

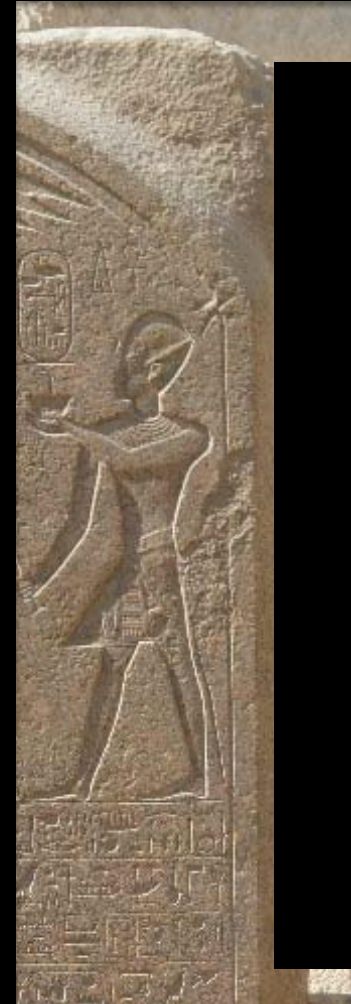
Mid-18th Dynasty Rulers:

Thutmose III

Amenhotep II

Thutmose IV

Amenhotep III



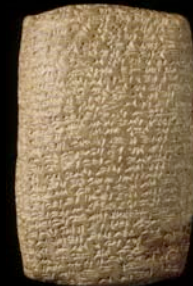
Amenhotep II, Thutmosis IV, Amenhotep III: managing an Empire – the military/diplomatic aspects

- No written treaties are attested for 18D, but some correspondence (late: Amarna letters)
- Exchange of gifts and envoys
- Diplomatic marriages (Amenhotep III to Gilu-Hepa)
- Children of subject princes raised in Egyptian court
- Egyptian garrisons and officials in Syria-Palestine and Nubia
- Vassal states send tribute



Marriage scarab of
Amenhotep III

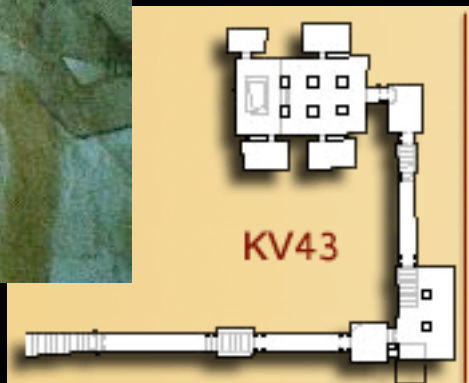
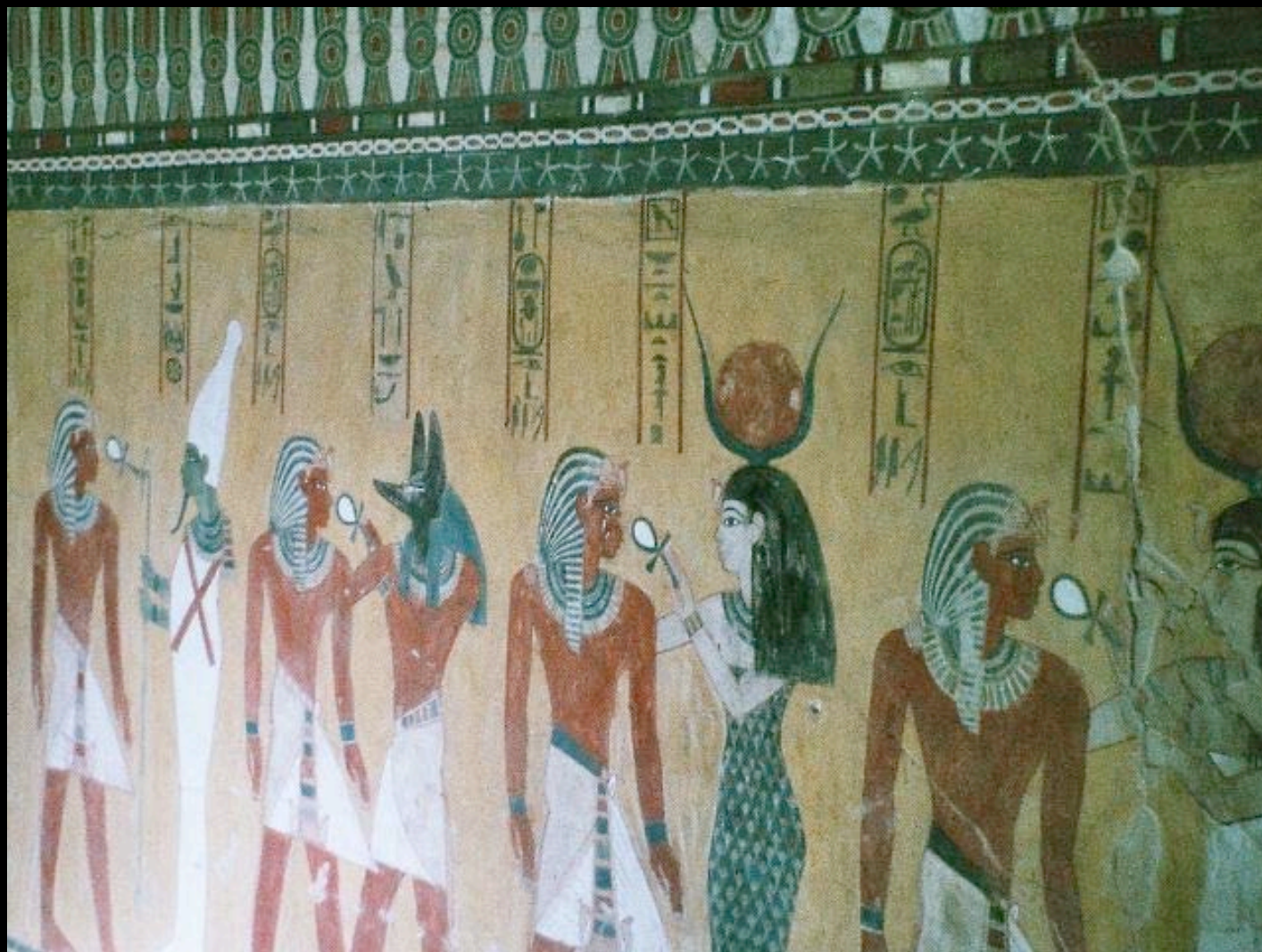
The Amarna Letters





Thutmose IV





Tomb of Thutmose IV



Objects from the tomb of Thutmose IV



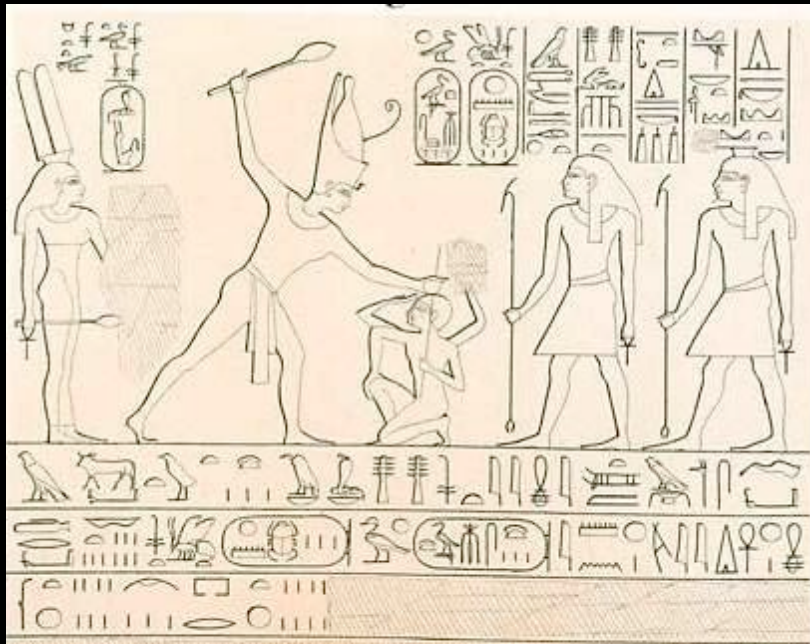
The Konosso stela of Thutmose IV

Live Horus: (titulary) the King of Upper and Lower Egypt; Menkhperure (Thutmose IV), who is given life, forever, Year 8, third month of the second season, day 2.

Behold, his majesty was in the Southern City, at the town of Karnak. His two hands were pure with the purity of a king, and he performed the pleasing ceremonies of his father Amun, because he had given to [him] eternity as king, everlastingness while abiding upon the Horus-throne. One came to say to his majesty: "The Nubian descends from above Wawat; he hath planned revolt against Egypt. He gathers to himself all the barbarians and the revolters of other countries."

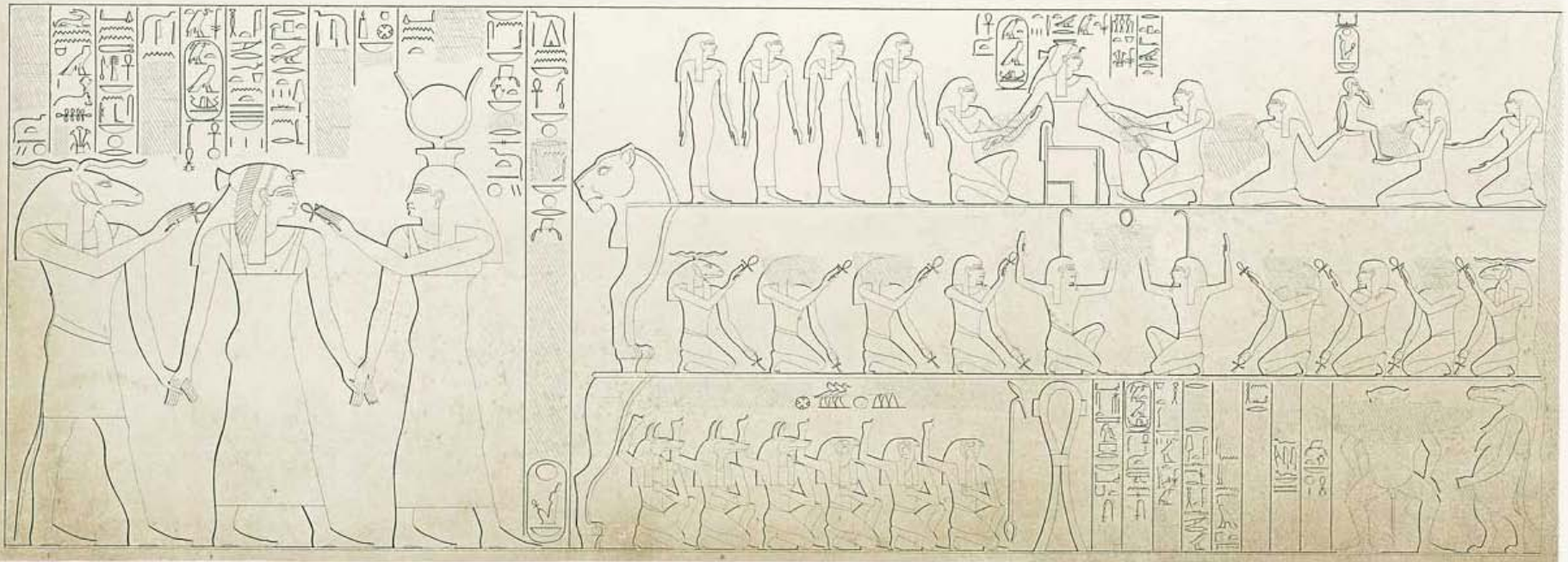
The king proceeded in peace to the temple at the time of morning, to cause that a great oblation be offered to his father, the fashioner of his beauty. [Behold, (?)] his majesty, he himself petitioned in the presence of the ruler of the gods, that he might counsel him concerning the [affair of his going (?)] ... and inform concerning that which should happen to him; leading for him upon a goodly road to do that which his ka desired, as a father speaks to his son... He went forth from him, his heart rejoicing ... (for) he sent him with might and victory.

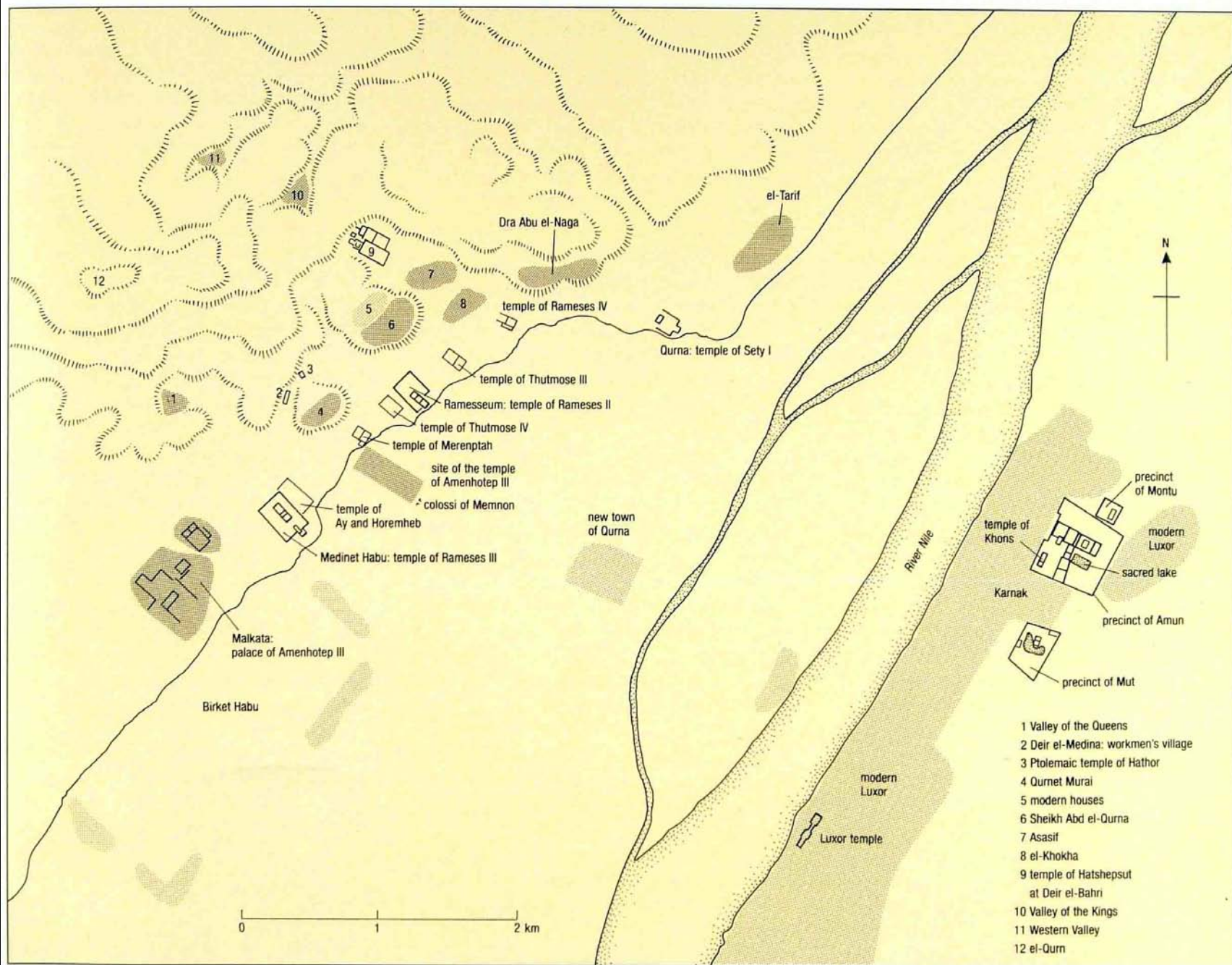
After these things his majesty proceeded to overthrow the Nubians; mighty in his barge of like Re when he shows himself in the celestial barque His army of his victories, was with (him) on both banks, while the recruits were upon its (one) shore, and the ship was equipped with his attendants, as the king proceeded upstream...



Royal women of Thutmose IV: not emphasized during his reign
 Left: Iaret (great royal wife) from a Nubian temple
 Below: Mutemwiya, mother of Amenhotep III, from the birth scene the later had carved at Luxor Temple

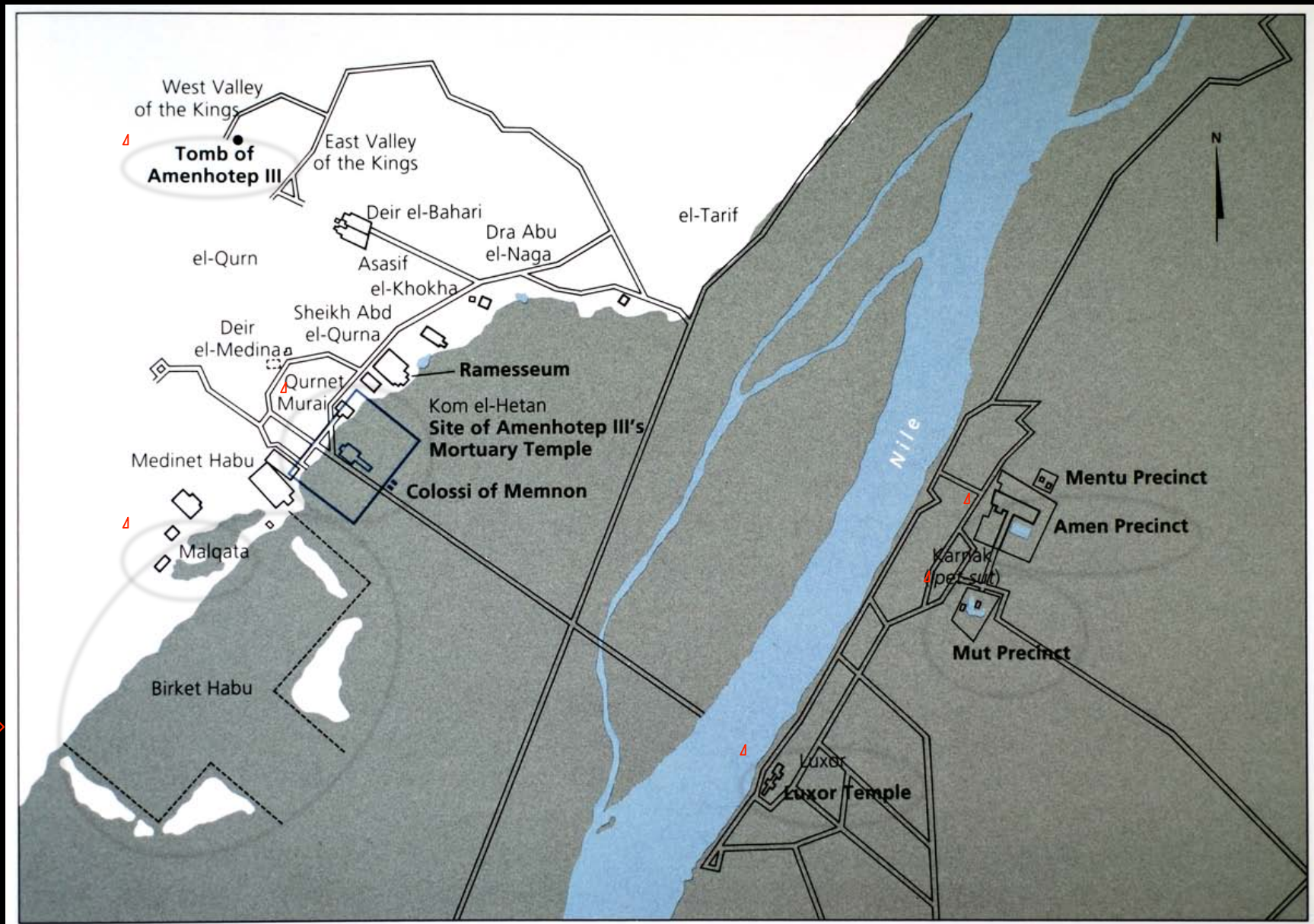
c



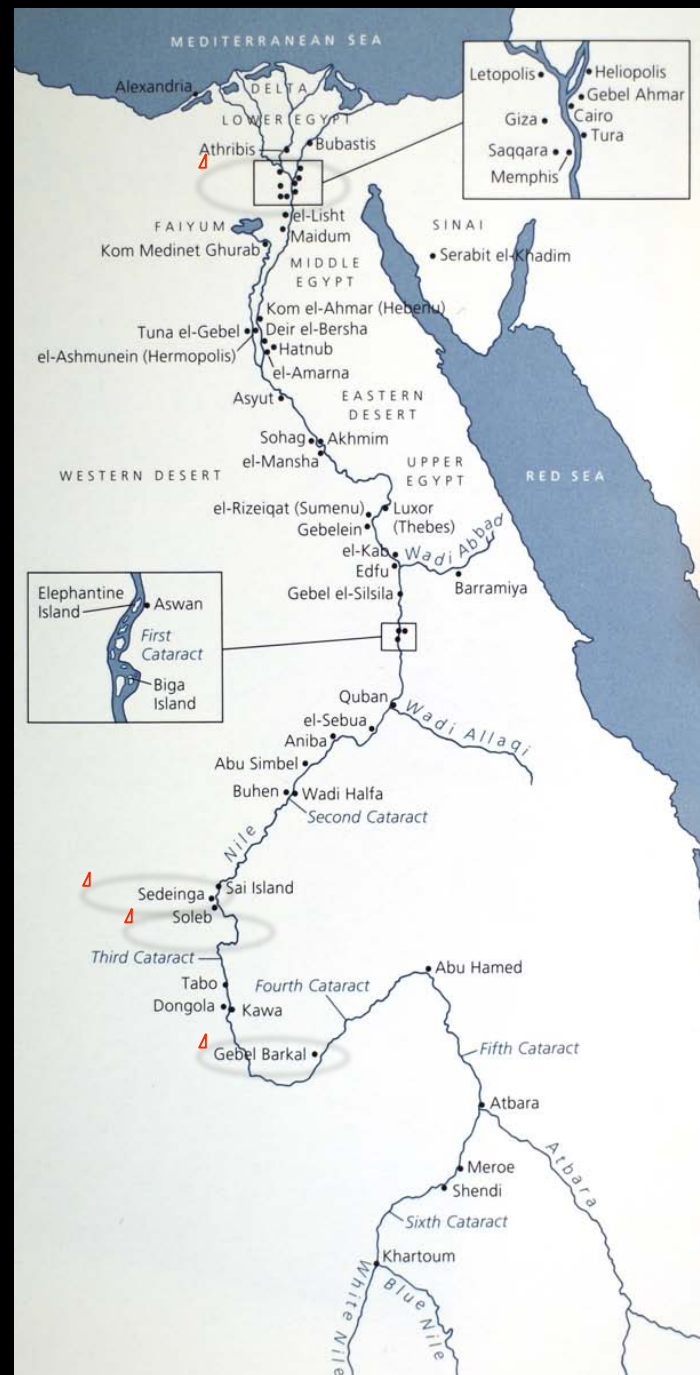




Amenhotep III:
Egypt's Dazzling
Sun



Amunhotep III as a builder: Thebes and beyond



From a stela of Amenhotep III originally set up at his mortuary temple

(Titulary of Amenhotep III) beloved of Amun-Ra, Lord of the thrones-of-the-two-lands, who presides over Karnak, given life; who rejoices as he rules the two lands like Ra forever. The good god, lord of joy, very vigilant for his maker Amun, King of Gods; who enlarged his house and contented his beauty by doing his ka's desire. It pleased his majesty's heart to make very great monuments, the likes of which had not existed since the beginning of the two lands.

He made as his monument for his father, Amun, lord of thrones-of-the-two-lands, the building for him of an august temple on the west side of Thebes, a monument of eternity and everlastingness, of fine sandstone worked with gold throughout... It is adorned...and enriched with statues of the king...of all kinds of costly stones.... It resembles the horizon of heaven when Ra rises in it. Its pond is filled by great Hapy.... Its workhouse is filled with male and female slaves and with children of the princes of every foreign country that his majesty despoiled... Its good name, which his majesty gave, is "Who receives Amun and exalts his beauty." It is a resting-place for the Lord of Gods at his valley-fest, during the journey of Amun to the West, to see the gods of the West. In return may he give to his majesty life and dominion.

The king (etc.) is content with the work for his father Amun, Lord of thrones-of-the-two-lands, in southern Ipet: of fine sandstone, wide, very great, and exceedingly beautiful... When the people see it they give praise to his majesty.

I made another monument for my father Amun-Ra, lord of thrones-of-the-two-lands, who set me on his throne, in making for him a great bark upon the river, "Amun-Ra-firm-of-brow," of new pine wood, cut by my majesty in the countries of god's land, and dragged from the mountains of Retjenu by the chiefs of all foreign lands. It is very wide and great; the like has never been made. Its interior is made pure with silver; it is worked with gold throughout...

The king made another monument for Amun in making for him a very great gate in front of Amun-Ra....inlaid with real lapis lazuli and worked with gold and costly stones. The like had never been made. Its pavement was made pure with silver, the portal in its front firmly set. There are stelae of lapis lazuli, one on each side. Its twin towers reach to the sky, like the four supports of heaven. Its flagpoles shine skyward, being worked in fine gold. His majesty brought the gold for it from the land of Kry on his first victorious campaign of slaying vile Kush...

Speech of Amun, King of Gods:

My son, of my body, my beloved Nebmaatre,
My living image, my body's creation.
Born me by Mut, Ashru's Lady in Thebes,
Mistress of the Nine Bows,
Who nursed you to be sole lord of peoples!
My heart is very joyful when I see your beauty,
I did a wonder for your majesty,
You repeat your youth,
For I made you the Sun of the Two Shores.

Turning my face to the south I did a wonder for you,
I made the chiefs of wretched Kush surround you,
Carrying all their tribute on their backs.

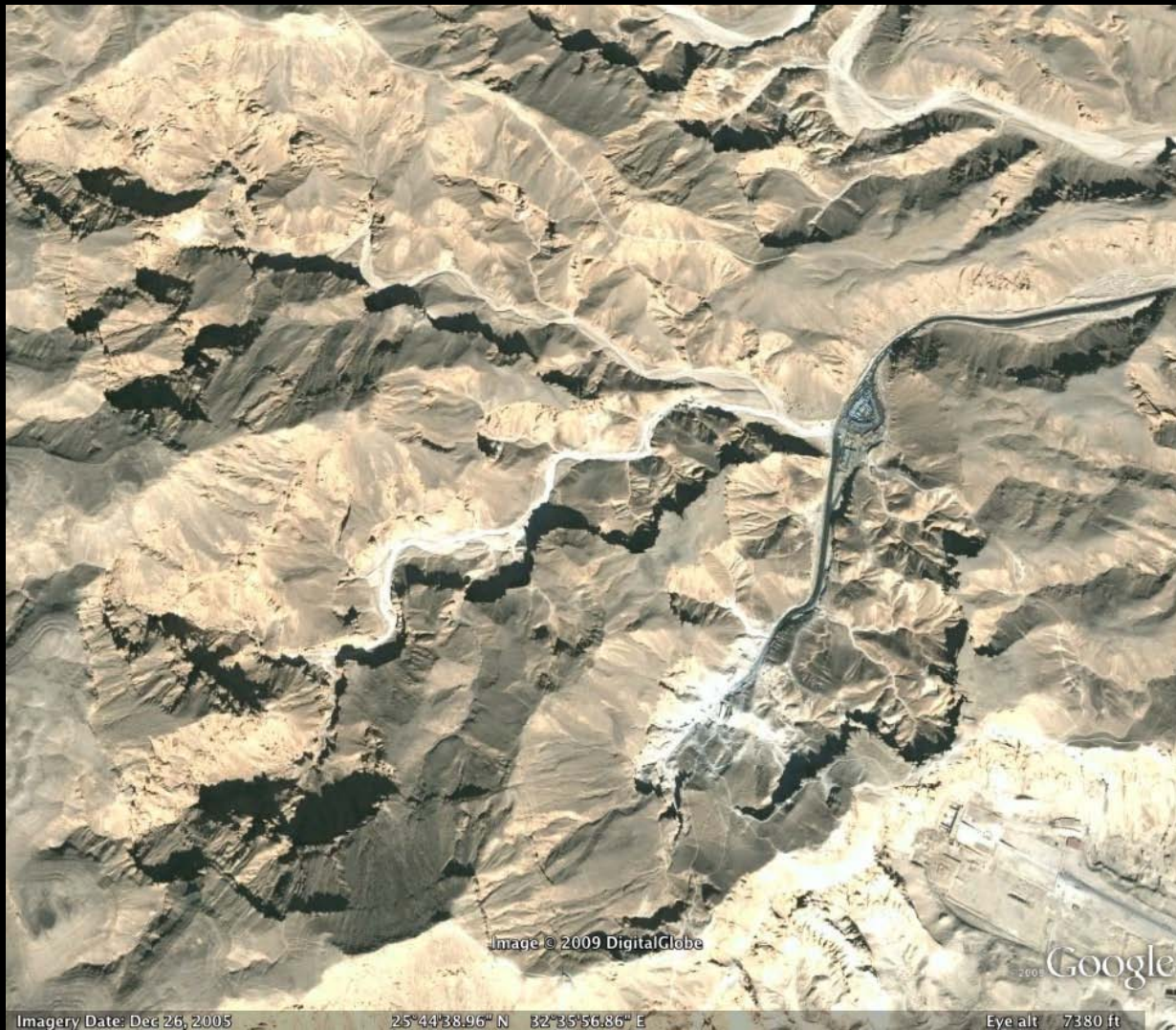
Turning my face to the north I did a wonder for you,
I made the countries of the ends of Asia come to you,
Carrying all their tribute on their backs
They offer you their persons and their children,
Beseeching you to grant them breath of life.

Turning my face to the west I did a wonder for you,
I let you capture Tjehenu, they can't escape!
Built is this fort and named after my majesty,
Enclosed by a great wall that reaches heaven,
And settled with the princes' sons of Nubia's bowmen.

Turning my face to sunrise I did a wonder for you,
I made the lands of Punt come here to you,
With all their fragrant flowers of their lands,
To beg your peace and breathe the air you give.



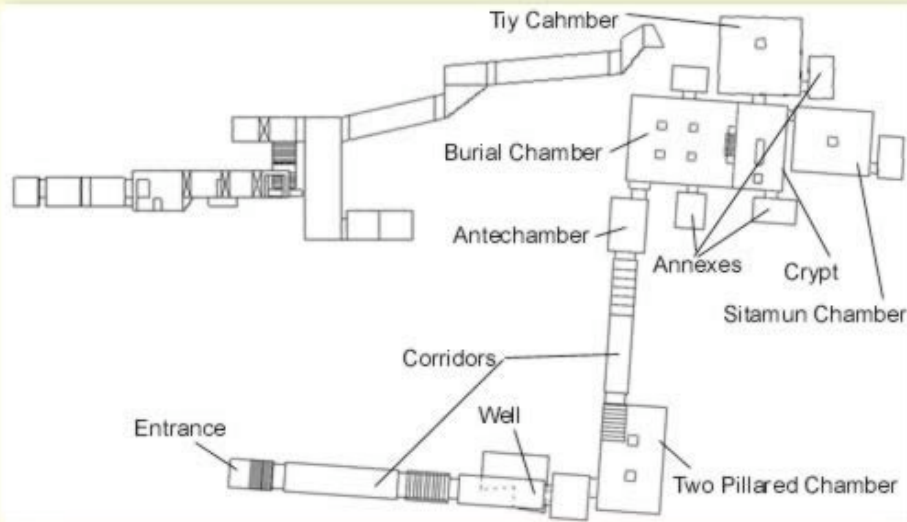
Monumentality: epic number of building projects of epic size
decorated with epic amounts of epically large sculpture



Valley of the Kings (Amenhotep III buried in the Western Valley)

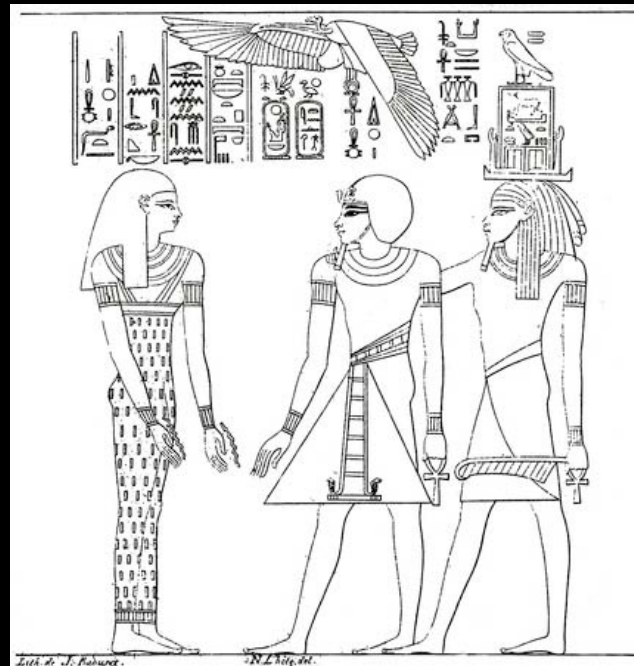
Painted decoration from the tomb of Amenhotep III in the western Valley of the Kings, showing the king with various gods.





Amenhotep III tomb
Plan and section

Goddess Nut facing
Amenhotep III and
the ka of his father,
Thutmose IV,
decoration from
Amenhotep III's tomb



Kom el-Hetan, Mortuary Temple of Amenhotep III





Amenhotep III from outside his mortuary temple, Thebes
("Colossi of Memnon")

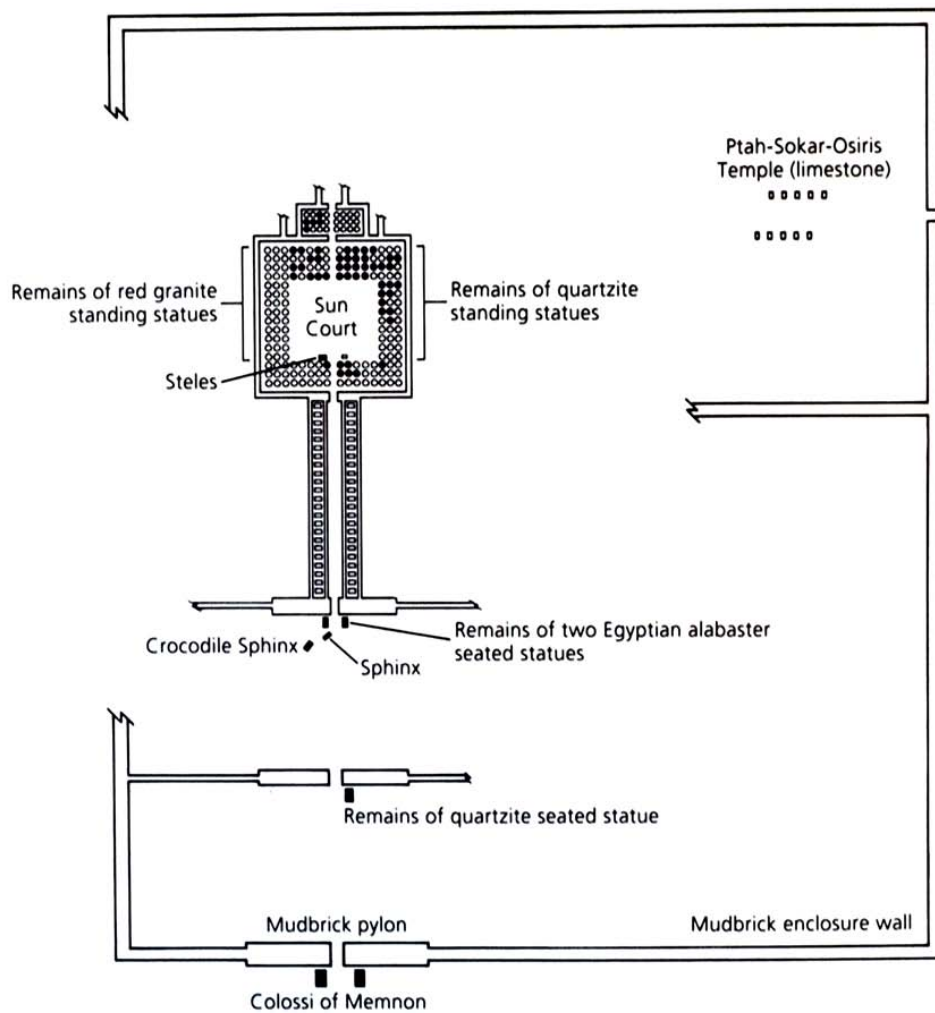




Temple of Amenhotep son of Hapu



Remains of two quartzite standing statues

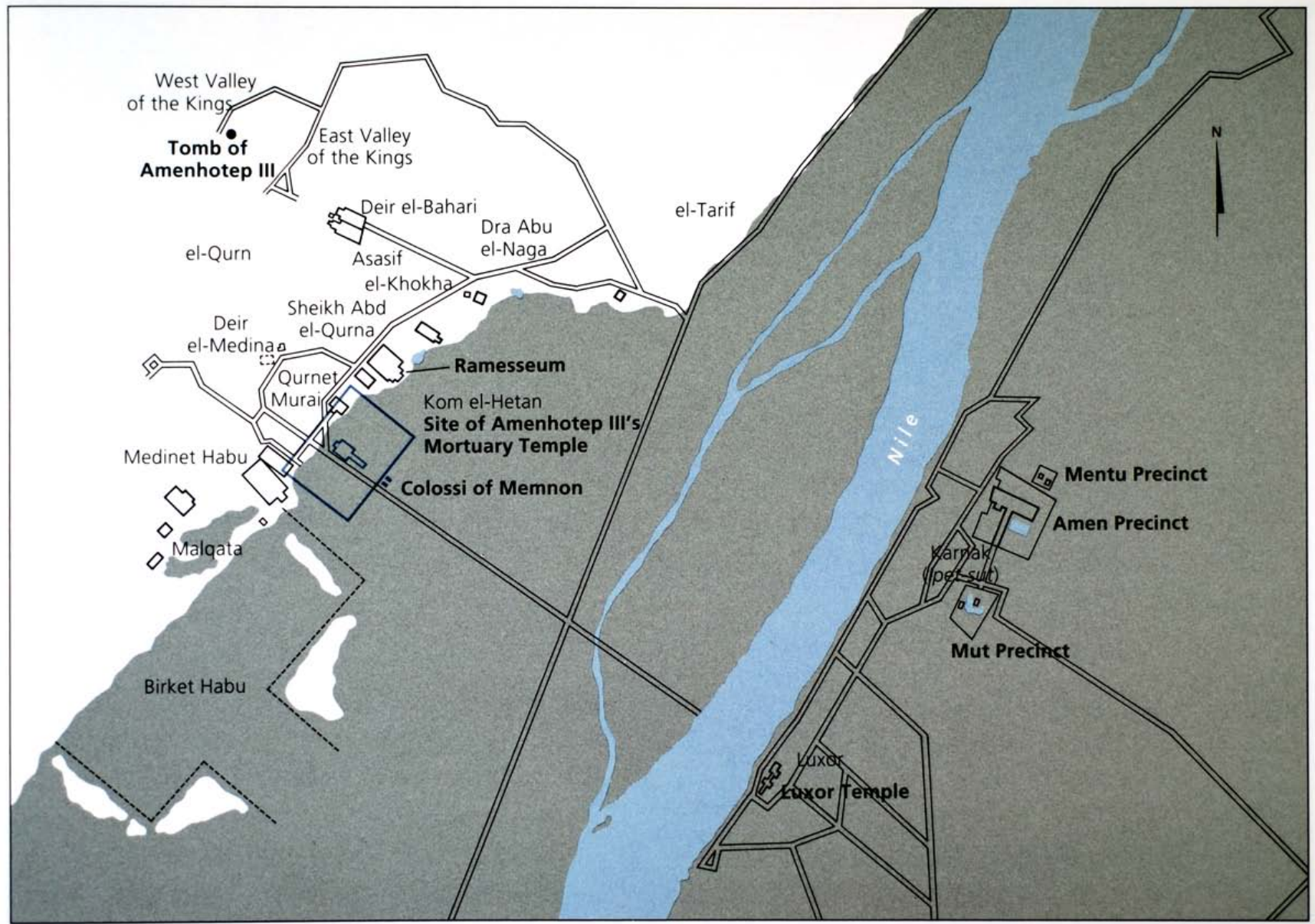


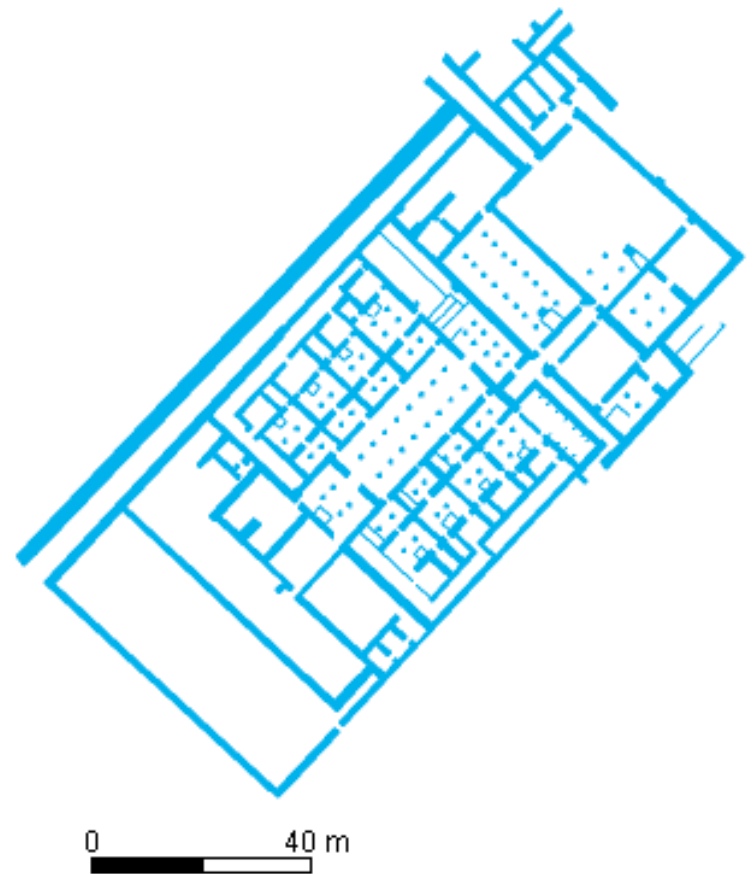
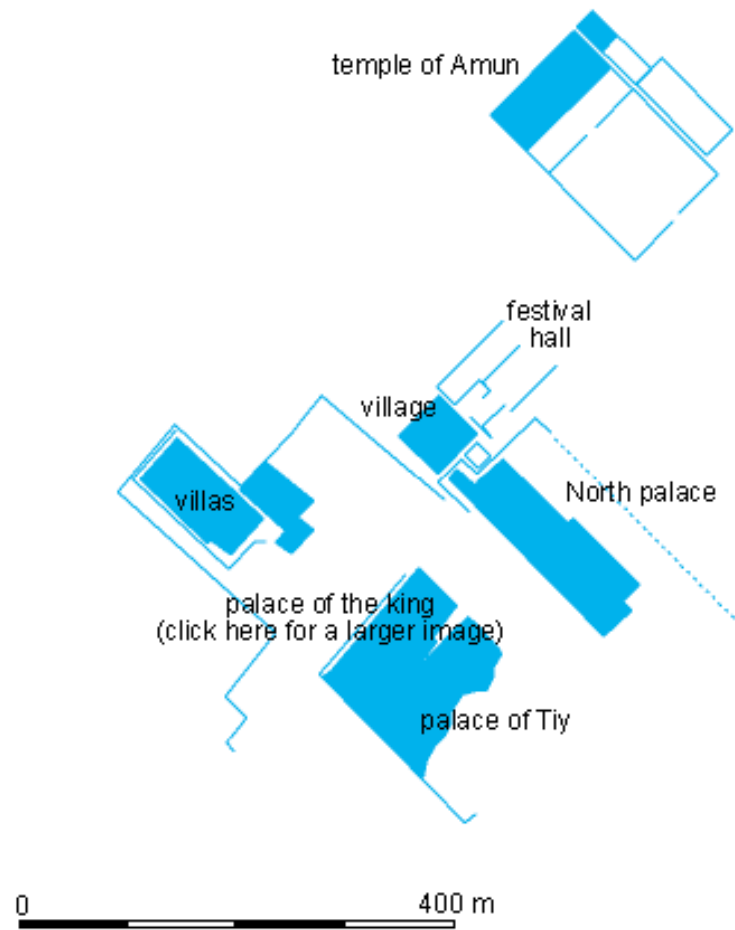
Statue bases from Kom el-Hetan



“All of the difficult lands north of Asia. All of the lands of the Phoenicians and Nubia (= the north and the south) are at the feet of this good god. . . . The great ones of all of the southern and the northern foreign lands, who did not know to come to Egypt since the god’s time, come on their knees united in one place, so that the breath of life may be given to them, their tribute on their backs.”







Malkata (Palace of the Dazzling Aten), palace of Amenhotep III at Thebes, West Bank



Painted plaster from Malkata

Malkata today





Ceramic, faience, and glass vessels from Malkata

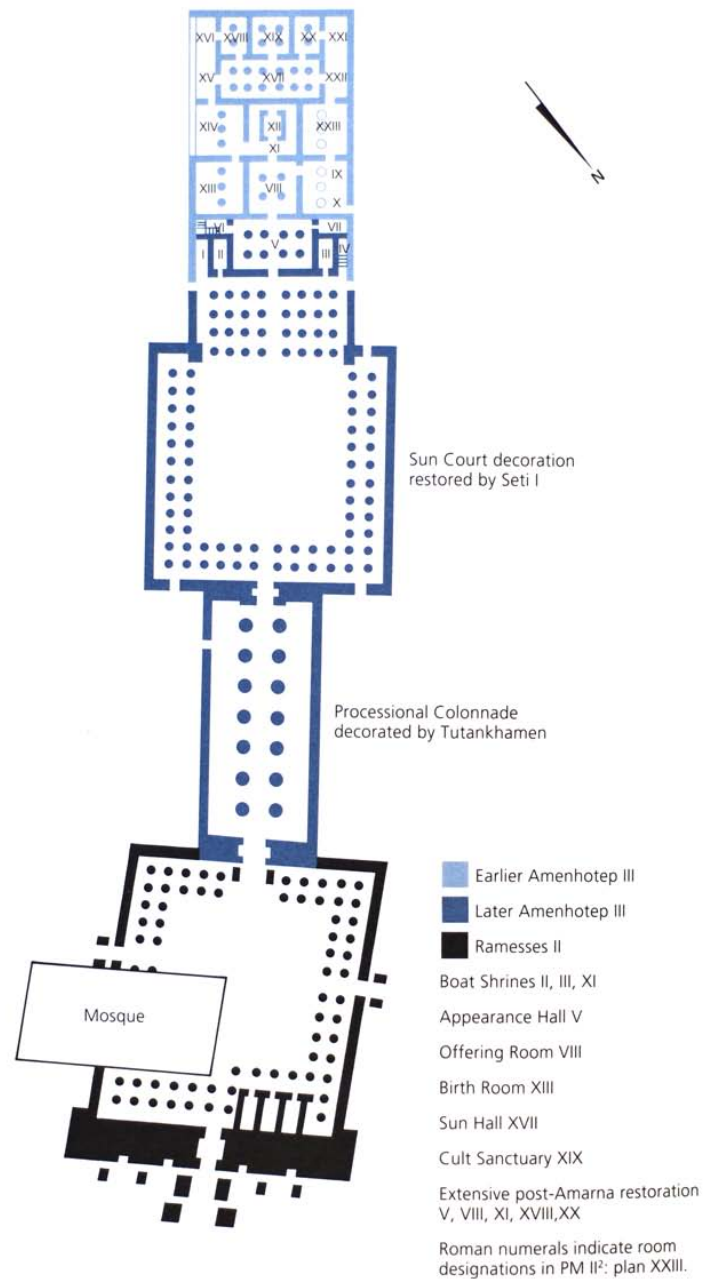




Birket Habu (artificial harbor at Malkata)



Luxor Temple, looking North toward Karnak

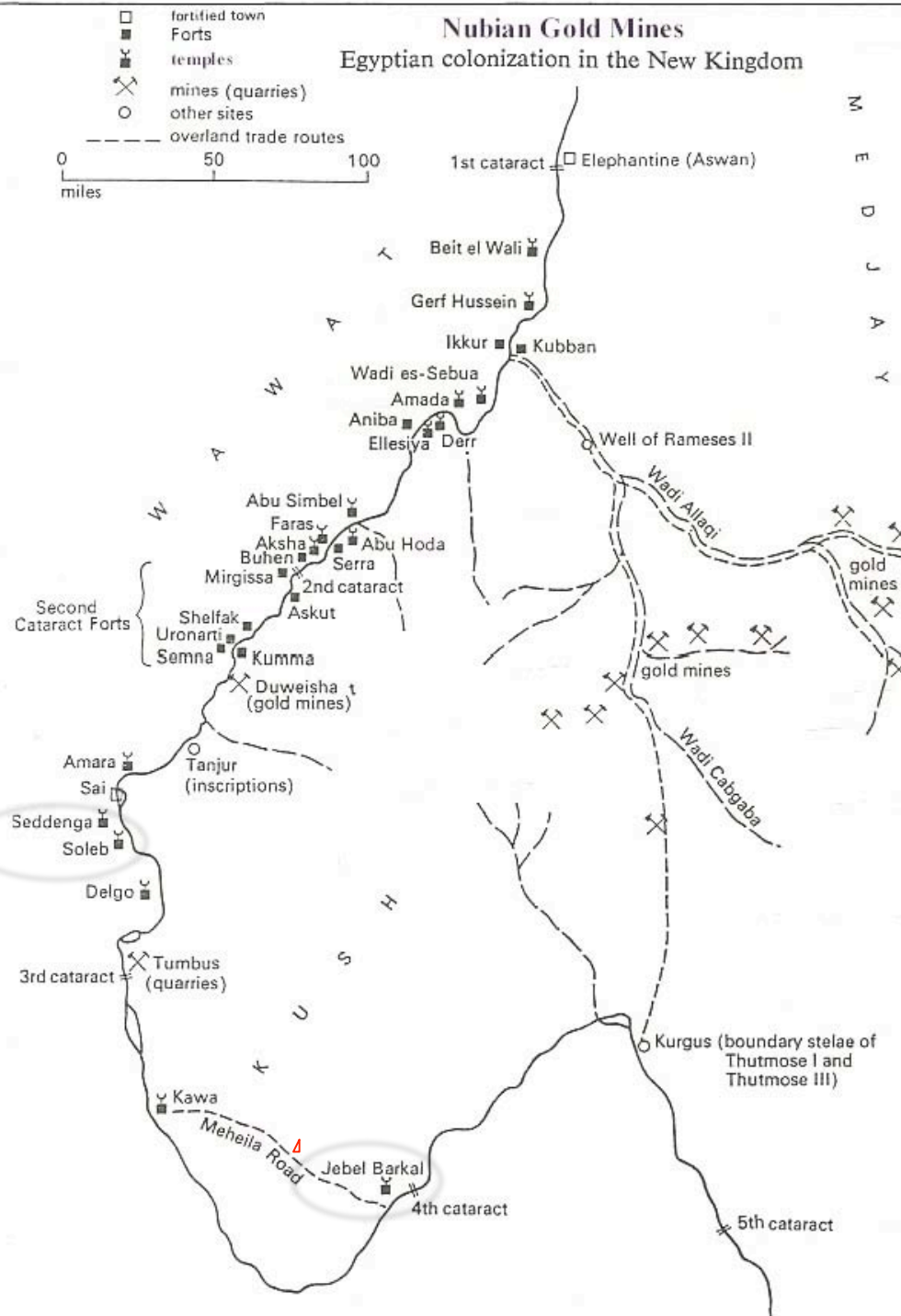


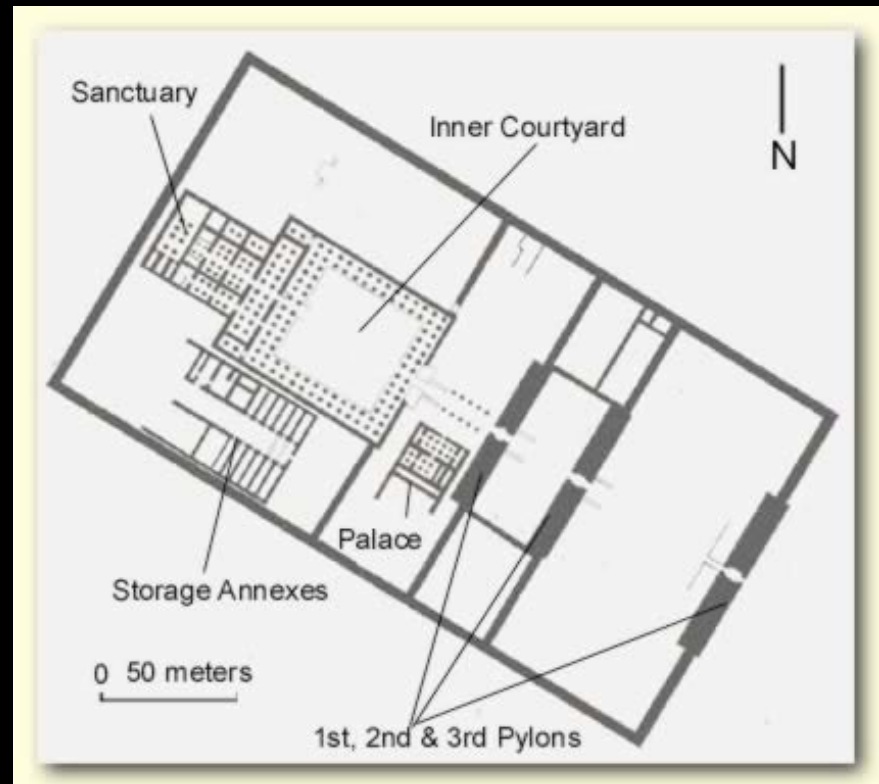


Amun crowns Amenhotep III, Luxor Temple

Nubian Gold Mines

Egyptian colonization in the New Kingdom





Soleb Temple
Dedicated to cults of both Amun-Ra and
Nebmaatra, Lord of Nubia





Amunhotep III as worshipper
and god from Soleb





Lion statue in granite from Gebel Barkal, reign of Amenhotep III



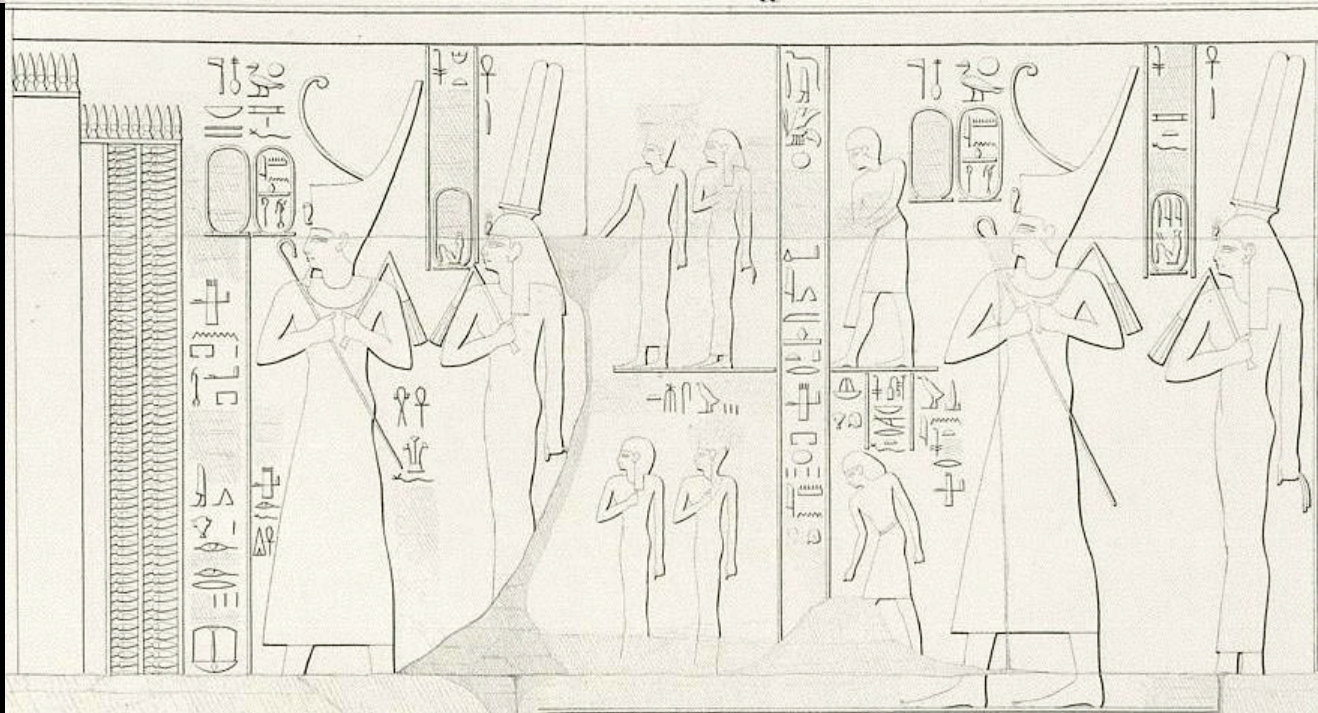
Amenhotep III and Tiy

"Marriage" Scarab

Year 11 The Living Horus Strong Bull Appearing in Truth. He of the Two Goddesses Establishing Laws, Pacifying the Two Lands. The Golden Horus, Great of Valour, Smiting the Asiatics. King of Upper and Lower Egypt, Lord of the Two Lands, **Neb-Maat-Re** Son of Re, **Amenhotep** Ruler of Thebes, given life

The Great Royal Wife **Tiye**, may she live. The name of her father is **Yuya**, the name of her mother is **Tuya**. She is the wife of the mighty king whose southern boundary is as far as Karoy, whose northern is as far as Naharin.









Marriage to Gilukhepa (from another set of commemorative scarabs)

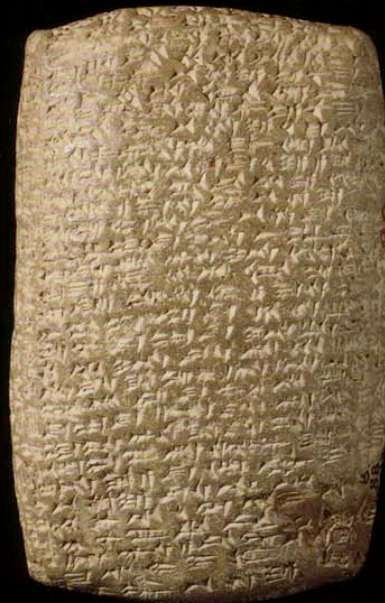
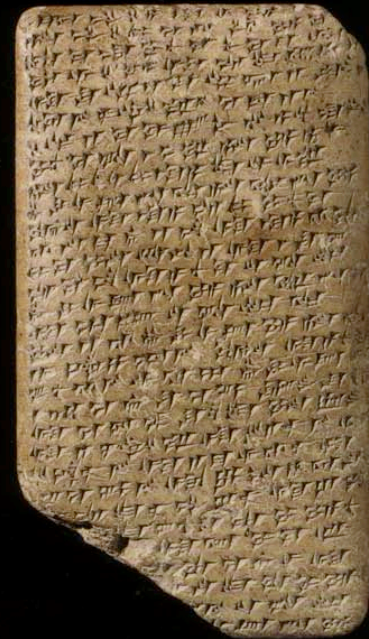
Year 10 under the majesty of Horus: Mighty bull appearing in truth; Two Ladies: Who establishes laws, who pacifies the Two Lands; Gold Horus: Great of strength, who smites the Asiatics; The king of Upper and Lower Egypt, lord of action: **Nebmaatre**, whom Re chose; Son of Re: **Amenhotep**, ruler of Thebes, given life, and the great king's wife **Tiye** (may she live!). The name of her father is **Yuya**, the name of her mother is **Tuya**.

Marvel brought to His Majesty (l.p.h.): **Gilukhepa**, daughter of the prince of Naharina Satirna, and 317 women of her harem.

THE NEAR EAST c. 1350 BC

© Ian Mladjov





Foreign relations in
the reign of
Amenhotep III known
mostly from the
Amarna letters