An upper part of a slightly tapered limestone stele badly weathered, worn, and scratched, found in 1975, 700 meters northeast of the ancient theater at Megalopolis where it had been left by a shepherd. The original provenance is unknown. The stone is unevenly broken below; the top, left, and right sides are preserved; the preserved back is rough-picked. The inscribed face is worn to the extent of being at times almost unreadable. The stone is now cemented into a base which conceals the lower part of the letters in the last line.

H. 0.64, W. 0.545 (top), 0.572 (bottom), Th. 0.14 (top), 0.154 (bottom) L.H. ca. 0.02, Φ 0.024, Ω, Θ, and some Ωs ca. 0.012–0.015. Interlinear space 0.01. Upper margin ca. 0.035.

Megalopolis, Archaeological Museum. Inv. 133.


Photograph: Te Riele 1978, 327 (fair).

ca. 200 a.

Στάλα Ἆισιος Σαράπιος.
Θεὸς τύχα ἀγαθά. Ἰερὸν ἅγιον Ἄισιος
Σαράπιος Ἀνούβιος. 2 Εἰσπορεύετο-4
θαὶ εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν τὸν βουλόμενον
θύειν καθαρίζοντα ἀπὸ μὲν
λέξιν ἔγραφεν ἐγκαταίναν, ἀπὸ δὲ δι-4
φεβήριστος 2 τεσσαράκοντα

1 Summary.
2 Egyptian cults in Arcadia.
καὶ τέσσαρας ἁμέρας, ἀπὸ δὲ τῶν ἑπτὰ ἁμέρας, ἀπὸ δὲ αἰγετῶν τριταῖν, ἀπὸ δὲ τῶν λοιπῶν βρομάτων ἐκ κελαλαζ λουσάμενον αὐθημερί, ἀπὸ δὲ ἀφροδίσιον αὐθημερί 5 λουσάμενον, ἀπὸ ΠΑΘΙΝ[.]ΙΑΜΕΙΠΓΑΝ

Restorations. Suppl. Te Riele. || 17 fortasse [μηδὲ (vel sim.) εἰσπρεισθαι μηδέν[ - - - - - ] L.

Epigraphical Commentary. I have seen the stone. I have not given an account of each and every disagreement with the first edition in respect to dotted letters. A small middle point appears in some of the omicrons. Alpha with a broken crossbar; some serifs.

7 A crack in the stone coincides with the vacant space.
9 The vacant space coincides with a crack. ἐβδομαίον: ΕΒΔΟΜΑ1ΑΝ. The iota which had been left out was inscribed above the line. The stone is extremely worn past ΑΠΟ. Te Riele prints φό[νου. The only secure letter seemed to me to be an omicron, 0.055 to the right of ΑΠΟ. The upsilon-like traces visible in Te Riele’s photograph to the right of this secure omicron may not be an upsilon, which has a different shape in this inscription. If this is a genuine upsilon, and it is the last letter of a word, a vacat has to be assumed at the end of the line. A possible loop appears 0.025 to the right of ΑΠΟ preceded by what could be an upper part of a vertical stroke but the traces are confusing.
15 The lacuna is followed by a vertical stroke which could be a part of a letter. E: the vertical and the outer horizontal strokes seem secure. Te Riele suggests that a N or an H might be possible. Ι: A rather slim N or, less likely, H is perhaps not entirely impossible.
16 ΜΟΑΝ: A dot appears in the middle of the O; Α: Α; Ν (so Te Riele): doubtful traces. Last trace: Y Te Riele.
17 γ: a bottom of a left vertical seems to appear: M Te Riele.
19 First trace: M Te Riele.

Translation

Stele of Isis and Sarapis. God! Good luck. A sanctuary sacred to Isis, Sarapis, Anoubis. (3) Whoever wishes to sacrifice shall enter the sanctuary, being pure: From childbirth on the ninth day; from an