

were laid over the earlier occupation deposit (Fig. 49). This flooring phase may also coincide with the wall-plastering phase, as indicated by intact points of connection between floor and facing plaster at the top of the footing bricks of the walls.

Within Room N27/3 it is possible to identify an additional layer of Deposit 3. This layer, a demolition stage that developed over Floor N27F12R3 (at present truncated) was later concealed by Floor N27F13R3. There is no clear evidence of relation between this upper floor and a second building phase of N27, but this sequence of flooring may be concomitant with the refreshment of the facing plaster on the room's interior southwestern corner.

G CONCLUDING REMARKS ON THE ARCHITECTURE AT SAV1 NORTH

On the basis of the architectural analysis of the five building units assigned to Level 3 at SAV1 North, it can be stated that N24, N25, N12, N26 and N27 pertain to a rectilinear type of architecture with a planned housing system. Even though none of the exposed building units is of the same size or plan, all are arranged according to a loose and detached pattern of spatial distribution. This pattern reveals a clear alignment oriented along the town's northern enclosure wall (N4) and thus in compliance with the general pattern of the settlement grid in SAV1, corresponding with the southern sector of the Pharaonic town.

The building units of SAV1 North from Level 3 have been assessed here with regards to the different aspects of building techniques. Firstly, conclusions are drawn with respect to the size and disposition of the bricks. The building units were constructed with mostly narrow, half-a-brick thick walls. However, the size of the bricks themselves seems not been related to a particular purpose, wall, pilaster or installation. In other words, the distribution in SAV1 North does not imply that a particular size of brick – small, medium or large – was necessary to build a particular type of wall, be it perimeter or internal.

Secondly, from the study of the relationships of the walls and pilasters, both in the bonding and in successive wall plastering and floor coating, information can be gleaned as to the different phases of building and occupation. The gravel backfill substratum is evidence of human activity prior to

the construction phases N24-b, N25-b, N12-c and N26-c, while N27-c partly sits on walls belonging to an earlier building phase, Level 4.³⁴² The earliest construction stage for the Level 3 units could start with the perimeter and internal walls (N24-b, N12-c, N27-c), with one of the perimeter walls (N25-b) or with perimeter walls and two of the inner walls (N26-c). It is also possible to ascribe the construction of Enclosure Wall N4 and its external interlocked small Brick Tower N3 to the earliest building phase of Level 3. The floors designated as "1" for each unit belong to this first building phase. The second building phase attests to various changes and additional installations. Within N24, phase N24-a shows the construction of two extra segments of walls: one extends the span of the northern perimeter wall and the other links the two parts of the western perimeter masonry. Modification of the access pattern may potentially result from these brickwork additions. For building unit N25, phase N25-a features the construction of the northern and eastern perimeter walls. Within N12, three installations – a storage bin, a storage pit, and a quern emplacement – belong to the second building phase N12-b, while in N26 the second stage of construction (N26-b) is represented by the building of additional internal walls to delineate the western side rooms. The secondary building phases N24-a, N25-a, N12-b, and N26-b are all connected by a new sequence of flooring, designated in each unit as Floor 2. By contrast, from the case study of N27, it seems that this Floor 2 may rather correspond to a refreshment of the floor, without evidence of a new building stage. A distinct *third* building phase is identified in only two of the five building units, where there is also evidence of a Floor 3, and has been designated there as N12-a and N26-a. Building phase N12-a shows both the restoration and extension of the southern perimeter wall, as well as the erection of two additional pilasters. In building unit N26, the short western and eastern perimeter walls were reinforced by the adjunction of extra wythes. In N27, the possible remains of a Floor 3 identified in Room N27/3 are not related to a distinct building phase, but rather to the refreshment of the facing plaster in the room's interior southwestern corner.

Finally, the identifiable access points into each building unit indicate that no constant orientation

³⁴² BUDKA and DOYEN 2013, 175. For the short sections of walls attributed to Level 4, see BUDKA and DOYEN 2013, 172. Budka further specifies the date of these earliest archi-

tectural remains "to the time span of Ahmose Nebpehtyra up to Thutmose I", see BUDKA 2014, 62, note 72.

of the entranceways was favoured. The individualised placement of access points is consistent with the fact that none of the five building units were built to a standardised type of plan. From the case study of N27, it is clear that this building unit was constructed over the earlier Level 4 walls. However, architectural remains of Level 4 are much too sparse to prove that the Level 3 phase of construction was consistently based on the existing pattern. It is only possible to note the conspicuous compliance of the five building units with the northern enclosure wall, supporting the assertion that all the construction assigned to Level 3 – the time of foundation of the walled settlement, the enclosure wall and the building units of SAV1 North – were organised according to a pre-planned arrangement.

Through the study of the Level 3 building units at SAV1 North, it is possible to capture a significant view of the Pharaonic town's northern area. In this undeniably urban context, the five building units appear to be dedicated as simple domestic compounds, properly equipped with installations related to production and food-processing tasks: storage bins, storage pits and grinding tools. However, the absence of other "typical domestic emplacements such as mastabas"³⁴³ challenges the status of the SAV1 North area as a permanent residential housing quarter and further indication must be sought through the material remains (see Chapters III and IV).

H ANNEX: DATES AND TEAM MEMBERS OF SIAM MISSIONS AT SAV1 NORTH

*SAV1 North SIAM season 12 January to 14 February 2008*³⁴⁴

Project director: Didier Devauchelle

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Team member affiliated to the National Corporation for Antiquities and Museums: Yassin Mohammed Saeed

NCAM representative: Sami Mohammed el Amin
Workmen's supervisor: Imad Shorbagy Mohamed Farah

Funding granted by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

*SAV1 North SIAM season 17 January to 19 February 2009*³⁴⁵

Project director: Didier Devauchelle

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Funding granted by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UMR 8164 HALMA-IPEL.

*SAV1 North SIAM season 16 January to 18 February 2010*³⁴⁶

Project director: Didier Devauchelle

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Workmen's supervisor: Imad Shorbagy Mohamed Farah

Funding granted by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UMR 8164 HALMA-IPEL.

*SAV1 North SIAM season 8 January to 10 February 2011*³⁴⁷

Project director: Didier Devauchelle

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³⁴³ KEMP and STEVENS 2010a, 492.

³⁴⁴ DOYEN 2008, 257–258; DEVAUCHELLE and DOYEN 2009, 31.

³⁴⁵ DOYEN 2009b, 197–198.

³⁴⁶ DOYEN 2011, 203–204.

³⁴⁷ DOYEN 2013, 138–141.

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Funding granted by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UMR 8164 HALMA-IPEL.

*SAVI North SIAM season 14 January to 16 February 2012*³⁴⁸

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NCAM representative: Huda Magzoub

Funding granted by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs and UMR 8164 HALMA-IPEL.

³⁴⁸ BUDKA and DOYEN 2013; DOYEN forthcoming.