

**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION FORM TO ACCOMPANY SUBMISSIONS
FOR ADDITIONS TO THE REPERTOIRE OF ISO/IEC 10646**

2004 – June 7

A. Administrative

1. Title:

Proposal to add Archaic Mediterranean Script block to ISO 10646

2. Requester's name:

Elaine Keown

3. Requester type (Member body/Liaison/Individual contribution):

Individual contribution

4. Submission date:

June 7, 2004

5. Requester's reference (if applicable):

6. Choose one of the following:

6a. This is a complete proposal.

No

6b. More information will be provided later:

Yes. (see D. Proposal)

B. Technical - General

1. Choose one of the following:

a. This proposal is for a new script (set of characters)

Yes, for block to be called 'Archaic Mediterranean.'

b. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:

No

Name of the existing block:

2. Number of characters in proposal:

48

3. Proposed category (select one from below - see section 2.2 of P&P document):

Category B.2

4. Proposed Level of Implementation (1, 2 or 3) (see Annex K in P&P document):

Level 2

Is a rationale provided for the choice?

Yes

If Yes, reference: _____

5. Is a repertoire including character names provided?

Yes—names preliminary

a. If YES, are the names in accordance with the “character naming guidelines” in Annex L of P&P document?

Yes

b. Are the character shapes attached in a legible form suitable for review? Yes

B. Technical - General

6. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font (ordered preference: True Type, or PostScript format) for publishing the standard?

Not yet known

If available now, identify source(s) for the font (include address, e-mail, ftp-site, etc.) and indicate the tools used:

7. References:

a. Are references (to other character sets, dictionaries, descriptive texts etc.) provided?

Yes, see Bibliography.

b. Are published examples of use (such as samples from newspapers, magazines, or other sources) of proposed characters attached?

Yes

8. Special encoding issues:

Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing (if applicable) such as input, presentation, sorting, searching, indexing, transliteration etc. (if yes please enclose information)?

It addresses 'caseless collation.'

9. Additional Information:

C. Technical - Justification

1. Has this proposal for addition of character(s) been submitted before?

No

2. Has contact been made to members of the user community (for example: National Body, user groups of the script or characters, other experts, etc.)?

No. This is a proposed solution to a disagreement on how some early Semitic material should be handled. It also addresses archaic material which is borderline: material which is not really Semitic, but also not yet solidly European/Etruscan/ etc because the script direction and glyph shapes have not yet stabilized. There is quite a bit of such material in the Mediterranean and probably even on the Atlantic coast of Europe.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed characters (for example: size, demographics, information technology use, or publishing use) is included?

Epigraphers of various Mediterranean languages worldwide will be interested.

Reference: _____

4. The context of use for the proposed characters (type of use; common or rare)

Used by scholars.

Reference:

5. Are the proposed characters in current use by the user community?

Yes

If YES, where? Reference:

6. After giving due considerations to the principles in the P&P document must the proposed characters be entirely in the BMP?

No

If YES, is a rationale provided?

Yes, see 3. _____

If YES, reference: _____

7. Should the proposed characters be kept together in a contiguous range (rather than being scattered)?

Yes

8. Can any of the proposed characters be considered a presentation form of an existing character or character sequence?

No

If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

If YES, reference: _____

9. Can any of the proposed characters be encoded using a composed character sequence of either

existing characters or other proposed characters?

No

If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

Yes, see proposal. _____

If YES, reference: _____

10. Can any of the proposed character(s) be considered to be similar (in appearance or function) to an existing character?

Yes

If YES, is a rationale for its inclusion provided?

No. There is some overlap between 'Phoenician' and 'Early right-to-left Greek.' It's not clear how that should be handled.

If YES, reference: _____

11. Does the proposal include use of combining characters and/or use of composite

No

If YES, is a rationale for such use provided?

Yes, see B.9 _____ If YES, reference: _____

Is a list of composite sequences and their corresponding glyph images (graphic symbols) provided?

Yes

If YES, reference: _____

12. Does the proposal contain characters with any special properties such as control function or similar semantics?

No

If YES, describe in detail (include attachment if necessary) _____

13. Does the proposal contain any Ideographic compatibility character(s)?

No

D. Proposal







Some time between 1400 BCE and 700 BCE (scholarly estimates vary by 700 years), some North Semitic alphabets, whether earlier versions or later, were transmitted to Greece, Crete, Cyprus, Eretria, North Africa, Spain, Portugal, and possibly also down the Atlantic coast of West Africa. In all these areas, which were visited by various traders, whether Canaanite, Greek, or even Etruscan, the alphabet(s) were transmitted to local people.















In all the areas, the initial inscriptions were variable in direction, in shape of letters, and in length of alphabet.















The ‘Archaic Mediterranean Script Block’ is designated to cover early right-to-left or boustrophedon material from the Mediterranean region, whether the material in question is Byblian, Phoenician, archaic Greek, or archaic Latin. With some additions, the block could also cover early Tartessian (southern Spain) before their script became ‘semisyllabic.’ It may also cover similar material from France, Italy, Sicily, etc.
















This proposed block takes advantage of the ‘caseless’ or ‘monocase’ character of these scripts. Because caseless scripts collate more easily, one can intermingle varieties of the script and still have appropriate collation for an individual subsection of the characters. Using the characters 1010, 1012, 1014, etc. for an encoding will produce the expected Byblian / Phoenician collation. Selecting 1011, 1013, 1015, etc. will produce any shorter or longer archaic Greek or archaic Latin right-to-left collation.

TABLE ZZ – ROW 1010 etc: ARCHAIC MEDITERRANEAN

1010		
0		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN ALEPH
1		ARCHMED EARLY ALPHA
2		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN BETH
3		ARCHMED EARLY BETA
4		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN GIMEL
5		ARCHMED EARLY GAMMA

6		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN DALETH
7		ARCHMED EARLY DELTA
8		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN HEH
9		ARCHMED EARLY EPSILON
10		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN WAW
11		ARCHMED EARLY WAW
12		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN ZAYIN
13		ARCHMED EARLY ZETA
14		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN HETH
15		ARCHMED EARLY ETA
16		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN TETH
17		ARCHMED EARLY THETA
18		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN YOD
19		ARCHMED EARLY IOTA

20		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN KHAFA
21		ARCHMED EARLY KAPPA
22		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN LAMED
23		ARCHMED EARLY LAMBDA
24		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN MEM
25		ARCHMED EARLY MU
26		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN NUN
27		ARCHMED EARLY NU
28		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN SAMEKH
29		ARCHMED EARLY XI
30		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN AYIN
31		ARCHMED EARLY OMICRON
32		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN PEH
33		ARCHMED EARLY PI

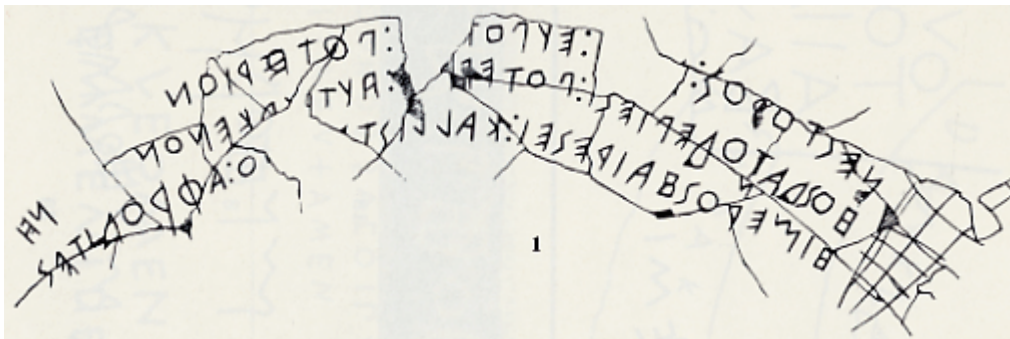
34		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN TSADI
35		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN QOF
36		ARCHMED EARLY KOPPA
37		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN RESH
38		ARCHMED EARLY RHO
39		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN SIN
40		ARCHMED EARLY SAN
41		ARCHMED EARLY SIGMA
42		ARCHMED PHOENICIAN TAW
43		ARCHMED EARLY TAU
44		ARCHMED EARLY UPSILON
45		ARCHMED EARLY PHI
46		ARCHMED EARLY CHI
47		ARCHMED EARLY PSI
48		ARCHMED EARLY OMEGA

Figures:

Figure 1: The ivory Marsiliana right-to-left abecedarium (on writing practice tablet); found in Etruria, presumed imported from eastern Mediterranean (see Bundgård, Jeffery).



Figure 2: Graffito from Pithekoussai (early right-to-left Greek)



Early right-to-left Greek which is not shown: Dipylon oinochoe ; sherds from Hymettos; cups from Rhodes; Argive heraiion; early Thera rock inscriptions; early Amorgos rock inscriptions. For all these, see Jeffery, L. H.

Figure 3: Castor and Pollux dedication (right-to-left Archaic Latin)



Figure 4: Forum Romanum, first line (right-to-left Archaic Latin)



Note: two other right-to-left Roman inscriptions are not shown.

Bibliography

Bundgård, J. A. “Why did the art of writing spread to the West? Reflexions on the alphabet of Marsiliana.” *Analecta Romana Instituti Danici* III. Ejnar Munksgaard: Copenhagen, 1965, pp. 11-72.

The Samos Alphabet: pp. 54-55, Figure 22.

Gordon, Arthur E. Illustrated Introduction to Latin Epigraphy. University of California Press: Berkeley, 1983.

Castor and Pollux dedication: p. 76-77 and Plate 1, no. 2. Found 1958 near Lavinio.

Forum Romanum Cippus, pp. 78-80 and Plate 3, nos. 4a, 4b.

Jeffery, L. H. The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece. Clarendon Press: Oxford, 1990.

Marsiliana writing tablet: p. 43, 237, Plate 48, no. 18.

Graffito from Pithekoussai: p. 43, 235, Plate 47, no. 1.