CHAPTER 7
THE HIEROGLYPHIC WALL PLASTER FROM CHAPEL 561
by
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7.1 Introduction
A large number of fragments of painted plaster were recovered from the Main Chapel (561) during the 1983 and 1984 seasons; similar fragments were also found in Peet’s overlying dumps. Some of them bear hieroglyphs or parts of hieroglyphs, and these were collected into a group for immediate study. It proved possible to join some of the fragments, but most remain isolated pieces from compositions of which the greater parts are irretrievably lost. Except for two pieces, which I shall discuss separately (section 7.4 below), all relate to two walls: the right and left walls of the inner room of the chapel which precedes the shrines (for plan see Figure 1.2; Figure 2.1 shows where the hieroglyphic fragments were found). The fragments from Peet’s dumps (R21, Q20, Q21 [966]) are probably from this room also.

The decorative scheme of the complete walls can be broadly reconstructed. At the top there ran a decorative frieze roughly 30 cms. high. Below this were columns of hieroglyphs and human figures, presumably part of a scene or scenes. At the bottom of the wall was plain white plaster to a height of about 80 cms. (cf. pp. 21-2 and Figure 2.3). Little of the figures remains. Pieces identified so far include a fragment with a head from the right wall (R19 [863]) and four fragments or groups of fragments from the left wall, two showing each a part of a male head (R20 [974]=Figure 2.4 top, [1079]), one with part of a female head (R20 [974]=Figure 2.4 middle) and one with part of a sistrum (R20 [1080]=Figure 2.4 bottom). A few more fragments from figures remain undrawn.

The fragments from the right-hand wall were recovered from within the inner room, while those from the left-hand wall were found both inside and outside the room, the majority of fragments bearing the bottom of the decorative frieze and tops of columns being found outside.

All the fragments from the walls of the inner room have a background of yellow paint. Column markers between columns of hieroglyphs are all drawn in red paint. The hieroglyphs were drawn first in red and then in black; the original red often shows as the black was not painted exactly over it. On the right-hand wall the hieroglyphs face left towards the sanctuary as does the head from which one fragment survives. On the opposite wall the hieroglyphs face right towards the sanctuary as do two of the fragmentary heads, the largest male head and the female one. The smaller male head faces left, but from its position when found, it should belong to the left- and not the right-hand wall.

In the following descriptions of the fragments of plaster I give measurements, where applicable, for (1) the surface area of painted plaster surviving on each fragment and the total area in groups consisting of more than one fragment; (2) the width of each full column taken between the inner edges of the column markers; (3) the width of the column markers; (4) the height and/or width of
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the hieroglyphs. While I have tried to be as accurate as possible, we are not
dealing with an engineering blue-print; the work is clearly drawn freehand with a
consequent lack of straight lines and with variations in the thickness of strokes.

Drawings of the fragments are reproduced in Figures 7.1-7.4, where they are
ordered, as far as space permits, according to the numbers allotted them in the
text. Further reference to the figure numbers will not be given below.

7.2. Fragments from the right-hand wall of the main chapel.

2.1. Group of four fragments joining horizontally (R19 [974]).

Surface area of fragment 1: 3247 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 2758 sq. mm.;
fragment 3: 2378 sq. mm.;
fragment 4: 2504 sq. mm.

Total surface area: 10887 sq. mm.

Width of column: 7.0 cm.

Width of left and right column markers: 1.2 cm.

Height of hieroglyphs: sn 3.45 cm; nfr 3.1 cm; šš 4.3 cm; papyrus roll 3.8 cm.

Width of r: 2.15 cm.

Three of the fragments show hieroglyphs but the fourth on the extreme right
has none. At the tops of all the pieces are traces of the bottom of the
decorative frieze which ran along the wall. The surviving hieroglyphs form the
tops of two columns which are divided by a column marker. The right side of
the right-hand column is also marked by a column marker which lies 7.0 cm.
from the marker to the left. There is apparently no trace of a marker to the
left of the first column, although the maximum width between the edge of the
left-hand fragment and the left marker is over 7.0 cm. There is an unexplained
trace of red paint towards the left edge of this fragment but it does not fit the
shape of a column marker.

The hieroglyphs in the first column form the group snnfr followed by a
curiously written man determinative, of which the bottom portion is lost, placed
to the right of the column against the column marker. To its left is an area of
black paint, with a narrow stroke of red rising from it, which is difficult to
interpret as a hieroglyph, not least because the group, writing the name
Sennufer, seems to be complete as it stands. The continuation of the yellow
beyond this black patch precludes it from having been the top of the head of the
figure to which the inscription refers.

It is noticeable that the hieroglyphs on these fragments are less competently
formed than those on the fragments from the opposite wall: sn is short for its
place in the group, perhaps to avoid the puzzling black area below; r overlaps
the column marker.

The top of the second column contains one group 𓇋 šš. Although it would be
tempting to see this as a title "scribe", šš with this meaning is usually
determined by a seated man or, especially in titles, left without a determinative;
the papyrus roll is normally used with the meanings "to write", "writing", etc.
(ḫb 3: 475-481). In any case, even if šš were a title, it would not relate to snnfr,
since it follows rather than precedes the name, although it could possibly be part of a filiation formula: *sunfr* [*s|fr’n ...] sš [ ...(?骖]. In the preceding column, now lost, there would probably have been a title or titles and/or a kinship term identifying Sennufer, the whole almost certainly referring to a figure of Sennufer below.

2.2. Single fragment (R19 [863]).
Surface area: 1003 sq. mm.
Width of column markers: 1.0 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker and traces of the left-hand ends of two horizontal flat signs to the right. The latter are somewhat damaged but are probably part of *tawy* "the two lands".

7.3. Fragments from the left-hand wall of the chapel.

3.1. Fragments showing decorative frieze, hieroglyphs and column markers.

3.1. Group of four fragments (R20 [1079, 1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 2299 sq. mm;
fragment 2: 10413 sq. mm;
fragment 3: 1117 sq. mm;
fragment 4: 6561 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 20390 sq. mm.
Width of right column: 5.9 cm.
Width of left column: 6.4 cm.
Width of left and right column markers: 0.6 cm.
Width of central column marker: 0.7 cm.
Height of hieroglyphs: h₃ 5.0 cm.; šsp 4.1 cm.; k 2.3 cm.
Width of base of hieroglyphs: k 2.6 cm.; šsp 5.9 cm.

The group shows a portion of the decorative frieze and the tops of two columns in the centre with the tops of two part columns at either end, divided by three column markers. The outside column on the right is lost except for a small trace of black paint that cannot be identified as a particular hieroglyph. The next column contains the group "h₃" and the next the hieroglyph šsp. The last column preserves part of the group *nfr*; any additional ending that might have been present, such as t or w, would have been lost.

The group *h₃* could be a verb or noun. It is a common component in epithets referring to deities or the king, such as *h₃t* and *h₃ nhḥ* for Osiris, *h₃ psd* for Amun-re or Osiris and *h₃ nfr* for king or deity, among many others (*Wb* 3: 170-172). šsp is used in the writing of a number of words (*Wb* 4: 530-7), of which one of the most common is šsp "to receive". Of the many uses of this verb, one is in the phrase šsp *snw* found especially in *h₃ ḫt nsw* prayers in the request to "receive offerings" from the presence or altar of a deity (*Wb* 4: 155).

3.1.2. Group of three fragments (R20 [1079]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 6378 sq. mm;
fragment 2: 705 sq. mm;
fragment 3: 967 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 8050 sq. mm.

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Width of left and right columns: 6.8 cm.
Width of centre column marker: 0.6 cm.
Width of right column marker: 0.7 cm.
Height of hieroglyphs: yodh 5.9 cm.; pair of legs 2.4 cm.
Width of $r$: 5.7 cm.

The group shows a portion of the decorative frieze and parts of three columns separated by column markers. The right-hand column is almost totally lost; there remains only a small trace of black which cannot be identified as part of a particular hieroglyph (see however 3.1.3. below). The middle column preserves three hieroglyphs, $r$, $f$ and the ear(?). From the spacing one would expect there originally to have been another sign to the right of the ear(?) where the fragment is now broken; over half the width of the column is lost.

In the left-hand column is the group $i\dot{a} \ i\dot{t}$ “to come”; the second oblique is now missing. Any grammatical ending has been lost with the break. To the left of the pair of legs the edge of the column marker is just preserved, showing that this group occupied the whole width of the column.

3.1.3. Group of two fragments (R20 [1079]).

Surface area of fragment 1: 452 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 3638 sq. mm.

Total surface area: 4090 sq. mm.
Width of column: 6.8 cm.
Width of left and right column markers: 0.6 cm.
Height of $k\dot{r}$: 4.4 cm.

The group shows traces of the decorative frieze and the top of one column of hieroglyphs bordered on each side by column markers. Traces of the hieroglyph $n$ are clear at the top followed by the group $k\dot{r}$, written with the vertical stroke placed between the two arms and joined to the base stroke. Below is a black trace which must belong to a broad hieroglyph with a flat upper edge. The group must write one of the various formulae involving $k\dot{r}$, such as $n \ k\dot{r} \ n$. $n \ k\dot{r}$, $n \ k\dot{i} \ t$, or $n \ k\dot{i} \ n$. The first group can perhaps be dismissed, since the sign $n$ properly written in zig-zag form does not fit with the following trace; the others are possible.

There may be a join with the right-hand edge of 3.1.2, if the trace of black in the right-hand column of that group is the left end of the $n$ in $n \ k\dot{r}$; the left column marker of 3.1.3 would then be aligned below the top of the marker in 3.1.2.

3.1.4. Single fragment (R20 [1079]).

Surface area: 6054 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.6-0.65 cm.
Maximum surviving height of $m$: 4.7 cm.

The fragment shows a portion of the decorative frieze with parts of two columns below separated by a column marker. The right-hand column marker is mostly lost; there remains what is probably part of a tall narrow sign placed close to the column marker, suggesting that a further hieroglyph or hieroglyphs lay to the right. The shape of the sign, especially the slight bulge towards the bottom, would fit the sign $b$ ($\dot{J}$). In the left-hand column is the upper part of the owl, $m$. (For a possible join, see 3.2.6 below.)
3.1.5. Group of two fragments (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 4008 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 864 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 4872 sq. mm.
Width of column: 7.1-7.2 cm.
Width of right column marker: 0.6 cm.
Width of left column marker: 0.7-0.8 cm.
Maximum surviving height of yodh: 5.4 cm.
The group shows a portion of the decorative frieze with the top of a column between two column markers and the beginning of another column, almost totally lost, to the left. On the right-hand side of the complete column is the top of a yodh, while to the left, just above the break, are black traces, probably of the sign n. While the resulting group could be, for instance, part of the group fin there are no traces of the sign mn. The reading fin seems most likely. In the fragmentary column to the left are black traces of an unidentifiable hieroglyph.

3.1.6. Group of two fragments (R20 [1079]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 4100 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 1142 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 5242 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.65 cm.
The group shows a portion of the decorative frieze with parts of the tops of two columns separated by a column marker. The right-hand column is almost totally lost except for a very small black trace of an unidentifiable hieroglyph. The left-hand column contains a larger part of a hieroglyph but the identification is difficult; it might be part of sh nfr “divine booth”. [1]

3.1.7. Group of three fragments (R20 [974]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 1040 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 3076 sq. mm.;
fragment 3: 1688 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 5804 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.7 cm.
Height of nfr: 6.8 cm.
The group shows a small part of the decorative frieze and parts of two columns divided by a column marker. In the right-hand column is part of a hieroglyph which might be tentatively identified as mnp; the sloping rather than square corners of the lower part and the lack of a determinative which one might expect to the left of mnp are possibly against this. The top of the left-hand column contains on the right-hand side an almost complete nfr-sign with parts of the complementary f and r to the left.

3.2. Fragments showing hieroglyphs and column markers.

3.2.1. Group of two fragments (R20 [974]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 4073 sq. mm.;

[1] I owe this suggestion to Dr. G.T. Martin.
fragment 2: 3758 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 7631 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.9-1.0 cm.
Width of base of t: 3.0 cm.

The group shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. Much of the surface of the right-hand column is destroyed. At the top there are black traces but the area is too damaged to be able to identify any individual hieroglyph. Below this is the top of a sign in the form of a loop, which appears to be too tall and narrow to be the top of an ankh-sign; possibly it is part of the mi. In the left-hand column there is an almost completely preserved t. Although it is possible that this could be an exceptionally narrow column with the t roughly “centred”, it seems more likely that there was another sign to the left, possibly a vertical stroke. Above the t is a black trace which cannot be identified as part of any particular hieroglyph.

3.2.2. Group of two fragments (R20 [974]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 4768 sq. mm;
fragment 2: 1374 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 6142 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.8 cm.
Maximum surviving height of yodh: 5.2 cm.

The group shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. In the lower portion of the right-hand column is part of a sign with a flat horizontal top and curved base which must be part of one of the signs nb, hb or k. Enough of the sign remains to show that the central part of hb is not present, while the left-hand corner of the sign would run so close, or even into, the column marker that it is doubtful whether there would be room for the handle of k. At the top of the left-hand column, at a higher level, there remains the lower portion of a yodh with part of the sign n to its left; the latter is placed on the same level as the bottom of the yodh. While the group might simply write in, the position of the n suggests that there was another sign above it and that we should read i.n. (Compare the higher position of n in the group in in 3.1.5). One possibility would be the group i.mn; i.n is unlikely because it is almost always written with the n raised to accommodate the sun-disk below. There is no trace of any following group of signs, although the plaster extends for 3.5 cm below. However, the stem of the yodh and the n are very worn and it is probable that any following hieroglyphs have rubbed off.

3.2.3. Single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 2740 sq. mm.
Height of mr: 2.3 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column with a column marker on the right and traces of three hieroglyphs to the left; the most likely reading is snf mrf or snf mrtl.f “his brother/sister beloved of him”. However, the fragment 3.2.4 almost certainly belongs with this one (see below), ruling out the feminine form. Snf mrf is most likely to have been part of a text identifying one of the figures on the wall.

3.2.4. Single fragment (R90 [974]).
Surface area: 2945 sq. mm.
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Width of column marker: 0.8–0.9 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column with part of a column marker on the right and to the left the sign $f$, almost completely preserved; above is the bottom of a vertical stroke. A small portion to the right of the column marker is preserved but there are no hieroglyphic traces. The fragment probably belongs with 3.2.3 above, giving $sn\, f\, mr\, f$. The join is not completely certain; the actual edges of the plaster do not meet but the join between the mud edges of the fragments is reasonably convincing.

3.2.5. Single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 3325 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.9 cm.

The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. In the right-hand column is a small black trace of an unidentifiable hieroglyph. In the left-hand column is preserved part of a tall narrow sign, possibly to be identified as $l\, n$.

3.2.6. Group of four fragments (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 363 sq. mm;
fragment 2: 48 sq. mm;
fragment 3: 4442 sq. mm;
fragment 4: 5746 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 10599 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.6–0.7 cm.
Height of nose, eye and cheek: 3.3 cm.
Width of nose, eye and cheek: 4.7 cm.

The group shows parts of two columns of hieroglyphs divided by a column marker. The first column preserves part of the disk of the sun hieroglyph followed by a low broad sign, almost certainly $l\, n$. The oblique sign below is possibly $=$, so that we would have part of the group $\bar{r}$- $n$. At the surviving top of the left-hand column is the tail of the owl, $m$, followed by $r$, as $\hat{s}/mr$, $n$ and $s$. The latter, among a number of uses, determines the stem $\hat{s}$ “rejoice”. The $n$ found here is therefore unexpected, but it is undoubtedly present. There is a very rare Late Egyptian word $\hat{s}/n\, w$ “joy” (WB 2: 455), and possibly this is a similar form, the complete phrase reading $m\, \hat{s}/n\, w$ “in joy”.

These fragments possibly join on to the bottom of 3.1.4. If this is correct, the right-hand column would begin with a tall narrow sign placed on the left side of the column. Between the bottom of this sign and the sun hieroglyph of 3.2.6, there would be a gap corresponding to the distance comprising the bottom part of the $m$ and the $r$ in the left-hand column. Possibly we have a phrase in the first column connected with “illuminating the land” with the result that in the second column “[all people?] are in joy”.

3.2.7. Group of two fragments (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 4465 sq. mm;
fragment 2: 2642 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 7107 sq. mm.
Width of column: 6.6 cm.
Width of right column marker: 0.65 cm.
Width of left column marker: 0.7 cm.
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Height of nb: 1.6 cm.
Width of hieroglyphs: nb 6.1 cm; n 5.6 cm.

The group shows parts of three columns divided by two column markers. The traces of three hieroglyphs in the right-hand column are recognisable as (1) a forearm: the hand is lost, so neither its position nor whether it was holding anything can be ascertained; (2) k; (3) n. There is no complete word ḫn, except as the name of a ferryman in the underworld (ḥb 1: 235). Otherwise, the group ḫk is normally written with the cormorant, although, for instance, ẖn is occasionally found. On the other hand, ḫ is used in the root ḫn "strong" determined either by ḫ or ḫ, which would be lost here. The arm above could then be part of ḫ determining a similar word, such as nb ẖt "strong, mighty".

The second column begins with a trace of the flat bottom of an unidentifiable hieroglyph followed by three signs n nb ḫf "of/to/for his lord", as in phrases of the kind mry n nb ḫf "beloved of his lord", ħsy n nb ḫf "favoured of his lord" and ṣmsw n nb ḫf "follower of his lord". The flat trace at the top of the column is unlikely to fit with the first two suggestions, but it could form the base of either the seated man determinative (cf. 4.1 below) or the pair of legs used with ṣmsw "follower". However, without a clearer context, it is impossible to suggest reconstructions with any certainty.

The final column contains unidentifiable traces at the top followed by part of the horizontal papyrus roll; underneath the right-hand end of this is the top of a vertical stroke.

3.2.8. Group of three fragments (R20 [1080B]).

Surface area of fragment 1: 1932 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 274 sq. mm.;
fragment 3: 2285 sq. mm.

Total surface area: 4491 sq. mm.

Width of column marker: 0.7 cm.
Height of hieroglyphs: p (?) 2.8 cm.; t 1.1 cm; ḫb 2.00 cm.
Width of hieroglyphs: t 2.3 cm; strokes 0.7 cm.

The group show parts of two columns divided by a column marker; neither column is preserved to its full width. In the right-hand column are the bottom parts of two vertical strokes. A black trace running parallel to these down the right-hand broken edge of the fragment may be part of a third vertical stroke, although the space between it and the centre stroke would be less than that between the centre and left-hand strokes. Below these strokes are two hieroglyphs; the one on the left is clearly t and to its right is probably part of ḫ; they could be part of one of several groups: pt "sky, heaven", ptr "to see", ptr "who?, what?"

In the left-hand column there is a black trace at the top followed by part of the ḫb- sign, which is followed in turn by a part of a hieroglyph with a curved outline, possibly either t or the sun-disk, the latter being used sometimes as a determinative of ḫb "festival". The two hieroglyphs are placed to the right of the column, implying that there was originally a sign or signs to the left, as in the grouping ḫbšt. 3.2.9. Single fragment (R20 [1079]).

Surface area: 2728 sq. mm.
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Width of column marker: 0.8 cm.

The fragment shows parts of two columns separated by a column marker. The right-hand column is preserved to a maximum width of only 1.9 cm.; it contains a black trace which is unidentifiable as a hieroglyph. In the left-hand column is preserved the combined group of the Upper Egyptian plant and forearm used to write both šmwt "Upper Egypt" and šmr "to make music" together with related forms like šmr "musician" and šmwt "chantress, singer". Above and to the right of this group at the highest point of the fragment is a trace of black which is presumably the bottom of the preceding hieroglyph (if not of the frieze), but it must remain unidentified. Thus, on this fragment, we probably have a reference either to Upper Egypt, possibly in a title, or to a singer or chantress. A fragment belonging to the same wall may preserve part of a sistrum (R20 [1080B]; see Figure 2.4) and might relate to a šmwt "chantress"; this group could then be an identifying caption for the figure holding the sistrum.

3.2.10. Single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 2065 sq. mm.
Height of f.: 0.95 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column with a small portion of column marker on the right. The preserved maximum width of the column is 6.4 cm., so probably no more than about half a centimetre has been lost. Part of the group ḥt nbt is preserved. This most commonly occurs in offering formulae, in phrases such as ḥt nbt nb rt wbt "everything good and pure", or in comparatives, r ḥt nbt "more than anything."

3.2.11. Group of four fragments (R20 [1079]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 166 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 180 sq. mm.;
fragment 3: 1104 sq. mm.;
fragment 4: 977 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 2427 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.7 cm.

The group shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. The right-hand column preserves most of a hieroglyph of a seated man with his hand to his mouth. Above this close to the column marker is a trace of the preceding hieroglyph, which cannot be identified. The left-hand column is preserved at its widest to only 1 cm.; there is a small trace of an unidentifiable hieroglyph. The figure of the man with his hand to his mouth determines many words relating to eating, drinking, speaking, thinking and feeling.

3.2.12. Group of two fragments (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 248 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 1012 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 1260 sq. mm.
Width of stroke: 0.8 cm.

The group, on which much of the surface is destroyed, shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker, of which little is preserved. In the right-hand column there remains only a small black trace. In the left-hand one, there is a nearly complete r, below which is part of a vertical stroke. It should be noted that there is no guide as to which way up this piece should go.
3.2.13. Group of two fragments (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 1528 sq. mm.;
    fragment 2: 183 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 1711 sq. mm.
Width of right and left strokes: 0.75 cm.

The group shows part of a column with a column marker at the right-hand side. A small piece is preserved to the right of the marker on the lower of the two pieces, but there are no traces of hieroglyphs. The left-hand column is preserved to a width of 3.6 cm. A complete short vertical stroke lies next to the column marker, separated by 0.4 cm. To the left of this is another vertical stroke of which the bottom is preserved but the top is missing, leaving it in doubt as to whether it was the same length as the first stroke. However, if the complete width of the column was between 6.5-7.0 cm, there would be room for a third parallel vertical stroke in the column, giving the three plural strokes. Below the first stroke on the right is a damaged area with black traces, presumably from another hieroglyph now unidentifiable. It should be noted that there is no guide as to which way up this piece should go.

3.2.14. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 926 sq. mm.

The fragment shows part of one column with a tiny trace of a column marker on the left. The piece preserves the bottom part of the owl hieroglyph, m. The identification is certain because the owl, in contrast to the š and štw birds and to the falcon and mwt vulture, is not given a claw at the rear of its foot. Since the owl writes not only the common "letter" m but also a much-used preposition, its presence in isolation on this fragment tells us little.

3.2.15. Small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 400 sq. mm.

The fragment shows part of a column with a column marker on the left. Part of the hieroglyph mn is preserved. The group appears in the name of the god Šmn, but also in many other common words, so that we can draw no conclusions from its presence on this fragment.

3.2.16. Two fragments (Q20 [1105, 1086]).
Surface area of fragment 1: 398 sq. mm.
    fragment 2: 2652 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 3050 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.8 cm.

The group shows parts of two columns separated by a column marker. In the right-hand column, preserved to a maximum width of 2.5 cm. only, is the lower left-hand part of a hieroglyph, of which the left side is at right angles to the base as in p or k. In the left-hand column is the sign - s. At the bottom, much of the surface is destroyed.

3.2.17. Single fragment (R20 [1076]).
Surface area: 1727 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.8 cm.
Width of s: 1.6 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column with a column marker on the left-hand side. The column contains a number of black traces including the major part of
the hieroglyph \textit{š}. The other traces cannot be identified as belonging to particular hieroglyphs.

\textbf{3.2.18. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).}

Surface area: 273 sq. mm.
Width of stroke: 0.5 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column with a small portion of column marker on the right-hand side. To the left is a single vertical stroke. The column marker must be vertical, but there is no indication as to which way up the piece should go.

\textbf{3.3. Fragments with hieroglyphs but no column markers.}

\textbf{3.3.1. Single fragment (R20 [1079]).}

Surface area: 1514 sq. mm.
Vertical height of \textit{pj}-bird: 5.1 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column; the column markers on both sides are lost. At the top is the curved base of a sign such as \textit{k}, \textit{nb} or \textit{hb} followed by an almost complete flying pintail duck \textit{pj}. At the very bottom of the fragment is a tiny trace of the following hieroglyph, now unidentifiable. One of the uses of the \textit{pj}-bird was, by the late 18th Dynasty, to write the masculine definite article; its survival out of context is thus not very illuminating.

\textbf{3.3.2. Small single fragment (R20 [1099]).}

Surface area: 369 sq. mm.

The fragment shows part of the sign \textit{n} with a small unidentifiable trace below it. It should be noted that there is no indication as to which way up the piece should go.

\textbf{3.3.3. Small single fragment (R20 [1099]).}

Surface area: 252 sq. mm.

The fragment shows the horns of the horned viper \textit{f} and above, the trace of a hieroglyph with a curved base, possibly part of the sun-disk.

\textbf{3.3.4. Group of two small fragments (R21 [966]).}

Surface area of fragment 1: 472 sq. mm.;
fragment 2: 908 sq. mm.
Total surface area: 1380 sq. mm.

The group shows part of the Upper Egyptian plant \textit{šmr}. The break is too low to ascertain whether or not the forearm was present, as in 3.2.9 above. As in the latter piece, \textit{šmr} could refer to Upper Egypt, perhaps in a title, or to \textit{šmryt} "chantress, singer".

\textbf{3.3.5. Small single fragment (R21 [966]).}

Surface area: 812 sq. mm.

The fragment shows at the bottom part of the hieroglyph \textit{n} and above, to the left, the trace of an unidentifiable hieroglyph. It should be noted that there is no indication as to which way up the piece should go.

\textbf{3.3.6. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).}

Surface area: 410 sq. mm.
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The fragment shows what is probably the loop of an ankh.

3.4. Fragments showing the decorative frieze and traces of unidentifiable hieroglyphs.

3.4.1. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 391 sq. mm.
The fragment shows the bottom of the decorative frieze with black traces below that cannot be identified as part of a particular hieroglyph or hieroglyphs; there are no traces of column markers.

3.5. Fragments showing traces of unidentifiable hieroglyphs with column markers.

3.5.1. Single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 2103 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.9-1.0 cm.
The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker with an unidentifiable black trace at the top of the right column and another, where the paint has flaked on the lower left side of the left-hand column.

3.5.2. Single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 1667 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.85 cm.
The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. On the left-hand side there is part of what was probably the right-hand end of a low broad sign, possibly tr. It should be noted that there is no indication as to which way up the piece should go.

3.5.3. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 889 sq. mm.
The fragment shows part of a column marker on the right side with part of a column to the left containing the trace of what was probably a tall narrow sign, possibly r2.

3.5.4. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 454 sq. mm.
The fragment shows a small trace of a column marker on one side and an area of black paint on the other which imperfectly covers the original red paint beneath, so that a large portion of red shows to the left of the black. The piece must be oriented so that the edge of the column marker is vertical. There is no certain indication as to which way up it should go, although it is just possible that we have here part of the leg hieroglyph showing the bend of the knee.

3.5.5. Very small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 67 sq. mm.
The fragment shows a trace of red column marker on one side and an area of black paint, presumably part of a hieroglyph, on the opposite side. The piece must be oriented so that the edge of the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should be.

3.5.6. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
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Surface area: 287 sq. mm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker on the left with a large area of black paint, presumably part of a hieroglyph, to the right. The piece must be oriented so that the edge of the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should go.

3.5.7. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 814 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.7 cm.

The fragment shows on the left the full width of a column marker and on the right an area of black paint. The piece must be oriented so that the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should go.

3.5.8. Single small fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 827 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.8 cm.

The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. To the right is the trace of the bottom of one unidentifiable hieroglyph followed by the top of another below. In the left-hand column is the loop of a hieroglyph, which is probably too narrow for an ankh, but could possibly be part of šn i or mi i.

3.5.9. Single small fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 566 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.65 cm.

The fragment shows two columns divided by a column marker with a black trace in the right-hand column and two black traces in the left-hand one. The piece must be oriented so that the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should be.

3.5.10. Small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 131 sq. mm.

The fragment shows a tiny trace of a column marker on one side and an area of black paint on the other with an edge parallel to the edge of the column marker. The piece must be oriented so that the edge of the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should go.

3.5.11. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 697 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.75 cm.

The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. The right-hand column has almost disappeared and contains no traces of hieroglyphs. The left-hand column preserves the extreme right end of what might be a low broad sign. The piece must be oriented so that the column marker is vertical; there is no indication as to which way up it should go.

3.5.12. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 147 sq. mm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker on one side and a trace of black on the other. The edge of the column marker must be vertical; there is no indication as to which way up the piece should go.

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3.6. Fragments with traces of unidentifiable hieroglyphs but no column markers.

It should be noted that there is no certain indication as to orientation on any of these pieces. For convenience, they are described as they are placed on the plate.

3.6.1. Single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 1264 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background with some surface damage and an area of black paint with a straight inner edge on the left side.

3.6.2. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 574 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background with a vertical black stroke on the left-hand side.

3.6.3. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 409 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background with a trace of black paint at the top right-hand corner.

3.6.4. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 279 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background with a trace of black paint on the left side. A small trace of red at the top is more likely to be part of the first draft of a hieroglyph rather than a column marker.

3.6.5. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 289 sq. mm.

The fragment shows two areas of black paint on the right and in the middle and a small area of red on the left. The shape of the latter does not suggest a column marker and is probably part of the first draft of a hieroglyph.

3.6.6. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 325 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background and to the left an area of black paint with a curved outline.

3.6.7. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 338 sq. mm.

The fragment shows an area of yellow background with surface damage, traces of red and, to the right, traces of part of a black vertical stroke (?).

3.6.8. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 601 sq. mm.

The fragment shows mostly yellow background with a trace of black, having a straight inner side, running up the left-hand edge of the fragment.

3.6.9. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 462 sq. mm.

The fragment shows some surface damage in the centre with a black stroke to the left and a trace of black on the bottom right-hand edge.

3.6.10. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 317 sq. mm.

The fragment shows mostly yellow background with some surface damage and an area of black with a convex edge, in the lower right-hand corner.
3.6.11. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 547 sq. mm.
The fragment shows a large area of black with an irregular outline including two thin strokes. These probably belong to a bird hieroglyph, e.g. ḫ, ḫ or ḫw.

3.6.12. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 165 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with some surface damage and a thin area of black and red paint along the right-hand edge.

3.6.13. Very small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 84 sq. mm.
The fragment is mostly covered by a vertical black stroke.

3.6.14. Very small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 87 sq. mm.
The fragment shows a vertical black stroke.

3.6.15. Small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 559 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with a small area of black paint, having a straight inner edge, in the right-hand corner.

3.6.16. Very small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 85 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with a small area of black paint, having a straight inner edge, on the right-hand side.

3.6.17. Very small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 70 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with a small area of black paint, having a straight inner edge and base, on the right-hand side.

3.6.18. Very small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 20 sq. mm.
The fragment shows yellow background on the left-hand side and an area of black paint on the right side.

3.6.19. Small single fragment (Q21 [986]).
Surface area: 448 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with part of a black vertical stroke on the right and uniquely a small area of white on the left.

3.6.20. Small single fragment (Q21 [986]).
Surface area: 382 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with a trace of black, having a straight edge, on the right-hand side and a smaller trace of black on the top left-hand edge.

3.6.21. Small single fragment (Q21 [986]).
Surface area: 226 sq. mm.
The fragment has a large area of black on the yellow background. The shape is suggestive of several signs, e.g. ḫt, ḫst, ḫst, though the curving top of ḫ in 3.1.1 is broader.

3.6.22. Small single fragment (Q21 [986]).
Surface area: 102 sq. mm.
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The fragment shows the yellow background on its left half and a black area on the right half; the division forms a straight line.

3.6.23. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 204 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with an area of black paint, having a straight base, on the top right-hand side.

3.6.24. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 113 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with an area of black paint, having a straight inner edge, on the right-hand side.

3.6.25. Single fragment (R21 [966]).
Surface area: 1738 sq. mm.
The fragment shows mostly yellow background with part of a black vertical stroke at the bottom and an area of black, having a straight top, running along the right edge of the fragment. One might see in the group the writing of in, using a more abbreviated form of the letter n.

3.6.26. Small single fragment (R21 [966]).
Surface area: 508 sq. mm.
The fragment shows a large area of black paint running from top to bottom with an area of yellow background to the right and two small traces of yellow to the left at the top and bottom.

3.7. Fragments with traces of column markers but no hieroglyphs.

It should be noted that there is no certain indication as to which way up these pieces should go. For convenience, they are described according to their orientation on the plate.

3.7.1. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 441 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 1.15 cm.
The fragment shows either the top or bottom of a column marker. Surviving examples of the tops of column markers show both rounded forms (2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.1.4, 2.1.6) and flat forms (1.1, 2.1.7). There are no certain examples of bottoms of column markers surviving, so we do not know whether they were rounded or flat.

3.7.2. Small single fragment (R20 [974]).
Surface area: 146 sq. mm.
The fragment shows part of a column marker on the left-hand edge.

3.7.3. Small single fragment (R20 [1079]).
Surface area: 800 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.55 cm.
The fragment shows part of a column marker right of centre.

3.7.4. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 592 sq. mm.
The fragment shows part of a column marker at the right-hand edge.

3.7.5. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 260 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.75 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker in the centre.

3.7.6. Small single fragment (R20 [1080B]).
Surface area: 124 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.85 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker in the centre.

3.7.7. Very small single fragment (R20 [1099]).
Surface area: 53 sq. mm.

The fragment is divided roughly in half vertically with yellow background on the left and the red of a column marker on the right.

3.7.8. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 186 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.9 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker on the right-hand side.

3.7.9. Small single fragment (Q21 [966]).
Surface area: 598 sq. mm.

The fragment shows a large area of yellow background and a small area of red at the top right-hand corner with straight inner edge and base that is probably the top or bottom of a column marker (see 3.7.1 above).

3.7.10. Small single fragment (Q20 [1105]).
Surface area: 412 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.9 cm.

The fragment shows part of a column marker to the right of centre.

7.4. Fragments of wall plaster showing hieroglyphs on a white background.

Two fragments with black hieroglyphs on a white background were found in the doorway between the Outer Hall of the Chapel and the Side Chapel on its north. The different background colour indicates that they have nothing to do with the hieroglyphs from the side walls of the inner room. They were found with a third piece that also has the distinctive white background (Q20 [1086]); it shows the neck and upper torso of a figure with the dark skin of a man, and this suggests that the text related to a scene.

4.1. Single fragment (Q20 [1086]).
Surface area: 5099 sq. mm.
Width of column marker: 0.75-0.8 cm.

Maximum surviving height of seated man: 6.2 cm.

The fragment shows parts of two columns divided by a column marker. In the left column is an almost complete figure of a seated man with his hand to his mouth facing left, showing that the hieroglyphs read from left to right; below is part of the sign n. In the right-hand column at the top left side is part of a tall narrow sign with the left-hand end of a low broad sign preserved below it and, underneath that, a tiny black trace at the edge of the fragment.

4.2. Single fragment (Q20 [1086]).
Surface area: 1209 sq. mm.

The fragment shows portions of three hieroglyphs and no column markers. At the top is a broad sign with a curved base. Below to the right is part of the sign
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mn and to the left part of another sign which would fit the upper back portion of yodh. We may therefore have part of the group Єmn. The upper sign is the width of the lower group; possible identifications would be nb or k.

7.5. Discussion.

Little can be said about the right-hand wall of the inner room of the Chapel, since hardly any material with hieroglyphs relating to it survives (section 7.2). Most of the material with hieroglyphs comes from the left-hand wall (section 7.3), and it is on this that the discussion will centre.

The scheme of decoration has already been described in section 7.1. The surviving fragments preserving parts of heads of human figures (cf. Figure 2.4) show that there was at least one scene on the wall, if not more, to which the hieroglyphic text almost certainly related. A more detailed reconstruction is however hampered by the large amount of plaster which must have been lost, and, to a lesser extent, by damage to the surface of the surviving pieces. The major portions of the figures are missing and their relationship to one another is unknown. Although there is a fragment from a small head which faces left, in the opposite direction to the other figures and hieroglyphs, there are no surviving hieroglyphs which also face left and might relate to it. A few more pieces from the scenes remain to be cleaned and drawn but they still appear to represent only small additions to what can already be seen.

The plaster with the hieroglyphs is so fragmentary that many of the surviving pieces show traces of unidentifiable hieroglyphs only, or even no hieroglyphs at all. Less than 60 individual signs can be certainly identified, spread over as many as 31 groups or single pieces of plaster fragments, and there is little clue as to how the pieces relate to one another. In theory, matching the widths of columns and column markers could help to position the pieces vertically. However, very few columns are preserved to their full width and most examples occur at tops of columns, which must relate to each other horizontally and not vertically. The edges of column markers are not straight, so that the widths of the markers are not necessarily constant throughout their height; many examples are not preserved to their complete width. When single hieroglyphs that are used widely in many different words survive in isolation on fragments, they are unlikely to be able to tell us anything about the type of text or even phrase from which they come. Any attempt to reconstruct the text or texts in the Chapel is made even more difficult because we do not know how long the columns were or even whether they were all of the same length.

It is important to know whether we are dealing with one long continuous text or a number of shorter texts. The phrase n.k3-k.t īn (3.1.3) should be part of a speech by one of the figures in the scene. One of the two groups showing šmr (3.2.9; 3.3.4) could be part of the title šmtyt and refer to a woman carrying the sistrum that is perhaps shown on one of the pieces; the other could also refer to a šmtyt or it might be part of a title belonging to one of the other figures that included šmrw "Upper Egypt". The group īn (3.1.4.) could be part of a phrase recording an action by one of the figures, including īn N smyar rm.f "it is N who causes his name to live", or part of a prayer, such as rdi ītu n (deity) sn ti n.
(deity) in N. The group sn.f mr.f (3.2.3 and 3.2.4) almost certainly identifies a figure in the scene and could stand by itself or be part of a phrase like in sn.f mr.f snh mn.f "it is his brother beloved of him who causes his name to live". The columns beginning h.kt, šsp and nfr (3.1.1) might form part of a htp di nsw - prayer if hkt is part of a divine epithet, if šsp comes from a phrase such as di.f/sn [...] šsp snw and nfr is part of a phrase like bt nbt nfr.t; the fragment bearing the hieroglyphs hi nbt (3.2.10) very likely belongs in such a context. Clearly, however, the column to the right of hkt did not begin with htp di nsw, since the remaining trace in the column does not fit the group \( \text{\^{
}} \). The most likely parts of a prayer are those on fragments 3.1.4 and 3.2.6, with their possible phrases about "illuminating the land" and being "in joy". As mentioned above, attempted reconstruction of the text is hampered by not knowing the length of the columns. Despite all the difficulties and uncertainties involved, the fragments just discussed do suggest that we are not dealing with a continuous text like a long prayer or hymn but with a series of shorter texts relating to the figures and actions in the scene.

It is perhaps surprising that there is no definite example of a god's name preserved on the pieces. One may note the possible presence of the name of the god Amun among the texts in the chapel (3.2.2; 4.2). Its appearance, however, would not be particularly significant in this Amarna context, since the Main Chapel post-dates the reign of Akhenaton (AR1: 3-4, Chapter 9). In addition, the group hkt (3.3.1) could be part of a divine epithet, and if šhr nfr.t is present (3.1.6), it would almost certainly refer to Anubis. From the left-hand wall we also lack any personal names for the figures which appeared on it. Among the fragments, there are many which could preserve part of a proper name but in their present form they are unrecognisable as such. From the opposite wall we have the name Sennufer, but any titles he might have borne are not preserved and we have no further information about him.

7.6 Key to Figures 7.1 to 7.4

The facsimile copies were made by Barbara Garfi, and are here reproduced at half scale. Solid black represents black; plain areas are yellow unless otherwise labelled. The colour labels are: r=red; db=dark blue; t=turquoise; w=white. In the case of some hieroglyphs, slight "ghost" images represent areas where the original red painted lines were left uncovered by the black. Cross-hatching represents areas of destruction; single hatching areas where paint has flaked revealing the yellow ground beneath.
Figure 7.1. Hieroglyphic wall plaster, at half-scale.
Figure 7.2. Hieroglyphic wall plaster, at half-scale.
Hieroglyphic wall plaster

Figure 7.3. Hieroglyphic wall plaster, at half-scale.
Figure 7.4. Hieroglyphic wall plaster, at half-scale.