

Misthosis/antimisthosis/homologia

A *misthosis* and an *antimisthosis*, whether brief or lengthier, have a very standard format and are documents of the simplest structure in the Archive. They open with the dating clause and the address, followed by the main body, which describes the object, states the condition of its specific use, the rent to be paid and closes with the *kyria* and *stipulatory* clauses, and the subscriptions of parties. Both types are confirmations of a lease contract by one party only, *misthosis* by a lessee, *antimisthosis* by a lessor. *Misthosis* is sometimes named *misthotike homologia*, e.g. P. Lond. 1692B is a unilateral deed issued by the lessee and signed only by them, while the *kyria* clause refers to ἡ μισθωτικ(ή) ὁμολογία (l. 17). The reference to *misthotike homologia* most probably means that there was another unilateral confirmation issued by the second party to the lease.

Misthotike homologia could be an independent type of deed, a contract written in two identical copies signed by and given to both parties, but rarely attested, P. Mich. XIII 667. It is more elaborate than both *misthosis* and *antimisthosis*, for its introductory part, mutual acknowledgement by two parties entering a contract, is longer, such as starts with the phrase expressing the consent and volition of two parties, so starts: ταύτην ἐθέμεθα τὴν ὁμολογίαν τῆς μισθώσεως πρὸς ἀλλήλους, ἐκ μὲν τοῦ ἐνὸς μέρους NN in nominative case ἐκ δὲ τοῦ ἑτέρου μέρους NN in nominative case ('We have established between us this agreement of lease, on one side NN, on the other side NN'). The document contains penal and hypotheca generalis clauses. In the main body they seem to contain the same details as *misthosis* and *antimisthosis*.

Determination of the parties and contract

In the *misthosis* and *antimisthosis* the address starts with one party in the nominative case addressing the second party in the dative case; or dative case + παρά genitive case + χαίρειν, and enters the main body with the very familiar phrase 'ὁμολογῶ ἐκουσίως καὶ αὐθαιρέτως μεμισθῶσθαι παρ' ὑμῶν...' ('I acknowledge, freely and willingly, that I have rented from you...'), or simply in the singular 'μεμισθώμεθα παρὰ σοῦ' ('We leased from you'). When the lessor was of significantly higher status or belonged to the clergy, it was phrased as 'παρὰ τῆς ὑμετέρας μεγαλοπρεπείας' ('from your magnificence') or 'παρὰ τῆς σῆς σεβασμιότητος' ('your reverence') *vel sim*. When a lessor (or rarely a lessee) is an institution, such as the fisc, a monastery or a church, or an absent individual, the contract is concluded through a representative, phrased with διὰ + NN in genitive case ('through NN').

Usually deeds are named in the *kyria* clause and in the subscriptions, but also the verb at the beginning of the main body may help distinguish between *misthosis* and *anti-/ekmisthosis*. The middle μισθοῦμαι is expressing the lessee taking in lease, ὁμολογῶ μεμισθῶσθαι παρὰ xx. The active μισθόω is used to express that a lessor let an object to a lessee, e.g. in perfect tense μεμίθωκα ὑμῖν / σοι. The verb μισθόω is often augmented by ἀντι- or ἐκ-.

Period and object of lease

Then the lessee gives the period of time they are leasing – *deo volente* – (πρὸς ἐνιαυτῶν χρόνον καρπῶν σὺν Θεῷ τετάρτης ἰνδικτίονος... ('for the duration of one year from the harvest of the fourth indiction...'), πρὸς ὃν βούλεσθαι χρόνον ἀπὸ σήμερον εἰς τὸ ἐξῆς χρόνον) ('for the time you want, from today and for the time to come') sometimes with the starting date

of the contract, 'λογιζόμενον ἀπὸ καρπῶν x ἰνδικτίονος' ('counting from the harvest of the x indiction'), the object that 'belongs to the lessor' and goes on to describe the object, its type, 'γεώργιον, βόσκημα etc.' ('field', 'pasture' etc.), its length, 'ἀρουρῶν ὅσων ἐστίν...' ('of as many arourae as there there are') its location, διακειμένου ἐν τῇ νοτινῇ πεδιάδι ... τῆς αὐτῆς κώμης... ('situated in the southern field ... of the same village') and its boundaries, 'πρὸς τὰ παλαιὰ αὐτοῦ ὅρια κυκλόθεν...' ('within its old boundaries all around').

In certain cases, the document specifies the way in which the object was acquired, e.g. 'καὶ ἐλθὼν εἰς ὑμᾶς ἀπὸ δικαίου κληρονομίας' ('and came to us by right of inheritance') or 'ἀπὸ ἐγγράφου δωρεᾶς' ('by written donation').

The vast majority of leases from Aphrodite were made for agricultural purposes and concern land, but leases of buildings (P. Cair. SR 3733; P. Lond. V 1691) or other objects, such as a transportation wagon ('ἐλκυστὴ ἄμαξα' in P. Cair. Masp. III 67303) are not a rarity. Evidently, the proportion in the Antinoopolite dossier of Dioskoros, which was not included in this glossary, is the opposite.

Rent and conditions

What follows is the condition upon the lessee, introduced with the characteristic phrase ἐφ' ᾧ ('so that ...'), then the specific use of the object leased, most often agricultural duties, 'εἰς βοσκήν ... εἰς κατανομήν τῶν ἐμῶν προβάτων καὶ θρεμμάτων...' ('so that we occupy it to graze and raise our animals'). The conditions could be general, such as ἐφ' ᾧ με τοῦτο ἔχειν ὑπ' ἐμέ ('so that I have it in my possession'), [ἐ]φ' ᾧ με τοῦτο ἔχειν εἰς πᾶσαν μοῦ χρεῖαν πρὸς ὃ ἂν βούλομαι [χρη]σιν ('so that I have it in my possession for all my needs, and whatever use I wish', P. Lond. V 1691), which do not introduce any new limitations on the lessee or put on them any specific tasks beyond those from the law itself.

The amount of rent to be paid could be a continuation of lease conditions starting with ἐφ' ᾧ: '...καὶ διδόναι ὑμῖν ὑπὲρ λόγου μισθοῦ χρυσοῦ νομισμάτιον ἔν παρα κεράτιον ἔν, γίνονται χρυσοῦ νομισμάτιον α παρα κεράτιον α, ἀναμφιλόγως...' ('and to pay you for rent one gold solidus, minus one carat, that is 1 gold solidus minus 1 carat, without dispute...').

In other cases the rent is introduced with a different sentence, καὶ ὑπὲρ τοῦτον τὸν φόρον ἐτοιμῶς ἔχω ...('and for this rent I am ready to pay ...'). The rent itself is either in money, or in kind (ἐκφόριον), in artabae of wheat (σίτου ἀρτάβαι) barley (κριθῶν), legumes such as ἄρακος, φακός, vegetables such as λεψάνη/λαψάνη (charlock), οἶνος (wine) or other agricultural products such as cheese (τυρός), meat (κρέας), wool (ἐρέα) or crops sharing, e.g. 'καὶ τοῦ καιροῦ γενομένου τοῦ {ε} περιγινόμενον [παντοίων γενημάτων]ων κ(αὶ) ἀχύρων εἰς ἡμᾶς [μερικθῆσεται κα]τὰ τὸ ἥμισυ' ('and when the time comes, the produce of every crop and chaff shall be divided between us in two equal parts') in P. Heid. V 351; P. Hamb. I 68r. The types of rent are often mixed in a single contract, namely a part is paid in money, another part in kind, or crops sharing is supplemented with extra agricultural produce and money, P. Hamb. I 68. If rent is given in money the standard according to which it is measured is indicated. Less often, the rent includes the taxes on the land which would in normal circumstances burden the lessor, as in the case P. Cair. Masp. III 67300.

Lease related documents in the archive are always styled as a lease of a certain object, but a long list of precisely determined obligations, which the lessee must carry out, often make the contract similar to a lease of service or even work. In other words, the documents do not really keep a tripartite Roman division into lease of *res*, *opus* and *opera*, but seem to serve the needs of the parties within the pattern of lease of material objects. Similarly, it would be difficult to provide a precise distinction between crops-sharing contracts and leases based on rent in money or nature, as in most cases the rent is a combination of two or even three types of rent. For example, the pasture in P. Michael. 48 is given in lease for the service of guarding: καὶ ἐτοίμως ἔχομεν ποιησονμεν νύκτας εἴκοσι πέ[ν]τε διὰ τῶν ἡμῶν προβάτων ἀντὶ τοῦ[υ] μίσθοῦ τοῦ αὐτοῦ βοσκήματος ('and we are ready to ensure twenty-five nights of guarding with our herds instead of the rent of the same pasture.').

Additional conditions of the lease also occur as part of a contract, e.g. the use of certain facilities free of rent, or different rent rates depending on whether the Nile floods or not. On many occasions, the transportation of the rent to the lessor is also included in the agreement, as for example in P. Hamb. I 68, P. Lond. V 1714 and P. Lond. V 1698: καὶ τὴν μεταφορὰν ποιήσομεν <τοῦ φόρου> διὰ τ[ῆ]ς ἡμῶν ἀμάξης καὶ τῶν ἡμῶν ζώων ('we shall provide the transportation of the rent with our carriage and animals').

The *kyria* and *stipulatory* clauses which close the main body of a *misthosis*, have the briefest and most standard form among the types of documents in the Archive. It simply states that the 'misthosis is valid and secure' and that the lessee, 'having been asked the formal question, consented': ἡ μίσθωσις κυρία ἔσται καὶ βεβαία καὶ ἐπερωτηθεὶς ὡμολόγησα.

The document closes with the subscriptions of the lessee, 'NN ὁ προκείμενος μεμίσθωμαι ὡς πρόκειται' ('I, NN, have leased, as above'), or 'συμφωνῶ μοι ὡς πρόκειται' ('It satisfies me, as above'); of the subscriber for illiterate, 'NN ἀξιωθεὶς ἔγραψα ὑπὲρ αὐτοῦ γράμματα μὴ εἰδότος' ('I, NN, having been asked, wrote for him who does not know letters'); sometimes witnesses, 'NN μαρτυρῶ τῇ μισθώσει ὡς πρόκειται' or 'ἀκούσας παρὰ τοῦ θεμένου πόροντος καὶ εἴποντος μοι' ('I, NN, witness to the lease, as above or having heard from the part'); and of the scribe, 'δι' ἐμοῦ NN ἐγράφη' ('written by me, NN').

The final element is a docket on the verso, in the form of 'μίσθωσις + NN in genitive' ('lease of NN').

Additional aims and elements

Rarely, a lease contract is secured by a guarantor who is held liable in the event that the main debtor fails to pay the rent. The guarantor of Aurelius Menas in P. Cair. Masp. III 67303, for example, guarantees for him for "for the full payment and restitution of the below indicated rent for the transport wagon and its unimpaired restitution" ("πρὸς πᾶσαν ἔκτισιν καὶ ἀπόδοσι[ν] τοῦ ἐξῆς δηλουμένου μισθο[ῦ] τῆς ἐλκιστῆς ἀμάξης καὶ τῆς ταύτης ἀποκαταστάσεως ἀβλαβῶ[ς] ").

More often, if there are two lessees, they provide sureties for one another - ὁμολογοῦμεν ἐξ ἀλληλεγγύης μεμισθῶσθαι.

As mentioned earlier, leases are quite straightforward documents and simple from a legal point of view, however there are cases where we see them to achieve other goals than the literal renting an object or services. Such an example is P. Michael. 42 B + A in which land given as a real security for dowry is leased free of rent by two parents from their daughter-in-law. The obvious aim of this device is to leave the land in hands of the parents and release the daughter-in-law from burdens connected to the land.

Emphyteusis

A special type of lease, *emphyteusis*, is attested in the Antinoopolite part of Dioskoros' archive on two occasions, i.e. P. Cair. Maps. III 67298 and 67299. Another document, P. Ross. Georg. III 43, which is a confirmation of payment of emphyteutic rent, has no indication of provenance. P. Michael. 41, originating from Aphrodite, has content and structure different from the examples preserved in the Antinoopolitan dossier.

Receipts and confirmations

Among the documents related to leases, there is a number of short documents confirming rent payments and acknowledging the continuation of obligations. It is the lessor who issues them to confirm the receipt of rent for a certain period.

The address here is in reverse form: the lessor in the nominative or in the form παρά + gen. (often through the representative) addresses the lessee in the dative. The main body in a subjective style is short and based on the pattern. It starts with the familiar phrase “ἔχον καὶ πεπλήρωμαι παρὰ σοῦ” (“I have and been paid by you”), or “ἔδεξάμην” (“I have received”) which is followed by the basis for payment, such as “τοῦ φόρου” or “τοῦ τε φόρου καὶ τῆς σπορᾶς καὶ τῆς ἀρδεύσεως” (“for the sowing and the rent and the irrigation”. The lessor refers to the object for which the rent is paid as “ὑπὸ σέ” which means that the payer is the object's holder. Usually the object in the genitive is further described, e.g. τῶν xx ἀρουρῶν (‘my three arourae seeded by you’) or κτήματος λεγομένου xx. Sometimes the document specifies the period for which the payment was made, e.g. ὑπὲρ xx ἰνδικτίωνος, but in most cases it simply says “ἐκ πλήρους” (“in full”). Rent in nature could specify the product in which it was paid, e.g. “ἐν τε κίτῳ καὶ κριθᾷ” (“in both grain and barley”). In a few cases, the text mentions that the payment was based on the earlier lease, e.g. “κατὰ τὴν δύναμιν τῆς σῆς μισθώσεως” (“in virtue of your lease”).

This short main body is followed by a formulaic statement that the signed receipt was made for the security of the payer: “καὶ εἰς σὴν ἀσφάλειαν πεποίημαί σοι ταύτην τὴν πληρωτικὴν ἀποχὴν μεθ’ ὑπογραφῆς ἐμῆς ὡς πρόκειται” (“And for your security, I have made for you the receipt of payment with my subscription, as above”). Sometimes this part is followed by a short dating clause, “ἐγράφη (month day) ἰνδικτίωνος”.

The document closes with the subscription based on the familiar pattern (“στοιχεῖ μοι ἡ ἀποχὴ ὡς πρόκειται”) and it is often given by a representative.

A special type of receipt confirms that the lessee paid the taxes for the land which the lessor accounted for the rent. The pattern is the usual one, but with the additional phrase, as for example in PSI VIII 937: “καὶ ἐτοίμως ἔχω ταῦτα (the tax) λογίζεσθαί σοι εἰς τὸν αὐτὸν φόρον” (“I am ready to put them to the account of the same rent”.); or P. Hamb. III 232.

A receipt may sometimes contain an additional sentence referring to the circumstances of the payment. In PSI VIII 936, it is added that the earlier orders of payment should be invalid: “ἀκύρων ὄντων τῶν ἐνταγίων κ(αὶ) ἀνιχυρ[ω]ν τῶν παρὰ σοῖ ὑπὲρ τῆς αὐτῆς ἐ // ἰνδικ[(τίονος)” (“since the orders of payments you had regarding the same 15th indiction are invalid and with no force”).

Securities

Personal securities – sureties

As an ἐγγύη, i.e. a surety in which one person takes liability for an obligation of another in case they did not perform, we distinguish three types: performance surety, attendance surety, and surety for someone’s debt in money or in kind. Performance sureties taking the form of an oath are most numerous in the archives, as out of the twenty six sureties there are 20 certain performance sureties (fifteen from Aphrodite and five from Antinoopolis), two certain attendance sureties (P. Flor. III 284 and P. Cair. Masp. I 67094) and three sureties of debatable type (P. Flor. III 288, P. Cair. Masp. III 67332 and P. Cair. Masp. III 67334). More likely than not these are attendance sureties, but P. Flor. III 288 could well have been a performance surety too. Unfortunately, the damage to the text is too substantial to determine this. One text, P. Cair. Masp. II 67122, is a surety pertaining to a debt.

The surety documents are all very formulaic and while they usually differ slightly in phrasing, and in any given document some clauses are present while others are absent and *vice versa* in a different document, there is a very limited number of clauses that can be found in these texts. The most radical example are the twelve *agrophylakia* written by the same scribe Isaak texts of P. Cair. Masp. III 67328 which have two types of oaths and the phrasing is virtually identical but for the ordering of the clauses, of which there are also just two variants. Other Aphrodite texts are also visibly similar enough to each other to allow the reconstruction of whole missing clauses (e.g. P. J. Sijpesteijn, *Analecta Pap.* 3 (1991), p. 138.), but all in all not to such an extent as these in P. Cair. Masp. III 67328. The Antinoopolitan texts, while very similar to each other, differ significantly from the Aphrodite texts in the phrasing, but the general sense and purpose of the texts appears to be identical.

This type of document takes a form of unilateral confirmation of the oath, θεῖος ὄρκος. Each text begins with a standard dating clause followed by an address clause. All the sureties in our disposal took the unilateral form, thus they are consistently opened by the formula of the addressee given in dative and the sender in a παρά-with-genitive phrase, but a formula of the sender given in nominative is naturally also very common and unremarkable.

The main body of the text is also standard. It is built on the verb ὁμολογῶ or ὁμολογοῦμεν, followed by the adverbs ἐκουσίως καὶ ἀυθαίρετως, ‘I/we acknowledge freely and voluntarily’. It is interrupted immediately by the oath expressed in a subordinate clause ruled by the participle “having sworn” (gr. ὀμνύς). The oath has a double religious and imperial addressees, e.g. P.Cair.Masp. III 67328.6–8: ἐπομνύμενος τόν τε παντοκράτορα Θεὸν καὶ τὴν νίκην καὶ διαμονὴν το(ῦ) δεσπότη(ου) ἡμῶν Φλ(αίου) Ἰουστίνου(ου) το(ῦ) αἰωνίου(ου)

αύγουστου αὐτοκράτορος ('having sworn both on the almighty God and the victory and permanence of our lord Flavius Iustinus, the eternal august emperor'); or a little P.Cair.Masp. III 67332.7–8: ἐπομνύμενοι τόν [τ]ε παντοκράτορ[α Θ]εὸν καὶ [τ]ή[ν νί]κ[η]ν καὶ σωτηρ[ί]αν [τοῦ καλλινίκου ἡμῶν δεσπότη(σ) Φλ(αίου) Ἰουστινιανοῦ τ]οῦ αἰω[ν]ίου ἀύγ[ο]ύστου κ[αὶ] αὐτοκρ[άτορος] ('having sworn both on the almighty God and the victory and salvation of our triumphant lord, Flavius Iustinianus, the eternal augustus and emperor').

In the actual surety clause the guarantor states that he “gives and pledges surety for the stay and appearance” (gr. ἐγγυᾶσθαι καὶ ἀναδεδέχθαι μονῆς καὶ ἐμφανείας) of the object (given in accusative). The phrase of “μονῆς καὶ ἐμφανείας” is clearly crucial as it appears in all sureties from Aphrodite and sureties from other cities (e.g. Herakleopolis, BGU III 936; Hermopolis, BGU XII 2135), but not in Antinoopolitan ones.

The object of the surety in acc. with their personal description and profession or function comes immediately after, e.g. P. Cair. Masp. III 67328, p. 2.7–8: Αὐρήλιον Ἀγ[νά]τωνα Παπόλλωνος, ποιμέν(α) καὶ ἀγρο[φ]ύλακ(α) τῆς δεκανείας Τειαε ('Aurelius Agnaton, son of Apollon (pap.: Papollon), shepherd and field-guard of the decuria Teiae'); P. Cair. Masp. III 67296.6–7: Αὐρηλί[ο]υς Ἑρμαυῶν Μο(σ)σῆτος καὶ Μο\υ\σῆν αὐτοῦ γνήσιον υἱὸν, μελισουργοῦς ('Aurelii Hermauos, son of Mouses, and of Mouses, his legitimate son, bee-keepers').

The object of surety could be followed by the period of validity of the surety - in all deeds documented in P. Cair. Masp. III 67328 it is one year, e.g. ll. 20–22: πρὸς ἐνιαύσιον χρόνον, λογιζόμεν(ον) ἀπὸ σήμερον τῆς προγεγραμμέν[ης] ἡμέρας, ἣτις ἐστὶ μῆνὸς Ἐπειφ κ παρούσης πεντεκαιδεκάτης ἰνδικ(τίονος) ('for the period of a year counting from today, the above-written day, that is the 20th of Epeiph of the current fifteenth indiction').

In the next clause the duties of the object of the surety are presented, introduced by a final clause “ἐπὶ τῷ” followed by *accusativus cum infinitivo*. These will obviously differ between the texts (although in P. Cair. Masp. III 67328 they are also understandably identical as all the documents deal with *agrophylakia*), but two phrases are present all around: firstly, “(that) he remains” (scil. in the village, gr. αὐτὸν (scil. ἐν τῇ κώμῃ) παραμεῖναι); secondly, that he “will never abandon his duties” (gr. μηδαμῶς ἀπολείπεσθαι). In the sureties preserved on P. Cair. Masp. III 67328, the *agrophylakes'* duties usually listed besides the basic ones are the following:

- προσεδρεύειν - 'remain'
- καὶ ὑπουργεῖν πᾶσι ταῖς δημοσίαις χρεῖαις - 'assist everyone in the public affairs'
- τὴν παραφυλακὴν τῶν εἰρηνικῶν πραγμάτων (ποιεῖσθαι) - 'perform the guard-duty of the peaceful affairs'
- τὰς παραστάσεις τῶν ἐπιζητο(σ)μένων προσώπων ποιεῖσθαι - 'bring wanted persons'

The scope of obligations of the object is different in case of documents securing the appearance at a certain place (in front of an official) or guaranteeing their staying at the village because of investigation or trial against them, e.g. P. Cair. Masp. I 67094.12: ἐπὶ τῷ αὐτὸν ἐμμεῖναι καὶ εὐρηθ[ῆ]ναι ἐν τῇ αὐτῇ κώμῃ Ἀφροδίτης ἄνευ οἰασδῆ[πο]τε

κ[ατα]φρ[ον]ήσεως καὶ αἰσ[χρᾶ]ς πράξεως (‘so that he will remain and be found in the village of Aphrodite without any neglect or shameful act whatsoever’).

The next clause deals with the duties of the guarantor himself; he is typically obliged to bring forward the object of the surety on demand of the recipient of the surety, or when the object does not appear to provide what they were obliged to provide, *ὀπόταν δὲ ζητούμενον παρὰ τῆς σῆς εὐδοκίμησης* (‘and when he is demanded by your most distinguished person’). The action expected that the guarantor declared to undertake is expressed: *τοῦτον παρενεγκεῖν καὶ παραδώσω ἐκτὸς ἀγίων* (‘I will bring him forward and give away’). Yet, the exclusion is introduced: *ἐκτὸς ἀγίων περιβόλων καὶ θείων χαρακτήρων καὶ ἀγίας κυριακῆς* (‘outside of the holy precincts and imperial portraits and not on the holy lordly (sunday)’), which means that the guarantor will bring the person for whom they provided surety with the exception of situations in which the law guaranteed the refuge and not on Sunday.

The following part of the text is the proper surety, in which the guarantor recognises his duty towards the recipient and his liability to pay the penalty if the object of the surety actually did abandon his duties and upon demand was not presented: *εἰ δὲ ἀπολημφθεῖη καὶ ζητούμενος μὴ εὐρεθεῖη, ἐτοιμῶς ἔχω ὁ προγεγραμμένος ἐγγυητὴς παρέξω ὑπὲρ τῆς αὐτοῦ ἀπολείψεως χρυσοῦ νομίσματα ἕξ* (P. Cair. Masp. III 67328, p. 1.15–18) *vel sim.* (‘And should he abandon his duties and having been demanded were not found, I, written above guarantor, am ready to provide for his leaving six solidi of gold.’). Then the mention of the liability coming from the oath is as otherwise the guarantor would be in violation of the given oath (gr. *ἢ ἔνοχον εἶη τῷ θείῳ ὄρκῳ*).

Occasionally, the guarantor(s) seem to secure that the object would not change their status: e.g. P. Cair. Masp. III 67296.11–12: *[ἀλλ’ ἐπὶ τῷ α]ὐτῷ σχήματι μένουσιν ἀδιαλείπτως ἄνευ οἷας δὴποτε προστασίας, μήτε μοναχ[ι]κο(ῦ) μήτε στρατι[ω]τικοῦ], [ἀλλὰ πα]ρα[δ]ώσωμεν τ[ο]ύτο[υ]ς, ὡς προείπαμεν, ὀπόταν ζητηθεῖη πρὸς ἡμᾶς παρὰ τῆς ὑμῶν ἀρ[ί]στ[η]ς [αἰ]δεσ[ι]μου]* (‘without any other status, but they shall remain uninterruptedly under the same status without any protection, whether monastic or military, but we will deliver them as we stated above, whenever we are demanded by your venerable excellency’).

The last element of the document’s body are the provisions concerning the termination of the surety and invalidation of the document after this time, ll. 19–20: termination of contract: *συνπεραιουμένου δὲ τοῦ χρόνου, ἐπὶ τῷ ἐμὲ ἀναλαβεῖν ταύτην μου τὴν ἐγγύην, ἡγουν, μένουσαν παρ’ ὑμῶν, ἄκυρον εἶναι καὶ ἀνίσχυρον πανταχοῦ προφερομένην* (‘And when the period has elapsed, for which I have taken up this surety of mine, that is, remaining by you, it will be invalid and powerless wherever it is produced’).

The document is concluded with the stipulatory clause and subscription of the issuer and subscriber for illiterate, if necessary, and sometimes witnesses. Clearly, the presence of the latter must have been optional.

Petitions

A petition – which in the Archive is often addressed to the dux of Thebaid – opens with the address to the dux, naming the petitioners, and has a standard structure of the main body.

The first part is the **prooimion**, where the petitioners draw attention to the injustice against them and plead to the dux for justice. The petitioners express their humbleness with adjectives such as ‘ἄθλιος’ and ‘ἐλεεινός’ as opposed to their ruler who is ‘ὑπερφυέστατος’ and praise him for having been elected to rule and restore the order. The introduction to the narration that follows consists of very standard wording. The petitioner(s) ‘knowing this very well’ (referring to the ruler’s ‘φιλανθρωπία’) ‘fall down to His intangible feet’, wishing to explain their situation as it stands: ‘το(ῦ)το μαθόντες ἀκριβῶς παρὰ πόδα τῶν εὐκλεῶν ὑμῶν ἴχων κυλινδο[ύμε]νοι ἤκαμεν, \προδουρόμενοι(*)/ διδάσκοντες τὸ κα[θ’] ἡμᾶς πρᾶγμα ἐν τούτοις ἔχον’ [P. Cair. Masp. I 67009, ll. 4-6].

Then follows the **narratio** of events, explaining in detail all the misfortunes they have suffered, more particularly wrongdoing committed by someone in power against them, from appropriation of taxes, to false accusations, arrests and plundering of houses of the claimants. The wording in the narration of events also uses standard format, starting with the phrase ‘διδάσκομεν οὖν τοίνυν τὴν ὑπερφυῆ ὑμῶν ἐξουσίαν ὡς...’ (‘We inform therefore your excellent authority that ...’) [67009, ll. 6-9].

The petition often closes with a **conclusion**, stating the petitioners’ actual request, to live and pay taxes peacefully: ‘ὅπως ε[ὑ]ρωμ[εν] εὐκόλως βι[ῶ]ναι οἷοι [- ca.28 -] τὰ ἴδια τῷ δημοσίῳ [καὶ] ἐξυπηρετῆσαι τῇ τοῦ[των] εἰσφορᾷ κατὰ τ[ὸ] ἔθος καὶ εὑρωμεν ἡσ[ύ]χ[ως] διατρῖψαι’ (‘so that we find means to live peacefully ... our part (of the taxes) to the fisc and to assist according to custom in the collection of this (part) and so that we find means to pass our time in peace’) [67004, ll. 18-21]

In certain cases an **invocation to the dux** survives in the closing of the document, in the plural as in P. Cair. Masp. I 67004 (l. 22): ‘ὑπερφυέστα(τοι) καὶ ε[ὐ]κλε[ε]στά(τοι) στρατηλ(άτα), ὕπατοι, πατρικιοι, δοῦκες, [αὐ]γου[στ]άλιοι, κύριοι’ (‘most extraordinary and honourable commander, consul, patrician, dux, augustalis, lord’).

Terms:

ἅγια κυριακή holy lordly (sunday)

ἅγια περιβόλα holy precincts

ἀναδεδέχθαι

ἀπολείπω in (med-)pass. to abandon duties

ἀπόλειψις desertion (from duties)

ἐγγυᾶσθαι καὶ ἀναδεδέχθαι guarantees and assumes full responsibility

ἐγγύη surety

ἐγγυητής guarantor

ἐμφανεία appearance

ἔνοχος liable

θεῖοι χαρακτῆρες imperial portraits

μονή stay
 ὄρκος (θεῖος) oath (imperial)
 (ἐν τῇ κώμῃ) παραμένειν to remain (in the village)
 προσεδρεύειν - attend to, see to, keep watch on
 ὑπουργεῖν (πᾶσι ταῖς δημοσίαις χρεΐαις) assist (in all the public affairs)
 χρεία (δημόσια) - (public) affairs
 παραδίδωμι give away
 παραφέρω - bring forward
 παραφυλακή - guard duty
 εἰρηνικὰ πράγματα - peaceful affairs
 παραστάσεις τῶν ἐπιζητουμένων προσώπων ποιεῖσθαι - take wanted persons into custody

A. Dictionary (common vocabulary, *hapax*, Latin words, strange phrases and words of uncertain meaning)

ἀγκών, ὦνος, ὄ – nook, bay, bend of a road/river (P. Vat. Aphrod. 26)
 ἀήρ – the air above the rooftop (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 αἶθρα – patio (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 αἶθριον – inner court (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 αἶθρος – covered hall (the same applies to αἶθρα, αἶθριον, see R. Daniel, *Architectural Orientation*, 123-169)
 ἀκανθών = ἀκανθεών, ὦνος – thorny brake
 ἄκαρπος – barren, without fruit (ἔγκαρπος – fruitless)
 ἀκυρωσία – declaration of invalidity
 ἀλληλανάδοχοι – giving mutual security
 ἀλληλομανδάτορες (L.) – mandatores for each other
 ἀλωνία – threshing
 ἀμπελουργός – vine-dresser
 ἀναδοχή – assumption of obligations, undertaking
 ἀναμέτρησις – fixed rent
 ἀνδρῶν - men's apartment
 ἀνδρώνιον, το – (ὁ ἀνδρῶν) men's apartment
 ἀντικαταλλαγή – exchange of property
 ἀντικαταλλάττομαι – exchange
 ἀντιλογία – dispute
 ἀντιμίσθωσις – counterlease (in a technical sense: a unilateral document produced by the lessor)
 ἀντίπροικα (*hapax*) – gift *in lieu* of dowry (P. Lond. V 1708)
 ἀντισύγγραφος, adj. – one of the two original documents, counterpart
 ἀντιφώνησις – *antiphonesis* is the Greek term to describe *constitutum debiti*, a legally enforceable agreement in which a person promises to pay another person's or his own debt in the future, whereas the creditor agrees to give the debtor extra time
 ἀννωνιακοὶ τίτλοι (L.) – annonae (P. Mich. XIII 667)
 ἄνυδρος – waterless, descr. of arourae or land etc.

άξιωθείς – upon request
 άποδίδωμι – repay
 άπόδοσις – payment; τελεία άπόδοσις – fulfilment of payment
 άπαλλαγή – settlement
 άπαλλάσσεσθαι (πρός άλλήλους), to be set free (from each other)
 άποζεύγνυμι – separate
 άπόζευξις, άποζυγή – deed of divorce
 άπορος – poor
 άποσχοινίζομαι
 άριστητήριον δῶμα – dining room (P. Berl. Zill. 6)
 άρτοκολλητής – baker or confectioner
 άπότακτος – fixed rent
 άποχή – receipt (πληρωτική άποχή payment receipt)
 άραξ – chickpeas
 άσφάλεια – security; έγγραφος άσφάλεια - written security document; in a broad sense: any type of deed
 άσφάλεια πράσεως – document of sale
 άσφαλές, το – see άσφάλεια
 αύτόπρακτον σχήμα - autoprakton schema, enjoying the privilege of collecting one’s own taxes
 άχυροθήκη – chaff-holder
 άχυρα – chaff, stubble
 βεβαίωσις – (in final, confirmation clauses) confirmation; validity (cf. P. Cair. Masp. III 67169bis)
 βέστιον (Lat.) – vestis (1708)
 βοηθός – assistant
 βόσκημα – pasture
 βούλησις – will, accomp. of διαθήκη
 γεουχικόν μέρος – landlord’s part
 γεοϋχος – landlord
 γεωργέω – cultivate
 γεώργιον – field
 γήδιον – piece of land
 γονικός – ancestral, parental
 γραμματεῖον – written instrument
 γραμματικός – teacher/learned scholar
 δέκρητον (Lat.) – decretum
 δεσπόζω – own, be legal proprietor
 δεσποτεία – ownership / proprietorship
 δεσποτικός – proprietary; δεσποτική κατοχή – proprietary possession
 δημηγεργία – sedition, agitation (P. Flor. III 295.5)
 διαβοάω – celebrate
 διάδοχοι – successors (heir ab intestato)
 διακάτοχοι – possessors (bonorum possessores)
 διατυπώω – make dispositions (of a testator); τὰ διατυπωθέντα – the dispositions
 διοικέω – control

δουκική τάξις – ducal staff/office
 δῶμα – terrace roof
 δέκρητον (L.) – decretum
 δελτίον – (hapax phrase PLond.5.1674) ἐπὶ δελτίῳ
 διαθήκη – will, testament
 διαθηκιμαῖον γράμμα – deed of will, testamentary document
 διαίρεσις – division of property
 δίεσις – divorce, dismissal of a wife
 διαλύεσθαι (πρὸς ἀλλήλους) – to break up (from each other)
 διάλυσις – dissolution, settlement (of mutual claims), divorce, deed of separation; the division of inheritance
 διαλυτική ὁμολογία – divorce agreement, quittance
 διδασκαλία – information, report
 δωρεά – donation
 ἐγγύη – surety
 ἐγγύημα – surety, guarantee
 ἐγγυητής – guarantor (m.), ἐγγυήτρια – guarantor (f.)
 ἔγκλημα – accusation
 ἐκδίδωμι – hand over
 ἐκδίκησις – legal remedy
 ἐκδικία – punishment for wrongdoers
 ἐκδόσιμος – contracted for (67313)
 ἔκδοτος – delivered (67313)
 ἐκδίκος – defensor
 ἐκκεχωρηκέναι – to give up
 ἐκλογιστία - reckoning
 ἐκμισθώ – lease out
 ἐκούσιος – voluntary; ἐκουσία γνώμη – with voluntary judgement
 ἐκφόριον – rent in produce
 ἐλαιουργεῖον – oil-press
 ἐλαιουργός – oil manufacturer (P. Vat. Aphrod. 6)
 ἐλαιών – olive trees
 ἐμμένω – abide by
 ἐξέδρα – hall (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 ἐκποιέω – sell off
 ἐμφύτευσις – emphyteusis: long term contract of use of land allowing the user to perform the rights almost identical with the owner / perpetual usufruct
 ἐνθάδιον (hapax) –
 ἐνοίκιον – rent for a building, but not necessarily a dwelling
 ἐντάγιον – order for payment; but used also as a receipt
 ἐξάμετρον – hexametron (measuring device)
 ἐξωτικοί/φανεροὶ τόποι (67021)
 ἔπαυλις – cottage
 ἐπιτροπή (e.g. τοῦ προεστῶτος) - care / capacity
 δελτίον – writing tablet
 δημηγεροσία – sedition, agitation (P. Flor. III 295.5)

διαβοάω – celebrate
 διαμονή – permanence
 έντάγιον – receipt/confirmation of payment
 έποικοδομέω – add to by building
 έξουσία – power
 έπικαρπία – profits
 εύφημέω – praise
 έφησυχάζειν – acquiesce in
 ζήτημα – inquiry
 ήλιαστήριον – fruit-drying place, sunning ground
 θεσπίζω – decree (mostly in 1st plural, “we decree” in imperial rescripts)
 θύρα – gate, door
 ίχνος – feet
 καγκελλάριος (L.) – cancellarius
 καθαρός – (regarding land) free of debt; (regarding intention/purpose) pure; (regarding conscience) clear
 καλαμία – reed land
 καλλίνικος – gloriously triumphant
 κάματος – labour, effort
 κάμιнос – furnace
 κάμπανος – weighing-machine
 κάμπτρα – case
 καρπός – harvest, produce
 κατανομή – pasture
 κατοχή – possession; δεσποτική κατοχή – proprietary possession
 κάψιον – harax – cf. καψάκιον, καψάκη, box, container
 κεραμεϊον (κεραμοπλαστικόν) – pottery workshop
 κηνσίτωρ (L.) – censor
 κοινωνία – ownership; κατὰ κοινωνίαν – in joint ownership; κοινωνία βίου – shared life;
 κοινωνία γάμου – married life
 καταγράφω – transfer / convey
 καταλείπω – bequeath (καταλείψαι in P. Cair. Masp. II 67169 + P. Cair. Masp. III 67169bis)
 κελλίον – storage room (see R. Daniel, *Architectural Orientation*)
 κεραμοπλάστης – potter
 κεφάλαιον – section/provision
 κίνδυνος – risk; ίδίω κινδύνω – at one’s own personal risk
 κληρονόμος – heir
 κρατέω – hold
 κρυψίδα? (ήτοι τριπήνινον) – yarn reel?
 κτάομαι – to possess; κεκτημένος – property-owner
 κτηναφαίρεσις (harax in the Archive) – cattle-lifting (P. Masp. II 67002. 26; P. Lond V 1677.35)
 κυριεύω – own
 λαγχάνω – to be allotted
 λάκκος – cistern
 λαψάνη/λεμψάνη – charlock

ληγάτον/ληγάδον (Lat.) – legatum, bequest
 ληνών, ὠνος (= ληνεών, ὠνος) – place of a wine-press (P. Vat. Aphrod. 26)
 λίβελλος (L.) – libellus, petition
 λογιζομαι – count (about time), put on account (about payment)
 λογιστήριον – accounts office (P. Cair. Masp. III 67329)
 λῦσις – release/cancellation (of debt)
 λύτρωσις – redemption
 μάνδρα τῶν ποιμνίων – sheepfold
 μισθοῦμαι – lease; (ἀντι- / ἐκ-)μισθόω – let out
 μερίζομαι – divide
 μετάθεσις – transfer (P. Cair. Masp. III 67329)
 μεταμισθόω – to sublease
 μεταποιέω – resell
 μετριότης – humble means/resources, modest ability (67097 D; 67151)
 μισθωτής (γεωργός) – farmer leaving on cultivating someone’s land
 ναύτης – sailor
 νέμομαι – enjoy (see Kriaras)
 νεύω – face (south, north etc.)
 νίκη – victory
 νομή – possession
 μέτρον – measure; μέτρον φορικόν – measure for rents
 μητρῶα – *bona materna*
 μισθός – rent
 μίσθωσις – lease (in technical sense: unilateral document by a lessee)
 μονή – dwelling
 μυξέα – lasura tree (*Cordia myxa*)
 νεοφυτεῖον – young plantation
 οἰκέω – inhabit
 οἰκοδομέω – to build
 ὀλόκληρος – entire
 ὁμολογέω – acknowledge
 ὁμολογία – acknowledgment, agreement
 ὁμότυπος – identical in tenor
 ὄργανον – field (see P. Cair. Masp. I 67087)
 ὄρκος – oath
 ὀπίσωτρον (*hapaχ*) – intellige ἐπίσωτρον, the metallic hoop of a wheel; the word is not found elsewhere on papyri.info. Used in Modern Greek
 ὀρμώμενος – hailing/who hails from
 ὀφειλή – debt
 παιδαρίους – ποδαρίους? Bagnall on paidarion - AJ FS
 παῖς – slave
 παραδρομῖς – gallery
 παραθήκη – deposit with a trustee
 παρακλητική ὁμολογία – agreement on request (of the weaker party)
 παραπέμπω – convey
 παραμυθία – interest

παραχωρέω – cede
 παραχώρησις – cession (of ownership)
 πάση ἐξουσίᾳ – with every power
 πατρῷα – bona paterna
 περίλυσις – dissolution of marriage/divorce¹
 πικούλιον/πεκούλιον (L.) - *peculium* (P. Cair. Masp. III 67314):
 πεσσός – stairway² (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 πιναρωτός – this adjective is only found twice, also in SB XXII 15251, 601-700 AD:
 κεφαλοδέσμιο(ν) πιναρωτ(όν) α. Perhaps from πίνη and πίνα (cf. πινάριον), pearl
 πισσοκάμινος – furnace for extracting pitch
 πιττάκιον – pittakion (receipt of payment, cheque)
 πληρεστάτῳ παντὶ δεσποτείας δικαίῳ - with full rights of ownership
 πληροῦσθαι (πρὸς ἀλλήλους), to be settled (with each other)
 πληρωτικὴ ἀποχὴ – payment receipt
 ποιμήν – shepherd
 πολυκωπίτης – skipper
 πόρῳ τῆς ὑποστάσεως – resources based on one’s property
 ποτίω – water, irrigate
 πραιτεύω (L.) – praedo
 πραιποσίτος (L.) – praepositus
 πραιτεύω (L.) – praedo
 πρᾶσις – sale
 πρεσβύτερος – priest
 προαιρέσει ἰδίᾳ - one’s own expressed opinion
 προδιωμολογημένος – above-described
 προκουράτωρ (L.) – procurator
 προμερίζω – bestow in advance
 προμερισμός – extraordinary distribution (P. Cair. Masp. III 67340 R+V; P. Vat. Aphrod. 26)
 προμιπτέντες (L.) – the promising (parties) κατὰ τὸ τῶν δύο ῥέον προμιπτέντων - giving
 mutual security and being mandatories of each other (P. Hamb. I 23)
 προνήσιον – verandah (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 προνοητής – it is more a function (both in church and for lay people)
 πρόσσδος – income
 προσομιλεῖν (ἕτερον γάμον) – to be united in a different marriage
 πρόστεγα – house-rent
 πρώτη στέγη – ground floor (P. Mich. XIII 665)

¹ The term is used from the Hellenistic period for various settlements like quittances and repayments. It is also used to name the act of repudium, as in P. Cair. Masp. I 67121 in the Dioskoros archive. Outside the Archive, it is found in and in P. Fam. Tebt. 13, P. Mil. Vogl. 4 229, P. Oxy. I 129 (‘περιλύσεως ῥεπούδιον’), P. Oxy. XII 1473, P. Strasb. III 142, SPP 22 51, and implied in the structure ‘περιλέλυμαι πρὸς’ (‘I divorce from’) in PSI X 1104 (‘περιλυομένη πρὸς...’) and in BASP 58 (2021) S. 138 (‘παιριλαίλυμαι πρῶς...’, I. ‘περιλέλυμαι πρὸς’).

² See Robert W. Daniel, *Architectural orientation in the papyri* (Paderborn [u.a.]: Schöningh, 2010), p. 132 and n. 47: Hence, the aithrion was often located close to a stairway or stairwell (πεσσός). For instance, 16 and 96, which deal with the same part of the same house, mention an aithrion with a stairwell at its east side. See also Anna Lucille Boozer, *Amheida II: A Late Romano-Egyptian House in the Dakhla Oasis / Amheida House B2*, p. 163 (available at <http://dlib.nyu.edu/awdl/isaw/amheida-ii-house-b2/>)

πυλών – space inside the gateway (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 πυργίσκος – cabinet, cupboard
 πύργος – tower
 πωμάριον – orchard
 ρεπούδιον (L.) – repudium
 σάθρωσις (hapax) – ruin (P Lond. V 1677.34)
 σαλαρίος (L.) – wages
 σιγγουλαρίος (L.) – singularius
 σκεπτώρια (hapax) – exceptorium, container, vessel
 σκρινιάριος (L.) – scrinarius
 σκρίνιον – chest
 σπείρω – I sow
 σπερμοβολία – sowing
 σπόρτουλον (L.) – sportula
 συγγραφή – written agreement, contract
 συμβίωσις – cohabitation
 συμβολαιογράφος – notary
 συνάπτω (ἕτερον γάμον) –
 συναρπαγή – obreption (< Lat. obreptio = συναρπαγή), see Sophocles Lexicon, s.v.
 “surreption”. What is meant is a particular method of fraud: fraud in obtaining or attempting
 to obtain something from an official [Balamoshev]
 σύναψις – enumeration of misdeeds (P. Flor. III 295.7)
 συνθήκη – agreement/contract
 συνοικέσιον – married life
 συντέλεια – contribution
 συντελεστής – syntelestes
 στέργω – be in favour of
 σχοινίον – schoinion; μέτρῳ δημοσίου σχοινίου μέτρῳ – measured with the public schoinion
 σχολαστικός – scholasticus
 σωματικόν καὶ ἀσώματον δίκαιον – material or immaterial right (Wolff, ZRG RA 91 (1974), p.
 80: ius corporale sive incorporale)
 τέκτων – carpenter
 τρώξιμα – vegetables eaten raw
 τιμή – price for object, but sometimes used as a rent (P. Cair. Masp. I 67097, vo, A)
 τριπήνινον – yarn reel?
 τωκάλιον (hapax) – a kind of household appliance (maybe δοκάλιον/δοκάριον; see Preisigke)
 ὑπερῶον – upper story (P. Mich. XIII 665)
 φοῖνιξ – palm dates (as a part of rent in kind)
 φοινικοπώλης – date-seller
 φόρος – rent in money, or general rent
 φρέαρ – well
 φρεναπάτης (hapax) – soul-deceiver, deceiver, misleader P. Lond. V 1677
 φιλοκάγαθος – loving the good, as an adjective hapax in P. Lond. V 1677.5, probably short
 for φιλοκαλοκάγαθος
 φιλοκαλέω – look after
 φορολογέω – levy rent

φορολόγος – tax-gatherer
 φωλεόν (φωλεός) – den
 φυλάσσω – keep
 φυτόν – tree
 χαλκοτύπος – coppersmith
 χάραξ – vine prop
 χείρ – syn. χειρόγραφον
 χειρόγραφον – handwritten declaration
 χειρόγραφον χρείας – handwritten declaration of debt
 χερσώδης – barren
 χερσαμπέλος – dry vineyard (P. Cair. Masp. I 67104)
 χρῆσις – use
 χώρημα – space
 χωρίον ἀμπελικὸν ζωόφυτον – productive vineyard (P. Cair. Masp. I 67104)
 χόρτος – fodder
 χωρίζεσθαι (πρὸς ἀλλήλους) – to separate (from each other)
 ὠνιακός – of a sale; ὠνιακὴ ἀσφάλεια – security of sale

Phrases

General

ἄνευ βίας καὶ ἀπάτης καὶ ἀνάγκης καὶ πλάνης πάσης καὶ φόβου καὶ δόλου – without any violence or deceit, compulsion or fraud, without any intimidation or guile
 ἀπὸ τοῦ νῦν ἐπὶ τὸν αἰεὶ καὶ ἐξῆς ἅπαντα χρόνον – from now on and forever
 ἔργῳ καὶ δυνάμει – as a matter of fact and with full legal power
 δίχα οἴασδήποτε ἀμφιλογίας καὶ κρίσεως καὶ δίκης καὶ οἴασδήποτε
 (ἐπ)ἔρωτηθεὶς ὠμολόγησα – having been asked the formal question, I consented
 ἔργοις τε καὶ λόγοις – in works and deeds
 εὐρησιλογίας καὶ περιγραφῆς νόμου – without any dispute or trial or judgment or any pretext or circumvention of the law
 νίκη τῆς βασιλικῆς σωτηρίας – victory of the imperial salvation
 ὀρθῇ τῇ διανοίᾳ – with a sound mind

I. Petitions

ἀεργῶς (ἡραχ) καὶ ἀπράκτως (PFlor.295.5)
 ἀνυψῶ πρὸς τὸν Θεὸν ἐνδελεχῆ πρεσβείαν καὶ εὐχὴν – I forever raise my hands in intercession and prayer to God
 ἐκουσίᾳ γνώμῃ – freely and willingly ἐνεχύρο[υ λόγῳ καὶ ὑποθήκ]ῆς δικαίῳ ἐπιτήδευμα τοῦ ζῆν ἀποτρόφινον – job/occupation providing means of subsistence (PFlor.295.2)
 ἐφ' ὑπογραφῆς τοῦ ὑπὲρ ἐμοῦ ὑπογράφοντος – bearing the signature of my agent signing on my behalf
 καθαροῦ συνειδήσει - with a clear conscience
 καθαροτάτη προθέσει - very pure purpose

καλῆ πίστει - in good faith
 κερμήκαμεν αἰτοῦντες – we are tired of asking (P. Flor. III 295.12)
 πρόσειμι τοῖς εὐκλεέσι ὑμῶν ἴχνεσι – I come to your most renowned feet
 καθάπερ ἐκ δίκης – as if by court decision
 ἐνεχύρου λόγῳ καὶ ὑποθήκης δικαίῳ – as a pledge and according to the law governing mortgages

II. Leases

ἀπλῆν γραφεῖσαν - misthosis, written in a single copy
 δισσήν ὁμότυπον – written in two identical copies
 ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων σου ἀναλωμάτων – at your own expense
 ἐκ τῶν ἰδίων κτηνῶν – with your own animals
 ἐν τελείῳ καὶ ἀβροχικῶ – whether completely flooded or (God forbid) unflooded
 ἐτοίμως ἔχω + inf. = I am ready to (introduces obligation, usually repayment)
 ἐφ’ ᾧ – so that
 καὶ αὐτῆς – including this (indiction)
 σὺν Θεῶ – God willing
 σὺν δικαίων πάντων – with all the rights
 στοιχεῖ μοι ἡ ἀποχὴ – I agree with the contents of the receipt
 ποιούμενος τὸν λόγον αὐτοῦ – undertaking business for

III. Sales & other documents

ἀδόλῳ σκοπῶ – with an honest aim
 ἀκούσας παρὰ τοῦ θεμένου – having heard declarations from the initiator
 ἀκούσας παρὰ τῶν θεμένων – having heard the parties’ acknowledgments
 ἀκολούθως τῆ δυνάμει – by virtue of
 ἀμέμπτως καὶ ἀκαταγνώστως – blamelessly and flawlessly
 ἀμεταβλήτῳ ἀμετατρέπτῳ λογισμῶ – with unchanging and unalterable disposition
 ἀμετανοήτῳ προαιρέσει - with unregretting intention
 ἀναποτρέπτῳ γνώμῃ τε καὶ προαιρέσει – with irrevocable mind and intention
 αὐθαιρέτῳ βουλήσει – out of one’s own free will
 γενικῶς καὶ ἰδικῶς – generally and severally (with mortgage to say that it is on the entire property and each thing individually)
 ἔγγραφος ἀσφαλεία πράσεως – written security of sale
 εἰ δὲ καὶ ἥττον φροντίζω τῆς βεβαιώσεως – If I take too little care of confirmation (=if I neglect)
 εἰς ἰδίας μου καὶ ἀναγκαίας χρείας – for my own necessary needs
 ἐξ ἀλληλεγγύης – under mutual guarantee
 ἐπερωτηθέντες ὡμολογήσαμεν – having been asked the formal question, we consented
 ἐπιβάλλον μοι μέρος – the part that falls to me
 κατὰ τὰ ὅρια – within the limits/according to the boundaries (cf. P. Mich. XIII 666). Limits can be misinterpreted
 ὁμνύμενοι τὴν ἁγίαν καὶ ὁμοούσιον τριάδα – swearing by the holy and consubstantial Trinity

πρὸ γάμου δωρεά – antenuptial gift (P. Lond. V 1708.117)

τιμῆς τε τῆς πρὸς ἀλλήλους συμπεφωνημένης καὶ συναρεσάσης τελείας – for the full and fitting price agreed and jointly approved

τῷ χρυσοχοϊκῷ σταθμῷ – according to the goldsmith's standard

IV. Divorces

καθάπερ ἐκ δίκης – as if by court decision