

Jan 20th (Cont). Wired Dr. Reisner on finding of stela. Wire received from him with congratulations and announcing his departure from Cairo for Jan 29th
Finished map of B 502.

Jan 21st Wednesday 81 locals.

38th Day of Work: -- (1) Work continued in large depression on pit in area B 503 EX 1.

Nothing special to report beyond the finding of one udat eye bead of good quality blue glazed wh. body faïence: -- [Drawing]

(2) Work continued clearing "N" part of B 501. Cleared the "east" end of a central curtain wall ("N" half) like the one in B 502, but better built and with decorative vertical mouldings on its northern face, with traces of white plaster. It was noted that this wall is closer to the central "EW" axis of the room than the innermost line of columns, and in about 3 meters of its length so far uncovered there is no sign of its having been built over the columns as in 502.

Present appearances point to an open space in the centre of the forecourt, without columns, and hence unroofed. The extreme "N" row of columns is complete as far as cleared (4 columns "W" from "E" end) but "S" therefrom there are no traces of columns beyond the second row out from "E" wall of the room. It is possible, however, that the columns existed and were recovered for the building of the Meroitic brick house walls. Clearing up the lower level will doubtless show whether or not this is the case.

I am inclined to the opinion that there was a double row of columns all around the 4 sides of the court, leaving the centre free. The position of the curtain wall above noted would seem to preclude the presence of the third row in from the "N" wall, certainly "W" of the 3rd row from "E" wall.

The granite stela was further exposed today, permitting of some measurements and further examinations. Extreme length 1.73 m., W. 0.97 Bottom to top of top line of text 1.34, average width of lines 2 ¾ cm. 51 one [sic] lines were counted, and possibly there are 1 or 2 more, not clear through setting [??] of the bottom edge. Text runs extreme width of stone. The bottom right hand corner is broken and missing. Though it may be found in neighboring debris or under the stone after it has been moved. The break extends from 64 cm. up the right side to 50 cm in from left bottom corner. A somewhat cursory inspection of the text leads me to believe that the inscription is historical in characters, from the occurrence of such words as "army", "chariots", "a great many", and a word meaning to "sail" or "travel by water". In first line of text the cartouche [Drawing: Hieroglyphs] seems clear, with the possible exception of the sign [Drawing: Hieroglyph].