

INSCRIPTIONS OF THE EASTERN PELOPONNESUS

(PLATE 2)

A. MYCENAE

I ON *I.G.*, IV, 498. This inscription, which was found in Mycenae, is now in the Epigraphical Museum in Athens and bears the number E.M. 219. Because of its place of finding and its imperfect state of preservation, it has always been thought to be a decree of the *coma* of Mycenae.¹ This erroneous impression was strengthened by the words *κώμαι* and *κω[μέται]* in lines 2 and 4, *[ύσ]τεραίαι πρατομηρίας* in line 1 and *Δα<ι>φοντεύς* in line 11, which are also met with in *I.G.*, IV, 497, another inscription from Mycenae.

That we do not have to do, however, with a decree of the *coma* of Mycenae, but one of Argos, is clear from line 11 in which, after the name of the father of the proposer of the decree, there follows the name of the Phatra and the *coma* to which he belonged. This is something which is not found in the complete and almost contemporary decree from Mycenae.² On the contrary, at the end of Argive decrees there always appears the name of the proposer of the decree, his father's name, the Phatra to which he belonged and the *coma* from which he came.³

In the present case, it would have been superfluous to write the name of the *coma* from which the proposer came if it were a decree of the Mycenaeans because in their assembly citizens from other *comae* would not have been

present. On the other hand, it would have been essential to add this qualification to a decree which was passed by the assembly of the Argives in which other *comae* would have been represented.

The meaning of the inscription is thus as follows. One of the representatives of Mycenae in the Assembly of Argos was interested in some matter which concerned his constituency and he made a proposal about it in the Assembly. His proposal was accepted, and at the end of the decree which was passed about it his name was added as the proposer. Of the two copies of this decree, the one which had been set up in Mycenae has survived to our day.

Since this is the case, we must now make a correct restoration of the first and second lines, that is the beginning of the decree, which must be similar to the beginning of other decrees of Argos. In these it is customary to place at the beginning the *άλιαίαι ἔδοξε τελείαι* (*οἱ τῶν ἰαρώων*);⁴ there follows the name of the month and the day, the name of the presiding officer of the Boule (with the name of his father) and the name of his Phatra (and *coma*).

The first line should thus be restored: *[άλιαίαι ἔδοξε τελείαι νομην μηνίς⁵ ύσ]τεραίαι πρατομηρίας ἀρήτ[ενε (βωλάς)]*. At the end of the first line and at the beginning of the second line should be placed the name of the presiding officer of the Boule and of the secretary⁶ (of

¹ Tsountas, *Ἐφ. Ἀρχ.*, 1887, pp. 158 ff.: Fränkel, *I.G.*, IV, 498; Hiller, *Syll.*³, no. 594, note 2; Boethius, *B.S.A.*, XXV, p. 412, note 1; Karo, *R.E.*, XVI, 1025, 64.

² *B.S.A.*, XXV, pp. 408-9.

³ *Mnemosyne*, XLIII, 1915, p. 366, A, 9 and B, 9; 371, C, 14; 372, D, 10; 375, E; XLIV, 1916, p. 221, 32 (see also lines 2-3).

⁴ *Syll.*³, 56 lines 44-5: *Mnemosyne*, LVIII, 1930, p. 40.

⁵ Boethius also made the same observation, *B.S.A.*, XXV, p. 412, note 1 and proposed restoring the name of a month such as *Ἀρνήιον* as in *loc. cit.*, p. 408, line 3.

⁶ The father's name had probably been omitted as in *Mnemosyne*, XLIV, 1916, p. 221, lines 3, 32.

the Boule) with the names of their Phatra (and *coma*). In the third we should restore: δεδόχ[θαι τῶι δάμωι τῶν Ἀργείων⁷ or simply: δεδόχ[θαι τῶι δάμωι].⁸

Line 5. [τα]μίαγ καί τὸγ γροφέα. If these are officials of the Boule of the Argives, the handling of the 500 drachmas was not left to the Mycenaean but was done by these officials themselves, who were obliged to coöperate in this with the [δαμ]οργοί.

Line 10. No omicron can be read on the stone at the beginning of this line. The word [ὄ]ρκον is thus uncertain.

Line 11. This line should be restored: [ἐλεξε ^{nom}—]ς Ἀριστέος Δα<ῖ>φοντεὺς Μυκῆνα.⁹ That

the Daiphontis was not one of the tribes into which the pre-Dorian population of Mycenae¹⁰ was divided, is clear from the fact that in our inscription the word Daiphonteus¹¹ occupies the place where the name of the Phatra always appears in the inscriptions of Argos.

It should also be added that on the top surface of the stone the letters T Σ appear. These letters, which are not mentioned by previous editors, are about two and a half times as large as the letters of the inscription proper, are parallel with it and are about 0.11 m. apart. They have been cut about midway in the width of the block and probably have some relation to the setting of the block.

B. HERAEUM

2. On *I.G.*, IV, 532 + 537. These two stones, both of which come from the Heraeum and both of which are now in the Epigraphical Museum in Athens (E.M. 584 and 602), form part of a large slab and actually join each other. The text of the two fragments as joined is as follows:

----- α Φιλιστίδα -----
----- ο κόσμος ΟΑ

[--- E]δέτεος ἁ θυγά[τηρ ---]
----- ης Φιλιστίδα Ο -----
5 [--- ἀδ]ελφός E. ENO -----
----- ΑΙΕΡ. Π -----
----- Η -----

Line 5. After the word [ἀδ]ελφός the stone has been badly rubbed and only traces remain of the letters.

C. OINOE

3. Limestone stele. Height, 0.90 m.; width, 0.53 m.; thickness, 0.47 m. It is in the locality known as Mouzka in the property of Mr. K. Lamba, built into the wall on the right as one goes along the road from Sykia to Karya. On the dressed face it bears an inscription which may be dated in the first half of the 5th century B.C.

ΟΡΟΞ

This inscription is important in that it probably marked the boundary of the road which led from the plain of Argos to Mantinea. If this is so, it will refer to the middle one of the three roads leading to Arcadia, that called διὰ τοῦ Πρίνου.¹²

⁷ *Mnemosyne*, XLIV, 1916, p. 221, line 16.

⁸ *Mnemosyne*, XLIV, 1916, p. 65, line 5.

⁹ Nominative singular as in the case of other *comae* of Argos which are always mentioned in the nominative. It also appears in this form in Euripides, *Iph. Taur.*, 846; and Nonnos, *Dionys.*, XXXI, 257.

¹⁰ Busolt-Swoboda, *Gr. Staatsk.*, 262, note 1.

¹¹ For other Phatrae of the Mycenaean see *Hesperia*, XV, 1946, p. 117, note 1.

¹² Pausanias, VIII, 6, 4. Wheel ruts of this road may be seen in the locality Παλλοχῶρι-Ληῆ χωράφι east of the property of George Karamouza, south of the village of Karya. The retaining wall of large stones in the locality Πηγᾶδι-Συκιά east of the village of Karya seems also to be connected

D. ARTEMISION

4. In October, 1934, I made a trial excavation at a place called Kamari on the west side and near the peak of Mount Megalovouni¹³ which lies between Argos and Nemea. A small open-air sanctuary was explored, which lies in a large cavity in the face of a very high steep cliff; to it one descends by a precarious stairway cut in the rock. This stairway is still used because in the cavity in the rock there wells up the only spring in the district. The sanctuary consists of two niches cut in the soft rock of which that on the left is rectangular in shape and the other is like a corbelled arch.¹⁴ Above and to the right of the right hand niche votive statues have been carved in the rock, four crude women's heads, dating from different periods from the sixth to the third century B.C. These heads, which were not visible at the beginning of the work because they were covered by a thick hard lime deposit, were cut off and are now in the museum of Old Corinth. Under these figures is an inscription which may be dated in the third century B.C. (Plate 2).

Συμπόται
 Ἄρτέ[μιδι]
 Ὠραία[ι]
 Τιμ ---

The sanctuary was thus dedicated to Artemis Oraia; an inscribed altar of this goddess has been found in the Peiraeus.¹⁵ In this capacity the goddess caused things to ripen.¹⁶ She is thus the goddess who favoured the ripening of fruits and the growth of embryos, while later on the same goddess, as Eileithyia, relieves women in childbirth. It is interesting to note that among the terracottas found there is one representing a pregnant woman which thus gives further confirmation of the identity of the goddess.

Artemis was the goddess par excellence of the mountainous area which bordered the plain of Argos on the west¹⁷ whereas on the east side of the plain Hera was worshipped.

Συμπόται. This word is found in an inscription from Kavalla which refers to a local god or hero.¹⁸ It refers to the members of a religious group (θίασος) which was under the protection of Artemis who is connected in this instance with Dionysiac worship.

Line 4. Τιμ ---. This is the beginning of a name. There will have followed the names of the other Συμπόται who made the dedication to Artemis.

E. KLEONAI

Between the village of Kontostavlos and the locality of Volimoti two tombstones of local stone were found in 1934 on the property of Nicolaos Anastassopoulos.

5. A slab broken into two pieces. Height, 0.60 m.; width, 0.45 m.; thickness, 0.18 m. On the upper part is an inscription of the first century B.C.

with this road. Wheel ruts of another road, not mentioned by Pausanias, are preserved in the locality Ῥούσαλη southeast of Oinoe. For some distance this road followed the same course as the road διὰ τοῦ Πρίνον along the right bank of the Charadros river, then branched off from it and passing close to Oinoe and the modern village of Tourniki led to Tegea.

¹³ A. Μηλιαράκης, Γεωγραφία πολιτική Ἀργολίδος, Κορινθίας, p. 101.

¹⁴ A little distance from the niches, in the cavity in the rock, terracotta figurines of women and animals were found. The figurine of an ape is worth mentioning.

¹⁵ I.G., II², 4632.

¹⁶ Herod., I, 202, 196, 107: Xenophon, Κύρον Παιδ., IV, 6, 9.

¹⁷ Pausanias, II, 24, 5; II, 25, 3 and 6; II, 13, 5; VIII, 22, 7 (Inmerwahr, *Kulte und Mythen Arkadiens*, pp.150 ff.).

¹⁸ G. Bakalakis, Πρακτικά, 1938, p. 95.

Μεγάκλεια

6. A stele with pediment, the top of which has been broken off. Height, 1.20 m.; width, 0.45 m.; thickness, 0.15 m. Under the geison is a projecting band and under this is the inscription which may be dated in the first century B.C.

Ευξενίδα

7. Fragment of poros slab, probably the cover of a tomb. It is in the village of Contostavlos in the courtyard of the house of N. Angistriotis. Preserved height, 0.35 m.; width, 0.30 m.; thickness, 0.16 m. On it are preserved the letters --- [τ]έλεος, i. e., the ending of a name whose second part is -τέλης (Bechtel, *Hist. Pers.*, 421 ff.).

8. In the locality Volimoti where the ruins of Kleonai are visible, and exactly at the spot where the stones with the names of the Argives Xenophilos and Straton (*I.G.*, IV, 489) lie, there are two large blocks of gray limestone in a pile of small stones at the edge of the field. They once formed a part of an exedra as appears from the fact that they are curved, and the dowel holes in the upper and lower surfaces show that they come from one of the middle courses of the exedra. The great weight of these stones which makes it probable that they have not been brought from any great distance, as well as the fact that we also have here the parts of the exedra on which the above mentioned Argive sculptors worked, permits us to suppose that the Agora of ancient Kleonai should be placed at this point.

The exedra had probably been built at the expense of a member of the royal family of the Severi and on top of it stood statues of the imperial family. The two stones were placed side by side as is shown by the type of clamps on their sides. They are of the same size and their dimensions are: Height, 0.77 m.; width, 0.53 m.; greatest thickness, 0.46 m.

On the first of them is the inscription

Αὐτοκράτορος Καί-
σαρος Δ(ουκίου) Σεπτιμίου
Σεβήρου Περτίνα-
κος.

on the second (Plate 2)

Αὐτοκράτωρ Καί-
σαρ Μ(άρκος) Αὐρήλιος
'Αντωνεῖνος, Αὐ-
τοκράτορος Καί-
5 σαρος Δουκίου
Σεπτιμίου Σεβή-
ρου Περτίνακος
υἱός.

The first of these inscriptions was carelessly cut in contrast to the second which is much more carefully done.

9 (Plate 2). A fragment of white limestone found by K. Gebauer among the ruins of the ancient city. It is now in the Epigraphical Museum, No. 13052. It is broken above, at the right, and below. Height, 0.09 m.; width, 0.14 m.; thickness, 0.09 m. The beginnings of five lines of a decree, dated about the middle of the third century, are preserved on it.

Ο! -----
ΤΟΙΚ [----- το] -
ἰς εὐεργ[ετ]ο[ύσων αὐτάν· ἀγγράψαι δέ τό δόκημα ἐν στάλαι]
λιθίνοι καὶ ἀ[ν]θ[ήμην ἐν τῶι τοῦ Ἀπόλλωνος τοῦ Δουκείου?]
5 ἱερῶι· ἔλεξε Μεγ — [nomen patris, fatrae, (comae)]

Line 2. The restoration of this line is difficult because the four letters at the beginning do not fit the normal formula *καταξίανς τιμάνς ἀπονέμονσα το|ῖς*.

Lines 3-4. I have restored this after *Mnemosyne*, XLIV, 1916, p. 221, line 27; XLIII, 1915, pp. 372, D, line 9, and 374, E, line 9.

Line 4. ἀ[ν]θ[ήμην]. As in *Mnemosyne*,

XLIV, 1916, p. 221, line 28. This whole restoration will only be correct if we assume that we have here a decree of Argos, copies of whose decrees it was customary to set up in the sanctuary of Lykeion Apollo.

Line 5. ιερῶι. The Ionian form is worth noticing.

The proposer of the decree is mentioned at form by those of Argos.

the end as is usual in the decrees of Argos. We thus have a copy of a decree of the Argives in which a citizen of Kleonai is honored. As additional evidence for this we may note that the stone is of the kind on which the inscriptions of Argos are written. If this is not a decree of Argos, then we must suppose that the decrees of Kleonai were influenced in their

F. THE ISTHMUS

10 (Plate 2). A slab of white marble found on the Isthmus. Its lower right corner is broken away. Height, 0.51 m.; width, 0.76 m.; thickness, 0.04 m. It is now in the court of the museum of Old Corinth. On its face is a five line inscription which may be dated in the first century B.C. to the first century A.D.

Γ(άϊος) Ἰούλιος Μαρκιανός
 ζῶν ἑαυτῶι καὶ Τερεντίαι
 Ἰουλίαι τῆι γυναικὶ καὶ
 Ἰουλίαι Ρηκτείνηι τῆι
 5 θυγατρὶ ζώση[ι].

This slab was once built into the tomb of the family mentioned in the inscription.

ATHENS

MARKELLOS TH. MITSOS

PLATE 2



No. 10



No. 9

No. 4



No. 8

