

Record of damage to the Parthenon Sculptures following their re-exhibition after the Second World War

This list brings up to date the record set out in Ian Jenkins, *Cleaning and Controversy: The Parthenon Sculptures 1811-1939* (British Museum Occasional Paper no. 146, London 2001) by listing all incidents since their re-display in September 1949.

1961

Board of Trustees Minutes, 8 July 1961: South Metope XXVI.

Two schoolboys scuffling; one fell and knocked off part of a Centaur's hind-leg.

Leg came away at an old break and was replaced (it was not possible to re-attach two small chips of marble at the back of the leg).

1964

Board of Trustees Minutes, 13 June 1964:

- a) West Pediment, Figure A: circle enclosing a cross scratched on the right upper thigh.
- b) East Pediment, Figure F: a fragment of marble about 4cms long broken from fold of drapery on the inside of the figure's right knee, above the line of an old break. Greater part of the fragment was found on the floor and replaced.
- c) West Frieze, Slab II: a sliver of marble about 5cms long and 0.5cms wide was prised from the right-hand edge of the patch of corrosion on the rump of the leading horse.

1966

Board of Trustees Minutes, 11 June 1966: East Pediment, Figure D.

Four shallow lines (longest 12cms) scratched below figure at rear.

This is an area where the finished surface was roughly cut away in antiquity to enable the figure to fit into the pediment.

1970

Board of Trustees Minutes, 6 January 1970: West Pediment, Figure A.

Rear part of upper right thigh scratched with three letters.

This is an area of ancient finished surface; graffito camouflaged with watercolour.

1974

Board of Trustees Minutes, 7 March 1974: South Metope XXVI.

In an apparent attempt to remove lead from dowel hole in the Centaur's hoof, one side of hole slightly abraded and series of scratches on background.

Abrasions are to an area where the ancient surface has not survived; scratches are feint.

1981

Board of Trustees Minutes, 20 June 1981: West Pediment, Figure Q (inadvertently reported as Figure P).

On 9 June 1981 a few slight chips and scratches occurred to the top of the figure, when it was struck from above by part of a glass laylight dislodged by a carpenter who lost his balance.

The area affected is mainly where the ancient surface has not survived.

1994

Conservation Record, 21 May 1994: East Pediment, Figure F.

Small fragment (2cms long) of proper right leg found detached on plinth next to sculpture; cause of detachment unknown.

Fragment rejoined.