The shabtis of

Nesy-per-nub

By Niek de Haan and Patrice Renaut
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1. Introduction

1.1 Introduction to this study

This study provides an overview of the shabtis for the priest Nesypernub. In addition to the published examples, we added the shabtis we have come across in the world, with the help of Glenn Janes work and Sehedj database. We will start with an introduction of the owner Nesy-per-nub and describe his shabtis in general. In the following chapters you will find the museum parallels (chapter 2) and the privately owned parallels (chapter 3).

1.2 Who was Nesy-per-nub?

This great Theban priest is known to us from his burial equipment found in the second cache at Deir el-Bahari. His name can be translated as: "the one who belongs to the house of gold". His coffin, preserved in the Vienna Museum (KHM ÄS 6268 and 6269), tells us that he had many titles, some of which are regularly inscribed on his shabtis. For example: "God’s Father of Amen, Mut and Khonsu", "Scribe of the temple of Mut", "Priest of Thot", "Chief of the Great Place" (i.e., of the necropolis), "Great controller", "Man of confidence"... (1). In addition, Cairo museum collection owns 19 shabtis of this priest as well as a shabti box (JE 29285 = SR 9902) and two funerary papyri (JE 95854 and SRVII.11487). The latter state that Nesy-per-nub was "Chief of the prophets of all the gods of Upper and Lower Egypt" and "Scribe of the correspondence of the First Great Superior of the musicians of Amen" (2). His wife was called Nesy-Mut (1), whose shabtis, also found in the second cache, have the peculiarity of having male and female individuals (3, 17). Nesy-per-nub was the grandfather of the fourth prophet of Amen Nakht-ef-Mut, whose burial equipment is in the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge (18), and two of his shabtis in the British Museum in London (17). According to the different authors, Nesy-per-nub would have lived under the XXIst or XXIInd Dynasty. According to L. Aubert, his funerary equipment was introduced into the large chamber of the second cache among the first occupants (2), his coffin being located right next to that of the prophet of Amen Hor (son of Men-kheper-Ra [see the plan of the second cache (4) and (5)]).
The mummy-board for Nesy-per-nub (7)  The lid of the inner coffin for Nesy-per-nub (7)
1.3 Description of the shabtis

The study presented here is based on the documentary background available on the Web as well as on documents from the authors’ library. It is obvious that the list of the studied statuettes is far from being exhaustive and will have to be updated.

To our knowledge, the most comprehensive sources available now are:

The Sehedj data base: Répertoire bibliographique des figurines funéraires (shabtis / oushebtis) (6).

G. Janes's book "The Amasis collection" which describes an example of shabti for Nesy-per-nub and gives an extensive list of known parallels in museums, private collections and the art market (7). This list complements that of his previous book: "Shabtis, a private view" (12) as well as the references given by L. Aubert (2).

Dik van Bommel website is another useful source of information about the Priests of Amen found in Bab el Gasus cache (20).

For some shabtis, only the references, or even only the location, are available without an image of the corresponding statuette.

Note also that the name Nes-per-nub appears on some shabtis which also bear the title "God’s Father of Amen" but are not related to this owner.

In fact, they belong to another priest because the name is written 神父 and not 神父 and the material and iconography are quite different.

The workers for Nesy-per-nub are the tallest known from the second cache: they are between 13 cm and 16 cm, coming close to the tallest shabtis from the royal cache such as the Pi-nudjem II or the Nesy-Khonsu. On the one hand, the quality of the face and of the inscription is rather uneven. On the other hand, their general shape is not very variable as well as their size. The workers are mummiform, with their arms folded, right over left, and holding two hoes. They all wear tripartite wigs underlined by black lines, and some also wear the seshed headband tied behind their heads, a characteristic ornament of the Third Intermediate Period. Only the eyes and eyebrows are painted in black, and the nose and mouth are poorly modeled. On their backs most of them carry a bag
indicated by a rectangle hatched with black lines and suspended from the shoulders by two cords. Several of the shabtis of Nesy-per-nub wear a necklace with a heart-shaped amulet \( ib \) hanging from it. Among the shabtis of the second cache, they are the only ones to wear such an amulet.

Moreover, the inscription is highly original in more than one respect. First of all, except for one example, (see the list below: unknown collection B) its arrangement in two columns is unusual, especially for the ushabtis found in the second cache. This arrangement is present on Hor-em-khebit shabtis, the God’s Father, Scribe of the House of Amen, dated to XXI\(^{st} \) Dynasty but not found in the second cache. Then, Nesy-per-nub begins his inscription with the word \textit{ushabti}, as did Pi-nudjem II, who was the first to use this word on his workers. Indeed, the predecessors of Pi-nudjem II were still \textit{shawabtis}, which makes it possible to date Nesy-per-nub as being posterior or contemporary to Pi-nudjem II. Last but not least, the beginning of the text, although very fragmentary, seems to refer to chapter 83 of the Book of the Dead (8), (1). It can be translated as: "\textit{(Formula) to take the appearance of a Phoenix: I flew away as a primordial god, I came into existence like the golden beetle Khepri, I grew like a plant, I protected myself in my carapace like a turtle. Whoever knows this formula, being pure, can come out in the daylight after his death and take the aspects that his heart desires... He will be able to see the solar disc, be prosperous with Ra, he will be justified by Osiris without any evil being able to reach him }". An example of chapter 83 from the Book of the Dead of the papyrus of Kamara, who was the daughter of Psusennes and wife of Pi-nudjem I, is shown below (9). The blessed Phoenix \textit{bnw} appears in the upper right frame of this papyrus and also at the beginning of chapter 83 (first column: “take the appearance of a Phoenix” as annotated with the red frame).
Funerary papyrus of Kamara extract pl V showing chapters 6 and 83 of the Book of the Dead (9)
However, not all authors agree with this interpretation. The sign is transliterated either: $bnw$ and translated: Phoenix (11), (8), (1) either $snty$ translated: heron (1) or $b\chi b$ translated: flood or flooded land but whose exact hieroglyph is $\text{\textcopyright}Niek de Haan and Patrice Renaut– www.shabticollections.com$ (2), (7), (10). It is surprising that if the hieroglyph $\text{\textcopyright}Niek de Haan and Patrice Renaut– www.shabticollections.com$ corresponds to the irrigation of the banks $b\chi b$ why would it be written like this when this formulation never appears on the shabtis bearing chapter 6? The hypothesis of chapter 83 seems more likely and the translation for a Nesy-per-nub ushabti in the Budapest Museum of Fine Arts is interpreted by S. Vanek (11) as: "Ushabti, say: take the form of a Phoenix, the Osiris, the God’s Father of Amen, Nesy-per-nub, justified".

The difficulty of the translation comes from at least two things. Is the bird an ashy heron which walks on the ground without a perch and would therefore be the symbol of the Phoenix? Moreover, the locution $iry r$ may have several meanings.

Anyway, it seems clear that on all the examples where the sign of the bird is well inscribed, it is not located on a perch, which is consistent with the $bnw$ interpretation dealing with the Phoenix.

The left hand column is much easier to translate: "the Osiris, the title(s) and Nesy-per-nub, justified”. Only the title or titles are variable: either only “God’s Father of Amen”, or “Scribe of the temple of Mut”, or both.

The overseers are comparable in size to the workers. They wear the shorter tripartite wig entirely depicted in black and the kilt and protruding triangular apron of daily life. The right arm bent over holding the whip and the left arm which is rather short, along the body. The apron bears the beginning of the inscription divided into two columns, the latter ending with the name of the owner written on the legs and feet in a single column. The title mentioned is, for the rare examples found, “God’s Father of Amen”. However, if the term ushabti is also mentioned, the hieroglyph of the heron does not appear. The text is translated according to L. Aubert (2) as: "I am he who calls (?) the ushabti. Say: I will act for the Osiris, the God’s Father of Amen, Nesypernub".
2. Museum pieces

On the following pages an overview is provided of the museum pieces which are currently part of their respective collections.

The following information is provided for each piece:

Location: the city and country in which the museum is located and name of the museum are mentioned.

Published: If the museum piece is published in a book or on the internet the name of the publication, author and the relevant page number are mentioned.

Inventory number: The inventory number is mentioned if known.

Provenance: For as far as available the provenance of the piece is described, detailing the previous owners prior to the entering into the collection of the museum.

Height: The specific height of the shabti is described in centimeters.

Comments: Provides the comments of the authors to the specific pieces, for example: titles, presence of amulet and seshed band.
2.1 Workers

Assisi, Italy, Assisi Museum

Published: Rosati Gloria, “antichita egizie ad Assisi” 1985, p. 63, Pl IV b 2 C
and Collana diretta da Massimo Mantella, «Catalogo regionale dei beni culturali
dell’Umbria Raccolte Comunali di Assisi. Antichità Egizie. »
Inventory number: C 223, n° 1
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: Title: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut. Amulet:
present, Seshed headband: present?
Atlanta, USA, Michael C. Carlos Museum

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Published: https://collections.carlos.emory.edu/collections/2439/ancient-egyptian-nubian-and-near-eastern-art/objects
Inventory number: 2018.010.337
Provenance: Ex coll. Georges Ricard Foundation, Santa Barbara, California
Height: 16 cm (to be confirmed?)
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut. Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Boston, USA, Children’s Museum

Published: no
Inventory number: O MR5 241
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 16 cm (to be confirmed?)
Comments: Image not available on https://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/about/collections/ancient-world
Inventory number: 62-23-E
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm (to be confirmed?)
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
https://www.szepmuveszeti.hu/
Inventory number: 83.16-E
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Cairo, Egypt, Cairo Museum

General comments: they are 14 workers of Nesy-per-nub in the Cairo Museum. We present some pictures of them and attribution has been made according to descriptions mentioned in Newberry.

Published: Newberry, pl XXXIV and Vol 86, p. 50
Inventory number: NGC 46829
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present.
Cairo, Egypt, Cairo Museum

Published: Newberry Vol 86, p. 50
Inventory number: NGC 46830-46833 (4 similar items)
10325 (present labelling of the above picture)
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: absent
Sished headband: ?
Cairo, Egypt, Cairo Museum

Published: Newberry Vol 86, p. 50
Inventory number: NGC 46834-46836 (Images not available, 3 similar items)
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present
Seshed headband: ?

Published: Newberry Vol 86, p. 51
Inventory number: NGC 46837 (Image not available)
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: ?

Published: Newberry Vol 86, p. 51
Inventory number: NGC 463838-46842 (Images not available, 5 similar items)
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: ?
Cairo, Egypt, Cairo Museum

Published: Newberry Vol 86, p. 51
Inventory number: NGC 46843 (present labelling n° 10349)
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA, Cambridge Museum

Published: https://www.harvardartmuseums.org/collections?q=1919.571
Inventory number: HAM 19191.571
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Published: https://www.harvardartmuseums.org/collections?q=1919.590
Inventory number: HAM 19191.571
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present without a cord, Seshed headband: present
Chicago, USA, The Oriental Institute Museum

Published: no
Inventory numbers: OIM 17319 & 17320
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: images available only on special request
Chiddingstone, UK, Chiddingstone Museum

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Published: no
Inventory number: EDECC 01.0288
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Chiddingstone, UK, Chiddingstone Museum

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Published: no
Inventory number: EDECC 01.0339
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Dole, France, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dole

Published: no
Inventory number: MR 231
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: not on display (October 2020)
Harrogate, UK, Harrogate Museums and Arts

© Harrogate Museums and Art, Harrogate Borough Council

Published: no
Inventory number: HARGM 7370
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: ?
Karlsruhe, Germany, Badisches Landesmuseum

Published: S. Albersmeier 2007, Ägyptische Kuntz - Bestangskatalog Badisches Landesmuseum Karlsruhe, p. 114-115
Inventory number: H 571
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.7 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent?
Manchester, UK, Manchester Museum
Published: G. Janes, A selection from the Manchester Museum, p. 249, n° 136 (16)
Inventory number: H 11271
Provenance: Donated by Mr Max E. Robinow (1959)
Height: 14.7 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present without cord, Seshed headband: present
Inventory number: 713
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.1 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent ?, Seshed headband: absent ?
Inventory number: 727
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.7 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent?
Inventory number: 728
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent?
Inventory number: 734
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent?
Inventory number: 772
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 15.9 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent ?, Seshed headband: absent ?
Inventory number: 1507
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 13 cm (?)
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: present ?
Newcastle, UK, Newcastle Museum

Published: Collection Access Point-Exhibition, Discovery Museum
Inventory number: TWCMC 2006.226
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.4 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
New York, USA, Brooklyn Museum
Published: Brooklyn Museum, Charles Edwin Wilbour Fund, 08.480.13.
Creative Commons-BY (Image: Brooklyn Museum, CUR.08.480.13_view2.jpg)
Inventory number: 08.480.13
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.4 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
New York, USA, Brooklyn Museum

Published: Brooklyn Museum, Charles Edwin Wilbour Fund, 08.480.12.
Creative Commons-BY (Image: Brooklyn Museum, CUR.08.480.12_NegA_print_bw.jpg)
Inventory number: 08.480.12
Provenance: De Potter Collection. Purchased from Mrs. Aimee S. de Potter.
Height: 14.2 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: absent,
Seshed headband: absent
New York, USA, Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA)

Published: not available on https://www.metmuseum.org/art/collection/search/553535
Inventory number: 10.130.1057 & 10.130.1058
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Paris, France, Louvre Museum

Published: mentioned in L. Aubert, Les statuettes funéraires de la deuxième cachette à Deir el-Bahari, p. 126
Inventory number: E 32552
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 13.3 cm (fragment)
Vevey, Switzerland, Historical Museum

© Musée historique de Vevey – Suisse – Collection David Doret

Published: K. Reber, G. Lenzo & P. Maillard. « Le goût des belles choses, collection archéologique de David Doret » p. 113
Inventory number: A 131
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.0 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Zurich, Switzerland, University Archeological Collection
Published: H. Schlögl, A. Brodbeck. Ägypttische totenfiguren aus Öffentlichen und privaten sammlungen der Schweiz, p. 230 (10)
Inventory number: n° 122
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.7 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Museum? Undefined location?

Published: no?
Inventory number: 9007-41
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
2.2 Overseers

Cairo, Egypt, Cairo Museum

Published: Newberry, pl XXXVII & Vol 86, p. 52
Inventory number: NGC 46847
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.0 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
Published: Newberry, Vol 86, p. 51-2
Inventory number: NGC 46844-48
Provenance: Bab el Gasus
Height: 14.0 -14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
Karlsruhe, Germany, Badisches Landesmuseum,

Published: S. Albersmeier 2007, Ägyptische Kuntz - Bestangkatalog Badisches Landesmuseum Karlsruhe, p. 114-115
Inventory number: H 572
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.0 -14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
Manchester, UK, Manchester Museum
Publication: G. Janes, A selection from Manchester Museum, p. 250 n° 136 (16)
Inventory number: MM 11272
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.4 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
Inventory number: n° 770
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
3. Private collections pieces and unknown current location

On the following pages an overview is provided of the examples which are currently in private collections around the world. The following information is provided for each piece:

Owner: The name of the current collector/collection. In case this is known the identity of the collector is often protected by using initials only.

Published: If the private collection piece is published in a book or on the internet the name of the publication, author and the relevant page number is mentioned.

Provenance: For as far as available the provenance of the piece is described, detailing the previous owners prior to the entering into the collection of the collector.

Height: The specific height of the shabti is described in centimeters.

Comments: Provides the comments of the authors to the specific pieces, for example: titles, presence of amulet and Sished band.
3.1 Workers

The Amasis Collection
Published: G. Janes. The Amasis Collection. p. 96-99 n° 22 (5)
Provenance: Ex Dr J. A. P. M. Beekmans collection, then Royal Athena Galleries
Height: 15.0 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
Published: Medusa Ancient art (catalogue)
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.2 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amon, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
GJ Collection

Published: G. Janes. Shabtis, a private view. p. 101-2 n° 52 (12)
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.3 cm
Comments: Scribe, God’s father of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
Published: no
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: God’s Father of Amon and God’s Father of Khonsu ?, Amulet: present (faded), Seshed headband: absent
PR Collection
Published: Eberwein Gallery catalogue, 2017, nº 26
Provenance: old French collection
Height: 14.8 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent. This shabti has been on display during the exhibition « Daressy: un savant, des archives » 6-23 mars 2017, Collège de France, Paris.
Unknown Collection A
Published: N. de Haan SC /77, http://www.shabticollections.com/
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Unknown Collection B

Published: Bonhams auction catalogue, 28/10/2009, lot 44
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 15.0 cm
Comments: a single column of inscription without title, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent

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Unknown Collection C

Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.9 cm
Comments: Scribe …, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection D

Published: C. EDE catalogue, 1997, n° 46 & Sotheby's auction catalogue, 28/04/1994, lot 9 1
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.7 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Unknown Collection E
Published: Gallery Medusa Ancient Art (medusa-art.com)
Ex Harer Family Trust Collection. Previously in an American private collection.
Height: 15.1 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, without cord, Seshed headband: present without knot
Published: La Reine Margot Gallery, catalogue 1938-2013, n° 8
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.4 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: ?
Unknown Collection G

Published: Arcane auction catalogue, 10/06/2017, lot 120
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen and Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Published: Arcane auction catalogue, 10/06/2017, lot 121
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.2 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection I

Published: Archeologia (Auction 23/10/1988 advertisement), Auxerre
Provenance: Unknown
Height: Unknown
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection J

Published: auction Monte Carlo catalogue, 4/05/2019, lot 34
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection K

Published: Bergé auction catalogue, 29/11/2014, lot 73
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.0 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection L

Published: Bergé auction catalogue, 29/05/2013, lot 53
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.4 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen ?, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent ?
Unknown Collection M

Published: Bergé auction catalogue, 01/12/2011, lot 91
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 15.0 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present without cord, Seshed headband: absent
Published: Christie’s auction catalogue, 13/05/2003, lot 51
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent?
Unknown Collection O

Published: Bonhams auction catalogue, 23/10/2009, lot 51,
Delorme et Collin du Bocage auction catalogue, 10/12/2010, lot 132
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent?
Unknown Collection P

Published: Million auction catalogue, 15/06/2007, lot 4
Provenance: Unknown
Height: 14.0 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
Published: Bonhams auction catalogue, 07/07/2016, lot 220, Bonhams auction catalogue, 30/11/2016, lot 173.
Provenance: Ex Victorian artist Collection J.M.S.
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Unknown Collection R

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Published: Christie’s auction, 5/12/2001, lot 231, Bonhams auction, 1/05/2008, lot 5, Bergé auction, 15/12/2009, lot 178
Provenance: Ex Dr. John S. Winnie Collection
Height: 14.5 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: present
Unknown Collection S

Published: De Maigret auction catalogue, 24/10/2012, lot 82
Provenance: Ex Bouché Collection
Height: 14.8 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: present
Unknown Collection T

Published: Christie’s auction catalogue, 13/05/2003, lot n° 4
Provenance: Ex Elsa Bloch-Diener Collection
Height: 15.0 cm
Comments: Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: present, Seshed headband: absent
Unknown Collection U

Published: L. Aubert. Les statuettes funéraires de la deuxième cachette à Deir el-Bahari, p. 76, n° 24 (2)
Provenance: Ex Michel Philippe Collection
Height: 14.9 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen, Scribe of the temple of Mut, Amulet: absent, Seshed headband: absent?
3.2 Overseers
Unknown Collection V

Publication: Christie’s auction catalogue, 20/12/2011, lot 161
Provenance: Ex Pierre et Claude Vérité Collection
Height: 14.3 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
Unknown Collection W

Publication: Catalogue Bonhams auction catalogue, 28/10/2009, lot 49
Provenance: Ex Pierre et Claude Vérité Collection
Height: 14.3 cm
Comments: God’s Father of Amen
4. Discussion

The present paper shows images of 52 workers and 8 overseers for the owner Nesy-per-nub coming from the second cache of Deir el-Bahari.

Overall, 70 workers and 10 overseers have been identified in museums, private collections or from the art market, thanks to J. L. Chappaz and G. Janes publications, and with our own information, at least by their registered numbers when images were not available.

52 shabtis are located in museums, 28 in published collections or private collections.

It seems that Daressy did not mention the exact number of shabtis dedicated for Nesy-per-nub from the second cache (4).

However, it is more likely that a few hundreds were present and a lot of them have still to be identified from private collections and museums all around the world.

As previously mentioned, the quality of the statuettes is uneven.

Titles mentioned on the workers are:

*God’s Father of Amen* for 34 shabtis.

*Scribe of the temple of Mut* for 13 shabtis.

*God’s Father of Amen and Scribe of the temple of Mut* for 14 shabtis.

All the overseers bear the single title of *God’s Father of Amen*.

36 workers wear an *ib* amulet and 18 wear a headband.

The size and shape of the workers are rather similar and the overseers size and shape too.

All have been made of Deir el-Bahari blue faience.
5. Index

Below is the complete overview of all the currently known location of the shabtis of Nesy-per-nub.

Museum pieces

Assisi, Assisi Museum 1
Atlanta, Michael C. Carlos Museum 1
Boston, Children’s Museum 1
Budapest, Budapest Museum of Fine Art 2
Cairo, Cairo Museum 19
Cambridge, Cambridge Museum 2
Chicago, The Oriental Institute Museum 2
Chiddingstone, Chiddingstone Museum 2
Dole, Musée des Beaux-Arts de Dole 1
Harrogate, Harrogate Museums and Arts 1
Karlsruhe, Badisches Landesmuseum 2
Manchester, Manchester Museum 2
Moscow, Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts 7
Newcastle, Newcastle Museum 1
New York, Brooklyn Museum 2
New York, New York Metropolitan Museum of Art (MMA) 2
Paris, Louvre 1
Vevey, Historical Museum 1
Zurich, University Archeological Collection 1
Unknown museum 1
Museum totals 52

Private collections

The Amasis Collection 1
NH Collection 1
GJ Collection 1
HP Collection 1
PR Collection 1
Unknown Collections A –W 23

Private collection totals 28

Overall total (museums and private collections) 80
6. Bibliography

2. L. Aubert. Les statuettes funéraires de la deuxième cachette à Deir el-Bahari, p. 76 n° 24
4. G. Daressy. Les sépultures des prêtres d’Amon à Deir el-Bahari, ASAE, 1 p. 146
5. G. Janes. The Amasis collection, p. 166
6. https://www.segweb.ch/index-shabtis
7. G. Janes. The Amasis collection, p. 96-99 n° 22
10. H. Schlögl, A. Brodbeck. Ägypttische totenfiguren aus Öffentlichen und privaten sammlungen der Schweiz, p. 230 n° 122
12. G. Janes. Shabtis, a private view, p. 101-102 n° 52
13.
14. H. Ranke, PN I p. 176 n° 2
17. G. Janes, A selection from the Manchester Museum, p. 249, n° 136
   https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Coffin_of_Nakhtefmut_in_the_Fitzwilliam_Museum.jpg
Acknowledgments

We are grateful to Glenn Janes for his huge work performed on shabtis and in particular on this Theban priest. His books are precious sources of references for any further studies on shabtis owners.

We want to thank Dik van Bommel too for his excellent website which affords a lot of valuable information and images dealing with shabtis, in particular for the royal cache and the Bab el Gasus cache 2.

We also would like to thank museum curators and gallery owners who gave us the opportunity to publish the not previously available images of the artefacts of this character which are shown in this review.

In particular, we thank Naomi Collick, Curator of Chiddingstone Castle Museum, Françoise Lambert curator of the Historical Museum of Vevey, Antoine from Artemission Gallery, Martin Clist from C. Ede Gallery, Alan Eisenberg from Royal-Athena Galleries for the excellent pictures they send to us.