

Ariminum. Storia e archeologia. Atti della Giornata di Studio su Ariminum, un laboratorio archeologico. A cura di CRISTINA RAVARA MONTEBELLI. ΑΔΡΙΑΣ 2. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2006. ISBN 978-88-8265-375-7. 250 pp., ill. b/n. EUR 125.

Ariminum. Storia e archeologia 2. Atti della Giornata di Studio su Ariminum, Un laboratorio archeologico/2. A cura di LORENZO BRACCESI – CRISTINA RAVARA MONTEBELLI. ΑΔΡΙΑΣ 5. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2009. ISBN 978-88-8265-471-9. 192 pp., 54 ill. b/n. EUR 100.

Nei due volumi vengono pubblicati gli atti di due giornate di studio dal titolo "Ariminum" svoltesi a Rimini, rispettivamente, nel 2004 e nel 2007. I materiali e le tematiche trattati, tutti interessanti, riflettono i recenti sviluppi degli studi riminesi, mettendo in particolare evidenza la ricchezza delle fonti e il grande numero di discipline necessarie per la loro analisi: archeologia, architettura, archivistica, epigrafia, numismatica, prosopografia, storia dell'arte, topografia, ecc. Risulta particolarmente interessante il contributo nel primo volume di Minak e Braccesi sui *pocola*, come pure quello di Braccesi e Vaglio sulla possibilità di un culto riminese di Ecate, ciò che costituirebbe testimonianza di un'eventuale presenza egineta in Rimini preromana. Di difficile lettura, però, il testo dipinto sull'orlo di uno dei *pocola* (p. 46, fig. 2).

Mika Kajava

MANLIO LILLI: *Velletri. Carta Archeologica. Velletri - Le Castella (IGM 150 II SO-158 IV NE)*. Bibliotheca Archaeologica 43. "L'Erma" di Bretschneider, Roma 2008. ISBN 978-88-8265-486-3. 1340 pp. EUR 675.

Writing and publishing archaeological field reports is a time-honored practice without which much other research would not be possible. However, one sometimes wonders if some other methods would be more effective than the traditional book in the web-based world. The use of the internet and public databases could make the material available to a much wider audience, consisting of both scholars and of the general public, than publications on paper. Manlio Lilli's impressive volume includes the archaeological remains in and around the ancient town of *Velitrae* (modern Velletri). Its form is an adaptation of the volumes of the *Forma Italiae* series. Lilli's own survey work forms the basis, which is enhanced with archival and previously published data.

The structure of the work follows the *Forma Italiae* series: a brief introduction is followed by chapters on geology, research history, cartography, literary sources, settlement history and roadways. These are followed by a massive catalogue of sites. Unlike the *Forma Italiae*, the volume by Lilli includes a chapter on material culture, in which 20,000 fragments of pottery found in the survey are summarily presented. The book is concluded by several indexes listing sources, place names, collections as well as other analytical categories. The last index could have been split into two: one for the personal names and another for archaeological materials. This would have made the index easier to use.

Some of the editorial decisions concerning the first part of the book are hard to understand. The footnotes often list data included in the catalogue. For example, when the site

locations are analyzed with references to altitude, the site names, numbers and altitudes are listed. Another example is the chapter on material culture where the number, type and location (again with name and number of site) of each type of pottery have been listed. This is naturally intended to help the reader to find the relevant data, but for the most part it only creates very long (even several pages) footnotes interrupting the text that add very little to what can be found elsewhere in the book. In addition, the data provided by tables and diagrams is often repeated verbatim in the text, which makes the text rather descriptive and tedious to read and the illustrations virtually unnecessary.

Given that the work is essentially an archaeological survey, the emphasis of the work is on the archaeology of *Velitrae*, but as is common in survey reports there is a chapter on the history of the town. The discussion of the history of the town in Roman times is based on previous scholars (pp. 73–82) and it is used to a certain extent in the analysis of settlement history. Furthermore, there is a section on the *gentes* of *Velitrae* (pp. 86–143), which reaches the limits of absurdity. The discussion of each *nomen gentile* is illustrated with numerous attestations of the same name from all across the Roman world. This could be useful if used exclusively for the rarely attested names, but now it brings to mind some epigraphical *corpora* of the 17th or the 18th century, in which all the known, say, *Octavii*, were listed.

The book is massive in size: over 1300 pages and 1785 sites. Not unlike many other works of its kind, it is not intended to be read from cover to cover, but rather to be used as a source book for extracting relevant information for different kinds of research. However, the quantity of the material makes it somewhat difficult to use the volume. Browsing through all of the sites in search of, for example, find locations with cisterns or Dressel 1 amphorae takes up a lot of time. However, all this is possible with the help of the analytical index. The list for entries with amphora pieces is very long and checking all the sites for any particular type of amphora would also be laborious. In a database, or at least in a catalogue in a digital form, such a search would be much faster and easier. We used the index in order to look for all the lead pipes. Most of them have been found a long time ago and they have been published or reported before Lilli's volume. In this particular case, it was disappointing to realize that not all the data available in the original publications had been reproduced. If this also applies to other types of previously published material, the readers are advised to check the sources to make sure.

In all, Lilli's work is an extremely valuable survey of archaeological materials from *Velitrae*. Even though the data in connection to the old sites is not always complete, the level of detail in the description of the sites Lilli himself has found is much higher than in the usual Italian survey publications. The book will certainly be used as a source for many studies from now on. One can only hope that it will soon be available in digital form.

Kalle Korhonen – Eeva-Maria Viitanen

CARLO EBANISTA: *La tomba di S. Felice nel santuario di Cimitile. A cinquant'anni dalla scoperta*. Coemeterium 4. LER Editrice, Napoli 2006. ISBN 88-8264-424-3. 239 pp. EUR 20.

L'anniversario della scoperta della tomba di S. Felice, nella basilica di Cimitile, è l'argomento centrale del volume di Carlo Ebanista, promotore già in precedenza di alcuni saggi relativi allo scavo e allo studio delle evidenze monumentali del complesso paleocristiano. L'autore si