

1919

667

Barkal VIII

(B 300

Jan. 22.)

[Drawing]

(built of stone) fine, white, good, hard. Now His Majesty found this temple built - - - - by the forefathers (?) in poor work, and His Majesty caused it to be built in excellent work of eternity, endowed with life etc.

This inscription has long puzzled me as there was no trace of previous work in the rock cut chamber. The expression "fine, white, good, hard stone" is a traditional one: [Drawing] actually means limestone in Egypt. The chambers are hollowed in the yellow-brown stone which forms this part of Gebel Barkal. (The "S" end is red). The cols. in 502 are of fine, red sandstone and all bear Tirhaqa's name. The older temple differed from the Tirhaqa Temple in quality of work. It is now clear that the older temple was a small stone temple (prob. Thothmes).

(3) B 500

Jan. 22.

In B 502 "W" have exposed doorway to

B 501.

It is very wide and

[Drawing]

apparently of late Meroitic masonry.

(4) B 503 EX "N"

Jan. 22.

In the area "N" of 503, struck another well, --circular, d. ca. 120-150 cm. Upper three meters filled with mud and sand in layers (washed in ?). -- Below and curious dirty sand, olive green in color. Work stopped here to clear this well.

(5) B 503 EX "S"

Jan. 22.

The enormous size of the cut in the gebel makes it very difficult to clear the pit. The pit is entirely filled with broken potsherds to the bottom. It appears never to have served any other purpose than as a dumping pit. The homogeneity of the debris is so continuous that I have resolved to continue the examination by a wide trench following the face of the cut in the gebel.