Arsinoites (Fayum), meris of Themistos, Arsinoe epi tou chomatos $222-217\ BC$

Greek

Papyrus

6 certain, 2 uncertain

Official archive

Paris, Sorbonne

Extracted from mummy cartonnage found by Jouguet at Ghoran in 1901/1902

Bibliography

E. SEIDL, *Ptolemäische Rechtsgeschichte*, Glückstadt, 1962, p. 44 no. 26-27 (Archive von Ghôran und Médinet-en-Nahas).

ı

O. MONTEVECCHI, *La papirologia*, Milano, 1988², p. 249 no. 5 (Archivi di cui è traccia nei *cartoni di mummie* di *Magdola* e di *Ghoran* (Arsinoite)).

The numbers in **bold** refer to *P. Enteux*.

Description

In *P. Enteux*. Guéraud published more than 100 papyri extracted by P. Jouguet from mummy cartonnage. The great majority come from Medinet Nehas (Magdola) and belong to the archive of the *strategos* Diophanes (ArchID 71). But 16 papyri were found at nearby Ghoran. These do not form a single group: one dates from the reign of Ptolemy II (1), two mention the *strategos* Aphthonetos in the early years of Ptolemy III (12 and 106), another is clearly a draft (84). Several texts are too fragmentary to be linked with other texts (61, 68, 102, 103, 106), but at least six can be attributed to the archive of the village head or *epistates* of the village Arsinoe epi tou chomatos in the meris of Themistos (4, 25, 80, 97, 100-101). 104 and the fragment 105, which is written in the same hand as 104, perhaps also belong to the archive.

The petitions (*enteuxeis*) were nominally addressed to the king, but in fact handed over to the *strategos* of the Arsinoite nome. By means of a subscription under the petition the *strategos* usually orders the local *epistates* to reconcile the parties; only if this does not succeed should they be sent to the *strategos* himself. The Magdola *enteuxeis* apparently returned to the *strategos* (see ArchID 80 'Petitions from Magdola'), but in other cases the petitions were sent to the *epistates*. The different treatment is also shown by the addresses on the verso of **25, 97, 4** and **80**. There are no such addresses on the back of the Magdola texts.

The archive starts in 222 BC under *strategos* Diophanes and the *epistates* of Arsinoe Ptolemaios, but it continues ca. 219-217 under their successors, the *strategos* Poseidion and the *epistates* Onesandros. Apparently Onesandros took over some of the files of his predecessor.

The filing system of the *epistatai* is different from that in the office of the *strategos*, as known from the archive of the *enteuxeis* from Magdola. The abstract on the back contains no date, only the name of the two parties (80, 97). Drafts of reports on the reconciliation sessions, which are written by the *epistates* on the back of 4, 25 and 100 (no doubt 104 is a

similar case) are also absent in Magdola.

Archive texts

P. Enteux. 4, 25, 80, 97, 100-101; uncertain: 104-105.

Text type

Petitions = incoming documents.

Appendix

Survey of the documents in the archive

P. Enteux.	Date	Strategos	Epistates	Village	Note
25	Year 26: 222 BC	Diophanes	Ptolemaios	Arsinoe	Addressed to Ptolemaios; report of reconciliation session
97	Year 26: 221 BC	[]	[Ptolemaios]	[]	Addressed to Ptolemaios; archival note on the back
4	Year 4: 219/218 BC	Poseidion	Onesandros	Arsinoe	Addressed to Onesandros; report of reconciliation session
80	Year 5=6: 217 BC	Poseidion	[Onesandros]	[]	Addressed to Onesandros; archival note on the back
100	[]	Poseidion	Onesandros	[]	Report of reconciliation session
101	[]	[]	Onesandros	[]	[]
104	[]	Poseidion	[]	[]	[]
105	[]	[]	[]	[]	(same hand as 104)