



Egypt in Miniature: Volume One

THE CHAPEL OF KAGEMNI: SCENE DETAILS

By

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The members of the Oxford Expedition wish to announce the introduction of a new academic series, entitled 'Egypt in Miniature', which has come to fruition as a result of the Expedition's long-term fieldwork in the necropolis of Saqqara. This series involves the systematic and comprehensive photography and analysis of scene details in Old Kingdom tombs, commencing in 2007-2008 with the Saqqara chapels of Kagemni (Volume One), Ptahhotep (Volume Two) and Niankh-khnum & Khnumhotep (Volume Three) – these three initial volumes yielding a combined total of 1,717 analysed details. By providing numerous large-scale photographs of scene details and supplementing these images with analyses, archaeological data, and context line-drawings or photographs of the wall compositions (so that the details can be pin-pointed accurately), our aim is to produce informative and visually stimulating volumes in the series, each book being a visual and written conservation record of the decoration in a specific chapel as it exists at the present time. The primary function of the individual analyses is to offer insights into the many ways in which a scene detail might be studied, and for this reason the comments are wide-ranging, often surprising, and frequently applicable to all periods of Ancient Egyptian archaeology and art. Sculpting techniques, artists' errors, wall repairs, workshops and scene copying are all considered in the commentary, as well as topics such as photographic constraints, the limitations of epigraphy and photography as methods of recording, relationships between art and architecture, dating criteria, currently unique details, and more besides.

An essential part of the Egypt in Miniature series is the OEE Scene Details Database, the initial phase of which is due online in the second half of 2007. This database is a record of approximately 118 scene-types and mini scene-types known to exist in Old Kingdom tombs, on blocks in site magazines, and in museums and private collections worldwide. Not only does the database contain a bibliographical and archaeological record of the known examples of scenes relevant to each of these scene types, but it also includes lists of the *details* relevant to each scene-type, and provides records of the known examples of the scenes in which each specified detail occurs. As the database's content expands over a number of years so too will its association with the series expand considerably. Moreover, the first volumes in the Egypt in Miniature series will provide the finest visual examples of many scene details mentioned in the database - simply because the best examples of numerous scene details tend to be those preserved in tombs in the Saqqara necropolis.

Volume One of the Egypt in Miniature series is printed as a small-sized run, and the intention of the OEE team is to use the proceeds from the sale of this volume to finance the publication of the next book in the series, and so on. So much useful material is potentially available for future volumes that the reprinting of a past volume will not take precedence over the publication of a new book in the series. This being so, an early order is the best way to ensure that you possess a copy of Volume One.

- Series:** Egypt in Miniature: Volume One (Series Editor: Geoffrey T. Martin)
Title: THE CHAPEL OF KAGEMNI: SCENE DETAILS (ISBN-13: 978-0-9540835-1-9)
Contents: Total of 544 pages, including introductory pages, analyses of scene details (136 pages), 540 individual plates (black and white); tomb plans, and 32 context line-drawings.
Book size & type: Page size: 29.7 x 22.5 cm. Hardback. Baladek (Ismara) finish in dark green with gold lettering, and patterned tan end-papers.
Price: RRP: £150 (plus delivery), but order direct from OEE for only £115 (including UK delivery) *or* £125 (including Europe/World-wide delivery – by Surface Mail)

E-mail order enquiries to: paolo@oxfordexpeditiontoegypt.com

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