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# NEW STONE SCULPTURES OF HATSHEPSUT FROM DEIR EL-BAHARI

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**Abstract:** Fragmentary stone statuary found in the open-air store of the Temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari belonged most probably to representations of Queen Hatshepsut. Two variants of kneeling statues representing Hatshepsut holding *nw* vases (made of granodiorite and pink limestone) and another type of statue in the form of a sphinx were identified among the remains. The research has led to a restoration of some of the statues and of the inscriptions found on them.

**Keywords:** Hatshepsut, stone sculptures, Deir el-Bahari, fragments of kneeling statues with *nw* vases, fragments of sphinxes, inscriptions

The open-air store on the Lower Terrace of the Temple of Hatshepsut in Deir el-Bahari holds a collection of stone statuary fragments coming from Herbert Winlock's excavations carried out for the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 1926–1927 (Winlock n.d.: 38; 1928: Pls 46, 52, 60). The fragments belonged to statues of Hatshepsut.

Studies of this material were part of an extended project to document all the artefactual material from the temple store (Szafranski 2010: 265). In 2008/2009 the author was able to record 1587 fragments. Of these, 376 fragments belonged to the middle parts of granite statues (jointly registered under ST.123) and 1009 fragments had one, two or three worked surfaces, but could not be attributed to any specific part of a statue (ST. 124).

Fragments of statues made of pink and red granite were classified by type based on the identification of characteristic statue parts:

– kilt-*šnd.wt*

ST.178–190, ST.197–199, ST.641–643, ST.645–646, ST.648–658, ST.664, ST.666, ST.668–669, ST.671, ST.673, ST.676, ST.679–680, ST.683;

– kilt-*šnd.wt* or *nemes*

ST.182, ST.185, ST.641, ST.644, ST.647, ST.655, ST.659, ST.661–663, ST.665, ST.667, ST.670, ST.675, ST.678, ST.681, ST.1069;

– *nemes* and parts of heads

ST.151–168, ST.195–196, ST.660, ST.672, ST.674, ST.677, ST.734, ST.735–736;

– hands and *nw* vases

ST.125–150, ST.192–194, ST.719,

- ST.1165, ST.1167;  
 – legs  
 ST.138, ST.713–714, ST.716, ST.720,  
 ST.726, ST.728;  
 – inscriptions  
 ST.169, ST.684–712, ST.747–748,  
 ST.1129, ST.1139, ST.1207;  
 – sphinx paws  
 ST.139, ST.170–177, ST.682, ST.715,  
 ST.717–718, ST.721–727, ST.729,  
 ST.731–733, ST.737–740, ST.1203–  
 1206;  
 – other parts  
 ST.1166, ST.1168, ST.1200, ST.1201.

Fragments of statues made of what Herbert Winlock identified as black granite (Winlock 1928: 46; n.d.: 190, 192) were classified separately owing to the limited number of recorded fragments (ST.100–122, ST.191, ST.1124, ST.1126). The color of the rock and its characteristics suggest that it is rather granodiorite (Klemm, Klemm 2008: 259–264), although without petrographic studies the issue cannot be settled with certainty.

The identified fragments of statues belonged to two variants of kneeling statues with *nw* vases and a sphinx type.

## TYPE I: KNEELING STATUES WITH *NW* VASES

### A. GRANODIORITE STATUARY

These fragments may have been mentioned by Herbert Winlock in his article (1928: 46) and *Notebook* (n.d.: 190–193). Their finding illustrates that critical comment of Roland Tefnin, who did not deny the existence of statues of Hatshepsut made of black granite, i.e., granodiorite (Tefnin 1979: 71, Note 3), but suggested that Winlock's identification had been wrong. An analysis of the statue pieces from the store suggests that there had once been at least two variants with *nw* vases:

**Statue A** — ruler kneeling with *nw* vases in his hands, wearing a Double Crown [*Fig. 1*, left]. Preserved top of Double Crown (ST.105) and practically the entire right hand with *nw* vase (ST.100+102+103+115).

**Statue B** — ruler kneeling, holding *nw* vases. Preserved parts of fingers from the right hand with fragment of *nw* vase (ST.101).

Winlock (n.d.: 190) was of the opinion that the two fragments represented a pair of

statues. His opinion was based apparently on two pink granite statues of Hatshepsut found in her temple at Deir el-Bahari, both depicted in the same position, one wearing a White Crown (New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 30.3.1; head of statue in Berlin, Bode Museum, 2279) and the other a Double Crown (see below, Statue D).

However, our Statue B cannot be identified as wearing a White Crown for lack of evidence. It could very well have had a *nemes*, considering that statues of a kneeling Hatshepsut in just such a headdress were discovered in the temple at Deir el-Bahari (Cairo, Egyptian Museum, JE 53115; New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 29.3.1; New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 30.3.2). Barring the discovery of conclusive evidence concerning the headdress, this issue will have to remain open.

The granodiorite fragments of statues in the assemblage could be identified for the most part, but their well polished surfaces indicated that the statues had been finished in all likelihood.

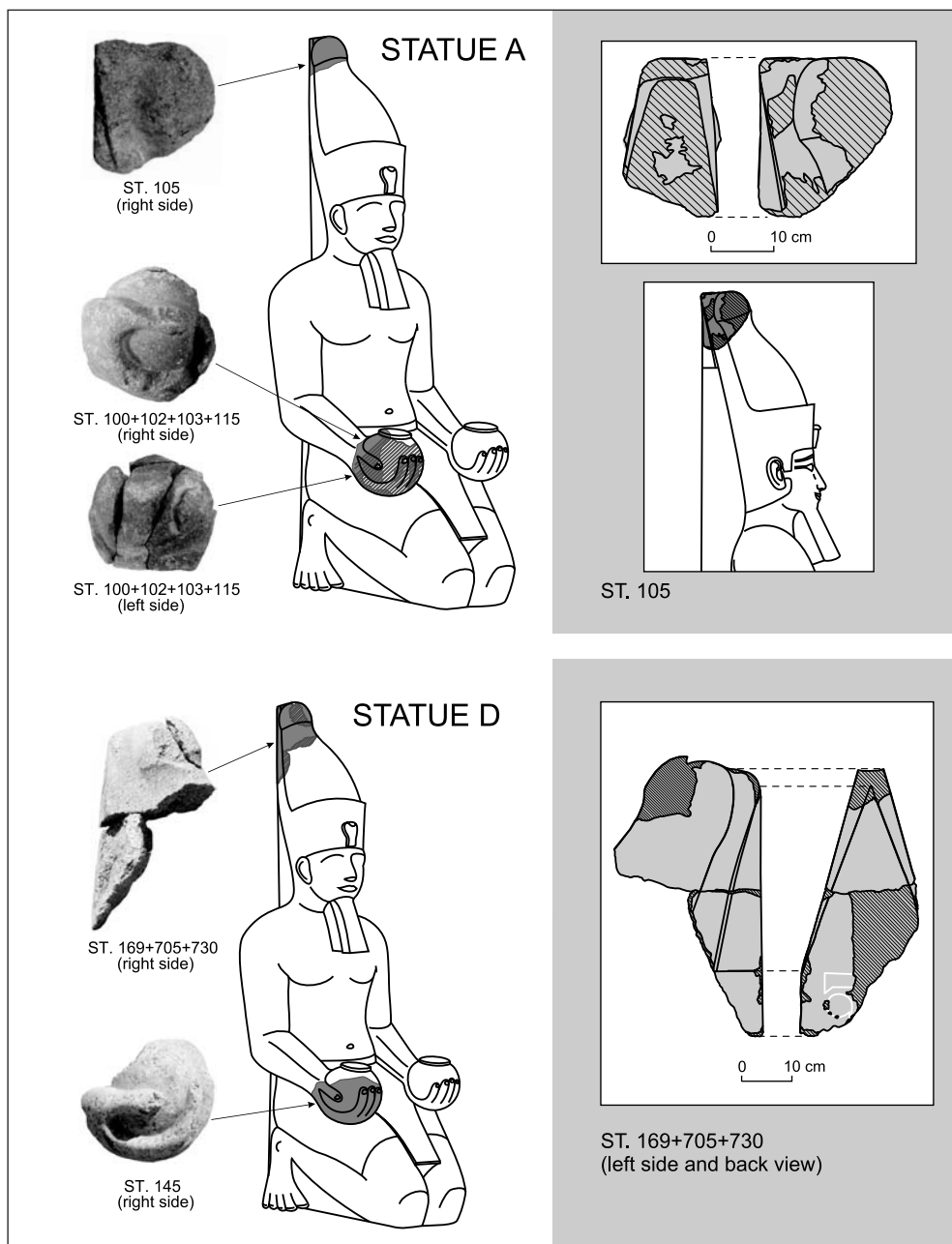


Fig. 1. Kneeling figure of Hatshepsut wearing a double crown and holding nw vases: top, variant made of granodiorite (Statue A); bottom, variant made of pink granite (Statue D)

B. PINK GRANITE STATUARY

Fragments of these statues were mentioned by Herbert Winlock in his *Notebook* (n.d.: 198–204). Preserved pieces could be attributed to one or possibly two statues:

**Statue C** — kneeling figure with *nw* vases, wearing a *nemes* [Fig. 2]. The following fragments may belong to this statue: frontal part of a *nemes* (ST.151) and right forearm (ST.143+144). However, the *nemes* fragment may have come from a different kind of statue, like a walking (Cairo, Egyptian Museum, JE 52458) or sitting (New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 29.3.3) statue of Hatshepsut. The

issue of the identification of the *nemes* fragment must remain open for lack of additional corroborative evidence.

Six fragments of the back slab of Statue C (ST.688+695, ST.690+696, ST.692, ST.699, ST.701+702, ST.708) were identified presently in the store. ST.701+702 from the upper part of the slab contained a fragmentary text in two columns:

↓→ *Imn-R<sup>c</sup> ...*  
 ↓← *nsw.t bjtj nb t3.wj ...*

→↓← direction of the hieroglyphs  
 [ ] reconstruction of damaged or obliterated hieroglyphic signs

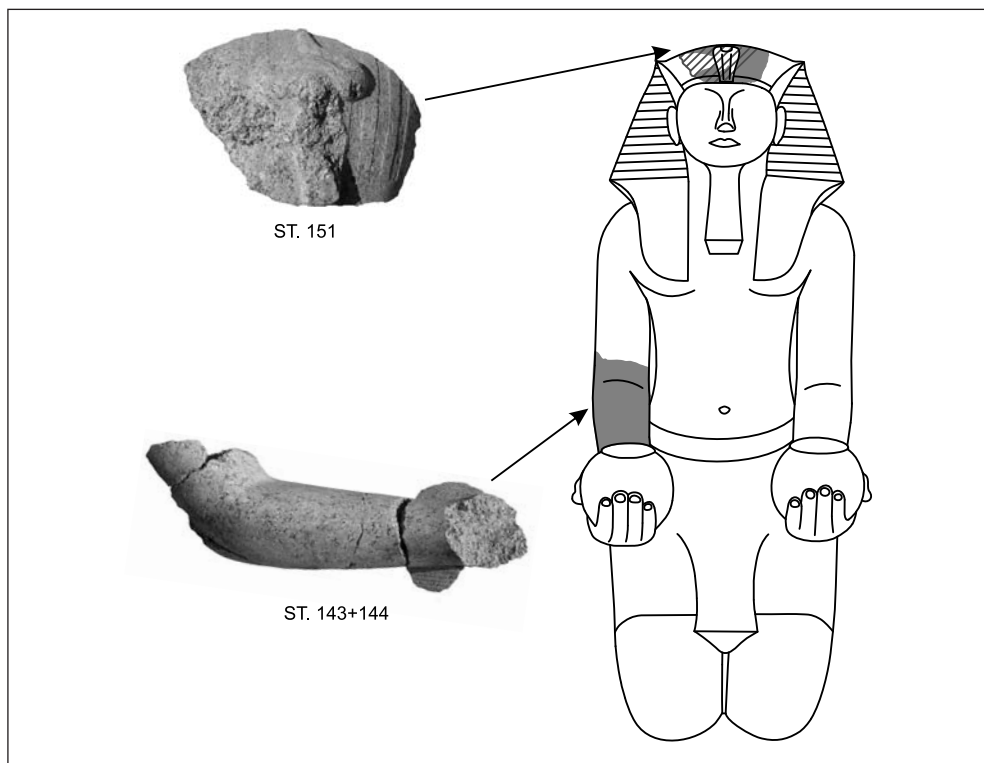


Fig. 2. Kneeling figure of Hatshepsut wearing a *nemes* and holding *nw* vases, variant made of pink granite (Statue C)

The remaining five fragments were assigned to the back slab based on characteristic dividing lines at the bottom or sides of the hieroglyphic signs. Virtually all the fragments featured a polished lateral surface.

The text on the back slab turned out to be nearly identical with that on an identical statue in *nemes* headdress now on display in Cairo (Egyptian Museum, JE 53115). It proved possible to reconstruct this text based on comparisons with a parallel inscription from Cairo and Winlock's drawings (n.d.: 200) [Fig. 3A]:

↓→ *Imn-R<sup>c</sup> [nb ns.wt t3.wj] hntj [Ipt]-s.wt*  
*[hrj-jb] Dšr-Dšr.w mrj.t*  
 ↓← *nsw.t bjtj nb t3.wj [M3<sup>c</sup>.t-k3-R<sup>c</sup> S3.t R<sup>c</sup>*  
*Hnm.t-I]mn [H3.t-šps.wt dj 'nh] mj*  
*[R<sup>c</sup> d.t]*

*Beloved of Amun-Re [Lord of the Thrones of the Two Lands] who presides over Ipet-Sut and who [resides in] Djoser-Djeseru King of Upper and Lower Egypt [Maatka-Re, daughter of Re Henemet-A]mun, [Hatshepsut, endowed with life] like [Re eternally]*

**Statue D** — kneeling figure with *nw* vases, wearing a Double Crown [Fig. 1, bottom]. This sculpture included the top of a Double Crown with the top part of a back pillar (ST.169+705+730) and possibly the right hand with *nw* vase (ST.145).

The stones in the lapidary included parts of two right hands: fragment ST.128+129 and piece ST.145. One of these could have belonged to Statue D, the other to a statue of Hatshepsut now on display in Cairo (which is missing

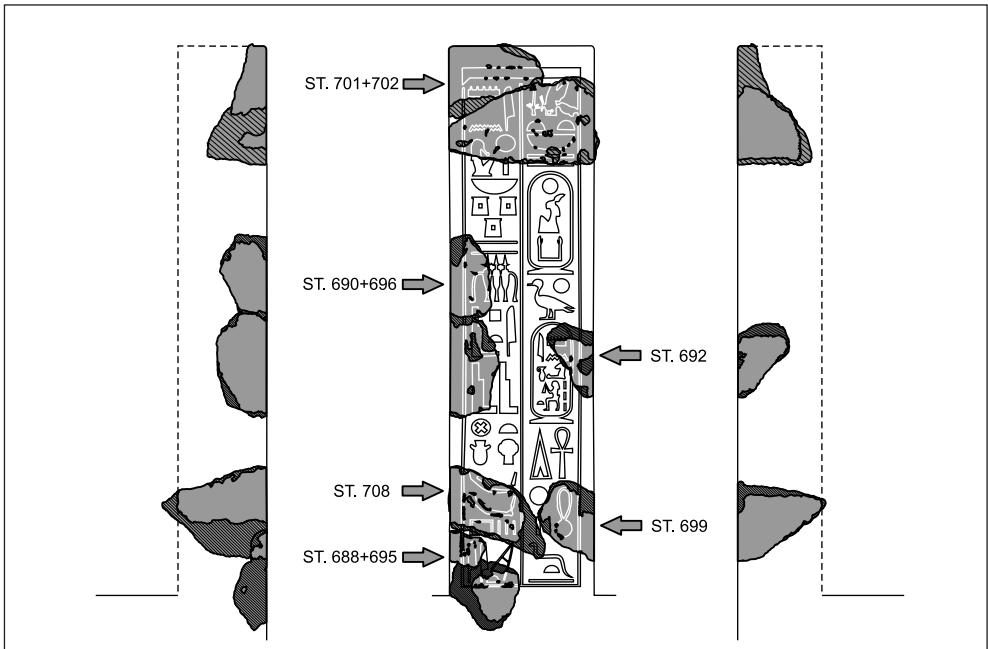


Fig. 3A. Inscribed fragments: back slab of Statue C

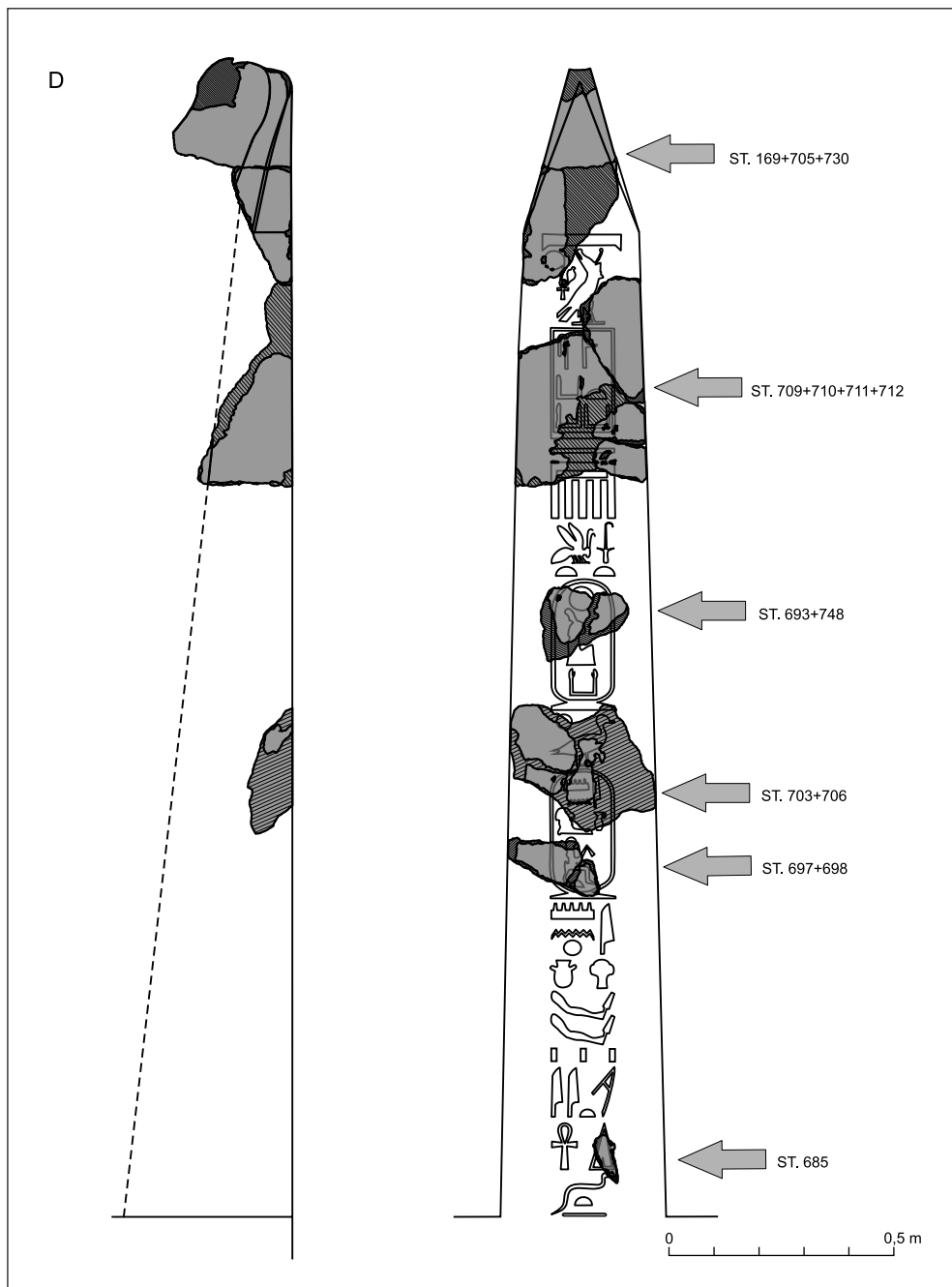


Fig. 3B. Inscribed fragments: dorsal pillar of Statue D

both hands; Cairo, Egyptian Museum, JE 53115). All the other kneeling statues of Hatshepsut retain their right hand.

An analysis of the fragments of two right hands suggests that the fingers on the piece ST.128+129 are wider by 0.5 cm than on fragment ST.145. Statues of Hatshepsut in a *nemes* are known to be of bigger proportions than those in a crown. For example, the height of the statue in a White Crown is 175 cm (New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 30.3.1), but in a *nemes* 190 cm (New York, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 29.3.1) from the top surface of the base to the eyes (Winlock n.d.: 165). It might be supposed that piece ST.128+129 belonged to a statue in a *nemes*, but ST.145 could have come from Statue D.

Among the inscribed fragments one can distinguish parts of the dorsal pillar of Statue D (ST.169+705+730, ST.685, ST.693+748, ST.697+698, ST.703+706, ST.709+710+711+712). The inscription on the dorsal pillar was reconstructed also based on Winlock's drawing (n.d.: 204) and a comparison of the text with that on a dorsal pillar of a kneeling statue of Hatshepsut in a White Crown (Winlock n.d.: 168).

Only the dorsal pillar of Statue D is still preserved in the lapidary. It is the top of a Double Crown and the top of the dorsal pillar with an inscription (ST.169+705+730). Another part of the back pillar of Statue D (ST.709+710+711+712) preserves a *serekh* with the Horus name of Hatshepsut:

↓→ *Hr Wsr.t-k3.w...*

Polished lateral surfaces have been preserved on either side of this text, indicating the widening of the pillar toward the bottom. The full text on the back pillar could have run as follows [Fig. 3B]:

↓→ *Hr Wsr.t-k3.w [nsw.t bjtj] M3<sup>c</sup>.t-[k3]-  
R<sup>c</sup> S3(.t) [R<sup>c</sup> Hnm.t]-Imn [H3.t]-šps.  
(w)[t mrj.t Imn-R<sup>c</sup> hrj-jb Dšr-Dšr.w]  
dj [ᶜnh] d.t*

*HorusUserkau, [King of Upper and Lower Egypt] Maat-[ka]-Re, daughter of Re Henemet]-Amun, [Hat]shepsu[t, beloved of Amun-Re who resides in Djeser-Djeseru], endowed with [life] eternally*

A comparison of the dimensions of several pieces of granodiorite and pink granite statues indicates difference in the scale/proportion of these sculptures. For example, the size of the balls of the Double Crowns of statues made of granodiorite (ST.105) and granite (ST.169+705+730) demonstrated the bigger dimensions of the latter (it was larger by 1.5 cm). The *mw* vase of the granodiorite Statue A (ST.100+102+103+115) was slightly smaller than that of the granite one Statue D (ST.145): 24 cm and 27 cm respectively. The fingers of the granite Statue D also proved wider than those of the granodiorite one Statue A. On the grounds of this analysis, it can be suggested that Statue A was smaller than Statue D.

The kneeling statues of Hatshepsut represented by the stone fragments in the temple store may have once adorned the Upper Terrace of the Queen's temple in Deir el-Bahari (Tefnin 1979: 71; Winlock n.d.: 162).



## TYPE II: RED GRANITE SPHINXES

Three fragments (ST.175+176+177) could be recomposed as the front paw of a sphinx [Fig. 4]. Other body frag-

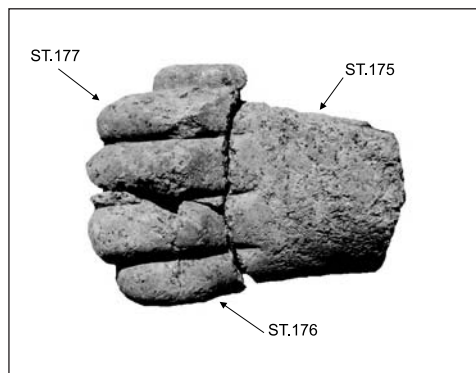


Fig. 4. Paw of a sphinx (statue type II)

ments that were identified included knees (ST.721, ST.722, ST.723, ST.727), ribs (ST.717, ST.718), manes (ST.737, ST.738, ST.739) and *nemes* pigtail (ST.734, ST.735, ST.736). These fragments could have belonged to statues of sphinxes, like those now in the museum collections in Cairo, New York and Berlin (Tefnin 1979: 102–120; Winlock n.d.: 70–100).

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