## History of Architecture I ARC 2313 - Spring 2022

## Lecture-05

## 28 January 2022

## For Monday 31 January:

Ingersoll pages 48-60 and 86-97


General map of the Med


## Nile Valley

Nile flows north
(in general)

## Mediterranean Sea





## Old Kingdom Egypt

About 2686-2181 BCE

After 3000 BCE, Old Kingdom Egypt united as a centralized state under
a deified monarch - a king later known by the Greek word pharaoh, meaning "great house"

# Pharaoh became known as son of Ra 

 and worshipped as a God...Ra the Egyptian Sun God
(Anu the Sumerian Sun God)
(Helios the Greek Sun God)



Ra as depicted in an Egyptian temple

## Egyptian Architecture

Mortuary architecture and permanent public structures of stone, built with great geometrical accuracy.

Palace architecture in the north borrowed from Mesopotamia - pleated mud walls

Domestic architecture non-permanent: bundled reeds, matted papyrus, etc

## The mastaba (tumulus) or burial mound

 (Arabic for bench)

Stone or brick perimeter filled with sand with a secret burial chamber


Secret burial vaults of the mastaba

The afterlife of the king was very important, as he was united with Ra and continued with his duties....

The tombs, beginning with a mastaba and evolving into a pyramid, represented a remaking of the palace (of sorts) - but now solidified to house the spirit of the king called the ka....
$\boldsymbol{k a}$ is difficult to define. You can think of it as the connection between the body and the soul

The serdab was a sealed chamber containing a statue of the dead

## First Pyramid at Saqqara

(sa-KAR-ah)

Zoser - ruled 2691-2625
(ZO-zer)
(Also spelled Djoser)


Reconstruction of the Oval Temple at Khafaje, Mesopotamia (Iraq), ca. 2500 BCE.

Oval Temple at Khafaje created at same time (2600 BCE) as Zoser's Pyramid at Saqqara 1800 miles away


Zoser's statue from the serdab

## Egyptian Museum in Cairo



## Imhotep - Zoser's architect

(eem-OH-tep)

History's first documented architect c 2600 BCE

A. Restored view of the pyramid and enclosure from the flooded Nile valley

## Zoser's Pyramid - The First Pyramid



Zoser's tomb at Saqqara - Entry at Processional Hall

A secret passage led to this $\boldsymbol{H e b}$-Sed courtyard with 22 altars used during a festival in which ruler had to prove his ability to rule


Zoser's Tomb - First Pyramid at Saqqara - c 2650 BCE


Entry through Processional Court
Plan of:
Zoser's Tomb - First Pyramid at Saqqara - c 2650 BCE


## Zoser's Tomb Complex in a restored condition

Again, the tomb was replete with false doors, false pavilions, mere stone replications of a life (all of this would be used in the afterlife)

## Almost like a ghost town...

Smaller courts symbolized the red and white palaces of the districts of Egypt...


## Upper Egypt: white cone crown - the lotus Lower Egypt: red cap crown - the papyrus

Final height of Zoser's tomb: six levels and 200 feet high

## The pyramidion

The gilded capstone of a pyramid (this one has lost its gilding)


## Sneferu - 2613-2589

## Father of Khufu (Cheops)

1) Meidum (collapsed)
2) Bent Pyramid at Dashur
3) Red Pyramid he may be buried here

## Mediterranean Sea





Bent Pyramid at Dashur - Sneferu


## Red Pyramid at Dashur - Sneferu

Red Pyramid at Dashur - Sneferu

## Khufu or Cheops - 2589-2566 (Son of Sneferu)

## Great Pyramid at Giza

479 feet tall
755 foot square at the base

$$
51.5^{\circ} \text { angle }
$$



The complex included two smaller pyramids of Khufu's successors:

Khafre (son of Khufu - only slightly smaller)
Menkaure (son of Khafre - half size)

As well as dozens more mastabas and small pyramids for wives and courtiers

## Each Prramid had a Valley Temple

## The Valley Temple of Khafre

>> Discovered in better condition
>> Staging area where King was prepared for interment



Khufu - 2589-2566 BCE


Khafre - 2558-2532 BCE


Sphinx guards Khafre - 2532 BCE


Menkaure in foreground


Pyramid actually stepped of giant red sandstone then sheathed in polished white limestone


Polished white limestones sheathing pyramid

## Pyramids of Giza





Theories of how pyramids were built using ramps of sand:
(a) long wide ramp;
(b) long splayed ramp;
(c) spiral ramp;
(d) zig-zag ramp;
(e) narrow axial ramp;
(f) splayed axial ramp.

long wide ramp
a

spiral ramp
C

narrow axial ramp
e

b

zig-zag ramp
d


Old Kingdom steadily declined after this period... due to the exhaustion of
wealth and slavery for such extravagance

Greek historian Herodotus (484-425 BCE)
wrote that Khufu's pyramid was the ultimate act of tyranny...

## Mentuhotep - 2161-2040 BCE

## (hiatus of 350 years)

## Middle Kingdom - reunited Egypt 2150-1750 BCE

Relocated capital to Thebes in Upper Egypt
A new type of mortuary architecture terraced, cut from live rock as well as assembled from rock brought to site, colonnades... a human scale for tombs


Figure 2.2-8 Deir el-Bahri, Egypt. Plan of the funeral complex of Mentuhotep I, ca. 2010 BCE . The progression moves west from planted forecourt to colonnaded terrace to rock-cut mortuary temple: (1) Mentuhotep l's tomb set in a tunnel within the cliff; (2) shrine to the god Montu-Ra; (3) square platform surrounded by colonnades; (4) porticoes with false tomb; (5) entry garden planted with Tamarisk trees.


# Mentuhotep vs. Hatshepsut 

Mortuary<br>Architecture



## Tombs of Mentuhotep and Hatshepsut - at Deir-el-Bahri

end

