

8. SAF5

(Fig. 10)

The area in the western half of SAV1 labelled SAF5 was excavated in 1973.¹¹⁶ The entire quarter has a dimension of about 3,671m² and consisted of storage rooms and silos, though these two elements probably never were in use at the same time. In the south and the west, SAF5 is bordered by the fortification wall and in the north by the east-west oriented street Rue EO1. To the east a dividing wall existed to the domestic area with the houses H1–H5. This north-south oriented wall was 0.81m thick and covered the entire length of SAF 5. The most northern part is however missing and must be reconstructed up to Rue EO1. Except for a small opening with a width of 1.59m at the southern end, leading to the wall street behind the southern row of magazines, there seemed to have been no direct connection between the eastern and the western parts of the town.¹¹⁷

The western part of SAF5 was completely overbuilt by buildings of later time periods and unfortunately no information can be given on the former layout in this area. Regarding the remaining structures in the eastern part, rows of storage rooms can clearly be seen in the south (M1–M7) and the north (M13–M18) of SAF5.¹¹⁸ As for the central area, the remains of the original structures are sparse and much of it is furthermore overbuilt by secondary walls. Nevertheless, additional storage rooms can also be reconstructed here, namely a row of north-south oriented storage rooms to the south (M8–M11) and a complex of east-west oriented ones to the north (M12).

The only known entrance into this city quarter was in the north via the rather narrow corridor Rue

NS4, which breached off of the main thoroughfare Rue EO1.¹¹⁹ Two more streets still exist in SAF5, the east-west oriented streets Rue EO2 in the north and Rue EO3 in the south, which served as the access roads to the various storage rooms.¹²⁰

8.1. SILOS¹²¹

Several remains of silos¹²² can be found throughout the area, varying in size and brick format and mostly only preserved at floor level.¹²³ In the south¹²⁴ the silos had a diameter of 2.50 to 5.80m, and in some cases two silos overlap (M6, Rue EO2), clearly indicating that here the silos belonged to two different phases (Pl. 26.1). Since they were overbuilt by the longitudinal storage rooms, it is clear that two storage phases with the use of silos had existed before the rectangular magazines were erected. Unfortunately, no absolute chronology can be set up for this area and it is also not possible to determine the duration of use of these silos. The brick format used for the silos was either 51 × 37cm, 34 × 29cm or 44 × 32cm, all with a slightly trapezoid form. In total, ten silos can be identified.

In the central area of M12 four silos existed, which had diameters of either 5.45 or 7.20m. They corresponded to the walls of the storage rooms existing here and seem to have been built into the outer walls of the magazine area at a later date, rendering the rectangular storage rooms out of use. The brick format used for the silos here is 35 × 35cm and the remains of the silos reach up to a height of 0.50m (Pl. 29.2). These silos were later overbuilt by Meroitic structures.

¹¹⁶ See AZIM 1975, 113–118.

¹¹⁷ As already mentioned in Chapter 6, this passage is now closed off by a narrow wall, which probably stems from a later time period.

¹¹⁸ The magazine numbers M1–M18 were assigned in 2013 by the author to facilitate the description of the storage rooms.

¹¹⁹ See Chapter 6. Perhaps having one access point was a means of better protecting the goods, since the guarding of only one entrance was easier to maintain. Cf. UPHILL 1988, 29.

¹²⁰ See Chapter 6.

¹²¹ Cf. AZIM 1975, 113.

¹²² Silos are amongst the most numerous storage facilities found throughout Ancient Egypt. In settlements such as

Kahun and Amarna they are most often part of the house, situated in an open courtyard. See ARNOLD 2005; KEMP 2006, 327–331; KEMP 2010, 15, fig. 1.1; BARDOŇOVÁ 2014, 194–207; in Elephantine silos are mostly found in connection with a temple or sanctuary. See VON PILGRIM 1996a, 233.

¹²³ The former height of the silos as well as the extent to which they were filled, is unknown. The same holds true for the silos in Kahun and Amarna. See BARDOŇOVÁ 2014, 196.

¹²⁴ The remains of silos were found in M1, M2, M6, to the west of M7, M8, in the street Rue EO3 and – as only example from the northern part of SAF5 – to the south of Rue EO2.

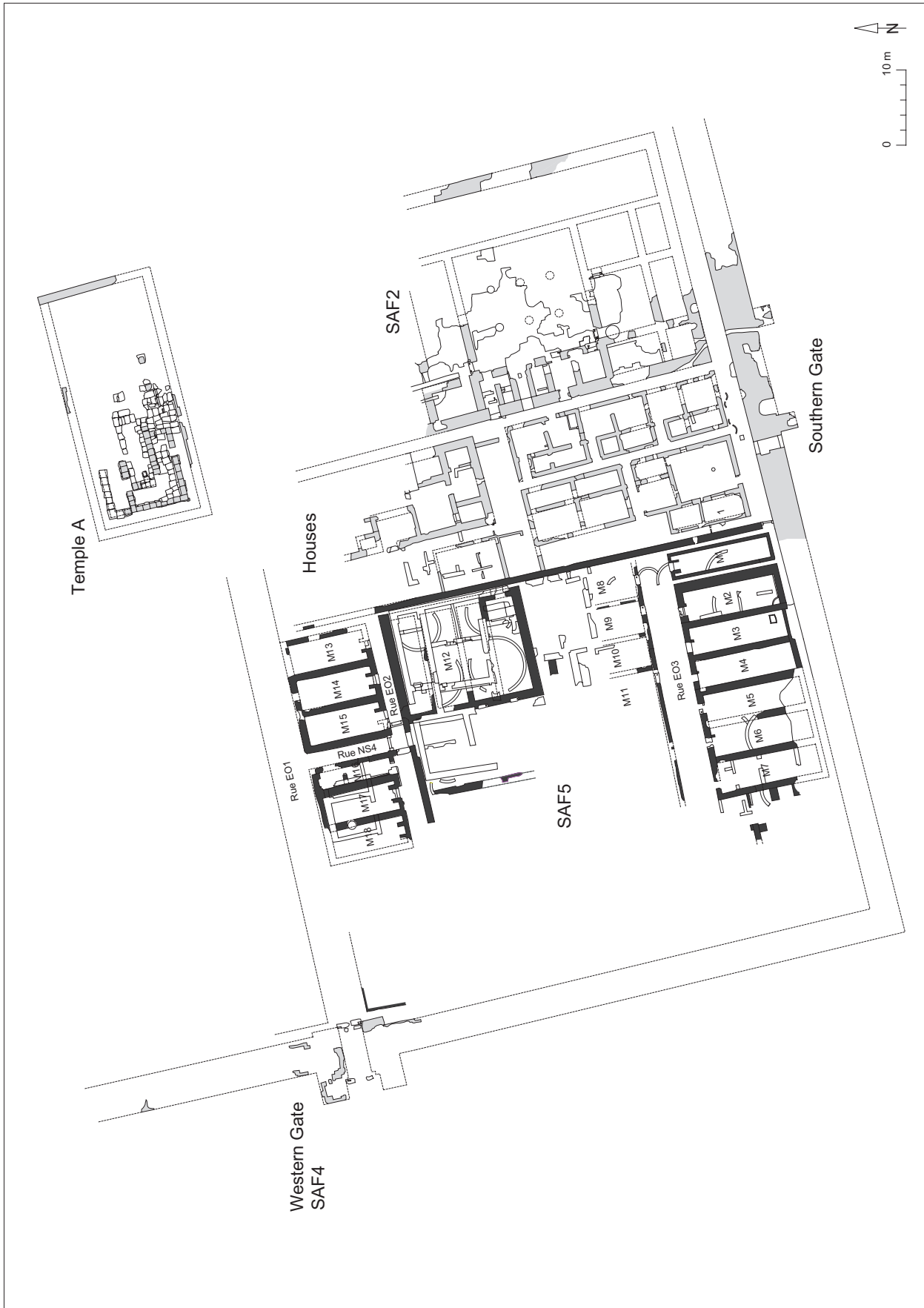


Fig. 10. Overview of SAF5

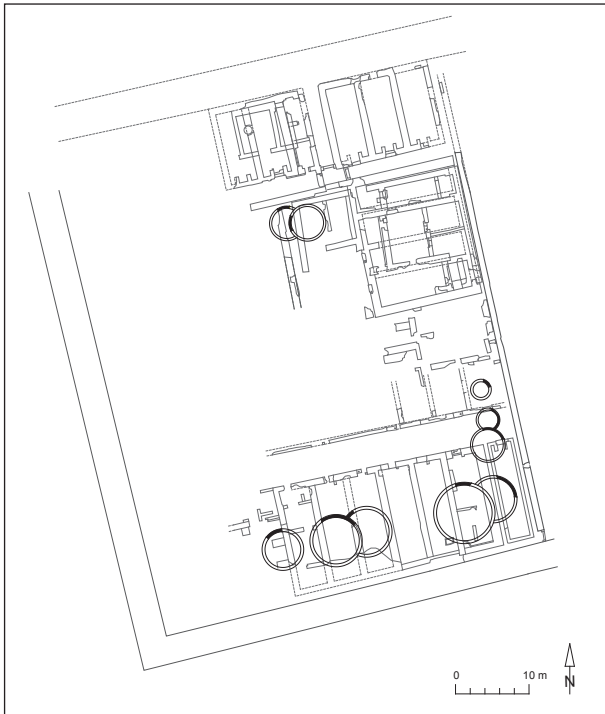


Fig. 11. Location of the phase 1 silos

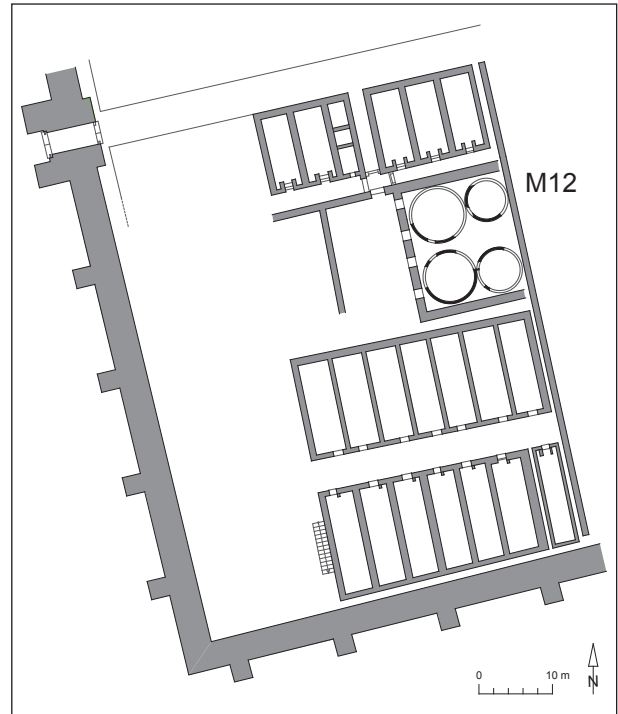


Fig. 12. Location of the phase 2 silos

Summarizing, a certain phasing can be determined:¹²⁵ in the beginning, silos for storage were erected in the area (Fig. 11). While the majority of silos could be detected on the southern side of SAF5, the remains of silos just to the south of Rue EO2 give evidence that silos could have been situated throughout the entire area of SAF5. This first phase of silos can actually be split into two sub-phases, since some of the remains overlap one another. In a second period, the rectangular storage rooms were erected. Finally, at least in the central zone (M12), these storage rooms were later replaced by four circular silos (Fig. 12), which must have occurred before Meroitic times, since they were later overbuilt by structures of this period.

8.2. M1–M7

(Pl. 1, Plan 7 section 14)

The row of longitudinal storage rooms on the south side (M1–M7) is bordered by the southern fortification wall with a gap of about 1.0m between the enclosure wall and the backside of the magazines. Whether this gap can actually be labelled as the wall street cannot be verified with certainty, since

only the eastern part is not overbuilt or void of rubble.¹²⁶ To the north of the storage rooms was the street Rue EO3, from which the magazines were entered. The seven preserved magazines of this row are all approximately the same size and form. It is however noteworthy that the northern and southern walls are not parallel to each other but situated at an angle, giving the rooms a slightly trapezoid form. The southern wall is thereby parallel to the southern fortification wall, while the northern wall deviates slightly from this direction (deviation of 2°). The east-west oriented walls, separating the magazines from each other, are not perpendicular to either of them.

While the magazines M2–M7 share the respective east-west oriented partitioning walls, the eastern most storage room M1¹²⁷ (Pl. 24.1) is separated from the others by a narrow corridor of 0.54m. To the east of M1 an additional 0.57m wide corridor is situated between M1 and the dividing wall to the domestic sector. The walls of M1 are only 0.41m wide and preserved up to a height of 1.30m. The bricks used here have a format of 41–44 × 26 × 8cm and the walls are for the most part covered with

¹²⁵ Cf. AZIM 1975, 116–119, pl. XIII.

¹²⁶ Cf. Chapter 6.

¹²⁷ Cf. Chapter 14.1.

mud plaster. The entire room has a size of 37.17m² (13.02 × 2.76m). The 1.21m wide entrance lies centrally in the northern wall, where a stone threshold with a hole for the door pivot on the western side is still lying *in situ* on two courses of bricks. The doorway was flanked by two (perhaps half-height) walls that jutted into the room for 0.75m. The mud pavement of the room was set about 0.50m lower than the threshold, making steps into the storage room necessary.¹²⁸

The following storage rooms to the west, M2–M7, all have about the same dimensions and are built in a similar fashion. What is noteworthy is the usage of various brick formats in all of the walls, ranging from 31 × 15 × 9cm to 39 × 25 × 8cm. From a specific height in the walls, which varies in every magazine and every wall, even larger bricks were applied.¹²⁹ A further detail of the building technique can be seen on the northern side of the north walls, where a mixture of plaster and pebbles is applied at an angle to the lower part of the wall, which seems to be a method for securing the wall in place of a foundation.¹³⁰ All the doorways were formed in a similar fashion with a stone threshold¹³¹ and a small wall on the eastern side protruding into the storage room for about 0.40–0.50m. Except for the northern and eastern walls of M2 with 0.90 and 1.31m respectively, the thickness of the walls were all similar at 0.70 to 0.75m. In the southern parts of two of the magazines, M2 and M3, rubble consisting of slanted bricks can be interpreted as the remains of vaults that covered the rooms.¹³²

Going into more detail from east to west, M2¹³³ (Pl. 24.2, Plan 7 section 15) was situated to the west of M1, separated by the above mentioned narrow corridor. The dimensions of the room are 12.37 × 3.99m, resulting in a floor surface of 49.36m². As already noted, the northern and eastern walls are considerably thicker than the others. The northern, eastern and southern walls bond with each other, while they are built onto the western wall, which is preserved up to a height of about 2.50m.

The entrance on the northern side is not exactly in the center of the wall, but lies slightly to the west. The width of the door is 1.15m and the stone threshold is preserved in its entirety. A hole for the door pivot exists on the western side. The threshold is situated on three courses of bricks and therefore lies about 0.60m higher than the mudbrick floor. The small wall, jutting out into the room for 0.21m on the eastern side of the door bonds with the northern wall. There are several installations such as partition walls and a bench in the room, which seem to stem from a later date.

The following magazine to the west, M3¹³⁴ (Pl. 24.3), was of similar design with a size of 47.51m² (12.67 × 3.77m). Here, the western wall of the room is added onto both the northern and the southern wall. The small wall lying to the east of the doorway on the northern side of the room is added on as well, and it protrudes into the room for 0.39m. The width of the entrance was 1.24m and, as in M2, it was not situated in the center of the northern wall, but slightly to the west. Two courses of bricks, on which the threshold was originally situated, remain in the opening, while a stone threshold lying in the northeastern corner of M3 can probably be assigned to the doorway. The eastern and the southern walls of this magazine are very well preserved, with the remaining height of the southern wall being about 3.30m and the eastern wall about 2.50m. The walls were partially covered in mud plaster. In the southeastern corner of the room a kind of a storage basin is installed, erected out of one row of bricks on edge, of which three courses of bricks are preserved (Pl. 24.4). The measurements of this basin are 1.10 × 0.80m. As in M2, rubble in the southwestern corner of the storage room could have originally stemmed from the vaulted ceiling.

M4¹³⁵ (Pl. 25.1), the following magazine to the west, measured 13.00 × 3.64m, resulting in a floor surface of 47.25m². The eastern wall is built onto the northern and southern walls, while the northern and the southern walls are built onto the western

¹²⁸ Cf. SPENCER 1997, 56–74, for the magazines at Amara West. She does not explicitly mention steps into the storage rooms, however the difference in height between the stone thresholds and the pavement of the rooms is usually about 0.50–0.60m.

¹²⁹ According to Azim (AZIM 1975, 115) the bricks of the silos were reused. He interprets this as a separate building phase, where the bricks were used for restoration purposes.

¹³⁰ Cf. Chapter 4.

¹³¹ Still *in situ* in the rooms M2 and M5.

¹³² Cf. AZIM 1975, 113. See also footnote 61 for parallels throughout Egypt. For comparisons regarding slanted bricks for the construction of vaults see SPENCER 1979, 142; KEMP 2000, 93, 95, fig. 3.9.

¹³³ Cf. Chapter 14.2.

¹³⁴ Cf. Chapter 14.3.

¹³⁵ Cf. Chapter 14.4.

wall. As in the neighboring room, M3, the southern wall is preserved up to a height of 3.30m and the southern part of the western wall is also very well preserved up to 2.90m. The entrance on the north side is designed just as the ones in the previously described storage rooms with the opening being 0.97m wide. A threshold is no longer preserved, though one course of bricks remains, on which a threshold must have been situated. Once again, there is a small wall added onto the wall to the east of the doorway.

The storage rooms M5¹³⁶ (Pl. 25.2) and M6¹³⁷ (Pl. 26.1) are not preserved in their entirety, since the southern parts of these two rooms are covered in rubble from the Ottoman fortress. Additionally, of the north-south oriented wall between these two magazines, only about 3.72m on the southern side still exists, while the northern part has deteriorated. Nevertheless, the former sizes of the rooms can be reconstructed by extending the dividing wall to the north and south, and presuming that the southern wall was aligned with the southern walls of the previous magazines. The reconstructed floor surfaces result in 46.71m² (M5) and 50.23m² (M6), making them similar in size to the other storage rooms in this sector. Of the 1.36m wide door in M5, part of the original threshold still exists on the western side of the opening, situated on one course of bricks. The small wall to the east of the doorway, as attested in the other storage rooms, could not be detected here, though presumably it existed. From the 1.30m wide door in M6, only one course of bricks remains, on which a stone threshold probably lay. Here, once again, a small wall was added onto the wall to the east of the entrance, jutting out into the room for 0.41m. The remains of two overlapping silos exist at the floor level, later overbuilt by the dividing wall of the two storage rooms.

The westernmost room in this row of magazines is labelled M7¹³⁸ (Pl. 26.2). As in M5 and M6, the southern part is covered in rubble and the original size must be reconstructed by supplementing the southern wall and prolonging the eastern and western walls, which amounts to a total floor surface of

53.24m². While the western wall is well preserved up to a height of 2.30m, the northern wall is almost entirely deteriorated and only few courses of bricks remain. The opening for the door can still be identified with a width of 0.93m. Inside of the room are many secondary walls, which separated the room into several smaller chambers for a later usage. An opening in the western wall with a width of 0.90m probably stems from a later period as well. To the west of M7 three east-west oriented walls are built onto the outer wall of the magazine. These could have belonged to the substructure of a staircase leading up to the roof of the storage rooms.¹³⁹

4.25m further to the west of M7, the sparse remains of two walls on floor level can be seen. According to Azim¹⁴⁰ these were part of a further row of magazines in the western part of SAF5, oriented from east to west along the western city wall and bordering a further north-south oriented street (Rue NS5 on Azim's plan¹⁴¹). However, neither the street nor the magazines can be verified through the remaining features, since too little is preserved in this area.

8.3. M8–M11

(Pl. 4, Plan 7 section 13)

To the north of the 4.30m wide street Rue EO3, a further row of at least seven storage rooms can be reconstructed, even though almost all the original walls in this area have deteriorated and the many secondary walls make the situation very unclear. In contrast to Azim's plan,¹⁴² where only one magazine on the eastern side and the southern boundary wall of the row of magazines is reconstructed, more evidence could be detected during the recent investigations in order to support the now suggested reconstruction. Bordering Rue EO3 in the north, the sparse remains of the southern wall of the magazines can be traced for an entire length of 31.70m. Though these remains are at the most three courses high, more often only one or two courses still exist or the wall can only be seen as a faint imprint on the ground. Based on the existing remains, an about 0.70m thick wall can be reconstructed, covering ap-

¹³⁶ Cf. Chapter 14.5.

¹³⁷ Cf. Chapter 14.6.

¹³⁸ Cf. Chapter 14.7.

¹³⁹ See AZIM 1975, 116. At the Ramesseum, many staircases can be found at the granaries, making the roof accessible in order to enable filling the storage room through roof aper-

tures. See KEMP 2006, 259, fig. 94; VOGEL 2010b, 425, fig. 4, for the painted representation of a granary complex of the 12th Dynasty featuring stairs to the roof.

¹⁴⁰ AZIM 1975, 98, pl. IV, 113.

¹⁴¹ AZIM 1975, 98, pl. IV, 113.

¹⁴² AZIM 1975, 98, pl. IV.

proximately the same length as the storage rooms M1–M7 to the south of Rue EO3. Along this wall three stone thresholds are still lying *in situ*, marking the entrances into three of the magazines (M8, M9, and M11). Together with the remains of three north-south oriented walls and one east-west oriented wall piece, situated 12.47m to the north of the southern wall (Pl. 28.2), at least four magazines in a row (M8–M11) can be reconstructed that all had similar measurements. One may further assume that this row of magazines continued to the west, resulting in a total of seven longitudinal storage rooms situated directly opposite of the magazines M1–M7.

The easternmost threshold with a hole for a door pivot on the eastern side marks the entrance to M8¹⁴³ (Pls. 27 and 28.1). To the east one course of bricks is preserved for a length of 1.16 m, while to the west the wall is preserved along a length of 2.86m between the two thresholds. The brick format used here is 31 × 16 × 9cm. Of the north-south oriented dividing wall between M8 and M9 only a small part remains, with mostly only the western edge of the wall discernable. This wall can be traced on a length of 5.20m, starting at the southern wall. By assuming the thickness of the wall to have been about 0.60m and the eastern wall situated at a distance of 3.67m, leaving a narrow corridor to the bordering wall of SAF5, the storage room M8 must have had a size of about 47.00m².

The threshold of M9¹⁴⁴ was also preserved in its entirety and was situated on three courses of bricks. To the west of the threshold, the southern wall continued further to the west, up to a height of three brick courses, with some bricks of the lowest course standing on edge. Of the western wall, only a small piece (1.07m) remains on the southern side of the magazine. Too little of this wall is left for verifying the thickness, but it is also reconstructed with 0.60m, making the room about 4.28m wide and resulting in a floor surface of 52.71m² for M9.

Of the magazine situated to the west of M9, M10,¹⁴⁵ only the continuing southern wall remains at floor level, without a preserved threshold or evidence of the former doorway. Next to the small piece of the dividing wall between M9 and M10, the remains of another north-south oriented wall can be

traced about 4.0m further to the west, resulting in a probable room size of 47.72m² for the storage room M10. Directly to the west of these wall remains lies the third threshold, marking the entrance into a further storage room M11.¹⁴⁶ To the west of the threshold, the southern wall can be traced for a further length of 15.93m, though the wall is badly deteriorated and can only be seen at floor level (Pl. 28.3). No further north-south oriented wall could be detected to the west of M11. However, as already mentioned above, three further storage rooms can be assumed for this area.

8.4. M12

(Pl. 3, Plan 7 section 12)

To the north of M8–M11 lies the complex M12.¹⁴⁷ Here, the rising walls that dominate the area all stem from later periods, mainly the Meroitic period,¹⁴⁸ while the remains of the New Kingdom settlement are only preserved in the lower levels (Pl. 29.1). Nevertheless, it is possible to attempt a reconstruction of this area, resulting in four longitudinal east-west oriented storage rooms with entrances in the west. As already described above, the remains of the four silos in this area overbuild the walls of the original magazines, as opposed to the situation in the south of SAF5, where the silos precede the longitudinal storage rooms.¹⁴⁹

The entire area of M12 has a size of 282.70m². Remains of the outer walls of the New Kingdom complex are preserved on the northern, western and southern sides. Additionally, the remains of east-west oriented dividing walls in the interior can be identified on the floor level. The northern wall, bordering Rue EO2, is 1.23m thick and is preserved up to a height of about 0.70m. The brick format used here is 36 × 18 × 11cm. On the eastern side the wall ends 0.40m to the west of the north-south oriented dividing wall towards the residential area. On the western side, the northern wall bonds with the western wall, which covers an entire length of 16.68m and is 1.06m thick (Pl. 30.1). Three courses of mudbricks are preserved of this western wall. The northern part is overbuilt by secondary walls, though the corner of a threshold can still be seen here (Pl. 30.3). Two further stone thresholds, aligned with the west-

¹⁴³ Cf. Chapter 14.8.

¹⁴⁴ Cf. Chapter 14.9.

¹⁴⁵ Cf. Chapter 14.10.

¹⁴⁶ Cf. Chapter 14.10.

¹⁴⁷ Cf. Chapter 14.11.

¹⁴⁸ Cf. GEUS 1994, fig. 4, for a reconstruction of the later building in this area.

¹⁴⁹ See Chapter 8.1.

ern edge of the wall, are lying on the wall, indicating the former entrances into the storage rooms.

The southern wall, with a length of 12.59m and a thickness of 1.10m, bonds with the western wall. In the southeastern corner, where a small part of the eastern wall bonds with the southern wall as well, the wall is preserved up to a height of 1.72m (Pl. 30.2). Two interior east-west oriented dividing walls can be determined through sparse remains on the western side: the first one is situated 3.02m to the south of the northern wall, the second one 4.17m further again to the south. The width of these walls was originally 0.72m. A further piece of the northern dividing wall can be traced 4.65m further to the east, partly covered by a secondary wall. Lastly, a third dividing wall can be reconstructed 3.60m to the north of the southern wall, where a few bricks at floor level on the eastern side indicate the position of a former wall. Thus, four storage rooms, ranging from 39.70 to 53.43m² formerly existed in the area of M12. In the southernmost room, the floor is still preserved in the western part, consisting of schist slabs of various sizes, set in an irregular fashion in lime mortar (Pl. 29.2). Singular slabs were also found in other areas of M12, so one can assume that perhaps the floors of these magazines were all constructed in this way.

In alignment with the northern wall, a 1.85m long threshold is situated directly opposite of the entrance to Rue NS4 in the north. It was later overbuilt by a secondary wall, but during the usage period of the storage rooms in the area of M12, there must have been a north-south oriented street beginning here that gave access to the magazines.¹⁵⁰ The wall to the south of Rue EO2 continued onwards to the west for a length of at least 10.55m. The remains of a north-south oriented wall could furthermore be detected 9.48m to the west of the western wall of M12. This wall is 0.85m thick and is preserved up to two courses of bricks.

8.5. M13–M18

(Pl. 2, Plan 7 section 11)

In the northern part of SAF5 was a further row of longitudinal storage rooms, of which six can still be clearly detected. They are bordered by the streets Rue EO1 in the north and Rue EO2 in the south, from where the magazines were accessed. The

north-south oriented dividing wall to the residential quarter served as the eastern border, with a gap of 0.97m between the dividing wall and the eastern wall of M13. The access road Rue NS4 divides the row of magazines into two parts: M13–M15 are on the eastern side of Rue NS4, while M16–M18 are on the west. The row of magazines possibly continued onwards towards the west and the western gate, where the corner of a building stands in alignment with the northern wall of the storage rooms M13–M18 (Pl. 35.2). As in the southern part of SAF5, various brick formats were used for the walls of the storage rooms here, ranging from 31 × 17 × 9cm to 39 × 19 × 13cm. The walls all have a thickness of 0.90m. The entrances into the rooms had stone thresholds and were flanked by small walls on either side, which protruded into the room. The floors inside were at a lower level than the street, therefore there must have been steps leading into the storage rooms.

At 40.90m², each of the three magazines M13–M15 are of the same size and layout, with a length of 10.10m and a width of 4.05m. The entrances on the southern side lie in the center of the southern walls. M13¹⁵¹ (Pl. 31.2), the easternmost magazine, is not preserved in its entirety, since only the western wall and the western part of the southern wall exist up to a height of 0.80m, while of the northern and eastern walls only small parts up to two courses of bricks remain. A small wall to the west of the doorway is preserved as well and juts out into the room for 0.60m. The width of the entrance at 1.05m and an eastern accompanying wall, analogous to the other storage rooms of this area, need to be reconstructed. From the entrance one course of bricks is preserved, on which a stone threshold was originally situated. Courses of bricks standing on edge are found throughout the masonry of the room.

The following storage room to the west, M14¹⁵² (Pl. 32, Plan 7 section 12), is very well preserved up to a height of 1.36m in the southwestern corner. The central entrance on the southern side is 1.28m wide and the stone threshold is lying *in situ*, aligned to the southern edge of the wall. A step with a depth of 0.25m leads down into the room. The half-height walls accompanying the entrance on both sides protrude into the room for 0.77m and are 0.40m wide. The entire floor of the room is covered by irregu-

¹⁵⁰ See Chapter 6.

¹⁵¹ Cf. Chapter 14.12.

¹⁵² Cf. Chapter 14.13.

larly formed schist slabs of various sizes that are laid in a lime mortar (Pl. 56). At least the lower parts of the walls were also covered with schist, as can be seen by the remains on the eastern, southern and western walls. An opening in the northern wall was added in a later building period.

The walls of M15¹⁵³ (Pl. 33.1), lying to the west of M14, are also all preserved, with the western wall even as high as 2.0m. As for the entrance, the eastern accompanying wall still exists, measuring 0.71 × 0.40m, though the western one is missing. Of the stone threshold only the eastern part is preserved. It is situated on one course of bricks and a step to the north of the threshold leads further into the storage room.

The rooms to the west of Rue NS4¹⁵⁴ are partly overbuilt by secondary walls, but the original layout can still be determined. Directly adjoining Rue NS4 is the room M16¹⁵⁵ (Pl. 33.2). With a length of 9.63m and a width of 2.26m, it deviates from the other magazines of this row. Also, the entrance situation differs from the others, since there are no flanking walls on either side of the doorway. The southern wall is badly preserved; therefore, it is also difficult to determine the width and the exact position of the former entranceway. The northern wall is also very much deteriorated – only the western corner is preserved up to a height of about 1.0m – while the remaining parts are only one to two courses high. The western wall is overbuilt by a wall from a later period; however, it can be reconstructed, especially since the western edge of the wall is still visible (Pl. 34.1). Of interest are two east-west oriented dividing walls in the room, which according to the brick format seem to have belonged to the original structure. One of these walls is situated 2.96m to the south of the northern wall, the second one lies a further 2.0m to the south of the first dividing wall. Of these walls, only sparse remains at ground level exist. Because of the poor state of preservation, it must remain open if this storage room was formerly divided into three smaller storage facilities or if the room had another function, for example a staircase, leading to the roofs of the magazines.

Further to the west is the magazine M17¹⁵⁶ (Pl. 34.2–3), with a size of 36.21m². This room is

once again constructed in the layout known from the magazines to the east of Rue NS4 with the central southern doorway flanked by small, half-height walls on either side. The width of the door is 1.30m, with a step into the room on the northern side. Even though a stone threshold is missing, there probably was one originally placed here on a course of bricks. The accompanying walls protrude into the room for 0.87m. The southern and western walls of the storage room are preserved up to a height of 1.30m, while the northern and eastern walls are mostly overbuilt by secondary walls. An east-west oriented wall within the room and a large storage vessel inserted into the western wall also belong to a later building phase.

Of the next storage room to the west, M18¹⁵⁷ (Pl. 35.1), only the eastern and part of the southern wall are still visible, while the northern and western walls are covered by rubble and secondary structures. On the southern side, the wall is preserved up to a height of 0.95m and the small walls flanking the entrance exist as well, protruding into the room for 0.80m. The actual entrance cannot be seen anymore, but one can assume that there was a stone threshold situated in the 1.25m space between the two flanking walls. The size of the storage room M18 is reconstructed in accordance to the neighboring room M17, with a width of 3.60m and a length of 9.72m, resulting in a floor surface of about 34.90m².

8.6. THE WESTERN AREA OF SAF5

The western area of SAF5 is, for the most part, built up with structures from later time periods, especially the remains of small houses (also laid out in a grid) and the Ottoman fortress to the far west. Of the layout in the Pharaonic period nothing remains. Azim assumed that there was an east-west oriented row of longitudinal magazines situated along the western fortification, accompanied by a north-south oriented street Rue NS5.¹⁵⁸ Apart from the rather vague remains to the west of M7 (already mentioned above), this assumption cannot be supported through the actual findings.

8.7. RECONSTRUCTION OF SAF5

For the reconstruction of SAF5, the following rows of magazines can safely be accounted for: in the

¹⁵³ Cf. Chapter 14.14.

¹⁵⁴ Cf. Chapters 6 and 14.15 for the description of Rue NS4.

¹⁵⁵ Cf. Chapter 14.16.

¹⁵⁶ Cf. Chapter 14.17.

¹⁵⁷ Cf. Chapter 14.18.

¹⁵⁸ AZIM 1975, 98, pl. IV; 116.

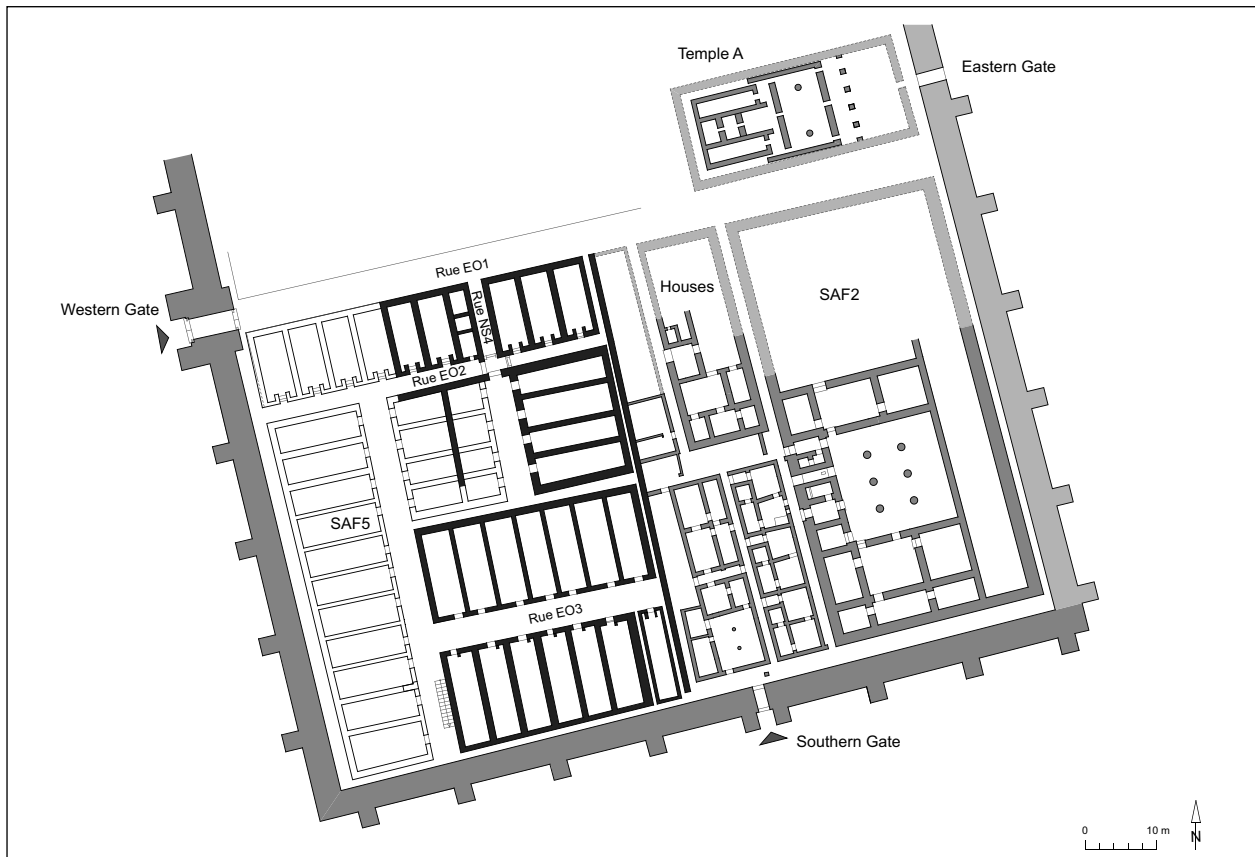


Fig. 13. Reconstruction plan of SAF5 with presumed magazines on the western side

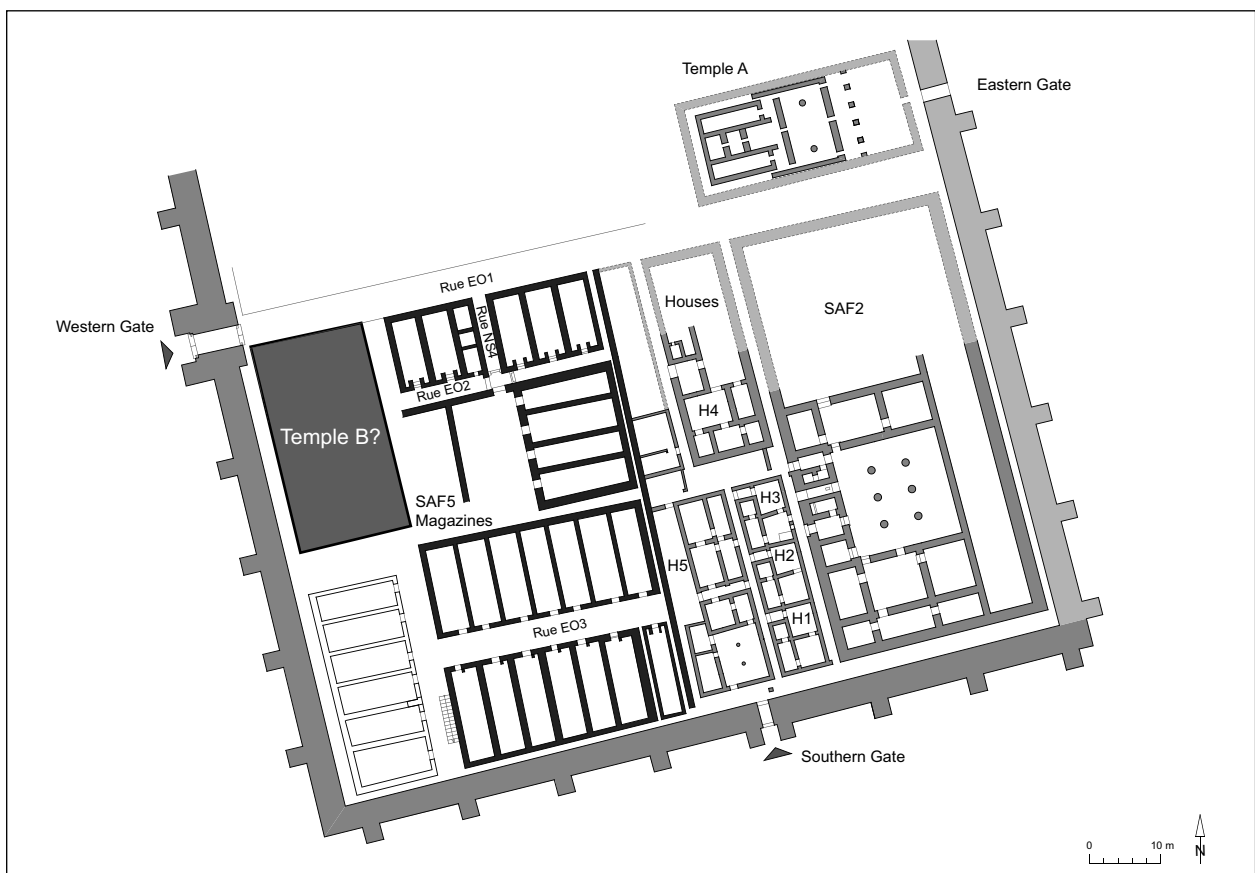


Fig. 14. Suggested reconstruction of SAF5 with a presumed second temple (Temple B)

south seven longitudinal storage rooms lay to the south (M1–M7) and the north (M8–M11) of Rue EO3, with a staircase built onto the western side of the southern row. Such stairs could, naturally, also be possible for the other buildings blocks. Furthermore, four storage rooms facing to the west can be reconstructed in the area M12, situated to the south of Rue EO2, as well as five to six magazines in the north (M13–M18), to be accessed from Rue EO2. As for the reconstruction of the buildings themselves, the elevations of the magazines must remain hypothetical and are reconstructed with an assumed height of 4.0m. The rows of magazines are covered with a common flat roof (Pl. 57.1).¹⁵⁹

A more hypothetical reconstruction must be undertaken for the western side of SAF5 and also for the central area to the west of M12. As a first proposal (Fig. 13), the area could have been filled with more magazines – i.e. the already mentioned row of magazines along the western fortification wall – which would have been accessed from the eastern side. By using approximately the same size for the magazines as those remaining, a total of eleven storage rooms could fit in this area. In addition, the northern row of magazines, M13–M18, could have continued to the west, up to the western gate, for an additional four more storage rooms reconstructed. As for the central zone, hypothetically four east-west oriented magazines, similar to those of the area M12, would fit into the remaining space. One must keep in mind, however, that the remains

of a north-south oriented New Kingdom wall exist here, which would split the storage rooms into a total of eight smaller rooms.¹⁶⁰

Especially in view of this central area, the special situation at the crossing point of the streets Rue EO2 and Rue NS4 (with its continuation to the south) must be considered. This crossing point was accentuated by four stone thresholds spanning the widths of the respective streets (Pl. 20.1).¹⁶¹ At the threshold to the west of the crossing point, parts of a stone doorjamb still exist, bearing an inscription of the viceroy Nehi (Pls. 20.2 and 20.3) and thus also aiding in the dating of the area. It seems plausible to assume that similar doorjambs¹⁶² and lintels were set up at all sides of the street crossing, in order to emphasize this place as the access point to some kind of special building.¹⁶³ One hypothesis in this line of thought is that some kind of sanctuary or second temple existed here (Fig. 14). In addition to the fact that longitudinal storage rooms were very often located in the vicinity of a temple,¹⁶⁴ comparable fortified towns such as Soleb and Sesebi also had two temples, usually a major one and a smaller one.¹⁶⁵ Furthermore, in the 19th century early explorers of Sai Island reported two temples at the site, one in the middle of the “fortress” (by which they meant the Ottoman fortress) and the other one further to the north.¹⁶⁶ In addition, a conspicuously large number of sandstone blocks from temple architecture can be found in this area, for which the original site is not known.¹⁶⁷

¹⁵⁹ Cf. model of the city of Amarna: http://www.amarna-project.com/pages/model_of_the_city/index.shtml (last accessed 18/09/2015).

¹⁶⁰ Cf. SPENCER 1997, 56–74, for the temple magazines at Amara West, where the storerooms have varying sizes, ranging from c. 3.50 × 2.50m to 5.40 × 3.20m.

¹⁶¹ Three of these thresholds are still *in situ*, while a fourth one in Rue NS4 can be reconstructed lying on a course of bricks situated there. See also Chapter 6.

¹⁶² An additional doorpost bearing the name of Nehi was found in a secondary usage as a threshold in the northern part of M12 (Pl. 31.1).

¹⁶³ In Uronarti, evidence for a treasury next to the granary exists in the form of clay seal impressions. Textual evi-

dence is available for treasuries in Askut, Mirgissa and Semna South. See VOGEL 2010b, 427.

¹⁶⁴ Cf. Ramesseum (e.g. ARNOLD 1992, 142–144, with plan on p. 142; WILKINSON 2000, 183, figs. 1 and 2; KEMP 2006, 258, pl. 6; 259, fig. 94), magazines at the temple at Amara West (SPENCER 1997, 53–74), Sesebi (site plan e.g. UPHILL 1988, 37, fig. 16; SPENCE/ROSE 2011, 34, fig. 1).

¹⁶⁵ Cf. EMERY/SMITH/MILLARD 1979, pl. IV; MORRIS 2005, 336; SPENCE/ROSE 2009 and 2011; MORKOT 2012a; CAVALIER 2014.

¹⁶⁶ Cf. BUDGE 1907, 461–465; VERCOUTTER 1958 and 1986, 13; BUDKA forthcoming. This is also the reason why Vercoutter labelled the first temple he discovered Temple A.

¹⁶⁷ Cf. BUDKA forthcoming, footnote 122.