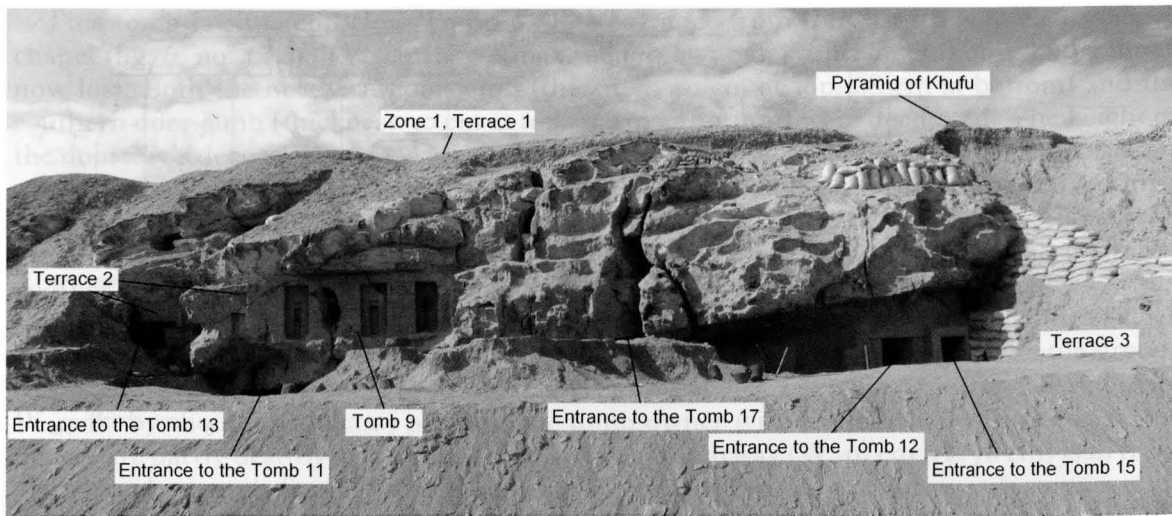


FIG. 2. General view of the area (photograph: S. E. Malykh).

On the second terrace, three undecorated, anepigraphic, and unfinished tombs (figs 2 and 5, nos 10, 13, 14), as well as the western wall, with three false doors (figs 2 and 5, no. 9), of an otherwise destroyed tomb (Tomb 9), are preserved (fig. 4).<sup>2</sup> The nature of the disintegration of the rock, the lack of shafts which might be connected with Tomb 9, and also the existence of Tomb 11 which could not have been cut if Tomb 9 had been completed with shafts, suggest that the collapse of the rock here had taken place already in antiquity.

On the lower terrace, six rock-cut tombs were found (figs 2 and 5, nos 11, 12, 15–18). Several of them contain inscriptions with the names of their owners: Tjenty I (Tomb 11), Tjenty II (Tomb 12),<sup>3</sup> and Khufuhotep (Tomb 15). To the south of the

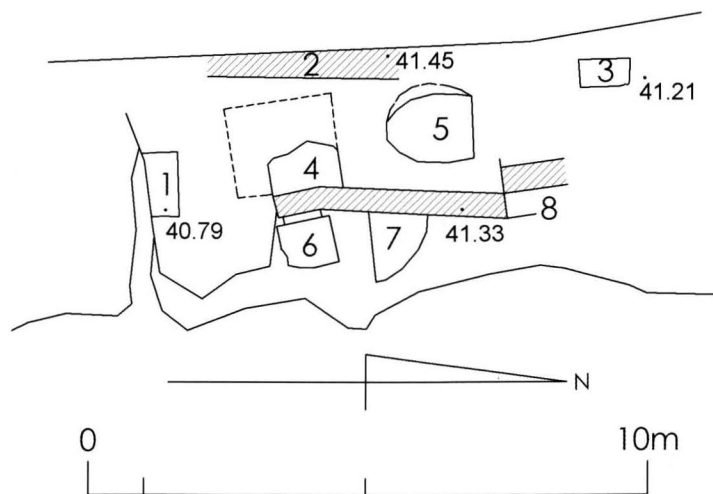


FIG. 3. Objects in Zone 1, Terrace 1 (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

<sup>2</sup> Mariette's drawing does not correspond to the actual shape and decoration of the object; see A. Mariette, *Les mastabas de l'Ancien Empire* (Paris, 1881–1884), 535. From his corresponding notes it is not clear whether it is in fact the same false door.

<sup>3</sup> The name Tjenty often occurs in the Old Kingdom for both men and women; see Ranke, *PN I*, 392, 10. At Giza it is attested for the following individuals: the owner of the stone built mastaba G 4920=LG 47 (Fifth Dynasty or later), see H. Junker, *Giza, VII: Der Ostabschnitt des Westfriedhofs*, I (DAWW 72/3; Vienna, 1944), 90–2, pl. xvii, xviii, and C. S. Fisher, *The Minor Cemetery at Giza* (Eckley B. Coxe Jr. Foundation NS 1; Philadelphia,

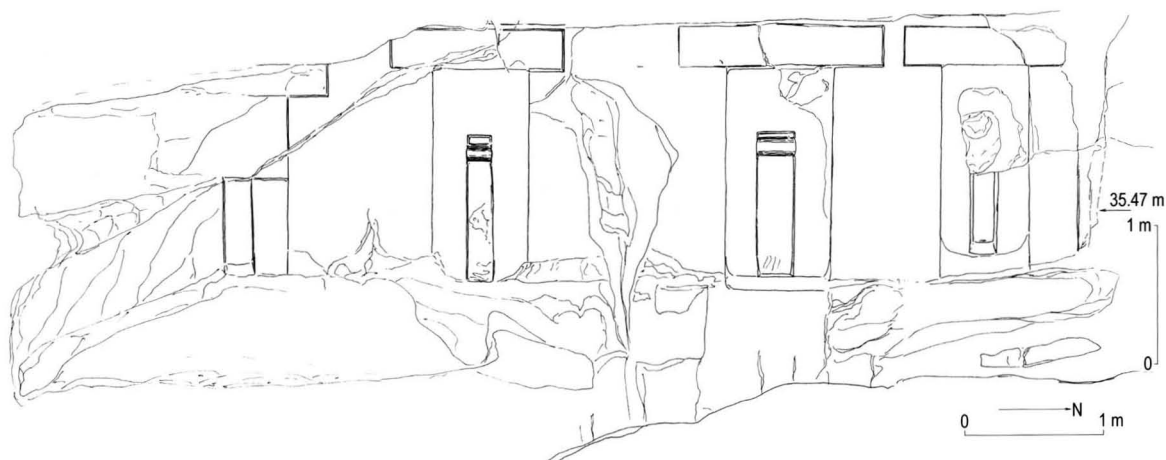


FIG. 4. Tomb 9. Remains of west wall with false doors (drawn by S. V. Malykh).

terrace, the complex of Perseneb (LG 78; fig. 5, nos 20–22) and the tomb of Perynedju (fig. 5, no. 19) were discovered. The tombs of Tjenty I (Tomb 11) and the tomb of Perynedju (Tomb 19) were previously unrecorded. All of them were cut on the same level as the tomb of Khafrankh (G 7948=LG 75).

#### Rock-cut tomb of Tjenty I (no. 11)

This tomb is probably indicated on the sketch-map drawn by G. Erbkam,<sup>4</sup> where one of the tombs in this area seems to be recorded by the letter 'H' (denoting surviving hieroglyphic inscriptions). Evidently, however, in time of the Lepsius mission the tomb was not readily accessible.

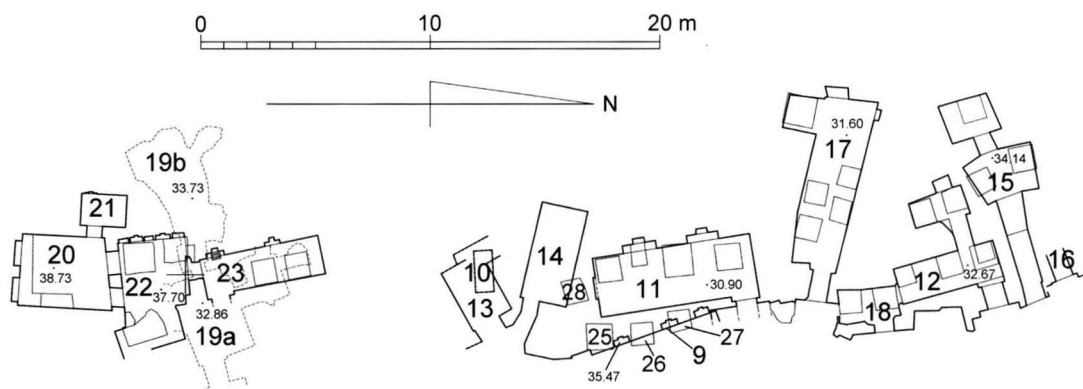


FIG. 5. General plan of the area, Terraces 2 and 3 (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

1924), 149, G 3035; Kai's son, whose full name is unknown, for whom see H. Junker, *Giza, I: Die Mastabas der IV. Dynastie auf dem Westfriedhof* (DAWW 69/1; Vienna, 1929), 224; *Giza, III: Die Mastabas der vorgeschrittenen V. Dynastie auf dem Westfriedhof* (Vienna, 1938), 132–3, 143 fig. 16; a scribe named Tjenty is mentioned in the mastaba of Ankh, for which see H. Junker, *Giza, V: Die Mastaba des Šnb (Seneb) und die umliegenden Gräber* (Vienna, 1941), 151–2, fig. 44, and Junker, *Giza III*, 178. Tjenty was also used as a nick name, as for example with the baker Tjenty in the mastaba of Kaninisut: H. Junker, *Giza, II: Die Mastabas der beginnenden V. Dynastie auf dem Westfriedhof* (Vienna, 1934), 151 fig. 18, 153 fig. 19, 166. For Tjenty as a female's name, see the mastaba of Nefermaat: H. Junker, *Giza V*, 141, 143; the wife of Nefer is also named Tjenty: H. Junker, *Giza, VI: Die Mastabas des Nfr (Nefer), Kdfj (Kedfi), Kšhjf (Kahjef) und die westlich anschliessenden Grabanlagen* (DAWW 72/1; Vienna, 1943), 49 fig. 11.

<sup>4</sup> LD Textband, I, 86. Several photos from this tomb taken by Reisner's mission were erroneously attributed to tomb LG 77.

This tomb is situated below Tomb 9. The entrance from the east leads to an L-shaped chapel (fig. 6, no. 11E). The entrance (max. height 195 cm, width 89 cm) once had a lintel, now lost. Both the northern door jamb (thickness 40 cm at top, 68 cm at bottom) and the southern door jamb (thickness 30 cm at top, 75 cm at bottom) were decorated. The height of the doorway's decorated surface was 80 cm on both sides (fig. 7). On the northern door jamb, a figure of the tomb owner is visible, sitting on a chair with bulls' legs on trapezoidal footings. The position of his hand points to the original presence of a *mdw*-staff. The elaborately executed hieroglyph *ti* from the name of Tjenty is also preserved. On the southern jamb is another figure of the seated tomb owner, probably also originally with a *mdw*-staff.

The chapel (W. 260 cm; L. 710 cm; H. 264 cm) contained three shafts (fig. 6, nos 1, 2, 4). The western wall was decorated with two rock-cut false doors containing two statue groups (fig. 8). The northern statue group (fig. 9a; H. tomb owner 73 cm, wife 67 cm, child 23 cm; W. max. by shoulders 42 cm.) presents the tomb owner with his wife and two children (the figures are partly destroyed). A small rock-cut cubic stairway (W. 46 cm; H. 78 cm) is in front of the tomb owner's figure, imitating the stairway placed in front of larger cult statues.

The southern statue group (fig. 9b; H. tomb owner 74 cm, wife H. 70 cm, W. max. by shoulders 42.5 cm) represents the tomb owner with his wife and small children (the figures are

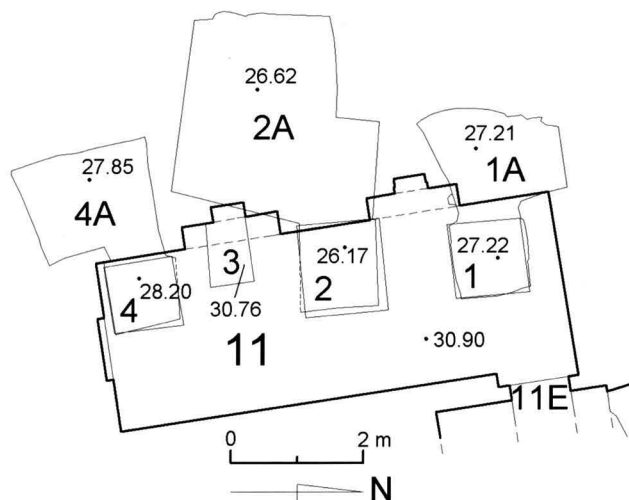


FIG. 6. Plan of Tomb 11 (Tjenty I; drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

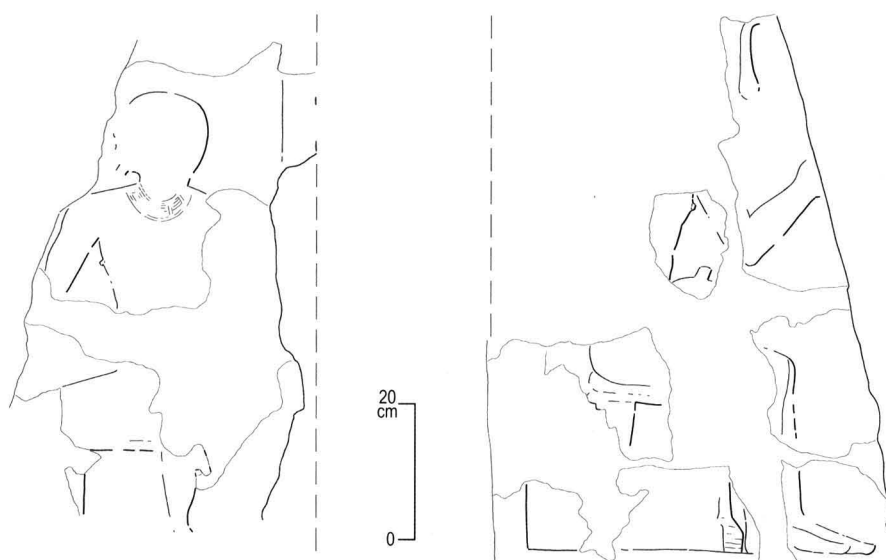


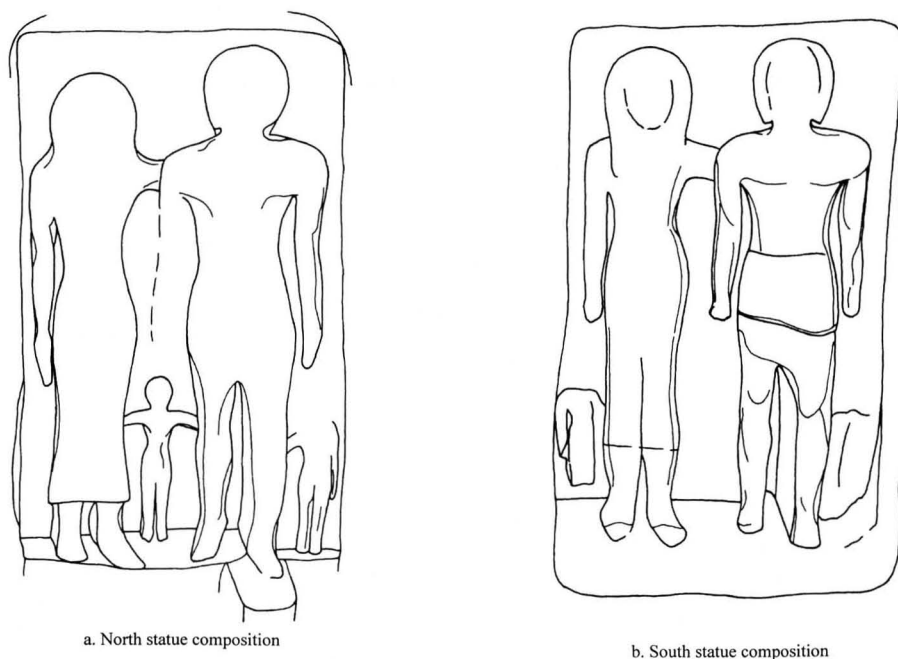
FIG. 7. Tomb 11. Reliefs on the door-jambs (drawn by M. A. Lebedev).

partly destroyed). The overall size of the niche is W. 52 cm, H. 76 cm. There is a rectangular depression (fig. 6, no. 3; 60 cm north–south × 97 cm west–east, 14 cm deep) in the floor in front of the southern statue group. It was probably intended to hold an offering table.

Running along the top of the western wall is the dedication formula in sunk relief (fig. 10). The first part was accurately done and cut deeply. The latter part gives an impression of being quickly done; the hieroglyphs are not so well, nor so deeply, cut as in the first part of the inscription. No traces of colour remain.



FIG. 8. Tomb 11. Western wall (photograph: S. E. Malykh).



a. North statue composition

b. South statue composition

FIG. 9. Tomb 11. Statue groups on the western wall (drawn by I. V. Rukavishnikova).

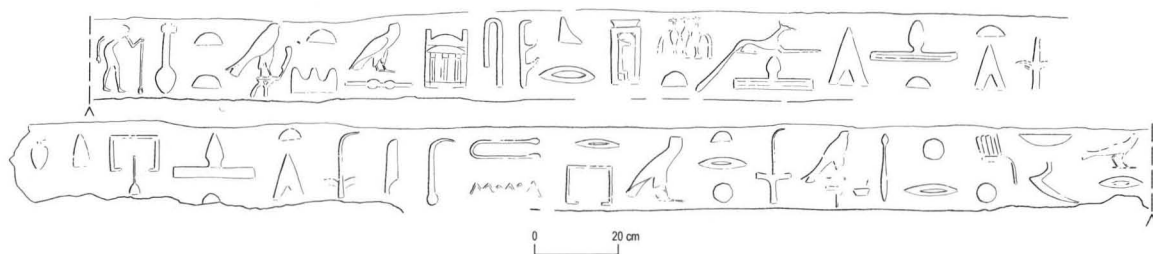


FIG. 10. Tomb 11. Inscription on the western wall (drawn by M.A. Lebedev).

The text runs:

*ḥtp di nswt ḥtp di Inpw ḥnt(y) zḥ ntr krs(t) m zmyt imntt isw nfr wr(t) nb imsh ḥr ntr ʿ3 rh  
nswt imy-r3 pr Tnti ḥtp di nswt prt-ḥrw t3 ḥnkt[...]*

An offering which the king gives, and an offering which Anubis,<sup>5</sup> foremost of the divine pavilion,<sup>6</sup> gives: a burial in the western desert, having become old very well.<sup>7</sup> The lord of reverence before<sup>8</sup> the great god, the acquaintance of the king, the steward Tjenty. An offering which the king gives: an invocation offering of bread and beer [...]

The paired phrases *ḥtp di nswt ḥtp di Inpw* are well paralleled in tombs of the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties, as is the writing of *nswt* with the *t* above the *di*.<sup>9</sup>

The clearance of the chapel revealed further partially destroyed reliefs on the eastern, northern, and southern walls. The southern wall was decorated with two false doors, separated by a closed door with horizontal beams in the centre of the whole composition (fig. 11). Similar closed doors with beams and pivots occur in the mastaba of Seshemnefer II at Giza.<sup>10</sup>



FIG. 11. Tomb 11. Southern wall (photograph: S. E. Malykh).

<sup>5</sup> The different opinions on the meaning of this formula are summarised in T. DuQuesne, *The Jackal Divinities of Egypt, I: From the Archaic Period to Dynasty X* (London, 2005), 183–91.

<sup>6</sup> For this epithet, see DuQuesne, *Jackal Divinities*, 144.

<sup>7</sup> For the inverted sign order, and the grammar of this phrase, see G. Lapp, *Die Opferformel des Alten Reiches unter Berücksichtigung einiger späterer Formen* (SDAIK 21; Mainz, 1986), 202–03 (§§ 341–3).

<sup>8</sup> For this meaning of *ḥr*, see J. P. Allen, 'Some Aspects of the Non-royal Afterlife in the Old Kingdom', in M. Barta (ed.), *The Old Kingdom Art and Archaeology: Proceedings of the Conference Held in Prague, May 31–June 4, 2004* (Prague, 2004), 16.

<sup>9</sup> DuQuesne, *Jackal Divinities*, 185–6.

<sup>10</sup> Junker, *Giza III*, 190–1 fig. 34.

The northern wall depicted two large-scale figures of the tomb owner with his wife (fig. 12). Of the wife's picture, only fragments of the hand, head, and hair have been preserved. Near her figure are traces of an inscription: *z3.f Wsr-Pth* 'his son Userptah'. This probably accompanied a figure of the child, now completely lost. The tomb owner is depicted wearing a panther skin, fixed at his left shoulder, with the *sh*m sceptre in his right hand and a *mdw* staff in his left. In front of them is the figure of a document presenter,<sup>11</sup> reading a list of offerings. Above and in front of the tomb owner are hieroglyphs, running in two directions: running right-left, *rh nswt wab(?) nsw[t] [T]nti* 'the acquaintance of the king, *wab*-priest of the king(?), Tjenty'. Another inscription running left-right reads: *z3.f Wsr-Pth* 'his son Userptah'.<sup>12</sup> On the upper register of this wall, a dwarf leads a bull toward the tomb owner.



FIG. 12. Tomb 11. Northern wall (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

The eastern wall of the tomb is partly destroyed: on its northern half (fig. 13) the tomb owner and his wife are portrayed. Behind the wife is the hieroglyph *z3*, probably related a now lost child who would have been depicted underneath it. There are vestiges of an inscription running above the figures. In front of them are traces of a figure with hand on breast, a gesture of respect.

The southern half of the eastern wall is very badly damaged, but it preserves minimal traces of figures sitting on a chair and facing in the opposite direction to the large-scale figures described above. They are receiving offerings placed on the table in front of them, while two funerary priests bring offerings towards the tomb owner and his wife. The upper register preserves traces of a boat and a body of water. The lowest register preserves a butchery scene, and traces of animals moving toward the tomb owner and his wife. This arrangement, with two sets of seated figures facing in different directions on the same wall, may suggest that this tomb was destined not only for Tjenty and his wife, but also for his son (probably the eldest one) and his family. The two *htp di nswt* formulae on the west wall, the second of which was poorly executed and probably never completed, also support this interpretation.

In the chapel of Tomb 11, four complete votive plates were found (clay fabric OK1;<sup>13</sup> fig. 14.2-4) and 20 diagnostic fragments of pottery. They include 7 fragments of beer jars (fabric

<sup>11</sup> For a comprehensive treatment of this subject, see P. Der Manuelian, 'Presenting the Scroll: Papyrus Documents in Tomb Scenes of the Old Kingdom', in P. Der Manuelian (ed.), *Studies in Honour of William Kelly Simpson* (Boston, 1996), II, 561-88.

<sup>12</sup> Ranke, *PN*, I, 139.7. The placing of the *w* after the three-consonant *wsr* sign is paralleled in the writing of the name of Hotep-user: H. Junker, *Giza*, IX: *Das Mittelfeld des Westfriedhofs* (Vienna, 1950), 215-16.

<sup>13</sup> For a list of clay fabrics found, see the appendix.



FIG. 13. Tomb 11. Northern part of the eastern wall (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

OK2b) of the Fourth and Sixth Dynasties,<sup>14</sup> and 3 fragments of Old Kingdom votive jars (fabric OK1; fig. 14.1).<sup>15</sup> Another 10 fragments came from vessels of the Roman and Byzantine periods: Egloff's amphora 172<sup>16</sup> (fabric PRBA2; fig. 14.5); a vase (fabric PRBA5; fig. 14.6); an Egyptian bowl<sup>17</sup> imitating *sigillata* ware<sup>18</sup> (fabric PRBA1a; fig. 14.7). The pottery from the debris inside and outside the funerary chapel of Tomb 11 thus dates to the Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Dynasties, with later periods (Roman, Byzantine and early Arabic) also being

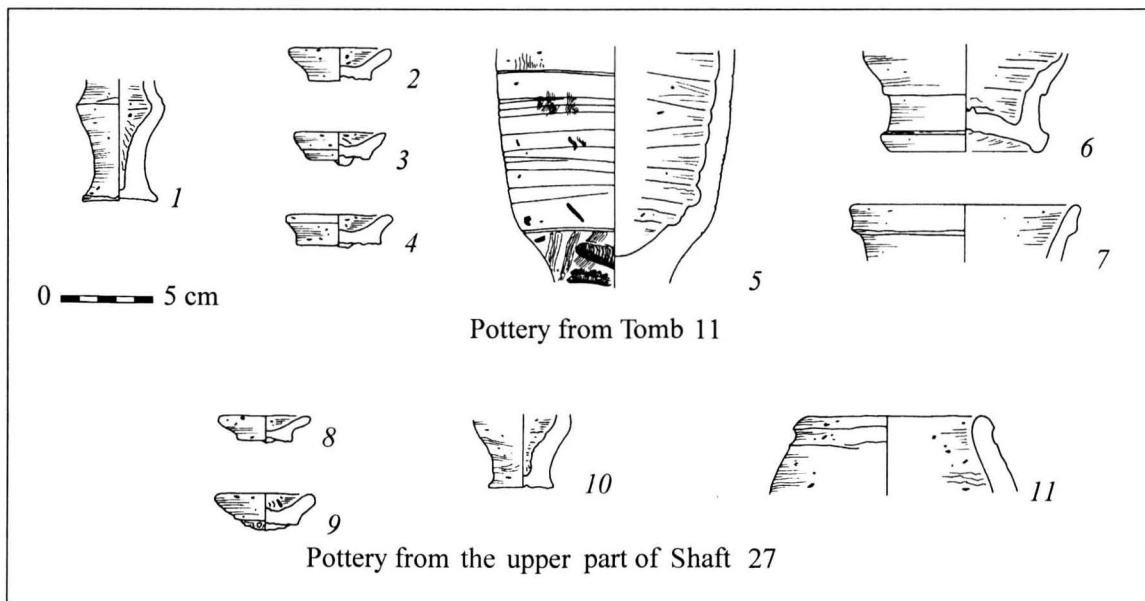


FIG. 14. Tomb 11 and Shaft 27. Pottery (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

<sup>14</sup> D. Faltings, *Die Keramik der Lebensmittelproduktion im Alten Reich: Ikonographie und Archäologie eines Gebrauchsartikels* (SAGA 14; Heidelberg, 1998), 221–2, figs 16b, 16g.

<sup>15</sup> S. Marchand and M. Baud, 'La céramique miniature d'Abou Rawash: Un dépôt à l'entrée des enclos orientaux', *BIFAO* 96 (1996), 269–70, 274, 283.

<sup>16</sup> M. Egloff, *Kellia: La poterie copte. Quatre siècles d'artisanat et d'échanges en Basse-Égypte. Recherches suisses d'archéologie copte*, III (Geneva, 1977), 114 (fifth century AD).

<sup>17</sup> D. M. Bailey, 'The Pottery from the South Church at El-Ashmunein', *CCE* 4 (1996), 61, fig. 8 (22).

<sup>18</sup> For *sigillata*, or *terra sigillata*, see Malykh, in Kormysheva (ed.), *Cultural Heritage of Egypt IV*, 45–50.

represented. The Old Kingdom pottery consists of traditional funerary equipment (votive models, beer jars). The Roman, Byzantine, and early Arabic pottery consists of vessels for everyday use, suggesting that this area was visited or inhabited in that period.

The three shafts with burial chambers of Tomb 11 were also cleared (fig. 6). Shaft 4 measured  $103 \times 103$  cm and is 270–290 cm in depth. From the shaft, an entrance (W. 75–78 cm, thickness 11–14 cm) led to the burial chamber (W. 84 cm, H. 75 cm). The threshold of the burial chamber was covered by a broken stone plate. The burial chamber (no. 4A) was of irregular rectangular form (190 cm north–south, 150 cm west–east), cut to the west of the shaft, and oriented north–south. Including the emplacement for the sarcophagus, the chamber was 130 cm high, and without the sarcophagus emplacement its height was 100 cm.

Along the western wall of the chamber, a rectangular sarcophagus was cut in the bedrock of the floor ( $185 \text{ cm} \times 55 \text{ cm}$  narrowing to 48 cm).<sup>19</sup> Three of the walls of the sarcophagus were carved out so that they stand separately from the surrounding floor of the chamber, i.e. there are distinct rock-cut ‘walls’ around the sarcophagus, rather than it comprising merely a rectangular pit cut into the chamber floor. The thickness of these sarcophagus walls is 15 cm (on the west), 7 cm (on the north), and 19 cm (on the east). The southern end of the sarcophagus, by contrast, does not have a distinct wall, instead being flush with the tomb chamber wall.

Four shafts were cut (fig. 5, nos 25, 26, 27, and 28) into the remains of the rock outer eastern and southern walls of the chapel of Tomb 11. This suggests that these walls, together with most of Tomb 9 (which would have largely overlain Tomb 11), were destroyed already in antiquity, probably as the result of a natural collapse. This permitted the cutting of extra funeral shafts in the damaged areas where the walls of Tomb 11 had been.

In the upper part of the debris from Shaft 27, a fragment of an adult upper human jaw was found. There were also 2 complete vessels, and 7 fragments of pottery of different periods: 6 of them represent votive pottery from the Old Kingdom (fabric OK1; fig. 14.8–10); two are fragments of beer jars of the Fifth Dynasty<sup>20</sup> (fabric OK2b) (fig. 14.11); one is a fragment of the type ‘Late Roman amphora 7’ (fabric PRBA3), typical of the Byzantine and Early Arabic periods (end of fourth–eighth centuries AD).<sup>21</sup>

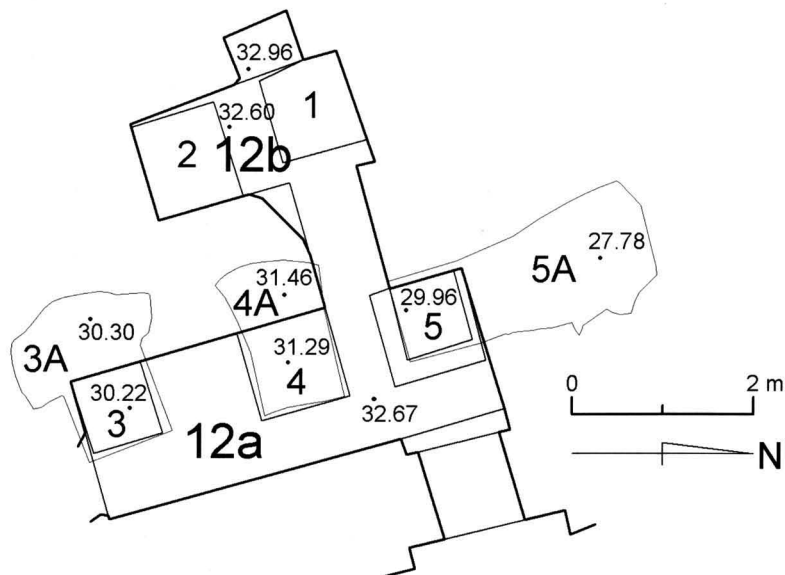


FIG. 15. Tomb 12. Plan (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

<sup>19</sup> This is reminiscent of mastaba G 3008 (Fisher, *Minor Cemetery*, 82–6, pl. xxxvi), which was, however, never completed (*ibid.*, 84 A).

<sup>20</sup> Faltings, *Keramik der Lebensmittelproduktion im Alten Reich*, 221–2, figs 16e, 16f.

<sup>21</sup> P. Ballet, F. Mahmoud, M. Vichy, and M. Picon, ‘Artisanat de la céramique dans l’Égypte romaine tardive et byzantine: Prospections d’ateliers de potiers de Minia à Assouan’, *CCE* 2 (1991), 136–7.



**Rock-cut tomb of Tjenty II (no. 12=LG77)<sup>22</sup>**

This tomb is situated in the northern part of the excavated area, on the same level as Tomb 11, and 10 m to the north of it (figs 2 and 5). The tomb was noted by Lepsius, but he recorded only part of the inscribed entrance (excluding the northern door jamb), as well as inscriptions from the architraves and drums.

The tomb has two rooms (fig. 15), oriented north–south. The entrance (W. 90.5 cm; H. 170 cm) was marked by cut stone rectangular blocks, and by an inscribed drum (90.5 × 35 cm; fig. 17b). The lintel (L. 176 cm; H. 18.5 cm) was uninscribed. The thickness of the door jambs was 102.5 cm.

The inscription on the southern jamb of the entrance was cut in sunk relief (fig. 16). The inscription begins with three horizontal lines, continuing below in two vertical columns:

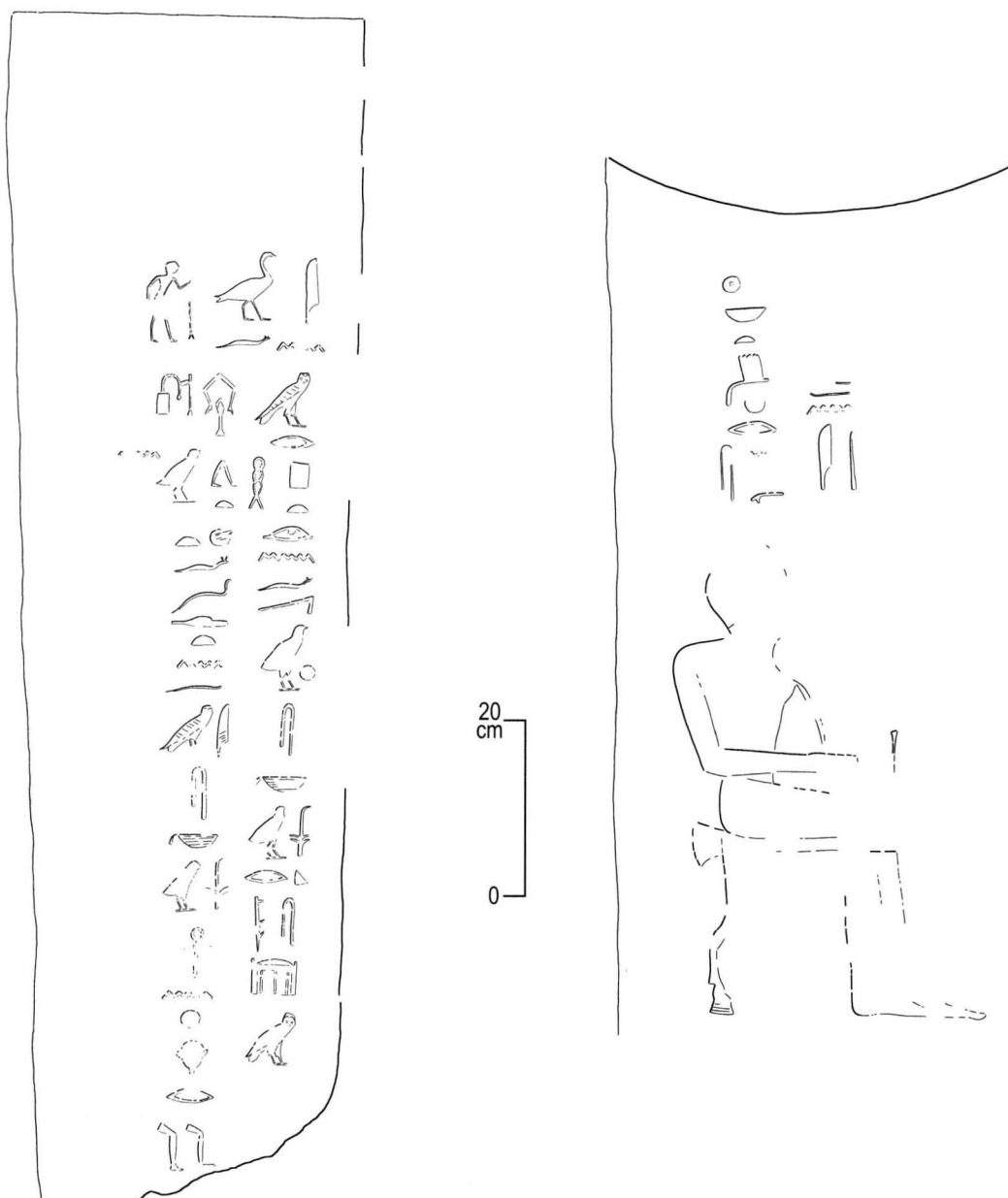


FIG. 16. Tomb 12. Reliefs on the entrance (drawn by M. A. Lebedev).

<sup>22</sup> Mentioned in Mariette, *Les mastabas de l'Ancien Empire*, 538; LD I, 26; LD Textband I, 95 (LG 77), and LD II, pl. 34d, e; G. A. Reisner, *History of the Giza Necropolis* (Cambridge, 1942), I, 237–8, fig. 143; according to PM III<sup>2</sup>/1, 212, it dates to the Fifth–Sixth Dynasties.

*in z3.f smsw imy-r3 hm(w)-k3 zš Pth-ḫwt-n(.j)(?) ir n.f nw sk sw<sup>23</sup> krs m [Imntt nfrt]<sup>24</sup> ḫft ddt.n.f im sk sw ḥḥ hr rd.wy[.fy]*

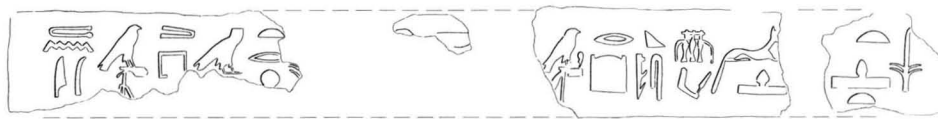
It was his eldest son, the overseer of the funerary priests, the scribe Ptahiutni, who made this for him,<sup>25</sup> when he was buried in [the beautiful West], according to what he said thereon, while he was alive on [his] two feet.<sup>26</sup>

Comparison with similar inscriptions suggests that this refers to some kind of posthumous wish which had been expressed during the life span of the tomb owner. This then had to be fulfilled by his elder son.

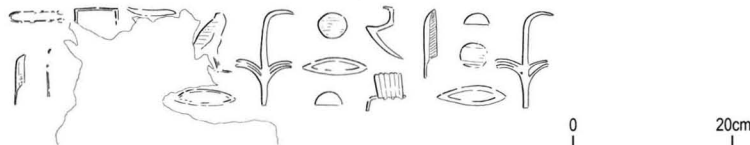
On the northern door jamb of the tomb entrance is a picture of a seated man, with the following inscription above him (fig. 16b):

[...] *r nbt imšh hr h3i.s Tnti*

[...] day, the mistress of reverence before her husband<sup>27</sup> Tjenty.



a. Architrave in Room 12a



b. Drum in Room 12a



c. Drum in Room 12b

FIG. 17. Tomb 12. Reliefs in Rooms 12a and 12b (drawn by M. A. Lebedev).

<sup>23</sup> For *sk sw*, see E. Edel, *Altägyptische Grammatik*, II (Rome, 1964), 428 (§853); 445 (§878).

<sup>24</sup> This part of the inscription, now destroyed, was recorded in A. Mariette, *Les mastabas de l'Ancien Empire*, 538, and LD II, 34d. It may be compared with the expressions *sk sw ḥp n k3.f* 'als er zu seinem Ka gegangen (d.i. begraben) war', and *st sw m Imntt* 'als er in der Necropole bestattet war' (Junker, *Giza* II, 46).

<sup>25</sup> For similarly worded examples, see Junker, *Giza* III, 161–2; id., *Giza* VI, 99, 110, (Kahif, Fifth Dynasty); for *ir nw*, see Junker, *Giza* I, 223; for the analogous phrase *ir n.f nw ḫft imšh.f hr.f*, see M. G. Fraser, 'The Early Tombs at Tehneh', *ASAE* 3 (1902), 123.

<sup>26</sup> On the expression *sk sw ḥḥ hr rdwy fy* 'als er auf seinen Füßen lebte', see H. Goedicke, *Die privaten Rechtinschriften aus dem Alten Reich* (Vienna, 1970), 196, also pl. xiv.133 and 131 (Nikaankh, end of Fifth Dynasty, tomb in Tehneh), and 21–2, pl. iii (Nikaure, Giza, end of Fifth Dynasty). See also S. Hassan, *Excavations at Giza 1930–1931* (Cairo, 1936), 190, pl. lxxv (mastaba of Wep-em-nesfert, Fifth Dynasty: 'made in his own presence, while living on his feet'). For further analogous phrases, see A. Barsanti, 'Rapport sur la fouille de Dahchour', *ASAE* 3 (1902), 202–03; J. H. Breasted, *Ancient Records of Egypt* (Chicago, 1906), I/1, §§200–1 (fragmentary monument of unknown official); *ibid.*, I, 105, §224; *Urk.* I, 11–15; G. Maspero, 'De certains tableaux qui décorent la tombe de Noukankhou', *ASAE* 3 (1902), 136 (on the hereditary office); A. el-Khouli and N. Kanawati, *Excavations at Saqqara: North-West of Teti's Pyramid*, II (Sydney, 1988), 15, pl. 6 (tomb of Mehi at Saqqara, on the construction of the tomb during the life of its owner); S. Hassan, *The Mastaba of Neb-Kaw-Ḥer* (Cairo, 1975), 39–40, fig. 17; H. Fischer, *The Orientation of Hieroglyphs* (New York, 1977), 54–5, fig. 17.

<sup>27</sup> For this title, see D. Jones, *An Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles, Epithets and Phrases of the Old Kingdom* (BAR IS 866; Oxford, 2000), I, 482 (1802); D. Silverman, 'The Priestess of Hathor, ḥḥ-Ḥwt-Ḥr', *ZÄS* 110 (1983), 80–9.

The first room of Tomb 12 is an L-shaped chapel (Room 12a; fig. 15),<sup>28</sup> whose western wall (L. 86 cm; W. 458 cm; H. 197 cm) is decorated with four sets of false doors. Between the third and fourth false door is the doorway to Room 12b (L. 138 cm; W. 74 cm; H. 178 cm). Above the doorway is an inscribed architrave (fig. 17a):

*h̄tp [di] nswt h̄tp [di] Inpw h̄nt(y) dsrt k̄rs imn[t... ...] rh̄ nswt imy-[r3] gs-pr h̄rt(yw)-n̄tr  
T̄nti*

An offering which the king gives, and an offering which Anubis, foremost of the Secluded Land,<sup>29</sup> gives: a burial of the West [... ...], the acquaintance of the king, overseer of the workplace of the necropolis workers,<sup>30</sup> Tjenty.

The drum (L. 90.5 cm; W. 35 cm) inscribed in sunk relief over the entrance to Room 12a (fig. 17b):

*rh̄ nswt imsh̄(w) hr̄ nswt imy-r3 [gs]-pr [...] T̄nti*

Acquaintance of the king, the revered one before the king, the overseer of the workplace<sup>31</sup> [...], Tjenty.

Another inscription occurs on the drum (32 × 74 cm) over the entrance to Room 12b (fig. 17c):

*rh̄ nswt h̄k̄s Imntt(?) h̄ry s̄š̄t̄s w̄bt nswt T̄nti*

Acquaintance of the king, ruler of the West(?), master of secrets of the king's workshop,<sup>32</sup> Tjenty.

Parallels for *rh̄ nswt* and *h̄k̄s Imntt* are attested in the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties.<sup>33</sup>

Three shafts were discovered in Room 12a (fig. 15, nos 3–5), running in a row from south to north: Shaft 3 (80 × 83 cm); Shaft 4 (100 × 102 cm); Shaft 5 (105 × 106 cm at the very top of the shaft, but then narrowing to 82 × 75 cm, forming a kind of ledge). This arrangement suggests that Shaft 5 was originally provided with a stone lid, which would have fitted into the 105 × 106 cm space and closed the 82 × 75 cm shaft below. Analogous structural elements (i.e. traces of ledges within shafts, possibly for a shaft-lid) are known from the tomb of Khafraankh (G 7948).<sup>34</sup>

Room 12b (L. 113 cm; W. 253 cm; H. 189 cm) contained two shafts (fig. 15, nos 1–2), Shaft 1 on the north-west (100 cm north–south × 93 cm west–east), and Shaft 2 on the south-west (95 cm north–south × 102 cm west–east).

A mud brick fireplace, preserved in parts up to four courses, was discovered on the floor of Room 12a (fig. 18), demonstrating that the tomb was inhabited in later times. The actual oven was probably in its northern part. In the southerly part of the fireplace, a pit was cut down 34 cm into the rock beneath the mud brick. The mud bricks could be divided into three groups according to size:

1. (L.) 40/38 × (W.) 22/20/19 × (Thickness) 14/16 cm;
2. (L.) 33/32 × (W.) 19/18 × (Thickness) 12 cm;
3. (L.) 23 × (W.) 15 × (Thickness) 8 cm (only two examples).

<sup>28</sup> Reisner, *Giza Necropolis*, I, 237.

<sup>29</sup> See DuQuesne, *Jackal Divinities*, 154–5.

<sup>30</sup> For *imy-r3 gs-pr h̄rt(yw)-n̄tr*, see Jones, *Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles*, I, 270 (974): 'Overseer of a troop-house of stoncutters/necropolis workers'; H. G. Fisher, 'An Old Kingdom Monogram', *ZÄS* 93 (1966), 66. For *gs-pr*, see also B. Gunn, 'Inscriptions from the Step Pyramid Site, IV: Inscriptions of the Funerary Apartment', *ASAE* 35 (1935), 63, pls i–ii; J. C. Moreno García, 'Administration territoriale et organisation de l'espace en Egypte au troisième millénaire avant J.-C. V: *gs-pr*', *ZÄS* 126 (1999), 126.

<sup>31</sup> For *imy-r3 gs-pr*, see Jones, *Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles*, I, 269 (969).

<sup>32</sup> For *h̄ry s̄š̄t̄s w̄bt nswt*, see Jones, *Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles*, II, 612 (2246).

<sup>33</sup> P. Kaplony, 'Die Siegelabdrücke', in H. Rieke (ed.), *Das Sonnenheiligtum des Königs Userkaf*, II (BÄBA 8; Cairo, 1969), 91 n. 20, and 10 (round stamp); K. Baer, *Rank and Title in the Old Kingdom: The Structure of the Egyptian Administration in the Fifth and Sixth Dynasties* (Chicago, 1960), 57 (41); H. Junker, *Giza IX*, 172, fig. 78 (*In-k̄s.f*, Sixth Dynasty).

<sup>34</sup> Material discovered by the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza, unpublished.

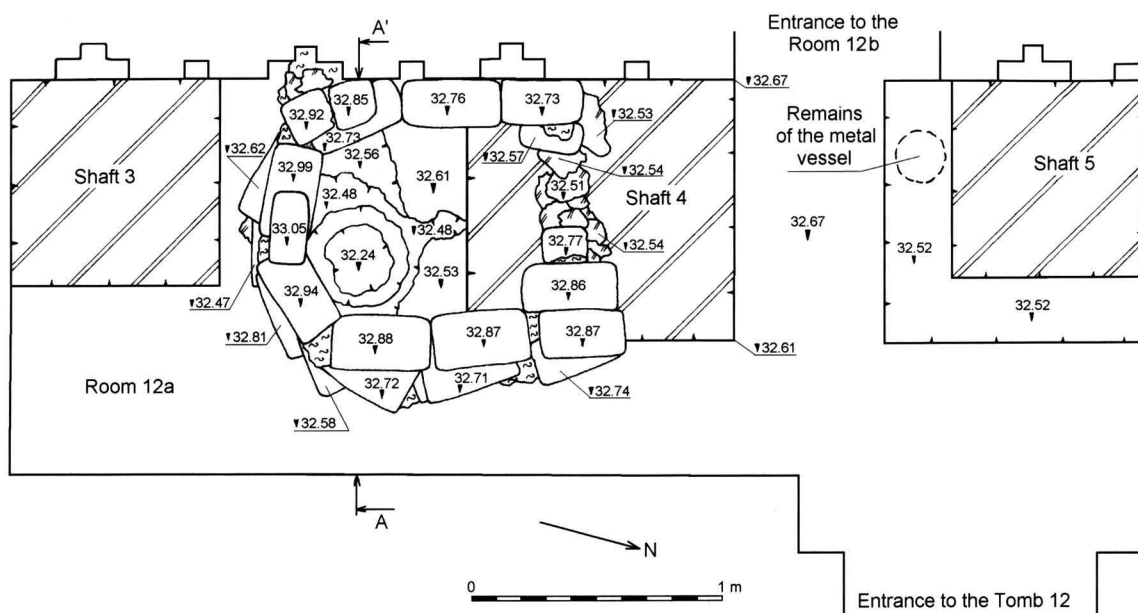


FIG.18. Tomb 12. Plan of the fireplace in the Room 12a (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

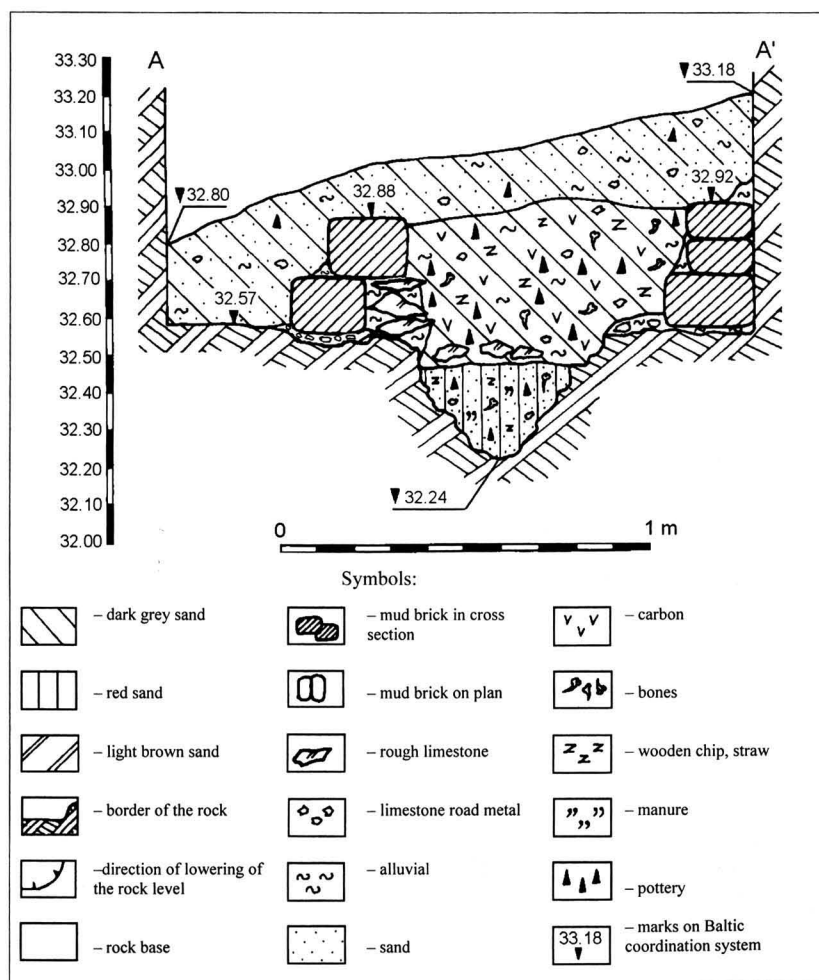


FIG.19. Tomb 12. Stratigraphy of the fireplace, section A-A' (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

This spread of sizes suggests that the fireplace was made from mud bricks taken from the Old Kingdom funerary structures nearby.

Stratigraphically (fig. 19), two layers are distinguishable in the fill of the fireplace. The upper layer consisted of dark-grey sand with inclusions of limestone, calcined animal bones, carbon, straw, wooden chips, and large amounts of pottery fragments. Underneath this, in the hole cut into the rock, was a layer of red sand (max. thickness 25 cm) with inclusions of small limestone pieces, small calcined animal bones, manure, straw, and pottery fragments. The presence of distinct stratigraphic layers in the fill from the fireplace complex, which are distinct from the unstratified fill of the rest of Room 12a, demonstrates that the fireplace fill presents a closed archaeological context.

A total of 162 diagnostic samples were discovered in the fireplace fill (141 from the upper level, 21 from the lower level). 27 fragments found in the upper layer belonged to two big pottery braziers (fabric PRBA8); it was possible for one of these to be completely restored (fig. 20.4). This pottery brazier was made as an irregular oval, 81 × 88.5 cm, with a thickness of 2.9–3.5 cm at the centre, and 4.6–5.8 cm at the rim. The brazier was hand made from rough alluvial clay, with many plant and mineral inclusions. A thick layer of soot attests its long term daily use.

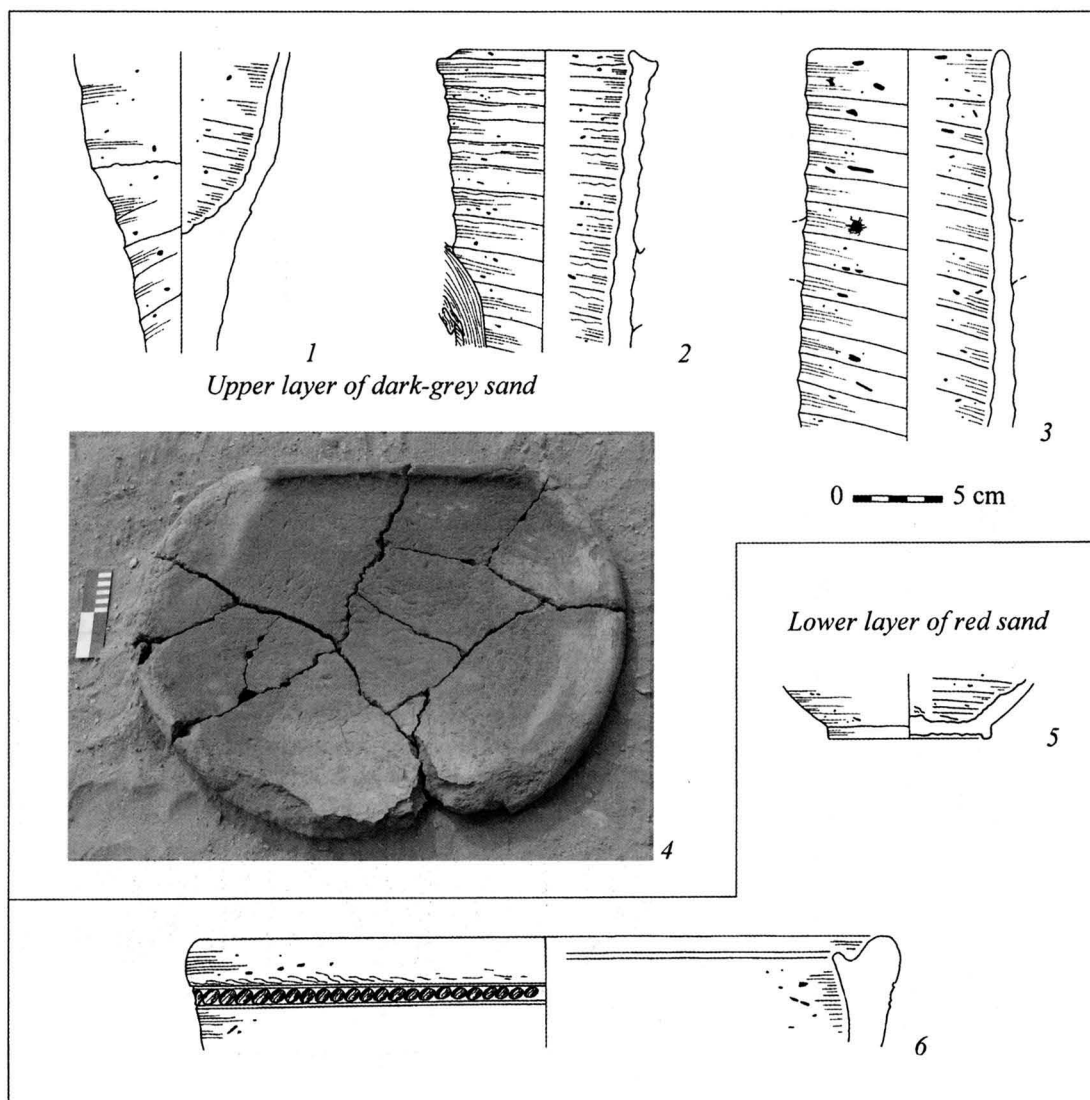


FIG.20. Tomb 12. Pottery from the fireplace (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

In the upper layer, there were found 7 fragments of Egyptian amphora type AE 3 (fabric PRBA9) of the Roman period (first–fourth centuries AD;<sup>35</sup> fig. 20.2), and 107 fragments of late Roman amphora type 7 (fabrics PRBA2, PRBA3, PRBA6; figs 20.1 and 20.3).<sup>36</sup> The majority of these amphorae were wheel made from fine alluvial clay of brown color with a small quantity of mica, limestone, and plant inclusions (fabric PRBA2). Some examples from Giza were made from clays of two types: the upper parts of the amphorae were formed from clay PRBA2, but the bottoms were formed from a more coarse and porous clay with more inclusions (PRBA3). All the fragments have traces of resin on the internal surface, as often with amphorae.<sup>37</sup>

In the lower layer of the fireplace, 21 pottery fragments were discovered: 13 fragments belonged to the type ‘Late Roman amphorae 7’, three fragments came from braziers, 4 fragments came from jars (fabric PRBA5; fig. 20.5), and one fragment belonged to a large bowl (fabric PRBA4; fig. 20.6).

The ceiling of Tomb 12 was thickly covered in soot. The walls were coated with mud plaster, so that the false doors in Room 12a were not visible at the start of the excavation. One layer of mud on the floor was denser than the other debris, and gave the impression of having been trampled down over the course of many years. The soot, the mud plaster, and the oven testify to the use of Tomb 12 as a domestic dwelling. The ceramic material dates this phase to the late Roman/Byzantine or early Arabic periods (the end of the fourth to the eighth centuries AD).

The fill from the chapel of Tomb 12 was from different periods: in the north-west part of the chapel, above Shaft 5, badly corroded traces of an iron jar were found. Of the 24 pottery fragments found in the fill from the chapel, 6 fragments belong to Old Kingdom jars (including a bowl typical for the Sixth Dynasty,<sup>38</sup> fabric OK2a; fig. 21.1), one fragment comes from a Ptolemaic bottle (fabric PRBA1b; fig. 21.2),<sup>39</sup> and 17 fragments come from Late Roman amphora type 7 (fabric PRBA2).

To conclude, epigraphic and architectural features of the rock-cut tomb of Tjenty II permit a tentative approximate dating to the Fifth Dynasty.

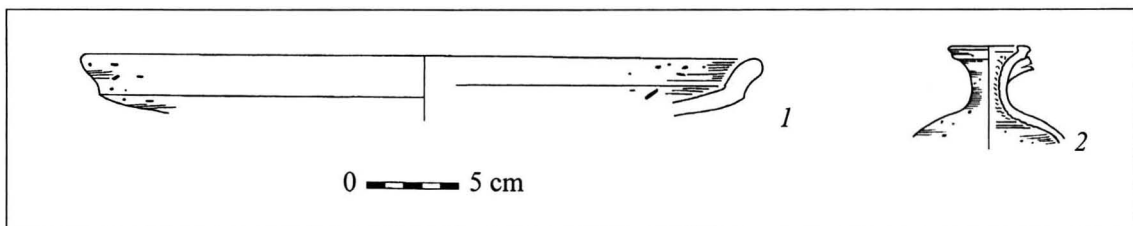


FIG. 21. Tomb 12. Pottery from the debris filling the chapel (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

<sup>35</sup> D. M. Bailey, ‘A Form of Amphores Égyptiennes 3 from the South-West Fayum’, in S. Marchand and A. Marangou (eds), *Cahiers de la céramique Égyptienne*, VIII: *Amphores d’Égypte de la Basse Époque à l’Époque Arabe* (Cairo, 2007), I, 234 and fig. 1.5.

<sup>36</sup> P. Ballet, F. Mahmoud, M. Vichy, and M. Picon, ‘Artisanat de la céramique dans l’Égypte romaine tardive et byzantine: Prospections d’ateliers de potiers de Minia à Assouan et de Kharga’, in P. Ballet (ed.), *Cahiers de la céramique Égyptienne*, II (Cairo, 1991), 136–7; S. Marchand and D. Dixneuf, ‘Amphores et conteneurs égyptiens et importes du VIIe siècle apr. J.-C.: Sondages récents de Baouit (2003–2004)’, *Cahiers de la céramique Égyptienne*, VIII (2007), I, 312–3 and fig. 10.12.

<sup>37</sup> See A. Lucas, *Ancient Egyptian Materials and Industries* (4th edn, revised and enlarged by J.R. Harris; London, 1962), 19.

<sup>38</sup> T. I. Rzeuska, *Saqqara, II: Pottery of the Late Old Kingdom. Funerary Pottery and Burial Customs* (Warsaw, 2006), 202, 404, pl. 80.

<sup>39</sup> For the form, see P. Ballet, F. Béguin, G. Lecuyot, and A. Schmitt, ‘De nouvelles techniques céramiques à Bouto’, in B. Mathieu, D. Meeks, and M. Wissa (eds), *L’apport de l’Égypte à l’histoire des techniques* (Cairo, 2006), 19, figs 13.5 and 13.6.

**Rock-cut tomb of Khufuhotep (no. 15 = LG 76)<sup>40</sup>**

Tomb 15 (figs 2 and 5) is situated immediately to the north of Tomb 12, being separated from it by only a narrow wall of rock. The tomb was noted by Lepsius, but he only partially recorded the inscriptions on the architrave over the entrance, and on the northern jamb of the doorway. The tomb's plan differs from those previously discussed. It has a corridor (W. 97 cm; L. 485 cm), oriented east/north-east to west/south-west, leading to two small rooms each with a shaft descending to a burial chamber (fig. 22). The overall length of the tomb is 820 cm.

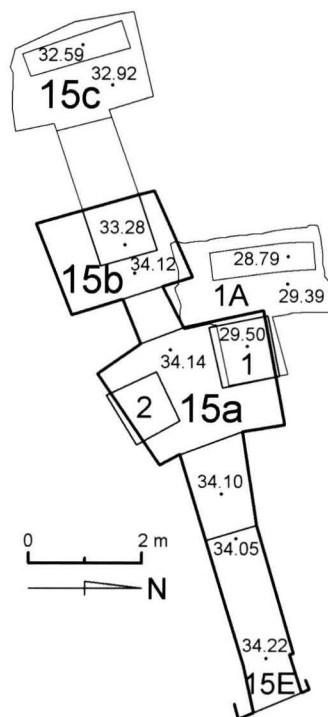


FIG. 22. Tomb 15. Plan (drawn by S. V. Vetokhov).

The entrance (W: 43 cm, H: 117 cm) has a lintel (L: 134 cm, W: 25 cm) with two lines of inscription. The missing first half of the first line of text is not due to destruction, but rather it appears that this section of the text was never in fact inscribed onto the stone. The text runs (fig. 23a):

[*h*tp di nswt htp di Inpw nb t3 dsr] krs.t(i).f m hrt-ntr izw nfr wrt hr ntr ʕ šd wʕb(w)  
 šd [...] imy-r3 kst nbt nt nswt Hwfw-htp

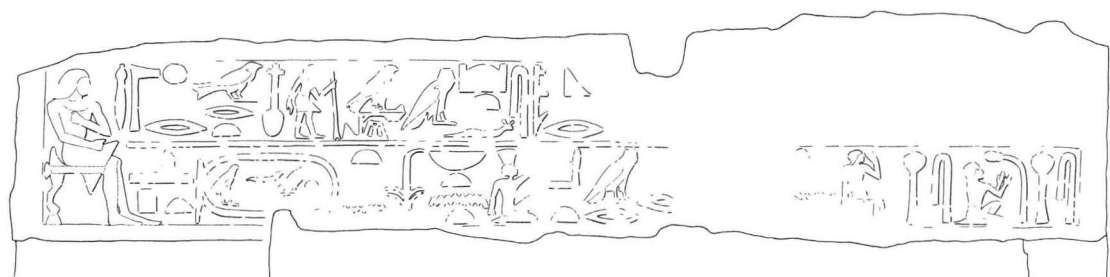
[An offering which the king gives, and an offering which Anubis, lord of the Secluded Land, gives:] may he be buried in the necropolis, having become old very well before the great god. The inspector of the *wab*-priests, inspector [...], overseer of all works of the king, Khufuhotep.

To the left of the ends of these lines, there is a representation of the tomb owner seated with his left hand clasped to his breast.

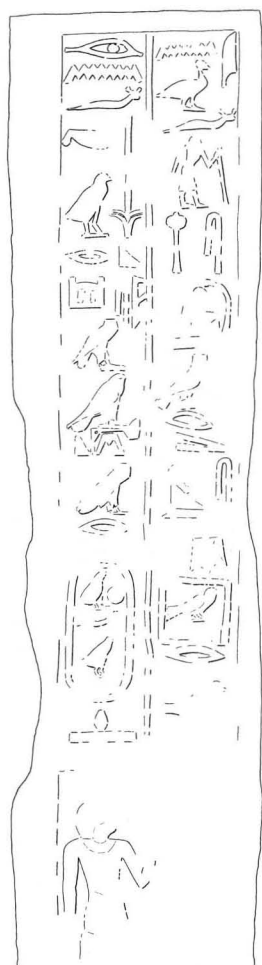
On the outer southern jamb of the door is another inscription (fig. 23b). The text runs:

in z3.f smsw šd wʕb(w) imy-r3 gs[...] hwt wrt  
 ir n.f sk szw krs m hrt-ntr imy-r3 [gs(?)] Hwfw-htp

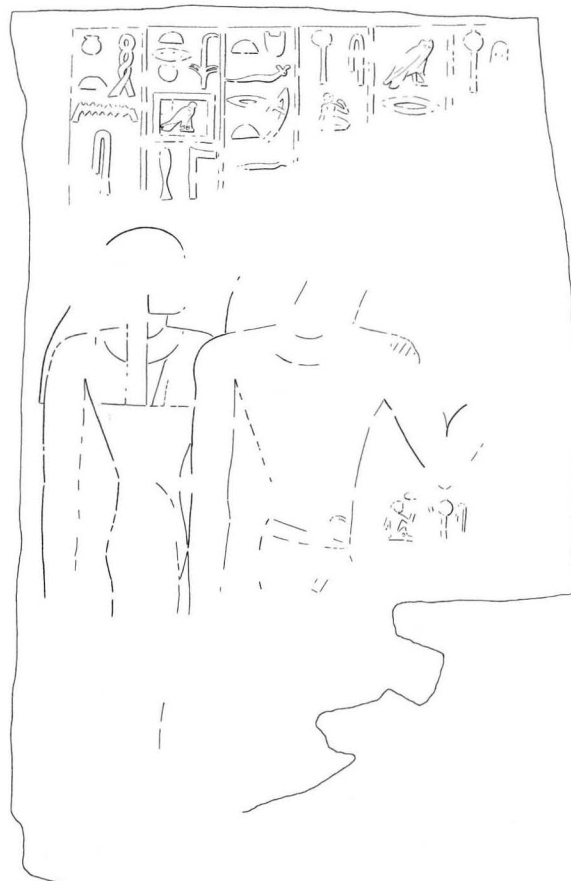
<sup>40</sup> Mentioned in LD Textband I, 94; Mariette, *Les mastabas de l'Ancien Empire*, 539.5; Reisner, *Giza Necropolis*, I, 234-5; PM III<sup>2</sup>/I, 212 dates it to the Fifth Dynasty.



a. Entrance architrave



b. Southern jamb



c. Northern jamb



FIG.23. Tomb 15. Reliefs (drawn by M. A. Lebedev).



It is his eldest son, inspector of the *wab*-priests, overseer of a gang<sup>41</sup> [...] the *hwt wrt*, who acted for him when he was buried in the necropolis, the overseer of [a gang?], Khufuhotep.

The terms *gs* and *gs pr* can be interchangeable.<sup>42</sup> Since title strings combining both *rh nswt imy-r3 gs* and *imy-r3 w<sup>c</sup>bt* are attested elsewhere,<sup>43</sup> it is possible that the *w<sup>c</sup>bt* was a part of the *gs pr*.<sup>44</sup> Beneath the inscription, a man was depicted holding a *mdw*-staff, but this is now lost, and preserved only in the Lepsius drawing.<sup>45</sup>

The northern jamb of the doorway (fig. 23c) depicts the tomb owner (wearing long graduated hair) and his wife. The tomb owner originally held a *mdw*-staff, which is now lost, but still visible on the Lepsius drawing.<sup>46</sup> His wife is represented in a long tripartite wig, embracing her husband's shoulder. Over the figures runs the following text in six columns:

*shd* [...] *imy-r3* [...] *shd w<sup>c</sup>b(w) hmt.f mryt.f rh(t) nswt hm(t)-ntr Hwt-hr Hnwtsn*

The inspector [...] the overseer [...], the inspector of *wab*-priests. His wife, beloved by him, the acquaintance of the king, the prophet of Hathor, Henutsen.

Under the hand of the tomb owner is the title:

*shd w<sup>c</sup>b(w)*

Inspector of *wab*-priests.

The entrance corridor of Tomb 15 leads to an offering room oriented north–south (Room 15a; W. 280 cm; L. 210 cm; H. 215 cm), containing two shafts, Shaft 1 (105 × 109 cm, depth 475 cm), and Shaft 2 (92 × 102 cm). On the western wall of Room 15a, near Shaft 1, a false door with uninscribed lintel was carved. A small shelf was also carved in this wall, with traces of soot on it attesting the everyday use of this room, probably in medieval or modern times.

A rectangular pit (178 × 50 cm, depth 60 cm), intended for burial, was cut into the floor of Shaft 1's burial chamber (Room 1A; 264 × 157 cm, H. 105 cm). In the southern part of the chamber, near the burial place, two complete limestone canopic jars with lids were found, as well as the fragments of another canopic jar (fig. 24). The forms are similar to canopic jars of late Fifth–Sixth Dynasties.<sup>47</sup>

A short corridor (L. 94 cm; W. 80 cm; H. 155 cm) leads from Room 15a to Room 15b (L. 153 cm; W. 231 cm; H. 165 cm). A sloping passage leads down from the western part of Room 15b to the burial chamber, Room 15c. On the opposite (eastern) side of Room 15b, two holes were cut, evidently connected with the transport of the sarcophagus. Similar holes occur in the tomb of Khafraankh<sup>48</sup> (G 7948, in the northern part, which was constructed later than Khafraankh's chapel).

The burial chamber (Room 15c; 163 cm × 260 cm) has a burial pit (W. max. 52 cm; L. 183 cm; depth 28 cm) cut into the bedrock. On the western side of the chamber, alongside the burial pit, is a shelf (W. 14 cm; H. 15 cm). The fill of this chamber was composed of large stones and grey sand. Fragments of bones belonging to two or three individuals were found, as well as pottery fragments. Two disarticulated fragments of child skulls of small size were revealed.

<sup>41</sup> Moreno García, *ZÄS* 126, 125, notes that officials with the title *imy-r3 gs-pr* were responsible for the vizier's office (*hwt wrt*).

<sup>42</sup> B. Grdseloff, 'Deux inscriptions juridiques de l'Ancien Empire', *ASAE* 42 (1943), 26 n. 2; Fisher, *ZÄS* 93, 66; Jones, *Index of Ancient Egyptian Titles*, I, 267 (no. 962).

<sup>43</sup> See, for example, the inscription in the tomb of Ankh: E. Drioton and J.-P. Lauer, 'Un groupe de Tombes à Saqqarah: Icheti, Nefer-Khouou-Ptah, Sébek-em-khent et Ânkhî', *ASAE* 55 (1958), 249–50.

<sup>44</sup> Moreno García, *ZÄS* 126, 125.

<sup>45</sup> *LD* Textband I, 94.

<sup>46</sup> *LD* II, pl. 34c.

<sup>47</sup> Junker, *Giza* VIII, 117, fig. 94, pl. xx (G 5560); Junker, *Giza* IX, 155, fig. 71 (S 2526).

<sup>48</sup> Material discovered by the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza, unpublished.

Among 78 diagnostic pottery pieces were fragments of Byzantine and early Arabic pottery, in particular a jar with filter at the neck<sup>49</sup> (fabric PRBA7; fig. 25.1). 18 fragments of pottery belonged to the Old Kingdom. They comprise beer jars (fabric OK2b) and bread moulds (fabric OK2b), with forms typical for the Sixth Dynasty.<sup>50</sup> A fragment of a small vase dated to the Ptolemaic period,<sup>51</sup> covered with red slip, fabric PRBA1b (fig. 25.2), was also found.

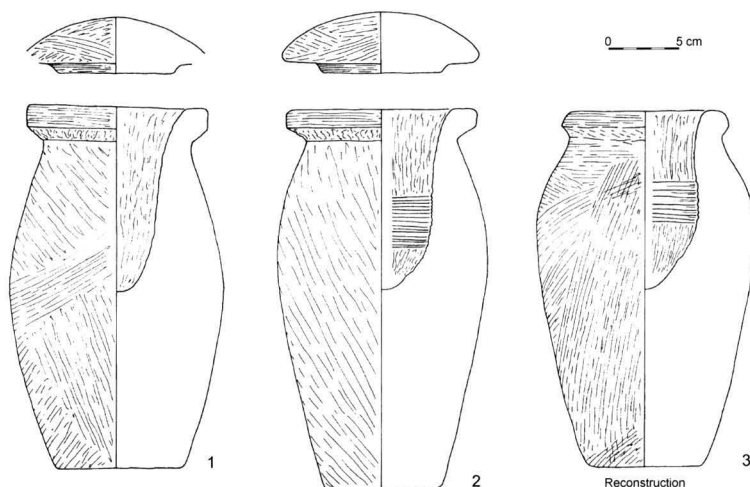


FIG.24. Tomb 15. Limestone canopic jars from burial chamber 1A (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

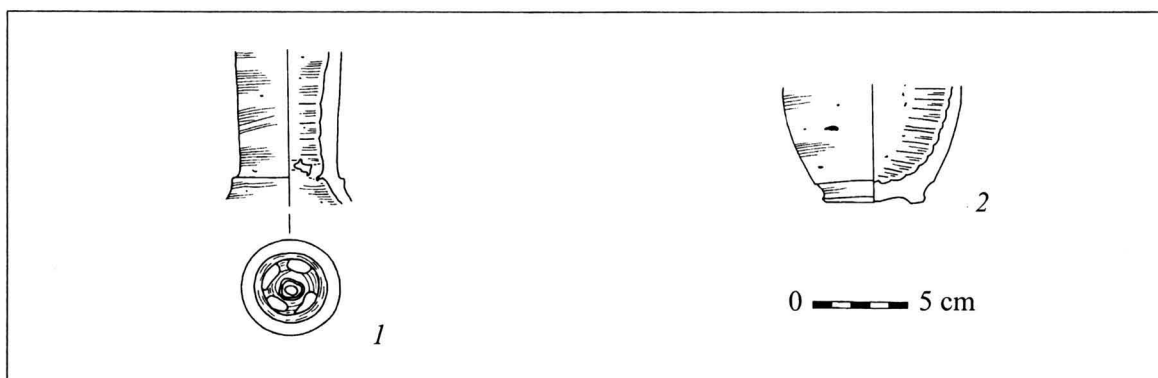


FIG.25. Tomb 15. Pottery from Room 15c (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

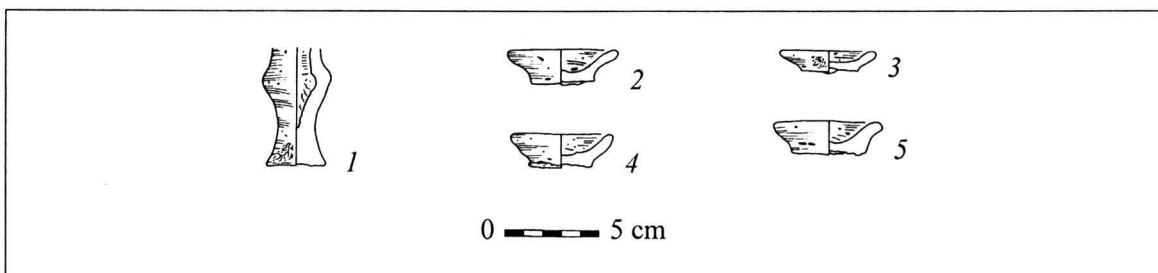


FIG.26. Tomb 17. Votive pottery (drawn by S. E. Malykh).

<sup>49</sup> G. Pierrat, 'Essai de classification de la céramique de Tôd de la fin du VII siècle au début du XIII siècle ap. J.-C.', in P. Ballet (ed.), *Cahiers de la céramique Égyptienne*, II (Cairo, 1991), 171, fig. 38-9.

<sup>50</sup> Rzeuska, *Saqqara* II, 382; H. Jacquet-Gordon, 'A Tentative Typology of Egyptian Bread Moulds', in Do. Arnold (ed.), *Studien zur altägyptischen Keramik* (Mainz am Rhein, 1981), 11-12, fig. 2.6.

<sup>51</sup> G. Pierrat-Bonnefois, 'La céramique dynastique et ptolémaïque des fouilles du Louvre à Tôd, 1989-1991', in S. Marchand (ed.), *Cahiers de la céramique Égyptienne*, VI (2000), 316, fig. 165.

### Rock-cut tombs 17 and 18 (uninscribed)

Two tombs are situated to the north of Tomb 11 (figs 2 and 5, nos 17 and 18). Tomb 17 was cut in an east–west direction into the rock and has an irregular rectangular form. Five shafts were revealed during clearance: Shaft 1 (135 × 130 cm), Shaft 2 (97 × 93 cm), Shaft 3 (100 × 100 cm), Shaft 5 (83 × 86 cm), and Shaft 6 (80 × 100 cm). Another, Shaft 4, was never completed.

On the south side of the entrance of Tomb 17, a small accumulation of Old Kingdom votive pottery was discovered: 4 plates and a fragmentary votive jar (fabric OK1; fig. 26.1–5). They were probably deposited here after use in funerary rites.

Tomb 18 is uninscribed, and has two shafts inside the small L-shaped chapel.

### Conclusions

The titles borne by the owners of these tombs suggest that those officials who were connected with the construction and maintenance of the necropolis could receive the privilege of burial in this area of the Giza necropolis.

The phraseology of the inscriptions, particularly ‘offerings which the king gives and offerings which Anubis gives’, and the wish ‘to be buried in the Necropolis having become old very well’, are typical for the Giza necropolis in the Fifth Dynasty. Less common is the inscription type found in Tomb 12 (Tjenty II), which apparently relates to the construction of the tomb by the elder son of the tomb owner. As discussed above, this kind of inscription is characteristic for the end of Fifth Dynasty, which suggests a dating for this part of necropolis in that period.

Pottery samples present a range typical for funerary equipment as well as for everyday use in the Old Kingdom. The later pottery includes samples of everyday wares from the Ptolemaic to Arabic Periods. The pottery finds illustrate a period of abandonment for this part of the necropolis after the Old Kingdom, perhaps followed by re-use for burials in the Late Period, a suggestion that is been supported by other material from the Russian Archaeological Mission at Giza. From the Ptolemaic Period onwards, the tombs came to be used as living quarters.

It seems possible that the layout of this area of the necropolis was planned in advance, being determined by considerations of the suitability of the rock (some layers of which were harder than others) for cutting L-shaped chapels and tombs oriented east–west. It is probable that a number of unfinished or unused rooms on the upper level of the rock in this sector are a result of poorer than expected rock being encountered.

The rapid filling out of the necropolis would have meant that over time every relatively empty space came to be used for new tombs for further burials. By the Fifth–Sixth Dynasties, a pre-planned Giza necropolis would have been largely full, and further inhumations would then have been made in every free space. Tomb 18 supports such an interpretation: it was practically squeezed between Tombs 12 and 17, which resulted in the partial destruction of the south wall of Chapel 12a, and the formation of a break on the entrance jamb of Tomb 17. It might be suggested that the ability to make use of such empty intervening spaces was conditioned by the rather short period during which most funerary cults continued to be practised, since in many cases they evidently ceased within the life span of one or two generations.

**Appendix: Clay fabrics in Giza for the ceramic material from Tombs 11–17***Old Kingdom*

- OK1: Alluvial medium-fine medium hard clay of brown, beige-brown, or red-brown colour, with a small quantity of fine and medium size mineral (quartz sand, mica, limestone) and organic inclusions, without slip (variant of Nile silt B2).
- OK2: Alluvial medium-coarse porous clay of red, brown, or red-brown colour, with a large quantity of fine and large mineral (quartz sand, mica, limestone) and organic inclusions (variant of Nile silt C): a) with red slip; b) without slip or smoothing.

*Ptolemaic, Roman, Byzantine, and Early Arabic Periods*

- PRBA1: Alluvial fine hard clay of red, brown, or red-brown colour, with a small quantity of fine mineral (quartz sand, mica) and organic inclusions: a) with red polished slip; b) with red slip.
- PRBA2: Alluvial medium-fine medium hard clay of brown or dark-brown colour, with a small quantity of fine and medium size mineral (mica, quartz sand, limestone, white stone) and middling quantity of organic inclusions, without slip.
- PRBA3: Alluvial medium-coarse moderately hard clay of brown or dark-brown colour, with large quantity of fine and large mineral (mica, quartz sand, limestone) and organic inclusions, without slip or smoothing.
- PRBA4: Alluvial medium-coarse porous clay of red-brown colour, with a large quantity of fine and large mineral (quartz sand, mica, limestone) and organic inclusions, without slip or smoothing.
- PRBA5: Marl fine hard clay of beige, greenish-beige, or light-grey colour, with a small quantity of fine mineral inclusions.
- PRBA6: Alluvial medium-fine very hard clay of dark red-brown colour, with a small quantity of fine and middling size mineral (limestone, black stone, quartz sand, mica) and organic inclusions, and with a small quantity of clinker inclusions, without slip.
- PRBA7: Marl fine hard clay of light yellowish-beige colour, with a small quantity of medium-fine mineral inclusions (brown stone), and a small quantity of medium size organic inclusions, without slip.
- PRBA8: Alluvial coarse porous clay of brown colour, with large quantity of large mineral (mica, limestone, quartz sand) and organic inclusions, without slip.
- PRBA9: Alluvial medium-fine very hard clay of brown colour, with a small quantity of fine and medium size mineral inclusions (mica, black and white stones), and a medium quantity of organic inclusions, without slip.