

CAPInv. 1034: **hoi oikodomoι hoi peri E[.... ..]NI---** Epigonon

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Western Asia Minor
ii. Region	Ionia
iii. Site	Miletus

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	οἱ οἰκοδόμοι οἱ περὶ Ε[.... ..]ΝΙ--- Ἐπίγονον (Milet VI.2 935 ll. 1-2)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>hoi oikodomoι hoi peri E[.... ..]NI--- Epigonon</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	m. ii - e. iii AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Personal:	<i>E[.... ..]NI--- Epigonon</i>
	Professional:	οἰκοδόμοι, <i>oikodomoι</i> ("builder")

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	Milet VI.2 935
Note	SEG IV 439; Merkelbach – Stauber, SGO 01/20701
Online Resources	SEG IV 439
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Question and answer to the oracle at Didyma. Greek
i.c. Physical format(s)	Block of limestone

ii. Source(s) provenance

Theater, back wall in the west wing, *in situ*

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership

οἱ περὶ Ε[.... ..]ΝΙ --- Ἐπίγονον, *hoi peri E[---] Epigonon*

The builders are designated as "those with E--- and (?) Epigonos". *Epigonos* (and possible together with a second person) is obviously the leader of the group, even if we do not know in what capacity (employer or foreman).

iii. Members

οἱ οἰκοδόμοι, *hoi oikodomoi*

IX. MEMBERSHIP

ii. Gender

Men

X. ACTIVITIES

Deities worshipped

Pallas Tritogeneia (Athena)
Heracles

iv. Honours/Other activities

The group has agreed to execute the construction of a part of the theater (Il. 2-3: ἐργολάβοι τοῦ μέρους τοῦ θεάτρου, *ergolaboi tou merous tou theatrou*). When both technical problems with the construction and difficulties with their employment arose, the builders asked the oracle at Didyma for advice (the nature of the difficulties is disputed; cf. with further literature Dittmann-Schöne 2002: 72-3; Oesterheld 2008: 438-9 n. 277). The oracle recommends to continue the work and to ask an experienced architect for help. Furthermore, the group should sacrifice to Athena and Heracles.

XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction

The group contacted the oracle in nearby Didyma.

XII. NOTES

iii. Bibliography

Dittmann-Schöne, I. (2001), *Die Berufsvereine in den Städten des kaiserzeitlichen Kleinasien*. Regensburg.
Oesterheld, Chr. (2008), *Göttliche Botschaften für zweifelnde Menschen. Pragmatik und Orientierungsleistung der Apollon-Orakel von Klaros und Didyma in hellenistisch-römischer Zeit*. Göttingen.
Sommer, St. (2006), 'Religion und Vereinigungsunruhen in der Kaiserzeit', in A. Gutsfeld and D.-A. Koch (eds.), *Vereine, Synagogen und Gemeinden im kaiserzeitlichen Kleinasien*, Tübingen: 77-93.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Possible

Note

The group of "construction workers around Epigonos" is often regarded as a professional association (*e.g.* Dittmann-Schöne 2001: 169-170; Sommer 2006: 85).

However, Zimmermann 2002: 163 rightly observes that nothing in the inscription suggests that the "oikodomoι around Epigonos" were indeed organized as an association. They seem to be just a group of workers of the same employer engaged in the same project.