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CAPInv. 722: Asianon ho thiasos

I. LOCATION

i. Geographical area	Macedonia
ii. Region	Mygdonia
iii. Site	Thessalonike

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Ἀσιανῶν ὁ θίασος (IG X.2.1 309)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>Asianon ho thiasos</i>

III. DATE

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

ii. Name elements	Geographical:	<i>Asianoí</i> : On the term Asianoí, see the comments on the earliest such association in Macedonia in CAPInv. 515 (IV.ii: Name elements).
iii. Descriptive terms	θίασος, <i>thiasos</i>	
Note	<i>thiasos</i> : IG X.2.1 309, ll. 2-3	

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IG X.2.1 309 (ii-iii AD)
Note	See also: Jaccottet II no. 20
Online Resources	IG X.2.1 309
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Greek funerary inscription
i.c. Physical format(s)	Plaque (perhaps from a funerary altar)
ii. Source(s) provenance	Reused in the city walls, near the Eastern (Kassandreotic) Gate.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership	As is often the case in Macedonian associations related to an official cult, it is unclear whether the priest, whose name is used for dating purposes (ll. 4-6), was a priest of the association (so Edson 1948: 137), or of the official cult of Dionysos.
iii. Members	The honorand is called a συνμύστης, <i>synmystes</i> .
iv. Officials	See under VII.ii: Leadership, above.

X. ACTIVITIES

iv. Honours/Other activities	Honours for a prominent member are attested in the only relevant source.
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XI. INTERACTION

i. Local interaction	There are two other associations of <i>Asianoι</i> in Macedonia. The one bearing the exact same name is an association of Lete, see CAPIInv. 515 , while the other association of <i>Asianoι</i> (CAPIInv. 723) from Thessalonike is called a <i>bakcheion</i> and not a <i>thiasos</i> . It is therefore preferable to speak of three distinct associations of <i>Asianoι</i> (two of them in Thessalonike) rather than of attestations of the same association (cf. Nigdelis 2006: 239-41).
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XII. NOTES

iii. Bibliography	Edson, C. (1948), 'Cults of Thessalonica (Macedonica III)', <i>HThR</i> 41: 153-204, esp. 137. Nigdelis, P. M. (2006), <i>Επιγραφικά Θεσσαλονίκεια. Συμβολή στην πολιτική και κοινωνική ιστορία της αρχαίας Θεσσαλονίκης</i> , Thessaloniki, esp. 239-41.
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XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	In the context of Dionysiac cults distinguishing between <i>thiasos</i> denoting the sum total of the god's devotees in a particular city and <i>thiasos</i> as a private cultic association is often strenuous. In this case, however, the fact that the group's name has a further mark of distinction (<i>thiasos</i> of the <i>Asianoι</i>) ensures that we are dealing with the latter case.