

**South Tombs Cemetery 2010:
The objects**

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The following is a summary of the most significant objects recovered from the South Tombs Cemetery in 2010, excluding pottery vessels.

Decorated coffins

unit (13262)	anthropoid coffin	Figure 1
Material	wood, gypsum plaster, pigment, varnish	
Provenance	lower site, Y105, <13269>	
Dimensions	l = c. 2.0 m w = 30–48 cm h of walls = c. 31 cm av. thickness of walls = 3 cm	

unit (13281)	anthropoid coffin	Figure 2
Material	wood, gypsum plaster, pigment, varnish	
Provenance	lower site, Y105, <13277>	
Dimensions	l = c. 1.78 m w = 30–43 cm h of walls = c. 26 cm av. thickness of walls = 3 cm	

Two painted wooden coffins, (13262) and (13281). The coffins were found not far apart, within the excavation square Y105, parallel to one another but with opposing orientations: (13262) in grave cut <13269> with head to north, and (13281) in grave cut <13277> with head to south. In both cases, the coffin boxes were almost complete and lay in the sand in their original positions. Both had been robbed by breaking open the lid and removing the body completely. This left the side edges of the lid in position, but only loose fragments of the faces and chest panels. Both coffins had been anthropoid, with the rounded head-end decorated with wide stripes representing the wig, and a painted collar across the chest.

They had been made from thick wooden planks, in one place measured at 3 cm in thickness, coated on the inside and outside with a layer of gypsum. Patches remained of red paint used to coat the inside and edge surfaces. The outside surfaces had been painted black overall, and designs and hieroglyphs added in white, except for the yellow of the wig bands, blue (and perhaps other colours) for the collars, thin dark lines for details of the human figures on the side panels, some of whom were also given blue collars. Varnish had been finally applied, which had survived in varying amounts, having largely vanished from (13262).

Almost all of the wood had been eaten away, often leaving only discoloured dust. The thin outer layer of gypsum and paint had remained held in place by the equal pressure of the sand inside and outside the coffin walls, although in some places they had started to split along the wood grain into irregular strips, and these had collapsed a little way over one another. Some warping had also occurred. Upon exposure, the sand rapidly began to dry and the coffin walls to become unstable. After photography, the walls were removed in pieces, sandwiched between boards. When in the magazine, the pieces were separately photographed, and one or more key measurements taken of each. When correctly scaled, each main fragment was traced digitally, and compared with the pictures taken at the time of excavation. In this way, the designs of the coffins were digitally reconstructed. The fragments themselves await conservation. When this is done, it should be possible to improve on the digital reconstructions and to complete some missing parts. A persistent problem is to distinguish the edges of painted motifs from accidental outlines of patches of varnish.

Coffin (13262), with a length of c. 2.0 m, and a maximum width of 0.48 m. The design repeated itself on both sides: four men bearing offerings or standing before a table of offerings, each one separated by three vertical columns of hieroglyphs. A larger table of offerings separated the first hieroglyph columns from the start of the wig. The first column of each group of three cut across the horizontal band of hieroglyphs that ran along the edge of the lid. This indicates that it should contain the title and name of the deceased. The hieroglyphs contain

familiar groups, but these do not then form coherent sentences, nor is it easy to isolate a proper name. Having considered and then rejected the possibility that the texts were using familiar signs for alternative values, we have concluded that the painter (and perhaps the customer), although working with a practised hand, was unable to read the result.

Painted coffin (13281), with a length of c. 1.78 m, and a maximum width of 0.43 m. The decorative scheme has been less carefully laid out and executed, the hieroglyph columns often at an angle to the vertical and irregular in width. On the right side, the horizontal hieroglyph band that ran along the base of the lid had not been interrupted to accommodate the first vertical name band. To judge from the human figures, the painter had not trained as an artist, although he was able to copy more intelligibly the phrases from standard funerary formulae and to write proper names.

The design of the side panels alternates pictures of four men making offerings or carrying a bouquet of flowers with groups of vertical columns of text in which the first column contains the name. On the left side, in front of the first group of three hieroglyph columns stands a woman either in place of a larger offering-table or with a narrower version in front of her. On the right side, the corresponding area has not been preserved.

The name bands on the left side alternate the personal names Hesy(t)en-Ra and Hesy(t)en-Aten, followed by the writing of the phrase 'true of voice' with feminine endings. The same two names occur in the second and third columns on the right side. The spaces that follow seem to have been blank, as if the names had been added to an existing space that was too large, although it is hard to be certain. The first column on the left side begins with the word ka, 'spirit', but the markings in the following space are difficult to identify (and have been left blank in the copy). Traces in the fourth perhaps read Khensu, but again the remainder is hard to discern.

The overall impression of the two coffins is that they are the products of 'village' craftsmen who worked to a standard coffin template but had not been trained as artists. One had a set of correctly written funerary phrases to copy from, and (with the help of the purchaser?) could insert properly written personal names. The other worked from a 'copybook' far removed from correct originals, that produced a result that superficially looked right but was actually not readable. The same applied to the personal names of which, presumably, the customer was also not able to supply a correctly written version.

A selection of photographs of the two coffins are presented in the lower site excavation report for 2010.

Stelae and pyramidian

39912	pointed stela		
Material	limestone		
Provenance	upper site, L54 (12942)		
Dimensions	h = 34.1 cm	w = 16.95 cm	th = 6.25 cm

Figure 3

Decorated limestone stela. A roughly rectangular slab of friable limestone with the two long sides tapering to an arched point at the top. The front surface has part of a carved scene preserved on the bottom 7–8 cm consisting of the lower part of a chair, the two lower legs of the occupant of the chair and the bottom of a wide-based offering table. The scene is preserved as thin, shallow grooves in a roughly prepared surface. The rest of the stela has been heavily weathered but traces of a curving top to the scene are preserved c. 10 cm below the pointed top. The stela is thick and well preserved at its base, becoming thinner and more weathered towards the pointed top. The pattern of weathering could indicate that it was wedged in the ground. It was found below surface level lying with the decorated face upwards. Grave cuts <12971>, <12989> and <12996> lie in close proximity.

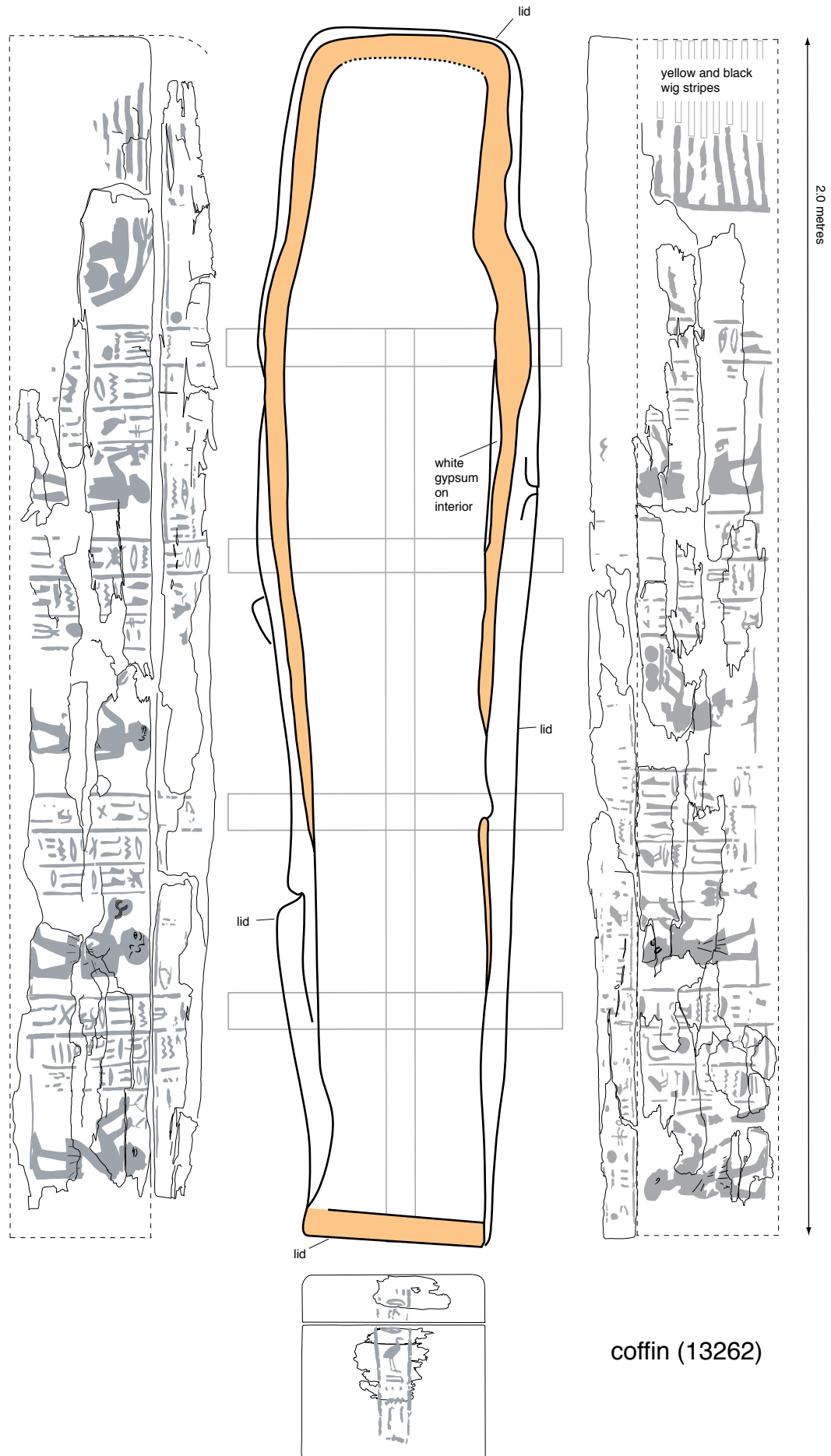


Figure 1. Coffin (13262) reconstructed

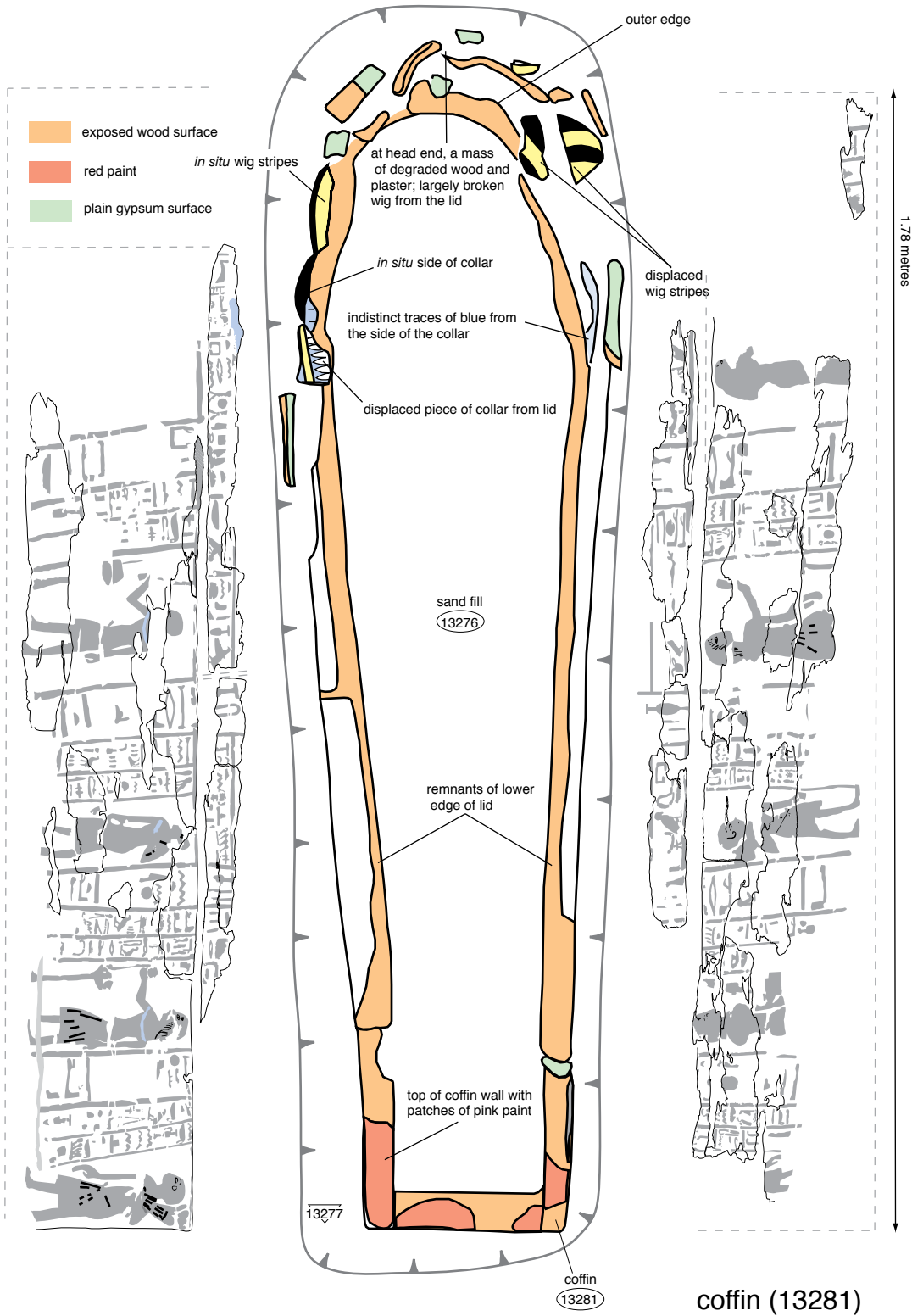


Figure 2. Coffin (13281) reconstructed

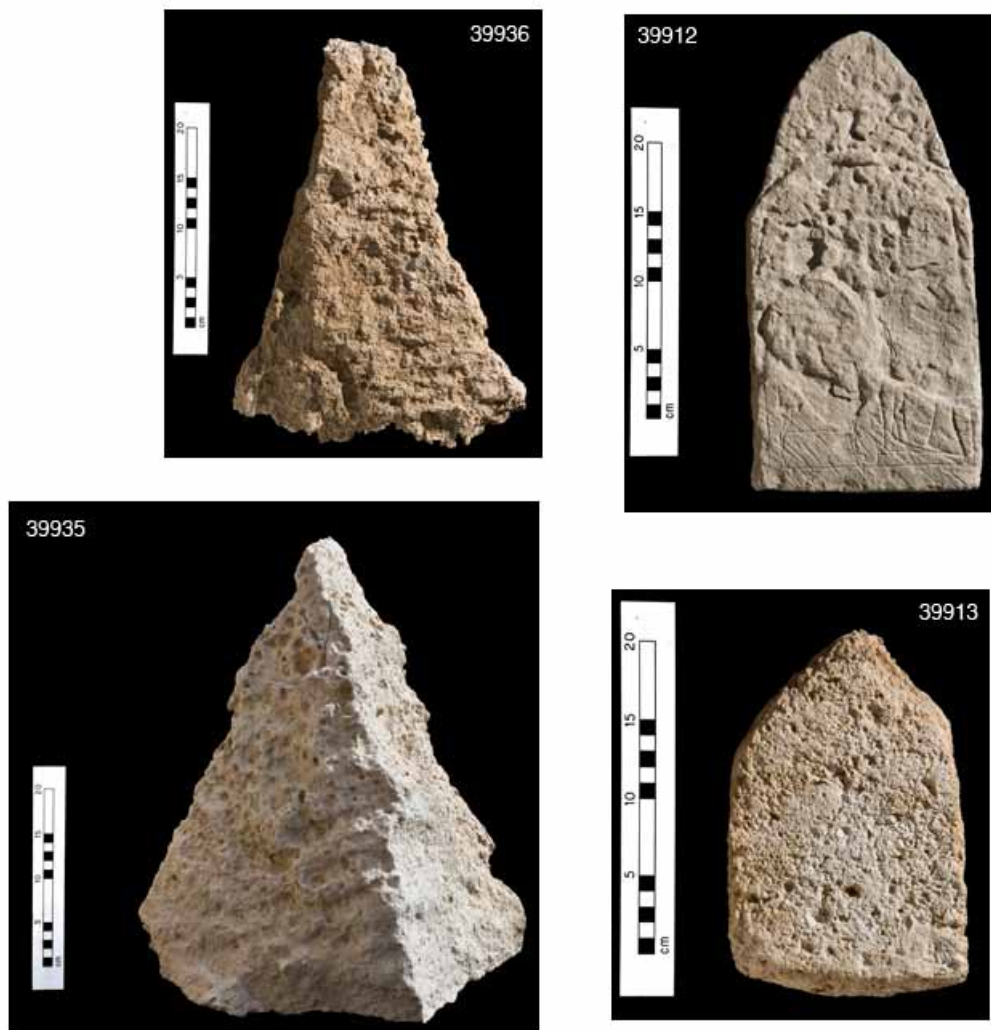


Figure 3. A selection of stelae and a pyramidion (lower right) recovered during the 2010 excavations.

Recorded by M. Shepperson

39913	pointed stela
Material	limestone
Provenance	surface find, square Q70 (unexcavated); grid reference N. 354.79 E. 81.78 H. 87.26
Dimensions	h = 23.4 cm w = 15.1 cm th = 6.4 cm

Figure 3

Small limestone stela found on the surface of the cemetery in square Q70. Roughly rectangular slab with one end tapered to an arched point. All surfaces are heavily weathered and pitted, particularly the side which lay upwards, which is also discoloured to a pale grey. No trace of decoration is preserved on any surface. Some of the carved edges are still quite crisp, especially towards the base of the stela. The pointed top is the most heavily eroded part. The thickness decreases gradually from the base to the point.

Recorded by M. Shepperson

39935	pyramidian	Figure 3
Material	limestone	
Provenance	surface find between lower site and <i>wadi</i> mouth site. In central channel just beyond edge of eastern bank of <i>wadi</i>	
Dimensions	h = 44 cm w = 34 cm th = 26 cm	

Heavily weathered limestone pyramidian. Rectangular cross section in plan view. Sides taper regularly towards the top which does not end in a true point but rather in a 7 cm long ridge joining the two long faces. The stone is fairly coarse and fossiliferous. On three faces the original surface is entirely lost and the stone has developed a light weathered patina. On the fourth face, which is one of the shorter sides, the stone is less pocked and has a smoother surface suggesting it is closer to the original surface, although it still has a light patina and is not properly finished. This is the face on which the stone was found lying. The underside is also irregular but not markedly so, and is gently concave overall. The pyramidian sits at a marked lean when placed upright and it may be that the base has lost quite a bit of stone, unevenly, to weathering here. An irregular protrusion of stone remains along the lower edge of one of the longer faces, suggesting that this edge at least was only roughly faced, and some of the irregularity of shape may be original.

39936	pointed stela	Figure 3
Material	limestone	
Provenance	lower site, X105 (13042)	
Dimensions	h = 42 cm w = 6–30 cm th = 11 cm	

Intact but heavily weathered pointed limestone stela. The stone is fairly coarse and fossiliferous. No original surfaces are preserved. The narrower faces have been tapered inwards towards the top, which forms a blunt end 6 cm wide, not a true tip. The front and back have probably been left untapered. In parts, a couple of centimetres of stone have been lost to weathering. The base is particularly irregular, but seems originally to have been flat. One face is also more weathered than the other, with deep sand-scored gouges.

39938 (i), (ii)	stela (i) in pyramid (ii)	Figures 4 and 5
Material	limestone	
Provenance	Z105/4 (13338)	
Dimensions	(i) h = 26 cm w = 19.5 cm th = 5.3 cm (ii) h = 55 cm w = 25.5 cm th = 13.4 cm (with stela)	

(i) Stela is of compact fine-grained limestone. The sides have been carved to be roughly flat, using first a broad plain chisel, then (especially visible on right side) with a broad chisel with slightly serrated edge. The top surface has been smoothed and carved with a scene and vertical columns of hieroglyphs. The outlines of the scene have been made with a narrow rounded chisel and some of the intervening spaces then left flat (e.g. between chair legs). The human figures, however, have been given shallowly rounded surfaces, creating a sunk-relief effect. The hair/wigs of the two main figures have been carved in narrow parallel ridges. The hieroglyphs are in eight columns.

In the centre of the scene a man sits on a chair, a horizontal strut connecting the legs. His body faces to the right, but he turns his head to the left to look at the woman. His left arm is at rest, forearm on his legs. He extends his right arm horizontally so that it passes behind the neck and wig of the woman. He sits in a slightly slumped posture, that emphasises his belly, which is given a prominent navel. He wears a long tunic that reaches to his



Figure 4. Decorated stela in a pointed limestone frame, object 39938

ankles; over that a 'kilt' that reaches part way down his calves; then a billowing apron that follows the line of his belly. A tunic sleeve spreads out just above his left elbow. His wig reaches to his shoulders; perched on the crown is a tall narrow 'cone'. The woman sits facing right, slightly slumped, emphasising her rounded belly. Her left arm is not visible; one is to imagine it passing behind the shoulders of the man. Her right arm is bent, the forearm angled quite steeply upwards. She holds an object in her right hand: possibly a fold of linen. She wears a long robe that reaches to just above her ankles; the line of a 'batwing' sleeve is indicated below her left shoulder. On her

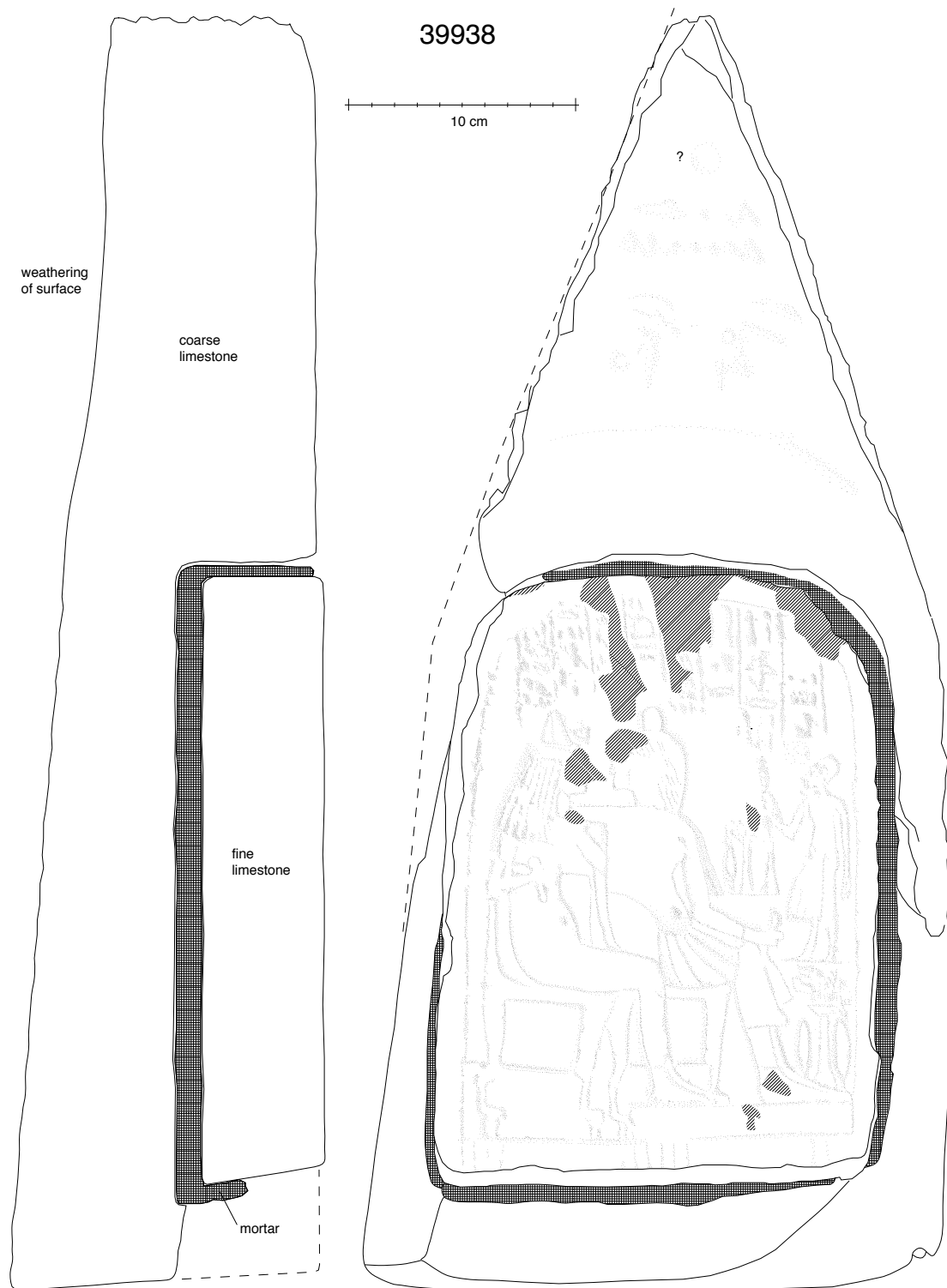


Figure 5. Decorated stela in a pointed limestone frame, object 39938

head is a wig that reaches down well below her shoulders. Its braids are clearly delineated. On the crown of her head is a triangular 'cone' with lotus flower in front. The feet of both figures rest on a low, flat pedestal which stands in front of the chair legs. To the right of the man stands a slim male figure, simply outlined. His left arm hangs vertically down. His right arm is raised, holding a *hes*-vase. Below and in front of his arm is an offering-stand flanked by plant-like shapes. A second offering-stand with flanking plants fills the remaining lower space.

Below the scene is a narrow band divided by vertical strokes, a central group of five and four at the edges. The surface is weathered and beginning to flake. The weathering grows more intense towards the top, partially obliterating the hieroglyphic signs. The faces of the figures have also lost much of their detail.

(ii) The pyramid is made from coarse granular limestone with many fragments of fossil shell visible to the naked eye. Its surface has weathered more than that of the stela and portions of the lower edges have broken off. The block has been roughly shaped to create a rectangle surmounted by a triangle, the overall shape asymmetric. The slab grows progressively thinner from bottom to top. A broad curving band has been indicated by means of a groove, following the outline of the stela. Above this are the eroded traces of two facing *wedjat*-eyes below two long zig-zag water lines. A possible circular shape is above.

The stela has been set into a flat-based hollow that has been cut into the face of the block. It has been cut to be around 0.5–1.0 cm larger than the stela. The stela has been set upon a bed of mortar above 1 cm thick. The surrounding space has then been packed with more of the same mortar. The stela is a few millimetres above the surface of the block. The back of the block is roughly chiselled. Towards the top a patch has been weathered into a smooth concave.

Perfume cone?

39920	hollow cone			Figure 6
Material	unknown			
Provenance	upper site, I54 (13135).			
Dimensions	largest piece: l = 4.5 cm	w = 5.5 cm	max th = 0.17 cm	

Four main fragments of a hollow cone-shaped object from the crown of the head of a burial: Ind. 150. The material is a hard, brittle substance containing many large air cavities. In colour, it is creamy brown with dark stains, mainly on the outside. The matrix contains grains of quartz/sand. On the inside, patches of the surface – irregularly convoluted – bear the impressions of short, randomly clustered lines that criss-cross. Patches also survive on the inside of a thin layer of a pale brown, probably organic, substance. It seems integral to the impressed pattern, covering some parts of it – or are the fine impressed lines the remains of tiny insect tunnels? They run into the cavities.

Kohl and kohl applicator

39919	length of hardened kohl		
Provenance	upper site, L54 (12965)		
Dimensions	l = 3.75 cm	diam = 1.15 cm	

Solid length of heavy mid grey hardened kohl. Has a solidified powdery texture. One end is concave, from where a rounded applicator has been used to retrieve the kohl. The other end is convex, and on the outer surfaces are



Figure 6. Remains of a perfume cone (?), obj. 39920, found atop the head of Ind. 150

fine linear striations running along the length of the piece that seem to be wood grain impressions. Presumably, the wooden tube that once contained the kohl has entirely deteriorated, leaving the kohl moulded to the shape of the cavity. A few white powdery patches on several surfaces.

39923	length of hardened kohl
Provenance	upper site, K53/54 (13131)
Dimensions	l = 1.8 cm diam = 1.0 cm

Solid cylinder of a heavy, dark grey substance that has the texture of solidified powder. Both ends are breaks. All faces have a patchy pale green surface coating. The original surface bears faint linear striations that run lengthwise



Figure 7. Wooden kohl applicator and hardened length of kohl, obj. 39927

and are probably wood grain impressions. The object represents a length of kohl, presumably once contained in a wooden tube that has entirely degraded.

39927	(i) kohl applicator	Figure 7
	(ii) length of hardened kohl	Figure 7
Material	(i) wood	
Provenance	wadi mouth site, AO120/ AP120, (13315)	
Dimensions	(i) l = 21.1 cm diam = 0.32–0.97 cm	
	(ii) l = 4.8 cm diam = 0.6–1.1 cm	

(i) Solid length of dark brown wood, widening at one end to a slight bulb. This end was found against the concave end of the kohl. For the rest of its length, the applicator is of almost uniform diameter, with a very slight taper, before finishing bluntly. The wood here has cracked from weathering but the end is probably original.

(ii) Solid length of a heavy pale greyish brown substance that is presumably kohl (it is lighter in colour than the other examples of such found this year). One end, against which the applicator was still resting, has been hollowed out from use. The other tapers to an irregular blunt tip. The shape seems consistent with the kind of irregularity that might arise from carving out a kohl tube in wood. The outer surface is also covered by linear striations running lengthwise that are presumably wood grain impressions. It is difficult to explain why the applicator survived destruction (presumably by termites) but the tube did not, unless it was in a different type of wood.

Amulets and jewellery

Scarabs and amuletic beads

39902	frog bead	Figures 8 and 9
Material	carnelian	

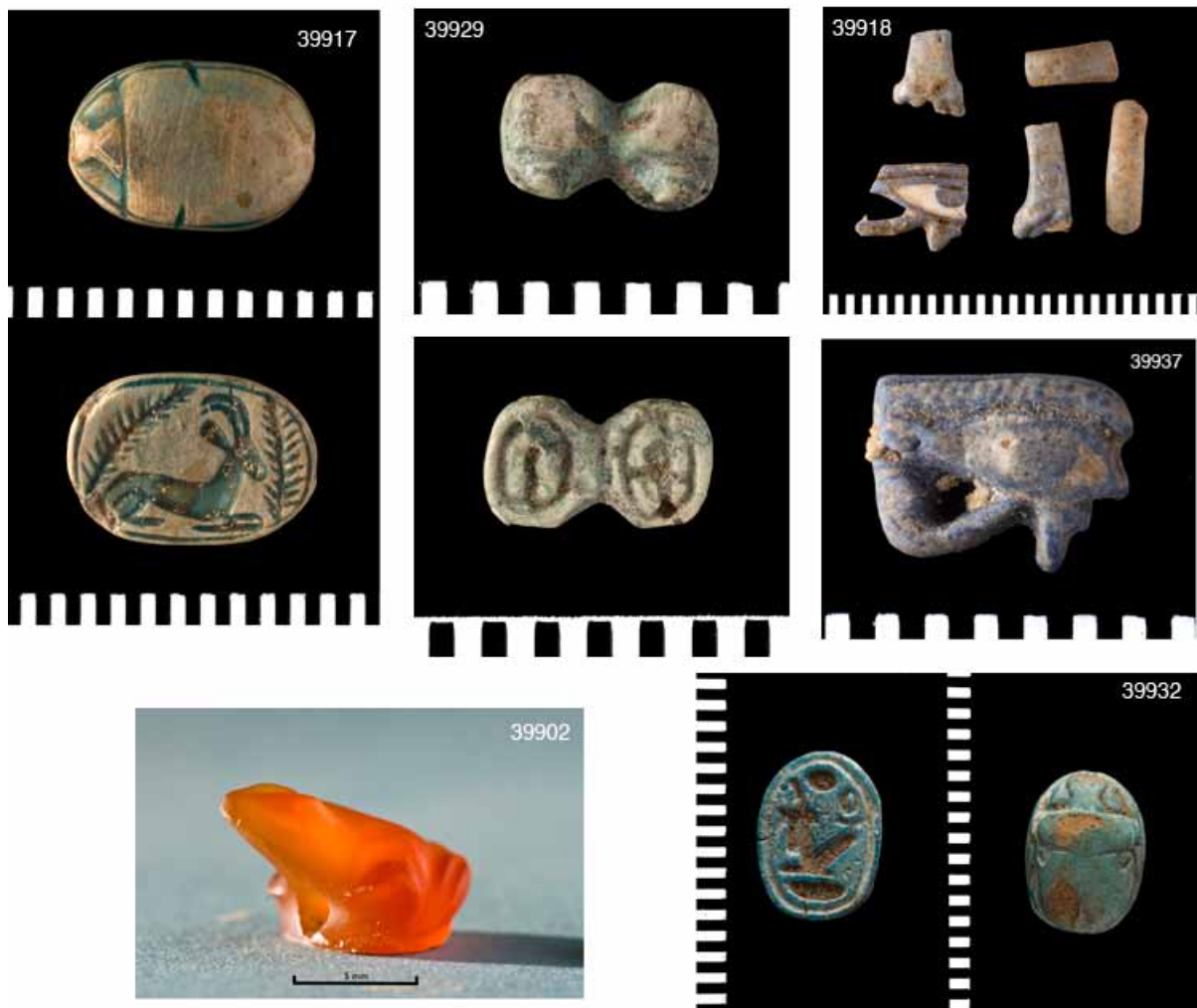


Figure 8. Selection of amulets from the 2010 excavations

Provenance	lower site, V105 (13036); found under the left hand of Ind. 127		
Dimensions	length = 0.93 cm	width = 0.84 cm	height = 0.71 cm

Intact, finely carved bead in the shape of a frog made from translucent carnelian. The colour is a fairly even mid-orange. The base is flat and carved with three fine lines that cross to form a star-like design. The frog sits on its haunches with its head raised, continuing the line of its back. It is slightly asymmetric when viewed from above but the carving is very delicate with all four legs carved in the round, shaping on the face to mark the eyes and top of the head, and fine incisions marking the spine and on either side of the body. An aperture passes from between the front legs to between the back legs. It is circular and well centred, narrowing from front to back from 0.17–0.08 cm. No trace of string survives in the aperture.

39917	scarab with ibex design		
Material	steatite		
Provenance	lower site, X105 (13034); found under the left hand of Ind. 123		
Dimensions	l = 1.67 cm	w = 1.14 cm	th = 0.60 cm

Figures 8 and 9

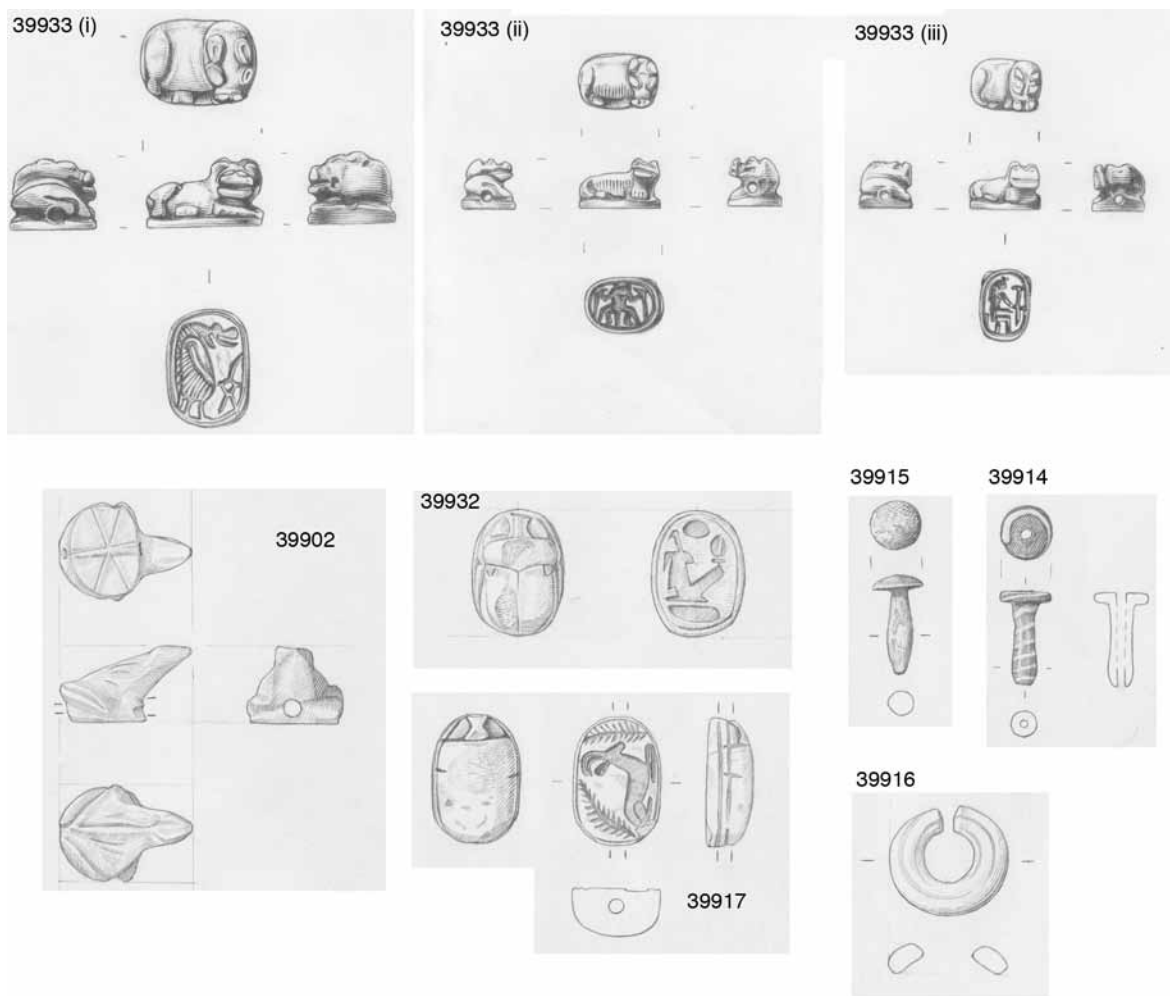


Figure 9. Selection of amulets from the 2010 excavations, illustrated by A. Boyce and M. Shepperson

Intact steatite scarab with a turquoise blue glaze. The glaze has worn away from around 40% of the surface, being strongest in the design recesses. On the underside is a well carved design of an ibex-like animal sitting/lying between two tall floral elements. The scene is surrounded by a finely incised oval border that runs very close to the edge of the base. The carving is of high quality. The scarab is pierced through its longitudinal axis by an aperture 1.7 mm in diameter.

39929	double scarab bead	
Material	steatite or faience	
Provenance	upper site, G/H (13185)	
Dimensions	l = 0.47 cm w = 0.87 cm th = 0.28 cm	

Figure 8

Two tiny scarabs attached side by side and each pierced lengthwise by a circular aperture c. 0.1 cm in diameter. Coated over c. 60% of the surface by a turquoise blue glaze, now presumably faded from its original shade. Body material uncertain. In patches on the upper surface where the glaze is lost the body material is very fine and pale and closer to steatite than faience in appearance. The scarabs seem, however, to be separated by a line of glaze, visible especially on the underside. If this has been used to join two separate scarabs, this technique is better known with faience than stone, but perhaps the glaze is just filling a recess. On the underside of each scarab is a sunken oval border. In one is a sunken *ankh* sign. In the other, an irregular line, one end perhaps obscured by a

flake of glaze. It is not an *ankh* to judge from the lack of cross bar, but perhaps a *shu*-feather, or part of a *nefer* or sceptre. The signs are quite crude, which must in part be due to their small scale. It is not clear if they have been carved or impressed. At the base of the *ankh* a small hole pierces through to the aperture. The upper surface has also been quite crudely shaped. A sunken line demarcates the head and body of each scarab; eyes may also be marked, and the loss of glaze has perhaps obscured other design elements. Both scarabs are very similar in design and size.

39932	scarab inscribed <i>Neb-maat-re</i>	Figures 8 and 9
Material	turquoise blue faience	
Provenance	upper site, T105 (13270)	
Dimensions	l = 1.64 cm w = 1.21 cm th = 0.74 cm	

Intact faience scarab, the colour now strongest on the underside. On the upper surface are three fairly large chips in the glaze, exposing the very fine greyish blue core. The beetle markings are quite detailed. On the underside, is the impressed prenomen of Amenhotep III, the figure of *maat* holding an *ankh* sign. The scene is surrounded by an oval border. There is a little cracking in the glaze on the underside. The aperture is circular and well centred, running lengthwise through the body with a diameter of 0.18–0.2 cm. One end is blocked with sand; in the other is a piece of dark brown organic matter than is almost certainly string.

39933 (i)–(iii)	hippopotamus beads	Figures 9 and 10
Material	steatite	
Provenance	upper site, H54 (13199)	
Dimensions	(i) l = 1.56 cm w = 1.15 cm h = 0.6–0.9 cm	
	(ii) l = 1.01 cm w = 0.78 cm h = 0.43–0.66 cm	
	(iii) l = 0.94 cm w = 0.70 cm h = 0.45–0.65 cm	

(i) Hippopotamus-shaped scaraboid, the largest of the group. Most of the surface bears a green glaze. It is not clear if this is just a thick or slightly discoloured turquoise blue glaze; it is certainly much greener than (ii) and (iii). The carving is of very high quality. The animal lies with its legs protruding on one side and its head turned to the same direction. Apart from the legs and feet, little detail is carved onto the body, although it has been gently rounded to show the animal's bulk. The head is slightly too large for the body. The eyes, ears and snout have all been carved carefully in raised relief, including the nostrils. An incised horizontal line marks the mouth. A further horizontal line separates the animal from a low base. On the underside is a very well carved figure of Taweret in sunk relief. The figure stands in profile with a very clear, deep outline, showing the striding legs, tail, snout with eyes and open mouth. Very fine, parallel, diagonal striations cover the tail; the same, but running at right angles, cover most of the body. In front, the figure holds a *sa*-sign and long, gently curving knife. The bead is pierced longitudinally by a circular, well centred aperture with average diameter 0.16 cm. It widens a little at one end. In the other is a piece of brittle brown string.

(ii) Smaller hippopotamus amulet. The carving is the finest of the three. Most of the surface is covered by a turquoise blue glaze. The animal lies with its legs and feet to the side. The legs, feet and tail are clearly demarcated. Very fine vertical striations delineate the toes and cover the stomach. The head is in better proportion to the body than on the other two figures. The ears, eyes and snout are carefully carved in the round. Fine incisions mark the eyes, nostrils and mouth. The nostrils are slightly exaggerated in profile. The excess stone around the bottom of the animal has been carved away to form a proper pedestal base. On the underside is a well and deeply carved Bes figure shown *en face*, grasping a snake or staff in either hand. The figure has a long tail or phallus running vertically



Figure 10. Steatite hippopotamus beads, obj. 39933

between its legs, the feet angled to that the figure stands/dances on its toes. Two further angled incisions extend from the torso, giving the impression that the figure has four legs. Are these two more snakes or the outline of a structure/object behind the figure? No internal details, although a gentle hollow may be an attempt to outline the face. Clear leonine ears. The scene is surrounded by a fine sunken border. The bead is pierced lengthwise by a circular aperture c. 0.11 cm in diameter, very regular but just slightly off-centre.

(iii) Second small hippopotamus scaraboid. Slightly cruder carving than the other two but still well made. The animal lies with head and feet pointing to the animal's right. The legs/feet are delineated but otherwise there is no further detail apart from fine striations marking folds of fat around the animal's neck. The head is slightly oversized. Ears, eyes and snout are roughly carved in the round. It is possible that further incised details (mouth etc) have been obscured by glaze. The glaze is a turquoise blue and survives across most surfaces, although less so on the underside. Here, there is a deeply and fairly well carved figure of a seated goddess with a vulture or uraeus projecting from the top of the head and holding a staff with a top that has been abbreviated to a horizontal line. She may wear a long wig, but the design here is obscured by flakes of glaze. The design is surrounded by a thin incised oval border. The bead is pierced by a circular well centred aperture 0.11 cm in diameter.

39937	<i>wedjat</i> -eye bead	Figure 8
Material	blue and white faience	
Provenance	lower site, Z105 (13287)	
Dimensions	l = 1.1 cm w = 0.8 cm th = 0.39 cm	

Intact *wedjat*-eye bead. Cobalt blue glaze with the white of the eye inlaid in white. Openwork between the eye proper and the hawk markings below. Quite finely made, with angled striations marking the eyebrow. On the upper edge is a straight groove. On the upper reverse is an impressed *nefer*-sign, relatively sharp. The bead is pierced lengthwise by a small circular aperture, now largely blocked with sand.

Finger rings (excluding pieces of shank only)

39903	<i>wedjat</i> -eye ring	
Material	turquoise blue faience	
Provenance	upper site, K54 (12945)	
Dimensions	(i) length = 2.17 cm width = 0.35–0.71 cm th = 0.22–0.3 cm	
	(ii) length = 1.05 cm width = 0.48–0.63 cm th = 0.19–0.23 cm	
	internal diameter = c. 1.9 cm	

Two pieces of a finger ring; the scale, colour and composition of the faience suggests they are from the same ring. The glaze is relatively thick and adheres directly to the core, which is fine with a pale blue tinge. The glaze is faded in patches. (i) preserves the full depth of the shank and a small part of the bezel, which has an angled incised line along the join with the shank in keeping with a *wedjat*-eye design. A second finished edge shows that the bezel design was openwork. (ii) is from the other 'arm' of the shank and flares out at one end where it must be very close to the original join with the bezel.

39918	<i>wedjat</i> -eye ring	Figure 8
Material	mid blue faience	
Provenance	upper site, L54 (12965)	

Five pieces of a finger ring, which make up the whole ring. *Wedjat*-eye bezel, with the white of the eye filled in with white glaze. Otherwise, the bezel is openwork. The mid blue glaze sits in a very thin, shiny layer over the fine mid blue core. In places, the glaze has developed a resinous appearance. Well made, with a smooth join between bezel and shank.

Pendants

39898	cornflower pendant			
Material	mid blue faience			
Provenance	upper site, L54 (12942)			
Dimensions	l = 1.23 cm	w = 0.5 cm	th = 0.19 cm	bead diam = 0.23 cm

Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). Pendant has a mid blue glaze, now bleached in patches from weathering although still lustrous. The bulb of the flower is plain. The sepals are delineated by fine striations. A thin example; reverse is gently concave along vertical axis. Suspension bead is a turquoise blue faience ring bead. It is well centred, and applied with a small blob of turquoise blue glaze.

39907	date pendant			
Material	turquoise blue glaze			
Provenance	<i>wadi</i> mouth site, AO121 (13097)			
Dimensions	l = x 1.3 cm	w = 0.85 cm	th = 0.3 cm	

Upper half of a date pendant (type D6). The suspension bead has been broken off. Turquoise blue glaze, now matte from weathering. The core is very fine and pale with a light blue tinge. The suspension bead was applied with glaze of the same shade as pendant proper. Flat-backed with a symmetrical cross-section.

Group of floral pendants probably from the same stringing (along with many disc and ring beads)

39908	cornflower pendant				Figure 11
Material	red faience				
Provenance	lower site, Y105 (13064)				
Dimensions	l = 1.1 cm	w = 0.5 cm	th = 0.19 cm	diameter of bead = 0.18 cm	

Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). For a necklace or lowest row of a collar. Bead is a mid blue cylinder bead attached slightly off centre with a blob of the same blue glaze. Pendant is very well preserved, the glaze retaining its lustre. A couple of small cracks in the glaze are original. Flat backed. Slightly asymmetrical in cross section. Lines delineate sepals but no patterning on bulb of flower.

39926	cornflower pendant				Figure 11
Material	mid blue faience				
Provenance	lower site, X105 (13009), 2.5 m from W baulk and 0.9 m from N baulk				
Dimensions	l = 1.13 cm	w = 0.55 cm	th = 0.22 cm		

Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). Glaze now matte but close to original shade. Sepals of flower marked by faint lines, but no markings on flower bulb. Flat backed. Slightly asymmetrical. Small ring bead in turquoise blue



Figure 11. Group of faience lily and cornflower pendants, presumably from a single necklace. The original stringing order is unknown and they are shown here in order of their object numbers. Left to right: objs 39908 (x 1), 39926 (x 1), 39941 (x 1), 39945 (x 1), 39946 (x 3) and 39947 (x 4).

attached at top with a blob (?) of glaze of same shade as pendant body. Slightly off-centre in respect of both vertical and horizontal axes.

39941	cornflower pendant	Figure 11
Material	mid-blue faience	
Provenance	lower site, found between sieve and square Y105 – probably dropped out of a bucket of (13064)	
Dimensions	h = 1.07 cm w = 0.51 cm th = 0.17 cm	

Intact cornflower pendant (type C13a). No detail on bulb of flower, but sepal divisions marked by striations. Short light blue cylinder bead (l = 0.19 cm, outer diam = 0.2 cm) attached at top. Attached with a large blob of glaze of the same colour as the pendant body; the application has obscured/distorted the upper part of the pendant. Relatively thin and even cross-section.

39945 (i)	cornflower pendant	Figure 11
Material	turquoise blue faience	
Provenance	lower site, Y105 (13010)	
Dimensions	h = 1.1 cm w = 0.52 cm th = 0.19 cm	

Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). No design on 'bulb' but sepals appear as ridges. Short cylindrical bead 0.2 cm in outer diameter attached slightly off-centre at top. It and application glaze (if any was used) are the same shade as the pendant proper. Some of the surface lustre lost to weathering. Pendant of regular thickness etc.

39946 (i)–(iii)	(i) lily pendant	Figure 11
	(ii), (iii) cornflower pendants	Figure 11
Material	(i) red faience (ii) cobalt blue faience (iii) turquoise blue faience	
Provenance	lower site, Y105 (13060)	
Dimensions	(i) h = 1.27 cm w = 0.83 cm th = 0.16 cm	
	(ii) h = 1.1 cm w = 0.49 cm th = 0.21 cm	
	(iii) h = 1.1 cm w = 0.54 cm th = 0.2 cm	

(i) Intact lily pendant. Must be close to original shade; still retains much surface lustre. Not very well moulded; some cracks in design and a concavity on the reverse face (from when paste was pressed into mould?). Very thin. At top, a short cylinder bead with external diameter 0.28 cm in the same shade of red has been applied with a blob of glaze again of the same shade. Bead is well centred.

(ii) Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). Glaze in part retains its surface lustre, so presumably close to original shade. At top, a short cylinder bead in turquoise blue faience applied with a blob of glaze the same colour as the pendant body (or simply squashed onto the latter). Suspension bead is well centred. Very slight rim of excess glaze around outer edge.

(iii) Intact cornflower pendant (type C13A). Probably close to its original shade. Design is a little unclear, perhaps due to weathering. At top, a short cylinder bead with external diam 0.2 cm in a very similar shade of blue attached with a small blob of glaze also of a shade close to that of the pendant body. Bead is fairly well centred. Pendant thins gently in section from top to bottom.

39947 (i)–(iv)	lily pendants		Figure 11
Material	(i) red faience (ii) cobalt blue faience (iii) turquoise blue faience		
	(iv) turquoise blue faience		
Provenance	lower site, Y105 (13060)		
Dimensions	(i) h = 1.22 cm w = 0.67 cm th = 0.18 cm		
	(ii) h = 1.1 cm w = 0.54 cm th = 0.19 cm		
	(iii) h = 1.24 cm w = 0.77 cm th = 0.21 cm		
	(iv) h = 1.16 cm w = 0.79 cm th = 0.18 cm		

(i) Lily pendant. Right side lost, probably a moulding error. Retains surface lustre. Short cylinder bead attached at top with small blob of glaze, all in same shade as pendant body. Reverse face slightly concave. Suspension bead well centred.

(ii) Lily pendant. Right side lost. As with (i) this seems to be a moulding error, but it is not certain that these two pieces are from the same mould: this piece is on a slightly smaller scale, although it may just be a neater moulding. At top, a short cylinder bead with outer diameter 0.21 cm in a lighter (still cobalt?) glaze. Joined with a small blob of glaze the same colour as the pendant body. Glaze faded in patches from weathering but still lustrous overall.

(iii) Intact lily pendant, close to its original shade. Surface lightly weathered. A few cracks in glaze may be original, but otherwise design has been moulded sharply. Relatively even thickness. At top, a short cylinder bead with external diameter 0.21 cm in the same turquoise blue, attached with a small blob (?) of glaze also of the same shade.



Figure 12. Ear studs and rings.

(iv) Intact lily pendant, close to its original shade. Surface lustre lost, but largely unweathered. Well made; of regular thickness. Flat-backed. At top, a cylinder/ring bead in a slightly stronger shade of blue (external diam = 0.23 cm) attached with a small blob (?) of blue glaze the same shade as the pendant body.

Ear studs and rings

39914	ear stud	Figure 12
Material	glass	
Provenance	lower site, V105 (13005), from west sector of square	
Dimensions	l = 2.48 cm diameter of head = 1.4 cm diameter of shaft = 0.57–0.65 cm	

Intact (?) ear stud in turquoise blue and very dark blue opaque glass, trailed together so they form a spiral design. Disc head and shaft seem to have been made as one, the disc formed by flattening out one end of a cylinder. Reasonably good quality, although the disc is not perfectly circular and the shaft not quite centred. Small chip in edge of disc. Through the central axis is a subcircular aperture (0.23–0.31 cm) that clearly held the rod around which the glass was wound. Shaft is gently bulbous at end furthest from disc, tapering in towards the latter, although the action of pressing down to make the disc has caused a slight thickening of the shaft along the interface between the two. Was the central aperture plugged?

39915	ear stud	Figure 12
Material	wood	
Provenance	lower site, found between V105 and sieve – probably dropped out of bucket during excavation of (13005) in this square	
Dimensions	l = 2.63 cm diameter of head = 1.23–1.3 cm diameter of shaft = 0.45–0.68 cm	

Intact wooden ear stud. Disc is a low dome, not quite circular. Seems to have been carved as one with the shaft, which is well centred but not quite perpendicular to the disc. The shaft widens in diameter away from the disc, reaching maximum width around two-thirds of the way along its length, and thinning thereafter. Wood is dark brown and smooth. In patches it has a degraded outer 'skin', especially on the shaft, that is perhaps the remains of textile or human tissue.

39916	ear ring	Figure 12
Material	fossiliferous limestone?	
Provenance	lower site, X105 (13026), from western margin of square	
Dimensions	l = 1.54 m w = 1.42 cm th = 0.27–0.38 cm internal diam = 0.63–0.66 cm	

Intact circular ear ring: a relatively small example. Stone is opaque, white and glossy with brown/grey internal lines that curve in concentric circles that follow the shape of the ring itself. Probably a circular fossil that has been carved into a ring. One face is hollowed out from weathering. There is an aperture 0.18 cm wide on one side; the ends of the stone here bevelled to an asymmetrical point, blunt, and better preserved on one end than the other.

39921	ear ring (makes a pair with 39961)	Figure 12
Material	faience	
Provenance	upper site, J/K 54 (13165)	
Dimensions	th = 0.44–0.51 cm outer diam = 2.1 cm inner diam = 1.28 cm	

Intact white faience ear ring. Circular, with bevelled faces. Deliberate gap 0.35 cm wide in one side. Glaze retains partial lustre. Slightly variable thickness; has a 'handmade' appearance. Aperture now partly filled by a brown organic substance.

39930	ear stud	Figure 12
Material	wood	
Provenance	lower site, Z105 (13287)	
Dimensions	l = 1.8 cm shaft w = 0.39–0.43 cm shaft th = 0.42–0.47 cm diameter of head = 0.89–0.92 cm	

Small intact ear stud. Carved in one piece. Reasonably well made. Head is not quite circular; flat-backed with front face a low dome. Shaft is centred but projects at an angle close 80 degrees from the head. Shaft thickens gently away from the head, ending in a tip. Wood is dry and a little cracked along the shaft.

39961	ear ring (makes a pair with 39921)	
Material	white faience	
Provenance	upper site, J/K54 (13165); found in lab during cleaning of Skull 179 of Ind. 157	
Dimensions	external diameter = 2.1 cm internal diameter = 1.3 cm	

Intact ring; a relatively large example. Well made and regular. Flat inner surface and curved outer, with a vague ridge around the outer perimeter. Aperture 0.3–0.4 cm wide with flat ends, not 'bevelled' as is often the case. Surface has lost most of its lustre, but is smooth and regular. Some patchy brown discolouration from contact with organic material; seems also to be a little salt-affected.



Figure 13. Incense lumps, obj. 39906.

Incense

39906	incense		
Provenance	upper site, K54 (13000)		
Dimensions	(i) l = 1.4 cm	w = 1.0 cm	th = 0.86 cm
	(ii) l = 1.3 cm	w = 0.9 cm	th = 0.7 cm

Two lumps and several small chips (not measured) of incense. The outer surfaces are dusty, and in patches sand encrusted. The broken faces are very glossy with a crackled texture. Dark orange and slightly translucent. (ii) has several fairly flat original faces but is not a regular shape. (ii) is more irregular but most faces are also original.