

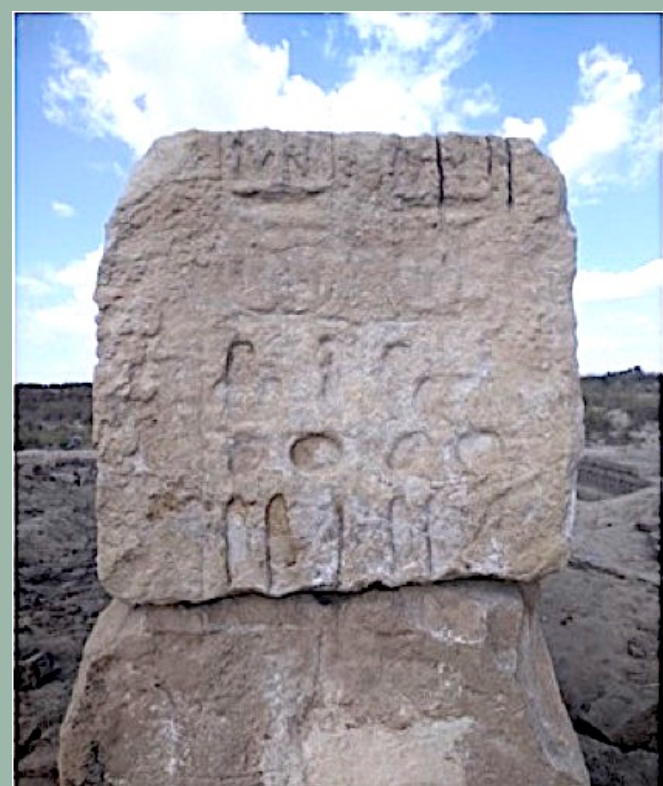
# Recently Discovered Military Barracks at the Fortress of Tell El-Abaq'in Hosh Issa, El- Beheira, 2023-2024

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## Introduction

Military barracks are a crucial part of the defensive system of military forts, reflecting the methods of military organization. The Fortress of El-Abaqa'in is an important example of military architecture associated with the defense of vital areas. In 2023-2024 the El-Abqa'in Excavation Mission discovered military barracks in the southwestern corner of the fortress, highlighting the architectural and functional design of the fort related the fort's defensive structure.



South gate and stone block, with names of Ramesses II



Door jamb with offering text



Military barracks area in the southwestern corner of the Fortress at Tell El- Abqa'in



Storage Area in the barracks

## Description of Buildings

The barracks included a series of residential rooms within four architectural units that housed essential facilities for the inhabitants of the fort, ensuring their continued military service. The facilities included storage rooms for grain and food supplies, ovens, and cooking stoves.



Silos (left) and Ovens (above)



## Results

The fort dates to the reign of Ramses II and objects from the fort highlight aspects of its function and the lives of the inhabitants. The research also analyze the features of the barracks, such as foundations, walls, internal divisions, ovens, and circular storage rooms. The study shows that the barracks of the Military Fortress of Tell Al-Abaqa'in were not just places of residence but were part of an integrated defensive system that included storage rooms, barracks, religious facilities, and other services necessary for the stability and continuity of military service. The results highlight the strategic importance of the fort in securing the western borders of the country against Libyan tribal and Sea People attacks during New Kingdom.



Sword blade with name of Rameses II



Necklace of red agate and faience



Ring bezel and scarab with name of the god Amun



Stone scarab with the god Ptah

Thanks to all of the members of the Tell El-Abqa'in Mission