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P. Petra V 86. One or Two Short Documents

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86. ONE OR TWO SHORT DOCUMENTS

Inv. 82I	5 x ca. 50 cm	6th c.?
Field No. XIXi	top margin ca. 4 cm ?	
Glass Plate 286	right margin 0–0.5 cm	
Plate CLIX	bottom margin 6 cm	

Only a strip of some five centimeters of the right side of this text survives. A blank space between the fragments (fr. 16) suggests that there might actually have been two sheets rolled together. However, they were written by the same hand, and there is only one secure join between the layers (frs. 7 and 14), so it is impossible to reconstruct an alternative sequence of fragments based on this hypothesis. Since it remains possible that the writer left a space between two texts in the same roll, we give just a single transcript. It may represent the original order of the fragments, but this is by no means certain. There were several lines of faint text before the first edited line. A number of fragments may belong to the left of the main series, but they cannot be located.

The text was written by a slightly sloping, somewhat clumsy hand with a dull pen, leaving practically no right margin. A few orthographic errors reveal that the writer was not a very experienced professional. As far as can be inferred from the disjointed fragments, the space left between the lines varied considerably. This might of course reflect a situation where the roll consisted of distinct records separated by shorter or longer gaps.

Two personal names appear among the fragments, Theodoros and Nonnos. Several words indicate that the document related to landed property and perhaps first and foremost to taxes: ἐλευθερικοῦ (taxation class), ἀμπελικοῦ (“vineyard”), ἰουγέρου (*iugerum*), φυγτηλει- (“tax”), and an Arabic toponym.

In addition, there was clearly another sheet wrapped around the main roll. The joined height of these fragments was at least 10–15 cm, and they seem to preserve the left side of a text. The extant letters reveal practically nothing of the contents, so we do not edit the wrapping. As the outermost blank layers of the inner roll cannot be separated from the wrapping, the extent of its top margin remains uncertain.

↑		-----	
1]....[...].....[]		
	π]επληροδ[α]ι . . . μ[]		. . . to have been paid . . .
	traces		
4]τη		
	traces		
].ιον[] . λογ .		
]..δ.[]		

8] ὑπὲρ τό(που) Μαθ]. ἔλευθερικοῦ].[].v.[]	. . . for the place Math free . . .
12	traces traces vacat	
16	Θ]εόδορος]μενοι χα() traces]οι ἀμπελικοῦ] ἑξδεκάτης ἰνδι(κτίωνος)]εις ἰουγέρου]. . . τον καὶ τοῦ] τὴν συντήλει(αν)]νημιφ ταυ-]ου Νόννου]. ου τοῦ ἐξη . . . ὕ]πέγραψα † traces	. . . Theodoros vineyard eleventh indiction <i>iugerum</i> the taxes of Nonnos I signed.
24	ἥ]μιου . . [] traces]. . . ςιο[]νις[. . . half . . .
28]ωνων traces vacat	

2 πεπληρωσθαι 8 τ̄ Pap. 15 Θεόδωρος 16 χ̄ Pap. 19 ἰνδι Pap. 22 συντέλειαν συντηλει or συντηλε) Pap.

COMMENTARY

8] ὑπὲρ τό(που) Μαθ: the same toponym may appear on a *verso* fragment: τό(που) Μαθ Θ[.

9 ἔλευθερικοῦ: for land classed as “free,” which did not mean tax-exempt, see P. Petra I, pp. 76–77, and cf. 19 6–7 with comm.

16]μενοι χα(): this may alternatively be]μενοις χα(). The abbreviated word might refer to the public archives or their officials thereof (δημόσιοι χάρται, χαρτοφύλαξ, χαρτουλάριος), cf. Index VIII.

24]ου Νόννου: as the name is in the genitive, it may also be a patronymic.

20 ἰουγέρου: for *iugerum*, see P. Petra I, pp. 102–4, III, pp. 34–35, and IV, p. 29.

26 ὕ]πέγραψα †: this must be the end of a signature. The fragments do not reveal any clear change of hands. What follows is too slight to decipher or even to judge whether or not it belongs to the same text.

