

# GRAFFITI E VANDALISMO GRAFICO: PULITURA E TRATTAMENTI PROTETTIVI SU SUPERFICI LAPIDEE DELL'ARCHITETTURA

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## ABSTRACT

Graffiti vandalism is an example of a widespread phenomenon all around the world affecting both historical and modern architectural surfaces. Considering stone surfaces, the assessment of suitable cleaning procedures in terms of graffiti paint removal and minimum damage potentially caused on the lithotype is crucial.

We focused on the case study of the city of Torino (NW Italy), which is a very peculiar city for the variety of stone materials used in architecture. The preparation of a set of stone specimens was required. A multi-analytical protocol including both non-invasive and invasive laboratory tests was developed, with the aim of evaluating and comparing the effectiveness and, possibly, harmfulness of different cleaning and protection treatments. Lithotypes, graffiti paints and anti-graffiti products considered in the study were selected thanks to a preliminary site survey performed in the city center. We chose five different lithotypes: a polished granite and diorite; an orthogneiss, with a rough surface; a polished limestone and a travertine with a porous surface. Six different graffiti paints and colors were then applied as spray, dabbers or markers. In addition, both sacrificial and permanent anti-graffiti products were tested. This research project involved conservators and conservation scientists, aiming to provide helpful and simple guidelines to be used both by municipal administrators and common citizens.

**Key-words:** graffiti vandalism, cleaning, ornamental stones, anti-graffiti coatings