

CAPInv. 786: **he synetheia ton porphyrobaphon tes oktokaidekates**

I. LOCATION

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

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	ἡ συνήθεια τῶν πορφυροβάφων τῆς ὀκτώκαιδεκάτης (IG X.2.1 291, l. 1-4)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	<i>he synetheia ton porphyrobaphon tes oktokaidekates</i>

III. DATE

i. Date(s)	l. ii AD
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IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

ii. Name elements	Professional:	<i>porphyrobaphoi</i> : purple-dyers
	Topographical:	<i>oktokaidekate</i> : The name of the association specifies that the purple-dyers who are its members are located “on the eighteenth” (πορφυροβάφων τῆς ὀκτώκαιδεκάτης, <i>porphyrobaphon tes oktokaidekates</i>). It is unclear which missing noun is meant here: suggestions put forward include ὁδός, <i>hodos</i> , ‘street’, πλατεία, <i>plateia</i> , ‘avenue’, or ἄμφοδος, <i>amphodos</i> , ‘insula’, although the latter noun is more frequent in its neutral form (see Robert 1937: 535 n. 3; cf. Pandermalis 1983: 162; Touratsoglou 1988: 8 n. 23; Vitti 1996: 56 n. 65 and 78-9; Pilhofer 1995: 176-7; vom Brocke 2001: 65 n. 206). This further topographical definition should not necessarily lead us to assume that there were more associations of purple-dyers in Thessaloniki (<i>pace</i> vom Brocke 2001: 81).

iii. Descriptive terms	συνήθεια, <i>synetheia</i>
Note	<i>synetheia</i> : IG X.2.1 291, l. 1

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)	IG X.2.1 291 (l. ii AD)
Note	See also: GRA I 79
Online Resources	IG X.2.1 291 and AGRW ID 2465
i.a. Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b. Document(s) typology & language/script	Greek funerary inscription.
i.c. Physical format(s)	Stele with relief of the Hero Rider.
ii. Source(s) provenance	“Porta Roma”, in the southeast edge of Thessalonike, near the Roman harbour.

VII. ORGANIZATION

ix. Privileges	As is so often the case, the association paid for the funerary monument of one of its members.
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IX. MEMBERSHIP

iv. Status	The deceased member of the association was a foreigner; he was a citizen of Thyateira, a city well-known for its dyeing industry (see the sources gathered in GRA I 79). The first person converted to Christianity in Philippi was also a purple-seller from Thyateira (<i>Acts</i> 16:11-15).
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XII. NOTES

i. Comments	GRA I 79 claims that the association must have worshiped the Thracian/Hero Rider, who is portrayed on the stele's relief. The assumption is unwarranted; the dead are very often portrayed as the Hero Rider from the Hellenistic period onwards; cf. Pandermalis 1983: 162-3; <i>LIMC</i> VI.1.1065.
ii. Poland concordance	Poland Z 7
iii. Bibliography	Pandermalis, D. (1983), ‘Zum römischen Porträt im kaizerzeitlichen Makedonien’, <i>Klio</i> 65: 161-7. Pillhofer, P. (1995), <i>Philippi I. Die erste christliche Gemeinde Europas</i> . Tübingen: 176-9. Robert, L. (1937), <i>Études anatoliennes : recherches sur les inscriptions grecques de l’Asie mineure</i> . Paris: 535 n. 3. Touratsoglou, I. (1988), <i>Die Münzstätte von Thessaloniki in der Römischen Kaiserzeit</i> . Berlin, New York: 8 n. 23. vom Brocke, C. (2001), <i>Thessaloniki: Stadt des Kassanders und Gemeinde des Paulus</i> , Tübingen: 65 n. 206 and 81.

XIII. EVALUATION

i. Private association

Certain

Note

This is a private association of professionals with workshops in a specific location of Thessalonike.