PROPOSAL SUMMARY FORM

A. Administrative

1. Title:
Proposal to encode the Greek Capital Letter San and Greek Small Letter San in the UCS
2. Requester's name:
Thesaurus Linguae Graecae Project (University of California, Irvine)
3. **Requester type:**
Expert contribution
4. Submission date:
2002-11-07
5. Requester's reference:
6. Completion:
This is a complete proposal.

B. Technical - General

1. The proposal is for addition of character(s) to an existing block:
Greek and Coptic (proposed positions: U+03FA and U+03FB)
2. Number of characters in proposal:
Two
3. Proposed category:
C
4. Proposed Level of Implementation:
Level 1
5a. Character name provided?
Yes
5b. Character name in accordance with guidelines:
Yes
5c. Character shape reviewable?
Yes
6a. Who will provide the appropriate computerized font for publishing the standard?
David Perry and the TLG Project
6b. Font currently available?
Yes.
6c. Font format:
True Type
7a. Are references provided?
Yes.
7b. Are published examples of use of proposed character attached?
Yes.
8. Does the proposal address other aspects of character data processing?
No.

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?

Yes. Proposal was posted to the TLG web site and received comments from a number of experts. The TLG has also consulted with Professor Kevin Clinton, Cornell University and Epigraphy Project and Professor Stephen Tracy, Director, Center for Epigraphical Studies at The Ohio State University and American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

3. Information on the user community for the proposed character:

Scholarly community (especially epigraphical studies)

4. The context of use for the proposed character:

Greek inscriptions

5. Is the proposed character in current use by the user community?

Yes. Character is present in various editions and studies of Greek inscriptions.

6. After giving due considerations to the principles in *Principles and Procedures document*, must the proposed character be entirely in the BMP?

Yes.

If YES, is a rationale provided?

Accordance with the Roadmap.

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

Yes. They should be placed together with other Greek alphabetic characters.

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

No.

9. Can the proposed character be encoded using a composed character sequence of either existing characters or other proposed characters?

No.

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

Yes. Greek Capital Letter San is similar in appearance but not identical to 039C Greek Capital Letter Mu. Greek Small Letter San is similar in appearance but not identical to 03BC Greek Small Letter Mu.

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

No.

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

No.

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

No.

Proposal to encode Archaic Letter San in the UTS

San is the only archaic Greek letter currently missing from the Unicode Standard. Since all other archaic Greek letters are already represented, San is a reasonable addition to the existing set.

San is attested in early Greek inscriptions. It derives from the Phoenician script and occupies the position following the letter *pi* (see Example 1). Several but not all Greek cities used it.[1] After the second half of the 6th century B.C. it was replaced by Sigma, except in Doric states and, especially, in Crete where it appears to have been used after the fifth century. It was also used as an emblem on the coins of Sikyon, and as a sign for a breed of horses called 'samphorae.'

San looks similar to the later letter *mu* (different from archaic mu which has a shorter leg) but represents a sibilant, which later became a Sigma. In modern texts and in the absence of font representation, the convention has been to use sigma in representing the archaic San. However, epigraphers worldwide who deal with archaic materials need to have the character represented in Unicode. Early ancient Greek inscriptions preserve letters in upper-case only. Both Capital and Small Letter San are proposed for the sake of completeness and consistency with the encoding of other archaic characters.

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[1] Jeffery, L. H. Local Scripts of Archaic Greece (Oxford, 1990) 33.

Greek Capital Letter San

Sign	Similar Unicode
Μ	

Example 1
L.H Jeffery, *The Local Scripts of Archaic Greece* (Oxford 1990) Plate 20

Greek Small Letter San

Sign	Similar Unicode
м	

Example 1
See example for Greek Letter San above. The small letter san is positioned with the tail dropping down below the line.[2]

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[2] Perry, D., *Design of the Greek Archaic Letter San For Use in Computer Fonts* (2002)
http://members.telocity.com/~perryd/DesignSan.pdf