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## CAPInv. 1084: cultores dei patri

### I. LOCATION

|                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| i. Geographical area | Southern Italy with Sicily |
| ii. Region           | Campania                   |
| iii. Site            | Pozzuoli (anc. Puteoli)    |

### II. NAME

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| i. Full name (original language) | cultores dei patri ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, l. 10) |
| ii. Full name (transliterated)   | <i>cultores dei patri</i>                           |

### III. DATE

|            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| i. Date(s) | s. iii - 337 AD |
|------------|-----------------|

### IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

|                   |             |  |
|-------------------|-------------|--|
| ii. Name elements | Cultic:     | <i>cultores</i> : the worshippers                    |
|                   | Theophoric: | <i>deus patrius</i> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, l. 10) |

### V. SOURCES

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| i. Source(s)        | <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79 (AD 290-326)<br>CIL X 1805 (s. iii AD - AD 337)  |
| Note                | See also: <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, EDR075343   |
| Online Resources    | <a href="#">TM 250430</a> and <a href="#">EDR075343</a> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79)<br><a href="#">TM 536111</a> (CIL X 1805) |
| i.a. Source type(s) | Epigraphic source(s)  |

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <b>i.b. Document(s) typology &amp; language/script</b> | Both inscriptions are written in Latin. <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79 is a dedication of a statue to Iulius Sulpicius Sucessus made by the <i>cultores dei patri</i> together with the <i>regio decatriae</i> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, l. 10) and the <i>vexillari</i> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, l. 11). <i>CIL</i> X 1805 is a funerary inscription of an unknown man described as <i>sacerdos d(ei) p(atri) immunis</i> ( <i>CIL</i> X 1805, l. 3). |
| <b>i.c. Physical format(s)</b>                         | <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79 is a large marble statue base. <i>CIL</i> X 1805 is a fragmentary inscription known through manuscript tradition.  |
| <b>ii. Source(s) provenance</b>                        | The base <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79 was found in 1965, embedded in the Campanile of the Cathedral of S. Procolo at Pozzuoli. <i>CIL</i> X 1805 was found near Pozzuoli.   |

## VII. ORGANIZATION

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>ii. Leadership</b>    | Probably a <i>sacerdos</i> , see the <i>sacerdos dei patri</i> attested in <i>CIL</i> X 1805, l. 3.<br>In <i>CIL</i> X 1805 the anonymous priest held his office as an <i>immunis</i> (l. 3), i.e. without making the customary outlay for amusements or other purposes, cf. Peterson 1919: 95. It may imply that normally the chief officer received his position in the association with some payment. |
| <b>iii. Members</b>      | Referred to as <i>cultores dei patri</i> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, l. 10).   |
| <b>viii. Obligations</b> | The erection of the base/statue may imply that the <i>cultores dei patri</i> either collected money ad hoc or each member had to pay regularly some sum, which went into the (unattested) treasury.  |

## VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>i. Treasury/Funds</b> | The erection of the base/statue may imply that the association had its own funds/treasury. |
|--------------------------|--|

## IX. MEMBERSHIP

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| <b>ii. Gender</b> | Men   |
| <b>Note</b>       | See the anonymous <i>sacerdos dei patri</i> attested in <i>CIL</i> X 1805.  |
| <b>iii. Age</b>   | Adults  |
| <b>Note</b>       | See the anonymous <i>sacerdos dei patri</i> attested in <i>CIL</i> X 1805.  |
| <b>iv. Status</b> | The unknown <i>sacerdos dei patri</i> of <i>CIL</i> X 1805 was a man of equestrian rank, who, as <i>curator aquae Augustae</i> ( <i>CIL</i> X 1805, l. 6), had secured for years and at his own expense the maintenance of the most important city aqueduct, see Camodeca 1980-1981: 117. |

## X. ACTIVITIES

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>iv. Honours/Other activities</b> | The <i>cultores dei patri</i> awarded a base statue for Iulius Sulpicius Sucessus who was <i>vir egregius, patronus coloniae</i> and <i>procurator portus Puteolanorum</i> ( <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, ll. 4-5). The honor is justified with reference to his benefactions and love towards the citizens and the homeland ( <i>ob meritis et adfectione amoreque eius erga cives et patriam</i> , <i>AE</i> 1972: no. 79, ll. 6-7). |
|-------------------------------------|---|

## XI. INTERACTION

### i. Local interaction

The honorand Iulius Sulpicius Sucessus in *AE* 1972: no. 79 was a local man of equestrian rank (see D'Arms 1972: 259). The *cultores dei patri* dedicated the statue together with other local groups: the *regio decatriae*, i.e. a city region of Puteoli, and the *vexillari* (see [CAPInv. 1083](#)), i.e. the collegial standard bearers. The *ordo decurionum* and the *populus Puteolanus* gave their approval.

## XII. NOTES

### i. Comments

The identity of the deity called *deus patrius* is not clear, see Peterson 1919: 398-9. D'Arms 1972: 268-70 believes that the *deus patrius* was a god, perhaps Serapis, revered by a foreign group in the city.

### iii. Bibliography

Camodeca, G. (1980-1981), 'Ricerche su Puteoli tardoromana (fine III – IV secolo)', *Puteoli* 4-5: 59-128.  
Castagnetti, S. (2007), 'I collegia della Campania', in E. Lo Cascio and G.D. Merola (eds.), *Forme di aggregazione nel mondo romano*, Bari: 223-42.  
D'Arms, J.H. (1972), 'A new inscribed base from 4th century Puteoli', *PP* 27: 255-70.  
Peterson, R.M. (1919), *The cults of Campania*. Rome.

## XIII. EVALUATION

### i. Private association

Certain

#### Note

For the use of the term *cultores* to indicate the ordinary members of a *collegium*, which was religious in character see Castagnetti 2007: 228.