These practically worthless remains of several small documents were found on the recto side of 62. They would hardly deserve publication on their own, except that they may be helpful for understanding the physical construction of 62. We assume that 62, the text with toponyms, was written on recycled sheets, containing different documents, which were glued together. The recto of the innermost sheets (with frs. F18–34) had the same writing direction as the verso side, towards the roll’s core. All these (probably four) sheets may have been written by the same hand and may have formed one document, C. The number of the outer sheets (with frs. F3–17) also probably totaled four. They were turned the other way around, so that the recto text ran in the direction opposite to that of the verso, both showing the left margin. The three first of these sheets (with frs. F7–17) may have contained one document A, while the last one (F3–6) evidently contained a separate text (B). For a more detailed description of the roll, see Introduction to 62.

All three documents were written in a bigger hand and with bigger line intervals than that of the verso. Therefore, not more than seven letters from the beginnings of the lines are preserved in the A and B texts, and not more than ten letters from the right side of the C document, evidently not far from the right margin. Even though some entire words and names can be read, they are not enough to establish the nature of the documents.

The hand of A is a professional high-flown upright cursive. Some letters are very large: in the first line, xi with its lower vertical measures 3 cm in height. In ll. 16 and 19, the tau is drawn in one curved line with a loop beneath, taking a “flying bird” shape. The hand of B is smaller and with smaller line intervals, more slanting and less cursive, in some lines close to capital letters (γνώϲτηϲ in l. 7). It looks like the hand would have changed in l. 9 and once more in l. 11, implying that these lines, beginning with names, might possibly have presented signatures. However, the upsilon appearing both in ll. 10 and 13 has a special form resembling kappa, the numeral siglum for 90, suggesting that at least these lines may have been written by the same hand. The hand of C is a professional midsized cursive.

A (fragments F7–F17)

- - - - -

ἐξαιρομ[ ]

τη[..]
4 συντιθε[κε][με]κατοχή
8 φο[τ][ου]
12 ετολ[η]
16 τη[καὶ α]τη[καὶ η][two interlinear letters]
20 καὶ καὶ καὶ[καὶ κάρορα]ναμ[Ἀναςτικα]
24 [καὶ ρ[δεποτ][τη[καὶ καὶ][τη]
28 [εχειν[τη]

COMMENTARY

1 ἐξαιρομ[έν]: possibly ἐξαιρομ[έν]; but it has many meanings and is not part of any common formula in the papyri.

4 συντιθε[κε]: from συντίθημαι (“agree to”).

7 κατοχή: the word appears in the signatures of 22 in a fragmentary ἑβαιοσίας formula, possibly preceded by something like [καθαρὸν ἀπὸ τε φρεῖλη καῦ] (ll. 194–95 comm.). For the meaning, see 61 90 with comm.

23 Ἀναςτικα: an Anastasios is known in Petra as the scribe of 43 (l. 172). See also 57 223 with comm.

26 δεποτ[ε]: probably either οὐδέποτε or μηδέποτε, unless it is a misspelt form of οἰοκλήτωτε.

B (fragments F3–F6)
- - - - -
κ[αὶ?
καὶ συ[καὶ κ]
4 καὶ [
COMMENTARY

1–4 Oddly enough, all these lines seem to begin with καὶ. We cannot say whether this is a coincidence or is related to the structure of the document.

6–7 γνώστης: perhaps γνώστης ("reader, secretary").

8 βίου: “life.”

9–14 For the possibility of one or two signatures, see Introduction above.

11 Ἡλίου: a name in genitive could hardly begin a signature. Elias is known in Petra as the son of Isakios, see Index V.

13 ἐμοῦ: the first person singular fits a signature.

14 Βάϲϲου: for persons with this name in Petra, see Index V.

C (fragments F18–34)

ca. 15 too fragmentary lines

8 [ ] γεωσε ποιήσας [ ]

3 unreadable lines

12 [ ] γεωσε [ ]

the rest too fragmentary
COMMENTARY

5 ἐπιτρέπειν: in the papyrus documents and letters in Egypt, this infinitive is mostly encountered with negation, e.g., μὴ ἐπιτρέπειν ἑπὶ τὸν (“not to entrust to him”). It is not attested in the Petra papyri.

9 ἰακοσίων: these characters do not seem to form any known word.

11 ἱοκ θ’ς: the verb συγχωρέω (“to assent”) or substantive συγχώρηϲιϲ (“agreement”) do not appear in the Petra papyri. The letters ιοκ before the abbreviation seem to form the end of a word; otherwise, πριοκθ( ) would be possible.

12 προκυνη: the verb προκυνέω (“greet respectfully”) as well as the substantive προκύνηϲιϲ (or προκύνημα) appear mainly in letters, including one letter in the Petra archive, see 26 1.

J. KAIMO, M. LEHTINEN