





Arm und Reich – Zur Ressourcenverteilung in prähistorischen Gesellschaften

Rich and Poor – Competing for resources in prehistoric societies

8. Mitteldeutscher Archäologentag vom 22. bis 24. Oktober 2015 in Halle (Saale)

Herausgeber Harald Meller, Hans Peter Hahn,
Reinhard Jung und Roberto Risch



Tagungen des Landesmuseums für Vorgeschichte Halle Band 14/II | 2016

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herausgegeben von Harald Meller, Hans Peter Hahn, Reinhard Jung und Roberto Risch

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Roman villas and social differentiation

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Zusammenfassung

Römische Villen und soziale Differenzierung

In der Klassischen Archäologie wird der lateinische Begriff Villa allgemein für das Bauschema ländlicher und/oder außerstädtischer Privatanwesen verwendet, die sich ab spätrepublikanischer Zeit (Ende 3./Anfang 2. Jh. v. Chr.) im römischen Italien entwickelten und allgemein mit auf Sklaverei beruhender ländlicher Ausbeutung verbunden werden.

Konkret wurde die römische Villa bisher als standardisiertes Bauwerk definiert, welches aus dem axialen Kern eines Atriumhauses (pars urbana) und einem abgetrennten, für die Nahrungsmittelproduktion (Öl- und Weinpressen, Lagerräume etc.), Tierhaltung (z.B. Viehställe) und Sklavenunterkünfte vorgesehenen Teil (pars rustica) besteht. Durch die Entdeckung der sogenannten Auditorium Villa im nördlichen Suburbium Roms ist dieses Schema unlängst in Zweifel gezogen worden. Die Fundstelle gehört zu den interessantesten und meistdiskutierten archäologischen Befunden, die in den letzten Jahren in Rom zum Vorschein gekommen sind.

Der vorliegende Beitrag konzentriert sich auf die älteren Phasen des Gebäudes (mittleres 6. bis ausgehendes 4. Jh. v. Chr.), während derer ein kleiner archaischer Gutsbetrieb (300 m²) zerstört und um etwa 500 v. Chr. durch eine viel größere Anlage (600 m²) ersetzt wurde. Aufgrund der Dimensionen, Aufteilung, und möglichen Funktionen der Räumlichkeiten und/oder größerer Raumeinheiten des Gebäudes lassen sich schon bei diesem frühen Beispiel römischer Architektur verschiedene Elemente nachweisen, die für bestimmte Gruppen/Funktionen vorgesehen waren, darunter ein Wohnteil (pars urbana), ein Wirtschaftsteil (pars rustica) sowie mögliche Sklavenunterkünfte.

Summary

In Classical Archaeology studies, the Latin word villa has been generally used to indicate an architectural model for rural and/or extra-urban private estates, developed from the late Republican era (end of the 3rd/beginning of the 2nd century BC) onwards in Roman Italy and associated with rural exploitation based on slave labour.

In particular, the Roman villa has been seen as a standard type of building, comprising the axial nucleus of an atrium house (pars urbana) together with a separate area devoted to food production (oil and wine presses, store rooms, and so forth), animal breeding (e.g., stables), and slave compounds (pars rustica). This idea has been challenged by a recent discovery in the northern part of the Roman suburbium, the so called Auditorium Villa, which represents one of the most interesting and widely-discussed archaeological discoveries in Rome during the last few years.

The paper will focus on the earlier phases of this building (mid-6th to the end of the 4th centuries BC) when a small archaic farm (300 m²) was destroyed and replaced, around 500 BC, by a much more substantial building (600 m²). The sizes, distribution, and possible functions of rooms and/or larger parts of the building allow us to identify, even at this early stage in Roman architecture, different spaces reserved for different social groups/entities: a residential quarter (pars urbana), a productive area (pars rustica) and a possible slave compound.

Introduction

The term »Roman villa« evokes a concept which appears to be well known and well defined, but in fact conceals diverse realities, and a complex history which, although substantially rewritten in recent years, still requires reflection¹. When we speak of a Roman villa, we are not referring to a private residential building sited in a decentralised, extraurban location that varies according to its owner's taste, as its modern-day analogue immediately suggests. Or rather, we are not referring only to this. The ancient villa did, in fact, have these characteristics, but was far more complex, both

architecturally, i.e., in the way its rooms were organised, and in its intended use, than any modern counterpart. There is no single definition of the ancient villa's intended use. This is particularly true of the so-called countryside villa – productive in type, with or without a residential quarter (pars urbana) – which will be discussed here, and for which hereafter the term »villa« will be used generically. However, this also applies to what are defined as »urban« villas, which lay closer to the city, and to other villas, often on the coast (villae maritimae), which may have been involved in productive activities, but which were mainly designed for their users' otium, or spare time, free from business, and/or civic

¹ Painter 1980; Carandini et al. 2006, 559–610; Marzano 2007; Becker/Terrenato 2012.

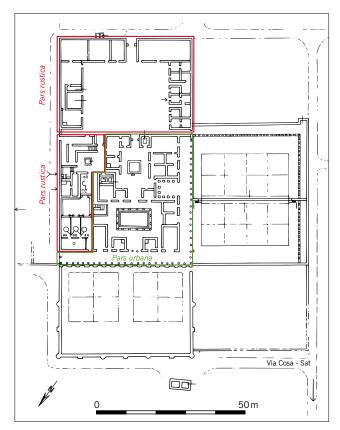


Fig. 1 The villa of »Settefinestre«, near Cosa, prov. Grosseto. Reconstructed overall plan of the Republican villa.

Abb. 1 Die Villa von »Settefinestre« in der Nähe von Cosa, Prov. Grosseto. Rekonstruierter Gesamtplan der republikanischen Villa.

or political activities, and usually spent in studying and relaxing, rather than in farm production.

Classical writers were perfectly aware of this complexity, and in Ancient Latin literature, starting from Cato's work (De agri cultura) in the 2nd century BC, there was a specific genre dealing with monuments of this type, which outlined their optimal arrangement, internal organisation, and farming specialisations, even illustrating the image of the villa perfecta coined by Varro, Res Rusticae, 3.2.7-18 in the mid-1st century BC. From this literature it can be seen that the villa was above all a precisely organised and functioning productive machine, thanks amongst other things to the use of servant and/or slave labour, and, as such, was in itself a source and locus of social differentiation.

In the archaeological tradition, this abstract notion of the villa has been generally associated with widespread settings dating from the middle Republican Age (late 3rd century BC) onwards, and in particular with economic systems based on the exploitation of the slave labour that became abundant in the Italic area following the Second Punic War (218–201 BC) and the consequent arrival of prisoners later sold as slaves. The advent of this conceptual model dates to the 1970s, and matured following the landmark excavation of the »Settefinestre« villa in the hinterland of Ansedonia, in south Etruria (Fig. 1; Carandini 1985). Here, A. Carandini and his team investigated a large, late-Republican property centred upon a self-sufficient, luxuriously-equipped villa, surrounded by rural-type out-buildings, as well as vegetable and flower gardens, orchards, and fields, and covering a total of about 250 ha. As in many similar complexes of that time, the central building was divided into a refined part (pars urbana – reserved for the dominus and his family) and a rustic part - pars rustica - accommodating the facilities, mainly for wine and oil production, upon which the entire complex's economy was based. These were replaced in the Imperial Age (Fig. 2) by dwellings to house slaves and pigs. The model appears to correspond with that presented by Varro (Res rusticae). At this initial phase in the study of the villa, its operation and its farm and slave-labour production system were reconstructed in the light of modern economic categories (with a predominantly Marxist approach) applied to the ancient world, in which slave exploitation was associated with a supply and demand market system in a capitalist-type economy, including financial investment (buying land, villa, tools, animals, and slaves) and producing surplus profits (selling goods; Carandini 1976; Carandini 1979; cf. now Volpe 2012).

The Auditorium villa

More recent excavations in Rome's northern suburbium have brought to light a new discovery, which pointed to the existence of villas in the Roman world about three centuries earlier than previously thought, and thus linked the concept of »villa«, not to a particular type of production (based, in fact, on slave labour), but to the organisation of space within a given architectural type². The particular site which is meant here presents no particularly luxurious or urban aspects, and is closer to our concept of a farm, from which, as we shall see, it derived. However, its scale and organisation (both material and social) are quite different from those of the small farms already known in the Roman suburbium

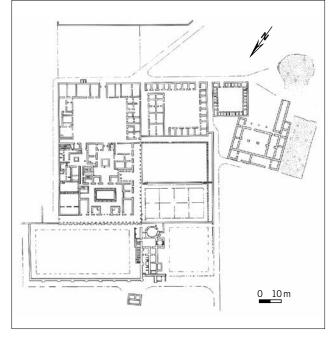


Fig. 2 The villa of »Settefinestre«, near Cosa, prov. Grosseto. Reconstructed overall plan of the Imperial villa (2nd century AD).

Abb. 2 Die Villa von »Settefinestre« in der Nähe von Cosa, Prov. Grosseto. Rekonstruierter Gesamtplan der kaiserzeitlichen Villa (2. Jh. n. Chr.).

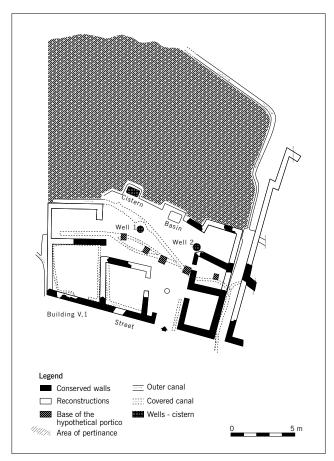


Fig. 3 The archaic farm in the suburbium of Rome, Acqua Acetosa Laurentina.

Abb. 3 Die archaische Farm im Suburbium Roms, Acqua Acetosa Laurentina.

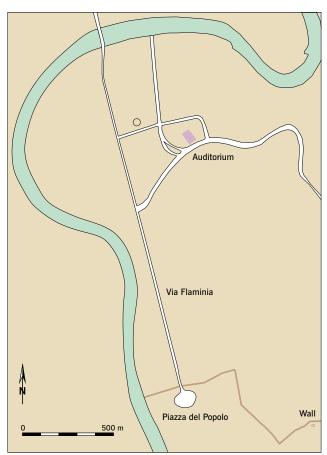


Fig. 4 The position of the Auditorium site in Rome.

Abb. 4 Lage der Auditorium Fundstelle in Rom.

from as early as the 6th century BC (Fig. 3; for example at Acqua Acetosa Laurentina or Torrino; Bedini 1981; Bedini 1984; Jolivet et al. 2009). The core problem that the excavations reopened was that of when villas proper began to appear alongside (and/or instead of) these farms.

The discovery dates to 1996 when, in Rome's Flaminio neighbourhood, an alluvial plain situated along the left bank of the Tiber (Fig. 4), works were underway at the foot of the Parioli hill to build the three concert halls for the renowned Auditorium³. According to the ancient topography, the site is on the route of the Via Flaminia, between mile II and mile III from the circuit of Rome's Servian walls, within the territory known as ager Romanus antiquus. Here (Fig. 5-6), at a depth of about 5 m, considerable remains and materials belonging to a rather complex and long-lived monument were unearthed; extending over a total of about 2000 m², it came into being around the beginning of 5th century BC, after an earlier farm had been destroyed, and remained in use until the early 3rd century AD. Analysis of the stratigraphic sequence allowed this long time span to be subdivided into six main periods, in turn broken down into phases, the complete examination of which was the subject of a publication edited in 2006 by A. Carandini, M. T. D'Alessio, and

H. Di Giuseppe⁴. During its numerous renovations, the building always had productive areas, residential areas, and large rooms arranged in accordance with an extremely rational scheme, which from the late 3rd century BC were organised around a regular atrium (Fig. 7). These structural elements provided the main basis on which an interpretation as a private, residential, and productive building was proposed. Despite the remote dating, the monument's size and state of conservation soon made it an interesting basis of comparison for the discussion of the rise and development of the villa. Here, in fact, a continuous sequence of superimposed renovations was recognised; starting as a farm around 550-500 BC, the building was transformed into a villa in the early 5th century BC, and rebuilt a number of times thereafter. The discussion will focus, in particular, on the first two phases of the site's occupation, during the Archaic and Classical Periods, and especially on the moment of transition from a small farm, covering about 300 m², to an enormous complex of twice that size, with an internal organisation of space that allowed us to define it, even at this early date, as a villa. With this definition, we established, for the first time, the use of the term »villa« to describe compound buildings whose beginnings may be dated at least as far

 $^{{\}tt 2}$ See the two volumes of Pergola et al. 2003 and Jolivet et al. 2009.

³ Designed by the famous Italian architect Renzo Piano.

⁴ Carandini et al. 1997; Ricci/Terrenato 1998; D'Alessio 2004; D'Alessio/Di Giuseppe 2005; Carandini et al. 2006.



Fig. 5 Aerial photo of the Auditorium villa.

Abb. 5 Luftaufnahme der Auditorium Villa.

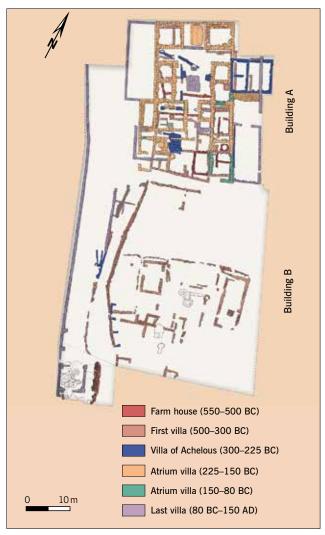


Fig. 6 Site plan of the excavated area, indicating the identified phases.

Abb. 6 Plan der Grabungsfläche mit den nachgewiesenen Phasen.

back as the 5th century BC5. This first villa (Building A), associated with a walled village (Building B), probably housing the workers, is the one that interests us most.

The farm house - Phase 1

In the second half of the 6th century BC, the first stable occupation in the area is attested by the construction of a small building - about 300 m² (Fig. 8-9; Carandini et al. 2006, 72-98), in which a farm may be recognised. All the walls belonging to this phase occupied the south-eastern portion of what was later to be Building A. Construction was quite primitive, with tufa fragments, clay walls, and a tile roof. Based on the preserved evidence and on the available comparisons, a single row of rooms has been reconstructed, arranged in a »U«

around a large courtyard, with the western side open towards the access road. The interpretation proposed for the functions of these rooms was based on the distribution of ceramic finds. To the north were the residential rooms; to the east were those dedicated to household activities such as cooking, including an oven room with a pantry; to the south were the storage rooms. The oven (Fig. 10) was formed of a circular, dome-shaped baking chamber with a 1 m internal diameter. Its walls were built with chips of yellow tufa, similar to those used in the construction of the farm's walls, lined with a thick layer of compact clay, also yellow; on the inside, this clay showed signs of combustion due to use, and thus varied in colour from red to black. The oven must have been intended for baking bread and other foods and resembles ovens from other similar complexes, identified above all in Etruria, which are also dated to the late 6th century BC6.

⁵ Contra M. Torelli (2012, especially 8-11) and N. Terrenato (2012) who, as far as the emergence of villas is concerned, sees only farms until the 3^{rd} to 2^{nd} centuries BC with a few cases of villas appearing only in the 1st cen-

tury BC. As for the »elite residences« built on a large scale in the 5th-4th centuries BC, using a perfect opus quadratum technique and large terracottas (as at the Auditorium site), Terrenato has still doubts about their

function and social context (see also Terrenato 2001).

⁶ On the oven of Acquarossa, near Viterbo: Östenberg 1975, 12; 106 with Fig.

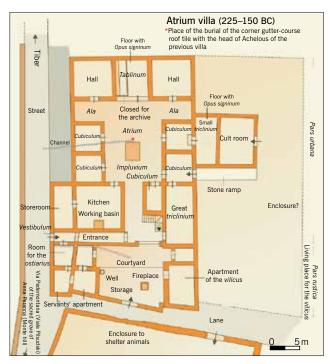


Fig. 7 Restored plan of the atrium villa (Phase 4)

Abb. 7 Rekonstruierter Plan der Atriumvilla (Phase 4).

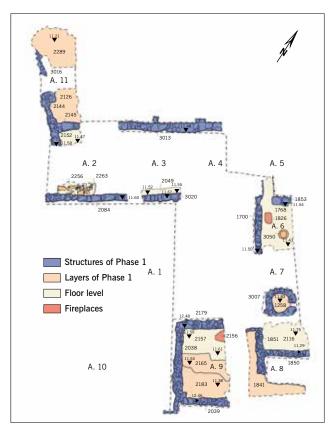


Fig. 8 Phase plan of the archaic farm (Phase 1).

Abb. 8 Phasenplan der archaischen Farm (Phase 1).

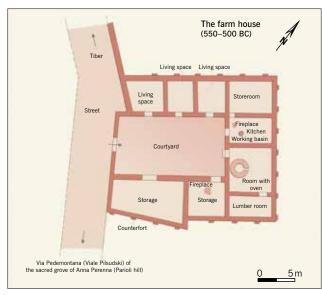


Fig. 9 Restored plan of the archaic farm (Phase 1).

Abb. 9 Rekonstruierter Plan der archaischen Farm (Phase 1).

Near the farm, further south, ran a foothill road (corresponding to the present-day Viale Pilsudski), from which the road providing access to the building branched off.

To interpret this small structure, we have taken into consideration what we know about the organisation of the territory around Rome in the Archaic period, especially based on the literary tradition that attributes to King Servius Tullius (about the mid-6th century BC) a series of reforms to restructure the Roman State and reorganise land tenure (D'Alessio 2004). In fact, Servius Tullius is credited with creating the first rural tribes, by designating districts in which land was divisible and could be acquired by free citizens, outside the control of the aristocracy7. This land division led to the rise of small landholders. It is even possible that, thanks to the Servian reforms, the clients who controlled land on behalf of large landholders were able to obtain small plots to manage for themselves, thus initiating the creation of the new social group which, from 509 BC on, became the plebs. The farm we have identified, located within the territory of the Pollia tribe (Taylor 1960; Alföldi 1965), might therefore have been inhabited by a well-off Roman farmer who resided there with his family, either as a free independent farmer (owning the plot he exploited) or as a client of a noble aristocrat. The farm lasted for about two generations, but was razed to the ground in about 500 BC, possibly in connection with conflicts with the Sabines or with the nearby settlement of Antemnae, which opposed the Republic in favour of bringing King Tarquinius Superbus back to Rome. The late 6th century BC saw another aristocratic appropriation of countryside lands, but times had changed and the old noble families had by now been replaced by the new class of patricians.

A passage in Livy (Ab urbe condita 2.21–23), referring to 495 BC, illustrates the violent events that took place on the

⁷ Cornell 1995, 173-179. See also Colonna 2009, 678-679; Capogrossi Colognesi 2012, 34-35; Carafa forthcoming.



Fig. 10 The bread oven which was found in the archaic farm house (Phase 1).

Abb. 10 Der Brotbackofen, der in der archaischen Farm gefunden wurde (Phase 1).

occasion of the first conflict between patricians and plebeians. The patricians lived in villas and on lands some of which were near the city; these villas were starting to expand at the expense of farms owned by small landholders who, ruined by wars and indebtedness, ended up being subjected to the patricians. The destruction of the farm may have caused the farmer's bankruptcy and his subsequent enslavement.

The first villa - Phase 2

Lying immediately above the destroyed farm was an enormous complex (Fig. 11-12; Carandini et al. 2006, 103-189) built of squared-off tufa blocks and divided into two buildings that, although separate, were closely related to one another. Here we witness a clear change of scale. The northern building (Building A, about 600 m²) may be likened to our concept of a »proper« villa, being divided into a residential part and a rustic part. Access was from the north-southern road along the structure's western boundary. The residential part of Building A was quite well preserved. It was built around a courtyard surrounded on two sides by rooms. Among them were a large, rectangular room at the centre of the northern side (quite similar in plan, size, and chronology to Acquarossa's main room; Strandberg Olofsson 1985, 57; Strandberg Olofsson 1986, 81-89), and probably two lateral towers. A wooden portico housed a press for olive processing - its pressing base was preserved - and provided access to a storeroom behind. On the east side of the portico, as the finds showed, there was a cult room looking out towards the countryside (D'Alessio/Di Giuseppe 2005). The rustic part was also organised around a courtyard, with storerooms and a kitchen. In the kitchen, two tiles were discovered side by side, along with ashes and pots; they would have been warmed to provide a cooking surface.

At the same time, to the south, beyond a small road, a new section was built (Building B, Fig. 13). It extended over an area of approximately 1200 m². Unlike Building A, it was surrounded by a high wall (maceria), so that it resembled a walled village. The construction technique, using tufa fragments - similar to that used in the earlier farm - was of inferior quality to that used at the same time in Building A. Inside there was a large enclosure (perhaps to shelter animals), as well as a less organised section with large unroofed areas and small rooms; it is thought that these were for housing the servants employed in the villa's activities, as well as for storing tools and so on8.

In addition to being a large farming concern, the unit formed by the villa and its southern complex (Buildings A and B; Fig. 14) represents something quite new archaeologically. The organisation of space in the northern building, the size of the entire complex, and the presence of the walled village set it clearly apart from the earlier farm, from the subsequent building phase and those which followed on the same site, and from what has been known to date elsewhere. The features are such that "villa" appeared to us to be the only term we could use to define them, leading us to suggest that the architectural type began some centuries earlier than hitherto thought. Moreover, in the sources, the place in

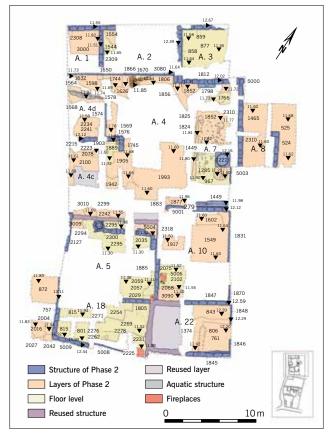


Fig. 11 Phase plan of the first villa (Phase 2, Building A).

Abb. 11 Phasenplan der ersten Villa (Phase 2, Gebäude A)

complex reserved for lower-level residents. The fact that the two buildings were built at the same time and the proximity between two residences, occupied by different social

groups, allows us to assume that people living in Building A had some sort of control over people living in Building B in a masterworkers/servants relation

⁸ All we see from an archaeological point of view is a clear difference between Building A - a luxury residence including productive and storage quarters - and Building B - a

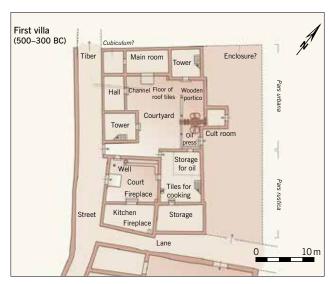


Fig. 12 Restored plan of the first villa (Phase 2, Building A).

Abb. 12 Rekonstruierter Plan der ersten Villa (Phase 2, Gebäude A).

Rome where the census was carried out from the 5th century BC onwards⁹ was called the *villa Publica* and, according to F. Coarelli (1997, 65), may have been one of the extraurban properties which had belonged to the Tarquins and which were taken into public ownership - not unlike the domus Publica in the Forum. It is therefore possible that at least some rural buildings, perhaps particularly monumental or luxurious ones, were already defined as villae in the late Archaic period, and that the term is not merely an a posteriori projection of concepts known when the literary tradition took shape. The owner of this new complex was perhaps a patrician. His land may have been worked, at least in part, by the new category of debt servants (nexi), who would have been housed in the walled village. The chief and most profitable crop was the olive - as shown by the olive press whose cultivation, according to Pliny (Naturalis Historia 15.1), was introduced to Rome at the time of Tarquinius Priscus, that is, in the late 7th century BC. It would have been no accident that olive processing was housed in the villa's central building, under its owner's direct supervision.

The villa of Achelous - Phase 3

In about 300 BC (Fig. 15), the villa took on a new appearance, maintaining the clear distinction between the residential part to the north, organised around a courtyard, and the farmer's quarters to the south, but now no longer with a section for slave quarters. The section we have defined as being for servants was in fact obliterated. Only its enclosure wall was preserved, surviving solely as a fence, perhaps to protect animals and fruit trees. The oil press also disappeared, and an altar was placed at the centre of the residential courtyard, perhaps to celebrate the cult of the aristocratic family (gens) who lived there – a family wealthy enough to possess as

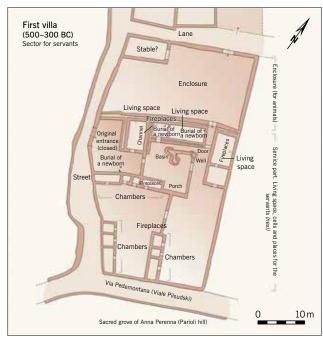
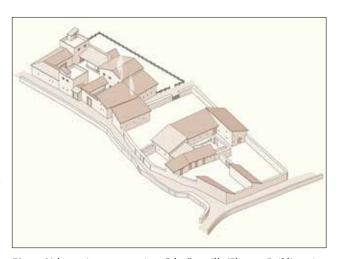


Fig. 13 Restored plan of the first villa (Phase 2, Building B).

Abb. 13 Rekonstruierter Plan der ersten Villa (Phase 2, Gebäude B).



Volumetric reconstruction of the first villa (Phase 2, Buildings A

Abb. 14 Dreidimensionale Rekonstruktion der ersten Villa (Phase 2, Gebäude A und B).

prized an object as the corner gutter roof-tile with a protome of the river God Achelous which was found in the courtyard (Fig. 16). The farmer's quarters were still centred on a courtyard, with two hearths and a central *impluvium* with basin. The overseer of the villa (vilicus) – probably, by this period, a slave - lived here. The disappearance of the slave/servant quarters might reflect a change in the workforce employed at the villa. In 326 BC, the new law Lex Poetelia Papiria de nexis¹⁰ had abolished debt servitude, while the Samnite Wars brought Rome its first farm slaves as spoil.

 $^{9\,}$ Certainly from 435 BC, but probably from as early as 443 BC (Livy, Ab urbe condita 4.22.7; 4.8.7)

¹⁰ Livy, Ab urbe condita 8.28; Dion. Hal. Roman Antiquities 16.5; Cicero, De re publica 2.34; Varro, Ling. lat. 7.105.

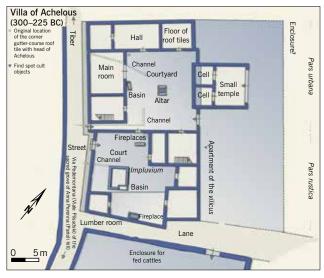


Fig. 15 Restored plan of the villa of Achelous (Phase 3, Building A).

Abb. 15 Rekonstruierter Plan der Villa des Acheloos (Phase 3, Gebäude A).

The atrium villa

By the late 3rd century BC (about 225 BC), the villa's *pars urbana* was centred on a regular *atrium* (see Fig. 7), supplemented by areas for the storage of produce *(pars rustica)*, and was managed by slaves: this is the model Cato describes (*De agri cultura*). A noteworthy feature of this phase is the trace, on the floor of the *tablinum*, between the edge of the floor and the side wall, of what may have been a closet, where the scrolls and *tabulae* constituting the archive of the family which owned the villa may have been stored *(tablinum derives from tabula)*. The modifications that took place in the Imperial Age did not change the earlier appearance very much, except for the addition of lateral structures, most probably store-rooms, and two stables, indicative of changes in cultivation and farming.

An alternative interpretation of the entire complex was proposed in 2002 by M. Piranomonte and A. La Regina (Piranomonte 2002a), who believed it to be the shrine (or annex thereof) dedicated to Anna Perenna, the nymph whom the Romans venerated on 15th March, the date of the most ancient Roman new year; however, the *Fasti Vaticani* placed this shrine in the via Flaminia *ad lapidem primum* (Piranomonte 2002; Piranomonte 2002a).



Fig. 16 Corner gutter-course roof-tile with the head of the river god Achelous.

Abb. 16 Dachtraufeneckziegel mit dem Kopf des Flussgottes Acheloos.

Conclusion

The discovery of the Auditorium villa has certainly revolutionised the interpretation of rural landscapes between the 5th and 3rd centuries BC. Where there had been villages and farms in earlier periods, it is now possible to identify settlements which are as large as villages but which are distinguished by finds indicating a certain degree of luxury, such as architectural terracotta. In light of what has been discussed, and as highlighted by Carandini (Carandini et al. 2006, 559–610), we suspect that these were villas from the Early or Middle Republic, once totally ignored, and now epitomised by the Auditorium villa (see also Jolivet et al. 2009; Volpe 2012).

However, some criticism still maintains that it is only possible to speak of villas from the 1st century BC onwards, and that rare earlier examples of »elite residences« since the 5th and 4th centuries are to be ascribed to forms of private aristocracy (Terrenato 2001). The form of dominion over territory exemplified by the Auditorium villa was indeed aristocratic, and we believe it to have been a form which was generalised and propagated precisely through the stable institution of the villa. What varies over time are the aristocracies that managed these villas (patrician, patrician-plebeian and the Late Republican *nobilitas*), and the procedures connected with production (using nexi, slave families, and teams of slaves specialised in the various farming activities), but the signs from this period onward are of strong occupation of territory, and the villa was to be one of the types of structure most characteristic of romanisation.

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DEFINING RICH AND POOR IN PREHISTORIC SOCIETIES					
Region considered: Suburbium of Rome					
Time cons Kind of	idered: 6 th –1 st century BC Questions				
evidence	Questions				
Funerary evidence	How large is the part of the ancient population represented by the available tombs? Is any section of the population missing from the available funerary evidence? Is it possible to state, if gaps in the funerary record are the product of economic factors? Is the available funerary information representative of social groups? Which sectors of the society are we	We haven't found tombs here.			
	grasping in material terms? Which material aspects (grave goods, funerary buildings, etc.) have been used in each society to express as well as to create differences inside society? Can these differences be interpreted in terms of power and/or economic exploitation or do they respond to other types of social divisions?				
	Are there hints pointing to a negative expression, a camouflage of property? Is there evidence to suggest that economic and social differences were not enhanced, but rather levelled in funerary ritual?				
	Which qualitative and quantitative criteria are used in each study to establish »wealth differences« between funerary contexts?				
	Where wealth differences are apparent, which proportion (%) of tombs would belong to the very poor and which to the very rich?				
	Which material differences exist between age and sex groups? More specifically, can we identify rich child and female burials or do only male accumulate wealth?				
Textual evidence	How do specific economic activities, property, taxation, etc. favour certain social classes/groups of others?				
	Which is the evidence for storage and accumulation of wealth and surplus? Are products stored at the domestic level or centralised in certain buildings/areas? In the latter case, can we distinguish between private storage (e.g. in a palace) and public facilities?	The only evidence we have are rooms, part of a private rural building, possibly used as store-rooms.			
Settlement or non-funerary evidence	Can we identify a communal or supra-domestic architecture? Are these structures to be understood as communal property, as group property, or as private property of single persons?	Of course yes, because we are dealing with Rome, a fully urbanised society.			
	What can be said about the economic organisation of a given society? Who profited from possible centralisation? What part of the economy do these centralised productions represent? Is there evidence of administration reflecting the appropriation of value by a restricted group of persons?	We have firm archaeological evidence for a market system, under a proto-capitalistic economy (offer-demand-surplus investment), at least from the end of the 3 rd century BC, managed by the highest senatorial noble class.			
	Hoards can also be seen as a certain form of accumulation or of cancelling surplus. How do we interpret hoards in economic and social rather than ideological terms?				
	What is the role of violence in the establishment of class differences?				

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Die Reihe der Tagungsbände des Landesmuseums wurde 2008 ins Leben gerufen. Anlass dazu war die Konferenz »Luthers Lebenswelten«, die im Jahr 2007 in Halle ausgerichtet wurde. Bereits der zweite Tagungsband widmete sich mit dem Thema »Schlachtfeldarchäologie« dem Mitteldeutschen Archäologentag, der seit 2008 jährlich von Landesamt für Denkmalpflege und Archäologie Sachsen-Anhalt veranstaltet und zeitnah publiziert wird. Dem großen Anteil internationaler Autorinnen und Autoren entsprechend, erscheinen

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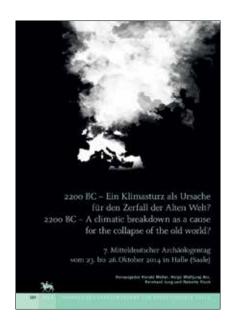
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