The Narmer Catalog

Catalog No. 6006

Name  Fragment of Narmer(?) serekh from Small Tel Malhata
Date (Period)  Dyn. 1
Date (King)  Narmer(?)
Dated By  Royal name
Type  Vessel
Method of Inscription  Incised
Material  Pottery

Region  The Southern Levant
Site  Small Tel Malhata
Locality  Unknown
Depository  Unknown
Registration No.  IAA 94-3325 (field reg. no. 14/79/1/1)
Dimensions  4.3 cm H, 4.5 cm L (inscription); 9.8 cm H, 7.0 cm L (object)

References:
Amiran et al., 1983, pp. 75-83, p. 81, fig. 7c
Andelković, 1995, p. 53, p. 55, fig. 21.3
van den Brink, 2001, pp. 37-38, p. 38, fig. 22
Ilan, 2002, pp. 306-309, p. 309, fig. 20.3.1
Jiménez-Serrano, 2003, p. 118 (2E-TM1), Pätznick, 2009, Appendix A, no. 3.1,

Comments
This object was a surface find. Amiran, Ilan, and Amon 1983, Ilan 2002, and Pätznick 2009 attribute this inscription Narmer. Van den Brink 2001 read it as Ny-Hor by, whom he hypothesized was probably a regional king, earlier then Narmer. Jiménez-Serrano 2003 also says Ny-Hor, but argues that the absence of a falcon on the serekh argues against the name Ny-Hor, and suggests instead just Ny. Levy et al. 2001 are also advocates of Ny-Hor. Andelović 1995 describes it as "probably a serekh of Narmer".

Editor's note: The interpretation as king Ny is based on interpreting the horizontal line as the water sign - N35. However, there are no examples in the early period of this sign being shown as a horizontal line. Consequently, the most likely interpretation of this sign is as a simplified catfish, hence the serekh is probably Narmer's, although it is too incomplete to be definite.
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Ilan, 2002

p. 309, fig. 20.3.1