

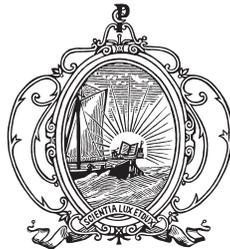
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Leuven, 26-30 August 2008

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ORIENTAL INSTITUTE DEMOTIC OSTRACA ONLINE (OIDOO): MERGING TEXT PUBLICATION AND RESEARCH TOOLS

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INTRODUCTION

Accession

The Oriental Institute Museum of the University of Chicago houses a substantial collection of Demotic ostraca, numbering roughly 900 sherds¹. However, it is entirely possible that there are more ostraca currently unregistered or mislabeled in the Oriental Institute Museum collection. As outlined below, the collection came to the Oriental Institute in eight distinct accession groups. Three sources form the core of the collection, with an additional five contributing several dozen pieces.

- Accession 348² consists of 581 Demotic ostraca obtained during the excavation campaigns of Uvo Hölscher at Medinet Habu in 1929-1930. As these are on loan to the Oriental Institute from the Supreme Council of Antiquities, they have MH numbers, but no OIM numbers. We possess a recorded excavated find spot for many of the MH ostraca, a rarity among the collection of the OIM ostraca as a whole. The remaining Medinet Habu Demotic ostraca remain in Egypt.
- Accession 3289 (OIM 18876-19419; 24303-24307, 25040) consists of nearly 550 ostraca purchased by members of the Epigraphic Survey, including the important collection of H. Nelson. Roughly 160 of these

¹ A terse overview of the collection was published by U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Die Medinet Habu Ostraca: Excavation of the Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago 1928/29', in J. Johnson (ed.), *Life in a Multicultural Society: Egypt from Cambyses to Constantine* (SAOC 51; Chicago, 1992), 165-168. We would like to thank Ray Tindel, Helen McDonald, Gil Stein, Geoff Emberling and the Oriental Institute Museum for their permission to publish the Oriental Institute Demotic ostraca.

² The Oriental Institute Museum registrar attributes numbers to items or groups of items as they enter the museum collection. All supporting documents are kept on file according to these accession numbers. As accession 348 is actually on loan, its official designation is LI-348 (loan incoming).

ostraca contain Demotic texts, 61 of which have been published by Brian Muhs, all from the Nelson collection³.

- Accession 63 (OIM 6928-7125) consists of a gift of nearly 200 ostraca from Edward E. Ayer in 1903, roughly 83 of which bear Demotic texts⁴. Many similar ostraca were donated by Ayer to the Field Museum of Natural History (FMNH) in Chicago and although the majority still await full publication, several were published by Kaplony-Heckel⁵. In January of 1930, Thomas George Allen compared the ostraca from the two collections as noted in the registration files:

Dr. Allen took the collection of 198 Ostraka (sic), bearing Demotic and Coptic inscriptions, to the Field Museum for the purpose of comparing the collections with a view of finding similar pieces. As a result of the comparison, pieces 6954 and 6959 of the Haskell collection were found to belong to one another. Also pieces 7054 and 7091 of the Haskell collection, and piece 31632-238 of the Field Museum were found to belong to one another. In exchange for this Field Museum piece, Dr. Allen gave piece 7014 of the Haskell collection.

- Accession 3447 (OIM 19478-19515) contains 36 demotic ostraca purchased in Egypt and acquired by the Oriental Institute in September of 1959, as noted in the accession files: “provenience unknown, possibly purchased during excavation at Medinet Habu, according to Dr. Hughes.”
- Accession 3658 (OIM 30000-30038), accessioned in 1986, consists of items from the estate of George R. Hughes acquired partly from the Edgerton estate and partly from purchases made in Egypt. This accession contains 9 Demotic ostraca.
- Accession 3652 (OIM 25292-25386) consists of roughly 130 ostraca purchased by John Wilson. The great majority of these ostraca contain

³ B. Muhs, *Tax Receipts, Taxpayers, and Taxes in Early Ptolemaic Thebes* (OIP 126; Chicago, 2005).

⁴ The Greek texts from this collection were published by E. Goodspeed, ‘Greek Ostraca in the Haskell Museum’, *AJA* 11:4 (1907), 441-444.

⁵ E.g. FMNH 31632-161 in U. Kaplony-Heckel, ‘Das Acker-Amt in Theben-West von 151 bis 141 v. Chr.’, *Enchoria* 18 (1991), nr. 17, 57-58; FMNH 31.632-153 in U. Kaplony-Heckel, ‘Theben-Ost I: Acker-Schreiber und Familien-Archive nach den demotischen *r-rh=w* Ostraka’, *ZÄS* 120 (1993), 64 and U. Kaplony-Heckel, ‘Theben-Ost II: Zwölf neue *r-rh=w* Quittungen und fünf Kurz-Quittungen aus dem Acker Amt’, *ZÄS* 126 (1999), 49-50; FMNH 31632-184 in U. Kaplony-Heckel, ‘Demotische “Aruren-Ostraka” aus Theben’, in Bernard Palme (ed.), *Akten des 23. Internationalen Papyrologenkongresses, Wien, 22.-28. Juli 2001* (Papyrologica Vindobonensia 1; Wien, 2007), 337.

hieratic literary texts which have been published by John Foster⁶. Apart from these hieratic examples, there are 15 Coptic ostraca and 7 Demotic ostraca. According to a letter of John A. Wilson, dated April 1974:

Between 1928 and 1931 I bought more than a hundred ostraca in western Thebes. Nearly all of them were scraps, limestone or pottery fragments. This leads to the suspicion that they may have been stolen from a dig, like the French dig at Deir el-Medineh. Of course many of them have come from clandestine excavation by the locals. As time permits I copied them and identified as many as I could. In the move from old Chicago House on the west bank to new Chicago House on the east, some of them seem to have disappeared. There seem to be about eighty scraps here ...

- Accession 2113 (OIM 17010-17230 and OIM 17264-17272) consists of a wide variety of items acquired in 1936 from the estate of James H. Breasted, including several Demotic ostraca.
- Accession 64 consists of a distribution of finds from the Egypt Exploration Fund 1901–2. Included is a single limestone rock with a short Demotic text on one side recorded as deriving from Abydos.

Publications

Of those ostraca excavated at Medinet Habu, Miriam Lichtheim published 160 in her monograph *Demotic Ostraca from Medinet Habu*⁷. Photos of the unpublished Medinet Habu pieces remain in the Oriental Institute Archives under the supervision of Archivist John Larson and there is also an envelope in the files of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary project containing photographs and hand copies of a selection of the unpublished Demotic ostraca from Medinet Habu. This envelope was presented to Janet Johnson by Miriam Lichtheim⁸. Brian Muhs published 61 ostraca from the Nelson collection (accession 3289) in his monograph *Tax Receipts, Taxpayers, and Taxes in Early Ptolemaic Thebes*⁹. Muhs had

⁶ J. Foster, 'Hymn to the Inundation: Four Hieratic Ostraca', *JNES* 32:3 (1973), 301-310; J. Foster, 'Oriental Institute Ostrakon #12074, "Menna's Lament" or "Letter to a Wayward Son"', *JSEEA* 14:4 (1984), 88-99; J. Foster, 'Texts of the Egyptian Composition "The Instruction of a Man for His Son" in the Oriental Institute Museum', *JNES* 45:3 (1986), 197-211; J. Foster, 'Oriental Institute Ostrakon 25346 (Ostrakon Wilson 100)', in D. Silverman (ed.), *For His Ka: Essays Offered in Memory of Klaus Baer* (Chicago, 1994), 87-98.

⁷ M. Lichtheim, *Demotic Ostraca from Medinet Habu* (OIP 80; Chicago, 1957).

⁸ We would like to thank Janet Johnson for permission to cite documents among the files of the Chicago Demotic Dictionary.

⁹ Muhs, *Tax Receipts*.

examined these ostraca with his dissertation advisor Ursula Kaplony-Heckel, who included many Medinet Habu and Oriental Institute ostraca in her important publications of Demotic ostraca¹⁰. Two other Medinet Habu ostraca were published by Parker and Neugebauer respectively¹¹. The remaining OIM Demotic ostraca await scholarly publication.

Oriental Institute Demotic Ostraca Online (OIDOO)

In the fall of 2006, the authors began a pilot project to catalog the Oriental Institute Demotic ostraca into a database for the benefit of the Oriental Institute Museum registry. It quickly became apparent that the information in this database would serve a useful purpose to the scholarly community via the internet, enabling scholars to browse, search, and sort the information concerning these texts, including full text editions as well as museum registry information. Here we would like to present the structure of the OIDOO database in order to demonstrate the project's potential, highlighting among other things how the many Demotic ostraca of the Oriental Institute Museum compliment already published collections.

The Demotic ostraca in the Oriental Institute Museum are not housed together as a distinct collection, but are stored in boxes containing other ostraca with texts in Coptic, Greek, and Hieratic, arranged roughly (but not exclusively) by inventory number. Boxes containing ostraca with Oriental Institute Museum numbers have been examined first, followed by the Medinet Habu ostraca; thus, the unpublished pieces with Oriental Institute Museum numbers will be cataloged before the unpublished Medinet Habu ostraca with MH numbers.

This material is particularly well suited for publication in an online database for a number of reasons. Online publication allows unrestricted access to the material, for online publishing is free and open to anyone with access to the internet. In addition, the Oriental Institute collection is

¹⁰ E.g. U. Kaplony-Heckel, *Die demotischen Tempeleide* (ÄAT 6; Wiesbaden, 1963); U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Das Acker-Amt in Theben-West von 151 bis 141 v. Chr.', *Enchoria* 18 (1991), 55-67; U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Rund um die thebanischen Tempel (Demotische Ostraka zur Pfrunden-Wirtschaft)', in F. Hoffmann and H. J. Thissen (eds), *Res Severa Verum Gaudium: Festschrift für Karl-Theodor Zaunich zum 65. Geburtstag am 8 Juni 2004* (StudDem 6; Leuven, 2004), 283-338; U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Neun neue Leineweber-Quittungen - Anhang: Promemoria DO Medinet Habu 1758', in G. Moers, H. Behlmer, K. Demuss and K. Widmaier (eds), *jn.t Dr.w - Festschrift für Friedrich Junge* (Göttingen, 2006), 383-400.

¹¹ MH 4038 in R. Parker, 'A Late Demotic Gardening Agreement: Medinet Habu Ostrakon 4038', *JEA* 26 (1941), 84-113; MH 3377 in O. Neugebauer, 'Demotic Horoscopes', *JAOS* 63:2 (Apr.-Jun. 1943), 115-127.

so vast that a print publication would take many years to complete. Through the online database, texts can be continually added gradually over time so that the material will be made available to scholars as quickly as possible. This is especially pertinent with regard to the most difficult texts, for we will be able to make available photographs and metadata of material which we ourselves cannot decipher.

A database has more functionality than a print publication, for it not only allows for publication of texts but also serves as a research tool far more flexible than the printed book, whose information is fixed. Through database manipulation, the information contained in these texts can be searched, sorted, and browsed according to individual criteria. We hope this will be useful to others working on similar texts, enabling one to search for troublesome phrases, partial personal names, or texts from the same time period. Other projects of this sort have already shown the usefulness of the online database format, such as Trismegistos, which has gathered the metadata for Egyptian texts on a larger scale and the Advanced Papyrological Information System (APIS) which offers an excellent corpus of texts but no complete text editions. Projects similar to OIDOO in other fields include the online databases of the Cuneiform Digital Library Initiative (CDLI) and the Database of Neo-Sumerian Texts (BDTNS). These databases have revolutionized the manner in which Assyriologists study Ur III texts, providing access to thousands of searchable tablets. Like the corpus of OIM Demotic ostraca, the Ur III texts are primarily economic and administrative in content, and thus the CDLI Project serves as a useful model for OIDOO.

The database consists of two related tables organized into five basic divisions which provide different ways to view the data depending on how one wants to work with the material.

- The Object tab contains all the information we have about a given ostrakon, including the museum registry information, description, date, transliteration, translation, and photos.
- The Text Edition tab juxtaposes a hand copy with the transliteration, translation, and some basic information about the ostrakon in order to work quickly and easily with the text itself.
- The Photo Tab provides side-by-side enlarged versions of photographs and hand copies so that they can be checked against each other.
- The Table Tab displays only a selection of information most pertinent to sorting, including the title, inventory number, publication information, date fields, and provenance.

- The People Tab consists of a table listing all the individuals mentioned in the document, their fathers, mothers, sons, and daughters, as well as the most important information about the texts in which they occur, including document type, number, date, and the role they play in that document.

The benefits of such a database for scholars working on similar material are obvious. Finding parallels, people, or contemporary texts is quick and efficient. However, apart from simply searching, the OIDOO database also has great potential to effectively organize data. For example, chronological developments often appear by sorting via date. The database is organized so that it may be sorted chronologically based on the following criteria: period (e.g. Ptolemaic, Roman), ruler (e.g. Ptolemy II, Augustus), year (e.g. 23), month (e.g. Payni), and day (e.g. 30). For example, a chronological sort of records limited to those items concerned with Pasemis, son of Pamonthes, son of Mesour produces the following table:

Table 1: The Archive of Pasemis, son of Pamonthes, son of Mesour¹²

Inv.	Pub.	PN	Patronym	Role	Contents	Period	Reign	Year	Month	Day
MH 4040	Lichtheim nr. 26	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for the Poll Tax	Roman	Augustus	26	Pharmouthi	17
MH 4073	Lichtheim nr. 75	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	26	Mesore	12
MH 4053	Lichtheim nr. 84	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	28	Epiphi	16
MH 2632	Lichtheim nr. 83	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	30	Payni	20
MH 4081	Lichtheim nr. 91	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	32	Payni	24
MH 2629	Lichtheim nr. 90	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	32	Epagomenai	1
MH 4063	Lichtheim nr. 38	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipts for the Poll and Bath Tax	Roman	Augustus	33	Mesore	27
MH 4041	Lichtheim nr. 82	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	36	Epiphi	18
MH 2642	Lichtheim nr. 81	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	36	Epiphi	18

¹² MH 2631 (Lichtheim n. 25) may also belong to this archive as it is written for a Pasemis, son of Pamonthes in the 26th year of Augustus.

Inv.	Pub.	PN	Patronym	Role	Contents	Period	Reign	Year	Month	Day
MH 2645	Lichtheim nr. 109	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Farmer's Profit	Roman	Augustus	38	Phamenoth	12
MH 4052	Lichtheim nr. 103	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	38	Pachons	2
MH 2638	Lichtheim nr. 101	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	38	Pachons	19
MH 2648	Lichtheim nr. 131	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Lessee	Loan	Roman	Augustus	39	Payni	9
MH 2633	Lichtheim nr. 71	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Official	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	39	Epiphi	17
MH 2639	Lichtheim nr. 77	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Wheat	Roman	Augustus	40	Thoth	9
MH 2658	Lichtheim nr. 105	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for Price of Wheat	Roman	Augustus	41	Epiphi	28
MH 2649	Lichtheim nr. 63	<i>Pa-Dm'</i>	<i>Pa-Mnt' s3</i> <i>Ms-wr</i>	Taxpayer	Receipt for the Burial Tax	Roman	Augustus	43	Tybi	12

Most of the documents of Pasemis concern his payment of various taxes over 17 years late in the reign of Augustus. Interestingly, the final document we have concerning him appears to be the receipt for his own burial¹³.

DEMOTIC OSTRACA FROM THE ORIENTAL INSTITUTE
MUSEUM COLLECTION¹⁴

Receipts

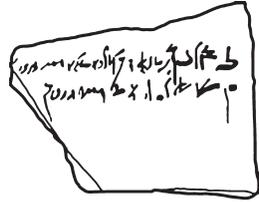
So far, we have discovered seven early Ptolemaic receipts for the price of oil, six of which are presented here. These pieces add to the group of documents edited by Brian Muhs, for they mention some of the same individuals and scribes. The six previously unpublished examples discussed here derive from accession 3447, acquired by Hughes for the Oriental Institute in 1959. All of the pieces in this accession are said to derive from Thebes. However, we may now state the provenance more precisely, for Muhs has recently discovered that several of these pieces appear in the

¹³ Discussed by Lichtheim, *Demotic Ostraca*, 19-20.

¹⁴ Hand copies accompanying the text editions are shown at a scale of 1:2 unless otherwise noted. Photos and hand copies in the plates are shown at a scale of 1:1 unless otherwise noted.

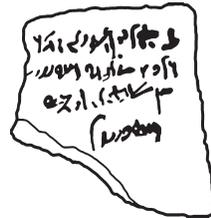
Metropolitan Museum of Art photos from Winlock's excavations at Deir el-Bahari¹⁵. We also publish here a Ptolemaic land lease receipt and two Roman receipts for wheat.

- 1** *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19491
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy II,
 year 38, Pharmouthi 29
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 5.2 × 6.5 cm

*Transliteration**Translation*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. <i>Ta-Mn ta Ir.t=w-rd</i>¹⁶ <i>ḥd</i> 1/4 <i>swn nḥḥ</i>
 <i>ibt 3 pr.t</i></p> <p>2. <i>sh Ns-Mn n ḥsb.t 38 ibt 4 pr.t sw 29</i></p> | <p>1. Taminis, daughter of Iaturot, 1/4 silver (kite for) the price of oil of Phame-noth.</p> <p>2. Written by Esminis¹⁷ in year 38, Pharmouthi, day 29.</p> |
|--|---|

- 2** *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19498
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy II,
 year 38, Khoiak 30
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 5.7 × 6.0 cm

*Transliteration**Translation*

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1. <i>Ta-mn ta Ir.t=w-rd</i>¹⁸ <i>ḥd</i> 1/12</p> <p>2. <i>swn nḥḥ ibt 4 3ḥ.t</i></p> <p>3. <i>sh Ns-Mn n ḥsb.t 38</i></p> <p>4. <i>ibt 4 3ḥ.t 'rqy</i></p> | <p>1. Taminis, daughter of Iaturot, 1/12 silver (kite for)</p> <p>2. the price of oil of Khoiak.</p> <p>3. Written by Esminis¹⁹ in year 38,</p> <p>4. Khoiak, day 30.</p> |
|---|--|

¹⁵ B. Muhs, "'New" Demotic Texts from Deir el-Bahari', paper presented at the 60th Annual Meeting of the American Research Center in Egypt, April 24, 2009, Dallas, Texas.

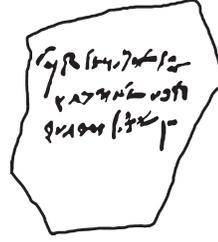
¹⁶ We would like to thank Brian Muhs for the correct reading of this name (see *DemNb* Band I, Lieferung 2, 71), previously read incorrectly as *Pa-rḥ* in F. Scalf and J. Jay, 'Accounting for Life in Ptolemaic and Roman Thebes: Online Access to Ancient Archives', *Oriental Institute News & Notes* 200 (Winter 2009), 13-17.

¹⁷ Esminis is known from many price of oil receipts from late in the reign of Ptolemy II; see Muhs, *Tax Receipts*, chart on 76-78 and 136, note c.

¹⁸ See note 16.

¹⁹ See note 17.

- 3 *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19493
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy II²⁰,
 Epihi 4
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 6.0 × 6.0 cm

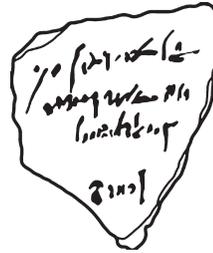
*Transliteration*

1. *Dḥwty-sḏm s3 Pa-nfr ḥd qt 1/4*
2. *swn nḥḥ ibt 2 šmw*
3. *šḥ Ns-Mn ibt 3 šmw sw 4*

Translation

1. Thotsutmis, son of Panouphis²¹, 1/4 silver kite (for)
2. the price of oil of Payni.
3. Written by Esminis²² in Epiphi, day 4.

- 4 *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19504
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy II / III²³,
 Thoth 2
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 6.3 × 5.2 cm

*Transliteration*

1. *Dḥwty-sḏm s3 Pa-nfr ḥd 1/4*
2. *swn nḥḥ ibt 4 šmw*
3. *šḥ P3-šr-İmn-ipy*
4. *tpy 3ḥ.t sw 2*

Translation

1. Thotsutmis, son of Panouphis²⁴, 1/4 silver (kite for)
2. the price of oil of Mesore.
3. Written by Psenamenopis
4. on Thoth, day 2.

²⁰ Although no year is provided, the scribe Esminis is known from texts dated late in the reign of Ptolemy II. See note 17.

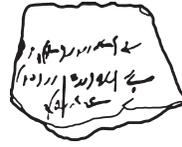
²¹ Cf. Taxpayer 33 in Muhs, *Tax Receipts*, 123. The second element of this name could also be read -*Mn*.

²² See note 17.

²³ The taxpayers involved are known from other receipts (see OIM 19493 above and OIM 19302 in Muhs, *Tax Receipts*, cat. n. 14), which may date to late in the reign of Ptolemy II based upon attestations of the scribe and the dated text OIM 19483. The scribe Psenamenopis probably also dates to late in the reign of Ptolemy II or early in the reign of Ptolemy III.

²⁴ See note 21.

- 5 *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19514
Date: Ptolemai, Ptolemy II,
 Hathyr (?) 12
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 3.7 × 4.6 cm

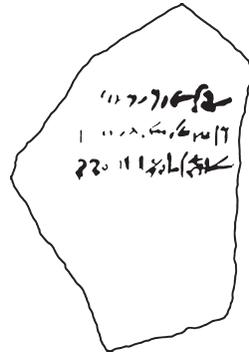
*Transliteration*

1. *Dḥwty-sdm s3 Pa-nfr ḥd 1/4 s[wn]*
2. *nḥḥ ibt 3 3ḥ.t sh P3-ti-Hnsw*
3. *r ibt 3(?) 3ḥ.t(?)²⁵ sw 12*

Translation

1. Thotsutmis, son of Panouphis, 1/4 silver (kite for) the p[rice]
2. of oil of Hathyr. Written by Petechonsis
3. for Hathyr(?), day 12.

- 6 *Content:* Receipt for the Price of Oil
Inventory Number: OIM 19483
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy II,
 year 31, Pachons 8
Accession: 3447
Provenance: Deir el-Bahari
Size: 9.1 × 6.3 cm

*Transliteration*

1. *Dḥwty-sdm s3 Pa-nfr [...]*
2. *sw nḥḥ ibt 3 pr.t(?) sh*
3. *Ns-Mn n ḥsb.t 31 tpy(?) šmw²⁷ sw 8*

Translation

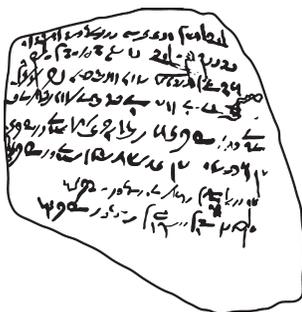
1. Thotsutmis, son of Panouphis²⁶, [...]
2. for the price of oil (for) Phamenoth(?)
 Written by
3. Esminis in year 31 Pachons(?) 8.

²⁵ The reading of the line is uncertain, but the date proposed here makes the best sense. Alternative suggestions include: *s3 Ns-wr.t(?) pr.t sw 12*, *r sw 9 tpy pr.t sw 12*.

²⁶ See note 20.

²⁷ The reading *tpy šmw* is uncertain because of fading.

- 7 *Content:* Land Lease Receipt²⁸
Inventory Number: OIM 6962²⁹
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy IX,
 year 9, Pachons 30
Accession: 63
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 10.5 × 10.0 cm

*Transliteration*

1. *ḥsb.t 9 tpy šmw sw 'rqy ïr-ïr ïw*³⁰ *r p3 r3 n3 'wy.w niw.t*
2. *ḥr p3 šhn n ḥsb.t 9 p3 ḥr mhꜥ n 'Imn n-tr.t*
3. *Pa-n3-'wy p3 '3 s3 Symn ḥn' Llw*
4. *s3 Šbt ïrm T3mtrs s3 3rtm*
5. *tgm 8 1/3 1/12 r 4 1/6 1/24 r tgm 8 1/3 1/12*
6. *šḥ Pa-n3 šḥ Ḥr-wd3 r tgm 8 1/3 1/12*
7. *šḥ P3-šr-Mn s3 Pa-rt r tgm 8 1/3 1/12*

Translation

1. Year 9, Pachons, last day. Delivery to the storehouse of the houses of Thebes
2. for the lease of year 9 (on) the northern side of Amun, by
3. Panawy, the elder, son of Simon, and Lelous,
4. son of Sabbataios, and Demetrios, son of Eraton,
5. 8 1/3 1/12 (artabas) of castor (seeds)³¹, equals 1/24, equals 8 1/3 1/12 (artabas) of castor (seeds).
6. Written by Panas. Written by Haruotthes, concerning (the value of) 8 1/3 1/12 (artabas) of castor (seeds).
7. Written by Psenminis, son of Parates, concerning (the value of) 8 1/3 1/12 (artabas) of castor (seeds).

²⁸ For a similar text in which the lessees pay with castor seeds, cf. O Leiden 72, published in M. A. A. Nur el-Din, *The Demotic Ostraca in the National Museum of Antiquities at Leiden* (Leiden, 1974), 60-61.

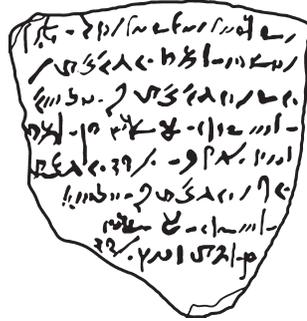
²⁹ This text is cited in U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Theben-Ost III: Die *r-rḥ=w*-Tempel-Quittungen und ähnliche Texte. Erster Teil: Allgemeiner Teil und Texte Nr. 18-25', *ZÄS* 128 (2001), 26-27, 32. Since the submission of this manuscript, the text has appeared in U. Kaplony-Heckel, 'Theben-Ost III. Dritter Teil: Zehn *inḥ*-Tempel-Quittungen (Nr. 47-56), eine Brief-Quittung über *šmw* und *ḥw-ḥwty* (Nr. 57), zwei Abkommen über Acker-Pacht (Nr. 58, 58A), Sechs (staatliche) Acker-Amt-Quittungen (Nr. 59-64), die drei mir bekannten (staatlichen) *ïr.ïr-ïw*-Quittungen (Nr. 65-67), das Akten-Fragment aus der Öl-Mühle (des Tempels?) (Nr. 68) und Indices', *ZÄS* 137 (2010), 141-142.

³⁰ For the writing *ïr-ïr ïw*, cf. O. Leiden 412, 1 and pCarlsberg 19, line 3 in K.-Th. Zauzich, 'Die demotischen Orakelfragen – eine Zwischenbilanz', in P. J. Frandsen and K. Ryholt (eds), *A Miscellany of Demotic Texts and Studies, The Carlsberg Papyri 3* (CNI Publications 22; Copenhagen, 2000), 5.

³¹ For *tgm* as "castor (seeds)" rather than "beans," see D. Brent Sandy, *The Production and Use of Vegetable Oils in Ptolemaic Egypt* (BASP Supplements 6; Atlanta, 1989), 35, note 3.

8. *sh P3-ti-Wsir s3 P3-wr-tyw r tgm 8 1/3 1/12* 8. Written by Petosiris, son of Portes, concerning (the value of) 8 1/3 1/12 (artabas) of castor (seeds).

8 *Content:* Receipt for Wheat
Inventory Number: OIM 6997
Date: Roman, Augustus, year 34, Thoth 18
Accession: 63
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 8.0 × 7.7 cm



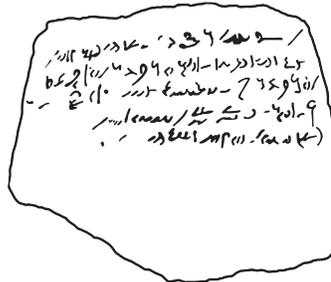
Transliteration

1. *r-in Pa-Mnt s3 P3-šr-Mnt s3 P3-šr-n-Mn*
2. *r p3 r3 n hsb.t 33 sw 16 1/24 r*
3. *sw 8 r sw 16 1/24 'n n p3 hy*
4. *n ðyp.wt wš n šp sh n hsb.t 34*
5. *tpy 3h.t sw 17 'n n sw 18 sw 10 1/24 [r]*
6. *[sw] 5 r sw 10 1/24 'n n p3 hy*
7. *n ðyp(.t) n wš n šp*
8. *sh n hsb.t 34 tpy 3h.t sw 18*

Translation

1. What Pamonthes, son of Psenmonthes, son of Psenminis, brought
2. to the storehouse for year 33: 16 1/24 (artabas of) wheat, equals
3. 8 (artabas of) wheat, equals 16 1/24 (artabas of) wheat again by the measure
4. of the oipe without extra payment. Written in year 34,
5. Thoth, day 17. And for day 18: 10 1/24 (artabas of) wheat, [equals]
6. 5 (artabas of) [wheat], equals 10 1/24 (artabas of) wheat again by the measure
7. of the oipe without extra payment.
8. Written in year 34, Thoth, day 18.

9 *Content:* Receipt for Wheat
Inventory Number: OIM 7001
Date: Roman, Tiberius, year 2, Pharmouthi
Accession: 63
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 10.8 × 9.0 cm



Transliteration

1. *r-īn Ḥr s3 Pa-wn n r3 Pr-3*
2. *n n3 ʿwy.w mhḫ.w n ḥsb.t 2.t sw 2 1/3
1/12 r sw 1 1/6 1/24*
3. *r sw 2 1/3 1/12 ʿn n p3 ḥy n iyp.t n wš
[n šp]*
4. *sh n ḥsb.t 2.t n Tybyrys*
5. *Gysrs ibt 4 pr.t ...*

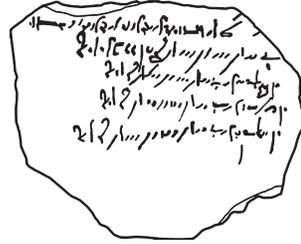
Translation

1. What Horos, son of Pagonis, brought to the granary of Pharaoh
2. in the northern districts in year 2: 2 1/3 1/12 (artabas of) wheat, equals 1 1/6 1/24 (artabas of) wheat,
3. equals 2 1/3 1/12 (artabas of) wheat again, by the oipe measure without extra [payment].
4. Written in regnal year 2 of Tiberius
5. Caesar, Pharmouthi

Land Allotments

This ostrakon follows the pattern of the large corpus of land allotment texts studied by Kaplony-Heckel³².

- 10** *Content:* Land Allotment
Inventory Number: OIM 25300
Date: Ptolemaic, Ptolemy IX, year 5
Accession: 3652
Provenance: Medinet Habu
Size: 9.5 × 11.5 cm

*Transliteration*

1. *r-rḥ=w r Pa-Dm3 s3 Dḥwty-īir-ti-s
Dḥwty-īir-ti-s n D[mʿ]*
2. *qy st3.t 1 1/2 r st3.t 1/2 1/4 r st3.t 1
1/2 ʿn sh Twtw n ḥsb.t 5.t*
3. *sh P3-šr-Mnt r qy st3.t 1 1/2 r st3.t
1/2 1/4 r st3.t 1 1/2 ʿn ḥsb.t 5.t*

Translation

1. There has been allotted to Pasemis, son of Thotortais, (and) Thotortais, in Dj[eme],
2. high-land: 1 1/2 arouras, equals 1/2 1/4 arouras, equals 1 1/2 arouras again. Written by Totoes in year 5.
3. Written by Psenmonthes for high-land: 1 1/2 arouras, equals 1/2 1/4 arouras, equals 1 1/2 arouras again, year 5.

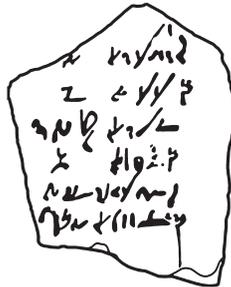
³² See now the fundamental studies of U. Kaplony-Heckel: 'Theben-Ost I', ZÄS 120 (1993), 42-71; 'Theben-Ost II', ZÄS 126 (1999), 41-54; 'Theben-Ost III', ZÄS 128 (2001), 24-40; 'Theben-Ost III, Die *r-rḥ=w* -Tempel-Quittungen und ähnliche Texte - Zweiter Teil - Neunzehn *r-rḥ=w* -Tempel-Quittungen', ZÄS 133 (2006), 34-50.

4. *sh Hry=w r qy st̄3.t 1 1/2 r st̄3.t 1/2 1/4 (r) st̄3.t 1 1/2 'n ḥsb.t 5.t* 4. Written by Herieus for high-land: 1 1/2 arouras, equals 1/2 1/4 arouras, equals 1 1/2 arouras again, year 5.
5. *sh P3-šr-Mn̄t r qy st̄3.t 1 1/2 r st̄3.t 1/2 1/4 r st̄3.t 1 1/2 'n ḥsb.t 5.t* 5. Written by Psenmonthes for high-land: 1 1/2 arouras, equals 1/2 1/4 arouras, equals 1 1/2 arouras again, year 5.

Accounts and Lists

Accounts and lists tend to be the most neglected Demotic ostraca because they are often difficult to decipher and their contents seem rather banal on the surface. However, even these simple texts have much information to offer concerning Egyptian economy and society. Here we present one example from the substantial group of account and list ostraca held by the Oriental Institute, OIM 19021 (nr. 11), which bears a list whose contents identify it as a dowry list. Two other accounts of interest are OIM 6951 and OIM 6959. The account of silver loans detailed in OIM 6951 (Ptolemaic) may perhaps be related to another silver loan account detailed in Hermitage 18069/Maria Laach 155³³. OIM 6959 provides a long series of day accounts concerning the ‘accounts of the wagons’ (*p3 ip n n3 'kl̄3.wt*)³⁴ in which Psenaes (*P3-šr-ihy*) appears prominently, along with his associates (*n3 rmt̄.w n P3-šr-ihy*).

- 11** *Content:* Dowry List³⁵
Inventory Number: OIM 19021
Date: Ptolemaic
Accession: 3289
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 7.4 × 5.5 cm



³³ The first line of OIM 6951 reads *p3 ip n n3 ḥd.w r-ti=y n Ns-n3y=w-ḥmmw-īw [...]* ‘The account of the silver which I gave to Esnachomneus [...]’ while 18069/Maria Laach 155 begins *p3 ip n n3 ḥd.w r-ti n=y t3 šr.t Ns-n3y=w-ḥmmw-īw* ‘The account of the silver, which the daughter of Esnachomneus give to me’ (partially translated in Kaplony-Heckel, ‘Neun neue Leineweber-Quittungen’, 387 n. 20). The badly faded text of OIM 6951 continues with a series of amounts and the people to whom the amounts were distributed (*r-ti=y n*).

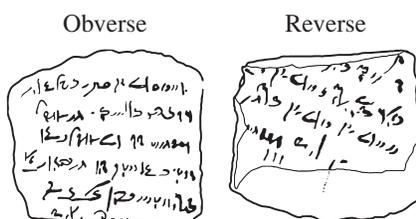
³⁴ For *'kl̄3.t* as ‘wagon, cart’, see CDD ‘(03.1), 152.

³⁵ For dowry lists in the so-called ‘marriage contracts’, see E. Lüddeckens, *Ägyptische Eheverträge* (ÄA 1; Wiesbaden, 1960), 288-315.

<i>Transliteration</i>	<i>Translation</i>
x+1 ...	x+1 ...
x+2 <i>w'.t yl3(.t) ḥḏ [...]</i>	x+2 One mirror, (valued at) [...] silver (deben).
x+3 <i>w' ll 60</i>	x+3 One necklace, (valued at) 60 silver (deben).
x+4 <i>tr(.t) 3.t ḥḏ 9</i>	x+4 3 spades, (valued at) 9 silver (deben).
x+5 <i>w' ḏḥ(?) 30</i>	x+5 One (copper) container(?), (valued at) 30 [silver (deben)].
x+6 <i>w'.t gl'(.t)³⁶ ḥḏ [...]</i>	x+6 One wig, (valued at) [...] silver (deben).
x+7 <i>w' bs ḥḏ 25</i>	x+7 One metal vessel, (valued at) 25 silver (deben).

Oaths

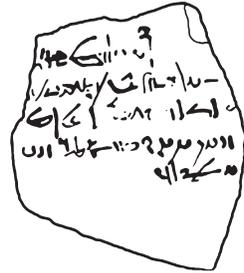
12 <i>Content:</i>	Oath
<i>Inventory Number:</i>	OIM 19323
<i>Date:</i>	Roman
<i>Accession:</i>	3289
<i>Provenance:</i>	Thebes
 <i>Size:</i>	 6.3 × 7.4 cm



<i>Transliteration</i>	<i>Translation</i>
<i>Obverse</i>	<i>Obverse</i>
1. <i>ḥ.t p3 'nh nt iir 'Imn-ḥtp s3</i>	1. Copy of the oath which Amenoths, son of
2. <i>Pa-n3-tb3.w r-ir=f n pr-Dm'</i>	2. Pandbeus, will make in Djeme,
3. <i>ibt 3 pr.t sw 8 'nh Dm' nt ḥtp</i>	3. on Phamenoth, day 8. "By the life of Djeme who rests
4. <i>irm n3 nt ḥtp irm=f n3w pr.w r-ti=k</i>	4. with those who rest with him, as for this grain about which you
5. <i>mt irm=y r-db3=w dd ir n=k</i>	5. spoke with me , saying: ... made for you
6. ...	6. ...
 <i>Reverse</i>	 <i>Reverse</i>
1. ...	1. ...
2. ...	2. ...
3. <i>mtw Pa-tm r-ḥ ir 'nh n [...]</i>	3. and Patemis in accordance with the making of the oath [...]
4. <i>p3 'nh 'nh m3' [p3y ...]</i>	4. The oath is a true oath.
5. <i>sh ḥsb.t 8 ibt 3 pr.t [...]</i>	5. Written in year 8, Phamenoth [...]
6. ...	6. ...

³⁶ Other possible readings include *gl't* 'ring' and *glg* 'bed'. However, the final sign looks like the hair determinative, thus favoring the reading *gl'(.t)* 'wig'.

- 13** *Content:* Oath
Inventory Number: OIM 6989³⁷
Date: Roman, Augustus, year 41,
 Mesore 21
Accession: 63
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 7.0 × 6.2 cm

*Transliteration*

1. *ḥ p3 ʿnh [nt ...]*
2. *n P3-ti-Ḥnsw s3 3lgsntr[s ...]*
3. *n ḥsb.t 41 ḫbt 4(?) šmw sw 21 dd*
ʿnh [...]
4. *irm=f p3y ḥd 50 nt iw=k mt irm[=y...]*
5. *p3 r3(?)*³⁸
6. ...³⁹
7. ...

Translation

1. Copy of the oath [which ...]
2. for Petechons, son of Alexander [...]
3. in year 41, Mesore(?) 21, saying: “By the life [of ... who rests here together with the gods who rest here]
4. with him. As for the 50 silver pieces about which you speak with [me ...
5. the portion(?)
6. ...
7. ...

Memoranda

The interpretation of this text as a memorandum, perhaps written on a jar and brought to a banquet or even presented to an official, has benefited from the comments of Friedholm Hoffmann, Mark Smith, and Joachim Quack at the 10th International Congress of Demotic Studies. As these commentators mentioned, *i ʿnh=f* is found in literary texts as a greeting.

- 14** *Content:* Memorandum
Inventory Number: OIM 19023
Date: Ptolemaic/Roman
Accession: 3289
Provenance: Thebes
Size: 16.0 × 14.4 cm⁴⁰



³⁷ Mentioned in the catalog of Kaplony-Heckel, *Die demotischen Tempelide*, 395.

³⁸ CDD R (01.1), 6-10. Or perhaps *wne* ‘list’?

³⁹ The faded texts of lines 6-7 appear to be the remains of a palimpsest text which had been washed off before the oath was written.

⁴⁰ The hand copy is shown at a scale of 1:3.

*Transliteration*1. *i 'nh=f**Translation*

1. O, may he live!

Votive Texts

The OIM collection includes a group of large jar fragments containing the *p3 rn nfr mn* formula addressed before deities such as Thoth, Pishai, and the great gods in general. All of these texts derive from accession 3289, originally acquired by Chicago House directors prior to 1939. OIM 19051 A-B is a large rim sherd containing a votive text mentioning the 'place of rest': '[The good name of PN will remain] here before the gods of the place of rest ...' (*[p3 rn nfr PN mn] ty m-b3h n3 ntr.w n p3 '.wy htp ...*). This phraseology has parallels in the Demotic texts found in the sacred animal galleries at sites such as Tuna el-Gebel, Saqqara, and Dra Abu el-Naga⁴¹. The sherds presented here probably derive from the closest of these sites, Dra Abu el-Naga, where an ibis and hawk cemetery was in use during the Ptolemaic Period and where Demotic inscriptions with similar content have been found⁴². Additionally, the size and shape of the fragments are consistent with clay coffins used for burying mummified hawks and ibises⁴³.

15 <i>Content:</i>	Votive Text
<i>Inventory Number:</i>	OIM 19049
<i>Date:</i>	Ptolemaic
<i>Accession:</i>	3289
<i>Provenance:</i>	Thebes
<i>Size:</i>	10.2 × 18.4 cm ⁴⁴



⁴¹ E.g. *n3 ntr.w p3 '.wy htp* on a limestone block from Tuna el-Gebel published by M. Ebeid, 'Six Demotic Inscriptions on Stone from Tuna el-Gebel', *BIFAO* 108 (2008), 84-87; *'.wy htp n Pr-Hp* and *n3 '.wy.w n htp n p3 hb n3 '.wy.w n htp n p3 bik* mentioned in O Hor 9v, 9 and O Hor 19, 24-25 respectively, for which see J. D. Ray, *The Archive of Hor* (EES EM 2; London, 1976), 44-46, 73-80, and the discussion on 147; *n3 ntr.w n p3 '.wy htp p3 hb p3 bik*, edited by Spiegelberg in W. Northampton, W. Spiegelberg, and P. Newberry (eds), *Report on Some Excavations in the Theban Necropolis during the Winter of 1898-1899* (London, 1908), 19, Demotic inscription nr. 1. For further examples of *'.wy htp*, see CDD (03.1), 17.

⁴² Northampton, Spiegelberg, and Newberry (eds), *Theban Necropolis*, 19-23.

⁴³ A. von den Driesch, D. Kessler, F. Steinmann, V. Berteaux, and J. Peters, 'Mummified, Deified and Buried at Hermopolis Magna – the Sacred Birds from Tuna el-Gebel, Middle Egypt', *Ä&L* 15 (2005), 206-212

⁴⁴ The hand copy is shown at a scale of 1:3.

Transliteration

1. [p3 rn nfr PN mn t]y m-b3h Dhwty
p3 h[b]

Translation

1. [The good name of PN will remain he]
re before Thoth, the Ib[is]

16 <i>Content:</i>	Votive Text
<i>Inventory Number:</i>	OIM 19030
<i>Date:</i>	Ptolemaic
<i>Accession:</i>	3289
<i>Provenance:</i>	Thebes
<i>Size:</i>	15 × 15.2 ⁴⁵

*Transliteration*

1. ... p3 rn nfr PN] mn ty

Translation

1. ... The good name of PN] will remain here

CONCLUSION

For the foreseeable future, we will continue to edit the Oriental Institute Demotic ostraca; our eventual goal is to present the entire collection in the database, including photographs of ostraca too poorly preserved to allow a full transliteration and translation. In this way, scholars will have access to the full corpus. In addition, we will continue to develop the database structure, perhaps adding more sophisticated relational tables for the prosopographical data. For example, we would like to link individual names to a list of all of the texts in which each name appears. As the database develops, users will be able to download or import the data to their own computers and their own database programs.

The information in a single ostracum is often negligible in the bigger picture of ancient Egyptian society. However, when the individual members of a larger corpora are considered as a group, significant patterns begin to emerge. We hope that we can contribute to the amassing of such data; as databases such as OIDOO develop, Demotic studies may eventually reach the level which Assyriology has already attained, for currently Assyriologists are able to study the Ur III period through the lens of online databases consisting of tens of thousands of texts. In the future,

⁴⁵ The hand copy is shown at a scale of 1:3.

similar database conglomerates will be indispensable research tools for Demotic scholars, allowing them to reunite lost archives or trace prices, taxes, tax payers, and officials through time. These databases have the potential to change the way we perform lexicography and paleography. Even grammarians will find a new perspective for gathering and collecting examples. By creating the OIDOO database and opening up the large collection of Oriental Institute Demotic ostraca to scholars worldwide, we hope to encourage the further development of such electronic resources in the future.