

עזרת נשים

- 9 **עזרת נשים**
- This area was reserved for women during the שמחת בית השואבה.

- 10 **שער מזרח**
- The entrance to the עזרת נשים.

THERE WERE 4 CORNER ROOMS:

- 11 **לשכת הנזירים**
- This room was where the קרבנות of the נזירים were cooked

- 12 **לשכת העצים**
- A storage room for the wood used for the מזבח and fireplace

- 13 **לשכת המצורעים**
- This room had a מקוה for the final cleansing of the מצורע

- 14 **לשכת השמנים**
- Olive oil for the מנורה and מנחות, as well as wine for the נסחים, were stored here

- 15 **לשכת סנהדריה קטנה שניה**
- A second chamber for the סנהדריה קטנה (23 דינים) to whom more difficult questions were asked

- 16 **לשכת כלי שיר**
- Two rooms on the steps of the עזרה ישראל
 - Musical instruments were kept here, and the לויים would practice here
 - These rooms were completely under the עזרת ישראל

- 17 **חמש עשרה מעלות**
- Steps upon which the לויים stood while playing for the שמחת בית השואבה
 - These steps led to שער הניקנור

- 18 **שער ניקנור**
- Named after the man who donated the brass doors
 - This gate is also known as שער מזרחי
 - It led to the עזרת ישראל

עזרה

עזרה

- This is the area from שער ניקנור until the back of the בית המקדש. It includes the עזרת ישראל and the עזרת כהנים.

THE FOLLOWING IS THE LIST OF GATES THAT LINED THE WALLS OF THE עזרה:

19 שער המים

- The water gate, opposite the מזבח.
- It was used on סוכות to bring water for the נסוך המים.
- A stream passed through the עזרה and flowed through this gate. When necessary, its flow was blocked, causing it to overflow and cleanse the עזרה floor.

20 שער הבכורות

- The Gate of the Firstborn
- The offering of firstborn animals and other קדשים קלים קרבנות were brought through this gate.

21 שער הדלק

- The Gate of Kindling
- Wood was brought for the מזבח through this gate.

22 שער העליון

- The Upper Gate, a smaller entrance.

23 ב' שערים קטנים

- Two small gates in the Northwest and Southwest part of the western wall.

24 שער הניצוץ

- The Gate of the Spark
- A roofed entrance under which burning coals were kept for rekindling purposes.

25 שער הנשים

- The Womens' Gate
- An entrance for women to bring קרבנות.

26 שער הקרבן

- The Gate of Offering
- קדשי קדשים offerings were brought through this gate.

עזרת ישראל

27 עזרת ישראל

- Ordinary Jews (not Kohanim or Leviim) would not usually go here.

IN THE **צפון** AND **דרום** CORNERS OF THE **עזרת ישראל** THERE WERE SIX **לשכות**:

28 לשכת הגזית

- This is the gate where the **סנהדריה גדולה** (71 **דינים**) gathered.

29 לשכת פרפהדרין

- The **כהן גדול** lived in this room for the 7 days before **יום כפור**.

30 לשכת הגולה

- The room where fresh water was drawn from a well and kept in a bowl for drinking and cooking purposes.

31 לשכת המלח

- The room where the salt was kept.

32 לשכת בית הפרוה

- The room where the hides of the **קרבנות** were salted.
- On the roof was a **מקוה** used by the **כהן גדול** on **יום כפור**.

33 לשכת המדיחין

- The room where **קרבנות** were rinsed.

34 שתי פתחים קטנים

- Small doorways on either side of the **שערי מזרח**.
- It was used by people who were exiting backwards so as not to turn their backs to the **קודש קדשים**.

35 לשכת פנחס המלביש

- This room contained the clothing for the **כהנים**.

36 לשכת עושי הביתין

- 12 Challos of the **כהן גדול** were baked here each morning.

37 ראשי פספסין

- Posts set in the wall to separate the **עזרת ישראל** from the **עזרת כהנים**.

38 מעלה אחת

- A step - this step indicated the line between the **עזרת ישראל** - where an ordinary **ישראל** was able to stay - and the **עזרת כהנים** - where only **כהנים** were allowed to be.

עזרת כהנים

39 דוכן

- A stage with three steps on which the **לויים** stood facing the **קדש קדשים** while singing.

40 בית המטבחים

- This is an area within the **עזרת כהנים** next to the **מזבח** where they slaughtered the animals for **קרבנות**.

41 שמונה עמודי נסין

- 8 posts with hooks, used when skinning **קרבנות**.

42 שמונה עמודי נסין

- 8 marble tables on which **קרבנות** were rinsed.

43 כ"ד טבעות

- 24 rings, set into the floor for use during **שחיטה**. The animals neck would be held firmly by the ring which opened and closed on a hinge.

44 המזבח

- The alter for offering **קרבנות**.

45 הכבש

- The ramp to the **מזבח**.

46 המחטה

- The fire pan used daily for **תרומת הדשן** was left on the floor at the bottom corner of the ramp.

47 לשכת בית אבטינת

- The room where **קטורת** was made.
- Next to this room was a second **בית הטבילה** for use of the **כהן גדול** on **יום כפור**.

עזרת כהנים

48 בית המוקד

- The Fireplace Room - a large domed room where כהנים could warm themselves during the עבודה. (They worked barefoot on a cold marble floor.)

THERE WERE 4 SMALLER ROOMS WITHIN THIS LARGE ROOM:

A לשכת טלאי קרבן

- Where at least 6 sheep בלי מום were kept.

B לשכת לחם הפנים

- Where the לחם הפנים were baked.

C לשכת החותמות

- Tokens exchangeable for flour and wine were sold here.
- It is also called the לשכה שנגנזו שם אבני המזבח because stones from the מזבח that were defiled by the Greeks were stored here.

D לשכת בית המוקד הקטן

- This room had a fireplace and an entrance to a basement מקוה and washrooms.
- It was built partly within the קדש area and partly within the חול and could be entered from both sides.
- On the חול side there were berths (beds) built into the wall for the כהנים who slept there overnight.

בין האולם למוזבה

49 בין האולם למזבח

- The Fireplace Room - a large domed room where כהנים could warm themselves during the עבודה. (They worked barefoot on a cold marble floor.)

50 הכיור

- The basin for washing hands and feet.

51 מקום אמה אל אמה

- Entrance to the שית (an underground hollow where blood from the יסוד collected).
- A marble slab covering this opening in the floor was removed when it was necessary to clean the שית.

52 שני שלחנות

- Entrance to the שית (an underground hollow where blood from the יסוד collected).

שלחן שיש

- Made of marble.
- For holding fats that will be burned right next to the מזבח.

שלחן כסף

- Made of silver.
- This table held the 93 כלי שרת - tools used by the כהן.

53 י"ב מעלות

- Twelve steps leading to the אולם of the היכל.

היכל

- 54 **אולם**
 - The first room in the היכל.
- 55 **פתח האולם**
 - The entrance to the אולם.
- 56 **שלתן שיש**
 - To hold the לחם הפנים before it was brought into the היכל.
- 57 **שלתן זהב**
 - To hold the לחם הפנים when it was being removed.
- 58 **בית החליפין**
 - At the far ends of the אולם were two rooms where the שחיטה knives were kept.
- 59 **בית הורדת המים**
 - A corridor which extended along the south wall.
 - It carried off rain water from the roof of the היכל which slanted in that direction.
- 60 **מסבה**
 - A ramp leading to the attic of the היכל.

קודש

61 שער הגדול

- The entranceway from the היכל.
- Above it hung a golden vine of gold grapes and leaves that were donated.
- A golden chandeleir also hung there.

62 מזבח הזהב

- The קטרת was offered twice daily on this מזבח.

63 שלחן

- A golden table that the 12 לחם הפנים were placed on each Shabbos.

64 מנורה

- It was lit every morning and burned throughout the night.

65 ב' כני זהב

- Two golden stands upon which the כהן גדול placed the blood of the ox and goat of the יום כפור קרבנות.

66 אמה טרקתין

- A space 1 אמה wide between the 2 פרוכות separating the קודש and the קודש קדשים.

קודש קדשים

67 קדש הקדשים

- Only the כהן גדול on יום כפור was permitted to enter the קדש הקדשים.

68 ארון

- The ארון containing the לוחות. It rested upon the אבן השתיה. It was hidden before the destruction of the first בית מהקדש to prevent its capture.