

Magical gem: Anguipes (A) Greek inscription (B)

CBd-Number	CBd-1114
ID-Number	GB-AshMus_1892.1321
Collection	GB_Oxford, Ashmolean Museum
Inventory	1892.1321
References	Henig-MacGregor 2004, no. 13.2
Former Collections	Chester, Greville John (1830-1892)
Material	jasper (colour unspecified)
Dimensions	20 x 15 x 3.5 mm
Dating	2nd-3rd c. AD (Henig - MacGregor)
Iconography	Anguipes, cock-headed; whip; weapon: shield; weapon: armour
Divine Names & Voces	ἄβρασάξ; σεσεγγενβαρφαραγγης and variants; Ἰάω; ἄβλαναθανάλβα, variants; σεμσειλαμ and variants



Credits: by Robert L. Wilkins
Rights: © Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

A: Frontal view of a cock-headed Anguipes wearing armour, its strangely contorted head turned to left. Right hand raised and holding a whip, left hand lowered beside the body and hidden behind a round shield. Inscription across the figure: $\iota\omega|\alpha\beta\rho\alpha|\sigma\alpha\xi|\sigma\epsilon\mu|\sigma\epsilon\iota|\lambda\alpha\psi$ → Ἰάω, ἄβρασάξ, variant of σεμσειλαμ.

B: Inscription in six lines: $\alpha\beta\lambda\alpha|\nu\alpha\theta\alpha\nu|\alpha\beta\alpha\sigma\epsilon\sigma\epsilon|\gamma\gamma\epsilon\nu\beta\alpha|\rho\phi\alpha\rho\alpha\gamma\gamma\eta\sigma$ → ἄβλαναθανάλβα-palindrome, σεσεγγενβαρφαραγγης.

The gem belongs to the same production as CBd-11, see [Endreffy /comm. 2012/ on CBd-11 and CBd-1114](#).

Bibliography

[Henig - MacGregor 2004](#), 123, no. 13.2

Last modified: 2017-11-24 15:10:13