The Ancient Tradition Of Geometric Problems

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the plains region that stretches from northern colorado to southern alberta and from the rockies to the western dakotas is the land of the cheyenne and the blackfeet the crow and the sioux its rolling grasslands and river valleys have nurtured human cultures for thousands of years on cave walls glacial boulders and riverside cliffs native people recorded their ceremonies vision quests battles and daily activities in the petroglyphs and pictographs they incised pecked or painted onto the stone surfaces in this vast landscape some rock art sites were clearly intended for communal use others just as clearly mark the occurrence of a private spiritual encounter elders often used rock art such as complex depictions of hunting to teach traditional knowledge and skills to the young other sites document the medicine powers and brave deeds of famous warriors some plains rock art goes back more than 5 000 years some forms were made continuously over many centuries archaeologists james keyser and michael klassen show us the origins diversity and beauty of plains rock art the seemingly endless variety of images include humans animals of all kinds weapons masks mazes handprints finger lines geometric and abstract forms tally marks hoofprints and the wavy lines and starbursts that humans universally associate with trancelike states plains indian rock art is the ultimate guide to the art form it covers the natural and archaeological history of the northwestern plains explains rock art forms techniques styles terminology and dating and offers interpretations of images and compositions

high above the noise and traffic of metropolitan phoenix native american rock art offers mute testimony that another civilization once thrived in the arizona desert in the city s south mountains prehispanic peoples pecked thousands of images into the mountains boulders and outcroppings images that today s hikers can encounter with every bend in the trail todd bostwick an archaeologist who has studied the hohokam for more than twenty years and peter krocek a professional photographer with a passion for archaeology have combed the south mountains to locate nearly all of the ancient petroglyphs found in the canyons and ridges their years of learning the landscape and investigating the ancient designs have resulted in a book that explores this wealth of prehistoric rock art within its natural and cultural contexts revealing what these carvings might mean how they got there and when they were made landscape of the spirits is the first book to cover these ancient images and is one of the most comprehensive treatments of a rock art location ever published it conveys the range of different rock art elements and compositions found in the south mountains animals humans and geometric shapes as well as celestial and calendrical markings at key sites through accurate descriptions drawings and photographs interpretations of the petroglyphs are based on native american ethnographic accounts and consider the most recent theories concerning shamanism and archaeoastronomy written in a

simple and accessible style landscape of the spirits is an indispensable volume for anyone exploring the south mountains and for rock art enthusiasts everywhere who wish to broaden their understanding of the prehistoric world it is both an authoritative overview of these ancient wonders and an unprecedented benchmark in southwestern rock art research at a single geographic location

vols 1 8 1880 87 plates published separately and numbered i lxxxiii

this book is the most comprehensive treatment of the art of syria in the third millennium b c it is a catalogue of nearly 600 seals from tell brak combined with a general study of the comparative material it is both a basic word of reference and a new synthesis of the syrian early bronze age relate to taxation during the new kingdom

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