

A NEW FRAGMENT OF A TREASURE RECORD FROM THE NORTH SLOPE OF THE ACROPOLIS

(PLATE 12)

FRAGMENT of white "Pentelic" marble, broken on all sides and back, found in the Central Area of the excavations of the North Slope of the Acropolis in 1939.¹

Height, 0.116 m.; width, 0.09 m.; thickness, 0.054 m.

Height of letters, 0.008 m.-0.009 m.

ΣΤΟΙΧ.

στ]εφαν[
στ]αθμὸν το[ντο ---
| στα[θμὸν
ρ

The preserved traces of dotted letters are as follows: most of the left vertical of nu, the tip of the right leg of alpha, a small part of a curve from the left side of omicron, and the top half of rho. The first mark in the third line can only be either iota or the figure one.

This fragment clearly belongs to a fifth century treasure record. This combination of letters is actually found in *I.G.*, I², 280, an inventory of the dedications in the Parthenon for 422/1,² which was inscribed on a large stele along with the inventories of the next three years (*I.G.*, I², 281-283.) Two large fragments of *I.G.*, I², 280 are known: one in the Epigraphical Museum at Athens³ and a second, now lost, which is known only from a drawing in Stuart and Revett.⁴ The North Slope fragment corresponds to a section in the center of the stone published by Stuart and may,

¹ Cf. Oscar Broneer, "Excavations on the Slopes of the Acropolis, 1939," *A.J.A.*, XLIV, 1940, pp. 252-256. For other inscriptions from the North Slope cf. Broneer, "Excavations on the North Slope of the Acropolis in Athens, 1931-1932," *Hesperia*, II, 1933, pp. 372-414; Broneer, "Excavations on the North Slope of the Acropolis in Athens, 1933-1934," *Hesperia*, IV, 1935, pp. 148-188; Eugene Schweigert, "Inscriptions from the North Slope of the Acropolis," *Hesperia*, VII, 1938, pp. 264-310; and Arthur M. Woodward, "An Attic Treasure-Record: The Hekatompedon-List for 402/1 B.C.," *Αρχ. Έφ.*, 1953-1954, part II, pp. 107-112. I would like to thank Professor Broneer and Ronald S. Stroud for permission to publish this inscription and to thank Mr. Stroud especially for much of his time and useful advice.

² Lines 73-76.

³ *I.G.*, I, 170-171, fragment b.

⁴ *Antiquities of Athens*, II, London, 1787, p. 15.

therefore, once have formed part of that large piece. Physical features support the assignment of the new fragment to this stele. The letters are worn, but still legible, and the surface of the stone is smooth, indicating that it was walked upon continuously. A large fragment from the lower half of the stele is also in the same condition.⁵ Moreover, the shapes of sigma and nu are identical in *I.G.*, I², 280 and in the North Slope fragment, and the longest chisel stroke in both appears to be 0.009 m. Although it is difficult to determine the stoichedon pattern of such a small fragment, it appears to coincide with that of *I.G.*, I², 280.⁶ On the other hand, the inventory for 421/0 (*I.G.*, I², 281), which is almost completely missing, listed the identical contents, with the same length of line and horizontal stoichedon pattern.⁷ Therefore, the new fragment may have come from that inventory. This is the more likely alternative, since there is evidence that the stone published by Stuart was taken to England as part of the Elgin Collection.

Boeckh cites item no. 305 of the Elgin Collection in the *Synopsis of the Contents of the British Museum* as evidence that Stuart's inscription was in the British Museum.⁸ However, he quotes the same item in the *Synopsis* as evidence for the location of *C.I.G.*, I, 150 (= *I.G.*, II², 1388). In fact, as later publications of the Museum make clear,⁹ entry no. 305 was opisthographic, eight inches thick, written in post-Eukleidian letters, and contained a dedication by Lysander. These features are those of *I.G.*, II², 1388. The original thickness of *I.G.*, I², 280 is 0.17 m.

The other piece of evidence for the removal of the Stuart inscription to England is its appearance in the *Catalogue* of the Elgin Collection made by E. Q. Visconti,¹⁰

⁵ *I.G.*, I, 172-173, fragment d.

⁶ Ten letters, measured from centers, occupy 0.123 m. Ten lines, measured from the top of the first to the top of the eleventh, occupy 0.175 m.

⁷ The length of line in both inventories varies at *ca.* seventy-eight letters. Of course, the heading of the two inscriptions differed. For the difficulty of determining to which of these two a small fragment belongs, cf. A. M. Woodward, "Three New Fragments of Attic Treasure-Records," *J.H.S.*, XXIX, 1909, p. 169. The North Slope fragment cannot belong to *I.G.*, I², 282 or 283, since the length of line in the latter is completely different, and it will be found by trial and error that this exact combination of letters does not recur in the former because of the vagaries in the number of letters per line.

⁸ *C.I.G.*, I, 139. The *Synopsis* was a booklet prepared for the general public which visited the Museum. During the nineteenth century numerous editions were issued, every year or every other year, to meet the demand. There were usually very few changes from edition to edition.

⁹ The items in the Elgin Room were rearranged and renumbered. The edition of 1844 (47th edition) gives this description of item no. 267, the stone which was formerly numbered 305: "A Greek inscription, engraved on two sides of a thick slab of marble. It is an inventory of the valuable articles which were kept in the Opisthodomos of the Parthenon at Athens. (305.)" The thickness, lettering, and contents of the stone are described in a book published in the series *The Library of Entertaining Knowledge as The Elgin and Phigaleian Marbles*, II, London, 1833, pp. 137-138, no. 267.

¹⁰ *Mémoires sur des ouvrages de sculpture du Parthénon et de quelques édifices de l'acropole à Athènes*, Paris, 1818, p. 143, item no. 45. An English translation of this work was published in London in 1816.

who was called by Lord Elgin from Paris to London to study the Collection.¹¹ Since the *Catalogue* was compiled in 1814 before the sale of the Elgin Collection to the British Government,¹² Visconti did not state that the stone was in the British Museum; he merely asserted that it was part of the Elgin Collection in England. Therefore, the statements of numerous scholars that the stone in question is not in the British Museum do not contradict the evidence of Visconti.¹³

The value of Visconti's evidence is shown by the fact that he had been Director of the Capitoline Museum and Conservator of the Louvre and was regarded at the time as "the best practical Antiquary in the world."¹⁴ The Select Committee of the House of Commons which investigated the purchase of the Elgin Collection relied upon Visconti's *Catalogue* as an inventory of the Collection.¹⁵ Throughout his *Catalogue*, moreover, he shows a familiarity with the content and historical importance of the inscriptions and with epigraphical publications, always being careful to distinguish between pre- and post-Eukleidian lettering. He, further, correctly identifies ten inscriptions from previous publications.¹⁶

There is, moreover, no inconsistency in Visconti's list of fifth century financial documents in the Elgin Collection. Of six such inscriptions which he lists, four can clearly be identified: his no. 35 corresponds to *I.G.*, I², 302; his no. 36 corresponds to *I.G.*, I², 264-271 (opisthographic); no. 37 is *I.G.*, I², 240-243 and 248-251 (also opisthographic); and Visconti identifies his no. 45 as the stone in Stuart and Revett. The other two inscriptions, nos. 38 and 46, cannot be positively identified but are probably the two fragments of *I.G.*, I², 301.¹⁷

In view, then, of Visconti's reputation and position as official recorder of the Elgin Collection, his statement that the stone in question was once part of that Collection is not to be taken lightly. Its absence from the British Museum perhaps can be explained in the following manner: a British Museum publication about the Elgin Collection, issued in 1833, has this account of two votive offerings from the

¹¹ A. H. Smith, "Lord Elgin and his Collection," *J.H.S.*, XXXVI, 1916, p. 318.

¹² *Ibid.*

¹³ H. J. Rose, *Inscriptiones Graecae*, Cambridge, 1825, p. 232; E. L. Hicks, *The Collection of Ancient Greek Inscriptions in the British Museum*, I, Oxford, 1874, p. 60, note; E. L. Hicks and G. F. Hill, *A Manual of Greek Historical Inscriptions*, Oxford, 1901, p. 124; A. M. Woodward, *loc. cit.*; M. N. Tod, *A Selection of Greek Historical Inscriptions to the end of the Fifth Century*, I², Oxford, 1946, p. 168.

¹⁴ Smith, *op. cit.*, pp. 318-322; the quotation is attributed to the noted philhellene Lord Aberdeen.

¹⁵ *Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons*, London, 1816, appendix, no. 11.

¹⁶ Nos. 9, 10, 13, 17, 35, 42, 43, 53, and 61 and the inscription mentioned in the *Mémoires*, p. 151 (p. 175 of the English version). There is a misprint in the English translation of no. 10, which is Chandler, pt. II, no. VII (not no. VIII).

¹⁷ That this inscription consists of two fragments is clear from the photographs in B. D. Meritt, *Athenian Financial Documents of the Fifth Century*, Ann Arbor, 1932, pls. XIV-XVI. In Visconti's time some thought that this inscription was an inventory; cf. *The Elgin and Phigaleian Marbles*, II, p. 139, no. 282.

Pnyx: "Two other votive offerings, belonging to the Elgin collection, were in existence when Visconti wrote his memoir . . . These, with several other articles (of some of which an account is preserved), were believed to have been stolen at the time when the Elgin collection was deposited in the court-yard of Burlington House."¹⁸ It seems possible that the inscription in question was among the other items believed to have been stolen.

If Visconti is correct, then, and the Stuart inscription was removed to England, the fragment from the North Slope is probably part of *I.G.*, I², 281, the inventory of the Parthenon for 421/0, and should read as follows:

96 [στ]έφαν[ος χρυσός, σταθμὸν τοῦτο $\text{P}\Delta$.
 φιάλα]-
 [ι χρυσαῖ Γ, σταθμὸν τοῦτον $\text{P}\text{H}\text{H}\text{P}\Delta\Delta\Delta\text{H}$. χρυσίον
 ἄσεμον, στ]αθμὸν το[ύτο HHH . καρχέσιον
 χρυσὸν τὸν π]-
 [υθμένα ἠνπάργυρον ἔχον ἱερὸν τὸ ἠερακλέος τὸ ἐν Ἐλαιε]ι,
 στα[θμὸν τοῦτο $\text{H}\Delta\Delta\Delta\text{P}\text{H}\text{H}$. ἠέλο δύο ἠνπαρ]-
 [γύρο καταχρύσο, σταθμὸν τοῦτοι H] $\text{P}\Delta\Delta\Delta\text{H}\text{H}$ [H
 πρόσσοπον ἠνπά]ρ[γυρον κατὰχρυσον, σταθμὸν τοῦτο $\text{H}\Delta$]
 100 [ΓϜ.]

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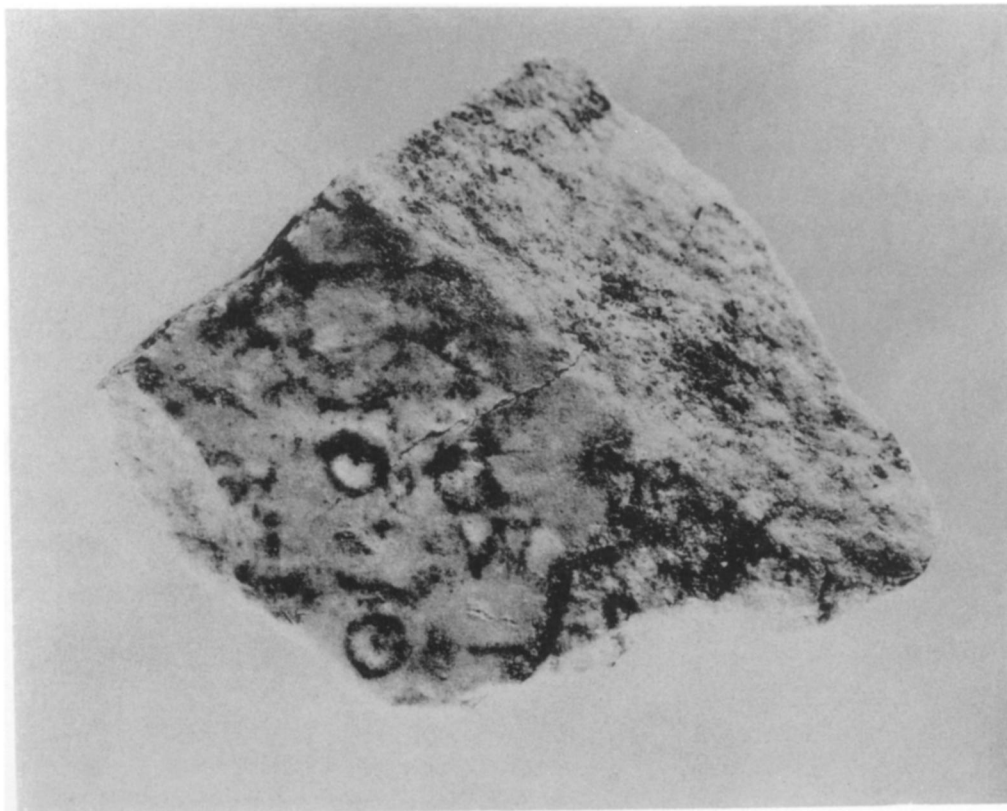
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¹⁸ *The Elgin and Phigaleian Marbles*, II, p. 107.



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