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or suggestion for these notes)

Notes on Hannah M. Cotton, et al. *Corpus Inscriptionum Iudaeae/Palestinae*, Volume I:  
Jerusalem. Part 1:1-704 (Berlin: De Gruyter, 2010).

Technical terms: hypocoristic, apotropaic, ligature,

(Parenthetical numbers are page references in *CIIP*; #n are inscription numbers)

*Introduction by Benjamin Isaac*

(8-9) So far about 900 cave/tombs and more than 2000 (some say 3000) ossuaries found in the Jerusalem area from this period. 600-650 of these ossuaries are inscribed.

N.B., this is a much higher ratio than the 897 listed in Rahmani with 227 inscribed. Rahmani says his catalogue of ossuaries in the Israeli State collection only goes up through August, 1989, though published in 1994.

(9) Nearly all known caves are family burials. Only slight evidence for field burials and dug graves in this period (see Kloner-Zissu, pp. 95-99, Beit Safafa, Mt Zion/Hinnom)

(10-17) Jerusalem largely depopulated post 70 CE with massive destruction.

(200-201) Necropolis at Dominus Flevit provides a good representative cross-section of 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BCE/CE tombs: 17 burial cave complexes; 122 ossuaries; with 43 inscriptions: 31 Hebrew; 10 Greek; and two bilingual.

Common names not in the Talpiot tombs:

Shelamzion, 'El'azar, Shalom, Shimon/Simon, Iohana/Joana, Ioanes, Yehochanan/Yochanan, Yehonatan, Chananiya, Sha'ul, Zechariah, Shapira, Sara, Dositheos, Menachem

## Images/Monograms

#8. Broken handle of limestone vessel, found near Robinson's arch, inscribed קרבין with images of two "birds" (doves?) crudely inscribed. IAA inventory no. 1978-2323, Israel Museum.

#75. Possible monogram, see Rahmani 42.

#76. Shim'on Boton (perhaps priestly family Boethos, Josephus, *AJ* 19. 297), beneath name appears to be the image of an altar.

Mt of Olives, Mt of Offense (Jebel Batn el-Hawa), discovered in 1873 and studied by Dr. Thomas Chapin (13 inscriptions; unpublished PEF archives per S. Gibson), followed by Clermont-Ganneau some months later. CIJ publishes 24 inscriptions: 17 Hebrew/7 Greek. A number of cross markings as well as other mysterious symbols are present as well:

#245. Yehuda: with simple cross below

#247. Jesus Jesus: with cross mark to left of first name

#253. Martha daughter of Ptzchi: wavy V shaped mark (matches one on lid)

#256. Shalom, wife of Yehuda: two mysterious “anchor” “canopy” like symbols, reversed

#263. Letters ΗΔ deeply incised with double lines; “Byzantine” *crux immissa* above  
Gibson & Avni (*RB* April, 1998) argue this is indeed Christian but was added later in the Byzantine period.

Rahmani # 841: Cross marks in circles as mason’s marks?

Rahmani # 348: Fish with mouth open, scales, name Claudius

### **Epitaphs/Epigrams or Formulae**

Rahmani mentions five out of 227 inscribed ossuaries: Nos. 142, 259, 559 (Greek) and Nos. 26 and 455 in Aramaic (perhaps expressing grief or consolation)

? (259) I adjure: let no one take away (of) Tertian

#93. Aramaic: No one has abolished his entering (next world? Naveh), not even Elazar and Shapira

Or, No man can go up (from the grave? Cross)...

Botanical Gardens, Mt Scopus

Israel Museum, IAA 1971-435 (Rahmani 455)

#359: Our parents: Do not ever open

#375: Our father Dositheos—not to be opened

#385: Rufus Whoever moves away has violated his oath

#439: This is the locus of...Alas! (or Woe!)

#451: Mariam wife of Mathia: whoever moves these, blindness strike

#458. ostophagos: ΟΣΤΟΦΑΓΟΣ ΟΣΤΟΦΑΓΟΣ

ostophagos written twice on fragment

Kidron Valley (near Beth Sahur el-Atiqah)

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1936-2180

#460: Bones of our fathers: not to open on them

#466: Anyone who derives benefit from it—qorban!

#604: Not to open

#605: Closed, to change and bury any other man with him in this ossuary, closed

**Apotropaic**

#84. ΚΝΙΦ

# 112. ΙΦΚΧ

# 113. ΧΨ

ΑΒ

#284. ΙΑΕΙ

#383. ϺϞ (four times on lid and side of box, Rahmani 78)

#509. Θ Η

#606. ΕΔΧΨ

**Jesus Ossuary Inscriptions:**

#36. Iesus, father of Simonides: Ἰησους πατηρ Σιμωνιδου  
Faint charcoal, red wash  
Sanhedria  
Beth Shemesh, IAA 1981-525 (Rahmani 751)

#109. Yeshu'a son of Dositheos (Dostas): ישוע בר דוסיתס  
Mt Scopus, west of Augusta Victoria  
Israel Museum, IAA 1946-183 (Rahmani 121)

#139. Yehoshua: יהושוע  
Kidron Valley (Shiloah)  
Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1936-913 (Rahmani 63).

#195. Yeshu'a: ישוע  
Name written twice, same hand. Above names: ברה  
Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 437:120  
\*\*N.b. 9 ossuaries of 22 found in chamber 437. Other names were [Hebrew/Aramaic]: 'Azariya son of Zekharia; Hananiya son of Shimon and Maria daughter of Agra; Yehosef son of Agra; Yehuda; Martha; Shalom wife of Shapir; Tuvia son of Agra; [Greek] Zechariah, Mariame, Elazar and Simon.  
SBF Museum, no inventory number

#206. Yeshu'a: ישוע  
Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Trench 425:93  
Found with one other ossuary in a trench: Abaskanotos in Greek.  
SBF Museum, SF 1109

#239. Shim'on Yeshu'a: שמעון ישוע  
Mt of Olives, Cave 38, near new Jewish cemetery, 1946.  
Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology, #8165

#247. Jesus, Jesus: ΙΕCOYC ΙΕCOYC  
Mt of Olives, Mt of Offence (Jebel Batn el-Hawa), 1873  
Drawings by Dr. Thomas Chaplin, published by Clermont-Ganneau (PEF Archives)  
Cross/X mark to left of first instance.

#267. Of Ioanes (son of) Iesus: ΙΩΑΝΗΘΥΙΗΣΙΟΥ  
Slope of Mt of Offense, discovered 1937. Two of 13, the other Ezra  
Unclear Hebrew: אבבלחן? Abraham?  
Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1937-1141 (Rahmani 89)

#295. Yeshua Iesoua: ישועה ΙΕΣΟΥΑ

Bilingual, one name over another, end of ossuary, spelling with final ך is unusual as is spelling of Jesus, normally Ιησους but this known from Syria.

Akeldama Cave 2, Chamber B, ossuary 15 (found 1989, part of three cave complex, possibly large clan from Syria, Greek names predominate: Chares, Eiras, Erotas, Doras, Megiste, Ariston, Helena, )

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1993-1694.

#320. Yeshu'a: ישוע

Kidron Valley, Wadi Yasul or Wadi Beth Sachur, published by Clermont-Ganneau (along with #152, 318, 319. Provenance unclear. Name based on drawing.

Present location unknown

#425. Iesus: ΙΗΣΟΥΣ

Lid of ossuary, badly worn, provenance unknown

École Biblique, no inventory number.

#473. Yehuda son of Yeshu'a: יהודה בר ישוע

East Talpiot, 1980

Israel Museum, IAA 1980-501 (Rahmani 702)

#474. Yeshu'a (?) son of Yehosef: ישוע בר יהוסף

Unskilled hand, difficult to read, large X mark to right of inscription

East Talpiot, 1980

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1980-503 (Rahmani 704)

#479. Iesus Aloth(?): ΙΗΣΟΥΣΑΛΩΘ

Cross-like symbols in charcoal on all four sides

Aloth(?) possible nickname

Hebron Road, 1945 by Sukenik

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1946-174 (Rahmani 114)

\*(2/28/2011 lid not located, misplaced or missing)

#480. Iesus son of Iou[da]: ΙΗΣΟΥΣΙΟΥ

Rahmani read: Jesus son of Juda; Sukenik: Iesus woe! (IOY)

Hebron Road, 1945 by Sukenik

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1946-173 (Rahmani 113)

#489. Yeshu'a bar Mati: ישוע בר מתי

\*Written twice on side and lid, very cursive script

Malcha, reported by Clermont-Ganneau

Present location and provenance unknown

#546. Yeshu'a: ישוע

Fragment of an ossuary, name in a "circle" (Figueras "fish"), see #87 (Rahmani 856) for another example, CIJ also mentions #477—Mariamene from the Talpiot tomb!

Provenance unknown

Israel Museum, IAA 1953-1223 (Rahmani 140)

#547. Yeshu and Yeshu'a son of Yehosef: ישו ישוע בר יהוסף

Found by Sukenik in basement of DAP.

Israel Museum, IAA S-767 (Rahmani 9)

#531. Ya'akov son of Yosef brother of Yeshu'a; (יעקוב יוסף אחיו. דישוע)

Surfaced in 2002 from collector Oded Golan, supposedly from Silwan

Currently in IAA possession, uncatalogued

#548. Iesous, son of Iesous, of Iesous: ΙΗΣΟΥΣ ΙΗΣΟΥΥΟΥΣ ΙΗΣΟΥ

Provenance unknown

SBF Museum, SF 7605

#583. Iesous: ΙΗΣΟΥΣ

With names Popeli and Ioses, all three names in nominative

Provenance unknown

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1934-7753 (Rahmani 56)

(3/1/2011 finger bone]

## Yose Ossuary Inscriptions

#46. Iose: ΙΩΣΕ

Giv'at Ha-Mivtar (same tomb as Avshalom & Hillel son of David)

Near 53 Midbar Sinai Street

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1971-424 (Rahmani 444)

#81. Iose, Leazaros: ΙΟΣΕ ΛΕΑΖ ΑΡΟΣ

Both in nominative, maybe two people or Iose is “son of” Lazarus/Eleazar

Mt Scopus

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1975-675 (Rahmani 576)

#116. Maria Yose?: מַרְיָה יוֹסֵה (Naveh: Mar Yehose)

Mt Scopus, western slope

Rockefeller Museum, IAA S-765 (Rahmani 8)

#231. Ioses (of Ioudas of Phaidros): ΙΩΣΗΣ

Sisters of Zion, Mt of Olives, southern slope

Found 1902, location today?

#475. Yose: יוֹסֵה

East Talpiot, 1980

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1980-504 (Rahmani 705)

#573. Iose: ΙΟΣΗ

Provenance unknown, with Martha and Mocheros

Museum École Biblique, no inventory number

#583. Ioses: ΙΩΣΗΣ

Inscribed twice, with Popeli and Ioses

Providence unknown

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1934-7753 (Rahmani 56)

(Finger bone 3/1/2011)

## Maria (Hebrew/Aramaic) Ossuary Inscriptions

#49. Maria: מַרְיָה

Giv'at HaMivtar (same tomb as Avshalom & Hillel son of David)  
Near 53 Midbar Sinai Street  
Beth Shemesh, IAA 1971-408 (Rahmani 428)

#71 Maria: מַרְיָה

Hebrew University grounds, Mt Scopus, fragment  
Location? No photo in CIJ

#116. Maria Yose?: מַרְיָה יוֹסֵה (Naveh: **Mar Yehose**)

Mt Scopus, western slope  
Rockefeller Museum, IAA S-765 (Rahmani 8)

#162. Martha and Maria: מַרְתָּה וּמַרְיָה

Eastern slope of Mt Scopus, reported, not surviving  
Two names on opposite sides of ossuary, seem to be same hand

#168. Martha and Maria: מַרְתָּה וּמַרְיָה

Maria aka Mariam (מַרְיָם)  
Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 70:27  
SBF Museum?

#192. Maria (daughter of Agra): מַרְיָה

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 437:107  
SBF Museum, SF 7711.

#238. Maria (the stranger/proselyte from Delos): מַרְיָה

Fragment, door-knocker motif  
Mt of Olives, Viri Galilaei  
Museum of the Greek Patriarchate

#312. Maria: מַרְיָה

Tomb of the Shroud

#384. Maria: מַרְיָה

Maria daughter of Sh...  
Beth Shemesh, IAA 1957-1112 (Rahmani 152)

# 476. Maria: מַרְיָה

East Talpiot  
Israel Museum, IAA 1980-505 (Rahmani 706)



**Compare: Mariamene in Talpiot “Jesus” tomb**

#133. Mariamnou: μαριαμνου (Genitive, cf. #477/Rahmani 701)

This form along with Mariame, three “fish” on the front over the rosettes, one with X inside, not mentioned in CIIP.

Kidron Valley, Wadi el-Ahmadiye

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1942-159 (Rahmani 108)

## Mara Ossuary Inscriptions

#97. Mara Martha: מרתה מרתה

Shulamit Garden, Mt Scopus

> on lid with no matching mark on body

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1971-669

#200. Mara: MAPA ? Maybe Maria?

Name *Storgé*/ΣΤΟΡΓΗ just below Mara, possible same person, with Chresimos father of Demarchia

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 452:61

SFB Museum, SFB 00432

#262. Mara: מרתה (? פרתה פרתה) Note two other Marthas in tomb: #252, 253 below.

Mt of Olives, Mt of Offence (Jebel Batn el-Hawa), 1973

Drawings by Dr. Thomas Chaplin, omitted by Clermont-Ganneau (PEF Archives)

#477. Mariame and Mara or Mariam (known as) Mara: MAPIAMHKAIMAPA

Rahmani: of Mariamene known as Mara: MAPIAMHNOY|MAPA

Written in one hand, sweeping bulging circle around name

Compare: #133. Mariamnou: μαριαννου (Genitive, cf. #477/Rahmani 701)

This form along with Mariame, three “fish” on the front over the rosettes, one with X inside, not mentioned in CIIP.

Kidron Valley, Wadi el-Ahmadiye

Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1942-159 (Rahmani 108)

#517. Alexa Mara: ΑΛΕΞΑΣΜΑΡΑΜΗΤΗΡ

Below, separate lines: Iouda; Simon her son

Chance find, no details

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1983-570 (Rahmani 868)

#563. Mara daughter of Levi: מרתה ברת לוי

Provenance unknown

Collection of Arnold Spaer, Jerusalem

*Compare:*

#414. Mother: ΜΗΤΕΡΑ

Certainly a “title” rather than a name

Syrian orphanage, Schneller Compound

One of three found, one in IAA (#415 “brother”), other two lost

#448. Maras: MAPA [Σ] [Τ] (final letter unclear?)

Apparently a male based on two male skeletons inside, cf. #543

French Hill intersection, 1992-1993 (nine burial caves found)

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1993-1613

#543. Yehosef Mara son of Benaya son of Yehuda: ... יהוספמררהבר

Or: Yosef the Master, the son of...

Fragment of an ossuary, provenance unknown

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1969-666 (Rahmani 327)

#116. Maria Yose?: מריהיסה (Naveh: **Mar Yehose**)

Mt Scopus, western slope

Rockefeller Museum, IAA S-765 (Rahmani 8)

#452. Masters of the Tomb: מריקבר and KYPETYΣTOYTOY

Mathia and Simon, brothers, sons of Iaeiros, masters of the tomb

Burial cave on French Hill

Beth Shemesh IAA 1975-658 (Rahmani 560)

## Martha Ossuary Inscriptions

#52. Martha: מרתא

Giv'at Ha-Mivtar (with Yehohanan the crucified man)  
54 disc-designs inside checkerboard pattern on front, sides, lid  
Israel Museum, IAA 1968-681 (Rahmani 220)

#74. of Martha: μαρθα

Genitive form, not nominative (as per Ilan, 423)  
Military cemetery, Mt Scopus  
Rockefeller, IAA 1932-2843 (Rahmani 45)

#97. Mara Martha: מרתא מרה

Shulamit Garden, Mt Scopus  
Beth Shemesh, IAA 1971-669

#142. Martha: מרתא (daughter of Hananiya)

Kidron Valley  
Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1936-917 (Rahmani 67)

#162. Martha and Maria: מריה מרתה

Eastern slope of Mt Scopus, reported, not surviving  
Two names on opposite sides of ossuary, seem to be same hand

#163. Martha: מרתה

Mt of Olives, grounds of Viri Galilaei, drawings only  
Names listed twice in different hands

#168. Martha and Maria: מרתה ומריה

Maria aka Mariam (מרים)  
Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 70:27  
SBF Museum?

#196. Martha (our mother): מרתא

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 437:119

#252. Martha: מרתא

Mt of Olives, Mt of Offence (Jebel Batn el-Hawa), 1973  
Drawings by Dr. Thomas Chaplin, omitted by Clermont-Ganneau (PEF Archives)

#253. Martha (daughter of Ptzchi): מרתא

Mt of Olives, Mt of Offence (Jebel Batn el-Hawa), 1973  
Drawings by Dr. Thomas Chaplin, published by Clermont-Ganneau (PEF Archives)

#272. Martha: מרתא

Wadi Qadom, graffito written over a loculus in Cave 29/4

Traces left, no drawing made

#429. [M]artha: מרתה [.]

Two small fragments, provenance unknown  
École Biblique, No. 13.4, ossuary 16

#453. Martha: מרתה

French Hill, Bar Kokhba Street  
With names Hananiya and Yehuda  
Bet Shemesh, IAA 1970-141

#504. Martha: מרתה

Martha daughter of Yehosef son of Ya'akov, wife of Yehosef son of Hon  
Unprovenanced from courtyard of Rockefeller Museum after 1967 Six Day War  
Israel Museum, IAA 1969-159 (Rahmani 290)

#505. Martha: מרתה

Martha daughter of Papos wife of Yehosef  
Unprovenanced from courtyard of Rockefeller Museum after 1967 Six Day War  
Bet Shemesh, IAA 1969-120 (Rahmani 256)

#511. Martha: ΜΑΡΘΑ

Found "south of Jerusalem," incised and then written again on lid in charcoal, faint  
Museum of Art and Archaeology, U. Missouri, inv. No. 68:287

#572. Martha: מרתה

Martha daughter of Hananiya  
SBF Museum, SBF 00471 B35Z, SF 812 and 812a

#573. MarthaIoseMocheros: ΜΑΡΘΑΙΩΣΗΜΩΧΗΡΟΣ

Provenance unknown  
Museum École Biblique, no inventory no.

## Matthew/Mattiya Ossuary Inscriptions from CIIP

#4. Mattiya son of...: [מ]תייהבר

Stone plaque, broken with name of father erased

South of Temple Mount

Bet Shemesh IAA, Locus 15023

#75. Matiya/Mattiya: מתתיה

Two hands, also possible monogram

Mt Scopus

Rockefeller, IAA 1932-2840 (Rahmani 42)

#146. Matiya: מתיה

Kidron Valley

Hebrew University, no. 1468

#185. Mattata: מתתה

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 355:37

SBF Museum, SF 1121, SBF 00446

#188. Matiya: מתיה (son of Chekia)

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Chamber 384:59

SBF Museum?

#204. Matiya: מתיה

Mattiya and Thadda his son/Mattiya

Dominus Flevit, Mt of Olives, Loculus 55

SBF Museum, SF 7701

#218. Mathias (son of Castos): ΜΑΘΙΟΥ

Genitive, repeated, very inexpert hand

Location unknown, lost: drawing Clermont-Ganneau

#219. Mattathias: ΜΑΤΤΑΘΙΟΥ

Maybe same ossuary/lid as 218.

Location unknown, lost; drawing Clermont-Ganneau

#276. Mattatiya: מתתיה

Written three times, one over the next on end of ossuary

Kidron Valley (Jebel Khallet et-Turi), published by Milik

SBF Museum, SF 1105

#277. Mattatiya (son of Choniya): מתתיה

Kidron Valley (Jebel Khallet et-Turi)

#380 & 381. Mattatiya: מתתיה

Two individuals, maybe father and son with the same name

Greek Colony/Talbiye, 1926

Israel Museum, IAA 1936-1869 and Rockefeller Museum, IAA 1936-1870 (Rahmani 71 & 78)

#451. (Mariam wife of) Mathia: מתייה and ΜΑΡΙΕΑΜΗΜΑΘΙΑΣ

Epitaph: Whoever moves these, blindness will strike him

Burial cave on French Hill

Israel Museum, IAA 1975-657 (Rahmani 559)

#452. Mathia: ΜΑΘΙΑΚΑΙΣΙΜΩΝ

Mathia and Simon, brothers, sons of Iaeiros, masters of the tomb (see entry under Mara)

Burial cave on French Hill

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1975-658 (Rahmani 560)

#478. Matiya: מתייה

מתיה on inside of one long side, right angle to rim

East Talpiot

Beth Shemesh, IAA 1980-502 (Rahmani 703)

#481. Mati: מתי

Hebron Rd/Sukenik (fragmentary state today)

Hebrew University Institute of Archaeology, inventory 9793

#489. Yeshu'a bar Mati: ישוע בר מתי

\*Written twice on side and lid, very cursive script

Malcha, reported by Clermont-Ganneau

Present location and provenance unknown

#575. Mattiya: מתייה (letters unclear)

Fragment of ossuary lid, faint charcoal