

Delving into Latin documents.

Towards an edition of unpublished Latin documentary papyri in Vienna.

Volumes XLIII to XLV of the *Chartae Latinae Antiquiores*, devoted to Latin papyri in the Viennese Papyrussammlung, have been published between 1995 and 1996. Not all of the extant Latin (or bilingual) material in Vienna (almost 170 pieces) have undergone the same treatment; whereas some of them are edited (e.g. *ChLA* XLV 1321 = *P.Vindob.* inv. L 109), others are only transcribed or described (L 28, 33, 70, 86, 98...), the *Chartae* admittedly being mainly a palaeographical tool. Moreover, in the *Preface* to vol. XLIV, the authors acknowledged that lack of time, along with the deplorable state of conservation of some of the pieces, had prevented them from producing an edition to all this material; more than 70 fragments on the *Chartae* are still only described, and some Viennese papyri do not even feature on them (L 64, 114, 124...). Within this group of unpublished pieces, almost all documentary in nature, lie however some items which deserve deeper inspection. The present paper is part of PLATINUM's commitment to study Latin text on papyrus; it will offer a preliminary study, both papyrological and historical, of some peculiarly relevant Viennese papyri, such as *P.Vindob.* inv. L 74, a large fragment in ancient cursive - probably concerning female issues (l. 3 *mu]liebria* ?) - with a full Greek letter on the *verso*; or 133, where more than one hand has written in two directions, and which hosts at ll. 1-2 a sample of 'scrittura grande' (identified by J. O. Tjäder as typical of court proceedings in Egypt); or even 151, a bilingual act which may be better put in context through the mention of Memphis (ll. 5-6 [τὰς] | πόλει τῆς ντε τῶν Μερφίτων καὶ []).

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