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91201



912010



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Level 2 Classical Studies 2022

91201 Examine the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world

Credits: Four

| Achievement | Achievement with Merit | Achievement with Excellence |
|--|---|--|
| Examine the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world. | Examine, in-depth, the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world. | Examine, with perception, the significance of features of work(s) of art in the classical world. |

Check that the National Student Number (NSN) on your admission slip is the same as the number at the top of this page.

You should answer ONE of the questions in this booklet.

If you need more room for your answer, use the extra space provided at the back of this booklet.

Check that this booklet has pages 2–11 in the correct order and that none of these pages is blank.

Do not write in any cross-hatched area (XXXX). This area may be cut off when the booklet is marked.

YOU MUST HAND THIS BOOKLET TO THE SUPERVISOR AT THE END OF THE EXAMINATION.

Merit

TOTAL

06

ASSESSOR'S USE ONLY

CLASSICAL ART WORK(S) OR BUILDING(S)

Stabian Baths

PLANNING

Located in ancient rome

- greek palaestra
- aesthetic design (its in a roman style)
- men and women seperate (male dominated society)

ANSWER

Type your answer in the space below. You should aim to write a concise answer of no more than 750–800 words. (The counter will change colour when you reach the recommended word count.) The quality of your writing is more important than the length of your answer.

Support your answer with evidence from one or more classical art works or buildings.

B I U [Spell Check](#)

The stabian baths are located in the ancient city Pompeii in Rome. It is one of if not the oldest complex in Pompeii. Because of this location in ancient Rome the bathhouse was designed in a way that reflected Roman values at the time, the location also influenced the aesthetic features of the bathhouse and the layout/design of the stabian baths to keep men and women separate from one another.

Because the Stabian baths were located in Pompeii, the features of the bathhouse was influenced by the values that the people of Pompeii found important, two of with were exercise and being social. The bath house was used for

the palaestra. The palaestra was an excercise yard in the shape of a trapezoid. As you entered the Stabian baths through the main entrance the first thing that you would come across would be a paved courtyard that opened straight into the palaestra. It was here that roman men would excercise and because of roman stone balls found in the palastra, games such as a form of bowls were played here as well. There was also a shallow swimming pool to the left of the palaestra. Romans were also very much social. The stabian baths were designed in a way that made being social at the baths easy. All of the rooms at the stabian baths were public (except men and women were seperate from one another). Because of this many would have used the baths to catch up or gossip. It is impossible to know the exact order the rooms were used in however one generally accepted idea is first the visitors would excercise prehaps use the swimming pool to work up a sweat they would then go to the apodyterium to undress. The apodyterium was the changing room that had alcoves for visitors to store their things. Afterwards they would go to the tepidarium. The tepidarium was the warm room with a warm bath at one end and steam throughout the room. Here the visitors could stop and chat, have a massage that sort of thing. After that they would go to the caldarium or the hot room. This room was filled with plenty of steam and a hot bath at one end. because the heat would open up the skins pores, here the visitor would get rubbed with olive oil to draw out impurities, they would then scrape the oil off with a strigil. Afterwards they would then go to the final bathing room the frigidarium or the cold room. This is the room that seems especially designed for social activities. There was a cold bath that the visitor would plunge into to cool off after the caldarium however there were also alcoves and seating spaces in this room. This would have been the room where visitors could gossip or prehaps conduct meetings. After visiting this room the visitors would conclude their visit by going back to the apodyterium to redress.

The location of the stabian baths in rome very much influenced the aesthetic design. The Stabian baths have been renovated a number of times throughout its history due to earthquake damage or other various reasons. The aesthetic design of the bath house does reflect a very roman style. The aesthetic design was payed very close attention in the making of it classicist Mary Beard even referes to the place as the "peoples palace" becasue of its beauty. As you first enter the bath house itself and go to the apodyterium, it is decorated with beautiful, detailed polychrome plasterwork called stucco on its vaulted ceilings. This was very much a roman style decoration. This style

is also carried on throughout the main bath rooms with rich, vibrant colors, stucco and vaulted ceilings constant with all the rooms. The frigidarium in particular was decorated with garden scenes painted along all of the walls as well as a domed ceiling which showed the 'starry sky'. This would have given the Roman visitor a sense of being outdoors whilst bathing. There have also been over a thousand oil lamps found at the Stabian baths, this indicates that many liked to use the baths at night time. In the apodyterium above the alcoves where people stored their belongings, there were explicit crude images of various sexual poses. This crude humor reflects the sort of Roman male dominated society that Pompeii was.

The Stabian baths were designed in a way that kept men and women separate. Men were the only ones allowed to use the big grand rooms at the bath house as well as they were the only ones allowed to use the grand front entrance. Women had their own set of rooms that they accessed through a small door on a side street that led down a narrow corridor to eventually their rooms. The women did have the same main rooms that the males did (they had an apodyterium, a tepidarium, a caldarium and a frigidarium) however they were notably smaller than the males rooms and it seemed as though less attention was paid to the details of the room. That's not to say that they weren't still luxurious because they were very much, however they just weren't as luxurious as the mens. This is most likely because the Stabian baths are located in Pompeii which as stated before was a very male dominated society. In most ancient Roman society women were often seen as below or less than men. Their jobs was at home looking after the house and family etc. and this view has been translated into the design of the Stabian baths.

Overall the location of the Stabian baths plays a big role in the design and features of the bath house. Being located in Pompeii, a city from ancient Rome the bathhouse is influenced by the Romans values of exercise and being social. It influenced the Roman design and aesthetics of the bath house and it also reflected the male dominated society that the Roman society was.

1002 WORDS / 800 RECOMMENDED

Merit Exemplar 2022

| Subject | Level 2 Classical Studies | | Standard | 91201 | Total score | 06 |
|---------|---------------------------|---|----------|-------|-------------|----|
| Q | Grade score | Annotation | | | | |
| 1 | M6 | <p>This response incorporates plentiful detail, demonstrating sound knowledge of the features of a work of architecture and its significance in the classical world. The analysis of the features of the Stabian Baths and how they were influenced by location is thorough and balanced. This allowed for informed and relevant conclusions to be drawn. For example, the feature of the surviving crude graffiti in the apodyterium and the lesser size of the women's quarters reflect the male-dominated society in which the baths are located. There is also a brief quotation from Mary Beard. However, to be considered insightful or perceptive, these needed to be unpacked in more detail. For example, for what purposes might the mens' and women's baths be separate and what does this tell us about the gender-based values and culture at play in Pompeiian society at this time? What does Mary Beard's metaphor imply about the purpose or the location?</p> | | | | |