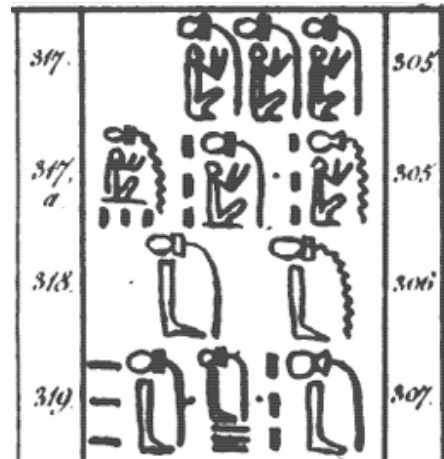


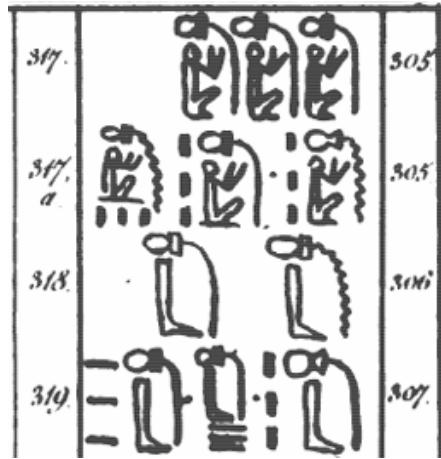
The emergence of during the mid 11th Dynasty

Philipp Seyr, MA
philipp.seyr@gmail.com
FNRS / Université de Liège
Conference Everlasting Variations
11.-13. June 2025

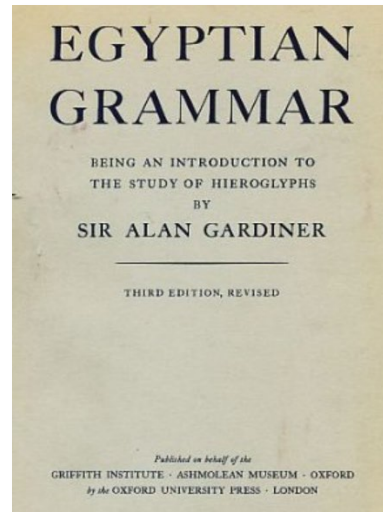
I Introduction



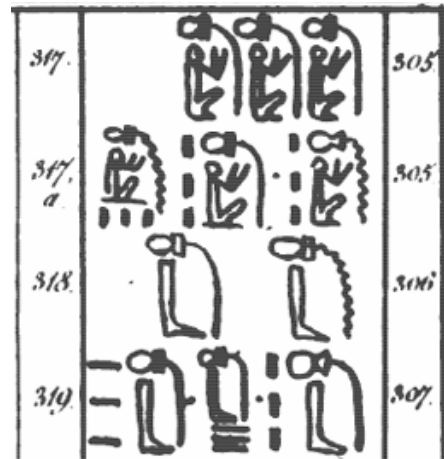
“306. ογνβ, ογδβ, prêtre ; variante du n.º 364”
 (Champollion 1824, 34; *sic* but meant is no. 304)



“306. ⲟϥⲏⲃ, ⲟϥⲁⲃ, prêtre ; variante du n.º 364”
(Champollion 1824, 34; *sic* but meant is no. 304)



“ combination of  D58 with a vase from which water flows (replaces earlier  A6)”
(Gardiner 1957, 485)



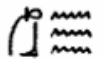
“306. ογнв, ογав, prêtre ; variante du n.º 364”
(Champollion 1824, 34; *sic* but meant is no. 304)

wclb  Priester. Seit A.R.
Kopt. ^Af. ογнв : ^E ογнв.

allgemeines Wort für Priester (der
alt auch beim Bagutachten
des Opferfleisches 13 und als
Arzt 14 tätig ist).

^a , ^m , ^p  ()
D. 18 auch ,  u. ä.
vereinzelt seit m :
,  u. ä.

Wb. II, 282

wclb  reinigen ; rein sein
vgl. auch clw.

Kopt. ^A ογоп.
Qual. ^A ογавб : ^E ογавб :
f. ογееб.

seit Pyn: 
Pyn.    u. ä.
a.R. ; seit.  seit D. 18 

Wb. II, 280

“It is generally assumed and rightly so, that this composite sign goes back to the Pyramid Texts of the Old Kingdom, but note that

(1) there the two signs are not united;

(2) they appear together in the writing of *wb* as  ; and

(3) other writings of the same word show variations such as  and . [...]

The use of  in inscriptions aboveground is first attested on Eleventh Dynasty stelae [...] in these cases the two elements are still slightly separated, but soon they were more often fused.”

(Fischer 1988, 54, sign D60; structured in paragraphs by Ph. Seyr)

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN CALLIGRAPHY

A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO
WRITING HIEROGLYPHS

By Henry George Fischer

Lila Acheson Wallace Research Curator in Egyptology, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

THIRD EDITION



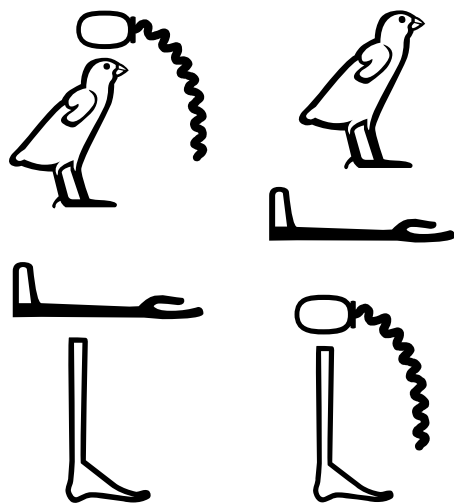
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



suppression of
human figure



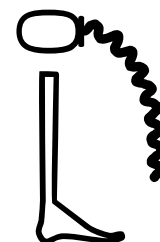
Pyramid Texts



autonomous use
as logogram



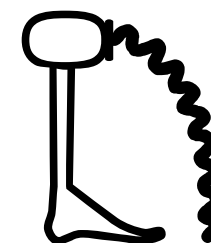
11th Dynasty



merge of
compounds



11th Dynasty



II The formal development of the semogram PURE from its first occurrences to the FIP



Ashmolean Museum E. 3918 (Garstang 1904, pl. 28)



UC "614" (Kaplony 1963, fig. 567)



0 1 cm
KO-KF 3460



EM99-34 (Köhler & Jones 2009, pl. 34)



EM99-19 (Köhler & Jones 2009, pl. 21)



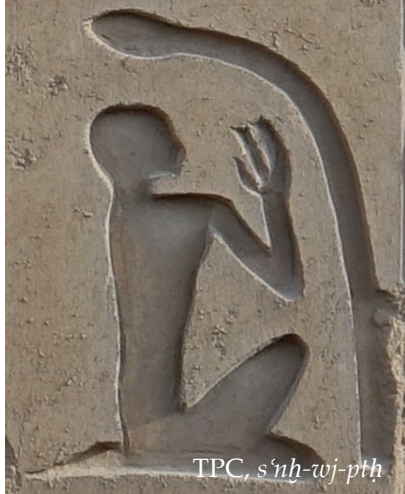
Domain 1R4/49, GEM



CG 57136 (Saqqara, mastaba B1)



False door of *šr.j*, EM Cairo (Saqqara, mastaba B3)



TPC, s'nh-wj-ptḥ



CG 1756



CG 1389

UPC, *hr.j-mr.w*UPC, *hr.j-mr.w*

Turin S. 1864



CG 1398



CG 56994

TPC, k^3 -pr

BM EA 682



CG 1484



CG 1447

11



CG 1414



Zürich RAG 4



CG 1740



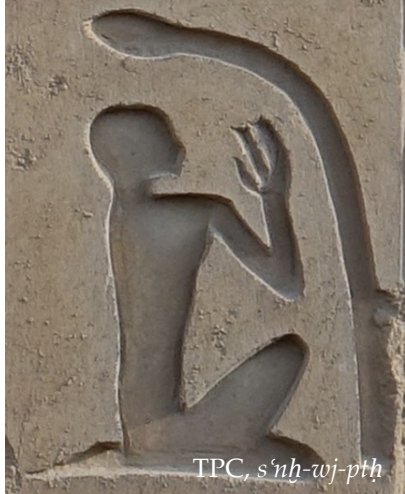
MRAH, *nfr-jr.t-n=f*



CG 1564



Tehna 13





ÄMUL 2560



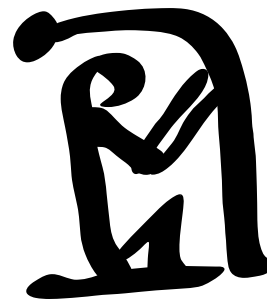
WH G 23



ÄM 17500



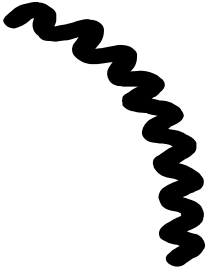
ÄMUL 1607



JE 67571



CG 1888

 + sign/group



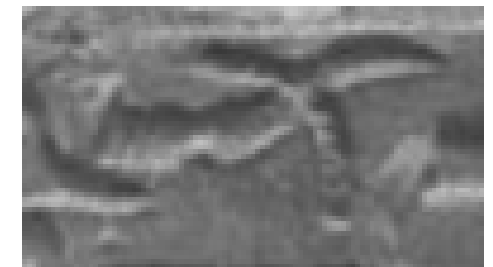
Domain 1R4/49, GEM



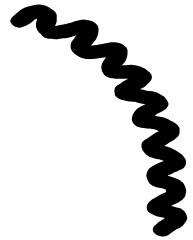
BM EA 32668 (www.britishmuseum.org)



PAHMA 6-19825 (hearstmuseum.berkeley.edu)



G7140 (giza.fas.harvard.edu)



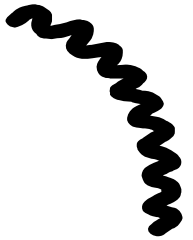
+



semo. *jdy* PERFUME



BM EA 32668 (www.britishmuseum.org)



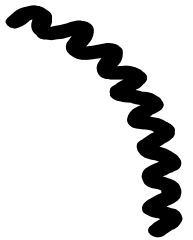
+



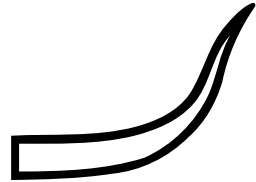
semo. *j'i* WASHING



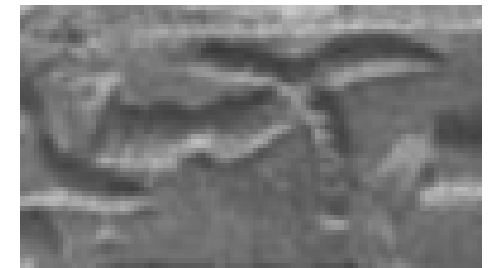
PAHMA 6-19825 (hearstmuseum.berkeley.edu)



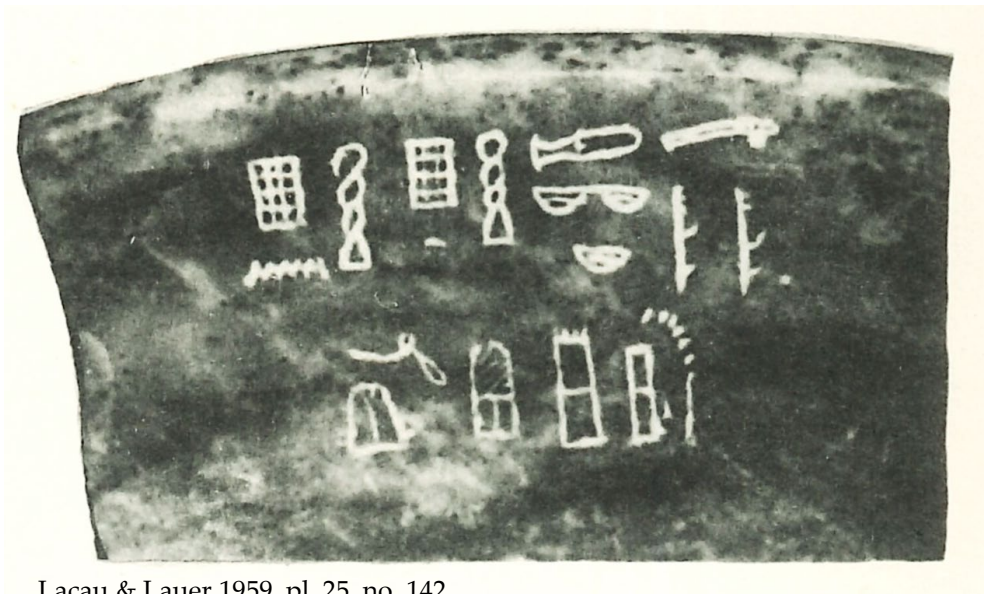
+



semo. *bw* PURITY



G7140 (giza.fas.harvard.edu)



Lacau & Lauer 1959, pl. 25, no. 142



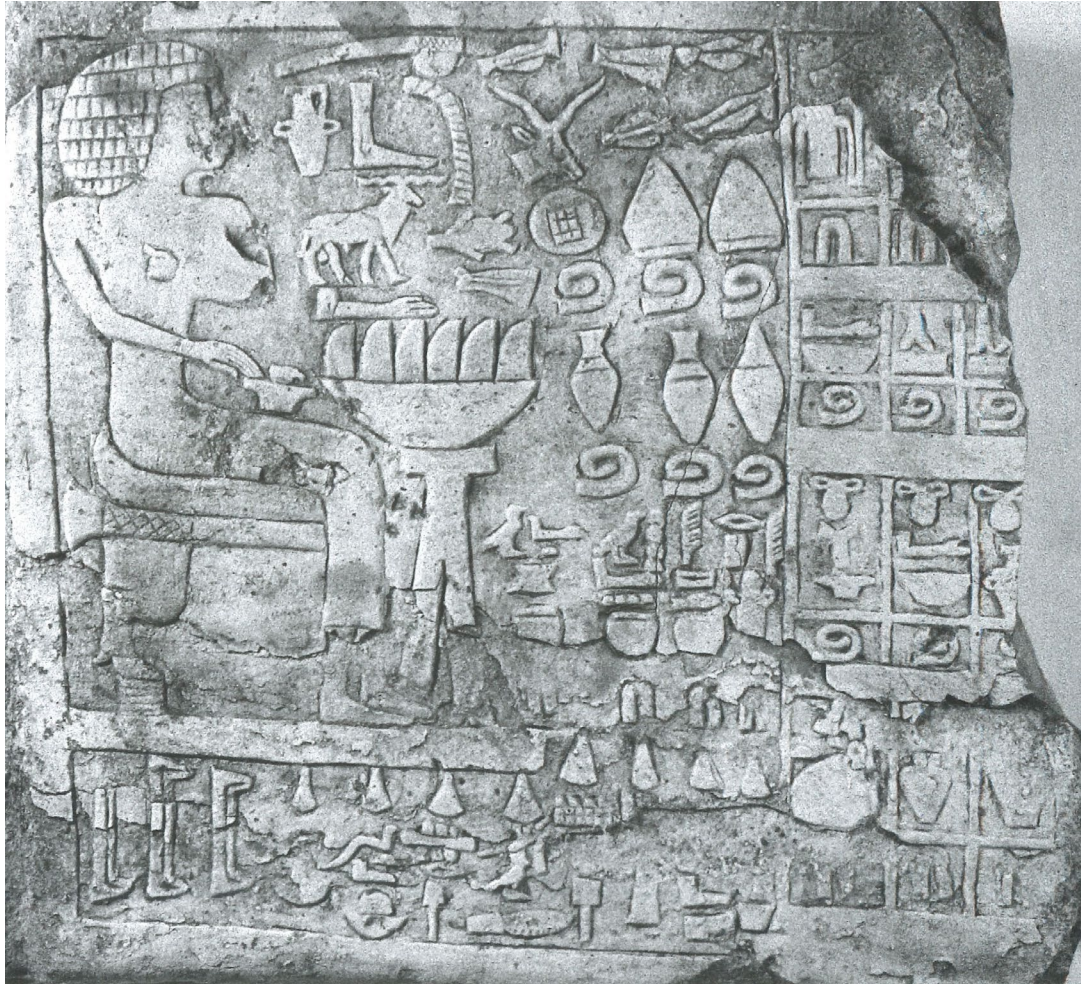
BM EA 35556 (Kahl 2009, pl. 1)



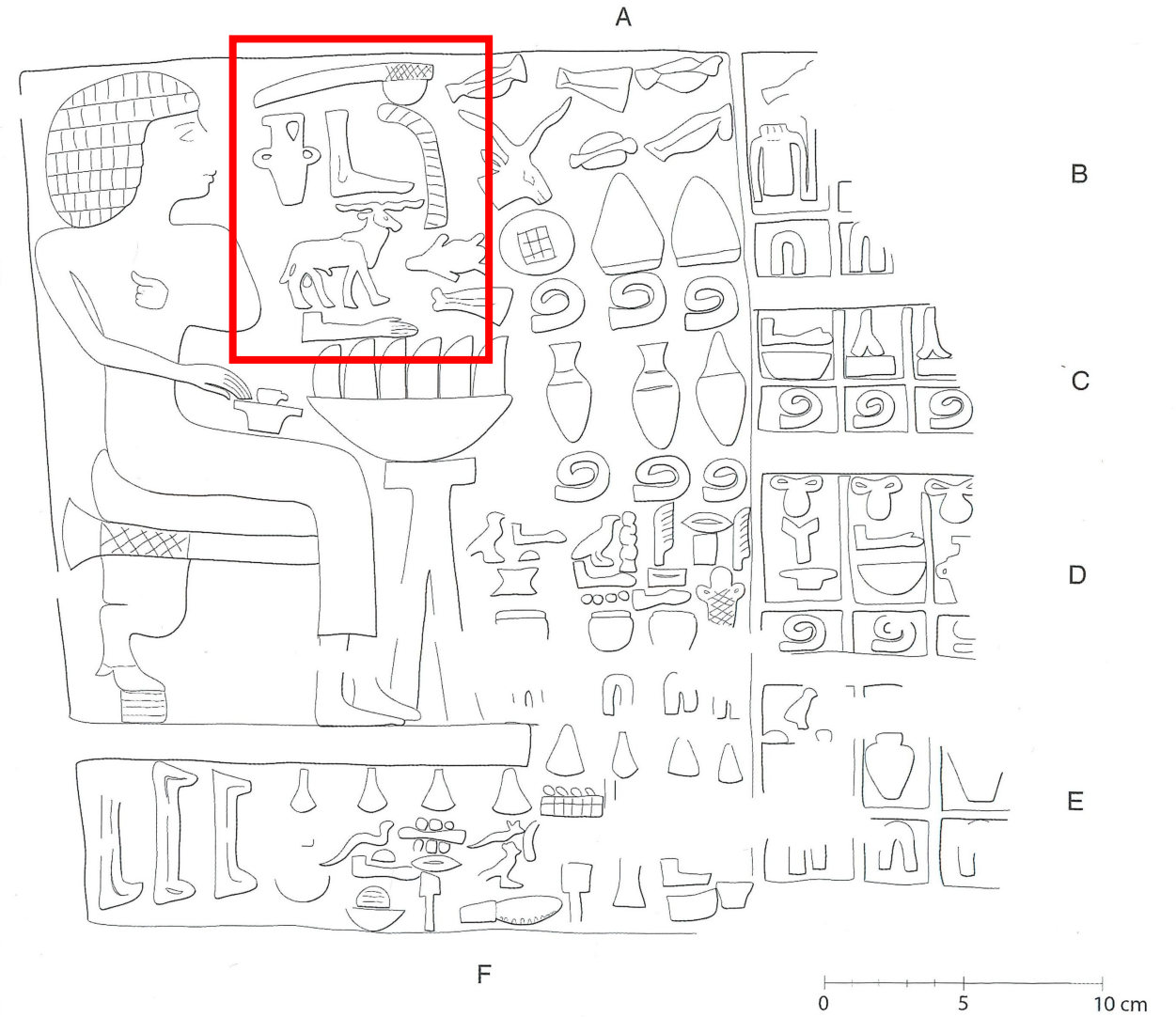
MRAH

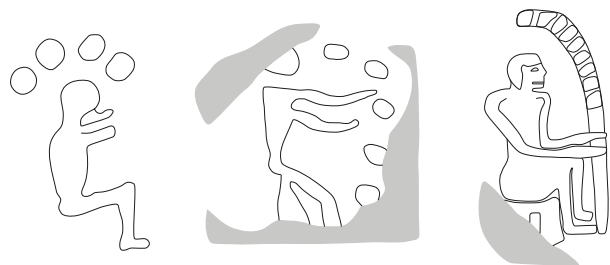


BM EA 35612 (Martin 2011, pl. 17, stela 55)



EM99-13 (Köhler & Jones 2009, 149 & pl. 15)

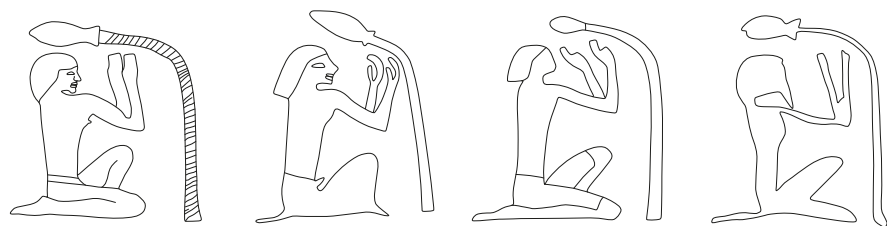


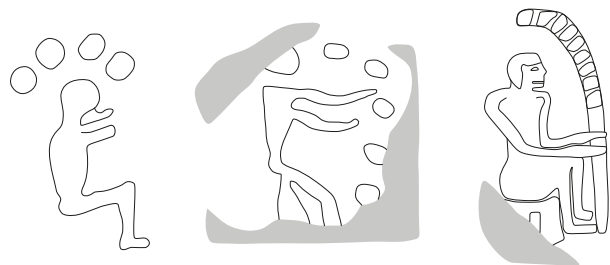


uniformisation
of feet posture



addition
of vessel

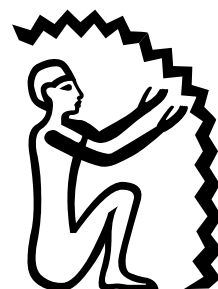
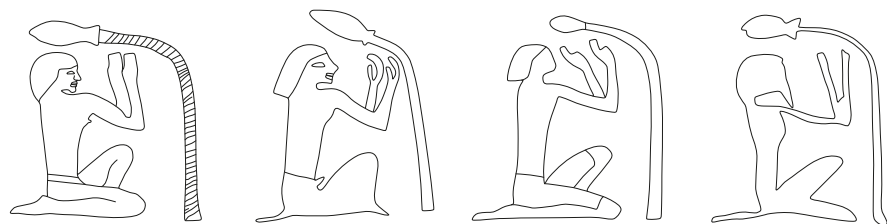


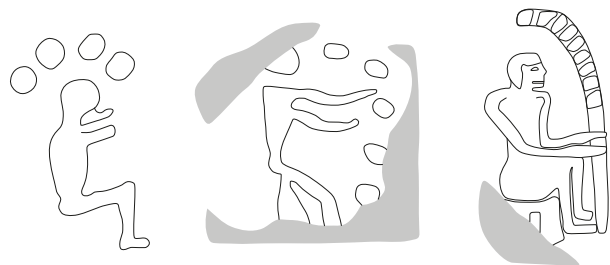


uniformisation
of feet posture



addition
of vessel

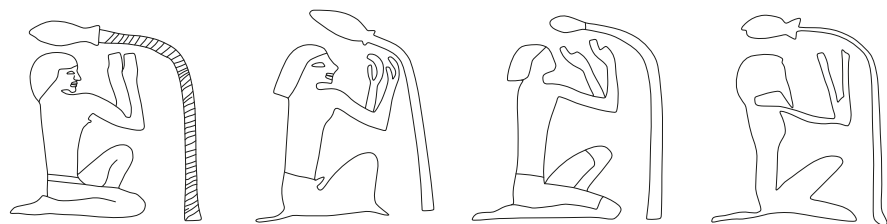




uniformisation
of feet posture



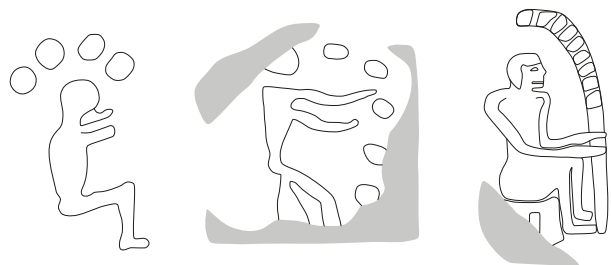
addition
of vessel



Goneim 1957, pl. 65B & 66



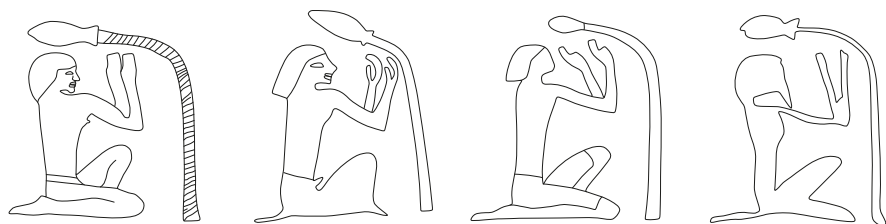
BM EA 1242 (www.britishmuseum.org)

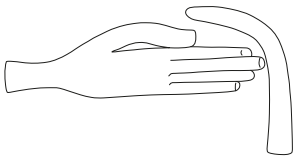
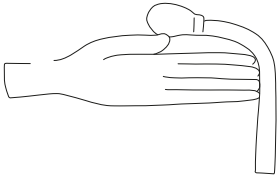
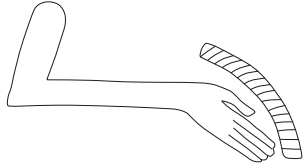
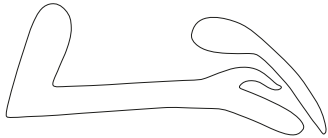
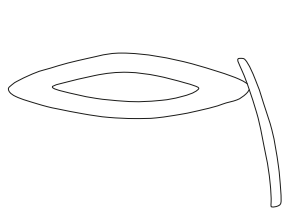
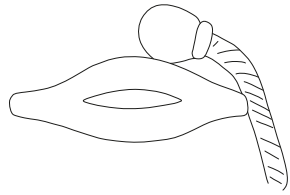
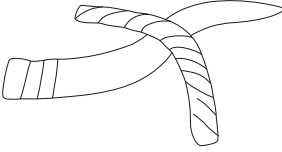
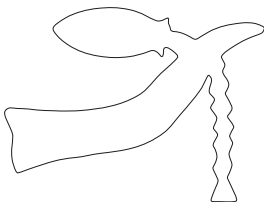


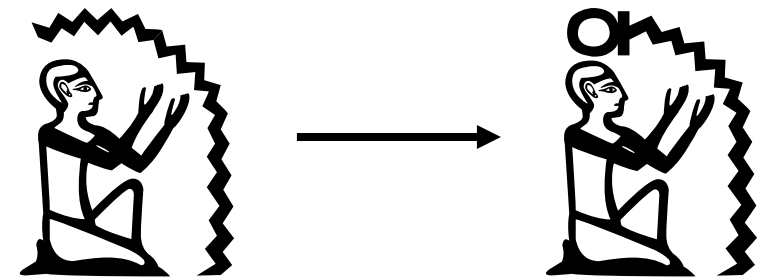
uniformisation
of feet posture



addition
of vessel



semo. <i>jdy</i> PERFUME		
semo. <i>j'i</i> WASHING		
logo. <i>bw-r'</i> BREAKFAST		
semo. <i>bw</i> PURITY		



for the signs see Beaux 297, fig. 8 & 299, fig. 9; Manuelian 2003, 192; *Pyr.* 789 (P); *Pyr.* 951 (M); Simpson 1978, fig. 32

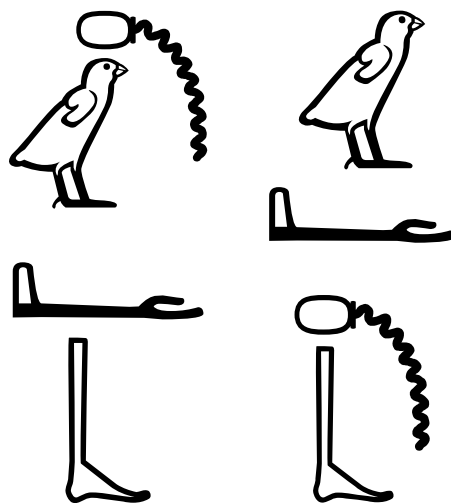
III The sign modifications in the PT



suppression of
human figure



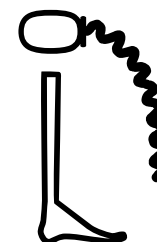
Pyramid Texts



autonomous use
as logogram



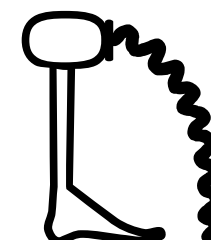
11th Dynasty



merge of
compounds



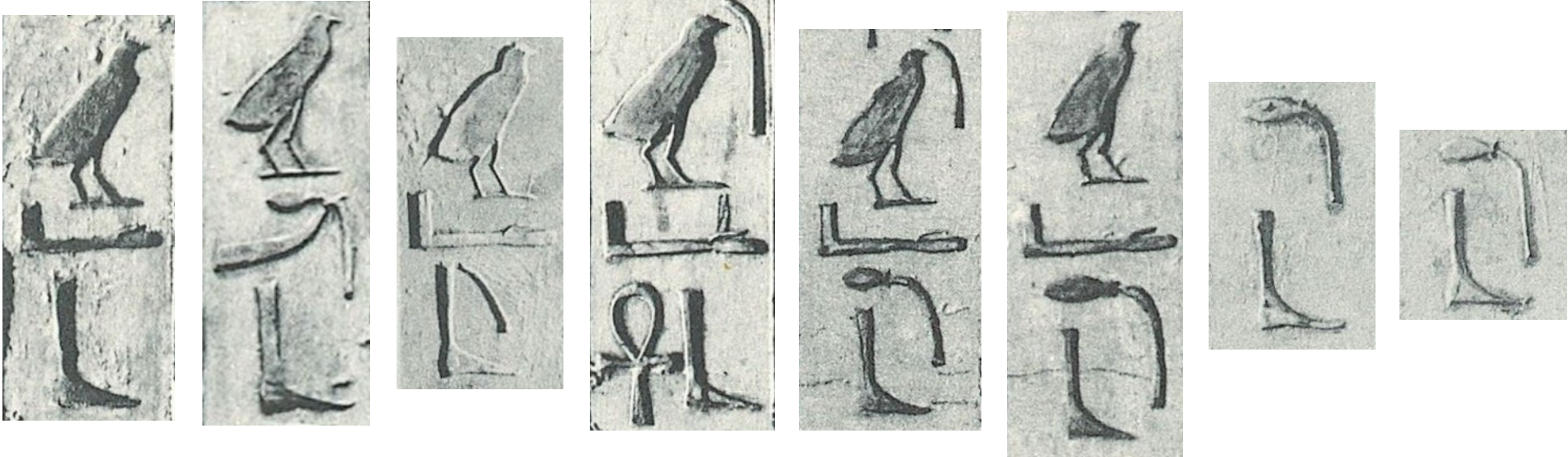
11th Dynasty



function

classifier/radicogram

logogram



attestations

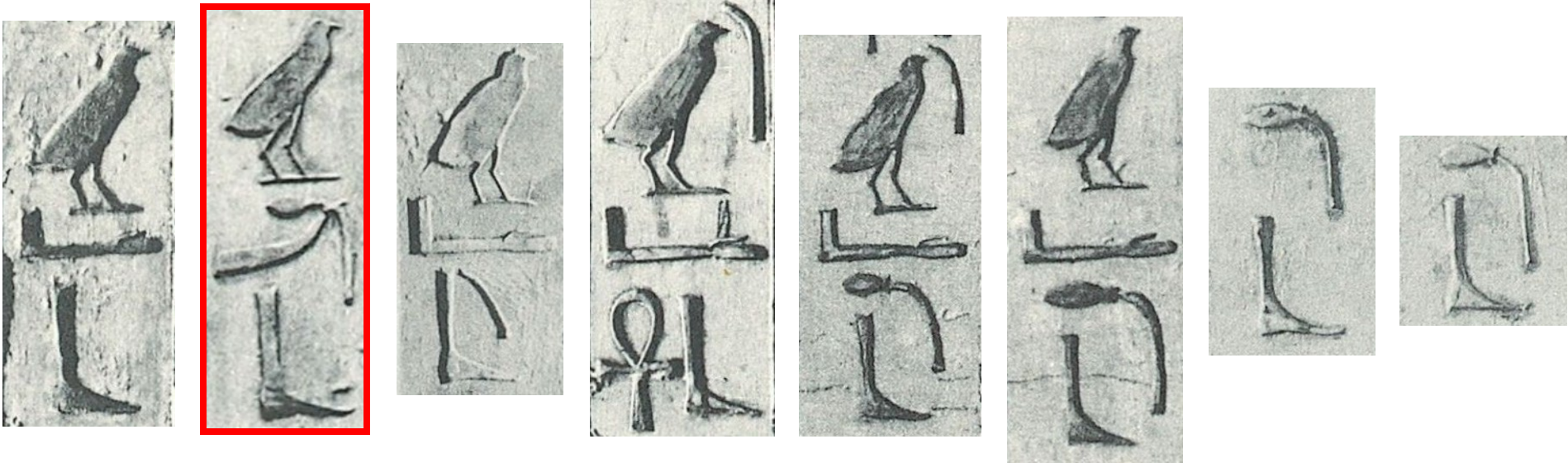
4 2 1 1 1 8 12

(*Pyr.* 151c; 138b; 151b; 473a; 471d; 275b; 275c; 127b (W); all photos of the PT (W) here in and in the following slides come from Piankoff 1968)

function

classifier/radicogram

logogram



attestations

4 2 1 1 1 8 12

(*Pyr.* 151c; 138b; 151b; 473a; 471d; 275b; 275c; 127b (W); all photos of the PT (W) here in and in the following slides come from Piankoff 1968)



w^b.n=k m jmn.tt

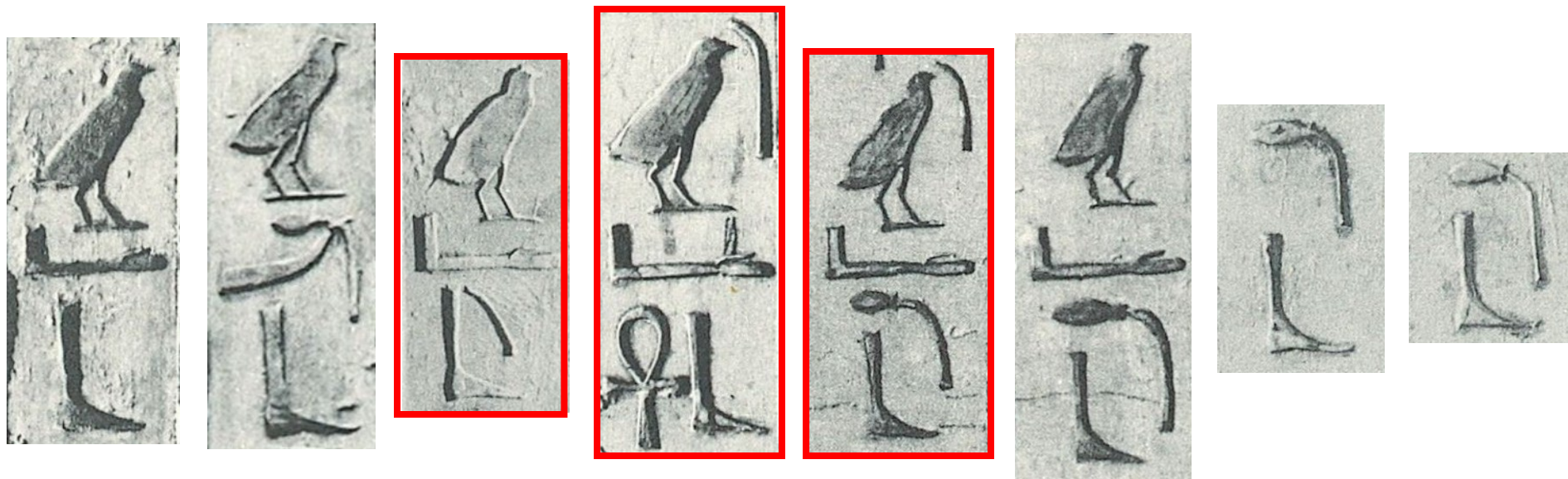
šzp.n=k ^b.w=k m ḥkꜣ-nd ḥr jt=k

“You **have cleaned yourself** in the Western Nome;
You have received **purity** in the Heqa-anedj Nome by your father.”

function

classifier/radicogram

logogram



attestations

4

2

1

1

1

8

12



Pyr. 138b (W)



Pyr. 151b (W)



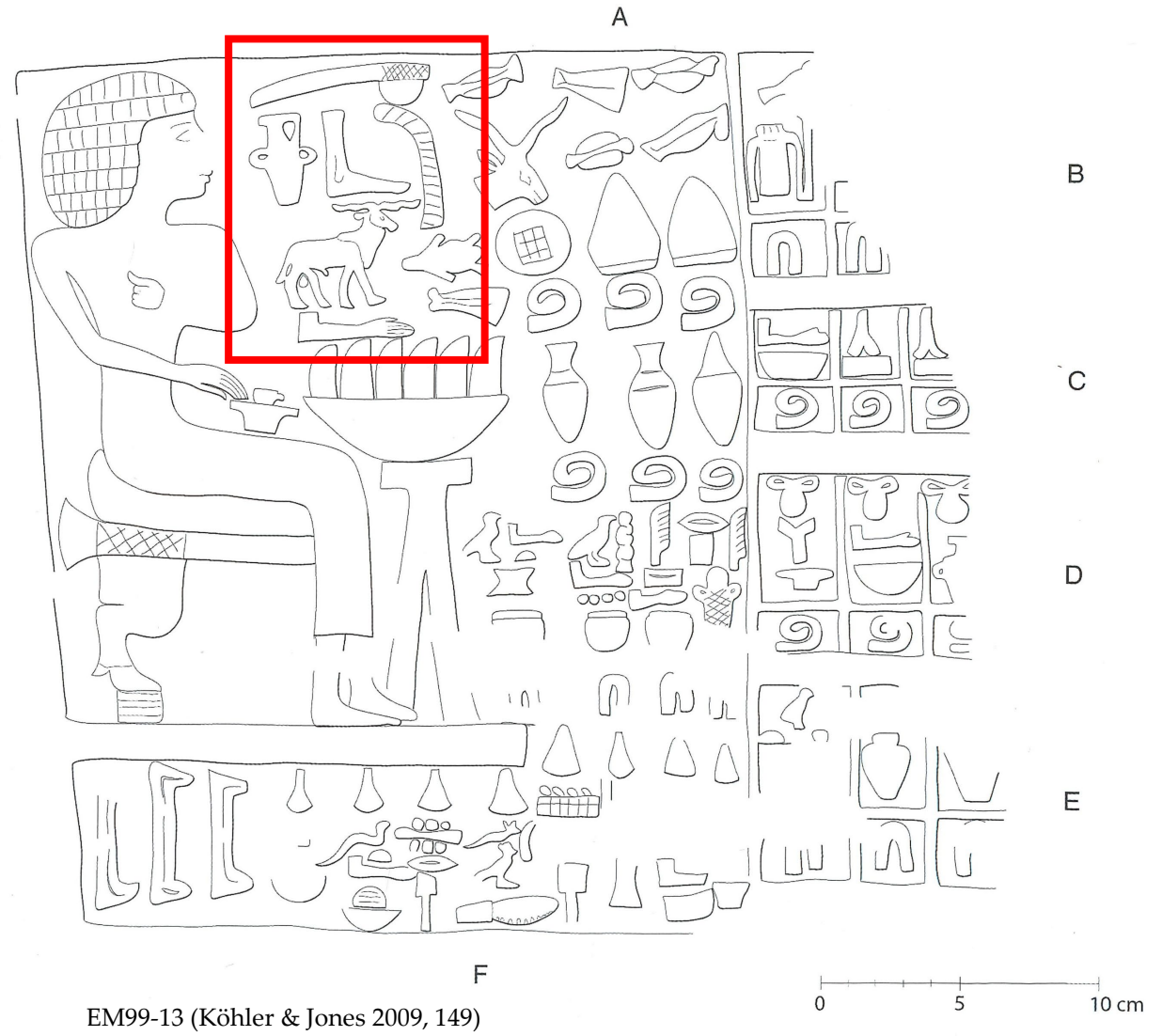
Pyr. 473a (W)



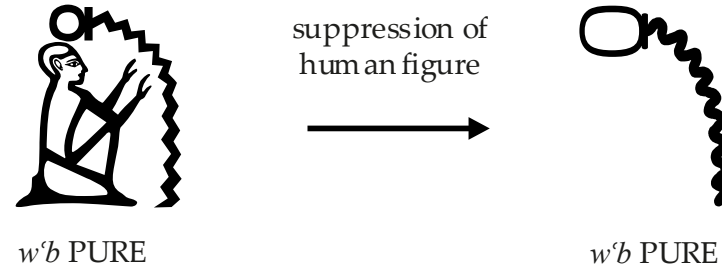
Pyr. 22b (W)



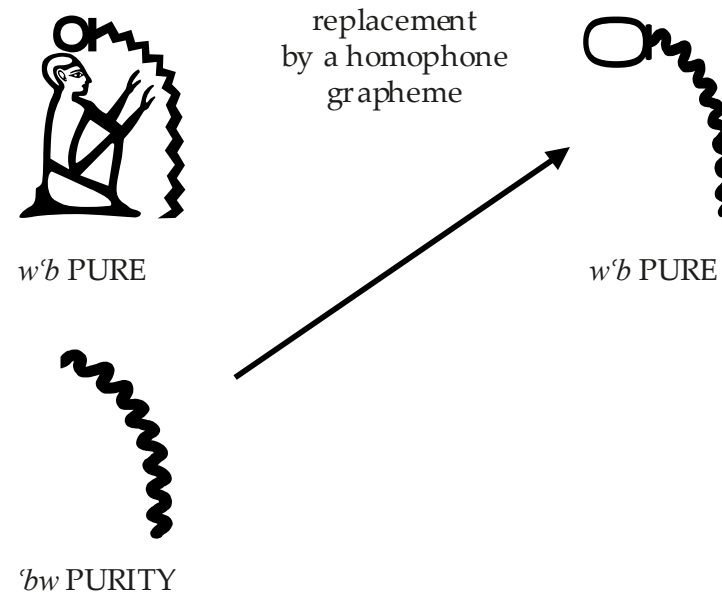
Pyr. 308f (W)

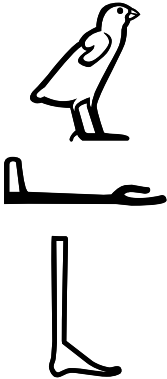
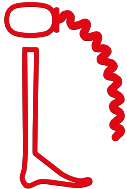
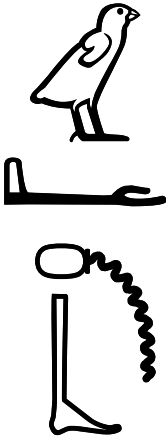
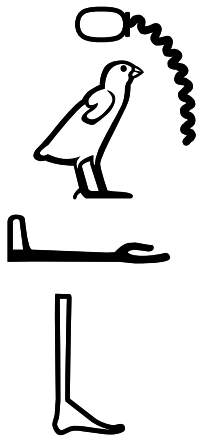


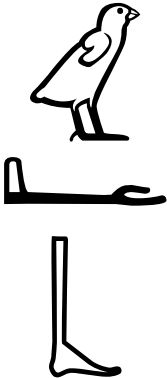
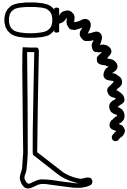
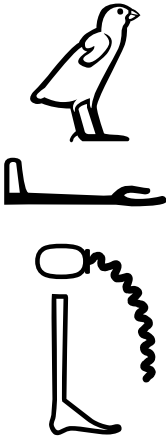
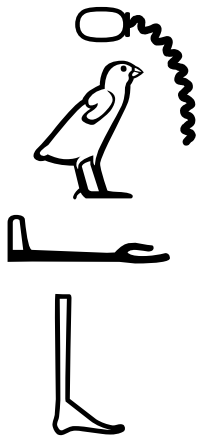
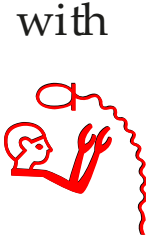
hypothesis 1
(Lacau 1913)

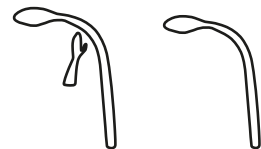


hypothesis 2



						
W	4	12	8	1	-	2
T	-	-	-	31	-	-
P	-	-	120	7	3	-
M	-	-	62	16	-	-
N	1	-	45	81	-	-
Nt	-	-	18	3	14	5

						
W	4	12	8	1	-	2
T	-	-	-	31	-	-
P	-	-	120	7	3	-
M	-	-	62	16	-	-
N	1	-	45	81	-	-
Nt	-	-	18	3	14	5



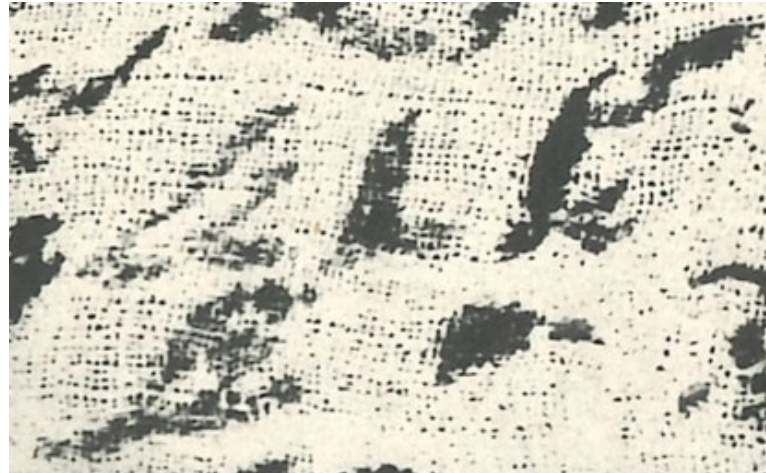


Decree Coptos C

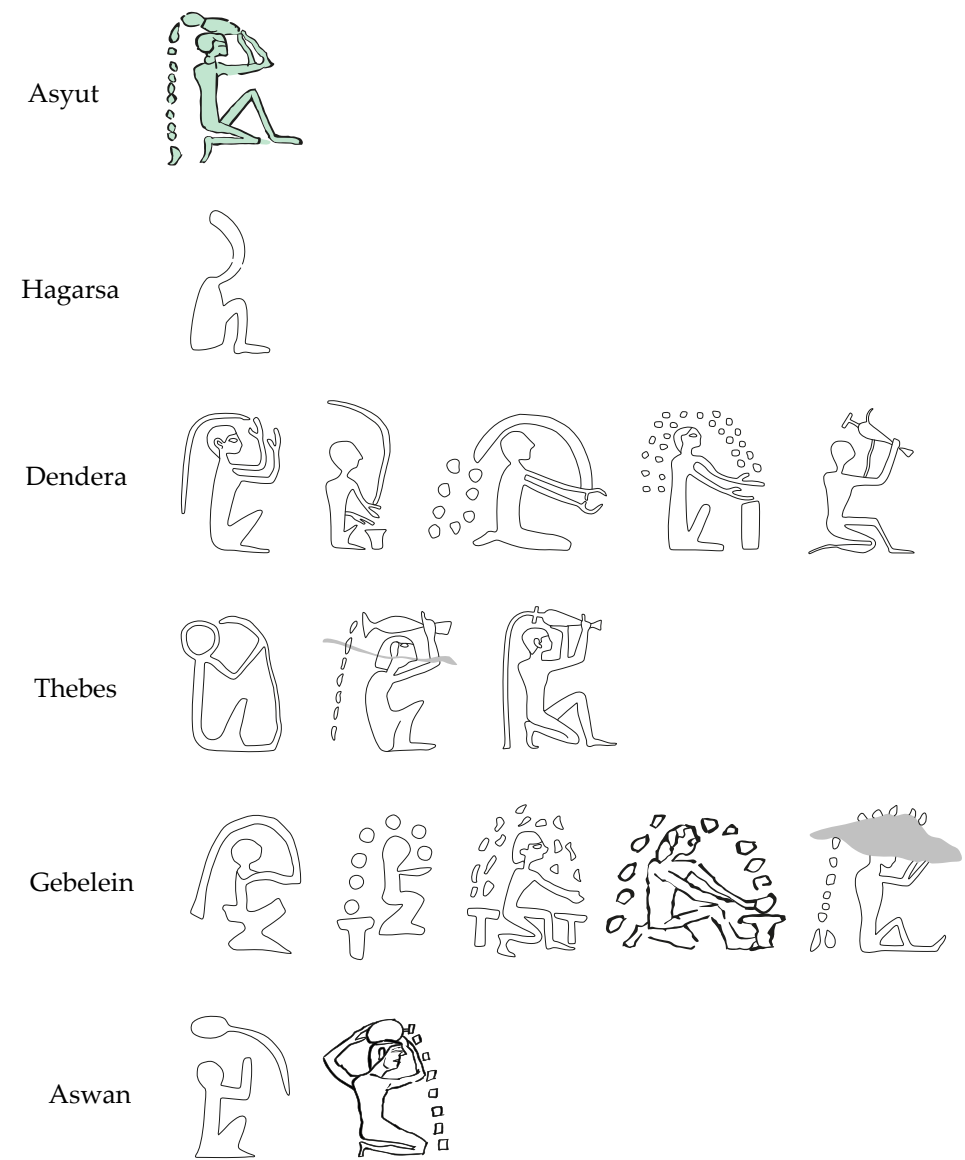
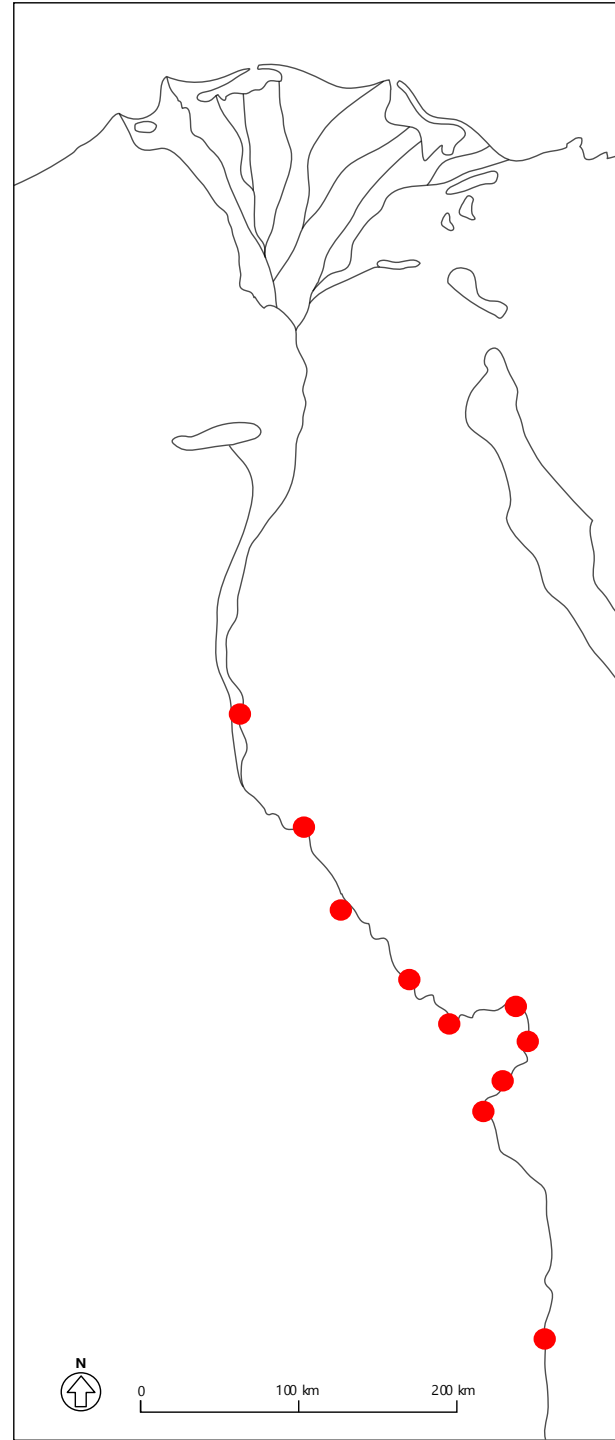
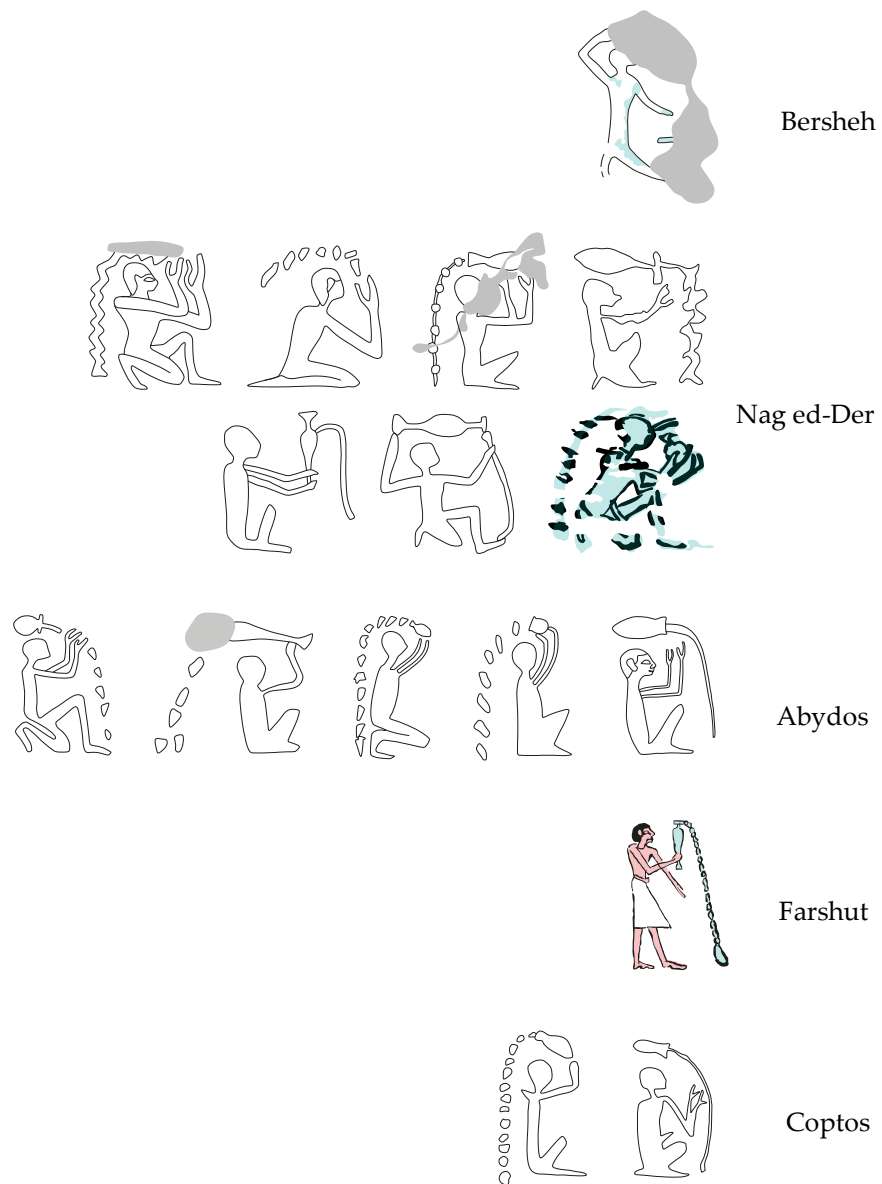


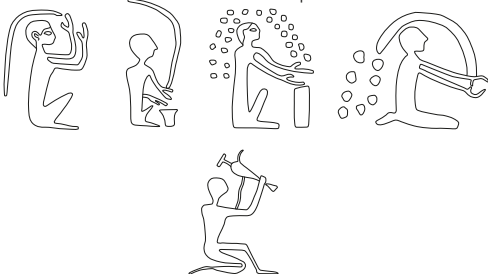
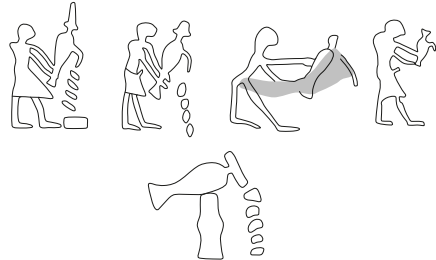
Turin S. 13115 (www.collezioni.museoegizio.it)

autonomous (OK) —————> non autonomous (late OK & FIP)



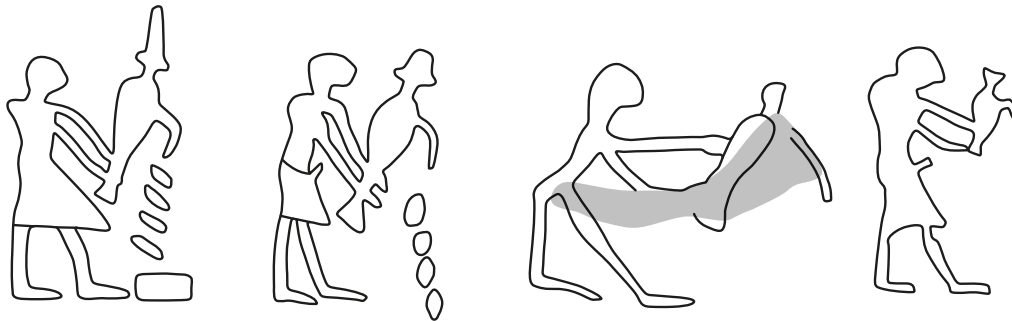
Cairo linen JE 25975 , l. 4 (Gardiner & Sethe 1928, pl. I)



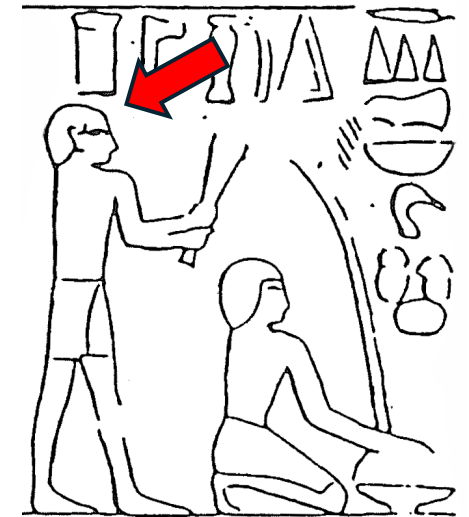
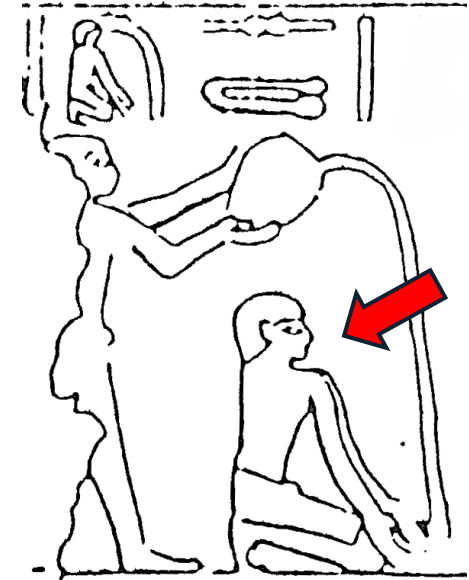
	OK	QH OK-FIP	Thebes FIP	Dendera FIP	Akhmim XI	Bersheh XI
PURE			 			
LIBATING		   	  	  		



CG 1435, l. 39

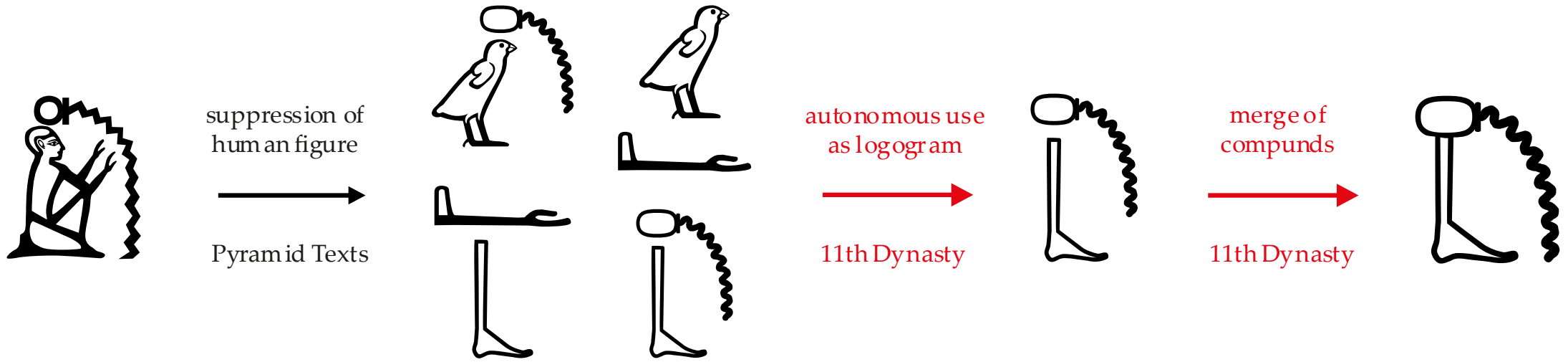


Bolton 1898.56.35; CG 1664; UPMAA 29.66.699; architrave of *ḥtp.j*



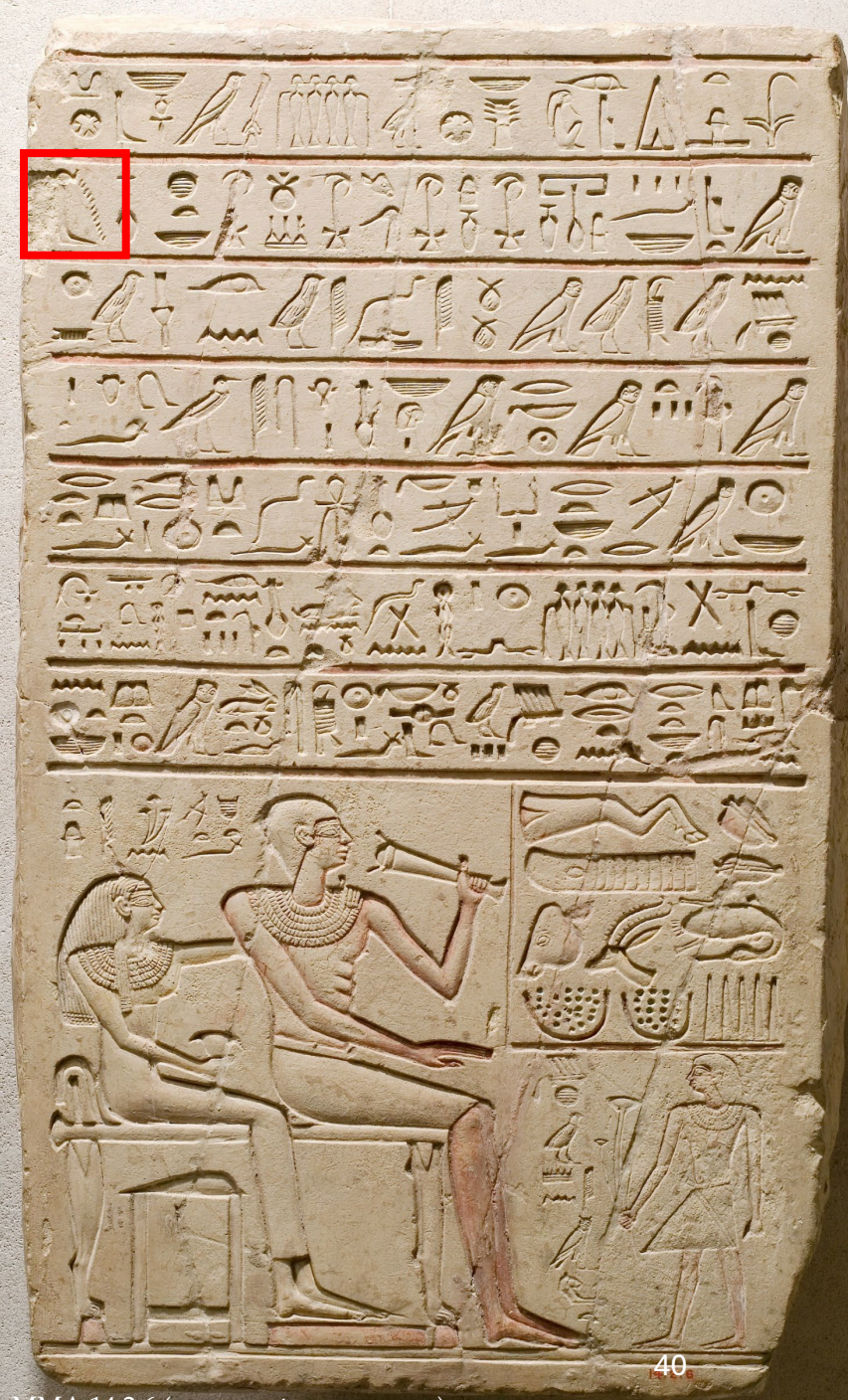
Säve-Söderbergh 1994, pl. 20 & 22

IV The emergence of during the mid-11th Dynasty

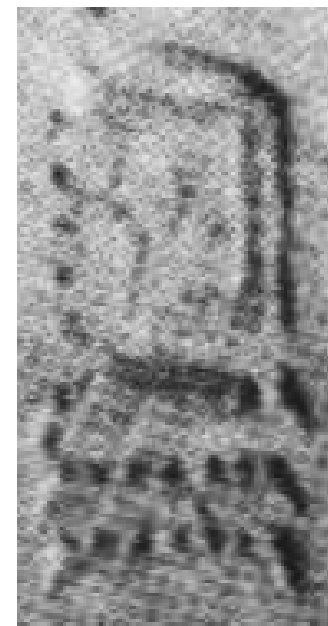




BM EA 614 (www.britishmuseum.org)

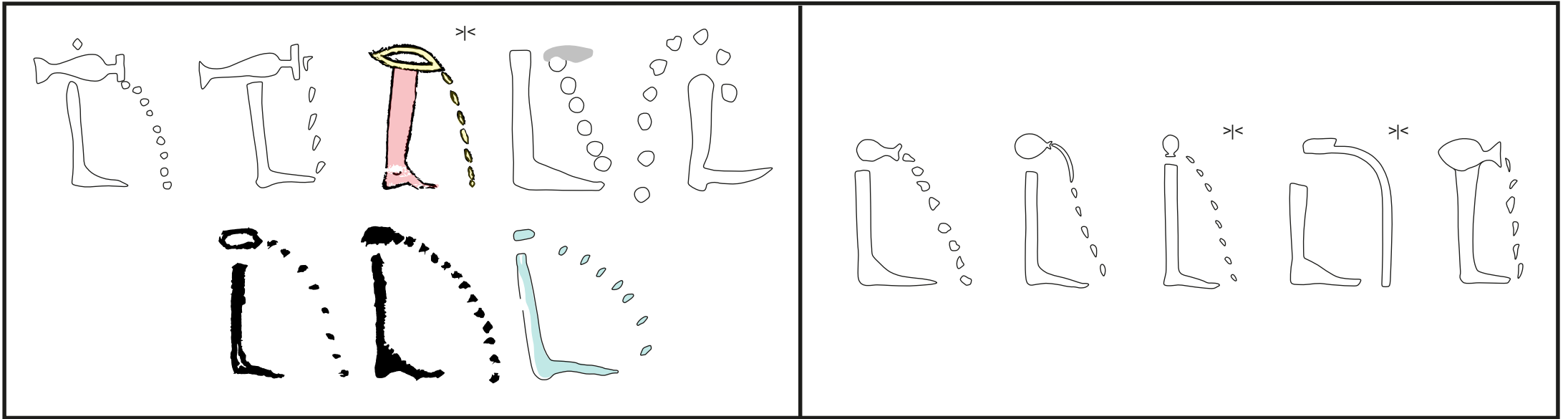


MMA 14.2.6 (www.metmuseum.org)

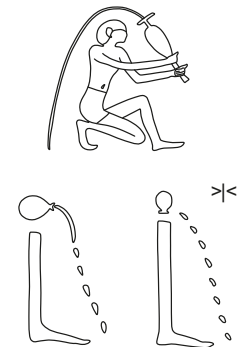
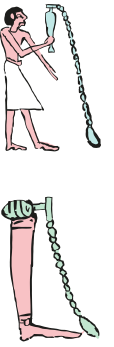
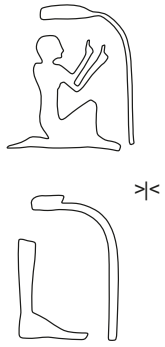
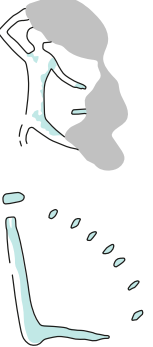


Stela ex Clandeboye Hall (Edwards 1965, pl. XI)

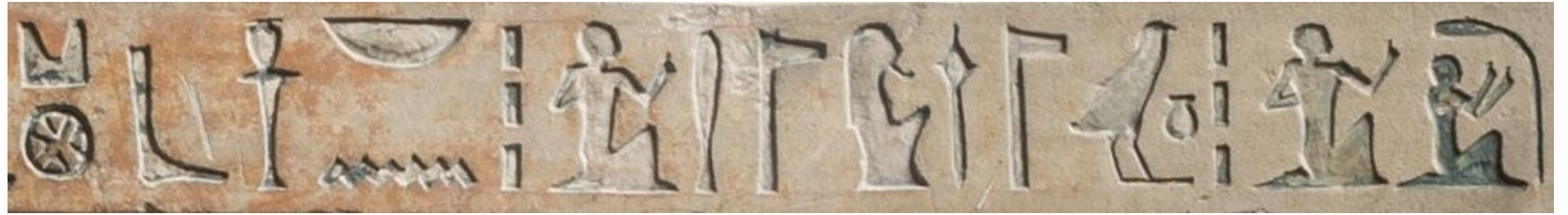




left: Louvre C14, caption to offering table scene; coffin of *jqṛ*, F; stela of *zj-n-sbk*, Dra Abu el-Naga; Firenze 7594, l. 3; WH CM 192, l. 5 & 14; Bersheh tomb 17K74/3 (Willems 2007, pl. LII).
 right: BM EA 614, col. 2; sarcophagus of Aaschyt, SFrOut 1 & SHOut 1; Turin Cat. 1447; Louvre C14, l. 3.

Aswan	Ar mant(?)	Thebes	Farshut	Abydos		Bersheh
A1C	ÆIN 1241	JE 47267	MFA 03.1631	CG 20514	Turin Cat. 1447	tomb 17K74/1
						

	anthropomorphic (👤)	podomorphic (👤)
Aswan	divine epithets, offerings	offerings
Armant	divine epithet	offerings
Thebes	divine epithets, offerings	divine epithets, offerings
Farshut	divine epithet	offerings, tomb
Abydos	priests, bulls	offerings
Bersheh	deceased	offerings



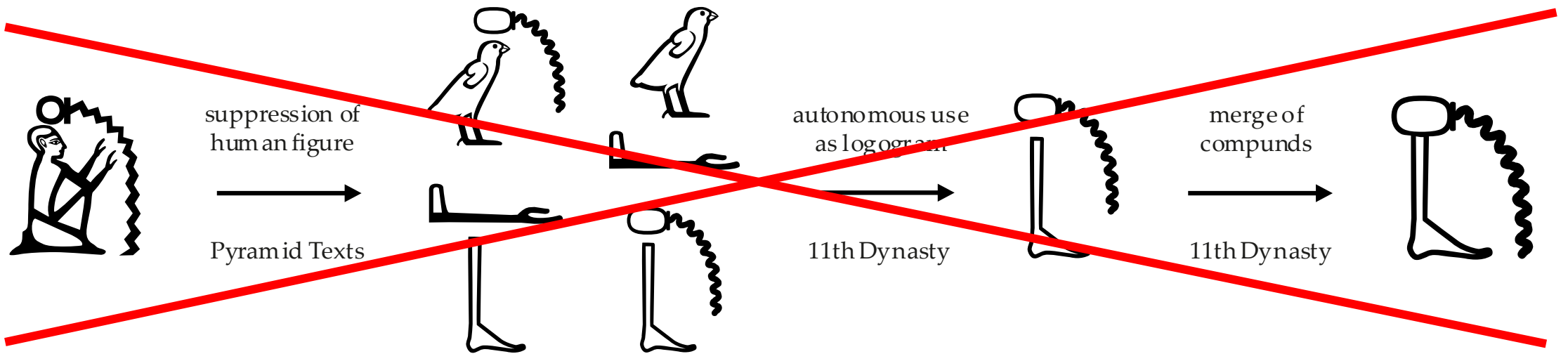
w^b.w n.w ntr ʿ hm.w-ntr nb n ʿbd.w

“the **pure ones** of the Great God and the priests of the Lord of Abydos”



jw nn w^b.t

“These are **pure!**”



Counterarguments

- different sign functions: classifier *versus* logogram
- large geographic and chronological distance between the two phenomena
- both phenomena can be tracked in their formative phases

*“The influence of hieratic upon hieroglyphic
was far greater than is usually believed”*

Gardiner 1930, 182

V A new hypothesis

SPC (II)	
pAbusir (V)	
pElephantine (VI-VIII)	
LtD (IX-X)	
early CT (XI)	
Hatnub (XI)	

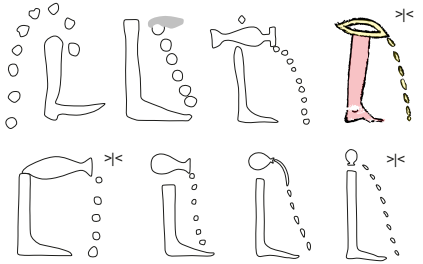
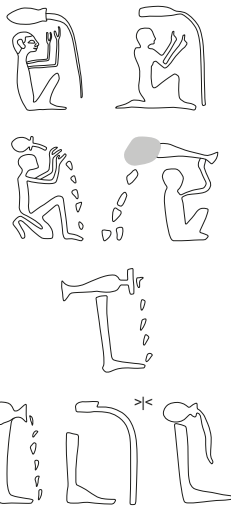
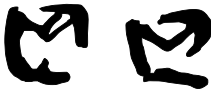
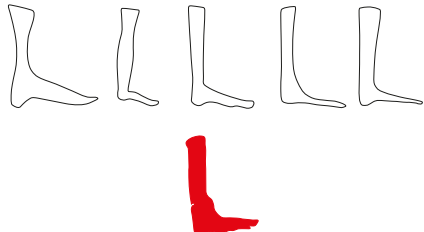
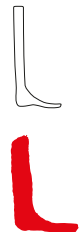
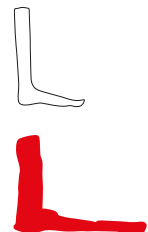
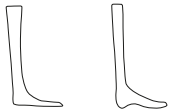
Facsimiles of the hieratograms: Ph. Seyr & AKU

	PURE	HIDING
SPC (II)		
pAbusir (V)		
pElephantine (VI-VIII)		
LtD (IX-X)	 	
early CT (XI)	 	
Hatnub (XI)		

Facsimiles of the hieratograms: Ph. Seyr & AKU

	PURE	HIDING
SPC (II)		
pAbusir (V)		
pElephantine (VI-VIII)		
LtD (IX-X)		
early CT (XI)		
Hatnub (XI)		

Facsimiles of the hieratograms: Ph. Seyr & AKU

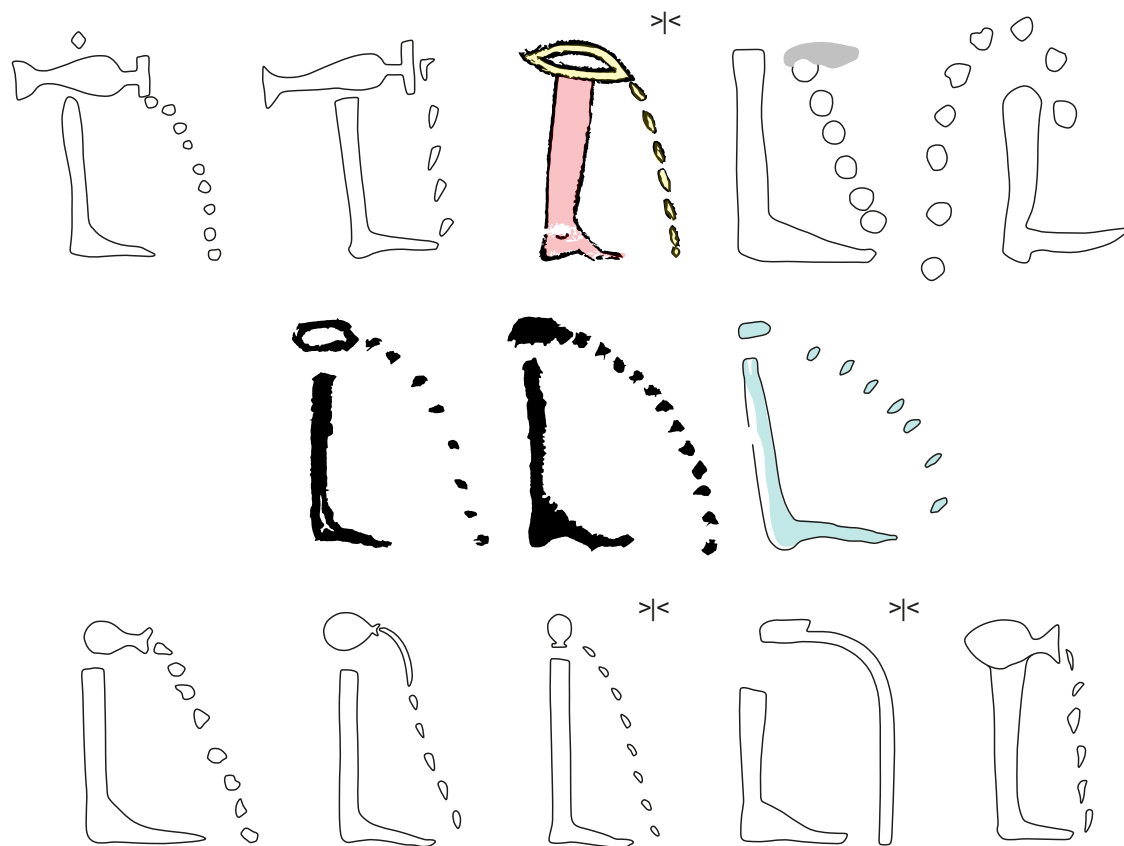
	OK	FIP (until Intef II)	Gebelein (MII-late XI)	Thebes (Intef III-Mentuhotep II)	Abydos (Intef III-late XI)	Bersheh (late XI)
PURE				 		
						
phono. <i>b</i>						

Facsimiles of the hieratograms: Ph. Seyr & AKU

道 心 心

心

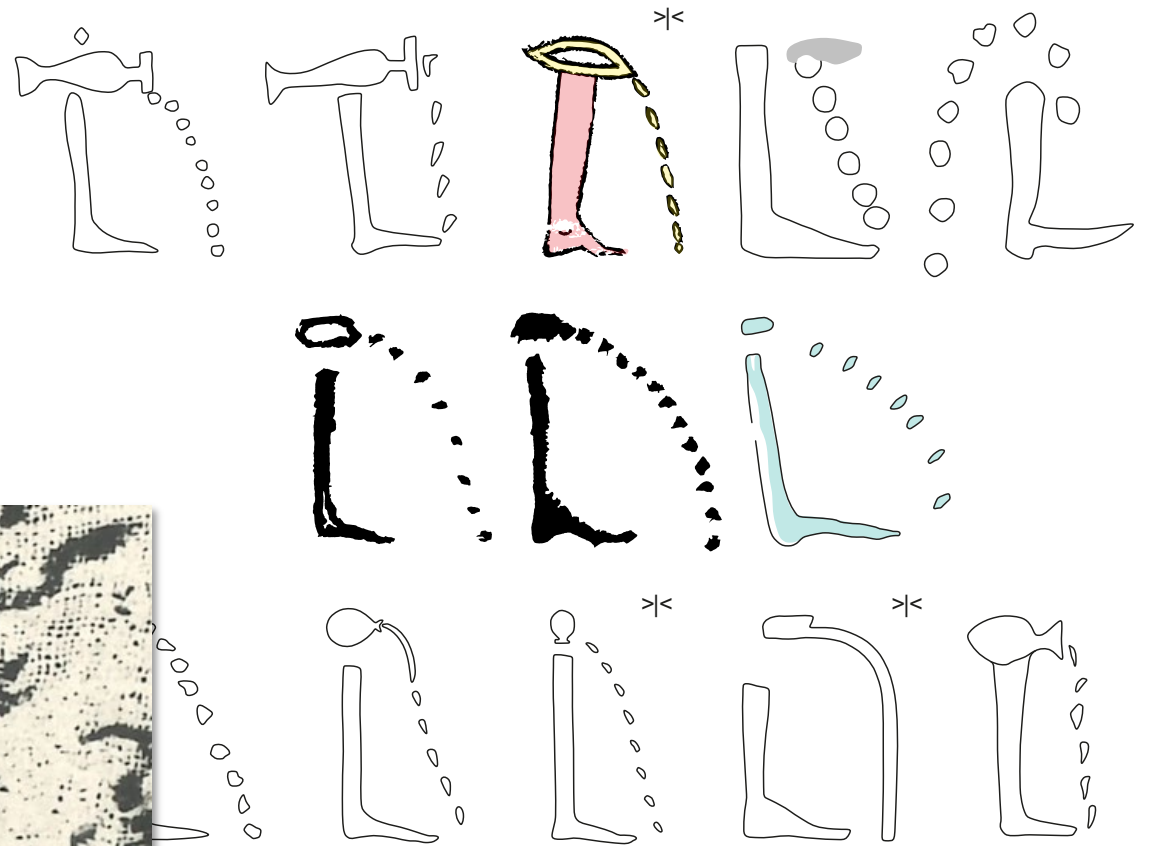
心



𐀀 𐀁 𐀂

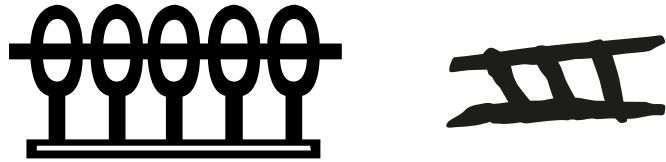
𐀃

𐀄

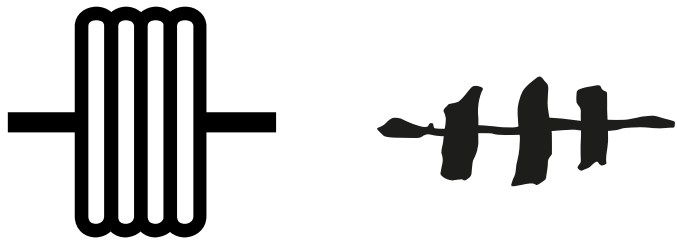


logo. šzp RECEIVING

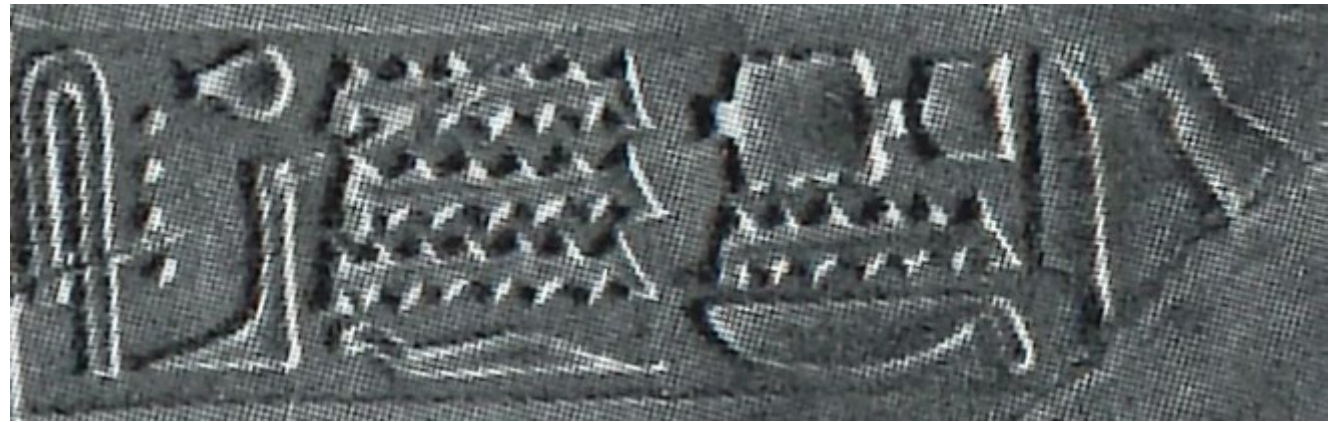
OK



FIP
Thebes
Abydos

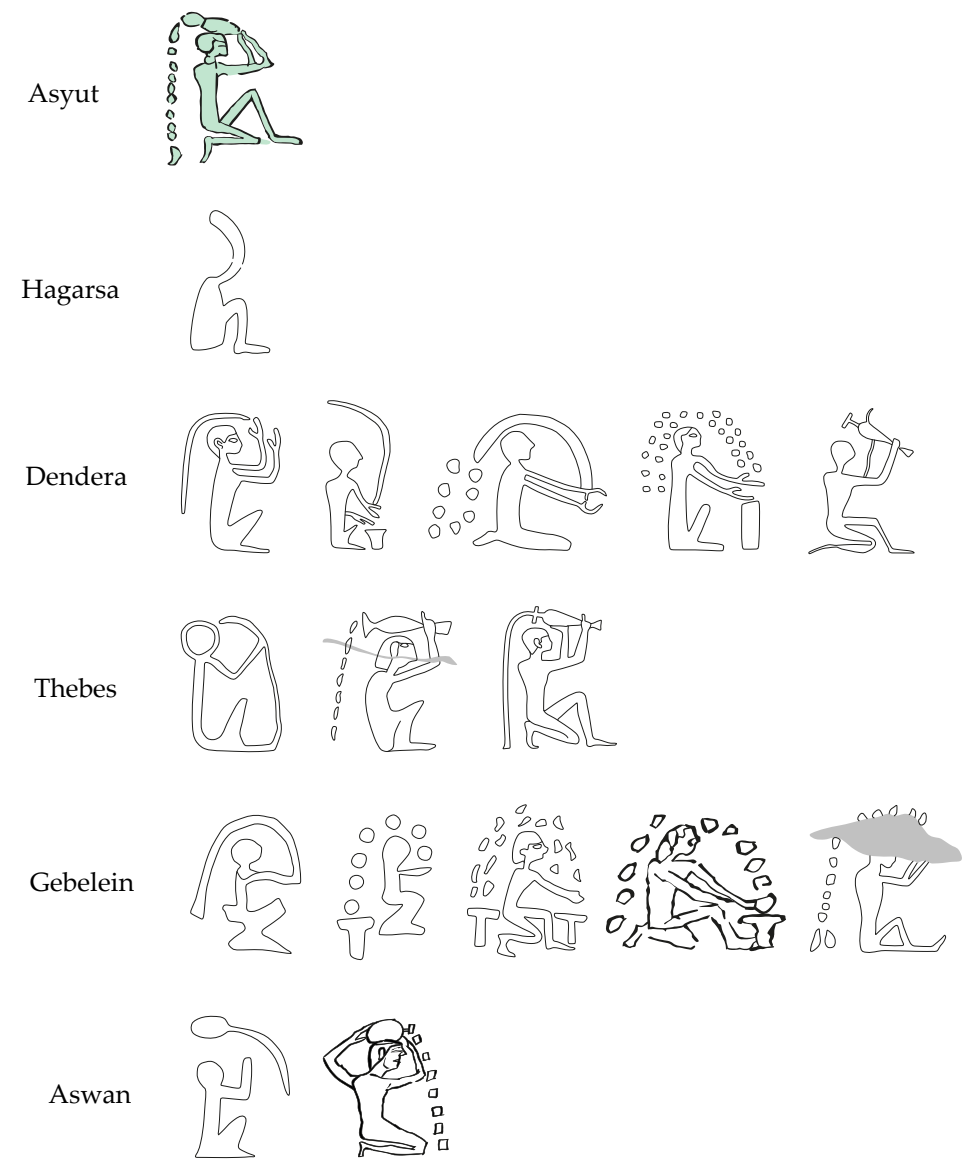
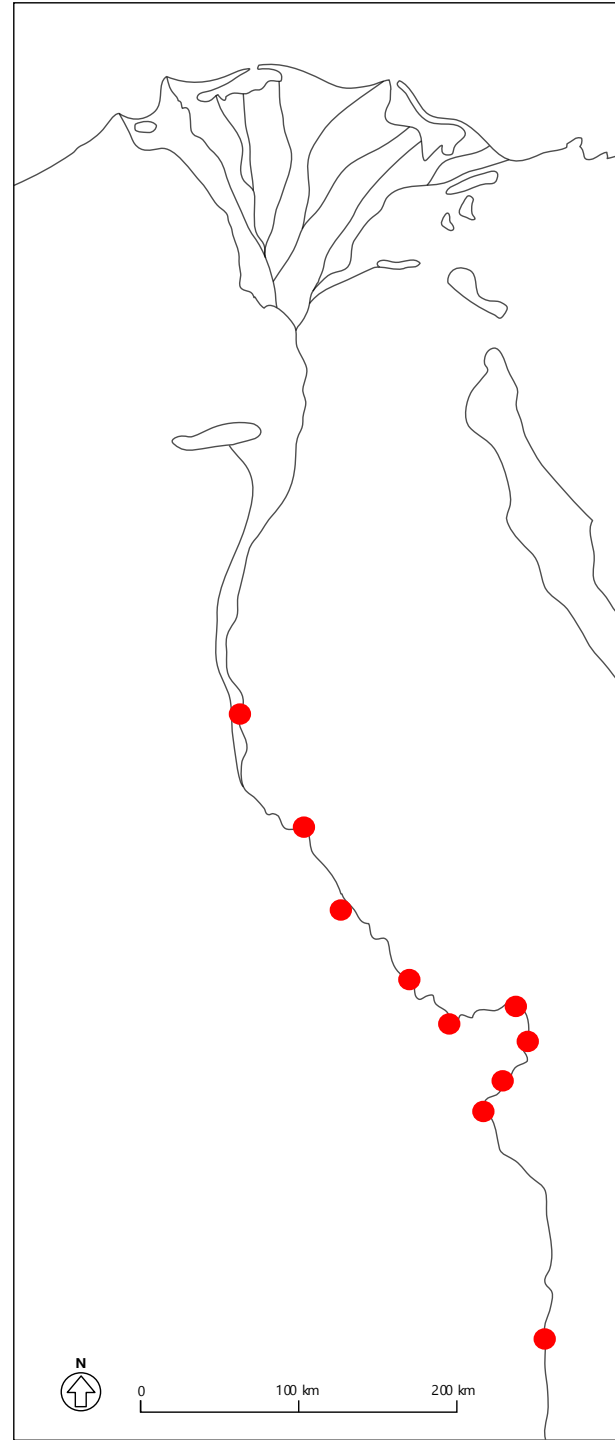
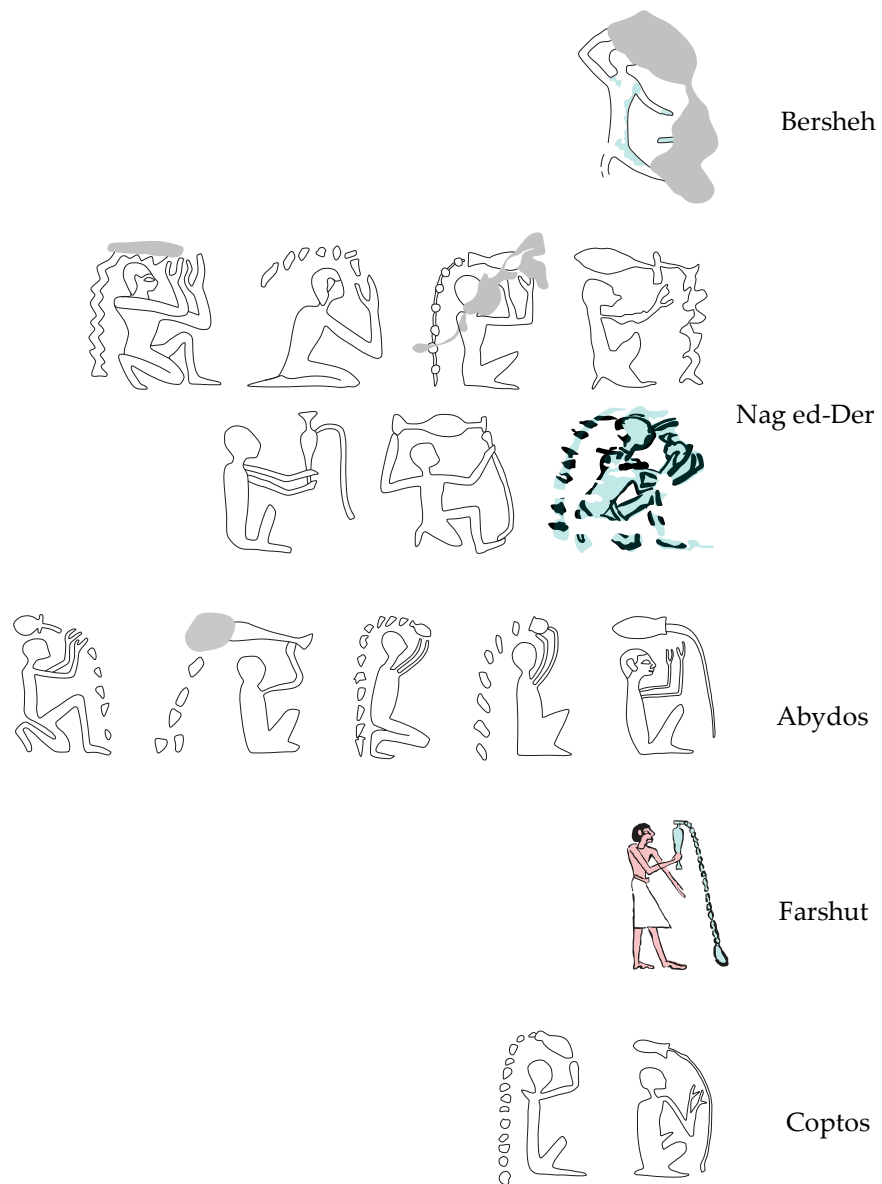


Louvre C15, l. x+6



Moscow I.1.a.5603 (Hodjash & Berlev 1982, 69)

**VI Final thoughts:
the iconicity of **

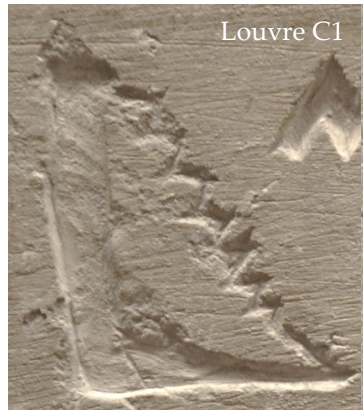




Decree Coptos D (www.metmuseum.org)



JE 47267, FOut 1



Louvre C1



Louvre C2



Louvre C3



CG 20514



Louvre C12



Genève D51



CG 20545



Munich Gl. WAF 31



CG 20163



GEM 5007



QH 31



Meir M3



Meir M6



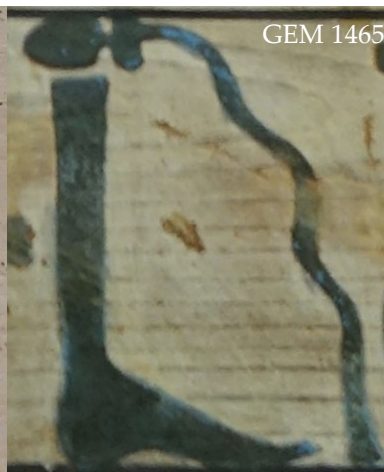
BH 2



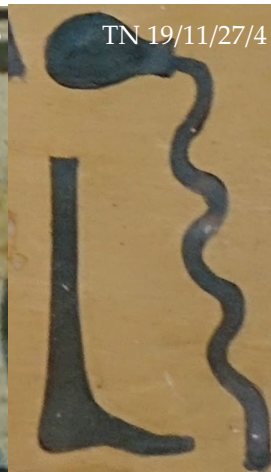
CG 28033



JE 31632



GEM 1465



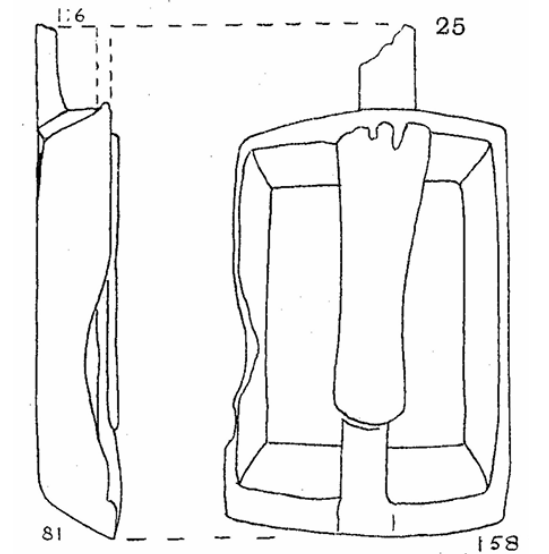
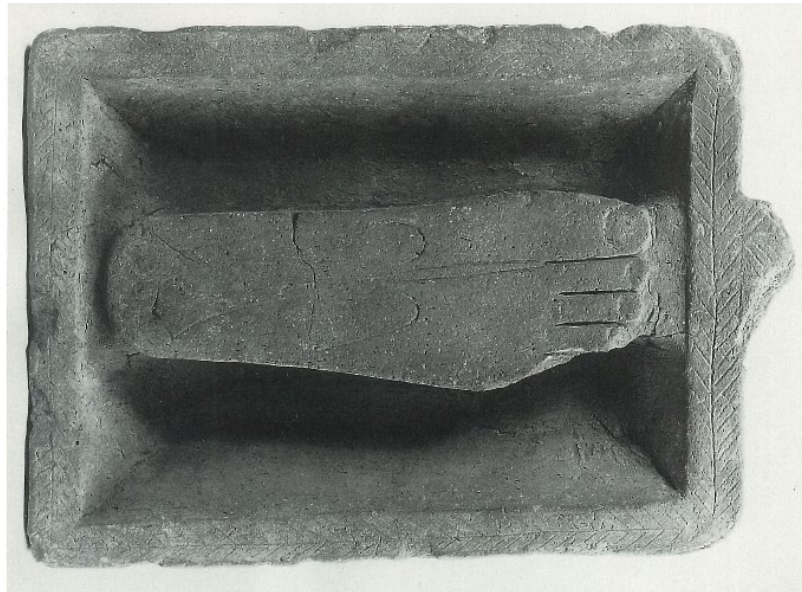
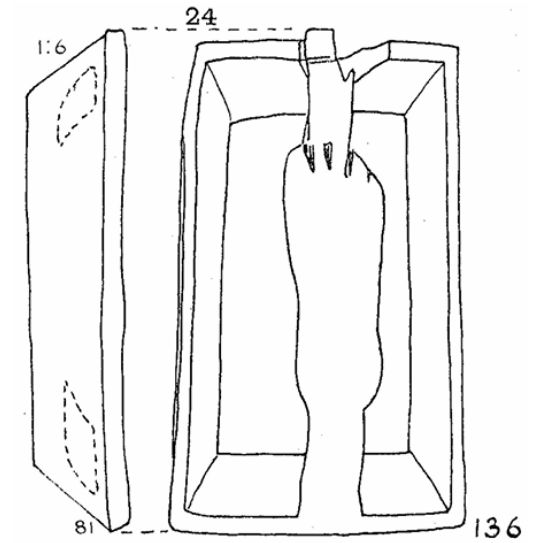
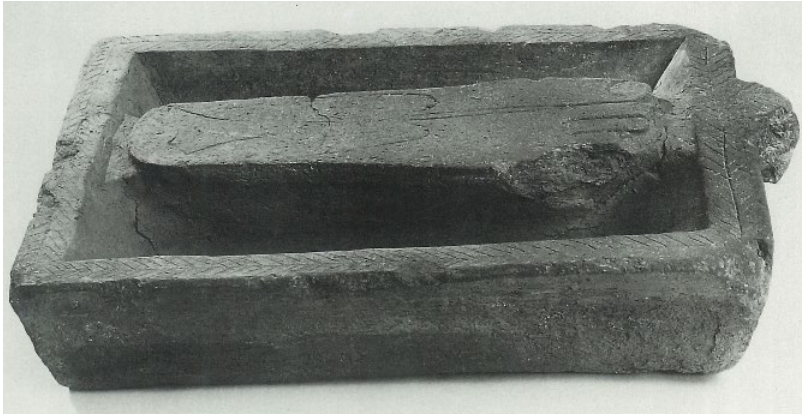
TN 19/11/27/4



JE 32869



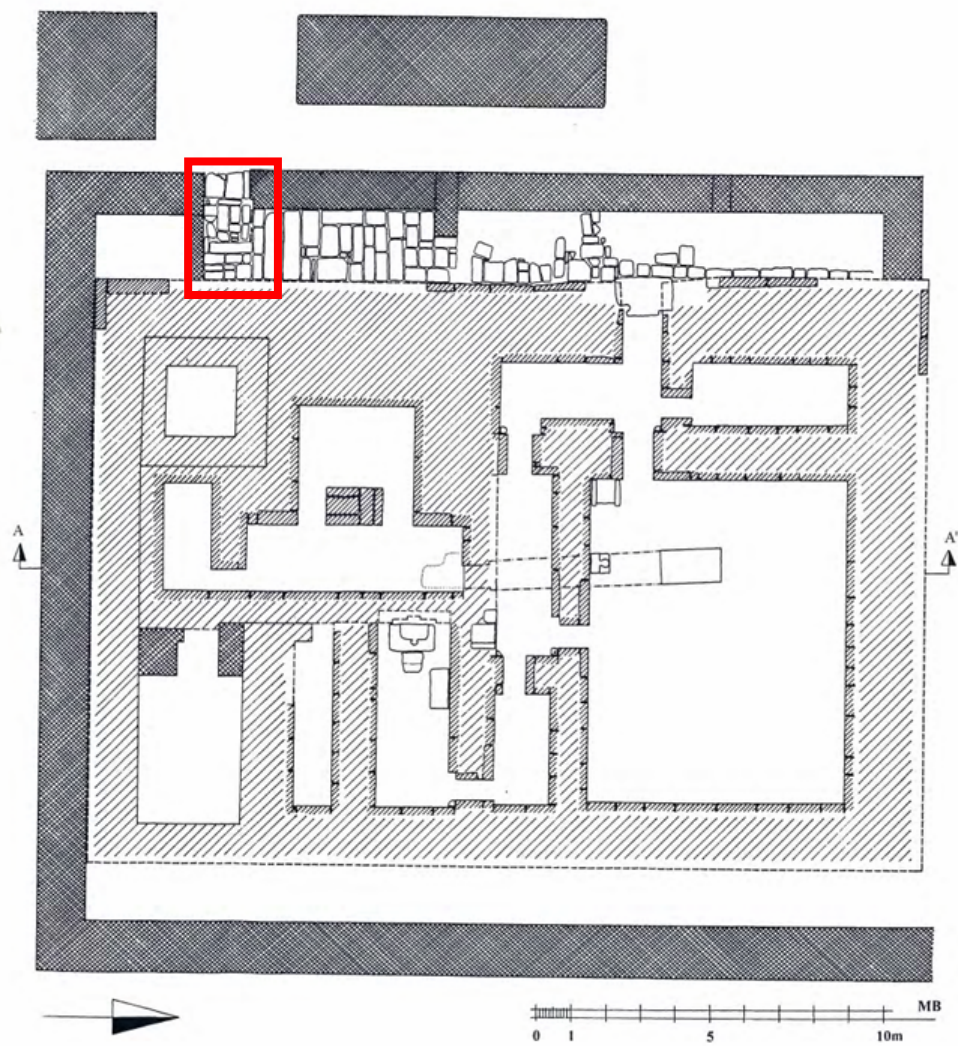
JE 42827



ÄMUL 2339, Abusir
(Krauspe 1998, pl. 60, no. 158)

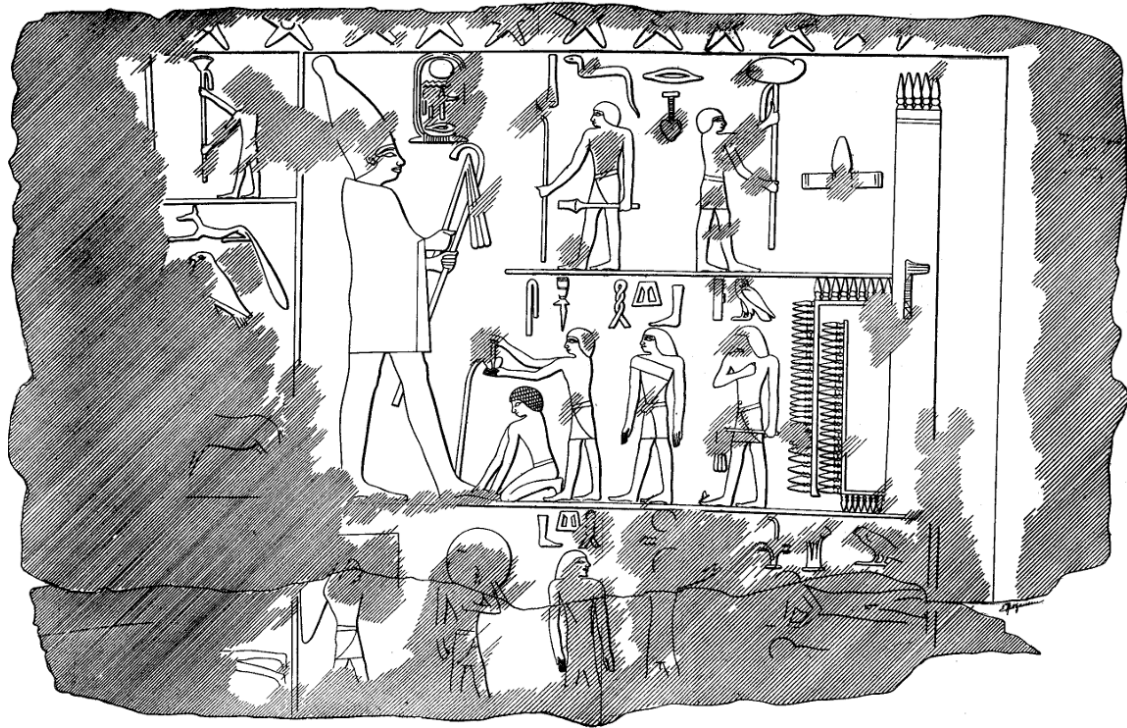
Tomb of *r'-htp*, Meidum; BM EA 1277
(www.britishmuseum.org)

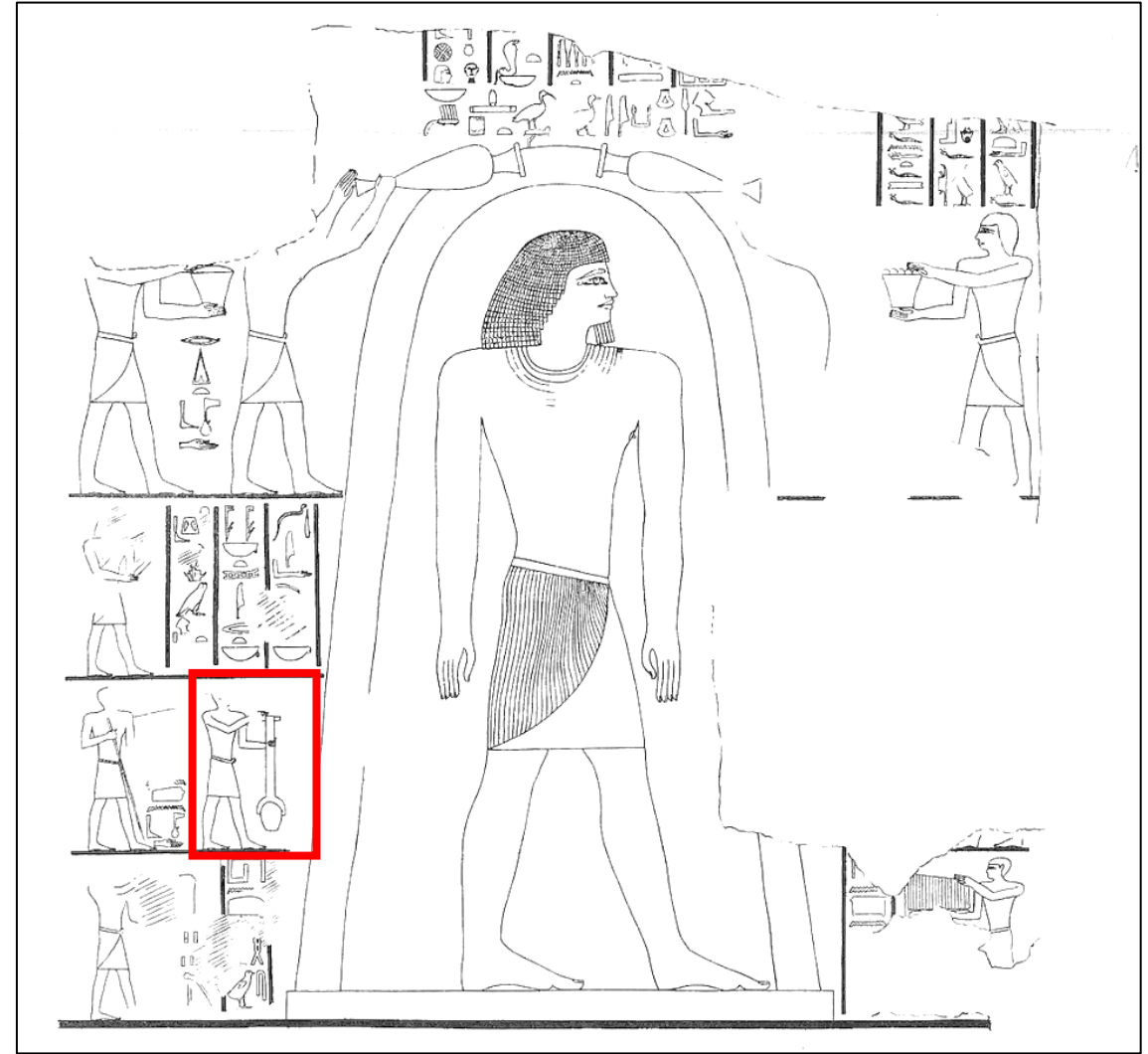
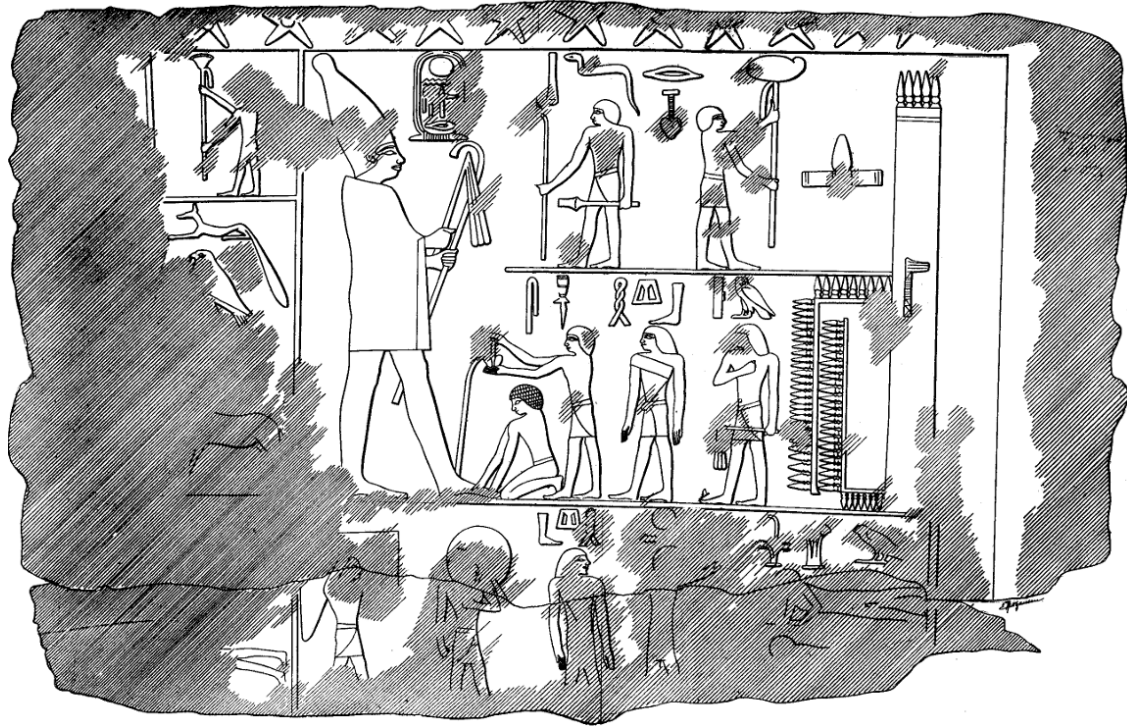
Wooden footbaths from Tarkhan
(Petrie, Wainwright & Gardiner 1913, pl. XI.24-25)



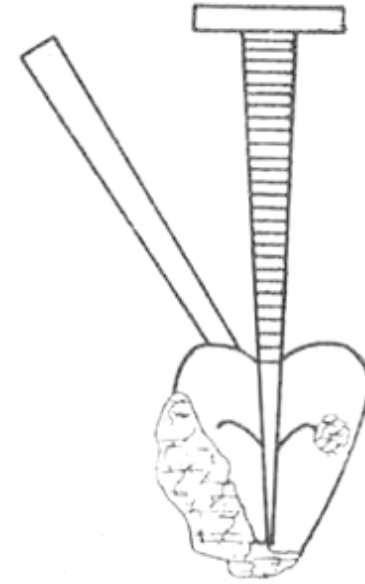
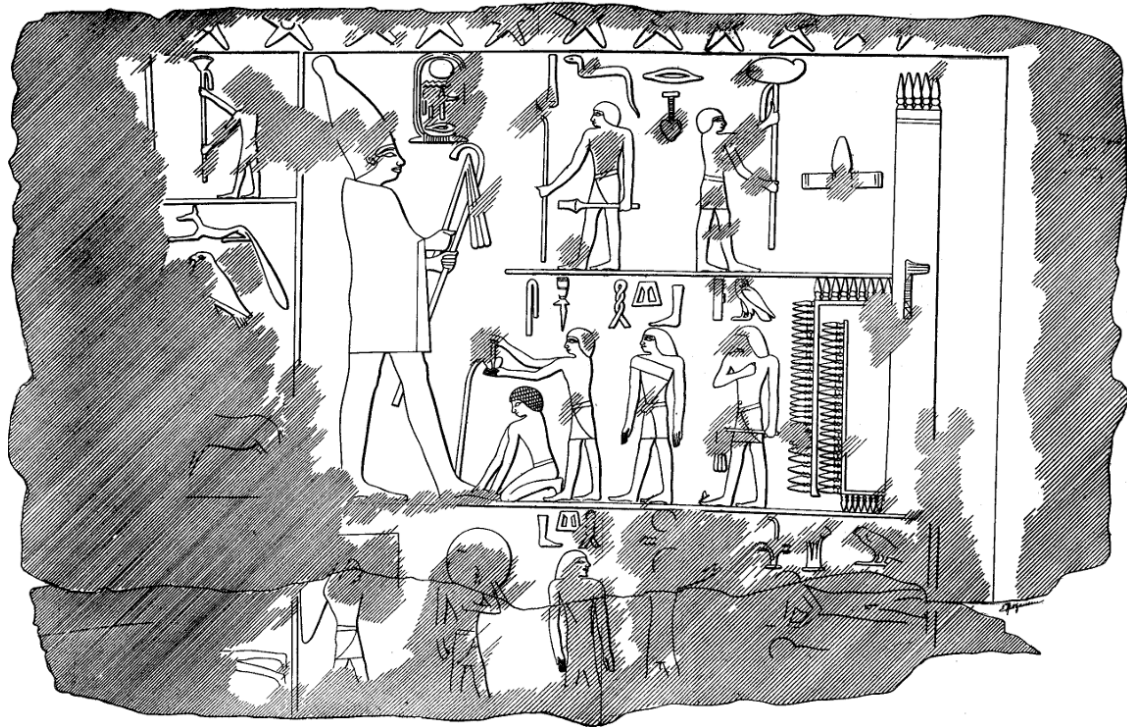
Mastaba of Ptahshepses Junior II (Bárta 2000, 47, fig. 2 & 48, pl. 2)
kindly pointed out to me by A. delli Castelli







Tomb Bersheh 2 (Newberry 1895, pl. X)

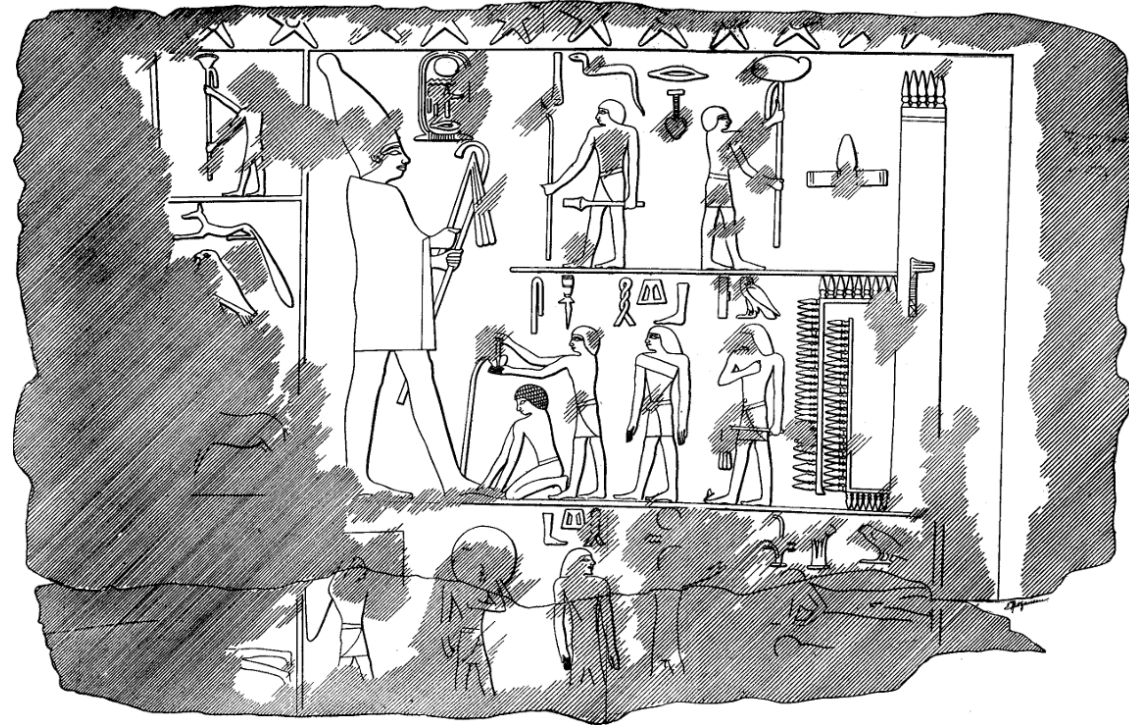
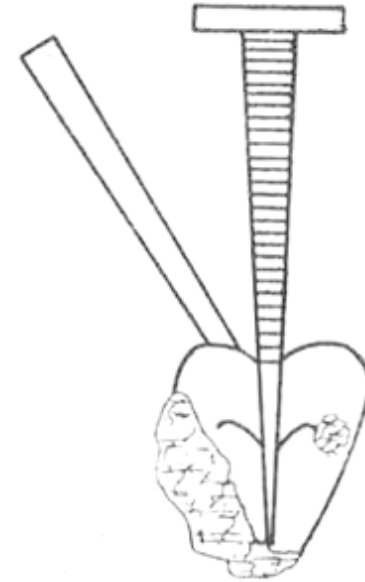




37-38. Deux objets, cf. 28035 (25-26) et fig. 88 : en jaune rayé rouge. Insc. : 



(Lacau 1904, 112 & pl. XXIV, no. 88; CG 28037 = M7C)





Thank you for
your attention

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FNRS / Université de Liège
Conference Everlasting Variations
11.-13. June 2025