IL MATERIALE LAPIDEO COME INDICATORE SOCIALE, CULTURALE ED ECONOMICO. IL CASO DEI SARCOFAGI DI MARMO DELLA NECROPOLI NORD DI HIERAPOLIS DI FRIGIA

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The observations presented in this paper are part of a wider and still lasting research on marble sarcophagi from the northern necropolis of Hierapolis of Phrygia. Studied in relation to an archaeologically known context, sarcophagi might serve as primary evidence for reconstructing social, cultural and economic process in the hellenistic-roman city during their chronological horizon of use. So, the computation of marble and travertine objects, the systematic relief of their metric and technical aspects, the identification of the provenience of the marbles ant their chronological distribution indicate features and patterns of the System of production, and serve as markers for the richer social groups, for their cultural choices and their changing welfare in relation to the economical and political trend of Hierapolis and Asia Minor.