










to play with. Their selection is, understandably, rather eclectic. Many were taken from texts dating from periods other than the 18th Dynasty which served as the basis for the hieroglyphic font created for Gardiner's *Grammar* from copies made by Norman and Nina de Garis Davies. Gardiner's is the most elegant of all hieroglyphic fonts and the additions may deprive it of some of its purity, but they make it now possible to compose a much wider variety of texts. There is some unevenness in the thickness of the line on the drawings of the new hieroglyphs but this minor blemish is not excessive.

I hope I do not sound too pedantic if I point out that the difference between N25  and N25a  is so small that the variant is hardly needed. I am perplexed by the fact that Gardiner's S14\*, a combination of  and , is missing in InScribe 2004's font while S14a , with a right-facing , is present. The sign S14\* is not, in fact, a variant of S14 .

The signs can be set in all directions which are admissible in Egyptian writing: left to right, right to left, and in columns left to right and right to left. A huge improvement is the ability to manipulate the direction in which individual hieroglyphs face, so writing  is not much more difficult than . It is done by the means of a code modifier placed after the sign code in the 'transliteration window'. Other code modifiers make it possible to mirror signs horizontally or rotate them by 90°, 180° and 270° both clockwise and anticlockwise, and also partly to shade signs according to the four quadrants of the hypothetical square in which the sign is written. Importantly, text notations, such as '[' and ']' (although the description in the Help menu that these indicate 'hieroglyphs erased by ancient scribe' is not correct; they are simply designations of areas with lost hieroglyphs) or '{' and '}', can be added to the hieroglyphs through transliteration codes. In the text labels, also added in the transliteration window, the phonetic transliteration works well but I have not succeeded in obtaining the Coptic and Greek fonts.

The following extensions to Gardiner's font are available in InScribe 2004:

Sect. A. 