

# THE NEW FRAGMENT OF THE FIFTEENTH QUOTA-LIST

(PLATES 27, 28)

IN 1972 B. D. Meritt published a fragment of List 15 that had been found during the excavations of the Athenian Agora in the spring of that year.<sup>1</sup> His final paragraph begins: "It is quite probable that the new fragment will make direct and close join beneath fragment 63 of the Karic panel in List 15, but the test has not yet actually been made."

In the summer of 1974 I supervised the dismantling and reconstruction of the relevant area of the *lapis primus* in order to make the test.<sup>2</sup> The result was surprising as well as gratifying. The new fragment (Pl. 27, a), which I propose to number 181, certainly joins 63, as predicted by Meritt; moreover, it joins 180. In fact, 180 now slips snugly into place between 63 and 181, which serves, so to speak, as a base (Pls. 27, b, 28, a).<sup>3</sup>

Now fragment 157, which carries on its right lateral surface (the left lateral of the stele) List 15, I, 87-101, has no physical connection with any other fragment; its position has hitherto been computed on the basis of the probable length of the Karic panel of List 15 and the presence of the large letters NE that have been restored, correctly, as is obvious, to yield the heading of the Nesiotic panel: Νε[σιωτικὸς φόρος]. Since the last two letters of the adjective survive on fragment 181, fragment 157 is now at last firmly anchored in its precise location (Pl. 28, b). The distance from the top of delta in [Κε]δρ[ιᾶτ]αι (line 80) to the top of the drachma in line 87 is 0.1155 m., a measurement that conforms with the vertical checker unit of ca. 0.0164 m. to give an interval of almost exactly six lines, just as it is restored in *A.T.L.* I and II. There is no longer any element of doubt about the length of the Karic panel in List 15.

Confirmation of the published text brings satisfaction. The reconstructed stele, however, required adjustment. Fragment 157 had been placed too high: the interval

<sup>1</sup> *Hesperia* 41, 1972, pp. 420-421, pl. 101, c. I here express my gratitude to The Canada Council for the generous grant that allowed me to spend a month in Athens in the summer of 1974.

<sup>2</sup> The work was carried out with the gracious permission of the Director of the National Epigraphical Museum, Mrs. Dina Peppas-Delmousou, the skilled assistance of Miss Charoula Karapa, and the cheerful expertise of the workmen, Panagiotis, Stelios, and Takes. I am indebted to Mrs. Peppas-Delmousou for the photographs.

<sup>3</sup> For the numbering of the fragments and drawings of List 15 see B. D. Meritt, H. T. Wade-Gery, M. F. McGregor, *The Athenian Tribute Lists* I, 1939, plates I, II, and XV. The text of List 15 printed in *A.T.L.* I is reproduced in *A.T.L.* II, 1949.

between the lines numbered 80 and 87 in the published texts measured only 0.084 m. on the stele, which would allow no more than four lines. Whether this error occurred when the stele was rebuilt in 1928 or later I cannot say. After the Second War the stele was moved and set on a substantial base. At this time line 101, in which only two numerals survive ( $[\Delta\Delta]\Delta\vdash[\vdash\vdash]$  in *A.T.L.* I and II), rested on the base and no allowance was made for any extension in length. Consequently, the insertion of fragment 181 made it necessary to excavate a corner of the base in order to fit fragment 157 into its appropriate position. Plate 28, b shows the lower fragments of List 15 as they appear today.

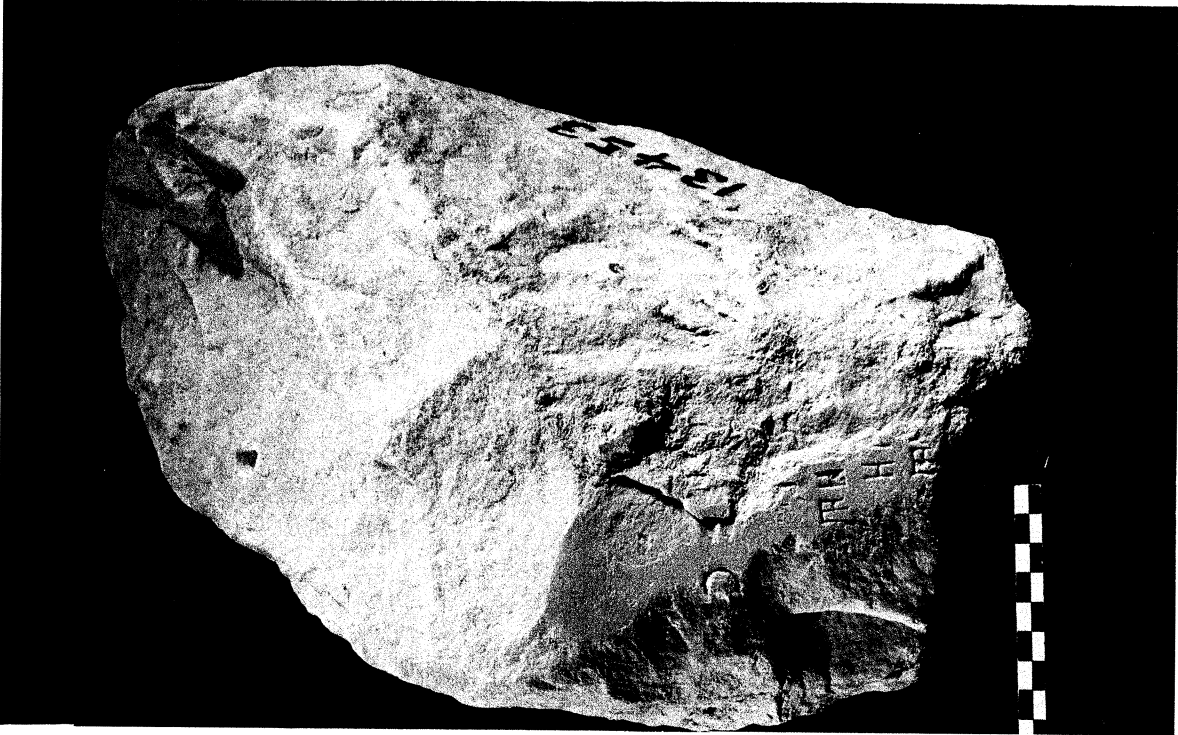
In line 89 of column I the right-hand diagonal of the first delta runs along the break:  $\Delta\Delta\Delta[\vdash\vdash]$ ; this is not apparent in the photograph but is supported by the squeeze. The delta in line 101 ( $[\Delta\Delta]\Delta\vdash[\vdash\vdash]$ ) falls in the second stoichos. The quota is a long one for the narrow left lateral surface, however, and must have been crowded. Yet the delta does lie immediately below the third delta of line 89. A glance at the photograph will reveal considerable irregularity in the cutting of the numerals in both columns.<sup>4</sup> The long quota in I, 94, for example, begins to the left of the face of the column and the mason failed to restore the symmetry in the lines below.

It is worth noting that fragment 181 preserves a small area of unscribed surface of the obverse face of the stele. This takes its place below and to the right of the obverse of fragment 63, on which a few letters from the bottom of List 7's first column (lines 36-38) are extant. The new piece reinforces our belief that nothing was ever cut below List 7.

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<sup>4</sup> See also Meritt's comments, *op. cit.*, p. 421.

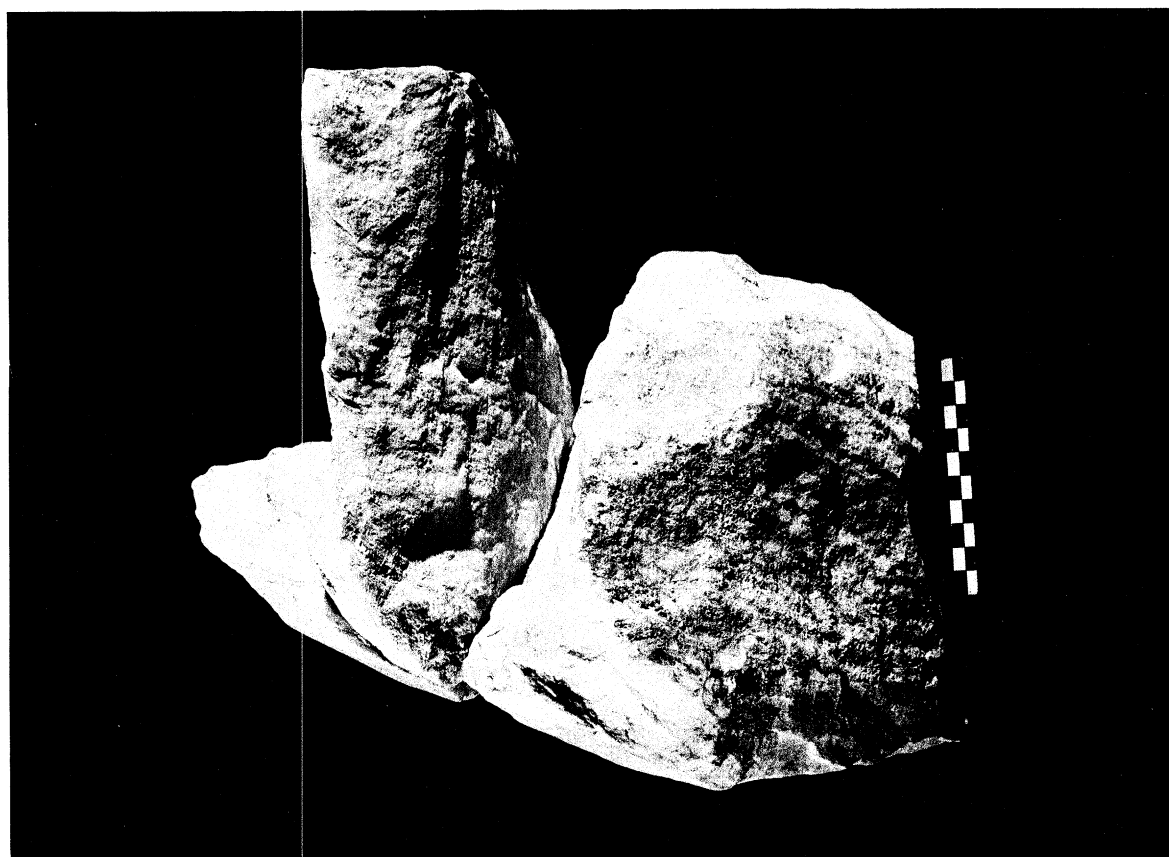


a. The new fragment (181) of List 15



b. List 15: fragments 180 and 63 in place on fragment 181

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a. List 15: fragments 63, 180 and 181 from behind



b. List 15: the lower fragments in the rebuilt stèle