

CAPInv. 686: **rhopolai**

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Thrace
ii. Region	Inland Thrace
iii. Site	Philippopolis

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	ῥοποπῶλαι, l. ῥωποπῶλαι (IGBulg V. 5464, ll. 4.5-6)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>rhopolai</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	Imp.
------------	------

IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Professional:	ῥοποπῶλαι, <i>rhopolai</i> (=small-wares merchants)
-------------------	---------------	---

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IGBulg V. 5464 (Imp.)
Online Resources	IGBulg V. 5464
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Funerary Greek inscription of Philippos son of Philippos, with depiction of five wreaths, one of them offered by the guild.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Rectangular mable stele (1.62 x 0.74 x 0.18) with an elaborate floral pattern at its upper part and a pedimental stele in relief depicted below; this stele bears five wreaths and the funerary inscription.

ii. Source(s) provenance	Found at Ralitzia str. at the site of 'Vtora Kamenitza', where the necropolis of the 1st-3rd cent. AD is located, see <i>TIR K35/2: Philippopolis</i> p. 298.
--------------------------	---

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

i. Archaeological remains	Necropolis
---------------------------	------------

VII. ORGANIZATION

iii. Members	Collectively designated by their profession (ῥωποπῶλαι, <i>rhopolai</i> , l. 4.5-6).
--------------	--

VIII. PROPERTY AND POSSESSIONS

i. Treasury/Funds	The wreath offered to the deceased indicate that the guild collected funds, even if on an <i>ad hoc</i> basis.
-------------------	--

IX. MEMBERSHIP

iv. Status	This was the professional association of ῥωποπῶλαι, <i>rhopolai</i> , working at Philippopolis.
------------	---

X. ACTIVITIES

iv. Honours/Other activities	The guild offered a wreath to the deceased Philippos son of Philippos, (IGBulg V. 5464), who should have been an important citizen of Philippopolis (see below XI.i) but not necessarily a member of the guild.
------------------------------	---

XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	The deceased Philippos son of Philippos, should have been an important citizen of Philippopolis, as indicated by the wreaths also offered to him by the βουλή, <i>boule</i> , and the δῆμος, <i>demos</i> , of the city, the Νευκαεῖς ὀλυμπιασταί, <i>Neikaeis</i> (CAPInv. 688), the Νευκομηδεῖς, <i>Neikomedeis</i> (CAPInv. 806) and the βυρσεῖς, <i>byrseis</i> (CAPInv. 583). The presence of two professional associations, of two associations of foreign residents at Philippopolis and the eastern origin of the deceased's brother (as indicated by the personal name Παπίας, <i>Papias</i>) are signs of his eastern origin and of his possible involvement with trade.
----------------------	---

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	The right form of the word is ῥωποπῶλαι, <i>rhopolai</i> . For another association of ῥωποπῶλαι, <i>rhopolai</i> , at Thrace (Perinthos), see CAPInv. 543 .
iii. Bibliography	Kolev, K. (1966), 'Nadgrobna plotsa of Filipopol', <i>Arheologija</i> 8/2: 57-9.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	Although available information consists exclusively of a collective name and the group's action of honouring a deceased, there is no reason to doubt that this was a private professional association.