

7 What do Sources D, E and other sources reveal about social class in Pompeii and Herculaneum? 7

Social Class in Pompeii and Herculaneum  
 was characterised with a strong variety of classes, from slaves to upper class Romans, and yet, primarily due to the increasing influence of freedmen and free women (caused by the earthquake of 62 AD), led to a rewriting 'plan' in the social class structure of Pompeii and Herculaneum. This can easily be seen in both sources D and E, where Source D depicts Emmachia, a freedwoman, and her important contribution to Pompeii, and wealth overriding the social barriers, and allowing for the statue to be built. This overlap of social classes is also closely seen in ~~both~~ the graveyards of the two towns, seen in Source E, which reveals mentioning freedmen/women in two of the 4 inscriptions as being buried next to the upper class of society. This can also be seen in the decorations of the tombs, of which many freedmen <sup>or women</sup> had much more lavish and elaborate graves than the upper class. ~~from~~ this (combined with the earlier sources, reveals the rise in to power of the freedmen, and the accumulative power of their wealth, granting them strong political power / potestas, seen in the influence of both Emmachia and the Vetti Brothers.