

Catalog No. 0097**Name** Narmer/Mn seal impression**Date (Period)** Dyn. 1**Date (King)** Narmer**Dated By** Royal name**Type** Seal (impression)**Method of Inscription** Impressed**Material** Clay**Region** Upper Egypt**Site** Abydos**Locality** Umm el-Qa'ab, Tomb B18 (Narmer)**Depository** Ashmolean Museum (Oxford); Ägyptisches Museum und Papyrussammlung (Berlin); Abydos (German excavations); Oriental Institute Museum (Chicago)**Registration No.** Ashmolean Museum AN1896-1908 E.1721; Berlin 15654; Ab K 4167, Ab K 4169; OIM E6904**Dimensions** 36 cm diam. (object, E6904); 5.0 cm H, 4.5 cm L (object, AN1896-1908 E.1721)**References:**

Petrie, 1901, RT II, pp. 30, 51-52, pl. XIII.93

Petrie, 1923, p. 7,

Newberry, 1929, pp. 46-47, p. 43, fig. 3(a)

Helck, 1953, pp. 356-59,

Kaplony, 1963, IÄF, I: p. 60; p. 178, n. 191; II: p. 1103, III: pl. 28, fig. 77

Wildung, 1969, pp. 4-5,

von Beckerath, 1997, pp. 168-169,

Kinnaer, 2004, p. 77,

Cervelló Autuori, 2005, pp. 43-44,

Dreyer, 2007a, pp. 222-223,

Heagy, 2014, pp. 77-78, p. 77, fig. 16

J.-P. Pätznick, personal communication, 2017,

Ashmolean Museum (Oxford), AN1896-1908 E.1721

Oriental Institute Museum (Chicago), E6904

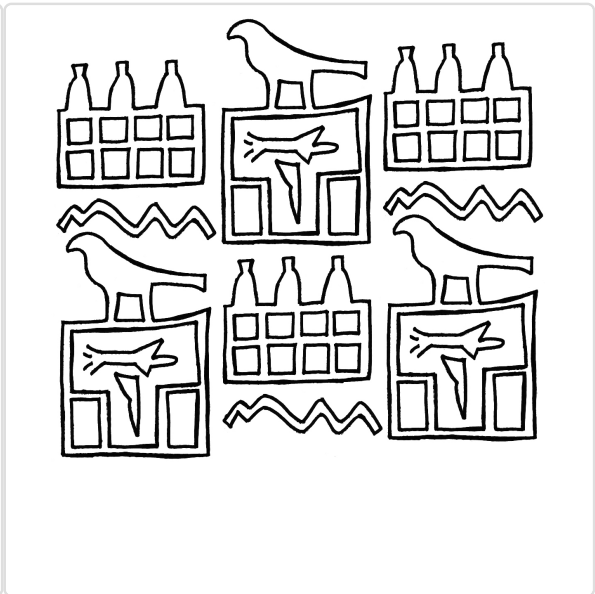
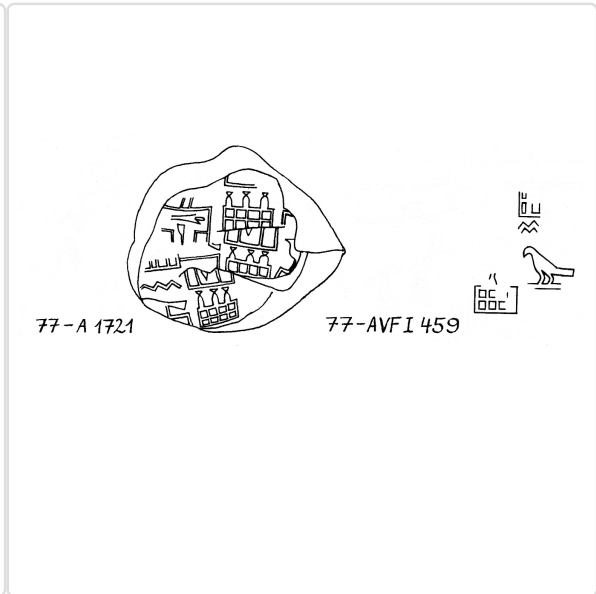
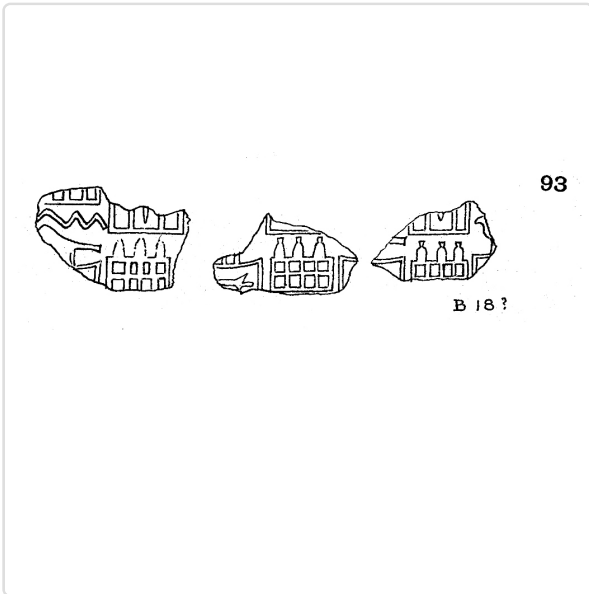
Comments**Narmer/Menes Seal also known as Prince's Seal**

According to Petrie 1901, "This seal, of which fragmentary impressions remain, is of Narmer alternating with the word men. Were it not for the clear evidence of the ivory tablet from the Naqada-Mena tomb, we should see in this perhaps a reason for Narmer being the name of Mena."

This seal impression has been the subject of heated debate about whether it is attributed to Menes as Narmer (Petrie 1923, Newberry 1929, Kinnaer 2001, and

Cervelló-Autuori 2005), or Aha (Helck 1953, Kaplony 1963, Wildung 1969, von Beckerath 1997, and Dreyer 2007a). Authors who argue that it shows that Aha was Menes, refer to it as a "prince's seal". Pätznick (personal communication, 2017) interprets this as the official of the *pr-wr* tent. For a comprehensive discussion of the debate, see Heagy 2014.

The example kept in Berlin was lost or destroyed in World War II.



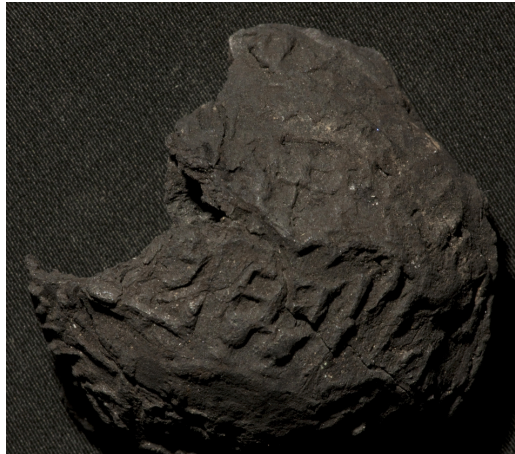
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