

# A.H.Gardiner, « The Egyptian Origin of the Semitic Alphabet », *JEA* 3, 1916, p. 1-21.

se of the Sinai new script, where it indicates an inscription where the signs have consistently combined the signs.

| ie of<br>ters | South-Semitic |        |        |      | Sinai new script                                                            | Meaning of<br>letter-name<br>in Semitic           | Greek name<br>of letter | Hebrew name<br>of letter | Ethiopic<br>name of<br>letter** | Original name as<br>constructed by<br>Nöldeke | Egyptian<br>hieroglyph<br>compared |
|---------------|---------------|--------|--------|------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
|               | Sabaeen       | Lihyan | Thamud | Safā |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐩧             | 𐩢 𐩣    | 𐩦 𐩧    | 𐩨 𐩩  | 1.  849, cf. 350, 352  345                                                  | <u>ox</u>                                         | ἄλφα                    | אלף, אֵלֶף               | alf                             | 'alf                                          |                                    |
|               | 𐩪             | 𐩫 𐩬    | 𐩮      | 𐩯 𐩰  | 2.  343, cf. 348, 349, 351, 352, 353, 354  353, cf. 352  345  346, cf. 355? | <u>house</u>                                      | βῆτα                    | בֵּת                     | bēt                             | bēt                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐩱             | 𐩲      | 𐩳 𐩴    | 𐩵 𐩶  |                                                                             | camel (!)                                         | γάμμα                   | גַּמֶּל, גִּמְעַל        | gaml                            | gaml (geml)                                   |                                    |
|               | 𐩷             | 𐩸 𐩹    | 𐩺 𐩻    | 𐩼 𐩽  |                                                                             | door                                              | δέλτα                   | דֶּלֶת, דֵּלֶת           | dant                            | delt                                          |                                    |
| }             | 𐩾             | 𐩿 𐻀    | 𐻁 𐻂    | 𐻃 𐻄  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐻅             | 𐻆 𐻇    | 𐻈 𐻉    | 𐻊 𐻋  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               |               |        |        |      |                                                                             |                                                   | εῖ                      | η                        | hōi                             | hē                                            |                                    |
|               |               |        |        |      | 3.  345                                                                     | hook, nail                                        | lat. vau                | ογαυ                     | iwāwī                           | wau                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐭠             | 𐭡 𐭢    | 𐭣 𐭤    | 𐭥 𐭦  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐭧             | 𐭨      | 𐭩 𐭪    | 𐭫    | 4.  351 = 349, cf. 346                                                      | <sup>A</sup> olive (!)<br><sup>B</sup> weapon (!) | <sup>A</sup> ζῆτα       | <sup>B</sup> ζαι, ζαιυ   | <sup>B</sup> zāi                | <sup>B</sup> zai (zain !)                     |                                    |
| η             | 𐭬             | 𐭭 𐭮    | 𐭯 𐭰    | 𐭱 𐭲  |                                                                             |                                                   | ῆτα                     | ηθ                       | hāt                             | hēt                                           |                                    |
| }             | 𐭳             | 𐭴 𐭵    | 𐭶 𐭷    | 𐭸 𐭹  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          | harm                            |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐭺             | 𐭻 𐭼    | 𐭽 𐭾    | 𐭿 𐮀  |                                                                             |                                                   | θῆτα                    | τηθ                      | lāt                             | tēt                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐮁             | 𐮂      | 𐮃 𐮄    | 𐮅 𐮆  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐮇             | 𐮈      | 𐮉 𐮊    | 𐮋 𐮌  | 5.  349                                                                     | <u>hand</u>                                       | ῑῶτα                    | ιωδ, ιωθ                 | yaman                           | yōd                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐮍             | 𐮎 𐮏    | 𐮐 𐮑    | 𐮒 𐮓  | 6.  353 ? cf.  345                                                          | bent hand                                         | κάππα                   | χαφ                      | kāf                             | kaf                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐮔             | 𐮕 𐮖    | 𐮗 𐮘    | 𐮙 𐮚  | 7.  345, cf. 346  352, cf. 348  353  354                                    | ox-goad (!)                                       | λάμβδα                  | λαμεδ, λαβδ              | lāwī                            | lamd                                          |                                    |
|               | 𐮛             | 𐮜 𐮝    | 𐮞 𐮟    | 𐮠 𐮡  | 8.  346, cf. 349, 351, 352, 353, 354  345                                   | <u>water</u>                                      | μῦ                      | μημ                      | māi                             | mēm                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐮣             | 𐮤 𐮥    | 𐮦 𐮧    | 𐮨 𐮩  | 9. <sup>A</sup> 346  352  349, cf. 346, 350, 351, 352  347, cf. 346         | <sup>A</sup> fish<br><sup>B</sup> snake           | <sup>A</sup> νῦ         | <sup>A</sup> νουν, ιουμ  | <sup>B</sup> nahās              | <sup>A</sup> nūn<br><sup>B</sup> Hebr. nāḥāsh | <sup>A</sup> <sup>B</sup>          |
|               | 𐮪             | 𐮫 𐮬    | 𐮭 𐮮    | 𐮯 𐮰  |                                                                             | prop (!)                                          | σίγμα                   | σαμχ, σαμεχ              | sāt                             | semk (samk)                                   |                                    |
| }             | 𐮱             | 𐮲 𐮳    | 𐮴 𐮵    | 𐮶 𐮷  | 11.  352  345  353  346  354                                                | <u>eye</u>                                        | οὖ                      | αιυ                      | 'āin                            | 'ain                                          |                                    |
|               | 𐮸             | 𐮹 𐮺    | 𐮻 𐮼    | 𐮽 𐮾  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐮿             | 𐻀 𐻁    | 𐻂 𐻃    | 𐻄 𐻅  | 12.  346  346                                                               | <u>mouth</u>                                      | πεῖ                     | φη                       | af                              | pē                                            |                                    |
|               | 𐻆             | 𐻇 𐻈    | 𐻉 𐻊    | 𐻋 𐻌  |                                                                             |                                                   | ...                     | σαδη                     | šādāi                           | šādē                                          |                                    |
|               | 𐻍             | 𐻎 𐻏    | 𐻐 𐻑    | 𐻒 𐻓  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          | šappa                           |                                               |                                    |
|               | 𐻔             | 𐻕 𐻖    | 𐻗 𐻘    | 𐻙 𐻚  |                                                                             |                                                   | κόππα                   | κωφ                      | qāf                             | qof                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐻛             | 𐻜 𐻝    | 𐻞 𐻟    | 𐻠 𐻡  | 13.  349, cf. 346 (phot.)  349                                              | <u>head</u>                                       | ῥῶ                      | ρης                      | re's                            | rōsh (rēsh)                                   |                                    |
|               | 𐻣             | 𐻤 𐻥    | 𐻦 𐻧    | 𐻨 𐻩  | 14.  351, cf. 348, 349, 350, 352, 353                                       | <u>tooth</u>                                      | σάν                     | σειν                     | shāut                           | shin                                          |                                    |
|               | 𐻪             | 𐻫 𐻬    | 𐻭 𐻮    | 𐻯 𐻰  | 15.  345, cf. 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354                   | <u>mark</u>                                       | ταῦ                     | θau                      | tāwī                            | tau                                           |                                    |
|               | 𐻱             | 𐻲 𐻳    | 𐻴 𐻵    | 𐻶 𐻷  |                                                                             |                                                   |                         |                          |                                 |                                               |                                    |

† Clermont-Ganneau = Phoen, Υ.

‡ Prätorius = Safā 𐩧.

§ Prätorius = Safā 𐩨.

e.

¶ Abecedaria of Formello and Caere respectively.

\*\* There are two additional letters bearing the names pāt and psa.

| <i>Egyptien</i>                                                                     | <i>Proto-sinaïtique</i>                                                             | <i>Phénicien</i>                                                                    | <i>Grec archaïque</i>                                                               | <i>Grec</i>                                                                         | <i>Latin</i>                                                                         |
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Tableau 3. Des signes hiéroglyphiques aux lettres de l'alphabet.

# *aleps* Following Varieties of Hieroglyphic F1

| Hieroglyph F1<br>"head of ox" | Same, <sup>4</sup><br>Stewart | Same,<br>Ullman | Same,<br>Sinai | Same,<br>Valley | Same,<br>Ullman |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Möller I, 154                 | 1979:                         | 1927:           | 421            | of the          | 1927:           |
| NP                            | pl. 26.1                      | fig. 2          | Serabiṭ        | Queens          | fig. 2          |
| Dyn. 3                        | NP                            | Sinai 53        | MK             | NK              | Sinai 89        |
|                               | MK                            | Serabiṭ         |                |                 | Serabiṭ         |
|                               |                               | Dyn. 12         |                |                 | Dyn. 12         |

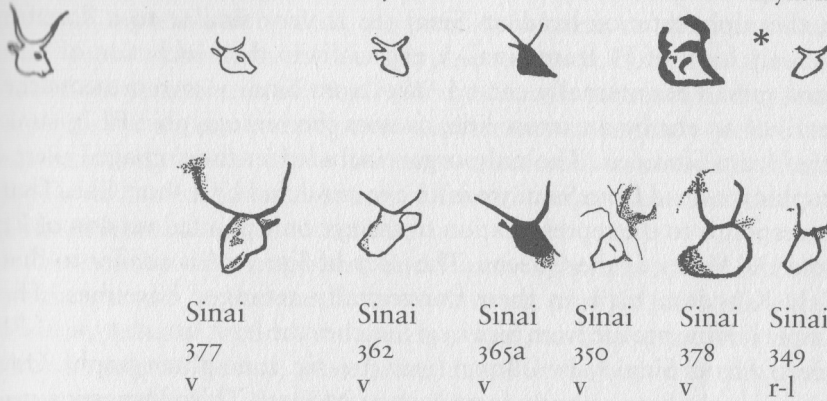


Fig. 2.2

## *aleps* Showing Cursive Openings

Hieratic F1, "head of an ox"  
 Goedicke 1988: 10a  
 Dyns. 5-12

Same,  
 Möller I, 154  
 Early Dyn. 18



Tête de taureau

Taureau = *alep*

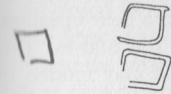
A(lep) = « A »



Fig. 2.5  
Hieroglyph O1B,  
from *Hieroglyphica*  
10001 sign list  
Idealization



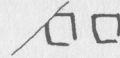
Same,  
Goyon 1957: opposite 82, 182  
Wadi Hammamat  
Dyn. 12



Gezer  
v



Sinai 357  
Beit Arie  
1978: fig. 6  
v



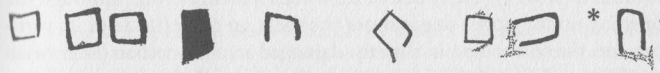
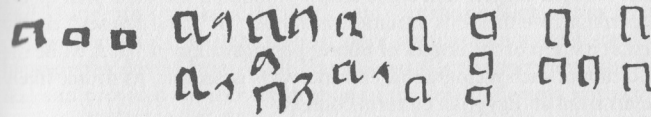
Sinai 352  
v



Sinai 357  
Beit Arie  
1978: fig. 6  
l-r

Fig. 2.6  
Hieratic O1,  
"house"  
from James  
1962: pl. 14  
Deir el-Bahri  
Dyn. 12

Same,  
Möller I, 340  
Dyn. 12; 12/13; 13; Hyksos Period–early Dyn. 18



Sinai 346b  
bi  
v

Sinai 345  
l-r

Sinai 365a  
v

Epigraphic  
South Arabian  
*bêt*  
Jamme  
1955: 32  
v

Sinai 346b  
bii  
v

Sinai 349  
r-l

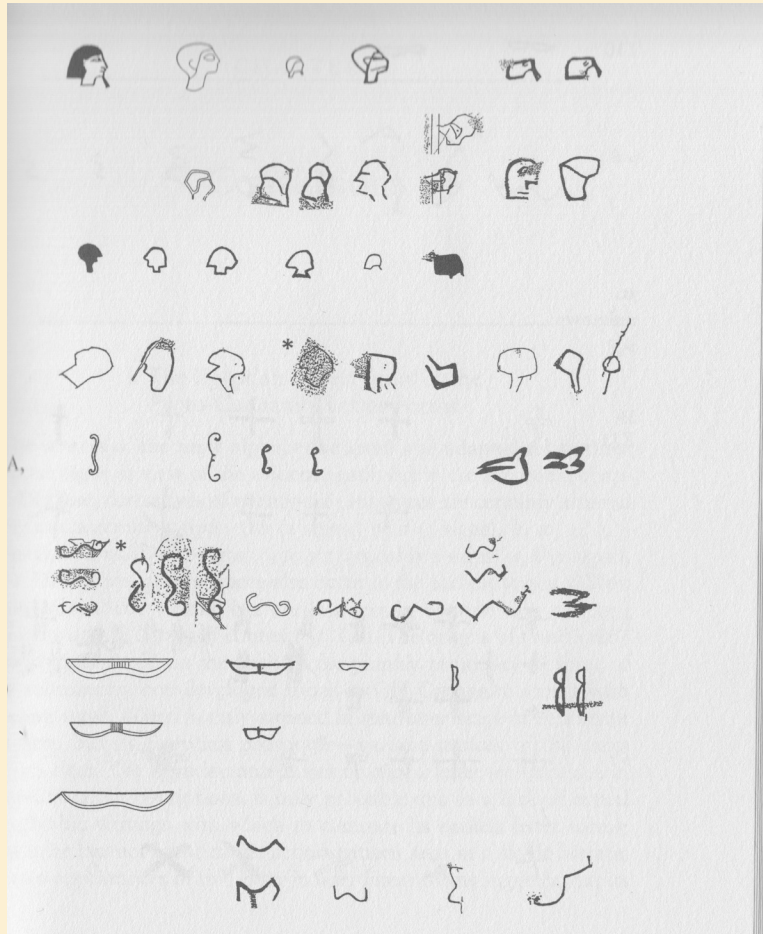
Sinai 362  
v

Same,  
rotated

Maison (ég. « per »)

Maison = bêt

B(êt) = « B ».



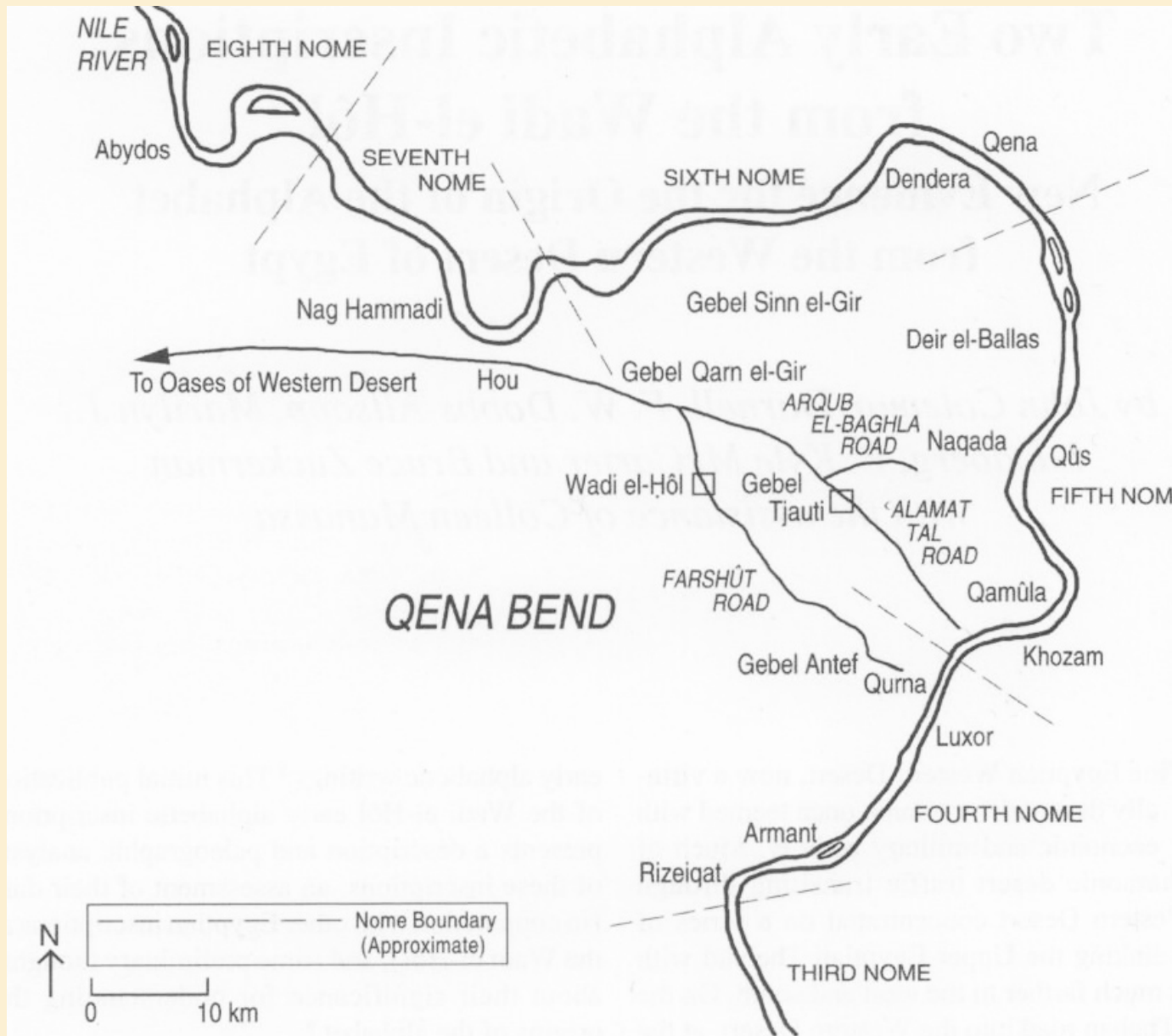
Tête (égyptien: tep)

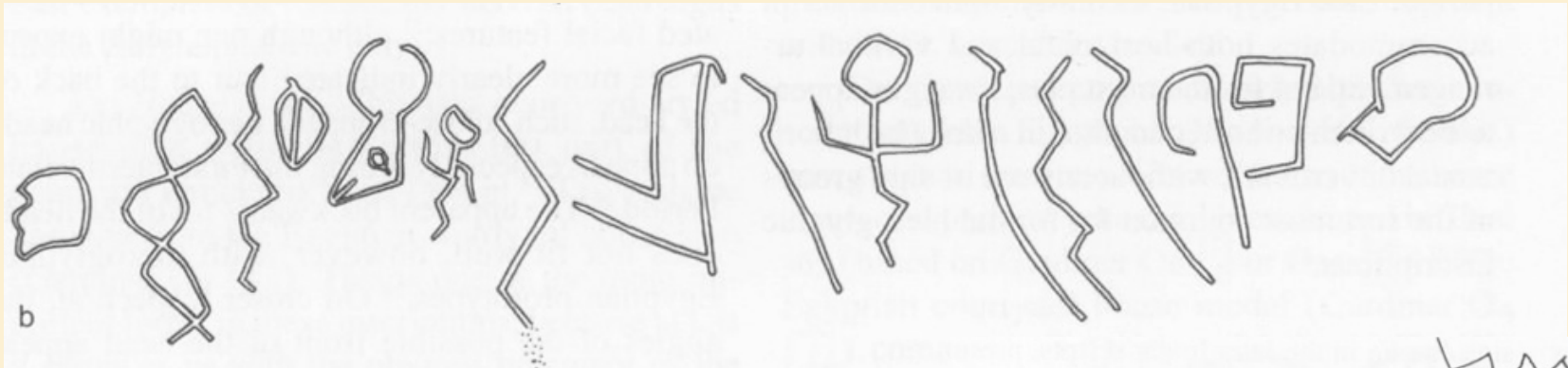
Tête = ras

R(as) = ras

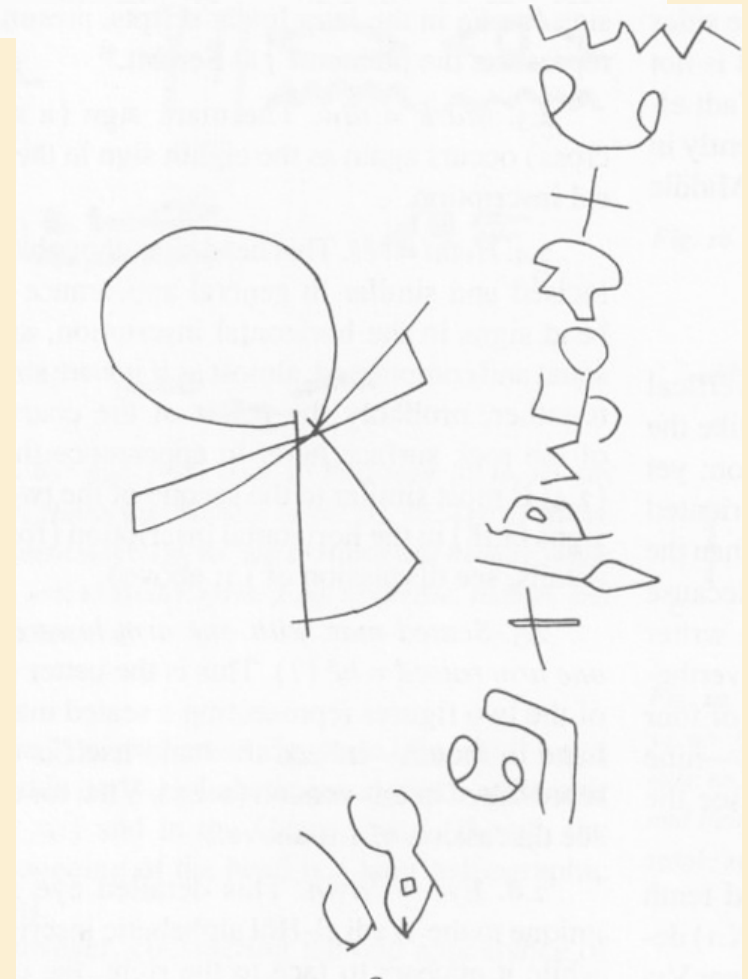
R







**Darnell J.C. et al**, *Two Early Alphabetic Inscriptions from the Wadi El-Hôl* (*Annual of the ASOR* 59), 2005.





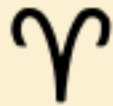
## Quelques orientations bibliographiques:

Gordon J. HAMILTON, *The Origins of the West Semitic Alphabet in Egyptian Scripts*, *The Catholic Biblical Quarterly Monograph Series* 40, Washington, 2006.

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Larissa BONFANTE, John CHADWICK, B.F. COOK, W.V. DAVIES, John F. HEALEY, J.T.HOOKER, C.B.F. WALKER, *La naissance des écritures. Du cunéiforme à l'alphabet*, Paris, Seuil, 1994.

D'où vient « l'horoscope » ?



Bélier



Taureau



Gémeaux



Cancer



Lion



Vierge



Balance



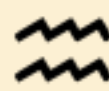
Scorpion



Sagittaire



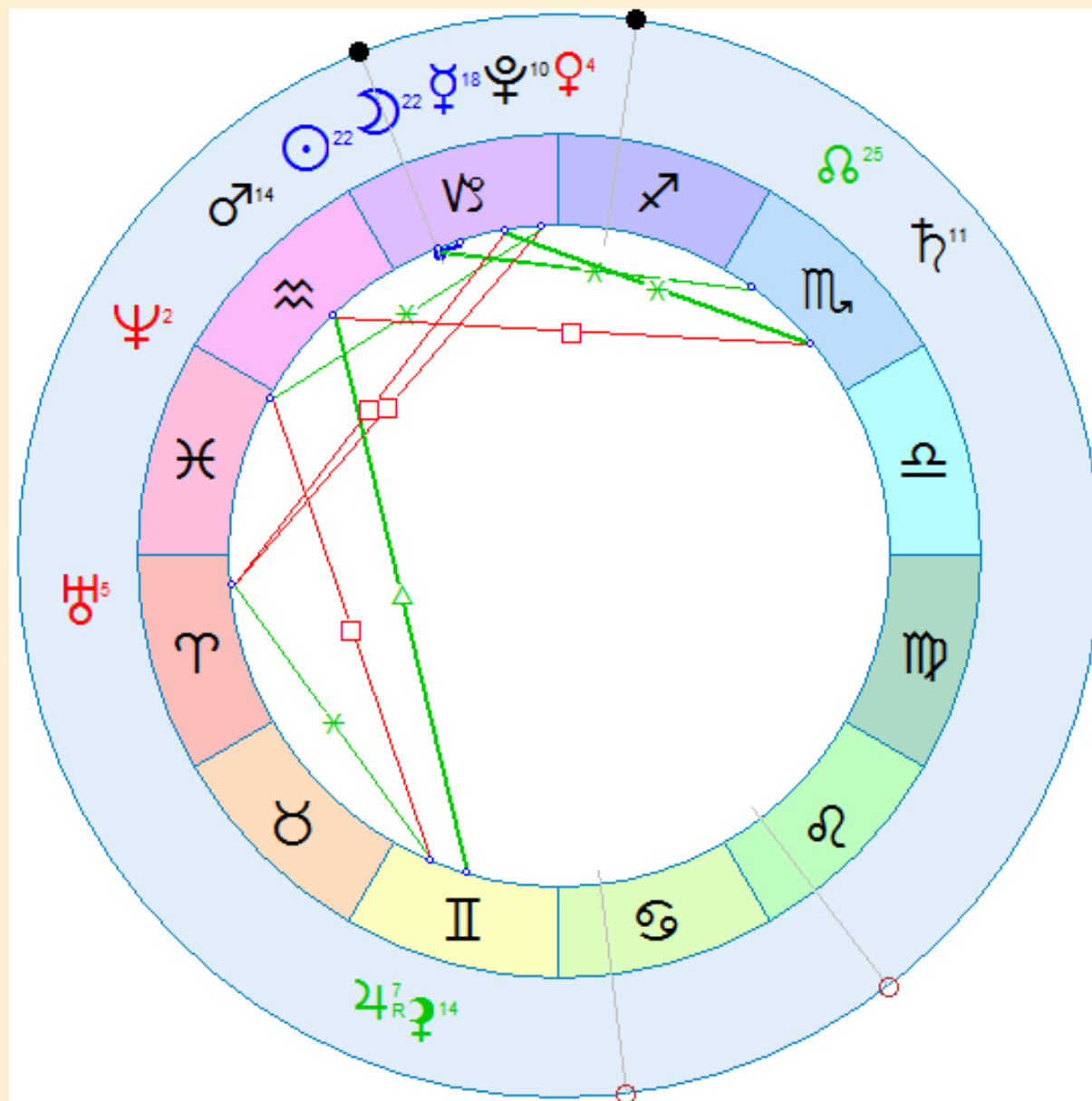
Capricorne

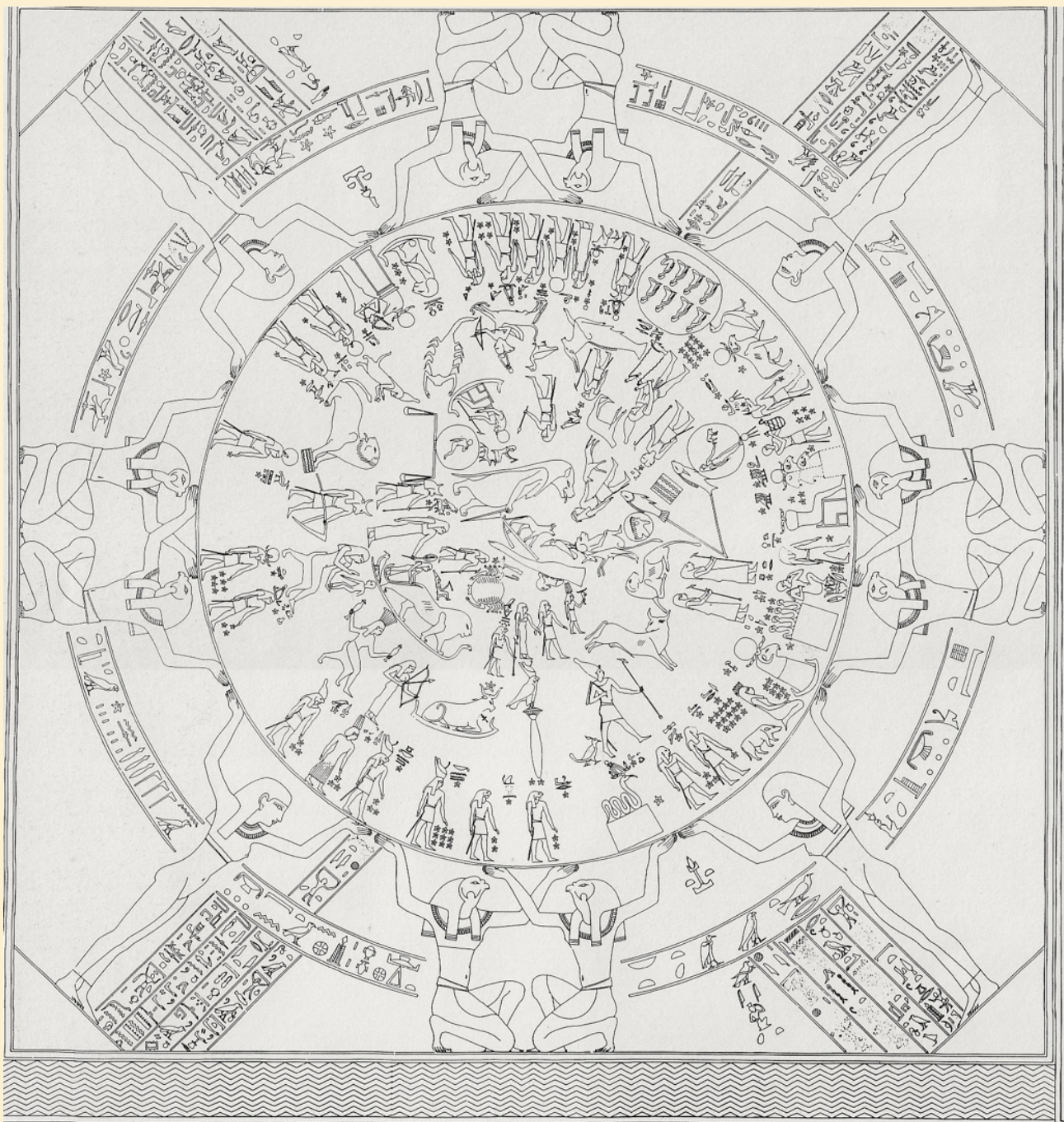


Verseau

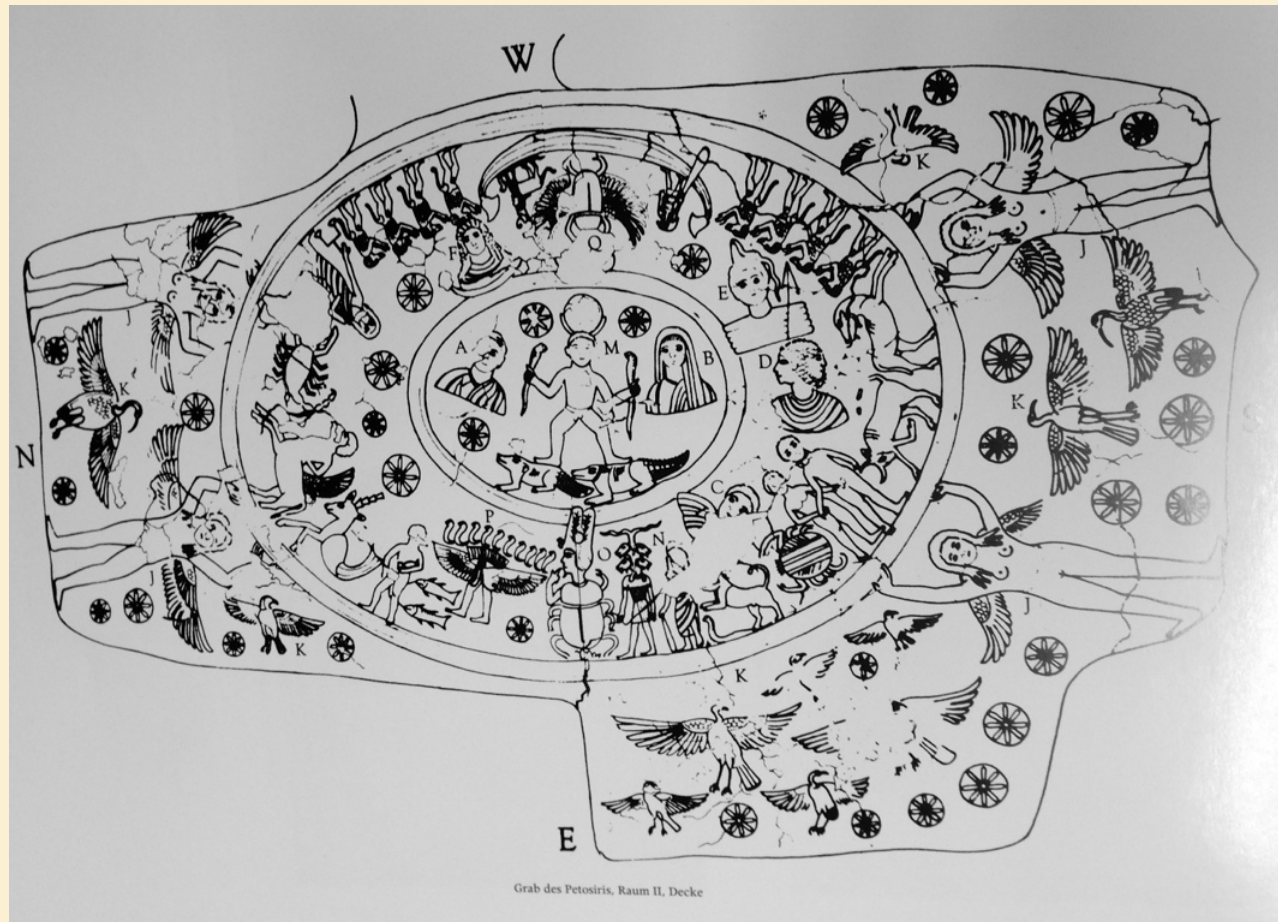


Poissons









Tombe de Petosiris,  
chambre II, Dachla,  
AVDAIK 28, pls.  
40-41.





Dyptique de Grand, J.H. ABRY (éd.), Les tablettes astrologiques de Grand (Vosges ), Paris, 1993.

# Bélier (Aries)



Dendera E



Athribis B



Cercueil de Soter



sceau d'Uruk, R. WALLENFELS, Zodiacal signs