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THE *SABINENSIS AGER* REVISITED: A FIELD SURVEY IN THE SABINA TIBERINA

INTRODUCTION

The work described in this paper is the result of the synthesis and analysis of existing survey data as part of the broader Tiber Valley Project, directed by Helen Patterson of the British School at Rome (Patterson and Millett, 1998; Patterson *et al.*, 2000) (Fig. 1). Launched in 1997, this umbrella project is a major five-year initiative with the objective of studying the changing settlement and society of the valley from 1000 BC to AD 1300. Central to the study is an examination of the similarities and differences between the two banks of the Tiber — southern Etruria to the west and the Sabina Tiberina to the east. The collation and analysis of published data quickly demonstrated the unevenness of our archaeological understanding of the two banks. In particular, South Etruria has been the focus of intensive fieldwork over the last 50 years and consequently the historical development of the west bank is far more clearly understood than contemporary trends in the Sabina.

A number of specific questions was raised, the answers to which were best addressed through targeted field survey. This aimed to assess hypotheses relating to the evolution of settlement patterns in the area between the river Corese and the Tiber, in the vicinity of the site of Cures Sabini, the principal settlement focus of the Sabina Tiberina from the Iron Age into the medieval period.

Fieldwork was undertaken for three weeks in October 2000 by a team comprising the authors of this report, with the assistance of Stephen Kay for part of that time. Helga Di Giuseppe was responsible for the work on the Roman ceramics, Marta Sansoni for pre-Roman finds and Robert Witcher for the Geographical Positioning System (GPS), databases and the Geographical Information System (GIS). As part of the broader Tiber Valley Project, the British School at Rome supported the project and the British Academy provided financial assistance.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The collation of published and unpublished data indicated a comparatively sparsely settled landscape around Cures Sabini, when compared to contemporary nucleated centres in Etruria. The principal evidence for this area is Muzzioli's important contribution, based on fieldwork carried out in the 1970s and published as part of the *Forma Italiae* series (Muzzioli, 1980) (Fig. 2).

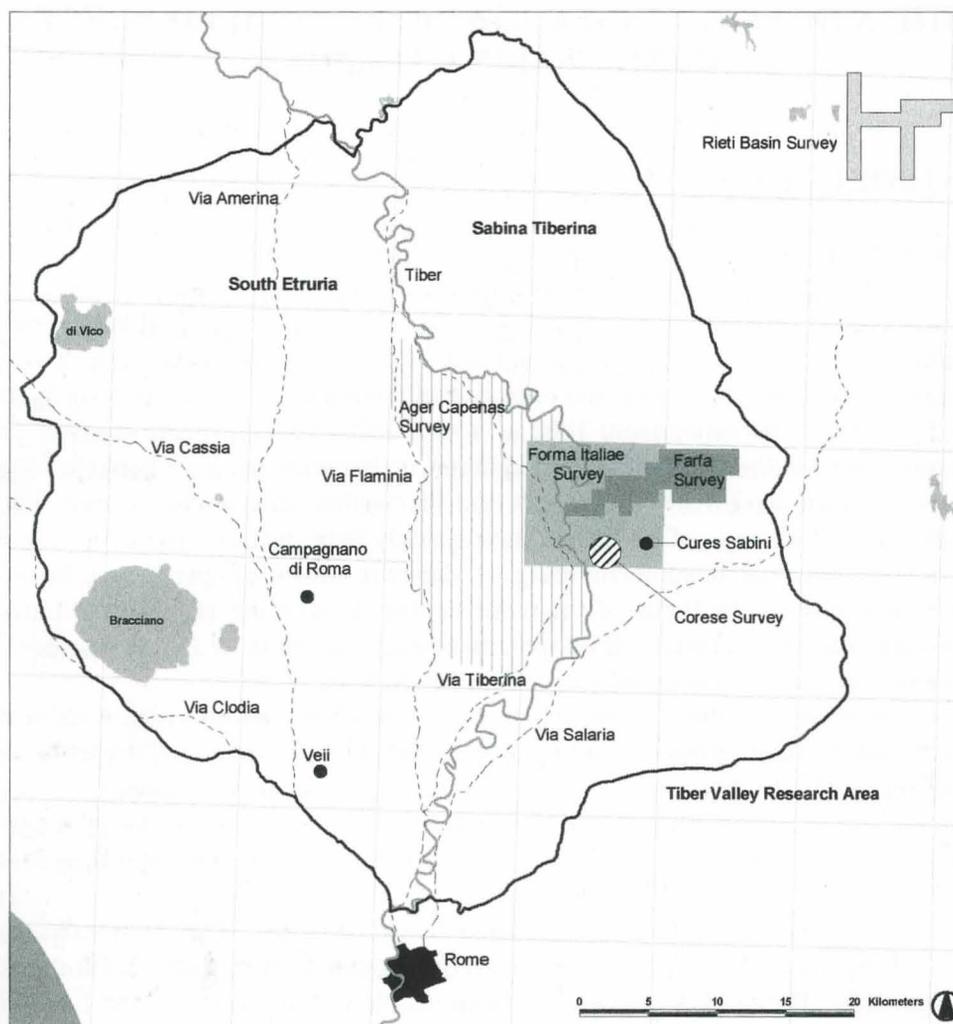


FIG. 1. Location of the Corese Survey, Tiber Valley Project research area and other places mentioned in the text.

Comparison with the results of the South Etruria Survey on the west bank of the Tiber, and in particular the area around the major nucleated centre of Veii, indicates a major contrast in settlement types and numbers (Kahane, Murray Threipland and Ward-Perkins, 1968) (Table 1). In the Sabina, although the area close to the Tiber was settled at a very early date, nucleated settlements like Cures Sabini developed later, during the late Iron Age. These centres were also limited in size — up to 25–30 ha —, contrasting with contemporary sites in southern Etruria, some of which were over 150 ha. None the less, Veii and Cures Sabini occupied similar positions in the settlement hierarchies of their respective hinterlands.

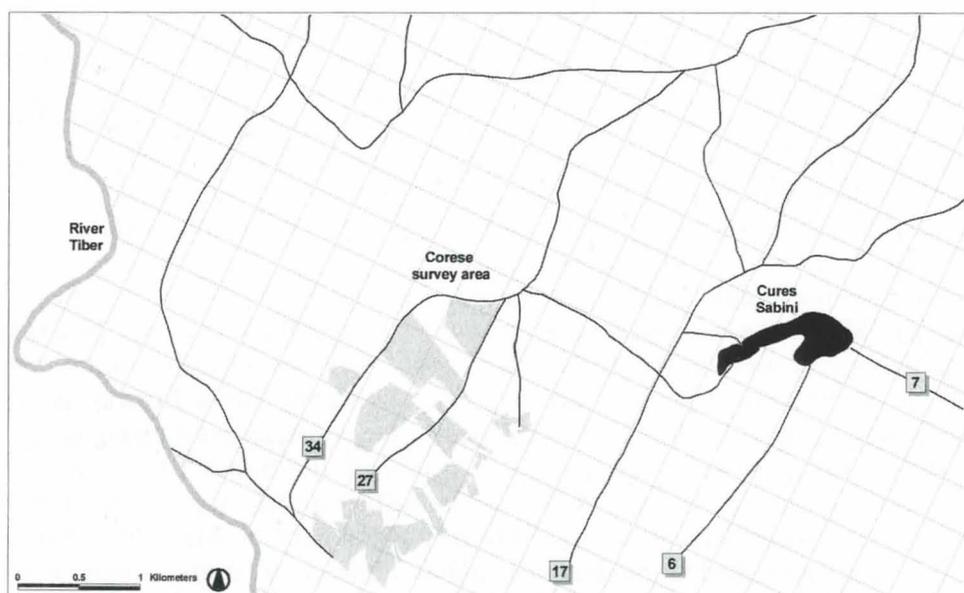


FIG. 2. Find-spots, roads and the land-division system in the southern part of Muzzioli's *Forma Italiae* survey. (After Muzzioli, 1980; 1985: 49, fig. 39.)

There is also a marked contrast in the density of associated rural settlement. More recent field survey in nearby areas of the Sabina — for example, the Farfa Survey (Leggio and Moreland, 1986; Moreland, 1987; Moreland *et al.*, in preparation) and the Rieti Survey (Coccia and Mattingly, 1992; 1995) — has indicated both higher densities and a wider range of sites than has been recognized around Cures Sabini. Together, these observations suggest that the comparative lack of sites in the area around Cures Sabini may relate, at least partially, to fieldwork bias.

The re-survey of previously studied areas is becoming a more common occurrence, not least as a result of initiatives, such as the Tiber Valley Project,

TABLE 1. Number of scatters by period for the Formello and Montopoli di Sabina IGM mapsheets, representing samples of the Ager Veientanus and Ager Curensis respectively (based on Tiber Valley Project re-evaluation of South Etruria Survey data and Muzzioli, 1980).

	<i>Total number of scatters</i>	<i>Number of archaic scatters</i>	<i>Number of mid-Republican scatters</i>	<i>Number of late Republican scatters</i>
Formello 143 II SE Ager Veientanus	448	235	170	274
Montopoli in Sabina 144 IV SE Ager Curensis	216	45	19	167

that aim to make comparisons between different regions in order to identify similarities and differences in their historical development. Often such re-survey work is driven by very specific research questions and is comparatively small-scale in comparison to earlier surveys. For example, a specific type of settlement might be considered, or previously collected material reassessed in the light of better ceramic typologies. One of the most common motivations is to apply more intensive techniques in order to identify sites and off-site material that may not have been recognized by earlier work.

Within the middle Tiber Valley there are several areas of repeat survey (see Fig. 1). Muzzioli's *Forma Italiae* survey also re-walked part of the Ager Capenas survey area on the west of the Tiber, where she identified many new sites to complement those recorded by Jones during the South Etruria Survey (Jones, 1963). In contrast, a few kilometres to the south, around Campagnano di Roma, the re-survey of another small area of the South Etruria Survey registered massive subsequent erosion of the surface archaeology (King, 1993). The Farfa Survey, which subsequently re-walked part of Muzzioli's *Forma Italiae* area, identified a moderately higher number of sites, though more significant is the character of these sites — whilst those recognized by Muzzioli comprised a significant percentage of standing structures, the sites recorded by Moreland and his team were overwhelmingly artefact scatters (Table 2). It was hoped, therefore, that limited re-survey of the Cures Sabini area would allow assessment of the possibility that fieldwork bias had led to the underestimation of site numbers.

The restudy of older surveys also builds upon the continual improvement in ceramic typologies. A limitation of Muzzioli's work is that the dating of the settlements was based predominantly on fine-wares — the only ceramics that then could be dated precisely. Through the reassessment of existing assemblages or the collection of new material, it may be possible to extend the chronology of known sites (see, for example, Small, 1991). This is particularly the case for pre-Roman and early medieval ceramics. In the context of the current survey, the material collected by Muzzioli was no longer available for restudy and the surveyed area was therefore chosen to ensure that known sites could be revisited and checked for additional dating material.

TABLE 2. Comparison of the *Forma Italiae* and Farfa Survey results (based on Muzzioli, 1980 and preliminary results of the analysis of the Farfa Survey material, currently being restudied as part of the Tiber Valley Project, with thanks to John Moreland).

	Area (km ²)	Villas	Villas as % of sites	Structural elements
<i>Forma Italiae</i>	96	114	43%	c. 131
Farfa Survey	35 (actually walked c. 11.4 km ²)	21	39%	4

As well as methodological issues, the survey also aimed to address questions of historical interpretation. In particular, we wanted to explore the relationship between settlement and the documented land-division scheme of the Republican period that followed the Roman occupation of the Sabina in 290 BC. In connection with this scheme, Muzzioli has sought to demonstrate a gridded land-division system on the ground (see section on Roman conquest and Fig. 2). The objectives of the project can therefore be summarized as follows:

1. To assess the validity of the known range and density of settlement for the area around Cures Sabini.
2. To assess the chronology of known settlement and attempt refinement.
3. To investigate the relationship between settlement and land division, in particular the documented mid-Republican scheme.

HDG-MS-JW-RW

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

The survey area lies immediately northeast of Passo Corese. It comprises three well-defined ridges and a more minor one extending southwest towards the flood-plain of the Tiber from a cross-ridge to the north. The ridges, which are separated by fairly deep valleys, cut by rivers and streams emptying into the Tiber, appear to have formed the basis of communication since the pre-Roman period, and subsequently to have had a key relationship to Muzzioli's proposed grid. From these ridges, there are fine views of the Tiber valley and the Monti Sabini.

Most of the area is covered with silty loams covering layers of tufa, sands, gravelly soils and conglomerates. The conglomerates are often located towards the valley bottoms, and erosion of these relatively harder deposits has resulted in a U-shaped profile to the valley bottoms in many places.

Current land use is largely agricultural, comprising a mix of arable, olive and vine cultivation. However, increasingly — and this is very marked when present land use is compared with that represented on the 1940 1:25,000 map of the area and vertical Royal Air Force photographs taken in 1943 — land is being taken up for large individual villas, transforming many areas into discontinuous suburbs. As with South Etruria during the 1960s and 1970s, the improvement of transport connections has brought this area into Rome's 'commuter belt'. Such construction work has an obvious impact on the buried archaeology, especially since modern villas are often situated on the same elevated sites as their Roman predecessors.

Modern cultivation methods are also damaging, and the extent of surface erosion was illustrated clearly during the course of the survey, when bright autumnal days were interspersed with periods of heavy rain that gouged gullies

up to 0.2 m deep and wide in the valley sides. If this process has occurred for only some part of the last 2,000 years, then the cumulative effect will have been considerable. Certainly, the extensive spread of material in the silty soil of the valley bottom below site 3.3 (see below) seems to reflect such sustained colluvial deposition rather than the presence of a site, and more limited examples were noted elsewhere.

METHODOLOGY

The survey adopted a flexible approach that evolved during its design and implementation. It had originally been intended to cover an area of *c.* 10 km², in a 5 × 2 km transect running northwest, from the area south of Cures Sabini to the Tiber. It soon became clear, however, that this was too ambitious within the project's limited resources — not least, the density of sites located led to a significant reduction in the area that it was possible to survey. Recently, the increasing intensity of archaeological fieldwork has led to a reduction in the size of research areas, and it was decided that it was preferable to study a smaller area in more detail than to spread resources too thinly and fail to add any new insights. Not least, of course, Muzzioli's *Forma Italiae* already provides the general framework in which to locate the current research but, more importantly, given the higher than expected number of sites, the reduction in area should not have affected the ability to address our main research questions. The area actually surveyed formed a continuous block of land to the southwest of Cures Sabini.

The basic methodology followed the practice of other recent survey work in Italy (for example, the Farfa Survey (Leggio and Moreland, 1986)). The aim was to look generally at settlement history as represented by artefact densities, and within that framework to identify concentrations of material that might represent settlement foci. A team of three to five walkers walked at *c.* 10 m intervals and each collected material from a 2 m corridor, thus providing a 20% sample of the surface. In practice, walker spacing varied depending on visibility and/or accessibility. For example, in order to enhance dating profiles, every row of vines might be walked if visibility was poor — as little as 3–4 m intervals.

Visibility varied considerably depending on the type and extent of vegetation, the preparation of field surfaces, recent weather and light. Two examples illustrate some of these influences. Visibility in newly harrowed fields was extremely low, as artefacts were covered with dust, although rain quickly washed these surfaces and material once again became visible. Low sunlight shining across deep furrows created sharply contrasting areas of light and shade that made consistent surface observation difficult.

Field conditions and methodologies were recorded on a printed survey sheet to ensure a consistent set of data was collected and any variations noted.

The location of fields, the land use and their surface visibility, was plotted on to 1:10,000 *Carta Tecnica Regionale* (CTR) maps (Fig. 3). These provide a detailed topographical basis and are now widely used for field survey (for example, the work of the Regione Lazio at Capena and Monterotondo: AA.VV., 1995; Turchetti, 1995) as they map many subtle topographical features absent from the IGM 1:25,000 series used by the South Etruria and Farfa Surveys.

SITE DEFINITION

Muzzioli's *Forma Italiae* used the site as the basic unit of record. Subsequently, the development of off-site archaeology led Moreland to survey the Farfa area using the field as the basic unit of record. Both approaches have advantages and disadvantages. Site-based survey fails to put concentrations into the context of, often abundant, 'background noise'. On the other hand, 'off-site' survey that fails to define sites through post hoc processing is difficult to interpret (for example, the significance of the results of the Campagnano survey (King, 1993), which presents results by field only, is not always clear); the Rieti Basin Survey

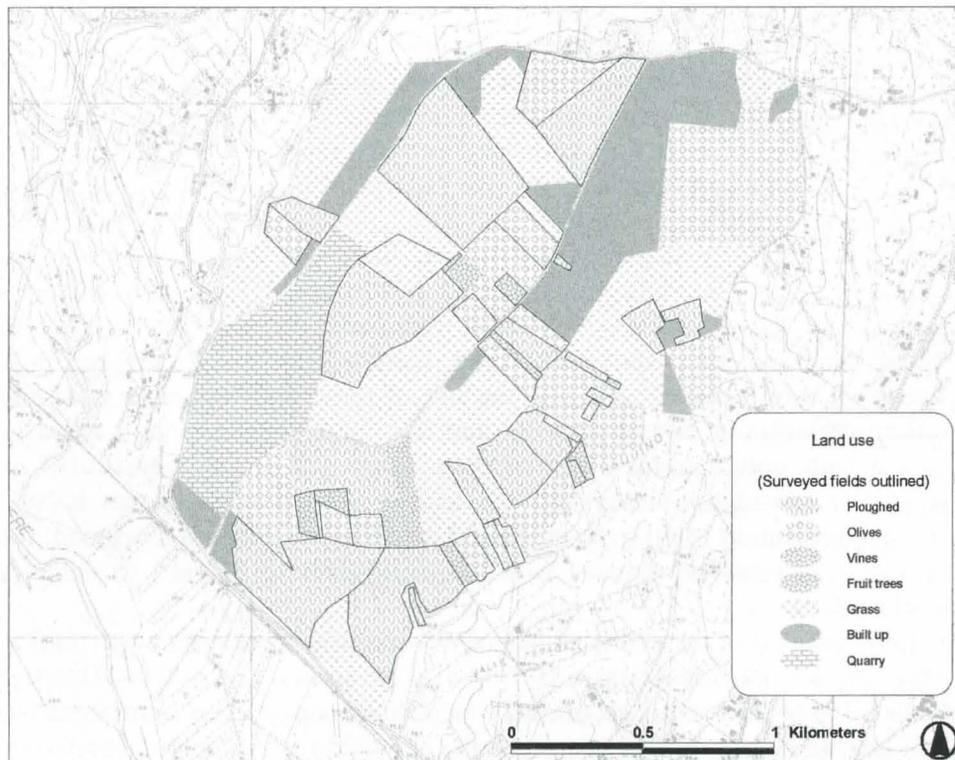


FIG. 3. Land use in the survey area.

used an off-site methodology and subsequently defined sites using a quantitative formula to identify higher than average densities (Coccia and Mattingly, 1995).

There is much literature on the 'site', 'off-site' and 'no-site' debate (for example, Gallant, 1986; Dunnell, 1992), but some form of compromise, which clearly defines sites as distinct places whilst locating them within their broader archaeological context, is required. As a result, the present survey attempted to combine the two strategies outlined above. The basic unit was the field, vineyard or orchard. Within this framework, 'sites' were identified as scatters of comparatively higher density. 'Higher', in this case, was not defined quantitatively (Coccia and Mattingly, 1995; Millett, 1991), not least because such increases in density usually were clearly identifiable on the ground, though, as a control, the final strategy allowed broad assessment of the quantitative relationship between site and background.

As with the Pontine Survey, 'site' was therefore used where a concentration of archaeological material 'forms a distinct component in the settlement pattern' (Attema, 1993: 24). If a concentration was thought to constitute an element that helped to articulate an archaeological landscape, then serious consideration was given to whether that material constituted a site. Once identified as a site for one period, consideration was then given to whether earlier and/or later material could be taken to indicate 'site status' in a previous or subsequent period. For example, a few sherds of fifth- or sixth-century AD material on the site of an early Imperial villa might represent continuing, if more restricted, use of that site. Earlier material from such a site must be considered in the context that later, and perhaps more extensive, occupation may have obscured previous activity (for criteria of specific site types, see the site catalogue, below).

During the early stages of the survey, there was a major shift in the resolution at which the data were collected and recorded. Originally, transects of 40 m (four walkers at 10 m) by 100 m were paced out and then walked. All material collected was 'spot-dated' and recorded by each 4,000 m² unit. However, it soon became clear that the size of these units risked generalizing localized variation in surface material and that far higher resolution could be achieved with only a modest loss of time. Each walker now constituted an individually recorded transect and the length of each transect was halved, increasing resolution to 10 × 50 m, or 500 m². Where a site was suspected, the length of transects was reduced to 25 m, equivalent to 250 m², to enhance spatial control.

Fundamental to the ability to record this increase in resolution was a GPS, in this case a hand-held Garmin II Plus with an accuracy of *c.* 5 m. This was considered to be sufficiently accurate for recording transects that were paced out in advance and aligned using ranging poles for sighting. Although 'wandering' and 'bunching' were minimized, some degree of inaccuracy was inevitable and 5 m accuracy was felt to be appropriate. Originally, the GPS was used to define

the boundaries of the fields and the location of scatters (perimeters where these were clear or centre-points where the extent was poorly defined). GPS points were numbered sequentially and recorded on sketch-maps. The coordinates were processed and plotted against scanned CTR maps (Corese Terra and Passo Corese sheets). Following the decision to increase the resolution of recording, the extent of these new smaller transects was recorded using a mesh of points that was used to recreate the survey grids.

There was also a change in the way that sites were sampled and recorded. Originally, when an increase in surface density was observed (that is, a site was suspected), line walking stopped and walkers fanned out to locate the limits of the site and to collect all diagnostic artefacts, plus a representative sample of other material. After recording, line walking continued on the far side of the site. This proved unsatisfactory for a number of reasons. Firstly, sites often extended into a neighbouring transect and collection therefore compromised the surface material in unwalked areas. Secondly, there was no clear sampling strategy for the site (that is, defined sampling fraction) and therefore no means of quantitatively relating 'site' to 'background'. Finally, the very process of unsystematic collection obscured attempts to define a site's extent. As such, and in parallel with the increase in the resolution of collection and recording, the site was considered as a 'secondary phenomenon' to be addressed after line walking.

The final strategy conceived the landscape, field-by-field, as a continuum. Where an increase in density was noted, canes were used to demarcate the extent of a site, though line collection otherwise continued uninterrupted. Following the completion of line walking, the extent of the site was checked (systematic walking left 80% of the surface undisturbed) and a sample of diagnostic pieces collected. The intention was to collect material previously unrecognized in the 20% sample and in particular to look for examples from periods such as the late antique, underrepresented in the ceramic record. In practice, sites often stood out clearly from background material.

COLLECTION STRATEGY/'SPOT DATING'

A central strategy of the survey's methodology was the decision to 'spot date' finds in the field and to retain only a minimum of material for further study. This decision resulted from a combination of the participation of two ceramic specialists in the field, the specific research objectives of the project, and the limited time and resources available. The need for the participation of ceramic specialists in field survey has long been argued, particularly in relation to the less well-known prehistoric, late antique and early medieval periods and for coarse-wares of all periods.

All archaeological material was collected and bagged and, when a field had been completed, spot-dated. This involved the recording of the quantity

of sherds by ware, using the standard terminology adopted by the British School at Rome's Tiber Valley Project (see catalogue, below). These comprise categories of fine- and coarse-wares such as *vernice nera* (VN), *terra sigillata italica* (SIGIT), plain wares (PLW) and red impasto coarse-ware (RIC). Where recognized, more specific identifications were noted, for example, forms (for example, Morel) and types of production (for example, Hayes ARSA, C, D).

Any pieces that were particularly diagnostic, and those that were difficult to identify without washing and bibliographical research, were retained. These pieces were studied, drawn and then returned to the appropriate fields.

The strategy had certain logistical advantages — it minimized the subsequent finds' processing time, provided 'instant' chronologies, and did not require arrangements for the long-term storage of artefacts, especially bulky materials such as tile. Nor did the strategy significantly reduce the number of fields that could be surveyed — with a small team, other members could take GPS readings and set out grids whilst material was spot-dated. Disadvantages of the approach included the difficulty of identifying unwashed ceramics, with a possible bias against those sherds that are already the hardest to identify (for example, the early medieval). The approach also excludes the possibility of others restudying this material in the light of future improvements in ceramic typologies. (The promising results of the current restudy of the South Etruria Survey material is possible only because undiagnostic coarse-wares were collected and retained.)

A further issue concerns the 'contamination' of the surface record. Usually, the collection of material removes it from the site assemblage, but here the material was dumped *in situ*. Depositing all the artefacts in a pile in the corner of the field leaves an obvious anomaly before ploughing, but its subsequent dispersal may obscure our fieldwork intervention and create new 'concentrations'. A more specific problem is the possible relocation of material from a whole field — which may contain more than one site — in a single place. Future fieldwork that does not retain material may well have to consider this issue in more depth.

DATA PROCESSING

The spot dates were entered into an Excel spreadsheet, recording the number of sherds for each category of pottery for each transect. This was then imported into ArcView 3.2. The GPS coordinates were converted into Shapefiles (point) in ArcView and then imported into Cartalinx 1.2, where the grids were recreated and the code of each transect attached. Finally these were exported back to ArcView, where they were joined to the table of artefacts and visualized against a Digital Elevation Model (DEM) overlaid with CTR 1:10,000 maps.

RESULTS

REVISITING OF KNOWN SITES

The revisiting of sites previously identified by Muzzioli (1980) produced a full range of results. Over half of these sites were not identified for a variety of reasons — several were no longer accessible due to building and quarrying, testimony to the rate of destruction and the importance of recording this material. Other sites were accessible but could no longer be reidentified, including a particularly large villa site. Of those relocated, some produced material that extended the site chronology, whilst others had obviously suffered considerably from subsequent disturbance. The condition of surface finds ranged from eroded scraps to ‘sherds’ of amphorae and *dolia* up to 30 × 15 cm, which had clearly been ploughed up recently. These results demonstrate the difficulty of generalizing about the surface archaeology of even the smallest region. Neighbouring fields can be subject to very different agricultural regimes and, over time, this is likely to make archaeological visibility extremely variable.

The principal results of the survey are summarized in Figure 4. The Corese Survey columns represent only sites newly identified by the current research and the *Forma Italiae* Survey columns represent the sites previously identified by Muzzioli. The total number of sites for each period is the sum of the two figures (for a summary of sites and scatters identified, see Table 3). The trends to note are the overall increase of site numbers and the recognition of more pre- and post-Roman settlement. Also, the large number of mid-Republican sites identified strongly changes the relationship between the

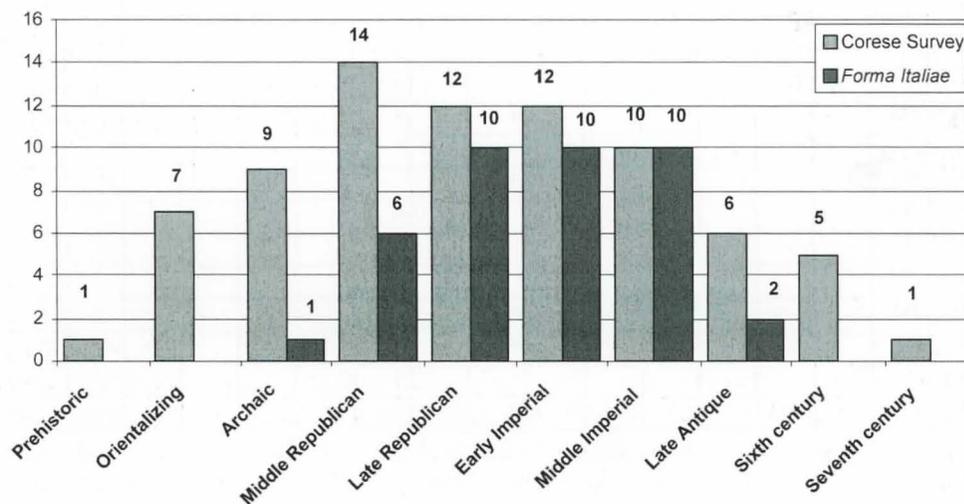


FIG. 4. Comparison of site numbers as recorded in the *Forma Italiae* and Corese Surveys.

TABLE 3. Chronological summary of fields and sites. Key: • = site; •? = possible site; (•) chronology of site based on material from associated field; ○ = scatter/wash.

Field number	Site number	Muzzioli site number	Prehistoric	Orientalizing	Archaic	Republican	Middle Republican	Late Republican	Imperial	Early Imperial	Middle Imperial	Late antique	Sixth century AD	Seventh century AD	Medieval	Modern
1			○	○	○		○	○		○						
1	1.1			•	•		•	○								
1	1.2		○	•	•		•			•						
1	1.3			•	•		•			•						
2				○	○	○										
2	2.1			•?	•?			•								
3			○					○		○	○		○			
3	3.1	37					•				•	•	•			
3	3.2						•	•		•	•	•	•			
3	3.3						•	○		○		○	○			
4							○	○		○						
4	4.1			•?	•?		•			○	○					
5											○					
6								○		○						
7	7	30						•		•	•					○
8			○			○	○	○		○	○					
9							○									
10	10									•	•					
11	11	31								•	•					
12										○	○					
13	13		○					•		•	•					
14						○		○		○	○					
15					○						○					
16					○			○		○						
17			○				○	○		○	○					○
17	17.1		○		•			•		•	•	•				
19			○		○		○	○		○	○					○
19	19.1	73		•	•		•	•								
19	19.2									•	•					
20			○	○	○			○		○						
21			○				○	○		○	○					○
21	21.1						•	•				(•)				
22	22		○	○	○		•	•		•	•					○
23							○			○	○					
24							○	○		○						

TABLE 3. (Continued).

Field number	Site number	Muzzioli site number	Prehistoric	Orientalizing	Archaic	Republican	Middle Republican	Late Republican	Imperial	Early Imperial	Middle Imperial	Late antique	Sixth century AD	Seventh century AD	Medieval	Modern
25							○	○		○						
26			○	○	○		○	○			○	○				○
26	26.1		●?	○	●		●	●				○				○
27											○					
29	29.1		○					●		●	●	●	●		○	
29	29.2						●	●		●	●	●	●	●		
30			○					○		○	○					
31	31			○	○	○				●	●					
32									○							
33	33		○		○		●	●		●						
34	34			○	○		●	●		●	●	●	●			
35										○	○		○			
36		19									○	○				
37	37	19	○				●			●	●	●	●			
38	38		○	●?	●?		●	●			○					
39										○	○	○				
40	40						●				●	●				
41											○	○				

Republican and Imperial settlement patterns. The significance of these results is developed in more detail in the chronological discussion below.

JW–RW

PREHISTORIC AND PROTOHISTORIC PERIODS (Fig. 5)

In the area of the *Forma Italiae* survey revisited for the current study, Muzzioli recognized a single flint of the Mousterian period (Muzzioli, 1980: fig. 7, 2). In contrast, our work has identified more extensive evidence. Fifteen fields were identified containing palaeolithic material, comprising lithic tools and chips. Among the worked pieces, it has been possible to recognize flint scrapers and points datable in some cases to the Mousterian period (field 1). Most of the finds are isolated, but an important concentration of tools and flakes was identified in field 26, in a similar topographical position to other lithic find-spots located by Muzzioli (1980: 26) on the Montopoli map-sheet.

During the early Iron Age, the future urban centre of Cures Sabini first emerged as a nucleated centre of 1–5 ha (Guidi and Santoro, in press). Muzzioli found very sparse contemporary rural settlement in the area covered



FIG. 5. Distribution of prehistoric sites and material. Key: Corese Survey: ● Possible site. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

by the Montopoli di Sabina map-sheet and no evidence at all in the restudied area (Muzzioli, 1980: fig. 9). Similarly, the present survey did not recognize any trace of iron age occupation. This lack of dispersed sites in part may be a problem of visibility — both in terms of survival and recognition —, but also may reflect the marked concentration of settlement at Cures Sabini itself.

HDG

ORIENTALIZING AND ARCHAIC PERIODS (END OF EIGHTH–FIFTH CENTURIES BC) (Figs 6–7)

During the orientalizing period, the centre of Cures Sabini grew to *c.* 30 ha in size (Guidi and Santoro, in press). Despite the fact that it was not comparable in extent with the large nucleated settlements of southern Etruria — Veii, Tarquinia and Cerveteri (*c.* 150–200 ha) —, the centre was clearly of regional importance and played a central role in the history of Rome. For example, Titus Tatius, the king who led the Sabines against Rome, and Numa Pompilius, the successor of Romulus as king of Rome, both originated from Cures.

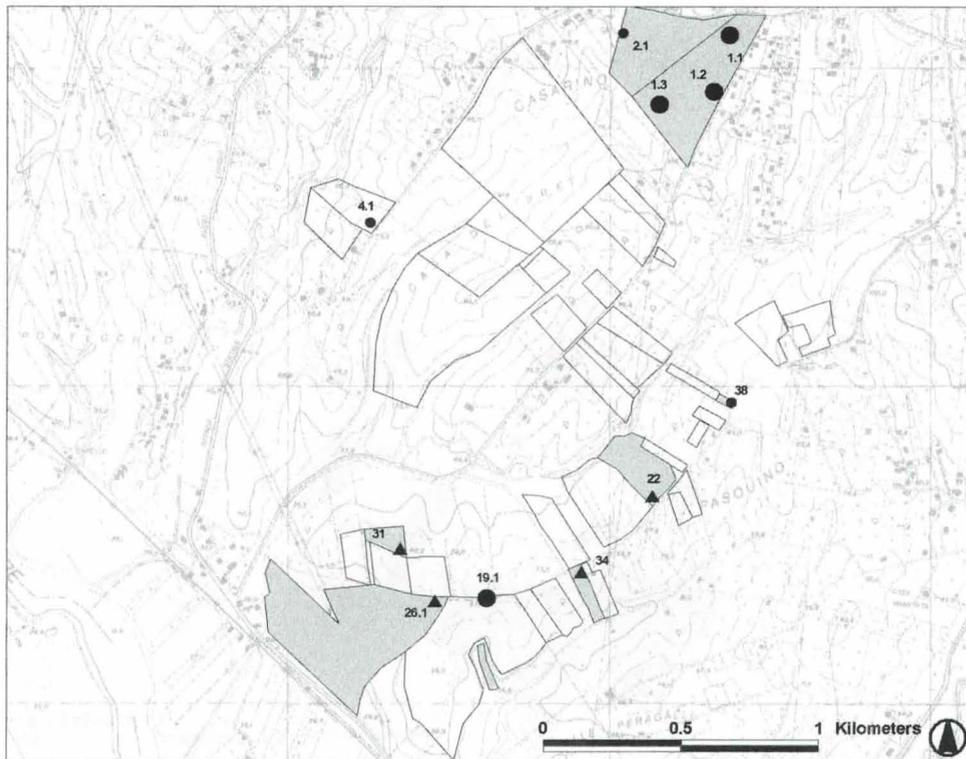


FIG. 6. Distribution of orientalizing sites and material. Key: Corese Survey: ● Site, ● Possible site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

The literary sources also frequently refer to the wealth of the Sabina and especially of Cures Sabini.¹ Although, the centre is no longer mentioned in the sources relating to the subsequent archaic period, the distribution of pottery across all three of its hills suggests that it remained as large as in the orientalizing period (Muzzioli, 1980: 28–37, fig. 36).

Muzzioli's survey of the immediate territory around the centre suggested that it was not extensively populated, perhaps because it was occupied by cemeteries that are studied poorly at present. However, even across the whole Montopoli map-sheet, evidence for settlement is sparse and for the most part located on the plateaux overlooking the Tiber and the river Farfa. Muzzioli's results comprised only 45 sites such as farms, small nucleated and aristocratic settlements.

The sparseness of occupation is even more evident when compared with the Ager Veientanus, on the west bank of the Tiber. Here the South Etruria Survey documented *c.* 153 archaic concentrations in the area covered by the Formello

¹ For a wide collection of literary sources on this argument: Muzzioli, 1980: 30–1, nn. 168–75. For recent excavations carried out at Cures Sabini: Guidi *et al.*, 1996.

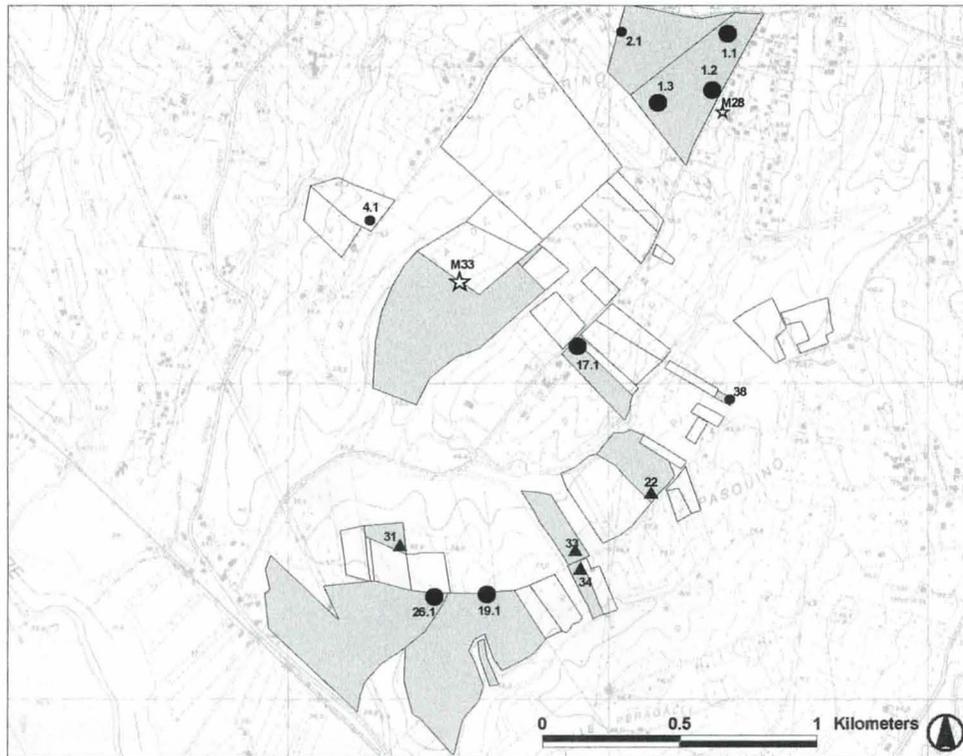


FIG. 7. Distribution of archaic sites and material. Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site, ☆ Scatter; Corese Survey: ● Site, ● Possible site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

map-sheet. The results of the current survey suggest that this contrast is more apparent than real.

The re-survey documented twelve concentrations datable to both the orientaling and archaic periods and a further four to the archaic period only. In nine cases the quantity of material and continuity of occupation into the Roman period suggest they should be interpreted as farms. Some of the remaining concentrations may be sites, but they did not produce sufficient evidence for such an interpretation (for example, limited quantity of material, absence of tile). In the restudied area, Muzzioli recorded only one site of the archaic period (Muzzioli site 33), which was not relocated because of poor visibility.

MS

THE ROMAN CONQUEST (FOURTH–THIRD CENTURIES BC): A MEASURED LANDSCAPE (Fig. 8)

Following the Roman conquest of the Sabina in 290 BC, the Sabine population was immediately granted *civitas sine suffragio*. Shortly afterwards, in 268 BC,

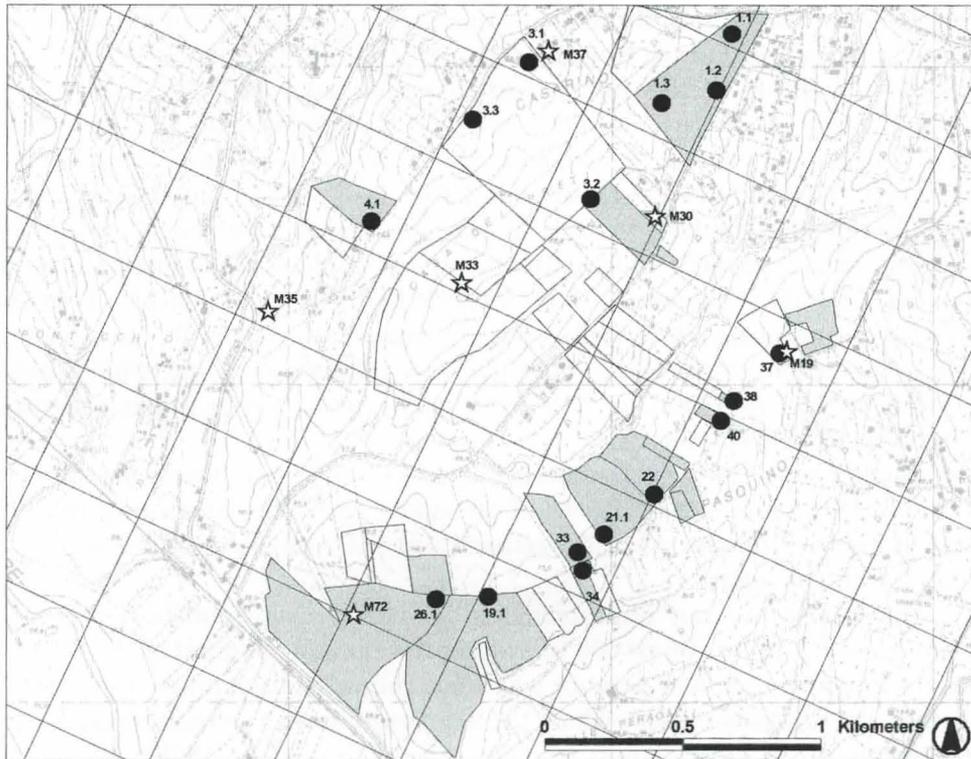


FIG. 8. Distribution of middle Republican sites and material with Muzzioli's grid of land division. (For the whole area of the land division scheme see Muzzioli, 1985: fig. 39.)
 Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site, ☆ Scatter; Corese Survey: ● Site. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

they received the *civitas optimo iure* (Muzzioli, 1980: 38; Torelli, 1987). According to Fabius Pictor, the Romans experienced wealth for the first time, after the conquest, probably referring to the fact that the territory was rich in unexploited land (Gabba, 1988: 19; 1989). The historical sources distinguish two different areas of the Sabina (Musti, 1988: 235–57; though see Dench, 1995: n. 116): a rich area — the Sabina Tiberina — that enjoyed an environment favourable to the cultivation of olives, vines and fruit and with good communications via the Farfa, Corese and Tiber rivers (Muzzioli, 1980: 41; Reggiani, 1985; Alvino and Leggio, 1995) and the poorer and more mountainous interior of the Sabina, with a greater emphasis on pastoralism.

The wealthy character of the rich area attracted the interest of Roman senators. A well-known dispute took place in Rome between Manius Curius Dentatus, who proposed an *ad viritum* colonization of the Sabina, and the senators who wanted the best lands for themselves (Forni, 1953). Subsequently, the *Agrimensores* recorded that the conquered territory was divided between the Sabines and veterans, and the rest remained *ager publicus*. Part of the latter was

declared *ager quaestorius*, a provision that secured possession in perpetuity in return for a sum paid to the Roman treasury (Muzzioli, 1985: 48, nos. 1–2). The principal condition of this system was that the land could not then be sold (Siculus Flaccus, *De condicionibus agrorum*: Campbell, 2000: 102.34, 105.3; *Libri Magonis et Vegoiae*: Lachmann, 1848: 349.17–19; *Liber coloniarum* II: Campbell, 2000: 192.19–20; Muzzioli, 1980: 38–9; 1985; Torelli, 1987: 44). According to the scholars, the sale of *ager quaestorius* represented one of the principal means through which Rome assigned lands in the first phase of its conquest of Italy (Castagnoli, 1953–5; 1993: 812; Gabba, 1984: 21–2). In the Sabina, in particular, this type of assignment clearly seems to have been a political compromise: by selling the land it was in theory available to all, though in reality it was restricted to those who had capital (for example, senators) (Muzzioli, 1975; 1980: 38–9).

The key aspect of *ager quaestorius* as defined by the *Agrimensores* was the division of land into square blocks of 50 *iugera*, with sides measuring 10 × 10 *actus*. Four such blocks placed together form the equivalent of the standard ‘century’ of 200 *iugera*.

These texts are not unproblematic — the earliest contribution to the *Agrimensores* dates to almost 400 years after the Roman conquest of the Sabina, and it is possible that later practice was being projected back onto earlier times. Further, the consistency with which the sources propose an organization based on squares of 50 *iugera* could be taken either to confirm its validity or to question whether the various authors were using the same, perhaps a single, source. None the less, the *Liber coloniarum* reference is particularly interesting for two reasons. Firstly, it locates the area of land division adjacent to the Tiber and, secondly, it states: *postea iussu Iulio Caesaris per centurias et limites est demetit* (‘Later, on the orders of Julius Caesar, it was measured out by *centuriae* and *limites*’) (*Liber coloniarum* II: Campbell, 2000: 192.20–1). This would suggest that in the late Republican period the landscape was divided once again. The relationship between this land division and the previous one is unclear: it could have clarified or reinforced the original system, or replaced it entirely. Muzzioli has identified possible elements of other divisions inside the reconstructed mid-Republican grid, though it is unclear how these might be dated (Muzzioli, 1975: 225–6; 1985: 51).

Returning to the earlier grid, Muzzioli identified elements within the modern road network that she suggested might relate to the mid-Republican land division (Muzzioli, 1975; 1980: 37–9; 1985). In assessing this argument, there are a number of issues to be considered. Firstly, the terrain is more undulating than most other areas where geometric land division has been identified. The most familiar gridded landscapes in Italy belong to the Po valley and coastal plains (cf. Dilke, 1971: 141), though further afield there are examples on comparatively steeply sloping land in Tunisia (for example, Djebel Mansour and Djebel Fkirene: Bradford, 1957: 187–99). The Corese area would

have presented a challenge to the Roman land surveyors, but certainly not an impossible one.

Secondly, Castagnoli (1993: 812), while accepting that there was a variety of systems in the fourth century BC, argued that regular schemes of 10 and 20 *actus* could also be dated to this period. A large part of his argument is based on Cures Sabini and the case of Terracina, which seem to confirm that the 10 *actus* square is the base of a regular division system (Cancellieri, 1985; 1990). If this evidence is put to one side, then early systems of land division are mainly organized with one dominant axis. Further, whilst the roads on this axis are located at regular intervals, no consistent spacing has been recognized between different systems (cf. Castagnoli, 1953–5) and evidence for boundaries at right angles to these axial roads is notably lacking.

Against this background, the evidence from Cures Sabini needs to be examined further. Muzzioli (1975; 1980: 37; 1985) argued for a 'chequer-board' grid particularly to the south and west of Cures Sabini. Parallel boundaries were aligned at right angles, the sides of each cell measuring 10 *actus* (c. 353 m), and each square thus enclosing an area of 50 *iugera*.

Among the principal landscape elements used as the basis for this hypothesis were (Fig. 2):

- a. the roads leading southeast and southwest from Arci (Muzzioli, 1980: nos. 7 and 6);
- b. the road following the Fosso Corese (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 17);
- c. the road to the east of Casa dei Preti (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 27).

Additionally, the road to the west of Casa dei Preti (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 34) roughly follows the grid alignment, but at a slight angle to it.

The re-survey was centred on the area between Muzzioli's roads nos. 17 and 34, although that between nos. 7 and 6 was also examined briefly. The landscape here is dominated by the ridges and valleys leading southwest to the Tiber, and these features arguably must play a key role in any landscape organization. On this axis, the clear relationship of roads nos. 6, 17 and 27 to a grid based on a 10 *actus* module cannot be ignored, even if the roads follow major topographical features; and road no. 7 is clearly at right angles to no. 6. However, when the grid is examined, both on the 1:10,000 map and on the ground, there is no additional evidence for the proposed grid. Indeed, while many present boundaries are aligned within 10° to 15° of the grid, virtually none are closer, and they appear to respect the topography, rather than the postulated grid.

One of the survey's aims was to investigate the lack of settlement within many squares of the land division. On the basis of previously published evidence, it was notable that mid-Republican sites (that is, contemporary with the allocation of the *ager quaestorius*) were found almost always in only one out of four or more adjacent squares (Muzzioli, 1985: fig. 39). Such a situation could

be explained in several ways. Was this due to the nature of the archaeological observation? Or did new settlers acquire more than fifty *iugera*? Alternatively, do these apparently unoccupied squares represent cultivated areas?

Within the revisited area, Muzzioli identified six mid-Republican sites (Muzzioli, 1980: nos. 19, 30, 33, 35, 37 and 72; 1985: 49, fig. 39). Of these, four (nos. 30, 33, 35 and 72) were not reidentified due to problems of access and visibility. Nevertheless, the re-survey has identified fourteen new concentrations of material of the mid-Republican period. In total, therefore, we now know of nine sites that were newly founded and eleven that continued from the previous period. These are located, one per 50 *iugera* square, along the ridges, respecting the present and historic road network (Muzzioli, 1985: fig. 39). The current survey therefore has identified another nine occupied grid squares to add to the figure recorded by Muzzioli. There are also four grid squares occupied by more than one concentration of material (Muzzioli 19 and field 38; 21.1, 33 and 34; Muzzioli 30 and 3.2; 1.2 and 1.3). Rather than separate sites, the location and spacing of these concentrations suggests the presence of distinct buildings located on the same properties, though it is always possible that slight realignment of the grid might relocate some of the sites in adjacent squares.

The continuity of some of these scatters from the archaic period may indicate the influence of previous landownership on the mid-Republican settlement pattern. In fact, there is an impression of regularity in the distribution of orientalized and archaic sites in relation to the roads that defined the subsequent grid. The evidence is, therefore, not at variance with a mid-Republican settlement pattern based on a regular land division, possibly drawing elements from the pre-existing landscape. However, the density of settlement within the grid appears to be much greater than hypothesized previously. The validity of Muzzioli's grid is considered further in the conclusions.

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LATE REPUBLICAN–MID-IMPERIAL PERIODS (SECOND CENTURY BC–FIRST HALF OF THE THIRD CENTURY AD) (Figs 9–11)

Within the restudy area, Muzzioli identified eleven possible sites and two areas of sporadic material of late Republican to mid-Imperial date. Of these, seven were not re-located (Muzzioli nos. 25, 28, 29, 32, 33, 35, 72) as a result of poor visibility and the presence of modern buildings; it also proved impossible to reidentify a large villa site (Muzzioli 72), despite good visibility. The quantity and quality of material found at 22 locations permit their interpretation as stable settlements, whilst 21 indicate other activities. In seven cases the high quality of the material collected and its wide distribution indicates villa status. These sites are mainly situated on wide, high and flat spurs above open landscapes, close to the principal roads. Combined with Muzzioli's evidence

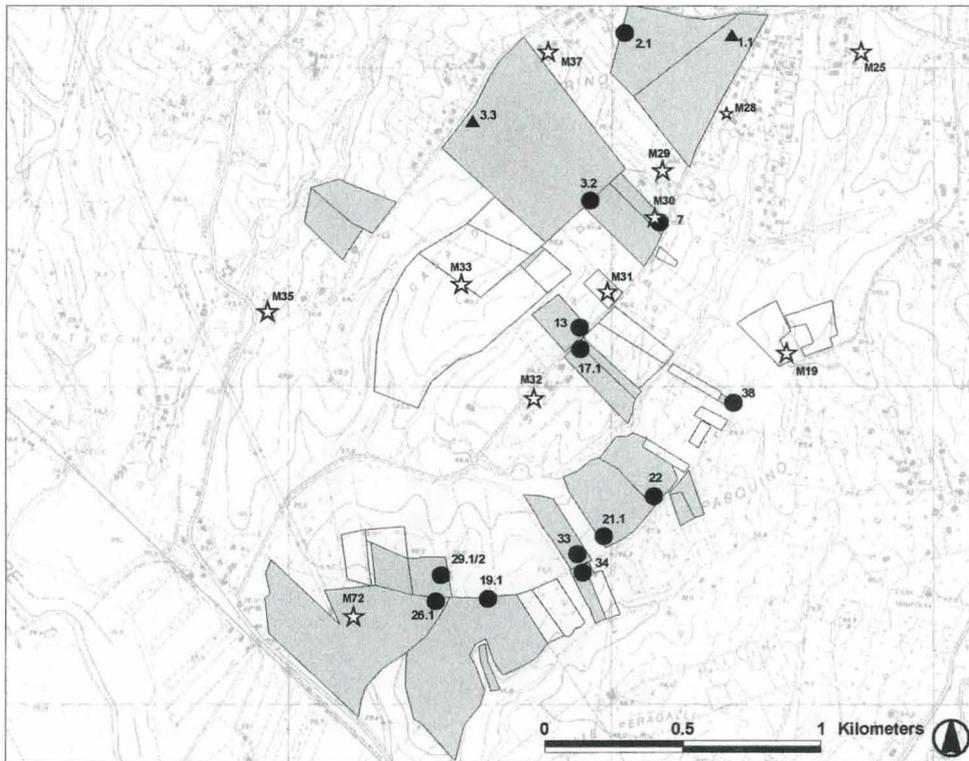


FIG. 9. Distribution of late Republican sites and material. Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site, ☆ Scatter; Corese Survey: ● Site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

(for example, the villas at Casarino = Muzzioli no. 37; Ponte d'Armi = Muzzioli no. 72; Casa dei Preti = Muzzioli nos. 29, 31, 33), it is possible to identify a wealthy and densely inhabited territory. If these sites represent individual landholdings, they might reflect the programmes of Caesar and Augustus to restore small properties (Muzzioli, 1980: 43).

Historical and archaeological evidence demonstrate a mixed economy based on the cultivation of cereals (thirteen sites with millstones were identified by Muzzioli on the Montopoli map-sheet and a further two during the current survey), olives, vines and fruit trees and on the breeding of livestock (Varro, *De re rustica* III. 2.14) (Muzzioli, 1980: 41, nn. 261–4 and 297). There is extensive evidence for water management, with numerous cisterns (29 examples identified by Muzzioli) and cuniculi (eighteen examples), such as that of Casarino (Muzzioli, 1980: 43, no. 37). A network of secondary unpaved roads served these villas, facilitating the movement of agricultural and manufactured products down to the Tiber and Corese rivers and hence to Rome, as well as across the Tiber into Etruria (Reggiani, 1986; Stanco, 1994; 1997).

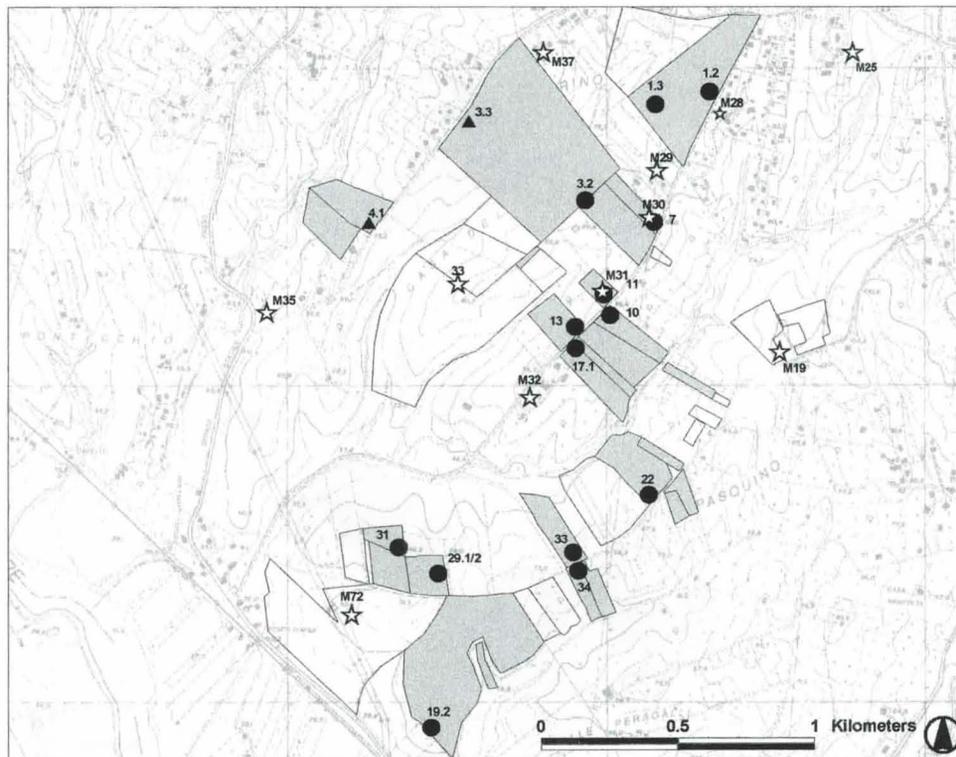


FIG. 10. Distribution of early Imperial sites and material. Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site, ☆ Scatter; Corese Survey: ● Site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

LATE ANTIQUE AND EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIODS (SECOND HALF OF THE THIRD–SEVENTH CENTURIES AD) (Figs 12–13)

Muzzioli's (1980) *Forma Italiae* survey concluded that, of 177 settlements occupied between the late Republican period and mid-Empire, just 8.4% (fifteen sites) continued into late antique times. However, before arguing for economic crisis and/or demographic collapse, it is necessary to consider methodological, terminological and historical problems. The difficulties of recognizing late antique and early medieval coarse-wares and the limitation of relying only on African red slip wares (C3 and D) for the recognition of settlement are well-known (Patterson, 2000). Recently, however, stratigraphic excavation has improved significantly our knowledge of coarse-wares of these periods (for example, Patterson and Roberts, 1998). As a result, the restudy of material collected by the South Etruria and Farfa Surveys, as part of the Tiber Valley Project, is increasing the number of known late antique sites and substantially

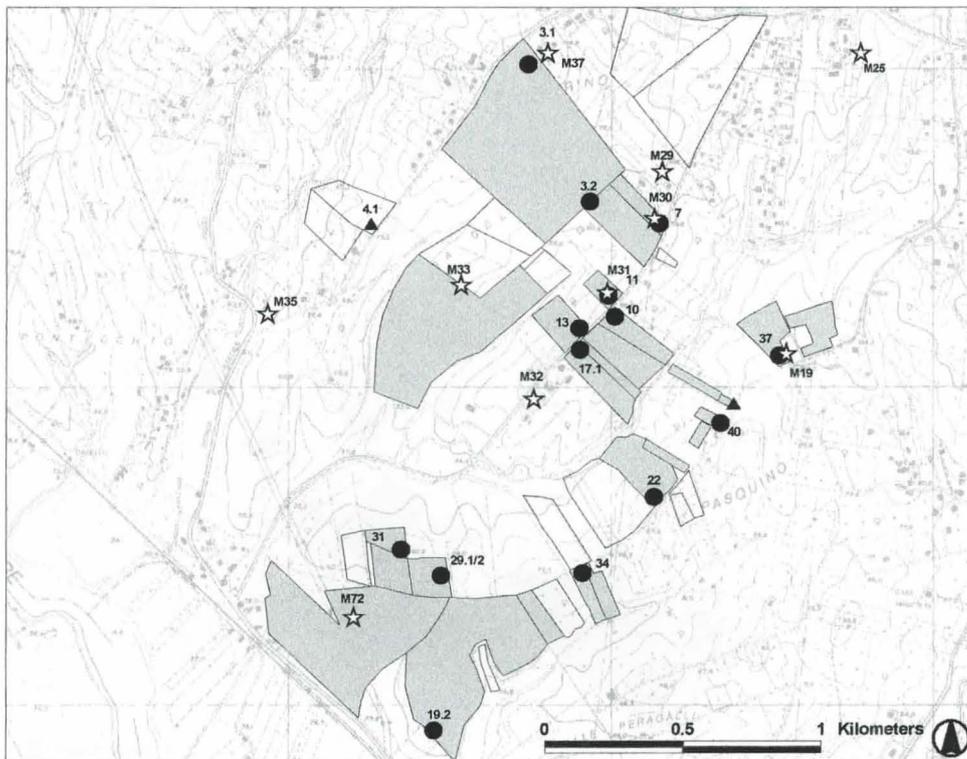


FIG. 11. Distribution of middle Imperial sites and material. Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site, ☆ Scatter; Corese Survey: ● Site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

changing our understanding of this period. The results of the present survey reflect this trend.

The re-survey identified thirteen concentrations of material yielding late antique sherds. Of these, eight can be considered as settlements (two of these previously having been identified by Muzzioli), whilst five are small scatters that represent other activity. Seven scatters (five sites) produced evidence into the sixth century, whilst a single site (29.1) continued into the seventh century. Those sites that were occupied continually into late antiquity, such as Casarino (Muzzioli 37), or were reoccupied in this period, were important settlements. In the early Imperial period, they were high-status sites, located on large platforms, equipped with hydraulic systems, baths and *pars rustica*, and decorated with marble, painted wall-plaster and mosaics. We cannot, however, be certain, on the basis of the current data, as to the status of their later occupation and, more specifically, whether the evidence represents more modest occupation or the luxurious villas of late antiquity named *praetoria* (Migliario, 1992; Vera, 2000). None the less, the presence of late African red slip wares and

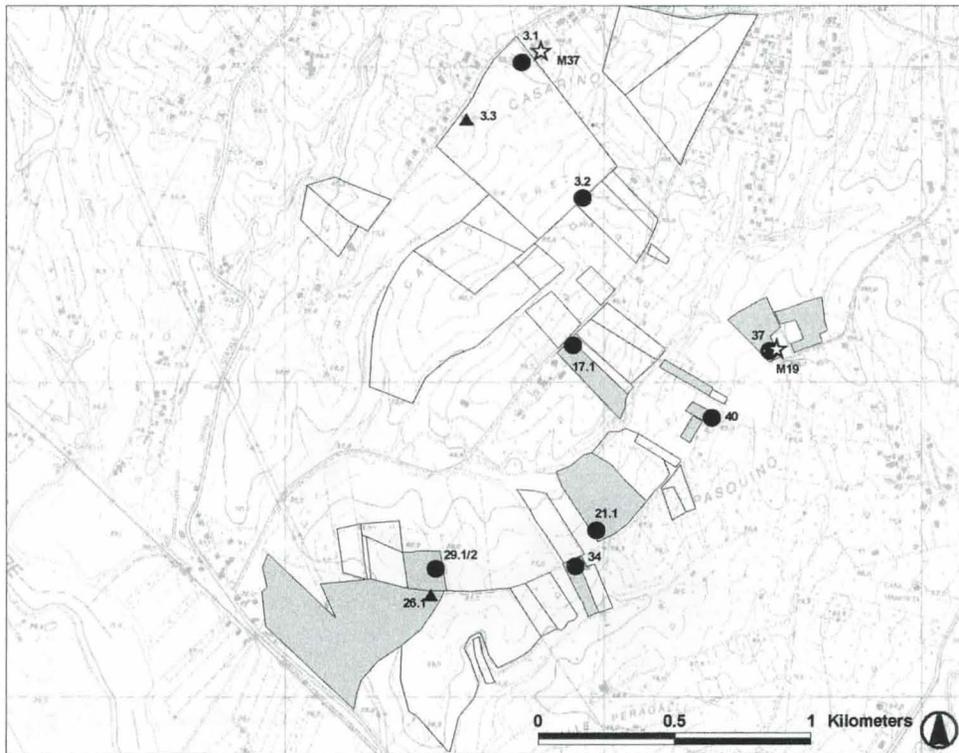


FIG. 12. Distribution of late antique sites and material. Key: Muzzioli, 1980: ☆ Site; Corese survey: ● Site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

African amphorae suggests that the owners of these settlements were involved in wide-ranging economic networks until at least the fifth century AD.

If we consider these results on a wider scale, we gain a new perspective on the late antique landscape of the Sabina Tiberina. Population in the fourth and especially fifth centuries AD was undoubtedly affected by plague (Lane, 1999; Romer, 1999); however, demographic crisis may have been less marked than previously thought. The Tiber Valley Project's restudy of material collected by the South Etruria Survey on the other side of the Tiber is similarly helping to 'populate' the previously thinly-occupied late antique landscape (see Wickham, 1978; 1979).

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CONCLUSIONS

Although limited in extent, the current survey demonstrates the effectiveness and importance of targeted re-survey in the assessment of existing regional

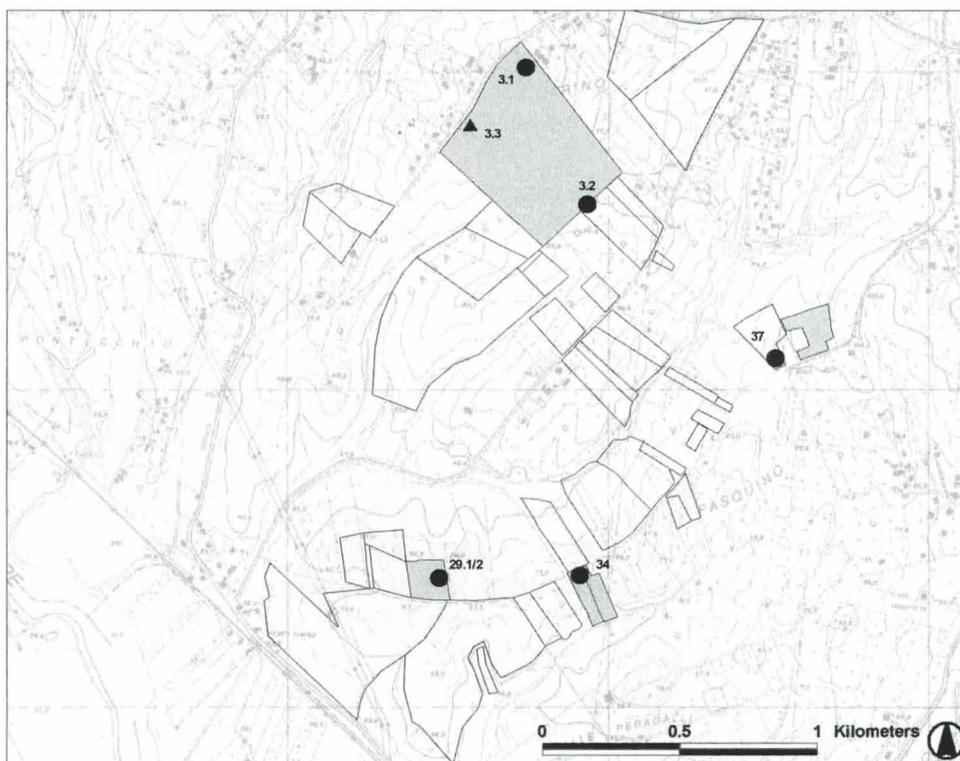


FIG. 13. Distribution of sixth- and seventh-century sites and material. Key: Corese Survey: ● Site, ▲ Scatter. Shaded fields indicate the presence of contemporary material.

data-sets. It provides a means of assessing the preservation of surface archaeology. The rapid pace of erosion and destruction caused by agriculture, quarrying and construction is notable; despite the more stable geology of the Sabine landscape in comparison to southern Etruria, erosion is still significant. However, the inability to reidentify some sites may relate also to the inherent instability of the surface record, which varies year-by-year and particularly affects smaller, low density scatters.

In terms of the methodological approach, the GPS proved a cheap and highly effective instrument for the recording of spatial data and was particularly useful on undulating ground and where mapped boundaries have changed. An additional benefit was its use in the relocation of Muzzioli's sites, the coordinates of which were entered into the GPS unit in advance and then used to 'navigate' to these sites in the field. The decision not to collect material but to spot date in the field was more problematic. For a small survey, it provided the opportunity for instant chronologies, though the approach is, of course, entirely dependent upon the participation of finds specialists. The

strategy also raised issues of the disposal of finds in the field and the impossibility of subsequent restudy. In conclusion, the approach may be more useful for small, targeted projects, rather than regional surveys, which may require large groups of (untrained) personnel and generate much more material.

In relation to the three main objectives of the project, firstly, it is clear that the supposed low settlement density of the Sabina when compared with South Etruria is the result of a bias in fieldwork. South Etruria is a particularly intensively studied landscape and, by increasing the intensity of coverage in the current research area, it has been possible to expand significantly the number of sites identified. Another factor may relate to an increase in site visibility as a result of the intensification of modern agricultural techniques. Additionally, using new knowledge of ceramic forms, we have been able to identify more extensive evidence for the Sabine and late antique periods. We can now envisage a more extensive pattern of dispersed archaic farmsteads complementing the centre of Cures Sabini and a more densely occupied late antique landscape. These results clearly have implications for the interpretation of settlement patterns across a wider area of the Sabina Tiberina (see Moreland *et al.*, in preparation). Not only do they diminish the contrasts between the settlement structure on the two banks of the Tiber, but also help to illustrate potential gaps in our knowledge that could be addressed through further targeted fieldwork. The second objective was to extend and refine the chronology of existing sites. Of those sites relocated, their dating was improved, in particular through the use of coarse-wares. As just discussed, the greatest improvements concern the pre-Roman and late antique evidence.

The final objective was to assess the validity of Muzzioli's proposed land division scheme. The results of the survey provide some limited, but important, additional support. Mid-Republican settlement can now be seen to be broadly distributed at one site per 50 *iugera* block as defined by Muzzioli. It is impossible, however, to ignore the topography of this area and its influence on settlement patterns and the proposed grid. Indeed, as well as mid-Republican sites, pre-Roman settlements also closely follow the ridges and associated tracks and we cannot rule out the possibility that, to some extent, the allocation of the *ager quaestorius* was a legal and physical consolidation of a pre-existing situation. None the less, the regular 10 *actus* spacing between key elements of Muzzioli's grid may indicate that the precise alignment of the roads was newly surveyed. As the road network has evolved over the centuries, the memory of the grid has been preserved in the present ridgeways. While not conclusive, therefore, our results do not contradict Muzzioli's proposed grid and may indeed lend it some support. Further work, such as more extensive survey or geophysics, may be able to contribute new insights to this issue.

A final observation concerns the increased numbers of sites grouped or clustered along the ancient roads. Closely-spaced Roman sites and extensive scatters of material on both sides of these routes may indicate a particular model of rural settlement. Clearly smaller and less formally-organized than a *vicus*, these linear agglomerations, or 'ribbon' settlements, may be the result of social and economic requirements of local agricultural communities. Instead of a political or religious focus such as a forum or sanctuary, the organizing principle here appears to have been the road.

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CATALOGUE OF THE SITES AND MATERIAL

List of abbreviations

Prehistoric

LITH = lithic material

Orientalizing and archaic

ABT = Archaic brick/tile; BIC = brown impasto coarse-ware; BRBA = braziers and basins; BUC = bucchero; CIC = common impasto coarse-ware; COST = cooking stand; CSC = *chiaro sabbioso* ware; EFW = Etruscan fine-ware; ISW = internal slip ware; KIC = kitchen impasto coarse-ware; PITH = pithoi; RIC = red impasto coarse-ware, red on white.

Roman

AFCO = African cooking ware; ARS = African red slip ware; ARSA = African red slip A ware; ARSA/D = African red slip A/D ware; ARSC = African red slip C ware; ARSD = African red slip D ware; CCW = colour-coated ware; FTILE = flue tile; DOL = dolium; ISW = internal slip ware; MAA = marble; MET = metal; MILL = millstone; MORT = mortarium; OSPI = *Opus spicatum*; PLAS = plaster; PLW = plain ware; POMP = Pompeian red slip ware; QERN = quern; RAMPH = Roman amphora; RBT = Roman brick/tile; RBTS = Roman brick/tile stamp; RCSC = Roman *chiaro sabbioso* ware; RCW = Roman coarse-ware; RGLAS = Roman glass; RLAMP = Roman lamp; RLOOM = Roman loom weight, bobbin or spindle-whorl; RVOT = Roman votive; SIGEB = eastern *sigillata* B2; SIGIT = Italian *terra sigillata*; SLAG = slag; TESS = tessera; TWW = thin-walled ware; VN = *vernice nera* (black glaze ware); VNLAMP = *vernice nera* lamp.

Medieval and modern

CW = coarse-ware; MAI = maiolica

References

Abbreviations used for the comparanda are listed at the end of the catalogue.

Coordinates

Site coordinates are quoted to the nearest 10 m and use the standard Universal Transverse Mercator system (zone 33) of the Istituto Geografico Militare (IGM).

Site typology

The interpretation of each site in the catalogue relates to the period for which we have the most evidence.

Villa = Frequently greater than *c.* 10,000 m² in extent; density of artefacts often more than *c.* five artefacts per m²; type of finds including building material (for example, RBT, stone blocks), several classes of material such as MAA (veneers), RGLAS, PLAS, TESS and higher ratio of fine-wares than identified on farms; often positioned on prominent spurs; bibliographical accounts.

Farm = Averaging *c.* 1,500 m² in extent; density of material not usually greater than *c.* five artefacts per m²; type of finds including building material (for example, RBT, stone blocks) and predominance of coarse-wares (for example, PITH/DOL, RAMPH, COST); continuity of occupation.

Outbuilding = Similar to a farm, but in close proximity to a larger site (especially villas), often with a more restricted range of material and less evidence for long-term continuity.

Cult area = Votive material (RVOT).

Scatter = Low density of material (less than *c.* 1 per m²); absence or limited quantities of building materials. This may derive from a variety of processes, both ancient and modern, such as manuring and movement of soils.

Wash = (Abraded) material at base of slopes beneath site.

Sporadic = Isolated find(s).

Field 1

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Newly ploughed. Good visibility.

Undulating field, mainly on a ridge top but sloping downwards to the west and more steeply to the southwest, into a fairly deep dry valley, the beginning of Casa dei Preti. The field produced material dating from the prehistoric to the Republican period. The orientaling, archaic and mid-Republican periods were best represented. Within the field, three concentrations of ceramic material were noted that indicate intensive use of the area, perhaps related to an ancient road (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 27).

Prehistoric: LITH (4);² **orientaling and archaic:** ABT (16), CIC (6), BUC (1), RIC (1), PITH (1); **mid-Republican to early Imperial:** RBT (42), VN (8), RCW (54), PLW (4), RCSC (1), RAMPH (18),³ TWW (4), MAA (2).

1.1. Farm (0645/7327)

Sampling: Grab.

Scatter size: *c.* 50 × 30 m.

Orientaling and archaic: ABT (7), CIC (13), BIC (1), RIC (9);⁴ **Republican:** RBT (68), VN (15),⁵ RCW (37), PLW (40), RCSC (1), RAMPH (73).⁶

1.2. Farm (0638/7312)

Sampling: Grab.

Scatter size: *c.* 100 × 50 m.

Prehistoric: LITH (2);⁷ **orientaling and archaic:** ABT (86), BUC (3),⁸ CIC (5), RIC (13), ISW (1); **mid-Republican:** RBT (97), VN (2), VNLAMP (1), RCW (24), PLW (18), RAMPH (16);⁹ **early Imperial:** TWW (3).¹⁰

² One flint scraper, two points (Fig. 17.1–3), one chip.

³ Including one Graeco-Italic sherd.

⁴ Cooking dish *Pyrgi* 515, no. 4 (600–550 BC); base of open form *Pyrgi* 517, fig. 388, no. 4 (seventh–sixth centuries BC).

⁵ Bowl similar to Morel 2351b (first half of the first century BC); base with stamped palm decoration (310–265 BC).

⁶ Including two sherd of Graeco-Italic MGS V (mid-fourth–third centuries BC).

⁷ Chips.

⁸ Base of open form Rasmussen 4b, no. 154 (end of sixth/beginning of fifth centuries BC).

⁹ Including a sherd of Graeco-Italic.

¹⁰ Bowl *Atlante* II, pl. XCII, 3 (Augustan–Tiberian periods).

1.3. Farm (0621/7309)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 15 × 15 m.***Orientalizing and archaic:*** ABT (30), BUC (1), CSC (4),¹¹ RIC (20),¹² CIC (14),¹³ KIC (1), BRBA (1), EFW (4),¹⁴ PITH (1); ***mid-Republican and early Imperial:*** RBT (68), VN (7),¹⁵ RCW (2),¹⁶ PLW (4), RAMPH (4), SIGIT (1), TWW (1).¹⁷**Field 2***Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Olive trees and small vineyard. Partly ploughed and harrowed, though grassy. Low to moderate visibility.

Field sloping moderately from ridge to the north down into a dry valley, the beginning of Casa dei Preti. The field produced a limited quantity of material. A concentration (site 2.1) was recorded along the southern limit of the field.

Orientalizing and archaic: RIC (1); ***Republican:*** RBT (3), RCW (2).**2.1. Farm? (0609/7328)***Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* 35 × 35 m.***Orientalizing and archaic:*** RIC (2); ***late Republican:*** RBT (80), VN (1),¹⁸ RCW (6), PLW (2), RAMPH (1).**Field 3***Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed, harrowed and with partial crop growth. Good visibility.Large field that extends from the ridges on either side of the Casa dei Preti down into the valley bottom. In the northwest corner, a spur projects prominently into the valley. The field produced material from prehistoric to late antique date, with a particular emphasis on the late Republican, early Imperial and late antique periods. Three large concentrations of material were noted, two along the ancient road¹⁹ and one on the ridge to the southeast.***Prehistoric:*** LITH (1); ***late Republican to late antique:*** RBT (190), RCW (66),²⁰ PLW (14), RAMPH (41), VN (1), SIGIT (1), TWW (4),²¹ ARS (1), ARSA (4),²² AFCO (1), SLAG (1), MILL (3), TESS (1).¹¹ Basin Rossi Diana and Clementini 41, fig. 1, type C (550–350 BC).¹² Cooking dish *Pyrgi* 515, no. 4 (600–550 BC).¹³ Cooking dish *Pyrgi* 515, no. 1 (600–550 BC).¹⁴ Bowl *Caere* 3.2, D 27.1: 130, fig. 331; Chiaramonte Treré pl. 49, no. 3 (550–500 BC).¹⁵ Oenochoe with cornet-shaped spout (end of fourth–first half of third centuries BC); plate Morel 1121h (third century BC).¹⁶ Lid *Pyrgi* 517, fig. 389, no. 13 (third century BC).¹⁷ Small jug *Atlante* II, pl. LXXX, 3 (undatable).¹⁸ Kylix Morel 3121c (second century BC).¹⁹ Muzzioli, 1980: no. 34.²⁰ Jar with external polished surface (sixth century AD); plate imitating Hayes 104B (AD 570–600).²¹ Beaker similar *Atlante* II, pl. LXXX, no. 7 (undatable).²² Bowl Hayes 9A (AD 100–60).

3.1. Villa (0579/7323)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* 200 × 70 m (with washed material extending up to 150 m down into the valley).*Bibliography:* Muzzioli, 1980: no. 37.

The site (modern name Casarini) occupies the prominent ridge at the north of the field, the site extending northwards on to the adjoining property. In addition to the material listed, a considerable amount of building material was observed. The site of a large villa, already well documented by Muzzioli (1980: no. 37), for the most part lies beneath a modern villa where architectural remains and parts of millstones have been found. At the time of discovery part of the platform for the villa and a cuniculus for drainage were still preserved. The luxurious character of the villa is also shown by the material collected by Muzzioli, which includes coloured marble, plaster and glass, as can still be seen on the surface of the field today. In view of the previous level of documentation of the site, it was decided not to undertake systematic collection of material but to search only for those pieces that would add to existing knowledge, particularly of the chronology of the site. It has been possible to refine the dating of the late antique phase, which now might extend into the sixth century AD, on the basis of North African lamps and typical Sabine coarse-wares.

Mid-Republican and mid-Imperial to late antique: VN (1),²³ RCW (7),²⁴ RLAMP (1), AFCO (2),²⁵ ARSD (3).

3.2. Villa (0599/7275)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 170 × 75 m (extending into field 8).

The site is located on the ridge on the southeast edge of the field. The abundance of ceramic material, scattered over a wide area, together with the presence of signs of luxury, such as marble and tesserae, indicate the presence of a Republican farm transformed into a villa during the Imperial period, with occupation continuing into the sixth century.

Mid-Republican to mid-Imperial: RBT (140), DOL (4), RAMPH (108),²⁶ RCW (122), PLW (17), VN (3),²⁷ TWW (3), SIGIT (9),²⁸ ARSA (2),²⁹ ARSC (4), ARS (8), AFCO (2), RGLAS (1), MAA (2), MET (1), TESS (2); **late antique:** ARSD (4).³⁰

3.3. Cult area (0562/7300)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 150 × 50 m.

The site is situated on a flat platform on the western ridge, which here projects out a little into the valley of Casa dei Preti. Site partly defined by a scatter of rounded limestone cobbles. The presence of Roman votive terracottas, in particular one representing the right half of a human face, may indicate a cult area.

²³ Bowl Morel 2812b (second half of third or beginning of the second century BC).

²⁴ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14); Patterson and Roberts 424, fig. 2, 2 and 2, 3 (mid-sixth century AD).

²⁵ Plate/lid *Atlante* I, pl. XVI, 6 (second half of second–beginning of third centuries AD).

²⁶ Lamboglia 2 (end second–end first centuries BC) (Fig. 15.26); *Africana* I (mid second–fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD) (Fig. 15.27).

²⁷ Small cup Morel 1314b (beginning of third century BC).

²⁸ Bowl *Conspetus* 37.5 (AD 15–second half first century).

²⁹ Bowls Hayes 8B (third century BC) and Hayes 14A (end second–third centuries AD).

³⁰ Bowl Hayes 99, nos. 1, 7–8 (AD 510–40).

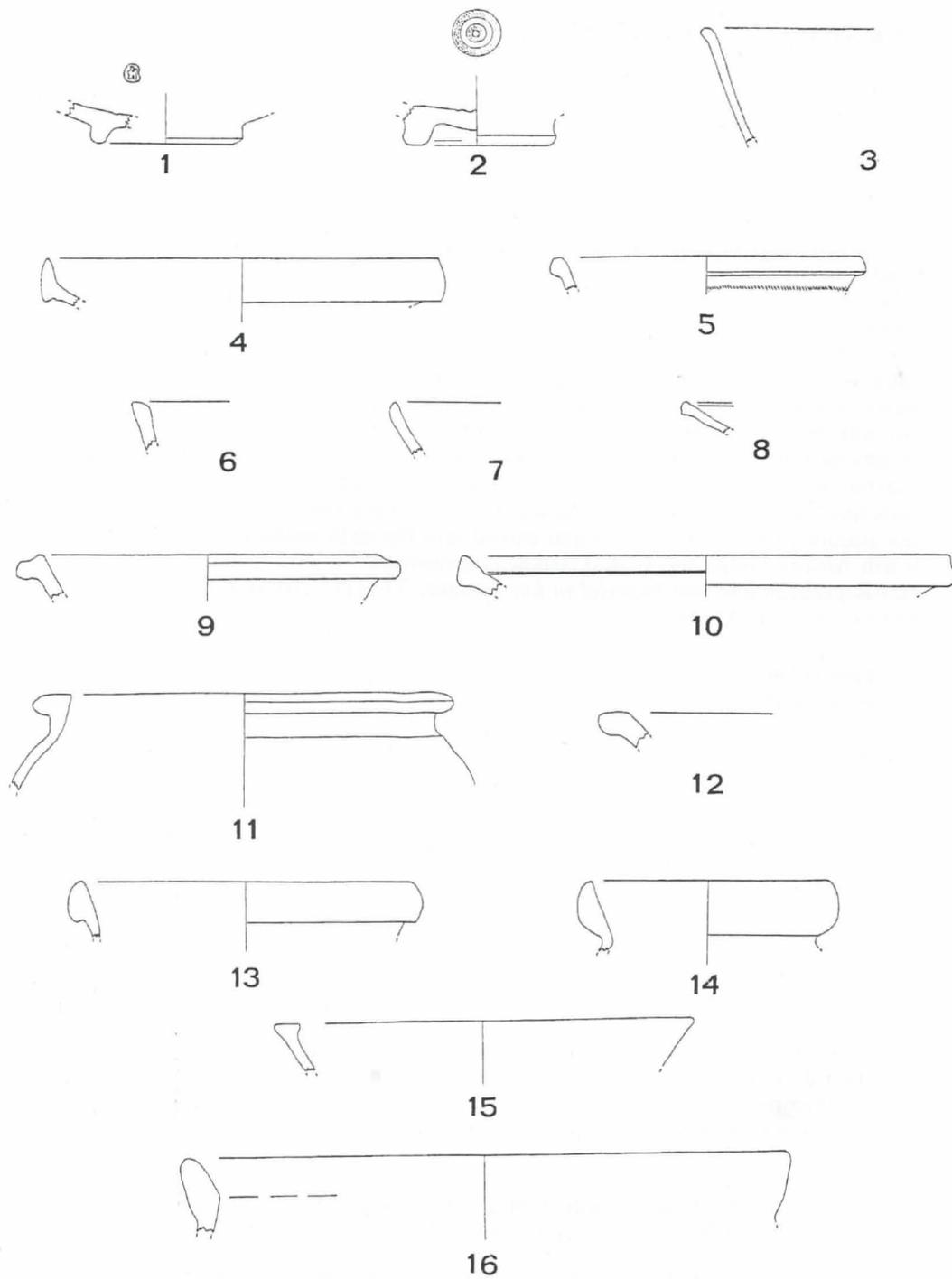


FIG. 14. Selection of diagnostic pottery. *Black glaze wares*: nos. 1–2 (sites 38 and 19.1); *Italian terra sigillata*: no. 3 (site 29.2); *eastern sigillata B2*: no. 4 (site 29.2); *African red slip A ware*: nos. 5–6 (sites 29.2 and field 27); *African red slip C ware*: nos. 7–8 (site 29.2); *African red slip D ware*: nos. 9–10 (site 29.2); *plain ware*: no. 11 (site 29.2); *Pompeian red slip ware*: no. 12 (field 25); *internal slip ware*: no. 13 (sites 22, 26.1, 33, 37); *coarse-ware*: nos. 14 (sites 3.1, 4.1, 22, 26.1, 33, 34, 37, 38, 40; fields 8, 17, 19, 24, 25), 15 (site 29.2), 16 (site 34). (Scale 1:3).

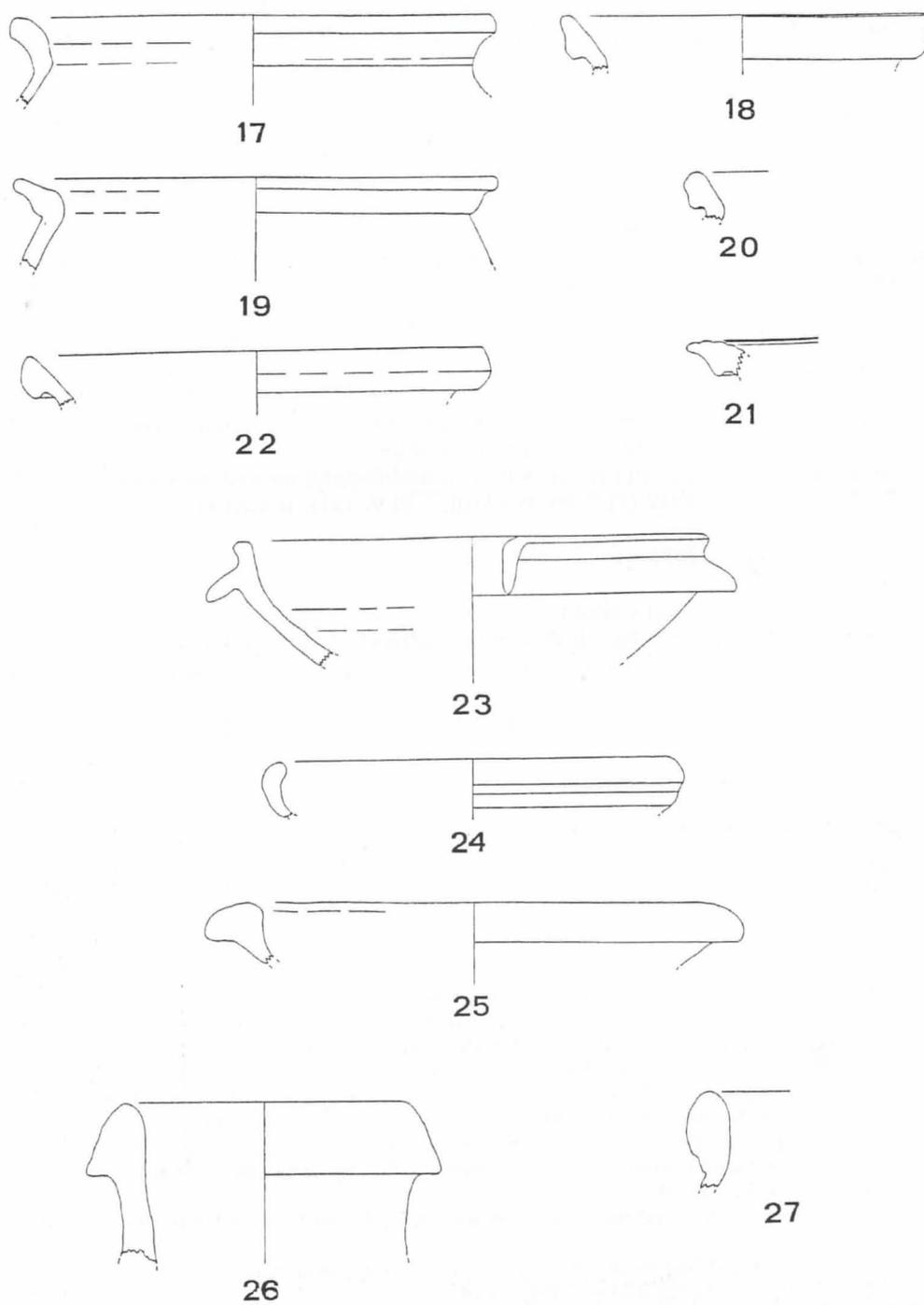


FIG. 15. Selection of diagnostic pottery. *Coarse-ware*: nos. 17–25 (site 29.2); *amphorae*: nos. 26 (site 3.2), 27 (sites 3.2, 29.1). (Scale 1:3).

Mid-Republican to early Imperial: RBT (135), RAMPH (23), RCW (11), PLW (1), RCSC (1), VN (1),³¹ SIGIT (2), RVOT (2);³² **late antique:** RLAMP (1),³³ RAMPH (1).³⁴

Field 4

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Fairly recently ploughed. Good visibility.

Field occupying fairly level ridge on its eastern side before sloping down steeply westwards to the valley of the Fosso di Ponticchio. The field produced material of Republican and early Imperial date.

Mid-Republican to early Imperial: RBT (21), RAMPH (13), RCW (22), PLW (8), VN (12),³⁵ TWW (2), SIGIT (4), DOL (1).

4.1. Farm (0532/7269)

Sampling: Grab.

Scatter size: c. 20 × 20 m.

At the higher end of the field, close to the ancient road,³⁶ a small concentration of material with a small quantity of limestone cobbles.

Orientalizing and archaic: PITH (2), RIC (2); **mid-Republican and early/mid-Imperial:** RBT (33), VN (19),³⁷ ISW (1),³⁸ RCW (110),³⁹ PLW (51), RAMPH (41).⁴⁰

Field 5. Wash (0515/7285)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Ploughed. Good visibility.

Area in valley bottom of Fosso di Ponticchio, adjacent to field 4. Outside the research area, Muzzioli identified a site (36) to the northwest on the ridge above, from which this material probably derives.

Mid-Imperial: RBT (6), RAMPH (11), RCW (8), PLW (1), ARSA (1).⁴¹

Field 6. Scatter (0522/7265)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive grove. Very roughly ploughed. Poor visibility.

Field sloping down steeply to valley of the Fosso di Ponticchio.

Late Republican to early Imperial: RBT (15), RAMPH (7),⁴² RCW (9), PLW (2), SIGIT (1).

³¹ Crater Morel 4621 (end fourth–beginning third centuries BC).

³² Fragment of the right half of a human face (middle of fourth–third centuries BC) (Fig. 16). We have no exact comparison for this piece, but there are many similar examples of half male and female faces in votive deposits: see *Lanuvium* 203, fig. 268 (C25); 216, fig. 293 (C68); *Enea nel Lazio* 182, D41; Vagnetti tav. LIII, TIII; Delpino tav. XXVIII, 168–70; Potter 61–3, figs 60–2a.

³³ Catacomb lamp Bailey type U (fifth century AD), Pavolini 30, no. 40.

³⁴ *Spateion* Keay XXV, 2/XXVI (fourth–seventh centuries AD).

³⁵ Base of bowl with central rosette stamp Morel 1969: fig. 5, 11 (265–220 BC).

³⁶ Muzzioli, 1980: no. 34.

³⁷ Bowls Morel 2823b1 (mid-third century BC); small jug Morel 5226 (end of fourth–beginning of third centuries BC).

³⁸ Jars Comella and Stefani pl. 58, M195 (fourth–third centuries BC).

³⁹ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁴⁰ Graeco-Italic MGS V (mid-fourth–mid-third centuries BC); Tripolitana I (mid-first–mid-second centuries AD).

⁴¹ Bowl Hayes 9A (AD 100–60).

⁴² Dressel 1 type C (mid-second century–end first century BC).

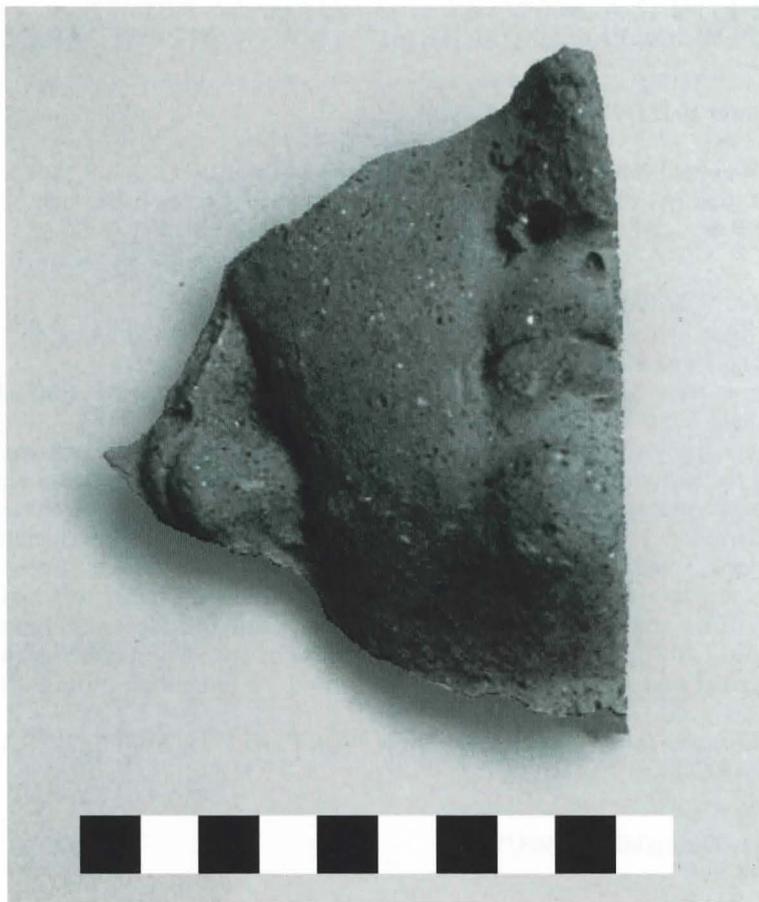


FIG. 16. Votive terracotta (site 3.3).

Field/Site 7. Farm (0621/7269)

Sampling: 15 m.

Visibility: Dense crop of lucerne. Poor visibility.

Scatter size: c. 60 × 50 m (extending in field 8).

Bibliography: Muzzioli, 1980: no. 30.

Narrow, fairly level field. Muzzioli (1980: no. 30) documented an area of tile and pottery dating from middle Republican to early Imperial periods. The material was concentrated towards the road though, to avoid damage to crop, a grab sample was not taken. Although limited, the material collected in the present survey is consistent with Muzzioli's observations, and the interpretation as a farm is partly dependent on her work.

Late Republican to mid-Imperial: RBT (12), RAMPH (6), RCW (8), PLW (5), SIGIT (2), TWW (5), ARS (1), RGLAS (1); **modern:** CW (1).

Field 8. Wash (0610/7270)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive grove and some vines. Surface largely grassy. Poor visibility.

Shallow valley containing parts of sites 3.2 and 7, plus material derived from them.

Prehistoric: LITH (2);⁴³ **mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (32), RAMPH (34), RCW (17),⁴⁴ VN (2), PLW (16), SIGIT (6),⁴⁵ TWW (7), AFKO (1), ARS (2).

Field 9. Scatter (0621/7260)

Sampling: 3 m.

Visibility: Vineyard. Surface compacted. Limited visibility.

The limited quantity of material may be related to site 7 on the other side of the road.

Mid-Republican: RBT (4), RAMPH (3), RCW (4), PLW (2), VN (3).⁴⁶

Field/Site 10. Villa (0607/7239)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive grove. Roughly ploughed. Good visibility.

Scatter size: c. 60 × 55 m (with material extending a further c. 20 m downslope; also c. 80 m in field 12; c. 75 m in field 11).

Level ground alongside road, sloping more steeply to the Fosso Figorone. A dense scatter next to the road marked a site of Imperial date. Tile was not counted due to its extremely high density, though up to 30 pieces of tile per square metre were observed. Muzzioli identified a site of the same date on the other side of the ancient/modern road (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 27) in field 11. The two concentrations almost certainly constitute a single residential complex; this is supported by the consistently narrow chronology of the material identified in fields 10, 11 and 12. However, the density of material in field 10 suggests that the main structures of the villa may be located on this side of the road and that material in fields 11 and 12 represents outbuildings and a 'halo'.

Early to mid-Imperial: RAMPH (58), RCW (42), PLW (21), SIGIT (4),⁴⁷ ARSA (3), ARSC (2), AFKO (3).⁴⁸

Field/Site 11. Outbuilding (0605/7246)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive grove. Grassy surface. Moderate to poor visibility.

Scatter size: 65 × 45 m (extending into fields 10 and 12).

Bibliography: Muzzioli, 1980: no. 31.

The field slopes steeply west from the ancient/modern road (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 27). Muzzioli (1980: no. 31) located a villa on the basis of ceramics, tile, marble veneers and travertine blocks of late Republican and mid-Imperial date. Material is continuous with the scatter in field 10 (and as eroded material/'halo' in field 12) on the other side of the road.

Early to mid-Imperial: RBT (62), RAMPH (19), RCW (9), PLW (4), TWW (1), ARS (1), ARSA (1), ARSC (2).

⁴³ Tool, point.

⁴⁴ Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁴⁵ Bowl *Conspectus* 26.1 (first half of first century AD).

⁴⁶ Bowl Morel 2831b (mid-third century BC); base of bowl *petites estampilles* production (end fourth–first half third centuries BC).

⁴⁷ Plate *Conspectus* 11 (30–10 BC).

⁴⁸ Casserole Hayes 23B (second half second–beginning third centuries AD).

Field 12. Scatter (0602/7235)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed field. Good visibility.*Scatter size:* c. 70 × 50 m.

Fairly level adjacent to the road, sloping down to the Fosso Figorone. Scatter of material continuous with dense concentration in fields 10 and 11.

Early to mid-Imperial: RBT (24), RAMPH (10), RCW (20), PLW (6), MORT (1), SIGIT (1), TWW (3), ARSA (3),⁴⁹ RGLAS (1).

Field/Site 13. Farm (0597/7236)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Olive grove. Partly ploughed, though not harrowed. Good visibility.*Scatter size:* 50 × 50 m.

Fairly level adjacent to the road, sloping more steeply into a dry valley. A concentration of material was located in the northeast corner of the field along the ancient axial road. It is possible that this site is linked to, or part of, site 10 or 17.1.

Prehistoric: LITH (2);⁵⁰ **late Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (162), RBTS (1),⁵¹ RAMPH (15), RCW (29), PLW (12), TWW (2),⁵² SIGIT (1), ARSA (3).⁵³

Field 14. Scatter (0597/7230)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Peach orchard. Harrowed and weathered. Moderate visibility.

Fairly level adjacent to the road, and then sloping more steeply to the valley of the Fosso Figorone. Possibly derived from or related to site 13 or 17.1.

Republican to mid-Imperial: RBT (89), RAMPH (16), RCW (26), PLW (7), VN (1), TWW (3), ARSA (1).⁵⁴

Field 15. Scatter (0580/7250)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed. Possibly disturbed by dumping of sand and gravel from adjacent quarry. Good visibility.

Large field at end of the ridge of Casa dei Preti. On the boundary of fields 15 and 18, Muzzioli identified a villa (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 33) of mid-Republican to early Imperial date, located on or near an archaic site. No traces of this site are visible today, possibly as a result of disturbance by quarry work (see also field 18). On the basis of Muzzioli's finds, within the current typology this site would have been interpreted as a farm rather than a villa. A sherd of ARSA found during re-survey may derive from the site and would extend its occupation into the mid-Imperial period.

Archaic: RIC (1); **mid-Imperial:** RBT (10), RAMPH (3), DOL (1), RCW (9), PLW (2), ARSA (1).⁵⁵

⁴⁹ Bowl Hayes 14C (end second–beginning third centuries AD).

⁵⁰ Tools.

⁵¹ [---]AL / [---]OS.

⁵² Beaker *Atlante* II, pl. LXXXII, 13 (undatable).

⁵³ Bowls Hayes 14A, nos. 1, 4–5 (mid-second century AD) and Hayes 8B (third century AD).

⁵⁴ Bowl Hayes 8B production A2 (third century AD).

⁵⁵ Bowl Hayes 3C (end second–third centuries AD).

Field 16. Scatter (0580/7256)*Sampling:* 3 m.*Visibility:* Vineyard. Ploughed and weathered. Good visibility.

On ridge of Casa dei Preti. Limited quantities of material are perhaps continuation of the general scatter of material in field 15.

Archaic: ABT (1), CIC (1); *late Republican/early Imperial:* RBT (6), RCW (2), PLW (1), SIGIT (1).

Field 17*Sampling:* 10 m.

Visibility: Young olives. Ploughed and weathered. Patchy weeds. Moderate visibility. Fairly level adjacent to the road, sloping into the valley of the Fosso Figorone. In the west corner, next to the ancient axial road, was a concentration of material related to site 17.1.

Prehistoric: LITH (3);⁵⁶ *mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:* RBT (68), DOL (2), RAMPH (12), RCW (60),⁵⁷ PLW (13), VN (1),⁵⁸ SIGIT (1), TWW (2), AFKO (2),⁵⁹ ARSA (1); *modern:* MAI (1).

17.1. Farm? (0596/7229)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 55 × 30 m.

Despite the relatively low density of material, the long chronological span of the material identified suggests it was the focus of continuous activity, possibly a farm.

Prehistoric: LITH (1);⁶⁰ *archaic:* PITH (1), RIC (2), CSC (1);⁶¹ *late Republican–late antique:* RBT (22), RAMPH (4), RCW (5), PLW (3), TWW (1), AFKO (1),⁶² TESS (1).

Field 18 (0559/7249)*Sampling:* Brief inspection.*Visibility:* Covered with low, dense vegetation. Very poor visibility.

Field on ridge, sloping westwards towards end of Casa dei Preti. No material was found in this field, possibly due to poor visibility. Muzzioli identified a villa at this point, of which there is no evidence (see field 15) (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 33).

Field 19*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Well ploughed. Good visibility.

Extremely large field extending to spur immediately above Tiber flood-plain. Within it, two sites were located, the first alongside the modern road in the northwest of the field and the second towards the extreme southeast.

⁵⁶ Chips.

⁵⁷ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁵⁸ Bowl Morel 2784c (first half third century BC).

⁵⁹ Casserole Hayes 23B (second half second–beginning third century AD).

⁶⁰ Blade (Fig. 17.4).

⁶¹ Basin (fifth–fourth centuries BC).

⁶² Casserole Hayes 197 (first half of second–fourth/fifth centuries AD).

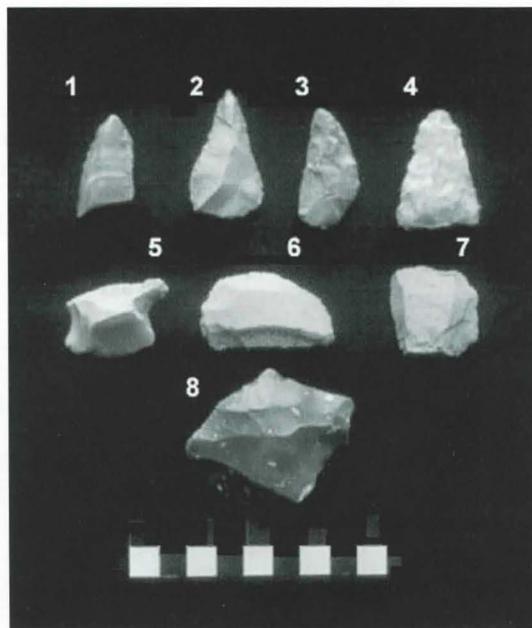


FIG. 17. Lithics. Nos. 1 = tool, 2-3 = points (field 1), 4 = blade (site 17.1), 5 = tool (field 21), 6-7 = tools (site 26.1), 8 = tool (field/site 33).

Prehistoric: LITH (2);⁶³ **archaic:** ABT (4), CSC (1);⁶⁴ **mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (169), DOL (1), RCSC (1), RAMPH (25), RCW (75),⁶⁵ PLW (14), VN (2), SIGIT (7),⁶⁶ TWW (8), ARSA (4),⁶⁷ SLAG (3); **modern:** CW (2).

19.1. Farm (0568/7151)

Sampling: Grab.

Scatter size: c. 70 × 20 m.

Bibliography: Muzzioli, 1980: no. 73.

At this point, Muzzioli identified squared blocks of travertine (Muzzioli, 1980: no. 73). The current survey identified a range of ceramics to establish a chronology for this site, probably a small farm. The nucleus may lie in the inaccessible field to the north.

Orientalizing and archaic: RIC (2), CSC (1); **mid- to late Republican:** RBT (28), RAMPH (11),⁶⁸ RCW (23), PLW (15), VN (3),⁶⁹ TWW (2).⁷⁰

⁶³ Chips.

⁶⁴ Basin Carafa 241, no. 660 (mid-sixth–fifth centuries BC).

⁶⁵ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁶⁶ Bowls *Conspectus* 13.1 (25/20 BC–AD 15).

⁶⁷ Bowls Hayes 8A, nos. 3–4, 30 (AD 150–beginning third century).

⁶⁸ Sherds of Graeco-Italic amphora.

⁶⁹ Patera of Tarquinian source Morel 1752a (270–190 BC); base of patera production B Bernardini pl. L, 659 (end second–mid-first centuries BC) (Fig. 14.2).

⁷⁰ Bowl *Atlante* II, pl. XLV, 9 (second half of first century BC).

19.2. Villa (0551/7108)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 110 × 25 m+.

As well as the material identified in this field, pieces of *cocciopesto* floor, blocks of travertine and other building material were piled up along field boundary. The site is immediately above the flood-plain and is likely to have extended into a grassy field to the south. The range and quality of material suggests a villa.

Early to mid-Imperial: RAMPH (20), RCW (24), PLW (6), SIGIT (2), TWW (6), CCW (1), ARSA (1),⁷¹ MILL (1).

Field 20. Wash (0567/7132)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed. Moderate visibility.

Flat narrow field in a steep-sided gully. Given its position, below and 'cut' into field 19, it is possible that the thin scatter of material identified was washed down from above.

Prehistoric: LITH (1); **orientalizing and archaic:** RIC (1); **late Republican to early Imperial:** RBT (14), DOL (1), RAMPH (4), RCW (17), PLW (1), TWW (3).⁷²

Field 21*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed and harrowed. Partial crop growth. Moderate visibility.

Large field sloping northwest from the road down towards the Fosso Figorone. A concentration of material was located in the southeast corner of the field (site 21.1).

Prehistoric: LITH (3);⁷³ **mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (228), DOL (2), RAMPH (107),⁷⁴ RCW (146),⁷⁵ PLW (47), VN (7),⁷⁶ SIGIT (7), TWW (4), ARSA (2),⁷⁷ RLOOM (1); **late antique:** ARSD (1); **modern:** CW (3).

21.1. Farm (0603/7170)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* c. 25 × 15 m.

A small concentration of building material, including limestone cobbles and ceramics.

Middle-late Republican: RBT (47), RAMPH (11),⁷⁸ RCW (19), PLW (5), VN (2).

Field/Site 22. Farm (0619/7182)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Ploughed and harrowed. Partial crop growth. Moderate visibility.*Scatter size:* 40 × 30 m.

Large field sloping northwest from the road down towards the Fosso Figorone. A concentration was located in the southern corner, next to the road.

⁷¹ Bowl Hayes 8A, nos. 3–4, 30 (AD 150–beginning third century).

⁷² Bowl type 2/433 = *Atlante* II, pl. XCI, no. 10 (Augustan–Tiberian); beaker type 1/7 = *Atlante* II, pl. LXXVIII, no. 7 (mid-second century BC).

⁷³ Tool (Fig. 17.5), chips.

⁷⁴ Amphora from Forlimpopoli (end first century BC–mid-third century AD).

⁷⁵ Jars Dyson CF26 and CF29 (275–150 BC) (Figs 14.13 and 14.14).

⁷⁶ Paterra of Tarquinian source Caretta fig. 3, 13 (third century BC); base of Tarquinian source Stanco pl. XVI, 1 (third century BC).

⁷⁷ Bowl Hayes 14C (end second–beginning third centuries AD).

⁷⁸ Amphora ancient Graeco-Italic MGS IV (fourth–beginning third centuries BC); amphora Dressel 1 (mid-second century–end first century BC).

Prehistoric: LITH (3); **orientalizing and archaic:** PITH (1); **mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (52), RAMPH (13), ISW (1),⁷⁹ RCW (35),⁸⁰ PLW (10), SIGIT (5), ARSA (1); **modern:** CW (1).

Field 23. Scatter (0658/7192)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive grove with some vines. Variable visibility from moderate to poor. Field sloping down from road to northwest.

Mid-Republican: RAMPH (4);⁸¹ **early Imperial to late antique:** RBT (6), RCW (17), SIGIT (2),⁸² TWW (1), ARSD (1).⁸³

Field 24. Scatter (0627/7182)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Vines. Ploughed with some weed growth. Moderate visibility. Small vineyard on ridge to east of road.

Mid-Republican to early Imperial: RBT (3), RAMPH (2), RCW (3),⁸⁴ TWW (1).⁸⁵

Field 25. Scatter (0630/7185)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Fruit trees. Ploughed and weathered with some weed growth. Moderate visibility.

Scatter size: c. 40 × 100 m.

Small orchard mainly on ridge to east of road.

Mid-Republican to early Imperial: RBT (24), RAMPH (15), RCW (41),⁸⁶ PLW (6), POMP (1),⁸⁷ VN (1), SIGIT (1), TWW (1).

Field 26

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Ploughed field, under harrow during survey. Good visibility (in unharrowed areas).

Field sloping down to the Tiber flood-plain. A site (26.1) was located close to the northeast corner of the field alongside the ancient road. To the west, however, there was no trace of the extensive spread of material interpreted as a villa by Muzzioli (1980: no. 72).

Prehistoric: LITH (23);⁸⁸ **orientalizing and archaic:** PITH (1), CIC (4), RIC (7); **mid-Republican to mid-Imperial:** RBT (106), DOL (1), RAMPH (47),⁸⁹ RCW (114), PLW (6), VN (6),⁹⁰ TWW (4), MET (1); **late antique:** ARSD (1); **modern:** CW (2).

⁷⁹ Jar Dyson CF26 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.13).

⁸⁰ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁸¹ Amphora ancient Graeco-Italic MGS IV (fourth–beginning third centuries BC).

⁸² Plate *Conspectus* 4.4.2 (Augustan–beginning second century AD).

⁸³ Dish Hayes 104B (AD 570–600).

⁸⁴ Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁸⁵ Beaker *Atlante* II, pl. LXXXII, 13 (undatable).

⁸⁶ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁸⁷ Cooking dish Goudineau pl. 5, 3 (140–110 BC) (Fig. 14.12).

⁸⁸ Tools, chips, flint scrapers.

⁸⁹ Amphora ancient Graeco-Italic MGS IV (fourth–beginning third centuries BC).

⁹⁰ Base of skyphos (second half fourth century BC); overfired base with remains of palm decoration in relief (end fourth–first half third centuries BC).

26.1. Outbuilding (0551/7149)*Sampling:* Grab.*Scatter size:* 75 × 25 m.

This is the only notable concentration of lithic material identified during the survey and may represent a focus of activity. The later material could be interpreted as an independent farmstead, though its proximity to sites 29.1 and 29.2 suggests that it may form a part of this complex.

Prehistoric: LITH (23);⁹¹ *orientalizing and archaic:* PITH (1), CIC (4), RIC (7); *mid-/late Republican:* RBT (106), DOL (1), RAMPH (47),⁹² ISW (1),⁹³ RCW (113),⁹⁴ PLW (6), VN (6), TWW (4), MET (1); *late antique:* ARSD (1); *modern:* CW (2).

Field 27. Scatter (0580/7150)*Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Vines. Partly ploughed. Good to moderate visibility.

Vineyard sloping down from road southeastwards.

Mid-Imperial: RBT (3), RCW (2), PLW (1), ARSA (1).⁹⁵**Field 28***Sampling:* 10 m.*Visibility:* Olive trees. Recently rough-ploughed. Good visibility.

Olive grove, sloping down from road southeastwards. No finds.

Field 29*Sampling:* 6 m.*Visibility:* Widely spaced young olive trees. Harrowed. Good visibility.

A level platform, sloping down slightly to north and south, and dipping more sharply to west. High levels of material were identified across the whole field (120 × 75 m), though two particularly dense concentrations of material were located — one close to the southeast corner of the field (29.1) and the other on the crest of the spur (29.2). The sites are contemporary and probably form part of the same complex. Extensive evidence for building material included limestone and travertine blocks, limestone cobbles and brick. Small tiles measuring 0.17 × 0.17 m, of a type frequently used for *pilae*, suggest the presence of a hypocaust, possibly for a bath.

29.1. Villa pars rustica (0551/7154)*Sampling:* 6 m.*Scatter size:* 25 × 20 m.

The material probably represents a structure related to the villa centred at 29.2. The lack of material such as marble suggests the concentration may represent the *pars rustica* of the villa.

⁹¹ Tools (Fig. 17.6–7), chips.

⁹² Amphora ancient Graeco-Italic MGS IV (fourth–beginning third centuries BC).

⁹³ Jar Dyson CF26 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.13).

⁹⁴ Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

⁹⁵ Bowl Hayes 14B, no. 8 (first half third century AD) (Fig. 14.6).

Prehistoric: LITH (2);⁹⁶ **late Republican and early/mid-Imperial to late antique:** RBT (167), DOL (3), RAMPH (87),⁹⁷ RCW (102),⁹⁸ PLW (34), VN (3), SIGIT (1), TWW (6), ARSA (2),⁹⁹ ARSA/D (1),¹⁰⁰ ARSC (1), ARSD (1);¹⁰¹ **medieval:** MAI (1).

29.2. Villa pars urbana (0555/7162)

Sampling: 6 m.

Scatter size: 50 × 40 m.

The size of the scatter and indicators such as plaster and marble veneers in this area suggest that this was the focus of the villa, the *pars urbana*.

Mid-Republican to late antique: RBT (420), FTILE (1), DOL (4),¹⁰² RAMPH (179),¹⁰³ RCW (237),¹⁰⁴ PLW (86),¹⁰⁵ POMP (1), VN (3),¹⁰⁶ SIGIT (25),¹⁰⁷ TWW (18),¹⁰⁸ SIGEB (2),¹⁰⁹ CCW (3), ARS (3), ARSA (14),¹¹⁰ ARSC (4),¹¹¹ ARSD (13),¹¹² AFCO (4), RLAMP (1), RGLAS (1), fragments of *cocciopesto* (2), OSPI (2), TESS (12), PLAS (1), MAA (2).

Field 30. Wash (0540/7160)

Sampling: 12 m.

Visibility: Young olive trees. Ploughed with partial weed growth. Moderate to good visibility.

Olive grove sloping down steadily north to south. Moderate quantity of material, perhaps washed from site 31.

⁹⁶ Tools.

⁹⁷ Amphora Africana I (mid-second–fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD) (Fig. 15.27).

⁹⁸ Casserole Patterson and Roberts 424, fig. 2, 2–3 (sixth century AD).

⁹⁹ Bowl Hayes 8B (first half third century AD).

¹⁰⁰ Scodella Hayes 27, 11 (first half third century AD).

¹⁰¹ Base with stamped decoration *Atlante* I, pls LVI, 18 and LVII, 48/63.

¹⁰² Dolium (Fig. 18.29).

¹⁰³ Amphora Lamboglia 2 (end second–end first centuries BC).

¹⁰⁴ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14); *Ostia* I, 396 (AD 240–50); cooking dish Dyson FC5 (AD 300) (Fig. 14.15); casseroles *Curia* 158 (AD 80–90); *Schola Praeconum* 31, 35 and 39 (AD 520–30) (Fig. 15.19, 18, 17); Patterson and Roberts 425, fig. 3, 4 (sixth century AD); Broise and Scheid 218 (AD 450) (Fig. 15.21); jar with polished surface (sixth century AD?) (Fig. 15.22); flanged bowl imitating bowl African red slip ware *Atlante* I, pl. XLVIII, 11 and Fontana 94, fig. 7, 1 (sixth century AD) (Fig. 15.23); bowl/lid Luttazzi pl. II, 19 (fourth–sixth centuries AD) (Fig. 15.24); basin Martin 39 (beginning fifth century AD) (Fig. 15.25).

¹⁰⁵ Small jar *Ostia* III, 495 (AD 80–90); jar Carta, Pohl and Zevi fig. 108, 1421 (AD 41–54) (Fig. 14.11).

¹⁰⁶ Base decorated with central rosette Morel 1969: fig. 5, 16 (265–220 BC).

¹⁰⁷ Bowl *Conspectus* 35 (AD 1–40); plate *Conspectus* 3.3.1 (AD 50–120/30) (Fig. 14.3).

¹⁰⁸ Small jug type 1/116 = *Atlante* II, pl. LXXXV, no. 1 (Tiberian/Claudian/ first half second century AD), baker type 1/35 = *Atlante* II, pl. LXXX, no. 5 (undatable).

¹⁰⁹ Plate *Atlante* II, pl. XIV, 7 (AD 50/60–80/90) (Fig. 14.4).

¹¹⁰ Bowl Hayes 7A (Flavian–beginning second century AD) (Fig. 14.5); Bowl Hayes 8B (first half third century AD) and Hayes 14A, nos. 1, 4–5 (end second–third centuries AD).

¹¹¹ Plate Hayes 50B (AD 350–400) (Fig. 14.7); dish Hayes 75 (AD 420–50) (Fig. 14.8).

¹¹² Flanged bowl Hayes 91D (AD 600–50) (Fig. 14.9); dish Hayes 104B (AD 570–600) (Fig. 14.10).

Prehistoric: LITH (4);¹¹³ **late Republican:** VN (1);¹¹⁴ **early to mid-Imperial:** RBT (20), RAMPH (10), RCW (27), PLW (1), TWW (1), ARSA (2).¹¹⁵

Field/Site 31. Outbuilding (0541/7166)

Sampling: 6 m.

Visibility: Young fruit trees. Harrowed and weathered. Good visibility.

Scatter size: 30 × 30 m.

Peach orchard on high point of ridge and sloping north- and westwards. This may represent an outbuilding connected with the villa at site 29.2.

Orientalizing and archaic: PITH (1), RIC (1); **Republican:** VN (1); **early to mid-Imperial:** RBT (41), RAMPH (9), RCW (16), PLW (5), ARSA (2).

Field 32. Sporadic (0527/7165)

Sampling: 12 m.

Visibility: Fruit trees. Weathered surface with some weed growth. Moderate visibility.

Peach orchard sloping down steeply southwards from top of ridge.

Imperial: RBT (1).

Field/Site 33. Outbuilding (0595/7164)

Sampling: 7 m.

Visibility: Partial crop growth. Moderate visibility.

Scatter size: c. 45 × 20 m.

Field to north of road, sloping down steadily to the north. A concentration was identified to the east alongside the modern road. It is likely to form part of the villa complex in field 34.

Prehistoric: LITH (6);¹¹⁶ **archaic:** BUC (1); **mid-Republican to early Imperial:** RBT (323), RBTS (1),¹¹⁷ DOL (2), RAMPH (72), ISW (1),¹¹⁸ RCW (100),¹¹⁹ PLW (44), VN (2), SIGIT (3),¹²⁰ TWW (3).

Field/site 34. Villa (0598/7158)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive trees and vines. Weathered surface with some weed cover. Moderate visibility.

Scatter size: 60 × 30 m (plus extensive wash down slope).

Site level adjacent to the road and then slopes down southwards fairly steeply to valley bottom. Concentrating close to the road, a dense scatter of building material (including a large travertine block, limestone cobbles and tufa).

¹¹³ Tools.

¹¹⁴ Base Morel 171 (second half second century BC).

¹¹⁵ Bowl Hayes 8A, 1 (AD 90/mid-second century).

¹¹⁶ Tool (Fig. 17.8).

¹¹⁷ EROS P(ubli) TETTI (Fig. 18.30). Other brick stamps of P. Teti have been found along the Via Cassia (CIL XV 1471, 1472). For the senatorial family of the Tetii see Andermahr, 1998: 450, n. 523.

¹¹⁸ Jar Dyson CF26 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.13).

¹¹⁹ Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

¹²⁰ Bowl *Conspectus* 35 (AD 1–40).

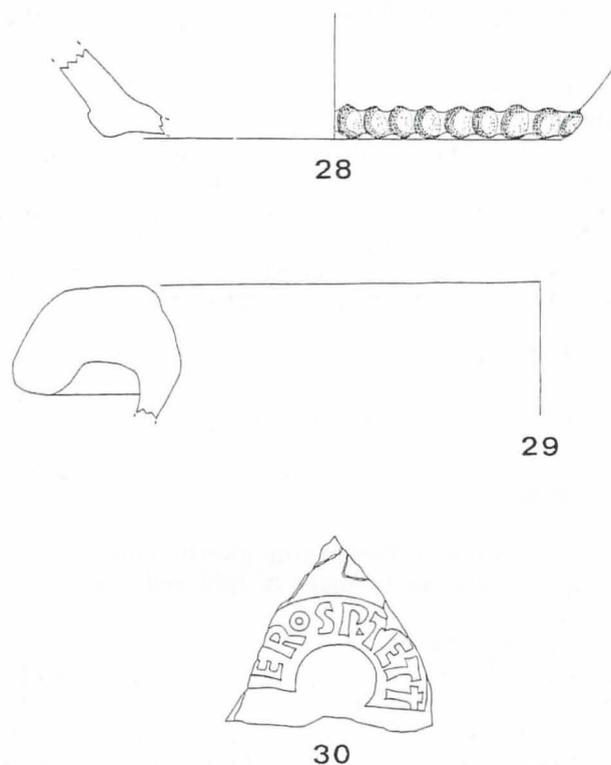


FIG. 18. Selection of diagnostic material. *Dolia*: nos. 28 (site 34), 29 (site 29.2); *Roman brick stamp*: no. 30 (site 33). (Scale 1:3)

Orientalizing and archaic: RIC (1); **mid-Republican to late antique:** RBT (1018), RAMPH (104),¹²¹ RCW (186),¹²² PLW (44), AFCO (3),¹²³ VN (2), SIGIT (5), TWW (5), SIGEB (2), ARSA (6),¹²⁴ ARSA/D (1), ARSD (10),¹²⁵ QERN (1).

Field 35. Wash (0600/7158)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Olive trees and some vines. Surface vegetation. Poor visibility.

Olive grove slopes down southeastwards. The topographical position suggests that it derives from site 34.

¹²¹ Amphora Tripolitana II (mid-first–fourth centuries AD).

¹²² Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14); casserole Patterson and Roberts 425, fig. 3, 4 (sixth century AD) (Fig. 14.16); small dolium *Artena* fig. 26, 292 (fourth–third centuries BC) (Fig. 18.28).

¹²³ Plate/lid *Ostia* I, fig. 261 (beginning third–end fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD) and *Ostia* I, fig. 18 (first half third century AD).

¹²⁴ Bowl Hayes 14C (end second–beginning third centuries AD); small jug Hayes 131, nos. 3–4; 132, no. 1 (end first–beginning second centuries AD).

¹²⁵ Dish Hayes 61, nos. 17, 25 (AD 325–450); flanged bowl Hayes 91 (mid-fourth–sixth centuries AD) and Hayes 91, no. 128 (AD 450–500/30).

Early/mid-Imperial and late antique: RBT (122), RAMPH (27), RCW (39),¹²⁶ PLW (8), ARSA (2).

Field 36. Scatter (0658/7227)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Newly ploughed. Good to moderate visibility.

Scatter size: 70 × 50 m.

Bibliography: Muzzioli, 1980: no. 19.

To the immediate west of this field, Muzzioli identified an extensive villa site and cited reports of *tombe a cappuccina*. The precise location of the scatter is now under modern buildings. However, it was possible to identify dense scatters of material in both this field and field 37. It is likely that both form part of a single complex (see Field/Site 37).

Mid-Imperial: RBT (199), RAMPH (26), RCW (36), PLW (7), AFCA (2),¹²⁷ ARSA (4);¹²⁸ *late antique*: ARSD (1).

Field/site 37. Villa (0658/7228)

Sampling: 5 m.

Visibility: Ploughed and harrowed. Partial crop growth. Good visibility.

Scatter size: Difficult to assess due to shape of field and building work, but at least 50 × 75 m.

Bibliography: Muzzioli, 1980: no. 19.

Immediately to the east of Muzzioli's villa site. The density of building material, especially tile, limestone cobbles and pieces of travertine, suggests this field is closer to the nucleus of Muzzioli's site than field 36. Although no luxury materials were identified during re-survey, the site has clearly been damaged by modern construction and we follow Muzzioli's interpretation of this site as a villa.

Prehistoric: LITH (1);¹²⁹ *mid-Republican to mid-Imperial*: RBT (574), RAMPH (67),¹³⁰ ISW (1),¹³¹ RCW (111),¹³² PLW (33), VN (5),¹³³ SIGIT (4), ARSA (3), ARSC (1); *late antique*: ARSD (3).¹³⁴

Field/Site 38. Farm (0643/7211)

Sampling: 3 m.

Visibility: Vines. Weathered surface. Good visibility.

Scatter size: 25 × 20 m.

Narrow vineyard on ridge to northwest of road. The concentration of material included limestone cobbles.

¹²⁶ Casserole Patterson and Roberts 424, fig. 2, 2 (sixth century AD).

¹²⁷ Casserole Hayes 197 (first half second–end fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD).

¹²⁸ Bowl Hayes 8B (first half third century AD).

¹²⁹ Tool.

¹³⁰ Amphora Africana I (mid second–end fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD) (Fig. 15.27).

¹³¹ Jar Dyson CF26 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.13).

¹³² Jars Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

¹³³ Bowl Morel 2536b (250–225 BC).

¹³⁴ Dish *Atlante* I, pl. XXV, 6 (fourth–fifth centuries AD) and *Atlante* I, pl. XXXVII, 8 (first half sixth century AD).

Prehistoric: LITH (1),¹³⁵ *orientalizing and archaic:* COST (1),¹³⁶ RIC (7); *mid-/late Republican and mid-Imperial:* RBT (150), DOL (1), RAMPH (71), RCW (65),¹³⁷ ISW (1), PLW (42), VN (10),¹³⁸ AFCA (1).¹³⁹

Field 39. Wash (0637/7215)

Sampling: 10 m.

Visibility: Ploughed field. Good visibility.

Arable field below and northwest of field 38, sloping down steeply to valley bottom. The field produced material that probably derives from site 38.

Early/mid-Imperial: RBT (26), RAMPH (8), RCW (15), ARSA (2);¹⁴⁰ *late antique:* ARSD (1).

Field/Site 40. Farm (0637/7207)

Sampling: 3 m

Visibility: Olive trees and vines. Overgrown with weeds. Poor visibility.

Scatter size: 60 × 30 m.

Level adjacent to road, then sloping down northwestwards. A concentration of limestone cobbles suggests the presence of a farm.

Mid-Republican and mid-Imperial to late antique: RBT (162), RAMPH (39), RCW (36),¹⁴¹ PLW (2), VN (1), ARSA (4),¹⁴² ARSC (1).¹⁴³

Field 41. Wash (0635/7205)

Sampling: 3 m.

Visibility: Olive trees and vines. Overgrown with weeds. Poor visibility.

Field sloping down northwestwards. The material probably derives from site 40.

Mid-Imperial to late antique: RBT (31), DOL (1), RAMPH (10),¹⁴⁴ RCW (20), PLW (3), AFCA (1),¹⁴⁵ ARSA (2).¹⁴⁶

HDG-MS-JW-RW

¹³⁵ Tool.

¹³⁶ Scheffer 37, fig. 10, ID (seventh century BC).

¹³⁷ Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

¹³⁸ Bowl Morel 2534c (200 or first half second century BC) and Morel 2523c (250–190 BC); chalice similar Morel 2533a (second half third century BC); base Morel 321b (300 BC) decorated with palm in relief, Bernardini fig. 2, 70, pl. LVIII, 103 (305–265 BC) (Fig. 14.1).

¹³⁹ Casserole Hayes 23B (second half second–beginning third centuries AD).

¹⁴⁰ Bowl Hayes 8A, no. 1 (AD 90–mid-second century).

¹⁴¹ Jar Dyson CF29 (275–150 BC) (Fig. 14.14).

¹⁴² Bowl Hayes 8B (third century AD).

¹⁴³ Dish Hayes 50A, nos. 1–45 (AD 230/40–325).

¹⁴⁴ Africana I (mid-second–fourth/beginning fifth centuries AD) (Fig. 15.27).

¹⁴⁵ Dish/lid *Ostia* I, 263 (first half of the third–fourth centuries AD).

¹⁴⁶ Bowl Hayes 14C (end second–beginning third centuries AD).

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