finally by Augustus. In fact, the temple of Apollo was moved some metres in order to
make space for the theatre proper, that is the theatre of Marcellus.

The political tensions and their settlement later between Augustus and C. Sosius,
who actually began the rebuilding of the temple in 34 BC, probably had their drastic effect
on many features of the building. The Sosian building was meant to be one of travertine
covered with stucco, but after the battle of Actium in 31 it turned out to be a building of
marble, or rather marbles, reflecting in this way the importance of Augustus’ favourite
deity. According to the author, it was still C. Sosius, who had the privilege of finishing the
building at his own expense, even though the final touch was given in accordance with the
ideas of Augustus. The dedication took place before the year 17 BC, and the new dies
natalis was now the 23rd of September, nothing less than the birthday of Augustus. This
building was to be the artistic proclamation and show case of Augustan policy.

After this major reconstruction, the building seems to have remained more or less
intact into late antiquity. In the Middle Ages new constructions were built over it and even
inside the podium. The architectural decoration and the collapsed columns remained more
or less intact waiting for the excavators of the 1920s. The first publication by R. Delbrueck
came out in 1903. The podium and the pavement were unearthed in 1937–38, when the
material not only from the temple of Apollo but also from the surrounding neighbourhood
was deposited in haste with little care for its provenance. It was Eugenio La Rocca’s
fortunate discovery and reconstruction of the pedimental sculptures in 1985 which led to
the new studies on the site. The fruits of these studies are now presented by A. Viscogliosi
in his monograph on the development of the architecture and sculptural decoration of the
temple.

Of his excellent study I mention as a detail the Corinthian capital, pictured in fig. 64
and presented as a hallmark of the whole building. Its interpretation is full of Augustan
political propaganda, providing clues to the divine ancestry and family connections of
Augustus. The most challenging tasks for the author must have been, however, the
reexamining and summing up the various strata of the podium and the reconstruction of the
cella, beautifully supported by many drawings and photographs from old and new
excavations. It is obvious that the author has been enjoying doing his research on this
rewarding building. At the same time he has also managed splendidly to transmit to the
reader a picture of this unique temple which is, despite its many foreign and borrowed
aspects, a basically Roman building.

Leena Pietilä-Castrén

MARTIN MAISCHBERGER: Marmor in Rom. Anlieferung, Lager- und Werkplätze in der
Kaiserzeit. Palilia, Bd. 1. Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Rom. Dr. Ludwig Reichert

This is the first volume of the new series Palilia of the German Archaeological
Institute in Rome. In the series monographs on the archaeology of Italy will be published.
This publication is based on the writer’s dissertation at the Freie Universität Berlin. In
recent years a considerable number of studies on marble in antiquity has been published,
partly because of the first three congresses of ASMOSIA (Association for the Study of
Marble and Other Stones Used in Antiquity).
In this book both terms "marble" and "Rome" have been used in a wide sense. All kinds of polishable stones, white and coloured, are discussed. Geographically the study consists of Rome and its harbour towns Ostia and Portus, as well as the banks of the river Tiber between them. The main source material for the study is the different kinds of blocks of marble found in this area which have not been finished or used in antiquity. Many aspects of them are treated in the five chapters of the book but the most important is the topographical one. After the opening chapter on the history of the Roman marble trade, the other chapters are geographically divided between the three main areas where ancient marble blocks have been found. The transportation system is also discussed on the basis of the inscriptions. The first three chapters do not bring much new to the subject and the study relies quite substantially on the recent works of J.C. Fant. Unfortunately the author was not able to use fully the new study of P. Pensabene: Le vie del marmo. Itinerari ostiensi 7 (1995). The great contribution of Maischberger's book is the thorough study of the marble blocks found in the Emporium and especially in the northern Campus Martius in their archaeological context, using both the remaining blocks and various archives in Rome. The study is well written and gives new information not only on marble in ancient Rome but also on the topography of imperial Rome.

Risto Valjus


'Roman Ostia' Revisited presents the papers of an international conference held in memory of Russell Meiggs on 3–5 October 1992. The British School at Rome and the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Ostia published the results of the conference as a useful introduction to the present state of Ostian studies. The articles – written in English, Italian, French and Spanish – vary from pottery and architecture to navigation and great port systems; the perspective is mainly archaeological, but epigraphical and historical viewpoints are also represented in this publication.

The first section is dedicated to Russell Meiggs, the legendary author of Roman Ostia. H. Bloch, Oswyn Murray and Maria Floriani Squarciapino introduce Meiggs as both an excellent historian and an extraordinary personality. Murray describes him as a practical historian with a positivist approach who wanted to find the past "as it really was" and as it really worked but who still was a much more sympathetic person than most of his positivist colleagues.

The succeeding articles reveal the history of Ostia from the Archaic and Republic period onwards until Late Antiquity and the early Middle Ages. Archer Martin, Benedetta Adembri, Fausto Zevi and Mireille Cébeillac Gervasoni discuss the most ancient phases of Ostia. Martin reports on the excavations of 1991 of the walls of the Ostian castrum, suggesting a dating for the castrum, at the end of the fourth century or the beginning of the third century B.C. In his article on the early phases of Ostia, Zevi also discusses the Ostian castrum, its dating and purpose. He supports the late dating of the castrum to not until the