



**HAL**  
open science

## Vigna Barberini

Françoise Villedieu

► **To cite this version:**

Françoise Villedieu. Vigna Barberini. Gardens of the Roman Empire, 2021, [https://roman-gardens.github.io/province/italia/rome/region\\_x\\_palatium/vigna\\_barberini/](https://roman-gardens.github.io/province/italia/rome/region_x_palatium/vigna_barberini/). hal-03502489

**HAL Id: hal-03502489**

**<https://hal.science/hal-03502489>**

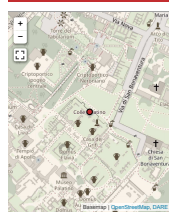
Submitted on 7 Jan 2022

**HAL** is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

## SEARCH

## MAP



## PROVINCES

Achaia  
Africa Proconsularis  
Arabia Petraea  
Britannia  
Italia  
Judaea  
Numidia

## KEYWORDS

aedicules (2) agriculture (1) alabastron (1)  
altars (religious fixtures) (1) ambulatorio (1)  
amphitheaters (1)  
amphorae (storage vessels) (10) angiportus (1)  
arbors (2) arceades (structural assemblies) (1)  
archaeobotany (1) artificial islands (1)  
atrium houses (2) atrium (Roman hall) (23)  
balnea (1) balneatiles (1) basins (vessels) (15)  
bathina (4) basin (wastewater) (1)  
canals (waterways) (1)  
candelabra (candelabrum) (1) cascade (1)  
cathili aquae (1) campanae (1) cella (1)  
chalcid (1) cisternae (Roman cistern) (1)  
cisternae (plumbing components) (12)  
colonnades (4)  
columns (architectural elements) (14)  
courtyards (13) crocodile (1) cryptoportus (1)  
culicula (domestic spaces) (4)  
date palm (Phoenix dactylifera) (1) diada (1)  
doliana (1) domus (38) drains (1)  
elms (Ulmus) (1) engaged columns (1)  
entablature (1) exedrae (site elements) (17)  
fauces (2) fenestae (site elements) (1)  
fishponds (1) flowerpots (2) fontaines (13)  
frescoes (visual works) (1) funerary buildings (2)  
furniture (1) garden lights (1)  
garden ornaments (1) garden pavilions (1)  
gardens wall (1) graffiti (visual notations) (2)  
gutters (building drainage components) (1)  
gymnasium (1) hearth (1) herms (2)  
hippopotamus (1) hortorium (1) horti (1)  
horticultural containers (1) impluvia (8)  
inscriptions (1) insular (1) jet d'eau (1)  
lantern (1) latines (1) laurel (1) lecti (1)  
leggies (1) lucus (grove) (1) market gardens (1)  
masonry (1) mosaics (visual works) (19)  
mural paintings (visual works) (1)  
myrtle (Myrtus communis) (1) necris (grove) (2)  
niches (2) nymphaea (garden structure) (1)  
obelisk (1) oed (1)  
olive tree (Olea europaea) (1) opus signatum (1)  
orchards (2) palaces (1) palaestrae (1)  
panspets (1) Pantheon (1) peliae (1)  
pergula (1) peristyle houses (2)  
peristyles (Roman courtyard) (44) pilasters (1)  
pillars (1) pinakes (1) pines (Pinus) (1)  
pipes (sanitary) (1) piscinae (1)  
pila (earthworks) (1)  
plane trees (Platanus orientalis) (1)  
planters (containers) (1) planting bed (1)  
planting pots (1) pleasure garden (1)  
podium (1) podium (1)  
pomgranates (Diospyros granatum) (1)  
pomerium (1) pools (bodies of water) (1)  
poplars (Populus) (1) porticoes (73) putulae (1)  
reservoirs (1) rim (1) roof centries (1)  
rustic (1) sacella (1) sacraura (1)  
sacred groves (4)  
sanctuaries (religious building spaces) (8)  
sculpture (1) semicircular basin (1)  
shades (structures) (1)  
stagnum (man-made lake) (1) stans (1)  
statues (7) statuettes (1) Strabo (1)  
strigilation (1) strucco (1) sundial (1)  
tabernae (1) tables (support furniture) (4)  
tabulae (1) temple (building) (1)  
terrace gardens (2) toistrac (1) theater (1)  
thermae (1) thermopolium (1) thymaterion (1)  
tomb (1) tomb (1) trophies (1)  
trichilia (couches) (1) trichilia (rooms) (41)  
triplex porticus (1) triumphal arch (1) tufa (1)  
utrinis (ornaments) (1) vase (1) vassa (1)  
vegetable gardens (2) verrea (1) vestibules (2)  
vineyards (1) wildarium (1) walled garden (1)  
water features (fountains) (1)  
water supply systems (1) water wells (2)  
wild olives (Olea oleaster) (1) woven (1)  
xyxis (1)

## Vigna Barberini

## Province

Italia  
Italia (Pleides)  
Italia, Regio I (Pleides)

## Location

Rome  
Roma (Pleides)

## Sublocation

Palatine  
Mons Palatinus (Pleides)

## Garden

Vigna Barberini Site Overview, Palatine

## Keywords

- domus
- palace
- peristyle (Roman courtyard)
- temple (building)

## Garden Description

The artificial terrace that now carries the Barberini family name is located on the northeastern corner of the Palatine, beyond the visible remains of the Flavian Imperial palace (Fig. 1). Excavations carried out during the 1930s by A. Bartoli, and in the 1960s by G.F. Carrettoni concentrated primarily on the central area of this site. These campaigns revealed the foundations of a large temple, which Bartoli identified, consistent with the earlier ideas of P. Bigot, as the remains of the late second-century Temple of Elagabalus.

Investigations by the *Soprintendenza Archeologica* in collaboration with *École française de Rome* since 1985 have revealed further episodes of the history of the area. Approximately one third of the site has been explored, although the most ancient levels have been reached only sporadically (Fig. 2).

The excavations that reached levels prior to the rise of the Empire revealed a *peristyle* of a large *domus* once decorated with plants and *basins*. Probably destroyed during the 60s of the first century CE, this luxurious dwelling was then buried under thick layers of soil used to create an artificial terrace that was a grand garden of the *Palace of Domitian*. About a century later, during the last years of the second century, this section of the imperial palace was demolished to make room for a monumental complex centered around a temple, the *Elagabalium*, dedicated by the emperor *Heliogabalus* to the eastern god, *Elagabalus*, which was later rededicated by *Severus Alexander* to *Jupiter Ultor*.

## PHASES OF THE VIGNA BARBERINI SITE:

Garden of the Peristyle of the Julio-Claudian Domus

Garden of the Flavian Imperial Palace

Garden of the Temple of Elagabalus

## Figures



Fig. 1. Aerial photograph of the Vigna Barberini taken early 1999 (© Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma).

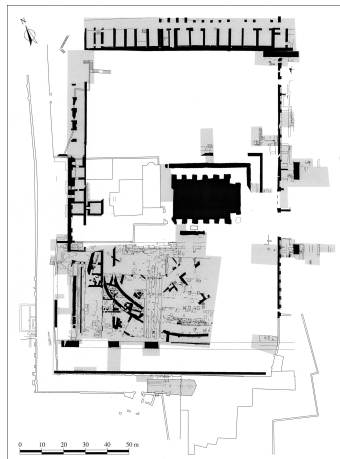


Fig. 2. Aerial photograph of the Vigna Barberini taken early 1999 (© Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma).

## Dates

1st century BCE–2nd century CE

## Excavation Dates

1930s: A. Bartoli  
1960s: G.F. Carrettoni  
1985: Soprintendenza Archeologica in collaboration with *École française de Rome*

## Bibliography

- P. Bigot, "Le temple de Jupiter Ultor et la Vigna Barberini," *Bollettino della Commissione archeologica Comunale di Roma*, 1911, pp. 80–85. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- F. Villedieu, J.-P. Morel, P. Pergola, H. Bruneau, Y. Thebert, P. Gros, E. Hubert, et alii, "Rome: le Palatin (Vigna Barberini)," *Mélanges de l'École Française de Rome* 98 (1986) pp. 387–396; 99 (1987) pp. 481–498; 100 (1988) pp. 505–521; 101 (1989) pp. 489–498; 102 (1990) pp. 443–471; 103 (1991) pp. 313–238; 104 (1992) pp. 465–493; 105 (1993) pp. 419–430; 106 (1994) pp. 431–450; 107 (1995) pp. 459–492; 108 (1996) pp. 423–451; 109 (1997) pp. 417–440; 110 (1998) pp. 473–490; 111 (1999) pp. 449–481; 112 (2000) pp. 413–432. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- M. Roys, F. Chausson, E. Hubert, et alii, *La Vigna Barberini I. Histoire d'un site. Étude des sources et de la topographie*. Rome, 1997. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- M.A. Tomasi, "La es Vigna Barberini e le aree limitrofe: documentazione dell'archivio della Soprintendenza archeologica "La Vigna Barberini I", op. cit., pp. 191–210. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- C. Virlouvet, F. Villedieu, et alii, "Fouilles de l'École française de Rome sur le site de la Vigna Barberini (Palatin)," *Bollettino di Archeologia* 23–24 (1993), pp. 131–164. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- F. Villedieu, "La Vigna Barberini (Palatino): nuove acquisizioni," *Archeologia Laziale XII. Quaderni di Archeologia Etrusco-Italica*, 1995, pp. 33–39. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- F. Villedieu, "Construzioni imperiali messe au jour à l'angle N-E du Palatin. Résultats des fouilles de l'École française de Rome sur le site de la Vigna Barberini," *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Inscriptions & Belles-Lettres*, 1995, pp. 719–736. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- J.-P. Morel, "Stratigraphie et histoire sur le Palatin: la zone centrale de la Vigna Barberini," *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Inscriptions & Belles-Lettres*, 1996, pp. 173–205. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- F. Villedieu, P. Veltri, "Les soutènements nord-ouest et nord de la terrasse de la Vigna Barberini (Rome, Palatin): constructions et remaniements de l'époque flavienne à l'époque sévérienne," *Mélanges de l'École Française de Rome*, 111 (1999), pp. 749–778. [\(worldcat\)](#)
- F. Villedieu, et alii, *Il giardino dei Cesari*. Exhibition catalogue (Rome, Museo Nazionale Romano, Terme di Diocleziano, Oct. 2001–Jan. 2002), Rome, 2001. [\(worldcat\)](#)

## Pleides ID

971691208

## Contributor

Françoise Villedieu

## Publication date

17 April 2021



