HIERATIC WINE JAR DOCKETS FROM TUTHMOSIS’S IV TEMPLE IN GURNA

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ABSTRACT

This paper deals with the texts on a collection of hieratic wine jar dockets written in black ink. These dockets are now in the National Museum for Egyptian Civilization at Cairo, and they were excavated by E. Bresciani in the 1970s at Tuthmosis's IV temple in Gurna –Thebes. According to the paleography, formulae and content, the dockets date to the 18th dynasty, and the beginning of 19th dynasty, and they are comparable with similar dockets from Malkata.

KEYWORDS

Hieratic; Wine Jar Dockets; Tuthmosis IV; Gurna.

INTRODUCTION

The present paper deals with a group of hieratic dockets, stored in the National Museum for Egyptian Civilization (NMEC).¹ The Pisa University expedition led by E. Bresciani in the 1970s at Tuthmosis's IV temple in Gurna –Thebes have uncovered

We would like to express our gratitude to Dr. Rob Demarée for his revision of the paper and made valuable comments.

¹For more information and details about the NMEC and its collection, see EISSA, CdÉ 89 (2014), 197-201.
collection of hieratic ostraca and dockets. Their topics can be divided into three
groups: the first one (Nos. 332, 341, 429, 434, 436, 437) consists of wine jar
dockets, which will be dealt with in this article, the second group (Nos. 339, 343, 348, 452)
contains parts of private letters, and the third group (Nos. 342, 406, 409, 449) has lists
of titles, names of workmen and deliveries. The second and the third group will be
published in separate articles.
These dockets are written in black ink only and on one side of the sherds. It is
characterized by fixed formula. The dockets regularly include of five classes of
formula or expressions: date, the type of wine, the delivering institution, the place of
wine, title and personal name of the vineyard. Studies on the dockets from the temple
of Tuthmosis's IV, by comparison with those from other sites, suggest that these
dockets record the supplies of wine relating to the temple, and provide interesting
information about the locations of winemaking.

D. NMEC No. 437  (Fig 1, 1a)

Transliteration:
1- \textit{rnpt sp 28 irp}\footnote{the determinative of \textit{irp} stands for \textit{m\textbar} rather than \textit{b}, which appeared also
on D. NMEC No. 341 in line 2. The following table shows that the writing is slightly
different from its ordinary shape W22+Z1.}
2- \textit{hry kmw nb- mhyt}

Translation:
1- Regnal year 28, wine of the orchard
of the estate of Amon Ra.
2- The chief of vineyard \textit{nb- mhyt}.

Commentary
- Dimension: 10cm x 6.5cm.
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: 18\textsuperscript{th} Dynasty.
- Condition& Description: the fragment is in a good condition and in two parts, and it
is inscribed on one side with two lines in black ink.

Table.1 The differences between W22 and W22+Z2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D. NMEC No. 437</th>
<th>Hays\textsuperscript{2}, (1951), Fig.2</th>
<th>Bouvier\textsuperscript{4}, (1999)</th>
<th>Petri\textsuperscript{4}, (1894)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} \textbf{\textup{W22+Z2}} \ 1 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 24.1 \ 28.1 \ 143.1 \ 79.1 \ 92.1 \ 43.1 \ 5.1 \ 28.2 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 1 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 2 \end{tabular}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} \textbf{\textup{W22}} \ 80.1 \ 143.1 \ 105.1 \ 181.1 \ 28.2 \ 6.1 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 3 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 1 \end{tabular}</td>
<td>\begin{tabular}{c} 2 \end{tabular}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\textsuperscript{1}For the history and more information about excavations and archaeological projects of the University of Pisa in the area of the Thutmosis temple, see: Bresciani, \textit{EVO} 4 (1981), 1-40; Bresciani, \textit{CNR,} Vol. 1, 393-411; Guidotti. \textit{EVO} 18 (1995), 23-29; Guidotti, \textit{EVO} 10.1 (1987), 21-34; Guidotti, \textit{EVO} 12 (1989), 55-77; Marzoni Fecia di Cossatom & Ronca, , \textit{EVO} 16 (1993), 73-85; www.egittologia:unipi.it.

\textsuperscript{2}Hayes, \textit{JNES} 10/1, (1951), 35-56, fig. 2-3.


\textsuperscript{4}Petrie, \textit{Tell el Amarna} , pl. XXII.5.
It is not clear to me but may represent Ꜩ nfr. It occurs once on a docket from Tell- Amarna dated to the reign of the king Akhenaton. It may be the same person who lived in the end of reign of Amenhotep III, and then moved with Akhenaton to Tell- Amarna.

D. NMEC No. 332 (Fig 2, 2a)

Transliteration
1- rnp t sp (a) 36 (b) irp .....  
2- k3mw .....  
3- nhtw (c) .....  

Translation
1- Regnal year 36, wine .....  
2- vineyard .....  
3- nhtw .....  

Commentary
- Dimension: 12cm x 9cm.
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: 18th Dynasty
- Condition & Description: the fragment is in good condition and in two parts, inscribed on one side with three lines in black ink.

(a) rnp t sp 36: this docket refers to (year 36) the highest date of Amenhotep III in this collection. The same date is found on dockets from Deir el-Medineh, whilst jars from his tomb attest year 37, and jars from his palace at Malkata mention year 38. Černý suggested that Amenophis III lived at least to the thirty-ninth year of his reign according to Amarna table in the British Museum, which may be dating to year 39. While Hornung suggest at least 37 and perhaps 38 years should be assumed for Amenhotep III.

(b) Ꜩ Ꜩ Ꜩ: It represents a different form of the number 30, where the standard form would be Ꜩ Ꜩ Ꜩ.  

(c) Ꜩ Ꜩ Ꜩ: Perhaps represents part of the name of the chief of the vineyard being nhtw. His name is attested on a docket from Dier el Madina dated to the same period. He is also attested on O. Cairo JE 62312 as a chief of the vineyard.

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1Ranke, PN I, 185.7.  
5Hayes, *JNES* 10, 1951, 56,  
7Hornung; Rolf; David and Marianne, *Ancient Egyptian Chronology*, HDO 38, 205.  
8Möller, *Hieratische Paläographie* II, 525.  
10Černý, *Tutankhamun’s Tomb Series II. Hieratic Inscriptions from the Tomb of Tutankhamun*, 22, No. 10.
D. NMEC No. 341 (Fig 3, 3a)

Transliteration

1- rnp t sp 3
2- irp n pr r₇ (a)....... 
3- … itrw imntt (b)(c) hry[k3mw³] (d)...

Translation

1- Regnal Year 3
2- wine of the estate of Ra....
3- … of the Western River, chief of the vineyard ...

Commentary

- Dimension: 11cm x 11cm.
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: 18th Dynasty
- Condition & Description: the fragment is in a good condition and in two parts, and it is inscribed on one side with three lines in black ink.

(a) [Image] his word appears with the same form in O. AM 50 [Image] ¹ transcribe it as [Image], but perhaps it represents [Image] rather than [Image] where the groove in the 18th Dynasty appears with the same form,² in addition to the determinative of the word which represent.³

(b) itrw imntt: Many wine jar dockets contain this term. The word is a topographical term which refers to a location in the north-western Nile Delta region⁴, this is thought a canopic branch of the Nile⁵. itrw imntt was an important district producing wine until the Greco- Roman period.⁶

(c) [Image]: This sign appeared with the same form during the Ramasside period to represent more than [Image]⁷.

(d) According to the form of the title chief of the vineyard, we can complete the gap with k3mw³.⁸ The end of this line is lost so the name of the vineyard remains unknown. unknown.

²Möller, Hieratische Paläographie II, Anhang XXI.
³Möller, Hieratische Paläographie II, 303.
⁵Poo, Wine & Wine Offering In The Religion Of Ancient Egypt, 30, 15.
⁸Petrie, Tell el Amarna, pl. XXIII.
D. NMEC No. 434  (Fig 4, 4a)

Transliteration
1- [rnpt sp] 28\(^{(a)}\) irp n..... \(^{(b)}\)
2- [k3]mw\(^{(c)}\) \(\text{h}3\text{wt}\)^\(^{(d)}\)

Translation
1- [Regnal year] 28, wine of ..... 
2- Vineyard \(\text{h}3\text{wt}.....\)

Commentary
- Dimension: 15cm x16cm
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: 18\(^{th}\) Dynasty.
- Condition& Description: The fragment is in a good condition, in two parts, inscribed on one side with two lines in black ink.

(a) \(\text{rnpt sp.}\): represents a part of the dating formula \(\text{rnpt sp.}\).

(b) According to the wine jar docket formulae, \(\text{irp}\) is followed by the name of the estate, but the left part hasn’t any trace of writing so I don’t think the left part is part of this vase.

(c) \(\text{khj}\): this group represent a part of the word \([k3]mw\) as it appears with the same form in Aman.\(^{(1)}\)

(d) \(\text{h}3\text{wt}\): this name had a different form as \(\text{Htp) a.w.s}\) \(\text{Htp} a.w.s\) \(\text{Htp) a.w.s}\) \(\text{Htp} a.w.s\). It’s appeared with the same form in O. DeM.\(^{(3)}\) \(\text{yrp}\) \(\text{yrp}\) \(\text{yrp}\) \(\text{yrp}\) \(\text{yrp}\). Another example of this name is found in P. Gurob dating to the reign of the king Amenhotep III.\(^{(5)}\)

D. NMEC No. 436 (Fig 5, 5a)

Transliteration
\(\text{[rnpt sp…]} \text{irp n pr (imn- htp) r,w.s}^{(a)}\)
\(\text{…. in nty m itrw imntr}^{(b)}\)

Translation
\(\text{[Regnal Year…]},\) wine of the estate of Amenhotep L.P.H
\(\text{…. by which is in the Western River}\)

Commentary

\(^{(1)}\)Petrie, \textit{Tell el Amarna}, pl. XXII.5.
\(^{(2)}\)Ranke, PN 1, 262-25.
\(^{(4)}\)Grandet, Catalogue des ostraca hiératiques X, 7- 8, 184; Hagen, \textit{JEA} 96, (2010), 71-82.
\(^{(5)}\)Griffith, \textit{Hieratic Papayri from Kahun and Gurob}, Pl. XXXIX,11.
- Dimension: 14 cm x 6 cm
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: it can date to the 18-19th dynasty.
- Condition & Description: the fragment is in a good condition, in two parts, and it is inscribed on one side with two lines in black ink.

(a) : The text is not clear, we suggest reconstruction as

(b) : According to the remaining traces, we can complete the word as

D. NMEC No. 429 (Fig 6, 6a)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transliteration</th>
<th>Translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[1] rnpt sp 8 ipn mr tm (a) n.f?……..</td>
<td>[1] Regnal Year 8, wine of mr tm n.f?……..</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[2] hry k3mw nhw m mwt (b)</td>
<td>[2] The chief of vineyard nhw m mwt</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Commentary
- Dimension: 8 cm x 9 cm.
- Material: Pottery.
- Dating: probably 18-19th dynasty.
- Condition & Description: the fragment is in a good condition, in two parts, and it is inscribed on one side with two lines in black ink.

(a) Mr tm: Meidum is one of the most frequently mentioned place of winemaking, this place does not appear in the wine jar dockets from Amarna or Malkata dockets, but it is found on some wine jar dockets from Deir el Medina.

(b) nhw m mwt: this name has many forms as, This name does not appear in Malkata dockets.

Wine jars form and formula

The texts of the wine jar dockets follow a general pattern with only minor variations. In their most elaborate form they consist of five elements: a date, the type of the wine,
the delivering institution, the place of wine production and the name of the chief of the vineyard.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The first line</th>
<th>(1) Dating formula ((rnpt \ sp x))</th>
<th>(2) The type of wine and the institution ((irp \ n \ x))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The second line</td>
<td>(3) ((itrw \ imntt))</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The second or third line</td>
<td>(4) The place of wine production</td>
<td>(5) The name of the chief of the vineyard ((hry \ k3mw))</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 General form of wine jar docket

**Dating formula:** It represents the first element of the text. The normal form of the formula is \(rnpt \ sp + \) the date without the season, month or the name of the king.²

**The place of production of the wine:** the text refers to vineyards and the place of production that the wine was intended for it. The scribe used three forms 1) \(irp \ n \ pr +\) the place "wine of the estate of + the place". 2) \(irp \ n \ ts + ttt \ ht + \ pr +\) the place "a wine of the orchard of the estate of + the place". 3) \(irp +\) the place. The following table shows the wine delivering institutions in the collection under study.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The estate of the wine</th>
<th>Sources</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(n \ ts + ttt \ ht \ n \ pr \ imn \ r)</td>
<td>D. NMEC No. 437</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(n \ pr \ r)</td>
<td>D. NMEC No. 341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(n \ pr (imn – \ htp) \ w.s)</td>
<td>D. NMEC No. 436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(n \ mr \ tm)</td>
<td>D. NMEC No. 429</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3 The institution delivering the wine

Sometimes this formula followed by the formula "\(n \ itrw \ imntt\)" as D. NMEC No. 436, D. NMEC No. 441.

**The title and name of the chief of the vineyard:** \(hry \ k3mw\) is one of most common terms used in the wine jar dockets with the meaning chief of the vineyard, the gardener.³ This word first appeared in the Old Kingdom with a different form as \(k3nw\).⁴ At the end of the Second Intermediate Period the word appears in the

³Wb, V, 106.
⁴Kaplon, *Die Inschriften der ägyptischen Frühzeit*, 1135.
new form k3mw.¹ During the New Kingdom, this word appears in different forms written as: $\overline{\text{i}}\overline{\text{r}}\overline{\text{y}}\overline{\text{k}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{i}}\overline{\text{r}}\overline{\text{y}}\overline{\text{k}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{i}}\overline{\text{r}}\overline{\text{y}}\overline{\text{k}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{i}}\overline{\text{r}}\overline{\text{y}}\overline{\text{k}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{i}}\overline{\text{r}}\overline{\text{y}}\overline{\text{k}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$. The wine jar dockets shows several titles for both a superior and a subordinate of the wine industry.² hry k3mw is the most common title: the chief of the vineyard. This title appears with different forms as $\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{n}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{n}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{n}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{n}}\overline{\text{w}}$, $\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{s}}\overline{\text{n}}\overline{\text{w}}$. This title is sometimes also connected with an important title as pr s on O.DEM 6361, $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{u}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$, or $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{u}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{w}}$. In some cases the title is replaced by hry b'h as in year 13 of Akhenaton.³

**Dating:**

According to the personal names and paleography, this collection can be dated to 18th dynasty- the New Kingdom. The following table shows the comparison between the Malkata dockets and the wine jar dockets of the National Museum for Egyptian Civilization at Cairo.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>G/M</th>
<th>NMEC dockets</th>
<th>Malkata dockets¹⁵</th>
<th>Tell el-Amarna Jars¹⁶</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>A24/15</td>
<td>D. NMEC 429.2</td>
<td>43.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>D28/108</td>
<td>D. NMEC 337.2 D. NMEC 332.2</td>
<td>53.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>M4/270</td>
<td>D. NMEC 332.1 D. NMEC 341.1</td>
<td>38.1 24.1 79.1 18.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹¹Habachi, _The Second Stela of Kamose and his struggle against the Hyksos Ruler and his Capital_, ADAIK 8, Glückstadt, (1972), 32.
²²Habachi, _The Second Stela of Kamose and his struggle against the Hyksos Ruler and his Capital_, 32.
³³LD IV, 37; Wahlberg, E., _The Wine Jars Speak A text study_, 43.
⁴⁴Bouvier, _Catalogue des etiquettes de jarres hiératiques inédites de l’ institut d’ Egyptologie de Strasbourg_, Pl.7.28.
⁵⁵Petrie, _Tell el Amarna_, pl. XXII.5.
⁷⁷Koenig, _Les ostraca hiératiques inédits de la bibliothèque nationale et universitaire de Strasbourg_, Pl.17.58
⁸⁸Hayes, _JNES 10. No.1_, (1951), fig.6.54.
⁹⁹Koenig, _Les ostraca hiératiques inédits de la bibliothèque nationale et universitaire de Strasbourg_, Pl. Pl. 86.37
¹⁰¹⁰Spiegelberg, _ZÄS_ 58, (1923), 26
¹¹¹¹Koenig, _Catalogue des etiquettes des jarres hiératiques de Deir el-Medineh_, II, pl. 44.
¹²¹²Hayes, _JNES 10. No.1_, (1951), fig.6.39.
¹³¹³Hayes, _JNES 10. No.1_, (1951), fig.7.59.
¹⁵¹⁵Hayes, _JNES 10. No.1_, (1951), 35-56, fig.2-3.
Finally, this collection of dockets shows that the wine was transported to Gurna from a number of locations. Not all of the locations could be identified convincingly, but it is possible that they were located in different parts of Egypt, suggesting supplies travelling long-distance?

Table 4 Wine jar docket list of signs
BIBLIOGRAPHY

7. ..........., Tu’t ankhāmān’s Tomb Series II. Hieratic Inscriptions from the Tomb of Tu’t ankhāmān, Oxford: Griffith institute, (1965).
THE PLATES

Pl.1

Fig 1: D. NMEC No. 437
Fig 1a: Facsimile D. NMEC No. 437

Fig 2: D. NMEC No. 332
Fig2a: Facsimile D. NMEC No. 332

Fig 3: D. NMEC No. 341
Fig3a: Facsimile D. NMEC 341

Pl.2
Fig 4: D. NMEC No. 434

Fig 4a: Facsimile D. NMEC No. 434

Fig 5: D. NMEC No. 436

Fig 5a: Facsimile D. NMEC No. 436

Fig 6: D. NMEC No. 429

Fig 6a: Facsimile D. NMEC No. 429