

CAPInv. 1737: **sippates**

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Egypt
ii. Nome	Oxyrhynchites (U19)
iii. Site	Oxyrhynchus

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	σιππασδες ι. σιππάτες (P.Oxy. XXXI 2579 l. 9)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>sippates</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	309 - 334 AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

i. Name in other forms	P.Oxy. XLV 3262 l.1: possibly σιππ<ο>πιω(ν) for σιπποποιῶν <i>sippopoion</i> (cf. P.Oxy. XXXVI 2799 l. 4, early fifth century AD). P.Oxy. I 103 verso: σιπποτιμηταί <i>stippotimetai</i> (?): This title of the association (if that is what it is) is difficult to reconcile with those others here (MG).
ii. Name elements	Professional: <i>sippates</i>

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	P.Oxy. XXXI 2579 (4. Aug. AD 309?) P.Oxy. XLV 3261 (AD 324) P.Oxy. XLV 3262 (second half AD 328) P.Oxy. I 103 (13 Oct. AD 316)
Note	Most of these texts belongs to the archive of Aurelius Leonides, a flax merchant and member (and eventually official) of the tow workers association.

Online Resources	P.Oxy. XXXI 2579 = TM 16896 P.Oxy. XLV 3261 = TM 15924 P.Oxy. XLV 3262 = TM 15925 P.Oxy. I 103 = TM 45292
i.a. Source type(s)	Papyrological source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	<p>The documents are written in Greek.</p> <p>2579: Tax receipt for ἐπικεφάλαιον <i>epikephalaion</i></p> <p>3261: Contract concerning recruits</p> <p>3262: Receipt</p> <p>103: Lease of land</p>
i.c. Physical format(s)	papyrus

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership	<p>2579: μηνιάρχης <i>meniarches</i>, l. 11</p> <p>3261: μηνιάρχει <i>meniarches</i>, l. 4</p> <p>3262: μηνιάρχης <i>meniarches</i>, l. 1</p>
iii. Members	3261: New members here are referred to as νεόλεκτοι, <i>neolektoi</i> (l. 7), "recruits".

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

ii. Realty	The rental agreement in I 103 appears to have been made by Leonidas and another member of the guild: a certain Aurelius Dioskoros (who also appears in Leonidas' archive in P.Oxy. XLV 3255 and 3256). But whether or not this was used by the association or, in fact, for association business (particularly given Leonidas' own occupation) is unclear and hardly definitive.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

i. Number	3261: At least six (given the four <i>meniarchai</i>)
ii. Gender	Men
Note	The recorded names are male names.
iii. Age	Adults
vi. Proper names and physical features	<p>2579: Dioskoros, Pagenes, Herakleides</p> <p>3261: Leonides, Theon, Matrinus(?), and Sarmates</p> <p>3262: Leonides</p> <p>103: Leonidas, Dioskoros</p>

XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	<p>2579: Suggests a relationship between the local administration and the association at least in respect to tax collection (possibly collective responsibility?).</p> <p>3261: Relationship between the local administration and the association is demonstrated by the document itself.</p> <p>Moreover, as noted by the editors, it is tempting to assume the association here assumed the liability of the members here for whatever they were responsible for.</p> <p>3262: One wonders about the nature of the loan alluded to here in this receipt. Is it possible that the association took a loan for some reason? If so one would expect to find more evidence for this even in this fragmentary document. But if it is something to do with the association, it illustrates a relationship between the association, or a member of it, and another member of the public community. Why would Aurelius Leonides use his associative title here? Is this indicative of some status or some standing in the community?</p>
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XII. NOTES

i. Comments	<p>The name of the association is not given in all of the documents, but <i>σιππ[...]</i> <i>sipp[...]</i> in 3262 probably refers to the tow workers based on the other documents in the archive; see P.Oxy. XLV 3262 n. 1, p. 143 for reconstruction of what Leonides possibly wrote and for the possible identification of a professional association, and cf. P.Oxy. XXXI 2579 in which a menarch of an association of tow-workers pays a poll tax (here the <i>ἐπικεφάλαιον πόλεως</i> <i>epikephalaion poleos</i>) on behalf of two of its members.</p> <p><i>Given similarities to other Oxyrhynchite documents of the same time, the group was likely a koinon.</i></p>
iii. Bibliography	<p>Venticinque, P. F. (2010). "Family Affairs: Guild Regulations and Family Relationships in Roman Egypt." <i>GRBS</i> 50: 273-294 (esp. p. 290).</p> <p>Youtie, H. C. (196) "Notes on papyri." <i>TAPhA</i> 91: 239-71.</p>

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Probable
Note	<p>In the absence of more evidence, caution should be advised in the identification of this group. Given the comparanda from Oxyrhynchus at the time and in the similarity of the officials' titles with other certain associations at the beginning of the fourth century AD it is probable that this is a private association.</p>