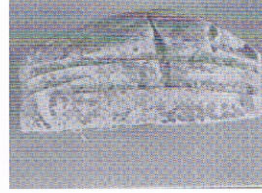
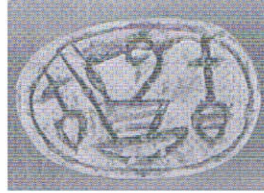
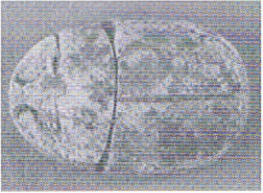
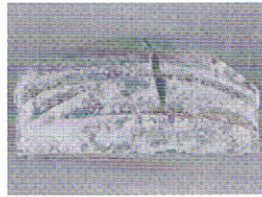
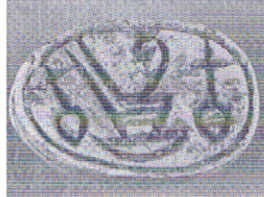
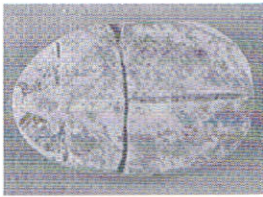


SIDON. SCARABS FROM THE 2001 SEASON OF EXCAVATION: ADDITIONAL NOTES

CHRISTA MLINAR

All scarabs were made in Egypt and imported.

Burial 1



1690 and 1691

Corr.: Ward 1978, 55-6, pl. XII
(instead of XIII)

Corr.: Tufnell 1984, 119-120,
pl. XI (instead of XII). Design Class
3B3a. I won't mention the Red
crowns without the *nb*-sign
in the parallels. I will delete
all comparanda from Hornung/
Staehelein 1976, because they
are without an *nb*-sign. Red

crowns on the *nb*-basket definitely predate those without. That means that the red crowns on *nb* already occur from the end of the 11th dynasty to 12th dynasty if they are the main motif. Later in the 13th dynasty they are shown only as a side motif together with many *nefer* signs (see Tufnell 1984, Design Class 3B3a)

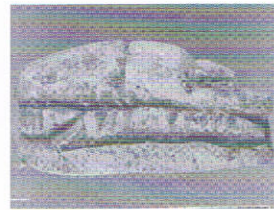
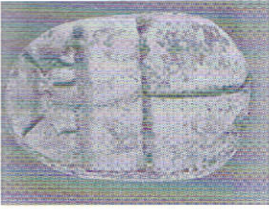
The scarabs are published in *Levant* 36, J. H. Taylor, 2004, "Scarabs from the Bronze Age Tombs at Sidon (Lebanon)", pp. 155-158.

Parallels that should be mentioned:

- Byblos (Dunand 1937/39, 94 and pl. 130, 1380). Red crown on *nb* between *s3* and *kha*-sign; 12th dynasty context.
- Byblos (Dunand 1937/39, 94 and pl. 130, 1403). Red crown on *nb* between two *nfr*-signs; 12th dynasty context. Closest parallel, Kahun (Petrie/Brunton/Murray 1923, pl. 64, 285), measurements ca. the same 11-11,5 mm; upper part with the red crown flanked by *nfr*-signs; in the middle of the scarab a scroll and the lower part lost.
- Rifeh (Petrie 1907: pl. 23. 2; Tomb 111). Red crown on *nb* between *ankh*-sign and Red crown; Elephantine (Von Pilgrim 1996, 245, Abb. 101, 20, and 210): symmetrical crowns on *nb* below *sema tawj*-sign. Uronarti (Reisner 1955: fig. 7, 117) red crown on *nb* with spirals ending in buds); (Reisner 1955, fig. 14, 369), Red crown on *nb*-sign between two *ankh*-signs; (Reisner 1955: fig. 14, 370), Red crown on *nb*-sign between *ankh* and *s3*-sign?

The great majority of the Uronarti seal impressions are from the 13th dynasty, but as on most sites with mostly 13th dynasty scarabs – like Kahun or Elephantine – there are always some 12th dynasty scarabs or impressions.

1696

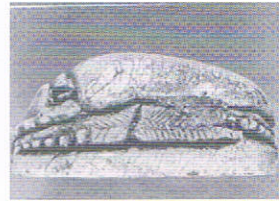
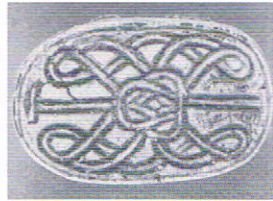
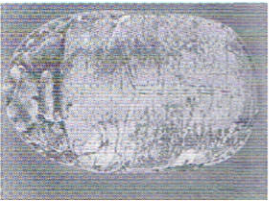


Corr.: Niccacci 1980 was wrongly quoted, most probably Taylor meant Tav. 2, 51 = Tav. 9, 51 (instead of Tav. 2, 62 7).

Tufnell 1984, 116-7, pl. IV Design 2A: As a comparison you can only take the numbers 1116-1130 from the Montet jar that is dated to the early 12th dynasty (Daphna Ben-Tor 1998). Hornung/Staehelin is indeed of the Hyksos period but the features of the back and legs are totally different, namely they were in the late Second Intermediate style. This scarab cannot be compared with the Sidon scarab with the divided elytra.

Conclusion for burial 1: the date is first half of 12th dynasty.

Burial 4 1755



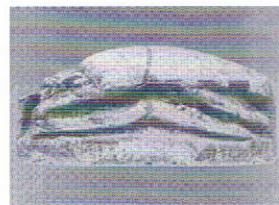
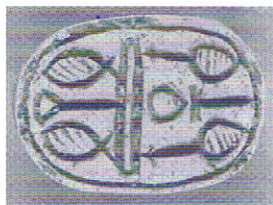
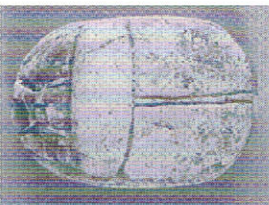
The only exact parallel is from Byblos (Dunand 1937/39, 94 and pl. 130, 1423). The scarab comes from a 12th dynasty context. All other comparanda are

variations of this design (convoluted, knot-like) and are dated mostly to the 13th dynasty.

– Mayana (Petrie/Brunton 1924, pl. 43, 3; Cemetery K, tomb 1926). This tomb is dated to the 17th dynasty but can be an heirloom from the 13th or early 15th dynasty.

Conclusion for burial 4: the date is most probably 13th dynasty = Tell el-Dab'a Str. F (because of the head and back features of the Sidon scarab) although a late 12th dynasty date is not completely impossible.

Burial 10 1780



Corr.: The examples of Ward 1978: pl. VIII, 226-28 and Pl. XII, 319 are - because of their head, back and leg features - from the 12th dynasty and are not comparable with the Sidon scarab. The head of the Sidon scarab is typically of the 13th dynasty.

Corr.: Tufnell 1984, pl. VIIIb, 1434. This is the only parallel on this plate and comes from Tell el-Ajjul (Str. III = Early MBIB). This scarab is definitely imported from Egypt.

Further parallels:

– Uronarti (Reisner 1955, fig. 13, 316, 323-344): variations of the horizontal bar with three different signs above and beneath the 13th dynasty bar. The lack of finds outside of Egypt (except a few exported scarabs) proves that this is a purely Egyptian design.

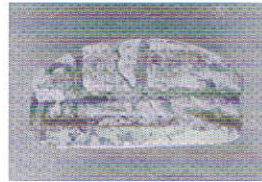
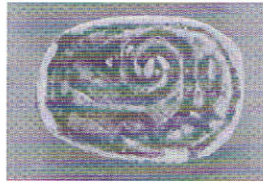
Conclusion for burial 10: the date is 13th dynasty (=Tell el Dab'a Str. F).

Burial 12

1808

Ward 1978, pl. IX = most parallels are with the Montet jar that is dated to the early 12th dynasty Tufnell 1984: pl. IV: the parallels

63



with the Montet jar are dated to the early dynasty; the other scarabs from Jericho, Tell el-Farah South and Tell el-Ajjul, in their many variations,

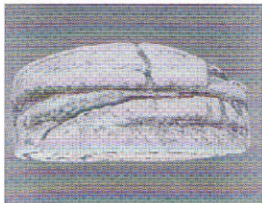
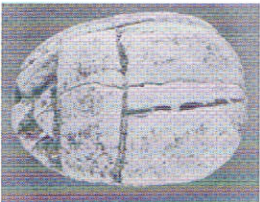
can be dated from the 12th dynasty (imported) till the end of the 15th dynasty (imitations). In this case it is very important to look at the the back and leg features.

Further parallels:

- Byblos (Dunand 150, pl. 199, 15905), a very close parallel from the 12th dynasty
- Uronarti (Reisner 1955, fig. 5, 89), as it is a seal impression and no back and leg features are known, it is hard to say whether this impression was made with a 12th or 13th dynasty scarab.

1809

I think both scarabs 1809 and 1810 have the same design, namely



two *nefer*-signs instead of the *sa*-sign Taylor suggested (the photo shows that on 1809 where he suggested the *sa*-sign the scarab is a little damaged)

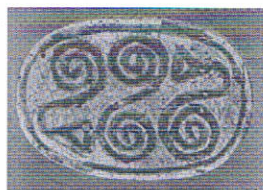
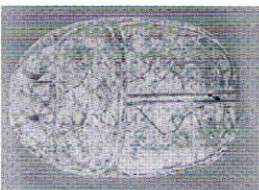
– Byblos (Dunand 1950, pl. 199, 7658 and 6922), has a similar design especially because of its small size dated to the 12th dynasty. A late Second Intermediate date is impossible as in Byblos no “Hyksos” stratum was found.

- The very few - 3-4 scarabs out of nearly 200 scarabs - of the Second Intermediate Period are without context and probably brought in at a later date to this site.
- Qau (Brunton 1930, pl. 4, 8 – tomb 71918 and pl. 4, 9 – tomb 4998), (L: 11 und 8,5 mm); the small size and the same backs as the Sidon scarabs indicate a date close to the (early) 12th dynasty. The whole group on pl. 4 shows only scarabs and button seals from the late 11th till the late 12th/early 13th dynasty.
- Uronarti (Reisner 1955, fig. 6, 110), one of the 12th dynasty impressions.

1810

Motif and parallels like 1809

Conclusion for burial 12: date is from the first half of the 12th dynasty.



The small size of the scarabs of Burial 1 and 12 indicates a date pertaining to the early 12th dynasty.

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