

Greek Writing From Knossos To Homer A Linguistic Interpretation Of The Origin Of The Greek Alphabet And The Continuity Of Ancient Greek Literacy

Revealing the secrets of Linear B uncovers fascinating details of an ancient civilisation.

Contexts of and Relations between Early Writing Systems (CREWS) is a project funded by the European Research Council under the European Union 's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme (grant agreement No. 677758), and based in the Faculty of Classics, University of Cambridge.

Understanding Relations Between Scripts II: Early Alphabets is the first volume in this series, bringing together ten experts on ancient writing, languages and archaeology to present a set of diverse studies on the early development of alphabetic writing systems and their spread across the Levant and Mediterranean during the second and first millennia BC. By taking an interdisciplinary perspective, it sheds new light on alphabetic writing not just as a tool for recording language but also as an element of culture.

Publisher description

A Novel

The Ancient Greeks

A History of Ancient Greek

Minoan Linear A

Scripta Minoa: The hieroglyphic and primitive linear classes, with an account of the discovery of the pre-Phoenician scripts, their place in Minoan story and their Mediterranean relations

At the Palaces of Knossos

Certain characteristic features of the Cypriot script - for example, its strategy for representing consonant sequences and elements of Cypriot Greek phonology - were transferred to the new alphabetic script. Proposing a Cypriot origin of the alphabet at the hands of previously literate adapters brings clarity to various problems of the alphabet, such as the Greek use of the Phoenician sibilant letters. The alphabet, rejected by the post-Bronze Age "Mycenaean" culture of Cyprus, was exported west to the Aegean, where it gained a foothold among a then illiterate Greek people emerging from the Dark Age. Woodard's study, a combination of philological and epigraphical investigation with linguistic theory, should be of interest to both scholars and students of classics, linguistics, and Near Eastern studies.

This book examines the figure of the returning warrior as depicted in the myths of several ancient and medieval Indo-European cultures. In these cultures, the returning warrior was often portrayed as a figure rendered dysfunctionally destructive or isolationist by the horrors of combat. This mythic portrayal of the returned warrior is consistent with modern studies of similar behavior among soldiers returning from war. Roger Woodard's research identifies a common origin of these myths in the ancestral proto-Indo-European culture, in which rites were enacted to enable warriors to reintegrate themselves as functional members of society. He also compares the Italic, Indo-Iranian, and Celtic mythic traditions surrounding the warrior, paying particular attention to Roman myth and ritual, notably to the etiologies and rites of the July festivals of the Poplifugia and Nonae Caprotinae, and to the October rites of the Sororium Tigillum.

From the earliest scratches on stone and bone to the languages of computers and the internet, *A History of Writing* offers a fascinating investigation into the origin and development of writing throughout the world. Commencing with the first stages of information storage, Fischer focuses on the emergence of complete writing systems in Mesopotamia in the fourth millennium BC. He documents the rise of Phoenician and its effect on the Greek alphabet, generating the many alphabetic scripts of the West. Chinese, Vietnamese, Korean and Japanese writing systems are dealt with in depth, as is writing in pre-Columbian America. Also explored are Western Europe's medieval manuscripts and the history of printing, leading to the innovations in technology and spelling rules of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Greek Writing from Knossos to Homer

The Minoans

Homer and the Origin of the Greek Alphabet

Minoan Sacrificial Ritual

Manipulating Material Culture

A Linguistic Interpretation of the Origin of the Greek Alphabet and the Continuity of Ancient Greek Literacy

This book, first published in 1958, aims to describe Greek art and poetry within this ambiguous period of ancient history (often referred to as the Greek 'Dark Ages'), and to explore the possibilities of learning about Mycenaean civilisation from its own documents and not only from archaeology. Specifically, Webster utilises Michael Ventris' decipherment of Linear B in 1952 – which proved that Greek was spoken in the Mycenaean world – to determine the general contours of aesthetic development from Mycenae to the time of the written composition of the Homeric epics. Because they record Mycenaean civilisation in Mycenaean terminology, while Homer was writing in Ionian Greek at the beginning of the polis civilisation, they show how much in Homer is in fact Mycenaean. Further, where it is clear that these Mycenaean elements cannot have survived until Homer's time, they tell us something about the poetry which connected the two. A comprehensive account of the language of Ancient Greek civilization in a single volume, with contributions from leading international scholars covering the historical, geographical, sociolinguistic, and literary perspectives of the language. A collection of 36 original essays by a team of international scholars Treats the survival and transmission of Ancient Greek Includes discussions on phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, and pragmatics

From its first adoption of writing at the beginning of the Late Bronze Age, ancient Cyprus was home to distinctive scripts and writing habits, often setting it apart from other areas of the Mediterranean and Near East. This well-illustrated volume is the first to explore the development and importance of Cypriot writing over a period of more than 1,500 years in the second and first millennia BC. Five themed chapters deal with issues ranging from the acquisition of literacy and the adaptation of new writing systems to the visibility of writing and its role in the marking of identities. The agency of Cypriots in shaping the island's literate landscape is given prominence, and an extended consideration of the social context of writing leads to new insights on Cypriot scripts and their users. Cyprus provides a stimulating case to demonstrate the importance of contextualised approaches to the development of writing systems.

Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition

Three Hundred Selected Tablets from Knossos, Pylos and Mycenae with Commentary and Vocabulary

Theoretical Approaches to the Archaeology of Ancient Greece

Writing and Society in Ancient Cyprus

Early Alphabets

An Introduction

In this second edition of Documents in Mycenaean Greek, Chadwick examines how the study of the subject has expanded since 1953.

In this book, Roger D. Woodard argues that when the Greeks first began to use the alphabet, they viewed themselves as participants in a performance phenomenon conceptually modeled on the performances of the oral poets. Since a time older than Greek antiquity, the oral poets of Indo-European tradition had been called 'weavers of words' - their extemporaneous performance of poetry was 'word weaving'. With the arrival of the new technology of the alphabet and the onset of Greek literacy, the very act of producing written symbols was interpreted as a comparable performance activity, albeit one in which almost everyone could participate, not only the select few. It was this new conceptualization of and participation in performance activity by the masses that eventually, or perhaps quickly, resulted in the demise of oral composition in performance in Greece. In conjunction with this investigation, Woodard analyzes a set of copper plaques inscribed with repeated alphabetic series and a line of what he interprets to be text, which attests to this archaic Greek conceptualization of the performance of symbol crafting.

With the help of the princess Ariadne and other friends in the palace at Crete, Theseus enters the Labyrinth and slays the hideous Minotaur, thus spearheading the resistance of the Athenian people against King Minos.

A Companion to the Ancient Greek Language

From Mycenae to Homer

Knossos, the Little Palace

A Creative Writing Program

Documents in Mycenaean Greek

Which civilization gave us the Olympic Games? It's ancient Greece, and readers discover this and other fun facts as they explore one of the most influential ancient civilizations. As readers investigate the engaging main text, fact boxes, and sidebars, they uncover the Greek roots of theater, democracy, and philosophy, as well as many other contributions to the modern world made by the ancient Greeks. Detailed maps help readers develop their geography skills, and vivid photographs take readers into the heart of the ancient

Greek world. This exciting look at a common social studies curriculum topic is sure to captivate readers.

Greek Writing from Knossos to Homer examines the origin of the Greek alphabet. Departing from previous accounts, Roger Woodard places the advent of the alphabet within an unbroken continuum of Greek literacy beginning in the Mycenaean era. He argues that the creators of the Greek alphabet, who adapted the Phoenician consonantal script, were scribes accustomed to writing Greek with the syllabic script of Cyprus. Certain characteristic features of the Cypriot script--for example, its strategy for representing consonant sequences and elements of Cypriot Greek phonology--were transferred to the new alphabetic script. Proposing a Cypriot origin of the alphabet at the hands of previously literate adapters brings clarity to various problems of the alphabet, such as the Greek use of the Phoenician sibilant letters. The alphabet, rejected by the post- Bronze Age "Mycenaean" culture of Cyprus, was exported west to the Aegean, where it gained a foothold among a then illiterate Greek people emerging from the Dark Age. Linear B is the earliest form of writing used for Greek. The tablets written in this script offer crucial information about the Mycenaean Greeks and their time. This Companion aims at not only summarizing the results of current research but also trying to explain the problems which arise from the study of the texts and the methods which can be used to solve them. It is aimed both at the beginner who needs an introduction to this area and to advanced scholars (archaeologists, historians, classicists) who require an up-to-date account which can serve as a standard reference tool and highlight the remaining problems.

The Interpretation of Mycenaean Greek Texts

Inventing the Alphabet

A Companion to Linear B

Writing Faith

Alphabetical Mysticism and Numerology in the Ancient World

Myth, Ritual, and the Warrior in Roman and Indo-European Antiquity

Current digital transformations of information technology have given rise to an explosion of scholarly interest in the history of the book. Although this research has focused predominantly on the rise of movable type after Gutenberg, the second-to-fifth-century-CE transition from scroll to codex warrants renewed attention. Here, a peculiar footnote comes to the fore: Christians were early adopters of the codex for their sacred scriptures. In *Writing Faith*, Timothy Stanley begins with a novel investigation into Jacques Derrida's unanswered question concerning the mediatic nature of Christianity. There, the relationship between writing and faith comes into sharper focus. It is in this light that the codex's cosmopolitan capacity for transmitting the written word can be re-evaluated in its scrolled Greco-Roman and Jewish bibliographic contexts. Christian faith is bound up in this technical development, and can inform how religious mediation is understood after Derrida. *Writing Faith* aims to recover vital questions for today's digital times.

Explains what is known about the ancient writing systems used by Minoan Crete and Mycenaean Greece.

"Though there are many books about the history of the alphabet, virtually none address how that history came to be. In *Inventing the Alphabet*, Johanna Drucker guides readers from antiquity to the present to show how humans have shaped and reshaped their own understanding of this transformative writing

tool. From ancient beliefs in the alphabet as a divine gift to growing awareness of its empirical origins through the study of scripts and inscriptions, Drucker describes the frameworks--classical, textual, biblical, graphical, antiquarian, archaeological, paleographic, and political--within which the alphabet's history has been and continues to be constructed. Drucker's book begins in ancient Greece, with the earliest writings on the alphabet's origins. She then explores biblical sources on the topic and medieval preoccupations with the magical properties of individual letters. She later delves into the development of modern archaeological and paleographic tools, and she concludes with the role of alphabetic characters in the digital era. Throughout, she argues that, as a shared form of knowledge technology integrated into every aspect of our lives, the alphabet performs complex cultural, ideological, and technical functions, and her carefully curated selection of images demonstrates how closely the letters we use today still resemble their original appearance millennia ago"--

Knossos and the Prophets of Modernism

History of Writing

Mycenaean Greek Texts and Their World

Ancient Greek Literature in Its Living Context

How They Lived and Worked

The Greek Qabalah

Hellenism is the living culture of the Greek-speaking peoples and has a continuing history of more than 3,500 years. The Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition contains approximately 900 entries devoted to people, places, periods, events, and themes, examining every aspect of that culture from the Bronze Age to the present day. The focus throughout is on the Greeks themselves, and the continuities within their own cultural tradition. Language and religion are perhaps the most obvious vehicles of continuity; but there have been many others--law, taxation, gardens, music, magic, education, shipping, and countless other elements have all played their part in maintaining this unique culture. Today, Greek arts have blossomed again; Greece has taken its place in the European Union; Greeks control a substantial proportion of the world's merchant marine; and Greek communities in the United States, Australia, and South Africa have carried the Hellenic tradition throughout the world. This is the first reference work to embrace all aspects of that tradition in every period of its existence.

A challenging and fascinating enquiry into the genesis of alphabetic writing.

The Little Palace at Knossos, excavated by Evans and Mackenzie from 1905 - 10, remains the largest neo-palatial building within the Minoan town of Knossos, and to a large extent mirrors the history of the Palace itself. The present work effectively constitutes an excavation report of the LP, publishing for the first time entries from the daybooks of Evans and Mackenzie and many original excavation photographs. The volume provides an extremely detailed architectural account, supported by numerous plans and elevations. It incorporates the results of the 1995 restoration programme carried out by the 23rd Ephoreia and publishes sherd material then collected. A lengthy pottery chapter presents the LP sherd material from Evans's excavations, housed in the Stratigraphical Museum, and also complete vases in Herakleion. Clay tablets and sealings are discussed; small finds presented (many for the first time). The final chapter offers a thorough appraisal of the LP's history, and, in particular, deals with the thorny issue of 're-

occupation' and the final destruction of the building in LM IIIA2 (i.e. contemporary with the Palace itself).

The Origin of a Greek Literary Tradition

Linear B

Linear B and Related Scripts

From Masis to Olympos

Three Hundred Selected Tablets from Knossos, Pylos, and Mycenae

The Textualization of the Greek Alphabet

Examining every aspect of the culture from antiquity to the founding of Constantinople in the early Byzantine era, this thoroughly cross-referenced and fully indexed work is written by an international group of scholars. This Encyclopedia is derived from the more broadly focused Encyclopedia of Greece and the Hellenic Tradition, the highly praised two-volume work. Newly edited by Nigel Wilson, this single-volume reference provides a comprehensive and authoritative guide to the political, cultural, and social life of the people and to the places, ideas, periods, and events that defined ancient Greece.

In the spring of 1900, British archaeologist Arthur Evans began to excavate the palace of Knossos on Crete, bringing ancient Greek legends to life just as a new century dawned amid far-reaching questions about human history, art, and culture. With *Knossos and the Prophets of Modernism*, Cathy Gere relates the fascinating story of Evans's excavation and its long-term effects on Western culture. After the World War I left the Enlightenment dream in tatters, the lost paradise that Evans offered in the concrete labyrinth—pacifist and matriarchal, pagan and cosmic—seemed to offer a new way forward for writers, artists, and thinkers such as Sigmund Freud, James Joyce, Giorgio de Chirico, Robert Graves, and Hilda Doolittle. Assembling a brilliant, talented, and eccentric cast at a moment of tremendous intellectual vitality and wrenching change, Cathy Gere paints an unforgettable portrait of the age of concrete and the birth of modernism.

Includes reproducibles for classroom use.

An Illustrated Introduction

A Study in Early Greek Literature and Art

Understanding Relations Between Scripts II

The Decipherment of Linear B

The Origins of Letters from Antiquity to the Present

From the Beginnings to Late Antiquity

Applies archaeological techniques and findings to the study of the types of Greek literature.

This book will be of interest to a wide range of readers, from students of Ancient History and early Christianity, to Qabalists and modern magicians. Extensive notes and citations from original sources will make this authoritative work an essential reference for researchers and practitioners for years to come. Includes are appendices for tables of alphabetic symbolism, a list of authors, and a numeric dictionary of Greek words, which represents the largest collection of gematria in print. Index.

In the modern world, objects and buildings speak eloquently about their creators. Status, gender identity, and cultural affiliations are

just a few characteristics we can often infer about such material culture. But can we make similar deductions about the inhabitants of the first millennium BCE Greek world? *Theoretical Approaches to the Archaeology of Ancient Greece* offers a series of case studies exploring how a theoretical approach to the archaeology of this area provides insight into aspects of ancient society. An introductory section exploring the emergence and growth of theoretical approaches is followed by examinations of the potential insights these approaches provide. The authors probe some of the meanings attached to ancient objects, townscapes, and cemeteries, for those who created, and used, or inhabited them. The range of contexts stretches from the early Greek communities during the eighth and seventh centuries BCE, through Athens between the eighth and fifth centuries BCE, and on into present day Turkey and the Levant during the third and second centuries BCE. The authors examine a range of practices, from the creation of individual items such as ceramic vessels and figurines, through to the construction of civic buildings, monuments, and cemeteries. At the same time they interrogate a range of spheres, from craft production, through civic and religious practices, to funerary ritual.

Ancient Greece

Greek Scripts

The Palace of Minos at Knossos

Story Starters on Ancient Greece

Encyclopedia of Ancient Greece

Cult Practice and Symbolism

A very basic introduction to Sir Arthur Evans' famous excavations at Knossos and the reconstruction work he oversaw.