

94) Emendations to BiMes 24 19 // BRM 2 28 – The tablet BiMes 24 19 and its duplicate BRM 2 28 records the sale of a property described as *bītāti epšūti makkūr Anu bīt rittišu* (“built houses, the property of Anu, his tenured property”) by Riḫat-Anu, son of Lâbâši, the master builder (*arad ekalli*), to Anu-mār-ittannu, son of Nidinti-Ištar, the alphabet scribe (*sepīru*). Both exemplars are dated 24-III-89 SE (223 BC) and were written in Uruk.

In describing the property which is the subject of this document the scribe, Dumqī-Anu, son of Anu-uballit, of the Sîn-leqe-unnini family, ran into certain difficulties. This is not altogether surprising, since it is a complex building consisting of no less than five adjoining quadrilateral plots. The precise configuration of the property can only be resolved by making a number of emendations to the descriptions of the properties, since the scribe made a number of errors in them. I present here an edition of the text, the proposed corrections, and a schematic diagram showing the layout of the property as it can be understood on the basis of them.

Transliteration

- 1 ¹ri-ḫat-^d60 dumu šá ¹la-ba-ši ^{lûr} é.gal ina ḫu-ud šà-bi-šú é^{meš} ép-^lšú^{meš}
níg.ga¹ ^d60
é¹ kišib-šú ki-^ltì¹ (2) ká.gal ^dinnin šá qé-reb unug^{ki} 13 kùš uš an-ú^{im}si.sá
<<da>>
da é níg.ga ¹d60 é¹ kišib šá ¹ri-ḫat-^d60 ¹ašgab (3) dumu šá ¹d60-šeš-mu-nu
13 kùš uš ki-ú
^{im}u₁₈.lu da meš-ḫat šá-ni-tu₄ šá é mu¹meš 6 kùš sag¹.ki an.ta (4) ^{im}mar.tu da
é
5 ¹dum-qi-^d60 dumu šá ¹d60-tin-iṭ 6 kùš sag.ki ki.ta ^{im}kur.ra da é ¹ri-ḫat-^d60
¹ašgab
(5) meš-ḫat šá-ni-tu₄ šá é mu^{meš} 30 kùš uš an-ú^{im}si.sá da meš-ḫat igi-^ltì¹
šá é mu^{meš} u da é
¹ri-ḫat-^d60 ¹ašgab (6) 30 ¹kùš¹ uš ki-ú^{im}u₁₈.lu da meš-ḫat šá-ni-tu₄ šá é

- mu^{lmeš} u da é dumu^{meš} šá
- 1d60-en-numun 11 kùš sag.ki an.ta (7) immar.tu da é [1dum-qi]-r^d60 dumu
šá^l 1d60-tin-it 11 kùš
- sag.ki ki.ta imkur.ra da meš-ḫat šá-ni-tu₄ (8) šá é mu^{meš} meš-ḫat šá-lul-tu₄
r^{šá} é mu^{meš} 7 kùš
- 10 r^{uš} an^l-ú imsi.sá da meš-ḫat igi-tì šá é mu^{meš} (9) 7 kùš uš ki-ú imu₁₈.lu r^{da}
é^l
- dumu^{meš} šá 1d60-en-numun 4 kùš sag.ki an.ta immar.tu da (10) é 1dum-qi-
^d60 dumu šá 1d60-tin-it 4 r^{kùš}
- sag.ki ki.ta imkur.ra da é dumu^{meš} šá 1d60-en-numun (11) meš-ḫat 4-tu₄ šá
é mu^{meš} r¹³ kùš^l
- uš an-ú imsi.sá da é r^{ri}-ḫat-^d60 lašgab 13 kùš uš ki-ú (12) imu₁₈.lu r^{da} [é]
dumu^{meš} šá 1d60-en-numun 28 kùš sag.ki an.ta immar.tu da é r^{ri}-ḫat-^d60
lašgab (13) u r^{da} [meš-ḫat]
- 15 igi-tì šá é mu^{meš} u r^{da} é dumu^{meš} šá 1d60-en-numun 30 kùš sag.ki ki.ta
imkur.ra da (14) [é]
- dumu^{meš} šá 1dum-qi-^d60 dumu šá ki-din-^d60 u da meš-ḫat šá-ni-tu₄ šá é
mu^{meš} meš-ḫat 5-tu₄ šá r^é mu^{lmeš}
- 13 kùš (15) uš an-ú imsi.sá da é dumu^{meš} šá 1dum-qi-^d60 dumu šá ki-din-
^d60 u da meš-ḫat igi-r^{ti} šá é mu^{meš}
- 13 1/2 kùš (16) uš ki-ú imu₁₈.lu da mu-šu-ú šá dumu^{meš} šá 1d60-en-numun
u mu-šu-ú šá é
- mu^{meš} 13 kùš sag.ki (17) an.ta immar.tu da meš-ḫat igi-tì šá é mu^{meš}
13 r^{kùš}
- 20 sag.ki ki.ta imkur.ra da é (18) dumu^{meš} šá 1dna-na-a-mu dumu šá 1d60-en-
numun a r^{kur}-i^l
- R. pab 5-ta meš-ḫat šá é mu^{meš} <é mu^{meš}> i-ši! u ma-a-du (19) ma-la ba-šu-
ú gab-bi a-na
- 1 ma.na kù.babbar is-ta-ter-ra-nu šá se-lu-ku bab-ba-nu-ú-tú (20) a-na
šám til^{meš} a-na 1d60-dumu-mu-nu
- dumu šá ni-din-tu₄-^{d+}innin lúse-pir a-na u₄-mu ša-a-tú it-ta-din
(21) kù.babbar a₄ 1 ma.na šám é mu^{meš}
- r^{ri}-ḫat-^d60 ina šu^{II} 1d60-dumu-mu-nu ma-ḫir e-ḫir (rev. 22) u₄-mu pa-qa-ri
ana muḫ-ḫi é mu^{meš}
- 25 it-tab-šu-ú r^{ri}-ḫat-^d60 lúna-din-na é mu^{meš} ù la-ba-ši (23) dumu-šú ú-

- ʿmar¹-raq-ma-a³
 a-di 12-ta.àm e-lat níg.ga ^d60 a-na ^{1d}601-[dumu]-mu-nu a-na u₄-mu ʃa-
 a-tú⁽²⁴⁾ ina-an-din-u³
 é mu^{meš} níg.ga ^d60 é kišib ʃá ^{1d}60-dumu-mu-nu ʿdumu ʃá ¹ni-din-ʿtu₄-
^{d+}innin ^{lú}se-pir a-na u₄-mu
 ʃa-a-tú ʃu-ú
 (25) ^{lú}mu-kin₇ ^{1d}60-gin-a dumu ʃá ^{1d}60-tin-iṭ a ¹ḫun-zu-ú
 30 (26) ¹gal-^d60 dumu ʃá ¹dum-qi-^d60 a ¹ḫun-zu-ú ^{1d}60-ad-urù ʿù¹ ¹la-ba-ši
 dumu^{meš} ʃá ¹man-nu-i-qa-pu a ¹kur-i
^{1d}60-en-šú-nu ù ^{1d}60-gin-a dumu^{meš} ʃá ^{1d}60-šeš^{meš}-mu a ¹šeš-ʿu-ú-tú¹
^{1d}na-na-a-mu dumu ʿšá ¹ni-din-tu₄-^d60¹
 a ¹kur-i ^{1d}60-ad-urù ù ^{1d}60-ʿik-šur¹ dumu^{meš} ʃá ¹mu-a a ¹šeš-ʿu¹-[ú]-tú
 ʿšá-^d601-iš-šú-ú
 dumu ʃá ^{1d}innin-mu-mu a ¹[ḫun]-zu-ú ʿ^{1d}60-ad-urù¹ dumu ʃá ¹<šá>-^d601-
 iš-š[ú-ú a ¹]ḫun-zu-ú ^{1d}60-ik-šur
 dumu ʃá ¹tat-tan-nu ʿa ¹é.kur-za-kir ^{1d}601-šeš^{meš}-mu dumu ʃá ¹gal-^d60 ʿa
¹kur-i ¹ta-nit-tu₄-^d60
 35 dumu ʃá ^{1d}utu-mu-nu a ¹kur-i ^{1d}60-ad-urù dumu ʃá ^{1d}na-na-a-mu <<dumu
 ʃá ^{1d}na-na-a-mu>> a ¹kur-i
 (space of c. 3 lines)
 (32) ¹dum-qi-^d60 ^{lú}umbisag dumu ʃá ^{1d}60-tin-iṭ a ^{1d}30-ti-ér ʿunug^{ki} iti.sig₄
 ud.24.kam
 (33) mu.89.kam ¹se-lu-ku lugal

Captions accompanying seal impressions

- Le.E. un-qa ¹gal-^d60 [un-qa] / ^{1d}60-ik-šur un-qa / ^{1d}60-ad-urù un-qa / ¹šá-
^d60-iš-šú-ú
 un-qa / ^d60-šeš^{meš}-mu
 U.E. un-qa / ^{1d}na-na-a-mu un-qa / ^{1d}60-ad-urù un-qa / ¹ta-nit-tú-^d60
 ʿun-qa¹ / ^{1d}[60]-gin-a
 ʿun-qa¹ / ^{1d}60-ik-šur
 R.E. [un-qa ¹ri-ḫat-^d60 ^{lú}na-din-na] / é mu^{meš} un-qa ¹la-ba-ši / mu-ru-qu
 Lo.E. un-qa / ^{1d}60-ad-urù un-qa / ^{1d}60-en-šú-nu un-qa / ^{1d}60-du-a un-
 qa / ^{1d}60-ad-urù un-qa / ¹la-ba-ši

Translation

Riḫat-Anu, son of Lâbâši, the master builder, of his own volition sold the built houses, property of Anu, his tenured property in the Iṣtar Gate district which is in Uruk :

13 cubits, the upper side on the north, next to the property of Anu, the tenured property of Riḫat-Anu, the leather-worker, son of Anu-aḫ-ittannu ;

13 cubits, the lower side on the south, next to the second plot of that property ;

6 cubits, the upper front on the west, next to the house of Dumqi-Anu, son of Anu-uballiṭ ;

6 cubits, the lower front on the east, next to the house of Riḫat-Anu the leather-worker.

The second plot of that house :

30 cubits, the upper side on the north, next to the first plot of that house and next to Riḫat-Anu, the leather-worker ;

30 (*sic*) plot of that [house] and next to the house of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri ;

11 cubits, the upper front on the west, next to the house of [Dumqi]-Anu, son of Anu-uballiṭ ;

11 cubits, the lower front on the east, next to the second (*sic*) plot of that house.

The third plot of that house :

7 cubits, the upper side on the north, next to the first (*sic*) plot of that house ;

7 cubits, the lower side on the south, next to the house of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri ;

4 house of Dumqi-Anu, son of Anu-uballiṭ ;

4 cubits, the lower front on the east, next to the house of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri.

The fourth plot of that house :

13 cubits, the upper side on the north, next to the house of Riḫat-Anu, the leather-worker ;

13 cubits, the lower side on the south, next to the [house] of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri ;

28 cubits, the upper front on the west, next to the house of Riḫat-

Anu, the leather-worker, and next to the first (*sic*) [plot] of that house and next to the house of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri ;

30 cubits, the lower front on the east, next to [the house] of the sons of Dumqi-Anu, son of Kidin-Anu, and next to the second (*sic*) plot of that house.

The fifth plot of that house :

13the house of the sons of Dumqi-Anu, son of Kidin-Anu, and next to the first (*sic*) plot of that house ;

13 1/2 cubits, the lower side on the south, next to the exit of the sons of Anu-bēl-zēri and next to the exit of that house ;

13on the west, next to the first (*sic*) plot of that house ;

13 cubits, the lower front on the east, next to the house of the sons of Nanaya-iddin, son of Anu-bēl-zēri, descendant of Kurî.

A total of five plots of that house - (that house), as little or as much as there is, (he sold) all of it for 1 mina of silver in good quality staters of Seleucus, for the full price, to Anu-mār-ittannu, son of Nidinti-Ištar, the alphabet scribe, in perpetuity. Riḫat-Anu has received the 1 mina of silver, the price of that house, from Anu-mār-ittannu ; he has been paid. If a claim arises concerning that house Riḫat-Anu, the seller of that house, and his son Lâbâši shall clear it from claims and they shall give (it) twelve-fold, without (the involvement of) the property of Anu, to Anu-[mār]-ittannu in perpetuity. That house, the property of Anu, is the tenured property of Anu-mār-ittannu, son of Nidinti-Anu, the alphabet scribe, in perpetuity.

Witnesses :

(1) Anu-mukîn-apli/Anu-uballit//Ḫunzû

(2) Rabût-Anu/Dumqi-Anu//Ḫunzû

(3-4) Anu-ab-ušur and Lâbâši/Mannu-iqâpu//Kurî

(5-6) Anu-bēlšunu and Anu-mukîn-apli/Anu-aḫḫe-iddin/Aḫḫûtu

(7) Nanaya-iddin/Nidinti-Anu//Kurî

(8-9) Anu-ab-ušur and Anu-iḫšur/Iddinaya//Aḫḫûtu

(10) Ša-Anu-iššû/Ištar-šum-iddin//Ḫunzû

(11) Anu-ab-ušur/(Ša-)Anu-iššû//Ḫunzû

(12) Anu-iḫšur/Tattannu//Ekur-zâkir

- (13) Anu-aḥḥē-iddin/Rabūt-Anu//Kurî
 (14) Tanittu-Anu/Šamaš-ittannu//Kurî
 (15) Anu-ab-ušur/Nanaya-iddin/Nanaya-iddin//Kurî

Scribe : Dumqi-Anu/Anu-uballiṭ//Sîn-leqe-unnîni
 Uruk, 24th day of Simānu, 89th ar of Seleucus the king.

Commentary

The edition is based on BiMes 24 19. Variations between the two exemplars are minor. BRM 2 28 has different line breaks which are supplied in superscript in the transliteration up to l. 30 // 26 ; thereafter BRM 2 28 names the same witnesses but in a different order. Where l. 7 has *šá-ni-tu₄*, BRM 2 28, 6 has *igi-tì* (see below) ; where l. 15 has *sag.ki ki.ta*, BRM 2 28, 13 has *sag.<ki> ki.ta*. The ancestry of the sons of Nanaya-iddin as given at the end of l. 20 is omitted in BRM 2 28, 18. Line 21 has *é mu^{meš} <é mu^{meš}>* while BRM 2 28, 18 has the correct *é mu^{meš} é mu^{meš}*. Line 35 has *dumu šá^{1d}na-na-a-mu* twice by dittography. According to G.F. Del Monte (*Testi dalla Babilonia Ellenistica, Vol. 1. Testi Cronografici*. Pisa - Rome 1997 p. 233) this is the latest dated text of Seleucus III. The following emendations are suggested :

2nd plot, south side :

BRM 2 28, 6 : emend *meš-ḥat igi-tì* to *meš-ḥat šá-lul-tu₄* “third plot”

BiMes 24 19, 7 : emend *meš-ḥat šá-ni-tu₄* to *meš-ḥat šá-lul-tu₄* “third plot”

2nd plot, east side :

BiMes 24 19, 9 // BRM 2 28, 7 : emend *meš-ḥat šá-ni-tu₄* to *meš-ḥat 4-tu₄* “fourth plot”

3rd plot, north side :

BiMes 24 19, 10 // BRM 2 28, 8 : emend *meš-ḥat igi-tì* to *meš-ḥat šá-ni-tu₄* “second plot”

4th plot, west side :

BiMes 19, 14f. // BRM 2 28, 13 : emend [*meš-ḥat*] *igi-tì* to [*meš-ḥat*] *šá-ni-tu₄* “second plot”

4th plot, east side :

BiMes 24 19, 16 // BRM 2 28, 14 : emend *meš-ḥat šá-ni-tu₄* to *meš-ḥat 5-tu₄*

“fifth plot”

5th plot, north side :

BiMes 24 19, 17 // BRM 2 28, 15 : emend *meš-ḫat igi-[ti]* to *meš-ḫat 4-[tu₄]*

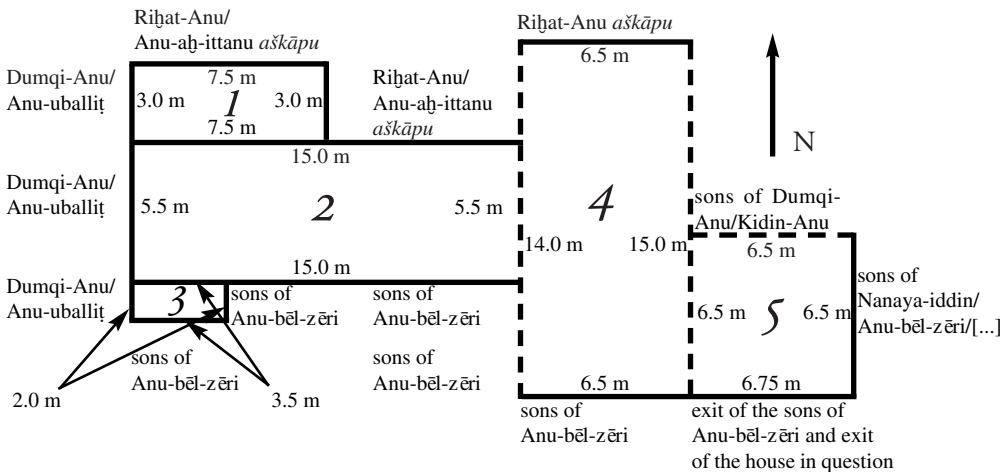
“fourth plot”

5th plot, west side :

BiMes 24 19, 19 // BRM 2 28, 17 : emend *meš-ḫat igi-ti* to *meš-ḫat 4-tu₄*

“fourth plot”

Without these corrections it is impossible to work out the basic configuration of the property in a satisfactory way. Once they are implemented the property can be represented schematically as follows, with the individual plots numbered in bold typeface :



Owing to the vagueness of the descriptions it is uncertain at what point exactly the west side of plot 4 adjoins the east side of plot 2. Similarly, there must have been some degree of overlap around the point where plot five adjoins the eastern side of plot 4, since the northern side of plot 5 is said to adjoin both the house of the sons of Dumqi-Anu/Kidin-Anu and the fourth plot.

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