

Greek Epigraphy – Sigla¹

- [αβγ] Letters which are believed by the editor to have been inscribed on the stone but which are now lost.
- {αβγ} Superfluous letters mistakenly added by the original stonecutter and excised by the editor.
- <αβγ> Letters added by the editor to replace letters wrongly inscribed or mistakenly omitted by the original stonecutter.
- α(βγ) Letters added by the editor to complete words deliberately abbreviated by the original stonecutter.
- [[αβγ]] Editor's restoration of letters deliberately erased in antiquity.
- αβγ. The underdot represents a letter of which sufficient traces remain that it does not need to be bracketed, but where the reading is not absolutely certain.
- ΑΒΓ Clear but incomprehensible letters.
- ... Lost letters that cannot be restored; each dot generally stands for one letter, where the number of lost letters can be determined. If there are more than four or five letters missing, the number may be indicated as follows: [... 12...]. May be bracketed or not.
- An uncertain number of missing letters that cannot be restored. May be bracketed [---].
- v, vv One or two letter spaces left blank by the stonecutter. A significant portion of the line or an entire line left blank may be designated by *vacat*.
- | In a continuous text the vertical slash represents the line breaks of the original inscription.
- || In a continuous text the double vertical slash represents the line break at every fourth or fifth line.
- ← Arrows may be used to indicate the direction of a text originally inscribed retrograde (right to left) or boustrophedon (alternating lines written left to right, right to left, left to right, etc.).

¹ According to the Leiden convention; see Dow 1969.