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CAPInv. 530: he pro poleos speira

I. LOCATION

i.	**Geographical area**	Thrace
ii.	**Region**	Inland Thrace
iii.	**Site**	Augusta Traiana

II. NAME

i.	**Full name (original language)**	ἡ πρὸ πόλεως σπεῖρα (SEG 39: 649, l. 2)
ii.	**Full name (transliterated)**	*he pro poleos speira*

III. DATE

i.	**Date(s)**	s. ii - f. iii AD

IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii.	**Name elements**	Topographical:	For the different meanings and uses of the term πρὸ πόλεως, *pro poleos*, see Robert 1983: 171-5. Here the term should be interpreted as denoting a location outside the city walls. Cf. inscription CAPInv. 92 from Thasos and CAPInv. 161 from Melos.
iii.	**Descriptive terms**	σπεῖρα, *speira*	
	Note	*speira*: SEG 39: 649, l. 2	

V. SOURCES

i.	**Source(s)**	SEG 39: 649 (s. ii-f. iii AD) SEG 58: 679 (according to Sharankov) (s. ii-f. iii AD)

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Note	See also: SEG 39: 649: Jaccottet II no. 49; GRA I 84; AGRW 61 SEG 58: 679: Jaccottet II no. 181; IG XIV 925; CIL XIV 4 (according to Velkov and Nikolov); AGRW 62
Online Resources	SEG 39: 649 and AGRW ID 2569 AGRW ID 23295
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	SEG 39: 649: Dedication in Greek of an altar (βωμός, *bomos*, l. 4) by four μαγαρεῖς, *magareis* (l. 3), to the *speira* SEG 58: 679: Catalogue of names in Greek
i.c. Physical format(s)	SEG 39: 649: Square altar (0.90 X 0.45 X 0.45), molded on top and bottom SEG 58: 679: Limestone stele, broken at its upper part
ii. Source(s) provenance	SEG 39: 649: Found before 1989 (year of publication) at Stara Zagora, during construction work on road Dimităr Asenov, no 13. Subsequently lost SEG 58: 679: Found at Stara Zagora in 1979, reused at the stylobate of a building of the 4th-5th century AD

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	The title μαγαρεύς, *magareus*, occurring in both SEG 39: 649 and SEG 58: 679, points to the existence of a μάγαρον, *magaron*. Inscription SEG 39: 649 mentions the offer of a βωμός, *bomos* (= altar) to the *speira*.

VII. ORGANIZATION

iii. Members	In SEG 39: 649 all four dedicants are mentioned as μαγαρεῖς, *magareis*. In SEG 58: 679 the term μαγαρεύς, *magareus*, occurs for one person (l. 14: Ῥηγῖνος Σουδίου, *Rheginos son of Soudios*).
v. Other staff	The abbreviation ΒΑ occuring at the end of l. 15 has been interpreted as β΄ ἄ(ρχων), *b΄a(rchon)*, by the first editor; but the reading βα(κχιαστής), *ba(kchiastes)*, has also been suggested by the editors of *An.Ép.*

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

ii. Realty	The use of the term μαγαρεῖς, *magareis*, indicates that the association should have owned a μάγαρον, *magaron*, as indicated by the name of the σπεῖρα, *speira*, this μάγαρον, *magaron* should have been located just outside the city walls.

IX. MEMBERSHIP

i. Number	Four persons named in SEG 39: 649 and 16 in SEG 58: 679 (though originally more, since the upper part is missing).
ii. Gender	Men

iv. Status	Of the four persons mentioned in the first inscription, one is a *gerousiastes* (SEG 39: 649, l. 5); but two are of humbler social status as indicated by their professions: in SEG 39: 649, ll. 6-7 a κουκουλάρις, *koukoularis* (from *cucullus* = hood) and in SEG 39: 649, l. 11 a κανδιδάρις, *kandidaris* (baker of a particular kind of white bread). An eastern origin is further suggested for the *gerousiastes*, on the evidence of his patronymic (Ναννᾶς, *Karteris* son of *Nannas*). All persons named in the catalogue follow the Greek onomastic formula. Their names denote a mixed ethnic environment (25 personal names, of which 13 of Greek, 6 of Roman, 5 of Thracian origin, 1 person bearing the name Σαρμάθις, *Sarmathis*). In one case the profession is specified (SEG 58: 679, l. 8: ἰατρός, *iatros*).
v. Relations	One possible case of father and son (l. 6: Μουκιανὸς Πανχᾶ, *Moukianos* son of *Panchas* (*sic*) and l. 13: Ἑρμογένης Μουκιανοῦ, *Hermogenes* son of *Moukianos*) and two cases of brothers (ll. 10-12 for Περγάμις, *Pergamis*, Βάλης, *Bales* and Πολέμις, *Polemis* sons of Ὀλυνπιοδώρου, *Olympiodoros* (*sic*) and ll. 15-16 for Ἀπλινάρις, *Aplinaris* (*sic*) and Δαιτειμούνης, *Deiteimounes* sons of Ἀπλιναρίου, *Aplinarios*).

XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	The presence of a *gerousiastes* among the four μαγαρεῖς, *magareis* of SEG 39: 639 shows a certain degree of interaction with local civic authorities.
ii. Interaction abroad	For the possible presence of this σπεῖρα, *speira* in the western part of the Roman empire, see XII.i.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	Shopova 1999 considers that there were two σπεῖραι, *speirai* at Augusta Traiana, one at the city's vicinity (πρὸ πόλεως, *pro poleos*) and one at Cillae (see CAPInv. 650). Based on the evidence of personal names in SEG 39: 649 (presence of Ναννᾶς and absence of distinct names of Thracian origin), she further suggests that the first gathered foreign settlers, while the second native inhabitants, this reflecting (Shopova 1999: 319) 'specific differences in the organisation of the cult association and in the ritual practice'. But the evidence for suggesting this differentiation is insufficient; both set of inscriptions present the same mixed onomastic environment, common for the interior of Thrace; cf. also SEG 39: 64: 'onomastic grounds do not suffice'. Moreover, Cillae may not have belonged to the territory of Augusta Traiana at all, see there for relevant discussion. That the two inscriptions SEG 39: 649 and SEG 58: 679 should refer to the same association has been suggested by Sharankov on the evidence of their general provenance and the presence of the name Καρτέρις, *Karteris*, on both texts, in one case as a personal name (SEG 39: 649, l. 4) and in the other probably as a papponymic (SEG 58: 679, l. 15). This second inscription is actually a partially preserved catalogue of names, where one person is further defined as a ἰατρός, *iatros* (l. 8), one as a μαγαρεύς, *magareus* (l. 14), while the name of Ἀπλινάρις Ἀπλιναρίου Καρτερίου *Aplinaris Aplinariou Karteriou*, Aplinaris son of Aplinarios and grandson of Karteris (the possible grandson of the Καρτέρις, *Karteris*, mentioned in SEG 39: 649) is followed by the letters □ □ : β' (=δεύτερος, *deuteros*) ἄ(ρχων), *a(rchon)*, according to the first editor, βα(κχιαστής), *ba(kchiastes)*, according to *An.Ép.* A σπεῖρα Τραϊανησίων, *speira Traianesion*, mentioned in a bilingual inscription from Portus Traiani near Rome (IG XIV 925: ἁγνῆς εὐσέμνοιο σπείρης Τραϊανησίων, *hagnes eusemnoio speires Traianesion*) has been interpreted either as referring to a σπεῖρα, *speira*, of immigrants from the eastern part of the Roman empire (Asia Minor for Bruhl and Jaccottet II, or Augusta Traiana for Dessau, Velkov and Nikolov) or to the inhabitants of a vicus of Portus (Sacco). The use of the Greek language points to the first direction. The term *Traianenses* also occurs in a latin dedication to Artemis from Ostia (CIL XIV 4, cf. Velkov and Nikolov 1989: 17 and n. 23 and Jaccottet 2003: 294). If indeed referring to the same association (as accepted by Dessau, Velkov and Nikolov), then these inscriptions would offer the additional information that the σπεῖρα, *speira*, honoured not only Dionysos but also Artemis, having at its head priests and priestesses.

iii. Bibliography	Jaccottet, A.-Fr. (2003): *Choisir Dionysos: Les associations dionysiaques ou la face cachée du dionysisme*. 2 vols. Zürich: 101-2, no. 49 and 293-4, no. 181. Kloppenborg J.S., and Ascough, R.S. (2011): *Greco-Roman Associations: Texts, Translations and Commentary, I: Attica, Central Greece, Macedonia, Thrace*. Berlin, New York: 383-6, no. 84. Robert, J., and Robert, L. (1983), *Fouilles d'Amyzon en Carie. Tome I: Exploration, Histoire, Monnaies et Inscriptions*. Paris. Sacco, G. (1984), *Iscrizioni greche d'Italia: Porto*. Rome. Sharankov, N. (2007): in *Ancient Civilisations and the Sea: International Conference in Honour of Prof. Michail Lazarov: Varna 13th-15th October 2004*. Varna: 427-29, no 4 (SEG 58: 679, An.Ép 2008, 1216). !editor: cannot find which part of this publication Sharankov has contributed with! Shopova, I. (1988), 'To the problem concerning the Dionysiac cult associations in Thracia', *Thracia* 12: 210. Shopova, I. (1999), 'Greek Inscription of a σπείρη from Thracia', *XIth International Congress of Greek and Latin Epigraphy, Rome 18-24 September 1997*. 2 vols. Rome: 315-21. Velkov, V., and Nikolov, D. (1989), 'Kultovo sdrouženie (σπείρη) v Avgusta Trajana' [='Association cultuelle (σπείρη) à Augusta Trajana (Thrace)'], *Arheologija* 31/1: 16-20 (SEG 39: 649 and An.Ép 1991: no. 1399).

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	The terminology and character of the group point to a private association.

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