

Q: Have more Roman paintings survived than ancient Greek paintings?

A: Yes. This is largely a result of the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in the year 79 AD. Many wall paintings from Pompeii and Herculaneum were buried, and thus preserved. Some examples from other areas also survived, but by and large, when art historians analyze the evolution of Roman painting, they often use the painting found in these two towns.

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Q: Did the Romans paint on surfaces other than walls

A: Yes, Romans also practiced wood-panel painting. However, only pieces of these have survived.

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Q: Can the four styles of Roman painting be observed in paintings outside of Pompeii and Herculaneum?

A: It is relatively difficult to know exactly how widespread this evolution in style was, since there is not enough surviving evidence to come to fully trustworthy conclusions. However, this evolution is often considered to be observable in other wall paintings found in different parts of the Roman territory.

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