#articleTitle

A Property Declaration from Theadelphia

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#acknowledgement

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This fragment contains a property declaration submitted by a tenant of the estate of Claudia Antonia, daughter of the emperor Claudius. The terminus ante quem is her father’s death in 54 CE (see ll. 6–7 n.), which, combined with the formula in l. 8, suggests that the document belongs to the group of declarations submitted in 53–54, the first of their kind in Roman Egypt. These declarations were prompted by the prefect L. Lusius Geta,[[1]](#footnote-1) who ordered a province-wide census of property holdings.[[2]](#footnote-2) This initiative would be followed up about 15 years later by the creation of a separate archive of real property (the bibliotheke enkteseon) in each nome, which thereafter would handle such declarations.[[3]](#footnote-3)

With two recent additions from the Oxyrhynchite nome ([P.Harr. 3 246](https://www.trismegistos.org/text/998575) and [247](https://www.trismegistos.org/text/998576)), the present document is now the ninth declaration connected with this first general survey of property holdings in the province.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [P.Mich. 9 539](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B539) | Arsinoites | 23 June, 53 |
| [P.Oxy. 47 3332](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.oxy%3B47%3B3332) | Arsinoites | 24 June, 53 |
| [P.Mich. 9 540](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B540) | Arsinoites | 53–54 |
| P.Princ. inv. GD 7650A | Arsinoites | 53–54 |
| [SB 20 14392, col. 1](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/sb%3B20%3B14392coli) | Memphites | before 15 July, 53 |
| [SB 20 14392, col. 2](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/sb%3B20%3B14392colii) | Memphites | 15 July, 53 |
| [PSI 15 1521](https://www.trismegistos.org/text/112652) | Oxyrhynchites | 31 Jan. (?), 54 |
| [P.Harr. 3 246](https://www.trismegistos.org/text/998575) | Oxyrhynchites | 53–54 |
| [P.Harr. 3 247](https://www.trismegistos.org/text/998576) | Oxyrhynchites | 53–54 |

#editionDDB

#metadata

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Located: Place | Theadelphia |
| TM number | 566211 |
| HGV number | 566211 |
| ddb-filename | pylon.6.7 |
| ddb-hybrid | Pylon;6;7 |
| Descriptive title | A property declaration from Theadelphia |
| Date of text | 53–54 CE |
| Inventory no. | P.Princ. inv. GD 7650 A |
| Material | Papyrus |
| Images: online | https://dpul.princeton.edu/papyri/catalog/zk51vn23j |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| [P.Princ. inv. GD 7650 A](https://dpul.princeton.edu/papyri/catalog/zk51vn23j) | 8 (h) x 5 (w) cm | [Theadelphia](http://www.trismegistos.org/place/2349) |
| Acquired in 1924 |  | 53–54 CE |

The papyrus is broken at the top, right, and bottom. The left margin measures 1 cm. The back is blank.

#text

<S=.grc

<=

1. lost.?lin

1. βυβλιοθήκ[ης] [vac.? ]

2. παρὰ Τεῶτ[ος] [ca.5]

3. τοῦ Τ̣ε̣ῶ̣τ̣ο̣[ς τῶν ἀπὸ]

4. Θεαδελφείας [τῆς Θεμί]

5.- στου μερίδ[ος] [(οὐσιακ(οῦ))]

6. γεωργοῦ Ἀντ̣[ωνίας]

7. θυγατρὸς ọὐ̣σ̣[ίας.]

8. <:ὑπάρχει|reg|ὑπάρχι:> μοι ἐ̣[ν τῇ προκει]

9.- μένῃ κώμ[ῃ οἰκία καὶ]

10. <:αὐλὴ|reg|αὐλὴν:> ἐν̣ ᾗ [κατοικῶ]

11. [.2].3[.4].1[ca.7]

11. lost.?lin

=>

#translation

<T=.en<=

[To Thrakidas, gymnasiarch, keeper of the] archive [in the Arsinoite nome,] from Teos, [son of NN,] grandson of Teos, [one of those from] Theadelphia [of the] Themistos division, [estate] tenant on the estate of Antonia the daughter. There belongs to me in [the] aforementioned village [a house and] a courtyard, in which I dwell …

=>=T>

#commentary

1 βυβλιοθήκ[ης vac. ]. The preceding lines can be restored from [P.Mich. 9 539](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B539), [540](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B540), and [P.Oxy. 47 3332](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.oxy%3B47%3B3332) as follows: [Θρακίδαι γυμνασιάρχωι | βυβλιοφύλακι τῆς | ἐν τῶι Ἀρσινοείτηι] | βυβλιοθήκ[ης]. Nothing is expected after βυβλιοθήκ[ης, even though there is room for about four or five letters. Writers of hypomnemata often left space after the addressee’s title and began the next line with παρά ([Martin 2007](https://papyri.info/biblio/76037): 668).

The nome archive is called βυβλιοφυλάκιον in the Memphite and Oxyrhynchite declarations of this year.

2-3 Τεῶτ[ος τοῦ δεῖνος]| τοῦ Τ̣ε̣ῶ̣τ̣ο̣[ς. An example of the common practice of papponymy. This individual does not appear to be known from other texts. A large part of Theadelphia texts from the first century of Roman rule belong to the archive of Harthotes ([TM Arch 99](http://www.trismegistos.org/archive/99)), which was acquired in various purchases in the 1920s including some from the same lot as the present papyrus, but the name Teos is not associated with this family.

5 [οὐσιακ(οῦ)]. For the supplement, cf. [P.Mich. 9 539](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B539), submitted by an οὐσιακοῦ γεωργο̣ῦ̣ καὶ ἀ̣π̣ο̣λ̣υ̣σίμου Καμηλιανῆς οὐσίας; in [P.Mich. 9 540](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.mich%3B9%3B540), the declarant is called simply γεωργοῦ | [οὐ]σίας Γερμανικιανῆς (ll. 5-6).

6-7 Ἀντ̣[ωνίας] | θυγατρός. Antonia, daughter of the emperor Claudius, is known in the papyri as Ἀντωνία θυγάτηρ (with θεοῦ Κλαυδίου added after her father’s death) to distinguish her from her paternal grandmother, known as Ἀντωνία Δρούσου, the wife of Drusus: see [Hanson 1980](https://papyri.info/biblio/53734): 245. The lack of θεοῦ Κλαυδίου following Antonia’s name suggests that Claudius is still alive (or thought to be), which would set the end of 54 CE as the terminus ante quem of this text. Claudia Antonia’s estate in Egypt ([TM Ousia 5](http://www.trismegistos.org/ousia/5)) included an epoikion named after her ([TM Geo 209](http://www.trismegistos.org/place/209)) and holdings around several villages of the Fayum, to which list Theadelphia can perhaps now be added (the location of the estate land on which Teos worked is not stated): Hiera Nesos ([P.Bour. 42](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.bour%3B%3B42).89, 111, 117, and 201), Karanis (?) ([P.Sijp. 44](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.sijp%3B%3B44).4), Kerkeesis/Perkeesis ([P.Bour. 42](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.bour%3B%3B42).140-141), and Theoxenis ([P.Fay. 40](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.fay%3B%3B40).7).

8 ὑπάρχι μοι. This formula, taken over from census declarations, only appears in the Arsinoite property declarations from 53. It corresponds to ἀπογράφομαι … τὸ ὑπάρχον in the Memphite and Oxyrhynchite declarations of this year, a formula followed in later general declarations, including those from the Arsinoite (see [P.Oxy. 47 3332](https://papyri.info/ddbdp/p.oxy%3B47%3B3332) introduction with l. 4 n. and [Wolff 1978](https://papyri.info/biblio/9194): 231).

#bibliography

[Claytor, W.G. (2020)](https://papyri.info/biblio/95803) “Two Papyri from the Archive of Mikkalos and the Establishment of the bibliotheke enkteseon,” BASP 57: 19–42.

[Faoro, D. (2015)](https://papyri.info/biblio/96049) I prefetti d’Egitto da Augusto a Commodo (Bologna).

[Hanson, A.E. (1980)](https://papyri.info/biblio/53734) “P. Princeton I 11 and P. Cornell 21v.,” ZPE 37: 241–248.

[Martin, A. (2007)](https://papyri.info/biblio/76037) “Τῷ δεῖνι παρὰ τοῦ δεῖνος. Réflexions à propos d'un type documentaire,” in Pap.Congr. 24: 661–675.

[Wolff, H.J. (1978)](https://papyri.info/biblio/9194) Das Recht der griechischen Papyri Ägytens in der Zeit der Ptolemaeer und des Prinzipats, Vol. 2 (Munich).

1. PIR2 L 435. Cf. [Faoro 2015](https://papyri.info/biblio/96049): 42–43. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The order is mentioned in the Memphite and Oxyrhynchite declarations, but not those from the Arsinoite. At PSI 15 1521.1–3 n., the editor unnecessarily speculates about the possibility of two successive orders in Claudius’ year 13 (52/3) and 14 (53/4). [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. See most recently [Claytor 2020](https://papyri.info/biblio/95803). [↑](#footnote-ref-3)