Some Tombstones in the Museum at Thívai

Among the many inscribed stones in the garden of the museum at Thívai the following tombstones caught my attention many years ago and were, at that stage, unpublished. Such was the record of inventories at the museum in those days (cf. Roesch, 1970: 139–140; for more recent thoughts on the history of the museum’s inventories cf. Kalliontzís, 2004–2009: 374–375) that little seemed to be known of their provenience. At the time of seeing these stones (in 1970) I did not record details of them but simply took photographs or notes for curiosity, particularly for interest in the names; thus, details of size and stone are taken from Kalliontzís (2004–2009). At the time of seeing the stones in 1970 no inventory numbers were visible on them. In the meanwhile work at the museum has recovered many details concerning these and a lot of other inscribed stones in the museum’s garden (cf. chapter 7 concerning the horseman hero tombstones formerly in the same garden). The rediscovery of one of the missing inventories of the museum and the removal of the inscribed stones to a new, and protected storage area has allowed recovery of details of the provenience of many of them as well as ensuring their proper record and preservation (Kalliontzís & Aravantinós, 2012). The stones already studied now are properly numbered. The archaeologist principally involved in this work, Yiánnis Kalliontzís, has now published many of the tombstones including three of the ones that had caught my attention

Inv. 2254. Founded at Thívai in 1911. Stele of grey stone 1.05 m high × 31 cm broad × 13 cm thick with offset pediment above and akroteria at the peak and the ends of the pediment. This is the type I called the “Attic” stele in Epigraphica Boeotica i (pp. 204–205) and, in fact, this very stele was there wrongly given as an example of that type as if it came from Tanagra. Complete except for minor abrasions on the akroteria.

Kalliontzís, 2004–2009: 382, # 28
Photo (Pl. 12), copy.
PLATE 12  Tombstone from Thébai (EB ii 20)