



“ This is a model designed by Dr.Sotas and built by M.I. Krupnik from very ancient drawings preserved in the tombs of Aboukir and dating from the reign of the Pharaoh Sahouré.<sup>1</sup> The fleet of this pharaoh sailed along the coast of Phoenicia, bringing back cedarwood and Semitic slaves. The ship shown here has no wooden keel, the function of a spine being performed by an elastic cable under maximum tension. It was twisted by means of a bar inserted between the strands. The structure was reinforced by means of beams in the hold which served as stiffeners. Although the hull is wooden, it still bears some resemblance in outline to the Nile boats with wicker-work frames. This boat is rigged with a square sail, narrow in proportion to its height, on an inverted V-shaped mast, and propelled by eight oars a side. There are a further six steering oars, three on either side.”

(Herman, Zvi. *Peoples, Seas and Ships*, translated from the French by Len Ortzen, J. M. Dent & Sons, London 1967, Pl. 2.).

<sup>1</sup> The design appears to be centuries older. For additional details on this remarkable vessel see the source for Inset A: Björn Landström's: *SHIPS OF THE PHAROAHS: 4000 Years of Egyptian Shipbuilding*, Doubleday, Garden City 1970.