

The evolving format of building accounts in classical Athens

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My paper deals with the format of building accounts inscribed on stone in 5th and 4th c. BCE Athens. According to the guidelines of the meeting, I will analyze the formulary and structure of these documents, as well as their vocabulary and categorization methods, give an overview of the organs producing them, and compare them with other documents emanating from the public works sector, in particular building specifications. I will show how the format of inscribed building accounts changed in the course of time by giving up visual devices that allowed for a more functional reading of the text in favor of a more detailed listing of income and expenditures and I will discuss possible reasons for this change.

Here is a (provisional) list of the most important documents I am planning to discuss:

Opus incertum accounts (*IG I³ 433*)

Athena Promachos accounts (*IG I³ 435*)

Parthenon accounts (*IG I³ 436-451*)

Erechtheum accounts (*IG I³ 474-476*)

Building specifications and contracts for the stoa by the south wall at Eleusis (*I.Eleusis 141*)

Building specifications for the portico of the Eleusinian Telesterion (*I.Eleusis 143*)

Building specifications for the stone arsenal in Piraeus (*IG II² 1668*)

Building specifications for the wall in Mounichia (*IG II³ 429*)

Accounts of the sanctuary of the Two Goddesses at Eleusis (*I.Eleusis 159* and *I.Eleusis 177*)