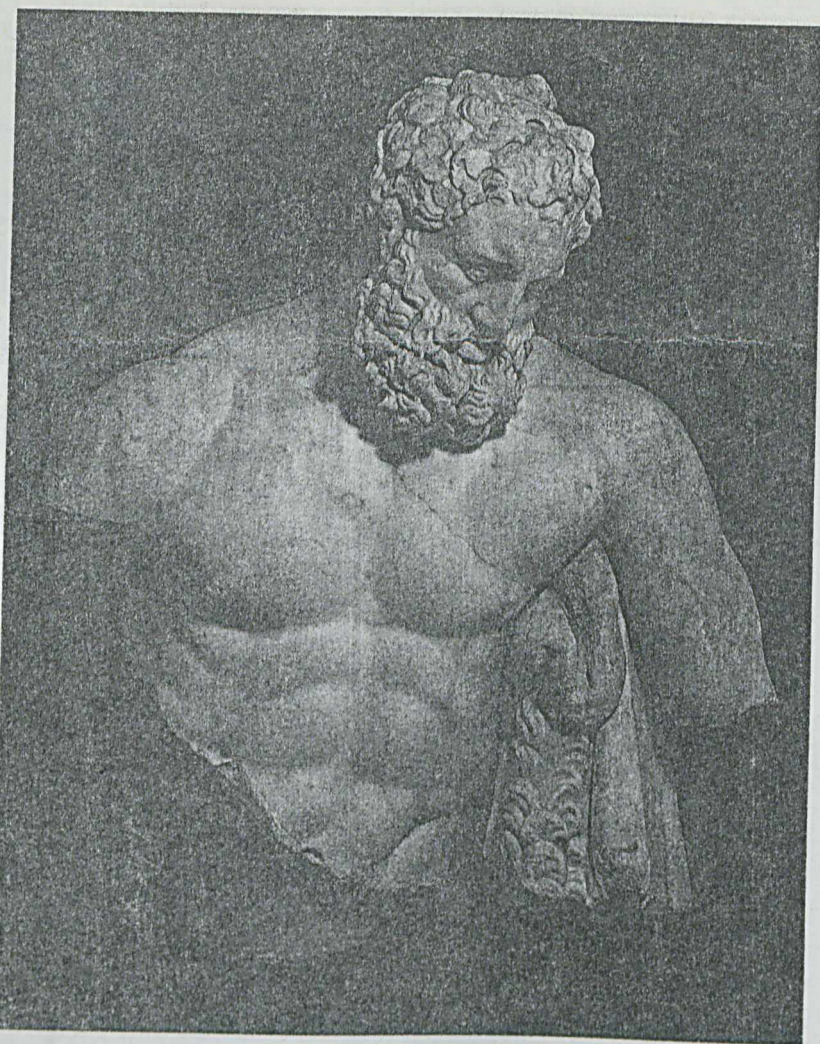


## News



### Turks Claim Boston Hercules

The Turkish government claims that the top half of a fourth-century BC marble statue of Hercules in the Boston Museum of Fine Arts belongs to Turkey. They say that the piece was smuggled out of the country after its excavation near Antalya in 1980.

The museum says that it bought the statue legally, with full paperwork, together with the New York antiquity collectors Leon Levy and Melby White.

To try and prove their case, the Turks have shipped to America a cast of the bottom half of a statue of Hercules also found near Antalya. They believe that it perfectly matches the top half. But the Boston Museum argues that the bottom half has a hernia-like bulge, and does not match the other half.

Mr Cornelius C. Vermeule III, the museum's curator of classical art, has also noted the remnants of a navel on the bottom half supplied by Turkey. The Boston Museum's top half already has a navel. In an official statement, Mr Vermeule went on to say: 'We have conducted an investigation of the claim that our 'early Hercules' is related to the bottom half of a sculpture in a Turkish museum at Antalya, and found that there is no evidence to substantiate

this claim. Specifically, there is no evidence that our sculpture is Turkish in origin or that it left Turkey in this century or that it left Turkey illegally. All of our documentation is in order and Turkish officials have introduced no evidence to the contrary. Because we are very interested in making certain that objects in our collection are held rightfully, we helped facilitate a meeting in New York at the end of February which brought together our sculpture and a cast of the bottom half of the sculpture from the Turkish museum. The three experts sent by the Museum of Fine Art, Boston (Mary Comstock, John Herrmann and Cornelius C. Vermeule), were absolutely certain that it was not a match and Turkish representatives present at the meeting declined to comment.'

Not only would there be two navels if the sculptures were joined, but there would also seem to be two lion heads (one partial), and a discrepancy between the deep folds on the lion skin of the Boston statue and the shallower, less rounded folds on the Turkish one.

**Stolen Objects...** Taken from an address in north-west London on 22 March 1991... Egyptian 18th Dynasty upper part of Serpentine ushabti of Nakht-Min (below). Height 6". Mounted on plinth c. 8" high... Etruscan bronze male figure, draped in himation, arm aloft. 4th-5th century BC. Height 6"... Irish bronze book-clasp with incised decoration. Height 3.1"... Irish 'eye-shaped' buckle, inlaid with amber. Length c. 2 1/4"... Small Irish book-clasp with amber inlay. triangular, c. 1 1/2" long... Viking bronze buckle, showing two confronting animals (pigs?). Height c. 1 1/2" ... Viking bronze weight. Dome-shaped with 4 animal headed terminals descending from central loop, c. 1 1/4" high... Viking rectangular silver brooch, with concave sides and spiral designs, c. 1 1/2" long... Anglo-Saxon gilt-bronze saucer brooch, c. 2" diameter... Celtic bronze toggle, fine dark-green patina, c. 1/2" long... Bronze Age dagger mount c. 2" long... Viking bronze key with bird design on handle 2 3/4" long... Anglo-Saxon bronze book-clasp, incorporating rampant animal design, c. 1 1/2" high... Frankish silver brooch inlaid with glass, c. 1 1/2" diameter... **Anyone with any information about these pieces, please contact the Burglary Squad (081) 900 7165, ref. 928.**





**Boğaziçi Üniversitesi**

**Arşiv ve Dokümantasyon Merkezi**

**Jale İnan Arşivi**



**JALARC0300905**