

Housing in the Ancient Mediterranean World

One of the greatest benefits of studying the ancient Greek and Roman past is the ability to utilize different forms of evidence, in particular both written and archaeological sources. The contributors to this volume employ this evidence to examine ancient housing, and what might be learned of identities, families and societies, but they also use it as a methodological locus from which to interrogate the complex relationship between different types of sources. Chapters range from the recreation of the house as it was conceived in Homeric poetry, to the decipherment of a painted Greek *lekythos* to build up a picture of household activities, to the conjuring of the sensorial experience of a house in Pompeii. Together, they present a rich tapestry which demonstrates what can be gained for our understanding of ancient housing from examining the interplay between the words of ancient texts and the walls of archaeological evidence.

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Edited by J. A. Baird , April Pudsey

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Housing in the Ancient Mediterranean World

Material and Textual Approaches

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That original conference included papers which do not appear here, including that of Barbara Tsakirgis, who sadly passed away in 2019 and whose work on Greek households continues to shape how we think about them. Included in this volume are scholars who did not present at the original conference, but whose attendance prompted invitations to contribute, including Caspar Meyer, Hannah Platts and Richard Alston. The editors are grateful to them, and to all the contributors, for bearing with the long gestation of the volume (due in part to a non-metaphorical gestation by one of the editors and the relocation, twice, of the other: we hope the delay caused by our own households to the publication of the households in this volume is forgivable). We are grateful also for the sage direction of the anonymous referees whose comments strengthened the volume immeasurably, although they are not to blame for any issues which remain. More than anyone else, though, we are grateful to Michael Sharp at Cambridge University Press, who expertly shepherded this volume with incredible patience and wisdom.

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