

Papyri from the New York University
Collection II
(P. NYU II)

Edited by
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Preface

Nearly two decades ago one of the authors of the present volume, then working in the Faculty of Letters (now 'Faculty of Humanities') of the University of Amsterdam, took the initiative to explore the possibilities of (re-)publishing papyri belonging to the papyrus collection of New York University. For this project he succeeded in obtaining the encouragement and assistance of Prof. M. Peachin (Department of Classics, New York University) in his capacity of *curator papyrorum* of NYU's papyrus collection. Prof. Peachin facilitated Worp's, especially by organizing the collection and compiling concordances between various inventory numbers, and by making photographs available to Worp. We express our gratitude that the Faculty of Humanities of the University of Amsterdam made a travel grant available to Worp, enabling him to visit New York University and to study all original papyri which seemed to deserve publication.

The New York University papyrus collection was acquired in the year 1924 through the services of the English papyrologist H.I. Bell. Index cards in the collection's files with 'Bell 1924' numbers (a combination of Roman and Arabic numerals) refer to the inventory and distribution lists of papyri acquired in this year by H.I. Bell on behalf of a consortium of mostly American and British universities and scholarly institutions. For some more information on Bell's role in the Anglo-Saxon attempt to imitate the German pre-WW I 'Papyrus-Kartell' see Prof. R.S. Bagnall in the introduction to P.Col. VII, pp. 2-4.

The majority of the approximately 545 papyrus fragments belonging to the collection are written in Greek, but there are also a few Coptic papyri (inv. ## 120r, 200, 427, 429, 430, 435, 446, 517, 518, 525). In the case of the inventory numbers 185, 426, 442 and 463 we cannot be certain whether these are Coptic rather than Greek. Finally, there is at least one Demotic papyrus, inv. # 182, and inv. # 184 probably contains an Arabic text on both sides.

A first volume of New York University Papyri entitled *Fourth Century Documents from Karanis* (Leiden, 1967 = P.NYU I) was published by N. Lewis. Already in their early conversations, Worp and Peachin had in mind the general scope of this second volume as it now appears, the core of which comprise NYU papyri previously published. These include papyri published

as contributions to journals, Festschriften, or conference proceedings, in addition to those that had been edited in the dissertations of L. Casson (1939) and E. Wolfe (1949). All of these papyri are reedited with the introductions and notes brought up to date in light of new discoveries, corrections and comments since their original publication. To these texts we have added all remaining publishable papyri in the NYU collection which had not previously been edited. While there remain a few papyri from this last group which continue to frustrate our best efforts to substantially decipher them, the present volume succeeds in nearly attaining the full proposed goal of all publishable papyri. Because all the newly edited papyri in the volume are printed for the first time with an official publication number, none of the papyri published here will appear in the „Sammelbuch der griechischen Papyrusurkunden“.

We gratefully acknowledge Peachin's contributions in the early stages of this volume while noting that he was unable to continue to play a major role as the project progressed. At the same time as Peachin felt obliged to withdraw from being a very active participant in the project, Worp's colleague P.J. Sijpesteijn stepped in and accepted an invitation to become a co-editor. Sijpesteijn read and annotated draft editions of individual NYU papyri and allowed Worp to present these unpublished texts in his papyrology seminars.¹ We note with sorrow that Sijpesteijn's premature death has deprived us of his further elucidation. Fortunately, Dr. B. Nielsen (The Jewish Theological Seminary, New York) was able to assist Worp with the final preparation of drafts of the texts. Nielsen's repeated personal inspection of the original papyri yielded a substantial number of improvements and new points of view and warrants his acting as a co-editor of the volume.

We thank Mr. F. Walker, former librarian of the Fales Library and Special Collections, Bobst Library, NYU with whom Worp and Peachin began. For Worp's original permission to publish we wish to thank Peachin in his capacity as *curator papyrorum*. Since "ownership" of the collection has now passed to The Fales Library and Special Collections, we thank Mr. Marvin Taylor, the Librarian of the Fales Library and Special Collections and the entire staff of the Fales Library for all their help in the handling and imaging of the papyri and for permission to publish the papyri. Photography of the papyri was carried out by the staff of the Bobst Library, New York University. We especially acknowledge our thanks to W. Gerald Heverly, Librarian for Classics, Hellenic Studies, and Philosophy, Bobst Library, for

1 We notice the contributions made by various Dutch students κατ' ὄνομα.

his keen interest to join the APIS project and make the New York University papyri images available therein. We also thank the Dr. Rudolf Habelt publishing firm for permission to reprint from the first editions which appeared in *Zeitschrift für Papyrologie und Epigraphik*. We are indebted to our colleague Guido Bastianini (Firenze) for allowing us to reproduce in this volume a photo of PSI inv. 137, accompanying P.NYU inv. 23 (= our text **15a** below).

Due to the fact that the papyri published in this volume began appearing in the year 2000 with numbers **1-10** and sequentially thereafter and have been cited in the papyrological literature with those numbers, we have decided not to renumber them following *P.NYU I*.

Throughout the duration of this project Dieter Hagedorn read our work and contributed many improvements and greatly enhanced several of our readings. We are deeply grateful for his efforts. Roger Bagnall read parts of the manuscript, and we thank him for help in understanding particularly difficult readings. Bärbel Kramer and Fritz Mitthof reviewed the earlier ZPE-versions of the texts and suggested several alternative readings, some of which we have adopted. For this labor we are also thankful. Francisca A.J. Hoogendijk checked some of our readings and her comments have improved the volume for which we acknowledge our great thanks.

To Dr. Joachim Hengstl, at present principal voice of the Institut für Rechtsgeschichte und Papyrusforschung, University of Marburg, we are deeply grateful for having accepted our volume into the *Philippika. Marburger altertumskundliche Abhandlungen*.

Bruce E. Nielsen, Jewish Theological Seminary, New York

Klaas A. Worp, University of Leiden

List of Texts

No.	Title	Date	Provenance
1	Homer, Ilias A 185-203	II ^p	Prov. unknown
2	Registration of Payments	ix-x.254 ^p	Oxyrhynchus
3	Petition for Redress	late 5 ^p	Arsinoite nome.
4	Nomination of Liturgists Performing Dike Work	3.iv.314 ^p	Oxyrhynchites
5	List of Fishes	IV ^p ?	Prov. unknown
6	List of Payments	IV/V ^p ?	Prov. unknown
7	Fragment of a Land Register	IV ^p	Hermopolites
8	Fragment of an Account	II ^p	Oxyrhynchites
9	Fragment of a Lease	11.x.250 ^p	Prov. unknown
10	Order for Transportation	4.vii.407 ^p	Oxyrhynchites
11	Settlement of a Dispute (Dialysis)	III ^p	Oxyrhynchites
12	Declaration of Sheep and Goats	20/21 ^p	Oxyrhynchites (Sepho)
13	Copy of a Sale of a Female Donkey	28.xi.198 ^p	Oxyrhynchites
14	Fragment of a Sale Contract	II ^a ?	Prov. unknown (Aphroditopolites?)
15	Contract for Parachoresis		
15a	New version of #15	67/68 ^p	Oxyrhynchites
16	Contract for Parachoresis	I ^a /I ^p ?	Oxyrhynchus
17	Letter to Apollonios from Achilles	I ^a	Euhemereia?
18	Letter of Introduction	19.ii.6 ^p	Philadelphia
19	Fragment of a Private Letter	II ^p	Prov. unknown
20	Letter to Tetseiris	II/III ^p	Prov. unknown (Oxyrhynchites?)
21	Fragmentary Letter of a Ship Captain (?)	III ^p	Prov. unknown
22	Letter from a Churchman	VI/VII ^p	Oxyrhynchites
23	Loan of Money	13.viii.326 ^p	Karanis
24	Fragment of a Loan	III ^p ?	Prov. unknown (Philadelphia?)
25	Loan of Money	294 ^p ?	Oxyrhynchus
26	Receipt for a Money Loan	29.vi.103 ^p	Prov. unknown
27	Receipt for a Money Loan	15.v.163 ^p	Prov. unknown
28	Account of Expenses/Medical Prescriptions	ca 165-200 ^p	Prov. unknown
29	Contract of a Loan with Mortgage	Early II ^p	Oxyrhynchites
30	Account	II ^p	Oxyrhynchus

No.	Title	Date	Provenance
31	Account	IV/V A.D	Prov. unknown
32	Account	between 341-374 or 381 - ca. 397 ^p ?	Oxyrhynchites?
33	Fragment of an Account	II ^p	Oxyrhynchites
34	Private Letter	IV ^p	Prov. unknown
35	Account of Wine	IV/V ^p	Fayum?
36	Land List	ca. 200 ^p	Oxyrhynchites
37	List of Land and Expenses	II/III ^p	Oxyrhynchites
38	Homer, Ilias Γ 188-199	I ^a – I ^p	Prov. unknown
39	Roman Will	335 ^p	Fayum (Karanis?)
40	Official Document	IV ^p prob.	Oxyrhynchites (?)
41	Tax-Receipt	2.v.131 - 22.v.132 ^p	Oxyrhynchus
42	Tax Receipt	VII/VIII ^p	Hermopolites?
43	Tax (?) Receipt	24.vii.221 ^p	Aphroditopolites
44	Tax Receipt	iv - v. 55 ^p	Prov. unknown
45	Hypomnema for the Nomarch Nikanor	237 ^a / 20.vi. 195 ^a ?	Fayum?
46	Report Concerning Work Performed	III	Prov. unknown
47	Order for Delivery	V/VI ^p	Prov. unknown
48	Transportation Receipt	late IV ^p	Prov. unknown
49	Order to Arrest	II/III ^p	Oxyrhynchites?
50	Account	III/IV ^p	Hermopolites
51	Account	III/IV ^p	Hermopolites
52	Private Account	Early II ^p	Prov. unknown
53	Private Account	Early II ^p	Oxyrhynchites?