

Resolutions of the Signary Committee
14th Mycenological Colloquium, Copenhagen
3 September 2015

Chairs: *Lisa Maria Bendall, Maurizio Del Freo and Hedvig Landenius Enegren*

The Committee met on 3 September at 4.30pm with a brief supplementary meeting on 4 September at 5.30pm.

Linear A

The committee discussed the suggestion to insert four signs into the *GORILA* signary (Figure 1). After some consideration a principle was agreed that the cases where there had been an autopsy of the physical object by more than one person would be accepted. Two signs were thus accepted and two deferred to a future meeting, as follows:

Agreed:

AB48 (SY Za 4): *editio princeps* by J.-P. Olivier (*ArchEph* 2008, pp. 207-208); reading independently verified by Maurizio Del Freo and Julien Zurbach: to be adopted in the *GORILA* Supplement.

A 534bis = ligature **AB54+AB09** (**THE 8.2**) [10761 in the Unicode chart]: *editio princeps* by Christos Boulotis; reading independently verified by Maurizio Del Freo and Julien Zurbach: to be adopted in the *GORILA* Supplement. N.B. The numbering A534bis was already proposed by MDF in his "Rapport 2006-2010", p. 12 n. 55.

Deferred:

A505bis = ligature/juxtaposition '**A708**' '**AB04**' (**SA We 3**): reading based on autopsy by J.-P. Olivier (cf. "Rapport 2001-2005", p. 208). Verified on photos by MDF and JZ.

A506bis = ligature **AB08+AB04** (**SA We 4**) [10760 in the Unicode chart]: reading based on autopsy by Jean-Pierre Olivier (cf. *ibid.*). Verified on photos by Maurizio Del Freo and Julien Zurbach.

Linear B

In the discussion whether to suppress *124 PYC since it is agreed to be equal to *125 CYP, it was argued that the sign is so long-standing and present in the literature that it would be confusing to make a change. Given that there was no consensus, it was suggested to retain the distinction. However, since at the 11th CIPEM Colloquium in Austin (2000) it was agreed to suppress the distinction, the Committee prefers that the next Colloquium makes a final decision.

*134 differs from *190 in that the horizontal strokes fall across the uprights in the first and are set on either side in the second (Figure 2). But the Thebes sealings

found in 1982 made clear that the signs are merely scribal variants.¹ The Committee therefore **agreed** to suppress *134. It was noted that the more usual practice would be to suppress the higher number but since *190 is more common it was therefore retained. N.B. This decision was already taken in Austin (2000).

The Committee was asked by Dr Adamantia Vasilogamvrou Director of the excavations at Agios Vasileios, to comment on transliterations of various signs. Dr. Vasilogamvrou kindly shared all the relevant information with the Committee.

First is what appears to be a new sign on HV Rb 6. The form of the sign is a double-axe and it appears to be an ideogram although it is placed too near to the break for certainty. It was **agreed** to reserve a number in case this is a new ideogram. To show that the number is reserved rather than given, square brackets are used enclosing it as follows: [*235]. (This number is available and at the end of a series of related ideograms.) The decision was taken to postpone a discussion of a possible Latin name, to a further meeting.

It was noted that *47 appears in some variant forms in the Agios Vasileios tablets and that it was probably best to transliterate it with underdots (as had already been done by the excavator).

At a supplementary meeting it was **agreed** also to give a reserved number to what appears to be another Agios Vasileios ideogram. The ideogram appears ~~on~~ three times, on two different tablets; ~~it and~~ somewhat resembles *157, but the base is substantially different and the syllabogram *ma* appears in ligature as well as *wi*. As regards the numbering of the new ideogram, it turned out that some claims have already been made on the next available numbers *259 and *260. This led the Committee subsequently to suggest that *270 be provisionally ascribed to the new ideogram, and further that ***270-279 should be exclusively reserved for new discoveries at Agios Vasileios** while the excavations and study are on-going. This will give the editors the freedom they need to assign new numbers if required, without the concern that such numbers are already in use. Any ascriptions given to new Agios Vasileios ideograms can be discussed and confirmed or modified at future meetings of CIPEM, but there will be considerable clarity gained in avoiding cases where the same number is accidentally given to different signs at other sites.

Finally, after a presentation of the data by Dr. Vassilis Petrakis and considered discussion, it was suggested to reverse the decision of the 13th colloquium in Paris to create a variant transliteration for *141 (i.e. *141bis), since there could be actually three variant signs on the tablet not distributed by scribal hand. Possible scribal variation should not be given as an ideogram variant but rather discussed in interpretation or apparatus. It was therefore suggested to suppress *141bis. This suggestion, however, has been subsequently criticized by some CIPEM members. The Committee therefore acknowledges that there is need for a further in-depth discussion, and suggests that the next colloquium makes the final decision on *141 and *141bis.

¹ Piteros, Melena, Olivier 1990, Les inscriptions en linéaire B des nodules de Thèbes (1982): la fouille, les documents, les possibilités d'interprétation, *BCH* 114: 163-6.

Lastly, the Signarys Committee notes and suggests confirmation of the conclusions adopted in Austin (2000) and in part already confirmed in Paris (2010), i.e.

1. to create *236 GUP as a reversed *233 PUG for a different weapon recorded on the Knossos Ra tablets,
2. to unify the ideograms hitherto transcribed as *134 and *190 under the sole transliteration as *190 due to the higher frequency of the latter,
3. to unify transcriptions of *124 PYC and *125 CYP for the same commodity 'cyperus' under the sole transliteration as *125 CYP,
4. to unify the transcriptions of *34 and *35 under the sole transliteration as *34 due to the high frequency of the latter.

Moreover, the Signs Committee suggests that any decision about *141 and *141bis be postponed to the next Mycenological Colloquium.

	Austin	Sèvres	Copenhagen
*233 PUG ≠ *236 GUP	Yes	Confirmed	--
*134 = *190	Yes	--	Yes
*124 PYC = *125 CYP	Yes	--	NO/DEFERRED
*34 = *35	Yes	Confirmed	--
*141 AUR ≠ *141bis	--	Yes	DEFERRED

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	A 501	A 510	A 519	A 528	A 537	A 546
	01'02'	16+C?]+50	128'301'	41+07	156'178'	167'80+26C
	A 502	A 511	A 520	A 529	A 538	A 547
	01+17+09	16+C?]+50'23'	28+301	41+09	57+26	169+02
	A 503	A 512	A 521	A 530	A 539	A 548
	101'301'	21+41	31+23+81	41+13	57+77	173+57
	A 504	A 513	A 522	A 531	A 540	A 549
	02+02C	22m'81'	131'131a'	41+13 '67'	58+73	73+57+C.]
505bis	A 505	A 514	A 523	A 532	A 541	A 550
'708' '04'	04+02C	124'1C]67'	37+08	41+66	60+77	73+57+26
	A 506	A 515	A 524	A 533	A 542	A 551
	07'78'	27+09	157'412'as	141'303'	65+317'78'	73+57+28
506bis	A 507	A 516	A 525	A 534	A 543	A 552
08+04	13'131a'	28+C?]	38+C.]	51+C.]	166'303'	73+57+77
	A 508	A 517	A 526	A 535	A 544	A 553
	16+C?]+27	128'120+03'	38+77	54+81	167+C.]	173'301'
	A 509	A 518	A 527	A 536	A 545	A 554
	16+C?]+27+50	128'122'	40+74C	54+312	67+23	77+08

3. Signes complexes.

FIGURE 2

*134 *190