

Excellence Cluster 264 Topoi

Research Area B – Posters on Research Activities 2007–2009

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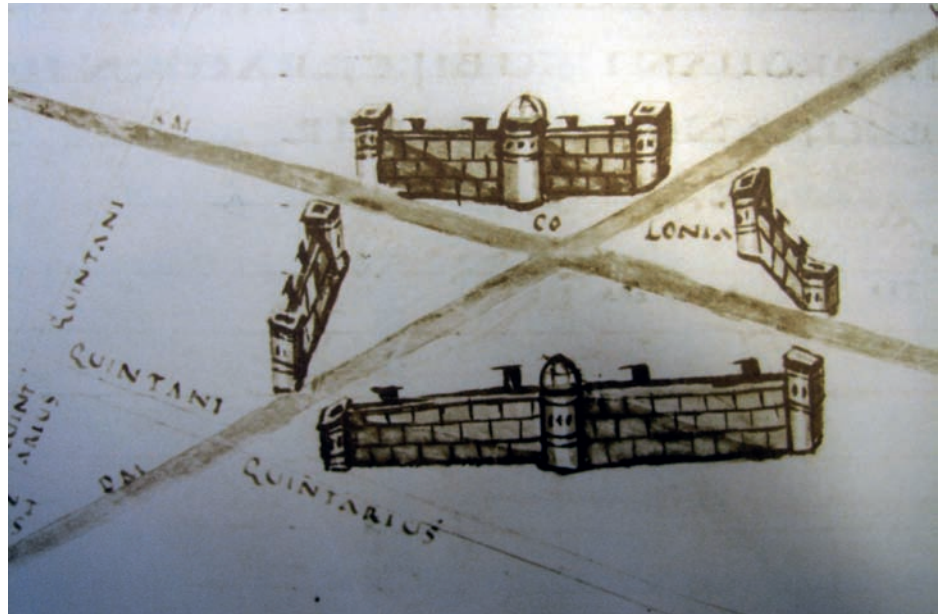
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Corpus Agrimensorum Romanorum

Land Surveying and Jurisprudence in the Roman Empire

The *corpus agrimensorum Romanorum* editing and translation project and the study of the relationship between “*viae publicae*” and “*viae privatae*” are two projects located within Topoi B-I-1 at the Chair for Civil and Roman Law (Cosima Möller, Jens-Olaf Lindermann, FU Berlin). They are carried out in close cooperation with the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences (Eberhard Knobloch, BBAW).

The texts of the *gromatici* (named after the most popular Roman surveying instrument - the *groma*) or of the *agrimensores* (i.e. the texts of the Roman land surveyors) were collected in a text corpus in the 7th century A.D. They deal with issues of law, surveying techniques, and instructions in geodesy. These texts date back to the 1st century A.D. and have been passed down to us in a poor state. To some extent, the relevant modern editions go back to the beginnings of scientific textual criticism (Lachmann 1848) or were unfinished when their editors died (Thulin 1913). The Topoi project first of all makes the Latin text accessible to the public for the first time competently in German. Secondly, in its commentary section, the project explores juristic and technical- and mathematical-historical issues which have thus far been neglected. Alongside the translation, the oft-recurring *termini technici* of the *gromatici* language are collected in a lexical glossary that ensures the consistency of the German translation. In addition, an Online Database of secondary literature on the *gromatici* will facilitate access to important research results.



Cardo and decumanus of a colony with the limes quintarius

DISSERTATION PROJECT „VIAE PUBLICAE“ AND „VIAE PRIVATAE“

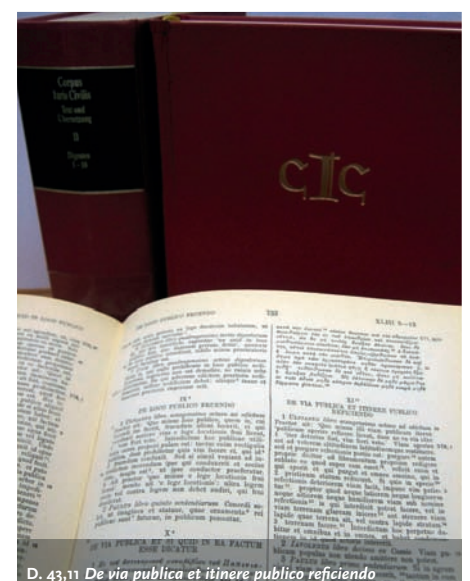
Sebastian Frühinsfeld

The project on the relation between “*viae publicae*” and “*viae privatae*” makes use of detailed juristic information found in the *corpus agrimensorum*, in addition to the sources of the XII Tablets (451/450 B.C.) and the *Corpus Iuris Civilis* (6th century A.D.). This research paper examines the legal implications of private and public roads in detail.

The drawing of a distinction between “*viae publicae*” and “*viae privatae*” supports a comprehensive understanding of colonization and, thus, of the opening of space in the ancient world.



Subsivium est quod a subsecante linea nomen accepit – Der Restabschnitt ist das, was seine Bezeichnung von der abschneidenden Linie erhalten hat. (Frontin. grom. 2 Thulin) Quelle: cod. Guelf. 36.23 A (Arcerianus)



D. 43,11 De via publica et itinere publico reficiendo

Mapping Social and Political Space

Social Networks and the Public Sphere in Ancient Rome and Greece

Research Group B-I-1 'Social and political space in ancient Rome and Greece' is working on two major projects. Both of them focus on investigating space and place, both physically and conceptually, in its social, socio-cultural and socio-political dimensions. Researchers from several disciplines are working within these two projects. While the first project concerns mapping social networks and personal hierarchies, both in Rome and Greece, the second focuses on mapping political, social and public space in Athens from early times to the age of democracy.

MAPPING SOCIAL NETWORKS

Wilfried Nippel and Elke Hartmann are analyzing the structural characteristics and organizational principles of social spaces through a cartography of social hierarchies in the Roman Republic, the Early Roman Empire and classical Athens.

Wilfried Nippel is focusing in particular on social and personal networks in both Rome and Greece. New evidence will be brought to light by observing not only those vertical network-structures providing access to the political sphere, but also those regulating everyday life by mediating social disparity. As this latter can be conceived of as a phenomenon of all historical societies, mapping social networks in the different societies in Greece and Rome is the major aim of his project. The results will be published in a monograph (working title: "Patronage in Antiquity") in 2011.

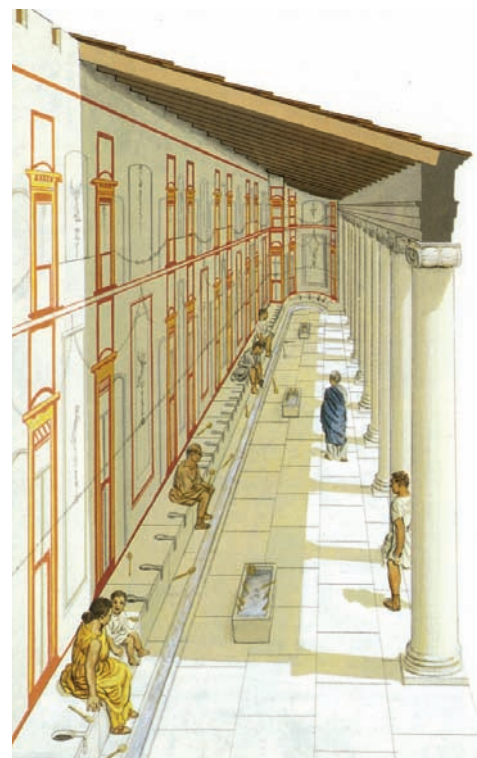
Elke Hartmann, on the other hand, is investigating social mobility in the Early Roman Empire.

In mapping public places which were used for communication and / or self-representation, such as the theatres, the forum or even the public toilets, social dynamics can be better understood. As an individual's position within society is revealed by his or her behavior and performance in public places, social space can be recognized as a generator of hierarchic structures and social distinctions in urban everyday life. A monograph on this topic "The social dimension of space in the early Roman Empire" will be finished in 2011.

MAPPING THE PUBLIC SPHERE

Volker Gerhardt, Colin G. King and Ita Brunke are analyzing the functions of public space and the public sphere in the creation and development of Athenian democracy. From early times to classical Athens, the way in which the institutionalization of common physical and social spaces was conducted is investigated. An international conference on this topic, held on 16. to 17. of Oct. 2009, was helpful in mapping consciousness as a public sphere.

In his project, Volker Gerhardt is focusing on the role public space and public sphere play in the development of individual and collective consciousness. Through systematic reflection upon publicity and the public sphere, he analyses the structural analogies between individual and collective consciousness. In his monograph, which will be published in 2010, (working title: "Öffentlichkeit. Die politische Form des Geistes") he is thereby able to delineate the factors which contribute to creating political identity in both the individual and the community.



Roman Latrine.
Drawing by P. Connolly, in: Peter Connolly / H. Dodge, Die antike Stadt. Das Leben in Athen und Rom, Oxford 1998, p. 133.

In a case study, Colin G. King is investigating the relationship between democracy and science in the increasingly literate public sphere in classical Athens. In mapping the space of collective reasoning, he analyzes the estimation collective deliberation in legal and political institutions of Athenian democracy received within the philosophical debate concerning the ability of collectives and groups to know the truth and make good decisions. The first results of his study on "Public reason" will be published in an article by the end of this year.

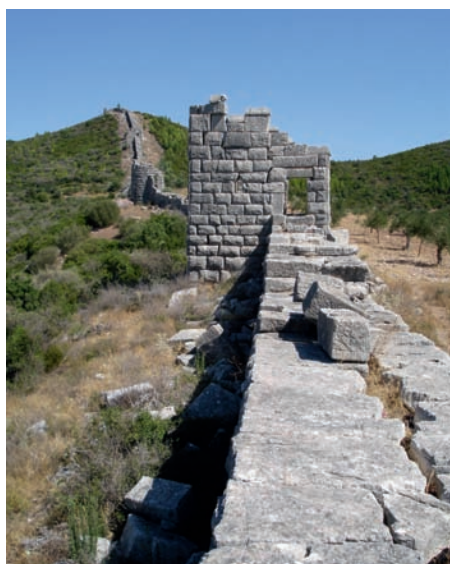
In her Ph.D. project, Ita Brunke will be mapping social space and the public sphere through an analysis of the esteem in which warlike violence was held by early Greek πόλις societies. Within this framework, the beginnings of institutionalisation in early Greek πόλεις, starting up from Dark Age society, will be shown, as they move forward to new conditions of collective identity in historical times. Her doctoral thesis on this topic (working title: "War, Violence and the Public Sphere. The esteem in which warlike violence was held in the social space and public sphere of early Greek πόλεις") will be finished in 2011.



Athens: Agora and Pnyx about 400 BC
Drawing by Peter Connolly, in: P. Connolly / H. Dodge, Die antike Stadt. Das Leben in Athen und Rom, Oxford 1998, p. 24.

B-I-2 Fuzzy Borders

Since February 2008, the Research Group B-I-2 “Fuzzy Borders” has studied the different qualities of ancient borders, boundaries and demarcations. The research focuses primarily on the phenomenon of diffuse forms of demarcation, which nevertheless are only definable against the background of concrete boundaries. Consequently, the Research Group aims at both aspects. This also explains the structure of the group, in which precise definitions of boundaries for different time horizons are dealt with, as well as border areas, undefined borders or border peoples who have been deliberately settled there.



BU: Northwestern part of the fortifications of Messene, Peloponnesos (4th c. BC)

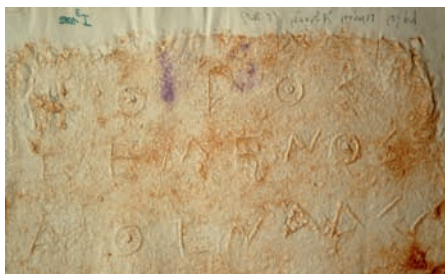
CITY WALLS

Concentrated on a small spatial scale, Silke Muth and Friederike Fless are studying the phenomenon of city walls. This research is embedded in the International Research Network “Fokus Fortifikation”, which Silke Muth and Peter Schneider were able to procure at the DFG. This network aims at enhancing discussion between junior scholars who research fortifications in the Eastern Mediterranean, as well as at focussing fundamental general questions regarding fortification research.

Projects:

Silke Muth: Symbolic and Representative Functions of Ancient Fortifications.

Silke Muth – Friederike Fless: The City Walls of the Roman Border Town Zeugma on the Euphrates.



Boundary stone from a sanctuary of Athena – one possibility to mark a boundary

THEORY OF THE BORDER

Katja Moede generally focuses on methodological and theoretical aspects of forms of bordering and demarcation of space in Greek and Roman Antiquity.

Project: Katja Moede: Forms of Bordering and Demarcation of Space.

LIMES

Two projects involving large spatial scales are devoted to the structures of Roman border policy in the area of the northern Black Sea and Syria.

Projects:

Friederike Fless – Katja Moede: The Roman Presence in the Crimea – Alma Kermen as a frontier safeguarding outpost for the Imperium Romanum?

Jörg Gerber: Roman Border Policy in Syria at the transition of the Imperial Age to Late Antiquity (2nd to 4th c. AD).

BORDER SPACE AND ETHNOS IN LATE ANTIQUITY

The establishment of border peoples along the imperial Roman frontiers transformed the boundaries and led to the installation of new patterns of spatial organization based on ethnic and religious denominations. This development constitutes the subject of two **projects**:

Stefan Esders – Jörg Gerber: Border Areas of Late Antique and Early Medieval Empires as Places of Ethnic Formation.

Stephan Ridder: Border Policy in the Eastern Merovingian Empire.

TARGETS

The Research Group systematically organizes scientific qualification of junior scholars. Thus, the projects of Katja Moede and Silke Muth will be developed into habilitation theses, while Jörg Gerber's project will become a PhD thesis. Stefan Ridder has successfully finished his Master's thesis and has started a PhD project closely associated with the group's area of research.

At the same time, Stefan Esders has begun writing a synthesis of the subdomain “Border Area and Ethnos in Late Antiquity” which will prove useful as a means of bundling the results of the entire group. The basis of the project on the northern Black Sea area is an excavation that took place in the Crimea from 2003 to 2007, the results of which will be published in summer 2010.



Qasr Bshir– Late Roman fortlet, Wadi Mujib, Jordan (4th c. AD): Controlling water resources frequented by nomads

The Penetration and Organization of Spaces

Political Governance and Governed Spaces

Research Group B-II-1 investigates the various parameters of penetration and organization of political spaces in regard to two aspects:

1. Structures and mechanisms in the spatial manifestation of political power and governance.
2. Embedded, accumulated and generated 'knowledge'.

THE PROJECTS:

ASSYRIA

Eva Cancik-Kirschbaum is investigating the diplomatics of administrative documents from the 15th to the 11th century BC as a reflection of the on-going changes in the organization of the first Assyrian empire.



BABYLONIA

Kristin Kleber is preparing an edition of hitherto unpublished cuneiform texts and is studying the organization of trade with regards to the expansion of the Babylonian empire.

Babylonian tablet listing trade goods (Uruk, 6th century BC)

THE HITTITES

Jörg Klinger is exploring Hittite strategies to establish a territorial state by investigating the rhetoric of royal legitimation as well as the linguistic inventory for the description of spaces and their borders.



Seal from Tell Fekheriye

Expertise: Althistorie, Assyriologie, Anatolistik und Archäologie Vorderasiens
Quellen: Textcorpora, Onomastika, Objektgruppen, physisch-raumgebundene Befunde



MITTANI

Dominik Bonatz and Daniela Crasso are analysing the system of government in the Mittani Kingdom in Upper Mesopotamia and possible administrative changes during the transition to the subsequent Middle Assyrian period.

THE GREEKS

Andreas Gräff's dissertation aims at analyzing the different forms of Greek presence in the Near East, their perceptions of the oriental world and its consequences in the political sphere from contact to conquest and control.



Seal with the portrait of Antiochos IV., 2nd century BC

ROMAN EMPIRE

Ernst Baltrusch specializes in Roman foreign policy and imperial strategies during the second century A.D, a period which marks a turning point in the history of the Empire. Through the ideological framework of an "Empire without end" the treaties and diplomatic customs were adapted to the altered circumstances.



Hadrian's border fortification

Daniel Raisbeck is researching the Grand Strategy of Emperor Hadrian. The dissertation's aim is to determine Hadrian's strategic and security goals, and to establish how he employed Rome's military, diplomatic and economic means to achieve those goals.

Regional Milieus and the Power of the State in Egypt

Various Approaches to Joint Questions

The goal of Research Group B-II-2 is to examine the structure and mechanisms of spatial organization and administration by the state of (Ancient) Egypt in the unique geographical setting of the Nile valley as viewed from a broad historical perspective. The investigation concentrates on the interaction between state institutions, regional authorities, and local elites with the objective of assessing the relationship among state leadership, administrative elites and lower levels of power, such as villages and communes.

THE PROJECTS

Stephan J. Seidlmayer's project "Regional populations between local dynamics and governmental access in Pharaonic Egypt" incorporates the time between the Neolithic and the Middle Kingdom (c. 5300-1650 B.C.). While past historians of Egypt and its culture have focused on the institutions of the state and the elites, Egypt was always a country of villages. When rural Egypt was addressed, economy, land ownership and regional administration were emphasized, taking the perspective of state institutions ruling the land. But this approach does not do justice to the fundamental role villages and the rural setting played throughout Egyptian history. Hence, this project focuses on the structure of rural settlement, the complexity of village society and the culture of the village communities themselves, contrasting these phenomena with the impact of the state institutions on the rural setting.



Tomb of Djefai-Hapi (c. 1950 BC) in Asyut [photo: Fritz Barthel]

Jochem Kahl's project deals with "The deification of Djefai-Hapi I". The Governors of Asyut in Middle Egypt played an almost royal role in their town during parts of the First Intermediate Period and the Middle Kingdom (c. 2100-1900 BC). One of these governors, Djefai-Hapi I, established his own funerary cult and bound priests of different temples as well as the workmen of the necropolis by contracts to maintain his cult after his death.

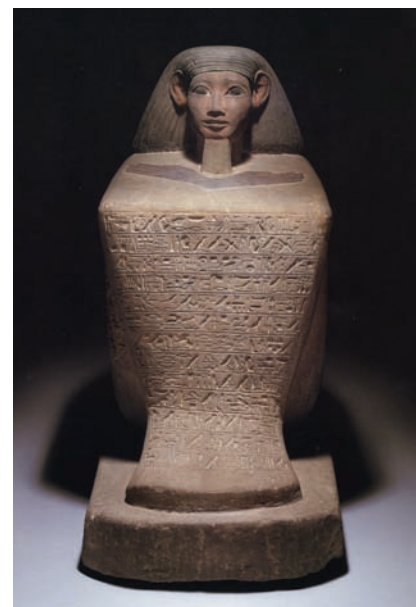
Djefai-Hapi became even deified and was still being venerated more than 1500 years after his death. The role of governors like Djefai-Hapi in their regional milieu as well as their relation to the Egyptian king are studied in this project.



Map of Egypt, after Kozloff, A., et al., *Egypt's Dazzling Sun. Amenhotep III and his world*, Cleveland 1992, xxiv

The dissertation of Johannes Auenmüller, entitled "The territoriality of the Egyptian elites of the New Kingdom" describes the elite of the New Kingdom (c. 1550-1069 B.C.) in terms of their territorial patterns, their usage and perception of space. Special emphasis is laid on the topographical context of their records by which they inscribed themselves into the natural, cultural and social environment, operating as translators of residential elite habitus into the rural setting. In gathering information about all of the provincial elite tombs and necropoleis of the New Kingdom, in studying biographical inscriptions made by the elite on notions of provenance, regional loyalty and their perception of the spatial environment, a perspicuous picture of the often neglected provincial vs. residential dichotomy of the Egyptian elites emerges for the New Kingdom.

Jan Moje's research topic, "Interdependency between Residence, Regional Governors and Local People During the 22th-31st Egyptian Dynasty" (c. 945-333 B.C.), focuses on matters of sociocultural interactions between these social levels and an analysis of the interdependencies between the political-religious and social spheres of local rulers and the residence. He examines the sources of their significance regarding legitimacy and the efforts made by local rulers to obtain the acceptance of the royal rulers of Egypt.



Block Statue of the mayor of Thinis Satepihu, after Silverman, D.P. (ed.), *Searching for Ancient Egypt*, Dallas 1997, 133

Stefan Esders' contribution "Administrative policy and local communities in Late Roman Egypt (The example of the Pagus)" takes the increase of state activities in late antiquity and the introduction of new administrative measures as its starting point. The administrative unit of the *pagus*, known from other Roman provinces and introduced in Egypt by Diocletian (first attested in 307 A.D.), is investigated as a mediating entity between the villages on the one hand and the metropolises and toparchies on the other. Questions arise about the administrative functions performed by the *pagus*, the position and capacity of the *praepositus pagi*, the *official*, who acted within the *pagus*-system, and about the reactions of the rural population and its local ruling class to the increasing impact of the state. This research also involves a comparative study of the role of the *pagus* in other areas of the Roman Empire and its successor states.

Israel – Judah – Iudaea

The research group explores the relation and correlation of Israel – Juda – Iudaea as a geographic area of constitutive relevance for the identity of the Jewish people as well as a political space in terms of imperial rule and domination from Assyrian times to the Roman era (8th century BCE – 2nd century CE). Since for most of the period in question the fate of Israel – Judah – Iudaea was controlled by foreign rulers and their imperial ambitions, the relation, tensions and discrepancies between the land as an identity-establishing point of reference (Holy Land) on the one hand and the realities of foreign, non-Jewish rule on the other are of special interest.

Matthias Köckert focuses on the implications and consequences of foreign imperial rule since Assyrian times. During the exiles of the 8th and 6th centuries BCE, Jews were forced to settle in other regions of the empires, while non-Jews increasingly moved into various parts of Palestine. As a consequence of these partial population transfers, the importance and relevance of questions of assimilation and identity were fundamentally enhanced. In his research project, M. Köckert analyzes the Book of Genesis in search of answers

to these questions. His project also includes a new translation with commentary, and will be continued by comparing the conditions in Judah with those of exiled Jews in Babylonia.

Ernst Baltrusch investigates the forms and varieties of Roman rule in Iudaea with special emphasis on the reign of Herod the Great (40-4 BCE) as a formative and broadly successful type of indirect, (semi-)indigenous rule on behalf of the empire. The aim of the project is twofold: Firstly, the various forms of organization and concepts of representation and legitimacy in the different regions of Iudaea, inhabited by either predominantly Greek, pagan or Jewish populations, are analyzed according to their conformities and differences. Secondly, the relationship of Herod to Rome, i.e. to Roman rulers is investigated, as is his increasing exertion of influence in other areas of the Roman Empire outside his own kingdom, such as his numerous interventions on behalf of the Jewish Diaspora. The project will be continued by extending the investigation to cover the entire period of early Roman rule in Iudaea up to the end of the Bar-Kochba Revolt in 135 CE.



Iudaea in the time of Herod
Herders Großer Bibelatlas (1989), S. 151, Abb. 3



Model of the Jewish Temple in the late Second Temple Period
E. Netzer, Die Paläste der Hasmonäer und Herodes' des Großen (1999), Abb. 168

The Organization of Diversity in the Ecclesiastical Space of Antiquity

Christian Tombstones in South-Lycaonia

JONAH IN BEYŞEHİR

Recently, near Beyşehir (antique Mistheia, about 70 km west of Konya/Ikonion) a relief presumably belonging to a Christian tomb has been found (currently housed in the Archaeological Museum, Konya). It depicts a cross-like figure circumscribed by a wreath and a large fish ("ketos") consuming (or disgorging) Jonah. The swastikas are typical ornaments occurring frequently in Southern Lycaonia. The inscription tells us that the tomb was erected for two uncles, named Anmesithios (?) and Paulos. Proposals regarding the date of the monument range from the third to the fifth century.

The object in the wreath is presumably a cross, as attested to by a range of parallels from South Lycaonia, partly with and partly without the pair of fish. Sometimes we find the fish by themselves. The Jonah relief may be seen as a missing link that contributes to our understanding of symbolism employed on other tombstones.



ΤΑΑΝΕ ΠΕΕ. ΝΑΙΘΙΟΝ Κ ΠΑΥΛΟΝ ΘΕΘΕΙΟΤΑΥΤΟ
ΛΥΝ-ΕΛΛΕΧΑΡΙΝ
Κ ΤΟΙ ΚΕΤΩΝΑΙ

[--]τα ἀνέστησε Ἀνμησίθιον κὲ Παῦλον τοὺς θεῖους αὐτοῦ

μνή[σ]ης χάριν

...ta erected (the gravestone) for Anmesithios (?) and Paulos, his uncles,

in memory.

κεῖτος κὲ Ἰωνᾶς

Sea-monster and Jonah.

△ Jonah relief (Beyşehir / Konya)
B.H. McLean: Greek and Latin
Inscriptions in the Konya
Archaeological Museum.
Ankara 2002, fig. 251

◁ Facsimile of inscription
J. Dresken-Weiland: Ein
frühchristliches Jonas-
Relief in Konya. MDAI (R)
102 (1995), p. 405

◁ Text and translation
of inscription

THE "POWER OF IMAGES"

The meaning of the Jonah motive on the tomb may well be explained in terms of concepts of afterlife in early Christianity, but other explanations may also be possible.

The "power of images" in early Christianity is often due to the repetition of certain motives and symbols which can be combined in many ways. Those images reinforced the claim the Christians held on public space.



DIVERSITY OF TRADITIONS IN THE ECCLESIASTICAL SPACE

The diffusion of picture motives as well as of epigraphic formulas can reveal connections between different Christian communities, but can also indicate the markets of certain stonecutter-workshops. Differences and parallels in the customs of Christian communities are rooted in the pagan or Jewish culture of the respective town or region. To demonstrate these connections, we have to reconstruct the cultural horizon of a town or region before inserting the Christian documents. Our presentations on regional history of early Christianity have to take account of these presuppositions.

◁ Diffusion of cross- and fish symbols ■ in Southern Lycaonia
Map on the base of K. Belke / M. Restle: Galatien und Lykaonien.
(TIB 4) Wien 1984, appendix

The Diversity of Spaces

Diversity and Standardization

Large-scale political regimes develop various means and methods in making manifest governance. Horizontally, governance does manifest itself geographically by delimiting inner and outer space. Vertically, governance becomes apparent in social stratification, the creation of institutions and other units of governing, through which rule and domination are both constituted and stabilized. Within the sphere of everyday life, space is controlled through the development or targeted use of contingent operational knowledge. Although the evidence for metrology and writing systems in the ancient world is abundant, the spatial dimension of these systems is often neglected in historical studies of the subject. Research Group B-III-3 aims at a better understanding of the relation between the establishment of territorial states and standardization in the Ancient Near East.



Stone weight in form of a bull, bronze, 2nd millennium BC

We focus on two different aspects:

1. The dissemination of a writing system, the "Luvian Hieroglyphic" at the time of the transition from the Late Bronze to the Iron Age.
2. Metrotopology: development of a new methodological approach to describe and evaluate the role of territorial standardization by means of

metrological systems. A web-based database in cooperation with the University of Brest will allow for modelling metrotopological networks in the IAAO-map-System as a means for further research.



Measurement system on a tablet from Uruk, 3rd millennium BC

METRIC NORMS IN GOVERNED SPACES IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST

The intentional standardization of metrological systems entails a high degree of structural homogeneity. Different regions in the Ancient Near East all possessed their own local unit system for measuring, e.g. barley, animals, surfaces or time. As territorial states expanded, imperial unit systems replaced these micro-structures, for example the introduction of the "Imperial Calendar" in the Ur III-period.

LUVIAN HIEROGLYPHIC DATA-BASE

The history of the Luvian Hieroglyphic writing system constitutes a special phenomenon in the Ancient Near Eastern history of writing. This writing system replaced cuneiform in large areas in southwestern Anatolia and northwestern Syria. It served as an instrument for the representation of kingship for about 700 years. The history of this writing system, however, is still largely unknown. To facilitate the dating of inscriptions, we have created a paleographic database that collects all hieroglyphic characters in Luvian inscriptions and provides additional information on (potential) dating, provenience, reading and context.



tù-pi
à-wa/i-mu^{ti}/a₅-wa/i-na₅-s 118a-tù-s URU

*299 Solium
í a à as(a)

*90 PES ti



Inscription of Tuthaliya IV, King of Hattuša, 13th century B.C., from: Massimo Poesio, L'iscrizione Luvio-Geroglifica di Yalbur



Stone weight in shape of a duck, Ur, 3rd millennium BC

Current Research Projects in Topoi Research Group B-IV

LIST OF CURRENT PROJECTS

- Digitalizing the Berlin Thesauri of Ancient Oriental Languages and Text Corpora (E. Cancik-Kirschbaum, J. Klinger)
- Place-Name Project (E. Cancik-Kirschbaum, J. Klinger)
 - Nerik – A Central Religious Site in Northern Anatolia (S. Lamante, PhD project)
- Eusebius' Onomasticon: the Holy Land as a Space of Identity (J. Stenger)
- Modelling Movement in Archaeology (S. Polla)
- Units of Distance in Greco-Roman Texts (K. Geus)
- Modes of Reception of Ancient Geographical Knowledge and Transformation of Traditional Views of the Known World During the Period of Renaissance and Humanism (J. Engels, J. Helmraht)



World Map (1482) illustrating Ptolemy's Geography

MODES OF RECEPTION OF ANCIENT GEOGRAPHICAL KNOWLEDGE

The reception of ancient geographical treatises in fundamental works of the renaissance period strongly testifies to the influence which ancient conceptions of space exercised on later periods. Medieval concepts of space were primarily shaped by passages in the Old Testament and fragmentary ancient knowledge transmitted through the works of Latin authors, especially Pomponius Mela, Pliny and Isidorus of Sevilla. However, two major Greek geographical treatises, Strabo's *Geographika* and Ptolemy's *Geographike Hyphegesis*, remained widely unknown among Medieval western European scholars, at least as complete works. The reception, close reading by eminent scholars and diligent Latin translation of these texts in the renaissance period is of the highest importance for the process of shaping contemporary ideas about space and different modes of its description and definition. Today, there is still a strong need for scholarly research on the manuscripts and early printed editions of these works, as regards their reception and propagation up to the middle of the 16th century. The research project also comprehensively analyses for the first time so-called 'paratexts', that is, biographies of ancient authors, prefaces, different forms



Portrait of Pope Pius II, 1585, Melanchthonhaus Bretten

of commentaries, editorial chapters, indices etc. For these paratexts are important indicators of the peculiar way and the intensity of reception. Throughout this process, ancient knowledge was continuously updated through personal experience and modern techniques of measuring and observing space. Finally, geographers and other scholars broke away from the ancient reference works and developed modern concepts of space and ways of describing it.

In 2009, Ciriaco d'Ancona's highly unique reception of ancient geographers and his creation of a new genre of renaissance travel literature was studied intensely. Research in 2010 will focus on: a) editions, translations and paratexts of editions of ancient geographers, especially Strabo and Ptolemy, b) peculiar modes of reception and transformation of ancient geographical knowledge in key texts of the renaissance period, for instance Enea Silvio Piccolomini's (pope Pius II, † 1464) *Europa and Asia*, c) fundamental consequences which this complicated reception process had on general conceptions of space in early modern Europe.

Research Area B – Editions

B-I-1: ROMAN MILESTONES FROM THE IBERIAN PENINSULA – Present State of the Epigraphical Edition

Miliaria provinciarum Hispanarum
CIL XVII/1

fasc. 1: Hispania Citerior Tarraconensis
ed. Manfred G. Schmidt et Camilla Campedelli adiuvantibus
Juan Manuel Abascal Palazón et Isabel Rodà de Llanza
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First Fascicle:
Hispania Citerior Tarraconensis
(June 2008–May 2011)

The route of a road system in the Provincia Hispania Citerior, the largest province in the Roman Empire, has been established on the basis of:

– *Milestones*: Some 163 are already documented by photos, felt-tip drawings on plastic wrap and rubbings. The texts of the Latin inscriptions have been copied, and the first version of a critical collection has been prepared, along with a database of the epigraphical texts and their documentation.

– *Itineraries* (Vicarello goblets, Itinerarium Antonini, Cosmographia Ravennatis): All Roman public roads in the Hispania Citerior (I–XXII) were described following the three mayor Itineraria Romana, giving the names of stations and the distances between them.

– *Literary sources* (especially Strabo, Mela, Plinius maior, Avienus): Full use has been made of literary sources in locating places, routes of public roads and province borders.

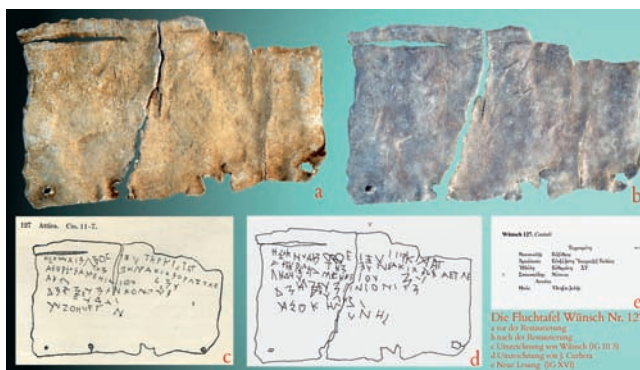
Second and Third Fascicle:
Hispania Ulterior and Callaecia
(October 2011–2014)

A further perspective for continuing and completing the edition in several phases:
The Hispanic provinces of Baetica (2011–2012) and Lusitania (2013–2014), which once constituted Provincia Hispania Ulterior, will be edited together in another fascicle. A third fascicle will encompass the milestones of Callaecia (2011–2014).

Manfred G. Schmidt



Road map of the
Provincia Hispania Citerior



Curse-tablets | Photos: a,b – Staatl. Museen zu Berlin, Antikensammlung, H. Franke; d,e – J. Curbera



Milestone from Mazarrón

B-III-2: THE CORPUS DEFIXIONUM (IG XVI, 1 DEFIXIONES ATTICAE)

“bind..., nail him deep down, rob his limbs, sinews, heart, soul, mind of their strength...”

So reads the text of a small lead tablet from Athens, and more than 1,500 such “binding spells” (defixiones) from the ancient world as a whole are known. They are designed to summon supernatural forces to do harm to an opponent in legal or amorous conflicts.

A corpus of these curse-tablets was edited as an appendix to the Attic corpus by Richard Wünsch in 1897, mostly from his own private collection.

The new Corpus will appear as volume XVI of IG. The first fascicle, which will contain the curse-tablets from Attica, benefited from a special piece of good luck. The collection of curse-tablets which Wünsch acquired in 1894 and brought to Berlin had long been regarded as lost, until three years ago it was rediscovered among the miscellanea of the Berlin Antikensammlung’s collection. Consequently, to

their surprise, Berlin’s Museums now possess the largest collection of defixiones outside Athens. There are only a few conservation experts willing to work with lead; the number of people who can read the inscriptions scratched on them is even smaller. The most important of these experts will be working on IG XVI.

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The National Museum of Athens
The American School of Classical Studies at Athens, Agora Excavations
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