

DEIR EL-BAHARI

44. Headless *sistrophorus* statue of Senmut

Deir el-Bahari. Temple of Tuthmosis III
Eighteenth Dynasty, reign of Hatshepsut
H. 53 cm, W. 32 cm, grey granodiorite
Carter House, storeroom, Field Inv. No. F 4031

The statue of Senmut, famous architect and favored official of Queen Hatshepsut, is unfortunately badly damaged. He is represented kneeling, holding the emblem of the goddess Hathor in front with both hands. The emblem is exceptionally well executed; also the inscriptions covering every available surface of the statue are of luxurious quality. They contain many titles of the dignitary, and a dedication to an unknown edifice *Kha-akhet*. As the statue was found in the temple *Djeser-akhet*, this has caused an unending scholarly dispute concerning where and when the statue could have been erected in the building of Tuthmosis III, who is believed to have been Senmut's enemy. It is assumed that Senmut died some years before the work on that temple commenced, adding to the dispute surrounding the statue.

J.L.

The statue is not on exhibition.

J. Lipińska, *The Temple of Tuthmosis III. Statuary and Votive Monuments*, Deir el-Bahari IV, Varsovie 1984, Cat. No. 17

P.F. Dorman, *The Royal Steward, Senenmut*, in: *Hatshepsut, from Queen to Pharaoh*, New York 2006, Cat. No. 69

