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# New Kingdom Hieratic Texts in the Strasbourg Collections. An Overview

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# New Kingdom Hieratic Texts in the Strasbourg Collections An Overview\*

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#### <u>ABSTRACT</u>

This paper presents an overview of the New Kingdom hieratic texts preserved in two institutions in Strasbourg: the Bibliothèque nationale et universitaire (National University Library) and the Institut d'égyptologie de Strasbourg (Institute of Egyptology of the University of Strasbourg). These hieratic documents were acquired between the end of the 19th century and the beginning of the 20th century, many by W. Spiegelberg. The texts themselves date from the 18th to the 21th Dynasty. The collections include papyri and ostraca (literary and documentary texts), as well as jar dockets and wooden labels, many of which come from Thebes-West.

#### **1. HISTORY OF THE COLLECTIONS**

Hieratic texts from the New Kingdom are preserved in two institutions in Strasbourg: the Bibliothèque nationale et universitaire (BNU)<sup>1</sup> and the Institut d'égyptologie de Strasbourg (IES).<sup>2</sup> The history of these collections forms part of the broader history of the Kaiser Wilhelms-Universität and of the Kaiserliche Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek (the KULB, the future BNU), created after the annexation of Alsace by the Reich of Wilhelm I at the end of the Franco-Prussian War of 1870–1871. In 1872, the Egyptologist J. Dümichen (1833–1894)<sup>3</sup> was appointed professor of Egyptology at the university. He brought back estampages and photographs from his travels in Egypt, and purchased plaster reproductions. In addition, various small objects were donated to the Institute of Egyptology by the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut (DAI)

This overview is only possible thanks to Lola Mohimont's work collecting data on the hieratic documents in the BNU during her Master's internship there in July 2021 under the supervision of Gisela Bélot, the collection's curator. I wish to thank Gisela Bélot for providing access to the collection and for her very kind assistance during my consultation of the BNU archives. I would also like to thank Frédéric Colin, director of the Institute of Egyptology of Strasbourg and curator of its collection, for the information he provided to me. I am grateful to Jean-Yves Bart for revising the text with support from the Maison Interuniversitaire des Sciences de l'Homme d'Alsace (MISHA) and the Excellence Initiative of the University of Strasbourg. The research presented in this paper was carried out as part of the UMR 7044 ArcHiMèdE—University of Strasbourg research program, my home institution until August 2023. I am also grateful to the editorial team of the present volume for all the improvements to this contribution. I wish to thank especially Stéphane Polis, Renaud Pietri, Jessica Izak, and Daniel Waller.

- 2 Colin (2017a).
- 3 Colin (2017b); Spiegelberg (1904).

<sup>1</sup> Didier (2017).

of Rome.<sup>4</sup> After his death in 1894, J. Dümichen was replaced by W. Spiegelberg (1870–1930),<sup>5</sup> who enriched the collection considerably with a large number of donations and purchases, many from his travels in Egypt.<sup>6</sup>

Under W. Spiegelberg, the collection of the Institute of Egyptology included various objects, as well as papyri, ostraca, and wooden labels, but it was soon decided that the bulk of the written material should be deposited in the KULB (the future BNU),<sup>7</sup> where an important collection of written documents was being assembled in order to compensate for the loss of valuable documents during the Franco-Prussian War.8 The BNU collection now includes over 10,400 documents in a variety of languages and writings (Arabic, Aramaic, Coptic, Demotic, Greek, Hebrew, Hieratic, Hieroglyphic, Latin, Pahlavi).9 The library also possesses a large collection of cuneiform tablets.<sup>10</sup> The IES is now largely home to non-textual artefacts, though it does house some written material.<sup>11</sup>

The hieratic materials preserved in Strasbourg have varied origins, but four primary modes of acquisition can be noted for the New Kingdom documents in particular:<sup>12</sup>

- Acquisitions of hieratic ostraca, papyri, and wooden labels by W. Spiegelberg during a trip to Egypt in the winter of 1895–1896, first registered in the IES and later mostly transferred to the KULB (BNU).
- (2) Purchases made in Egypt during the winter of 1898–1899 thanks to funds obtained by W. Spiegelberg and the philologist R. Reitzenstein (1861–1931) to buy papyri for the KULB (BNU).<sup>13</sup>
- (3) Acquisitions made in the context of the KULB (BNU)'s membership of the *Deutsches Papyruskartell* (DPK), a mechanism for centralizing the purchases of German institutions (1902–1914).<sup>14</sup>
- (4) The donation by W.M.F. Petrie (1853–1952) of an important set of hieratic documents from the excavations in the area of the Ramesseum directed by J.E. Quibell (1867– 1935) during the winter of 1895–1896. Part of this donation was given by W. Spiegelberg to the KULB (BNU);<sup>15</sup> the other part remains with the IES.<sup>16</sup>

- 7 Schweitzer & Traunecker (2003: 64); Bucher & Leclant (1956: 101–102); Colin (2014: 26, table 1).
- 8 Bornemann (2010); Colin (2010).
- 9 Martin & Heilporn (2000: 78); Colin (2010: 24); Bornemann (2010: 19). Thanks to G. Bélot for the updated number of documents.
- 10 Bornemann (2010: 19). Part of the collection was purchased in 1912. Other tablets were donated to the BNU in 1970. See Charpin & Durand (1981: 7–8); https://cdli.ucla.edu/collections/strasbourg/bnus\_intro\_fr.html (accessed 04.07.2022). Thanks to Anne-Caroline Rendu Loisel for the references.
- 11 Bucher & Leclant (1956: 101–102); Traunecker (1969); Colin (2017a).
- 12 The papyrus hierat. 76 (New Kingdom, below, no. 73), however, belongs to a small group of papyri that belonged to J. Dümichen (*"aus Dümichens Nachlass"*—register of the BNU).
- 13 Colin (2010; 2014: 38–39). W. Spiegelberg took part in the excavations led by the Marquis of Northampton. See Northampton et al. (1908).
- 14 Chang (2014: 212–214); Colin (2014: 23); Heilporn (2017).
- 15 Spiegelberg (1923: 25, fn. 4). On the problem of the donation's date to the IES, see Bouvier (2003: 15–18, 18–21).
- 16 Bouvier (1999: 1–2).

<sup>4</sup> Schweitzer & Traunecker (2003: 64); Spiegelberg (1909: Vorwort).

<sup>5</sup> Colin (2017c); Vleeming (1982).

<sup>6</sup> Spiegelberg (1909: Vorwort); Colin (2010; 2014). On the history of the collection of the Institute of Egyptology after W. Spiegelberg, see Bucher & Leclant (1956). See also Bouvier (2003: 1).



Fig. 1. O. H 127 recto. Extract from the *Satirical Letter* (© Photo and collection BNU, Strasbourg)

### 2. The New Kingdom hieratic materials

### 2.1. Numbers

### 2.1.1. BNU

The BNU's inventory includes 118 hieratic papyri (numbered hierat. 1 to 128),<sup>17</sup> 247 hieratic ostraca, including jar labels (numbered H. 1 to H. 251),<sup>18</sup>

and 8 hieratic documents on wood (Ho. 1–Ho. 8).<sup>19</sup> Some of these documents are dated to the period between the 18th and the 21st Dynasties. The following table gives a list of documents attributed to this period in the BNU's register. It should be noted that not all of the ostraca and papyri fragments are dated. In addition, many of the ostraca are illegible.<sup>20</sup> The information below is therefore only indicative.

	Papyri and papyri fragments	Ostraca and jar labels	Documents on wood
18th Dynasty	1	10 (?) <sup>21</sup>	6
New Kingdom/Ramesside Period	3 (or 4) <sup>22</sup>	96	0
Third Intermediate Period	25/27 (?) <sup>23</sup> ("El-Hibeh")	29	0
Total	31	135	6
Not dated	42 (fragments)	108 (including erased ostraca)	1 (hieratic?)
Attributed to other periods	45 (or 44)	4	1
Total	118	247	8

Table 1. Indicative dates attributed to the BNU hieratic materials

### 2.1.2. IES

The IES's collection consists mainly of nontextual objects, though it also holds some written materials, including approximately 2,600 sherds inscribed in hieratic that come from the excavations directed by J.E. Quibell at the Ramesseum during the winter of 1895–1896 (see below, § 2.2.1). These were published by W. Spiegelberg and

- 19 In addition, the BNU is home to an important collection of Demotic or bilingual wooden mummy labels: Spiegelberg (1901; 1912); Bornemann (2010: 19); Vleeming (2011: 743-744). Cf. The Mummy Label Database, https://oi.uchicago.edu/research/projects/mummy-label-database-mld (accessed 12.01.2024).
- 20 See the remarks in Müller (2006: 271).
- 21 This includes ostraca dated to the 18th Dynasty or said (possibly) to come from Amarna.
- 22 According to J.Fr. Quack (2022), a fourth papyrus should be assigned to this period. See below, table 2, n. 56.
- 23 Uncertainty remains with respect to the identification of some papyri fragments. On current research into the "El-Hibeh" papyri, see below (§ 2.4).

<sup>17</sup> Bornemann (2010: 19; 130 hieratic papyri). Six papyri first registered as hieratic were later identified as hieroglyphic. Several fragments of one of the papyri consisting of hymns to Sobek (hierat. 2 and 7) were registered separately and later reunited. On these texts, see Kucharek (2020: 1, with references to previous literature).

<sup>18</sup> Martin & Heilporn (2000: 78); Bornemann (2010: 19). Three of these documents are not in hieratic (H. 219, H. 221, and H. 251) and a fourth (H. 107) is a figured ostracon. See the complete list of BNU ostraca in Koenig (1997: 17–21).

G. Bouvier (see below, § 2.4). The collection also contains unpublished sherds bearing inscriptions that remain indeterminate;<sup>24</sup> these may share the same origin. The IES also holds some hieratic papyri fragments found during J.E. Quibell's excavations and published in facsimile and transcription by W. Spiegelberg in 1898.<sup>25</sup> Finally, the collection includes some figured ostraca, such as a Ramesside limestone ostracon in two parts with drawings.<sup>26</sup>

### 2.2. Provenances

# 2.2.1. Hieratic material from the Ramesseum (Thebes-West)

As noted above, a large group of hieratic ostraca and hieratic dockets from storage jars in Strasbourg comes from the excavations directed by J.E. Quibell and W.M.F. Petrie around the Ramesseum in the winter of 1895–1896. According to W. Spiegelberg, who published a selection of the findings (330 ostraca) in 1898, more than 3,000 ostraca<sup>27</sup> (as well as some papyrus fragments)<sup>28</sup> were discovered during these excavations, in two areas in particular: in the northeastern part of the temple (mainly jar labels) and in its southeastern part (literary texts).<sup>29</sup> The literary ostraca are now preserved in the Petrie Museum,<sup>30</sup> but the bulk of the jar labels and documentary ostraca were donated by W.M.F. Petrie to W. Spiegelberg.<sup>31</sup> Dozens were transferred to the BNU after being registered in the IES,<sup>32</sup> but over 2,500 sherds inscribed in hieratic remain in the IES.<sup>33</sup> The jar labels typically relate to the storage of wine (but also oil and honey) and can be compared with dockets from other sites.<sup>34</sup>

### 2.2.2. Ramesside papyri, wooden labels, and ostraca from other sites in Thebes-West

Not all the hieratic ostraca and sherds in the BNU come from J.E. Quibell and W.M.F. Petrie's Ramesseum excavations.<sup>35</sup> A large number of items acquired between 1896 and 1911 come from other sites in Thebes-West. Some of the ostraca in the collection are from Gournah,<sup>36</sup> or were found at Dra' Abu el-Naga by W. Spiegelberg in 1896.<sup>37</sup> W. Spiegelberg also brought back a very important set of Ramesside ostraca from his trip to Egypt during the winter of 1898–1899. In an epistolary report, W. Spiegelberg and R.A. Reitzenstein make particular note of the

- 28 Spiegelberg (1898: pl. XLII–XLVII; found in the brick chambers near the Ramesseum according to the erratum on the list of plates); see Bouvier (2003: 16).
- 29 Spiegelberg (1898: Introduction); Barbotin (2013: 73); Bouvier (2003: 7–14).
- **30** Barbotin (2013: 73).
- 31 On the distribution of some of the hieratic materials from the Ramesseum that were given by W.M.F. Petrie to the IES but which were not kept in Strasbourg, see Bouvier (2003: 14–18).
- 32 Spiegelberg (1923: 25, fn. 4); Koenig (1997: 1).
- 33 Bouvier (1999: 1).
- 34 See Hagen (2021: 9–10). Cf. Bouvier (2003: 31–32).
- 35 Koenig (1997: 1).
- 36 H. 100, for example, was purchased there (Koenig 1997: 8).
- 37 The ostraca H. 36 and H. 69 were found by W. Spiegelberg during excavations at Dra' Abu el-Naga in 1896 (see Koenig 1997: 17–18).

<sup>24</sup> Thanks to F. Colin, the IES collection curator, for this information.

<sup>25</sup> Bouvier (2003: 16). Information confirmed by F. Colin.

<sup>26</sup> Hartenstein (2016).

<sup>27</sup> Spiegelberg (1898: Introduction); Koenig (1992: 52–53). On the excavation, see Bouvier (2003: 7–14).

purchase of an important collection of Ramesside hieratic ostraca,<sup>38</sup> most of which were probably acquired in Luxor.<sup>39</sup> Another large group of ostraca was also acquired between 1910 and 1911. Fifty further ostraca are said to have been purchased by L. Borchardt (1863–1938) in Luxor in 1910,<sup>40</sup> and nine other ostraca to come from Thebes-West (1911).<sup>41</sup> With respect to Theban ostraca, some of the items in Strasbourg have been connected to Deir el-Medina.<sup>42</sup>

Information about the origin of the New Kingdom papyri in the BNU is scarce. A Theban origin can nevertheless be attributed to some documents. A modern docket on the glass storage frame of P. hierat. 20 (an inscription on reed<sup>43</sup> attributed to the 18th Dynasty in the register) indicates that it may come from Deir el-Bahari.<sup>44</sup> The amuletic P. hierat. 69 (fig. 2) was purchased in Luxor by W. Spiegelberg; an iconographic parallel with the magical papyrus Deir el-Medineh 1, v<sup>o</sup> 1 suggests that it may come from the Deir el-Medina area.<sup>45</sup>

As to the six wooden dockets from the 18th Dynasty preserved in the BNU, they were purchased by W. Spiegelberg in Egypt in 1895–1896.<sup>46</sup> Known parallels to these dockets suggest that a Theban origin is highly likely.<sup>47</sup>

# 2.2.3. Hieratic jar labels from the Amarna period

Four jar labels in the BNU are dated to the Amarna period and are said to possibly come from Amarna: H. 33 (with the cartouche of Akhenaton),<sup>48</sup> H. 176,<sup>49</sup> H. 186,<sup>50</sup> and H. 250.<sup>51</sup>

### 2.2.4. The "El-Hibeh" papyri

The most important group of papyri from the period of the New Kingdom and the 21st Dynasty in the BNU are the "El-Hibeh" papyri. This dossier consists of several documents from the epistolary communications of Horpenaset and Horemakhbit, two 21st Dynasty scribes and priests of the god "One-of-the-Camp".<sup>52</sup> According to W. Spiegelberg, these papyri come from El-Hibeh,

- 38 Colin (2010).
- 39 The alabaster ostracon H. 41 (a list of pigments, Koenig 1997: 5), for instance, was purchased in 1899 from the dealer A. Megid in Luxor (register of the BNU). H. 36 is said to come from "Grabungen von Dra Abul Nagga 1898" (Koenig 1997: 5, 17).
- 40 Koenig (1997: 19).
- 41 Koenig (1997: 20–21).
- Koenig (1992: 1, 90 [H. 108, H. 110]); Fischer-Elfert (2000: 112 [H. 108]); Černý 2001 (1973: 83, no. 7 [H. 42], 177, no. 4 and 209, 4 [H. 110], 205, no. 11 [H. 108]); Mathieu (2000: 248); Müller (2000: 274–276); Polis (2022: 437–439, 453 [ostraca H. 188, fig. 3 below—identified as right-hand side of O. DeM 1084—and H. 190, both attributed to scribe Pay (i)'s hand]).
- 43 Other examples of inscriptions on reed: Černý (1941).
- 44 The papyrus is indicated as "Geschenk Spiegelberg" in the register.
- 45 Donnat (2016). For comments on this text, see also Quack (2022: 107, 124).
- 46 The dockets were first recorded in the inventory of the IES under the rubric "Erwerbungen 1895/6" before they were transferred to the BNU.
- 47 The publication of these documents is forthcoming. See below § 2.4.
- 48 Koenig (1992: 4).
- 49 Koenig (1992: 14, "aus Tell el Amarna?").
- 50 Koenig (1992: 15, 20).
- 51 Koenig (1997: 15, 20), inventory of the BNU: "1911, aus Tell el-Amarna".
- 52 See Lefèvre's contribution to the present volume.

but this provenance has been called into question.<sup>53</sup> The "El-Hibeh" collection consists of about 2,000 papyri and papyri fragments scattered between several institutions. The BNU holds some 220 fragments,<sup>54</sup> corresponding to 25 inventory numbers. When W. Spiegelberg purchased them from the dealer Abd el Megib on 15th December 1895, these fragments were stored in a lead box.<sup>55</sup> Before their transfer to the KULB (BNU), they were registered as part of the collection of the IES.

### 2.3. Distribution according to genre

It is difficult to assign many of the New Kingdom hieratic documents in the BNU to generic

categories due to the fragmentary nature of much of the collection and the number of documents that remain to be studied and published. As such, the following outline is highly provisional.

### 2.3.1. Hieratic papyri and wooden tags

Most of the New Kingdom hieratic papyri in the BNU that have been examined reflect epistolary communications and documentary texts. A large part of this category consists of the "El-Hibeh" group. The BNU's register also assigns a text written on reed and dated to the 18th Dynasty to this category. In addition, some of the documents contain magico-religious compositions (fig. 2).



Fig. 2. Amuletic papyrus hierat. 69 (recto), purchased in Luxor by W. Spiegelberg (© Photo and collection BNU, Strasbourg)

- 53 See Lefèvre (2012: 38).
- 54 Lefèvre (2012: 25) and D. Lefèvre's contribution to the present volume.
- 55 Spiegelberg (1917: 1); Lefèvre (2008: 111).

	Number	Date
Letters and documentary texts	Up to 30	18th and 21st Dynasties
Literary (magico-religious) <sup>56</sup>	4	New Kingdom / Ramesside

Table 2. Provisional distribution of contents across the New Kingdom hieratic papyri in the BNU, Strasbourg

The six hieratic wooden labels from the 18th Dynasty acquired by W. Spiegelberg in 1895–1896 belong to the well-known category of wooden tags attached to funerary goods.<sup>57</sup>

### 2.3.2. Hieratic ostraca and jar dockets

In two separate reviews of Y. Koenig's edition of 108 hieratic ostraca in the BNU, B. Mathieu (2000: 246) and M. Müller (2000: 271) both proposed various generic assignations for the texts in Y. Koenig's publication. Among the ostraca, B. Mathieu identified documentary texts (70), letters (around 10), magical texts (3 or 4), and literary or religious texts (around 15). M. Müller identified letters (9), administrative texts (42), jar labels (11), literary compositions, including magical and religious texts (17), notations (7 texts), other texts (11), and unclear texts (12).

The generic distribution of the materials in the BNU appears to change very little even if we take into consideration the undated ostraca, the ostraca dated to the New Kingdom preserved in the BNU (243), and the genre identifications proposed in the museum's register for the museum's unpublished texts. Six generic categories that apply to the collection are outlined below:

- (1) Unidentified texts, some illegible—around 60 texts.
- (2) Documentary texts: this category is the largest in the BNU hieratic collection; it embraces a wide range of texts, including administrative texts, accounts with workmen's marks (H. 10, H. 11, H. 13, H. 59), and a note about a donkey hire (H. 182)—around 95.
- (3) Dockets: jar labels (wine, honey, oil, beersrm.t, and meat?) form the second largest category of texts on hieratic ostraca in the BNU. These come mainly from Thebes-West and in particular from the Ramesseum Excavations directed by J.E. Quibell and W.M.F. Petrie—like the jar labels preserved in the IES—around 40.
- (4) Letters: some ten letter fragments have been identified,<sup>58</sup> some featuring the names of scribes—around 10.
- (5) Literary compositions (literature; religious and magical texts): around twenty texts have been identified as literary. These include excerpts from the *Kemyt*,<sup>59</sup> the *Satirical Letter* (fig. 1),<sup>60</sup> and the *Loyalistic Wisdom*,<sup>61</sup> as well as some hymnic compositions (fig. 3)<sup>62</sup> and magical texts, such as the

60 Koenig (1997: 11 [H. 127]).

62 Mathieu (2000: 250–253); Polis (2022: 436–439, 453 [H. 188 and H. 190, see above n. 42]).

<sup>56</sup> Only three texts are dated to the New Kingdom in the BNU's register, while several fragments are undated. A fourth text (hierat. 92) is attributed to the Ramesside Period by J.Fr. Quack (2022: 124).

<sup>57</sup> Dodson & Janssen (1989); Bouvier (2009); Adrom (2021). See below, § 2.4 and n. 74.

<sup>58</sup> See in particular the reviews of Y. Koenig's 1997 publication by B. Mathieu (2000) and M. Müller (2000). The BNU's register also identifies some fragments as letters.

<sup>59</sup> Mathieu (2000: 250–253).

<sup>61</sup> Koenig (1997: 20); Koenig (1992: 55); Posener (1976: 9 [H. 163], 99–110 transcription).

parallels to P. Turin CGT 54051 (H. 111)<sup>63</sup> and P. Leyde I 343+345 (H. 115)<sup>64</sup>—around 25.

(6) Varia: various categories of texts (exercises
[?],<sup>65</sup> an ushebti text,<sup>66</sup> a weight [?]<sup>67</sup>)—around 10.

### 2.4. Published documents

Some of the New Kingdom texts preserved in Strasbourg have been published. Many were first edited by W. Spiegelberg. In addition, the Griffith Institute possesses transcriptions of certain texts by A.H. Gardiner (1879–1963)<sup>68</sup> and J. Černý (1989–1970).<sup>69</sup>



Fig. 3. O. H. 188 (Thebes West 1911). Extract from a hymn to Amon (© Photo and collection BNU, Strasbourg)

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- 63 Koenig (1997: 9).
- 64 Koenig (1997: 10).
- 65 Müller (2000: 273).
- 66 Koenig (1997: 4).
- 67 Müller (2000: 273, fn. 5).
- 68 See Donnat (2016: 6, fn. 22).
- 69 See the online corpus of transcribed hieratic documents in the Griffith Institute: http://www.griffith.ox.ac.uk/gri/4hiceros. html and http://www.griffith.ox.ac.uk/gri/4hicerpa.html (accessed 21.10.2024).

## Hieratic papyri:<sup>70</sup>

- the "El-Hibeh" papyrus in Strasbourg have been partially published by W. Spiegelberg;<sup>71</sup> they are undergoing further study at present.<sup>72</sup>
- Of the four magico-religious papyri in the BNU attributed to the New Kingdom, only one has been published so far.<sup>73</sup>

# Hieratic wooden labels:

 The funerary dockets from the 18th Dynasty remained unpublished, but an edition is forthcoming.<sup>74</sup>

# Hieratic ostraca and jar labels:

 The Ramesseum materials in the BNU and IES have been published by W. Spiegelberg<sup>75</sup> and G. Bouvier,<sup>76</sup> though W. Spiegelberg only published facsimiles and transcriptions of selected documents. A second volume was planned,<sup>77</sup> but was never published. According to Y. Koenig (1997: 21), inscribed fragments of a jar dating to the Third Intermediate Period in the BNU are from the Ramesseum as well; they are also unpublished. It is worth noting that an analysis of the food and beverage residues on the sherds was performed in March 2018<sup>78</sup> as part of the ERC project "Transformations of Food in the Eastern Mediterranean Late Bronze Age."<sup>79</sup>

- The ostracon H. 111, bearing the magical referring to the speech of Horus, was first published by W. Spiegelberg (1922), but only in translation with a commentary. A photograph and a facsimile were published by Y. Koenig (1997: 9, pl. 43, 115). This important document has several parallels and has been translated and subject to several commentaries; its transcription appears in various synoptic editions.<sup>80</sup>
- 108<sup>81</sup> ostraca were published with transcriptions, facsimiles, and photographs, but without
- 70 A modern docket on the glass frame of P. hierat. 20 (see above) indicates that it has been published, but it has not been possible to confirm this claim.
- 71 Spiegelberg (1917); see Lefèvre (2008: 111).
- 72 See Lefèvre (2012).
- 73 Donnat (2016 [hierat. 69]); Quack (2022: 107, 124). Hierat. 76 and hierat. 92 are discussed by J.Fr. Quack (2022: 124). Hierat. 76 and hierat. 80 were examined during the sessions of the papyrology workshop ARPEGES of the Institute of Egyptology, UMR 7044 (http://egypte.unistra.fr/atelier-de-recherche-en-papyrologie-arpeges/; accessed 24.01.2024) devoted to the study of certain hieratic magico-religious texts in the BNU.
- 74 I thank G. Bélot, curator of the hieratic collection in the BNU, for drawing our attention to the hieratic texts written on wood during a work session on hieratic texts at the BNU. The identification of these documents was first made by H. Smets. They will be published by S. Bickel and S. Donnat in *RdE* 74 (2024).
- 75 Spiegelberg (1898). According to Bouvier (2003: 19), 49 documents published by W. Spiegelberg (1898) are preserved in the BNU and 93 in the IES. Some of them were also published in Koenig (1997). See Bouvier (2003: 26 [no. 219], 27 [no. 224, 225, 228]). See also the Petrie Journal 1895 to 1896 (Griffith Institute, Petrie MSS 1.13: 15 and 20 = https://archive.griffith.ox.ac.uk/ index.php/petrie-1–13 (accessed 21.01.2024).
- 76 Bouvier (1999–2003). Review by Wimmer (2003); Neunert (2005).
- 77 See Spiegelberg (1898: Introduction); Maspero (1899: 243).
- 78 https://egypte.unistra.fr/la-collection-de-linstitut-degyptologie/travaux-sur-la-collection/accueil-de-chercheurs-etde-visiteurs/que-contenaient-les-jarres-du-ramesseum-apport-combine-de-letude-des-inscriptions-hieratiques-et-delarcheologie-biomoleculaire/ (accessed 24.01.2024).
- 79 https://cordis.europa.eu/project/id/678901 (accessed 24.01.2024).
- 80 See Koenig (1982: 283–291); Roccati (2011: 126–129, 165); Stegbauer (2019: 275–276). See also Koenig (1992: 54); Mathieu (2000: 247–248). On the text, see Quack (2022: 149 with fn. 251, with references to previous literature).
- 81 Corresponding to 110 inventory numbers: H. 187, H. 189, H. 192 have been connected (Koenig 1997: 15).

translations, by Y. Koenig (1997; including some ostraca already published by W. Spiegelberg in 1898;<sup>82</sup> the ostracon H. 111 translated by W. Spiegelberg in 1922; and the two ostraca studied by G. Posener [H. 187<sup>83</sup> and H. 163]<sup>84</sup>). This publication was reviewed by B. Mathieu (2000; who offered translations for some texts) and M. Müller (2000). Around 20 ostraca are transcribed in J. Černý's notebooks (now in the Griffith Institute), some of which were included in K*RI* 6 and 7.<sup>85</sup> Some of the ostraca published

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by Y. Koenig have also been collected in online databases,<sup>86</sup> or discussed in different papers.<sup>87</sup>

 About 2/5 of the ostraca preserved in BNU are still unpublished. Some of them are difficult to read or have been erased.

As several parts of the collection are still being studied by scholars, this overview is merely indicative and will need to be refined in the future as research and publications progress.

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83 Facsimile and transcription of G. Posener published in Cazelles (1973: 14–15, fig. 1); see Koenig (1997: 15).

- 85 Müller (2000: 274). See also the translations in *KRI* 6, 331 (H. 83); *KRI* 7, 126 (H. 41), 162 (H. 110), 198 (H. 112), 199–200 (H. 136), 203 (H. 26), 222 (H. 42).
- 86 The Deir el-Medina Database, https://dmd.wepwawet.nl; the Trismegistos database, https://www.trismegistos.org and the websites Science in Ancient Egypt, https://sae.saw-leipzig.de (H. 111 and H. 115) and Ramses Online, http://ramses.ulg.ac.be (H. 42) (all accessed 18.01.2024).
- 87 For example, Katary (2000 [H. 106]); Fischer-Elfert (2000 [H. 108]; I am indebted to Lola Mohimont for this reference); Beck (2018 [H. 115]).

<sup>82</sup> See above n. 75.

<sup>84</sup> See above n. 61.

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