

accorto che le due planimetrie erano "simili" ma non aveva detto che erano la stessa cosa, evidentemente doveva esserci un valido motivo; e invece ... non c'era!" ("Io e la Forma Urbis. Confidenze autobiografiche" on p. 5).

The writings of Gatti contain more interesting observations and results than can possibly be mentioned here; the present writer found much of which he had so far been unaware. To mention just one case of general interest: Reference is often made to the *insula*-blocks discovered along Via del Corso (below present-day Galleria Colonna) - a rather unique feature in Roman archaeology and topography - but rarely does one come across anybody who can provide some real information on the subject. In fact it all goes back to Gatti's "Caratteristiche edilizie di un quartiere di Roma del II secolo d. Cr.", published in the not so accessible Quaderni dell'Ist. di Storia dell'Architettura of 1961, here on p. 283-300. The X Ripartizione del Comune di Roma has done Roman topography a real service by publishing this book (with forewords by Lucos Cozza and Gianlorenzo Gatti).

*Christer Bruun*

*Kjeld De Fine Licht (mit Beiträgen von John Lund und Jørgen Hansen): Untersuchungen zu den Trajansthermen zu Rom 2. Analecta Romana Instituti Danici, Suppl. 19. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 1990. 125 p. ITL 75. 000.*

Some 15 years after De Fine Licht's first work on the Baths of Trajan the sequel now follows. Excavations carried out in 1981-83 on and near the great cistern, commonly called Sette Sale, are the main reason for its publication. Some excavation results, which are not repeated here but are occasionally referred to, were published in *AnalDan Suppl. 10* (1983) 186-202.

The first part of the book is concerned with previous studies, and also reviews the information contained in old drawings, paintings or photographs of the ruins. Almost thirty pictures, sometimes in colour, of ancient works of art enliven the discussion. They sometimes reproduce parts of the structures that have since perished (23).

The two main chapters are devoted to a description of the Sette Sale complex and to a presentation of the 1981-83 excavation results. A following briefer section is concerned with the dating of the complex. Brick-stamps indicate a Trajanic date. The author convincingly refutes (103 n. 44) the suggestion by J.C. Anderson, *AJA* 89 (1985) 409-509 that the construction begun under Domitian. The proof that the cistern is Trajanic, and that it was indeed part of the Imperial Baths, is however provided by a lead pipe stamp: THER[-] TRAIAN. The lead pipe itself has long since disappeared, but an impression of the stamp is preserved in the mortar of a wall (94f.).

This work is generally of a high standard. The description of the cistern is detailed and illustrated with several drawings. The author touches upon many questions of more general interest, such as the existence of constructions on top of the cistern (p. 45; for storage or administrative purposes, or staff housing?), and the water supply of the cistern, which had a capacity of 7,000 cubic m (45ff.). So far, chemical investigations of the

archeological remains have not been able to provide any certainty regarding which aqueducts brought water to the cistern (but the Aqua Traiana must have been one).

The chapter presenting the actual excavation (49-90) adheres to the same high standards. A wealth of information is presented, but the author laments the restricted size of the excavated area, on the west side of the cistern. While the reader catches many tantalizing glimpses regarding e.g. the waterflow in and around the cistern, or concerning the large building ("Westgebäude") between the cistern and the Baths, not much in the line of conclusions is presented. It was apparently felt that more excavation work is called for, before a synthesis can be presented. The present volume will constitute a good foundation for such a work.

The volume is rounded off with two separate papers. The first is a brief analysis by John Lund of the terracotta lamps found during the excavations. The second paper is "Wasserleitungen aus Bleirohren" by Jørgen Hansen, who is well-known in this field for his work on the lead pipes from Vienne (Isère) in France. Following some general comments on the administration of Rome's aqueduct and the role played by the *curator aquarum* Sex. Iulius Frontinus (who acceded to his post in A.D. 97, not 96, and, contrary to Hansen's surmise, hardly left his post during the consulships he held in both A.D. 98 and 100), Hansen goes on to present a detailed analysis of the large stamped water pipes found in the Baths in the 1930s (BCAR 1938, 244f. = AE 1940, 40). This presentation, based on careful personal inspection, is now the best there is, especially regarding the numerals on the fistulae (more complete than in the reviewer's *The Water Supply of Ancient Rome*, Helsinki 1991, 45f.). All remaining pieces of leadpipe carry the stamp *Therm(is) Traian(i)*. Hansen is right in stressing that it is beyond doubt that Trajan's Aqua Traiana carried water over the Tiber from the Trastevere side. One major reason must have been to supply the new baths with water. The presumed find spot of these pipes, in the southwestern part of the baths, does however in Hansen's opinion not conclusively prove that the conduit was in fact directed to the Sette Sale cistern. On the other hand, Hansen does not consider the implications of the stamp *Ther[-] Traian.*, found in the cistern itself and presented by De Fine Licht earlier in the book (94). Hansen's chapter would have been more useful still if all *fistula*-stamps from the Baths and the cistern had received the same careful treatment.

Christer Bruun

*Donatella Mureddu - Donatella Salvi - Grete Stefani, Sancti innumerabiles. Scavi nella Cagliari del Seicento: testimonianze e verifiche.* Editrice S'Alvure, Oristano 1988. 193 pp. ITL 60. 000.

Il 7 novembre 1614 ebbero inizio i lavori di scavo voluti dall'arcivescovo D'Esquivel all'interno della basilica di S. Saturnino a Cagliari, per ricercare, sulla scia dei ritrovamenti di Porto Torres, corpi di santi e martiri. Il presente volume è dedicato allo studio di questi ritrovamenti, ed ha preso il suo nome dalla scoperta di un frammento epigrafico marmoreo le cui poche lettere residuo furono lette come abbreviazione di *Sancti innumerabiles* ed interpretate con entusiasmo quale prova e incentivo ad ulteriori ricerche.