



American Society of Greek and Latin Epigraphy

Société américaine d'épigraphie latine et grecque

<http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/asgle/>

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I am happy to report that the transition from moving the Society's web site to its new URL, www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/asgle/, has gone smoothly and many of you are now using the PayPal option to renew your memberships online. So far I have had no reported problems. Thanks again for your continued support of ASGLE. For those of you interested in knowing the status of your membership, just check the first line of your mailing label for your paid-through date. For example, a label with the following:

Membership Exp.: 12/31/07

Jane Doe

101 First Street

New York, NY 000000

means that Jane Doe is paid through the end of 2007. If you spot any errors or need to update your address or other contact information, let me know by email or snail-mail.

Paul A. Iversen, Secretary-Treasurer
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SPRING 2007 ELECTION RESULTS

This past Spring the Society's members elected **Stephen Tracy** as the new Vice President and **John Bodell** as the new Member-at-Large. They will join **Catherine Keesling** (Pres.) and **Paul Iversen** (Secr.-Treas.) to form the Society's Executive Committee for the 2008-2009 term.

ANNUAL APA/AIA MEETINGS JAN. 3-6, 2008, CHICAGO, IL

ASGLE Joint APA/AIA Panel
January 5, 2008 9:00 AM – Noon.
Dr. Catherine Keesling, Organizer
The Objects of Greek and Latin
Epigraphy.
(ASGLE members marked in bold):

1. **Julia Lougovaya**, *Columbia University*. "Inscribing Laws and the Emergence of Monumental Writing in Ancient Greece."
2. **William C. West**, *The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*. "Graffiti Inscriptions on Pottery from Azoria, Crete: Mixed Ethnicities?"
3. Isabelle A. Pafford, *San Francisco State University*. "Instructions on Stone: *Leges sacrae* on Stone Offering Boxes (*thesauroi*)."
4. **George W. Houston**, *The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill*. "The Uses of Sundials."
5. Jonathan Price, *Tel Aviv University*. "How to Read an Ossuary Inscription."
6. Carolyn Roncaglia, *University of California, Berkeley*. "Recommended by Doctors: Writing Change in Roman Britain."

The ASGLE Annual Business Meeting
Jan. 5, 2008, 5-6PM in the Ogden room.

All are welcome to attend the annual business meeting.

**Other panels of interest to epigraphers
at the 2008 APA/AIA meetings
(ASGLE members marked in bold)**

Friday, January 4, 11:15 AM-1:15 PM
**Concrete Text: Epigraphy, Elegy, and
Poetic Inscriptions.**
Teresa Ramsby &
Samuel Huskey, Organizers

1. **Steven Tuck**, Miami University. "Lucretius at Cumae: Epicureanism in an Early Imperial Epitaph."
2. Martin Dinter, King's College, London. "Epigraphic Markers and Epitaphic Gestures in Latin Poetry."
3. Johanna Hanink, University of California, Berkeley. "The Echo of Epitaph: Latin Elegy and an Inscribed Greek Epigram."
4. Anja Bettenworth, University of Münster. "Manipulative Inscriptions in Ovidian Elegy and the Creation of Social Memory."

Respondent: Teresa Ramsby, University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Saturday, January 5, 11:15 AM-1:15 PM
Italian Epigraphy

1. Christer Bruun, *University of Toronto*. "Property Ownership by Women in Rome and Roman Italy."
2. Cynthia J. Bannon, *Indiana University*. "Fish Farming and Fraud: Rational Economic Strategies for Roman Landowners?"
3. **Rebecca Benefiel**, *Washington and Lee University*. "Advertising for Sex in Ancient Pompeii."
4. Megan Nutzman, *The University of Chicago*. "Faith or Family? Jewish Epitaphs from Rome."

CALL FOR PAPERS
2009 ASGLE Joint APA/AIA Panel,
Philadelphia, PA January 8-11.

The Publication and Study of
Inscriptions in the Age of the Computer
Paul Iversen & Tom Elliott, Organizers

The computer age has unleashed powerful new technologies that enhance the study of Greek and Latin inscriptions, yet most scholars, academic institutions and publishing houses are still not comfortable with the idea of publishing inscriptions in a form that takes full advantage of the new possibilities. The Society, therefore, welcomes papers that discuss current or possible future computer-enhanced initiatives in the areas of Greek and Latin Epigraphy. We are particularly interested in papers that discuss theoretical applications of new technologies to the field of epigraphy and the formulation of international standards and protocols of publication and institutional credit, especially digital projects that go well beyond the mere encoding of the appearance of epigraphical sigla and indicia (which is akin to putting old wine into new wineskins) to include the encoding of semantic and/or observational distinctions.

Abstracts will be adjudicated anonymously by a committee of ASGLE and should not be longer than one page. Please follow the instructions for the format of individual abstracts that will appear in the October issue of the APA Newsletter. Abstracts should be sent to: Paul A. Iversen, ASGLE Secretary-Treasurer, Department of Classics, Case Western Reserve University, 11201 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44106-7111 or paul.iversen@cwru.edu. **The deadline is February 1, 2008.**

DISSERTATION RESEARCH AWARDS

ASGLE has some money for Dissertation Research Awards. These awards consist in travel money for a student working on an epigraphical dissertation to visit a collection somewhere. Send your nominations to the Secretary-Treasurer. All recipients will be required to write up a report.

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

The Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies at The Ohio State University offers short-term fellowships (of one to four months duration) to support visitors pursuing post-doctoral research in Greek and Latin history and epigraphy. The fellowships pay for travel to and from Columbus and a living expense of \$1,500 per month; they must be taken up between September 2008 and May 2009. Recipients are expected to be in residence during the tenure of the award and are encouraged to participate in the activities of the University.

The Center's holdings include, in addition to a comprehensive library to support the study of Greek and Latin inscriptions, Arthur and Joyce Gordon's photographs and squeezes of Latin inscriptions, J.K. Evans's photo archive of Latin inscriptions from north Italy, J.M.R. Cormack's papers, photographs and squeezes of inscriptions from Macedonia, Sterling Dow's, A.G. Woodhead's, and Benjamin D. Meritt's collections of offprints, and substantial collections of photographs and squeezes of Greek inscriptions. The focus of the Greek collection is Attica, but there are numerous squeezes from other sites.

There is no application form. Applicants are requested to submit a *curriculum vitae* and a brief research proposal (not to exceed three pages) to

the Director of Epigraphy, Center for Epigraphical and Palaeographical Studies, The Ohio State University, 190 Pressey Hall, 1070 Carmack Road, Columbus, OH 43210-1002 or by e-mail at epig@osu.edu. The applicant should also arrange to have two letters of recommendation sent to the Director. **All application materials must be received by January 31, 2008.** Awards will be announced towards the end of March 2008.

The University of Cincinnati Classics Department offers research support with their **Margo Tytus Visiting Scholars Program** (see http://classics.uc.edu/resources/tytus_scholars_program.html). There are three categories of Tytus Visiting Scholars in the fields of philology, history and archaeology: **Long-Term Fellows, Short-Term Fellows, and Summer Residents.**

Both Long-Term and Short-Term Tytus Fellows will ordinarily be at least 5 years beyond receipt of the Ph. D. Apart from residence in Cincinnati during term, the only obligation of Tytus Fellows is to pursue their own research. Fellowships are tenable during the regular academic year (October 1 to June 10). **Long Term Fellows** will come to Cincinnati for a minimum of one academic quarter (two and a half months) and a maximum of three during the regular academic year. They will receive a monthly stipend of \$1000 plus housing and a transportation allowance. **Short Term Fellows** will come to Cincinnati for a minimum of one month and a maximum of two during the regular academic year. They will receive housing and a transportation allowance. **The Application Deadline for both Long-Term and Short-Term Fellows is January 15, 2008.** All Fellowship applicants must apply online at <https://classics.uc.edu/>

resources/tytusap.lasso. Address any questions to: Director, Margo Tytus Visiting Scholars Program, Department of Classics, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0226.

Summer Residents (<http://classics.uc.edu/resources/tytus2.html>) must have the Ph.D. in hand at the time of application. They will come to Cincinnati for a minimum of one month and a maximum of three during the summer (June 15 - September 15). Apart from residence in Cincinnati during term, the only obligation of Summer Residents is to pursue their own research. They will receive free university housing and office space. **The application deadline for Summer Residents is February 15, 2008.** All Summer Resident applicants must apply online at: <https://classics.uc.edu/resources/tytussummerap.lasso>. Address any questions to: Director, Summer Residency Program, Department of Classics, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0226.

All Margo Tytus Fellows and Residents will enjoy the use of the University of Cincinnati and Hebrew Union College Libraries. For more information on The University of Cincinnati's John Miller Burnam Classics Library see: <https://classics.uc.edu/resources/index.html>.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTES

Paul Roesch's[†] *Les Inscriptions de Thespies* is now available online

When Paul Roesch, who was the Director of Research of CNRS, passed away in 1990, he left unfinished one of his major projects, a corpus of Thespian inscriptions. Since 2000 Gilbert Argoud, Albert Schachter and Guy Vottéro have collaborated to publish Roesch's opus, using the manuscripts, squeezes and photos of Roesch that were deposited in

the Maison de l'Orient de Lyon, Université Lumière Lyon II. **Albert Schachter** is now pleased to report to ASGLE that all eight fascicules of *Les Inscriptions de Thespies* are finished and he has made them available to be downloaded from the ASGLE web site: <http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/asgle/corpora.html>.

Albert Schachter also informs us that those interested in Boiotika can download current and back issues of *Teiresias* (to 1991) from the National Library of Canada's website: <http://collection.nlcnc.ca/100/201/300/teiresias/index.html>. Those who wish to receive new issues (free) via email can write Albert Schachter at jaschachter@btinternet.com.

William C. West traveled to Azoria, Crete last summer to study the 12 graffiti from the site, which he is publishing. All are dated late 6th/early 5th century BC, from the archaic phase of the settlement. He will present a paper on them at the Chicago meeting (see page 1, column 2 of this *Newsletter*). He also presented a paper in September at the 13th International Conference on Greek and Latin Epigraphy in Oxford, England, entitled "Virtues of Moderation in Athenian Honorary Decrees."

Elias Kapetanopoulos traveled again this last July-August to Athens and Upper/Dytike Makedonia, with a visit to the Aiane museum, which has opened two new exhibition rooms of pottery, etc. He notes that one of the items exhibited is a remarkable miniature foil, with gold and silver at its edges, depicting in relief Polyphemos, Odysseus and the ram. At the Epigraphical Museum in Athens he also looked at IG II² 329 with a view to offering a reinterpretation.

Donald Laing and **Paul Iversen** spent three weeks this past June in Ancient Corinth conducting autopsies of forty-two unpublished or partially published fragments of Greek and Latin inscriptions that were unearthed by H.S. Robinson on Corinth's Temple Hill in the 1970s. Some of the fragments are to be associated or join with previous published pieces. They are pleased to report great progress on preparing their *editiones principes*.

Emily Mackil, Director of the **Sara B. Aleshire Center for the Study of Greek Epigraphy at Berkeley**, informs us that the Advisory Committee of the Center has seen major changes and now consists of **Ronald Hendel**, Professor,

Near Eastern Studies; **Emily Mackil**, Assistant Professor, History; **Donald Mastronarde**, Professor, Classics; **Nikolaos Papazarkadas**, Assistant Professor, Classics; **Ronald Stroud**, Professor Emeritus, Classics; **John Lanier**, Graduate Student, Ancient History and Mediterranean Archaeology. The Center is also updating its website: <http://ls.berkeley.edu/dept/ahma/Aleshire>.

All inquiries, etc., should be sent to Emily Mackil / Director, Aleshire Center for the Study of Greek Epigraphy / Assistant Professor / Department of History / University of California, Berkeley / 3229 Dwinelle Hall # 2550 / Berkeley, CA 94720-2550 / (510) 642-2567.

X-RAY FLUORESCENCE PROJECT AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY

by **Nora Dimitrova**

In a forth-coming paper entitled "X-RAY FLUORESCENCE IMAGING ANALYSIS OF INSCRIPTION PROVENANCE," a team of Cornell physicists and Classicists (J. POWERS, R. E. THORNE, K. CLINTON, N. DIMITROVA, M. PEACHIN, and D.-M. SMILGIES) presents the results of the examination of an inscription from New York University (NY.NY.NYU.L20 = Fig. 1) with X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and XRF imaging. The NYU inscription appears to be identical with a fragment of consular *fasti* from Teanum Sidicinum (modern Teano) in central Italy (Fig. 2).

No analysis beyond comparison of photographs had been performed on these inscriptions prior to our investigations. The shapes of the stones are the same, and both have a crack running from the bottom right edge upwards and to the left. The lettering on the two inscriptions appears identical. The surfaces of the two stones are, however, noticeably different. The NYU inscription has many small, round, raised formations on its surface. It has a chip along its top edge, and its surface has been darkened in a large area in the lower right. None of these features are seen in the photograph of the Teano inscription. The surface of the Teano inscription appears to be much smoother overall, but there is pitting on its right side that is not seen in the NYU inscription. These differences suggest that the inscriptions have had different histories, are made from different materials, and/or were prepared using different methods.

While it was not unusual for more than one copy of the same document to be inscribed on different stones, it is extremely unlikely that both copies were broken up in the passage of time to yield identically shaped and cracked fragments with identical text. The crack in the Teano inscription appears to be real, tapering to a hairline, whereas the crack in the NYU inscription ends abruptly.

Fluorescence spectra show that the NYU inscription has many of the same elements seen in other Greek and Latin inscriptions, but the fluorescence of calcium is

much weaker and that of many other elements is much stronger. The low calcium fluorescence cannot be accounted for by absorption by visible elements, so it is unlikely that the stone is limestone or marble. These results indicate with a great degree of probability that the NYU inscription is a modern copy of the original *fasti* from Teano.

APPEAL FOR INSCRIPTIONS

The Cornell X-Ray fluorescence project has an urgent need for additional stones, preferably inscriptions located in North American collections. The most suitable stones are ones with naturally abraded surfaces, but not with intentional erasures. We would greatly appreciate any information and help regarding sources of suitable stones. We will cover the cost of transportation and make sure that the stones are not damaged in any way. Send in information to **Kevin Clinton**, kmc1@cornell.edu and **Nora Dimitrova**, nmd5@cornell.edu.

Fig. 1: Inscription from New York University (NY.NY.NYU.L20)

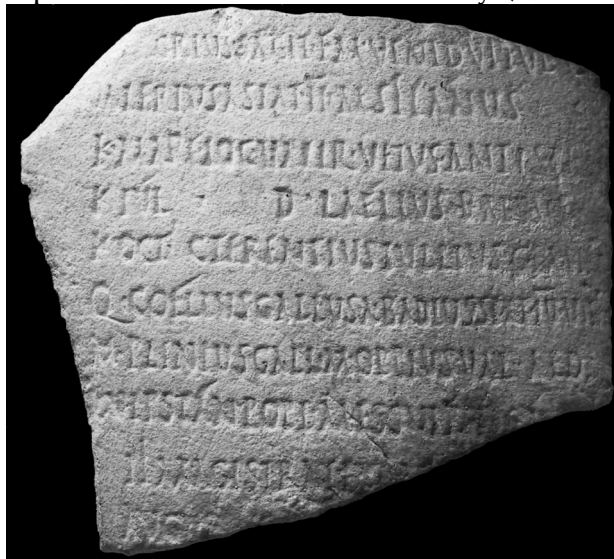


Fig. 2: Fragment of consular *fasti* from Teanum Sidicinum (modern Teano)



**TERRA SIGILLATA FRAGMENT WITH MAKER'S STAMP
FROM VESCOVADO DI MURLO**

by
Anthony Tuck & Rex E. Wallace
University of Massachusetts Amherst

1. Introduction

The maker's stamp presented here (see Fig. 3 below) was impressed on a fragment of a plate of Arretine *terra sigillata* recovered during the 2006 Colombaio excavation season at Vescovado di Murlo, Italy.¹ The surviving portion of the ceramic — a small section of the rim (length 4.2 cm, width 2.9 cm, thickness 1 cm) — was pieced together from four fragments.² The fragments were recovered in a layer of soil above the floor surface of a Late Classical/Early Hellenistic Etruscan domestic/industrial area.³ They were found alongside other fragments of ceramic ranging in date from the archaic period down through the early medieval period.⁴ As a result, the date of the deposition and/or destruction of the piece cannot be calculated from the context. However, since the production of Arretine tableware in Italy dates from ca. 30 B.C.E. to ca. 30 C.E., the section of plate recovered here can be placed within this chronological window.⁵

The bottom side of the plate is, apart from the red slip, undecorated; the top side is decorated with two curved, double incised bands, each 0.2 cm in width and spaced 0.7 cm apart. Between these two bands is a row of stamped diagonal lines. The pottery stamp is located adjacent the decoration. It measures 0.6 cm (height) x 1.35 cm (width).

2. The stamp

The stamp is rectangular in shape. Two lines of text are framed by two symbols that have the form of a ladder with four crossbars. The stamp was damaged when the plate was broken. The left edge of the impression is missing, except for the bottom of the flanking symbol. The upper portion of the left side is also damaged. One letter in the upper register is missing, as are the top portions of three other letters. A break in the ceramic virtually splits the stamp in half. This has also resulted in damage to letters. A second break, which is much cleaner, slices through the right edge of the stamp, splitting diagonally the symbol that frames that side of the text but causing minimal damage to the stamp.

The letterforms are minuscule, though finely made. Maximum height of *rho* at the end of the top register is slightly over 0.2 cm; maximum width is also just over 0.2 cm. Maximum height of the *alpha* that begins the lower register is 0.2 cm; maximum width is 0.2 cm. Spacing between the two lines is just under 0.1 cm.

The text of the top register is **HI [-]AR**. Virtually all of the letter *heta* is visible, even though its raised surface is abraded. Approximately half of the bottom portion of the vertical stroke of *iota* is visible. The upper half has been lost. At the break, there is space for a single letter. A triangular section of the top of the *alpha* has been broken off; the bottom of the left bar was damaged by a pit in the ceramic. The bottom register reads **A • SE ST**. Of *epsilon* one can see the bottom portion of the vertical bar and a very

slender section of the lower-most horizontal bar. Chips in the fabric mar the bottom of the second *sigma* and the vertical bar of the *tau*.

The text of the stamp, after expanding the abbreviations, is **HI[L]AR(I) | A(VLI) • SE ST(I)**. The missing letter is *lambda*, which is easily restored because the name *Hilarus* appears in other stamps on Arretine tableware produced by the firm of *Aulus Sestius*. In fact, a stamp impressed on a piece of tableware recovered at Haltern (Germany) appears to be identical to the stamp presented here.⁶

The expansion of the abbreviations gives the onomastic phrase a structure that is widely attested in stamps on Arretine pottery.⁷ The interpretation of the text is: '(the work *vel sim.*) of *Hilarus*, (servant) of *Aulus Sestius*'. This interpretation is confirmed by a stamp on another piece of tableware, also from Haltern: **HILAR(I) • | A(VLI) • SES(TI) • | SER(VI) •**.⁸

3. Final observations

Arretine tableware stamped with the name of the workman *Hilarus* (servant of *Aulus Sestius*) has been found elsewhere in Italy at Siena, Chiusi, Rome, and Reggio, and outside Italy at various sites in Gaul (Avignon, Narbonne) and Germany (Mainz, Haltern).⁹ The names of other members of the firm of *Sestius*, e.g., *Acutus*, *Epaphra*, *Faustus*, *Philologenes*, and *Priamus*, were stamped on Arretine tableware with a similarly wide geographical distribution. Based on the wide-ranging find-spots of the tableware produced by the associates of *Sestius*, it does not seem possible to determine the location of the workshop even though Arretium, one of the principal production centers of red-glazed ceramic, is a likely candidate.

Little is known of the settlement of Vescovado di Murlo during the Roman Republican and Early Imperial periods. Slightly later Roman era occupation in the broader region is known from a modest villa datable from the mid-1st through the 5th century C.E., excavated outside the town of La Befana,¹⁰ approximately 8 km from Vescovado di Murlo, and from sporadic material of roughly the same date collected by archaeological survey throughout the area.¹¹ For Vescovado di Murlo itself, no architectural remains dateable to this period have yet been found. However, the presence of Arretine pottery such as this fragment and others recovered during the 2006 Colombaio excavation at least reflects local access to markets distributing such materials and may suggest that Vescovado di Murlo served as a small regional center of occupation during this otherwise obscure period in the region's history.

Endnotes

1. The excavation at Vescovado di Murlo is under the direction of Anthony Tuck, Department of Classics, the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The village of Vescovado di Murlo is located approximately 25 km south of Siena.

2. More information about this artifact is available on the Poggio Civitate Archive database (poggiocivitate.classics.umass.edu/index.htm). Search the archive for artifact no. VdM20060171.

3. Tuck *et al.* 2007: 4-5 (Vescovado Trench 4 and 6).

4. Tuck *et al.* 2007: 5.

5. For discussion of the chronology of red-glazed tableware see Pryce 1942: 14-18.
6. The stamp is Oxé 1968: 430, no. 1812, f p. r.
7. For problems with the interpretation of names on makers' stamps see Fülle 1997: 119-121.
8. The stamp is Oxé 1968: 429, no. 1812, (g).
9. See Oxé 1968: 429-430.
10. The results of the excavation are in Dobbins 1983.
11. See Campana 2001.

References

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- Dobbins, John. 1983. *The excavation of the Roman Villa at La Befra, Italy*. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports.
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- Oxé, August. 1968. *Corpus vasorum Arretinorum: A catalogue of the signatures, shapes and chronology of Italian Sigillata* (edited by Howard Comfort). Bonn: Habelt.
- Pryce, T. Davies. 1942. "Roman Decorated Red-Glazed Ware of the Late First Century B.C. and the Early First Century A.D." *The Journal of Roman Studies* 32: 14-26.
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Fig. 3. Fragment of Arretine plate with maker's stamp (VdM 20060171).



MEMBERSHIP ENROLLMENT OR RENEWAL

You may pay ASGLE dues online with a credit card via PayPal in many different currencies ([http:// www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/asgle/membership.html](http://www.case.edu/artsci/clsc/asgle/membership.html)) or in US Dollars by regular mail with a cheque. For those who use the PayPal option, if you enroll as College or University Faculty you will be charged a modest fee of \$1.21; if you enroll as Student/Retired/Independent, you will be charged .71¢. Only those who enroll at the College or University Faculty level will also be automatically enrolled in the Association Internationale pour l'Epigraphie Grecque et Latine (AIEGL). *If paying with cheque, please send only US funds, make all cheques payable to ASGLE, and send to Paul Iversen at the address given below. You may wish to make a copy of the completed form for your records.* Choose one of the following:

_____ College or University faculty. Annual dues \$30. Membership in the International Association of Greek and Latin Epigraphy is automatic.

_____ Student, retired, independent. Annual dues \$10. Does NOT include membership in the International Association of Greek and Latin Epigraphy.

_____ Student, retired, independent. Annual dues \$30. Membership in the International Association of Greek and Latin Epigraphy is included.

NOTE: You may pay dues for more than one year at a time. If you wish to pay for more than one year, please indicate here the number of years (not more than five) you are paying for:

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