

Unas the Magnificent

a hand



left arm



& pieces of skull



all that was found by G. Maspero
in 1881

within the wrappings of linen
in the mummy case

of Unas
the Magnificent

who ruled thirty years
2375-2345 B.C.
the final pharaoh
of the 5th Dynasty
in the Old Kingdom

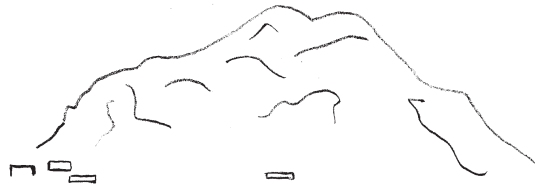
(The Old Kingdom had a 445 year run
ca 2575-ca 2130 BCE)

Very few historical mentions
trace the reign of wondrous Unas
on the texts inside his fairly small pyramid at Sakkara
on the high desert
near Djoser's Step Pyramid

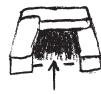
The village Sakkara
is 17 1/2 miles south
o' Cairo
betwixt the remains of Memphis
& the plateau
where 20 + pharaohs & many noble people
lie in a vast burial place
4 1/2 mi in length

with thousands of years of
thanato-temples, mastabas,
mounds, causeways, and their
sacred Glyphs of wow

Ahh Unas! your pitiful pitted & rounded-off
pyramid fairly wrecked already
just 4,350 years after its creation!



Yet still in place
on the jumbled front edge of the 'mid



is the entrance way
leading down to your
burial chamber
whose walls are filled
with glorious vertical rows of Glyphs
wow!

These are the 1st instance
of the Pyramid Texts—

That is, his sarcophagus and its anteroom
show bewildering arrays of Glyphs
with imprecations
to Thoth, Nut, Atum, Osiris, Horus, Neith, Geb, Re
et al., to protect Unas
in the Afterlife

For instance, Glyphs depicting Unas
in the Form of a Goose
flapping aloft to land in the Solar Barque
next to Ra!

so that Unas
can spend his time

in



boating w/ Ra

across the universe

in the Solar Barque

His



barque of the sun

going east to west

above the heads

of toiling humans below!

I look up various Hieroglyphs

in the Alan Gardiner *Egyptian Grammar*

Ra:

Nut:

Osiris:

Heaven:

god:

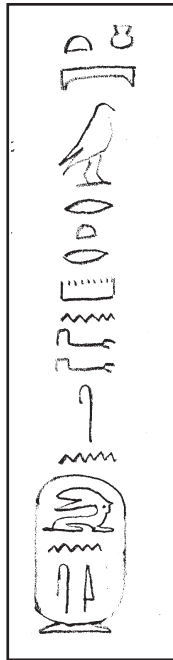
to try to understand the mystic arrays in Unas's Tomb such as:

Nut
the
Great

has
bared

her
arms

for
Unas

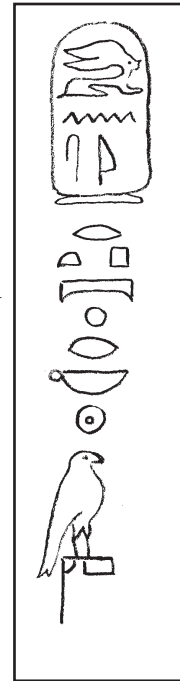


&

Unas

to
Heaven

lifts
aloft
to
you
o
Ra!



while Unas' face is
that of a hawk
& his wings of a goose
to barque with Ra!

(in the Lower North Wall
of the Antechamber)

The ancients thought your Glyphs
actually wiggled with Life.

O Unas, beyond Ozymandias
beyond dry desert 'yond the 'yond!

May your Glyphs
keep you aloft even Today
in the Sun Barque next to Ra!

12-27-13
Edward Sanders