**East Temple of Ramesses**

Ramesses II built a small temple called "Amun-Ra, Ramesses II, who-hears-prayers," just east of the unique obelisk. The presence of reused column drums of Thutmose III in the temple suggests that he rebuilt a Thutmoside shrine on the same area. The temple at this time consisted of a small mud brick gateway leading into a pillared hall. The rear of the hall had two doorways and a central false door. The doorways led out into a covered portico at the base of the unique obelisk. The small temple may have functioned similarly to the Contra Temple of Thutmose III in that average Egyptians could enter the temple complex here and pray to Amun-Ra.

**Temple of Taharqa**

This structure looks not unlike an almost square mastaba style tomb with a torus at each corner but no doors on any of its outer walls. A study of the east wall which is composed of blocks that are at times scored and sometimes unfinished, suggests that there existed at this location an access ramp that lead to the terrace of the structure. Therefore, one would have had to cross the terrace from east to west to reach a staircase that then descended into the chambers located in the northwest corner of the monument. The direction of the walk from east to west would be in conformity with that of the king represented on the north facade of the building, but opposite to the general advance of the king inside the temple.

On the outside northern facade of this building we find several interesting scenes. Here, the king is purified by a double stream made up of the ankh and the was (Life and Power) that falls in a dome around him. His two open hands show the palm of one and the back side of the other. Two falcons cross their wings over the king's chest under his three-row user necklace. As is the Nubian style, the musculature of the kings legs is prominent. Here, the cartouche of Taharqa has been etched out and replaced by that of Psamtik II.

**Temple of Amun**

The main temple of Amun-Re had two axes—one that went north/south and the other that extended east/west. The southern axis continued towards the temple of Luxor and was connected by an avenue of ram-headed sphinxes.

**Pylons 1-4**

The pylons, or gateways in the temple represent the horizon, and as one moves further into the temple, the floor rises until it reaches the sanctuary of the god, giving the impression of a rising mound, like that during creation. The temple roof represented the sky and was often decorated with stars and birds. The columns were designed with lotus, papyrus, and palm plants in order to reflect the marsh-like environment of creation.

**Obelisk of Hatshepsut**

The tallest obelisk in Egypt stood at Karnak and was dedicated by the female pharaoh Hatshepsut who ruled Egypt during the New Kingdom. Made of one piece of red granite, it originally had a matching obelisk that was removed by the Roman emperor Constantine and re-erected in Rome.