

B 1700

The structure B 1700, about 50 m northeast of B 500, was discovered by means of magnetometry in 2006 (**fig. 1**). It was first excavated in January and February 2015,



Fig. 1. Magnetic image generated in 2006 showing B 500 with previously unknown structures (then buried and not visible from the surface): at right (NE): B 1700; below: the mammisi temple and kiosk (B 560-561) on right side of avenue leading into B 500, and opposite it: a still unexcavated temple (B 570). (Geophysics: Meg Watters, T. Goldman, R. Wutzler, and Moh. Abdul Wahab).

when about half of it was cleared (**fig. 2, 3**). It proved to be a residential structure, about 16 m square - but so severely denuded that almost nothing of its superstructure remained. Today it exists only as a network of doorless mud brick foundation walls, packed with broken pottery and ashes. These walls originally supported stone columns and architectural elements, fragments of which still lie about in very worn remnants. The double walls of the square plan in the center (10.8 x 10.4 m sq.) may have been intended to support a peristyle - either a central living room, if roofed over, or a private atrium, if left open. B 1700 is much too small to have been a royal residence, but, given its proximity and axial similarity to B 500, it may have been a priests' house - possibly the residence of the High Priest of Amun. Radiocarbon dates suggest it was in use between the first century BC and the first century AD.



fig. 2. *B 1700, under excavation, February, 2015, looking south. The first pylon of B 500 is visible in the distance. (Photo: T. Kendall).*



fig. 3. *B 1700, under excavation, February 2015, looking north (Photo: T. Kendall)*

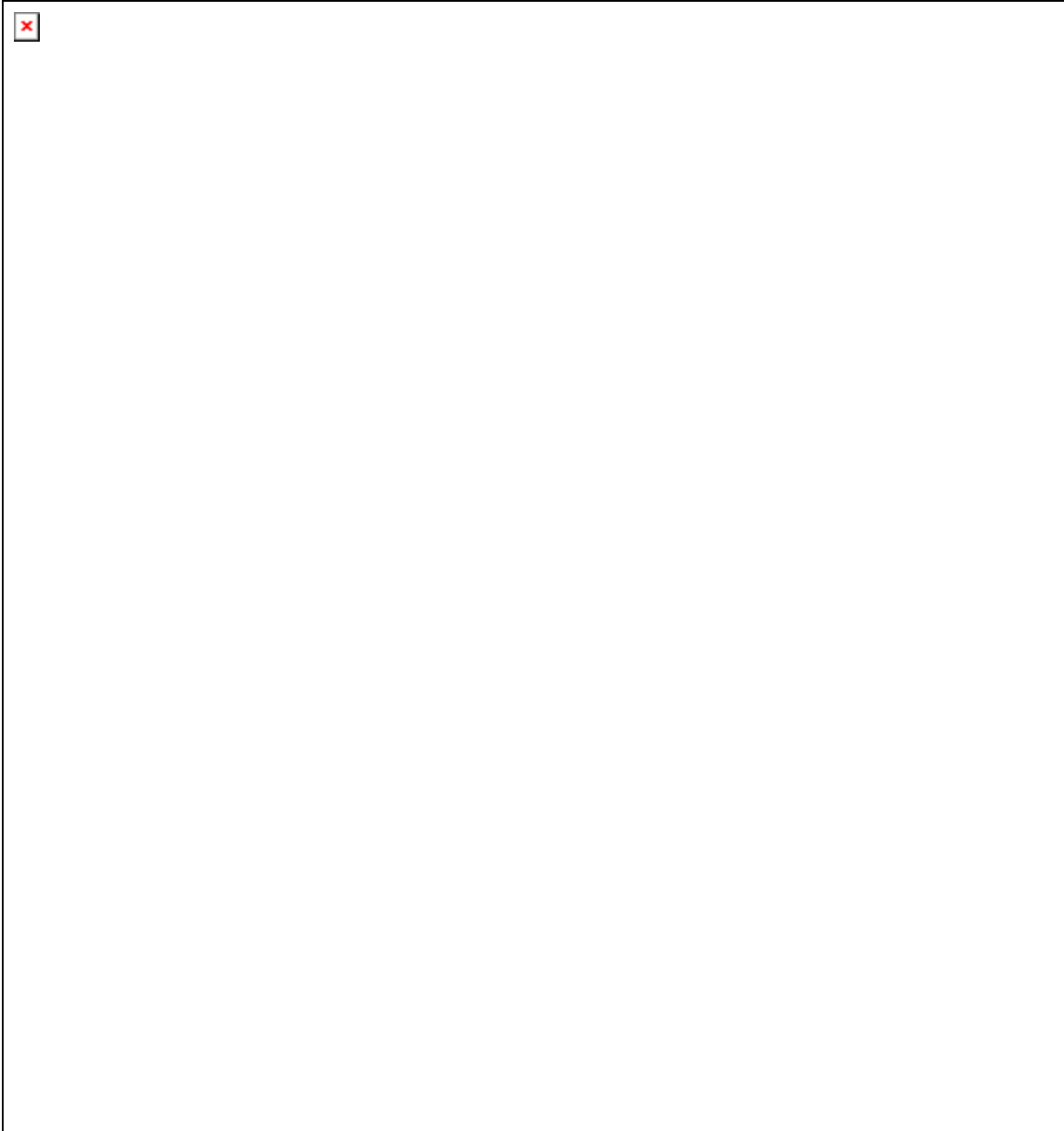


fig. 4. *B 1700, as excavated, March 2015. The building faced NE (top left corner) (3D photoscan by Maksim Lebedev and Simone Nannucci).*