

Dedication to Asklepios and Hygieia for restorations in the precinct

ELA id: 346

IG 2[2] 3174, SEG 39, 212 (Follet)

Inv. number	EM 9559 + EM 4304 + EM 3992
PHI	5439 https://epigraphy.packhum.org/text/5439?&bookid=5&location=729457 7 https://epigraphy.packhum.org/text/294577
Translations	
Images	http://aleshire.berkeley.edu/inscriptions/2637 http://aleshire.berkeley.edu/holdings/photos/21057

Description

Date	51/0 BCE Period: 1st century BCE --> middle ✓ disputed Reasons: archon, prosopography Notes: Graindor, RA 6, 1917, 6-7, ascribed the text to 12/1 BCE observing a close similarity of the letters with those of a text of 14/3 BCE, suggesting that the broken name of the archon mentioned in l. 1 (ἐν τῷ ἐπὶ Λ....δου ἄρχοντος ἐνιαυτ[ῶι]) should be restored with Leonidas, archon of that year. Later Follet proposed to ascribe the inscription to the restoration works undertaken by Diokles "the younger" from Kephissia, who served as priest of Asklepios and Hygieia in 51/0 BCE (Lysiades' archonship); see IG 2[2] 1046 = ELA id: 222. She thus restored l. 1 as follows: [Διοκλῆς Διοκλέου]ς Κηφισιεὺς ἱερεὺς γενόμενος ἐν τῷ ἐπὶ Λ[υσιά]δου ἄρχοντος ἐνιαυτ[ῶι]. In spite of this, some recent works still attribute the text to 12/1 BCE (e.g. Melfi 2007 422 no. 146; Ma, Tekmeria 9, 2008, 14 fn. 25), so that the issue is still unsolved. The formula restored by Follet, although plausible, lacks the definition of Diokles as νεώτερος, as he is remembered four times in IG 2[2] 1046 (ll. 11, 20, 24, 28). On Diokles "the younger" and his family see Aleshire 1989 214 and fn. 1; Aleshire 1991 105-106 no. 4032; SEG 57, 114
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Text category building inscription, dedication

Notes:

The inscription bears a dedication to Asklepios and Hygieia by a priest of the two healing gods coming from Kephissia. It regards some restorations undertaken by the dedicator on a building in the precinct ([- - τὸν π]ροσκεῖμενον οἶκον) and an exedra. It is the first attestation of an exedra in the Asklepieion of Athens, perhaps to be associated to a dining hall or room with couches (see Ma, Tekmeria 9, 2008, 13-14).

It is likely that the repairs here mentioned should be attributed to Diokles "the younger" or to a member of his family and that the text should be associated, at least chronologically, to IG 2[2] 1046. Nevertheless, as cleverly remarked by Melfi 2007 361, the text seems to deal with facilities of the precinct different from those mentioned in IG 2[2] 1046, that is the entrance doors to the temple, the roof behind a propylon of the precinct and the cella of the shrine of Asklepios and Hygieia. The adjoined "oikos" and the exedra, both still unattested archaeologically, were most probably restored by Diokles in addition to the specific repairs of IG 2[2] 1046 and our text may thus reveal an even more ambitious and large program of restorations undertaken by him on the Asklepieion in the middle of the I cent BCE. Contra, Follet (as quoted in SEG 39, 212) and Aleshire 1991 106 identified the "oikos" with the elements of the propylon mentioned in IG 2[2] 1046, especially with the roofed rear hall of the propylon; see also REG (BE) 1991, 69.

Monument description **Monument type:** epistyle

Material: marble

Original dimensions: h: 0.155 * w: ca. 1.62 * t: 0.15-0.16 - (reconstruction)

✓ ornamentation

Letters Height Mt: 0.03

Notes:

The fragments were part of an epistyle block. The bottom surface is decorated with a pearls and ovolos moulding for the reuse of the stone in an Early Byzantine basilica. Photos in Follet, as quoted in SEG 39, 212, pl. 6, figs. 1 and 4

Physical features **Frg. a**

Measurements: h: 0.155 * w: 0.56 * t: 0.15

State of conservation: Top and bottom preserved

Legibility: Very good. Left portion of two lines of text

Reuse: Reused as building material

Signs of reuse: Late moulding (bottom surface)

Notes:

Photo in RA 6, 1917, 6, fig. 5a (squeeze); Follet, as quoted in SEG 39, 212, pl. 6 fig. 2, pl. 7

Frg. b

Measurements: h: 0.155 * w: 0.48 * t: 0.06

State of conservation: Top, bottom and back preserved

Legibility: Good. Middle portion of two lines of text

Reuse: Reused as building material

Signs of reuse: Late moulding (bottom surface)

Notes:

Photo in RA 6, 1917, 7, fig. 5b (squeeze); Follet, as quoted in SEG 39, 212, pl. 6, figs. 2-3

Frg. c

Measurements: h: 0.155 * w: 0.54 * t: 0.16

State of conservation: Top and bottom preserved

Legibility: Good. Right portion of two lines of text

Reuse: Reused as building material

Signs of reuse: Late moulding (bottom surface)

Notes:

Photo in RA 6, 1917, 7 fig. 5c (squeeze); Follet, as quoted in SEG 39, 212, fig. 3

Findspot

Frg. a

Acropolis --> South slopes --> Sanctuary of Aphrodite Pandemos (area of/by the)

Details:

Found south of the Propylaia in the site once occupied by a temple of Demeter. Such temple, dedicated to Demeter Chloe, most probably stood on the same terrace of the attested sanctuary of Aphrodite Pandemos, just beneath the temple of Athena Nike. After the discovery Frg. a was stored in the Pinacotheca; see APMA 5 no. 1346. Follet, as quoted in SEG 39, 212, suspects that Frg. a was actually found in the area of the Asklepieion and not by the sanctuary of Demeter mentioned by Pittakis.

Date of discovery: 1834

Circumstances: archeological excavation

First edition:

Pittakis, AEph 1853, 1004 no. 1804 = IG 2 396

Notes:

On the sanctuary of Demeter Chloe see Paus. I, 22, 3; Topografia di Atene, 1 190.

Frg. b

✓ unknown

Date of discovery:

Original location

Acropolis --> South slopes --> Sanctuary of Asklepios (area of/by the)
--> Sanctuary of Asklepios (precinct of)

Details:

The inscription arises more problems on the already complicated topography of the Asklepieion in the mid I cent. BCE. Nevertheless, its original location cannot be precisely identified, seeing that reuses and

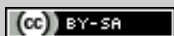
other circumstances brought the three fragments away, sometimes even faraway, from the site of the precinct. It may be surmised that the inscribed epistyle decorated one of the two facilities repaired inside the precinct by the dedicator.

Internal references to Athenian places and monuments:

Adjoined "oikos" inside the precinct of Asklepios (l. 2);
Exedra inside the precinct of Asklepios (l. 2)

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