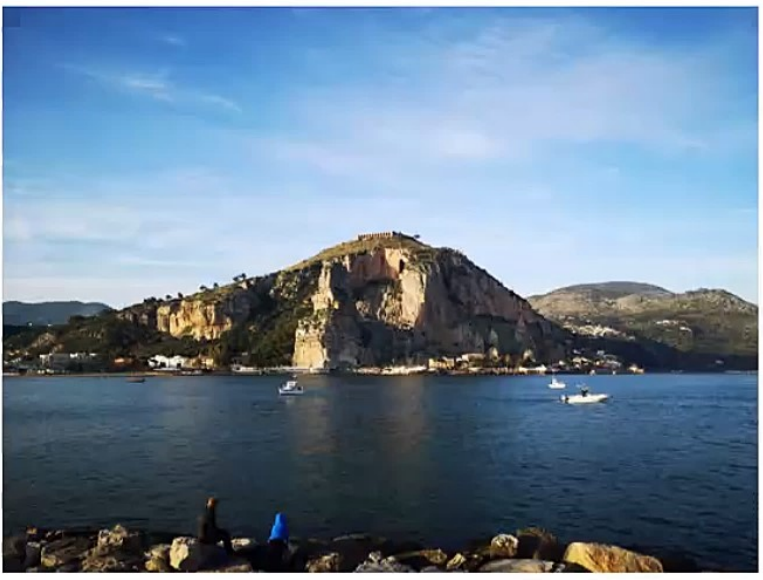


Il porto romano di *Anxur-Tarracina* (Italia - Lazio meridionale)

The Roman seaport of Anxur-Tarracina (Italy - Southern Lazio)



Dr. Andrea Di Rosa *Affiliated researcher at Groningen Institute of Archaeology (NI)*



Terracina seaport - History of studies

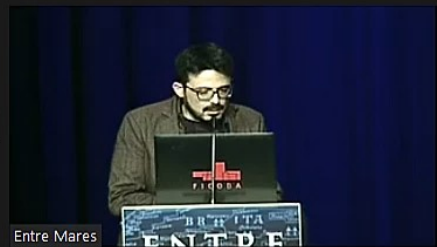


- DE LA BLANCHÈRE M.-R., *Le port de Terracine. Histoire et archéologie*, in *Mélanges d'archéologie et d'histoire* 1, **1881**, pp.322-348.

LUGLI G., *Forma Italiae. Reg. I, Latium et Campania, Vol. I, Ager Pomptinus pars I. Anxur-Tarracina*, Roma, **1926**.



Geographical and geological characteristics of the area



The landscape - Recognizability and visibility from the sea



Rome
"Casa di Via Graziosa
at Esquilino".



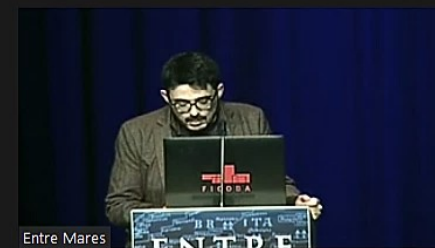
Republican residence,
decorated with
Odyssey landscapes.



The landscape and the detection from the sea – Mons Neptunius and the Sanctuary



227 m. above sea level



Entre Mares

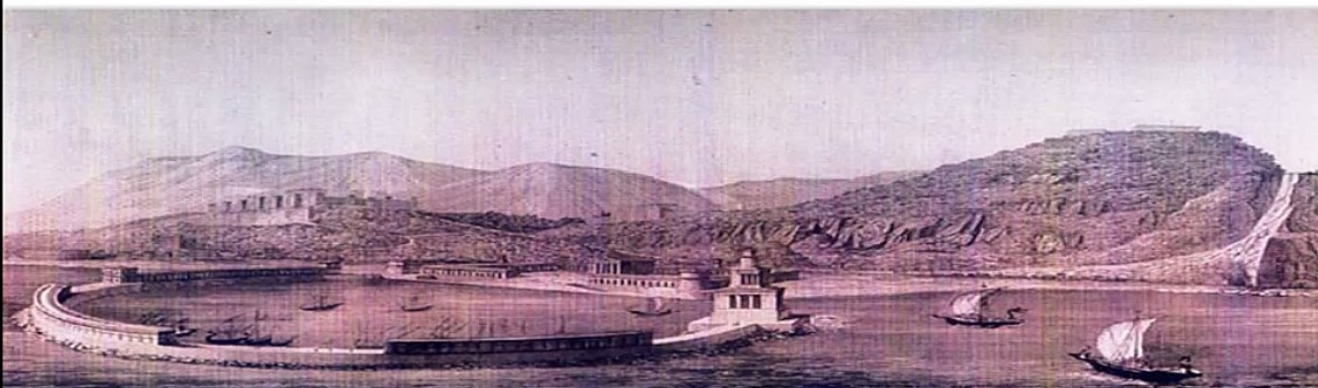
The seaport - classical sources

- 509/508 BC - Mention in the 1st Carthaginian Roman treatise.
- 348 BC - Mention in the 2nd Carthaginian Roman treatise.
- 329 BC - Anxur-Tarracina *Colonia maritima optimo iure*
- 184 BC - [...] *separatim Flaccus molem ad Neptunias aquas ut iter populo esset et viam per Formianum montem* (Liv., 39, 44, 6).
- 179 BC - *Lepidus molem ad Tarracinam, ingratum opus, quod praedia habebat ibi privatamque publicae rei impensam inseruerat; [...]* (Liv., 40, 51, 2)
- 130 BC - Obsequent remembers the presence of cargo ships in the port of Terracina in 130 BC. (*Obseq.*, 28, 87).

**Coastal city with a port
(since the 5th century B.C.?)**

**Construction of piers
(or functional structures)**

**The port was large enough to
hold large tonnage ships**



Epigraphic sources - maritime and trade activities



CIL, X, 8399, funerary stele? :

.../[] multos annos velificavit]/

«for many years he sailed»; it was decorated with the relief of a «vessel with swollen sails» (Mommson : *navis velis expansis*).



Connections with Sicily in the 1st century BC:

- **NS, 1900, p. 97**: dedication of the tradesmen of Palermo.
- Favonii: **CIL, X, 6316**: dedication of *populus Agrigentinus*.

Geminus da Terracina is attested in Delos, in the *Agora des Italiens*, *CIL, I², 2232*.



Entre Mares

The cut of the Pisco Montano and the traditional Trajanic dating of the seaport



Seaport - late 1800-early 1900s



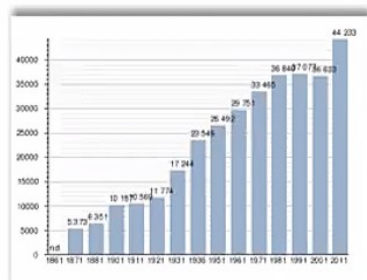
LUGLI G. (1926)



Entre Mares

Seaport - 1945: Allied bombing

and current situation...



Demographic development in Terracina - ISTAT, 2003.

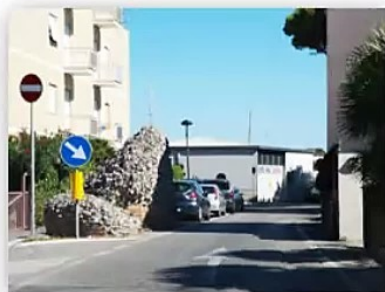
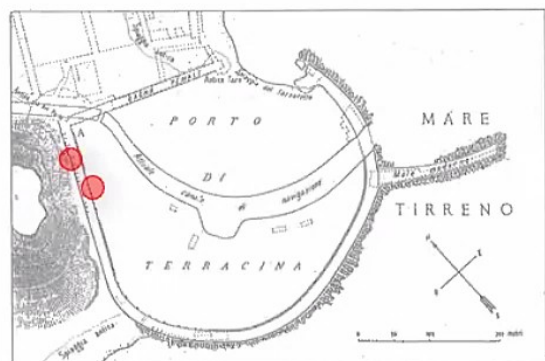


Entre Mares

Seaport - external N-E platform *First register of archaeological evidence*

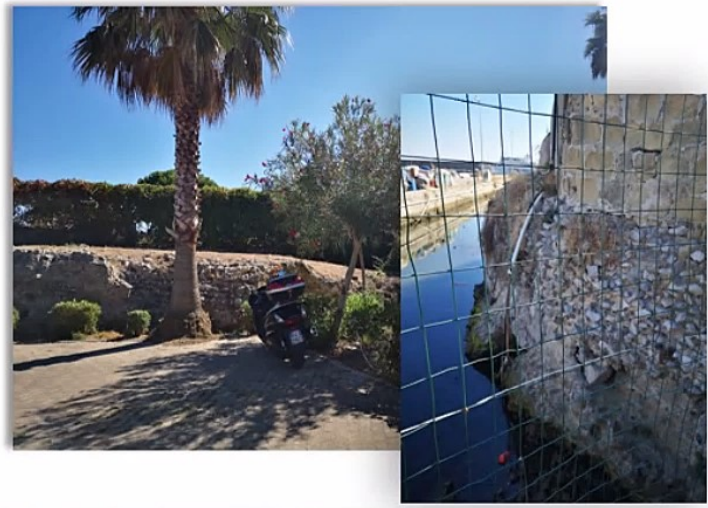
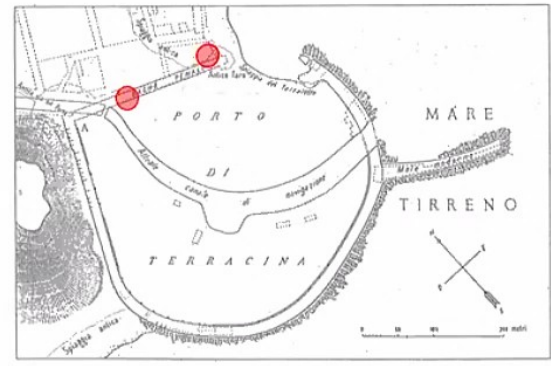


Seaport - external and internal N-E platform *First register of archaeological evidence*



Internal seaport docks

First register of archaeological evidence



1986



1986



Seaport - curved quay E - Mooring stones

First register of archaeological evidence

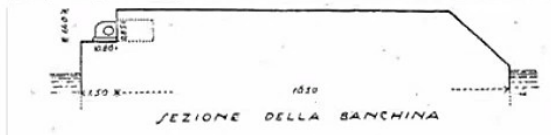
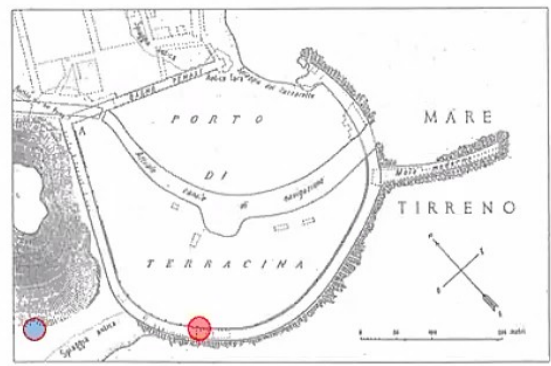


Fig. a — Sezione della banchina del porto



Do the anomalies under the "Montone" correspond to the lost Roman *Horrea*?



Il "Montone" di Terracina, una cavità nascosta
The "Montone" of Terracina, a hidden cavity

DI NEZZA Maria(*), DI FILIPPO Michele(**), CECCHINI Flavio(***),
DE MARTINO Ciro(***), MARGOTTINI Siro(***)

Mem. Desc. Carta Geol. d'It.
107 (2020), pp. 297-316
figg. 10

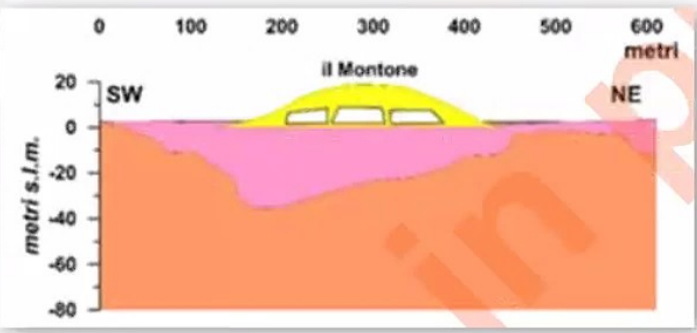
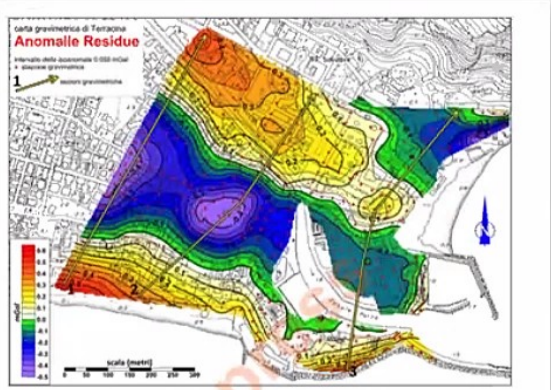
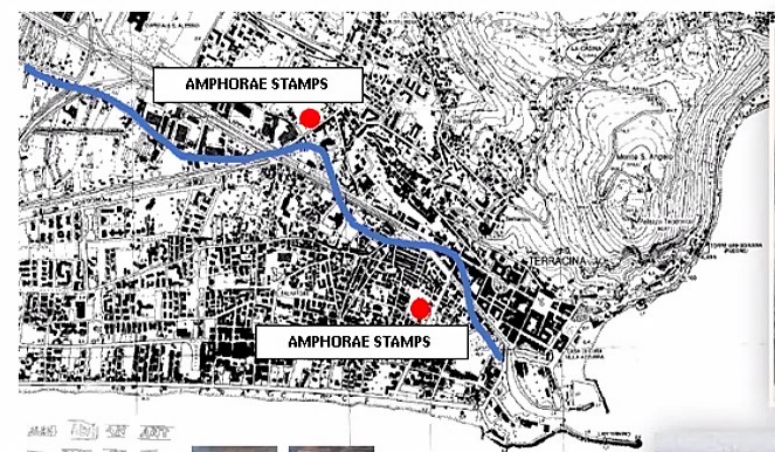


Fig. 8. Carta delle Anomalie Residue. Ultime stazioni dei profili gravimetrici.
Residual gravity map contour interval is 0.020 mGal. It has been shown the trace of the profile of gravity interpretation section along profile.

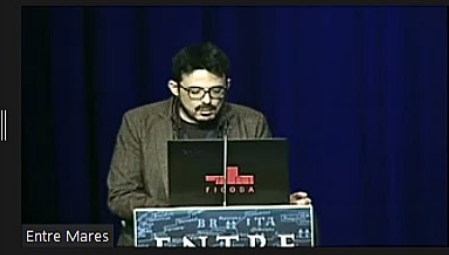


Entre Mares

Product redistribution in Roman antiquity: The Porto dei Sandali and the Horrea



J.P. Hackert (1795) The river port «del Salvatore»



State of the art

A 100 years long standstill:

- **Scientific publications:** De la Blanchere 1881 and Lugli 1926.
- **No excavations or archaeological investigations** on the construction techniques ever carried out.
- **No records or maps of the surviving structures**, necessary for their safeguard.
- **No submarine investigations** (what are the structures based on?).

The next step

The rediscovery, an urban archaeology experiment

- Archaeological excavations on Montone, does it really hide the horrea or is it a new «Testaccio»?
- Multidisciplinary project of investigation and documentation.
- Unhinge the hypothesis of Trajan construction and alignment with concrete ports.



The possible future of the tourist seaport of Terracina

