

photographs of good quality. All in all, a good addition to the many excavation reports from Rome.

*Eeva-Maria Viitanen*

*La via Appia. Iniziative e interventi per la conoscenza e la valorizzazione da Roma a Capua.* A cura di L. QUILICI e S. QUILICI GIGLI. Atlante tematico di topografia antica - ATTA 11 (2002). "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2003. ISBN 88-8265-228-9. 174 pp. EUR 80.

Il volume accoglie gli Atti dell'incontro di studio sulla via Appia, tenutosi a Santa Maria Capua Vetere nella Seconda Università degli studi di Napoli il 3 giugno 2002 e pubblicato con un'encomiabile celerità. Eccone il contenuto: S. Quilici Gigli, Premessa. La via Appia: l'impegno per la grande strada del Mezzogiorno; A. Esch, La via Appia e la sua fortuna; I. Insolera, Qualche considerazione e qualche problema; AA. VV., La tutela della via Appia tra norme e aspettative; R. De Filippis, La tutela e la valorizzazione della via Appia nella legge della Regione Lazio; R. Paris, La via Appia nel territorio di Roma. Tutela e pianificazione; A. M. Reggiani, La via Appia: interventi di valorizzazione nel Lazio; L. Quilici, La valorizzazione della via Appia al valico di Itri; M. G. Ruggi d'Aragona - V. Sampaolo, L'Appia dal Garigliano al Volturno; C. Blasi, La via Appia: un complesso sistema integrato di archeologia e natura. Dunque una mescolanza di studi storico-archeologici con altri dedicati alla tutela e conservazione. Sotto questo rispetto il volume costituisce una specie di corollario ad altri volumi sull'Appia usciti in questi ultimi tempi (ad es. L. Quilici, *Via Appia*, 1989; *La via Appia*, a cura di S. Quilici Gigli, 1990; *Via Appia. Sulle ruine della magnificenza antica*, 1997). Per i lettori di questa rivista interessanti sono per es. le considerazioni di Esch sulla storia dell'Appia durante i secoli tra l'Antichità e il Medio Evo e i cambiamenti del suo percorso (un esempio classico è che nell'Alto Medio Evo si abbandonò il rettilineo all'altezza di Velletri e fece salire la strada nella città stessa). Né sono privi d'interesse i resoconti più 'archeologici' quali quello del Quilici e quello concernente la parte campana della strada.

*Heikki Solin*

ERNESTO DE MIRO: *Agrigento. I. I santuari urbani. L'area sacra tra il tempio di Zeus e Porta V.* Vol. 1: *Testo*, Vol 2: *Figure e tavole*. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2000. ISBN 88-8265-048-0. 354 pp., 133 figs, CLXV plates. EUR 380.

The Greek temples of Sicily have been the focus of much scholarly attention, both in the field and in many publications. The volume by Ernesto De Miro is a result of both kinds of work. De Miro himself has been active in Sicilian archaeology since the 1950s and has been responsible for many of the excavations featured in this book. The final initiative for making the book came from the excavations in 1990s which added the earlier information in a significant way and somehow required a fuller analysis of all available

data. The book also marks the beginning in a series of publications on the archaeology of Agrigento.

The area in focus is situated west of the famous temple of Zeus and east of Gate V. It was already partially excavated and published in the 1930s by Pirro Marconi (*Agrigento arcaica. Il santuario delle divinità chtonie e il tempio detto di Vulcano*, Roma 1933). The excavations published here were begun in the 1950s and finished in 1995–1996. After Marconi's work, many questions still remained and all the later excavations have concentrated on answering them. One of the main objectives has been to acquire a better dating for the archaic temple found in the area and to study its relationship with the temple of Zeus. Other objectives were finding out more about the proposed indigenous and Greek common use of the area and the use of the area in the Hellenistic period. Naturally, many other questions were also answered by excavating in numerous places in the area.

The book is divided into two volumes, the first one features the text and catalogue of finds and the second one all plans, photographs, and drawings of artefacts. The text cannot really be described as an excavation report; rather it is a summary of all evidence as 40 years of excavation are presented, with conclusions, in a total of 40 pages (pp. 39–79)! The later trenches are featured in greater detail than the older ones, which is understandable as compiling information on old excavations is always difficult and the techniques were also different. Most of the text volume is taken up with a fairly detailed catalogue of finds covering all excavations and its commentary (pp. 97–324). In between the description of the site and the catalogue, there is a chapter on the history of the chthonic cult area featuring texts and epigraphic evidence for the divinities and cult practice, parallels for similar cults elsewhere, etc. up to the Roman period (pp. 81–96).

The texts are quite brief and synthetic, but mostly understandable and easy to use to find information on various aspects of the research. The internal logic in each subchapter is similar which makes reading them quite easy. The descriptions of the areas have been arranged according to buildings and larger topographical entities, which is logical, but understanding the position of the various areas would have been assisted by a composite plan with each entity more clearly marked and named. As it stands, the reader has to figure out for him/herself which is the building called *lesche*, where exactly is the border wall of the *temenos*, etc. The plans published are clear enough once the initial confusion has passed, but as they very often present only a small part of the whole area, they are sometimes difficult to grasp.

The find catalogue is arranged according to excavation campaigns by year and then by topographical entity or building, but not by trench. Various find categories are used and each find presented is given an individual, consecutive number, which they are mostly referred to by (except when they are sometimes referred to by the AG inventory numbers). The use of the catalogue is made easier by a compilation table at the end of the text volume which lists various find categories in relation to their provenance. Thus, the reader does not have to go through the entire catalogue to find the materials connected to certain areas. Despite this aid, it might have been worthwhile considering arranging the finds by the same topographical entities as the descriptions of the structures have been arranged.

The results of the research are quite interesting and answer many of the questions

initially asked. Some of the trenches reached Neolithic layers almost directly below the Archaic layers. In the earlier excavations, a Bronze Age hearth was found. The protohistoric evidence for the use of the area is very sparse and it seems that the earlier hypothesis of common Greek and indigenous use of the site has to be abandoned. The temple has had at least three major building phases and its building has been now dated to ca. the middle of the 6th century BC. A sacred grove has also been proposed to have existed in the eastern part of the temenos. The temple building was probably already destroyed in 406 BC in an attack by Carthage. The area was used for chthonic cult purposes in the Hellenistic period, but without a temple. Instead, there was an L-shaped stoa and other cult buildings flanking a paved square with an altar. Outside the sacred precinct, there was an urban habitation area with north-south streets and Greek-style houses with small sacred areas and squares. Some of the buildings excavated seem to be public, especially those close to the southern perimeter of the research area and the temple of Zeus in the southeast. But further north, there was also a clear habitation area.

This volume offers a concise look at what happened in one part of Agrakas over a very long period of time. As it is an excavation report, it also offers material for further study in aspects other than those which were the main questions asked of the material now.

*Eeva-Maria Viitanen*

*Materiali veneti preromani e romani del santuario di Làgole di Calalzo al Museo di Pieve di Cadore.* A cura di GIULIA FOGOLARE – GIOVANNA GAMBACURTA. Collezioni e musei archeologici del Veneto 44. Collana diretta da GUSTAVO TRAVERSARI. Giorgio Bretschneider Editore, Roma 2001. ISBN 88-7689-207-9. 403 pp. EUR 361,52.

Il presente volume prende in esame il ricco materiale archeologico proveniente dal santuario paleoveneto di Làgole, conservato nel Museo di Pieve di Cadore, in provincia di Belluno. Il lavoro, molto complesso ed estremamente vario nei suoi molteplici aspetti e interessi, ha richiesto tempi di ricerca lunghi e faticosi. Purtroppo la promotrice e curatrice del volume Giulia de' Fogolari è venuta a mancare nelle more della stampa. Eccone il contenuto: G. Fogolari, Làgole: storia delle scoperte; G. Gatto e E. Semenza, Cenni geologico-geomorfologici della zona attorno a Làgole; S. Pesavento Mattioli, Il santuario di Làgole nel contesto topografico del Cadore; G. Gorini, Le monete; A. Marinetti, Il venetico di Làgole; A. Tagliacozzo e P. F. Cassoli, Analisi dei resti ossei animali. Segue il catalogo dettagliato dei reperti (pp. 89–370). Già da questo prospetto si vede quanto sia ricca la problematica offerta dai reperti e quanto sia multidisciplinare l'approccio al loro studio. Ai lettori di questa rivista interesserà particolarmente il contributo della Marinetti sul venetico della regione e la sua presentazione, nel catalogo, delle iscrizioni venetiche e latine (delle quali alcune possono essere caratterizzate come venetico-latine, ma ci si chiede se per es. n. 132 non possa essere definita come puramente latina). È vero che la maggioranza di queste iscrizioni è già stata pubblicata, ma non tutte sono ben note, come si vede dal fatto che quelle latine mancano ancora nell'ultimo supplemento del *CIL* I<sup>2</sup>, benché la loro editio princeps risalga ad anni anteriori