

Felicity Wild

# Qasr Ibrim: a correction

During recent correspondence with Nettie Adams, who has kindly sent us photographs of the Meroitic textiles from excavations at Qasr Ibrim in the 1980s studied by her and Elisabeth Crowfoot, it has emerged that the identification of textile QI00 1032 as a cod-piece (ATN 46, Fig. 2) is incorrect. As she has suggested, it appears to be connected with her category of mystery objects, published in her conference paper on Meroitic fashion (Adams 1989, 751. (See bibliography in previous article)).

Seven examples of similar construction were noted, of which the largest and most complete, her number QI 84T/177 (Adams 1989, Pl. IXF) is shown here (Fig. 1). As noted in her article, the piece measures 365mm x 440mm, folded, with the crease down the left-hand side. The bottom and right-hand edges are incomplete. (The bottom edge is slightly clipped in the photograph, but no extra information is lost.) The hems on the upper edges are turned outwards and finished with what is described in our article (ATN 46, 5) as blue piping. The piece was then folded in half and the hems stitched together, with decorative stitches at intervals across the hemmed edges, a device with which we are familiar from other pieces, such as the hooded baby-cape (QI00 1030).

Piece QI00 1032 (Fig. 2), shown folded on the left-hand side and the same way up as QI 84T/177, measures 230mm down the crease and 185 mm along the bottom. The object is very heavily worn along

the crease, presumably during use, and here, too, the bottom and right-hand sides are incomplete. There is no sign on this piece that the hems have been sewn together, apart from one secure fastening across the two upper corners at the top right of the photograph. Which way up these objects would have been used or worn is uncertain and no parallels for them are as yet forthcoming in the art. Whether they were symmetrical, with a short 'sleeve-like' projection also on the other side of the object, we do not know. Any suggestions as to what they may have been used for would be most welcome.



Fig. 1. QI 84T/177  
(© N.K. Adams and E. Crowfoot).



Fig. 2. QI00 1032, aligned in the same direction  
(© P. J. Rose).

### Acknowledgement

I am most grateful to Nettie Adams for allowing me to republish her photograph.