

Votive deposits and residue of religious feasting in the suburban sanctuary of S. Anna

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In S. Anna in Agrigento, a team of Augsburg University analyzes together with cooperation partners the long-term development of a site which is located within sight of the former Akragas. It is known that especially rural sacral areas in Sicily of the 6th and 5th century BCE have been used as places for the construction of a collective-local identity of the different population groups, and that they are thus able to reflect cultural formation processes. Until now, a first excavation has revealed under a collapse-layer remains of a sacral building that was obviously frequented throughout the entire 5th century BCE. The finds indicate that the area was used for feasting as well as for sacrifices. The well-preserved contexts raise questions regarding the relationship of the various religious actions and can reflect on the final fate of the various objects and the organic materials in the sanctuary. Therefore, the presentation deals also with conceptual classifications like "embodied memories" and "sacred trash" and tries applying them to the new findings of S. Anna.