

CAPInv. 1467: **astiopolai**

## I. LOCATION

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

## II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	ἄστιπολαί (I.Eph(esos) 454c, l. 4)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>astiopolai</i>

## III. DATE

i. Date(s)	150 (?) - 250 (?) AD
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## IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Professional:	<i>astiopolai</i> . It is possible that ἄστιπόλων, <i>astiopolon</i> , is a misspelling for ἄστιπόλων, <i>astiopolon</i> ; cf. Ruffing 2008: 446-7 (who speculates that the group belongs to the textile sector, like the <i>eripolai</i> (l. 3) mentioned in the same inscription).
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## V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	I.Eph(esos) 454c (150 (?) - 250 (?) AD)
Note	See also: Dittmann-Schöne II.1.5
Online Resources	<a href="#">I.Eph(esos) 454c</a>
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)

i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Seat inscription, greek
i.c. Physical format(s)	Inscribed pillar
ii. Source(s) provenance	Gymnasium of Vedius

## XII. NOTES

i. Comments	There were several associations with reserved seats in the latrines of the gymnasium of Vedius. The <i>astiopolai</i> seem to have been one of them, although the term remains unclear. Another option is to take <i>astiopolai</i> as an attribute to <i>eripolai</i> (Dittmann-Schöne 2010: 131; Royer 2005: 154; cf. <a href="#">CAPIInv. 1466</a> ). But the sense would still be doubtful, and given that the stone shows yet another (albeit erased) name of an association ( <i>linoplokoï</i> , ll. 1-2), there is no objection to regarding the <i>astiopolai</i> as an additional group. For its probable background in textile production, see Ruffing 2008: 446-7.
iii. Bibliography	Dittmann-Schöne, I. (2010), <i>Die Berufsvereine in den Städten des kaiserzeitlichen Kleinasien</i> . 2nd. ed. Regensburg. Royer, A. (2005), <i>Associations professionnelles et groupes de gens de métier dans les cités grecques d'Asie Mineure à l'époque impériale (Ier - Ve siècles ap. J.-C.)</i> . Lyon. Ruffing, K. (2008), <i>Die berufliche Spezialisierung in Handel und Handwerk</i> . 2 vols. Rahden, Westf.

## XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Probable
Note	Professional associations in the 2nd/3rd century were often very close to the official civic institutions, but they probably remained essentially private associations.
ii. Historical authenticity	Certain