

THE SCANDINAVIAN JOINT EXPEDITION  
TO SUDANESE NUBIA

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VOLUME 1:1  
(TEXT)

# THE ROCK DRAWINGS

PONTUS HELLSTRÖM

IN COLLABORATION WITH

HANS LANGBALLE



INCLUDING THE RESULTS OF

THE GORDON MEMORIAL COLLEGE  
EXPEDITION TO ABKA

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF

OLIVER MYERS †

WITH A GENERAL INTRODUCTION

BY

TORGNY SÄVE-SÖDERBERGH



1970

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## CATARACT SITES

ostriches (to R, tech. *k*, Corpus Q37 and Q58). On their right is a not very detailed drawing of a human figure (?; tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus Q62) with a cow on its right (to R, tech. *k*, Corpus C239), with long tail and lyre-shaped horns. Above the human figure is an ox (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus C331) with lyre-shaped horns. Above the ox there is an antelope (to R, tech. *m*) with short backward curved horns, over which the ox is superimposed. Further up is another horned quadruped (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus L173) with short curved horns (antelope?). Below the cow is a quadruped (to R, tech. *h*) with short tail and ears(?), and above the cow there is another quadruped (to R, tech. *k*) with short tail and long ears (?; ass?). Higher up is a good drawing of a crocodile (tech. *e*, Corpus R5) with the head pointing upwards. On its right is a sketchy drawing of a quadruped (to R, tech. *f*, Corpus L137) with long straight horns pointing up. On its right is a smaller, horned(?) quadruped (to R, tech. *j*) with short tail. Below are two long-eared(?) quadrupeds (asses?; to L, tech. *k*, Corpus L198, and tech. *l*, Corpus J28), one above the other, facing a crocodile (head upwards, tech. *f*, Corpus R18) on their left. At the right-hand edge of the wall, not visible in the photograph, there is an antelope (to L, tech. *k*, Corpus L10) with curved horns pointing forwards, and higher up is another horned(?) quadruped (to L, tech. *k*).

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina *c*; l. 200.

Pl. 17:1. Corpus C239, 331, J28, L10, 81, 137, 173, 198, Q37, 58, R5, 18.

28. (Myers) At the top is an outlined antelope (?; to L, tech. *h*, Corpus L1) drawn sideways with the rear down. Below it is a quadruped, presumably an ass (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus J55). An antelope (to L, tech. *h*, Corpus L14) and another quadruped (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus P60) are also reported from this wall. Irregularly curved, smooth wall situated to the right of No. 27; patina *c*.  
Corpus J55, L1, 14, P60.
29. (Myers) Rough drawing of a quadruped (to R, tech. *f/g*, Corpus P42); h. 12.  
Corpus P42.
30. (Myers) On the left is an outlined antelope (to R, tech. *k*, Corpus L180), drawn upside down. Another antelope (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus L178), drawn sideways rear down, is to the right of it. One ox (to R, tech. *f*), one antelope (to R, tech. *k*, Corpus L211), another quadruped (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus P61) and one ostrich (to R, tech. *f*, Corpus Q69) are also reported from this surface.  
Low plane, vertical wall; patina *c*.  
Corpus L178, 180, 211, P61, Q69.
31. (Myers) The drawing contains one or two human figures, an ostrich and twenty-one antelopes or other quadrupeds. On the left-hand third of the wall there is an archer (to L, tech. *e*, Corpus A238) with a high single-curved bow. Above him there is an indecipherable quadruped (Corpus P31) and on his left there is another (Corpus P30; both turn to L and have tech. *g*). In the low left-hand corner there is an antelope (to L, tech. *f*, Corpus L15) with two short up-turned horns. Between it and the archer there is an ass (?; to R, tech. *e*, Corpus J40) and, below it, another quadruped (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus L212) with horns or ears. On its right, below the archer, there are two long-eared(?) quadrupeds (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus J46 and J47). On the right, on the central third of the wall is an antelope with four horns (to R, tech. *j*, Corpus L188) of U-shape. Above it there is a mammal (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus P34) drawn sideways with the rear down. On its right there is an antelope (to R, tech. *f*, Corpus L197) with long legs, stout body, small head and horns forming an oval. In front of it is a rough figure, seen as human by Myers. Below this group there are three quadrupeds drawn sideways rear down and side by side (to R, tech. *e*, tech. *h*, tech. *h*, Corpus J42, L189, L9); the first from the left has two straight ears(?) pointed forward, the horns of the second form an oval, and the third, which is male, has horns curved forwards. Below the rear legs of the second one is a small horned(?) quadruped (to R, tech. *k*, Corpus P55). Further to the right, on the right-hand third of the wall, there follows a smaller quadruped (to R, tech. *i*) with a schematic mammal above, drawn sideways rear down; the head and horns of it are obliterated. Above, at the top of the wall, there is a quadruped (to L, tech. *e*, P62) with short tail and two short ears(?). Behind it, in the upper right-hand corner, is an antelope (to L, tech. *e*, L82) with horizontally extended neck and softly S-curved horns. Below it there is a group of three quadrupeds. The top one (to R, tech. *h*) has two short ears or horns. Below is an antelope (to R, tech. *j*, L62) with upward S-curved horn. A sketchy mammal behind it is connected with its tail. At the bottom of the wall there is an ostrich (to R, tech. *h*, Q63) like those on No. 27.

Flat surface of large stone found by Myers at his excavation and apparently covered by sand at the time of the Scandinavian survey; l. c.165.

Corpus A238, J40, 42, 46, 47, L9, 15, 62, 82, 188, 189, 197, 212, P30, 31, 34, 55, 62, Q63.

32. (Myers) Antelope with short S-curved horns (to R, tech. *l/m*, Corpus L97); h. 22.5.

Corpus L97.

34. (Myers) Undeciphered figure (Corpus X41) consisting of two concentric semi-circles cut by a straight vertical line; h. 17. Corpus X41.

35. (Myers) Drawing of a crocodile (tech. *f*, Corpus R20); w. 6. Corpus R20.

36. Ox (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus C244) with wide lyre-shaped horns; it is eating from a bush (Corpus U5) on its right. Higher up is another ox (to R, tech. *h*, Corpus C5) with V-shaped horns that bend out at the ends.

This high vertical wall is situated c. 50 m south-east of the main group of drawings. The figures are about four m above ground level; the wall is plane and very smooth; patina *d*; l. 35; fac. SW.

Corpus C5, 244, U5.

## Station 154b

Pl. 18. Sketch map: Map 13 (Myers). Co-ord. 899,885/634,520. Level: At 140 m a.s.l.

The station is situated in the northern half of the valley, on one of the small hills on its western side. It consists of walls overlooking the valley and situated between two and four m above the level of the valley bottom.

1. This is an undeciphered drawing with a c. five cm long vertical line that meets a similar horizontal line at right angles; there are some other hammer-marks around.  
Small vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina *d*; l. 13; fac. E.
2. In the lower left-hand corner there is a giraffe (to L, tech. *e*, Corpus K39) with short tail, long neck and two small ears. Above it, in the upper left-hand corner, there is another giraffe (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus K38), very similar to the previous one, but with three projections on the head. In the centre of the wall there are three rhinoceros, arranged above each other. The top one (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus I2) has two long forward pointing horns on its head and three(?) small projections upwards (ears?). The one below (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus I3) has a hump on its shoulder; the body is stout, there are two horns pointing forwards from the head, and two ears; the feet are marked, and the tail is short. The bottom

one (to R, tech. e, Corpus 14) is similar to the previous ones, but its head is not so clear; it is superimposed over an elephant (to R, tech. e, Corpus G9) in front of it, which has four long legs, a small stout body, two cocked ears, a long hanging trunk and two tusks. Above it, in front of the top rhinoceros, there is a giraffe (to R, tech. e, Corpus K56) which is as patinated as the elephant; it has four long legs and a short upturned tail; there are two ears on the head, which is difficult to see on account of a fissure in the rock. About twenty-five cm to the right of the giraffe there is another elephant (to R, tech. e, Corpus G2), like the other one with two cocked ears; the tusks point upwards above the trunk. Possibly the trunk has been changed from a short to a long one.

At the bottom of the wall, below the rhinoceros, there is an antelope (to R, tech. f, Corpus L88), of which only the head and the upper part of the body are visible; the horns are backward-turned and softly S-curved.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth with some fissures; patina c on the rhinoceros and on the upper left giraffe; on the two elephants and one giraffe patina b; l. 200; fac. SSW; copied in latex print.

Pl. 18:2, Corpus G2, 9, I2-4, K38, 39, 56, L88. Keating 1964, p. 29.

3. Ostrich (to R, tech. f, Corpus Q7) or possibly some other long-legged bird such as a crane; only one of the legs is visible; there is a small oval body and a long neck.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina c; l. 17.

Corpus Q7.

4. Elephant (to R, tech. k, Corpus G5) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet; there are two small cocked ears and a stout body; the tusks curve upward and the trunk is a single long line hanging from the head.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth but slightly rippled; patina b; h. 26.

Corpus G5.

5. Stone with two figures on one of the vertical faces: the upper figure (tech. f, Corpus T1) may represent a scorpion seen from above; from a horizontal line, which is thicker at the left end and curves upward at the right end, four curved lines run down and between two and five run up. Below is a figure which may be a scorpion (tech. f, Corpus T2) seen from the side; from a thick horizontal line curving up at the right end, about seven lines run down.

Small vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina b; l. 60.

Corpus T1, 2.

6. Antelope (to R, tech. k, Corpus L155) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet; there is a short tail and two long horns that curve backwards.

Small vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina c; l. 9.

Corpus L155.

7. This drawing contains four figures in a close square composition. In the low right-hand corner there is an archer (to L, tech. e, Corpus A239) aiming with a high bow and a long arrow at an elephant (to R, tech. e, Corpus G16) on his left; it has five (?) legs (or four legs and an exaggerated phallus), two large cocked ears, a long trunk and two forward pointing tusks. Above it there is an antelope (to R, tech. h, Corpus L204) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet; one horn curves back and one curves forward. In front of it, in the upper right-hand corner, there is a dancing(?) figure (to L, tech. e, Corpus A83), possibly dressed in a skirt; both arms are visible, but only one leg; the foot is marked.

Vertical wall, plane and very smooth but rippled; patina c; on the elephant it is b; l. 25; fac. NW; copied in latex print.

Pl. 18:1, Corpus A83, 239, G16, L204.

8. At the top there is a faint careless drawing of an elephant (to R, tech. g, Corpus G22) with four legs, two cocked ears and a long hanging trunk. Below there is another indistinct mam-

mal (to R, tech. g, Corpus P49) with four legs, a short tail and, possibly, two straight forward pointing horns.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina c; l. 45; fac. NW. Corpus G22, P49.

9. Probably a drawing of a giraffe (to R, tech. b, sim. to Corpus K101). The back and the neck consist of a long curved line, from which four long lines descend.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina c; l. 25.

10. A long winding line (tech. b, Corpus S7), probably a representation of a snake. 13 cm away from it is a hammered dot (d. 2).

Horizontal surface, plane and smooth with some fissures; patina c; l. 27; copied in latex print.

Corpus S7.

13. At the top there is an antelope (to R, tech. k, Corpus L129) with two short back-turned horns. Below, on its right, there is another antelope (gnu?, to R, tech. f, Corpus L156) with two long horns curving backward and medium length tail; from under the neck an attachment is hanging.

Slightly inclined, plane and smooth wall; patina b; l. 35. Corpus L129, 156.

14. In the centre of the wall there is a crocodile (tech. f, sim. to Corpus R2) head pointing upwards; the body is spool-shaped with the legs formed by two transverse lines; the tail curves slightly to the left. The lower part of it is superimposed on an antelope (to R, tech. k, sim. to Corpus L36); the horns are not visible.

Small vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina b; l. 25.

16. Quadruped (to R, tech. f, sim. to Corpus G26/G31) with a short tail and a large head. Possibly the artist intended to draw an elephant.

Small vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina c; l. 20.

18. Elephant (to R, tech. e, Corpus G15) with two cocked ears, a long hanging trunk and two short forward pointing tusks; there is a short tail and four long legs with the feet marked.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina b; l. 12.

Corpus G15.

19. Elephant (to R, tech. h, Corpus G3) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet; there is a short tail, a long hanging trunk and the ear is completely hammered.

Vertical wall, plane and smooth; patina b; l. 16.

Pl. 18:1, Corpus G3.

21. (Myers) Drawing with two clubs, one pointing upwards (Corpus W32), the other downwards.

Corpus W32.

22. (Myers) Doubtful quadruped (to L, tech. f, Corpus P73), possibly horned; h. 13.

Corpus P73.

#### Station 154c

Pl. 18. Sketch map: Map 13 (Myers). Co-ord. 899,875/634, 485. Level: Just above 140 m a.s.l.

The station is situated half-way up the valley, on one of the small hills on its western side. It is immediately to the south of station 154b and consists of a rock-shelf facing east, about three to four m above the level of the sand in the valley.

1. At the top of the wall there is a small horned quadruped (to R, tech. f) with a long swept-back horn. Ten cm below it there is another horned quadruped (to R, tech. k, Corpus D4) with a short tail and two short straight horns. Further down, at the left edge of the wall, not visible on the photograph, there is a quadruped (to R, tech. k, Corpus P35) with a low stout body; a small triangular ear stands up on the head. Below it is an animal, possibly a dog (to R, tech. g, sim. to Corpus E8); it is

35. Possibly a drawing of an ox (to R, tech. *h*, sim. to Corpus C367) drawn sideways, rear down and head pointing up. It is carelessly drawn and the interpretation is not certain.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *c*; l. 10.

36. Schematic quadruped (? to L, tech. *b*) consisting of a long vertical line, from which three(?) shorter lines (legs) run towards the left.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 10.

37. Quadruped (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus L141) with stout body. The right-hand part of the drawing is faint and uncertain; possibly the neck is curved downwards. Two parallel vertical lines above the neck may be the horns.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *b*; l. 16.

38. Corpus L141.

39. Long-necked quadruped (giraffe?, to L, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus K88) possibly with short horns. The rear legs are longer than the front ones.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *b*; l. 15.

40. Three long-necked quadrupeds above each other. The bottom one (to L, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus K89) has a long tail, four long legs and a horizontally extended neck (giraffe?). There is a similar, but smaller animal above (to L, tech. *f*) and at the top there is a more careless, but similar figure. It has only three legs and no tail.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *c*; l. 25.

41. Giraffe (to R, tech. *g*, sim. to Corpus K29) with the long neck pointing obliquely up.  
Small plane and smooth wall; patina *c*; l. 25.

42. Giraffe (to R, tech. *e*, sim. to Corpus K90) with long, horizontally extended neck.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *b*; l. 20.

43. On the right there is a quadruped (to L, tech. *e*, sim. to Corpus G25) drawn sideways, rear down and head up; it has four long legs. Possibly it is a careless drawing of an elephant. On the left there is another quadruped (to L, tech. *e*, sim. to Corpus K93) also drawn sideways. It has seemingly a long horizontally extended neck.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *b*; l. 30.

44. On the left there is a horned(?) quadruped (to L, tech. *h*, sim. to Corpus L144) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet; it is drawn sideways rear down. On the right there is probably a schematic human figure (tech. *g*, sim. to Corpus A309) with one straight arm extended on each side of his body; he is holding a staff in his left hand.  
Somewhat curved and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 30.

45. Careless drawing, possibly representing a human figure, schematically drawn (tech. *g*, sim. to Corpus A62); it is seen in full face view with one arm hanging on each side of the body.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 15.

46. At the top there is a long-legged antelope (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus L52) with short neck and long S-curved backward pointing horns. Another mammal (to R, tech. *e*, Corpus P18) immediately below, which has no horns but two cocked ears, may be the kid.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 25.  
Pl. 22:4, Corpus L52, P18.

47. Three antelopes behind each other (to R, tech. *e*, the right-hand one is Corpus L118). The left-hand one has long S-curved backward pointing horns; the other two antelopes have probably shorter horns although they are not so clear.  
Plane and smooth surface of loose stone; patina *b*; l. 60.  
Corpus L118.

48. Antelope (to R, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus L74) with S-curved horns pointing obliquely backwards.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 15.

49. Giraffe (to L, tech. *i*, Corpus K70) drawn sideways, rear down and head pointing upwards. The neck is exaggeratedly extended and is a straight continuation of the line of the back.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 50.  
Corpus K70.

50. Sketchy drawing of a horned quadruped (to R, tech. *h*, sim. to Corpus P69) drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet. The tail is short and the horns are probably intended to be V-shaped.  
Plane and slightly rough surface; patina *c*; l. 25.

51. Ox (to R, tech. *h*, sim. to Corpus C104) with wide U-shaped horns. It is drawn in outline with gaps at the bottom of the feet.  
Face of small stone, plane and smooth; it is now kept in store in Scandinavia; patina *c*; l. 20.

52. Large human figure (tech. *f*, Corpus A1) seen in full face view. Possibly the penis is hanging between the legs.  
Vertical, plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 17, h. 58.  
Pl. 25:3, Corpus A1.

53. At the left on the surface there is an antelope (to R, tech. *e*, sim. to Corpus L69) with softly S-curved upward pointing horns. On the right of it, at the right-hand edge, there is another similar antelope (to R, tech. *f*) drawn in the same style as the previous one, but the horns are not visible. At the bottom of the surface there is a third antelope (to R, tech. *m*) of a form similar to the previous ones. Possibly the horns are short, S-curved and upward pointing.  
Plane and smooth surface with some local fissures; patina *c*; l. 60.

54. Long-legged quadruped (giraffe or antelope, to R, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus K91). The end of the neck and the head are not visible.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *c*; l. 30.

55. Rough drawing of a quadruped (? to L, tech. *g*). The body and the neck form an oblong hammered area; from the body two legs run down.  
Plane and slightly rough wall; patina *b*; l. 25.

56. Long-legged and long-necked quadruped (to L, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus L120) drawn sideways, rear down and head pointing upwards. This is a rough drawing of a giraffe or antelope the head (and horns?) of which are not visible.  
Plane and rough wall; patina *c*; l. 20.

57. Near the left edge of the wall there is an antelope (to R, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus L120) drawn sideways slightly obliquely with the head pointing upwards. It has up-turned S-curved horns.  
Rough somewhat curved wall; patina *b*; l. 15.

58. On the left there is a large drawing of a giraffe (to R, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus K38) with a smaller figure of a long-necked quadruped (to R, tech. *f*) cutting over its second and third leg (antelope or giraffe). In the right-hand part of the wall there is another small drawing of an antelope (? to R, tech. *f*, body sim. to Corpus L20), the head of which is not visible.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *b*; l. 55.

59. Rough drawing of a horned(?) quadruped (to L, tech. *f*, sim. to Corpus C410) with short neck. There are probably V-shaped horns on the head.  
Plane and slightly rough wall; patina *c*; l. 23.

60. Small drawing of a quadruped (rhino?; to L, tech. *f*, Corpus II). It has four short legs, an almost square body, a short up-turned tail and a small head with two cocked ears. Two lines point ahead from the nose.  
Plane and smooth wall; patina *b*; l. 12.  
Corpus II.

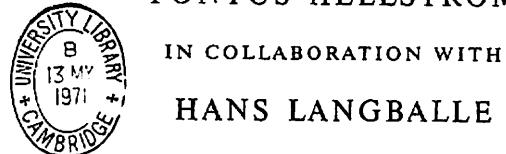
61. Schematical quadruped with four long legs (tech. *b*) consisting of a straight line and four transverse lines. The neck and head are not visible.  
Plane and smooth surface; patina *c*; l. 12.

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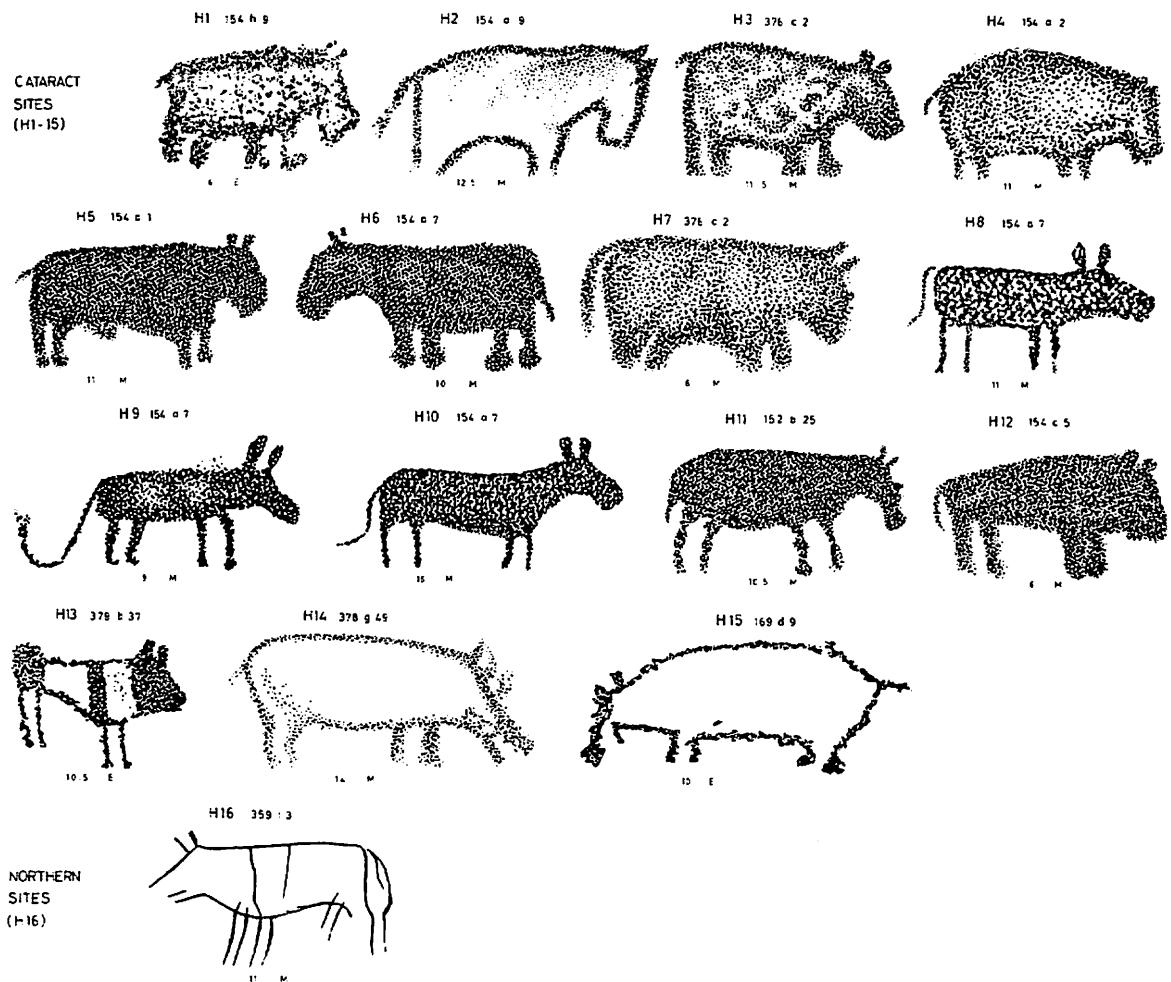


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## CORPUS H1-H4

### H. HIPPOPOTAMI AND PIGS



### I. RHINOCEROS

