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The Southern Room of Amun in the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari.

Vol 1. History and Epigraphy. Vol. 2. Studies on Decoration and Ritual Function

ABSTRACT

The subject of the doctoral dissertation is the study of the Southern Room of Amun in the temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari. The aim of the thesis is an epigraphic presentation and discussion on the decoration of this room and defining its function in the temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari, achieved through the analysis of the motifs used in the decoration, the location of this room within the temple and analogies in other sacral monuments in Egypt throughout historical periods.

The dissertation is divided into two volumes. The first volume, based on the drawing documentation prepared by the author, presents and comments on the decoration of the Southern Room of Amun, which was not fully published before the author's research. The first, introductory chapter contains information on the author's work flow on the documentation and studies of the author on this room. In the second chapter the history of research in this room is presented, taking into account the work of both foreign and Polish missions. The third chapter deals with the building history and architecture of the Southern Room of Amun. The fourth chapter is a synthetic description of the state of research with references to the literature that mentions or pertains to this room. Chapter five is an extensive presentation of decoration, describing the methods of its documentation and the method of presenting the epigraphic material. It contains dimensions of the scene, state of preservation, description of the preserved polychromy, description of the decoration and, above all – texts. They are presented in hieroglyphic transcription, transliteration and translation, with commentary, and reconstruction of the original inscriptions from the reign of Hatshepsut. The first volume ends with a chapter describing and analysing the process of erasures and re-carvings of the names and images of Hatshepsut, which took place during the reign of Thutmose III. The study of the decoration and texts included in the first volume constitutes the basic source for the analysis of the motifs used in the decoration in order to determine the function of the Southern Room of Amun. The first volume of the dissertation has already been published by the author as volume X in the *Deir el-Bahari* series.

The second volume of the dissertation contains an analysis of the motifs that constitute the decoration programme of the Southern Room of Amun, which determine its function. In the

first chapter, the so-called frieze of objects is discussed, in the second – oils and linen, in the third – the theological personality of Amun-(Ra-)Kamutef, in the fourth – the theological personality of Amunet, in the fifth – the royal costume and the insignia, in the sixth – the presence of the royal *ka*, in the seventh – the coronation scene located above the entrance to the studied room. The second volume ends with a chapter summarising all the arguments that determine the function of the Southern Room of Amun in the temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari.

A comprehensive study of decoration and texts from the Southern Room of Amun allowed to verify the hypotheses previously proposed by other scholars, introducing order in this field. Defining the function of this room and placing it in the ritual topography of the Upper Courtyard is another step in understanding the theological message encoded in the temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari, expanding knowledge about the principles in the layout of the wall decoration, the ritual purpose codified in the decoration, and finally the function of sacred monuments in the era of Hatshepsut.

Keywords: archaeology, archaeology of ancient Egypt, Egyptology, Egypt, Southern Room of Amun, temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari, oils, linen, frieze of objects, Amun-Kamutef, Amunet, coronation, royal *ka*