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CAPInv. 1530: eranistai hoi meta Blepaiou

I. LOCATION

i.	**Geographical area**	Attica with Salamis
ii.	**Region**	Attica
iii.	**Site**	Athens

II. NAME

i.	**Full name (original language)**	ἐρανισταὶ οἱ μετὰ Βλεπαίου (Agora XIX H 94, l. hand II.5)
ii.	**Full name (transliterated)**	*eranistai hoi meta Blepaiou*

III. DATE

i.	**Date(s)**	m. iv (?) BC

IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii.	**Name elements**	Personal:	*meta Blepaiou*

V. SOURCES

i.	**Source(s)**	Agora XIX H 94
	Note	Ed. pr. Fine (1951: 13 no. 26). Other publications: Finley (1951: no. 31A-B).
	Online Resources	Agora XIX H 94
i.a.	**Source type(s)**	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b.	**Document(s) typology & language/script**	Greek *horos* of land and building sold under the right of redemption for 1,300 dr.
i.c.	**Physical format(s)**	Two fragments of a marble slab measuring 0,24x0,215x0,072m.

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ii. Source(s) provenance	Found built in a house NW of the Areopagos Hill, now in the Agora, I 5881.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ii. Leadership	On the basis of the expression *meta Blepaiou* in the name of the group, perhaps *Blepaios* (*Athenian Onomasticon* s.v. (1)) was the leader.

XII. NOTES

i. Comments	Since Βλεπαίο[υ] (*Blepaio[u]*) is restored, it is likely that the genitive Βλεπαίο, *Blepaio*, points to a date c. mid 4th century BC, see Threatte 1998: ii 150-4.
iii. Bibliography	Arnaoutoglou, I. (2003), Thusias heneka kai sunousias. *Private religious associations in Hellenistic Athens*. Athens. Cohen, E. (1992), *Athenian economy and society. A banking perspective*. Princeton: 207-15. Faraguna, M. (2012), 'Diritto, economia, societa: riflessioni su *eranos* tra eta omerica e mondo ellenistico', in B. Legras (ed.), *Transferts culturels et droits dans le monde grec et hellenistique*, Paris: 129-53. Fine, J. (1951), *Horoi. Studies in mortgage, real security, and land tenure in ancient Athens*. Baltimore. Finley, M. (1951), *Studies in land and credit in ancient Athens, 500-200 B.C. The* Horos *inscriptions*. New Brunswick. Harris, E. (2013), 'Finley's Studies in land and credit sixty years later', *Dike* 16: 123-46. Ismard, P. (2010), *La cité des réseaux. Athènes et ses associations VIe – Ier siècle av. J.-C.*. Paris: 281-4. Millett, P. (1991), *Lending and borrowing in ancient Athens*. Cambridge. Thomsen, Chr. (2015), 'The *eranistai* of classical Athens', *GRBS* 55: 154-75. Threatte, L. (1980), *The grammar of Attic inscriptions*. Berlin.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association	Certain
Note	Although it was forcibly argued by Finley 1951 and Millett 1991 that *eranistai* in *horoi* inscriptions should not be regarded as associations, I think that there are good grounds to consider these groups as private associations (see also Thomsen 2015). Firstly, in almost all cases they are identified as *eranistai hoi meta…* or *hoi peri*, an element that points to a certain embryonic or nascent collective identity. Secondly, they also pull their resources (or part of it) together to lend money, for which they acquire the legal standing as creditors, whose claim is secured. Thirdly, in case the repayment of the loan does not proceed, they may be represented in law courts.

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