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Corpus of Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant

Volume VI: L
Lachish, Lod, Loḥamei HaGeta'ot

Edited by
Christoph Uehlinger, Ido Koch,
Stefan Münger and Silvia Schroer

Contributions by
Nadia Ben-Marzouk, Tatjana Beuthe,
Mor Goldenberg, Ben Greet, Othmar Keel,
Eythan Levy and Noa Ranzer



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CORPUS OF STAMP SEALS FROM THE SOUTHERN LEVANT
VOLUME VI

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Catalogue entries published in this volume were mainly written by junior researchers in the framework of the *Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* Project (2020–2024), a SINERGIA cooperation of the universities of Bern, Tel Aviv and Zurich funded by the Swiss National Science Foundation: *Nadja Ben-Marzouk* (*1986, TAU/UZH), *Tatjana Beuthe* (*1988, UBE), *Ben Greet* (*1989, UZH) and *Eythan Levy* (*1979, UBE) were employed as postdoctoral researchers, *Mor Goldenberg* (*1988, TAU) and *Noa Ranzer* (*1988, TAU/UZH) as PhD candidates. Some entries in Part 2 are based on earlier publications by *Othmar Keel* (*1937), Professor emeritus of Hebrew Bible/Old Testament studies at the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, and an expert in the glyptics from the southern Levant.

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Series Archaeologica

Corpus of Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant

Volume VI: L
Part 1: Introduction, Lachish No. 1–425

edited by

Christoph Uehlinger, Ido Koch, Stefan Münger and Silvia Schroer

Contributions by Nadia Ben-Marzouk, Tatjana Beuthe, Eythan Levy and Noa Ranzer

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Preface and acknowledgments

This volume (published in two parts) continues the *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel* (henceforth: **CSAPI**), authored by Othmar Keel and published in this same series between 1997 and 2017.[1] CSAPI Volumes I–V list 8250 stamp seals and stamp seal impressions; an additional 591 items were listed by Jürg Eggler and Othmar Keel in 2006 in their *Corpus der Siegelamulette aus Jordanien* (henceforth: **CSAJ**).[2] Taken together, CSAPI I–V and CSAJ number 8841 stamp seals and stamped seal impressions from the southern Levant.

Adding another 947 items to the corpus, the present volume is the first of a series[3] to be published under the English title *Corpus of Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* (henceforth: **CSSL**). The series results from the *Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* project (abbreviated: **SSSL**), a SINERGIA project generously supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation from January 2020 to June 2024 (Grant no. 186426). To bring Keel's *Corpus* to completion has been and remains one of this project's major goals.

Basic principles of Keel's predecessor volumes have been retained for this and the following volumes of CSSL:

- the alphabetic sequencing of sites;
- the restriction to stamp seals (and stamped sealings) recovered through regular excavation and documented in scholarly publications; surface finds are included when provenance can be documented;
- the sequencing of items according to the main distinction between published and previously unpublished items; the former are ranged according to publication date and order of appearance in primary publications, the latter (generally) according to archaeological expedition, excavation area and/or detailed context data, or registration numbers as assigned by the excavators;
- the main rubrics according to which each item is documented: object, base engraving, object dating, archaeological find context and its dating, present whereabouts, bibliography (however, these rubrics were further subdivided and a number of sub-rubrics added);
- the documentation of stamp seals or stamped seal impressions by photographs (whenever available) and line drawings, the latter being generally based on (and representing a specific interpretation of) photographs.

Continuity with CSAPI/CSAJ being stated, the present volume and its yet-to-follow companions *differ* from CSAPI and CSAJ in several respects:

- they are published in English throughout[4] to reach a broader international scholarly audience;
- they are published simultaneously (1) in conventional book form—for the time being, still the most stable and most sustainable form of academic publishing—, (2) via the publisher's website and ZORA, the University of Zurich's publication repository, as open access PDFs, and (3) as part of an open access, fully searchable and collaborative digital database (**cssl.levantineseals.org**);
- the main rubrics inherited from CSAPI (as mentioned above) have been divided into numerous sub-rubrics in view of more fine-grained search options and comparisons in the database;
- the present volume and its future companions represent the combined result of individual scholarship and the collective work of a committed team including junior, mid-career, and senior researchers.

In our opinion, the book publication still offers the most sustainable documentation; the digital publication allows diffusion and access worldwide; while the digital database can be much more easily updated and enlarged.

[1] Some volumes include sections authored or co-authored by scholars other than Keel, most notably Daphna Ben-Tor and Baruch Brandl. For specific data or parts of entries (e.g., context information, readings of hieroglyphic inscriptions, or dating issues), Keel relied on a network of colleagues, excavators and research assistants, whose contributions are acknowledged in the introductory volume (Keel 1995: 1–2) and in the prefaces to each catalogue volume.

[2] CSAJ differs from CSAPI in two important respects: first, it deals with all (Trans-)Jordanian sites from A to Z known in 2005/2006 to have produced seals and seal impressions, in contrast to CSAPI Vols. I–V which cover sites from A to K; second, CSAJ covers all types of seals and seal impressions from Jordan, including 128 cylinder seals and cylinder seal impressions.

[3] CSSL VI (L) includes 947 items, CSSL VII (M, to be published in the near future) will include 900+ items as well. According to our current count, sites N–Z have produced at least 1234 items; moreover, we count 1260 addenda from A–K sites at the time of writing. All these numbers are necessarily provisional.

[4] Previous CSAPI volumes included sections in English, written either by other authors (e.g., Baruch Brandl, Daphna Ben-Tor) or by Keel as chapters for various excavation reports.

The SSSL team

CSSL results from the collective effort of an international team of researchers, ranging from student assistants, M.A. and PhD students, postdoctoral researchers to mid-career and senior scholars. It is a pleasure to mention here the following individuals:

Student assistants:

- Yuval Amir, Netanel Rinon (Tel Aviv University);
- Tabea Aebi, Melanie Ammeter, Evelyne Baumberger, Sven Dvorak, Silvana Hunger, Noemi Lauener, Ulrike Münger (University of Bern);
- Diana Haibucher, Alexandra Probst (University of Zurich).

Technical and research assistants:

- Inbar Meyerson, Arik Sasi (Tel Aviv University);
- Juliette Mas, Leonardo Pajarola, Michael Scherler, Melanie Zosso (University of Bern).

Draftswomen:

- Ingrid Berney (Zurich);
- Ulrike Zurkinden-Kolberg (Düdingen/Fribourg).

M.A. students:

- Xiaoshuai Yuan (Tel Aviv University, 2020–2022);
- Michael Aeschlimann (University of Zurich);
- Renate Fahrni (Tel Aviv University/University of Zurich, 2021–2023).

PhD students:

- Mor Goldenberg (Tel Aviv University, 2022–2023);
- Noa Ranzer (Tel Aviv University/University of Zurich, 2020–2023);
- Bruno Biermann (University of Bern/University of Zurich, 2020–2023).

Postdoctoral researchers:

- Nadia Ben-Marzouk (Tel Aviv University/University of Zurich, 2021–2023);
- Tatjana Beuthe (University of Bern, 2020–2023);
- Ben Greet (University of Zurich, 2020–2024; liaison facilitator between board and staff);
- Silas Klein Cardoso (University of Bern/University of Zurich, 2020–2023);
- Eythan Levy (University of Bern, 2022–2023);
- Fabio Porzia (University of Zurich, 2022);
- Giulia Tucci (Tel Aviv University/University of Bern, 2020–2022).

Board of directors:

- Ido Koch, whose main responsibilities included communication with relevant institutions in Israel (Israel Antiquities Authority, Israel Museum, Rockefeller Museum, local museums etc.) as well as supervising local project staff and project management at Tel Aviv University;
- Stefan Münger, whose main responsibilities included the overall data management, the constantly evolving database architecture and implementation, as well as supervising local project staff and project management at the University of Bern;
- Silvia Schroer, also of the University of Bern, whose main responsibilities included quality control for drawings, supervision of draftswomen and extensive peer reviewing of draft entries;
- Christoph Uehlinger, who served as the project's co-ordinating director and leading house representative, which included scientific and financial reporting and communication with the funding agency, the central management of fund and staff allocations, among other duties; communication with relevant institutions outside Israel (in Germany, Jordan, the Netherlands, Palestine, the United Kingdom, the United States etc.), greatly assisted by Ben Greet; as well as supervising local project staff and project management at the University of Zurich.

Authorship and editorial responsibilities

The CSSL entries of the present volume are essentially transcripts of the entries as stored in the digital database. Each entry comes with the initials of its author (occasionally co-author) and at times initials of an editor (marked with *). Authorship means the mentioned researcher had the prime responsibility to write the entries, that is, to make sure rubrics were filled as precise and detailed as possible based on extant documentation, and to write the base description, discussion and comparanda sections according to a format defined by the project. Batches of entries were assigned to individual researchers. For the present volume, Tatjana Beuthe (TB, 413 entries) and Nadia Ben-Marzouk (NBM, 208 entries) took care mainly of Middle and Late Bronze Age items and assemblages, Noa Ranzer (NoR, 214 entries) was in charge of mainly Iron Age entries and assemblages, whereas Eythan Levy (EL, 106 entries) focused on Iron Age seals and sealings with Hebrew inscriptions.

All entries include data—ranging from measurements to comparanda, bibliography, photographs or drawings—added at some point or another by other team members. All authors and co-authors benefitted from discussions during the project's monthly research meetings as well as the so-called "workerbees" staff meetings co-ordinated by Ben Greet. Once we approached our last year of funding and the material publication, each entry went through a project-internal double peer review, usually entrusted to board members who each reviewed several hundreds of entries.
Photographs and drawings published in this volume are an essential component of a catalogue such as the present one (see Introduction, sect. V). Luckily, many of the collections and museums mentioned below allowed our project to access material in their custody and photograph it anew. For the sake of consistency, we had most of our items drawn anew by our two draftswomen. That said, in many cases we also rely on photographs taken in the field or in the lab by professional photographers working on behalf of the excavating expeditions. Moreover, we sometimes reuse drawings done by professional illustrators other than ours. We have tried to honour their work by identifying their name wherever possible and apologize if this has not been possible in all instances.

All entries were final-edited by Christoph Uehlinger, assisted by Renate Fahrni and Stefan Münger, and again proofread by Ido Koch. The transfer of the final entries to pre-print data files was supervised by Stefan Münger and the volume's final layout skilfully implemented by Silas Klein Cardoso.

Acknowledgments

To conclude this preface, it is our pleasure to acknowledge support from many sides for an endeavour that proved to be as scientifically ambitious as it became humanly formative and enriching. At the threshold of going public with this first catalogue volume, it is impossible to mention all the committed individuals and institutions without whose support our project would not have been possible.

First and foremost, we address our heartfelt thanks to **Othmar Keel**, who initiated the *Corpus* project almost half a century ago and supported our project over the past few years with untiring interest and generosity.

Second, we express our gratitude to the **Swiss National Science Foundation**, scientific officers and administrative staff members with whom the project interacted since the period of first application in 2018: Sarah Achermann, Michelle Ackermann, Mohamed Aourik, Odette Joëlle Bernasconi, Laura Binz, Tim Buchholz, Andrea Grütter, Marc Hutmacher, Richell Mata, Rita Meier, Vanja Michel, Levin Moser, Joschua Neuenschwander, Aline Stettler, Juliana Streit (and possibly other members of the SINERGIA and mySNF teams who may hide behind dozens of anonymous administrative messages).

We are grateful to **colleagues** who supported our application to the SNSF with their recommendations and support during the project implementation: Gideon Avni (on behalf of the Israel Antiquities Authority), Daphna Ben-Tor, Vanessa Boschloos, Baruch Brandl, Haim Gitler (on behalf of the Israel Museum), Yuval Gadot, Günter Hölbl, Tallay Ornan, Benjamin Sass. We are particularly grateful to Benjamin Sass for transfering to the SSSL project, through Eythan Levy, a collection of modern impressions of West Semitic inscribed seals that had served to prepare WSS (Avigad and Sass 1997). It is currently kept at the Institute of Jewish Studies, University of Bern, where it joined the hundreds of impressions of uninscribed seals made by Othmar Keel and his collaborators in the course of their work on CSAPI.

Many thanks also to supporting colleagues and members of the administrative staff at our **home universities**:

- Tel Aviv University: Dana Bachar Hizki, Keren Capitov, Na'ama Earon, Barbara Fedotov, Galit Froman, Nirit Kedem, Adi Levinhar, Anat Lisak, Amir Mazar, Orly Oren, Nurit Price, Nadin Reshef, Hani Shahmoon, Adi Zaltzman, Anat Zion, Mali Zur;
- University of Bern: René Bloch, Nora Ebinger, Simone Häberli, Nancy Rahn, Jürg Wyss;
- University of Zurich: Marcia Bodenmann, Michelle Caflisch, Ulvi Doguoglu, Dorothea Lüddeckens, Aleksan Mohamed (on behalf of the Team Drittmittelmanagement), Rosa Pittorino, Alois Rust, Farida Stickel, Rafael Walthert, Mirjam Wyrsch.

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- David Ussishkin (Tel Aviv University);
- Yosef Garfinkel (The Hebrew University, Jerusalem);
- Felix Höflmayer, Katharina Streit (Austrian Archaeological Institute/Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna).

We are indebted to staff members of **State collections and museums** who allowed us to study and/or photograph objects in their custody, or sent us important data about them:[5]

Israel

- Israel Antiquities Authority: Debora Ben-Ami, Galit Litani, Laura Peri, Michael Sebbane;
- The Israel Museum, Jerusalem: Yael Barschak, Pirchia Eyal, Haim Gitler, Nurit Goshen;
- The Rockefeller Museum, Jerusalem: Alegre Sagarievo;
- MUZA—Eretz Israel Museum, Tel Aviv: Yelena Elgart-Sharon.

Switzerland

- Fribourg, Bible+Orient Museum: Othmar Keel, Marie-France Meylan Krause, Leonardo Pajarola;
- Fribourg, Bible+Orient Datenbank Online (BODO): Jürg Eggler, Thomas Staubli.

United Kingdom

- Cambridge, Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology: Eleanor Wilkinson;
- London, The British Museum: James Fraser, Imran Javed, Myriam Upton, Beatriz Waters;
- London, The Egypt Exploration Society: Stephanie Boonstra;
- London, Palestine Exploration Fund: Ava Clark, Felicity Cobbing;
- Durham, Durham University, University Collections: Rachel Barclay;
- Liverpool, World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection: Ashley Cooke;
- Manchester, Manchester Museum: Jamilla Briggs;
- Oxford, Ashmolean Museum: Claire Burton, Paul Collins, Ilaria Perzia.

This list is limited to institutions and individuals concerned by materials included in the present volume.[6] Needless to say, the SSSL project interacted with many more, which/who will be duly credited in the forthcoming volumes.

We dedicate this volume to Baruch Brandl, whose research on glyptic objects found in the southern Levant has materialized in dozens of chapters and articles published over almost half a century. Providing exemplary proof how much historical information can be gained from the careful scrutiny of seals and sealings, they represent a backbone of sorts for the study of Egyptian and eastern Mediterranean glyptics for many years to come.

Bern, Tel Aviv, Zurich
May 2025

Ido Koch
Stefan Münger
Silvia Schroer
Christoph Uehlinger

[5] Note that for the sake of simplicity, we cite names in alphabetic order regardless of hierarchical position (not always obvious to outsiders) and function.

[6] Additionally, the CSAPI project had been in contact with the following institutions during the 1980s: Trinity College, Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Dublin (J.R. Bartlett); The Jewish Museum, New York (Susan Braunstein, Vivian B. Mann); New York University, The Department of Classics (Larissa Bonfante); Musée du Louvre, Département des Antiquités Orientales, Paris (Pierre Amiet, Annie Caubet, Geneviève Teissier). These are listed and credited in Keel 1995: 3–6.

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Introduction

Christoph Uehlinger*

I. General remarks

The present volume continues the series of volumes titled *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel* (**CSAPI**), published by Othmar Keel between the years 1995 (Introduction), 1997 (the first catalogue volume, covering sites whose names start with letter A) and 2017 (the fifth catalogue volume, letters J and K).[1] These volumes were complemented in 2006 by Jürg Eggler and Othmar Keel's *Corpus der Siegel-Amulette aus Jordanien* (**CSAJ**), which presented finds from Transjordan in a single volume.[2] Since 2002, both CSAPI and CSAJ entries were made available online by Jürg Eggler and Thomas Staubli through their *Bible+Orient Database Online* (abbreviated **BODO**)[3], hosted by their academic home, the University of Fribourg. The CSAPI archive of card files covers, in theory, finds from all sites located in Palestine/Israel west of the Jordan Rift Valley from where excavated stamp seals have been reported. However, CSAPI ran out of funding by the end of 2013 and thus, by the late 2010s when the latest volume was published, the *Corpus* found itself in serious danger of remaining an ambitious, but unfinished project for a long time to come. Several attempts (by Keel himself, who had retired from active university service in 2002, his successor in Fribourg Hans Ulrich Steymans, Christoph Uehlinger and possibly others) to secure new funding in order to pursue CSAPI in its established format remained unsuccessful. As a result, a paradigm change was required to overcome that very unfortunate situation. It was made possible by the auspicious conjunction of two independent parameters: the tremendous development and promises of digital humanities in the 21st century on the one hand, and the implementation of a funding scheme called SINERGIA by the Swiss National Science Foundation on the other. The latter explicitly invited inter-institutional and international cooperation for research in all fields of science, on the condition that it be both interdisciplinary and groundbreaking (in the sense of a "breakthrough", not necessarily in its foundation). The *Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* project (or **SSSL**), conceived by Ido Koch (Tel Aviv University), Stefan Münger and Silvia Schroer (University of Bern), and Christoph Uehlinger (University of Zurich, the project's leading house) as an attempt to translate the legacy of CSAPI (and CSAJ) into the age of Digital Humanities, had the unpredictable chance to be elected for funding by the SNSF from 2020 to mid-2024.[4] We are deeply grateful to all experts and evaluators, both internal and external to the SNSF, whose positive assessment and recommendation made SSSL possible. And we gratefully acknowledge instrumental support by the SNSF and the encouragement our project received from all involved SNSF officers, and from the participating universities, throughout the period of funding.

Alongside a number of academic achievements (MA, PhD, and habilitation theses) and numerous workshops and publications (ranging from journal articles to dedicated conference proceedings and edited volumes),[5] the online digital database *Corpus of Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* (or **CSSL**)[6] represents the core product of the SSSL project.[7] To honour the legacy of CSAPI (and CSAJ), and considering that hardcopy publishing remains for the time being the most sustainable form of scientific publication, another major goal of the SSSL project is to publish CSSL in the well-established form of printed catalogues as well. The present volume is the first in a range of volumes produced to that end.

Our CSSL volumes continue the sequence of numbering inaugurated by CSAPI in order to make explicit the commitment to pursue that earlier series. This new series therefore starts with Volume VI, which covers objects from sites whose names start with letter L. It will soon be followed by forthcoming volumes CSSL VII (M), CSSL VIII (N–R), and CSSL IX (S–Z).[8]

* I gratefully acknowledge feedback on a draft of this chapter by Nadia Ben-Marzouk, Ben Greet, Ido Koch, Stefan Münger and Silvia Schroer. Remaining shortcomings are mine.

[1] CSAPI Vol. I (A): 2139 entries. CSAPI Vol. II (B–E): 2233 entries. CSAPI Vol. III (F): 1009 entries. CSAPI Vol. IV (G–H): 1439 entries. CSAPI Vol. V (I–K): 1430 entries. Total: 8250 entries.

[2] CSAJ (A–Z): 719 entries, which can be roughly divided into 523 stamp seals and 68 stamp seal impressions vs. 90 cylinder seals and 38 cylinder seal impressions; some items defy attribution to a single class, either because they combine a cylinder with stamp (e.g., CSAJ Amman No. 1) or because it is unclear whether a fragmentary sealing was made with a cylinder or a stamp. Total entries in CSAPI+CSAJ: 8969, or 8841 once unambiguous cylinder seals and cylinder seal impressions are discounted. Note that the introduction to CSAJ lists a significant number of additional seals and impressions which could not be included at the time due to lacking data and/or the impossibility to locate the relevant items (Eggler and Keel 2006: XIV–XV).

[3] https://bodo.unifr.ch/bodo.

[4] For more background on the SSSL project, see Uehlinger 2023; Münger et al. 2023; and the project's website which also hosts the CSSL database (see, n. 5).

[5] See levantineseals.org/index.php/publications.

[6] The online digital database can be accessed via **www.levantineseals.org** or directly via **cssl.levantineseals.org**.

[7] At the time of writing, the CSSL database numbers 12,292 entries, from which a maximum of 150 cylinder seals and sealings should be discounted.

[8] Our digital database also includes addenda to Vols. I–V. Whether these (and future addenda to our own volumes) will be published in another printed volume (CSSL X) or exclusively online through the CSSL database will be decided in due course.

Note that unlike the CSAPI and CSAJ volumes, CSSL will list Cis- and Transjordanian sites alongside each other in one and the same volume. Given the massive size of both our catalogue as a whole and of most individual entries, which far exceed the average size of entries in CSAPI and CSAJ, each CSSL volume will be published in two parts, to allow proper handling. The greater length and higher information density of CSSL entries when compared to CSAPI and CSAJ entries results mainly from a more fine-grained methodology for object descriptions and a generally more detailed and more systematic presentation of relevant data, some of which had not been considered in the earlier series. These additional data will be described in some detail below. Last but not least, the extent and quality of visual documentation both in photographs and drawings has been greatly increased (see below, sect. V).

As a result and a first example of the CSSL format of entries, the present Volume CSSL VI/1 offers a general introduction to CSSL, catalogue entries Lachish No. 1–425 including enhanced graphic documentation, a concordance for items yet to be published in future CSSL volumes and a bibliography. CSSL VI/2 consists of catalogue entries Lachish No. 426–945, Lod No. 1, and Loḥamei HaGeta'ot No. 1, a concordance and a bibliography. For practical reasons, the concordance and the bibliography are printed twice, in both Volumes VI/1 and VI/2; this will enable interested readers and scholars to use the two parts independently of each other.

II. CSSL catalogue structure

As in CSAPI and CSAJ, the sequence of CSSL volumes will follow the names of southern Levantine sites where stamp seals and stamped sealings were reportedly found, generally through controlled excavation; the relevant sites, which currently number approximately 400[9], are listed in alphabetical order. While the principle seems to be straightforward and rather simple, its implementation can at times be quite tricky for a number of reasons, all related to the coexistence of different systems of transliteration and/or transcription of Hebrew and/or Arabic toponyms: Arabic toponyms will be transcribed differently depending on whether they are spelled according to standard literary or to spoken Palestinian Arabic; for many Arabic and Hebrew toponyms there exists an official nomenclature, which often diverges (for instance by the very limited use of diacritical signs) from philologically grounded transliteration systems; coexistence of long-established biblical toponymy and official (state-sanctioned) toponymy; etc.

II.1. Toponymy

CSSL departs from the practice of CSAPI/CSAJ in several respects:

- its toponymy is based on English rather than Keel's (Swiss) German transcription rules (and thus avoids *dsch* [for *ǧ* or *j*] or *sch* [for *š* or *sh*] as used in CSAPI);
- for ease of identification, we prioritize contemporary rather than historical toponymy (hence Lachish [shorthand for Tel Lachish] rather than Tell ed-Duweir; Megiddo [shorthand for Tel Megiddo] rather than Tell el-Mutesellim; etc.);
- for the same reason, we use recognized English spellings for biblical sites if their identification is undisputed;
- for practical reasons, we make moderate use of diacritical signs, preferring *dh/Dh* for *ḏ/Ḏ*, *j/J* for *ǧ/Ǧ*, *sh* for *š* and s for *ś;* but retain diacritics, in the absence of unambiguous alternatives, in the case of *ḥ* or *ẖ*, *ṣ*, and *ṭ* or *ṯ*.

For **Arabic** toponyms,

- we use Palestinian vocalization (el-, Beit, Deir etc.) for sites in Cisjordan (Israel and Palestinian territories), classical vocalization (al-, Bayt, Dayr etc.) for sites in Transjordan; this rule will allow readers to immediately recognize whether a given site is located east or west of the Jordan;
- the article is not capitalized, but always followed by a hyphen;
- diacritics are used for *ṯ*, *ḥ* and *ẖ*, *ṣ*;
- *'ayin* is always spelled; *alif* is only spelled in the middle or at the end of a word.

For **Modern Hebrew** toponyms,

- the article is generally capitalized, not followed by a hyphen (as, e.g., in Loḥamei HaGeta'ot);
- diacritics are used for *ḥ* (*ḥet*), *ṭ* (*ṭeṭ*), *s* (*samekh*) vs. *ś* (*śin*); but sh is used for *šin* and tz for *ṣade*; *v* is used for soft *bet* and *kh* for soft *kaf*;
- *'ayin* is always spelled (except in English 'biblical' place names); *aleph* is only spelled in the middle or at the end of a word, except before the theonym -el (as, e.g., in Israel or Yezreel);
- *q* is rendered by *k* if done so in official (or 'biblical') spelling (e.g., Ekron).

[9] More than 390 sites of provenance are registered in the CSSL database at the time of writing, a number that will soon rise above 400. Note that each site is registered with a single main toponym; alternative names (such as *Tell ed-Duweir* for Tel Lachish) are indicated in the site introductions.

II.2. Numbering

In the digital database developed by the SSSL project, cross-references between sites and comparanda are dynamically coded; since they are constantly and automatically updated, numbering and renumbering is theoretically possible whenever needed. Hardcopy books like the present one offer less flexibility in this respect. The 947 entries of CSSL Vol. VI contain thousands of cross-references, including many hundreds of items that still await publication in future volumes. This factual situation forced us to fix the sequence of all entries for all M–Z sites (and additions to sites A–J) when preparing the present volume.[10]

One basic principle, defined since the beginning of the SSSL project, was to strictly retain for CSSL all numbers assigned in CSAPI and CSAJ (e.g., CSAPI Jerusalem No. 550 = CSSL Jerusalem No. 550; CSAJ Amman No. 75 = CSSL Amman No. 75). The same rule will apply to objects published in this and future CSSL volumes: once published in stable book form, their assigned number and the sequence of entries become fixed.

In CSAPI and CSAJ, entries are generally listed in the order of their previous publication in preliminary articles, final excavations reports, etc. CSSL follows the same rule, with two significant exceptions or adaptations: firstly, when an official final publication exists, it takes precedence in the listing over other, possibly earlier mentions of an item in one or several preliminary reports; secondly, unpublished items from excavations whose results have otherwise been published are listed together with the respective expedition. In other words and taking the example of Lachish, items No. 755–849, so far unpublished, were unearthed by the Wellcome-Marston expedition led by J.L. Starkey; they are therefore listed in CSSL before the materials from Y. Aharoni's excavations (No. 850ff).

Unpublished materials are, as a rule, grouped according to context (below, sect. IV.6.), that is: (1) excavation area, (2) special feature (such as a room, a tomb or the like), and/or listed according to (3) field registry numbers. The latter generally increase as an excavation proceeds over time, although there are exceptions to the rule. In cases where field data or published documentation differentiate between locus, basket and object number, we register all three. The sequence of entries will generally follow ascending object nos. if known; alternatively, the basket nos.; and if neither of the two are known, it will follow ascending locus nos.

III. From data to entry

III.1. Authorship

Most CSSL entries have single authors, which means they were assigned to single staff members for primary data processing and drafting. Significant portions of Lachish entries were assigned to Nadia Ben-Marzouk (listed for 208 entries as first author, co-author or item editor), Tatjana Beuthe (413 entries, mostly Bronze Age) and Noa Ranzer (214 entries, mostly Iron Age); by comparison, virtually all Megiddo entries concerning objects from early excavations were assigned to Ben Greet. These individual item authors were asked to systematically start their work from the CSAPI archive files if available,[11] comparing the data compiled there to the original excavation reports and secondary literature. Hardly an entry was drafted from the scratch, as is usually the case with newly excavated materials; for this reason, many entries synthesize an important collective work ranging from field notes through excavation reports to annotations by CSAPI/CSAJ and CSSL research assistants and staff members. Virtually every CSSL entry contains some data added or revised by staff members other than the main item author. Yet we consider the latter's synthesizing and drafting effort important enough to mention these individuals as main or primary authors of CSSL entries.

In cases where entries could rely on recent publications by experts in the field (e.g., Daphna Ben-Tor, Baruch Brandl, Othmar Keel and others), the latter are listed as primary authors although they did not enter the relevant data into the database themselves; in such cases, SSSL staff members who did so based on authoritative prior publications are mentioned as "editors" of a given entry. When the new format required significant alterations and substantial additions, including new comparanda, "editors" turn into "co-authors" or, occasionally, single authors.[12]

Some entries in the present volume display double authorship. In such cases, each of the co-authors mentioned contributed substantial and significant portions to a given entry. More often than not, such entries represent collaborative efforts of a junior and a senior staff member. That being said, we have made relatively scant use of explicit double

[10] Note that for reasons of consistency, this sequence had to be corrected and renumbered for some sites over the past few months prior to the publication of this volume. CSSL numbers given in previous publications (most notably, the special issues 86/4 and 87/1 of *Near Eastern Archaeology* [Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2023, 2024]) may therefore have changed in the meantime and need to be checked.

[11] The CSAPI index cards are archived at the Department of Biblical Studies and Bible+Orient Museum, University of Fribourg, Switzerland. All cards were scanned for SSSL and are accessible for staff members working on the backend of the database.

[12] E.g., Lachish entries from D. Ussishkin's Tel Aviv University excavations, published in the final report by O. Keel (Keel 2004a), were significantly edited for CSSL by Nadia Ben-Marzouk.

authorship signalling; priority was given to highlight the substantial work produced by junior staff members during their affiliation to the SSSL project.

III.2. Review process

A multi-author project such as CSSL differs in several respects from an (almost) single-handed catalogue such as CSAPI or a double-author catalogue such as CSAJ. In the latter cases, a certain standardization (as well as idiosyncrasies) resulted from the simple fact that one (O. Keel) or two authors (J. Eggler and O. Keel) wrote the bulk of entries for those catalogues, conferring them their 'signature' so to speak in terms of style, interpretative options, careful attention to some features and relative neglect or limited interest for others. A multi-author and teamwork-based catalogue such as CSSL follows a different logic in this respect, requiring a high degree of coordination among team members and authors. Lengthy discussions of terminological, taxonomic and descriptive principles led to the establishment of definite rules or standardised templates meant to serve and enhance automated searches and the potentials of a digital database for comparative purposes.

To ensure a (hopefully) consistent application of such rules and principles and an even quality of all individual entries, each and every entry underwent an internal peer review. This was generally provided by members of the project board (I. Koch, S. Münger, S. Schroer, C. Uehlinger) or, exceptionally, senior staff members (N. Ben-Marzouk, B. Greet). The entire bulk of entries published in the present volumes were again reviewed and final-edited by C. Uehlinger, assisted by Renate Fahrni.

IV. Structure of individual entries

CSSL volumes have inherited from CSAPI and CSAJ the general structure of entries, most notably the subdivision of each entry into the following rubrics:

CSAPI/CSAJ	**CSSL**
Objekt	OBJECT
	MANUFACTURE[13]
Basis	BASE
Datierung	DATE
Sammlung	COLLECTION
Fundkontext	CONTEXT
Bibliographie	BIBLIOGRAPHY

These rubrics as well as the numerous sub-rubrics attached to them are briefly explained in the following paragraphs. Readers should also refer to the introductory volume of CSAPI (Keel 1995), still the broadest *vademecum* to date for the study of stamp seals from the southern Levant, where Keel detailed and elaborated on the different rubrics as used by himself and by others in the framework of the CSAPI project.

IV.1. Object

IV.1.1. Object class

In the database backend, a rollout menu allows to assign one of the following object types to any given item: scarab, scaraboid, figure-scaraboid/scarab, stereometric shape, finger ring, fibula with stamp seal, seal impression, token, model/mould, undefined, or unknown. Some types are subdivided according to the typology presented in Keel 1995, which can be abstract (e.g., scaraboids type I–IV, finger rings type I–IV)—in which case Keel 1995 should be consulted—or visually explicit (e.g., figure-scaraboids mentioning the respective characteristic shape: ape, calf, duck, fish, etc.). Stereometric shapes are subdivided into 'bone seal',[14] conoid, gable seal, hammer seal, prism, truncated pyramid, oval piece, rectangular piece, round piece, square-shaped piece (in the case of a "piece", a back or side

[13] For reasons of consistency with previous volumes of CSAPI/CSAJ, we largely follow the subdivision used there. Note, however, that Brandl distinguished nine different types of sealings in an assemblage excavated at Ashkelon (Brandl 2018), including box sealings, basket sealings, door-lock sealings, jug sealings, stone vessel sealings, bowl-on-krater sealings, krater sealings, silo opening sealings—a nuanced if obviously non-exhaustive typology prompted by and limited to the respective finds from the Ashkelon moat deposit.

[14] While "bone" is a material marker that can occur with seals of very different shape, "bone seals" refers to a specific group of stamp seals (also called "Judahite-Israelite bone seals") dated to the Late Iron Age IIA and early IIB. Should we speak of an object 'class', a 'type' or a 'group' in this instance? The question will be answered differently by different scholars. We decided to retain the "bone seals" designation in CSSL for reasons of continuity with CSAPI (cf. Keel 1995: § 139–142).

characteristic, or the presence of a 'handle', can further be specified). Seal impressions are subdivided according to objects on which they have been preserved (mud sealing or bulla, document sealing, or ceramic object, such as a handle, rim, body sherd, loom weight, tablet, docket, container,[15] etc.). Whenever possible, additional specifications based on the imprints preserved on the backs of sealings are indicated.

IV.1.2. Scarab typology

Whenever possible, scarab typology[16] is listed in CSSL according to two prevailing systems: (1) the system established for Middle Bronze Age scarabs by William Ward and Olga Tufnell and further developed by Keel and others;[17] (2) the alternative system established by Alan Rowe.[18] Time-honoured as it may be, the latter remains important—at least for the time being—because it covers glyptic materials from later periods more systematically than the Ward/Tufnell system; that said, the Rowe typology is sometimes difficult to apply due to its lack of textual descriptions and explanations of diagnostic features. Arlette David (2019a) has suggested another typology for a particular set of scarabs dated (mostly) to the MB and LB I: the uninscribed ('blank') amethyst and other hard semi-precious stone scarabs, an object class entirely absent from CSAPI/CSAJ (due to Keel's main concern for base iconography rather than artifacts as such). CSSL corrects that absence and reports David's classifications wherever appropriate. Readers will find a thorough discussion of classification issues in the introduction of Alexander Ilin-Tomich's recently-published study of Egyptian Name Scarabs from the Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period.[19] Other typologies are occasionally referred to in CSSL entries, but not systematically so, either because they still have to gain some traction among scholars or because they are limited to data samples which are too restricted to be of more general use.[20]

IV.1.3. Mounting

Mountings are classified according to Keel's typology (Keel 1995: § 263–283), slightly refined (Types IV and V), and material (bronze, copper, electrum, gold, lead, silver, unspecified metal). Type Ø indicates that remains of a wire are visible in the perforation, suggesting the seal was originally mounted, but the specific type of mounting cannot be determined.

IV.1.4. Material

This rubric has been adapted multiple times over the years devoted to the SSSL project, for various reasons: older reports are often very laconic and sometimes offer no more than guesswork; whereas contemporary reports can sometimes afford very precise geological or petrographic analyses. These are but two extremes of a spectrum, which still remain difficult to tie together. Hopefully some targeted research will allow improvements in the standards of material identification in the near future; but to achieve this within the limited time of funding available to SSSL was simply impossible. For the time being, we operate with a hierarchical taxonomy[21] developed for the SSSL database, as detailed in the table on the following page (Table I).

Specialists in glyptics from the southern Levant will not be surprised to learn that 531 (or 56.2%) out of 945 items from Lachish are made of fired steatite (often called enstatite), a proportion which is reasonably consistent with the current overall count (5930 out of 12,292 items, or 48.2%). A similar proportion occurs, e.g., at Megiddo (421 out of 767, or 54.9%), in contrast to Jericho (553 of 625, or 83.5%) or Jerusalem (71 out of 682, 10.4%). Such differences are interesting to observe and often quite easy to explain: Lachish and Megiddo have produced reasonably representative samples for all periods, with large numbers dated to the Middle Bronze and the Late Bronze Age; the Jericho sample is dominated by scarabs from Middle Bronze Age tombs, whereas Jerusalem has produced much higher percentages of Iron Age data, and even more specifically bullae and other sealings (hence a particularly high proportion of clay in the "material" rubric, with 452 out of 682 items or 66.3%). Needless to say, such calculations can now be made much more easily thanks to the CSSL database; and I hasten to add that they both require and allow for careful assessment and interpretation.

[15] Note that in CSAPI and CSAJ, observations and comments regarding manufacture were part of the rubric "Objekt".

[16] See Keel 1995: 39–61, §74–127, for a thorough overview.

[17] Tufnell 1984: 31–38, Figs. 12–14 = Keel 1995: 43 Fig. 45, 47 Fig. 49, 55 Fig. 69; for later additions and modifications of the head typology, see Keel 2013: XV–XVI; Keel 2017: XVII–XVIII. Note that side type 'e12' for blank sides is used throughout CSAPI/CSAJ but does not figure in Keel's tables.

[18] Rowe 1936: Pl. XXXII–XXXV = Keel 1995: 42 Fig. 44, 45 Fig. 46, 53 Fig. 67.

[19] Ilin-Tomich 2023: esp. 15–29.

[20] The typology developed for first-millennium Egyptian and Egyptianizing scarabs by G. Hölbl in his work on *Aegyptiaca* from various parts of the Mediterranean should, however, be mentioned here as another particularly helpful resource. Note especially Hölbl 1986: Vol. 1, 172–173 = Keel 1995: 58, Ill. 70.

[21] The hierarchical taxonomy allows searches not only for specific materials, but for overarching categories (such as "composite" or "quartz") as well.

Table I: taxonomy of materials in CSSL VI.

- Composite
  - clay
    - firing unknown
    - fired
    - unfired
  - hard
    - faience
    - frit
      - blue frit (Egyptian blue)
  - soft
    - Paste
      - blue paste
- Metal
  - bronze
  - copper
  - electrum
  - gold
  - lead
  - silver
- Organic
  - bituminous
    - asphalt
  - osseous
    - antler
    - bone
    - ivory
      - elephant
      - hippo
  - wood
    - ebony
- Stone
  - gemstone
    - jade
    - lapis lazuli
    - melachite
    - nephrite
    - opal
    - quartz
      - amethyst
      - chalcedony
        - agate
        - carnelian
        - jasper
        - onyx
        - sard
      - rock crystal
    - turquoise
- Stone (ctd.)
  - mineral
    - carbonate
      - aragonite
      - calcite
    - oxide
      - goethite
      - hematite
      - limonite
    - silicate
      - chlorite
      - cyanite
      - feldspar
      - garnet
      - hypersthene
      - talc
    - sulfate
      - alabaster
  - rock
    - carbonate
      - chalk
      - limestone
    - igneous
      - basalt
      - diorite
      - dolerite
      - granite
      - obsidian
      - porphyry
      - tuff
    - metamorphic
      - amphibolite
      - greenschist facies
      - marble
      - phyllite
      - quartzite
      - schist/slate
      - serpentinite
      - steatite
        - fired
        - unfired
    - sedimentary
      - chert/flint
      - clay shale
      - oil shale
      - phosphorite
      - sandstone

IV.1.5. Colour

Colour is another well-known cause for scholarly headache, since its identification and description are often very subjective. One could of course turn to Munsell's Colour Chart—but can you trust reliance on the latter as long as it is based on the human eye, which is all but naked? Deficiencies can to a certain extent be compensated by high

quality photography (see below, V.2.) and the controlled vocabulary used in the CSSL database. Still, we had to remain pragmatic as for some other rubrics; as a result, colour identifications in CSSL represent suggestions by individual authors (or recorded information in excavation reports), no more.[22]

IV.1.6. Preservation

This rubric allows to distinguish three states of preservation: "intact" means just that—the object and all its detail, including its glaze, is fully preserved—and is, therefore, a qualification rarely assigned (2.4% as per current count); in contrast, "complete" is currently used for 2185 items (or 17.9% of the sample) and designates, for instance, items whose overall shape and base decoration is well-preserved but former surface elements such as coating or glaze are only visible in traces. "Broken" (currently 7.8%) again seems self-explanatory, but it is not; it implies that a seal is damaged to the extent that some of its elements or motifs are obscured or unrecognizable. Note that the database allows nuanced free text comments on material, colour, and state of preservation, which are automatically transcribed into the printed catalogue as well.

The numbers just given currently represent only 28.1% of the overall sample. Readers may be interested to learn that the ratios for preservation just reported do not match the ones for Lachish: CSSL VI reports 39 (or 4.1%) "intact" items (more than twice the current overall proportion), 640 (or 67.7%) "complete" items and 235 (or 24.9%) "broken" items (both representing more than four times the overall proportion); only 3.3% remain unqualified due to insufficient documentation. The deviations from the overall sample can easily be explained by the fact that items published in CSSL VI (and VII) have been much more scrutinized by our staff and all entries were carefully edited; in contrast, we have not yet been able to systematically check the state of preservation of items published in CSAPI/CSAJ, nor could we systematize all entries for CSSL VIII–X yet.

IV.1.7. Measurements

Measurements are generally given to the tenths of millimetres, whenever the documentation allows. While the development of electronic tools would allow for more precision, the technology is not always available to collections and researchers, nor would its use be necessarily helpful: whoever has handled scarabs and other seals to measure them with a calliper knows that measurements can easily deviate by some tenths of a millimetre depending on how one places the instrument, so smaller-scale measurements suggest a degree of precision that might well be irrelevant for analytical purposes. On the other hand, measurements taken by different people (or by the same person at different moments in time) can sometimes diverge by even more than a millimetre. Since a corpus like ours necessarily aggregates data of very different quality, it seems that the currently adopted standard (i.e., to the tenth of a millimetre) allows sufficient resolution.

We should note that in some instances only one or two dimensions of measurement (e.g., length, or length and width) are documented. Lacking dimensions can at times be inferred based on a single documented measurement. In such cases, entries generally specify on what grounds dimensions have been calculated (e.g., according to the photographs, rather than handling the item).

Only in the course of our project's progression did we start to document weight (again, usually to the tenth of a gram), which among other aspects can assist in the non-destructive determination of materials. Except for artistically sophisticated scarabs, many seal shapes (especially when stereometric) would in fact allow to calculate density with reasonable precision, even without recourse to 3D scans. The latter will probably set a new standard in the future.

IV.2. Manufacture

Observations on manufacture, especially style of engraving, were part of the "Objekt" rubric in CSAPI and CSAJ. With increased interest for and attention to production processes along a hypothetical *chaîne opératoire*, both through minute observation of finished products and experiments in fabricating scarabs with the help of an historically plausible toolkit, our team became more and more attuned to questions of manufacture. Manufacture obviously starts from the first stage of selecting or extracting raw materials, long before manipulating/modifying it towards a specific shape (which we classify under the previous rubric "object class"). "Manufacture" as applied in our database and entries emphasizes what we might consider as a 'second stage' of modification, operations perhaps more specifically directed towards the particular use of an object and affordances associated therewith, e.g. in view of a given stamp seal's combination with a particular mounting,[23] an assemblage of beads on a necklace or bracelet, etc. In view of

[22] When we did not have access to the original object, we had to adopt available color identifications from the original publications. To apply a uniform color system throughout was impossible.

[23] It would have been perfectly justified to include the "mounting" rubric under "manufacture", since the mounting represents a subsequent (or 'third') stage of modification. That being said, from a phenomenological perspective, an extant mounting is part of an object as it presents itself to the observer; in contrast, what we range under "manufacture" puts a focus on 'how we got there', or the process leading from the object 'as such' to an object with a particular added value, in terms of function and/or meaning. To borrow concepts from a different field, we might speak of 'production' and 'post-production'.

these, three characteristics seemed particularly worthy of attention: the presence or absence of a perforation, a particular coating, and a particular engraving style. Each of these triggers the question how it was obtained (by which technical means, procedures and tools), but also what the resulting product would yield in terms of affordance. To put it squarely: what can you do with a scarab or a scaraboid that has not been perforated? How does the addition of some coating modify the visual appeal, perhaps the significance—even meaning and possibly function—of an object? And how does the style of a base engraving, whose parameters depend to a large degree on the craftsperson's tools and skills, affect what you can or cannot observe (or 'read') in the base engraving?

IV.2.1. Perforation

Hardly ever documented in CSAPI/CSAJ, not to mention in primary publications of glyptic materials (except Baruch Brandl's and perhaps a few more specialists), the presence or absence of a perforation channel and its location on (in) the seal can often be inferred from photographs and occasionally drawings. The first parameter is the place and direction of a perforation (longitudinal, transversal, through the base plaque, above it or even higher, e.g. for a conoid—again a matter of affordance). Once you become interested in when, where and how a perforation channel was obtained,[24] and provided the channel is not obstructed by either remains of a former mounting or residual dirt or is observable through backlit photographs, you may ask which type of perforation is present within the seal and by which technique it was obtained by the craftsperson (single cone, single tube, double cone, double tune, or chamfered).[25] While it is often not easy to obtain certainty in this regard (a primary double cone perforation could subsequently be enlarged and straightened through a secondary double or even single tube perforation), autopsy of the observable data is instrumental, but in most cases is still not possible; the clearest evidence is often provided by broken items whose perforation lies bare due to the damage, or through backlit photography in the case of translucent objects.

Observations on perforation type and measurements started to be recorded when our project was already quite advanced; they are therefore incomplete both in the database and in this volume. Future publications of new materials should consider these parameters systematically.

IV.2.2. Coating

Scarabs and other stamp seals were often made of relatively modest, matt if not to say dull-coloured materials (cream, light to reddish brown, black, colours which in the case of steatite could result from the different mineral makeup of the source of raw materials, but also from different temperatures during heating, see Connor, Tavier and de Putter 2015); but their visual appearance could be enhanced by some more colourful coating. The latter could be applied in the form of a slip, paint, or (by far the most frequently attested) glaze. Not always do the objects preserve traces of coating, however; when they do, this should therefore be carefully recorded.

A particular feature of many scarabs, especially from the Middle Bronze Age, deserves to be mentioned here: chromatic marks, of a colour distinct from the remainder of the scarab, often appear in the shape of broad stripes running lengthwise over the backs of scarabs. They have often been explained with reference either to a specific stage in the production process (according to Brandl [2004a: 124; 2006b: 213 etc.] the scarabs were placed on their backs during firing), intentional colour enhancement, or wear and tear of finished products during their regular use, e.g. rubbing against a surface of the wearer's body (Keel). Noting inconsistencies in those explanations, N. Ben-Marzouk and B. Greet have pointed out "the need to develop a standardized way to define and thus describe these phenomena so that we may begin coding larger datasets" and they identified as a first desideratum the necessity "to establish a vocabulary for these chromatic marks so they can be more easily studied within a digital environment" (2024: 45, 46). Based on an analysis of 435 fired steatite scarabs from Lachish and Megiddo documented through high-resolution photographs by the SSSL project, the two authors suggest to differentiate the chromatic marks into five categories: (1) monochromatic, (2) longitudinal stripes, (3) concentrated colour on the pronotum and elytra, (4) differing colour on the plates of scarabs, and (5) what they call "irregular chromatic marks". These characterisations have been applied throughout relevant entries in CSSL VI (for Lachish) and VII (Megiddo). Based on the CSSL database, Ben-Marzouk and Greet further noticed that "the phenomenon is not confined to the Middle Bronze Age and appears in both the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age at a reduced frequency" (ibid. 51).

IV.2.3. Engraving

Consistent descriptive and classificatory terminology is tantamount for a corpus, and even more for a digital database. This also applies to the distinction of engraving techniques, or 'styles'. Building on previous work by Keel (1995: § 324–339) and others, CSSL distinguishes the following:

- linear
- chip-carved

[24] Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024.

[25] Beck 1928; Harrell 2017; and see Greet *forthcoming* for a new approach developed in the framework of SSSL.

- flat sunk relief
- modelled sunk relief
- drilled
- wheel-grinded
- raised relief
- moulded

While some of these may occur in combination, others do not; they always correlate with specific tools, and these in turn correlate with the raw materials modified by the craftspersons. In the case of flat sunk relief, which occurs most frequently on Bronze Age scarabs, we further distinguish hatching (i.e., closely drawn parallel lines), cross-hatching (closely drawn parallel and perpendicular lines)—both of which serve to enhance specific features or details of the base design—and interior design (i.e., marking of details within a particular motif or design).

IV.2.4. Group attribution

A long tradition of scholarship has used observations on typology (1.2.), material (1.4.), manufacture, distinctive techniques or 'styles' of engraving (2.3.), and base designs, most importantly iconography (below IV.3.), for the characterization of different series or 'groups' of scarabs and other stamp seals. The latter's distribution in time (mainly in terms of period of production) and space (which includes diffusion and consumption) then led scholars to postulate specific centres of production, from regional centres to localized workshops, for many of the groups thus defined. The "Beth Shean Level IX Group" championed by D. Ben-Tor and O. Keel (2012) and Keel's "Beth Shean Level VII/VI Group" (Keel 2010a)[26] are perhaps the most conspicuous examples in this respect due to the combination in their designations of an important site and a chronological marker within that site's stratigraphy. Other examples for such series or groups include Keel's "Omega Group" (early MB II, Keel 1986; Keel 1989a; Keel 2020: 28–33 No. 67–80), Ben-Tor's Early and Late Palestinian Series of Canaanite scarabs (dated to the MB II and III respectively, Ben-Tor 2007: Chapters III and IV),[27] the Green Jasper scarabs (MB [II–]III, Collon 2001; Keel 1989b; Boschloos 2015a), "archaizing Ramesside scarabs" imitating Middle Bronze Age designs (LB IIB, Ben-Tor 2017), the "Early Iron Age Mass-Produced Series" (Münger 2011; Keel 2020: 260–271 No. 605–636) or the "Lotus Clypeus/Neo-Hyksos Group" (Iron IIB; Keel and Münger 2003; Boschloos 2016), and others. Fine-tuned discussions of some series have led to further subdivisions into groups, such as the "A-",[28] "B/B2-"[29] or "D-head Group"[30] within the Early Palestinian Series. In contrast, other series or 'groups', although numerically no less important, such as the "Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals" (Late Iron Age IIA–early Iron Age IIB), continue to be dealt with as single phenomena although they are not entirely homogenous.

This volume is not the place to question the archaeological reality of such series or groups, nor to suggest alternative or additional ones. We should only explain the current perspective of CSSL with regard to the current state of art in glyptic studies focusing on the southern Levant. Considering the aspect of continuity with CSAPI/CSAJ and the relative consolidation of at least some series and groups by previous scholarship, we decided to refer to all of them in our discussions of individual entries whenever appropriate. Not only should the work of our predecessors thus be acknowledged; the reference to groups should also invite readers to evaluate both the assignment of any given item to one of these series or groups and to interrogate the hypothesized homogeneity of the respective groups. For this as for other issues, CSSL should always be viewed as a work in progress. It is possible that future volumes of CSSL or, for that matter, research by others, hopefully building on CSSL will question some of the groups recognized today, while other series or groups will be reinforced, refined, defined anew, or rejected.

With this we turn to the third of our main rubrics, which addresses the base and—usually—its engraving with script, symbols, patterns, and/or iconography.

IV.3. Base

Users of CSAPI/CSAJ know that this rubric is often treated most extensively in those volumes—the compilation of motifs and the study of their history can be regarded as Keel's ultimate goal and most pressing motivation when he

[26] The standard characterisation starting with Keel 2010a: Bet-Schean No. 16 reads: "Skarabäentyp A1/0/d5 oder d1, Kompositmaterial und in der Regel vereinfachte ramessidische Motive". In Keel 2020: 180–183 No. 424–429, this group is erroneously labelled "Bet-Schean Level VIII/VII-Gruppe".

[27] These match with Brandl's "Early Middle Bronze Age Canaanite Scarabs" (or EMBCS, corresponding to Early MB II) and "Late Middle Bronze Age Canaanite Scarabs" (or LMBCS, Late MB II/MB III).

[28] Keel 1994: 93–98; Ben-Tor 2007: 152 and Pl. 70:15–72:7; Keel 2020: 44–49 No. 105–117, 122–123 No. 294.

[29] Keel 1994: 81–93; Ben-Tor 2007: 151 and Pl. 64:1–67:11; Keel 2020: 38–43 No. 90–104, 128–129 No. 308.

[30] Keel 1994: 93–98; Ben-Tor 2007: 152–152 and Pl. 67:12–70:14; Keel 2020: 48–65 No. 118–156 (and other items referred to there).

conceived the two projects in the 1980s. At the same time, the "base" rubric is often treated in a somehow idiosyncratic, if original, way: descriptions can vary from less than ten to several hundred words; phrasing is sometimes laconic, sometimes extensive, depending on the resonance any given item could have with Keel's major research interests and concerns; syntax and punctuation can be quite irregular and somewhat *staccato*-style (not a few entries count more than a dozen utterances—not necessarily full sentences—separated, barely, by a semicolon); different issues such as the description, identification and possible interpretation of signs and motifs, the explanation of their meaning and significance, the listing of parallels, comments on dating or group assignment are all packed together in the same paragraph, not necessarily following a consistent order. Keel's first and foremost objective was to compile the items and to make them visible, on the odd, or right-hand, page such as to enable easy browsing.

CSSL entries differ in several respects from Keel's practice(s). First and foremost, they are divided into three sub-rubrics, titled "description", "discussion", and "comparanda" such as to account for and distinguish methodological operations that should not be mixed up. Second, CSSL entries are generally more developed, a major concern being the transparency and justification of interpretative choices and/or of the selective identification of comparanda; uncertainty should be expressed and more than a single interpretation given whenever appropriate. Third, CSSL entries (should as a rule) proceed more by *legato*-style than *staccato*, syntactically rather than paratactically; comma, colon, semicolon and period are thus used on purpose in order to structure and enhance the readability of descriptions and interpretations. Fourth, descriptions generally intend to follow a consistent, systematic sequence, signalling orientation, type of frame or border line, general layout of the sealing surface, 'reading' directions, etc. Fifth, while every single author has their proper habits of wording and phrasing, CSSL authors were invited and trained to use consistent terminology such as to enhance the potential of free-text searches in the database.

As a result, CSSL entries are generally longer than those published in CSAPI I–V. Since the graphic documentation has also been significantly enlarged (see below, sect. V), the proportion of verbal vs. graphic presentation will, so we hope, look plausible to future users. That said, the general increase in density of documentation, which is unproblematic for an online database, comes at a physical cost for the printed volumes, roughly doubling the number of pages needed to accommodate our data.

IV.3.1. Description

As mentioned, descriptions generally follow a standard sequence of observations, addressing matters of orientation or layout (vertical, horizontal, ambiguous), the type of frame or border line (single-line, double line, twisted rope or ladder pattern, etc.),[31] layout of sealing surface in registers and/or columns, whether actually delimited by dividing lines or other features or only virtually implied, reading directions, axial or point symmetrical patterns, etc. These broader descriptions of the compositions are then followed by descriptions of the inscriptions, motifs, or other elements when present. While any description represents an interpretation, this section should be phrased as factual and evidence-based as possible and be consistent in its use of descriptive terminology. Egyptian hieroglyphs are referenced by their Gardiner code (letter+number; Gardiner [3]1957: 438–548; note additional information in Allen [2]2010: 425–454).

IV.3.2. Discussion

This section aims to relate the previous description of the individual item to the wider horizon of scholarly classification and discussion. This includes the assignment of motifs to design classes (coded according to the system established by Tufnell and used by Ben-Tor, Keel, and others), the meaning and significance of motifs, their origin and/or diffusion, comparative aspects, etc. This section should refer to and acknowledge the scholarship of others, discuss and evaluate interpretative options, connect observations about the stylistic treatment and design of the sealing surface to observations made in other rubrics, such as object typology or material, assignment to a series or group, etc.

The discussion is generally informed not only by the description but also by comparanda and their selection; this section should aways be read in conjunction with the following one, and we even considered switching order of both rubrics. However, we decided not to do so, since the discussion usually remains focused on the particular item and since the position *between* the description and the comparanda section accounts for the discussion's role to precisely mediate between these two elements and tie them together.

IV.3.3. Comparanda

Specialized studies often use the term "parallel(s)" when referring to items displaying a high degree of similarity with regard to one or several features of a given object. This can be done for rather different purposes, e.g., to point out characteristics of manufacture, to highlight features that have been declared by previous scholarship to be relevant for issues of typology and the determination of production series or groups, even products of hypothetically assumed

[31] Tufnell 1982: Design Class 8; Keel 1995: § 511–514.

specialised 'workshops' (see above), or to assist in the description and identification of particular iconographic motifs, especially when these are summarily executed or badly preserved. Following earlier practice in CSAPI and CSAJ, comparison more often than not relates to motifs or motif configurations in the base engraving.

CSSL tends to reserve the term "parallel" to such items where several aspects or levels of similarity come together, reflecting a high degree of similarity; in contrast, lesser degrees of similarity (in a single or in several respects) are subsumed under the more general term *comparandum* (Latin for "to be compared", sg., anglicized *comparand*) or *comparanda* (pl., anglicized *comparands*). Discussions of theory and method in comparativism stress the importance of the *tertium comparationis* (or aspect under which two or more items may or should be compared). Not always is the *tertium* made sufficiently explicit in secondary literature; CSSL entries attempt to be explicit in this regard.

CSSL entries generally record whether "parallels" (*stricto sensu*) are so far known or not within the corpus of stamp seals from the southern Levant. Comparanda from the database are then cited. For reasons of consistency, they are listed according to their CSSL reference (site name + no.) in alphanumerical order, not according to the higher or lesser degree of similarity unless explicitly stated otherwise. Items from Egypt and other regions may follow with their bibliographical reference. Non-provenanced objects may be mentioned among the latter. While authors have invested the search for non-provenanced objects to different degrees, the project as such did not want to systematically include nor dogmatically exclude non-provenanced materials. However, parallels from collections are cited when essential to the discussion.

Following previous scholarly practice in glyptic studies, discussions of comparanda and comparability tend to stress aspects of similarity rather than differences between comparanda. This is not without problems when considered from the perspective of a general theory of comparison. When two or more objects are compared to each other, differences can just be as informative and heuristically productive as similarities for the objects' analysis and better understanding. The main purpose of listing comparanda, justifying their selection and evaluating them explicitly—if in a condensed manner—is to verbalize both the stakes and the procedure engaged in the exercise of comparison.

IV.3.4. Cross-referencing within CSSL, concordances

As mentioned, the printed catalogue volumes of CSSL are based on the digital database. The latter manages a complex web of cross-references, especially—but not only—in the comparanda section. All internal cross-references to other items registered in the CSSL database are given in the most basic form as "site name + number". This follows the practice established in CSAPI/CSAJ. When browsing through the CSAPI series, one can observe that cross-references (which, almost naturally, tend to refer to entries in earlier volumes) became more numerous and more important with each new volume added.

The main advantage of this system is to avoid lengthy chains of bibliographical references within entries. CSSL volumes therefore use the same system, with an important difference, however: being based on the digital database, our internal cross-references may refer to any entry within the whole dataset, including sites M–Z and addenda. To make the system intelligible and allow readers to resolve a reference to an item yet to be published in Vols. VIII–X, a concordance listing the original publications of those entries is printed at the end of this volume.[32]

IV.4. Date

The section on dating concerns the hypothetical *production* date of any given object. In the database, it is divided into three parts, each reflecting a different type of dating with its own degree of chronological resolution. The three types can be and often are combined and an author can mark which type they consider most significant for any given entry, just as they may signal uncertainty when appropriate.[33] The usual order will be dating by archaeological period(s), Egyptian (or other) dynasty (dynasties), and specific king(s)/reign(s), that is from broad to narrow or low to high resolution. This order can be changed for some items; alternatively, only the highest resolution may be indicated when it is undisputed.

IV.4.1. Dating by archaeological period

CSSL uses a system of archaeological periodization which favours relative over absolute dating, while indicating absolute dates for the sake of orientation. Relative dating by archaeological period relies on material culture characteristics, which can evolve at different places in different regions. Archaeologists and historians have always attempted to put absolute dates on relative periods, opting between (ultra) high, middle, and (ultra) low chronologies which for some periods are tied to scientific methods of calculation (astronomical, calendric, ^{14}C, palaeomagnetic, etc.) while relying on documented synchronisms, attested or assumed coregencies or broad historical considerations

[32] See above, n. 9.

[33] The latter point is important. In secondary literature, one may sometimes encounter rether straightforward affirmations which hide the hypothetical nature of one author's opinion.

for others.[34] Moreover, archaeologists working in the southern Levant often rely on the assumed synchronicity of destruction horizons observed at different sites, which can be problematic when external historical reasoning takes precedence over material culture evidence. In any case, CSSL as such has other goals and purposes than to question established chronologies,[35] except when it comes to date specific seals, production series or groups. Our archaeological periodization currently reflects the following system:

Table II: archaeological chronology used in CSSL VI.

Neolithic (mid 10th–7th mill. BCE)		
Pre-Pottery Neolithic (mid 10th–mid 7th mill. BCE)		
	Pre-Pottery Neolithic A (mid 10th–early 9th mill. BCE)	
	Pre-Pottery Neolithic B (early 9th–8th mill. BCE)	
	Pre-Pottery Neolithic C (first half of 7th mill. BCE)	
Pottery Neolithic (second half of 7th mill. BCE)		
Chalcolithic (6th–early 4th mill. BCE)		
Early Chalcolithic (beginning of 6th–late 6th mill. BCE)		
Mid Chalcolithic (late 6th–mid 5th mill. BCE)		
Late Chalcolithic (mid 5th–early 4th mill. BCE)		
Early Bronze Age (early 4th–late 3rd mill. BCE)		
EB I (early 4th–end of 4th mill. BCE)		
	EB IA (early 4th–later 4th mill. BCE)	
	EB IB (later 4th–end of 4th mill. BCE)	
EB II (end of 4th–early 3rd mill. BCE)		
EB III (early to late 3rd mill. BCE)		
Intermediate Bronze Age (late 3rd–early 2rd mill. BCE)		

Middle Bronze Age (20th–mid 16th c. BCE)		
MB I (20th–19th c. BCE)		
MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE)		
MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE)		
Late Bronze Age (mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE)		
LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE)		
	LB IA (mid 16th–early 15th c. BCE)	
	LB IB (early 15th–early 14th c. BCE)	
LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE)		
	LB IIA (early 14th–early 13th c. BCE)	
	LB IIB (early 13th–early 12th c. BCE)	
LB III (early to late 12th c. BCE)		

Iron Age (late 12th–late 6th c. BCE)			
Iron I (late 12th–mid 10th c. BCE)			
	Early Iron I (late 12th–mid 11th c. BCE)		
	Late Iron I (mid 11th–mid 10th c. BCE)		
Iron II (mid 10th–8th c. BCE)			
	Iron IIA (mid 10th–9th c. BCE)		
		Early Iron IIA (mid to end of 10th c. BCE)	
		Late Iron IIA (9th c. BCE)	
	Iron IIB (8th c. BCE)		
Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE)			
	Early Iron III (7th–early 6th c. BCE)		
	Late Iron III (early to late 6th c. BCE)		

[34] Recent contributions to the debate on second-millennium chronologies include Höflmayer and Manning 2022; Nahm and Roaf 2025.

[35] The option to adopt different (rival) chronological systems might perhaps be considered for a future development of the database.

Persian Period (late 6th–late 4th c. BCE)		
Ealy Persian (late 6th–early 5th c. BCE)		
Mid Persian (early–end of 5th c. BCE)		
Late Persian(be ginning–late 4th c. BCE)		

Hellenistic Period (late 4th–mid 1st c. BCE)		
Early Hellenistic (late 4th–end of 3rd c. BCE)		
Late Hellennistic (first half of 2nd c. BCE)		
	Hasmonean (mid 2nd–late 1st c. BCE)	

Roman Period (late 1st c. BCE–late 4th c. CE)		
Early Roman (late 1st c. BCE–early 2nd c. CE)		
	Herodian (later 1st c. BCE–late 1st c. CE)	
Late Roman (early 2nd–late 4th c. CE)		
Byzantine Period (late 4th c. CE–mid 7th c. CE)		
Early Byzantine (late 4th–mid 5th c. CE)		
Late Byzantine (mid 5th–mid 7th c. CE)		

Rashidun and Umayyad (mid 7th–mid 8th c. CE)		
Abbasid and Fatimid (mid 8th–end of 11th c. CE)		
Crusader and Ayyubid (end of 11th–late 13th c. CE)		
Mamluk (late 13th–early 16th c. CE)		
Modern Period (early 16thc. CE to present)		
	Ottoman (early 16th to early 20th c. CE)	
		Early Ottoman (early 16th to 17th c. CE)
		Middle Ottoman (18th c. CE)
		Late Ottoman (19th and early 20th c. CE)
	Mandate Period (1922–1948 CE)	
	Post-1948 (after 1948 CE)	

This system is applied—independently—in both sections for dating, i.e., the one suggesting the production date of individual artifacts (in this volume, only a few items may have been produced as late as the Hellenistic period) and the "context" section, where the final deposition of an artifact is recorded (and dates can run until the very recent past).

IV.4.2. Dating by Egyptian dynasties

Roughly two thirds of the objects recorded in the CSSL database are scarabs, to which should be added figure-scaraboids and other Egyptian or Egyptianizing seal types: reason enough to give Egyptian dynasties a special place in the dating of our artefacts whenever appropriate. For the dating of Egyptian dynasties and individual reigns, CSSL follows the chronological table published in Hornung, Krauss and Warburton 2006: 490–495.[36]

IV.4.3. Dating by specific Egyptian kings or other historically datable reigns

Reigns of Egyptian kings are given according to the table(s) mentioned in the previous paragraph. Reigns of Mesopotamian (Assyrian, Babylonian) and Achaemenid kings as well as local and regional Levantine rulers, including biblically attested kings, follow standard regional histories (e.g., Younger 2016; Sader 2019; Frevel 2023).

IV.4.4. Dating preferences

Perhaps even more important than absolute dating for archaeological periods, dynasties or kings, CSSL authors were invited to briefly state on what criteria their dating of a given entry is based. This practice should remind users of CSSL that in most cases, the date(s) suggested for the production of an item remains hypothetical, resting on a bundle of considerations and thus being intrinsically relative and potentially subject to revision.

[36] See also Keel 1995: § 630–633 for 'Hyksos' rulers and § 660–666 for all Egyptian dynasties.

IV.5. Collection

IV.5.1. Place, museum, or storage

Artifacts included in CSAPI, CSAJ and CSSL have been discovered by dozens of major and hundreds of salvage expeditions at almost 400 different sites, a number that will soon be exceeded by new findings. Nineteenth- and twentieth-century excavations generally included agreements on find division, which has led to the dispersal of artifacts listed in CSAPI, CSAJ and CSSL among 150+ museums and other (mostly public) collections located in 135+ different places almost all over the world. Considering the minute dimensions of most objects, it is astonishing that only 2.7% (325+) of all items figuring in our database are currently reported lost (19), stolen (19) or unlocatable (280+, which often means they were simply misplaced and can resurface at any time, sometimes in rather unexpected locations). Over the past few decades, the responsibility for the preservation and curation of the finds has largely been transferred from museums to state collections run by national antiquities authorities and departments, the quality of whose work and care cannot be praised highly enough. More recent finds often stay in the storage of excavating expeditions or scientific laboratories until they could be properly studied and processed for publication.

IV.5.2. IAA number

For the reason just mentioned, the Israel Antiquities Authority—one of the most important partners and supporters of the SSSL project—is today the main institution caring for the storage and curation of artifacts found during excavations in Israel and for centralizing information about these artifacts, including their provenance and current location. Each artifact registered by the IAA gets a unique IAA number, which is often the most important identifier when it comes to determine an object's current location. This number has therefore been registered in CSSL whenever available.[37]

IV.5.3. A note on CSAPI archive information

As acknowledged repeatedly in this introduction, CSSL is a successor of CSAPI and CSAJ. While the quantity of artifacts registered in CSSL (12,000+) exceeds those of the earlier projects by many hundreds,[38] the primary documentation of stamp seals from the southern Levant on thousands of index cards in what we refer to as the CSAPI archive—today preserved at the University of Fribourg's Department of Biblical Studies and Bible+Orient Museum—remains of crucial value. Not only do these cards represent the physical memory of the first decades of Keel's project(s), as they preserve handwritten annotations by Othmar Keel and his research assistants and students (**Fig. 1**);[39] among these, most of Bertrand Jaeger's readings of scarabs and scrupulous pencil annotations on their dating made their way into the published CSAPI volumes. They also preserve photocopies made of early index cards and/or drawings in public museums or private collections, or b/w prints of items that were known and accessible to CSAPI in the 1980s but cannot be located anymore today (or more precisely: could not be located by SSSL members, **Figs. 2a–c**).[40]As mentioned above, the CSAPI cards had been scanned prior to the start of the SSSL project; these scans can be accessed by staff members via the backend version of the CSSL database.[41] References to the cards are made in the entries whenever deemed relevant by an author. While it is true that staff members have made more or less use of it, this resource also remains available for future studies.

[37] Similar measures of storage, preservation and curation are taken by the Department of Antiquities of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and by the Palestinian Ministry of Tourism and Antiquities. Their identifiers are similarly registered for items in their custody, see CSSL VIII–X.

[38] At the time of writing, addenda to CSAPI I–V and CSAJ alone number 1261 items. To this, CSSL adds hundreds of finds missing from the CSAPI/CSAJ archive and new finds recovered from L–Z sites over the past two decades (both published and hitherto unpublished).

[39] To mention a few individuals represented and recognizable by their distinctive handwriting: Jürg Eggler, Bertrand Jaeger, Andrea Jaekle, Karl Jaroš, Hildi Keel-Leu, Stefan Münger, Silvia Schroer, Thomas Staubli, Christoph Uehlinger.

[40] An example relevant for the present volume (CSSL Lachish No. 79, 92, 843–845, 848) must suffice here: photographs and photocopies regarding these six items (cf. Fig. 2c) in the custody of New York University, The Classics Department, were received at Fribourg University in the 1980s from Prof. Larissa Bonfante (1931–2019, author of *Classical Antiquities at New York University* [Studia archaeologica 146]. Rome: "L'Erma" di Bretschneider and New York: Center for Ancient Studies, 2006, and a renowned expert in Etruscan Studies). Bonfante is credited as the Department's reference person in Keel 1995: 5. The Department still exists today, but the existence and extent of its collection (beyond, perhaps, the Graeco-Roman antiquities) seems barely known even to members. Despite kind assistance by colleagues Daniel Fleming, Michael Peachin, Maura Pollard, and Nancy A. Smith Amer, all from New York University, our attempts in Spring 2022 to locate there the mentioned seals from Lachish remained unsuccessful.

[41] Likewise, the relevant data was manually integrated into CSSL's backend data structure. We are grateful to Melanie Zosso for undertaking this meticulous task, which was essential for the successful launch of the SSSL project.

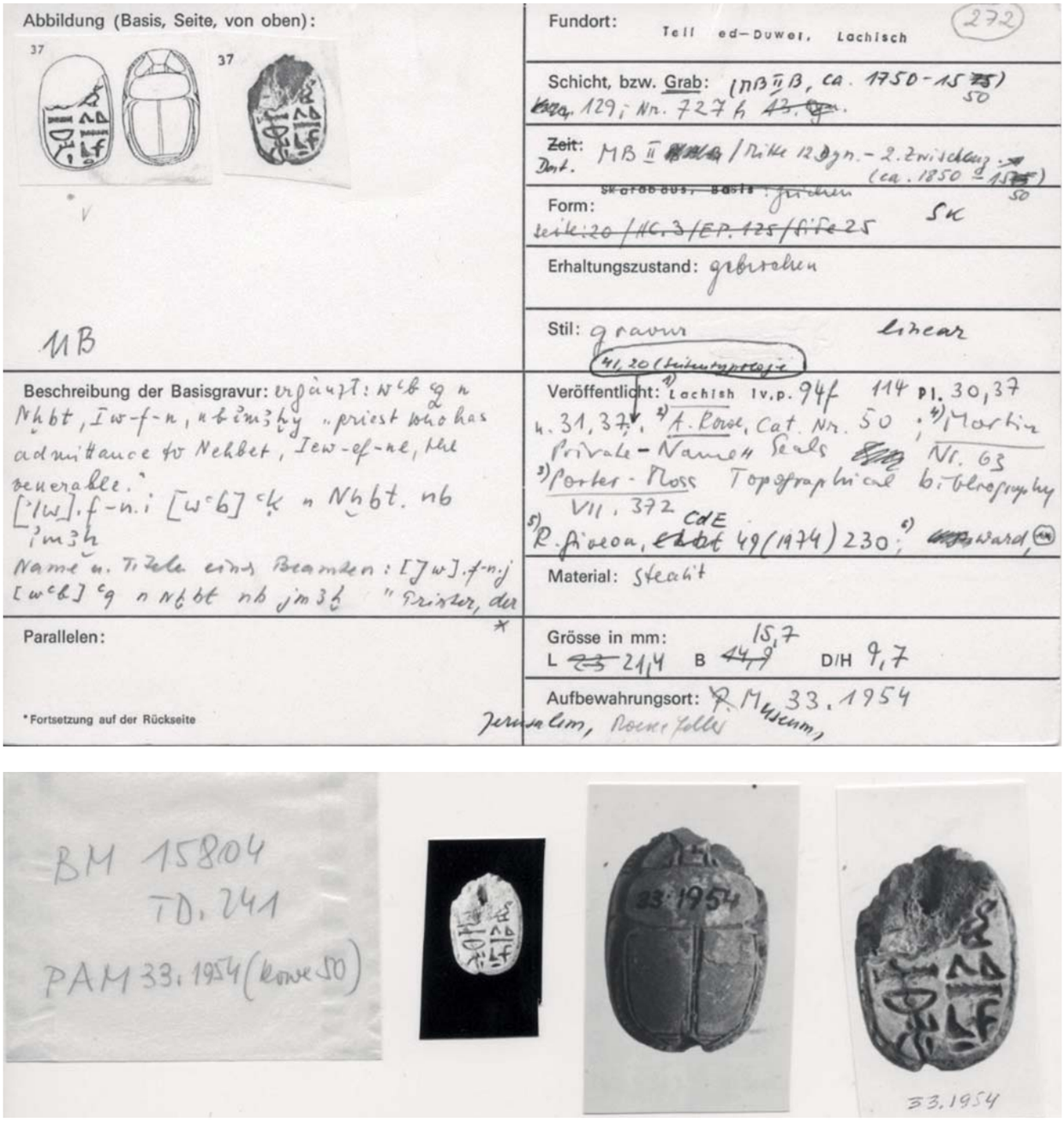
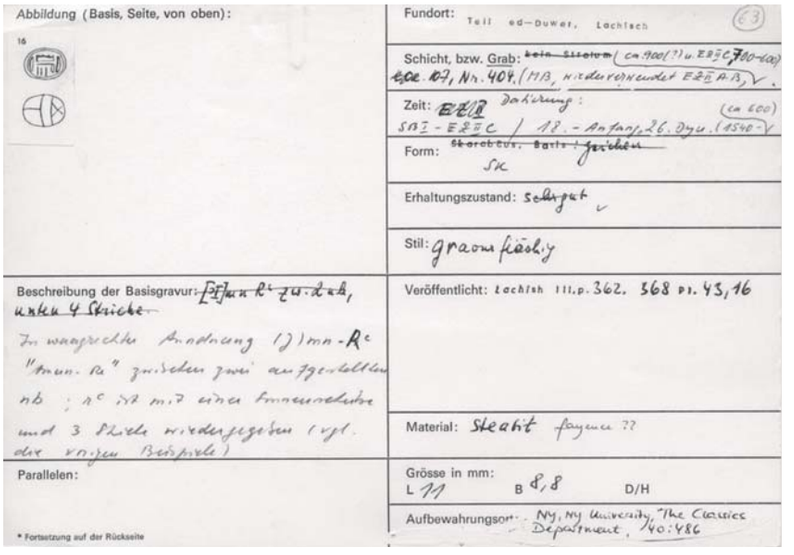


Fig. 1: CSAPI index card of CSSL Lachish No. 321 (previous CSAPI number: 272) with annotations by K. Jaroš (primary registration based on Tufnell 1958), B. Jaeger and O. Keel, as well as b/w prints from photographic archives kept in London (British Museum, BM and TD. reference) and Jerusalem (Rockefeller Museum, PAM/IDAM [= IAA] reference).

Fig. 2 (next page): CSAPI index card of CSSL Lachish No. 79 (previous CSAPI number: 63).—a: index card with annotations by K. Jaroš (primary registration based on Tufnell 1953), B. Jaeger and C. Uehlinger.—b: b/w prints from the 1980s, sent at the time by Professor Larissa Bonfante of New York University, The Classics Department.—c: photocopy of The Classics Department's inventory card No. 40:486, including annotations regarding the object's location in the collection (see n. 40).


Abbildung (Basis, Seite, von oben):

16

Fundort: Tell ed-Duweir, Lachish

Schicht, bzw. Grab: ~~Loch Stratum~~ (ca. 900(?) v. Z.) SBC, 700-400 ~~EBC~~ 107, Nr. 404. (MB, wiederverwendet EZ II A-B)

Zeit: ~~EZ II~~ Datierung: (ca 600)
SAI - EZ II C / 18. - Anfang 26. Dyn. (1540 -

Form: ~~Skarabäus, Basis: Zeichen~~
SK

Erhaltungszustand: Schlecht

Stil: grausplastisch

Beschreibung der Basisgravur: ~~Löwe R. zu Loch, unten 4 Striche~~
In waagrechter Anordnung 1) mn-Rᶜ "mn. Rᶜ" zwischen zwei aufgestellten nb ; Rᶜ ist mit einer Innenzeichnung und 3 Striche wiedergegeben (vgl. die vorigen Beispiele)

Veröffentlicht: Lachish III, p. 362. 368 pl. 43, 16

Material: Steatit Fayence ??

Parallelen:

Grösse in mm: L 11 B 8,8 D/H

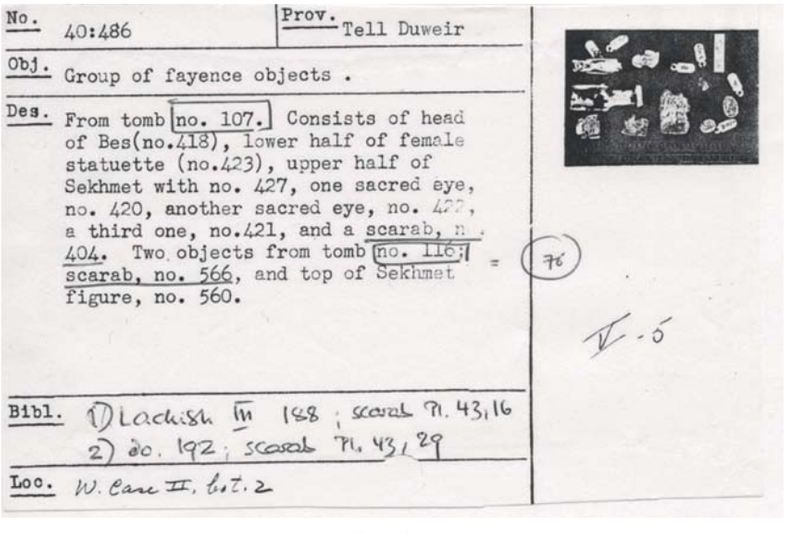
Aufbewahrungsort: NY, NY University, The Classics Department, 40:486

* Fortsetzung auf der Rückseite

Fig. 2a.



Fig. 2b.


No. 40:486 Prov. Tell Duweir

Obj. Group of fayence objects .

Des. From tomb no. 107. Consists of head of Bes(no.418), lower half of female statuette (no.423), upper half of Sekhmet with no. 427, one sacred eye, no. 420, another sacred eye, no. 422, a third one, no.421, and a scarab, no. 404. Two objects from tomb no. 116: scarab, no. 566, and top of Sekhmet figure, no. 560.

Bibl. 1) Lachish III 188 ; scarab Pl. 43,16
2) ao. 192 ; scarab Pl. 43, 29

Loc. W. Case II, bot. 2

Fig. 2c.

IV.6. Context

This rubric has perhaps undergone the most thorough 'renovation' when compared to CSAPI and CSAJ. For the latter two, the reference to context was almost exclusively meant to serve dating purposes, with production date being considered of prime importance. Final deposition was considered of lesser importance, if not to trigger a remark on a given item's status as "heirloom" or its stratigraphic position as an "intrusion". The SSSL project approached things rather differently, not just to provide more detail: driven by genuinely archaeological and historical concerns, context to us is informative on many other aspects of history, anthropology and material culture, including the study of function and various aspects of social, economic, and gender history. That said, context annotations remain relatively technical in the CSSL catalogue.

IV.6.1. General site introduction

As in CSAPI and CSAJ, each site is first presented in an introduction, which can be more or less substantial depending on the site's importance. The introduction situates the site's names, location, and historical identification if known. It then lists archaeological excavations conducted at the site, especially those which led to the discovery of glyptic materials. In the case of major sites (such as Lachish in the present volume, or Megiddo in CSSL VII), we offer a site map locating major excavation areas and cemeteries in the surroundings, as well as a stratigraphic table. The introduction ends with a non-exhaustive bibliography, listing especially the final reports when available.

IV.6.2. Macro: area, square, phase or stratum

Context information for any given entry is registered in a sequence of three levels of resolution: macro, meso, and micro. The first level (macro) mentions the area and square, alternatively a cemetery, and the phase, layer, or stratum in which the object was found. In contrast to earlier excavations which often distinguished strata all over a tell (e.g., the Lachish levels numbered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition directed by J.L. Starkey, which remain important benchmarks in all discussions of Levantine archaeology), more recent practise favours area-specific stratigraphy and phasing (cf. Strata P-1 to P-6 in Area P or S-1 to S-3 in Area S of the Tel Aviv University excavations directed by D. Ussishkin), which often cannot be easily aggregated (if at all) into main strata. Relative dates are given for strata, area-specific (sub-)strata, and phases based on published reports or aggregated records from the field if available; these are accompanied by absolute dates reflecting the system described above (sect. 4.1.), which are not necessarily those that would be preferred by the excavators, who may follow absolute dates correlated to their own understanding of a site's history.

IV.6.3. Meso: building, tomb, feature

As meso-context we may consider circumscribed structures such as buildings or tombs, features of more limited extent such as walls, floors, or any kind of installation as they are identified in the reports. In the CSSL database such features can be described in more or less detail and dated as such; authors can for instance note the size of a tomb, the number of burials, or other objects found in the tomb. Whenever more than a single stamp seal was found in a building or tomb or associated to a specific feature, this information is automatically generated into a notice concerning which items came from the same context or even assemblage. Such concatenation can offer significant added information not only for dating purposes, but also for considering artifact assemblages.

IV.6.4. Micro: locus, basket, object number

On the micro-level, context is usually identified by a locus number. Such numbers are attributed during excavation to identify a spatially and materially discrete excavated unit; occasionally a locus will be redefined and the assigned number revised while the excavation proceeds, or during post-processing and retrospective analysis of the data. Basket numbers register material retrieved during excavation within a given basket or bucket, generally related to a given locus; it can happen, however, that "special finds" such as stamp seals are separated from the material they were excavated with at an early stage during retrieval, which means the object will be assigned a basket number of its own. It will in any case be assigned an object registration number, which usually remains the object's main identifier as long as it has not been registered into a collection (see above, museums, IAA, etc.). Since the process of assigning locus, basket, and object numbers can follow different rules from one expedition to another, we register all three numbers whenever available; often only a single number is available, however.

IV.6.5. Context discussion

The CSSL database offers authors the possibility to comment on the micro-context in a free-text box, or to add a context-related comment, such as other objects found alongside the seals or interpretations of the function of the locus, on the specific item they are describing. Such free-text comments, just as all other free-text comments related to macro- or meso-context will appear in printed CSSL volumes as footnotes.

IV.7. Bibliography

The last rubric of the CSAPI/CSAJ and CSSL catalogue is the bibliography, referring to the specific item discussed. We should stress that despite attempts to document thoroughly both the items and their discussion by scholars, our bibliographies are meant to be reasonably representative, not exhaustive. The database allows to identify a priority reference publication for any item, which is generally the item's publication in the final report whenever available. The latter determines the item's position within the numbering sequence of a given site (see above, II.2.).
Citations refer to CSSL's general bibliography, which covers all CSAPI/CSAJ volumes and our own database. This means that a reference "N.N. 2003b" could occur without there being a reference "N.N. 2003a" in the same volume.

V. Visual documentation and presentation

V.1. From CSAPI to CSSL

One aspect of the visual presentation of scarabs and other stamp seals in this catalogue will strike every user of CSAPI/CSAJ and CSSL immediately: the huge progress made in the meantime regarding both the photographic documentation of the seals and their rendering in print. CSAPI usually documents each item in three halftone photographs and as many line drawings, arranged from left to right: back (photo/drawing), one side (photo/drawing), base (photo/drawing), with the drawing of the base aligned far right, that is, dominant when browsing through the books. CSAJ followed the same general principles, but provided colour photographs (most of them taken by Jürg Eggler) instead of halftones whenever possible. Keel himself moved to colour in the publication of his private collection (Keel 2020); interestingly, the back and one side of each item are now illustrated by a colour photograph only, whereas the colour photograph of the base is accompanied by a line drawing, which again figures at the far right.

This systematic use of colour photography reflects changes in technology both on the documentation and communication as well as on the printers' side: in the early days of the project, b/w prints acquired for CSAPI had to be ordered from the collections, were often made by museum professionals, and transferred to Fribourg by regular mail, all of which cost considerable amounts of money; whereas later Keel was allowed to take photographs himself during documentation visits to museums, universities, kibbutz collections, etc.—wherever he could reach during his annual post-retirement visits to Israel. Digital photography became available sometime in the 1990s, and early digital photos were stored on CD-ROMs—long before being (luckily) secured on the BODO server. That CSAPI V remained black and white whereas colour photography was extensively used in the book on Keel's private collection is related to more than a technology change: the former (OBO.SA 35) was one of the last volumes published in the OBO.SA series before Academic Press Fribourg was closed down on short notice; whereas the latter (OBO.SA 39) was the first volume published by Peeters, where OBO and OBO.SA had found refuge in 2017. Colour printing technology had in the meantime become much more affordable.

CSSL has benefitted considerably from the new possibilities offered by both photography and printing technologies. Our volumes will document each item in colour (when possible), usually by six views arranged according to a relatively fixed, but nevertheless flexible grid (**Fig. 3**):

<table>
<tr><th>A</th><th>B</th><th>C</th><th>D</th><th>E</th><th></th></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Drawing
Front view
(if available)</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Photo
Front view</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>2</td></tr>
<tr><td>Photo
right[!] side</td><td>Photo
back view</td><td>Photo
left[!] side</td><td>Photo
base view</td><td>Photo base view
(rectified)</td><td>3</td></tr>
<tr><td></td><td>Photo
rear view</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>4</td></tr>
<tr><td>Drawing
(right[!] side)
or Impression
(optional)</td><td>Drawing
back/rear view
(if available)</td><td>Drawing
(left[!]) side</td><td>Drawing
base view</td><td>Drawing base view
(rectified)</td><td>5</td></tr>
</table>

Fig. 3.



Fig. 4a: CSSL Lachish No. 336.



Fig. 4b: CSSL Lachish No. 436.

Figs. 4a–b exemplify how the grid described in Fig. 3 can be implemented—and, if necessary, adapted—for individual items.

- standard ratios of reproduction are 2:1 or 1:1; a note in the inner margin informs users whenever a non-standard scale is used;
- a vertical column showing (from top to bottom) the item's front, back, and rear view represents the arrangement's backbone;
- the central back view is flanked by the side views; these three views define a horizontal register, which is completed to the right by a base view;
- the entire horizontal arrangement of the photographs from right[!] side to base is arranged as if turning the object three times on a central vertical axis: starting from the right[!] side, the first turn will make you look at the back, the second turn at the left[!] side, the third turn at the base;
- if the base view has to be rotated more than just 180° horizontally, that is, if it has to be turned 90° because of the base design's horizontal layout, or turned 180° vertically in the case of a vertical layout where the top of the design does not match with the scarab's head, a fifth column is added to present the base in its most easily readable (and likely intended) orientation;
- alternatively, if the base photograph is very light or shows little contrast, a slightly modified darker photograph with more contrast is placed in the fifth column;
- if photographs of impressions (made in fimo, plasteline, or the like) are available and can add significantly to the item's 'reading', they are placed somewhere below, in the most appropriate cell of the grid, usually to the left of the drawings;
- drawings are also placed in the most appropriate cells; whenever possible, they form another register below and clearly distinct from the photographic arrangement. Note that for economic and practical reasons related to workload, we decided to have as a rule only the back, base and one single side view represented in drawings.

Needless to say, seal types other than scarabs require adaptations and a number of views in accordance with their specific shape, which can result in very different arrangements that nevertheless follow similar principles.

V.2. Photography

Photographs of items discovered during recent excavations could generally be obtained thanks to the support of the expedition directors. Photographs of items from older excavations—in the case of this volume, the Wellcome-Marston expedition to Lachish—required extensive new photography, which was realized through the highly committed work of three SSSL staff members, namely Ben Greet (UZH), Mor Goldenberg and Netanel Rinon (TAU). While Greet photographed over a thousand objects in several European and US-American museums and collections (as well as in Birzeit and Ramallah), Goldenberg and Rinon were active in museums and state collections as well as numerous kibbutz museums in Israel. Nadia Ben-Marzouk documented items from Tell en-Naṣbeh kept at the William F. Badè Museum of Biblical Archaeology at the Pacific School of Theology in Berkeley, CA. Silas Klein Cardoso photographed impressions, especially of inscribed West Semitic seals now in the custody of the Institute of Jewish Studies, University of Bern.

Greet has described the technical setup and procedure followed during his painstaking missions in a separate article (Greet 2023). Here it may suffice to point out that the number of pictures taken in the course of dozens of photography missions can easily be estimated along the following calculation: Greet documented 1030 seals and roughly 125 seal impressions mostly on jar handles. Count an average of seven views per item (less for handles, but more for scarabs made of gemstones where additional pictures were necessary in order to account for translucency), multiply these by 10 due to the use of focus-stacking, and you will obtain an estimated number of 80,000 pictures taken by Greet alone. To this must be added extensive post-processing (including colour correction, additional sharpening, merging of multiple into single images, etc.), most of which was carried out by Michael Aeschlimann (UZH) under Greet's supervision.

Copies of all processed photographs were returned to the institutions which had graciously consented to allow new photography by our staff on their premises.

V.3. Line drawings

Until roughly the turn of the millennium, line drawings were often indispensable for scientific documentation due to the limited possibilities for printing high quality photographs of small objects at reasonable cost. Rowe's catalogue of scarabs in the Rockefeller Museum represents an exception in this regard. Excavation reports of the periods pre- and post-World War II which rely mainly on halftone photographs are hardly usable anymore; in contrast, reports which combined photographs and line drawings remain of some value even today. In the latter publications the line drawings are often more informative than photographs. In the late 20th century, line drawings were still much easier to reproduce, a crucial aspect for communicating image-based research to the scholarly community and the wider

public. More recently, demands on drawings have increased significantly due to the pressure of new image reproduction technologies; their importance has sometimes been relativized alongside excellent digital photographs.

Due to the reduction of graphic complexity they achieve, however, line drawings often help to identify at a glance the most essential features of an object or base engraving, and they remain indispensable when, based on carefully verified information, they clarify details which appear unclear in the original or are rendered ambiguous in a photograph.

CSSL has therefore pursued the policy followed in CSAPI/CSAJ to include in its graphic documentation an average of three line drawings per item. These were realized by two experienced professional illustrators, Ingrid Berney (Zurich) and Ulrike Zurkinden-Kolberg (Düdingen/Fribourg), who worked from photographs alone, often in close exchange with the authors of the respective entries and under the supervision of Schroer and Uehlinger.

V.4. Copyright

Detailed copyright information is provided in the digital database of CSSL for every single catalogue item. The right to use institutional photographs, generally free of charge, was granted to the SSSL project by all partner institutions for use in the CSSL digital database and printed volumes. *This does not mean full copyright transfer by these institutions to CSSL.* CSSL holds (or shares, depending on particular arrangements) the copyright for items photographed or drawn by SSSL staff members. This includes thousands of new photographs and drawings, but by no means all the materials published in CSSL.

Scholars who would like to use materials from CSSL (database, printed volumes or other publications) in their own publications should refer to p. XI for further detail.

Abbreviations and bibliography

CSAJ = Jürg Eggler and Othmar Keel, *Corpus der Siegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel* (Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis. Series Archaeologica 25). Fribourg: Academic Press and Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2006 [= Eggler and Keel 2006].

CSAPI = O. Keel, *Corpus der Stempelsiegel-Amulette aus Palästina/Israel. Einleitung* and *Volumes I –V* [see Keel 1995, 1997, 2010, 2010a, 2013, 2017 in General Bibliography].

CSSL = *Corpus of Stamp Sals from the Southern Levant.*

SSSL = *Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant* project (see above, I. General remarks).

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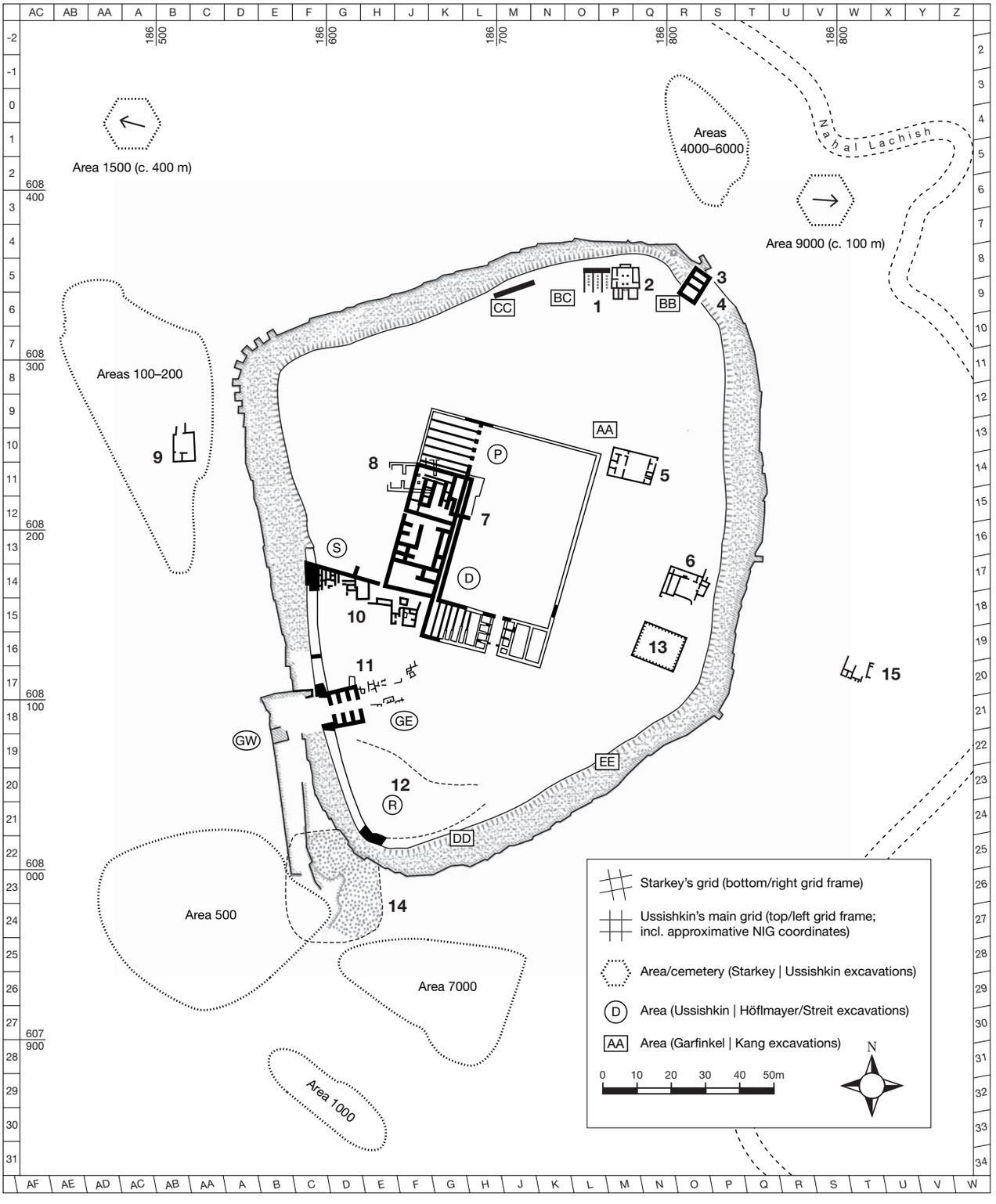
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Catalogue



General Plan of Lachish: 1. City wall and pillared buildings (Iron Age IIA), 2. "North-east Temple" (Late Bronze Age III), 3. "Mudbrick Fortress" (Middle Bronze Age III), 4. "North-East Section", 5. "Solar Shrine" (Persian–Hellenistic periods), 6. Area north of "Great Shaft", 7. "Palace-Fort" complex (Iron Age IIB), 8. "Acropolis Temple" (Late Bronze Age III), 9. "Fosse Temple" (Late Bronze Age IB–IIB), 10. Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", 11. "Gate Area", 12. Counter ramp (Iron Age IIB), 13. "Great Shaft" (Late Iron Age IIA), 14. Assyrian siege ramp (Iron Age IIB), 15. "Houses 6001" (Late Bronze Age III). Plan by Stefan Münger, based on Ussishkin 2004: Fig. 2.9. Additional cartographic and archaeological features were redrawn and integrated from various excavation reports, including Tufnell 1953, 1958; Ussishkin 2004; Weissbein et al. 2020; Garfinkel et al. 2021; and Kang 2024. The production of the plan greatly benefited from materials kindly provided by Felix Höflmayer and Agnes Woitzuck, as well as from the valuable input of Katharina Streit (Austrian Archaeological Institute / Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna).

Lachish

Tel Lachish (Arabic: تل الدوير, Tell ed-Duweir; Hebrew: תל לכיש) is located in the Shephelah, 5 km southeast of modern Kiryat Gat (NIG 1856/6082), close to the Moshav named after it. The site was identified as the location of second and first millennia Lachish by William Foxwell Albright (1929). The first excavation at Lachish was conducted by the Wellcome-Marston expedition headed by James L. Starkey between the years 1932 and 1938 (Torczyner et al. 1938; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940; Tufnell 1953, 1958; Magrill 2006). The second excavation, under the auspices of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, was headed by Yohanan Aharoni and took place in the years 1966 and 1968 (Aharoni 1975). David Ussishkin of Tel Aviv University directed the third expedition to the site, in the years 1973–1994 (Ussishkin 2004). The fourth expedition, active during the years 2013–2017, was co-directed by Yosef Garfinkel (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), Michael G. Hasel and Martin G. Klingbeil (Southern Adventist University, Tennessee, USA) (Weissbein et al. 2019; Garfinkel et al. 2021). Further excavations were conducted during the years 2015–2016 as part of the development of the site as a National Park (Ganor and Kreimerman 2019, 2023). The fifth expedition was initiated in 2017 by Katharina Streit and Felix Höflmayer of the Austrian Academy of Science (Webster et al. 2019). The sixth expedition, launched in 2022, is again co-directed by Yosef Garfinkel (The Hebrew University of Jerusalem), with Hoo-Goo Kang (Seoul Jangsin University).

Stratigraphic table

Period	General levels[1]	Area phases	Wellcome-Marston cemeteries[2] and extramural features
Pottery Neolithic	Sherds and artifacts		
Chalcolithic	Sherds and artifacts		
Early Bronze IA			village outside the tell
Early Bronze IB	Sherds and artifacts		
Early Bronze II			
Early Bronze III		Structural remains in Area D	
Intermediate Bronze			2000
Middle Bronze I		Area D cult place P-6	500, 9000
Middle Bronze II	IX		100–200, 500, 1500, 9000
Middle Bronze III	VIII	P-5, P-4	100–200, 500, 1500, 4000, 6000, 9000
		P-3	
Late Bronze IA	Pits beneath Fosse Temple	P-Interim phase	500, 4000
Late Bronze IB	Fosse Temple I	S-3?	100–200, 500, 1000, 4000, 7000
Late Bronze IIA	Fosse Temple II	P-2 S-3[3], S-2, S-1	100–200, 500, 1000, 4000, 7000
Late Bronze IIB	Level VII Fosse Temple III	P-1	100–200, 500, 1000, 4000, 7000
Late Bronze III	VI		500, 1000, 4000, 7000
Iron I	No material remains		
Early Iron IIA	V		500, 1000
Late Iron IIA	IV	S: IVd–IVa	100–200, 500, 1000, 4000, 6000
Iron IIB	III		100–200, 500, 1000, 4000
Iron III	II		100–200, 500, 4000
Persian	I 1st Phase		100–200, 500, 4000
	I 2nd Phase		100–200, 500, 4000
Early Hellenistic	I 3rd Phase		500

[1] Levels I–VIII are based on the levels identified by the Wellcome-Marston excavations (Tufnell 1953 and 1958). Level IX was identified recently by the HUJ excavations (Garfinkel et al. 2021).

[2] Dating follows Tufnell 1953 and 1958. Iron Age burials follow the dating assigned by Wenning 2021.

[3] New radiocarbon dates for S-3 by Webster et al. (2019) provide a date in the mid-15th c. BCE for Level S-3, raising the possibility that S-3 is contemporary with Fosse Temple I (LB IB), and not of Fosse Temple II (LB IIA) as argued by the original excavators (Ussishkin 2004: Table 2.1). The latter correlation relied on the ceramic assemblage, dated to the LB IIA based on parallels with forms from Fosse Temple II (Yannai 2004). Instead, the new radiocarbon dates suggest either (1) that the LB IIA should begin earlier than accepted (there is no discussion of this possibility in Webster et al. 2019 though); or (2) that the Level S-3 pottery should be dated to LB IB (yet nothing has been published so far to support this possibility). As such, we follow the relative dating for Levels S-3 and S-2 as published by the TAU excavators despite the new radiocarbon dates, but note the revision of Lachish's Late Bronze Age stratigraphy suggested by Weissbein 2024.

LACHISH

1 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[7]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 30/EP 3/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: greyish purple. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; a piece from Sidon, Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2973.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2625.

① A "bilobate" tomb with two chambers forming a rough C-shape, and an entry shaft blocked by small stones. An indeterminate number of individuals were buried in this tomb. The burials were disturbed. Other finds from the burial include pottery, toggle pins, and faience kohl pots (Tufnell 1958: 230–231). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 1–4, 389–410.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 102–103, No. 424, Pl. 11:424; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

2 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 7+HC 26+HC 73/EP 1/Side 34 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: purple, white (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base chipped, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 296, 723 are amethyst scarabs with very similar head and back types.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2972.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2624.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 103, No. 425, Pl. 11:425; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

1



2



3 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38 or HC 71/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: carnelian. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping on the base and sides of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 731 is the closest material parallel. Non-carnelian parallels for this object can be found in other semi-precious stones such as amethyst (Lachish No. 682, 754, 840), quartz (Lachish No. 684–685), rock crystal (Lachish No. 937), and green jasper (Lachish No. 756). Considering the Mohs hardness for such semi-precious stones is more-or-less the same, it is likely that the producers who manufactured carnelian scarabs of this type also made seals in other semi-precious stones, including those connected to David's (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. For uninscribed carnelian scarabs of a similar style from contemporary contexts, also see Tell Beit Mirsim No. 74, Gezer No. 702, Jericho No. 613, 615, Lachish No. 724, es-Samuʿ No. 17, Shiqmona No. 28 and possibly Beth Shean No. 256, though note the sides are not visible. For uninscribed carnelian scarabs with detailed sides, see Jericho No. 600, Rishon LeZion No. 122, 131. For inscribed carnelian scarabs, see Acco No. 95 and Jerusalem No. 20. Eight carnelian scarabs were also present in the Montet Jar (Tufnell and Ward 1966: 176–177, No. 21, 65, 68, 77 and Montet No. 426, 442–443), which has been dated to the early 12th Dyn. (Ben-Tor 1998).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE) or somewhat earlier; less likely 12th Dyn. (1939–1760 BCE); dating based on find context and comparanda. Carnelian scarabs are known to have been in circulation during the early 12th Dyn. as attested by their presence on the Montet Jar. As such, it has been claimed that carnelian scarabs in the southern Levant were likely imported from Egypt (e.g., Ben-Tor and Bonfil 2002: 40). However, 12th Dyn. carnelian scarabs from Egypt are often inscribed on their bases and have a different head and side type than the present object, which reflects the same typological form and chronological representation as scarabs assigned to David's (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group dated to the MB II–III (David 2019a).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2975.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2627.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 103, No. 427, Pl. 11:427; Keel 1995: § 374. *[NBM]*

4 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e7[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 56[?] (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/-/O/S?/O. Note that the typological classification of the sides is obscured by the mounting; however, a schematic groove can be seen in the photograph of the front and rear as well as in the side views of the scarab. MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold. MATERIAL: quartz, rock crystal. Colourless and translucent. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 17.0 mm (L, including mounting). Measurements inferred from photographs.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); the translucency of the seal displays a clear meeting point. Remarks: Uninscribed quartz scarabs with schematic typological features are attributed by David to her (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, said to have been produced locally in the southern Levant (David 2019a). Lumps of rock crystal are reported to have been excavated from Lachish, leading A. David to suggest they may have been for the production of scarabs or beads on site (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433, n. 84).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: The closest typological parallels are attested in amethyst (Megiddo No. 504, Rishon LeZion No. 52) and quartz (Megiddo No. 588). For rock crystal scarabs from the site, see Lachish No. 684–685, 725–727, 733, 755, 937; for additional comparanda, see further Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1251, 1255, 1266; Beth Shemesh No. 235; Gezer No. 713–714; Irbid No. 9; Ḥorvat Zelef No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE) or somewhat earlier; dating based on find context and comparanda.

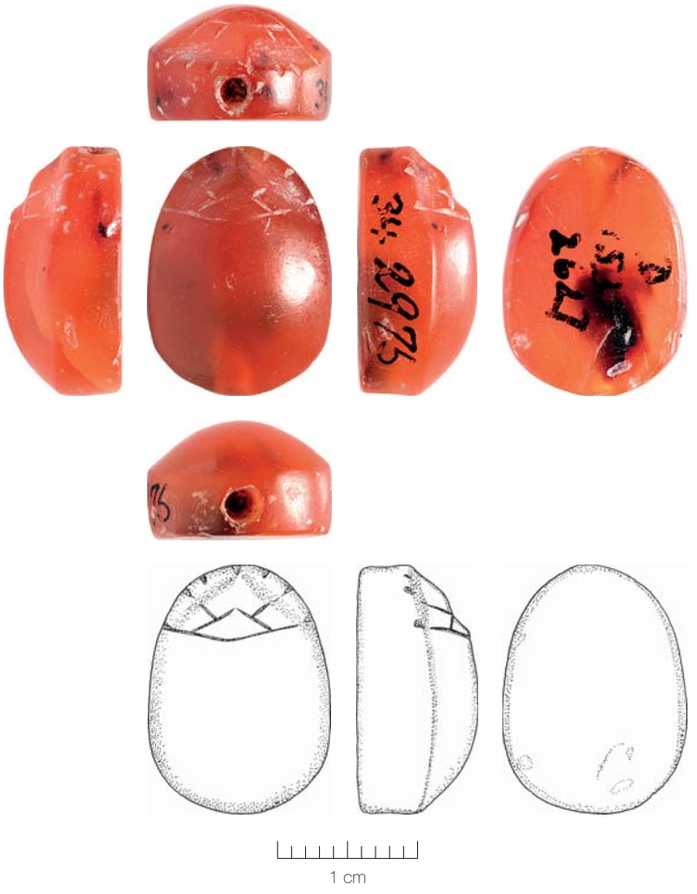
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2974.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2626.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 103, No. 428, Pl. 11:428. *[NBM]*

3



4



5 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 26+HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. PRESERVATION: Back and base chipped, back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; a piece from the northern Levant, Sidon, Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3001.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2662.

① Heavily eroded grave near the north-western edge of the tell. Other finds from the burial are: pottery, a bronze dagger, and a limestone macehead (Tufnell 1958: 231). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 5, 375–388, 677.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 108, No. 461, Pl. 11:461; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

6 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 33/Side 22 (Rowe), D4/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white[?]. According to CSAPI index card (K. Jaroš). PRESERVATION: Unknown as only base is photographed. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. From the top of the base two curvilinear lines extend downward with a single straight line extending from the centre. Below this design is a horizontal oval indicating a cartouche, which encloses the Egyptian hieroglyphs *rʿ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), and a vertical *ḫpr* (L1), to be read as *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. Below the cartouche and arranged perpendicular to it are the following hieroglyphs, arranged in two virtual registers: above from the left *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *tḫn* (O25), *tḫn* (O25); below from right *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *m* (G17).

DISCUSSION: The linear motif at the top of the base can be interpreted as two uraei extending downward, which is a motif that typically occurs with a winged sun disc (e.g., ʿAra No. 30; Rowe 1936: 113). Based on parallels, Rowe 1936: 113, no. 479 read the inscription as "Thutmose III established/establishes the two obelisks in the (House of A)mun", assuming the seal producer omitted the glyphs for *pr* (O1) and *j* (M17). Indeed, several parallels exist for such an inscription (see Desroches-Noblecourt 1950 with references). Thus, the scarab appears to commemorate the erecting of two obelisks. Thutmose III is known to have erected a total of seven obelisks, however. In Karnak, he established a pair of granite obelisks in front of the Fourth Pylon during his 25th year, placing them between the obelisks of Thutmose I and Thutmose II (Sullivan 2010: 10). He also erected a set of red granite obelisks in front of the Seventh Pylon sometime after his 33rd regnal year and eighth campaign to Syria (Sullivan 2010: 8–9). While he also commissioned what is now referred to as the 'obelisque unique', it was completed under his grandson Thutmose IV (Iwaszczuk 2014: 165). In his later years, he restored the practice of erecting obelisks at Heliopolis on the occasion of his fourth sed-festival (Iwaszczuk 2014: 165, 175). Notably, however, when he turned his attention to Heliopolis he commissioned a scarab that read '*Mn-ḫpr-rʿ swʿb pr rʿ ḏt*', which translates to "*Mn-ḫpr-rʿ* is the one who purifies the House of Re forever" (Iwaszczuk 2015: 43). It is therefore likely that Lachish No. 6 is associated with the construction of either the first or second pair of obelisks erected in Karnak between the king's 25th and 33rd regnal years, given its likely mention of Amun rather than Re.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum both in terms of typology and base design is ʿAra No. 30, however it lacks the inscription that gives this seal its significance. Another close parallel is Gezer No. 659 and a seal published by Petrie 1917: Pl. 26:18.6.18, which reads "Thutmose III established two obelisks in the house of Amun". Hall 1913: 161, No. 1634 also published a seal of Amenhotep II inscribed with the phrase "stable are the two obelisks in the house of Amun".

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3091. Item not available for study at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 3062.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 113, No. 479, Pl. 11:479; Desroches-Noblecourt 1950: 258, n. 6; Keel 1995: § 726; Lalkin 2008: 144–145, No. 1141, Pl. 63:1141. *[NBM]*

5



6



7 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79 or HC 1[?]/-/Side 26 (Rowe), D5[?]/-/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow. PRESERVATION: broken. Back and base damaged; most of the back and right side of the base have broken away. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 4.4* mm (H). Original height remains unknown due to state of preservation.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. At the top of the base is a winged solar disk, below which is a cartouche in the centre of the base. The cartouche encloses the Egyptian hieroglyphs *rʿ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), and a vertical *ḫpr* (L1), read *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. To the left of the cartouche is a *nfr* (F35); the right side of the base has broken away.

DISCUSSION: The right side of the base is broken, but the sign may have once contained a *nṯr* (R8) based on parallels, resulting in the epithet *nṯr nfr*, "the good god".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For a similar arrangement of royal name with a winged sun disc, see Lachish No. 19, 565; Acco No. 165; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 223; Tell Jemmeh No. 136. For the epithet *nṯr nfr*, or "the good god" in combination with the name Thutmose III on scarabs in the region, see Lachish No. 18, 456, 582; Gezer No. 237, 364; Tel Ḥarasim No. 25; Megiddo No. 74.

DATING: 19th?–20th? Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3088.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 3058.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 115, No. 486, Pl. 12:486. *[NBM]*

8 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe), D4/I/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow. PRESERVATION: broken. Along upper right and lower left portion of base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Two anthropomorphic figures standing on the backs of animals, all facing right. The figure on the left stands on the back of a striding quadruped with a raised tail. Wearing a triangular kilt, the figure has their arms raised, from which lines extend downward to seemingly indicate feathers, suggesting wings. The figure on the right stands on a couchant quadruped with a long vertical line extending upward from its head to indicate either its ear, horn (another is barely visible due to breakage), or headgear (see below). In contrast to the figure on the left, this figure stands with their arms down by their side and has no distinguishable features (e.g., in terms of dress).

DISCUSSION: (1) The animal on the left can be identified as a lion given its raised tail, which is a feature common in West Asian glyptic. The figure standing on top of it has been identified by scholars as "Baʿal-Seth" based on stylistic similarities that seem to amalgam features of the gods Baʿal and Seth on other media (Keel 1990d: 306; Cornelius 1994: 161–224; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 76–80, 114–116; Keel 2009a). At one point Keel also proposed Mittani glyptic may have influenced the development of this figure in the southern Levant, given the presence of a winged storm god atop a striding lion on Nuzi glyptic (Keel 1990a: 203, fig. 33). In contrast, Koch highlighted the association between goddesses and the lion (Koch 2022: 297): the goddess Qudšu/Qadištu was depicted on a lion pedestal during the Late Bronze Age (e.g., Cornelius [2]2008, see also Cornelius 1994: BR14–16; 20). Most recently, Porzia has questioned the scholarly inclination to name such figures as "Baʿal-Seth" (Porzia 2024: 9–11, with reference to Dietz 2023: 233–257). Such criticism and alternative connections thus complicate our understanding of the left figure.— (2) The animal on the right has traditionally been interpreted as a horned quadruped—either a gazelle or ibex given its long ears/horns. By inference, the figure standing on its back was then identified as Reshef (e.g., Keel 1990d: 302–304; Cornelius 1994: 113; Münger 2003: 67). However, the figure is (gender-)ambiguous and lacks any defining features, which led Koch to question the figure's identification as Reshef (see also Lipiński 1996: 258) and to consider the possibility of a goddess (Koch 2018: 643–646). In Koch's view, the animal on the right could be a horse.— (3) The pairing of a (male[?]) deity on the lion and a possible goddess on the horse is notable during this period (see comparanda below).

COMPARANDA: The closest parallel is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 919, as the seal typology and base design are almost identical with the exception of a long downward-facing curl extending from the winged figure's head (see there for the conventional interpretation as argued by Keel and Cornelius, among others). Ashdod No. 54 (scarab) and Ekron No. 70 (sealing) are also very similar, except that the left figure lacks wings and has their arms raised and (almost) joined to the figure on the right. Similarly, this motif is reflected on Dor No. 27 and Tell Keisan No. 29, however the quadruped to the right is standing. On some objects (e.g., Acco No. 86), the figure on a lion wields a bow and the ambiguous figure on a couchant (carapaced[?]) quadruped appears in a smiting pose, possibly raising a sword or scimitar.

DATING: Probably 21st–early 22nd Dyn. (1076–874 BCE); Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda, context of parallels, and assignation to the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3090.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 3060.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 138, No. 575, Pl. 15:575; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 99, 121, 144, No. 47, 196–197, 201–202, Fig. 29, 295; Cornelius 1994: 201–202, Pl. 49:BM58; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 66, Fig. 138b; Strawn 2005: 391, Fig. 3.48; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 66, Fig. 138b; Münger 2011: 166, 246, Pl. 38, Lachiš 1. *[NBM]*

7



8



9 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 27 or HC 69/EP 109/Side 31 (Rowe), B2[?]/I/e2 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: feldspar. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A seated figure with a pointed face, possibly a snout, and two protrusions extending upward from its head is seated on a horizontal line.

DISCUSSION: Depictions of seated gods on stamp-seal amulets appear during the New Kingdom. Specifically, Amun-Re is often depicted in this position wearing the *shuti* crown, which comprises two long vertical feathers. Such protrusions from the figure's head could therefore depict Amun-Re. However, the combination of two angled protrusions extending from the head, paired with the pointed face, suggest the seated figure is Seth (*stḫ* [C7]).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are Beth Shean No. 242 and Megiddo No. 180, which depict figures with two protrusions extending from their heads in a similar position. See also Petrie 1925: 27, Pl. 15:1025.

DATING: Probably 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2096.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1436.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 170–171, No. 713, Pl. 18:713; Lalkin 2008: 44, 272, No. 648, Pl. 37:648. *[NBM]*

10 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is virtually complete, with only a small part of the border missing on the right side. MEASUREMENTS: 11.6 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ṣpn ʿzryhw*, "Ṣafan (son of) ʿAzaryahu". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Ṣafan is otherwise attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 91 (*lšptyhw bn ṣpn*), on stamped handles Gezer No. 23 = Tel Goded No. 1–4 = Lachish No. 234, 260–262 = Tel Socoh No. 1 (*hwšʿ ṣpn*), Azekah No. 34 = Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 1 = Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 12, 30 = Jerusalem No. 41 = Tel Socoh No. 3–4 (*lṣpn ʾbmṣ*), and on an incised jar from Tel Motza ([...]*ṣpn bn nss*; Vainstub 2009: 137–140). The short form Ṣafan is not attested in the Hebrew Bible, but the long forms Ṣefanyahu and Ṣefanyah are borne by four biblical characters (Jer 21:1; Zeph 1:1; Zech 6:10.14; 1Chr 6:21; see Clines 2010: 152). The patronym, ʿAzaryahu, is attested on seals ʿEn Gedi No. 1 (*lʾryhw ʿzryhw*) and Jerusalem No. 34 (*lmtnyhw ʿzryhw*), on bullae Jerusalem No. 79 (*lʿzryhw bn ḥlqyhw*), Jerusalem No. 90 (*ly*[...] *bn ʿzryhw*), Jerusalem No. 94 (*lʿzryh*[*w*] *bn ʾ*[...]), on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*?]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), on ostracon 16 from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 30–31), and on an incised jar from Gibeon (*ʿzryhw*; Aḥituv 2008: 216). The names ʿAzaryahu and ʿAzaryah (*ʿzryh*) are borne by 27 characters in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2007: 346–347), among which a King of Judah (2Kgs 15:1), several priests (e.g., 1Kgs 4:2; 1Chr 5:39; 2Chr 26:17, 31:10) and one of Daniel's companions (Dan No. 1:6). Note that the present item, though originating in the British excavations, does not appear in Diringer 1941 nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953).

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 698) is impressed on five handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 10, 232–233, 275, 706), including the present item, as well as on Mordot Arnona No. 11–12. For other handle impressions most probably referring to the same individual, see Beth Shemesh No. 193 (*ṣpn ʿzr*), and Lachish No. 57–58, 922 (*lṣpn ʿzr*). For two handle impressions tentatively read as referring to the same individual, see Gibeon No. 11 (tentatively reconstructed as *ṣpn ʿzryhw* in Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 699A) and Ramat Raḥel No. 6 (reconstructed as *lṣpn ʿzryhw* in Vaughn 1999: 212, No. 172, a reconstruction rejected in Koch and Lipschits 2016: 347, No. 6).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 232, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-2259.

CONTEXT: Level III[?] (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE) – Level II[?] (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square H.15, Room 1003,[1] Object no. 5354. This context information conforms to Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 49; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 698A; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXa.164; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 49. Note however that the findspot indicated on the handle itself (an ink registration possibly from the field) reads "D.X" (Tufnell surface find code) and Square "J.15".

① Cobbled room with a row of upright stone pillars, located south of the citadel, and having possibly contained a weaver's workshop (Tufnell 1953: 104); according to Tufnell, it is "possible that the contents of the room date to Levels III and II" (Tufnell 1953: 108). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 10, 230.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Starkey 1936: 188, Pl. 6:1; Hestrin [2]1973: 88; Herr 1978: 87, No. 10; Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels 1979: 38, No. 23; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 49; Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 698A; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXa.164; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 49; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.299; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 15. *[EL]*

9



1 cm

10



5 cm

2:1

2:1

11 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A6/0/e4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly damaged at the edges and near the front perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A striding male anthropomorphic figure turned right, wearing a conical hat (white crown[?]) and a short kilt and cross straps. Short vertical lines perhaps indicate knee bracelets (less probably, the marking of long shoes, or short pants). The figure's 'front' arm is outstretched and holds an uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing inwards; the 'hind' arm is raised in a smiting gesture. Beneath the 'front' arm is a second uraeus, facing outwards; a diagonal line extending from the cobra's neck seems intentional, but its meaning (if any) is hard to assess. Behind the male figure is a twig or branch (Keel 1995: § 433).

DISCUSSION: The layout comprised of a single standing anthropomorphic, human-headed figure was classified as Design Class 10A1 (Ben-Tor 2007: 178–179, Pl. 102–103). Although not very common, it is attested on late Middle Kingdom scarabs (*ibid.*: 34), beginning in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (Design Class 10A; Ben-Tor 2007: 148), perhaps derived from late Middle Kingdom scarabs bearing private names, and it became more common in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series. Tufnell divided this design class into several sub-groups according to the attributes held by the figure (Tufnell 1984: 134–135, 342–343, Pl. 42). Based on the attributes, the branch and the uraeus, the striding figure can here be identified as a deity. Keel identified it as a Baʿal/Hadad-type weather god (Keel 1995: § 571–572).

COMPARANDA: A similarly styled striding figure appears on scarab Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1041, and two similar standing figures (the kilt, cross straps and knee bracelets) on scarab Tell Beit Mirsim No. 6 as well as scarab Emmaus No. 1, where the figure is shown within a rope border, with only one uraeus under the left arm. A similar layout of a striding figure (without the cross straps and the markings on the legs) appears in Gezer No. 331, while Jerusalem No. 18 depicts a figure with the knee markings but without cross straps, a lotus flower instead of a branch, and the uraeus appearing below the right arm. For closely comparable arrangements of a striding anthropomorphic figure (though without smiting pose nor headdress) and the two uraei, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 464, 1051, 1059; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 442; and the same arrangement in the opposite direction: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 994, 1054.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on scarab typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1614.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple I (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. I,[2] Object no. 5316.

① A modestly sized cultic structure, consisting of three or four rooms located west of the mound. It was built into the MB fortifications, hence its name. Its excavators traced three architectural phases dated from LB IB to LB II. The temple's use ended with the destruction of the Level VII settlement at Lachish. It was likely dedicated to the goddess "Elat" (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940; Koch 2017 with previous literature). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 11–13, 16–17, 22, 29, 34–35, 39, 46–49, 735. — ② A rectangular room (10×5 m) used as a sanctuary. Its entrance was located in the western wall, the shrine in the centre of the southern wall. The shrine included a platform (3×0.4 m) made of clay with three blocks projecting from the southern wall to the centre of the room; two large storage jars were placed in front of the platform and contained animal bones, while other pottery vessels—mostly bowls, as well as juglets, a stand and a jug—were found abandoned in this phase (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 38–39). Other finds included a metal pendant, an earring, a statue, and a cylinder seal (*ibid.*: 88). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 11, 17.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:1; Keel 1995: § 571, 719, 723. *[NoR]*

11



12 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: partial greenish glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. The lower half contains a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462), within it the name of Tiye, wife of Amenhotep III. In the upper register, *ḥm.t nswt*; thus read "Royal wife, Tiye".

DISCUSSION: Seals bearing names of queens were rarely found in the southern Levant, and queen Tiye is a unique example. On seals her name is usually accompanied by a title (Lalkin 2008: 129).

COMPARANDA: For an exact parallel, see Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 11 with references. A similar layout (albeit without a cartouche) appears on cowroid Tell el-Ḥesi No. 5. See also Petrie 1917: Pl. 35:159–161.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-2256.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. II,[2] Object no. 5329. Object number according to Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 71 no. 2; the last digit written on the item itself seems closer to a 6 rather than 9.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② A square room (10×10.5 m) with four pillar bases and a stone-built platform that was used as the shrine; the room features a hearth with an inverted bowl and two or three rows of offering benches running along the walls (except on its southern side where the platform was located), with many bowls found on and near the benches (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 39–40). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 12, 16–17, 22, 735.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:2; Keel 1995: § 187, 719, 723, Fig. 127, p. 279 (typology). *[NoR]*

13 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5/EP 110/Side 23 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: broken. Base damaged under the beetle's forelegs on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 9.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Single border. Horizontal layout divided into three by a cartouche in the middle. From right to left: *nṯr nfr nb tʾwj*; a *šnw* (V9/V10) cartouche enclosing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mʾṯ-rʿ*; Keel 1995: § 663); *dj ʿnḫ ḏt*; read together as: "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands, 'Re is (the) lord of truth/true lord', to whom life is given forever" (Rowe 1936; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Amenhotep III is often found on stamp seals in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 130). This layout and formula were common during the New Kingdom featuring names of other kings as well (such as Thutmose III; Lachish No. 567), especially during the Ramesside period (Lalkin 2008: 207). According to the classification proposed by Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 75, this item can be considered as a "medium-size commemorative scarab, type B".

COMPARANDA: The name of Amenhotep III is engraved in a similar layout on Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9 and Ekron No. 3.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934–3087.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple I (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE) or Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple,[1] Object no. 3046.

① See Lachish No. 11.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 132, No. 551, Pl. 14:551; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:3; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

12



13



14 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 5/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Parts of pronotum and back broken away, surface worn, slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.8 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: purplish-brown glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The sole feature is the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*) (Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Amenhotep III is often found on stamp seals in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 130). For additional discussion of the throne name without a cartouche, see Megiddo No. 528 and Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 78–79.

COMPARANDA: The throne name of Amenhotep III in a vertical layout appears on additional items from Lachish, including Lachish No. 47, 577, 586–587; see further Megiddo No. 528. For variants in layout, composition, and occasional formulae, see also Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 120, 189, 196; Beth Shean No. 24; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 546 with additional comparanda.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on throne name and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16152.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.8–9, Pit 176,[1] Object no. 2731.

① Refuse pit located east of the Fosse Temple, yielding animal bones, complete pottery vessels, especially bowls, and sherds, as well as additional artifacts, such as ivory objects, metal objects, beads and an ostrich egg (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, 88–89, Pl. 73). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 14, 20, 44.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:4; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 60; Lalkin 2008: 130, No. 785, Pl. 45:785. *[NoR]*

15 **OBJECT:** Cartouche-shaped scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 183) or finger ring[?], type I (Keel 1995: § 285). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken at both ends, worn; breaks suggest bezel of a Type I finger ring. WEIGHT: 0.45 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.8 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 2.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief[?]; moulded. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: According to Keel 1995: § 284, cartouche shaped "scaraboids" Type I are casted rings made of composite material; it is indeed possible that this item was originally part of a ring (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.). Lalkin 2008: 36–37, however, assigns it to Type II. The seal type was first produced in the early New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 36–37).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. The prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ramesses II (*Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ, stp-n-rʿ*; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, Keel 1995: § 664), written in two groups one above the other inside a *šnw* (V9/V10) cartouche (*ibid.*: § 462).

COMPARANDA: Deir el-Balaḥ No. 127, 129 are gold and carnelian finger rings bearing the throne name of Ramesses II. Another ring was found in Gurob, Egypt (Petrie Museum of Archaeology, London No. UC23807). The throne name of Ramesses II appears on many scarabs and other types of stamp seals in the southern Levant, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1224, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 679, and Gezer No. 390 with additional comparanda.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

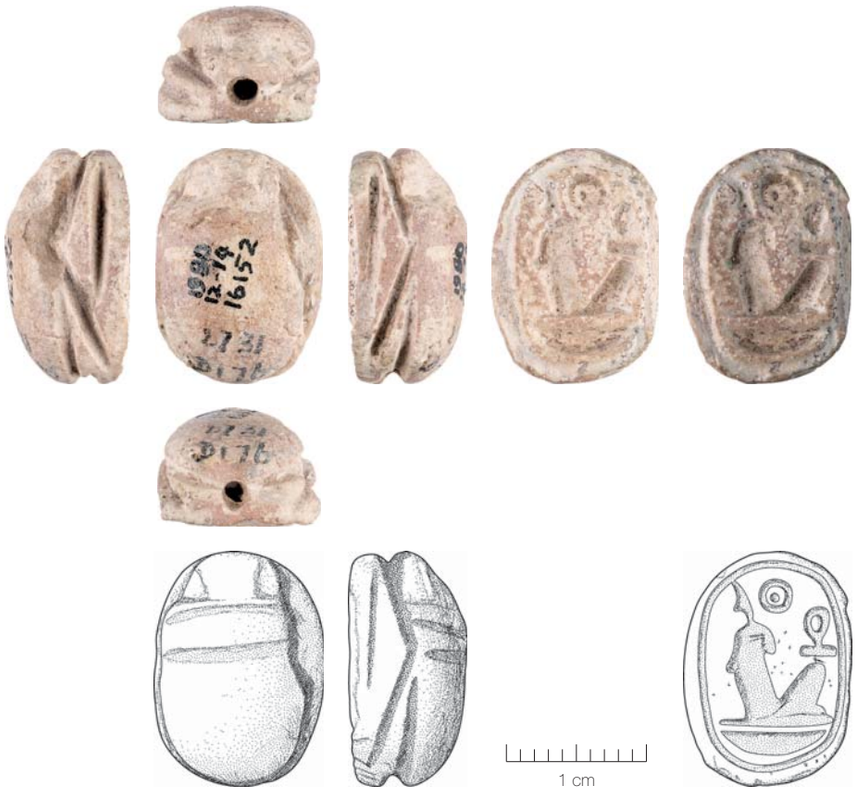
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16157.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 172,[1] Object no. 7318.

① Refuse pit located east of the Fosse Temple, yielding animal bones, pottery (including complete vessels, especially bowls), alongside additional artifacts, such as ivory and metal objects, beads, an ostrich egg and red kaolinite (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, 88–89, Pl. 73). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 15, 24, 30.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:5; Keel 1995: § 183, 719, 723, p. 279 (typology); Magrill 2006: 59. *[NoR]*

14



15



16 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped in the rim of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of brown coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Male anthropomorphic figure with hatched hairdo, striding to the right, wearing a knee-length kilt, his 'left' arm held straight along his back and his 'right' arm raised, holding a twig. A slightly wavy line moves down below the arm and in front of the kilt, with hatchings towards the frame line. The meaning of the design and whether it should be understood as a continuation of the twig is difficult to ascertain.

DISCUSSION: The composition belongs to Design Class 10A (Ben-Tor 2007: 178–179, Pl. 102–103). The standing anthropomorphic figure holding a branch is known from Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and continued to be in use during the Late Palestinian Series, when the flower motif gained popularity (Ben-Tor 2007: 179). The depiction of the branch (instead of the lotus flower) possibly originated from Syrian cylinder seals (Keel 1995: § 561). In the Levant, beginning in the Middle Bronze Age, the standing figure holding a branch may signify a worshiper, an interpretation that was followed in Egypt starting from the 18th Dyn. (Keel 1990d: 173–173).

COMPARANDA: A striding male anthropomorphic figure holding a twig, turned left and slightly more schematic, appears on two surface finds from Acco: on Acco No. 34, the twig or branch extends both above and below the figure's hand; on Acco No. 35, the figure is kilted, holds a twig, and below their arm is a uraeus facing him. Both items hint at possible interpretations of the feature below the arm on the Lachish item. On Jericho No. 382 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 419, the figure is striding to the right, placed on a *nb* (V30), and holds a large flower; the additional element below the arm is a twig or a *nfr* (F35), respectively. A similarly enigmatic feature appears on Jericho No. 323.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); Late Palestinian Series, dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1834.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. II,[2] Object no. 4162.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 12.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:6; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

17 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Lower right corner of side A chipped. WEIGHT: 1.10 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.8 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: white glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical layout with a single frame line, two virtual registers; above, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*) (Keel 1995: § 663), in a *šnw* (V9/V10) cartouche (*ibid*.: § 462), is flanked by two *šw(t)* (H6); below, *nbw* (S12) "gold necklace". Side B: Horizontal layout with a single frame line; divine name *Jmn-rʿ*, Amun-Re (*ibid*.: § 642–650).

DISCUSSION: Side A: The layout of a royal name in a cartouche flanked by two Maʿat-feathers is common in New Kingdom seals. For this specific type see Lalkin 2008: 136. Side B: The name of Amun-Re is common on New Kingdom stamp seals in a wide range of layouts and styles (Lalkin 2008: 152).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 255, is a rectangular plate bearing the name of Amenhotep III with two Maʿat-feathers on each side. The name of Amenhotep III in a cartouche, flanked by two uraei above a *nbw* (S12) sign, is seen on scarab Lachish No. 572. Side B: Rectangular plate Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 637 and scarab Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 528 are close comparanda; see further rectangular plate Beth Shean No. 147 and scarab Beth Shean No. 92, both bearing the name of Amun-Re with an additional *nb* (V30) sign.

DATING: Late 18th Dyn. (1425–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12382. BM/Big number: 160166.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple I (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. I[2] or Room D. II,[3] Object no. 7275. The object was attributed to both phases of Room D, with no exact location specified in the report.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 11. — ③ See Lachish No. 12.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:7; Keel 1995: § 220–221, 719, 723, p. 282 (typology); Magrill 2006: 55; Lalkin 2008: 152, Pl. 70, No. 1278. *[NoR]*

16



17



18 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 73/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn. WEIGHT: 1.26 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design (*mn*, *ḫpr*). COATING: yellow glaze; remains of blueish-green glaze (in recesses).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. *Mn-ḫpr-rᶜ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 663), with the *ḫpr* (L1) flanked by the title *nṯr nfr* "perfect god".

DISCUSSION: The combination of *nṯr nfr* with royal names is common for other kings as well, but this particular layout is attested only with the name of Thutmose III (Lalkin 2008: 143; see also Jaeger 1982: § 112).

COMPARANDA: Parallels include Lachish No. 582, Tel Ḥarasim No. 25, Gezer No. 237, 364 and Megiddo No. 74. Close comparanda are of other seal types, such as Lachish No. 456, Tel Gerisa No. 17; see also the scarabs Tell el-Farᶜa (S) No. 746, Beth Shemesh No. 116, where two *nṯr* (R8) are flanking the *ḫpr* (L1), and Dothan No. 5 that includes a rope border.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE) or somewhat later; from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16146.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple I (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.10, Pit 247,[1] Object no. 6456.

① Refuse pit located south-east of the Fosse Temple, associated with both Phases I and II. The pit yielded animal bones and pottery fragments (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, Pl. 66–67), as well as a jar sealing (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 89).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:8; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 64; Lalkin 2008: 143, No. 1081, Pl. 60:1081. *[NoR]*

19 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 3.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: light green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout on both sides, with a single frame line. Side A: In the centre is the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (*Mn-ḫpr-rᶜ*) (Keel 1995: § 663) inside a *šnw* (V9/V10) cartouche. The cartouche is flanked by two Maᶜat-feathers and topped by a winged sun-disc (*ibid.*: Keel 1995: § 450); below it is an arched design resting on the frame line. Side B: The formula *n gm.tw ḫrt jb wpw jmn* "there is no refuge for the heart except (the god) Amun" (Jaeger 1982: 65, § 265, § 1132–1134; Görg 1983: 166–171).

DISCUSSION: Side A: The royal name of Thutmose III appeared in many variations, even long after his reign (Jaeger 1982), one of them including a Maᶜat-feather and a *nb* (V30) sign (*ibid.*: 54). The cartouche and two Maᶜat-feathers on both sides are common features in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 136). Side B: The formula appears on several scarabs found in the southern Levant, dated to the 18th Dyn. (see comparanda; Lalkin 2008: 157; Drioton 1954: 3). Dedicated to Amun, it is considered to be an expression of personal piety (Görg 1983: 116).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Relatively close comparanda of scarabs (in horizontal arrangement) are Lachish No. 890 and Tell el-Farᶜa (S) No. 128 (without cartouche), but the winged sun-disc is missing and additional *nb* (V30) signs flank the composition from both sides. A similar layout is seen on Tell el-Farᶜa (S) No. 540, where the throne name of Thutmose III in a cartouche (above a *nbw* [S12] sign and topped by a simple sun disk) is flanked by two uraei instead of the Maᶜat-feathers. Side B: Tell el-ᶜAjjul No. 224 is a similar Type II oval plaque depicting the same formula on one side. Scarab Tell el-Farᶜa (S) No. 348 bears the same formula, see there for additional comparanda.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE); dating based on context and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-1962.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.8, Pit 136,[1] Object no. 810.

① Refuse pit located inside the northernmost wall of the Fosse Temple, Structure III (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 73), containing animal bones, pottery sherds, two complete bowls and a cylinder seal (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, 88).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 241, No. S.22, Pl. 26:S.22; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:9; Keel 1995: § 206–207, 719, 723, p. 281 (typology). *[NoR]*

18



1 cm

19



1 cm

20 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 61/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken near and below the head and chipped at the rim of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: light green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Brief religious formula: *jmn ʿnḫ.s* "(the god) Amun is her life", alternatively: *jmn s.ʿnḫ* "(the god) Amun grants life". If the additional sign above is read as a squeezed *rʿ* (N5), the formula would refer to Amun-Re.

DISCUSSION: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69 interpreted the formula as the name of Ankhesenamun, daughter of Amenhotep IV/Akhenaten and wife of Tutankhamun (see also Rowe 1936: 314), a reading strongly rejected by B. Jaeger (pers. comm.). Keel suggests this is a wish or a good luck formula (cf. Beth Shemesh No. 186; see also Lalkin 2008: 157). Read *ʿnḫ.s*, the formula could refer to a female seal owner (thus Jaeger: "Amun [is] her life forever"). Alternatively, comparanda support the alternative reading *s.ʿnḫ*; note that in this case the sign sequence would be irregular, but the *ʿnḫ* (S34) may have been placed centrally for compositional reasons.

COMPARANDA: The same formula appears on oval plate Beth Shemesh No. 186, see discussion and additional comparanda there. It is also found on Beth Shean No. 130, 144, both described as typical scarabs of the Beth Shean Level IX group, where the writing is reversed (from left to right) and the reading unambiguous: *s.ʿnḫ*.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 721").

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.8–9, Pit 176,[1] Object no. 2732.

① See Lachish No. 14.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:10; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

21 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 73/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: carnelian. PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the left side of the head and the upper right base are broken; the base may be eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0* mm (L) × 11.3* mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; remains of perforation channel are clearly visible when item is viewed from below. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Late Bronze Age Carnelian and Red Jasper Scarabs with Cross Designs. Remarks: Ben-Tor (pers. comm.) suggests that carnelian scarabs with plain or decorated base were found in the southern Levant mainly in Late Bronze Age archaeological contexts dated to the 19th and early 20th dynasties.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Only traces of five lines are identified (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69), base surface mostly blank or eroded.

DISCUSSION: The base engraving perhaps formed an X shape; in that case the scarab can be attributed to the Late Bronze Age Carnelian and Red Jasper Scarabs with Cross Designs group (Boschloos 2012). It is possible that the X shape was engraved inside a square frame; however, examples of carnelian scarabs bearing an X shape in a square frame were found in Egypt, not in the southern Levant (see Boschloos 2012: Fig. 4, No. 2, 7, 15, 20).

COMPARANDA: Carnelian scarabs with an X design include Beth Shemesh No. 143, Beth Shean No. 229; see there for additional comparanda (and compare Boschloos 2012). Note that Aphek No. 25, made of composite material, shows a cross design suggesting a squared frame.

DATING: 18th?–19th? Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating following Boschloos 2012 and based on comparanda, see discussion.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 1066").

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Locus E.II, Object no. 3255.

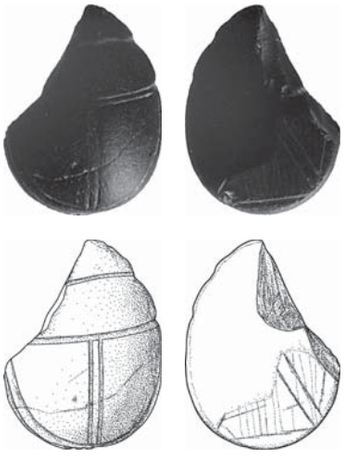
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:11; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

20



1 cm

21



1 cm

22 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 13/Side 62 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. The rim of the base is slightly chipped; worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief with hatching (uraeus).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a falcon (Keel 1995: § 442) facing right, its head looking upwards; in front of it is a uraeus (*ibid*.: § 552) also turned right, and a vertical straight line to the right; behind the falcon, three more or less horizontal lines and an unidentified sign above them, possibly another, very schematic uraeus (*ḏ[t]* [I10] or *jʿrt* [I12]).

DISCUSSION: The falcon designated a few deities in Egypt, mainly Horus and Re. The layout is similar to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series Design Class 9C3 ("Cobras confronted with hawk[s]"; Ben-Tor 2007: 176), but the cobra is not facing/confronting the falcon here. Layouts featuring the falcon as the main motif were common in the southern Levant during the Late Bronze Age (Lalkin 2008: 67). If the design behind the falcon was meant to render hieroglyphic signs at all, it does so in a very schematic manner that can hardly be read with confidence (the interpretation of horizontal strokes as *ꜣ* [N16/N17] in Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69 seems rather speculative).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are a scarab with similar typological features, Aphek No. 47, where the falcon is in the centre, turning to the right, behind him a *mr(j)* (U6/U7) sign, and in front of him a *sw(t)* (M23) sign; and Lachish No. 665, an udjat scaraboid, with a feather in front of the falcon and an uraeus behind. Additional comparanda are Beth Shean No. 113 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 627, where the falcon is in the centre and turns to the right, but the uraeus is on its left, behind him, while to the right there is a *j* (M17). Yet another comparandum is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 72, where the signs flanking the falcon are schematic and unclear.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on context and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1479.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. II,[2] Object no. 4260.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 12.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69, 71, Pl. 32A/B:12; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 16, No. 286. *[NoR]*

23 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, brown (broken parts). PRESERVATION: broken. About a sixth broken on the left (back view), worn. WEIGHT: 2.44 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of light blue glaze (head).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Convoluted coils passing through an eyelet at the top and bottom of the design; two bands passing diagonally from top right to bottom left, and vice versa, are connected in the centre of the design by a roughly rectangular field of seven vertical hatchings.

DISCUSSION: Convoluted coils (Design Class 6B2, Ben-Tor 2007: 139, 170) were common in various forms both in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series. In Egypt, coils, eyelets and knots were associated with knotting together a rope, an amulet, or body parts, processes that were related to the idea of strength, continuation and maintenance (of relationships, or kingship, for example; see Keel 1995: § 495).

COMPARANDA: Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 12 and Tel Michal No. 9 show a similar layout, but without the central element somehow shielding the precise course of the coils; both examples are with a rope border. An additional comparandum is Lachish No. 24, which was found in the Fosse Temple as well. See Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 60, 88–89 for additional comparanda.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on iconography (Ben-Tor 2007) and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16149.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 248,[1] Object no. 6460.

① Refuse pit located east of the Fosse Temple that contained animal bones, pottery (including complete vessels, especially bowls) as well as other small finds, such as ivory objects and beads (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, Pl. 67).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:13; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 64; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 106, No. 1925. *[NoR]*

22



23



24 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.6 mm (L) × 14.6 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: white coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Convoluted coils: a straight vertical element, divided by four dots (functioning like eyelets) into three parts of roughly identical length; two curved lines extending from the uppermost to the second dot create a 'heart-shaped' motif, mirrored at the bottom by the lines that extend from the fourth to the third dot; additional curved lines pass behind the mirrored 'hearts'; yet another thread passes behind all previously mentioned elements in a wavy course. Note that the overall composition creates a double symmetry (left and right, top and bottom), and that all threads are drawn by double lines.

DISCUSSION: Design Class 6B2 (knot-like convoluted coils), was assigned mostly to the Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 139). This design class was divided into two major groups (Tufnell 1984: 126, Pl. 23–24); this item belongs to the second group, which displays a bar in the middle (and not an X shape as in the first group). On the meaning of the knot in Egypt, see Lachish No. 23.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Similar designs appear on cowroid Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 5, and on scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 77, 418, 1177–1178; see additional comparanda in Tufnell 1984: Pl. 25.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3122.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 172,[1] Object no. 3009.

① See Lachish No. 15.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 24, No. 87, Pl. 3:87; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:14; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 106, No. 1930. *[NoR]*

25 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 2/EP 32/- (Rowe). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze (ring). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, white. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper right corner of the base and on right side of the head broken off (back view); chipped near the head of the sphinx (base view). MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 23.0 mm (L, including bronze wire).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: partial brown coating[?] (patches).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line, divided by a single horizontal line into two registers. The upper register shows a sphinx striding to the right; above its back the inscription *nṯr nfr* ‹*nb*› *tȝ.wj* "perfect god, ‹lord› of the Two Lands" (the missing *nb* [V30] could be implied in the sphinx motif); an additional sign is visible behind the sphinx, but it is unclear since the base is broken. The lower register depicts a beetle-scarab (*ḫpr* [L1]) with spread wings, alongside two outward-facing uraei emerging from its middle legs.

DISCUSSION: The sphinx represented the king since the Old Kingdom. It is attested on scarabs since the Middle Kingdom (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 41) and was especially common during the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 107; see Beth Shean No. 230; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 400, 694; Tell Jemmeh No. 116). The beetle-scarab with spread wings, known on a few examples from the southern Levant dated to the 18th Dyn., was common mainly during the 19th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 65–67). This scarab, however, was dated to the 18th Dyn., based on stylistic features (Lalkin 2008: 110).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Beth Shemesh No. 242, an identical scarab with the same lower register. For the layout of the striding sphinx with the *nṯr nfr* formula, see Lachish No. 51, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 305. The beetle-scarab with spread wings and uraei is attested, e.g., on scarabs ʿAra No. 30 and Gezer No. 95.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on context and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12383. BM/Big number: 160167.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.10, Pit 188,[1] Object no. 2841.

① Refuse pit located south of the Fosse Temple (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 73) containing animal bones, pottery (especially bowls), beads, as well as additional artifacts (*ibid.*: 43–44, 88–89, Pl. 73). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 25, 33.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:15; Keel 1977: 96–97, Fig. 65; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 61; Lalkin 2008: 110, No. 402, Pl. 22:402. *[NoR]*

Non-standard scale.

24



Non-standard scale.

25



26 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Broken, type features not visible. MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. Only one half preserved, broken along the perforation channel. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 6.0* mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Beth Shean Level IX group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the right is a standing anthropomorphic figure of undetermined gender, facing left; the 'right' (or 'hind') arm is extended along the body.

DISCUSSION: Since only half of the scarab is preserved, several options can be considered for the missing part, among which (A) a plant or flower element, (B) another object or hieroglyphic sign, or (C) a second anthropomorphic figure. Standing anthropomorphic figures in pairs (option C) were depicted on scarabs since the Middle Bronze Age onwards (see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 679, 1045). For reasons of space, option (A) seems the most probable and can be supported by close comparanda (see below). According to Ch. Uehlinger (pers. comm.), the figure's gender, although unmarked, should be male rather than female because of the distinct legs (implying a short kilt, as often with schematically drawn male figures or deities, unless full nudity were implied).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are scarabs Beth Shean No. 136, Gezer No. 628, Tel Ḥarasim No. 22, and Taanach No. 1, all attributed to the Beth Shean Level IX group (on which see Ben-Tor and Keel 2012). A similar posture is depicted on scarabs Megiddo No. 298, 301, 661.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE); dating based on the assignment to the Beth Shean Level IX group.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 1066").

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Locus E.II, Object no. 3255 A.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:16; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

27 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 18/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Base heavily worn. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear. COATING: traces of blue[?] glaze. Remarks: This type of crude engraving of the beetle's features resembles the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (Münger 2011), usually dated later than the find context of this item.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Very schematic animal.

DISCUSSION: Most probably a quadruped, perhaps a horned animal. Lalkin interprets it as a red deer (Lalkin 2008: 176–177). Horned animals are more commonly found in layouts alongside other signs, but a few examples of the horned animal represented alone were found in the southern Levant. These layouts were found during the entire Late Bronze Age period (Lalkin 2008: 177).

COMPARANDA: A schematic quadruped is shown, e.g., on scarabs Beth Shean No. 205 and Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 7.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda, typology and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16156.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Locus E.II, Object no. 3256 A. Note "199" inscribed on the object and Magrill 2006: 66 n. 81 ("Locus details for this object published in L.II:pl.XXXII.17 as E.II but excavation details from the object suggest the locus is Pit 199"); for the latter, see Lachish No. 56.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:17; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 61, 66 n. 81; Lalkin 2008: 177, Pl. 97, No. 1785. *[NoR]*

28 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 179). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: white glaze; black glaze. Remarks: Udjat-eye scaraboids are normally dated to the 18th Dyn., with only a few—larger and coarser—examples dating to the 19th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 179). For udjat-eye scaraboids, see also Lachish No. 196, 665.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. *nfr* (F35) enclosed by a *šnw* (V9/V10) cartouche.

DISCUSSION: *Nfr* (F35), which stands for heart or trachea, means "good, perfect". The sign was depicted on scarabs since the Middle Kingdom and until the end of the Iron Age (Keel 1995: § 459).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A *nfr* (F35) in an oval between two *ʿnḫ* (S34) is displayed on the scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 147, 1119 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 933. A single *nfr* (F35) appears on scarab Lachish No. 43.

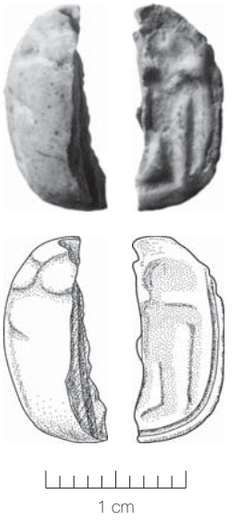
DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on seal type.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 1066").

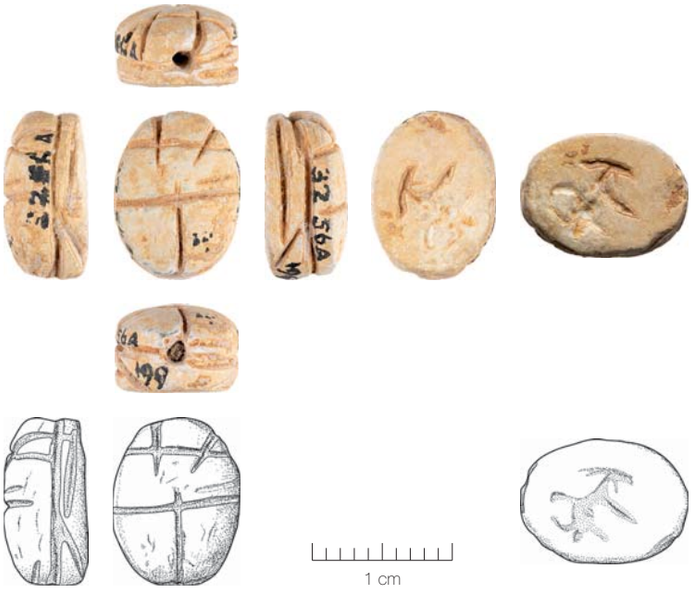
CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Locus E.II, Object no. 3256.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:18; Keel 1995: § 719, 723, p. 287 (typology). *[NoR]*

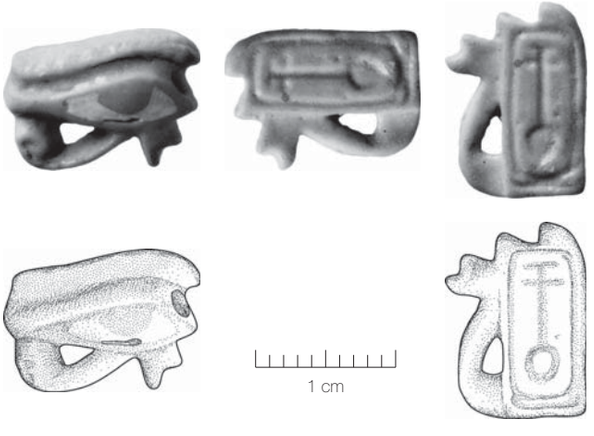
26



27



28



29 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 62/EP 45/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Two spirals interlocking in the centre, with four additional signs, possibly *nb* (V30) mirroring each other from each side.

DISCUSSION: According to O. Keel (pers. comm.), the layout is a combination of two schematic *dšrt* (S3) in a point-symmetrical position. The red crown sign was common on Egyptian scarabs already during the Middle Kingdom and on southern Levantine scarabs. It became even more common during the 18th Dyn. According to Lalkin 2008 (Pl.88: 1607) this is a local scarab.

COMPARANDA: Similar, but even more abstract red crowns appear on scarabs such as Tel Ḥalif No. 8; Tel Ḥarasim No. 24; and perhaps Lachish No. 637.

DATING: LB III (early–late 12th c. BCE); 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating following O. Keel (pers. comm.) and Lalkin 2008: 169.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 4169. The (hypothetical) assignment of this item to Locus 181 is not based on the report but inferred from the ink inscription on the back of the scarab itself.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② A square room (10×10.5 m) used as a sanctuary, in similar shape as in Phase II (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 38); it included four pillar bases, a raised platform against its southern wall, featuring two sub-phases (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 40, Pl. 68); two or three rows of offerings benches ran along the walls except on the south side, with many pottery vessels of various types, mainly bowls (*ibid.*: 41); a concentration of precious finds was found on the shrine platform. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 29, 34–35, 46–49. — ③ See Lachish No. 35.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:19; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 88, No. 1607. *[NoR]*

30 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 65/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Left and right sides of the base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.11 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: partial black coating[?] (on the back, not in incisions).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout and a single frame line. Mummiform image of the god Ptah (Keel 1995: § 580–581) standing, facing right and holding a *wȝs* (S40)-scepter; in front of him a squatting *mȝʿt* (C10) equally facing right; at the top a bow (*pḏ* [T9][?]) attached to the frame line, possibly a reminiscence of Ptah's chapel.

DISCUSSION: This is the most common depiction of Ptah. It first appeared on scarabs during the Second Intermediate Period (Keel 1989: 290, Fig. 25, 27, 29), and was very common during the New Kingdom, especially during the 19th Dyn. A comparable layout depicting a Maʿat-feather in front of Ptah was dated to the 19th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 77).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda, which all show a Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]) instead of the squatting deity here, include Lachish No. 691; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 456, 478. On Beth Shemesh No. 148, the squatting *mȝʿt* (C10) faces Ptah and rests on a *ḏd* (R11) pillar; see additional comparanda mentioned there.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16153.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 172,[1] Object no. 7278.

① See Lachish No. 15.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:20; Keel 1989a: 308–309, 318, Fig. 101; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 43, Fig. 79b; Magrill 2006: 59; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 43, Fig. 79b; Schroer 2011: 200–201, No. 727. *[NoR]*

29



30



31 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/II/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper part of the base, worn. WEIGHT: 2.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.1 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A cross pattern consisting of a single circle in the centre, two long (vertical) and two short (horizontal) blossom elements, all hatched; in each of the four gores, a spiral turned inwards.

DISCUSSION: Cross patterns were assigned by Ben-Tor (Ben-Tor 2007: 137, 169) to her Design Class 5 of the Early Palestinian Series, which appeared on local scarabs as curled diagonals between floral elements and the combination of cross patterns with concentric circles.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include Jericho No. 185, 229–230; Lachish No. 396; Megiddo No. 437; Rishon LeZion No. 80; Shiqmona No. 27.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda (Ben-Tor 2007: Early Palestinian Series).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16150.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.10, Pit 206,① Object no. 3320. Note that Square reference written on the scarab itself reads "C9-D9".

① Refuse pit located south of the Fosse Temple, containing animal bones, pottery vessels, especially bowls, as well as other artifacts such as ivory and metal objects and beads (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, 89, Pl. 67). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 31, 36, 42–43.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:21; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 62. *[NoR]*

32 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (*nfr*). COATING: partial reddish-brown coating? (on the back).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A vertical bar divides the base surface into two columns of unequal width; right column (from top to bottom): ʿ (D36), *ḥ*/*ḫ* (V26), *n* (N35) or *mn* (Y5), *ḥ*/*ḫ* (V26), *n* (N35) and a short horizontal stroke; left column: *z* (V17/V18), *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: These hieroglyphs are similar to the *anra* formula (Keel 1995: § 469), Design Class 3C (Ben-Tor 2007: 83), which is found in many variations. Since they were first found in the southern Levant, and only later in Egypt (see *ibid.*: Pl. 35), they are conventionally assigned a local (i.e., Levantine) origin. The variety of signs in the right column, all horizontal, suggests deliberate writing.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 981; the left side of the layout is seen on the scarab Jerusalem No. 498. See further Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 566; Lachish No. 877; Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 2; and Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 82 for additional comparanda.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

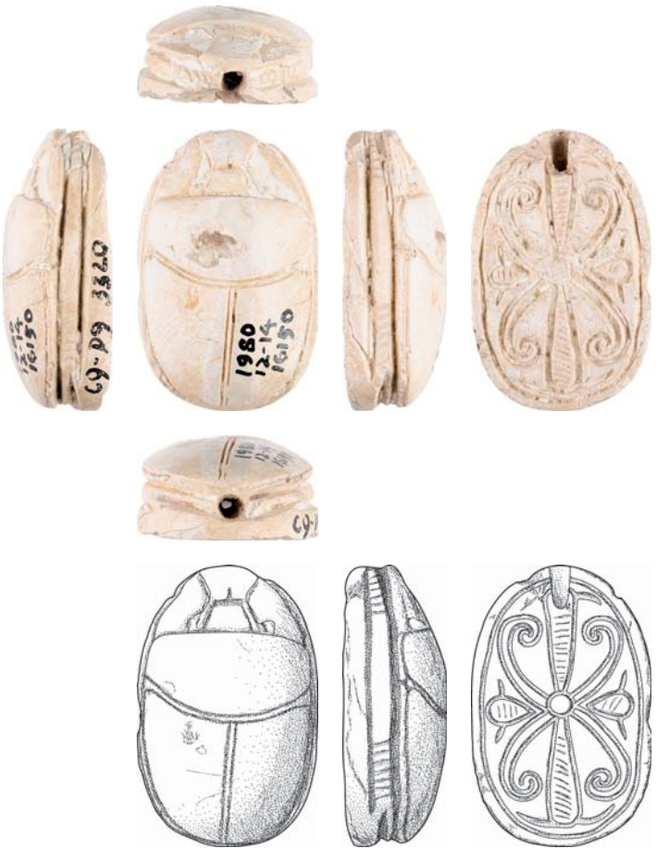
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-2266.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple area,① Object no. 5341.

① Items found in same context: Lachish No. 32, 37, 41, 53, 55.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:22; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: No. 2016, Pl. 110:2016. *[NoR]*

31



32



33 **OBJECT:** Ape scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 146). Squatting mongoose; for parallels of ape scaraboids also showing a mongoose, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 530, 730; Megiddo No. 185, 191. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 0.69 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 9.3 mm (W) × 4.1 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-white glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. A central *ḏd* (R11) pillar flanked by two outward-facing uraei.

DISCUSSION: The layout of a *ḏd* (R11) pillar flanked by two uraei appeared during the 18th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 96) and continued to be used until the 20th Dyn. (Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 22).

COMPARANDA: Scarab Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 22 provides a relatively close comparandum. Additional comparanda for the motif as part of a more elaborate decoration include scarabs Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 756, 824; Shiloh No. 19; on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 604, the uraei face inwards.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16145. BM/Big number: 160222.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.10, Pit 188,[1] Object no. 7279.

① See Lachish No. 25.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–71, Pl. 32A/B:23; Keel 1977: 96–97, Fig. 61; Keel 1995: § 146, 719, 723, p. 279 (typology); Magrill 2006: 61; Schroer 2011: 250–251, No. 791. *[NoR]*

34 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/I/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. Specification according to Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 71; erroneously determined as carnelian by Boschloos 2012: 11 n. 5, Fig. 2:7. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: partial white glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Undetermined layout, no frame line. Three straight lines crossing at the centre, forming a six-pointed 'star'; alternatively described as X with horizontal bar.

DISCUSSION: Scarabs bearing such a design, made of carnelian and jasper, are assigned to the Late Bronze Age Carnelian and Red Jasper Scarabs with Cross Designs group. Boschloos 2012 identified them as Egyptian products dated to the 18th Dyn. (see discussion in Lachish No. 21).

COMPARANDA: Comparanda of carnelian scarabs include Ashdod No. 59; Beth Shemesh No. 143; less diagnostic, Aphek No. 34; Beth Shean No. 229. See also Lachish No. 21. More comparanda from Egypt, the southern Levant and the Aegean are listed in Boschloos 2012: Fig. 2, 3, 4.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3121.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Object no. 2902.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29.

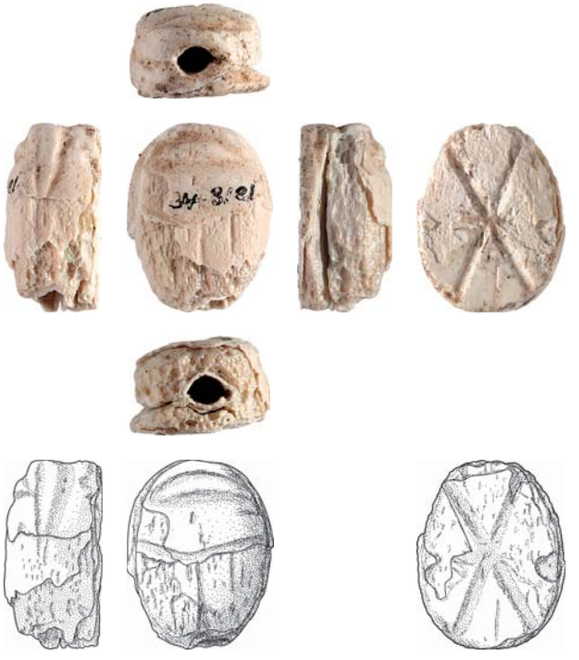
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 156, No. 655, Pl. 17:655; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:24; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Boschloos 2012: 11 n. 5, Fig. 2:7. *[NoR]*

33



1 cm

34



1 cm

35 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 1/Side 24 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Horizontal crack lines on the base and back. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. An anthropomorphic, falcon-headed figure wearing a short kilt, striding to the right on a horizontal base line. His 'hind' arm hangs down along the body, while his 'front' arm extends into (is holding[?]) a horned uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) equally facing right. A sun-disc (*rʿ* [N5]) above the figure's head identifies the deity, and an epithet appears below his left arm and the uraeus: *nb tȝwj*, "lord of the Two Lands".

DISCUSSION: The falcon-headed figure with a sun disc above its head can be interpreted as a depiction of the sun-god Re. This motif appears in many variations, the first dated to the Second Intermediate Period. The motif gained popularity during the time of Ramesses II (Schulman 1967: 143–144, Sc. 1).

COMPARANDA: An almost exact parallel is scarab Tel Gerisa No. 40, with the same typological features, but the uraeus is not horned. A similar layout appears on scarabs such as Deir el-Balaḥ No. 76 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 482, 592 (see there for additional comparanda).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-7690.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 2759.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29. — ③ A concentration of finds found on the raised platform and altar, including ivory objects, glass and faience vessels, stone vessels, metal pins, a pottery figurine, pendants, cylinder seals and scarabs (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 32, 41–42, 88).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 169, No. 708, Pl. 18:708; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:25; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Schroer 2011: 172–173, No. 686. *[NoR]*

36 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 33/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Broken at the upper left rim of the base and near the perforation hole. WEIGHT: 2.20 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of green glaze. Remarks: Dark coloured patches on the base.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. *Jmn-ḥtp*, "Amun is satisfied", or Amenhotep (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70), the birth name of four kings of the 18th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The royal birth name *Jmn-ḥtp* can be assigned to each of the four kings, but according to Lalkin it should be assigned to Amenhotep I or Amenhotep II, Amenhotep III bearing the additional title *ḥqȝ wȝst* "ruler of Thebes" (Lalkin 2008: 132).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Gezer No. 603, a scarab with similar typological features but from unknown context. Additional comparanda include Lachish No. 82; Atlit No. 9; Beth Shemesh No. 160 (the latter, probably moulded, has mirrored hieroglyphs; Keel 2010: 284). See also Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 124, where the name appears between two *dšrt* (S3).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE) or somewhat later; Amenhotep I–Amenhotep II (1514–1400 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16151.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.10, Pit 206,[1] Object no. 3319. Note that Square reference written on the scarab itself reads "C9-D9".

① See Lachish No. 31.

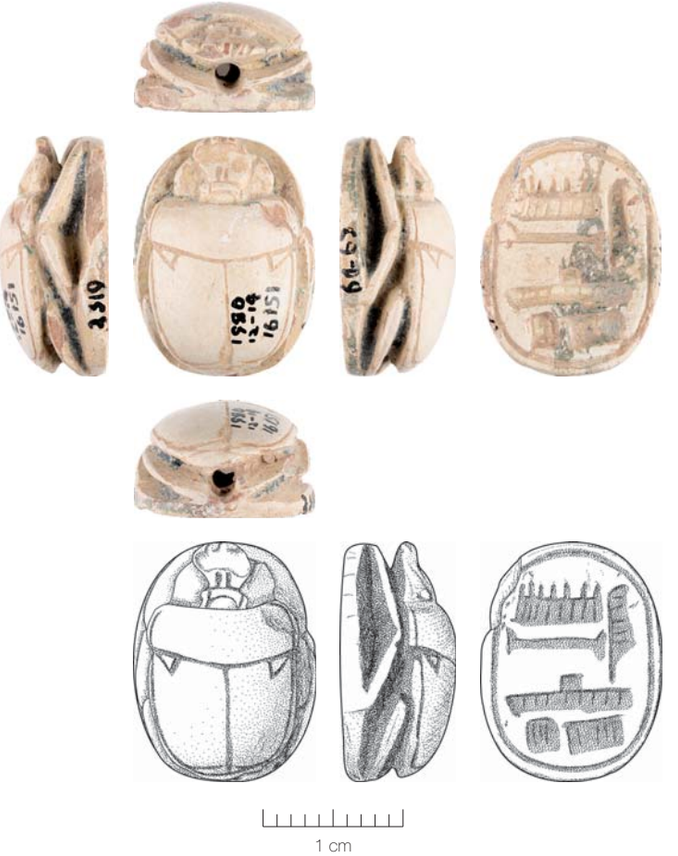
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:26; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 62; Lalkin 2008: No. 915, Pl. 51:915. *[NoR]*

35



1 cm

36



1 cm

37 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 124/Side 11 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of the base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching; flat sunk relief with hatching (flowers). COATING: partial brownish-red coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. O. Keel (pers. comm.) identifies a *ḥz* (W14)-vase in the centre with three pairs of curving papyrus plants attached to, one pair attached at its neck, the others at the vase's bottom and base.

DISCUSSION: This layout is similar to Design Class 3A1: *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) (Ben-Tor 2007: 159), whereas the *ḥz* (W14)-vase sign replaces the *zmꜣ* (F36). The combination of this motif with other designs already appeared in the late Middle Kingdom (as found in large numbers at el-Lahun town/Kahun, Uronarti and Elephantine [Ben-Tor 2007: 15–16]). It also appeared on southern Levantine scarabs, seen with misrendered Egyptian signs that accompanied the motif (Ben-Tor 2007: 159–160). The inclusion of the *ḥz* (W14) sign was common on seals dated to the 18th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 96).

COMPARANDA: While the *ḥz* (W14) sign attached to papyrus plants is found on scarabs such as Ashdod No. 38 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 317, the combination of the sign with Design Class 3A1 is apparently not attested on other seals. Megiddo No. 691 displays a papyrus plant which is quite similar in composition. The item's layout as such is similar to scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 720, Tel Aviv No. 7 and Lachish No. 882, all defined as local (i.e., southern Levantine) and dated to the MB II–III (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 76:31, her Late Palestinian Series).

DATING: MB III[?] (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE) or LB I–LB II (mid 16th–early 12th c. BCE); more likely 18th–early 19th Dyn. (1540–1213 BCE); dating based on (rather later) comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-2267.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple area,[1] Object no. 5342.

① See Lachish No. 32.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–71, Pl. 32A/B:27; Keel 1995: § 719, 723. *[NoR]*

38 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 22/EP 5/Side 43 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?] or composite material[?]. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, no frame line. From top to bottom: traces of signs that can hardly be identified anymore. A drawing by C. Mlinar suggests *rʿ* (N5), but off-centre; *nb* (V30), but far too angular; and *tꜣ* (N16/N17) or a simple horizontal stroke.

DISCUSSION: The combination of *nb* (V30) and *tꜣ* (N16/N17) could be read together as "lord of the land", which would be a variant of the common formula *nb tꜣwj* "lord of the *Two* Lands". Lalkin dated this item to the 18th Dyn., based on one comparandum bearing the title *nb tꜣwj* found at el-Amarna (Lalkin 2008: 149–150). This should be considered with caution, since the two scarabs are not exact parallels.

COMPARANDA: For the el-Amarna specimen, see Frankfort and Pendlebury 1933: Pl. 49:II.B3.

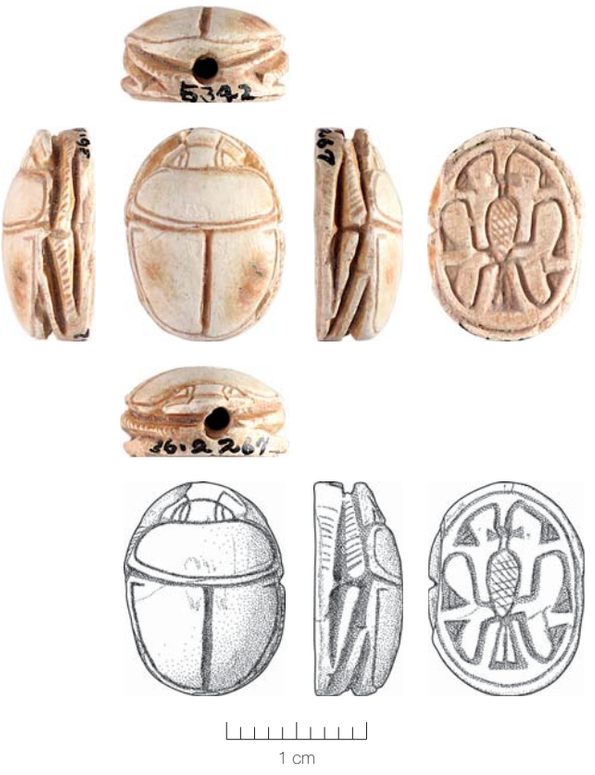
DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating following Lalkin 2008: No. 1268, Pl. 69:1268.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1618.

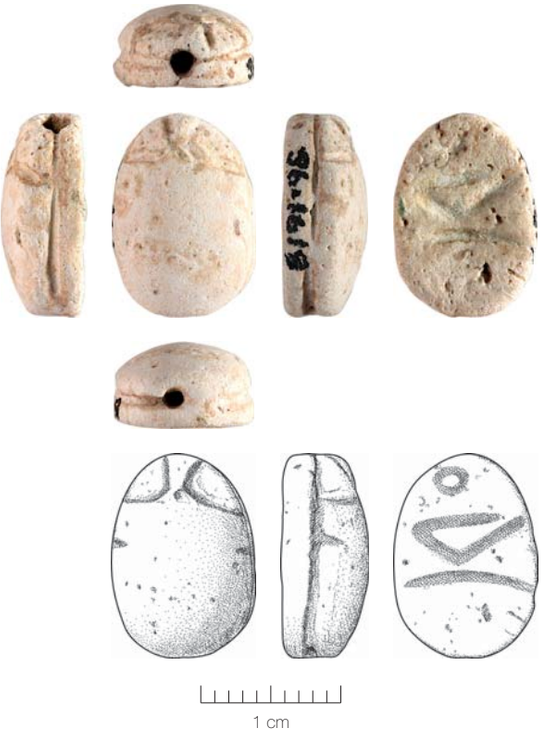
CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Object no. 5343.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:28; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: No. 1268, Pl. 69:1268. *[NoR]*

37



38



39 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 4.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout with a single frame line, enclosing a *wḏȝt* (D10) eye. Side B: Vertical layout with a single frame line, enclosing a schematic uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) above a *nb* (V30), the cobra's tail is connected to a Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]).

DISCUSSION: Side A: The *wḏȝt* (D10) eye was a symbol of healing and regeneration (Schroer 2011: 176, No. 691). Scarabs bearing this sign were less common in the southern Levant than in Egypt (Lalkin 2008: 95). Side B: The uraeus was one of the most common motifs on scarabs both from Egypt and the southern Levant, beginning in the Middle Bronze. The combination with the Maʿat-feather originated in Egypt (*ibid*.: 66–67) and appeared during the New Kingdom in the southern Levant, where it is attested from Thutmose III until the end of the Egyptian rule (*ibid*.: 149). The layout could possibly be read as *jʿrt nb mȝʿt*, "the uraeus is the master of Maʿat" (although the *nb* [V30] is graphically connected to the uraeus, hence "lordly [uraeus is/provides] Maʿat"[?]), whereas the uraeus may signify the king or an independent protective entity or characterize Maʿat.

COMPARANDA: Side A: The *wḏȝt* (D10) eye is seen on ring Lachish No. 53, on scarabs Ashkelon No. 37, Beth Shemesh No. 126 and on cowroid Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 125. Side B: Close comparanda, with the uraeus connected to or emerging from of the Maʿat-feather (not all with *nb* [V30] though), include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 122, 232; Gezer No. 446; Lachish No. 42 (all scarabs); and Megiddo No. 733 (bifacial piece); and a scarab from Hala Sultan Tekke (Fischer and Bürge 2023: 20, Fig. 14:N732, 52–53). On Tell Abu Salima No. 2; Beth Shean No. 17, 94; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 83; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 526, 631; Lachish No. 491, the Maʿat-feather precedes (i.e., is depicted to the right of) the uraeus.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-7735.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C.9–10, Fosse Temple,[1] Room E. III,[2] Object no. 2975.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② Room E was added to the temple structure during Phase III (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 73); its floor level was marked by a deposit of faience beads, once placed on a shelf that collapsed near the western wall (*ibid*.: 75 and Pl. 8:4), and pottery vessels, mostly bowls (*ibid*.: 38; Pl. 3:5), alongside bone and ivory objects (two of them blue glazed pendants), metal jewellery, and two faience cylinder seals (*ibid*.: 88).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 247, No. S.44, Pl. 27:S.44; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–71, Pl. 32A/B:29; Keel 1995: § 206–208, 719, 723, p. 281 (typology); Lalkin 2008: 66–67, 95, Pl. 69, No. 1253. *[NoR]*

40 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on container sealing (Keel 1995: § 317–318). Three impressions made with the same seal (scarab/scaraboid/oval plaque), string and finger impressions. MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: pinkish-brown. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8* mm (L) × 14.0* mm (W); 40.6 mm (L) × 35.1 mm (W) × 27.4 mm (H, sealing).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with rope border. Impressions 1 and 2 show traces of the lower two thirds and full width of the seal, impression 3 partial traces of the left half's middle part; impressions of the seal's top third are not preserved. A *nbw* (S12) flanked by two *zȝ* (V17/V18) are easiest to read at the seal's lower part. The central part may show a plant motif, flanked by two *dšrt* (S3) according to Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70, but the latter seem doubtful.

DISCUSSION: The rope border (Design Class 8A) enclosing decorative designs and private names, common in the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: 30), was popular in the southern Levant as well (*ibid*.: 146, 164–165). The *nbw* (S12) (gold sign) as a central motif was common on Egyptian scarabs since the Middle Kingdom; it appeared in vertical layouts in the centre of a symmetric arrangement during the late Middle Kingdom (*ibid*.: 20). According to Ben-Tor (*ibid*.: 132), the combination of the rope border and the gold sign was common mainly in the Late Palestinian Series.

COMPARANDA: The combination of *nbw* (S12) with red crowns (and other signs) enclosed by a rope border is seen on scarabs Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 16 (similar layout) and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 977. Additional examples of vertical layout with a *nbw* (S12) inside a rope border include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 982; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 21.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating following Ben-Tor 2007: 132; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 16, 21.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16263.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 242,[1] Object no. 6426.

① Refuse pit located to the east of the Fosse Temple (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43–44, Pl. 73) containing animal bones and complete pottery vessels (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 89).

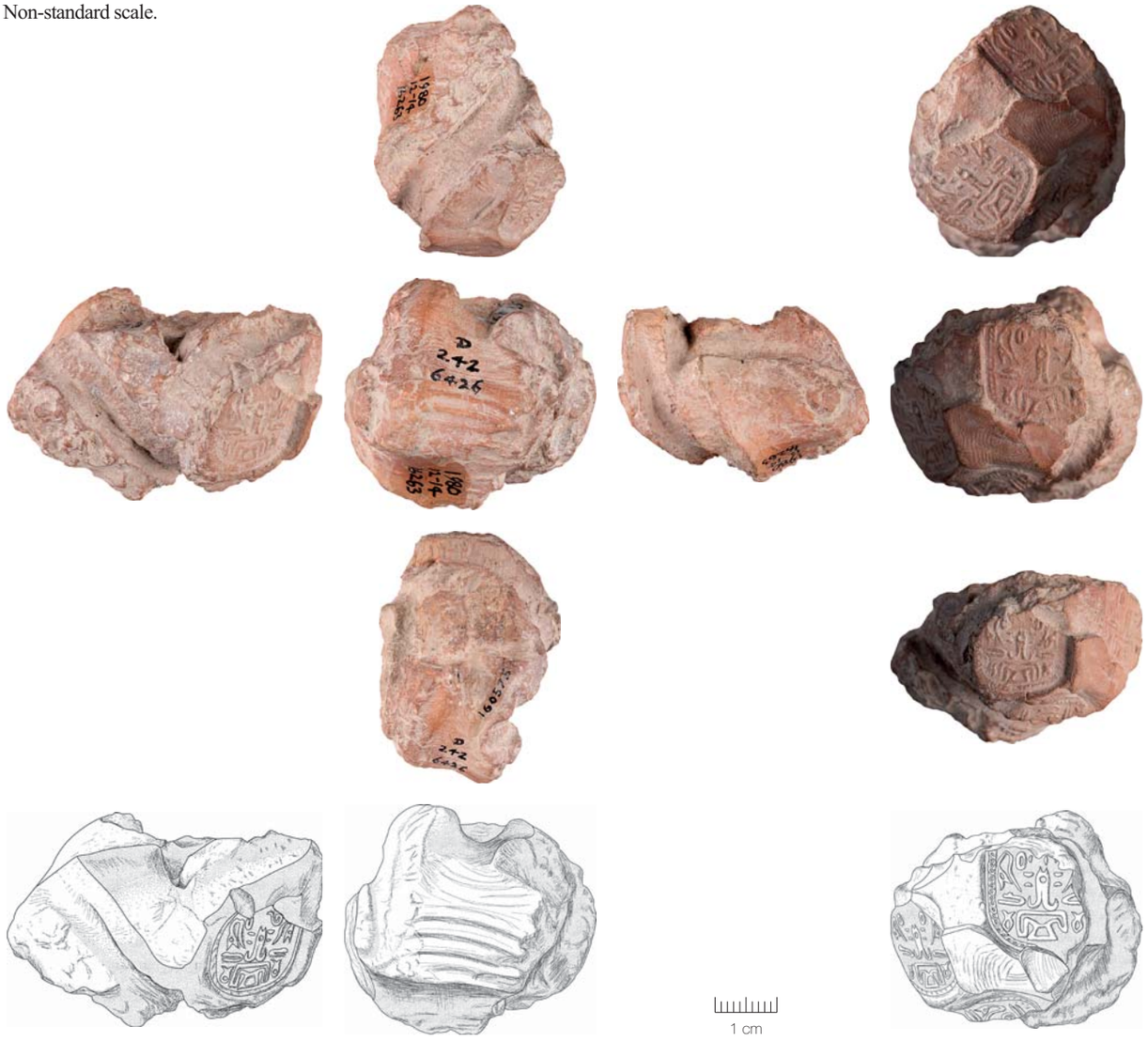
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:30; Keel 1995: § 318, 719, 723, Fig. 245, p. 285 (typology); Magrill 2006: 64. *[NoR]*

39



Non-standard scale.

40



41 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 5/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, white, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the back is missing, broken along the base; worn. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear (hand and scepter); light flat sunk relief with hatching (body of figure and seat).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. An anthropomorphic figure seated on a chair, turned right and holding what may be a *ḥqꜣ* (S38)-scepter or, more probably, a flower. The figure seems to wear a *nemes* headdress and possibly a ceremonial beard. A diagonal line decorates the headdress and three lines stemming from a horizontal belt line decorate the figure's upper body.

DISCUSSION: The seated anthropomorphic figure holding a scepter or flower is interpreted as a representation of the king (Lalkin 2008: 113, Pl. 27, No. 45).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels were found. Relatively close comparanda are scarabs Achziv No. 22 and Tell Jemmeh No. 149. See also scarab Megiddo No. 149, which includes additional decorative features yet seems to be engraved in a similar manner. See further Amman (Airport) No. 16 and stamp impressions on sealings Tell Jemmeh No. 70, 117 and Timnaʿ No. 2.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1619.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple area,[1] Object no. 5344.

① See Lachish No. 32.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:31; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: 113, No. 456, Pl. 27:456. *[NoR]*

42 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, white. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 0.90 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout (both sides) with a single frame line. Side A: From right to left, *nfr* (F35), *nb* (V30) and a Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]). Side B: A uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) turned right, connected by its tail to a Maʿat-feather; two horizontal bars above it, usually read *tꜣwj* "Two Lands".

DISCUSSION: The Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]) is the two sides' connecting feature. It can stand for the goddess Maʿat (Keel 1995: § 462) or, more generally, represent order, truth and welfare as guaranteed by the king. Most signs carry some positive, partly apotropaic significance individually, but not so the two "land" signs which suggest both sides could be read as brief formulae, such as "perfect lord of Maʿat, true lord of the Two Lands" (in which case the uraeus is read as *nb* [V30]). See Lachish No. 39 for a discussion of the Side B motif.

COMPARANDA: Side A: The combination of a *nfr* (F35) and the Maʿat-feather appears on scarabs, such as Tell Beit Mirsim No. 77 and Lachish No. 64. Side B: A Maʿat-feather and a uraeus can be variously combined, see Lachish No. 39 for discussion and comparanda.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16148.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.10, Pit 206,[1] Object no. 3322. Note that Square reference written on the scarab itself reads "C9-D9".

① See Lachish No. 31.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:32; Keel 1995: § 207, 220, 719, 723, p. 282 (typology); Magrill 2006: 62; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 68, No. 1250, 1251. *[NoR]*

41



42



43 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 18/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. The *nfr* (F35)'s body accidentally cuts through the perforation channel. WEIGHT: 0.19 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 7.5 mm (L) × 5.6 mm (W) × 4.2 mm (H); 1.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief[?] (*nfr*). COATING: traces of green[?] glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single line frame enclosing a single *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: *Nfr* (F35) means "good, perfect". It is depicted on seals since the Middle Kingdom (Keel 1995: § 459). The depiction of single signs (such as *nfr* [F35], *ʿnḫ* [S34], *šw[t]* [H6] and more) framed by a single frame line (occasionally a rope border or other frames) was common in the New Kingdom, but only a few examples were found in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 94).

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1119, and see also Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 807, 933. A single *nfr* (F35) inside a cartouche can be seen on udjat-eye scaraboid Lachish No. 28.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16155.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.10, Pit 206,[1] Object no. 3321. Note that Square reference written on the scarab itself reads "C9-D9".

① See Lachish No. 31.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 68–71, Pl. 32A/B:33; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 62; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 2, No. 14. *[NoR]*

44 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly broken at the upper rim of Side A; worn. WEIGHT: 1.54 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 5.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and interior design. COATING: dark grey glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical layout with a single frame line; an S-spiral divides the surface into two registers, each of which shows a Tilapia fish (*jn* [K1]) turned right. Side B: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. From right to left, *Jmn-rʿ*, the name of Amun-Re; on the left, a *ḥz* (W14) vase and, to its left, possible remains of a *nfr* (F35) and a *t* (X1) above it.

DISCUSSION: Side A: Some examples of seals depicting a fish (often with a lotus flower or two in its mouth) were found in Late Bronze Age contexts across the southern Levant. The fish represented rebirth in ancient Egypt (Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 110–111; Lalkin 2008: 99). Side B: the signs stand for the formula *Jmn-rʿ nfr ḥz(w)t*, "(the) entire favour of Amun-Re", a prayer to receive the full favour of the god Amun-Re (B. Jaeger; T. Beuthe, pers. comm.). Alternatively, Lalkin 2008: 157 and O. Keel (pers. comm.) read *ḥz(w).t Jmn-rʿ* "blessed by Amun-Re", both apparently disregarding the *nfr*. Starting from the 18th Dyn., the name of Amun-Re was common during the New Kingdom in Egypt, and the most common among divine names found on seals in the southern Levant (at least 57 seals from Lachish alone; Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Side A: The closest comparandum for the combination of both sides is rectangular plate Lachish No. 601. The fish is also depicted on scarab Lachish No. 513. Scarabs and scaraboids depicting a fish holding a lotus flower in its mouth include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 258, 765; Ashkelon No. 15; and Tel Michal No. 8. Side B: The same formula is attested on rectangular plate Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 553; oval plate Beth Shean No. 117; Lachish No. 601; and see rectangular plate Lachish No. 597; scarab Shiloh No. 3 for minor variants.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16147.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.8–9, Pit 176,[1] Object no. 2730.

① See Lachish No. 14.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:34; Keel 1995: § 206–207, 719, 723, p. 281 (typology); Magrill 2006: 60; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 10, No. 159. *[NoR]*

43



44



45 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 5/Side 35 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, grey. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper half of the scarab missing. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.4* mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: greyish-yellow[?] glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A falcon (*ḥrw* [G5]) turned right standing on a *nb* (V30); the latter has an angle *qnbt* (O38) at its left end. Above, behind the falcon's back, a *wḏꜣt* (D10) eye of which only the lower features remain.

DISCUSSION: While the angle behind the falcon might be read as a *nṯr* (R8) sign ("god, emblem of a god"), it is more likely according to Keel to be interpreted as *qnbt* (O38), in which case the falcon in combination with the *qnbt* (O38) sign would allude to the name of Hathor (Keel 2004: 89, Fig. 65–66; see also Keel 1995: § 556). According to Lalkin, this seal belongs to a common New Kingdom group that depicts the falcon in a vertical layout (Lalkin 2008: 104).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The combination of a falcon, *nb* (V30) and a similarly drawn *qnbt* (O38) is found on scarab Jericho No. 180 in a horizontal orientation. Similar layouts of the falcon standing on a *nb* (V30) are Acco No. 66, 273 and Beth Shean No. 98, the latter without a *nb* (V30) yet similar, and see there for more comparanda. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 692, dated to the Middle Bronze age, has a different layout but a falcon standing on a *qnbt* (O38) among its many designs.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda, and following Lalkin 2008: 104.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16154.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 246,[1] Object no. 6439.

① Refuse pit located east of the Fosse Temple (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 73) containing animal bones, pottery vessels, especially bowls, and sherds, as well as a bead and two glazed objects (*ibid*.: 89).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70–71, Pl. 32A/B:35; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 64; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 15, No. 265. *[NoR]*

46 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: greenish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Chipped at the right-lower part of the base; slightly worn. MEASUREMENTS: 36.0 mm (L) × 25.0 mm (W) × 16.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; an original perforation channel seems to be obstrued by glazing material. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: light green glaze[?]; brownish-red paint[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line enclosing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*) (Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Amenhotep III is often found on stamp seals in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 130; see, e.g., Lachish No. 13–14, 47–48). This item belongs to Brandl's "medium-size commemorative scarabs, type D": a group that includes relatively large-size scarabs (but smaller than the explicitly commemorative scarabs) made of faience and bearing the name of Amenhotep III without a cartouche (Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 78).

COMPARANDA: The throne name of Amenhotep III in a horizontal layout is also attested, e.g., on scarabs Lachish No. 48; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 493; and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 546 (with additional comparanda).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-7688.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 2757.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29. — ③ See Lachish No. 35.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 131, No. 543, Pl. 14:543; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69–71, Pl. 32B:36; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 46, No. 808; Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 80. *[NoR]*

45



46



47 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 68/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 36.0 mm (L) × 25.0 mm (W) × 14.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: light green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with one frame line enclosing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*; Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Amenhotep III is often found on stamp seals in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 130; see, e.g., Lachish No. 13–14, 46). This item belongs to Brandl's "medium-size commemorative scarabs, type D": a group that includes relatively large-size scarabs (but smaller than the explicitly commemorative scarabs), made of faience and bearing the name of Amenhotep III without a cartouche (Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 78).

COMPARANDA: Exact parallels are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 329, 432. See also, for example, Lachish No. 14; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 120, 445, with additional comparanda there.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-7689.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 2756.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29. — ③ See Lachish No. 35.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 131, No. 545, Pl. 14:545; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69–71, Pl. 32B:37; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 80. *[NoR]*

48 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 68/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: reddish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn, rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 12.60 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 36.8 mm (L) × 24.6 mm (W) × 14.5 mm (H); 3.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 3.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: greenish-beige glaze; traces of black paint (in recesses and along rim).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with one frame line enclosing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*; Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Amenhotep III is often found on stamp seals in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 130; see, e.g., Lachish No. 13–14, 46–47). This item belongs to Brandl's "medium-size commemorative scarabs, type D": a group that includes relatively large-size scarabs (but smaller than the explicitly commemorative scarabs), made of faience and bearing the name of Amenhotep III without a cartouche (Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 78).

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is Gezer No. 159; very close comparanda, made of faience and sharing a similar size, are Lachish No. 46 and a scarab found at Kydonia, Crete (Cline 1987: 26, Table 4, Fig. 10). Additional comparanda are Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 546; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 493 (see further comparanda there).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12381. BM/Big number: 160165.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 2758.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29. — ③ See Lachish No. 35.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 131, No. 541, Pl. 14:541; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69–71, Pl. 32B:38; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 56; Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 80. *[NoR]*

47



1 cm

48



1 cm

49 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11/EP 111/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: limestone or fired steatite[?], composite material[?]. Limestone according to Rowe 1936, composite material according to CSAPI index card (K. Jaroš, probably mislead by the glazing). PRESERVATION: complete. Cracked. MEASUREMENTS: 83.0 mm (L) × 60.0 mm (W) × 27.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: light green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Reading and translation adapted from Rowe 1936: 127 and Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 70: (1) *ʿnḫ Ḥr kȝ nḫt ḫʿ m mȝʿt* (2) *nbtj smn hpw sgrḥ* (3) *tȝwj Ḥr-nbw ḥḳȝ ḫpš ḫwj S(t)tyw* (4) *nswt bjtj Nb-mȝʿt-rʿ zȝ-rʿ Jmn-ḥtp ḥqȝ Wȝst dj* (5) *ʿnḫ ḥmt nsw(t) Tyy ʿnḫ.tj rḫt mȝyw* (6) *jn.n ḥm.f m styt.f ḏs.f šsʿ* (7) *m rnpt-sp 1 nfryt r rnpt-sp 10 mȝy(w)* (8) *ḥsȝw* 102. Translation: (1) "Live the Horus: 'The mighty-bull, raising in truth'. (2) Two ladies: 'Establisher-of-laws, quieter-of- (3) the-Two-Lands (Upper and Lower Egypt)'. Horus of Gold: 'Great-in-strength, Smiter-of-the-Asiatics'. (4) King of Upper and Lower Egypt: Neb-Maʿat-Re. Son of Re: 'Amenhotep', ruler of Thebes, granted (5) life, (and) royal wife Tiyy, may she live! Statement of lions (6) brought (down) by his majesty in his own shooting, beginning (7) from Year 1 unto Year 10: Lion(s), (8) fierce, 102." (compare the translation of Jaffa No. 10 by Sweeney 2003: 56).

DISCUSSION: Explicitly commemorative scarabs are large in size (5.2–11 cm long) and engraved with inscriptions describing special events and heroic deeds in the life of an Egyptian king. The best known specimens are from the days of Amenhotep III and were associated with his jubilee festivals (Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013). The lion-hunt commemorative scarabs were assigned to Type C, traditionally dated to the first ten years of Amenhotep III's reign; on the other hand, it was also suggested that all large commemorative scarabs were produced in the same workshop at the same time (*ibid*.: 72, Table 1), but according to Brandl a closer examination suggests that the large commemorative scarabs share their production date with medium-sized commemorative scarabs, produced between Amenhotep III regnal years 28 and 34 (*ibid*.: 89). Lachish No. 49 is one of a few commemorative scarabs found in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 148).

COMPARANDA: Jaffa No. 10 is another lion-hunt commemorative scarab. Additional commemorative scarabs of Amenhotep III from the southern Levant include Beth Shean No. 234; Beth Shemesh No. 168; and Gezer No. 49.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1934-7687. A plaster reproduction is kept at the Chau Chak Wing Museum, University of Sydney (see http://sydney.edu.au/museums/collections_search/?record=ecatalogue.37506).

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. III,[2] Locus 181,[3] Object no. 2755.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 29. — ③ See Lachish No. 35.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 127–128, No. 537, Pl. 13:537; Marston 1937: 153, Pl. 14; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 69–71, Pl. 32B:39; Blankenberg-van Delden 1969: 116, C87; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: 148, Pl. 66, No. 1209. *[NoR]*

49



1 cm

50 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, brown (in breakage). PRESERVATION: broken. Head and part of the pronotum chipped-off, worn. WEIGHT: 0.66 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The upper part shows two uraei (*jʿrt* [I12]) flanking a *wꜣḏ* (M13); the lower part displays a single-line thread (Keel 1995: § 496, "Schlingengewebe"), perhaps related to the notion of *zꜣ* (V16) "protection".

DISCUSSION: Confronted uraei in symmetric arrangements correspond to Design Class 3B1c (Tufnell 1984: 118; Ben-Tor 2007: 78) or to 9C1b when depicted on either side of a central sign (Tufnell 1984: 132; Keel 1995: § 524; Ben-Tor 2007: 95–96). A rare motif on late Middle Kingdom scarabs, it is known from the Second Intermediate Period (when the confronted uraei usually appear at the top above other paired signs), and mainly on southern Levantine scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to her Early Palestinian Series (*ibid*.: 127). The lower part belongs to Design Class 6A1 (*ibid*.: 138), which follows a Middle Kingdom Egyptian model and was common in her Early Palestinian Series, but is almost absent from her Late Palestinian Series.

COMPARANDA: The upper register of two cobras flanking a *wꜣḏ* (M13) also appears on a scarab from Nubia (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 34:3). For the lower register, see Acco No. 25; Jericho No. 161, 232; and compare Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 60:1–7.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE) or somewhat later; the dating based on comparanda (Ben-Tor 2007: Early Palestinian Series) is slightly in tension with the find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16073.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, "Houses 100",[1] Object no. 3083.

① Several structures located to the north and west of the Fosse Temple, poorly preserved—only incomplete walls and a few paved floors (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: 43). The "Houses 100" contained pottery vessels such as bowls, kraters, juglets and stone vessels (*ibid*.: 88). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 50–52, 54, 778.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33A/B:54; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 4. *[NoR]*

51 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 27/EP 5/Side 40 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: blueish-grey, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Damaged edges, worn. WEIGHT: 1.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: light modelled sunk relief. COATING: partial light grey glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: A horizontal layout with single frame line. A royal sphinx (Keel 1995: § 544–547) strides to the right, its tail bent forward over the back, wearing a ceremonial beard and a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) crown (O. Keel, pers. comm.); in front of it is a *nfr* (F35), above it a second, smaller *nfr* (F35), and behind it two *tꜣ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: The striding royal sphinx was figured on scarabs throughout the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 72). Lalkin's publication hypothesizes a *nb* (V30) above the two *tꜣwj* strokes, probably misled by the broken part; if anywhere, the *nb* (V30) should have appeared below the *tꜣwj* strokes, but the sphinx alone would allow the reading *nb tꜣwj*, "lord of the Two Lands" (Lalkin 2008: 109–110).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Striding sphinxes are well attested (e.g., Lachish No. 25), but with different motifs in front of them: Tel Seraʿ No. 3, Beth Shean No. 230, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 694 with a uraeus; Beth Shean No. 239, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 400, Tell Jemmeh No. 116 with a Maʿat-feather (or *j* [M17] reed[?]); and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 67, with the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III in a cartouche.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16072.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, "Houses 100",[1] Object no. 3085.

① See Lachish No. 50.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33A/B:55; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Magrill 2006: 4; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 22, No. 397. *[NoR]*

50



51



52 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 17/Side 35 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: dark brown paint (not in incisions).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A double line divides the base into two sections: In the lower section, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ramesses II (*Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ, stp-n-rʿ* [Keel 1995: § 664]) inside a cartouche *šnw* (V9/V10), is flanked by two Maʿat-feathers or *šw(t)* (H6). The upper register, far from clear, was interpreted by Rowe (Rowe 1936: 161, No. 676) as two schematic uraei flanking a falcon (*ḥrw* [G5]) wearing a red crown (*dšrt* [S3]). Only the left uraeus can be identified with certainty.

DISCUSSION: The layout of the lower part began during the 18th Dyn. and continued during the 19th Dyn., in the time of Ramesses II (Lalkin 2008: 86, Table 35).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the lower part are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 301, with an upper register depicting three papyrus plants, and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 647, where the name of Ramesses II within a cartouche is flanked by two Maʿat-feathers at the back side of the seal. A similar layout is depicted in the upper virtual register of the scarab Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 549, instead of feathers the name is flanked by two uraei; a similar depiction appears on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1039. See also Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 649 and Megiddo No. 704 (with additional comparanda).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3093.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, "Houses 100",[1] Object no. 3084.

① See Lachish No. 50.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 161, No. 676, Pl. 17:676; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33B:56; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: 155, No. 981, Pl. 55:981. *[NoR]*

53 **OBJECT:** Finger ring, type II (Keel 1995: § 286–287). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 3.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: greenish-blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line enclosing a *wḏꜣt* (D10) eye flanked by two *nb* (V30) signs.

DISCUSSION: The *wḏꜣt* (D10) eye was a symbol for healing and regeneration. Seals bearing this symbol were popular in Egypt during the New Kingdom, but are rarely attested in the southern Levant (Lalkin 2008: 95).

COMPARANDA: For the *wḏꜣt* (D10) eye as only sign on scarabs, see Lachish No. 455, 544; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 187–188; and compare Lachish No. 39 (bifacial piece).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-7739.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple area.[1]

① See Lachish No. 32.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33B:57; Keel 1995: § 286, 719, 723, p. 284 (typology); Lalkin 2008: No. 33, Pl. 3:33. *[NoR]*

52



53



54 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. On the right is a falcon (*ḥrw* [G5]), probably wearing the red crown *dšrt* (S3), rather than the double crown *sḫmtj* (S5). Behind it, a quadruped apparently in a charging pose, perhaps a lion with its head down and mouth open (or a bull[?]; note the absence of both a tail and horns); below the quadruped, an anthropomorphic figure dressed in a long tunic; the long feature above the quadruped's back probably represents a long-tailed scorpion (rather than a floral motif).

DISCUSSION: Morphologically, the quadruped most closely resembles a bear (note the hump on the back), native in the Levant but not in Egypt, where it was known however during the time of the Ramessides; however, to find it in such a prominent position over a human figure would be most unusual. In contrast, the charging lion (more rarely, a bull) appears in different variations and is considered to represent the king (Keel 1995: § 539), the figure lying at its feet representing a fallen captive (Rowe 1936: 141, No. 589). The motif of the lion devouring a captive was common since the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 99:40, Pl. 100:3, 20) and assigned by Ben-Tor to her Late Palestinian Series. See Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 158 with comparanda.

COMPARANDA: The motif of the bull or lion trampling over a fallen human figure appears on Megiddo No. 516, without an accompanying third motif. Trampling and devouring lions appear in Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 856 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 542 (featuring the name of Ramesses II or Thutmose III written in a cartouche instead of the falcon); two lions in Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 599, where the layout is diagonally arranged.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3092.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, "Houses 100",[1] Object no. 58. Note that a different field number ("3082", attributed to Lachish No. 55 in Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940) is inscribed on the item itself.

① See Lachish No. 50.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 141, No. 589, Pl. 15:589; Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33B:58; Keel 1995: § 719, 723; Lalkin 2008: 101, No. 190, Pl. 12:190. *[NoR]*

55 **OBJECT:** Frog scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 152) or duck scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 148–150). MATERIAL: faience[?]. COLOUR: beige, green. PRESERVATION: broken. The head is broken off. WEIGHT: 0.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: partial green glaze[?]. Remarks: This figurative shaped seal can be either a duck or a frog. The duck-shaped seals with their heads turned backwards were common in Egypt in the 18th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 148), while the frog-shaped seals had a long time span in Egypt, from the First Intermediate Period to the New Kingdom (Keel 1995: § 152).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The description and the drawing are very uncertain due to the worn condition of the **OBJECT:** An upright, standing or striding figure, perhaps partly anthropomorphic, facing to the left; its arm or a feature of its headdress is visible along its body and back. The head of the figure seems to be that of an animal, possibly a hippopotamus.

DISCUSSION: The anthropomorphic figure with a hippopotamus head is usually interpreted as Taweret, popular since the Middle Bronze Age as a protector of pregnant women, mothers and infants (Schroer 2011: 49). During the 18th Dyn., this figure appeared on various types of objects, including ivory plaques and vessels (*ibid.*).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A similar depiction is seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 215, a frog-shaped seal with additional motifs, and on the scarab Atlit No. 29. Other comparanda are the scarabs Achziv No. 128 and Azor No. 16.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16075.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Areas 100–200, Fosse Temple area[1] (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[2] Object no. 3082. Field number according to Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940, but see note on Lachish No. 54.

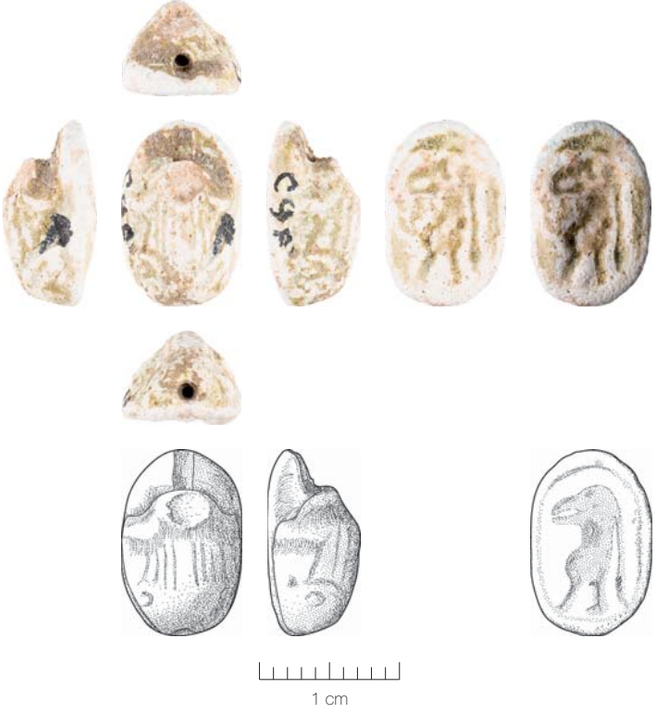
① See Lachish No. 32. — ② Note Magrill 2006: 66 n. 47: "(…) excavation details as written on object are as follows: 'C9F'. This generally refers to Fosse Temple Room F but there is no information to indicate whether Structure II or III is meant".

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33B:59; Magrill 2006: 54, 66 n. 47. *[NoR]*

54



55



56 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blueish-grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Heavily worn. WEIGHT: 0.38 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.5 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H); 1.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. Remarks: The schematic features of this scarab and the composite material might point to a connection with the Beth Shean Level IX group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Scarabs made of composite material with a blank base include Lachish No. 789–790, 796–797 and Megiddo No. 213, 414, 537, 567.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE); dating based on Beth Shean Level IX group.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16074.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square D.9, Pit 199,[1] Locus n.a.,[2] Object no. n/a.

① Refuse pit located east of the Fosse Temple (Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 67) containing animal bones, pottery vessels, mostly bowls, and sherds (*ibid*.: 43–44), faience objects, a bead and an ostrich egg (*ibid*.: 89). — ② No field number, but note "C9F" inscribed on the object. According to Magrill 2006: 66 n. 47 (writing about Lachish No. 55), "this generally refers to Fosse Temple Room F but there is no information to indicate whether Structure II or III is meant".

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940: Pl. 33B:60; Magrill 2006: 54. *[NoR]*

57 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is stamped longitudinally on a complete handle still attached to a fragment of the jar and is mutilated by a deep incision occupying almost the entire width of the handle, which also features traces of another attempted stamping (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–43). MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 17.0 mm (W); 38.0 mm (W, handle). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lṣpn / ʿzr*, "Belonging to Ṣafan (son of) ʿEzer" (partly reconstructed from the parallel stamped handle Lachish No. 922).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 922. Note that the present handle, although discovered during the British excavations, was not published in Diringer's *editio princeps* of the Lachish stamped handles (Diringer 1941) nor in the summary list of stamped handles in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341). It only appeared in a locus description in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 110), briefly mentioned among the list of finds as one of two handles (with Lachish No. 58) bearing the name "Ṣafan" (see discussion in Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42). The complete reading of the inscription was obtained after the discovery of the better-preserved third stamped handle of this series (Lachish No. 922), bearing the clear inscription *lṣpn / ʿzr* (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 697).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 922 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-715.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.15, Room 1015,[1] Object no. 6213. Note that this item bears the same object number as Lachish No. 58 (see Tufnell 1953: 110; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42).

① Room in a Level III stone building located south of the "Palace-Fort", containing a stone bench, an oven, forty loom weights, a quern, and two lmlk stamped handles (Tufnell 1953: 110). Barkay and Vaughn report the room number as 1005 (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42), probably a typographic error. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 57–58.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 110; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 51; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44, No. 13, Fig. 16; Avigad and Sass 1997: 256–257, No. 697A; Vaughn 1999: 212, No. XXXc.169; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.14; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 51; Davies 2004: 69, No. 101.144; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 16. *[EL]*

56



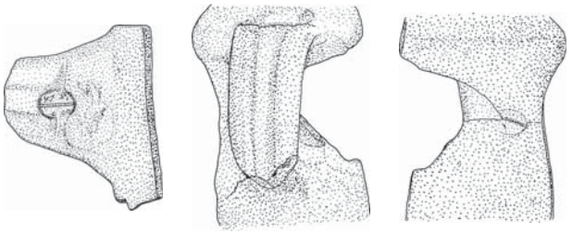
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57

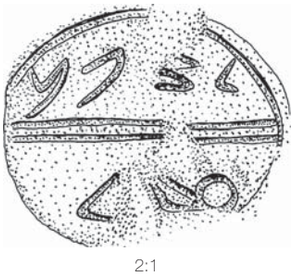




2:1



5 cm



2:1



2:1

58 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 697).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lṣpn / ʿzr* "Belonging to Ṣafan (son of) ʿEzer" (partly reconstructed from the parallel stamped handle Lachish No. 922).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 922. Note that the present handle, although discovered during the British excavations, was not published in Diringer's *editio princeps* of the Lachish stamped handles (Diringer 1941) nor in the summary list of stamped handles in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341). It only appeared in a locus description in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 110), briefly mentioned among the list of finds as one of two handles (with Lachish No. 57) bearing the name "Ṣafan" (see discussion in Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42). The complete reading of the inscription was obtained after the discovery of the better-preserved third stamped handle of this series (Lachish No. 922), bearing the clear inscription *lṣpn / ʿzr* (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 697). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present handle was ever published. The handle is not listed in Avigad and Sass 1997. Note that the reading of the present handle, due to Barkay and Vaughn, rests entirely on their assumption that the handle bore the same stamp as Lachish No. 57 (found in the same locus and published with the reading "Ṣafan"), as they could not locate the handle itself (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 922 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The present item could not be located by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 52).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.15, Room 1015,[1] Object no. 6213. Note that this item bears the same object number as Lachish No. 57 (see Tufnell 1953: 110; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42).

① See Lachish No. 57.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 110; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 52; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44; Vaughn 1999: 212, No. XXXc.170; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.14; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 52; Davies 2004: 69, No. 101.144; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 16. *[EL]*

59 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: composite material[?] or limestone[?]. COLOUR: brownish-grey. Tufnell originally described the object as 'paste' (Tufnell 1953: 186), whereas Magrill referred to it as 'faience' (Magrill 2006: 5). Based on photographs, it also resembles limestone, although the smooth erosion of the engraving points to a softer and the weight to a lighter material than limestone. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface worn, with some whitish incrustation obscuring base engraving. WEIGHT: 1.32 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Unclear orientation. No border. Anthropomorphic figure on upper left comprising a drilled head and two drilled holes for the torso, from which two lines extend upwards to indicate upraised arms and two lines extend downwards for the legs. On the right side of the base, two drill holes with two possible lines extending outwards, and a possible third drill hole at the bottom of the base.

DISCUSSION: The object is too worn to confidently identify the base composition. The placement of a schematic anthropomorphic figure with upraised arms so close to the border of the seal recalls compositions of such a figure placed over an animal (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 172). However, the absence of any detectable motif in the centre paired with the placement of the second figure so close to the perimeter of the base on the right makes this proposal less likely. Another option is that the figure on the right is another schematic anthropomorphic figure, resulting in the possible composition of two schematic figures on conoids and plain scaraboids (e.g., Ekron No. 59).

COMPARANDA: Based on the state of preservation, no comparanda can be identified.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE) or somewhat later; dating based on material, typology, style of engraving, and possible motif.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15802.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.A,[2] Object no. 373.

① A triple-chambered room containing the scattered remains of at least 25 individuals (Tufnell 1953: 179–187, Fig. 21). The majority of the finds were dated to the Iron IIB–III (see also Wenning 2021: 210–211), with some intrusions from the 4th century CE (Tufnell 1953: 179–180). The finds included pottery figurines, scarabs and other stamp seals, amulets, and metal objects (Tufnell 1953: 186–187; see also the inventory in Wenning 2021: 208–211). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 59, 82, 84, 99, 121, 141, 172, 191, 199–201, 207, 215–216, 226, 229. — ② See Lachish No. 172.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 186; Magrill 2006: 5. *[NBM]*

No image available **58**

59



60 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G2/0/e7[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 40/EP 1/Side 58[?] (Rowe). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 30.0 mm (L) × 21.6 mm (W). Measurements according to Tufnell 1953: Pl. 54: 62.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group. Remarks: Green jasper scarabs are known from the Middle Bronze Age and were common in Egypt, the northern Levant and Byblos (Boschloos 2015a). According to Boschloos, they were probably manufactured in Byblos rather than in Egypt (*ibid.*: 306–308).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Comparanda of blank green jasper scarabs are Ashdod No. 70; Lachish No. 351, 720, 756, 836, 842, 912; Megiddo No. 497, and Reḥov No. 48. Jericho No. 607 is a blank scarab made of green hard stone, probably jasper. Seals made of other hard stones were often left blank, such as Lachish No. 296–297 of the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, or Lachish No. 724–726 made of different types of quartz.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda of the Green Jasper Scarabs group.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE).[1]

① Tomb 107 has a single chamber, first used for burials during the Middle Bronze Age?, but its ceiling collapsed and a hole was cut in order to create a new, secondary entrance from Tomb 120 (Tufnell 1953: 187; Wenning 2021: 211). Tomb 107 was contemporaneous with Level IV (see Tufnell 1953: 50), hence it is dated here to the Late Iron Age IIA. The remains of the later use include a mass of charred animal bones (pig in particular) overlaying a large number of human bones. Other finds in this tomb included pottery vessels, scarabs, faience amulets, and metal ornaments which, according to the excavators, were probably placed there during the earlier phase of the tomb's use (Tufnell 1953: 187–188). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 60, 66, 79, 93, 106, 136, 138, 179, 182.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 188, Pl. 54:62. *[NoR]*

61 **OBJECT:** Lion scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 159–161). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. COLOUR: green and black (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 7.5 mm (W) × 9.8 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: glaze[?]. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series[?]. Remarks: Lion scaraboids were produced over a long period of time in ancient Egypt, from the 6th Dyn. onwards (Keel 1995: § 159); they were produced in Egypt during the 18th Dyn., and from the 20th Dyn. until the Third Intermediate Period (Lalkin 2008: 31). Lion-shaped seals from different periods were usually perforated lengthwise, in contrast to other types of early seals, where the perforation hole's orientation and manufacture serve as an indicator for the production period. In the case of the lion shaped seals, there is no clear criterion for their dating (Keel 1995: § 159). The lion scaraboid with a forward facing head was common in LBI–IIA. According to Tufnell 1953: 380, lion amulets were rare in Egypt, apart from Sekhmet in the form of a lioness. Comparanda of lion scaraboids found in Iron Age contexts in the southern Levant, such as Tzur Natan No. 5 and Arad No. 21, suggest that they were produced locally (Keel 1995: § 160). For additional comparanda of lion scaraboids with a forward facing head, see Achziv No. 115 and Megiddo No. 13, which Münger 2011: 246, No. 3 assigns to the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: No frame line, criss-cross design.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the base design, albeit not well preserved, are Acco No. 271 (see also Münger 2011: Pl. 8) and Megiddo No. 681. Other comparanda were found at Hasanlu, Iran (Marcus 1996: 110–113). One of them, No. 52, shows the lion-shaped seal with similar base engravings.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda and context.

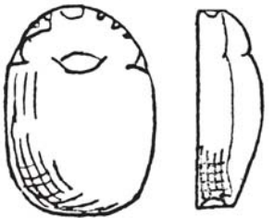
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15562.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4928. Object number based on Tufnell, Inge and Harding 1940; the field number written on the object itself reads "4828".

① Tomb 218 was a rock-cut tomb, the carving of which Tufnell dates to the Middle Bronze Age and the contents to the Iron Age IIA (see Zimhoni 2004: 1679, table 25.31). The tomb included a shaft leading to a sealed entrance, beyond which were three chambers (A, B, and C) (Tufnell 1953: Fig. 25). The finds included scarabs and other types of seals, over 50 bracelets, gold, silver and bronze earrings, many beads, iron arrowheads, shells and cowries, as well as local and imported pottery vessels, including an animal-shaped vessel (Tufnell 1953: 204–210; see also Wenning 2021: 234–237). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 61, 64, 69, 74–77, 81, 90, 103, 107, 113, 115, 142, 147–148, 151, 174–175, 184, 188–190, 198, 205, 212–213, 217, 220, 709–712. — ② This locus, located outside (west of) the sealed entrance of the tomb (Tufnell 1953: 204, Fig. 25; Wenning 2021: 234–235), contained pottery, amulets, bone and metal artifacts (Tufnell 1953: 209–210).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 378, 380, Pl. 34:25; Keel 1995: § 160; Magrill 2006: 16; Münger 2011: 166, 246, Pl. 38, Lachiš 3; Wenning 2021: 236. *[NoR]*

60



1 cm

61



1 cm

62 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece (Keel 1995: § 216–228). This item can be interpreted as a seal, a decorated button (Keel 1995: § 217), or a gaming pieces (see Van Beek 1989; and see Brandl 2010: 252–253 for reused pottery sherds as buttons and gaming pieces). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracked, some discoloration. WEIGHT: 2.89 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 24.2 mm (L) × 15.4 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (T); 3.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top; two cylindrical perforations in the centre. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Smooth polished surface.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Roughly symmetrical layout (vertical[?] or horizontal[?]), no frame line. Two long parallel lines, each with three perpendicular short lines pointing outward, forming a kind of grid pattern. The line connecting the two 'triglyphs' is more shallow than the designs themselves.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A somewhat similar decoration is found on the handle of Tell Keisan No. 20.

DATING: Late Iron I–Early Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 10th c. BCE); uncertain, dating according to context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.14607.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.22, Tomb 521 (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3568A.

① Tomb 521 was the earliest Iron Age tomb at Lachish, used for a relatively short period of time (see also Zimhoni 2004: 1697, table 25.31; Wenning 2021: 250). A shaft or a pit led to a rectangular chamber through an entrance that was blocked with stones. Along the northern wall of the chamber, on top of a bench, two skeletons were found, originally placed on top of each other; along the southern wall, two more skeletons were found in articulation. Pottery vessels were placed near the heads of the skeletons on the bench, and storage jars on the floor of the tomb. Other finds from this tomb included scarabs, a rectangular plaque and bone objects (Tufnell 1953: 222, Pl. 8). See Zimhoni 2004: 1697 for a brief discussion on the date. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 62–63, 114, 159, 713.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 224, Pl. 37:1, 56:25; Keel 1995: § 217; Magrill 2006: 20. *[NoR]*

63 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece with "handle" (Keel 1995: § 233–235). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 2.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 24.2 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation); 4.0* mm (H, without handle).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the handle, widthwise. ENGRAVING: broad linear. As if produced by aligning drill holes, then smoothed. Remarks: Earlier examples of rectangular plaques with handles were larger and unpierced (such as Tell Beit Mirsim No. 38, 44), in contrast to this item, which was produced later (Keel 1995: § 235). A few examples of rectangular plaques with handles include Tel Qashish No. 1; Tel Gerisa No. 37; Tel Kinrot No. 15; 'En Gedi No. 3; Tel Masos No. 3. All of these were, however, made of limestone. While the first two comparanda were dated to the EB II–III, the other two were dated between Late Bronze Age III and Iron Age III, and the last was dated to the range between the Chalcolithic Period and the Iron I (for the discussion of such an extremely wide range, see the dating section of Tel Masos No. 3).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout[?] without frame line. Six engraved lines, perhaps forming a curved longer line, from the upper left corner to the lower right corner.

DISCUSSION: When held horizontally, this design can tentatively be interpreted as a schematic horned, recumbent quadruped animal.

COMPARANDA: Tel Qashish No. 1 and Tel Kinrot No. 15 are comparanda for both the seal type and the linear engraving, but since differences prevail, they cannot secure the dating. For comparanda of schematic horned animals, see Lachish No. 27.

DATING: Late Iron I–Early Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 10th c. BCE); dating based on context and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.14606.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.22, Tomb 521 (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3566.

① See Lachish No. 62.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 224, Pl. 37:4, 56:24; Keel 1995: § 234; Magrill 2006: 20. *[NoR]*

Non-standard scale.

62



Non-standard scale.

63



64 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly broken at the head and along both sides of the base. WEIGHT: 1.78 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear (cartouche, stand); modelled sunk relief. COATING: remains of grey glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. On the left is a seated baboon on a standard (*jꜣt* [R12]); below in the centre is a *ms* (F31) sign; on the right, *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1) and *rˁ* (N5) enclosed by a cartouche (*šnw* [V9/V10]).

DISCUSSION: The prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III, *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ* (Keel 1995: § 663), is written inside the cartouche. The baboon and the *ms* (F31) compose the nomen (i.e., birth name) of Thutmose III, *Ḏḥwtj-msw* (Keel 1995: § 663), usually represented with the ibis sign (*hb[j]* [G26]). According to O. Keel (pers. comm.), the baboon version was more common during the early 22nd Dyn., following Jaeger 1982: 243, who even suggests that the combination of the two names should be specifically dated to the reign of Shoshenq I (cf. Lalkin 2008: Pl. 66:1206).

COMPARANDA: The motif of the seated baboon with a cartouche of the throne name of Thutmose III also appears on Dor No. 29 and Deir el-Balaḥ No. 71. See further Deir el-Balaḥ No. 68, 134 for a similar layout with the name of Ramesses II. The combination of the throne name and the birth name of Thutmose III can be seen on unprovenanced scarabs and other seals (Petrie 1917: Pl. 28:117–122). For different variants of the two names inside cartouches, see Jaeger 1982a: Fig. 641–649.

DATING: 18th?–22nd Dyn. (1540–746 BCE); dating according to comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16278. BM/Big number: 160355.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4851.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:1; Magrill 2006: 14; Lalkin 2008: 133, 148, No. 1206, Pl. 66:1206; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:1. *[NoR]*

65 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5/EP 73/Side 31 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped at the head and the right rim of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; linear with hatching (*nb* signs); modelled sunk relief (hieroglyphs). COATING: partial white glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Three main registers: in the centre, between two S-spirals, is a cartouche (*šnw* [V9/V10]) enclosing *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1), *rˁ* (N5)—the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 662). Above and below there are mirror images of two *nb* (V30) signs divided by two vertical lines (slightly reminiscent of schematic depictions of winged discs).

DISCUSSION: Seals bearing the throne name of Thutmose III continued to be produced long after his reign and were dated by other motifs accompanying the name and by their engraving technique (Keel 1995: § 2). Other kings whose throne name included *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1), and/or *rˁ* (N5) are known from the 21st and 25th dynasties (Tufnell 1953: 360–361). This type of spirals is also known from scarabs found in the Iron Age cemetery at Achziv (Achziv No. 92, 201).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest one, including the typology of the scarab, is Achziv No. 92 (in horizontal layout). An additional comparandum is Jericho No. 58, and see also the items mentioned above.

DATING: 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda. According to Jaeger 1982: § 1496, n. 940, the typological features are associated with the 22nd Dyn.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-1947.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 562.

① Tomb 116 was a rectangular room, its entrance cut into the southern wall of Pit 108 (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 4:2), with rock-cut benches along its western, southern and eastern walls. Remains of more than 45 individuals were identified in this tomb; their bones had been placed on the benches when the cave was used as a burial chamber, but were mostly found mixed with unarticulated bones which may have been deposited there at a later date (*ibid.*: 190). The dating of the tomb is debated: Zimhoni 2004: 1697,1699, table 25:31 corrrelates it with Level IV, which would result in a Late Iron Age IIA dating, whereas Wenning 2021: 218–219 suggests Iron Age IIA–IIB. The artifacts in Tomb 116 included pottery vessels, scarabs and other types of seals, amulets, earrings, a knife, bracelets, pendants and beads (Tufnell 1953: 192). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 65, 68, 78, 80, 83, 92, 119, 135, 185, 193, 202, 209, 219.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 116, No. 491, Pl. 12:491; Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:2; Jaeger 1982: 97, ill. 227; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:2; Wenning 2021: 219. *[NoR]*

64



65



66 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5/EP 24/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the head is missing as well as the upper part of the base (mostly around the Maʿat- or *šw*[*t*] [H6]-feather). MEASUREMENTS: 11.8 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, a *šnw* (V9/V10) encloses *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1), *rʿ* (N5)—the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 663). The cartouche is flanked on each side by a Maʿat- or *šw(t)* (H6)-feather combined with a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]), both facing outwards, above a small *t* (X1).

DISCUSSION: The motif of the throne name of Thutmose III flanked by two uraei has many variations (Jaeger 1982: 100, see Lachish No. 65). Only a few specimens can be securely dated to the time of his reign (Jaeger 1982: 173), and so far none compares exactly to the present example.

COMPARANDA: Similar, almost identical, layouts depicted on scarabs include Lachish No. 566; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 295; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 103; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 646, 827 (from tombs); Gezer No. 357; Tell Jemmeh No. 61 (contexts unknown); and scarabs from Cyprus, Enkomi (Murray 1900: 41, Pl. 4:694 [Tomb 33, probable attribution based on excavation documentation]; now British Museum 1897,0401.694); Hala Sultan Tekke (Fischer and Bürge 2023: 20 Fig. 14:N794, 53–54 Fig. 46).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); O. Keel (pers. comm.) uses a wider range for the dating of this item (18th–26th Dyn.); based on the stylistic dating of comparanda and their context, a shorter range is preferable.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 405.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360, 368, Pl. 43:3; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 54, No. 964; Wenning 2014: 53; Wenning 2021: 213. *[NoR]*

67 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 15/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, black (in breakage). PRESERVATION: broken. Base rim slightly chipped, head broken. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Three hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1)—to be read as *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 663).

DISCUSSION: The throne name of Thutmose III without a cartouche appears on scarabs in many variations; the *ḫpr* (L1) sign can be found in vertical orientation (as here) or in horizontal orientation (for example, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 201; Dothan No. 22; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 380). The latter variant covers a period dating from the 18th to the 22nd Dyn.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Lachish No. 72. Megiddo No. 15, 209 and Taanach No. 65 are additional comparanda, but the style of engraving is somewhat different. Further comparanda depicting the *ḫpr* (L1) in a vertical orientation are of other seal types (cowroid, square prism): Gezer No. 470, 605. Most of the examined comparanda depict the *ḫpr* (L1) in a horizontal orientation and in a different stylistic rendering: see the above-mentioned items and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 284; Ashkelon No. 38; Beth Shean No. 7 (with further comparanda there).

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); O. Keel (pers. comm.) uses a wider range for the dating of this item (19th–26th Dyn.); based on the stylistic dating of comparanda, a shorter range seems more accurate.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1573.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5163.

① Tomb 120 was a rectangular chamber first used during the Late Bronze Age. Its original sealed entrance, located to the west, had apparently collapsed in ancient times. The chamber was adjusted for dwelling during the Iron Age IIA, but was abandoned when the ceiling also collapsed (Tufnell 1953: 193). In its final phase, the chamber was used as an ossuary: masses of animal and human bones were found unarticulated, probably thrown in through the hole in the roof, with the human bones at the bottom and the animal bones at the upper layer of the pile (*ibid.*: Pl. 4:3–6). According to Tufnell (1953: 193), the human remains included over 1500 individuals, but a recent study has shown that this is probably an overestimate (Garfinkel and Cohen 2022). Furthermore, while the excavators interpreted the massive amount of human remains as the result of a violent event after the Assyrian destruction or Josiah's reform (Tufnell 1953: 193–194), this recent study shows that they consisted mostly of crania, probably recovered from earlier tombs that had been disturbed by quarrying during the construction of the Iron Age fortifications (Garfinkel and Cohen 2022). The finds included scarabs and other seals as well as amulets, pottery figurines, and bone pendants (*ibid.*: 196). Wenning 2021: 224–224 suggested an earlier terminus ad quem (Iron Age IIB). According to Zimhoni, the pottery vessels date this tomb to the Late Iron Age IIA (see Zimhoni 2004: 1698–1699, table 25.31), but the date of the "ossuary" is unclear. According to Tufnell 1953: 194, "the amulets, pendants and scarabs were presumably associated with burials of the tenth and ninth centuries". Items found in same context: Lachish No. 67, 72, 85–86, 98, 122, 124, 139–140, 153.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360, 368, Pl. 43/43A:4; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:4. *[NoR]*

66



1 cm

67



1 cm

68 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24 or HC 32/EP 15/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. The base is slightly broken or heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief; linear (cartouche).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. Inside an oval, a schematic *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1), *rᶜ* (N5)—the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 663). The oval is flanked on each side by a *šw(t)* (H6) feather, whose upper end is stylized almost like the flat head of a uraeus (*jᶜrt* [I12]) facing outwards, and a short horizontal line above it. An additional vertical line is to the right of the right *šw(t)* (H6).

DISCUSSION: The throne name flanked by two uraei was produced in many variations (see Jaeger 1982: 100; Lachish No. 65–66); examples of his name flanked by *šw(t)* (H6) feathers in a horizontal layout were common during the 18th–19th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 135). The two horizontal lines above the two *šw(t)* (H6) can be interpreted as misrendered sun discs, which are quite commonly depicted above the heads of uraei (as in the case of Lachish No. 573 and Tell el-Farᶜa [S] No. 646, 751; I. Koch, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: Scarabs bearing the throne name of Thutmose III with two *šw(t)* (H6) feathers include Lachish No. 66 and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 367, 549 (the latter two dated to the 22nd Dyn., despite their uncertain find contexts). For a similar layout with the name of Amenhotep II, see the oval plate Beth Shean No. 81 (with more comparanda there).

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda (see Lachish No. 66).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 569A.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360, 368, Pl. 43/43A:5; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:5; Wenning 2021: 219. *[NoR]*

69 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, worn. WEIGHT: 1.87 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (*ḫpr*); linear. COATING: traces of yellowish-brown glaze[?] (base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the upper part *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35) as a phonetic complement, *ḫpr* (L1), and *rᶜ* (N5) accompanied by double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a), i.e., the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 663); the lower part includes (from right to left) two *j* (M17) signs, *k* (V31), and what seems to be three horizontal 'folded' lines (perhaps *jm* [Aa13/Aa15]; T. Beuthe, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: According to Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 245–246, No. 275, the inscription includes both the throne name of Thutmose III and the name of the god Amun; the signs accompanying their names might be read as a variation of "may you come at my side". However, Jaeger 1982: 286 mentions that a sequence with the double reading of Amun and Menes is often found in conjunction with the throne name of Thutmose III (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.; see also Tufnell 1953: 368).

COMPARANDA: A similar layout is depicted on scarab Dor No. 43, as well as on unprovenanced artifacts (Petrie 1917: Pl. 53:23–24; Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 245–246, No. 275).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating according to Dor No. 43.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16279. BM/Big number: 160335.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4852.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② The central chamber of the tomb (Tufnell 1953: 209).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:6; Magrill 2006: 16; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:6. *[NoR]*

70 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 55/EP 13/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 11.2 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre are *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1) and *šw(t)* (H6), flanked by two vertically placed *nbw* (S12) signs, facing outwards.

DISCUSSION: Assuming a cryptographic writing (Drioton 1957a: 16), this combination of hieroglyphs can be read as the name of Amun: *šw(t)* (H6) for *j*, *mn* (Y5) as *m* and *ḫpr* (L1) as *n*. The combination is somehow similar to Ramesside scarabs simulating Middle Bronze Age prototypes: Ben-Tor's Group A5 includes hieroglyphs flanking a *nbw* (S12) sign (Ben-Tor 2017: 202), whereas in this example, the *nbw* (S12) is flanking the others.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A similar layout, albeit in a different orientation, is depicted on the scarab Dor No. 56. Further cryptograms of the name of Amun include Megiddo No. 531, 546 and Timnaᶜ No. 8, but they feature different hieroglyphs than this item.

DATING: 20th–21st Dyn. (1190–944 BCE); dating according to Dor No. 56.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1329.

① Cave 1002 was an irregularly shaped pit cut into the limestone bedrock. It was used as a secondary burial place, as evidenced by the presence of burnt bones and pottery sherds without a distinct ash layer (Tufnell 1953: 229; see also Zimhoni 2004: 1700). The finds included over 600 pottery vessels, zoomorphic vessels and figurines, scarabs, scaraboids and other types of seals, metal objects such as jewellery and weapons, some bone pendants and a stone object. The deposit was divided into three phases (layers 11–13, 6–10, and 1–5), which together

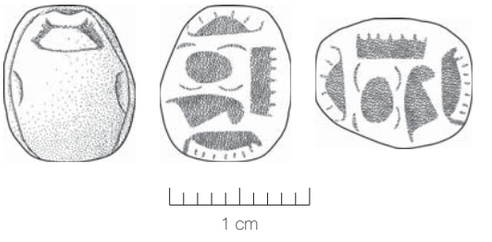
68



69



70



cover a period of almost 100 years (Tufnell 1953: 229–236). According to Zimhoni 2004: 1697, table 25.31, this tomb should be dated to Iron IIA; however, as with Tomb 120, this dating does not necessarily include the deposited bones, which may be from a later activity (Zimhoni 2004: 1700). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 70, 89, 94–97, 100, 102, 104–105, 109–110, 112, 116–118, 125–131, 150, 152, 155–158, 166, 170–171, 181, 256. — ② The earliest layers of the cave's fill (Tufnell 1953: 229).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360, 368, Pl. 43:7; Wenning 2014: 55; Wenning 2021: 252. *[NoR]*

71 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24?/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear (cartouche).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without a frame line. In the centre there is an oval enclosing *ḫpr* (L1) and *rˁ* (N5); on the left, a *j* (M17) sign; on the right, a uraeus (*jˁrt* [I12]) facing the oval.

DISCUSSION: The dung beetle with the sun disk above it represented the god Khepri in ancient Egypt from the First Intermediate Period onwards (Lalkin 2008: 102). The much more common layout was the combination of the two signs with a *mn* (Y5), composing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (see Lachish No. 65); therefore, the absence of the *mn* (Y5) is conspicuous.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The combination of a *ḫpr* (L1) with an additional sign in an oval appears on scarabs from the Middle Bronze Age, such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 142, 1029; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 87; Jericho No. 540; as well as on scarabs from the New Kingdom, such as Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 219. For a horizontal layout without a cartouche, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 381, 814; Beth Shemesh No. 112; and a scarab found at Tell Dafana, Egypt (Petrie, Griffith and Murray 1888: 73, § 70, 111, Pl. 41:55). A scarab bearing the combination of a *nfr* (F35), *ḫpr* (L1) and *rˁ* (N5) in a vertical layout is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 164; an additional parallel bearing the combination of uraeus, *ḫpr* (L1) and *rˁ* (N5) is Achziv No. 37.

DATING: Probably MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); the comparanda point at two possible dates.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5364.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 361–362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:8; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:8. *[NoR]*

72 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 15/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with cross hatching (*mn*); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. From top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35); in the lower half, a *ḫpr* (L1), to its right possibly a *nṯr* (R8) (O. Keel, pers. comm.) or a *qnbt* (O38), and two short vertical lines.

DISCUSSION: The combination *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ* stands for the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. An additional suggested reading is the name of Siamun (according to Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 368; Jaeger 1982: § 1487–1490; see also Gezer No. 430; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 2; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 213).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest parallels of the layout are the scarabs from el-Lahun (Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: Pl. 63:13); Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 24 and the rectangular plate Gezer No. 430; for a similar schematic rendering of this layout, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 300.

DATING: 21st–22nd Dyn. (1076–746 BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1571.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB?, mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5161.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 368, Pl. 43/43A:9; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:9. *[NoR]*

71



72



73 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 32/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken in the lower left part of the base, below the *stp* (U21). WEIGHT: 1.21 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of glaze (in incisions).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal composition with a single frame line. From right to left: *wsr* (F12), *mꜣʿt* (C10), and from top to bottom *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *stp* (U21) and two *rʿ* (N5).

DISCUSSION: The sequence can be read as an abbreviated version of a royal prenomen (i.e., throne name): *wsr mꜣʿt (Rʿ) śtp (n) (J)mn(-rʿ)*, used by several kings with slight variations during the 20th–23rd dynasties: Ramesses IV in his first year (*śtp n Jmn*), Ramesses VII (*śtp n mrj Jmn*), Amenemope/Amenemipet (*śtp n Jmn*), Osorkon II/Userken meriamun, Pami, Petubaste I, Iuput I, Osorkon III, Takelot III, Rudamun, and Iuput II (Keel 1995: § 664–665; Brandl 2004: 60 and Pl. 6, "Pseudo Ramesses IV scarabs").

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Baluʿa No. 2, Beth Shemesh No. 137 and Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 25 are close comparanda, albeit with only one sun disc, and see further Lachish No. 654 and Yavneh No. 4 (with the addition of a *šw[t]* [H6] feather, here to be read as *j*). Additional comparanda in vertical orientation include Lachish No. 662 (perhaps from the time of Osorkon II/Userken meriamun; see Brandl 2004: 60 with reference to a scarab from Turin, Petrie 1889: No. 1572); Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 559; Ashkelon No. 41.

DATING: 20th–22nd Dyn. (1190–746 BCE); dating to the period from Ramesses IV onwards and according to parallels.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16487.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) – Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Enclosure east of the "Palace-Fort", Square K.14–15, Locus 1033,[1] Object no. 6252A.

① A large, plastered courtyard located to the east of Palace C (Tufnell 1953: 112), bound to the east by a wall found with three complete and large pottery jugs leaning against it (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 23, No. 3).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:10; Magrill 2006: 71; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:10. *[NoR]*

74 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 112/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, cream. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.86 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (*mn*); linear (*tjt*). COATING: remains of pale grey glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, from top to bottom: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *tjt* (D17), flanked by two vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The signs in the centre may be read as *tjt (J)mn* "image of Amun" (Tufnell 1953: 368; Keel 1995: § 642). The name of Amun appears on seals from the 18th Dyn. onwards and reached its peak during the 19th–20th Dyn., becoming the most popular divine name on stamp seals found in the southern Levant (Keel 1995: § 642). The composition containing the epithet *tjt* (D17) was also very common. The combination of Amun with two *nb* (V30) signs was dated to the 19th Dyn. (*ibid*.).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include scarabs Beth Shemesh No. 5; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 209, 247 (and more comparanda mentioned there).

DATING: 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating according to comparanda; the context favours a 21st–22nd Dyn. dating.

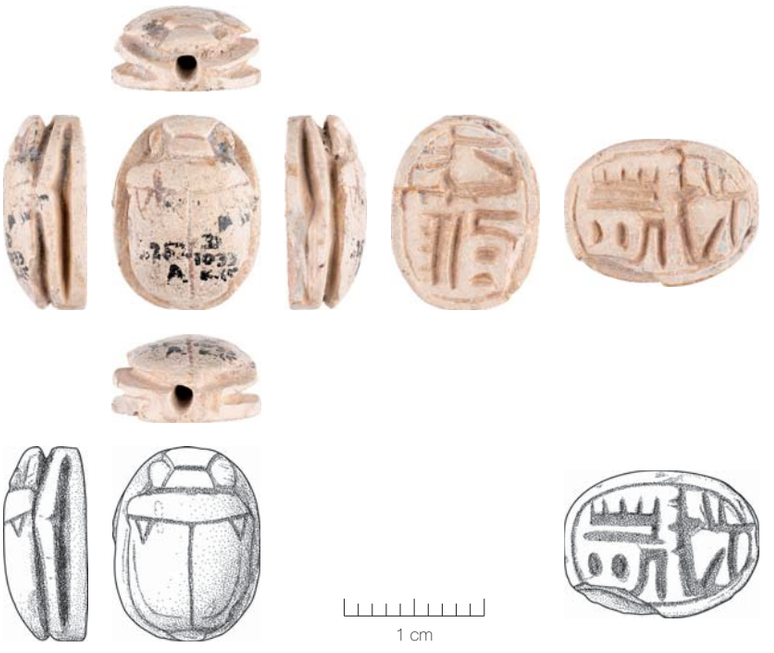
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16280. BM/Big number: 160352.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 4846.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362–363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:11; Magrill 2006: 16; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:11; Wenning 2021: 235. *[NoR]*

73



74



75 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, white. PRESERVATION: broken. In the lower part of the rim of the base (below the vertical lines), worn. WEIGHT: 1.76 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of yellowish-brown glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, from right to left: *j* (M17) followed by the vertical sequence *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and four or five vertical strokes, one of which may be a *rˁ* (N5). From the left, a long stem (possibly emerging from a vertical *nb* [V30], see comparanda) curves over the sequence of hieroglyphs, ending in a tiny lotus flower next to another vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: If one of the vertical lines is a disc, the writing in the centre should be read as divine name "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642–650). The name of Amun-Re appears on seals from the 18th Dyn. and reached its peak during the 19th–20th Dyn., being the most popular divine name on stamp seals found in the southern Levant (Keel 1995: § 642; see Lachish No. 74). The layout that includes both the name Amun-Re and the lotus bud was divided by Lalkin into an early and a late group, which differ by the spelling of the name: the former, characterized by an accurate spelling of the name and the execution of the lotus bud, is dated to the 18th and 19th Dyn.; while the latter, with an additional *n* (N35), is dated to the 20th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 154). While many examples feature the short vertical lines, the majority includes only one (see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 231, 243) or two (Beth Shemesh No. 17, Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 479) lines.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda are scarabs Lachish No. 76 (from the same archaeological context) and Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 52. Although broken, the scarab Acco No. 239 bears two vertical lines in addition to the sun disc in the lower register. Additional close comparanda of scarabs and other types of stamp seals, without a lotus flower but with three or four vertical lines, are Lachish No. 78–79 and Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 53; see also Megiddo No. 10 and more comparanda there; as well as scarabs from Egypt: Tell el-Yahudiya (Naville 1895 and Griffith 1890: Pl. 16:24) and Meroë (Dunham 1963: Fig. 38:143).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE) or more likely 20th Dyn. (1190–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16281. BM/Big number: 160365.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4847.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:12; Magrill 2006: 17; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:12; Wenning 2021: 235. *[NoR]*

76 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn and slightly chipped in the lower part of the base (below the vertical lines). WEIGHT: 1.13 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, from right to left: *j* (M17) followed by the vertical sequence *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and four vertical strokes. From the left, a long stem (possibly emerging from a vertical *nb* [V30], see comparanda) curves over the sequence of hieroglyphs, ending in a tiny lotus flower next to another vertical *nb* (V30) (or here, *rˁ* [N5][?]).

DISCUSSION: See discussion in Lachish No. 75.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda are Lachish No. 75, 78–79, the first mentioned from the same archaeological context. See there for more comparanda.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE) or more likely 20th Dyn. (1190–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16282. BM/Big number: 160353.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4845.

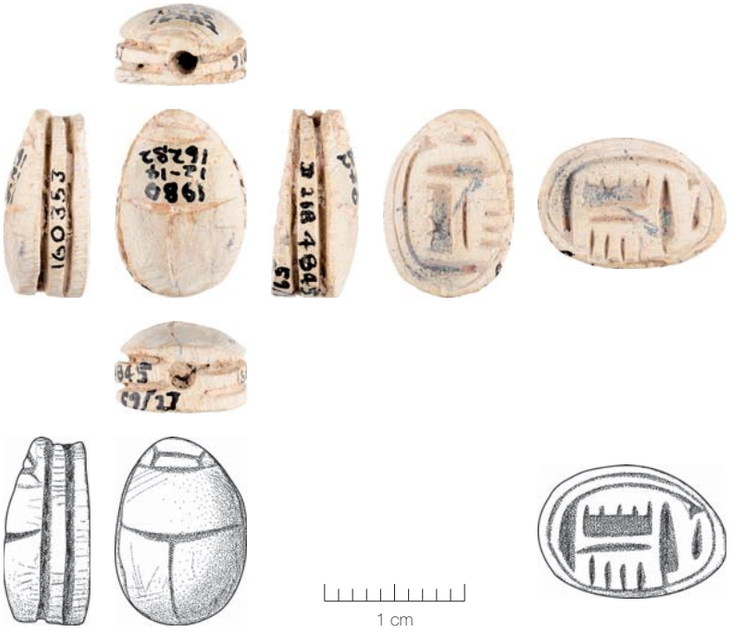
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43:13; Magrill 2006: 17; Wenning 2021: 235. *[NoR]*

75



76



77 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 51?/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 0.49 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.8 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: light flat sunk relief with interior hatching (*mn*). COATING: traces of grey glaze?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre, a sequence of hieroglyphs, from top: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *rᶜ* (N5) and perhaps *mḏ(w)* (V20). These signs are flanked by two vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The central signs can be read as a short version of *(J)mn-rᶜ* "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642–650). The name of Amun-Re appears on seals from the 18th Dyn. and reached its peak during the 19th–20th Dyn., being the most popular divine name on stamp seals found in the southern Levant (Keel 1995: § 642; see Lachish No. 74). The variant with two *nb* (V30) signs was common in the southern Levant, mostly in horizontal layouts (Lalkin 2008: 152–153). The combination of the name of Amun with *mḏ(w)* (V20) produces a religious formula, which is attested elsewhere with additional hieroglyphs (see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 854; Tell el-Ḥesi No. 15).

COMPARANDA: A similar layout of the name Amun-Re is attested on the cowroid Tell Jemmeh No. 32. Other comparanda are scarabs from Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 522, 742, both found in a tomb dated to the Late Bronze Age III–Iron I. For the name Amun-Re with *mḏ(w)* (V20) see scarabs Acco No. 255; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 53; Tel Ira No. 1.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16283. BM/Big number: 160362.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4856.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② The south-eastern chamber of the tomb included a deposit of five scarabs and scaraboids (probably Lachish No. 77, 81, 107, 174–175), in addition to other seals found in this room (Tufnell 1953: 204).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:14; Magrill 2006: 17; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:14. *[NoR]*

78 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped in the lower part of base (below the short vertical lines); surface somewhat worn. WEIGHT: 1.43 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, a sequence of hieroglyphs, from top: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and four vertical strokes. These signs are flanked by two vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The central signs should be read together as a short version of *(J)mn-rᶜ* "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642–650). See discussion in Lachish No. 77.

COMPARANDA: An exact parallel is Lachish No. 79, a close comparandum is Megiddo No. 63. The layout of the two *nb* (V30) signs flanking the name features also on Lachish No. 77 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16489.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 569.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:15; Magrill 2006: 8; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:15; Wenning 2021: 219. *[NoR]*

79 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 32/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite? or composite material?. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped in the lower part of the base (below the first vertical line to the right). MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, a sequence of hieroglyphs, from top: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and four vertical strokes. These signs are flanked by two vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 78.

COMPARANDA: An exact parallel is Lachish No. 78, and see comparanda there.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40.486, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; documented here based on Tufnell 1953 and CSAPI index card, referring to NYU registry and photographs.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 404.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43:16; Wenning 2021: 219. *[NoR]*

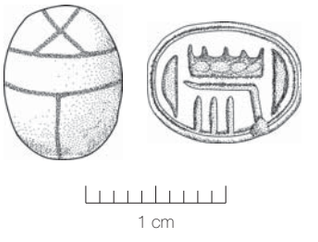
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79



80 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5?/EP 45?/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, a sequence of hieroglyphs, from top: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), three *rᶜ* (N5), to their left a *j* (M17) and a long, thin stroke (probably *nb* [V30]). A lotus (Keel 1995: § 429) extends over the central signs to the right, with its flower coming close to the first *rᶜ* (N5).

DISCUSSION: See discussion in Lachish No. 75. On scarab Ḥisban No. 9 (and perhaps Tel Ira No. 1), the disc to which the lotus extends comes close to a bud (for which compare Beth Shemesh No. 124), but here the two motifs are detached from each other.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are Lachish No. 75–76. For a scarab bearing the combination of the lotus flower with the name of Amun-Re in addition to two sun discs but in a vertical orientation, see Beth Shemesh No. 124. For a scarab bearing three sun discs, without a lotus flower, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 145. A parallel featuring an extremely thin *nb* (V30) is the fish scaraboid Tell Beit Mirsim No. 101.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 565.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43:17; Wenning 2021: 219. *[NoR]*

81 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 39?/EP 5/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly damaged in the lower right part of the base. WEIGHT: 0.44 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.4 mm (L) × 6.9 mm (W) × 4.1 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior hatching (*mn*); linear. COATING: traces of iridescent glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Sequence of hieroglyphs, from top: *rᶜ* (N5), *mn* (Y5) and *n* (N35). In the lower register there are three pairs of vertical lines, the outer ones resembling elongated arches; parallels (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 793) feature three *j* (M17) in a similar position, a reading which seems to be excluded here.

DISCUSSION: Lalkin 2008: 156 compared the composition as a whole to the royal name of Thutmose III, which seems slightly far-fetched. Keel considered a combination of the divine name Amun-Re with that of Menes, a legendary founding king of the Early Dynastic Period (Keel 1995: § 625, 660), and assigned it to the New Kingdom or the Third Intermediate Period.

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 793, on which the name *Jmn-rᶜ* is written without the complement *n* (N35). The name of Menes, written inside a cartouche, features on a scarab from Acco (Acco No. 48).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16284. BM/Big number: 160354.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4857.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 368, Pl. 43/43A:18; Jaeger 1982: § 149, n. 108; Keel 1995: § 625, Fig. 527; Magrill 2006: 17; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:18; Wenning 2021: 235. *[NoR]*

82 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24?/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 9.8 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. From top to bottom: *ḥtp* (R4), *mn* (Y5), *t* (X1), *j* (M17) or *šw(t)* (H6), *n* (N35) and *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The upper register should perhaps be read as an irregular variant of *Jmn-ḥtp*, the birth name (i.e., nomen) of several kings named Amenhotep (Keel 1995: § 634, 663); but note that the *j* is rendered by a *šw(t)* (H6) feather, turned to the left rather than to the right as one would expect. For the name of the god on scarabs from the southern Levant, see Keel 1995: § 642 and Lachish No. 74.

COMPARANDA: For regular writings of the royal birth name *Jmn-ḥtp*, see Atlit No. 9 and Gezer No. 603.

DATING: 18th–22nd Dyn. (1540–746 BCE); a more precise dating is impossible on the basis of currently available documentation.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 368.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 368, Pl. 43:19; Wenning 2021: 209. *[NoR]*

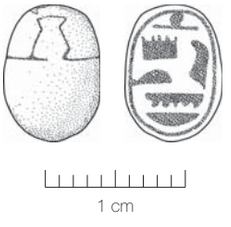
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83 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 2.14 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line, divided into two registers by a double line, with the lower register further subdivided into three columns. The upper register is comprised of a *nfr* (F35) in the centre, flanked by a sign made of two vertical lines topped by a horizontal line, perhaps meant to depict a *ḏd* (R11) pillars, shrine (*ḥm* [O20] determinatives), or *sbꜣ* (O32) signs (for "door, gateway"). In the lower register, the central column depicts, from top to bottom: *r* (D21), *n* (N35), and again *r* (D21) and *n* (N35). The same signs appear in slightly different sequence in the outer columns.

DISCUSSION: The layout of three panels divided by a single or double line in a vertical arrangement was assigned to Design Class 3E (Ben-Tor 2007: 22, 86 after Tufnell 1984: 122–123). It is perhaps structured following the form of a shrine (*ḥm* [O20]; O. Keel, pers. comm.). A southern Levantine origin can be argued by the use of some signs from the *anra* repertoire. The panels divided by a 'shrine', assigned by Ben-Tor to subclass 3E5, are found almost exclusively on southern Levantine scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: 135); but *anra* sequences appear also on Egyptian scarabs from the Ramesside period, especially when they include the *n* (N35) and *r* (D21) hieroglyphs only (Ben-Tor 2017: 202). This item can be related to the phenomenon of archaizing scarabs, borrowing inspiration from local Middle Kingdom imagery (Keel 1995: § 658).

COMPARANDA: A comparandum for this layout is the scarab Achziv No. 94, albeit the upper register is different. An additional scarab bearing a 'shrine' layout is Amman No. 36 and the seal impression on the bulla Jerusalem No. 236. For the combination of the *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) hieroglyphs in a column, see Lachish No. 84, and see more comparanda there.

DATING: Less likely MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); more likely 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating based on design class and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16490.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 570.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 361–363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:20; Magrill 2006: 7; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:20. *[NoR]*

84 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?]; linear[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Two columns divided by a single line, in both from top to bottom the sequence *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) repeated three times, with the last *n* (N35) being a simple line.

DISCUSSION: The combination of *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) hieroglyphs was assigned to Ramesside scarabs displaying variations of the *anra* sequence (Ben-Tor 2017: 202): Group B3 shows these arranged in a symmetrical order (*ibid.*: 206). A southern Levantine origin was suggested for the Cape Gelidonya shipwreck scarabs, some of which display similar *anra* patterns (Brandl 2003: 257).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Scarabs bearing similar layouts are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 83, 463, 629, 1011; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 49; Jericho No. 27, 43, 229; however, these depict also the ʿ (D36) sign, which is absent from the current item. For a rectangular piece with a domed back showing these combinations of signs in a different layout, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 494. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 387, 1096; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 57, 90, 578 and Tel Ridan No. 10 are scarabs bearing three columns instead of two, but the combination of signs is similar. For the combination of the *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) see Lachish No. 304. See also Lachish No. 83 and more comparanda there.

DATING: Less likely MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); more likely 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

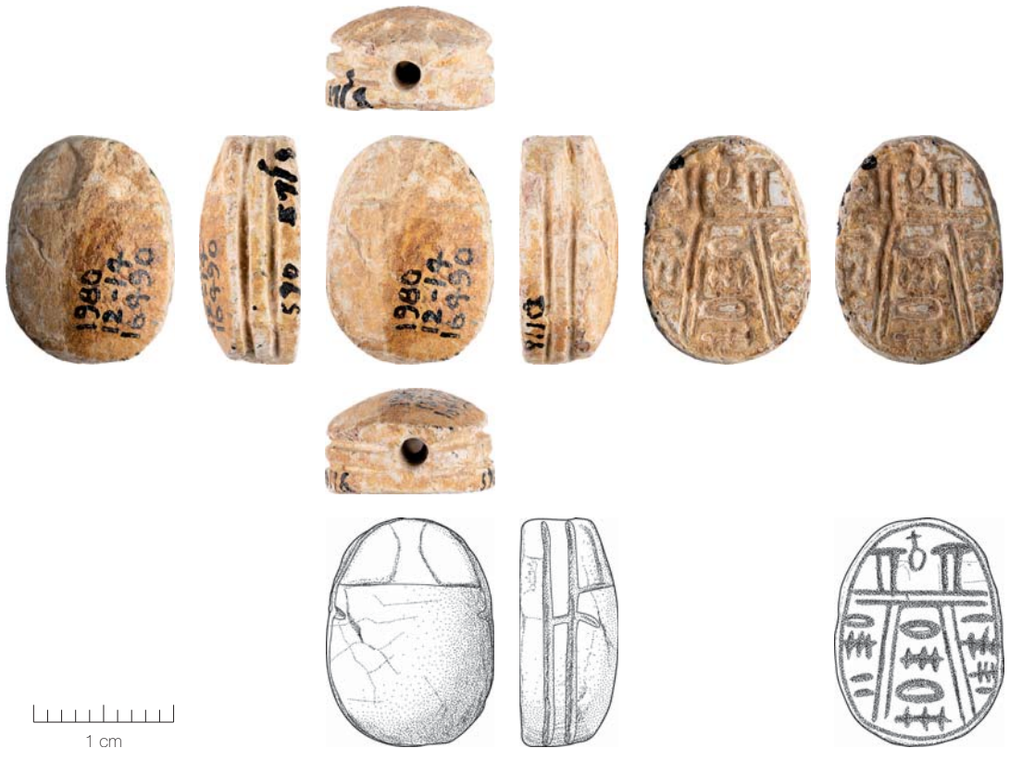
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.C,[2] Object no. 346.

① See Lachish No. 59. — ② Room C was the inner chamber in Tomb 106, which was approached through Room A and a well-cut doorway (Tufnell 1953: 179, Fig. 29, Pl. 3:4). The room included three carved benches along each wall. A repository pit was found in the northeast corner (*ibid.*: Pl. 3:6).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362–363, 368, Pl. 43:21; Wenning 2021: 208. *[NoR]*

83



1 cm

84



1 cm

85 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 45/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. COLOUR: beige, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: partial white coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a rope border. In the centre, an anthropomorphic figure strides to the right, wearing a kilt and a high headdress with two horns and a long streamer hanging down its back. The figure's 'left' arm is raised above the head in a smiting pose, holding a *ḫpš* (T16) sword, while the 'right' hand grasps what seems to be a two-horned serpent. Behind the figure there is a *rʿ* (N5) sign.

DISCUSSION: The figure wearing a high horned hat with a long streamer was interpreted (e.g., Cornelius 1994: 214–215; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 114) as the Canaanite storm god Baʿal who fights the Sea/Yammu or the serpent Litanu (according to Ugaritic mythology; Schroer 2008: 246, No. 480). The Canaanite god was identified in the southern Levant with the Egyptian god Seth striking his enemy Apophis (according to Egyptian mythology), hence the scholarly nickname "Baʿal-Seth". The integration of the two gods became popular during the 19th and 20th Dyn. (Schroer 2011: 54; see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 138). Representations of "Baʿal-Seth" also figure among the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (Münger 2003; Münger 2011: 95).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum, bearing similar iconographic elements, is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 138, where the figure is winged. Similar figures are seen on scarabs Acco No. 268; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 17; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 153–154; as well as on the truncated pyramid Tel Qasile No. 4 (all without the serpent). On the broken scarab Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 4, only the serpent and a disc are preserved.

DATING: More likely Iron I (late 12th–mid 10th c. BCE); less likely 19th–21st Dyn. (1292–944 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1572.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5162.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:22; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 314–317, 408, 411, Fig. 91; Keel 1992: 209–210, 215–216, 218–220, 230–231, 247, Fig. 222; Cornelius 1994: 214–215, No. BM77, Pl. 50:BM77; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 45, 97, 232, Fig. 87a; Klingbeil 1999: 171–172, Fig. 3; Keel 2009a: 90–91, Abb. 3; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 45, 97, 232, Fig. 87a; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:22. *[NoR]*

86 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material[?]. COLOUR: dark grey, white (in incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. Worn, rim of base and head are slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, single-line or rope border worn along the edges. In the centre is a standing figure with a long hairdo, wearing a knee-length kilt, facing right. The figure's 'left' arm is held along the body, while the 'right' arm holds a twig above a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing inwards towards the figure.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 10A (Ben-Tor 2007: 178–179, Pl. 102–103). The standing anthropomorphic figure holding a branch is attested already in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and continues into the Late Palestinian Series, when the flower motif gained more popularity (*ibid*.: 179). The depiction of the branch (instead of the lotus flower) possibly originated from Syrian cylinder seals (Keel 1995: § 561). The standing figure holding a branch represents a worshiper. The motif has been attested since the third millennium onwards in the Levant and from the 18th Dyn. onwards in Egypt (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 173). The figure is likely identified as female by her ankle-length, body-fitting dress and her standing posture (parallel joined legs); the shoulder-length hair is not in itself a gender marker (B. Biermann, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1047, which depicts both a plant and a uraeus. Many of the standing figures are depicted either with a branch, as in Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1044, Jericho No. 455, Tell Keisan No. 3, or with a uraeus, as in Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1049, 1068. Scarab Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 26 depicts both branches and uraei, but the figure has a falcon head and the general layout is different. Additional parallels are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 16, 616, and see more parallels in Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 102–103.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1576.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5165.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:23; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:23. *[NoR]*

85



86



87 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 65/EP 5/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the left, a schematic standing figure facing right, wearing a short kilt (or a wide belt[?]), the 'right' arm extended 90 degrees to the right, while the 'left' arm hangs down along the body. Above the hand there are five horizontal lines, possibly to be understood as a flower, and below it what seems to be a reversed ʿ(D36), *n* (N35) and again an inverted ʿ(D36).

DISCUSSION: The schematic standing figure with a variant of the *anra* sequence followed Middle Bronze Age scarab prototypes (see Lachish No. 83–84), but can be dated to the 19th and 20th Dyn. (Lalkin 2008: 175; Ben-Tor 2017: 206). The origin of its production is a matter of scholarly debate ("Tell el-Farʿa [S] workshop", Lalkin 2008: 175 vs. Egyptian imports, Ben-Tor 2017). See also the discussion in Megiddo No. 574.

COMPARANDA: Very close comparanda are the scarabs Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 704, 706; Kfar Ruppin No. 3. Other similar depictions on scarabs are Dothan No. 7; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 587–588; Tell Jemmeh No. 55 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5127/8, 449/50").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 6111.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:24; Keel 1995: § 567; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:24. *[NoR]*

88 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67[?]/EP 1/Side 62 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken at the head and back, slightly damaged and chipped at the base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design (at the center of the figure); linear (*wꜣs*, hands and legs).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A striding or standing anthropomorphic figure with a bird's head facing right, dressed in a calf-length robe; the 'left' arm is held straight along the figure's body, while the 'right' arm holds a *wꜣs* (S40) scepter. Beneath the figure is a *nb* (V30) sign.

DISCUSSION: The bird headed figure was interpreted by O. Keel (pers. comm.) as the god Thoth (*ḏḥwtj* [C3]), since the long beak resembles that of an ibis. Thoth is depicted with the *wꜣs* (S40) scepter, as is often the case for gods on New Kingdom scarabs (Lalkin 2008: 60–61, 78). It is noteworthy that the figure was described as "Hawk headed" in the original publication (Tufnell 1953: 368), which would then point to Horus, Re or Re-Harakhty.

COMPARANDA: A comparandum is the baboon-scaraboid Beth Shean No. 96, which depicts the god Thoth striding and a Maʿat-feather to the right; there, the god is identified by the crescent and full moon above his head and by the long ibis beak. Another probable comparandum is a stamp impression on the handle Azekah No. 6 (which Keel reads as falcon-headed, however); see also Saḥem No. 1 for a probable depiction of an ibis-headed figure with the moon sign above his head. Comparanda of the falcon-headed god Horus holding a *wꜣs* (S40) scepter include scabs like Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 134, 483, 763 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1391, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square U.3, Tomb 6006 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6525.

① Tomb 6006 was a rectangular room cut into the bedrock. Its entrance was comprised of a dromos to the east leading to several steps (Tufnell 1953: Pl.10:1–2). Near the western and northern walls there were stone benches on which two skeletons had been laid. On the western bench was a female skeleton; several flasks were found near her head, and the present scarab next to her left hand. The second skeleton, of a male, was disturbed, and besides the pottery vessel, an iron knife was among his associated finds (Tufnell 1953: 247–248). Wenning 2021: 265 considers a correlation between the tomb's "solar east-west orientation" and the deity (which he takes to be a "falcon-headed sun-god") depicted on the scarab, an ad hoc hypothesis too speculative to convince.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:25; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:25; Wenning 2021: 265. *[NoR]*

89 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15 or HC 16/EP 63/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipped in the upper left part of the base, damaging the head of the engraved figure. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?] with hatching (body, *nb*); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. A striding anthropomorphic figure with a largely missing head that might be reconstructed as a falcon-head (according to Tufnell 1953: 368); the figure's 'right' arm is raised while the 'left' hangs down along the body. The figure is preceded to the right by a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) equally facing right, or outwards, with possibly a red crown (*dšrt* [S3]) or a Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]) on its head. The two figures are placed above a *nb* (V30).

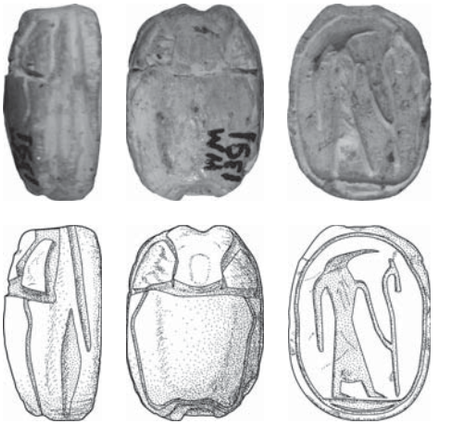
DISCUSSION: This layout is assigned to Design Class 10A (Ben-Tor 2007: 178–179, Pl. 102–103), divided by Ben-Tor (following Tufnell 1984: 134–135) into earlier and later groups according to the emblems associated with the figure. The present example belongs to sub class 10A2 (mythical headed figures). The uraeus might indicate the item should be assigned to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 179), but it extended into the Iron Age. In most cases, though, the uraeus is connected to the falcon-headed god's 'right' arm, which is not the case here (but see bifacial plaque Wadi Fidan [Site 4] No. 2 for a similarly disconnected deity and uraeus). Since the falcon-headed figure and uraeus are usually disconnected when the deity holds a *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 524, 590; Gezer No. 96, 340), the latter composition may represent an intermediary stage toward the composition on the present item.

87



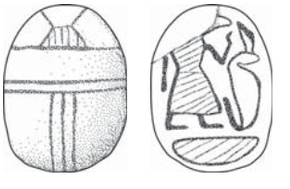
1 cm

88



1 cm

89



1 cm

COMPARANDA: Possible comparanda are the scarabs from Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 601, 639; Jericho No. 380 etc., mostly with two uraei instead of one as on the present item; see also New Kingdom scarabs from Tell Beit Mirsim No. 32 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 149. The composition of a falcon-headed god preceded by a single uraeus is well-attested during the 19th and 20th Dyn. (compare, e.g., Lachish No. 35, 649; Ekron No. 69; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 268, 271, 293, 482, 524, 589–590, 594, 796, 898; Gezer No. 96, 340, 379), and is often associated with the *nb tʾwj* epithet (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 299; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 56, 76, 81, 108; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 133, 499, 592, 755).

DATING: Less likely MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE) or later; more likely 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE) or later; dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1451.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 368, Pl. 43:26; Wenning 2021: 252. *[NoR]*

90 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 5/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material[?]. COLOUR: whitish, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn, head slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.52 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief (figures); linear (spirals). COATING: partial cream coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. S-spirals divide the base longitudinally and connect at their outer ends with the heads of two identical anthropomorphic figures, placed in a *tête-bêche* position.

DISCUSSION: The posture of the figures identifies them as a captives, a motif that was common during the New Kingdom and appeared on seals in Egypt from the 18th Dyn. onwards. Seals bearing a single captive normally depict the figure with hands tied behind the back, in a sitting or kneeling posture. Three scarabs from the Late Bronze southern Levant depict seated captives (Amman [Airport] No. 1; Gezer No. 431; Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 68; Lalkin 2008: 112, Pl. 26). On the current item, however, the captives are depicted in a posture that more closely resembles captives presented with a smiting king—either held by him or being stepped on, as seen on stamp seals from the 19th and 20th dynasties (such as Beth Shean No. 47, where the captive raises the arms towards the king in a gesture of despair or submission; Lalkin 2008: 115, Pl. 29–30); an earlier version of lying captives is known from the Middle Bronze Age, where a lion devours a captive (such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 158, and see discussion of Lachish No. 54).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The figure of the captive in a similar posture is seen on scarabs, such as Lachish No. 526; Gaza No. 7; Tell Jemmeh No. 114 (with a similar hairstyle or headdress); Yavneh No. 2 (see more comparanda there). In all of these examples, one or two captives are depicted as being held by the king. See also Lachish No. 54 for a very schematic depiction of a captive.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16285. BM/Big number: 160364.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.A,[2] Object no. 4861.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② Located in the eastern part of the tomb, separated from Chamber B by large stones, this chamber had a narrow passage eastwards leading to an additional space used as a repository pit.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43/43A:27; Magrill 2006: 14; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:27; Wenning 2021: 235. *[NoR]*

91 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 52/Side 23 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. COLOUR: beige, whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching (*ḏd* pillar, figure's body).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the left, the mummified figure of Ptah facing right and holding a *wȝs* (S40) sceptre. The angular feature above him represents the roof of his chapel (rather than a *qnbt* [O38]). On the right, two Ba birds (*bȝ* [G53]) are sitting atop of two *ḏd* (R11) pillars. Two *rʿ* (N5) are located above the birds, and the whole scene is located above two parallel ground lines, the lower of which joins the frame line to form a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This layout of the mummified figure of Ptah in his shrine was a common depiction of the god (Keel 1995: § 581; Lalkin 2008: 77) and is often found on New Kingdom scarabs. The combination of Ptah, the Ba birds and *ḏd* (R11) pillars was dated to the 19th and 20th Dyn. (by Keel 1989a: 294), or more precisely to the 19th Dyn. (by Lalkin 2008: 77). Since the Ba birds occasionally replaced *ʿnḫ* (S34) in the 19th Dyn., the arrangement can perhaps be read as "lord of life" (see Keel 1989a: 294). According to Keel, the Ba birds can be interpreted as representing the gods Re and Osiris, which puts Ptah in a supreme position in relation to the other gods (*ibid*.: 298). Like in other scenes related to Ptah, this composition was part of royal temple propaganda. In general, such items depicted scenes that were depicted in large scale on temple facades (Keel 2006a: 255–258). In contrast, the representation of Ptah with the Ba birds was first introduced in miniature size (Keel 1989a: 296).

COMPARANDA: Almost exact parallels are the scarabs Beth Shean No. 48; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 1; Yavneh No. 5; additional comparanda include scarab Beth Shean No. 83 and plaque Tel Eshtori No. 1.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-731.

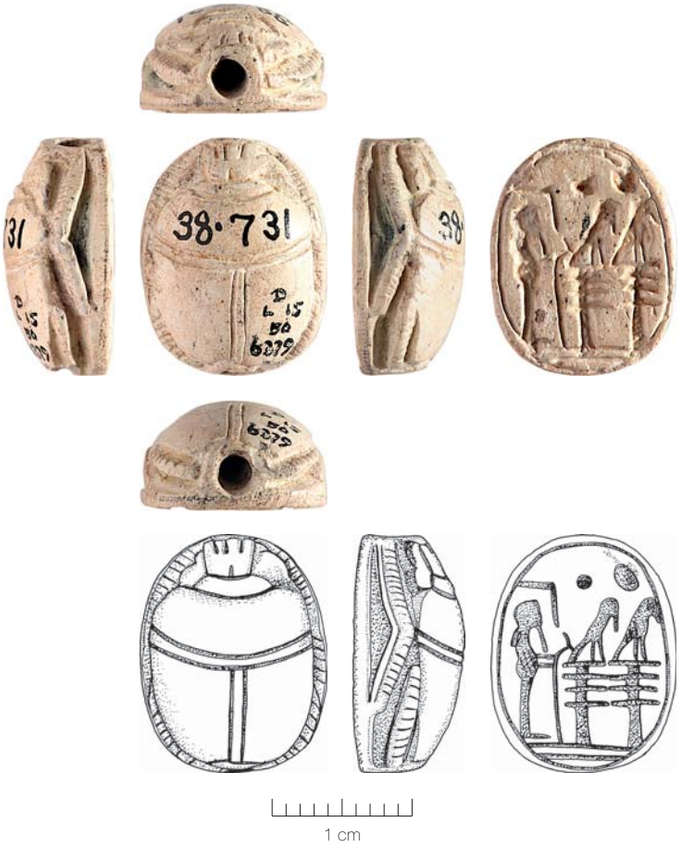
CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square L.15, Pit 50,[1] Object no. 6379.

① Pit 50 is located in the southern part of the large courtyard east of the "Palace-Fort". As ca. 50 other pits it had been dug into mudbrick material fallen from Palace-Fort C at the time of the 701 BCE destruction. Later cut by pit 54, it reached down to the Level III plaster court, which formed the bottom of the pit. The fill inside the pit contained fine soil, stones and mixed pottery, including Attic sherds, and the scarab here described (Tufnell 1953: 151, 153).

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BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 368, Pl. 43:28; Keel and Küchler 1982: 50–51, Fig. 36; Keel 1989a: 295, 298, Fig. 53; Keel [5]1996: 340, Fig. 490; Lalkin 2008: 77, 121, No. 627, Pl. 36:627. *[NoR]*

92 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/I/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1[?]/EP 43[?]/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite or composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Head is chipped and perhaps parts of the base are broken as well. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?] with hatching (*nb*).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, apparently without frame line. In the centre there is a standing bird and a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]), both facing right and placed above a *nb* (V30), with two short horizontal lines above the head of the uraeus; there is a *šw(t)* (H6) feather behind the bird, and an *jr(t)* (D4) eye is located in the top segment of the base.

DISCUSSION: The bird can be interpreted as a falcon (*ḥrw* [G5]), commonly depicted, and in many variations, on scarabs from the New Kingdom. The most common compositions place the falcon in the centre of a vertical layout, accompanied by additional signs such as the uraeus (Lalkin 2008: 67–68, Pl. 15–16). Other variations include the falcon with a raised wing (see Jericho No. 571; Beth Shean No. 31; Beth Shemesh No. 54, 59), often dated to a later period (22nd Dyn., 26th Dyn., and Iron Age IIB).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A *jr(t)* (D4) eye in the upper part of the layout is seen on scarab Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 3. Similar layouts, without the *jr(t)* (D4) hieroglyph, are depicted on scarabs from Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 757; Beth Shean No. 31; Hazor No. 65 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: More likely 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE) or less likely 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40:486, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; documented here based on Tufnell 1953 and CSAPI index card, referring to NYU registry and photographs.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 566.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, Pl. 43:29. *[NoR]*

93 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 110/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Two virtual registers: above, a sphinx (Keel 1995: § 544–547) with a *ḥz* (W14) above its back; below, a kneeling anthropomorphic figure with long hair facing right and holding two long objects, probably palm branches facing inwards, one in each hand.

DISCUSSION: The two long objects are probably palm branches stripped with leaves (*rnpt* [M4]) rather than *šw(t)* (H6) feathers. If so, the kneeling figure can be identified with the god Heh (*ḥḥ* [C11]; Achziv No. 20), described as the god of infinity from the 13th Dyn. onwards (Keel 1995: § 580). The combination of Heh with branches can be read as "millions of years" (Lalkin 2008: 123) or "praise the lord eternally" (Tufnell 1953: 369). Some parallels were found in Late Bronze Age contexts (such as Ekron No. 16; Megiddo No. 642). Kneeling figures other than Heh can be found in many variations (e.g., on top of a lotus flower, or with a sun disk above the figure's head; see Hölbl 1986: 272, 275, 294–295, No. 20, 32–33, 96, 102, 104). The sphinx, depicted in the upper register, is found in the southern Levant on scarabs both of the Late Bronze (Lalkin 2008: 109) and the Iron Age, when it is sometimes considered to be a "Phoenician" motif (Hölbl 1986: 324, No. 208–209; Boschloos 2014a: 15, Pl. 8.1). See also the discussion of Lachish No. 95.

COMPARANDA: New Kingdom comparanda include the scarabs Ekron No. 16 and Megiddo No. 642 mentioned above. Third Intermediate and Late Period comparanda are the scarabs Acco No. 76 (one branch and one *šw[t]* [H6] feather) and Achziv No. 20. The combination of the sphinx and the *ḥz* (W14) sign in the upper register is displayed on the scarabs Arad No. 22 and Ashdod No. 21.

DATING: LB IIA[?]–LB III[?] (early 14th–late 12th c. BCE); probably 25th–26th Dyn. (722–525 BCE); dating according to the closest comparanda (Acco No. 76, Achziv No. 20).

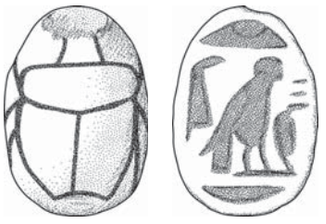
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5133/34, 455/6").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 403.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:30; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:30. *[NoR]*

92



1 cm

93



1 cm

94 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 43/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. At the head and at the rim of the base from both sides. WEIGHT: 0.52 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.3 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. A squatting anthropomorphic figure turned to the right, perhaps holding an object, with a *rᶜ* (N5) above its head. It is not entirely clear whether the figure is human- or falcon-headed, but the former seems more probable.

DISCUSSION: Depending on how the squatting figure's head and attributes are identified, the figure could be interpreted as a simplified rendering of the sun god Re-Harakhty, who is usually depicted as a falcon-headed deity holding an *ʿnḫ* (S34) with a sun disc above its head (Gardiner [3]1957: 448), or another deity, possibly *mꜣʿt* (C10) (holding a feather, if the latter is not depicted on her head). To be interpreted as the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III, the composition would require the latter interpretation and a *nb* (V30) sign, but the item's poor preservation does not allow to confirm such a reading with confidence.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A seated figure, combined with other motifs, is depicted on the scarabs Beth Shemesh No. 139, 151, 212; however, these items are considered to be part of the Beth Shean Level VII–VI group (supported by the typology), which does not seem to be the case here. Scarabs bearing the throne name of Amenhotep III are frequently attested in the southern Levant: see Lachish No. 14; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 120; Beth Shean No. 24 (and more comparanda cited there).

DATING: 18th?–19th? Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating according to parallels, uncertain.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16494.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1328.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:31; Magrill 2006: 24; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:31. *[NoR]*

95 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 2?/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Head is slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and interior design (body and face); linear (hieroglyphs). Remarks: The back type is somehow similar to Iron Age scarabs from the northern coastal plain (Boschloos 2014a: 6–7).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. An anthropomorphic winged figure, apparently wearing a short kilt, kneeling and facing right; the two features on the figure's head are probably remnants of a crown (perhaps double plume). Two papyrus flowers stem from each of the shoulders/wings, turning inwards towards the figure's head. Behind the figure, at the bottom, there is a *wḏꜣt* (D10), and in front of it, also at the bottom, there are two short signs, possibly a twig (Keel 1995: § 433) and an *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: Winged figures were commonly depicted on stamp seals; they are often interpreted as gods (such as "Baʿal-Seth", Keel 2009a) or goddesses (such as the Maʿat deity during the New Kingdom, Schroer 2011: 182–183, No. 699). This type of representation evolved during the Iron Age IIB, as can be seen on stamp seals (see Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 121 on the tendency to depict various figures—major or minor deities and hybrids—with two or even four wings, suggesting mobility and often a protective capacity), but also on ivory carvings (e.g., a plaque from Samaria depicts two winged goddesses flanking a *ḏd* [R11] pillar, usually identified as Isis and Nephthys [Schroer 2018: 513–514, No. 1512 = Crowfoot and Crowfoot 1938: 16, Pl. 3:1; and see fragments of other winged figures *ibid*.: 17–18, Pl. 4]). Winged figures occur in Egyptianizing "Phoenician" glyptics; they are depicted, e.g., on scarabs from Achziv (Achziv No. 237) and Tharros (Hölbl 1986: 274–275, No. 29, 32–33), although they are usually depicted standing or striding. The present composition is conspicuous by its combination of three features, each of which has its own history and probably significance: the figure's kneeling posture (traditionally associated with Heh, as in Lachish No. 93), the figure's wings, and its association with papyrus flowers.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum seems to be Tell Jemmeh No. 99, in which the position of the figure is similar but the stylistic rendering different. An additional comparandum for the kneeling position is depicted on a scarab from Carthage (Boschloos 2014a: 30, Pl. 9.4), yet the figure is not winged. Pairs of winged figures holding flowers (standing, not kneeling, male or female, flanking a tree or the Horus child in a flower) are depicted on ivory plaques found at Arslan Tash (Fontan and Affanni 2018: 111–133, cat. no. 45–82; cf. Schroer 2018: 458–459, No. 1432), Nimrud, and Samaria (see above). Note also the well-known four-winged deity on an Iron Age IIB bone handle from Hazor (*ibid*.: 462–663, No. 1702); and see further Beth Shemesh No. 188.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron III? (beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE); dating according to parallels and typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1443.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:32; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:32. *[NoR/*CU]*

94



95



96 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 30/EP 32/Side 37 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-beige, blackish (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior hatching (head); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. An anthropomorphic head *en face* with wide horizontal ears, wearing a headdress consisting of three vertical lines enclosed by two broad spirals pointing inwards. The head is flanked by two schematic uraei (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing outwards, whose tails are connected to the base of the head by short diagonal lines. The two uraei seem to wear a crown on their heads. Below a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The layout belongs to a well-known group of depictions of a so-called goddess head, accompanied by uraei, most commonly identified as an image of Hathor (Keel 1995: § 577–579). It first appeared in the southern Levant in the Middle Bronze Age I–II (such as Dhaḥrat al-Ḥumraiya No. 6). Schroer 1989: 149–153 divides the Hathor representations into several typological groups (A–F), deliberately refraining from an exact dating (*ibid.*: 149). The present composition was assigned to Type F, the latest version of this layout in the Middle Bronze Age. However, the two flanking uraei only became common during the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 62, Pl. 4 and 5, No. 47–74; Schroer 2011: 214, No. 744). The left uraeus seems to wear the long crown of Upper Egypt (*ḥḏt* [S1]), the right one possibly the crown of Lower Egypt (*dšrt* [S3]).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Similar layouts depicting the Hathor head are represented on the fish scaraboid Lachish No. 194 and the uraeus scaraboid Lachish No. 457, as well as scarabs Acco No. 146, 212 and Tel Anafa No. 5 (the last three surface finds); round plate Ashdod No. 4; frog scaraboid Dan No. 23; cowroid and fish scaraboid Deir el-Balaḥ No. 28, 114; cowroid Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 709; and seal impressions Tell Jemmeh No. 162, 201.

DATING: 18th–19th? Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2097.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1444.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 143, No. 598, Pl. 15:598; Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:33; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:33. *[NoR]*

97 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 25?/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief? with hatching; linear?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the top and bottom mirroring one another are two *nb* (V30) signs; in between, a series of hieroglyphs, clockwise from the upper left: a *wḏȝt* (D10) eye, *rʿ* (N5), *nfr* (F35), *rʿ* (N5) with a horizontal stroke below, and another *rʿ* (N5) with a vertical stroke. The first and third *rʿ* (N5) are in sunk relief, according to the original drawing.

DISCUSSION: This layout is similar to the "Ramesside imitation of MB scarabs" as coined by Keel (Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 640; Tell el-Ḥesi No. 9), or alternatively to Lalkin's "Tell el-Farʿa (S) Late Bronze Age workshop" (Lalkin 2008: 182–184).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but the general layout is similar to the scarabs Lachish No. 623; Dor No. 51; and Tell Jemmeh No. 56 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE) or later; Iron IIB? (8th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda.

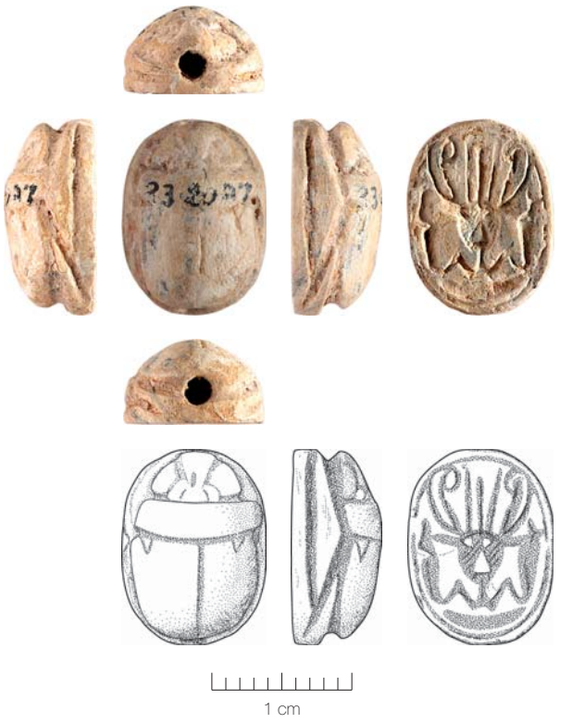
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1294.

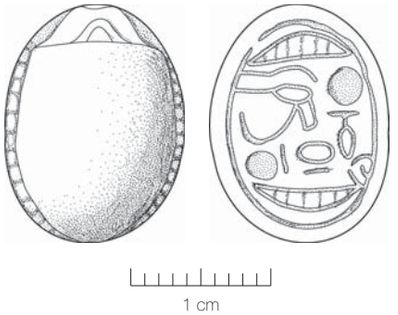
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② The middle layers of the cave's fill (Tufnell 1953: 229).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, Pl. 43:34. *[NoR]*

96



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98 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/III/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 6/EP 53/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken in the upper part of the base, above the papyrus plant, cracked at the back. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 13.7 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (papyrus plant, *z3*, *ʿnḫ*); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical symmetric layout with a single frame line, divided into two registers separated by two *wḏȝt* (D10) eyes. Above, a papyrus plant with three stems (*ḥȝ*/*mḥw* [M16]) between two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs; below, a *nfr* (F35) sign flanked by two *z3* (V17/V18) signs.

DISCUSSION: The three stems of the papyrus plant and the *wḏȝt* (D10) eye were commonly depicted on seals in Egypt from the 12th Dyn. onwards (Keel 1995: § 449) and continued well into the 13th Dyn. (Ben-Tor 2007: 19). Their arrangement in a symmetrical pattern, Design Class 3B, was commonly found on seals of the Middle Kingdom. The *wḏȝt* (D10) eye motif (Design Class 3B4), symmetrically arranged with additional signs, were found in el-Lahun town/Kahun and the fort at Uronarti (Tufnell 1975: 72, 82).

COMPARANDA: An almost identical parallel of a scarab with similar typological features is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 480. An additional comparandum of a stamp impression was found at Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: Pl. 193:29). See also the lower register of a stamp impression found in el-Lahun town/Kahun (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 6:272).

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); dating according to parallels.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1575.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB?, mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5168.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:35; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:35. *[NoR]*

99 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24/EP 48/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface worn. WEIGHT: 0.29 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of black coating? (in incisions).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. From right to left *nfr* (F35), a falcon (*ḥrw* [G5]) wearing a red crown *dšrt* (S3), and *šw(t)* (H6) (rather than *j* [M17]) with *rʿ* (N5) above it; at the bottom is a *nbw* (S12).

DISCUSSION: The design may render a religious formula. O. Keel (pers. comm.) reads it as a cryptographic writing of "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642–650): the *šw(t)* (H6) may replace *j* (M17), the falcon would stand for *m*, the *nfr* (F35) for *n*, comprising the name together with the *rʿ* (N5). Note, however, that this would imply a backward reading of the sequence of signs.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is scarab Achziv No. 52, where the layout includes other features, such as a cartouche with the name of Psamtik I. An additional comparandum is scarab Acco No. 240, on which the falcon is without a red crown, the layout comprises the additional sign *mn* (Y5) and both *nfr* (F35) and *šw(t)* (H6) are placed behind the falcon. Other comparanda include scarabs Beth Shemesh No. 128 (where the sign behind the falcon is an *j* [M17], but no further signs suggest cryptography), and Achziv No. 116. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 490 (with many comparanda, e.g., Jerusalem No. 432; Lachish No. 602) has the *nfr* (F35) and falcon sequence, but the falcon does not wear the crown and the layout is horizontal.

DATING: Probably 20th–26th Dyn. (1190–525 BCE); dating following O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16507.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 367.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, Pl. 43/43A:36; Magrill 2006: 5; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:36. *[NoR]*

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100 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 53/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped on left side, near the uraeus's head. WEIGHT: 1.07 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (*nb*); flat sunk relief with interior design[?] (*nfr*); linear (vertical lines).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre on the left is a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) with a conspicuously thick neck, on the right a *nfr* (F35), at the bottom a *nb* (V30). In the upper register, in a much smaller scale, a *ḫpr* (L1) above the head of the uraeus, and to the right three short vertical strokes (triple vertical strokes/plural marker [Z2]).

DISCUSSION: The uraeus was a common motif depicted on Egyptian and southern Levantine stamp seals during the Middle and New Kingdoms (Lalkin 2008: 66–67). The small size of the signs above the head of the uraeus and their absence in similar layouts (see comparanda section) might indicate that they were added in a later stage. The combination of *ḫpr* (L1), *rʿ* (N5) and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2) is attested on Amenhotep II stamp seals (such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 266) related to his prenomen (i.e., throne name).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. One comparandum, a finger ring, Azekah No. 32, includes the majority of signs (without an uraeus). Additional scarabs bearing a central uraeus sign with a *nfr* (F35) sign next to it are Achziv No. 155 and Jerusalem No. 155; a reverse orientation appears on Beth Shean No. 17, which might have been this item's original layout as well. See also Megiddo No. 196 for the combination of *ḫpr* (L1), *rʿ* (N5) and three vertical (plural) strokes (triple vertical strokes/plural marker [Z2]).

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE) or 26th? Dyn. (664–525 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16495.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1310.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, Pl. 43/43A:37; Magrill 2006: 26; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:37. *[NoR]*

101 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with oblong scrolls border line. Due to the absence of photos and good drawings, the signs in the centre cannot be identified.

DISCUSSION: This layout belongs to Design Class 7B2 (ii) ("Paired scrolls, two pairs, oblong"; Ben-Tor 2007: 27–28). The early examples included the combination of *nfr* (F35) with others signs, such as a *rʿ* (N5) or *ʿnḫ* (S34) and were assigned to the late Middle Kingdom design scarabs by Ben-Tor. The layout was also common on scarabs locally produced in the southern Levant during the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor 2007: 141).

COMPARANDA: Possible comparanda of scarabs depicting a few signs within the oblong scroll border are Gezer No. 234, 306; Jericho No. 173, 398, 557; Megiddo No. 407; and see more in Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 15–16, 39.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K-L.14, "Residency Building",[1] Room K,[2] Object no. 1478.
① The "Residency" was a monumental structure covering the Iron Age podium. It included rooms surrounding a large courtyard (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 119). The entire sub-structure was preserved in its south-eastern part. The entrance was located in the north-eastern corner and led to a small room and the atrium, from which staircases led to the rooms (Tufnell 1953: 131–132). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 101, 255. — ② Room K was located in the southern side of the "Residency" (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 119). In addition to the scarab, it contained worn pottery sherds and other small finds such as a carnelian bead (from the exact same elevation point as Lachish No. 101; Tufnell 1953: 137).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43:38. *[NoR]*

102 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material or fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the head is missing, worn. WEIGHT: 0.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.7 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

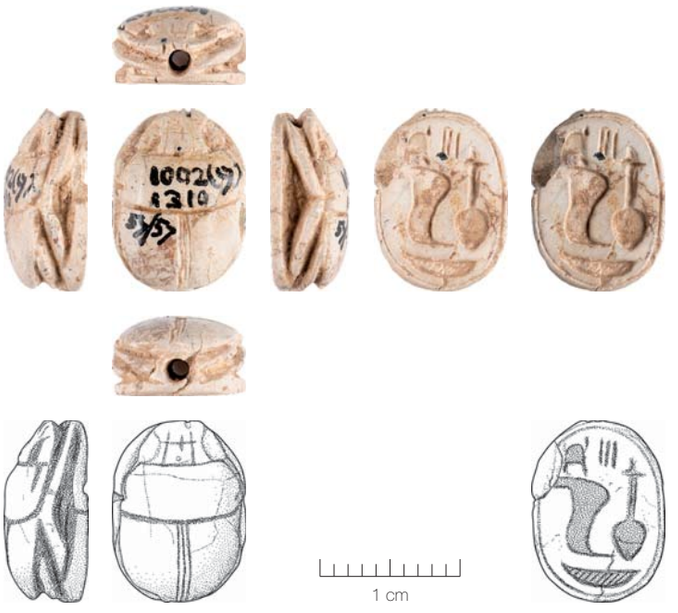
MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: remains of red coating[?] (base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Above, an angular bark carrying the sun disc (see Achziv No. 12, 20, 53; and scarabs from Carthage [Vercoutter 1945: Nr. 254–256 und 378]), possibly to be read as *Jmn-rʿ* "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 646). Below, rather indistinctly, two stylized plants which, based on comparanda, should probably represent a stylized papyrus plant (*wȝḏ* [M13], left, and a lotus blossom *sšn* [M9], right) (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: The combination of the two plants, well attested on scarabs (e.g., Arad No. 22; Petrie 1906: Pl. 33:39), usually appears under a seated sphinx. The two plants represent Upper and Lower Egypt. The design is related to the royal Sed festival (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.), during which the king may have distributed such plants (Schlick-Nolte 1994: 443, Fig. 29–32, 449).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For comparanda of the upper register see the scarab Hazor No. 17 (MB II); New Kingdom scarabs Beth Shemesh No. 119 and Dor No. 39; and Late Period (Iron Age IIB–III) scarabs Achziv No. 12, 20, 53. For the two plants see Arad No. 22; Ashdod No. 21; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 370 (and more comparanda there).

100



101



102



DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE) or more likely 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating according to respective comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16496.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1450.
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:39; Magrill 2006: 26; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:39. *[NoR]*

103 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 8/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. Dark patches are scattered on the object; possibly the remnants of glaze, alternatively the result of wear (perhaps due to contact with a metal object). PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped at the base rim. WEIGHT: 1.60 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching. COATING: traces of glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a grid-patterned disc; above it is a triangle with one vertex pointing downwards; below is a rectangle composed of two squares, the lower horizontal border of which coincides with the frame line. The central motifs are flanked by two C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) facing outwards; the left spiral encloses a short *n* (N35) and the right one a short, simple horizontal stroke.

DISCUSSION: O. Keel (pers. comm.) suggested that the central motif depicts a schematic beer jug (*ḥnqt* [W22]) on a stand. Comparanda might as well suggest that it is a *ḥz* (W14) sign (see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 246, 248). C-spirals were first attested on scarabs from the First Intermediate Period to the 13th Dyn., but they are rarely depicted as a central motif after the 13th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 435). It is possible that their function here was more related to the entire layout (comparable, e.g., with the double bows in Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 248).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Similarity can be seen in the layout of Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 248, 262 and in the seal impression from Jerusalem No. 167. Two C-spirals flanking another central motif can also be seen on ʿEn Kerem No. 3.

DATING: Iron II[?] (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating uncertain, according to parallels.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16286. BM/Big number: 160363.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4848.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 69.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:40; Magrill 2006: 14; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:40. *[NoR]*

104 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1[?]/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; sunk relief[?] with interior design (breastplate).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The item is known only from two line drawings. Simple, single-line frame. The central motif is an upright uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing right, over a *nb* (V30). The uraeus probably wears a 'red crown' *dšrt* (S3), and its breastplate is structured vertically and horizontally with interior design. In front of the uraeus is an *ʿnḫ* (S34), behind, a sequence of so-called *anra* signs, from top to bottom: a small *nfr* (F35) next to the crown, followed by three pairs of *r* (D21) and *n* (N35); whether the third *n* (N35) is to be read as such or represents the cobra's tail is unclear.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel is known from the southern Levant. An almost exact parallel, with two pairs of *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) and a *nfr* (F35) instead of the *ʿnḫ* (S34), was found during excavations led by Czech orientalist Bedřich Hrozný at Tall Rifaʿat in northern Syria in May 1925; unfortunately, that scarab is only known from a drawing in Hrozný 's diary (Šárka Velhartická, pers. comm., 30.11.2024). More remote comparanda with an upright uraeus wearing the red crown as the main motif in combination with *anra* signs and vertical layout are well attested in the southern Levant, although mainly during the MB II–III. Tell Jemmeh No. 5 comes closest to the present item, but see further Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 6; Gezer No. 266; Megiddo No. 415; Tel Aviv No. 8.

DATING: Iron II[?] (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating uncertain (but note the parallel from Tall Rifaʿat).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1345.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362–363, 369, Pl. 43:41. *[NoR/CU]*

105 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: fired steatite. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?] with cross hatching.

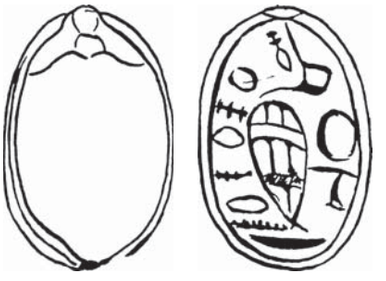
BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a rope border (Keel 1995: § 511–514). In the lower half of the base, a crocodile (*msḥ* [I3]) facing to the right extends in full width; in the upper half, from left to right: a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing to the right, a horizontally placed *ḫpr* (L1) in the centre, a vertical *nb* (V30) to its right (Tufnell 1953: 369).

DISCUSSION: The rope border (Design Class 8A) first appeared during the late Middle Kingdom in Egypt (Ben-Tor 2007: 30) but was also common on southern Levantine scarabs during the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor 2007: 174). The crocodile motif first appeared on southern Levantine scarabs during the same period (Ben-Tor 2007: 177), continuing into the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 67), and it can still be found among Iron Age motifs inspired by Middle Bronze Age prototypes (Boschloos 2014: 17).

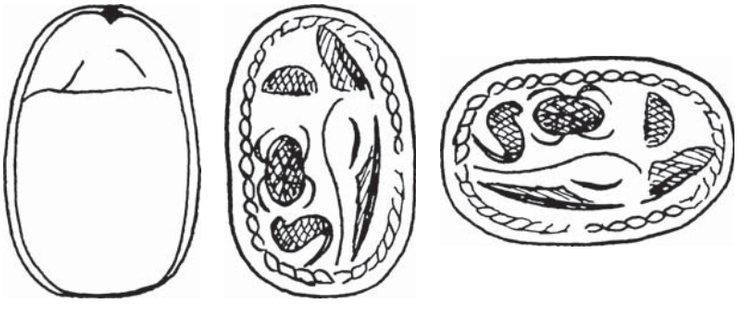
103



104



105



COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 449 is an almost exact parallel, except for the single frame line instead of the rope border. Another close comparandum is the scarab Ḥorvat ʿEtaʾim No. 5, with a similar layout, but two uraei flanking the *ḫpr* (L1). For another similar layout, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 844.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1335.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43:42. *[NoR]*

106 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel), -/EP 5[?]/Side 34[?] (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Horizontally, in the scarab's front part; only the rear two thirds of the scarab are left. WEIGHT: 5.37 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8* mm (L) × 16.7 mm (W) × 10.5 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: The fracture marks are heavily worn, and were probably intentionally smoothened in antiquity; this scarab was apparently reworked, similarly to Lachish No. 190.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a rope border (Keel 1995: § 511–514). In the centre is a *ḫpr* (L1) and a *ḥ(j)* (N28) above it, both surrounded by outward facing bow-like signs: three parallel 'bows' in each corner, two in the centre, with perpendicular hatching towards the border.

DISCUSSION: The dung beetle was represented on seals since the First Intermediate Period in Egypt, either as a central motif or in combination with other motifs, such as the sun disc sign (Keel 1995: § 516). In the southern Levant, scarabs bearing the *ḫpr* (L1) sign appeared in many variations, occasionally winged, with an additional *nb* (V30) and other signs (Lalkin 2008: 102). The depiction of the beetle (usually with a sun disc) can be assigned to Design Class 3A3; an example of it enclosed in a rope border was assigned by Ben-Tor to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 126, Pl. 51:60).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For the multiple bow signs, without the signs in the centre, see scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 696, 713. For the depiction of a *ḫpr* (L1) sign in the centre of the layout with a rope border, see Jericho No. 194. The closest comparandum, Gezer No. 572, was not found in a secure archaeological context.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.134 A.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 398.
① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:43; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:43. *[NoR]*

107 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 23/EP 5/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Lower part of the rim chipped. WEIGHT: 2.23 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?]. COATING: traces of white glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. *ḫpr* (L1), flanked on each side by an inward-facing uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) with wings spread wide, and a dot between the wings.

DISCUSSION: While the layout of a *ḫpr* (L1) flanked by a pair of uraei is known since the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor 2007: 161–162; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 511), the winged uraeus was depicted on scarabs from the 18th Dyn. onwards (Lalkin 2008: 73). Its coupling with *ḫpr* (L1) is also known from the first millennium (e.g., Beth Shemesh No. 14).

COMPARANDA: A similar layout, but with the addition of a *nb* (V30), can be seen on scarabs from Tall Tweini and Kition (Boschloos 2014a: Pl. 3.5, 5.1). For a single-winged uraeus and a *ḫpr* (L1) see Beth Shemesh No. 14 and Tel Ḥalif No. 2; see also Achziv No. 63 and Ashkelon No. 92. For a similar layout with a *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ* encircled by a *šnw* (V9/V10) and flanked by two winged uraei, see Beth Shemesh No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 888.

DATING: 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16287. BM/Big number: 160361.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4850.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 360–361, 369, Pl. 43/43A:44; Keel 1994: 59, Fig. 35; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 255; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:44. *[NoR]*

106



107



108 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 67/Side 22 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base and legs of beetle are slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (*nb*).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is an *ʿnḫ* (S34), flanked symmetrically on either side by a vertical *n* (N35) and a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: Many layouts include the *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign in the centre with a Maʿat-feather (*šw[t]* [H6]) (as in Achziv No. 19 and see more examples there) and with additional signs, sometimes double (as in Lachish No. 109; Gezer No. 164).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The complete layout resembles the scarabs Tel Ridan No. 9; Ekron No. 7; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 641, and see there for additional comparanda.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); 25th–26th Dyn. (722–525 BCE); dating based on the closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256i.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5055.

① Perhaps constructed during the Middle Bronze Age (see Wenning 2021: 242–243 for a discussion of the dating of the tomb), Tomb 224 was an oval burial chamber entered through Shaft 228. The entrance to the room was blocked with small and large stones, the roof had remained intact. It was supported by a stone wall, which served as a partition wall between the eastern and western parts of the room (Tufnell 1953: 215). The finds in Tomb 224 included, besides the human skeletons of which only eight were well preserved, pottery vessels and other small finds such as jewellery, bone artifacts, metal objects, four scaraboids and three scarabs, pendants and beads (Tufnell 1953: 217). This tomb is contemporary with Level IV–III (according to Tufnell 1953: 50 and Zimhoni 2004: 1700). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 108, 123, 146, 163–164, 180, 840.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:45; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:45. *[NoR]*

109 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is an *ʿnḫ* (S34) flanked by two uraei (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing outwards, their tails connected to the bottom of the *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: Design Class 3B1b "Cobra addorsed and linked" was attested on Middle Bronze Age local scarabs of the Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 52) and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 77), but usually arranged in vertical orientation and with additional motifs (see, e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 143, 663). Layouts with two uraei flanking a central motif are known since the New Kingdom (see Jaeger 1982: 100).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Examples of a stamp seal and a seal impression figuring two uraei flanking an *ʿnḫ* (S34) are Beth Shean No. 119, 252 (where the central element may rather be a so-called Hathor or goddess symbol, see comment there). Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 44 depicts two flanking uraei facing inwards, with two *ʿnḫ* (S34) and a *nfr* (F35) in the centre. The same layout as on the item discussed here is seen in the upper register of a scarab from Jericho No. 587 and at the centre of Jericho No. 353. See also Lachish No. 110, where the *ʿnḫ* (S34) is flanked by two Maʿat-feathers (*šw[t]* [H6]).

DATING: LB III–Iron IIB (early 12th–end of 8th c. BCE); 18th–22nd Dyn. (1540–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda and following O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1452.

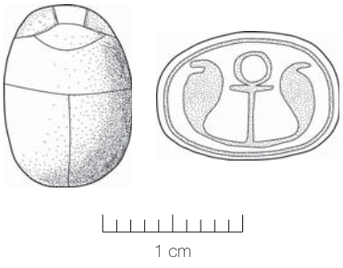
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43:46; Keel 1977: 96–97, Fig. 60. *[NoR]*

108



109



110 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 32/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 9.3 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is an *ʿnḫ* (S34) flanked by two Maʿat-feathers/*šw(t)* (H6) facing outwards.

DISCUSSION: A composition featuring an *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign in the middle of the layout, depicted with a Maʿat-feather and a *nb* (V30) sign was read as the name of Amun-Re (see Achziv No. 19). Layouts composed of two Maʿat-feathers were common on seals from the Middle Kingdom onwards (Keel 1995: § 462). See Lachish No. 109 for a similar horizontal layout.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda are scarabs Achziv No. 79 and Jerusalem No. 44c, and see more comparanda there. This stylized rendering of the *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign can also be seen on cowroid Beth Shean No. 146 and conoid Achziv No. 11. Achziv No. 100 is another scarab bearing the *nfr* (F35) sign instead of the *ʿnḫ* (S34). Ashdod No. 18 is an impression made with a stamp showing a similar motif (but with only one Maʿat-feather).

DATING: 25th–26th Dyn. (722–525 BCE); dating based on the comparanda from Jerusalem and Achziv.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 1–5,[2] Object no. 1259.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② The latest layers of the cave's fill.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 369, Pl. 43/43A:47; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:47. *[NoR]*

111 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 27/- (Rowe). Too worn to determine head and sides. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blue[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, faint remains of a single frame line. In the centre are two Maʿat-feathers/*šw(t)* (H6) facing outwards, flanked by two symmetrical *nb* (V30) signs.

DISCUSSION: Layouts composed of two Maʿat-feathers were common on seals since the Middle Kingdom (Keel 1995: § 462); a single Maʿat-feather flanked by two *nb* (V30) signs appears on many scarabs bearing the name of Amun-Re (such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 239; Lachish No. 551).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A scarab from Ashdod No. 13 shows a similar layout, albeit in a vertical layout. Another comparandum is Beth Shemesh No. 60 (with an additional royal name in between the two feathers).

DATING: More likely Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); 25th–26th Dyn. (722–525 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.23, Cave 515 (MB–Hellenistic period, 20th–late 1st c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3480.

① Cave 515 was constantly used since the third and until the first millennium. According to the excavators, it was originally constructed for dwelling during the Early Bronze Age. The entrance was sealed with stones and the ceiling partially collapsed. The cave contained human remains, 30 limestone altars, some of which were decorated, as well as pottery vessels, and an earring in addition to the scarab here discussed (Tufnell 1953: 221, Pl. 7:6).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:48; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:48. *[NoR]*

112 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 27/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. On the left are two schematic striding lions, one above the other, facing right; in front of them is an unidentified figure.

DISCUSSION: The figure on the right can be variously interpreted, depending on COMPARANDA: as an anthropomorphic figure holding a bow (as in Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 345; Acco No. 89), an ostrich (as in Gezer No. 619), or another type of animal (as in Acco No. 90). This item should be assigned to the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (Münger 2011) because of the schematic iconography and designs (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 337–354; Münger 2005a; Keel and Mazar 2009: 64–65; Ben-Tor 2016: 319–321).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda, which allow for a definite identification of the figure on the right, are those mentioned above, but see also Beth Shemesh No. 11; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 222, 314; Tell Jemmeh No. 71; Megiddo No. 24, 26, 37; Taanach No. 25, where the figure on the right is often similarly indistinct.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

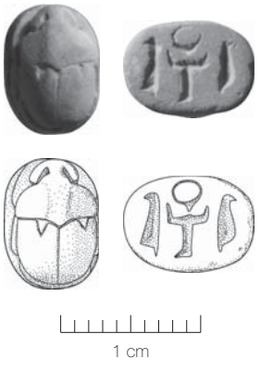
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1334.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43:49; Münger 2011: 167, 246, Pl. 38, Lachiš 4. *[NoR]*

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113 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 63/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped at the base rim and a small hole in base. WEIGHT: 1.15 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief; linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a striding quadruped facing to the right, characterized by horns or rather antlers and a tail turned over its back; in front of it is a branch, and behind it, above the animal's back, an unidentified element.

DISCUSSION: Based on the antlers, the horned animal could be interpreted as a deer (*cervus*), which does not fit the tail, however. The item should be assigned to the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (Münger 2011) because of its schematic iconography and typological features (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 337–354; Münger 2005; Keel and Mazar 2009: 64–65; Ben-Tor 2016: 319–321). Different interpretations suggest that the quadruped animal is a lion wearing a double-plume crown (*šwtj* [S9]), see Megiddo No. 32, 65 (B. Greet, pers. comm.), or possibly a sphinx (cf. Schroer 2018: No. 1013). The question is how to reconcile seemingly contradictory anatomical features (in the present case: antlers and a tail that is more common in lions), and whether it can be presumed that depictions of animals or hybrids within the highly stylized production of the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series always operate with full 'semantic' (let alone zoological) consistency. Megiddo No. 32, 65 suggest that the 'headgear' or antlers could have developed out of elongated ears, which developed into 'horns' and ultimately feathers (or antlers). Regarding the deer, in the autochthonous tradition of the Levant, the grazing deer with a branch was associated with goddesses; this was not necessarily the case anymore during the Iron Age, when the motif was depicted on ivory inlays and inscribed seals, and was possibly believed to provide protection (Schroer 2018: 78, 80).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is the scarab Dayr ʿAyn ʿAbaṭa No. 1, in which the stylistic rendering of the image is similar and the 'headgear' of the animal in terms of antlers could be questioned. A depiction of the deer with a stylized tree is seen on the scarab Acco No. 287, and see also the scaraboid Ashkelon No. 67. The quadruped horned animal with a branch was also frequently depicted on so-called ʿAmuq stamp seals, in different stylistic rendering (Meyer 2008: 258–262, 284–285, Fig. 124, 125, 141). See also Megiddo No. 283.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); 21st–22nd Dyn. (1076–746 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16288. BM/Big number: 160347.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 4849.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:50; Magrill 2006: 17; Münger 2011: 167, 247, Pl. 39, Lachiš 5; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:50. *[NoR]*

114 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 25/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: greyish-brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken at the base rim, as well as on the left side of the back and head. According to the BM, it was also burnt. WEIGHT: 2.14 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 12.8 mm (W) × 8.4 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. Possibly modeled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The poor state of preservation of this item makes the interpretation of its base engraving very challenging. Two possibilities can be suggested with all due caution: (A, N. Ranzer) Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a striding quadruped animal facing right, behind which is an unidentified figure.—(B, Ch. Uehlinger) Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the left, an anthropomorphic figure, possibly female in view of the knee-length kilt and (maybe) perruque, kneeling and facing right, the 'left' arm hanging down along the body, while the 'right' arm may have been extended to the right (e.g., holding a palm, a flower, a cobra?—it seems virtually impossible to identify details on the right half of the sealing surface).

DISCUSSION: (A) Although it is difficult to identify the upper figure due to the poor preservation of the base, it might be a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]). The layout could therefore be assigned to Design Class 9 of Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 174–175): a horned animal accompanied by a uraeus. Furthermore, the head and back types are typical for the Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 106).—(B) Kneeling right-facing figures are amply attested on Middle Bronze Age II–III scarabs: see Design Class 10C "Kneeling, human-headed", with either human or 'mythical' heads (Tufnell 1984: 350–353, Pl. 46–47; Ben-Tor 2007: 33–35, 100–101, 149, 180, esp. Pl. 104:23, 27; 105:2).

COMPARANDA: (A) No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Scarabs with a similar layout are Lachish No. 328; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 590, 846; Tell el-Maskhuta (Ben-Tor 2007: Appendix Pl. 1:5; and see more parallels *ibid*.: Pl. 96).—(B) The absence of a *nb* (V30) at the bottom designates the following items featuring a kneeling right-facing human (or falcon-headed) figure as possible, relatively close COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 357; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 125, 607, 664, 897, 1022; Tell Jemmeh No. 181; Pella No. 27. Note, however, that on most comparanda the figure occupies more than half of the sealing surface, which adds to the hypothetical status of the interpretation here suggested.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating following Ben-Tor's association of the (A) motif to the Late Palestinian Series.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16492. BM/Big number: 160583.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.22, Tomb 521 (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3567.

① See Lachish No. 62.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 222, 224, 369, Pl. 43/43A:51; Magrill 2006: 20; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:51. *[NoR/CU]*

113



114



115 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127) or scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). Side and back very schematic, the latter showing two parallel lines and an inverted trident pattern. MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brown, black. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the right is a horned quadruped animal facing a palm tree to its left, with three branches extending from a single point at the top of the trunk. On the left, a feature that could represent another tree, but where the 'branches' do not fork at a single point.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal can be interpreted as a caprid, commonly depicted standing near a tree (see Megiddo No. 60, 127, 544, 619 to name a few); these motifs were associated with a local goddess during the Middle and Late Bronze Ages, and continued well into the Iron Age (Keel 1995: § 518; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 77; Schroer 2018: 85).

COMPARANDA: Scaraboids and conoid stamp seals showing a very schematic quadruped animal facing left towards a tree are typically local products of the early Iron Age, conspicuously concentrated in the Judahite Shephelah: see Beth Shemesh No. 24, 30, 41, 45; and compare Lachish No. 150, 153, 155. A comparandum of the scarab shape is Megiddo No. 297 (N. Ben-Marzouk, pers. comm.), which features an anthropomorphic figure on the left side of the base instead of the tree. For a more realistic northern rendering of this scene, see an impression and scaraboids from Reḥov No. 9–10, 14; and compare Achziv No. 86. While the motif should be distinguished from the one depicting a caprid next to a scorpion (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 266; Megiddo No. 619 with many comparanda), the element on the left on the present item could indeed represent a debased scorpion rather than a second tree (compare Beth Shemesh No. 163).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16499. BM/Big number: 160341.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4844.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:52; Keel 1995: § 68; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 92; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 92; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:52. *[NoR]*

116 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 38/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief[?]; linear[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the middle a horned, quadruped animal facing to the right; behind it, to the left, a branch bent to the right over the animal's back. To the right an unidentified sign (a bow[?]).

DISCUSSION: The animal can be interpreted as a caprid. For the combination of caprids and trees, see Lachish No. 115.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda (with the branch behind the animal) are scaraboids Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 870 (with an *ʿnḫ* [S34] sign in front of the animal); Megiddo No. 680 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIB (late 12th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 1–5,[2] Object no. 1281.

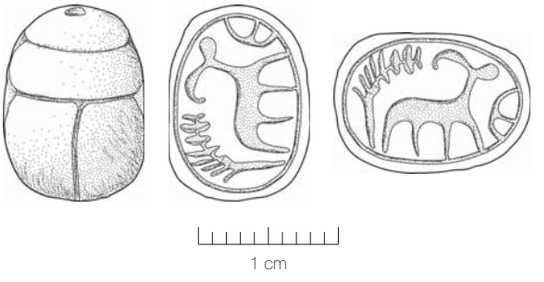
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 110.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:53; Keel 1995: § 68. *[NoR]*

115



116



117 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: hematite. PRESERVATION: broken. Damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal[?]; inferred from the published drawings only. ENGRAVING: sunk relief; drilled. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the lower register there is a recumbent quadruped, probably a bovine, facing left. The upper register was not preserved.

DISCUSSION: The bovine was associated with storm gods in the northern Levantine traditions, but the association was somewhat less common in the southern Levant: while bovines commonly appear on seals, the explicit representation of storm gods is only sporadic (Schroer 2018: 71; but note Uehlinger 2022: 438–441, 455–457). Although the motif is still present in the archaeological record, it became less common during the Iron Age III (Schroer 2018: 82, 85). The present item was assigned to the North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group, which was found in large numbers in the necropolis of Carchemish (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 367–370, No. 67).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is the hematite scarab Jaffa No. 13. Achziv No. 113 is a conoid seal bearing the bovine motif, including drilling among the engraving techniques.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda (and Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 382, No. 67).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1445.
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 369, Pl. 43:54; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 369–370, 373–377, No. 8, Fig. 67; Keel 1995: § 336. *[NoR]*

118 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 1/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. Traces of glaze in some incisions. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface worn. WEIGHT: 0.93 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 8.6 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of glaze (in some incisions).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre and on the left is what seems to be a monkey, facing to the right and holding what appears to be a *nfr* (F35) sign. Above are two signs: *jmj/(r)dj* (D37) on the left, *mrḥt* (W1) on the right.

DISCUSSION: This composition can be read as *dj Bꜣstt nfrw* "May Bastet give beautiful things" (Schroer 2018: 500–501). This formula is a blessing, which appeared on scarabs from the New Kingdom onwards (Keel 1995: § 724).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The same formula is attested in various, often incorrect spellings on Acco No. 205; Ashkelon No. 66; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 320, 340; Tell Jemmeh No. 115; Megiddo No. 247. See also Lachish No. 119, Ashkelon No. 228.

DATING: 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16497.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1296.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:55; Keel 1995: § 724; Magrill 2006: 26; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:55. *[NoR]*

119 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 67/EP 27/Side 36 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken in the upper left part of the base. In the centre of base, the engraving of the figure reached the perforation hole. WEIGHT: 0.67 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.6 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 4.3 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: partial white glaze (base). Remarks: The leg markings are not symmetrical: one side has a single groove, while the other has two grooves.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a schematic representation of a seated animal with a long tail pointing upwards, facing right.

DISCUSSION: The seated animal can be interpreted as a monkey. The figure of the seated monkey appears on Middle Bronze Age scarabs holding a branch (see Atlit No. 37); in later periods it appears as part of a blessing, especially when a *nfr* (F35) sign features in addition to the monkey (Keel 1995: § 724; see Lachish No. 118), and some examples show a pair of monkeys flaking a palm tree (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 35–36).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Gezer No. 126 presents a similar layout with the tail pointing downwards. For examples of the monkey holding a *nfr* (F35) sign, see Lachish No. 118 (and comparanda mentioned there).

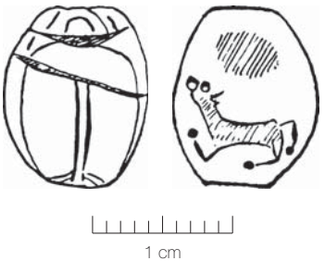
DATING: 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16491.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 567.
① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43/43A:56; Magrill 2006: 8; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:56. *[NoR]*

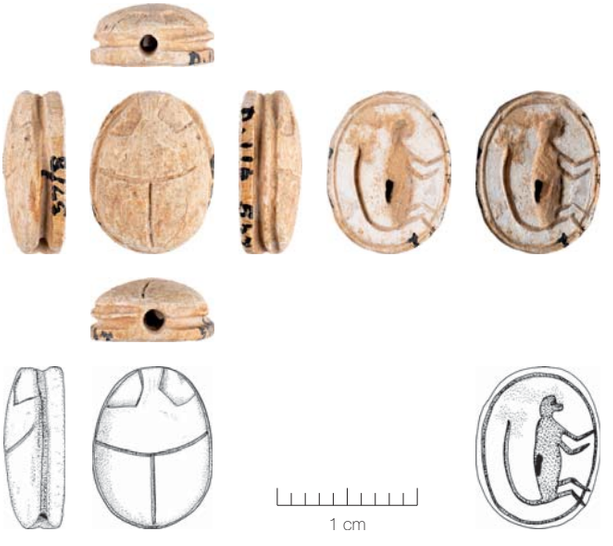
117



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120 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type C3/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 54/EP 1/Side 33 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?], composite material[?]. COLOUR: white, brown. According to the BM catalogue the material is glazed composition. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface worn. WEIGHT: 1.20 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of white glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. On the right is a uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]), on the left probably a scorpion (rather than a *ḏd* [R11] sign, note the curved tail).

DISCUSSION: The uraeus was one of the most common motifs on stamp seals, which first appeared in the Middle Bronze Age and throughout the Late Bronze Age on both Egyptian and local scarabs (Lalkin 2008: 66–67). The combination of the uraeus with the *ḏd* (R11) pillar is known from the Late Bronze Age (Lalkin 2008: 6, see Lachish No. 33 and Shiloh No. 19). The scorpion was depicted on Syrian cylinder seals since the Middle Bronze Age (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 125) and on scarabs since the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 65). During the Iron Age I, scorpions frequently occur on stamp seals, usually in conjunction with motifs of fertility (Keel 1994: 27–28), e.g., as part of the suckling scene (Schroer 2018: 69–70). It also appeared as a single motif (see Megiddo No. 515, 610) or accompanied by other animals, usually quadrupeds (see Megiddo No. 618, 679; Reḥov No. 11).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of scarabs (including typological characteristics) are Gezer No. 446 and Beth Shean No. 241 (in which the two signs are in *tête-bêche* position); an additional comparandum is scaraboid Megiddo No. 710; see further Tell Jemmeh No. 110; Ekron No. 21.

DATING: LB IIB (early 13th–early 12th c. BCE); 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on the closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16488.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) – Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Enclosure east of the "Palace-Fort", Square K.14–15, Locus 1033,[1] Object no. 6252B.

① See Lachish No. 73.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, Pl. 43/43A:57; Magrill 2006: 71; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:57. *[NoR]*

121 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11/EP 112/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?] with hatching. Inferred from published drawing.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a bird facing right; a horizontal line starting from its neck and two appended diagonal lines may represent the bird's wing(s), while its body is decorated with perpendicular diagonal lines (or hatching); above, a crescent moon (*jʿḥ* [N11]) and disc, which may represent the full moon (Schroer 2018: 754, No. 1819), a star, or a sun-disc *rʿ* (N5). The sign at the bottom could represent another disc, or rather a small *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The bird in the centre is most probably a dove (O. Keel, pers. comm.), which was associated with goddesses since the Middle Bronze Age (Schroer 2018: 68). It was less common during the Late Bronze Age, but continued to appear as a companion to a goddess during the Iron Age IIB–C, although the motif did not play a major role on seals of the latter periods (*ibid*.: 78, 80, 82). The crescent moon (and star) symbolized astral deities in Mesopotamia, Anatolia and the Levant, a long tradition which continued into the Iron Age (Schroer 2018: 72). More specifically, astral symbols increased as a result of Assyrian and Aramean influence during the Iron III (Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 172–172). According to Tufnell 1953: 369, who considered the crescent to be a *nb* (V30) sign, the uppermost signs should be read as *hrw nb* "every day".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel from the Iron Age known so far from the southern Levant. The representation of a bird with two discs is attested on scaraboid Tel Ḥadid No. 5, a bird with a star and a twig on the inscribed bifacial seal Jerusalem No. 290. A bird next to a crescent and disc figures on stamp impressions Tall al-Khulayfeh No. 3, 11. The pigeon is further attested on late Iron Age bullae (Jerusalem No. 98, 392; see more comparanda there and in Schroer 2018: 754, No. 1819). An unprovenanced seal, which includes a bird and a crescent, is Giveon 1987a: 117, Fig. 64e.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.B,[2] Object no. 330.

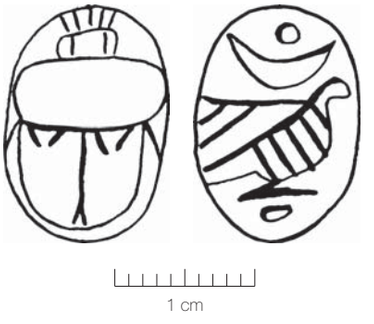
① See Lachish No. 59. — ② Room B was approached through the southern doorway of Room A (Tufnell 1953: 179, Fig. 21). As in Room C, three benches were carved along the walls, and a repository pit was located in the east side.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 369, Pl. 43:58; Keel 1992: 160, Fig. 114; Keel [2]1992: 74–75, Fig. 29; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 100, 188, 239, Fig. 319; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 100, 188, 239, Fig. 319; Schroer 2018: 754–755, No. 1819. *[NoR]*

120



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122 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type F5/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 25/EP 1/Side 31[?] (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Lotus Clypeus group[?]. Remarks: The head type, the motifs and their stylistic rendering look similar to the Lotus Clypeus group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation with a single frame line. Two C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) are arranged in a mirror image, facing outwards. A pair of lotus flowers (cf. Keel 1995: § 429) with internal decorations is appended to each spiral, reaching to the centre of the layout and facing each other symmetrically.

DISCUSSION: Both lotus and papyrus blossoms (Design Class 1E) were commonly depicted on seals since before the 12th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 429). The three-stemmed papyrus was one of the common types of Design Class 1E, produced during the Middle Kingdom in Egypt and in the southern Levant (Ben-Tor 2007: 10, 122), and continued into the New Kingdom (Lalkin 2008: 63). The present item should be assigned to the MB archaizing group, produced during the Iron Age II (cf. Lachish No. 103; "Neue-Hyksos Skarabäen der Eisenzeit IIB", Keel 2003). Lotus flowers are also attested on so-called "Phoenician" scarabs, such as Achziv No. 138 (and see Boschloos 2014a).

COMPARANDA: Very close comparanda include Atlit No. 7; Yavneh-Yam No. 6; Matouk 1977: 405, 2050–2051. For the combination of C-spirals and a papyrus plant, see scarab Tell Jemmeh No. 15.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); uncertain, dating suggested based on iconography and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1574.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5164.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363.370, Pl. 43/43A:59; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:59. *[NoR]*

123 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 32/- (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design[?]. Remarks: Scarabs of a relatively small size made of light blue composite material were classified as "Naucratis scarabs" in early research; however, their consistency as a group has long been questioned, and their exclusive association with Naucratis cannot be maintained (see Keel 1995: § 69).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. There are two alternative descriptions, depending on the orientation: the first assumes a lotus flower (*sšn* [M9]) in the centre, below which are two leaves (*ḫ*ꜣ [M12]; Keel, pers. comm.), or a leaf (left) and a bud (right). The second, which is favoured here, recognises a bird with spread wings and with its head turned right; to its left is a *šw(t)* (H6) and to its right an unidentified sign in the shape of a triangle (U. Zurkinden, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: The lotus flower was commonly depicted on seals before the 12th Dyn. and continued during the New Kingdom (Keel 1995: § 429) and into the Iron Age (such as Tel Ḥalif No. 3). The bird can be interpreted as a falcon, which was described to be in a landing posture (Jerusalem No. 116) or simply with spread wings (see comparanda below), mostly on items from the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals. However, the bird can also be interpreted as a vulture (see Lachish No. 907). It should be noted that most of the comparanda depict the spread wings facing upwards, while here they face downwards.

COMPARANDA: Similar floral compositions occur on scarabs Achziv No. 143; Megiddo No. 221; Tel Ḥalif No. 3 (see further comparanda there). For the falcon, see the bone seals Jerusalem No. 455 and Beth Shean No. 200. For birds with their wings spread downwards, see Dan No. 41 and the upper register of scarab Jerusalem No. 153.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating according to the closest comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 1493").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5056.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 370, Pl. 43/43A:60; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:60. *[NoR]*

122



123



124 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138) or scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Very basic back design and a single groove running around the profile. MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: red. PRESERVATION: complete. Chipped and heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 9.0 mm (L) × 6.6 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal[?] layout without frame line. Two spiky designs, one beside the other, might depict branches or twigs (Keel 1995: § 433), or a pair of scorpions (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: Branches or twigs are usually depicted on seals as secondary motifs, such as flanking a deity (see, for example, Gezer No. 577; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 15) or animals, such as caprids (see Lachish No. 115–116; Reḥov No. 11, 14) or lions (see Beth Shean No. 10), the former being more common than the latter. Typical to southern Levantine scarabs of the Middle Bronze Age (Keel 1995: § 433), they continued to appear on seals into the Iron Age (Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 86, 95). However, the spiky design is unusual for branches or twigs, whereas it is characteristic of scorpions.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but see scaraboids Megiddo No. 11, 312, 339 for comparanda in limestone with a pair of scorpions. Another limestone scaraboid, Tell Beit Mirsim No. 47, may depict a branch. The rectangular plaque Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 31 provides another comparandum.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating according to seal typology and design comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1599.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5167.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 370, Pl. 43/43A:61; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:61. *[NoR]*

125 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: greyish-brown. Burnt[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Base slightly chipped in the upper right rim (above the figure's head). WEIGHT: 1.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H); 2.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (head, torso). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a very schematic, striding anthropomorphic figure facing to the right (based on the inclination of the kilt), with both arms held down close to the body.

DISCUSSION: The Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, defined as a homogenous group of seals according to their material, shape, the specific motifs engraved on the base and the style of engraving, were produced in the southern Levant during the Iron Age IIA (Keel-Leu 1991: ch. IX; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 265; Keel 2007: 342–344, Fig. 237–242; Münger 2022). While examples of these seals were found throughout the southern Levant, the largest numbers recovered so far come from Tell el-Farʿa (S) and Lachish. The group of bone seals found at Lachish, with its specific rendering of the figure with semicircular head, was considered as a distinct group by Tufnell 1953: 363. The motifs of the group were mainly drawn from the Egyptian repertoire. The standing or striding anthropomorphic figure is one of the more common motifs (usually raising one hand; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 366), often represented with additional motifs such as the simplified cartouche (*ibid.*: Fig. 265a, b, c), other anthropomorphic figures (*ibid.*: 272a–d; Lachish No. 128), or animals (such as the striding lion; *ibid.*: 268a–c; Lachish No. 127).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda on bone scaraboid seals are Lachish No. 126; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 269; Jerusalem No. 204 with the striding figure raising one arm. See there for more parallels.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on group attribution/seal typology.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16511.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1295.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 366, 370, Pl. 43A/44:62; Keel 1995: 280; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 159 (reference only); Magrill 2006: 26; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 159 (reference only); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:62; Münger 2022: 48, n. 21, 52, n. 46. *[NoR]*

124



125



126 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken widthwise into two halves along the perforation channel; the two parts were restored to one. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation); 7.7* mm (L, piece 1); 8.4* mm (L, piece 2).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. On the right, a schematic anthropomorphic figure raises its 'left' arm, while the 'right' arm seems to join the frame line; on the left, an unidentified oblong sign.

DISCUSSION: For the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, see Lachish No. 125. The sign on the left could be interpreted as a bow or a vertical *nb* (V30) sign; according to O. Keel (pers. comm.), it might also be a degenerated cartouche. The representation of the worshiper raising one hand has its origin in Ramesside seals, such as Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 17 Side A (O. Keel, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of bone seals are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 269 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 41, see also Lachish No. 125 and more comparanda there.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on group attribution/seal typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16512.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1308.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 366, 370, Pl. 43A/44:63; Keel 1995: § 139, Fig. 87, p. 280 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 159, 236, Fig. 271a; Magrill 2006: 26; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 159, 236, Fig. 271a; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:63; Münger 2022: 48, n. 22. *[NoR]*

127 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly broken at the rim of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (bodies and heads); linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal (or possibly ambiguous) layout with a single frame line. Viewed horizontally, the composition features a striding lion facing to the right, above a horizontally placed anthropomorphic figure with the 'left' arm raised in front of the face, while the 'right' arm runs parallel to the figure's back. Viewed vertically, the anthropomorphic figure stands, facing to the left, while the lion appears (somewhat awkwardly unnatural) in a vertical striding attitude.

DISCUSSION: The horizontal layout might be assigned to Design Class 9E2a "Lion over man" (Keel 1995: § 539), an Egyptian motif symbolizing the king defeating his enemy (Keel-Leu 1991: 51). The lion representing the king was common from the Middle Bronze Age onwards (Schroer 2008: 42), in various postures and with different attributes (Keel-Leu 1991: 76). The position of the anthropomorphic figure, with its right arm raised, can be seen in other examples of the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group (see Lachish No. 125); while the gesture can usually be interpreted as one of worship or respect (e.g., Jericho No. 86; Schroer 2008: 135–136; and see the discussion in Megiddo No. 237), in the present composition it could well convey a sense of awe or protection—provided the two motifs should indeed be viewed as a syntagma. However, it cannot be ruled out that the two pictorial elements are to be understood in parataxis (i.e., not in terms of a type scene such as lion over human, or human worshiping a lion).

COMPARANDA: On Jerusalem No. 111, the two motifs are separated by a double line, suggesting a paratactical combination of motifs rather than an actual syntagma. See further Megiddo No. 237 (with additional comparanda on bone seals); and Keel-Leu 1991: 76, No. 91.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on group attribution/seal typology and comparanda.

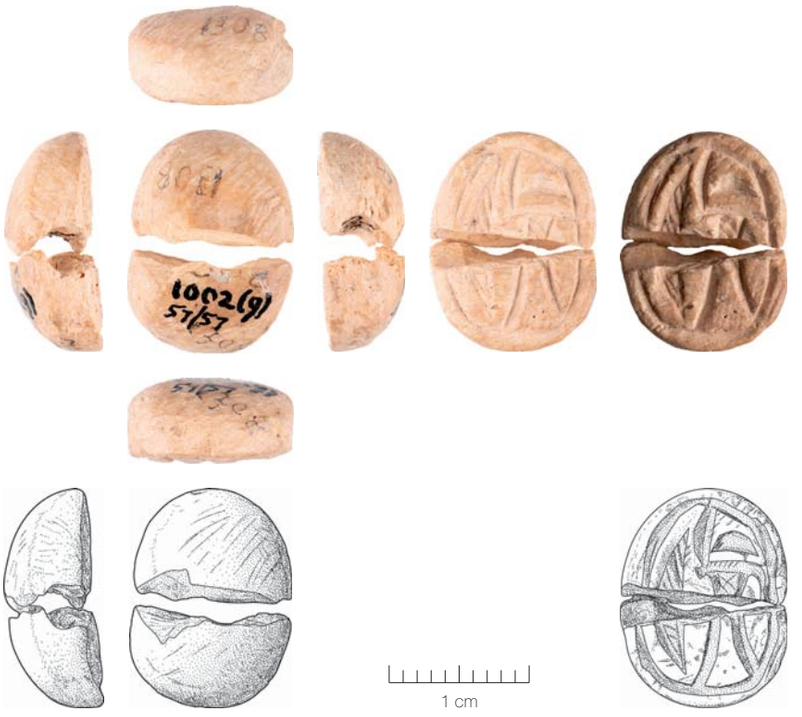
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD 321").

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1440.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 366, 370, Pl. 44:64; Keel 1995: p. 280 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 118, 158, 224, 236, Fig. 268a; Strawn 2005: 404, Fig. 3.98; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 118, 158, 224, 236, Fig. 268a; Schroer 2018: 418–419, No. 1377; Münger 2022: 48, n. 19. *[NoR]*

126



127



128 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly broken near the rim of the base. WEIGHT: 1.39 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 16.1 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 2.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (heads and bodies); linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Two schematic, striding anthropomorphic figures placed roughly (but not exactly) in a *tête-bêche* position. The main difference between the two figures is the raised versus lowered arm—one figure raises the 'right' arm, while the other figure raises the 'left' arm.

DISCUSSION: For the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, see the discussion in Lachish No. 125.

COMPARANDA: A very similar bone seal is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 303, where both figures raise their 'inner' arm. For comparanda with two figures without upside-down effect, possibly facing each other, see Arad No. 27; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 321; Lachish No. 129; as well as Acco No. 109 (with an additional feature; and see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on group attribution/seal typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15824.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1330.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 366, 370, Pl. 43A/44:65; Keel 1995: p. 280 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 159; Magrill 2006: 26; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 159; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:65; Münger 2022: 49, n. 24. *[NoR]*

129 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief with hatching; linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. Two schematic anthropomorphic figures connected by a common ('interior') raised arm.

DISCUSSION: For the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group see the discussion in Lachish No. 125. Anthropomorphic figures with one arm raised and one lowered along the back are commonly depicted in the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, as single figure (Lachish No. 125–126) or as a group of two (e.g., Lachish No. 128–129), three (e.g., Jerusalem No. 199) or up to five figures (Jerusalem No. 200). The schematic depiction of similar standing figures with raised arms, on both bone and other seals made from local stone, has been interpreted as dancers (see Megiddo No. 253), more specifically as a ritual dance (Mazar 2003b: 126–132; Schachter 2010: 143–159).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda among bone seals are Acco No. 109; Arad No. 27; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 321 (see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating according to comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 1–5,[2] Object no. 1260.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 110.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 366, 370, Pl. 44:66; Keel 1995: 280; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 159 (reference only); Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 159 (reference only); Münger 2022: 49, n. 23. *[NoR]*

130 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135) or bone seal[?], type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief; drilled[?]. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals[?]. Remarks: Group attribution uncertain based on the published data.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the right there is a standing anthropomorphic figure with arms raised to the sides and upwards in a schematic rendering. On the left are two indeterminate elements (*tête-bêche*[?]).

DISCUSSION: Bone seals depicting anthropomorphic figures have been described as a distinctive group of seals. The depiction of human figures on this group of seals with geometric characteristics (see Tufnell 1953: 363–364 and Lachish No. 125) differs from this item (of which only a basic drawing subsists). Stylistically, the figure here comes closer to similarly stylized depictions of humans on seals made of local stone (mostly limestone, occasionally sandstone). The schematic depiction of figures with raised arms in groups has been interpreted as dancers (see Megiddo No. 253), more specifically as a ritual dance (Mazar 2003b: 126–132; Schachter 2010: 143–159).

COMPARANDA: Several comparanda of bone seals were found in Lachish, one in the same archaeological context—Lachish No. 132; see Lachish No. 136–138 and Megiddo No. 253, 284 for more comparanda.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1307.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 44:67. *[NoR]*

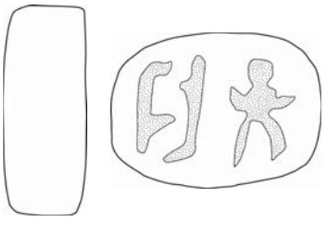
128



129



130



131 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre are two standing anthropomorphic figures with their 'outer' hands raised and 'inner' arms joined in a schematic rendering.

DISCUSSION: See interpretation of Lachish No. 130 and Megiddo No. 253 where two or three standing figures are interpreted as dancers.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of scaraboids (made of bone or local stone) include Lachish No. 132, 134; conoids Ekron No. 59, 65 (and many more, see there for further comparanda).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1442.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 44:68; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Keel 2012: Fig. 67. *[NoR]*

132 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone[?], fired steatite[?], fired clay[?]. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical/horizontal layout without frame line. Two standing anthropomorphic figures with their 'outer' arms hanging down and 'inner' arms joined at their shoulders.

DISCUSSION: Similar to Lachish No. 130, this schematic depiction was interpreted as dancers (see Megiddo No. 253), which can appear also with three (see Lachish No. 134–136 with comparanda) or more figures.

COMPARANDA: Ekron No. 59, 65 are limestone conoids with so-called "dancers". For comparanda among the bone seals, see Lachish No. 130–131 (and more comparanda there).

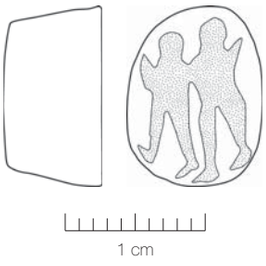
DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on seal typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Durham Collections, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.679.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6106.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:69; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Keel 2012: Fig. 68; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:69. *[NoR]*

131



132



133 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I[?] (Keel 1995: § 133–134) or type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: serpentinite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W) × 10.3 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre, dividing the composition vertically, is a schematic tree with two main branches and others branching off vertically (Keel 1995: § 433), flanked by two anthropomorphic figures; as can best be seen in an impression, both figures hold their 'outer' arms down along their backs while their 'inner' arms are bare stumps, possibly meant to touch the trunk of the tree.

DISCUSSION: The two figures, who may be depicted with raised arms on comparable seals, have been interpreted as dancers (Schachter 2010) or worshipers (Keel 2012: 324) next to a "sacred tree" (see discussion in Achziv No. 160). The tree motif is attested in some variations; in the Iron Age it appears most often flanked by quadruped horned animals (Keel 2012: 324–326), or humans.

COMPARANDA: Comparanda on stone scaraboids include Bethel No. 18; Beth Shemesh No. 32, 142; and Gezer No. 665; for comparanda in bone seals, see Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 8; Megiddo No. 266 (and more comparanda there).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.673.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus n.a., Object no. 6932.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:70; Jaroš 1980: 209, Fig. 10; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:70. *[NoR]*

134 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone[?]. COLOUR: brownish-beige. Originally recorded as bone, but the photograph, seal type and style contradict that information. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracked on the back. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Three striding anthropomorphic figures moving to the right (note the direction of the feet), with their 'inner' arms indicated as if they were holding each other's arms over the shoulders; 'outer' arms are slightly bent. The figure on the right appears to be extending their arm toward a schematic feature, but it is unclear whether a connection is intended. The schematic feature may be a scorpion (O. Keel, pers. comm.) or a trident (Tufnell 1953: 370).

DISCUSSION: The three figures have been interpreted as dancers (O. Keel, pers. comm.), see Lachish No. 130 for discussion.

COMPARANDA: The motif of the three "dancers" is depicted on scaraboids Lachish No. 135, 138, which are the closest comparanda (in limestone); additional comparanda include the sealing Arad No. 26, as well as the scarab and scaraboid Megiddo No. 218, 253 (and see there for more comparanda).

DATING: Early Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-730.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square H.14, Locus 23,[1] Object no. 6344.

① According to Tufnell 1953: 149, this area was situated west of a retaining wall and a broken-down stone wall on the southwest of the "citadel", i.e., the Judahite "Palace-Fort". When comparing the exact location of this locus with the renewed TAU excavations (Ussishkin 2004: 34–35, Fig. 2.9, 2.10), this corresponds to the eastern part of Area S. The locus included pottery fragments dated to the Iron III and this current item, described as remains from the earlier period (Tufnell 1953: 149–150).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 149, 363–364, 370, Pl. 44:71; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Keel 2012: Fig. 69. *[NoR]*

133



134



135 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material[?], sandstone[?], limestone[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 13.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief (bodies); drilled (heads).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre are three striding schematic anthropomorphic figures: the one in the middle and the one to its left seem to hold hands; the figure on the left raises its 'outer' arm towards the left, the figure in the middle and the one to its right raise their 'right' arms upwards; the 'inner' arm of the figure on the right seems to turn back towards the neck of the figure.

DISCUSSION: For the interpretation of the figures as dancers, see discussion in Lachish No. 130.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 134, 136–138 (see more comparanda in Lachish No. 134).

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. JM 12-73.404A, item unlocatable at the time of writing. The object does not figure in the Jewish Museum's online catalogue; b/w prints in the CSAPI archive.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 563.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:72; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Keel 2012: Fig. 70; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:72. *[NoR]*

136 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). Type unknown. MATERIAL: limestone. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: chip-carved[?]; sunk relief[?]; drilled[?]. Engraving techniques inferred from a very simple drawing and based on comparanda.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre are three striding anthropomorphic figures with their arms raised; the figure on the right may be holding an unidentified object.

DISCUSSION: For the interpretation as "dancers", see Lachish No. 130; for a similar, unidentified object held by the figure on the right, see Lachish No. 134.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 134–135, 137–138 (and see more comparanda in Lachish No. 134).

DATING: Late Iron IIA (9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 399.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 44:73; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

135



136



137 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: beige, brown, whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped on the left side of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; modelled sunk relief with interior design[?]; drilled (heads).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, a frame line is visible on the top, but does not run around the entire circumference (possibly eroded[?]). Three striding anthropomorphic figures, connected at their shoulders, i.e., holding each other. The figure on the right has their 'outer' arm held down close to the body, while the figure on the left has their 'outer' arm raised up, connecting to the frame line. The torsos of the two outer figures are marked with horizontal linear incisions.

DISCUSSION: For the interpretation of the figures as "dancers", see discussion in Lachish No. 130. The horizontal incisions on the two exterior figures resemble decorations that usually appear with quadruped animals, such as horses (see Lachish No. 142, 163–164) or caprids (see Acco No. 137; Beth Shemesh No. 163).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is scaraboid Megiddo No. 593 that shows two anthropomorphic figures instead of three. Additional comparanda are Lachish No. 134–136, 138 (and see more in Lachish No. 134).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.672.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5367.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:74; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:74. *[NoR]*

138 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.80 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; modelled sunk relief; drilled[?] (heads).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Three striding anthropomorphic figures, apparently facing to the left (note the direction of the feet), connected at their shoulders, i.e., apparently holding each other. The two outer figures have their 'outer' arms held down along the body (unless they are holding a schematic, linear feature, which cannot be identified).

DISCUSSION: The three figures on this and similar items are often interpreted as "dancers" (O. Keel, pers. comm.), see discussion in Lachish No. 130. If the rightmost figure is holding an unidentified object, compare Lachish No. 134, 136 for possible interpretations.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 134–137 (and see more comparanda in Lachish No. 134).

DATING: Late Iron IIA (9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.134 C.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 402.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:75; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:75. *[NoR]*

137



138



139 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped in the left side of the base, worn. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep modelled sunk relief with drilling holes; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. On the right is an anthropomorphic figure facing left, seated on a schematic chair with high backrest; on the left is a slightly smaller anthropomorphic figure standing. Both figures have their arms raised, and as their 'inner' arms join at the centre, they appear to be holding hands (or possibly greeting each other[?]).

DISCUSSION: O. Keel (pers. comm.) interpreted the seat as a throne, and the raised arms as a sign for blessing or greeting. This scene can be understood as a schematic depiction of the seated king, common in New Kingdom compositions (often depicted with royal names such as Thutmose III or Ramesses II; Wiese 1990: 91–92, Fig. 108–118) and which continued into the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (O. Keel, pers. comm.; see Münger 2011: 152, Pl. 11:6 = Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 798). However, the gesture of mutual greeting is un-Egyptian. Both the engraving technique and the schematic depiction of the figures raising arms relates this item to the group of seals depicting "dancers" (as seen in Lachish No. 132–138).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 26 comes relatively close in subject matter and style (but shows an additional flower or tree between the two figures). Typologically very different, Megiddo No. 657 shows somehow related, more detailed subject matter with comparative iconography in Northern Syria. A schematic seated figure with an additional smaller figure appears on (earlier) scarabs and scaraboids Tell Abu Salima No. 65, 71; Acco No. 83, 229; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 798, and on the stamp impression Tell Jemmeh No. 70 (none of them from a clear context).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on the similarity of production technique with the "dancers" group (Lachish No. 134–138).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1578.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5169.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 44:76; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

140 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: red. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.3 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the left is an anthropomorphic figure, presumably facing left (note the knee bend of the figure's 'left' leg), with two arms outstretched slightly obliquely to either side; the 'right' arm connects to the neck of a quadruped animal, equally striding to the left, which thus seems to be both held and led by the human figure. The animal's tail is marked, though relatively short. Above the animal there is a disc, possibly referring to the sun.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal has been interpreted as a horse (*ssmt* [E6]; Tufnell 1953: 370; O. Keel, pers. comm.). Tufnell suggested that the circle above the animal could represent a load (Tufnell 1953: 370) rather than a sun disc, which remains a possible interpretation.

COMPARANDA: Stone scaraboids Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 338 and Lachish No. 142 offer close comparanda. Similar compositions are depicted on the scaraboids Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 3; Tel Eton No. 5; Gibeon No. 8 (all three with an additional anthropomorphic figure instead of the disc above the animal).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1579.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB[?], mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5170.

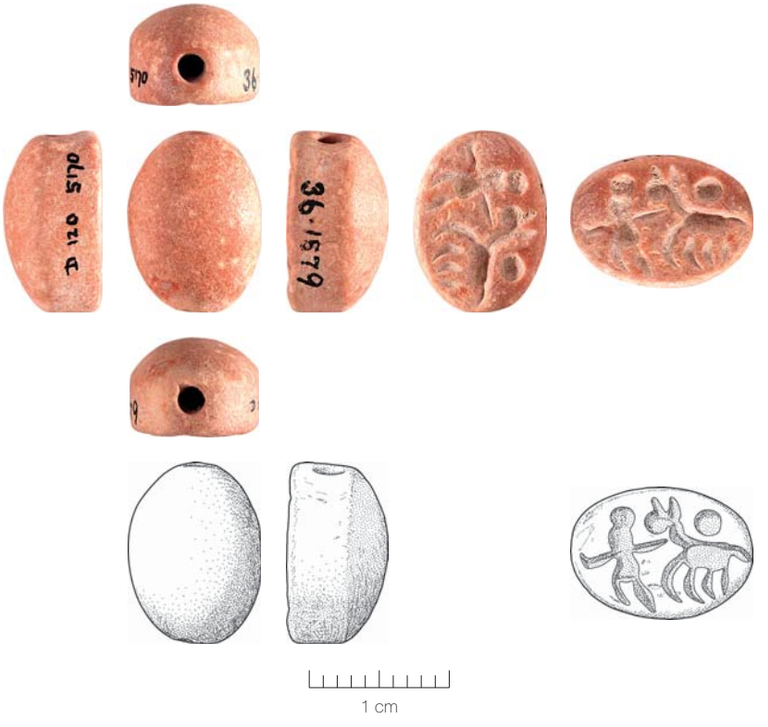
① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:77; Schroer 1987: 294, 543 Fig. 112; Keel 1995: § 336, p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 86, Fig. 164d; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 86, Fig. 164d; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:77. *[NoR]*

139



140



141 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: greyish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn[?]. WEIGHT: 1.77 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the right is an anthropomorphic figure with both arms raised; on the left, in inverted orientation (head down and legs up), a horned quadruped animal, apparently without a marked tail.

DISCUSSION: Stylistically, the anthropomorphic figure is similar to the schematic depiction of "dancers" (see Lachish No. 130). The quadruped animal was interpreted by O. Keel (pers. comm.) as a caprid.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, although the combination of a human figure (often with raised arms) and a horned quadruped is well attested in the early Iron Age on local stone and bone seals (conoids, many scaraboids, rarely scarabs: e.g., Beth Shemesh No. 34, 37, 43, 49; Tel Mevorakh No. 5; Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 25, 49; Reḥov No. 19). The inverted orientation of the engraved figures is attested on other stone and bone scaraboids, such as Lachish No. 128, which depicts two anthropomorphic figures, or Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 393 and Beth Shemesh No. 47, which depict two quadruped animals.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15801.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 372.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:78; Magrill 2006: 5; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:78. *[NoR]*

142 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.15 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the right is a standing anthropomorphic figure facing a quadruped animal with marked mane, but no marked tail, striding right. Above the animal's back is a schematic, unclear feature.

DISCUSSION: O. Keel (pers. comm.) identifies the quadruped animal as a horse and the sign above it as a bird (more specifically, a dove). The combination of horse and bird is attested on other scaraboids with additional features, such as a scorpion and/or a tree, which all are considered to be attributes of a goddess. In many cases, however, the bird/dove is represented below the horse (see Keel 1990d: 216).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum found is the scarab Jerusalem No. 445. For the combination of an anthropomorphic figure and a horse on stone scaraboids, see Lachish No. 140; Reḥov No. 20 (and see more comparanda there). For a representation of a horse and a bird above see Tel Anafa No. 4 (stone scaraboid). The depiction of horse and bird with additional elements also occurs on Tell Keisan No. 12 (quartz scaraboid) and Acco No. 4 (human head-shaped scaraboid).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15815. BM/Big number: 160350.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4838.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:79; Schroer 1987: 294, 543 Fig. 113; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 86, Fig. 164c; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 86, Fig. 164c; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:79. *[NoR]*

141



142



143 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. According to a (slightly enigmatic) published profile drawing, the back of the seal seems to be missing. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 15.9 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. An upright anthropomorphic figure facing left, with arms held down, possibly holding a mace, is depicted above (standing on?) a quadruped animal striding left, with horns or long ears and a short, but marked tail.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal has been variously interpreted as a caprid (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 192), an antelope or a horse (Tufnell 1953: 370), or possibly a bull (Uehlinger 2022: 438, 455, 456, Fig. 28.11.e). The anthropomorphic figure standing on a bull (or any other quadruped animal or hybrid) signifies a deity (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 191–192). The scene is attested during the Late Bronze Age and Iron Age I (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 192).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda are scarabs and scaraboids: Samaria No. 17, 55; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 358 (see there for additional comparanda). Two anthropomorphic figures standing on two quadruped animals are depicted on scarab Dor No. 27 (see there for more comparanda) and on seal impression Ekron No. 70.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIB (late 12th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. A b/w print in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5126, 448").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6101.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:80; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 119; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 119; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:80; Uehlinger 2022: 438, 455, 456 Fig. 28.11.e. *[NoR]*

144 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a standing anthropomorphic figure with arms outstretched, holding an animal in each hand.

DISCUSSION: The animals held by the figure have been interpreted as ostriches (O. Keel, pers. comm.). The 'Master of animals' type scene is attested on locally produced stamp seals with either crocodiles (a motif probably borrowed from Egypt, Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 67), scorpions (since the Iron Age I), or eventually ostriches, the latter being a non-Egyptian motif (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 85). The 'Master of ostriches' was identified as a local deity in the Iron IIA (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 140; Pfitzmann 2019; Koch 2022: 299–300).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda on stone scaraboids and conoids are Tell Beit Mirsim No. 45; Beth Shemesh No. 36, 42; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 55; Gezer No. 186, 453; Megiddo No. 351. More scaraboids with the 'Master of ostriches' motif include Lachish No. 144, 147, 906; Buṣayra No. 10; Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 29; Reḥov No. 23; Samaria No. 84; and compare a seal impression (probably from a scaraboid) on handle Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 10.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.623.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1438. Registration number derived from photograph (reg. 6921 occurs twice in Tufnell 1953).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:81; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:81; Koch 2022: 299–300, Fig. 9. *[NoR]*

143



144



145 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a standing anthropomorphic figure with arms outstretched, each hand holding an animal by the tail, head down.

DISCUSSION: The animals held by the figure can be interpreted as scorpions. The scene thus represents a 'Master of scorpions' (for this concept and figure, see discussion at Megiddo No. 22). It is sometimes difficult to distinguish between the 'Master of scorpions' and the 'Master of ostriches'. The former is well-represented on conoids, while the latter is much more frequent on scaraboids. When the animal is symmetrically designed, as on the present item, it more often than not represents a scorpion; whereas ostriches tend to be represented asymmetrically, seen from the side with their wings and plumes at the back, i.e., toward the composition's curved border (as on Lachish No. 144).

COMPARANDA: Stone and bone conoids depicting the 'Master of scorpions' type scene include Gezer No. 35; Megiddo No. 22 (see there for more comparanda). For scaraboids featuring the scene, see Gezer No. 129; and possibly Tell Jemmeh No. 113.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIB (late 12th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1958.534 or 1980.616.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6921.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:82; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:82. *[NoR]*

146 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: broken. In the left and upper part of the base, worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; linear; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a schematic anthropomorphic figure with outstretched arms, possibly holding a branch with the 'right' hand and an additional, unidentified (worn) object with the 'left' hand.

DISCUSSION: A standing anthropomorphic figure holding a branch was a common motif in the Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series of the Middle Bronze Age (see Lachish No. 86). However, the seal type, its material and the stylistic rendering of the type scene make this item a typical Iron Age product.

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is provided on a conoid made of composite material, Dor No. 31, where a schematic anthropomorphic figure is holding an unclear object in the 'right' hand. Additional comparanda, especially for the style and technique of engraving, include Lachish No. 135, 144–145 (and see more references there).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

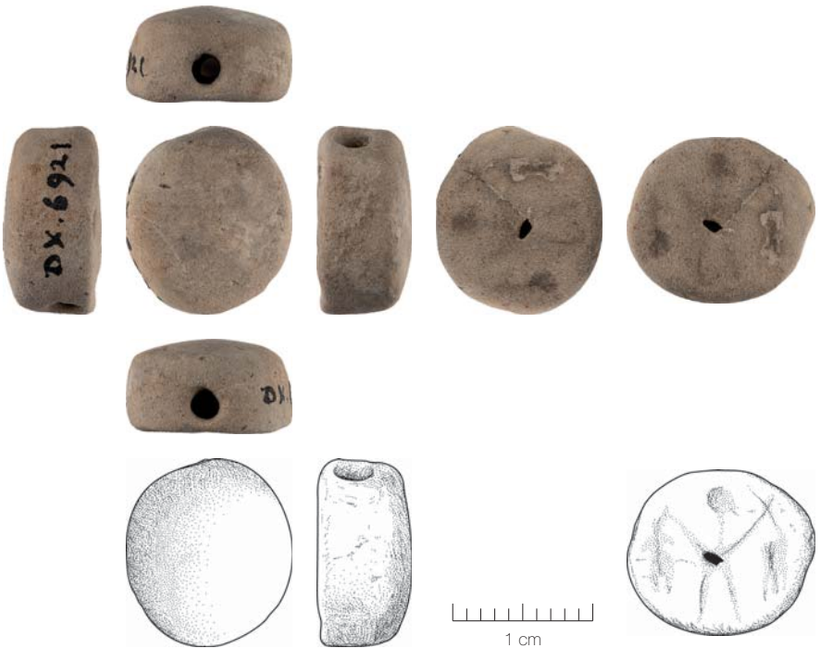
COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256q.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5054.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 370, Pl. 43A/44:83; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:83. *[NoR]*

145



146



147 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 2.33 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 10.8 mm (H); 3.2 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is an anthropomorphic figure with outstretched arms, flanked on either side by schematic inward facing ostriches.

DISCUSSION: For a description of the 'Master of ostriches' type scene, see Lachish No. 144.

COMPARANDA: Scaraboids and conoids depicting this scene include Tell Beit Mirsim No. 45; Beth Shemesh No. 36, 42; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 55; Gezer No. 186; Megiddo No. 235, 351; and see more comparanda in Lachish No. 144. For two ostriches without a central human figure, see Lachish No. 148.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15812. BM/Big number: 160345.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4837.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 370, Pl. 43A/44:84; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 114, Fig. 195a; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 114, Fig. 195a; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:84. *[NoR]*

148 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 2.67 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.9 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 9.8 mm (H); 3.0 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two schematic ostriches in a *tête-bêche* position, facing inwards.

DISCUSSION: This composition belongs to a characteristic group of scaraboids in brownish limestone, the main character of it is the so-called 'Master of ostriches', see Lachish No. 144.

COMPARANDA: A very close comparandum is Lachish No. 205. For a similar scene with an anthropomorphic figure, see Lachish No. 144 (and more comparanda there); for another comparandum, depicting an ostrich and a quadruped, see Megiddo No. 598.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15813. BM/Big number: 160348.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4836.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364–365, 370, Pl. 43A/44:85; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 114, 116, Fig. 195b; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 114, 116, Fig. 195b; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:85. *[NoR]*

147



148



149 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through the base and on the back. WEIGHT: 1.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two ostriches (biped, oval body, long neck ending in a beak, notched tail or feathers raised) facing each other, flanking an unclear (vegetal[?]) feature composed of a vertical trunk and two or three short branches.

DISCUSSION: The central feature was interpreted as a plant or an anthropomorphic figure (Tufnell 1953: 371); the latter was probably suggested since the design recalls the 'Master of ostriches' composition (on which see Lachish No. 144). However, the feature has a single trunk, no clearly marked head, and the top branches do not extend to the birds' necks. Therefore, it rather depicts a plant (Keel 1995: § 429). A very similar rendering of the birds occurs on an unprovenanced limestone scaraboid published in Keel-Leu 1991: No. 81.

COMPARANDA: For 'Master of ostriches' comparanda, see Beth Shemesh No. 36 (bone scaraboid); Lachish No. 144, 147 (limestone scaraboids); Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 29 (limestone scarab).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15807.

CONTEXT: Level IIb (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.15, Locus 1030,[1] Object no. 6239.

① An alignment of single stones at right angles to the east of wall 1017 (Tufnell 1953: 112), which was part of a stone building from Level III (*ibid.*: 111).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364–365, 371, Pl. 43A/44:86; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 114; Magrill 2006: 70; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 114; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:86. *[NoR]*

150 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: greyish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn, slightly chipped on the right side of the base. WEIGHT: 1.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: chip-carved; modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. The design includes two figures: on the left is a quadruped animal with its head turned over the back; on the right may be another quadruped animal in a vertical orientation, or, less probable, a seated (or upright[?]) anthropomorphic figure with its arms held forward.

DISCUSSION: The figure on the left is possibly a horse; a similar scene, featuring a horse next to a standing anthropomorphic figure, is known from other limestone scaraboids (see Lachish No. 140); for another quadruped animal standing next to a plant, see Lachish No. 151.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum of the scene with an unidentified figure is Gezer No. 41, where the (left) animal is horned and turned in the opposite direction. Comparanda of a horse with an anthropomorphic figure include Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 338; Lachish No. 140 (and see more comparanda there). For the combination of the horse with several other quadruped animals, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 245.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15827.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1453.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:87; Magrill 2006: 27; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:87. *[NoR]*

149



150



151 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 2.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 12.8 mm (W) × 10.2 mm (H); 3.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; chip-carved.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the left is a quadruped animal facing to the right, its tail bent downwards; on the right is probably a plant or tree (O. Keel, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal may be a caprid (but note the long, bent tail which is more common in bovines). The combination of a caprid with a branch/tree was depicted on stamp seals since early times (see HaGoshrim No. 21 for an item from the Chalcolithic period), and was common during the Middle Bronze and Iron Ages (see Lachish No. 115).

COMPARANDA: Similar scenes are depicted on limestone scaraboids found in the same context: e.g., Lachish No. 115, and see more comparanda there. A close comparandum on a stone scaraboid is Bethel No. 22. Similar depictions on scaraboids made of bone include Lachish No. 153, 155 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15814. BM/Big number: 160356.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4835.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:88; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 92; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 92; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:88. *[NoR]*

152 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Severe deteriorations, broken in the lower left side of the base with cracks running through the base and around the perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (body); linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. A striding horned quadruped animal with hatched neck and body, facing to the right; its horns are long and slightly curved downwards, its double-lined and slightly oblique tail extends straight upwards until it meets the frame line.

DISCUSSION: The striding animal has been interpreted as an antelope (Tufnell 1953: 371) or a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). For the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, see Lachish No. 125.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of bone seals depicting a striding caprid include Beth Shean No. 121; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 359; Hazor No. 81; Jerusalem No. 201 (and see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2061.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1309.
① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 222, No. SO.8, Pl. 25:SO.8; Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:89; Keel [2]1992: 139, 141, Fig. 81b; Keel 1995: § 139–140, Fig. 85; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, 158, Fig. 269c; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, 158, Fig. 269c; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:89. *[NoR]*

151



152



153 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn, chipped at the lower right side of the base (behind the animal). MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled (head, body); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a horned quadruped animal facing left, its long horns extending to the right; on the left is a branch or plant, its leaves facing outwards. The animal's mouth touches the uppermost leaf.

DISCUSSION: The animal represents most probably a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). The combination of the caprid and a branch was common in earlier periods, but is most typical during the Middle Bronze and Iron Ages (see Lachish No. 115). For the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group in general, see Lachish No. 125.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include Lachish No. 116 (composite material scarab, but stylistically similar); Beth Shemesh No. 24; Lachish No. 151; Megiddo No. 201 (all stone scaraboids; see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1577.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 120 (LB?, mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE and Late Iron IIA–Iron III, beginning of 9th–late 6th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5166.

① See Lachish No. 67.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:90; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 92; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 92; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:90. *[NoR]*

154 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken lengthwise (restored), slightly worn and chipped at the upper left of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 18.7 mm (L) × 15.1 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; chip-carved.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a horned quadruped facing left with two long horns extending over its back; on the left is a scorpion, its head facing upwards, while its tail extends beneath the quadruped's legs.

DISCUSSION: The horned quadruped animal is probably a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). For the meaning and significance of the scorpion, see Lachish No. 120. The combination of the scorpion with a caprid was common in the Iron Age I–IIB and also occurs with suckling animals (Schroer 2018: 66, 69–70, 308–323; and see Tell el-Farʿa [N] No. 6).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 155 comes very close with regard to the caprid, but the scorpion seems to have transformed into a tree or branch. Comparanda made of stone (scaraboids and conoids) include Beth Shemesh No. 163; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 6; Tall al-Ḥamma (East) No. 1 (and see more references there). For related stamp impressions on sealings, see Beth Shean No. 39; Tell el-Ḥamma (West) No. 5 (and again more references there).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Durham Collections, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.678. Acquired from the Wellcome-Marston excavation of 1932–1938.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6103.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:91; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:91. *[NoR]*

153



154



155 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II? (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled? (head); chip-carved.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. On the right is a quadruped animal facing left and looking upwards, with long, curved horns extending over the back. On the left, what was identified as a scorpion on Lachish No. 154, looks rather like a tree with nine branches here (O. Keel, pers. comm.; Keel 1995: § 433; note the slightly oblique direction, though, and the horizontal line at the base, which could either represent a scorpion's tail or a ground line).

DISCUSSION: The horned quadruped animal is probably a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). For the meaning and significance of the caprid and a branch/tree, see Lachish No. 115.

COMPARANDA: As mentioned above, Lachish No. 154 (also a bone scaraboid) closely resembles this item. Comparanda on limestone scaraboids include Beth Shemesh No. 24; Jerusalem No. 13; Lachish No. 153 (and see more parallels there). For caprids and branches on scaraboids or scarabs made of composite material, see Lachish No. 116; Megiddo No. 653. Beth Shean No. 9 is a fired steatite scarab bearing a similar design but in different style.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15826.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1446.
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:92; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 92; Magrill 2006: 26; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 92; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:92. *[NoR]*

156 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn, slightly chipped on the back. WEIGHT: 1.13 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of dark grey? glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a striding horned quadruped animal facing right, with straight legs and a short tail curving up; above it on the left are two short vertical lines and an unidentified sign, composed of a V-shaped element within a flat U-shaped element, possibly a flower; an identical sign features to the right of the animal.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal is probably a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.; Keel 1995: § 518–520); the two unidentified signs can perhaps be interpreted as plants (Keel 1995: § 431; Tufnell 1953: 371; see also Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 406, No. VA 13, Pl. 127, VA 13; Keel 2020: No. 681, 688–689). For the significance of the caprid and branch/tree or other vegetals, see Lachish No. 115.

COMPARANDA: An almost exact parallel (Lachish No. 157) was found in the same context, with an additional, similar piece (Lachish No. 158). Other similar layouts occur on scaraboids made of composite MATERIAL: Tall al-Mazar No. 8 (with a sun disc above the caprid); and Gezer No. 663 (with the two vertical lines and the *nb* [V30] signs). For a scarab comparandum, see Lachish No. 116 with a similar unidentified sign in front of the caprid (but in a different orientation).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron III (mid 11th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15828.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1441.
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:93; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, Fig. 199a; Magrill 2006: 27; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, Fig. 199a; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:93. *[NoR]*

157 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II? (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a striding horned quadruped animal facing right, with straight legs and a short tail curving up; above it on the left are two short vertical lines and an unidentified sign, composed of a V-shaped element in a flat U-shaped element, possibly a flower; an identical sign features to the right of the animal.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal is probably a caprid, and the two unidentified signs can perhaps be interpreted as plants (see Lachish No. 156). For the meaning and significance of the caprid and branch/tree or other vegetals, see Lachish No. 115.

COMPARANDA: An almost exact parallel (found in the same context) is Lachish No. 156 (see more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron III (mid 11th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on parallels and O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1449.
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 44:94; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, Fig. 199b; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, Fig. 199b. *[NoR]*

155


1946
1980
12-14
15826
1001
57/57
1 cm

156


1980
12-14
15828
1441
1 cm

157


1 cm

158 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II[?] (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a striding horned quadruped animal facing right, with straight legs and a short tail curving up; above it is an unidentified sign, a horizontal oval with the upper line curving into two intersecting lines; to the right of the animal is perhaps a horizontal line above a *nb* (V30) sign, unless the design is the same 'flower' as on Lachish No. 156–157.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal is probably a caprid, and the two unidentified signs can perhaps be interpreted as plants in line with Lachish No. 156. For the meaning and significance of the caprid and branch/tree or other vegetals, see Lachish No. 115.

COMPARANDA: Similar layouts are depicted on composite material scaraboids Lachish No. 156–157.

DATING: Iron I–Iron III (late 12th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and O. Keel, pers. comm.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13,[2] Object no. 1336.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 44:95; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, Fig. 199c; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, Fig. 199c. *[NoR]*

159 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type IV[?] (Keel 1995: § 138). MATERIAL: hematite. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped[?]. WEIGHT: 4.10 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 2.9 mm (D, perforation [front]); 3.8 mm (D, perforation [rear]).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; note the relatively wide perforation channel, as well as the domed back. ENGRAVING: drilled (horns, legs); linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group. Remarks: This item shows close similarities to Ashkelon No. 227 in terms of material, seal type, and engraving methods.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a striding horned quadruped animal facing left; on the left is a branch (Keel 1995: § 433).

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal is probably a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). For the meaning and significance of the caprid and branch/tree see Lachish No. 115. As mentioned, this item can be assigned to the North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group, dated to the beginning of the first millennium BCE (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 371).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is a rock crystal scaraboid depicting the same scene, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 391. An additional close comparandum is an impression on a clay sealing, Tell Jemmeh No. 189; and see further Tell Jemmeh No. 210 (crystal quartz conoid) and Acco No. 131 (hematite scarab). Lachish No. 153, although being a bone scaraboid, is another good comparandum in terms of iconography.

DATING: Iron I–Early Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 10th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15821. BM/Big number: 160579.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.22, Tomb 521 (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3567A.

① See Lachish No. 62.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 222, 224, 364, 366, 371, Pl. 43A/44:96; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 371, 373–377, No. 13, Pl. 20:1; Keel 1995: § 138, 172, 336, 360, p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 93, Fig. 177b; Magrill 2006: 20; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 93, Fig. 177b; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:96. *[NoR]*

160 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 138). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: pinkish-grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 11.1 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. Very shallow.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Unidentified feature in the centre.

DISCUSSION: The feature is possibly a schematic quadruped animal facing right: a caprid or feline (O. Keel, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: For similar pieces made of composite material with unidentified base engraving, see Lachish No. 161, 712.

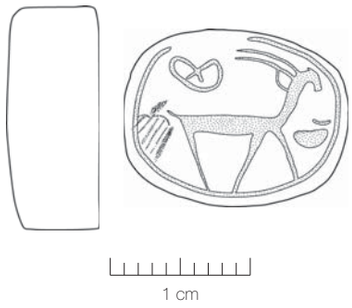
DATING: Iron I–Iron II (late 12th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating uncertain.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.619.

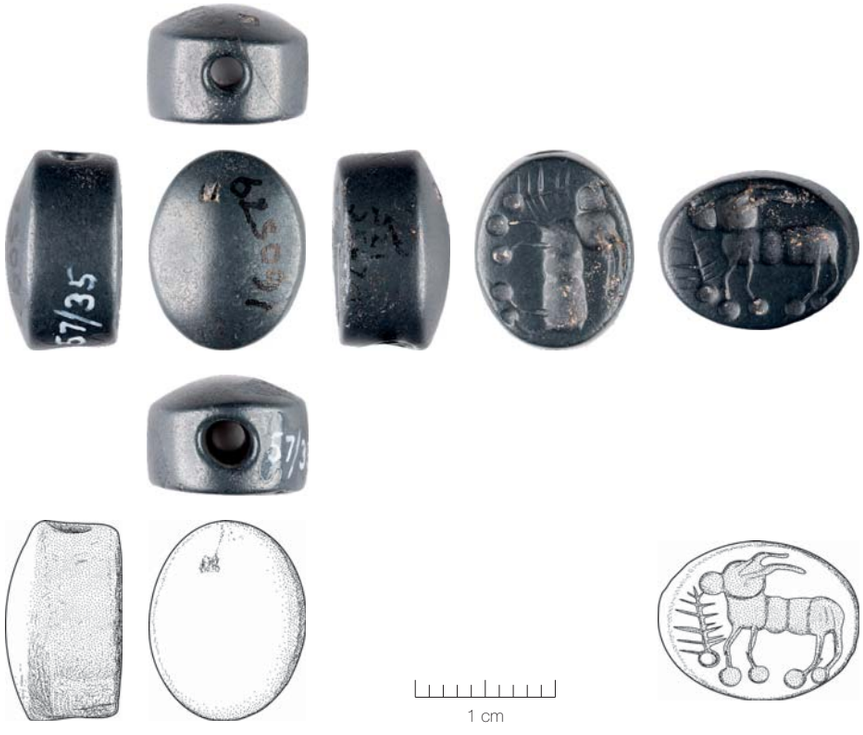
CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3068.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:97; Keel 1995: § 138, p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:97. *[NoR]*

158



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160



161 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone[?], composite material[?]. COLOUR: pink. PRESERVATION: complete. Broken at the left side of the base, worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. A quadruped animal facing left (its head possibly turned back[?]); to the left is an unidentified motif, perhaps a branch (I. Koch, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal can be interpreted as a schematic striding caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.; see Keel 1995: § 518–520). The combination of a caprid with a branch is well known on stamp seals from the Iron Age southern Levant (see Lachish No. 113, 115 for discussion).

COMPARANDA: For a limestone scaraboid depicting a schematic quadruped animal, see Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 27; the stone conoid Beth Shemesh No. 62 is an another comparandum, however, it displays additional motifs. A similar quadruped horned animal occurs on Lachish No. 27, a schematic scarab made of fired steatite.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15806.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3067.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:98; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 122; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:98. *[NoR]*

162 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 14.3 mm (W) × 10.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre, above a horizontal line, is a quadruped recumbent animal facing right; on the right, in front of the animal, is an unidentified feature, and another feature difficult to identify on the left.

DISCUSSION: The animal in the centre can be interpreted as a caprid (O. Keel and S. Schroer, pers. comm.) or as a desert hare (B. Greet, pers. comm.; note the relatively stocky anatomy). For depictions of both (caprid and hare) see Schroer 2008: 208, No. 439. The sign on the left can perhaps be interpreted as a scorpion (Schroer, pers. comm.; hence the drawing) or a plant.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Depictions of a hare feature on fired steatite scarabs Tell el-Ḥesi No. 4; Gezer No. 674; Tall al-Mazar No. 12. A comparable caprid features on Beth Shean No. 62 (fired steatite scarab), and Tel Ḥarasim No. 18 (limestone scaraboid), see more comparanda there.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron III (mid 11th–late 6th c. BCE); uncertain; dating based on closest comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.617.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area 500, Locus D/X, Object no. 4092.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:99; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:99. *[NoR]*

161



162



163 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone or fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly cracked. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 18.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep modelled sunk relief with drilling holes; drilled[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two horned or long-eared quadruped animals, their bodies facing each other inwards, their heads turned back. Their long necks are notched, and their tails extend upwards before bending downwards.

DISCUSSION: The two animals can be interpreted as caprids (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116). Similarly notched necks have been interpreted as indicating manes. However, since such notching can occasionally be found on the body of anthropomorphic figures (see Lachish No. 137), it should perhaps be interpreted as a stylistic feature rather than the depiction of hair.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of scaraboids depicting two caprids facing each other are Lachish No. 164 (limestone) and Acco No. 137 (bone), and see more parallels there. The stone scaraboid Beth Shemesh No. 163 shows a similar stylistic rendering of a caprid.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256o.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5051.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:100; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, Fig. 198a; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, Fig. 198a; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:100. *[NoR]*

164 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Slightly broken on the left side and upper part of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 17.6 mm (L) × 14.3 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two horned or long-eared quadruped animals, their bodies turned outwards with their heads turned back facing each other. Their long necks are notched, their tails extend upwards before bending downwards. The feature between the two pairs of horns has been interpreted as a flower (O. Keel, pers. comm.; see Keel 1995: § 429), but this might be the result of a breakage.

DISCUSSION: The two animals can be interpreted as caprids (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116). See Lachish No. 163 for further discussion.

COMPARANDA: Bone scaraboid Lachish No. 163 is a close comparandum, found in the same context; for limestone conoids depicting this scene, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 873; Taanach No. 4 (and more comparanda there).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21880.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5052.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:101; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 116, Fig. 198b; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 116, Fig. 198b; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:101. *[NoR]*

163



164



165 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 17.3 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two horned quadruped animals facing each other in a *tête-bêche* position, with a vertical line between them. Both animals have long, notched necks.

DISCUSSION: The animals are probably caprids (Keel 1995: § 518–520, see discussion in Lachish No. 163), and the vertical line can be interpreted as a remnant of a branch (Keel 1995: § 433). For the combination of a caprid and a branch or tree see Lachish No. 115. The *tête-bêche* arrangement of the animals is a stylistic feature attested since the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor 2007: 118).

COMPARANDA: Two close comparanda of limestone scaraboids are Gezer No. 416 (with additional motifs and without a branch); Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 393 (without a branch); and see more comparanda there. A single caprid with a branch is depicted on the limestone scaraboid Beth Shemesh No. 30; steatite scaraboid Amman No. 63; and see more comparanda there. For a stylistically close comparandum, featuring ostriches instead of quadrupeds, see the limestone scaraboid Lachish No. 148.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.670.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1004 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7285.

① Tomb 1004 was an irregularly shaped pit, perhaps originally from the Middle Bronze Age when it was cut into a large chamber, and later into two sub-units, which were divided by a line of stones. Alternatively, Tomb 1004 was cut into a Late Bronze Age pit, which was then sealed with stones. The tomb was disturbed; only a single skeleton and a few bones comprised the human remains. The artifacts found in this tomb included two scaraboids and pottery vessels (Tufnell 1953: 236–238). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 165, 183.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:102; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:102. *[NoR]*

166 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly cracked around one perforation hole. WEIGHT: 1.27 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (*nb*); modelled sunk relief (lion). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, above a large *nb* (V30) sign, there is a striding quadruped animal with a broad, angular head, facing to the right; its long tail is curved upwards over its back.

DISCUSSION: The striding animal can be interpreted as a lion (Tufnell 1953: 371; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 158). For the meaning and significance of the lion on southern Levantine seals of the Iron Age II, see Megiddo No. 342. The stylistic representation of the lion is somewhat different from "Israelite" inscribed lion seals and may (according to Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 158) have been influenced by Egyptian representations. Its long curved tail above the body is also reminiscent of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, however, where the tail can extend into a uraeus (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 643; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 158), as is the large *nb* (V30) (compare Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1133, for instance).

COMPARANDA: Similar layouts depicting a striding lion occur on bone seals Lachish No. 177; Beth Shemesh No. 46; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 302; Megiddo No. 342 (and see more comparanda there). For a striding lion combined with (stepping over[?]) an anthropomorphic figure in the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, see Jerusalem No. 111; Lachish No. 127.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16513.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 6–10,[2] Object no. 1315.

① See Lachish No. 70. — ② See Lachish No. 97.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:103; Keel 1995: p. 280, 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 118, 158, 224, 236, Fig. 268b; Strawn 2005: 404, Fig. 3.99; Magrill 2006: 26; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 118, 158, 224, 236, Fig. 268b; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:103; Münger 2022: 48, n. 18. *[NoR]*

165



166



167 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped at the right side of the base, near the fish's head. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. A schematic, angular and symmetrical depiction of a fish takes more than half of the base; alongside it, suggesting a vertical arrangement, is a pillar (O. Keel, pers. comm.), topped by a capital finishing in petals.

DISCUSSION: The fish sign can be interpreted as Tilapia (*jn* [K1]) (or Nile perch; O. Keel, pers. comm.). The pillar sign might serve as a substitute for the presence of a goddess, depicted standing at the entrance of a structure (perhaps a temple) since the Late Bronze Age (Schroer 2018: 68), or it might just be a plain pillar. The combination of fish and goddess is already attested during the Middle Bronze Age (see Beth Shemesh No. 81).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Jerusalem No. 44 is a bone seal depicting a fish, with Hebrew inscription; additional parallels depicting fish include Lachish No. 44 (oval seal); Achziv No. 132 (rectangular piece); Bethel No. 2 (stone scaraboid); Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 625 (gold finger-ring); and scarabs Lachish No. 513; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 131 (see there for further comparanda).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on the closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1389, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 1073" and "BM 15804, TD 1060").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 4088.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:104; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:104. *[NoR]*

168 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: pink, reddish-orange. PRESERVATION: complete. Horizontal crack in the base. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with cross hatching (animal's body); linear (horns, legs); drilled (astral symbol, head).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. A quadruped horned animal, with a short tail pointing upwards, leaping to the left with its head turned back towards an astral symbol. On the far right, behind the animal's hind legs and tail, is a feature composed of two vertical lines, two horizontal lines, and an inverted triangle at the top.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal is probably a caprid, and the astral symbol has been interpreted as a many-rayed star (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 188). The feature on the right has been described as a stylized *ʿnḫ* (S34) and identified as an astral symbol (Uehlinger 1990, starting the argument from Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1232; see also Schroer 2018: No. 1897). It also occurs on Assyrian cylinder seals (such as those found at Samaria and Beth Shemesh, Ornan 1997: 279, 363, No. 166, 167). The feature seems to rather represent a schematic altar or stand (see Ornan 1997: 215), notably when it is depicted twice (el-Jurn No. 1; Mt. Nebo No. 1) or even three times (Dor No. 7) in a single composition, sometimes next to a tree or a cult symbol. Astral symbols and caprids were traditionally associated with the goddess since the Bronze Age (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 188), and the combination of the quadruped animal with the star remained relatively common during the Iron Age (see comparanda below).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is the limestone scaraboid Megiddo No. 678, which features two branches instead of the *ʿnḫ* (S34), and the head of the quadruped is not turned backwards. For a similar depiction of the *ʿnḫ* (S34)-like symbol or stand, see the cylinder seal Mt. Nebo No. 1. For the depiction of a quadruped animal in association with astral motifs on scaraboids, see Tel Malḥata No. 3; Tall al-Mazar No. 18; Megiddo No. 201, 678; Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 11, 54.

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1830.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area 500, Locus D/X, Object no. 4091.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:105; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 187, 188, Fig. 317b; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 187, 188, Fig. 317b; Wenning 2014: 53, Fig. 2:105. *[NoR]*

167



168



169 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: greyish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Black patches, burnt[?]. WEIGHT: 1.54 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching; linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals. Remarks: The back of the seal displays a cross pattern, composed of two ladder-like, but slightly different bars. Such a pattern appears on the base engraving of seals dated from the Late Bronze Age onwards, such as on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 861 or Gezer No. 106, 652 (N. Ben-Marzouk, pers. comm.). It occurs on other items from the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, see Arad No. 27; Hazor No. 96; Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 55.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a schematic bird depicted frontally, its beak turned right, its outstretched wings pointing upwards and its claws extending from the tail feathers on either side. Above the bird is a horizontal oval (or schematic cartouche), inscribed with dots or discs at each end and two ladder-like bars and a single line running perpendicular to the long sides of the oval.

DISCUSSION: The bird has been interpreted as a falcon or a vulture (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 158), which appeared with spread wings already in the Middle Bronze Age (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 149). The specific rendering of that bird occurs on other examples of Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, such as on Beth Shean No. 200; Gezer No. 181; Jerusalem No. 203. The schematic rendering of the cartouche regularly features on seals of this group; among them, Dan No. 30; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 231; Gezer No. 280; Jerusalem No. 124 display quite similar designs within the cartouche (see further Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 347; Jerusalem No. 130, 205; and stamp impression Tell Jemmeh No. 168).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 907 and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 55 are close comparanda. Additional comparanda among the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, all showing the bird only, without the cartouche, include Lachish No. 170; Jerusalem No. 455; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 114.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16498.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Locus 100, Object no. 5374.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:106; Keel 1995: § 140, 201, p. 280, 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 149, 158, 255, Fig. 267a; Schipper 1999: 298, Fig. 10; Magrill 2006: 3; Keel 2007: 343, Fig. 238; Münger 2022: 48, n. 14, Fig. 2:9. *[NoR]*

170 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.43 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 14.2 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (wings). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a bird, depicted frontally with outstretched wings, its beak facing right. Five lines extending downwards from the wings are probably meant to depict the bird's tail feathers, and legs (the two exterior lines).

DISCUSSION: For the identification and significance of the bird with outspread wings, see Lachish No. 169.

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 181 offers a close comparandum (with an additional feature above the bird), as does Jerusalem No. 116 (a seal impression on a handle); a somewhat similar design (following Tufnell 1953: 371) occurs on a composite material scaraboid, Megiddo No. 282. See more comparanda in Lachish No. 169.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16514.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1454.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 43A/44:107; Keel 1995: § 140, 201, p. 280; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 158; Magrill 2006: 26; Münger 2022: 48, n. 20. *[NoR]*

169



170



171 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (*nb*). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the upper and lower virtual registers there are two mirrored features consisting of a triangle and two almond- or leave-shaped elements extending on either side; in the centre is a *nb* (V30) with hatching.

DISCUSSION: The two symmetrical features can be interpreted as schematic winged sun-discs, the triangle may be being derived from uraei (note Ashkelon No. 87, and see Acco No. 51–52; Khirbat an-Naḥas No. 5 for precedents on scarabs of the 22nd Dyn.), a motif that appears on other seals from this group (such as Gezer No. 280; Samaria No. 12). However, the central triangle could also depict tail feathers (compare the bird with outstretched wings in Lachish No. 169–170 [Tufnell 1953: 371]; and see Hazor No. 24, where Keel's interpretation as a crescent moon seems improbable, since, unlike the *jʿḥ* [N12] sign, the two wings of the motif do not join to form a crescent). Additional, less convincing possibilities have been suggested: a schematic depiction of papyrus plants (Achziv No. 143; Megiddo No. 221); a *ḫ3st* (N25) sign, common in the Middle Bronze Age (see Shiloh No. 11); or a motif such as Jerusalem No. 273 (stamped bulla, also with a mirrored design, but note that the triangle there is reversed compared to the item here).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The Middle Bronze Age scarab Pella No. 45 depicts a similar design, as well as a a scarab from Tanis, Egypt (Louvre E 15942; T. Beuthe, pers. comm.). For similar Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, see Gezer No. 280; Samaria No. 12.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda and group attribution.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16515.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1455.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 364, 371, Pl. 44/44A:108; Keel 1995: p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 26; Münger 2022: 49, n. 27. *[NoR]*

172 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: yellow. PRESERVATION: broken. The upper part of the base, above the figure's head, is broken off; worn. WEIGHT: 0.86 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.1 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Standing or striding anthropomorphic figure facing right, the 'left' arm raised upwards in smiting posture while the 'right' arm holds a long, unidentified object. On the left, behind the figure, is a long and thin object placed vertically, perhaps a *ḥqꜣ* (S38); possible further signs cannot be identified anymore.

DISCUSSION: Tufnell suggested that the standing figure was falcon-headed (Tufnell 1953: 371; supported by O. Keel, pers. comm.); the item's state of preservation makes it difficult to confirm this with certainty. The smiting posture was common already during the Middle Bronze Age (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1040; Emmaus No. 1; Gezer No. 331; Jerusalem No. 18; Lachish No. 314), the figure being often interpreted as the storm god (or "Baʿal-Seth" when depicted on a lion, such as Beth Shean No. 53; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 828). The smiting posture usually includes a weapon in the raised hand; here, however, the raised hand does not hold anything, while the other hand may be holding a sceptre or, alternatively, a plant. Taken together, this might imply a gesture of victory on behalf of a storm god (as argued by Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 24 with reference to depictions on Middle Bronze Age scarabs).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda found are those stated above; the stylistic rendering is different here, but note that the base is quite heavily worn. Achziv No. 58 may be an Iron Age comparandum for the smiting posture.

DATING: Iron I–Iron III (late 12th–late 6th c. BCE) or less likely MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16508.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.A,[2] Object no. 323.

① See Lachish No. 59. — ② Room A is the outer chamber of Tomb 106, two carved steps led into the room after the sealed entrance was cleared (Tufnell 1953: 179, Fig. 21). To the north of the door was a cut bench (*ibid.*: 179, Pl. 3:4).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 44/44A:109; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 5. *[NoR]*

171



172



173 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134) or type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. The back is slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.69 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 8.3 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (*mn*); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. From right to left, a vertical *n* (N35), an *j* (M17), followed by *mn* (Y5) above *tjt* (D17).

DISCUSSION: The signs in the centre should be read together as *tjt Jmn* "image/likeness of Amun" (Tufnell 1953: 371; Keel 1995: § 642). The name of Amun-Re appears on seals since the 18th Dyn. and reached its peak during the 19th and the 20th Dyn., being the most popular divine name on stamp seals found in the southern Levant; the addition of the epithet *tjt* (D17) was also common (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are scarabs Lachish No. 74 and Beth Shemesh No. 5, 18; and see Ashkelon No. 90; Azekah No. 23; Acco No. 102, 180, where the epithet is combined with additional motifs.

DATING: 19th–22nd Dyn. (1292–746 BCE); dating based on the closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16506.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.10, Tomb 160 (Iron IIB, 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2666.

① Tomb 160 was located southwest to the Fosse Temple and included a rock-cut chamber; according to the excavators (Tufnell 1953: 198), it contained two skeletons, but only fragments of the bones had remained. Based on the pottery assemblage, it is possible that the two burials were not placed there at the same time (see also Wenning 2021: 229). This tomb was contemporaneous with Level III (Tufnell 1953: 50), hence the dating to the Iron IIB.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 44/44A:110; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 10. *[NoR]*

174 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 0.65 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.4 mm (L) × 7.7 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a striding waterfowl facing right; on the right, an erect uraeus equally facing right, the slightly oblique line running parallel to the cobra's body representing its tail. Between the two animals, at the bottom, is a *rʿ* (N5); on the left, above the waterfowl's back, is another, unclear sign consisting of two roughly vertical strokes on a horizontal line.

DISCUSSION: This layout is known for the combination of the waterfowl, which stands for the hieroglyph *zꜣ* (G39), with the *rʿ* (N5), and which usually occurs with a *mn* (Y5) and a *nfr* (F35), read together as "Perfect (or beautiful) is the son of Amun" (Tufnell 1953: 371; see, for example, Megiddo No. 154). However, in this example, the feature on the right is clearly neither a *nfr* (F35), nor a *šw(t)* (H6), but rather a uraeus (as best seen on Beth Shemesh No. 13; Tell Jemmeh No. 37; and Lachish No. 175), while the sign on the upper left probably derives from what was originally meant to be a *mn* (Y5), thus suggesting suggesting numinous protection by "the son of Amun-Re", i.e., the king.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but a very close comparandum was found in the same locus—Lachish No. 175. Other close comparanda are the scaraboid Gezer No. 277 and the scarabs mentioned above. See also the scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 251; Beth Shean No. 189; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 54; Lachish No. 549 (with more comparanda there); and the seal impression Qubur el-Waleida No. 3 (a close comparandum, not an exact parallel).

DATING: Late Iron IIA (9th c. BCE); 21st–22nd Dyn. (1076–746 BCE) or less likely 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating according to the closest comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16500. BM/Big number: 160337.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4854.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 44/44A:111; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

173



174



175 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn, five small holes in the base. WEIGHT: 0.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.4 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 4.0 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of glaze. Remarks: The holes on the base were perhaps caused during the engraving of the **BASE:** it seems that in the deepest spots, the engraving line met the perforation hole.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a striding waterfowl facing right; on the right is a uraeus facing right, its long tail extending upwards, and between them a *rʿ* (N5). On the left, above the back of the waterfowl, is a rectangular sign which probably stands for (or derives from) a *mn* (Y5) (although it almost seems to have developed into a wing here [Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.]).

DISCUSSION: Similar to Lachish No. 174, this layout expresses numinous protection by "the son of Amun-Re", i.e., the king.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are Lachish No. 174, which was found in the same context and is of the same seal type, Beth Shemesh No. 13 and Tell Jemmeh No. 37. See further seal impression Qubur el-Waleida No. 3 for another close comparandum (and more in Lachish No. 174).

DATING: 21st–22nd Dyn. (1076–746 BCE); dating based on the closest comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16501. BM/Big number: 160351.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4855.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–364, 371, Pl. 44/44A:112; Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

176 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none; according to CSAPI index card (B. Jaeger), probably inferred from the original line drawing. ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?]. The markings on the base do not seem to be engraved (coloured spots[?]).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line[?]. In the centre is a seated figure facing right with a raised arm. Below the seated figure is an additional sign, possibly *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This composition is difficult to interpret due to the item's poor state of preservation; the position of the figure is similar to a seated monkey, perhaps above a *nb* (V30) (Tufnell 1953: 371), such as Acco No. 205 (but see Gezer No. 253 for an alternative).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda for the seated monkey are scaraboids Ashkelon No. 228; Gezer No. 126, 188, 253; and scarabs Lachish No. 118; Ashkelon No. 66; see also seal impressions Ekron No. 62; Jerusalem No. 113, 207. Additional comparanda include Achziv No. 151; Megiddo No. 247, 259; Taanach No. 5.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda, and see Tell Jemmeh No. 115 and Taanach No. 5 for an updated discussion of the dating.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. A b/w print in CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 5334, B. 722").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. unknown.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 371, Pl. 44/44A:113. *[NoR]*

177 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn base, with a thin horizontal crack (roughly following the perforation channel). WEIGHT: 1.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 3.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre, a schematic striding horned quadruped animal facing right, with a rectangular head and a characteristic, slightly oblique, two-line tail.

DISCUSSION: This design was erroneously interpreted as a "crude representation of sacred eye" (Tufnell 1953: 371). The item belongs to the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group, and the design depicts a striding caprid (see Münger 2022: 48, Fig. 2).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For bone seals with a striding caprid, see Lachish No. 152; Hazor No. 81; Tell Jemmeh No. 47; Jerusalem No. 201; and most probably Samaria No. 14. Compare further Tell Abu Salima No. 20; Beth Shean No. 121; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 359 (all with a single horn). The motif occasionally appears with an oval cartouche (Dan No. 30) or a *nb* (V30)-like base motif (Ashdod No. 16).

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and group attribution.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15808.

CONTEXT: Level III[?] (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square H.14, Room 1002 (Iron IIB, 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5448.

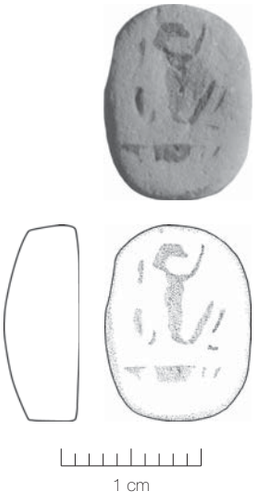
① Room 1002 was built to the south of the "enclosure" wall of the citadel, which served as its northern wall, while the east and west walls were built of small stones. At the north part of the room was a grinding installation, which included two grinding stones, one set on stone with a mud pedestal (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 20:3). Between the two was an assemblage of clay loom weights. The floor of the room was found covered with destruction debris, that included pottery sherds (Tufnell 1953: 106, Pl. 115).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363–365, 371, Pl. 44/44A:114; Keel 1995: p. 280, 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 67; Münger 2022: 48, n. 17. *[NoR]*

175



176



177



178 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre and upper virtual register is a plant with five leaves; to the left, right and below are three oblong, vertical, unidentifiable features. Two additional horizontal lines are engraved at mid-height to the left and right, and a vertical line runs to the left and parallel to the smaller feature at the bottom.

DISCUSSION: The plant motif (Keel 1995: § 433) was common on stamp seals since earliest periods (such as HaGoshrim No. 21); however, this type of motif is usually accompanied by a quadruped animal (such as Lachish No. 156 and Megiddo No. 201). The three unidentified features resemble rhomboid shapes that are occasionally displayed on Iron Age scaraboids (such as Aroer No. 2; Tell Keisan No. 14 and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 50). It has been suggested that such shapes are related to the goddess Ishtar (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.; see Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 116, where a rhomb can be seen behind a worshipper of Ishtar). However, the oblong features on the present item differ from the usual Assyrianizing rhomb and the latter, to the best of our knowledge, does not occur in multiple versions on a single seal. The feature on the right might represent a tall, elongated tree.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The plant motif appears as the central motif on the seal-impression Gezer No. 1 and the figure scaraboid Tell Jemmeh No. 95. The shape of this item and the plant motif are similar to Megiddo No. 606; however, there are many other motifs and Hittite hieroglyphs in the latter. Additional possible comparanda are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1232; Buṣayra No. 17; Jerusalem No. 132.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron III (mid 11th–late 6th c. BCE); dating according to O. Keel (pers. comm.), based on the seal type and closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2029/30" and "BM 15804, TD. 5334, B. 722").

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus n.a., Object no. 6933.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 371, Pl. 44/44A:115; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

179 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brownish-black. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 2.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.4 mm (L) × 15.1 mm (W) × 8.8 mm (H); 3.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. A cross pattern with a circle and a dot in its centre and ladder-like bars; four spirals are engraved in the spandrels. The ladder pattern is better preserved on the horizontal cross-bars than on the vertical ones.

DISCUSSION: The cross pattern was a common feature on Middle Bronze Age scarabs from both Egypt and the southern Levant (Keel 1995: § 494; Ben-Tor 2007: 23–24, 88–89, 137–138; see, for example, Jericho No. 185, 229 and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 756). However, the typology and material of this item indicate a much later dating.

COMPARANDA: Laddered cross-bars occur mostly on Iron Age stamp seals and seal impressions, yet generally without spirals: see limestone scaraboid Gezer No. 652; scarabs Ekron No. 26 and Shiqmona No. 40; seal impression Tell Jemmeh No. 192; and note similar patterns on the backs of Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals (e.g., Lachish No. 169). For non-laddered cross-patterns on scaraboids, see Beth Shemesh No. 33 (ivory); Beth Shean No. 35 and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 244 (both composite material).

DATING: Late Iron IIA (9th c. BCE); dating based on the seal type, material and context.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.134 B.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 400.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 371, Pl. 44/44A:116. *[NoR]*

178



179



180 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Base broken on the upper left side and in the centre of the opposing side; a piece is chipped off near the perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. Two symmetrical registers divided by two horizontal lines: in each half, an unclear, knot-like element is flanked by two rhomboid signs with horizontal striation.

DISCUSSION: The central element can perhaps be interpreted as a *ḏd* (R11) pillar (O. Keel, pers. comm.), as *zꜣ* (V17/V18) (T. Beuthe, pers. comm.), as the base of three papyrus stems (*ḥꜣ/mḥw* [M16]), or as a knot (see Gibeon No. 52). The flanking features were interpreted as uraei (Tufnell 1953: 371), but they are too schematic to be certain. The *ḏd* (R11) flanked by two Egyptian hieroglyphs (such as *dšrt* [S3] or uraei) was common in the Late Bronze Age (Lalkin 2008: Pl. 89; Beth Shemesh No. 125; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 604).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are the scarab Achziv No. 137, where the *ḏd* (R11) is flanked by two uraei, as well as the ring Jabal al-Qusayr No. 1. The Middle Bronze scarab Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 422 offers another possible comparandum. However, none of these show this item's mirror-like layout of this item.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based mostly on Achziv No. 137 and context.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21881.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5053.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 371, Pl. 44/44A:117; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

181 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.44 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.6 mm (L) × 15.1 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a circle with a dot inside, from which ten short lines radiate outwards. Eight of the ten lines connect to drilled circles, each with a dot. The series of circles surrounding the central circle creates an almost flower-like pattern.

DISCUSSION: The circle with a dot inside—Design Class 4—was a common motif since the beginning of the Middle Bronze Age: it appears on early Middle Kingdom scarabs (from the Montet Jar, Byblos) and on seal impressions from Abu Ghalib (Ben-Tor 2007: 22). It was very popular on Middle Bronze Age scarabs (e.g., Megiddo No. 106), already at the beginning of the local scarab production (Ben-Tor 2007: 136–137). The design class continued to be popular also in the Late Bronze Age (see Megiddo No. 149; Acco No. 154; the latter seems to be a dice rather than a seal) and later (as the present item and Lachish No. 183, 185). These motifs appeared on other types of objects as well, for instance bone pendants (see Tufnell 1953: Pl. 37:7–27 for examples from Lachish).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda of bone scaraboids bearing the concentric circles are Lachish No. 182–185. Additional comparanda include limestone seals Megiddo No. 321; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 5; scarabs Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 277, 367, 629; and seal impression Jerusalem No. 173 (see there for additional comparanda).

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on material, seal typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15825.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Locus unstratified, Object no. 1439.

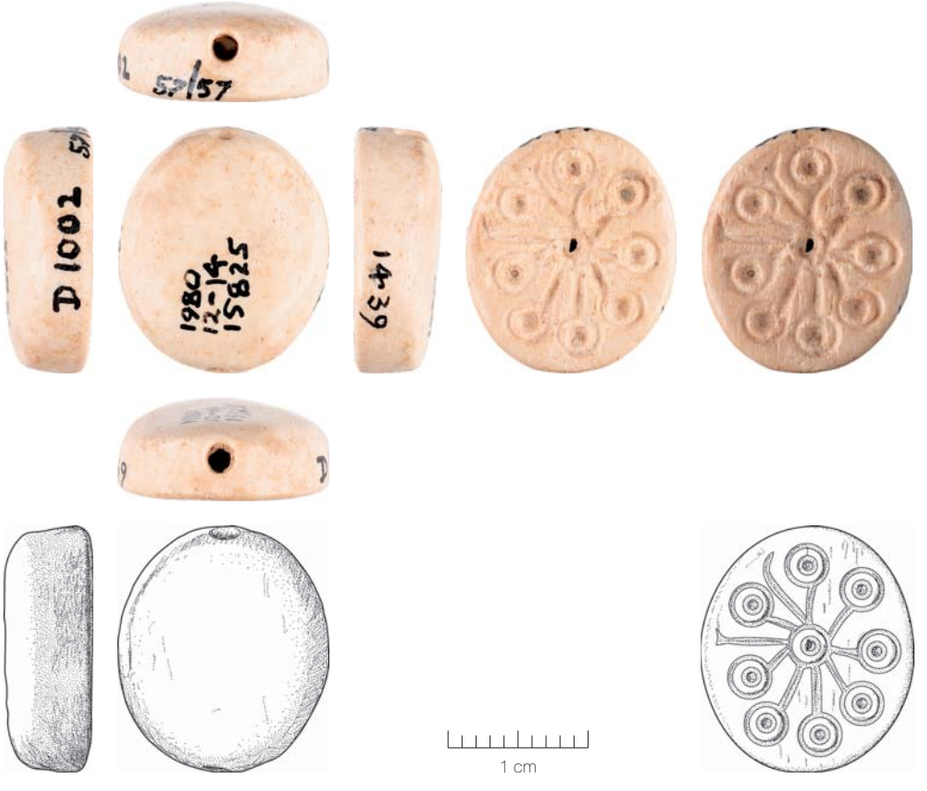
① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 371, Pl. 44/44A:118; Keel 1995: § 490; Magrill 2006: 26. *[NoR]*

180



181



182 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back[?], type I (Keel 1995: § 197). MATERIAL: bone. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Unspecific, concentric layout without frame line. In the centre is a circle with a dot inside, from which eight short lines radiate outward, connecting to drilled circles, each again with a dot inside. The series of circles surrounding the central circle creates an almost floral pattern.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 181.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 181.

DATING: Late Iron I–Late Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material, comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 107 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 401.

① See Lachish No. 60.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 371, Pl. 44/44A:119; Keel 1995: § 490, p. 283 (typology). *[NoR]*

183 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. Five circles with dots at their centre. Three of the five show an additional line branching off.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 181.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 181.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material, seal typology, comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.671.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1004 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7286.

① See Lachish No. 165.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 371, Pl. 44/44A:120; Keel 1995: § 490, p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

184 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.71 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre, an anthropomorphic figure stands between two rows of circles with dots, three to the left and two to the right. The figure's arms are outstretched to the sides, between the uppermost and central circles; legs are spread, perhaps indicating that the figure is walking to the right (note 'right' foot).

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 181 for a discussion of the concentric circles. The combination of those circles with a central anthropomorphic figure is otherwise known from the Iron Age (see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 367).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 367 is the closest comparandum. For other compositions with concentric circles, see Lachish No. 181.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material, comparanda and context.

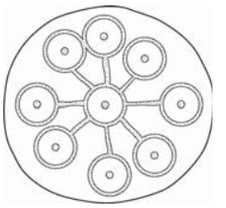
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15816. BM/Big number: 160349.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.Door,[2] Object no. 4842.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 371, Pl. 44/44A:121; Keel 1995: § 493, p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

182



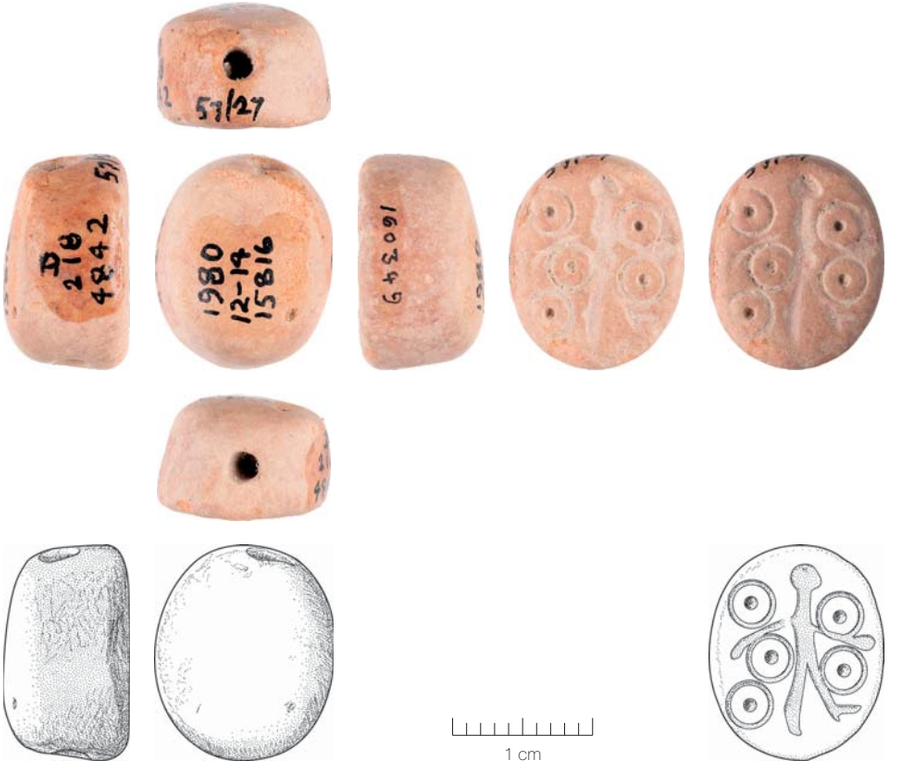
1 cm

183



1 cm

184



1 cm

185 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. The base is heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a circle with a dot inside; it is surrounded by a few (probably eight) other circles with a dot inside, almost touching (but not connected to) each other. A possible additional feature, composed of at least three straight lines in a box-like arrangement, is visible on one of the narrow sides of the base.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 181 for a general discussion of designs composed of concentric circles with dots.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 181.

DATING: Late Iron I–Late Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material, comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). A b/w print in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 320").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 570A.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44/44A:122; Keel 1995: § 493, p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

186 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: pale green. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped and partially damaged, perhaps due to the use of this seal inlaid in a ring (see Achziv No. 144, 146). WEIGHT: 1.86 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a hybrid, partly anthropomorphic figure, facing to the right with one arm (or both arms[?]) raised; the figure's bottom or hind part is composed of a fish tail, winding and bent upwards. Above the back of the figure is a six-pointed star. To the right, in front of the figure, is an elongated, unidentified feature.

DISCUSSION: The figure in the centre has been interpreted as a mermaid (Tufnell 1953: 365, 372; O. Keel, pers. comm.). Such hybrid creatures, mermaid and mermen, were displayed on coins from Tyre and Samaria during the Persian period (Moscati 1968: Fig. 27–28), derived from Aegean and Greek traditions (Schroer and Lippke 2014: 347–349). They occur in the northern more often than in the southern Levant, but examples are also found in the south (see comparanda). While depictions of a merman appear in earlier periods (Schroer and Lippke 2014: 348), mermaids are apparently restricted to the Persian period.

COMPARANDA: For similar depictions on stamp seals, see Tel Bira No. 9; Tel Michal No. 12 (see there for additional comparanda from outside the Levant); Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 38. In all three instances, the hybrid figure holds an elongated object in one hand, which might explain the unidentified feature here.

DATING: Persian period (late 6th–late 4th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15805.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4005 (Late Iron IIA–Persian period, beginning of 9th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5855.

① Cave 4005 was a rectangular chamber, perhaps first cut during the Middle Bronze Age (according to its structure and design). The tomb included over fifty burials, each orderly pushed aside when new interments were placed there. Some skeletons were still in articulation and with their jewellery items (bracelets and anklets) still in place. Of the fifty burials, twelve skeletons were examined (seven males, four females, and one immature): one had evidence for hydrocephaly, another had probably caries (Tufnell 1958: 240–241, 405, 409, Fig. 29; Wenning 2021: 259–260). Pottery vessels were relatively few, and the excavators dated the small objects—a fibula, beads, and earrings—no earlier than the Iron III. According to Zimhoni 2004: table 25.31, however, this tomb is contemporaneous with Tomb 223, which she dates to Level IV, i.e., the Late Iron IIA (*ibid.*: 1698).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44/44A:123; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 41. *[NoR]*

185



1 cm

186



187 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: limestone. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken on the right bottom side of the base (part of the branch is missing), worn. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a standing anthropomorphic, female figure, depicted frontally and holding her breasts with both hands; the figure wears a headdress with a central, triangular ornament and several horizontal lines on either side, her hair falls straight down to the level of her chin; her lower body is covered with a skirt. On the left is another standing anthropomorphic figure, apparently standing on a pedestal, facing to right with the 'right' hand raised and the 'left' held downward alongside the body. This latter figure wears a relatively elaborate long skirt and the hair tied back behind the neck. On the right is a branch in a vertical orientation, above which is a seated figure facing left with (at least) one arm raised, knees bent and what appears to be a short tail. At the top of the composition, hovering above the central female figure, is a figure composed of almost horizontally spread wings and a central 'body' whose nature is difficult to identify.

DISCUSSION: The central female figure has been interpreted as continuing the tradition of a nude goddess (Tufnell 1953: 365; Schroer 2018: 746), represented on scarabs from the Middle Bronze Age onwards (Schroer 1989), and in many other media as well during the Late Bronze Age as well (Schroer 2011: 282–285); but the figure here is probably clothed in her lower part (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 193). For the significance of the (nude) goddess and the branch, see Lachish No. 294. While the figure on the left can be understood as a priest, a ritual expert, or a worshiper, the figure on the right has been interpreted as a seated monkey (such as in Amman No. 67 or Megiddo No. 229). The winged figure above has been understood as a winged sun disc (Tufnell 1953: 365), but the disc is usually depicted the other way round, with extensions down- rather than upwards (such as Tel Nagila No. 58; but see Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 27 for a symmetrical arrangement). Another option is that the two upward pointing lines join to form crescent, and that the motif combines a sun disc and a crescent (for which see Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 115).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The posture of the central female is strikingly reminiscent of the Judahite Pillar Figurines (and their non-Judahite relatives, notably in Transjordan, see Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 190–197). A somewhat similar combination of motifs occurs on a sandstone cube from a temple at Tayma, Saudi Arabia (Schroer 2018: No. 1802); it includes, on both sides, the worshiper, the winged sun disc and the star, and, in place of the female figure, the divine Apis bull. For comparanda of individual motifs, see discussion above.

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating according to Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 193, Schroer 2018: No. 1807, and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. A b/w print in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1873").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6097.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Fig. 35, Pl. 44/44A:124; Winter 1983: 180–181, Fig. 155; Schroer 1989: 100, 135, 191, No. 51; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 193–196, Fig. 323; Staubli 2005: 18, 20, Fig. 35; Keel and Schroer [2]2008: 59, Fig. 29; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 193–196, Fig. 323; Sugimoto 2014: 145, Fig. 2; Keel and Schroer 2015: 41, Fig. 29; Schroer 2018: 746–747, No. 1807. *[NoR]*

188 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: blue paste. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: broken. Pieces broken off the back and base (part of the *rʿ* [N5] is broken) and very worn. WEIGHT: 0.61 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.3 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a schematic seated anthropomorphic figure facing to the right; in front of it, to the right, is probably a *šw(t)* (H6) feather facing left; above these two features is a *rʿ* (N5). The figure's head is possibly adorned.

DISCUSSION: According to Tufnell 1953: 372, the seated figure might represent the king, based on the (barely discernible) head decoration. The figure's connection to the *šw(t)* (H6) is unclear.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Loose comparanda include Acco No. 185, 232; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 430. Similar compositions have other types of figures instead of the king, such as animals (e.g., a seated lion on the base of the pyramid seal Tel Gerisa No. 7; or a squatting baboon on the scarab Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 140).

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE) or late 22nd Dyn. (874–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16502. BM/Big number: 160344.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4866.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 69.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 365, 372, Pl. 44A/45:125; Magrill 2006: 14. *[NoR]*

187



188



189 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back, type V (Keel 1995: § 201). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 0.49 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 8.6 mm (D) × 8.3 mm (D) × 4.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of glaze (incisions). Remarks: The domed back of this seal was decorated with a '+' cross, dividing the circle into four quarters further decorated with parallel diagonal lines. No exact parallel was found, but Acco No. 149 is quite similar. It is possible that this seal was originally a scarab that was reshaped. For such examples, see Lachish No. 106, 190.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a four-petalled, cross-like rosette (Keel 1995: § 494), with four spirals stemming from its centre in the spandrels.

DISCUSSION: The rosette appears on stamp seals since the Middle Kingdom and continued into the Middle and Late Bronze Ages (see Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" in Ben-Tor 2007: 23, 137–138; Lalkin 2008: 64), as well as into the Iron Age (see Achziv No. 17 and Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 339).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 179 is a similar type of seal, but made of limestone. Additional comparanda among Iron Age scarabs include Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 249, 339, 350; Khirbet Nisya No. 2.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); late 20th–22nd Dyn. (1150–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16503. BM/Big number: 160338.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.A,[2] Object no. 4858.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 90.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:126; Keel 1995: § 201, p. 283 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

190 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. The scarab's head and forepart are missing, and the remaining part is chipped on the base. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.0* mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching (uraeus); linear with interior hatching (triangle). COATING: traces of grey glaze. Remarks: This item seems to be broken and subsequently polished into an almost truncated conoid shape.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a triangle with its vertex pointing downwards, above it a horizontal line with vertical notches (perhaps an *n* [N35] sign). The two signs are flanked by two uraei facing outwards, their long tails coming close to the triangle. At the bottom there is a *nb* (V30) sign.

DISCUSSION: When considering the layout of the complete original scarab, it resembles Middle Bronze Age scarabs (such as Megiddo No. 485). Yet, the style of the engraving is somewhat different. Uraei with long tails flanking a central motif are known from New Kingdom scarabs (see Jaeger 1982: 99–103). The line in the broken upper part may represent an *n* (N35) sign, as mentioned above, or depict a branch, similar in style to the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The motif of the triangle (executed in different style) appears on scaraboids Aroer No. 2 and Tel Malḥata No. 4. An *n* (N35) functioning as a dividing line is attested on the scarabs Ashkelon No. 47 and Reḥov No. 39. The combination of the flanking uraeus above a *nb* (V30) is seen on Lachish No. 885.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating based on context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16504. BM/Big number: 160336.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 4853.
① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:128; Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

189



190



191 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal[?] layout, apparently without frame line. In the centre is a striding horned quadruped facing right.

DISCUSSION: Horned quadrupeds depicted on stamp seals are usually interpreted as caprids (e.g., on bone seals, see Jerusalem No. 201, Lachish No. 152, 177 with many comparanda). However, the depiction on this item is unclear; it could just as well be interpreted as a lion, especially if the oblique line over the animal's back is interpreted as the remains of a tail (see Beth Shemesh No. 46). In this case, the putative 'horn' could be the remains of an original frame line.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For bone seals depicting a striding lion, see Lachish No. 166; Megiddo No. 342. Lachish No. 177 is a bone seal depicting a striding caprid (see there for comparanda).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on material and seal typology.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.404D, item unlocatable at the time of writing. Inv. no. and b/w prints in the CSAPI archive; the object could not be found in the Jewish Museum's online catalogue.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 374.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 45:129; Keel 1995: p. 287 (typology); Münger 2022: 48, n. 18. *[NoR]*

192 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece with domed top, type b (Keel 1995: § 229, 232). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: broken. Bottom left corner of the base broken off; chipped on the right side of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 4.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal. ENGRAVING: broad linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series. Remarks: The domed back, when held horizontally, is divided into three registers, the central one is further divided into three horizontal registers: the upper and lower ones consist of three horizontal lines; the central register includes two and three vertical lines from both sides of the central one, which consists of four horizontal lines. See Dan No. 18, 34; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 288 for similar domed backs.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a (largely worn) single frame line. Striding quadruped animal facing right, its tail is extended upwards over its back; on the right is a long vertical sign, above the animal is a long horizontal, partly notched line.

DISCUSSION: The long horizontal sign in the upper part can be interpreted as a branch motif (Keel 1995: § 433) or as an *n* (N35), and the vertical one as *j* (M17) or *šw(t)* (H6), a uraeus or a vertical *nb* (V30) (Rowe 1936: 260). Based on a comparison with less schematic examples, the combination of *j* (M17), lion and *n* (N35) is the most suggestive. Both the back and the base are typical for the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series, where the combination is well attested.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are scarabs Beth Shean No. 71; Beth Shemesh No. 6; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 223; and Pella No. 67. Close comparanda for domed back seals with a striding lion on the base are Acco No. 121 (surface find); Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 826 (unclear context). Additional comparanda include the scarabs Tel Haror No. 1, where the elongated sign is below the lion, and Tel Qarnei Ḥittin No. 1.

DATING: Iron I–Early Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 10th c. BCE); 21st–22nd Dyn. (1076–746 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3086.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 191 (Iron IIB, 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3020.

① Located in the area of the Fosse Temple, Tomb 191 was cut into the fill above a pit associated with Structure II: a single individual in a supine position, its hands placed on the pelvis. Besides the seal, it included three pottery vessels near its head: a storage jar with a juglet inside, above it an inverted bowl (Tufnell 1953: 199–200). This tomb was contemporaneous with Level III, hence dated to the Iron IIB (*ibid*.: 50).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 260. No. S.86, Pl. 29:S.86; Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:130; Keel 1995: § 229, 232, p. 282 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 64, Fig. 133a; Strawn 2005: 389, Fig. 3.37; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 64, Fig. 133a; Münger 2011: 166, 246, Pl. 38, Lachiš 2; Schroer 2018: 120–121, No. 1002. *[NoR]*

191



192



193 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Two horizontal layouts with a single frame line. Side A: A falcon facing right; on the left, behind it, from top to bottom, a cobra in repose (*ḏ[t]* [I10]) facing right, a *nb* (V30), and two simple strokes next to each other; on the right is a long vertical sign difficult to read. Side B: From right to left and from top to bottom, *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35) and *tjt* (D17).

DISCUSSION: Side A: This composition is common in the Late Bronze Age (see Lachish No. 22 and Lalkin 2008: 67, Pl. 16, 17) and reads *(j) ḥr ḏt* "Everlasting/always Horus". Side B: This common formula reads *ṯjt Jmn* "Image/likeness of Amun" (see Lachish No. 74).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Side A: Comparanda are mostly of scarabs, such as Beth Shean No. 113; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 627, 731; Tell Jemmeh No. 73. Side B: A close parallel on a scarab is Lachish No. 74 (and see more there). For a rectangular piece with the name of Amun, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 637.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). A single b/w print in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 320").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 568.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 369, 372, Pl. 44A/45:131; Keel 1995: § 220, 224, p. 282 (typology). *[NoR]*

194 **OBJECT:** Fish scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 151). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: green glaze. Tufnell 1953: 372. Remarks: Fish scaraboids are known since the New Kingdom in Egypt (Keel 1995: 68); according to Lalkin 2008: 30, they were produced both in Egypt and in the southern Levant throughout the Late Bronze Age into Iron I (see Tell Beit Mirsim No. 101).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is an anthropomorphic head set on a pole, with a rectangular headgear flanked by two spiral horns; the pole is flanked by two outward-facing uraei, whose tails emerge from the head's chin.

DISCUSSION: This is the so-called 'Hathor fetish' (or 'goddess symbol'), see Lachish No. 96 for further discussion. The connection to Hathor is made plain here by the cow's ears and stylized horns.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Deir el-Balaḥ No. 114 (from an unknown context). Other figure scaraboids with similar iconography are Acco No. 212 (surface find); Dan No. 23; Gezer No. 272; Lachish No. 457. Comparanda on scarabs include Ashkelon No. 65; Gezer No. 289, 639; and see the seal impression Tell Jemmeh No. 201.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and Lalkin 2008: 30.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. A single b/w print (base engraving) in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 5336, B. 714").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.10, Tomb 194 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. none.

① A cut tomb that included one individual in a supine position, oriented north-south with the head towards the south. In addition to this item, two pottery vessels were placed to the right of the skeleton, as well as an iron bracelet and a carnelian bead (Tufnell 1953: 200), which was possibly related to the seal's function (see also Wenning 2021: 232).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:132; Keel 1977: 96–97, Fig. 62; Schroer 1989: 143, 145–146, 188, No. 99; Keel 1995: § 151, p. 279 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 42, Fig. 75b; Schroer 2011: 220–221, No. 753. *[NoR]*

195 **OBJECT:** Ibex scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 147). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 17.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear (base); raised relief (back). Remarks: According to Keel 1995: § 147, stamp seals in the shape of a caprid were common in the early Iron Age, but they were also produced during the 22nd–25th Dyn. in el-Matmar, Egypt. See Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 38 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 311 for additional seals decorated in the shape of a caprid, and see Megiddo No. 514 for a similar depiction of the caprid's pose.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Indeterminate layout without frame line. The base of the seal shows a geometric design based on a central '+' cross with chevrons.

DISCUSSION: The '+' cross was depicted on stamp seals at least since the Early Bronze Age (see Arad No. 12) and continued into the Iron Age.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The best comparanda found in context are those of seal-impressions: Arad No. 12; Dhiban No. 2; Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 40. Comparanda on scarabs include Acco No. 161, 276 (the first of which is a surface find); and see Gezer No. 106; Megiddo No. 601 and Khirbat al-Mudayna ath-Thamad No. 3 for similar motifs on other types of stamp seals.

DATING: LB IIB–LB III (early 13th–late 12th c. BCE); 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

193



194



195



COLLECTION: Paris; Musée du Louvre, Inv. No. AO 20266. Gift from the Institute of Archaeology London, X.1956.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 223 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 223.A,[2] Object no. 4942.

① Tomb 223 was a Late Bronze Age cave adapted as a triple-chambered tomb (Rooms A, B and C), beneath Tomb 218 and above Tomb 230 (a shaft carved in the floor of Room C). The entrance to this tomb included carved steps flanked by retaining walls, which first led to Room C. This room was completely cleared, while the two other rooms included human remains and artifacts, sealed by a rough stones wall that extended across the width of the tomb (Tufnell 1953: 211–214, Fig. 27; see also Wenning 2021: 239–241). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 195–196. — ② This room was located in the southernmost part of the tomb, and included a pottery bird vessel, an amulet, plaques, a bone lid and jewellery, including bangles, anklets, an earring, a fibula and beads (Tufnell 1953: 214).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:133; Keel 1995: § 147, p. 279 (typology). *[NoR]*

196 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 180). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a winged uraeus (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing right, its wings spread forward and its long tail curved upwards. Between the wings is an unidentified, elongated horizontal feature, and below a *mn* (Y5) over a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The unidentified sign on the right can be interpreted as a *rʿ* (N5) (O. Keel, pers. comm.), which might be part of a cryptogram of Amun-Re if the uraeus is read as *j* (Keel 1995: § 472–481, see Megiddo No. 531).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda on scarabs made of composite materials are Beth Shean No. 72; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 852, 864; Megiddo No. 531. For udjat-eye scaraboids with the name of Amun, see Lachish No. 531, 596.

DATING: LB IIB–early Iron I (early 13th–mid 11th c. BCE); 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Paris; Musée du Louvre, Inv. No. AO 20265. Gift from the Institute of Archaeology London, X.1956.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 223 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 223.A,[2] Object no. 4941.

① See Lachish No. 195. — ② See Lachish No. 195.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:134; Keel 1995: § 180, p. 287 (typology). *[NoR]*

197 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal[?]; inferred from photographs. ENGRAVING: light flat sunk relief with interior design.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical layout with a single frame line. In the centre is a kneeling anthropomorphic figure facing right, the right leg bent towards the ground and the left bent upwards and resting on the foot; the figure's 'right' arm is bent inwards towards the chest, apparently holding a bent staff, the 'left' arm is bent upwards. The feature above the bend looks like a *t* (X1) sign; but since that seems somehow out of place, it could be part of the sceptre. To the figure's left, an elongated *nfr* (F35). Side B: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a striding quadruped hybrid animal facing right; the leonine body with its tail bent upwards combines with a falcon's head, indicating that this is a griffin, and from which a curl extends backwards. There are two engraved lines around the neck, perhaps a collar, and its upper part of the body is decorated with circular motifs.

DISCUSSION: Side A: The kneeling figure has been interpreted as a worshipper (S. Schroer, pers. comm.) inspired by Middle Bronze Age iconography (see Lachish No. 308). Side B: The striding animal can be identified as an entirely Egyptian-style griffin, without wings unlike most Levantine comparanda. Its stylistic rendering (with the curl), however, suggests northern Levantine or Aegean influence (see Dan No. 2; ʻEin Samiya No. 8; Schroer 2008: No. 534).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum of a rectangular piece depicting a striding griffin on one side is Beth Shean No. 184 (surface find). Side A: The kneeling worshipper was a common motif on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, such as Tell el-ʻAjjul No. 68, 1043; Lachish No. 308. The much later scarab Ashkelon No. 77 shows a nice scene with two worshipers. The combination of a worshiper and a sphinx (instead of a griffin) is attested on scarabs Lachish No. 93 and Gezer No. 427. Side B: Comparanda for the striding griffin, often unwinged, are offered by the rectangular piece Beth Shean No. 184 and scarabs Cabul No. 1; Megiddo No. 582; and Qubur el-Waleida No. 7. Acco No. 130 and Lachish No. 198 are further rectangular pieces depicting a griffin.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB[?] (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5113/4, 435/6").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.5, Tomb 110 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 476A.

① Tomb 110 was a single grave, dug in Pit 102; the skeleton was badly preserved, but according to the finds (such as the anklets) it was placed in a north-south orientation, with the head towards the north, as other tombs and burials in this cemetery. This tomb is contemporaneous with Tomb 218 and equivalent to Level IV (Tufnell 1953: 50). Additional finds are pottery vessels grouped near the head, cowrie shells, other types of beads and seals (*ibid.*: 189, 199).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44A/45:135; Keel 1995: § 206–207, p. 281 (typology). *[NoR]*

196



197



198 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type IIIa (Keel 1995: § 225–228). MATERIAL: limestone[?], serpentinite[?]. COLOUR: dark grey, white (in incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 2.47 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 3.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: light modelled sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Bifacial Rectangular Plaques/'Animal Plaques'.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layouts without frame line. In the centre of each side there is a recumbent winged quadruped animal facing to the right. Side A: The animal has a beak or a beard, forepaws with claws, and a tail that seems to be curved upwards. Side B: The tail seems to be curved downwards; there are two possibilities for the back part: either the wings are bent towards the head, or the animal has long ears/horns.

DISCUSSION: The rectangular plates bearing depictions of humans, animals and hybrids have been attributed to a locally produced group dated to the Late Bronze Age IIA (Keel 1995c: 121–122), influenced by Mitannian cylinder seals (Brandl 2008, who argues for a production extending into the LB IIB). Side A: It is unclear whether the winged, leonine hybrid has an unusually long beak or a beard. In the first option, it would depict a griffin (Keel 1995: § 551); alternatively, it could be interpreted as a winged sphinx. Side B: This hybrid or animal differs from the previous one in several respects: head (with a muzzle) and short tail, simple feet, and the feature extending from the head to the back. The latter can be understood as (probably) a horn and an ear, or two long ears rather than wings, suggesting a caprid or, possibly, a hare (see Lachish No. 162) rather than a griffin (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.). Note that the putative 'wings' would be strangely positioned and, to our knowledge, unparalleled in this period (cf. Dor No. 8, 11).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A recumbent griffin is depicted on the rectangular plates Tell Beit Mirsim No. 104 and Gezer No. 355. Rectangular plates bearing a striding griffin include Acco No. 130; Tel Anafa No. 1; Ekron No. 63; Tel Gerisa No. 4; Hazor No. 89. Beth Shean No. 34 is a rounded plate with a striding griffin.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16505. BM/Big number: 160342.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4843.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 69.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44A/45:136; Keel 1994: 227; Keel 1995: § 225, p. 282 (typology); Magrill 2006: 14. *[NoR]*

199 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back, type III (Keel 1995: § 199). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout without frame line. Two signs: a *šw(t)* (H6) on the right and a *nfr* (F35) on the left. Side B: Vertical/horizontal layout with a single frame line. An eight-petalled rosette covers the entire, domed surface.

DISCUSSION: The rosette is known since the Middle Bronze Age (such as on the Ω-group, see Rishon LeZion No. 85) and continues sporadically into the Iron Age. It is especially known from the stamped jar handles of the Iron Age III, which were part of the Kingdom of Judah's administrative system (Koch and Lipschits 2013).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Similar rounded plates with a four-petalled rosette are Lachish No. 189, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 321 (the latter from an unknown context); other parallels of the rosette are Megiddo No. 607 (conoid) and Shiloh No. 7 (seal impression). The combination of *šw(t)* (H6) and *nfr* (F35) (often with additional motifs) occurs, e.g., on Beth Shemesh No. 57 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 337 (scarabs). For a stylistically similar, elongated rendering of the *nfr* (F35) sign, see Megiddo No. 254.

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on the rosette stamped handles, comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

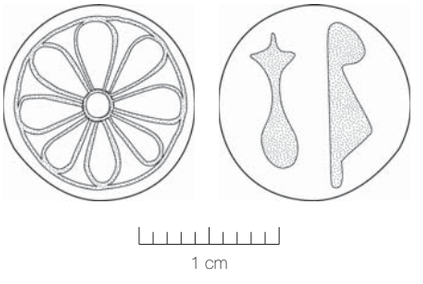
CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.A,[2] Object no. 322.
① See Lachish No. 59. — ② See Lachish No. 172.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 45:137; Keel 1995: § 199, p. 283 (typology). *[NoR]*

198



199



200 **OBJECT:** Hedgehog scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 153–156). MATERIAL: porphyry. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 9.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal. ENGRAVING: sunk relief[?]; linear[?]. Remarks: The specific stylistic rendering of this scaraboid was dated to the Iron Age II onwards (Keel 1995: § 156); comparanda include Tell Abu Hawam No. 9 and Ashkelon No. 2.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a bird with its head turned to the right, its wings spread close to the body, and its tail rendered by only three lines.

DISCUSSION: The depiction of the bird, usually accompanied by other motifs, was attested on scarabs since the Middle Bronze Age (see Megiddo No. 440), through the Late Bronze Age (Beth Shean No. 51) and later.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are duck scaraboids with a depiction of a bird: Acco No. 293 (a surface find) and Tall al-Mazar No. 4. Additional comparanda of the bird include scarabs Achziv No. 64; Dan No. 41; Megiddo No. 370; bifacial plaque Megiddo No. 44; and bone seals Lachish No. 169–170. A scaraboid made in a similar shape, where birds with spread wings are shown with other motifs, is Acco No. 195 (a surface find).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 370.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 372, Pl. 45:138; von Droste zu Hülshoff 1980: 189, No. 234; Keel 1995: § 156, p. 279 (typology). *[NoR]*

201 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type V (Keel 1995: § 254–258). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only). MATERIAL: glass[?]. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 1.13 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.2 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W) × 10.6 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top; traces of bronze wire in the perforation hole (Tufnell 1953: 372). ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. In the centre and slightly to the right is a running horned quadruped facing right; to the left and behind the quadruped animal is a bird with spread wings, equally facing right. The feature above the bird may be a six-pointed star.

DISCUSSION: The quadruped animal was interpreted as an antelope (Tufnell 1953: 372) or a caprid (O. Keel, pers. comm.). The combination of the caprid with a bird is attested on Iron Age stamp seals (see comparanda), occasionally with additional motifs such as the scorpion (see discussions at Megiddo No. 35, 619). The motif above the bird on this item is probably an astral symbol, which can be associated with other seals depicting astral symbols, possibly under Assyrian and Aramean influence dated to the Iron III (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 172).

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is ar-Rabba (Rabbath-Moab) No. 1; and see conoids Beth Shean No. 64; Reḥov No. 12, 14; Shiqmona No. 39 (generally earlier). Additional comparanda include the suckling scene (e.g., conoid Beth Shemesh No. 52) and astral symbols (e.g., scarab Lachish No. 121).

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE) or less likely Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on seal type, material, style, and context.

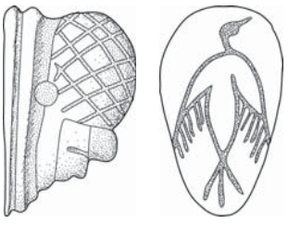
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15804.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 369.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:139; Keel 1995: § 254, p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 5. *[NoR]*

200



201



202 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 253). MATERIAL: composite material[?], limestone[?]. COLOUR: pink. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped in the upper part of the base (above the notches). WEIGHT: 0.43 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 7.3 mm (L) × 6.9 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical/horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is an unidentified feature consisting of two symmetrical rounded lines forming a schematic 'heart' shape; these two lines flank a cross-shaped sign in the centre; four short vertical strikes stem from the upper horizontal line.

DISCUSSION: The unidentified sign may be interpreted as a plant motif, see Lachish No. 156, 158, 178. Alternatively, it could be interpreted as horns of a bull or ram seen from the front. This type of iconography has been identified as Ammonite based on epigraphic criteria (Avigad and Sass 1997: 320, No. 886, 890).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close parallels of conoids depicting the head of a bull or ram are Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 54 and Tell Jemmeh No. 87. Additional comparanda include scarabs Beth Shemesh No. 216 (surface find); Jerusalem No. 198; and scaraboids Beth Shean No. 195; Buṣayra No. 5; Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 31 (where the head is depicted on the back).

DATING: Iron I–Late Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15822.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 567A.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:140; Keel 1995: § 253, p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 8. *[NoR]*

203 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type V (Keel 1995: § 254–258). MATERIAL: carnelian. COLOUR: dark red, black (veins). PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped and worn. WEIGHT: 7.91 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 23.6 mm (H); 12.1 mm (W, measured from photograph); 1.7 mm (D, perforation [front]); 4.0 mm (D, perforation [rear]).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. A quadruped animal facing to the right, with a raised tail, paws and an open mouth is depicted striding over (i.e., attacking) a recumbent horned quadruped animal with its head turned backwards, its legs bent below the body and its tail extending straight to the left.

DISCUSSION: The upper animal is probably a lion, shown attacking a surrendering caprid. This depiction is known on scarabs since the Middle Bronze Age (see, for example, Tell Abu Zureiq No. 1), among others from the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (such as Acco No. 213; Pella No. 71), and later on (e.g., Bethel No. 7).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Beth Shean No. 198 (a surface find). The scaraboid Ashkelon No. 67 and the scarab Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 39 are close comparanda where the caprid is fleeing rather than surrendering, as their head is not turned backwards; Beth Shean No. 194 (a surface find) offers a close parallel on a scarab. A similar depiction of this scene also appears in the lower register on scarab Megiddo No. 59. The specific stylistic rendering is similar to Tell Jemmeh No. 23, and see also Khirbat al-Ḥajjar No. 1.

DATING: Iron IIB–Persian period (beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

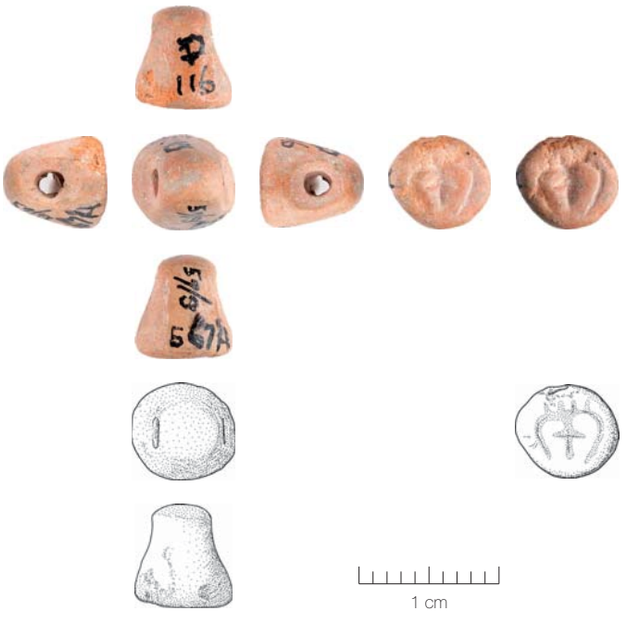
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15823. BM/Big number: 160125.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square C-D.24–25, Cave 504 (MB–Late Roman period, 20th c. BCE–late 4th c. CE),[1] Object no. 3437.

① According to the excavators, Cave 504 was originally cut during the Early Bronze Age; it was used as a quarry and for dwelling, and in the Iron Age perhaps for dyeing activities since a stone vat was set below the floor level. A shaft grave (Tomb 525) dated to the Persian period (Tufnell 1953: 225), with which the seal might have been associated, was situated in the centre of the chamber (Tufnell 1953: 219–220).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44A/45:141; Keel 1995: § 254, 375, p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 19. *[NoR]*

202



203



204 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type VIa (Keel 1995: § 259). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. WEIGHT: 4.86 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 13.7 mm (W) × 19.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: broad linear with drilling holes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical/horizontal layout without frame line. When held vertically, there is a schematic tree with on the right with branches on either side; in the centre and to the left of the tree is a schematic figure: possibly a standing anthropomorphic figure, with arms and legs outstretched to the sides, the topmost drill hole in the centre representing the figure's head. To the left of the figure are three additional holes and two horizontal lines. At the bottom is a circle below the figure's legs. Alternatively, the erect figure could represent an upright caprid, with its head turned away from the tree. However, a totally different interpretation suggests itself when the seal is rotated 90 degrees and viewed horizontally: the 'tree' described above becomes horns or antler, and the design would then depict a crouching deer (Tufnell 1953: 372; O. Keel, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: If the figure on the left is anthropomorphic, it can be interpreted as a dancer (see Lachish No. 130), who was also associated with the tree (see comparanda). If it is a horned quadruped animal, it is most probably a cervus (see Megiddo No. 283).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For the scene of the dancer(s) with the tree, see scaraboids Beth Shemesh No. 32; Bethel No. 18; Gezer No. 665 (and more comparanda there). The specific rendering of the figure with the horizontal lines is somehow similar to figures in Lachish No. 137. Comparanda for the horned animal include scaraboids Beth Shean No. 9 and Megiddo No. 283.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIB (mid 11th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15809.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE) – Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.16, Locus 1038,[1] Object no. 7293.

① An open area on the surface of the ramp south of the palace, which covered the foundations of Palace B, over which the north walls of Rooms 1013, 1016 and 1017 were founded. It is possible that these walls were built to hold the debris from the foundations of the palace. Additional finds in this locus are an arrowhead and a bead (Tufnell 1953: 114, Pl. 115).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 365, 372, Pl. 44A/45:142; Keel 1995: § 259, p. 281 (typology); Magrill 2006: 71. *[NoR]*

205 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type II (Keel 1995: § 250). MATERIAL: serpentinite. COLOUR: light green, dark green, white (in incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.68 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.2 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 11.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: deep modelled sunk relief. This specific engraving technique is seen on other conoids depicting ostriches, such as Lachish No. 147–148.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre are two winged animals facing each other in a *tête-bêche* orientation.

DISCUSSION: The two animals are probably ostriches, which were commonly depicted on stamp seals in the Iron Age II (see discussion at Lachish No. 144).

COMPARANDA: An almost exact parallel is Lachish No. 148. Further comparanda include ostriches in compositions, such as the 'master of ostriches' (Lachish No. 147; Gezer No. 186, 453) or the ostrich with other animals (Dor No. 49; Tell Jemmeh No. 89). See also Beth Shean No. 196 (surface find).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15811. BM/Big number: 160343.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4860.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 69.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 372, Pl. 44A/45:143; Keel 1995: § 250, p. 280 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 114; Magrill 2006: 17; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 114. *[NoR]*

204



205



206 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type III (Keel 1995: § 251–252). MATERIAL: jasper[?]. COLOUR: brownish-red. PRESERVATION: complete. There are some scratches on the base and back of the seal. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 14.4 mm (W) × 13.3 mm (H); 2.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal/vertical layout without frame line. Two quadruped animals facing each other—the right one is horned and with a shorter tail than the other, unhorned quadruped animal; between them at top centre is an unidentified sign, possibly a star.

DISCUSSION: The horned quadruped animal on the right is probably a caprid; it is difficult to establish the animal's head position with certainty from the seal and impressions (the latter could hint at the caprid turning its head back, with the horns extending as a wavy line from the forehead to the 'star'). The one on the left is unclear: it might be a bull, because of the long tail pointing downwards, but the combination of a bull and a caprid would be unusual. Another possibility is that of a lion; however, lions are usually depicted with the tail curving upwards. Yet another element of uncertainty is the wing-like feature extending from the animals neck (best seen on the impression) (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A similar depiction appears on conoids Khirbet Qeiyafa No. 10 (lion and caprid) and Bethel No. 7 (lion and bull; surface find). See additional comparanda there.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on Khirbet Qeiyafa No. 10.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.674.

CONTEXT: Level V (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K.12,[1] Object no. 5283.

① Casemate foundations of Palace A. There is no information about the exact locus of this item (Tufnell 1953: 116).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:144; Keel 1995: § 251, p. 280 (typology). *[NoR]*

207 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 253). Three parallel horizontal grooves run around the conoid's circumference. MATERIAL: serpentinite[?]. COLOUR: black, beige, white (in incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 3.88 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 14.2 mm (W) × 12.2 mm (H); 3.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief with interior design (wings); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. In the centre is a long vertical feature, with two lateral supports at its base and a round circle at its top; a quadruped hybrid figure striding upwards on either side, with a lion body, bird's head and wings.

DISCUSSION: The central element is probably a stylized tree (Tufnell 1953: 372) and the two animals are probably griffins. The tree flanked by two animals (especially caprids) was a common scene since the Late Bronze Age (Schroer 2011: 71); flanked by hybrid animals, it has been interpreted as a symbol of power (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 138; see also Megiddo No. 59).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A close parallel on a conoid is Amman No. 54; additional comparanda include the scarab Achziv No. 74 and the cylinder seal Tall al-Mazar No. 24.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15803.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 366.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:145; Keel 1995: § 255, p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 5. *[NoR]*

206



207



208 **OBJECT:** Truncated pyramid, type II (Keel 1995: § 243–244). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 23.5 mm (D) × 25.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Anchor Seals. Remarks: The upper part of the seal seems to be engraved or worn.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a schematic animal, quadruped (only one front and hind leg depicted), horned and with a short tail, standing and facing right.

DISCUSSION: The animal can be identified as a caprid.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Schematic depictions of caprids, generally striding, occur on scaraboids and bone seals, e.g., Lachish No. 115, 177, 191; Ashdod No. 16; Hazor No. 81 (among others). See also Lachish No. 209.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); uncertain; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1388, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5126, 448").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5368.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:146; Keel 1994e: 26–27, No. 13, Fig. 13; Keel 1995: § 243–244, p. 283 (typology). *[NoR]*

209 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 253). MATERIAL: composite material[?], limestone[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (D) × 14.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief. Remarks: Several perforation holes indicate the first attempts to perforate this item were unsuccessful.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a striding, quadruped horned animal facing left.

DISCUSSION: The animal can be identified as a caprid, commonly depicted on stamp seals throughout the periods (see Lachish No. 191).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The stylistic rendering of both the object itself and the schematic animal on the base is very similar to Lachish No. 210–211, 213. Lachish No. 206 may also be associated to this group, although it bears the depiction of two animals. See Lachish No. 161, 208 for more horned quadrupeds.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on context and close comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. JM 12-73.404B, item unlocatable at the time of writing. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). B/w prints in the CSAPI archive were obtained from the Jewish Museum in the 1980s.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 564.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 45:147; Keel 1995: § 253, p. 280 (typology). *[NoR]*

210 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type III (Keel 1995: § 251–252). MATERIAL: limestone. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 13.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a recumbent or striding quadruped animal, perhaps with horns, facing left; above its back is an unidentified, short linear feature.

DISCUSSION: If the animal is horned, it is most probably a caprid (see Lachish No. 191).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. A very close depiction of a bovine features on hematite scarab Lachish No. 117. See also Lachish No. 209 (and additional comparanda listed there).

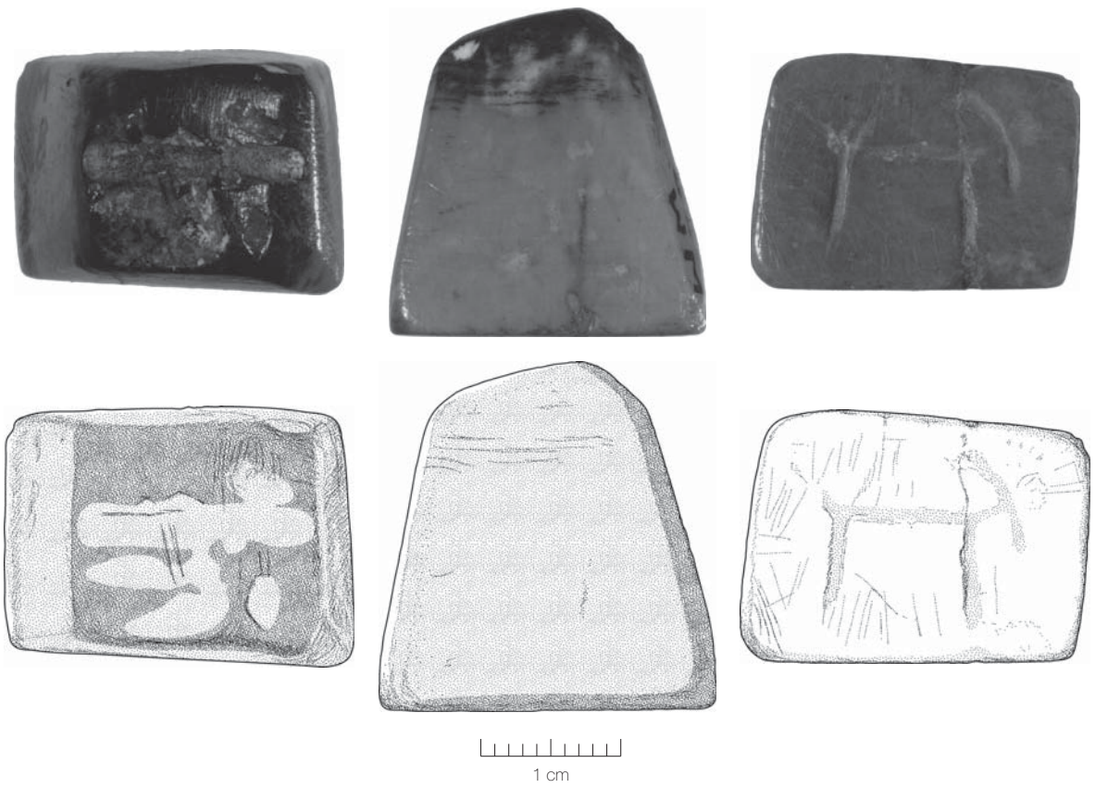
DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); uncertain; dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. JM 12-73.402, item unlocatable at the time of writing. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). A b/w print in the CSAPI archive was obtained from the Jewish Museum in the 1980s.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1437.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 45:148; Keel 1995: § 251, p. 280 (typology). *[NoR]*

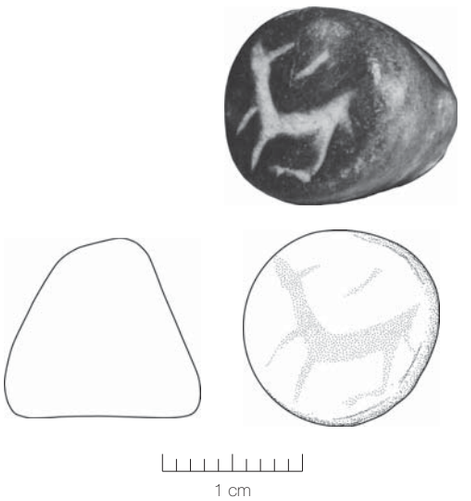
208



209



210



211 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type III (Keel 1995: § 251–252). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: pinkish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W) × 14.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief; drilled (body of animal).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre is a horned quadruped animal, striding to the left, its head apparently turned back.

DISCUSSION: The horned animal is probably a caprid (see Lachish No. 209).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant; however, both the shape of the object, its material and the iconography on the base are similar to Lachish No. 209 (see there for more comparanda).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.680.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6920.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:149; Keel 1995: § 253, p. 280 (typology). *[NoR]*

212 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 253). Linear groove around the seal's circumference, close to the base. MATERIAL: hematite. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 4.36 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 12.7 mm (H); 3.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief (crescent, horns, legs, tail); drilled (body, sun disc, hooves). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group. Remarks: Ashkelon No. 229 is a very similar hematite conoid, with drill holes on the base (but unclear motifs).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. A horned quadruped animal, striding to the left; above it, a crescent and a disc.

DISCUSSION: This seal belongs to the North Syrian Hematite and Quartz group (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 367–377), which often bears the iconography of quadruped animals: some are depicted with other motifs, such as the branch/tree (see Megiddo No. 265, Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 391 and more there). In this case, the horned animal can be interpreted as a bull, commonly depicted on items of this group (such as Lachish No. 117). The tail is unusually short, but it might have been eroded if it originally followed the border of the seal.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For the association of a quadruped animal with astral symbols, see limestone scaraboid Megiddo No. 201. Additional hematite and other hard stone seals with similar iconography include Achziv No. 109, 113; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 278, 391; Megiddo No. 267, 614.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15810. BM/Big number: 160339.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4859.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 372, Pl. 44A/45:150; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 372–377, No. 18, Pl. 21:2; Keel 1995: § 253, p. 280 (typology); Bernett and Keel 1998: 37, 121, Fig. 56; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 89, Fig. 168b; Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

211



212



213 **OBJECT:** Truncated pyramid, type II (Keel 1995: § 243–244). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly cracked on the base and worn. WEIGHT: 4.74 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 17.6 mm (W) × 17.9 mm (H); 3.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: shallow modelled sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Anchor Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout without frame line. In the centre and slightly to the right is a quadruped, long-necked animal, possibly with a short tail; its relatively large head is turned backwards to the right. Behind the animal to the right, above it and to the left are unidentified markings. On the left side is a long, vertical line, from which several shorter lines branch off obliquely.

DISCUSSION: The traces of engraving on the left have been variously interpreted as depicting either an anthropomorphic figure (Tufnell; O. Keel, pers. comm.) or a tree (the interpretation favoured in our drawing). The animal can be interpreted as either a horse (note the large head) or a caprid (see comparanda).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The depiction of a horse or a caprid with their head turned backwards is seen on the conoid Azor No. 29 and the scaraboids Lachish No. 150, 163–164; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 338 as well as on Gezer No. 179 (mentioned by Tufnell 1953: 372). Among these, Lachish No. 150 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 338 show a human figure in front of an animal. See Lachish No. 209 for additional comparanda of schematic quadrupeds depicted on conoids. A good parallel of a truncated pyramid is Samaria No. 56.

DATING: Late Iron I–Iron IIA (mid 11th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15552. BM/Big number: 160555.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.C,[2] Object no. 4839.
① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 77.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 372, Pl. 44A/45:151; Keel 1994e: 26–27, No. 14, Fig. 14; Keel 1995: § 243–244, p. 283 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

214 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish-cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface worn and chipped at the rim of the base. The back and the area around the perforation hole are slightly broken. WEIGHT: 52.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 48.8 mm (L) × 33.6 mm (W) × 21.6 mm (H); 3.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 3.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of green glaze (at the base and legs).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. Two virtual columns, three virtual registers. The hieroglyphs at the top, *nṯr* (R8) *nfr* (F35) ("perfect god") on the right, *zꜣ* (G39) and *rʿ* (N5) "Son of Re" on the left, announce the royal prenomen (i.e., throne name) and nomen (i.e., birth name) of Amenhotep III, each of them written in a cartouche below: on the right, from top, *rʿ* (N5), *mꜣʿt* (C10), *nb* (V30), to be read as *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ* "Re is the lord of order"; on the left, *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *ḥtp* (R4), *ḥqꜣ* (S38), *wꜣst* (R19), to be read as *Jmn-ḥtp ḥqꜣ Wꜣst* "Amun is satisfied, ruler of Thebes". At the bottom, the cartouches are followed by another sequence of hieroglyphs: on the right, *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *mr(j)* (U6/U7), *r* (D21), to be read *mr-Jmn* "Beloved of Amun"; to the left, following a *sw(t)* (M23), *r* (D21), *ḫ* (Aa1) (Tufnell) or *t* (X1), *š* (N39) (Tufnell) or *n* (N35), and *nb* (V30). The latter sequence was read *(n)swt Rḫš nb* "King of all Lachish" by Tufnell 1953: 362, resulting in a unique reference to the very city where the scarab was discovered. Alternatively (and more plausibly), however, the lower register may be read in one sequence as *mr-Jmn r nswt nb* "Beloved of Amun more than any (other) king" (B. Jaeger, CSAPI index card). Read in sequence, the entire praise can thus be rendered as "Perfect god (i.e., throne name:) Re-is-the-Lord-of-Order / Son of Re (i.e., prenomen:) Amun-is-satisfied (= Amenhotep), ruler of Thebes, beloved of Amun more than any (other) king".

DISCUSSION: According to Tufnell 1953: 362, the lower left register might have been engraved later, in a space intentionally left blank for the appropriate purpose; to her the large size of the *rʿ* (N5) in relation to the following signs indicated that the craftsman concerned miscalculated the space at their disposal. That being said, the hypothesis is entirely tied to Tufnell's problematic reading of the last hieroglyphs. As a matter of fact, the differences in style (writing and engraving) are minute, if any; the *rʿ* (N5) may have been written more sizeably because it is a stand-alone sign for an independent (and meaningful) word. There is thus no reason to doubt that the entire inscription was done by a single hand, most probably in Egypt. Note that when two cartouches occur side by side on scarabs of Amenhotep III in the southern Levant, they usually show the king's throne name (*Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*) and the name of his wife, queen Tiye (Tufnell 1953: 362; Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 74, Fig. 5); it is unusual to see both cartouches of the king himself displayed on the same surface (but see the two names on either side of Lachish No. 597, a rectangular piece with domed top). The present scarab was classified as "Medium-size commemorative scarab, Type B", by Brandl (Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 75), who connects the type to palace building activities at Malkata near Kom el-Hetan (Thebes West) related to Amenhotep III's 30th regnal year Jubilee. The epithet *mr-Jmn r nswt nb* "Beloved of Amun more than any (other) king" is elsewhere attested for Amenhotep III (e.g., Urk. IV, 1686, 1864), but also for other, earlier and later kings (Th. Schneider and M. Brose, pers. comm.). To the best of our knowledge, the epithet's occurrence on scarabs has not been studied so far in any detail.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Medium-size scarabs with two cartouches (of Amenhotep III and Tiye) include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 330; ʿAra No. 25; Gezer No. 46, 376 (and compare Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 74, Fig. 5 for more).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); more specifically c. 1360 BCE (Brandl, see discussion).

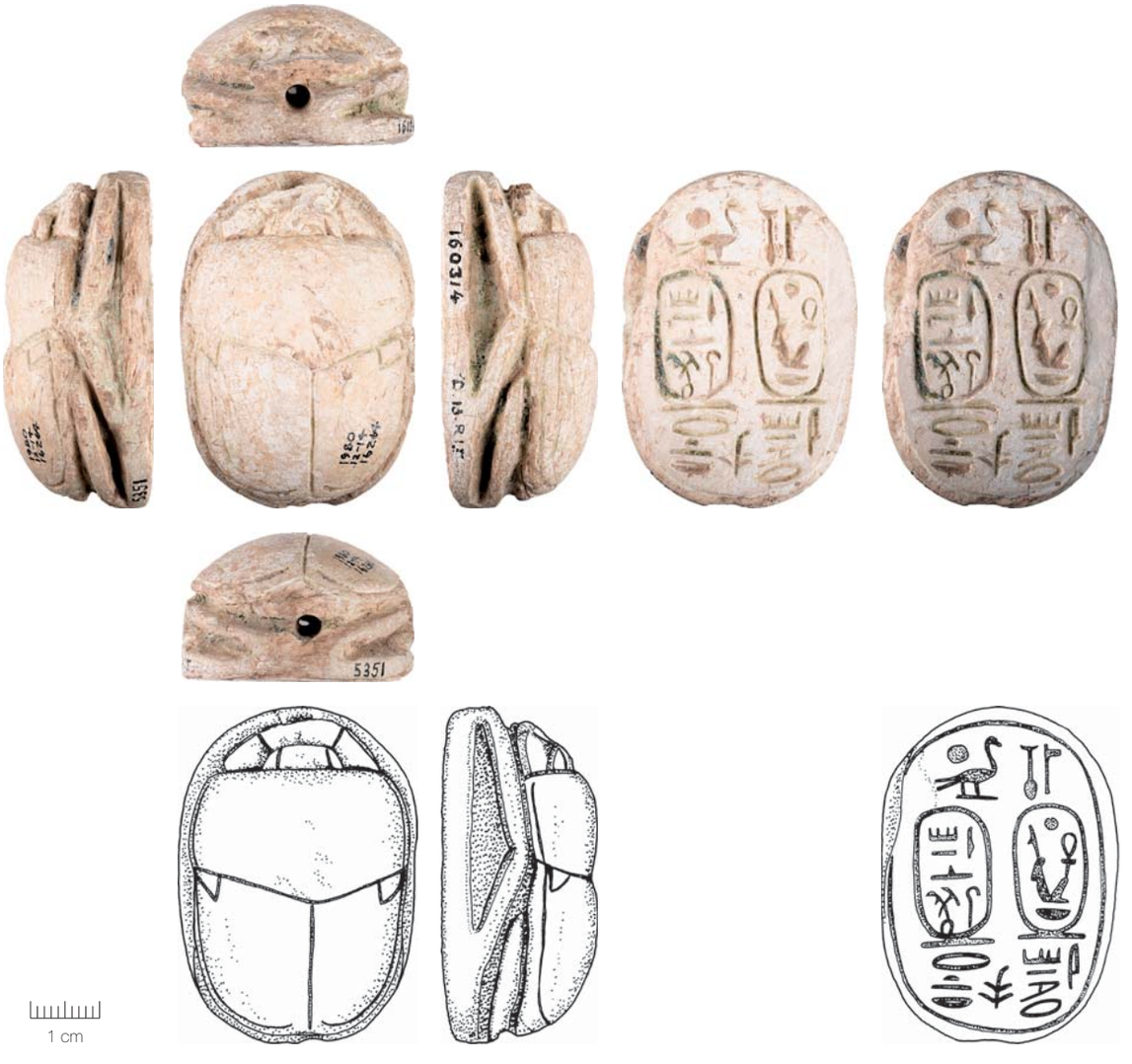
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16264. BM/Big number: 160314.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), Area north of "Great Shaft", Square R.15, Building R/Q/S.15-16,[1] Room 13,[2] Object no. 5351. The scarab was found in the floor of the room (Tufnell 1953: 362).

213



214



① Residential building located south of the Solar Shrine and north of the "Great Shaft", filled up by the time of the building's construction (see Tufnell 1953: 146–149, Pl. 108, Pl. 123). — ② A small room in the northern corner of the building (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 123).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 362, 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:156; Magrill 2006: 89; Brandl, Bunimovitz and Lederman 2013: 74–75, Fig. 5:2, 81 Table 3. *[NoR/CU]*

215 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275). Inferred from published drawing, hence the material of the mounting is unknown. MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.8 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, with a single frame line which may be covered by the mounting. A central, vertical column, delineated on both sides by a double line, reads (from top to bottom): ʿ (D36), *n* (N35), *r* (D21), ʿ (D36); on each side of the column, an inverted *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign.

DISCUSSION: The central sequence of signs is known as the *anra* formula (Design Class 3C), here in its 'classical' order; it is considered typical of the local production of scarabs and related stamp seals during the Middle Bronze Age (Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series, Ben-Tor 2007: 133, 165, Pl. 55–56, 82–84).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For *anra* signs on cowroids, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 881, 1025 and Gezer No. 313, where the orientation is vertical. Additional comparanda include scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 12; Bet Gamliel No. 6; Gezer No. 290; Taanach No. 9.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York).

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.B,[2] Object no. 329.

① See Lachish No. 59. — ② See Lachish No. 121.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 363, 364, 373, Pl. 44A/45:157; Keel 1995: § 191, p. 279 (typology). *[NoR]*

216 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type V (Keel 1995: § 254–258). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: broken. Only a quarter of the base left. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 21.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: linear[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line, divided by a single line into two registers of unequal size. The extant part of the upper register shows a quadruped animal on its hind legs facing left with its tail raised, probably a lion (note the hatched mane). In the lower register, the alphabetic letter *shin*.

DISCUSSION: The layout of the sealing surface is characterised by the separation of a large iconic field from a much more restricted segment reserved for the inscription of a personal name (possibly at a second stage by another engraver; Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.). According to Tufnell 1953: 373, the letter *shin* is the initial letter. The lion was depicted on stamp seals since the Middle Bronze Age (e.g., Lachish No. 326) and continued into the Iron Age, when it was prominently represented on different groups of seals (Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series, and others), as well as on other media, such as ivories (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 118). In the present case, the upright lion may have faced a hero, or attacked another animal. Note that the combination of the (often roaring) lion with an inscription is mostly attested in horizontal orientation (see comparanda).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Comparanda for the layout of the sealing surface include Jerusalem No. 341 (featuring a roaring lion); Ashkelon No. 3; Megiddo No. 46, 207 (all three with a griffin instead of a lion); Lachish No. 225 (with a winged scarab); and Lachish No. 254 (with a winged uraeus). The Assyrian king stabbing an upright lion was identified on a Neo-Assyrian royal bureau seal impression (Samaria No. 28). The motif occurs adapted to a (divine[?]) hero on Acco No. 122 and Ashkelon No. 59 (both greenschist facies scarabs, Iron III/Persian period; see more comparanda and discussion there). The roaring lion in a horizontal layout with an associated inscription figures is found on the famous scaraboid Megiddo No. 45 (and see many comparanda cited there).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. JM 12-73.404C, item unlocatable at the time of writing. Not found in online catalogue; formerly in the collection of Harris D. and H. Dunscombe Colt (New York). B/w prints in the CSAPI archive were obtained from the Jewish Museum in the 1980s.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Locus 106.A,[2] Object no. 320.

① See Lachish No. 59. — ② See Lachish No. 172.

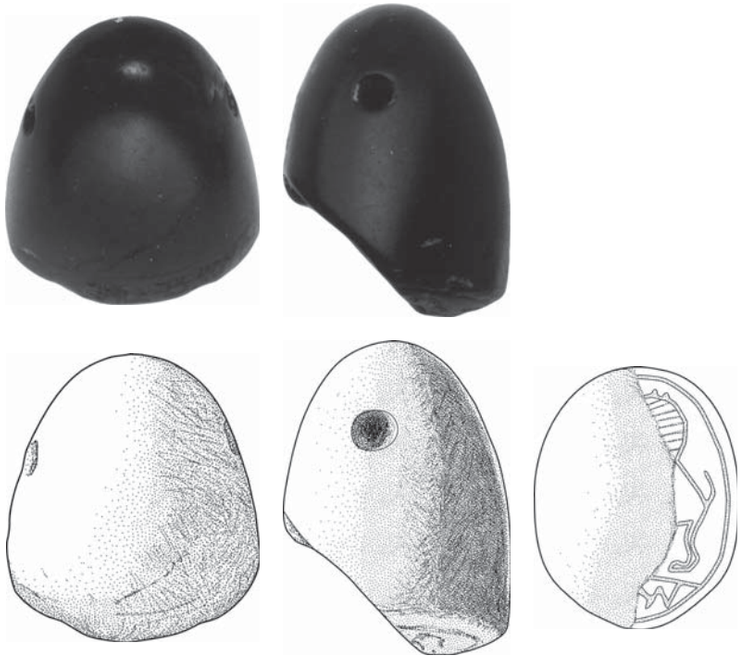
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 373, Pl. 44A/45:158; Keel 1995: § 254, p. 280 (typology). *[NoR]*

215



1 cm

216



1 cm

217 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: pinkish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Thin crack in the back. WEIGHT: 1.49 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 13.7 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The layout is composed of two 'inner' registers separated by a notched dividing line (similar to a branch or the *n* [N35] hieroglyph), and hatched segments set off by double lines, symmetrically mirroring each other at the top and bottom. The two 'inner' registers display three signs each: a broad, box-like sign in the centre (one of which is divided by a vertical line) and two incomplete circles (or crescents) flanking it on either side.

DISCUSSION: This base design has previously been interpreted as an imitation of script, more specifically of the Hebrew script of Lachish No. 226–229 (Tufnell 1953: 366, 373); however, the unfinished circles can be interpreted differently, either as crescents (e.g., Lachish No. 218–219) or, less probably, as the so-called aegis (e.g., Megiddo No. 241–242, 343), both of which appear in similar layouts.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are the scaraboids Lachish No. 218–219 (and also Lachish No. 220 for a slightly different layout), and the seal impressions Jerusalem No. 246 (bulla); Reḥov No. 41 (stamped handle). Layouts divided into several registers with similar motifs also occur on scaraboids Buṣayra No. 9 and Jerusalem No. 30.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda, seal-type in combination with material, and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16377. BM/Big number: 160358.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 4840.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:159; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

218 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The layout is composed of two 'inner' registers separated by a double dividing line (with two vertical strokes at either end), and segments set off by double lines, symmetrically mirrored at the top and bottom, each with a spread of seven perpendicular lines. The two 'inner' registers display alignments of four crescents or almost complete circles each, symmetrically reversed (those in the upper register opening upwards, those in the lower register opening downwards).

DISCUSSION: As in the case of Lachish No. 217, this seal design and layout has previously been interpreted as imitation script (Tufnell 1953: 373). However, is more probable that the four designs in each 'inner' register represent crescents or the so-called aegis (see discussion in Lachish No. 217).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 217, 219 (and comparanda mentioned there). The closest comparandum is Jerusalem No. 246 (seal impression on a bulla; note vertical markings in the horizontally dividing double line).

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and seal-type in combination with material.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5115/6, 457/8").

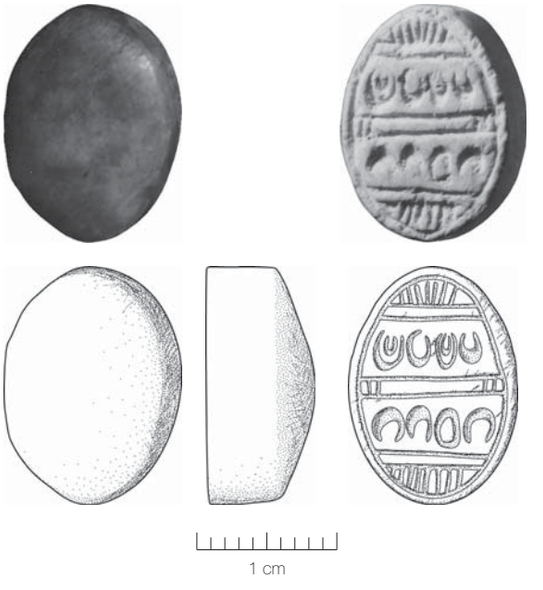
CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Areas 100–200, Locus 100, Object no. 5370.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:160. *[NoR]*

217



218



219 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: pinkish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn on the base and back. WEIGHT: 0.89 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout with a single frame line. The layout is composed of two 'inner' registers separated by a notched horizontal dividing line (similar to a branch or very elongated *n* [N35] hieroglyph) and segments set off by double horizontal lines, symmetrically mirrored at the top and bottom, each with short perpendicular lines meeting the frame line. The two 'inner' registers display alignments of three crescents, symmetrically reversed (those in the upper register opening upwards, those in the lower register opening downwards, one in the lower register apparently opening to the right).

DISCUSSION: See discussion in Lachish No. 217–218.

COMPARANDA: See comparanda mentioned in Lachish No. 217–218.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and seal-type in combination with material.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16379.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 116 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 568A.

① See Lachish No. 65.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:161; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 8. *[NoR]*

220 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: pinkish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Base is slightly chipped around the frame line. WEIGHT: 0.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical or horizontal layout with a single frame line. The layout of the seal consists of a central register and lateral segments set off by double lines, symmetrically mirroring each other at the top and bottom, with short perpendicular lines meeting the frame line and coming close to hatching. The central design, when viewed horizontally, is a broadly oblong, box-like feature, with two pairs of incomplete rectangles opening outwards on either side.

DISCUSSION: Material, technique and layout are similar to those of Lachish No. 217–219. It allows one to reflect on the degree of variation in these apparently decorative designs, from hatching to spreading and from open rectangles to crescents.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. See Lachish No. 217–219 for comparanda.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda, seal-type in combination with material, and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16378. BM/Big number: 160359.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus unspecified, Object no. 4841.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:162; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

221 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear. The direction of the zigzag engraving can be identified: in the upper register, it runs from right to left, and in the lower register from left to right. In both cases, the last stroke crosses the frame line.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout with a single frame line. The base is divided into two registers by a horizontal double line, each displaying a horizontal zigzag line.

DISCUSSION: This layout is similar to that found on West Semitic, especially Hebrew, inscribed seals (e.g., Lachish No. 227, 229), which may explain Tufnell's interpretation as an "imitation script" (Tufnell 1953: 373; see also Lachish No. 226). The zigzag might have had some significance related to the *n* (N35) hieroglyph or the branch motif (see Lachish No. 124 for the depiction of branches as central motifs). For other depictions of the zigzag motif, see Megiddo No. 128; Yiftaḥel No. 1 (both MB green jasper scarabs).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum (fourfold zigzag) is the scarab Achziv No. 177.

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804 TD 716/717").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3055.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:163; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology). *[NoR]*

219



220



221



222 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on base and/or side of a cone (Keel 1995: § 322). MATERIAL: fired clay. Unfired according to CSAPI index card; burnt (Tufnell 1953: 373). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 14.7 mm (W) × 11.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: This stamped object seems to have traces of finger prints (according to the photographs); Tufnell 1953: 347 also describes marks of papyrus. The function of the object is unclear—it is not a bulla, as it is complete and there are no visible traces of cords. See Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 319, 1206; Ashdod No. 55; Gezer No. 649; Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 4 for similar stamped objects (perhaps tokens; Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: (most probably) vertical layout with a single frame line. Three columns are divided by vertical double lines. Each column includes multiple sequences of three signs, a *mn* (Y5) above two horizontal lines (possibly *n* [N35], O. Keel, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: This layout has been described as "imitation script" (Tufnell 1953: 373). The three-column layout first occurs with Middle Bronze Age scarabs of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 55:24, Pl. 57:19; Jericho No. 37, 224; Lachish No. 309, 338, 444), and continued to be produced during the Late Bronze Age (Tel Ridan No. 10). Ancient scarabs of that type may well have inspired the use of this layout during the Iron Age II.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Reḥov No. 41 shows a similar design on a stamped handle. For other seal impressions with three columns of *anra* signs, see Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 13; Jerusalem No. 222, 236, 247, 250, 411.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron III (mid 10th–late 6th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.681. Acquired from the Wellcome-Marston excavation 1932–1938.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5366.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 347, 366, 373, Pl. 44A/45:164; Keel 1995: § 295, p. 284 (typology). *[NoR]*

223 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). MATERIAL: unfired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Sealing of a document, marks of papyrus and thread on the reverse side (Tufnell 1953: 373).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical/horizontal layout with a single frame line. A four-petalled rosette with a circle (and dot?) at the centre, with a pair of simple spirals stemming from the centre flanking each petal.

DISCUSSION: Tufnell 1953: 373 hypothesized that this design might have been derived from four *dšrt* (S3) (red crowns), which is very improbable. It rather reflects typical rosette-like cross patterns (Design Class 5; see Ben-Tor 2007: 137–138).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Seal impressions of the four-petalled rosette motif are Tell Keisan No. 26; Tel Kinrot No. 27. Parallels on scarabs include Achziv No. 88, 196; Khirbet Nisya No. 2 (with further comparanda).

DATING: LB IIB–Iron IIA (early 13th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on closest comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The CSAPI index card preserves a photo print apparently made from a negative kept at the British Museum.

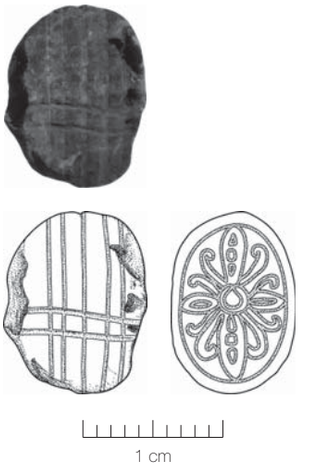
CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. none.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 347, 373, Pl. 44A/45:165; Keel 1995: § 295, p. 284 (typology). *[NoR]*

222



223



224 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). The imprint of the seal's metal mounting is clearly visible; Tufnell 1953: 373 detected marks of papyrus on the reverse, which suggests a bulla. However, according to the photo, string marks are visible, not necessarily papyrus marks, which suggests it is a container sealing. MATERIAL: fired clay. Unfired according to CSAPI index card. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is almost fully visible; slightly broken in the lower part. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, frame line hidden by the mounting. Six registers divided by horizontal double lines. The top and bottom registers are not clear. In the second register from the top, a schematic bird motif is repeated seven or eight times; the birds on the right appear to be facing left, and vice versa. The following register features a series of at least eight *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs, each one with two short horizontal bars. The next register has again a series of eight schematic birds, while the penultimate register repeats the sequence of *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs.

DISCUSSION: The layout of several horizontal registers with multiple repetition of the same motif in each is attested as early as the Middle Bronze Age (see Jericho No. 146); such ancient seals might have served as an inspiration for the Iron Age layouts (see comparanda). Somehow similar layouts are also known from inscribed Hebrew seals (see Avigad and Sass 1997: no. 110, 302, 820, all unprovenanced). The schematic birds should perhaps be interpreted as falcons (see Jerusalem No. 30; Ḥorvat ʿUza [S] No. 4).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are from scaraboids: Buṣayra No. 9; Jerusalem No. 30; Megiddo No. 343. See also the scarab Achziv No. 131, which has a similar depiction of the falcons and which combine with the so-called aegis (possibly depicted on Lachish No. 217–220, see discussion there).

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1939-820.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Locus H.17:1088,[1] Object no. 7150.

① A room north of the road from the city gate. The remaining walls were built of mudbricks on stone foundations, the floor was cobbled. Inside the room, an oven was found against the west wall and a stone-lined bin near the southern wall, as well as pottery vessels and fragments of iron arrowheads (Tufnell 1953: 124, Pl. 21: no. 3, 114).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 347, 373, Pl. 44A/45:166; Keel 1995: § 296, p. 284 (typology). *[NoR]*

225 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 37?/EP 123/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. The item is chipped on its upper left and right sides. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 17.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 59.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Single-line border. Two registers of unequal size separated by a double-line divider. Iconic and epigraphic. The large upper register displays a flying, four-winged scarab holding disks between its forelegs and hind legs. This main motif is flanked by two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs placed on either side in the space between the wings; of the left *ʿnḫ* (S34), only a tip of the base remains. Three Hebrew letters feature to the left (*s*) and right (*mk*) of the beetle's forelegs and upper disc, producing the PN *smk* "Samak". The small lower register (the exergue) contains a single-line Hebrew inscription reading a PN preceded by the mark of ownership: *lʾḥmlk* ("Belonging to Aḥimelek"). Taken together, the two parts of the inscription read *lʾḥmlk / smk*, "Belonging to Aḥimelek (son of) Samak".

DISCUSSION: Clearly the layout of the sealing surface and the iconic motifs were engraved first, with the lower panel prepared to be inscribed with the owner's name. The inscription seems complete, despite the two breaks in the upper left and right sides of the base. Early authors read the inscription as beginning in the upper register, yielding readings such as "Belonging to Semak(e)l (son of) Aḥimelek" (Diringer 1941: 102, No. 2). The current reading, beginning in the exergue and continuing in the upper register, was first proposed by L.H. Vincent (Vincent 1939: 430). The second name's slightly awkward position in the upper panel is probably due to the lack of appropriate space in the carefully prepared lower panel; the virtually identical shapes of the two letters (*mem*, *nun*) that appear in both panels suggest that the two parts of the inscription were engraved by the same hand. The name Aḥimelek is well attested epigraphically: it is also known from seal Beth Shemesh No. 189 (*lʿdyhw ʾḥmlk*), bullae Jerusalem No. 534 (*lyhwkl bn ʾḥmlk*) and Jerusalem No. 597 (*lʾḥmlk bn pl*[. . .] *bn bs*), jar handles Lachish No. 235–239, 267–268, 688–689, 918–920 (*mšlm ʾḥmlk*), and ostraca from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 96), Ashkelon (Cross 2008: 347–348), and Samaria (Aḥituv 2008: 281–282, 301–302). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters, under the *plene* spelling *ʾḫymlk* (1Sam 21:2, 26:6; 2Sam 8:17; see Clines 1993: 190). The name Samak is also attested on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 195 (*lṣdq smk*) and possibly Lachish No. 274 (*lsm*[*k*] *ṣpnyhw*), as well as seal Hebron No. 18 (*lšptyhw smk*). The reading is disputed for bulla Tel Eton No. 14. The name also appears on an ostracon from Tell el-Ḥesi (Renz and Röllig 1995: 177–178). The name is not attested as such in the Hebrew Bible, but the full theophoric form Semakyahu (*smkyhw*) is attested, borne by a single character (1Chr 26:7; see Clines 2007: 169–170).

COMPARANDA: For other first-millennium examples of the flying four-winged scarab, see Amman No. 7; Gezer No. 445, 459; Jerusalem No. 288–289, 390; Samaria No. 13, 61–63, 65–69; Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 4; and possibly Tel Goded No. 13 (scarab?, uraeus?). For a discussion of the four-winged scarab iconographic motif, see Sass 1993: 214–217; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 274–277, § 162; and most recently Schmitt 2022. For other exergual items found in Judah, see seals Jerusalem No. 341 and Lachish No. 216, bulla Jerusalem No. 593, and stamped handles Jerusalem No. 105 = Lachish No. 253–254, 274. Interestingly, Jerusalem No. 105 also has a possible PN Sama(k)/Sam(ki) inscribed in the upper panel (there introduced by the *lamed* of ownership). In contrast, Jerusalem No. 593 has its inscription (an official title) restricted to the lower panel. To the best of our knowledge, the present item is the only case to date of a provenanced inscribed Hebrew seal in the shape of a scarab.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); Avigad and Sass date the seal to the eighth century (Avigad and Sass 1997: 70, No. 59).

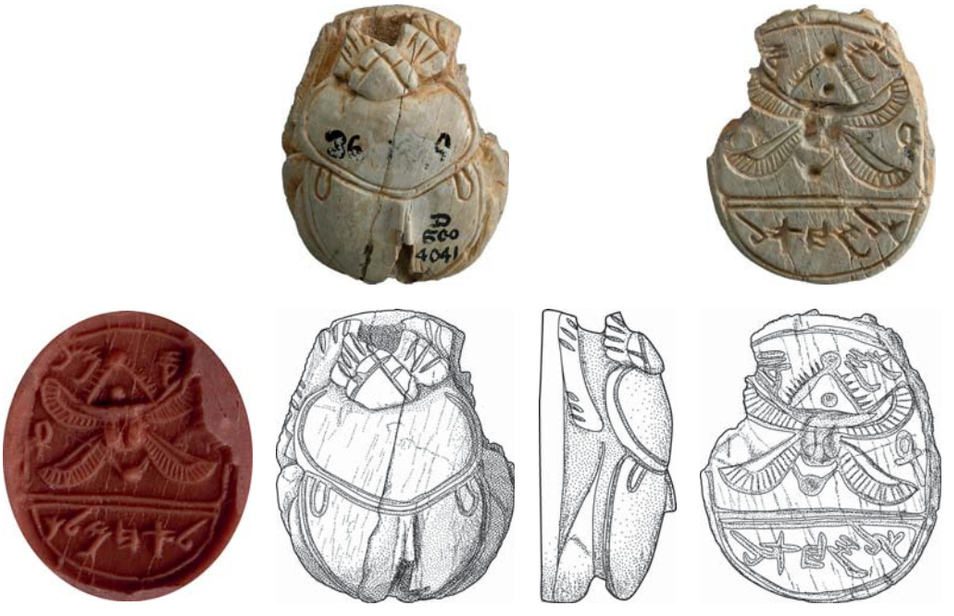
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1829.

224



1 cm

225



1 cm

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area 500, Object no. 4041.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Hooke 1935: 11, 38, 197, Fig. 2, Pl. 11; Hooke 1936a: 38; Vincent 1939: 429–430, Fig. 6:2; Diringer 1941: 102, No. 2, Pl. 8:2; Galling 1941: 181, No. 59, Pl. 6:59; Thompson 1942: 27, Fig. 1:6; Reifenberg 1950: 35, No. 16; Moscati 1951: 58, No. 19, Pl. 12:7; Tufnell 1953: 347–348, Pl. 44A/45:167; Vattioni 1969: 373–374, No. 139; Hestrin [2]1973: 60, No. 127; Herr 1978: 90, No. 17; Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels 1979: 72, No. 48; Davies 1991: 137, No. 100.139; Sass 1993: 201, Fig. 11, 215, Fig. 87, 216; Avigad and Sass 1997: 70, No. 59; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 162, 203, Fig. 277; Renz and Röllig 2003: 135, No. 1.54; Keel 2007: 418, Fig. 292; Schroer 2018: 472–473, No. 1454; Schmitt 2022: 103, 108. *[EL]*

226 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 138). MATERIAL: malachite. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: broken. The stone is slightly chipped on its left side, and more significantly chipped on its right side. WEIGHT: 1.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1* mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. The upper register contains two stars, with a possible additional element (a twig?) between them, hardly visible on the photograph. The lower register is more difficult to interpret. According to Diringer and others, it might contain traces of Hebrew letters. The beginning of the inscription is chipped away, but Diringer proposed a reading *ḥ'yhw* for the end of the inscription (see Tufnell 1953: 348), possibly corresponding to the classical Yahwistic theophoric ending "-yahu" of many Hebrew personal names in that period. However, the item's bad state of preservation makes it difficult to confirm that reading. A totally different interpretation recognises schematic iconic signs rather than letters (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: Inscribed Judahite seals with an horizontal layout and two registers are almost always inscribed on both registers, rather than only one. For a rare other example inscribed on only one of its two registers, see Jerusalem No. 46 (PN inscribed in the upper register). Note that if the reading *yhw* at the bottom left of the second register is correct, then the seal would be written in normal rather than reverse orientation, which is a rare feature (see ʿEn Gedi No. 3 for another such case among inscribed Hebrew seals).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The general layout of the present item (two horizontal registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider) is typical to inscribed Judahite seals, but is also (though rarely) attested among anepigraphic seals (see Ḥorvat ʿUza [S] No. 4). Stars (often in combination with a crescent) and twigs as separate motifs are well-attested on stamp seals of the late Iron Age IIB–III. For twigs on inscribed Hebrew seals, generally as terminating sign after the owner's name or patronym, see Jerusalem No. 46, 71, 629 (for additional, unprovenanced, examples, see Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 451, 457, 481, 489, 521, 525). The combination of the star and twig motifs is attested, e.g., on Jerusalem No. 290; Megiddo No. 678; and see Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 339 (unprovenanced). Finding iconographic comparanda for the peculiarly shaped signs in the lower register is more challenging. Relatively close comparanda include Aroer No. 2; Buṣayra No. 9; Tel Malḥata No. 4; and Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) No. 4 which, if correctly identified, might point to a southern/south-eastern provenance of the present item (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16380. The inventory number follows Magrill 2006: 5.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 371. Found in sieving (Tufnell 1953: 210).

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 187, 347–348, Pl. 44A/45:168; Davies 1991: 179, No. 100.462; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Magrill 2006: 5. *[EL]*

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227 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135) or bone seal, type III (inscribed)[?] (Keel 1995: § 142). MATERIAL: limestone[?], fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: grey. There is some uncertainty as to the material of this item: Diringer describes it as "burnt steatite" (Diringer 1941: 104, No. 6), Tufnell as "bone, burnt" (Tufnell 1953: 348), Avigad and Sass as "grey limestone (or steatite?)" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 154, No. 360) and the British Museum online entry as "grey limestone". PRESERVATION: broken. Surface very worn, small chips at the lower right side. WEIGHT: 1.31 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals[?]. Remarks: Note that the object shape is reminiscent of the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group (Münger 2022: 46: n. 6).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider with an unusual, slightly diagonal, orientation. Aniconic. The inscription is very worn and hardly legible, especially in the second register. Diringer proposed the reading *lšlm* for the first register; he considered the second register to be "on the whole undecipherable", but tentatively suggested a reading *ʾḥʿš*, which he admitted to be "doubtful" (Diringer 1941: 104, No. 6). Avigad and Sass only retained the reading *lšlm* […] ("Belonging to Shallum […]") (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 360).

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Regarding onomastics, the name *šlm* is also attested on seals Jerusalem No. 290 (*lrpʾyhw šlm*), Ramat Raḥel No. 27 (*lšlm klkl*); on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 93 = Ḥorvat Shovav No. 1 (*lbky šlm*), Beth Shemesh No. 228 = Tel Goded No. 10–11 = Jerusalem No. 104 = Lachish No. 927 = Mordot Arnona No. 16 = Khirbet Rabud No. 1–2 = Ramat Raḥel No. 24 (*šlm ʾḥʾ*), Lachish No. 242, 277–279 = Qila (Keila) No. 1 (*šlm ʾḥʾm*[*r*[?]]); on ostraca Arad No. 35 (*šlm bn ʾḥyʾm*; Renz 1995: 296–297), Lachish No. 3 (*šlm bn yḏʿ*; Aḥituv 2008: 62–69), Ḥorvat Radum No. 2 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 324–325), Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) No. 34 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 174–178), as well as ostraca from Tell Jemmeh (*šlm ʾnš*; Aḥituv 2008: 346–348, Renz 1995: 253–255), Tall al-Khulayfeh (*šlm*; Aḥituv 2008: 354–356), and Ramat Bet Shemesh (*šlm bn* [...]; Milevski and Naveh 2005: 23). Vocalized "Shallum", the name is borne by fifteen biblical characters (e.g., 2Kgs 15:10, 22:14; Jer 22:11, 32:7, 35:4; Ezra 10:24.42, Neh 3:12, 15; 1Chr 2:40, 4:25, 5:39, 7:13, 9:17; 2Chr 28:12; see Clines 2011: 370), among which a king of Israel (2Kgs 15:10) and a king of Judah (Jer 22:11). The name is also biblically attested under the vocalization "Shillem", with a single bearer (Gen 46:24; same character called Shallum in 1Chr 7:13; see Clines 2011: 405–406). Note that *šlm* is one of the best attested names in Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (Golub 2015).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15100.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5353.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 104, No. 6, Pl. 8:6; Moscati 1951: 63, No. 37, Pl. 14:1; Tufnell 1953: 347–348, 366, Pl. 44A/45:169; Davies 1991: 182–183, No. 100.483; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 154, No. 360; Renz and Röllig 2003: 389, No. 21.30; Magrill 2006: 122; Münger 2022: 46, n. 6. *[EL]*

228 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: carnelian[?] or agate[?]. The material has been described as "carnelian quartz" (Starkey 1937: 230), or as "agate" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 162, No. 385). PRESERVATION: complete. The seal base is completely preserved, but the seal has a few chips on its upper and lower edges. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Single-line border. Three registers separated by double-line dividers. The upper registers displays a two-winged uraeus facing right, in front of an object usually described as a stylized *ʿnḫ* (S34). The inscription reads *lšptyh/w ʿšyhw*, "Belonging to Shepaṭyahu (son of) ʿAsayahu". Note that the first name's last letter is located at the beginning of the third register.

DISCUSSION: The name Shepaṭyahu also appears on seal Hebron No. 18 (*lšpṭyhw smk*), and on bullae Jerusalem No. 91 (*lšptyhw bn ṣpn*) and Jerusalem No. 96 (*lšpṭyhw bn dmly*[*hw*]). In the Hebrew Bible, it is borne by nine characters, either in its full form Shepaṭyahu or under the shortened form Shepaṭyah (2Sam 3:4; Jer 38:1; Ezra 2:4.57; Neh 11:4; 1Chr 9:8, 12:6; 2Chr 21:2; see Clines 2011: 537). The name ʿAsayahu is attested epigraphically on ostracon 22 from Lachish (Aḥituv 2008: 86–88) and on an ostracon from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Beit-Arieh 2007: 150–152). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by four characters, under the shortened form ʿAsayah (2Kgs 22:12; 1Chr 4:36, 9:5, 15:11; see Clines 2007: 606).

COMPARANDA: The motif of the two-winged uraeus appears on southern Levantine seals since the Middle Bronze Age II (see Gezer No. 255 for an example). In the Late Bronze Age, it becomes extremely frequent, see for example: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 263; Beth Shean No. 72; Beth Shemesh No. 102; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 15; Dothan No. 25; Ekron No. 4; Gezer No. 609. For Iron Age examples, see Amman (Airport) No. 21; Buṣayra No. 12; Ekron No. 1; Tel Gerisa No. 7; Megiddo No. 231, 595. For a parallel showing a two-winged uraeus in front of an *ʿnḫ* (S34), see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 263. For remote parallels to the stylized *ʿnḫ* (S34) on inscribed Hebrew seals, see Reḥov No. 4 and Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 112 (but note that these examples are horizontal or bent, and they have only one horizontal stroke while the present item has two). For examples of Hebrew seals with a similar organization of the sealing surface (vertical layout, three registers, one of which is iconic), see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 337 (first register iconic); Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 74 (third register iconic).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

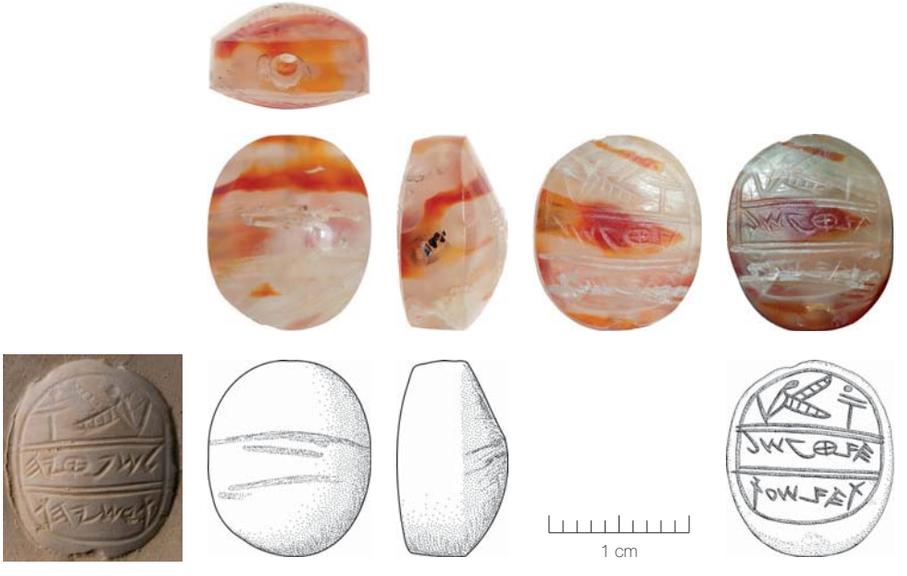
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-123.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area 4000, Object no. 6114. Although the *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941) and the excavation report (Tufnell 1953) did not explicitly mention it as such, the item is described by Starkey as a surface find in an early publication (Starkey 1937: 230).

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BIBLIOGRAPHY: Starkey 1937: 230–231; Starkey 1937a: 177; Diringer 1941: 103, No. 4, Pl. 8:4; Galling 1941: 182, No. 67a; Reifenberg 1950: 33, No. 14; Moscati 1951: 56–57, No. 16, Pl. 12:4; Tufnell 1953: 347–348, 366, Pl. 44A/45:170; Vattioni 1969: 371, No. 109; Hestrin [2]1973: 59, No. 125; Keel 1977: 104, Fig. 85; Herr 1978: 91, No. 19; Davies 1991: 134, No. 100.109; Sass 1993: 202, Fig. 18, 211, Fig. 75, 212; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 161–162, No. 385; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 272–274, § 161, 275, Fig. 274a; Renz and Röllig 2003: 409, No. 21.91; Keel 2007: 386, Fig. 272 (mirror inverted); LeMon 2010: 43, 198, Fig. 2.14a. *[EL]*

229 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back, type I (Keel 1995: § 197). The given object type follows Keel (Keel 1995: 283), note however that Avigad and Sass rather classify this item as a scaraboid (Avigad and Sass 1997: 151, No. 350). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: pink. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn. WEIGHT: 3.64 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 14.3 mm (W) × 10.6 mm (H); 3.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lšbnʾ / ḥʾb*, "Belonging to Shebna (son of) Aḥab".

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Regarding onomastics, the patronym, Shebna (*šbnʾ*), probably a hypochoristic form of Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*), is also attested on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 226 = Jerusalem No. 39 = Lachish No. 921 (*lnrʾ šbnʾ*), Ramat Raḥel No. 2 (other seal reading *lnrʾ šbnʾ*), Lachish No. 246 = Lachish No. 276 (*šwkh šbnʾ*), and Lachish No. 245, 690, 707 = Mordot Arnona No. 13 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–78 = Ramat Raḥel No. 14 (*lšbnʾ šḳr*). The hypochoristic form Shebna does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. In the Hebrew Bible, the name Shebna is borne by a single individual (sometimes under the variant spelling *šbnh*): a scribe and official of King Hezekiah (e.g., 2Kgs 18:37, 19:2; Isa 22:15, 36:3, 37:2; see Clines 2011: 239). The full theophoric forms Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) and Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), and Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l?*]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), possibly on Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*) and Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḫorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, the names Shebanyahu and Shebanyah are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than the Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). The name Aḥab is attested epigraphically on seal Beth Shemesh No. 65 (*lʾḥʾb bʿdʾl*) and on an inscribed jar from Tell el-Ḥamma (West) (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 181). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by a king of Israel and a character in the book of Jeremiah (1Kgs 16:28; Jer 29:21; see Clines 1993: 179).

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12011.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.6, Tomb 106 (Iron IIB–Persian period, beginning of 8th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 328.

① See Lachish No. 59.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Hooke 1934: 97–98, Pl. 7a-b; Diringer 1934: 214–215, No. 57, Pl. 20:27; Vincent 1939: 428–429; Diringer 1941: 103, No. 3, Pl. 8:3; Moscati 1951: 69, No. 57, Pl. 15:9; Tufnell 1953: 186, 347–348, Pl. 44A/45:171; Vattioni 1969: 366, No. 57; Herr 1978: 92, No. 20; Davies 1991: 127, No. 100.057; Keel 1995: § 197, p. 283 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 151, No. 350; Renz and Röllig 2003: 380, No. 21.5; Magrill 2006: 5; Wenning 2014: 44, Fig. 1:6. *[EL]*

230 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Tufnell 1953: 348); a groove of the original bezel is visible. MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W, object); 11.5 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W, seal impression).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lḥlqyhw / bn mʾs* ("Belonging to Ḥilqiyahu, son of Maʾas") according to some authorities (Hooke 1936: 118; Starkey 1936: 188; Thompson 1942: 26; Avigad and Sass 1997: 199, No. 498) or *lḥlqyhw / bn mʾps* ("Belonging to Ḥilqiyahu son of Meʾapes") according to others (Driver 1938: 191; Vincent 1939: 428; Diringer 1941: 102). The ambiguity comes from the slanting stroke to the right of the *samek*, which could either be interpreted as part of that letter, or as a separate letter *pe*. This ambiguity is strengthened by the fact that both readings, *mʾs* and *mʾps*, yield otherwise unattested names.

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Regarding onomastics, the name Ḥilqiyahu is epigraphically attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 79 (*lʿzryhw bn ḥlqyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 533 ([*š*...] *ḥlqyhw*). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by nine characters, either in its full form or under the abridged forms Ḥilqiyah and Ḥelqy (2Kgs 18:18, 22:12; Jer 1:1, 29:3; Neh 8:4, 12:7.15; 1Chr 6:30, 26:11; see Clines 1996: 245–246). The names Maʾas and Meʾapes seem otherwise unattested among provenanced ancient Hebrew inscriptions and in the Hebrew Bible.

DATING: Late Iron IIB–Iron III (mid 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-2258.

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230



CONTEXT: Level III? (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE) or Level II? (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square H.l4 (or H.15?), Room 1003,[1] Object no. 5352.

① See Lachish No. 10.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Hooke 1936: 118; Starkey 1936: 188–189, Pl. 6:2; Driver 1938: 191–192; Vincent 1939: 428–429, Fig. 6:5; Diringer 1941: 102, No. 1, Pl. 8:1; Thompson 1942: 26–27; Reifenberg 1950: 39, No. 25; Moscati 1951: 62, No. 31, Pl. 13:7; Tufnell 1953: 106–108, 347–348, Pl. 44A/45:172; Vattioni 1969: 375, No. 150; Herr 1978: 102, No. 42; Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels 1979: 42, No. 27; Davies 1991: 139, No. 100.150; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 199, No. 498; Renz and Röllig 2003: 215, No. 8.32. *[EL]*

231 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Tufnell 1953: 348); visible groove of the original bezel. MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is slightly broken on its left and right sides. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 405.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lgdlyhw / ʾšr ʿl hbyt*, "Belonging to Gedalyahu, overseer of the palace". Although the initial *waw* and the final *tav* of the second register are only partially preserved, there is no doubt as to their reading.

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Regarding onomastics, the name Gedalyahu is attested epigraphically on bullae Jerusalem No. 350 (*lgdlyhw bn pšḥwr*), Jerusalem No. 531 (*l*(?)*dlyhw* [*b*]*n gdlyhw*), on ostracon 21 from Arad, and on three ostraca from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Aḥituv 2008: 173–179; Beit-Arieh 2007: 150–152). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by five characters, either in its full form or under the abridged form Gedalyah (2Kgs 25:22; Jer 38:1; Zeph 1:1; Ezra 10:18; 1Chr 25:3; see Clines 1996: 325). The title "overseer of the palace" (litt. "who is over the house"), sometimes also translated as "royal steward", is well known from the Hebrew Bible (e.g., 1Kgs 4:6, 16:9; 2Kgs 15:5, 19:2; Is 36:3, 33:3) and is attested epigraphically in the so-called "Royal Steward Inscription" from Silwan (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 507–510). For a detailed discussion of this title, see de Vaux 1936, Katzenstein 1960 and Vanderhooft, Richey and Shukron 2022. The owner of the present item was often identified with the biblical character Gedaliah son of Aḥiqam (2Kgs 25:22–25), who was appointed governor of Judah by the Babylonians in 586 BCE and ruled from Mizpah (see for example de Vaux 1936; Mykytiuk 2009: 103–104; van der Veen 2012). For a recent detailed discussion of the present item, including paleographic and chronological aspects, see van der Veen 2014: 74–84.

COMPARANDA: The title "overseer of the palace" was recently discovered on a bulla from Jerusalem (Jerusalem No. 637), reading *lʾdnyhw ʾšr ʿl hbyt* ("Belonging to Adoniyahu, overseer of the palace"). To the best of our knowledge, that bulla and the present item constitute the only attestations of the title "overseer of the palace" among provenanced Hebrew seals and seal impressions.

DATING: Iron IIB–Iron III (beginning of 8th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: London; Institute of Archaeology, lost. According to Avigad and Sass, the bulla was formerly held at the University of London, Institute of Archaeology, and is now lost (Avigad and Sass 1997: 172, No. 405). Note that the Institute of Archaeology's Lachish collections were acquired by the British Museum when Jonathan Tubb was the curator for Levantine antiquities; we do not know whether the item was already lost or part of the acquisition. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM T.D.1068").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 4040.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Hooke 1935: 195–196, Pl. 11; Starkey 1935: 206; de Vaux 1936: 96–102; Starkey 1937a: 173; Vincent 1939: 430–431, Fig. 6:4; Diringer 1941: 103, No. 5, Pl. 8:5; Moscati 1951: 61–62, No. 30, Pl. 13:6; Tufnell 1953: 347–348, Pl. 44A/45:173; Vattioni 1969: 375, No. 149; Hestrin [2]1973: 18, No. 15; Herr 1978: 91, No. 18; Davies 1991: 139, No. 100.149; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 172, No. 405; Renz and Röllig 2003: 185, No. 3.20; Mykytiuk 2004: 235; Mykytiuk 2009: 103–10; van der Veen 2012; van der Veen 2014: 74–84. *[EL]*

231



1 cm

232 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is virtually complete, only missing its border on the lower and right sides. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 698.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ṣpn ʿ/ zryhw*, "Ṣafan (son of) ʿAzaryahu". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 10.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 10 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum, Inv. No. 39.824; IAA No. 1939-824. Item not available for photography at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Room 1089,[1] Object no. 7166.

① A Level III room north of the road from the city gate (Tufnell 1953: 124). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 232, 236, 243, 424.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 38–40, No. 1, Pl. 3:1; Moscati 1951: 73, No. 1, Pl. 16:1; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:1; Herr 1978: 87, No. 10; Davies 1991: 157, No. 100.289; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 46; Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 698B; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXA.161; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.15; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 46; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 15. *[EL]*

233 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is virtually complete, with only a small part of the border missing on the left side. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 698.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ṣpn ʿ/ zryhw*, "Ṣafan (son of) ʿAzaryahu". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 10.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 10 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 232, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Tel Aviv–Jaffa; MUZA (formerly Eretz Israel Museum), Inv. No. MHA 57.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6116 or 6117. The object number is uncertain: the *editio princeps* and the excavation report have 6116, as do Barkay and Vaughn (Diringer 1941: 38–40, No. 1; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 47). Yet, Avigad and Sass noted that another number, namely 6117, is written on the handle (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 698D). The latter number might be an error, as number 6117 is already borne by Lachish No. 247, a handle stamped with another seal, reading *lnḥm / ḥṣlyhw* (Diringer 1941: 48–49, No. 10; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:3). For another discrepancy related to object number 6116, see Lachish No. 706.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 38–40, No. 1, Pl. 3:2; Moscati 1951: 73, No. 1; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:2; Herr 1978: 87, No. 10; Davies 1991: 157, No. 100.289; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 47; Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 698D; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXA.162; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.15; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 47; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 15. *[EL]*

234 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *hwšʿ/ ṣpn*, "Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan". The execution of the inscription on the present item is rather crude, as shown for example by the inverted *waw* and *tsade*, the *shin* hovering high above the base line, and the tiny *ayin* squeezed at the end of the first register. Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Hoshea' is attested on the Iron Age papyrus from Wadi Murabba'at (*nmṭr hwšʿ*; Aḥituv 2008: 213–215), possibly on bulla Jerusalem No. 495 (*lhwš*[ʿ...] *ʾbd*[...]), and is borne by six characters in the Hebrew Bible (Num 13:8; 2Kgs 15:30; Hos 1:1; Neh 10:23; 1Chr 27:20; see Clines 1995: 506–507). The patronym, Ṣafan, is otherwise attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 91 (*lšpṭyhw bn ṣpn*), on stamped handles Azekah

232





1:1





1 cm

233





1:1





1 cm

234



1:2









1 cm

No. 34 = Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 1 = Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 12, 30 = Jerusalem No. 41 = Tel Socoh No. 3–4 (*lṣpn ʾbmʿṣ*), Lachish No. 10, 232–233, 275, 706 (*ṣpn ʿzryhw*), Lachish No. 57–58, 922 (*lṣpn ʿzr*), and on an incised jar from Tel Motza ([…] *ṣpn bn nss*; Vainstub 2009: 137–140). The short form Ṣafan is not attested in the Hebrew Bible, but the long forms Ṣefanyahu and Ṣefanyah are borne by four biblical characters (Jer 21:1; Zeph 1:1; Zech 6:10.14; 1Chr 6:21; see Clines 2010: 152). Note that the excavation report mentions only three handles of Hoshea‘ (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish (Tufnell 1953: 341), while four items (Lachish No. 234, 260–262) are known from museums. The identification of the three items from the report is uncertain: according to Avigad and Sass, they are Lachish No. 234, 261–262 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667), while Barkay and Vaughn rather identify them with Lachish No. 234, 260–261 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2). We concur with the latter interpretation, as Diringer explicitly mentions that, of all three stamps, “only the first one [i.e., Object no. 6366, our Lachish No. 234] is complete” (Diringer 1941: 40). Hence, Lachish No. 262, which is also complete, was not known to Diringer.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667) is stamped on four handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 234, 260–262), including the present item, as well as on Gezer No. 23, Tel Goded No. 1–4, and Tel Socoh No. 1.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Hoshea‘ (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other “private” handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18A. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: “Palace-Fort Area”, Square L.15, Pit 46,[1] Object no. 6366.

① A “partly stone-lined pit, filled with fine earth and stones”, one of over fifty circular pits located “near the south-east corner of the citadel and Residency” (Tufnell 1953: 151–152).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 40, No. 2, Pl. 3:3; Moscati 1951: 75–76, No. 10, Pl. 16:10; Tufnell 1953: 152–153, 341, Pl. 47A:3; Herr 1978: 89, No. 15; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.469; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 4; Avigad and Sass 1997: 245, No. 667G; Vaughn 1999: 201, No. IXa.26; Renz and Röllig 2003: 196, No. 5.7; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 4; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 3. *[EL]*

235 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.6 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, “Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek”. Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called “private” or “official” Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the “comparanda” section below. The name Meshullam is further attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 64 (*lydʿyhw bn mšlm*), Jerusalem No. 633 (*lmšlm mqnyhw*), Jerusalem No. 525 (*lšʾlh bn mšlm*), on stamped handles Gibeon No. 12–13 = Lachish No. 266 (*lmšlm ʾlntn*), on Arad ostraca 39 (*mšlm bn ndbyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 68) and 110 (*šmyh mšlm nʿr ʾlnt*[*n*]; Aharoni 1981: 122–123). In the Hebrew Bible, the name Meshullam is borne by 22 characters (2Kgs 22:3; Ezra 8:16, 10:15.29; Neh 3:4.6, 8:4, 10:8.21, 11:7.11, 12:13.16.25.33; 1Chr 3:19, 5:13, 8:17, 9:8.12.21; 2Chr 34:12; see Clines 2001: 541–542). The patronym, Aḥimelek, is attested on seals Beth Shemesh No. 189 (*lʾdyhw ʾḥmlk*) and Lachish No. 225 (*lʾḥmlk smk*), on bullae Jerusalem No. 534 (*lyhwkl bn ʾḥmlk*) and Jerusalem No. 597 (*lʾḥmlk bn pl*[…] *bn bs*), on Arad ostracon 72 (*ʾḥmlk*; Aharoni 1981: 96), on an ostracon from Ashkelon (*ʾḥmlk*; Cross 2008: 347–348), on Samaria ostraca 22–23 (*ʾš ʾḥmlk*; Aḥituv 2008: 281–282) and 48 (*ʾḥmlk yʿš*; Aḥituv 2008: 301–302). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters, under the *plene* spelling *ʾḥymlk* (1Sam 21:2, 26:6; 2Sam 8:17; see Clines 1993: 190).

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679) is stamped on twelve jar handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 235–239, 267–268, 688–689, 918–920), including the present item. This makes Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek the second most attested individual among the Lachish stamped handles, second to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi, with 13 attestations (see Lachish No. 243). To the best of our knowledge, this individual is not attested at other sites than Lachish.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18F. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: “Great Shaft”, Square Q.17. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3, Pl. 3:4; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11, Pl. 16:11; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:4; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 15; Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, No. 679F; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.76; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 15; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

235







2:1



5 cm



2:1



2:1

236 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is virtually complete, only missing the border on the lower side. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum, Inv. No. 39.825; IAA No. 1939-825. Item not available for study at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Room 1089,[1] Object no. 7167.

① See Lachish No. 232.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3, Pl. 3:5; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11, Pl. 16:12; Tufnell 1953: 125, 341, Pl. 47A:5; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 18; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679G; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.79; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 18; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

237 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its upper side. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 9.2* mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek" (partly reconstructed based on better-preserved parallels such as Lachish No. 235). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. Barkay and Vaughn note that "The description 'LIII, Pl 47A:4' is written on the back of this handle; however, comparison of the impression itself with PI. 47A from the final report reveals that a photograph of this particular impression was given in PI. 47A:6" (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, n. 13; see also Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, n. 10). We concur with this conclusion.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4153. The item was previously registered under the BM/Big number 160141 (Magrill 2006: 135), and appears under that number in Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, no. 679B.

CONTEXT: Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.16. No field number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 116).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3, Pl. 3:6; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11, Pl. 16:13; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:6; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 19; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679B; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.80; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 19; Magrill 2006: 116; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

236









1 cm

237







1 cm

238 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The upper register is not preserved, nor is the last letter of the lower register. MEASUREMENTS: 11.2* mm (L) × 7.9* mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads [*mšlm*] / *ʾḥml*[*k*], "[Meshullam] (son of) Aḥimele[k]" (reconstructed based on better-preserved parallels such as Lachish No. 235).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 132066. The inventory number (BM/Big number) follows Avigad and Sass, as well as Magrill (Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, no. 679C; Magrill 2006: 118); note that Barkay and Vaughn rather provide number 1956.4–16.8 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, no. 20), a number which does not appear in Magrill's lists of registration numbers of Lachish items housed at the British Museum (Magrill 2006: 135–137, 163–193).

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square L.14. No field number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 118).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 20; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679C; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.81; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 20; Magrill 2006: 118; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

239 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm* / *ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Item unlocatable at the time of writing. This seal could not be located by Avigad and Sass (1997: 250, no. 679D) nor by Barkay and Vaughn (2004: 2163, no. 21). Avigad and Sass wonder if this item might be the handle kept in the Jewish Museum, New York (our Lachish No. 689), with a wrong attribution.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square L.15. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 21; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679D; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.82; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 21. *[EL]*

240 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from Lachish No. 281, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Tanḥum (lit., "consolation") is also known from stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 196, 236 = Gibeon No. 10 = Jerusalem No. 524 = Ramat Raḥel No. 7 (*ltnḥm ngb*), Beth Shemesh No. 199a = Lachish No. 915 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 76 = Ramat Raḥel No. 25 (*ʾḥzyhw tnḥm*), possibly Lachish No. 928 (*ʾḥ' tnḥm*, tentative reading), as well as from ostracon 39 from Arad (*tnḥm bn yd'yhw*; Aharoni 1981: 68–69). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2011: 654), but Lipschits notes the presence of the variant name Tanḥumet (*tnḥmt*) in 2Kgs 25:23 and Jer 40:8 (Lipschits 2008: 6). The patronym, Magen, is also attested on Jerusalem No. 71 (*lgmryhw bn mgn*), and on an inscribed jar fragment from Tel Ira (*lrb' mgn*; Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 199–200); it is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 1998: 136).

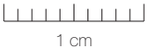
COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 707) is stamped on seven handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 240, 280–283, 923–924), including the present item, as well as on handles Tel Erani No. 5, Gibeon No. 15, Ramat Raḥel No. 11 and Tekoa No. 1.

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No image available **239**

240



1:1











DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Tel Aviv–Jaffa; MUZA (formerly Eretz Israel Museum), Inv. No. MHA 56.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Square H.17, Locus D/X, Object no. 6118. Note that four items from Lachish share the object number 6118: Lachish No. 240, 280–282 (see Diringer 1941: 41, No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, n. 15).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4, Pl. 3:7; Thompson 1942: 24–25; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12, Pl. 17:1; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:7; Herr 1978: 88, No. 12; Davies 1991: 172, No. 100.404; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 67; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 707C; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIa.221; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 67; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

241 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The lower part of the impression is missing. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9* mm (L) × 8.5* mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. No divider. Apparently aniconic, though a small icon might have appeared in the lower part of the seal, not preserved in the impression. The inscription reads *lʿbdy*, "Belonging to ʿAbdi", with the last letter of the name written in a second line.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). Note however that this impression bears no patronym, a rare feature among Judahite stamped handles, and even more generally, among Judahite seals and seal impressions. The name ʿAbdi is attested as a patronym on stamped handles ʿEn Gedi No. 10 = Tel Goded No. 8 = Lachish No. 243–244, 269–273, 700–705 (*nḥm ʿbdy*). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters (Ezra 10:26; 1Chr 6:29; 2Chr 29:12; see Clines 2007: 229).

COMPARANDA: No other provenanced handles stamped with the same seal are currently known. For a rare other case of Judahite stamped handle bearing no patronym nor title, see ʿEn Gedi No. 2. The phenomenon is more common among Israelite stamped handles, see Dan No. 26–29, and Dothan No. 1 = Khirbet et-Tell (Bethsaida) No. 3. For other stamped handles bearing a single letter on their last line, see Lachish No. 246, 276. For rare other examples of (seals and) impressions featuring a single personal name split in two lines, see Dan No. 29 = Khirbet et-Tell (Bethsaida) No. 3, Dothan No. 1, and ʿEn Gedi No. 3.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since the present handle was not recovered from a secure stratigraphic context, its dating to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18J. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a:53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square P.17. Context information according to Diringer 1941: 45, No. 7; Tufnell 1953: 341; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 690; see also the handwritten note at the back of the handle. Barkay and Vaughn rather provide the context as "D/X" (Tufnell's surface find code), with no area nor square information (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 45); note paper tag attached to the handle.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 45, No. 7, Pl. 3:8; Moscati 1951: 77–78, No. 15, Pl. 17:5; Tufnell 1953: 163, 341, Pl. 47A:8; Herr 1978: 90, No. 16; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.471; Keel 1995: § 308; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 45; Avigad and Sass 1997: 254, No. 690; Vaughn 1999: 210, No. XXIV.148; Renz and Röllig 2003: 331, No. 16.6; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 45; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 14. *[EL]*

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1:1



1:1









1 cm



242 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its left side; this handle is part of a restored storage jar featuring two additional unstamped handles and one missing handle (Inge 1941: 108; Tufnell 1953: Pl. 78:1,5; Ussishkin 1976: 11; Ussishkin 2004a: 2133). MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Probably aniconic (see below). Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The first four letters of the upper register are clear, reading *lšlm*. They are followed by traces of an additional sign, which can either be a letter, a vertical word divider or, considering the space still available on the original seal, an iconic feature. The second register is in a worse state of preservation. Its first, second and fourth signs have universally been interpreted as *alef*, *ḥet*, and *mem*, but the third and fifth signs have received different interpretations. The *editio princeps* proposed *lšlmh* or *lšlm* ("Belonging to Shelomoh/Shallum/Shillem") for the first register and *ʾḥsmk* ("Aḥisamak") for the second (Diringer 1941: 43–44). Thompson, soon thereafter, proposed *ʾḥʾmr* (Aḥiʾamar) for the second register, based on a more convincing interpretation of the third sign as an *alef* and the last one as a partially preserved *resh* (Thompson 1942: 25). This proposal, coupled with an interpretation of the last sign of the upper register as a word divider, was adopted by Avigad and Sass, yielding the reading *lšlm / ʾḥʾmr*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾamar" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 706). Barkay and Vaughn rather read *lšlm / ʾḥʾm*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam", denying the traces of an additional letter after the *mem* of the second register (Vaughn 1999: 214–215, No. XXXVb; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 61). Note that Diringer's original reading *lšlm / ʾḥsmk* still appears as the default reading in Ussishkin 2004: 2133. Finally, a continuous, slightly slanted horizontal line runs under the letters of the second register, an unusual feature, which, to the best of our knowledge, finds no parallel among other provenanced Iron Age Hebrew seals and seal impressions (see discussion in Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 40). For an unprovenanced parallel to this slanted horizontal line, see Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 3.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). The discussion below is based on the combined reading *lšlm ʾḥʾm*[*rʾ*?] of Avigad/Sass and Barkay/Vaughn (see above). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. Note that *šlm* is one of the best attested names in Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (Golub 2015). It is attested on seals Jerusalem No. 290 (*lrpʾyhw šlm*), Lachish No. 227 (*lšlm* [...]), Ramat Raḥel No. 27 (*lšlm klkl*), on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 93 = Ḥorvat Shovav No. 1 (*lbky šlm*), on ostraca Arad No. 35 (*šlm bn ʾḥyʾm*; Renz 1995: 296–297), Lachish No. 3 (*šlm bn yd*ʿ; Aḥituv 2008: 62–69), Ḥorvat Radum No. 2 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 324–325), Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) No. 34 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 174–178), ostraca from Tell Jemmeh (*šlm ʾnš*; Aḥituv 2008: 346–348, Renz 1995: 253–255), Tall al-Khulayfeh (*šlm*; Aḥituv 2008: 354–356), and Ramat Bet Shemesh (*šlm bn* [...]; Milevski and Naveh 2005: 23). Vocalized "Shallum", the name is borne by 15 biblical characters (2Kgs 15:10, 22:14; Jer 22:11, 32:7, 35:4; Ezra 10:24.42, Neh 3:12, 15; 1Chr 2:40, 4:25, 5:39, 7:13, 9:17; 2Chr 28:12), among which a king of Israel (2Kgs 15:10) and a king of Judah (Jer 22:11) (see Clines 2011: 370). The name is also biblically attested under the vocalization "Shillem", with a single bearer (Gen 46:24; same character called Shallum in 1Chr 7:13; see Clines 2011: 405–406). Regarding the patronym, Aḥiʾamar does not seem to be attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor in the Hebrew Bible, but Thompson notes that several Hebrew names are based on the root *ʾmr*, such as Amaryahu, Imri and Immer (Thompson 1942: 25). The alternative reading, Aḥiʾam, is attested, under the *plene* orthography *ʾḥyʾm*, on ostracon Arad No. 35 (*šlm bn ʾḥyʾm*; Lemaire's reading [Lemaire 1977: 204], adopted by Renz 1995: 296–297 and Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 65, *contra* Aharoni's *ʾḥyʾyl* [Aharoni 1981: 65]). It is also borne by a single character in the Hebrew Bible (2Sam 23:33; see Clines 1993: 189). For more details on the name Aḥiʾam and its variants, see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 41, who however omitted the Arad ostracon 35 parallel noted above (*šlm bn ʾḥyʾm*). This parallel is nevertheless striking, as it matches both the name and the patronym on the present item, which raises the question of a possible identification between the two individuals. This potential identification does not seem to have been discussed in previous literature. If verified, it would constitute the first epigraphic attestation of a character known from the Judahite "private" stamped handles outside of that corpus, to the best of our knowledge. This identification is however far from certain. A first obstacle lies in the uncertainty regarding the reading of the ostracon, due to its bad state of preservation. A second obstacle lies in the 7th century dating of the ostracon by Aharoni (entirely on paleographic grounds, as the ostracon is unstratified, see Aharoni 1981: 65; Kleiman and Finkelstein 2020: 276), thus possibly too late to match our item, as the Judahite "private" stamped handles are consensually dated to the late 8th century (Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22). In addition, Renz's paleographic analysis of the ostracon concluded in a dating in the second half of the 7th century (Renz 1995: 296–297), thus too late to match the traditional 8th century dating of the "private" handles. The identification between the two characters therefore remains uncertain.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706) is stamped on four handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 242, 277–279), including the present item, and on Qila (Keila) No. 1. For other handles possibly belonging to the same individual, but stamped with a different seal, reading *lšlm ʾḥ*, see Beth Shemesh No. 228 = Tel Goded No. 10–11 = Jerusalem No. 104 = Lachish No. 927 = Khirbet Rabud No. 1–2 = Ramat Raḥel No. 24.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam/Aḥiʾamar from Lachish stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12085. The inventory number follows Magrill (Magrill 2006: 68), as no inventory number was provided by Avigad and Sass, nor by Barkay and Vaughn (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706A; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 61).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square G.14, Room 1008,[1] Object no. 5400.

① Room in a building located south of the podium, featuring an oven, a burnt floor, and a late intrusive grave (Tufnell 1953: 104, 109). The room was later assigned to Ussishkin's Area S.

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1 cm

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 43, No. 5, Pl. 3:9; Inge 1941: 107; Thompson 1942: 25, Fig. 1:2; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76–77, No. 13, Pl. 17.2; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:9, Pl. 78:1,5; Ussishkin 1976: 11; Herr 1978: 86–87, No. 9; Davies 1991: 156, No. 100.280; Hizmi and Shabtai 1992: 170, Fig. 188; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 61; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 38–41, No. 10, Fig. 12; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 706A; Vaughn 1999: 214–215, No. XXXVb.212; Renz and Röllig 2003: 395, No. 21.50; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 61; Ussishkin 2004a: 2133; Magrill 2006: 68; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 21. *[EL]*

243 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete but the letters are quite faint. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Naḥum is otherwise attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 97 (*lnḥm bn šʾlh*), Jerusalem No. 294 ([…]*ryhw nḥm*), Jerusalem No. 594 ([*l*]*yrḥm*[*ʾ*]*l bn nḥm* [*bn*] *bs*), Lachish No. 851 (*lnḥm bn ʿnnyhw*), stamped handles Gibeon No. 9 = Jerusalem No. 37 (*lnḥm ḥṣlyhw*) and Lachish No. 247 (other seal reading *lnḥm ḥṣlyhw*), and possibly on an incised jar handle from Jerusalem ([…]*nḥm*; Naveh 2000:7). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters, and is vocalized either "Naḥam" (1Chr 4:19), "Naḥum" (Nah 1:1, under the *plene* spelling *nḥwm*) or "Neḥum" (Neh 7:7) (see Clines 2001: 654–655, 665). The patronym, ʿAbdi, is also attested on stamped handle Lachish No. 241 (*lʿbdy*). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters (Ezra 10:26; 1Chr 6:29; 2Chr 29:12; see Clines 2007: 229). The *editio princeps* and the excavation report provided two photographs of handles stamped with the same seal, out of seven reported items, without specifying which particular items these photographs represent (Diringer 1941: Pl. 3:10–11; Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47A:10–11). According to Barkay and Vaughn, the present item, kept in Dublin, corresponds to the one shown in Pl. 47A:10 of the excavation report (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 28). This image from the excavation report is reproduced here, though we have not been able to obtain a new photograph of the item from Dublin and thus to confirm the matching proposed by Barkay and Vaughn.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684) is stamped on fourteen handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 243–244, 269–273, 700–705, 942), including the present item, making it the most attested seal among the Lachish stamped handles. Outside Lachish, the same seal is also stamped on jar handles ʿEn Gedi No. 10, Tel Goded No. 8, and Mordot Arnona No. 3–7. In the current state of our knowledge, this is the only series of provenanced handles stamped with a rectangular inscribed Judahite seal (but see also Beth Shemesh No. 199 for an undeciphered square handle impression). For rare other examples of square or rectangular Hebrew seals, see Beth Shemesh No. 217, ʿEn Gedi No. 1, 3, and Jaffa No. 12.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the context of discovery, attributed to Lachish Level III.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM1210. Location and inventory number according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 28.

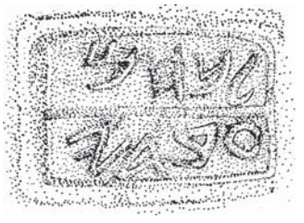
CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Room 1089,[1] Object no. 7168. Object number according to Tufnell 1953: 341; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684H; Vaughn 1999: No. 103; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 28. Diringer provided another number (7161) for this item, probably a typographic error (see Diringer 1941: 44).

① See Lachish No. 232.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6, Pl. 3:10; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14, Pl. 17:3; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:10; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 28; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684H; Vaughn 1999: 207, No.XXIa.103; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 28; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

243





1 cm

244 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped widthwise between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. The *editio princeps* and the excavation report provided two photographs of handles stamped with the same seal, out of seven reported items, without specifying which particular items these photographs represent (Diringer 1941: Pl. 3:10–11; Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47A:10–11). According to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 28, the present item corresponds to the one shown in Pl. 47A:11 of the excavation report. This conclusion is confirmed by our new photographs of the handle.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18H. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6, Pl. 3:11; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14, Pl. 17:4; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:11; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 29; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684F; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.104; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 29; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

245 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its lower and left sides. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The end of the second register is not preserved. The inscription can be reconstructed as *lšbn / ʾš*[*ḥr*], "Belonging to Shebna (son of) Sha[ḥar]", on the basis of identical, better-preserved stamped handles such as Lachish No. 707 and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 77–78. A word divider (vertical stroke) separates the owner's name from his patronym.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Shebna (*šbnʾ*), probably a hypochoristic form of Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*), is also attested on seal Lachish No. 229 (*lšbnʾ ʾḥʾb*), and on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 226 = Jerusalem No. 39 = Lachish No. 921 (*lnrʾ šbnʾ*), Ramat Raḥel No. 2 (other seal reading *lnrʾ šbnʾ*), and Lachish No. 246, 276 (*šwkh šbnʾ*). The hypochoristic form Shebna does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by a single individual (sometimes under the variant spelling *šbnh*): a scribe and official of King Hezekiah (e.g., 2Kgs 18:37, 19:2; Isa 22:15, 36:3, 37:2; see Clines 2011: 239). The full theophoric forms Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) and Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*?]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*) and possibly on Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*) and Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, these names are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). The patronym, Shaḥar, is attested on stamped handles Lachish No. 916 = Ramat Raḥel No. 8 = Umm Tuba No. 2 (*yhwḥl šḥr*), Jerusalem No. 522 = Ramat Raḥel No. 9–10 (*yhwḥyl šḥr*), and Lachish No. 917 (other seal reading *yhwḥyl šḥr*). That name does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions nor in the Hebrew Bible, but it might be a hypochoristic form of the biblical name Sheḥaryah (e.g., 1Chr 7:10; see Koch and Lipschits 2016: 349). Note that according to Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 54), the present item, kept at the British Museum, is the (single) stamped handle of Shebna (son of) Shaḥar published by Diringer (Diringer 1941: No. 8, Pl. 4:1 = Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:1; published with a drawing but without object number); while according to Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701E), as well as Ackerman and Braunstein (Ackerman and Braunstein 1982: 71), the item published by Diringer is rather Lachish No. 690, kept at the Jewish Museum in New York. A comparison of the photographs of these two items with Diringer's drawing seems to support Barkay and Vaughn's interpretation (see especially the *nun* and the traces of the final *ḥet*).

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 701) is stamped on three handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 245, 690, 707), including the present item, as well as on Mordot Arnona No. 13, Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–78, and Ramat Raḥel No. 14.



1:3



1:3



1 cm

244







245







1 cm



DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shebna (son of) Shaḥar from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.8245.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:1; no object number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 84).

① Platform outside the south wall of the Level I Residency, atop the Iron Age podium (Tufnell 1953: 131). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 245, 260–262, 267, 269, 271, 703–705.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 46–47, No. 8, Pl. 4:1; Moscati 1951: 78, No. 16, Pl. 17:6; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:1; Herr 1978: 98, No. 35; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.472; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 54; Vaughn 1999: No. XXXII.176; Renz and Röllig 2003: 381, No. 21.6; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 54; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 17. *[EL]*

246 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper right corner damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The last letter of the second register is written under the other letters, apparently due to a lack of space. The first letter of the second register is only partly preserved. The inscription has been read by Diringer as *lšwk / h šbn'*, "Belonging to *šwkh* (son of) Shebna" (Diringer 1941: 47–48, No. 9; cf. also Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 704). Barkay and Vaughn proposed an alternative reading *lšwk / y šbn'*, "Belonging to *šwky* (son of) Shebna", interpreting the first letter of the second register as a *yod* instead of a *he* (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 41–42). The visible traces of that letter seem to better fit a *yod* in our opinion as well (cf. Lachish No. 276, bearing the same stamp, where that letter is better preserved), hence we favour the latter reading.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For another stamped handle related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name *šwky* does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor in the Hebrew Bible, and neither does the alternative name *šwkh*. The patronym, Shebna (*šbn'*), probably a hypochoristic form of Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*), is also attested on seal Lachish No. 229 (*lšbn' ʾḥʾb*), and on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 226 = Jerusalem No. 39 = Lachish No. 921 (*lnr' šbn'*), Ramat Raḥel No. 2 (other seal reading *lnr' šbn'*), and Lachish No. 245, 690, 707 = Mordot Arnona No. 13 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–78 = Ramat Raḥel No. 14 (*lšbn' šḥr*). The hypochoristic form Shebna does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. In the Hebrew Bible, the name Shebna is borne by a single individual (sometimes under the variant spelling *šbnh*): a scribe and official of King Hezekiah (e.g., 2Kgs 18:37, 19:2; Isa 22:15, 36:3, 37:2; see Clines 2011: 239). The full theophoric forms Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) and Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), and Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*?]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), possibly on Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*) and Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, the names Shebanyahu and Shebanyah are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44).

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 704) is stamped on two handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 246, 276), including the present item. For another stamped handle bearing a single letter on its last line, see Lachish No. 241.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of *šwkh/šwky* (son of) Shebna from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18L. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort"[?], Square J.15, Locus D/X, Object no. 6119. Since the "Palace-Fort" substructure reaches into Square J.15, the item could theoretically have been found on its southern surface, but a provenance from the residential quarter south of it (the main built-up compound of Square J.15) seems more probable. The object is mentioned as a surface find (locus D/X) in the *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 47–48, No.9) but not in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341). Object number according to Diringer 1941: 47, No. 9; Tufnell 1953: 341; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 704A; Barkay and Vaughn provide another object number (6019) for this item, possibly a typographic error (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 58).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 47–48, No. 9, Pl. 4:2; Moscati 1951: 78, No. 17, Pl. 17:10; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:2; Herr 1978: 89, No. 14; Davies 1991: 181, No. 100.473; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 58; Avigad and Sass 1997: 260, No. 704A; Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIVa.191; Renz and Röllig 2003: 385, No. 21.19; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 58; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 19. *[EL]*

246



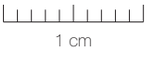
1:2



1:2







1 cm





247 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Top and bottom of the seal impression damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.0* mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 682.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ḥṣlyhw*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) Hiṣilyahu".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Naḥum is otherwise attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 97 (*lnḥm bn šʾlh*), Jerusalem No. 294 ([…]*ryhw nḥm*), Jerusalem No. 594 ([*l*]*yrḥm*[*ʾ*]*l bn nḥm* [*bn*] *bs*), Lachish No. 851 (*lnḥm bn ʿnyhw*), stamped handles ʿEn Gedi No. 10 = Tel Goded No. 8 = Lachish No. 243–244, 269–273, 700–705 (*lnḥm ʿbdy*), and possibly on an incised jar handle from Jerusalem ([…]*nḥm*; Naveh 2000: 7). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters, and is vocalized either "Naḥam" (1Chr 4:19), "Naḥum" (Nah 1:1, under the *plene* spelling *nḥwm*) or "Neḥum" (Neh 7:7) (see Clines 2001: 654–655, 665). The patronym, Hiṣilyahu, is attested epigraphically on Lachish letter No. 1 (*gmryhw bn ḥṣlyhw*; Aḥituv 2008: 56–57), and on ostraca 10 (*mky bn ḥṣlyhw*) and 14 (*ḥṣlyhw bn ṣdk*) from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Beit-Arieh 2007: 139–143, 146–147). The name is not attested in the Hebrew Bible.

COMPARANDA: To the best of our knowledge, no other provenanced handles bear the same stamp (i.e., Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 682) as the present item. For handles stamped with another seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 681) bearing the same name and patronym, see Gibeon No. 9 and Jerusalem No. 37. Note that in Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23 and in Vaughn 1999: 206, the latter two handles are mistakenly referenced as being impressed with the same seal as the present handle. For the correct division see Avigad and Sass 1997: 250–251, No. 681–682, where a careful comparison of the published pictures shows that we are dealing with two different seals. An additional handle, Ramat Raḥel No. 16, had been identified as possibly bearing the same name and patronym (Aharoni 1964: 61; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251, No. 683), but its inscription has since been reinterpreted as reading "Belonging to Ṣemaḥ (son of) Elishama" (see Koch and Lipschits 2016: 353).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since the current item is unstratified, its dating to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Tel Aviv–Jaffa; MUZA (formerly Eretz Israel Museum), Inv. No. MHA 55; IAA No. 1938-717.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6117. Object number according to Diringer 1941: 48; Tufnell 1953: 341; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251, No. 682A. Note that Barkay and Vaughn provide a different number (6113) for this item (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 27; Vaughn 1999a: 206, No. XXa.97; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 27).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 48–49, No. 10, Pl. 4:3; Thompson 1942: 26, Fig. 1:1; Sukenik 1942a; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 78–79, No. 18, Pl. 18:1; Tufnell 1953: 341–342, Pl. 47B:3; Davies 1991: 181, No. 100.474; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 27; Avigad and Sass 1997: 242–245, 251, No. 682A; Vaughn 1999: 206, No. XXa.97; Renz and Röllig 2003: 306, No. 14.12; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 27; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 10. *[EL]*

248 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The first register is very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Diringer 1941: 49, No. 11.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border[?]. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The description below follows entirely Diringer's *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 49, No. 11), since the item is unlocatable and no photograph of it has ever been published. In the first register, only the two first letters are readable. Diringer proposed the reading *lš*[…] / *šbnyh*, "Belonging to Sh[…] (son of) Shebanyah" but noted that this reading is uncertain (Diringer 1941: 49, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341). Barkay and Vaughn considered this item to be illegible, although they could not locate it (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 72).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). The name Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) is attested on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), and possibly on Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*). The longer variant Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) is attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*llḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, the names Shebanyahu and Shebanyah are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). This stamped handle does not seem to be discussed in Avigad and Sass 1997 nor in Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010. As mentioned, it was considered unreadable by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 72).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since the current item does not stem from a secure stratigraphic context, its dating to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item could not be located by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 72).

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square L.15. Context information according to Diringer 1941: 49, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 72 (no locus nor object number provided).

247



1:1



1:1





1 cm



248



1 cm

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 49, No. 11, Pl. 4:4; Moscati 1951: 79, No. 19, Pl. 18:2; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:4; Davies 1991: 181, No. 100.475; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 72; Vaughn 1999: 217, No. 242; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 72. *[EL]*

249 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Only a fragment of the impression is preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (D). Measurements according to Diringer 1941: 49, No. 12.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Border type unclear. Two registers. The type of divider is unclear (double line according to Diringer 1941: 49, but single line in the published facsimile [Diringer 1941: Pl. 4:5 = Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47B:5; no published photograph]). Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The impression is incomplete and the inscription badly preserved. Diringer proposed the reading *šbnyh*[*w*] ("Shebanyah[u]") for the first register and, very tentatively, *yḥyhw* ("Yeḥiyahu") or *ʿzryhw* ("ʿAzaryahu") for the second register (Diringer 1941: 49–50, No. 12). More recently, Barkay and Vaughn proposed the reading *šbnyh ʿzryh*, "Shebanyah (son of) ʿAzaryah", by comparison with Tel Goded No. 9 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 702), which they consider as having been impressed with the same seal as the present handle (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, n. 20; Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIIIb).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The discussion below is based on Barkay and Vaughn's reading *šbnyh ʿzryh*. The names Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) and Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*) and Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, these names are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). The patronym, ʿAzaryah, including the variant form ʿAzaryahu, is attested on seals Jerusalem No. 38 (*lḥnh bt ʿzryh*), ʿEn Gedi No. 1 (*lʿryhw ʿzryhw*), Jerusalem No. 34 (*lmtnyhw ʿzryhw*), on bullae Jerusalem No. 79, 90, 94 (*lʿzryhw bn ḥlqyhw*), and on stamped handle Gibeon No. 11. Outside glyptics, the name is attested on ostracon 16 from Arad (*ʿzryhw*; Aharoni 1981: 30–31) and on an incised jar from Gibeon (*ʿzryhw*; Aḥituv 2008: 216). The name (in both forms) is widely attested in the Hebrew Bible, being borne by 27 characters, among which a king of Judah (2Kgs 15:1), the chief priest at the time of King Hezekiah (2Chr 3:10), and one of Daniel's companions (Dn 1:6) (see Clines 2007: 346–347). Note that the present handle is not mentioned in Avigad and Sass 1997. To the best of our knowledge, no photograph of it was ever published.

COMPARANDA: According to Barkay and Vaughn, the present handle is stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 702) as Tel Goded No. 9 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, n. 20; Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIIIb). For other stamped handles possibly belonging to the same individual but stamped with a different seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 703), see Tel Goded No. 5–7.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since the current item is unstratified, its dating to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. Collection information according to Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIIIb.189 (no inventory number provided).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 49–50, No. 12, Pl. 4:5; Thompson 1942: 26; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 79, No. 20, Pl. 18:3; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:5; Davies 1991: 181, No. 100.476; Keel 1995: § 308; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 57; Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIIIb.189; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 57; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 18. *[EL]*



249

1 cm

250 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The impression is found on a fragmented handle of reddish-brown ware with white grits and wet smoothing marks (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36). PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is very worn, making some of the letters hard to identify. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers, roughly of equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is hard to decipher, as the letters are rather faint. Diringer originally proposed the reading *lpn bn / yḥny* (Diringer 1941: 51; Tufnell 1953: 341). This reading was later revised by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36, No. 9), as well as Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 678D), to *lmnḥm / ywbnh*, "Belonging to Menaḥem (son of) Yobanah", based on parallels such as Ramat Raḥel No. 1.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Menaḥem is also attested on seals Amman No. 7 (*lmnḥm bn ynḥm*) and Jerusalem No. 44 (*lḥmy'hl bt mnḥm*), on bulla Jerusalem No. 627 (*l'ḥy'b bn mnḥm*), on ostracon 72 from Arad (*mnḥm*; Aharoni 1981: 96), and on an ostracon from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (*'ḥqm bn mnḥm*; Aḥituv 2008: 166–168). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne solely by a king of Israel (2Kgs 15:14–23; Clines 2001: 353). The patronym, Yobanah (*ywbnh*)—including the variant forms *yhwbnh* and *ybnh*—does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, except possibly on two jar inscriptions from Lachish (resp. [*lyh*]*wbnh* and [*ly*]*hwbnh*; Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 341). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible either (Clines 1998: 164), nor are the variant forms *yhwbnh* (Clines 1998: 117) and *ybnh*. Attested variants are Yibneyah/Yibniyah (*ybnyh*; Clines 1998: 76), and Benayah/Benayahu (*bnyh*/*bnyhw*; Clines 1995: 231–232), among others.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 678) is stamped on three or four handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 250, 263–264, possibly Lachish No. 265 [tentative reading]), including the present item, as well as on Beth Shemesh No. 227, Gibeon No. 14, Jerusalem No. 42, Mordot Arnona No. 1, Ramat Raḥel No. 1, Tel Socoh No. 2, and an unpublished handle from Adullam (Vaughn 1999a: 204, No. XVIIb.60). For other handles probably belonging to the same individual but bearing variant spellings of the patronym, see Beth Shemesh No. 194 = Ramat Raḥel No. 1 (*mnḥm wyhbnh*, with inverted *w* and *y*) and Tel Goded No. 12 (*mnḥm ybnh*). For a recent discussion of these variant spellings, see Schniedewind 2023.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18E. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: "Gate Area", Square H.17. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 51, No. 14, Pl. 4:6 (erroneous reading); Moscati 1951: 79–80, No. 22, Pl. 18:4 (erroneous reading); Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:6 (erroneous reading); Davies 1991: 171, No. 100.392; Keel 1995: § 308; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 10; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36, No. 7, Fig. 8; Avigad and Sass 1997: 249, No. 678D; Vaughn 1999: 204, No. XVIIb.63; Avigad and Barkay 2000: 259, No. 53; Renz and Röllig 2003: 286, No. 13.57; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 10; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 7; Schniedewind 2023. *[EL]*

250



1:2



1:2



1:2











1 cm

251 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is not complete on its lower left side. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0* mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is hard to decipher, as the letters are rather faint. Diringer originally proposed the reading *krmy / ypyhw*, "Karmi (son of) Yofiyahu" (Diringer 1941: 52, No. 15). More recently, a variant reading *krmy rpy*[…] was proposed, based on a reexamination of the item, with the patronym possibly restored as *rp‹ʾ›yhw* (Avigad and Sass 1997: 248, No. 675), but Diringer's reading of the patronym still appears in several subsequent publications (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 8–9; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 6). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Karmi does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, but the name is borne by two characters in the Hebrew Bible (Gen 46:9; Josh 7:1; see Clines 1998: 462). Names starting with the prefix *yp* or *rpy* do not seem to be attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. The possible variant reading *rpʾyhw* ("Refayahu", see Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 675) is attested on seal Jerusalem No. 290 (*lrpʾyhw šlm*) and on bullae Jerusalem No. 69 (*lrpʾyhw bn ʾprḥ*) and Jerusalem No. 632 (*lrpʾyhw bn ṣpnyh*). In the Hebrew Bible, the variant name *rpyh* ("Refayah") is borne by five characters (Neh 3:9; 1Chr 3:21, 4:42, 7:2, 8:37, 9:43; see Clines 2010: 539). Note that, according to Barkay and Vaughn, the drawing of the stamp provided in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47B:7) "seems to be a combination of the two impressions found in the British excavation" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, n. 8), that is, a combination of Lachish No. 251 and Lachish No. 252.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 675) is stamped on two handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 251–252), including the present item, as well as on Jerusalem No. 523 (Vaughn 1999: 203, No. XVI.55).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4154.

CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square Q.17. No field number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 80).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 51–52, No. 15, Pl. 4:7; Moscati 1951: 80, No. 23, Pl. 18:5; Tufnell 1953: 163, 341, Pl. 47B:7; Davies 1991: 181–182, No. 100.477; Keel 1995: § 308; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 8; Avigad and Sass 1997: 248, No. 675A; Vaughn 1999: 203, No. XVI.53; Renz and Röllig 2003: 267, No. 11.11; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 8; Magrill 2006: 80; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 6. *[EL]*

252 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The stamp is incomplete on its lower-left side. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 12.3* mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is hard to decipher, as the letters are rather faint. Diringer originally proposed the reading *krmy / ypyhw*, "Karmi (son of) Yofiyahu" (Diringer 1941: No. 15). Based on a reexamination of the item, a variant reading *krmy rpy*[…] was proposed by Avigad and Sass, with the patronym possibly restored as *rp‹ʾ›y*[*hw*] (Avigad and Sass 1997: 248, No. 675). Yet Diringer's reading of the patronym still appears in several subsequent publications (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 8–9; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 6). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 251. Note that, according to Barkay and Vaughn, the drawing of the stamp provided in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47B:7) "seems to be a combination of the two impressions found in the British excavation" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, n. 8), that is, of Lachish No. 251 and Lachish No. 252.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 251 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18B. Formerly 61.D.155.B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. This item is attributed to "Room H: H.17" by the *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 51), but appears as unstratified (locus D/X) in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341, followed by Avigad and Sass 1997: 248; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 51–52, No. 15, Pl. 4:7; Moscati 1951: 80, No. 23, Pl. 18:5; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:7; Davies 1991: 181–182, No. 100.477; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 9; Avigad and Sass 1997: 248, No. 675B; Vaughn 1999: 203, No. XVI.54; Renz and Röllig 2003: 267, No. 11.11; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 9; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 6. *[EL]*

251



252



253 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type b (Keel 1995: § 306–307). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is "very badly preserved" (Diringer 1941: 54). MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from Lachish No. 274, impressed with the same seal as the present item.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Double-line border. Two registers of unequal size separated by a double-line divider. The large upper register displays a four-winged uraeus. Hebrew letters appear both in the upper register, and in exergue in the lower register. The description closely follows Diringer's *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 54, No. 21), as we have not been able to examine the item nor to obtain a photograph of it. Above the uraeus, Diringer read the letters *lamed* and *samek*, followed by a one-letter lacuna, then a "clear" *kaf* and a "probable" *yod* between the wings (Diringer 1941: 54, No. 21). In the lower register, he read *ṣpnyhw*, with some uncertainty concerning the first four letters. He proposed the reading *ls*[*m*]*ky / ṣpnyhw*, "Belonging to Sa[m]ki (son of) Ṣepanyahu" for the whole inscription (Diringer 1941: 54–55, No. 21), with the first name written with letters scattered in the field, close to the uraeus, and the patronym written in continuous writing as usual, in the second register. Note that Diringer's restitution of a *mem* in the upper register, and his reading *ṣpnyhw* in the lower register, are clearly confirmed by Lachish No. 274, which was not yet available in 1941, being first mentioned in the 1953 excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341–342). This reading was adopted by Avigad and Sass, with a slight variation: they proposed *lsm*[*k*] */ ṣpnyhw* or *lsm*[*ky*] */ ṣpnyhw*, "Belonging to Sama[k] (son of) Ṣepanyahu" or "Belonging to Sam(ki) (son of) Ṣepanyahu", noting the uncertainty of Diringer's *kaf* and *yod* in the upper register (Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689). Barkay and Vaughn proposed an alternative reading *lsmk bn / ṣpnyhw*, based on a reading *lsmk* above the uraeus and *bn* ("son of") between the wings (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 44; Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.143; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 44). We see no trace of a letter *kaf* however (nor of any other letter) in the small space available in the upper register after the letter *mem* on Lachish No. 274, and therefore rather concur with Avigad and Sass.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 274. According to Barkay and Vaughn, the present item (kept in Dublin) is not one of the two handles of Sama[k]/Sam[ki] (son of) Ṣepanyahu drawn by Diringer (Diringer 1941: Pl. 4:8–9 = Tufnell 1953: Pl. 74B:8–9; see Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 42–44). Yet, the field number they assign to it (6120) is clearly mentioned by Diringer (Diringer 1941: No. 20) as related to his Pl. 4:8. Furthermore, a comparison of the photographs of Lachish No. 254 and Lachish No. 274 with the present drawing show that we are most likely dealing with different items. We thus follow Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 689C) in relating this item to Diringer 1941: Pl. 4:8 = Tufnell 1953: Pl. 74B:8. On the meaning and significance of the winged uraeus motif, including its relation to the biblical "Serafim" (Isa 6:2), see Ward 1968; Keel 1977: 46–124; Sass 1993: 213; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 161, 238; Keel 2001a: 250–261; Keel 2007: 385–393; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 161; Ornan 2012. No photograph of the present item has ever been published, to the best of our knowledge.

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 689) is stamped on two or three handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 253, 274, possibly Lachish No. 254 [see that entry for a description of possible minute differences]), including the present item, as well as on Jerusalem No. 105 and possibly on Tel Goded No. 13 (fragmentary impression known only from a drawing). Note that this seal is one of the two only seals with iconography attested among the "private" (or "official") Judahite stamped handles, the other being ʿEn Gedi No. 2. For other examples of the four-winged uraeus, see ʿAyn al-Basha No. 1; Amman No. 70; Jaffa No. 2; Jerusalem No. 344. For other exergual items found in Judah, see seals Jerusalem No. 341 and Lachish No. 216, 225, and bulla Jerusalem No. 593.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); this stamped handle is dated to the late Iron IIB based on the commonly held assumption that it belongs to the phenomenon of "private" stamp impressions associated with the *lmlk* stamps from Lachish Level III (see Avigad and Sass 1997: 242, 253–254, No. 689; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 42–44; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13); note however that all three Lachish handles stamped with the same (or similar) seal (Lachish No. 253–254, 274) are surface finds, and that the presence of iconography on these stamps strongly differentiates them from the other "private" stamp impressions from Lachish, which are almost always aniconic; on the other hand, the ridged type of the handle bearing Lachish No. 254 lends credence to the assignment of these impressions to the "private" impressions group as well.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1209. Location and inventory number according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 44 (location not reported in Avigad and Sass 1997).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6120. Object number according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 689C; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 44.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 54, No. 21, Pl. 4:8; Moscati 1951: 81, No. 29, Pl. 18:8; Tufnell 1953: 341–342, Pl. 47B:8; Davies 1991: 182, No. 100.481; Keel 1995: § 306, 285; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 44; Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689C; Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.143; Renz and Röllig 2003: 327, No. 15.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 44; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13; Schroer 2018: No. 1471 (with image of Lachish No. 274). *[EL]*

253



1 cm

254 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type b (Keel 1995: § 306–307). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped widthwise between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete (especially on its left and lower sides) and quite faint. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W). Measurement of the width according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Double-line border. Two registers of unequal size separated by a double-line divider. The large upper register displays a four-winged uraeus. The smaller lower register contains traces of a first letter, possibly, *tsade*, followed by three readable Hebrew letters spelling *pny*, and traces of an additional letter (Diringer 1941: 54, No. 22). Diringer therefore proposed the reading *ṣpnyh* ("Ṣepanyah"). He noted the resemblance between this item and Lachish No. 253, mentioned the possibility that both bore the same inscription, but considered that they had been stamped by two different seals (Diringer 1941: 55). Subsequent literature however assumed that both handles (as well as Lachish No. 274) were stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 689B-C; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 43–44). On that base, Avigad and Sass reconstructed the inscription as [*lsmk ṣ*]*pnyh*[*w*] or [*lsmky ṣ*]*pnyh*[*w*], "[Belonging to Samak/Samki (son of) Ṣe]panyah[u]" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689). Note that the identification between the present item, Lachish No. 253 and Lachish No. 274 is not certain, as can be seen by comparing the head of the uraeus and its upper 'left' wing. Yet the similarity of the iconographic motifs, and the compatibility between the two inscriptions plead in favour of identifying these possibly different seals as belonging to the same individual. For an alternative reading *lsmk bn / ṣpnyhw*, see Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 44, and the discussion under Lachish No. 274.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 274. On the meaning and significance of the winged uraeus motif, including its relation to the biblical "Serafim" (Isa 6:2), see Ward 1968; Keel 1977: 46–124; Sass 1993: 213; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 161, 238; Keel 2001a: 250–261; Keel 2007: 385–393, Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 161; Ornan 2012. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 253 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); this stamped handle is dated to the late Iron IIB based on the commonly held assumption that it belongs to the phenomenon of "private" stamp impressions associated with the *lmlk* stamps from Lachish Level III (see Avigad and Sass 1997: 242, 253–254, No. 689; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 42–44; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13); note however that all three Lachish handles stamped with the same (or a similar) seal (Lachish No. 253–254, 274) are surface finds, and that the presence of iconography on these stamps strongly differentiates them from the other "private" stamp impressions from Lachish, which are almost always aniconic; on the other hand, the ridged type of the present handle lends credence to the assignment of these impressions to the "private" impressions group as well.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18I. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 54–55, No. 22, Pl. 4:9; Moscati 1951: 81, No. 29, Pl. 18:9; Tufnell 1953: 341–342, Pl. 47B:9; Ward 1968: 138, No. 7, Fig. 1:7; Keel 1977: 107, No. 5, 104, Fig. 92; Keel, Küchler and Uehlinger 1984: 165, Fig. 89d; Davies 1991: 182, No. 100.482; Keel 1995: § 306, 285, Fig. 234; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 43; Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689B; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 161.238, Fig. 274c; Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.142; Renz and Röllig 2003: 327, No. 15.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 43; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 161.238, Fig. 274c; LeMon 2010: 43, 198, Fig. 2:14b; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13; Schroer 2018: No. 1471 (with image of Lachish 274). *[EL]*

255 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its lower side, and the letters are faint or illegible. MEASUREMENTS: 23.0 mm (L) × 13.8* mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Roughly circular layout. Single-line border. Two registers[?], divider type unclear (if any). Diringer noted that this stamp is larger and looks quite different than the other ones from Lachish (Diringer 1941: 53, No. 19). He read a "fairly clear" *mem* and *lamed* at the top, and below it, written much smaller, a *shin*, followed by a possible *yod*. He noted that "with much imagination, one might perhaps read *y*(*r*)*šlm* (Jerusalem)" (Diringer 1941: 53, No. 19). Barkay and Vaughn, on the other hand, considered the stamp as illegible (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 73). According to our examination of the photograph taken at Cambridge, the first inscribed line features a large *pe*, *mem* or *nun* on its right side and ends with a clear *lamed*. The second register is too badly preserved to propose any reading. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

DISCUSSION: This item is not listed in Avigad and Sass 1997.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE) or early Iron III (7th–early 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18C. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8); location according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 73.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K.14, "Residency Building"[1] Room B.[2] Object number not reported or none assigned.

① See Lachish No. 101. — ② A bathroom in the "Residency", with sloping plastered floor (Tufnell 1953: 136).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 53, No. 19, Pl. 4:10; Thompson 1942: 26; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 80–81, No. 19; Tufnell 1953: 136, 341, Pl. 47B:10; Davies 1991: 182, No. 100.479; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 73; Vaughn 1999: 217, No. 243; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 73. *[EL]*

254



1:2



1:2









1 cm

255



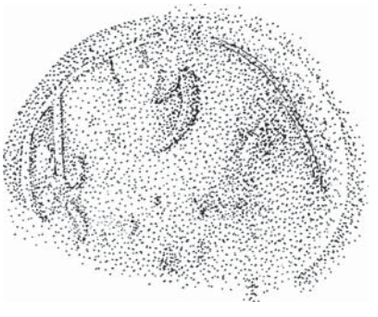
1:2







1:2





1 cm

256 **OBJECT:** Oval piece with "handle" (Keel 1995: § 210–213). Loop handle. MATERIAL: bronze. COLOUR: greenish, purplish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 3.19 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 14.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: the handle is folded in a way that creates a suspension loop. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: This seal type is characterized by an oval base and a loop handle; other seals of this type were found in the Iron Age southern Levant, such as Acco No. 11, Tell Keisan No. 24, Megiddo No. 349, and Samaria No. 60; the latter is the closest typological comparandum, since it was also made of bronze. None of these examples, however, compare in terms of specific form or base engraving. The present item is, therefore, a unique seal in this context.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Indeterminate orientation with a single frame line; a horizontal orientation seems more likely based on the assumption that the seal shows (or imitates) a West Semitic alphabetic inscription. When held horizontally, a simple linear dividing line separates the layout into two halves, each containing three signs. It is unclear whether these sings represent letters and, if so, whether they should be read on the seal or on an impression. As depicted here, the signs that most clearly suggest West Semitic alphabetic letters include the first (*ʾālep*) and last (*tāw*) in the upper register, with a possible *ḥet* in the middle; and the central sign (*ʿayin* or *qōp*) and the right sign (*zayin*) in the lower register; the left sign in the lower register (a vertical bar preceded by two horizontal strokes) is unclear (unless it combines with the border line to another *ḥet*).

DISCUSSION: This layout is unique, as it is unclear with which script or language it should be read, if any. Some of the signs (such as the *tāw* and *ḥet*) could also be read when held vertically. Some individual signs could relate to designs on other seals, such as the central lower one on the second and fourth panels in Megiddo No. 242.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Perhaps the closest comparanda are the seal impressions Jerusalem No. 261–264, 266 and Beth Shean No. 219 which include undeciphered inscriptions. Other Iron Age seals bearing unreadable or "pseudo"-script are Arad No. 32 and Megiddo No. 299.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16235.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Cave 1002 (Iron IIA–Iron IIB, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Layers 11–13, Object no. 1342.

① See Lachish No. 70.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 57:14; Magrill 2006: 26; Wenning 2014: 55, n. 99. *[NoR]*

256



257 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid[?], type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). It is unclear whether this object is a scaraboid or a simple bead. While one side is slightly convex, pointing to more of a scaraboid shape that could have been inscribed (S. Schroer, pers. comm.), the material suggests this was not the case as it would have likely been moulded and thus an impression should be present, which is not the case. MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: blueish-green. PRESERVATION: complete. Chipping around perforation holes and on the base. WEIGHT: 0.91 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.1 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting of object in photograph suggests perforation was drilled form both ends.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Other uninscribed glass objects registered as scaraboids in the present corpus include Lachish No. 686, 794 and Megiddo No. 244, 246.

DATING: MB III–Iron IIB (early/mid 17th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on find context, however comparanda suggest a later date in the Iron Age.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16363.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE).[1]

① Natural cave with man-made enlargements and an eastern stairway entrance. The tomb consists of a sub-rectangular central chamber with five loculi in the sides. The floor was plastered. The LB grave goods (including the scarabs catalogued here) were found in a layer of brown earth above the plastered floor. Other LB finds from this layer include: pottery, four paste Pataikos amulets, four paste Bes amulets, the torso of a pottery bird, paste, hematite, carnelian, and gold beads; in addition, several Iron II sherds were found as well (Tufnell 1953: 239–240; Tufnell 1958: 280–281; and see Wenning 2021: 259 on the Iron Age date). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 257, 646–651, 678.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 66:35; Magrill 2006: 80. *[NBM]*

258 **OBJECT:** Seal impression (Keel 1995: § 291–322). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: grey. Baked. PRESERVATION: broken. Lower portion of impression missing. WEIGHT: 1.58 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 18.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 10.3 mm (L) × 12.6* mm (W, impression).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with interior hatching (head of figure on right). Based on the raised relief of the figures and the linear details on the clay sealing.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Three anthropomorphic figures, from left to right: a falcon-headed figure with a *rᶜ* (N5) above its head. The figure wears a diagonal kilt over linear legs, both arms down at each side while the the 'inner' arm is linked to the central figure. The latter, facing left, wears the *šwtj* (S9) feathers (double plume crown), with a tassel hanging down to the right. To the right, another hybrid figure, possibly falcon-headed, although the head appears to be more of a semi-circle with vertical hatching (which would well fit the falcon 'perruque', but the figure must have faced left; a possible attribute on the figure's head cannot be identified with confidence).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel. Close comparanda include the sealing Gezer No. 28, but Lachish No. 258 contains internal details within the figures that Gezer No. 28 does not. Other close comparanda for this composition with two falcon-headed figures flanking Amun include Ashkelon No. 39; Beth Shean No. 112; Beth Shemesh No. 106; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 11; Ekron No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 237, 568, 647; Lachish No. 653; Megiddo No. 295, 548; Tel Mor No. 1; however, most of these parallels do not contain the tassle extending downward from Amun's head (sometimes this tassle merges into the god's 'rear' arm).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16273.

CONTEXT: Level V (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K-L.11–12, Locus 1058,[1] Object no. 6779.

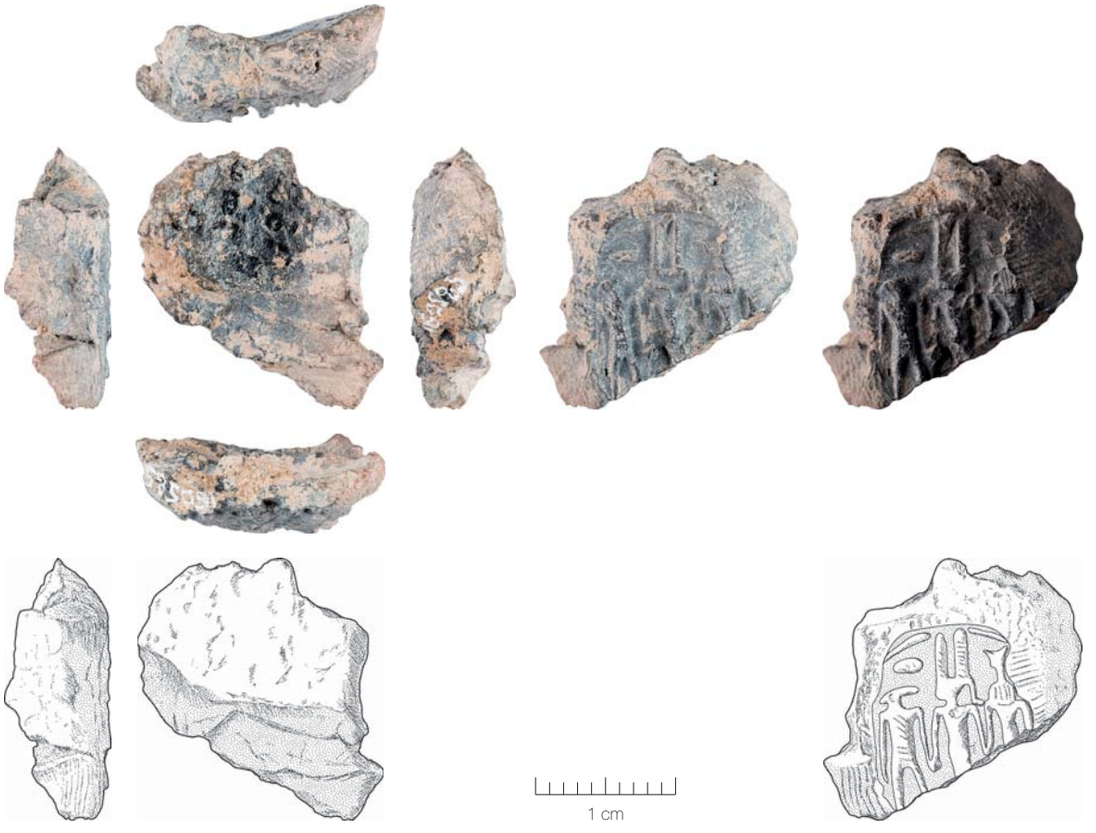
① Casemate foundations of Palace. According to the excavators, this locus was disturbed by a pit ("Pit 38"), which was dug into this area and contained Attic sherds, a bronze fibula, an iron knife, and an iron armor scale. Lachish No. 258, 673, however, were found "below the disturbance" (Tufnell 1953: 117).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 117; Magrill 2006: 73. *[NBM]*

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259 **OBJECT:** Seal impression (Keel 1995: § 291–322). Roughly conical shaped sealing of baked ceramic ('token' rather than bulla) with oval impression on base. MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 4.20 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 17.4 mm (W) × 19.2 mm (T, object).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a small dot from which a central X-shaped cross extends and loops outward and then back inward through a horizontal element at the top and bottom of the base, extending the right and left sides of the base to connect with the opposite side. The result is a knot-like design with a central 'X' cross.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 6B2a "Convoluted coils, knot-like, central 'x' cross" (Tufnell 1984: 126, Pl. 24:2081, 2086, 2094). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, convoluted coils first appear on scarabs assigned by her to the Egyptian Late Middle Kingdom and continue on Egyptian scarabs dated to the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 14:1–42 and 38:4). However, this specific variation of the design class first appears on scarabs assigned to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and continues on seals assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 139, 170, Pl. 60:14, 17, 21–22, 89:2–3, 5).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Tell Jemmeh No. 199, a similar seal impression bearing an almost identical design. For other close comparanda, see: Acco No. 259; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 23, 77, 392, 533, 705, 801, 1178; Beth Shemesh No. 87; ʿEin Samiya No. 30; Tel Esur No. 8; Tel Gerisa No. 15; Tell Jemmeh No. 193; Jericho No. 55; Tel Mevorakh No. 4 (impression).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16520.

CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square P.17, Locus 254, Object no. 7246.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 163; Magrill 2006: 80. *[NBM]*

260 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Diringer 1941: No. 2.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *hwšʿ / ṣpn*, "Hosheaʿ (son of) Ṣafan". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 234. Note that the excavation report mentions only three handles of Hosheaʿ (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish (Tufnell 1953: 341), while four items (Lachish No. 234, 260–262) are known from museums. The identification of the three items from the report is uncertain: according to Avigad and Sass, they are Lachish No. 234, 261–262 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667), while Barkay and Vaughn rather identify them with Lachish No. 234, 260–261 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2). We concur with the latter interpretation, as Diringer explicitly mentions that, of all three stamps, "only the first one [i.e., Object no. 6366, our Lachish No. 234] is complete" (Diringer 1941: 40). Hence, Lachish No. 262, which is also complete, was not known to Diringer. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item has ever been published. Note that this item, kept at Leeds, does not appear in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 234 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Hosheaʿ (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. The item's location follows Barkay and Vaughn, who did not provide an inventory number (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2).

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2 (no object number reported).

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 40, No. 2; Moscati 1951: 75–76, No. 10; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 2; Vaughn 1999: 201, No. IXa.24; Renz and Röllig 2003: 196, No. 5.7; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 3. *[EL]*

259



No image available **260**

261 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is not complete on its left side; trace of a former impression on the right side. MEASUREMENTS: 10.7* mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The impression is incomplete on its left side but the inscription can be reconstructed on the basis of better-preserved handles stamped with same seal, such as Lachish No. 234. The inscription reads *hwš*[ʿ] */ ṣp*[*n*], "Hoshe[aʿ] (son of) Ṣafa[n]". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 234. Note that the excavation report mentions only three handles of Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish (Tufnell 1953: 341), while four items (Lachish No. 234, 260–262) are known from museums. The identification of the three items from the report is uncertain: according to Avigad and Sass, they are Lachish No. 234, 261–262 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667), while Barkay and Vaughn rather identify them with Lachish No. 234, 260–261 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2). We concur with the latter interpretation, as Diringer explicitly mentions that, of all three stamps, "only the first one [i.e., Object no. 6366, our Lachish No. 234] is complete" (Diringer 1941: 40). Hence, Lachish No. 262, which is also complete, was not known to Diringer. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 234 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4152.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to the *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 40) and the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341); note that Avigad and Sass, as well as Barkay and Vaughn, rather denote the context as "Palace S.W." (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667F; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 3), and Magrill as "South Wall Trial Cut" (Magrill 2006: 95); the latter context (South Wall trial cut) is unlikely however, as it relates to an earlier context (Level V), whose list of finds does not mention our handle (Tufnell 1953: 80–83, Pl. 105), and whose square information (K.15/16, see Tufnell 1953: 80–81) does not match that of our item either; no field number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 95).

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 40, No. 2; Moscati 1951: 75–76, No. 10; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 89, No. 15; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.469; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 3; Avigad and Sass 1997: 245, No. 667F; Vaughn 1999: 201, No. IXa.25; Renz and Röllig 2003: 196, No. 5.7; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 3; Magrill 2006: 95; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 3. *[EL]*

262 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). The seal was impressed longiudinally between the two ridges of the handle. MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W); 98.0 mm (L) × 81.0 mm (W, sherd). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *hwšʿ / ṣpn*, "Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 234. Note that the excavation report mentions only three handles of Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish (Tufnell 1953: 341), while four items (Lachish No. 234, 260–262) are known from museums. The identification of the three items from the report is uncertain: according to Avigad and Sass, they are Lachish No. 234, 261–262 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 667), while Barkay and Vaughn rather identify them with Lachish No. 234, 260–261 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 2). We concur with the latter interpretation, as Diringer explicitly mentions that, of all three stamps, "only the first one [i.e., Object no. 6366, our Lachish No. 234] is complete" (Diringer 1941: 40). Hence, Lachish No. 262, which is also complete, was not known to Diringer. Note that although it is absent from the excavation report's list of "private" stamped handles (Tufnell 1953: 341), the present item does appear elsewhere in the report, with its object and inventory numbers but without reading or description, in an appendix listing objects housed at the Palestine Archaeological Museum in Jerusalem (Tufnell 1953: 418). Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 234 for a full discussion of comparanda.

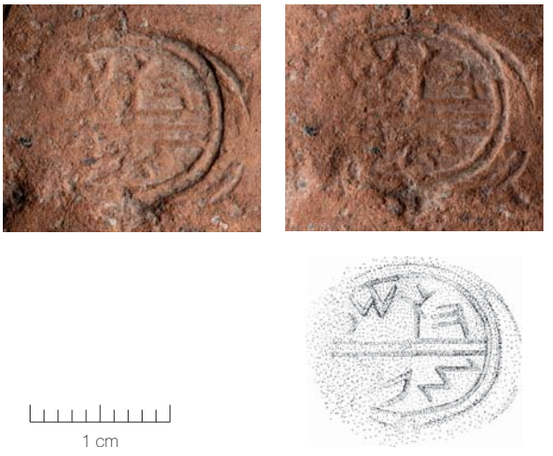
DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Hoshea' (son of) Ṣafan from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2114.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG,[1] Object no. 1548. Note that published catalogues only provided the square information (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 5; Avigad and Sass 1997: 245, No. 667E; Vaughn 1999: 201, No. IXa.27; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2160, 2162, No. 5). The context information provided here follows the handwritten note written on the back of the handle (see photo).

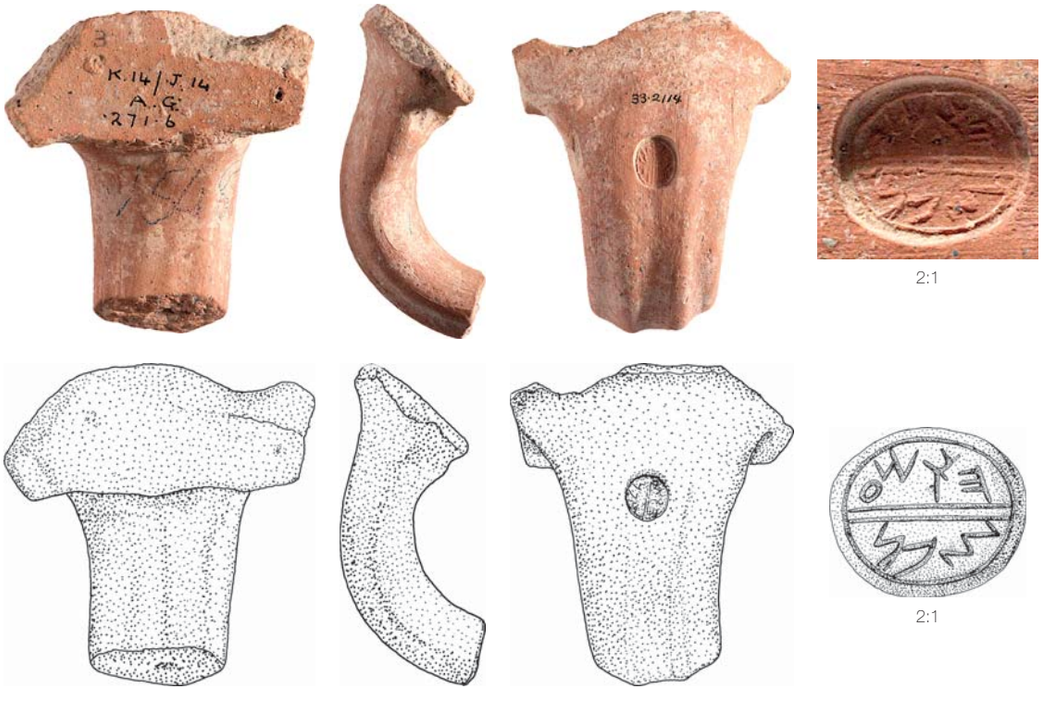
① See Lachish No. 245.

261



1 cm

262



2:1

2:1

5 cm

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 40, No. 2; Moscati 1951: 75–76, No. 10; Tufnell 1953: 341, 418; Herr 1978: 89, No. 15; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.469; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 5; Avigad and Sass 1997: 245, No. 667E; Vaughn 1999: 201, No. IXa.27; Renz and Röllig 2003: 196, No. 5.7; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2160, 2162, No. 5; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.301; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 3. *[EL]*

263 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). The impression is found on a complete jar handle with one central ridge, made of reddish-brown ware with white grits and wet smoothing marks (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36–38). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is blurred. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 13.9 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers, roughly of equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is hard to decipher, as the letters are rather faint. Diringer initially proposed the reading *ltnḥm mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen" (Diringer 1941: 41–42; Tufnell 1953: 341). This reading was revised by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36–38, No. 8), as well as Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 678B), to *lmnḥm / ywbnh*, "Belonging to Menaḥem (son of) Yobanah", based on parallels such as Ramat Raḥel No. 1.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 250.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 250 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.19A. Formerly 61.D.155B(19).

CONTEXT: Level II? (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Road surface 1072,① Object no. 7070. The present item seems to originate in a Level II phase of Road 1072 (Tufnell 1953: 121), but see also Tufnell's remarks on the disturbed aspect of this stratigraphic context (Tufnell 1953: 95); note that the same registration number was assigned to Lachish No. 264 (see discussion in Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36).

① Level III–I "road surfaces within the city gate" (Tufnell 1953: 120). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 263–264.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4 (erroneous reading); Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12 (erroneous reading); Tufnell 1953: 341 (erroneous reading); Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 11; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36–38, No. 8, Fig. 9; Avigad and Sass 1997: 249, No. 678B; Vaughn 1999: 204, No. XVIIb.64; Renz and Röllig 2003: 286, No. 13.57; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 11; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 2162, No. 7; Schniedewind 2023. *[EL]*

264 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). The impression is found on a complete jar handle with two ridges, made of reddish-brown ware with white grits and wet smoothing marks (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 38). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is very blurred. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 14.3 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers, roughly of equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is hard to decipher, as the letters are rather faint. Diringer initially proposed the reading *ltnḥm mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen" (Diringer 1941: 41–42; Tufnell 1953: 341). This reading was revised by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 37–38, No. 7), as well as Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 678A), to *lmnḥm / ywbnh*, "Belonging to Menaḥem (son of) Yobanah", based on parallels such as Ramat Raḥel No. 1.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 250.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 250 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4155.

CONTEXT: Level II? (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Gate Area", Square H.17, Road surface 1072,① Object no. 7070. The present item seems to originate in a Level II phase of Road 1072 (Tufnell 1953: 121), but see also Tufnell's remarks on the disturbed aspect of this stratigraphic context (Tufnell 1953: 95); note that the same registration number was assigned to Lachish No. 263 (see discussion in Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 36).

① See Lachish No. 263.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4 (erroneous reading); Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12; Tufnell 1953: 121, 341 (erroneous reading); Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 12; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 37–38, No. 9, Fig. 10; Avigad and Sass 1997:

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249, No. 678A; Vaughn 1999: 204, No. XVIIb.65; Renz and Röllig 2003: 286, No. 13.57; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 12; Magrill 2006: 75, 78 n. 47; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 2162, No. 7; Schniedewind 2023. *[EL]*

265 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Only traces of letters are visible (Diringer 1941: No. 17). MEASUREMENTS: No measurements of the impression were provided by Diringer, who only noted "size: uncertain" (Diringer 1941: 52–53, No. 17).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. Diringer noted that only traces of the inscription remain. He cautiously proposed reading a *kaf*, a *nun*, a *bet* and a *mem* in the upper register (Diringer 1941: 52–53, No. 17). In the excavation report, the inscription appears as "uncertain", with no reading of any letter (Tufnell 1953: 341). Later, Barkay and Vaughn proposed that this handle was stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 250, reading *lmnḥm / ywbnh*, "Belonging to Menaḥem (son of) Yobanah", but noted that their proposal was tentative, as they could not locate the handle (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 66; Vaughn 1999: 207, n. 3).

DISCUSSION: If Barkay and Vaughn's suggested reading is correct, this item would belong to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym read by Barkay and Vaughn, see Lachish No. 250. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. Note that the present item does not appear in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: For a full discussion of comparanda based on Barkay and Vaughn's reading mentioned above, see Lachish No. 250.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the Lachish handles stamped with the same seal as the current item seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item could not be located by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 13).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 52–53, No. 17; Moscati 1951: 80, No. 25; Tufnell 1953: 341; Davies 1991: 182, No. 100.478; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 66, 68, No. 13; Vaughn 1999: 204, No. XVIIB.66; Renz and Röllig 2003: 286, No. 13.57; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 13; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 2162, No. 7; Schniedewind 2023. *[EL]*

266 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. "most of the letters can be seen but they are in such a bad state of preservation that decipherment is impossible" (Diringer 1941: No. 13). MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (D). Approximate measurement according to Diringer 1941: 51, No. 13.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Traces of Hebrew letters. The *editio princeps* considered the inscription as illegible but cautiously suggested that it might be impressed with the same seal as Lachish No. 281, reading *ltnḥm mgn*, "Belonging to Tanhum (son of) Magen" (Diringer 1941: 51, No. 13). In the excavation report, the reading rather appeared as "Naḥum(?)" (Tufnell 1953: 341). Barkay and Vaughn later reinterpreted the seal as reading *lmšlm ʾlntn*, "Belonging to Meshullam (son of) Elnatan", based on a photograph sent to them by Dr. J. Dyck of Trinity College, Dublin (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 66, 68, No. 14, n. 11; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 14, n. 9) and on a comparison with stamped handles Gibeon No. 12–13.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). The discussion below follows Barkay and Vaughn's reading *lmšlm ʾlntn*. Note that we have not been able to access the item nor to obtain a photograph of it. For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Meshullam is further attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 64 (*lydʿyhw bn mšlm*), Jerusalem No. 633 (*lmšlm mqnyhw*), Jerusalem No. 525 (*lšʾlh bn mšlm*), on stamped handles Lachish No. 235–239, 267–268, 688–689, 918–920 (*mšlm ʾḥmlk*), on Arad ostraca 39 (*mšlm bn ndbyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 68) and 110 (*šmyh mšlm nʿr ʾlnt*[*n*]; Aharoni 1981: 122–123). In the Hebrew Bible, the name Meshullam is borne by 22 characters (2Kgs 22:3; Ezra 8:16, 10:15.29; Neh 3:4.6, 8:4, 10:8.21, 11:7.11, 12:13.16.25.33; 1Chr 3:19, 5:13, 8:17, 9:8.12.21; 2Chr 34:12; see Clines 2001: 541–542). The patronym, Elnatan, is attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 72–73 (*lʾlntn bn blgy*), on ostracon 110 from Arad (*šmyh mšlm nʿr ʾlnt*[*n*]; Aharoni 1981: 122–123), ostracon 24 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (*ʾlntn*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 159–168), and on ostracon 3 from Lachish (*knyhw bn ʾlntn*; Torczyner et al. 1938: 45–73); it is borne by five characters in the Hebrew Bible (2Kgs 24:8; Jer 26:22; Ezra 8:16; see Clines 1993: 295). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. Note also that this item is not reported in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: According to Barkay and Vaughn, this handle is stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 680) as Gibeon No. 12–13 and Mordot Arnona No. 2 (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 66).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since the current item is unstratified, its dating to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" stamped handles from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM355.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

No image available **265**

No image available **266**

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 51, No. 13; Moscati 1951: 79, No. 21; Tufnell 1953: 341; Davies 1991: 183, No. 100.489; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 66, 68, No. 14, n. 11; Vaughn 1999: 206, No. XIX.92; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.90; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 14; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 9. *[EL]*

267 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (H). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from impressions of the same seal on other stamped handles (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. According to Barkay and Vaughn, the current handle, kept at the University of Leeds, is one of the seven handles of Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek listed in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341), and originates in square J-K.14 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 16). The report indeed lists a (single) such handle from square J-K.14 (Tufnell 1953: 341), but Avigad and Sass rather equate that handle with Lachish No. 688, kept at the Rockfeller Museum (Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, no. 679A), and have no knowledge of a Leeds handle. In contrast, Barkay and Vaughn considered the Rockefeller handle to be an unpublished one, originating from the British excavations and in the same square as the present item (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 16; see Lachish No. 688 for a full discussion). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. Location according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, no. 16.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1]

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 16; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.77; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 16; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

268 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6115.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 3; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 87–88, No. 11; Davies 1991: 166, No. 100.358; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 17; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679E; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.78; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 17; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

No image available **267**

No image available **268**

269 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete, except for part of the lower border, but several letters are quite faint. MEASUREMENTS: 19.4 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, such as Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18G. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1]

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 30; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684D; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.105; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 30; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

270 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. According to Barkay and Vaughn, "this handle was listed as allocated to the University of Leeds, but it could not be located there" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 31).

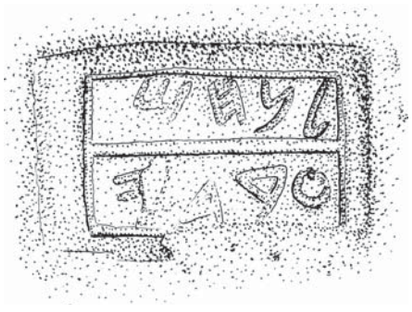
CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 31; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684G; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.106; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 31; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*





269



1 cm

No image available **270**

271 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete but the letters are very faint. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, such as Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4147.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] No object number was attributed to this item (Magrill 2006: 84).

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 32; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684C; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.107; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 32; Magrill 2006: 84, 98 n. 60; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

272 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete but the letters are faint, especially in the upper register. MEASUREMENTS: 18.2 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, such as Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 132070. The inventory number follows Avigad and Sass, as well as Magrill (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684E; Magrill 2006: 123); note that Barkay and Vaughn provide number 1956.4–16.12 instead (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, no. 33), a number which does not appear in Magrill's lists of registration numbers of Lachish items housed at the British Museum (Magrill 2006: 135–137, 163–193).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. No object number was attributed to this item (Magrill 2016: 123).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1985: 88–89, No. 13; Davies 1991: 180, No. 100.470; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 33; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684E; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.108; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 33; Magrill 2006: 123, 130 n. 34; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

273 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete but some of the letters are a little faint. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 14.9 mm (W). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, such as Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Barkay and Vaughn consider this item to be unpublished (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 35); according to Avigad and Sass, however (Avigad and Sass 1997: 251, No. 684B), this is one of the seven stamped handles of "Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi" published in Lachish III (Tufnell 1953: 341). Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

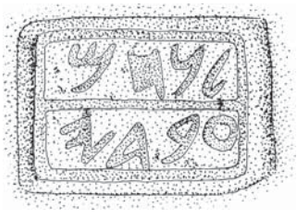
DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2112.

271





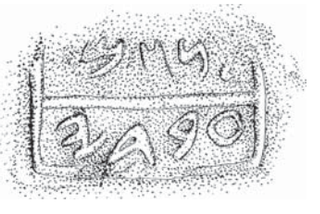


1 cm

272







1 cm

273



1:2







1 cm

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Object no. 1546.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 44–45, No. 6; Moscati 1951: 77, No. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88–89, No. 13; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 35; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684B; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.110; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 35; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

274 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type b (Keel 1995: § 306–307). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is virtually complete but some of the Hebrew letters are very faint or illegible. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Double-line border. Two registers of unequal size separated by a double-line divider. The large upper register displays a four-winged uraeus. Hebrew letters appear both in the upper register, and in exergue in the lower register. Above the uraeus, the letters *lsm* can be read (with the *samek* partly faded but certain). Traces of possible additional signs are visible between the wings of the uraeus (more clearly to the left than to the right). The lower register reads *ṣpnyhw*, with a faint though certain *he* and a reversed final *waw*. The inscription can be reconstructed as *lsm*[*k*] */ ṣpnyhw* or *lsm*[*ky*] */ ṣpnyhw*, "Belonging to Sama[k] (son of) Ṣepanyahu" or "Belonging to Sam[ki] (son of) Ṣepanyahu" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689), based on a comparison with Lachish No. 253 (stamped with the same seal as the present item), on which Diringer saw a "clear" *kaf* and a "probable" *yod* between the wings of the uraeus (Diringer 1941: 54, No. 21). Barkay and Vaughn proposed an alternative reading *lsmk bn / ṣpnyhw*, based on a reading *lsmk* above the uraeus and *bn* ("son of") between the wings (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 44; Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.143; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 44). However, we see no trace of a letter *kaf* (nor of any other letter) in the small space available in the upper register after the letter *mem*, and therefore rather concur with Avigad and Sass.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Samak, probably a hypochoristic form of Semakyahu, is also attested on seals Hebron No. 18 (*lšptyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 225 (*lʾḥmlk smk*), possibly on bulla Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*, disputed reading), on stamped handle Beth Shemesh No. 195 (*lṣdq smk*), and on an ostracon from Tell el-Ḥesi (*smk*; Renz and Röllig 1995: 177–178). The full theophoric forms Semakyahu/Semakyah/Semakyaw are attested (or restored) on bullae Jerusalem No. 59 (*lʾlšmʿ bn smkyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 541 (*lsmkyh*[*wʾ*] [...]*kl*), on ostraca 4, 11, 13, 22 from Lachish (*smkyhw*), ostracon 11 from Samaria (*smk*[*yw*]), an ostracon from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (*smk*[*yhw*]), and on engraved handles from Tel Motza and Tell en-Naṣbeh (*smk*[*yhw*]) (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 793–794). The name Samak or Samki is not attested as such in the Hebrew Bible, but the full theophoric form Semakyahu (*smkyhw*) is attested, borne by a single character (1Chr 26:7; see Clines 2007: 169–170). The patronym, Ṣepanyahu, also occurs on stamped handle Lachish No. 941 (*lyrmyhw bn ṣpnyhw*), and probably on bulla Jerusalem No. 632 (*lrpʾy*[*hw*] *bn ṣpnyh*[*w*]). In the Hebrew Bible, the long forms Ṣepanyahu and Ṣepanyah are borne by four characters (Jer 21:1; Zeph 1:1; Zech 6:10.14; 1Chr 6:21; see Clines 2010: 152). On the meaning and significance of the winged uraeus motif, including its relation to the biblical "Serafim" (Isa 6:2), see Ward 1968; Keel 1977: 46–124; Sass 1993: 213; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 161, 238; Keel 2001a: 250–261; Keel 2007: 385–393, Keel and Uehlinger ^{6}2010: § 161; Ornan 2012. Note that the present item was not included in Diringer's 1941 *editio princeps* of the Lachish stamped handles (Diringer 1941: No. 20), which knew of only two handles stamped with the same (or similar) seal, namely Lachish No. 253–254. Barkay and Vaughn (Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.141; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 42) mistakenly interpreted the present item as one of these two handles (namely Diringer 1941: No. 20, Pl. 4:8). Yet a comparison between the photograph of the present item, kept at the British Museum, and the two drawings published by Diringer (Diringer 1941: No. 20, Pl. 4:8–9) clearly shows that we are dealing with different items. We therefore conclude that the present item is the third handle of Sama[k]/Sam[ki] (son of) Ṣepanyahu, mentioned for the first time (without photograph nor drawing) in the 1953 excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341), as already noted by Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689). For an additional argument supporting Avigad and Sass's interpretation, see the discussion under Lachish No. 253, related to the field number.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 253 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); this stamped handle is dated to the late Iron IIB based on the commonly held assumption that it belongs to the phenomenon of "private" stamp impressions associated with the *lmlk* stamps from Lachish Level III (see Avigad and Sass 1997: 242, 253–254, No. 689; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 42–44; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13); note however that all three Lachish handles stamped with the same (or similar) seal (Lachish No. 253–254, 274) are surface finds, and that the presence of iconography on these stamps strongly differentiates them from the other "private" stamp impressions from Lachish, which are almost always aniconic; on the other hand, the ridged type of the handle bearing Lachish No. 254 lends credence to the assignment of these impressions to the "private" impressions group as well.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4149. Inventory number according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 42; Magrill 2006: 123.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. No object number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 123).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 341–342; Sass 1993: 213, 215, Fig. 79, Pl. 1:3; Keel 1995: § 306, 285; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 42; Avigad and Sass 1997: 253–254, No. 689A; Vaughn 1999: 209, No. XXIIIa.141; Renz and Röllig 2003: 327, No. 15.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 42; Magrill 2006: 123; Keel 2007: 386, Fig. 274; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 13; Schroer 2018: No. 1471. *[EL]*





274





275 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 10.9 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ṣpn ʿ / zryhw*, "Ṣafan (son of) ʿAzaryahu". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 10. Photograph hitherto unpublished (the excavation report plate number written on the handle [Pl. 47A:1] is incorrect, compare for example the letter *zayin* in the lower register).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 10 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 232, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18K. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square M.14. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 38–40, No. 1; Moscati 1951: 73, No. 1; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 87, No. 10; Davies 1991: 157, No. 100.289; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 48; Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 698C; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXA.163; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.15; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 48; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 15. *[EL]*

276 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is complete, but the letters in the lower register are badly preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 704.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The last letter of the second register is written under the other letters, apparently due to a lack of space. The inscription was read by Diringer as *lšwk / h šbn'*, "Belonging to *šwkh* (son of) Shebna" (Diringer 1941: 47–48, No. 9; cf. also Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 704). Barkay and Vaughn proposed an alternative reading, interpreting the first letter of the second register as a *yod* instead of a *he* (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 41–42). The shape of that letter on the present item, though a bit irregular, seems to better fit a *yod* in our opinion as well, hence we favour the latter reading *lšwk / y šbn'*, "Belonging to *šwky* (son of) Shebna".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 246.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 246 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of *šwkh* (son of) Shebna from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-717.

CONTEXT: Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort", Square J.16, Locus 1028,[1] Object no. 6236.

① This locus is described by Tufnell as a "deposit of pottery", possibly dated to Level III (Tufnell 1953: 112).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 47–48, 90, No. 9, Pl. 11:1; Moscati 1951: 78, No. 17, Pl. 17:11; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 89, No. 14; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 59; Avigad and Sass 1997: 260, No. 704B; Vaughn 1999: 213, No. XXXIVa.192; Renz and Röllig 2003: 385, No. 21.19; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 59; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 19. *[EL]*

275



1:2



1:2







1 cm





276







1 cm



277 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type b (Keel 1995: § 306–307). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from the impression of the same seal on handle Lachish No. 242 (following Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 706).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lšlm / ʾḥʾm*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 63) or *lšlm / ʾḥʾmr*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾamar" (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706), based on a comparison with Lachish No. 242 (see below).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 242. The present handle was not published in Diringer's *editio princeps* of the Lachish stamped handles (Diringer 1941), but was mentioned for the first time in the 1953 excavation report (Tufnell 1953: 341), where it was described as being stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 242 (Diringer 1941: No. 5). The reading provided above rests entirely on this identification, as no image of the present item was ever published, to the best of our knowledge, and its current location is unknown.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 242 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam/Aḥiʾamar from Lachish stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item's location appears as "British Museum(?)" in Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706B; it could not be located by Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 62).

CONTEXT: "Gate Area", Square K.17. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 86–87, No. 9; Davies 1991: 156, No. 100.280; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 62; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 706B; Vaughn 1999: 214–215, No. XXXVb.213; Renz and Röllig 2003: 395, No. 21.50; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 62; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 21. *[EL]*

278 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. According to Diringer, "only insignificant traces remain of the oval line, of the double stroke, and of the inscription" (Diringer 1941: 52, No. 16). MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from the impression of the same seal on handle Lachish No. 242 (following Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 706).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. The description below follows entirely Diringer's *editio princeps* (Diringer 1941: 52, No. 16), since we have not been able to access the item nor to obtain a photograph of it. Diringer noted that only traces of the inscription remain. He saw a *nun* or *mem*, followed by traces of a *shin* and a *lamed* in the first line. In the second line, he proposed a *taw* or an *alef*, a *ḥet*, an *alef* or *samek*, and a *nun* or *mem*. He also noted that this handle was probably stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 242, which he read *lšlmh* (or *lšlm*) / *ʾḥsmk*, "Belonging to Shelomoh/Shallum (son of) Aḥisamak". The identification with Lachish No. 242 was accepted by Barkay and Vaughn, though with a different reading than Diringer's (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: No. 63; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. 214; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 63). On that basis, the inscription would read *lšlm / ʾḥʾmr*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾamar" (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706) or *lšlm / ʾḥʾm*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 63).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 242. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item has ever been published. Note that the present item does not appear in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 242 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam/Aḥiʾamar from Lachish stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. The handle is kept at the University of Leeds according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 63 (no inventory number provided).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 52, No. 16; Moscati 1951: 80, No. 24; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 86–87, No. 9; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 63; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVb.214; Renz and Röllig 2003: 395, No. 21.50; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 63; Davies 2004: 94, No. 101.305; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 21. *[EL]*

No image available **277**

No image available **278**

279 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is very faint and hardly decipherable; according to Barkay and Vaughn, the impression was not made on the handle itself but rather on an additional piece of clay, which was then placed on the handle at leather-hard stage, before firing (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 38). MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by traces a double-line divider. Aniconic. Very faint traces of an inscription spanning the two registers. Diringer considered the inscription as totally illegible (Diringer 1941: 53, No. 18). Barkay and Vaughn later reinterpreted this handle as being stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 242, based on minute observations of the stamp's details, such as the horizontal line running at the bottom of the second register (Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 38–41, No. 10). This identification yields the reading *lšlm / ʾḥʾmr*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾamar" (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 706) or *lšlm / ʾḥʾm*, "Belonging to Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam" (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 63).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 242. Note that the present item does not appear in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 242 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam/Aḥiʾamar from Lachish stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4156. Location and inventory number according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 64.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Square G.17. Square number according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 64; Magrill 2006: 115 (listed in the latter under "surface/unstratified finds: grid squares"); no object number was assigned to this item (Magrill 2006: 115).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 53, No. 18; Moscati 1951: 80, No. 26; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 86–87, No. 9; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 64; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 38–41, No. 10, Fig. 11, 13; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVb.215; Renz and Röllig 2003: 395, No. 21.50; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 64; Davies 2004: 94, No. 101.305; Magrill 2006: 115; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 21. *[EL]*

280 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its left side. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5* mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen". The reading is certain, despite the slight incompleteness of the last letter (*nun*) of the second register. This reading conforms to Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47A:7; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 65. Avigad and Sass, however, read the stamp as *lmnḥm / ywbnh*, "Belonging to Menaḥem (son of) Yobana" (Avigad and Sass 1997: 249, No. 678C), based on parallels such as Ramat Raḥel No. 1.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.18D. Formerly 61.D.155B(18), a number that was attributed to several stamped handles from Lachish (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 53, n. 8).

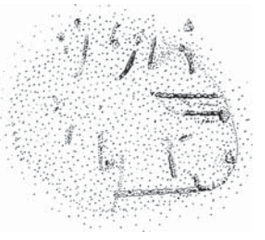
CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6118. Note that four different items from Lachish share the object number 6118: Lachish No. 240, 280–282 (see Diringer 1941: 41, No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, n. 15).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41, No. 4; Thompson 1942: 24–25; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12; Tufnell 1953: 341; Davies 1991: 172, No. 100.404; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 65; Avigad and Sass 1997: 249, No. 678C; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIa.219; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 65; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

279







1 cm

280



1:2







1 cm

281 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is virtually complete but some of the letters are very faint or illegible. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The letters are very faint, though most of them can be read. The inscription reads [*lt*]*nḥm / mgn*, "[Belonging to Ta]nḥum (son of) Magen", partly reconstructed based on better-preserved impressions of the same seal, such as Lachish No. 240.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 707A) wondered whether this item is the handle of "Tanḥum Magen" depicted in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953: Pl. 47A:7), but a close examination of that image shows that it corresponds perfectly with Lachish No. 240. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4151.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6118. Note that four items from Lachish share the same object number: Lachish No. 240, 280–282 (see Diringer 1941: 41, No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, n. 15).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4; Thompson 1942: 24–25; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88, No. 12; Davies 1991: 172, No. 100.404; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 66; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 707A; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIa.220; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 66; Magrill 2006: 123; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

282 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete on its lower side, and some of the letters are partially faded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4150.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square K.15,[1] Object no. 6118. Note that four items from Lachish share the same object number: Lachish No. 240, 280–282 (see Diringer 1941: 41, No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, n. 15).

① Square K.15 covers the south-eastern corner of the "Palace-Fort" substructure, open space east of it and part of the southwestern annexed building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4; Thompson 1942: 24–25; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88, No. 12; Davies 1991: 172, No. 100.404; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 68; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 707B; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIa.222; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 68; Magrill 2006: 117; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*



281



282

283 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from Lachish No. 281, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen". This reading is entirely based on Diringer's *editio princeps*, since we have not been able to examine the item nor to obtain a photograph of it (Diringer 1941: No. 4).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item has ever been published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Leeds; University of Leeds, Department of Semitic Studies. Location according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 69, no inventory number provided.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Square R.16. Square number according to Diringer 1941: No. 4; Tufnell 1953: 341; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 707D; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 69. The latter reference is the only one mentioning that this item is a surface find; object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Diringer 1941: 41–42, No. 4; Thompson 1942: 24–25; Diringer 1943: 55; Moscati 1951: 76, No. 12; Tufnell 1953: 341; Herr 1978: 88, No. 12; Davies 1991: 172, No. 100.404; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 69; Avigad and Sass 1997: 261, No. 707D; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIa.223; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 69; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

284 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 91/Side 26 (Rowe), D5/dec./- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 9.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Comparanda for the lotus with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 94, 429) engraved on the back are Amman (Airport) No. 19; Aphek No. 13; Beth Shemesh No. 91; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859; Gezer No. 248; Lachish No. 360, 400, 407.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of ten triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 492). The central motif shows a sun disc or *rʿ* (N5) above a scarab beetle or *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 87:6).

COMPARANDA: Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 52. Scarabs with different border pattern(s) but a similar central motif are: Beth Shean No. 158; Jericho No. 250, 403; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 87.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804; TD 712/713/723").

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2203.

① A roughly C-shaped cavern connected to Cave 1547 at the southeastern end. The burials were disturbed. Other finds from the tomb include: pottery, bronze daggers, toggle pins, a calcite vase, ostrich eggshell fragments, a bone amuletic hanger, as well as a necklace of amethyst, carnelian, faience, frit?, and rock crystal beads (Tufnell 1958: 229–230). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 284–305, 722–727.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 102, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:1, 41:5 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 168–169, Pl. 87:6. *[TB]*

No image available **283**

284



285 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 8/EP 5/Side 8 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.61 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A large brown spot covers most of the scarab back (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of two incised lines that loop inward to form a circular shape at the top and bottom of the design. An upward-facing scarab beetle or *ḫpr* (L1) is depicted inside these lines.

DISCUSSION: The loops forming circular shapes have been interpreted as a variant on the base design that shows a scarab framed by two sun disc shapes. See Ashkelon No. 114 for further comparanda of this type.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 790 is an almost exact parallel, with the loops moving the other way round.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); more likely 15th? Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); MB dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography), dynastic dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15770.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2215.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:2, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 126, n. 601. *[TB]*

286 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type C1/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11 or HC 12/EP 1/Side 25 (Rowe). MOUNTING: when found, the scarab was almost entirely covered with a two-part gold foil casing, consisting of a flat base covering with a small lip, and a domed back covering. The casing had been pressed onto the back and base of the scarab and consequently bore an impression of the back and base carving. The centre of the scarab's back had been cut open in a subrectangular shape and was filled with a green stone inlay. The back of the foil casing was also cut open to display the stone inlay (description based on Rowe 1936: 29). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three rows of hieroglyphic signs. From left to right, the top row shows a left-facing *sw(t)* (M23) and *bjt(j)* (L2). The *bjt(j)* (L2) has a *nb* (V30) sign under its rear. The middle row features two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs framing a vertical arrangement of two signs, from top to bottom: *t* (X2) and *r* (D21). A large *nbw* (S12) is located in the bottom row.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 78:6).

COMPARANDA: A scarab base engraving with a similar layout that reverses the *sw(t)* (M23) and *bjt(j)* (L2) and substitutes a *ḫpr* (L1) for the *t* (X2) and *r* (D21) is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 31.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: Haifa; Hecht Museum. Museum number currently unknown. The number in Rowe's catalogue is preceded by an *, indicating that the object's "ultimate destination (was) as yet not finally decided" (Rowe 1936: v). The CSAPI index card first registered the Rockefeller Museum, but a note by K. Jaroš (from the 1980s) added that the item was "z. Zt. ‹im› Israel Museum"; meanwhile the item has made its way to the Hecht Museum. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 712/713/723").

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2212.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 29, No. 109, Pl. 3:109; Tufnell 1958: 94, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:3, 41:2 (side type); Keel 1995: § 353; Ben-Tor 2007: 162, Pl. 78:6; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 148 with n. 777, 404. *[TB]*

285



286



287 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 5/Side 5 (Rowe), A6ʾ/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. Ring band broken off with fragments still attached to the head and rear perforations of the scarab. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 12.1 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 15.0 mm (L, including wire).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eight continuous oblong hooked Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 505) framing two hieroglyphs or signs, from top to bottom: ʿ(D36); *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 7A2 "Continuous, oblong scrolls" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 91:16).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15771.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2217.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 99–100, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:4, 41:6 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 171–172, Pl. 91:16. *[TB]*

288 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67/EP 1/Side 67 (Rowe), B2/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. Chipped near perforation at head of scarab, but the chipped part appears to have been filed smooth or was eroded naturally over time. Border of base shows signs of erosion. WEIGHT: 1.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of six oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 509), framing a central column of four hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: a *sw(t)* (M23) depicted resting on a base line; an upside down *kꜣ* (D28); an upside down *mn* (Y5); and an upside down *r* (D21).

DISCUSSION: The inverted hieroglyphs have previously been read as the name of the Early Bronze Age Egyptian ruler "Menka(u)re" (see Keel 1995 reference in the bibliography). However, the scarab is dated to the Middle Bronze Age. During this period, Pharaoh Menkaure/Mykerinos vanished almost entirely from historical memory in Egypt (Zivie 1976: 322–323, n. 3). It is thus unlikely that the present scarab was intended to commemorate Menkaure/Mykerinos. The base engraving is classified as Design Class 7B4(ii) "Paired scrolls, four pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 93:6).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15772.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2218.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 17, No. 58, Pl. 2:58; Tufnell 1958: 94, 99–100, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:5, 41:53 (side type); Keel 1995: § 625, Fig. 529; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 173, Pl. 93:6. *[TB]*

287



1 cm

288



1 cm

289 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 1/Side 25? (Rowe), D5 or less likely C7/0/e6a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Top third of base broken off. WEIGHT: 0.70 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.6 mm (L) × 8.3 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong joined S- and Z-spirals connected by a C-spiral at the bottom and (originally) an Ω-spiral at the top (Keel 1995: § 507), framing a central column of three hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *ʾnḫ* (S34); *t* (X1); and a *nfr* (F35) sign with a single T-shaped crossbar.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 92:31).

COMPARANDA: Similar base designs have been found on material from other sites in the southern Levant. The Gezer No. 533a impression has a spiral border design that differs from the one shown here, and displays a *nb* (V30) instead of a *t* (X1) above the *nfr* (F35). The base of Jericho No. 445 displays different signs above the *t* (X1).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15773.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2220.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–100, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:6, 41:3 (side type) ; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:31. *[TB]*

290 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 5/Side 9 (Rowe), A5/0/e8? (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near the perforation hole at the head and rear of the scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 12.3 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A large brown spot covers most of the scarab back (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand (Keel 1995: § 513) forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by a C-spiral at the bottom and an angular Ω-spiral at the top (Keel 1995: § 508), framing a central column of four hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: ʿ (D36); *š* (N39); ʿ (D36); *ḫʿ(j)* (N28).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs have previously been interpreted as the prenomen of the Hyksos ruler Apepi/Apophis (see Tufnell 1958: 113; Keel 1995: § 632), but these hieroglyphs are not readable as this name. Ryholt 1997: 385–388 and Ben-Tor 2007: 173–174, Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 93:30 also do not classify this seal as bearing a royal name. This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 7+8 "Oblong scrolls with rope border" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 93:30).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15774.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2219.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–101, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:7, 41:6 (side type); Weinstein 1981: 9, No. 11; Keel 1995: § 632, Fig. 543; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 173–174, Pl. 93:30. *[TB]*

289



1 cm

290



1 cm

291 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 3/EP 5/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Small cracks on scarab back. WEIGHT: 1.65 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed vertically, the base depicts a design of interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) with six whorls. Of the six spirals following the border, three pairs are additionally connected by two diagonal and a horizontal Z-spiral.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 75:37).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 153–154, 642, 743, 870, 903; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 27; Gezer No. 21; Jericho No. 95.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15775.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2207.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:8, 41:3 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:37. *[TB]*

292 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light pink (stone) and light brown (patina). PRESERVATION: broken. Back and base heavily worn. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. The metal mounting that encloses the scarab likely covers a border line incised around the scarab base design. The base depicts a design of interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). When the scarab is viewed with the head on the back facing up, the top row of spirals is malformed and does not connect properly with the bottom spirals. A total of five spirals are clearly visible in the lower part of the design. A sixth may possibly be located at the very top. Additional unconnected lines occur inside and outside the spiral design.

DISCUSSION: The design appears to be a low-quality imitation of the type of base motif exhibited by Lachish No. 291. The gold casing seems to indicate the object was valued despite the relatively imperfect rendering of the base carving. This base is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12235. BM/Big number: 160058.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2209.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:9; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:38. *[TB]*

291



292



293 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 6/EP 5/Side 38 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, area near bottom perforation broken on base. WEIGHT: 1.83 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with drilling holes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base shows double concentric circles at the four 'corners' of the seal base. A double concentric circle (Keel 1995: § 490; 4B2) is located at the centre of the base design. A papyrus umbel on a long stem protrudes on either side of the double concentric circle on the longitudinal axis. Two lotus flowers protrude on either side of the central double concentric circle on the transverse axis.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 4 "Concentric circles" and 5 "Cross patterns" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). The D5 head and e9 side additionally indicate this is likely a scarab of the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Bethany No. 8; Jericho No. 199.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15776.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2208.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:10, 41:14 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 169, n. 806. *[TB]*

294 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 4+HC 6/EP 5/Side 42 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 5.09 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 15.6 mm (W) × 9.9 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing naked female figure (Keel 1995: § 574–576). The figure is depicted frontally and stands with her heels placed together. The feet are depicted as overly long. The head is hairless. The 'ground' underneath the feet is hatched. The area below the waist up to the hips is cross-hatched. Three transversal lines are incised on the upper left thigh, and four transversal lines are incised on the upper right thigh. The arms of the figure, depicted as overly long, hang down on each side. Leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433) are depicted to the left and right of the figure.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving depicts a "branch goddess" with the face in frontal view. This style of depiction is considered typical for the Levant (Schroer 1989: 126). The nudity of the central female figure serves to emphasize the preeminence of the deity's power in the sphere of sexuality (*ibid.*: 130). The overly large ears of the figure may symbolize the deity's attentiveness to prayers (*ibid.*: 132). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10D1 "Goddess standing, nude" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Base engravings or seal impressions that show the goddess-figure with face in frontal view between two branches are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 503; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 38, 84; Jericho No. 80, 419; Lachish No. 294; objects from Egypt are: Tell el-Dabʿa, surface find (Mlinar 2004: 131, Fig. 13b:15, 132, No. TD 1073); Tell el-Dabʿa seal impressions (Reali 2017: 32, 39, Fig. 11, No. 9452H); Tell el-Mansheya, Tomb 8 (Mahmud et al. 2018: 36, Pl. 3, 37–38, No. MAN_19); Tell el-Retaba, Grave 4 (672) (el-Din et al. 2016: 82–84, Pl. 2, No. 676).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12233. BM/Big number: 160056.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2202.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:11, 41:39 (side type); Schroer 1989: 98, No. 20, 110, 126; Keel 1995: § 576, Fig. 427; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 181, Pl. 105:19. *[TB]*

293



294



295 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D1/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 3/EP 1/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped and cracked, base chipped near the perforation hole at the head of the scarab. WEIGHT: 4.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.1 mm (L) × 14.7 mm (W) × 9.8 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing crocodile. The scales on the crocodile's body are depicted with hatching on the tail and cross-hatching on the body and head. A row of hieroglyphic signs is located above the back of the crocodile. From right to left, these are: *ꜥnḫ* (S34); a right-facing *sw(t)* (M23); a hatched *nb* (V30); and a sideways left-facing *ꜥnḫ* (S34). A leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located under the body of the crocodile. The leaves are facing toward the crocodile.

DISCUSSION: The crocodile is depicted together with a leafy branch, an attribute of the naked goddess (Keel 1995: § 574). Schroer (1989: 121) has hypothesized the crocodile is an apotropaic figure depicted in conjunction with the symbol of the goddess for protection in pregnancy and childbirth. This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9D "Animals and heraldic beasts: crocodiles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Approximate comparanda showing a branch with leaves on both sides above a crocodile are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 868, and a scarab from Egypt, Gurob (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 41:78). Vegetal elements and uraei are carved above the crocodile on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 374.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15777.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2211.
① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 106, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:12, 41:14 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 99:10. *[TB]*

296 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 37/EP 1/Side 47 (Rowe), D8/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). The head type is similar to David's Type a (2019a: Fig. 3). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Grommet at head perforation of scarab broken off and gold frame partially damaged at this spot. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped near perforation at head of scarab. WEIGHT: 2.16 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 2, 723 are amethyst scarabs with very similar head and back types.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a: 62.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12236. BM/Big number: 160059.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2223.
① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:13, 41:44 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

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297 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 38/EP 1/Side 58 (Rowe), D8/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel). The head type is similar to David's Type a (2019a: Fig. 3). MATERIAL: amethyst. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W). Measurements according to the drawing in Tufnell 1958: Pl. 30:14.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single cone? (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; a piece from Sidon, Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a: 62.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2222.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:14, 41:44 (side type); David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

298 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, slight scratch through top third of base design. WEIGHT: 3.57 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.8 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 9.4 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024). Near the head of the scarab, a spot of what may be crystalized glazing can be seen.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From left to right, the base depicts: a left-facing Horus falcon, *ḥrw* (G5), wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown; and a Type B (Keel 1995: § 578) goddess head. The two figures are standing on a *nb* (V30) sign. The goddess head appears to feature long earrings or streamers hanging from the ears. A sun disc, *rʿ* (N5), is located above the goddess head. The two protrusions of the goddess head and the *nb* (V30) sign are decorated with hatching. The figure of the falcon is schematic, with a tear-drop shaped body. The legs seem to be represented by two lines each, and one line is used to represent the tail.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10D2 "'Hathor' symbol" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 302; Tel Nagila No. 58. Other scarabs that feature a very schematic depiction of a falcon with a red crown are: Kabri No. 15; Megiddo No. 694.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

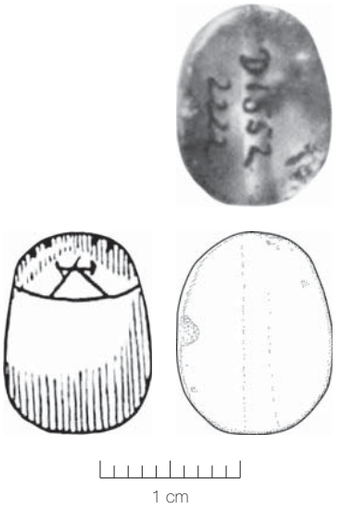
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12234. BM/Big number: 160057.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2205.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 104, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:15, 41:14 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 152, n. 727, 181, Pl. 105:32. *[TB]*

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299 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/I/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back and sides; back, side, and base chipped near the perforation hole at the head of the scarab; slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference; slight scratch through top left of base design. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From left to right, the base depicts: a left-facing Horus falcon, *ḥrw* (G5), wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown; and a left-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529). An ovoid shape adorns the head of the uraeus. Comparing this artefact to the similarly carved Lachish No. 360 indicates the ovoid shape is likely a schematically depicted *šw(t)* (H6) feather. The depiction of the falcon is also schematic. The 'front' leg seems to be represented by two lines, and one line is used to represent the 'back' leg. The falcon is standing on a large hatched *nb* (V30) sign extending under both figures. The uraeus emerges from the border line. The body of the falcon, the scales on the uraeus, and the schematically depicted feather on the head of the uraeus are decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: This seal is classified as a Late Palestinian Series scarab with Early Palestinian D-Head group characteristics (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). In this composition, the falcon wearing the *dšrt* (S3) is likely a reference to Lower Egypt. By contrast, the uraeus with a *šw(t)* (H6) on its head may be a reference to the goddess Wadjet in her role as the deity of the tenth nome of Upper Egypt, since the emblem of this nome is traditionally depicted as a cobra with a *šw(t)* (H6) on its back (Lacau and Chevrier 1969: 227, § 642; Helck 1974: 95). The two figures are combined with a *nb* (V30) basket likely indicating their joint dominion over the regions of Lower and Upper Egypt. Thus, this scarab base may be an unusual depiction of the ancient Egyptian concept of the duality of Lower and Upper Egypt (Servajean 2008: 2).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 360, 400. A closely comparable scarab from Egypt is: Tell el-Dabʿa, A/V-p/19 (disturbed area) (Mlinar 2004: 128, Fig. 11b:13, No. TD 1047). Jericho No. 153 has a horizontally oriented base carving featuring a falcon with a red crown and a uraeus with a feather. More distantly related comparanda are as follows: Ginnosar No. 2 with a base that depicts an uncrowned falcon, and a uraeus wearing a red crown emerging from the border line of the base carving. Rishon LeZion No. 148 shows a horizontally oriented base carving with a falcon and a uraeus both wearing a red crown.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15778.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2213.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:16, 41:11 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 152, n. 727. *[TB]*

300 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack near perforation hole at rear of scarab running through right side of back; large flake detached from back, creating a white patch; black discoloration stripe near detached flake. WEIGHT: 1.72 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 11.1 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (H, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts, from top to bottom: *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450); two uraei (Keel 1995: § 524) facing inward and flanking a *nbw* (S12). Two *sw(t)* (M23) facing inward and flanking a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars are on top of this *nbw* (S12). Two *ʿnḫ* (S34) inside ovals (Keel 1995: § 462) are located under this group, flanking two *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars. Underneath the *nfr* (F35) signs is another *nbw* (S12) collar with hatching used to indicate the pendants.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3B1c "Cobras confronted" and 3B5 "Sedge plants" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but other scarab bases can exhibit the use of the same hieroglyphs or signs in similar compositions. Inward-facing uraei, *nbw* (S12) and a *nfr* (F35) sign inside an oval are found on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 918, and a winged sun disc, *nbw* (S12) and two *ʿnḫ* (S34) inside ovals are found on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 922.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15779.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2210.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:17, 41:3 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 77:37, 80:20. *[TB]*

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301 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D2/0/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Crack running diagonally through middle of back, back and side slightly chipped near perforation at head of scarab. WEIGHT: 0.80 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.6 mm (L) × 8.6 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze (on head, side, in grooves of base engraving).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs frame a longitudinally oriented *ḏd* (R11). The *ḏd* (R11) faces right and is located above a *nbw* (S12). A small incision at the centre of the *nbw* (S12) may represent a mouth; thus, this *nbw* (S12) may depict the face of Hathor, "the golden" (see Keel 1989a: 316). The bottom of the *nbw* (S12) collar is decorated with hatching to indicate the pendants.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Comparanda that substitute *nfr* (F35) for the *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs and *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28) for the *nbw* (S12) sign are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1107; Kabri No. 5–6.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15780.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2206.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:18, 41:19 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 164–165, Pl. 80:43. *[TB]*

302 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped near the perforation hole at the head of the scarab, left and right side chipped near bottom. WEIGHT: 3.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the design. Viewed vertically (with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward), the seal base depicts two incised lines forming a central transversal bar. Transversal closed cables (Keel 1995: § 502) are located above and below the bar. Coiled strings (Keel 1995: § 496) are located above and below the transversal cables. The coils on the upper string are not connected by a transversal line.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 6A1 "Single line thread" and 6C3 "Encompassed coils, central cable" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). The D6 head and e9 side also indicate this is likely a scarab of the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, though Lachish No. 387 also features a transversal cable and a coiled string with other elements in a similar composition.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15781.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2204.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:19, 41:8 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 60:6, 60:28. *[TB]*

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303 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly scratched, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.09 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze (on back near head).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the design. A central *anra* sequence (Keel 1995: § 469) is surrounded on either side by leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433), the leaves of the branches facing inward. From top to bottom, the *anra* sequence reads: *r* (D21); ʿ(D36); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae" and 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The base carving on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 683 does not feature leafy branches, but is otherwise similar in appearance.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15782.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2214.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 104, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:20, 41:33 (side type); Richards 2001: 269, No. LACH13; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 84:19, 94:40. *[TB]*

304 **OBJECT:** Multiple scarab, type II (Keel 1995: § 129–130). Triple scarab. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. One small chip on rim of base. WEIGHT: 0.74 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 7.4 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal; two perforations, roughly aligned with the space separating the three scarabs. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation, here illustrated horizontally. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts an *anra* sequence (Keel 1995: § 469) of five signs, from left to right: upright *nb* (V30) or *r* (D21) with hatching, followed by an *n* (N35), an *r* (D21) with hatching, another *n* (N35) and another *r* (D21). The design seems to reflect intentional symmetry.

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Consequently, the present seal is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Gurob, Tomb 292 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 12, Pl. 15, 41:86; now Kelsey Museum of Archaeology 0000.08.9657). Another direct comparandum is an unprovenanced scarab acquired in the Egyptian Delta (Griffith 1890: 39, Pl. 10:29). A comparandum for the triple scarab on the back with a different base engraving was found in Tanis (Petrie [2]1889: 38, Pl. 12:3; now British Museum 1885,0101.284).

DATING: 15th–17th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15783.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2221.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:21; Keel 1995: § 129, Fig. 76; Richards 2001: 266, No. LACH1; Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 166, n. 791. *[TB]*

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305 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back, side, and base, rim of base slightly chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 0.71 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically (with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward), the seal base depicts, from top to bottom: a *t* (X1) with an upward-facing curved line near the top that makes the sign resemble *jʿḥ* (N12); an oval (Keel 1995: § 462) enclosing two signs (possibly *r* [D21] signs) framing an upside down *zꜣ* (V17/V18); and two transversal lines. Two diagonal lines emerge from the right of the bottom transversal line, and three lines emerge from the left of the bottom transversal line. The space formed between the two inner pairs of lines describes a rough inverted V-shape.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3D1 "Cartouches: simple oblong ring" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this design are known so far, although the V-shape in the bottom pane is also used in conjunction with other motifs on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 50, 381; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 8, 118. These panes may be imitations of the types of "Hyksos sides" also seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 789, 935, 1189; Beth Shemesh No. 149; Jericho No. 367, 439. It is also possible this pane is an abstract depiction of the papyrus plant with three umbels seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 799, or of a red crown, e.g., the *dšrt* (S3) seen at the bottom of the base engraving on Beth Shean No. 211.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15784.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2216.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 113, 272, Pl. 30/31:22, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 37; Ben-Tor 2007: 166, Pl. 85:15. *[TB]*

306 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D1/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of silver[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory and pale brown (base, head on back). PRESERVATION: complete. Area near perforation hole at the rear of the scarab on the back is chipped, possibly due to removal of ring formerly encasing scarab, back and outer rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eight continuous oblong hooked Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 505) framing a central column of four hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *ḏw* (N26); *ʿd/ḏ* (V26); *kꜣ* (D28); *ḫʿ(j)* (N28). The *ʿd/ḏ* (V26) is filled with hatching, and the *kꜣ* (D28) exhibits a central triangular shape between the arms.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7A2 "Continuous, oblong scrolls" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series, and as Class 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2788.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square K.8–9, Tomb 1502 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1723.

① An ovoid chamber with an entry shaft at the northern end. The burials were disturbed due to the fallen roof. Other finds from the tomb are: pottery, bronze daggers, a bronze toggle pin, a stone mortar, and ostrich egg shell fragments (Tufnell 1958: 254). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 306–308.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 8, No. 26, Pl. 1:26; Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 94, 99–100, 113, 254, Pl. 30/31:23, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 141, 165–166, 171 n. 820, Pl. 61:14, 84:20; Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 79, Fig. 13a. *[TB]*

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307 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 8 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically (with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward), the seal base is bisected by a transversal closed cable (Keel 1995: § 502). Mirrored motifs are located above and below the cable. The mirrored motif consists of two red crowns, *dšrt* (S3), framing a cable with two loops closed at one end. The ends of the cable face outward towards the border.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 6C3 "Encompassed coils, central cable" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Similar compositions featuring different transversal divider elements and different symbols between the red crowns are: Atlit No. 36; Jericho No. 181.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2789.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square K.8–9, Tomb 1502 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1724.

① See Lachish No. 306.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 101, No. 418, Pl. 10:418; Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 99, 101, 113, 254, Pl. 30/31:24, 41:8 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 140, 163 n. 771, Pl. 60:29. *[TB]*

308 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 15 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown, pale brown (in recessions). PRESERVATION: complete. Base rim chipped in one place and left side chipped in one place. MEASUREMENTS: 21.3 mm (L) × 15.3 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of dark brown glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The engraving shows an anthropomorphic figure with shoulder-length hair indicated by hatching and a knee-length pleated kilt indicated by hatching. The head of the figure features a visible mouth and eye. The figure is kneeling on one knee on a hatched *nb* (V30) sign. The 'left' arm is overly long and its 'hand' appears to touch the 'right' thigh of the figure. The 'right' arm is crooked at the elbow and holds a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 615). The segment of the stem below the 'right' fist of the individual has no leaves.

DISCUSSION: Kneeling figures carrying branches have been identified as representations of worshipers derived from a third millennium BCE Near Eastern prototype (Keel 1990a: 173–174). The worshiper is depicted kneeling on a *nb* (V30) sign. Since the figure is probably not divine, it is unlikely that the *nb* (V30) sign under the kneeling figure should be taken to signify "lord/lady" (*ibid*.: 227, 232). Instead, it could be a reference to the second meaning of the word *nb* (V30), viz. "all, every" (Erman and Grapow 1926–1953: 234–235). Thus, the kneeling figure of the worshiper may be interpreted as offering 'all adoration' toward one or multiple deities. This base is classified as Design Class 10C "Kneeling figures, human headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 457 features a figure kneeling on one knee that has a leafy twig depicted near its 'right' arm. Other comparable base carvings feature an anthropomorphic figure kneeling on both knees (see Megiddo No. 433 for comparanda of this type).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2787.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square K.8–9, Tomb 1502 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1722.

① See Lachish No. 306.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 74, No. 282, Pl. 8:282; Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 103, 110, 113, 254, Pl. 30/31:25, 41:14 (side type); Keel 1995: § 615, Fig. 518; Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 104:22. *[TB]*

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309 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 3/EP 70/Side 6 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-yellow. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped back and rim of base. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base is divided into three columns, the almost symmetrical columns on either side containing three signs each, whereas the middle column contains eight signs (Keel 1995: § 483). Two longitudinal dividing bars consist of two lines each. The left column depicts, from top to bottom: a *nfr* (F35); an upside down *ḥm* (U36); and another *nfr* (F35). The right column depicts, from top to bottom: a *nfr* (F35); an upside down *ḥm* (U36) or *zꜣ* (V17/V18); and another *nfr* (F35). All *nfr* (F35) signs signs have a single T-shaped crossbar. The middle column depicts, from top to bottom: *kꜣ* (D28); *n* (N35); *ḫʿ(j)* (N28); *ʿd/ʿḏ* (V26); *n* (N35); *mn* (Y5); *ʿd/ʿḏ* (V26); *n* (N35).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3E1 "Panels, three or more signs in margins" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series, and the back and side is classified as belonging to the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 981, 1097; Tel Aviv No. 5.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3094.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square H.14, Cave 1542 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2090.

① An ovoid chamber with an entry at the northwestern end. Tufnell surmises it may have been a reused EB burial cave. Other finds from the tomb are: pottery and bronze toggle pins (Tufnell 1958: 270).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 9, No. 30, Pl. 1:30; Tufnell 1958: 94, 113, 270, Pl. 30/31:26, 41:16 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 135, 152, n. 728, 166, Pl. 57:30. *[TB]*

310 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1 or D4 or D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 39/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, bottom of back, side, and base chipped off. Slight chipping visible on all other surfaces. WEIGHT: 2.14 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for a compilation of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; a piece from Sidon, Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15769.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1547 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2143.

① A roughly rectangular cavern with a small rectangular extension on the north face, connected to Cave 1552 at the western end. The cave contained only grave goods. Aside from the scarabs, these are: pottery and bronze toggle pins (Tufnell 1958: 271).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 271; Magrill 2006: 36; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

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311 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2+B4/0/d10+e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Base rim, back decoration near top and bottom slightly chipped, crack running through right side. WEIGHT: 1.05 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving consists of eight interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). When viewed with the head on the back of the scarab facing upward, six of the spirals are arranged longitudinally and interlock with each other. This arrangement is framed on either side by a transversally oriented Z-spiral. L-shaped lines join these transversally oriented spirals to the longitudinal spirals. On the top spiral, the L-shaped line emerges from the right side of the spiral; on the bottom spiral, the L-shaped line emerges from the left side of the spiral. Thus, the transversal spirals form a *tête-bêche* composition similar to that often employed when using red crowns as framing elements in MB scarab base engravings.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 498. A wooden seal with a more elaborated version of the same composition was found in Egypt, el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1890: Pl. 10:17).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.6.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 638.

① A roughly ovoid, artificially cut cavern with an entrance shaft on the north side with intact stone blocking when found. No human remains were found. Other finds from the tomb are: pottery, two bronze daggers, three bronze toggle pins, ten pieces of bone inlay, and a carnelian bead (Tufnell 1958: 228–229). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 311–316.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 100, 113, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:27; Ben-Tor 2007: 159, n. 753, Pl. 75:39. *[TB]*

312 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265). In Tufnell's drawing remains of mounting are shown (Tufnell 1958: Pl. 30:28); the current whereabouts of these ring fragments is unknown. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 3.74 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 13.9 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A dark grey longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed with the head of the scarab on the back facing right, the design shows two hatched lunettes emerging from the border line near the head (right) and rear (left) of the scarab on the back. These lunettes frame a central design consisting of three Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). The central Z-spiral is surrounded by an oval (Keel 1995: § 462, Design Class 3D1). Two hatched lunettes emerge from the left and right sides of this oval. The upper and lower curves of the central Z-spiral are filled with hatched ovals.

COMPARANDA: A similar piece without hatched lunettes or hatched ovals is Gezer No. 270.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.7.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 634.

① See Lachish No. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, 100, 114, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:28. *[TB]*

311



312



313 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type I (Keel 1995: § 205). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white or ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of both sides slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 11.69 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 25.5 mm (L) × 18.9 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 38.0 mm (L) × 39.0 mm (W, with ring).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching, cross hatching and interior design.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Layout of uncertain orientation, here depicted horizontally. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The decoration depicts a transversally oriented, reclining left-facing human-headed sphinx with long hair or a nemes headcloth (Keel 1995: § 544–548). The hieroglyph *r* (D21) is floating between the legs of the sphinx. The leonine tail is tucked between the hind legs, and the body is decorated with hatching and cross-hatching. A longitudinally oriented anthropomorphic figure is located above the back of the sphinx. The legs of the individual point to the left and the face is turned back to the right. The individual has neck-length hair, and wears a short kilt that is cut above the knee. The figure has an overly long 'rear' arm that reaches to its thigh. The 'front' arm is reaching out and touching the back of the sphinx. A necklace with six cylindrical pendants can be seen on the individual's neck, and a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located between the legs. The leaves of another branch emerge from the border line behind the legs. Lines are used to indicate the pleats of the kilt, and four horizontal lines each are also visible on the figure's legs. Side B: Layout of horizontal orientation. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. A large central *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15), with branches partly filled in with hatching, is flanked by uraei facing each other (Keel 1995: § 524). The scales of the uraei are indicated with hatching. The *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) rests on top of a large *nbw* (S12) sign also decorated with hatching. The *nbw* (S12) is flanked by double (right) and triple (left) lines forming right angle protrusions, often described as *qnbt* (O38).

DISCUSSION: The standing (when viewed vertically) anthropomorphic figure has been interpreted as depicting an individual worshiping the sphinx (Keel 1995: § 545, with Fig. 368–369). Side A is classified as Design Class 9F "Heraldic beasts" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series, and Side B is classified as Design Classes 3B1c "Cobras confronted" and 8A "Rope borders: twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Side A: No close comparanda seem to have been found to date. Side B: The unusual combination of a *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) and a *nbw* (S12) sign can also be seen on Beth Shean No. 219, but rendered in a different style.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12232. BM/Big number: 160046.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 641.

① See Lachish No. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 98, 101, 103, 106, 110, 114, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:29; Keel 1995: § 205, 545, Fig. 368 (Side A); Magrill 2006: 8; Ben-Tor 2007: 161–162, 174, Pl. 77:38, 95:1 (Side B), 101:23 (Side A); Fischer 2013: 267, E11. *[TB]*

314 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The composition depicts a right-facing anthropomorphic figure in a knee-length kilt with a longer front panel filled with transverse hatched lines. The figure wears a tall, thin headdress. The 'front' arm reaches out to grasp a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 615). The leaves on the branch emerge directly from the border line. The border in front of the figure thus constitutes the stem of the branch. The anthropomorphic figure's 'rear' arm is raised and crooked at the elbow. Two hieroglyphs are located under the 'rear' arm. From top to bottom, they are: *t* (X1), *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: The raised 'rear' arm and tall thin headdress indicate this is likely a depiction of a Levantine weather god (Keel 1995: § 571), whose 'right' arm is raised in a smiting position. The 'left' arm is shown holding a leafy branch. The combination of the smiting posture and the leafy branch likely symbolizes the deity's capacity to triumph over chaos and thereby cause vegetation to flourish (Schroer 2008: 246). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing figures, human headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Similar base engravings featuring different hieroglyphs and different styles of depiction are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1040–1041; Emmaus No. 1; Gezer No. 331.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 635.

① See Lachish No. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 103, 114, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:30, 41:15 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 102:29. *[TB]*

313



1 cm

314



1 cm

315 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. Ring band broken off with fragments still attached to the top and bottom perforations of the scarab. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 25.4 mm (L) × 18.0 mm (W) × 11.4 mm (H); 5.1 mm (D, ring).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base shows knot-like convoluted coils with a central 'x' cross (Keel 1995: § 499) that has a button shape at its midpoint. A longitudinal line traverses the pattern. This arrangement is framed on the longitudinal axis by ovals that contain four symmetrically arranged double arcs. All lines are double lines, aside from the single lines used to form the ovals. The space between the coils and ovals is filled with hatching and cross-hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 6B3 "Convoluted coils, varia" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 373, 693, 1179; Bethany No. 4; Beth Shean No. 78; Hazor No. 108; Jericho No. 72, 358; Lachish No. 460, 874; Megiddo No. 107, 491, 742; Rishon LeZion No. 1; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 56; as well as seal impressions on clay sealings from Egypt: el-Lisht South, Pyramid complex of Senwosret I, north temple gateway (Metropolitan Museum of Art 14.3.403); el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: Pl. 65:423); Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: 246, Fig. 102:267); and from the fort of Mirgissa in Sudan (Gratien 2001: Fig. 12:9B-60).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.9.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 636.

① See Lachish No. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 103, 114, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:31; Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:9. *[TB]*

316 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/S/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white?. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: The back is decorated with two intersecting leafy twigs (Keel 1995: § 95). Seals with twigs carved on their backs closely resembling the present artefact are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 364, 683, 1070; Beth Shemesh No. 85; Yiftaḥel No. 15.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the design shows a transversally oriented encompassed central twist (Keel 1995: § 501) that occupies the centre of the composition. Two double arcs emerge from the border line near the top and bottom of the base. Three sets of longitudinal double lines emerge from each double arc and end at the central twist.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 6C2 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns: encompassed, central twist" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Acco No. 262; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 172, 362, 497, 840, 1186; Amman No. 45; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 178; Tel Gerisa No. 26; Lachish No. 345; Megiddo No. 387. Seals with closely comparable base carvings that have cowroid instead of scarab backs are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 647, 826, 1185; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 4. A scarab with a back that combines the features of a scarab and a cowroid from Egypt is: Tell el-Dabʿa, surface find (Mlinar 2004: 128, Fig. 11b:23, No. 9043). Seal bases that additionally exhibit hatching used as filler are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 171, 612. A base that employs triple instead of double lines when depicting the same base motif is: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 859. A base that employs both hatching and triple lines is: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 17. Other seals that display a similar motif on their base with significant stylistic variations are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 204, 735, 806, 893, 1184, 1187–1188; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 96, 444; Jericho No. 21; Lachish No. 477.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.7, Tomb 119 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 639.

① See Lachish No. 311.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 61, Fig. 6, 103, 114, 228–229, Pl. 30/31:32, 41:37 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170–171 Pl. 89:44. *[TB]*

315



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317 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The carving depicts two rows of signs and hieroglyphs. The top row depicts a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown resting on a *nb* (V30) in the centre. This is framed on either side by *ḥm* (U36) signs. The bottom row features a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529) in the centre. This is framed on either side by *nfr* (F35) signs; the left *nfr* sign has two crossbars, the right one has a single crossbar. The uraeus has a long line extending from the back of its head; this is possibly a schematic representation of a feather (see Lachish No. 360 for a more complete depiction). Hatching can be seen on the red crown, in addition to the back of the uraeus.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this design are known so far, but base carvings with similarly arranged signs and hieroglyphs are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 309; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 176; Jericho No. 26, 115; Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 5.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256f.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square U.4, Cave 6002 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6507.

① A roughly ovoid, artificially cut cavern with an entrance on the east side. Three individuals were found buried in this grave. Other finds from the tomb are: pottery, a bronze dagger, and a toggle pin (Tufnell 1958: 294–295). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 317–318.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 114, 294–295, Pl. 30/31:33, 41:19 (side type). *[TB]*

318 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 22.6 mm (L) × 16.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The composition depicts "Hyksos sides" (Keel 1995: § 486) framing a central column of *anra* signs (Keel 1995: § 469). The "Hyksos sides" are composed of two hatched longitudinal columns separated by incised lines. The outer longitudinal columns have pairs of transversal lines in their centres that form inward facing V-shapes. The line that separates the open ends of the V-shapes from the inner hatched column is discontinuous. From top to bottom, the *anra* sequence in the centre of the composition reads: ʿ(D36); *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36); *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36). The bottommost *r* (D21) is filled with hatching.

DISCUSSION: The indecipherable *anra* sequence may have been a Levantine derivation of the hieroglyphic formula *rdj n r*ʿ "given to Re" (Keel 1995: § 640) frequently found on Middle Kingdom Egyptian scarabs (Ben-Tor 1997: 175; Ben-Tor 2007: 20–21).

COMPARANDA: A scarab base with a similar layout and sign carving is from Egypt, Abydos, Tomb D 119 (Randall-Maciver and Mace 1902: 91, Pl. 53:Tomb Group D 119:5). Pella No. 44 also features a similar composition with simplified "Hyksos sides".

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256l.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square U.4, Cave 6002 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6506.

① See Lachish No. 317.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 114, 294–295, Pl. 30/31:34, 41:39 (side type); Richards 2001: 267, No. LACH6; Ben-Tor 2007: 166, 168. *[TB]*

317



318



319 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped at head of scarab, exposing perforation. Bottom of back chipped off, left side and rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.16 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.8 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508). Inside this border are, from top to bottom: two *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars; and a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). Five vertical lines at the bottom of the cartouche are attached to a flat horizontal piece forming the base of the cartouche. The hieroglyphs in the cartouche are inscribed upside down. From bottom to top, these are: a right-facing *jmj/(r)dj* (D37); *r* (D21); *ʿ* (D36); a left-facing *jmj/(r)dj* (D37); and *jʿḥ* (N12), a recumbent crescent moon.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae", 3D2 "Actual cartouches", and 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: This base carving is likely an illegible imitation of Second Intermediate Period royal Hyksos scarabs such as Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 10. Other imitations with a similar layout and also featuring a cartouche with an unusually depicted base are: Beth Shean No. 215; Jericho No. 248, 255, 316.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.4.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 730.

① A roughly ovoid cavern with an entrance shaft on the northwest side with intact stone blocking when found. Other finds from the tomb include pottery, bronze daggers, bronze toggle pins, two basalt mortars with basalt and limestone pestles, a stone vase, composite, quartz, and silver beads (Tufnell 1958: 229–230). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 319–343, 755–756.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 99, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:35, 41:5 (side type); Richards 2001: 268, No. LACH10; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, 167, 172, Pl. 84:21, 85:38, 92:32. *[TB]*

320 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5+A7/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Bottom of back slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 4.40 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.8 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 10.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked spirals connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508). Inside this border is a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) surrounded by hieroglyphs above and below. Three hieroglyphs are located above the cartouche. Read from right to left and top to bottom, these are: *p* (Q3); *t* (X1); and *ḥ* (V28). Inside the cartouche, from top to bottom, are: *ḏw* (N26); and two *nfr* (F35) signs with single crossbars. A *nbw* (S12) is underneath the cartouche, with a small horizontal mark inside.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs above the cartouche spell out the name of the god Ptah (Keel 1995: § 580–581). This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3B8 "Group of three signs comprising the name of Ptah", 3D2 "Cartouches (actual)" and 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Other base carvings featuring the same spirals and the name of Ptah are Jericho No. 257 and Shiqmona No. 14. For further comparanda of seal bases featuring the same spirals but illegible cartouches, see the comparanda for Lachish No. 319.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.21.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 725.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 99, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:36; Keel 1995: § 641; Keel 2002: 197, 209, Fig. 3; Ben-Tor 2007: 143 n. 696, 165, 167, 172, Pl. 81:30, 85:39, 92:33. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

319



Non-standard scale.

320



321 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 3/EP 127/Side 25 (Rowe), D6/II/d8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow and ivory (base). PRESERVATION: broken. Top right of back and upper third of base broken off, edges of back and base chipped, crack running through base inscription. MEASUREMENTS: 21.4 mm (L) × 15.7 mm (W) × 9.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. A hieroglyphic inscription is engraved in two columns inside this border. The right hand column, when read from right to left and top to bottom, consists of the following hieroglyphs: *ḥq* (G35); *q* (N29); *jw(j)* (D54); *n* (N35); *sw(t)* (M23); *b(w)* (D58); *t* (X1). The left hand column, when read from right to left and top to bottom, consists of the following hieroglyphs: *f* (I9); *n* (N35); *nb* (V30); *jmꜣḫ* (F39); a single vertical stroke (Z1).

DISCUSSION: Together, the hieroglyphs have been reconstructed by Martin 1971 as spelling out the following titulary and personal name: (right column) [*wʿb*] *ḥq n Nḫbt*; (left column) [*Jw*].*f-n*[*.j*]*, nb jmꜣḫ*. This can be translated as: "pure priest, (having) entry to (the temple of) Nekhbet, Iwfni, possessor of reverence".

DATING: 13th Dyn. (1760–1630 BCE); dating based on Martin 1971: xiii, 5, 11.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-1954.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 727.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 14–15, No. 50, Pl. 2:50; Tufnell 1958: 94, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:37, 41:2; Martin 1971: 11, No. 63, Pl. 23:32; Giveon 1974a: 230, Lachish 3; Ward 1982: 77, No. 630; Ben-Tor 1994a: 13, No. 12; Keel 1995: § 636, No. 33; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 288. *[TB]*

322 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3+A4/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly worn, bottom of left side chipped, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.45 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: white coating.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of a closed pattern of interlocking Z-spirals containing eight spirals in groups of two (Keel 1995: § 435) framing a central column of two hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *nb* (V30) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar.

DISCUSSION: Ben-Tor classifies this scarab as a late Middle Kingdom seal (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 97; Lachish No. 880; from Sudan: Uronarti Fort, Room 4 (Reisner 1955: 58, Fig. 6:96).

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); Senwosret III–Ay I (1837–1661 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.22.

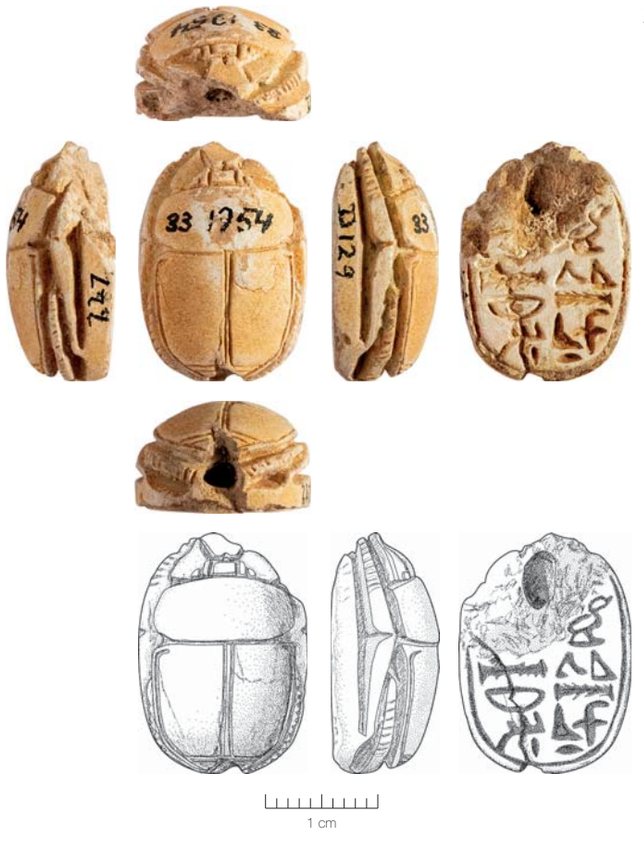
CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 738.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:38; Ben-Tor 2007: 159 n. 753. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

321



Non-standard scale.

322



323 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped, rim of base chipped and broken off on top left. WEIGHT: 1.04 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Late Palestinian Series.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a design of interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) with six whorls; a seventh spiral crosses the base horizontally. When viewed with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, there is a flower bud sprouting from the top right whorl. A *t* (X1) is located under the bottom two whorls. In the space between the top four whorls is what can tentatively be identified as a *njwt* (O49) sign. The bottom four whorls enclose a circle with a T-shape inside it.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 912 also has a base engraving where hieroglyphic signs and other symbols are placed inside and outside of the central Z-spirals.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.28.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 744.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:39; Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:40. *[TB]*

324 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. Ring band broken off with fragments still attached to the head and rear perforations of the scarab. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back scratched, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 3.12 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.2 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled (circles).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eight linked triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 492) framing a central *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The concentric circle inner border appears to be imitating the Z-spiral border found on scarab bases and seal impressions with similar designs: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 207, 925; Jericho No. 289, 390; from Egypt: Elephantine, Deposit I (H 12/22; von Pilgrim 1996: 244, Fig. 100:23, 264, Fig. 114); from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 58, Fig. 6:98:2853). With oblong spirals instead of Z-spirals on the longitudinal axis: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: Pl. 65:366); el-Haraga (Engelbach 1923: Pl. 20:51). With hooked lotus blossoms instead of Z-spirals on the longitudinal axis: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:146). With C-spirals and a lotus blossom instead of Z-spirals on the longitudinal axis: Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 58, Fig. 6:97:210).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.3.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 729.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:40, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 168–169, Pl. 87:7. *[TB]*

323



Non-standard scale.

324



325 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 1/Side 41 (Rowe), G2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back heavily worn, base worn with slightly chipped rim. Chipped off near perforation hole in head area. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); assessment based on larger diameter and better placement of the rear perforation hole, whereas the outlet of the perforation at the front, closer to the sealing surface, seems to have resulted in partial, no doubt unintentional damage over time (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm., assuming the perforation was drilled once the scarab was almost finished; a different scenario with perforation at an earlier stage is assumed by Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 70–72). ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by an angular Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508) framing a central column of four hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *j* (M17); *r* (D21); *j* (M17); *mr(j)* (U6/U7).

DISCUSSION: Together, the hieroglyphs spell out the name *Iri-mr*. Keel 1995 designates this as a local Levantine name, but a similar name is attested in Egypt (Ranke 1952: 265, No. 25). Opinions also differ on the precise dating of the object. Ben-Tor 2007 designates it as a Middle Kingdom "heirloom" piece that was deposited later in the tomb, while Giveon 1974a prefers to date it to the Second Intermediate Period, when the Hyksos rulers may have had partial control over the southern Levant (see bibliography references). In either case, the seal could have been used for administrative purposes by an official working for Egyptian authorities.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Giveon 1974a.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-1956.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 740.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 18, No. 61, Pl. 2:61; Tufnell 1958: 99, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:41, 41:38 (side type); Martin 1971: 26, No. 267, Pl. 11:1; Giveon 1974a: 230, Lachish 1; Ben-Tor 1994a: 13, No. 13; Keel 1995: § 636, No. 34; Ben-Tor 2007: 172–173; Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 79, Fig. 13b. *[TB]*

326 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8+D9+E2/S/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, grey (chipped areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly chipped, over 50% of rim of base chipped off. WEIGHT: 5.30 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 22.6 mm (L) × 15.6 mm (W) × 9.7 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze. Remarks: A brown longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024). Seals with twigs carved on their backs and featuring a lion and uraeus motif depicted in sunk relief on the base are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 807; Azor No. 8.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing lion seated on its hind legs (Keel 1995: § 537). The lion's tail is lifted and vertically oriented. The lion's mouth is open. Consequently, it may be depicted in the act of roaring. The body and face of the lion are decorated with hatching and cross hatching used to indicate the fur and muzzle. An upward-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529) is located in front of the lion. The body of the uraeus is hatched to indicate scales. An upside down *z3* (V17/V18) sign is located above the back of the lion. The inside of the loop on the *z3* (V17/V18) sign is decorated with cross hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9E "Lions" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Kabri No. 26 and Khirbet Abu Khaff No. 4 depict a lion in a similar carving style with its mouth open and with a uraeus above its back. More distantly related comparanda are as follows: Lion with a uraeus in front of them: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1133. Lion with a uraeus behind its back: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 618; Azor No. 8; Dan No. 3; Jericho No. 421–422. Lion with a uraeus above their back and in front of them: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 371, 413, 1017; Gezer No. 529, Lachish No. 499; Ḥorvat Zelef No. 4. Lions depicted with a uraeus as their tail: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 383, 649, 1136; Azor No. 11; Bne Braq No. 1; Jericho No. 405; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 52. Lions depicted with a uraeus as their tail and a uraeus in front of them: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 807, 1137–1138; Gezer No. 53a; from Egypt: Mustagidda, Grave 1953 (Brunton 1937: Pl. 69:34, 70). Lions depicted in conjunction with one or more hieroglyphs: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 96, 388, 461, 816; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 44, 418, 425; Kabri No. 16; Lachish No. 356, 500; Megiddo No. 362; Taanach No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.20.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 724.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:42; Keel 1995: § 537; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:10. *[TB]*

325



Non-standard scale.

326



327 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Sides slightly chipped, rim of base chipped, chipping inside ovoid in front of lion on base engraving exposes perforation. WEIGHT: 3.66 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 14.6 mm (W) × 9.6 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing lion seated on its hind legs (Keel 1995: § 537). The lion's tail is lifted and curves over the animal's body. The latter is decorated with cross hatching, and hatching is used to indicate the mane. A hatched *t* (X1) is located above the lion's back. A transversally oriented indistinct ovoid shape is located in front of the lion.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9E "Lions" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for crouching lions with normally depicted tails appear to exist. All comparable base engravings depict standing lions with a uraeus tail: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 649; Bne Braq No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 52; Jericho No. 405.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.2.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 726.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:43, 41:25; Keel 1995: § 537; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:11. *[TB]*

328 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.70 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A pale brown longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing horned caprid (Keel 1995: § 518) running at full gallop. A longitudinally arranged uraeus whose head is facing upward is located above the back of the caprid. The scales of the uraeus are indicated with hatched lines. Leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433) are arranged longitudinally under the legs and snout of the caprid. The leafy branch below the legs of the caprid has a stem located under the front legs. Another leafy branch is likely symbolized by hatched lines emerging from the border line above the head of the caprid. The caprid's body and face are decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: The caprid may be an erotic signifier (Schroer 2008: 200) while the leafy branch under the animal may be an allusion to the "branch goddess" (Keel 1995: § 574–576), who is frequently associated with this type of animal (Keel 1995: § 520). This base is classified as Design Class 9B "Antelopes" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 477 and Megiddo No. 730 depict a similar caprid. Other comparable base engravings depict the caprid walking instead of running. This base engraving is unusual, since it depicts a uraeus and a twig together on the base; these two elements generally do not occur together in conjunction with the horned caprid motif on MB seal bases. The closest comparable base engraving is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 86, which depicts the uraeus as the tail of the caprid. Other pieces featuring one or more branches in conjunction with a horned caprid are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 357, 1144; Beth Shean No. 163; Beth Shemesh No. 159; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 75; Jericho No. 545; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 93. Other pieces featuring a uraeus above the back of the caprid are: Aphek No. 6; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 86; Gezer No. 484; Jericho No. 271, 273, 484; Khirbat Yaʿmun No. 1; from Egypt, Tell el-Yahudiya, Grave 1 (Petrie 1906: Pl. 6:5).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.25.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 735.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:44; Keel, Küchler and Uehlinger 1984: 150–151, Fig. 77a; Keel 1984: 80, 165, Fig. 74; Ben-Tor 2007: 175, Pl. 96:22. *[TB]*

327



328



329 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5+E2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Left and right side chipped in one spot each, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 5.68 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 24.3 mm (L) × 17.4 mm (W) × 10.8 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal reddish-brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The central composition depicts a right-facing anthropomorphic figure standing on a large hatched *nb* (V30) sign. The figure is wearing a knee-length kilt with pleats indicated by hatching. The figure has neck-length hair decorated with cross-hatching. The 'front' arm is holding a uraeus (Keel 1995: § 563), whose scales are indicated with hatching. The figure's 'hind' arm is overly long and rests against its side. A necklace with oval pendants can be seen on the neck of the individual. The figure has overly long feet. A stylized *jꜥḥ* (N11) is located above the head of the uraeus. Small hatched rays extend from the moon sign onto the head of the uraeus. Behind the anthropomorphic figure's head, a narrow lotus flower (Keel 1995: § 430) extends out from the border into the central area. From top to bottom, the column of signs behind the back of the central figure consists of: an idiosyncratic depiction of a *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28); an *n* (N35); an *r* (D21) decorated with hatching; an *n* (N35); a *nb* (V30) sign with hatched lines protruding from the top of the basket. The column of signs under the central figure's 'front' arm, from top to bottom, consists of: an *n* (N35); a *ḫ3st* (N25); a *nb* (V30) sign with hatched lines protruding from the top of the basket.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae", 8A "Standing figures, human headed", and 10A1 in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Smaller-scale compositions featuring similar elements can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1067; Hazor No. 72; Rishon LeZion No. 9. Standing anthropomorphic figures holding uraei with long tails but wearing different types of garments and not wearing jewellery can also be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 327; Yiftaḥel No. 5; Naḥal Tzippori No. 3; Wadi Abu an-Naml No. 2. Standing falcon-headed anthropomorphic figures holding a uraeus with a short tail are more commonly attested. Seals with this motif are listed in the comparanda for Lachish No. 330.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.1.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 723.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 103–104, 110, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:45, 41:39 (side type); Keel 1994: 218, 246, Fig. 30; Keel 1995: § 470; Keel 1995c: 112, Fig. 33; Richards 2001: 269, No. LACH14; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, 174, 179, Pl. 84:22, 95:2, 102:30. *[TB]*

329



330 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, sides chipped, rim of base chipped in several places. WEIGHT: 2.95 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.9 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing kilt- or skirt-wearing falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure facing right, holding a uraeus in the front outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 588). The kilt is decorated with cross-hatching. A single incised line is also used to indicate the 'hairline' of the figure. The 'rear' hand hangs next to the torso. An additional right-facing uraeus is located between the figure's outstretched arm and 'front' leg. A large *nb* (V30) sign serves as a base for the figure and the lower uraeus. The bodies of both uraei are decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: Keel 1989c interprets this motif as depicting Horus in conjunction with protective uraei. This base motif is identified as Design Class 10A2 "Standing figures, mythical headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 502, 639; Amman No. 14; Bethel No. 6; Beth Shean No. 107; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 37; Jericho No. 380, 619; Pella No. 18; from Egypt: Tell el-Dabʿa (Keel, Keel-Leu and Schroer 1989: 269, Fig. 92, No. TD 701); Mustagidda, Grave 3243 (Brunton 1937: 120, Pl. 69:32, 71; now Manchester Museum 8821); Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 3745 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 5, 19:41). Additional comparanda missing one or another element of the composition can also be found, e.g., featuring both uraei but no *nb* (V30) sign on the **BASE:** Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 601, 639. A crocodile is shown bracketing the figure and the two snakes on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 159.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.26.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 732.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:46; Keel 1989c: 267, 269, 280, Fig. 89; Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 103:28. *[TB]*

331 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D5/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown (back), light brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Side chipped near perforation hole at head of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.31 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.2 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing naked female figure (Keel 1995: § 574–576). Diagonal hatching marks to the left and right of the central figure likely represent leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433). The figure is depicted frontally with face in profile turned to the left, arms hanging down. The figure has shoulder length hair, and is standing with her heels placed together. The hair is indicated with transverse hatched lines. The figure has a visible pubic triangle and pudenda. The arms are depicted as overly long. In particular, the 'left' arm is depicted as longer than the 'right'. Two lines delineate the 'right' arm, while one line delineates the 'left'.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving depicts a goddess of Syrian type with the face in profile between branches (Schroer 1989: 109), a style of depiction considered typical for the Levant (*ibid.*: 126). The erotic nudity of the central female figure serves to emphasize the preeminence of the deity's power in the sphere of sexuality (*ibid.*: 130). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10D1 "Goddess standing, nude" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Base engravings or seal impressions that show the goddess-figure with face in profile and with branches emerging from the border line around the figure are: Aphek No. 21; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 847; Gezer No. 669; Jericho No. 591; Pella No. 11, 15; Shiloh No. 17.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.9.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 742.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:47, 41:14 (side type); Schroer 1989: 98, 109–110, No. 16 (drawing accidentally flipped to show figure facing right); Keel [2]1992: 230–231, Fig. 135:centre; Keel 1995: § 576, Fig. 426 (drawing accidentally flipped to show figure facing right); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 15, § 231, Fig. 11b; Ben-Tor 2007: 152 n. 727, 181, Pl. 105:15; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 15, § 231, Fig. 11b. *[TB]*

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331



332 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/dec./e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped off near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 1.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two *nfr* (F35) signs with single crossbars and two tall, thin red crowns or *dšrt* (S3) leaning outward frame a central composition. From top to bottom, the elements of the central composition are: a *nbw* (S12); a *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar framed by outward facing *sw(t)* (M23), and a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B3b "Red crowns addorsed" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series, and the back and side is classified as belonging to the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Comparanda for this piece that feature different combinations of symbols in conjunction with stylized red crowns and a central *nbw* (S12) are: Afula No. 7; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 774; Gezer No. 322; Jericho No. 264, 283; Lachish No. 363; from the northern Levant: Ugarit, intramural Tomb LIII (Schaeffer 1938: 213, 215, Fig. 14:9440 RS; now Louvre AO 19304).

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.24.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 733.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:48; Ben-Tor 2007: 130, 152 n. 728, 163 n. 771, 164 n. 780, Pl. 54:19. *[TB]*

333 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks running through back, back chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation, both sides chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The central decoration consists of five rows of imagery. From top to bottom, these are: (1) an upside down *nbw* (S12); (2) a row of signs, from right to left and top to bottom: an upside down *wsḫ* (V29), a right-facing *ʿnḫ* (S34), an upside down *wsḫ* (V29), an upside down *wsḫ* (V29) on top of a left-facing *ʿnḫ* (S34); (3) a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) or winged sun disc; (4) two *ḫpr* [L1] framing an upside down *ʿnḫ* [S34] on top of a *wsḫ* [V29]; (5) a *nbw* [S12]. All depictions of *ʿnḫ* [S34] signs have the T-shaped crossbar separated from the top loop.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Another base engraving displaying a design containing two scarab beetles and a barred strand border is Jericho No. 500.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.6.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 736.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 105, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:49, 41:8 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 174, Pl. 95:3. *[TB]*

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334 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped in one spot, both sides lightly chipped, large crack running through head area of scarab on back, side, and base, base chipped on right side. WEIGHT: 2.06 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal dark brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central decoration consists of three rows of imagery. From top to bottom, these are: (1) a *wꜣḥ* (V29) framed by *sw(t)* (M23) with top stems curving inward; (2) a *kꜣ* (D28) with a central triangular protrusion between the arms above a *nb* (V30), framed on either side by *ḫpr* (L1) signs; (3) a *ḫpr* (L1) framed by *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars inside ovals (Keel 1995: § 462).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B5 "Sedge plants" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 142 also features a *wꜣḥ* (V29) framed by *sw(t)* (M23) in the top row of signs depicted on the base. Similar base engravings featuring *sw(t)* (M23) signs framing another central hieroglyph, and a single *ḫpr* (L1) framed by *wꜣḥ* (V29), are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 141, 351, 979; Jericho No. 68.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.7.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 739.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:50, 41:15 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 164, Pl. 80:21. *[TB]*

335 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back, back chipped near perforation at head of scarab, scored lines on bottom perforation rim, top right rim of base chipped off. WEIGHT: 2.23 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal greyish-white stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of signs. The signs to the left and right of the central column depict identical *anra* sequences (Keel 1995: § 469); from top to bottom, they consist of: a horizontal line; *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36); *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ(D36). The central column consists of the following signs, from top to bottom: *ʿnḫ* (S34) framed by *nfr* (F35) signs with single crossbars; *nbw* (S12); a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars framed by *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs; *nbw* (S12); *ʿnḫ* (S34) framed by *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: A related base motif features right angle protrusions in all four corners of the composition: Megiddo No. 279; Taanach No. 28. A more distantly related base engraving that still features *nbw* (S12), *ʿnḫ* (S34) framed by *nfr* (F35), and *nfr* (F35) framed by *ʿnḫ* (S34) is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 487.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

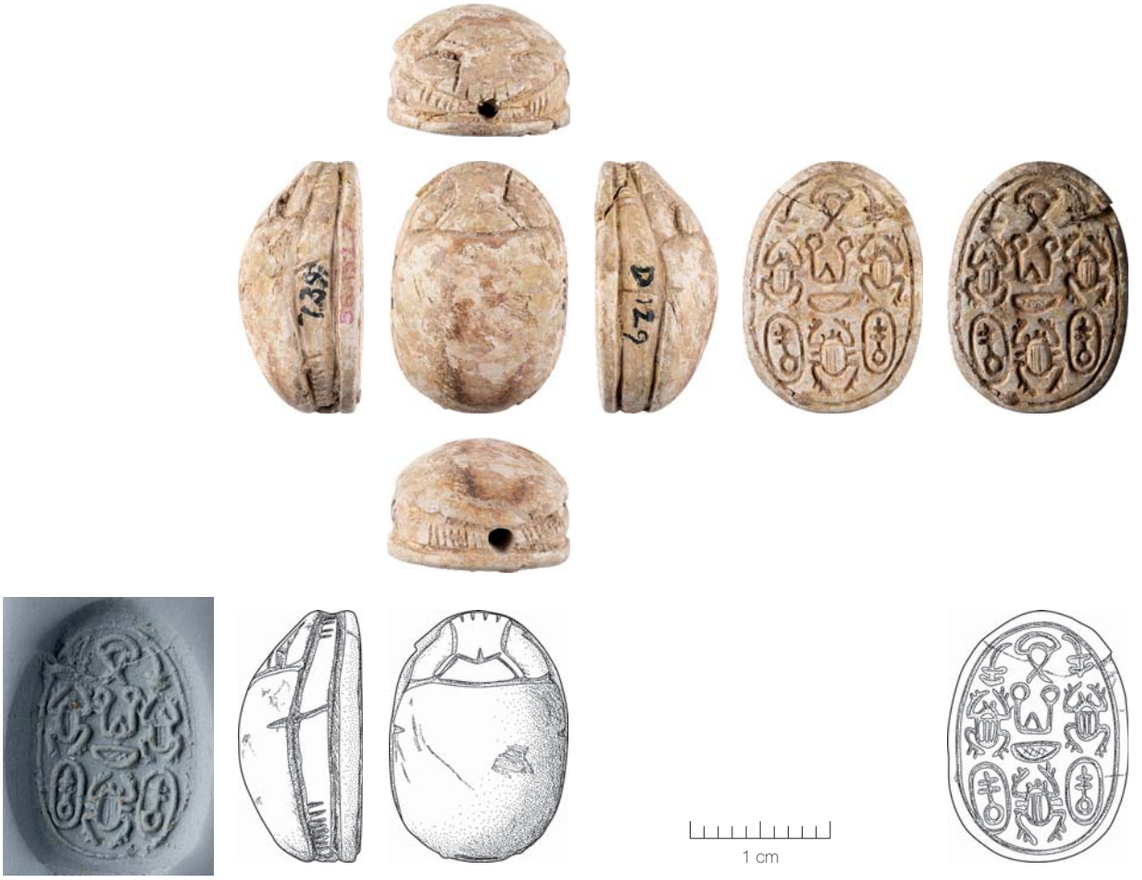
COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.23.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 737.

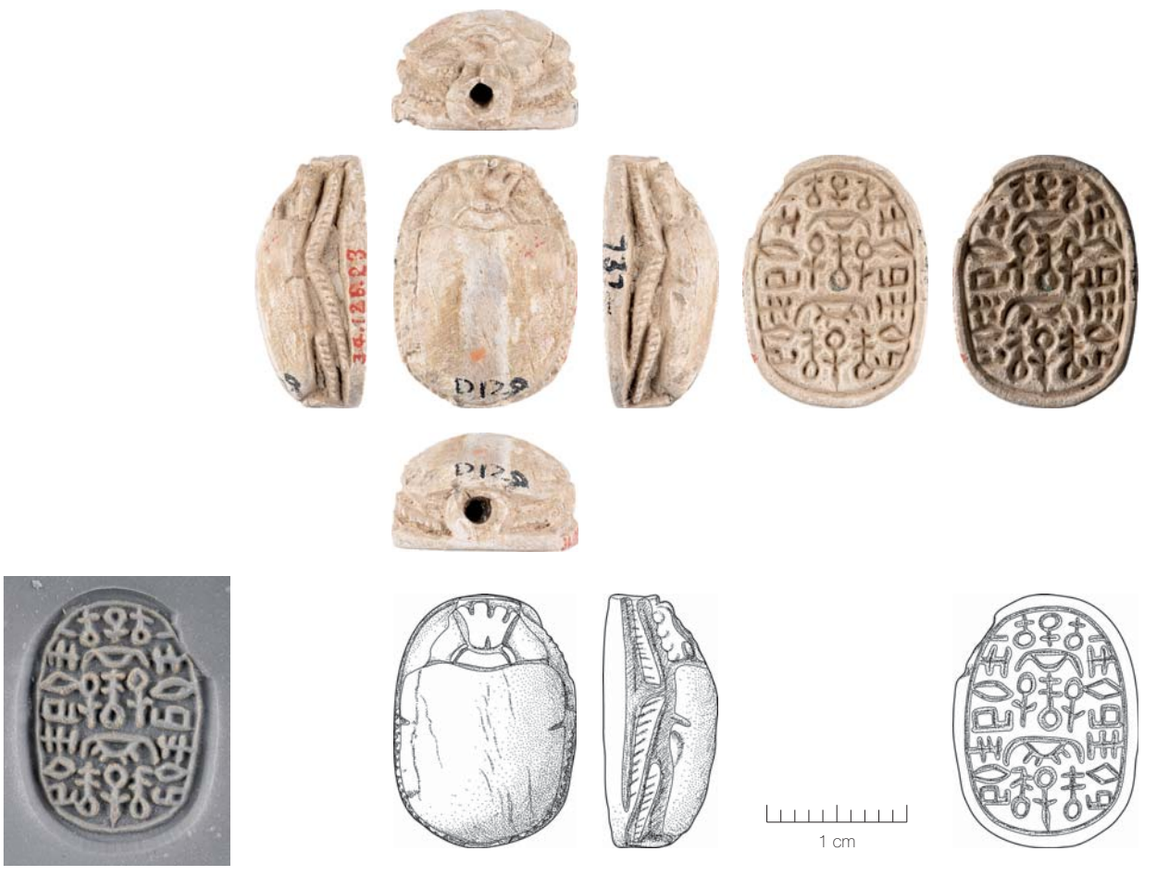
① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:51; Richards 2001: 266, No. LACH3; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, Pl. 84:23. *[TB]*

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336 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5/EP 5/Side 2 (Rowe), B7/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Small cracks in brownish glaze on back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.8 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 9.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: light brown glaze. Remarks: A darker brown spot of glaze is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024), however, given the worn state of the accession number on the scarab, it is possible that handling and older museological display methods damaged the glazing in modern times.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The signs to the left and right of the central decoration are identical. From top to bottom, they comprise the following hieroglyphs: an outward-facing *ḥȝt* (F4); an inward-facing *wḏȝt* (D10); a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar inside an oval (Keel 1995: § 462). The central decoration consists of three rows of imagery. From top to bottom, these are: (1) the pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2); (2) two *t* (X1) signs, the left one featuring hatching, framing a central *r*ʿ (N5); (3) a large *nbw* (S12) with a horizontal mark inside.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt", 3B4 "Horus eyes", 3B6 "Gold sign in longitudinal setting", and 3B7 "Forepart of lion" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: For a comparandum featuring the same head, back, and side type in addition to a base engraving featuring a *ḥȝt* (F4), a large *nbw* (S12), and a sign inside an oval, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 375 (note that the seal base is significantly damaged and aside from the mentioned signs and a red crown, no other signs subsist).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-1955.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 728.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 29, No. 108, Pl. 3:108; Tufnell 1958: 98, 108, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:52, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 162–165, Pl. 78:7, 79:41, 80:44, 81:29; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 148 with n. 777, 402. *[TB]*

337 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D5/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running through back, rim of base chipped on left side, hairline crack running through bottom right side of base. WEIGHT: 1.72 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two red crowns or *dšrt* (S3) facing outward frame a central composition. From top to bottom, the elements of the central composition are: a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars framed by *ḥm* (U36) above a *nbw* (S12).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3B3b "Red crowns addorsed" and 3B6 "Gold sign in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: For a comparandum featuring the same head, back, and side type in addition to a base engraving featuring stylistically similar red crowns and a *nbw* (S12) sign, see Jerusalem No. 405. For other roughly comparable seals featuring thin red crowns in conjunction with a *nbw* (S12) sign, see Lachish No. 332.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.5.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 734.

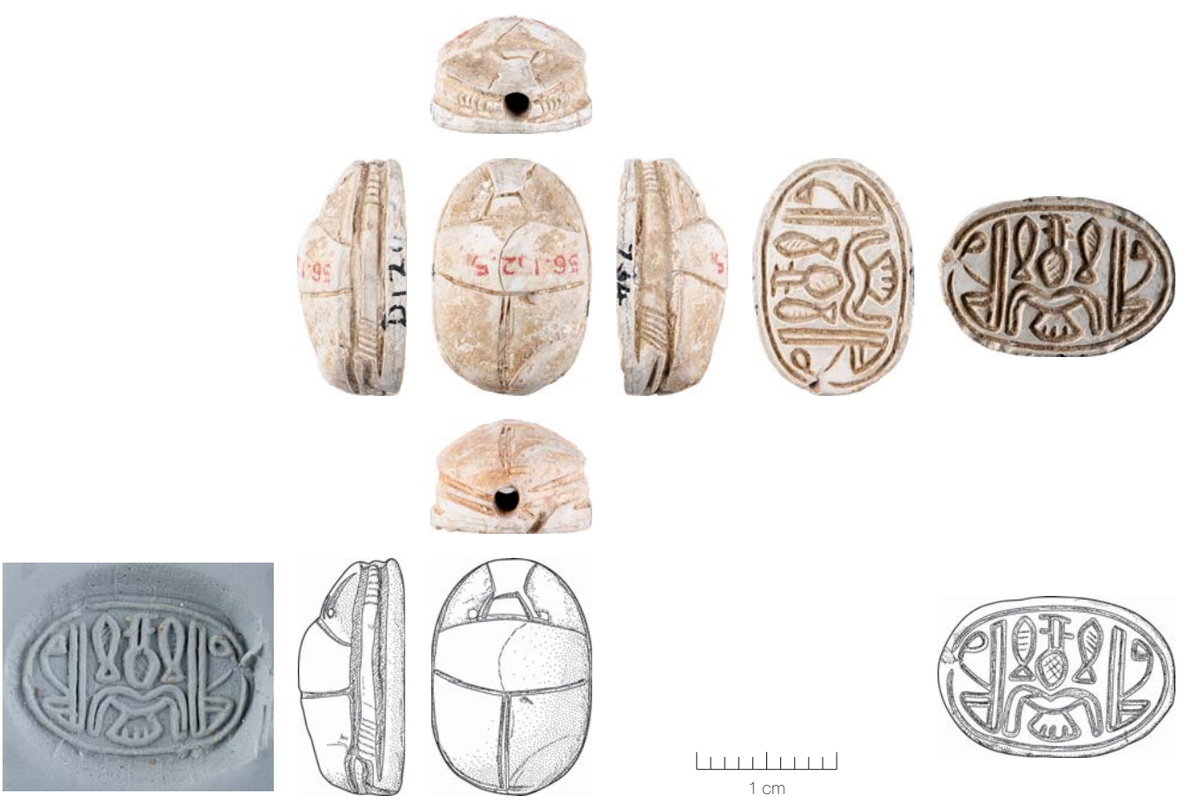
① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:53, 41,11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 162–165, Pl. 78:42, 81:1. *[TB]*

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338 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. One side of seal sheared off, but hieroglyphs remain legible. Corrosion obscures some characters near the perforation at the head of the scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 18.4 mm (L) × 12.9* mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 28.5 mm (L) × 27.2 mm (W) × 3.1 mm (D, ring).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of *anra* signs (Keel 1995: § 469), separated from each other by vertical lines (Keel 1995: § 483). The topmost signs of the central column are occluded by corrosion from the bronze ring the scarab is mounted on. The signs to the left and right of the central column are identical. From top to bottom, they comprise the following: right angle protrusions; *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ (D36); *n* (N35); *r* (D21); ʿ (D36). The central column consists of the following signs, from top to bottom: *n* (N35); ʿ (D36); *r* (D21); *n* (N35); ʿ (D36); *r* (D21); *n* (N35); ʿ (D36).

DISCUSSION: The indecipherable *anra* sequence may have been a Levantine derivation of the hieroglyphic formula *rdj n r*ʿ "given to Re" (Keel 1995: § 640) frequently found on Middle Kingdom Egyptian scarabs (Ben-Tor 1997: 175; Ben-Tor 2007: 20–21). This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae" and 3E1 in Ben-Tor's (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda, which also feature right angle protrusions or pyramid shapes in the top left and/or right corners, are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 11, 1098. Other seals feature similar base engravings. An upside down *nbw* (S12) sign is at the top of the central column of signs on Jericho No. 37 and Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 62. A base with plain *anra* sequences and no other signs is Azor No. 23. A *ḫȝst* (N25) appears at the bottom of the central column on Jericho No. 224. Finally, the base of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1096 transforms the vertical lines separating each column into a so-called "shrine" (Keel 1995: § 487) or elongated semi-circle open at the bottom, while Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 850 features only the ʿ (D36) sign in the left and right columns, and a *ḫȝst* (N25) at the bottom of the central column.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.11.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 740 (rather than 741 as indicated in Tufnell 1958). Object number corrected based on a letter from the MMA to O. Keel dated to 31 July 1984.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104–105, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:54, 41:1 (side type); Richards 2001: 267, No. LACH4; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, 167, Pl. 84:24, 86:16. *[TB]*

339 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown, white (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly eroded, hairline crack running through left side, rim of base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.08 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed with the nose of the carved scarab on the back placed facing to the right, this base shows two addorsed *dšrt* (S3) in *tête-bêche* arrangement framing a transversally oriented *anra* sequence (Keel 1995: § 469). From top to bottom, the *anra* sequence is: an *r* (D21) filled with diagonal hatching; an *n* (N35); an *r* (D21) filled with diagonal hatching; and a left-facing ʿ (D36).

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B3e "Red crowns *tête-bêche*" and 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols: formulae" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 541; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 26; Jericho No. 352; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 119. From Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery B, Grave B 28 (Steindorff 1935: 199, 201, Pl. 31:25). From Sudan: Cemetery 108 near Naga el-Erian, Grave 31 (Firth 1915: 158, Pl. 41:71); Cemetery 130 near Barsinishei, Grave 20 (Firth 1927: 181, Pl. 36:199); Mirgissa, Cemetery M.X., Tomb 28 (Vercoutter 1975: 64, Fig. 19:4, 65; Vercoutter 1976: 276, Fig. 5:11); Ukma West, Tomb 189 (Andreu 1987: 236, No. 189/18); Kerma, Tumulus K III, Grave K 301, body A (Reisner 1923: 142, Pl. 40:2:63).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.10.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 746.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 104–105, 114, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:55, 41:14 (side type); Richards 2001: 266, No. LACH2; Ben-Tor 2007: 163, 165–166, Pl. 79:12, 84:25. *[TB]*

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340 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped in one spot, back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base chipped in two spots. WEIGHT: 0.56 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a hatched *t* (X1) sign above an ʿ(D36). Underneath the ʿ(D36) are two signs. From right to left, these are: *j* (M17); *šn* (V7).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 433–434 feature similarly carved backs and base engravings that also show *j* (M17) and ʿ(D36) signs carved in a style similar to the present seal. Atlit No. 47 also features a similarly carved back and two *j* (M17) on the base that are depicted similarly to the one shown on the present scarab.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.29.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 731.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 115, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:56. *[TB]*

341 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A6+E2/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly worn, back chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, hairline cracks in sides, left side of base chipped, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference, hairline cracks in base. WEIGHT: 1.30 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A brown spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving depicts a large *nb* (V30) with a lunette carved into the bottom. On the *nb* (V30), inward-facing *j* (M17) signs with hatching frame a central plant shoot with two leaves protruding from the top.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel dated to the Middle Bronze Age is so far known for this design. The internal hatching of the *j* (M17) signs and the lunette inside the *nb* (V30) sign also seem to be unique for this period.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.27.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 743.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 115, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:57. *[TB]*

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342 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, brown (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back, side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.62 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.2 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a *t* (X1) sign; under the *t* (X1), from right to left, are a right-facing *dšrt* (S3) and a *ḥm* (U36) filled with hatching. Both the *dšrt* (S3) and the *ḥm* (U36) are resting on a large *nb* (V30) sign. The *t* (X1) sign exhibits a strange 'claw' shape protruding from the bottom left, presumably a carving mistake that overextended the outline of the sign.

DISCUSSION: The D6 head and e10 side indicate this is likely a scarab of the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Egypt: Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: 247, Fig. 103:256). A scarab from Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Locus K 1300 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 18–19, Pl. 40:1300, 43:47, 46; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC18854) displays a very similar composition that substitutes the *t* (X1) sign for a double arc with two lines inside it. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 758, 1128, and Lachish No. 404 feature the same signs, however the order of the signs on the *nb* (V30) is reversed, and the *dšrt* (S3) on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 758, 1128 is facing inward.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.8.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 745.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 115, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:58, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

343 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1+B2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, brown (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Sides slightly worn. WEIGHT: 0.63 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a *t* (X1) sign; a left-facing *ḥrw* (G5) or falcon and a *ḥm* (U36). The falcon is standing on a large *nb* (V30) sign.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist among pieces dated to the Middle Bronze Age in the present corpus. A similar type of composition where the falcon is wearing a *dšrt* (S3) can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 998. Other falcons depicted in a similar style can be seen in conjunction with *qnbt* (O38) signs on Jericho No. 180 and Pella No. 5.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.30.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 747.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 115, 229–230, Pl. 30/31:59. *[TB]*

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344 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 69/EP 5/Side 21 (Rowe), A1+E2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly worn, back, side, and base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal dark brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, based on the feathers of the central winged sun disc. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the base engraving depicts: a central *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450), or winged sun disc, framed on the transversal axis by pairs of uraei facing outward (Keel 1995: § 523). The upper pair of uraei is depicted as upside down vis-à-vis the bottom pair. The snake bodies are decorated with hatching to indicate scales. The snake tails are joined together and form an open-ended enclosure around one or more hieroglyphs. The enclosure above the sun disc contains a *šn* (V7) sign decorated with cross-hatching, depicted upside down relative to the uraei, while the enclosure below the *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: a *n(j)t/nrt* (R24/R25); a hatched *r* (D21); and a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B1b "Cobras addorsed and linked" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Other seal bases featuring a winged sun disc and two uraei with joined tails are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 65, 611; Amman No. 28; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 80; Gibeon No. 50; Jericho No. 585.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-755.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6028 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6673.

① A roughly circular cavern. Seven adult individuals and one child were interred in this tomb. The burials were disturbed. Other finds from the tomb are: pottery, toggle pins, a piece of bone inlay, and a fragmentary mould for a female figurine, that may have been a surface find from this area (Tufnell 1958: 302). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 344–346.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104–105, 115, 302, Pl. 30/31:60, 41:15 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 161, Pl. 77:21. *[TB]*

345 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1?/0/e10? (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped near the perforation hole at the head of the scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the design shows a transversally oriented encompassed central twist (Keel 1995: § 501) that occupies the centre of the composition. Two double arcs emerge from the border line near the top and bottom of the base. Three sets of longitudinal double lines emerge from each double arc and end at the central twist, aside from the top right double line, which merges with the border line.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 6C2 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns: encompassed central twist" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Acco No. 262; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 172, 362, 497, 840, 1186; Amman No. 45; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 178; Tel Gerisa No. 26; Lachish No. 316, Megiddo No. 387. For further comparanda with similar appearances, see the comparanda in the entry for Lachish No. 316.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1392, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2023/4").

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6028 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6675.

① See Lachish No. 344.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 115, 302, Pl. 30/31:61, 41:33 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170–171, Pl. 89:45. *[TB]*

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346 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9?/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base chipped near the perforation hole at the head of the scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving consists of eight interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). The central four spirals form a sub-rectangular shape crossed by a diagonal line.

DISCUSSION: Ben-Tor classifies this scarab as a late Middle Kingdom seal (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Designs featuring interlocking Z-spirals in varying numbers and patterns are a common motif throughout the Middle Bronze Age that was first developed in early Middle Kingdom Egypt (Ben-Tor 2007: 12). The closest comparanda for the present item are: Taanach No. 41; Sudan: floodplain between Abu Zana and Barsinishei, Cemetery 130, Grave 37 (Firth 1927: xi, 184, Pl. 36:208).

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1393, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2023/4").

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6028 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6674.

① See Lachish No. 344.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 115, 302, Pl. 30/31:62, 41:3 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159 n. 753; Ben-Tor and Weinstein 2022: 31 n. 182. *[TB]*

347 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B8/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). Ben-Tor and Weinstein 2022: 30 assign a B4 head type and recognise side features of both e9 and e10. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back cracked, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base eroded, erosion visible on previous archival photo has increased, 80% of the base rim is now missing and right *nfr* (F35) sign is partly eroded. WEIGHT: 0.57 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central cartouche or *šnw* (V9/V10). Framing the cartouche on either side are, from top to bottom: a teardrop shape that may represent a bent flower (Keel 1995: § 430), and a *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar. From top to bottom, the signs inside the cartouche are: *r*ʿ (N5); *r* (D21); ʿ (D36); *ḫpr* (L1). V-shapes likely representing outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) protrude from both sides of the cartouche base (see comparanda). Under the cartouche base are two signs; from left to right, these are: *dj* (X8); *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: Keel 1995 followed by Ben-Tor and Weinstein 2022 (see bibliography) posit that the cartouche depicts a name of Senwosret II. However, the hieroglyphs inside the cartouche do not appear to correspond to any known royal name of that king (von Beckerath [2]1999: 84–85). The two signs under the cartouche spell out *dj ʿnḫ*, "given life", and are probably copied from legible seals bearing royal names (see comparanda section).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparable piece that also depicts a cartouche with the *ḏj ʿnḫ* inscription underneath is Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 31. This piece features a legible name of a Hyksos ruler inside the cartouche. Comparable pieces that feature figurative uraei protruding from the bottom of the cartouche generally do not contain legible inscriptions: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 111; Jericho No. 193, 435. Thus, this seal combines iconography from both of these base engraving styles.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15764.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square V.3, Pit 4022 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6065.

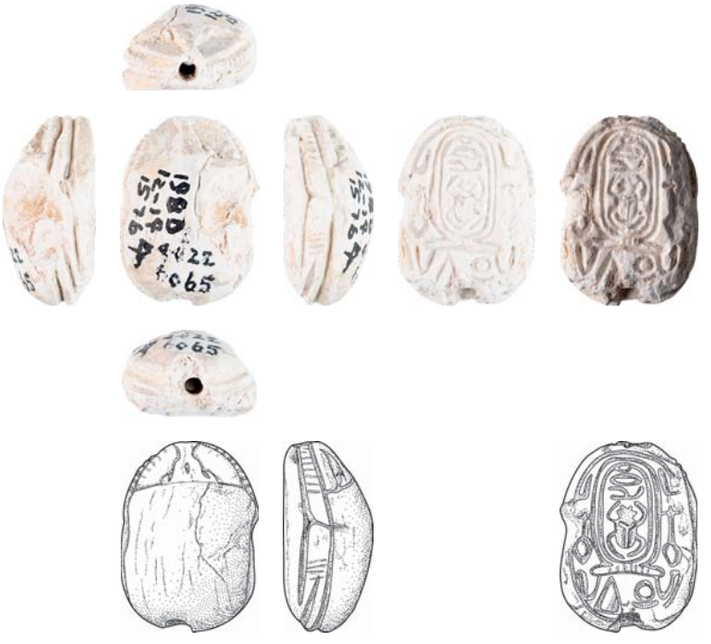
① An ovoid pit containing several deposition phases. The earliest was Early Bronze Age refuse (Layer 3), superimposed by a plaster surface and accumulation of EB and MB sherds (Layer 2), on which MB III burials of five individuals were deposited (Layer 1). The surface debris contained Iron Age vessels. Five scarabs were found alongside the Layer 1 burials, which include the remains of five individuals with MB grave goods. Other finds from the burial are: pottery, a bronze toggle pin, a flint sickle blade, pieces of burnt wood, and a fragment of an animal bone (Tufnell 1958: 288–290). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 347–351.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 129; Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 115, 288–290, Pl. 30/31:63, 41:11 (side type); Keel 1995: § 627; Magrill 2006: 42; Ben-Tor and Weinstein 2022: 22, 30–31, No. 4, Pl. 2; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 165 with n. 891, 169. *[TB]*

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348 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Erosion lines in back, rim of base chipped, diagonal crack running through right side and base. WEIGHT: 2.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.2 mm (L) × 14.6 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving depicts a right-facing anthropomorphic figure, seated on a high-backed chair. The feet of the chair seem to be shaped like animal paws, possibly those of a lion. The figure has close-cropped hair, a visible ear, wears a long robe with wide trim (Keel 1995: § 569) and is thus likely of male gender. His right arm is extended. Above the figure's outraised arm is a floating *t* (X1) sign, below is a well-rendered *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar. A uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529) projects from the left side of the round heart at the bottom of the *nfr* (F35). A *rʿ* (N5) sign is located between the chair legs. Behind the chair is a column of hieroglyphic signs, from top to bottom: a right-facing *wꜣs* (S40); a right-facing *j* (M17); a *nb* (V30); and a left-facing *qnbt* (O38).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving depicts a ruler in a long robe with wide trim. The motif seems to have originated in North Syria (Schroer 1985: 101), but was adapted to a southern Levantine context (*ibid*.: 103). Seated figures in long robes rarely occur on MB scarabs. By contrast, standing figures in similar attire are more frequently encountered as a motif. The ruler raises his hand in a gesture of worship or greeting. This gesture is rare in the stamp seal repertoire, but is readily attested on cylinder seals, engravings, and three-dimensional depictions of similar figures from Syria and the northern Levant (*ibid*.: 55–56, 72–73, 75, 104). The ruler is surrounded by hieroglyphs symbolic of luck (e.g., the *nfr* [F35] and the *rʿ* [N5]) and dominion (e.g., the *wꜣs* [S40], the *nb* [V30], and the *qnbt* [O38]). This base engraving may have been an amulet invoking the victorious power of a local ruler on behalf of the person wearing the amulet (*ibid*.: 105). This base is classified as Design Class 10E "Human figures, enthroned" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The only close comparandum seems to be an unprovenanced piece in a private **COLLECTION:** Keel 2020: 62–63, No. 151. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 519 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 192 depict similarly seated and attired individuals.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15765.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square V.3, Pit 4022 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6063.

① See Lachish No. 347.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 129; Tufnell 1956: 67–70, Fig. 1:5; Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 115, 288–290, Pl. 30/31:64, 41:2 (side type); Tufnell 1984: Frontispiece:8; Schroer 1985: 84–85, Fig. 45; Keel 1989a: 309–310, Fig. 104; Keel 1994: 111, 124, 132, Fig. 65; Keel 1995: § 570, Fig. 410; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 26, Fig. 36c; Magrill 2006: 42; Ben-Tor 2007: 152 n. 727, 182, Pl. 106:14; Keel 2007: 86–88, Fig. 28; Schroer 2008: 302–303, No. 544; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 26, Fig. 36c. *[TB]*

349 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped in two spots, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs frame a left-facing pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title surmounting a *nbw* (S12) hieroglyph. The *nbw* (S12) has three lines painted on it in glaze, depicting the face of Hathor, "the golden" (see Keel 1989a: 316).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). The *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title, often referred to in translation as "he of the sedge and the bee", is one of the most frequently employed titles used to signify the pharaoh in ancient Egypt (Servajean 2008: 3). The hathoric *nbw* (S12) placed below the title may symbolize the strong association of the goddess Hathor with the ruler and the women of the royal house, including the pharaoh's mother, wives, and daughters (Grajetzki 2014: 184). Finally, the combination of these two elements with *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs may embody the wish: "under the protection of Hathor, may the ruler/women of the royal house, live".

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Lachish No. 364. Similar seals where the central *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) is facing right instead of left are: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 63; Tel Nagila No. 20; and from Egypt, a scarab from Luxor, Assasif, Courtyard CC 41, Tomb R 9, found on the body of Burial A 1 (Metropolitan Museum of Art 16.10.353; Lilyquist 2020). Other seals featuring a right-facing *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) but only depicting a non-hathoric *nbw* (S12) are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 259, 753; and the seal that produced the impression on the sealing Tell Jemmeh No. 165. Finally, two seal impressions from Egypt, el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1890: Pl. 10:33; Petrie 1891: Pl. 9:41), show the *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs inside ovals.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15766.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square V.3, Pit 4022 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6066.

① See Lachish No. 347.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 129; Tufnell 1958: 98, 115, 288–290, Pl. 30/31:65, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 42; Ben-Tor 2007: 162, 164–165, Pl. 78:8, 81:2. *[TB]*

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350 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, side near perforation hole at head of scarab slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.4 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the central decoration consists of: a transversally oriented right-facing *šn* (V7); a right-facing *wḏ͗t* (D10); an *n* (N35); and a *nb* (V30). The *nb* (V30) is filled with hatching created by glaze painted in stripes.

COMPARANDA: A *wḏ͗t* (D10) carved in a very similar style can be seen on Gezer No. 70; Jericho No. 476.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15767.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square V.3, Pit 4022 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6064.

① See Lachish No. 347.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 129; Tufnell 1958: 108, 115, 288–290, Pl. 30/31:66, 41:14 (side type); Magrill 2006: 42; Brandl 2007: 599 n. 16; Ben-Tor and Weinstein 2022: 31 n. 182. *[TB]*

351 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 33/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: dark green. PRESERVATION: complete. Head slightly worn, both sides slightly scratched, right side chipped in one spot, base chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 1.86 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See Megiddo No. 497.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15768.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square V.3, Pit 4022 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6064.

① See Lachish No. 347.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: Pl. 129; Magrill 2006: 42. *[TB]*

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352 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, light brown (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back worn, crack running transversally through top third of entire scarab, rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.25 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of decoration. The top row consists of a *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars enclosed in two oblong hooked spirals (Keel 1995: § 506). The bottom row consists of two *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars framing a central *ḏd* (R11).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. The *ḏd* (R11) flanked by *nfr* (F35) signs does commonly appear on scarabs in conjunction with other signs and other types of decoration on: Afula No. 5; Aphek No. 16; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1108; Azor No. 19; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 123; Gezer No. 268, 304, 422; Jericho No. 222.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15427. BM/Big number: 160307.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6634.

① An ovoid cave with intact stone blocking when found. Thirteen adult individuals and one child were buried in this tomb. The burials were badly preserved due to water erosion. Other finds from the burial are: pottery, a bronze toggle pin, an earring, a whetstone, a chalk spindle whorl, and faience, carnelian, and rock crystal beads (Tufnell 1958: 301). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 352–374, 729–734.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–100, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:67, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

353 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly worn. WEIGHT: 1.23 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The decoration consists of a central Z-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) flanked on either side by a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. The *nfr* (F35) signs are located inside lunettes that emerge from the border line.

COMPARANDA: A very similar composition featuring two *nfr* (F35) signs in a *tête-bêche* arrangement inside ovals can be seen on Gaza No. 8. Seal bases featuring flanking *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs instead of *nfr* (F35) signs on the base are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 910; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 27; Khirbet Abu Khaff No. 3; and from Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb S 84 (Steindorff 1937: 108, No. 167, 195–196, Pl. 56:167).

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15428. BM/Big number: 160308.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6636.

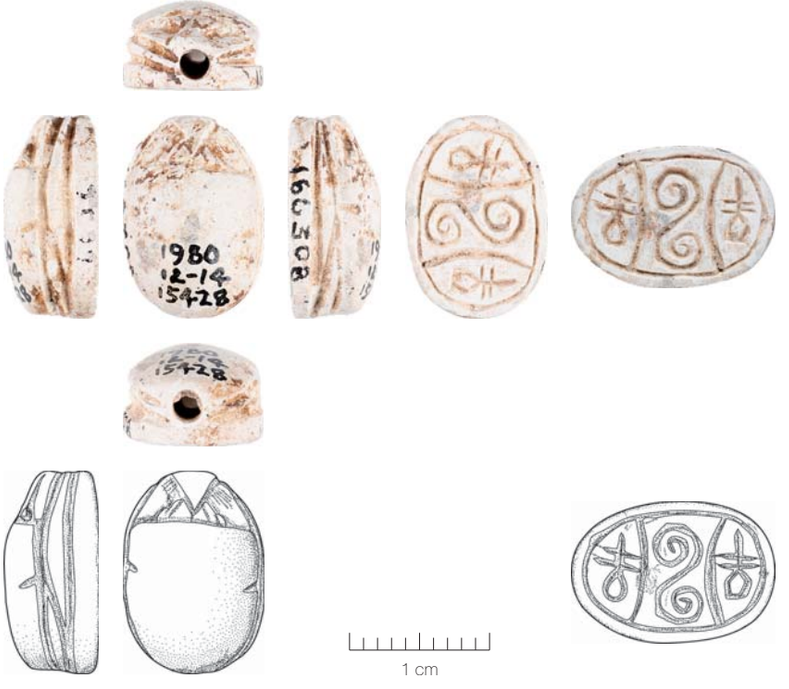
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:68, 41:26 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

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354 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running through middle of back, hairline crack in right side of back, rim of base slightly chipped, one double concentric circle on base chipped. WEIGHT: 0.56 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.3 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base shows double concentric circles at the four corners of the seal base. A double concentric circle (Keel 1995: § 490; 4B2) is located at the centre of the base design. A lotus flower (Keel 1995: § 429) protrudes from either side of the central double concentric circle on the transversal axis.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: ʿAra No. 13; Beth Shemesh No. 85. Another engraving featuring a similar arrangement, but with stylistically different flowers emerging from the central double circle, can be seen on Jericho No. 171.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15411. BM/Big number: 160291.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6651.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:69, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 168–169, Pl. 87:8. *[TB]*

355 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark greyish-green. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, sides, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 8.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base is divided into three columns by single lines. The columns on either side contain three signs (Keel 1995: § 483). The left and right column depict, from top to bottom: two *ḥm* (U36) signs and a *z3* (V17/V18). The central column depicts three *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs, each with the top loop depicted separately from the T-shaped handle.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3E1 "Panels, three or more signs in margins" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Similar bases featuring three columns of signs but with *anra* signs instead of *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs in the central column are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 387; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 57, 90.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

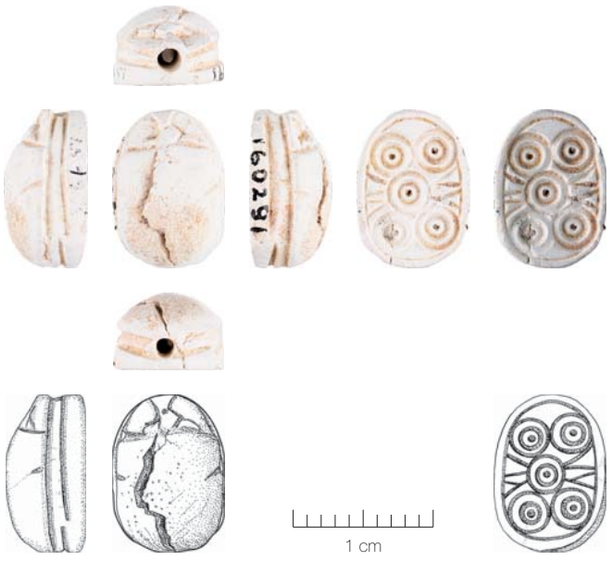
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-754.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6653.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:70, 41:8 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 167, Pl. 86:17. *[TB]*

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356 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige (back and sides), white (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Small crack running through back, rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 4.19 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 23.5 mm (L) × 16.7 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing lion seated on its hind legs (Keel 1995: § 537). The lion's mouth is open; consequently, it may be depicted in the act of roaring. The lion's tail is lifted and is depicted as an unrealistically long and straight line above the animal's back. The lion's body is decorated with hatching to indicate the mane; fine incised lines are used to render the animal's eye and fur. An *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign is located above the lion's tail. A leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located between the animal's front and hind legs. Under the lion's mouth is a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9E "Lions" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). The lion is frequently symbolically associated with the MB era "branch goddess", and the leafy branch depicted on this scarab base may be a specific reference to this deity (Schroer 1995: 63–64). The combination of lion and plant could also be a reference to kingship being derived from the land and also causing the land to flourish (Schroer 2008: 218–219).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 457 also features a lion with a leafy branch, although depicted in conjunction with other figures, namely a human figure wearing a necklace with cylindrical pendants, and a vulture holding a leafy branch in its claw (see Lachish No. 381 for a discussion of the vulture figure). Lions depicted in conjunction with one or more hieroglyphs are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 96, 388, 816; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 44, 418, 425; Kabri No. 16; Lachish No. 326; Megiddo No. 362; Taanach No. 3. For more distant comparanda, see Lachish No. 326.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15429. BM/Big number: 160309.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6632.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:71, 41:5; Keel 1995: § 537; Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:12; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 146 with n. 750, 400. *[TB]*

357 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2+B10/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly eroded. WEIGHT: 0.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central composition depicts a right-facing, kneeling anthropomorphic figure (Keel 1995: § 614). The figure has shoulder-length hair and wears a knee-length skirt. The hair and the skirt are filled with hatching. Cross-bands are depicted on the figure's chest. The figure's 'rear' arm is delineated with a single line, while the 'front' arm is delineated with two lines. The 'front' arm is raised in greeting or in a gesture of worship. A right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 523) emerges from the knee area of the anthropomorphic figure. The body of the uraeus is hatched to indicate scales.

DISCUSSION: Figures with cross-bands and with their arms raised in adoration gestures have been identified as representations of warriors with Near Eastern-style weapon-belts depicted in the act of worship (Schroer 1985: 90–91). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10B "Two or more human figures, standing or kneeling" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: A very similar composition that depicts a standing anthropomorphic figure is carved on the base of Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 62.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

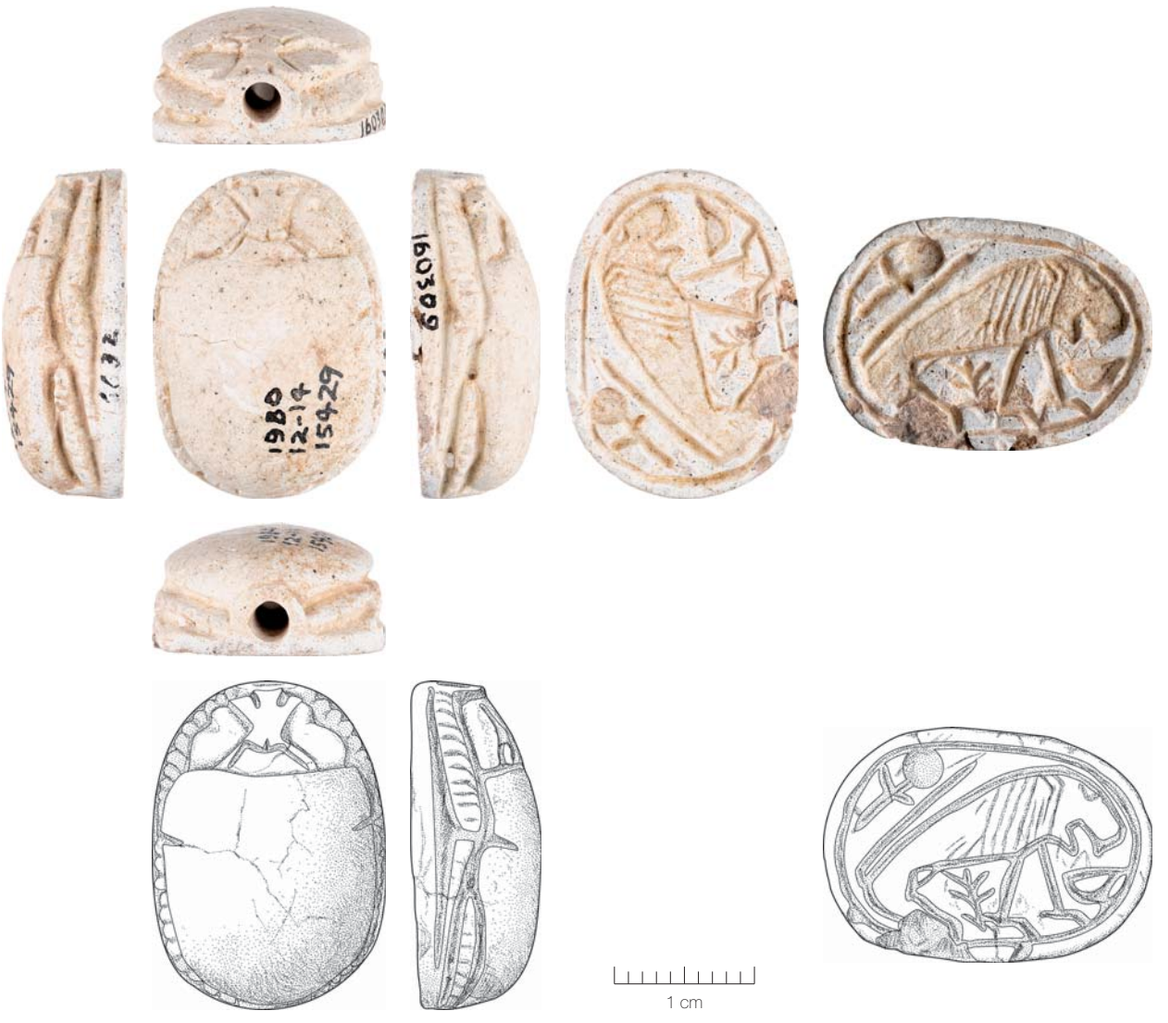
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15412. BM/Big number: 160292.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6645.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 95, 103, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:72, 41:38 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 104:23. *[TB]*

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358 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 1.77 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.1 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: partial green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving depicts a scarab beetle or *ḫpr* (L1) flanked on either side by an inward-facing uraeus with a long tail (Keel 1995: § 527).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9C4 "Cobras confronted with long tails" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). Egyptian depictions of individuals carrying animal standards tend to show them holding the standard with the animal facing outward, away from their face (as shown on the Narmer Palette [Quibell 1900: Pl. 29], and the reliefs under the Step Pyramid [Friedman 1995: 3, Fig. 2a, left and centre panels]). By contrast, the long-tailed snakes depicted on the seals and impressions cited in the Comparanda section all consistently face inward. Consequently, they cannot be understood as standards, and may instead be held by the anthropomorphic individuals as a symbol of mastery.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 67, 322; Megiddo No. 474 all have similar back and side styles. Of these, Megiddo No. 474 displays a slightly different base carving with a *nb* (V30) sign under the *ḫpr* (L1) and framed by the tails of the uraei. Tell Jemmeh No. 195 is an impression of a seal of the same type. Another seal with the same base type was found in Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery B, Grave B 14 (Steindorff 1935: 199–200, Pl. 31:22). Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 609 displays a barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) around the central base carving. Finally, Jericho No. 542 displays a *ḫpr* (L1) oriented sideways instead of facing upward, framed on either side by the tails of inward-facing uraei emerging from a *nb* (V30) under the *ḫpr* (L1). The inward-facing long-tailed uraei can be found in conjunction with other elements. They are held by falcon-headed anthropomorphic figures on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 389; Dothan No. 18; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 26, 72; Jericho No. 451; from Egypt: Tell el-Yahudiya, Hyksos Grave 5 (Petrie 1906: 11–13, Pl. 7:28). A single inward-facing long-tailed uraeus is held by a falcon-headed figure on scarabs from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Grave 1295 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 18–19, Pl. 43:13, 46); Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 1549 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 5, Pl. 19:42; now Bristol Museum and Art Gallery H4834). Human-headed anthropomorphic figures holding inward-facing uraeus sceptres like staffs are listed in the comparanda for Lachish No. 329. Serpents exhibiting different features and gripped by human- and falcon-headed figures can be seen on Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 54, and a scarab from the northern Levant: Ugarit, Trench B4, pt 18, Acropolis, south of the "High Priest's house" (excavation no. RS 3.83; now Louvre AO 14823; Schaeffer 1932: Pl. 11:2; Matoïan 2015: 258–259, Fig. 11), respectively.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15413. BM/Big number: 160293.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6633.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:73, 41:27 (side type); Keel 1977: 96–97, Fig. 66; Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 176, Pl. 98:29. *[TB]*

359 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/S/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks in back, side chipped near rear perforation, rim of base slightly chipped, bottom left of *nfr* (F35) sign on base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.49 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: A scarab seal with similarly arranged twigs carved on its back is Gezer No. 554.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three registers of signs: (1) a papyrus plant with three umbels (Keel 1995: § 432) on a base formed by two lines; (2) a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars framed on either side by *ḥm* (U36) signs filled with hatching on the left and crosshatching on the right; (3) a large *nb* (V30) filled with hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 1E "Floral motifs" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 428 exhibits virtually the same arrangement of signs, but substitutes the central *nfr* (F35) for a *dšrt* (S3). See the entry for this piece for further comparanda featuring *dšrt* (S3) instead of a central *nfr* (F35).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12239. BM/Big number: 160062.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7276.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:74, 41:14 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 157, Pl. 74:16. *[TB]*

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360 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped at base of carved lotus stem, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Comparanda for the lotus with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 94, 429) engraved on the back are: Amman (Airport) No. 19; Aphek No. 13; Beth Shemesh No. 91; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859; Gezer No. 248; Lachish No. 284, 400, 407.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts: a right-facing Horus falcon, *ḥrw* (G5), wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown; and a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529) with a *šw(t)* (H6) feather on its head. Both animals are standing on a large *nb* (V30) sign. Between the two figures is an *jʿḥ* (N12) sign that is oriented crescent facing inward towards the head of the uraeus. The body of the falcon, the scales on the uraeus, the feather on the head of the uraeus, and the *nb* (V30) sign are all decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: In this composition, the falcon wearing the *dšrt* (S3) is likely a reference to Lower Egypt. By contrast, the uraeus with a *šw(t)* (H6) on its head may be a reference to the goddess Wadjet in her role as the deity of the tenth nome of Upper Egypt, since the emblem of this nome is traditionally depicted as a cobra with a *šw(t)* (H6) on its back (Lacau and Chevrier 1969: 227, § 642; Helck 1974: 95). The two figures are combined with a *nb* (V30) basket likely indicating their joint dominion over the regions of Lower and Upper Egypt. Thus, this scarab base may be an unusual depiction of the ancient Egyptian concept of the duality of Lower and Upper Egypt (Servajean 2008: 2).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 299, 400. A comparable scarab from Egypt is: Tell el-Dabʿa, A/V-p/19 (disturbed area) (Mlinar 2004: 128, Fig. 11b:13, No. TD 1047). Jericho No. 153 has a horizontally oriented base carving featuring a falcon with a red crown and a uraeus with a feather. More distantly related comparanda are as follows: Ginnosar No. 2 with a base that depicts an uncrowned falcon, and a uraeus wearing a red crown emerging from the border line of the base carving. Rishon LeZion No. 148 shows a horizontally oriented base carving with a falcon and a uraeus both wearing a red crown.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15414. BM/Big number: 160294.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6637.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:75, 41:11 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 69 n. 352. *[TB]*

361 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Erosion lines on back, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.24 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving depicts a central right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529) wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. Hatching is used to indicate the scales on the uraeus. The uraeus is flanked on either side by columns of two hieroglyphs. To the left of the uraeus, the signs are, from top to bottom: *ḥm* (U36); *wsḏ* (M13). To the right, the signs are: *zꜣ* (V17/V18); *wsḏ* (M13). A large *nb* (V30) with hatching is located under the uraeus and the signs.

COMPARANDA: There appear to be no exact parallels for this artefact, but base carvings with similarly arranged signs and hieroglyphs are: Lachish No. 402; Megiddo No. 116; Wadi Fidan 40 Cemetery No. 1. See the comparanda section for Lachish No. 317 for pieces with a similar motif that depicts the red crown (resting on a *nb* [V30]) above the uraeus.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15415. BM/Big number: 160295.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6641.

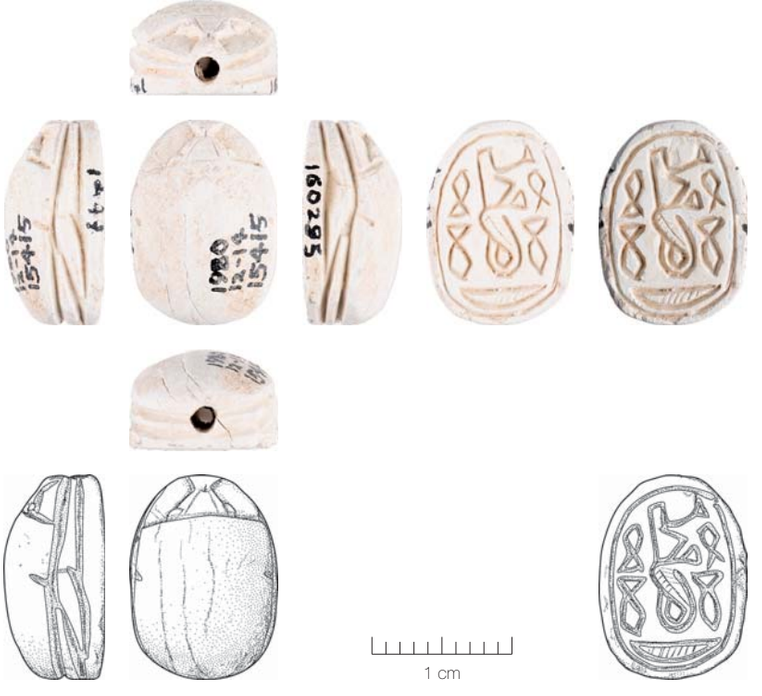
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:76, 41:19 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

360



361



362 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 0.36 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.2 mm (L) × 7.1 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three registers of hieroglyphs: (1) a right-facing pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title; (2) a *ḏd* (R11) framed on either side by *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs; (3) a large *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 855; Hazor No. 26. A right-facing *sw(t)* (M23) is depicted on all of the comparanda exhibiting slight design variations. Jericho No. 252 inserts a double-lined divider between the upper and lower sign register and omits the *nb* (V30) sign. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1108 substitutes two *nfr* (F35) for the two *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 400 substitutes a *wȝs* (S40) on the left and a *ḥm* (U36) on the right for the *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs. Azor No. 19 substitutes two *nfr* (F35) for the two *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs, has a *nbw* (S12) sign between the first two registers, and omits the *nb* (V30) sign.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15430. BM/Big number: 160310.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6649.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:77, 41:3 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 162, Pl. 78:9. *[TB]*

363 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 5/Side 26 (Rowe), B3/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Back of scarab chipped and scratched, large cracks running through back, rim of base roughly 25% chipped off, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 2.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 9.2 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal light brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base shows two addorsed *dšrt* (S3) or red crowns framing, from top to bottom: (1) a damaged *r* (D21) or a lotus bud (alternatively, an upside down *jꜥḥ* [N12][?]), next to a small left-facing ꜥ (D36); (2) an upside down *nbw* (S12); (3) a *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28) sign depicted idiosyncratically with a flat base and rays emerging from the half-circle representing the sun.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B3b "Red crowns addorsed" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 374 depicts a pair of very similar *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28) signs. A comparandum for this piece that features leaning stylized red crowns upside down relative to the central *nbw* (S12) and a sun disc with rays is known from Ugarit (object no. RS 9.440; now Louvre AO 19304). Jericho No. 283 depicts a similar composition, but with a different sequence of signs placed above the *nbw* (S12).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15409. BM/Big number: 160289.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6639.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:78, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 162–165, Pl. 78:43, 81:3. *[TB]*

362



363



364 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks running through back, small cracks running through side and base, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.33 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal light brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024). A large crack runs through the centre of the stripe.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs frame a left-facing pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title surmounting a *nbw* (S12) hieroglyph representing a gold necklace. The bee hieroglyph has incised lines on its rear to indicate the stripes of the insect. The *nbw* (S12) has three lines incised on it depicting the face of Hathor, "the golden" (see Keel 1989a: 316). The pendants on the *nbw* (S12) are indicated by hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). See Lachish No. 349 for discussion and interpretation.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Lachish No. 349. Similar seals where the central *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) is facing right instead of left are: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 63; Tel Nagila No. 20; and from Egypt, a scarab from Luxor, Assasif, Courtyard CC 41, Tomb R 9, found on the body of Burial A 1 (Metropolitan Museum of Art 16.10.353; Lilyquist 2020). Other seals featuring a right-facing *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) but only depicting a non-hathoric *nbw* (S12) are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 259, 753; and the seal that produced the impression on the sealing Tell Jemmeh No. 165. Finally, two seal impressions from Egypt, el-Lahun town/Kahun, show the *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs inside ovals (Petrie 1890: Pl. 10:33; Petrie 1891: Pl. 9:41).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15417. BM/Big number: 160297.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6640.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:79, 41:7 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 162, 164, Pl. 78:10, 81:4. *[TB]*

365 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 5/Side 31 (Rowe), B7/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly cracked, crack running through back and side, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.10 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central right-facing pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title, framed on either side by *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars. Two upside down *t* (X1) (or *nb* [V30] signs, which combined express *nbtj* [Keel 1995: § 467][?]) are located under the *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B2 "Egyptian signs and symbols: King of Upper and Lower Egypt" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). The *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title, often referred to in translation as "he of the sedge and the bee", is one of the most frequently employed titles used to signify the pharaoh in ancient Egypt (Servajean 2008: 3). The *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) sequence is written here in its most commonly attested configuration, but the usual *t* (X1) signs (rather rarely attested on scarabs) are here depicted upside down (suggesting the reading *nbtj* [Keel 1995: § 467]). The combination of the pharaonic title with *nfr* (F35) signs may embody the phrase: "the good/perfect ruler".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. The base engravings closest in appearance to the present piece are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 63, 412. These two engravings show the same central *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) surrounded by *nfr* (F35) signs, but feature one or more different signs under the pharaonic title.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15418. BM/Big number: 160298.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6638.

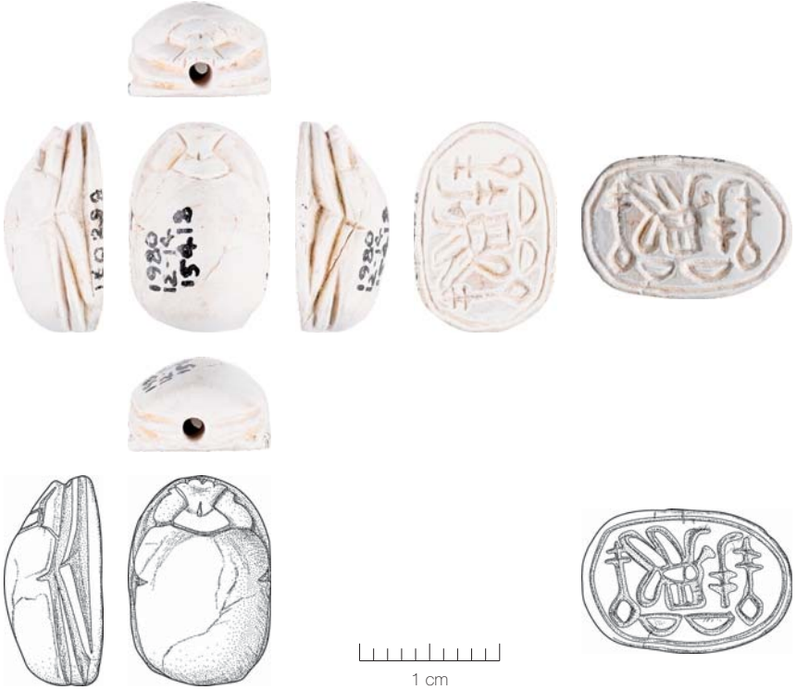
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:80, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 162, Pl. 78:11. *[TB]*

364



365



366 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?] or G1[?]/0/e1[?] or e12[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 54/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides eroded, base slightly eroded, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 1.60 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central incised decoration depicts two longitudinally oriented herringbone patterns, possibly leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433) although they are pointing downwards.

DISCUSSION: Single leafy branches may relate to the naked goddess often depicted on Middle Bronze Age scarabs (Schroer 1989: 104, 130). The representation of two leafy branches on this seal (if the pattern is indeed meant to represent leafy branches) may be a reference to branches framing the figure on other seal bases (*ibid*.: 126).

COMPARANDA: No parallels featuring two leafy branches appear to exist, whether pointing up- or downwards. For pieces featuring a single leafy branch, see Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 35 and the comparanda listed in Gezer No. 227. For depictions of naked goddesses standing between two leafy branches, see Lachish No. 294, 331 and the comparanda listed in these entries.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on seal bases depicting a single branch (see comparanda for this entry).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15416. BM/Big number: 160290[?].

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6652.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 115, 301, Pl. 32/33:81; Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

367 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly chipped, base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 5.12 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 23.0 mm (L) × 15.7 mm (W) × 10.6 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal orange stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base shows knot-like convoluted coils with a central 'x' cross (Keel 1995: § 499) that has a button shape at its midpoint. The button sits at the centre of a vertical bar, which terminates in a short, transversal bar (or eyelet) at its top and bottom. The interior of the design is decorated with hatching throughout.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 6B2 "Convoluted coils" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 23, 705; Jericho No. 212; Tel Mevorakh No. 4. Bases with a similar layout but lacking the longitudinal bar are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 801, 934; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 97, 413. Bases with a similar layout but lacking the central button shape are: Jericho No. 369; Rishon LeZion No. 56.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15410. BM/Big number: 160290.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6647.

① See Lachish No. 352.

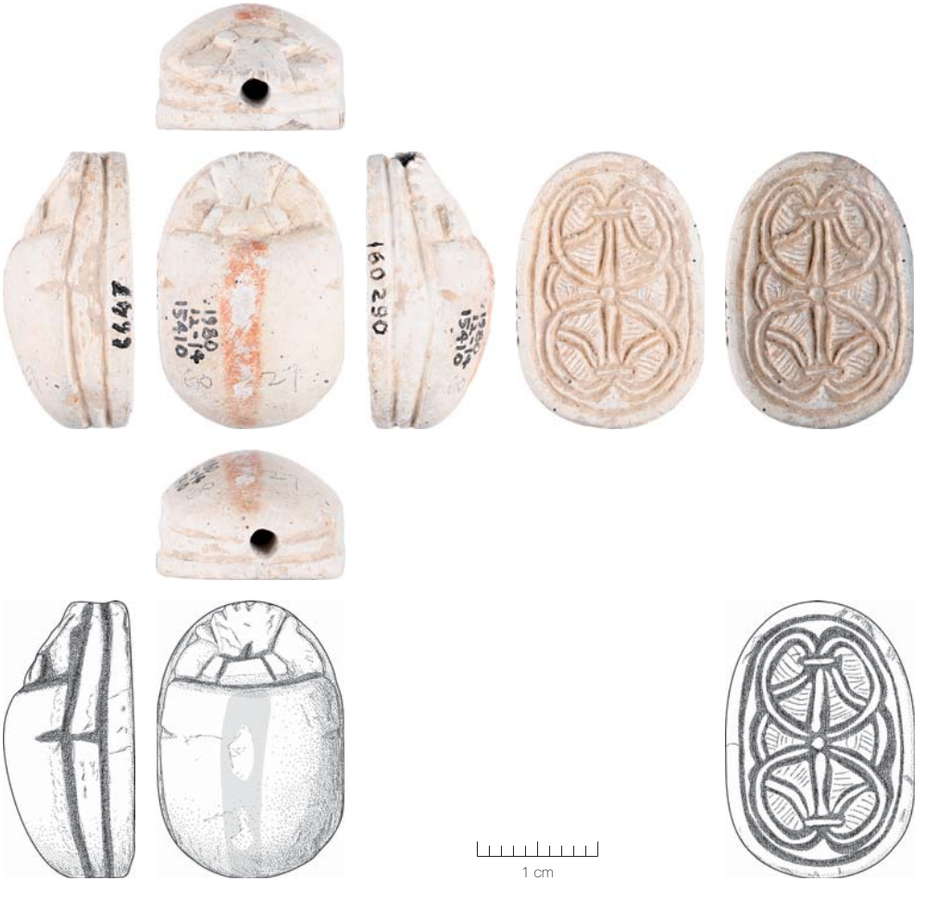
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:82, 41:39 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:5. *[TB]*

366



Non-standard scale.

367



368 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides eroded, hairline cracks in back, side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 2.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 25.2 mm (L) × 17.3 mm (W) × 11.4 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. In the centre is a motif resembling a rectangular shrine enclosure (Keel 1995: § 487) that includes an additional bottom bar. The enclosure contains a central column of two hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5); *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. Above and below the enclosure are rows of three transversally oriented, outward-facing *zꜣ* (V17/V18). The transversally oriented rows of *zꜣ* (V17/V18) signs are framed on either side by outward-facing right angle protrusions, often described as *qnbt* (O38). Left and right of the enclosure are columns of five longitudinally oriented, outward-facing *zꜣ* (V17/V18) signs.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as a Design Class 6A2 ("Single line loops") late Middle Kingdom import to the Levant by Ben-Tor (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. However, the central *rˁ nfr* sequence is used on seals from the same era that exhibit different types of borders: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 347, 581; Amman (Airport) No. 19; Beth Shean No. 103; Beth Shemesh No. 84, 170; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 82; Gezer No. 305; from Egypt, el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:148; Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: 41, Pl. 64:242, 243; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC8337); el-Lisht North, Cemetery debris: (Metropolitan Museum of Art 20.1.24), Cemetery (Metropolitan Museum of Art 22.1.336); Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: 244, Fig. 100:43); from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 59, Fig. 7:147:92).

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); Senwosret III–Ay I (1837–1661 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 138 n. 670.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15419. BM/Big number: 160299.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6646.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 101, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:83; Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 138 n. 670. *[TB]*

369 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 194–195). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped in one spot; central axis of base partly broken into perforation channel. WEIGHT: 0.52 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.2 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 4.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Viewed vertically, the back is divided into three sectors by two transversal lines. The top and bottom sectors contain pairs of lines forming V-shapes, while the central sector contains four lines forming a W-shape. A similar style of back decoration can be found on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 964. Simpler designs of a similar type can also be seen on the backs of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 732 and Jaffa No. 8.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The back depicts a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) framed on each side by a double arc.

DISCUSSION: The leafy branch depicted on this scarab may relate to the naked goddess often depicted on Middle Bronze Age scarabs (Schroer 1989: 104, 130).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this artefact and design is known so far from the southern Levant. For pieces featuring only a single leafy branch without additional decorative motifs, see the comparanda listed for Lachish No. 385.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); 14th Dyn. (1750–1675 BCE) or 15th–16th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on comparanda and tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15420. BM/Big number: 160300.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6635.

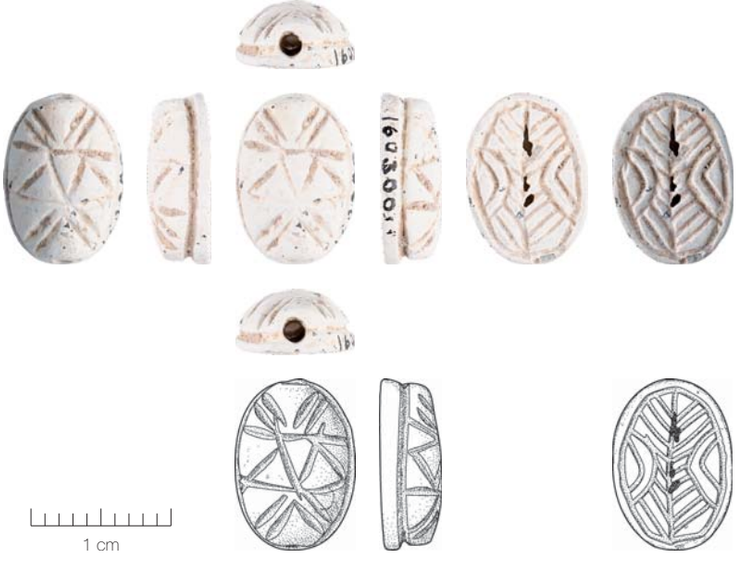
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:84; Keel 1995: § 194, p. 280 (typology); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

368



369



370 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3+E2/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.27 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.3 mm (L) × 7.4 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of signs. The signs to the left and right of the central column are, from top to bottom: an outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23), and a *nfr* (F35). The *nfr* (F35) in the left column is depicted with a single crossbar, and the *nfr* (F35) in the right column is depicted with two crossbars. The central column consists of the following signs, from top to bottom: *ḥm* (U36); and a large *ḫpr* (L1), facing downward.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 3B5 "Sedge plants" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Base carvings with more complex sign combinations also featuring two *sw(t)* (M23) and a *ḫpr* (L1) are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 104, 475, 524; Jaffa No. 6; Jericho No. 68; Megiddo No. 118; from Egypt: Mustagidda, Grave 1914 (Brunton 1937: Pl. 69:19, 70). Note that in none of these comparanda the *ḫpr* (L1) beetle is facing downward.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15421. BM/Big number: 160301.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6644.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:85, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 164, Pl. 80:22. *[TB]*

371 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back cracked from erosion, scored diagonal line on back, base chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, base chipped in two other spots. WEIGHT: 0.53 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. At the top, two signs are depicted, from right to left: *ḫpr* (L1) and a papyrus plant with two umbels (Keel 1995: § 431). A large right-facing *wḏ͗t* (D10) is located underneath these signs.

COMPARANDA: A *wḏ͗t* (D10) carved in a very similar style and same position can be seen on Jericho No. 476 in combination with other signs. A similar styled *wḏ͗t* (D10) appears on Lachish No. 350 in the upper segment of the base (see there for further comparanda).

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15422. BM/Big number: 160302.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6648.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:86, 41:25 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

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371



372 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4+D7/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, cracks in one side, rim of base chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 0.30 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.4 mm (L) × 6.1 mm (W) × 4.3 mm (H); 1.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a column of signs. From top to bottom, these are: an upside down *nbw* (S12); *mn* (Y5); and two signs of the *anra* sequence (Keel 1995: § 469), consisting of an *r* (D21) with hatching and a right-facing ʿ(D36).

DISCUSSION: The upside down *nbw* (S12) depicted on this scarab has a direct parallel in the upside down *nbw* (S12) depicted on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 43. On Beth Shean No. 6, a hybrid sign shows characteristics of both the upside down *nbw* (S12) and a *ḥtp* (R4) sign. This base motif is identified as Design Class 3C in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The piece with the most stylistically similar back and base carving is: Tel Nagila No. 39. A *mn* (Y5) sign is also depicted in the hieroglyph sequence on the base of Gezer No. 69. Other similar hieroglyph sequences can be seen on: ʿAra No. 5; Dan No. 13.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15431. BM/Big number: 160311.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6650.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104–105, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:87, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, Pl. 84:26. *[TB]*

373 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/0/e2 or e5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24+HC 64/EP 5/Side 51 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded and cracked, base chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 0.39 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.3 mm (L) × 7.2 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts a series of signs and hieroglyphs: a horizontal line; an uncertain sign (possibly a longitudinally oriented, left-facing *ḫwt* [O6]?); a *mn* (Y5) sign; and a right-facing ʿ(D36).

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols, formulae" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 449 also features a sequence of signs that contains a *mn* (Y5) and an ʿ(D36) carved in a similar style. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1121 also features an ʿ(D36) and a *mn* (Y5) carved in a similar style. Longer sequences of signs that contain *mn* (Y5) and ʿ(D36) signs carved in a similar style also occur on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 804, 900, 1028.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12237. BM/Big number: 160069?.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6643.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:88, 41:35 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, Pl. 84:27. *[TB]*

374 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly worn, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.42 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.2 mm (L) × 7.2 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally, the seal base shows two broad, transversally oriented *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) framed on each side by a longitudinally oriented *nb* (V30) or basket sign. The flat top of the baskets are depicted facing inwards.

DISCUSSION: The B2 head and e10 side type indicate this scarab can likely be attributed to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series B-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151).

COMPARANDA: A very similar *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign is found in conjunction with other hieroglyphs on: Jericho No. 143; Lachish No. 363. Tell Beit Mirsim No. 62 also features two longitudinally oriented *nb* (V30) signs framing a central hieroglyph. Jericho No. 143 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 62 have the same B2 head type as the present artefact.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12238. BM/Big number: 160061.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6642.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 116, 301, Pl. 32/33:89, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

372



373



374



375 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 5/Side 2 (Rowe), A4+E2/0/d13 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A pale ochre longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eight continuous oblong hooked Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 505). The spirals frame a central column of five hieroglyphs enclosed in an oval (Keel 1995: § 462). From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs are: *ḥtp* (R4); a right-facing ʿ (D36); *ḥtp* (R4); *r* (D21); and a right-facing ʿ (D36).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols, formulae", 3D1 "Cartouches, simple oblong ring" and 7A2 "Continuous, oblong scrolls" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Kabri No. 23; Rishon LeZion No. 26. A similar design featuring ten oblong hooked Z-spirals is carved on the base of Jericho No. 388.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2996.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2657.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 44–45, No. 168, Pl. 5:168; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94–96, 99, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:90, 41:2 (side type); Richards 2001: 269, No. LACH12; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–167, 171–172, Pl. 84:28, 85:16, 91:17; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 148 with n. 777, 403. *[TB]*

376 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 5/Side 2 (Rowe), A1+E2?/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipped near perforation at head of scarab, damaging the top sign on the base engraving. Rim of base slightly chipped in other places. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A pale ochre longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals, two on each side, connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508), framing a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: what may be a *nfr* (F35) sign (the top of the sign has broken off making identification difficult), a right-facing *bjt(j)* (L2); two *nfr* (F35) signs with single T-shaped crossbars that are joined together; and an *r* (D21) sign with hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. Pieces with a similar border of six oblong hooked scrolls or spirals and featuring a *bjt(j)* (L2) and one or two *nfr* (F35) signs in combination with other signs can be found on: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 690, 825; Atlit No. 38; Beth Shemesh No. 80; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 81; Jericho No. 392. Most of these scarabs also exhibit very similar head, clypeus, and side types.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2990.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2651.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 48, No. 179, Pl. 5:179; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94–96, 98–99, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:91, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:34; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 148 with n. 777, 402. *[TB]*

375



1 cm

376



1 cm

377 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 87/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige, brown. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Comparanda for the two lotus flowers (Keel 1995: § 94, 431) engraved on the back include: Tel Nagila No. 50; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 57, 90.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three rows of hieroglyphic signs. From right to left, the top row shows an upside down T-shape, possibly depicting an abstract *ḥtp* (R4) sign, over a right-facing ʿ (D36). To the left of these signs is a single right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529). The middle row shows two *wḏ͗t* (D10) facing inward toward each other. The transversal lines forming the signs are joined together, so that the two signs form a single unit. The bottom row shows two outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) flanked by *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs.

DISCUSSION: The D3 head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (see Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 420 shows similarly carved uraei, two joined *wḏ͗t* (D10), and flanking *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs, though in combination with other signs.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on group attribution.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2995.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2656.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 71, No. 269, Pl. 7:269; Tufnell 1958: 61, 105, 108–109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:92, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

378 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4+E2/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 12/EP 5/Side 31 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory and brown (patches). PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base shows two transversally oriented Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) framing a central group of hieroglyphs. The hieroglyphs consist of two *ʿnḫ* (S34) on either side of a *ḫpr* (L1); above the *ḫpr* (L1) is a *rʿ* (N5) sign.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 2A "Scrolls and spirals, unlinked" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Yiftaḥel No. 13 features a similar layout with two transversally oriented Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) framing a central group of different hieroglyphs. A *ḫpr* (L1) framed on either side by an *ʿnḫ* (S34) can be seen in different compositions on the bases of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1092, 1110 and Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 10. The central *rʿ* (N5) + *ḫpr* (L1) combination is attested by itself on many other scarab bases from the same period. See Tell Beit Mirsim No. 87 and Beth Shean No. 158 for comparanda featuring this sequence.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2992.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2653.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 42, No. 158, Pl. 4:158; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 96, 100, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:93, 41:27 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:23. *[TB]*

377



1 cm

378



1 cm

379 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 25/EP 5/Side 31 (Rowe), B8[?]/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown, white (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near perforation at head of scarab, hairline crack on back of scarab near head, rim of base slightly chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435), notably parallel and not symmetrical, unlike the overall composition, frame a central composition. From top to bottom, the elements of the central composition are: a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars framed by outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) above a *nbw* (S12), the latter decorated with cross-hatching in the central semi-circular component and with hatching on the "pendant" below the central component.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 2A "Scrolls and spirals, unlinked" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1102; Gezer No. 483 both feature similar arrangements of signs, except featuring a hathoric *nbw* (S12) and flanking *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2986.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2647.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 12, No. 41, Pl. 1:41; Tufnell 1958: 61, 100, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:94, 41:27 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, 164–165, Pl. 75:24, 81:5. *[TB]*

380 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through centre of scarab back, back slightly chipped in one spot, rim of base and side chipped off in one spot, base chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435), notably parallel and not symmetrical, unlike the overall composition, frame two flowering plants with bound bent stems (Keel 1995: § 430). The stems are arranged back to back with the bent part facing outward. The bottom ends of the stems are curled inward to form spirals.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 2A "Scrolls and spirals, unlinked" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1165, 1170 feature designs that show one or two central Z-spirals with drooping flowers framing the spiral(s) on either side. Hence, the design of these pieces reverses the order of the elements shown on the present item.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2989.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2650.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 98, No. 397, Pl. 10:397; Tufnell 1958: 61, 100, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:95, 41:6 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:25. *[TB]*

379



380



381 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 5/Side 21 (Rowe), D3/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Side slightly chipped in one place, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 23.4 mm (L) × 16.9 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: An ochre-coloured longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A barred strand (Keel 1995: § 513) forms the border around the engraving. The orientation of the three animals is arranged such that only one of them is upright at a time, depending on how the seal base is rotated. When the base is viewed with the head on the back of the scarab facing right, a large longitudinally oriented, right-facing crocodile (Keel 1995: § 531) with its tail hanging down is the main feature. When the base is viewed with the head on the back of the scarab facing up, a transversally oriented left-facing vulture (Keel 1995: § 558) with a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) held in its claw dominates the composition. When the base is viewed with the head on the back of the scarab facing left, a left-facing, longitudinally oriented tilapia fish can be distinguished to the right of the vulture's foot. Hatching is used to indicate the scales of the crocodile, the scales and fins of the tilapia, and the feathers of the vulture. The vulture's neck is also decorated with cross-hatching.

DISCUSSION: The vulture depicted on this seal base can be interpreted as one of the animals that are frequently shown to accompany the Middle Bronze Age "branch goddess" (Schroer 1995: 66). The bird holds a leafy branch in its claws, and has consequently also been posited as an early depiction of the vulture as a supernatural gardener (Keel 2007: 692). The crocodile may symbolically enhance the vulture's apotropaic function. The tilapia reinforces the regeneration symbolism also associated with the bird (Schroer 1995: 64). This base motif is identified as Design Classes 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" and 9D "Crocodiles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. Stylistically similar vultures can be found in conjunction with various different elements on other seal bases: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 457; Azor No. 6; Beth Shean No. 100; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 39; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 16, 89, 429; Jerusalem No. 427.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2991.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2652.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 20, No. 68, Pl. 2:68; Tufnell 1958: 61, 101, 106, 109–110, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:96, 41:15 (side type); Keel 1995: § 535, 559, Fig. 388; Schroer 1995: 64, 69, 77, Fig. 3b; Staubli 2005: 16–17, Fig. 17; Ben-Tor 2007: 174, 177, Pl. 95:4, 99:11; Keel 2007: 692, 694, Fig. 462. *[TB]*

382 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 36 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight traces of wear on base. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: An ochre-coloured longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing anthropomorphic figure facing left. The figure has shoulder length hair decorated with short hatching lines. A necklace with three cylindrical pendants hangs around the figure's neck. Diagonal hatching on the torso of the figure is used to indicate a pleated shirt. Hatching on the kilt indicates the pleats and folded edge of the garment. The figure holds its 'front' arm outstretched and crooked at the elbow, hand held in a fist; it is depicted holding a lotus bud toward its face in the front outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 562). Unusually, the stem of the lotus bud protrudes from the belt area of the figure's kilt, and the figure's fist appears to be holding the crooked stem of the plant. Under the crooked elbow of the 'front' hand is a well-rendered *nfr* (F35) sign with three crossbars. The 'rear' arm of the figure rests against the back of the kilt. Two lines delineate the 'front' arm, while one line delineates the 'rear' arm.

DISCUSSION: The figure's short kilt may indicate a male individual is being depicted. However, it is also possible the scarab is showing a cross-dressing female individual similar to those depicted participating in Hathoric rites (Darnell 2010: 129) on the walls of the Middle Kingdom tomb of Ukhhotep at Meir (Blackman and Apted 1953: Pl. 18). This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing, human headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 516. Standing figures holding lotus blossoms instead of lotus buds with a *nfr* (F35) sign in front of their body are more commonly attested: Beth Shean No. 220; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 436, 438; Gezer No. 183; Tel Nagila No. 49.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2988.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2649.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 76, No. 289, Pl. 8:289; Tufnell 1958: 61, 103–104, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:97, 41:33 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 102:31. *[TB]*

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382



383 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 15/Side 31 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. One small chip near middle of back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching. Remarks: An ochre-coloured longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding kilt- or skirt-wearing, falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure facing right. The kilt is decorated with cross-hatching. The figure holds a lotus blossom toward its face in the 'front' outstretched fist (Keel 1995: § 562). The lotus blossom has a long stem. Four rows of transversal lines protrude from the lotus stem under the fist of the 'front' hand, possibly representing the roots of the plant. The 'rear' arm of the figure is depicted as overly long and rests against the back of the thigh of the 'rear' leg.

DISCUSSION: The lotus blossom with a long stem can be interpreted as a sceptre since it is held by a falcon-headed deity that has been interpreted as representing Horus (Keel 1989c: 263, 276). This base is classified as Design Class 10A2 "Standing, mythical headed figures (mostly falcon-headed)" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 15 is a close parallel, possibly without *nb* (V30), whereas most other comparanda add a *nb* (V30) base to the design: Khirbet Abu Khaff No. 2; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 278, 1058; ʿAra No. 3; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 440; Lachish No. 415; and Tell Jemmeh No. 174, 183–185 (four impressions of the same seal depicting a composition with a large *nb* [V30] base).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2987.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2648.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 76, No. 292, Pl. 7:292; Tufnell 1958: 61, 103–104, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:98, 41:27 (side type); Keel 1989c: 245, 247–248, 259, 261, Fig. 43, 279; Keel 1995: § 587, Fig. 454; Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 103:29. *[TB]*

384 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 5/Side 27 (Rowe), B7+E2/0/d15 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, base and side chipped and cracked near perforation at rear of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A dark brown longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing naked female figure (Keel 1995: § 574–576). The figure is depicted frontally and stands with its heels placed together on a hatched *nb* (V30) sign. The feet are depicted as overly long. The figure is completely hairless and has a visible pudenda. A necklace with four perpendicular pendants hangs around the figure's neck. Two transversal lines on the figure's waist may represent a belt. Two short transversal lines are incised on the stomach under the 'belt'. The figure's arms hang down on each side. The the 'left' arm is depicted as overly long, longer than the 'right'. Leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433) are depicted to the left and right of the figure.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving depicts a "branch goddess" with the face in frontal view, considered typical for the Levant (Schroer 1989: 126). The nudity of the central female figure serves to emphasize the preeminence of the deity's power in the sphere of sexuality (*ibid*.: 130). The overly large ears of the figure may symbolize her attentiveness to prayers (*ibid*.: 132). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 10D1 "Goddess standing, nude" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Base engravings or seal impressions that show the goddess-figure with face in frontal view between two branches are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 503; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 38, 84; Jericho No. 80, 419; Lachish No. 294; objects from Egypt: Tell el-Dabʿa, surface find (Mlinar 2004: 131, Fig. 13b:15, 132, No. TD 1073); Tell el-Dabʿa, seal impression (Reali 2017: 32, 39, Fig. 11, No. 9452H); Tell el-Mansheya, Tomb 8 (Mahmud et al. 2018: 36, Pl. 3, 37–38, No. MAN_19); Tell el-Retaba, Grave 4 (672) (el-Din et al. 2016: 82–84, Pl. 2, No. 676).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2993.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2654.

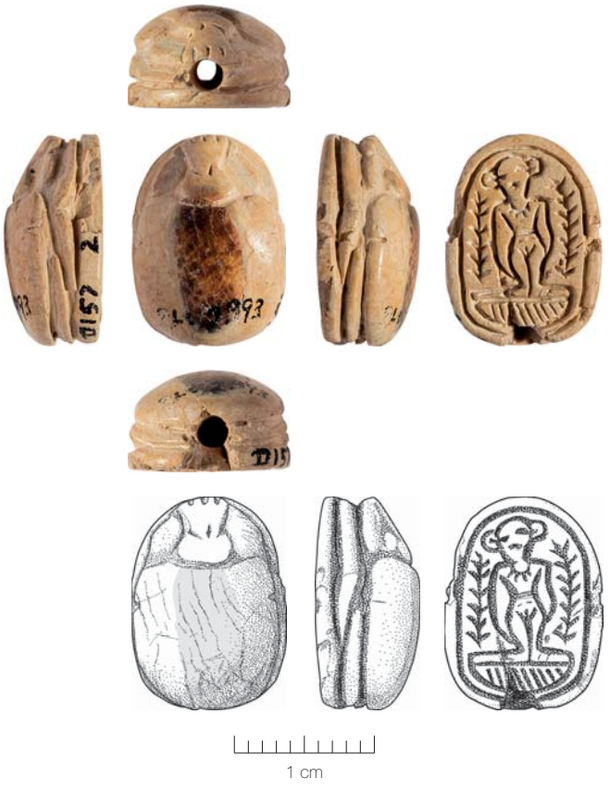
① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 72, No. 273, Pl. 7:273; Tufnell 1958: 61, 104, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:99, 41:24 (side type); Winter 1983: 177, Fig. 151; Schroer 1989: 98, No. 19, 104, 110, 126; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 15, 231, Fig. 12a; Staubli 2005: 16–17, Fig. 4; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 105:18; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 15, 231, Fig. 12a; Sugimoto 2014: 155, Fig. 5a (caption erroneously given under b). *[TB]*

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385 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 28/EP 5/Side 15 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 8.3 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled raised relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. The decoration depicts a longitudinally oriented leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433).

DISCUSSION: The leafy branch depicted on this scarab may relate to the naked goddess often depicted on Middle Bronze Age scarabs (Schroer 1989: 104, 130). The motif is classified as Design Class 1E "Floral motifs" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Branches depicted in a similar style can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 93, 424, 446.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2994.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2655.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 94, No. 376, Pl. 9:376; Tufnell 1958: 61, 102, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:100, Pl. 41:13 (side type); Niccacci 1980: 78, No. 254; Schroer 1989: 106, Fig. 26, 108, 204; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 17, Fig. 15a; Ben-Tor 2007: 158, Pl. 74:55; Schroer 2008: 188–189, No. 414; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 17, Fig. 15a. *[TB]*

386 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 12/EP 5/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout including a series of vertically placed hieroglyphs. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The base shows an inner border consisting of two horizontal lines that form oblong hooked spirals (Keel 1995: § 506) to the left and right of the central decorative elements. These elements consist of a row of longitudinally oriented hieroglyphs above a large transversally oriented *nbw* (S12). Viewed longitudinally, from top to bottom, these hieroglyphs are: *mn* (Y5); a left-facing ʿ(D36)?; *mn* (Y5); a *ḫpr* (L1), in line with the main orientation; a right-facing ʿ(D36); *ḫʿ(j)* (N28).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" and 7B1(ii) "Paired scrolls, one pair, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. Comparanda also featuring two oblong hooked spirals and a central *nbw* (S12) in conjunction with other decorative elements and hieroglyphic signs are: Jericho No. 245, 249, 502.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2997.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2658.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 41, No. 153, Pl. 4:153; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94–96, 99–100, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:101, 41:24 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 164–165, 172, Pl. 81:6, 91:45. *[TB]*

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387 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 16/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the decoration of the seal base is as follows: a central column of two hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *z³* (V17/V18); *n(j)t/nrt* (R24/R25), flanked by two inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23). The next row contains a transversal closed cable (Keel 1995: § 502). Under the cable is a coiled string (Keel 1995: § 496). Finally, a large *nbw* (S12) sign is located at the bottom of the composition.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 6A1 "Single line thread" and 6C3 "Encompassed, central cable" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. However, three seal bases feature a coiled string as part of similar compositions: Gezer No. 644; Jericho No. 443; Lachish No. 387.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2998.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2659.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 10, No. 32, Pl. 1:32; Tufnell 1958: 61, 96, 98, 101, 109, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:102, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 138, 140, 164 n. 778, Pl. 60:7, 60:30. *[TB]*

388 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 5/Side 26 (Rowe), A2+E2/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near rear perforation, rear perforation slightly chipped, crack running diagonally through right side of base design. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A faint ochre spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base is divided into two columns by a central 'flower' with a long stem. The 'flower' consists of an ovoid shape with petals extending from it from the top, left, and right of the oval. To the left and right of the long stem are two columns of signs and hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the right column consists of: an *r* (D21); two signs side by side, from right to left: a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars and a *ḥm* (U36); a right-facing ʿ (D36); a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28); a right-facing ʿ (D36); and a shape resembling a reverse number 9. The left column consists of: a schematic *ḥtp* (R4) sign (see the signs in the left and right columns of Lachish No. 389 for comparable, but less schematic depictions of the same hieroglyph); a right-facing ʿ (D36); two *nfr* (F35) signs side by side, the left one with two crossbars and the right one with a single T-shaped crossbar; a right-facing ʿ (D36); and a shape resembling the number 9.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. The composition may be a less elaborate imitation of a motif featuring a lotus flower with a single column of *anra* signs on either side of the stem, as seen on the base of a scarab from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Grave 1270 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 17, Pl. 43:15, 46).

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2999.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2660.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 40–41, No. 152, Pl. 4:152; Tufnell 1958: 61, 104–105, 116, 231, Pl. 32/33:103, 41:24 (side type). *[TB]*

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389 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/S/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back and base, base chipped in one spot near rim, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Comparanda for the two leafy branches (Keel 1995: § 433) engraved on the back include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 400; Beth Shemesh No. 200; Jericho No. 26.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The top of the base decoration features a large cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) and two flanking columns of signs. From top to bottom, the signs inside the cartouche are: an *r* (D21) sign with hatching; *n* (N35); a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign with hatching; two *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar side by side, *n* (N35); *t* (X1). The hieroglyphs flanking the cartouche on either side are identical, from top to bottom: *ḥtp* (R4); *t* (X1); *kꜣ* (D28); *t* (X1); *n* (N35). The base of the *ḥtp* (R4) and the *t* (X1) signs exhibit hatching. The arms of the *kꜣ* (D28) signs are connected by a triple line and the sign exhibits a central triangular shape between the arms; the left *kꜣ* (D28) sign additionally exhibits a line protruding longitudinally from the top of the triangle. Under the base of the cartouche is a central *n* (N35) surrounded on either side by a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) inclined at 45 degrees. Underneath these elements is a large *tꜣ* (N16/N17) sign. Finally, under the *tꜣ* (N16/N17) is a central column of signs consisting of, from top to bottom: *n* (N35); a longitudinal line; *n* (N35). These signs are flanked by outward-facing *qnbt* (O38) signs formed by using three lines.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols, formulae" and 3D2 "Cartouches (actual)" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell Beit Mirsim No. 1 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859 exhibit similar arrangements of signs. In particular, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859 also has *ḥtp* (R4) and a *t* (X1) as the first two signs flanking the central cartouche.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2951.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2603.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 6–7, No. 21, Pl. 1:21; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 96, 109, 116, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:104, 41:11 (side type); Keel 1995: § 629; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, 167, Pl. 84:29, 85:40. *[TB]*

390 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab on back slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.4 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of ten triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 490). A longitudinally oriented left-facing *zꜣ* (V17/V18) appears in the middle of the four circles on the right. Inside the border formed by the circles is a cartouche. From top to bottom, the signs inside the cartouche are: *ḏw* (N26); *r* (D21); *n* (N35); and a right-facing ʿ (D36). Four vertical lines at the bottom of the cartouche are attached to a flat horizontal piece forming the base of the cartouche.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Egyptian signs and symbols, formulae", 3D2 "Actual cartouches", and 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: A cartouche lacking vertical lines on its base but similarly surrounded by triple circles is carved on Lachish No. 420. A cartouche carved in a similar style can be seen on the base of Lachish No. 319. A similar style of cartouche can also be seen on Jericho No. 417.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2952.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2604.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 57–58, No. 215, Pl. 6:215; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 96, 102, 104, 109, 116, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:105, 41:11 (side type); Richards 2001: 269, No. LACH11; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–169, Pl. 84:30, 85:41, 87:9. *[TB]*

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391 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe), D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped and with hairline crack, rim of back, side, and base chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked scrolls, or an S- and a Z-spiral connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 507), surrounding a central column of hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *ḏd* (R11); *ḫpr* (L1); *nbw* (S12).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7B2(ii) "Paired scrolls, two pairs, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels for this artefact appear to exist. Seal bases featuring the same inner border and a central *ḫpr* (L1) with different hieroglyphs above and below are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 818; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 403. Seal bases featuring the same inner border and a *ḏd* (R11) with different hieroglyphs above the *ḏd* (R11) are: Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 27; Jericho No. 408.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2964.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2616.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 29, No. 107, Pl. 3:107; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 97, 99–100, 109, 116, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:106, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:17. *[TB]*

392 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 12/EP 69/Side 5 (Rowe), B7/II+dec./d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Parallels for the large lotus blossom (§ 94; § 429) engraved on the back are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 309, 823; Beth Shemesh No. 71; Jericho No. 29, 592; Lachish No. 498; Tel Nagila No. 23, 46; Shiloh No. 10. The C-spirals and the placement of the lotus blossom on the back may be purposefully arranged to complement the design on the base.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout (based on the *nfr* [F35] signs). A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. Four inward-curving spirals emerge diagonally from the central button shape at the midpoint of the design. Two transversally oriented *nfr* (F35) signs with a single single crossbar are framed by the spirals and located in direct proximity to the central button shape. Along the outer perimeter of the design, Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) are intertwined with the top left and bottom right inward-curving spirals, while C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) are intertwined with the top right and bottom left inward-curving spirals. A longitudinally-oriented lotus (Keel 1995: § 429) sprouting from a small ovoid base is located between the inward-curving spirals to the left and right of the central *nfr* (F35) signs.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Designs of Z-spirals and C-spirals interspersed with hieroglyphs can be found on the bases of: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 912, 991, 1163.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2949.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2602.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 26, No. 97, Pl. 3:97; Tufnell 1958: 61, 100, 102, 109, 116, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:107, 41:6 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 152 n. 729, 159, n. 753. *[TB]*

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393 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 98/Side 7 (Rowe), A5+A8/II+dec./d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab on back slightly chipped, 25% of rim of base chipped off, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 18.6 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts: nine triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 490). A single central triple concentric circle is surrounded on all sides by eight other circles of the same type. Four lobes protruding from the central triple concentric circle form a '+' or cross-shape. The tips of the transversally oriented lobes feature two small lines projecting longitudinally from either side. Lines project outward from the central circle and connect the central circle to the outlying eight other circles. The two circles closest to the top and bottom perforation of the scarab are additionally connected to each other by a single longitudinal line.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 4 "Concentric circles" and 5 "Cross patterns" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 840; Jericho No. 276. Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 90 also features nine triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 490) on its base, and exhibits a similar back type to the present artefact. Finally, two other items display roughly the same back type, with somewhat different base decorations executed in the same style: Jericho No. 118 features ten triple concentric circles and a different style of central cross, while Megiddo No. 402 features four triple concentric circles connected to the central cross shape by two lines each in addition to featuring two other triple concentric circles above and below the central cross. Unprovenanced comparanda in a private collection are Keel 2020a: 38–39, No. 92; 66–67, No. 159.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2957.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2609.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 22, No. 76, Pl. 2:76; Tufnell 1958: 61, 102, 109, 116, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:108, 41:6 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 136–137, 152 n. 729, 169, n. 806, Pl. 59:10, 59:46, 72:1. *[TB]*

394 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 2/EP 5/Side 27 (Rowe), B8 or D6/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: reddish-brown and white (back). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eight continuous oblong hooked Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 505). The spirals frame a central column of signs and hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: Two circles with a line protruding from the top (very basic *nfr* [F35] signs[?]); two *j* (M17) signs with internal hatching facing outward and framing a central line and an upside down *z3* (V17/V18) sign; two *sw(t)* (M23) facing outward and framing a central ovoid shape.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7A2 "Scroll borders: continuous, oblong scrolls" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The base of Jericho No. 320 features the same inner border and displays a similar *j* (M17) sign as part of its design. Jericho No. 320 also features a back and side type similar to the present item. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 15; Gezer No. 173; Pella No. 56 feature base engravings with the same border and similar loose arrangements of hieroglyphic signs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2967.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2619.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 52, No. 200, Pl. 5:200; Tufnell 1958: 61, 98–100, 105, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:109, 41:24 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 171–172, Pl. 91:18. *[TB]*

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395 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 5/Side 7 (Rowe), D5 or less likely C7/0/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Bottom half of back chipped off, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed vertically, the base depicts three rows of longitudinally oriented Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435), interconnected with each other by curving lines. When viewed with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the rightmost Z-spiral of the first two rows has a long line connecting it to the leftmost spiral of the next row.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 432. See also a fragmentary clay sealing with a seal impression from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:170).

DATING: Late 12th–16th Dyn. (1837–1540 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2958.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2610.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 98, No. 400, Pl. 10:400; Tufnell 1958: 61, 100, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:110, 41:6 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, n. 753. *[TB]*

396 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white and brownish-white (back). PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 19.2 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 9.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed vertically, the base depicts a four-petaled rosette (Keel 1995: § 494) with short lines emerging from the left and right side of the tip of each lobe. The shorter two transversal lobes do not touch the round central element. All lobes are decorated with hatching. Four inward-curving spirals emerge diagonally from the central button shape at the midpoint of the design. Each spiral is formed by two lines.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Amman No. 55; Tel Haror No. 5; Jericho No. 52, 230; Megiddo No. 108, 437; Tel Nagila No. 23; Shiqmona No. 27. Megiddo No. 437 has the same D6 head type as the present artefact.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2956.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2608.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 92–93, No. 370, Pl. 9:370; Tufnell 1958: 61, 102, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:111, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 137, 169, Pl. 59:47. *[TB]*

395



Non-standard scale.

396



397 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 14/Side 13 (Rowe), D3?/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white, brownish-white (back). PRESERVATION: broken. Top left of head, side and base entirely broken away, top third of base cracked. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed vertically, the base depicts a rosette consisting of two transversal lobes and two longitudinal balks (Keel 1995: § 494) decorated with hatching. Short lines emerge from the left and right side of the tip of each transversal lobe. Four spirals emerge diagonally from the central button shape at the midpoint of the design. Each spiral is formed by a single line.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: All of the closest comparanda exhibit slightly different features compared to the present artefact. Dan No. 15 features two lines forming the diagonal inward curving spirals, while Jericho No. 75 and Rishon LeZion No. 105 both feature additional decorative elements above and below the central motif on the longitudinal axis. Rishon LeZion No. 105 also features short lines emerging from the left and right side of the bottom tip of the longitudinal balk.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2954.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2606.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 92, No. 369, Pl. 9:369; Tufnell 1958: 61, 102, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:112, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 137, 151, n. 726, 169, Pl. 59:48. *[TB]*

398 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 30/EP 5/Side 40 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When the scarab is viewed vertically with the head on the back facing up, the base depicts a central '+' or cross shape formed by two lines on the transversal axis and a single line on the longitudinal axis. Double arcs (Keel 1995: § 500) are located to the left and right of the cross. The right arc is filled with hatching lines. Above the cross is a triple arc. Below the cross is a double arc filled with hatching lines. The ends of all arc lines touch the outer border line. All four arms of the central cross touch the arcs.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 6C1 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns: encompassed, central + cross" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 103, 103a and Beth Shean No. 8 have the closest comparable base carvings to the present piece. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 411 has the same head, back, and base type as the present artefact while also featuring a similar base motif.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2968.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2620.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 101, No. 414, Pl. 10:414; Tufnell 1958: 61, 103, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:113, 41:37 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:23. *[TB]*

397



398



399 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 5/Side 31 (Rowe), D4/0/d4+e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light reddish-brown. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure with shoulder-length hair facing right. The figure holds a hatched ovoid shape in its 'front' outstretched hand; based on comparanda, the ovoid is likely a schematically depicted uraeus (Keel 1995: § 588). The kilt is decorated with hatching to indicate the pleats of the fabric. The 'rear' arm hangs next to the torso. A second right-facing uraeus is located between the outstretched arm and 'front' leg of the anthropomorphic figure. The bodies of both uraei are decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: See the comparanda in Lachish No. 330 for instances of falcon-headed figures that likely represent divinities in the same pose. This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing figures, human headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The base carvings most resembling the present item all have a *nb* (V30) or an *r* (D21) sign serving as a base for the figures: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1051; Lachish No. 517; Khirbat Yaʿmun No. 7; from Egypt: el-Ballas, Tomb 116 (Jensen 2019: 260, 705–706, 1225; now Berkeley, CA, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8770), Tomb 140 (Jensen 2019: 49, 419, 744–749, 1226; now Berkeley, CA, Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8765).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2965.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2617.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 74, No. 279, Pl. 7:279; Tufnell 1958: 61, 103–104, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:114, 41:27 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 178, Pl. 102:32. *[TB]*

400 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 91/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, light brown (back). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through centre of scarab back, rim of base slightly chipped, two hairline cracks extending into base from chipped area under *nb* (V30) sign. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Comparanda for the lotus with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 94, 429) engraved on the back are: Aphek No. 13; Amman (Airport) No. 19; Beth Shemesh No. 91; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859; Gezer No. 248; Lachish No. 284, 360.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From left to right, the base depicts: a left-facing Horus falcon, *ḥrw* (G5), wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. The body of the falcon is decorated with hatching to indicate wing feathers. A column of signs is located behind the back of the falcon. From top to bottom, these are: a left-facing bent flower with a tied stem (Keel 1995: § 430); a left-facing *wḏȝt* (D10); and a left-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529). The body of the uraeus is decorated with hatching to indicate scales. A large hatched *nb* (V30) sign serves as a base for the falcon, whose feet are set on the left extremity of the sign, while the uraeus is depicted as emerging from its right extremity.

DISCUSSION: Given visual similarities to Lachish No. 299, it is possible that this scarab is also depicting Horus with the red crown of Lower Egypt in conjunction with Wadjet in her role as the deity of the tenth nome of Upper Egypt (see Lachish No. 299 for a more detailed discussion of this symbolism).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 299, 360, and a scarab from Egypt: Tell el-Dabʿa, A/V-p/19 (disturbed area) (Mlinar 2004: 128, Fig. 11b:13, No. TD 1047) all feature a similar falcon with a red crown in conjunction with a uraeus wearing a *šw(t)* (H6) feather on a *nb* (V30) base. For further comparanda of this type, see Lachish No. 299. When the falcon with the *dšrt* (S3) is depicted in conjunction with a sequence of signs, the sequence can include a *qnbt* (O38) sign: Megiddo No. 432, 457. The *qnbt* (O38) on these examples is facing inward toward the falcon, and these signs are similarly shaped to the uraeus on the present seal base. Thus, the uraeus on the present scarab may act as a visual substitute for the *qnbt* (O38) seen on other examples, or the seal carvers may have treated the uraeus head and the *qnbt* (O38) sign as the same due to their visual similarities.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

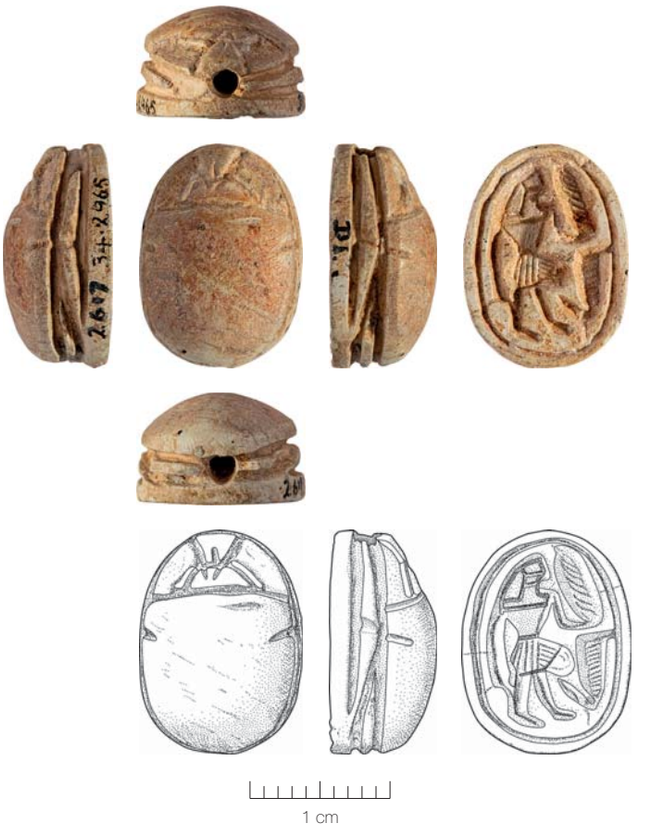
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2961. The museum number given in Tufnell 1958 is wrong.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2613.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 85, No. 336, Pl. 9:336; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:115, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

399



1 cm

400



1 cm

401 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 44/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped on entire circumference, rim of back and side chipped in one spot, scratch running through middle of back. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts two rows of hieroglyphs. The top row consists of a central *n(t)* (S4) featuring a hatched basket and a right-facing red crown, framed on the right by a hatched *ḥm* (U36) sign and on the left by an *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign. The bottom row consists of a central hatched *šn* (V7) framed by two *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars each.

DISCUSSION: The D6 head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 775. Seal impressions on the clay sealing Aphek No. 16 were produced by a seal with a similar base composition that also features an *n(t)* (S4) in the top row and two *nfr* (F35) signs in the bottom row.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2959.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2611.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 88, No. 349, Pl. 9:349; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:116, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

402 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 118/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish and light yellow (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Scratch running through back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) wearing a *dšrt* (S3). The uraeus is shown emerging from a large hatched *nb* (V30) sign. The uraeus is framed on either side by different hieroglyphs: on the right, from top to bottom, two *ḥm* (U36) signs filled with hatching; on the left, from top to bottom, *njwt* (O49), a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars and an oval base filled with cross-hatching.

DISCUSSION: The D3 head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: There appear to be no exact parallels for this design, but base carvings with similarly arranged signs and hieroglyphs include Lachish No. 361; Megiddo No. 116; Wadi Fidan 40 Cemetery No. 1. See the comparanda section for Lachish No. 317 for pieces with a similar motif that depicts the red crown on a *nb* (V30) above the uraeus.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2963.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2615.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 32, No. 119, Pl. 3:119; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 96, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:117, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

401



402



403 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 53/Side 13 (Rowe), D6/I+II or III/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of silver[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a *jmj/(r)dj* (D37) sign, a right-facing *dšrt* (S3) and a *ḥm* (U36) filled with hatching resting on a large, hatched *nb* (V30) sign.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B3d "Red crowns (alone or) addorsed, 'L shaped'" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Comparanda featuring a *dšrt* (S3) instead of the *jmj/(r)dj* (D37) are listed s.v. Gezer No. 571. Comparanda featuring a *t* (X1) sign instead of the *jmj/(r)dj* (D37) are listed s.v. Lachish No. 342.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2955.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2607.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 87, No. 345, Pl. 9:345; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:118, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 163, Pl. 79:1. *[TB]*

404 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, sides chipped, rim of base chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.3 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a hatched *t* (X1) sign; under the *t* (X1), from left to right, are a left-facing *dšrt* (S3) and a *ḥm* (U36) filled with hatching. The *dšrt* (S3) is resting on a large hatched *nb* (V30) sign at the bottom of the composition.

DISCUSSION: The D3 head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 758, 1128 feature the same arrangement of signs with a right-facing *dšrt* (S3). For more distantly comparable base engravings, see the comparanda section in Lachish No. 342.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2971.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2623.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 87, No. 346, Pl. 9:346; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:119, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

403



1 cm

404



1 cm

405 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Scratch running through back, rim of base slightly chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.6 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom: a *ḥtp* (R4) sign; under the *ḥtp* (R4) a central right-facing *dšrt* (S3) framed by hatched *ḥm* (U36) signs. The *dšrt* (S3) is resting on a large hatched *nb* (V30) sign at the bottom of the composition.

DISCUSSION: The D6 head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Egypt: Tell el-Mansheya, Tomb 11 (Mahmud et al. 2018: 43–47, Pl. 5, No. MAN_21). A more abbreviated design featuring only one *ḥm* (U36) sign next to the *dšrt* (S3) can be seen on Jericho No. 69, 109, 236; Rishon LeZion No. 82.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2953.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2605.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 66, No. 252, Pl. 8:252; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:120, 41:14 (side type). *[TB]*

406 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 77/EP 4/Side 13 (Rowe), G3/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of silver. Current whereabouts of ring fragments unknown. MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back scratched, back, side, and base chipped near both perforation holes. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) framed on either side by outward-facing *dšrt* (S3), arranged *tête-bêche*.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3A1 "Sign of union" and 3B3e "Red crowns *tête-bêche*" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Atlit No. 41 depicts a *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) framed by two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs in *tête-bêche* position, and Dan No. 40 depicts a *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) framed by two *dšrt* (S3) (in *tête-bêche* position) in conjunction with other decorative elements.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2969.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2621.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 92, No. 366, Pl. 9:366; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:121, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159–160, 163, Pl. 76:20, 79:13. *[TB]*

405



406



407 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 90/Side 13 (Rowe), D6 or D7/I+II+dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back scratched and chipped, imprints of possible decayed plant or root material on back, hairline crack running though bottom third of base. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Comparanda for the lotus with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 94, 429) engraved on the back include Amman (Airport) No. 19; Aphek No. 13; Beth Shemesh No. 91; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 859; Gezer No. 248; Lachish No. 284, 360, 400.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. Viewed vertically, the base depicts a hatched *šn* (V7) framed on either side by inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 524). The scales on the uraei are indicated by hatching. The composition is framed on the longitudinal axis by two outward-facing *dšrt* (S3).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3B1c "Cobras confronted" and 3B3b "Red crowns addorsed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Kabri No. 10 features the same signs arranged to form a different design in conjunction with an additional divider line and *šn* (V7) sign.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2962.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2614.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 83–84, No. 328, Pl. 8:328; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:122, 41:11 (side type); Keel 1995: § 158; Ben-Tor 2007: 161–163, Pl. 77:39, 78:44. *[TB]*

408 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/0/e6a (Tufnell/Keel), HC 12/EP 5/Side 2 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks on base, top wing on *bjt*(*j*) (L2) sign chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a right-facing *bjt(j)* (L2) above two outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) whose leaves merge to form a central arc. The *sw(t)* (M23) emerge from a *t*ꜣ (N16/N17) sign. Underneath the *t*ꜣ (N16/N17) is a central column of two signs: *ḫpr* (L1) decorated with hatching to indicate the wing cases; and a *nbw* (S12) sign. This column is framed by two columns containing identical hieroglyphs on each side, from top to bottom: *t* (X1); *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified by Ben-Tor as a Design Class 3B5 ("Sedge plants") late Middle Kingdom import to the Levant (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell Jemmeh No. 13 features a similar arrangement of signs, but is missing the *sw(t)* (M23) emerging from a *t*ꜣ (N16/N17). Tell Jemmeh No. 13 also substitutes *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs for the *nfr* (F35) signs. Yiftaḥel No. 14 features a *bjt(j)* (L2) between two outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) as part of a different design.

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); Senwosret III–Ay I (1837–1661 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 138, n. 670.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2960.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2612.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 28, No. 106, Pl. 3:106; Tufnell 1958: 61, 94, 97–98, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:123, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 164; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 148 with n. 777, 402. *[TB]*

407



1 cm

408



1 cm

409 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 45/Side 13 (Rowe), D6/I+II/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a papyrus plant with two drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432) on a *t*ꜣ (N16/N17) base. Underneath the *t*ꜣ (N16/N17) is a *dšrt* (S3) framed by an *ʿnḫ* (S34) on the left and a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars on the right. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to these three signs.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 1E "Floral motifs" and 3B3d "Red crowns (alone or) addorsed, 'L shaped'" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Other designs also featuring a papyrus plant on a *t*ꜣ (N16/N17) sign and a red crown on a *nb* (V30) can be seen on the bases of Ashkelon No. 80 and Megiddo No. 428.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2966.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2618.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 88, No. 350, Pl. 9:350; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:124, 41:11 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 157, 163, Pl. 74:17, 79:2. *[TB]*

410 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 1/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from right to left: a right-facing falcon or *ḥrw* (G5) wearing a red crown or *dšrt* (S3); a *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon's body. A large, hatched *nb* (V30) serves as base for the composition.

DISCUSSION: The D8 head indicates this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 183).

COMPARANDA: A more schematic depiction of a red-crowned falcon with a *nfr* (F35) behind the falcon can be seen on Rishon LeZion No. 62. The base of Rishon LeZion No. 55 depicts the *nfr* (F35) in front of the falcon instead, while Megiddo No. 429 depicts two *nfr* (F35), one in front of and the other behind the falcon.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 183.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-2970.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.9, Tomb 153 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2622.

① See Lachish No. 1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 86, No. 340, Pl. 9:340; Tufnell 1958: 61, 99, 109, 117, 230–231, Pl. 32/33:125, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

409



1 cm

410



1 cm

411 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 35/EP 106/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Two incised lines form the border around the engraving. The base features three columns of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs in the central column are: *kꜣ* (D28); *r* (D21); *ḫpr* (L1); and *bꜣ* (N16/N17). The hieroglyphs flanking the central column on either side are identical. From top to bottom, they are: an inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23); an *ʿnḫ* (S34); and an outward-facing *qnbt* (O38) sign. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs are depicted with the top loop detached from the T-shaped 'handle' of the symbol.

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece are dated to the Middle Bronze Age (see comparanda section). However, given the similarity of the scarab head on the present seal to those found on Late Bronze Age examples such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196, 263 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9, it is likely that the present scarab is an Late Bronze Age "re-issue" scarab whose style is derived from Middle Bronze Age examples (similar to the "re-issued" scarabs discussed by Ward 1971: 134–136). Ward 1971 examined the central hieroglyphs and concluded that this sequence cannot be interpreted as the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Senwosret I, as had previously been suggested by Rowe 1936: No. 5, Tufnell 1958: 232, and see Giveon 1987a: 77, No. 5.

COMPARANDA: Acco No. 261; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 108, 119, 141, 351, 524, 747, 854, 1110; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 183 feature similar arrangements of signs. In particular, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 183 also shows outward-facing *qnbt* (O38) signs in the columns to the left and the right of the central column of signs.

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating according to back comparanda (see discussion above).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3003.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.11, Quarry 168,[1] Object no. 2679.

① A quarry dug out using picks, over 2 m deep. Other finds from the same area were a quarried stone column drum and stone blocks left in situ, a pottery bowl, and a bronze arrowhead (Tufnell 1958: 231–232).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 2, No. 5, Pl. 1:5; Tufnell 1958: 94, 98, 117, 231–232, Pl. 32/33:126, 41:6 (side type); Ward 1971: 129–132, 138, No. 14; Giveon 1987a: 77, No. 5. *[TB]*

412 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 35/EP 123/Side 40 (Rowe), B10/vllv+dec./e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, white, light pink (incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. Back, base, and side chipped near rear perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. Remarks: A comparandum for the flowers with long leafy stems on the back of this scarab can be seen on a wall painting in the tomb of Nakht, TT52, dated to the reign of Thutmose IV/Amenhotep III (Hartwig 2004: Table 1). The painting shows the flower as part of an offering to various deities. The plant is held by an attendant on the right of the topmost row of figures depicted behind the tomb owners (Davies 1917: Pl. 12).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts two upward-facing, six-legged *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetles. Hatching is used to indicate the wing cases of the beetles. The clypeus is shaped like a three-petaled flower. A double line is used to delineate the pronotum area. *rʿ* (N5), a sun disc, is depicted between the front legs of the beetles. Under the hind legs of the beetles are small *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs. Between the beetles is a column consisting of two hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *ʿnḫ* (S34); *ḏd* (R11). All *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs are depicted with a hole forming the top loop. The top loop is detached from the T-shaped 'handle' of the symbol.

DISCUSSION: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196, 263; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9 are all scarab seals exhibiting a similar head type and humeral callosities/V-shaped marks on the elytra of the scarab back. Of these, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9 are both likely datable to the reign of Amenhotep III through the appearance of a cartouche featuring his prenomen (i.e., throne name) on the base. The only close base comparandum for the present scarab is an MB piece (see comparanda section). Thus, the present item should likely be considered an LB "re-issue" scarab whose style is derived from MB examples (similar to the "re-issued" scarabs discussed by Ward 1971: 134–136). For a similar scarab back featuring different decoration, see Egypt: Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 316 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 19:89, 22; now Kyoto University Museum 2543).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 205 displays a similar layout featuring two scarab beetles but lacking the sun discs and substituting other signs as dividers between the two scarabs.

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating according to back comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1820.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 543 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3738.

① A disturbed ovoid tomb. The tomb was built over with a stone foundation wall of uncertain date. Other finds from the burial filling are: pottery, a bronze spearhead, a bronze arrowhead, and a golden crescent-shaped pendant (Tufnell 1958: 242). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 412–413.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 117, 242, Pl. 32/33:127, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

411



412



413 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A7+E2/vlv/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of silver[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the engraving depicts: a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462), followed by a hieroglyphic inscription. The cartouche contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *rˁ* (N5); *mɜˁt* (C10); and *nb* (V30). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mɜˁt* (C10) figure. From right to left and top to bottom, the hieroglyphs of the inscription to the left of the cartouche are: a right-facing *j* (M17); *mn* (Y5); *n* (N35); and *tjt* (D17). The *j* (M17) is decorated with hatching to indicate the ribs of the reed.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Nb-mɜˁt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III, and the hieroglyphs to the left of the cartouche spell out an epithet, *tjt Jmn*, "image of Amun". The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634). The epithet expresses the idea that the pharaoh is the living image of the god Amun. The biblical idea that humans are created in the image of the divine may be derived in part from this concept (Keel and Schroer [2]2008: 178).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 344 substitutes a *šw(t)* (H6) feather for the normal iconographic *mɜˁt* (C10) figure inside the cartouche. Ashkelon No. 57 Side A and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 136 both display a similar arrangement of signs, but with the epithet *tjt Jmn-rˁ* or *tjt Rˁ* respectively instead of *tjt Jmn*.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on royal cartouche.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1484.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 543 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4349.

① See Lachish No. 412.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 117, 242, Pl. 32/33:128, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

414 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/II/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 14.9 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a right-facing falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure. Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the head, the cross-straps on the torso, and the pleats of the kilt. The figure stands above an oblong shape decorated with cross-hatching that may represent a *nb* (V30) sign. The 'rear' arm of the figure is depicted as overly long and rests against the back of the thigh of the 'rear' leg. The 'front' arm of the figure is crooked at the elbow and touches the tip of the snout of a longitudinally-oriented crocodile facing upward. Cross-hatching is used to indicate the crocodile's scales, and the eye is indicated by a carved outline.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 9D "Crocodiles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1047–1048; Gezer No. 454; Tel Nagila No. 2; Tell Jemmeh No. 132; es-Samuʿ No. 12; Ḥorvat Zelef No. 1. Egypt: Tell el-Dabʿa: from quadrant H/VI-h/18 (Mlinar 2004: 132, Fig. 14:4, 133, No. 8916). See Tell Jemmeh No. 132 for a list of other base engravings featuring a falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure touching a longitudinally oriented crocodile on its back rather than its snout. Similar compositions featuring a crocodile-headed anthropomorphic figure are listed in the comparanda for Beit Saḥur No. 1.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16053. The item could not be accessed for new photography at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive may be based on negatives held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 1064/65, TD. 1061").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, "Group" 511 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3468.

① Two lines of stones, possibly part of a retaining wall (Tufnell 1953: 221). Other finds from this area include: pottery, a bronze arrowhead, six iron arrowheads, a stone spindle whorl, and carnelian, faience, and glass beads (Tufnell 1958: 238). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 414–418.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 221; Tufnell 1958: 103–104, 106, 117, 238, Pl. 32/33:129, 41:27 (side type); Keel 1978: 145–146, Fig. 83b; Keel 1989c: 244, 274–275, 280, Fig. 100; Keel 1995: § 533, Fig. 343; Magrill 2006: 19; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 99:12. *[TB]*

413



414



415 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base chipped off in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.55 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing kilt- or skirt-wearing falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure facing right, holding a lotus blossom with a long stem toward its face in the 'front' outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 587). Carved lines and hatching are used to indicate an ornamental border on the edges of the kilt. Under the figure's 'front' hand is a *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars. The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side; thumb and finger are detailed. Running parallel to the 'back' arm, another line is difficult to interpret. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The falcon-headed figure, likely a deity, has the lotus flower turned towards its face. Consequently, it is presumably depicted smelling the flower. Deities smelling flowers are seemingly not otherwise attested in the monumental record of Middle Kingdom Egypt. However, parallels from New Kingdom votive stelae are known, where the deity is depicted smelling a flower that was likely given as an offering (Firth 1927: 237, Pl. 27:f). Consequently, it is possible the seal represents a portable miniature votive image and the deity on the seal is depicted receiving a flower offering. This base motif is identified as Design Class 10A2 "Standing figures, mythical headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Khirbet Abu Khaff No. 2; ʿAra No. 3; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 278, 1058; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 440; Tell Jemmeh No. 174, 183–185; Lachish No. 383; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 15.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16054.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, "Group" 511 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3467.

① See Lachish No. 414.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 221; Tufnell 1958: 103, 117, 238, Pl. 32/33:130, 41:6 (side type); Keel 1989c: 244–245, 260–261, Fig. 48; Magrill 2006: 19; Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 103:30; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 146 with n. 750, 150 with n. 804, 400. *[TB]*

416 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal white stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The left and right side of the base depict two outward-facing flowering plants with bound bent stems (Keel 1995: § 430). These plants frame a central group of signs and decorative elements. From right to left, these are: an indistinct, flame-like shape; a right-facing *w* (G43) or quail chick sign with feathers indicated by hatching; a *p* (Q3) above the back of the *w* (G43); and finally, a left-facing *wꜣs* (S40). A large, hatched *nb* (V30) serves as base for these signs and decorative elements. The right hand flowering plant also rests on the edge of the *nb* (V30) sign.

DISCUSSION: The D9 head indicates this is likely a scarab of Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 183). The flame-like shape in front of the quail chick may be an indistinct depiction of the vertical balk carved in front of the bird found on similar base engravings like Tell Abu Salima No. 70; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 14 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 405 (see also comparanda).

COMPARANDA: Tell Abu Salima No. 70; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 98, 597; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 14; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 405; Jericho No. 41; Lachish No. 886.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 183.

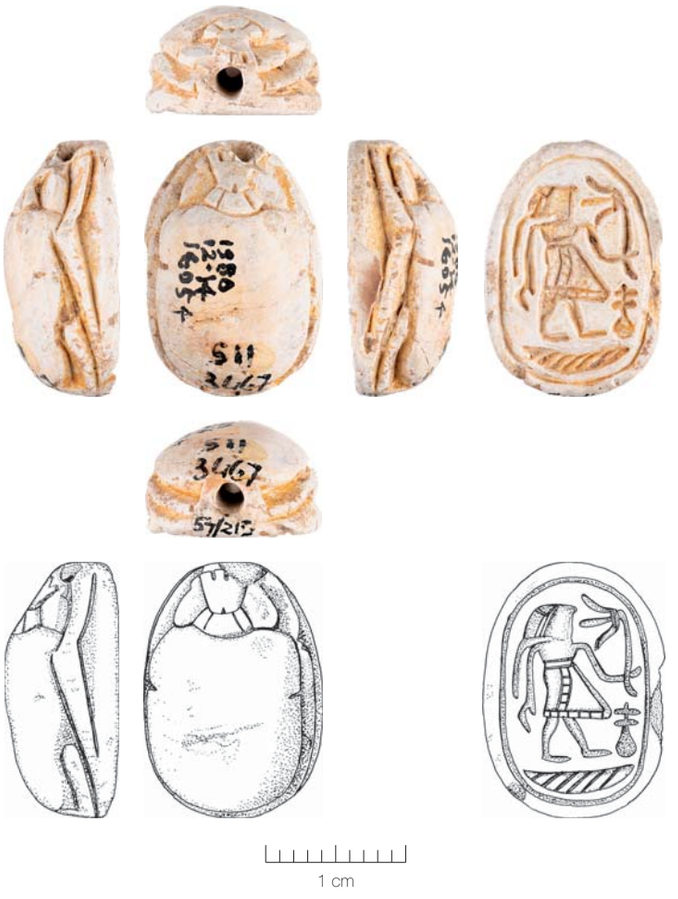
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1813.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, "Group" 511 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3470.

① See Lachish No. 414.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 221; Tufnell 1958: 105, 117, 238, Pl. 32/33:131, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

415



416



417 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 64/EP 1/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, grey (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, 25% of rim of base chipped off, chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 3.31 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.2 mm (L) × 14.9 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A twisted strand border (Keel 1995: § 512) forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of a single incised line. This line has a discontinuous break at the top right of the central composition. The central composition depicts a hatched *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetle facing upward toward a small incision that may represent *rʿ* (N5). Two inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 524, 528) flank the central *ḫpr* (L1).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 107; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 169; Lachish No. 668; Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb SA 18, Chamber A, found in conjunction with two unsexed adult bodies (Steindorff 1937: 107, No. 137, 221–222, Pl. 56:137; now Berlin Museum E 11014A).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda. Ben-Tor 2007 included this scarab in her MB corpus of scarabs (see bibliography), but the find context of all comparanda indicates this scarab is likely a New Kingdom Egyptian production that imitates an MB motif.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16055.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, "Group" 511 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3469.

① See Lachish No. 414.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 221; Tufnell 1958: 101, 105, 117, 238, Pl. 32/33:132, 41:22 (side type); Magrill 2006: 19; Ben-Tor 2007: 93, n. 448, 174–175, Pl. 95:5, 97:10; Lalkin 2008: Pl. 92:1691. *[TB]*

418 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: amethyst. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (D).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; a piece from Sidon, Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20 [Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23]); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26 [Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42]).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16056. The item could not be accessed for new photography at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, "Group" 511 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3471.

① See Lachish No. 414.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 221; Magrill 2006: 19; David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

419 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/d15 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.7 mm (L) × 14.9 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508), framing a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: two *ḥm* (U36); a *ḥtp* (R4); two *j* (M17); and two upside down *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. The ribs on the *j* (M17) signs are indicated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three scrolls, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Another arrangement of hieroglyphic signs inside a border of six oblong spirals (Keel 1995: § 508) that also features two upside down *nfr* (F35) signs is found on the base of: Gezer No. 668.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w print in the CSAPI archive based on a negative presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 5930, B. 868").

CONTEXT: "Gate Area", Square K.18, Object no. 7229. Other finds from this square include: pottery and a faience fish amulet (Magrill 2006: 117).

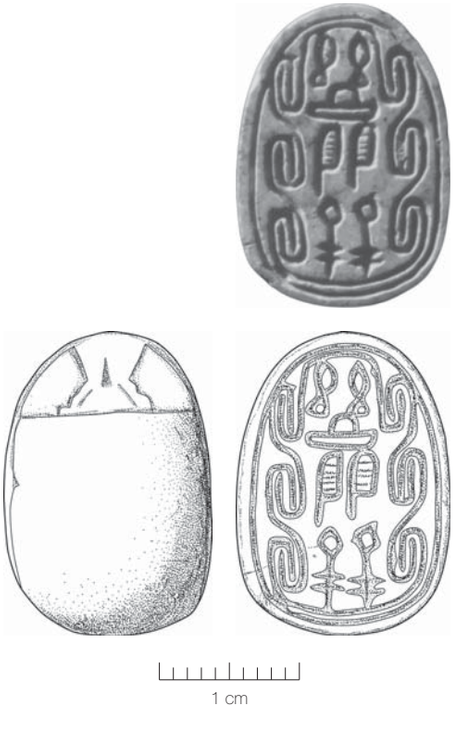
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–100, 117, Pl. 32/33:133, 41:7 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:35. *[TB]*

417



No image available **418**

419



420 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks in back and sides, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.31 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of eleven triple circles (Keel 1995: § 490). Inside the border formed by the circles is a cartouche or *šnw* (V9/V10). Resting on the cartouche is a right-facing flower bud (Keel 1995: § 429). From top to bottom and right to left, the signs inside the cartouche are: *ỉḫt* (N27); *j* (M17) and *ḥm* (U36); *r* (D21) or *nb* (V30). The bottom of the *j* (M17) is attached to the *r* (D21) or *nb* (V30) sign. A flat horizontal piece forms the base of the cartouche.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 3D2 "Actual cartouches" and 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: A cartouche with vertical lines on its base but similarly surrounded by triple circles is carved on Lachish No. 390. See the entry for this comparandum for further examples of similar cartouches surrounded by different decorative elements or borders.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15763. BM/Big number: 160588.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5356.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 102, 118, Pl. 32/33:134, 41:8 (side type); Magrill 2006: 121; Ben-Tor 2007: 167, 168–169, Pl. 85:42, 87:10. *[TB]*

421 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped off near bottom left edge of base design, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference, back slightly chipped and eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 19.9 mm (L) × 14.2 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of symbols and hieroglyphs. The columns are separated from one another by two carved lines that terminate in outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) wearing red crowns or *dšrt* (S3) and occupying the bottom of the left and right columns. The uraei are decorated with hatching to indicate scales. The lines curve up and over the central column of signs, enclosing it in a frame that is open at the bottom. From top to bottom, the signs in the central column are: a sun disc inside a boat; *ḥtp* (R4); *ḫʿ(j)* (N28); a *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar framed on either side by a *ḥm* (U36); *mn* (Y5); *ḫ3st* (N25); *r* (D21). The hieroglyphs flanking the central column on either side are identical and symmetrically oriented. From top to bottom, they are: an inward and downward facing ʿ(D36); an inward-facing ʿ(D36); and a *ḫ3st* (N25).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3C "Formulae" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Similar designs depicting two separating lines that curve over the central row of signs and terminate in uraei wearing red crowns are engraved on Gezer No. 337; Megiddo No. 396; Rishon LeZion No. 15, 145.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22009.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Object no. 7259. No context information available for this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 118, Pl. 32/33:135, 41:8 (side type); Keel 1995: § 629; Ben-Tor 2007: 133, Pl. 56:42. *[TB]*

420



Non-standard scale.

421



422 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275). Inferred from the impression. MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: brownish-pink. PRESERVATION: broken. Impression two-thirds eroded and chipped in one spot on the right. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W); 19.2 mm (L, including impression of mounting); 62.0 mm (L) × 68.0 mm (W, sherd).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; inferred from the impression. ENGRAVING: linear. Inferred from the impression.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Seal impression with a vertical layout. The outer border is not visible on the impression since it was apparently covered by the metal rim of a seal mounting (Beuthe 2024). The inner border consists of four or six oblong hooked S- and Z-spirals connected by an Ω-spiral at the top and possibly a C-spiral at the bottom (Keel 1995: § 508) framing a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs in the column are: *zꜣ* (V17/V18); *ḥtp* (R4); an upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1); whether a final *t* (X1) can be read at the bottom is unclear, not least for reasons of space.

DISCUSSION: The topmost hieroglyph consists of two branches extending from a loop tied by a wide band, indicating this is more likely an unusually depicted *zꜣ* (V17/V18) sign and not an unusually depicted *ʿnḫ* (S34) (see also items referenced in comparanda).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 393 also features a border of six oblong hooked spirals and a *zꜣ* (V17/V18) as the topmost hieroglyph in the central sequence of signs. See also Jericho No. 202, 343 for similar depictions of the *zꜣ* (V17/V18) sign.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16523.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 7346.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–100, 118, Pl. 32/33:136; Keel 1995: § 301, p. 285 (typology); Magrill 2006: 1; Beuthe 2024: 26, 28 Fig. 5, 31 Table 2. *[TB/*CU]*

423 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: light brown, grey (inclusions). PRESERVATION: broken. Top left corner of impression eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 26.9 mm (L) × 17.9 mm (W); 65.0 mm (L) × 67.0 mm (W, handle fragment).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. Inferred from the impression.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Design Class 8B; Keel 1995: § 513) forms the border around the motif. The impression depicts a striding kilt- or skirt-wearing, falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure facing left. The 'rear' arm of the figure is depicted as overly long and rests against the back of the 'rear' leg. The thumb and finger of the 'rear' hand is detailed. The 'front' arm is depicted raised and crooked at the elbow. An indistinguishable eroded sign, possibly a *zꜣ* (V17/V18), is located above the 'front' arm. From top to bottom, the signs under the 'front' arm are: a left-facing falcon or *ḥrw* (G5), and an upward-facing scarab beetle or *ḫpr* (L1) with a cross-hatched body. A leafy branch or small tree (Keel 1995: § 433) is located between the legs of the standing figure.

DISCUSSION: In Atlit No. 48, Keel interprets the raised hand of the falcon as a blessing gesture or a protective gesture. Unlike on other scarabs such as Dothan No. 27, this gesture is not directed toward any other sacred symbol. Consequently, the gesture of protection may have been intended for the wearer of the scarab. Other symbols such as the leafy branch (here possibly related to the weather god: Staubli 2005: 16, 21 and see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1041), may have been included on the base carving to further protect the scarab owner.

COMPARANDA: Atlit No. 48 shows a similar barred strand border enclosing a falcon-headed figure with a raised hand, in conjunction with different decorative elements. Other falcon-headed figures with raised hands can be found on the horizontal compositions seen on Dothan No. 27 and Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 31.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16519. Tufnell's information that the item is stored in the Rockefeller Museum (Inv. No. 39.822) is wrong.

CONTEXT: Object no. 7345. North-west corner (Tufnell 1958: 46); Tufnell's information that the find no. is 7160 is wrong since this is the same number as Lachish No. 424 (Pl. 32/33:138). The find number of the present item was corrected based on information from the British Museum and new photography.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 103–104, 118, Pl. 32/33:137; Keel 1995: § 301, p. 285 (typology); Magrill 2006: 94. *[TB]*

422



1 cm

Non-standard scale.

423



1:1

1:1

1:1

1 cm

424 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1+D2/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Pitting on back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Lotus Clypeus group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a large *nbw* (S12); a *ḫpr* (L1) framed on either side by a *kꜣ* (D28); a large *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) with a cross-hatched sun disc; and two large outward-facing *dšrt* (S3) framing a column of three hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the three hieroglyphs are: *ỉnjwt* (O49), an *ꜥ* (D36) with hatching on the forearm, and *n* (N35). Note the *kꜣ* (D28) signs have arms bound together with two lines and have a small triangle protruding from the centre of the arc of the arms.

DISCUSSION: This scarab is classified as belonging to the Iron Age IIB Lotus Clypeus group by Keel 2003: 129.

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 677. The entry for this comparandum also lists more distantly comparable base engravings.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating based on Keel 2003: 129, No. 6.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1939-822.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Square K.17, Room 1089,[1] Object no. 7160. Mislabeled as originating from the non-existent locus K.17:1089 in Tufnell 1958: 118. Tufnell 1953: 125 gives the correct find locus, as corroborated by feature and find number written in ink on the right side of the scarab.

① See Lachish No. 232.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 124–125; Tufnell 1958: 99, 104–105, 118, Pl. 32/33:138, 41:14 (side type); Brandl 2001: 271, n. 11; Keel 2003: 129, No. 6, 137, 143, 147, 153, Fig. 6; Münger 2003a: 143, No. 6. *[TB]*

425 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, bottom right of base rim chipped off, chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of six oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 508), including two S- and Z-spirals on either side, an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom, framing a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: a right-facing *nṯr* (R8); *nfr* (F35) with a *rꜥ* (N5) underneath it; *ḥ* (O29); a left-facing *ꜥ* (D36); *ḥtp* (R4); *ꜥnḫ* (S34); a left-facing *ḏ(t)* (I10). Underneath the *ḏ(t)* (I10) are, from top to bottom: *t* (X1); *tꜣ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs on the base spell out the words *nṯr nfr ḥ-ḥtp-rꜥ ꜥnḫ ḏ.t*, "perfect god, Aahotepre, living eternally", a title, prenomen (i.e., throne name), and epithet related to a Second Intermediate Period Hyksos ruler of Egypt (= Khamudi[?]). This scarab is classified as an Egyptian Second Intermediate Period import (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 104 is a similarly inscribed scarab naming another ruler, Hotepibre.

DATING: 15th–16th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16057.

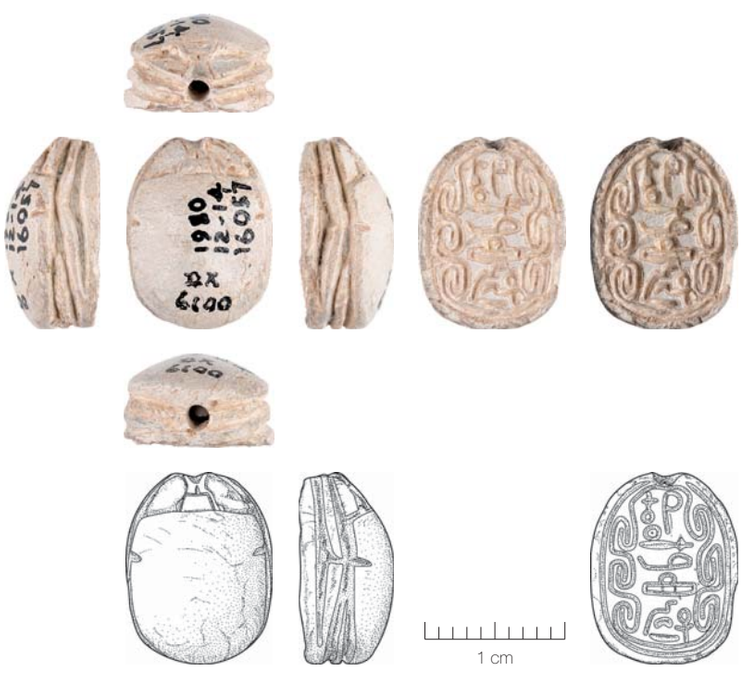
CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6100.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 99–100, 118, Pl. 32/33:139, 41:7 (side type); Weinstein 1981: 9, No. 12; Tufnell 1984: 163, 380, Pl. 61:3433; Keel 1995: § 632, No. 4, Fig. 549; Magrill 2006: 121; Ben-Tor 2007: 172; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 321. *[TB]*

424



425



Orbis Biblicus et Orientalis 42/2

Series Archaeologica

Corpus of Stamp Seals from the Southern Levant

Volume VI: L
Part 2: Lachish No. 426–943, Lod, Loḥamei HaGeta'ot

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Catalogue

426 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/II+S/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip on bottom right of back, side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 14.7 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving consists of six oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 510), three on each side, flanking a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the signs in the central column are: a *rꜥ* (N5) or sun disc, and a right-facing *zꜣ* (G39) or goose. Below the goose is a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). Inside the cartouche, from top to bottom, are the following hieroglyphs: *š* (N37); *š* (N37); and a right-facing *j* (M17). Under the cartouche are four further hieroglyphs. From right to left, the first row consists of an *ꜥnḫ* (S34) and a *ḏ(t)* (I10). Under these are two lines that are likely abstract representations of a *t* (X1) and a *tꜣ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: From top to bottom and right to left, the hieroglyphs on the base spell out the words *zꜣ Rꜥ Šššj ꜥnḫ ḏ.t*, "Son of Re Sheshi, living eternally", a title, nomen, and epithet related to a Second Intermediate Period Hyksos ruler of Egypt. This base engraving is classified as Design Class 7C3 "Paired scrolls, loop at the top or bottom broken or omitted" in Ben-Tor's Second Intermediate Period seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 379, Tel Esur No. 1, and examples from Egypt: Deir Rifa cemetery (Petrie 1907: 20–21, Pl. 13E:4); Gurob cemetery, Grave 43 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 14, 40:5; now Manchester Museum 7016) all display the same inscriptions. However, the inscriptions are framed by four instead of six oblong hooked scrolls.

DATING: 14th Dyn. (1750–1675 BCE) or 15th? Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); earlier dating based on Ryholt 2010.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(1).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5712.

① Tomb with a main chamber and two small side chambers to the west and south. Two entries with stairways were located on the southeast end of the main chamber. Almost all finds from this tomb were located in a layer of black organic fill. The human remains were fragmentary. Other finds from this tomb include: broken pottery, a bronze spearhead, bronze and silver toggle pins, bronze arrowheads, a pair of bronze tweezers, rings, pendants and earrings of bronze, silver, gold, and electrum, the end of a gold headband, a bronze crescent-shaped amulet, stone vessels, a stone kohl tube, bone inlay, spindle whorls, shells, ostrich eggshell fragments, glass bead spacers, a glass nude female figurine pierced transversally for suspension behind the shoulders, paste, glass, steatite, carnelian, onyx, amethyst, sardonyx, bone and copper beads, and udjat and Taweret amulets (Tufnell 1958: 281–285). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 426–577, 675, 679–686, 742, 757–758, 784–805, 807, 839.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 99–100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:140, 41:5 (side type); Weinstein 1981: 9, No. 9; Tufnell 1984: 376, Pl. 58:3339; Keel 1995: § 632, No. 1, 2, Fig. 545; Ryholt 1997: 446; Ben-Tor 2007: 107, Pl. 44:14; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 355, 389; Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 76, Fig. 9c. *[TB]*

427 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip and hairline crack near head of scarab, hairline crack running through bottom third of scarab back, side and base chipped off near bottom right edge of base design, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A dark brown coloured longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of six oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 508), two S- and Z-spirals on either side, an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom. Above each of the upper S- und Z-spirals is a right angle protrusion. The spirals frame a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *ḥtp* (R4); *ḥꜥ(j)* (N28); *ḥtp* (R4); a left-facing ꜥ (D36); a right-facing *qnbt* (O38) above a right-facing *ḥrw* (G5); a large *r* (D21).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three scrolls, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The base carving of Rishon LeZion No. 34 also features a falcon and a *qnbt* (O38). However, the inner border of the base carving on this scarab is not identical to the present item since the border consists of eight continuous oblong hooked scrolls.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(2).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5687.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 99–100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:141, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:36. *[TB]*

426



1 cm

427



1 cm

428 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 1/Side 27 (Rowe), A4+E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Left side of back, side, and base broken off, large crack running through right side, bottom of back chipped, crack running through top third of scarab base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 8.8 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A brown-coloured longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of six oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 508), two S- and Z-spirals on either side, an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom, framing a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *ḏd* (R11); a *ḫpr* (L1) inside an oval (Keel 1995: § 462); two *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three scrolls, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Ḥorvat Zelef No. 9 features the same base design. Atlit No. 44 and Lachish No. 391 feature the same base design, but substitute a different hieroglyph for the two *nfr* (F35) signs. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 727 features the same base design, but substitutes a different hieroglyph for the *ḏd* (R11). In all these comparanda, the *ḫpr* (L1) is not enclosed in an oval.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(3).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5661.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94–95, 97, 99–100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:142, 41:22 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:37. *[TB]*

429 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 69/EP 5/Side 53 (Rowe), B2/0/e2 or e5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. All surfaces heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line originally formed the outer border around the engraving. This border is mostly eroded aside from the line on the right of the base. The inner border consists of six oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 508), two S- and Z-spirals on either side, an Ω-spiral at the top and a C-spiral at the bottom, framing a central column of hieroglyphs and signs. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: a downward-facing leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433); *t* (X1); a right-facing ʿ (D36) and a *šn(j/t)* (V1); and an *r* (D21) with a line in its centre.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 7B3(ii) "Paired scrolls, three scrolls, oblong" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 107.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(4).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5677.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99–100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:143, 41:42 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 172, Pl. 92:38. *[TB]*

428



429



430 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type C5/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of sides and base uniformly chipped off in many spots, possibly indicating that the ring was formerly mounted in a metal frame. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 15.2 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving consists of ten interlocking Z-, S-, and C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). The central group of spirals forms a pair of sub-triangular shapes. In the centre of both shapes, a cross or '+' shape is carved. The Z-spirals closest to the head and rear perforations on the base have a small lotus (Keel 1995: § 429) emerging from the curl forming the top of the Z-shape.

DISCUSSION: Interlocking spirals frequently occur on base engravings during the late Middle Kingdom. Consequently, the base of this scarab can be classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (Ben-Tor 2007: 14).

COMPARANDA: The base engraving of Jericho No. 277 lacks the lotus flowers and has different signs between the spirals instead of crosses, but otherwise closely resembles the present piece. An unornamented close comparandum exhibiting slightly different linkages between the shapes constituting the central pattern can also be seen on a seal impression from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 57, Fig. 5:67:226).

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(5).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5734.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:144, 41:15 (side type). *[TB]*

431 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running from perforation at head of scarab through top third of base and side, base scratched in one spot, hairline cracks on back. MEASUREMENTS: 20.1 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 9.1 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435), one on each side of a central column of hieroglyphs. The Z-spirals are interconnected with each other by curving lines (extended Z-spirals). From top to bottom, the two hieroglyphs in the centre of the design are: a *rꜥ* (N5) and a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Amman (Airport) No. 19. The central *rꜥ nfr* sequence is also used on seals from the same era that exhibit different types of inner borders. These are listed in the comparanda for Lachish No. 368.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(6).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5735.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:145, 41:5 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159 n. 753. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

430



Non-standard scale.

431



432 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, crack running through base, side, and back, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the central engraving depicts C- and Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) forming a pattern of tessellated I-shapes and pseudo-triangles. Large C-spirals partly enclose the figure on all four sides.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: A more complex pattern employing the same shapes can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 788.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(7).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5645.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:146, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, n. 753. *[TB]*

433 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the central engraving depicts Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) forming a pattern of tessellated pseudo-triangles.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 58 depicts a similar arrangement, but the Z-spirals form pseudo-rectangular shapes instead of triangles on this example.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(8).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5708.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:147, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, n. 753. *[TB]*

432



433



434 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base of scarab chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference, slight chipping on back. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving consists of interlocking Z-, S-, and C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). The central group of spirals forms a pair of pseudo-triangular shapes.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum to the present piece is a seal impression from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 57, Fig. 5:67:226). Jericho No. 277 and Lachish No. 430 are more distantly related comparanda featuring additional decorative elements.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, 159, n. 753.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(9).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5736.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:148, 41:2 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, n. 753. *[TB]*

435 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5+E2/0/e3 or e7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple. PRESERVATION: complete. Side slightly chipped near rear perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. Continuous round hooked spirals (Keel 1995: § 504) form the inner border around the engraving. Inside both borders is a left-facing reclining horned quadruped (Keel 1995: § 518).

DISCUSSION: The reclining quadruped could be the hieroglyphic sign for a reclining hartebeest calf, *jw* (E9), though the present depiction lacks the two small horns generally exhibited by the *jw* (E9) hieroglyph, and instead appears to depict one large horn and one large ear seen in profile. The comparanda for the central base engraving of the quadruped on this scarab have been dated to the 18th Dyn. However, the scarab is of the same type as Beth Shean No. 4, a piece dated to the Middle Kingdom. It is possible the figure of the reclining quadruped was added to the scarab in the 18th Dyn.

COMPARANDA: Aphek No. 22 is a contemporary scarab with a comparable central motif on the base, but the animal is depicted using linear engraving and not low relief. LB scarabs depicting low relief reclining horned quadrupeds include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 417; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 90; Lachish No. 508. Beth Shean No. 4 is another example of an amethyst scarab with a similar head, back, and side type, and a base design with an inner border of eight joined round spirals.

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Beth Shean No. 4.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-68.

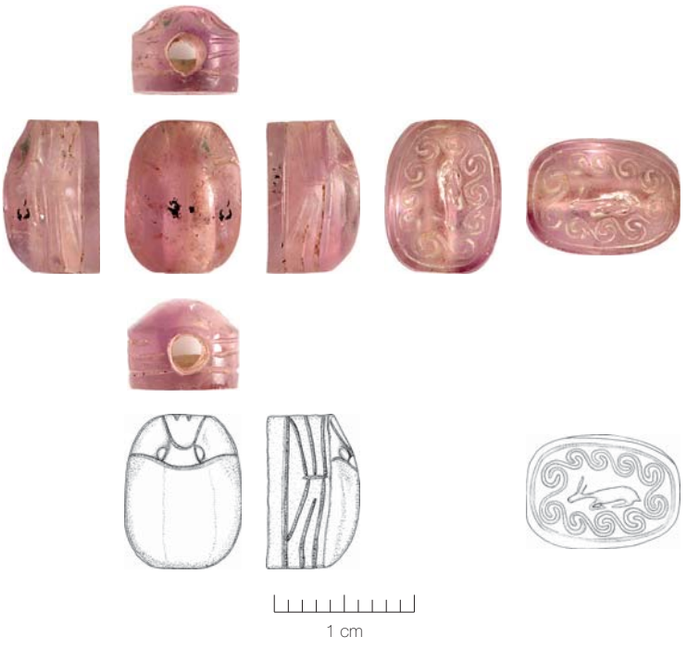
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5775.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 107, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:149; Keel 1995: § 367; Mumford 1998: 2159–2160, Table 12:41, No. 5775; Lalkin 2008: 42, No. 1966; David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

434



435



436 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of silver (ring) and gold (bezel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey, pinkish-cream (engraving and carved head). PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 5.5 mm (H); 22.0 mm (L) × 3.6 mm (D, ring); 15.0 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W, with mounting).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, with the head on the back of the scarab facing upward, the base engraving depicts a central motif formed by two transversally oriented C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) intertwined with a longitudinally oriented S-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) and symmetrical Z-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) to form a sub-rectangular shape. Inside the outline formed by these spirals are two circular shapes. Above the sub-rectangular shape is a *ḥḏ* (T3) sign. Four semi-circular protrusions emerge from the border line, two at the top and two at the midsection of the design. The top right protrusion consists of two lines, while the top left protrusion has a small notched indent that extends into it from the border line.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 437 displays the same basic central composition in conjunction with a *ḥḏ* (T3) sign. A horizontally oriented design featuring the same central composition of spirals can be seen on a clay sealing with a seal impression from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:144).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(10).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5773.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:150; Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:41. *[TB]*

437 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B10/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: broken. Back and base eroded, back chipped near perforation hole at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, with the head on the back of the scarab facing upward, the remaining portion of the base engraving depicts a central motif formed by a transversally oriented C-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) at the bottom intertwined with a longitudinally oriented S-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) and symmetrical Z-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) to form a sub-rectangular shape. The top of the S-spiral is intertwined with the bottom of an Ω-spiral that once formed part of the rest of the motif at the top of the base, now indistinguishable due to erosion. Inside the outline formed by these spirals is a *ḥḏ* (T3) sign.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 436 displays the same basic central composition in conjunction with a *ḥḏ* (T3) sign. A horizontally oriented design featuring the same central composition of spirals can be seen on a clay sealing with a seal impression from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:144).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(11).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5668.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:151, 41:46 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:42. *[TB]*

436



437



438 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, yellow (engraving and carved head). PRESERVATION: complete. Back, sides, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 22.6 mm (L) × 15.3 mm (W) × 9.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving consists of hieroglyphs irregularly arranged around the central figure of a right-facing falcon or *ḥrw* (G5) with feathers indicated with hatching and standing on a hatched *š* (N39). The signs above the falcon's head are, from right to left: a *b(w)* (D58) emerging from the border line, a transversally oriented right-facing *nfr* (F35), and underneath it, a herringbone hatched *š* (N39). In front of the falcon are, from top to bottom, a hatched *nb* (V30), a herringbone hatched *š* (N39), and a right-facing hatched *qnbt* (O38) emerging from the border line. Under the falcon is a hatched *nb* (V30). Behind the falcon is, from top to bottom: an ovoid shape and a hatched *nb* (V30), both emerging from the border.

DISCUSSION: The D6-head and e9 side indicate this is likely a scarab of the Early Palestinian Series D-head group (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1072 displays a similar carving style and layout, in addition to also featuring a central falcon figure.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(12).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5680.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:152, 41:20 (side type). *[TB]*

439 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly worn, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: partial dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base shows three columns of decorations. The central column consists of two interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). Two diagonal Z-spirals emerge from the central interlocking. The left hand diagonal spiral merges into the border line before re-emerging tipped with a flower bud. Under the flower bud is a *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars whose long stem merges with the tip of the flower bud. A small flower (Keel 1995: § 429) emerges from the right hand diagonal line. Above the flower is an upside down *nfr* (F35) with an ovoid base and a single T-shaped crossbar.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 650 features a similar arrangement of flowering plants with bound bent stems and *nfr* (F35) signs, while Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 234 shows the flowers in conjunction with a *ḥm* (U36) and another, unidentifiable element.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007 (see bibliography).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(13).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5743.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:153, 41:37 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:43. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

438



Non-standard scale.

439



440 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/I/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base heavily eroded near perforation at head of scarab, back and side eroded near perforation at rear of scarab, edges of base eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally, the base depicts: two plant stems with rectangular 'flowers'. The bases of the stems are intertwined with one another in the shape of a round hooked spiral (Keel 1995: § 435). One flower projects outward transversally, while the other drooping flower projects outward longitudinally. A longitudinally oriented uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) is located above the drooping flower. A triangular shape emerges from the border line behind the tail of the uraeus. A *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars is located to the left of the transversally oriented flower.

COMPARANDA: Similarly arranged triangular or ovoid flowers occur in conjunction with *nfr* (F35) signs on a seal from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 8:70); a fragmentary sealing from el-Lisht South, Pyramid complex of Senwosret I, north temple gateway (Metropolitan Museum of Art 14.3.383); and a seal impression from Sudan, Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 59, Fig. 6:110:279). The same type of flower arrangement also occurs in conjunction with a *nfr* (F35) and another hieroglyph on seals from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 8:66); el-Haraga, Cemetery B, Tomb 255 (Engelbach 1923: Pl. 20:55, 59); in conjunction with *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs on el-Haraga, Cemetery NH, Tomb 253 (Engelbach 1923: Pl. 20:56, 59); and in conjunction with a stylized *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 57.

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(14).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5751.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:154, 41:19 (side type). *[TB]*

441 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D1/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Carved hind legs partly broken off on left side. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally, the base engraving depicts, from left to right: a right-facing flower bud with an inward curling stem. A bent flower (Keel 1995: § 430) with a stem arranged in a U-bend is attached to the tip of the flower bud. The bent flower is facing upward. An *ʿnḫ* (S34) is located to the right of the bent flower.

COMPARANDA: Similar combinations of curled flowers and hieroglyphic signs can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 471, 933.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(15).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5764.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:155, 41:27 (side type). *[TB]*

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441



442 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/I/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through left side of back, back and side chipped near perforation hole at rear of scarab, base slightly chipped in one place. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central motif depicts a Z-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435). The spiral is surrounded on either side by two flowers (Keel 1995: § 431) on rectangular bases, arranged *tête-bêche*. On each flower bunch, the flower closest to the central spiral is straight, while the flower further away from the centre is bent.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 2A "Scrolls and spirals, unlinked" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 968; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 105.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(16).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5639.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:156, 41:37 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75:26. *[TB]*

443 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/II/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark brown and beige (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base heavily eroded near perforation at head and back of scarab, edges of base eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 11.2 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around two thirds of the engraving. The engraving depicts a central *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. An inward-facing C-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) is located above the *nfr* (F35). The C-spiral terminates in an inward curl on the left and in an inward-curving drooping flower with a bound bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430) on the right of the *nfr* (F35) sign.

COMPARANDA: Jabal al-Ḥawaiyah No. 4 also features a C-spiral with two curled ends in conjunction with a *wꜣḏ* (M13). However, the C-spiral on Jabal al-Ḥawaiyah No. 4 also features a lunette on the inner face of the C, indicating it may be an abstract depiction of a *ḫ(j)* (N28) (see also Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 57 for a more elaborate depiction). More complex compositions featuring an enclosing C-spiral can also be seen on two impressions from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1890: Pl. 10:43; Petrie 1891: Pl. 10:135); and on a scarab from Naqada town (Petrie 1895: Pl. 58:3).

DATING: 12th–13th Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE) or 15th? Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); the earlier dating is based on comparanda from Egypt (El-Lahun, Naqada), in which case an early piece would have been reused in a later burial context; note, however, that the Levantine comparandum (Jabal al-Ḥawaiyah) is dated to the MB III.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(17).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5766.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:157, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

442



443



444 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, light brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded and chipped near perforation hole at head of scarab, sides, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 25.0 mm (L) × 18.1 mm (W) × 10.9 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) forms the border around the engraving. The base has three columns of hieroglyphs, separated from one another by straight double lines. The columns are further divided in half by a barred strand line to form six separate units. The left and right columns of the top row contain, from top to bottom: an outward-facing *qnbt* (O38); *n* (N35); a right-facing ꜥ(D36). The central column in the top row contains, from top to bottom: a hatched *r* (D21); *n* (N35); a right-facing ꜥ(D36); *ḫꜣst* (N25); *ḥꜥ(j)* (N28). The left and right columns of the bottom row contain, from top to bottom: *n* (N35); a right-facing ꜥ(D36); *n* (N35); an outward-facing *qnbt* (O38); the ꜥ(D36) in the right-hand column has been reduced to an upturned crescent shape, possibly due to lack of space to carve the sign. The central column in the bottom row contains, from top to bottom: *n* (N35); a right-facing ꜥ(D36); *ḫꜣst* (N25); *ḥꜥ(j)* (N28).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3C "Formulae", 3E1 "Panels, three or more signs in margin", and 8A "Rope border, twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 981, 1097; ʿAra No. 17; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 32 and Jericho No. 285, 378 also feature bases carved with three columns of signs divided by lines. However, these comparanda lack the central sub-dividing horizontal line featured on the present piece.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(18).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5673.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100–101, 104, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:158, 41:4 (side type); Richards 2001: 267, No. LACH5; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–167, 174, Pl. 84:31, 86:18, 95:6. *[TB]*

445 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey, beige (engraving and carved head). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.6 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of signs. The signs to the left and right of the central column are identical, from top to bottom: *zꜣ* (G39); *mn* (Y5); *r* (D21); an outward-facing ꜥ(D36); *n* (N35); *nb* (V30); and an upward and inward facing ꜥ(D36). The central column consists of four signs that repeat twice in the same order, from top to bottom: *ḏw* (N26); *r* (D21); a right-facing ꜥ(D36); and *ḥꜥ(j)* (N28). The top four signs and the bottom four signs are enclosed in almost rectangular frames (Keel 1995: § 462) that are open at the bottom.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3C "Formulae" and 3E1 "Panels, three or more signs in margin" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 74.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(19).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5681.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 104, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:159, 41:2 (side type); Richards 2001: 267, No. LACH7; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–167, Pl. 84:32, 86:19. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

444



Non-standard scale.

445



446 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped, base rim chipped on bottom right, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal black stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462) containing hieroglyphs flanked by outward-facing *ḥrw* (G5) or falcons wearing *dšrt* (S3) or red crowns (Keel 1995: § 557). From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs inside the oval shape are: *t* (X1); a right-facing *ꜥ* (D36); *n* (N35); a right-facing *ꜥ* (D36). The oval shape stands on top of a rectangular shrine enclosure (Keel 1995: § 487) containing hieroglyphs and flanked by *ꜥnḫ* (S34) signs. From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs inside the shrine are: *ḥtp* (R4); *n* (N35); a right-facing *ꜥ* (D36).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 3C "Formulae", 3D1 "Simple oblong ring" and 3E5 "Shrine enclosure" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 728 also features a shrine flanked by falcons, but depicts a cartouche instead of an oval at the top of the design. Other seal bases featuring the oval+shrine combination but lacking the flanking falcons can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 911; Beth Shean No. 249.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(20).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5679.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104–105, 118, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:160, 41:21 (side type); Richards 2001: 268, No. LACH8; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–167, Pl. 84:33, 85:17. *[TB]*

447 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 3/EP 74/Side 9 (Rowe), D3/II+S/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Sides, back, and rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three columns of symbols and hieroglyphs. The columns are separated from one another by carved lines that terminate in outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) wearing red crowns or *dšrt* (S3). The uraei occupy the bottom of the left and right columns. They are decorated with hatching to indicate scales. From top to bottom, the signs in the central column are: *ḏw* (N26); *t* (X1); *ḏw* (N26); a left-facing *nḫt* (D40); *r* (D21); *n* (N35); *t* (X1); and a right-facing *ꜥ* (D36). The *t* (X1) and *r* (D21) signs are decorated with hatching. *nfr* (F35) signs with two crossbars and a hatched base flank the central column above the uraei.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 3C "Formulae" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Similar designs depicting separating lines that terminate in uraei wearing red crowns are engraved on Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 36; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 95; Megiddo No. 379, 404.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-66.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5746.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104–105, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:161, 41:8 (side type); Richards 2001: 268, No. LACH9; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, Pl. 84:34. *[TB]*

446



1 cm

447



1 cm

448 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory and dark grey (chipped areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base heavily chipped, sides chipped, light chipping on back. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central Type B (Keel 1995: § 578) goddess head. The neck of the goddess is framed on either side by a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433). Single lines on either side of the central composition form lunettes framing the goddess head and branches. Two stacked outward-facing *qnbt* (O38) signs are located inside each lunette. The *qnbt* (O38) are formed by two lines each and are mirror images of each other.

DISCUSSION: The leafy branches on either side of the goddess head identify the deity depicted on the scarab base as the Middle Bronze Age "branch goddess" (Schroer 1989: 186). The 'ribbons' on her head may be leaves that signify the deity's aspect as an earth goddess associated with the growth of vegetation (Schroer 2008: 47, 192).

COMPARANDA: Other horizontal compositions featuring a Type B or Type C (Keel 1995: § 578) goddess head as the central motif are carved on the bases of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 50, 339.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 16.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(21).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5706.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:162, 41:19 (side type); Schroer 1989: 140, 142, No. 75, 186, 202; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 16, 18, Fig. 13b; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 105:33; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 16, 18, Fig. 13b. *[TB]*

449 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type I (Keel 1995: § 205). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown (Side A), dark brown (Side B). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of decorated area slightly chipped on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 29.1 mm (L) × 20.6 mm (W) × 11.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal; two perforations. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Both sides of this seal depict a central palm tree topped with three large branches. The tree is flanked by two longitudinally oriented, inward-facing crocodiles in an axial composition (Keel 1995: § 535). The faces of the crocodiles flank the top of the tree. Hatching indicates leaf sheaths growing out from either side of the tree all along the outside of the trunk and the outside of the large forked branches. Crosshatching is used to indicate the scales of the crocodiles, and hatching is used to indicate the trunk and branches of the palm.

DISCUSSION: The tree is likely symbolic of the Middle Bronze Age "branch goddess" (Schroer 1989: 117). Since the crocodile appears as a protective figure of pregnant mothers in Egypt, their appearance on this seal may symbolize the attributes of the "branch goddess" as a protector of pregnant women and in childbirth (*ibid.*: 121). The engravings on both sides of this seal are classified as Design Class 9D "Crocodiles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 530 similarly depicts two large crocodiles, but on the Megiddo example, the animals face outward and are arranged *tête-bêche* around a central leafy branch.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(22).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5631.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:166; Schroer 1989: 100, No. 49, 117, 121, 129, 201; Keel 1995: § 205, 535, Fig. 354; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 99:13. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

448



Non-standard scale.

449



450 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back, type III (Keel 1995: § 199). The back features eight miniature scarabs arranged in a circle to face a central rosette with six transversally hatched petals. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of side and base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (D) × 8.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central Type E (Keel 1995: § 578) goddess head with two large heavy locks of hair and a T-shaped feature on top. Hatching is used to indicate the eyes, nose and ears of the goddess. The neck or 'stem' of the goddess is decorated with hatching, possibly in reference to a tree trunk or pole. Two outward-facing falcons flank the goddess head. Hatching and cross-hatching is used to indicate the feathers on their bodies. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The hatched neck or 'tree trunk' of the goddess head shows that this seal base seems to combine the depiction of the goddess head with that of a sacred tree. This tree was considered a manifestation of the same goddess, who seems to have been an earth deity with erotic associations (Schroer 2008: 47–48).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. 'Ein Samiya No. 20 (a piece originating from a private collection) that features two falcons flanking a Type B goddess head on a *nb* (V30), with additional decorative elements.

DATING: MB II–LB I (18th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on back typology in Keel 1995.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(23).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5663.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 104, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:167; Schroer 1989: 143, No. 94, 145, 187, 196, 202; Keel 1995: § 199, p. 283 (typology). *[TB]*

451 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of decorated area slightly chipped on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, this side depicts a rosette consisting of four hatched lobes (Keel 1995: § 494). Four inward-curving spirals emerge diagonally from the central button shape at the midpoint of the design. Each spiral is formed by a single line. Side B: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a large central *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar. An outward-facing hatched *šw(t)* (H6) feather emerges from each side of the ovoid base of the *nfr* (F35). Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) emerge from the bottom of each feather. The left uraeus is hatched and the right uraeus is cross-hatched to indicate scales.

COMPARANDA: Side A: Tell Jemmeh No. 58, a clay sealing with an impression of a very similar seal. For more distantly related comparanda see the entry for Beth Shean No. 25. Side B: From Egypt: el-Ballas, Tomb 229, North Loculus, North Burial, scarab found near hands (Jensen 2019: 421, 997–998, 1232; now Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8910); Quban, Cemetery 110, Grave 191 (Firth 1927: x, 83, Pl. 35:67). Similarly arranged *šw(t)* (H6) with outward-facing uraei attached to them can be seen framing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV on Tell Beit Mirsim No. 103.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose III–Amenhotep III (1479–1353 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(24).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5651.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102–103, 105, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:168; Keel 1995: § 206. *[TB]*

450



451



452 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: brown and beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Decoration worn on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 12.1 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 3.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: partial blue glaze (Side B).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A, B: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, both sides depict a cross or '+' shaped rosette (Keel 1995: § 494) with a central button shape in sunk relief. Four inward-curving spirals emerge diagonally from the centre of the cross-shape. A single short diagonal line projects outward from each spiral.

COMPARANDA: Cross-shaped four-petaled rosettes can also be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 756 and Tell Jemmeh No. 59.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(25).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5703.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102–103, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:169; Keel 1995: § 220. *[TB]*

453 **OBJECT:** Fish scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 151). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white and yellow (carved areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Indeterminate layout, here described vertically. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the following sequence of hieroglyphs and signs: a hatched *t* (X1); *n* (N35); a right-facing transversally oriented flowering plant with a bound bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430); and a hatched *nb* (V30). The first and last sign mirror each other, even more so when viewed horizontally. The flower is decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Thus, it is likely that this piece is an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Mustagidda, Grave 5302 (Brunton 1937: 135, Pl. 78:16); el-Badari, Temple group 3000/3 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 19:54); Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 1071 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 5, 19:23; now Kyoto University Museum 2544), Grave 1162 (*ibid.*: 10, Pl. 5, 19:55; now Bristol Museum and Art Gallery H4820), Cemetery 5200 (*ibid.*: Pl. 19:56), Grave 5296 (*ibid.*: 13, Pl. 19:71, 23, *wḏ3t* [D10] back); Luxor West Bank, Assasif, Tomb 37, Pit D, Coffin 50 (Herbert and Carter 1912: 67, 79–80, Pl. 74:50A, cowroid).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on object typology in Keel 1995.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(26).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5676.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:170; Keel 1995: § 148, 151, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

452



453



454 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white and beige (worn areas). Traces of blue glaze. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of decorated area slightly chipped on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Read from right to left and top to bottom, the sequence of hieroglyphs on this side is as follows: a right-facing *j* (M17); *mn* (Y5); a schematic *n* (N35) consisting of a single horizontal line; *ḥtp* (R4); a right-facing *ḥqꜣ* (S38); and a right-facing *wꜣst* (R19). Side B: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a column of three hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10), with an *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerging from the knee area; and a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on Side A spell out the name and title *Jmn-ḥtp ḥqꜣ-wꜣst*, or "Amenhotep, Ruler of Waset" (i.e., Thebes), a title frequently associated with Amenhotep III (Jaeger 1982: § 1143). The hieroglyphs on Side B spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III.

COMPARANDA: Side A: Other seals and impressions featuring the same inscription in horizontal arrangements include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 315; Lachish No. 596; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 97; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Malkata (Hayes 1951: Fig. 34:R11). Side B: Tell Beit Mirsim No. 68; Gezer No. 79.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(27).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5720.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:171; Keel 1995: § 220–221, p. 282 (typology). *[TB]*

455 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: broken. All faces of plaque heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: partial blue coating.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a large right-facing *wḏꜣt* (D10). Side B: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a large left-facing *tjt* (D17) with a tail that terminates in an abstract lotus blossom (Keel 1995: § 429).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Lachish No. 617; from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb D 406 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 25, Pl. 57:29, 67). Side B: Megiddo No. 611.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(28).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5771.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:172; Keel 1995: § 217, 220. *[TB]*

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456 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white and brown (flecks). PRESERVATION: complete. Edge of base chipped near perforation at top and bottom of design on both sides, slight chipping visible on the rest of decoration circumference on both sides. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central sequence of hieroglyphs framed on either side by an inward-facing longitudinally oriented *nb* (V30) sign. The hieroglyphs framed by the *nb* (V30) signs are as follows, from right to left and top to bottom: a hatched *j* (M17); a *mn* (Y5) with a hatched base; an *n* (N35) sign abbreviated as a single thick line; a *rᶜ* (N5); and a horizontal wedge-shaped stroke, likely an unusual horizontally depicted representation of a single vertical stroke (Z1). Side B: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the engraving depicts: a *rᶜ* (N5); a *mn* (Y5) decorated with hatching; and an upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1). A right facing *nṯr* (R8) sign is located to the right of the *ḫpr* (L1), and a *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar is located to the left of the *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: Side A: The hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rᶜ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). Side B: The hieroglyphs spell out *nṯr nfr Mn-ḫpr-rᶜ*, "perfect god Menkheperre", a prenomen (i.e., throne name) and epithet associated with Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 634, 663).

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: el-Dakka, Cemetery 96/100, Grave 102 (Firth 1915: 150, 178, Pl. 41:10). More distantly comparable base engravings occur on non-double sided seals. Side A: Dothan No. 29; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 145, 450, 455, 476, 701. Side B: Tel Gerisa No. 17; Gezer No. 237, 364; Tel Ḥarasim No. 25; Lachish No. 18, 582; Megiddo No. 74; from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, Maket tomb, Coffin 1 (Petrie 1891: 22, Pl. 26:2; Tufnell 1984: 110–111, Fig. 22:11, a duck scaraboid; now Ashmolean Museum AN1890.787a[ii]); and with *nṯr nfr* written left-to-right on Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 7 (G) (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.304).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(29).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5652.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:173; Keel 1995: § 206. *[TB]*

457 **OBJECT:** Uraeus scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 176). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped near left ear of goddess head, base chipped in area of torso of right-hand uraeus. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 8.7 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a Type F (Schroer 1989: 150–153) goddess head (Keel 1995: § 577). An outward-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 523) emerges from either side of the neck or 'stem' of the goddess head.

COMPARANDA: Seals displaying similar iconography include the pieces listed in the comparanda for Deir el-Balaḥ No. 28 and Lachish No. 96, 194.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-67.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5772.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:174; Brandl 1986: 249, n. 45; Keel 1995: § 176, Fig. 119; Lalkin 2008: 30, Pl. 4:57. *[TB]*

456



457



458 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: greyish-white and yellow (engraving and carved head). PRESERVATION: complete. Back heavily chipped near head, chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.6 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts: twelve double circles with central dots (Keel 1995: § 489). Double lines project from the topmost and bottommost circles closest to the head and rear perforation holes. The lines connect the circles to the two central double circles in the composition. The two central double circles are connected via a single longitudinal line. The two double circles on either side of the top central double circle are connected to the central double circle by transversal lines. The two double circles on either side of the bottom central double circle are also connected in this fashion.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 238 shows a roughly comparable design of connected double circles. Pieces that instead feature twelve triple concentric circles in different arrangements include Afula No. 1; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 636; Jericho No. 278.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(30).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5658.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:175, 41:19 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 168–169, Pl. 87:11. *[TB]*

459 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly scratched, back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, top right of base rim chipped off, smaller chip further down on right side. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D) × 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A dark brown longitudinal stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts: seven triple concentric circles (Keel 1995: § 489). The central triple circle is located at the midpoint of a cross-shape. The longitudinal arms of the cross are formed by two lines. These lines terminate in the topmost and bottommost triple circles. The transversal arms are formed by a single line and terminate in the shape of a lotus blossom (Keel 1995: § 429). Subtriangular shapes protrude from the topmost and bottommost triple circles on the transversal axis.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 4 "Concentric circles" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell Keisan No. 1. Other similar pieces exhibiting similar styles of central cross-shapes include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 931; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 871; Megiddo No. 597.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(31).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5688.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:176, 41:25 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 168–169, Pl. 87:12. *[TB]*

458



1 cm

459



1 cm

460 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3+E2/II/e8 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 52/EP 61/Side 13 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, pale brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, back chipped near head. MEASUREMENTS: 19.8 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W) × 9.2 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base shows knot-like convoluted coils with a central 'x' cross (Keel 1995: § 499) that has a button shape at its midpoint. The convoluted coils are formed by triple lines, with the exception of the top right inward curve, which is formed by a double line. Other than the triple lines used for the convoluted coils, all other lines are double lines. A longitudinal line traverses the pattern. This arrangement is framed on the longitudinal axis by ovals that contain four symmetrically arranged double arcs. Although the arcs on first sight seem to connect with the convoluted coils, the fit is less than perfect in most cases.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 6B3 "Convoluted coils, varia" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 373, 693, 1179; Bethany No. 4; Beth Shean No. 78; Hazor No. 108; Tell Jemmeh No. 191; Jericho No. 72, 358; Lachish No. 315, 874; Megiddo No. 107, 491, 742; Rishon LeZion No. 1; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 56; as well as seal impressions on clay sealings from Egypt: el-Lisht South, Pyramid complex of Senwosret I, north temple gateway (Metropolitan Museum of Art 14.3.403); el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: Pl. 65:423); Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: 246, Fig. 102:267); and from the fort of Mirgissa in Sudan (Gratien 2001: Fig. 12:9B-60).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(32).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5671.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:177, 41:15 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:10; Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 82, Fig. 17b. *[TB]*

461 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory (back), beige (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped in two places, side chipped, side chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base shows convoluted coils with a central 'x' cross (Keel 1995: § 499). All coils and other design elements are constituted by two lines. The coils are constricted with small transversal bands to form pretzel shapes at the top and bottom of the design.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 6B2 "Convoluted coils" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 442, 446, 465; Gezer No. 61. Other base carvings exhibiting slightly less smoothly rendered interpretations of the same motif can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1180; Tel Gerisa No. 15. For further comparanda and a convenient overview, see Mlinar 2009: 28–33.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(33).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5657.

① See Lachish No. 426.

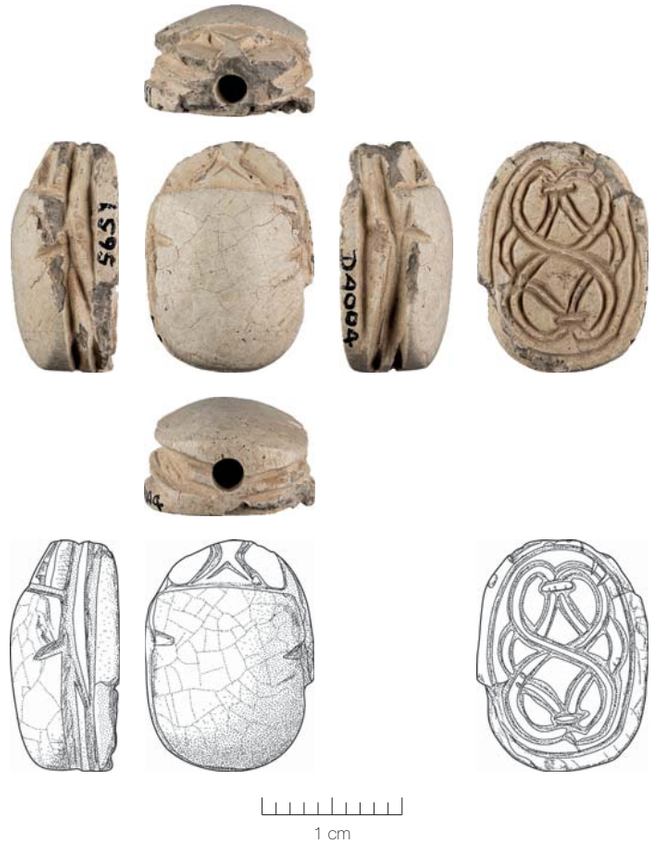
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:178, 41:23 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:6. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

460



461



462 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown (back, sides), dark brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the design depicts a central *ṯst* (S24), a square (or reef) knot (Keel 1995: § 495). Outward-facing C-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) emerge from the central knot on the longitudinal axis. The C-spirals end in closed loops and are formed by two lines each. A *wꜣḏ* (M13) sign is located inside the top C-spiral. A hatched teardrop shape is inside the bottom C-spiral. Inward-facing *ḥꜥ(j)* (N28) signs frame the central knot and spirals on the transversal axis.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 352; Gezer No. 457; from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: 23, Pl. 8:64); Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Grave 1226 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: Pl. 43:3, 47; now Manchester Museum 6853); a seal impression on a clay sealing from Sudan (Reisner 1955: 61, Fig. 9:186:217).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(34).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5693.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102–103, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:179, 41:27 (side type). *[TB]*

463 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/vlv/d12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 12/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference, hairline cracks through second and third legs on right side. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving depicts a central rosette consisting of four hatched lobes (Keel 1995: § 494). The transversal lobes depict *ḥz* (W14) vases that are joined together at the base. Two streams of liquid emerge from each vase. Bent flowers (Keel 1995: § 430) are located at the four corners of the design. The stems of the bent flowers resemble right angle protrusions.

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Consequently, the present scarab is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: An exact parallel for the base that also exhibits a virtually identical head, back, and side type is known from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, Maket tomb, Outer Chamber (Petrie 1891: 23, Pl. 26:38; Tufnell 1984: 114, Fig. 24:35; now Ashmolean Museum AN1890.765). Another exact parallel for the base engraving is el-Ballas, Tomb 228 (Jensen 2019: 987–996, 1232; now Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8909). No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Similar compositions can be seen on Beth Shean No. 81, 167.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on closest comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(35).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5650.

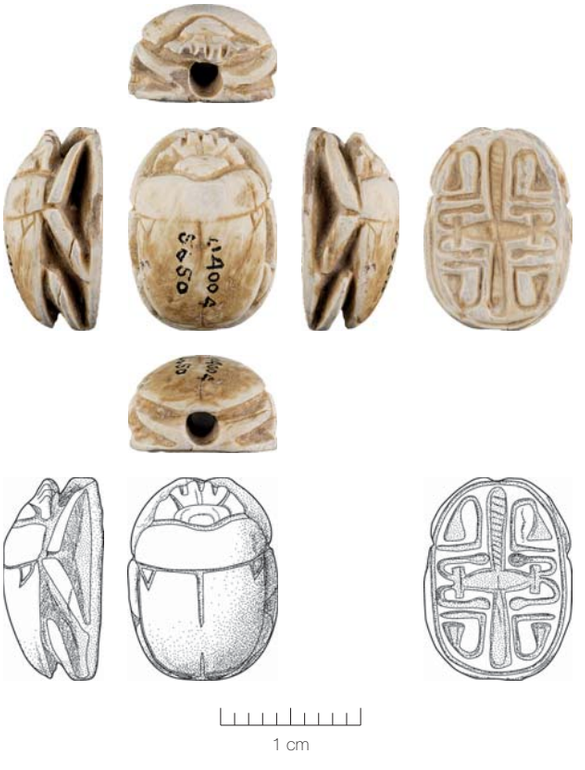
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102–103, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:180, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

462



463



464 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep linear. Remarks: A longitudinal white stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base engraving depicts a longitudinal twisted rope (Keel 1995: § 502). Identical hieroglyphs frame the rope symmetrically on either side. From top to bottom, these are: an *ʾnḫ* (S34); and an inward-facing, transversally oriented *t* (X1).

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 68; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Assasif, Tomb 37, Chamber C, Coffin 37 (Herbert/Carter 1912: 68, 78, Pl. 72:37; now Metropolitan Museum 26.7.656); and a seal impression on clay from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 61, Fig. 9:200:303).

DATING: 13th–early 18th Dyn. (1760–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(36).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5754.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:181, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

465 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7?/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. All surfaces heavily eroded aside from central base engraving that remains distinguishable. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts a transversally oriented encompassed central twist (Keel 1995: § 501) formed by intertwined double lines. A double arc with three perpendicular lines is located above and below the central twist.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 6C2 "Encompassed coils, central twist" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb S 84 (Steindorff 1937: 195–196, Pl. 56:149). For other pieces featuring different types of framing elements inside the double arcs above and below the central twist, see the comparanda in Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 24.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(37).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5812.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:182, 41:36 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 170–171, Pl. 89:46. *[TB]*

464



1 cm

465



1 cm

466 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white (back, sides), brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running through bottom of back, side, and base, rim of base chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 15.1 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal yellow stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the engraving depicts: a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign; and a string pattern (Keel 1995: § 497) formed by two lines. The pattern consists of a double line thread (or coiled string) connecting two figure-8 loops through a central loop. An upside down hatched teardrop shape is located above the central loop.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 468 depicts an *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) with a different type of coiled string below it. Lachish No. 473 depicts a similar type of coiled string in conjunction with other elements in a horizontal layout. Based on this comparandum, the teardrop mentioned in the description may well be an integral part of the coiled string motif.

DATING: 12th–15th Dyn. (1939–1540 BCE); dating based on Keel 1995: § 497.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(38).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5682.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:183, 41:19 (side type). *[TB]*

467 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe with a white border is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central *zꜣ* (V17/V18) sign formed by a double line. An outward-facing flowering plant with a bound bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430) frames the sign on each side.

COMPARANDA: A scarab from Egypt, Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb S 26 (Steindorff 1937: 107, 166, Pl. 56:145) features the same decorative elements resting on a double arc with two perpendicular lines. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 603 features the same signs but with an upside down *zꜣ* (V17/V18) and a small mound between the drooping flowers. Beth Zur No. 10 also features an upside down *zꜣ* (V17/V18) and a *nb* (V30) that serves as base to the other signs.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(39).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5752.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:184, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

466



467



468 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white (back, sides), pale brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the engraving depicts: a downward-facing crescent moon or *jʿḥ* (N11) sign; a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign; and a coiled string (Keel 1995: § 496), which can be assigned to Design Class 6A1 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns, single-line thread".

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 466 also depicts a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign with a different type of coiled string below it.

DATING: 12th–15th Dyn. (1939–1540 BCE); dating based on Keel 1995: § 496.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(40).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5632.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:185, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

469 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/I+dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey (back, base), beige (carved areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, hairline crack in both sides, left side slightly chipped in one spot, original patina on head of back half chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a simplified *ꜣḫt* (N27) sign depicting a sun disc between an upward-facing, angular C-shape; a *kꜣ* (D28) sign flanked on either side by two *ḥm* (U36) signs; a large *tꜣ* (N16/N17) sign; and a large Y-shape formed by two lines. Three irregular shapes are located on either side of and inside the arms of the Y-shape.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3A3 "Egyptian signs and symbols, varia" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 75 and Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 57 also feature *ꜣḫt* (N27) and *ḥm* (U36) signs in a different composition. Hazor No. 17 and Rishon LeZion No. 18 also feature *ꜣḫt* (N27) and *kꜣ* (D28) signs in a different composition.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(41).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5747.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 101, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:186, 41:14 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 126, 151, n. 726, Pl. 51:59. *[TB]*

468



1 cm

469



1 cm

470 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/III/e9 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 61?/EP 53/Side 38 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellow and dark grey (inclusions). PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts: a central button-shape flanked by four outward-facing drooping lotus blossoms. The lotus blossoms roughly exhibit central symmetry. Two lines forming an upside down 'v' extend from the central button into the stems of the bottom two lotus blossoms (hence *z3* [V17/V18]?). The composition is framed on the longitudinal axis by "Hyksos sides" (Keel 1995: § 486). The centre of the T-shapes forming the "Hyksos sides" are filled in with double circles (Keel 1995: § 490). A line extends from the double circle into the outer border of the "Hyksos side".

DISCUSSION: This is likely a scarab of the Late Palestinian Series D-head group, which occasionally features an A-head as with this item (Ben-Tor 2007: 183).

COMPARANDA: A comparable carving can be seen on the back of Tell Beit Mirsim No. 50, a scarab from a private collection.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 183.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(42).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5695.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:187, 41:30 (side type). *[TB]*

471 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped on both sides in the area near the red crowns, back chipped near one perforation hole, back chipped in central area. MEASUREMENTS: 18.4 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462) containing two hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: a hatched *rʿ* (N5) and a *k3* (D28). The *k3* (D28) features a T-shape formed by double lines between the arms. The central oval is framed on the transversal and the longitudinal axis by two *dšrt* (S3) or red crowns, arranged *tête-bêche*.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 3D1 "Simple oblong ring" in Ben-Tor's Second Intermediate Period seal corpus (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. For motifs featuring red crowns framing other central designs, see Tel Mevorakh No. 1.

DATING: 13th–15th Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); dating based on Ryholt 2010: 124.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-61.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5726.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 99, 119, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:188; Keel 1995: § 190, p. 279 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 166–167. *[TB]*

470



471



472 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped in one area, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetle sign framed on either side by *kꜣ* (D28) signs. A small line projects from the midpoint of the U-shape formed by the arms of the *kꜣ* (D28) signs, and the right *kꜣ* (D28) sign also exhibits a single line joining the two arms. *tꜣ* (N16/N17) signs are located above and below the central hieroglyphs. A papyrus plant with two bound drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432) projects upward from the top *tꜣ* (N16/N17) sign. An upside down papyrus plant of the same type projects downward from the bottom *tꜣ* (N16/N17) sign.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 1E "Linear patterns, floral motifs" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Hazor No. 100 is another cowroid seal featuring a vertical layout with two papyrus plants framing the central composition. For more distantly comparable base engravings of this type, see the comparanda section for Hazor No. 100.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-62.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5727.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:189; Keel 1995: § 190; Ben-Tor 2007: 157, Pl. 74:18. *[TB]*

473 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: jasper[?] or unfired steatite. COLOUR: olive green. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near both perforation holes. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 17.0 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the central area depicts: a *nbw* (S12) and a string pattern (Keel 1995: § 497). The pattern consists of six loops symmetrically arranged above and below each other. Hatching can be seen inside all loops except the central top loop. Two transversally oriented *tꜣ* (N16/N17) are located to the left and right of the central area. A papyrus plant with two drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432) projects outward on the transversal axis from each *tꜣ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 1E "Linear patterns, floral motifs" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 466 depicts a similar type of coiled string in conjunction with a *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28) sign in a vertical layout. Hazor No. 100 and Lachish No. 472 are cowroids also featuring a vertical composition with two papyrus plants framing the central composition. For more distantly comparable base engravings of this type, see the comparanda section for Hazor No. 100.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-58.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5674.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:190; Keel 1995: § 190, p. 279 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 157, Pl. 74:19. *[TB]*

472



473



474 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark brown (back, side) and beige (back carving, base). PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near one perforation hole with one third of central area of cowroid back gone, exposing the perforation channel. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central cross or '+' shaped rosette (Keel 1995: § 494). The longitudinal lobes of the rosette are hatched. A double circle (Keel 1995: § 490) is located at the centre of the cross-shape. Four lines emerge diagonally from the centre of the cross-shape. Each line terminates in a double circle (Keel 1995: § 490). Above and below the longitudinal lobes of the rosette are two outward-facing uraei with joined tails (Keel 1995: § 523). The uraei above the rosette are upside down.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant, but Tel Eton No. 12 exhibits a virtually identical back type.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on the dating of Tel Eton No. 12, a cowroid that exhibits a virtually identical back type to the present item.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(43).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5731.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:191; Keel 1995: § 192, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

475 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near one perforation hole, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving depicts a central button-shape. Two lobes emerge from the button-shape on the transversal axis. Four outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) project from the central button-shape. The uraei roughly exhibit central symmetry and are attached to the button by their tails. Lunette shapes formed by a single line are located above and below the uraei.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 197; Tel Eton No. 12; Lachish No. 476 are three other cowroids carved with the same motif on the base. The entries for Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 197 and Tel Eton No. 12 refer to further, more distantly related comparanda found on oval pieces, scarabs, a round piece with a domed back, a scaraboid with a human figure, a cat scaraboid, and a frog scaraboid.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(44).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5729.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:192; Keel 1995: § 192, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

474



475



476 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark yellow (back) and beige (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through one fourth of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 8.6 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal white stripe is visible on the back of the cowroid (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving depicts a central button-shape. Two hatched lobes emerge from the button-shape on the transversal axis. Four outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) project from the central button-shape. The uraei roughly exhibit central symmetry and are attached to the button by their tails. Lunette shapes formed by double lines are located above and below the uraei.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 197; Tel Eton No. 12; Lachish No. 475 are three other cowroids carved with the same motif on the base. The entries for Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 197 and Tel Eton No. 12 refer to further, more distantly related comparanda found on oval pieces, scarabs, a round piece with a domed back, a scaraboid with a human figure, a cat scaraboid, and a frog scaraboid.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(45).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5730.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:193; Keel 1995: § 187, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

477 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, dark brown (chipped area). PRESERVATION: complete. Large area of back chipped, back chipped near area of one perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. Viewed vertically, the design shows a transversally oriented, encompassed central twist (Keel 1995: § 501) that occupies the centre of the composition. Two double arcs emerge from the border line near the top and bottom of the base. Three perpendicular lines are inside these double arcs. Three sets of longitudinal double lines emerge from each double arc and end at the central twist. Hatching lines within the central twist are perhaps meant to connect the longitudinal lines above and below.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Classes 6C2 "Encompassed coils, central twist" and 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Pella No. 60 features the same back type and a similar base carving. For more distantly comparable base engravings of this type, see the comparanda section for Pella No. 60.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(46).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5669.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 103, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:194; Keel 1995: § 190, 192, p. 279 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 103, n. 515, 170–171, 174, Pl. 89:47, 95:7. *[TB]*

476



1 cm

477



1 cm

478 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip out of back, side, and base, back chipped near one perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts a central *ḏd* (R11) flanked on either side by an *ꜥnḫ* (S34). A large *nb* (V30) serves as a base for these three signs. Inward-facing uraei flank the central composition on either side (Keel 1995: § 524). The tails of the uraei emerge from the border line.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 3B1c "Cobras confronted" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 627; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 298 (cowroid); Kabri No. 21 (cowroid) show a similar composition carved in the same style, but substituting *wꜣḏ* (M13) for the *ḏd* (R11). Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 814 also depicts a similar composition, but substitutes *wꜣḏ* (M13) for the *ꜥnḫ* (S34) and a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) for the *nb* (V30) sign. A composition featuring many of the same basic elements can also be seen on the base of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1241.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(47).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5813.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:195; Keel 1995: § 191, p. 279 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 161–162. *[TB]*

479 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip out of centre of back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 3.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three rows of hieroglyphs. The first row is occupied by a left-facing transversally oriented flowering plant with a bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430). The second row depicts a left-facing ʿ (D36). The third row is occupied by a central column of two hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: an upside down *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) and a right-facing throwstick sign (*qmꜣ* [T14]). These hieroglyphs are framed by outward-facing *m* (G17) owl signs. The right hand owl is missing its left ear tuft, possibly due to damage. A large *nb* (V30) serves as base to the throwstick and *m* (G17) signs.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be assigned to Design Class 3A3 "Egyptian signs and symbols, varia" (Tufnell 1984: 118, Pl. 8).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. A stylistically similar ʿ (D36) to the one carved on this cowroid can be seen on Beth Shean No. 1.

DATING: 13th–15th Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); dating based on Ryholt 2010: 124.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(48).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5733.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:196; Keel 1995: § 186, p. 279 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 160. *[TB]*

478



479



480 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: greenish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Eroded on all sides. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: partial blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts the following signs: *r* (D21); *n* (N35); *t* (N16/N17); *r*ᶜ (N5).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. For faience objects depicting similar sequences of signs, see Lachish No. 559–560.

DATING: LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on Keel 1995.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(49).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5732.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:197; Keel 1995: § 186, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

481 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type III (Keel 1995: § 190–193). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper half of cowroid broken off, remaining portion of base heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 10.9* mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The remaining portion of this broken cowroid depicts a right-facing figure of the goddess Taweret (Keel 1995: § 592). Hatching is used to indicate the hide and crocodile tail on this composite being. The 'front' arm is outstretched and holds an object crooked in an S-shape. Both the arm and the object are indicated with a single line.

DISCUSSION: Most carvings of Taweret show the goddess holding a large knife (e.g., Azor No. 16). However, this scarab may depict Taweret holding a uraeus with an S-shaped tail. The goddess Taweret was frequently invoked as a protective figure for women and young children (Schroer 2008: 88). Consequently, this cowroid may have been worn as a protective amulet.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. For other seals depicting Taweret, see the comparanda given in the entry for Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 215. Falcon- or serpent-headed deities can also be depicted holding an outward-facing uraeus with its tail crooked in an S-shape, as shown on a scarab from Egypt: Gurob (Petrie 1891: Pl. 23:105).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(50).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5774.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:198; Keel 1995: § 192, 592, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

480



481



482 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and side chipped near perforations, hairline crack through one side. MEASUREMENTS: 11.8 mm (L) × 8.3 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts a central longitudinal column formed by two lines. Transversal lines connect the two lines forming the column near the top and bottom. From top to bottom, the following transversal features protrude from the column: a single line with hatching on top, two transversal lines, two transversal lines with hatching on top, a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) consisting of a single line, a leafy branch consisting of a single line, two transversal lines, and another two transversal lines. The lines with hatching on top may also represent leafy branches.

DISCUSSION: The base engraving may constitute a depiction of a tree and its branches. Trees occur during the MB as a symbol of the "branch goddess". Such trees could also be the object of veneration (Schroer 2008: 48).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. For pieces featuring only a single leafy branch without additional decorative motifs, see the comparanda listed for Lachish No. 385.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(51).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5763.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 120, 281–285, Pl. 34/35:199; Keel 1995: § 186, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

483 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped in one spot, sides chipped and cracked, side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, side and base slightly chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts: a central *ḏd* (R11) framed on either side by an inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23). A large *nbw* (S12) serves as base to these signs. The central signs are framed on each side by an *ʿnḫ* (S34). A small incision at the centre of the *nbw* (S12) may represent a mouth. Thus, this *nbw* (S12) may depict the face of Hathor, "the golden" (see Keel 1989a: 316). The bottom of the *nbw* (S12) collar is decorated with hatching to indicate the pendants.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B5 "Sedge plants" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tel Nagila No. 21 has a similar base engraving that places the *nbw* (S12) above the *ḏd* (R11) and paired *sw(t)* (M23) signs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(52).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5749.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:200, 41:19 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 164–165, Pl. 80:23, 81:7. *[TB]*

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484 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey (back, base) and beige (carved areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, back slightly eroded, hairline cracks visible on base, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three rows of hieroglyphs. The first row depicts a central *wꜣḏ* (M13) framed by inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23). The second row consists of three *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. The details of the bases on the *nfr* (F35) are indicated with hatching. The third row is occupied by a large *nbw* (S12). The bottom of the *nbw* (S12) collar is decorated with hatching to indicate the pendants. The *nbw* (S12) has three lines incised on it depicting the face of Hathor, "the golden" (see Keel 1989a: 316).

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Class 3B5 "Sedge plants" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 106; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 804 show a similar composition carved in the same style, but substituting inward-facing uraei for the *sw(t)* (M23).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(53).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5738.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:201, 41:16 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 164, Pl. 80:24. *[TB]*

485 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 8/EP 5/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: pale brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running through centre of back, one third of right side broken off, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: remains of light blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal pale blue stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of two incised lines that loop inward to form a circular shape at the left and right of the design. The inner engraving depicts: a downward-facing coiled string (Keel 1995: § 496) above a large *nbw* (S12). The bottom of the *nbw* (S12) collar is decorated with hatching to indicate the pendants.

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" and 6A1 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns, single-line thread" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 249 features an engraving with a different inner border and a string pattern (Keel 1995: § 497) instead of a coiled string (Keel 1995: § 496) above the *nbw* (S12) sign. A similar inner border framing other signs can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 790, 944; Lachish No. 285.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(54).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5678.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:202, 41:16 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 165, Pl. 81:8. *[TB]*

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486 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 61/Side 20 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large *nbw* (S12), with a longitudinally oriented, right-facing *ḫpr* (L1) above it. These central signs are framed on each side by an *ʿnḫ* (S34).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 132. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 882 features the same arrangement of signs with a left-facing *ḫpr* (L1).

DATING: 19th–early 20th Dyn. (1292–1150 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(55).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5750.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 120, Pl. 36/35:203, Pl. 41:40 (side type). *[TB]*

487 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, scratch running through bottom third of right side. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 5.1 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A beige spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts four rows of hieroglyphs. The first row depicts a central *ʿnḫ* (S34) framed by inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23). The second row consists of two inward-facing *wḏȝt* (D10). The third row shows a central *ḫpr* (L1) framed by *ʿnḫ* (S34). The fourth row is occupied by a large *nbw* (S12).

DISCUSSION: This base motif is identified as Design Classes 3B4 "Horus eyes" and 3B5 "Sedge plants" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1092 and Pella No. 10 show similar compositions that also feature a row of two inward-facing *wḏȝt* (D10); a row with a central *ḫpr* (L1) framed by *ʿnḫ* (S34); and a large *nbw* (S12) in the bottommost row.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(56).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5744.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:204, 41:27 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 163–164, Pl. 79:42, 80:25. *[TB]*

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488 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). Unfinished[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory (back, sides) and brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks running through back, sides, and base, side nearest rear piercing and rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 14.1 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a papyrus plant with two bound drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432). A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the plant. Two vertical lines rolled up at their top emerge from the base of the plant and frame the central upright stem.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as a Design Class 1E ("Linear patterns, floral motifs") early Middle Kingdom seal (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 183; Gezer No. 408; Jericho No. 474 all have base carvings that show similar depictions of papyrus plants on *nb* (V30) bases, though lacking the additional vertical lines rolled up at their top.

DATING: 11th–early 12th Dyn. (2080–1837 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 5, see also bibliography reference.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(57).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5691.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:205; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology); Ben-Tor 2007: 157, n. 737. *[TB]*

489 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 52/Side 7 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown (back, side, base carving) and white (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip out of back, side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three rows of signs and hieroglyphs. The first row contains a large *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450). The second row, from right to left, shows a right-facing uraeus and an *ʿnḫ* (S34). The long tail of the uraeus is depicted as curving over the *ʿnḫ* (S34). The *ʿnḫ* (S34) is depicted with the top loop detached from the T-shaped handle of the symbol. The third row contains a large hatched *nb* (V30).

COMPARANDA: Designs with the same basic composition but lacking a sign under the tail of the uraeus can be seen on Tell Beit Mirsim No. 10; Lachish No. 536. Similar designs substituting a different sign or hieroglyph for the *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) occur on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 132 and Gezer No. 429.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(58).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5636.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:206, 41:5 (side type). *[TB]*

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490 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped, back chipped, base slightly chipped with hairline crack running through column of signs. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the engraving depicts, from right to left: a column of hieroglyphic signs, and a large transversally oriented hatched *nb* (V30). From top to bottom, the column of signs consists of: *ḥtp* (R4); ˁ(D36); *ḥm* (U36); ˁ(D36); *ḥm* (U36); ˁ(D36). All ˁ(D36) are right-facing and all *ḥm* (U36) are transversally oriented and feature hatching on the head of the club.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Seal bases featuring vertical layouts with differently arranged compositions that also feature *nb* (V30), *ḥtp* (R4), and *anra* sequences include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1082; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 37; Ginnosar No. 2.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(59).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5742.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:207, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

491 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 74/EP 1/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white and brown (carvings, damage). PRESERVATION: broken. Side and base chipped near perforation at head and base of scarab, base worn and chipped near uraeus and *nb* (V30) sign. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 7.8 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. No border is present on this base decoration. The base depicts, from right to left: a right-facing *j* (M17) and a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522). A narrow *nb* (V30) forms the base to these signs. The *j* (M17) rests on the *nb* (V30).

COMPARANDA: Scarabs made of composite material and featuring the same decorative elements on the base include Beth Shean No. 17; Beth Shemesh No. 70; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 526; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 26.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(60).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5660.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:208, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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492 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/I/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Side and base slightly chipped near perforation at head and rear of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a large *nbw* (S12); two flowering plants with bound bent stems (Keel 1995: § 430); and a large hatched *nb* (V30) serving as base to the composition. The left flowering plant faces outward and emerges from the *nb* (V30). A left-facing counter-clockwise spiral emerges from the *nb* (V30) to the right of this plant. The right flowering plant has its stem intertwined with the end of the counter-clockwise spiral. The right flower is upside down relative to the left flower, and faces inward. Both flowers are depicted as rectangular shapes. The left flower and the counter-clockwise spiral may depict a stylized *dšrt* (S3) or red crown (see Lachish No. 494 for a less stylized depiction).

COMPARANDA: Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 35 depicts the same design with an additional *ḥtp* (R4) above the *nbw* (S12).

DATING: 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(61).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5808.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:209, 41:6 (side type). *[TB]*

493 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige and red (discoloration on right of back and side). PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping visible on back and on the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The engraving consists of multiple hieroglyphic signs distributed in an irregular fashion around a central right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) or falcon wearing a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. A longitudinally oriented *r* (D21) is above the crown. From right to left, a *t* (X1) or *nb* (V30) and an upside down *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars are located above the falcon's back. A T-shape is in front of the falcon's one visible leg. This may depict an abstract upside down *ḥtp* (R4) sign (see also Lachish No. 377). A transversally oriented *n* (N35) framed on either side by an outward-facing *t* (X1) or an inward-facing *nb* (V30) are located under the foot and tail of the falcon.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Class 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Similar compositions also featuring a crowned falcon can be seen on Beth Shemesh No. 76; Jericho No. 321.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-65.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5741.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 101, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:210, 41:26; Ben-Tor 2007: 174, Pl. 95:8. *[TB]*

492



1 cm

493



1 cm

494 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a large *ḥtp* (R4) filled with hatching, and a left-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown resting on a *nb* (V30). The curl at the front of the red crown ends in a blossom (Keel 1995: § 429), and the back of the red crown bends downward and ends in a drooping blossom (Keel 1995: § 430). The red crown and the *nb* (V30) sign may be combined to form the hieroglyphic sign *n(t)* (S4).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Other compositions featuring normal red crowns and *nb* (V30) signs in conjunction with *ḥtp* (R4) signs include Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 37; Gibeon No. 56; Jericho No. 109, 207, 236; Lachish No. 405; Rishon LeZion No. 82.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(62).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5698.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:211, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

495 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/II/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze?. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white (back, base) and dark grey (sides). PRESERVATION: broken. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, top of base chipped off and perforation is exposed, sides and back slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; base and rear photographs show remains of bronze ring stuck in the perforation channel. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A dark grey spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally with the head on the back of the scarab facing left, the engraving depicts a longitudinally oriented diagonal *n* (N35) framed on either side by transversally oriented *dšrt* (S3) or red crowns, arranged *tête-bêche*. An inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the right of this central arrangement. The sign to the left of the central signs has been heavily damaged and can no longer be distinguished.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. For a design featuring a row of *anra* signs between red crowns in *tête-bêche* position, see the comparanda for Lachish No. 339.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(63).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5753.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:212, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

494



495



496 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/I/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back, side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, top right of base eroded, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 11.9 mm (L) × 8.7 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the engraving depicts two rows of decoration. The first row contains a transversally oriented left-facing *dšrt* (S3). The second row contains two signs, from right to left: a right-facing *dšrt* (S3) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single thick T-shaped crossbar.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Similar compositions can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 610; Jericho No. 299.

DATING: 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(64).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5709.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:213, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

497 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/I?/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, three quarters of back broken off, slight chipping visible on base and on base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central motif consists of two hieroglyphs. From right to left, these are: a right-facing *dšrt* (S3) and an *ʿnḫ* (S34). A triple arc with two perpendicular lines inside the top arc is located above the central hieroglyphs. An arc formed by a single line serves as a base for the central motif.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Similar compositions substituting a *ḥm* (U36) or a *zꜣ* (V17/V18) for the *ʿnḫ* (S34) can be seen on Rishon LeZion No. 50 and, from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Locus K 1300 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 18–19, Pl. 43:47, 46; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC18854).

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(65).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5769.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:214, 41:36 (side type). *[TB]*

496



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498 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/II/d12 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks visible in back, side and base chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, hairline crack running from perforation at rear of scarab into engraving, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 24.3 mm (L) × 17.4 mm (W) × 10.6 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze. Remarks: Parallels for the large lotus blossom (Keel 1995: § 94, 429) engraved on the back are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 309, 823; Beth Shemesh No. 71; Jericho No. 29, 592; Lachish No. 392; Tel Nagila No. 23, 46; Shiloh No. 10.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a right facing lion trampling on a downward-facing anthropomorphic figure. A running anthropomorphic figure looking back is located in front of the lion and the other figure. The lion's tail is folded above its back and ends in an elongated, rhomboid tail-tassel, possibly an outward-facing, longitudinally oriented uraeus. The lion's front paw is depicted in a shape similar to an anthropomorphic foot. Hatching is used to indicate the scales on the uraeus, the fur on the lion, and the hair and folds of the long garments on the individuals. The upper part of the cloth garment on the fallen figure is clearly folded in a V-shape. The running figure is wearing a V-necked shirt (see ʿAra No. 12 for the depiction of a similar item of clothing). Both individuals wear a belt at their midsection. The fallen figure has its 'front' arm upraised in front of its face. The 'rear' arm hangs by the figure's side. The running individual's 'front' arm hangs by its side and the 'rear' arm touches the lion in the chest area.

DISCUSSION: As Keel and Uehlinger (1998: 23 n. 8) and Schroer (2008: 130 no. 343) note, this composition may partly imitate a scene found on an ivory wand from the cemetery at el-Lisht (now Metropolitan Museum 15.3.197). However, the scene on the scarab is less explicit in its depiction of violence compared to the wand from el-Lisht, since the trampled individual is depicted with the 'front' arm raised as if paying homage (Keel 1974: 95) even while being trampled. The present scarab depicts the figure in front of the lion as clearly raising the 'rear' arm to ward off the animal, as opposed to other depictions such as the ones on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 45 and Jericho No. 86, where the figure facing the lion clearly has an arm raised in a more ambiguous position that could also signify paying homage. On the scarab, the lion likely depicts the victorious might of the pharaoh overthrowing his foes (Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 47 and Schroer 2008: 130 no. 343), though the latter are seemingly not depicted according to Egyptian tradition on the scarab (contra Keel 1995: 196). This base engraving is classified as Design Class 9E "Lions" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Compositions featuring lions attacking single anthropomorphic individuals can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 45; Jericho No. 86; Shiloh No. 16.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(66).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5654.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:215, 41:6 (side type); Keel 1994: 219, 247, Fig. 33; Keel 1995: § 539; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 12, Fig. 5a; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:13; Schroer 2008: 130–131, No. 343; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 12, Fig. 5a. *[TB]*

499 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Edges of back slightly chipped, back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 19.2 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing striding lion (Keel 1995: § 536). The lion's tail exhibits a rounded end and is curled in an arc over the body. Hatching is used to indicate the lion's fur and mane, and the hairs on the end of the tail. A right-facing uraeus above the lion's back and a left-facing uraeus in front of the lion's face frame the central figure of the lion (Keel 1995: § 528).

DISCUSSION: The lion on this seal may symbolize the protective royal might of the pharaoh, while the uraei have apotropaic significance. This combination of symbols may have been thought to protect the wearer of this scarab (see Schroer 2008: 130–131, No. 342). This base is classified as Design Classes 9C5 "Cobras confronted with animals or heraldic beasts" and 9F "Heraldic beasts" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Other base engravings featuring lions with a uraeus above their back and front are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 371, 413, 1017; Gezer No. 529; Ḥorvat Zelef No. 4.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(67).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5810.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:216, 41:6 (side type); Keel 1995: § 537; Ben-Tor 2007: 175, 178, Pl. 98:36, 101:24; Schroer 2008: 130–131, No. 342. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

498



Non-standard scale.

499



500 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark brown (back, sides), reddish-beige (back, sides, base). PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped and lightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.7 mm (L) × 15.9 mm (W) × 8.4 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal beige stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing striding lion (Keel 1995: § 536). Hatching is used to indicate the lion's fur and mane. The lion's tail exhibits a rounded end and is curled in an arc over the body. An arc formed by a single line emerges from the border above the lion's back. A left-facing *jʿḥ* (N12) is located in front of the lion.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 9E "Lions" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. Other base engravings featuring lions depicted in conjunction with one or more hieroglyphs are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 96, 388, 461, 816; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 44, 418, 425; Kabri No. 16; Lachish No. 356; Megiddo No. 362; Taanach No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(68).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5757.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:217, 41:27 (side type); Keel 1995: § 537; Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:14. *[TB]*

501 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/I/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, sides, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 11.9 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: remains of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a reclining human-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 544) facing right. The leonine tail of the sphinx is curled in an arc over the body and exhibits a round end. Hatching is used to indicate the headcloth and fur at the front and rear of the sphinx. A pharaonic ceremonial beard protrudes from the sphinx's chin.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 9F "Heraldic animals" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Base engravings that depict stylistically similar reclining sphinxes in conjunction with other decorative elements such as uraei and hieroglyphs include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 78, 567; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 17; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 45; Jaffa No. 14.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(69).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5761.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:218, 41:37 (side type); Keel 1995: § 544; Ben-Tor 2007: 178, Pl. 101:25. *[TB]*

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502 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 35/EP 88/Side 49 (Rowe). Note the elaborate back decoration, including 'ladder-shaped' designs on the elytrae. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige and dark greyish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base slightly chipped near perforation at head of scarab, heavily chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, sides and base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding, right-facing human-headed sphinx trampling a prone anthropomorphic figure (Keel 1995: § 547). The sphinx sports a headcloth, ceremonial beard, and apron on its front legs. The prone figure is facing toward the trampling feet of the sphinx and has one arm raised in front of its face. The leonine tail of the sphinx is curled in an arc over the body. A single arc is located above the head of the sphinx. A left-facing flower emerges from the single arc.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A horizontal base engraving featuring a similarly depicted central motif of a sphinx trampling an enemy with different additional features can be seen on Gezer No. 222. A more detailed scene is seen on the rectangular piece Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 266, dated to the reign of Amenhotep II (I. Koch, pers. comm.).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(70).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5707.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:219, 41:38 (side type); Lalkin 2008: No. 399. *[TB]*

503 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/I/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: frit. COLOUR: dark blue. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, sides, and base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 1.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a reclining falcon-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 550) facing right. Hatching is used to indicate the neck feathers. A longitudinally oriented left-facing *j* (M17) is located above the back of the sphinx.

DISCUSSION: The present scarab is likely an Egyptian import (see comparandum).

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Assasif, Tomb 37, Chamber E, Coffin 62, Mummy A (child) on string with two other seals at wrist (Herbert and Carter 1912: 66–67, 82, Pl. 72:62.A; now Metropolitan Museum 26.7.545, note that the museum database attributed this item to the wrong tomb at the time of writing [3 October 2022]).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Ahmose–Thutmose III (1539–1425 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(71).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5646.

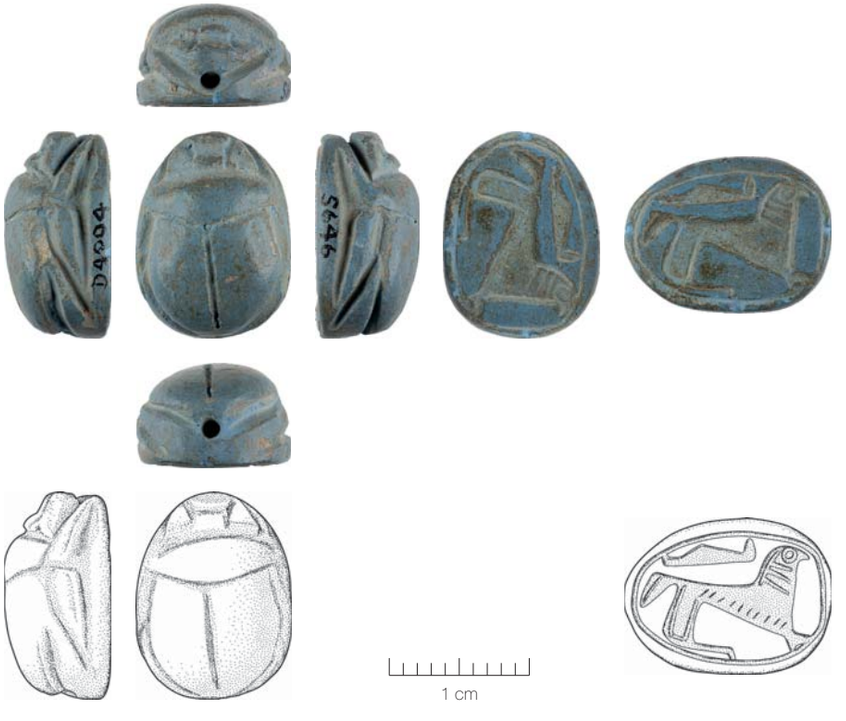
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 36/35:220, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

502



503



504 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/II/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: greyish-green, gold (damaged areas). PRESERVATION: broken. Back, sides, and base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing striding lion with an open mouth (Keel 1995: § 536). The lion appears to wear an apron. The long tail of the lion curves up and over the animal's body. A lotus with long stem (Keel 1995: § 429) emerges from the border line above the lion's head and dangles in front of the animal's face. A *rʿ* (N5) sign is located in front of the lion. Conchoidal fractures obscure much of the decoration above the lion's neck. Only a damaged sign whose remaining portion resembles an 'x' is still visible.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 624 is a badly-preserved scarab made of glass that depicts a more schematic right-facing striding lion with a long tail curved over the lion's body.

DATING: LB IIB–LB III (early 13th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(72).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5758.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:221, 41:24 (side type). *[TB]*

505 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/vllv/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing reclining mythical creature, apparently winged. A double arc is located under the creature's neck. The short tail of the creature is raised.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 421 depicts a mythical animal in a similar pose on Side A. A griffon in a similar pose can also be seen on a scarab from Egypt: Luxor, Assasif, Court 41, Grave C4 (Lilyquist 2020: Metropolitan Museum 16.10.221).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5648.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 120, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:222. *[TB]*

506 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 27.4 mm (L) × 17.2 mm (W) × 17.6 mm (H); 3.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 3.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: partial blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a striding horned caprid facing right. The caprid's head is turned to face backward. A longitudinally oriented left-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) is located above the back of the caprid.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 9B "Antelopes" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 160, 590; Amman No. 21; Azor No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 100; from Egypt: el-Lisht North, Cemetery, debris (Metropolitan Museum 22.1.329).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(73).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5705.

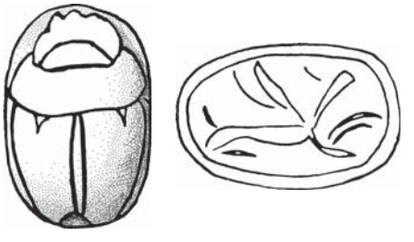
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:223, 41:19 (side type); Keel 1995: § 521; Ben-Tor 2007: 175 with Pl. 96:23 (iconography, dating). *[TB]*

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507 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A10/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, black (damaged areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped in one spot, back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head and rear of scarab, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a striding horned caprid facing left. The caprid's body is decorated with cross-hatching in a herringbone pattern. A leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located under the caprid's muzzle. An *r* (D21) sign is located above back of the caprid.

DISCUSSION: The caprid (Keel 1995: § 520) and the leafy branch under the animal may be an allusion to the "branch goddess" (Keel 1995: § 574–576), who is frequently associated with these symbolic elements.

COMPARANDA: Similar base engravings that have one or more signs from the *anra* sequence carved above the back of a caprid include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 55, 397, 613, 672, 961, 1001, 1142–1143; Beth Shemesh No. 220; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 17; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 101; Gezer No. 332–333; Jericho No. 523; Megiddo No. 723; Tel Nagila No. 22; Pella No. 40, 54; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 83; Taanach No. 38; from Egypt: Koptos, Thutmose III temple foundation deposit 3 (Petrie 1896: 14, Pl. 15:45, 16:45).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(74).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5759.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:224, 41:37 (side type); Keel 1995: § 521; Ben-Tor 2007: 175, Pl. 96:24. *[TB]*

508 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, dark brown (spots of degraded glaze). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back and base, one edge of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, reclining horned caprid (Keel 1995: § 520), its left foreleg raised and bent at the knee. A leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located behind the caprid.

DISCUSSION: The caprid (Keel 1995: § 520) and the leafy branch behind the animal may be an allusion to the "branch goddess" (Keel 1995: § 574–576), who is frequently associated with these symbolic elements. This base is classified as Design Class 9B "Antelopes" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography). However, the closest comparanda are dated to the 18th Dyn. Consequently, it is more likely that this seal is an 18th Dyn. production.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Gurob, Tomb 60 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 12, Pl. 14, 26:17; Side B, rectangular plaque). Other pieces featuring caprids with one raised leg, but with the head turned to face backward, are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 135, 861; Beth Shemesh No. 178. For pieces depicting caprids with all legs lowered, see: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 80, 314, 414, 417; Beth Shean No. 82; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 69, 90.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(75).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5655.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:225, 41:35 (side type); Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 280–281, 395, Fig. 115, 293; Ben-Tor 2007: 175, Pl. 96:25. *[TB]*

507



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509 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 59?/EP 27/Side 48 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: black. Speckled with brown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 3.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 3.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. No border is present on this carving. The engraving depicts a reclining horned bovine, facing right with its head turned backward. The bovine has a long tail stretched out behind its rear. A right-facing element that may depict a scorpion is located above the bovine's back.

DISCUSSION: The combination of the bovine with the abstract depiction of what may be a scorpion above its body has been discussed by Staubli 2009a: 611–616. According to Staubli, the depiction of these two elements is likely a reference to the beginning of the most favourable season for the calving of flocks in November in both the Levant and Mesopotamia.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. If the context dating is correct, this may be the earliest attestation of the motif of a quadruped with a scorpion in the Levant. Somewhat similar paired bovines with their heads turned back can be seen on Late Bronze Age cylinder seals from Ugarit (Schaeffer-Forrer 1983: 80, R.S. 3.015, 85, R.S. 6.067, 94, R.S. 7.203). Another early piece may be Jabal al-Ḥawaiyah No. 6, from a context dated to LB III. The motif subsequently became popular in the Iron I–Iron IIA, but the animal carved on seals was generally a caprid or an abstract depiction of a quadruped. Good Iron Age comparanda of quadrupeds with their heads turned back include: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 266; Gezer No. 179; Tell Jemmeh No. 88; Megiddo No. 267, 618; Reḥov No. 9.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE) or Iron I–Iron IIA? (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on context and comparanda. The piece is either an early example of this type of motif from the Late Bronze Age, or an Iron Age intrusion into an earlier Late Bronze Age context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(76).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5760.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:226, 41:43 (side type). *[TB]*

510 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 30+HC 43/EP 5/Side 40 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: remains of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The engraving depicts a right-facing striding bull. Cross-hatching is used to indicate fur on the bull. A right-facing *ʿnḫ* (S34) is located above the back of the bull. Another upright *ʿnḫ* (S34) is located in front of the bull. Three marks inside the loop of the right facing *ʿnḫ* (S34) may perhaps indicate a face. Small hatching lines are also present between the horns of the bull.

DISCUSSION: When *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs appear in conjunction with a bull, the scarab probably depicts an abbreviated hieroglyphic rebus spelling of *ḥp ʿnḫ*, the "Living Apis" (Erman and Grapow 1926–1953: 70).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 242 and Beth Shean No. 33 both depict similar motifs of a bull with one or two *ʿnḫ* (S34), but do not have a barred strand border.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

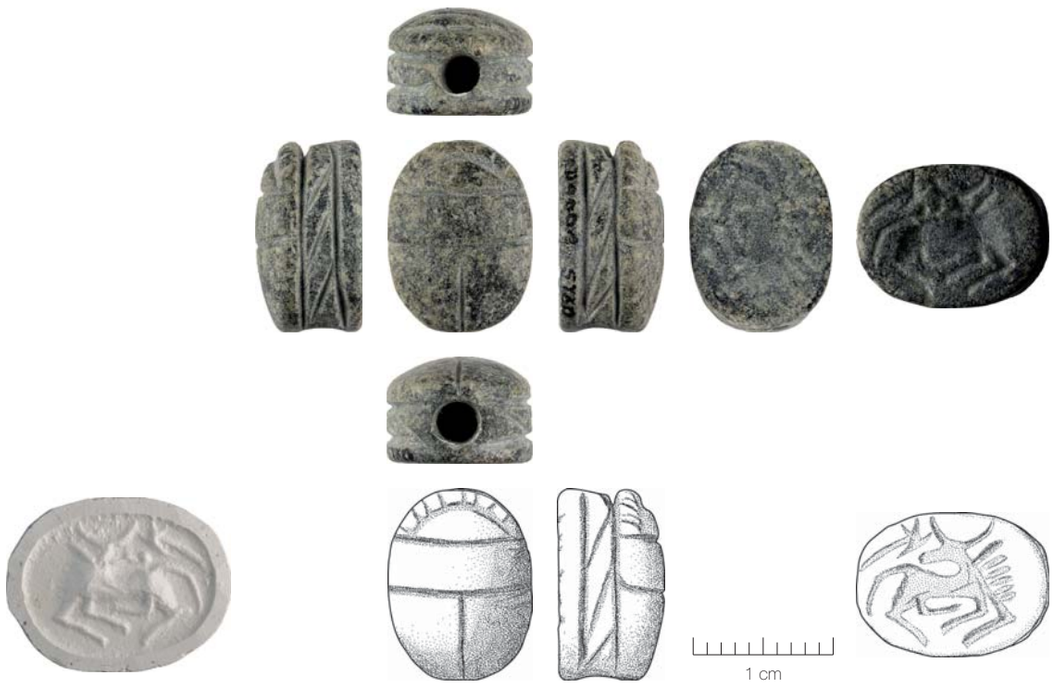
COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(77).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5689.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:227, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

509



510



511 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/I/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?] or serpentinite[?]. COLOUR: black. Speckled with brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped, much worn. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 11.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. No border is present on this carving. The engraving depicts a right-facing striding horned quadruped, likely a bovine.

DISCUSSION: It has been posited (Schroer 2021: 486) that bulls depicted on dark-coloured seals from the northern Levant are the symbolic animal of the weather god. The bull is also sometimes depicted fighting a lion (*ibid.*). Note that a lion is carved on the base of scarab Tel Gerisa No. 3, which is made from a similar material and exhibits similar back, head, and side types to the present item. Tel Gerisa No. 3 may thus constitute a symbolic counterpart to the present item.

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 356 Side B and Tell Abu Hawam No. 4 Side A are rectangular pieces also made of dark stone featuring stylistically similar depictions of cattle.

DATING: LB IIA–LB IIB (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(78).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5686.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:228, 41:50 (side type). *[TB]*

512 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d10+e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey, beige (incisions). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline fractures on back, side and rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal black stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central pharaonic *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title. The *sw(t)* (M23) is depicted facing right, and the *bjt(j)* (L2) is depicted facing left. A single arc with two perpendicular lines is located behind the feet of the *bjt(j)* (L2) sign. A single arc that terminates inside the 'rear' wing of the *bjt(j)* (L2) sign is located behind the abdomen of the *bjt(j)* (L2) sign. Hatching is used to indicate the stripes on the abdomen.

DISCUSSION: The *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) title, often referred to in translation as "he of the sedge and the bee", is one of the most frequently employed titles used to signify the pharaoh in ancient Egypt (Servajean 2008: 3).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 45 also features a base with a *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2), though the *bjt(j)* (L2) is depicted facing right and the only additional decoration is a single arc behind the *bjt(j)* (L2). A stylistically similar *nswt bjtj* (M23 + L2) can be seen in conjunction with a *nbw* (S12) and different types of double arcs on Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 71.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(79).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5770.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:229, 41:19 (side type). *[TB]*

511



512



513 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large right-facing tilapia fish. Hatching is used on the rear and top fin, while the body is decorated with cross-hatching to indicate scales. Two arcs formed by single lines emerge from the border line under the front fin and body of the fish.

DISCUSSION: The tilapia was likely an important symbol related to regeneration and the renewal of life in ancient Egypt (Dambach and Gamer-Wallert 1966: 292). Consequently, images of tilapia on scarabs could have been worn for protective purposes both in life and in death. The tilapia is also symbolically linked to the goddess Hathor through marsh motifs on faience bowls that depict the cow of Hathor and the tilapia together (Peltenburg 2007: 382). Additionally, scaraboids featuring Hathor on the base can also have tilapia shaped backs, e.g., Lachish No. 194.

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 662 is a composite scarab bearing a similarly arranged motif. For more distant comparanda see the entry for Megiddo No. 662. Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10 exhibits a very similar head, back, and side type.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(80).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5653.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 35/36:230, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

514 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5+E2/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. Current whereabouts of bronze ring unknown. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brown (base, carved areas of back and sides), dark grey (back). PRESERVATION: complete. Back cracked in several places, sides and rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 24.5 mm (L) × 16.9 mm (W) × 10.4 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal black stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding, kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure facing right. The figure holds a large lotus blossom toward its face in the front outstretched arm (Keel 1995: § 562). The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side. The 'front' arm is delineated with two lines while the 'rear' arm is delineated with one line. The tail of a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) emerges from the bottom of the figure's kilt. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as base to the composition. Hatching that may indicate a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) emerges from the border line behind the figure. A Y-shaped sign emerges from the border in front of the figure's face. Hatching is used to indicate the petals of the lotus, hair, the folds of the figure's kilt, and scales on the uraeus. Hatching also partially fills the space between the 'front' arm of the figure and the uraeus.

DISCUSSION: Individuals holding blossoms have been interpreted as representing worshipers (Schroer 2008: 252). The figure is probably male due to the combination of bare upper body and short kilt. This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-'Ajjul No. 16, 293; Azor No. 15; Jericho No. 452; Megiddo No. 629. See Tell el-Far'a (S) No. 436 and Megiddo No. 164 for comparanda depicting a different symbol under the figure's 'front' arm.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(81).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5666.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 110, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:231, 41:39 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 102:33. *[TB]*

513



514



515 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige (back, sides), brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Centre of back chipped in one spot, side and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, rim of sides and base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 22.2 mm (L) × 15.8 mm (W) × 9.4 mm (H); 2.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure facing right. The kilt is depicted as having a belt. The figure holds a large lotus blossom toward its face in the front outstretched arm (Keel 1995: § 562). The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side. Hatching is used to indicate the figure's hair, and cross-hatching is used to indicate the fabric of the kilt. A column of *anra* signs (Keel 1995: § 469) is located under the figure's 'front' arm. From top to bottom, these are: ʿ (D36); *mn* (Y5); *r* (D21); ʿ (D36).

DISCUSSION: Individuals holding blossoms have been interpreted as representing worshipers (Schroer 2008: 252). The figure is probably male due to the combination of bare upper body and short kilt. The *anra* sequence under the 'front' arm of the figure on this base spells out *ʿmn-rʿ* when read from top to bottom. Could this be a misspelling of *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re"? This base is classified as Design Classes 3C "Formulae" and 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 694; Dan No. 38. More schematic depictions of this type of scene can frequently be found on Ramesside-era scarabs. See the comparanda given in Tell Jemmeh No. 55 for a list of such depictions.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(82).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5672.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:232, 41:39 (side type); Keel 1994: 218, 246, Fig. 32; Keel 1995: § 470, 566; Richards 2001: 270, No. LACH15; Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, 179, Pl. 84:35, 102:34. *[TB]*

516 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Side chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, rim of base slightly chipped, base engraving slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal red stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing right-facing anthropomorphic figure. The figure wears a knee-length kilt with a belt and a bottom border, and decorated with rectilinear cross-hatching. Hatching is used to indicate the figure's hair. The figure is depicted holding a hatched lotus bud toward its face in the front outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 562). The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side. A rectangular shape containing an upside down *zꜣ* (V17/V18) is located under the figure's front. The loop of the *zꜣ* (V17/V18) is filled with hatching. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: Several unprovenanced scarabs depicting similarly attired individuals smelling an open lotus blossom are inscribed with hieroglyphs naming female individuals (e.g., Martin 1971: 58, Pl. 41:33). Thus, it is likely this scarab also depicts a female individual. Anthropomorphic figures holding blossoms have been interpreted as representing worshipers (Schroer 2008: 252). This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 382. Similar scarabs depicting individuals smelling an open lotus blossom are: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 436, 438; Gezer No. 183; Tel Nagila No. 49.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(83).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5692.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103–104, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36,233, 37:234, 41:39 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 102:35. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

515



516



517 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, black (chipped areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab, back, side, and base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure facing right. The figure wears a headcloth attached to its head by a headband. Hatching is used to indicate the pleats on the kilt. The figure holds a left-facing uraeus in its front outstretched hand. The 'rear' hand hangs next to the torso. A second right-facing uraeus is located under the figure's outstretched arm. Cross-hatching is used to indicate the scales on the uraei. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1051; Lachish No. 399; Khirbat Yaʿmun No. 7; from Egypt: el-Ballas, Tomb 116 (Jensen 2019: 260, 705–706, 1225; now Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8770); Tomb 140 (Jensen 2019: 49, 419, 744–749, 1226; now Phoebe A. Hearst Museum of Anthropology 6–8765). Similar base engravings depicting a falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure holding a uraeus are also commonly attested on Middle Bronze Age seals. For artefacts of this type, see the comparanda for Lachish No. 330.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(84).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5697.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36:234, 37:233, 41:14 (side type); Keel 1989c: 267, 268–269, 280, Fig. 88; Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 103:31. *[TB]*

518 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A10+E2/II+dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel). A-head group. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab, back, side, and base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Early Series A-head Group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central, standing empty-handed anthropomorphic figure (Keel 1995: § 566) facing right. The figure has close-cropped hair and wears a short kilt. The 'rear' arm is hanging at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is raised and crooked at the elbow. A column of irregularly arranged hieroglyphs is located in front of the figure. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: *nb* (V30); *mn* (Y5); *ʿnḫ* (S34) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar; *wḏḏ* (M13); *nb* (V30); *n* (N35); *nb* (V30). A *ḥm* (U36) is located between the legs of the standing individual. Two flower buds on stems, placed with flowers facing away from each other, are located in a column behind the back of the individual.

DISCUSSION: Empty-handed figures like the one depicted on the present scarab are rare in the Middle Bronze Age record. Anthropomorphic figures are more frequently depicted holding a flower, likely a lotus, in the 'front' hand. Depictions of individuals holding a lotus (*Nymphaea nouchali* var. *caerulea*) may relate to the wish to be reborn and ride on the solar barque of Re in the ancient Egyptian afterlife (Meader and Demeter 2004: 59, 63). In rare cases, these figures may be depicted holding cultic implements like an incense burner (e.g., Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 95) or a branch (Schroer 2008: 252–253, No. 487). See comparanda section for references to items depicting these types of scenes. This base is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series A-head group (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 992. Seals more frequently depict the figure holding a flower toward their face in their 'front' hand, e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 694, 745; Dan No. 38. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 434 depicts a papyrus umbel in the hand of the figure instead. Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 95 depicts the figure holding an incense burner in their 'front' hand, while Jericho No. 178 depicts the figure holding a leafy branch.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-64.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5739.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:235, 41:14 (side type); Keel 1994: 216, 245, Fig. 25; Keel 1995: § 470, 566; Keel 1995c: 109, Fig. 28, 110; Keel 2004: 97, Fig. 91, 98, n. 194; Ben-Tor 2007: 147 n. 716, 148, 152 with Pl. 63:13, 72:2. *[TB]*

517



1 cm

518



1 cm

519 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 59/EP 1/Side 51 (Rowe), A1[?]/0/e2[?] or e5[?] (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: obsidian. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. Large chip and hairline cracks in back, chip out of side near perforations at head and base of scarab, hairline cracks in sides and base, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 14.7 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base shows a central, standing, schematically depicted anthropomorphic figure facing right. The 'rear' arm is hanging at the side of the body and appears to be holding an object roughly shaped like a capital T. The 'front' arm is raised and crooked at the elbow so that the forearm is in front the individual's face. A V-shape is located between the individual's face and the forearm. A flower with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 429) or leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433) is located under the elbow of the 'front' arm. A column of signs is located in front of the individual. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: another V-shape and a longitudinal line; an L-shape with an oblique line protruding from the bottom arm of the L; and a right-facing *j* (M17) hieroglyph on a small base. A longitudinal line intersected by two transversal lines is located between the central figure's legs.

DISCUSSION: Keel has previously interpreted the object held by the rear arm of the figure as representing an *ʿnḫ* (S34) (see Tell Jemmeh No. 40). The base engraving is classified as Design Class 10A1 "Standing human-headed figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell Abu Zureiq No. 4; Gezer No. 472; Jericho No. 521.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(85).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5635.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:236, 41:44 (side type); Keel 1989: 220–221, 231–232, 239–241, Fig. 20; Keel 1995: § 370; Ben-Tor 2007: 179, Pl. 102:36. *[TB]*

520 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1[?]/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 30+HC 43[?]/EP 5/Side 13 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Head of scarab chipped off, heavily chipped near rear perforation hole, slight chipping on right side. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7* mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing anthropomorphic figure facing right. The figure has a small chin beard and is wearing a tunic and kilt. Hatching is used to indicate the tunic of the figure. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body and appears to be holding an ovoid with a longitudinal line protruding from the bottom, possibly an *ʿnḫ* (S34) without a crossbar. The 'front' arm is crooked at the elbow and the hand touches a small tree. Leaves protrude from both sides of the tree. A *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar is located above and below the elbow of the 'front' arm.

DISCUSSION: The base engraving may depict a Levantine individual engaging in worship of a tree (Schroer 2008: 48).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other depictions of anthropomorphic figures reaching out to touch a tree are found on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1044, and a cylinder seal from Tell el-Farʿa (N) (Schroer 2008: 188–189, No. 415).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(86).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5659.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:237, 41:13 (side type). *[TB]*

519



1 cm

520



1 cm

521 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Heavily chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 24.3 mm (L) × 17.9 mm (W) × 15.0 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: A longitudinal black stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A triple barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The central decoration depicts a kneeling anthropomorphic figure facing right. The figure wears an ankle length kilt decorated with hatching to indicate the folds of the cloth. The figure has neck-length hair decorated with hatching. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is crooked at the elbow and holds a leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 615), which has leaves on the stalk's inward face only. Hatching that may represent the leaves of another branch emerge from the border behind the figure. Hatching on the 'front' arm may indicate a long-sleeved tunic. Three diagonal lines at the neck area may serve to indicate a necklace with three cylindrical pendants. Hatching that may represent the leaves of another branch emerge from the border behind the figure. A hatched ovoid shape, possibly representing an *r* (D21), is located under the figure.

DISCUSSION: The kneeling figure with the branch is likely depicted in the act of worshipping a deity (Keel 1990a: 173–174). This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 8A "Rope borders, twisted strand" and 10C1 "Kneeling human figures" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (see Ben-Tor 2007 in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar depictions of kneeling figures holding leafy branches (but lacking the triple barred strand border) can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 624, 664; Amman No. 34; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 71; Jericho No. 356; Lachish No. 759; Megiddo No. 433. Megiddo No. 731 is a less closely comparable piece featuring a damaged depiction of a kneeling individual holding a flower bud on a long stalk or a leafy branch.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1953.503(87).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5737.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:238, 41:19 (side type); Ben-Tor 2007: 174, 180, Pl. 95:31, 104:24. *[TB]*

522 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?] or serpentinite[?]. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping around perforation holes, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a kneeling anthropomorphic figure facing right. The individual wears a knee-length skirt. Three diagonal lines at the neck area may serve to indicate a necklace with three cylindrical pendants. Diagonal lines in the figure's head area may serve to indicate a headdress or fillet. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is crooked at the elbow to form an L-shape, and touches an oversized *ḥz* (W14) vase located in front of the kneeling individual. The lip of the vase is decorated with hatching, the body with cross-hatching, and the butt of the vessel with hatching. Consequently, the body of the vessel resembles a fish.

DISCUSSION: The closest comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt and Sudan. Consequently, this seal is likely an Egyptian import. A single *ḥz* (W14) vase hieroglyph can spell the word signifying "praise" in ancient Egyptian (Erman and Grapow 1926–1953: 154–155). Depictions of fecundity figures holding a large *ḥz* (W14) vase to make a libation for the ruler are attested since the 5th Dyn. in Egypt (Baines 1985: 306). Consequently, the individual depicted on this scaraboid base may be a fecundity figure.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other examples of kneeling figures holding an oversize *ḥz* (W14) vase can be seen on a seal impression dated to the 13th Dyn. from Sudan: Uronarti (Reisner 1955: 68, Fig 16:425:63); and a seal from an 18th Dyn. foundation deposit of Hatshepsut: Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Hathor Shrine, "Hatshepsut Hole" (Metropolitan Museum 23.3.417).

DATING: 13th–18th Dyn. (1760–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-63.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5728.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:239; Keel 1995: p. 286 (typology). *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

521



522



523 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and rim of base slightly chipped, U-shaped hairline crack on back. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 13.8 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts three standing anthropomorphic figures. The arms of all figures are depicted hanging by their sides. The central figure faces right and wears a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9); hatching on the body indicates a tunic and kilt. Two falcon-headed figures located to the left and right of the crowned figure face inward, each falcon-headed figure holding one of the hands of the central figure. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon heads. A *nb* (V30) sign is located above the head of the left falcon-headed figure; an ovoid shape possibly representing a *rʿ* (N5) is located above the head of the right falcon-headed figure. A transversal line under the feet of the figures serves to indicate the ground.

DISCUSSION: The central figure can likely be identified as the god Amun due to the characteristic double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). The identities of the two falcon-headed figures are unresolved, see Megiddo No. 295 for a discussion of this issue.

COMPARANDA: Ashkelon No. 39; Azor No. 24; Beth Shean No. 112; Beth Shemesh No. 106; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 11; Ekron No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 237, 568, 647; Gezer No. 28; Lachish No. 258, 621, 653, 899; Megiddo No. 295, 548; Tel Mor No. 1; Qubur el-Waleida No. 5; from Sudan: Soleb, Tomb T 32, found in shaft of tomb (Schiff Giorgini 1971: 291, Fig. 568, Pl. 12:T32 p18; now Khartoum Museum 61/10/58).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(88).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5756.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:240, 41:24 (side type); Keel 1995: § 584. *[TB]*

524 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/vlv/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped in one spot, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep modelled sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing falcon-headed figure facing right. The figure wears a tunic and kilt. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon-head, and the folds of the tunic on the body. The figure's head and headdress seem to be physically unconnected; the stylized headdress is probably a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9) fronted with a uraeus. The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is raised and morphs into the shape of a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 588). Another right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) emerges from the border line and is located under the 'front' arm of the central figure.

DISCUSSION: In the entry for Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 589, Keel hypothesizes that this type of depiction is likely meant to represent the god Montu, who also wears a *šwtj* (S9), albeit combined with a sun disc on less schematic representations; or Horus, who is also occasionally also depicted with the same crown. However, the present scarab is dated to the 19th–20th Dyn., an era corresponding with the reigns of the Ramesside pharaohs, who seem to have held Montu in particular veneration (Werner 1985: 182). Consequently, it seems more likely that this scarab was meant to depict the god Montu.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 589; Lachish No. 667; Pella No. 78.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(89).

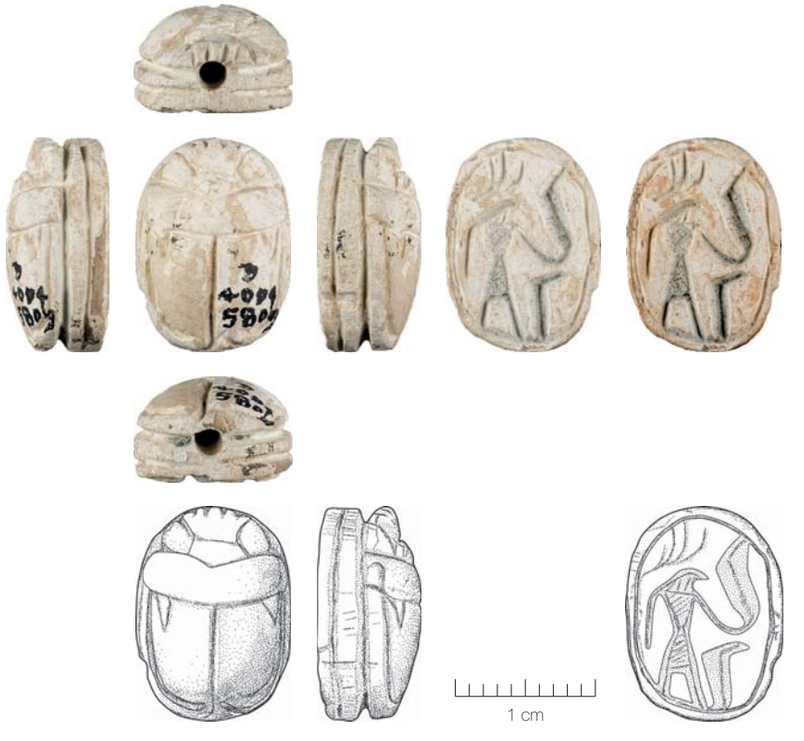
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5809.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:241, 41:37 (side type); Keel 1977: 94, n. 161, 95, Fig. 55. *[TB]*

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525 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/vlv/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, dark brown (damaged spots). PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab partly chipped off, back and sides heavily cracked, remains of glaze on back flaking off, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts an anthropomorphic figure facing right, which can be identified as the god Seth based on the characteristic Seth-animal head. The god is depicted with the characteristic Seth-animal head. The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is extended and holds a right-facing *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre (Keel 1995: § 587). The figure wears a long tunic with a tasseled hem.

DISCUSSION: The tasseled skirt of this Seth closely resembles the skirt occasionally worn by other Asiatic deities on Egyptian stelae, e.g., Reshef (Cornelius 1994: Pl. 5:RR7). Thus, the present seal provides the first evidence for the iconographic association of the animal-headed Seth with Asiatic features during the Ramesside era.

COMPARANDA: Egypt: el-Matmar, Area 1000 (Brunton 1948: 69, Pl. 48:27; now Cairo 54397) also depicts a standing figure of an animal-headed Seth, but holding a papyrus sceptre and without the tasseled hem on the skirt.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); due to the popularity of the deity during the Ramesside period (te Velde 1984: 910).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(90).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5634.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:242, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

526 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/vlv/d8 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, pinkish-white (base). Traces of whitish glaze. PRESERVATION: complete. One side of back, side, and base broken off, back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts the central figure of a right-facing pharaoh wearing a blue crown fronted with a uraeus. The pharaoh wears a kilt, which is depicted with an exaggerated frontal lappet shaped like an upside down T hanging between the legs of the pharaoh. The 'rear' arm of the pharaoh is raised and holds a *ḫpš* (T16) sword in a smiting posture. The 'front' arm grasps the long hair of an enemy, depicted standing, equally facing right, with his arms behind his back and crooked at the elbow. A right-facing *wsr* (F12) hieroglyph is located behind the pharaoh. A schematic depiction of a right-facing *mꜣꜥt* (C10) sign is located above the pharaoh's 'front' arm.

DISCUSSION: The *wsr* (F12) and *mꜣꜥt* (C10) signs are likely vestigial attempts to depict the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ramesses II, written in its full form on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 550.

COMPARANDA: Similar base engravings featuring the same motif with a *wsr* (F12) behind the figure of the pharaoh include: Tell Beit Mirsim No. 11; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 10; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 652, 936; Megiddo No. 64; Yavneh No. 2; from Egypt: Tell Dafana (Petrie, Griffith and Murray 1888: Pl. 41:54); Tell el-Yahudiya (Naville and Griffith 1890: 47, Pl. 16:2; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC64832).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(91).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5662.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:243, 41:23 (side type); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 47, 53, 154, Fig. 97a; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 47, 53, 154, Fig. 97a. *[TB]*

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526



527 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-gold. PRESERVATION: complete. Crack running through carved head, large crack running through base carving, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing figure of Ptah (*ptḥ* [C19]) standing and holding a right-facing *wȝs* (S40) sceptre. Hatching is used to indicate the elaborate collar around the deity's neck. The counterpoise of the necklace is visible behind the neck. A column of two hieroglyphs is located in front of Ptah's face. From top to bottom, these are: *nb* (V30); *tȝ* (N16/N17); *tȝ* (N16/N17). A column of two hieroglyphs is located in front of Ptah, from top to bottom: a right-facing *šw(t)* (H6); and a large *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. Hatching is used to indicate the details on the ovoid base of the *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs next to Ptah's face and body are likely abbreviations of known epithets of this deity. The combination of *nb* (V30) and the *šw(t)* (H6) feather read as Maʿat can be interpreted as the epithet *nb mȝʿt*, "lord of truth". The two *tȝ* (N16/N17) signs can be interpreted as a short form of the epithet [*nswt n*] *tȝwj*, "(ruler of) the Two Lands". The *nfr* (F35) sign is likely a short form of the epithet *nfr* [*ḥr*], "fair (of face)" (Christophe 1955: 77–78).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 847; ʿAra No. 27; Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 135.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10, a piece with an identical head, back, and side type.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(92).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5748.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 108–109, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:244, 41:36 (side type); Keel 1989a: 290–291, Fig. 31. *[TB]*

528 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4+E2/I/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. The entire scarab is heavily eroded, the top left edge of the base and right side is chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure facing right. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is extended and holds a right-facing *wȝs* (S40) sceptre (Keel 1995: § 587). A right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) emerges from the 'front' arm of the figure and rises in front of the falcon-headed figure's face.

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 26: Side A features a very similar motif with the addition of two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs, one in the figure's 'rear' hand and one under the figure's 'front' arm.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparandum.

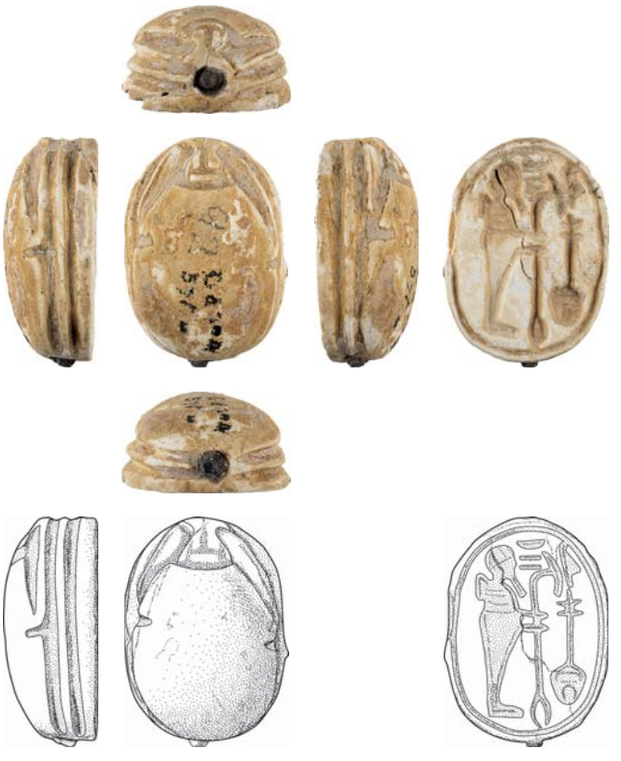
COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(93).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5816.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:245, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

527



1 cm

528



1 cm

529 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 179). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Bottom curl of *wḏ3t* (D10) on back broken off, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 4.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *r* (D21); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; two signs, from right to left: *nw* (W24) and *w* (G43); two *t* (X1) signs that are located under the *nw* (W24) and *w* (G43) signs.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the divine name *Rnnwt.t*, Renenutet.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dated based on the prevalence of similar spellings of *Rnnwt.t* during the New Kingdom (Collombert 2007: 23–24) and the closest back type comparanda, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 228 and Lachish No. 530.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-60.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5724.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:246; Keel 1995: § 179, p. 287 (typology). *[TB]*

530 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 179). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: dark blue, white (eyeball). PRESERVATION: complete. White of *wḏ3t* (D10) eyeball on back chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: dark blue glaze; white glaze (eyeball).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts hieroglyphs enclosed in a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs are: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt and Sudan. Consequently, the present seal is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: Egypt: Deir Tasa (Gabra 1930: 147, Pl. 5); el-Riqqa, Tomb 265 (Engelbach et al. 1915: 18, Pl. 17:71, 44); el-Amarna (Frankfort and Pendlebury 1933: Pl. 49:III.B.2); el-Amarna, Magazine Q.41, room 4, Object No. Q.41.4.249 (Pendlebury 1951: 109, Pl. 109:1). From Sudan: Fadrus, Cemetery Site 185, Tomb 637, on the left hand of male inhumation (Säve-Söderbergh and Troy 1991: 93, Fig. 22:185/637:7, 94, 290, Pl. 17:185/637:7, 139 [steatite]).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on the ruler's name and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(94). This piece was inventoried twice by accident. The additional inv. no. is 1956.676.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5723.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:247; Keel 1995: § 179, p. 287 (typology). *[TB]*

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531 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 180). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped above carved eye, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are: a longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) and a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located behind the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and from right to left, a *rʿ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1).

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Azekah No. 24 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 831 are both udjat-eye scaraboids that instead depict a *nb* (V30) to the left of the central inscription. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 672 and Megiddo No. 217 are scarabs, Gezer No. 221 a bifacial piece that all feature the *nb* (V30) to the right of the central inscription, as on the item here discussed.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(95), item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumable held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5129/32, 451/2").

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5762.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:248; Keel 1995: § 180, p. 287 (typology). *[TB]*

532 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/I/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white, brown (damaged areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Entire scarab heavily eroded, all sides chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.9 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. According to archival photos, a single incised line originally formed the border around the engraving. As of this writing, post-excavational erosion has almost completely erased traces of the already fragmentary border line. The engraving represents a large detailed depiction of an upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetle, with all six legs depicted. Hatching is used to indicate the wing cases.

COMPARANDA: Other seal bases depicting scarabs with no other decoration elements present include: Beth Shean No. 126; Tel Eton No. 6 (Side B).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(96).

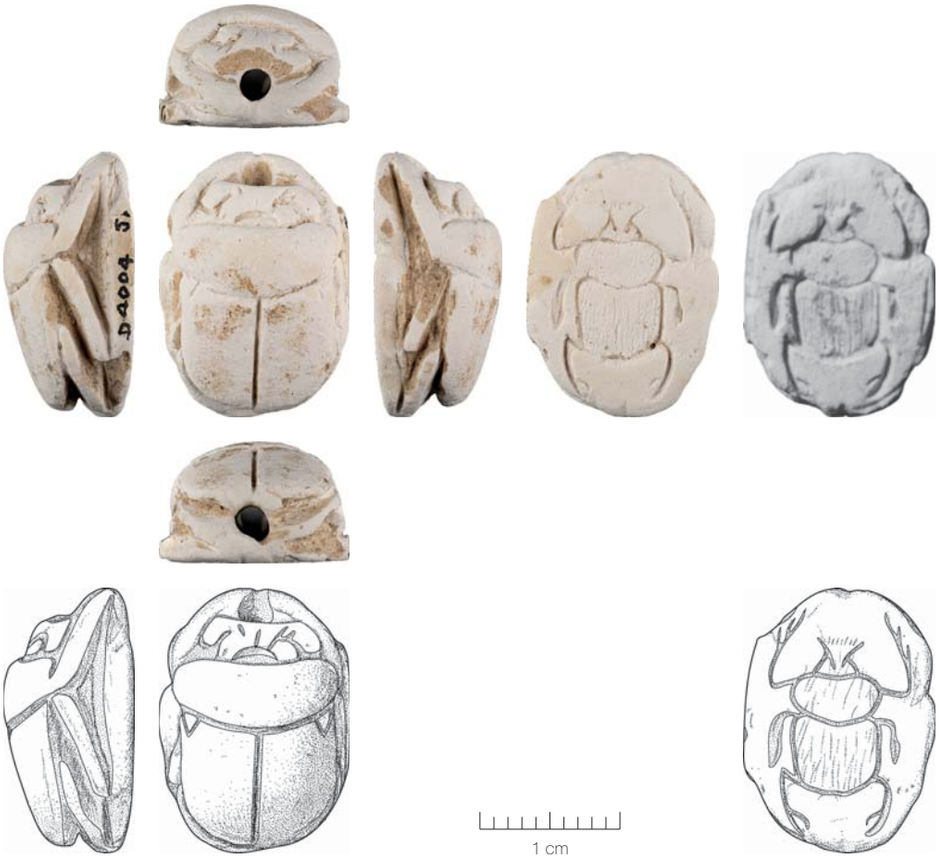
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5683.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 121, 281–285, Pl. 36/37:249, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

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533 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Two cracks near head on back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 15.6 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of symbols and hieroglyphs. The top row depicts a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars flanked by inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 524). Hatching is used to indicate the details on the oval base of the *nfr* (F35) and the scales on the uraei. The bottom row depicts a central type B goddess head (Keel 1995: § 578) flanked by two identical signs. From top to bottom, these two signs are: *wꜣḏ* (M13) and *wꜣḥ* (V29). Hatching is used to indicate the two leaves on the goddess head and the fluffy tip of the *wꜣḥ* (V29) sign.

DISCUSSION: The base depicts the head of the Levantine "branch goddess", crowned with two leaves likely signifying the deity's aspect as an earth goddess associated with the growth of vegetation (Schroer 2008: 47, 192).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Dhaḥrat al-Ḥumraiya No. 6 features different signs similarly arranged to surround a type B goddess head (Keel 1995: § 578), there placed at the top row of the composition.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-53.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5649.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 121, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:250; Schroer 1989: 140–141, 168, 170, 187, No. 61; Keel 1995: § 578, Fig. 431. *[TB]*

534 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3+D6/0/e6c (Tufnell/Keel). Ilin-Tomich 2023: 253 assigns a C2 head and d14 side type. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, dark brown (speckling on base), grey (head and most of back). PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped and worn, left side chipped in one place, right side slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal light grey stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts several rows of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: First row: *jmy-r* (F20). Second row: *nṯr* (R8); *ḫwt* (O6); *ḫ* (Aa1). Third row: *ḏ(t)* (I10); *m* (G17). Fourth row: *f* (I9). Fifth row: *ḥ* (V28); *ʿ* (D36); *m* (G17). Sixth row: a hatched *p* (Q3); *n* (D35). Seventh row: *jmꜣḫ* (F39) with a single vertical stroke (Z1) underneath it; *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: Together, the hieroglyphs have been interpreted by Martin 1971 as spelling out the following titulary and name: (top right hieroglyphs, from right to left and top to bottom) *jmy-r ḫwt nṯr*, the seal owner's title "overseer of the temple"; (central hieroglyphs, from right to left and top to bottom) *Ḏfꜣ=j-ḥʿpj Ḫmm*, the seal owner Djefaihapi Khemem's name; (bottom hieroglyphs, anomalously left to right and top to bottom) *nb jmꜣḫ*, an additional title/epithet: "possessor of reverence".

DATING: 12th Dyn. (1939–1760 BCE); dating based on epigraphic attestations of the names on the scarab, namely: the relief inscriptions in the tomb of the nomarch *Ḏfꜣ=j-ḥʿpj* that mention the monarch Senwosret I (El-Khadragy 2007: 54) and the steward *Ḫmm*, mentioned in a papyrus letter from el-Lahun town/Kahun dated to the reign of Amenemhat IV, now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC32205 (Collier and Quirke 2002: 121).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-57.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5670.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94–96, 121, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:251, 41:4 (side type); Martin 1971: 135–136, No. 1769a, Pl. 42A:19; Giveon 1974a: 230, Lachish 2; Ward 1982: 34, No. 250; Ben-Tor 1994a: 13, No. 14; Keel 1995: § 636 (inscription); Ilin-Tomich 2023: 253. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

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535 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type F2/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel with grommets remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: pale grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 4.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of hieroglyphs, separated by a large *tꜣ* (N16/N17) sign. The top row features a central *wꜣḏ* (M13). Transversally oriented ʿ (D36) frame the central sign. The bottom row depicts a central *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. The top crossbar is not connected to the *nfr* (F35). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign frames the *nfr* (F35) on either side. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs are depicted with the top loop detached from the handle of the symbol. The handle of the right *ʿnḫ* (S34) has an incomplete transversal bar and consequently resembles an upside down L rather than a T.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar arrangements of hieroglyphs featuring a central *wꜣḏ* (M13) in the top row and two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs flanking a central sign in the bottom row can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 891; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 47, 123, 435; Gezer No. 487; Megiddo No. 163, 169.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(97).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5745.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 121, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:252. *[TB]*

536 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1+E2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, dark yellow (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Entire scarab slightly eroded, back slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 10.1 mm (L) × 7.4 mm (W) × 4.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) or winged sun disc, and a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) with a long tail curved in an upside down U-bend.

COMPARANDA: The same basic composition in conjunction with a few additional hieroglyphs is depicted on Tell Beit Mirsim No. 10; Lachish No. 489; and a scarab from Egypt: Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 2046, female Individual on the left (Brunton 1930: 22, Pl. 38, 43:37; now Manchester Museum 7432).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(98).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5765.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 121, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:253, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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537 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D2?/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, black (glaze encrustations). PRESERVATION: broken. Hairline cracks in back, back and side heavily chipped at head of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 19.4 mm (L) × 14.4 mm (W) × 11.0 mm (H); 3.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of hieroglyphs. The top row depicts two longitudinally oriented signs. From left to right, these are: *ꜥnḫ* (S34) and a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. The details on the ovoid base of the *nfr* (F35) are indicated with hatching. The bottom row consists of a central, upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1) framed on either side by an *ꜥnḫ* (S34) and a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. Hatching is used to indicate the wing cases on the *ḫpr* (L1).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Base engravings featuring the same hieroglyphs in conjunction with a *nbw* (S12) and other hieroglyphs can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 64; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 51.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(99).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5694.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 121, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:254, 41:9 (side type). *[TB]*

538 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2+D4/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, light brown (base, damaged areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base and sides chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts: three transversal lines and two longitudinal lines almost at right angles to each other. Both sets of lines emerge from the border line. A *ḫpr* (L1) decorated with hatching, all six legs indicated, is depicted to the left of the lines, in the centre of the composition. A right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) is located to the left of the *ḫpr* (L1). The body of the uraeus is decorated with cross-hatching to indicate the scales.

DISCUSSION: The longitudinal and transversal lines on this scarab could be a faulty writing of a divine or pharaonic epithet (see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 707 for another instance of this type).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Scarabs featuring similar sunk relief depictions showing a *ḫpr* (L1) flanked by inward-facing uraei are: Beth Shemesh No. 107; Dothan No. 11; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 169, 693.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(100).

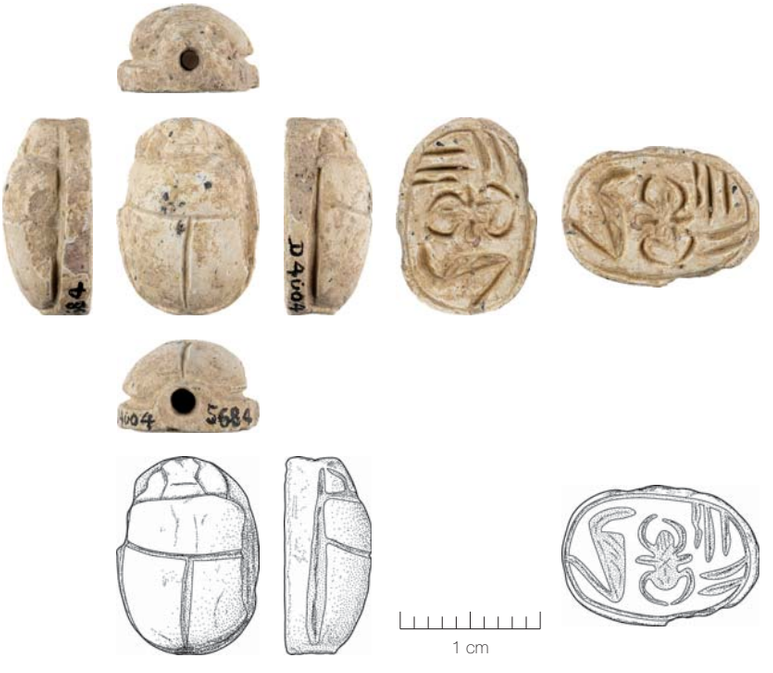
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5684.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:255, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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539 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey, black (parts of base), brown (eroded areas on back). PRESERVATION: complete. Back of scarab eroded and chipped, perforation at rear of scarab chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. A transversal line forms a pane at the top of the engraving. A central ovoid bisected by longitudinal hatching lines is located inside the pane. Diagonal lines emerge from the border and end at the transversal line forming the pane. The diagonal lines frame the ovoid on either side. This pane may be an imitation of double arcs like those seen on Beth Shemesh No. 149. It is also possible this pane is an abstract depiction of the drooping flowers seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 799, or of a red crown, e.g., the *dšrt* (S3) seen at the bottom of the base engraving on Beth Shean No. 211. Three columns of hieroglyphs are located underneath the top pane. From top to bottom, the central column consists of: *r* (D21); *ḏd* (R11); *š* (N37); and *ḏd* (R11). The columns to the left and right of the central column contain identical hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *ʿnḫ* (S34); *r* (D21); and *ʿnḫ* (S34).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 281; Beth Shemesh No. 86; Gezer No. 268 all feature outer columns consisting of two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs interspersed with one other small sign.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(101).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5740.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:256, 41:13 (side type). *[TB]*

540 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D9/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellow, reddish (damaged areas). PRESERVATION: broken. Head heavily eroded, base cracked, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 12.3 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal blue-grey stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. Two *ḥm* (U36) in *tête-bêche* position frame the *nfr* (F35) on either side. Two inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) frame the *ḥm* (U36) in *tête-bêche* position on either side. The top curls of the *sw(t)* (M23) plants are joined together.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. For an example of a single hieroglyph framed by inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23), see Khirbat Yaʿmun No. 6.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(102).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5638.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:257, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

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541 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Base and side heavily chipped at head of scarab exposing perforation, chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 9.9* mm (L) × 7.6 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of light blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal beige stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The remaining base engraving depicts a central *ḏd* (R11) resting on a large *r* (D21) or *nb* (V30) base. An *ʿnḫ* (S34) is located to the right of the *ḏd* (R11). The carved area to the left of the *ḏd* (R11) is damaged, entirely eradicating the sign that may have been located in this position.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 8, 507, 761; Jericho No. 446; Yiftaḥel No. 9 all feature a similar composition, with another *ʿnḫ* (S34) located to the left of the *ḏd* (R11) as well, but they lack the *r* (D21)/*nb* (V30) under the *ḏd* (R11).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(103).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5699.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:258, 41:14 (side type). *[TB]*

542 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B10/0/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blueish-green, dark brown (raised surfaces on base). PRESERVATION: complete. All surfaces slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 17.4 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear. COATING: complete blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts the following signs and symbols: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) or falcon; and a right-facing schematic uraeus with a raised tail.

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 65a and Beth Shean No. 113 both feature comparable arrangements of signs and symbols. The uraeus behind the falcon is more clearly depicted on these examples, and a different hieroglyph is located in front of the falcon.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

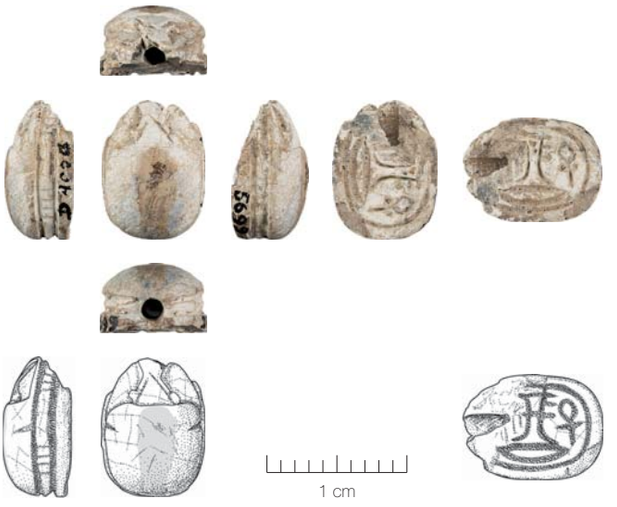
COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(104).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5685.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:259, 41:29 (side type). *[TB]*

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542



543 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 9.9 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W) × 4.2 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A longitudinal grey stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From left to right, the engraving depicts a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar, and a left-facing *wḏ3t* (D10).

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 223 features a similar arrangement of signs but substitutes an *ʿnḫ* (S34) for the *nfr* (F35) sign. See further comparanda cited there, which support the suggested dating of the item.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparandum and further comparanda cited there.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(105).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5768.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:260, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

544 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/0/e4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Entire scarab heavily eroded, back and side chipped near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. No border is present on this carving. Viewed with the head on the back facing up, the base depicts a large central *n(j)t*/*nrt* (R24/R25). A longitudinal line is located to the left and right of the *n(j)t*/*nrt* (R24/R25).

COMPARANDA: Ashdod No. 39 is a piece from a private collection apparently acquired in the area of Ashdod. The seal features a *n(j)t*/*nrt* (R24/R25) flanked by right-facing uraei. A similar piece was found in Egypt: Memphis, Temple of Merneptah (Petrie 1909: Pl. 34:34). Another scarab featuring a similar composition excavated in Memphis is Penn Museum E14055. Megiddo No. 565 features a more intact composition with a transversally arranged *n(j)t*/*nrt* (R24/R25) flanked by inward-facing uraei.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dated based on a comparison of the Megiddo No. 565 back type with similar pieces such as Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10 and Lachish No. 527.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(106).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5702.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:261, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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545 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/-/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Less than half of original scarab remains, all sides heavily eroded and chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8* mm (L) × 5.3* mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: unknown. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the remaining engraving. The surviving portion of this broken scarab base depicts three rows of signs, from top to bottom and right to left: Upper row: a right-facing *j* (M17); two dots arranged to resemble a colon or ':'. Middle row: a possible schematic *n* (N35) sign (see Lachish No. 531 for a similarly depicted *n* [N35] sign). Lower row: *mr(j)* (U6/U7) and vestigial transversal line of a broken-off sign or symbol.

DISCUSSION: The base engraving may originally have depicted the phrase *mrj Jmn*, "beloved of Amun", in conjunction with other decorative elements. See Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 227 for a discussion of the phrase *mrj Jmn*.

COMPARANDA: No direct comparanda could be found for the surviving fragmentary inscription. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 331 depicts a similar inscription in conjunction with the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(107).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5711.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:262. *[TB]*

546 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, dark brown (discoloration on back and base). PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks visible in back, sides chipped, side, and base chipped at head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 11.3 mm (L) × 8.1 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The decoration depicts a longitudinally oriented leafy branch (Keel 1995: § 433).

DISCUSSION: The leafy branch depicted on this scarab may relate to the naked goddess often depicted on Middle Bronze Age scarabs (Schroer 1989: 104, 130).

COMPARANDA: Branches depicted in a similar style can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 35 (with a barred strand border) and on Amman No. 59; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Assasif, Tomb 37, Chamber C, Jewel Box 87 (Herbert and Carter 1912: 87, Pl. 74:87). Other types of branches are also widely attested on scarab bases. These can be classified as follows: (1) Branches in high relief: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 93, 424, 446; Lachish No. 385. (2) Branches where a single centre line represents the central stalk: Gezer No. 227; Jericho No. 488. (3) Branches where three centre lines represent the central stalk: Amman No. 57; Jericho No. 536. (4) Branches where the leaves are depicted schematically as lines almost perpendicular to the central stalk: Tell Beit Mirsim No. 72; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 8; Jericho No. 59.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(108).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5767.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:263, 41:37 (side type); Niccacci 1980: 78, No. 254. *[TB]*

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547 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white, dark brown (severely eroded areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Entire scarab heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear; sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: Most scarab bases depict sequences of several hieroglyphs together. However, in the reigns of Amenhotep III and Amenhotep IV/Akhenaten (see the comparanda from Malkata and el-Amarna respectively), mould-manufactured scarabs made of composite material with a single hieroglyph on the base are frequently attested. Scarabs with other hieroglyphs from Malkata: Metropolitan Museum 11.215.22, 11.215.26, 11.215.27; and seals with other hieroglyphs from el-Amarna: Frankfort and Pendlebury 1933: Pl. 49 Nr. IB.23, IB.26, II.C.3, II.C.4, II.C.5, IV.D.5.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: el-Amarna (Frankfort and Pendlebury 1933: Pl. 49 Nr. II.C.4); Luxor West Bank, Malkata, House 2 W (Metropolitan Museum 11.215.24). Beth Shean No. 146 is a cowroid depicting a different style of *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(109).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5710.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:264, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

548 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Entire scarab heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. Viewed vertically with the head of the scarab on the back facing up, the scarab as originally photographed depicted a central longitudinal line shaped like a ‘)’ and framed on either side by two other shorter longitudinal lines. As of this writing, post-excavational erosion has completely erased all traces of the base decoration.

COMPARANDA: The base may originally have depicted decoration similar to Lachish No. 544.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(110).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5814.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37:265, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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549 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of silver[?]. Fragment of ring wire visible in perforation is now missing. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base slightly eroded and cracked, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.1 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts: a large *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars. The details on the *nfr* (F35) are indicated with hatching. A right-facing *zꜣ* (G39) or goose is located to the left of this sign. Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the goose. The goose is depicted standing on a single engraved line. A sequence of signs is located above the back of the *zꜣ* (G39). From top to bottom and right to left, these are as follows: *j* (M17); a *mn* (Y5) filled with crosshatching; and a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign. An ovoid shape that may represent a *rˁ* (N5) is located to the left of the *n* (N35).

DISCUSSION: The base engraving could depict a shortened form of the phrase *nṯr nfr zꜣ Jmn-rˁ*, "the perfect god, son of Amun-Re", a pharaonic title; for an example of a monumental inscription reading *nṯr nfr zꜣ Jmn* see the restoration stela of Tutankhamun, CG 34183 (Legrain 1907: 164, Line 3; Bennett 1939: 9, Line 3).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 251; Tell el-Ḥesi No. 3. Tell Beit Mirsim No. 93 substitutes the cartouche of Amenhotep II for the *nfr* (F35) sign. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 224; Hebron No. 4 substitute the cartouche of Thutmose IV for the *nfr* (F35) sign.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Lachish No. 527 and Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 10, both pieces with an identical head, back, and side type.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(111).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5643.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:266, 41:36 (side type). *[TB]*

550 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts several groups of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the signs are: a *rˁ* (N5) emerging from the border line and a right-facing *zꜣ* (G39). Two columns of hieroglyphs are located under the *zꜣ* (G39). From top to bottom, the right column consists of *š* (N37); *š* (N37); *dj* (X8). From top to bottom, the left column consists of a right-facing *j* (M17) and an *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: From top to bottom and right to left, the hieroglyphs on the base spell out the words *zꜣ Rˁ Ššj dj ʿnḫ*, "Son of Re Sheshi, given life", a title, nomen, and epithet related to a Second Intermediate Period Hyksos ruler of Egypt.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 578.

DATING: 14th Dyn. (1750–1675 BCE) or 15th? Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); earlier dating based on Ryholt 2010.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(112).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5675.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:267, 41:37 (side type); Tufnell 1984: 374, Pl. 58:3277 (royal name); Keel 1995: § 632; Ilin-Tomich 2023: 355. *[TB]*

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551 **OBJECT:** Duck scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 148–150). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. The head of the duck on the back is chipped off, back and sides slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; drilled. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are: a longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) and a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35); and from right to left, a *rˁ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1). A longitudinally oriented, inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar duck scaraboid backs can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1212; Beth Shemesh No. 187; Gezer No. 272. The most stylistically similar base inscriptions can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 455, 701.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on back comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(113).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5641.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:268; Keel 1995: § 148, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

552 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Back eroded, rim of base eroded, right side of base heavily chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two lines separate the top third of the design from the bottom two thirds. The signs and symbols inside the top third are difficult to distinguish, but comparing the base engraving with the more legible base of Tel Ḥarasim No. 16 shows that the sequence, from left to right, likely consists of: a vertical line that likely represents a *p* (Q3); an X-shape likely representing a *ḥ* (V28); and a rough V-shape likely representing a *dšrt* (S3). From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted in the bottom two thirds is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of three signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and a *rˁ* (N5). The *j* (M17) and *rˁ* (N5) are damaged by chipping.

DISCUSSION: Comparing the base engraving with the more legible bases of Tel Ḥarasim No. 16 and Lachish No. 553 shows that the top sequence of signs is likely a faulty writing of a sequence that, from left to right, reads *pḥ*, or two of the three hieroglyphs in the name of the god *Ptḥ* or "Ptah". The hieroglyphs in the bottom two thirds spell out the divine name *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Tel Ḥarasim No. 16; Lachish No. 553; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Ramesseum (Quibell 1898: Pl. 30:41).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(114).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5690.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:269, 41:30 (side type). *[TB]*

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553 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 7/EP 13/Side 34 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Two lines separate the top third of the design from the bottom two thirds. The signs and symbols inside the top third are difficult to distinguish, but comparing the base engraving with the more legible bases of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 297 and Tel Ḥarasim No. 16 shows that the sequence, from left to right, likely consists of: a *p* (Q3); a looped string likely representing a *ḥ* (V28); and a rough V-shape likely representing a *dšrt* (S3). From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted in the bottom two thirds is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of five signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5) decorated with four dots; a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and from right to left, a double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a) and a *rʿ* (N5).

DISCUSSION: Comparing the base engraving with the more legible bases of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 297 and Tel Ḥarasim No. 16 shows that the top sequence of signs is likely a faulty writing of a sequence that, from left to right, reads *pḥ*, or two of the three hieroglyphs in the name of the god *Ptḥ* or "Ptah". This sequence is followed by a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. The hieroglyphs in the bottom two thirds spell out the divine name *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The two vertical lines are likely a faulty writing of a single vertical stroke (Z1) that is generally placed to the left of the *rʿ* (N5) sign in formal monumental texts where *Jmn-rʿ* is written right-to-left (e.g., in the temple of Seti I at Abydos: Calverley, Broome and Gardiner 1935: Pl. 8:North side vignette, leftmost column of writing).

COMPARANDA: Tel Ḥarasim No. 16; Lachish No. 552; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Ramesseum (Quibell 1898: Pl. 30:41).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(115).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5642.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:270, 41:31 (side type). *[TB]*

554 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5+E2/vlv/d15 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing hatched *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and from right to left, a *rʿ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1). A *nb* (V30) sign serves as base to the column of four signs. A large longitudinally oriented flower bud stem is located to the left and just above the *nb* (V30) sign. The flower bud curves up and over all previously mentioned hieroglyphs.

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). For a discussion of this motif, see Tel Beersheva No. 31.

COMPARANDA: Many seal bases depict the motif carved on this piece. The scarabs bearing the same motif on the base and that also feature the most similar head, back, and side types to the present item are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 231, 243; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 43; from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, Maket tomb, Coffin 7, burial of lady Maket, a scarab set in a gold Type II ring (Petrie 1891: 22, Pl. 26:10; Tufnell 1984: 110–111, Fig. 22:14; now Ashmolean Museum AN1890.764); Gurob (Loat 1905: Pl. 4:15:O13; now Brussels, Royal Museums of Art and History, E.04796b); Gebel Zeit (Régen and Soukiassian 2008: 166, No. 096, 178, No. 133, 180, No. 139; now all classified under Cairo JE 98069); Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 9 (I) (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.345); Tomb of Henettawy F (MMA 59), heirloom scarab set in a gold Type I ring, ca. 21st dynasty (Metropolitan Museum 25.3.192).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(116).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5696.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:271, 41:35 (side type). *[TB]*

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555 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11[?]/EP 112[?]/- (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and side chipped at head of scarab, exposing perforation, back worn, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.3 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H, incl. mounting); 1.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) surrounds the engraving. The base depicts a central large *mn* (Y5) sign. A tiny *kꜣ* (D28) sign (not shown in the drawing) with a central triangular shape between the arms is located inside the *mn* (Y5) sign. The *mn* (Y5) sign is surrounded by an incised U-shape. Two transversal incised lines are located under the U-shape.

DISCUSSION: Comparing this inscription with similar examples shows it is likely an abstract depiction of the characters for *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The 'right' arm of the U-shape under the *mn* (Y5) sign may represent the *j* (M17) sign, the longitudinal bar of the U-shape likely depicts the *n* (N35) sign, while the 'left' arm of the U-shape may represent an inward-facing longitudinally oriented *nb* (V30) sign that frequently frames the *Jmn-rˁ* sequence on the left, e.g., on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 813.

COMPARANDA: Azekah No. 40; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 476, 617, 813. Seals carved in a similar style but depicting the name of Amun only are: Beth Shean No. 227; Ekron No. 11.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(117).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5815.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:272; Keel 1995: § 266. *[TB]*

556 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3+E2/vlv/d15 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack in right side, base heavily chipped in area above *mn* (Y5) sign, inside of *j* (M17) sign eroded, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a hatched *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and two oval shapes. An arc formed by a single line that emerges from the border is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The two oval shapes are likely a faulty writing of the right-to-left sequence of a *rˁ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1) that spells *Rˁ*, the name of the god Re. Consequently, the central hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). Based on comparanda, the arc on the left is likely an abstract representation of the longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) commonly depicted on similar scarab bases.

COMPARANDA: Tel Eton No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 533, 613, 615, 747; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 59; Gezer No. 435; Lachish No. 628; Megiddo No. 101; Tel Ridan No. 7.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(118).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5667.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:273, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

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557 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/I/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: broken. Back, side, and base heavily eroded, base chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation. The elytra and pronotum lines on the back (see drawing in Tufnell 1958) are now almost entirely invisible due to post-excavational erosion. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and two shapes that resemble backward slashes or "\\". A longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The two backward slashes are likely a faulty writing of the right-to-left sequence of a *r*ᶜ (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1) that spell *R*ᶜ, the name of the god Re. Consequently, the central hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-r*ᶜ, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Other scarabs made of a fired composite material with similar head and side types and featuring similar base designs are: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 460, 533, 615; Megiddo No. 587.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(119).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5637.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:274, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

558 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/I/e1 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: dark red. PRESERVATION: broken. Back, side, and base heavily eroded, base chipped in two places. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear; modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. No border is present on this base decoration. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and two oval shapes. A longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the left of this sequence.

COMPARANDA: Other composite scarabs with similar base designs are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 550; Ashdod No. 75; Beth Shean No. 92; Beth Shemesh No. 19; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 143, 460, 533, 615; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 59; Gezer No. 435; Lachish No. 557; Megiddo No. 587.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(120).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5633.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:275, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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558



559 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/0/e12? (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Scarab heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. No border is present on this carving. From top to bottom, the base depicts the following signs: *r* (D21); *t*? (N16/N17); *n* (N35); *t*? (N16/N17); *t*? (N16/N17).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other faience objects depicting similar sequences of signs are: Lachish No. 480, 560.

DATING: LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD.1521/2, 443/4").

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5700.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:276, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

560 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G1/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blueish-green. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and right side slightly eroded, base rim slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 11.7 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: blueish-green glaze; black glaze (head, rear, sides).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A faint border consisting of a single line can be seen surrounding the central design. When viewed with the head on the back of the scarab facing upward, the base depicts, from top to bottom: three transversal lines; an abstract motif resembling a left-facing fork with a small dot next to the bottom tine, and two further dots under the left and right tine; two transversal lines.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other faience objects depicting similar sequences of signs are: Lachish No. 480, 559.

DATING: LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(121).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5701.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:277. *[TB]*

559



560



561 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127) or scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: broken. Seal heavily eroded, side chipped at one perforation, back and side heavily chipped at other perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 12.6 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. No border is present on this base. Viewed vertically, the base depicts three longitudinal lines framed by two transversal lines.

COMPARANDA: Tell Jemmeh No. 74 also depicts three longitudinal lines, but framed by a *nb* (V30) at the bottom. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 906 depicts three longitudinal lines. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 901–905 depict three transversal lines.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(122).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5704.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:278, 41:41 (side type). *[TB]*

562 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 68/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as B2/V/O/O/O. The possible attestation of a B2 head on this object is noteworthy as this head type is common in locally-produced scarabs made of fired steatite in the southern Levant (e.g., Keel 2004: 81–93). MATERIAL: quartz. COLOUR: cream, white. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close typological comparanda attested in quartz include Lachish No. 684–685. For additional parallels of scarabs with a B2 head type in amethyst, see Jericho No. 260; Megiddo No. 571; Rishon LeZion No. 25, 29, 69, 100; Yiftaḥel No. 17.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(148).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5784.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, No. 279, 284, Pl. 37/38:279; Mumford 1998: 2159, 2166–2167, Table 12:41, No. 5784. *[NBM]*

561



562



563 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 42/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). David 2019a: 73 classifies this object as D4/V/O/O/O. The assignation of a D8 head here is based on the lines visible in the photographs, which suggest a more triangular rather than trapezoidal head. A triangular head shape is also noticeable in the photograph of the top perforation hole. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For close typological comparanda, see Lachish No. 2, 5, 680; Megiddo No. 588; Rishon LeZion No. 22, 52, 150.

DATING: Probably MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(141).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Locus 4004, Object no. 5777.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 122, No. 280, 284, Pl. 37/38:280; Mumford 1998: 2159, 2166–2167, Table 12:41, No. 5777; David 2019a: 73. *[NBM]*

564 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Top of scarab head chipped off on back, rim of base slightly chipped, side chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 17.4 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts the kneeling figure, facing left, of a ruler wearing the *ḫprš* (S7) crown. Hatching is used to decorate the crown. A belt at the waist of the ruler and hatching decoration below the belt is likely used to indicate a kilt. The 'front' arm of the ruler is crooked at the elbow. A *ḥqꜣ* (S38) staff emerges from the arm near the shoulder area. The 'rear' arm of the ruler hangs by his side and holds an *ʿnḫ* (S34). The *ʿnḫ* (S34) is depicted with the top loop detached from the symbol's I-shaped handle. A *nb* (V30) serves as base to the figure of the ruler. A cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) is located to the left of the kneeling ruler. Two vertical lines at the bottom represent the rope attaching the cartouche oval to a flat horizontal piece. The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Gezer No. 606 is a museum purchase from a collector that depicts a similar kneeling ruler without the *ḥqꜣ* (S38) sceptre or the *ʿnḫ* (S34) on Side A. For similar depictions featuring a standing ruler and a *ḥqꜣ* (S38) sceptre, see the comparanda for Lachish No. 664.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

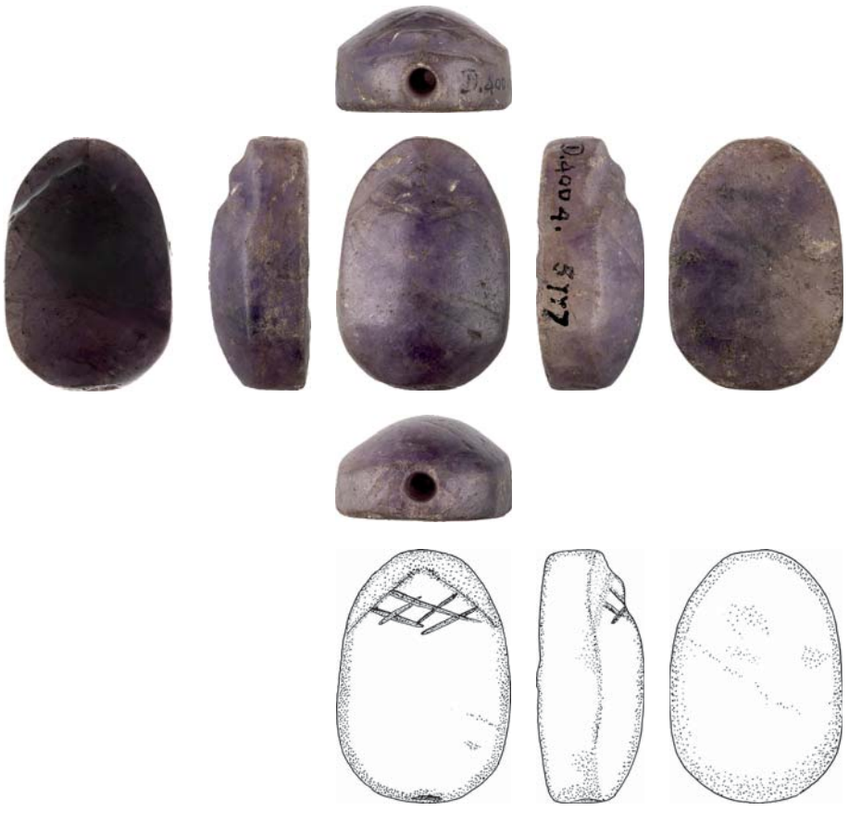
COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(123).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5713.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:281, 41:22 (side type); Jaeger 1982: § 389. *[TB]*

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565 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped in one spot, large crack running through right side of back, base slightly chipped near bottom left uraeus on base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462). The oval contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). A *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450), or winged sun-disc, is located above the oval. Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the winged sun disc. A large *nbw* (S12) sign is located under the oval. Four outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) flank the central oval, their tails emerging from the oval. The bodies of all uraei, except the one located on the bottom right, are decorated with hatching to indicate scales.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634). The frequent appearance of Egyptian royal names on seals in the Late Bronze Age Levant has been traced to the Egyptian dominance in the region during this period. Seals of this type may have signified the owner's personal loyalty to the Egyptians and invoked protection by the deified Pharaoh represented by the royal name (Staubli 2009: 94–97).

COMPARANDA: Tell Jemmeh No. 136. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 223 Side A and Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 4 depict the prenomen of Amenhotep II inside the cartouche instead of the prenomen of Thutmose III.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(124).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5811.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:282, 41:22 (side type); Jaeger 1982: § 450. *[TB]*

566 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, dark brown (post-depositional discoloring on right side and base). PRESERVATION: complete. Right side of head chipped off, crack running through right elytra of scarab on back, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462). The central oval contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). The oval is flanked by outward-facing *šw(t)* (H6). Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) emerge from the bottom of the *šw(t)* (H6) feathers.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 295 Side A; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 646, 751, 827; Gezer No. 357; Tell Jemmeh No. 61; Lachish No. 66; and scarabs from Cyprus: Enkomi, Tomb 33 (probable attribution based on excavation documentation; Murray 1900: 41, Pl. 4:694; now British Museum 1897,0401.694); Hala Sultan Tekke (Fischer and Bürge 2023: 20 Fig. 14:N794, 53–54 Fig. 46).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(125).

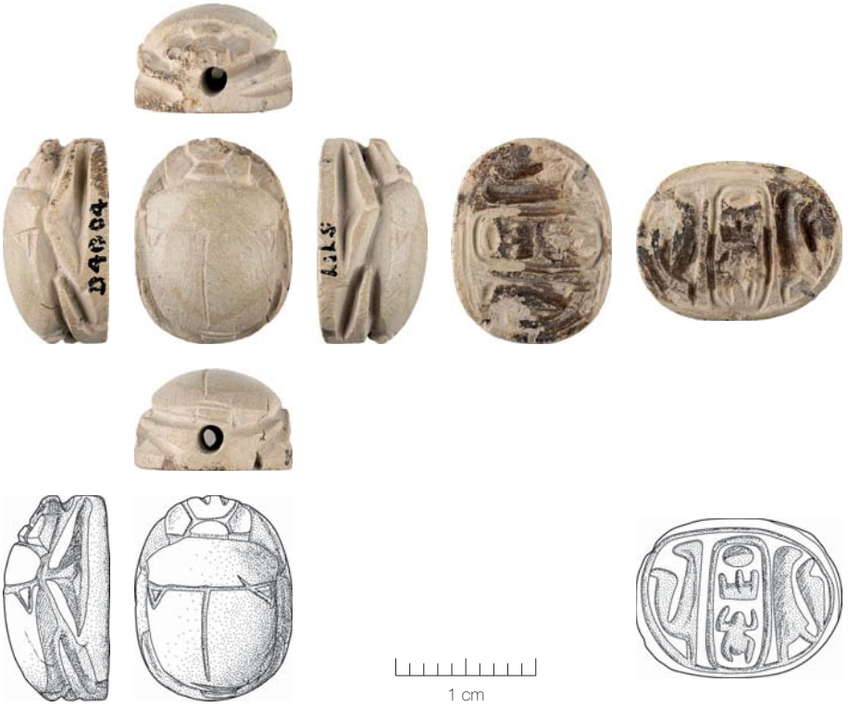
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5717.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:283, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

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567 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, yellowish (incised decoration). PRESERVATION: complete. Right side of head chipped off, back slightly eroded in area of pronotum and right elytra, base chipped on top left and bottom right. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). The cartouche is flanked by hieroglyphs on either side. The hieroglyphs on the right side are, from right to left and top to bottom: *nṯr* (R8); a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar; *nb* (V30); *tỉ* (N16/N17); remains of a second *tỉ* (N16/N17) broken off. The hieroglyphs on the left side are, from left to right and top to bottom: a *dj* (X8) missing the left side of the triangle shape forming the sign; *ʿnḫ* (S34); a right-facing *ḏ(t)* (I10); *t* (X1); *tỉ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The hieroglyphs to the right of the royal name can be read as: *nṯr nfr nb tỉ*[*wj*], "perfect god, lord of the (Two) Lands". Conventionally, this epithet is written with two *tỉ* (N16/N17) signs. The bottommost *tỉ* (N16/N17) sign on this scarab appears to have broken off when the scarab was damaged. The hieroglyphs to the left of the royal name can be read as: *dj ʿnḫ ḏ.t*, "given life eternally", another pharaonic epithet. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 22 displays a vertical layout with the same royal name and titulary. Tel Ḥarasim No. 9 is a scarab featuring the same prenomen that substitutes a different epithet for *dj ʿnḫ ḏ.t* and places the *nṯr nfr nb tỉwj* epithet to the left of the royal prenomen.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(126).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5714.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:284, 41:22 (side type); Jaeger 1982: § 1060. *[TB]*

568 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Left side of head chipped off, right side of elytra chipped on back, hairline cracks running through back, sides, rim of base chipped on bottom left. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally, the base depicts a central *ṯst* (S24), a square (or reef) knot (Keel 1995: § 495). Four outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) emerge diagonally from the knot. The uraei roughly exhibit central symmetry. The tails of the uraei emerge directly from the strings of the knot and are attached to the knot by their tails. Cartouches (Keel 1995: § 462) are located to the left and right of the uraei. Both cartouches contain, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). Two transversally oriented hieroglyphs are located under the central knot; from right to left, these are: *nṯr* (R8) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar. Three longitudinally oriented hieroglyphs are located above the central knot; from top to bottom, these are: *nb* (V30) and two *tỉ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouches spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. Abnormally read from bottom to top, the hieroglyphs below and above the central knot can be read as a royal epithet: *nṯr nfr nb tỉwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands". The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 673 is a scarab featuring the prenomen of Amenhotep II inside two ovals to the left and right of the uraei and longitudinally oriented *ḏd* (R11) pillars above and below the central knot. From Egypt: Esna, Burial 269 (Downes 1974: 64, 269:10) features lizards instead of cartouches to the left and right of the uraei, and longitudinally oriented *nfr* (F35) signs in *tête-bêche* position with a single crossbar above and below the central knot. Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 7 (G) (Hayes 1959: 87–88, Fig. 48; now Metropolitan Museum 27.3.376) features *nfr* (F35) signs with single crossbars in ovals to the left and right of the uraei and longitudinally oriented *ʿnḫ* (S34) above and below the central knot. Wadi el-ʿArab, Cemetery 154, Grave 21, just under left hand of Individual A (male adult) (Emery and Kirwan 1935: 126, Fig. 113:5, 520, Pl. 32:29) also features lizards to the left and right of the uraei, and longitudinally oriented cartouches in *tête-bêche* position with the prenomen of Thutmose III above and below the central knot.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(127).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5716.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:285, 41:22 (side type); Jaeger 1982: § 423. *[TB]*

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569 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 51/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Right side chipped in one spot, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 16.2 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central winged uraeus facing right. The tail of the uraeus is curved in on itself in a figure-eight. The wings are decorated with hatching to indicate feathers. A thin *nb* (V30) sign serves as base to the uraeus. A longitudinally oriented left-facing *šnw* (V9/V10) is located between the outspread wings of the uraeus. The wings of the uraeus frame a sequence of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). A *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar is located behind the uraeus.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in front of the uraeus spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 595 has a vertically oriented base that also features a winged uraeus and a *šnw* (V9/V10). Other vertically oriented base decorations featuring stylistically similar winged uraei can be seen on: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 263; Gezer No. 199.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(128).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5715.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:286, 41:23 (side type); Jaeger 1982: § 446, Fig. 242. *[TB]*

570 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 50+HC 54/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, yellowish (incised decoration). PRESERVATION: complete. Crack running through right side of pronotum and right elytra, top right corner of base engraving chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts: a large *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar; a large, right-facing *šw(t)* (H6); and a large cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); a left-facing *ꜣ* (O29); *ḫpr* (L1); and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). Two inward-facing *nb* (V30) frame the top and bottom of the composition.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *ꜣ-ḫpr.w-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep II. Alternatively, could the flat horizontal glyph represent a very basic *mn* (Y5), resulting in *mn-ḫpr.w-rˁ*, the prenomen of Thutmose IV (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.; see Dothan No. 21 and Lachish No. 571)? The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Dothan No. 21 features a similar composition with the prenomen of Thutmose IV that lacks the top *nb* (V30) and the *nfr* (F35), and places the *šw(t)* (H6) facing inward to the left of the cartouche.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE) or Thutmose IV? (1400–1390 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(129).

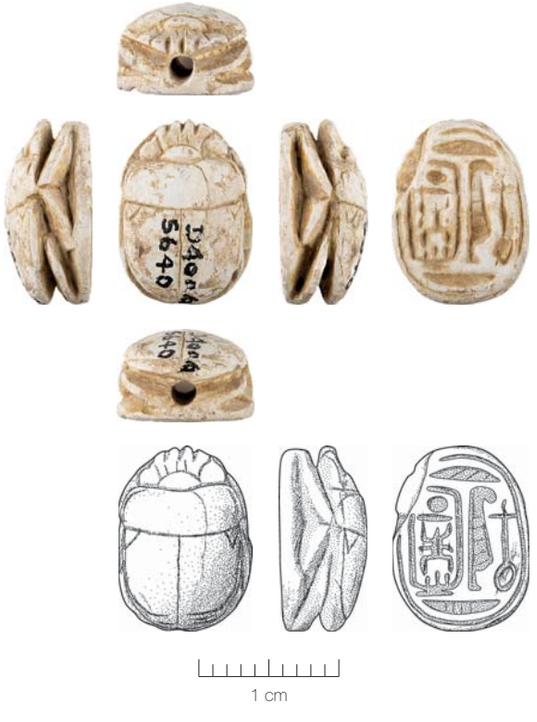
CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5640.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, Pl. 37/38:287, Pl. 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

569



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571 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/vlv/d7 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Top of head chipped off on back, bottom right of base engraving chipped off, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462) framed on either side by inward-facing falcons with wings spread in a V-shape (Keel 1995: § 557). Hatching is used to indicate the feathers of the falcons. Two longitudinal lines extend from the centre of the V-shape formed by the wings of the falcons, indicating the feet of the birds. The central oval contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1); and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr.w-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar base designs featuring the prenomen of Amenhotep II, the predecessor of Thutmose IV, can be found on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1002; Gibeon No. 34.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-59.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5718.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:288, 41:22 (side type); Keel 1994: 59, Fig. 33. *[TB]*

572 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 50+HC 52/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Top right corner of scarab head chipped off on back, rear of scarab on back slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). The flat base of the cartouche is decorated with hatching. The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣˁt* (C10); *nb* (V30). Hatched decoration on the small squatting figure of the goddess Maʿat is used to indicate hair. An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣˁt* (C10) figure. The top loop of the *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign is represented by a hole and the handle as a T-shape. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) is depicted with the top loop detached from the T-shaped handle of the symbol. A *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450), or winged sun-disc, is located above the cartouche. Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the winged sun disc. A large *nbw* (S12) sign is located under the cartouche. The central part of the *nbw* (S12) is decorated with hatching. Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) frame the cartouche. The tails of the uraei emerge from the cartouche oval. The bodies of the uraei are decorated with hatching to indicate scales.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣˁt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 312 depicts a similar design featuring the prenomen of Thutmose III. A horizontal composition featuring the prenomen of Amenhotep III inside an oval and framed by outward-facing uraei can be seen on the base of Lachish No. 573.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(130).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5719.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:289, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

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573 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 13/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly worn. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462). Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) frame the oval shape. The tails of the uraei emerge from the oval shape. The bodies of the uraei are decorated with hatching to indicate scales. A sun disc or *rʿ* (N5) is above the head of the left uraeus, while a red crown or *dšrt* (S3) is above the head of the right uraeus. The central oval contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure. The top loop of the *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign is represented by a drilled hole and the handle as a T-shape. On this carving, only the top cross-bar of the T-shape is visible. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) is depicted with the top loop detached from the T-shaped handle of the symbol.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Ashkelon No. 57 (Side B). Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196 features a similar base engraving with inward-facing uraei. A vertical composition featuring the prenomen of Amenhotep III inside a cartouche and framed by outward-facing uraei can be seen on the base of Lachish No. 572.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(131).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5725.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 122, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:290, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

574 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white, brown (post-depositional discoloring on base). PRESERVATION: broken. Head of scarab on back chipped off, rim of base chipped in one spot, hairline cracks in base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from right to left, a column of two hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5) and a *nb* (V30) decorated with hatching. To the left of these is a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure. Hatched decoration on *mꜣʿt* (C10) is used to indicate hair.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 620 is a close parallel and also features the most similar head, back, and side types to the present piece. Lachish No. 48 is another composite scarab of roughly the same size bearing the same base inscription. Beth Shemesh No. 97 is a sealing with a seal impression from this type of seal.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(132).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5647.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:291, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

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575 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped on bottom right side, base chipped on left side and heavily chipped on bottom right side. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of black glaze (color degraded).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rᶜ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣᶜt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣᶜt* (C10) figure.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣᶜt-rᶜ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 587 is a close parallel and also features the most similar head, back, and side types to the present piece. Other fired steatite scarabs bearing the same base inscription are: ʿAra No. 26; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 137; Lachish No. 577. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 203 is a seal made of an unknown material with the same base inscription and design.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(133).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5722.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:292, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

576 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 35/EP 33/Side 39 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through right side, hairline cracks in base. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rᶜ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣᶜt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣᶜt* (C10) figure.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣᶜt-rᶜ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 24 is a close comparandum possibly made from glass paste that also features a similar side type to the present piece. Other composite scarabs bearing the same base inscription are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 120, 271; ʿAra No. 22; Beth Shemesh No. 121; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 752; Jaffa No. 16; Lachish No. 14, 586; Megiddo No. 528. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 203 is a seal made of an unknown material with the same base inscription and design.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(134).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5721.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:293, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

575



576



577 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9?/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly chipped, hairline cracks in back and base, sides chipped, base chipped on left side and heavily chipped on right side. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rˁ* (N5); a right-facing *mꜣˁt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ꜥnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mꜣˁt* (C10) figure. The neck and shoulder area of the *mꜣˁt* (C10) figure is decorated with hatching.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣˁt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Other fired steatite scarabs bearing the same base inscription are: ʿAra No. 26; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 137; Lachish No. 575, 587. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 203 is a seal made of an unknown material with the same base inscription and design.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(135).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5755.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 281–285, Pl. 37/38:294, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

578 **OBJECT:** Square prism, type I (Keel 1995: § 238). MATERIAL: frit?. COLOUR: pale blue. PRESERVATION: broken. Heavily eroded on all sides except Side D. All sides except Side D have further eroded since the halftone photos preserved in the CSAPI archives were taken. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 7.6 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: All four of the rectangular decorated sides on this prism have a vertical layout. No border is present on any of the sides. Side A: This side depicts a right-facing anthropomorphic figure wearing a tunic and kilt. The figure wears a short ear-length wig. (Contra previous interpretations, the torso area of the figure does not feature a draped robe. Instead, the element interpreted as a draped robe is likely chipping damage since it visibly obscures part of the 'rear' arm on the archival picture.) The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side and holds an *ꜥnḫ* (S34). The 'front' arm of the figure holds a staff. The type of the staff cannot be determined due to erosion. A series of eroded transversal lines are located in front of the figure. Side B: This side depicts a right-facing mummiform figure standing and holding a *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre. Hatching is used to indicate the elaborate collar around the figure's neck. A column of hieroglyphs is located in front of the figure. From top to bottom, these are: *p* (Q3); *t* (X1); *ḥ* (V28); and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar. Side C: This side depicts a left-facing falcon or *ḫrw* (G5) wearing a double crown or *sḫmtj* (S5). A column of eroded hieroglyphs can be seen above the back of the falcon. From right to left and top to bottom, the top portion consists of: a right-facing *j* (M17); *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35); and from right to left; a *rˁ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1). A large *nb* (V30) is located under this inscription. The signs located under the *nb* (V30) are too eroded to distinguish. Side D: A column of hieroglyphs occupies this side. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *ꜥ* (O29); *ḫpr* (L1); *nb* (V30); *tꜣ* (N16/N17); *tꜣ* (N16/N17). Outward-facing *šw(t)* (H6) feathers flank the *ḫpr* (L1). The right *šw(t)* (H6) is hatched. The *nb* (V30) and two *tꜣ* (N16/N17) signs are flanked by a left-facing *nṯr* (R8) on the left, and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar on the right.

DISCUSSION: This prism has played a certain role in scholarship on Early Canaanite script due to erroneous readings, rightly dismissed by Hestrin, Sass and Ophel 1982. The artifact is unambiguously Egyptian. Side A: Given the style of the wig (Lepsius 1849–1858: III Pl. 61), this figure may represent Amenhotep II, the pharaoh named on Side D. A series of indistinct transversal lines in front of the figure may originally have constituted a hieroglyphic inscription. Side B: The first three hieroglyphs in the column in front of the mummiform deity spell out *Ptḥ*, or "Ptah", likely the name of the mummiform deity depicted. The *nfr* (F35) sign is likely a short form of the epithet *nfr* [*ḥr*], "fair (of face)" (Christophe 1955: 77–78). Side C: Presently too worn to be read; early drawings and photographs suggest the combination of a crowned Horus falcon with an inscription including the divine name *Jmn-rˁ*. Side D: The central column of hieroglyphs in the top third of this side spell out the royal name *ꜥ-ḫpr*[*.w*]*-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep II. The hieroglyphs in the bottom third, when read anomalously with the outer framing hieroglyphs first, followed by the central hieroglyphs, can be read as: *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands". The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Side A: No exact parallel for this side known so far from the southern Levant. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 58 and, from Egypt, Gurob, Tomb 239, scarab found on hand of male individual (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 40:23, 50) depict a similar figure of a pharaoh with a *ḥqꜣ* (S38) sceptre and carrying an *ꜥnḫ* (S34) sign next to a column of hieroglyphs. Side B: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 272; from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, Maket tomb, Coffin 8 (Petrie 1891: 23, Pl. 26:24; Tufnell 1984: 112–113, Fig. 23:19; rectangular plaque with Thoth on reverse; now Ashmolean Museum AN1890.777). Side C: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 472 and Lachish No. 619 depict a similar crowned falcon facing right. Side D: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant.

DATING: Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE); late 18th Dyn. (1425–1292 BCE); LB IB (early 15th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on find context and royal name.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1825.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25–26, Pit 555 (LB IB–LB IIB, early 15th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3846.

577



1 cm

578



1 cm

① Irregularly shaped pit. Other finds from this pit include: pottery, a bronze spearhead or dagger, two bronze daggers, a gold earring with a paste pendant, two bronze arrowheads, a shallow tripod bowl possibly made of travertine, a piece of bone inlay, a bone spacer bead, paste, glass, carnelian, beryl, steatite, and shell beads, a blue glazed udjat amulet, and an ivory leopard head (Tufnell 1958: 244–245). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 578–580, 715.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 128, 244–245, Pl. 37/38:295; Albright 1969: 3–4,14, Fig. 2–3; Hestrin, Sass and Ophel 1982: 103–106, Pl. 11; Keel 1995: § 238, p. 283 (typology). *[TB/*CU]*

579 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/II/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides lightly eroded, border of base chipped on top right, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: an *ꜣḫt* (N27) decorated with an incised line to indicate the sun rising over the horizon; a papyrus plant with two drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432) on a *nb* (V30) base. The umbels of the papyrus plant are decorated with hatching. Round shapes are located under the left and right drooping umbels of the plant.

DISCUSSION: The closest comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Consequently, this scarab is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 623 features a similar arrangement but substitutes the *ꜣḫt* (N27) for a *rᶜ* (N5) above a *nb* (V30). Similar arrangements can be seen on scarabs from Egypt: el-Haraga, Cemetery NH (Engelbach 1923: 17, Pl. 21:196; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC6405 and Engelbach 1923: 17, Pl. 21:197; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC6403); Deir Rifa (Petrie 1907: Pl. 23:23); Luxor West Bank, Sheikh ʿAbd el-Qurna, Tomb of Hatnefer and Ramose (below TT 71), Coffin IV, Burial 1 (Metropolitan Museum 36.3.32); Deir el-Bahari, Hathor Shrine, "Hatshepsut Hole" (Metropolitan Museum 23.3.276); Assasif, Tomb 37, Hall C, Coffin 23, mummified remains of *Ḏḥwtj* (Djehuty), attached by string to third finger of left hand (Herbert and Carter 1912: 74, Pl. 74:23; now Metropolitan Museum 26.7.684). A fragmentary seal impression on a clay sealing from el-Lisht South, Pyramid complex of Senwosret I, north temple gateway (Metropolitan Museum 14.3.340) also features the central papyrus umbels in conjunction with an *ꜣḫt* (N27).

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); Hatshepsut (1479–1458 BCE); dating based on find context of comparanda from el-Haraga and Luxor. Very similar papyrus plants with hatched umbels occur together with the name of Hatshepsut on the base of scarabs from the Deir el-Bahari temple foundation deposit (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.224; 27.3.225; 27.3.267). These scarabs also have a similar back type to the present piece. Consequently, the present scarab can likely be dated to the reign of Hatshepsut or earlier.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16267. BM/Big number: 160570.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25–26, Pit 555 (LB IB–LB IIB, early 15th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4346.

① See Lachish No. 578.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 123, 244–245, Pl. 37/38:296, 41:23 (side type); Magrill 2006: 22. *[TB]*

580 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Right side chipped in one spot, hairline crack near perforation at head of scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the design depicts a central *ṯst* (S24), a square (or reef) knot (Keel 1995: § 495). Four lobes emerge from the central knot on the longitudinal and transversal axis in a cross shape. Four outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) emerge diagonally from the centre of the cross-shape. The uraei roughly exhibit central symmetry and are attached to the knot by their tails.

COMPARANDA: Tell Abu Hawam No. 3; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 223, 225, 874, 1212; Gezer No. 78.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1823.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25–26, Pit 555 (LB IB–LB IIB, early 15th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3844.

① See Lachish No. 578.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 123, 244–245, Pl. 37/38:297, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

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581 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 27+EP 74/Side 26 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, back slightly chipped on left side of scarab head, rim of base slightly chipped, *nfr* (F35) sign on base chipped. WEIGHT: 2.94 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). Outward-facing *šw(t)* (H6) feathers frame the cartouche. The central cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); a transversal line possibly meant to represent an *ꜥ* (O29); an irregular rectangle likely meant to represent a *ḫpr* (L1); and a transversal line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign. Further hieroglyphic inscriptions are located above the cartouche and above the right *šw(t)* (H6) feather. From right to left, the two hieroglyphs above the cartouche are: *nṯr* (R8) and a *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar. The hieroglyphs above the right *šw(t)* (H6) are, from top to bottom: an ovoid likely representing a *nb* (V30), and two *tꜣ* (N16/N17). A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base for the composition.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *ꜥ-ḫpr-n-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose II. The hieroglyphs above the cartouche and the right feather when read anomalously from left to right in their respective groupings, can be read as: *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands", a standard pharaonic epithet. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 890 depicts a base engraving featuring the same royal prenomen and central layout, but lacking the epithets. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 296; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 129 are rectangular plaques with a similar layout and featuring the same epithets, but inscribed with the prenomen of Thutmose III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose II (1482–1480 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16076. BM/Big number: 160322.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4677.

① Circular grave pit with a collapsed roof and an entry shaft on the west side. The floor and walls were plastered white up to a height of two metres above ground. The grave contained multiple badly preserved burials. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, 19 bronze arrowheads, four bronze knives, two bronze spearheads, two bronze rivets, five bronze togglepins, two bronze earrings, a bronze kohl stick, a gold pendant with an eight-petaled rosette, a gold earring, a basalt bowl, a calcite vase and stand, a travertine kohl pot, a spouted calcite vase, a travertine tazza, a basalt bowl, a serpentinite vase, a stone spindle whorl, a calcite? fragment, a chalk? game piece, a fragment of a gypsum vessel, eleven pieces of carved bone, twenty-one pieces of bone inlay, eight pieces of ivory inlay, two bone rods or spindles, a bone spindle whorl, an ivory pin decorated with a pomegranate-shaped top, nine frit game pieces and a faience game piece, a glass plaque, one Red Sea shell, identified as Nerita yoldii or possibly Nerita polita, an animal bone and tooth, three flint blades, three "aegis of Bastet" amulets, three necklaces made with faience and glass beads, two necklaces made of faience, glass and stone beads (possibly limestone in one case), one necklace made with carnelian, onyx, quartz, and sard? beads, as well as loose bone, faience, glass, and limestone beads (Tufnell 1958: 232–235). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 581–593, 676.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:298, 41:16 (side type), 54:25; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

582 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Left and right sides chipped, top right and left border of base chipped. WEIGHT: 0.87 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.9 mm (L) × 8.7 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the engraving depicts: a *rˁ* (N5); a *mn* (Y5) decorated with hatching; and an upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1). A right facing *nṯr* (R8) sign is located to the right of the *ḫpr* (L1), and a *nfr* (F35) sign without crossbars is located to the left of the *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs spell out *nṯr nfr Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, "perfect God Menkheperre", a prenomen (i.e., throne name) and epithet associated with Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 634, 663).

COMPARANDA: Tel Gerisa No. 17; Gezer No. 237, 364; Tel Ḥarasim No. 25; Lachish No. 18, 456; Megiddo No. 74. From Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, Maket tomb, Coffin 1 (Petrie 1891: 22, Pl. 26:2; Tufnell 1984: 110–111, Fig. 22:11; duck scaraboid; now Ashmolean Museum AN1890.787a[ii]); and with *nṯr nfr* written left-to-right on Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 7 (G) (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.304).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16081. BM/Big number: 160320.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4668.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:299, 41:22 (side type), 54:19; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

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583 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: beige, dark brown (decoration). PRESERVATION: complete. Side A slightly eroded, hairline crack running through side; Side B eroded in area of cartouche. WEIGHT: 2.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.1 mm (L) × 14.2 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the engraving depicts: a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462), followed by a hieroglyphic inscription. The cartouche contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). From right to left and top to bottom, the hieroglyphs of the inscription to the left of the cartouche are: a right-facing *j* (M17); *mn* (Y5); *n* (N35); *tjt* (D17); and a single vertical stroke (Z1). The *j* (M17) is decorated with hatching to indicate the ribs of the reed. Side B: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a central upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetle with overly large hatched wings. Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) crowned with sun discs project from the outside of the wings. A longitudinally oriented cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) is located above the beetle. The cartouche contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouches on both sides spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The hieroglyphs to the left of the cartouche on Side A spell out a royal epithet, *tjt Jmn*, "image of Amun". The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Deir el-Balaḥ No. 139. Side B: No exact parallel for this side is known so far. ʿAra No. 30 and Lachish No. 25 are vertically oriented layouts on scarab bases featuring a similar winged scarab with uraei in addition to other motifs.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16138. BM/Big number: 160324.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4673.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:300, 54:24; Jaeger 1982: § 1092, No. 611, Fig. 400, 283, n. 81; Keel 1995: § 206, 517, p. 281 (typology); Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

584 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 27+EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, yellowish (base engraving). PRESERVATION: complete. Top right of scarab head chipped off, top right and bottom of base chipped off. WEIGHT: 1.52 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central reclining human-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 544) facing right. The sphinx wears a blue crown (Keel 1995: § 547). Hatching is used to indicate fur on the sphinx and to decorate the crown. An oval shape (Keel 1995: § 462) is located in front of the sphinx. The oval contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). A right-facing winged uraeus framing the head of the sphinx with its wings is located above the back of the sphinx. Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the wings of the uraeus. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Ashdod No. 57 features a similar design, and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 847 Side A (rectangular plaque) features a similar design with the prenomen of Amenhotep III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16077. BM/Big number: 160318.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4672.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:301, 41:22 (side type), 54:23; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

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585 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8+HC 9/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back eroded, hairline cracks running through back and perforation at head of scarab, rim of base eroded, left and bottom right of base rim chipped. WEIGHT: 1.50 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: remains of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. A papyrus plant with two drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432) occupies the top third of the base design. The remaining two thirds are occupied by a hieroglyphic inscription. Read right to left, the first hieroglyph in the inscription is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to its left. From top to bottom, these are: a hatched *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and, from right to left, a *rˁ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs spell out the divine name *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 242 (Side A); Tell el-Ḥesi No. 2. From Egypt: Gurob (Petrie 1890: 36, Pl. 23:97; plaque with Taweret on reverse); Koptos, Thutmose III temple foundation deposit 3 (Petrie 1896: 14, Pl. 15:50); Abydos, Tomb D116 (Randall-Maciver and Mace 1902: 75, 91, 102, Pl. 53:Tomb Group D116; plaque with name of Thutmose III featuring winged *ḫpr* [L1] on reverse); Esna, Burial 58B (Downes 1974: 60, no. 58; intrusive in burial; now Liverpool Museum), Burial 354 (*ibid.*: 66, no. 354; plaque with name of Thutmose III featuring winged *ḫpr* [L1] on reverse; now Liverpool Museum 16.11.06.197).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Thutmose III (1479–1425 BCE) onwards; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16139. BM/Big number: 160319.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4666.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:302, 41:23 (side type), 54:17; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

586 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47?/EP 27/Side 26? (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Top of scarab head chipped off on back, back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts four hieroglyphs. From top to bottom and right to left, these are: *rˁ* (N5); an *ʿnḫ* (S34) with a triangular handle; a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10); and a large hatched *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for an *ʿnḫ* (S34) with a triangular handle on scarabs with the name of Amenhotep III is known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda generally show the *ʿnḫ* (S34) emerging from the knee area of the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure. Comparanda that feature similar back and head types are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 271; Megiddo No. 528. Other composite scarabs bearing the same base inscription are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 120; ʿAra No. 22; Beth Shemesh No. 121; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 752; Jaffa No. 16; Lachish No. 14, 576. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 203 is a seal made of an unknown material with the same base inscription and design.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

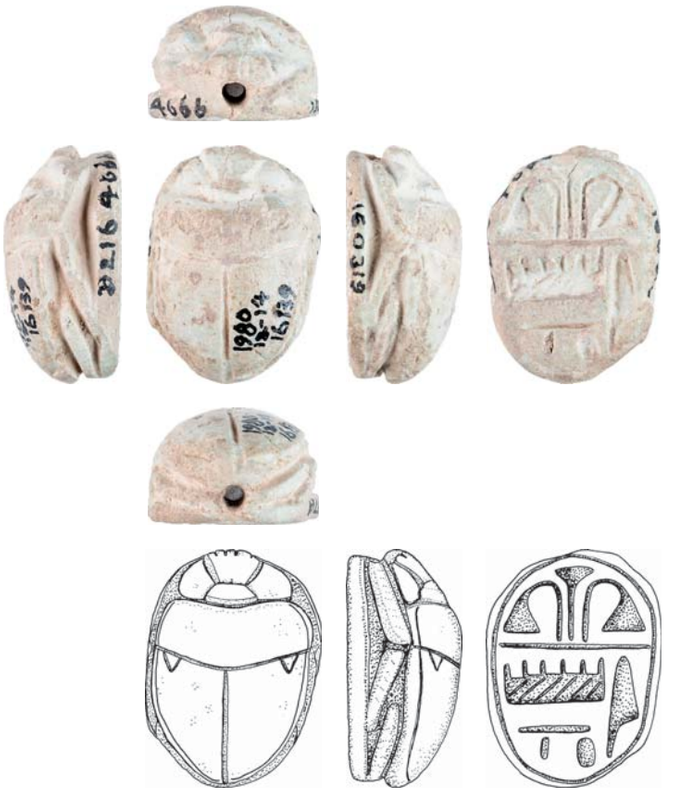
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints preserved in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1496/7").

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4663.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:303, 41:22 (side type), 54:14. *[TB]*

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587 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 114/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Top left rim of base chipped, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.14 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rꜥ* (N5); a right-facing *mɜꜥt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ꜥnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mɜꜥt* (C10) figure.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mɜꜥt-rꜥ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 575 is a close comparandum and also features the most similar head, back, and side types to the present piece. Other fired steatite scarabs bearing the same base inscription are: ʿAra No. 26; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 137; Lachish No. 577. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 203 is a seal made of an unknown material with the same base inscription.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16082. BM/Big number: 160327.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4664.
① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:304, 41:22 (side type), 54:15; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 43, Fig. 79d; Magrill 2006: 13; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 43, Fig. 79d. *[TB]*

588 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, hairline cracks in back, back and sides chipped near head and rear perforation of scarab, left side chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of light blue glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal white stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the base depicts two columns of two interlocking Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). A longitudinal line forming an elongated Z-spiral connects the top left Z-spiral with the bottom right Z-spiral. Lunette shapes formed by single lines emerge from the border above and below the central design.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75–76).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar base engravings or seal impressions that lack the lunettes framing the central design are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 929; Beth Shean No. 109; Gezer No. 502; Hazor No. 107; Hebron No. 13; Jericho No. 406, 430; and from Sidon, Square 58, Context 9173, Object no. S/7141/9173 (Boschloos 2015b: 26–27, Fig. 5).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 75–76.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16080. BM/Big number: 160325.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4665.
① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:305, 41:19 (side type), 54:16; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

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589 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 35/EP 114/Side 49 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, black (veining of stone visible near head). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides eroded, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation and damaging upper part of base engraving, chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. WEIGHT: 1.21 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the base depicts a central cross or '+'-shaped rosette (Keel 1995: § 494). The lobes of the rosette are hatched. A circle is located at the centre of the cross-shape. Four inward-curving spirals emerge diagonally from the centre of the cross-shape. Each spiral consists of a single line. A short transversal line projects outward from the diagonal spirals. The bottom two spirals are curved into hook-shapes.

COMPARANDA: Tel Gerisa No. 17 Side B. Scarab seals exhibiting a similar head type and humeral callosities/V-shaped marks on the elytra of the scarab back include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196, 263; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9; Lachish No. 412. Of these, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9 are both likely datable to the reign of Amenhotep III through the appearance of a cartouche featuring his prenomen (i.e., throne name) on the base. Consequently, this piece is likely an 18th Dyn. example of a motif that was popular during the Middle Kingdom and the Second Intermediate Period. For pre-18th Dyn. comparanda featuring this motif, see the entries for Jericho No. 52, 185, 327; Rishon LeZion No. 80.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16078. BM/Big number: 160333.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4670.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:306, 41:52 (side type), 54:21; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

590 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 51/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, yellowish (base engraving). PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack running through top left of pronotum, bottom left and right of base chipped. WEIGHT: 2.88 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.8 mm (L) × 14.4 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of decoration. The top row consists of a central goddess head of Hathor (Type F according to Schroer 1989), flanked by two cats facing outward and kneeling on their hindquarters. The heads of the cats are turned backward to face the head of the goddess. The bottom row depicts two kneeling, inward-facing anthropomorphic figures (Keel 1995: § 609). The figures are kneeling with their feet tucked under their body. They flank a central *wꜣḏ* (M13) sign. Both arms of the figures are bent at the elbow and touch the central *wꜣḏ* (M13).

DISCUSSION: Depictions of a head of Hathor flanked by cats are commonly attested in New Kingdom Egypt. Pinch 1993: 189 dates the motif featuring outward facing cats with their head turned backward to Amenhotep II on the basis of the earliest iconographic evidence for this type of cat depiction from the Luxor West Bank, tomb TT 93.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 247 is a ring that also depicts a central head of Hathor flanked by cats with their head turned backward. A scarab from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Sheikh ʿAbd el-Qurna, Tomb of Hatnefer and Ramose (below TT 71), Mummy of Hatnefer, tied to left thumb (Dorman 2005: 93–94, No. 43; now Metropolitan Museum 36.3.6), with a similar head, body, and side type, bears one of the titles of Hatshepsut and features kneeling figures touching a central lotus stem with one hand.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on iconography and comparanda.

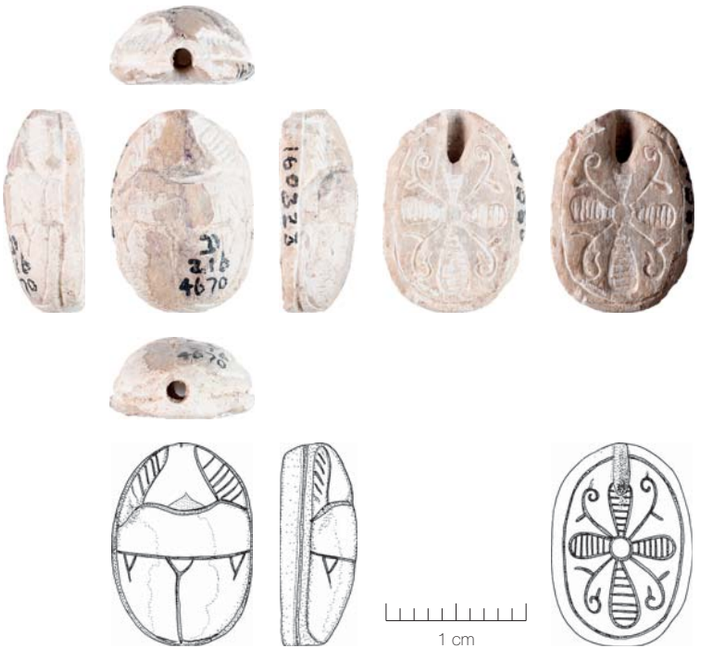
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16141. BM/Big number: 160320.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4676.

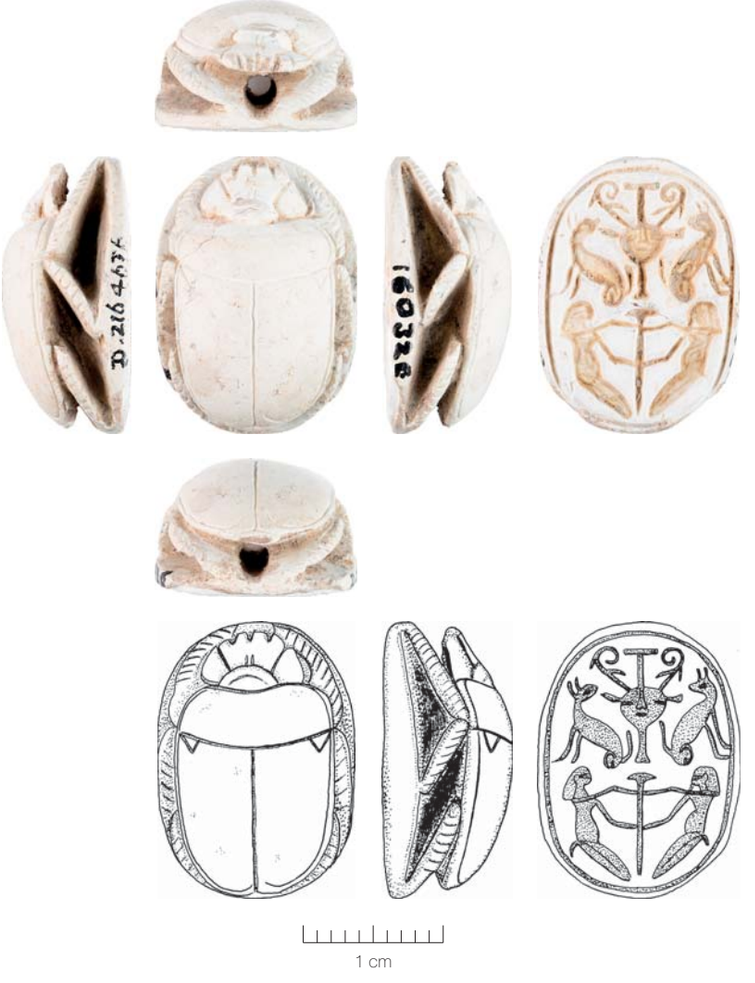
① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:307, 41:16 (side type), 54:26; Schroer 1989: 144, 146, 185, 186, No. 117; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 42, 44, Fig. 75c; Martin 2006: 193, Fig. 2; Magrill 2006: 13; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 42, 44, Fig. 75c. *[TB]*

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591 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: greyish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Entire scarab eroded, back and left side chipped. WEIGHT: 1.25 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Beth Shean Level IX group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing left-facing kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure. The figure holds a lotus blossom with a long stem toward its face in the front outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 562). An ovoid shape is located under the drooping head of the lotus blossom. The 'rear' hand hangs next to the torso. A left-facing uraeus is located under the front outstretched arm (Keel 1995: § 529).

DISCUSSION: Depictions of individuals holding a blue lotus (*Nymphaea nouchali* var. *caerulea*) to their faces are attested in tomb reliefs from the Old Kingdom onward in Egypt. The flower was closely associated with the sun god Re and the daily rebirth of the god at dawn. Likely factors leading to this association include the yellow sun-like centre of the flower and the daily opening and closing of the flower coinciding with sunrise and sunset. Consequently, depictions of individuals holding a lotus on tomb walls may relate to the wish to be reborn and ride on the solar barque of Re in the ancient Egyptian afterlife (Meader and Demeter 2004: 59, 63). Carried in portable form on a scarab by a living individual, this image may have been used to invoke the protection of the sun god, so the owner might, like the lotus, rise to see another day. The uraeus on the present piece would likely also provide additional protection for the life of the scarab owner. This scarab is probably a local Levantine production that belongs to the Beth Shean Level IX group (Ben-Tor and Keel 2012: No. 14, Fig. 15 [mistakenly labeled as Fig. 14 in text]).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 136; Gezer No. 48; Taanach No. 1. Additional decorative elements also appear beside the central figure on Lachish No. 594. A seated figure holding a lotus is depicted on Beth Shemesh No. 206.

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16079. BM/Big number: 160328.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4669.
① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:308, 41:41 (side type); Magrill 2006: 13; Ben-Tor and Keel 2012: 90, 93, 103, No. 14, Fig. 15 (mistakenly labeled as Fig. 14 in text). *[TB]*

592 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 43/EP 1/Side 13 (Rowe). Several curved parallel lines on the plates. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, bottom left of base decoration scraped off, rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 3.14 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 14.6 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. Remarks: A pale brown spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing falcon-headed figure facing right. The figure wears a tunic and kilt. The tunic is decorated with transversal lines, and the kilt is decorated with longitudinal lines. The figure holds an inward-facing lotus toward its face in its 'front' hand (Keel 1995: § 587). The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side and holds an L-shaped object. Hatching is used to indicate petals on the lotus and feathers on the falcon head. A right-facing uraeus emerges from the 'front' foot of the figure. Hatching is used to indicate the scales on the uraeus. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The L-shaped object in the 'rear' hand of the figure may represent a *qmȝ* (T14) or throwstick.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 415 depicts a similar scene but the central figure lacks a tunic and the throwstick, and a *nfr* (F35) is placed in front of the falcon-headed figure instead of a uraeus. See the comparanda for Lachish No. 415 for more distantly related base engraving motifs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16140. BM/Big number: 160321.

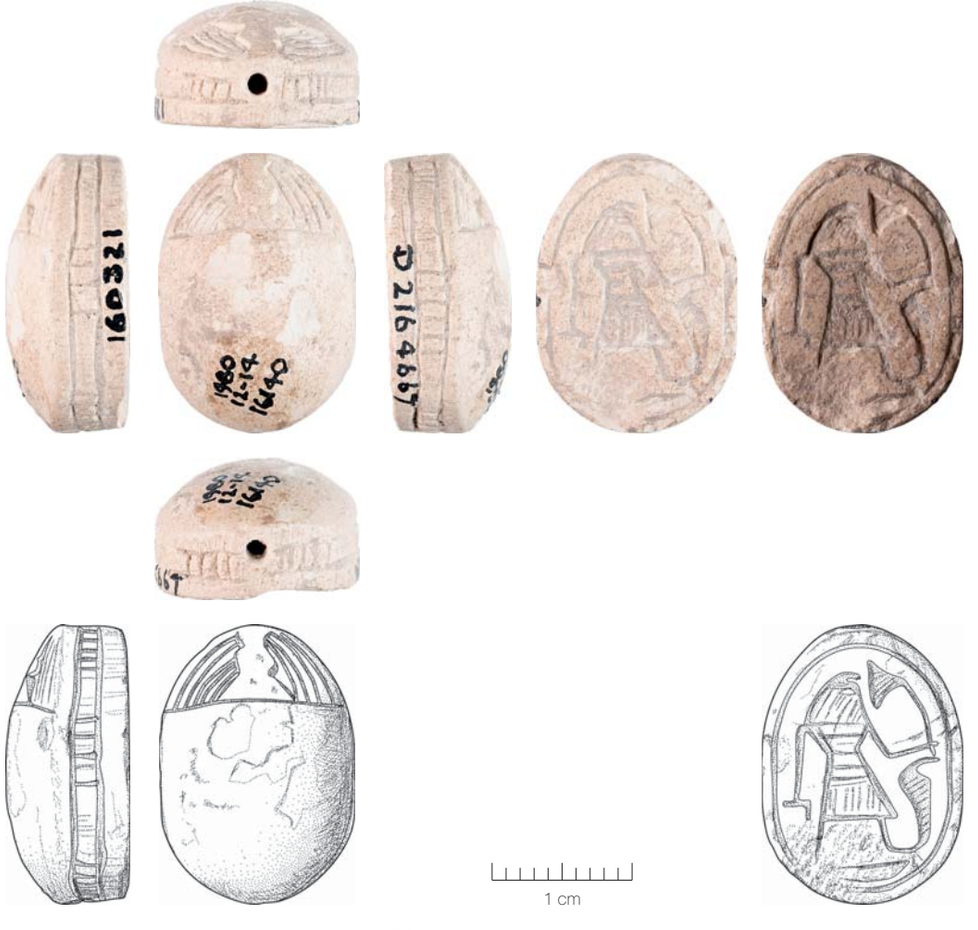
CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4667.
① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:309, 41:14 (side type); Keel [2]1992; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

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593 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 61/EP 63/Side 8 (Rowe). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: pale grey. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides eroded, head of scarab chipped near perforation. WEIGHT: 1.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of iridescent glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large right-facing *wḏ3t* (D10) eye.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other seals that feature stylistically different *wḏ3t* (D10) without other decorative elements are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 188; Tel Ḥalif No. 22; Lachish No. 39 (Side B); Megiddo No. 525.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16142. BM/Big number: 160313.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4671.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 123, 232–235, Pl. 37/38:310, 41:19 (side type); Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

594 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 64/EP 27/Side 16+Side 23 (Rowe). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides heavily eroded, back chipped near perforation at head and rear of scarab exposing perforation, bottom left of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.8 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Beth Shean Level IX group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing kilt- or skirt-wearing anthropomorphic figure facing left. The figure holds a lotus blossom with a long stem toward its face in the front outstretched hand (Keel 1995: § 562). The 'rear' hand hangs next to the torso. An *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign is located under the figure's 'front' arm.

DISCUSSION: Depictions of individuals holding a blue lotus (*Nymphaea nouchali* var. *caerulea*) to their faces are attested in tomb reliefs from the Old Kingdom onward in Egypt. The flower was closely associated with the sun god Re and the daily rebirth of the god at dawn. Likely factors leading to this association include the yellow sun-like centre of the flower and the daily opening and closing of the flower coinciding with sunrise and sunset. Consequently, depictions of individuals holding a lotus on tomb walls may relate to the wish to be reborn and ride on the solar barque of Re in the ancient Egyptian afterlife (Meader and Demeter 2004: 59, 63). Carried in portable form on a scarab by a living individual, this image may have been used to invoke the protection of the sun god, so the owner might, like the lotus, rise to see another day. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) sign on the present piece would likely provide additional protection for the life of the scarab owner. This scarab is probably a local Levantine production that belongs to the Beth Shean Level IX group (Ben-Tor and Keel 2012: No. 15, Fig. 16 [mistakenly labeled as Fig. 15 in text]).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 136; Gezer No. 48; Taanach No. 1. Additional decorative elements also appear beside the central figure on Lachish No. 591. A seated figure holding a lotus is depicted on Beth Shemesh No. 206.

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

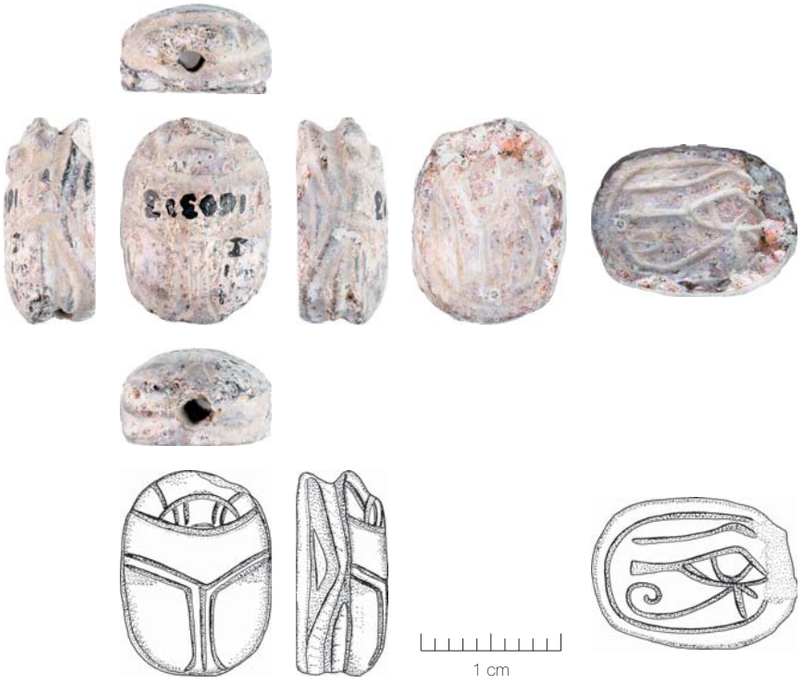
COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.606.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, Pit 501 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3408.

① Oval grave pit denuded of its roof and the upper walls by wind erosion. The burials in the pit were also heavily disturbed due to erosion. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, a bronze togglepin, two bronze arrowheads, a bronze ring, a bronze earring, an ivory pin, an ivory comb, paste, glass, steatite, carnelian, and bone beads (Tufnell 1958: 236). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 594–597.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 123, 236, Pl. 37/38:311, 41:10 (side type); Ben-Tor and Keel 2012: 90, 93, 103, No. 15, Fig. 16 (mistakenly labeled as Fig. 15 in text). *[TB]*

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595 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 51/EP 27/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks running through left side of back, left side of head chipped off, hairline crack running through base. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central winged uraeus facing right, its long tail double-curved. The uraeus wears a *dšrt* (S3) or red crown on its head. The wings are decorated with hatching to indicate feathers. A longitudinally oriented left-facing *šnw* (V9/V10) is located between the outspread wings of the uraeus. The *šnw* (V9/V10) is anomalously depicted as an incised ovoid with a line next to it. A large *nbw* (S12) sign serves as a base for the uraeus. Two hieroglyphs are located above the wings of the uraeus. From right to left, these are: *nṯr* (R8) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar. Two *tꜣ* (N16/N17) hieroglyphs are located above the tail of the uraeus.

DISCUSSION: Read from right to left, the hieroglyphs above the wings and tail of the uraeus can be read as: *nṯr nfr* [*nb*] *tꜣwj*, "perfect god, (lord of the) Two Lands". The *nb* (V30) sign is missing from the inscription on this scarab base.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 569 has a horizontally oriented base that also features a winged uraeus and a *šnw* (V9/V10). Other vertically oriented base decorations featuring stylistically similar winged uraei can be seen on: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 263; Gezer No. 199.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.607.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, Pit 501 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3409.

① See Lachish No. 594.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 123, 236, Pl. 37/38:312, 41:30 (side type). *[TB]*

596 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 180). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish, grey (uncarved areas on base, area under eyeball of *wḏꜣt*). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of eyeball on *wḏꜣt* (D10) and back slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing hatched *j* (M17). A column consisting of three signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a hatched *mn* (Y5); *n* (N35); *ḥtp* (R4). A right-facing *ḥqꜣ* (S38); and a right-facing *wꜣst* (R19) are located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the name and title *Jmn-ḥtp ḥqꜣ-wꜣst*, or "Amenhotep, Ruler of Waset" (i.e., Thebes). Based on the find context, the title on this base engraving has generally been associated with Amenhotep III.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 315; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 97; from Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Malkata, 231 (Hayes 1951: Fig. 34:R11; faience ring; now Metropolitan Museum 11.215.79), as well as Metropolitan Museum 11.215.78 and 11.215.81; faience rings from the same site not cited by Hayes; Malkata, Houses G-K Hayes 1951: 233, Fig. 34:R33; double-sided plaque with the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III on the reverse; now Metropolitan Museum 11.215.29.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.622.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, Pit 501 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3407.

① See Lachish No. 594.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 236, Pl. 37/38:313, 41:30 (side type); Jaeger 1982: 328–329, n. 661; Keel 1995: § 180, p. 287 (typology). *[TB]*

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597 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece with domed top, type a (Keel 1995: § 229–231). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Bottom of back slightly chipped, left side slightly chipped, hairline crack running through base, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Domed top: Vertical layout showing a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) or *šnw* (V9/V10). Three vertical lines at the bottom of the cartouche represent the rope attaching the cartouche oval to a flat horizontal piece. The cartouche contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rᶜ* (N5); *mɜᶜt* (C10); *nb* (V30). An *ᶜnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mɜᶜt* (C10) figure. The cartouche is framed on either side by an outward-facing hatched *šw(t)* (H6) feather. **BASE:** Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two columns of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs in the first column on the right are: a right-facing *j* (M17) and a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar. From top to bottom, the hieroglyphs in the second column are: a hatched *mn* (Y5); a transversal line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; a *ḥtp* (R4). Two signs are located under the *ḥtp* (R4). From right to left, these are: *ḥz* (W14); and a right-facing *rᶜ* (C1).

DISCUSSION: Domed top: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Nb-mɜᶜt-rᶜ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. **BASE:** read right to left and top to bottom, the hieroglyphs on the base spell out *Jmn-ḥtp nfr ḥzw.t Rᶜ*, "(give) Amenhotep the entire favour of Re", a prayer that a ruler with the nomen Amenhotep might recieve the full favour of the god Re. Given the presence of the prenomen of Amenhotep III on the back of the seal, the formula on the base is likely referring to this ruler. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Domed top: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 255; Lachish No. 605, 894; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 135–136. **BASE:** No exact parallel is currently known from the southern Levant. See Lachish No. 601 for a list of artefacts inscribed with *Jmn-rᶜ nfr ḥzw.t*, a similar inscription with a prayer for the favour of Amun-Re.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.621.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square E.26, Pit 501 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3406.

① See Lachish No. 594.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 123, 236, Pl. 37/38:314; Jaeger 1982: 346, n. 863, Fig. 923; Keel 1995: § 229, 231, p. 282 (typology). *[TB]*

598 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 32/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory, blueish-grey (cracked portions of base). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped in two spots. WEIGHT: 1.56 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. No border is present on this base carving. The base depicts a series of signs and hieroglyphs. From right to left, the signs are: a longitudinally oriented *nb* (V30); a right-facing hatched *šw(t)* (H6); a hatched right-facing squatting figure of *mɜᶜt* (C10) holding a lotus blossom with a long stem (Keel 1995: § 431); and an *ᶜnḫ* (S34).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 940.

DATING: 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16159. BM/Big number: 160584.

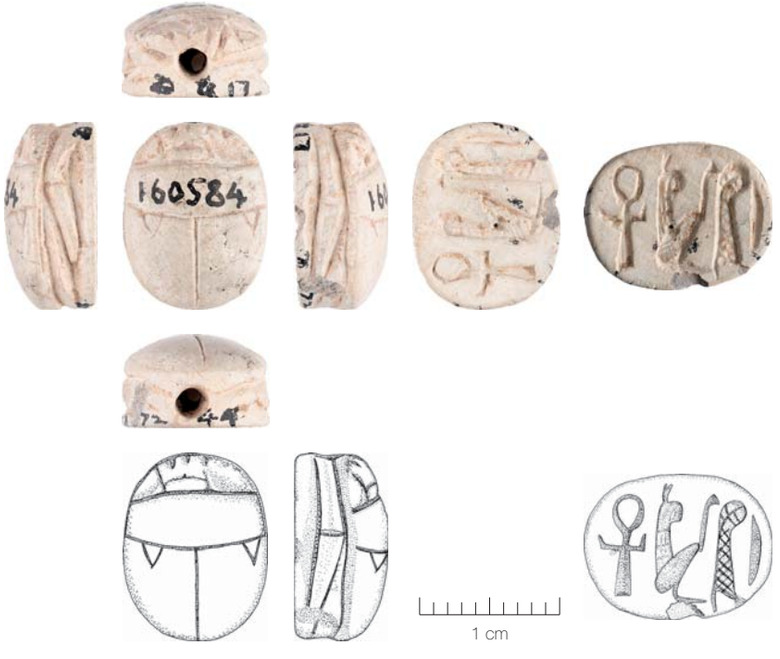
CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square P.17, Object no. 7244.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 163; Tufnell 1958: 105, 123, Pl. 37/38:315, 41:30 (side type); Magrill 2006: 80. *[TB]*

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599 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Cracks running through back, back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two anthropomorphic figures standing and facing one another. The left figure wears a knee-length skirt, and the right figure wears an ankle-length skirt. Both figures have long hair that is waist or almost waist length. Hatching is used to indicate the hair and the folds of the skirts. The 'rear' arm of the left figure hangs by their side. The right figure is not depicted with a 'rear' arm. The 'front' arms of both figures touch a long central papyrus stem. Hatching is used to decorate the umbel of the papyrus plant (Keel 1995: § 607). A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the figures.

DISCUSSION: Several unprovenanced scarabs depicting similarly attired individuals smelling an open lotus blossom are inscribed with hieroglyphs naming female individuals (e.g., Martin 1971: 58, Pl. 41:33). Thus, it is likely this scarab also depicts female individuals. It has been theorized that this type of scene may symbolize a treaty (Keel 2020: 160–161, No. 380). This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 10B "Two or more figures, standing or kneeling" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 103–104).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant, but Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 155 and Jebel Qurunṭul No. 1 depict very similar motifs. Seals showing two individuals holding a lotus blossom are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 784; Tell Abu Zureiq No. 3; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 6. Items showing two falcon-headed individuals are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 675; Megiddo No. 442.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 103–104.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 5094, B.414").

CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square P.17, Object no. 7243.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 163; Tufnell 1958: 103, 123, Pl. 37/38:316, 41:19 (side type); Keel 1995: § 607. *[TB]*

600 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type I (Keel 1995: § 219). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of Sides A, B, and D slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a striding falcon-headed sphinx facing right (Keel 1995: § 550). Hatching is used to indicate the details of the lappet, the feathers on the head, and the fur on the body. The sphinx is treading on a prone enemy, whose head faces downward. A transversally oriented cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) is located in front of the sphinx and a longitudinally oriented cartouche is located above the back of the sphinx. Both cartouches contain the same sequence of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *ꜣ* (O29); *ḫpr* (L1); and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). Side B: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two central standing anthropomorphic figures facing one another and holding hands. Both figures are wearing kilts decorated with hatching to indicate the folds of the cloth. The left figure is wearing a *šwtj* (S9) or double-feather crown fronted by a uraeus, and the right figure is wearing a *ḫprš* (S7) or blue crown. A right-facing falcon-headed figure stands to the left of the central pair. Hatching is used to indicate the v-necked tunic and kilt worn by the figure. A right-facing figure of a mummiform deity with a false beard stands to the right of the central pair. Hatching is used to indicate a collar and details of the wrappings on the figure (Keel 1995: § 584). Sides C and D (top and bottom edge): Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Both top and bottom edges depict a right-facing falcon headed anthropomorphic figure wearing a kilt and a *šwtj* (S9) or double-feather crown. Hatching is used on both sides to indicate the details of the feathers on the heads and the cloth on the kilts. Hatching is also used on Side D to indicate the details of the feathers on the crown.

DISCUSSION: Side A: The hieroglyphs inside the cartouches spell out the royal name *ꜣḫpr.w rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep II. The engraving on this side can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634). Side B: The figure wearing the *šwtj* (S9) crown can likely be identified as Amun, while the figure in the blue crown can be identified as a pharaoh, possibly Amenhotep II who is named on Side A. The identity of the falcon-headed figure to the left remains uncertain, but the figure to the right of the central pair can be identified as Ptah (see Keel 1995: § 584 in references). Sides C and D: The falcon-headed figure wearing the *šwtj* (S9) crown can be identified as the god Montu (see Keel 1995: § 219 in references). The only exact parallel for this piece was found in Egypt. Thus, the present piece is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb 1810 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 24, Pl. 58:41, 67; now Manchester Museum 6981); Lachish No. 674 is a scarab that also depicts a falcon-headed sphinx in conjunction with the prenomen of Amenhotep II. A similar unprovenanced rectangular plaque inscribed with the prenomen of Thutmose III instead is: Hall 1913: 99, no. 1017.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5129/32, 451/2").

CONTEXT: Surface find. "Great Shaft", Locus D/X, Object no. 6147.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 160; Tufnell 1958: 97, 106, 108, 123, Pl. 37/38:317; Jaeger 1982: 328, n. 677, 329, n. 678, Fig. 844, 340–341, n. 812, Fig. 892; Keel 1989a: 312–313, 319, Fig. 111; Keel 1995: § 207, 219, 221, 584, Fig. 450, p. 282 (typology); Schroer 2011: 92–93, No. 578. *[TB]*

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601 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of both engraved sides slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a large tilapia fish facing right. Hatching is used to indicate details of the scales, back fin, and tail. Two plant stems emerge from the mouth of the fish and curve to the left above and below the fish. The bottom stem is tipped with a lotus bud. Side B: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts two rows of hieroglyphs. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted in the top row is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of two signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); and a longitudinal line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35). From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the bottom row are: a *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar; *ḥz* (W14); and a *rᶜ* (N5) with a single vertical stroke (Z1) (actually resembling a *t* [X1] turned 90 degrees) under it.

DISCUSSION: Side B: Read from right to left, the hieroglyphs on this side spell out *Jmn-rᶜ nfr ḥzw.t*, "(the) entire favour of Amun-Re", a prayer to receive the full favour of the god Amun-Re. The individual(s) wearing this scarab were likely intended as recipients of the favour requested in the prayer. In conventional reading order, the *rᶜ* (N5) sign and a single vertical stroke (Z1) should have been depicted to the right of the phrase *nfr ḥzw.t*. On this scarab, they have mistakenly been depicted to the left of the phrase *nfr ḥzw.t*. For the same inscription engraved in the conventional reading order, see the seals from the foundation deposit of the Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari in the comparanda.

COMPARANDA: Side A: See the discussion section for Megiddo No. 662. Side B: No exact parallel for this side is known so far from the southern Levant. Many seals depict the same inscription written in different styles: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 553; Beth Shean No. 117; Lachish No. 44; Shiloh No. 3. Comparanda from Egypt include: Saft el-Henna, Tomb 330 (Petrie 1906: 41, Pl. 37:10, Side A); Gurob, Tomb 88 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 12, Pl. 15, 21:46; now Manchester Museum 7002, Side A of rectangular jasper plaque; publication mistakenly depicts the transversal drawing of Side A under Pl. 21:46 and the transversal drawing of Side B under Pl. 21:47); Abydos, Tomb D119 (Randall-Maciver and Mace 1902: 75, 91, 102, Pl. 53, Tomb Group D119:12); Esna, Burial 233 (Downes 1974: 62, 233:2); Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 7 (G) (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.334, 27.3.335, 27.3.337, 27.3.338, 27.3.339, 27.3.340, 27.3.341, 27.3.342, 27.3.343); Buhen, Tomb J 26 (Randall-Maciver and Woolley 1911: 172, 220, Pl. 55:10155, 58:10155, duck scaraboid); Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb S 63 (Steindorff 1937: 101, 185–186, Pl. 54:37).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Hatshepsut (1479–1458 BCE) onwards; dating based on secure foundation deposit context of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari (see comparanda).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5129/32, 451/2").

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Areas 100–200, Locus 100, Object no. 7288.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 123, Pl. 37/38:318; Keel 1995: § 220. *[TB]*

602 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of Side B slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 0.73 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 3.1 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts a large *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars and a *ḥrw* (G5) or falcon facing right. Four lines are used to form a T-shaped symbol on the ovoid base of the *nfr* (F35). Hatching is used to indicate the wings of the falcon. A sun disc formed by a single line is located behind the back of the falcon. A single wing emerges from the right side of the sun disc. A right-facing uraeus emerges from under the sun disc. Side B: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. This side depicts a large Type F goddess head (Keel 1995: § 577). The head is flanked by outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523). Hatching on the right uraeus is used to indicate scales. The rectangular headdress of the goddess is decorated with longitudinal lines. The eyes, nose, and mouth of the goddess are finely carved.

DISCUSSION: The falcon on Side A and the goddess head on Side B may symbolize the god Horus and his mother, the goddess Hathor, respectively (Schroer 1989: 187–188).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 490; Jerusalem No. 432; Megiddo No. 337; from Egypt: Saft el-Henna, Tomb 330 (Petrie 1906: 41, Pl. 37:10, Side B); Gerf Hussein: Cemetery 72/200: Grave 313: Firth 1912: 85, Pl. 42b:17. Side B: From Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb D 406 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 25, Pl. 57:17, 67; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC30169). Dan No. 23 and Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 8 (cowroid) depict the closest stylistically comparable Type D goddess heads carved on seals found at excavated sites in the southern Levant.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 F.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 104, 123, Pl. 37/38:319; Jaeger 1982: 323, n. 616, Fig. 821; Brandl 1986: 249, n. 45; Schroer 1989: 143, 145–146, 184, 187, No. 98; Keel 1995: § 206, p. 281 (typology); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 42, Fig. 75a; Keel and Uehlinger ⁶2010: § 42, Fig. 75a. *[TB]*

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603 **OBJECT:** Round piece with domed back, type III (Keel 1995: § 199). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (D) × 8.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal or transversal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central Z-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) framed to the left and right by inward-facing *nb* (V30) signs.

DISCUSSION: The only comparandum for this piece was found in Egypt. Consequently, the present seal is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A similar base design depicting a leaf framed by Z-spirals and framed above and below by hatched inward-facing *nb* (V30) or *rʿ* (N5) signs can be seen on a circular seal from Egypt: Aniba, Town Site (Steindorff 1937: Pl. 56:155).

DATING: 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 5094, 414").

CONTEXT: "Great Shaft", Square P.17, Object no. 7245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 163; Tufnell 1958: 100, 123, Pl. 37/38:320; Keel 1995: § 199, Fig. 134, p. 283 (typology). *[TB]*

604 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on votive bread (Keel 1995: § 320). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: light pink, brown. PRESERVATION: broken. WEIGHT: 7.81 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W, impression 1); 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W, impression 2); 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W, impression 3); 10.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W, impression 4); 20.5 mm (L) × 21.1 mm (W) × 18.4 mm (H, sealing).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. Inferred from the impressions.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Four impressions of two different seals are impressed on this clay ball. From left to right, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on Impression 1 are a longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) and a left-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of three signs is located to the right of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and a *rʿ* (N5). From left to right and top to bottom, the first hieroglyph depicted on Impression 2 is *p* (Q3). A row of two signs is located under this sign. From left to right, these are: an ovoid shape that could represent a *t* (X1); and a longitudinal line that could represent a *ḥ* (V28). A large right-facing seated god determinative (A40) is located to the right of these hieroglyphs. Impressions 3 and 4 were likely made from the same seal as impression 1.

DISCUSSION: Impressions 1, 3 and 4: The central hieroglyphs spell out the name of the god *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). Impression 2 is heavily damaged but may spell out *Ptḥ*, the name of Ptah (Keel 1995: § 580–581), conventionally spelled with the seated god determinative (A40).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 42 is another clay ball bearing impressions of a seal with the name of Amun-Re. Dothan No. 29; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 450; Lachish No. 551 are seals that bear stylistically similar base carvings to impressions 1, 3, and 4 with a longitudinally oriented, inward-facing *nb* (V30) in front of the *j* (M17).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16522.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Locus 100, Object no. 5371. Locus assignment according to Tufnell 1958: 124; however, the locus "DX", indicating a surface find, was written in ink on the object itself (Magrill 2006: 121).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 124, Pl. 38:321; Keel 1995: § 318, 320, p. 285 (typology); Wimmer 2004: 64–65, Fig. 1.2; Magrill 2006: 121. *[TB]*

603



Non-standard scale.

604



605 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece with domed top, type a (Keel 1995: § 229–231). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: broken. All sides heavily chipped, back eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: partial light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Domed top: Vertical layout showing a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) or *šnw* (V9/V10). Three vertical lines at the bottom of the cartouche represent the rope attaching the cartouche oval to a flat horizontal piece. The cartouche contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs *rꜥ* (N5); *mꜣꜥt* (C10); *nb* (V30). The cartouche is framed on either side by an outward-facing *šw(t)* (H6) feather. **BASE:** Horizontal layout. No border is present on this base decoration. From left to right, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a left-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the right of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5); a longitudinal line that may be the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign attached to the bottom of the *mn* (Y5) sign by transversal lines; and two oval shapes.

DISCUSSION: Domed top: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Nb-mꜣꜥt-rꜥ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. **BASE:** The two oval shapes are likely a faulty writing of the left-to-right sequence of a *rꜥ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1) that spells *Rꜥ*, the name of the god Re. Consequently, the central hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rꜥ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Domed top: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 255; Lachish No. 597, 894; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 135–92. **BASE:** Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 513, 528, 670; Megiddo No. 10, 191, 554 all exhibit similar *mn* (Y5) signs that have been merged with the *n* (N35) sign underneath.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3089.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3051.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 253–254, No. S.63, Pl. 28:S.63; Tufnell 1958: 97, 124, Pl. 37/38:322; Jaeger 1982: 346, n. 863, Fig. 924; Keel 1995: § 229, 231, p. 282 (typology). *[TB]*

606 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. U-shaped crack in back, hairline cracks in sides, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.67 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462). The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rꜥ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1); and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). The cartouche is flanked by hieroglyphs on either side. The hieroglyphs on the right side are, from right to left and top to bottom: *nṯr* (R8); a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars; *nb* (V30); and two *tꜣ* (N16/N17). The hieroglyphs on the left side are, from top to bottom: a hatched *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28); *ḫꜣst* (N25); *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr.w-rꜥ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV. The hieroglyphs to the right of the royal name can be read as: *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands". The hieroglyphs to the left of the royal name can be read as: *ḫꜣj ḫꜣs.t nb*[*t*], "appearing (in) all foreign lands", another pharaonic epithet. The base engraving can be classified under Keel's Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9; Ekron No. 3; Tell Jemmeh No. 22; Jericho No. 30 have base engravings with the same epithets framing the cartouche of Amenhotep III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16058. BM/Big number: 160591.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3983.

① Roughly ovoid grave pit divided from neighbouring ovoid grave pit 1004 by stone blocking. Burials possibly disturbed due to re-deposition of LB material from 1004 into 1003 to make room for Iron Age burials in 1004. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, four bronze toggle pins, a bronze arrowhead, a bronze earring, a bronze ring, a silver seal mount, a stone spindle whorl, an ivory duck head, six pieces of bone inlay, a bone spindle whorl, three frit gaming pieces, paste, glass, steatite, and carnelian beads (Tufnell 1958: 250–252). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 606–612, 720–721.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:324, 41:22 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

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607 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline crack in left side, back, side, and base chipped near perforation at rear of scarab, slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference, hairline crack on top left of base. WEIGHT: 2.49 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two anthropomorphic figures wearing long skirts kneeling and facing one another. Hatching is used to indicate the folds of the skirts. Their 'rear' arms hang by their sides and their 'front' arms are depicted holding hands. The left figure appears to be falcon-headed (Keel 1995: § 595). The right figure has a human face and shoulder-length hair. Hatching is used on the head of the left figure to indicate the feathers on the falcon head and on the right head to indicate hair. A large hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a common base to both figures.

DISCUSSION: It has been theorized that this type of scene may symbolize a treaty (Keel 2020: 160–161, No. 380). Should the hypothesis apply to the present scene as well, the treaty would here engage a divine and a human entity. This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 10B "Two or more figures, standing or kneeling" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 103–104).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Other comparable base engravings exclusively depict two standing anthropomorphic individuals: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 679, 1045; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 437; Pella No. 23.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 103–104.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16059. BM/Big number: 160593.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3979.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:325, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

608 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, greyish-white (veining of stone visible on right elytra). PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, hairline cracks running through back and right side, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.89 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a kneeling anthropomorphic figure facing right with shoulder-length hair and wearing a knee-length skirt. Hatching is used to indicate folds of cloth on the skirt. The figure holds a lotus or water lily blossom toward its face (Keel 1995: § 616) in its 'front' hand. The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side. A large *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The blue lotus (*Nymphaea nouchali var. caerulea*) is one of the most important symbols of regeneration in ancient Egypt. Consequently, individuals were often depicted smelling this flower (Keel [2]1992: 80). The lotus was closely associated with the sun god Re and the daily rebirth of the god at dawn. Likely factors leading to this association include the yellow sun-like centre of the flower and the daily opening and closing of the flower coinciding with sunrise and sunset. Consequently, depictions of individuals holding a lotus on tomb walls may relate to the wish to be reborn and ride on the solar barque of Re in the ancient Egyptian afterlife (Meader and Demeter 2004: 59, 63). Carried in portable form on a scarab by a living individual, this image may have been used to invoke the protection of the sun god, so the owner might, like the lotus, rise to see another day.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 273. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 68, 585 also depict roughly similar compositions.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16060. BM/Big number: 160590.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3981.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:326, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

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609 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/I/d12 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.47 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.4 mm (L) × 13.1 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts four rows of hieroglyphs. The first row features a central *wꜣḥ* (V29) flanked by inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 524). The second row depicts a *rʿ* (N5) flanked by *r* (D21). The third row depicts a central *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar. The *nfr* (F35) is flanked by *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs. The *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs are flanked by *wꜣḏ* (M13) signs. The fourth row is occupied by a large *r* (D21).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 420; from Egypt: Mustagidda, Grave 128 (Brunton 1937: 134, Pl. 69:18, 78, found in the area of the hands of a female individual; now Medelhavsmuseet MM 10642) both display almost identical base engravings. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1091 and Tel Gerisa No. 8 depict similar designs that have different hieroglyphs occupying the third row.

DATING: 13th–15th Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16061. BM/Big number: 160594.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3980.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 94, 96, 105, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:327, 41:5 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

610 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 51/EP 27/Side 34 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Right side of head chipped off, back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.28 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of ambiguous orientation, depending on whether the central motif or flanking motifs are given priority. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed horizontally, the base depicts a central transversally oriented tilapia fish. Hatching is used to indicate scales and details of the fins. An incised diagonal line protrudes from either side of the mouth of the tilapia. A *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar is located to the left, and an *ʿnḫ* (S34) to the right of the tilapia.

DISCUSSION: The lines protruding from the mouth of the tilapia may be abstract representations of vegetation (see, e.g., Lachish No. 601 and Megiddo No. 199 for references to more naturalistic depictions of vegetation). The tilapia was likely an important symbol related to regeneration and the renewal of life in ancient Egypt (Dambach and Gamer-Wallert 1966: 292). Consequently, images of tilapia on scarabs could have been worn for protective purposes both in life and in death. All provenanced comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt and Sudan. Consequently, the present scarab is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: See above. Two plaques from Egypt that feature the same signs and symbols in slightly different arrangements are: Gurob, Tomb 246 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 16, 41:48; now Penn Museum E14013); Hu, Grave Y 521 (Petrie 1901: Pl. 41:23); from Sudan: Cemetery 96/100 near el-Dakka, Grave 31 (Firth 1915: 150, Pl. 41:72; oval plaque, Side B). An unprovenanced comparandum in a private collection acquired in Jerusalem is Keel 2020a: 186–187, No. 439.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16062. BM/Big number: 160592.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3984.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Petrie 1901; Tufnell 1958: 107, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:328, 41:34 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

609



610



611 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 45/Side 5? (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base heavily chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central *nfr* (F35) sign with two crossbars framed by two outward-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crowns. The top crossbar on the *nfr* (F35) is not connected to the central stem of the *nfr* (F35) sign. The long backs of the crowns are hatched. A hatched *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition. The sign located at the top, above the central hieroglyphs, may represent either an inverted *nb* (V30) or an abstract depiction of a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450), or winged sun disc.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb S 24 (Steindorff 1937: 105, 165, Pl. 56:101). A similar central composition with a *nb* (V30) base can also be seen on Gezer No. 321. The same central composition substituting an *ʿnḫ* (S34) in an oval for the *nfr* (F35) can be seen on a scarab from Egypt, Luxor West Bank, Deir el-Bahari, Temple of Hatshepsut, Foundation Deposit 9 (I) (Metropolitan Museum 27.3.371).

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda from Aniba and Deir el-Bahari.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5429/32, 451/2").

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7284.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:329, 41:20 (side type). *[TB]*

612 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B7/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 35/EP 13/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back and base, back and base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.75 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with cross hatching. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large hatched *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) above three *nfr* (F35) signs. The left and central *nfr* (F35) signs exhibit a single T-shaped crossbar. The right *nfr* (F35) sign has a single crossbar. The oval bases of the *nfr* (F35) signs are hatched.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base can be read as *ḫʿj nfr.w*, "appearing in beauty", a royal epithet from the 18th Dyn. (see comparanda).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 495 depicts the same epithet with the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III, and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 845 (Side A) depicts a horizontal layout featuring the same and another epithet in conjunction with the prenomen of Amenhotep III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16063. BM/Big number: 160595.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3982.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 124, 250–252, Pl. 39/40:330, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 28. *[TB]*

611



1 cm

612



1 cm

613 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish. Glaze became red. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base chipped in two places on right side when viewed with head of scarab on back facing up. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: partial red glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts five transversally oriented Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) each interconnected with the other. To the left and right of the central Z-spiral are *tête-bêche* oriented *nfr* (F35) signs, each with two crossbars.

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 124; Jericho No. 313; from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries), Locus K 1300 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 18, Pl. 40:36, 43:44, 46; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC18851).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256k.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3753.

① Irregularly shaped pit with eroded plastered walls. Other finds from this pit include: broken and sometimes heavily burnt pottery, a bronze togglepin, two bronze arrowheads, a bronze earring, a bronze bracelet, a stone mortar, a fragmentary travertine cup, a bone spindle whorl, glass and microcline beads (Tufnell 1958: 242–243). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 613–618.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:331, 41:19 (side type). *[TB]*

614 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G1/0/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: blue frit (Egyptian Blue). PRESERVATION: complete. Entire scarab eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. No border is present on this carving. The base depicts an anthropomorphic figure facing right, in a long kilt ending below the figure's knees. The kilt is decorated with cross-hatching. The figure wears a rectangular headdress with a streamer emerging from the rear. The figure's 'front' arm is crooked at the elbow and holds a right-facing bow. The figure is unrealistically depicted holding the string of the bow and not the arc. The 'rear' arm is crooked at the elbow and touches the rear of the kilt.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Wreszinski 1935: Pl. 58 depicts a relief of Ramesses II that shows a falling "Asiatic" archer with a similar type of skirt. The hieroglyph of a kneeling archer holding a bow in the same way (*mšʿ* [A12]) can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 645.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Lachish No. 503, a frit scarab with the same side type.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256a.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3756.

① See Lachish No. 613.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 104, 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:332, 41:30 (side type). *[TB]*

613



614



615 **OBJECT:** Frog scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 152). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Glaze slightly worn off on all sides. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 7.4 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: dark blue glaze; red glaze (eyes of frog on back).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Consequently, the present seal is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: From Egypt: Gurob, Tomb 40 (grave of a child) (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 14, 41:64; now Kelsey Museum of Archaeology 0000.00.7022); Luxor West Bank, Malkata, Palace of Amenhotep III (Metropolitan Museum 11.215.48; 11.215.35); Medinet Habu (Teeter 2003: 115, Pl. 51:e; now Chicago Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures E14923). For scarabs from the same era also depicting a singular *ʿnḫ* (S34), see the comparanda for Lachish No. 547. Most seal bases depict sequences of several hieroglyphs together. However, during the reign of Amenhotep III, a special series of mould-manufactured frog seals with only one to three hieroglyphs on the base is attested. Pieces with other hieroglyphs include: Malkata, Palace of Amenhotep III (Metropolitan Museum 11.215.43; 11.215.47; 11.215.34; 11.215.49; 11.215.37); Medinet Habu (Teeter 2003: 110–111, 118, Pl. 51:a, 52:e; now Chicago Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures E14926, E14948).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on find location of examples from the area of the Palace of Amenhotep III at Malkata.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256n.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3755.

① See Lachish No. 613.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:333; Keel 1995: § 152, Fig. 96, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

616 **OBJECT:** Hedgehog scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 153–156). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-yellow. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 10.6 mm (L) × 7.5 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts an upward-facing lizard.

DISCUSSION: All comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt. Consequently, the present seal is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Two lizards in a *tête-bêche* arrangement can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 452; and from Egypt: Gurob (Loat 1905: Pl. 4:19).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on find context of hedgehog seal found strung on a necklace in the area of the Palace of Amenhotep III in Egypt: Luxor West Bank, Malkata, Birket Habu Mound B 1, House B, in bag (Metropolitan Museum 11.215.216). The scaraboid on this necklace is currently misidentified by the museum entry as a mouse, but the identification can be corrected via the entry for another unprovenanced hedgehog seal, Metropolitan Museum 10.130.192.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256r.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3754.

① See Lachish No. 613.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:334; Keel 1995: § 159, 177, p. 281, 287 (typology). *[TB]*

617 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: dark grey, beige (mottled). PRESERVATION: broken. One decorated side of rectangular piece entirely broken off, exposing central perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 2.5* mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts a large, right-facing *wḏȝt* (D10). Side B: Broken off.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 455 Side A; from Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb D 406 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 25, Pl. 57:29, 67); from Sudan: Fadrus, Cemetery Site 185, Tomb 172 (Säve-Söderbergh and Troy 1991: 95, Fig. 24:B:172/15:1, 103, Fig. 30:B:172/15:1, Pl. 9:172/15:1).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.240.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3757.

① See Lachish No. 613.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:335; Keel 1995: § 217, p. 283 (typology). *[TB]*

615



616



617



618 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: frit. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Entire scarab heavily eroded, top of scarab head on back chipped off, base chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation; modern photographs show increased chipping damage near rear perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central uraeus facing left (Keel 1995: § 522). A column of two hieroglyphs is located in front of the uraeus. From top to bottom these are: *rˁ* (N5); and a single vertical stroke (Z1). A column of indistinct signs is located behind the back of the uraeus above the tail. From top to bottom these are: a long vertical line, and a triangular shape. A *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in front of the uraeus spell out *Rˁ*, "Re" (Keel 1995: § 639).

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 302 depicts a similar composition, apparently featuring a rudimentary *ḏd* (R11) pillar in front of the uraeus. From Egypt: el-Riqqa, Grave 272 (Engelbach et al. 1915: Pl. 17:53, 44).

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256p.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.25, Pit 547 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3758.

① See Lachish No. 613.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 124, 242–243, Pl. 39/40:336, 41:30 (side type). *[TB]*

619 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8+HC 49/EP 12/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Top of scarab head on back chipped off, exposing perforation, hairline cracks in back and base, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.04 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.4 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: remains of dark green glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal pale brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a falcon or *ḥrw* (G5), facing right and wearing a *sḫmtj* (S5) or double crown. A right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) emerges from the 'front' foot of the falcon. A *rˁ* (N5) or sun disc is located above the head of the uraeus. A *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar is located behind the falcon. A single line possibly forming a *nb* (V30) with the border line serves as base to the composition.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar compositions are depicted on two seal impressions: Gezer No. 231; Jezreel No. 4.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda with same head and/or side type.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.72 A-B.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.24, Tomb 502 (LB IIB–LB III?, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3422.

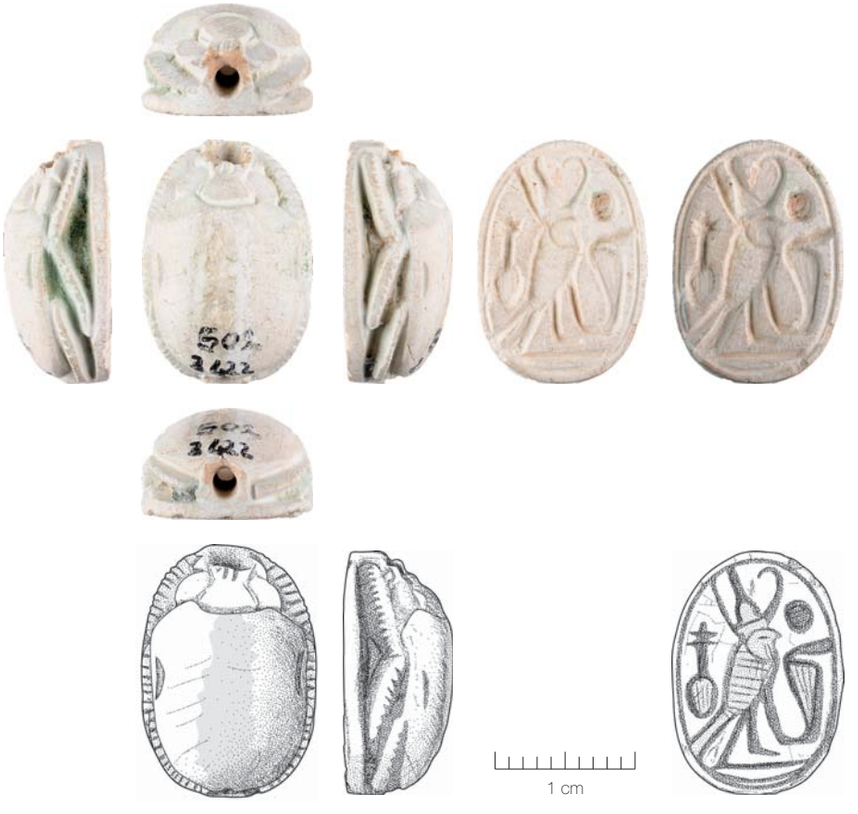
① Tomb with a ramp entry on the north-east with multiple rectangular chambers. The tomb was heavily damaged from excavations in the neighbouring Quarry 504. The artefacts from this tomb were seemingly found deposited on a bench cut from the rock. Other finds from this deposit include: pottery, a bronze bracelet, a pottery rattle decorated with red paint, a green glazed Pataikos amulet, paste and glass beads (Tufnell 1958: 237).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 124, 237, Pl. 39/40:337, 41:16 (side type). *[TB]*

618



619



620 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 54/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Top left of base slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: partial dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The central engraving depicts, from right to left, a column of two hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5); *nb* (V30). To the left of these is a right-facing *mɜˁt* (C10). An *ˁnḫ* (S34) emerges from the knee area of the *mɜˁt* (C10) figure.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out the royal name *Nb-mɜˁt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 574 is a close comparandum and also features the most similar head, back, and side types to the present piece. Lachish No. 48 is another composite scarab of roughly the same size bearing the same base inscription. Beth Shemesh No. 97 is a sealing impressed with a seal of this type.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16066. BM/Big number: 160590[7].

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.2, Pit 4019 (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6033.

① Circular pit with a plastered floor and four burial alcoves excavated in the periphery of the central space. A later stone wall divided the original space in half. Iron Age pottery was found on the north, and Bronze Age pottery on the south side of the wall. The floor had a depression located close to the centre of the circle formed by the central area. Other finds from this pit include: pottery, a bronze arrowhead, a bronze togglepin, a bronze bracelet, a fish amulet made of paste, and beads made of carnelian, faience, steatite, glass, bronze, and fired steatite (Tufnell 1958: 288).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 124, 288, Pl. 39/40:338, 41:22 (side type); Magrill 2006: 42. *[TB]*

621 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 60/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 2.06 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.6 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts three standing anthropomorphic figures. The arms of all figures are depicted hanging by their sides. The central figure faces right and wears a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). The falcon-headed figures located to the left and right of the crowned figure face inward. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon heads. Hatching on the body of the left figure indicates a tunic and kilt. Two hieroglyphs are located above the head of the left falcon-headed figure. From top to bottom, these are: a very small *rˁ* (N5) and a *nb* (V30). Two indistinct ovoid shapes located above the head of the right falcon-headed figure, possibly represent the same sequence of signs although they are considerably broader and more elongated than the former. Two transversal lines under the feet of the figures serve to indicate the ground.

DISCUSSION: The central figure can likely be identified as the god Amun due to the characteristic double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). The identities of the two falcon-headed figures are unresolved, see Megiddo No. 266 for a discussion of this issue. The large quantity of comparanda listed in this entry testifies to the popularity of this motif in the southern Levant during the 19th–20th Dyn. Other types of depictions of an anthropomorphic Amun are also widely attested on seals in the southern Levant during this period (Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: 104–105).

COMPARANDA: Ashkelon No. 39; Azor No. 24; Beth Shean No. 112; Beth Shemesh No. 106; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 11; Ekron No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 237, 568, 647; Gezer No. 28; Lachish No. 258, 523, 653, 899; Megiddo No. 295, 548; Tel Mor No. 1; Qubur el-Waleida No. 5; from Sudan: Soleb, Tomb T 32, found in shaft of tomb (Schiff Giorgini 1971: 291, Fig. 568, Pl. 12:T32 p18; now Khartoum Museum 61/10/58).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

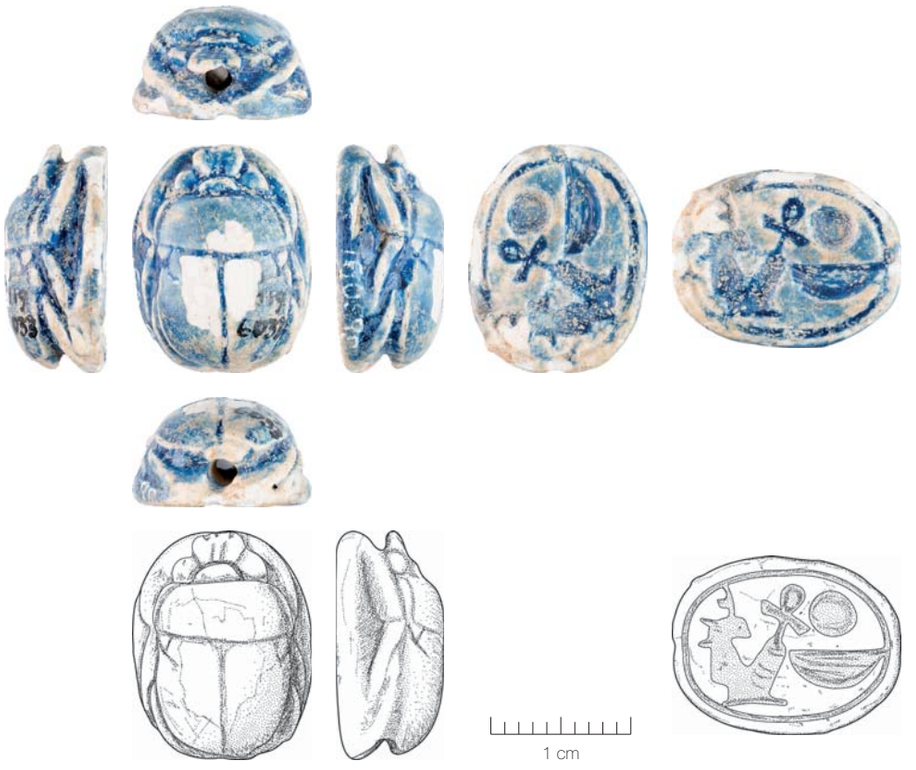
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16083. BM/Big number: 160032.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.26, Cave 559 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4220.

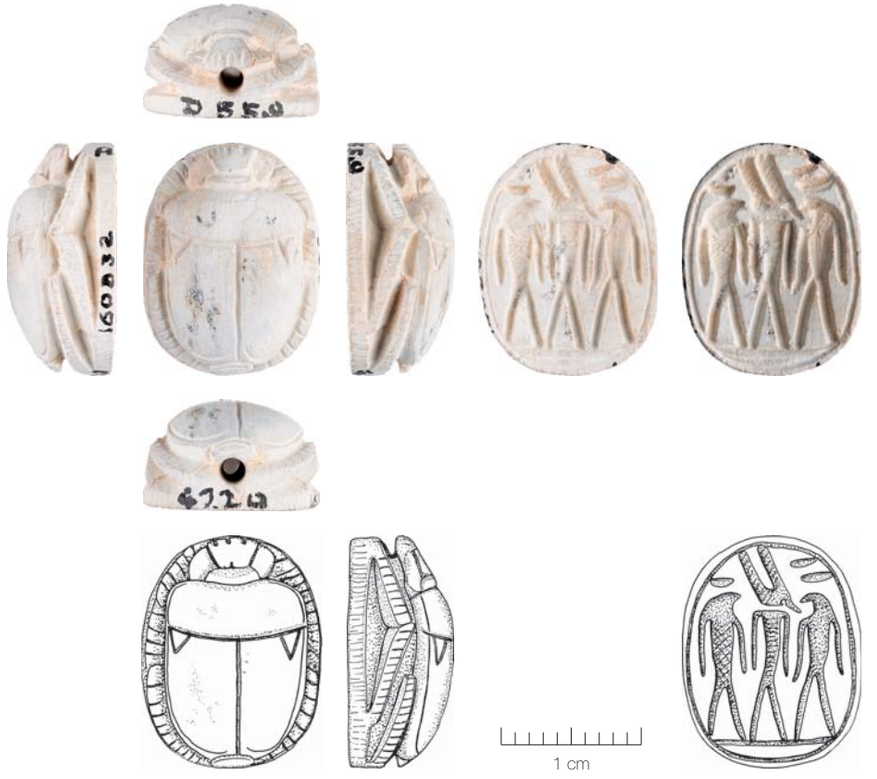
① Subrectangular cave with entrance on north side. The floor preserved traces of dividing walls. Many boulders were deposited on the floor. The burials were heavily disturbed. Other finds from this cave include: pottery, a bronze spearhead, a bronze kohl stick, and faience beads (Tufnell 1958: 246). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 621–625.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 109, 124, 246, Pl. 39/40:339, 41:16 (side type); Keel 1995: § 584; Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

620



621



622 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 6+HC 7/EP 5/Side 40 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back eroded and chipped, rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.82 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first three symbols depicted on the base are: a right-facing *j* (M17); two transversal lines; and another right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the second *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; a *rᶜ* (N5); and another transversal line. Two transversal lines are located to the left of this sequence. A left-facing *j* (M17) is located to the left of these lines.

DISCUSSION: The transversal line under the *rᶜ* (N5) is likely a faulty writing of the single vertical stroke (Z1) that spells the name of the god *Rᶜ* when placed in conjunction with the sun disc hieroglyph, *rᶜ* (N5). Consequently, the central hieroglyphs spell out the name of the god *Jmn-rᶜ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 42; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 32, 40; Gezer No. 622; and a cat scaraboid from Egypt: Gurob, Tomb 60 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 12, Pl. 14, 26:20).

DATING: Late 18th–early 20th Dyn. (1425–1150 BCE); the present scarab is difficult to date since most comparanda aside from Beth Shean No. 42 and the scaraboid from Gurob, Tomb 60, are items acquired by museums and collections from private collectors, and consequently lack stratification data. Thus, the dating of this scarab is based on the stratified Beth Shean No. 42 and the dating of Gurob, Tomb 60. Tomb 60 can be dated to the mid 18th Dyn., since the tomb was also found to contain a rectangular plaque inscribed on one side with "Amenhotep, Ruler of Waset" (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 26:17, see Lachish No. 454, 596 for a discussion of the date range for this inscription).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16143. BM/Big number: 160331.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.26, Cave 559 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4224.

① See Lachish No. 621.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 124, 246, Pl. 39/40:340, 41:12 (side type); Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

623 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 27/EP 61/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.44 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.6 mm (L) × 12.8 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a transversally oriented right-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. Two lines constitute the straight back of the crown. A sequence of three hieroglyphs is located under the crown. From top to bottom, these are: an *n* (N35); a right-facing *wḏȝt* (D10); and a *nb* (V30). Two transversal lines emerge from the *nb* (V30). A right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522) emerges from the eyebrow of the *wḏȝt* (D10).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 902.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

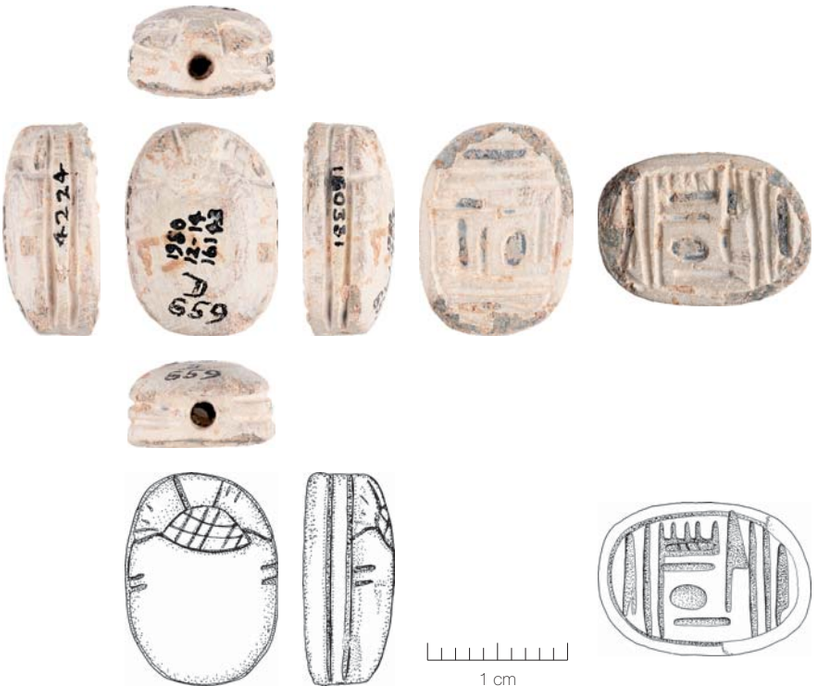
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16144. BM/Big number: 160334.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.26, Cave 559 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4221.

① See Lachish No. 621.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 108, 124, 246, Pl. 39/40:341, 41:33 (side type); Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

622



623



624 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: glass. COLOUR: white, greenish-brown (base), dark green (cracks in back and sides). PRESERVATION: broken. Seal cracked and split in multiple places, highly eroded, previously visible partial remains of base engraving on archival photos now entirely eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 17.5 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W) × 4.9 mm (H, mount).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: shallow linear (base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. No border is visible on this carving. The remains of the base engraving still visible on archival photos consisted of the torso and rear legs of a right-facing striding animal (quadruped). The long tail of the animal curves up and over the body.

DISCUSSION: The base seems to feature a schematic depiction of a lion with a characteristically raised tail. This type of depiction is also attested on at least one other glass scarab (see comparanda).

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 504 is a better preserved scarab made of glass that also depicts a right-facing striding lion with a long tail curved over the lion's body.

DATING: LB IIB–LB III (early 13th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16046. BM/Big number: 160330.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.26, Cave 559 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4223.

① See Lachish No. 621.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 124, 246, Pl. 39/40:342; Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

625 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 65/EP 1/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Top right of base chipped off. WEIGHT: 1.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.4 mm (L) × 11.1 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central ram-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 552) facing right, wearing a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). The details of the feathers on the crown are indicated with hatching. Outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523) project from either side of the crown. The left uraeus is crowned with a sun disc. The right uraeus is damaged in the corresponding head area; its body is hatched to indicate scales. A right-facing, hatched figure of *mꜣʿt* (C10) is located in front of the sphinx. A curved stick-like object emerges from the knee area of the squatting figure of *mꜣʿt* (C10). A right-facing winged uraeus is located behind the sphinx. The wings of the uraeus are spread and hatched to indicate feathers.

DISCUSSION: The central ram-headed sphinx is likely a depiction of the god Amun (see Keel 1995: § 552).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1226; Ashdod No. 77; Ashkelon No. 16; Beth Shean No. 129, 228; Beth Shemesh No. 110; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 15; Tel Dover No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 208, 471, 493, 574, 576–577, 654; Lachish No. 698–699; Manaḥat No. 5; Megiddo No. 67.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

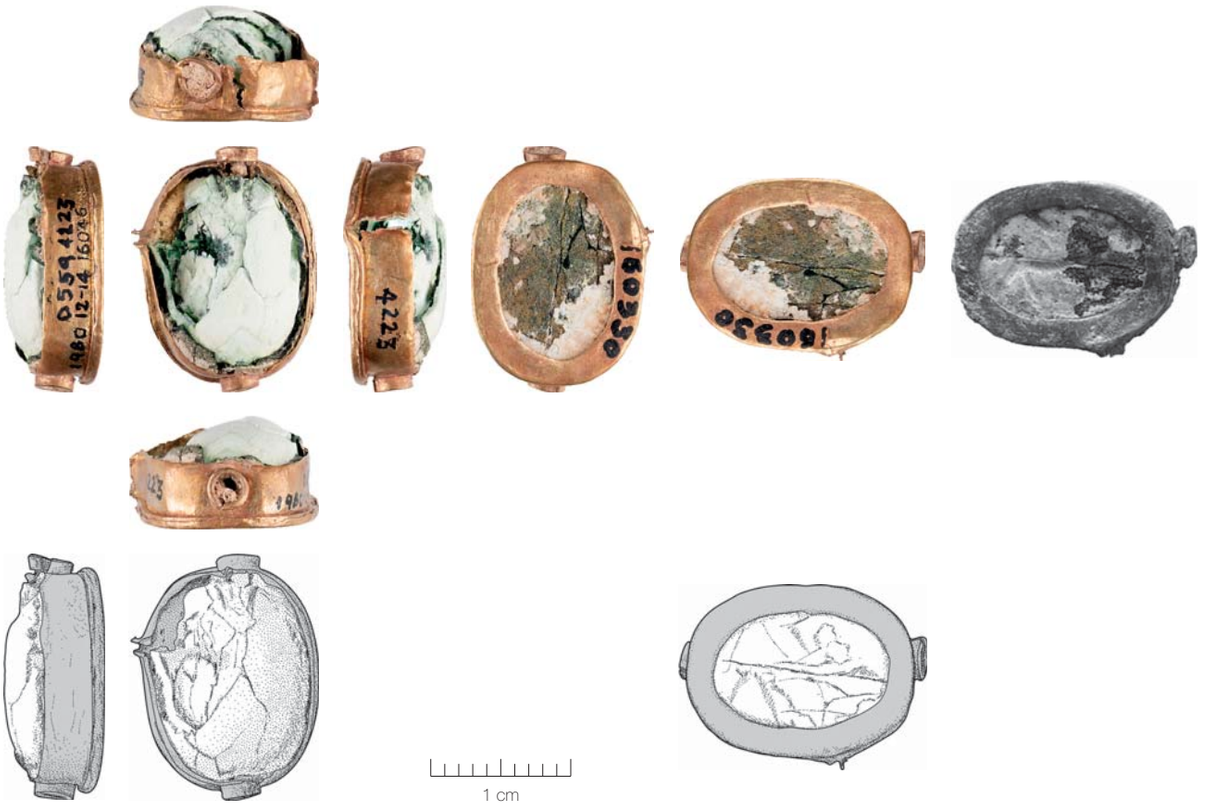
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16084. BM/Big number: 160333.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.26, Cave 559 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4222.

① See Lachish No. 621.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 106, 124, 246, Pl. 39/40:343, 41:16 (side type); Keel 1995: § 552 (ill-cited; correct Pl. 39,40 to Pl. 39/40:343); Magrill 2006: 23; Keel 2007: 127, Fig. 87. *[TB]*

624



625



626 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47+HC 50/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Top left of head on back chipped off, hairline crack running through all sides, rim of base chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 1.89 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.2 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: traces of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. A transversally oriented right-facing cartouche occupies the top third of the base engraving. The cartouche contains a row of hieroglyphs. From right to left, these are: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5) above triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2); *ḫpr* (L1). The bottom two thirds is occupied by a series of hieroglyphs. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted is a right-facing hatched *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: a cross-hatched *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; a right-facing *tjt* (D17); and a *t* (X1). A column consisting of two signs is located to the left of these signs. From top to bottom, these are: *rˁ* (N5) and and a single vertical stroke (Z1), thick and almost rectangular.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr.w-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV. The hieroglyphs under the cartouche spell out an epithet, *tjt Jmn-rˁ*, "image of Amun-Re". The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 59 depicts a very similar composition featuring the prenomen of Thutmose IV in conjunction with *tjt Jmn* or "image of Amun" instead of "image of Amun-Re".

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16068.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25, Pit 542 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3727.

① Circular pit with plastered walls and floor and a partly destroyed roof (two blocks of stone fallen in). Other finds from this pit include: pottery, a bronze arrowhead, a bronze earring and fibula, a silver earring, faience amulets of Thoth and Bes, faience, glass, and gold beads (Tufnell 1958: 242). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 626–628, 714.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 124, 242, Pl. 39/40:344, 41:22 (side type); Magrill 2006: 21. *[TB]*

627 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides eroded, base chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, hairline crack near rear perforation. WEIGHT: 2.70 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: traces of dark green glaze. Remarks: A black spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a large lion facing right. A large *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar is located above the lion's back. The lion is attacking a striding caprid, facing right with its head turned backward. A downward-facing kneeling anthropomorphic figure is located above the caprid. The figure wears a cap fronted with a uraeus and a knee-length kilt. The 'rear' arm of the figure hangs by its side. The 'front' arm extends downward, has a detailed thumb on the hand, and reaches out to touch under the caprid's muzzle. The lion's rear legs of the lion are depicted reclining on the ground. One front paw is depicted resting on top of the raised tail of the caprid. The other front paw rests on the back of the caprid. Two longitudinally oriented *tȝ* (N16/N17) signs are located between the lion and the anthropomorphic figure.

DISCUSSION: The kneeling figure with the raised hand may depict the figure 'worshiping' the scene of the lion attacking the caprid (Keel 1995: § 599). However, on both the present scarab base and the comparandum Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 405, the anthropomorphic figure is depicted touching the caprid with the raised hand. Consequently, it is possible the figure is shown releasing the caprid as a sacrifice to the lion. The *nfr* (F35) sign and the two *tȝ* (N16/N17) signs may be a partial attempt to write the pharaonic title *‹nṯr› nfr ‹nb› tȝ.wj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 405 depicts a similar scene.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16069.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25, Pit 542 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7281.

① See Lachish No. 626.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 124, 242, Pl. 39/40:345, 41:14 (side type); Keel 1995: § 540; Magrill 2006: 21. *[TB]*

626



627



628 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 8/EP 27/Side 43 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. Beige in places on surface. PRESERVATION: complete. Left side of back chipped off, *mn* (Y5) sign carved on base chipped in one spot and broken through the perforation channel. WEIGHT: 0.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.8 mm (L) × 8.7 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a longitudinally oriented, right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located at the centre; from top to bottom, these are: a hatched *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and two oval shapes. A longitudinally oriented, inward-facing hatched *nb* (V30) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The two oval shapes are likely a faulty writing of the right-to-left sequence of a *rꜥ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1), spelling *Rꜥ*, the name of the god Re. The central hieroglyphs consequently spell out *Jmn-rꜥ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Tel Eton No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 533, 613, 615, 747; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 59; Gezer No. 435; Lachish No. 556; Megiddo No. 101; Tel Ridan No. 7.

DATING: Late 18th–20th Dyn. (1425–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16070.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25, Pit 542 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7280.

① See Lachish No. 626.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 124, 242, Pl. 39/40:346, 41:38 (side type); Magrill 2006: 21. *[TB]*

629 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1+E2/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W); 22.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W, bezel).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. An incised line forming the border around the engraving is not visible but may be concealed under the bezel surrounding the scarab. The engraving consists of eight oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 510), three S-spirals to the left and three Z-spirals to the right, their connection at the top and bottom concealed by the bezel, flanking a central column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, the signs in the central column are: a right-facing *bjt(j)* (L2) on a large *nb* (V30); a *ḫpr* (L1) flanked by outward-facing *sw(t)* (M23) on small *nb* (V30); a *kꜣ* (D28) flanked by *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar; and a large *nbw* (S12) that serves as a base to the composition. A central lozenge-shaped protrusion is located between the arms of the *kꜣ* (D28) sign.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Gezer No. 54 features a similar composition.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

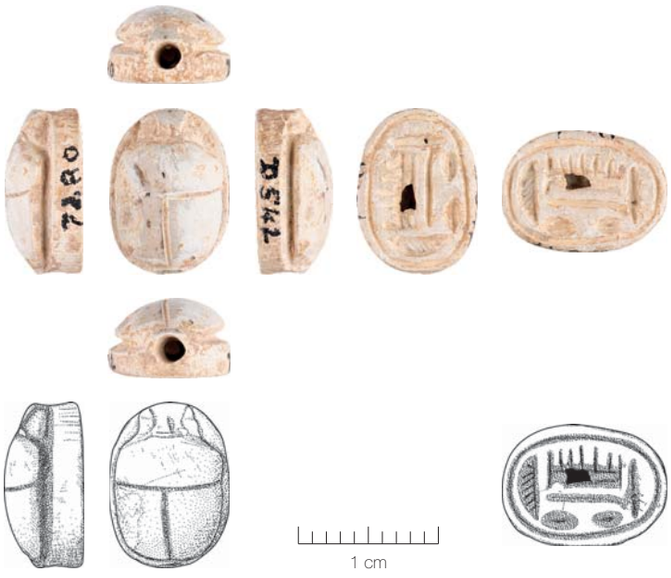
COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1489").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 556 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4348.

① Roughly ovoid pit. The later Building 546 was built on top of this pit. Other finds from this pit include: pottery, a gold earring, a silver earring, five bronze earrings, two bronze bracelets, a stone whetstone, a calcite "double spoon" or vessel with two shallow depressions, a piece of bone inlay, a calcite vessel fragment, and a faience tilapia amulet (Tufnell 1958: 245–246). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 629–632.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 98, 124, 245–246, Pl. 39/40:347. *[TB]*

628



629



630 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6?/0/e10? (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From left to right, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are: a longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) and a left-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of five signs is located in the centre; from top to bottom, these are: a *mn* (Y5) decorated with four dots; a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and from left to right, a *rʿ* (N5) and two single vertical stroke (Z1) signs. A longitudinally oriented inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the right of this sequence. A transversal line on the left connects the *mn* (Y5) sign to the *n* (N35) sign.

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rʿ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The two vertical lines are likely a faulty writing of the single vertical stroke (Z1) located to the right of the *rʿ* (N5) in conventional monumental texts (e.g., in the temple of Seti I at Abydos: Calverley, Broome and Gardiner 1935: Pl. 8:South side vignette, rightmost column of writing).

COMPARANDA: Deir el-Balaḥ No. 19; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 777; Megiddo No. 10, 554 are seals with base inscriptions carved in a similar style. However, these base inscriptions are read from right to left and lack the left *nb* (V30) sign.

DATING: Late 18th–20th Dyn. (1425–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 556 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3864.

① See Lachish No. 629.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 125, 245–246, Pl. 39/40:348, 41:11 (side type). *[TB]*

631 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 6/EP 9/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Right side of head area worn, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a standing right-facing winged animal with long ears.

DISCUSSION: The only comparandum for this piece was found in Egypt. Consequently, the present scarab is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A similar depiction of a reclining winged animal with long ears can be seen on a scarab from Egypt: Luxor, Deir el-Bahari, "Hatshepsut Hole" (Metropolitan Museum 23.3.281).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 1489").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 556 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4348a.

① See Lachish No. 629.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 125, 245–246, Pl. 39/40:349, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

632 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 61/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base heavily eroded, details on bottom right signs on base chipped off, base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.8 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a transversally oriented right-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. The straight back of the crown is hatched. A sequence of three hieroglyphs is located under the crown. From top to bottom, these are: a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35); a right-facing *wḏȝt* (D10); and an *r* (D21). A right-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown is located to the right of the three hieroglyphs.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 365, 489; Tell el-Ḥesi No. 9; Tell Jemmeh No. 56; from Egypt: Gurob town (Petrie 1890: 36, Pl. 23:100).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.24, Pit 556 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3865.

① See Lachish No. 629.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 99, 108, 125, 245–246, Pl. 39/40:350, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

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633 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 65/EP 65/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, light brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three rows of hieroglyphs. The first row is occupied by a hatched *rˁ* (N5). The second row consists of two upward-facing *ḫpr* (L1). From left to right, the first hieroglyph depicted in the third row is a triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). A column consisting of two schematic signs is located to the right, from top to bottom: *jr(t)* (D4) and *mꜣˁ* (Aa11).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs inside spell out the royal name *Ḥpr-ḫpr.w-rˁ Jrj-mꜣ*ˁ[*.t*], the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ay II. The final *t* (X1) was likely omitted due to a lack of space. Since all comparanda for this piece were found in Egypt, the present scarab is likely an Egyptian import.

COMPARANDA: A faience scarab with a similar inscription was found in Egypt: Medinet Habu, Temple of Ay II and Horemheb, Foundation Deposit 6 (Teeter 2003: 2, 17, 30, Pl. 5:e; now Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures, Chicago, OIM 14975). A ring bezel with a similar inscription was found in Egypt: el-Riqqa, Tomb 201 (Engelbach et al. 1915: 10–11, Pl. 18:93).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Ay II (1323–1320 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-81.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5923.

① Roughly C-shaped rock-cut tomb containing at least fourteen burials. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, an eye-shaped amulet (likely an udjat), and beads made of paste, glass and carnelian (Tufnell 1958: 286). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 633–638.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 66, 97, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:351, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

634 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/EP 27/Side 8 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, sides heavily chipped, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, kneeling anthropomorphic figure. Three 'fronds' emerge from the top of the head of the figure. One arm of the figure is raised, the other is lowered. The arms enclose an oval (Keel 1995: § 462) which contains, from top to bottom, the hieroglyphs: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). A small flat shape is located under the kneeling figure's legs. An outward-facing hatched *nb* (V30) is located behind the kneeling figure's back.

DISCUSSION: Based on comparanda, the kneeling figure with 'fronds' on its head likely depicts the Nile god Hapi (Keel 1995: § 580). The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A similar kneeling left-facing figure of Hapi worshiping a cartouche of Thutmose III can be seen in conjunction with other elements on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 538. Azor No. 1 depicts a kneeling worshiping Hapi together with three crocodiles that form an inner border to the design on this seal.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-82.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5924.

① See Lachish No. 633.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:352, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

633



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635 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 43/Side 51 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, sides slightly chipped, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 15.3 mm (W) × 10.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: remains of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, standing mummiform figure with a long false beard holding a right-facing *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre. A left-facing standing falcon-headed figure is located to the right, crowned by a sun disc. The 'rear' arm of the falcon-headed figure hangs at its side; the 'front' arm grasps the mummiform figure's *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre.

DISCUSSION: The mummiform anthropomorphic figure can be identified as a depiction of the god Ptah (Keel 1995: § 581). The falcon-headed figure has been identified as Re-Harakhty by Keel. The position of the falcon-headed figure, and the fact that it is touching Ptah's sceptre is interpreted by Keel as signifying Re-Harakhty's subordinance to Ptah, the creator god of Memphis. By touching Ptah's sceptre of dominion, Re-Harakhty is shown to derive his power from Ptah (see Keel references in the bibliography).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 295 Side A; Dothan No. 30; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 129 Side B; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 130, 488, 595; Egypt: el-Riqqa, Tomb 202 (Engelbach et al. 1915: 10–11, Pl. 18:95).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-83.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5925.

① See Lachish No. 633.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:353, 41:19 (side type); Keel 1989a: 292–294, 298, 315, 318, Fig. 40; Keel 2006a: 256, 258, Fig. 62. *[TB]*

636 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/d10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: pale brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides of scarab slightly eroded, sides chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed vertically with the scarab on the back facing upward, the base depicts a rosette-like pattern of four *zꜣ* (V17/V18) that project outward diagonally from a central lentoid shape. The *zꜣ* (V17/V18) signs exhibit longitudinal and transversal symmetry. Three 'petals' protrude from the top, left, and right of the central lentoid. A stem with a triangular base protrudes from the bottom of the central lentoid (unless, when turned upside down, this 'stem' represents an upright papyrus flower).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 6B "Convoluted coils" in Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 139, Pl. 60).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Jericho No. 208 depicts a similar pattern.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 139, Pl. 60.

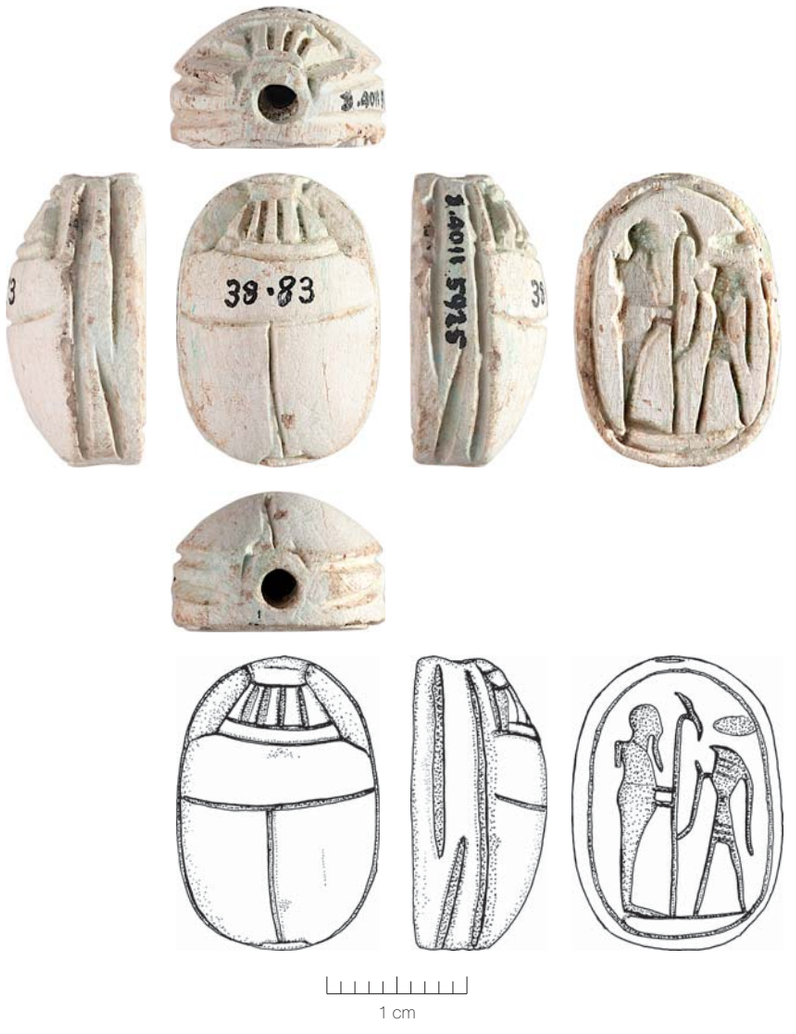
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-84.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5926.

① See Lachish No. 633.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:354, 41:27 (side type). *[TB]*

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637 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 35/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Back eroded, rim of base chipped, base slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing stylized *dšrt* (S3) or red crown. A single line forms the back of the crown and another single line forms the inward curving spiral at the front of the crown. A drooping flower bud with a downward-facing bound bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430) emerges from the back of the crown. An S-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435) is attached at one end to the spiral at the front of the crown. The other end consists of a bound bent stem (Keel 1995: § 430) that bends upward and terminates in another flower bud. Transversal hatching is used to decorate the flower buds.

COMPARANDA: Tel Ḥalif No. 8; Tel Ḥarasim No. 24; from Egypt: Deir el-Bahari, Hathor Shrine, "Hatshepsut Hole" (Metropolitan Museum 23.3.427). A scarab from Egypt: Koptos, Thutmose III temple foundation deposit 3 (Petrie 1896: 14, 15:55) depicts the same motif in conjunction with other decorative elements.

DATING: Early 18th Dyn. (1540–1425 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-85.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5927.

① See Lachish No. 633.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:355, 41:23 (side type). *[TB]*

638 **OBJECT:** Fish scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 151). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts: a convex double arc formed by transversal lines; a *rʿ* (N5); an upward-facing *kꜣ* (D28); and a *nb* (V30). The *kꜣ* (D28) exhibits a large hatched triangular shape located between the arms.

DISCUSSION: The sign under the *kꜣ* (D28) is interpreted as a *nb* (V30) since all comparanda for the motif feature a similarly curved *nb* (V30) sign.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 717. A similar sequence of hieroglyphs without the *rʿ* (N5) is repeated twice on the back of a scarab from Egypt: Qaw el-Kebir, Grave 316 (Brunton 1930: Pl. 19:89, 22; now Kyoto University Museum 2543).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating according to comparanda and back style comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-122.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square U.3, Tomb 4011 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5927a.

① See Lachish No. 633.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 125, 286, Pl. 39/40:356; Keel 1995: § 151, p. 279 (typology). *[TB]*

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639 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8+HC 18a/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab chipped, bottom left of base chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 11.7 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are a *rʿ* (N5) and a right-facing *ḏsr* (D45). A row of three hieroglyphs is located under these first two hieroglyphs, from right to left: a right-facing *šw(t)* (H6); *ḥpr* (L1); and a left-facing *ḥqꜣ* (S38). A row of two signs is located under the *ḥpr* (L1) and the *ḥqꜣ* (S38), from left to right: a heavily chipped *rʿ* (N5) and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). A column of two hieroglyphs is located under these signs, from top to bottom: *nw* (U19) and a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35).

DISCUSSION: If the bottom right *nw* (U19) sign inside the oval is interpreted as a misspelling of *stp* (U21) due to lack of space, the hieroglyphs on the base can be read as follows: *Ḏsr-ḥpr.w-rʿ stp-n-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Horemheb.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A scarab with a different back style but the same base inscription was found in Egypt: Gurob, Point F within the outer enclosure of the temple constructed by Thutmose III (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: Pl. 1, 41:67). Tell Jemmeh No. 188 is a fragmentary seal impression on a clay sealing that also depicts the prenomen of Horemheb.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Horemheb (1319–1292 BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-119.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6002.

① Sub-rectangular pit with a plastered floor and a central depression in the floor. A large stone was also found on the floor. Entrance to the tomb was via a stair to the south. Alcoves were excavated into the sides of the pit on the north and west sides. The human remains were disturbed and fragmentary. Other finds from this pit include: pottery, a bronze arrowhead, the head of a paste figurine, paste, glass, carnelian, and shell beads (Tufnell 1958: 286–287). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 639–645, 728.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:357, 41:25 (side type). *[TB]*

640 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 8/Side 8 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central oval (Keel 1995: § 462). From top to bottom, the oval contains three rows of hieroglyphs. From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the first row are: a right-facing *wsr* (F12); a small *rʿ* (N5) located just above the *wsr* (F12) sign; and a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10). From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the second row are: *stp* (U21) (although the sign is written without the small block under the adze, a reading as *nw* [U19] would not make sense); and *rʿ* (N5). The third row is occupied by a horizontal line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign. The oval is flanked by hieroglyphs on either side. The first two hieroglyphs on the right side are, from top to bottom: *mn* (Y5); and a right-facing *t* (V13). From left to right, the row of three hieroglyphs under these first two signs are: a single vertical stroke (Z1); a left-facing *mr(j)* (U6/U7); and a left-facing *wꜣs* (S40). The hieroglyphs on the left side are, from left to right and top to bottom: *nṯr* (R8) and *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar; *nb* (V30); *tꜣ* (N16/N17); and another *tꜣ* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval can be read as follows: *Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ stp-n-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of several Egyptian kings from Ramesses II to Shoshenq III (von Beckerath [2]1999: 155–156, 188–189). The hieroglyphs to the left of the oval can be read as a royal epithet: *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands". If the *wꜣs* (S40) at the bottom right was mistakenly used instead of the special *wꜣst* (R19) character, the inscription to the right may be read from top to bottom and left to right (contra their right to left orientation) as another royal epithet: *mrj Mnṯ*[*.w*][*nb*] *Wꜣst*, "beloved of Montu, lord of Waset" (i.e., Thebes). The title "lord of Waset" was commonly attributed to Montu (Christophe 1955: 77).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell Keisan No. 35 depicts a similar composition but places the *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj* epithet to the right of the cartouche, and depicts a different epithet to the left of a central cartouche.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE); dating based on prenomen inscribed on base and context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-118.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6001.

① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97–98, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:358, 41:16 (side type). *[TB]*

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641 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 17+HC 52/EP 35/Side 41 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type Ø (remains of metal in perforation only), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Left side of head chipped off, sides slightly chipped near perforation holes. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 7.5 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing falcon head. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the head. The falcon head wears a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9) with a central sun disc fronted with a uraeus. A large inward-facing *šw(t)* (H6) is located in front of the falcon head. A large *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The falcon head can be identified as a depiction of the god Montu by its distinctive *šwtj* (S9) crown featuring a central sun disc and a uraeus (Leitz 2002–2003: Vol. 3, 319).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 536. Schematic depictions of the same motif are carved on the bases of Megiddo No. 87, 520.

DATING: 18th–19th Dyn. (1540–1191 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-120.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6003.
① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:359, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

642 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 45[?]/EP 35/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Head chipped off, back chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, entire rim of base chipped, top left of base heavily chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.7 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the base depicts: a right-facing cobra with a *šwtj* (S9) crown featuring a central sun disc. Hatching is used to indicate the scales on the cobra. The cobra's tail of the cobra is curled in on itself in an O-shape. A right-facing bearded mummiform anthropomorphic figure is located to the left of the cobra. The figure holds a right-facing *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre in both hands.

DISCUSSION: The crowned cobra can be identified as a depiction of the goddess Renenutet by its distinctive *šwtj* (S9) crown featuring a central sun disc (Leitz 2002–2003: Vol. 4, 686). The mummiform anthropomorphic figure can be identified as a representation of the god Ptah (Keel 1995: § 581).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar motifs can be seen on Deir el-Balaḥ No. 29; Tell Jemmeh No. 143. For the more commonly occurring motif of Ptah and a falcon-headed anthropomorphic deity facing each other, see Lachish No. 635 with comparanda.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on the dating of Tell Jemmeh No. 143, the only comparandum from a site excavation.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-138.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5998.
① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:360, 41:41 (side type); Keel 1977: 94, n. 161, 95, Fig. 51. *[TB]*

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643 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 12/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, back chipped near rear perforation, crack running through right side, base eroded, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located in the centre. From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and, from right to left, a *rˁ* (N5) and a shape that resembles a forward slash or '/'. A left-facing *j* (M17) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The forward slash is likely a faulty writing of the single vertical stroke (Z1) that is generally placed to the left of the *rˁ* (N5) sign in formal monumental texts where *Jmn-rˁ* is written right-to-left (e.g., in the temple of Seti I at Abydos: Calverley, Broome and Gardiner 1935: Pl. 8:North side vignette, leftmost column of writing). Consequently, read from right to left, the hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The additional left-facing *j* (M17) to the left of the central sequence is likely only present for reasons of decorative symmetry, since the signs are meant to be read from right to left.

COMPARANDA: Deir el-Balaḥ No. 58 is a close comparandum and also features the most similar head, back, and side types to the present item. Other seals also featuring two outward-facing *j* (M17) signs framing the name of Amun-Re are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 299–300, 860, 1211; Achziv No. 204; Aphek No. 45; Ashkelon No. 106; Dor No. 18, 55; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 205, 273, 594, 670; Gat Karmel No. 7; Tel Gerisa No. 43; Lachish No. 655.

DATING: 18th–early 20th Dyn. (1540–1150 BCE); dating based on stratified comparanda. Since Deir el-Balaḥ No. 58 was originally from a private collection, and consequently lacks stratification data, it was not taken into account when assigning a date to the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-121.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6004.
① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:361, 41:38 (side type). *[TB]*

644 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A2/0/d8[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 8/EP 5/Side 26 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze. Ring fragments unlocatable at the time of study (2023), here illustrated based on old museum photo. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige, pale brown (large discoloration patch on back). PRESERVATION: complete. Top of scarab head broken off or obscured due to corrosion in ring, right side of scarab head chipped off, hairline cracks running through back, edges of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) plants that are transversal mirror images of each other. A transversal line at the base of the plants separates the two *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) from each other.

DISCUSSION: Since the closest comparandum for this piece was found in Egypt, the present scarab is likely an Egyptian import. The base engraving can be classified as Design Class 3A1 "Sign of union" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (Ben-Tor 2007: 15–16, Pl. 5–6).

COMPARANDA: An exact comparandum for the base that also exhibits an identical head, back, and side type is from Egypt: el-Lisht North, Cemetery (Metropolitan Museum 22.1.334). Very similar base engravings can be seen on Tell ʿAmr No. 2; Megiddo No. 110; and again from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun (Petrie 1891: Pl. 8:81).

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 15–16, Pl. 5–6.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-117.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6000.
① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 102, 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:362, 41:7 (side type). *[TB]*

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645 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type IIIb (Keel 1995: § 225–228). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: black, white (speckles), brown (worn areas). PRESERVATION: broken. All sides heavily eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 14.4 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical layout. No border is present on this carving. This side possibly depicts a standing schematic anthropomorphic figure. Side B: Layout of uncertain orientation. No border is present on this carving. This side depicts a pattern of four inward-facing triangles. A diagonal line resembling a backslash is located between the right triangle and the bottom triangle on the photo.

COMPARANDA: Gezer No. 102a; Ḥorvat ʿEta'im No. 1–3 are other examples of Type IIIb rectangular pieces that feature linear engraving.

DATING: LB IIA (early 14th–early 13th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-139.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5999.

① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 125, 286–287, Pl. 39/40:363; Keel 1995: § 225, p. 282 (typology). *[TB]*

646 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A2+A6/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks running through back, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 17.8 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of four oblong hooked scrolls (Keel 1995: § 507) located above and below a central column of hieroglyphs, and two Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435) to the left and right of the central column of hieroglyphs. All spirals are interconnected with each other by curving lines. From top to bottom, the two hieroglyphs in the centre of the design are: a *ḏd* (R11), and a *nfr* (F35) with a single T-shaped crossbar.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 2B "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking" in Ben-Tor's late Middle Kingdom seal corpus (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 4).

COMPARANDA: Jericho No. 398 depicts a similar sequence of hieroglyphs inside a different type of inner spiral border and with the addition of a *nb* (V30) sign between the *ḏd* (R11) and the *nfr* (F35).

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 4.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21992.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6948a.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 239, Fig. 28; Tufnell 1958: 99, 102, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:364, 41:2 (side type). *[TB]*

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647 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11/EP 32+EP 61/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped at top. MEASUREMENTS: 20.0 mm (L) × 14.8 mm (W) × 9.9 mm (H); 2.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts three standing anthropomorphic figures. The central figure, facing right, is wearing a long robe and a *ḫprš* (S7) crown fronted with a uraeus. The figures located to the left and right face inward. The left figure has the head of an ibis and is crowned with a semi-circular shape; the right figure has the head of a falcon and is crowned with a sun disc fronted with a uraeus. The flanking figures' 'rear' arms hang by their sides and their 'front' arms are depicted holding the hands of the central figure. A schematic representation of a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) or winged sun disc emerges from the border line above the three figures. Two transversal lines under the feet of the figures serve to indicate the ground.

DISCUSSION: The *ḫprš* (S7) crown identifies the central figure as a pharaoh. The figure on the right may represent the god Re-Harakhty, since it is crowned with a sun disc with uraeus (see Schroer 2011 in the bibliography). The left figure likely depicts the ibis-headed god Thoth wearing a half-moon as a crown. This motif is a miniature replica of a scene in the well-known New Kingdom monumental relief sequence depicting the coronation of the ruler. The scarab depicts the second scene where two deities lead the ruler to be crowned into the presence of the god Amun (e.g., Karnak Temple Hypostyle Interior, North Half, section [151], Register II [Lepsius 1849–1858: III Pl. 124:d]).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar designs featuring different deities and/or different decoration above and under the central figures can be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 475, 567; Hazor No. 109.

DATING: 19th–early 20th Dyn. (1292–1150 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21988.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6945.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:365, 41:16 (side type); Schroer 2011: 170–171, No. 683. *[TB]*

648 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/S/d9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab slightly eroded, side chipped near front perforation of scarab, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 17.3 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. COATING: partial dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central right-facing, falcon-headed figure kneeling on one knee (Keel 1995: § 621). The figure wears a knee-length kilt. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at their side; the 'front' arm is raised and crooked at the elbow. Hatching is used to indicate the folds of the kilt and the feathers on the falcon head. The central figure is flanked by inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 525). Cross-hatching is used to indicate the scales on the uraei. The left uraeus rests on a hatched ovoid of indeterminate shape, possibly meant to depict a *nb* (V30) sign.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 10C2 "Kneeling figures, mythical headed" in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 104).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Similar base engravings depicting the falcon-headed figure holding a lotus with a long stem instead can be seen on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 48, 512, 953; Megiddo No. 566.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 180, Pl. 104.

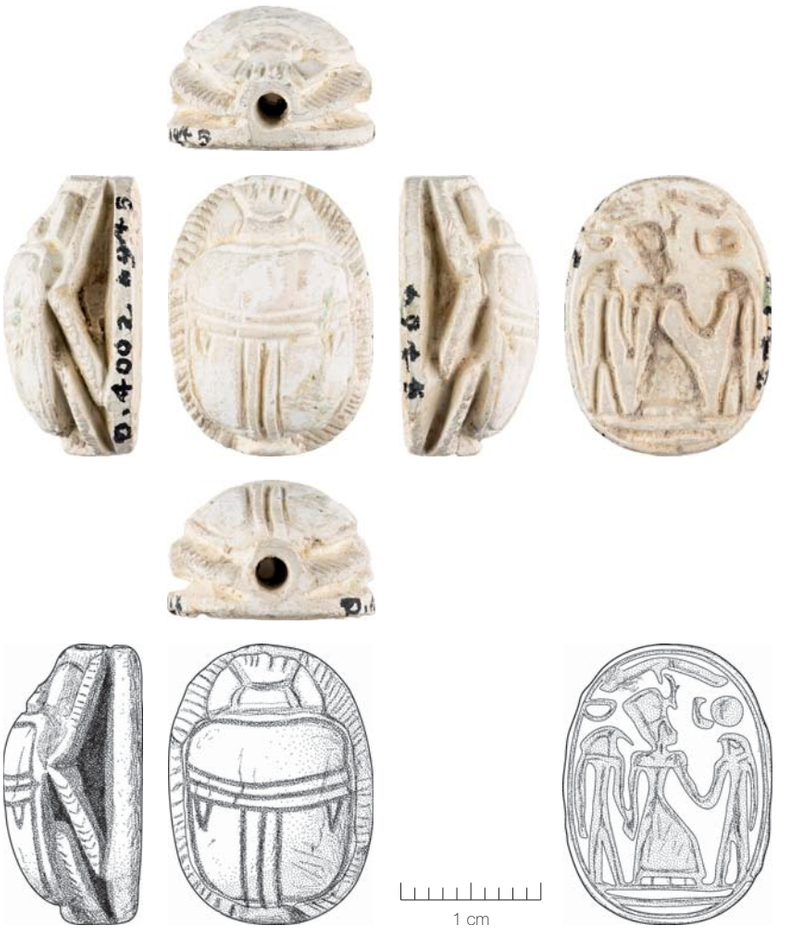
COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21990.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6947.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 103, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:366, 41:27 (side type). *[TB]*

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649 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 16/EP 8/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish (back), white (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Top of scarab head broken off, exposing perforation, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation, rim of base slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze. Remarks: A longitudinal brown stripe is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, standing falcon-headed figure. The falcon-headed figure wears a kilt, and a sun disc is located above the figure's head. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is raised and morphs into the shape of a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 588). Two hieroglyphs are located under the figure's 'front' arm. From top to bottom, these are: *nb* (V30); *t* (N16/N17).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs under the 'front' arm of the falcon-headed figure are likely a faulty writing of *nb tꜣ*[*wj*], "lord of the Two Lands", a royal epithet.

COMPARANDA: Similar faulty writings of this epithet can be seen in conjunction with a falcon-headed anthropomorphic figure on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 487 Side A; Tel Gerisa No. 40. Other base engravings displaying slight variations on the same motif are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 299 Side A; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 133, 499, 594, 774, 796; Lachish No. 747; Madaba No. 2; Tel Nami No. 2.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21987.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6944.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:367, 41:38 (side type); Keel 1977: 94, n. 161, 95, Fig. 54. *[TB]*

650 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Top of scarab head chipped off, back chipped at head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, top left and bottom of base rim chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 14.4 mm (W) × 8.6 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, reclining human-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 544). The sphinx wears a *nms* headcloth with a right-facing uraeus on the headcloth in the area of the forehead, a false beard, and a broad collar that is indicated by a single incised line on the torso. A *rʿ* (N5) or sun disc is located above the head of the sphinx. A right-facing, winged uraeus is located above the back of the sphinx. An oval that is likely the abstract depiction of a *šnw* (V9/V10) is located between the outspread wings of the uraeus. A *mr* (O24) or pyramid features in front of the face of the sphinx. The visible front paw of the sphinx ends in a human hand, placed palm upward under the *mr* (O24) sign. An indeterminate ovoid shape is located under the hand of the sphinx. A single incised line serves as a base for the composition.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 569 for a non-abstract depiction of a *šnw* (V9/V10) between the outspread wings of a winged uraeus. The sphinx and pyramid may be references to the Memphite region. The Type I rectangular piece comparandum Gezer No. 100 depicts Memphite deities Ptah and Sekhmet on Side A, while a similar sphinx and pyramid composition can be seen on Side B. This provides further evidence for the direct association of this symbolism with Memphis.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. The base of Achziv No. 154 is fragmentary, but the surviving design elements are roughly comparable to the composition on the present item. Gezer No. 100 Side B also depicts a reclining, right-facing sphinx in conjunction with a pyramid.

DATING: 20th Dyn. (1190–1077 BCE); dating based on Gezer No. 100 and back type.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21991.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6948.

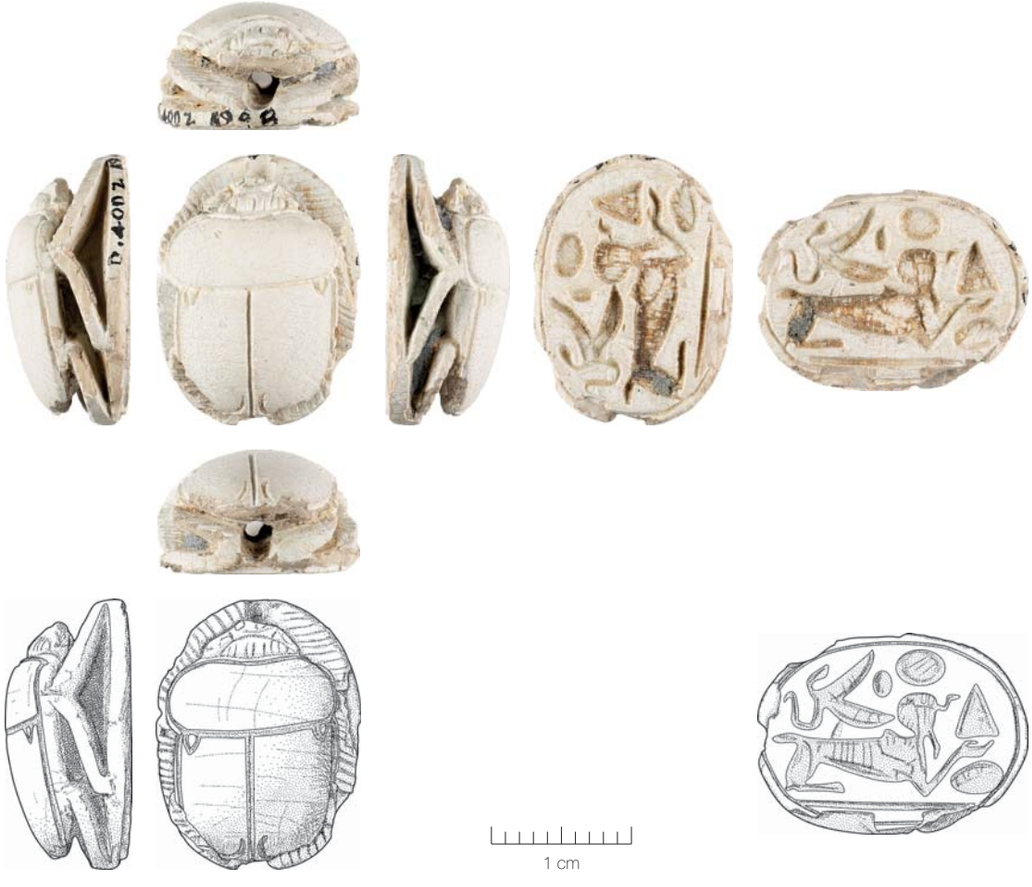
① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 106, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:368, 41:22 (side type); Keel 1977: 102–103, Fig. 80; Keel 1995: § 552. *[TB]*

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651 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 50+HC 52/EP 78/Side 12 (Rowe). Back stippled in the manner of a hedgehog scaraboid. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream (back), pale brown (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Side chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 23.1 mm (L) × 18.4 mm (W) × 12.9 mm (H); 2.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand border (Keel 1995: § 513) forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of a single incised line. The central composition depicts a right-facing cobra wearing a *šwtj* (S9) crown. The tail of the cobra is curved in a Z-bend. A schematic *k3* (D28) sign is located above the cobra's tail. A schematic *nfr* (F35) sign with a single crossbar is located in front of the cobra. A large *nb* (V30) serves as a base to the composition.

DISCUSSION: The crowned cobra can be identified as a depiction of the goddess Renenutet by its *šwtj* (S9) crown. The representation on this seal is schematic and omits the sun disc normally also depicted on the crown of Renenutet (Leitz 2002–2003: Vol. 4, 686).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Megiddo No. 550 depicts a similar motif but substitutes an inward-facing flower for the *nfr* (F35) sign and omits the *k3* (D28) sign above the cobra's tail.

DATING: LB IIB–LB III (early 13th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21989.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6946.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 125, 280–281, Pl. 39/40:369, 41:32 (side type). *[TB]*

652 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Large crack running longitudinally through back and base. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H, incl. mounting); 1.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. When viewed vertically with the head of the scarab on the back facing upward, the base depicts four rows of transversally oriented Z-spirals (Keel 1995: § 435). Each row consists of two Z-spirals. Larger Z-spirals connect the right side of one row with the left side of the next row.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 593 and Gezer No. 482 depict similar rows of Z-spirals. They can be assigned to Design class 2B1 "Scrolls and spirals, interlocking, open ended" (Tufnell 1984: 116–117, 266–267, Pl. 5; Ben-Tor 2007: 124, 159).

DATING: MB II? (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE) or more likely MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.561.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23–24, Pit 538 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3686.

① Circle of stones inside the roughly V-shaped Pit 537. Other finds from this context include: a pottery bowl, three bronze daggers, a silver ring, a bronze vase, a basalt pestle, a calcite vase, three bone spindle whorls, a shell ring, paste, glass, carnelian, amethyst, and gold beads (Tufnell 1958: 241). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 652–654.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 100, 125, 241, Pl. 39/40:370. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

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653 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Side chipped near rear of scarab, rim of base eroded, right side of base rim chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The engraving depicts three standing anthropomorphic figures. The arms of all figures are depicted hanging by their sides, the 'right' hand of the left figure joining the central figure's 'left' hand, and the latter's 'right' hand joining the right figure's 'left' hand. The central figure faces right and wears a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). Hatching is used to indicate the feathers on the crown and the tunic and kilt on the body of the figure. The falcon-headed figures located to the left and right of the crowned figure face inward. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon heads. Cross-hatching on the body of the left figure and hatching on the body of the right figure indicate tunics and kilts. Two *nb* (V30)- or disc-like hieroglyphs are located above the heads of the falcon-headed figures. Three transversal lines under the feet of the figures serve to indicate the ground.

DISCUSSION: The central figure can likely be identified as the god Amun due to the characteristic double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9). The identities of the two falcon-headed figures are unresolved, see Megiddo No. 295 for a discussion of this issue.

COMPARANDA: Ashkelon No. 39; Azor No. 24; Beth Shean No. 112; Beth Shemesh No. 106; Ekron No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 568, 647; Lachish No. 621, 899; Megiddo No. 295; Tel Mor No. 1 show variants of this type scene which also feature two signs above the flanking figures' heads; variants with only one sign, generally a disc, include Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 11; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 237; Gezer No. 28; Lachish No. 258, 523; Megiddo No. 548; Qubur el-Waleida No. 5. See further a comparandum from Sudan: Soleb, Tomb T 32, found in shaft of tomb (Schiff Giorgini 1971: 291, Fig. 568, Pl. 12: T 32 p18; now Khartoum Museum 61/10/58).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.562.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23–24, Pit 538 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3684.

① See Lachish No. 652.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 125, 241, Pl. 39/40:371, 41:22 (side type); Keel 1995: § 584; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 53, Fig. 116c; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 53, Fig. 116c. *[TB]*

654 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 65/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow (back), white (base). PRESERVATION: complete. Right side of head chipped off, side chipped near rear of scarab, rim of base slightly eroded and chipped on bottom right. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are: a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10) and a right-facing, hatched *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located behind the *j* (M17). From top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and from right to left, a right-facing *tjt* (D17). The left side of the *n* (N35) sign is attached to the bottom of the *mn* (Y5). The round shape behind the *tjt* (D17) is likely a miscarved curl at the tail of the *tjt* (D17) (see Gath [Tell eṣ-Ṣafi] No. 25 for a similarly carved *tjt* [D17] sign).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base can be read as follows: [*Wsr*]-*mꜣʿt*-[*rʿ*], a pharaonic prenomen, and *tjt Jmn*, "image of Amun", an epithet. It is uncertain which pharaoh this base inscription refers to. A similarly spelled prenomen (i.e., throne name) is attested for rulers of the 19th–early 20th and the 22nd–23rd dynasties: Ramesses II, Ramesses III, Ramesses IV (regnal year 1), Ramesses V, Ramesses VII for the earlier period; Osorkon II/Userken meriamun, Shoshenq III, Shoshenq IIIa/IV, Pami, Petubaste I, Osorkon III, Takelot III, and Petubaste II for the later period (von Beckerath [2]1999: 154–155, 166–169, 172–173, 186–189, 190–195, 200–201).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Yavneh No. 4 depicts the same sequence of hieroglyphs with the addition of a *wsr* (F12) staff held by the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure.

DATING: 19th–early 20th Dyn. (1292–1150 BCE); dating based on prenomen inscribed on base (see Discussion) and find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1956.563.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23–24, Pit 538 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3685.

① See Lachish No. 652.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97–98, 125, 241, Pl. 39/40:372, 41:22 (side type); Lalkin 2004: 17–21, Fig. 1:1; Keel and Schroer [2]2008: 179, Fig. 143; Keel and Schroer 2015: 142, Fig. 143. *[TB]*

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655 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 68/EP 1/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.39 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of dark green glaze. Remarks: A dark red spot is visible on the back of the scarab (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on the base is a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of four signs is located in the centre; from top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and, from right to left, a *rˁ* (N5) and two single vertical stroke (Z1) signs. A left-facing *j* (M17) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The two vertical lines are likely a faulty writing of the single vertical stroke (Z1) that is generally placed to the left of the *rˁ* (N5) sign in formal monumental texts where *Jmn-rˁ* is written right-to-left (e.g., in the temple of Seti I at Abydos: Calverley, Broome and Gardiner 1935: Pl. 8:North side vignette, leftmost column of writing). The additional left-facing *j* (M17) to the left of the central sequence is likely present for reasons of decorative symmetry only, since the signs are meant to be read from right to left.

COMPARANDA: Aphek No. 45 is a close comparandum that also features a similar head type. Other seals also featuring two outward-facing *j* (M17) signs framing the name of Amun-Re are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 299–300, 860, 1211; Achziv No. 204; Ashkelon No. 106; Dor No. 18, 55; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 205, 273, 594, 670; Gat Karmel No. 7; Tel Gerisa No. 43; Lachish No. 643.

DATING: 18th–early 20th Dyn. (1540–1150 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12936.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square C.22, Tomb 508 (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3461.

① Roughly heart-shaped rock-cut tomb with an entry stairway located on the southern end. The contents of the tomb were heavily damaged by roof falls. The tomb contained at least four burials. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, a travertine pilgrim flask, faience, glass, bone, carnelian, quartz, sard?, and steatite beads (Tufnell 1958: 237–238). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 655–657, 691.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 125, 237–238, Pl. 39/40:373, 41:38 (side type); Wimmer 2004: 64–65, Fig. 2.4; Magrill 2006: 19. *[TB]*

656 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D2 or less likely C2/II+III/d6 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 9/EP 55/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, yellowish (incised decoration). PRESERVATION: complete. Scratches on back, hairline cracks in base. WEIGHT: 0.88 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first two hieroglyphs depicted on the base are: a longitudinally oriented, inward-facing *nb* (V30) and a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of five signs is located at the centre; from top to bottom, these are: *mn* (Y5); a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign; and, from right to left, two single vertical stroke (Z1) signs and a *rˁ* (N5). A longitudinally oriented, inward-facing *nb* (V30) is located to the left of this sequence.

DISCUSSION: The central hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). The two vertical lines are likely a faulty writing of the single vertical stroke (Z1) that is generally placed to the left of the *rˁ* (N5) sign in formal monumental texts where *Jmn-rˁ* is written right-to-left (e.g., in the temple of Seti I at Abydos [Calverley, Broome and Gardiner 1935: Pl. 8:North side vignette, leftmost column of writing]).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 551 is a duck scaraboid with the closest stylistically comparable base inscription. Other seals also featuring two inward-facing *nb* (V30) signs framing the name of Amun-Re are: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 239 (cowroid); Acco No. 274; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 101 (fish scaraboid); Dothan No. 29; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 450, 455, 701, 742; Lachish No. 77–78, 551; Megiddo No. 181; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 145.

DATING: Late 18th–20th Dyn. (1425–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12937.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square C.22, Tomb 508 (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3460.

① See Lachish No. 655.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 125, 237–238, Pl. 39/40:374, 41:5 (side type); Wimmer 2004: 64–65, Fig. 2.5; Magrill 2006: 19. *[TB]*

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657 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B3/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back eroded, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.81 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two central hieroglyphs. From right to left, these are: a right-facing *šw(t)* (H6) and an *ʿnḫ* (S34). A transversally oriented outward-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown is located above the two central hieroglyphs.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Achziv No. 19, 181; Ashdod No. 18 all depict similar central arrangements of a *šw(t)* (H6) and an *ʿnḫ* (S34), but are dated to much later periods.

DATING: LB II? (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12938.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square C.22, Tomb 508 (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3462.

① See Lachish No. 655.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 125, 237–238, Pl. 39/40:375, 41:37 (side type); Magrill 2006: 19. *[TB]*

658 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 18/EP 13/Side 43 (Rowe). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: white, brownish (eroded areas). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides eroded, rim of base slightly eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: partial light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts, from left to right: *p* (Q3) with *t* (X1) underneath it; *ḥ* (V28); *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars; *ḫz* (W14).

DISCUSSION: Read from left to right, the hieroglyphs spell out *Ptḥ nfr ḫzw.t*, "(the) entire favour of Ptah", a prayer to receive the full favour of the god Ptah (Keel 1995: § 641). The individual(s) wearing this scarab were likely intended as recipients of the favour requested in the prayer.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Many seals depict a similar inscription, but substitute Amun-Re for Ptah: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 553; Beth Shean No. 117; Lachish No. 44, 601; Shiloh No. 3.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on back type and context.

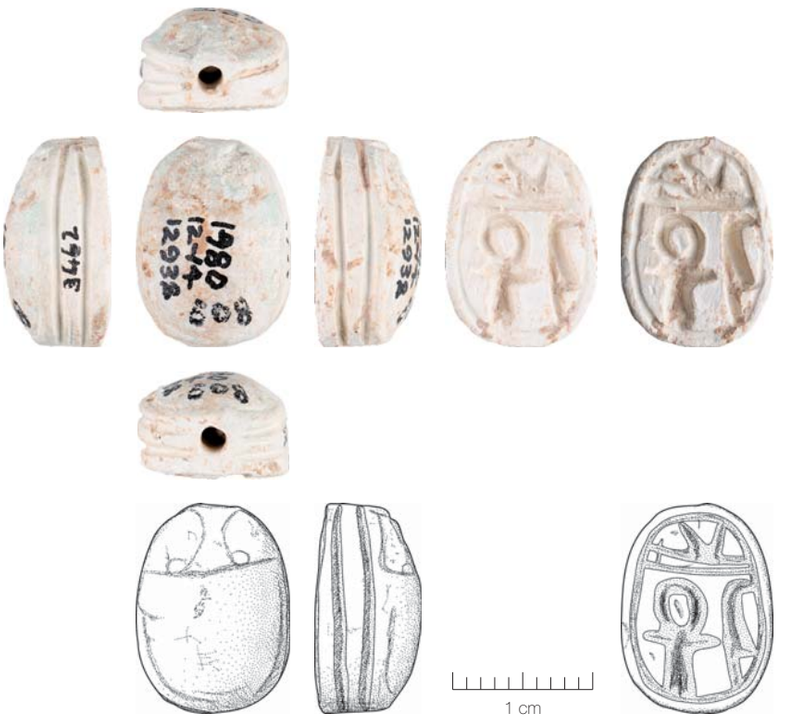
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1506.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.4, Tomb 221 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4890.

① Rock-cut tomb. The original shape of the tomb chamber is uncertain due to later quarrying activity. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, a bronze dagger, six bronze arrowheads, a bronze togglepin, and a silver togglepin. All finds were found resting on bedrock in the north-west corner of the chamber (Tufnell 1958: 235). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 658–659.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 105, 125, 235, Pl. 39/40:376, 41:36 (side type). *[TB]*

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659 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: dark green. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From right to left, the first hieroglyph depicted on this side is: a right-facing *j* (M17). A column consisting of two signs is located to the left of the *j* (M17), from top to bottom: a *mn* (Y5), and a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign. A column consisting of two signs is located to the left of this sequence, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1). Side B: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. A column consisting of two signs is located at the top right, from top to bottom: *p* (Q3) and *t* (X1). A *ḥ* (V28) is located to the left of this sequence. A column of three hieroglyphs is located under these signs, from top to bottom: *nb* (V30); *mꜣˁ* (Aa11); and *t* (X1).

DISCUSSION: Side A: The hieroglyphs spell out *Jmn-rˁ*, "Amun-Re" (Keel 1995: § 642). Side B: The hieroglyphs spell out *Ptḥ nb mꜣˁt*, "Ptah lord of truth" (Keel 1995: § 642). This spelling of *nb mꜣˁt* is a variant spelling of a divine epithet associated with Ptah (Christophe 1955: 77).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. A bronze ring from Egypt, Gurob, Tomb 20 (Petrie 1890: 38, Pl. 23:78) is also inscribed with "Ptah lord of truth" spelled in the same way but lacking the final *t* (X1) sign. A similar inscription can also be seen on Side B of a rectangular jasper plaque from Egypt, Gurob, Tomb 88 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 12, Pl. 15, 21:46–47; now Manchester Museum 7002). Since the closest comparanda for this item were found in Egypt, it is likely an Egyptian import.

DATING: Late 18th Dyn. (1425–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1936-2269.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square B.4, Tomb 221 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4891.

① See Lachish No. 658.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 126, 235, Pl. 39/40:377; Keel 1995: § 206, p. 281 (typology); Wimmer 2004: 64–65, Fig. 2.1. *[TB]*

660 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type IV (Keel 1995: § 182). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded. WEIGHT: 1.41 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.9 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: light blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding right-facing lion (Keel 1995: § 536). A thicker area on the rear of the upper front legs serves to indicate fur. The lion's tail exhibits a round end and is curled in an arc over the body. A large *rˁ* (N5) sign is located above the lion's back. A smaller indeterminate round sign is located above the animal's head.

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 557. Beth Shemesh No. 186 Side A depicts a similar lion and sun disc flanked by outward-facing uraei. Compare an oval plaque from Egypt: Gurob, Tomb 458 (Brunton and Engelbach 1927: 15, Pl. 17, 26:40, Side B).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16158. BM/Big number: 160581.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Area 500, Locus 500, Object no. 4085.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 106, 108, 126, 235, Pl. 39/40:378; Keel 1995: § 182, Fig. 122 (not Fig. 123 as stated in the text), p. 287 (typology); Magrill 2006: 18. *[TB]*

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661 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 56/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel). Only bezel remaining. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped in one spot. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 14.2 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 19.0 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 9.6 mm (H, incl. mounting).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. The border of the base engraving is not visible due to the gold mounting surrounding the scarab. The base depicts a central cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) topped with two outward-facing feathers. Hatching is used to indicate the details of the feathers. The cartouche contains a column of hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1). The cartouche is flanked on either side by outward-facing prisoners. Hatching on the bodies is used to indicate ribs (rather than clothing). Both prisoners are depicted with one leg kneeling and the other bent backward. Their arms are tied behind their backs with a rope in the area of the upper arm. Both prisoners have chin beards and wear an inward-facing feather on their heads. Hatching is used to indicate the details of the feathers.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can thus be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 90 depicts two prisoners in a *tête-bêche* position without a central cartouche. Tell Beit Mirsim No. 35 Side B depicts two standing prisoners tied to a central *zmꜣ* (F36) hieroglyph. For seals depicting only a single bound prisoner, see the comparanda for Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 68.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.668.

CONTEXT: Area 7000, Square K.27, Locus 7017 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6716.

① Small section of curved stone wall. Other finds from this locus include: pottery as well as blue glaze, glass, and carnelian beads (Tufnell 1958: 306).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 126, 306, Pl. 39/40:379, 41:17 (side type). *[TB]*

662 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Back cracked and slightly eroded, right side of head chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts two rows of hieroglyphs. From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the top row are: *wsr* (F12); *mꜣˁt* (C10). The *mꜣˁt* (C10) sign is hatched. From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the bottom row are: *stp* (U21) (although the sign is written without the small block under the adze, a reading as *nw* [U19] would not make sense); *mn* (Y5). The *wsr* (F12), *mꜣˁt* (C10), and *stp* (U21)/*nw* (U19) signs are all oriented to face right.

DISCUSSION: If the bottom right *nw* (U19) sign is interpreted as a misspelling of *stp* (U21), the hieroglyphs on the base can be read as follows: *wsr-mꜣˁt-‹rˁ› stp-‹n›-jmn*. The following pharaohs used a royal prenomen (i.e., throne name) spelled in a similar fashion: Ramesses IV (regnal year 1 only); and kings of the 22nd(–23rd) Dyn.: Osorkon II/Userken meriamun; Petubaste I; Osorkon III; Takelot III; Petubaste II; Iuput II (von Beckerath [2]1999: 166–167, 186–187, 192–195, 200–201, 204–205).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. All comparable items are instead inscribed with *stp-n-rˁ* or *stp-rˁ*: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 559, 1224; Beth Shean No. 89; Beth Shemesh No. 204; Dothan No. 28; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 474, 548, 679, 714, 753, 761, 784, 819, 866; Megiddo No. 98, 572.

DATING: 20th Dyn. (1190–1077 BCE); Ramesses IV (1156–1150 BCE); dating based on the prenomen inscribed on the base and find context, which excludes later kings mentioned above.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.669.

CONTEXT: Area 7000, Square K.27, Locus 7017 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6717.

① See Lachish No. 661.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97–98, 126, 306, Pl. 39/40:380, 41:5 (side type); Krauss 1994: 125–130. *[TB]*

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663 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white, yellow (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab eroded, hairline cracks and scratches in back, bottom left scarab wing case chipped off on back, bottom right of base chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. Viewed with the head of the scarab on the back facing right, the base depicts: a right-facing, striding predacious mammal with mouth opened to reveal a tongue and an unusually large ear. The long tail of the animal is curled in an arc over the body. A prone horned quadruped with a long tail stretched out behind its rear is located under the predator. The faces of both animals are turned toward each other. A schematic representation of a *bḥdtj* (Keel 1995: § 450) or winged sun disc emerges from the border line above the predator's neck and back.

DISCUSSION: Based on the depiction given in the closest available comparandum, the predacious mammal is likely a lion (Keel 1995: § 538).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 463 is a similar item depicting a crocodile under the predacious mammal.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.670.

CONTEXT: Area 7000, Square K.27, Locus 7017 (LB II, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6718.

① See Lachish No. 661.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 107, 126, 306, Pl. 39/40:381, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

664 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 30/EP 16/Side 36 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back slightly eroded, base eroded, signs and figures of base engraving chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: partial dark green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the base engraving. The latter depicts the standing, right-facing figure of a ruler wearing a kilt. Chipping damage in the area of the ruler's head makes it impossible to determine the type of headdress he wore. The ruler's 'front' arm is crooked at the elbow; a *ḥqȝ* (S38) staff emerges from the arm near the shoulder area. The ruler's 'rear' hangs by his side. An oval (Keel 1995: § 462) is located to the right of the ruler. It contains a column of hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5); *mn* (Y5); *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the oval spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 508; Beth Shean No. 91; Dothan No. 8; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 461, 785; from Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb SA 30 (Steindorff 1937: 100, 231–232, Pl. 54:17; now Berlin Museum, E 11044); from Sudan: Soleb, Tomb T 22, found in shaft of tomb (Schiff Giorgini 1971: 238, Fig. 462, Pl. 12: T 22 p7).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1939-808.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square R.4, Cave 4034 (LB IIA–early Iron I, early 14th–mid 11th c. BCE),[1] Locus Pit B (LB, mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE),[2] Object no. 7000.

① Large man-made sub-rectangular cave with a sub-rectangular extension to the west. The cave housed an LB-era potter's workshop and was later reused as a sheep enclosure (Tufnell 1958: 291–293). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 664–665. — ② Ovoid sub-basement cut into the floor of Cave 4034. Accessed via a stair cut into the rock. The bottom layer of "light earth" was found to contain deposits of LB pottery vessels. The chamber was likely used by the LB-era potter's workshop for storing stock and drying vessels prior to firing. A clay layer above the LB deposit was found to contain the remains of four individuals. Tufnell 1958: 293 mentions that the burials could not be dated. Consequently, the burials likely had no grave goods and the scarabs from Pit B were presumably located in the LB earth layer under the bodies (Tufnell 1958: 293).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 126, 293, Pl. 39:382, 41:37 (side type). *[TB]*

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665 **OBJECT:** Udjat-eye scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 180). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Back eroded, rim of base eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 13.6 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts three signs and symbols. From right to left, these are: a right-facing *j* (M17) sign; a right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) or falcon sign; and a single right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 529).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shean No. 113; from Egypt: el-Lahun town/Kahun, burial wrapped in rushes (Petrie 1890: 32, Pl. 23:66).

DATING: Late 18th–early 19th Dyn. (1425–1213 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1939-809.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square R.4, Cave 4034 (LB IIA–early Iron I, early 14th–mid 11th c. BCE),[1] Locus Pit B (LB, mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE),[2] Object no. 7001.

① See Lachish No. 664. — ② See Lachish No. 664.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108, 126, 293, Pl. 39:383; Keel 1995: § 180, p. 287 (typology). *[TB]*

666 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47+HC 58/EP 1/- (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold (bezel) and bronze (wire). Only bezel and fragments of wire remaining in the head and rear perforations of the scarab. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellow. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 2.66 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. The border of the base engraving is not visible due to the gold mounting surrounding the scarab. The base depicts a central oval (Keel 1995: § 462), which contains a column of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *rʿ* (N5); *ḏw* (N26); *ḥtp* (R4) (or possibly *ḥtm*/*sḏȝt* [S20][?]). The central oval is flanked on the transversal axis by inward facing *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetles, framed by outward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 523). The central oval is flanked on the longitudinal axis by two inward-facing semi-circles. An inward-facing *ȝḫt* (N27) is located inside each of the two semi-circles. A right angle protrusion is located at each of the four corners of the base.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 605 also depicts a scarab surrounded by outward-facing uraei.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12386. BM/Big number: 160221.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6737.

① Tomb with plastered walls and floor. Roof falls destroyed the original means of entry to this tomb. All finds from this tomb were located in a layer of black earth. Of the human remains originally placed in the tomb, only the teeth remained. Other finds from this tomb include: pottery, the fragments of at least two clay anthropoids, a gold earring, a silver earring, fragments of carved bone, small bone fragments, three faience udjat amulets, a fragmentary faience amulet, as well as faience, carnelian, and glass beads (Tufnell 1958: 248–249; see also Ussishkin 2004: 57, 64 for the dating of the tomb). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 666–669, 716–719.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97, 126, 570–571, Pl. 39/40:384; Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

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667 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 69/EP 8/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-white. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base chipped at bottom. WEIGHT: 2.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching. COATING: traces of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a right-facing, standing falcon-headed figure. Hatching is used to indicate feathers on the falcon head, cross-hatching to indicate a kilt. The falcon-headed figure wears a double-feather crown or *šwtj* (S9) fronted with a uraeus. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs at the side of the body. The 'front' arm is raised and morphs into the shape of a right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 588). Another right-facing uraeus (Keel 1995: § 522), located under the central figure's 'front' arm, emerges from the border line.

DISCUSSION: In the entry for Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 589, Keel hypothesized that this type of depiction is likely meant to represent the god Montu, who also wears a *šwtj* (S9) (albeit combined with a sun disc on less schematic representations), or Horus, who is also occasionally depicted with the same crown. The present scarab is dated to the 19th–20th Dyn., the era of the Ramesside pharaohs who seem to have held Montu in particular veneration (Werner 1985: 182). Consequently, it seems more likely that this scarab was meant to depict the god Montu.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 589; Lachish No. 524; Pella No. 78.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16067. BM/Big number: 160582.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6738.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 108–109, 126, 570–571, Pl. 39/40:385, 41:38 (side type); Keel 1977: 94, n. 161, 95, Fig. 56; Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

668 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5/EP 1/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Base eroded. WEIGHT: 1.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: partial green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A twisted strand or ladder border (Keel 1995: § 512) forms the outer border around the engraving. The inner border consists of a single incised line. The central composition depicts a *ḫpr* (L1) or scarab beetle facing upward, flanked by two inward-facing uraei (Keel 1995: § 524, 528).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 107; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 169; Lachish No. 417; from Egypt: Aniba, Cemetery S, Tomb SA 18, Chamber A (Steindorff 1937: 107, No. 137, 221–222, Pl. 56:137; now Berlin Museum, E 11014A).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12385. BM/Big number: 160219.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6739.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 105, 126, 570–571, Pl. 39/40:386, 41:16 (side type); Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

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669 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 1/EP 1/Side 23 (Rowe). MATERIAL: faience. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation, base eroded. WEIGHT: 1.18 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 12.1 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: partial green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A barred strand (Keel 1995: § 513) outer border and single line inner border surround a central *j* (M17) hieroglyph.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 385, 809.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12384. BM/Big number: 160218.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6740.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 101, 126, 570–571, Pl. 39/40:387, 41:18 (side type); Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

670 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 69/EP 1/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown, white (uninscribed areas on base). PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab eroded, right side chipped in one spot, rim of base eroded, bottom left of base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.15 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.3 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three rows of hieroglyphs. From right to left, the hieroglyphs in the first row are: a right-facing *wsr* (F12); a small *rʿ* (N5) located to the top left of the *wsr* (F12) sign; and a right-facing *mꜣʿt* (C10). The second row is occupied by a large *mr(j)* (N36). From right to left, the hieroglyphs depicted in the third row are: a right-facing *j* (M17); a column consisting of two signs, from top to bottom: a *mn* (Y5), and a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs on the base spell out *Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ mrj-jmn*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ramesses III (von Beckerath [2]1999: 166–167). The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 790; Tell Jemmeh No. 65; Megiddo No. 555; from Egypt: Tell el-Yahudiya (Naville and Griffith 1890: 42, Pl. 11:22). Scarabs made of fired steatite with the same base inscription include: Ashdod No. 65; Beth Shean No. 222; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 556.

DATING: 20th Dyn. (1190–1077 BCE); Ramesses III (1187–1157 BCE).

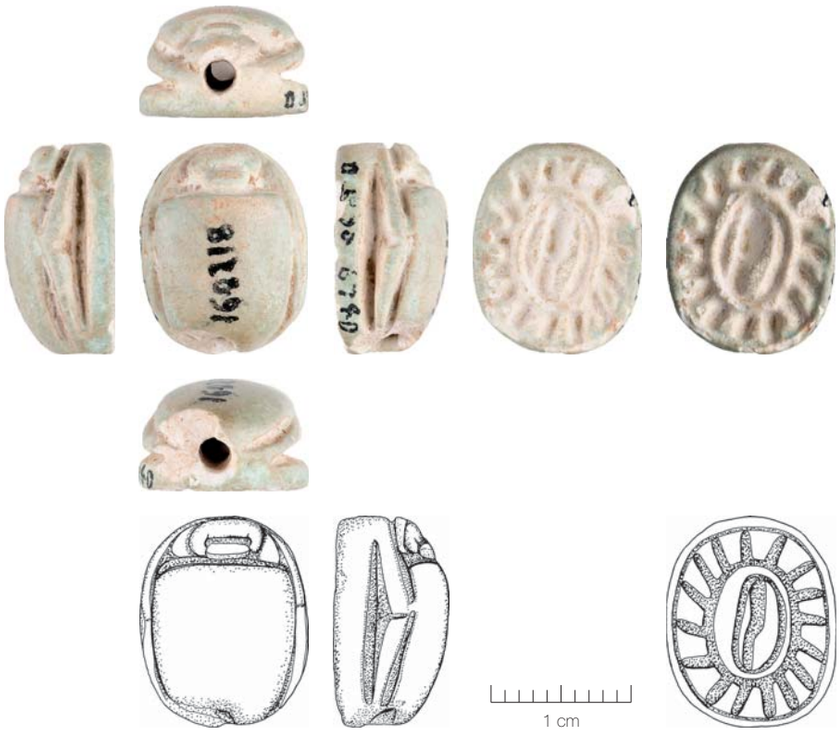
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16265.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort"[?], Square J.15,[1] Object no. 7228.

① Since the "Palace-Fort" substructure reaches into Square J.15, the item could theoretically have been found on its southern surface, but a provenance from the residential quarter south of it (the main built-up compound of Square J.15) seems more probable.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97–98, 126, Pl. 39:388, 41:22 (side type); Magrill 2006: 116. *[TB]*

669



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671 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 69/EP 73/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: carnelian. COLOUR: light red. PRESERVATION: complete. Sides chipped, rim of base chipped in two places, with slight chipping visible on the rest of the base circumference. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. From top to bottom, the base depicts three rows of decoration. The first row is occupied by a sun disc framed by uraei facing outward (Keel 1995: § 523). The second row is occupied by a central right-facing *wsr* (F12), framed on either side by crouching, inward-facing divine figures: *mꜣʿt* (C10) on the left and *ḏḥwtj* (C3) on the right. A small *rʿ* (N5) sign is located above the head of the *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure. From right to left, the hieroglyphs depicted in the third row are: a left-facing *mr(j)* (U6/U7); and a column consisting of three signs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5); a right-facing *stp* (U21); and a line that is likely the abstract depiction of an *n* (N35) sign.

DISCUSSION: The *wsr* (F12), *mꜣʿt* (C10), and *rʿ* (N5) signs on the left of the second row and the *rʿ* (N5), *stp* (U21), and *n* (N35) signs on the left of the third row can be read from top to bottom as *Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ stp-n-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of several Egyptian kings from Ramesses II to Shoshenq III (von Beckerath [2]1999: 155–156, 188–189). The *mr(j)* (N36) and *ḏḥwtj* (C3) can be read from bottom to top as *mrj Ḏḥtj*, "beloved of Djehuty" (i.e., Thoth), a pharaonic epithet.

COMPARANDA: Deir el-Balaḥ No. 9 has a nearly identical base engraving that lacks the uraei framing the top sun disc.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE); dating based on combination of the prenomen with "beloved of Djehuty", attested monumentally at least once in the horizontal bandeau text on col. 103 of the astronomical chamber of the mortuary temple of Ramesses II (i.e., the Ramesseum): Helck 1972: 155–156.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1939-829.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort"[?], Square J.15,[①] Object no. 7227.

① Since the "Palace-Fort" substructure reaches into Square J.15, the item could theoretically have been found on its southern surface, but a provenance from the residential quarter south of it (the main built-up compound of Square J.15) seems more probable.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 97–98, 126, Pl. 39/40:389, 41:22 (side type). *[TB]*

672 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 61/Side 25 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: ivory. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.55 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 18.2 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: remains of dark blue glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a central row of hieroglyphs. From right to left, these are: a right-facing *dšrt* (S3) or red crown; a *ḏd* (R11); and a *nfr* (F35) with two crossbars. Two signs are located above the central row of hieroglyphs. From top to bottom, these are: *jʿḥ* (N11) and *ḥtp* (R4). A *nb* (V30) is located under the central row of hieroglyphs.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 663 is a close comparandum that lacks the *nfr* (F35) sign. Stylistically similar compositions can also be seen on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 662, 770.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

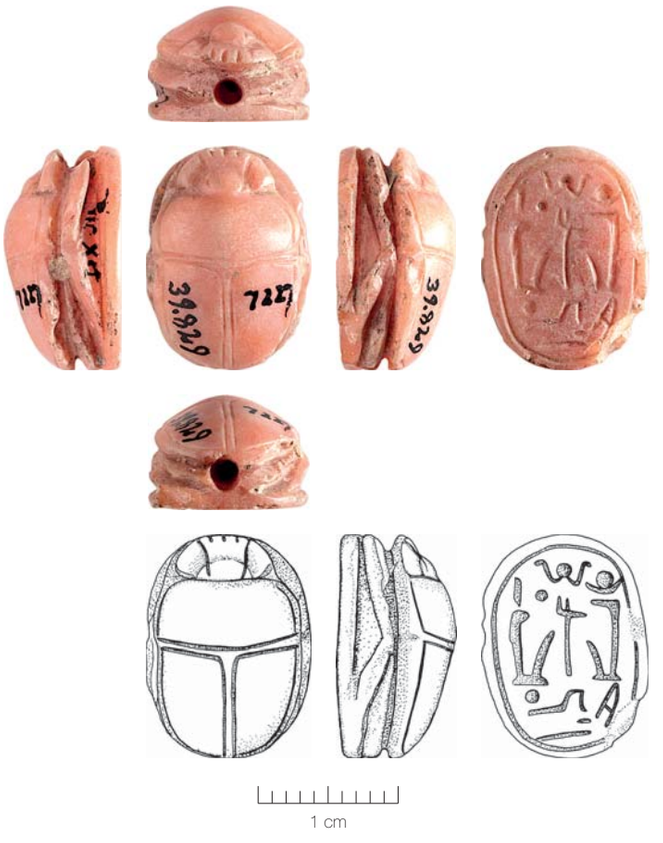
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16266. BM/Big number: 160597.

CONTEXT: Level V (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K.11–12, Locus 1053,[①] Object no. 6769.

① Mixed LB and Iron Age fill. Other finds from this context include from the LB period: pottery and a fired cylindrical pottery object; from the Iron Age: pottery, two iron armor scales, a bronze armor scale, a porphyry? vessel fragment, a sculpted diorite fragment, as well as a green glass bead and a malachite bead (Tufnell 1953: 116).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 116; Tufnell 1958: 105, 126, Pl. 39/40:390, 41:5 (side type); Magrill 2006: 72. *[TB]*

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673 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 7/EP 27+EP 42/Side 21 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 7.12 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 25.1 mm (L) × 18.8 mm (W) × 11.5 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts the central figure of a right-facing pharaoh wearing a blue crown fronted with a uraeus. A long streamer emerges from the back of the crown. The pharaoh wears a long robe with a belted sash that hangs down from the rear of the waist. Hatching is used to indicate folds and a bottom fringe on the robe. Hatching is also used to indicate details on the crown, streamer fabric, and the fabric of the hanging sash. The pharaoh's 'rear' arm is raised and holds a *ḫpš* (T16) sword in a smiting posture. His 'front' arm grasps the long hair of an enemy, depicted standing facing left. Hatching is used to indicate the enemy's hair; the enemy's arms are tied behind his back in a T-shape. A schematic, right-facing *mꜣꜥt* (C10) sign is depicted to the right of the pharaoh's head and crown.

DISCUSSION: The *mꜣꜥt* (C10) sign may be a vestigial attempt to depict the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of many pharaohs, *Wsr-mꜣꜥt-rꜥ*. This name is written in its full form on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 550.

COMPARANDA: Similar base engravings featuring a schematic *mꜣꜥt* (C10) sign above the prisoner include: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 569, 792; Tel Ridan No. 4. Other engravings featuring hatching to indicate the details of the pharaoh's clothing are: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 569, 792; Qubur el-Waleida No. 2; Yavneh No. 2.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16160. BM/Big number: 160587.

CONTEXT: Level V (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square K-L.11–12, Locus 1058,[1] Object no. 6778.

① See Lachish No. 258.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1953: 117; Tufnell 1958: 108, 126, Pl. 39/40:391, 41:28 (side type); Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 47, 53, 154, Fig. 97b; Magrill 2006: 73; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 47, 53, 154, Fig. 97b. *[TB]*

674 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B10/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 35/EP 13/Side 40 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Hairline cracks in back, rim of base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.78 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.5 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The base depicts a striding, right-facing falcon-headed sphinx (Keel 1995: § 550) with a lappet. The sphinx stands on a single incised line that serves as a base for the composition. The leonine tail of the sphinx exhibits a round end and is curled in an arc over the body. Hatching is used to indicate the details of the lappet, the feathers on the head, and the fur on the body. A sequence of hieroglyphs is located in front of the sphinx, from top to bottom: *rꜥ* (N5), a right-facing ꜤO29), and a *ḫpr* (L1). Two hieroglyphs are located above the back of the sphinx, from right to left: a right-facing *nṯr* (R8), and a *nfr* (F35). Three hieroglyphs are located under the belly of the sphinx between the front and the hind legs. From top to bottom: *nb* (V30), *tꜣ* (N16/N17), *tꜣ* (N16/N17). A right-facing *mr(j)* (U6/U7) is located between the hind legs of the sphinx, and a *ḥqꜣ* (S38) sign is located behind the sphinx.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in front of the sphinx spell out the royal name Ꜥ*-ḫpr‹w›-rꜥ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep II. The hieroglyphs above the back of the sphinx and under the belly of the sphinx can be read as *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands", a pharaonic epithet. The *mr(j)* (U6/U7) sign may be a short form of the formula *mrj* [DN], "beloved of [Divine Name]". In this case, the name of the deity is not specified. The *ḥqꜣ* (S38) is likely meant to signify "ruler" as another reference to Amenhotep II. The base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A "Names and titles" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 600 Side A and a piece from Egypt, Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb 1810 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 24, Pl. 58:41, 67; now Manchester Museum 6981) also depict a falcon-headed sphinx trampling on a prone human figure in conjunction with two cartouches containing the prenomen of Amenhotep II.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep II (1425–1400 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16161.

CONTEXT: Level VII (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), "North-East Section", Square T.8, Locus Pit A,[1] Object no. 316.

① Section level 27–25 (= feet above 0 level); partly plastered pit in floor of stone structure, sealed by a layer of charcoal. Pottery was also found in this context (Magrill 2006: 106).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 49, 52–53, Fig. 2:88, 97, Pl. 41:37 (side type); Keel and Küchler 1982: II, 889, Fig. 598; Magrill 2006: 106. *[TB]*

Non-standard scale.

673



674



675 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 36/EP 27/Side 12 (Rowe), Gl[?]/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: greenschist facies[?]. COLOUR: greenish-grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Base and back are heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: Too worn to identify any motif with certainty. Placed horizontally, there may be remains of a quadruped, possibly facing left.

DATING: MB II–LB IIB (18th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(161).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5799.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: Pl. 41:45. *[NBM]*

676 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Rim of base worn, area near ears of animal depicted on base has eroded since the original archival photos were taken. WEIGHT: 4.63 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 29.4 mm (L) × 16.7 mm (W) × 11.9 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: broad linear (scratched into the clay when still wet, before firing).

BASE: Horizontal layout. No border is present on this engraving. The base depicts a schematic, right-facing quadruped.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); late 18th–19th Dyn. (1425–1191 BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16485. BM/Big number: 160329.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.6, Tomb 216 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4662.

① See Lachish No. 581.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 232–235, Pl. 54:13; Magrill 2006: 13. *[TB]*

675



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677 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2 or D4/0/d1 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 65 or HC 68/EP 5/Side 33 (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II? (Keel 1995: § 266–275). While the object is not mounted, the way in which it was carved by the lower perforation hole mimics the mounting for rings. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brownish-cream. Overall colour of object is very uneven. PRESERVATION: broken. Only the lower right side of the base is preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); according to the break, two different perforation channels meet slightly off-centre. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: A vertical, slightly discolored band runs from the head to the bottom perforation hole. When viewed in profile from the top perforation hole, the top of the scarab's back is flat, which may be either a production-related technique or evidence of use wear. For a similar plain band, see Megiddo No. 123; such vertical bands—either plain, black, or red—appear on the elytra of numerous Middle Bronze Age scarabs (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border from which three short lines extend inward on the right toward what is most likely the lower portion of an erect, left-facing cobra (*jʿrt* [I12]). A *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) sign with vertical lines indicating rays is located in the lower centre portion of the base, the rest of which is broken. Traces of engraving to the left suggest the design once was symmetrical.

DISCUSSION: Rowe 1936: 40, no. 151 originally proposed the base may have contained part of the name of king *Rʿ-ꜥ-ḥʿ* but this seems unlikely. He also interpreted the motif on the right side of the base as a possible scroll but this too is unlikely, as contemporary seals suggest the preserved motif is the lower part of a left-facing cobra with an upturned tail. Such cobras are known to appear in combination with the *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) sign on contemporary scarabs (e.g., Jericho No. 204). The entire base probably comprised two inward-facing cobras originally flanking a *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) sign and an unknown sign above. Such a motif belongs to Design Class 3B1c "Symmetrical cobras confronted" (Tufnell 1984: 118, Pl. 10) and can be attributed to Ben-Tor's Design Class 3B1c "Cobras confronted" of her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 128–129, Pl. 53:22). Notably, however, this style of cobra is attested on scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 8:3, 8). The three lines extending from the linear border likely suggest a branch (e.g., Jericho No. 92). When taken together, the possible combination of a cobra and branch in connection with *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) may suggest a connection with the goddess as well as regeneration given the associations of the rising sun with rebirth according to Egyptian belief.

COMPARANDA: Given the break on the seal, no exact parallel can be identified. Based on the proposed reconstruction, the closest comparandum is the upper register of Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 391, where two inward-facing cobra flank a *ḥʿ(j)* (N28), but the sign is of a different type. During the Middle Bronze Age, the *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) sign could be written with one or two lines to indicate the sun and its rays; the specific form of *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) on this seal also appears on 13th Dyn. royal name scarabs of Sobekhotep IV (see Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 22:2, 4). The combination of this specific form of cobra with the upturned tail and the *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) sign appears on Jericho No. 204. For a horizontal layout with this specific form of cobra with upturned tail, see Jericho No. 293, 466. For the arrangement of two inward facing cobras with a *nbw* (S12) sign, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 697 and Jericho No. 319, 397. For comparanda of seals with a horizontal layout with a *ḥʿ(j)* (N28) in the centre, see Jericho No. 205 (flanked by *ḫpr* [L1] signs), Jericho No. 26 and Megiddo No. 79 (flanked by *sw[t]* [M23] plants). For examples of a branch extending inward from the border, see Jericho No. 92, 455, 545; Lachish No. 313–314.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on typology of seal, comparanda for base motif, and find context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1934-3000.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square D.7, Tomb 157 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2661.

① See Lachish No. 5.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Rowe 1936: 40, No. 151, Pl. 4:151; Tufnell 1958: 231, 334. *[NBM]*

678 **OBJECT:** Cowroid?, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188) or oval piece?, type III (Keel 1995: § 209). Typological classification of this object is rather ambiguous. The tapering of the ends where the perforation hole is located, paired with a length to width ratio of 1.6:1, would support identification as a Cowroid Type 1; however, these types of objects are typically rounded on one side whereas Lachish No. 678 is completely flat on both sides. As such, a possible identification is either an Oval Piece Type III or Scaraboid Type II based on the material, 90-degree angle of the sides, and flat back and base. MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: blackish-dark green. Proper material identification is not possible based on photographs, although suggestive of limestone, serpentinite, or another stone. PRESERVATION: broken. Due to a break, the perforation hole is exposed approximately half way down one side of the seal. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 7.8 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; the perforation hole is rather large in relation to the size of the rest of the object. It is unclear whether too large of a tool was used during drilling that then resulted in breaking of the object's body during manufacture, or if the breaking occurred at a later stage.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel.

DATING: More likely LB III–Iron I (early 12th–mid 10th c. BCE) or less likely MB III–LB I (early/mid 17th–early 14th c. BCE); if the object is a Type III oval piece or a Type II scaraboid, a later date in the LB III-Iron I may be suggested (Keel 1995: 88, § 209). Alternatively, a length to width ratio of 1.6:1 suggests a date range in the MB III-LB I if the object has been properly classified as a Cowroid, Type I (Keel 1995: 78, § 186). However, it is possible that this object was never meant to be engraved and thus a date based on the typological classification of stamp seal-amulets is rendered moot. As such, the closest date range to assign derives from a combination of the typological possibilities paired with the find context.

677



1 cm

678



1 cm

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22001.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square S.1, Cave 4002 (MB III–LB III, early/mid 17th–late 12th c. BCE and Iron II, mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE).[1] The object discussed here does not appear anywhere explicitly in the excavation reports. However, Tufnell 1958: 281 lists a hematite bead from Cave 4002, possibly referring to this object.

① See Lachish No. 257.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 281(?). *[NBM]*

679 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 33/EP 1/Side 44[?] (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/-/O/?/O. Note that the typological classification of the sides is obscured by the mounting. MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light pink. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 13.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H, incl. mounting); 1.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group[?]. Remarks: This object was not included by David 2019a in her publication of the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, although it meets the criteria.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close uninscribed amethyst parallels include Lachish No. 723, Megiddo No. 526, 569, Tel Nagila No. 59, Rishon LeZion No. 70, and Yiftaḥel No. 18. For non-amethyst scarabs with a similar typological categorization, see Gezer No. 722 (jade), Lachish No. 351, 756 (green jasper). For inscribed amethyst scarabs with the same head type, see Jericho No. 297a.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and the timeframe assigned by David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(140). Note that the object has the number 1956.678 written on the mounting. This could be an IAA (formerly PAM/IDAM) number, although it would be the only object in the database with a PAM 1956 date. Alternatively, the number could reflect registration in another museum in the UK, such as Durham or Manchester, who have similar inventory systems.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5776.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

680 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 42/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: purple. PRESERVATION: intact. Slight chipping around outer edges of base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. Remarks: This object was not assigned by David 2019a to her uninscribed amethyst scarabs group, however based on the material and typology this is the likely designation.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include Lachish No. 1–2, 5, 563, Megiddo No. 588, Rishon LeZion No. 22, 52, 150.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and study by David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(142).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5778.

① See Lachish No. 426.

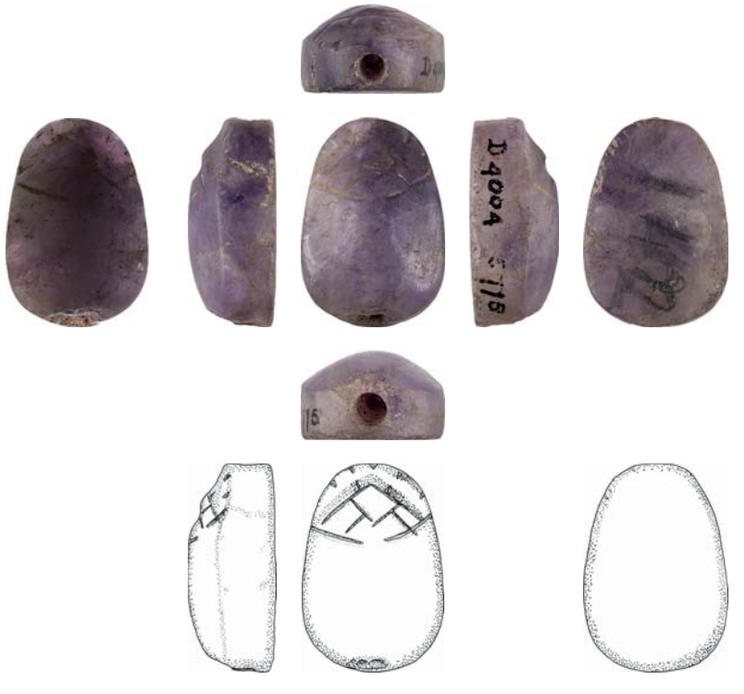
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

679



1 cm

680



1 cm

681 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), this seal could be categorized as D8/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple, pearl. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; note similar sized perforation diameters on either side. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 753, 838, 841 are close typological parallels in amethyst. For non-amethyst scarabs of the same typological classification for the head and back, see Gibeon No. 35 (green jasper), Kafr Som No. 1 (greenschist facies), but note the sides are different and the bases are engraved.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and study by David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(143).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5779.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

682 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type more likely D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38 or HC 71/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: broken. Damaged toward the front perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); note difference in perforation hole diameters. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. Remarks: This object was not included by David 2019a in her publication of the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, although it meets the criteria.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For amethyst scarabs with a similar head type, see Tel Abel Beth Maacah No. 5; Lachish No. 296–297, 310, 682, 730, 752, 754, 840; Megiddo No. 132, 453, 569, 645–646; es-Samuʿ No. 15; Shiqmona No. 21. Additional non-amethyst parallels for this object can be found in other semi-precious stones such as carnelian (Lachish No. 3, 731), quartz (Lachish No. 684–685), rock crystal (Lachish No. 937), and green jasper (Lachish No. 756). See comments on Lachish No. 3 regarding possible overlap between groups of semi-precious stone scarabs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(144).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5780. Context assigned based on reference no. remaining on the object.

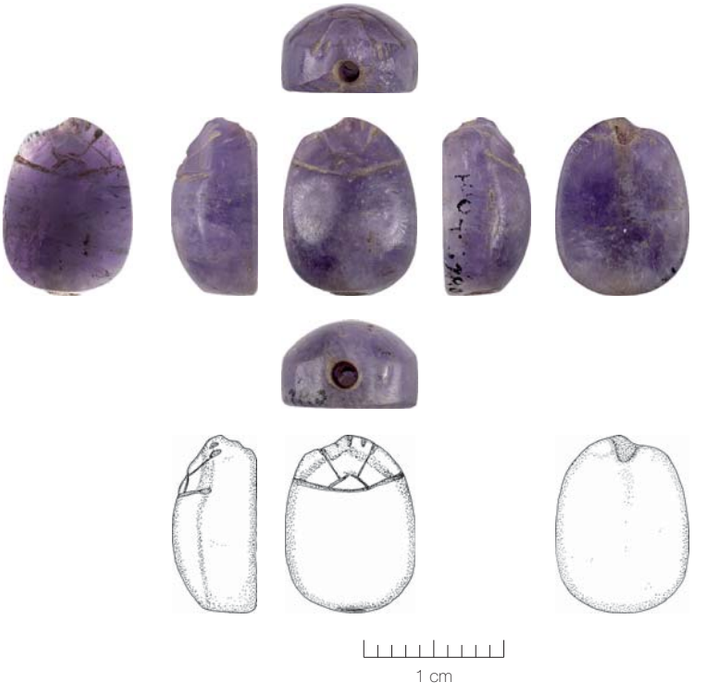
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

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682



683 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: quartz. COLOUR: cream, white. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 8.6 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known. Cowroids are typically engraved. Lachish No. 914 is made of the same material but appears to be a scaraboid in shape. For contemporary blank cream-coloured quartz scarabs, see Lachish No. 562, 684–685, Megiddo No. 157, 588, 638–639, Tel Nagila No. 25. Lachish No. 678 might reflect a possible blank cowroid but is made from a different stone and the top is flat whereas this object's profile is very rounded.

DATING: MB III–LB I (early/mid 17th–early 14th c. BCE); a length to width ratio of 1.56:1 suggests a date range in the MB III–LB I based on the categorization of this object as a Cowroid, Type I (Keel 1995: 78, § 186).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(146).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5782.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

684 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?] or D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?] or HC 68[?] or HC 71[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). Classification of head type is hard to establish due to the shallowness of the engraving. According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as either B2+FI/-/O/O/O or D8+FI/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: quartz. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); note difference in perforation hole diameters.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close typological attested in quartz include Lachish No. 562, 685. For additional parallels of scarabs with a B2 head type in amethyst, see Jericho No. 260, Megiddo No. 571, Rishon LeZion No. 25, 29, 69, 100, Yiftaḥel No. 17. For parallels with a D8 head, see Lachish No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(147).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5783.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

683



684



685 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?] or D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?] or HC 68[?] or HC 71[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). Classification of head type is hard to establish due to the shallowness of the engraving. According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as either B2+FI/V/O/O/O or D8+FI/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: quartz, rock crystal[?]. COLOUR: cream, white. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting in photographs reveal the object was drilled off-centre. Remarks: Uninscribed quartz scarabs with schematic typological features are attributed by David to her (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, said to have been produced locally in the southern Levant (David 2019a). Lumps of rock crystal are reported to have been excavated from Lachish, leading A. David to suggest they may have been for the production of scarabs or beads on site (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433, n. 84).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close typological attested in quartz include Lachish No. 562, 684. For additional parallels of scarabs with a B2 head type in amethyst, see Jericho No. 260, Megiddo No. 571, Rishon LeZion No. 25, 29, 69, 100, Yiftaḥel No. 17. For parallels with a D8 head, see Lachish No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(149).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5785.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 284. *[NBM]*

686 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: glass[?]. COLOUR: cream (outer surface), gold (inner core). Where parts of the outer surface have seemingly chipped away or flaked off, the inner material appears gold and pearl in colour with extensive pitting. PRESERVATION: broken. Very delicate; chipping around edges of object exposing inner material. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation [front]); 2.6 mm (D, perforation [rear]).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); different size of perforation hole diameters suggests the item was drilled from one end (the 'back' as illustrated here). COATING: partial cream coating[?]. A darker cream-beige coloured coating of some sort appears preserved in some places of the outer side of the scaraboid and inside the perforation hole; where it has flaked away, a gold-pearly material is exposed with extensive pitting, likely the product of its vitreous nature.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the material and shape of the object include Lachish No. 794, 800–801 and Megiddo No. 244, 246. Additionally, Lachish No. 791 is made from the same material but is more of a conoid in shape. Notably, the object visually resembles a plain, uninscribed limestone scaraboid. The lack of base engraving on this and other comparanda suggests it is more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: LB I–LB IIB (mid 16th–early 12th c. BCE) or more likely Iron II–Persian period (mid 10th–late 4th c. BCE); the earlier date is based on the date of the registered context (inscribed on the object!). However, the later date is more likely based on the the dating of comparanda like Megiddo No. 244, 246; in this case the item may be viewed as an intrusion.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(153).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5792.
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 336. *[NBM]*

685



686



687 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 33/Side 22? or Side 26? (Rowe), D4/vlv/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: intact. Bottom left side of base is chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 16.5 mm (W) × 9.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. On the left, a right-facing anthropomorphic figure sits on a schematic chair or stool, engraved at a 90 degree right angle. The figure wears a long garment, hardly identifiable head piece or crown (a 'blue crown' *ḫprš* [S7] with uraeus may be intended), and holds a large *ḥqꜣ* (S38) scepter. Two anthropomorphic figures appear in front of this seated figure; both wear a short, triangular-shaped garment and have their 'left' arm straight by the side of the body while the 'right' arm is bent inward toward the body. Above the 'right' shoulder of each figure, emerging from the upper arm, is a branch-like motif. On the far right of the base is a right-facing erect *jʿrt* (I12) cobra.

DISCUSSION: The seated figure holding the *ḥqꜣ* (S38) sceptre can be interpreted as a ruler, likely the Egyptian king. The two standing figures in front with triangular kilts are likely elites holding a branch, possibly as a symbol of a goddess. Depictions of soldiers holding branches in a procession can be found in the mortuary Temple of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari, where they are similarly depicted in a festival procession (Naville 1908: 6, Pl. 155).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. The CSAPI index card mentions M. 5980 (ex-Matouk Collection, Bible+Orient Museum Fribourg; from Egypt, unprovenanced, see Matouk 1977: No. 1568 = Wiese 1990: 95, 100 Fig. 126, 189). For an unprovenanced Ramesside item from the Timins collection displaying a similar scene, see Newberry 1907a: Pl. 11:10. For later depictions of an enthroned figure, see Tell Abu Salima No. 65, 71; Acco No. 83, 224, 229; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 798; Tell Jemmeh No. 70.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on style of engraving, object typology, and comparandum in Timins collection.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-772.

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Area D, Locus D.100, Object no. 6928. Assignation to Lachish based on PAM/IDAM registration, "D. 100" inscribed on the object itself, and CSAPI index card ("TD" = Tell ed-Duweir on negative no. kept at the British Museum).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Tufnell 1958: 337; Wiese 1990: 93, Fig. 121. *[NBM]*

688 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal is impressed longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other impressions of the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Ahimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. The present handle was published by Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels as being one of the seven handles of Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek mentioned in the original excavation report (Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels 1979: 29, no. 14; Tufnell 1953: 341). Yet, according to Barkay and Vaughn, this handle is an additional item, not reported in the excavation report, and actually published by Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels for the very first time (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, n. 11).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2113.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Object no. 1547.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Moscati 1951: 76, No. 11; Hestrin and Dayagi-Mendels 1979: 29, No. 14; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 22; Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, No. 679A; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.83; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 22; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

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688



689 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. The impression is virtually complete, with only a tiny part of the border damaged on the upper left side. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.280. Barkay and Vaughn mistakenly mention the inventory number of this item as 12-73.278 (Vaughn 1999a: 205, No. 87; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: No. 26). The correct number is provided by Avigad and Sass, and by an exhibition catalogue of the Jewish Museum, New York (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679H; Ackerman and Braunstein 1982: 71, No. 56).

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square K.15.[1] Context information according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679H; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 26; object number not reported or none assigned.

① Square K.15 covers the south-eastern corner of the "Palace-Fort" substructure, open space east of it and part of the southwestern annexed building.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ackerman and Braunstein 1982: 71, No. 56; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 26; Avigad and Sass 1997: 259, No. 679H; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.87; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 26; Davies 2004: 39, No. 100.958; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

690 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its lower and left sides. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 701.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The end of the second register is not preserved. The full inscription can be reconstructed as *lšbn / ʾš*[*ḥr*], "Belonging to Shebna (son of) Sha[ḥar]", on the basis of identical, better-preserved stamped handles such as Lachish No. 707 and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 77–78. A word divider (vertical stroke) separates the owner's name from his patronym.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 245. According to Ackerman and Braunstein (Ackerman and Braunstein 1982: 71), as well as Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701E), the present item, kept at the Jewish Museum in New York, is the (single) stamped handle of Shebna (son of) Shaḥar published by Diringer (Diringer 1941: No. 8, Pl. 4:1 = Tufnell 1953: 341, Pl. 47B:1; published with a drawing but without object number). However, according to Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 54), the item published by Diringer is rather Lachish No. 245, kept at the British Museum. A comparison of the photographs of these two items with Diringer's drawing seems to support Barkay and Vaughn's interpretation (see especially the *nun* and the traces of the final *het*).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 245 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shebna (son of) Shaḥar from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.286.

CONTEXT: Barkay and Vaughn provide no context information for this item (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 55; Vaughn 1999: 212, No. XXXII.177; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 55), while Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701E provide Square J-K.14, which rather concerns Lachish No. 245 (see there and "discussion" section above).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ackerman and Braunstein 1982: 71; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 55; Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701E; Vaughn 1999: 212, No. XXXII.177; Renz and Röllig 2003: 381, No. 21.6; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 55; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.300; Magrill 2006: 84, 98, n. 61; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 17. *[EL]*

689







1 cm

690



1:1





1 cm

691 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67?/EP 1/Side 24? (Rowe), B2?/0/e4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Heavily worn especially around head, partially obscuring head type. WEIGHT: 0.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.9 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 4.9 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Single-line border. Standing anthropomorphic, mummiform figure with a long beard facing right, holding a *wꜣs* (S40)-sceptre. This figure is flanked by two *šw(t)* (H6) feathers, a large one on the right and a small one to the left.

DISCUSSION: The figure represents the god Ptah. Images of this god shown mummiform holding the *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre first appear during the 13th and 15th Dyn. on seals (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 954, see also Ben-Tor 1988: 39, No. 11, Pl. 2:11; Keel 1995: § 581). During the Ramesside period, however, this motif with the *šw(t)* (H6) feather likely emphasized Ptah as god of the Memphite Theology (Keel 2006a: 252–253).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For close comparanda of Ptah with a *šw(t)* (H6), see Tell Abu Salima No. 80; Ekron No. 12; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 456, 478, 597, 705. Ptah in combination with a squatting *mꜣʿt* (C10) is found on Lachish No. 30 (with further references). For a Ptah seal of similar type, see Gezer No. 366.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); LB II–LB III (early 14th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and Keel 1995: § 581.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12939.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square C.22, Tomb 508 (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3462 A.

① See Lachish No. 655.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1989a: 308–309, Fig. 99; Magrill 2006: 19; Keel 2006a: 252–253, Fig. 38; Lalkin 2008: No. 639. *[NBM]*

692 **OBJECT:** Multiple scarab, type II (Keel 1995: § 129–130). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 7.7 mm (W) × 5.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching. Remarks: Four widthwise perforations (lengthwise with regard to each scarab body).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large *mn* (Y5), schematic *n* (N35), *rʿ* (N5), single vertical stroke (Z1) placed horizontally, and right-facing *j* (M17). Flanking this inscription, on the left is a vertically-stanced *nb* (V30) and on the right, a vertical line that may be another schematic, vertically-stanced *nb* (V30) or possible *j* (M17).

DISCUSSION: The Egyptian signs spell the name *Jmn-rʿ*, Amun-Re. According to Keel, the appearance of the Amun name on multiple scarabs of this type was popular during the late 18th–19th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 130).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 273 is a multiple scarab type II bearing an engraving of the name Amun-Re. For other multiple scarabs, see Newberry 1907: Pl. 8:37137, 37148 (both are a double scarab with the name Amun-Re); from Egypt (unprovenanced): Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 390, No. D9 (quadruple scarab).

DATING: Late 18th–19th Dyn. (1425–1191 BCE); dating based on object typology and comparanda (see also Keel 1995: § 130).

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22010.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus D.6000, Object no. 6825.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 129, Fig. 77, p. 287 (typology). *[NBM]*

693 **OBJECT:** Cowroid, type I (Keel 1995: § 186–188). MATERIAL: composite material?. Material cannot be identified from the photograph; based on the style of engraving, however, a composite material is possible. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight wear on the base and back of object. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large *ḥz* (W14) vase with two large flower buds extending downward from the neck of the vessel.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel from the southern Levant could be identified. For a *ḥz* (W14) vase as the primary motif with flower buds extending from the neck flanking its sides, see Ashdod No. 38 (scarab); Dor No. 38 (impression on handle); Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 317 (scarab). For this style of *ḥz* (W14) on a cowroid but as a flanking and decorative motif, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 238; Ashkelon No. 222.

DATING: Late 18th?–19th Dyn. (1425–1191 BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD.2029/30").

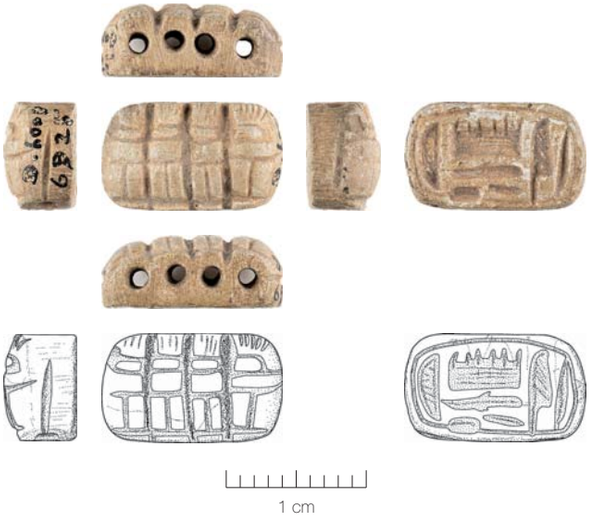
CONTEXT: Object no. 6931. Assigned to Lachish based on the CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 186, p. 279 (typology); Lalkin 2008: No. 43, Pl. 3:43. *[NBM]*

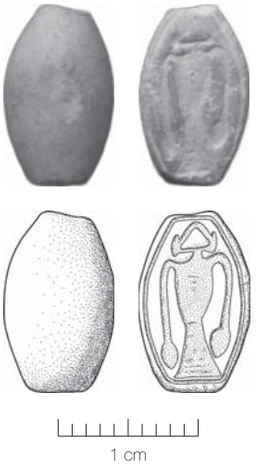
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694 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. Black and white photographs do not allow to determine coating or glaze. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 4.0 mm (H). Keel 1995: § 206 notes that on average, type II oval pieces measure 16.4 mm, rendering this object smaller than most typological comparanda.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; broken along upper portion of side B, exposing the perforation. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large "Hathor" fetish with almond-shaped ears protruding horizontally from the top of the head; the face is engraved with two large oval eyes and a possible horizontal line to indicate a nose. A large column-like element flanked by two inward facing curls similar to the red crown extends from the top of the figure's head; a vertical bar flanked on each side by an outward facing cobra extends down from the figure's head. Side B: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a square-shaped knot from which four rectangular bars extend in a cardinal orientation. In a point symmetrical layout: two addorsed, outward-facing cobras extend from above and below the central knot; the tails of all four cobras converge in the central knot, suggesting the knot itself is formed from the tails of the cobras.

DISCUSSION: See discussion of comparanda and dating in Jaeger 1982: § 1221 (1) and (4).

COMPARANDA: Side A: Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 8; Dan No. 23; Lachish No. 602, 895. From Egypt: Sidmant el-Gebel, Tomb D 406 (Petrie and Brunton 1924: 25, Pl. 57:17, 67; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC30169). Side B: Comparanda for this motif on type II oval pieces include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 223 and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 67.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); LB IB–LB IIA (early 15th–early 13th c. BCE); Keel 1995: § 206–207 dates type II oval pieces between the reigns of Thutmose III and Amenhotep III based on the engraving of royal names and contextualized comparanda.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1414, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6107.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 206, Fig. 144; Lalkin 2008: No. 56, Pl. 4:56. *[NBM]*

695 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: unknown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: broad linear; sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Side A, from left to right: possible *sw(t)* (M23), *ʿnḫ* (S34), possible *nfr* (F35). Side B: unclear. Aside from the *ʿnḫ* (S34), photographs are too low quality to identify any motifs with certainty.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified based on photograph.

DATING: 18th?–20th? Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on object typology (Keel 1995: § 220–222).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads: "BM TD. 5113/14, 435/6").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Areas 100–200[?], Object no. 5373. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note that other objects numbered 5370 to 5375 are all surface finds from Areas 100–200.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 220. *[NBM]*

696 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: unknown. Probably fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Worn. MEASUREMENTS: 11.3 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Side A and Side B bear the following, identical inscription: two linear schematic lines flank a central column of Egyptian hieroglyphs, arranged from top to bottom as follows: *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *rʿ* (N5), double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a), *rʿ* (N5). Notably, the *rʿ* (N5) signs on Side A are more circular whereas on Side B they appear more boxy.

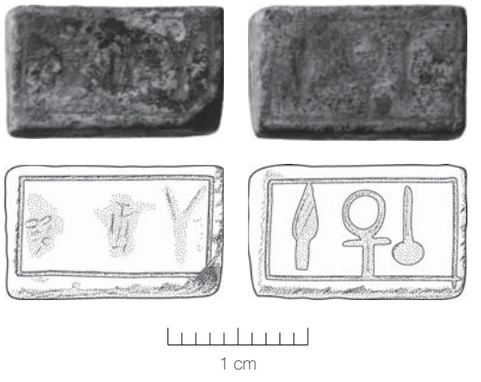
DISCUSSION: The vertical lines flanking the base can either be interpreted as a stylized *nb* (V30) on the left and a schematic *j* (M17) on the right or as two schematic *j* (M17) signs. Depending on how one interprets these signs, the inscription may read as either the Egyptian god's name *Jmn-rʿ*, or Amun-Re, from both directions, with the vertical strokes providing symmetry to the overall inscription and possibly signaling the ability to read from either directions. Alternatively, if one of the vertical signs is interpreted as a schematic vertical *nb* (V30), the inscription could be read *Jmn-rʿ nb*, "Amun-Re is (my) lord".

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda of bi-facial type II rectangular plaques include Acco No. 274, wherein two *nb* (V30) signs flank a *mn* (Y5), schematic *n* (N35), and two *rʿ* (N5) signs. Beth Shean No. 147 comprises a *nb* (V30) and a *j* (M17) flanking a central column of *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and two *rʿ* (N5) signs; Wadi Fidan (Site 4) No. 2 is similar except the bottom row contains two vertical strokes and a *rʿ* (N5) sign. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 699 contains two *j* (M17) signs flanking a *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *rʿ* (N5), and a *p* (Q3) sign. For scarabs with a similar rendering of the name Amun-Re, see Acco No. 228; Aphek No. 45; Ashkelon No. 106; Azekah No. 24 (Udjet-eye scaraboid); Deir el-Balaḥ No. 40, 60, 136; Gat Karmel No. 7.

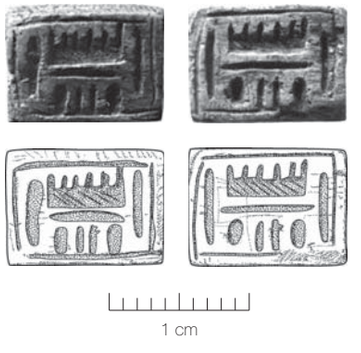
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DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology (Keel 1995: § 220–222).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 716/7, TD 5114/3, 436, 435").

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Object no. 3064. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) on CSAPI index card. Note that six among eight objects numbered 3060 through 3068 were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 220. *[NBM]*

697 **OBJECT:** Finger ring, type II (Keel 1995: § 286–287). MATERIAL: composite material? or bronze?. Proper material identification is not possible based on the photographic evidence. However, this ring type is often moulded in faience or cast in bronze. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 21.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: thick raised relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. From the top of the base, an inverted triangle extends downward with a horizontal line at its point; from the top of bottom of this point, a line extends to the right at a 45 degree angle and terminates in a loop. Directly below it, an identical motif extends upwards and to the left, terminating in an identical but larger loop. The total composition is thus of the same motif inverted.

DISCUSSION: The two motifs appear to reflect inverted lotus flowers.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant.

DATING: 18th–21st Dyn. (1540–944 BCE); dating based on typology (Keel 1995: § 286–287).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1073").

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Object no. 4084. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) on CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 286, p. 284 (typology). *[NBM]*

698 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 31?/Side 26 (Rowe), -/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). Based on state of preservation, identification of head type is not possible. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, beige. PRESERVATION: broken. A little over one third of the object is preserved. WEIGHT: 1.44 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.2 mm (L) × 9.2* mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief with interior hatching (inside cobra bodies and plumes).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Only a third of the base remains. Double plume crown (*šwtj* [S9]), resting on the top end of a head turned right, with two addorsed cobras (uraei) at the crown's base. To the left, a deeply cut upper wing, body, head, and remains of a lower wing of an erect uraeus, equally facing right, with an oval or circle between the wings. On the right, a small dot or disc above a larger curvilinear shape with a point on the right, probably a stylized falcon-head.

DISCUSSION: Based on comparanda, the base motif likely comprised an image of a couchant ram-headed sphinx facing right, flanked in the back by the protective wings of a uraeus and in front of which was placed a falcon-headed figure with a sun disc above. The ram-headed sphinx with uraei can be identified as Amun; the pairing of this figure with the winged uraeus and falcon-headed figure with sun disc was a common motif during the 19th and 20th Dyn. (see Keel 1995: § 552).

COMPARANDA: Based on the state of preservation, it is not possible to identify exact comparanda (but see Ashkelon No. 16, similarly broken). Comparanda for the proposed reconstruction include scarabs Acco No. 206; Beth Shean No. 129, 228; Beth Shemesh No. 110; Tel Dover No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 574, 576–577; Megiddo No. 67. See further Lachish No. 699 with a Maʿat instead of the falcon-headed seated figure to the right.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16274.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Locus D/X, Object no. 5375.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 552; Magrill 2006: 2. *[NBM]*

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699 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24? or HC 67?/EP 112/- (Rowe), B2? or B5?/I/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: unknown. Probably fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipping around the top and bottom of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with interior hatching (linked uraei and inside ram sphinx).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border (barely preserved on the upper right). In the centre, a couchant, right-facing, ram-headed quadruped; directly above this figure's head, two high plumes (double plume crown, *šwtj* [S9]), flanked at their base by two addorsed uraei each with a disc above their heads. To the right side, a right- or outward-facing seated figure holding an indistinct object, with a vertical object protruding from its head. On the far left side of the base, behind the couchant quadruped, a serpent in erect position with outstretched wings, in between which is an oval or circle.

DISCUSSION: The pairing of a ram-headed sphinx with protective uraei and a seated figure of Maʿat can be identified as Amun, a common motif during the 19th and 20th Dyn. and Keel's Motivklasse 9F4 "Mischwesen, liegender Widdersphinx" (Keel 1995: § 552).

COMPARANDA: Exact parallels include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1226; Ashdod No. 77; Ashkelon No. 82; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 15; Lachish No. 625. For close comparanda with a seated falcon-headed figure instead of Maʿat, see Acco No. 206; Ashkelon No. 16; Beth Shean No. 129, 228; Beth Shemesh No. 110; Tel Dover No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 574, 576–577; Lachish No. 698; Megiddo No. 67. Beth Shean No. 111 shows a *ḫpr* (L1) in front of the ram-headed sphinx.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5361.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 1995: § 552; Lalkin 2008: No. 408. *[NBM]*

700 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its upper side, where only traces of letters are visible, but the letters in the lower register are well preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 17.6 mm (L) × 12.6 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The upper register is not readable but the inscription can be restored as [*lnḥm*] / *ʿbdy*, "[belonging to Naḥum] (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953). Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.4148.

CONTEXT: This item was inscribed with an erroneous field number (4771), which rather corresponds to a jug from Tomb 218 (see discussion in Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, n. 12; Magrill 2006: 50, n. 49). Magrill concludes that "it is not possible to be certain of the correct locus and/or field number for this object" (Magrill 2006: 50, n. 49).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 34; Avigad and Sass 1997: 251–252, No. 684; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.109; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 34; Magrill 2006: 17, 50, n. 49–50; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

701 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its lower right side, and the letters are quite faint. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

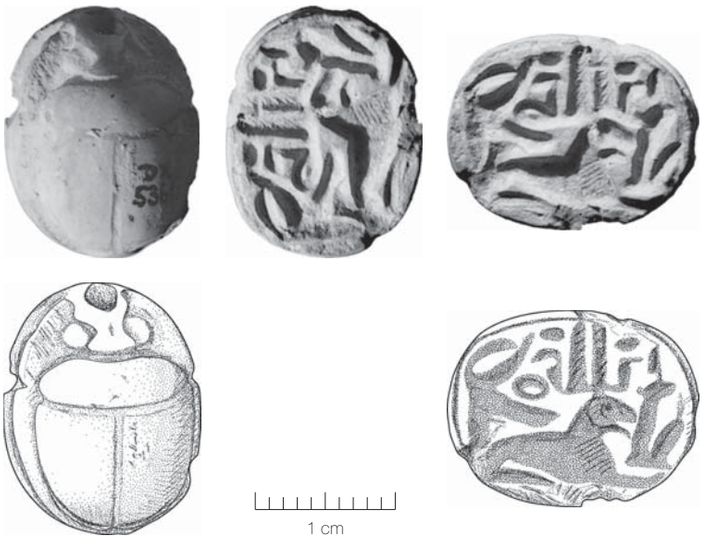
MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm* / [ʿ]*bdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) [ʿA]bdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

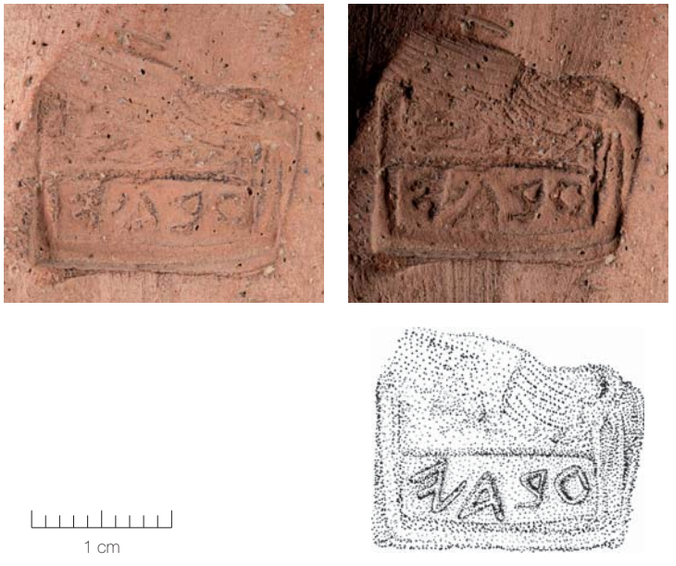
DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

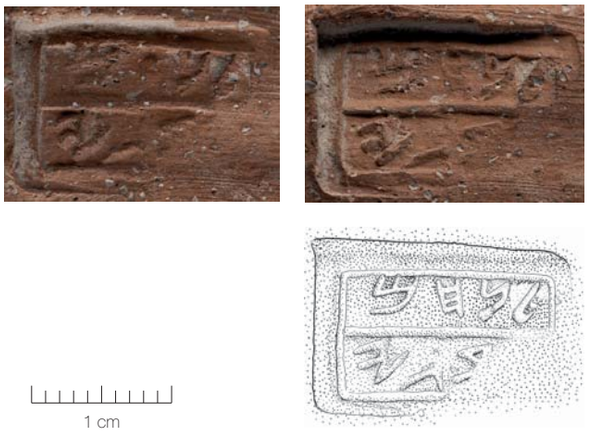
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DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.65.

CONTEXT: Unpublished item reported by Barkay and Vaughn, no context provided (Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 36; Vaughn 1999: 2007, No. 111; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 36).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 36; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.111; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 36; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

702 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its upper right side, and the letters are rather faint. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *[l]nḥm / ʿbdy*, "[Belonging to] Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.279.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Context information according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 37; object number not reported or none assigned.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 37; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.112; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 37; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

703 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete on its upper left side, and the letters are rather faint. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.281.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 38.

① See Lachish No. 245.

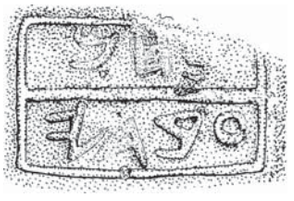
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 38; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.113; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 38; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

702



1:1





1 cm

703



1:1





1 cm

704 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete, being partly effaced by lines of wet smoothing. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.283.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 39.

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 39; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.114; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 39; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

705 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is complete, but the letters are rather faint, especially in the upper register. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 684).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi", partly based on a comparison with better-preserved impressions of the same seal, like Lachish No. 244.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 243, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: New York; The Jewish Museum, Inv. No. 12-73.303.

CONTEXT: Level I (Persian–Hellenistic periods, late 6th–late 1st c. BCE), "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Platform/Terrace AG.[1] Context information according to Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 40.

① See Lachish No. 245.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 40; Vaughn 1999: 207, No. XXIa.115; Renz and Röllig 2003: 307, No. 14.13; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2163, No. 40; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.302; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 11. *[EL]*

706 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is not complete on its lower side. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W). Measurements made on the object.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The impression on the lower register is not complete, missing the lower half of that register's letters. The full inscription can nevertheless be restored by comparison with Lachish No. 232, stamped with the same seal as the present item. The inscription reads *ṣpn ʿ / zryhw*, "Ṣafan (son of) ʿAzaryahu". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 10. Note that the present item does not appear in Diringer 1941, nor in the excavation report (Tufnell 1953), nor in Avigad and Sass 1997. Photograph hitherto unpublished.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 10 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 232, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

704



1:1





1 cm

705



1:1





1 cm

706







1 cm

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.8246.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6116 or 6166. The object number is uncertain: Magrill has 6116, while Barkay and Vaughn have 6166 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 50; Magrill 2006: 123). For another discrepancy related to object number 6116, see Lachish No. 233.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Herr 1978: 87, No. 10; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 50; Vaughn 1999: 211, No. XXXA.165; Renz and Röllig 2003: 2003:372, No. 18.15; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 50; Davies 2004: 93–94, No. 101.303; Magrill 2006: 123; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 15. *[EL]*

707 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete on its lower and left sides. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 701.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The last letter of the second register is slightly incomplete. The full inscription reads *lšbn / ʾ šḥr*, "Belonging to Shebna (son of) Shaḥar". A word divider (vertical stroke) separates the owner's name from his patronym.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 245. This item originates in the British excavations but was not published in the excavation report (see Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701D; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 56).

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 245 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); since none of the stamped handles of Shebna (son of) Shaḥar from Lachish seem to stem from a secure stratigraphic context, the dating of this item to the late Iron IIB is based on other "private" handle impressions from Lachish found in secure Level III contexts (e.g., Lachish No. 57, 921, 923, 927).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1933-2115.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square J-K.14, Object no. 1549. Context information according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 701D; Barkay and Vaughn 2004.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 56; Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 701D; Vaughn 1999: 212, No. XXXII.178; Renz and Röllig 2003: 381, No. 21.6; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2156, No. 56; Davies 2004: 94, No. 101.304; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 17. *[EL]*

708 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 58/Side 24 (Rowe), B2/III+vlv/e2 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. Brown patch on back and side. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper right and lower central portion of base chipped. WEIGHT: 0.91 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 9.1 mm (W) × 4.9 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (inside figure).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a kneeling anthropomorphic figure with zoomorphic head, pointed ears and long snout, one arm raised. The figure is flanked by two addorsed double line C-spirals.

DISCUSSION: The overall composition draws on Middle Bronze Age motifs. Specifically, the short pointed ears and snout suggest a possible identification with Anubis or Seth (note, however, that the figure lacks the characteristic tail). The overall composition and object typology suggest the production of this scarab belongs to Ramesside-period scarabs imitating Middle Bronze Age motifs (on which see Ben-Tor 2017).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For Middle Bronze Age scarabs with addorsed double-line C-spirals, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 976; Ginnosar No. 1. For a parallel figure in the centre of the seal, flanked by addorsed motifs, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 188.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on style and object typology parallels.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16269. BM/Big number: 160577.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Areas 100–200, Locus D/X, Object no. 5372.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 2. *[NBM]*

707



1:2



1:2







1 cm

708



1 cm

709 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Broken in half, restored in July 2000. WEIGHT: 0.82 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.4 mm (L) × 9.4 mm (W) × 9.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout without frame line. Two figures, difficult to identify, are depicted one on top of the other. The lower figure is probably a schematically depicted quadruped animal striding to the right (based on the position of the legs and the head). The upper figure might be another animal in a more horizontal or oblique orientation, with its head facing to the right and lower body to the left. Alternatively, it could be a schematic anthropomorphic figure.

DISCUSSION: The item's bad state of preservation and the very schematic engraving render any interpretation tentative at best. While quadruped animals were frequently depicted on stamp seals from the earliest periods, the diagnostic feature here is the combination of two figures, one on top of the other, one striding and the other more obliquely depicted. Compositions on local limestone seals, such as Beth Shemesh No. 40; Megiddo No. 268 (compare Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: 216–218), would seem to offer plausible models or comparanda (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For similar schematic depictions see the scaraboids Lachish No. 124, 161; Khirbet Qeiyafa No. 12.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.14792.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE).[1] This item was not published in Tufnell 1953, but assigned to Tomb 218 by Magrill 2006: 17.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

710 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type V (Keel 1995: § 254–258). MATERIAL: hematite. COLOUR: black. For hematite conoids, see Lachish No. 212 (found in the same context); Achziv No. 113–114; Ashkelon No. 31; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 220; Megiddo No. 267–268. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped on the base and eroded. MEASUREMENTS: 15.1 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 13.8 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation [front]); 3.0 mm (D, perforation [rear]).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top; apparently, another attempt at perforation through the top failed to reach the other side.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but see above for seal type comparanda; and Atlit No. 52–53 for blank hematite scarabs.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on material, typology and context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15819. BM/Big number: 160340.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4865. This item was not published in Tufnell 1953, but assigned to Tomb 218 by Magrill 2006: 17.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 17. *[NoR]*

709



710



711 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid[?], type II (Keel 1995: § 135) or scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127). The sides of this object reflect Tufnell/Keel Side e11 and are similar to lines that appear on the sides of some conoids. Also noteworthy is the possibility of a pronotum line, which would place this object in the category of locally-produced limestone scarabs (e.g., Jerusalem No. 379; Lachish No. 124; Reḥov No. 24). MATERIAL: limestone[?] or composite material[?]. COLOUR: dark brown. Material identification is unclear. Magrill 2006: 17 interpreted this object as limestone, but the photographs depict a rather porous texture more akin to a composite, calling Magrill's identification into question. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.93 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.9 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. Remarks: The object is very worn with white encrustations. It is unclear whether the back side was engraved as a scarab, or left plain.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: No discernable motifs on base.

DISCUSSION: The state of preservation limits any attempt to identify or interpret a clear motif with certainty.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda identified due to state of preservation.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda for object typology and find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15817. BM/Big number: 160357.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4863.

① See Lachish No. 61.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 17. *[NBM]*

712 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: pink, orange. PRESERVATION: complete. Surface somewhat worn. WEIGHT: 3.62 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 10.1 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: drilled. COATING: A thick whiteish incrustation covers much of the object, obscuring a clear depiction of the base. Remarks: Producers of type III scaraboids frequently used a drill to engrave the base of such objects (e.g., Tel Abel Beth Maacah No. 2; Lachish No. 144; Reḥov No. 20). While the base engraving cannot be identified for this object, its manufacture techniques appear connected to other contemporary scaraboid types.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: No discernible orientation or border. Six drill holes are visible on the photograph: three drill holes run vertically along the right side of the base, a central drill hole appears in the centre, and two more drill marks can be identified at the bottom left side of the base.

DISCUSSION: The state of preservation limits any attempt to identify or interpret a clear motif with certainty.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified.

DATING: Probably Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda for object typology and find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15818. BM/Big number: 160360.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 218 (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE),[1] Locus 218.B,[2] Object no. 4864.

① See Lachish No. 61. — ② See Lachish No. 69.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 17. *[NBM]*

711



712



713 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Too worn to properly identify typologically relevant characteristics with confidence. MATERIAL: composite material or faience[?]. Identified as faience by Magrill 2006: 20. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. No identifiable border. To the far right, a heavily worn vertical oval within which five horizontal linear designs (or simply lines) appear in a vertical column. To the left, a deep cut motif, possibly a right-facing figure with both arms upraised toward the oval, and a long torso from which two thin vertical lines extend downward, each terminating in an outward curved horizontal line. Behind the figure, remnants of two faint vertical lines, probably followed by a vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The base is too worn to identify the syntax and meaning of the overall composition with certainty. However, the motif in the centre paired with the cartouche resembles a figure in a pose of veneration marked by a *nb* (V30) on the left. The remaining motifs are too worn to speculate.

COMPARANDA: No close comparandum can be identified due to the item's bad state of preservation, but note the impression Ekron No. 62; see also the item with similar physical properties and a comparable base engraving from a private collection published in Staubli 2007: 57, No. 26. Also note the motif of a figure shown in a pose of veneration facing a cartouche on seals from the Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals group: Beth Shemesh No. 215, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 231, 347, Gezer No. 18, Tell Jemmeh No. 168, Jerusalem No. 205.

DATING: Iron I–Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 9th c. BCE) or somewhat earlier; dating based on find context and possible motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16493. The item was probably recovered from the Wellcome-Marston expedition of 1932–1938, but could not be located by the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5129/32, 452/51").

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square AA.22, Tomb 521 (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7282.

① See Lachish No. 62.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 20. *[NBM]*

714 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G1/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 61/EP 1/Side 33 (Rowe). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: black, white (spots), yellowish (chipping damage). PRESERVATION: complete. All sides eroded and slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 2.15 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: Blank.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16071.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square A.25, Pit 542 (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3729.

① See Lachish No. 626.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 21. *[TB]*

713



714



715 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67/EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe), B2/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material[?]. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Completely worn with powdery white surface; large break along perforation hole on lower portion of base. WEIGHT: 0.76 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: Too worn to identify any motifs.

DATING: LB I–LB IIB (mid 16th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16268. BM/Big number: 160571.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Pit 555 (LB IB–LB IIB, early 15th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 4347.

① See Lachish No. 578.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 22. *[NBM]*

716 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: carnelian. PRESERVATION: complete. Large cracks running through back and left side, base chipped. WEIGHT: 1.48 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.6 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.7 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 158.

DATING: LB IIB (early 13th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparandum.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16270. BM/Big number: 160572.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6741.

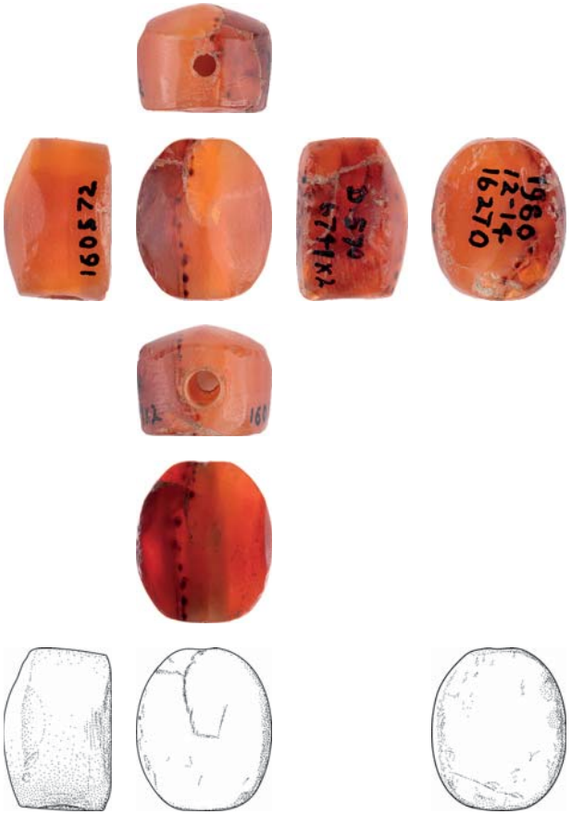
① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

715



716



717 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 72/EP 27/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: carnelian. COLOUR: amber. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and base chipped. WEIGHT: 0.92 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: linear. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Late Bronze Age Carnelian and Red Jasper Scarabs with Cross Designs.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Layout of uncertain orientation. No border is present on this carving. Viewed vertically, the base depicts a large X-shape.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1208; Ashdod No. 59; Azekah No. 2; Beth Shean No. 229; Beth Shemesh No. 143, 209–210; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 20; Dothan No. 32; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 839, 900; Tel Gerisa No. 5; Lachish No. 21; Megiddo No. 97; Samaria No. 41. For comparanda from Egypt and the Aegean, see Boschloos 2012, with the addition of Egypt: Tell el-Retaba, 18th Dyn. House, on gold Type I ring (Rzepka et al. 2012: 262, Fig. 17, 263); Saqqara, Teti Pyramid Cemetery, from debris at SE angle of Mastaba of Neferseshemre (Firth and Gunn 1926: 79, Pl. 46:A:68); el-Lisht North, Cemetery (Metropolitan Museum 20.1.148; 09.180.1118; 09.180.1119); Kafr Ammar and Tarkhan, Tomb 338 (Petrie and Mackay 1915: Pl. 37:Group 338; cowroid; now Petrie Museum LDUCE-UC37165); Meidum, Tomb 296 (Penn Museum 31–27–187); Luxor West Bank, Sheikh ʿAbd el-Qurna, burial of a boy named Amenhotep below the tomb chapel of Senenmut (TT 71), ring finger of left hand (Metropolitan Museum 36.3.158); Quban, Cemetery 110, Grave 27, in gold Type II mounting (Firth 1927: 64, Pl. 35:9); from Sudan: Fadrus, Site 185, Grave 185/137 (Säve-Söderbergh and Troy 1991: 80, Fig. 18:D-b, 260; cowroid, misidentified as type D-c in grave description); Semna, Fort Cemetery 500, Tomb S 552, 18th Dyn. use layer (Dunham and Janssen 1960: 92, 24–3–368a, 24–3–368b).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Boschloos 2012: 8.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.12087.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6744.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

718 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: dark brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 3.55 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 14.1 mm (W) × 9.6 mm (H); 3.2 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 719; Reḥov No. 50.

DATING: LB IIA–LB IIB (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on Reḥov No. 50.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16276. BM/Big number: 160573.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6742.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

717



718



719 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type I (Keel 1995: § 133–134). MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: black. Speckled with brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped near one perforation hole, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 2.58 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 718; Reḥov No. 49.

DATING: LB IIA–LB IIB (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on Reḥov No. 49.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16277.

CONTEXT: Area 500, Square D.23, Cave 570 (LB IIB–LB III, early 13th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6743.

① See Lachish No. 666.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 23. *[TB]*

720 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: dark green. PRESERVATION: complete. Head of scarab eroded, sides chipped near head and rear of scarab, exposing perforation, crack running diagonally through back, two long scratches running longitudinally through back. WEIGHT: 0.77 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.7 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 351; Reḥov No. 48; see also comparanda given in Boschloos 2015a.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16065. BM/Big number: 160584? (16065 according to Magrill 2006: 28).

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 3985.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 28; Boschloos 2015a. *[TB]*

719



720



721 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 52/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe), A5/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light beige, whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.46 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief. COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze. Detected in the linear base engraving.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. An anthropomorphic figure stands with spread legs on a single horizontal line facing to the right, raising its arms to draw a bow and arrow from which two vertical lines extend downward. The figure wears a short kilt and the blue *ḫprš* (S7) crown with uraeus, indicating this is the Egyptian king. Behind this figure is a long vertical rectangle connected by a simple line to its body, likely a quiver. To the right of the figure is a vertical column of Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top: *nb* (V30), two *t*ꜣ (N16/N17), either a *mt* (D52) or an *ḏ* (O29), *nṯr* (R8), *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: The inscription can be read *nb tꜣwj nṯr nfr (ḏ)*, "lord of the Two Lands, perfect (great) god".

COMPARANDA: No parallels known so far from the southern Levant. Depictions of the Egyptian king wearing the blue *ḫprš* (S7) crown and drawing his bow were already attested on seals by the LB I, as indicated by the presence of Jericho No. 35 in Tomb 5 at Jericho. The motif of a figure with a drawn bow and quiver was employed in seal impressions, as indicated by Gezer No. 193. This motif became especially popular during the Ramesside period (e.g., Acco No. 118; Ashkelon No. 25; Jaffa No. 3). For example, Lachish No. 901 depicts the Egyptian king drawing his bow at a seated lion. By the Early Iron Age, this motif became schematized, appearing on seals of the Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (e.g., Acco No. 85, 88–89, 233; Tell Jemmeh No. 78). The king with the blue *ḫprš* (S7) crown in connection with the epithet *(nb) tꜣwj nṯr nfr*, "(lord of) the Two Lands, perfect god" is attested on Tell Jemmeh No. 114.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); LB I–LB IIA (mid 16th–early 13th c. BCE); dating based on find context and typology.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16064. BM/Big number: 160596.

CONTEXT: Area 1000, Square E.30, Tomb 1003 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7283.

① See Lachish No. 606.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 28; Lalkin 2008: No. 490. *[NBM]*

722 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; and two items from Sidon: one from Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

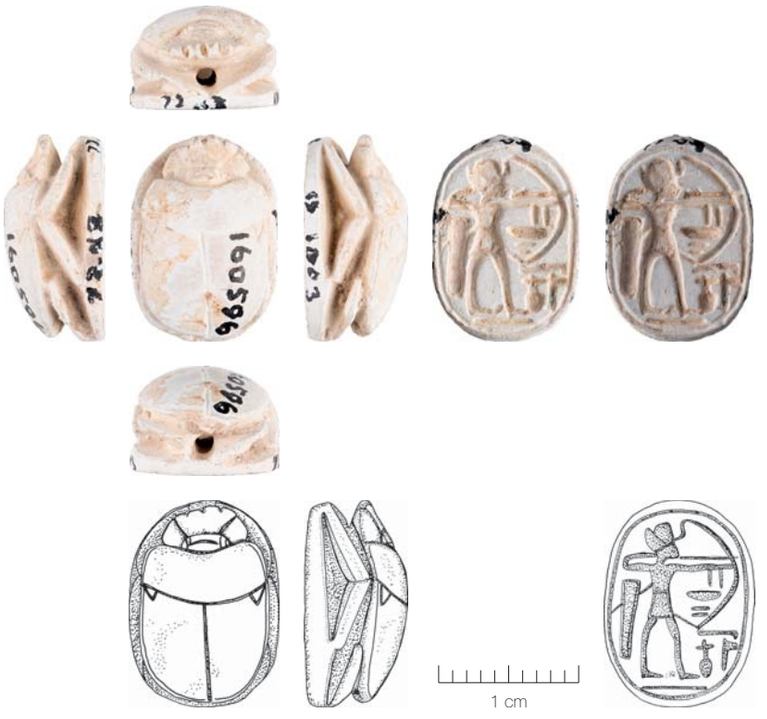
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15788. The seal was stored with a metal nail through the perforation hole, likely from the original excavation.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2226. Registration number shared with two rock crystal scarabs from the same tomb, Lachish No. 725, 727.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37; David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

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723 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 37+HC 71/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly chipped, larger chip near centre of back. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 2, 296 are amethyst scarabs with very similar head and back types.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15789.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2227.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37; David 2019a: 73. *[TB]*

724 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31+HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: carnelian. COLOUR: light red. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly chipped, base chipped near rear of scarab, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 0.57 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.8 mm (L) × 7.1 mm (W) × 4.9 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone or double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Magrill 2006.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15790.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2224.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37. *[TB]*

723



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725 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 59/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: rock crystal. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly chipped, diagonal crack through back. WEIGHT: 1.84 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone[?] (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Magrill 2006.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15785.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2226. Registration number shared with Lachish No. 722, 727.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37. *[TB]*

726 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 37/EP 1/Side 58 (Rowe). MATERIAL: rock crystal. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head of scarab. Slight chipping visible on all other sides. MEASUREMENTS: 12.6 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Magrill 2006.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15786.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2228.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37. *[TB]*

725



726



727 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: rock crystal. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, side, and base chipped near perforation at head and rear of scarab, head slightly worn, crack running through back, back chipped in one spot. WEIGHT: 1.33 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on Magrill 2006.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15787.

CONTEXT: Area 1500, Square J.14, Cave 1552 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 2226. Registration number shared with Lachish No. 722, 725.

① See Lachish No. 284.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 37. *[TB]*

728 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 1/Side 10 (Rowe), D4?/0/d6? (Tufnell/Keel). Back: notched clypeus, head and horn marked, back plain, notch in top right of back. Side: triangular legs with rear legs marked, all legs feathered, slightly convex profile. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. Traces of iridescent glaze. PRESERVATION: broken. Only the right side of the object is preserved; the break appears to have occurred along perforation. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 6.9* mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube or less likely single tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); tube probably drilled from both ends, then straightened. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Only upper third of base preserved, obscuring confident identification of signs. Based on state of preservation, from left to right: *mr(j)* (U6/U7); right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) falcon; *šw(t)* (H6) (or, slightly less probable, a right-facing erect *jʿrt* [I12] cobra?); and possible upper portion of *j* (M17).

COMPARANDA: Given the state of preservation, no parallel can be identified with certainty. For a *ḥrw* (G5) falcon with a *mr(j)* (U6/U7) above its back and a *jʿrt* (I12) cobra and *j* (M17) in front, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 607. For a *ḥrw* (G5) falcon with a *mr(j)* (U6/U7) above its back and a *šw(t)* (H6) and possible schematic *j* (M17) in front, see Aphek No. 47.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on proposed motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16275.

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.3, Pit 4013 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 7349.

① See Lachish No. 639.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 42. *[NBM]*

727



728



729 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly worn. WEIGHT: 1.41 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single tube or double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; and two items from Sidon: one from Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15423. BM/Big number: 160303.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6654.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

730 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 73/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: white, dark purple (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Side chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation. WEIGHT: 1.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.9 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: more likely double cone[?] (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: See the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and David 2019a for compilations of Levantine material. For additional comparanda, see es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; and two items from Sidon: one from Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23); and another scarab found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15432. BM/Big number: 160312.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6655.

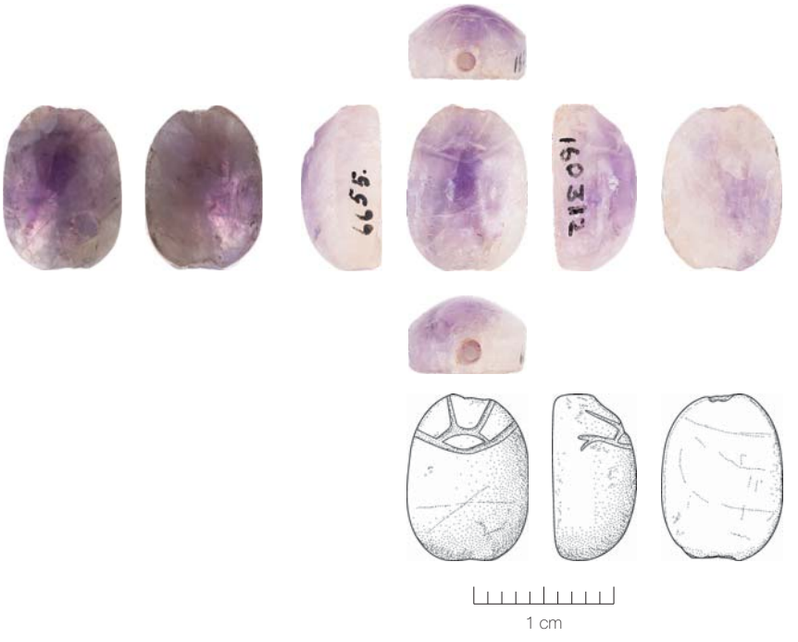
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48; David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

729


1980
12-14
IS423
IS423
7697
1980
12-14
IS423
160303
1 cm

730


6655
160312
1 cm

731 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 59/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). MATERIAL: carnelian. PRESERVATION: complete. Back, sides, and base slightly chipped. WEIGHT: 1.20 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone[?] (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15424.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6657.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

732 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 59/EP 1/Side 43 (Rowe). MATERIAL: limestone. COLOUR: grey. PRESERVATION: complete. All sides slightly worn. WEIGHT: 1.25 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: more likely double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

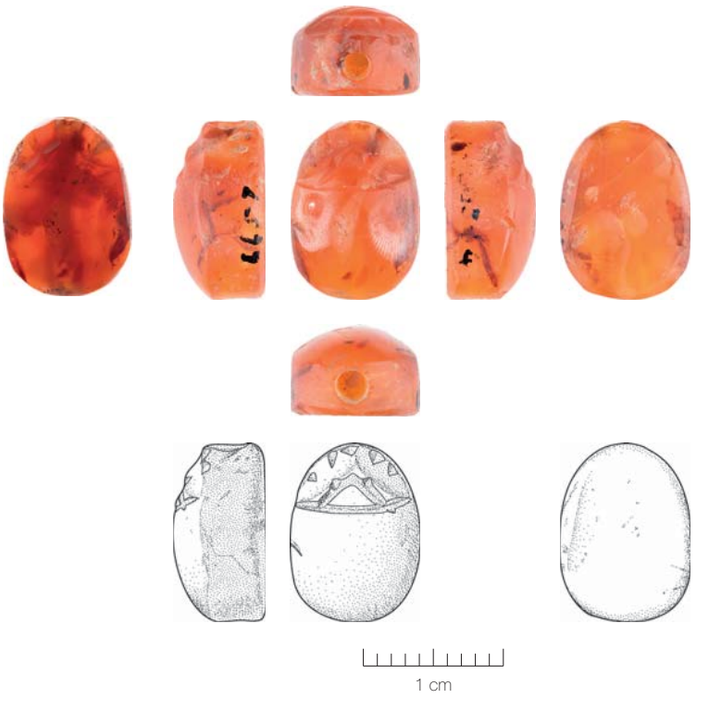
COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15425. BM/Big number: 160305.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6659.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

731



732



733 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 59/EP 1/Side 43 (Rowe). MATERIAL: rock crystal. PRESERVATION: complete. Back chipped, back, side, and base chipped off at rear of scarab, hairline crack in base. WEIGHT: 2.00 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone[?] (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4).

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.15426. BM/Big number: 160306.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6656.

① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

734 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e2[?] or e5[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 26+HC 57+HC 73/EP 1/Side 51 (Rowe). MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: light grey. PRESERVATION: complete. Back and sides slightly worn, base eroded, exposing perforation borings. WEIGHT: 0.41 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.3 mm (L) × 6.3 mm (W) × 3.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on tomb date.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16323.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Square V.4, Cave 6027 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 6658. Object numbering uncertain.

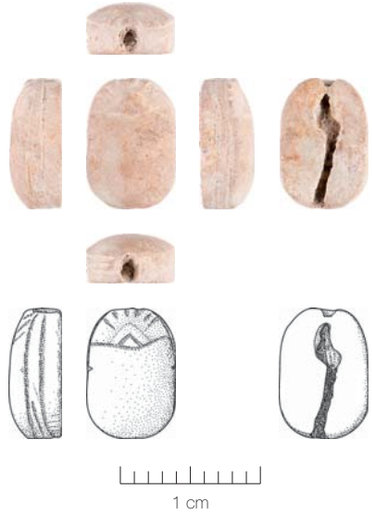
① See Lachish No. 352.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 48. *[TB]*

733



734



735 **OBJECT:** Cowroid[?] (Keel 1995: § 184–195). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: blue. Magrill 2006: 55 identifies the typology as a scaraboid and the material as faience. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn on lower half of the base, obscuring over half of the motif. WEIGHT: 0.55 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Remains of single-line border visible top right. Base heavily worn. Based on current state of preservation, the upper portion of the base comprises a central vertical line flanked by two upside-down U-shaped elements.

DISCUSSION: The design is extremely difficult to interpret due to wear. However, based on the preserved motif on the upper portion of the base, it might belong to Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" (see esp. Tufnell 1984: 125, Pl. 23:2004).

COMPARANDA: U. Zurkinden (pers. comm.) suggests a pattern similar to Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 13. If such a reconstruction is accepted, Lachish No. 694 (Side B) and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 223 (Side A) provide close motif comparanda.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); LB I–LB IIA (mid 16th–early 13th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda, typology and find context.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16518.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, Square C-D.9, Fosse Temple,[1] Room D. II[?],[2] Object no. 4161. Attribution to Room D.II based on order of registration number and Magrill 2006: 55.

① See Lachish No. 11. — ② See Lachish No. 12.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 55. *[NBM]*

736 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 1/Side 19[?] (Rowe), -/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. Possible traces of blue/grey glaze in incisions. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper left portion of the head has broken off, rendering typological classification difficult. WEIGHT: 1.71 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.1 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; the front perforation hole appears to have been drilled twice, which may have caused the break. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching, interior hatching and interior design (uraeus wings, figure's garment, detail on crown); linear. COATING: remains of greenish-black glaze (preserved best in the motif details on the base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. On the right, a kneeling, right-facing figure wears the *sḫmtj* (S5) double crown; the interior of the *dšrt* (S3) contains details that suggest the wrapping of fabric around the head. The figure holds his 'rear' arm crossed to his chest and appears to hold a flail; his linear 'front' arm and oval hand are curved by his knees. To the left of this figure, a right-facing falcon (rather than a winged uraeus) stretches out its wings. Below these figures is a horizontal *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The *sḫmtj* (S5) double crown and flail identify the figure on the right as the Egyptian king. The falcon spreading its wings suggests this is an act of divine protection.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for this motif include Achziv No. 117; Bet Guvrin No. 2; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 65.

DATING: Probably Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); less likely 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); Iron IIB dating based on close parallel Bet Guvrin No. 2.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16272. BM/Big number: 160536.

CONTEXT: "North-East Section", Object no. 7287.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 94. *[NBM]*

735



736



737 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 61/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe), A1/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey. Traces of glaze. PRESERVATION: broken. Lower portion of base has chipped away; surface worn. WEIGHT: 1.02 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with interior hatching and interior cross hatching (inside hieroglyphs); drilled (in hieroglyph).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Base divided into two horizontal registers by a simple single-line divider. In the top register, a vertical branch is flanked on each side by two sets of simple oblique lines angled inward to create a V-shape. Below are the following Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: right-facing *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), schematic *n* (N35), *rˁ* (N5), and a *p* (Q3), possibly a schematic double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a).

DISCUSSION: The Egyptian hieroglyphs form the divine name *Jmn-rˁ* Amun-Re.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda include Ashdod No. 62; Ashkelon No. 75; Beth Shemesh No. 69; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 95; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 447, 614, 616, 797, 910; Lachish No. 552–553. In all these, the top segment shows vertical lines, which gives the branch on this item a distinctive character.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16271. BM/Big number: 160586.

CONTEXT: "Palace-Fort Area", Square L.12, Object no. 7232. No further context information available.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 115. *[NBM]*

738 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Too worn to properly identify typologically relevant characteristics with confidence. MATERIAL: composite material, blue frit (Egyptian Blue)[?]. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: broken. Surface very worn, damaged in upper right of base. WEIGHT: 0.62 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. No border. Two vertical columns with Egyptian hieroglyphs, *nb* (V30) at the bottom. In the left column, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1). In the right column, encased in a cartouche, from top to bottom: a possible sign no longer preserved, the left and base portion of a *kꜣ* (D28), *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The left column reads *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. In the cartouche, a possible reading is [*ḫpr*]-*kꜣ-rˁ*, throne name of Senwosret I.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda from the southern Levant could be identified.

DATING: LB[?] (mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16509.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Residential area south of the "Palace-Fort"[?], Square J.15, Locus D/X,[1] Object no. 7277.

① Since the "Palace-Fort" substructure reaches into Square J.15, the item could theoretically have been found on its southern surface, but a provenance from the residential quarter south of it (the main built-up compound of Square J.15) seems more probable.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 116. *[NBM]*

737



738



739 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. A quarter of the upper right side of the base is broken. WEIGHT: 0.51 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.2 mm (L) × 7.8 mm (W) × 4.8 mm (H); 1.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Likely belongs to Keel's B-head group of scarabs produced locally during the MB II (Keel 2004). For a close typological parallel, see ʿEin Samiya No. 31.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. From top to bottom: the left side of a *wḏ3t* (D10), *ḫ ʿ(j)* (N28), another sign, unknown due to a break in the base.

DISCUSSION: This composition could be classified as Design Class 3C "Formulae" given the appearance of motifs similar to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 56:5 and 31, 83:22, 26, 84:26–27). The large width of the signs is similar to scarabs bearing the so-called *anra* script, wherein signs placed in a vertical column also extend the full width of the base (e.g., Tel Nagila No. 39).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest parallel is Lachish No. 832. For additional comparanda of seals with large signs arranged vertically on the base, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 726, 1124, 1207; Gezer No. 69; Jericho No. 415, 449, 471; Lachish No. 889; Megiddo No. 458; Tel Nagila No. 39.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on object typology and motif composition.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16510.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5360.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 121. *[NBM]*

740 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: pale grey. PRESERVATION: broken. Half of scarab broken off, crack bisecting remaining half of scarab, remaining back chipped, remaining rim of base chipped. WEIGHT: 0.61 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 7.7* mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. A single incised line forms the border around the engraving. The remaining half of the broken base depicts, from top to bottom: a papyrus plant with a central upright stem and one drooping stem to the left, on a *t3* (N16/N17) base. The original seal likely depicted the papyrus plant with two symmetrical drooping stems and a central upright stem (Keel 1995: § 432). Underneath the *t3* (N16/N17) are, from top to bottom: a right-facing *qnbt* (O38); an *m* (G17); and an *r* (D21). The outline of what appears to be a *nfr* (F35) with a single crossbar can be seen to the right of the *m* (G17) and the *r* (D21).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving can be classified as Design Class 1E "Floral motifs" and assigned to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 157–158, Pl. 74).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is known so far from the southern Levant. A similarly depicted papyrus plant can be seen on Lachish No. 409.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on Ben-Tor 2007: 157–158, Pl. 74.

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980,1214.16516.

CONTEXT: No context information available for this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 125. *[TB]*

739



740



741 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 220–224). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. Less than half of the object is preserved. WEIGHT: 0.63 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 5.6* mm (W) × 4.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A long vertical *ḥ* (V28) extending three-quarters of the length of the base, below which is a possible *nb* (V30) sign. Side B: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A *mn* (Y5) on the top left, to the right of which is an indistinguishable sign; the preserved portion appears to be a possible *n(j)t*/*nrt* (R24/R25) sign.

DISCUSSION: Regarding possible readings, on Side A one might speculate and supplement [*pt*]*ḥ n*[*b* X]. The state of Side B is too incomplete for possible reconstructions.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified due to the item's state of preservation.

DATING: Probably 19th?–20th? Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE).

COLLECTION: London; British Museum, WAA, Inv. No. 1980.12-14.16517.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. According to Magrill 2006: 127, this plaque is unprovenanced.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Magrill 2006: 127. *[NBM]*

742 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type C1? or C5? or D5?/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11?/EP 4/Side 26 (Rowe). Positive identification of head type not possible due to erosion. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.2 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design (details of body, fins, and gills). COATING: traces of reddish-brown glaze?. Traces of a red coloured pigment appears on the object; unclear whether this is glaze or the result of depositional processes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A large fish, facing right, with a lotus-bud extending downward from its mouth, wrapping back around to the left below the body. The fish has a large fan-shaped tail fin, as well as a long dorsal fin; on the underside of the body, two more fins appear: one long fin and a shorter fin by the tail.

DISCUSSION: The fish can be identified as a Nile tilapia (*Oreochromis niloticus*), which is also the hieroglyphic sign *jn* (K1). In his entry for Megiddo No. 662, B. Greet notes this fish has often been interpreted as a symbol of regeneration (e.g., by Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 110–111; Lalkin 2008) and may have served as a symbol related to Hathor (Schroer 1989: 188, 191; Pinch 1993: 287–288; Schroer 2011: No. 752–753). Support for an association with rebirth can be found in the lotus bud coming out of its mouth; on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 521, the lotus has been replaced with a uraeus—another symbol associated with regeneration and protection. Alternatively, in his paleographic study of the early alphabetic script, Hamilton argued the Nile tilapia was selected as the sign for West Semitic /d/ for *dag* ("fish") because it served as a symbol of produce from the Delta vs. the perch, which was associated with the south (Hamilton 2006: 316). As such, this sign may have specific significance for a Delta community and its local economy.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum for a right-facing tilapia with a single lotus bud extending downward is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 765. Ashkelon No. 15 is a right-facing tilapia but the lotus bud in its mouth extends above its body vs. below. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 258 also depicts a right-facing tilapia, however two lotus buds emerge from its mouth. Lachish No. 601 (bi-facial plaque); Megiddo No. 199, 662; and Lachish No. 513 similarly depict right-facing tilapia with possible lotus buds extending downward from their mouths but the design is not as clear. For depictions of a left-facing Nile tilapia, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 131; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 625; and Gezer No. 620.

DATING: Late 13th–early 18th Dyn. (1720–1425 BCE); MB III–LB I (early/mid 17th–early 14th c. BCE); while depictions of tilapia appear in combination with a vulture and crocodile on Lachish No. 381 dated to the MB II, tilapia depicted alone with lotus buds extending from their mouth become popular during the early 18th Dyn. (Boonstra 2019: 151–153).

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(136).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5644.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 155, Pl. 10:155. *[NBM]*

741



742



743 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 32/Side 26 or Side 27 (Rowe), A1/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior hatching (inside figures and *mr* or *nb* sign); linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. On the left is a seated, right-facing baboon above which is a right angle. In front of the baboon is a seated, right-facing anthropomorphic figure with a vertical *šw(t)* (H6) feather extending from the head. Both figures sit on either a large *nb* (V30) or a *mr(j)* (N36), extending the width of the base.

DISCUSSION: The seated baboon on the left is likely Thoth (*Ḏḥwty*), with the right angle in front of the figure's face interpreted as a the lunar symbol signifying this deity. The seated figure in front of the baboon can be identified as *mꜣʿt* (C10) given the feather extending from the figure's head and its seated position. Together, the seal might be read *Ḏḥwty nb mꜣʿt*, "Thoth, lord of truth". Alternatively, if the bottom sign is *mr(j)* (N36) rather than *nb* (V30), the formula might read *mꜣʿt mr(.t) Ḏḥwty* "Truth, beloved of Thoth" (or the other way round[?]).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. For depictions of a seated baboon and Maʿat above a *mr(j)* (N36), see Azekah No. 30 (rectangular piece) and Deir el-Balaḥ No. 68 (scarab). For depictions of Thoth with a *šw(t)* (H6) feather in front to indicate Maʿat, and both *mr(j)* (U6/U7) and *nb* (V30), see Tell Beit Mirsim No. 95 and Deir el-Balaḥ No. 68 (both with further comments on readings that may partly apply to the present item as well). For similar depictions of Thoth with Amun, see Beth Shean No. 95; Tel Ḥarasim No. 17; Megiddo No. 690; Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 23.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE) or somewhat earlier; dating based on comparanda. Lalkin 2008: 71 dates this seal to the reign of Ramesses II, however this seems too restrictive and thus a general date in the 19th Dyn. is preferred.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22016.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6098.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: 71, No. 332, Pl. 19:332. *[NBM]*

744 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 12/- (Rowe), A3/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). No photograph available for sides. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief (griffin's body, disc above its head).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base is a right-facing striding quadruped with a long upturned tail curved over its back and a pointed, falcon-like head with a large *rʿ* (N5) above it. In front of the figure is a series of quite distinctive hieroglyphs arranged in two virtual registers: above, a t-shaped *wsr* (F12) and schematic, squatting *mꜣʿt* (C10) facing right, directly above a smaller, *nb*-like *rʿ* (N5); below, a step-like *stp* (U21), to the left or possibly below of which might be an *n* (N35). Above the striding figure's back is a crescent-curved line connecting with the border, to be read as a *nb* (V30), and two parallel *tꜣ* (N16/N17) signs. Below the belly of the striding quadruped is an unidentifiable sign (a twig[?], similar to the earlier item Lachish No. 825).

DISCUSSION: The combination of falcon-like head and feline body suggests the central figure is a griffin, to be identified as a royal emblem. The hieroglyphs in front of the griffin can be read *Wsr-mꜣʿt-rʿ śtp-n-rʿ*—prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Ramesses II—followed by *nb tꜣwj*, the royal epithet "lord of the Two Lands.".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The overall composition is similar to depictions of the royal sphinx wearing the *šwtj* (S9) crown with *mꜣʿt* (C10) placed in front of the figure (e.g., Lachish No. 699 with parallels). Deir el-Balaḥ No. 131 is the closest parallel, however it depicts a sphinx wearing the *šwtj* (S9) crown instead of the griffin and the divine name of Amun-Re. Another close parallel in both typology and motif is Timnaʿ No. 5, but there is no inscription and instead of a seated *mꜣʿt* (C10) figure there is a large *šw(t)* (H6) and uraeus.

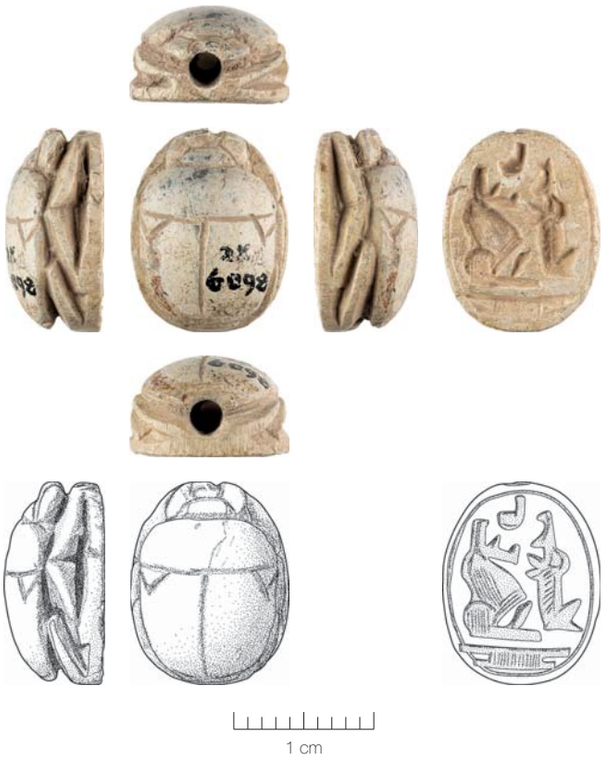
DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE); dating based on throne name and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5132/5129, 457/2").

CONTEXT: Object no. 7289. No context available for this object; site attribution follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card (K. Jaroš).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 349, Pl. 20:349. *[NBM]*

743



744



745 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8?/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe), D4/vlv/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Back slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (inside sphinx, winged uraeus, and seated figure).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large right-facing couchant zoomorphic figure, with a long torso and very long hind leg touching the border, wears the *sḫmtj* (S5) crown with uraeus and a ceremonial beard. In front, a seated right-facing anthropomorphic figure with a curved line extending from its knees and a vertical line extending from its head; behind, a uraeus with outstretched wings between which is a circle.

DISCUSSION: The figure in the centre can be identified as the royal sphinx based on beard, crown, and feline body (Keel 1995: § 544–547). The figure in front of the sphinx can be identified as *mꜣʿt* (C10) given the feather extending from the head and possible *ʾnḫ* (S34) extending from the figure's knees. The circle in between the wings of the uraeus can be identified as a stylized *šnw* (V9/V10). Together, the combination of motifs in the scene evokes protection of the king.

COMPARANDA: Exact parallels include: Beth Shemesh No. 115; Dothan No. 25; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 571; and Megiddo No. 535 (but note different object typology). Tel Ḥarasim No. 12 and Megiddo No. 323 are almost exact comparanda, except the figure in front of the sphinx is falcon-headed. Ashdod No. 34 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 494 are almost exact comparanda as well, however the winged uraeus does not hold a *šnw* (V9/V10).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256h.

CONTEXT: Object no. 1430. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows CSAPI index card. Note that six out of eight objects numbered between 1427 and 1438 were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 367, Pl. 21:367. *[NBM]*

746 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 27/- (Rowe), A3/I/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. Material identification not possible based on available photographs. Fired steatite is proposed based on material identification of known object and motif comparanda. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: No measurements are available for this object.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior hatching and interior design (in body of uraei).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Two virtual horizontal registers. In the top register, a bearded sphinx is laying down facing right; above its back is a large sun disc (*rʿ* [N5]). In the lower register, a cartouche is flanked by two addorsed cobras. In the cartouche, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1).

DISCUSSION: The name in the cartouche can be identified as *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III; for this arrangement, see Jaeger 1982: § 1186–1193 (type d).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant, but see Ekron No. 46; Tell Jemmeh No. 30 where the cartouche/oval is flanked by two *šw(t)* (H6); see also Amrit (Giveon 1985: 142–143, Nr. 17). For further sphinxes above the name *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ* in a cartouche, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 227. For depictions of a sphinx above a cartouche with the name *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, see Deir el-Balaḥ No. 5; Megiddo No. 281.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE) or somewhat later; dating based on the name of Thutmose III and object comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 1938-773. The ex-PAM (IDAM) no. is visible on a b/w print attached to the CSAPI index card; other b/w prints are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, 5090, B410").

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Areas 100–200, Locus D.100, Object no. 7260. A different number (6937, last digit uncertain) is inscribed on the back of the scarab.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 381, Pl. 21:381. *[NBM]*

745



746



747 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 12/Side 38 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping on base near upper perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. An anthropomorphic falcon-headed figure stands on a large *nb* (V30) and faces right; the figure's 'front' arm extends forward and turns into an erect cobra, below which is another smaller *nb* (V30). Above both the falcon-headed figure and the cobra are small crescents.

DISCUSSION: Depictions of falcon-headed figures with the 'front' arm extended outward terminating in an attached cobra first gain popularity during the MB III (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: 178–180, Pl. 103:14, 27, 31); however, the cobra often is facing toward the figure and a second, outward facing cobra extends from the kilt of the figure (e.g., Bethel No. 6). During the Ramesside period, the motif gains popularity again, and the falcon-headed figure is often depicted with a sun disc over its head, resulting in the common interpretation of this figure as Re (Schulman 1967: 143; Keel 1995: § 588).

COMPARANDA: The closest parallel for this object in both type and base motif is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 796, except that a sun disc appears above the heads of the figures instead of crescents. For similar depictions of a right-facing falcon-headed figure whose 'front' arm is connected to a cobra, see Deir el-Balaḥ No. 108; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 131–133, 149, 482, 487, 499, 589, 592, 594, 699, 755, 898; Lachish No. 35, 649.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on object typology and base motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. EG 6511 DX 6912. Not found in online catalogue.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6912.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 574, Pl. 33:574. *[NBM]*

748 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe), D4/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping around edges of the base. WEIGHT: 0.34 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 9.0 mm (L) × 6.4 mm (W) × 4.3 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. The base comprises five large Egyptian hieroglyphs. In the centre, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5), a large, deep-cut *mn* (Y5) extending the width of the base; a vertical *ḫpr* (L1) with mid-legs depicted. To the left of the *ḫpr* (L1) is a left-facing *nṯr* (R8); to the right is a *nfr* (F35) with a single, short crossbar.

DISCUSSION: The Egyptian hieroglyphs can be read as *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ nfr nṯr*, "Menkheperre, perfect god". This design and formula is common on seals bearing the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. However, this object is noteworthy as the *nfr* (F35) sign typically appears to the left of the *ḫpr* (L1), but here the two signs are reversed (they may have been copied from an impression). The motif belongs to Design Class 11A "Royal names" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For comparanda with *nfr* (F35) on the left and *nṯr* (R8) on the right, see Lachish No. 18, 456, 582; Tel Gerisa No. 17; Gezer No. 237, 364; Tel Ḥarasim No. 25; Megiddo No. 74. For this motif with two *nṯr* (R8) signs flanking the prenomen of Thutmose III, see Beth Shemesh No. 116; Dothan No. 5; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 746. From Egypt: Coffin 1 from the tomb of Maket at el-Lahun town/Kahun (Tufnell 1984: 110, Fig. 22:11).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda and Jaeger 1982: § 112 and § 1066–1075 with Ill. 374 and Lalkin 2008: 143.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 E.

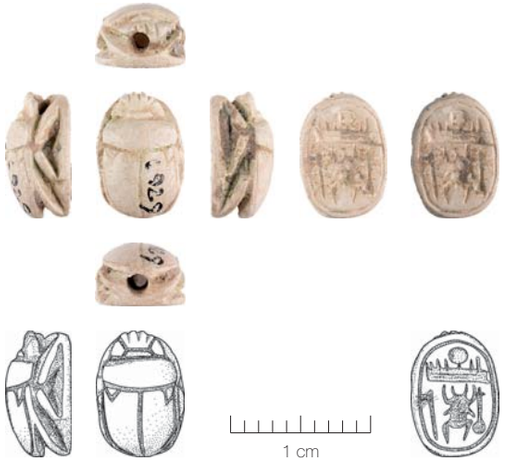
CONTEXT: Object no. 6929. No context information available for this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: No. 1089, Pl. 60:1089. *[NBM]*

747



748



749 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9? or HC 11?/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe), D4? or D5?/vlv/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. A small chip is missing from the right elytra. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief with cross hatching; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A *mr(j)* (N36) spanning the width of the base organises the design into two horizontal registers. In the top register, three anthropomorphic figures: in the centre, an anthropomorphic figure is seated facing right with its hand to its mouth; a sun disc with double uraei is above the head of this figure, who is thus characterized as a solar child god. To the right of this figure is another seated anthropomorphic figure with a falcon head, facing left and holding an *ꜥnḫ* (S34); above this figure is another, smaller sun disc. Behind the central figure is another seated anthropomorphic figure facing right; the figure wears a double plume *šwtj* (S9) crown and holds a *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre out toward the central figure, suggesting this is Amun. In the lower register, a series of Egyptian glyphs is arranged in three implied vertical columns, from right to left: *nb* (V30), right-facing *mꜣꜥt* (C10); *n* (N35), *ꜥ* (D36), *wjꜣ* (P3), *ṯꜣw* (P5), *qd* (Aa28), *t* (X1), single vertical stroke (Z1), *nṯr* (R8).

DISCUSSION: In the upper register, the combination of Amun holding a *wꜣs* (S40), the child god with solar disc (likely to be read as *rꜥ* [N5] and *rnpj*/*ḥrd* [A17], phonetic *mss*), and Re holding a schematic *ꜥnḫ* (S34), plus the *mr(j)* (N36) divider results in a reading of *Rꜥ-msw mrj Jmn*, birth name (i.e., nomen) of Ramesses II (Keel 1995: § 634, 664). In the lower register, Lalkin (following Drioton 1955b: 47) read *rdj ṯꜣw.(w) mrj sw nb* "who gives breath (of life) to everyone who loves him" (Lalkin 2008: 146; see Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 766). Based on close comparison with Ashdod No. 85 and its interpretation by Israeli 2013, Ch. Uehlinger (pers. comm.) suggests the following reading: right column, *nb* (V30) and *mꜣꜥt* (C10), "Lord of truth" (here to be read as a royal epithet for Ramesses II); central column, from top: *n* (N35) and *ꜥ* (D36) = *nꜥ* "as for", *wjꜣ* (P3) "(divine) bark", *ṯꜣw* (P5) "breath, wind"; left column: *qdt* (*qd* [Aa28] and *t* [X1]) "boat expedition", *nṯr* (R8). When combined, the central and left column can be read: *nꜥ qdt nṯr wjꜣ ṯꜣw*, "As for the god's bark travel, (may there be) wind".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this base engraving could be identified in the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Ashdod No. 85, with a slightly different formula in the bottom half. Jaeger 1982a: 203, Fig. 581 lists another comparandum with a winged sun disc and slightly different formula. For scarabs bearing a similar composition, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 464, 552, 556, 560, 575, 650, 674, 754, 791; Megiddo No. 540.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); Ramesses II (1279–1213 BCE); dating based on inscription and comparandum Ashdod No. 85.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1835.

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Object no. 4170. No context information available for this object. Note that object no. 4169 (Lachish No. 29) and other items numbered in the 4160s (Lachish No. 16, 735) were registered from the Fosse Temple.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Lalkin 2008: 146, No. 1151, Pl. 63:1151. *[NBM]*

750 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 38/EP 61/Side 30 (Rowe), G2/II/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: complete. Back cracked and splintered off in the area of the left elytra, back chipped near head of scarab, exposing perforation, sides slightly chipped, large crack running through top third of base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 2, 296 are amethyst scarabs with the most closely comparable head types to the present item. For a full list of comparanda see David 2019a, to which the following items can be added: es-Samuʿ No. 11, 13, 15; and two items from Sidon, one from Grave 102 (Loffet 2011–2012: 121–122, No. 20; Excavation No. S/4656/6037/SQ. 23) and another found elsewhere at the site of Sidon (Loffet 2011–2012: 126, No. 26; Excavation No. S/4218/5054/SQ. 42).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.671.

CONTEXT: No find context information available for this object (traces of ink inscription, possibly from the field, are almost illegible; Cave "4004"?).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: David 2019a: 74. *[TB]*

749



750



751 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 21[?]/EP 1/Side 49 (Rowe). Two angular horizontal lines mark the pronotum. David 2019a: 74 classifies this object as D8+FI/V/O/S/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light purple. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper right portion of the base has chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For similar schematic amethyst scarabs, see Lachish No. 750 and es-Samuʿ No. 15.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1936-1616.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Areas 100–200, Locus D.100, Object no. 2335. According to David 2019a: 74, this object belongs to Locus "D 10 D" dated to the LB II.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: David 2019a: 74. *[NBM]*

752 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38 or HC 71/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). David 2019a: 74 classifies this object as D8+FI/-/O/?/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light pink. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 1.40 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.1 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.4 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting reveals that the perforation was drilled from both sides. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For amethyst scarabs with a similar head type, see Tel Abel Beth Maacah No. 5; Lachish No. 296–297, 310, 682, 730, 754, 840; Megiddo No. 132, 453, 569, 645–646; es-Samuʿ No. 15; Shiqmona No. 21. Additional non-amethyst parallels for this object can be found in other semi-precious stones such as carnelian (Lachish No. 3, 731), quartz (Lachish No. 684–685), rock crystal (Lachish No. 937), and green jasper (Lachish No. 756). See comments on Lachish No. 3 regarding possible overlap between groups of semi-precious stone scarabs.

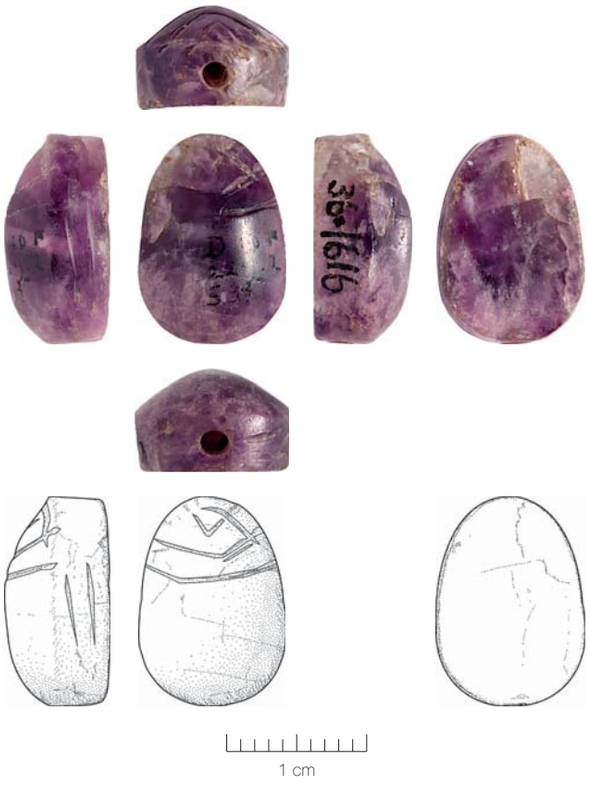
DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.19.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. No clear context information available for this object except for the number on its base, which reads "D179 T.50". Note that David 2019a: 74 lists "? (tomb) MB IIB" in her publication of this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: David 2019a: 74. *[NBM]*

751



752



753 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). David 2019a: 74 classifies this object as D8+FI/-/O/?/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: light pink. PRESERVATION: intact. WEIGHT: 2.34 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 16.4 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); the translucency of the seal allows for the meeting of the separately drilled perforations in the centre of the seal to be seen from the base. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 681, 838, 841 are close typological parallels in amethyst. For non-amethyst scarabs of the same typological classification for the head and back, see Gibeon No. 35 (green jasper), Kafr Som No. 1 (greenschist facies), but note the sides are different and the bases are engraved.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.18.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. No context information available for this object. Attribution to Lachish is based on David 2019a: 74, who lists "? (tomb) MB IIB" in her publication of this object and wherein this scarab appears alongside Lachish No. 752, which has "D179 T.50" written on it. The present item similarly had a field number written on its base, which has faded and can hardly be read anymore beyond traces of "D" (= Duweir) and (possibly) "743".

BIBLIOGRAPHY: David 2019a: 74. *[NBM]*

754 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e7[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38 or HC 71/EP 1/Side 62[?] (Rowe). Photographs are of the scarab mounted; the mount obscures the sides of the scarab preventing a more secure typological identification. David 2019a: 74 classifies this object as D8+FI/V/O/S/O. MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For amethyst scarabs with a similar head type, see Tel Abel Beth Maacah No. 5; Lachish No. 296–297, 310, 682, 730, 752, 840; Megiddo No. 132, 453, 569, 645–646; es-Samuʿ No. 15; Shiqmona No. 21. Additional non-amethyst parallels for this object can be found in other semi-precious stones such as carnelian (Lachish No. 3, 731), quartz (Lachish No. 684–685), rock crystal (Lachish No. 937), and green jasper (Lachish No. 756). See comments in Lachish No. 3 regarding possible overlap between groups of semi-precious stone scarabs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256b.

CONTEXT: Object no. 6508. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish based on Liverpool Museum object registration information and David 2019a: 74. Note that object numbers 6505 and 6507 (Lachish No. 317–318) are MB II–III scarabs from Area 6000, Square U.4, Cave 6002 (MB III, 17th–mid 16th c. BCE).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: David 2019a: 74. *[NBM]*

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755 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: quartz, rock crystal[?]. COLOUR: pinkish-light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 0.71 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 10.6 mm (L) × 7.8 mm (W) × 5.4 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation [front]); 2.0 mm (D, perforation [rear]).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting in photographs reveals the perforation holes were drilled from both sides to connect slightly off-centre. Remarks: High side profile with extensive bilateral sloping on back of scarab; similar to other quartz scarabs. Uninscribed quartz scarabs with schematic typological features are attributed by David to her (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, said to have been produced locally in the southern Levant (David 2019a). Lumps of rock crystal are reported to have been excavated from Lachish, leading A. David to suggest they may have been for the production of scarabs or beads on site (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433, n. 84).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For comparanda of other quartz scarabs from the site, see Lachish No. 4, 685, 725–727, 733, 937. See also Ḥorvat Zelef No. 3.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on find context and other contemporary rock crystal scarabs.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.12.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 751.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

756 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: dark green. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.96 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For similar uninscribed scarabs of this colour and/or material, see Lachish No. 351, 720, 758, 786–787, 836, 912; Reḥov No. 48; Taanach No. 20.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on find context and other contemporary parallels of quartz scarabs.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 56.152.13.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square C.6, Tomb 129 (MB II–MB III, 18th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 752.

① See Lachish No. 319.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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756



757 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5[?]/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11[?]/EP 1/Side 62[?] (Rowe). According to the typology for uninscribed amethyst scarabs developed by David 2019a: 64, this object could be classified as D5+FI/-/O/S/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: purple. Transparent. PRESERVATION: intact. A small piece of the base has chipped off near the front perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 13.9 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); difference in perforation hole diameters and photograph with backlighting suggest the rear perforation is a long cone that meets another cone at the start of the break in the base (creating the double cone type). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. Remarks: This object was not included by David 2019a in her publication, although it meets the criteria.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close typological comparanda made of amethyst include Lachish No. 435 and Megiddo No. 671. Lachish No. 839 is also similar but possibly made of quartz or obsidian. For other close comparanda but with inscribed bases, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 703 and Beth Shean No. 4.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(145).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5781. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. (ranging the item between Lachish No. 682 and Lachish No. 683) suggests a provenance from Cave 4004.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

758 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4 or less likely D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?] or HC 39[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). Based on photographs, the head type cannot be determined with certainty. According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as either D4+FI/-/O/O/O or D8+FI/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: quartz[?] or jasper[?]. COLOUR: black. Similar in luster and typology to other uninscribed hard stone scarabs, but proper material identification is not possible based on photographic documentation alone. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include Lachish No. 756, 836.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); less likely late 12th–13th[?] Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on contemporary comparanda for other hard stone scarabs.

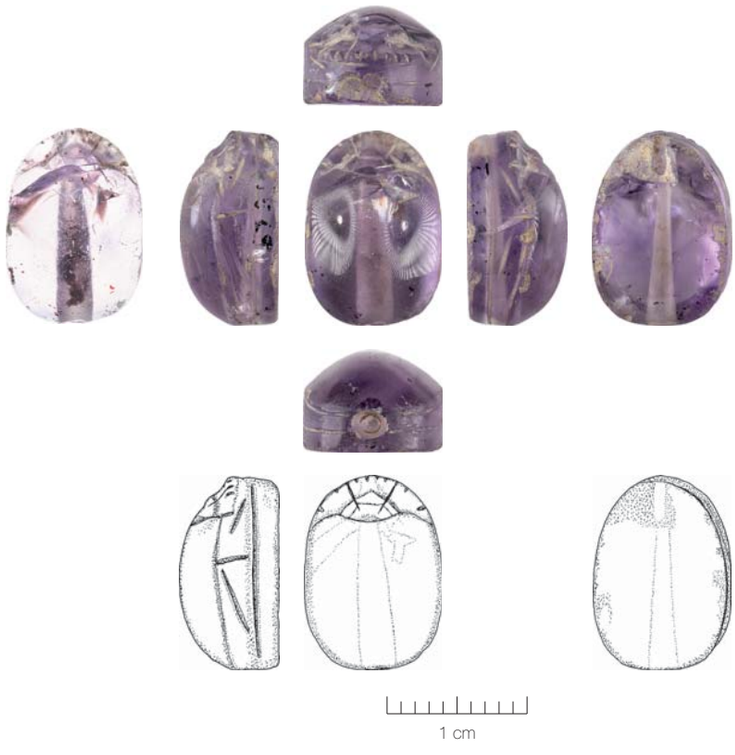
COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(150).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5789.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

757



758



759 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6? or more likely D9?/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping on elytra. WEIGHT: 3.02 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 19.1 mm (L) × 13.3 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (hair and kilt).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Twisted rope border. A kneeling anthropomorphic figure faces right; the 'front' arm extends outward to grasp a branch while the 'rear' arm is placed straight by the side. The figure has shoulder-length hair, a triangular top with no design, and a long kilt that appears to terminate at the knee decorated with diagonal lines. A smaller branch appears to the right of the figure's face. A diagonal line extending right from the figure's waist to meet the border might represent the tail of an uraeus, with its body facing outward below the figure's hand.

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is classified as Design Classes 8A "Rope border, twisted" and 10C1 "Kneeling figures, human headed" (Tufnell 1984: 131, 136–138, Pl. 34–35, 46–47). The overall composition may be a local version of Egyptian Middle Kingdom funerary depictions of the deceased holding a lotus flower to their nose in their 'front' hand (e.g., Baligh 2008: 170, Fig. 1). Indeed, Stela JE 39069 from Abydos, dated to the 13th Dyn., depicts kneeling figures holding flowers in front of their faces (e.g., Baligh 2008: 175, Fig. 2) in an almost identical composition to such depictions on locally produced scarabs from the southern Levant (e.g., Lachish No. 608). For this item, however, the presence of a branch vs. lotus suggests a localized version of the motif (Keel 1995: § 561), possibly symbolizing the "branch goddess" (Schroer 1987a). Keel suggested the significance of this motif may be tied to cult participation and the possible worship of a deity, noting figures holding branches appear in such processions in West Asian art of the third millennium BCE (Keel 1990a: 173–174). However, the close connection to such depictions on funerary stela in Egypt during the late Middle Kingdom, paired with the presence of such seals in tombs, suggests the motif may have served a similar role in the regeneration of the individual in local funerary practice. According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif appears on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series and becomes more popular on seals assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 63:20–26, 104:17–40).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 664 and Lachish No. 521, which both depict a right-facing anthropomorphic kneeling figure with long hair holding a branch, encircled by a rope border. Other close comparanda include similar kneeling, right-facing anthropomorphic figures holding a branch with such a border: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 101, 273; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 117; Pella No. 27. Such depictions of the kneeling figure kneeling on a *nb* (V30) appear on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 156, 624; Tel Ḥalif No. 12; Jericho No. 356; Lachish No. 308; Megiddo No. 398, 433.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 C.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1427.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

760 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). A division of the suture occurs near the bottom perforation hole, which explains why it is hardly visible in the photographs and drawings from above. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Chipping on the left of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with interior design (interior of cobras to indicate scales).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A horizontal *dšrt* (S3) at the top and a *wḏ͗t* (D10) at the bottom enclose a sequence of four signs or motifs, from left to right: a short *ʿnḫ* (S34) or upside down *nfr* (F35), two erect cobras (*jʿrt* [I12]) facing inward toward each other with interior decoration to indicate scales, and a long *ʿnḫ* (S34). The four signs are probably meant to be symmetrically arranged, and the horizontal *dšrt* (S3) at the top and the *wḏ͗t* (D10) at the bottom suggest a point-symmetrical inversion. This attempt at both symmetry/inversion and variation may explain why the left uraeus was somewhat awkwardly executed (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.).

DISCUSSION: This base engraving is a combination of Design Classes 3B1c "Symmetric patterns, cobras confronted" (Tufnell 1984: 118, Pl. 10) and an amalgam of 3B3e "Red crowns, *tête-bêche*" (Tufnell 1984: 120, Pl. 13:1584) and 3B4 "Horus eyes" (Tufnell 1984: 120, Pl. 13). Depictions of similar confronted cobras appear on Egyptian scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom based on seal impressions from el-Lahun and Uronarti (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 5:246–247; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 8:2–3) and Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: Fig. 103:202; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 8:8), and continue on seals attributed by Ben-Tor to both her Early Palestinian Series (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 53:16) and Late Palestinian Series, where they are in compositions flanked by red crowns in *tête-bêche* position (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 78:44).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 407 is the closest comparandum, depicting two similar confronted cobras flanked by two *dšrt* (S3) in *tête-bêche* position (this seal is attributed by Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 78:44 to her Late Palestinian Series). For other depictions of confronted cobras and red crowns, see Jericho No. 265 (attributed by Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 53:15 to her Early Palestinian Series). For a composition containing an *ʿnḫ* (S34), cobra *jʿrt* (I12), and right-facing and *wḏ͗t* (D10) in the lowest register, see Jericho No. 204, 413. For a *wḏ͗t* (D10) in the lowest register and a *jʿrt* (I12) facing a *kꜣ* (D28) and a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign, see Rishon LeZion No. 84 (attributed by Ben-Tor 2018a: 590–591, Fig. 10.25: No. 84 to her Early Palestinian Series).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22015.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1428.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

759



760



761 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 61/- (Rowe), D4/II/- (Tufnell/Keel). Two lines mark the pronotum. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Material identification based only on photograph and comparanda. PRESERVATION: complete. Possible chipping on top left side of object (when seen from above); base is worn. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.4 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A striding quadruped shown in profile faces right with its mouth slightly open, head pointed on top, and tail turned upward. Internal engraving details appear on the side of the animal's face to perhaps indicate a mane, as well as two lines on the torso of the animal's body near the hind legs. Above the figure, two parallel lines extend down from the top of the base at an angle. In front of the animal, a curvilinear line.

DISCUSSION: The figure can be identified as a lion based on the detailed mane, upturned tail, and pointed head that can be interpreted as an ear. The motif in front of the lion is likely a schematic *ḫpš* (T16) based on similar depictions (e.g., Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79, Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 660, Tel Gerisa No. 33). It is unclear what the two vertical lines above the animal's back are meant to indicate, however various signs appear above similarly depicted lions (e.g., Lachish No. 821). When taken together, the depiction likely represents a royal emblem of the Egyptian king, who is known to wield a *ḫpš* (T16) during the Ramesside period to symbolize his military prowess. The seal design is likely part of the Ramesside production trend to incorporate motifs and engraving styles from Middle Bronze Age seals (Ben-Tor 2017).

COMPARANDA: For similar depictions of striding lions, see Ashkelon No. 212; Beth Shemesh No. 153; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 490, 601, 660, 734, 799–800; Lachish No. 783, 810, 821.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Object no. 1433. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note that six out of eight objects numbered between 1427 and 1438 were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

762 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 72[?]/EP 45/Side 19 (Rowe), D8[?]/II/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. A small portion of the lower left side of the base has chipped away, obscuring part of the two vertical strokes. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior cross hatching (*j*, *mn*, *nb*). COATING: traces of blueish-green glaze[?] (located along the base, left legs, and back left side of elytra). It is unclear whether the remnants of colour on the object is the product of glaze or of the firing process.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single line border. Egyptian hieroglyphs, to be read from right to left: right-facing *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *rʿ* (N5), double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a), and a vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: When read together, these signs can be interpreted as *Jmn-rʿ nb*, or "Amun-Re is (my) lord." According to Keel, stamp seals with the name Amun-Re first appear during the New Kingdom from the 18th through 20th Dyn.; during the 19th Dyn. the name Amun-Re is written with a *nb* (V30) sign (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: Beth Shemesh No. 9, 19 are exact parallels. For other close comparanda where the *rʿ* (N5) is placed to the left of the vertical strokes, see Acco No. 269; Aphek No. 23; Beth Shean No. 42; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 19, 51. See further Megiddo No. 10, 554, and Beth Shemesh No. 127, which have the *nb* (V30) carved in linear engraving. Typologically, this seal is almost identical to Lachish No. 764, which also bears the name Amun-Re but with two addorsed *šw(t)* (H6) feathers.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and the inclusion of a vertical *nb* (V30), which is a 19th Dyn. characteristic of this specific religious formula (Keel 1995: § 642).

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256j.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 1435.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

761



762



763 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 63/EP 32/- (Rowe), D4/vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (interior of king's body).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. On the left side, an anthropomorphic figure in a striding position faces right above a baseline which, together with the border, creates a rather thin *nb* (V30); the figure wears the *ḫprš* (S7), or Egyptian "blue crown", with a tassel hanging down the back, as well as a triangular kilt with a *mnḫt* (S27) extending down, indicating this figure is the Egyptian king. A large, linear t-shaped motif appears behind this figure. The striding figure's 'rear' arm is raised overhead in a smiting gesture, while the 'front' arm is outstretched to grab the head of a kneeling anthropomorphic figure, who faces left with upraised arms—a sign of defence well-known from monuments. Above the kneeling figure are two schematic motifs: a horizontal line below which is another horizontal line with a vertical line extending upward.

DISCUSSION: The overall scene depicts the 'king smiting an enemy' motif (Schroer 2011: 39–40). The t-shaped motif probably derives from the *wsr* (F12) glyph (as attested on several comparanda).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant, but many variants. The closest comparanda are Tell Beit Mirsim No. 11; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 652, 936; Megiddo No. 64. Additional comparanda include: Lachish No. 673; Tel Masos No. 1; Megiddo No. 14; Tel Ridan No. 4.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 716/7").

CONTEXT: Object no. 3052. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note that six out of seven objects numbered between 3051 and 3058 were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

764 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 72/EP 27/Side 17 or Side 19 (Rowe), D8[?] or less likely B2/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior hatching (within the two feathers).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. From left to right, the following Egyptian hieroglyphs appear: left-facing *šw(t)* (H6), *mn* (Y5), stylized *n* (N35), double vertical strokes/dual marker (Z4a), *rʿ* (N5), right-facing *šw(t)* (H6).

DISCUSSION: The signs can be read *Jmn-rʿ*, or Amun-Re from either direction. According to Keel, stamp seals with the name Amun-Re first appear during the New Kingdom from the 18th through 20th Dyn. (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close motif comparanda include: Acco No. 228; Aphek No. 45; Ashkelon No. 106; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 40, 60, 136; Gat Karmel No. 7.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1395, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3054.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

765 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Base slightly damaged obscuring part of central cable. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Object belongs to Mlinar's Type IIIa scarab of the early workshop at Tell el-Dabʿa (Mlinar 2004; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 30:9–16).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous, here represented vertically. What looks like a double- or even triple-line border is a slightly more complicated design, from which only the external single line is detached as an actual border. A double-line pattern runs parallel to the border before crossing the sealing surface in a twisting, guilloche-like movement. On each of the narrow ends of the base, a squarish knot is formed by two intertwining loops.

DISCUSSION: This motif belong's to Tufnell's Design Class 6C3 "Encompassed coils, central cable" (Tufnell 1984: 127, Pl. 27). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif appears on late Middle Kingdom Egyptian scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: 26, Pl. 15:8).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda are a scarab from Stratum G-F at Tell el-Dabʿa (Mlinar 2001a II: 103, TD 105) and a seal impression from Uronarti (Reisner 1955: Fig. 17:452; Mlinar 2001a II: 14, Abb. K 11, Uronarti 452).

DATING: 13th Dyn. (1760–1630 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.674.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3056.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

763



764



765



766 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 35/- (Rowe), D4/vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: unknown. PRESERVATION: intact. The state of condition for the sides and base is unknown. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Based on photograph.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded.

BASE: No image of the base is available.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on typological comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. A b/w print in the CSAPI archive is based on a negative presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 716/7").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3057.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

767 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 27/- (Rowe), -/I/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material, faience?. Material assigned based on the item's attribution to the Beth Shean Level IX group. PRESERVATION: broken. Bottom right portion of the base has chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; moulded. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Beth Shean Level IX group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. From top to bottom, the following Egyptian hieroglyphs appear: inverted *nb* (V30), left-facing *j* (M17), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), *rˁ* (N5), possible *p* (Q3) or stylized single vertical stroke (Z1), *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: With the *nb* (V30), the signs spell *Jmn-rˁ nb*, "Amun-Re (is my) lord" (Keel 1995: § 642).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda include Deir el-Balaḥ No. 133; Dothan No. 29; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 145, 701; Gezer No. 621; Lachish No. 551, 630, 656. For seals with the name Amun in the Beth Shean Level IX group, see Beth Shean No. 130, 141, 144 and possibly Beth Shemesh No. 160.

DATING: LB I–LB IIA (mid 16th–early 13th c. BCE); 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on comparanda for motif and chronological range of Beth Shean Level IX group.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. Probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, the item cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 716/7").

CONTEXT: Object no. 3059(a?). No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note, however, that the CSAPI index card lists the same object number for the present item and for Lachish No. 768.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

768 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/II+vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite?. PRESERVATION: broken. Lower right portion of base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: The presence of humeral callosities starts with the royal name scarabs of the Hyksos king Apepi/Apophis and becomes frequent during the New Kingdom (Tufnell 1984: 36, 106; Keel 1995: § 99; Ben-Tor 2007: 109, Pl. 47:15). Their placement close to the medial suture on the present item is noteworthy, as they tend to appear on the outer portion of the elytra. However, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 273 provides a close parallel dated to the 15th or early 18th Dyn.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple, single-line border. Right-facing, striding anthropomorphic figure shown in profile with linear eye, mouth, short hair and triangular ear. The figure extends their 'front' arm out to grasp a flower, while the 'rear' arm is bent with hand on the waist. The figure is bare-chested with two lines on the waist indicating a possible belt, below which three vertical lines extend down to the figure's thighs where two sets of horizontal lines indicate the termination of a short kilt; note however that this item of clothing also resembles a pair of shorts. In front of the figure's 'front' leg is a left-facing uraeus; behind the figure is an *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: This motif can be classified as Design Class 10A1b "Standing, human-headed figure holding flower" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 42). While right-facing standing figures occur first during the late Middle Kingdom on private name scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 20:1–6), according to Ben-Tor's typology, this motif also appears on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series and becomes popular on seals of the Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 63:1–14, Pl. 102–103).

COMPARANDA: A close comparandum is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 434. For another close comparandum of this figure with the open floral element and *ʿnḫ* (S34), but a branch in front, see a seal from Buhen (Mlinar 2001a: II, 552, Abb. K 309: Buhen 27). Other close parallels include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 16, 27, 49, 86, 112, 359, 600, 616, 745; ʿAra No. 12; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 52; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 436, 438; Gezer No. 183, 345; Jerusalem No. 18; Lachish No. 514. For a depiction of the motif of a different style but on this type of seal, see Tel Nagila No. 49.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on the typology of the seal, which was popular in the MB II (Keel 2004: 98), and the comparanda for the base motif, which Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 63:1–14, Pl. 102–103 classifies as both part of her Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series. The presence of humeral callosities suggests a date in the MB III, as this feature appears on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 273 and on the royal name scarabs of the Hyksos king Apepi/Apophis and becomes frequent during the New Kingdom (Tufnell 1984: 36, 106; Keel 1995: § 99; Ben-Tor 2007: 109, Pl. 47:15).

766



1 cm

767



1 cm

768



1 cm

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 716/7").

CONTEXT: Object no. 3059(b?). No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note, however, that the CSAPI index card lists the same object number for the present item and for Lachish No. 767.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

769 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Lower right and left edges of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 18.4 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H); 2.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and cross hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A right-facing quadruped with a possible falcon head and upturned tail squatting in the centre of the base; around the head, vertical linear decoration to indicate feathers with cross-hatching on the body. In front of the figure, an inward facing erect cobra *jʿrt* (I12) with internal hatching to indicate scales; behind the quadruped, connected to the tail, a large rhomboid with internal cross hatching represents another cobra turned out- or upward.

DISCUSSION: Identification as a falcon-headed sphinx seems preferable over both a human-headed sphinx or a lion as the figure lacks facial features and there is a sharp curve protruding from the figure's face suggesting a beak.This base engraving thus belongs to Design Class 9F "Heraldic beasts" (Tufnell 1984: 134, Pl. 41:2652–2655) and Design Class 9F2c "Falcon-headed sphinx" (Keel 1995: § 549–550). The falcon-headed sphinx is always accompanied by two uraei (Keel 1995: § 328–329), and thus it is likely that the rhomboid-like motif above the sphinx is a schematic uraeus. Ben-Tor assigns both this style of engraving and falcon-headed sphinx to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 178, Pl. 102:2, 4).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For similar depictions of a right-facing falcon-headed sphinx flanked by erect cobras, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 960; Megiddo No. 479; Pella No. 51. For left-facing depictions, see Megiddo No. 190; Pella No. 28.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and style of engraving.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. EG 6509.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3061.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

770 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite?. Material identification based only on photographs and comparanda. PRESERVATION: broken. Over half of object is missing. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 10.0* mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Rope border. Based on the preserved portion (roughly half) of the base, two vertical columns of Egyptian hieroglyphs are divided by a shrine facade, above which a possible cartouche encases. In the central column, from top to bottom: a broken oval, possibly an *r* (D21), *mn* (Y5) or *anra*-style *n* (N35); a chipped sign, *r* (D21), *mn* (Y5) or *anra*-style *n* (N35). In the right column, a broken sign, *nfr* (F35); the remainder is too damaged for identification.

DISCUSSION: From an Egyptian scribal perspective, this inscription does not provide any sensical reading. The composition can be attributed to Design Class 3C "Formulae", 3E5 "Panels, shrine", and 8B "Rope border, barred strand" (Tufnell 1984: 121–123, 131, Pl. 16, 35). Ben-Tor attributes this style of shrine divider in combination with *anra* signs to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 56: esp. 45); the 'shrine' continues on seals she attributes to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 86:26–28).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For comparanda containing a façade or 'shrine' divider in combination with either hieroglyphs or *anra* signs, see ʿAra No. 15; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 911; Jericho No. 152, 226, 241, 377; Megiddo No. 120, 411; Tel Nagila No. 48; Pella No. 35; Rishon LeZion No. 41; Yiftaḥel No. 2.

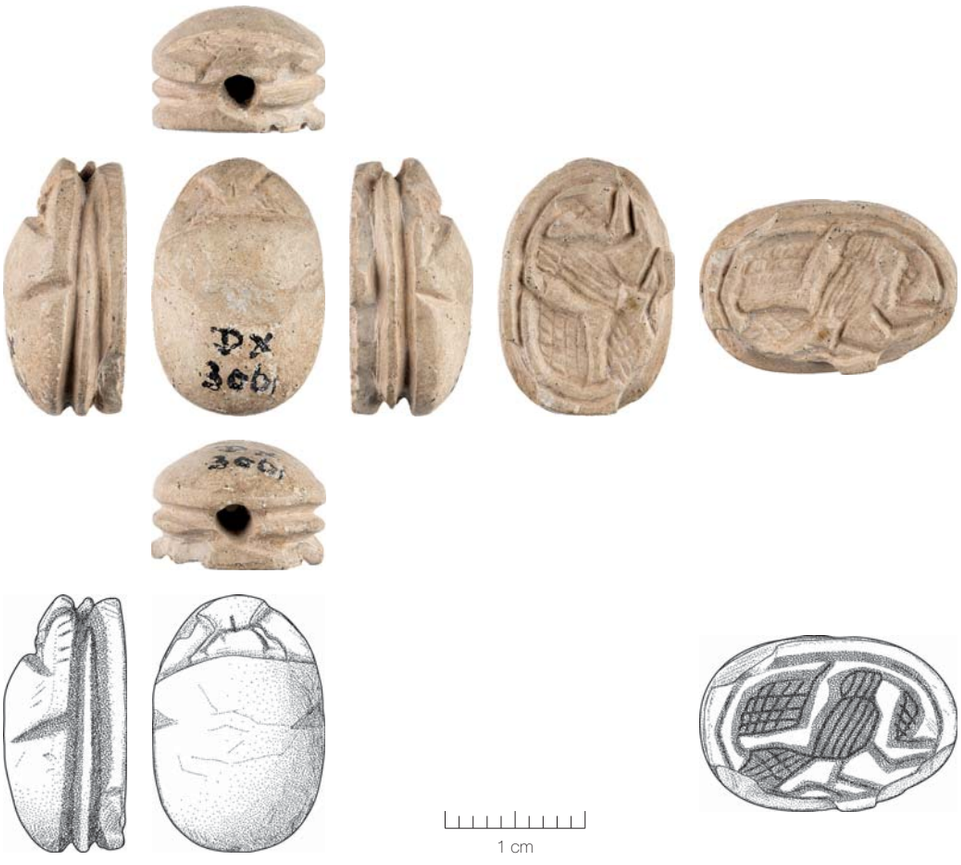
DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on stylistic dating and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 716/7").

CONTEXT: Object no. 3063. No context information available for this object; assignation to Lachish is based on CSAPI index card. Note that six among eight objects numbered 3060 through 3068 were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

769



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771 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/-/e11[?] (Tufnell/Keel), -/-/Side 49[?] (Rowe). Given the state of preservation, no distinct features remain for typological classification aside from preserved sections of the legs on one side. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: yellow (body), yellowish-beige (surface), green (body, veins). Identification of material based on photographs alone. PRESERVATION: broken. Heavily damaged; less than half of the original object remains. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0* mm (L) × 6.2* mm (W) × 5.9* mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; although the object is broken, remnants of a perforation hole indicate it was drilled lengthwise. ENGRAVING: thin linear (side of object).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: It is unclear whether this object was originally engraved due to its bad state of preservation.

COMPARANDA: State of preservation does not allow for the identification of comparanda.

DATING: Unknown; no date range can be provided for this item without a secure context, iconographic comparanda, or proper material identification.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.242.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish is based on the grouping of this object by Liverpool Museum with other material from the site.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

772 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1/I/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 59/EP 27/- (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold[?]. MATERIAL: carnelian[?] or jasper[?], quartz. Proper material identification is not possible based on the available photographic evidence. However, the typology of the seal, paired with the mounting type, and the base design suggest this object was made of a hard stone. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: shallow linear (base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Shallow lines extend from the top, sides, and bottom of the base.

DISCUSSION: Carnelian scarabs of a similar typological classification tend to be decorated with a clear +, x, or six-pointed star motif (Boschloos 2012: 5 and Fig. 2). However, the lack of coherent design on this object raises the possibility that the linear markings are the product of some unknown practice that held significance during the production process or as part of use.

COMPARANDA: For a similar base design, see Tel Gerisa No. 5. Similarly, see Beth Shean No. 229 although note the linear markings are engraved much deeper into the base. For typological parallels suggesting this object is a carnelian seal, see Ashdod No. 59; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1208; Beth Shemesh No. 143, 209; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 20; Dothan No. 32; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 900; Lachish No. 3, 731; Rishon LeZion No. 131. For a similar design on a one-piece finger ring, see Deir el-Balaḥ No. 22.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); 15th–20th Dyn. (1675–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda and their find contexts.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, TD. 1067").

CONTEXT: Object no. 3728. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note that objects numbered 3727 and 3729 (Lachish No. 626, 714, respectively) were registered from pits in Area 500, Square A.25.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

773 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2 or D4/0/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 8 or HC 67/EP 5/- (Rowe). Material identification not possible based on available photographs. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear (base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Possible single-line border preserved in upper right and along the left side of the base. Although there seem to be traces of a rather complex base design, it is too worn to identify any coherent motifs, with the exception of a *nb* (V30) at the bottom of the base.

COMPARANDA: No exact comparanda can be identified given the condition of this object.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE) or later; dating based on comparanda for object typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1073").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Object no. 4086. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

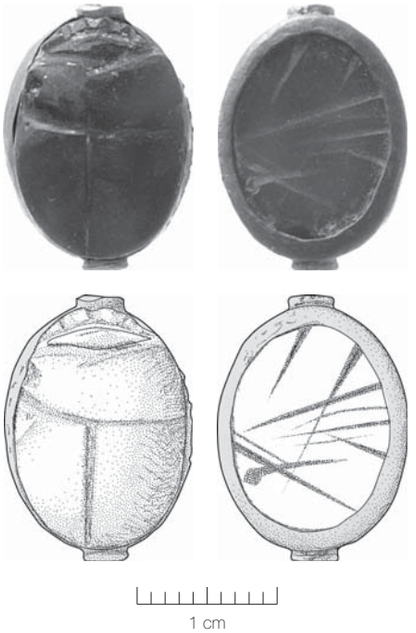
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

771



1 cm

772



1 cm

773



1 cm

774 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 25 or less likely HC 32/EP 5/- (Rowe). MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold[?] or bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Material identification based on comparanda for seals of this type, almost all of which are steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Simple single-line border. Two addorsed C-spirals turned outwards on either side of a central Z-spiral.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Tufnell's Design Class 2A "Scrolls and spirals, unlinked" (Tufnell 1984: 116) and Ben-Tor's Design Class 2A for Egyptian Second Intermediate Period scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: 74, Pl. 32:23).

COMPARANDA: The closest parallels are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 905 and a scarab from Aniba (Steindorff 1935: Pl. 31:21; Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 32:23).

DATING: Late 13th–15th Dyn. (1720–1540 BCE); dating based on comparanda of motif and seal typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1073").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Object no. 4087. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

775 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24[?] or HC 32[?]/EP 27/- (Rowe), B2[?] or D8[?]/I/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Material identification based only on photographs. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with hatching (torso of figures).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. No border line. Two zoomorphic figures stand facing each other with outstretched arms, holding onto a tall trident-shaped central icon with notches in the centre of the base. Each figure comprises a thick upper body with internal hatching, two long thin linear, slightly bent legs, and a long line extending from its back indicating a tail. The face of the figure on the right contains two small protrusions indicating an open mouth. The trident-shaped central icon in between these figures is a stylized tree, which comprises a rectangular block at its base from which a long vertical line extends upward, terminating in three notched prongs.

DISCUSSION: The base can be interpreted as two monkeys flanking a stylized palm tree. Such depictions are known on scarabs attributed to the so-called Early Iron Age Mass-produced Series (e.g., Beth Shean No. 192). See Megiddo No. 286 for a discussion on the significance of this motif.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Megiddo No. 286, although the monkeys there do not hold onto the tree, but see Acco No. 203 and Achziv No. 212. Further comparanda include Acco No. 202, 204, 296; Beth Shean No. 192; Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 17.

DATING: 21st–early 22nd Dyn. (1076–874 BCE); Iron I–Early Iron IIA (late 12th–end of 10th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1073").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Object no. 4089. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

776 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: limestone[?]. COLOUR: brownish. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 12.9 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: shallow linear; flat sunk relief[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. No border. Very shallow depiction of a right-facing, probably bearded anthropomorphic figure wearing a rectangular (or slightly rounded[?]) headdress and a long triangular kilt. The figure raises their 'rear' arm, which grasps a line indicating a sword or spear; the 'front' arm extends forward to grab a zoomorphic figure, who is stanced vertically facing left. The zoomorphic opponent appears to be a quadruped, with its two front limbs extending out to touch the anthropomorphic figure.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For parallel depictions of a similar figure grasping a single zoomorphic figure in 'heroic combat', see Wadi Daliyeh No. 55–56. For similar depictions of an anthropomorphic figure, see Wadi Daliyeh No. 51–53; Dor No. 8, 11. The motif is also attested in Persian period coinage.

DATING: Persian period[?] (late 6th–late 4th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda, no exact parallels from stratified contexts.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.618.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 4090.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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777 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 58/EP 32/Side 26 (Rowe), A1/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.9 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled (*rʿ*, possibly *nfr* signs).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Base arranged into three vertical registers. In the centre, encased in a cartouche, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), vertical *ḫpr* (L1), and possible triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). Flanking the central register are two symmetrical registers comprising a *wḏ3t* (D10) and a *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: If a triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2) appears below the *ḫpr* (L1), then the throne name in the cartouche reads *Mn-ḫprw-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. For horizontally arranged compositions of a central cartouche with the prenomen of Thutmose IV flanked by symmetrical motifs, see Deir el-Balaḥ No. 82; Lachish No. 571, 606, 893; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 103; and possibly Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 256 (*Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, Thutmose III[?]) and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1002.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE); dating based on comparanda and the likely reading of the throne name (prenomen) in the cartouche.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.613.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 4093.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

778 **OBJECT:** Conoid, type IV[?] (Keel 1995: § 253) or type V[?] (Keel 1995: § 254–258). MATERIAL: unknown. COLOUR: cream, white. Identification of material is not possible based on photograph. PRESERVATION: complete. Base heavily worn. MEASUREMENTS: 9.4 mm (L) × 12.8 mm (W) × 14.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top; hole drilled through the longer side of the seal body. ENGRAVING: linear; shallow modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation of base is unclear and the engraving is too worn to identify any definitive motifs. When viewed horizontally, a possible couchant (horned[?]) quadruped faces right; the figure might contain a long ear or horn that extends back over the body at a right angle while the back portion of the body is much more pronounced than the front. An unknown motif appears in front of this possible figure. Alternatively, while the present state of the engraving results in an ambiguous composition, based on contrast-enhanced photographs and a presumed vertical orientation, Ch. Uehlinger (pers. comm.) proposes the following: a kneeling anthropomorphic figure, facing right, its 'left' arm held at an angle crossing the breast, while the 'right' arm possibly holds an object (sceptre[?]), the figure then possibly depicting an Egyptian king. 'Behind' the figure there are traces of a secondary motif, possibly a hieroglyph.

COMPARANDA: No parallels or comparanda can be identified in view of the item's state of preservation. If one accepts Uehlinger's proposal, Lachish No. 197 and Gezer No. 47 provide parallels if viewed vertically. If a horizontal orientation is accepted, horned quadrupeds are a well attested motif on conoids beginning in the LB III and continuing into the early Iron Age (e.g., Acco No. 282); however, it should be noted that couchant quadrupeds are rarely attested and such a style of torso is not common rendering such a reconstruction less likely.

DATING: LB II (early 14th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on (rather broad) context information.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21935.

CONTEXT: Fosse Temple II (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) – Fosse Temple III (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE), Areas 100–200, "Houses 100"[?].[1] Assignation to Lachish and context information according to Manchester Museum object registration tag.

① See Lachish No. 50.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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779 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2? or D6?/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 63? or HC 67?/EP 5/Side 16? (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: intact. Slight chipping on left side of legs. WEIGHT: 2.69 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 17.9 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is divided into three registers by two simple double-line dividers. In the central register, two double lines criss-cross one over the other three times to create a vertical thread-like pattern. Flanking the central register are two symmetrically mirrored registers comprising a pair of simple lines angled inward toward the centre to create a V-shape, in the centre of which two straight horizontal lines extend outward to meet a crescent.

DISCUSSION: The central motif belongs to Design Class 6C3 "Coiled and woven patterns, encompassed central cable" (Tufnell 1984: 127, Pl. 27). Ben-Tor attributes seals with a similar central cable flanked by schematic lines to her Egyptian scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: 90–91, Pl. 38:6–19) and assigns seals with a longer central cable to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 171, Pl. 90: 21–26). The flanking motifs can be interpreted as schematic versions of the papyrus clump (*jdḥw/wꜣḥ* [M15]) based on similarity with Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 799.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 799 is the closest parallel, as papyrus clumps flank a central cable. For a central cable in association with a floral element, see TD 2 and TD 4 from Tell el-Dabʿa in the eastern Nile Delta (Mlinar 2001a II: 14, Abb. K 7). For a central cable with a partially similar side design, but only in the lower register, see a scarab from Ukma in Nubia (Mlinar 2001a II: 14, Abb. K 7, Ukma 26). For an encompassed central cable flanked by other motifs, see Acco No. 238; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 13, 17, 75, 260, 364, 384, 482. For comparanda depicting a double knot, see Gezer No. 636; Jericho No. 138, 384, 407, 439; Jerusalem No. 137; Lachish No. 465, 477.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); dating based on typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 A.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5357.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

780 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5 or D8/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 25/EP 1/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. No border. A double-line bar runs vertically down the centre of the base. Four double-line arcs extend inward from around the circumference, within which passes a rope-like design.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 6C1 "Encompassed coils, central + cross" (Tufnell 1984: 126, Pl. 26). Ben-Tor has proposed a Canaanite origin for this motif and assigns it to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 170, Pl. 89:15–37).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For this general design, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 34, 103, 103a, 584, 659, 713, 760, 782, 873, 902, 939–940; Azor No. 10; Beth Shean No. 8; Beth Shemesh No. 152; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 70, 276, 422–423, 441; Gezer No. 535; Jericho No. 123, 187, 424, 495, 537; Lachish No. 477.

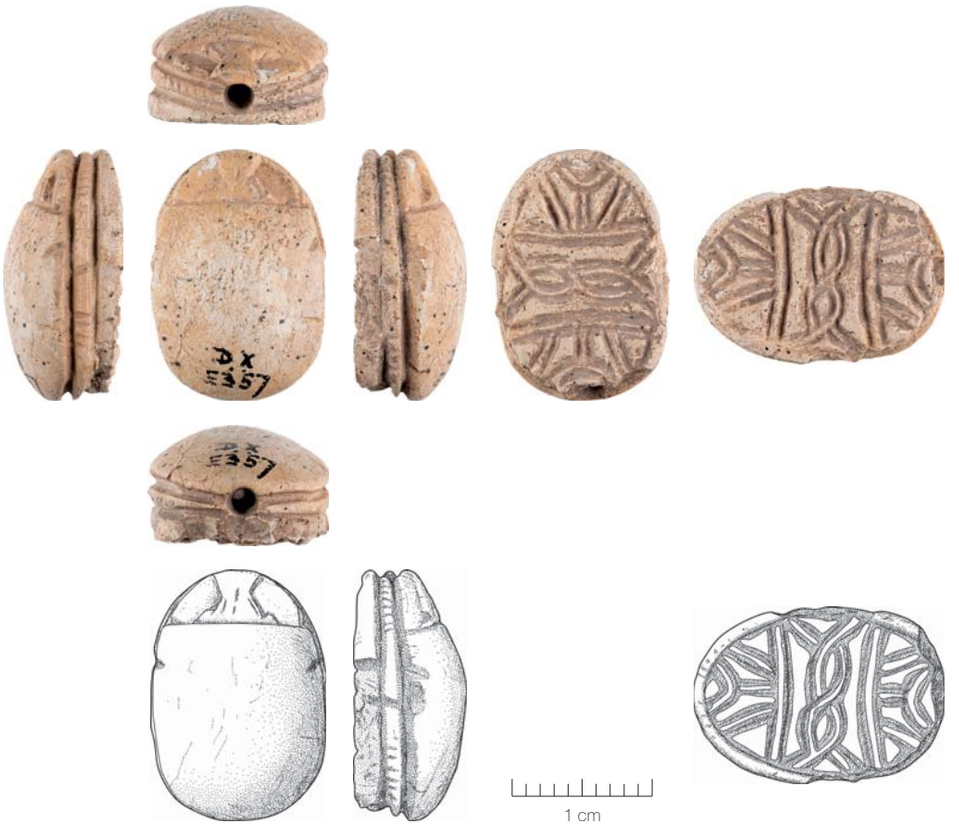
DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.609.

CONTEXT: Surface find. D/X, Object no. 5358.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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781 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4? or D8?/0/d5 or e4 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Top of base along perforation hole has broken away; chipping along upper left and lower perimeter of base. WEIGHT: 0.59 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 11.3 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W) × 4.9 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. Simple single-line border. When viewed vertically, two columns of interlocking Z-spirals are connected by a longer Z-spiral line running from the top left to bottom right.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 2B1 "Round interlocking spirals, with ends" (Tufnell 1984: 116–117, Pl. 5). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif first appears on scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom, however the ends terminate in lotus buds (Ben-Tor 2007: 13–14, Pl. 3:56–58). Ben-Tor assigns round interlocking spirals without floral ends to her Egyptian scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 74–75, 159, Pl. 32:44, 75:34 and 47, 76:12).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 20, 680, 929; Aphek No. 31; Beth Shean No. 109; Hazor No. 107; Hebron No. 13; Jericho No. 365, 406, 430; Lachish No. 588; Shiloh No. 15. For an item from Sidon see Boschloos 2015b: 26–27, Fig. 5. From Egypt and Nubia: scarabs and sealings from Tell el-Dabʿa, Uronarti, and Kerma (Mlinar 2001a: 128–131, Fig. K 75: TD 111, 202, 514; Uronarti 58–60, but with terminating lotus buds; Kerma 19 [cowroid]).

DATING: Late 13th–15th Dyn. (1720–1540 BCE); MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on typology and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 B.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5359.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

782 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type E2/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Slight chipping around base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, an *ꜥnḫ* (S34) flanked by two *nfr* (F35), surrounded by two lines meeting on both sides in a scroll-like manner.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 7B1(ii)a "Scroll border, one pair, oblong, hooked" (Tufnell 1984: 128, Pl. 30). Ben-Tor assigned seals with this motif to her late Middle Kingdom scarabs, which continues into her Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series Palestinian Series scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 16:9, 61:16–18, 91:26–46). The combination of a central *ꜥnḫ* (S34) flanked by two *nfr* (F35) can be found on a scarab from Ukma in Nubia, however these motifs are flanked by two *dšrt* (S3) (Mlinar 2001a II: 448, Abb. K 255).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For depictions of an *ꜥnḫ* (S34) or *nfr* (F35) enclosed in an oblong scroll border, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1157–1158; Gezer No. 575; Jericho No. 549.

DATING: More likely MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); less likely late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1413, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 5362.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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783 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24 or HC 67/-/- (Rowe), B2/-/- (Tufnell/Keel). Sides of object have not been photographed. MATERIAL: unknown, fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: broken. Left side of base is broken and a large portion of the back has chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A striding quadruped shown in profile faces right with a pointed ear; left side of base is broken, obscuring the back half of the body. In front of the figure, a 160 degree angle.

DISCUSSION: The animal can be identified as a lion and the motif in front of the lion, based on similar depictions (e.g., Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 660), is likely a schematic *ḫpš* (T16). The composition represents a royal emblem of the Egyptian king, who is known to wield a *ḫpš* (T16) during the Ramesside period to symbolize his military prowess. This object is likely part of the Ramesside production trend to incorporate motifs and engraving styles from Middle Bronze Age seals (Ben-Tor 2017: esp. 206 with Fig. 11).

COMPARANDA: For similar depictions of striding lions, see Ashkelon No. 212; Beth Shemesh No. 153; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 490, 601, 660, 734, 799–800; Tel Gerisa No. 33; Lachish No. 761, 810, 821.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5117/8, 439/40").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Object no. 5369. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. Note that objects numbered 5360 through 5368 are alle registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

784 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 18[?] or HC 18a[?] or HC 31[?]/EP 5/Side 41 (Rowe), D8[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?] or composite material. COLOUR: black, dark green, pink (patches). Speckled; material identification made based on wear around perforation hole. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: partial black glaze[?]; partial green glaze. Unclear whether the colouring on the object is a part of the original material, a glaze, the result of firing, or of depositional processes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation unclear. No border detected. Identification of motifs unclear based on photographs, but possibly the following Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *n* (N35), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and possible remains of *nb* (V30) at the bottom.

COMPARANDA: Based on the inability to read the base with certainty, it is not possible to identify good comparanda. If the base is engraved with *n* (N35), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), possible comparanda include Tel Gerisa No. 28; Gezer No. 195 (different layout and/or object type though). Object is of the same material and colour as Lachish No. 785, 798, 802.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(138).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5787a. Context assigned based on locus number written on object.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

785 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24 or HC 67/EP 1/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?] or composite material[?]. COLOUR: black, cream (portions of base). PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn, especially on base. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. COATING: partial black glaze[?]. Unclear whether the colouring on the object is a part of the original material, a glaze, the result of firing, or of depositional processes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: In the upper and lower portion of the base, the remains of two horizontal lines may indicate the presence of partially preserved *nb* (V30) signs, perhaps as flanking elements in a horizontal orientation. However, the base is too worn to identify any motifs with certainty.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified due to the object's state of preservation. The object is somewhat similar in colour and material as Lachish No. 784, 798, 802.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(139).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5787b.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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786 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G2/0/e2[?] or e4[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 78/EP 5/Side 54[?] or Side 55[?] (Rowe). MATERIAL: quartz[?], stone. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For dark hard stone scarabs with an uninscribed base, see Lachish No. 758, 839. For other hard stone scarabs with uninscribed bases, see also objects attributed to the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group and Reḥov No. 48; Lachish No. 720; rock crystal Lachish No. 726–727, 733; limestone Lachish No. 732; carnelian Tell Beit Mirsim No. 74; Lachish No. 724, 731; Rishon LeZion No. 122, 131.

DATING: 12th–15th[?] Dyn. (1939–1540 BCE); MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); Uninscribed hard stone scarabs of amethyst, carnelian, and green jasper found in Middle Kingdom and Middle Bronze II–III contexts display many of the same typological features as this scarab. As such, its dating is based on comparanda with other hard stone scarabs.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(152).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5791. Site assignation is based on the grouping of this object with other material from Lachish by the Ashmolean Museum. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. suggests a provenance from Cave 4004.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

787 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?]/EP 1/Side 44[?] (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could be categorized as D8+FI/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: quartz or jasper[?]. COLOUR: blackish-green. PRESERVATION: complete. Scratch on left side of back. MEASUREMENTS: 12.4 mm (L) × 8.5 mm (W) × 6.1 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; perforation hole diameters appear similar in size, suggesting the scarab was drilled from both ends.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For similar dark hard stone scarabs with a blank base, see Lachish No. 756, 758, 836.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(154).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5973a (or rather 5793a?). Site assignation is based on the Ashmolean Museum's grouping of this object with other material from Lachish. No context information is available for this item. Note, however, that the object no. of this item should probably be corrected to 5793a, since there is an object no. 5793b (= Lachish No. 789), which would make the present item's provenance from Cave 4004 highly probable.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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788 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127). The line drawing gives the impression of a possible B2-type head but this appears to be part of the colouration pattern on the object and not necessarily remnants of an engraved head; note groove running around the entire object, reminiscent of e11 scarab sides. MATERIAL: stone. COLOUR: brown. PRESERVATION: intact. Cream-coloured encrustations. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(157).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5795.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

789 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24 or HC 67/EP 1/Side 19 (Rowe). Too worn for confident typological classification of head type. MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 17.1 mm (L) × 12.3 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; one side has been double pierced, resulting in an '8'-shaped rear perforation hole.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Too worn to identify original motifs or possibly originally blank.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified due to the object's state of preservation. Close typological and material parallels include Lachish No. 790, 795–797, 799, 803, 805.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(155).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5793b.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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790 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0[?]/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 79/EP 5/Side 19 (Rowe). Too worn for confident typological identification of head and back type. MATERIAL: composite material or fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: cream, light brown. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. COATING: partial cream coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Slight depressions on base.

DISCUSSION: It is unclear whether the depressions on the base were part of original design or result from depositional processes. It thus cannot be ruled out that the base was originally blank (see other items from the same context).

COMPARANDA: Given the object's state of preservation, the identification of comparanda is not possible. Close typological and material parallels include Lachish No. 789, 795–797, 799, 803, 805.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(156).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5794.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

791 **OBJECT:** Conoid[?] (Keel 1995: § 246–260) or scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). The combination of a high side profile paired with a transversal perforation hole suggests this object is closer typologically to a conoid than to a scarab or scaraboid. Notably, however, two horizontal lines appear engraved into the top of the object, reflecting a possible attempt to make this object look like a scarab (or hedgehog scaraboid[?]). MATERIAL: glass[?]. COLOUR: beige (outer surface), gold (inner core). PRESERVATION: broken. Chipping at various places on the object; left side of base has degraded and broken away exposing the vitreous material underneath. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (W); 1.3 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: transversal. COATING: partial cream coating. A darker cream-beige coloured coating of some sort appears preserved in some places of the outer side of the object; where it has flaked away, a gold-pearly material is exposed with extensive pitting, likely the product of its vitreous nature.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the material of the object include Lachish No. 686, 794, 800–801 and Megiddo No. 244, 246. Notably, the object resembles a plain uninscribed scarab (or hedgehog scaraboid). The lack of base engraving on this and other parallels suggests this object is more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(158).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5796.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ranzer, Gadot and Koch 2024: 72, Fig. 4. *[NBM]*

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792 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: cream (outer surface), brownish (inner material). PRESERVATION: broken. Portion of object has broken away near top perforation hole; scratch on upper side of object has resulted in an angular brownish-coloured mark. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

DISCUSSION: Based on the material and lack of engraving, this object appears more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(159).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5797.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

793 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 32/EP 1/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. Heavily degraded and worn with discoloration all over. MEASUREMENTS: 14.9 mm (L) × 10.8 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Object is of the same material and colour as Lachish No. 784–785, 799, 802.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(160).

CONTEXT: Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5798.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

792



793



794 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: glass[?]. COLOUR: cream (outer surface), gold (inner core). PRESERVATION: broken. Much of the outer coating has chipped off the object, exposing the inner material of the object's core. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); one perforation hole appears significantly larger than the other, suggesting the perforation was drilled from one end (as illustrated here, the 'rear' end). COATING: traces of coating. A darker cream-beige coloured coating of some sort appears preserved in some places of the scaraboid's outer side and inside the perforation hole; where it has flaked away, a gold-pearly material is exposed with extensive pitting, likely the product of its vitreous nature.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank[?]. The outer coating of this object is no longer present, however based on the comparanda it is likely the object was never engraved.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the material and shape of the object include Lachish No. 686, 800–801 and Megiddo No. 244, 246. Additionally, Lachish No. 791 is made from the same material but is more of a conoid in shape. Notably, the object resembles a plain, uninscribed limestone scaraboid. The lack of base engraving on this and other parallels suggests it is more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(167).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5805. Object has "D 400" written on it, but the last number has flaked off given the state of preservation. It is likely this object derives from Cave 4004 based on the object number in the 5800s and since other comparanda from the site all derive from that context.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

795 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0[?]/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 79/EP 5/Side 41 (Rowe). Too worn for confident typological identification of head and back type. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: cream, beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 16.2 mm (L) × 10.7 mm (W) × 6.9 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); note difference in perforation hole diameters.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Perhaps a net-like pattern (see comparandum), but difficult to discern.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 804. Additional close typological and material parallels include Lachish No. 789–790, 796–797, 799, 803, 805.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(162).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5801.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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796 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24 or HC 67/EP 5/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material[?]. COLOUR: greyish-brown, greyish-purple. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn, white encrustations. MEASUREMENTS: 15.6 mm (L) × 11.2 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; one perforation hole is much larger than the other, possibly indicating that the object was drilled from one side or that it was drilled twice, perhaps as a result of a mistake.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Two or three bent lines.

DISCUSSION: It is unclear whether these lines were originally intended or whether this is a product of scratches from various depositional processes and the base was originally blank.

COMPARANDA: Possible comparanda include Lachish No. 795, 804. Other close typological and material parallels include Lachish No. 789–790, 795, 797, 799, 803, 805.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(163).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5800.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

797 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24 or HC 67/EP 5/Side 19 (Rowe). Too worn on the head for positive typological identification. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: dark pink, white (speckling). PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn; outer layer flaking away to expose inner core. MEASUREMENTS: 16.8 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; one side was pierced twice, resulting in an '8'-shaped front perforation hole. COATING: partial pink coating[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank[?].

COMPARANDA: Very similar to Lachish No. 789–790, 795–796, 799, 803, 805, especially Lachish No. 799, including the double perforation hole on one side.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(164).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5802.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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797



798 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127) or scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). Too worn for typological identification. MATERIAL: composite material[?]. COLOUR: brownish-pink, greyish-brown. White encrustations. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.2 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; one side was pierced twice, resulting in an '8'-shaped front perforation hole. ENGRAVING: sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Too worn to identify original motifs, or even to distinguish back from base; possibly originally blank[?].

COMPARANDA: No exact comparanda can be identified due to the object's state of preservation. This object is very similar in material to Lachish No. 789–790, 795–797, 805 including the double perforation hole on one side.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(166).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5804.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

799 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 24 or HC 67/EP 1/Side 41 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: dark olive green, black. White encrustations. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 11.3 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H); 1.2 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. COATING: remains of blackish-green coating. Unclear whether the colouring on the object is a part of the original material, a glaze, the result of firing, or of depositional processes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Too worn to identify original motifs.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified for motif on base given state of preservation. Object is of the same material and colour as Lachish No. 784–785, 802.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(165).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5803.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

798



799



800 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127) or scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). Given the state of preservation, it is not possible to tell whether this object was originally a scarab or a scaraboid. MATERIAL: glass[?] or composite material[?]. COLOUR: cream (outer surface), gold (inner core). PRESERVATION: broken. The outer shell of the object has flaked off revealing a golden and pearl core underneath while the top of the object has broken away completely. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; one side of the object has been perforated twice, resulting in an '8'-shaped perforation hole (as illustrated here, at the 'front' end). COATING: remains of cream coating. A darker cream-beige coloured coating of some sort appears preserved in some places of the surface of the scaraboid and inside the perforation hole; where it has flaked away, a gold-pearly material is exposed with extensive pitting, likely the product of its vitreous nature.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: It is unclear whether this scaraboid once contained a base engraving due to the state of preservation. It is possible, however, that the base was blank on the basis of the material, which does not appear conducive for engraving.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 686 for discussion and comparanda.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda based on shape and material are Lachish No. 686, 794, 801 and Megiddo No. 244, 246. Lachish No. 791 is similar in material but the shape is closer to a conoid. The lack of base engraving on this and other parallels suggests this object is more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on possible find context and comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(168).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5806. Remnants of an "04" are written on the side of this object, suggesting its likely attribution to Cave 4004 given the object no. in the 5800s and parallels for this object which all derive from that locus.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

801 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). MATERIAL: glass[?]. COLOUR: cream (outer material), gold (inner core). PRESERVATION: broken. Large portions of the object have broken off, with extensive flaking away of the outer surface material revealing a gold-pearly vitreous material underneath. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0* mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. COATING: partial coating. A cream-coloured coating of some sort appears preserved in some places of the outer side of the scaraboid and inside the perforation hole; where it has flaked away, a gold-pearly material is exposed with extensive pitting, likely the product of its vitreous nature.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: It is unclear whether this scaraboid once contained a base engraving due to the state of preservation. It is possible, however, that the base was blank on the basis of the material, which does not appear conducive for engraving.

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 686 for discussion and comparanda.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda on the basis of shape and material are Lachish No. 686, 794, 800 and Megiddo No. 244, 246. Lachish No. 791 is similar in material but the shape is closer to a conoid. The lack of base engraving on this and other parallels suggests this object is more similar to a bead than to a stamp seal amulet.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find contexts of comparanda.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(171).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5807(c?). Site assignation is based on the Ashmolean Museum's grouping of this object with material from Lachish. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. suggests a provenance from Cave 4004, in line with Lachish No. 802–803 and other items numbered in the 5790s and 5800s.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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801



802 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 32 or HC 71/EP 24/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: composite material[?]. COLOUR: black, green, pink (patches). Speckled. PRESERVATION: complete. Discoloration around one of the perforation holes, perhaps from wear. MEASUREMENTS: 14.7 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. COATING: partial blackish-green glaze[?]. Unclear whether the colouring on the object is a part of the original material, a glaze, paint or from depositional processes.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: One long vertical line and three horizontal lines across the base.

COMPARANDA: Possible comparanda include Lachish No. 795, 804. Object is of the same material and colour as Lachish No. 784–785, 798.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(169).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5807a. Context assignment based on locus number written on object.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

803 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?], type A1[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 74[?]/EP 1/Side 19 (Rowe) or scaraboid[?] (Keel 1995: § 132–138). Too worn for typological identification of head type, or possibly a scaraboid with Tufnell/Keel e11 side. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: cream, white. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.6 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: shallow sunk relief[?]. Due to the object's state of preservation, it is unclear whether an original motif was impressed.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Too worn to identify original motifs.

COMPARANDA: Object is very similar in material and colour to Lachish No. 789–790, 795–798, 805.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(170).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5807b. Site assignation is based on the Ashmolean Museum's grouping of this object with material from Lachish. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. suggests a provenance from Cave 4004, in line with Lachish No. 801–802 (objects. no. 5807a and 5807, respectively) and other items numbered in the 5790s and 5800s.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

802



803



804 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/I/d5[?] (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31/EP 112/Side 27 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: black. Material identification uncertain; CSAPI index card (B. Jaeger) lists steatite as material. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: complete black glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation unclear or not important. No border. Cross-hatching across entirety of base.

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda for the base motif include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 462, 812, Beth Shemesh No. 146, and Tell Beit Mirsim No. 37. Although very poorly preserved, Lachish No. 795 could be another possible comparandum.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(137).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5808a.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

805 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Too worn to properly identify typologically relevant characteristics with confidence. MATERIAL: composite material. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 11.7 mm (L) × 8.1 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: single tube[?] (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); decentered at the back, implying a single tube (note similar sized diameters on both ends).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Too worn to identify original motifs.

DISCUSSION: It is possible that the base was originally blank.

COMPARANDA: Object is very similar in material and colour to Lachish No. 789–790, 795–798, 803.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(172).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5817. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. (between 5816 [= Lachish No. 528] and 5818 [= Lachish No. 807]) suggests provenance from Cave 4004.

① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

804



805



806 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 72[?] or HC 73[?] or HC 32[?]/EP 45/Side 19 (Rowe), D8[?]/II/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). The triangular head shape is not as broad as Rowe's HC 72 and more closely resembles the HC 73 head type, but without notching on the plates. However, it should be noted that the area near the perforation hole closest to the head has chipped away, obscuring whether the clypeus was once indicated. If the clypeus was originally indicated, the head type would more closely resemble Rowe's HC 32, but the area is so small this seems unlikely. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. Where chipping occurs on the object, a darker gray-green colour appears, which is likely the result of the firing process. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipping around circumference of base, on sides of object, on left elytron, and near the front perforation hole where one would expect the clypeus. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large rectangular-shaped cartouche encases three Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1). Flanking the cartouche are two confronted motifs, each of which comprise a vertical line on the outer edge of the base from which two oval elements extend outward toward the cartouche to form a wide V-shape, within which two parallel horizontal lines extend.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche spell out the royal name *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ*, prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. This base engraving can be classified under Design Class 11A (Keel 1995: § 623–634). Based on comparanda, the flanking elements likely represent protective falcons with outstretched wings, and the two parallel lines extending from within the wings represent schematic talons. The composition is a known symbol of divine protection for the royal name of *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ* (Jaeger 1982: § 315). Falcons flanking the royal name in a cartouche are also known from seals dated to the reign of Amenhotep II (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1002; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 66; Gibeon No. 34) and Thutmose IV (e.g., Lachish No. 571); however this specific type of scarab, paired with its schematic flanking elements, appears to postdate the seals dated to Amenhotep II and Thutmose IV.

COMPARANDA: Megiddo No. 290 is the closest comparandum in both typology and base motif. Other close comparanda for the base motif include Beth Shemesh No. 1; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 888; Megiddo No. 590. From the site of el-Badari in Egypt, a scarab with this motif but with a sun disc between the wings and *nbw* (S12) below the cartouche has been reported (Brunton 1930: Pl. 34:29). For depictions of a winged sun disc rotated 90 degrees from which two uraei hang down inward toward the cartouche, see Acco No. 51–52; Ashdod No. 66.

DATING: 20th?–22nd Dyn. (1190–746 BCE); LB IIB–Iron IIB (early 13th–end of 8th c. BCE); typologically, the object resembles seals of the Ramesside era, which appear to have incorporated features that originally appear first on Middle Bronze Age seals; thus, the head type most closely resembles Tufnell's B2 or D8. The motif of two protective falcons flanking the prenomen of a 18th Dyn. king are attested on seals of a different typology bearing the names of Amenhotep II and Thutmose IV; where this motif appears in connection with the prenomen Thutmose III, the seals appear in later contexts. The schematic nature of the falcons is thus noteworthy, as earlier examples tend to include feathers on the wings and often have the cartouche above a *nb* (V30). The production date for this seal must therefore lay somewhere between the Ramesside era, based on its typology, and 22nd Dyn. based on the motif. Notably, the closest parallel is Megiddo No. 290, which comes from an Iron IIB context.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256d.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6099.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

807 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type III (Keel 1995: § 137). MATERIAL: composite material, blue frit (Egyptian Blue)[?]. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: intact. A small piece of the upper left side of the base has chipped away. MEASUREMENTS: 5.8 mm (W) × 4.2 mm (W) × 2.8 mm (H); 1.0 mm (D, perforation).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. Remarks: Unclear whether this was originally a stamp seal or a bead based on state of preservation.

BASE: Blank.

DATING: MB III–LB IIB (early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on find context.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(173).

CONTEXT: Area 4000, Square T.1, Cave 4004 (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5818.

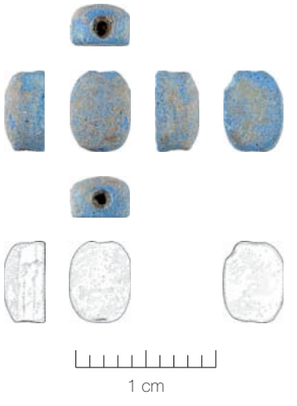
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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808 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 11?/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe), A3 or C7/I/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). The head shape is ambiguous and prevents confident assignation: it resembles a lunate head with eyes marked (A3), but is more angular (coming close to C7). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. Large portion of elytra has broken away, revealing the fired dark red steatite in the object's core. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 5.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief with interior hatching (inside the bodies of the primary motifs hatching is used to indicate feathers and scales). Remarks: A blue paste appears in the crevices of the legs, especially on the right side.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) falcon with two tail feathers stands on a right-facing *jʿrt* (I12) cobra. Behind the falcon, another right-facing *jʿrt* (I12) cobra with upturned tail, above which is a large motif that appears at a right angle.

DISCUSSION: The falcon-on-a-cobra motif can be understood as Horus, with the protective cobras, symbolizing divine kingship (see, e.g., Beth Shean No. 31; Beth Shemesh No. 54, 59; Tell el-Farʿa [N] No. 12; Hazor No. 30, 65; Lachish No. 945; Megiddo No. 204; from Cyprus: Kition: Clerc et al. 1976: No. Kit. 479, Kit. 523; for the meaning of the falcon standing on a uraeus, see Quaegebeur 1984: 131–143). The schematic sign above the cobra behind the falcon can likely be interpreted as a highly schematic winged solar disc based on known parallels of this motif (e.g., Acco No. 67; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 490; Jerusalem No. 432; Lachish No. 602; Megiddo No. 337 with further comparanda). The motif of a falcon-on-cobra is very well documented in Egypt in its own variants, e.g., at the sanctuary of Site 1 at Gebel Zeit, a mountain range situated on the Red Sea coast, dated to the early 18th dynasty (Régen and Soukiassian 2008: 301, Fig. 16), in a foundation deposit of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari north of Thebes (Metropolitan Museum, No. 23.3.272, 23.3.271, 23.3.228) or in a foundation deposit of Thutmose III at Koptos (Petrie 1896: Pl. 16:37). This motif seems to have developed from Design Class 9C3 "Confronted cobras with hawk(s)" on Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 98:1–16, 18–22).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel is known so far from the southern Levant. However, Beth Shean No. 175; Beth Shemesh No. 182; Tall al-Mazar No. 13; Megiddo No. 203 show a falcon standing on the tail of an uraeus with another right-facing uraeus in its back (see also Gebel Zeit [Régen and Soukiassian 2008: 301, Fig. 16:208]). For a falcon on a uraeus with just a winged sun disc behind it, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 287; Gebel Zeit (Régen and Soukiassian 2008: 301, Fig. 16:012); and Deir el-Bahari (Metropolitan Museum, No. 23.3.228).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); from Hatshepsut (1479–1458 BCE) onwards; LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE) or later; dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.615.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6102.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

809 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7 or D9/II/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 23 or HC 28/EP 116/- (Rowe). Pronotum also marked by double line. While a side profile is not currently available, the back view of the object suggests fringing on the legs. MATERIAL: fired steatite?. PRESERVATION: broken. Outer edges of base and area around upper perforation hole chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 20.3 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with interior design.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A large striding quadruped with upturned tail faces right toward an erect cobra facing left. The face of the quadruped comprises an eye engraved as a horizontal line, below which appears a smaller and thinner horizontal line to possibly indicate the mouth. The quadruped has a mane, as indicated by three angular lines extending backward from its head. The body of this figure and the cobra contain interior lines to indicate fur and scales, respectively.

DISCUSSION: There is ambiguity in how to identify this figure: while the leonine body and mane point to its identification as a lion, the face looks more anthropomorphic, raising the possibility the figure depicted is a sphinx. As such, this motif belongs either to Design Class 9E "Lions" or Design Class 9F "Heraldic beasts" (Tufnell 1984: 133–134, Pl. 40–41). According to Ben-Tor's study, scarabs displaying a lion with confronted cobra first appear on scarabs assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 177, Pl. 100:22, 101:7–8). While this motif is also popular on the so-called Ramesside scarabs imitating Middle Bronze Age Canaanite prototypes (e.g., Ben-Tor 2017: Fig. 11), these tend to show the lion with an object resembling a sickle-shaped sword (*ḫpš* [T16]) (see Lachish No. 810 and comparanda cited there). Similarly, Ben-Tor attributes depictions of a sphinx with confronted cobra to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 178, Pl. 101:21, 24, 36).

COMPARANDA: For depictions of a lion with a cobra confronted, see Lachish No. 326, 499; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 371, 1133, 1137–1138; Bne Braq No. 1; Gezer No. 53a. For depictions of a sphinx, see Acco No. 190; Achziv No. 80; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 78, 461, 510, 527, 567, 609, 783, 833, 846, 957–958, 1070; Amman No. 29; Tel Anafa No. 2; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 17; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 930.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 389, Ben-Tor 2007: 183, Pl. 107:6, Bne Braq No. 1).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5127/8, 449/50").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6104.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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810 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 71/EP 5/Side 19 (Rowe), D8/0/e11[?] (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping around bottom of base. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. A striding quadruped shown in profile faces right; short vertical lines extending upward from its neck indicate the mane, its tail turned up terminates in an oval. At the top, a curved crescent-shaped sign extends downward. In front of the quadruped are two parallel lines forming a 160 degree angle.

DISCUSSION: The combination of upward tail and mane identifies this quadruped as a lion. Based on comparanda, the U-shaped sign is likely a stylized motif that appears on Middle Bronze Age seals (e.g., Ashkelon No. 118; Tel Ḥarasim No. 15). On other striding lion depictions, motifs in front of the lion can include a *nb* (V30) (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 388), a branch or *mn* (Y5) (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 44), or an *ʿnḫ* (S34) (e.g., Kabri No. 16). However, when taken together, the depiction likely represents a royal emblem of the Egyptian king, who is known to wield a *ḫpš* (T16) during the Ramesside period to symbolize his military prowess. This object is likely part of the Ramesside production trend to incorporate motifs and engraving styles from Middle Bronze Age seals (Ben-Tor 2017).

COMPARANDA: For similar depictions of striding lions, see Ashkelon No. 212; Beth Shemesh No. 153; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 490, 601, 660, 734, 799–800; Tel Gerisa No. 33; Lachish No. 761, 783, 821.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda and style of lion (with mane depicted by vertical lines).

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256g.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6105.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

811 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1 or G1/vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 61/EP 30 or EP 32/- (Rowe). Shadow in photograph prevents positive identification of back type. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. From left to right: a vertical line with two wing-like elements extends out to the right; a *šnw* (V9/V10); *j* (M17); a vertical line, possibly a schematic *n* (N35); and a possible *nb* (V30) (or schematic *nbw* [S12][?]).

DISCUSSION: The motif on the left can be interpreted as a schematic uraeus or falcon with outstretched wings, likely holding a *šnw* (V9/V10). The remaining three motifs could be interpreted as a non-standard rendering of the divine name Amun with a possible *nbw* (S12) or *nb* (V30).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Achziv No. 63, but the name that appears to the right of the falcon is *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*.

DATING: 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating based on comparandum from Achziv.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5127/8, 449/50").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6109.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

812 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). No side view of the object available. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Material identification based on comparanda. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design (bodies of figures). Remarks: This style of engraving becomes popular in seals attributed to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series, however it also appears on scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to an Egyptian origin of production during the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 40:9, 29).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a large vertically-stanced *ḫpr* (L1) beetle flanked by two confronted *jʿrt* (I12) cobras. Both cobras contain interior design to indicate their scales; the beetle similarly contains details inside its body to indicate the head, pronotum, and elytra.

DISCUSSION: This design can be assigned to Design Class 3B1c and 9C2 "Cobras confronted, with signs" (Tufnell 1984: 118, 132, Pl. 37:2524–2526, 2530). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, confronted cobras flanking a vertical beetle first appear on scarabs assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 97:11–13). Confronted cobras flanking a vertically-stanced *ḫpr* (L1) beetle also appear on Egyptian scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to the Second Intermediate Period, but these have a rope border (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 40:8–9, 11). Note that a rope border also appears with this motif on scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 97:10).

COMPARANDA: Parallels for this motif include: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 117 (scarab); Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 624 (bi-facial plaque). For comparanda where the *ḫpr* (L1) and crobras are above a *nb* (V30), see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 401, 439; Jericho No. 509.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda for object type and base motif.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held in the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD.5127/8, 449/50").

CONTEXT: Object no. 6110. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish is based on CSAPI index card. Note that other items numbered in the 6110s were all registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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813 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?] or D9[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. Approximately a third of the back near the lower perforation hole has broken away, laying bare the perforation channel; notably the break occurred perpendicular and as a very straight horizontal line on the back, which looks as if the object was actually cut. MEASUREMENTS: 11.5 mm (L) × 7.9 mm (W) × 4.7 mm (H); 1.4 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with interior design (within body of uraeus and red crown).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A large left-facing red crown (*dšrt* [S3]) placed on a *nb* (V30) is turned inward toward an erect right-facing cobra (*jʿrt* [I12]), above which is a large *ḥtp* (R4).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 3A3 "Egyptian signs and symbols, varia" (Tufnell 1984: 118, Pl. 8:1353, 1355). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, the combination of a large *ḥtp* (R4) at the top of the base with a *dšrt* (S3) and *nb* (V30) first appears on seals assigned to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 51:2, 33). Scarabs bearing a large *ḥtp* (R4) at the top and a *nb* (V30) at the bottom are first identified on Egyptian scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to the late Middle Kingdom, but they are then only combined with *ʿnḫ* (S34), *nfr* (F35), *ḏd* (R11), or *jdḥw*/*wꜣḫ* (M15) signs (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 7:47–52), not with the red crown.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. For *ḥtp* (R4), *dšrt* (S3), *nb* (V30) with other Egyptian signs, see Jericho No. 109, 207, 236.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.675.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6112.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

814 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5[?]/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11[?]/EP 1/Side 4 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream, beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Damaged along upper perforation; chipped on lower right elytra. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A continuous, joined spiral border runs along the circumference of the base. Two series of spirals (left from bottom to top: an outward-turned C-spiral and two interlocking Z-spirals; right from bottom to top: two interlocking Z-spirals and an outward-turned C-spiral) are held together at the top and the bottom by two symmetrical, inward-turned C-spirals. A long, Z-spiral-like line connects the two series running diagonally through the centre of the base, dividing the vertical central space into two registers, each of which displays an emblematic hieroglyph: an *ʿnḫ* (S34) at the top, a *nfr* (F35) at the bottom.

DISCUSSION: The *ʿnḫ* (S34) and *nfr* (F35) semiotically index "life" and "beauty" in Egyptian, respectively. The motif can be classified as Design Class 2B2 "Round interlocking spirals, unending" (Tufnell 1984: 117, Pl. 6). The appearance of an *ʿnḫ* (S34) and *nfr* (F35) encased in scrolls and spirals is attested on late Middle Kingdom scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 25:5, 28:6).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda from the southern Levant include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 95, 325, 325a, 1163.

DATING: Late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE).

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256e.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus D.6000, Object no. 6526.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

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815 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 8.2 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: given the impression from the mounting, it seems highly probable that the perforation of the originating seal was longitudinal; however, in the absence of the physical ring this cannot be stated with certainty. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a vertical rectangular bar contains three shorter, perpendicularly-placed rectangular bars: one at each end and one placed in the centre. From the terminal shorter bars, two curls extend outward; from the centre vertical bar, two sets of confronted curls or volutes extend horizontally from each side to form a voluted X-shape.

DISCUSSION: This motif can be attributed to Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" (Tufnell 1984: 125, Pl. 23). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif appears on Egyptian scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: 23–24, Pl. 12:23, 24, 34, 39) as well as in the Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 137–138, Pl. 59:28).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Jericho No. 214, an Early Palestinian Series scarab; however, its spirals are made with a tool that produces concentric circles. Comparanda from Egypt include impressions from Uronarti and el-Lahun town/Kahun (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 7:320, 323, 331, 333, 337), but the curls are either turned the opposite way, or floral motifs appear in place of the rectangular bar.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); less likely late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); the iconography and layout is closest to the comparandum from Jericho, which is assigned to the Early Palestinian Series by Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 68:2 (on the D-head group, see also Keel 2004: 93–95). While the impression resembles seals of the Late Middle Kingdom, these tend to have a cross-like floral element dividing the base, from which the curls extend, rather than the central rectangular bar.

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. 1961.155B.16.

CONTEXT: Surface find. D/X, Object no. 6321.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

816 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6 or D7/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Discoloration around the head and on the base of the object suggest the object was once glazed. MEASUREMENTS: 14.1 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.9 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: remains of blackish-green glaze?.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A large, striding, right-facing anthropomorphic figure with short hair, large eye and triangular ear wears a short kilt with a belt and stands on a *nb* (V30). The figure holds a mace or scepter in its 'rear' hand and a large flower in its 'front' hand. Another schematic element, perhaps a flower without a stem, seems to drop down at eye level in front of the figure's face.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 10A "Human figure, standing" (Tufnell 1984: 135, Pl. 42:2687–2709). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, standing figures holding flowers (or a branch) and a mace appear on Egyptian scarabs assigned to the late Middle Kingdom and Mlinar's Early Workshop at Tell el-Dabʿa, however such figures tend to be portrayed in a smiting pose (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 20:12–13, 30:4, 8). Figures bearing just a mace appear on Egyptian scarabs dated by Ben-Tor to the Second Intermediate Period, but similarly these figures are portrayed in a smiting pose (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 41:1–3). Scarabs bearing a standing figure holding only a large flower appear on Egyptian scarabs of the the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 19:41, 20:3, 5) and seals assigned to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series, where such figures can also stand on a *nb* (V30) (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 63:6–7, 102:14–15, 25, 33, 40). Keel 1995: § 562 proposed the motif of a standing figure holding a flower derived from late Middle Kingdom Egyptian name and official seals, noting the depiction of a male in this pose likely derived from Northern Levantine glyptic and connecting the significance of this motif on Canaanite seals with processes of Egyptianization around cult participation and the life and regeneration symbolism of the lotus.

COMPARANDA: No parallels of a figure holding both a flower and a mace could be identified from the southern Levant. For male figures wearing a short kilt holding a large flower, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 49, 112, 293, 359, 694, 993, 1065; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 419, 432, 434, 438; Gezer No. 262, 330; Jericho No. 110, 382, 618; Megiddo No. 164; Ness Ziona No. 1. Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 951 depicts a similar figure with short hair and a mace-like object in front of the figure, but the object is not held by the figure. Tel Aviv No. 12 depicts a figure holding a similarly-shaped object (mace?) in their 'rear' hand, however note that the object hangs downward, perhaps a schematic *ʿnḫ* (S34), as well as an object resembling a flower in the 'front' hand, interpreted by Keel 1995: § 564 as a *wȝs* (S40) sceptre. From the Egyptian Delta, standing anthropomorphic figures holding a flower-branch (sometimes on a *nb* [V30]) appear at Tell el-Dabʿa, Tell el-Maskhuta, and Tell el-Yahudiya (Mlinar 2001a II: 548–549; IV: Abb. II/4: 35, II/5: 21).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22017.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6909.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

815







1:1





1 cm

816





1 cm

817 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/e6b (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. PRESERVATION: broken. Upper right portion of base has chipped off. MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 11.6 mm (W) × 6.7 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; front perforation appears closed from residue. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of blackish-green glaze[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a right-facing *bjt(j)* (L2) above two *nfr* (F35) signs, below which is a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28). Around these signs, a scroll border comprising three round interlocking S-spirals on the left, and three interlocking Z-spirals on the right, both of which connect under the *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) sign on the bottom of the base to form a C-spiral and terminate at the top in two disconnected, confronted lotus blossoms or stylized papyrus umbels.

DISCUSSION: This composition belongs to Design Class 7C4(i)a "Scroll borders, four pairs, round scrolls, loop at top broken/omitted" (Tufnell 1984: 130, Pl. 32:2374–2375). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, the combination of a *bjt(j)* (L2) and *nfr* (F35) sign(s) encased by a scroll border appears on seals assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 91:3, 11, 19 and 93:11–13).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 376 forms the closest parallel as it depicts a *bjt(j)* (L2) above two *nfr* (F35) signs encased in a round scroll border. Jericho No. 114 depicts the same round scroll border terminating in a floral element encasing Egyptian hieroglyphs. Similarly, Jericho No. 497 depicts a scroll border terminating in a floral element encasing Egyptian hieroglyphs, but the border comprises oblong scrolls. For close comparanda of a *bjt(j)* (L2) and *nfr* (F35) sign(s) encased in an oblong scroll border, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 15, 690, 825; Atlit No. 38; Beth Shemesh No. 80; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 81. For scarabs with an oblong scroll border encircling Egyptian hieroglyphs with a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) at the bottom, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 40, 48; Jericho No. 409, 433.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22011.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6910.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

818 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe), D4[?]/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. Upper right and left portion of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H); 2.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief with hatching (core of figures' bodies); linear (legs of figures and smaller details). COATING: traces of pale blueish-green glaze (detected very faintly on the outer side of the legs and on the raised portions of the base).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Three zoomorphic figures arranged around the perimeter of the base, all facing right: a seated Seth animal with a branch behind its head; to the left, a recumbent lion, a *nfr* (F35) above its forelegs and a branch over its back; under the lion, a striding hippopotamus.

DISCUSSION: See comparanda for clusters of animals. While the combination of lion and hippopotamus is well attested, the presence of a Seth animal in such an environment is conspicuous.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel. Close comparanda include base engravings with similarly clustered animals, such as el-Aḥwat No. 2; Ashkelon No. 48; Beth Shean No. 133, 233, 246; Dor No. 35; Ekron No. 5, 14, 64; Tel Erani No. 4; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 542; Tel Ḥadid No. 3; ʿIzbet Ṣarṭah No. 1; Lachish No. 54; Megiddo No. 86, 521.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22019.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6911.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

817



818



819 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/II/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. COLOUR: blackish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: drilled; linear (border).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Eleven drilled concentric circles, each comprising a single line around the centre of each circle; nine of them are arranged around the circumference of the base, surrounding two concentric circles in the centre.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 4E2 "Concentric circles" (Tufnell 1984: 124–125, Pl. 22:1996–2001). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif appears on seals assigned to her Egyptian Second Intermediate Period, Early Palestinian Series, and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 37, 58:43, 59:3, 87:24).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are Naḥal Tavor No. 11 and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1199. For additional examples of eleven to twelve concentric circles but connected, see Jericho No. 278 and Lachish No. 458. For one with eight circles, see Lachish No. 459.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); 13th–15th? Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.611.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6913.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

820 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5[?] or less likely A6[?]/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.5 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. Simple single-line border. When stanced vertically, two confronted C-spirals placed on the top and bottom of the base are connected, from top to bottom: on the left by a Z-spiral and a vertically placed C-spiral opening to the left, on the right by a vertically placed C-spiral opening to the right and another Z-spiral. In the centre, a horizontally placed Z-spiral adds yet another interlocking.

DISCUSSION: Overall, the design reflects a high degree of point-symmetry. The motif belongs to Design Class 2B2 "Scrolls and spirals, round interlocking spirals, unending" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 6:1245). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif first appears on Egyptian scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 3:32, 5:2).

COMPARANDA: From the southern Levant, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 2 provides an almost exact parallel for this object; however, the typology of the scarab is different. Similarly, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 325 provides another close comparandum, although a *nfr* (F35) appears in the lower register. From Egypt, impressions with of this motif were excavated from Uronarti (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 4:188) and Mirgissa (Gratien 2001: Fig. 4:6B-246).

DATING: Late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.610.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6914.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

819



1 cm

820



1 cm

821 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15 or HC 16/EP 61/Side 19 (Rowe), D10/II/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). Two lines mark the pronotum. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-cream (where dark green glaze has rubbed off). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 17.2 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 7.2 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (mane). COATING: partial dark green glaze[?] (on base and sides).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Striding quadruped facing right with upturned tail. A pointed triangle on top of the head likely indicates an ear, below which a mane is depicted in detail by short vertical lines extending down the back of the head and hatching below the ear. In front of the animal, a double right angle shape, possibly a *qnbt* (O38) or schematic *ḫpš* (T16). Above the figure, two small ovals; the left one might be the end of the tail (which would imply the base is slightly eroded in the black section), while the right oval might be a debased *nfr* (F35) sign.

DISCUSSION: The figure can be identified as a lion based on the detailed mane, upturned tail, and pointed ear. The motif in front of the lion is likely a schematic *ḫpš* (T16) based on parallel depictions (e.g., Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 660). If the left oval located above the lion is not the end of its tail (see description), it might be a *rʿ* (N5), but this seems less probable. When taken together, the depiction likely represents a royal emblem of the Egyptian king, who is known to wield a *ḫpš* (T16) during the Ramesside period to symbolize his military prowess. This object is likely part of the Ramesside production trend to incorporate motifs and engraving styles from Middle Bronze Age seals (Ben-Tor 2017: esp. Fig. 11).

COMPARANDA: For similar depictions of striding lions, see Ashkelon No. 212; Beth Shemesh No. 153; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 79; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 490, 601, 660, 734, 799–800; Tel Gerisa No. 33; Lachish No. 761, 783, 810.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22018.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6915.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

822 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 7[?]/EP 13/Side 19 (Rowe), D10[?]/vlv[?]/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: greyish-beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the head has worn off, obscuring typological classification. However, slight cross-hatching remains, suggesting it is a Tufnell D10/Rowe HC 7 head. Indeed, a close parallel for the base is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 500, which also contains cross-hatching on the head. MEASUREMENTS: 16.3 mm (L) × 11.9 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Simple single-line border. Base divided into three horizontal registers by simple double-line divider. In the centre register is a *mn* (Y5), a *rʿ* (N5) above it and a vertical *ḫpr* (L1) to the left. The top register comprises vertical lines and a *ḥ* (V28); the bottom register contains vertical lines.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the central register spell *Mn-ḫpr-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III. Based on an almost exact parallel from Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 500, wherein the top and bottom registers are more legible, the top register may contain, from right to left: a vertical line indicating a *p* (Q3), a very schematic *ḥ* (V28), a vertical line to indicate *t* (X1), and a V-shaped *dšrt* (S3). In the bottom register, it is not clear what the vertical lines are meant to indicate.

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 500 is an almost exact parallel in both object typology and motif composition. Other close comparanda include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 297; Ashdod No. 48; Tel Ḥarasim No. 16; Lachish No. 552–553.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE) or somewhat later; dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. EG 6512. Not found in online catalogue.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6916.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

821



822



823 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4/dec.+II/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). A motif similar to the curled element of the red crown appears on the left elytron. On the pronotum, an hour-glass shaped design similar to the shape of a B2 head type. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. When viewing the base horizontally, the upper third of the scarab has broken away on the left. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 9.3* mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is organised into two horizontal registers. In the upper register, based on the current state of preservation, from right to left: *wḏ3t* (D10), a *nfr* (F35) above a horizontally-placed *ʿnḫ* (S34); another partially preserved *nfr* (F35) above another horizontally-placed *ʿnḫ* (S34); a partially preserved *wḏ3t* (D10). In the lower register, a *nbw* (S12) flanked by to outward facing *qnbt* (O38) signs.

DISCUSSION: This combination of motifs belongs to Design Class 3B4 "Horus eyes" and 3B6 "Gold sign (*nbw*) in a longitudinal setting" (Tufnell 1984: 120, Pl. 13 and 15). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, the combination of a *nbw* (S12) flanked by two *wḏ3t* (D10) signs first appears on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series and continues on her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 54:9, 80:37).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Jericho No. 470, wherein a *nbw* (S12) is flanked by two *sw(t)* (M23) signs instead of two *qnbt* (O38) and a rope border is present. Jericho No. 70 also is a close comparandum, comprising a *nbw* (S12) flanked by two *dšrt* (S3) in the lower register, above which appears a *ḏd* (R11) flanked by two *sw(t)* (M23) and two *wḏ3t* (D10). For an additional comparandum, see Megiddo No. 130.

DATING: MB II–MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.673. The same object is labelled DUROM.1964.676 in the Oriental Museum's collection and online catalogue.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6917.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

824 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e6b (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Two horizontal Z-spirals frame the top and bottom of the base and connect with C-, S-, and Z-spirals in the centre of the base.

DISCUSSION: Overall, the design reflects a high degree of point-symmetry. The motif belongs to Design Class 2B1 "Round interlocking spirals, with ends" (Tufnell 1984: 116–117, Pl. 5:1198). In Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, seals with this exact motif appear on Egyptian scarabs assigned by her to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 3:9, 14, 4:43).

COMPARANDA: Exact parallels of this motif are attested on sealings from el-Lahun town/Kahun and Uronarti (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 3:131, 149). For close comparanda from the southern Levant, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 766; Atlit No. 40; Jericho No. 277; Lachish No. 430, 434. For another close comparandum from Egypt, see a sealing from Elephantine (von Pilgrim 1996: Fig. 99:25).

DATING: Late 12th–13th Dyn. (1837–1630 BCE); dating based on comparanda from el-Lahun town/Kahun and Uronarti.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1394, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2031/32").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6918.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

823



1 cm

824



1 cm

825 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7[?] or D8[?]/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the head broken off, obscuring confident typological assignation. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 8.4 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (H); 1.5 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. A large, left-facing striding quadruped with a falcon head, wing, and downward-facing tail raises one of its forelegs almost at a 90 degree angle. There is a twig under the quadruped's belly, and a triangular motif between the two hind legs.

DISCUSSION: The figure should be identified as a griffin based on its lion-like body, wing, and falcon head. This motif belongs to Design Class 9F "Heraldic beasts" (Tufnell 1984: 134, Pl. 41:2656, 2675). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, griffins first appear on seals assigned to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 62:24–28). While heraldic beasts also appear on scarabs assigned to her Late Palestinian Series, most tend to be engraved in another style and do not bear wings (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 101:12–38). Nevertheless, the pose in which this figure was engraved appears restricted to scarabs assigned to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 99:3, 100:18, 101:2, 26).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 78 depicts a left-facing sphinx with a foreleg extended in a very similar manner to the present depiction, also with a branch placed directly under the figure's belly. Similarly, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1017 depicts a lion in the same pose with a branch underneath its belly; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 96 is similar but the branch is replaced by a *nfr* (F35). Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 958 is a sphinx in a similar position with a stylized branch or flower under its belly and a long curl extending backward form its head. Together, these scarabs provide the closest comparanda to the present object. For more general depictions of griffins, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 491; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 16; Dan No. 2; ʿEin Samiya No. 8; Jericho No. 341, 581; Megiddo No. 316.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda from Tell el-ʿAjjul.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.608.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 6919. Assignation to Lachish follows (faint) inscription on object and photography reference on the CSAPI index card (including halftones based on negatives presumably kept at the British Museum, reference "TD. 2031/32"). Note that all other items numbered in the 6910s were registered as surface finds.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

826 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). PRESERVATION: broken. Slight chipping on the outer right edge of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H); 1.7 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.8 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A symmetrical composition comprising from top to bottom: a horizontally arranged schematic and partial *ḫȝ/mḥw* (M16) on a *nb* (V30); *rʿ* (N5); *nfr* (F35); *nb* (V30); flanking this central column, addorsed *jʿrt* (I12) cobras wearing *dšrt* (S3) crowns, below which are two almost horizontal, symmetrical *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs.

DISCUSSION: While the cobras are not attached to one another, this composition can be attributed to Design Class 3B1d "Cobras, addorsed, linked and crowned" (Tufnell 1984: 118, Pl. 10:1515–1525). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, addorsed cobras wearing a red crown appear on Egyptian scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 8:10). Addorsed, disconnected cobras flanking an Egyptian sign above a *nb* (V30) appear on a seal assigned to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 52:51), while the motif of partial papyrus stems is a characteristic of her Late Palestinian Series (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 74:39, 43).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Jericho No. 353, which depicts two addorsed (uncrowned) cobras flanking an *ʿnḫ* (S34) above a *nb* (V30). For similar depictions of the schematic *ḫȝ/mḥw* (M16), see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 354; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 105, 427; Gezer No. 16; Jericho No. 151; Lachish No. 371; Rishon LeZion No. 124.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.612.

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. Area 6000,[1] Object no. 6922.

① Area determined by the ink registry no. on the item's back ("D/6000").

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

825



826



827 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67/EP 9/Side 24 (Rowe), B2/0/e2 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: complete. WEIGHT: 1.13 gr. MEASUREMENTS: 12.6 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Egyptian hieroglyphs fill the base, from right to left: a large *j* (M17); a large *mn* (Y5) below which appears a schematic *n* (N35); a schematic *rʿ* (N5) and a single vertical stroke (Z1) in oblique position underneath; a schematic vertical *nb* (V30) that connects with the border.

DISCUSSION: The signs can be interpreted as *Jmn-rʿ nb*, or "Amun-Re (is my) lord". This composition belongs to Design Class 11C "Names of deities" (Keel 1995: § 639–650).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel from the southern Levant could be identified. Comparanda for the engraving of the formula include: Tel Eton No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 143, 450, 460, 508, 528, 533, 613, 615, 747; Gezer No. 435; Lachish No. 643, 692; Megiddo No. 181, 202; Tel Ridan No. 7. This formula appears to have developed from earlier 18th Dyn. seals such as Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 216, where the vertical *nb* (V30) appears left of *j* (M17), a large *mn* (Y5), and a schematic *n* (N35).

DATING: Late 18th–20th Dyn. (1425–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology (e.g., Lachish No. 902; note Lachish No. 631, which has been assigned an 18th Dyn. date).

COLLECTION: Cambridge (UK); Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, Inv. No. D 1961.124 D.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Object no. 6923.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

828 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D4/0/d5ʾ (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. Material identification based on parallels for this motif and state of knowledge about scarabs of a similar typology. PRESERVATION: broken. When viewing the base, the area by the upper perforation hole and the right side of the upper register have chipped away. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 9.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. An elongated rectangular divider organises the base into two horizontal registers. In the upper register, a *wꜣḏ* (M13) is flanked by two inward-facing *sw(t)* (M23). In the lower register, a *ḏd* (R11) is flanked by two *wꜣḏ* (M13).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 3B5 "Egyptian signs and symbols, sedge plants" (Tufnell 1984: 120, Pl. 14:1616, 1635, 1642–1644). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, the motif appears on Egyptian scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 10:3). Notably, the individual motifs can be exchanged, with *ʿnḫ* (S34) or *nfr* (F35) signs flanking a *ḏd* (R11), *zꜣ* (V17/V18), or *nfr* (F35) sign in the lower register, and an *ʿnḫ* (S34) replacing the central *wꜣḏ* (M13) in the upper register (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 10:1–2, 4, 6–8). According to Ben-Tor's study, the general composition begins to change with time, as it also appears on Egyptian scarabs assigned by her to the Second Intermediate Period, but these lack the elongated rectangular divider (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 35:2–3). Ben-Tor also lists two close comparanda assigned to her Late Palestinian Series but these are not exact parallels and the *sw(t)* (M23) is engraved in a different style (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 80:9, 28).

COMPARANDA: An exact parallel for this composition was excavated from Egypt at el-Lahun town/Kahun (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 6:284). No exact parallel could be identified so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda for the design comprise *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs flanking a *ḏd* (R11) in the lower register: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 47, 123, 435; Gezer No. 428; Jericho No. 93 (but note the upper *wꜣḏ* [M13] has also been replaced by a *nfr* [F35]). Afula No. 5 is a close comparandum both typologically and with regard to composition, especially in the rendering of the *sw(t)* (M23); however, *nfr* (F35) signs appear where *wꜣḏ* (M13) signs are engraved on the present object. For additional examples of this composition with other Egyptian signs, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 409, 475, 879, 891, 1126; Beth Shean No. 76, 185; Gezer No. 304, 487; Jericho No. 107, 252, 396, 580; Megiddo No. 163, 169, 467; Tel Nagila No. 5.

DATING: Late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); dating based on comparanda and object typology.

COLLECTION: Dublin; Weingreen Museum of Biblical Antiquities, Inv. No. WM 1412, item unlocatable at the time of writing. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2029/30").

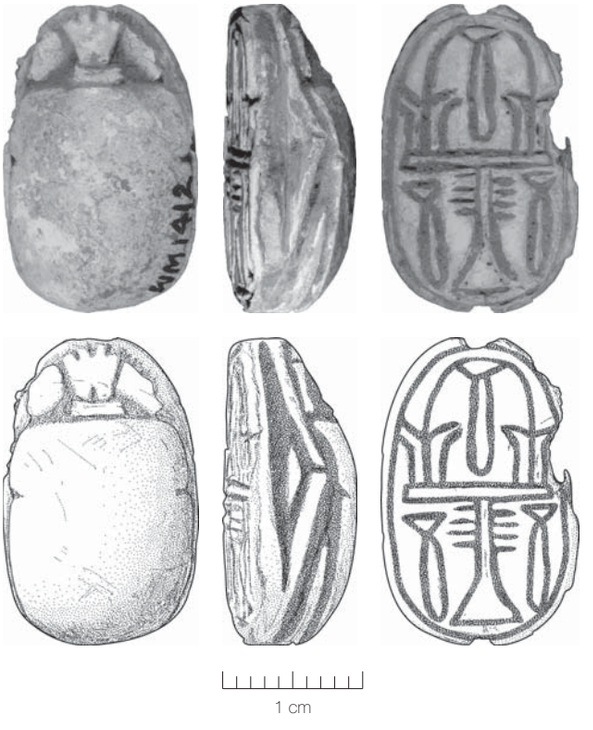
CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus D.6000, Object no. 6924.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

827



828



829 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8?/EP 65/- (Rowe), A1/III+vlv/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipping along outer edge of lower left base; part of the right side of the base has broken away. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief (quadruped).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. No border. Base is divided into three horizontal registers by two addorsed schematic *dšrt* (S3) turned 90 degrees with a possible schematic motif above each. In the middle register, a right-facing striding quadruped with downturned tail, above which is a small horizontal line. In front of the quadruped is another possible motif, probably the wing of a bird; a break in the base prevents identification.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. With regarding to composition, Megiddo No. 473 also contains three horizontal registers with curls, but it dates much earlier than the object under discussion here.

DATING: 19th?–20th? Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on style of engraving and object typology.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 2029/30").

CONTEXT: Object no. 6927. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

830 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 47/EP 27/Side 26 (Rowe), A3 or D5/I/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: cream. PRESERVATION: broken. Left portion of base is broken near perforation hole; chipping around bottom edges of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 12.2 mm (L) × 9.6 mm (W) × 5.3 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. COATING: traces of blue glaze (remnants on back of object).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. The base comprises a recumbent, right-facing bearded caprid with prominent horns that extend over a long and pointed ear to almost touch the animal's back. The caprid's body contains internal design in the form of small dots to likely indicate fur. Originally, there was another element above the animal's back, likely a twig (see, e.g., Gezer No. 582) or another narrow emblem (see, e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 414).

DISCUSSION: The horned quadruped can be identified as either an ibex or a wild goat. Tufnell originally referred to such horned animals as 'antelopes' for her Design Class 9B (Tufnell 1984: 132, Pl. 36). Keel rightfully critiqued such a restrictive identification based on the variety of horns reflected on such seals, which seem to indicate that different types of caprids were depicted (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 263–266, Fig. 37–42), and preferred the descriptor 'caprid' for his Motivklasse 9b (Keel 1995: § 518–521). Depictions of horned, recumbent caprids with beards occur on scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 97:20) and become more popular during the 18th Dyn.

COMPARANDA: For comparanda of scarabs depicting recumbent long-horned caprids with their heads turned forward, see: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 80, 414, 417, 477; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 69, 90; Gezer No. 582; Lachish No. 508.

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE) or somewhat later; more likely 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Rockefeller Museum; IAA No. 1938-773. Mentioned as "object in Palestine Museum" and marked as "NP" = "not published" in Tufnell 1958: 337.

CONTEXT: Area 6000, Locus D. 6000, Object no. 6930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

831 **OBJECT:** Scarab? (Keel 1995: § 36–127). No typological classification possible as only a photograph of the base exists. MATERIAL: fired steatite?. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: No measurements are available for this object.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear.

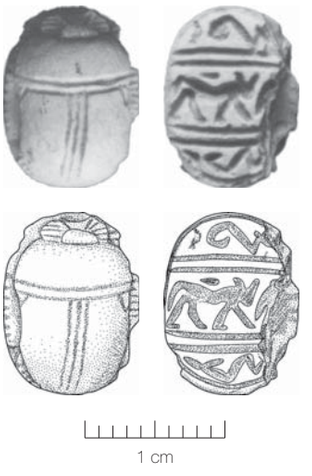
BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre is a cartouche within which three hieroglyphs are engraved, from top to bottom: either a schematic *wbn* (N8) or a *r* (D21), *rʿ* (N5), or *t* (X1) with triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2); *r* (D21); ʿ (D36). Flanking the cartouche, two columns of vertically arranged Egyptians hieroglyphs oriented inward toward the cartouche, from top to bottom: *ʿnḫ* (S34), *nfr* (F35), *ʿnḫ* (S34).

DISCUSSION: This design belongs to Design Classes 3A3 "Egyptian signs and symbols, varia", 3C "Formulae", 3D2 "Cartouche, oblong with single base line" (Tufnell 1984: 118, 121, Pl. 8:1407, 16:1756, 17:1798–1803). The glyphs in the cartouche appear to belong to what has been referred to as the *anra* script, which typically comprises various combinations of the Egyptian *r* (D21), ʿ (D36), and *n* (N35) signs (Richards 2001). According to Ben-Tor's study on scarabs dated to the Middle Bronze Age, this style of cartouche with *anra* script and symmetrical flanking elements first appears on seals assigned to her Early Palestinian Series and continues on seals assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 57:14–15, 85:34).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified for this object form the southern Levant. For the appearance of *anra* signs alongside a sun disc in a cartouche, see Jericho No. 102. This style of *ʿnḫ* (S34), with its circular head almost detached, appears on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 8, 1026 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 842.

DATING: More likely MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE) and less likely MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on attribution to Tufnell's Design Classes and Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs.

829



830



831



COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM 15804, 5090, B410").

CONTEXT: Locus D.6000, Object no. 7223.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

832 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4 or less likely B2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). Vertical notches on the sides of where the head meets the pronotum line suggest the presence of eyes; a B4 identification for head type is thus more likely than B2. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H); 2.2 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.3 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. COATING: remains of blackish-green glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. From top to bottom: an accentuated arc, notched *n* (N35), a possible *wdn* (M11) or ʿ(D36), and a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28).

DISCUSSION: This composition could be classified with Ben-Tor's Design Class 3C "Formulae" of her Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 56:5, 31, 83:26). The large size of the signs, which extend the width of the base, are similar to some scarabs bearing the so-called *anra* script wherein the signs can be carved in a vertical column (e.g., Tel Nagila No. 39). Indeed, if the middle sign is an ʿ(D36), then the pairing of a notched *n* (N35), accentuated ʿ(D36), and *ḫʿ(j)* (N28) is a sign combination that appears on other *anra* seals (e.g., Lachish No. 873).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel for this design is currently known from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 739 is a close comparandum, with large signs in a vertical column.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256m.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 7240.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

833 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3 or D6/0/e6b (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 5.5 mm (H); 1.6 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Simple single-line border. A series of twelve or thirteen round, interlocking Z-spirals forming a closed pattern. In the lower register, the bottom Z-spiral appears to actually terminate in a schematic floral motif.

DISCUSSION: This motif can be classified at Design Class 2B2 "Round interlocking spirals, unending" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 6:1271; Keel 1995: § 435). According to Ben-Tor, this motif class appears on Egyptian scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: 13–14, Pl. 4:18, 32:42); however this exact design first appears on scarabs said to be produced locally in the southern Levant and assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 159, Pl. 76:6).

COMPARANDA: The closest parallel is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 795. Other close comparanda include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 154, 642, 743, 870; Jericho No. 95; Megiddo No. 155. From Egypt, a similar design appears on a Late Middle Kingdom seal impression from Uronarti but differs in the number of spirals (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 4:199).

DATING: MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda in Ben-Tor 2007.

COLLECTION: Durham; Durham University, Oriental Museum, Inv. No. DUROM.1964.672.

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Object no. 7291. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) on CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

832



833



834 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Based on comparanda for object and motif. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping on base and crack on elytra. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Nine round interlocking Z-spirals constitute a border of sorts; near the top right portion of the base these spirals disconnect. In the centre, from top to bottom: a circle with an 'X' incised inside resembling either a *rʿ* (N5) or *njwt* (O49) sign, below which is a *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 7A1a "Continuous, round, hooked, scroll border" (Tufnell 1984: 127–128, Pl. 28). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this scroll border in combination with a *nfr* (F35) first appear on Egyptian scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 15:18, 21, 25). This combination also appears on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series, although with an oblong scroll border (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 39:4). The combination of *rʿ* (N5) and *nfr* (F35) can be read *nfr rʿ*, "beauty of Re".

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Gezer No. 305, however, the border is continuously connected and there is no X in the *rʿ* (N5). For additional comparanda from the southern Levant, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 347, 689; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 28, 81–82; Lachish No. 431, 880. From Egypt, scarab impressions from el-Lahun, el-Lahun town/Kahun, and Uronarti display combinations of a *nfr* (F35) with or without a *rʿ* (N5) encased in round and oblong scroll borders (Petrie, Brunton and Murray 1923: Pl. 64:240–243, 245, 249; Tufnell 1975: Fig 9:318–384).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on typological and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 5129/32, 452").

CONTEXT: Object no. 7292. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish is based on object number and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

835 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2 or B4/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. Material identification based on comparanda. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Four small rectangles are engraved at the top, bottom, left, and right of the base. From each rectangle, two double, thread-like lines emerge that twist and cross over one another and are threaded through each of the four rectangles, resulting in a complex woven design.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 6B2a "Convoluted coils, knot-like, central 'x' cross" (Tufnell 1984: 125, Pl. 24:2083, 2088, 2096, 2102). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif first appears on seals assigned to her Early Palestinian Series; however, only two rectangles appear at the top and bottom of the base on these examples (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 62:14, 17, 18, 21, 22). This specific motif with four rectangular elements first appears on seals assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 88:7, 27, 40, 41, 44, 50).

COMPARANDA: For comparanda of this motif, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 56, 94, 685, 857; Amman No. 31; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 177; Gezer No. 263, 288, 456; Jericho No. 56, 130, 551; Pella No. 73; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 12.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on motif comparanda and object typology, specifically the B-head type as it is more representative of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD 716/7").

CONTEXT: No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) on CSAPI index card.

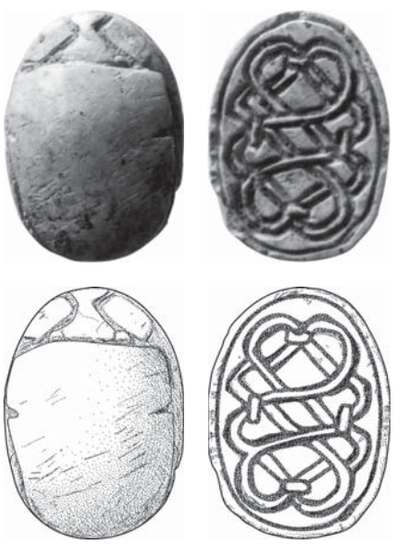
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

834



1 cm

835



1 cm

836 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). Based on photographs, the head type cannot be determined with certainty. According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), which is employed here to better capture the typology of hard semi-precious stone scarabs more broadly, this seal could potentially be categorized as D8+FI/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: obsidian[?] or quartz[?]. COLOUR: blackish-green (opaque). PRESERVATION: broken. Upper portion of the base has broken off along perforation; the head is too worn for typological classification. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 1.8 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.0 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For parallels from the site, see Lachish No. 758, 786–787.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.620.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish based on Manchester Museum registration and grouping of this object with material from the site.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

837 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 6/EP 67+EP 29/Side 24 (Rowe), D5/III+vlv[?]/e2 (Tufnell/Keel). PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping around the sides; on the base, the centre of the falcon's body is missing as it appears the base has broken along where the perforation channel is located. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 2.1 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with interior design.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A large falcon standing on a *nb* (V30) with internal hatching faces right and wears the red crown (*dšrt* [S3]). The figure is engraved with a large eye and internal vertical lines on the body to indicate feathers. Behind this figure, a cobra with its long tail pointed down; similarly, the body of the cobra contains internal horizontal lines inside the body to indicate scales. In front of the falcon, a vertical line.

DISCUSSION: The falcon can be interpreted as Horus given that it is shown wearing the red crown and standing on a *nb* (V30). The cobra behind Horus should be identified as Wadjet, the protective goddess of Lower Egypt. The element in front of the falcon might be a schematic *j* (M17) sign based on comparanda for this base design.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel could be identified from the southern Levant. Beth Shean No. 14 is a scarab depicting a falcon on a *nb* (V30), but the figure does not wear a crown. Jerusalem No. 136 shows two addorsed crowned falcons flanking a uraeus and standing on a large *nb* (V30). For a depiction of a uraeus, falcon, and *j* (M17) in front of the falcon, see Beth Shean No. 113. For depictions of a winged uraeus with outstretched wings and a falcon wearing the red crown on a *nb* (V30), see Beth Shean No. 98; Beth Shemesh No. 102; Ekron No. 4; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 159, 602; Reḥov No. 1.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 1980.614.

CONTEXT: Object no. 7312. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

836



837



838 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to the typology established by David 2019a, this object could also be classified as D8+FI/-/O/O/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: dark purple. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.2 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 6.8 mm (H); 2.0 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.2 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 681, 753, 841 are close typological parallels in amethyst. For non-amethyst scarabs of the same typological classification for the head and back, see Gibeon No. 35 (green jasper), Kafr Som No. 1 (greenschist facies), but note the sides are different and the bases are engraved.

DATING: Probably MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Liverpool; World Museum, Ancient Egypt Collection, Inv. No. 56.131.256c.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish is based on the grouping of this object by Liverpool Museum with other material from the site.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

839 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/I/e7 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11/EP 27/Side 55[?] (Rowe). MATERIAL: obsidian[?] or quartz[?]. COLOUR: blackish-brown. Material identification based on photographs alone. An obsidian scarab was reported by Brandl 2014: 6–7 at Ras ʿAli (= Naḥal Tzippori No. 3), with reference to two others at Sidmant el-Gebel (Mayana cemeteries) in Group 1300 (= Petrie and Brunton 1924: 18, Pl. 40:35, 40; 43:4). Brandl 2014: 7 suggests Crete, Ethiopia, or southwest Arabia as locations for the procurement of obsidian (see also Keel 1995: 148). The break along the right side of the scarab is glassy looking and suggestive of obsidian. Smokey quartz is an alternative identification. PRESERVATION: broken. Chipping occurs around the base, and a piece of the body has broken off on the right side of the legs. MEASUREMENTS: 20.7 mm (L) × 13.8 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 2.1 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting of photographs and similar sized perforation hole diameters suggest the object was drilled from both sides.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: The closest typological comparanda are in amethyst include Gibeon No. 62, Lachish No. 435, 757. For other scarabs with a similar head type but with inscribed bases, see Acco No. 265; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 871; Beth Shean No. 4, Jericho No. 270. For dark hard stone scarabs with an uninscribed base, see also Lachish No. 758, 786.

DATING: 12th–13th[?] Dyn. (1939–1630 BCE); dating based on comparanda of typological features.

COLLECTION: Oxford; Ashmolean Museum, Inv. No. 1955.503(151).

CONTEXT: Area 4000[?], Square T.1, Cave 4004[?] (MB III–LB IIB, early/mid 17th–early 12th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5790. Site assignation is based on the Ashmolean Museum's grouping of this object with material from Lachish. No context information is available for this item, but the object no. suggests a provenance from Cave 4004.

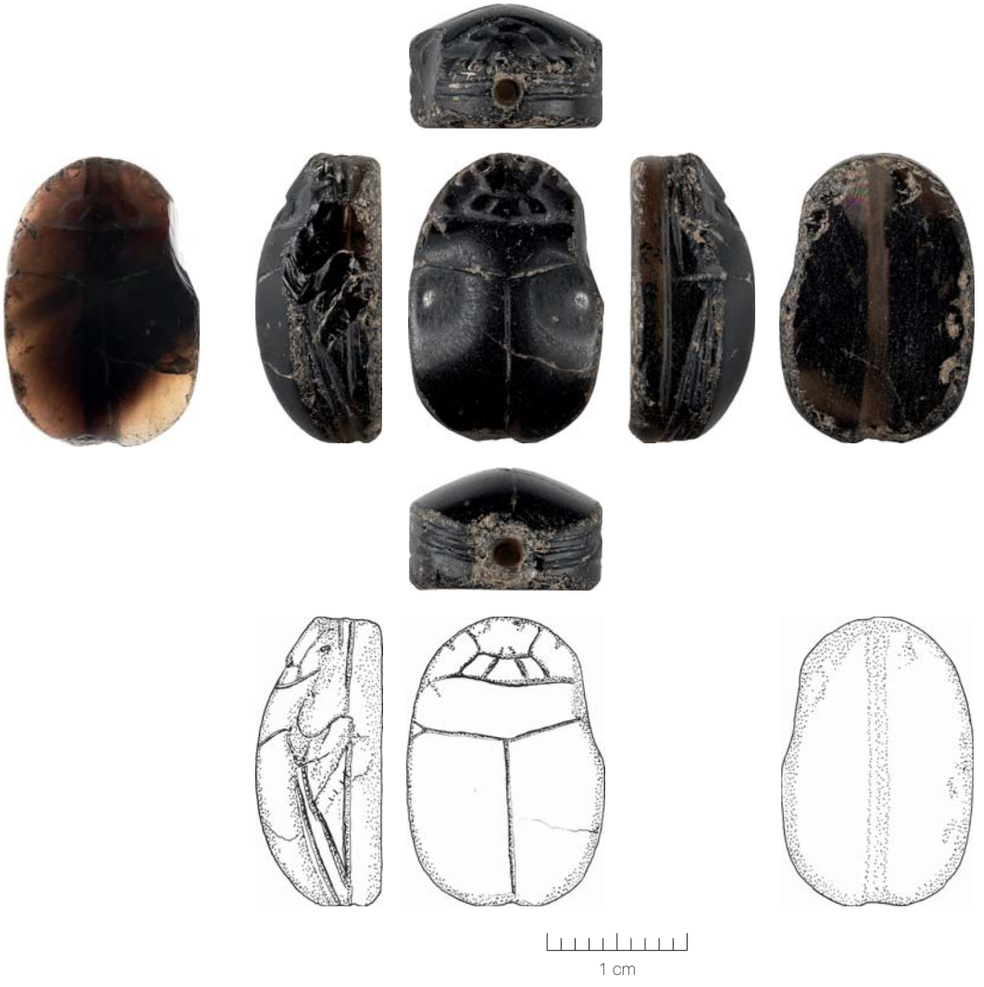
① See Lachish No. 426.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

838



839



840 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 32[?] or HC 71[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to David's typology established for uninscribed amethyst scarabs (David 2019a: 64), this seal could be categorized as D8/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: purple (with cream-coloured mottling). PRESERVATION: complete. A vertical crack runs through the base. MEASUREMENTS: 12.7 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W) × 5.7 mm (H); 2.3 mm (D, perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. Remarks: This object was not included by David 2019a in her publication of the (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, although it meets the criteria.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For amethyst scarabs with a similar head type, see Tel Abel Beth Maacah No. 5; Lachish No. 296–297, 310, 682, 730, 752, 754; Megiddo No. 132, 453, 569, 645–646; es-Samuʿ No. 15; Shiqmona No. 21. Additional non-amethyst parallels for this object can be found in other semi-precious stones such as carnelian (Lachish No. 3, 731), quartz (Lachish No. 684–685), rock crystal (Lachish No. 937), and green jasper (Lachish No. 756). See comments on Lachish No. 3 regarding possible overlap between groups of semi-precious stone scarabs.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and study by David 2019a.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 21879.

CONTEXT: Areas 100–200, Square A.5, Tomb 224 (Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB, beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 5057.

① See Lachish No. 108.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

841 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8[?]/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 31[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). According to the typology established by David 2019a, this object could be classified as D8/V/O/O/O. MOUNTING: type Ø[?] (remains of metal in perforation only). The fillings of the perforation holes are possibly the patina remnants of a corroded bronze or copper mounting. MATERIAL: amethyst. COLOUR: pink. While the light pink colour of this gemstone may result in a suggested identification as rose quartz, Harrell 2012: 4 has noted that stones dated to the Middle Kingdom and Second Intermediate Period and identified as such are indeed pale amethyst. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 13.4 mm (L) × 9.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H); 1.9 mm (D, front perforation, measured digitally); 1.7 mm (D, rear perforation, measured digitally).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); backlighting reveals object was drilled from both sides, the two points meeting slightly out of alignment. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group[?].

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 681, 753, 838 are close typological parallels in amethyst. For non-amethyst scarabs of the same typological classification for the head and back, see Gibeon No. 35 (green jasper), Kafr Som No. 1 (greenschist facies), but note the sides are different and the bases are engraved.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Manchester; Manchester Museum, Inv. No. 22012.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X, Object no. 3066.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

840



841



842 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type C5/0/e2 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11/EP 5/- (Rowe). Photographs are of the scarab mounted; as such, the mount obscures the sides of the scarab preventing a more secure typological identification. MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: dark green. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 7.6 mm (H); 23.9 mm (L) × 22.7 mm (W) × 4.5 mm (D, ring).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: probably Green Jasper Scarabs group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: No exact typological parallel could be identified. For similar uninscribed scarabs of this colour and/or material, see Lachish No. 351, 720, 756, 758, 786–787, 836, 912; Reḥov No. 48; Taanach No. 20.

DATING: 13th[?] Dyn. (1760–1630 BCE); MB II[?] (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating based on head type and contemporary parallels of jasper and other quartz scarabs mounted in gold and bronze settings.

COLLECTION: New York; The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Inv. No. 34.126.8.

CONTEXT: No context information available for this object. Site assignation is based on the grouping of this object with material from Lachish by the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

843 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67/EP 1/- (Rowe), B2/0/- (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W). Inferred from NYU index card ("1/2 × 3/8", in inches).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. From right to left: right facing *j* (M17), *ḥ* (V28), *p* (Q3), *t* (X1), vertical *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs can be interpreted as *j Ptḥ nb‹j›* "Oh Ptah, (my) lord".

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include: Azekah No. 29; Beth Shean No. 42, 90, 122, 248; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 44–45; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 451, 498, 700, 722, 801; Tell Jemmeh No. 148; Megiddo No. 185.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40.597, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; b/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on NYU registry and negatives, currently unlocatable.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Context information based on CSAPI index card (K. Jaroš).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

844 **OBJECT:** Unknown seal type. "Seal" according to NYU index card; possibly a scaraboid (note dimensions). MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). Inferred from NYU index card ("9/16 × 1/2", in inches).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded.

BASE: While no photographs of this object exist, NYU index card reads: "Antelope(?) on reverse", which implies long horns but may refer to a caprid.

DATING: Unknown.

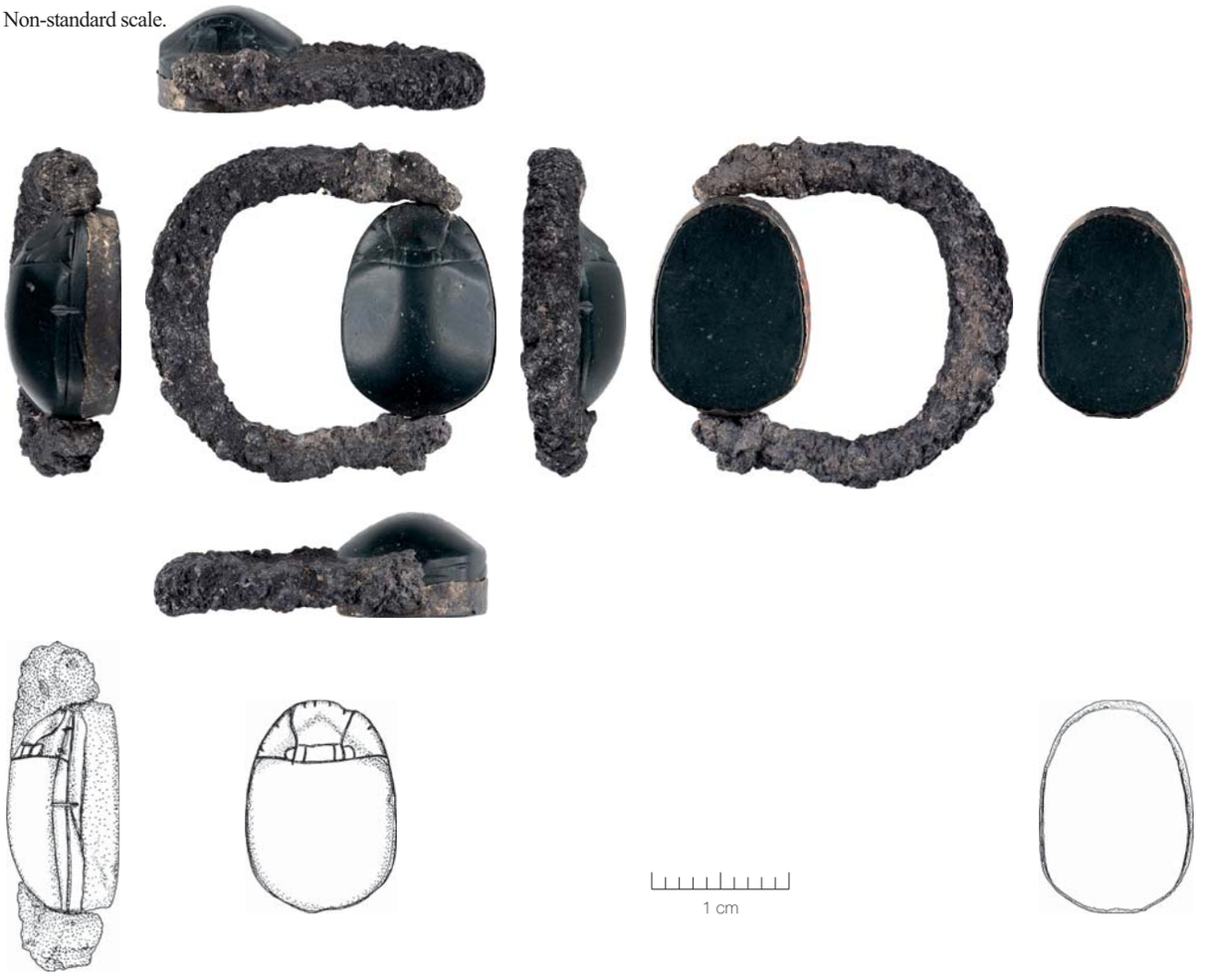
COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40.598, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; CSAPI index card based on NYU registry (no photograph).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X.

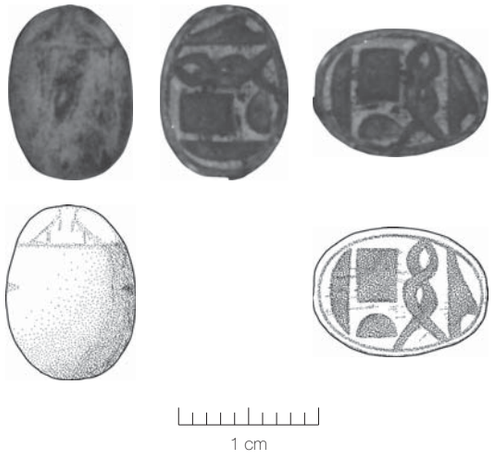
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

Non-standard scale.

842



843



No image available **844**

845 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127). Photograph is only of base, preventing typological classification. MATERIAL: unknown. PRESERVATION: broken. Based on photograph, it appears the upper portion of the base is damaged, obscuring any motif above the uraei. MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W). Inferred from NYU index card ("11/16 × 7/16", in inches).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with interior hatching (*nb*).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Thick rope border. Three erect uraei with U-shaped crowns facing right, below which is a large *nb* (V30) with interior hatching.

DISCUSSION: Due to the low quality of the photograph, the presence of U-shaped crowns in the upper part of the base, as attested by several comparanda (see below), cannot be fully ascertained; but the space above the uraei requires additional motifs, and despite the damage over the leftmost uraeus, some vertical elements of such crowns may be recognised.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Depictions of multiple erect uraei above a *nb* (V30) sign are attested in several variants: for uraei with simple crowns, see Ashkelon No. 64; Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 14; for uraei with discs and/or crowns, see Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 5; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 162, 166, 202, 505, 527, 632, 737–738; Tel Ridan No. 3; and note the double impression on a fragmentary tablet from Emar, Beyer 2001: 284–285, Pl. M, Pl. 37b, no. K1; for uraei without crowns, see Gezer No. 196; Megiddo No. 522. For depictions of uraei encased by a rope border, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 261, 610 and Megiddo No. 550. Comparanda from Egypt are listed in Hornung and Staehelin 1976: 387 no. B 79, Pl. 114:B 79.

DATING: 19th?–20th? Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40.601, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; b/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on NYU registry and negatives, currently unlocatable.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. Surface find[?]. No context information available for this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM/CU]*

846 **OBJECT:** Seal impression (Keel 1995: § 291–322). According to the CSAPI index card, an oval seal was used to make the impression. MATERIAL: unfired clay.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Unknown.

DISCUSSION: No other information available.

DATING: MB (20th–mid 16th c. BCE); date according to CSAPI index card (O. Keel).

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area 7000, Square J.26, Cave 7012 (LB IB–LB III, early 15th–late 12th c. BCE),[1] Alcove 7015 (LB IB, early 15th–early 14th c. BCE),[2] Object no. 70427/01. This object was not mentioned in the excavation report's description for Locus 7015. Its attribution to Lachish and this locus is based on handwritten notes (O. Keel, copied from a registry[?]) on the CSAPI index card.

① Rectangular cavity on the northern fringe of the British excavations containing a moulded figurine comparable to the ones found in potter's workshop 4034 (Tufnell 1958: 312). — ② Recess in the north-western wall of Cave 7012, below floor level; contained the skull of an infant, a lamp, and a dipper juglet contemporary with Fosse Temple Structure I, thus representing an early phase of the cave (Tufnell 1958: 306).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

847 **OBJECT:** Scarab[?] (Keel 1995: § 36–127). PRESERVATION: broken. Approximately less than half of the object remains. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 6.0* mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: unknown.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Linear marks; unidentifiable.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified based on the item's bad state of preservation.

DATING: Unknown.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 1493").

CONTEXT: Surface find[?]. No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

848 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A6[?] or D5[?]/I+vlv[?]/- (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11/EP 29/- (Rowe). No photographs of side or base available. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?]. Unable to verify material based on photograph, but likely fired steatite (with well preserved glaze) based on parallels for object. PRESERVATION: complete. Appears complete, but this cannot be checked for base and sides in the absence of photographs. MEASUREMENTS: 19.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W). Inferred from NYU index card ("3/4 × 1/2", in inches).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: According to index card, hieroglyphs (which the card does not spell out) are on the base but no photographs of the base are available.

COMPARANDA: No comparanda can be identified due to lack of base documentation.

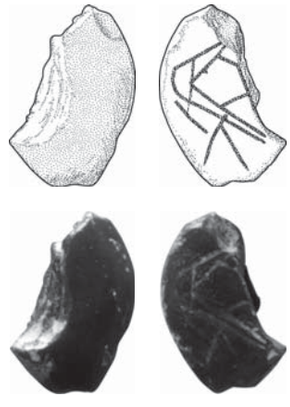
845



1 cm

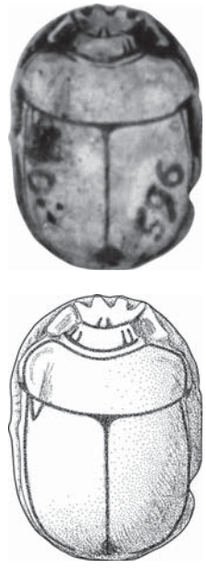
No image available **846**

847



1 cm

848



1 cm

DATING: Unknown.

COLLECTION: New York; New York University, The Classics Department, Inv. No. 40.596, item unlocatable at the time of writing. No online catalogue; b/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on NYU registry and negatives, currently unlocatable.

CONTEXT: Provenance unsecured. Surface find[?]. No context information available for this object.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

849 **OBJECT:** Seal impression (Keel 1995: § 291–322). MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. Fragment. MEASUREMENTS: unknown.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Web of round interlocking S-spirals, and a single Z-spiral preserved at the right.

DISCUSSION: This motif is a combination of Design Class 2B2 "Round interlocking spirals, unending" and Design Class 7A1a "Scroll border, continuous, round, hooked" (Tufnell 1984: 117, 127–128, Pl. 6:1268, 28:2250, 2252). According to Ben-Tor's study, this motif appears on Egyptian scarabs assigned to the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 3:4, 37, 47, 5:11, 20) and her Late Palestinian Series scarabs (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 75:50, 90: 36, 38).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparanda are Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 115 and Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1159. Other close comparanda include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 60; Gezer No. 58, 217, 432; Lachish No. 395.

DATING: More likely MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); less likely late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda, specifically Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 115, 1159, which Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 90:36, 38 assigns to her Late Palestinian Series.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown. The item was probably recovered by the Wellcome-Marston expedition 1932–1938, but cannot be located. B/w prints in the CSAPI archive are based on negatives presumably held at the British Museum (CSAPI index card reads "BM TD. 5133/34, 455/6").

CONTEXT: Surface find. Locus D/X. Assignation to Lachish follows photography reference (TD = Tell ed-Duweir) and CSAPI index card.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[NBM]*

850 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete on its upper and left sides, and is chipped on its right side. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0* mm (L) × 10.0* mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 524.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border[?] (see discussion below). Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider terminating in loops. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lyhwkl / bn yhw*[*ḥ*]*y*, "Belonging to Yehukal son of Yeho[ḥa]y".

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Its only peculiarity lies in its rare type of decorated divider, consisting of a double-line ending in loops. The border is only visible in the lower part of the bulla and seems to be of the single-line type; yet, since the impression is incomplete, a double-line border cannot be totally excluded (see Avigad and Sass 1997: 205, No. 524). The reading of the names follows Aharoni (Aharoni 1968a: 166; Aharoni 1975: 20) and is also supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115). The name Yehukal is frequent in the Iron Age Hebrew epigraphic corpus: it appears on seal Jerusalem No. 126 (*lṭbšlm yhwkl*), on bullae Jerusalem No. 349 (*lyhwkl bn šlmyhw bn šby*), Jerusalem No. 534 (*lyhwkl bn ʾḥmlk*), on stamped handles Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 10 = Maresha No. 1 (*lrpʾy yhwkl*), on ostracon 21 from Arad (*yhwkl*; Aharoni 1981: 42–43), and in the Hebrew Bible (single name-bearer, an official of King Zedekiah, see Jer 37:3; Clines 1998: 153). The patronym, Yehoḥay, has no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, to the best of our knowledge, nor in the Hebrew Bible.

COMPARANDA: The divider used in this item is of a rare type ("double-line ending in loops"), with only two provenanced parallels currently known (Jerusalem No. 72, 540, with slight variations in design).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

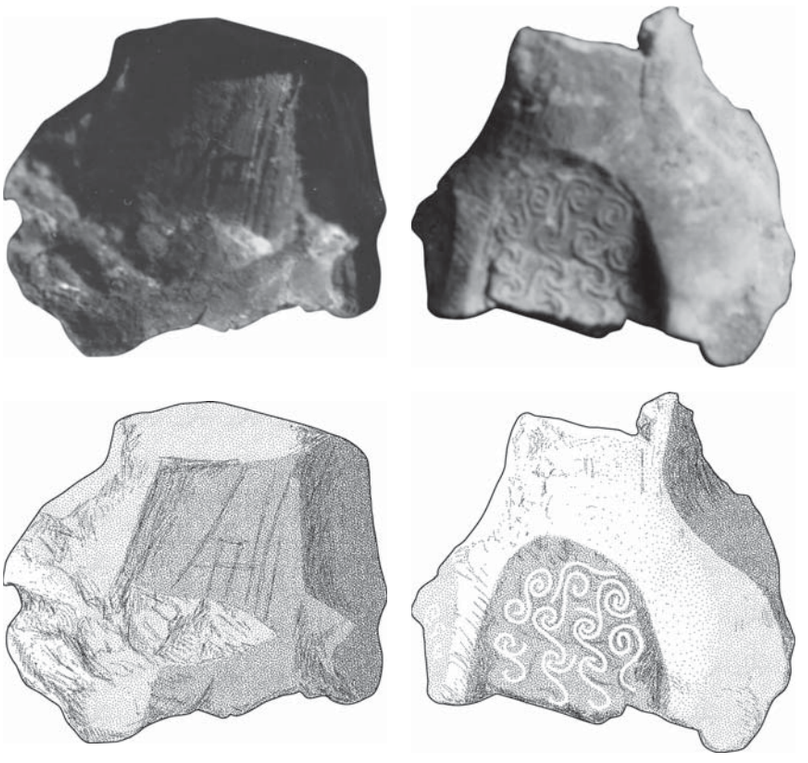
COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/1.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/1.

① Small room unearthed under the courtyard of the "Solar shrine" with a a stone-lined pit, containing typical Level II pottery and epigraphic finds: a Hebrew ostracon, 17 clay sealings found in a cylindrical juglet, and six inscribed shekel weights (Aharoni 1975: 19–25; for the juglet see Aharoni 1975: Pl. 21:18 and 47:27). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 850–866.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 166, No. 1, Pl. 11:1; Vattioni 1971a: No. 253; Hestrin [2]1973: 24, No. 27; Aharoni 1975: 20–21, No. 1, Pl. 20:1; Herr 1978: 92–93, No. 22; Davies 1991: 153, No. 100.253; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 205, No. 524; Renz and Röllig 2003: 239–240, No. 10.31; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115, No. 1. *[EL]*

849



1 cm

850



1:2





1 cm

851 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. A deep diagonal crack cuts across the bulla. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 571.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm b / n ʿnyhw*, "Belonging to Naḥum son of ʿAnanyahu".

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. The reading of the names follows Aharoni (Aharoni 1968a: 166; Aharoni 1975: 21) and is supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115). The name Naḥum is otherwise attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 97 (*lnḥm bn šʾlh*), Jerusalem No. 294 ([…]*yḥw nḥm*), Jerusalem No. 594 ([*l*]*yrḥm*[ʾ]*l bn nḥm* [*bn*] *bs*), stamped handles ʿEn Gedi No. 10 = Tel Goded No. 8 = Lachish No. 243–244–908 (*lnḥm ʿbdy*), Gibeon No. 9 = Jerusalem No. 37 (*lnḥm ḥṣlyhw*) and Lachish No. 247 (other seal reading *lnḥm ḥṣlyhw*), and possibly on an incised jar handle from Jerusalem ([…]*nḥm*; Naveh 2000:7). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by three characters, and is vocalized either "Naḥam" (1Chr 4:19), "Naḥum" (Nah 1:1, under the *plene* spelling *nḥwm*) or "Neḥum" (Neh 7:7) (see Clines 2001: 654–655, 665). The patronym, ʿAnanyahu, has currently no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. It does appear in the Hebrew Bible however, under the shorter form ʿAnanyah (ʿ*nnyh*; Neh 3:23) and the hypochoristic forms ʿAnany (ʿ*nny*; 1Chr 3:24) and ʿAnan (ʿ*nn*; Neh 10:27) (one attestation each, see Clines 2007: 509).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/2.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/2.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 166, No. 2, Pl. 11:2; Vattioni 1971a: No. 254; Hestrin [2]1973: 25, No. 28; Aharoni 1975: 20–21, Pl. 20:2; Herr 1978: 93–94, No. 24; Davies 1991: 153, No. 100.254; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 217, No. 571; Renz and Röllig 2003: 305, No. 14.7; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115, No. 2. *[EL]*

852 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is not completely preserved, and the letters in the lower register are quite faint. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 577.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Border not visible. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnryhw* [*b*]*n prʿš* ("Belonging to Neryahu [so]n of Parʿosh").

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. The second register is less easily legible than the first one. The reading *prʿš* for the patronym was proposed by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 21), but was considered uncertain by Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: 219). It was however supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115) and is therefore adopted here. The name Neryahu is attested on seal Jerusalem No. 4 (*yšʾmʿl nryhw*), bulla Jerusalem No. 88 (*lnryhw dmlyhw*), ostracon 1 from Lachish (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 303–305), ostracon 31 from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 56–59), an ostracon from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 535–539), and a graffito from Tel Beersheva (Renz 1995: 236). Under its shortened form Nera (*nrʾ*), it appears on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 226 = Jerusalem No. 39 = Lachish No. 921 (*lnrʾ šbnʾ*), Ramat Raḥel No. 2 (other seal reading *lnrʾ šbnʾ*), and under the form Nery (*nry*) on stamped handle Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by a single character, either in the full form Neryahu (e.g., Jer 36:14.32, 43:6) or in the shortened form Neryah (*nryh*; e.g., Jer 32:12.16, 36:4.8, 43:3, 45:1, 51:59) (see Clines 2001: 756–757). The patronym, Parʿosh, has currently no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, but is borne by two characters in the Hebrew Bible (e.g., Ezra 2:3; Neh 10:15; see Clines 2001: 776).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/3.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/3.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 166, No. 3, Pl. 11:3; Vattioni 1971a: No. 255; Hestrin [2]1973: 25, No. 29; Aharoni 1975: 20–21, Pl. 20:3; Herr 1978: 94, No. 25; Davies 1991: 153, No. 100.255; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 218–219, No. 577; Renz and Röllig 2003: 317, No. 14.43; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *115–*116, No. 3. *[EL]*

851



1:2









1 cm

852



1:2









1 cm

853 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on document sealing. Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is not totally complete on its left side, and a diagonal crack cuts across the bulla. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 523.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The seal impression bears the Hebrew inscription *lyhwʾl* / *myʾmn*, "Belonging to Yeho'el (son of) Mi'amen".

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. The reading of the names follows Aharoni (1975: 21) and is supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116). The name Yeho'el has currently no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (Clines 1998: 116–117). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by thirteen characters, under the variant form *yw'l* ("Yo'el"; e.g., 1Sam 8:2; 2Sam 23:36; Joel 1:1; Ezra 10:43; Neh 11:9; 1Chr 4:35, 5:4.12, 6:21, 7:3, 15:7, 27:20; 2Chr 29:12; see Clines 1998: 161–162). The patronym, Mi'amen, is attested on an ostracon from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Beit-Arieh 2007: 146–147). It does not appear in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2001: 250–251), but is related, according to Aharoni, to the biblical name Miyamin (*mymyn*; e.g., Ezra 10:25; Neh 10:8, 12:5; 1Chr 24:9; see Clines 2001: 261–262), assuming that the *aleph* in Mi'amen is a *mater lectionis* (Aharoni 1975: 21).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/4.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/4.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 166, No. 4, Pl. 11:4; Vattioni 1971a: No. 256; Hestrin [2]1973: 25, No. 30; Aharoni 1975: 20–21, Pl. 20:4; Herr 1978: 92, No. 21; Davies 1991: 154, No. 100.256; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 205, No. 523; Renz and Röllig 2003: 237–238, No. 10.25; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116, No. 4. *[EL]*

854 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. Only two-thirds of the bulla (left part) are preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0* mm (L) × 9.0* mm (W); 11.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W, restored). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 416.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border type (single-line?). Two registers separated by a decorated double-line divider of unclear type. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads [*l*]*šbnyhw* / [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*, "[Belonging to] Shebanyahu, [son | servant of] the king".

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. The reading of the names follows Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 21) and is supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116). The names Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) and Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḥgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bulla Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*l*']*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), Jerusalem No. 40 (*lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*) and Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, these names are borne by four characters: three priests (Neh 10:5, 12:14; 1Chr 15:24) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than the Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). The restitution of the missing part of the bulla as *bn* ("son") or *ʿbd* ("servant") is inspired from parallels like Beth Zur No. 12 (*bn hmlk*) and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 74 (*ʿbd hmlk*). For a recent detailed discussion of the present item, including its paleography, chronology and administrative title, see van der Veen 2014: 104–124.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/5.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/5.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 166–167, No. 5, Pl. 11:5; Vattioni 1971a: No. 257; Hestrin [2]1973: 24, No. 26; Aharoni 1975: 20–21, Pl. 20:5; Herr 1978: 94, No. 26; Davies 1991: 154, No. 100.257; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 175, No. 416; Renz and Röllig 2003: 383, No. 21.13; van der Veen 2014: 104–124; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116, No. 5. *[EL]*

853



1:2









1 cm

854



1:2





RTI scan



1 cm

855 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on document sealing. Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is virtually complete, only lacking part of its left and right borders. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 530.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Double-line border. Three inscribed lines, no divider. Aniconic. The inscription reads *lyrmyhw / bn ṣpnyhw / bn nby*, "Belonging to Yirmiyahu son of Ṣepanyahu son of Nobai". A second, incomplete, impression of the same seal occurs at Lachish (Lachish No. 856).

DISCUSSION: The reading of the names follows Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 21) and is supported by a recent reexamination of the bulla using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116–*117). For a stamped handle most probably related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Yirmiyahu is otherwise attested on stamped handle Beth Shemesh No. 191 (*lḥsd' yrmyhw*), and on ostraca from Arad (Aḥituv 2008: 126–133) and Lachish (Aḥituv 2008: 56–57). In the Hebrew Bible, the name Yirmiyahu is borne by ten characters, either in its full form or under the shorter form Yirmiyah (*yrmyh*) (e.g., Jer 1:1, 35:3, 52:1; Neh 10:3, 12:12.34; 1Chr 5:24, 12:5.11.14; see Clines 1998: 300–301). The patronym, Ṣepanyahu (including the shorter form Ṣepanyah), is also attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 632 (*lrp'y*[*hw*] *bn ṣpnyh*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 13 = Jerusalem No. 105 = Lachish No. 253–254, 274 (*lsmk*[*y'*] *ṣpnyhw*). In the Hebrew Bible, the names Ṣepanyahu/Ṣepanyah are borne by four characters (Jer 21:1; Zeph 1:1; Zech 6:10.14; 1Chr 6:21; see Clines 2010: 152). The name Nobai has currently no other attestations than Lachish No. 855 and Lachish No. 856 among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew items, and is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2001: 587). Aharoni therefore conjectured the presence of a now effaced *aleph* at the end of the name, yielding the word *nby'* ("prophet") (Aharoni 1975: 21–22). The pictures at our disposal do not support this conclusion however, nor does the inscription's recent reexamination using RTI technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116–*117).

COMPARANDA: The owner of the present seal is most probably the same person as the owner of stamped handle Lachish No. 941, as both impressions bear the exact same name and patronym. This would then constitute one of the few cases where different seals belonging to the same person are attested (see for example Arad No. 14–16, Jerusalem No. 56–57, Jerusalem No. 72–73), and the only case known to us of a person attested both in a Hebrew bulla and a Hebrew stamped handle (among provenanced Iron Age items). Note that the organization of the present item, with three inscribed lines, no field dividers, and featuring the grandfather's name, is atypical, with only two other attestations known to us, namely Jerusalem No. 349, 597.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/6.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/6.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 167, No. 6, Pl. 11:6; Vattioni 1971a: No. 258; Hestrin [2]1973: 25, No. 31; Aharoni 1975: 21–22, Pl. 20:6; Herr 1978: 93, No. 23; Davies 1991: 154, No. 100.258; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 207, No. 530; Renz and Röllig 2003: 257, No. 10.83; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *116–*117, No. 6. *[EL]*

856 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. Only the left part of the bulla remains readable, furthermore a big hole pierces the centre of the lower part of the bulla. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 530.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Double-line border. Three inscribed lines, no divider. Aniconic. The inscription reads […]*myhw /* […*ṣ*]*pnyhw /* […],"[…]yahu […Ṣ]epanyahu […]". A second impression of the same seal occurs at Lachish (Lachish No. 855) and provides the complete inscription: *lyrmyhw bn ṣpnyhw bn nby*, "Belonging to Yirmiyahu son of Ṣepanyahu son of Nobai".

DISCUSSION: This bulla is impressed with the same seal as Lachish No. 855 (see that entry for a full discussion of the names).

COMPARANDA: The owner of the present seal is most probably the same person as the owner of stamped handle Lachish No. 941, as both impressions bear the exact same name and patronym. This would then constitute one of the few cases where different seals belonging to the same person are attested (see for example Arad No. 14–16, Jerusalem No. 56–57, Jerusalem No. 72–73), and the only case known to us (among provenanced Iron Age items) of a person attested both in a Hebrew bulla and a Hebrew stamped handle. Note that the organization of the present item, with three inscribed lines, no field dividers, and featuring the grandfather's name, is atypical, with only two other attestations known to us, namely Jerusalem No. 349, 597.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/7.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/7.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: 167, No. 7, Pl. 11:7; Vattioni 1971a: No. 258; Hestrin [2]1973: 25, No. 31; Aharoni 1975: 21–22, Pl. 20:7; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Avigad and Sass 1997: 207, No. 530; Renz and Röllig 2003: 257, No. 10.83; Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117, No. 7. *[EL]*

855



1:2









1 cm

856



1:2





RTI scan



1 cm

857 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla's surface is very abraded. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 8 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: The bulla's layout seems to be horizontal, and there seem to be two inscribed registers separated by a double-line divider, yet the state of preservation is too bad to enable a reading (Aharoni 1975: 22), even with the help of RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/8.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/8.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:8; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 20:8; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117, No. 8. *[EL]*

858 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on document sealing. Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The letters are faint, and the impression is not complete, especially in its lower side. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 9 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear (inscription); modelled sunk relief (divider).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border. Two inscribed lines, separated by a decorated divider, apparently of the "lotus bud" type. Aniconic. Aharoni proposed the reading [*l*]*yhwrm* ("[Belonging to] Yehoram", see Aharoni 1975: 22). Recently, Mendel-Geberovich et al. confirmed and improved this reading, proposing [*l*]*yhwrm bn* […], "[Belonging to] Yehoram son of […]", based on RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117).

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. To the best of our knowledge, the name Yehoram and its variant Yoram (*ywrm*) are not presently attestated among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (see Clines 1998: 156, 192). In the Hebrew Bible, these names are borne by five characters (e.g., 2Sam 8:10; 2Kgs 1:17, 8:16; 1Chr 26:25; 2Chr 17:8; see Clines 1998: 156, 192), including a king of Israel (2Kgs 1:17) and a king of Judah (1Kgs 8:16).

COMPARANDA: For other examples of the lotus bud divider among Judahite inscribed seals, see Arad No. 16; Jerusalem No. 46, 56, 67, 69–70, 73, 81, 85, 90, 93; Lachish No. 859–861, 941.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/9.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/9.

① See Lachish No. 850.

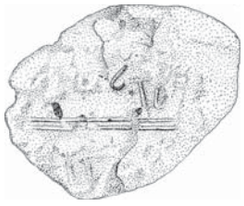
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:9; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 20:9; Davies 1991: 230, No. 100.779; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117–*118, No. 9. *[EL]*

857



1:2





RTI scan

1 cm

858



1:2





RTI scan

1 cm

859 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is incomplete, especially in its lower right side, furthermore the traces of letters are very faint. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 10 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear (inscription); modelled sunk relief (divider).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border. Two inscribed lines, separated by a decorated divider, apparently of the "lotus bud" type. Aniconic. Incomplete impression. The inscription was considered as illegible by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 22). Recently, Mendel-Geberovich et al. proposed the reading [*l*...]*yhw / ʾlʿd*, "[Belonging to…]yahu (son of) ʾElʿad", based on RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *117).

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. The name ʾElʿad finds an epigraphic parallel in the Wadi Murabbaʿat papyrus, under the variant form ʾElʿadah (*ʾlʿdh*; see Aḥituv 2008: 213–215). In the Hebrew Bible, the name ʾElʿad is borne by a single character (1Chr 7:21; see Clines 1993: 296).

COMPARANDA: For other examples of the lotus bud divider among Judahite inscribed seals, see Arad No. 16; Lachish No. 858, 860–861, 941; Jerusalem No. 46, 56, 67, 69–70, 73, 81, 85, 90, 93.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/10.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/10.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:10; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 20:10; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118, No. 10. *[EL]*

860 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is broken on its lower side and the traces of letters are very faint. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 11 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear (inscription); modelled sunk relief (divider).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border. Two inscribed lines, separated by a decorated divider, apparently of the "lotus bud" type. Aniconic. Aharoni only saw slight traces of letters, a probable *yhw* prefix at the start of line 1, and probable letters *pe* and *nun* in the middle of line 2 (Aharoni 1975: 22). Recent reexamination of the bulla based on RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology could only discern traces of a possible *aleph* or *yod* at the end of the first line (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118).

DISCUSSION: The present item seems to follow the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title.

COMPARANDA: For other examples of the lotus bud divider among Judahite inscribed seals, see Arad No. 16; Lachish No. 858–859, 861, 941; Jerusalem No. 46, 56, 67, 69–70, 73, 81, 85, 90, 93.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/11.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/11.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:11; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:11; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118, No. 11. *[EL]*

859



1:2



RTI scan





1 cm

860



1:2



RTI scan





1 cm

861 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The traces of letters are very faint. MEASUREMENTS: 8.0 mm (L) × 7.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 12 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear (inscription); modelled sunk relief (divider).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border. Two inscribed lines, separated by a decorated divider, apparently of the "lotus bud" type. Aniconic. Aharoni only saw slight traces of a letter *pe* in the middle of line 2 (Aharoni 1975: 22). Recently, Mendel-Geberovich et al. proposed the reading *lnḥmyhw* [*b*]*n ḥnn*[*yhw*] or *ḥpp*[*yhw*] ("Belonging to Neḥemyahu [so]n of Ḥanan[yahu]" or "Hapap[yahu]"), based on RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118–119).

DISCUSSION: The present item follows the typical organization of most Iron Age Judahite epigraphic seals: horizontal layout, aniconic, two registers, inscription bearing a name followed by a patronym or a title. Aharoni considered that this bulla could be identical to Lachish No. 860, but recent reexamination of the bulla concluded otherwise (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118). The name Neḥemyahu is attested on ostraca 11, 31, 36 and 40 from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 25, 56–59, 65, 70–74) and on ostraca 18 and 23 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Beit-Arieh 2007: 150–152, 160–163). The shorter variant Neḥemyah (*nḥmyh*) is borne by three characters in the Hebrew Bible (e.g., Neh 1:1; 3:16; 7:7; see Clines 2001: 665–666), including the central figure of the book of Nehemiah (Neh 1:1). The names Ḥananyahu and Ḥananyah are also attested on bullae Jerusalem No. 80 (*lʾḥmh ḥnnyh*), Jerusalem No. 86 (*lḥnnyhw bn ʾḥ*), Jerusalem No. 125 (*lḥnnyh*[*w*] *bn ṭbš*), Jerusalem No. 624 (*ḥnnyhw* […]), on incised handles from Gibeon (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 781–782), on ostraca 3, 16 and 36 from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 17–18, 30–31, 65), on ostracon 14 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) (Beit-Arieh 2007: 146–147) and on an ostracon from Tel Masos (Dobbs-Allsopp et al. 2005: 377–378). These names are also borne by fifteen characters in the Hebrew Bible (e.g., Jer 28:1, 36:12, 37:13; Dan 1:6; Ezra 10:28; Neh 3:8.30, 7:2, 10:24, 12:12.41; 1Chr 3:19, 8:24; 25:4; 2Chr 26:11; see Clines 1996: 275–276). To the best of our knowledge, the name Ḥapapyahu is not attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor does it appear in the Hebrew Bible.

COMPARANDA: For other examples of the lotus bud divider among Judahite inscribed seals, see Arad No. 16; Jerusalem No. 46, 56, 67, 69–70, 73, 81, 85, 90, 93; Lachish No. 858–860, 941.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/12.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/12.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:12; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:12; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *118–*119, No. 12. *[EL]*

862 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The traces of letters are very faint. MEASUREMENTS: 12.8 mm (L) × 9.9 mm (W); 17.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W, object). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Unclear border. Two inscribed lines, separated by an atypical divider, reminiscent of two "lotus bud" dividers crossing each other. Aharoni only saw slight traces of illegible letters on this bulla (Aharoni 1975: 22). Based on RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology, Mendel-Geberovich et al. recently identified a possible *yod* in the first register, and the letters *gg* in the second register (yielding the name *gg*[*y*] or *gg*[*yhw*]) (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *119).

DISCUSSION: A name *ggy* or *ggyhw* is not attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions nor in the Hebrew Bible, but the name *ggy* occurs on an unprovenanced seal bought in Samaria in 1971 (Avigad and Sass 1997: 87, No. 116).

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/13.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/13.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:13; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:13; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *119, No. 13. *[EL]*

861

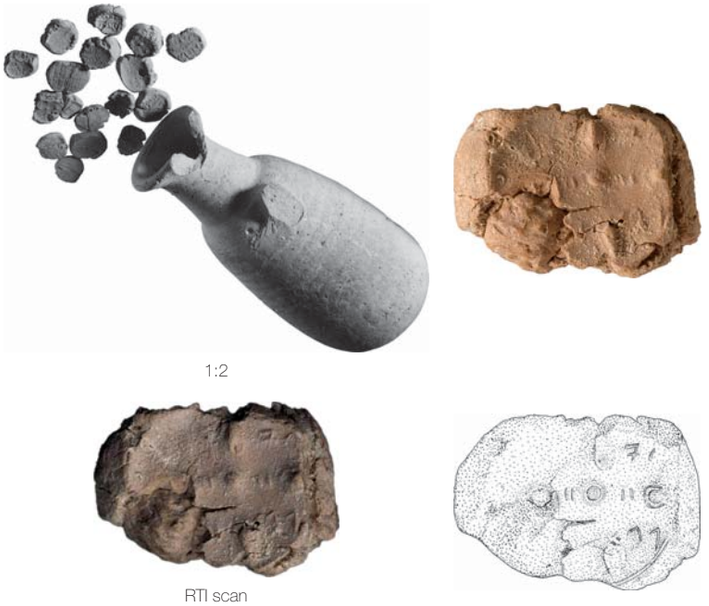


1:2

RTI scan

1 cm

862



1:2

RTI scan

1 cm

863 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is slightly chipped on its sides, and might have borne a now effaced inscription. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 14.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: No discernible engraving.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The bulla was considered as blank by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 22). A recent reexamination of the seal using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology also found no visible traces on the bulla and concluded that it might have been impressed with a blank seal, featuring no decoration nor inscription (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *119).

COMPARANDA: For Bronze Age examples of blank seals, see Lachish No. 562, 679–685, 755, 757, 838, 841; for Iron Age examples, see Lachish No. 710; Tel Malḥata No. 9; Megiddo No. 244, 588, 695.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/14.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/14.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:14; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:14; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *119, No. 14. *[EL]*

864 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is slightly chipped on its sides, and might have borne a now effaced inscription. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 15 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: No discernible engraving.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The bulla was considered as blank by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 22). A recent reexamination of the seal using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology also found no visible traces on the bulla and concluded that it might have been impressed with a blank seal, featuring no decoration nor inscription (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120).

COMPARANDA: For Bronze Age examples of blank seals, see Lachish No. 562, 679–685, 755, 757, 838, 841; for Iron Age examples, see Lachish No. 710; Tel Malḥata No. 9; Megiddo No. 244, 588, 695.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/15.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/15.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11.15; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:15; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120, No. 15. *[EL]*

863



1:2





RTI scan

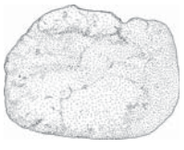
1 cm

864



1:2





RTI scan

1 cm

865 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is slightly chipped on its sides, and might have borne a now effaced inscription. MEASUREMENTS: 9.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 16 (noted as approximate).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: Probably linear engraving.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The bulla was considered as blank by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 22). A recent reexamination of the seal using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology also found no visible traces on the bulla and concluded that it might have been impressed with a blank seal, featuring no decoration nor inscription (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120). Possible traces of a horizontal double line divider might however be discerned at the centre of the seal, though their interpretation as a divider is not entirely certain.

COMPARANDA: For Bronze Age examples of blank seals, see Lachish No. 562, 679–685, 755, 757, 838, 841; for Iron Age examples, see Lachish No. 710; Tel Malḥata No. 9; Megiddo No. 244, 588, 695.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/16.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/16.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:16; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:16; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120, No. 16. *[EL]*

866 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Aharoni 1968a: 165). MATERIAL: unfired clay. The bulla is unfired, according to Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *114. PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is slightly chipped on its sides, and might have borne a now effaced inscription. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 8.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Aharoni 1975: 22, No. 17.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: Probably linear engraving.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The bulla was considered as blank by Aharoni (Aharoni 1975: 22). A recent reexamination of the seal using RTI (Reflectance Transformation Imaging) technology also found no visible traces on the bulla and concluded that it might have been impressed with a blank seal, featuring no decoration nor inscription (Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120). Possible traces of a horizontal divider might however be discerned at the centre of the seal, though their interpretation as a divider is not entirely certain.

COMPARANDA: For Bronze Age examples of blank seals, see Lachish No. 562, 679–685, 755, 757, 838, 841; for Iron Age examples, see Lachish No. 710; Tel Malḥata No. 9; Megiddo No. 244, 588, 695.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1968-252/17.

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), "Solar Shrine", Storeroom 3,[1] Object no. 141/17.

① See Lachish No. 850.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1968a: Pl. 11:17; Aharoni 1975: 20–22, Pl. 21:17; Keel 1995: § 297, p. 284 (typology); Mendel-Geberovich, Arie and Maggen 2016: *120, No. 17. *[EL]*

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867 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8/EP 27 or EP 112/Side 22 (Rowe), D4?/I/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material, blue frit (Egyptian Blue)?. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: broken. The lower right side of the base has chipped away along the perimeter. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 9.0 mm (W) × 4.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: The back is high and short, descending towards the hind part; the legs are well indicated and moulded so that the body is separated from the base by open work (text adapted from Aharoni 1975: 71).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Following Giveon's identification, from top left to bottom of base: a schematic single vertical stroke (Z1), *nfr* (F35), *jr(t)* (D4)?, and a *jw* (N18) within which is a schematic *n* (N35).

DISCUSSION: Giveon proposed reading the signs "good is the nature of Amun" (Aharoni 1975: 71), and further stated that the combination of Gardiner signs *jw* (N18) and a schematic *n* (N35) to express the name Amun was of Libyan origin, adding that the enclosed schematic *n* (N35)—here only a line—is *aman* in Berber for "water", and that this spelling for the name Amun was popular during the 22nd Dyn. (Aharoni 1975: 71). According to the original CSAPI index card, the signs were first read (by K. Jaroš) as *nfr* (F35) or *ḥḏt* (S1), *jr(t)* (D4), and *š* (N37). B. Jaeger then suggested "white crown with vertical stroke, eye (*rs*) and island sign with *n* (*Jmn*)", referring to Drioton who had read the formula *stnj rs Jmn* on similar scarabs (Drioton 1957c: 128, n. 2).

COMPARANDA: No comparanda from the southern Levant can be identified by the author.

DATING: Iron II (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating based on find context and comparanda (Aharoni 1975: 71).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities; IAA No. 1978-2828.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Locus 11,[1] Object no. 83/41. Found in same context as stone spindle whorl, stone bowl, and pottery.

① Street surface (Aharoni 1975: 106, Pl. 58).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1975: 71, Pl. 16:11, 35:10. *[NBM]*

868 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe), A1/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Top right side of base is chipped, extending along the left side of the object. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Seven Egyptian hieroglyphs arranged in two virtual, vertical registers. Left register, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), a rectangular sign that resembles a *p* (Q3) but is likely a schematic single vertical stroke (Z1), *tjt* (D17), *nb* (V30). Right register, enclosed in a cartouche from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), the classifier for *mꜣˁt* (C10) holding an *ʿnḫ* (S34), and a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: In the cartouche is the name *Nb-mꜣˁt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (Keel 1995: § 634, 650, 663). Note in the original publication of this seal, Giveon read the signs in the cartouche from top to bottom as *rˁ* (N5), *mꜣˁt* (C10), *mn* (Y5), resulting in the prenomen *Mn-mꜣˁt-rˁ* (Aharoni 1975: 71). While this is the prenomen for Seti I, Giveon still interpreted the name in the cartouche as belonging to Amenhotep III and thus his reading of *mn* (Y5) instead of *nb* (V30) as the bottom sign in the cartouche appears to have been an error. If the *nb* (V30) under the *tjt* (D17) is considered as an erroneous, upside-down writing of a *t* (X1), the glyphs outside of the cartouche can be interpreted as the epithet *tjt Rˁ*, "image of Re", applied to the Egyptian king. According to Giveon, the epithet *tjt Rˁ* appears only after regnal year 35 for Amenhotep III (Aharoni 1975: 71). The base engraving belongs to Design Class 11A "Royal names" (Keel 1995: § 623–634).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Tall Zirafa No. 1, with regard to both the base motif and object typology, however instead of a *tjt* (D17) above a *nb* (V30), the *nb* (V30) is a *t* (X1), i.e., the phonetic complement for *tjt* (D17). Another close comparandum is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 136, however it lacks the sign to the right of the *rˁ* (N5).

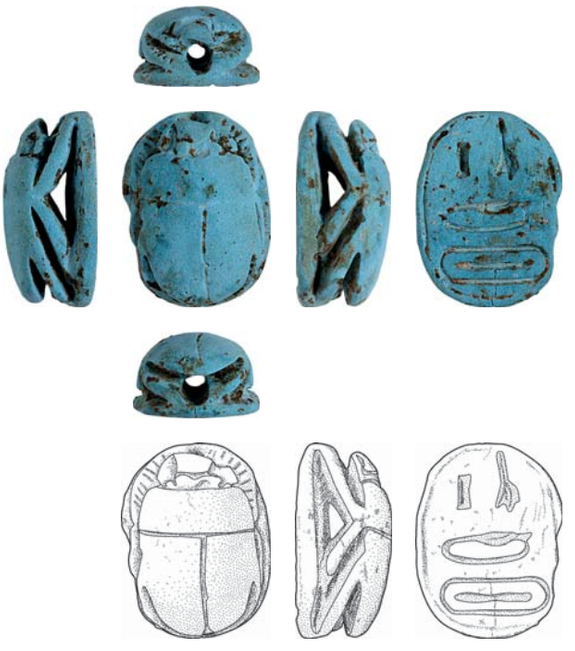
DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating based on motif comparanda, the royal name of Amenhotep III, and the epithet *tjt Rˁ*, which appears only after regnal year 35 for Amenhotep III according to Giveon (Aharoni 1975: 71).

COLLECTION: Lachish; Sadan family collection (Moshav).

CONTEXT: Surface find?. Object no. 1019/50. Unstratified; most likely identical with an item registered by the Aharoni expedition under no. 11217/80 as a surface find, this object is in the private collection of the Sadan family in Moshav Lachish.

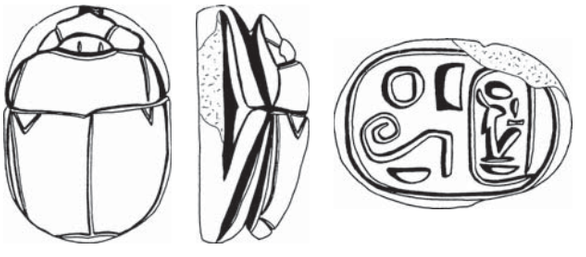
BIBLIOGRAPHY: Aharoni 1975: 71, Pl. 16:12, 35:9; Lalkin 2008: No. 1120, Pl. 62:1120. *[NBM]*

867



1 cm

868



1 cm

869 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A4 or D2/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: at both extremities, the perforation holes imitate a metal mounting. MATERIAL: fired steatite[?], faience[?]. Uncertain; Giveon 1988: 84 lists "steatite?" whereas Lalkin 2008: Pl. 110:2021 lists "faience". PRESERVATION: complete. According to the drawing, the base is slightly damaged on lower right edge. MEASUREMENTS: unknown.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is organised into three implied vertical registers: the two outer registers each contain a sequence from top to bottom comprising an inward facing *jʿrt* (I12), a *wḏȝt* (D10) eye, and an outward facing *dšrt* (S3); the central column includes a *rʿ* (N5), two addorsed *šw(t)* (H6) signs, below which are a *ḫʿ(j)* (N28), *ȝḫt* (N27), *n* (N35), and *ʿ* (D36), a sequence of the so-called *anra* type.

DISCUSSION: The combination of addorsed red crowns and inward facing cobras belongs to Design Classes 3B1c "Cobras, confronted", 3B3D "Red crowns addorsed, L-shaped", and 3B4 "Horus eyes" (Tufnell 1984: 118–120). Giveon noted that the addorsed feathers resembled the feathers of the Atef crown (Giveon 1988: 94). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, confronted cobras in combination with Horus eyes and addorsed red crowns appear on Egyptian scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 42:7–8); this combination of motifs likely originated in Egyptian scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 8:2–4, 8, 20, 23). The style of *dšrt* (S3) flanking *anra* signs, in combination with addorsed *šw(t)* (H6) and *jʿrt* (I12) signs, and the stylized *ȝḫt* (N27), can be found on a scarab assigned by Ben-Tor to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 53:12).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel. The closest comparandum for both motifs and layout is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 856, as the base comprises all motifs present on this seal with the exception of the *wḏȝt* (D10) eyes; stylistically, however, the rendering of the signs is slightly different (compare, for example, the *ȝḫt* [N27] signs). This style of *wḏȝt* (D10) sign is attested on Egyptian scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to the late Middle Kingdom, as well as the object's general type (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 28:4, 10–11, 16). For close parallels to the overall base design with addorsed *dšrt* (S3) and confronted cobras, see Beth Zur No. 15; Efrat No. 1; Hazor No. 11; Megiddo No. 115, 378. Megiddo No. 460 provides a nice comparandum for the two addorsed *šw(t)* (H6) signs.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); less likely late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Tel Aviv–Jaffa; Tel Aviv University, Institute of Archaeology, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: No context information available for this object. Assignation to Lachish follows CSAPI index card and reference in Giveon 1988.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1978b: 7–10, Fig. 7; Giveon 1988: 84–85, No. 95, Pl. 7:95; Lalkin 2008: 270, No. 2021, Pl. 110:2021. *[NBM]*

870 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B2/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). According to Keel 2004a: 1537, there is a line dividing the two elytra that is "hardly visible"; such a line cannot be identified on the photographs but is indicated in the line drawing, which rather points to a possible scratch. If the object is indeed unfired steatite as Keel suggests—although such an identification seems unlikely given the flash captured on the object as visible in the photographs—then this feature of the object may have been accidental. MATERIAL: unfired steatite[?], serpentinite[?]. COLOUR: olive green. Keel 2004a: 1537 proposes unfired steatite whereas CSAPI index card lists "green 'jade' (chalcedony?)". Ch. Uehlinger (pers. comm.) has proposed serpentinite as an alternative to unfired steatite given such material "can be green with light vs. dark depending on less or more depth in the ground". PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation unclear, horizontal orientation enhances symmetry. Simple single-line border. When viewed horizontally: in the centre, a small circle from which two large ovals with horizontal hatching extend horizontally toward the right and left sides of the base, following the perforation channel. Extending upward from the circle, two sets of spirals face inward toward each other; below this central circle, two almost parallel horizontal lines extend down toward the bottom edge of the base (possibly terminating in a curved element of which only traces are visible), flanked by two inward spirals. The result is a vertical bar preserved directly under the central circle and inward facing curled elements.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" (Tufnell 1984: 125, Pl. 23; Keel 1995: § 494). However, Keel 2004a: 1537 points out that this specific type of cross is not listed by Tufnell, as the traditional horizontal bar (here possible inscribed in a vertical orientation) has been replaced by two inward facing spirals flanked by two more inward facing spirals, a characteristic he dates to either early MB II scarabs (B2 head group) or scarabs of the 18th Dyn. (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 121). According to Ben-Tor, the cross motif appears on scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom, Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 12; 59; 87), but not on any Egyptian Second Intermediate Period scarabs. This stands in contrast to Keel's dating to the late 13th Dyn. (Keel 2004a: 1537).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel. For close comparanda, see Acco No. 100; Hazor No. 20; Tell Jemmeh No. 108. See also a scarab from Tomb 66 at Ruweise near Sidon, dated to the early 13th Dyn. (Tufnell 1975–1976: 19, Fig. 1), and a steatite scarab with the petal-like elements in horizontal position from Stratum G at Tell el-Dabʿa (Mlinar 2001a II: 22–23, TD 4). From el-Lahun town/Kahun and Uronarti, see Tufnell 1975: Fig. 7:323 and 333. For an 18th Dyn. comparandum, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 121.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); based on comparanda and find context. Note Keel 2004a: 1537 assigned a late 13th dynasty date to this scarab.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3337.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square G.1, Grave 9008 (MB I–MB II, 20th–early/mid 17th c. BCE),[1] Locus 5, Basket 50071, Object no. 50071/50.

① Shallow rectangular pit measuring 2.0 × 1.5 × 1.55 m, dug in a north-east/south-west orientation with boulders marking the northern side, where a storage jar was also placed. A single skeleton was placed in a supine position, full extended. A toggle pin, a cylinder seal, and two

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scarab were found next to the shoulder, alongside pottery and additional artifacts found in the pit. Grave 9002 cut into Grave 9008. In sum, the following objects were found in Grave 9008: 5 bowls, 1 krater, 3 jugs, 2 juglets, 1 storage jar, bones of sheep/goat, Lachish No. 873–874, 1 bone? cylinder seal, 2 bronze toggle pins, 1 quartz bead of an unknown shape, and 1 barrel-shaped white quartz bead (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 978). For the grave's dating, see Ussishkin 2004: 2736 and Singer-Avitz 2004a: 1002, Table 17.1. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 870–871.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1537, No. 1, Fig. 23.35:1, Fig. 23.36:1. *[NBM]*

871 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light yellowish-brown. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 12.0 mm (L) × 8.8 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a small circle from which four large fan-like elements extend outward to form a cross; the broad parts of the fans are hatched. In between these fan-like elements are four stalks with buds (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1537).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 23; Keel 1995: § 494). However, Keel 2004a: 1537 notes that this particular design is not typical, as such designs are typically more floral in their rendering.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Beth Shemesh No. 103 is similar but of a later date.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); based on object typology and find context. Keel 2004a: 1537 assigned a late 13th Dyn. (1721–1630 BCE) date to this object.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3338.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square G.1, Grave 9008 (MB I–MB II, 20th–early/mid 17th c. BCE),[1] Locus 5, Basket 50072, Object no. 50072/50.

① See Lachish No. 870.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1537, No. 2, Fig. 23.35:2, Fig. 23.36:2. *[OK/*NBM]*

872 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A5/II/e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. PRESERVATION: broken. At the lower end of the perforation, with yellow earth in the engraved lines (Keel 2004a: 1537). MEASUREMENTS: 15.8 mm (L) × 10.6 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is divided into three vertical registers by two double-line dividers. In the central column: possible *ꜣḫt* (N27), *nb* (V30), *kꜣ* (D28), *ꜥd*/*ḏd* (V26), *tꜣ* (N16/N17), *ḏw* (N26) and a possible *nb* (V30) or *r* (D21), partly obscured due to a break in the base. Flanking the central column, the following signs appear symmetrically arranged: *šw(t)* (H6), *nb* (V30), *kꜣ* (D28), *nb* (V30), *r* (D21), *zꜣ* (V17/V18).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Tufnell's Design Class 3E1 "Panels, three or more signs in margins" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 19). Keel 2004a: 1537 points out that the schematic *ꜣḫt* (N27) often appears on scarabs at the top of compositions during the MB II (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 402, 611; Gibeon No. 42; Jericho No. 333; Megiddo No. 378; Tel Aviv No. 16), and that its shape is similar to the normal Egyptian hieroglyphic form. The sign appears on his A-head and B-head groups, said to be the earliest scarabs produced in the southern Levant (Keel 2004; e.g., Hazor No. 17; Jericho No. 210, 217, 321, 349, 353; Lachish No. 469; Megiddo No. 395; Shechem [Tell Balaṭa] No. 57; Tel Aviv No. 16). According to Keel, this type of schematic *ꜣḫt* (N27) is later found as "a kind of italic hieroglyph (…) in some manuscripts of the Book of the Dead, such as Spell 15A in the Book of the Dead of Ani (BM 10470) or Hunefer (BM 9901)" (Keel 2004a: 1537). Scarabs with this base layout and of this object type are assigned by Ben-Tor to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 57:19–34; 71).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For similar compositions comprising three vertical columns with Egyptian hieroglyphs that cannot be read from an Egyptian scribal perspective, see: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 981; Tel Bira No. 2; Lachish No. 329, 421, 444; Megiddo No. 404, 481.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); based on object type, comparanda, and find context. Keel 2004a: 1537 assigned a late 13th Dyn. (1721–1630 BCE) date to this object.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3339.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square J-K.6, Grave 9025 (MB I–MB II, 20th–early/mid 17th c. BCE),[1] Basket 50172, Object no. 50172/80. The item was found near the child's skull (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 983).

① Shallow pit measuring 2.5 × 1 × 0.30 m; two boulders on the north-east and one boulder on the south-west mark the grave. A skeleton aged 25–35 years old was placed supine in an NE-SW orientation. At the foot of this skeleton was the skull of a child aged 6 years covered by a carinated bowl; the bones of the child were also covered by various pots. Another child aged 9–10 years old was at the foot of the supine adult; Lachish No. 872 was found near the skull. The skull of a fourth individual aged 15–20 years old was found in association with a bronze toggle pin and Lachish No. 875, as well as a decorated storage jar. A fifth individual aged over 30 years old was found with a toggle pin near the skull. In sum, the following objects were found in Grave 9025: 3 bowls, 2 juglets, 2 storage jars, 2 scarabs (Lachish No. 872, 875), 2 bronze toggle pins (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 983). For the grave's dating, see Ussishkin 2004: 2736 and Singer-Avitz 2004a: 1002, Table 17.1. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 872, 875.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1537–1538, No. 3, Fig. 23.35:3, Fig. 23.36:3. *[NBM]*

871



1 cm

872



1 cm

873 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B6/0/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Rim of the base slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 15.7 mm (L) × 10.9 mm (W) × 7.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Simple single-line border. A rectangular divider splits the base into two horizontal registers. In the upper register, two inward facing *sw(t)* (M23) signs flank a relatively large *zꜣ* (V17/V18) rendered in a schematic, simplified way. Above the *zꜣ* (V16) is *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28) "appear, rise, hill of the rising sun". In the centre of the lower register is a column of signs: *mn* (Y5), *ꜥ* (D36), and again *ḫꜥ(j)* (N28), this time flanked by two outward facing *dšrt* (S3) signs (Keel 2004a: 1538).

DISCUSSION: In its classical and simplified form, the *zꜣ* (V17/V18) sign is very common on magical wands (Legge 1905: Pl. 5:6, 7:11, 9:15, 13:32). The meaning is clearly indicated by combinations such as *zꜣ ꜥnḫ* "protection of life" (Altenmüller 1965: II 115, Fig. 4a-b), *zꜣ hrw (rꜣ) wḫꜣt* "protection during the day (and) protection during the night" (Legge 1905: Pl. 7:11; Altenmüller 1965: II 119, Fig. 13) and *zꜣꜥnḫ ḥꜣ.s rꜥnb* "protection of life behind her every day" (Legge 1905: Pl. 9:15). Among many others, a fragment of a magical wand found at Tell el-ʿAjjul shows the sign (Petrie 1933: Pl. 28:8). On scarabs of the B2-head group, the sign is quite often represented, not just once but twice, thrice or even four times on the same scarab (once: Hazor No. 9; Jericho No. 361; Megiddo No. 376, 485; twice: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1125; thrice: Beth Shemesh No. 173; Megiddo No. 389, 418; four times: Lachish No. 469; Tel Aviv No. 16). The *zꜣ* (V17/V18) sign was probably—besides *ꜥnḫ* (S34) and *nfr* (F35)—one of the few hieroglyphic signs understood by the local engravers (text from Keel 2004a: 1538).

COMPARANDA: The composition of the lower register has a close comparandum in Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 856.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); based on comparandum. Keel 2004a: 1538 assigned a late 13th Dyn. (1721–1630 BCE) date to this object.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3340.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square J.6, Grave 9023 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Basket 50179, Object no. 50179/80.

① Rectangular pit measuring 1.2 × 0.75 × 0.5 m with NW-SE orientation; on the SE side, a a square pit measuring 0.70 × 0.75 m was filled with limestone boulders. One primary burial and a second skull were interred; the individuals aged 12–14 and 8–9 years old. Additional finds from this grave included sheep/goat bones, a bowl, a storage jar, and a broken lamp base (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 981). For the grave's dating see Ussishkin 2004: 2736 and Singer-Avitz 2004a: 1002, Table 17.1. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 873–874.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1538, No. 4, Fig. 23.35:4, Fig. 23.36:4. *[OK/*NBM]*

874 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. Outer edge of base slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 20.9 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 8.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; note thickening around upper and lower perforation hole that is similar to (imitating?) a metal mounting. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous. Simple single-line border. Viewed vertically, a small button-like circle forms the centre of a an X-shaped double-line convoluted knot from which two double-line bars extend vertically. The threads of the knot extend toward the top and bottom of the base, where they are encased by two horizontally-placed double-line ovals. Within each oval, the terminating threads of the knot form four symmetrically placed double arcs.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Tufnell's Design Class 6B2a "Convoluted coils, knot-like with central 'x' cross" (Tufnell 1984: 126, Pl. 24). Note, however, that the flanking ovals appear in her Design Class 6B3 "Convoluted coils, varia" (Tufnell 1984: 126, Pl. 24). The motif was classified by Keel as Design Class 6B2b "Convoluted coils, knot-like, with central 'x' and vertical bar" (Keel 1995: § 499). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, this motif is classified Design Class 6B3 "Convoluted coils, varia" and appears on scarabs assigned to her Egyptian late Middle Kingdom, as well as Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 25, 139, Pl. 14:47, 14:49, 60:23–27).

COMPARANDA: Exact parallels of this motif with double-lines include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 373; Gezer No. 407; Jericho No. 72; Megiddo No. 491; Rishon LeZion No. 1; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 56; and a scarab from Debeira in Egypt (Mlinar 2001a: 478, Abb. K 272). Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 116 is an almost exact parallel but lacks the button-like circle in the centre of the base. For this motif with triple lines, see: Beth Shean No. 78; Bethany No. 4; Jericho No. 358; Lachish No. 315, 460; Megiddo No. 107.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); late 13th Dyn. (1720–1630 BCE); dating based on find context and comparanda. Keel 2004a: 1538 assigned a late 13th Dyn. date, but the closest comparanda for this design appear on seals assigned to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series while the object typology is more in line with royal scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 43).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3341.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square J.6, Grave 9023 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Basket 50189, Object no. 50189/80.

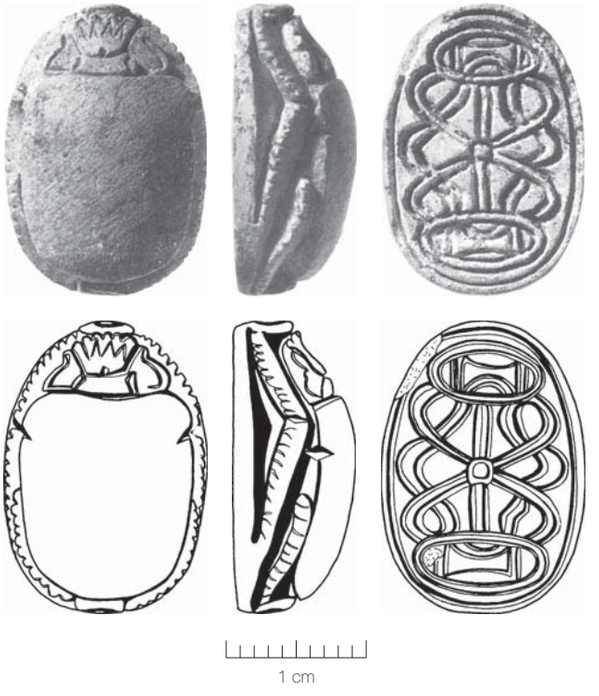
① See Lachish No. 873.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1538, No. 5, Fig. 23.35:5, Fig. 23.36:5. *[NBM]*

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875 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0?/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Lower half of the back and about one quarter of the base broken away. MEASUREMENTS: 10.4* mm (L) × 8.1 mm (W) × 5.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Two *ʿnḫ* (S34) flank a *nbw* (S12) in the centre of the base, above which figure a *wȝḥ* (V29) on the right and a possible *t* (X1), *nb* (V30), or *r* (D21) rotated by 90 degrees to the left.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Tufnell's Design Class 3B6 "Symmetric patterns, gold sign (*nbw*) in longitudinal setting" (Tufnell 1984: 120, Pl. 15). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, the combination of a *nbw* (S12) below Egyptian hieroglyphs and flanked by two *ʿnḫ* (S34) first appears on Late Middle Kingdom scarabs and continues on scarabs assigned to her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 10–11, 80:41, 43). Notably, on the Late Palestinian Series examples, the hieroglyphs above the *nbw* (S12) are similarly rotated (see, e.g., Lachish No. 301).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 580, 753, 867, 1019; Jericho No. 239.

DATING: 13th–15th Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3342.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square J-K.6, Grave 9025 (MB I–MB II, 20th–early/mid 17th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 50138/80. Found with a broken toggle pin near the skull of an adult aged over 30 years old (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 983).

① See Lachish No. 872.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1538, No. 6, Fig. 23.35:6, Fig. 23.36:6. *[NBM]*

876 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8?/0/e2? (Tufnell/Keel). MOUNTING: type I (Keel 1995: § 264–265). Keel 2004a: 1538 reports the ends of the bronze mount are flat against the object; the metal thread runs through the perforation and wraps around both ends of the ring. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. PRESERVATION: complete. Perforation damaged at lower end (Keel 2004a: 1539). MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: blueish-green glaze. Keel 2004a: 1539 reports the remains of glaze near the head on the plates.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A twisted cable comprised of three lines runs vertically down the centre of the base. On each side, symmetrical cross bars.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Tufnell's Design Classes 3E4 "Panels, cross bars in margins" and 6C3 "Encompassed, central cable" (Tufnell 1984: 122–123, 127, Fig. 27, Pl. 27). This specific motif of the panels with cross bars has also been referred to as "Hyksos sides" and said to be the latest stage in the chronological development of panels according to Ward (Tufnell 1984: 165, Fig. 27). Ben-Tor similarly classifies this design under Egyptian scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 36).

COMPARANDA: For a comparandum with a three-lines twisted cable, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 506. For comparanda with a two-lines twisted cable, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 13, 75, 260, 384, 537–539, 568, 673, 789, 821, 849, 1193; Beth Shean No. 75; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 98, 107–108; Jericho No. 384, 439; Megiddo No. 187, 536.

DATING: 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1539 based on "Hyksos sides" motif.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3343.

CONTEXT: Area 9000, Square M.2, Grave 9028 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 50275/80.

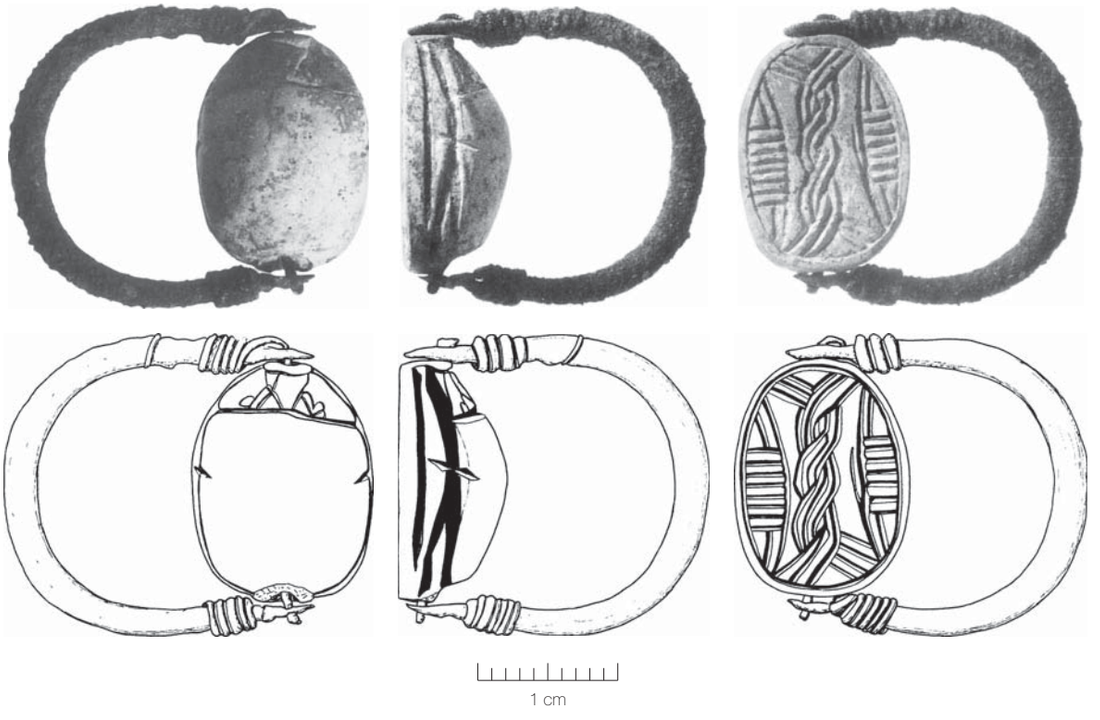
① Shallow pit measuring 1.5 × 0.75 × 0.6 m, bordered in the north by wall of boulders two courses in height and in the south by a wall measuring 1.5 × 0.5 × 0.5 m. In sum, the grave contained: 10 skull fragments, human and animal bones, 1 bowl, 2 juglets, 1 jug, 1 storage jar, 1 lamp, Lachish No. 876, and a flat, irregularly shaped colourless quartz bead (Singer-Avitz 2004a: 985). For the grave's dating, see Ussishkin 2004: 2736 and Singer-Avitz 2004a: 1002, Table 17.1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1539, No. 7, Fig. 23.35:7, Fig. 23.36:7. *[NBM]*

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877 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/I?+dec./e9 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. Surface is whitish and hard, like polished, matte surface (Keel 2004a: 1539). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 22.3 mm (L) × 15.7 mm (W) × 10.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Decorated backs with images of lotus flower on the pronotum and curls on the elytra appear on scarabs assigned by Ben-Tor to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 66–70; see also Keel 2004: 95–97). For comparanda, see: Gibeon No. 42; Hazor No. 16; Tel Nagila No. 50; Rishon LeZion No. 145.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, simple single-line border. Two simple linear double lines divide the base into three vertical registers (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 19; Keel 1995: § 483). The central register contains a column of eight signs in the *anra* script (Keel 1995: § 469–470): at the top is a kind of *ḫ'(j)* (N28) sign, followed by *r* (D21), *n* (N35), *r* (D21), the sign for Neith (*n[j]t/nrt* [R24/R25]), *mn* (Y5), *n* (N35), and *r* (D21) or *t* (X1). The two outer registers each contain four interlocking S-spirals and, toward the bottom, half an S-spiral (Keel 1995: § 435). Note the *n* (N35) signs are of a specific type that appear on the so-called *anra*-type seals (Keel 2004a: 1539).

DISCUSSION: The base is a combination of Design Classes 3c "Formula" and 3E1 "Panels, three or more" (Tufnell 1984: 121–123, Pl. 16 and 19). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, seals with three panels and this style of script appear first in her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 55–57).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparandum is Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 402 given the combinations of signs in the central register of a three-paneled base, as well as the object typology. For similar comparanda regarding the base, see also Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 981; Gezer No. 318; Jericho No. 241; Megiddo No. 573.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); Keel 2004a: 1539 originally assigned a 13th Dyn. date based on comparanda, however the typology, base motifs, and decoration on the back suggest assignation to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3344.

CONTEXT: Level S-2 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square D.10, Locus 3955 or 3925 (field index card),[1] Object no. 44900/80.

① Ashy layers (Ussishkin 2004: 2724).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1539, No. 8, Fig. 23.37:1, Fig. 23.38:1. *[OK/*NBM]*

878 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0* mm (L) × 11.0* mm (W, impression).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; note triangular cut located at the top centre of the seal impression. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Impressions on storage jar handles are common during MB II–III (see Keel 1995: § 299–301; Beck 2004). Note that Keel 2004a: 1539, No. 9 wrote that "part of the storage jar bearing the inscription has been recovered" with reference to Singer-Avitz 2004, stating that "Ussishkin 1978: 10, Pl. 3:3 wrongly stated that the entire storage jar bearing the impression was recovered." There is no mention of an *inscribed* storage jar in Singer-Avitz 2004: 918. Keel's "inscription" is a slip of the pen and refers to the impression.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. No border line visible (may have been hidden behind the mounting). The base comprises Egyptian hieroglyphs arranged in three horizontal registers. In the top register, a *rʿ* (N5) is centrally located above a horizontal line with two shorter inverted lines extending upward; directly below is an elongated rectangle that extends horizontally across the width of the base. In the middle register a left-facing *dšrt* (S3) or *pschent* crown (*sḫmtj* [S5]) is above a *t* (X1) (rather than inverted *nb* [V30]); these signs are flanked by either a left-facing *šw(t)* (H6) feather and a right-facing erect cobra, or two possibly identical *j* (M17) reeds, *šw(t)* (H6) feathers, or erect cobras *jʿrt* (I12). Another elongated rectangle is located below this group of signs. The bottom register comprises a single *nb* (V30) within which is an inverted triangle.

DISCUSSION: While the combination of sun disc above such a linear sign could be interpreted as a stylized *ꜣḫt* (N27), Keel 2004a: 1539 argued that, given the horizontal line is slightly bent upward and the otherwise vertical elements are turned inward, rather than a schematic form of *ꜣḫt* (N27), these elements combined with the lower rectangle should be identified as a boat of Gardiner's P2–P4 type (*ḥntj* [P2], *wjꜣ* [P3] or *wḥʿ* [P4]). The placement of the sun disc above a boat reflects a solar connotation and thus we can narrow down the type of boat depicted to a *wjꜣ* (P3), or solar barque (on the identification of this stylized sign as a solar barque, see also Giveon 1988: 82). Keel 2004a: 1539 reads the vertical column of signs in the middle register from top to bottom as: *rʿ* (N5), *t* (X1), *p* (Q3), *t* (X1); this seems unlikely when the actual impression is consulted. Rather, a thin vertical line runs along the right side of these signs, suggesting it is the back of the *dšrt* (S3) crown. It is also likely the elongated rectangular sign at the bottom of the middle register functioned as a divider to provide balance to the upper horizontal rectangle as part of the *wjꜣ* (P3) sign. While it is possible the combination of the *t* (X1) above the lower rectangular bar may give the impression of a *ḥtp* (R4), such a reading seems unlikely given the *t* (X1) is floating above the rectangular bar. The lower *nb* (V30) with the inverted triangle may be a stylized depiction of a lotus flower, however this is unclear. This motif belong's to Design Class 3B1b "Egyptian signs and symbols, symmetric patterns" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 9:1487).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda in terms of overall base design include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 469; Gibeon No. 42; Hazor No. 9, 17; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 57.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); 13th? Dyn. (1760–1630 BCE); Keel 2004a: 1539 assigned a late 13th Dyn. date but did not specify on what basis. A general date in the MB II is more likely based on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 469 and the style of engraving.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level P-4 (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE) = Level VIII, Area P, Square G-H.8, Locus 3125,[1] Basket 9732, Object no. 9732/1.

① A pit? in debris of Level P-4 room (Ussishkin 2004: 2718).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1978: 9–10, Pl. 3:3; Giveon 1978b: 10, Fig. 8; Giveon 1988: 82–83, No. 93, Pl. 7:93; Keel 1995: § 301, p. 285 (typology); Mlinar 2001a: 142, Abb. K 78; Keel 2004a: 1539, No. 9, Fig. 23.37:2, Fig. 23.38:2. *[NBM]*

877



1 cm

878



1:1



1 cm

879 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Worn and slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W); 77.4 mm (L) × 32.4 mm (W) × 17.6 mm (H, handle).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: thin linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is divided into three horizontal registers of roughly similar size by simple linear dividing lines. The upper register comprises a single, continuous row of four interlocking loops. In the central register, two rows of three curvilinear motifs facing inward toward one another and reflecting possible *z3* (V17/V18) signs. The lower register comprises two schematic human figures facing inward toward each other in kneeling position in the centre, flanked by two outward-facing *dšrt* (S3) (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1542). Based on the published photograph, the position of the figures' arms is difficult to determine: held forward and possibly joining, as interpreted in the drawing, or tied on the back, which would imply a significantly different interpretation (captured subjects[?]).

DISCUSSION: According to Keel 2004a: 1542, "schematic human figures are characteristic of pre-12th Dyn. scarabs (Ward 1978: Pl. 5), but survive in isolated cases into later periods, be it as heirlooms (Tufnell and Ward 1966: 180, Fig. 2.2), as a kind of determinative on private name seals (Petrie 1930: Pl. 7:2), or as imitation of such on locally manufactured Palestinian scarabs (Loud 1948: Pl. 149:41 [= Megiddo No. 401]; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 841)".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For a seal with three horizontal registers with interlocking loops, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 361.

DATING: Late 13th Dyn. (1720–1630 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1539, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level S-IVb (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) = Level IV, Area S, Square D.9–10, Locus 3642,[1] Basket 40569, Object no. 40569/1.

① Unit in Main Building (Ussishkin 2004: 2722).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 88–89, No. 101, Pl. 7:101; Keel 1995: § 301; Keel 2004a: 1539, 1542, No. 10, Fig. 23.37:3, Fig. 23.38:3. *[OK/*NBM]*

880 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D3[?]/0/e6b (Tufnell/Keel). Keel 2004a: 1542 assigned a B7 head type to this object, but based on the photograph, a D3 head seems more likely. MOUNTING: type I[?] (Keel 1995: § 264–265), made of bronze[?]. MATERIAL: fired steatite. Remains of a copper or bronze wire in perforation. PRESERVATION: complete. An oblique crack runs diagonally through the centre of the base; small chip at the top of perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 13.3 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: white glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Four round Z-spirals, interlocking with elongated ('long-distance') Z-spirals, constitute an unending design. In the centre, from top to bottom: a *nb* (V30) and a *nfr* (F35).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 2B1 "Round interlocking spirals, with ends" (Tufnell 1984: 116–117, Pl. 5). According to Ben-Tor's study of Middle Bronze Age scarabs, a *nfr* (F35) encased by interlocking spirals appears on scarabs dated to the late Middle Kingdom (e.g., Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 2:9, 4:3, 53). Keel suggested reading the hieroglyphs as *nfr nb*, "all good" (Keel 2004a: 1542). Based on the popularity of the combination of *rʿ* (N5) and *nfr* (F35) on seals with almost identical decorative borders, he also proposed reading any appearance of a *nb* (V30) or *t* (X1) on such seals with a *nfr* (F35) as a debased *rʿ* (N5) (Keel 2004a: 1542), which would change the reading to *nfr rʿ*, "beauty of Re".

COMPARANDA: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 97 is an exact parallel for this object; in Egypt and Nubia, exact parallels are attested at Esna (Mlinar 2001a II: 256, Abb. K 146, Esna 88) and on a seal impression from Uronarti (Tufnell 1975: Fig. 3:157). See Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 689 for this base design but with a *t* (X1) instead of a *nb* (V30). For other close comparanda that include the *nfr* (F35) with a *rʿ* (N5), see Amman (Airport) No. 19; Kabri No. 17; Lachish No. 369, 431; in Egypt and Nubia, the combination of four interlocking Z-spirals with *nfr* (F35) and *rʿ* (N5) is attested at Tell el-Dabʿa (TD 601) and Kerma (Mlinar 2001a II: 256, Abb. K 146. TD 601, Kerma 145–146, 208). For the combination of *nfr* (F35) with a *rʿ* (N5) surrounded by other types of scrolls and woven borders, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 347; Beth Shemesh No. 84, 170; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 28, 81–82; Gezer No. 305; Jericho No. 100, 133, 289, 390.

DATING: Late 12th–early 13th Dyn. (1837–1720 BCE); Keel 2004a: 1542 assigned a date to the 13th–15th Dyn., but according to Ben-Tor's study this motif only appears on Egyptian scarabs assigned by her to the late Middle Kingdom and is not attested on scarabs assigned by her to the Second Intermediate Period.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3371.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.9–12, Locus 3612,[1] Basket 43565, Object no. 43565/80.

① Hall or courtyard in Pillared Building (Ussishkin 2004: 2722).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 90–91, No. 105, Pl. 7:105; Keel 2004a: 1542, No. 11, Fig. 23.37:4, Fig. 23.38:4. *[NBM]*

879



1 cm

880



1 cm

881 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4?/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. A portion of the head has broken off by the front perforation hole. MEASUREMENTS: 14.2 mm (L) × 10.4 mm (W) × 6.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a large *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) sign symbolizing the "Union of the Two Lands", is flanked on each side by an *ʿnḫ* (S34) above a *nb* (V30).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. The closest comparanda comprise the *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) symbol flanked by*ʿnḫ* (S34) signs without *nb* (V30) signs and are as follows: Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1087; Gezer No. 382; Gibeon No. 38; Kabri No. 22, This motif also appears at various sites in Egypt, including el-Lahun town/Kahun, Elephantine, Aniba, and Uronarti (Mlinar 2001a II: 330, Abb. K 192: Kahun 136, 462, 463, Eleph. 167, Aniba 17, and Uronarti 285).

DATING: Late 13th–early 15th Dyn. (1720–1600 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1542.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3347.

CONTEXT: Level VIIa (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple III, Area S, Square C.9, Locus 3778 (previously 3714),[1] Basket 42059, Object no. 42059/80.

① Part of a courtyard in a house (Ussishkin 2004: 2723).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 88–90, No. 104, Pl. 7:104; Keel 2004a: 1542, No. 12, Fig. 23.37:5, Fig. 23.38:5. *[OK/*NBM]*

882 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B4/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. Brownish-red stripe on the back (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024). PRESERVATION: broken. Sides of base damaged (Keel 2004a: 1542). MEASUREMENTS: 22.5 mm (L) × 16.6 mm (W) × 11.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Dark longitudinal line running down back of scarab along perforation channel.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple, single-line border. The Egyptian logogram for *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) "Union of the Two Lands" is placed vertically in the centre of the base.

DISCUSSION: The *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) symbol belongs to Design Class 3A1 "Sign of union" (Tufnell 1984: 117, Pl. 7:1277–1296). Of note are the two bulbous protrusions extending horizontally outward from the centre of the wind pipe: Keel (Keel 2004a: 1542) points out these motifs belong to elements from Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" (Tufnell 1984: 125, Pl. 23; see for example Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 989 and Tufnell 1984: Pl. 23:2016, 2018–2019, 2021, 2024, 2033).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For seals whose base comprises a large, vertically-stanced *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) symbol, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 26, 308, 520, 720. For seals with the *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) motif in combination with other icons, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 653; Gezer No. 59; Hazor No. 46; Jericho No. 161, 232; Lachish No. 881. In Egypt, vertically-stanced *zmꜣ tꜣwj* (F36, M26, and M15) signs can be found on scarabs at Tell el-Dabʿa, Tell el-Yahudiya, el-Lahun town/Kahun, el-Haraga, Dendera, Elephantine; and in Nubia, at Kubban, Buhen, Mirgissa, Uronarti, Semna, and Ukma (Mlinar 2001a II: 610–611, Abb. K 326 and 327).

DATING: Late 13th–15th Dyn. (1720–1540 BCE); MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1542.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3349.

CONTEXT: Level S-3 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square D.11, Locus 8018,[1] Object no. 46810/80.

① "Excavation beneath the level of ashy layers (Locus 3916) down to remains of the Level S-3 structure, i.e., Wall 1103, a large segment of a pebble floor at the south-western part of the square at elevation 256.43 m, and segments of what appear to be lime flooring at the eastern part of the square" (Ussishkin 2004: 404, 2736). The item was found with fragments of White Slip I-II, Base Ring I-II, and White Shaved ware; a Northwest Anatolian Grey Ware krater fragment; a bronze snake figurine; a bronze arrowhead; a discoidal/lentoid, limestone flywheel/spindle whorl; beads; a bone whistle? fragment; a bone point; a bronze fish? hook; flint tools; olive pits and wheat seeds ^{14}C dated to 1482–1366 BCE (Calib.); mollusk shells; wood samples; fish bones (Nile perch, sharks and rays, sea breams); animal bones belonging to bos, caprine, pig, equid, bird, fallow deer, dog, hartebeest, leopard, and tortoise; and human bones (Ussishkin 2004: 404).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1542, No. 13, Fig. 23.37:6, Fig. 23.38:6. *[OK/*NBM]*

883 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on container sealing (Keel 1995: § 317–318). Probably of a scarab (Keel 1995: § 318). MATERIAL: unfired clay. COLOUR: grey. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W); 37.0 mm (L) × 27.0 mm (W) × 16.5 mm (H, lump).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Two addorsed bent and bound stems with a single bud flank three signs: a vertical line terminating in a curvilinear cane shape similar to the outer elements appears in the centre, flanked by two identical signs, identified as either lotus buds or more likely *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs. Below these three signs are two parallel wavy lines, likely a schematic *nbw* (S12).

DISCUSSION: In his publication of this impression, Keel 2004a: 1543 interpreted the central sign as a possible *ḏd* (R11) pillar, noting that the former drawings of this item in Giveon 1988 had been corrected. However, when the published photographs of the impression are consulted, the central motif lacks the characteristic columnar resemblance nor does it have the horizontal notches to resemble a *ḏd* (R11) pillar; it appears closer to an *ʿnḫ* (S34), or rather *s* (S29) due to its asymmetrical shape. The lower motif under the wavy lines is not apparent in the photograph. The flanking bent and bound stems belong to Design Classes 1E2 "Linear patterns, floral motifs—two stems" and 3A2 "Monograms and varia, the *nb.ty* and plant" (Tufnell 1984: 116–118, Pl. 2:1049–1052 and Pl. 7:1299–1313).

COMPARANDA: No exact comparanda. For compositions of bent and bound lotus buds flanking horizontally-arranged motifs above a more schematic zigzag line, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 648. For a *ḏd* (R11) pillar flanked by two *nfr* (F35) signs above a

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nbw (S12), see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 988. For a *nfr* (F35) sign flanked by two *ʿnḫ* (S34) signs above a *nbw* (S12), see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1106.

DATING: 13th–15th Dyn. (1760–1540 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1542, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) – Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GW, Square L.13, Locus 4421,[1] Basket 38579, Object no. 38579/80.

① Sounding at the foot of Wall 'a' (Ussishkin 2004: 615, 2728).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 86–87, No. 100, Pl. 7:100; Keel 1995: § 318, p. 285 (typology); Keel 2004a: 1542–1543, No. 14, Fig. 23.39:1, Fig. 23.40:1. *[NBM]*

884 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: reddish-brown. Baked. PRESERVATION: complete. The impressions are somewhat worn. MEASUREMENTS: 10.5* mm (L) × 8.0* mm (W, impression); 27.3 mm (L) × 21.8 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H, lump).

MANUFACTURE: Remarks: Two oval impressions on a mud sealing (bulla), probably made by a single scarab (Keel 1995: § 293); marks of two strings on the backside of the sealing (Keel 2004a: 1543).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Three double-line arcs extend inward on the right, left, and bottom of the base. Within each arc, two perpendicular lines. In the centre, two *zꜣ* (V17/V18) signs.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 6C1 "Coiled and 'woven' patterns" (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 26). Ben-Tor classifies both this type of woven design and depictions of a central *zꜣ* (V17/V18) flanked in a horizontal orientation as part of her Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 90:1–20, 91:44). The 'woven' design is also very similar to the so-called "Hyksos borders" that appear on 15th Dyn. seals.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels, but see the comparanda Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 173, 1192; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 112. For a *zꜣ* (V17/V18) flanked in a horizontal orientation, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 69.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating assigned based on comparanda for motifs in Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 90–91). Keel 2004a: 1543 assigned an MB II date.

COLLECTION: Lachish; Sadan family collection (Moshav).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 11224/1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1543, No. 15, Fig. 23.39:2, Fig. 23.40:2. *[NBM]*

885 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D7/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: dark brownish-red. Hard white surface, brown-reddish stripe on back (Keel 1995: § 98; Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024). PRESERVATION: complete. Back and rim of base slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 9.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching and interior hatching (inside *nb* and uraei).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base, a right-facing linear *dšrt* (S3) above and connected to a *nb* (V30), flanked by two addorsed *jʿrt* (I12) cobras. Internal hatching appears in both the *jʿrt* (I12) cobras and *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 3B1a "Symmetric patterns, cobras addorsed", 3B3a "Red crowns addorsed on *nb*", and 3B3d "Red crowns addorsed, L-shaped" (Tufnell 1984: 118–119, Pl. 9 and 11–12). While the single crown on a *nb* (V30) therefore does not reflect the "addorsed" aspect of Design Classes 3B3a and 3B3d, Ben-Tor lists examples of single red *dšrt* (S3) crowns on a *nb* (V30) under Design Class 3b3d for her Early Palestinian Series seals (Ben-Tor 2007: 163, Pl. 79:1–2, 5, 7–8).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels known so far from the southern Levant. Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 591 shows the same layout with the two uraei flanking a *zꜣ* (V16) sign.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on object typology and motif comparanda. Keel 2004a: 1543 originally assigned a date to the late 13th–15th Dyn. However, this object displays red crowns similar to those characteristic of Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series seals (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 54:21).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3372.

CONTEXT: Level S-2 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.11, Locus 3913,[1] Object no. 45305/80.

① Ashy layers (Ussishkin 2004: 2724).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1543, No. 16, Fig. 23.39:3, Fig. 23.40:3. *[NBM]*

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886 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). MATERIAL: unfired clay. COLOUR: light brown (upper side), grey (lower side). PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (D, impression); 26.0 mm (L) × 20.8 mm (W) × 8.3 mm (H, lump).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. Remarks: Incomplete oval impression on mud sealing, probably of a scarab; the back side of the sealing contains the impression of a string (Keel 2004a: 1543).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Four hieroglyphs are impressed into the sealing; from right to left (description follows impression) they are: a possible *dšrt* (S3) facing away from a quail chick (*w* [G43]) on top of a *nb* (V30), followed by a left-facing bent and bound stem (Keel 2004a: 1543).

COMPARANDA: No parallel from the southern Levant can be identified by the author. Close comparanda include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 597, 1005; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 14; Jericho No. 41, 373, 450; Lachish No. 416.

DATING: Late 13th–15th Dyn. (1720–1540 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1543, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) – Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GW, Square L.13, Locus 4421,[1] Object no. 11225/1.

① Sounding at the foot of Wall ‘a’ (Ussishkin 2004: 2728).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1543, No. 17, Fig. 23.39:4, Fig. 23.40:4. *[OK/*NBM]*

887 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey. Thin white transparent cover. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.7 mm (L) × 11.8 mm (W) × 8.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Anthropomorphic figure striding to the left; one arm is hanging down behind his side, the other is outstretched but bent, holding a branch. The figure wears a short loincloth and a necklace and has shoulder-length hair. A uraeus appears at the foot of the figure.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design class 10 “Human and mythical figures” (Tufnell 1984: 135, 137, Pl. 42:2679–2686; Keel 1995: § 561). According to Ben-Tor’s study on Middle Bronze Age seals, figures holding branches first appear on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series and become more popular on scarabs assigned to the Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 63:1, 102:26). For branch bearers as cult participants, see Keel 1995: § 561. The uraeus seems to face inward, towards the figure, as on Lachish No. 86 and Acco No. 35; alternatively, it may be depicted upside down and face outwards but this would be unusual. While it is equally unusual that the animal’s head should be rendered by a single line only, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 328 depicts a schematic uraeus at the foot of a figure holding a branch.

COMPARANDA: For depictions of a uraeus by the foot of an anthropomorphic figure holding a branch, see Acco No. 35; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 328; Aphek No. 2; Emmaus No. 1; Lachish No. 86. See Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 328, 955 and Aphek No. 2 for comparanda of a figure wearing a similar necklace and belt, holding a branch.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); based on comparanda. A 15th Dyn. date was assigned by Keel 2004a: 1543.

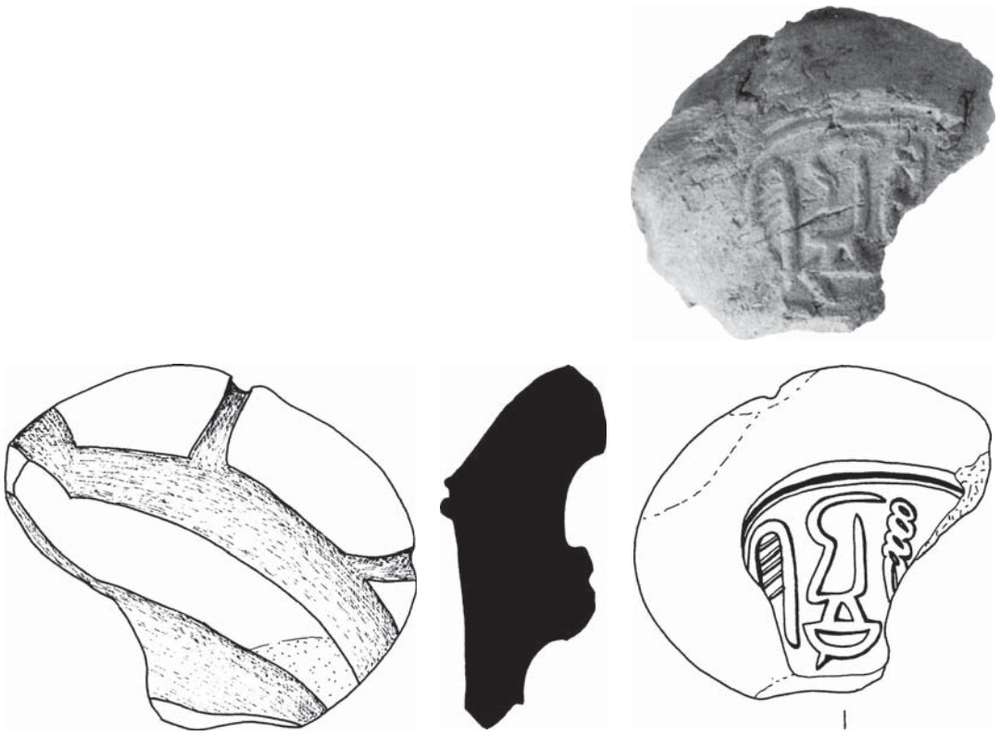
COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3353.

CONTEXT: Level S-1 (LB IIA–LB IIB, early 14th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.10–11, Locus 3979,[1] Object no. 45974/80.

① Habitation debris (Ussishkin 2004: 2725).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1543, No. 18, Fig. 23.39:5, Fig. 23.40:5. *[NBM]*

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1 cm

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1 cm

888 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6?/0/e10 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. White hard surface. PRESERVATION: complete. Head almost completely lost, rim of base damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 19.3 mm (L) × 13.9 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Debased *anra*-type signs (Keel 1995: § 469–470) form a border framing a column of signs: horizontal line, *ḥr(j)* (N28), three vertical lines, between them two *n* (N35), beneath them a horizontal ʿ (D36) (text based on Keel 2004a: 1543).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant.

DATING: Late 15th–early 18th Dyn. (1600–1425 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1543.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3355.

CONTEXT: Level VIIb (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple III, Area S, Square C.8–9, Locus 3990,[1] Object no. 46222/80.

① Habitation debris (Ussishkin 2004: 2725).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1543, No. 19, Fig. 23.41:1, Fig. 23.42:1. *[OK/*NBM]*

889 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type B1/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: yellowish. Granular. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 13.7 mm (L) × 9.5 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple, single-line linear border. Vertical column comprising the following four Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *r* (D21), *n* (N35), *r* (D21), ʿ (D36).

DISCUSSION: The combination of these four signs does not provide any coherent translation in Egyptian. As such, similar signs combinations have been classified as part of the so-called *anra* inscriptions (Keel 1995: § 469–471, for a review of literature prior to 1995; for more recent interpretations, see Richards 2001; Goldwasser 2006: 130–131; Ben-Tor 2009a: 86–87). The debate continues on the significance of these sign combinations, with recent proposals including the Canaanite god El (Richards 2001: 130–140), purely iconic significance for local Canaanite populations (Goldwasser 2006: 130–131), and "good luck symbols with Egyptian prestige value" (Ben-Tor 2009a: 87). It should be noted that this specific combination of signs appears on different scarab types and may thus attest to a wider shared significance.

COMPARANDA: For parallels from Lachish with this distinct combination of signs, see Lachish No. 339, 447. For a closely comparable sequence, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 149, 1105. Additional comparanda include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 85, 726, 954; Ashkelon No. 117; Jericho No. 417.

DATING: More likely MB III (early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE); late 15th–early 18th Dyn. (1600–1425 BCE); date assigned by Keel (Keel 2004a: 1548).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3356.

CONTEXT: Level S-2 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C/8, Locus 3938,[1] Object no. 46494/80.

① See Lachish No. 892.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1548, No. 20, Fig. 23.41:2, Fig. 23.42:2. *[NBM]*

890 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 54/EP 121/Side 26 (Rowe), A1/I/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light grey. White surface. PRESERVATION: broken. Left side of base has broken off, damaging the *nb* (V30). MEASUREMENTS: 13.8 mm (L) × 10.3 mm (W) × 6.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre of the base is a cartouche (Keel 1995: § 462) with the following Egyptian hieroglyphs, from top to bottom: *rʿ* (N5), *ꜣ* (O29), *ḫpr* (L1), and a horizontal line likely reflecting a schematic *n* (N35). The cartouche is flanked by a *šw(t)* (H6) feather and a vertically placed *nb* (V30) sign on either side.

DISCUSSION: The hieroglyphs in the cartouche are the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose II, *ꜣ-ḫpr-n-rʿ* (Keel 1995: § 663). According to Keel 2004a: 1548, scarabs engraved with the prenomen of Thutmose II are rare (Hall 1913: No. 481–485; Petrie 1917: Pl. 25:18.4:1–7); this might be due to a (disputed) short regnal length of only three years (Schneider ²1996: 455–456). While the prenomen of Thutmose II is very similar to that of Amenhotep II (*ꜣ-ḫprw-rʿ*), some of whose scarabs are "carelessly cut", Keel argues that this cannot be the case here as this seal is carefully engraved (Keel 2004a: 1548).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Lachish No. 581 forms a close comparandum, comprising the throne name of Thutmose II, however it is vertical in orientation and contains the epithet *nṯr nfr nb tꜣwj*, "perfect god, lord of the Two Lands". Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 128 forms an almost exact parallel except it contains the throne name of Thutmose III.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Thutmose II (1482–1480 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1548 based on comparanda and the inscribed name.

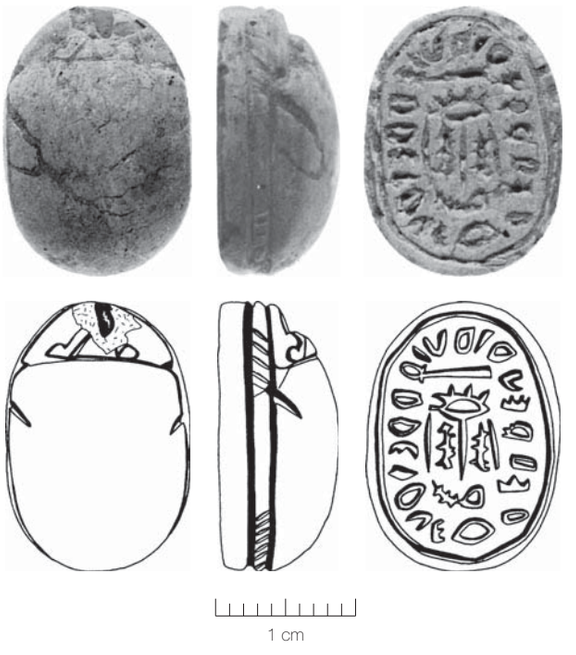
COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3370.

CONTEXT: Level VIIb (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple III, Area S, Square D.11–12, Locus 3862,[1] Basket 43781, Object no. 43781/80.

① Part of the south-western unit of a Level VIIb house (Ussishkin 2004: 380, 2723, Fig. 8.26).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1985: 215; Giveon 1988: 90–91, No. 106, Pl. 8:106; Keel 2004a: 1548, No. 21, Fig. 23.41:4, Fig. 23.42:4. *[OK/*NBM]*

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891 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 26? or HC 51/EP 75?/Side 23? (Rowe), D9 or less likely B2?/II/d14 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Rim of the base slightly damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 13.1 mm (L) × 8.9 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief with interior hatching and interior cross hatching (falcon). COATING: white glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. The base is divided into three implied vertical registers. On the left, a cartouche within which are *rˁ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), and a vertical *ḫpr* (L1) from top to bottom. In the centre, three Egyptian hieroglyphs arranged in a column: at the top is a horizontally inscribed *ḫpr* (L1), followed by a single and triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2), and *ḥˁ(j)* (N28). On the right, a falcon facing to the right with internal cross hatching.

DISCUSSION: The Egyptian hieroglyphs in the cartouche result in the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose III (Keel 1995: § 634 and § 663). Keel 2004a: 1548 notes that the signs in the centre can be read *ḥˁw ḫprw*, "appearance of the manifestations (or diadems)" and the entire base scene as "Thutmose III appears as the manifestation(s) of Horus". Epithets composed with the element *ḥˁ(j)* (N28) make their appearance during the reign of Thutmose III (Jaeger 1982: 155, § 1146); four exceptions date to the reign of Thutmose I with the epithet *ḥˁw mj Rˁ ḏt*. Besides *ḥˁw ḫprw Ḥr*, there are scarabs from the southern Levant with the throne name of Thutmose III and *ḥˁw nfrw* "beautiful of appearance" (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 495), as well as *ḥˁw ḫ3st nb‹t›* "who appears in every foreign country" (e.g., Gezer No. 361); for *ḥˁw ḫprw*, see Jaeger 1982: 38, § 61 with 282, n. 54 g; the only close comparandum is Hall 1913: No. 1688, an oval plaque of Thutmose IV (B. Jaeger, pers. comm.); for the combination of *Mn-ḫpr-rˁ* with falcon and beetle, see Starkey and Harding 1932: Pl. 50:74 (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1548–1549).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); LB I (mid 16th–early 14th c. BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1548, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3369.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area GE, Square F.3–4, Locus 4584,[1] Basket 31543, Object no. 31543/80.

① Part of a unit beneath the Levels IV–III gatehouse (Ussishkin 2004: 2729).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 86–87, No. 99, Pl. 7:99; Keel 2004a: 1548–1549, No. 22, Fig. 23.41:3, Fig. 23.42:3; Lalkin 2008: No. 1139. *[OK/*NBM]*

892 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 24/EP 27/Side 41 (Rowe), B2/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). Keel 2004a: 1549 notes "humeral callosities indicated by two small loops; in contrast to what is said in Keel 1995: § 99, this type of representation of the humeral callosities occurs already at the beginning of the 18th Dynasty". It should be noted, however, that no such humeral callosities can be identified in the photograph nor the line drawing. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. With faint remains of blue glaze (Keel 2004a: 1549). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.8 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 5.9 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: deep flat sunk relief with interior hatching (inside *nb*). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Beth Shean Level IX group. Remarks: This type of seal amulet belongs to the so-called Beth Shean Level IX group, characterized by scarabs made from a blue-green composite material, lacking legs, and whose bases are impressed with left-facing motifs in deep sunk relief. It was originally suggested that the manufacture of these seals was the product of local craftspeople impressing imported Egyptian scarabs with right-facing designs into faience moulds, resulting in a left-facing base design (Keel 2004a: 1549; Ben-Tor and Keel 2012). On a practical level, however, such a proposal is not possible as the positive gained from a mould would again have resulted in a right-facing design, or if pressed directly into the base of the seal, in a motif in raised relief. That said, it is possible that the seals in the Beth Shean Level IX group reflect a local tradition of carving right-facing moulds, especially when one considers many of the motifs appear to continue motifs locally produced during the Middle Bronze Age. V. Boschloos (pers. comm.) has proposed the distribution of seals in this group suggests that their production cannot be limited to Beth Shean.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. From left to right: a left-facing *jˁrt* (I12) cobra whose tail connects with a left-facing ostrich feather (*šw[t]* [H6]); below these two motifs is a *nb* (V30) with internal hatching.

DISCUSSION: On the significance of this design, Keel writes that the combination of a single *jˁrt* (I12) cobra and *nb* (V30) might reflect protection of life (Keel 1995: § 529). The addition of a *šw(t)* (H6) sign may suggest associations with the goddess Maʿat. Indeed, this combination of motifs appears with the actual sign for Maʿat on Beth Shemesh No. 68. Together, these motifs suggest an apotropaic function.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels known so far from the southern Levant. For depictions of this motif combination facing to the right, see Beth Shean No. 94; Beth Shemesh No. 68, 70; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 526, 688, 719, 735; Megiddo No. 99. From Egypt, scarabs with this motif were found at Medinet Habu (Teeter 2003: Pl. 49:d, e, and 50:a, b).

DATING: LB I–LB II (mid 16th–early 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda. Keel (2004a: 1549) originally assigned a date at the end of the LB I, however based on the excavated contexts for these seals, it is possible their production extended into the LB II.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3357.

CONTEXT: Level S-2 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.8, Locus 3938,[1] Object no. 46730/80.

① Ashy layers above the remains of Level S-3 (Ussishkin 2004: 390, 2724).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1549, No. 23, Fig. 23.41:5, Fig. 23.42:5; Ben-Tor and Keel 2012: 90, 103, No. 16, Fig. 17 (mistakenly labeled as Fig. 16 in text). *[NBM]*

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893 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8[?]/EP 34[?]/Side 26 or Side 27 (Rowe), D2 or D4/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: broken. Base damaged on both sides. Strangely the drawing published in Keel 2004a: Fig. 23.41:6 depicts an intact back, while the photograph in Fig. 23.42:6 (and a new drawing based on the latter) shows the back in a heavily damaged state, having lost the elytra and part of the pronotum; the first published drawing must have been produced from the original or a photograph (which neither subsists in the field records nor in any other documentation) of a largely intact scarab. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a *šnw* (V9/V10) within which the following hieroglyphs read, from top to bottom: *rˁ* (N5), *mn* (Y5), *ḫpr* (L1), triple vertical strokes/plural marker (Z2). To the right, a likely *nṯr* (R8) and *nfr* (F35) above a *nb* (V30) and a single *tỉ* (N16/N17), originally followed by likely another *tỉ* (N16/N17) lost with the breakage. To the left, from top to bottom: *dj* (X8), *ʿnḫ* (S34), *ḏ(t)* (I10), *t* (X1).

DISCUSSION: The name in the cartouche is the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Thutmose IV, *Mn-ḫprw-rˁ*. Keel counted a total of 18 stamp-seal amulets with the throne name of this king found in the southern Levant (Keel 2004a: 1549; by May 2024, CSSL counts 25 items). To the right of the cartouche, *nṯr nfr nb tỉwj*, "the good god, lord of the Two Lands"; to the left of the cartouche *dj ʿnḫ ḏt* "given life for ever".

COMPARANDA: Lachish No. 13 is a close comparandum, with *nb-mỉʿt-rˁ* (Amenhotep III) instead of *mn-ḫprw-rˁ*. Similarly, Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 202 is almost identical but with the name *ỉ-ḫprw-rˁ* (Amenhotep II). For other seals with the name of Thutmose IV, see, e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 224, 228, 240, 252; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 33; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 673; Gezer No. 559, 608–609; Lachish No. 570–571; Megiddo No. 743, 763.

DATING: Thutmose IV (1400–1390 BCE).

COLLECTION: Lachish; Liebermann family collection (Moshav).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Object no. 11216/80.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1549, No. 24, Fig. 23.41:6, Fig. 23.42:6. *[OK/*NBM]*

894 **OBJECT:** Rectangular piece with domed top, type a (Keel 1995: § 229–231). MATERIAL: fired steatite. White surface. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.6 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W) × 6.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching; raised relief (top). Remarks: Regarding the object type, see further Keel 2004a: 1549.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: On the base horizontally arranged: *ḥmt nswt Tjj* "Royal consort Tiye". On the back: *Nb-mỉʿt-rˁ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (Keel 1995: § 634, 663) flanked by two *šw(t)* (H6) (Keel 1995: § 462).

DISCUSSION: According to Keel 2004a: 1552, Tell el-ʿAjjul, Gezer and Lachish have yielded 53% of all the stamp-seal amulets with the throne name of Amenhotep III, whereas the other 47% were found at 22 different sites. While CSSL data may require refinement of this statement, the tendency remains valid.

COMPARANDA: The domed rectangular piece Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 255 is the closest comparandum so far; further items with the names of both Amenhotep III and his consort include the scarabs Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 330, Gezer No. 46, and the bifacial plaque Gezer No. 611.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); Amenhotep III (1390–1353 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1549.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown; IAA No. 2002-3358. The item could not be located by the time of writing, whether in Jerusalem, Beth Shemesh, or Tel Aviv.

CONTEXT: Level S-2 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.8, Locus 3938,[1] Object no. 45369/80.

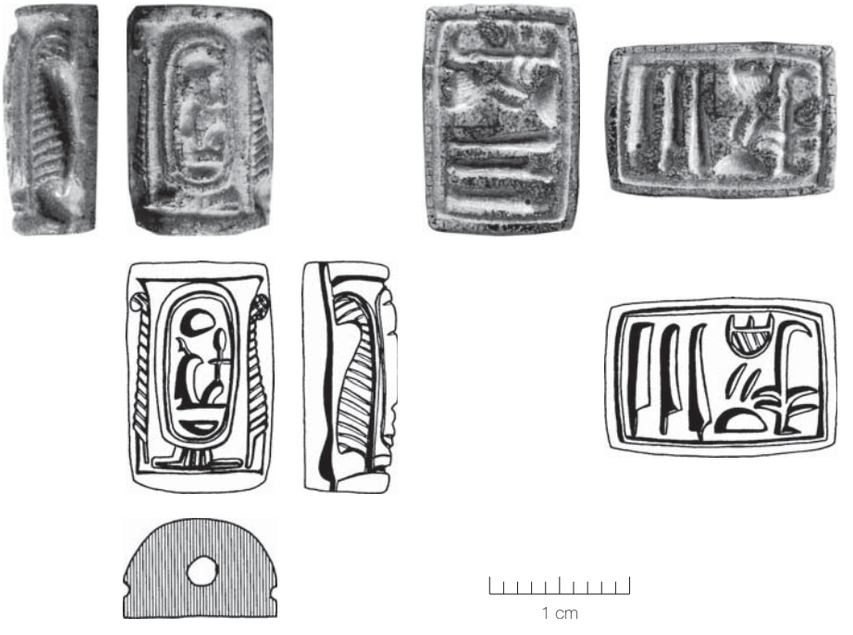
① See Lachish No. 892.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1549, 1552, No. 25, Fig. 23.43:1, Fig. 23.44:1. *[OK/*NBM]*

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895 **OBJECT:** Oval piece, type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Side B partly damaged (Keel 2004a: 1552). MEASUREMENTS: 17.5 mm (L) × 12.2 mm (W) × 5.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief. Remarks: Oval, double-sided engraved plaque, smooth sides (Keel 1995: § 206–208; Keel 2004a: 1552).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Side A: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. So-called Hathor-fetish or goddess pole flanked by two outward-facing uraei. Side B: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. Horus falcon facing right, standing on a uraeus.

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1552 proposed the damaged space above the Horus falcon may have contained a *mr(j)* (U6/U7) "beloved of" based on a comparison with Tell Abu Hawam No. 21.

COMPARANDA: The closest parallel in both typology and motif is Lachish No. 602. More or less close comparanda for Side A include: Lachish No. 694; Acco No. 146, 212; Ashdod No. 4; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 709; Gezer No. 229–230, 272, 289, 639. Close comparanda for Side B include: Tell Abu Hawam No. 21; Beth Shean No. 175; Gezer No. 420, 638; Lachish No. 945; Megiddo No. 203.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1552.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown; IAA No. 2002-3359. The item could not be located by the time of writing, whether in Jerusalem or Beth Shemesh.

CONTEXT: Level S-3 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.9–10, Locus 3974,[1] Object no. 46878/80.

① Part of a unit in main building (Ussishkin 2004: 2725).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1552, No. 26, Fig. 23.43:2, Fig. 23.44:2. *[OK/*NBM]*

896 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 56/EP 8/Side 19 (Rowe), A8? or A9?/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). The head type seems to be typical for the 18th Dyn. (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196, 263; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 9; Lachish No. 412, 502). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey. Poorly fired. PRESERVATION: broken. Broken along the perforation channel; half of the back and two-thirds of the base are lost (Keel 2004a: 1552). MEASUREMENTS: 17.7 mm (L) × 7.7 mm (W) × 6.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: more likely double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A large right-facing *wꜣs* (S40) scepter appears on the right side of the base and intersects with a horizontal line running perpendicular, perhaps to indicate a hand (of a deity). Above this line is a *nfr* (F35) and below is a partial drill hole.

COMPARANDA: No parallels can be confidently identified due to fragmentary state of preservation. Possible comparanda include: Beth Shean No. 128; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 134, 483, 763; Jerusalem No. 652; Lachish No. 88, 525, 527–528; Megiddo No. 300.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1552.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level IIb (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Area GW, Square Y-Z.14–15, Locus 4934,[1] Object no. 39429/80.

① Fills supporting Wall 'a' (Ussishkin 2004: 2730).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1552, No. 27, Fig. 23.43:3, Fig. 23.44:3. *[OK/*NBM]*

897 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/EP 1/Side 26 (Rowe), -/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). Rectangular head. MATERIAL: composite material. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Slight chipping on left side of base. MEASUREMENTS: 18.1 mm (L) × 14.3 mm (W) × 8.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief. Remarks: Pilosity of the hind legs indicated.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Broad rope border (Tufnell 1984: Pl. 34; Keel 1995: § 512), within which is an oval (Keel 1995: § 462) with two signs arranged vertically. The upper sign is L-shaped, faces right and resembles a schematic *dšrt* (S3) or seated figure; the lower sign is likely a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1552 reads the upper sign as a *mꜣʿt* (C10) and the lower sign as a *nb* (V30), and proposed together they possibly represent a debased form of *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ*, the prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III (cf. Keel 1995: § 634 and § 663).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 635 is a close comparandum both typologically and iconographically. Note, however, that the figure is pronounced with a possible *rʿ* (N5) adjoining to the head, and the rope border is slightly different.

DATING: 19th–early 20th Dyn. (1292–1150 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1552 based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.8, Locus 3852,[1] Basket 44064, Object no. 44064/80.

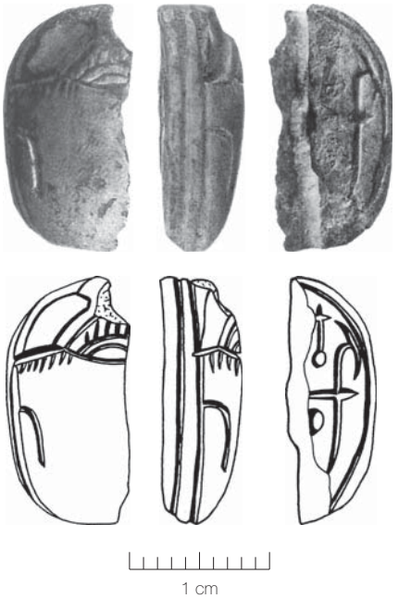
① Stone-lined pit or installation east of a pillared building (Ussishkin 2004: 2723).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 90–91, No. 107, Pl. 8:107; Keel 2004a: 1552, No. 28, Fig. 23.43:4, Fig. 23.44:4; Lalkin 2008: 80, 123, 201, 266, No. 675, Pl. 38:675. *[OK/*NBM]*

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898 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 8 or HC 12/EP 33/Side 26 (Rowe), D4 or less likely A4/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. On the right side of the base is a seated figure, facing right, with two vertical lines extending upward from the head and an *ʿnḫ* (S34) extending vertically from the knees. On the left side of the base, behind this figure in a large oval cartouche, is another seated figure, facing right, above which appear two oval-shaped signs, and below which is a possible *nb* (V30). At the bottom of the base are two parallel horizontal lines resulting in a *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: The seated figure on the right side of the base can be interpreted as the god Amun wearing the *šwtj* (S9) feathers. Keel 2004a: 1553 has noted that such depictions of Amun first appear on seals during 18th Dyn. (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 479) and continue during the 19th and 20th Dyn. (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 803). Behind Amun, Keel 2004a: 1553 proposed the signs in the cartouche "may be a misunderstood rendering of the popular prenomen (i.e., throne name) of Amenhotep III, *Nb-mꜣʿt-rʿ* (Keel 1995: § 634 and § 663)".

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For seated depictions of Amun, see Beth Shean No. 242; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 161. Somewhat similar renderings of the name Amenhotep III in a cartouche include Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 196; Lachish No. 17, 572; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 135–136.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1552.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area P, Square G-H.5–6, Storeroom 3162,[1] Basket 9749, Object no. 9749/80.

① Storeroom of the Level VI temple (Ussishkin 2004: 2719).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 84–85, No. 97, Pl. 7:97; Keel 2004a: 1552–1553, No. 29, Fig. 23.43:5, Fig. 23.44:5; Lalkin 2008: 142, No. 1079. *[NBM]*

899 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 79/-/Side 27 (Rowe), -/-/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). Since almost all of the back has broken off, the typological identification of head and back is not possible. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light brown. White surface. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 19.1 mm (L) × 14.6 mm (W) × 7.1* mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with hatching and interior hatching (details of figures' bodies).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Three anthropomorphic figures connected at the arms stand on a *nb* (V30) decorated with horizontal lines. The central figure wears a tunic indicated by hatching and has two vertical, parallel lines projecting from their head as well as a long curled beard projecting to the right. On the left is a falcon-headed figure, facing right, with hatching to indicate a tunic; above this figure is a large circle resembling a *rʿ* (N5) disc and a smaller circle above it. On the right, facing left, is another figure wearing a similar tunic with a longer, beak-like head; a large circle resembling a *rʿ* (N5) disc also appears above its head, with a smaller circle above it.

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1553 has identified the central figure as Amun based on the presence of the two *šwtj* (S9) feathers, as well as the placement of two sun discs above each of the outer figures, which is a common motif found in connection with two falcon-headed deities flanking Amun. On the identification of the two outer figures flanking Amun, Keel 2004a: 1553 noted that while the figure to the left likely represents a falcon-headed deity, the long beak-like feature on the figure on the right might reflect a falcon-headed deity, but could also be an ibis-headed deity, possibly Thoth. On the appearance of such figures with two sun discs above their heads, Keel (*ibid*.) refers to Hornung and Staehelin 1976: No. 655, who proposed this feature might reflect a schematic crescent and full moon.

COMPARANDA: For close comparanda, see Ashkelon No. 39; Beth Shean No. 112; Beth Shemesh No. 106; Tall Dayr ʿAlla No. 11; Ekron No. 9; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 568; Lachish No. 653; Megiddo No. 295, 548; Tel Mor No. 1. This motif also appears on seal impressions (i.e., Gezer No. 28; Lachish No. 258) and is not restricted to scarabs, as it is found on rectangular pieces with a domed top (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 237, 647).

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1553, based on comparanda and the style of the scarab's legs, protruding at the side in a manner typical typical for Ramesside scarabs.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3376.

CONTEXT: Area P, Square H-L.3–6, Locus 3297 corresponding Locus No. 3299 in Final Report,[1] Basket 20467, Object no. 20467/80.

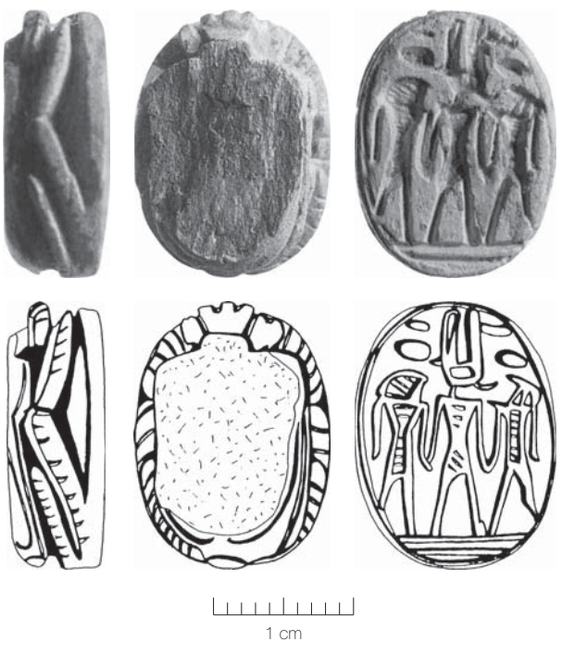
① Locus 3299, fills of Level VI, floor make-up of temple's main hall, elevation 267.09 to 266.96 (Ussishkin 2004: 2719). Context information is according to field index card and locus list. Note that Keel 2004a: 1553 published this object as "found in Area P, unstratified, at elevation 266.96 m".

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 84–86, No. 98, Pl. 7:98; Keel 1995: § 584; Keel 2004a: 1553, No. 30, Fig. 23.45:1, Fig. 23.46:1; Lalkin 2008: No. 714. *[OK/*NBM]*

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900 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 5?/EP 32 or EP 33/Side 26 or Side 27 (Rowe), D4?/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 13.8 mm (W) × 7.8 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: not recorded. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear. COATING: traces of silver glaze. The glaze is located on the head and in the dividing lines of the back (Keel 2004a: 1553).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. An anthropomorphic figure wearing the blue crown? with uraeus squats with hands raised in gesture of adoration, facing left. In front of this figure is a right-facing winged sphinx (Keel 1995: § 548) wearing an elaborate Atef crown. In between the two figures is a feature difficult to identify, possibly an offering stand or a miniature-sized anthropomorphic figure with upraised arms (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1553).

DISCUSSION: According to Keel, royal sphinxes depicted in a squatting pose and with wings are rarely attested (Achziv No. 95; Newberry 1907: Pl. 3:36157, 7:36392; Matouk 1977: 385, No. 620). During the 19th Dyn., royal sphinxes tend rather to be depicted recumbent and without wings (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 368, 492–495, 571–572). Keel further noted that the straight, upturned tail of the sphinx is very similar to the way the tail is depicted on the Seth animal, and that the beard appears thicker than the artificial beard worn by Egyptian gods and kings. Based on these observations combined, he suggested that the unique scene may have represented a local southern Levantine deity (cf. Loud 1939: Pl. 5:4–5) (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1553).

COMPARANDA: For royal sphinxes with an Atef crown, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 493; Manaḥat No. 5. For a king? worshipping a recumbent sphinx without wings, see Gezer No. 427.

DATING: Probably 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1553, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3378.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.9–12, Locus 3612,[1] Basket 40875, Object no. 40875/80.

① See Lachish No. 880.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 88–89, No. 102, Pl. 7:102; Keel 2004a: 1553, No. 31, Fig. 23.45:2, Fig. 23.46:2; Lalkin 2008: No. 559. *[OK/*NBM]*

901 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 13/EP 30? or EP 32/Side 27 (Rowe), A4? or D4?/vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: whitish. White surface, traces of hematite. PRESERVATION: broken. Part of the left elytron and pronotum lost due to chipping. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 14.4 mm (W) × 8.2 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. On the left an anthropomorphic figure stands facing right, drawing a bow. The figure wears the blue crown with uraeus and a protruding triangular kilt, indicating this is the Egyptian king. He aims his bow at a seated lion facing left. Two branches appear above the lion, two below, and one in front of the king. Two hieroglyphs appear directly above the figure's bow: *rʿ* (N5) and *nfr* (F35), meaning "the good sun (god)" (cf. Keel 1994: 115; Lichtheim 1997: 22–23). Behind the king is a cross-like sign, interpreted by Keel 2004a: 1556 as a possible debased sign of power, either *wsr* (F12) for "powerful", *wꜣs* (S40) for "power, dominion", or a sign for life such as *ʿnḫ* (S34) (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1556).

DISCUSSION: According to Keel, the scene can be interpreted as "a reference to the pharaoh's role as defender of civilization, as wild beasts were regarded as enemies, and partly a demonstration of the pharaoh's physical prowess, both being ideologically important themes imparting protection to the owner" (Keel 2004a: 1556).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. Close comparanda include two scarabs from the Matouk collection (Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 31, Fig. 8 and 9, Pl. 2:D and 3:A; Jaeger 1982a: Fig. 106), however these are without context. For a depiction of the enthroned king aiming his bow at a lion, see Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 49–51, Fig. 21 and 24, Pl. 4:A. For hunting scenes depicting the Egyptian king wearing the blue crown, see Lachish No. 721 and Taanach No. 46.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1553.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3406.

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area S, Square D.10–12, Locus 3617,[1] Basket 40006, Object no. 40006/80.

① Part of a large hall in Pillared Building (Ussishkin 2004: 2722).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1978: 45, Fig. 11, Pl. 16:2; Giveon 1978b: 12, Fig. 11; Giveon 1988: 82–83, No. 94, Pl. 7:94; Keel, Shuval and Uehlinger 1990: 267–269, 272, 287, Fig. 44; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 47, Fig. 101a; Keel 2004a: 1553,1556, No. 32, Fig. 23.45:3, Fig. 23.46:3; Strawn 2005: 382, Fig. 3.11; Lalkin 2008: 115, No. 492, Pl. 28:492; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 47, Fig. 101a; Schroer 2011: 104–105, No. 595. *[OK/*NBM]*

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902 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 62 or HC 67/EP 9/Side 24 (Rowe), B2/0/e2 or e5 (Tufnell/Keel). Two parallel horizontal lines separate the pronotum from the elytra. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: black. PRESERVATION: complete. Very worn. MEASUREMENTS: 18.2 mm (L) × 12.7 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (inside uraeus body). Remarks: Keel 2004a: 1556 notes remnants of white in the depressions as a result of the firing process.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. At the top of the base is a geometric design comprising a triangle and three diagonal strokes which may be the vestigial remains of a horizontal *dšrt* (S3). Below this motif on the right side is an erect uraeus, the tail of which merges on the left into the brow of an *wḏȝt* (D10), beneath which is a *nb* (V30) with two vertical lines extending upward. Both the *wḏȝt* (D10) and *nb* (V30) are framed above and below by an *n* (N35) (text adapted from Keel 2004a: 1556).

DISCUSSION: This style of linear engraving paired with these specific motifs suggests this seal is part of the Ramesside archaizing group of scarabs (for a discussion of this group, see Ben-Tor 2017).

COMPARANDA: An almost exact parallel is Lachish No. 623, however there is only one branch depicted vs. two on the present item. Other close comparanda include Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 365, 489; Tell Jemmeh No. 56; and Lachish No. 632, where the uraeus has been replaced with a red crown. On Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 251, the uraeus has been replaced with a *ḏd* (R11) pillar, and on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 640 with a *nfr* (F35).

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); date assigned by Keel 2004a: 1556, based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3407.

CONTEXT: Level VI? (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area P, Square J.8, Locus 3078,① Basket 9072, Object no. 9072/80. According to Keel, Giveon who first published the scarab (Giveon 1988: No. 96) mistakenly ascribed it to Level P-4, Locus 3156 (Keel 2004a: 1556).

① Surface east of Level VI temple (Ussishkin 2004: 2718).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 84–85, No. 96, Pl. 7:96; Keel 2004a: 1556, No. 33, Fig. 23.45:4, Fig. 23.46:4; Lalkin 2008: No. 1665, Pl. 91:1665. *[OK/*NBM]*

903 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/-/Side 58? (Rowe), D10/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). D-head with six vertical parallel lines (Rowe's type HC 15), a design found particularly in combination with the blank back typical of the 19th dynasty (Keel 1995: § 100; Keel 2004a: 1556); the back type is not attested in Rowe's typology. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white or light brown. PRESERVATION: broken. Back and rim of the base damaged. MEASUREMENTS: 16.9 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: drilled; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: No frame line. In the centre of the base is a circle with a dot from which 11 lines radiate toward the rim; at the end of each line is again a circle with a dot (Keel 2004a: 1556).

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1556 states "The design imitates, though in a simplified form, typical early MB II patterns" (e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 823). However, the simplified form occurs already in the MB II (see Shiqmona No. 12).

COMPARANDA: Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 629; Shiqmona No. 12.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1556, based on object typology (see also Brandl 2003: 255–257).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3408.

CONTEXT: Level VIIb (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple III – Level VIIa (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple III, Area S, Square C.8, Locus 3890,① Object no. 44740/80.

① Accumulated debris east of house (Ussishkin 2004: 2724).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1556, No. 34, Fig. 23.47:1, Fig. 23.48:1. *[OK/*NBM]*

904 **OBJECT:** Conoid? (Keel 1995: § 246–260) or truncated pyramid (Keel 1995: § 240–245). MATERIAL: fired clay. COLOUR: light grey. Alternatively, soft limestone. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 21.8 mm (L) × 20.3 mm (W) × 26.0 mm (H).

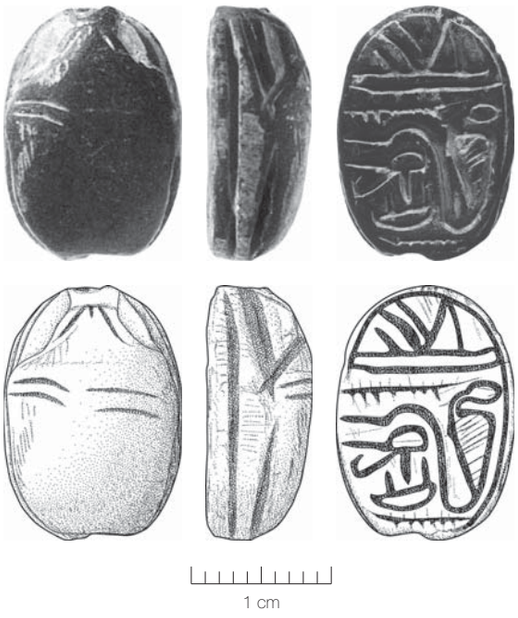
MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: Handmade, cone shaped stamp seal of Type I (Keel 1995: § 248–249); the base is round, the upper part becomes narrow, the perforation runs through the cone at roughly mid-height; crudely worked (Keel 2004a: 1556).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. No border. When viewed according to photograph, a central vertical line runs down the centre of the base, interrupted by a perpendicular, horizontal line from which three (four?) vertical lines extend downwards; another horizontal line runs perpendicular through the main vertical line, creating a cross-like motif. The cross-bar seems to terminate in a triangle on the right and is turned up in the left.

DISCUSSION: Given the schematic nature of the engraving, no coherent composition can be identified with confidence. The seal amulet might belong to a group of conoids with similar schematic linear designs dated to the Iron Age I (e.g., Ashdod No. 27; Dor No. 61; Tall al-Mazar No. 16). A more confident interpretation (Ch. Uehlinger, pers. comm.) recognises a schematic anthropomorphic (stick-)figure turned to the right, perhaps drawing a bow (the lower part of which is lost due to breakage) and standing on a striding quadruped equally turned to the right, its head damaged by the breakage; a similar base design is found on Pella No. 13, a conoid equally made of clay.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels nor close comparanda for the base engraving; but see the items mentioned in the discussion above.

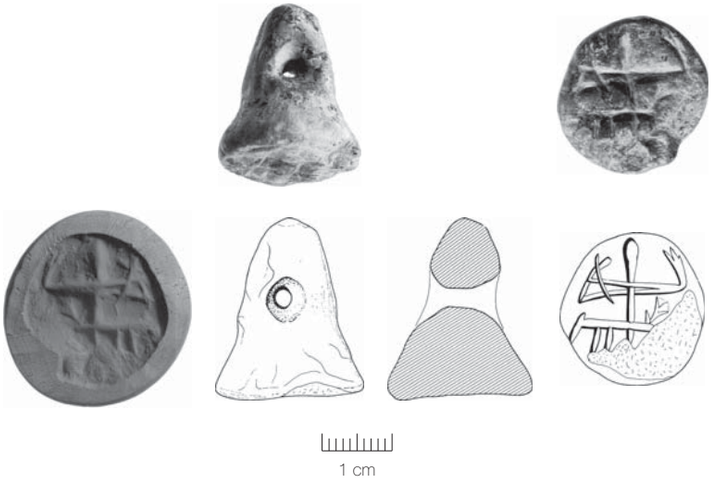
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DATING: LB III–Iron I (early 12th–mid 10th c. BCE); date assigned by Keel 2004a: 1556 based on typological comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3414.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.3, Locus 3570,[1] Object no. 11046A.

① Fills of Podium B rampart (Ussishkin 2004: 2721).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1556–1557, No. 35, Fig. 23.47:2, Fig. 23.48:2. *[NBM]*

905 **OBJECT:** Truncated pyramid, type II (Keel 1995: § 243–244). For similarly-shaped seals, see also Keel 1994: 21–35. MATERIAL: limestone. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 19.5 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W) × 22.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: through the top. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Unclear orientation. Simple single-liner border. The base is seemingly divided into two halves by a simple line crossing at the centre. On each side of this dividing line is a parallel line about two-thirds the length of the central line.

COMPARANDA: No exact comparanda. For truncated pyramid seals with a linear engraving on the base, see, e.g., Acco No. 157; Tall al-ʿUmayri No. 16–18 with further references. A somewhat similar motif appears on the scarab Beth Shean No. 171.

DATING: LB IIB–LB III (early 13th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda and find context. Keel 2004: 1557 originally assigned an Iron I–IIA date based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3410.

CONTEXT: Level VII (LB IIB, early 13th–early 12th c. BCE) – Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Area S, Square D.7, Locus 3812,[1] Object no. 42946/50.

① Accumulated debris in area east of buildings (Ussishkin 2004: 2723).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1557, No. 36, Fig. 23.47:3, Fig. 23.48:3. *[NBM]*

906 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid, type II (Keel 1995: § 135). MATERIAL: bone. Keel 2004a: 1557 notes the object appears polished. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 13.6 mm (L) × 11.7 mm (W) × 6.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; drilled (head of figure, dots around figure).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. No border. A linear, anthropomorphic figure stands in the centre of the base; the 'left' leg is bent, 'left' foot raised, and both arms outstretched. Two dots made by a drill appear on the right side of the figure's body: one by the neck and another by the straight 'right' leg. The figure is flanked by two inward-facing ostriches.

DISCUSSION: The base design reflects the so-called 'master of ostriches' motif. On the significance of this motif, see Keel 1978: 102–108; Keel 2007: 205–206; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: 139–140, Fig. 162a–d.

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum in terms of material, typology and motif is Beth Shemesh No. 36. However, the style is very different. Other comparanda include Lachish No. 144–145, 147, 149; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 45; Beth Shemesh No. 36, 42; Buṣayra No. 10; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 10; Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 55; Gezer No. 186, 453; Megiddo No. 351; Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 29; Reḥov No. 23; Samaria No. 84.

DATING: Iron IIA–Iron IIB (mid 10th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

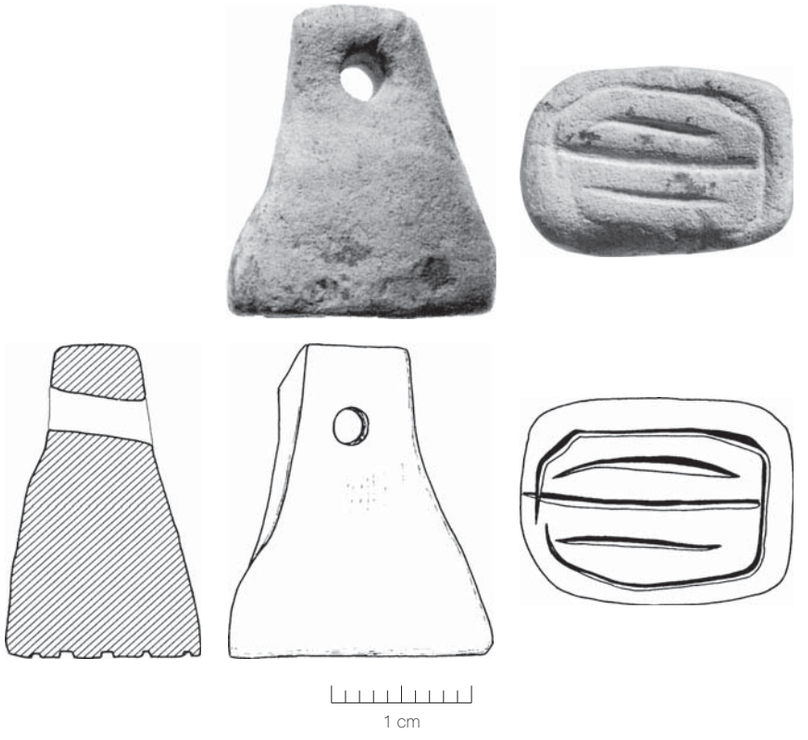
COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3411.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) – Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GW, Square L.13, Locus 4421,[1] Object no. 38659/80.

① Sounding at the foot of Wall 'a' (Ussishkin 2004: 615, 2728).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1557, No. 37, Fig. 23.47:4, Fig. 23.48:4. *[NBM]*

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907 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching (wings). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A large bird, frontally depicted with outspread wings, takes up almost the entirety of the base. Two sets of lines extend downward from the wings of the bird, possibly indicating its tail feathers and legs. Above the bird is a decorative motif comprising two horizontal lines intersecting with three vertical lines.

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1557 proposed the bird reflects an imitation of the royal Horus falcon during the 18th Dyn. (Kfar Ruppin No. 8; Saḥem No. 3) and MB II green jasper seals (Keel, Keel-Leu and Schroer 1989: 222–225, Fig. 26–28 = Beth Shemesh No. 105; Megiddo No. 440, 508). Münger 2022: 52 rejects Keel's interpretation of this bird as the Horus falcon (e.g., Keel 2012: 320), noting that the long neck is more reflective of a vulture (see Keel 1995: § 559). He cites depictions of this bird on seals of the Green Jasper Scarabs group, as well as the LB bifacial animal plaques (e.g., Shiqmona No. 20). Keel's interpretation of this bird as the Horus falcon led him to propose that the combination of the bird with the decorative motif above it was derived from a cartouche-like oval engraved above the head of the falcon (Keel 2004a: 1557), placing this motif in the realm of Egypt. However, the motif also resembles Design Class 3E4 "Panels, cross bar in margins" found on scarabs of the Second Intermediate Period (Tufnell 1984: 122–123, Pl. 20). Given Münger's proposal that the bird motif is local in origin—dating back to the Middle Bronze Age—, the combination of vulture and abbreviated cross bar 'panel' motif seems probable, rendering this motif inspired by local designs.

COMPARANDA: A close parallel for the base design figures on Tell ʿUbeidiya No. 1. The closest comparandum in bone is Lachish No. 169, which includes the cross bar. Close comparanda lacking the cross bar include: Beth Shean No. 200; Gezer No. 181; Jerusalem No. 116, 203, 455; Lachish No. 170; Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 55; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 114. For MB depictions of this bird, see Beth Shemesh No. 105 and Megiddo No. 440, 508. For LB depictions on the bifacial animal plaques, see Tel Mor No. 8 and Shiqmona No. 20.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level IIa (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Area GW, Square E-F.6–8, Locus 4060,[1] Basket 10746, Object no. 10746/40.

① Units on northern side of gate courtyard, yielded Attic pottery and a basalt tripod bowl (Ussishkin 2004: 2726).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1557, No. 38, Fig. 23.49:1, Fig. 23.50:1; Münger 2022: 48, n. 20. *[NBM]*

908 **OBJECT:** Bone seal, type I (pictorial) (Keel 1995: § 139–140). MATERIAL: bone. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 12.5 mm (W) × 5.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear with hatching. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. A standing anthropomorphic figure with a semi-circle head faces left toward a vertically placed *nb* (V30). The figure raises the arm closest to the *nb* (V30) while the other ('rear') arm hangs down.

DISCUSSION: The scene appears frequently on bone seals. Keel 2004a: 1562 interpreted the figure's gesture as one of worship and argued the *nb* (V30) was a "debased form of an oval or a cartouche containing a royal name", as suggested by parallels (e.g., Gezer No. 18; Tel Kinrot No. 4), which he proposes would have contained the name of Shoshenq I (Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 255), noting however that the motif of a man worshipping a cartouche dates back to the Ramesside period (Keel 2004a: 1562, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 199).

COMPARANDA: For exact parallels, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 269; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 41; Lachish No. 126. More schematic comparanda include Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 163; Jerusalem No. 204; Megiddo No. 216.

DATING: Late Iron IIA–Iron IIB (beginning of 9th–end of 8th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square D.2–4, Locus 4066,[1] Object no. 10800/40.

① Room to the north of gatehouse (Ussishkin 2004: 2726).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1557, 1562, No. 39, Fig. 23.49:2, Fig. 23.50:2; Münger 2022: 48, n. 22, Fig. 2:4. *[NBM]*

909 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 67/EP 27?/Side 19? (Rowe), B2/I?/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: grey. White surface. PRESERVATION: broken. Fractured in half lengthwise, only left part preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 5.3* mm (W) × 5.6 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear; flat sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple, single-line border. The object is broken lengthwise and therefore only the lower portion of the base is visible. On the left, only two legs and part of the body of a figure is preserved, likely a bird of some sort. Directly in front of this figure is the lower half of a deep-cut rectangular motif from which a line extends downward. On the far right, a second possible sign that cannot be interpreted.

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1562 proposed the figure depicted was likely a goose, with the motif directly in front of this figure likely belonging to a *j* (M17) or a *šw(t)* (H6) sign.

COMPARANDA: Due to the item's state of preservation, no exact comparanda can be identified. For depictions of a goose with hieroglyphs, see Ashkelon No. 10; Beth Shean No. 238; Beth Shemesh No. 13; Dor No. 21; Ekron No. 36; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No.

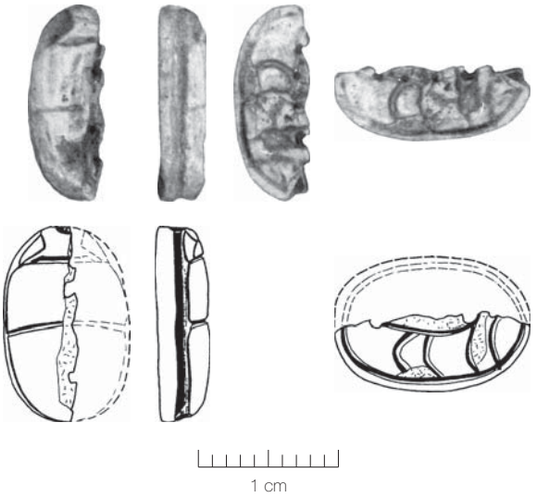
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608, 812; Ḥorvat ʿErav No. 1; Gezer No. 277; Tell Jemmeh No. 37; Megiddo No. 361 (see also Hölbl 1979a: 89–102 for further variants and Matouk 1977: 393, No. 1029, 1032–1033).

DATING: 22nd Dyn. (943–746 BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1562.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Level S-IVc (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE) = Level IV, Area S, Square C.8–9, Locus 3676,[1] Basket 41502, Object no. 41502/80.

① Debris layers (Ussishkin 2004: 2722).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Giveon 1988: 88–89, No. 103, Pl. 7:103; Keel 2004a: 1562, No. 40, Fig. 23.49:3, Fig. 23.50:3. *[NBM]*

910 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298) or oval piece[?], type II (Keel 1995: § 206–208). The object seems to be a token rather than a bulla, since it is impressed on both flat sides. MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Sides partially broken. MEASUREMENTS: 40.0 mm (L) × 36.2 mm (W) × 14.1 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Ambiguous orientation. Simple, single-line border. Viewed vertically, a horizontal line with notches at each end divides the base into two registers. On each side of the dividing line, two rectangles with short vertical lines; two inward facing *nb* (V30) signs appear connected to the decorated rectangles.

DISCUSSION: The central dividing line is reminiscent of a schematic *n* (N35) often employed in the writing of the name Amun (e.g., Ashkelon No. 202). Similarly, the hatched rectangles could be interpreted as schematic *mn* (Y5) signs followed by *nb* (V30) for "lord". The overall composition appears similar to the ovals on bone seals, wherein two small circles—possible *nb* (V30) or *r*ᶜ (N5) signs—flank two schematic signs resembling a *mn* (Y5) with a straight line in the centre, giving a possible reading of Amun. For such a reading on bone seals, see Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 157.

COMPARANDA: No exact parallels. For similar depictions of this motif in a cartouche on Judahite-Israelite Bone Seals, see Acco No. 164; Ashdod No. 11; Beth Shemesh No. 215; Dan No. 30; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 231, 347, 884; Gezer No. 18, 280; Tell Jemmeh No. 168; Jerusalem No. 26, 130, 205; Lachish No. 169; Samaria No. 12. For oval pieces with *mn* (Y5), see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 920; Timnaʿ No. 11; see also Wadi Fidan 40 Cemetery No. 2. For oval seals with sheaf-shaped handles of a similar size, see for example Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 332 and Tel Qasile No. 5.

DATING: Iron I[?] (late 12th–mid 10th c. BCE) or Iron IIA[?] (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); Keel 2004a: 1562 was unable to assign this object a date given it lacks any features exclusive to a certain period. Based on the size of the seal used to make this impression, which is close to oval pieces with handles, as well as the close resemblance to the oval cartouches on bone seals, a date in the early Iron Age is suggested.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Southern Annexed Building,[1] Object no. 10991/01.

① Ussishkin 2004: 39.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1562, No. 42, Fig. 23.51:1, Fig. 23.52:1. *[NBM]*

911 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.6 mm (L) × 9.2 mm (W, impression); 20.9 mm (L) × 15.4 mm (W) × 4.4 mm (H, lump). Measurements for impression follow CSSL measurement tool; the original measurements published by Keel 2004a: 1562 are 14.3 (L) × 8.8 (W) mm.

MANUFACTURE: Remarks: Impression of oval seal on mud sealing; the mud sealing was applied to two rounded objects (Keel 2004a: 1562).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. No border. A right-facing quadruped with its tail turned upward. The figure contains a mane demarcated by a vertical line, separating the neck from a face indicated by a single eye, a long snout, and an open mouth. One of the figure's 'front' legs juts forward at a 90 degree angle while the other is folded backward under the body; only one hind leg is engraved, also at 90 degree angle folded forward under the body giving the impression the animal is either running, recumbent, or kneeling.

DISCUSSION: Keel 2004a: 1563 proposed that while the head resembles a lion's, the folded legs suggest a bull.

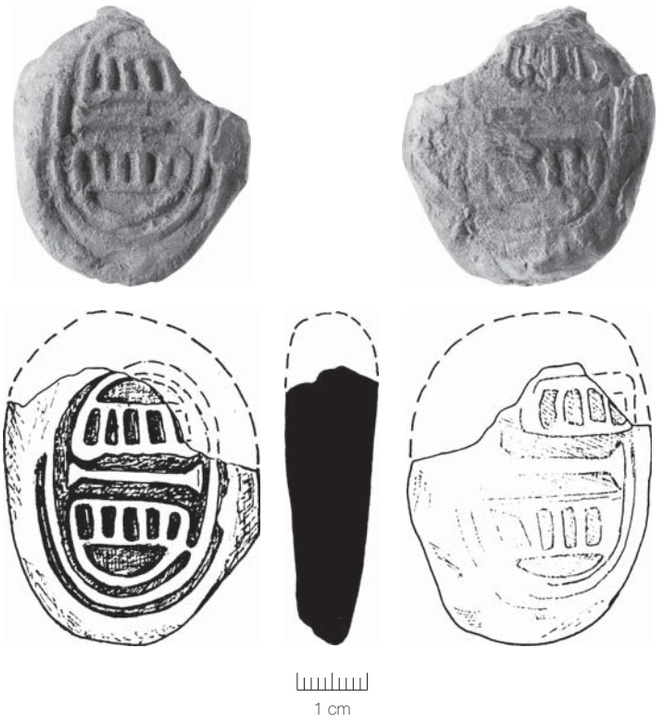
COMPARANDA: Keel 2004a: 1563 proposed parallels in Aegean glyptic both for the amygdaloid shape of the impression and the rendering of the animal. He cites a Late Minoan IIIA black marble lentoid of a wounded bull (CMS VIII, 77; Kenna 1966: 99, No. 77), a Late Helladic IIIC serpentine lentoid of a bull running to the left with its head up (CMS VII, 193; Kenna 1967a: No. 193); and a Late Helladic IIB black onyx lentoid of two bulls running to the left (CMS XII, 287; Kenna 1972: No. 287). Note that amygdaloid seals become popular in the Late Minoan I period (e.g., CMS VII, 85; Kenna 1967a, No. 85) but do not contain similar depictions to the figure in the impression.

DATING: More likely LB[?] (mid 16th–late 12th c. BCE); dating based on Aegean comparanda, which includes motif comparanda, style of engraving, and shape of seal, all of which find parallels in glyptic of the Late Minoan and Late Helladic periods, which are not contemporary with the MB I Area D cult complex. It is therefore likely that this impression derives from the material post-dating the MB I in this disturbed context.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing.

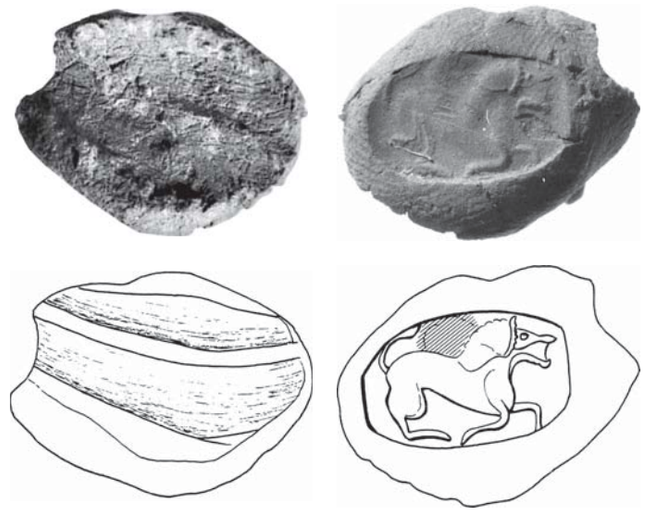
CONTEXT: Area D, Square U.13, Cult place (MB I, 20th–19th c. BCE or somewhat later), Locus 7015 Lower,[1] Object no. 70427/1.

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1 cm

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1 cm

① Accumulated debris in south-eastern part of square, where most of the votive vessels were excavated. Locus 7015 Lower comprises part of a much broader but poorly understood cult place made of mudbrick and dated to the MB I or later (Ussishkin 2004: 291, 293, 2734).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1562–1563, No. 43, Fig. 23.51:2, Fig. 23.52:2. *[NBM]*

912 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D8/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 38[?] or HC 73[?]/EP 1/Side 44 (Rowe). Keel 2004a: 1563, no. 44 assigned Tufnell type A6/0/d5 to this object. MATERIAL: jasper. COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: broken. Damaged during drilling. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double cone or double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Green Jasper Scarabs group[?]. Remarks: Given the object appears to have broken during drilling, Keel 2004a: 1563 proposed it was likely an unfinished scarab.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: No exact typological parallel could be identified. For similar uninscribed scarabs of this colour and/or material, see Lachish No. 351, 720, 756, 758, 786–787, 836; Reḥov No. 48; Taanach No. 20.

DATING: MB II (18th–early/mid 17th c. BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1563.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3418.

CONTEXT: Level IV (Late Iron IIA, 9th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.14, Locus 3841,[1] Basket 45542, Object no. 45542/50. Found with scale weight, bronze chisel, limestone spindle whorl, caprine astragali, Chalcolithic sickle blade (Ussishkin 2004: 497–498).

① Fills of Level IV behind outer revetment (Ussishkin 2004: 497).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1563, No. 44, Fig. 23.51:3, Fig. 23.52:3. *[NBM]*

913 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 75[?]/EP 5/Side 51 or Side 53 (Rowe), A2[?]/0/e7 (Tufnell/Keel). Keel 2004a: 1563 originally published this seal's type as D8/0/?; however, the head is more lunate and lacks any visible division with the pronotum. Additionally, the side type appears to be scored with the legs schematically defined. MATERIAL: stone[?] or composite material[?]. COLOUR: blue. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 11.5 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: Possible comparanda on the basis of material and type include Megiddo No. 192, 414, 417, 470–471, 503.

DATING: MB II–LB I (18th–early 14th c. BCE); dating based on possible comparanda. Originally, Keel 2004a: 1563 assigned a general "LB?" date.

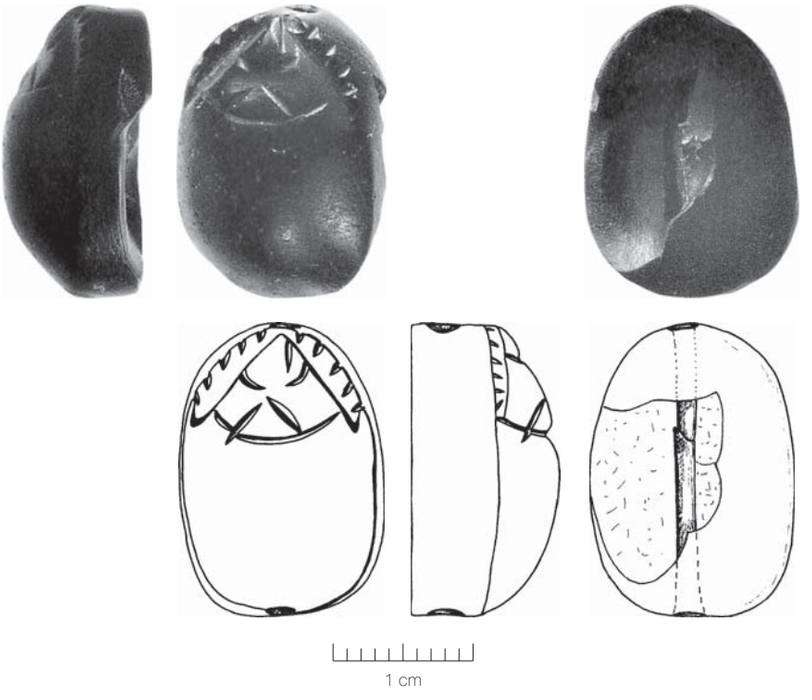
COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3417.

CONTEXT: Level V (Early Iron IIA, second half of 10th c. BCE), Area S, Square C.10, Locus 3658,[1] Basket 41015, Object no. 41015/80.

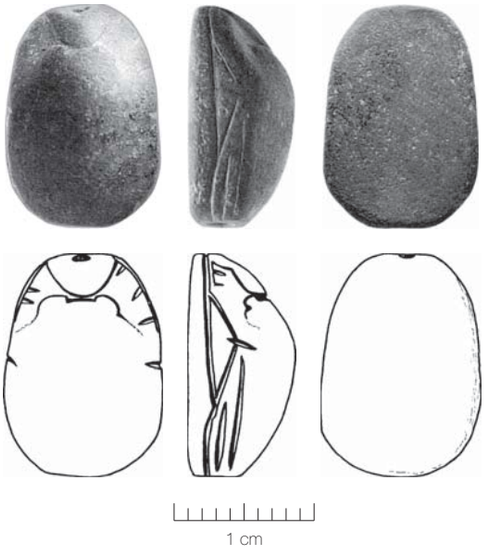
① Room in house (Ussishkin 2004: 2722).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1563, No. 45, Fig. 23.51:4, Fig. 23.52:4. *[NBM]*

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914 **OBJECT:** Scaraboid? (Keel 1995: § 132–138) or bead (Keel 1995: § 262). MATERIAL: quartz. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: broken. Damaged during drilling (Keel 2004a: 1563). MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

DISCUSSION: The lack of an inscribed base suggests this is an unfinished scaraboid (Keel 2004a: 1563), if not simply a bead not intended to become a scaraboid (note that the sides seem to be rounded rather than angular, and the item lacks a flat base as would be expected from a scaraboid). Blank quartz scaraboids are rare. Inscribed quartz seals are also attested sporadically during the Iron I–III in the form of scaraboids (e.g., Tel Ḥalif No. 6), scarabs (e.g., Acco No. 141, Ashkelon No. 219), and conoids (e.g., Megiddo No. 614), all displaying local motifs. Notably, white quartz is also selected as a material for epigraphic seals of the Iron IIB–III (e.g., Jerusalem No. 1; Umm al-Qanafid No. 1).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel known so far from the southern Levant. For blank white quartz scarabs during the Iron IIA, see Megiddo No. 588, 695. For blank fired steatite scaraboids dated predominantly to the MB II, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 1243; Tell Beit Mirsim No. 55–57; Beth Shean No. 116; Jericho No. 113. For blank limestone scaraboids likely of of the Iron I–IIA, see Beth Shean No. 116; Reḥov No. 50.

DATING: Iron IIA (mid 10th–end of 9th c. BCE); dating assigned by Keel 2004a: 1563.

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities, item unlocatable at the time of writing; IAA No. 2002-3419.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square C-D.2–3, Locus 4595,① Basket 30891, Object no. 30891/50.

① Part of room north of gatehouse (Ussishkin 2004: 2729).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Keel 2004a: 1563, No. 46, Fig. 23.51:5, Fig. 23.52:5. *[NBM]*

915 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). Double?-ridged handle (Ussishkin 2004: 2137, No. 78). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete on the left side. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but are derived from the impressions of the same seal on handles Beth Shemesh No. 199a and Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 76 (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 665).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers, roughly of equal size, separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is clear, despite the slight incompleteness of the impression on the left side. It reads *ʾḥzyh / w tnḥm*, "Aḥazyahu (son of) Tanḥum". A word divider (vertical stroke) separates the owner's name from his patronym. Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual and seal, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Aḥazyahu ("Yahu has grasped") does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor is the variant form Aḥazyah (*ʾḥzyh*). In the Hebrew Bible, the name (including the shorter form Aḥazyah) has only two bearers, a king of Israel (e.g., 1Kgs 22:40) and a king of Judah (e.g., 2Kgs 8:24) (see Clines 1993: 188–189). Note, however, that the hypocoristic form Aḥaz (*ʾḥz*) is better attested epigraphically: it appears on bulla Jerusalem No. 495a (*lḥzqyhw ʾ*[*ḥ*]*z mlk yhd*[*h*]), ostracon 2 from Samaria (*ʾḥz*; Aḥituv 2008: 264–265), and ostracon 3 from Tel Malḥata (*ʾḥz*; Beit-Arieh and Freud 2015: 490–492). The patronym, Tanḥum (litt., "consolation"), is also known from stamped handles Tel Erani No. 5 = Gibeon No. 15 = Lachish No. 240, 280–283, 923–924 = Ramat Raḥel No. 11 = Tekoa No. 1 (*ltnḥm mgn*) and Beth Shemesh No. 196, 236 = Gibeon No. 10 = Jerusalem No. 524 = Ramat Raḥel No. 7 (*ltnḥm ngb*), as well as ostracon 39 from Arad (*tnḥm bn ydʿyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 68–69). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2011: 654), but Lipschits notes the presence of the variant name Tanḥumet (*tnḥmt*) in 2Kgs 25:23 and Jer 40:8 (Lipschits 2008: 6). Note that the present handle is not reported in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: This handle is stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 665) as Beth Shemesh No. 199a, Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 76, and Ramat Raḥel No. 25. Vaughn identified the owner of the present stamp with the owner of Lachish No. 928 (unclear handle tentatively read *lʾḥ*[*ʾ*] *tnḥm* by Barkay and Vaughn, see Ussishkin 1996: 59, No. 27), based on an unprovenanced handle bearing two stamps: one reading *ʾḥzyhw tnḥm* (stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 915), the other reading *lʾḥ*[*ʾ*] *tnḥm* (Deutsch and Barkay 1999; Vaughn 1999: 97, n. 56). Note however that *ʾḥ*[*ʾ*] is usually not considered as a standard abbreviated form of *ʾḥzyhw*: Fowler for example considers *ʾḥ*[*ʾ*] as an abbreviated form of names like *ʾḥyhw* or *ʾḥmlk*, while *ʾḥzyhw* would be more simply abbreviated as *ʾḥz* (Fowler 1988: 159, 335–336). The general organization of the present item, as a two-register aniconic seal bearing a name and a patronym, is typical of late Iron Age Judahite seals and seal impressions. Yet, the use of a single-line divider is rarer than the double-line divider among pre-exilic aniconic Judahite seals and seal impressions. The only examples known to us are Arad No. 18, Jerusalem No. 89, 102, 618 (seals); Jerusalem No. 610, 621, 625 (bullae); and Gezer No. 25, Tel Goded No. 12, Lachish No. 243, 246, 917, and Ramat Raḥel No. 4–5, 7, 16 (stamped handles, not including repeated impressions). For post-exilic examples, see Wadi Daliyeh No. 1 and Tel Michal No. 1.

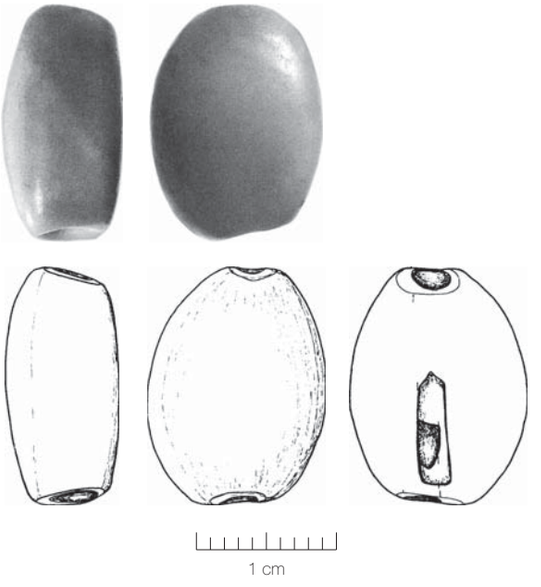
DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

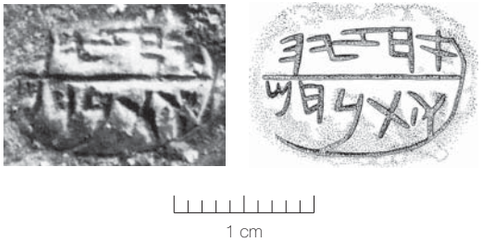
CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square H.95–96, Locus 2057,① Object no. 266/1. Note that the object number is erroneously reported as 2057 by Vaughn, who confused it with the locus number (Vaughn 1999: 199, No. Ib.4).

① A partly excavated room located south of the roadway leading from the city-gate into the city; Ussishkin notes that this context corresponds with room 1049 of square H.18 of the British excavations (Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 78).

914



915



BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 1; Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 24; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 30, 44–46, Table 1, No. 16, Fig. 19; Vaughn 1999: 199, No. Ib.4; Renz and Röllig 2003: 128–129, No. 1.35; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 1; Davies 2004: 91, No. 101.286; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 78, Fig. 29.16:1; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 1. *[EL]*

916 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 14.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 673.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *yhwḥl / šḥr*, "Yehoḥel (son of) Shaḥar". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Yehoḥel finds no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor in the Hebrew Bible, but Koch and Lipschits note the biblical name *ʾbyḥyl* (Num 3:35; Esther 2:15, 9:29; 1Chr 5:14), apparently based on the same root (Koch and Lipschits 2016: 349). The patronym, Shaḥar, also appears on stamped handles Lachish No. 245, 690, 707 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–78 = Ramat Raḥel No. 13–14 (*šbn' šḥr*). This name is not attested as is in the Hebrew Bible, but it might be a hypochoristic form of the biblical name Sheḥaryah (e.g., 1Chr 7:10; see Koch and Lipschits 2016: 349). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: This handle is stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 673) as Mordot Arnona No. 14, Ramat Raḥel No. 8, and Umm Tuba No. 2. For other jar handles probably belonging to the same individual, but impressed with different seals, see Jerusalem No. 522 = Ramat Raḥel No. 9–10 (*lyhwḥyl šḥr*), and Lachish No. 917 (*yhwḥyl šḥr*).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1975–244. The location and inventory number of this item are uncertain. Barkay and Vaughn provide no collection information at all (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 6). Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: 247, No. 673B) do provide such information (Israel Museum, IAA 75–244) but the same location and inventory number are rather attributed by Barkay and Vaughn to Lachish No. 917 (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 7).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square D-E.2, Storeroom 4014,[1] Object no. 10622/1. Object number according to Ussishkin 1978: 81; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 673B; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 79; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162: No. 6. Earlier work of Barkay and Vaughn provided another number (10612) for this item, probably a typographic error (see Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 6; Vaughn 1999: 202, No. XIVa.42).

① A room adjoining the back wall of the gatehouse, serving as a storeroom (Ussishkin 2004: 668). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 916–917.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1978: 81; Mommsen, Perlman and Yellin 1984: Table 2:25; Davies 1991: 171, No. 100.396; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 6; Avigad and Sass 1997: 247, No. 673B; Vaughn 1999: 202, No. XIVa.42; Renz and Röllig 2003: 238, No. 10.28; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 6; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 79; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 5. *[EL]*

917 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). This handle has a protruding central rib, and is part of a restored *lmlk* jar with two other handles bearing a blurred two-winged *lmlk* seal impression and an unstamped fourth handle (Ussishkin 2004: 2134, "Royal Storage Jar V"); for neutron activation analysis, see Mommsen, Perlman and Yellin 1984: Table 1:57. MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0 mm (D). Measurements according to Ussishkin 1976: 1.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: The impression is badly preserved, and the inscription barely readable, as the seal was impressed twice on the handle. The original publications by Ussishkin considered the inscription as unreadable (Ussishkin 1976: 1; Ussishkin 1978: 77). Barkay and Vaughn later proposed the reading *yhwḥyl šḥr*, "Yehuḥyl (son of) Shaḥar", based on a comparison with an unprovenanced stamped handle (Barkay and Vaughn 1995). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Yehoḥel finds no other attestations among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, nor in the Hebrew Bible, but Koch and Lipschits note the biblical name *ʾbyḥyl* (Num 3:35; Est 2:15, 9:29; 1Chr 5:14), apparently based on the same root (Koch and Lipschits 2016: 349). The patronym, Shaḥar, also appears on stamped handles Lachish No. 245, 690–877 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–11 = Ramat Raḥel No. 14–18 (*šbn' šḥr*). This name is not attested as is in the Hebrew Bible, but it might be a hypochoristic form of the biblical name Sheḥaryah (e.g., 1Chr 7:10; see Koch and Lipschits 2016: 349).

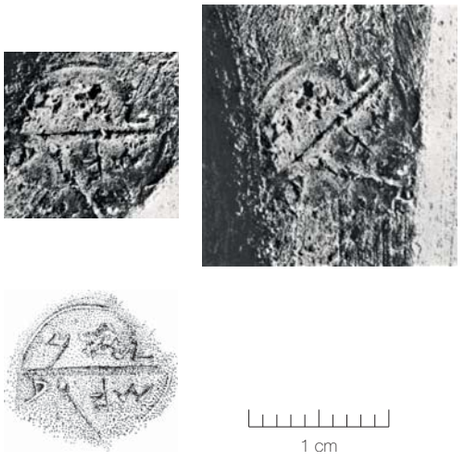
COMPARANDA: No other provenanced handles bear the same stamp as the present item, according to Barkay and Vaughn's reading mentioned above. For other jar handles probably belonging to the same individual, but impressed with different seals, see Jerusalem No. 522 = Ramat Raḥel No. 9–10 (*lyhwḥyl šḥr*), and Lachish No. 916 = Ramat Raḥel No. 8 = Umm Tuba No. 2 (*yhwḥl šḥr*).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1975-244. The collection and inventory number follow Ussishkin (Ussishkin 2004: 2134) and Barkay and Vaughn (Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 7), but note that Avigad and Sass attribute this inventory number to Lachish No. 916 (Avigad and Sass 1997: 247, No. 673B).

No image available **916**

917



CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square D-E.2, Storeroom 4014,[1] Object no. 10074/1.

① See Lachish No. 916.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1976: 1–3, Fig. 1–2; Ussishkin 1978: 77; Barkay 1992: 128, n. 79; Barkay and Vaughn 1995: 94–97, Fig. 1–2; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 67, No. 7; Vaughn 1999: 203, No. XIVc.49; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162, No. 7; Davies 2004: 94, No. 101.306; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 80, Fig. 29.14:4; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 4. *[EL]*

918 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). This stamped handle is part of a *lmlk* jar (Ussishkin 2004: 2133–2134, Royal Storage Jar III) bearing four stamped handles: two handles (Ussishkin 2004: 2137, No. 69–70) are stamped with *lmlk* seal impressions of type S IIa, the two others (Ussishkin 2004: 2137, No. 81–82 = Lachish No. 918–919) are stamped with the same Hebrew seal bearing the personal name "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek"; for neutron activation analysis, see Mommsen, Perlman and Yellin 1984: Table 1:52 (listed there under the incorrect reg. number 10458 instead of 10457). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of roughly equal size, separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Ahimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1976-954.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square E-F.3, Room 4034,[1] Object no. 10457. Object number according to Ussishkin 1976: 4–6, 12; Ussishkin 1978: 76; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679J, K. In the final excavation report however, the object number is reported as 10547 (Ussishkin 2004a: 2133, 2137), probably a typographic error; another error appears in Ussishkin 1976, where the number appears once (p. 1) as 10456 instead of 10457. Note that this item has the same registration number as Lachish No. 919, as the number refers to the complete jar on which both stamped handles are found.

① A chamber in the gatehouse (Ussishkin 2004: 2134). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 918–919.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1976: 1, Fig. 3–4; Ussishkin 1978: 76–77; Keel 1995: § 308, p. 285 (typology); Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 23; Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, No. 679J, K; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.84; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162–2163, No. 23; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.298; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 81, Fig. 29.14:2; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

919 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). This stamped handle is part of a *lmlk* jar (Ussishkin 2004: 2133–2134, Royal Storage Jar III) bearing four stamped handles: two handles (Ussishkin 2004: 2137, No. 69–70) are stamped with *lmlk* seal impressions of type S IIa, the two others (Ussishkin 2004: 2137, No. 81–82 = Lachish No. 918–919) are stamped with the same Hebrew seal, bearing the personal name "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek"; for neutron activation analysis, see Mommsen, Perlman and Yellin 1984: Table 1:52 (listed there under the incorrect reg. number 10458 instead of 10457). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription is well preserved and reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; The Israel Museum; IAA No. 1976-954.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square E-F.3, Room 4034,[1] Object no. 10457. Object number according to Ussishkin 1976: 4–6, 12; Ussishkin 1978: 76; Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679J, K (see Lachish No. 918 for further details). Note that this item has the same registration number as Lachish No. 918, since the number refers to the complete jar on which both stamped handles are found.

① See Lachish No. 918.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1976: 1, Fig. 3–4; Ussishkin 1978: 76–77; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 24; Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, No. 679J, K; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.85; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162–2163, No. 24; Davies 2004: 93, No. 101.298; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137, No. 82; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

918



1:2



1:2



1:1





1 cm



919



1:2



1:2



1:1





1 cm



920 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 12.5 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 679.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *mšlm / ʾḥmlk*, "Meshullam (son of) Aḥimelek". Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 235. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 235 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 918–919, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology, item unlocatable at the time of writing. Given to the collection of the Hebrew University, where it was apparently misplaced (Ussishkin 2004a: 2137–2138).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area GE, Square E-F.98–99, Locus 2069 [British excavations locus number H/G.17:1089].[1] Chance find by H. Geva during a study visit to the site with students (Ussishkin 1976: 5–6).

① A room in a possibly domestic complex (Ussishkin 2004: 664).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1976: 5–6; Davies 1991: 232, No. 100.792; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 68, No. 25; Avigad and Sass 1997: 250, No. 679I; Vaughn 1999: 205, No. XVIII.86; Renz and Röllig 2003: 297, No. 13.89; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2162–2163, No. 25; Ussishkin 2004a: 2137–2138, No. 83; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 8. *[EL]*

921 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is not complete on its left side. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 10.5 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but are derived from Jerusalem No. 39 (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 687), a handle stamped with the same seal as the present item according to Vaughn 1999: 208, No. XXIIa.130.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The last letter of the upper register is not preserved, and the last letter of the bottom register is only half-preserved. The inscription has been published as reading *lnr*[*ʾ*] */ šbnʾ*, "Belonging to Ner[a] (son of) Shebna" (Ussishkin 1996: 57, No. 20). Note however that the unclear shape of the last visible letter of line 2 in the published photograph might also suggest alternative readings for the patronym, such as *šbny*, *šbny*[*h*] or *šbny*[*w*].

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The onomastic discussion hereunder is based on the reading *lnr*[*ʾ*] */ šbnʾ* of the original publication (but see above for possible alternative readings). The name Nera, probably a hypochoristic form of Neryahu, also appears on incised jar handles from Gibeon (*ḥnnyhw nrʾ*; Aḥituv 2008: 217–218) and, possibly, on ʿEn Gedi No. 2 (*lnrʾ* or *lmrʾ*). This hypochoristic form does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew seals and seal impressions, nor in the Hebrew Bible (but see Lachish No. 852 for a discussion of the full forms *nryhw* and *nryh*). The patronym, Shebna (*šbnʾ*), probably a hypochoristic form of Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*), is also attested on seal Lachish No. 229 (*lšbnʾ ʾḥʾb*), and on stamped handles Ramat Raḥel No. 2 (other seal reading *lnrʾ šbnʾ*), Lachish No. 246, 276 (*šwkh šbnʾ*), and Lachish No. 245, 690, 707 = Mordot Arnona No. 13 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 75, 77–78 = Ramat Raḥel No. 14 (*lšbnʾ šḥr*). The hypochoristic form Shebna does not seem to be otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions. In the Hebrew Bible, the name Shebna is borne by a single individual (sometimes under the variant spelling *šbnh*): a scribe and official of King Hezekiah (e.g., 2Kgs 18:37, 19:2; Isa 22:15, 36:3, 37:2; see Clines 2011: 239). The full theophoric forms Shebanyahu (*šbnyhw*) and Shebanyah (*šbnyh*) are attested on seals Jerusalem No. 2 (*lḫgy bn šbnyhw*) and Jerusalem No. 590 (*lsʿryhw bn šbnyhw*), on bullae Tel Eton No. 14 (*lšbnyhw smk*) and Lachish No. 854 (*lšbnyhw* [*bn* | *ʿbd*] *hmlk*), and on stamped handles Tel Goded No. 9 = Lachish No. 249 = Mordot Arnona No. 15 (*šbnyh ʿzryh*), and Tel Goded No. 5–7 ([*lʾ*]*šbnyhw ʿzryhw*), possibly on Lachish No. 248 (*lš*[…] *šbnyh*; uncertain reading), as well as on ostracon 60 from Arad (*šbnyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 90) and on ostracon 3 from Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) ([*š*]*bnyhw bn ʾd*[…]; Beit-Arieh 2007: 129–130). In the Hebrew Bible, the names Shebanyahu and Shebanyah are borne by four characters: three priests (1Chr 15:24; Neh 10:5, 12:14) and a Levite (Neh 9:4–5, 10:11–13; see Clines 2011: 239). Note that Zadok argued for a vocalization of the name as Shubnayahu, rather than Massoretic Shebanyahu (Zadok 1988: 43–44). Note also that the present handle is not reported in Avigad and Sass 1997.

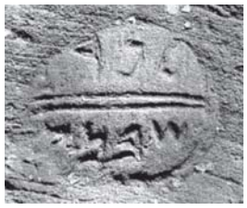
COMPARANDA: According to Vaughn (Vaughn 1999: 208, No. XXIIa.130), this handle was stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 687) as Beth Shemesh No. 226 and Jerusalem No. 39. This identification is not certain however, as the visible traces of the last letter of the second register seem to better match a *yod* than an *aleph* (see also the leg of the *beth*, which seems shorter and more angular here). For another stamped handle bearing the inscription *lnrʾ šbnʾ*, but stamped with a different seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 686), see Ramat Raḥel No. 2. For a stamped handle most probably belonging to the same individual, but bearing the longer inscription *lnry bn šbnyh* or *šbnyw*, see Jerusalem No. 40 (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 688).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

No image available **920**

921









CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area R, Square L.5, Locus 6049,[1] Object no. 61358/1. Mistakenly mentioned as unstratified in Ussishkin 1996: 57 (see Ussishkin 2004: 2138, No. 84).

① Excavation beneath Level II debris, in a square facing the city wall of Levels IV–III, containing burnt material, arrowheads and Level III sherds (Ussishkin 2004: 756).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Barkay 1995: 45, n. 16; Ussishkin 1996: 57–58, No. 20, Fig. 41; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 69, No. 41; Vaughn 1999: 208, No. XXIIa.130; Renz and Röllig 2003: 312, No. 14.29; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 41; Davies 2004: 40, No. 100.964; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 84, Fig. 29.16:2; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 12. *[EL]*

922 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). Single-ridged handle (Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, no. 85). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly broken on its lower right side. MEASUREMENTS: 16.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). Measurements according to Avigad and Sass (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 697).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lṣpn / ʿzr*, "Belonging to Ṣafan (son of) ʿEzer".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name Ṣafan is otherwise attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 91 (*lšptyhw bn ṣpn*), on stamped handles Gezer No. 23 = Tel Goded No. 1–4 = Lachish No. 234, 260–262 = Tel Socoh No. 1 (*hwšʿ ṣpn*), Azekah No. 34 = Tel Baṭash (Timnah) No. 1 = Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 12, 30 = Jerusalem No. 41 = Tel Socoh No. 3–4 (*lṣpn ʾbmʿṣ*), and on an incised jar from Tel Motza ([…]*ṣpn bn nss*; Vainstub 2009: 137–140). The short form Ṣafan is not attested in the Hebrew Bible, but the long forms Ṣefanyahu and Ṣefanyah are borne by four biblical characters (Jer 21:1; Zeph 1:1; Zech 6:10.14; 1Chr 6:21; see Clines 2010: 152). The patronym, ʿEzer (most probably a hypochoristic form of ʿAzaryahu), is attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 65 (*lgdyhw bn ʿzr*), on stamped handles Azekah No. 33 = Tel Burna No. 1 = Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 11 = Gezer No. 25 (*lʿzr ḥgy*), on ostraca 22 (*ʿzr b*[*n*...]), 23 (*ʿzr*), 51 (*ʾšyhw bn ʿzr*), and 58 (*ʿzr bn*[...]) from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 44, 45, 85, 88), on an incised stone basin from Kuntillet ʿAjrud (*šmʿyw bn ʿzr*; Aḥituv 2008: 313), on an ostracon from Tel Masos (*ʿzr b*[*n*...]; Aḥituv 2008: 164). The name has five attestations in the Hebrew Bible under the vocalization ʿEzer (Neh 3:19, 12:42; 1Chr 4:4, 7:21, 12:10; see Clines 2007: 343) and four under the vocalization ʿAzur (Jer 28:1; Ezek 11:1; Ezra 10:40; Neh 10:17; see Clines 2007: 334).

COMPARANDA: The same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 697) is stamped on three handles from Lachish (Lachish No. 57–58, 922), including the present item; to the best of our knowledge, it is not attested at other sites. For other handle impressions most probably referring to the same individual, see Beth Shemesh No. 193 (*ṣpn ʿzr*), Lachish No. 10, 232–233, 275, 706 (*ṣpn ʿzryhw*), Gibeon No. 11 (*ṣpn ʿzryhw*, tentative reading), and Ramat Raḥel No. 6 (*ṣpn ʿzryhw*, contested reading, see Koch and Lipschits 2016: 347, No. 6).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 57–58, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Area D, Object no. 638/1. Found in Area D dump in 1993 (Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 85).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 25; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 70, No. 53; Barkay and Vaughn 1996a: 42–44, No. 14, Fig. 17; Avigad and Sass 1997: 257, No. 697B; Vaughn 1999: No. XXXc.171; Renz and Röllig 2003: 372, No. 18.14; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2164, No. 53; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 85, Fig. 29.16:3; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 23, No. 16. *[EL]*

922





1 cm

923 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from Lachish No. 281, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. Note that the present handle is not reported in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); dating is according to the Level III find context.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square E.97–98, Locus 2059,[1] Object no. 330/1.

① A partly excavated courtyard? of a domestic? complex, previously excavated by the British expedition as Locus H.l7:1078 (Ussishkin 2004: 663).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 23; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 70; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIA.224; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 70; Davies 2004: 90–91, No. 101.285; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 86, Fig. 29.16:4; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

924 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 14.3 mm (L) × 13.2 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from Lachish No. 281, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border. Two registers separated by a double-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *ltnḥm / mgn*, "Belonging to Tanḥum (son of) Magen".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 240. To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 240 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the Level III find context of Lachish No. 923, stamped with the same seal as the present item.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area S, Object no. 11205/1.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1978: 81; Mommsen, Perlman and Yellin 1984: Table 2:22; Davies 1991: 232, No. 100.791; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 71; Avigad and Sass 1997: 242–245, 261, No. 707E; Vaughn 1999: 215, No. XXXVIA.225; Renz and Röllig 2003: 414, No. 22.3; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 71; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 87; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 22. *[EL]*

925 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blurred and illegible private seal impression. A reading *mkyn / ʾḥmt*, "*mkyn* (son of) Aḥimut" was proposed by Barkay in 1996 (Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 21), but this reading does not appear in Barkay's (and Vaughn's) subsequent publications (Vaughn 1999: 217, No. 244; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 74). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership, provided the reading is correct.

DISCUSSION: To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. The item is not listed in Avigad and Sass 1997.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GW, Square L.11, Locus 4961,[1] Object no. 39502/1.

① Excavation through Level III mudbrick debris, revealing the entrance to the gate's outer courtyard (Ussishkin 2004: 620).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 21; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 74; Vaughn 1999: 217, No. 244; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 74; Davies 2004: 90, No. 101.283; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 88. *[EL]*



1 cm

923

No image available **924**

No image available **925**

926 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). Impressed on a flat handle (Ussishkin 2004: 2138, No. 89). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is blurred (Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 89).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blurred and illegible private seal impression, round, possibly with a central division line (Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 89).

DISCUSSION: To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. The item is not listed in Avigad and Sass 1997.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square G-H.95, Locus 2010,[1] Object no. 285/1.

① A partly excavated room to the south of the roadway (Usshiskin 2004: 661).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 58, No. 22; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 75; Vaughn 1999: 217, No. 246; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 75; Davies 2004: 90, No. 101.284; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 89. *[EL]*

927 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. MEASUREMENTS: 24.0 mm (L) × 14.0 mm (W). These measurements are not based on the item itself, but derive from other handles stamped with the same seal (following Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 705).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Foot sole-shaped impression, two lines of text, without register divider. The inscription reads *šlm / ʾḥʾ*, "Shallum (son of) Aḥa" (Ussishkin 1996: 59, No. 26). Note the absence of *lamed* indicating ownership.

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The name *šlm* is also attested on seals Jerusalem No. 290 (*lrpʾyhw šlm*), Lachish No. 227 (*lšlm* [...]), Ramat Raḥel No. 27 (*lšlm klkl*); on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 93 = Ḥorvat Shovav No. 1 (*lbky šlm*); on ostraca Arad No. 35 (*šlm bn ʾḥyʾm*; Renz 1995: 296–297), Lachish No. 3 (*šlm bn ydʿ*; Aḥituv 2008: 62–69), Ḥorvat Radum No. 2 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 324–325), Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) No. 34 (*šlm*; Beit-Arieh 2007: 174–178), as well as ostraca from Tell Jemmeh (*šlm ʾnš*; Aḥituv 2008: 346–348, Renz 1995: 253–255), Tall al-Khulayfeh (*šlm*; Aḥituv 2008: 354–356), and Ramat Bet Shemesh (*šlm bn* [...]; Milevski and Naveh 2005: 23). Vocalized "Shallum", the name is borne by fifteen biblical characters (e.g., 2Kgs 15:10, 22:14; Jer 22:11, 32:7, 35:4; Ezra 10:24.42, Neh 3:12, 15; 1Chr 2:40, 4:25, 5:39, 7:13, 9:17; 2Chr 28:12; see Clines 2011: 370), among which a king of Israel (2Kgs 15:10) and a king of Judah (Jer 22:11). The name is also biblically attested under the vocalization "Shillem", with a single bearer (Gen 46:24; same character called Shallum in 1Chr 7:13; see Clines 2011: 405–406). Note that *šlm* is one of the best attested names in Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (Golub 2015). The patronym, *ʾḥʾ*, also appears on bulla Jerusalem No. 86 (*lḥnnyhw bn ʾḥʾ*), possibly on stamped handle Lachish No. 928 (*lʾḥʾ tnḥm*, tentative reading), on ostraca 49 (*bny ʾḥʾ*) and 74 (*ʾḥʾ*) from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 80–83, 97), on ostracon 51 from Samaria (*ʾḥʾ hyhd*[*y*]; Aḥituv 2008: 303–304), and on an ostracon from Tel Masos (*ʾḥʾ b*[*n*…]; Aḥituv 2008: 164). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 1993: 179). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. The item does not appear in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: This handle is stamped with the same seal (Avigad and Sass 1997: No. 705) as Beth Shemesh No. 228, Tel Goded No. 10–11, Jerusalem No. 104, Mordot Arnona No. 16, Khirbet Rabud No. 1–2 and Ramat Raḥel No. 24. With seven sites in total, this seal is the Judahite inscribed seal whose impressions were found in the greatest number of different locations. Note that Vaughn considered that a handle from Arad (IAA 64–2563) is also stamped with the same seal as the present item, based on a photograph of the (then unlocated) item (Vaughn 1999: 107). Yet, a renewed examination of the Arad handle shows that it does not bear any stamp. Other stamped handles (Lachish No. 242, 277–279 = Qila [Keila] No. 1), bearing the name *šlm ʾḥʾm* ("Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾam") or *šlm ʾḥʾmr* ("Shallum (son of) Aḥiʾamar"), possibly belonged to the same individual. Note that the layout of this seal differs from that of most other Judahite stamped handles: it is, with Jerusalem No. 36, 103 and Umm Tuba No. 1, the only example featuring a name and a patronymic without using a register divider. The 'foot sole' shape of the present item is also unusual, and finds no parallels among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew seals and seal impressions, to the best of our knowledge.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square H.17, Locus 2078 (= British excavations loci H.17:1046 and H.17:1098),[1] Object no. 210/1.

① "A large, poorly preserved room or courtyard to the north of the roadway" (Ussishkin 2004: 665).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 59, No. 26; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 71, No. 60; Vaughn 1999: 214, No. XXXVa.200; Renz and Röllig 2003: 394–395, No. 21.49; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 60; Davies 2004: 91, No. 101.287; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 90; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 24, No. 20. *[EL]*

No image available **926**

No image available **927**

928 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: broken. Inscription unclear.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Square impression. Unclear inscription, tentatively read by Barkay and Vaughn as *lʾḥʾ / tnḥm*, "Belonging to Aḥa (son of) Tanḥum" (Vaughn 1999: 217, no. 245; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 76).

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For other stamped handles related to the same individual, see the "comparanda" section below. The discussion below is based on Barkay and Vaughn's tentative reading *lʾḥʾ tnḥm*. The name *ʾḥʾ* also appears on bulla Jerusalem No. 86 (*lḥnnyhw bn ʾḥʾ*), on stamped handles Beth Shemesh No. 228 = Tel Goded No. 10–11 = Jerusalem No. 104 = Lachish No. 927 = Khirbet Rabud No. 1–2 = Ramat Raḥel No. 24 (*šlm ʾḥʾ*), on ostraca 49 (*bny ʾḥʾ*) and 74 (*ʾḥʾ*) from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 80–83, 97), on ostracon 51 from Samaria (*ʾḥʾ hyhd*[*y*]; Aḥituv 2008: 303–304), and on an ostracon from Tel Masos (*ʾḥʾ b*[*n*…]; Aḥituv 2008: 164). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 1993: 179). The patronym, Tanḥum (litt., "consolation"), is also known from stamped handles Tel Erani No. 5 = Gibeon No. 15 = Lachish No. 240, 280–283, 923–924 = Ramat Raḥel No. 11 = Tekoa No. 1 (*ltnḥm mgn*) and Beth Shemesh No. 196, 236 = Gibeon No. 10 = Jerusalem No. 524 = Ramat Raḥel No. 7 (*ltnḥm ngb*), as well as ostracon 39 from Arad (*tnḥm bn ydʿyhw*; Aharoni 1981: 68–69). It is not attested in the Hebrew Bible (Clines 2011: 654), but Lipschits notes the presence of the variant name Tanḥumet (*tnḥmt*) in 2Kgs 25:23 and Jer 40:8 (Lipschits 2008: 6). To the best of our knowledge, no image of the present item was ever published. The item is not listed in Avigad and Sass 1997.

COMPARANDA: Vaughn identified the owner of the present stamp with the owner of Beth Shemesh No. 199a = Lachish No. 915 = Tell en-Naṣbeh No. 76 = Ramat Raḥel No. 25 (*ʾḥzyhw tnḥm*), based on an unprovenanced handle bearing two stamps: one reading *ʾḥzyhw tnḥm* (stamped with the same seal as Lachish No. 915), the other reading *lʾḥʾ tnḥm* (Deutsch and Barkay 1999; Vaughn 1999: 97, n. 56). Note however that *ʾḥʾ* is usually not considered as a standard abbreviated form of *ʾḥzyhw*: Fowler for example considers *ʾḥʾ* as an abbreviated form of names like *ʾḥyhw* or *ʾḥmlk*, while *ʾḥzyhw* would be more simply abbreviated as *ʾḥz* (Fowler 1988: 159, 335–336).

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating derives from the find context, attributed to Level III.

COLLECTION: Present location unknown.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area GE, Square H.1, Locus 2001,[1] Object no. 127/1.

① "An open space between the inner gatehouse and Room 2071, which in fact formed an extension of the roadway" (Ussishkin 2004: 660).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ussishkin 1996: 59, No. 27; Barkay and Vaughn 1996: 72, No. 76; Vaughn 1999: 97, n. 56, 217, No. 245; Barkay and Vaughn 2004: 2165, No. 76; Davies 2004: 91, No. 101.288; Ussishkin 2004: 660; Ussishkin 2004a: 2138, No. 91; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010: 22, No. 2, n. 40. *[EL]*

929 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 9 or HC 4?/EP 60 or EP 123? or less likely EP 113?/Side 22 (Rowe), D4 or D5?/II+vlv/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). The fit to either typology is only partial, hence the multiple assignments. MOUNTING: type II (Keel 1995: § 266–275), made of gold. Reinforced by eyelets at both perforation holes. MATERIAL: diorite. COLOUR: dark blue and white (phenocrysts). PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 20.6 mm (L) × 14.5 mm (W) × 7.7 mm (H). All measurements including the bezel (1.5–1.7 mm thick).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal; drilled from both sides according to Brandl (Brandl, Levitte and Garfinkel 2019: 159). ENGRAVING: modelled sunk relief; linear. The qualification "linear engraving" (*ibid.*) pertains to linear details, but several main features are clearly modelled.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout, single-line border. The following description distinguishes (A) the visual arrangement of the base engraving and (B) the reading of the hieroglyphic/pictorial writing. (A) Six pictorial designs are organised horizontally (two virtual registers of three hieroglyphs or pictograms each) resp. vertically (three virtual columns of two hieroglyphs or pictograms each): above, from right to left *zꜣ* (V17/V18), squatting male deity with double-plume crown and holding a *wꜣs* (S40) scepter (i.e., Amun), and *wḏꜣt* (D10); below, from right to left, *mwt* (i.e., the goddess Mut, whose name is written with the logogram *mwt* [G15], representing a vulture holding a flagellum, and the phonetic complement *t* [X1]), a standing, mummiform male deity holding the *wꜣs* (S40) sceptre, his head surmounted by a moon crescent and disc (i.e., the god Khonsu; note that the counterweight of the god's menat necklace does not show in the drawing), and a squatting baboon, its head equally surmounted by a moon crescent and disc (i.e., the god Thoth). Behind Amun's head, a large drill-hole may represent a somewhat decentered sun-disc, which would allow a reading *Jmn-rʿ* (Amun-Re); whereas three smaller drill-holes, one above Amun's sceptre and two others underneath the vulture's tail, are not part of the writing but better understood in functional terms (see below). Pictorially, the two anthropomorphic deities (Amun and Khonsu) form a vertical axis, flanked by two hieroglyphs (*zꜣ* [V17/V18] "protection" and *wḏꜣt* [D10] "sound, protecting", above) resp. two theriomorphic deities (Mut and Thoth, below). (B) The composition may perhaps be read as a formula expressing or evoking divine protection. Brandl (in Brandl, Levitte and Garfinkel 2019: 162) suggests to read two formulae: *zꜣ jmn mwt ḫnsw* "protection of Amun, Mut, (and) Khonsu" as well as *wḏꜣt jmn-rʿ dḏwtj* "protection of/by the sound eye-of-Horus, Amun-Re, (and) Thoth". While not impossible, such a reading assumes double duty for *jmn* but reads *rʿ* only once, highlights Horus beyond actual evidence, and separates Thoth and Khonsu, contradicting the two gods' commonality as expressed visually by crescent and disc.

DISCUSSION: Amun, Mut, and Khonsu represent the typical Theban triad, while Thoth is based at Hermopolis. The compositional layout suggests that Amun(-Re) is here considered as the main instance of divine protection, while his wife Mut, their son Khonsu, *and* Thoth represent subsidiary, yet complementary divine entities. Brandl's suggestion that the three small dots indicate the order in which to read the names of Amun and Mut (see Brandl, Levitte and Garfinkel 2019: 162) seems questionable, since this would have been the usual order according to Egyptian writing convention anyway. The dots may perhaps be better understood in functional rather than syntactical terms: they could have either distinguished *this* seal from another of identical composition; or distinguished this seal's *use* during a third phase of use from a first phase, without, and a second phase, with a single additional dot inscribed.

No image available **928**

929



COMPARANDA: No comparanda are given in the *editio princeps* of this item, which is the only depiction so far of this particular Theban triad, not to mention a group of four Egyptian deities, attested on a scarab found in the southern Levant. Other triads attested on seals from the southern Levant include Memphite Ptah, Sekhmet, and Nefertem (e.g., Achziv No. 133, Beth Shemesh No. 73), Amun with two falcon-headed gods (e.g., Ashkelon No. 39 and many parallels), an Egypto-Canaanite triad featuring Ptah and two local deities (Acco No. 3) and possibly another "syncretistic" combination (Tall as-Saʿidiyeh No. 26). All these are later than the present item and cannot be regarded as parallels; they rather and indirectly point to the most unusual nature of this scarab.

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE) or somewhat later; dating according to Brandl, based on typology, subject matter, and limited attestations for the use of diorite during Egyptian history. Referring to two other dark blue scarabs (Beth Shean No. 209, Ekron No. 52), Brandl even suggests to narrow down the scarab's production to the reign of Amenhotep III, and its arrival at Lachish after this king's first jubilee in 1360 BCE together with gifts sent to local king Shipṭi-Baʿlu, admitting though the speculative nature of his hypothesis. Note that Brandl identifies the scarab's back as EP 113, whereas EP 123 or EP 60 (here preferred) would not exclude the possibility of a slightly later dating.

COLLECTION: Location t.b.d. Item in IAA custody, inventory number not mentioned in the *editio princeps* and unavailable at the time of writing (May 2023).

CONTEXT: Surface find. Area BB, Square Rd21, Locus 7435, Basket 2526, Object no. 7435.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Brandl, Levitte and Garfinkel 2019: passim, drawings and photographs on p. 161, Fig. 2. *[CU]*

930 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Klingbeil et al. 2019: 47). MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. The bulla is almost complete, but has a series of small chips on its contour. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 11.0 mm (W); 15.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W, bulla). Measurements according to Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief (animals); drilled (border).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Border consisting of two parallel lines separated by dots. Three registers separated by double-line dividers. The seal bears a Hebrew inscription in the first and third registers, and an iconographic motif (two grazing does or gazelles facing each other) in the second register. The inscription reads *lʾlyqm / yhwzrḥ*, "Belonging to Elyaqim (son of) Yehozaraḥ".

DISCUSSION: The name Elyaqim is frequent among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions: it occurs on seals Tell Jemmeh No. 107 (*ddymš* or *drymš ʾlyqm*), Jerusalem No. 102 (*lʾlyqm mkʾ*), Jerusalem No. 618 (*lmʾsyhw ʾlyqm*), bulla Jerusalem No. 81 (*lʾlyqm bn ʾwḥl*), and stamped handles Tell Beit Mirsim No. 12–13 = Beth Shemesh No. 192 = Ramat Raḥel No. 12 (*lʾlyqm nʿr ywkn*), and on an ostracon from Ḥorvat Radum (Beit-Arieh 2007: 323–324). In the Hebrew Bible, the name is borne by tree characters (e.g., 2Kgs 18:18 [an official of King Hezekiah], 23:34 [a king of Judah]; Neh 12:41 [a priest]; see Clines 1993: 292). The name Yehozaraḥ is not otherwise attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions (but see Klingbeil et al. 2019: 47 for parallels of uncertain provenance), nor is it attested in the Hebrew Bible.

COMPARANDA: Another bulla impressed by the same seal was found in Lachish (Lachish No. 931). For a parallel to the rare border type (double-line separated by dots), see Jerusalem No. 613, a Hebrew seal found in Rostov-on-Don, Russia (Balakhvantsev, Mimokhod and Uspenskiy 2017), and possibly Jerusalem No. 600, 607 (incompletely preserved border). For seals with a similar organization, featuring two inscribed registers and one iconographic register, see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 337, 602–603; Lachish No. 228, 932. These parallels differ from the present item by their vertical, rather than horizontal, layout. For parallels to the grazing doe motif on Judahite seals (discussed by Ornan 2016), see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 291, 584, 603, 607; Lachish No. 931–933.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating according to the Level III find context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Not yet inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of 22 December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area AA, Square Oa26, Building 350,[1] Locus AA52, Basket AA2175, Object no. AA2175. The bulla was found inside a juglet; note that the mention of 'square Oa29' (instead of Oa26) in Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44 is a typographic error.

① See Garfinkel et al. 2021: 449–450. Items found in same context: Lachish No. 930–933.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44–49, Fig. 4–5, No. A. *[EL]*

930



1 cm

931 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Klingbeil et al. 2019: 47). MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete on its left side. MEASUREMENTS: 13.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W); 14.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W, bulla). Measurements according to Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief (animals); drilled (border).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Border consisting of two parallel lines separated by dots. Three registers separated by double-line dividers. The seal bears a Hebrew inscription in the first and third registers, and an iconographic motif (two grazing does or gazelles facing each other) in the second register. The inscription reads *lʾlyqm / yhwzrḥ*, "Belonging to Elyaqim (son of) Yehozaraḥ".

DISCUSSION: See Lachish No. 930 (impressed with the same seal as the present item) for a full discussion of the name and the patronym.

COMPARANDA: Another bulla impressed by the same seal was found in Lachish (Lachish No. 930). For a parallel to the rare border type (double-line separated by dots), see Jerusalem No. 613, a Hebrew seal found in Rostov-on-Don, Russia (Balakhvantsev, Mimokhod and Uspenskiy 2017), and possibly Jerusalem No. 600, 607 (incompletely preserved border). For seals with a similar organization, featuring two inscribed registers and one iconographic register, see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 337, 602–603; Lachish No. 228, 932. These parallels differ from the present item by their vertical, rather than horizontal, layout. For parallels to the grazing doe motif on Judahite seals (discussed by Ornan 2016), see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 291, 584, 603, 607; Lachish No. 931–933.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating according to the Level III find context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Not yet inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of 22 December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area AA, Square Oa26, Building 350,[1] Locus AA52, Basket AA2176, Object no. AA2176. The bulla was found when sifting the sediment located around the juglet that contained Lachish No. 930, and is therefore considered by its excavators as having originated within that juglet as well (see Klingbeil et al. 2019: 41–44); note that the mention of square 'Oa29' (instead of Oa26) in Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44 is a typographic error.

① See Lachish No. 930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44–49, Fig. 6–7, No. B. *[EL]*

932 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Klingbeil et al. 2019: 47). MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. Only the left side of the bulla is preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 11.0* mm (L) × 6.0* mm (W); 13.0* mm (L) × 8.0* mm (W, bulla). Measurements according to Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear; modelled sunk relief.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Single-line border. Three registers separated by double-line dividers. The seal bears an iconographic motif (grazing doe or gazelle) in the first register, and a Hebrew inscription in the second and third registers. The inscription reads […]*zr bn /* […]*dr*, "[…]*zr* son of […]*dr*".

DISCUSSION: Klingbeil et al. suggest reading the first register as *lʿzr* ("Belonging to ʿEzer"), and describe this name as a hypochoristic for ʿAzaryahu (*ʿzryhw*), ʿAzaryah (*ʿzryh*), or ʿAzrʾiel (*ʿzrʾl, ʿzryʾl*). The patronym, ʿEzer (most probably a hypochoristic form of ʿAzaryahu), is attested on bulla Jerusalem No. 65 (*lgdyhw bn ʿzr*), on stamped handles Azekah No. 33 = Tel Burna No. 1 = Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) No. 11 = Gezer No. 25 (*lʿzr ḥgy*), Lachish No. 57–58, 922 (*lšpn ʿzr*), on ostraca 22 (*ʿzr b*[*n*...]), 23 (*ʿzr*), 51 (*ʾšyhw bn ʿzr*), and 58 (*ʿzr bn*[...]) from Arad (Aharoni 1981: 44, 45, 85, 88), on an incised stone basin from Kuntillet ʿAjrud (*šmʿyw bn ʿzr*; Aḥituv 2008: 313), on an ostracon from Tel Masos (*ʿzr b*[*n*...]; Aḥituv 2008: 164). The name has five attestations in the Hebrew Bible under the vocalization ʿEzer (Neh 3:19, 12:42; 1Chr 4:4, 7:21, 12:10; see Clines 2007: 343) and four under the vocalization ʿAzur (Jer 28:1; Ezek 11:1; Ezra 10:40; Neh 10:17; see Clines 2007: 334). Klingbeil et al. suggest reading the name in the second register as "Gedor" (*gdr*), an anthroponym not attested among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew inscriptions, but borne by three characters in the Hebrew Bible, under the spelling *gdr* or *gdwr* (e.g., 1Chr 4:4.18, 8:31; see Clines 1995: 321).

COMPARANDA: For seals with a similar organization, featuring one iconographic register and two inscribed registers, see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 337, 602–603; Lachish No. 228, 930–931. For parallels to the grazing doe motif on Judahite seals (discussed by Ornan 2016), see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 291, 584, 603, 607; Lachish No. 930–931, 933.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating according to the Level III find context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Not yet inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of 22 December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area AA, Square Oa26, Building 350,[1] Locus AA52, Basket AA2177, Object no. AA2177. The bulla was found when sifting the sediment located around the juglet that contained Lachish No. 930, and is therefore considered by its excavators as having originated within that juglet as well (see Klingbeil et al. 2019: 41–44); note that the mention of square 'Oa29' (instead of Oa26) in Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44 is a typographic error.

① See Lachish No. 930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44–49, Fig. 8–9, No. C. *[EL]*

931



1 cm

932



1 cm

933 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on mud sealing/bulla (Keel 1995: § 292–298). Marks of papyrus and thread on reverse (Klingbeil et al. 2019: 47). MATERIAL: clay (firing unknown/unspecified). PRESERVATION: broken. Only a tiny fragment of the bulla's upper side is preserved. MEASUREMENTS: 8.0* mm (L) × 7.0* mm (W); 13.0* mm (L) × 10.0* mm (W, bulla). Measurements according to Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation unclear. Double line border. At least two registers, one preserved double-line divider. The upper register contains a single grazing doe or gazelle facing left. No inscription is preserved.

COMPARANDA: For comparanda to the grazing doe motif on Judahite seals (discussed by Ornan 2016), see Tel Eton No. 14; Hebron No. 18; Jerusalem No. 291, 413, 584, 603, 607; Lachish No. 930–932.

DATING: Iron IIB (8th c. BCE); dating according to the Level III find context.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Not yet inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of 22 December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), Area AA, Square Oa26, Building 350,[1] Locus AA49, Basket AA2102, Object no. AA2102. The bulla was found when sifting sediment from a locus located just to the north of Locus AA52, where bullae Lachish No. 930–932 were found, and therefore might originate in the same juglet as the above (see Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44); note that the mention of square 'Oa29' (instead of Oa26) in Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44 is a typographic error.

① See Lachish No. 930.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Klingbeil et al. 2019: 44–49, Fig. 10–11, No. D. *[EL]*

934 **OBJECT:** Finger ring, type II (Keel 1995: § 286–287). MATERIAL: composite material. Weissbein et al. 2019: 89–90, Fig. 17 originally published this seal as "faience". PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 15.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W) × 3.0 mm (T); 5.0 mm (W) × 3.0 mm (W, hoop); 22.0 mm (D, ring).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: none. ENGRAVING: moulded; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a human head with long neck, two outward-turning curls, and an upside down triangular element protruding from the head, flanked by inward-turned curls. The figure is flanked by two addorsed *jʿrt* (I12) cobras.

DISCUSSION: This motif belongs to Design Class 10D2 "'Hathor' symbol" (Tufnell 1984: 138, Pl. 48). This type of decoration was defined by Schroer as the fetish of a goddess and is sometimes referred as a 'Hathor fetish' (e.g., Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 16; Schroer 1989: 140–153). Weissbein et al. 2019 proposed a possible Egyptian origin of this object based on the material and bezel engraving (with reference to Nicholson and Peltenburg 2000: 175–179, 182–184; Ogden 1982: 124–125, Fig. 7.3–6).

COMPARANDA: No exact parallel in the southern Levant could be identified at the time of writing. For one-piece rings with a 'Hathor fetish', see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 191–193, 247, 335; Dhaḥrat al-Ḥumraiya No. 2.

DATING: 18th–20th Dyn. (1540–1077 BCE); dating based on comparanda and typology.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), Square Pb6, North-East Temple,[1] Room D,[2] Locus BB1062, Basket BB5484. Found with five glass beads and another faience ring on the floor; Weissbein et al. 2019: 90 indicate that "the position in which the beads were uncovered indicates that they belonged to a single necklace, into which one of the rings may have been incorporated as a kind of pendant".

① Freestanding structure located on the north-eastern slope of the mound. The building is preserved to approximately 19 by 16 metres and comprises eight architectural units and an open courtyard (Weissbein et al. 2019: 76–78). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 934–936. — ② Main hall of North-East Temple (Weissbein et al. 2019: 83–85). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 934, 936.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Weissbein 2017: 61–62, Fig. 65 and 67; Weissbein et al. 2019: 89–90, Fig. 17. *[NBM]*

933



1 cm

934



1 cm

935 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 61/Side 19 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: white. PRESERVATION: complete. Weissbein et al. 2019: 92 notes the original blue glaze of this scarab has worn off, revealing the white fired steatite underneath. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 7.3 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: flat sunk relief with interior design; linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, an anthropomorphic figure with falcon head faces right wearing a short kilt; above the figure is a sun disc, below are two horizontal lines. The figure's 'rear' arm hangs down by its side while the 'front' arm extends out and turns into an equally right-facing cobra; above the cobra is another sun disc, below are two horizontal lines (or possible *nb* [V30] signs[?]). To the left of the falcon-headed figure is another right-facing cobra with a sun dic above its head.

DISCUSSION: The central figure can be identified as a solar deity, possibly Re. Weissbein et al. 2019 read the two lines under the smaller cobra as part of the epithet "lord of the Two Lands" and interpreted the larger (left) cobra as the possible determinative of 'Edjo' the goddess of Lower Egypt. They proposed this object was locally made given that the only parallel is Gezer No. 641, which derives from a 12th century context. However, this motif appears in abbreviated form on a number of other scarabs traditionally interpreted as Ramesside production.

COMPARANDA: For a parallel of this motif, see Gezer No. 641, but note the object's typology is different. For comparanda of the falcon-headed figure with just the cobra extending from the figure's 'front' arm, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 299; Deir el-Balaḥ No. 81, 108; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 133, 482, 487, 499, 796; Tel Gerisa No. 40; Lachish No. 35, 649.

DATING: 19th–20th Dyn. (1292–1077 BCE); dating based on typology and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), North-East Temple,[1] Room H,[2] Basket 177, Object no. BB1457.

① See Lachish No. 934. — ② "Holy of holies" in the North-East Temple, located north of Room D/"main hall" (Weissbein et al. 2019: 82–83). Additional objects found in Room H included "two 'smiting god' figurines, a cultic sceptre head, (and) a variety of beads" (Weissbein et al. 2019: 83).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Weissbein et al. 2019: 90–92, Fig. 18. *[NBM]*

936 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 68/-/Side 33[?] (Rowe), B2/II/el[?] (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-green. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 18.5 mm (L) × 13.5 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. On the left, an anthropomorphic figure faces right and stands on a schematic *nb* (V30); the figure's 'rear' arm hangs straight by its side while the 'front' arm extends out to the right holding a large flower pointed inward towards its face. The figure wears a belt or short kilt and a head piece comprising three vertical elements. Below the flower, three hieroglyphs appear in a vertical column, from top to bottom: schematic *ḏw* (N26), *n* (N35), and *r* (D21) or *nb* (V30).

DISCUSSION: Weissbein et al. 2019 interpreted the figure as an imitation of the Nile god Hapi with a clump of papyrus above his head (Matouk 1977: 320, no. 23). According to the comparanda included by Weissbein et al., no such scarabs are known outside of the southern Levant, leading to the proposal that all "degenerated" motifs "should be identified as locally-made" (Weissbein et al. 2019: 92). However, this motif belongs to Ben-Tor's Design Class B4 "*anra* with human figure" on Ramesside scarabs simulating Middle Bronze Age Canaanite Protoypes group (Ben-Tor 2017: 207, Fig. 10).

COMPARANDA: The closest comparandum is Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 706. Additional comparanda include Beth Shean No. 236; Dothan No. 7; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 587–588, 704, 706; Tell Jemmeh No. 55; Kfar Ruppin No. 3; Lachish No. 87. From the northern Levant, Ben-Tor 2017: 206, n. 65 cites two comparanda from Rashidiya (Gubel 1988a) and Qrayeh (Guigues 1939). Weissbein et al. 2019 proposed Tell el-Ḥesi No. 7—a scarab depicting the Egyptian god Hapi—as possible inspiration for the manufacture of these "degenerate" scarabs; this seems unlikely in view of the Middle Bronze Age parallels, for which see Dan No. 38 and Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 111, 432, 587–588, 704, 706. Megiddo No. 574 depicts a similar figure with headdress and large flower but in a kneeling position.

DATING: 19th Dyn. (1292–1191 BCE); dating based on object typology and comparanda for base motif.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VI (LB III, early–late 12th c. BCE), North-East Temple,[1] Room D,[2] Locus BB1157,[3] Basket 1568, Object no. BB6552.

① See Lachish No. 934. — ② See Lachish No. 934. — ③ Recovered from the south-western corner of the main hall on a stone platform measuring "4 m long, 1.5 m wide, and 20 cm high", next to "the upper bowl of a 'lamp and bowl' deposit that was placed into the mudbrick debris" (Weissbein et al. 2019: 84, 92).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Weissbein et al. 2019: 90, 92, Fig. 19. *[NBM]*

Non-standard scale.

935



Non-standard scale.

936



937 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A1ʔ/0/e12 (Tufnell/Keel). According to the typology for uninscribed amethyst scarabs developed by David 2019a: 64, this object could be classified as A1/V/O/O/O. MATERIAL: quartz, rock crystalʔ. Object is colourless and translucent. PRESERVATION: complete. According to photographs, slight chipping along the sides of object. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 12.0 mm (W) × 6.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: probably double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); photographed on a black background, the double cone perforation is evident from the perforation channel's change in direction at the centre of the object (refraction within the crystal seems less probable). GROUP ATTRIBUTION: (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group. Remarks: Uninscribed quartz scarabs with schematic typological features are attributed by David to her (Uninscribed) Amethyst Scarabs group, said to have been produced locally in the southern Levant (David 2019a). Lumps of rock crystal are reported to have been excavated from Lachish, leading A. David to suggest they may have been for the production of scarabs or beads on site (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433, n. 84).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Blank.

COMPARANDA: For an almost exact parallel in terms of typology and material, see Lachish No. 685 and possibly Lachish No. 562. For other uninscribed quartz scarabs from Lachish, see Lachish No. 679, 681, 684, 841 and Megiddo No. 157, 588, 638–639. For an uninscribed quartz scaraboid, see Lachish No. 755. For an uninscribed quartz cowroid, see Lachish No. 683.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda for similar uninscribed quartz scarabs (David 2019a).

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VIII (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE), Area BB, "Mudbrick Fortress",[1] Room C,[2] Locus BB2610,[3] Object no. BB7507.

① A mudbrick building measuring 8 × 14 m with walls up to 3.5 m thick, located on the eastern slope of the mound near the north-eastern corner. The building contained three rooms labeled A–C. Radiometric samples derived from burned grain in Room A yielded a date in the mid-sixteenth century BCE (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429–430). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 937–940. — ② Located in the south-western portion of the fortress (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429). Items found in same context: Lachish No. 937–940. — ③ Floor. Found with 31 (yet unpublished) clay sealings impressed with scarabs, 12 clay loom weights, an alabaster vessel, a limestone pot bellow, a bronze toggle pin, and a concentration of bone inlays (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429). Note that the locus no. given in the editio princeps (BB2601) has been corrected.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433–434, Fig. 13:1. *[NBM]*

938 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6/dec.+0/d6 (Tufnell/Keel). A lotus is engraved into back left side of scarab. A black vertical stripe with demarcated borders runs vertically along the elytra. MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: yellowish-beige. PRESERVATION: broken. Glazing has worn off but is preserved in some places; chipping along the upper left and lower right side of base, obscuring some of the motifs. MEASUREMENTS: 18.0 mm (L) × 13.0 mm (W) × 7.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear (base); chip-carved (legs). COATING: traces of yellowish glaze. Reported by Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433, n. 85.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple, single-line border. Five implied vertical columns of Egyptian signs; notably, the signs in the central column are larger in scale and thus serve to divide the base symmetrically into two mirrored columns of corresponding signs on each side. The central column comprises a *wꜣḥ* (V29), *ḏd* (R11), *wꜣḥ* (V29), *ḏd* (R11). Flanking the central column on the right and left side are two vertical columns, each of which comprise five *nfr* (F35) signs. In the two outermost columns, the following signs appear from top to bottom: *r* (D21), ʿ(D36), *n* (N35), *r* (D21), ʿ(D36), *n* (N35), *r* (D21), ʿ(D36).

DISCUSSION: Based on formal comparison, A. David reads the *r* (D21) signs, which have a flat top, as *nb* (V30), and the *n* (N35) signs as *zꜣ* (V16) (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433). However, it should be noted that based on parallels, these two signs are attested more often as *r* (D21) and *n* (N35) signs, suggesting this is a stylistic variant. This type of script is often referred to as *anra* (Keel 1995: § 469–470; Richards 2001) and believed to have been a Canaanite invention, based on the distribution of scarabs with these motifs appearing in the southern Levant before in Egypt and Nubia (Ben-Tor 2007: 83). The combination of signs can be classified as Design Class 3C "Formulae" (Tufnell 1984: 121, Pl. 16). According to Ben-Tor's study, these combinations first appear on scarabs assigned to her Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 133–134, Pl. 55:24–25) and continue into her Late Palestinian Series, where the arrangement of such signs into multiple columns is a feature attested more frequently (Ben-Tor 2007: 165–166, Pl. 82:1, 14, 38, 44, 83:33, 38, 84:23). Ben-Tor interpreted the appearance of motifs on Egyptian scarabs from the Second Intermediate Period as possible imitations of the formula, copied from imported seals from Palestine (Ben-Tor 2007: 83–85, Pl. 35:25–38). On the significance of these signs, she proposes they derive from imitations of late Middle Kingdom scarabs bearing the *rdʿ-rʿ* formula (e.g., Ben-Tor 1997: 175–177; Ben-Tor 2007: 84; Ben-Tor 2009a).

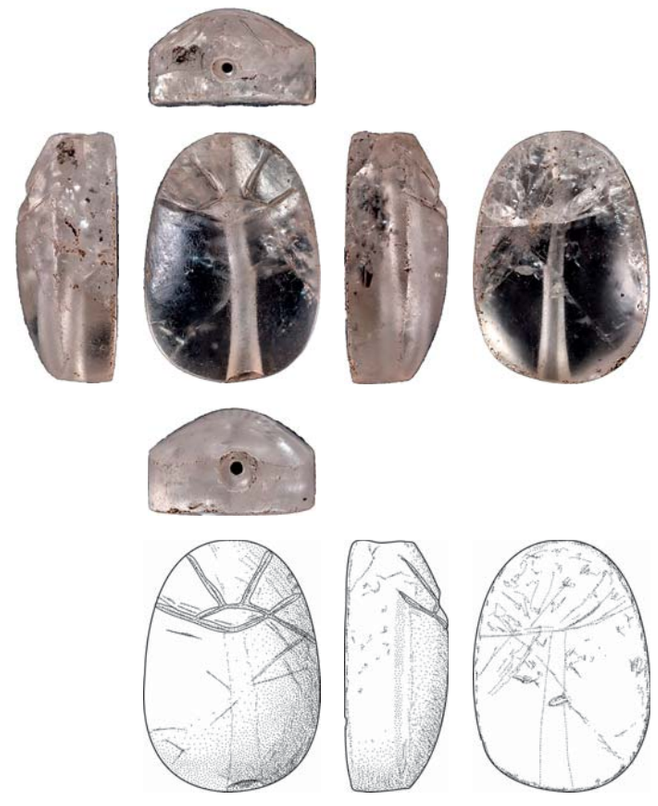
COMPARANDA: No exact parallels. David (in Garfinkel et al. 2021: 434) notes similar compositions with *wꜣḥ* (V29) and *n* (N35) signs arranged in virtual registers appear on scarabs of Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (i.e., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 706 and Lachish No. 335). For parallels bearing the same sign combination alongside Egyptian hieroglyphs in similar design, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 722, 1013, 1096, 1098; Bet Gamliel No. 6; Tell el-Farʿa (N) No. 32; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 841; Jericho No. 225, 284; Lachish No. 338; Tel Nagila No. 40; Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 62; Yiftaḥel No. 15.

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda for base composition and object typology.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VIII (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE), Area BB, "Mudbrick Fortress",[1] Room C,[2] Locus BB2610,[3] Object no. BB7687.

937



938



① See Lachish No. 937. — ② See Lachish No. 937. — ③ Floor. Found with 31 (yet unpublished) clay sealings impressed with scarabs, 12 clay loomweights, an alabaster vessel, a limestone pot bellow, a bronze toggle pin, and a concentration of bone inlays (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433–434, Fig. 13:2. *[NBM]*

939 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D6 or B4/0/d5 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Small chip on base. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 10.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of greenish glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. Three implied vertical columns of hieroglyphs. In the central column, from top to bottom: *nfr* (F35), *rˁ* (N5), *nṯr* (R8); *mɜˁ* (U4); ˁ (D36); *jb* (F34); *ˁnḫ* (S34), *dj* (X8). In the flanking columns on the right and left, symmetrical *zɜ* (V17/V18) or *šn* (V7) signs above symmetrical *nfr* (F35) signs.

DISCUSSION: The overall composition can be read *nṯr nfr Mɜˁ-jb-rˁ di ˁnḫ*, "Perfect god, Maaibre, given life". In the publication of this scarab, the author (A. David) notes that the absence of writing this royal name in a cartouche suggests the seal was "clearly produced by a non-Egyptian artisan in the eastern Delta and imported into Lachish during the 15th Dyn., when trade with the Hyksos flourished" and notes around 400 scarabs are estimated to have been produced engraved with the prenomen (i.e., throne name) Maaibre or the nomen (i.e., birth name) Sheshi (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 434–435, with reference to Ryholt 1997: 252–254, 366–367).

COMPARANDA: For other typologically-similar scarabs inscribed with the prenomen Maaibre not encased in a cartouche, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 791, 1035, Amman No. 40, and Tel Ḥalif No. 7. For scarabs with the prenomen Maaibre in a cartouche, see Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 10; Gezer No. 555; Tel Ḥalif No. 18. For typologically comparable scarabs inscribed with the nomen Sheshi lacking the royal name in cartouche, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 578 and Lachish No. 550. For the nomen Sheshi in a cartouche, see Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 379; Tel Esur No. 1; Lachish No. 426.

DATING: 14th Dyn. (1750–1675 BCE) or 15th Dyn. (1675–1540 BCE); Sheshi; given debate about where to place this ruler (in either the 14th or 15th Dyn.), dating is assigned on the basis of typological and motif comparanda.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VIII (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE), Area BB, "Mudbrick Fortress",[1] Room C,[2] Locus BB2610.[3]

① See Lachish No. 937. — ② See Lachish No. 937. — ③ Floor. Found with 31 (yet unpublished) clay sealings impressed with scarabs, 12 clay loomweights, an alabaster vessel, a limestone pot bellow, a bronze toggle pin, and a concentration of bone inlays (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Garfinkel et al. 2021: 434–435, Fig. 13:3. *[NBM]*

940 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type -/0/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: brownish-red. PRESERVATION: broken. Head is damaged, obscuring typological classification. MEASUREMENTS: 22.0 mm (L) × 16.0 mm (W) × 8.0 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: traces of yellowish glaze.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Orientation ambiguous, probably vertical. Simple single-line border. According to a vertical orientation: in the centre, a small circle from which a vertical central bar with two lines extending out at each end and four double-line curvilinear elements emerge to form an X motif. This cross-like pattern overlaps with two double-line arcs extending symmetrically from the central bar, to create a knot-like motif; from within these arcs, two lines extend inward toward the central dot.

DISCUSSION: This motif is a combination of Design Class 5 "Cross patterns" and 6B2b "Convoluted coils, knot-like, with central bar" (Tufnell 1984: 125–126, Pl. 23 and 25:2105–2128; see also Keel 1995: § 494, 499). According to Ben-Tor's study on Middle Bronze Age scarabs, these motifs are popular on seals of both the Early Palestinian Series and Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 139, 170 Pl. 59:22–52, 60:14–22, 87:34–45, 88:8–10, 21, 32–34), the production of which is said to be influenced by the appearance of this design on scarabs of the late Middle Kingdom (Ben-Tor 2007: 139, 170, Pl. 12:26, 37, 39, 44). Moreover, she notes that this motif rarely appears on scarabs assigned by her to the Egyptian Second Intermediate Period (Ben-Tor 2007: 170).

COMPARANDA: Close comparanda include Acco No. 259; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 38, 71, 533, 705, 744, 1176; Amman No. 55; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 33; Ginnosar No. 7; Jericho No. 199, 230, 327; Lachish No. 31, 396–397; and from the eastern Delta; Tell el-Yahudiya (Mlinar 2001a IV: Abb. II/6).

DATING: MB II–MB III (18th–mid 16th c. BCE); dating based on typology and comparanda for base motif.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Yet to be inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level VIII (MB III, early/mid 17th–mid 16th c. BCE), Area BB, "Mudbrick Fortress",[1] Room C,[2] Locus BB4010.[3]

① See Lachish No. 937. — ② See Lachish No. 937. — ③ Found with 31 (yet unpublished) clay sealings impressed with scarabs, 12 clay loomweights, an alabaster vessel, a limestone pot bellow, a bronze toggle pin, and a concentration of bone inlays (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 429).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Garfinkel et al. 2021: 433–435, Fig. 13:4. *[NBM]*

939



Non-standard scale.

940



941 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle, type c (Keel 1995: § 308). MATERIAL: fired clay. PRESERVATION: complete. MEASUREMENTS: 10.0 mm (L) × 10.0 mm (W). Measurements according to photographs.

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear (border and inscription); modelled sunk relief (divider).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout. Single-line border[?], lotus-bud divider. Two registers of equal size separated by a lotus-bud divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lyrmyhw b / n ṣpnyhw*, "Belonging to Yirmeyahu son of Ṣepanyahu".

DISCUSSION: This stamped handle, originating in Level II, is not part of the series of private stamps impressed on *lmlk* storage jars, dated to Level III (Iron IIB). Its layout, with a lotus-bud divider and the use of the filiation marker *bn*, is unattested among private stamped handles of the Lachish III horizon, but is very common among Judahite seals and bullae from the Iron III. For a discussion of the names, see Lachish No. 855. The owner of this seal is most certainly the same person as the owner of bullae Lachish No. 855 and Lachish No. 856, which bear the exact same name and patronym. To the best of our knowledge, this is the only case of a person attested both on a bulla and on a stamped handle, among provenanced Iron Age Hebrew seal impressions.

COMPARANDA: For other examples of the lotus bud divider among Judahite inscribed seals, see Arad No. 16; Jerusalem No. 46, 56, 67, 69–70, 73, 81, 85, 90, 93; Lachish No. 858–861.

DATING: Iron III (7th–late 6th c. BCE); dating according to the Level II find context, and the epigraphic details noted in the discussion above.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; Hebrew University, Institute of Archaeology. Not yet inventoried by the Israel Antiquities Authority (as of 22 December 2022).

CONTEXT: Level II (Iron III, 7th–late 6th c. BCE), Area AA, Square Pa25, Building 200,[1] Locus AA24. The impression is stamped on the handle of a storage jar full of metal objects, found buried under a floor (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 450–451).

① Building in the eastern half of Area AA, aligned with the northeastern corner of the Palace (Garfinkel et al. 2021: 450).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Garfinkel et al. 2021: 450–451, Fig. 28. *[EL]*

942 **OBJECT:** Seal impression on handle (Keel 1995: § 299–313). MATERIAL: fired clay. The seal was stamped longitudinally between the two ridges of the handle. PRESERVATION: broken. The impression is slightly incomplete, missing its border in the lower right corner, but the inscription is complete and legible. MEASUREMENTS: 18.3 mm (L) × 12.4 mm (W).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal layout, rectangular base shape. Single-line border. Two registers of equal size separated by a single-line divider. Aniconic. Hebrew inscription spanning the two registers. The inscription reads *lnḥm / ʿbdy*, "Belonging to Naḥum (son of) ʿAbdi".

DISCUSSION: This item belongs to the series of so-called "private" or "official" Judahite handle impressions, related to the phenomenon of *lmlk* storage jars (Ussishkin 1976; Vaughn 1999a: 90–93, 198–219; Lipschits, Sergi and Koch 2010). For a full discussion of the name and the patronym, see Lachish No. 243.

COMPARANDA: See Lachish No. 243 for a full discussion of comparanda.

DATING: Late Iron IIB (second half of 8th c. BCE); the dating is according to the context of discovery, attributed to Lachish Level III.

COLLECTION: Jerusalem; National Campus for the Archaeology of Israel.

CONTEXT: Level III (Iron IIB, early 8th c.–701 BCE), "Gate Area", Inner Gate, south side, western chamber, Locus 140, Basket 1207, Object no. 1207.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ganor and Kreimerman 2023: 391 with Fig. 34:4. *[EL]*

941





1 cm

942

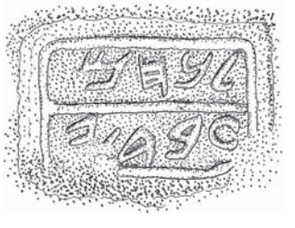


1:1





1 cm



943 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type D5/0/e9a (Tufnell/Keel), HC 11/EP 3/Side 42 (Rowe). Reddish brown longitudinal stripe measuring ca. 15.5 × 14.2 mm on the back, reaching to the rear perforation hole and not quite centred; in Ben-Marzouk and Greet's typology, this item belongs to their Group 2 "Longitudinal Stripe" (2024: 49 and *passim* on the phenomenon in general). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: beige. PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly worn, rim of base chipped. MEASUREMENTS: 21.0 mm (L) × 14.9 mm (W) × 10.7 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: ENGRAVING: linear with interior cross hatching. COATING: No traces of glaze or coating. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: Late Palestinian Series?. Remarks: Typologically, the scarab comes close to Keel's D-head group (Keel 2004: 93–98) that belongs to Ben-Tor's Early Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 151–152, Pl. 67–70). This group has an average length of 16 mm, however, which is notably smaller than the present item. Based on style and iconography, if not on typological grounds, the item should be attributed to Ben-Tor's Late Palestinian Series (Ben-Tor 2007: 155–183).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. The base decoration consists of four elements: In the centre is a quadruped with long bent horns and a stub tail striving to the right. Its bearded head is turned backwards towards the head of a snake that is coiling above its back. The snake's sinuous tail touches the horned animal's hind leg. Above the heads of both the snake and the quadruped is a branch that runs diagonally across the top part of the base. Between the legs of the quadruped is a winged animal turned 90 degrees, its head and beak pointing towards the quadruped's chest.

DISCUSSION: The horned animal is probably an ibex or a wild goat. Due to the clearly visible beard it can be identified as male (Design class 9B; see Keel 1995: § 518–521). Bearded caprids are occasionally found on items belonging to the Late Palestinian Series, e.g., on Gezer No. 582 (recumbent, with head facing forward and in combination with a twig; see also Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 96:20) or Gezer No. 584 (striding, with head turned back; see also Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 96:21 = 100:16). Most of the known caprids from this series do not feature a beard. They are quite often accompanied by leafy branches, see, e.g., Gezer No. 285 (see also Ben-Tor 2007: Pl. 96:20). More difficult to identify is the snake that hovers over the caprid's back. Its physical features—the long, coiled tail, the prominent eyes, and a barely visible bump on its head—at first make one think of a viper (see, e.g., Acco No. 285; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 977; ʿEn Nashab No. 1; see also contemporary cylinder seals, e.g., Teissier 1996: No. 146 or 177). Nevertheless, it seems more likely that it is an unusually slender uraeus (see, e.g., Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 477, 511). The figure below the quadruped can be identified as a vulture (like, e.g., on Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 457; Gezer No. 585; Jerusalem No. 427; Lachish No. 381). Viewed through a gender-sensitive lens, these elements combined connect the vulture to themes of regeneration and the 'goddess', while the bearded caprid may symbolize royal authority, influenced by Egyptian iconography. For a detailed presentation of the various possible interpretations, cf. Ben-Marzouk et al. 2023: esp. 59–64.

COMPARANDA: While all individual motifs are well connected to the contemporary repertoire of Middle Bronze Age glyptics, their combination is currently unique in the iconographic pool of the southern Levant.

DATING: MB III–LB IA (early/mid 17th–early 15th c. BCE); dating based on the style of engraving, the dating of relevant comparanda and the excellently dated archaeological context.

COLLECTION: Lachish; Austrian Expedition to Lachish storage.

CONTEXT: Level S-3 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Square C.11, Locus 1200, Basket 11406, Object no. I.0030. Found in a fill, ca. 10 cm above a floor (Locus 1223) that belongs to the earliest phase of Stratum S-3c; radiometric dates point to the mid-15th c. BCE for the beginning of Stratum S-3 (Webster et al. 2019).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Ben-Marzouk et al. 2023. *[SM]*

944 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type G4/I/e12 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 21/EP 27/Side 44 (Rowe). Morphologically similar items are Beth Shean No. 229; Tel Kinrot No. 30; Lachish No. 717; Megiddo No. 527, 568; Saḥem No. 4. MATERIAL: carnelian. COLOUR: red or orange red. Boschloos emphasizes that the red colour, symbolizing power and strength, plays a significant role in the apotropaic function of carnelian amulets (Boschloos 2012: 9). PRESERVATION: complete. Slightly chipped; diagonal crack on the lower right side of the base. MEASUREMENTS: 15.5 mm (L) × 11.4 mm (W) × 7.5 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube or double cone (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); assessment based on front, rear and (slightly translucent) base photographs. ENGRAVING: linear. Remarks: For roughly contemporary carnelian scarabs from the same site, most of them uninscribed, see Lachish No. 21, 671, 716–717, 724, 731, 772.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Four straight lines whose intersections enclose a square; the upper horizontal line was engraved twice, the right vertical line was engraved in two passes.

DISCUSSION: The basic geometric base engraving is rather unusual; it is more common for contemporaneous carnelian scarabs to have a simple 'X' or a star engraved on their base (see Boschloos 2012: 8–9 with Fig. 2–4; Boonstra 2020: 71 and the Late Bronze Age Carnelian and Red Jasper Scarabs with Cross Designs group).

COMPARANDA: There is no comparable base design known so far from the southern Levant. A carnelian scarab from el-Riqqa, found in a tomb dating to the New Kingdom, has a comparable base design (Engelbach et al. 1915: Pl. 18:77).

DATING: LB I–LB IIA (mid 16th–early 13th c. BCE); 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on Boschloos 2012 and Boonstra 2020: 71–72.

COLLECTION: Lachish; Austrian Expedition to Lachish storage.

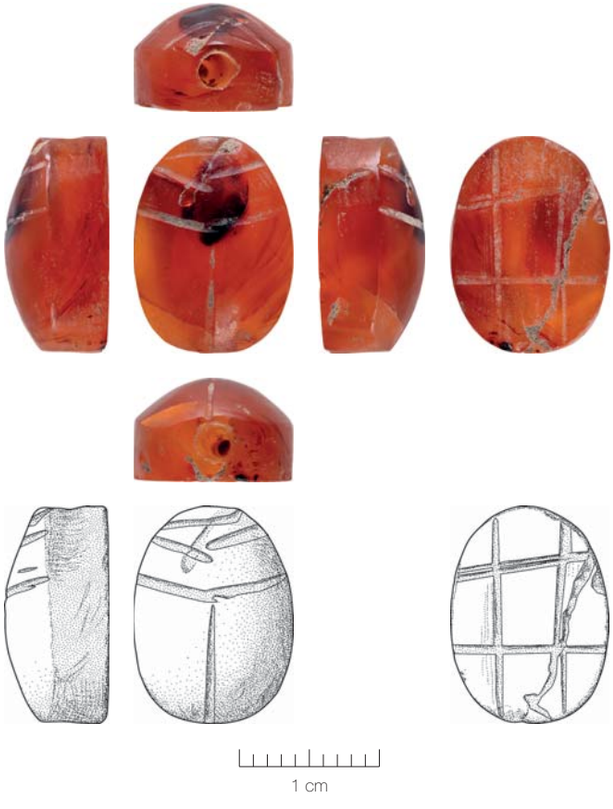
CONTEXT: Locus 1102, Basket 10751, Object no. I.0001. Found in topsoil.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[SM]*

943



944



945 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type A3/I+II/d1 (Tufnell/Keel), HC 47/EP 45 or EP 118/Side 26 (Rowe). MATERIAL: fired steatite. COLOUR: light greyish-beige and light brown (patches). PRESERVATION: complete. Base chipped, worn. MEASUREMENTS: 13.5 mm (L) × 9.8 mm (W) × 7.4 mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube or double cone? (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); the front perforation was drilled in two attempts, resulting in an 8-shaped borehole. ENGRAVING: linear. COATING: remains of reddish-brown glaze. Remarks: The light brown patches on the left of the pronotum and on both elytra might be linked to other forms of chromatic marks (see Group 5 in Ben-Marzouk and Greet 2024).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical orientation. Simple single-line border. In the centre, a right-facing *ḥrw* (G5) falcon with long tail feathers, which reach down to a *nb* (V30), while the bird is standing on a strangely curved, right-facing *jʿrt* (I12) cobra. Behind it, a right-facing *šw(t)* (H6) feather or *j* (M17) sedge plant.

DISCUSSION: The motif of a falcon standing on a cobra is a widespread symbol for divine kingship (Quaegebeur 1984: 131–143; specimens from the southern Levant include Tell Abu Hawam No. 21; Achziv No. 139; Tell el-ʿAjjul No. 287; Beth Shean No. 31, 223; Beth Shemesh No. 54, 59, 182; Dor No. 37; Tell el-Farʿa [N] No. 12; Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 607, 627, 638, 757; Gezer No. 420; Hazor No. 30; Jericho No. 571; Megiddo No. 203–204). The motif is well documented in various forms in Egypt as well, e.g., at the sanctuary of Site 1 at Gebel Zeit, a mountain range on the Red Sea coast dating to the early 18th Dyn. (Régen and Soukiassian 2008: 301, Fig. 16); in a foundation deposit of Hatshepsut at Deir el-Bahari, north of Thebes (Metropolitan Museum, inv. No. 23.3.272, 23.3.271, 23.3.228); and in a foundation deposit of Thutmose III at Koptos (Petrie 1896: Pl. 16:37).

COMPARANDA: Close typological and iconographical comparanda include Hazor No. 65 and Lachish No. 808 (the latter with an additional uraeus in the back of the falcon).

DATING: 18th Dyn. (1540–1292 BCE); dating based on the sealed contexts in various (foundation) deposits in Egypt (see above).

COLLECTION: Lachish; Austrian Expedition to Lachish storage.

CONTEXT: Level S-3 (LB IIA, early 14th–early 13th c. BCE) = Fosse Temple II, Area S, Locus 1216, Basket 11412, Object no. I.0031. The date of this item is in perfect agreement with the radiometric date of the beginning of Stratum S-3, determined to be the mid-15th c. BCE (Webster et al. 2019).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[SM]*

945



Lod

Lod (Arabic: اللد, al-Ludd; Hebrew: לוד) is located near the southern bank of Naḥal Ayalon (Wadi el-Kabir), ca. 15 km south-east of Tel Aviv. The town hosts several sites of archaeological and historical interest, among which the ancient tell, almost entirely covered by modern building activity (NIG 190720/651870), where settlement is attested since the Pottery Neolithic. Finds dated to the Bronze Age, Iron Age and the Persian period have been summarized by Yannai 2024. The city spread during the Hellenistic and later periods, well documented by the Lod Mosaic Archaeological Center and numerous salvage excavations. Such were conducted, for example, in 1990–1992 by the IAA in the Neve Yaraq neighbourhood east of the tell (NIG 191070/651400, Rosenberg and Shavit 1993). However, the single scarab known to come from Lod and registered at the IAA in 1993 was apparently not found during these excavations. Instead, the IAA records register as its place of provenance the shrine of Mashhad Sheikh ʻAbd ar-Raḥman ibn ʻAwf (NIG 191130/651300), located several hundred metres east-southeast of the tell and southeast of the Neve Yaraq neighbourhood.

1 **OBJECT:** Scarab, type HC 15/EP 42/Side 49 or Side 38? (Rowe), D10/I/e11 (Tufnell/Keel). The scarab typology of Deir el-Balaḥ No. 146 and of the present item are considered exact parallels by Brandl 2010a: 214. MATERIAL: fired steatite; COLOUR: light greyish-white. PRESERVATION: intact. MEASUREMENTS: 20.5 mm (L) × 15.0 mm (W) × 10.5 mm (H). Measurements based on photographs.

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal. Engraving: sunk relief with interior design; linear. COATING: traces of brown glaze (preserved in deeper parts of the linear engraving).

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Horizontal orientation, simple single-line border. Three hieroglyphic signs, from right to left: *mꜣʿt* (C10) depicted as a squatting goddess facing right, identified by the feather on her head and holding an *ʿnḫ* (S34) on her knees, *ḥrw* (G5) depicted as a falcon facing right, and *mr(j)* (U6/U7); in principle, this can be read as a religious formula, meaning "Maʿat (is) loved by (or loves) Horus"; or "Beloved of Horus, ‹Lord of› Truth/Order".

DISCUSSION: While the three hieroglyphs could be read in various ways (see above), the syntagm *mr(j) ḥrw* "Beloved of Horus" seems to be the most stable component when variant comparanda are considered. The implied reading "‹Lord of› Truth/Order" is suggested based on Deir el-Balaḥ No. 77 (see below). Announced for publication in Brandl 1999b: 20*–21* (n. 23 and bibliography), and occasionally referred to in later publications by the same author, this item remained unpublished and details about the object and its provenance were only recently recovered by MG from the IAA archives.

COMPARANDA: Although the squatting deity is more difficult to identify, Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 520 is the closest parallel to the present item. Relatively close comparanda include Deir el-Balaḥ No. 77 (with an additional vertical *nb* [V30]); Aphek No. 47 (where the *šw[t]* [H6] feather and a single stroke replace the squatting *mꜣʿt* [C10]); Deir el-Balaḥ No. 96 (with an *ʿnḫ* [S34] instead of the squatting goddess). More remote comparanda (e.g., Tell el-Farʿa [S] No. 607) depict the falcon standing on a uraeus, which replaces the squatting goddess and can be preceded by an *j* (M17) (here perhaps for *šw[t]* [H6]?). Note that all comparanda cited so far share a HC15 head type, in contrast to scarabs with a similar, but slightly different composition: a uraeus replaces the squatting goddess in front of the falcon on Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 638 (rectangular plaque) and Gezer No. 420 (scarab; see further Lachish No. 22); whereas the squatting goddess and the falcon are followed by a uraeus instead of the *mr(j)* (U6/U7) sign on Acco No. 68; Ashdod No. 32; Tell el-Farʿa (S) No. 731; Tell Jemmeh No. 73 and Megiddo No. 55.

DATING: LB IIB (early 13th–early 12th c. BCE); 19th–early 20th? Dyn. (1292–1150 BCE); Brandl 1999b: 20* suggested that scarabs with HC15 head type should be dated exclusively to the 19th Dyn. (reiterated in Brandl 2004a: 154 n. 195). In Brandl 2003: 255–258, a slightly broader terminology ("Ramesside") is used.

COLLECTION: IAA No. 1993-1865. Warehouse location: S-5628. Currently on display at the Lod Municipality (Galit Litani, IAA, 07/05/2025).

CONTEXT: Locus 2, Basket 279. According to IAA records, the item was found in the area of Mashhad Sheikh ʻAbd ar-Raḥman ibn ʻAwf (south-east of and at considerable distance from the Neve Yaraq neighbourhood, located east of the ancient mound).

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Previously unpublished. *[MG/CU]*

1



Loḥamei HaGetaʾot

Loḥamei HaGetaʾot (Hebrew: לוחמי הגטאות) is located opposite the eastern slope of Tell es-Sumeiriya (Arabic: تل السُمَيريه), ca. 5 km north-northeast of ancient Acco (Tell el-Fukhar) and ca. 5 km north by east of the centre of Acre (NIG 209200/762800). The salvage excavation at Loḥamei HaGetaʾot was commissioned by the Israel Antiquities Authority, with the assistance of the Public Works Department and the Archaeological Survey of Israel, in 1984 under the direction of Michal Peleg. The excavation uncovered a burial ground consisting of Persian, Hellenistic, and Roman burials (Peleg 1991).

1 **OBJECT:** Scarab (Keel 1995: § 36–127). MATERIAL: jasper; COLOUR: green. PRESERVATION: broken. The back of the scarab has been broken away. MEASUREMENTS: 17.0 mm (L) × 12.9 mm (W) × 6.1* mm (H).

MANUFACTURE: PERFORATION: longitudinal, type: double tube (see Beck 1928: Pl. 4; Harrell 2017: 16, n. 4); perforation channel drilled from both sides. ENGRAVING: flat modelled sunk relief with cross hatching and interior design. GROUP ATTRIBUTION: "Phoenician" Green Jasper Group.

BASE: DESCRIPTION: Vertical layout. Single-line border. On the right, a standing falcon-headed figure, facing left, with both arms raised and bent in front of it (an 'adoration' pose), wearing a knee-length apron. Above this figure's head is a sun disc (*rʿ* [N5]) flanked by two uncertain objects, likely two uraei. On the left, a seated anthropomorphic figure, facing right, wearing an ankle-length robe, beardless with shoulder-length hair, nude breasts, one of which supported (or offered) by her 'left' hand, several features identifying the figure as female. She is seated on a simple right angled seat (possibly a *ḥwt* [O6]-throne); above her head is another sun disc (*rʿ* [N5]), again flanked by two uncertain objects, which may here refer to cow horns conventionally identifying Isis (rather than uraei). In the lap of the figure is a third, smaller anthropomorphic figure, likely a child, facing right, with its legs extended past the seated figure. This child also has a sun disc above its head, and he may hold a flagellum with his 'right' hand. The overall scene is situated on a horizontal ground line, which delimitates a cross-hatched segment (rather than a literal *nb* [V30] hieroglyph). Atop between the two main figures is another disc, this one set inside a crescent.

DISCUSSION: Several elements of this composition require discussion: (1) 'Isis with suckling Harpocrates motif": very similar to the *mnʿt* (B5) and *rnn* (B6) hieroglyphs, the seated female figure with a child in her lap can be identified as Isis with Harpocrates. Brandl 1991: 154 argues that this is a Phoenician representation of the motif, as Harpocrates also is crowned with a sun disc (citing Atlit No. 3) and his legs are straight, rather than bent (citing three unprovenanced scarabs: Petrie 1925: Pl. 15:1021; Culican 1968: Pl. 3:5; Zazoff 1983: Pl. 20:7). These straight legs (possibly wrapped) can also be seen on Atlit No. 2 (composite scarab). Due to its identification as a Phoenician motif, Brandl 1991: 154 (and Gubel 1980: 5 speaking of a similar representation) identifies the goddess as Astarte, rather than Isis. In contrast, Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: 378 maintain the identification of the figure as Isis, even within the possibly Phoenician cultural context. (2) 'Falcon-headed attendant': Brandl 1991: 153 argues that the sun disc with uraei above the falcon-headed figure fits with the identifiers of the god Re-Harakhty. But he goes on to state that this instead represents a 'falcon-headed attendant' (rather than Re-Harakhty) due to the raised and bent arms in an 'adoration' pose, citing two unprovenanced scarabs for a falcon-headed attendant in a similar pose in front of a seated deity (Vercoutter 1945: 216, No. 559; Vollenweider 1967: 122, No. 155) and an example from the Samaria ivories (Crowfoot and Crowfoot 1938: Pl. 1:2). Whatever the names of the deities involved, one cannot ignore that the two main figures are characterised as deities of major significance by their headgear. (3) Cross-hatching: the female figure's dress, the throne, and the base segment have the same cross-hatched pattern. Brandl 1991: 154 connects the cross-hatching again to Phoenician scarabs, citing an example from Gubel 1980: Pl. 1. The pattern is regularly found on green jasper scarabs of the Persian period: Ashkelon No. 27 (male robe, throne); Atlit No. 3 (base segment); Atlit No. 12 (female dress, throne, base segment); Atlit No. 22 (base segment); Samaria No. 54 (male robe, base segment). Additionally, though, it also appears on the throne and base segment of Hazor No. 38 (a composite scarab dated to the Iron IIB) and Shechem (Tell Balaṭa) No. 64 (a steatite scarab dated to the Iron III). Gubel 1980: 5 believes this pattern, when applied to a garment, represents a feathered dress; while Goldwasser 1989: 340, n. 8 believes it represents the scale-shaped feather plates sometimes found on *ḥwt* (O6)-thrones. These three elements along with the frequency of the 'full moon and crescent' motif on Phoenician cultic representations and the material of the scarab led Brandl 1991: 154 to assign this scarab to the 'Phoenician jasper scarabs' group (Ward 1970a: 345–346, n. 9–10).

COMPARANDA: No exact comparanda. The closest comparandum for the entire composition is an unprovenanced scarab: Petrie 1925: Pl. 15:1021, which depicts the figures on opposite sides. For comparanda of individual motifs, see the interpretation above.

DATING: Iron III?–Persian period (7th–late 4th c. BCE); dating based on comparanda, find context, and assignment to the 'Phoenician green jasper group' (Brandl 1991: 154), which has been alternately dated to the late 8th century BCE (Gubel 1980: 12) or between the 7th and 6th centuries BCE (Culican 1968: 53–54).

COLLECTION: Beth Shemesh; IAA storage facilities; IAA No. 1986-1623.

CONTEXT: Tomb S (Persian period, late 6th–late 4th c. BCE),[1] Object no. 1298.

① Peleg describes this as "a burial marked by a line of small stones" that also contained two bronze bracelets (Peleg 1991: 132, Fig. 13:2). Onn 1999: 49* later described the burial as a "damaged burial installation" that "seems to have been an elongated side-chamber of a shaft tomb". Although this tomb contained no pottery and was originally dated to the Persian period based on Brandl's dating of the scarab (Brandl 1991; see Peleg 1991: 132), the amount of Persian tombs in the surrounding area examined by Onn 1999 confirm the dating of Tomb S to the Persian period.

BIBLIOGRAPHY: Brandl 1991; Peleg 1991: 133; Keel 1995: § 371; Keel and Uehlinger 1998: § 219, Fig. 364; Onn 1999: 49*; Keel and Uehlinger [6]2010: § 219, Fig. 364. *[BG]*

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Concordance to items not yet published in CSAPI/CSSL volumes

Tel Abel Beth Maacah 2: Panitz-Cohen and Mullins 2016: 310–318, Fig. 5.
Tel Abel Beth Maacah 5: David 2019a: 57–64 and Fig. 2a-b.
Khirbet Abu Khaff 2: Ganor, Kahati and Ganor 2009: Fig. 4:2.
Khirbet Abu Khaff 3: Ganor, Kahati and Ganor 2009: Fig. 4:3.
Khirbet Abu Khaff 4: Ganor, Kahati and Ganor 2009: Fig. 4:4.
Tell Abu Salima 2: Petrie 1937: Pl. 6:2.
Tell Abu Salima 20: Petrie 1937: Pl. 6:20.
Tell Abu Salima 65: Petrie 1937: Pl. 6:65.
Tell Abu Salima 70: Petrie 1937: Pl. 6:71.
Tell Abu Salima 71: Petrie 1937: Pl. 6:72.
Tell Abu Salima 80: Petrie 1937: 11, Pl. 31:1.
Achziv 177: Cowie 2004: 180, No. 3.
Achziv 181: Cowie 2004: 184, No. 7.
Achziv 196: Cowie 2004: 199, No. 22.
Achziv 201: Cowie 2004: 204, No. 27.
Achziv 204: Cowie 2004: 207, No. 30.
Achziv 212: Cowie 2004: 215, No. 38.
Achziv 237: Keel 2013b: 234–235, Fig. 128:5.
Tell el-ʿAjjul 1251: Rowe 1936: 102, No. 423, Pl. 6:423.
Tell el-ʿAjjul 1255: Rowe 1936: 104, No. 433, Pl. 11:433.
Tell el-ʿAjjul 1266: Rowe 1936: 108, No. 460, Pl. 11:460.
Ashdod 70: Brandl 1993: 129–130, No. 1.
Ashdod 75: Keel and Münger 2005: 273, 276 No. 3, Fig. 6.1:3.
Ashdod 77: Keel and Münger 2005: 276 No. 5, Fig. 6.1:5.
Ashdod 85: Israeli 2013: 104, Fig. 40, 120 (endnotes).
Ashkelon 202: Brandl 2020a: 377–379, 391–392, No. 13, Table 13.1:13.
Ashkelon 212: Brandl 2020a: 377–379, 403–404, No. 23, Table 13.1:23.
Ashkelon 219: Ranzer and Koch 2025: No. 2.
Ashkelon 222: Ranzer and Koch 2025: No. 5.
Ashkelon 227: Ranzer and Koch 2025: No. 10.
Ashkelon 228: Ranzer and Koch 2025: No. 11.
Ashkelon 229: Ranzer and Koch 2025: No. 12.
Atlit 52: Rowe 1936: 214, No. 912, Pl. 23:912.
Atlit 53: Rowe 1936: 214. No. 913, Pl. 23:913.
Azekah 33: Keel 2013: 98–99, Gat No. 11.
Azekah 34: Avigad and Sass 1997: 695, No. 695A.
Azekah 40: Koch et al. 2017: 18, Fig. 10.1.
Azor 24: Keel 2012c: 175, No. 24, Fig. 7.1:1.
Tel Beersheva 31: unpublished.
Beth Shean 256: Rowe 1936: 104, No. 436, Pl. 11:436.
Beth Shemesh 235: Rowe 1936: 156, No. 656, Pl. 17:656.
Beth Shemesh 236: Avigad and Sass 1997: 262, No. 708A.
Beth Shemesh 242: Orlev 2016: Fig. 16:18, Bottom.
Tel Burna 1: Shai et al. 2014: 129–135, Fig. 5, Taf. 14.
Deir el-Balaḥ 146: Brandl 2010a: 214–215, No. 5, Fig. 18.2:2, Photo 18.2:2.
Tel Eton 14: Faust and Eshel 2012.
Gath (Tell eṣ-Ṣafi) 65: Münger 2018a: 72, Fig. 1.1, 2.
Gezer 702: Macalister 1912: I 127, No. 8, II 314, III Pl. 35:8.
Gezer 713: Macalister 1912: I 129, No. 34, II 314, III Pl. 31:18.
Gezer 714: Macalister 1912: I 129, No. 30, II 314, III Pl. 35:31.
Gezer 722: Seger 2013: 170, No. 322, Pl. 11:26.
Gibeon 62: Pritchard 1963: Fig. 71:7.
Hebron 18: Vainstub 2017: 395–398, Fig. 13.1.
Ḥorvat Zelef 1: Keel and Münger 2011: No. 1.
Ḥorvat Zelef 3: Keel and Münger 2011: No. 3.
Ḥorvat Zelef 4: Keel and Münger 2011: No. 4.
Ḥorvat Zelef 9: Keel and Münger 2011: No. 9.
Irbid 9: Al-Shalabi, Bürge and Fischer 2017: 479–480, Fig. 10:2.
Jebel Qurunṭul 1: Abeles and Ben-Tor 2002: 132, Fig. 7.
Jericho 600: Kirkbride 1965: 602, Fig. 284:4.
Jericho 607: Kirkbride 1965: 626, Fig. 294:19.
Jericho 613: Kirkbride 1965: 645, Fig. 300:5.
Jericho 615: Kirkbride 1965: 646, Fig. 300:16.
Jericho 618: Halayqa 2019: 53–54, No. 1.
Jericho 619: Halayqa 2019: 53, 55, No. 2.
Jerusalem 522: Tushingham 1985a: Pl. 69:13.
Jerusalem 523: Vaughn 1999: 203, No. XVI.55.
Jerusalem 524: Vaughn 1999: 216, No. 234.
Jerusalem 525: Ben-Ami and Tchekhanovets 2010.
Jerusalem 531: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 308–309, No. B5, Fig. 6.5.
Jerusalem 533: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 309–310, B7, Fig. 6.7.
Jerusalem 534: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 310–311, No. B8, Fig. 6.8.
Jerusalem 540: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 316–317, No. B15, Fig. 6.15.
Jerusalem 541: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 317–318, No. B16, Fig. 6.16.
Jerusalem 584: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2015: 336–337, No. B59, Fig. 6.59.
Jerusalem 590: Ben-Ami and Misgav 2016: 105*, 106*, Fig. 2.
Jerusalem 593: Ornan, Weksler-Bdolah and Sass 2019: 67–72, Fig. 2.
Jerusalem 594: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 256–257, 258–259, No. B2.
Jerusalem 597: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 260–261, No. B5.
Jerusalem 600: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 256–257, 262–263, No. B8.
Jerusalem 602: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 265–266, No. B11.
Jerusalem 603: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 266–268, No. B12.
Jerusalem 607: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 271, No. B17.
Jerusalem 610: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 273, No. B20.
Jerusalem 613: Mazar and Livyatan Ben-Arie 2018: 274–275, No. B23.
Jerusalem 618: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 163–165, Fig. 5.
Jerusalem 621: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 166–167, No. 3, Fig. 8.
Jerusalem 624: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 168, No. 6, Fig. 11.

Jerusalem 625: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 168–169, No. 7, Fig. 12.
Jerusalem 627: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 170, No. 9, Fig. 14.
Jerusalem 629: Mendel-Geberovich, Chalaf and Uziel 2020: 171–172, No.11, Fig. 16.
Jerusalem 632: Vukosavović and Chalaf 2020: 37*–38*, Fig. 2.
Jerusalem 633: Vukosavović and Chalaf 2020: 38*–39*, Fig. 4.
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Tel Kinrot 30: Münger 2007: 90–91, No. 5, Fig. 5, Pl. 17:5.
Tel Malḥata 3: Ziffer 2015: 517, Fig. 6.3.
Tel Malḥata 4: Ziffer 2015: 518, Fig. 6.4.
Tel Malḥata 9: Ziffer 2015: 519, Fig. 6.9:2.
Manaḥat 5: Milevski 1998: 94, Fig. 8.1:2.
Maresha 1: Avigad and Sass 1997: 258, No. 700B and 700C.
Tel Masos 1: Fritz and Kempinski 1983: 102–105, Pl. 107:C, 170:2.
Tel Masos 3: Fritz and Kempinski 1983: 10, 96–97, Pl. 105:2, 172:1.
Megiddo 10: Schumacher 1908: 73, Pl. 18:d.
Megiddo 11: Schumacher 1908: 73, Pl. 18:e.
Megiddo 13: Schumacher 1908: 84, Pl. 26:o.
Megiddo 14: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:1 (first row, first on the left), Pl. 27:g.
Megiddo 15: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:2 (first row, second from left), Pl. 28:h.
Megiddo 22: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:9 (second row, third from left).
Megiddo 24: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:11 (second row, fifth from left), possibly also Pl. 28:h.
Megiddo 26: Schumacher 1908: 86.89, Abb. 124 (third row, second piece from the left), Taf. 27,f.
Megiddo 32: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:19, 89.
Megiddo 35: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:22 (fourth row, fourth from left), 89, Pl. 28:h.
Megiddo 37: Schumacher 1908: 86, Fig. 124:22 (fourth row, sixth from left), 89, possibly Pl. 28:h.
Megiddo 44: Schumacher 1908: 90, Pl. 28:p.
Megiddo 45: Schumacher 1908: 99, Fig. 147.
Megiddo 46: Schumacher 1908: 99, Fig. 148, 100–101.
Megiddo 55: Schumacher 1908: 137, 139, Fig. 208:b.
Megiddo 59: Schumacher 1908: 142, Fig. 212:a–b.
Megiddo 60: Schumacher 1908: 106, Fig. 164, 149, Pl. 48:c.
Megiddo 63: Keel 1995: § 728.
Megiddo 64: Keel 1994: 14–15, n. 10, Pl. 11:25.
Megiddo 65: Keel 1994: 26, n. 14, Pl. 11:27.
Megiddo 67: Schumacher 1908: Pl. 28:h(?).
Megiddo 74: Lalkin 2008: No. 1086.
Megiddo 79: Schumacher 1908: Pl. 28:h(?).
Megiddo 86: Keel 1994: 34, Pl. 11:30.
Megiddo 87: unpublished.
Megiddo 97: Guy 1938: Pl. 100:4.
Megiddo 98: Guy 1938: 40, Pl. 100:5.
Megiddo 99: Guy 1938: Pl. 100:6.
Megiddo 101: Guy 1938: Pl. 100:8.
Megiddo 106: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:4.
Megiddo 107: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:5.
Megiddo 108: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:6.
Megiddo 110: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:8.
Megiddo 115: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:13.
Megiddo 116: Guy 1938: Pl. 105:14.
Megiddo 118: Guy 1938: Pl. 106:2.
Megiddo 120: Guy 1938: Pl. 106:4.
Megiddo 123: Guy 1938: Pl. 106:7.
Megiddo 127: Guy 1938: Pl. 106:11.
Megiddo 128: Guy 1938: Pl. 106:12.
Megiddo 130: Guy 1938: 172–173, Pl. 106:14.
Megiddo 132: Guy 1938: 172–173, Fig. 176:3, Pl. 107:19.
Megiddo 142: Guy 1938: Pl. 116:8.
Megiddo 149: Guy 1938: Pl. 131:5.
Megiddo 154: Guy 1938: Pl. 131:10.
Megiddo 155: Guy 1938: Pl. 131:11.
Megiddo 157: Guy 1938: Pl. 131:13.
Megiddo 158: Guy 1938: Pl. 131:14.
Megiddo 163: Guy 1938: Pl. 137:5.
Megiddo 164: Guy 1938: Pl. 137:6.
Megiddo 169: Guy 1938: Pl. 138:14.
Megiddo 180: Guy 1938: Pl. 165:6.
Megiddo 181: Guy 1938: 172–174, No.13, Pl. 165:7.
Megiddo 185: Guy 1938: 185–186, Pl. 165:11.
Megiddo 187: Guy 1938: 173, Pl. 176:1.
Megiddo 190: Guy 1938: Pl. 176:5.
Megiddo 191: Guy 1938: 186, Pl. 176:6.
Megiddo 192: Guy 1938: Pl. 176:7.
Megiddo 196: Rowe 1936: No. 531.
Megiddo 199: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:2.
Megiddo 201: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:4.
Megiddo 202: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:5.
Megiddo 203: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:6.
Megiddo 204: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:7.
Megiddo 207: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:10.
Megiddo 209: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 67/68:12.
Megiddo 213: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 67/68:16.
Megiddo 216: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 110, Pl. 67/68:19.
Megiddo 217: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 110, Pl. 67/68:20.
Megiddo 218: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 113, Pl. 67/68:21.
Megiddo 221: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 112, Pl. 67/68:24.
Megiddo 229: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 119, Pl. 67/68:32.
Megiddo 231: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 67/68:34.
Megiddo 235: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 123, Pl. 67/68:38.
Megiddo 237: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 150, Pl. 67/68:40.
Megiddo 241: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 67/68:44.
Megiddo 242: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 132, Pl. 67/68:45.
Megiddo 244: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 67/68:47.
Megiddo 246: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 67/68:49.
Megiddo 247: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 133, Pl. 67/68:50.
Megiddo 253: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 149, Pl. 67/68:56.
Megiddo 254: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 123, Pl. 69/70:1.
Megiddo 259: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 128, Pl. 69/70:6.
Megiddo 265: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 148, Pl. 69/70:12.
Megiddo 266: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 148, Pl. 69/70:13.
Megiddo 267: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 148, Pl. 69/70:14.
Megiddo 268: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 148, Pl. 69/70:15.
Megiddo 279: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 142, Pl. 69/70:25.
Megiddo 281: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 146, Pl. 69/70:27.
Megiddo 282: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 143, Pl. 69/70:28.
Megiddo 283: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 143, Pl. 69/70:29.
Megiddo 284: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 144, Pl. 69/70:30.
Megiddo 286: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 144, Pl. 69/70:32.
Megiddo 290: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 158, Pl. 69:36, 70:35.
Megiddo 295: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:41.

Megiddo 297: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:43.
Megiddo 298: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:44.
Megiddo 299: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:45.
Megiddo 300: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:46.
Megiddo 301: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:47.
Megiddo 302: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 157, Pl. 69/70:48.
Megiddo 312: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 159, Pl. 69/71:58.
Megiddo 316: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 158, Pl. 69/71:62.
Megiddo 321: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 158, Pl. 69/71:67.
Megiddo 323: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 158, Pl. 69/71:69.
Megiddo 337: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 111, Pl. 72:6.
Megiddo 339: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 111, Pl. 72:8.
Megiddo 342: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 115, Pl. 72:11.
Megiddo 343: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 109, Pl. 72:12.
Megiddo 349: Lamon and Shipton 1939: Pl. 73:6.
Megiddo 351: Lamon and Shipton 1939: 110, Pl. 73:8.
Megiddo 361: Loud 1948: 174, Pl. 149/154:1.
Megiddo 362: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/154:2.
Megiddo 370: Loud 1948: 165, Pl. 149/154:10.
Megiddo 376: Loud 1948: 172, Pl. 149/154:16.
Megiddo 378: Loud 1948: 174, Pl. 149/154:18.
Megiddo 379: Loud 1948: 174, Pl. 149/154:19.
Megiddo 387: Loud 1948: 172, Pl. 149/154:27.
Megiddo 389: Loud 1948: 174, Pl. 149/154:29.
Megiddo 395: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/154:35.
Megiddo 396: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/154:36.
Megiddo 398: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/154:38.
Megiddo 401: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/155:41.
Megiddo 402: Loud 1948: 181, Pl. 149/155:42.
Megiddo 404: Loud 1948: Pl. 149/155:44.
Megiddo 407: Loud 1948: 185, Pl. 149/155:47.
Megiddo 411: Loud 1948: 188, Pl. 149/155:51.
Megiddo 414: Loud 1948: 188, Pl. 149/155:54.
Megiddo 415: Loud 1948: 188, Pl. 149/155:55.
Megiddo 417: Loud 1948: 174, Pl. 149/155:57.
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Tel Baṭash (Timnah) 8: Brandl 2006b: 218–219, Fig. 23.
Tel Baṭash (Timnah) 10: Brandl 2006b: 221–222, Fig. 25.
Tel Baṭash (Timnah) 11: Brandl 2006b: 222–223, Fig. 26.
Tel Baṭash (Timnah) 14: Brandl 2006b: 225–227, Fig. 29.
Tzur Natan 5: Keel 2013a: 31, Fig. 5.1:5.
Tell ʿUbeidiya 1: Münger 2022: 48, n. 20.
Umm Tuba 1: Seligman 2009: 10.
Umm Tuba 2: Seligman 2009: 10.
Ḥorvat ʿUza (S) 4: Ziffer 2007: 199, Fig. 7.2.1.
Wadi Fidan (Site 4) 2: Münger and Levy 2014: 744–745, Fig. 11.3.
Yiftaḥel 17: David 2019a: 67.
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