



Roman baths of Forum Traiani

Patrimonio culturale
SARDEGNA Virtual Archaeology



■ The exterior (L-shaped building)

To the South-East of the Baths there is an L-shaped building (fig. 1) whose corridors delimit the open space called 'gym'.



Fig. 1 - In green the L-shaped Building (from Bacco, Serra 1998, re-worked by C. Tronchetti).

The building is still to be investigated, but a set of square rooms in line that open onto the corridor can be seen on the eastern side (fig. 2)



Fig. 2 - L-shaped Building: rooms aligned along the corridor (photo by Unicity S.p.A.).

On the southern side, on the other hand, the rooms are arranged in a more complex structure (figs. 3-4)



Fig. 3 - L-shaped Building: remains of a probable home (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)



Fig. 4 - L-shaped Building: home seen from the square (photo by Unicity S.p.A.)

It is not possible to know the function of these buildings with certainty; it has been hypothesised that a part of them were used as accommodation for the thermal bath users, but there is no proof of this. It is certain, however, that the southern side included dwellings that are no longer visible above ground, that can be reconstructed based on data from better preserved sites, such as Pompeii and Ostia (figs. 5-6)



Fig. 5 - Reconstruction of a Roman home-shop: the lower floor was used as a shop and the upper part as a home (from Macaulay 1978, p. 107).

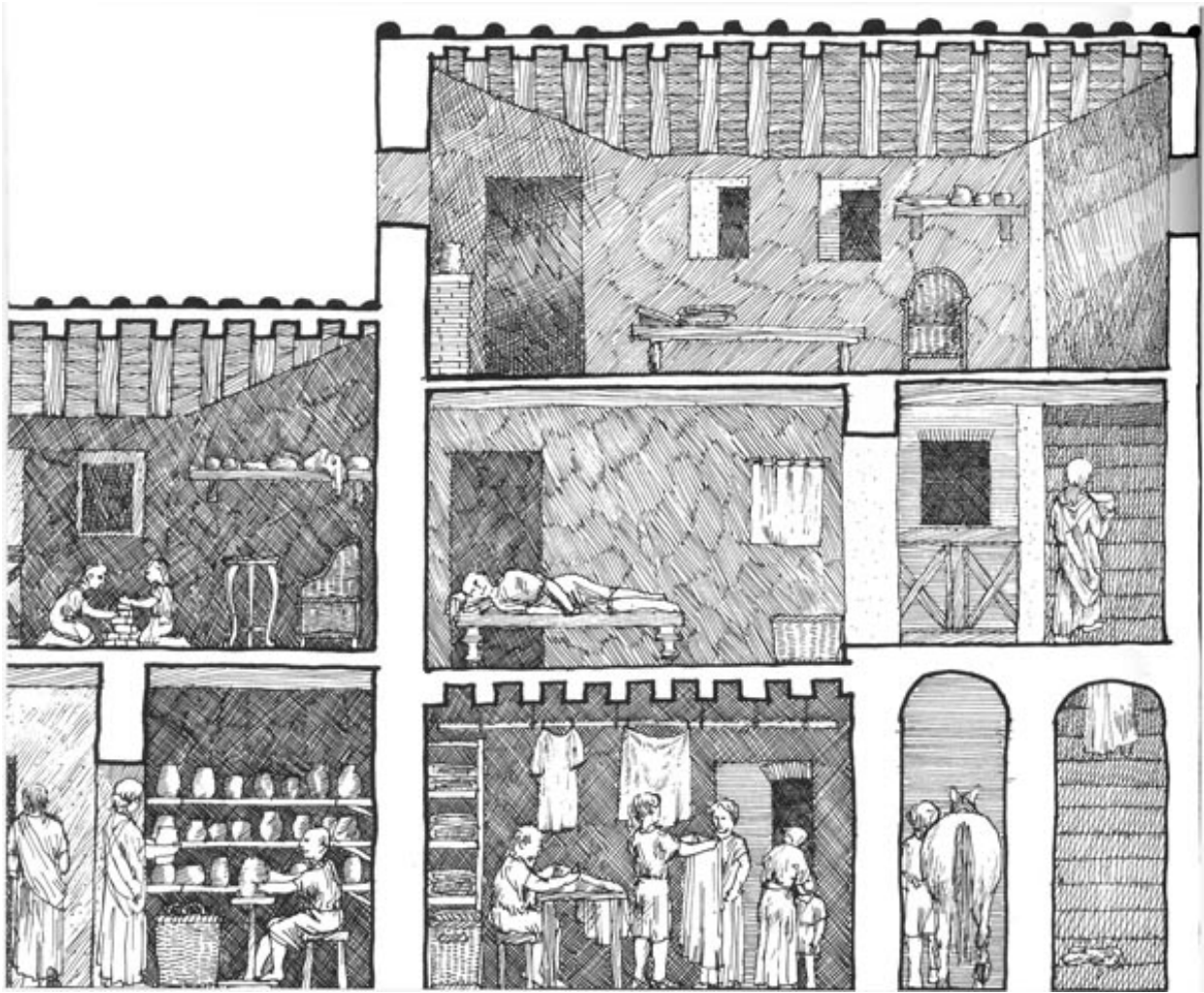


Fig. 6 - Section rebuilt of a block of Roman houses (from Macaulay 1978, p. 78).

■ Credits

Deepening card edited by Dr. Carlo Tronchetti

■ Bibliography

G. BACCO, P. B. SERRA, *Forum Traiani: il contesto termale e l'indagine di scavo*, in *L'Africa Romana XII*, Atti del Convegno di Studio 1996, Sassari 1998, pp. 1236-1237.





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Progetto cofinanziato dall'Unione Europea
Programma Operativo FESR 2007-2013

FESR - Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale - Asse I, Linea di Attività 1.2.3.a