

has a rectangle ( 20 x 24 metres) open court, surrounded by a court of pillars. The main entrance was on the east side in the rear corner of the open court of pillars and was found in situ an altar block of dark grey granite. The situation corresponds to that of the altar in the mortuary temple of Abusir (The French excavators Gattierd and Jequier believed that the pictorial situations of the altar showed that there must have been another one corresponding to it on the other side. Of this, however, they could find no trace. The position and the fact of having only one altar seems to be one of the peculiarities of the mortuary temple, as also in the mortuary temple at Abusir. The almost square foundation is about five feet across with the sides sloping slightly toward the center. They are about three feet in height. In the middle of the east and west sides there were originally two overflow channels on small projections that were knocked off at the time of the falling of the walls. They belonged to two large hotep signs which were present in light relief on the two surfaces of the altar blocks with their backs turned toward each other. The remaining part is clearly represented as a mat. The duality representing the two lands - upper and lower Egypt. On each of them are two breads and two pitchers. The altar is surrounded with a band of hieroglyphics. The height of this monument hotep altar is so arranged that a person sacrificing, standing beside the altar, can conveniently use his hands upon it. Also the side walls of the altar are decorated with reliefs. Representations of the Nile and of the Egyptians which bring all sorts of products of the ground. The altar was intended for presentation offerings and libations. The artistic drawings on the upper surface tell that a burnt offering was not undertaken upon it. The original is in the Egyptian Museum in Cairo. In the General Catalogue, the four sides are shown in the photographs (23001, tables 1 and 2.) The description by the excavators contains a picture of the altar as a whole.