

Ancient Graffiti in Context

Edited by [Jennifer Baird](#), [Claire Taylor](#)

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Description

Contents

Author Bio

Subjects

Graffiti are ubiquitous within the ancient world, but remain underexploited as a form of archaeological or historical evidence. They include a great variety of texts and images written or drawn inside and outside buildings, in public and private places, on monuments in the city, on objects used in daily life, and on mountains in the countryside. In each case they can be seen as actively engaging with their environment in a variety of ways. *Ancient Graffiti in Context* interrogates this cultural phenomenon and by doing so, brings it into the mainstream of ancient history and archaeology. Focusing on different approaches to and interpretations of graffiti from a variety of sites and chronological contexts, Baird and Taylor pose a series of questions not previously asked of this evidence, such as: What is graffiti, and how can we interpret it? What ways, and with whom, do graffiti communicate? To what extent does graffiti represent or subvert the cultural values of the society in which it occurs? By comparing themes across time and space, and viewing graffiti in context, this book provides a series of interpretative strategies for scholars and students of the ancient world. As such it will be essential reading for Classical archaeologists and historians alike.

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