

# ARCTOS

ACTA PHILOLOGICA FENNICA

VOL. LVI



HELSINKI 2022

## ARCTOS – ACTA PHILOLOGICA FENNICA

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### *Publisher:*

Klassillis-filologinen yhdistys – Klassisk-filologiska föreningen (The Classical Association of Finland), c/o House of Science and Letters, Kirkkokatu 6, FI – 00170 Helsinki, Finland.

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ISSN 0570–734X (print)

ISSN 2814-855X (online)

Layout by Vesa Vahtikari

Printed by Grano Oy, Vaasa

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## AN UNPUBLISHED LATIN INSCRIPTION FROM CASTELNUOVO DI PORTO INCLUDING A NEW NOMEN WITH THE SUFFIX *-AIENUS*

TUOMO NUORLUOTO\*

### The inscription of Castelnuovo di Porto: description and analysis

A previously unpublished Latin inscription, located in Castelnuovo di Porto (RM) in Southern Etruria, approximately 25 km north of Rome, was recently brought to my attention. The object is attached to the wall of a *loggia*, belonging to an old posting station (*antica posta*, now a private house) on the right side of the old Via Flaminia, after the church of Sant'Antonio and the local train station when arriving from the direction of Rome. How and when the inscription ended up in its current location is unknown, but it is remarkable that it has remained unnoticed, as it is almost in plain sight (even visible – though not legible – on Google Street View). In any case, the inscription must have come from the area, which will have belonged to the territory of Capena. Only nine other Roman inscriptions have been found in the area of Castelnuovo di Porto, and, to my knowledge, all but one are lost.<sup>1</sup>

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\* I would like to thank Gihls fond at Kungl. Vitterhetsakademien for financing my stay in Italy, Anna Blennow for bringing the inscription to my attention in the first place, Valeria Brunori for bringing me into contact with the people in Castelnuovo di Porto, and Marina Gallinelli for showing me the inscription in its location. Thanks are also due to Hampus Olsson who kindly offered to drive me to Castelnuovo di Porto, to Biancalisa Corradini from the Soprintendenza Archeologia Belle Arti e Paesaggio per la provincia di Viterbo e l'Etruria meridionale for her cooperation, to Olli Salomies and Urpo Kantola for their helpful comments and insights, and to Samuel Douglas for proofreading the text. I also thank the two anonymous reviewers for their comments.

<sup>1</sup> The surviving inscription – *Acte v. a. XIV* – which is datable to the early Augustan period is published in F. Bianchi – E. A. Stanco – P. Cugusi, “Necropoli capenati: materiali architettonici, epigrafici e di

The object itself is a marble slab (52 cm x 51 cm x 7.5 cm), which is partly fragmented, mostly on the lower left side but also slightly in the upper right corner (Fig. 1). The original size of the stone will not have extended much beyond the measurements given above. The letters (4.5–3.5 cm) are finely carved and clearly the product of a professional stone-cutter, although there are also signs of some miscalculations in the production of the inscription (see further below).

The text in its current form extends over nine lines, though there may have been a short tenth line as well, containing perhaps an abbreviated formula of some sort – but this is dubious, since the interpunctuation at the end of the last legible line does not have to mean that more text would follow and there are no clear traces of letters below. Most of the fragmented parts of the text can be restored, although some lacunae remain. Judging by the letter forms, onomastic features, the material of the object, and the lack of *D. M.*, I would be inclined to date the inscription to the Julio-Claudian period.

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arredo di epoca romana”, *BCAR* 106 (2005), 167–214, 201 no. 28 (= *AE* 2005, 510). It was found in a chamber tomb in “località Montefiore, probabilmente entro l’antico territorio coloniale di *Lucus Feroniae*” and is now preserved in the Museo di Lucus Feroniae in Capena. The other inscriptions, all of which now lost, are the following: *CIL* XI 3979 *D. M. / Iuliae Marcel/lae coniugi / karissimae / L. Verginius / Fortunatus ma/ritus b. m.* (found alongside the Via Flaminia), *CIL* XI 3999 *T. Publilio H[---] / Baebiae He[---] / Cn. Baebio H[---] / Baebiae Helpidi uxo[ri] / Cn. Baebius Hymetu[s] / se vivo eis fecit et [sibi] / posterisque [eor(um)]* (found in the floor of the cortile of the palazzo Colonna), *CIL* XI 3992 *Perelia M[---] / P. Scanti Fort[unati] / sibi et [suis] / posterisque [eorum]* (found at the gate of the *vigna* Menichelli), *CIL* XI 7778 *Q. Sicinio / Supero / amico / optimo / Maximus / et Pulchra L[---]* (findspot unknown), *CIL* XI 3978 *D. M. / Iuliae Esquilinae / vix. an. XXVIII m. X[---] / Iulius Polemoninus / et Iulius / Sympheros / coniugi sanctissimae / fecerunt et Iuliae Clodianae / [sorori e]jus v. a. X / [-----]* (found outside the church of S. Giovanni), *CIL* XI 3974 *Dis Man. / Flaviae Charidis / sororis fil. / Cupitus Aug. lib.* (found alongside the Via Flaminia), *CIL* XI 3989 *D. [M.] / Ostori[ae ---] / Ostoria [---] / matri p(---) p[---] / et C. Os[torio ---] / Kapiton[i ---]* (findspot unknown), and *CIL* XI 4011 *Dis Manibus / ossuis Zmaragdi* (found by the Rocca of Castelnuovo).

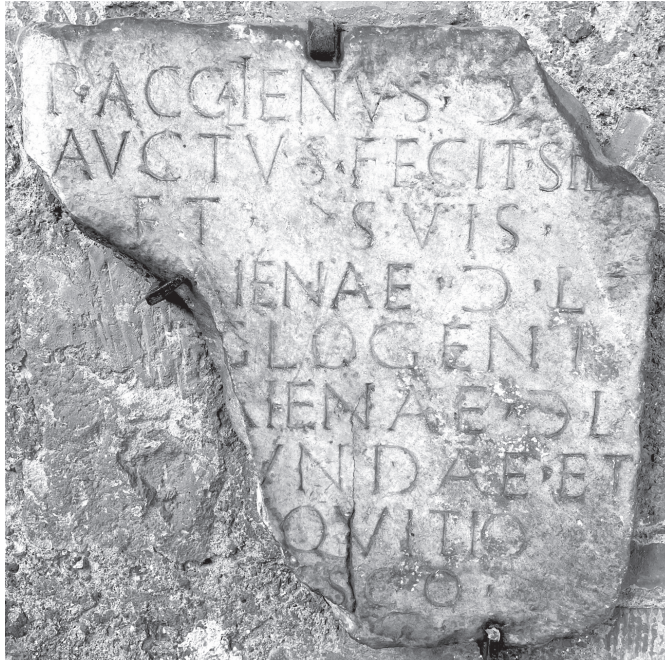


Fig. 1: The inscription from Castelnuovo di Porto. © The Author. Published with permission from Soprintendenza Archeologia Belle Arti e Paesaggio per la provincia di Viterbo e l'Etruria meridionale (Ministero della cultura)

Transcription:

*P(ublius) · Accaienus · ((mulieris)) · [(libertus)]*

*Auctus · fecit · sib[i]*

*et · suis ·*

*[Acc]aienae · ((mulieris)) · l(ibertae)*

*[E]glogeni ·*

*[Acc]aienae · ((mulieris)) · l(ibertae)*

*[Sec]undae (vel [Iuc]undae) · et*

*[- Tar]quitio*

*[--- F?]usco (vel [Etr?]usco) ·*

*[-----?].*

Translation:

Publius Accaienus Auctus, freedman of (Accaiena), made (this monument) to himself and his family, to Accaiena Egloge, freedwoman of (Accaiena), to Accaiena Secunda (*vel* Iucunda?), freedwoman of (Accaiena), and to [-] Tarquitiu Fuscus (*vel* Etruscus?).

The inscription appears to be part of a funerary monument commissioned by P. Accaienus Auctus, freedman of an otherwise unknown Accaiena, who in turn was daughter of a Publius Accaienus. In addition to Auctus, the text mentions three other individuals, two females and one male. The two women were also former slaves and evidently had the same *patrona* as Auctus. The restoration of their gentilicium as *Accaiena* is clear. A more elaborate analysis of this gentilicium will be provided further below. The cognomina may also be restored with a certain level of confidence: *[Sec]unda* is the most probable candidate, given the popularity of *Secunda* in female nomenclature, especially among non-elite women, though *[Iuc]unda* remains a possibility as well.<sup>2</sup> *[E]glogeni*, dative form of *Egloge*, is practically the only possible restoration, since *Egloge* is the only known female cognomen that is suitable here.<sup>3</sup> Interestingly, it follows from this restoration that there must have been a small indentation on the left end of the line and the text did not, therefore, start where one would expect it to. In other words, the name cannot have been quite centrally placed in the textual field. Perhaps the stone-cutter had planned to carve the whole name in the centre of the line so that some space would have been left on both sides, but clearly there was a slight miscalculation, since the name is now aligned towards the right end of the line. Another small “mistake” seems to be on the first line, in the name *Accaienus*, which the stone-cutter seems to have first written

<sup>2</sup> Cf. T. Nuorluoto, *Roman Female Cognomina: Studies in the Nomenclature of Roman Women*, Diss. Uppsala 2021 (forthcoming in *Com. Hum. Litt.*, Helsinki 2023), 37, 45–46; I. Kajanto, *The Latin Cognomina* (*Commentationes Humanarum Litterarum* 36,2), Helsinki 1965, 292, 283.

<sup>3</sup> H. Solin, *Die griechischen Personennamen in Rom: ein Namenbuch*, Berlin 2003<sup>2</sup> III 1291–1292. Note that the dative form of the name in most inscriptions is *Egloge* (at least 25 cases in the Claus/Slaby database, e.g. *AE* 2013, 511 *Purpuriae T. l. Egloge*; *CIL* XI 3327 *Aeliae M. l. Egloge*; *CIL* X 1150 *Fabiae M. l. Egloge*). The form *Eglogeni* appears at least in the following cases: *CIL* VI 25772 *Sallu(v)iae Eglogeni libertae suae*; *AE* 1977, 262 *Iunia Eglogen(i) col(l)ibertae suae* and *CIL* IX 3583 ... *Ecloge(ni) (sic) Corneliae Sabinae servis*.

*ACCIENVVS* but then, later, added in a small *a*.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, one can even notice an unfinished *E* (which for some reason is taller than the rest of the letters) in the same place where the small *a* was added. It is possible that the stone-cutter first started to write *ACCENVVS*, then corrected this to *ACCIENVVS* before finishing the wrongly placed letter *E*, and then realized that the *A* was missing and added it in much smaller size before the *I*.

As for the fourth person mentioned in the inscription, there are only a few known nomina ending in *-quitius*. These are *Aquitius* (dubious), *Equitius*, *Arquitius*, and *Tarquitius*.<sup>5</sup> The restoration of the name as *[Tar]quitius* seems the most plausible solution, since the *gens Tarquitia* is well attested in Southern Etruria, including nearby Capena, and the lacuna on the left would certainly allow the addition of three letters.<sup>6</sup> Regarding the cognomen, there seems to be a small trace of a slightly inclined bar before the *S*, which would suggest the letter *V* (rather than e.g. *I*, as in *Priscus*). Thus, the names that come to mind are *Etruscus* and *Fuscus*. *[Etr]uscus* is a viable candidate, if we assume that the patronymic or indication of liberty was for some reason omitted, in which case the restoration would place the name neatly in the middle of the line.<sup>7</sup> If we, however, expect consistency from the stone-cutter's part, it would be logical to assume that the nomenclature of *Tarquitius*, like those of the other persons, included a reference to his father or patron. Assuming so, the most plausible restoration is *[--- F]uscus*. The praenomen of the man remains unknown, but probable candidates include *C(aius)* *L(ucius)* *M(arcus)* *T(itus)*, which are the praenomina attested for *Tarquitii* in the region.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>4</sup> *Accienus* is also attested as a nomen, cf. H. Solin – O. Salomies, *Repertorium nominum gentilium et cognominum Latinorum*, Hildesheim 1994, 4; W. Schulze, *Zur Geschichte lateinischer Eigennamen*, Berlin 1966 [1904], 105.

<sup>5</sup> For references, see Solin – Salomies (above no. 4).

<sup>6</sup> At least the following cases of *Tarquitii* in *CIL* XI: 4004 (Capena, 1<sup>st</sup> c.); 3630 (Caere, 1<sup>st</sup> c. BCE); 3634 (Caere, 45–11 BCE); 2454 (Clusium, 2<sup>nd</sup> c.); 6700,657,1 (Clusium); 3801 (Veii, 3<sup>rd</sup> c.); 3802 (Veii); 3805 (Veii). For the prominent *Tarquitii* of Caere, cf. M. Torelli, "Ascesa al senato e rapporti con i territori d'origine. Italia: Regio VII (Etruria)", in *Epigrafia e ordine senatorio* (Tituli 5), Roma 1982, 275–299, esp. 296; also M. Torelli, "Senatori etruschi della tarda repubblica e dell'impero", *DArch* 3 (1969), 285–363, esp. 321–323.

<sup>7</sup> Also, one *L. Tarquitius L. f. Pom. Etruscus Sulpicianus, scriba quaestorius* is attested at Rome: *CIL* VI 1828 (late 1<sup>st</sup>/early 2<sup>nd</sup> c.).

<sup>8</sup> Four sources, see no. 6 above.



### ***Accaienus* and nomina with the suffix *-aienus***

Now, let us return to *Accaienus*. Not only is this a previously unknown name, it belongs to a rare group of nomina coined with the suffix *-aienus* (sometimes reproduced as *-aienius*, as names in *-enus* could be replaced by more “genuinely” Latin forms in *-enius*).<sup>9</sup> Now that *Accaienus* may be added to the list, the names belonging to this group are the following: *Accaienus Aienus Annaienus Appaienus Baienus Caienus Graienus Poppaienus Pullaienus Raienus Saienus(?) Staienus Taienus(?) Tettaienus*.<sup>10</sup> These names, in turn, can be formally divided into two subgroups. The shorter names consist of the termination *-aienus*, preceded by one consonant (*Raienus*), a consonant cluster (*Staienus*), or no consonant at all (*Aienus*). In the longer names, the suffix is preceded by a complete syllable (*Acc-aienus Pull-aienus Tett-aienus* etc.), and from this syllable one can often isolate a root from which multiple different nomina could be formed. A quick look at Solin – Salomies (above no. 4) reveals that, for example, from *\*acc-* (as in *Acc-aienus*) we have nomina such as *Accius Accaeus Acecius Aceienus Accienus Accellius Acculeius \*Acculenus (Aculenus)*, from *\*ann-* (as in *Ann-aienus*) *Annius Annaeus Anneius Anniaeus Annienus Annicius Annidius Annuleius Annulenus* etc., from *\*app-* (*App-aienus*) *Appius Appaeus Appaienus Appalenus Appalenius Appeius Appeienus Appellasius*, etc.,

<sup>9</sup> For an overview of nomina in *-aienus* (and in *-(i)enus* in general), see O. Salomies, “Prolegomena to a study of the nomina ending in *(i)enus*”, in F. Mainardis (ed.), *Voce concordi: Scritti per Claudio Zaccaria* (Antichità Altoadriatiche 85), Trieste 2016, 615–632, esp. 624; cf. also M. J. Pena, “Aportación al estudio de los gentilicios en *-(i)enus* (nota sobre CIL VI 2940 = 32721)”, in P. Bádenas de la Peña et al. (ed.), *Homenaje a Ricardo Olmos*, Madrid 2014, 203–208; B. Vine, “Latin Salvidenus, Salvidena (CIL I<sup>2</sup> 1813): Morphology, Orthography, Culture”, in I. Hajnal et al. (ed.), *Miscellanea Indogermanica: Festschrift für J. L. García Ramón* (2017) 857–867.

<sup>10</sup> For references, cf. Solin – Salomies (above no. 4). There are also two (uncertain) names not found in the Repertorium – *Saienus* and *Taienus* – which Olli Salomies has kindly brought to my attention. *Saienus*: J. Kaimio, *The Cippus Inscriptions of Museo Nazionale di Tarquinia*, Rome 2010, no. 36 = J. Kaimio, *The South Etruscan Cippus Inscriptions*, Rome 2017, no. 36 = AE 2010, 471: [-] *Saienus* Sex. f. [v.] annos LXXIV – but the text cannot be verified, since the cippus is lost. *Taienus*: S. Weiss-König, *Graffiti auf römischer Gefäßkeramik aus dem Bereich der Colonia Ulpia Traiana / Xanten*, Mainz 2010 (Xantener Berichte 17), no. 26.1: TIIR TAIINI (transcribed as *Ter(tii) Taieni*), cf. also AE 2010, 1026–1030. Weiss-König also refers to another case of *Taienus*, documented in G. Ulbert, *Die römische Keramik aus dem Legionslager Augsburg-Oberhausen*, Kallmünz 1960, 20f. as [---]E *Taieni* Tatt(---), but this case seems dubious and I have not been able to verify it.

and from \*tett- (*Tett-aienus*) *Tettius Tettaeus Tetteius Tettenius*, etc.<sup>11</sup> *Accaienus*, thus, fits well into this pattern.

Regarding the shorter names, one may furthermore observe that almost all of them have a corresponding shorter form in *-ius* (*Baienus* ~*Baius*, *Raienus* ~*Raius*, *Staienus* ~*Staius*, etc.). These shorter forms in *-ius* consist of three syllables (*Ra-ī-us*), which is evident from the fact that in some inscriptions, mostly from the late republican period, these names are occasionally spelled *Caius Raius Staius*.<sup>12</sup> The question now arises, how to interpret the *-ai* in the names ending in *-aienus*. In this regard, it may not be inconsequential that in Latin inscriptions the longer forms of the type *Annaienus Appaienus Pullaienus* were sometimes replaced by forms in *-aeus*, such as *Annaenus Appaenus Pullaenus*, and that these forms, it seems, could be used without much distinction.<sup>13</sup> This is evident, for example, in the N. African epigraphy of the imperial period, in which we encounter *Pullaienus -aienus* and *Pullaenus -aenius* in the same areas.<sup>14</sup> This would suggest that even if the *ai* in *aienus* may have originally consisted of two syllables, it started at some, not a very late, point to be perceived as a diphthong.

More generally speaking, names coined with *-aienus* fall under the category of nomina with the termination *-(i)enus*. Names of this type have been discussed elsewhere, among others, by Olli Salomies (above no. 9), and I will not get into any details regarding their origin or other aspects. It may, however, be

<sup>11</sup> For nomina with the roots \*acc- \*ann- \*app- \*tett-, cf. Schulze (above no. 4) 343, 345–346, 373; also E. Middei, “Gli antroponimi sabellici in \*-aiōs e le basi onomastiche con morfo-struttura *acca-* (Sabellian personal names with \*-aiōs and the onomastic bases with the morpho-structural pattern *acca-*)”, *Graecolatina Brunensia* 20 (2015), 105–121.

<sup>12</sup> At least the following cases: *CIL* I<sup>2</sup> 2679; 2683; 2685; 2689; 2691; 2702; 2706; G. Camodeca – U. Soldovieri, “Le iscrizioni nell’area del teatro di Sessa Aurunca, parte prima”, in H. Solin (ed.), *Studi storico-epigrafici sul Lazio antico II* (Commentationes Humanarum Litterarum 137), Helsinki 2019, 2–18, 16 no. 7; *CIL* X 5372; *CIL* I<sup>2</sup> 363; *AE* 1999, 551; *CIL* IX 2667; 6816; *AE* 1997, 520a. For the intervocalic *ī* in Latin, see M. Leumann, *Lateinische Laut- und Formenlehre* (Handbuch der Altertumswissenschaft II.2.1, Lateinische Grammatik / von Leumann-Hofmann-Szantyr), München 1977 § 138.

<sup>13</sup> Salomies (above no. 9) 624; Schulze (above no. 4) 429. While a similar practice regarding the shorter names of the type *Baienus Raienus Staienus* cannot be verified, one should not, as Salomies (above no. 9) 624 observes, rule out the possibility that e.g. *Baienus* could be reproduced as \**Baenus*.

<sup>14</sup> E.g. *Pullaienus* (*CIL* VIII 24522; 24616) ~ *Pullaenius* (*CIL* VIII 24594; *AE* 2011, 1684) in Carthage and *Pullaenia* (*CIL* VIII 11872) ~ *Pullaienus* (A. M’Charek, *Aspects de l’évolution démographique et sociale à Mactaris aux II<sup>e</sup> et III<sup>e</sup> siècles ap. J. C.*, Tunis 1982, no. 7) in Mactaris.

said that the main area of attestation for names in *(i)enus* consists of the Sabine country and Umbria.<sup>15</sup> With *Accaienus* we are, thus, close to the “core area” of names of this type.

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<sup>15</sup> Or as Salomies (above no. 9) 616 puts it, “to those with some familiarity with Italian epigraphy it has always been evident that names ending in *(i)enus* are characteristic of a region which is traditionally seen as consisting especially of Umbria, but which also included (...) the regions at least originally inhabited by the peoples of the Aequi, Vestini, Sabines, Umbrians and Picenes”.