

Place Date Language Material Number of texts Type Collections Find/Acquisition	Hatres and Isas	ArchID 261. Version 2 (2013) Ruben Smolders
	Arsinoites (Fayum), meris of Herakleides, Philadelpheia AD 276/277-314 Greek Papyrus 8 Private archive Berlin, Ägyptisches Museum; Geneva, Bibliothèque Acquired before 1895 (Berlin collection) and end 19 th century through Naville (Geneva collection)	

Bibliography

P. Gen.(2) I, 2002, p. 54-57, no. 13.
 R. SMOLDERS, 'Two Archives from the Roman Arsinoites', *CdE* 79 (2004), p. 233-240.
 The numbers in **bold** refer to *BGU* I-III.

Description

Two contracts of lease of agricultural land situated in Philadelpheia and nearby Tanis (**349**, **409**) and two receipts for rent in grain (**408**, *P. Gen.*(2) I 13), drawn up in the form of letters, are addressed to Aurelius Isas in AD 313 and 314. **373**, **411**, **419** and **858** are three receipts and a contract of sale with dates ranging from AD 276/277 to 314. Three are in the form of letters addressed to Aurelius Hatres; in **373** the vendor agrees (l. 1: ὁμ[ολ]ογεῖ) that he received the full price from Hatres.¹

Five of the aforementioned documents (**349**, **408-409**, **411** and *P. Gen.*(2) I 13) were brought together by the editors of *P. Gen.*(2) I, who suggested that they originate from the employees of 'un syndicat agricole' (set up by the landowners mentioned in these texts) or from the notary's office of Philadelpheia. There are several reasons to suppose that the eight texts are parts of one archive of Hatres and Isas. The inventory numbers of all *BGU* texts are in the same range. Isas and Hatres pay rent for fields situated in the same area (Philadelpheia and Tanis). Both men are described as ἀλλόφυλος. Finally, in **411** (addressed to Hatres) and in *P. Gen.*(2) I 13 (addressed to Isas) the same landowner (Aurelius Potamon) issues the same type of document only a few days apart.

App. 1 offers a list of the texts belonging to the archive. It remains unclear why these texts were placed in one archive. Probably the key is the rare term ἀλλόφυλος, although the interpretation of this word in these texts remains unclear. Either the word has to be taken in a literal sense ('persons having an origin elsewhere'; Hatres and Isas are not from Philadelpheia, where at least one and probably six of the archive texts were drawn up) or, as Gascou argued, it should be translated as 'gravedigger'.²

Hatres has a brother Aurelius Iason (cf. *Chrest. Wilck.* 373 (= **419**), 1). In **349**, Ieusionis and Isas lease a field together. If Hatres' brother Iason is identical with Ieusionis and if Ieusionis is Isas' brother, Hatres and Isas would be brothers. That the ἰδίᾳ or origo of Hatres and Isas is

¹ Wilcken already identified Hatres in *Chrest. Wilck.* 373 and **411**; J. Gascou, 'Les ἈΛΛΟΦΥΛΟΙ', *REG* 110 (1997), p. 287 n. 8 pointed out that the same person is addressed in **373** and **858**.

² Gascou 1997, p. 286-294.

different, does not cause a problem, since Hatres' brother Iason is from Philadelpheia while Hatres comes from the village of Arsinoe.

The editors of *P. Gen.*(2) I 13 think that Isas lived in Aphroditopolis, on the east bank of the Nile, since he describes himself as ἀπὸ τῆς Ἀφροδιτοπολιτῶν πόλεως (349, 3-4). The land leased by Isas in Philadelpheia in the Arsinoites would then illustrate the mobility of tenants in search for fields. But probably Isas' origo was Aphroditopolis and he now lives as an ἀλλόφυλος in Philadelpheia, where he leases the fields.

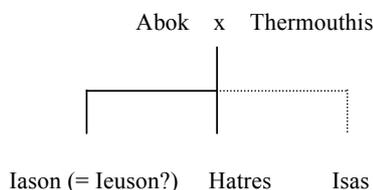
Archive texts *BGU* I 349, II 373, 408, 409, 411, 419, III 858; *P. Gen.*(2) 1 13.

Text types Receipts and contracts = incoming documents.

Appendices App. 1. List of the archive texts

Publication	Inv. Nr. ³	Date	Short description
<i>BGU</i> II 419 (= <i>Chrest. Wilck.</i> 373)	7919	276/277	Receipt by Aurelius Iason, son of Abok, ἀλλόφυλος to his brother Aurelius Hatres for a part of an inheritance.
<i>BGU</i> III 858 (with <i>BL</i> XI, p. 20)	7944	10.10.294	Receipt of 5000 drachmas by Aurelius Patron, son of the ἀλλόφυλος Sabinus to Aurelius Hatres, son of Abok, also ἀλλόφυλος, from the village of Arsinoe in the meris of Herakleides.
<i>BGU</i> II 373	7996	06.09.298	Sale of a donkey foal by Aurelius Heliodoros to Aurelius Hatres, son of Abok and Thermouthis, from the village of Arsinoe.
<i>BGU</i> II 408	7925	22.11.313	Receipt for rent in grain by Aurelius Betil to Aurelius Isas, from the Aphroditopolites
<i>BGU</i> II 409	7947	25.11.313	Contract of lease of agricultural land by Aurelius Asemis addressed to Isas and Dioskoros from Aphroditopolis
<i>BGU</i> I 349	7923	26.11.313	Contract of lease of agricultural land by Aurelius Pasion to Isas and Ieusionis from Aphroditopolis
<i>BGU</i> II 411	7922	27.05.314	Receipt for rent in grain from Aurelius Potamon to Hatres, ἀλλόφυλος γεωργός
<i>P. Gen.</i> (2) I 13	<i>P. Gen.</i> 56	09.06.314	Receipt for rent in grain from Aurelius Potamon to Isas, ἀλλόφυλος γεωργός

App. 2. Stemma of the family



Note: Full lines represent a certain family relation, dotted lines an uncertain one.

³ P. Berl. inv. 7920 (*BGU* I 360) and 7921 (*BGU* II 617) are not related to the archive; 7924 is unpublished.