

# DE AQUAEDUCTU URBS ROMAE

Sextus Iulius Frontinus and the Water of Rome



International Conference of the Frontinus-Society on the History of Water Management and Hydraulic Engineering in the Mediterranean Region  
**Rome, November 10 - 18, 2018**

## INVITATION AND CALL FOR PAPERS

The conference will be held as a series of lectures and excursions on the history of water management and hydraulic engineering in the Mediterranean region. Its aim is to stimulate interdisciplinary discussion about water in antiquity. The participation of archaeologists, historians, hydraulic engineers, civil engineers, town planners and geologists ensures an information exchange about the latest findings and theories. The emphasis will be on ancient water supply and use. The organizer of this conference is the Frontinus-Society, with support of the American University of Rome, the Centro Ricerche Speleo Archeologiche Sotterranei di Roma, Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Rom, Istituto Austriaco di Studii Storici at Rome and the John Cabot University at Rome. One full and two half days of lectures will be followed or interrupted by excursions to ancient water installations outside and inside of Rome. The following list intends to suggest some of the topics which could be discussed at the symposium.

- **NEWEST RESEARCH RESULTS ON AQUEDUCTS AT THE BEGINNING OF THE THIRD MILLENIUM:** Water supply systems of ancient cities are increasingly documented as a whole. This is the reason why today's research results are clearer and offer more detailed analyses than in the past when only monumental sections of aqueducts were studied closely. For instance the recently resumed explorations of the aqueducts at Ephesus made clear, that ordinary sections often reveal more important insights than spectacular aqueduct bridges or siphons.
- **THE CASTELLUM AQUAE AN IMPORTANT LINK:** One of the most important buildings for supplying water to an ancient city was the *Castellum Aquae*, because it was the place where the aqueduct leading from the spring ended and the distribution through a pipe system inside the city began. Not enough is known about this building-type so that discussions about how far Vitruvius' theories were incorporated in the planning of castella in Roman cities are still continuing.
- **SUPPLY OF PUBLIC NYMPHAEA:** Public fountains were not only indispensable for the maintenance of the public water supply system but, according to recent research results, also played an important part in the technical operation of the water pipe system.
- **THE DISTRIBUTION OF WATER IN PRIVATE HOUSES:** A wide spectrum of water destinations had to be supplied with fresh water such as small *nymphaea*, baths, *latrina*, basins in the kitchens and other equipment, while the waste water had to be subsequently disposed in sewers. In recent years, the focus has been increasingly geared towards the research of water supply systems within individual living units.

- **SUPPLY OF PUBLIC BATHS:** Although the research of public baths is very well documented already, there are still a great number of unresolved questions. How far was a building influenced by geological and climatic conditions, in addition to the area in which the bath was situated within the city map? How can we explain the particular characteristics of the baths with *gymnasia* in *Asia Minor*? *Testudo*, *piscina calida*, „*Samovar*“ *Piscina*, ... are terms, which have not become familiar yet.
  - **INDUSTRIAL USAGE OF WATER:** In ancient days, water was used for the running of oil presses, grain mills and machines for cutting stone, just to mention three examples.
  - **ALTERNATIVE SOURCES FOR DRAWING WATER:** Alternatives to the costly ways of deriving spring water from far away were *cisternes* for collecting rain water or wells with ground water.
  - **WATER IN THE MIDDLE AGES:** Usage of water after Late Antiquity during Medieval Times in Europe or Islamic traditions in the Near East.
  - **SEWAGE DISPOSAL:** An enormous amount of water had to be disposed after usage. The pipes of the sewage system had impressive dimensions and preferably led directly into a river or the sea.
  - **WATER QUALITY AND HYGIENE IN THE ANCIENT WORLD:** Was it possible to protect oneself from illnesses which were caused by polluted water? Were the large magnificent baths hotbeds for bacteria or viruses in spite of the sterile marble panellings? ..... **Innumerable questions await clarification ... at ROME!**
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## PRELIMINARY SCIENTIFIC PROGRAMME

(13.4.2017)

10.11.2018, Saturday	Arrival, Registration, Welcome Cocktail, Opening Lecture
11.11.2018, Sunday	Opening of the conference and lectures throughout the day, Lunch in the Hotel Evening: Awarding of the Frontinus-Medal and Gala Dinner
12.11.2018, Monday	Morning: Lectures Afternoon: Study Trip to the <b>AQUA VIRGO</b> from the spring to the end (guided by CRSA-Sotterranei di Roma) 1. Caput Aquae in the Via Collatina, Salone 2. Gallery in the Villa Medici behind Piazza di Spagna 3. Walk from Piazza di Spagna to the Trevi Fountain (Fontana di Trevi), which is the endpoint of the Aqua Virgo, visiting the room with the Roman specus behind the fountain
13.11.2018, Tuesday	Full day tour: <b>AQUEDUCTS OUTSIDE OF ROME</b> (guided by CRSA-Sotterranei di Roma) 1. Vicovaro: Visiting the Galleries of Aqua Claudia and Aqua Marcia Lunch in the Convento di San Cosimato 2. Aqueduct bridge Ponte della Bullica and gallery of the Aqua Marcia 3. Aqueduct bridge Ponte Sant'Antonio 4. Aqueduct bridge Ponte della Mola and walk to the Ponte San Pietro 5. Aqueduct bridge Ponte San Pietro 6. Aqueduct bridge Ponte Lupo, the most impressive one of the bridges
14.11.2018, Wednesday	Morning: Lectures and Poster Presentation Lunch at the Hotel Afternoon: <b>AQUEDUCT PARKS IN ROME</b> (guided by CRSA-Sotterranei di Roma): 1. Driving through the Via del Mandrione to see many parts of the Aqueduct bridges in the town 2. Aqueducts in the Sport Centre of the Banca d'Italia 3. Public Parco degli Acquedotti, Via Tuscolana: walk between the different Aqueduct bridges of Rome
15.11.2018, Thursday	Morning: <b>AQUEDUCTS IN ROME</b>

1. Porta Maggiore  
 2. Porta Tiburtina  
 3. The aqueduct of Nero in the Villa of the British ambassador's residence  
 Lunch in the restaurant "Il Mendicante", Via della Tenuta della Mistica  
 Afternoon: **AQUA ALEXANDRINA** (guided by Jens Köhler):  
 Walk on some parts of the Aqua Alexandrina

16.11. 2018, Friday

**WATER BUILDINGS IN THE CITY OF ROME**

Morning: The **Nymphaea** of the Domus Flavia and the Domus Augustana, Imperial palaces on Palatine Hill (guided by Andrea Schmölder-Veit),  
 Domus Aurea and Traian's Baths (guided by Heinz Beste)  
 Lunch: in small Restaurants around and on the way to Caracalla Baths  
 Afternoon and early evening: The **Baths of Caracalla** (guided by Gunhild Jenewein and Marina Piranomonte)

17.11.2018, Saturday

Full day tour: **WATER IN THE VILLA OF THE EMPEROR - The Villa Hadriana in Tivoli**

1. Canopus and Serapeum  
 2. Heliocaminus Baths  
 3. Great Baths  
 Final discussion of the conference and lunch in the Great Baths  
 Gala Dinner in the Hotel

18.11.2018, Sunday

Departure

**REGISTRATION**

For administrative reasons, accommodation is provided for in the Hotel „Massimo D’Azeglio“ (<http://www.romehoteldazeglio.it/de/>) only, which is situated very close to the railway station Stazione Termini. All lectures will be held there. Several different participation options are available (in parenthesis are the reduced prices for members of the Frontinus-Society):

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|--|------|-------------------|
| 1. Participation at the conference and accommodation (8 nights) in double rooms, bus- and all additional expenses including food at the excursions (Air-, Transfers- to and from the airport Visa fees and travel insurance are <b>not</b> included) . . . . . | Euro | 1.470,- (1.430,-) |
| Single room supplement (= double room for single use) . . . . .  | Euro | 480,-             |
| City tax from the city of Rome. . . . .  | Euro | 48,-              |
| Additional night in the hotel (max. two nights before or after the conference - for more nights the regular price of the hotel is 195,- €) in single room . . . . .  | Euro | 145,-             |
| in double room per person (incl. breakfast) . . . . .  | Euro | 85,-              |
| 2. Participation at the conference including all excursions, lunches, bus transfers and guidance fees without accommodation . . . . .  | Euro | 720,- (680,-)     |
| 3. Participation only at the lectures (with coffee breaks, lunches and two gala dinners) . . . . .   | Euro | 350,- (310,-)     |
| 4. Participation only at the lectures with only coffee breaks . . . . .  | Euro | 110,-             |

The city of Rome is collecting a city tax (6,- €/night) which can be paid at Rome or - if you like via the travel agency ahead of time (see at the registration form).

In order to ensure accommodation, prospective participants are urged to register as soon as possible. Details concerning pre-payment will be sent at a later date. **Kindly complete and return the attached registration form before June 29, 2017** to:

## International Conference ROME 2018

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The language of the conference will be English and German. The length of each lecture should not exceed a time-limit of 25 minutes (for posters 10 minutes). Prospective speakers on the proposed or related subjects are requested to send a 200 word summary, in English or German, before **June 29, 2017**.

A poster session will be included as part of the conference and each author may present his or her poster in a Power Point presentation of 10 minutes. Please notify us in the registration form, if you should wish to participate with a poster.

The Frontinus-Gesellschaft offers three awards of € 600 for students to assist with travel expenses. Participants who are still in training are requested to send their application material to Gilbert Wiplinger at the address indicated above no later than June 29, 2017 for consideration. The application material should include an abstract of their presentation, a CV, and a statement of eligibility.

With kind regards



Gilbert Wiplinger  
Vienna, April 2017



Frontinus-Gesellschaft e.V.



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