The Romans: Chronology

Legendary foundation of Rome: 753 BC

The 'Republic': 509 - 31 BC

Rome sacks **Veii**, the Etruscan capital: 396 BC

Rome defeats the **Samnites** after three wars: 290 BC

Rome takes the southern Greek city of **Tarentum**: 272 BC

Punic Wars with Carthage (1st: 264-241 BC) (2nd: 218-201 BC [**Hannibal**])

Macedonian Wars (1st: 214-205) (2nd: 200-196) (Seleucid: 192-188 [**Treaty of Apamea**])

(3rd: 172-168 BC [**Pydna**]) (4th: 150-148 BC)

Rome sacks **Carthage** after Third Punic War (149-146); also sacks **Corinth** in 146 BC

Rome is bequeathed the Anatolian kingdom of **Pergamon**: 133 BC

Social and **Civil Wars**: 98-31 BC

Battle of **Actium** makes Octavian sole ruler of Rome: 31 BC

The Western Empire: 31 BC - AD 476

The Eastern, or 'Byzantine' Empire: AD 395 - 1453

ROMAN EMPIRE
ca. AD 200

The 'ancient Roman state' lasts for approximately 2000 years. What circumstances or qualities led to that longevity and success? Why Rome?

1. Fortunate **climate**: the 'Roman Warm Period';
2. Location, location, **location;**
3. Devotion to **colonization** and **war;**
4. **Legal and religious** traditions and standards;
5. Strong belief in the power of their own **history** and **national exceptionalism;**
6. Organization and **engineering** to control and improve **nature;**
7. **Tolerance, adaptation** and **adoption** of ideas from elsewhere;
8. The possibility of integration and **upward socio-economic mobility**

1. The 'Roman Warm Period,' or 'Roman Optimum': ca. 250 BC-AD 200

A period when the climate was generally warmer and wetter in the Mediterranean, but also -- crucially -- *less variable*.

Things were better in principal food-producing areas:
- more frequent 'good floods' of the Nile;
- Reliable precipitation in western Europe;
- Fewer major volcanic eruptions to cause sharp cooling and curtail crop growth

Fig. 11 Overview of Selected Indicators
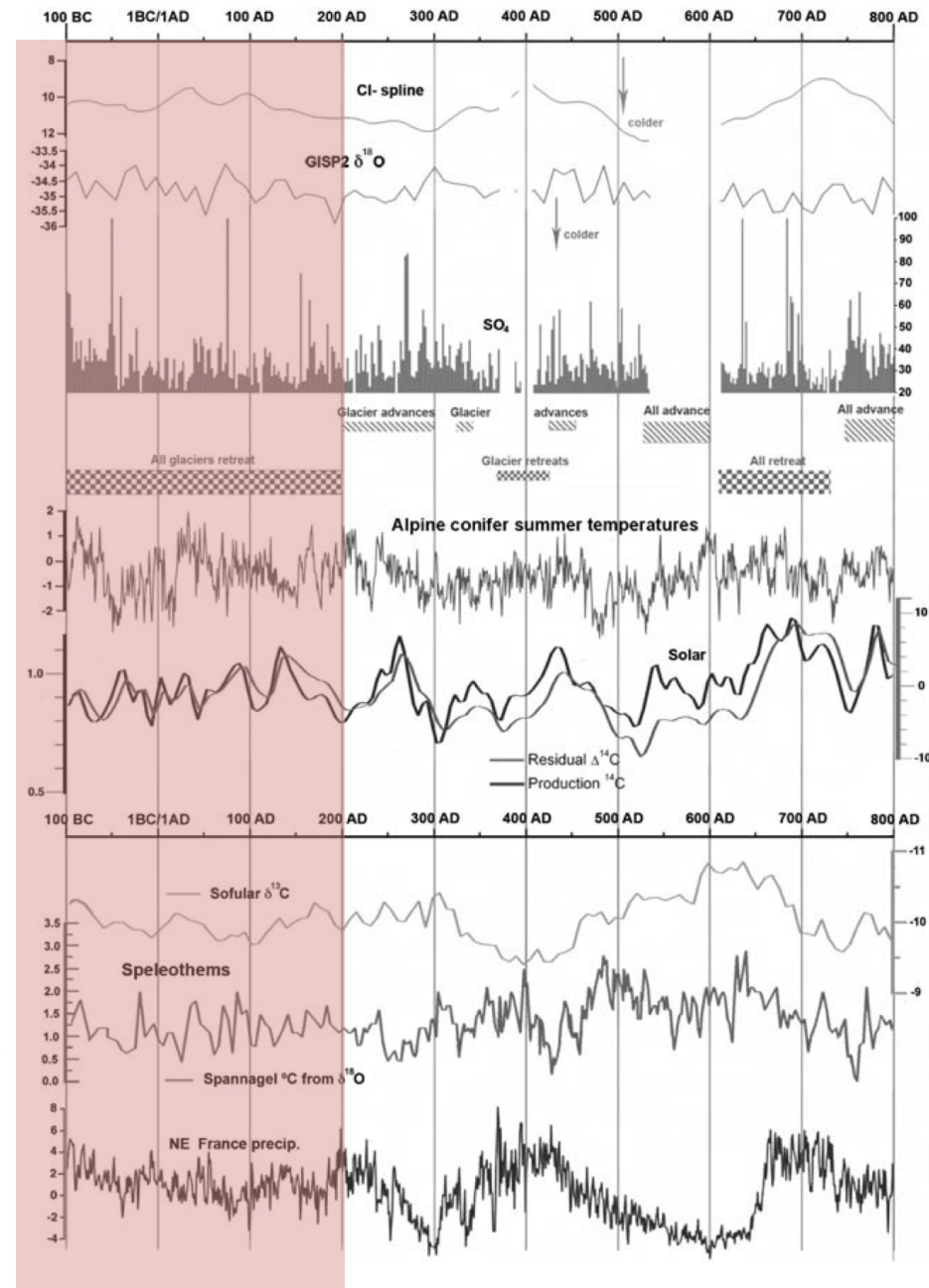
NOTE   The x-axis of B.C.–A.D. years in this figure runs from left to right. The Cl- values have been inverted to make the direction of variation consistent with the temperature records.

GRAIN

METALS

Rome •

GRAIN

GRAIN

WINE & OIL

GRAIN

GRAIN

GRAIN & OIL

MAR LIGURE
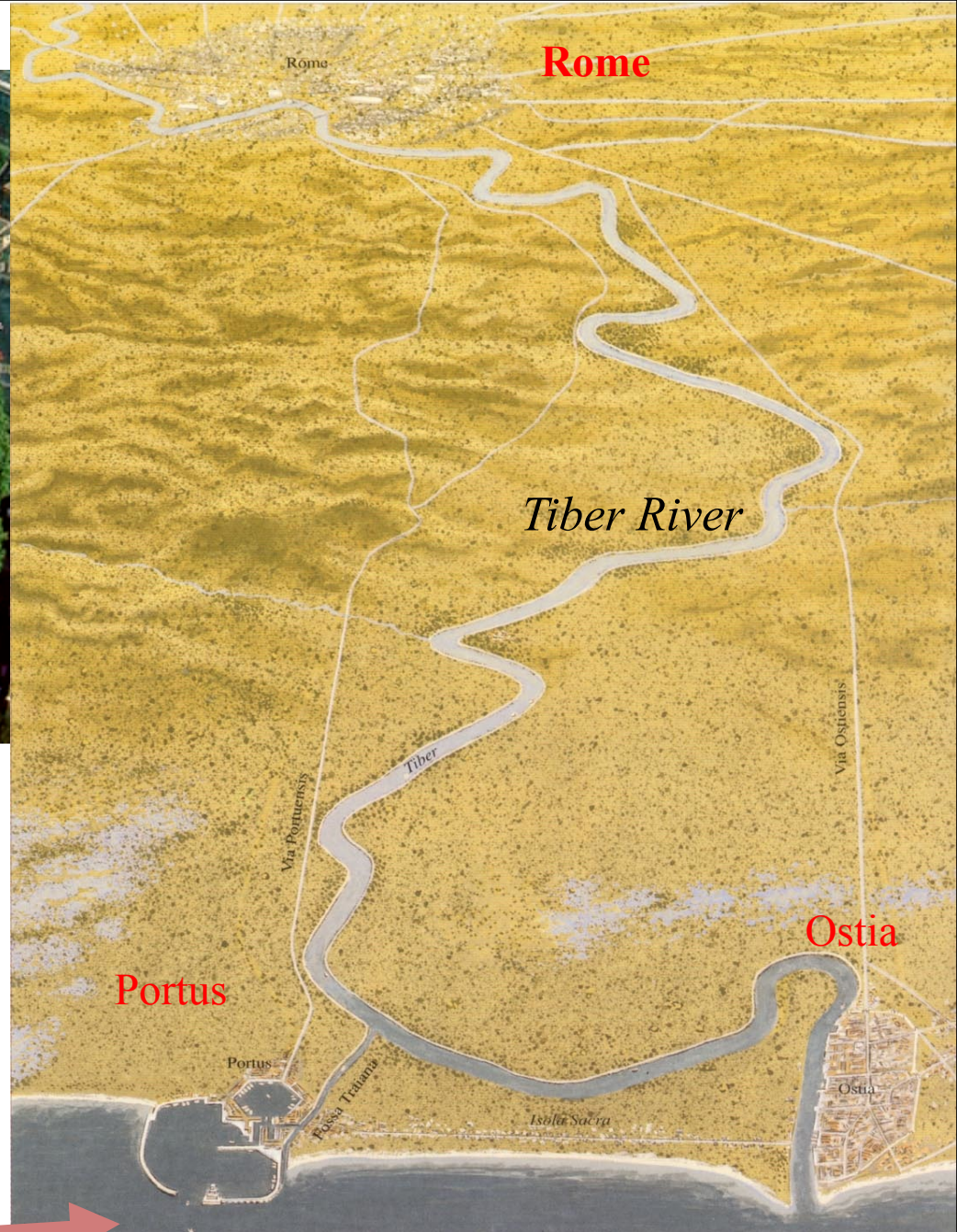
MARE ADRIATICO

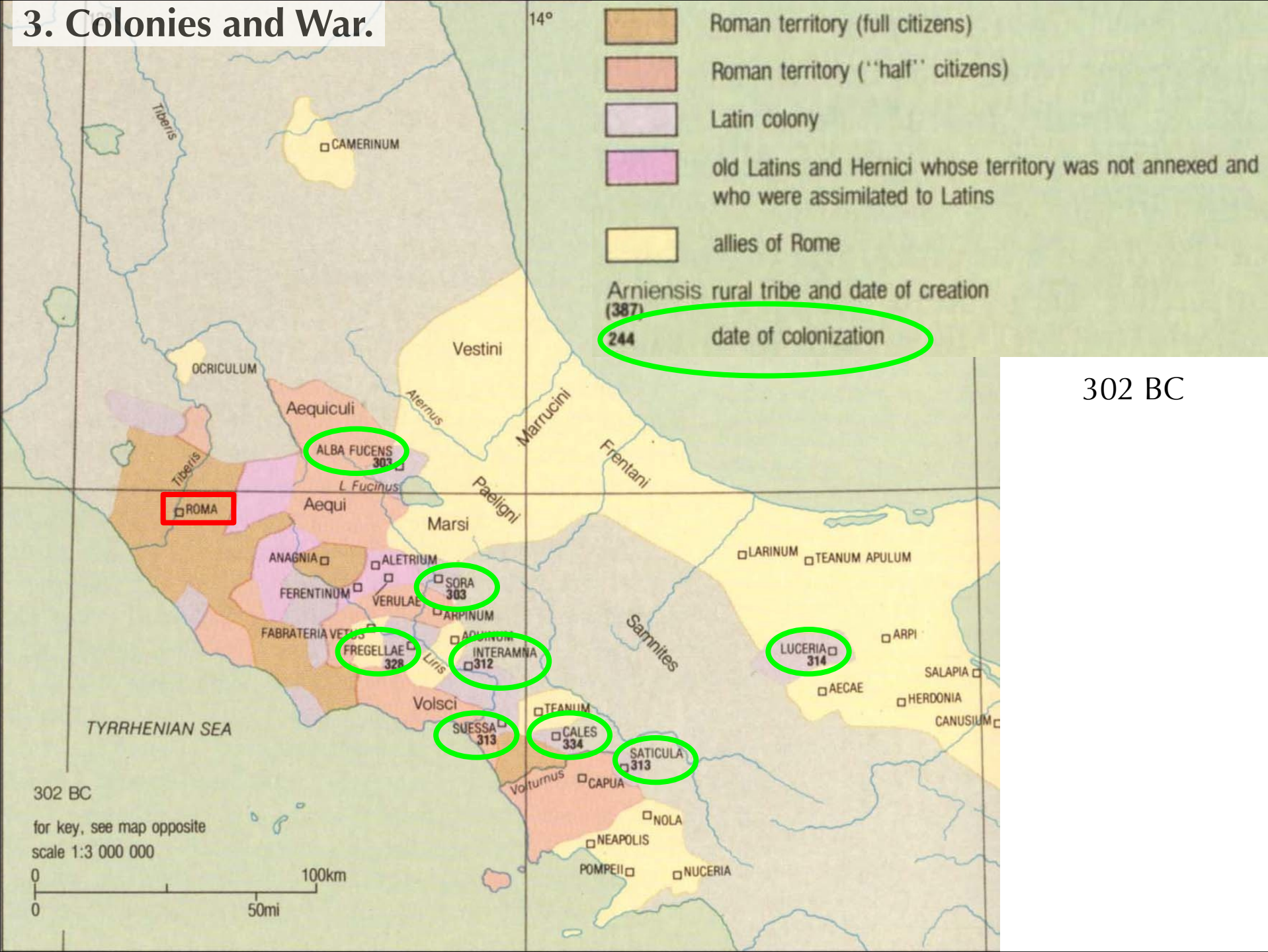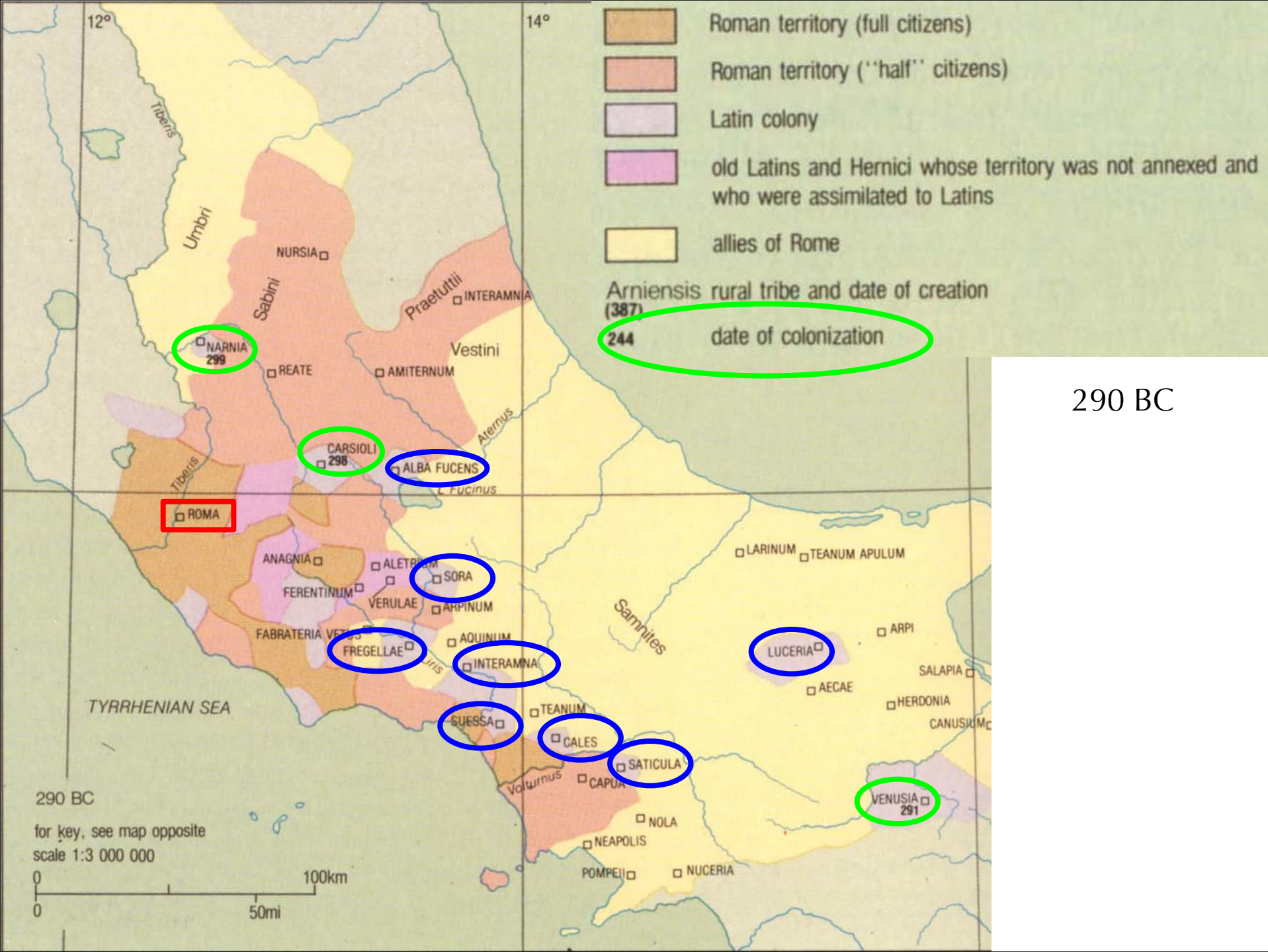MAR TIRRENO

MARE JONIO

isola tiburtina

Rome has: a navigable river (the Tibur) along the coast-mountain salt route; and the best fording place across that river on the coastal route, about halfway up the peninsula.
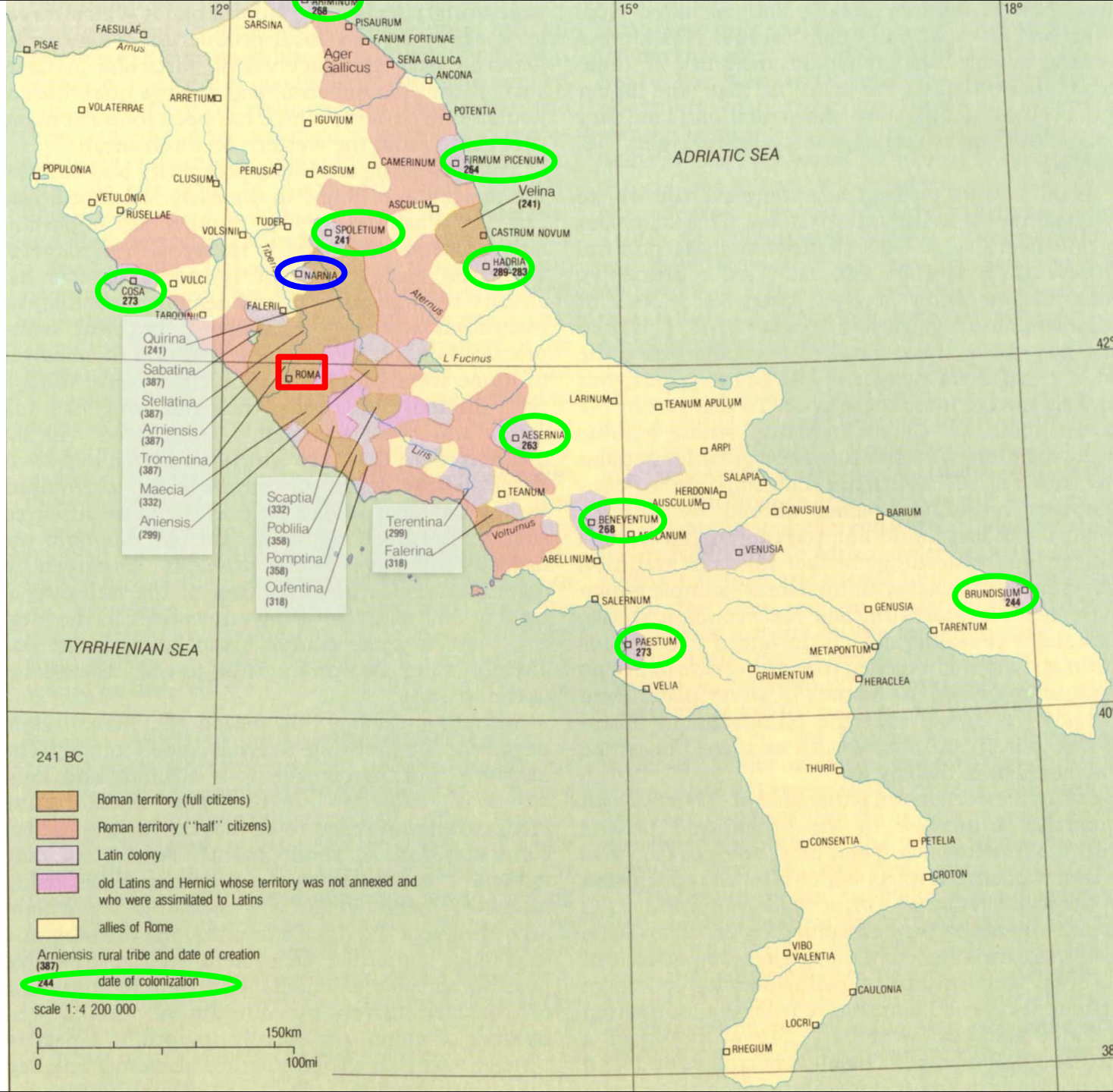
Only later, however -- in the 1st c. AD -- would Rome begin to build a secure **harbor** at Ostia.

Rome

Tiber River

Ostia

Portus

3. Colonies and War.

Roman territory (full citizens)

Roman territory ("half" citizens)

Latin colony

old Latins and Hernici whose territory was not annexed and who were assimilated to Latins

allies of Rome

Arniensis rural tribe and date of creation (387)

244 date of colonization

302 BC

CAMERINUM

Vestini

OCRICULUM

Aequiculi

Aterni

Marrucini

Frentani

ALBA FUCENS
303

Tiberis

ROMA

L Fucinus

Aequi

Paeligni

Marsi

ANAGNIA

ALETRIUM

LARINUM TEANUM APULUM

FERENTINUM

VERULAE

SORA
303

ARPINUM

Samnites

ARPI

FABRATERIA VETUS

AQUINUM

INTERAMNA
312

LUCERIA
314

SALAPIA

FREGELLAE
328

Liris

AECAE

HERDONIA

Volsci

TEANUM

CANUSIUM

SUESSA
313

CALES
334

SATICULA
313

TYRRHENIAN SEA

Volturnus

CAPUA

NOLA

302 BC

NEAPOLIS

for key, see map opposite
scale 1:3 000 000

POMPEII

NUCERIA

0   100km

0   50mi

290 BC

241 BC: in the wake of colonies came the enrollment of new voting tribes for Roman elections.

Gradations of assimilation into the Roman system.

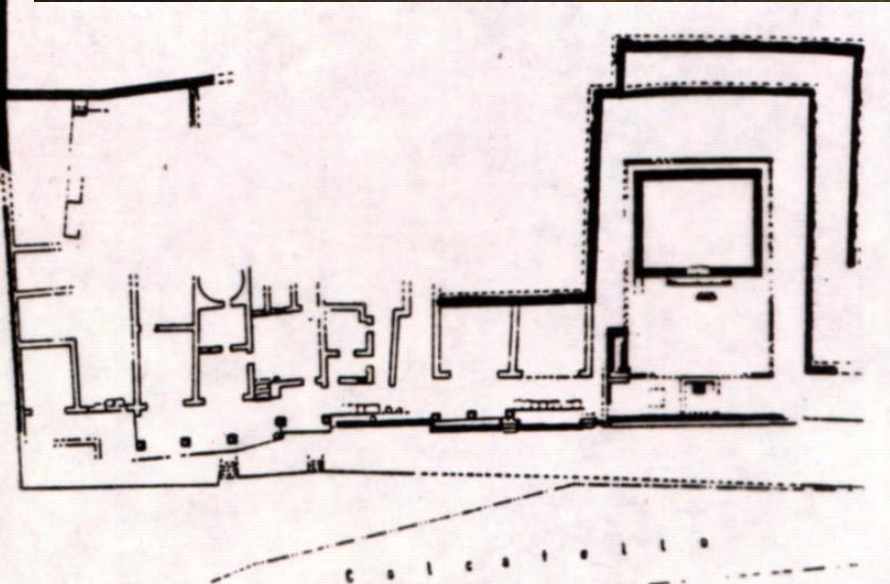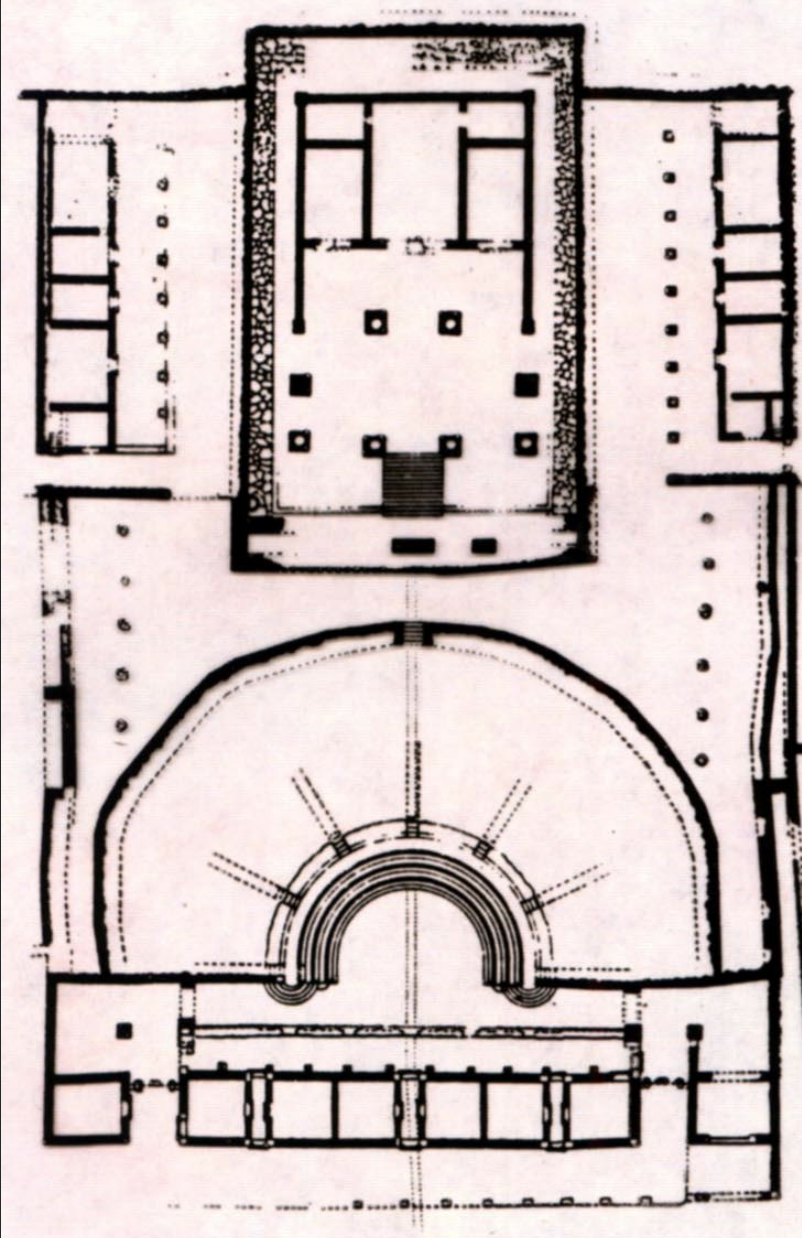Military, economic and socio-political conquest went hand-in-hand:
Esquiline Tomb painting, late 4th-early 3rd c BC;
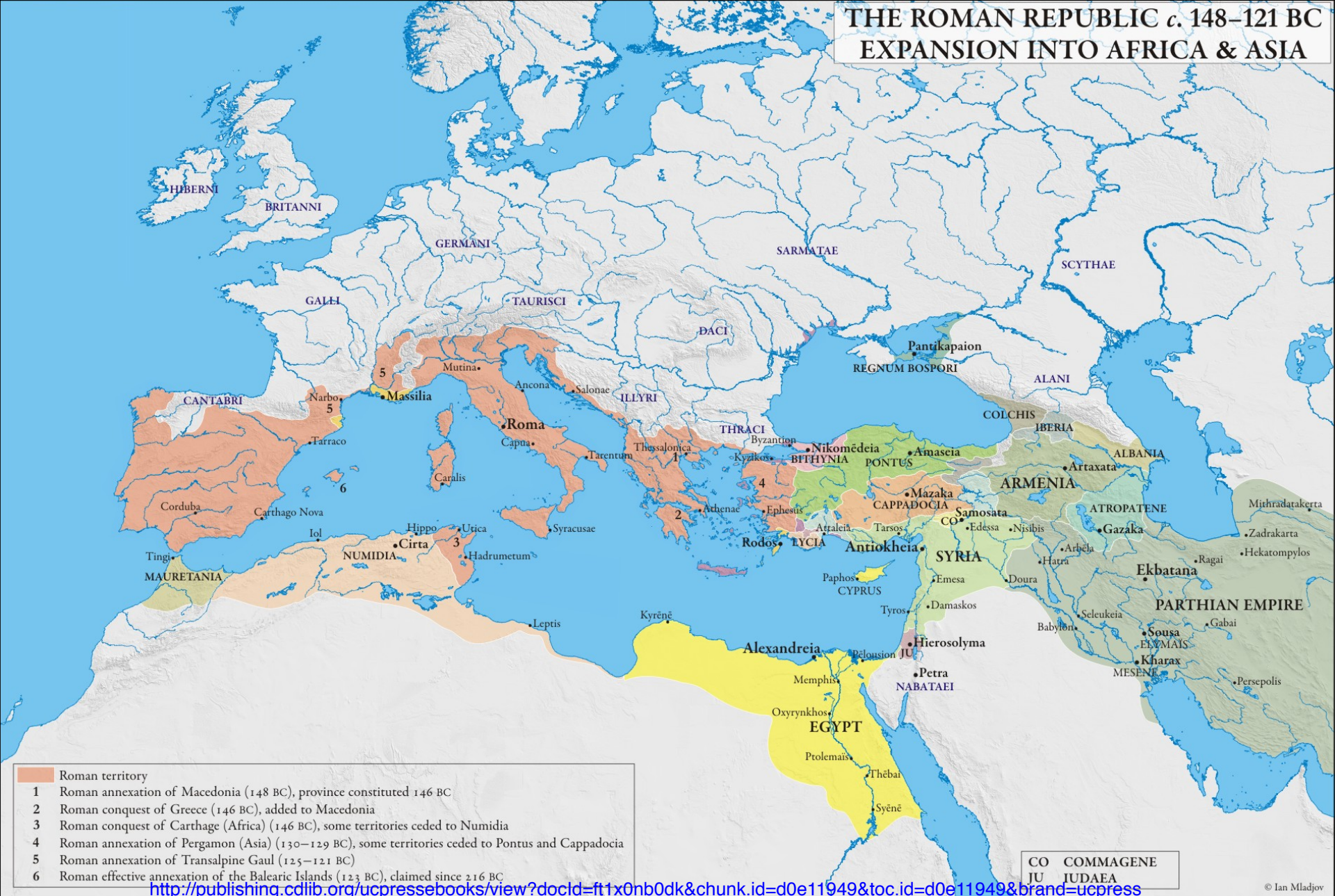The Roman Quintus Fabius treats with the Samnite Fannius

The Fabii family is prominent in developing client networks in Samnium and Apulia: state and familial 'Romanization'

Pietrabbondante, theatre-temple, ca. 100 BC

This was one of the principal meeting places for the leaders of the breakaway state of *Italia* during the Social Wars of the early 1c. BC.

THE ROMAN REPUBLIC c. 148–121 BC
EXPANSION INTO AFRICA & ASIA

HIBERNI
BRITANNI
GERMANI
SARMATAE
SCYTHAE
GALLI
TAURISCI
DACI
CANTABRI
Mutina
Ancona
Salonae
ILLYRI
Narbo 5
Massilia
Roma
Thessalonica
THRACI
Byzantion
REGNUM BOSPORI
Pantikapaion
ALANI
COLCHIS
IBERIA
Nikomēdeia
Amaseia
ARMENIA
ALBANIA
Artaxata
Capua
Tarentum
1
Kyzikos
BITHYNIA
PONTUS
Caralis
Tarraco
4
Mazaka
CAPPADOCIA
Samosata
CO
Edessa
Nisibis
Arbela
Gazaka
Mithradatakerta
Corduba
6
Athenae
Ephesus
Tarsos
Antiokheia
SYRIA
Hatra
Zadrakarta
Hekatompylos
Carthago Nova
2
Attaleia
LYCIA
Rodos
Ekbatana
Tingi
Hippo Utica
Iol
Cirta 3
Hadrumetum
NUMIDIA
Syracusae
Paphos
CYPRUS
Emesa
Doura
Seleukeia
Babylon
PARTHIAN EMPIRE
Gabai
MAURETANIA
Tyros
Damaskos
ELYMAÏS
Sousa
Ragai
Persepolis
Leptis
Kyrēnē
Pēlousion JU
Hierosolyma
Petra
NABATAEI
Kharax
MESENE
Alexandreia
Memphis
Oxyrynkhos
EGYPT
Ptolemais
Thēbai
Syēnē

	Roman territory
1	Roman annexation of Macedonia (148 BC), province constituted 146 BC
2	Roman conquest of Greece (146 BC), added to Macedonia
3	Roman conquest of Carthage (Africa) (146 BC), some territories ceded to Numidia
4	Roman annexation of Pergamon (Asia) (130–129 BC), some territories ceded to Pontus and Cappadocia
5	Roman annexation of Transalpine Gaul (125–121 BC)
6	Roman effective annexation of the Balearic Islands (123 BC), claimed since 216 BC

CO COMMAGENE
JU IUDAEA

© Ian Mladjov

Rome often added territories after they were brought in to act as arbitrators in regional disputes, e.g. "between the Narthacians and Melitaeans of Thessaly, and between Magnesia and Priene, both around 140, between the Messenians and Lacedaemonians ca. 138, between Samos and Priene in 135,[6] between Hierapytna and Itanus in Crete in 140 and again in 112, between Lato in Crete and one of its neighbors, probably around the same time, and between Thronium and Scarphea in Locris around the turn of the century."
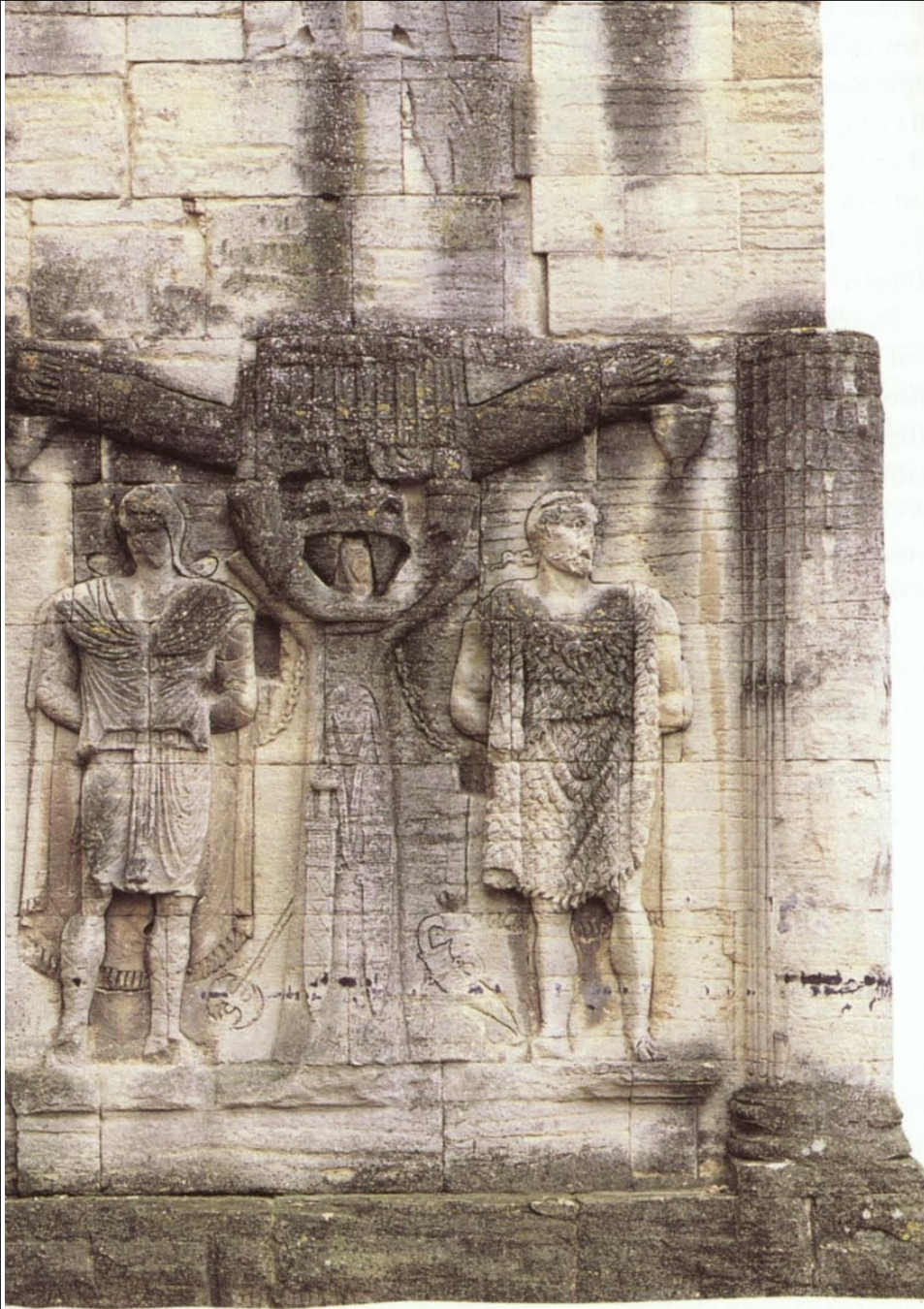
Arch of Carpentras, France, ca. 9 BC: prisoners of war

Column of Marcus Aurelius, Rome, ca. AD 180, scene XLI

Conservatori reliefs of a lost triumphal arch of Marcus Aurelius, Rome, ca. AD 180; *clementia* (above); *pietas* (right)

# 5. Attention to history and national **exceptionalism**

Ludovisi sarcophagus, ca. AD 250. Romans v. 'barbarians'; 'order' v. 'chaos' is the imperial trope, but Rome's founding myths centered around:
war refugees, outlaws, fratricide, asylum-seekers, and rapists.

Roman Origins: two stories

1) Aeneas, Trojan prince and leader of refugees from the burned city of Troy (ca. early 12th c. BC).

Tumulus / 'heroon' at Lavinium; in ancient legend, considered the burial-place of Aeneas. Actually dates to the 7th c. BC.
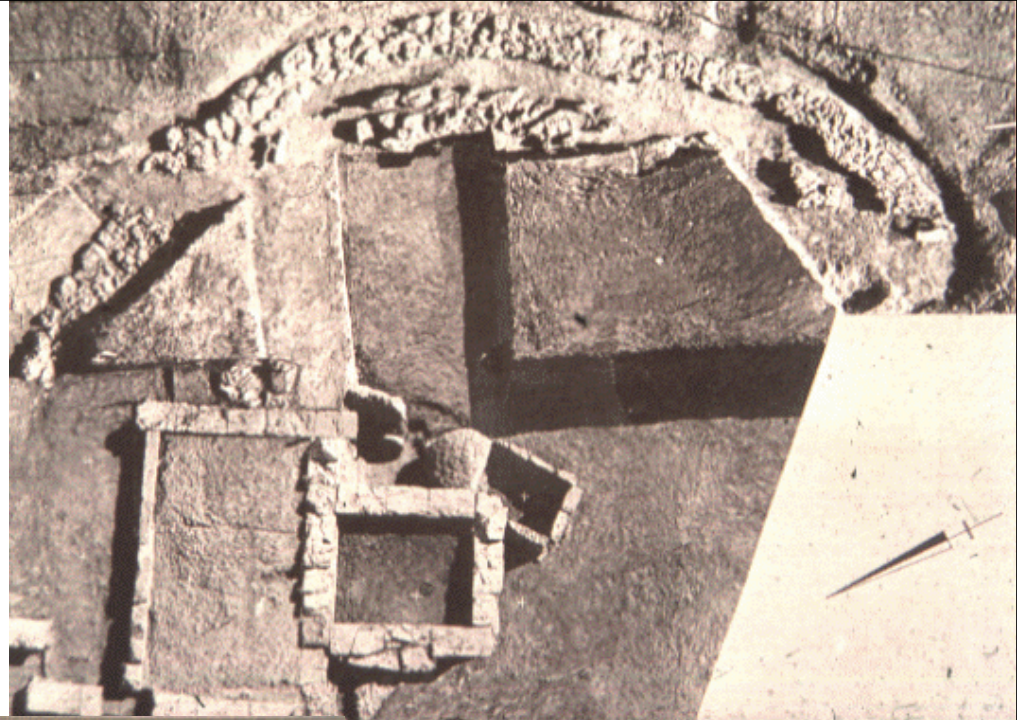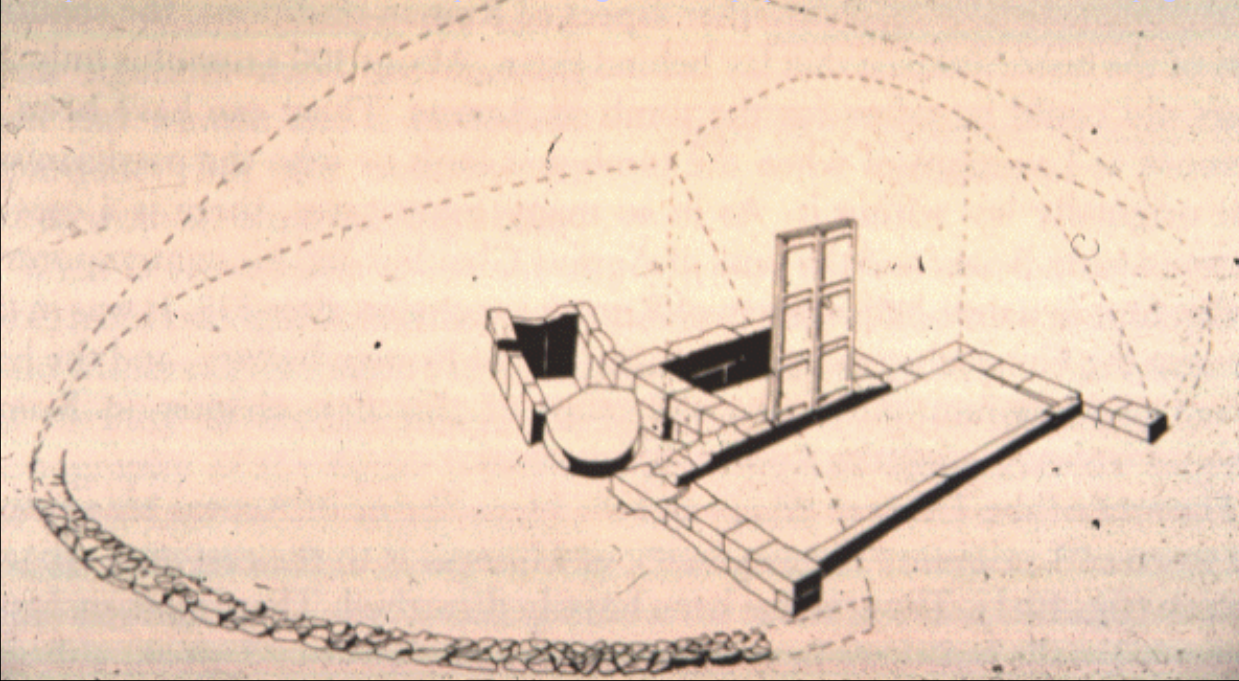
Dionysos of Halicarnassus, Roman Antiquities, 1st c. BC   I.64:

"A severe battle took place not far from Lavinium and many were slain on both sides, but when night came on the armies separated; and when the body of Aeneas was nowhere to be seen, some concluded that it had been translated to the gods and others that it had perished in the river beside which the battle was fought. 5 And the Latins built a hero-shrine to him with this inscription: "*To the father and god of this place, who presides over the waters of the river Numicius*." But there are some who say the shrine was erected by Aeneas in honour of Anchises, who died in the year before this war. It is a small mound, round which have been set out in regular rows trees that are well worth seeing."

Roman Origins: two stories

2) Romulus and Remus

How the Romans mythologized their past, reconciling their 'Italian-ness' and the Hellenism of the greater Mediterranean world.

Capitoline Wolf:
Etruscan or
13th c. AD?

She-wolf in
the *Mirabilia
Urbis Romae*
AD 1499

Silver denarius
with she-wolf and
Faustulus,
ca. 140 BC
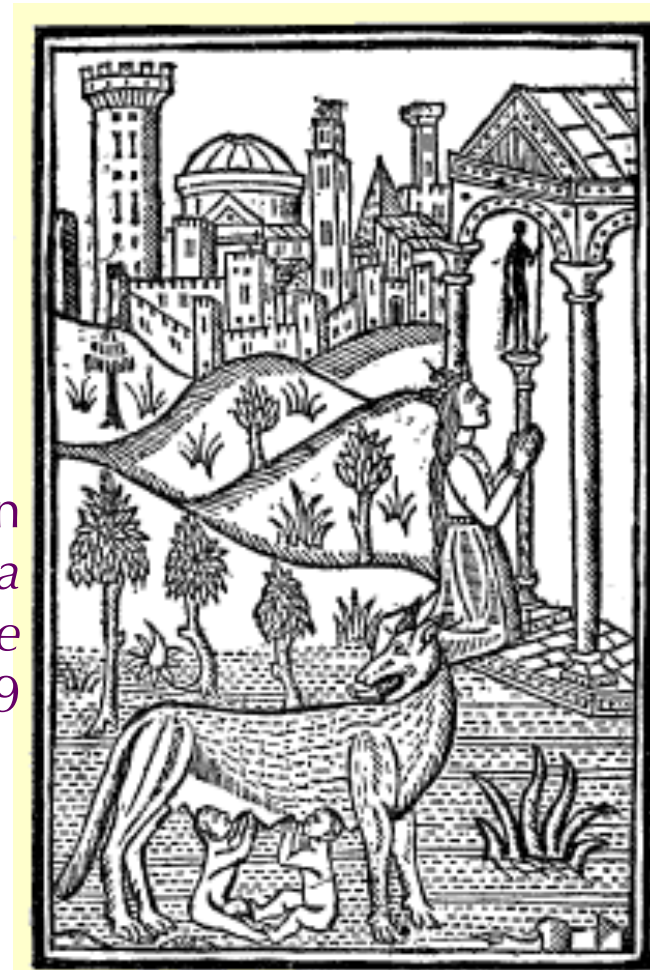
Seven Hills of Rome:
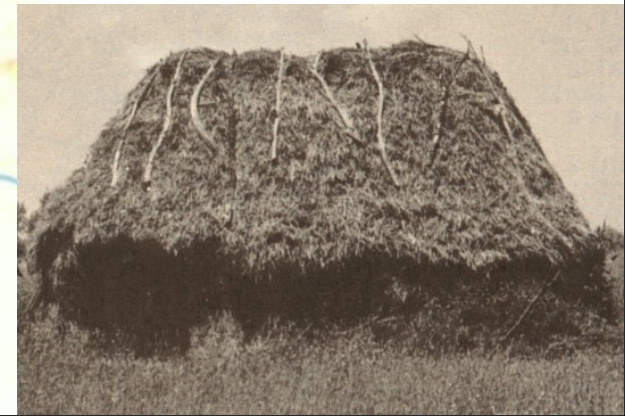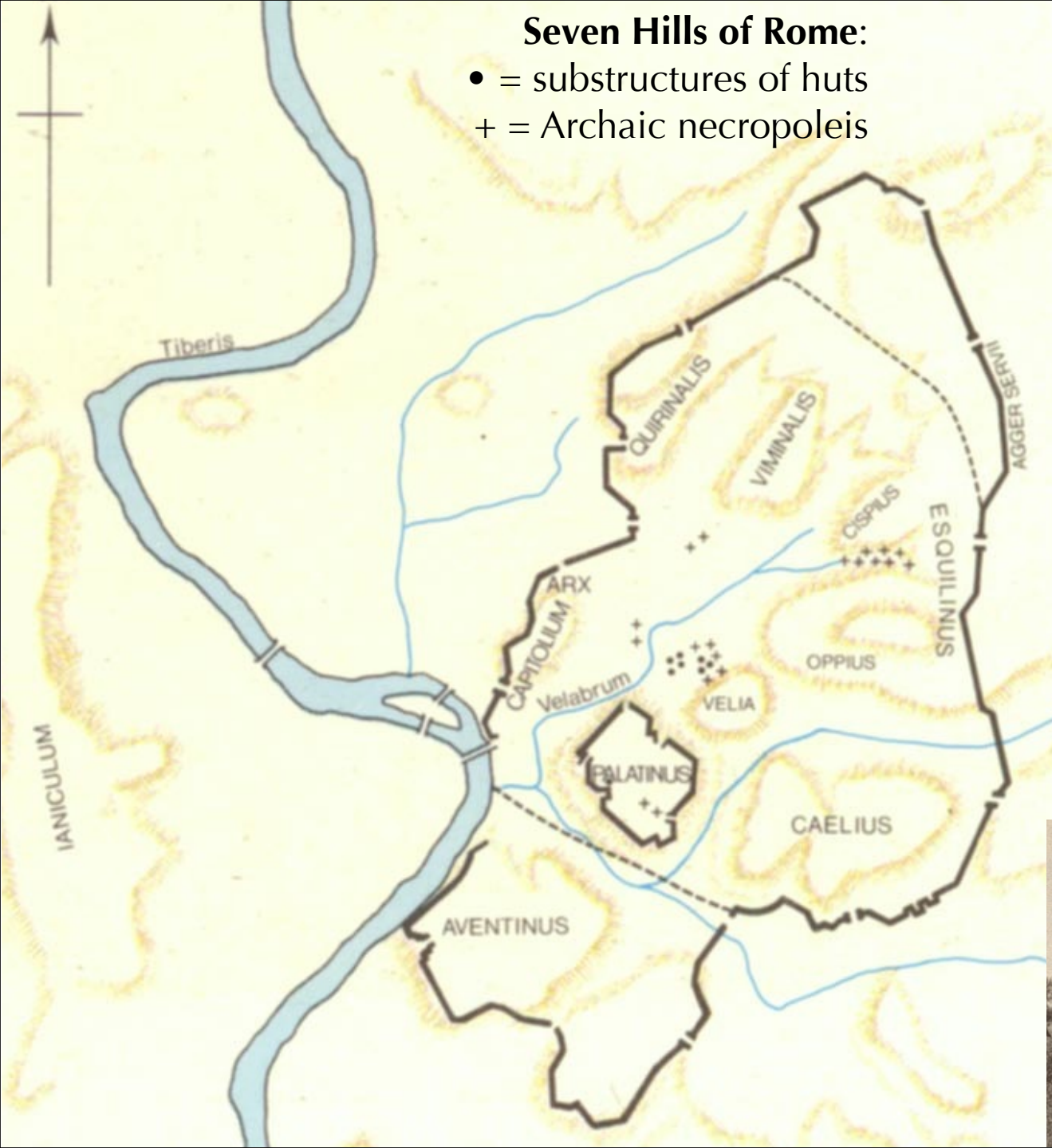• = substructures of huts
+ = Archaic necropoleis

Fig. 133. Birds-eye view of the necropolis.
(From the cornice of the Faustina-temple.)

That low-lying area, prone to flooding, was at first used largely as a **cemetery** for the settlements on the surrounding hills (9th-8th c. BC).

Below the Capitoline hill and to the east, large rocks had tumbled down during the Paleolithic, and, resting ca. 1 m. above ground, were probably used as the first gathering places for the various families or tribes that had settled on the hills.

In the late 7th c. BC, ground was cut away from the east end to help raise and level the entire area and bring it above flood-level. This area would become known as the *Forum Romanum*.

8th-c.
Villanovan hut-urn

Forum Romanum, 5th c. BC: as the meeting place of the Romans and their Sabine neighbors, it represents the archetypal locus of 'civic **incorporation**,' a concept that governed later Roman expansion and government.
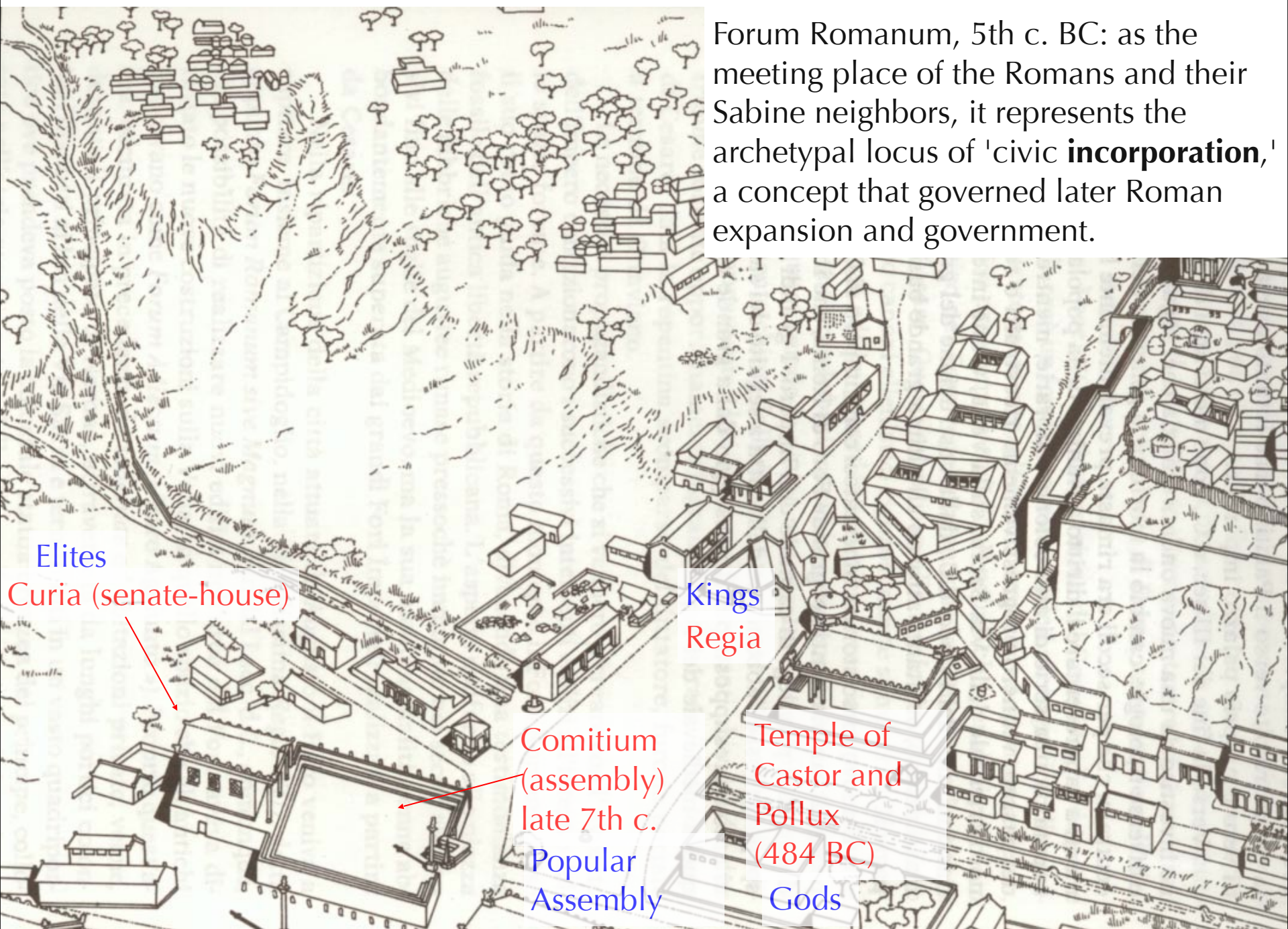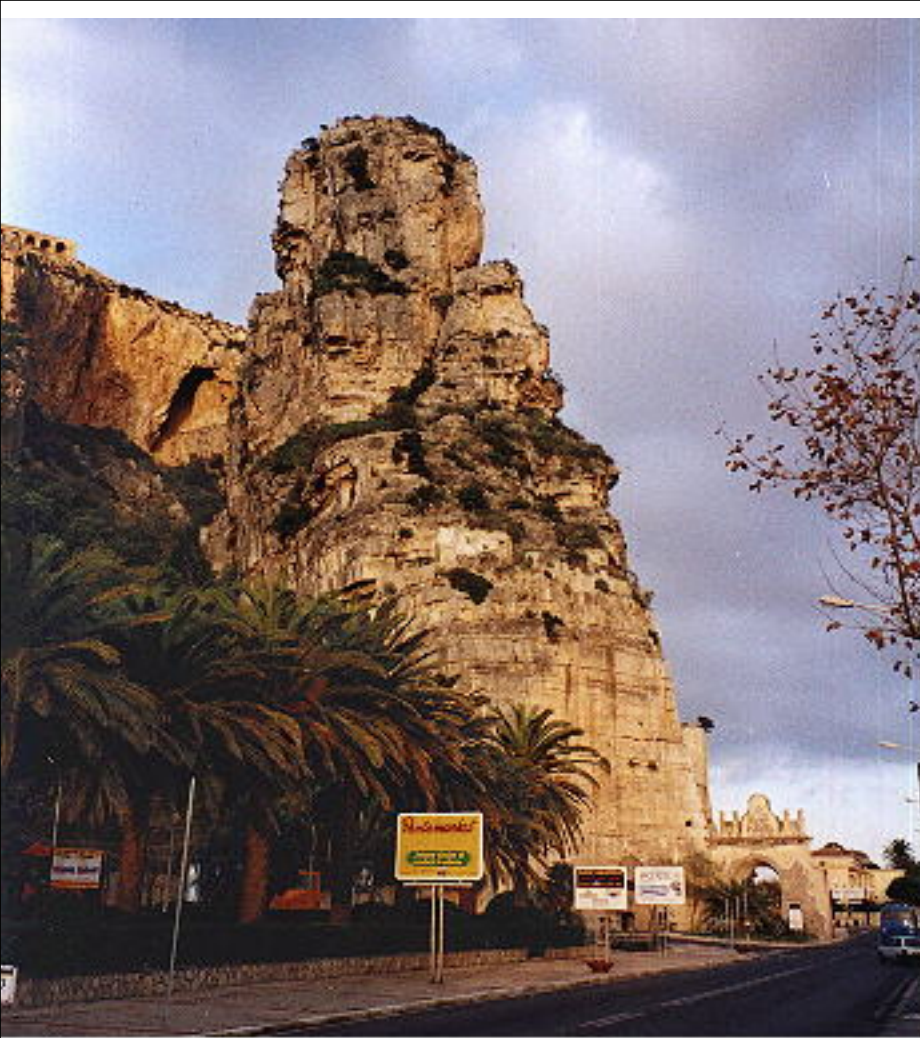
Elites
Curia (senate-house)

Kings
Regia

Comitium (assembly) late 7th c.
Popular Assembly

Temple of Castor and Pollux (484 BC)
Gods

Cloaca Maxima
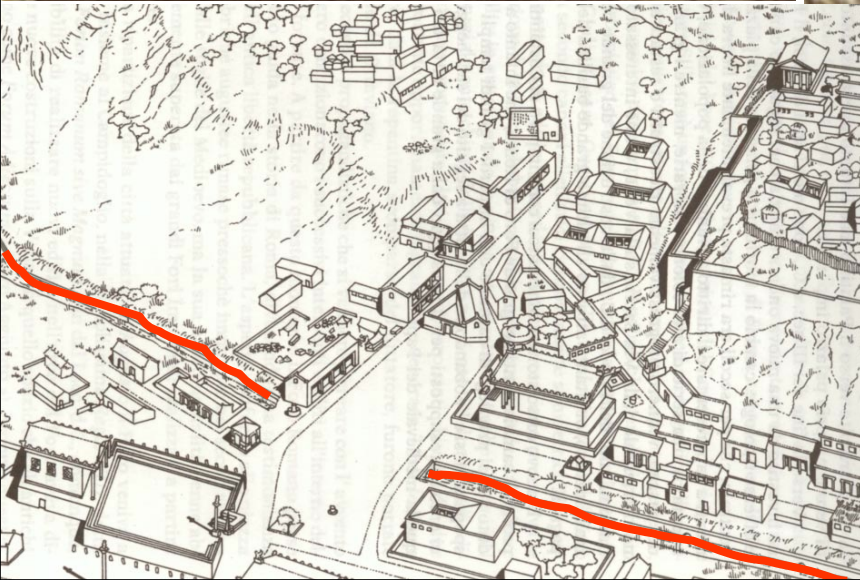
Column of Trajan, ca. AD 117: the bridge of Apollodorus across the Danube and construction of a fortified base

At Terracina: in the early 2nd c. AD, Trajan's engineers cut a new path for the Via Appia, slicing off 120 vertical ft. of seaside cliffs below the Sanctuary of Jupiter Anxur, near which the modern road still runs today. The proud engineers carved an inscription to their accomplishment, as well as numbers indicating every 10 ft. they had cut.

FORUM

Town-house (*domus*) & **Shop** (*taberna*)

Entertainment (*theatrum, amphitheatrum, circus, thermae*), **Administrative/juridical/ complex** (*basilica*), **Market** (e.g., *macellum*)

Assembly-building (*comitium; curia*) & **Temple** (*aedes, templum*)

Private, urban architecture

URBS

Public, secular urban architecture

Public, sacred urban architecture
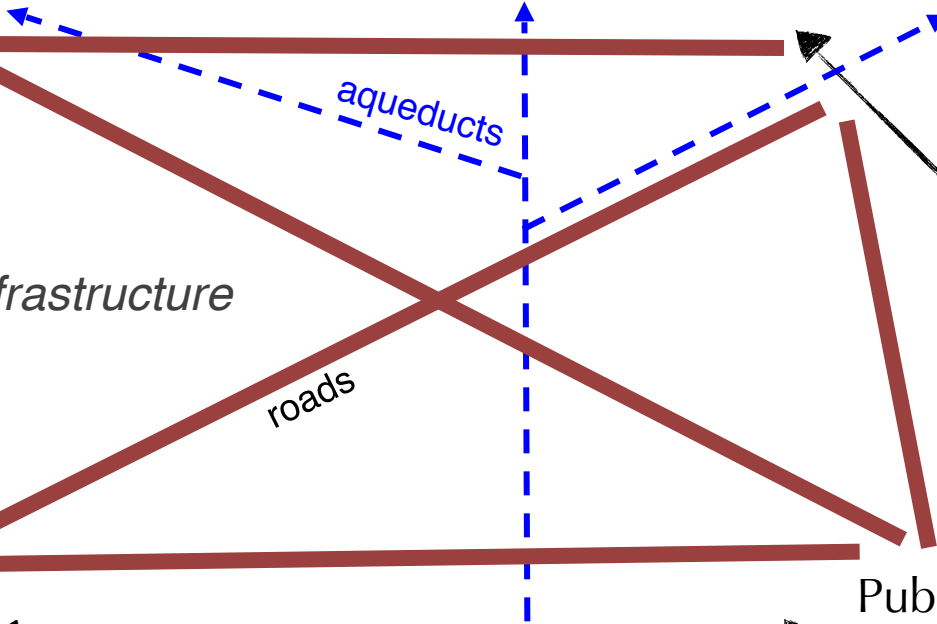
aqueducts

infrastructure

roads

Private, rural architecture

RUS

Public, sacred rural architecture

Villa
(*pars urbana, pars rustica pars fructaria*)

Sanctuary

MATRIX OF THE ROMAN
BUILT LANDSCAPE:
sacred-secular, public-private, urban-rural

FIGURE 2.2 *Proconsularis, centuriation, air view*

20 x 20 *actus;*
2400 x 2400 Roman feet

Google Earth

The Roman world had **two main axes**, conceptually and physically: the **Cardo** (N-S) and the **Decumanus** (E-W). This is how they divided up their world.

'groma' (surveying equipment) on an inscription of Nicostratus, an *agromensator* from Pompeii. Left: centuriated farmland in Africa Proconsularis (modern Tunisia).
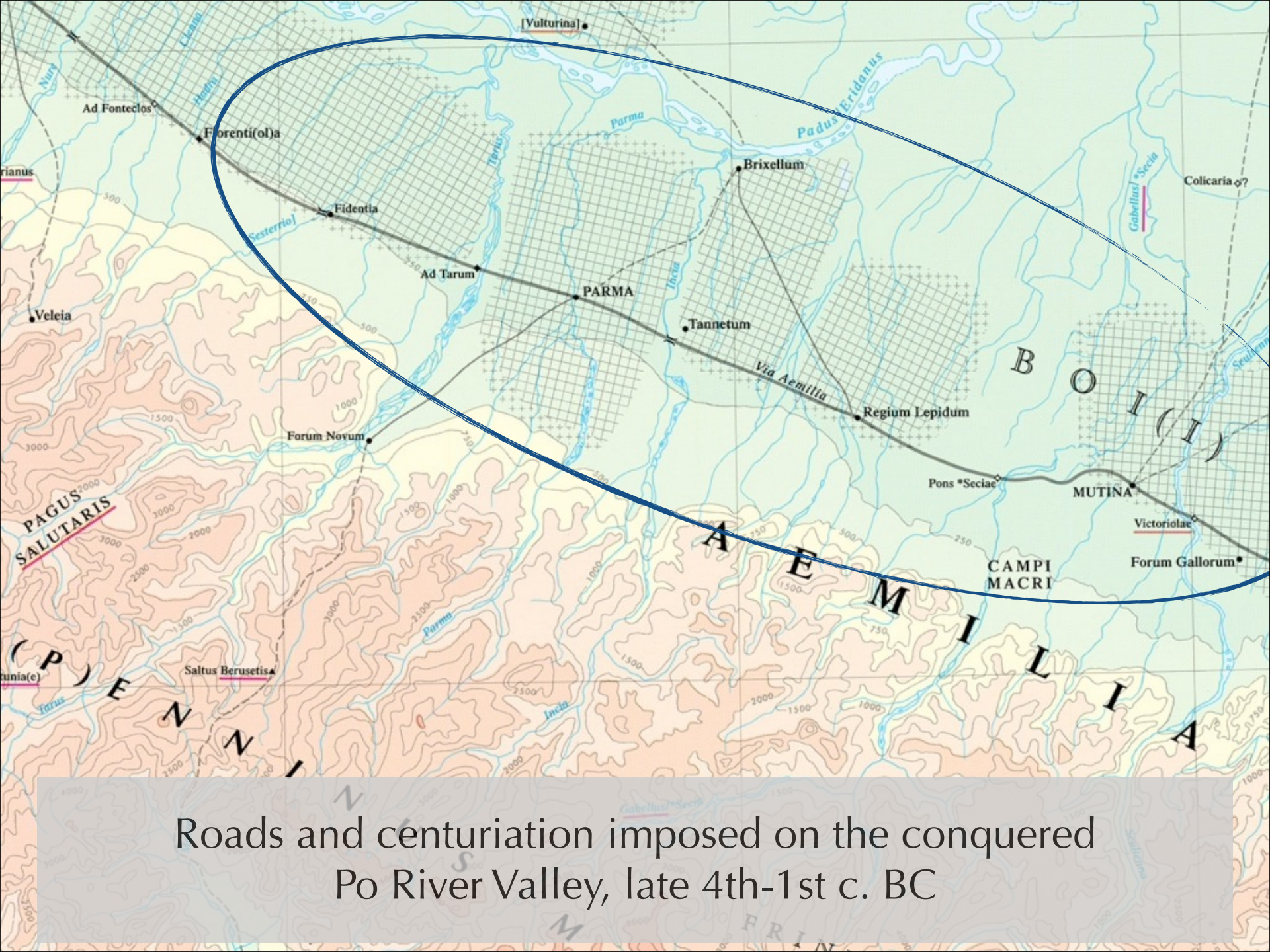
Roads and centuriation imposed on the conquered
Po River Valley, late 4th-1st c. BC

Two small farms in the Metaponto area:
subsistence life changes little over eight centuries;
most work was probably done outside.

storage jars

impluvium

hypocaust

furnace

0   20 m
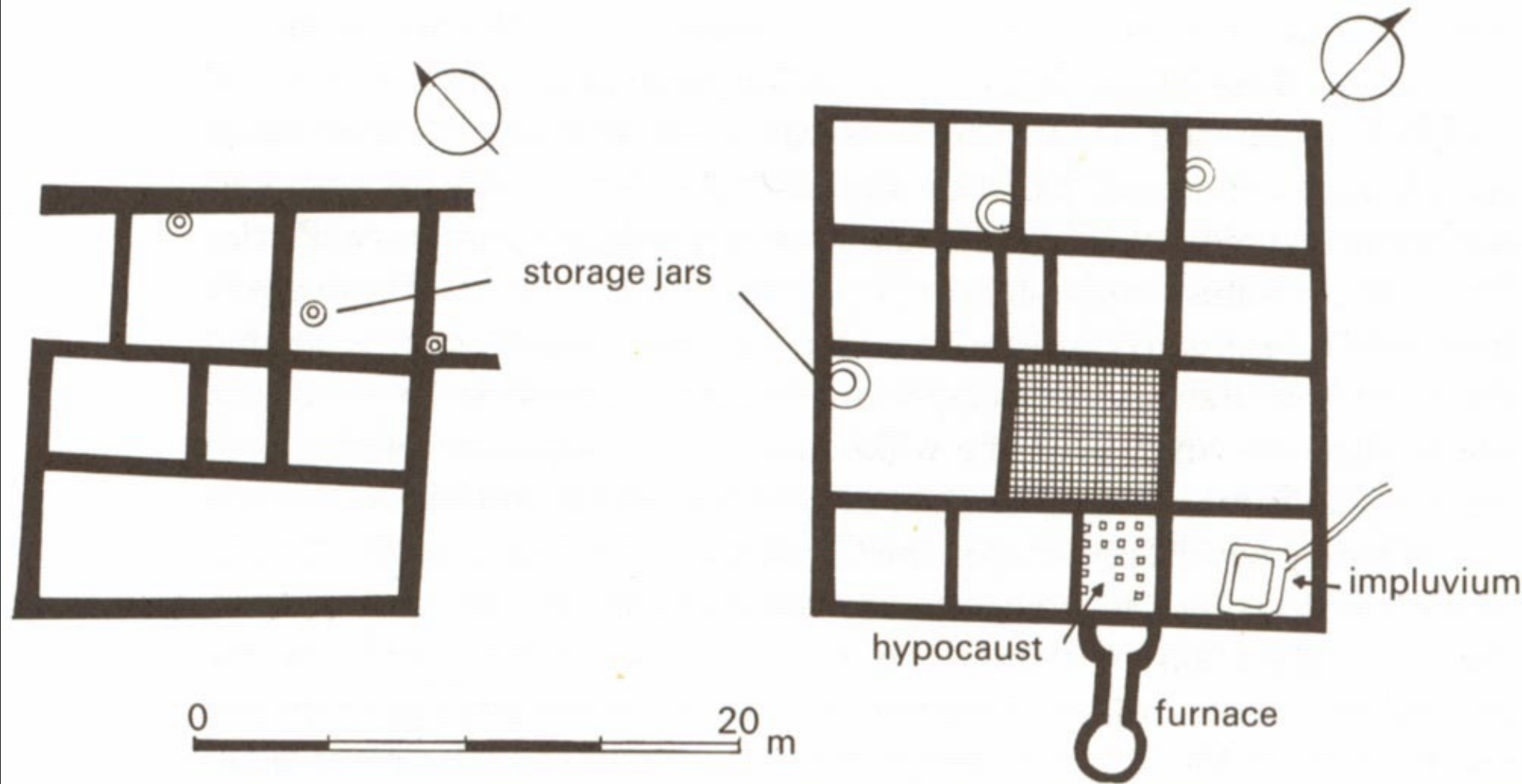
Ponte Fabrizio (4th c. BC)   San Biagio (4th c. AD)

723 *Villa rustica* of La Pisanella at Boscoreale near Pompeii:

A *Pars urbana*:
1 Dining room
2 Bedrooms
3 Bakery with millstone and oven
4 Kitchen with stairway
5 Furnace for the bath
6 *Tepidarium*
7 *Caldarium*
8 Latrines.

B *Pars rustica* (partly included in the above):
9 Tool store
10 Stable
11 Slaves' living quarters
12 Wine store with two grape presses, three *dolia* and a cistern.
13 Olive mill
14 Olive press
15 *Dolia* for oil
16 Open-air wine store with buried *dolia*
17 Granary
18 Threshing floor
(After Pasqui, *Monumenti dei Lincei*, VII, 1897, p.398.)
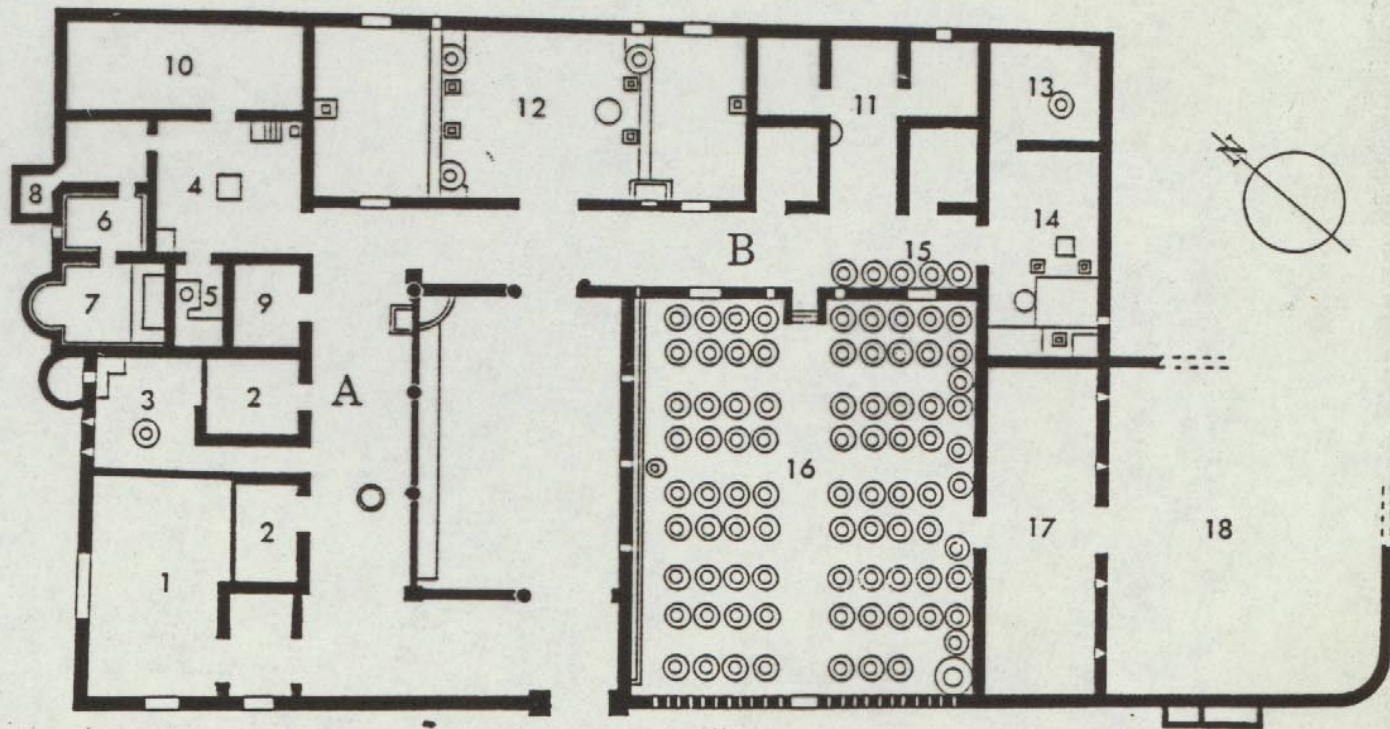
'villa rustica', or 'working villa' near Pompeii: living quarters and space for processing and storing agricultural produce -- mainly grains, olive oil, wine. Nuts, fruit, vegetables, cheeses and cured meats and fish were also important culinary staples.
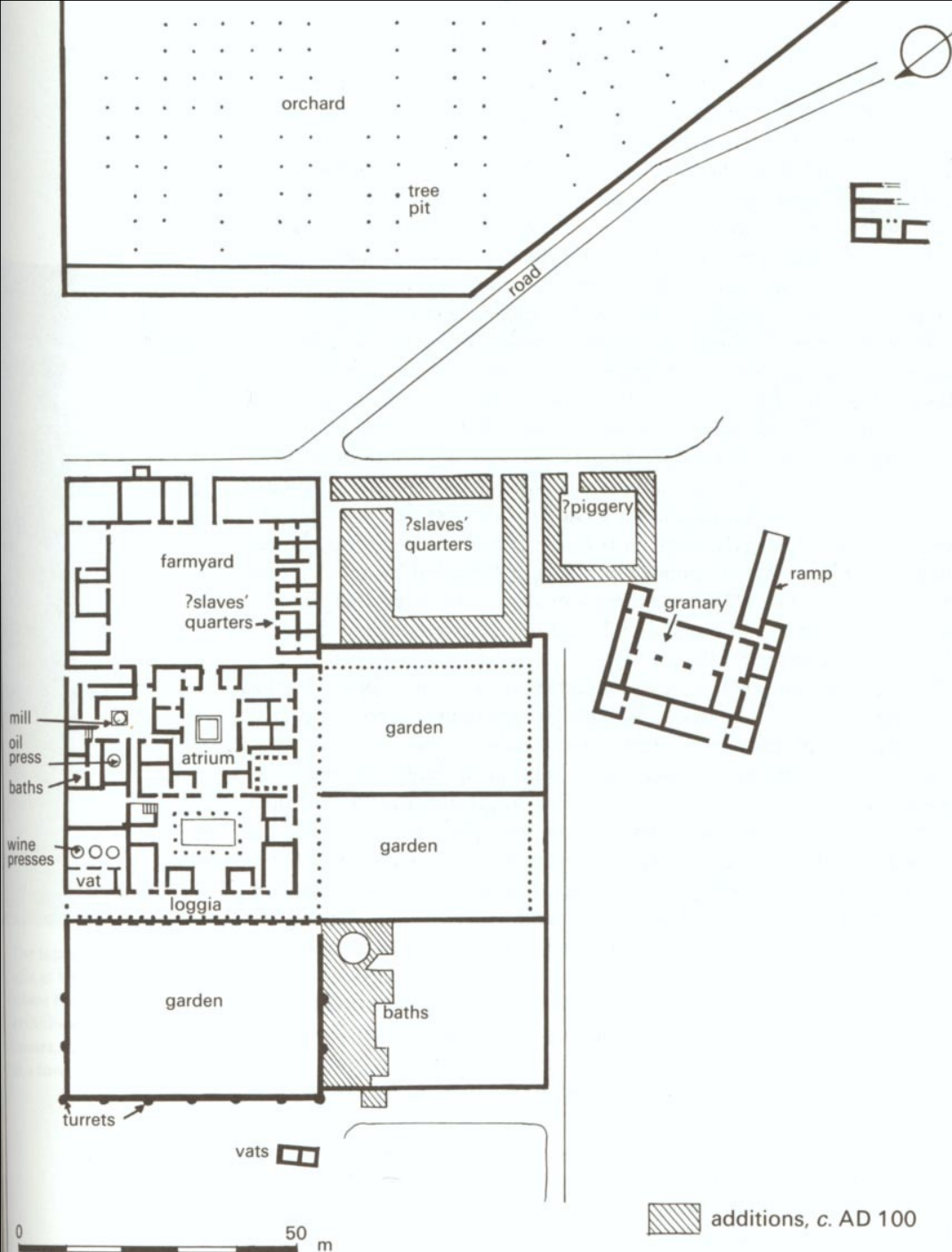
The 'crisis in Italian agriculture', 2nd-1st c. BC: the seeming shift away from cereal production to specialized (and higher-profit) production in wine, olives, and fish, on massive elite-owned farms worked by gangs of slaves acquired in foreign wars. Fewer free small-time farmers meant fewer soldiers; this led to a semi-professional army replacing the citizen army under Marius, and it put exceptional power in the hands of the commanding (aristocratic) generals, competition between whom would eventually bring the Republic into bloody civil war.

The brothers Gracchi: aristocratic land reformers who are assassinated in 133 and 123 BC

2nd c. BC silver coin: triumphant general

Plan labels:

- orchard
- tree pit
- road
- ?slaves' quarters
- ?piggery
- farmyard
- ?slaves' quarters
- granary
- ramp
- mill
- oil press
- baths
- atrium
- garden
- garden
- wine presses
- vat
- loggia
- garden
- baths
- turrets
- vats

additions, c. AD 100

0   50 m

TWP '86

Large estate villa at Settefinestre (near Cosa, Etruria), 1st c. BC-AD: turreted garden walls imitate city walls; fine residential quarters are accompanied by gardens, baths, agricultural production and storage areas, slaves' quarters and a pig-sty.

J. Paul Getty Museum, reconstructed on the model of the Villa dei Papiri, Herculaneum: A sub-urban house with nature (water, plants, animals, gods) under control: ***urbs in ruri***

Urbs Magna:

Stadium of Domitian
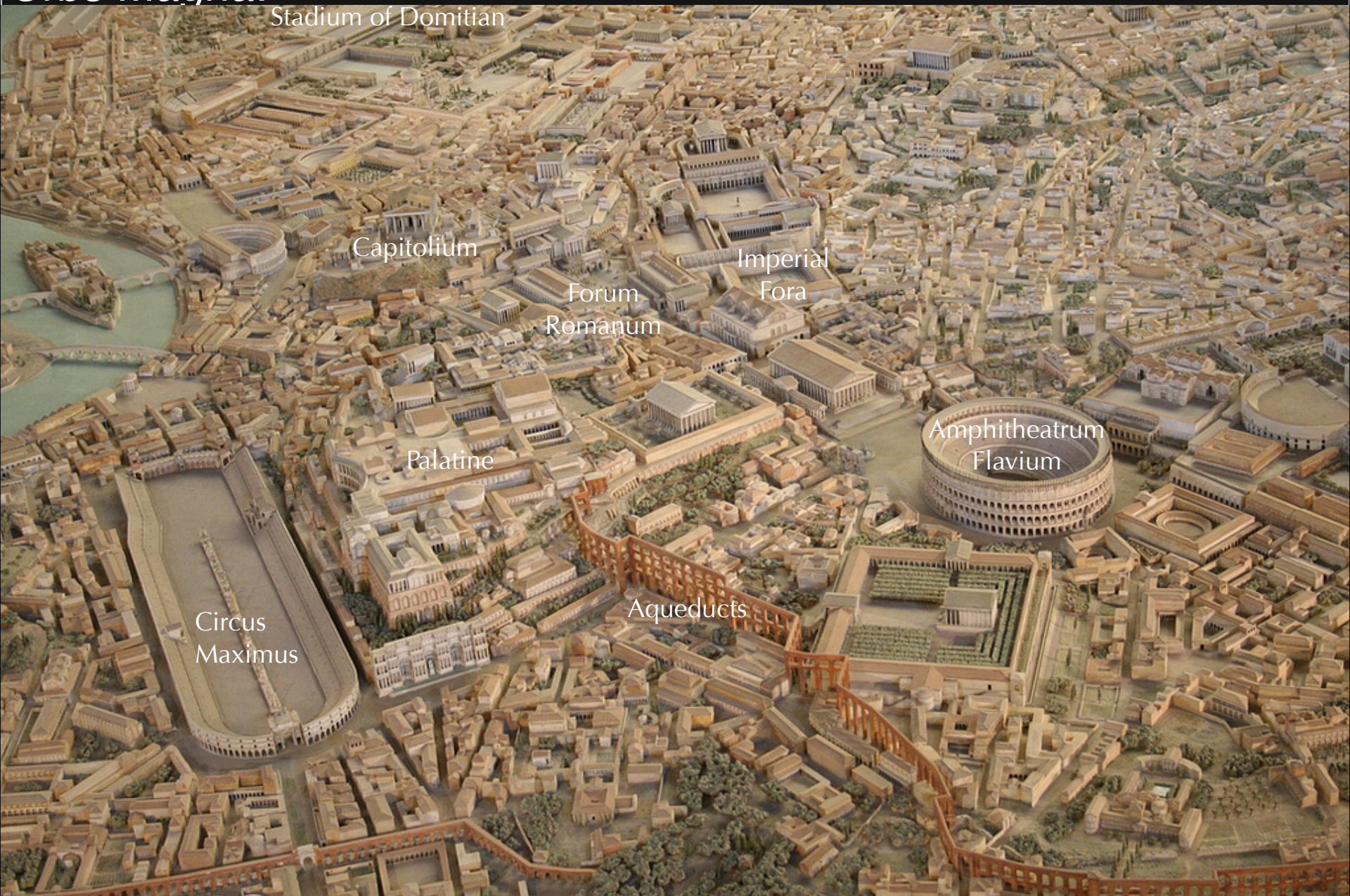
Capitolium

Forum
Romanum

Imperial
Fora

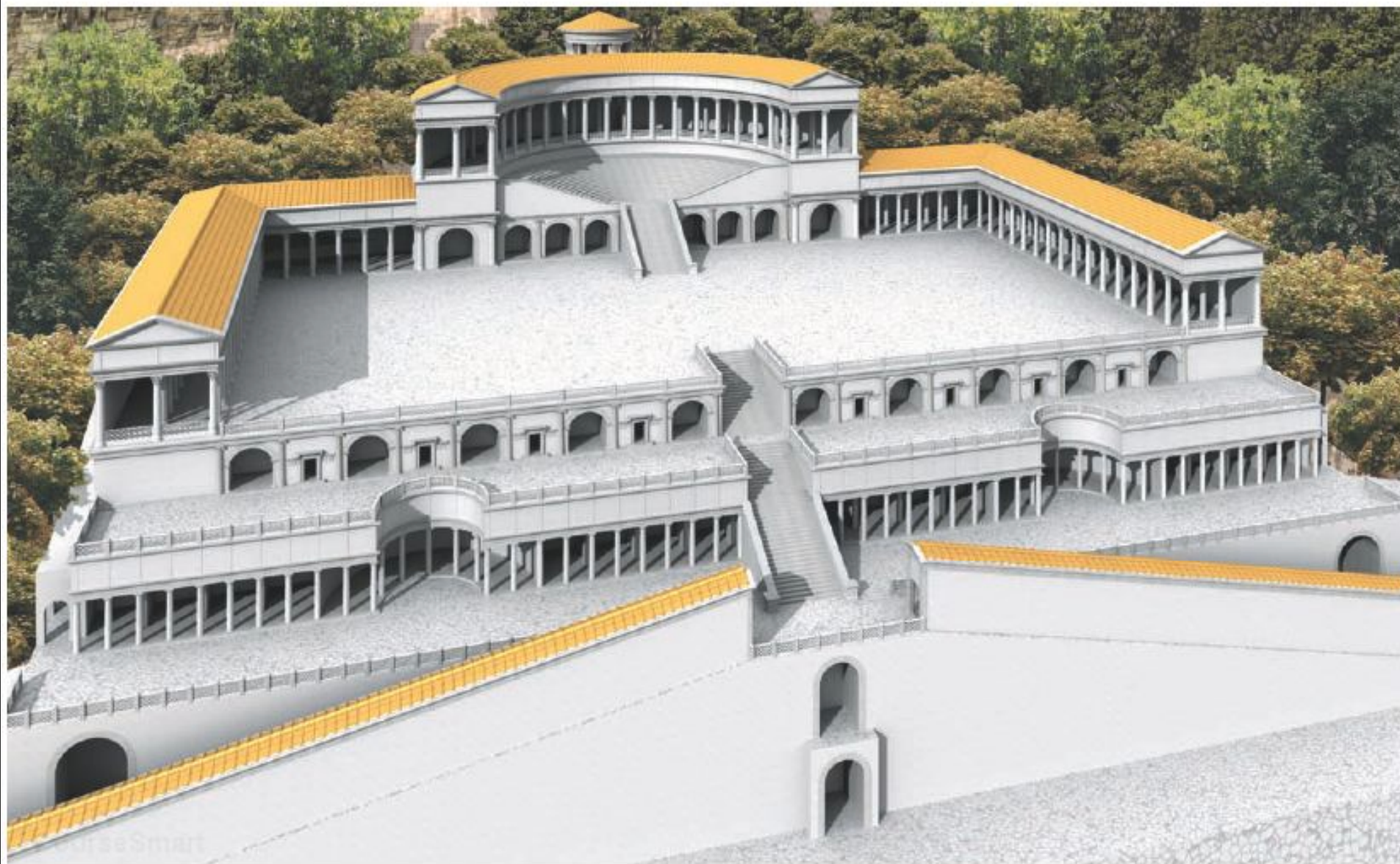Palatine

Amphitheatrum
Flavium

Circus
Maximus

Aqueducts

Model of Imperial Rome: the first city to contain >1 million people

Houses

Formal Garden

Warehouse

Forma Urbis Romae, Late 2nd c. AD, Forum Pacis

By the 2nd c. BC, the Romans had developed a new building technique that managed both scale and form: **concrete**

1-21 Restored view of the Sanctuary of Fortuna, Palestrina, late second century BCE (John Burge).

The **KEY** material for Roman engineering: **OPUS CAEMENTICIUM** (Roman concrete) but what is concrete, how do you make it, and how does it work?

Concrete = (binding agent + water) + aggregate)
Concrete = (cement + water) + [variously sized chunks of rock, tile, brick])

Cement in the Roman world was made from slaked lime + pozzolana (*pulvis puteolanis*) or sand

Slaked lime is made from mixing *quicklime* with water

Quicklime (CaO) is made by firing (burning) chunks of limestone, marble, or travertine (which is mostly $CaCO_3$), layered with fuel (probably charcoal) in a hollow kiln to about 1000° C.

This liberates CO_2 and creates CaO as follows:
$CaCO_3 + heat \rightarrow CaO + CO_2$

Because quicklime is unstable and will eventually revert back to calcium carbonate as it cools and absorbs Carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, it is mixed with water to create calcium hydroxide, or slaked lime:
$CaO + H_2O \rightarrow Ca(OH)_2 + 65.2$ kilojoules
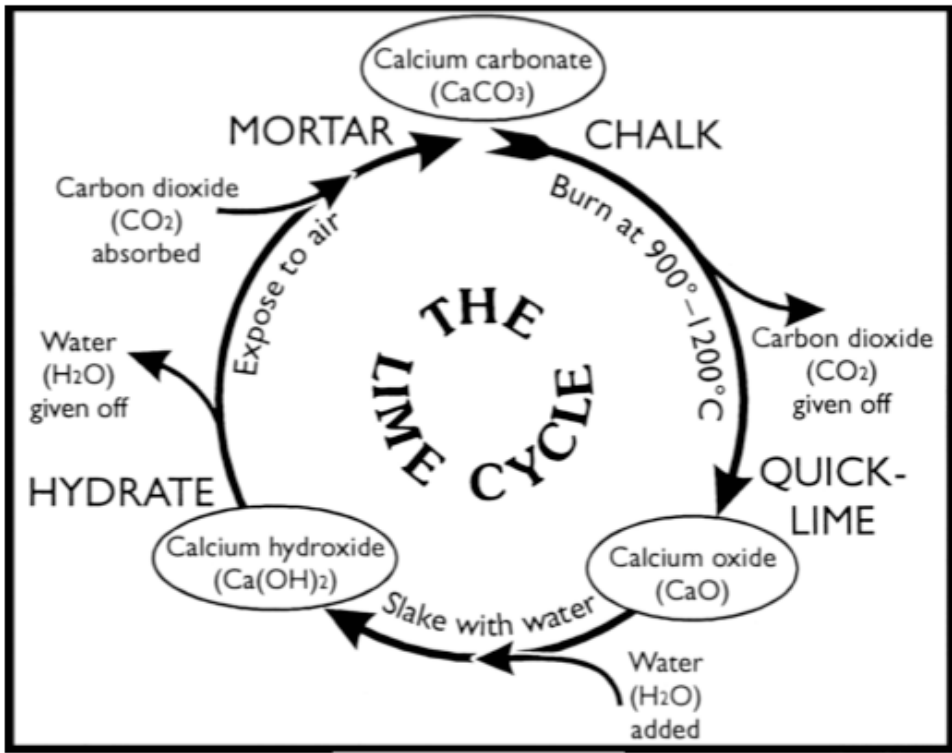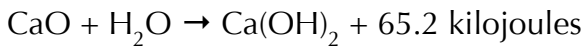
The lime cycle

The pasty slaked lime, when combined with sand or pozzolana and more water, forms non-hydraulic or hydraulic cement, respectively. This is then combined with chunks of aggregate (which serve as cheaper filler) to make concrete, and as the cement dries, it re-absorbs CO_2 from the atmosphere, and effectively hardens back into calcium carbonate (artificial stone, really).

By using forms into which you can pour the concrete, you can then make interior spaces of almost any shape or configuration – at the Pantheon in Rome (AD 120s), concrete permitted light and air to become architectural elements themselves. This was the culmination of an architectural revolution in which Pompeii, at the very end, also participated.

# 7. Tolerance, adaptation and adoption of ideas from elsewhere
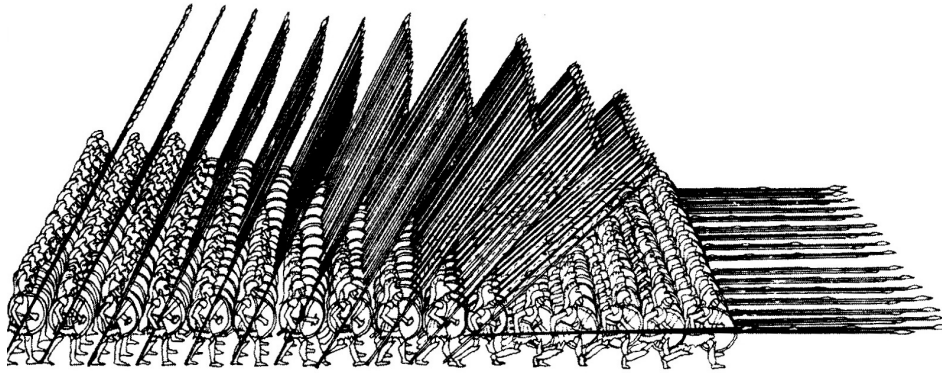
phalanx

maniple

Samnite Wars, 343-290 BC: The Romans, using the **phalanx**, [8-16 ranks of men with long, heavy spears] get beat by the Samnite **maniple** ([20 men in 3 ranks of 40], therefore more mobile and flexible military units); learn to use the maniple themselves; and then defeat the Samnites using the maniple.

DICTATOR: more efficient command structure in times of stress.

Polybius: shipwreck as template for a fleet in the First Punic War, 264-241 BC, a conflict which also saw the '**corvus**'.
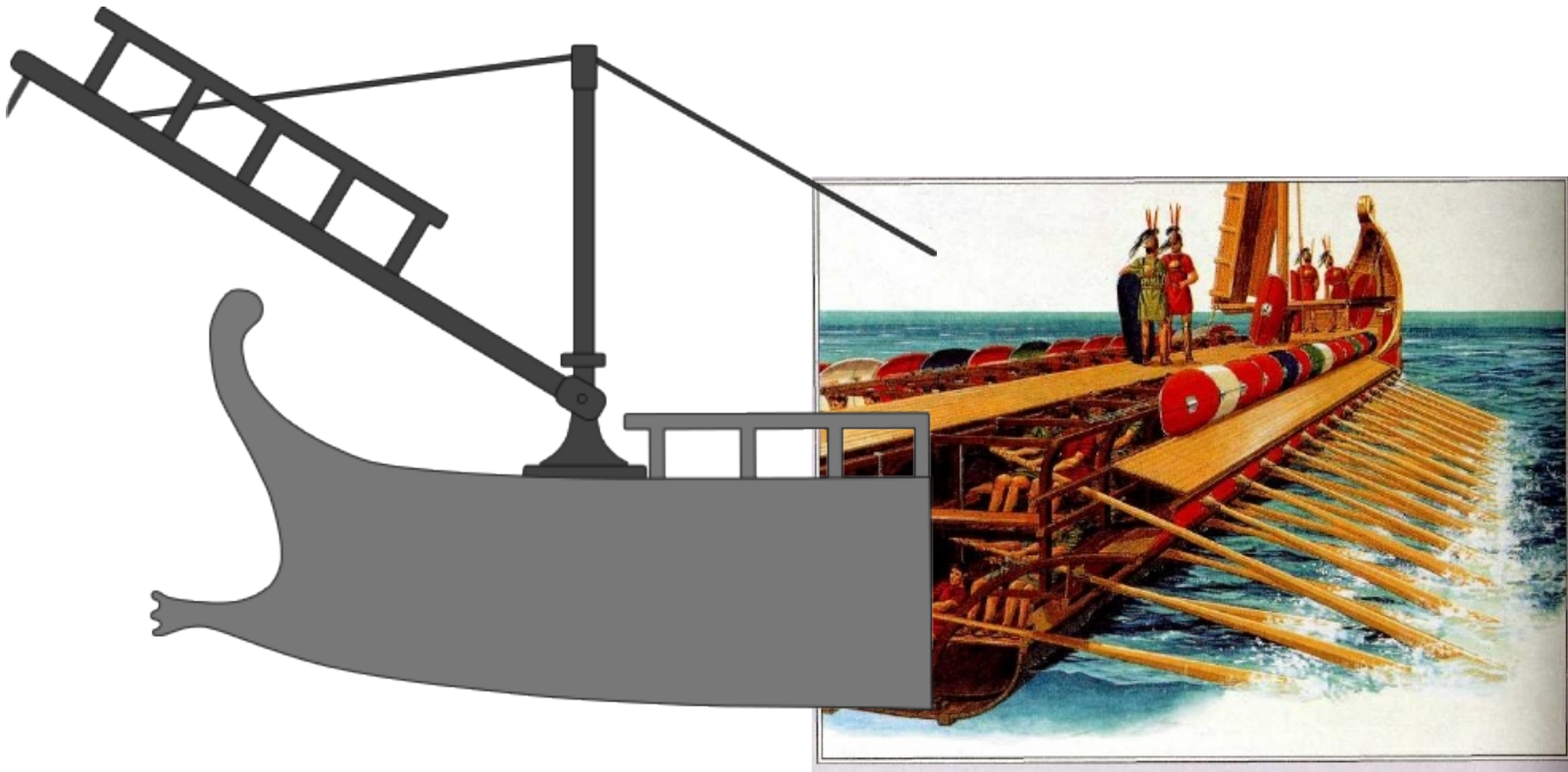
AVGVRIVM: The reading of the signs from heaven, as manifested in omens and portents from the air, and the flight of birds. The *lituus*, or crooked staff, served as the emblem of this office (recall the Tomb of the Augurs at Tarquinia). Augury lasted for the length of the day on which it was performed. A special member of the College of Augurs, of Etruscan descent, would act as **haruspex**, to examine and interpret the entrails of sacrificial animals (recall the Etruscan Bronze Liver from Piacenza).

AVSPICIVM: The examination of entrails by the haruspex.

Omens: signs taken during the auspices, interpreted according to pre-set formulae. Their application was immediate.

Portents: decisive natural events such as lightning strikes, strange births, comets, etc. Their duration extended somewhat into the future.
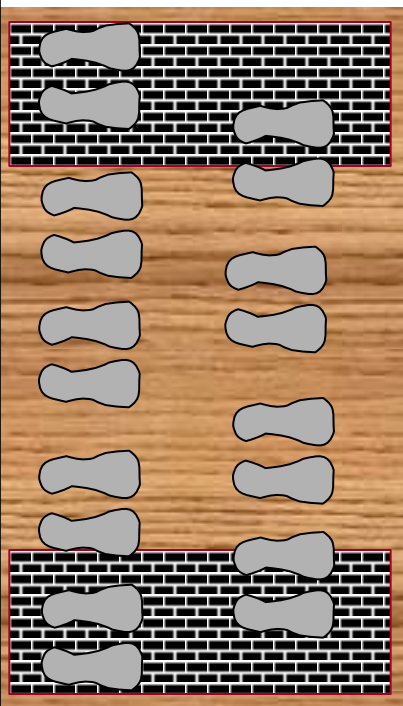
Prodigies: major disturbances of the natural order, such as stones raining down from the sky, blood issuing from fountains, etc. The perceived effects of these might last for many years, unless expiated by the *decemviri* (10 priests), who might consult the Sybilline Books for advice.
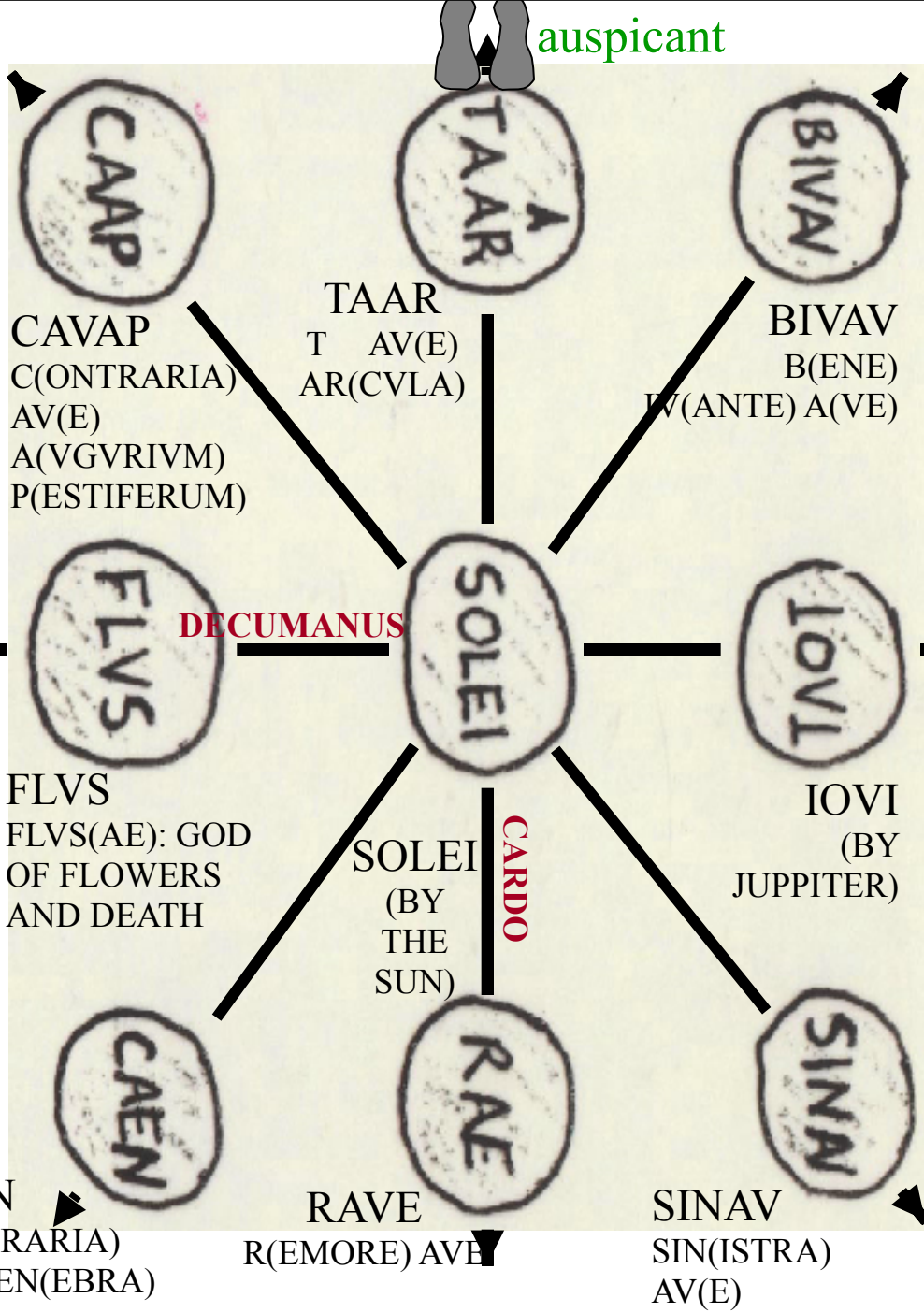
N

BIVAI

IOVI

SINAI

SOLEI

RAI
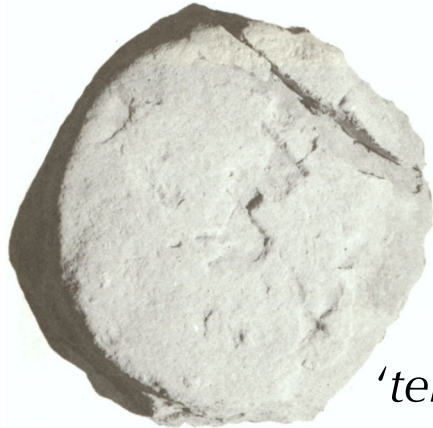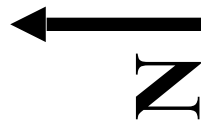
'*templum augurale (in terris)*' from Bantia, near Venosa (Venusium), ca. 100-90 BC

DAAI

FLVS

CAEN

Unfavorable Deities (Dii Inferii): Saturn, Orcus, Moirae (the Fates)

auspicant

(stage) left, EAST [rising sun]
Favorable Deities (Dii Superi): Juppiter, Juno, Minerva

CAVAP
C(ONTRARIA) AV(E) A(VGVRIVM) P(ESTIFERUM)

TAAR
T   AV(E)
AR(CVLA)

BIVAV
B(ENE) IV(ANTE) A(VE)

Signs in a given zone of the sky would be read as coming *from* the deity of that zone. The CARDO was the 'hinge of fate' between east and west.

DECUMANUS

SOLEI

CARDO

FLVS
FLVS(AE): GOD OF FLOWERS AND DEATH

SOLEI
(BY THE SUN)

IOVI
(BY JUPPITER)

attending priests of the College of Augurs (9) standing on a wooden platform

CAEN
C(ONTRARIA) AV(E) EN(EBRA)

RAVE
R(EMORE) AVE

SINAV
SIN(ISTRA) AV(E)

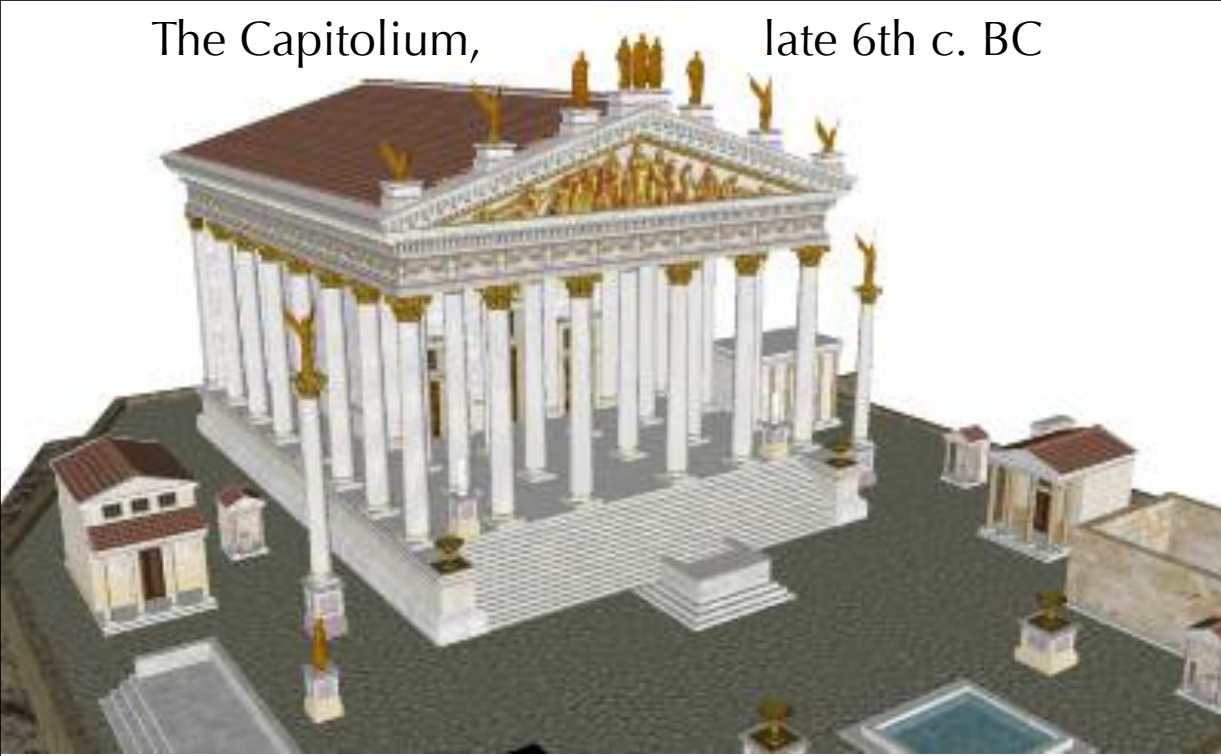Templum Augurale at Bantia (near Venosa), ca. 100-90 BC

N

Capitolium
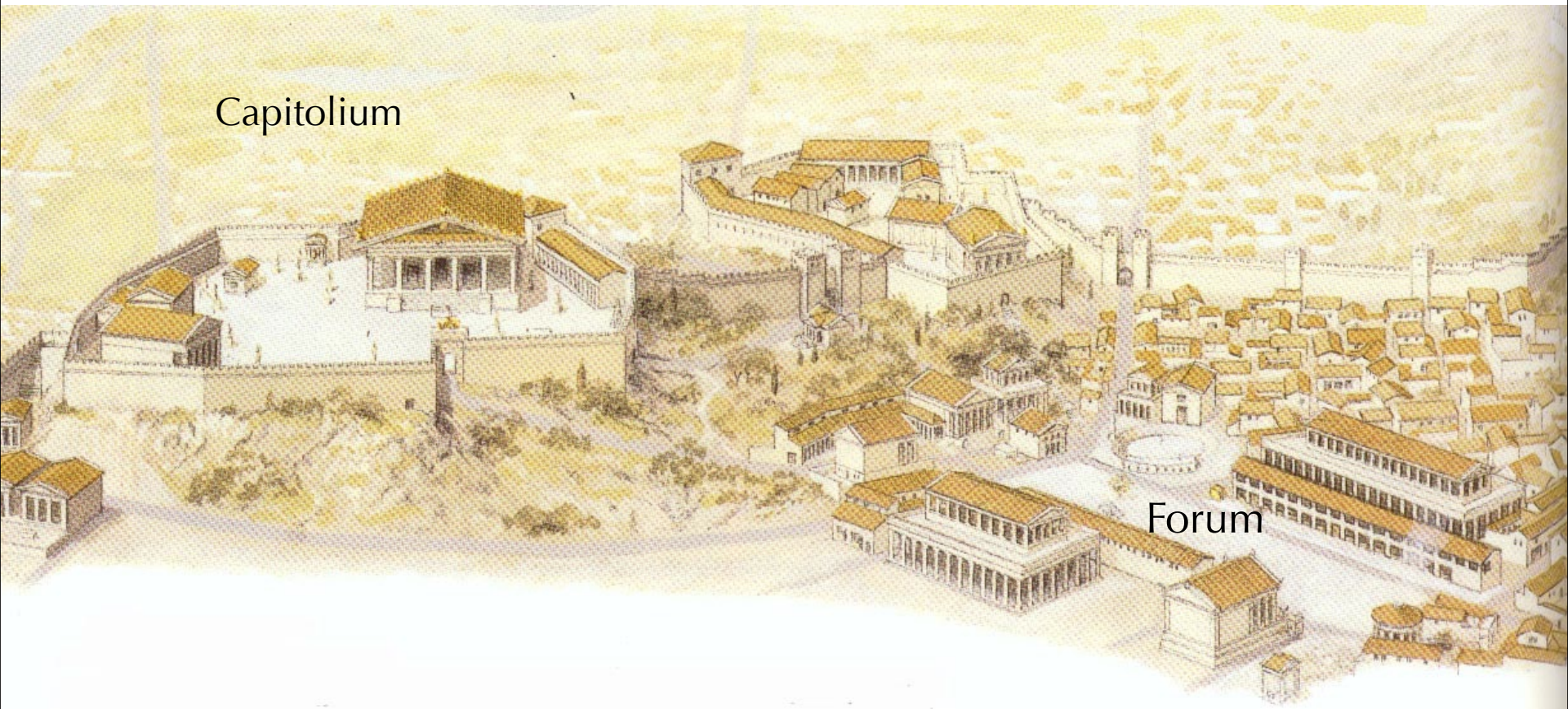
Forum

The Capitolium, late 6th c. BC

Antefix from the Capitolium, late 6th c. BC

Temple of Apollo at Veii, late 6th c. BC

Leto: akroterion from the Temple of Apollo at Veii, late 6th c. BC

Republican-era temples in Rome:

Hercules, in the Forum Boarium

The round Hercules temple is of the Corinthian order: it was built by a Greek architect using Athenian Pentelic marble, and perhaps funded by a Roman olive-oil merchant named Marcus Octavius Hersennus. It is the earliest extant marble temple in Rome.
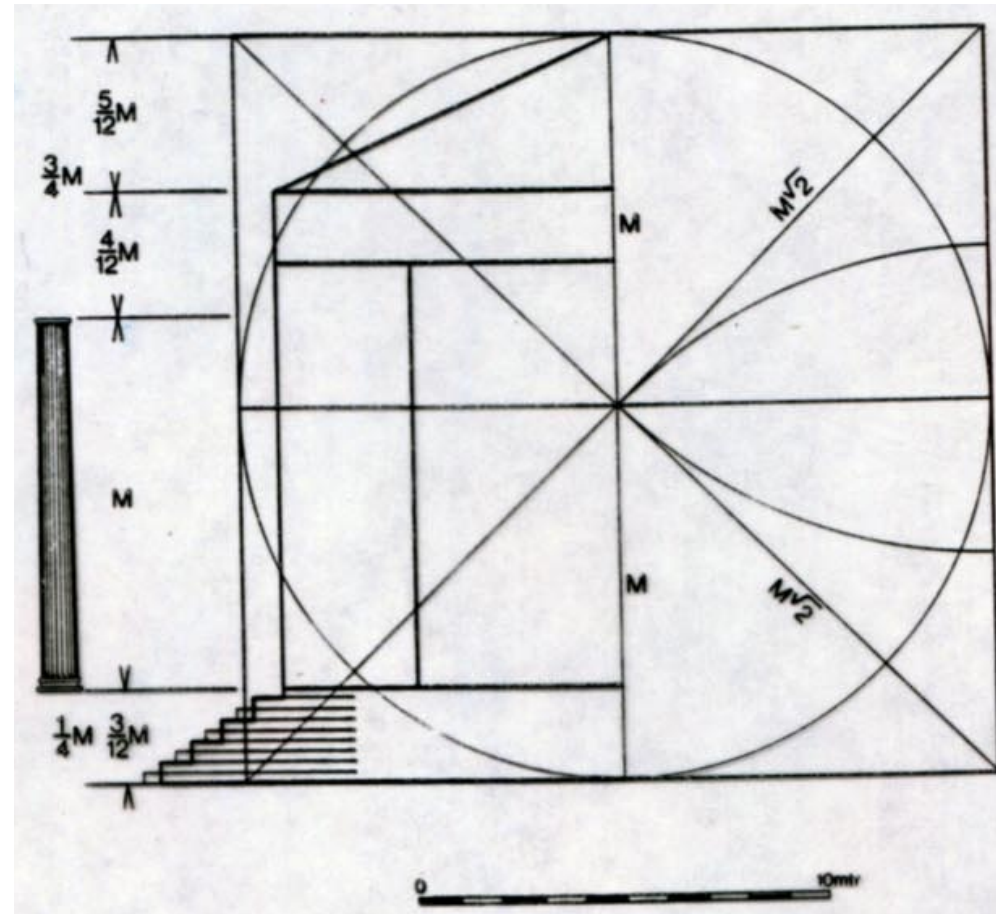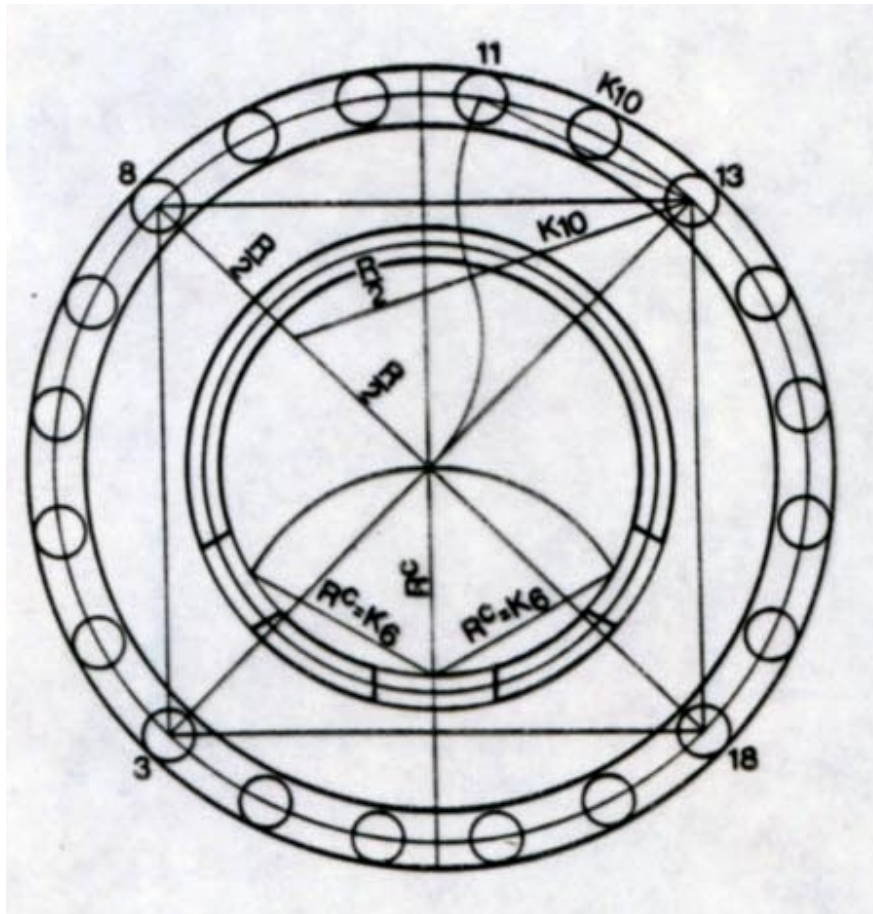
The design uses *both* Greek and Roman feet as measurements (Greek for the ground plan and Roman for the elevation). Measurements for the plan are based on the radius of its circle ('R'). Measurements for the elevation are based on the module 'M' = the height of the columns.

Stress occurred when the Romans met the *limits* of their tolerance, e.g. with Jews and Christians. Interior passageway of the Arch of Titus in Rome (ca. AD 81, S. side), showing the spoils of the Temple of Jerusalem (incl. the menorah) carried in procession.

8. Socio-economic **mobility**

	No.	Mean (sq. m.)	Range
(work)shops	104	38	9-96
(work)shop-houses	40	178	83-393
case piccole	24	199	90-277
case medie	36	411	249-653
case grandi	13	1320	706-2626

Bar chart categories: 1a, 1b, 1c (work)shops; 2 (work)shop-houses; 3a *case piccole*; 3b *case medie*; 3c *case grandi*

2,400 sq. ft.

10,000 sq. ft.

28,000 sq. ft.

Histogram: number vs. total area (nodes + connectors + static spaces) in square meters (each bar=15 sq. m.)
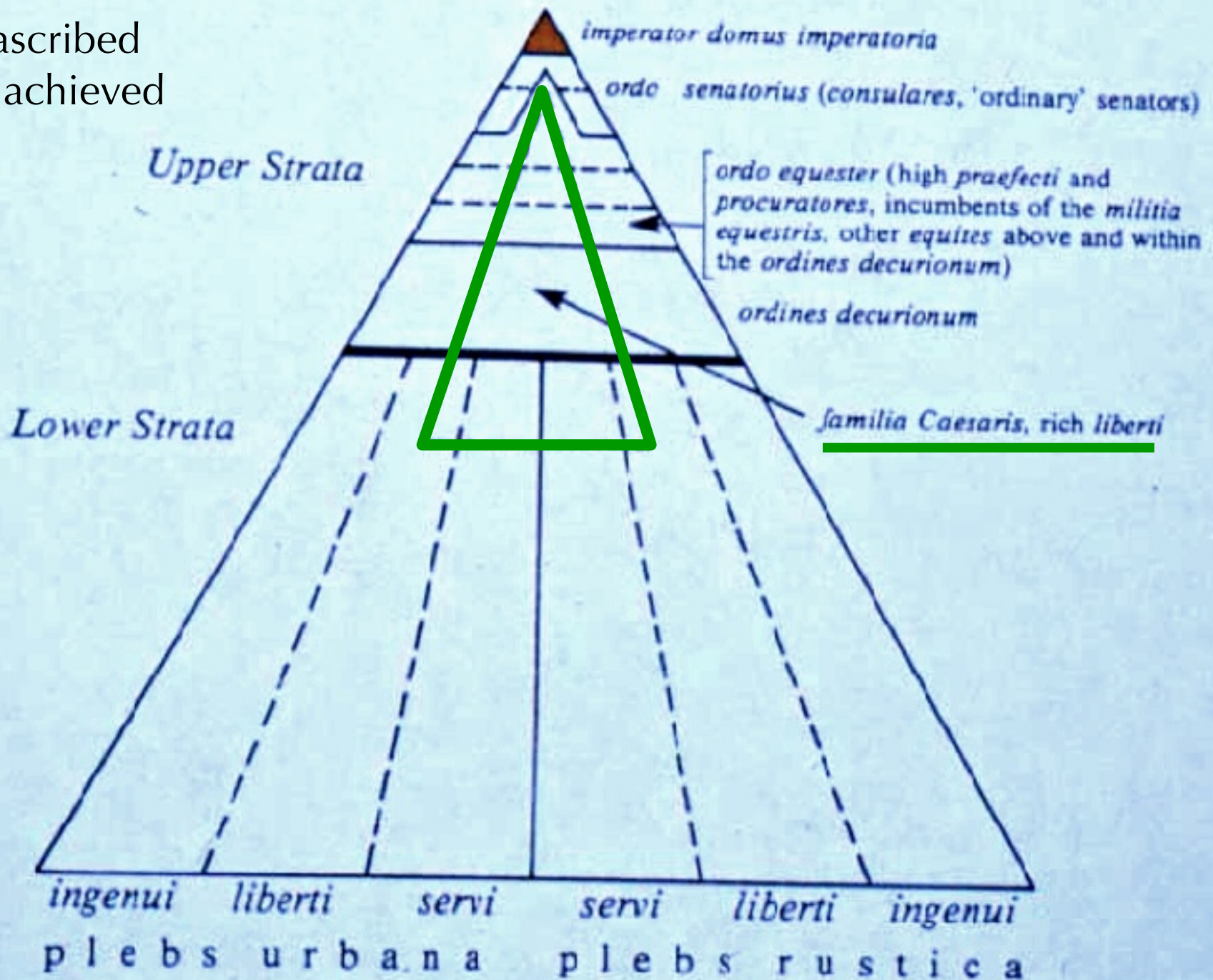
(n=217)

all buildings: total area

The single most important measure of wealth for social purposes was **land**. A minority had the majority of property.

A sample of houses from Pompeii: a few large houses, some mid-sized houses, and many small shop-houses.

Rank: ascribed
Status: achieved

imperator domus imperatoria

ordo senatorius (consulares, 'ordinary' senators)

Upper Strata

ordo equester (high *praefecti* and *procuratores*, incumbents of the *militia equestris*, other *equites* above and within the *ordines decurionum*)

ordines decurionum

Lower Strata

familia Caesaris, rich *liberti*

ingenui   liberti   servi   servi   liberti   ingenui

p l e b s   u r b a n a   p l e b s   r u s t i c a

2nd-style mosaic set into the table top of the outdoor dining-room of taberna I.5.2, a tanner's workshop at Pompeii:

The mortality that connects rich and poor;

mors omnia aequat…

K.M. Dunbabin, "Sic Erimus Cuncti: the skeleton in Graeco-Roman Art," *JdI* 101 (1986), 185-255.

Pompeii: The Earthquake of AD 62, depicted on a *lararium* in the House of L. Caecilius Iucundus (V.1.26) showing buildings shaken up at the north end of the Forum.
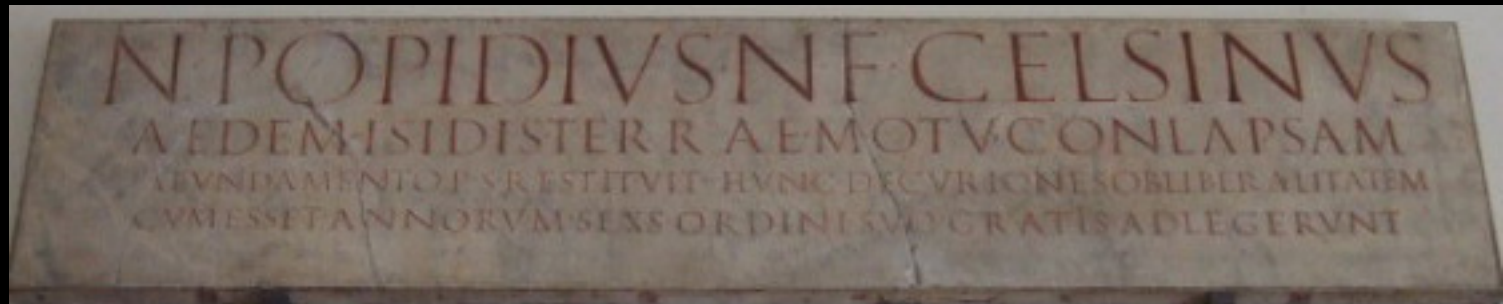
Numerius Popidius Celsinus, son of Numerius, rebuilt at his own expense from its foundations the Temple of Isis, which had collapsed in an earthquake; because of his generosity, although he was only six years old, the town councillors nominated him into their number free of charge.

(*CIL* X 846 = *ILS* 6367)

Pompeii: post-AD 62 repairs to the Temple of Isis, as 'paid for' by a 6-yr old freedman's son, and commemorated in a inscription over the entrance to the sanctuary. Why?

Constitutio Antoniniana, AD 212, first discovered on the Giessen papyrus no. 40, col. I, bought in Hermopolis, Egypt in 1902

(b) = Meyer, *Jur. Pap.*, n. 1.

(b)

[Αὐτοκράτωρ Καῖσαρ Μᾶ]ρχος
Αὐρήλι[ος Σεουῆρος] ᾽Αντωνῖ-
νο[ς] Σ[εβαστὸ]ς λέγει· | [Νυνὶ
δὲ ....χρ]ὴ μᾶλλον ἀν[αβα-
λόμενον τὰ]ς αἰτίας χ[α]ὶ το[ὺς]
λ[ιβ]έλλου[ς] | [ζητεῖν, ὅπως ἂν
τοῖς θ]εοῖς τ[οῖ]ς ἀθ[αν]άτοις εὐ-
χαριστήσαμι, ὅτι τῇ τοιαύτῃ |
[νίχῃ (?) ....σῶο]ν ἐμὲ
συν[ετή]ρησαν. Τοιγαροῦν νομίζω
[ο]ὕτω με||[γαλοπρεπῶς (?) χαὶ
εὐσεβ(?)]ῶς δύ[νασθαι τῇ μεγα-
λει[ό]τητι αὐτῶν τὸ ἰχανὸν ποι-|
[εῖν, εἰ τοὺς ξένους, ὁσ]άχις ἐὰν
ὑ[π]εισέλθ[ωσ]ιν εἰς τοὺς ἐμοὺς
ἀν[θρ]ώπους, | [εἰς τὰς θρησχείας
(?) τῶ]ν θεῶν συνεπενέγ[χοι]μι.
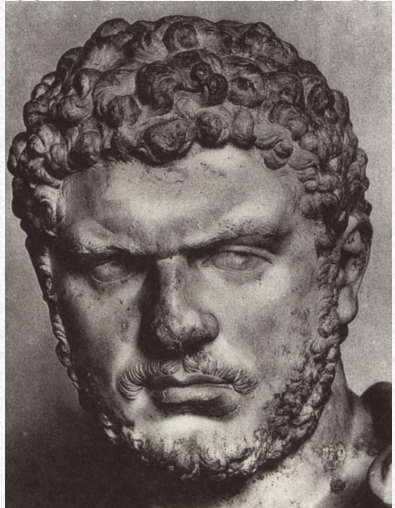
(c) = Wilhelm, *AJA*, 38.

(c)

[Αὐτοκράτωρ Καῖσαρ Μά]ρχος
Αὐρήλι[ος Σεουῆρος] ᾽Αντωνῖ-
νο[ς] Σ[εβαστὸ]ς λέγει· | [Πάν-
τως εἰς τὸ θεῖον χρ]ὴ μᾶλλον
ἀν[αφέρειν χαὶ τὰ]ς αἰτίας χ[α]ὶ
το[ὺς] λ[ογι]σμού[ς]. | [Διχαίως
δ' ἂν χἀγὼ τοῖς θ]εοῖς τ[οῖς]
ἀθ[αν]άτοις εὐχαριστήσαμι, ὅτι
τῇ[ς] τοιαύτη[ς] | [ἐπιβουλῆς
γενομένης σῶο]ν ἐμὲ συν[ετήρ]η-
σαν. Τοιγαροῦν νομίζω [ο]ὕτω
με||[γαλομερῶς χαὶ θεοπρεπ]ῶς
δύ[να]σθαι τῇ μεγαλει[ό]τητι
αὐτῶν τὸ ἰχανὸν ποι[εῖν, εἰ τοσά-
χις μυρίους ὁσ]άχις ἐὰν ὑ[π]εισ-
έλθ[ωσ]ιν εἰς τοὺς ἐμοὺς ἀν-
[θρ]ώπους | [ὡς ῾Ρωμαίους εἰς τὰ
ἱερὰ τῶ]ν θεῶν συνει[σ]ενέγ[χοι]-
μι. Δίδωμι τοί[ν]υν ἅπα[σιν τοῖς
κατοιχοῦσιν τ]ὴν οἰχουμένην π[ο-
λιτ]είαν ῾Ρωμαίων [μ]ένοντος
[οὐδενὸς ἐχτὸς τῶν πολιτευμι]ά-
των χωρ[ὶς] τῶν [δε]δειτιχίων.
῾Ο[φ]είλει [γ]ὰρ τὸ || [πλῆθος
οὐ μόνον τἆλλα συννπομέ]νειν
πάντα, ἀ[λλ]ὰ ἤδη χ[α]ὶ τῇ νί-
χῃ ἐνπεριει||λῆφθαι. Τοῦτο δὲ τὸ
ἐμὸν διάτ]αγμα ἐ[ξαπ]λώσει
[τὴν] μεγαλειότητα [το]ῦ ῾Ρω-
μα[ί]||[ων δήμου. Συμβαίνει γὰρ
τὴν αὐτὴ]ν περὶ τοὺς [ἄλλο]υς
γεγενῆσθαι ἧπερ δ[ι]α||[πρέπουσιν
ἀνέχαθεν ῾Ρωμαῖοι τιμῇ χα]τα-
λειφ[θέντων .....]ων τῶ[ν ἑ]-
χάστης κτλ.

Imperator Caesar Marcus Aurelius Seuerus Antoninus Augustus dicit : Nunc uero . . . . potius oportet querellis et libellis sublatis quaerere quomodo diis immortalibus gratias agam, quod ista uictoria . . . . me seruauerunt. Itaque existimo sic magnifice et religiose maiestati eorum satisfacere me posse, si peregrinos, quotiens cumque in meorum hominum numerum ingressi sint, in religiones (?) deorum inducam. Do igitur omnibus peregrinis, qui in orbe terrarum sunt, ciuitatem Romanorum, manente omni genere ciuitatum, exceptis dediticiis. Oportet enim multitudinem non solum omnia . . . . sed etiam uictoria circumcingi. Praeterea hoc edictum augebit (?) maiestatem populi Romanorum cum facta sit eadem aliorum (?) (peregrinorum ?) dignitas.

The Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Severus Antoninus Augustus [Caracalla] declares:…I may show my gratitude to the immortal gods for preserving me in such… Therefore I consider that in this way, I can… render proper service to their majesty … by bringing with me to the worship[?] of the gods all who enter into the number of my people. **Accordingly, I grant Roman citizenship to all [foreigners] throughout the world**, with no one remaining outside the citizen bodies except the *dediticii* [those who surrendered to the Romans]. For it is proper that the multitude should not only help carry[?] all the burdens but should also now be included in my victory. This edict shall… the majesty of the Roman people…