

Contents

Michael Friedrich

Introduction: Towards a Holistic Study of Written Artefacts in Ancient History — 1

Methodological Considerations

Jesper Eidem, Cécile Michel

Some Mesopotamian Challenges: A History Based on Tablets Unevenly Distributed in Time and Space — 31

Jorrit Kelder

Epigraphy, Archaeology, and our Understanding of the Mycenaean World — 49

Early Uses of Writing

John Baines, Cao Dazhi

Material, Spatial, and Social Contexts of Early Writing: Egypt and China — 71

Ingo Strauch

Āsoka and the Use of Writing in Ancient India — 129

Material Features

Michele Cammarosano

Writing on Wood in Hittite Anatolia — 165

Stefano de Martino

The Mittanian Cuneiform Documents: The Interplay between Content, Language, Material, Format, and Sealing Practices — 207

Susanne Töpfer

Some Turin Papyri Revisited: A Look at Material Features and Scribal Practices — 221

Co-presence of Written Artefacts

Andréas Stauder

Experiencing Inscriptions in Space: Extended Inscriptions of the Early New Kingdom (Qenamun – Useramun – Rekhmire) — 243

Philippe Clancier

The Scholar in His House: Scribal Material in Context in Late Uruk Private Houses — 281

Cultural Encounters

Gianluca Miniaci

Bakhtin, Gramsci and the Materiality of the Egyptian Hieroglyphs: When the ‘Official’ Culture Leaks into the ‘Folk’ Domain — 307

Ludwig Morenz

The ‘He’ Tribe from Serabit el Khadim and the Invention of Alphabetic Writing: Can the Subaltern ... Write? — 345

Contributors — 369

General Index — 371