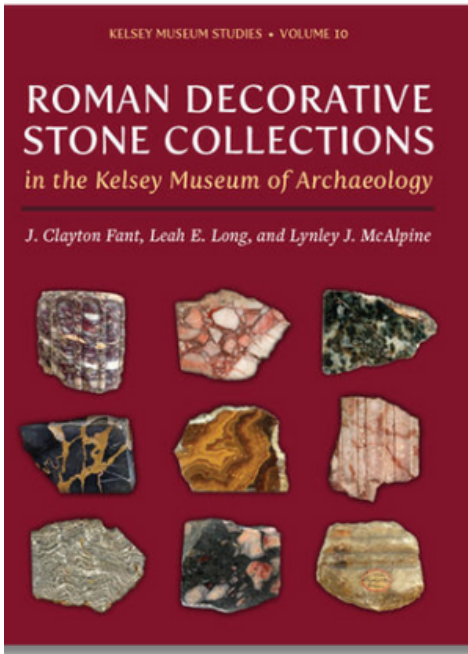




UNIVERSITY OF  
MICHIGAN PRESS



DOI: [10.3998/mpub.11534228](https://doi.org/10.3998/mpub.11534228)

8.5 x 11 | 282 pages | 54 images | 3 tables

Hardcover | 2024 | \$80.00 U.S.  
ISBN 9780472131952

Ebook | 2024  
ISBN 9780472126750

## ROMAN DECORATIVE STONE COLLECTIONS IN THE KELSEY MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY

By J. Clayton Fant, Leah E. Long, and Lynley J. McAlpine

At the turn of the twentieth century, Francis W. Kelsey began to amass a large collection of artifacts from ancient sites across the Mediterranean, with an emphasis on Imperial Rome, to broaden the teaching of antiquity at the University of Michigan. Among the objects now housed in the museum that bears his name is a collection of seven hundred colorful stones dating to the Roman period, one of the largest and most varied collections of Roman decorative stones outside Europe. These pieces were obtained as archaeological artifacts, mostly architectural, with many deriving from well-known ancient buildings, such as the Baths of Diocletian in Rome and the Palace of Herod in Jericho, allowing for new interpretations of their architectural decoration and design. Chapters trace the formation of the collection, study the archaeology of the artifacts, and detail the history of each stone and its study with a comprehensive bibliography.

In keeping with the nature of the collection, *Roman Decorative Stone Collections* focuses on archaeological contexts and object biographies, from the stones' first use to their eventual display in the Kelsey Museum. Entries are accompanied by rich photographs detailing the stone's appearances, environmental factors, and their collectors. The fully illustrated catalogue includes essays deriving from Kelsey's original notes on sources, buildings, sites, and dealers. As the first formal catalogue of these items, *Roman Decorative Stone Collections* is an accessible resource of Roman archaeology, antiquities, and the decorative arts.

**J. Clayton Fant** is Professor Emeritus of Classical Studies at the University of Akron.

**Leah E. Long** teaches Latin and Art History at Mercersburg Academy.

**Lynley J. McAlpine** is Associate Curator of Provenance Research at the San Antonio Museum of Art.

**ORDER ONLINE AND SAVE 30%  
WITH DISCOUNT CODE UMF24!**

[press.umich.edu](https://press.umich.edu)