

# "Kepos" - Epicurus' Garden Name, Location, History

Post by "Little Rocker" of May 15, 2024 at 3:52 PM

This is great, Don! I tracked down a passage I seemed to remember from an article by Diskin Clay to the effect that Memmius probably purchased Epicurus' house in town, the one in Melite. Which means Epicurus owned \*two\* pieces of property, one of them, as Pactatus notes, suitable for renovation into a larger villa:

"Years after his philosophical stay in Athens Cicero wrote (in 51 BC) to Gaius Memmius (the addressee of Lucretius' *De Rerum Natura*) on behalf of Patro, then the head of the Epicurean school in Athens who had followed Phaedrus. Cicero's purpose was to dissuade Memmius from pulling down the ruins of Epicurus' house in Melite within the city walls. He sent a copy of this letter to Atticus to reinforce his plea. Epicurus' house and small garden near the Hill of the Nymphs were in ruins by the time Cicero wrote to Memmius and Atticus, but the school and Patro's feelings of reverence and duty to Epicurus and his fellow Epicureans in Athens is evident from Cicero's letter to Memmius."