

MILESTONE

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Résumé. – La découverte d'un milliaire dans un chantier de construction à Uşak apporte une nouvelle information concernant la localisation de la cité de *Temenouthyrai*.

Abstract. – The discovery of a milestone in a construction site in Uşak brings new information on the location of the city of Temenouthyrai.

Mots-clés. – Milliaire, Uşak, *Temenouthyrai*, *Flaviopolis*.

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The following milestone (fig. 1) which gives *Temenouthyrai* provides a direct epigraphic evidence of the location of the ancient city at Uşak¹. According to the Museum curators², it came to the Museum from the excavations for the foundation of a private building at a suburban district in the east named Sarayaltı Mahallesi. The house is across from the house N°. 12 on the short lane the I. Tarım Sokak and close, about 25 meters, to the old (traditional) inter-city road the Nuri Şeker Caddesi and distant, about 100 meters, from the Uşak mound. The plot of land of the house, probably N°. 59, is adjacent to the Seher Camii (mosque) and distant about 2.1 km from the Ulucami (mosque) in the center of town.

Cylindrical stone partly broken at the top resulting in a few remaining letters on the left of the first four lines of the first inscription (fig. 2) and the distance signs below it ; the second inscription (fig. 2) is below and though much effaced, could be read almost completely ; the third inscription (fig. 3) is on the back with few remaining letters on the right ; there is space below.

Ht. 1.34 m ; diameter 0.34 m ; letters 0.05 m (above) – 0.025 m (below)

INSCRIPTION I

	ΓΑ -----
2	Α -----
	ΑΥΤΑ -----
4	ΠΙ καὶ ΠΕ -----
	 [' Ἀπὸ Τημενουθυρῶν]
6	<u>μ</u> α'
	P·AV Q
8	A Temenuturi[s]
	<u>mi</u> I

The distance signs in Greek and Latin are clearly read and the latin name of the city as *caput viae* in Line 8 is *Temenuturæ*³.

Line 7 : Perhaps [A]B[FL]AV[I]Q[POLI] ⁴.

1. For the history of a long-standing endeavour to locate *Temenouthyrai* at Uşak cf. Th. Drew-Bear's convincing and comprehensive argumentation in *Chiron* 9, 1979, p. 275-302 and Pl. 8.

2. I owe my special thanks to the General Directorate for Cultural Heritage and Museums for the permission to work at the Museum of Uşak and Ahmet Mercan, the director, and his staff for their kind interest and assistance during my research at the Museum.

3. The Latin name of the city here differs from the conventional transliteration (*Temenouthyrae*) of the Greek.

4. *Temenouthyrai* was later called *Flaviopolis* in honor of one of the Flavian Emperors, cf. TH. DREW-BEAR, *op. cit.*, p. 280-282 and D. MAGIE, *Roman Rule in Asia Minor* I, Princeton 1950, p. 570 (Vespasian) ; or

Figure 1



Figure 2



Figure 3

INSCRIPTION II (fig. 2)

2 Αὐτοκράτορι Καίσαρι
 Μ(άρκῳ) Ἀντωνίῳ Γορδιανῷ
 Εὐτυχεῖ [Εὐσεβεῖ]ι [Σ]εβαστῷ
 4 Ἀπὸ Τημενου-
 θυρῶν
 6 μι α'

Cf. D. FRENCH, *Roman Roads and Milestones of Asia Minor*, BAR International Series 105, Fasc. 2, Part 2, p. 451-452 for the other milestones dedicated to Gordian III between AD 238-244 in Anatolia.

INSCRIPTION III (fig. 3)

 [Αὐτ(οκράτορι) Καίσ(αρι)] Γ(αῖῳ) Οὐαλε-
 2 [ρίῳ] Διοκλετι-
 [ανῷ] Σεβ(αστῷ) καὶ
 4 [Αὐρ(ηλίῳ) Οὐαλε(ρίῳ)] Μαξιμί-
 [ανῷ ἐπι]φανες-
 6 [τάτῳ Καί]σαρι Τη-
 [μενουθυ]ρέων ἢ πόλ[ις]

 μι α'

The rise of Maximian to the rank of Caesar was at the end of 285 A.D. There isn't sufficient space for the other titles he should be holding later.

The stone was presumably placed on the main road following the route from west to east *via Temenouthyrai*⁵.

The ancient city can only be laid open to the view when it should be excavated deeply⁶.

CHR. HABICHT, *AJS* 65, 1975, p.77 (Domitian). Hence on the missing part of the stone must have been an Emperor's name not before Vespasian.

5. D. MAGIE, *op. cit.*, II, p. 787 : «... From here (Bagis) the road led to Temenothyrae, and thence either through İslam Köy (near Banaz)... At least that section of the road which led from Sardis to the neighbourhood of İslam Köy was the line of the Royal Road (Bagis) ὁδὸς βασιλῆϊν) ...»

6. TH. DREW-BEAR, *op. cit.*, « I visited myself the large and deep excavations in the center of town near the Ulu Cami (mosque) At the bottom of the excavation ... lay a white marble architrave block etc... » p. 291 : etc..