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## The British Museum

Department of Medieval and Later Antiquities London WCIB 3DG Telephone 01-636 1555 ext

Stuart Munro-Hay Esq., 31 Langley Avenue Surbiton Surrey KT6 6QP Your reference

Our reference MLA/RC Date 14 March 1975

Dear Mr Munro-Hay

I am writing in connection with Chittick's enquiry concerning three recent small finds from Aksum. This has been passed to us by our Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, since Aksum falls within our area of responsibility from the 4th century onwards.

The only object about which I would feel qualified to express an opinion is the incised plaque. This seems to me to be of Coptic origin and to date from the 4th - 6th century, although to be more precise I would need to know what it is made of. Bone would greatly increase its chances of being Coptic.

Regarding the bronze figurines, there is, I am afraid, nothing useful that I can say. I will, however, consult certain of my colleagues elsewhere in the Museum and let you know if anything positive emerges.

I am returning the tracing of the plaque, but would like to hold on to the photographs of the bronzes for the time being.

Yours sincerely

Richard Camber Assistant Keeper

Members of the staff of the British Museum cannot accept liability for the opinions they may express on objects submitted for identification or for information; neither can they give valuations