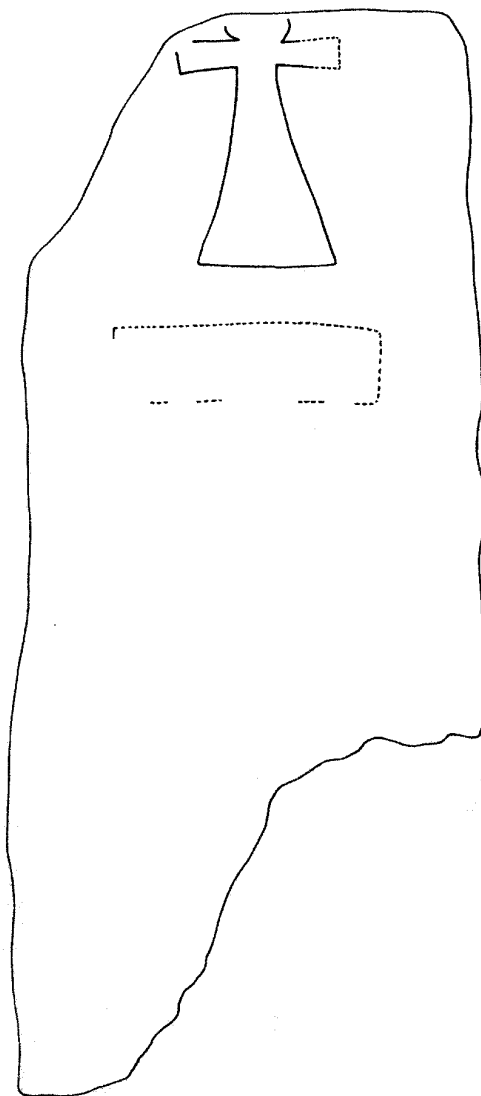


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978-0-521-84290-7 — Stelae from Egypt and Nubia in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, c.3000 BC–AD 1150
Geoffrey Thorndike Martin, S. J. Clackson, S. G. J. Quirke, J. D. Ray, J. Reynolds, J. van der Vliet, G. J. van Gelder
Excerpt
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Egyptian catalogue
Hieroglyphic
Hieratic
Demotic



1 Stela, originally round-topped

Acc. No. E.257.1900

Date: Dynasty I

Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa'ab, subsidiary grave W34 of the tomb of Djet (Z of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund. Marked W34 on back.

Material: Limestone

Dimensions: H. 40.5 cm. W. 17.3 cm. D. 4.8 cm.

Description: Middle and lower parts extremely weatherworn and pitted, portion of base broken away. Back smoothly dressed.

Text: Traces survive of the end of the right 'bar' of the *ankh* sign, which is in raised relief. The rectangular sign beneath was apparently sunk, but this may be due to the effects of weathering. The presence of another sign below \equiv is uncertain. The \equiv is in fact somewhat problematic, and as Kaplony remarks (see below), Petrie's interpretation as $\overline{\text{v}}$ cannot be sustained. Although much weatherworn, the sign was clearly elongated and rectangular, as in my copy. A possible reading of the personal name is therefore 'nh-š.

Bibliography: PM V, 83; Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [12], XXXIII [12]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 180, 456; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 232 [Quelle 889].

2 Fragment of a stela

Acc. No. E.254.1900

Date: Dynasty I



Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa'ab, subsidiary grave of the tomb of Djed (Z of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund. Marked Z.

Material: Limestone

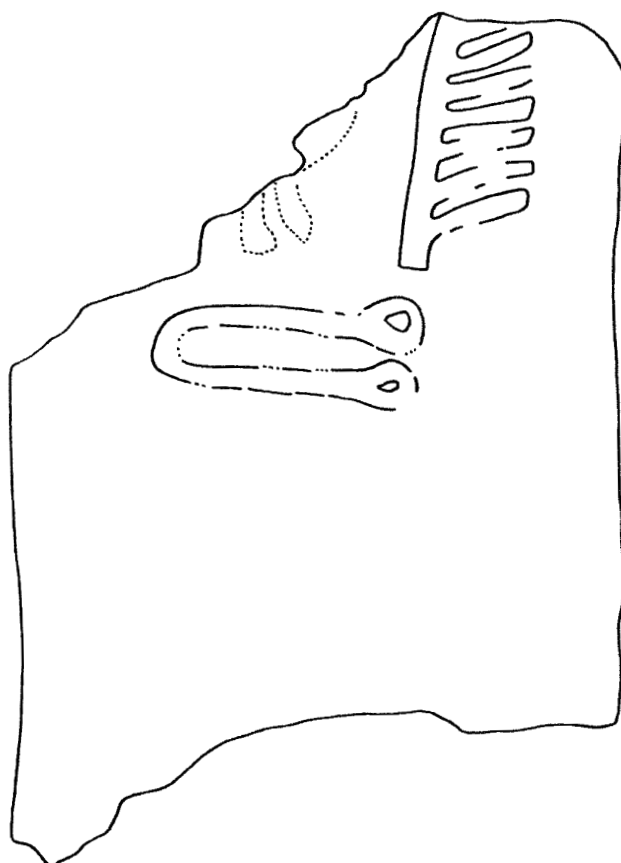
Dimensions: H. 22.8 cm. W. 16.0 cm. D. 3.0 cm.

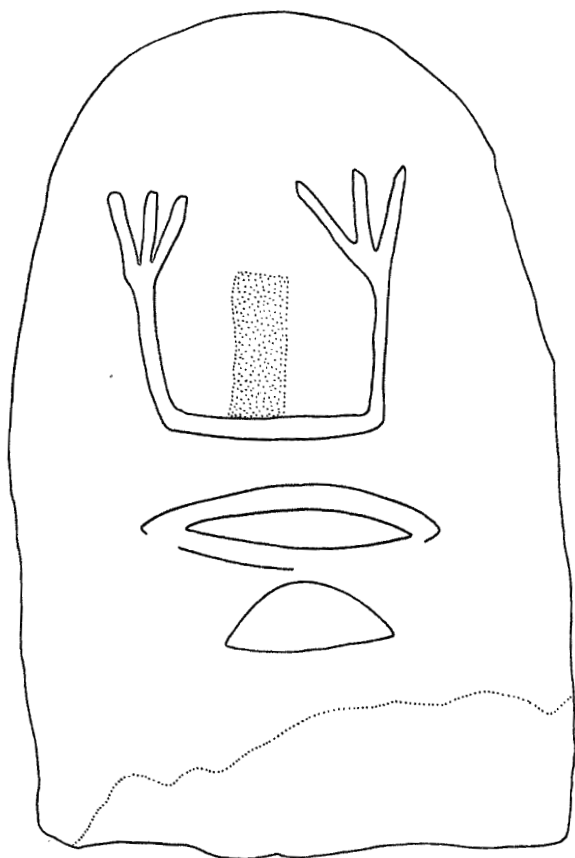
Description: Surface smoothly worked, pebble inclusions.

Edges slightly chamfered or tapered, back dressed.

Text: Bold raised relief. Some deliberate chipped damage to signs is possible. Kaplony (see below) reads the owner's name as Iwt (?), which is not improbable although it involves accepting Petrie's interpretation of the second sign as . Kahl 531 (see below) transliterates the name as iwč (?). Only the badly abraded legs of the putative quail chick  survive, though it is possible that the break in the stone above follows the original outline of the bird's breast.

Bibliography: PM V, 83; Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [6], XXXIII [6]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 179, 415; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 236 [Quelle 953], 531, 767.





3 Fragment of round-topped stela

Acc. No. E.256.1900

Date: Dynasty I

Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa'ab, subsidiary grave of the tomb of Djed (Z of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund. Marked Z in pencil on upper surface.

Material: Limestone

Dimensions: H. 29.2 cm. W. 19.3 cm. D. 5.0 cm.

Description: Surface slightly convex, rough work. Surface chipped, edges chamfered or tapered, base probably broken off. Some pebble inclusions. Back rough.

Text: The *ka*-sign is incised. The area between the raised arms of the sign is partly chipped (dotted in the drawing), but there is no evidence for another sign here. The interior of the \Rightarrow is in raised relief, the lower part is incompletely carved. The \simeq is in raised relief. The bottom of the stela is damaged, but probably no sign was present in that area.

Kaplony (see below) does not read a name on this stela. The three signs present no difficulty however, and there seems every reason to read the personal name, presumably female, as *K3rt*.

Bibliography: PM V, 83; Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [7], XXXIII [7]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 179; Müller-Karpe, *Handbuch der Vorgeschichte*, II, Tfl. 36 [17]; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 236 [Quelle 954].

4 Fragment of round-topped stela

Acc. No. E.253.1900



Date: Dynasty I

Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa'ab, tomb of Semerkhet (U of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund.

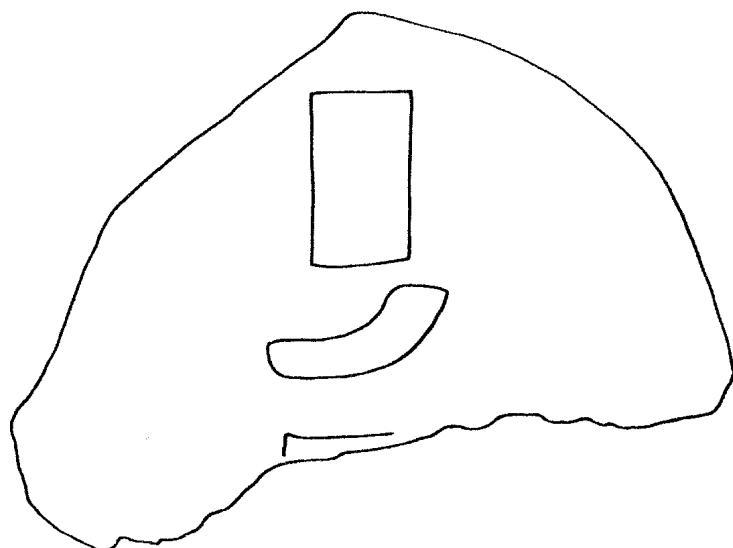
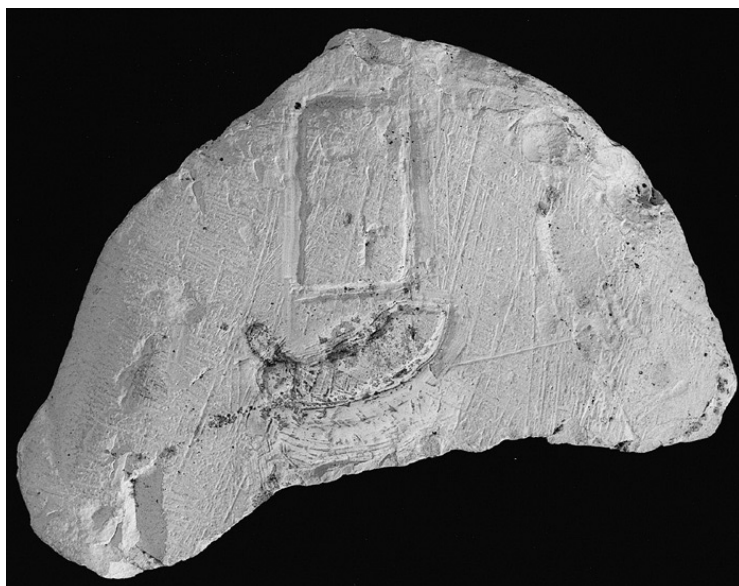
Material: Limestone

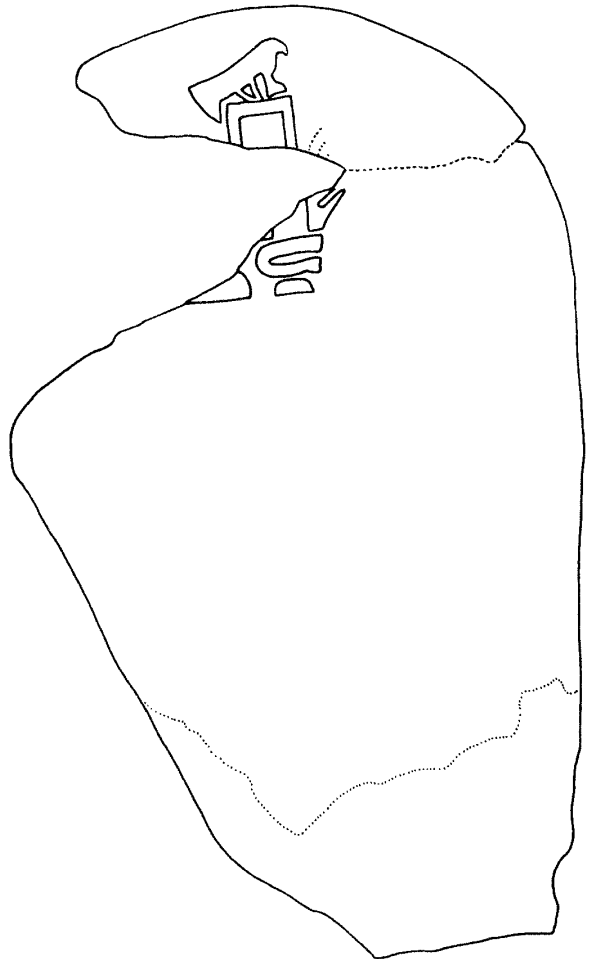
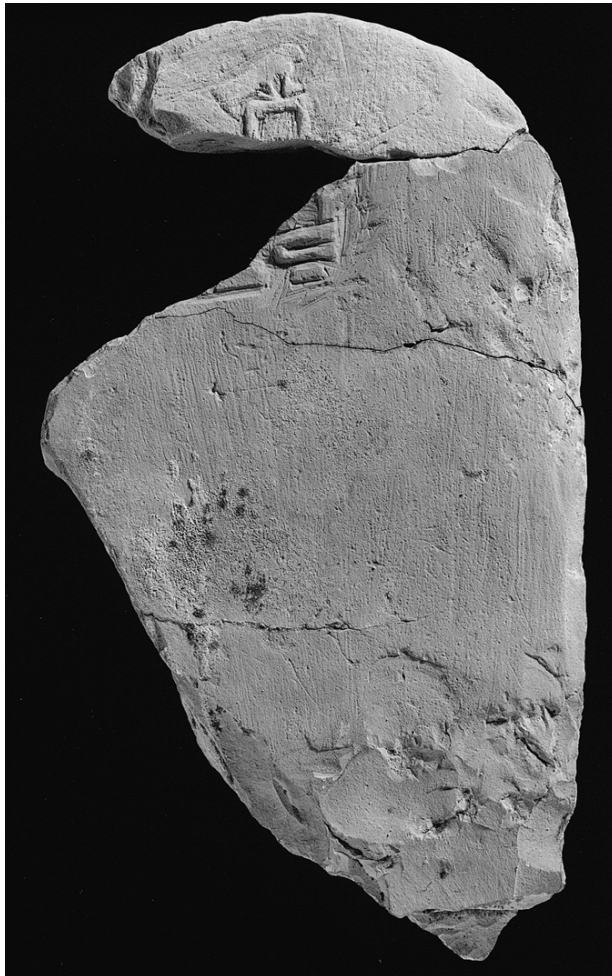
Dimensions: H. 12.3 cm. W. 17.2 cm. D. 3.0 cm

Description: Surface weatherworn. Sides chamfered or tapered, back roughly dressed.

Text: Raised relief. The presence of an intervening sign in the abraded area between the second and third signs is improbable. Kaplony (see below) does not attempt to interpret the personal name. Kahl, 738 reads ḥw.t nm.t (?), identifying the second sign as , cf. Kaplony, II, 1054 (1788). The first two signs are clear however, and give a probable reading *Pḥw* for the owner's name (cf. PN, I, 115, 13). The traces of the third sign could be the bookroll determinative .

Bibliography: PM V, 85; Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [27], XXXV [27]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 181; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 287 [Quelle 1680], 738.





5 Round-topped stela

Acc. No. E.255.1900

Date: Dynasty I

Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa'ab, tomb of Semerkhet (U of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund.

Material: Limestone

Dimensions: H. 36.5 cm. W. 20.2 cm. D. 6.0 cm.

Description: In two pieces, rejoined. Part of the base is perhaps lost. Surface smoothly dressed, edges and base chamfered or tapered, back roughly worked. There is an ancient hair-line crack below the text.

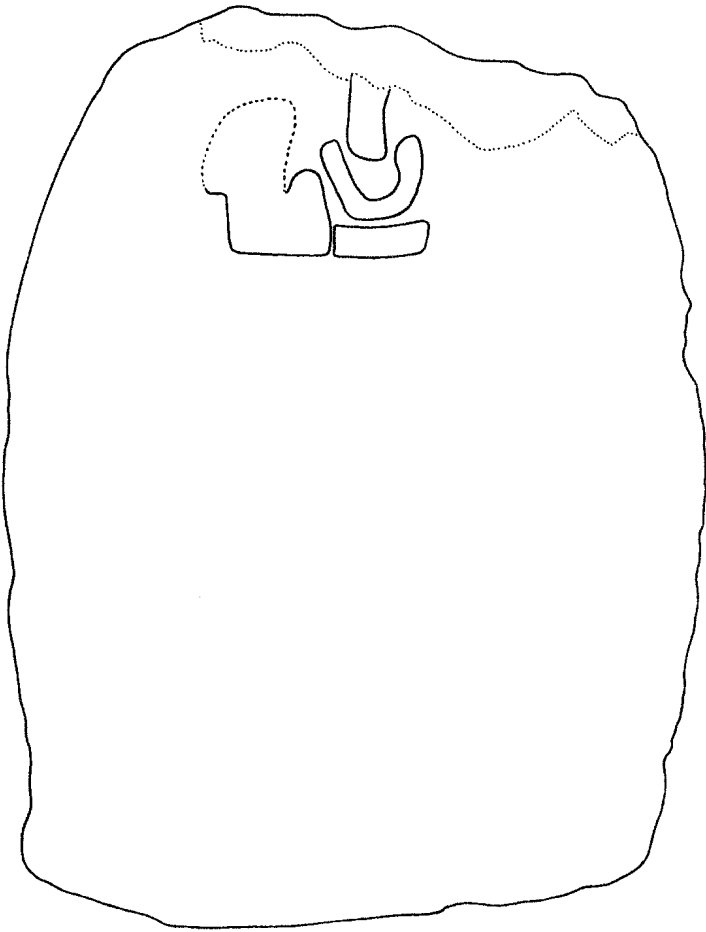
Text: Raised relief. The name of the stela owner is problematic, perhaps to be read 'I...tt, with traces of a female determinative to the left. Kaplony (see below) reads the name as Itt-Hr.... The group above the name is presumably a title.

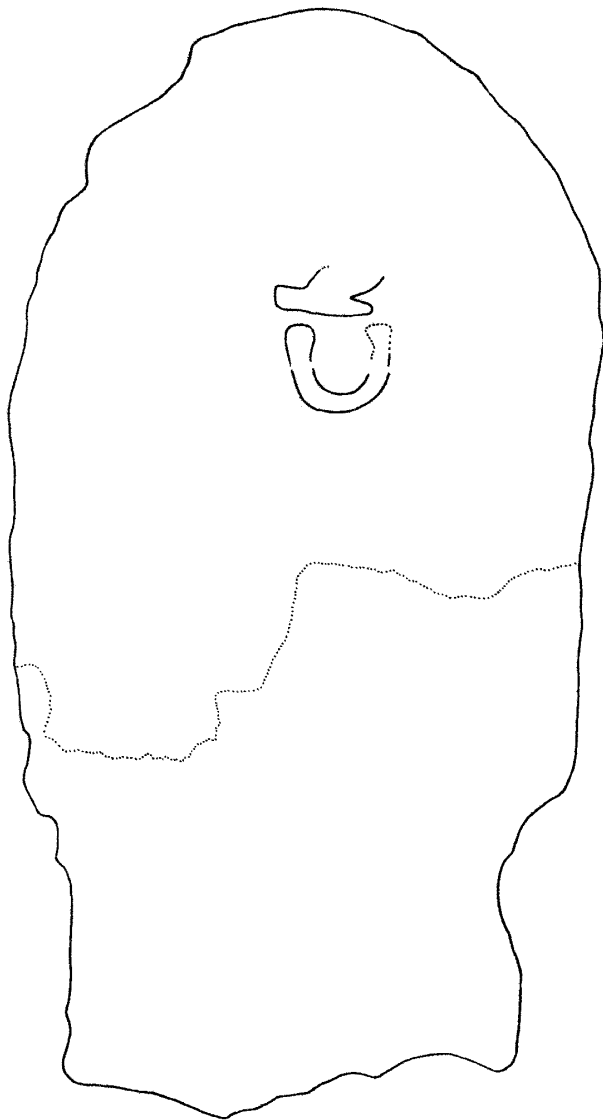
Bibliography: PM V, 85 (there said to be in Edinburgh); Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [34], XXXV [34]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 182, 441; Müller-Karpe, *Handbuch der Vorgeschichte*, II, Tfl. 36 [11]; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 287 [Quelle 1687].

6 Round-topped stela
Acc. No. E.274.1900

Date: Dynasty I
Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa‘ab, tomb of Semerkhet (U of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Material: Limestone
Dimensions: H. 30.8 cm. W. 23.3 cm. D. 6.5 cm.
Description: Surface weatherworn, pebble inclusion. Edges chamfered or tapered, back roughly worked.
Text: Raised relief. Petrie (see below) rendered the first sign as ꜥ, though he drew it as more regular than it is in actuality; it could in fact be ꜥ. Kaplony reads the personal name as ...-k3. The final sign is very slightly curved. The final sign is probably 𓂏 rather than 𓂏 even though the right side is very slightly curved. A female name 'Ik3š or Tk3š is a possibility.

Bibliography: PM V, 85 (there said to be in Edinburgh); Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [30], XXXV [30]; Vandier, *Manuel d'archéologie égyptienne*, I, 732, fig. 488 [30]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 181–2; Müller-Karpe, *Handbuch der Vorgeschichte*, II, Tfl. 36 [13]; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 287 [Quelle 1683].



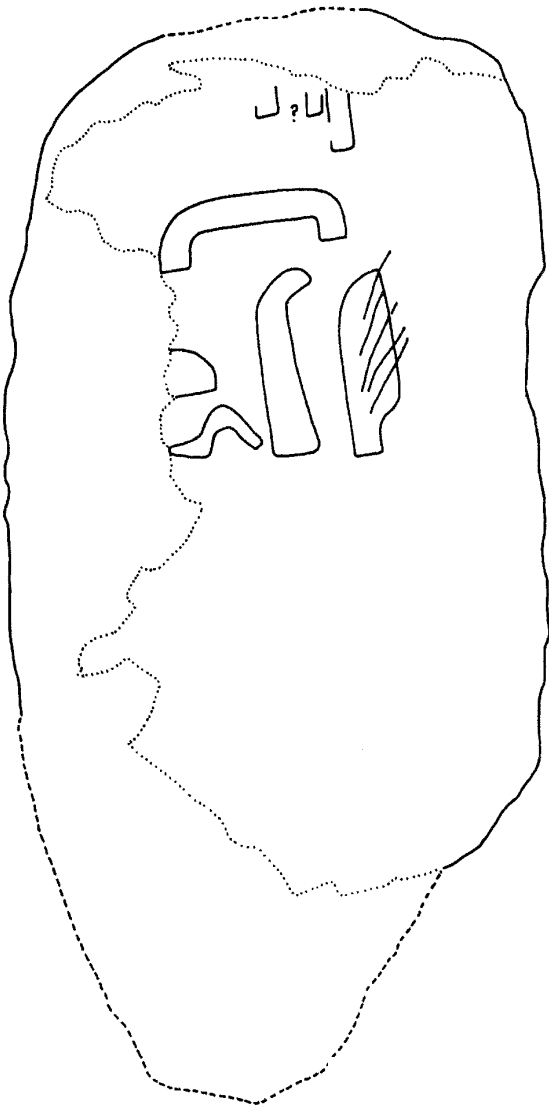
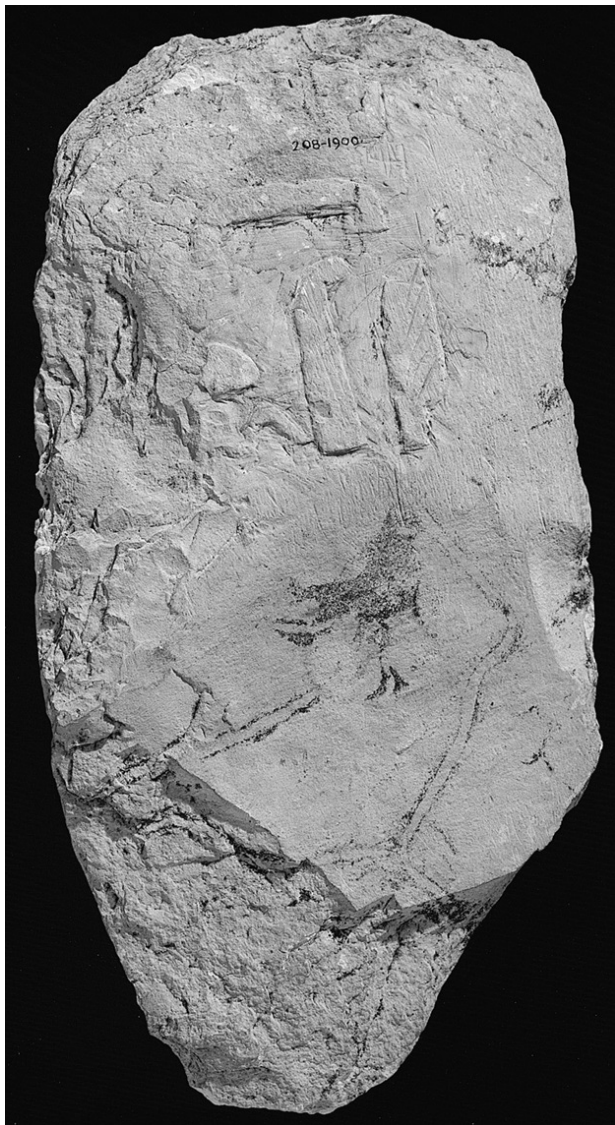


7 Round-topped stela
Acc. No. E.276.1900

Date: Dynasty I
Provenance: Abydos, Umm el Qa‘ab, tomb of Semerkhet (U of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund.
Material: Limestone
Dimensions: H. 44.0 cm. W. 23.0 cm. D. 5.5 cm.
Description: Part of the base is perhaps lost. Surface much weatherworn, especially on the upper part. Area above text badly abraded. Edges chamfered or tapered, as is probably the lower part. Back roughly dressed.

Text: Raised relief. Kaplony (see below) reads the personal name as Hmt-k3. The first sign, assuming that there was nothing in the weatherworn area above, is however doubtless the archaic image of a falcon (Gardiner, Sign-list G11). A tentative reading šm-k3 or (hm-k3, hm-k3) is also possible.

Bibliography: PM V, 85; Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [31], XXXV [31]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 182, 569; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 287 [Quelle 1684].

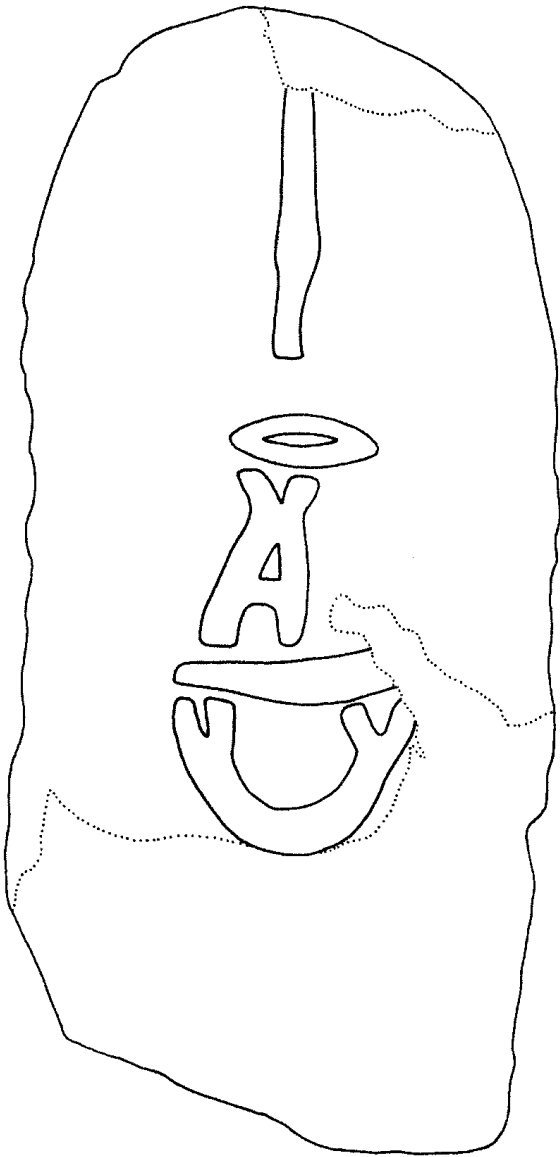


8 Round-topped stela
Acc. No. E.208.1900

Date: Dynasty I
Provenance: Abydos, Umm el-Qa‘ab, subsidiary grave 45 of the tomb of Semerkhet (U of Petrie) or Ka‘a (Q of Petrie). Presented in 1900 by the Egypt Exploration Fund. ‘Q or U’ scratched on the back of the stela.
Material: Limestone
Dimensions: H. 34.0 cm. W. 17.5 cm. D. 3.5 cm.
Description: Surface deliberately scraped down below the inscription to taper the stela. Much surface damage, especially on the left side and below. Part of base broken away. Back rough and friable.

Text: Raised relief. The traces of signs at the top are uncertain, although one could be ꜥ. Kaplony (see below) reads the owner’s name as Nj-stt (?), but the first sign of the name does not resemble the ꜥ sign. It is possible that the personal name is ꜥꜥ, ‘Itt, the writing of which seems clear, though the nature of the determinative is dubious, resembling the walking legs (Δ) rather than the ꜥ of Petrie’s drawing. The sign above the name would thus be part of a title, conceivably the ꜥꜥ determinative.

Bibliography: PM V, 85 (there said to be in Edinburgh); Petrie, *Royal Tombs of the First Dynasty*, I, pls. XXXI [45], XXXVI [45]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 183, 533; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 292 [Quelle 1766].



9 Round-topped stela
Acc. No. E.42.1926

Date: Dynasty I
Provenance: Abydos, Protodynastic cemetery west of the Shunet el-Zebib, tomb 442. Presented in 1926 by the British School of Archaeology in Egypt. Marked D 44 in pencil on back.
Material: Limestone
Dimensions: H. 30.2 cm. W. 14.0 cm. D. 3.5 cm.
Description: Surface weatherworn, lower part broken away. Back convex and rough.

Text: Raised relief. Kaplony (see below) reads the title as 'sqr-Beamter' and the name as Mrj-f-k3. The presence of the phonetic complement \Rightarrow argues in favour of the reading *hpr, controller* (or similar). The personal name presents no difficulty, and may be transliterated *Mr.f-k3*.

Bibliography: PM V, 55 (there said to be in Cairo); Petrie, *Tombs of the Courtiers*, pl. I [bottom left, 442]; Kaplony, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, I, 202, 493; Kahl, *Das System der ägyptischen Hieroglyphenschrift*, 237 [Quelle 970].