Attic Inscriptions: Education (AIE) Resources

Slides for Scottish Qualifications Authority
Higher Classical Studies

Ancient Athenian Inscriptions at the National Gallery of Scotland. <u>AIUK 10</u> (National Galleries of Scotland)

Funerary monument for Aristomache, fourth century BC (right)

Detail of inscription (below)







Funerary monument for Klaudia Aphphein of Melite, Roman period (left)

Detail of inscription (below)



Attic inscriptions at **Broomhall**, Fife



AIUK 8

AIUK vol. 8 (2019): Broomhall - Peter Liddel and Polly Low

It is well-known that the majority of the "Elgin marbles" were transferred from the possession of the 7th Earl of Elgin to the British Museum in 1816 by an Act of Parliament. However, a relatively small number of antiquities remain in the ownership of the Elgin family. AIUK 8 publishes the five Attic inscriptions currently held in the collection of the 11th Earl of Elgin at Broomhall in Scotland (Fife). They were acquired by the 7th Earl probably during the second decade of the nineteenth century. All five are funerary monuments: 1 is a spectacular example of a painted classical funerary monument; 2 and 3 are excellent examples of classical funerary stelai. 4 is a funerary monument for an adherent of the Isis cult in Athens. 5 is a rare example of an Athenian sarcophagus bearing an inscription. In this publication we offer new readings and interpretations of these monuments, which illustrate different ways that funerary monuments might be re-used in antiquity.

View paper

Question Paper: Classical Society

Section 1. Life in Classical Greece

Part A: Power and Freedom

Athenian Citizenship

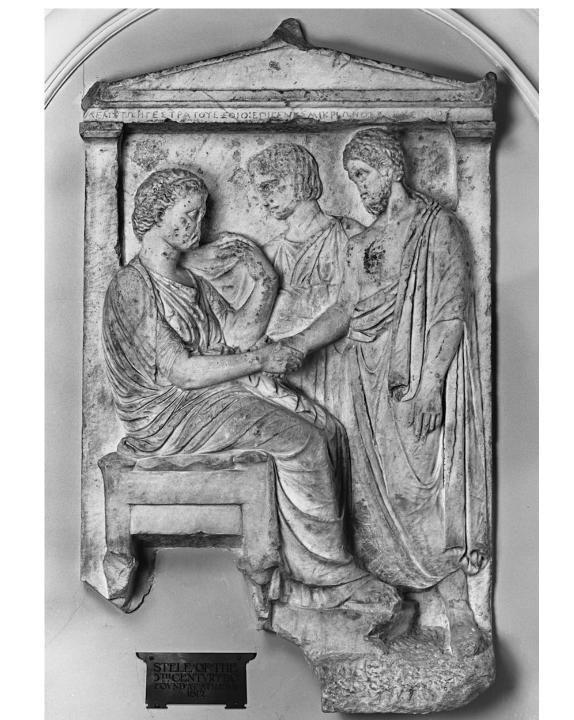
Qualification for citizenship: two citizen parents

Funerary stele for Melisto and Epigenes, c. 350BC

AIUK 5 (Lyme Park) no. 2, c. 350 BC

An inscription above the sculpture reads as follows:

"Melisto daughter of Hegestratos of Oion. Epigenes son of Mikrion of Eleusis."



Benefits of Citizenship: Inheritance and Legitimacy

Mount Stewart Stele, ca. 400-350 BC

AIUK 13 (Mount Stewart, County Down), no. 1

"-sios. Kleno. Phaino. Neophron. Onomantos".



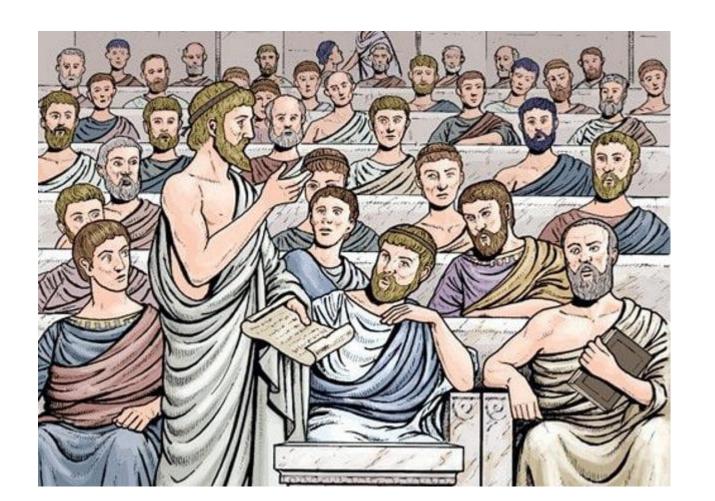
Benefits of Citizenship: Political Participation

- Each male Athenian citizen was entitled to a name tag (pinakion) of his own.
- It had three things written on it: his personal name, the name of his village and a Greek letter
- This example is now at the Manchester Museum



Lotteries in Ancient Greece

 Ancient Greeks used lotteries to elect their office-holders and decide who would be jurors in the law courts.



The Greeks thought this was a fair way of selecting people to be politicians.

Some Greeks considered it to be democratic.

But they were always adult men and never women or slaves or children.

Do you think it is a good way of choosing politicians?

They selected a few offices (generals, financial offices) by election (raised hands)

Ancient Greek Lottery Machines

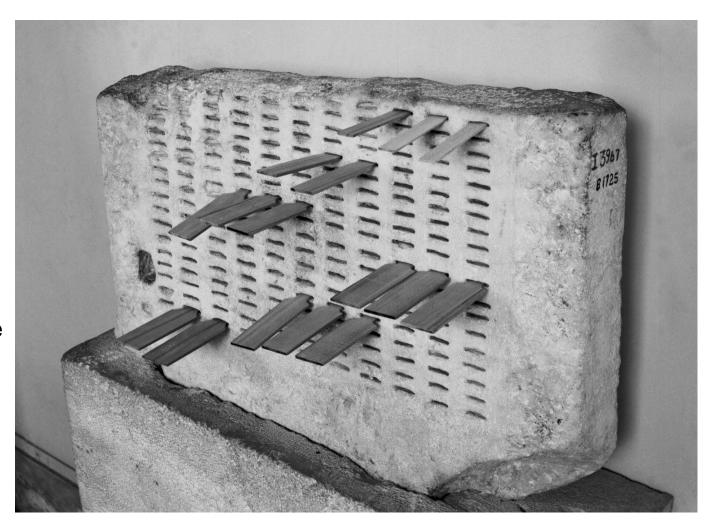
Each column of slots had a Greek letter at the top of it.





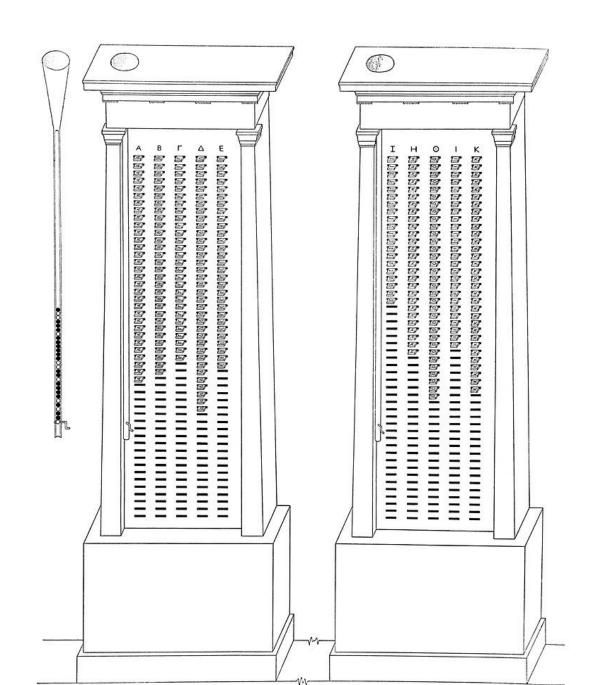
Volunteering

- When an Athenian wanted to volunteer he would bring his name-tag to the city centre.
- He would place it into one of the slots in the front of the lottery machine
- He would place it in the slot that had the letter which matched the one on his name-tag.



Working the Machine

- Once the name tags had been placed in the slots, black and white balls were put into the machine using a tube
- The balls dropped out one-by-one and decided who would serve
- A white ball meant that a row of volunteers was selected for service
- A black ball meant that that they were not selected

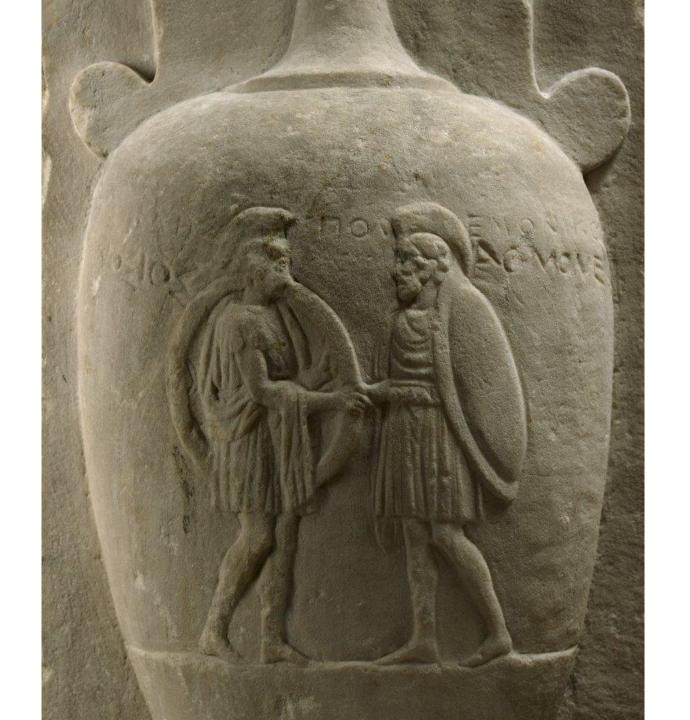


Responsibilities of Citizens: Fighting

Men commemorated on a funerary monument in hoplite dress:

Archiades and Polemonikos from Athens.

British Museum 1886,1008.1



Other examples from the British
Museum shows us again how the shield
was held the left forearm passes
through a strap and the left hand holds a
handle at the internal edge of the shield.





On this monument a boy on the left seems to be carrying the shield.



Stone plaque with moulded shield with list of cadets' names

AIUK 4.3B (British Museum. Ephebic Monuments) no. 5



Casualty List of citizens organised by tribe: 424/3 BC

British Museum 1816,0610.173

Col. I [Th]ras[y . . .]o[s] - --philos(?) Aristonymos Ai[schi]nes Sm[ikytho]s Of (the tribe) Oi[neis]

Lysippos Kalliphon Spoudias Pherekles Pausiades Philippides

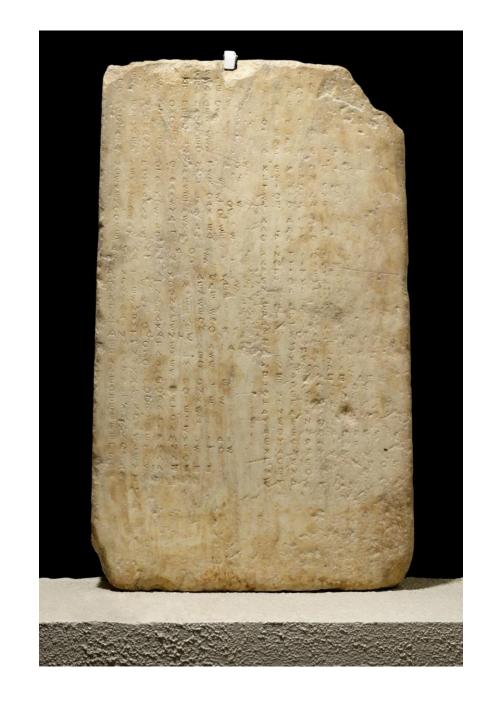
Of (the tribe) Kekropis

Lykomedes
Theodotos
Lykinos
Anaitios
Menekles
Phrynichos

10

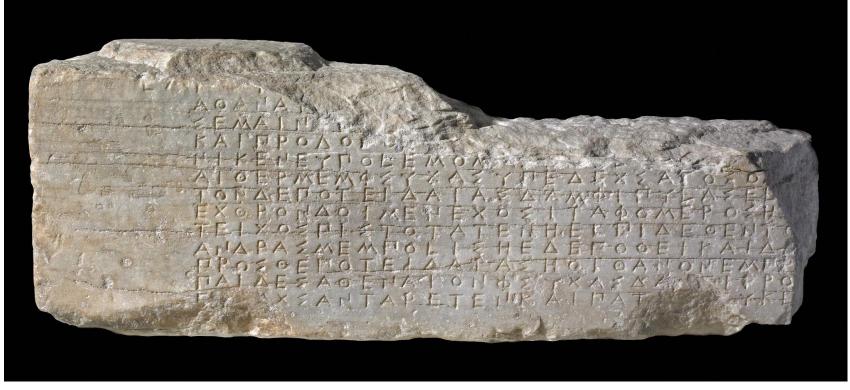
20 Of (the tribe) Hippothontis

Theotimos
Skyrokles
Charias
Euangelos
Nikostratos
Thrasymachos
Phanias
Kallikles
Exopiades



Poem for the Athenians who fell at the Battle of Potidaia in 432 BC

British Museum 1816,0610.348



At Pot[idaia the following Athenians died.]

Immortal - - -

to mark out excellence - - -

and by the strength of their forefathers - - -

a victory fine in war they got as their memorial when they perished.

Aither received their souls, and earth the bodies

of these men; and around the gates of Potidaia were they severed.

And of their foes, some have their share of a tomb, others fled and set their wall as the surest hope of life.

This city and [people of Erechtheus] longs for these men,

who before Potidaia died in the front ranks,

sons of the Athenians; but casting their lives into the scales,

they drew the lot of excellence (arete) and brought glory (eukleia) to their homeland (patris).

Marble tombstone (stele) for Aristokles with a horseman and attendant

British Museum 1816,0610.384



Dedication from a horse-rider.

AIUK 9 (Brocklesby Park) no. 1



Metics



Bilingual marble tombstone, ca. 340 BC. British Museum 1861,0726.1 (above and right)

Greek: Artemidoros

(son) of Heliodoros of Sidon.

Phoenician: A stele to the memory among

the living of Abd -Tanith, son of Abd-

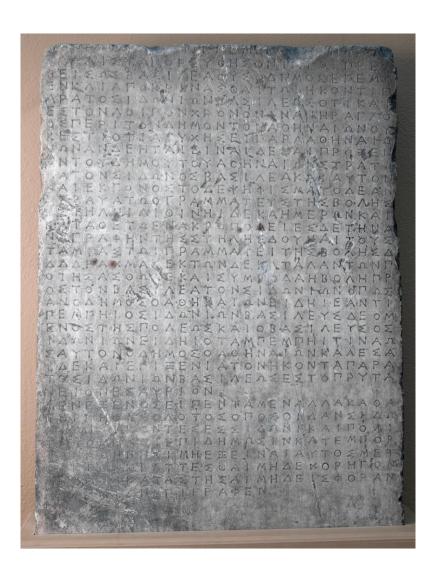
Shemesh, the Sidonian.



Athenian Proxeny Decree for Strato of Sidon

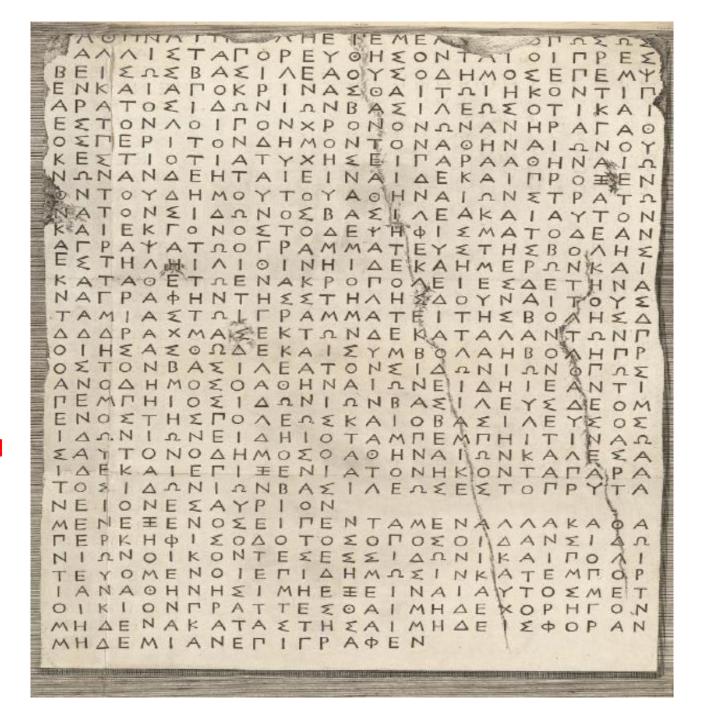
AIUK 11 (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford) no. 1





... Straton the king of Sidon shall be a proxenos of the People of Athens, both himself and his descendants. Let the secretary of the Council inscribe this decree on a stone stele within ten days and set it down on the Acropolis...

but for any Sidonians residing in Sidon and enjoying citizen status who visit Athens for purposes of trade, it shall not be permitted to exact the metic tax from them, nor to appoint any as theatrical sponsor, nor to register them for any capital tax.



Fragment of the honorific decree for Euagoras, the King of Salamis on Cyprus, 394/3 BC

AIUK 4.2 (British Museum. Decrees) no. 7

It granted the King praise, a crown, and a statue.



Grave marker of the nurse Melitta, daughter of Apollodoros, an *isoteles*.

c. 330-320 BC. BM 1909,0221.1.

Here the earth below covers the worthy nurse of Hippostrate; who now longs for you. As long as I was alive I loved you, nurse, and now I still honour you, though you are below the earth, and I will honour you as long as I live. I know that even below the earth, if there is indeed a reward for the worthy ones, the first and foremost honours, nurse, shall be yours, next to Persephone and Pluto. (trans. Tsangalis)



Women in Classical Athens

(a) Marble tombstone (*stele*) of an unknown woman. British Museum 1894,0616.1

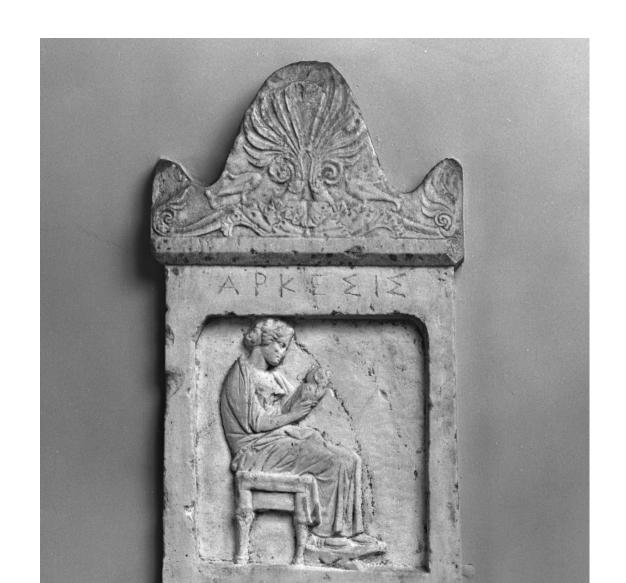
(b) Marble tombstone (stele) of Glykylla. British Museum 1893,0627.1





Funerary stele for Arkesis, 400-360 BC.

AIUK 5 (Lyme Park) no. 1





Tombstone (stele) of Timarete.

British Museum 1947,0714.1



Funerary marker (*stele*) for Choirine

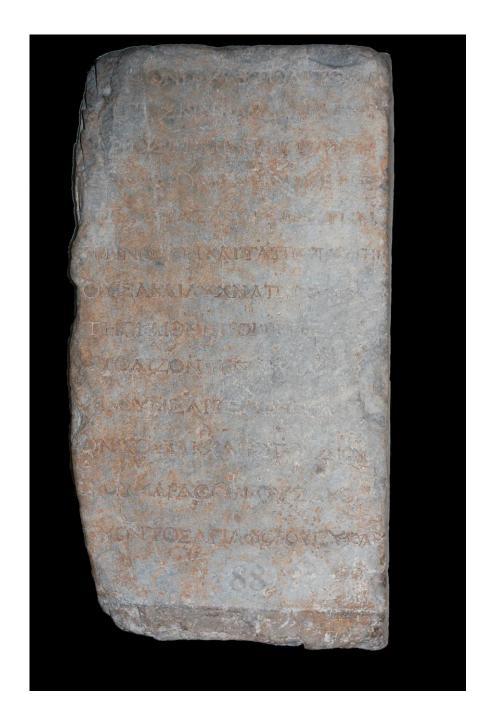
British Museum 2007,5001.1

Note that she holds a key in her right hand.



Dedication of a shrine to Aphrodite, ca. 127-30 AD. British Museum 1816,0610.165

"The columns and pediment and the latticed partitions and the (statue of) Aphrodeite to the Goddess she dedicated from her own resources repairing also the statue itself and the things surrounding it; she was her lamplighter and the dream-interpreter."



Honours for the girls who worked on the robe for Athena (108/7 BC).

AIUK 1 (Petworth House) no. 1 with video

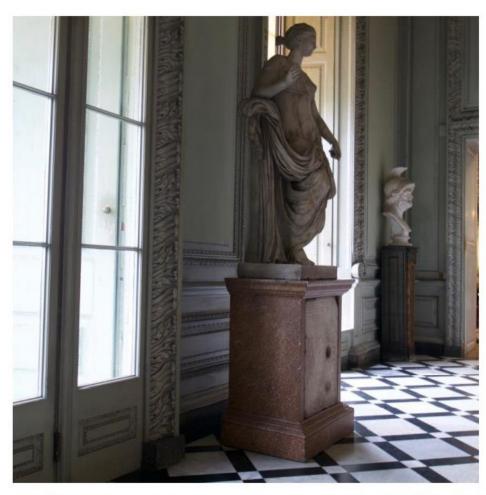


Figure 1. The inscription in its current location in Petworth's "Marble Hall"



Delian League/Athenian Empire

Fragment of the tribute list for 448/7 BC

Now at the British Museum (*IG* I³ 264). Fragment of the accounts of the *Hellenotamiai* (Treasurers of the Greeks) for the year 448/7 BC recording contributions by four communities to the Delian League. One of many fragments making up a pillar inscribed on all four sides; this fragment preserves lines 16-19 of column I (list 7). The names of the communities appear on other fragments.

[3]00 drachmai: [Chersonesioi]

16 drachmai 4 obols: [Pyrnioi]

[16 drachmai 4 obols]: [Neapolis]

200 drachmai : [Kyllantioi]



Kleinias' decree about tribute collection, 425/4 or later

Attic Inscriptions in <u>UK Collections 4.2</u> (<u>British Museum. Decrees</u>) no. 5 (fragment c)



Kleinias Decree (excerpts)

'.... The Council (Boule) and the People decided ... Kleinias proposed:

- the Council and the officials in the cities and the overseers shall manage that the tribute is collected each year and conveyed to Athens.
- Tokens shall be made for the cities, so that it shall not be possible for those conveying the tribute to do wrong.
- Let the city write on a writing tablet the tribute which it is sending, and seal it with the token and send it to Athens; and those conveying it shall hand over the writing tablet in the Council to be read when they hand over the tribute...
- Hold an Assembly after the Dionysia for the Greek Treasurers (Hellenotamiai) to reveal to the Athenians those of the cities which have paid the tribute in full and, separately, which have fallen short....
- The Athenians shall elect four men and send them to the cities, to give receipts for the tribute which has been paid and to demand what has not been paid...
- if any Athenian or ally does wrong [details of volunteer prosecution, trial at the council, punishment...]

Athenian decree about Erythrai. c. 454-50 BC

AIUK 4.2 (British Museum. Decrees) no. 2



Athenian Regulations for Hestiaia, 446 BC or later?

AIUK 4.2 (<u>British Museum. Decrees</u>) no. 3



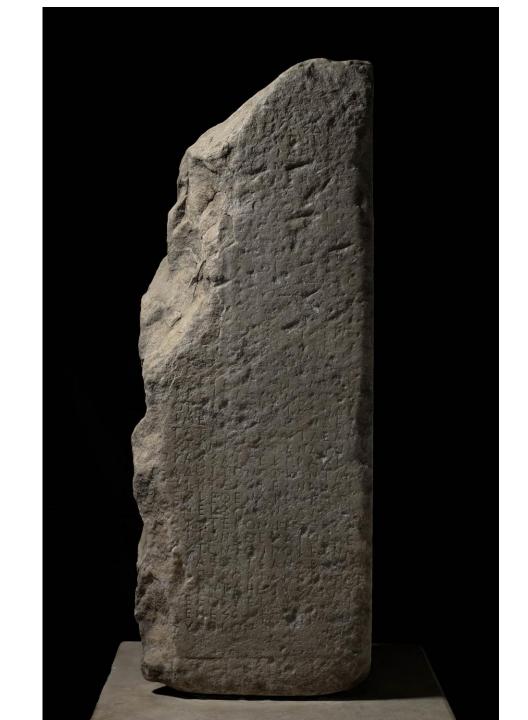
Question Paper: Classical Society

Section 1. Life in Classical Greece

Part B: Greek Religion

Regulations concerning the Eleusinian Mysteries, 475-50 BC

AIUK (British Museum. Decrees) 4.2 no. 1



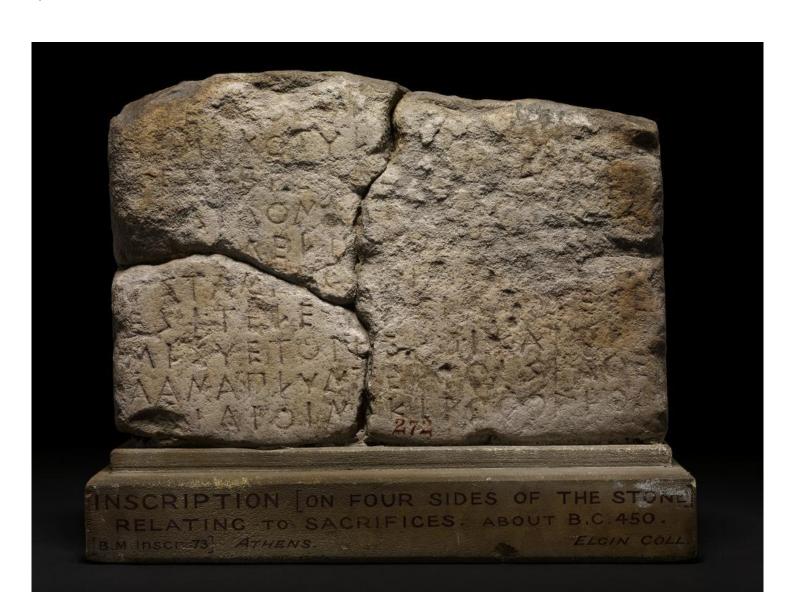
Sacrificial Calendar, ca. 470-450 BC.

AIUK. 4.1 (British Museum. Cult Provisions) no. 2

'... [the officials?] shall give to the priest ... [three?] half-cups of - , firewood. On the sixth of Thargelion, for the heroines [of - ?] a full-grown animal; ... half as much for the hero, and firewood (?). At the *Plynteria* for Athena a sheep. In Skirophorion....

For Hermes two *choinikes* of wheat, three spits. For the two heroes in the plain, a full-grown animal for each.'

For translation of other parts of this document, see *Attic Inscriptions in UK Collections* 4.1 (Cult Provisions) no. 2



Ordinances of the deme Skambonidai, 475-50 BC.

AIUK 4.1 (British Museum. Cult Provisions) no 3

.

Distribute the meat until sunset; but if they do not. . . audit-. [sell] in the agora; rent out *or* contract for. . . these. . . except for . . . this (?); the skin is to belong to the demarch . . . whatever sort of sacrifice is needed to be appropriate, offer *or* to offer at the *Dipolieia* and the *Panathenaia*, and distribute in the agora of Skambonidai...



Athena depicted at the head of decrees.

AIUK 3 (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge) no. 2 and AIUK 4.2 (British Museum. Decrees) no. 10. Both 350-25 BC





Athena depicted at the head of decrees.

AIUK 3 (Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge) no. 2 and AIUK 4.2 (British Museum. Decrees) no. 10. Both 350-25 BC

Athe - na Me[ne]laos





Honours for the girls who worked on the robe for Athena (108/7 BC).

AIUK 1 (Petworth House) no. 1

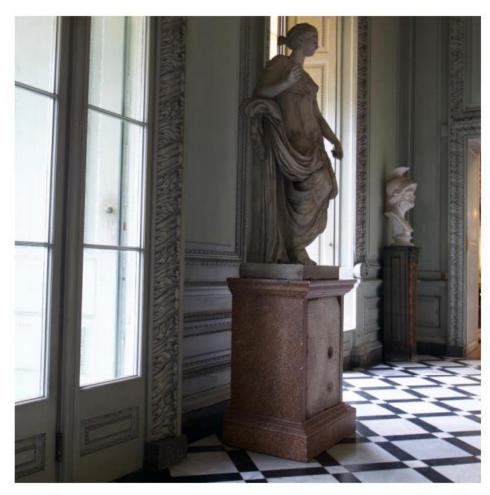
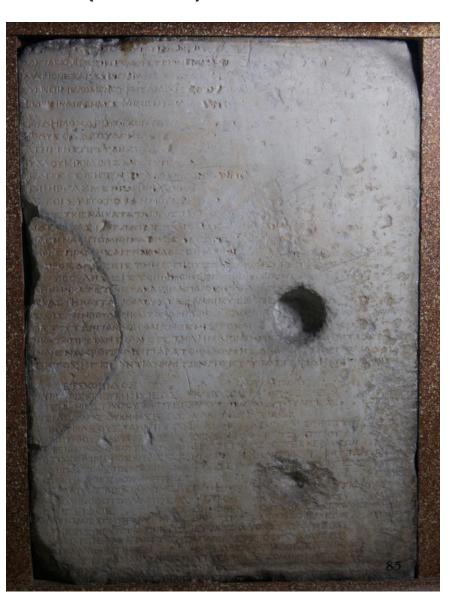
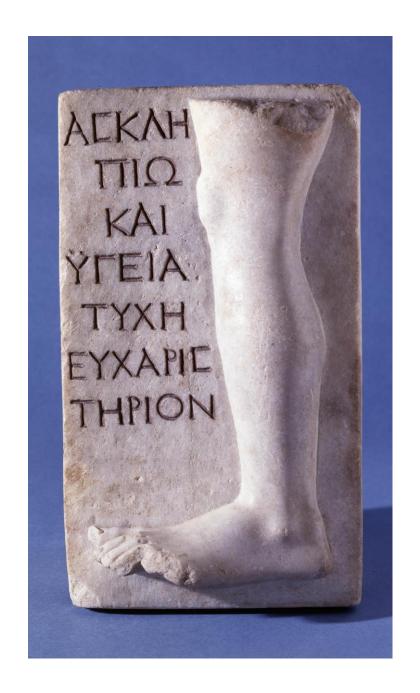


Figure 1. The inscription in its current location in Petworth's "Marble Hall"



British Museum <u>1867,0508.117</u>

Roman-era dedication in the form of a thank-offering to Asklepieios and Hygieia probably from Melos bearing the inscription: "Tyche [dedicated this] to Asklepios and Hygieia as a thank offering".



Anatomical dedications from the Pnyx Hill in Athens (now at the British Museum)



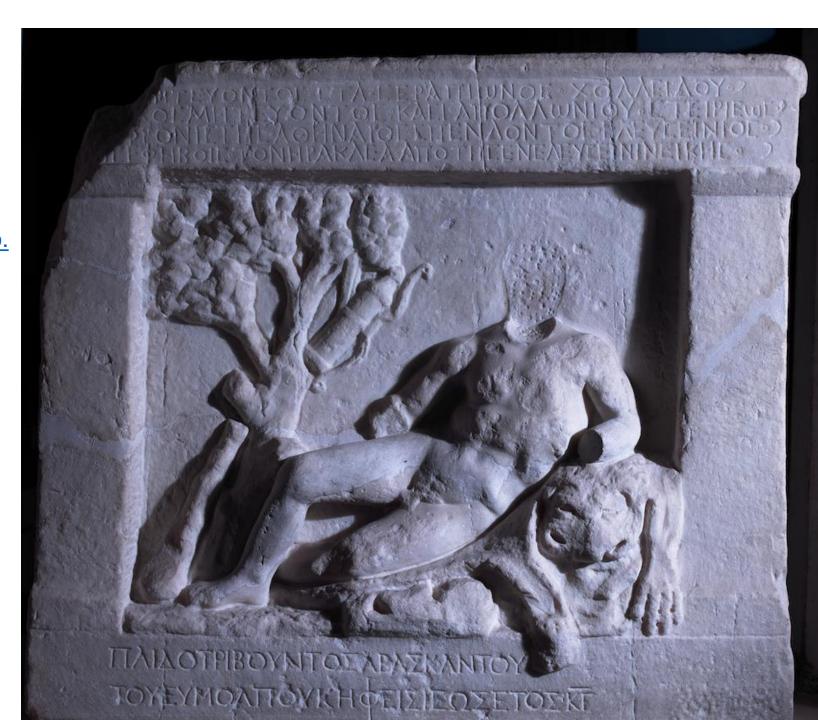


Above: "Philematin set up this vow"



Herakles depicted on a plaque of 158/9 AD commemorating a victory of ephebes (cadets) at Eleusis

AIUK 11 (Ashmolean Museum, Oxford) no. 7.



Dedication to Pan and the Nymphs, 350-330 BC

AIUK 9 (Brocklesby Park) Appendix



The whereabouts of this inscription are currently unknown so we rely upon an eighteenth-century drawing for our knowledge of it.

"... son of -(i?)ppos of Phlya, dedicated (this)"