

Capitolia*

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ABSTRACT

Capitolia, temples to the triad of divinities Iuppiter Optimus Maximus, Iuno Regina and Minerva Augusta, are often considered part of the standard urban ‘kit’ of Roman colonies. Their placement at one end of the forum is sometimes seen as schematizing and replicating in miniature the relationship between the Capitolium at Rome and the Forum Romanum below it. Reliably attested Capitolia are, however, rarer in the provinces than this widespread view assumes and there seems to be no relationship between civic status and the erection of a Capitolium. Indeed, outside Italy there are very few Capitolia other than in the African provinces, where nearly all known examples belong to the second or early third century A.D., mostly in the Antonine period. This regional and chronological clustering demands explanation, and since it comes too late to be associated with the foundation of colonies, and there is no pattern of correlation with upgrades in civic status, we propose that the explanation has to do with the growing power and influence of North African élites, who introduced the phenomenon from Rome. Rather than being a form of temple imposed from the centre on the provinces, Capitolia were adopted by provincial élites on the basis of their relationship with Rome.

Keywords: Roman religion; Capitolia; temples; *coloniae*; Capitoline Triad; Jupiter Optimus Maximus; imperial cult; North Africa

The notion that Capitolia were a standard feature of Roman urbanism in the Western provinces, a model exported from Rome itself, is central to many influential studies of Roman urbanism. Over the last 160 years, studies on provincial Capitolia specifically and Roman cities generally have argued or assumed that Capitolia were common or normal features of Roman cities in the central and western Mediterranean, and of colonies in particular; that they typically stood on or overlooking fora and were planned on a common axis with them; and that they can be recognized by their tripartite cella and high podium.¹ While notes of caution or indeed doubt on several of these points

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¹ e.g. J. W. J. Braun, *Die Kapitele* (1849); A. Castan, *Le Capitole de Vesontio et les capitoles provinciaux du monde romain* (1869); *Les Capitoles provinciaux du monde romain* (1886); O. Kuhfeldt, *De Capitolis Imperii Romani* (1883); J. Toutain, ‘Étude sur les capitoles provinciaux de l’empire romain’, *École pratique des hautes études* (1899); *Les Cultes païens dans l’empire romain* vol. 1 (1907), 181–93; R. Cagnat and V. Chapot,

have from time to time been sounded, those authors who have questioned some of these points have maintained others, and the general idea is alive and well today. This paper aims to show how slender are the foundations of that view, and argues that far from being a normal feature of urbanism propagated by Rome, Capitolia in the provinces are a regionally patchy phenomenon, whose popularity was locally driven and developed gradually over time; and that they may not in fact have been especially common outside Italy and North Africa. Although they were closely identified with rituals honouring Roman emperors and the Roman state, their localized popularity requires local explanations.

I CAPITOLIA, COLONIES AND URBAN FORM: THE CREATION OF A MYTH

The history of scholarship on Capitolia is an illuminating place to start. The idea that Capitolia are a standard feature of Roman colonies goes back at least to Du Cange's *Glossarium Mediae et Infimae Latinitatis*, published in 1737. In his entry under *Capitolium*, Du Cange gives a list of so-called Capitolia in early medieval sources and paraphrases Aulus Gellius' comment that 'colonies seem to be as it were small replicas and in a sense likenesses' of the Roman people ('... populi Romani, cuius istae coloniae quasi effigies parvae simulacraque esse quaedam videntur'),² with an added gloss that they therefore had theatres, baths and Capitolia:

Non sola porro duntaxat Roma Capitolium habuit, sed et aliae complures ex majoribus, illius exemplo, atque adeo in ipsa Gallia urbes, et ex iis illae potissimum quae *Coloniae* populi Romani erant: nam ut ait Gellius: *erant Coloniae quasi effigies parvae Populi Romani, eoque jure habebant Theatra, Thermas et Capitolia.*

Moreover, it was not only Rome that had a Capitolium, but also very many others of the more important cities, after the model of Rome, and especially in Gaul itself; and among them especially those which were colonies of the Roman people: for as Gellius says: 'colonies were so to speak little images of the Roman people, and by that right they had theatres, baths and Capitolia.'

Du Cange presented his paraphrase as though it were Gellius' actual text,³ with predictable confusion for later scholars who did not check the original; it encouraged a subsequent and widespread misinterpretation of Gellius' passage as suggesting that colonies were physical replicas of Rome — Gellius was in fact talking about the institutional and juridical similarities, not any physical resemblance — and in several widely-read later works, from early studies of provincial Capitolia by Braun and the entry on *Capitolia* in Daremberg and Saglio's very influential *Dictionnaire des antiquités*, to scholarship of the

Manuel d'archéologie romaine I (1916), 157–60; P. Paris et al., *Fouilles de Belo (Bologna, Province de Cadiz) (1917–1921)* (1923), 65–70; U. Bianchi, 'Disegno storico del culto capitolino nell'Italia romana e nelle provincie dell'impero', *Memorie della Classe di Scienze morali e storiche dell' Accademia dei Lincei* 82 (1950), 349–415; I. M. Barton, 'Capitoline temples in Italy and the provinces, especially Africa', *ANRW II.12.1* (1982), 259–342; M. Todd, 'Forum and Capitolium in the early Empire', in F. O. Grew and B. Hobley (eds), *Roman Urban Topography in Britain and the Western Empire* (1985), 56–66; P. Zanker, 'The city as symbol: Rome and the creation of an urban image', in E. W. B. Fentress (ed.), *Romanization and the City: Creation, Transformations, and Failures* (2000), 25–41; R. MacMullen, *Romanization in the Time of Augustus* (2000), 60; *Brill's New Pauly, Encyclopedia of the Ancient World* (2003) s.v. *Capitolium* 1071–73.

² Aulus Gellius, *Noctes Atticae* 16.13.9.

³ An error noted also by Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 13 n. 18; M. Cagianò de Azvedo, 'I "Capitolia" dell'impero Romano', in *Atti della Pontificia Accademia Romania di Archaeologia. Ser. III, Memorie* 5 (1941), 63 n. 426; Bianchi, op. cit. (n. 1), 350 and Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 278 n. 46; although many of these works still assume that Gellius implies a physical resemblance between Rome and its colonies.

1960s,⁴ it is assumed or stated that Gellius himself had said that Roman colonies had theatres, baths and Capitolia as a matter of course.

Du Cange also noted, however — as had Scipio Maffei a few years before him, in 1732⁵ — that in early medieval sources the sense of the term Capitolium meant a pagan temple in general ('templum paganorum, vel locus ubi sacrificare cogebantur Christiani'), and sometimes acquired the broader meaning of 'citadel' or 'fortress'.⁶ St Jerome, for instance, discussing the city of Babylon in his early fifth-century commentary on Isaiah, includes this description of the famous tower: 'But the Arx, that is to say, the Capitolium of that city, is a tower that was built after the Flood, said to be four [Roman] miles high ... they describe marble temples there, golden statues, streets shining with jewels and gold, and many other things that seem almost incredible.'⁷ Clearly the word here evokes not a temple but a citadel, on the model of the Capitoline Hill, and Isidore of Seville (*Etym.*) makes this clear, offering the definition: 'arx [id est] capitolium.'

Long after Maffei and Du Cange's observations, the first work devoted to the question of provincial Capitolia was by Braun in 1849 (Table 1, see [Appendix](#)), but it is rather slight and vitiated by its uncritical use of sources, including Du Cange and the *Acta Sanctorum*.⁸ Twenty years later, Castan's work on the supposed Capitolium of Vesontio (Besançon) provided the first systematic attempt at a treatment of provincial Capitolia, listing eleven in Italy, five in Gaul, one in Germany, four in the East and three in Africa (Table 1).⁹ It predates much archaeological work in North Africa, so it misses many examples there, and also omits the Greek inscriptions from Asia Minor.¹⁰ From the examples he identified, Castan argued that provincial Capitolia were a privilege accorded by the imperial government exclusively to colonies.¹¹ Although he was evidently trying to find a clear-cut schema for provincial Capitolia, he did note that despite the precepts of Vitruvius (*De Arch.* 1.7), Capitolia were not always built on eminences.¹²

Oscar Kuhfeldt's dissertation *De Capitoliis imperii romani* (1883) expanded the number of identifications of provincial Capitolia (Table 1). He discussed sources (inscriptions, coins, ancient writers, the *Acta Sanctorum*, and medieval documents which, typically, preserve a form of the word 'Capitolium' in place- or property-names), then individual sites with what he regarded as Capitolia first in Italy and then in Spain, Africa, Greece and Thrace, Asia, and finally Gaul. Justifiably, he considered epigraphy and the remains

⁴ Braun, op. cit. (n. 1), 3; Daremberg-Saglio *Dict.* II.906 s.v. *Capitolium*; R. Janin, *Constantinople Byzantine. Développement urbain et répertoire topographique* (1964), 174–5.

⁵ S. Maffei, *Verona Illustrata* (repr. 1825), 210.

⁶ C. D. F. Du Cange, *Glossarium mediae et infimae Latinitatis* (1737), s.v. *Capitolium* (sense 2); cf. Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 15–16; Daremberg-Saglio *Dict.* I.2.906 s.v. *Capitolium*. Similarly, the scholia on Statius' *Thebaid* seem to call the Parthenon the 'Capitolium Minervae': ad 4.136: 'Ilium Palladia] Hippomedontem dicit, qui ab Athenis, id est, a Capitolio Minervae ad bella descendit' ('Ilium Palladia] he means Hippomedon, who came down from Athens, that is, from the Capitolium of Minerva, to the wars'). We thank JRS's anonymous reader for this reference and suggestion.

⁷ ad 14.22: 'arx autem, id est, Capitolium illius Urbis, est turris quae aedificata post diluivium, in altitudine quatuor millia dicitur tenere passuum ... describunt ibi templa marmorea, aureas statuas, plateas lapidibus auroque fulgentes, et multa alia quae pene videantur incredibilia.'

⁸ Braun, op. cit. (n. 1); as Kuhfeldt (op. cit. (n. 1), 13 and n. 18) pointed out, of its 32 pages, only pp. 12–22 are relevant and the rest are 'ballast'.

⁹ Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), with summary of identified Capitolia on p. 28. The identification at Vesontio is made on the basis of a medieval toponym.

¹⁰ Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 14 n. 20.

¹¹ Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 30: 'Les Capitoles provinciaux paraissent résulter de concessions gracieuses du gouvernement impérial, et cette nature de faveurs semblerait avoir exclusivement le lot des colonies, c'est-à-dire des villes admises à jouir de la plénitude des institutions romaines. En effet, sur les vingt-quatre Capitoles que nous avons reconnus, vingt-trois appartiennent à des localités soumises au droit colonique; et quant à celui de *Marruvium Marsorum*, qui pourrait faire exception, rien ne prouve que l'ancien chef-lieu des Marseilles n'a pas été, à un moment de son existence, repeuplé par quelque corps de vétérans des armées romaines.'

¹² Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 29.

of temples as the best sources, but he also drew attention to coins of the eastern Empire (issues of Aphrodisias and Heliopolis) with Latin inscriptions, mentioning *Kapetolia* (Capitoline Games).¹³

Just as Maffei and Du Cange had pointed to the late antique extension of the term *Capitolium* to mean ‘citadel’, Kuhfeldt noted, as had Maffei 150 years earlier, that in Late Antiquity *Capitolium* seems to have become a simple synonym for pagan Roman religion or temples in general, by contrast with Christianity and churches.¹⁴ How early this usage began among Christian writers is unclear; Cyprian in the mid-third century opposes the Church to the *Capitolium*, and seems to be using the word in this more general sense.¹⁵ A passage of Tertullian’s *De Corona* (12.3; early third century) could be taken either way:

Ecce annua votorum nuncupatio, quid videtur? prima in principiis, secunda in Capitoliiis. Accipe, post loca, et verba: ‘Tunc tibi, Iuppiter, bouem cornibus auro decoratis uouemus esse futurum.’

And then the annual taking of vows, how does that seem? First in the camp head-quarters, then in the *Capitolia*. Attend to the words as well as the places: ‘We vow, Jupiter, that you shall have an ox with horns decorated in gold.’

If *Capitoliiis* is here meant in its original sense, this passage might provide important evidence for the widespread existence of *Capitolia* in the provinces and their rôle in official cult linked to public displays of loyalty to the emperor. But doubts arise: Tertullian may be simply extrapolating from Carthage (which we know did have a *Capitolium*), and in any case he needed a polysyllabic word to balance *principiis* to effect a strong clausula at the end of the sentence; *templis* would not work in the same way. The sacrifice is to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, and certainly where *Capitolia* existed we can be sure that the annual sacrifice for the health of the emperor did take place in them; but it is possible that in other cities such sacrifices took place in other temples, for example of Jupiter alone. It is difficult to use this passage as certain evidence for the ubiquity of *Capitolia*, and indeed the nineteenth-century *Ante-Nicene Fathers* edition translates the word simply as ‘temples’, in accordance with other early Christian usage:

Lo the yearly public pronouncing of vows, what does that bear on its face to be? It takes place first in the part of the camp where the general’s tent is, and then in the temples. In addition to the places, observe the words also: ‘We vow that you, O Jupiter, will then have an ox with gold-decorated horns.’¹⁶

Irrespective of the precise interpretation of this passage, the corollary of the changes in meaning in late antique and medieval usage, seen by Scipio Maffei but not always followed through by Du Cange or subsequent scholars, is that references to *Capitolia* in hagiographic sources, medieval charters or toponyms are not reliable evidence for the existence of a *Capitolium* in the sense of a Roman temple to the Capitoline Triad. The

¹³ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 7.

¹⁴ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 8–9; Maffei, *op. cit.* (n. 5), 210; cf. Daremberg-Saglio, *Dict.* I.2.906 s.v. *Capitolium*; A. Grenier, ‘Les capitoles romains en Gaule et le Capitole de Narbonne’, *CRAI* (1956), 316–17; M. Gayraud, *Narbonne antique des origines à la fin de IIIe siècle* (1981), 270.

¹⁵ Cyprian, *Ep.* 55: ‘Quid superest, quam ut Ecclesia Capitolio cedat, et recedentibus sacerdotibus ac Domini altare removentibus, in cleri nostri sacrum venerandumque consessum, simulacra atque idola cum aris suis transeant?’ (‘What remains, but that the Church should yield to the Capitol, and that with the priests withdrawing and removing the altar of the Lord, the images and idols with their altars should pass into the sacred and venerable assembly of our clergy?’)

¹⁶ A. Cleveland Coxe, *The Ante-Nicene Fathers, Translations of the Writings of the Fathers down to A.D. 325*, vol. 3 (1885–1897).

Acta Sanctorum, frequently cited in discussions of provincial Capitolia, are especially unreliable.¹⁷

Kuhfeldt urged extreme caution when using late sources generally and the *Acta Sanctorum* in particular.¹⁸ Nonetheless, he still accepted some identifications of Capitolia based on those sources. He believed that Capitolia were common, even universal in Italy under the Empire,¹⁹ and he accepted rather too readily the evidence from the East — coins from Antioch in Caria showing Zeus Kapetolios depict him with Victoria and Fortuna, not Juno and Minerva; priests of Zeus Kapetolios at Nysa and Smyrna, and a dedication to Zeus Kapetolios at Teos, while attesting the cult of Jupiter Capitolinus (as Zeus Kapetolios), do not quite add up to hard evidence for a temple of the Capitoline *Triad*.²⁰ Kuhfeldt also assumed that the link between Capitolia and *coloniae* was significant and worth exploring; each entry in his study has something on the status (colonial or otherwise) of each town. He realized, however, that Castan was incorrect to maintain that only *coloniae* could have Capitolia; *municipia* could have them too.²¹ Nevertheless, he believed that more *coloniae* than *municipia* had Capitolia, and that this was because colonies were Gellius' *quasi effigies parvaeque simulacra*; indeed, he claims that major cities in provinces are those with Capitolia, to be like a second Rome for the province.²²

Kuhfeldt's publication prompted Castan to produce a new study, with a revised and expanded list of provincial Capitolia, including several North African examples attested in inscriptions discovered since his first essay, in which he reaffirmed his view that only colonies could have Capitolia.²³ Kuhfeldt's and Castan's studies, and the conclusion that Capitolia were standard features of colonies (whether or not limited to them), were picked up by the great encyclopaedic tradition of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, and lists of provincial Capitolia were repeated (sometimes with slight variations) in the entries on *Iuppiter* by E. Aust in Roscher's *Ausführliches Lexicon der griechischen und römischen Mythologie*²⁴ and on *Capitolium* in Ettore de Ruggiero's *Dizionario epigrafico di antichità romane*,²⁵ both accepting uncritically the evidence of the *Acta Sanctorum*. Saglio's entry in the *Dictionnaire des antiquités* (1887) aligned itself firmly with Castan's view on the special, even juridical, association between Capitolia and colonial foundations, perpetuating the error initiated by Du Cange: 'Si maintenant on remarque que, parmi les villes actuellement connues pour avoir possédé un capitol, il n'en est guère pour lesquelles on ne soit assuré qu'elles étaient des colonies, on sera disposé à admettre que pour elles la construction d'un capitol ne fut pas seulement une imitation ambitieuse de Rome, mais la loi même de leur fondation, puisqu'elles avaient reçu avec leur institution et leur droit, les dieux et le culte de la métropole. «Les colonies, dit Aulu-Gelle étaient comme des images réduites de la cité romaine, et c'est pourquoi elles avaient le droit d'avoir comme Rome des théâtres,

¹⁷ Useful discussions along these lines in Maffei, op. cit. (n. 5), 209–10; Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 23–8; Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1899), 3–4; op. cit. (n. 1, 1907), 183–4; Grenier, op. cit. (n. 14), 316–17; Gayraud, op. cit. (n. 14), 270. For a partial rehabilitation of the evidence of the *Acta* in response to Castan and Kuhfeldt, see P. Allard, 'Les Capitoles provinciaux et les Actes des Martyrs', *La Science Catholique, Revue des questions religieuses* 1 (1887), 358–76.

¹⁸ Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 10.

¹⁹ Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 41: 'Neque fallitur cum imperatorum Rom. certe temporibus vix ullam totius Italiae coloniam municipiumve fuisse contendemus, quod non Iovis Iunonis Minervae templo uteretur.'

²⁰ Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 56–7; cf. the review by O. Seeck in *Wochenschrift für klassische Philologie* 2 (1884), 37–8.

²¹ Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 78 and n. 297.

²² Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 79.

²³ Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1886).

²⁴ E. Aust, 'Iuppiter', in W. H. Roscher (ed.), *Ausführliches Lexicon der griechischen und römischen Mythologie* II (1890–1897), cols 739–43.

²⁵ E. de Ruggiero, 'Capitolium', in *Dizionario epigrafico di antichità romane*, vol. II.1 (1892), 93–5.

des thermes et aussi des capitoles.»²⁶ The entry in Pauly-Wissowa (1897) was more judicious, distinguishing cautiously between the different categories of evidence and noting that the hagiographical sources are less secure. Despite noting the total absence of true Capitolia in the East, with the sole exceptions of Hadrian's Aelia Capitolina and the probably Constantinian Capitolium built for his New Rome, it maintained the by then traditional idea that there was a significant association with colonial status (while admitting some exceptions).

At the end of the nineteenth century René Cagnat and Paul Gauckler provided a list of inscriptions and descriptions of possible or certain Capitolia in Tunisia, which consolidated the evidence then known; this is of particular value for the architectural descriptions and drawings and photographs of some temples now destroyed or since heavily restored, but offers no analysis or synthesis.²⁷ Also in 1899, J. Toutain published his *Étude sur les Capitoles provinciaux de l'empire romain*, an article which updated the lists of provincial Capitolia drawn up by Kuhfeldt and Castan, rejecting the more dubious examples founded on medieval toponyms, but adding some new discoveries on the basis largely of epigraphic evidence and drawing on Cagnat and Gauckler. He erroneously considered temples to Jupiter Capitolinus as Capitolia, and so included Antioch in Syria, of the second century B.C., and Panticapaeum on the Cimmerian Bosphorus, second century A.D.; but in general his discussion here and in his later summary in *Les cultes païens* is cautious and sensible.²⁸ Toutain notes that Braun relied uncritically on late texts such as the *Acta Sanctorum*, as Castan and Kuhfeldt had argued; but he critiques Castan and Kuhfeldt too for their over-reliance on late charters and toponyms which do not predate A.D. 1000, by which time 'Capitolium' was being used probably exclusively in its medieval sense of citadel or a pagan temple in general. He also pointed out that no law or custom restricted Capitolia to colonies (*contra* Castan), since they are found in *municipia* and peregrine cities too.²⁹ He realized that a triple cella is not in itself evidence of a triple cult,³⁰ but he accepted the idea that provincial Capitolia copied Rome in form, or at least in concept ('un désir évident de rappeler plus ou moins exactement le Capitole romain').³¹ He makes several interesting observations on the geographical distribution of attested Capitolia: they are found in Africa, Spain, and Gaul, and are rare on the Danube and absent in the Germanies, but dedications of Capitoline cult without temples are the reverse — few in Africa, rare in Spain and Gaul, numerous along the Rhine, in the Pannonias and in Dacia.³²

In their authoritative handbook on Roman archaeology (1916), Cagnat and Chapot cemented the by then increasingly common view that Capitolia were part of a standard package of urban features to which Roman cities, and not just colonies, aspired: 'Aussi les villes de province, colonies, municipes et même cités pérégrines, s'empresaient-elles, dès qu'elles le pouvaient, d'élèver à la triade Capitoline un sanctuaire, image de celui de la capitale. On en a trouvé dans de nombreuses localités. Le type qu'on imitait était, naturellement, le Capitole de Rome, dont on connaît très bien le plan; c'est celui du temple toscan. La *cella* était divisée en trois chambres, disposées parallèlement dans le sens de la longueur; au centre celle de Jupiter, la principale; à droite pour qui regardait l'édifice, la chapelle de Junon, à gauche, celle de Minerve.'³³

²⁶ Daremberg-Saglio, *Dict.* II.906 s.v. *Capitolium*.

²⁷ R. Cagnat and P. Gauckler, *Les monuments historiques de la Tunisie* (1899), 1–18.

²⁸ Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1899), I.181–93.

²⁹ Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1899), 20–9; op. cit. (n. 1, 1907), I.187–8.

³⁰ Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1899), 19.

³¹ Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1907), 186–8; quote from pp. 186–7.

³² Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1907), 190–3.

³³ Cagnat and Chapot, op. cit. (n. 1), I.157–60 (quote from pp. 157–8).

The view that Capitolia had a special colonial significance proved remarkably hard to dislodge. In 1941 Michelangelo Cagiano de Azevedo attempted to revisit the subject, and to update the studies of Braun, Kuhfeldt and Castan on the basis of the excavation finds made over half a century or so since Castan wrote. He swelled the list to a claimed 130 or more Capitolia, but most of these were identified on very flimsy grounds — the mere presence of a triple cella, or a high podium, or a commanding position was often sufficient for him. His list is so uncritically inclusive as to be of little value. Nevertheless, his study both reflected the standard view that Capitolia were very common in the Western Empire and especially in colonies, and helped to reinforce it.

In 1950 Ugo Bianchi published a study of the Capitoline cult which took a more restrained view than Cagiano de Azevedo on the number of provincial Capitolia (Table 1), and sought to identify a chronological development in the association between Capitolia and colonies. He argued that after Signia, the oldest Capitolia belonged to the second century B.C., and all were in cities of colonial status. Capitolia were built particularly in colonies in the first century of empire, but in the second century A.D. and at the start of the third numerous Capitolia were built in cities of varied status, especially in Africa, but particularly in cities which had in some measure assimilated the civil and religious institutions of Rome. He saw Capitolia as an official, ‘national’ cult: ‘un Capitolium fu molto di più che un tempio qualsiasi dedicato alla divinità del Campidoglio; esso, imagine ridotto ma fedele, dal punto di vista strutturale, e, più, culturale, del santuario urbano, fu la sede del culto cittadino della triade capitolina, culto proprio di ogni città che avesse assume le istituzioni e le costumanze di Roma, perchè rappresentava appunto il culto nazionale per eccellenza del popolo romano.’³⁴

In his studies of Cosa, which had a profound influence on studies of Roman urbanism and on Roman colonies throughout the second half of the twentieth century,³⁵ Frank Brown simply assumed that Cosa’s temple on the arx was a Capitolium, apparently on the basis of its lofty position and its triple cella, but he never offered any hard evidence for the identification.³⁶ This fitted his view that Cosa was a mini-Rome, which meant that the Capitolium had to be a copy of the one at Rome.³⁷ Grimal’s survey of Roman cities (1954) declares succinctly that ‘De même qu’à Rome le Temple de Jupiter Très Bon et Très Grand, associé à Minerve et à Juno, domine le Forum romain, il n’est guère de forum provincial qui ne comporte aussi son “Capitole”, consacré à la même triade.’³⁸

Ian Barton’s survey of ‘Capitoline temples in Italy and the Provinces’ for *Aufstieg und Niedergang der römischen Welt* (1982) was a more careful reassessment of Cagiano de Azevedo and Bianchi’s lists, with some updating, and a useful full list of the various African examples (Table 1). A particular strength of the work is that he points out the numerous exceptions to the standard view; but he nevertheless remains reluctant to abandon that view completely — many Capitolia do not have a triple or tripartite cella, and there are non-Capitoline temples that do have one, but he still sees a triple cella as a defining feature (see further below); he acknowledges that there is no real connection between colonial status and the possession of a Capitoline temple, but in discussion of individual temples still attempts to find such a link.

³⁴ Bianchi, op. cit. (n. 1), 399, emphasis in original; this classic passage is also cited at Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 260.

³⁵ An early example: P. MacKendrick, ‘Roman town planning’, *Archaeology* 9.2 (1956), 126.

³⁶ F. Brown, ‘Cosa I: history and topography’, *MAAR* 20 (1951), 63.

³⁷ e.g. F. Brown, *Cosa: the Making of a Roman Town* (1980), 53–6.

³⁸ P. Grimal, *Les Villes romaines* (1954), 60 (and repeated in the 1983 English translation by G. M. Woloch, *Roman Cities* (1983), 50; cf. pp. 50–1.)

This attitude is reflected in subsequent scholarship: studies on forum-temple complexes in the Western provinces by Todd (1985), Gros (1987), and Blutstein-Latrémolière (1991) assumed that many temples on fora were necessarily Capitolia, and then used this assumption to argue that Capitolia were normally placed in dominant positions on the forum; in reality, few or none of the examples they used can be shown to be Capitolia.³⁹ In 1995 Gargola could affirm: ‘... Roman colonies possessed certain highly standardized elements. From the fourth century, the urban core was organized around a square or *forum* and a high place or *arx*, and clustered around those places (and elsewhere in the town) was a range of public buildings and temples, including a *Capitolium* patterned after the temples of Jupiter Best and Greatest on the Capitol at Rome.’ He goes on to cite Cosa as an example.⁴⁰

A Capitolium, then, is still widely seen as a reproduction of the original Temple of Jupiter Optimus Maximus on the Capitoline Hill at Rome (Fig. 1), with a schematic replication of the spatial relationship between that temple and the Forum Romanum which lay beneath it: according to the *Oxford Classical Dictionary*, ‘Both hill and the temple of Jupiter were reproduced in many cities of Italy and (especially the Western) provinces’.⁴¹ And as Todd puts it, ‘The most prominent site in the city must be reserved for the Capitoline Triad, according to Vitruvius (1.7.1), presumably to echo the siting of the Capitolium in Rome itself. What topography could not provide was often afforded by a high podium ...’⁴² Much of this standard view persists in the entry on *Capitolia* in Brill’s *New Pauly* (2003), and in a recent Blackwell’s Companion of 2006.⁴³

Furthermore, despite the various studies that from Kuhfeldt and Toutain onwards⁴⁴ have pointed out that there is no real correlation between the distribution of known Capitolia and the colonial status of Roman cities, the idea that Capitolia are a standard feature of a Roman urban package, and a particular feature of colonies, based ultimately on the misreading of Aulus Gellius,⁴⁵ has proved surprisingly

³⁹ Todd, *op. cit.* (n. 1); P. Gros, ‘Sanctuaires traditionnels, capitoles et temples dynastiques: rupture et continuité dans le fonctionnement et l’aménagement des centres religieux urbains’, in *Los Asentamientos ibéricos ante la Romanización* (1987), 111–21; É. Blutstein-Latrémolière, ‘Les places capitoline d’Espagne’, *Mélanges de la Casa de Velázquez* 27.1 (1991), 43–64. Likewise, the review of comparanda for the architectural form of Capitolia by G. Cavalieri Manasse, ‘La tipologia architettonica’, in *L’area del Capitolium di Verona: ricerche storiche e archeologiche* (2008), 309–15, rests on identifications which are in many cases uncertain.

⁴⁰ D. J. Gargola, *Land, Laws and Gods. Magistrates and Ceremony in the Regulation of Public Lands in Republican Rome* (1995), 83; H. Mouritsen, *Italian Unification: a Study in Ancient and Modern Historiography* (1998), 76 is more cautious.

⁴¹ *OCD*³, s.v. *Capitol*, *Capitolium*. For the temple itself see *LTUR* s.v. *Iuppiter Optimus Maximus Capitolinus, aedes, templum*.

⁴² Todd, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 57.

⁴³ Brill’s *New Pauly*, 1073: ‘It is probable that *capitolia* were originally erected in those Roman colonies laid out on the pattern of Rome (*coloniae* B; cf. Suet. Tib. 40,1: Capua; Vitruv. De arch. 3,2: Pompeii), then in cities that wished or were obliged in particular to emphasise their adherence to the empire (e.g. foundation of the Colonia Aelia Capitolina by Hadrianus in Jerusalem, with a temple to Capitoline Jupiter on the Jewish Temple Mount). ... The *capitolium* was as a rule situated on the forum’. L. M. Stirling, ‘Art, architecture and archaeology in the Roman Empire’, in D. S. Potter (ed.), *A Companion to the Roman Empire* (2006), 80: ‘The advent of Roman power often meant the addition of a *capitolium*, a temple to the tutelary deities of the city of Rome: Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, as worshipped on the Capitoline hill. Provincial *capitolia* were modeled on the one in Rome, using an imposing podium to elevate the temple and emphasize its frontal aspect over all the others. Three cult chambers or niches housed the three divinities. In the forum of Gorsium in Pannonia, created under Trajan, a head of Jupiter was found in the central chamber (J. Fitz and J. Fedak, ‘From Roman Gorsium to late-antique Herculia: a summary of recent work at TÁC (NE Pannonia)’, *JRA* 6 (1993), 261–73)’.
⁴⁴ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1); Toutain, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1907).

⁴⁵ For a recent evocation of the passage in relation to the reproduction of the plan of the Roman temple in ‘Capitolia’ elsewhere, Cavalieri Manasse, *op. cit.* (n. 39), 308; for the same point in relation to Cologne see H. Hellenkemper, ‘Architektur als Beitrag zur Geschichte der Colonia Ara Agrippinensium’, in *ANRW* II.4 (1975), 808; and for explicit reliance on Gellius for the connection between Capitolia and colonies see, for example, F. Brown *et al.*, *Cosa II: The Temples of the Arx* (1960), 103–6 (cf. n. 92 below). Against this

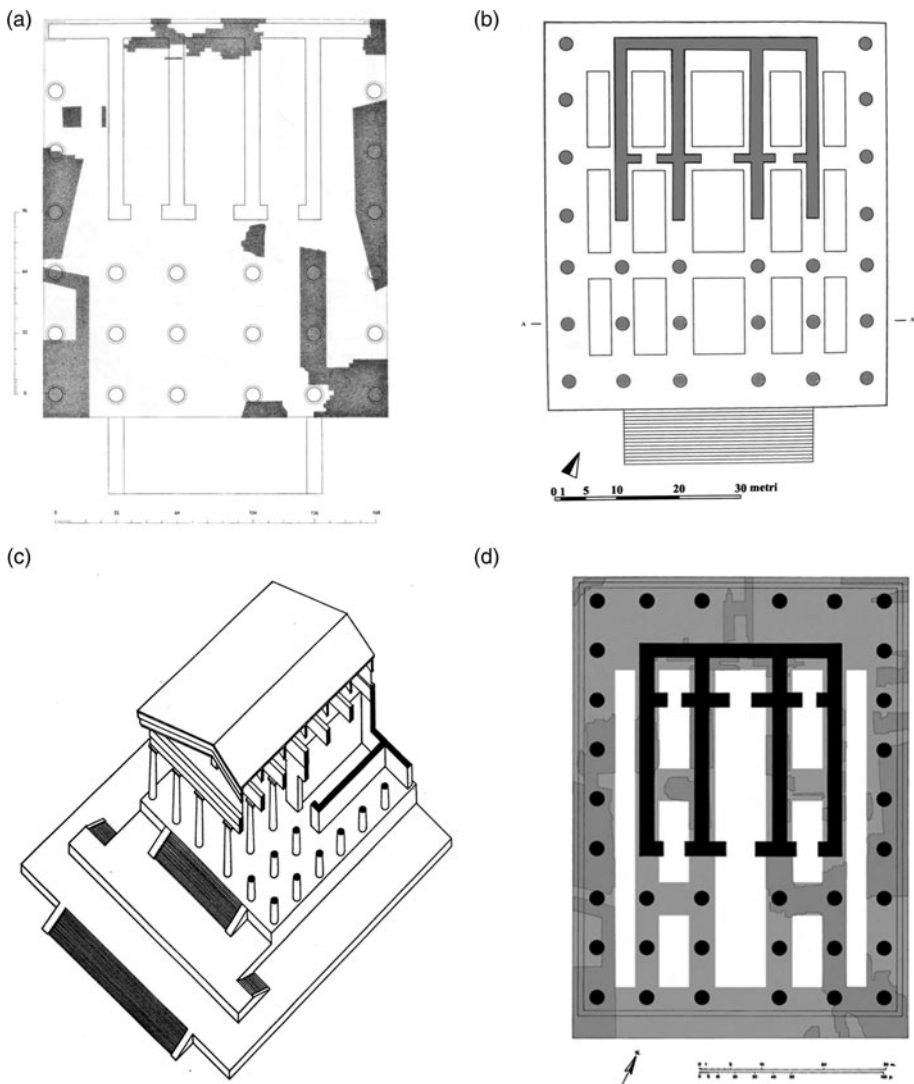


FIG. 1. Rome, alternative reconstructions of the Capitulum: (a) plan by E. Gjerstad; (b) plan by G. Cifani; (c) axonometric drawing by J. W. Stamper; (d) plan by A. Mura Sommella (Arata, op. cit. (n. 64), figs 28, 29, 30 and 31).

interpretation of the passage, see Zanker, op. cit. (n. 1), 41, and more generally against this passage, E. Bispham, 'Mimic? A case study in early Roman colonisation', in E. Herring and K. Lomas (eds), *The Emergence of State Identities in Italy in the First Millennium BC* (2000), 157: 'Gellius' account of, and commentary on, Hadrian's words have had a pernicious influence on the study of local government and autonomy in the Roman Empire.' More recently, Ando too has criticized the tendency to 'rely heavily on the heuristic value of a single imperial text, by which to interpret the abundant but tessellated evidence from the middle and late republic' (C. Ando, 'Exporting Roman religion', in J. Rüpke (ed.), *A Companion to Roman Religion* (2007), 431), and drawn attention to the mismatch between Gellius' account of colonies as having 'all the laws and institutions of the Roman people' and Republican evidence such as Cicero's criticism of the colonists at Capua for trying to ape Roman institutions (*de leg. agr.* 2.93).

tenacious.⁴⁶ Paul Zanker, in an article published in 2000 on ‘The city as symbol: Rome and the creation of an urban image’, still sees Capitolia as central elements of Republican colonies in Italy: ‘This main road going through the city leads to, or past, the Capitolium situated at the intersection of *cardo* and *decumanus* ... The gathering place of the community lies in front of the Capitolium. ... it is clear that the orientation of the Capitolium at the central square of the city, which would later become such a common feature and indeed canonical in Italy and the western provinces, is already implicit in this early city plan.’⁴⁷ He develops this idea for Augustan colonies: ‘The long-distance road traversing the city implies a sense of belonging to a large entity. The same is true of the siting of the Capitolium in the center of the community, which clearly defines it, both for the locals themselves and for visitors, as belonging to Rome. In early times in particular, this novel form of city plan, made more evident through repetition, must have taken on the character of a deliberate message.’⁴⁸

At the same time, the wider interpretation of *coloniae* as ‘mini-Romes’, at least in a physical sense, has been persuasively challenged in recent years: in essays that both appeared in 2000, for instance, Fentress disassembled the supposed colonial type-site of Cosa, and Bispham used a case-study of Ostia to suggest that there were few “‘deliberately prescriptive” processes’ in the foundation of Republican colonies;⁴⁹ some years later, Bispham tackled mid-Republican colonialism more holistically, suggesting that: “‘Little Romes”, founded after ritual ploughing, and kitted out with a standard topography and infrastructure which recall the *urbs* (city), have ... to be treated for what they are, namely late-republican and Augustan discourses, which evolved in the context of re-shaping an identity for a far-flung and recently divided empire.’⁵⁰ The relationship between Capitolia and colonial foundation has been called into question as part of this reassessment (usually without reference to the earlier debate between Kuhfeldt, Castan and Toutain): Fentress points out that the supposed Capitolium at Cosa was built long after the colony’s foundation,⁵¹ and Bispham notes that ‘Ostia may never have had a Capitolium’,⁵² as well as rejecting those identified at Cosa and Minturnae.⁵³ Beyond Italy, Beard, North and Price deny an ‘immutable blueprint’ for religious activity in Rome’s colonies abroad, and note that while ‘some *coloniae* certainly built Capitolia immediately at the time of their foundation: there are

⁴⁶ In addition to the examples already cited, see for instance Pohl’s claim that in colonial contexts a Capitolium is ‘an essential building to indicate the might and power of Rome’ (I. Pohl, ‘Was early Ostia a colony or a fort?’, *La Parola del Passato: rivista di studi antichi* 38 (1983), 124); Macdonald’s assertion that ‘Western cities required capitolia ... though they varied greatly in size and detail, it seems they were always one-ended, with porch and steps facing a plaza, usually the forum’ (W. L. Macdonald, *The Architecture of the Roman Empire, Volume II: an Urban Appraisal* (1986), 119); and Zanker’s explanation that the ‘capitolia (religious centers)’ of Roman citizen colonies ‘were laid out on the axis of each forum so that overland traffic had to pass in front of them, a principle that made them very visible as symbols of the colonies’ association with Rome and submission to Roman sovereignty’ (P. Zanker, *Pompeii. Public and Private Life* (1998), 7).

⁴⁷ Zanker, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 27–8.

⁴⁸ Zanker, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 28.

⁴⁹ E. W. B. Fentress, ‘Frank Brown, Cosa and the idea of a Roman city’, in E. W. B. Fentress (ed.), *Romanization and the City: Creation, Transformations and Failures* (2000), 11–24; Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 45); see also, more succinctly, M. Torelli, *Tota Italia: Essays in the Cultural Formation of Roman Italy* (1999), 15–16.

⁵⁰ E. Bispham, ‘*Coloniae deducere*: how Roman was Roman colonization during the Middle Republic?’ in G. Bradley and J.-P. Wilson (eds), *Greek and Roman Colonization. Origins, Ideologies and Interactions* (2006), 75, building on M. H. Crawford, ‘La storia della colonizzazione romana secondo i romani’, in A. Storch Marino (ed.), *L’Incidenza dell’antico. Studi in memoria di Ettore Lepore*, vol. I (1995), 187–92, where the definition of a colony during the Republic is seen as unfixed. See in addition G. D. Woolf, ‘Catastrophe and aftermath’, in R. Sweetman (ed.), *Roman Colonies in the First Century of their Foundation* (2011), 150–9, also questioning the category of ‘colonization’.

⁵¹ Fentress, *op. cit.* (n. 49), 14.

⁵² Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 45), 112; cf. Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 158.

⁵³ Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 100, 112.

second-century B.C. *coloniae* in Spain with their own Capitolia', others chose to build them 'only later if at all'.⁵⁴

Nonetheless, the link between Capitolia and the Roman legal status of a city persists in the scholarship. Although Bispham convincingly refutes this connection for the mid-Republic, even for him 'by the late Republic the Capitoline Triad had established itself as the normative model of Roman colonial cult',⁵⁵ and he sees a Capitolium built at Luna shortly after its foundation in 177 B.C. as an example of the way in which 'it was becoming unthinkable that a Roman colony should not have a temple to the Capitoline Triad'.⁵⁶ With regard to the Imperial period, Beard, North and Price suggest that from the second century A.D. the Capitoline cult 'that in the first century A.D. had been confined to *coloniae* (and Rome itself) was taken over by *municipia* as part of their display of Roman status'; they deal with exceptions by suggesting that 'that sequence may also be reversed; and on more than one occasion we can see the building of a Capitolium as part of a claim for Roman status (rather than a boast of Roman status already acquired)'.⁵⁷ Looking in particular at Africa, van Andringa has recently suggested that: 'It is no surprise, therefore, to see that in the provinces of Africa, most of the Capitolia were constructed in the second and the beginning of the third centuries AD, the period when most of the cities were promoted to the status of *municipium* and or colony. At Sabratha the successive procurement of the status of *municipium* and then colony was further sanctioned by the construction of an imposing Capitolium in the monumental center that already contained a temple to Liber Pater and Serapis. At Cuicul (Djemila) it seems that the Capitolium was built at the time of the colony's foundation, under Nerva or Trajan.'⁵⁸

Like Toutain,⁵⁹ we do not see any clear and consistent link between the construction of Capitolia and the award of colonial or municipal status, whether from the beginning or developing over time. We agree with Bispham that the evidence for Republican Capitolia at Cosa, Minturnae and Ostia is negligible, but we would go further: we see no better evidence for Luna, the Spanish Republican colonies or Sabratha; there is more (if still very incomplete) evidence for Cuicul, but we would date the temple so identified there substantially later than the colony's initial urbanization.⁶⁰ In fact, certain evidence for Capitolia is not common in Italy, and is rarer still in most provinces, with the exception of Africa where they clearly flourished — for a limited period of time. This is difficult to reconcile with the idea that Capitolia are a standard feature of the Roman colonial or more generally urban model. Our argument in the following pages aims to show the fragility of the evidence on which this view rests; the certain examples of Capitolia are far fewer than the major studies accept, and even recent scholarship has interpreted the wider significance of the phenomenon within the parameters originally established by Du Cange, Braun, Castan and Kuhfeldt. A number of our basic points were adumbrated by Barton; so entrenched, however, was the view of Capitolia as a

⁵⁴ M. Beard, J. North and S. Price, *Religions of Rome*, vol. I (1998), 333–4. Walbank makes a similar point in relation to pre-Augustan colonies outside Italy, that 'we do not know whether the building of a Capitolium accompanied the original foundation of a colony' (M. Walbank, 'Pausanias, Octavia and Temple E at Corinth', *Annual of the British School at Athens* 84 (1989), 381).

⁵⁵ Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 118.

⁵⁶ Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 122.

⁵⁷ Beard, North and Price, *op. cit.* (n. 54), 335.

⁵⁸ W. Van Andringa, 'Religions and the integration of cities in the Empire in the second century AD: the creation of a common religious language', in J. Rüpke (ed.), *A Companion to Roman Religion* (2007), 89. This chronology is impossible; the chronology of the temple on the forum at Sabratha cannot be so closely linked to the award of civic status, and in fact it is clear that the Capitolium at Cuicul is substantially later (see below, n. 60).

⁵⁹ Toutain, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1899); *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1907).

⁶⁰ It clearly post-dates the *macellum*, one of whose entrances it blocks, an observation for which we thank Roger Wilson.

standard feature of Roman urbanism that he sought to explain the points we raise below as exceptions, rather than following through the implication that they in fact overthrow the traditional view. None of our arguments is intended to suggest that Capitolia were not of great importance or that they did not display a strong symbolic link with Rome. Indeed, the late antique use of the term to mean pagan temples in general, or citadel, is testimony to the symbolic power of the Capitolium of Rome as appreciated throughout the provinces. Our point is to show that this has nothing to do with Republican or early Imperial colonization, or with the colonial status of cities; and that the idea of a Capitolium on a high point of town, or dominating the forum, was not the standard, centrally propagated, item of Roman town planning that it has frequently been presented as being. In fact, we would argue that they may in many respects have been unusual, and that instead of one overarching explanation for the foundation of Capitolia, such as a city's legal status, there will have been local reasons for why they become popular in particular regions. We turn now to the problem of how Capitolia can be identified, and then survey the evidence for Capitolia in Italy, in the provinces outside Africa, and finally in Africa.⁶¹

II IDENTIFYING CAPITOLIA

One easy way to identify Capitolia is to look for buildings that are already labelled as such in inscriptions or texts.⁶² The first Capitolium that we hear of in Rome — the *Capitolium Vetus* — was, according to Varro, a shrine (*sacellum*) on the Quirinal to Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, which was 'older than the temple that was built on the Capitoline'.⁶³ It seems that it was soon superseded: Pliny says that Tarquinius Priscus began (*inchoaverit*) the *Capitolium* on what became the Capitoline hill with the spoils from Apiolae (3.70).⁶⁴ As the quotation from Varro shows, the word is also used — in a transferred sense, if Varro both is right in saying that the *Capitolium Vetus* was the older building, and should be understood as implying that it was *called* a Capitolium even at that time⁶⁵ — for the southern crest of the Capitoline hill (as opposed to the Arx) on which the second temple was built. The Capitoline Temple built by Tarquinius Priscus was destroyed in the civil war between Sulla and Marius in 83 B.C., and rebuilt by Q. Lutatius Catulus on the original foundations; and this temple in turn was destroyed when Vespasian's troops besieged Vitellius' forces on the Capitol in A.D. 69. Vespasian rebuilt it, but it was destroyed again in the fire of A.D. 80 and rebuilt by Domitian, the new temple being dedicated in A.D. 89.⁶⁶ The precise design and appearance of these various versions is a

⁶¹ A structure adopted for ease of comparison with Barton's work and indeed with earlier studies which employ a similar approach.

⁶² 'Kapitolium' is also found: the spelling with K is simply the result of a widespread ancient view that K should be used before A, Q before U, and C before I, E and O — a means of regularizing the orthographical treatment of three letters with essentially the same phonetic value (cf. Quintilian 1.7.10).

⁶³ Varro *LL* 5.158: 'clius proximus a Flora susus versus Capitolium Vetus, quod ibi sacellum Iovis Iunonis Minervae, et id antiquius quam aedis quae in Capitolio facta.' See also Martial 5.22.4, 7.73.4, and F. Coarelli, 'Capitolium Vetus', in E. M. Steinby (ed.), *Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae*, vol. I (1993), 234.

⁶⁴ For the Capitolium in Rome see G. Tagliamonte, 'Capitolium (fino alla prima età repubblicana)', in E. M. Steinby (ed.), *Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae*, vol. I (1993), 226–31. For recent discussions of the building itself, with earlier bibliography, see A. Mura Sommella, 'Il tempio di Giove Capitolino: una nuova proposta di lettura', *Annali della Fondazione per il museo 'Claudio Faina'* (2009), 333–72, and F. P. Arata, 'Nuove considerazioni a proposito del Tempio di Giove Capitolino', *Mélanges de l'École française de Rome, Antiquité* 122.2 (2010), 585–624 (who underscores the variety of reconstructions that have been proposed (608–22), rejects them all, and proposes, but does not illustrate, a new one of his own, arguing for a smaller temple than other scholars have assumed).

⁶⁵ We thank one of *JRS*'s anonymous readers for this suggestion.

⁶⁶ Plutarch, *Publicola*, 15.1–4; Tacitus, *Historiae* 3.72; 4.53.

matter of dispute — reliefs and coins variously represent the temple as either hexastyle or tetrastyle, the latter probably being a device to allow the doors of the three cellae to be shown more clearly.⁶⁷ Dionysius of Halicarnassus describes the temple as having a deep porch with three rows of columns, and a triple cella (Jupiter in the centre, flanked by Juno on his right and Minerva on his left).⁶⁸ The early temple had a low, heavy roof, and the rebuilding by Catulus attempted to remove this defect, within the limitations imposed by the religious necessity of rebuilding on exactly the same foundations.

There are some literary and rather more epigraphic attestations of the word *Capitolium* used of temples outside Rome, and the traditional assumption — which we largely share, with the reservations about late antique and later texts described above — is that as at Rome, these were temples dedicated to Jupiter Optimus Maximus with subsidiary cults to Juno Regina and to Minerva.

A set of criteria to identify *Capitolia* which are *not* so labelled is laid out by Ian Barton in his 1982 survey of ‘Capitoline temples’:⁶⁹ the presence of cult statues of the three divinities ‘conforming to the traditional pattern of a seated Iuppiter flanked by Minerva (on his right) and Iuno (on his left)’;⁷⁰ a dedication to the Capitoline Triad; the form of the building itself; and a dominating situation, either in the highest place or in the centre of the town.⁷¹ All these principles however require some qualification.

The presence of cult statues of the three divinities seems to us a sound indicator of a *Capitolium*, though we would emphasize that a representation of just one of the three divinities does not necessarily point to this particular kind of temple; it is the combination that is distinctive. Furthermore, a dedication to the Capitoline Triad — Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno Regina, and Minerva (often *Minerva Augusta*) — in the context of a primary building inscription can indeed be regarded as evidence for the identification of that building as a temple and a *Capitolium*. All three divinities should be mentioned, however, or be straightforwardly restorable. Examples of individual dedications and temples to Juno Regina⁷² or *Minerva Augusta*⁷³ alone are insufficient to identify *Capitolia*.

Nor is the dedication of a temple to Jupiter Optimus Maximus necessarily a reference to Jupiter Optimus Maximus *Capitolinus*; he also comes in other versions. Jupiter Optimus Maximus Dolichenus was the object of a second-century A.D. cult that spread from Commagene to the Aventine,⁷⁴ Jupiter Optimus Maximus Heliopolitanus was worshipped at Baalbek, and at Deir el-Qal'ak, overlooking Berytus, there is a dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus Balmarcod (‘Lord of Dances’).⁷⁵ A less exotic example comes from Capua, where the *Tabula Peutingeriana* locates the sanctuary of ‘Iovis Tifatinus’. Three dedications found on the summit of Monte Tifata itself include one simply to Jupiter Tifatinus, dated palaeographically to as early as the mid-first century B.C., one from around the second century A.D. to IOT — Jupiter Optimus Tifatinus, and one, from around the first century A.D., to IOMT — Jupiter Optimus Maximus

⁶⁷ On the textual and iconographic sources, see Arata, *op. cit.* (n. 64), 586–92.

⁶⁸ Dion. Hal. 4.61.

⁶⁹ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), with earlier bibliography.

⁷⁰ For this arrangement, see Livy 7.3.5.

⁷¹ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 260–1.

⁷² Aventine: Livy 5.21–3, 31, 52 (396 B.C.); *ad Circum Flaminius*: Livy 39.2.11 (187 B.C.).

⁷³ *CIL* III.1426 (Sarmizegetusa) and *CIL* III.640 (Philippi); see *TLL* 2.1393. See also J. R. Patterson, ‘A dedication to *Minerva Augusta* from Butrint’, in I. L. Hansen and R. Hodges (eds), *Roman Butrint: An Assessment* (2007), 40–3 for a more recent example from Roman Butrint.

⁷⁴ M. Hörig and E. Schwertheim, *Corpus Cultus Iovis Dolicheni* (1987).

⁷⁵ F. Millar, ‘The Roman *coloniae* of the Near East: a study of cultural relations’, in H. M. Cotton and G. M. Rogers (eds), *Rome, the Greek World, and the East*, vol. 3 (2006), 176, conveniently collects the evidence for both cults.

Tifatinus.⁷⁶ Although his hilltop location invites comparison with that of Jupiter Optimus Maximus Capitolinus, this Jupiter Optimus Maximus is not just not Capitoline, but, as with those in Asia, positively marked as non-Capitoline. The single instance that we have found in which a building explicitly identified as a Capitolium by its building inscription is dedicated to a variant incarnation of Jupiter is the Tetrarchic Capitolium at Segermes in North Africa. Here the temple was dedicated to Jupiter Conservator, Juno Regina and Miner[va Augusta], and in this case the particular epithet for Jupiter is explicable by assimilation to the imperial propaganda of the period, including Diocletian's identification with Jupiter and the emphasis on Jupiter Conservator on contemporary coinage.⁷⁷

We would also stress, with Kuhfeldt and Barton,⁷⁸ that the presence of a dedication by itself, outside the context of a particular building and not obviously a building inscription, cannot be taken as evidence that there was such a building. We must distinguish between the mere existence of Capitoline cult, or the popularity of the Capitoline Triad, and the construction of temples dedicated to them.

We find the other characteristics that Barton calls into service in the identification of Capitolia less convincing. Firstly, there are problems with the idea that the *design* of a Capitolium should necessarily recall the one in Rome. According to Barton this means a high podium approached by steps, a pronaos with columns, and a cella capable of containing the three cult statues.⁷⁹ This would certainly make sense, but there is actually very little positive evidence for the model – not only because there are so few authenticated Capitolia outside Africa to check, but also because there are so many temples in Italy and Africa that are demonstrably not Capitolia but which have a high podium, frontal emphasis, a pronaos defined by columns, and a cella large enough to house the three statues: by the Augustan period this is the standard type in the Western Mediterranean. Moreover, the variety of designs of provincial temples which are certainly Capitolia, including tetrastyle and hexastyle examples, and with a wide variety of cella arrangements, argues against the idea that all provincial Capitolia were intended to resemble physically the Capitolium in Rome.

To narrow the field down, a tripartite cella is often taken as a defining characteristic of a Capitolium,⁸⁰ an arrangement attested for the temple at Rome.⁸¹ For Barton himself, the cella of a Capitolium is 'often, but not necessarily, physically divided into three longitudinal divisions',⁸² and although he accepts that it does not *have* to be thus physically divided, he sometimes uses a physical division in part or in whole to identify a Capitolium that is otherwise entirely unattested.⁸³ But this simply does not work: a tripartite cella is described by Vitruvius as the norm for all 'Tuscan' temples,⁸⁴ and it is in fact the preferred design in many larger central Italian temples during the Republic,

⁷⁶ V. Sampaolo, 'Osservazioni sul sistema viario a nord di Capua', *Bollettino di Archeologia* 39–40 (1996 [2001]), 1–6; S. De Caro *et al.*, 'Nuovi dati per il santuario Capuano di Giove Tifatino', *Rendiconti della Accademia di archeologia, lettere e belle arti di Napoli* 67 (1997–98), 15–29. We thank Nicholas Purcell for pointing us towards Monte Tifata.

⁷⁷ *CIL* VIII.23062 (+ *CIL* VIII.11167=906); Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 303–4. Coins: e.g. *RIC* 6 (C. H. V. Sutherland, *The Roman Imperial Coinage*, vol. 6 (1967)), reverse legends listed in the index at pp. 701–2 under *Iovi Conservatori* and variants.

⁷⁸ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 6; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 268.

⁷⁹ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 260. Cf. Todd, *op. cit.* (n. 1), who expresses some caution on the details (p. 57).

⁸⁰ Grimal and Woloch, *op. cit.* (n. 38), 50; Todd, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 57.

⁸¹ Dion. Hal. 4.61.4, and see Mura Sommella, *op. cit.* (n. 64) and Arata, *op. cit.* (n. 64) for the various possibilities for reconstruction.

⁸² Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 260.

⁸³ e.g. Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 265 (Minturnae, on the forum, perhaps the *aedes Iovis* of Livy 36.37); 266 (Terracina, where three chambers under the cella 'imply ... a corresponding division above'); 267 (Narbo); 269 (Virunum); 270 (Aenona, where a statue of Juno was found nearby).

⁸⁴ Vitruvius 4.7.2.

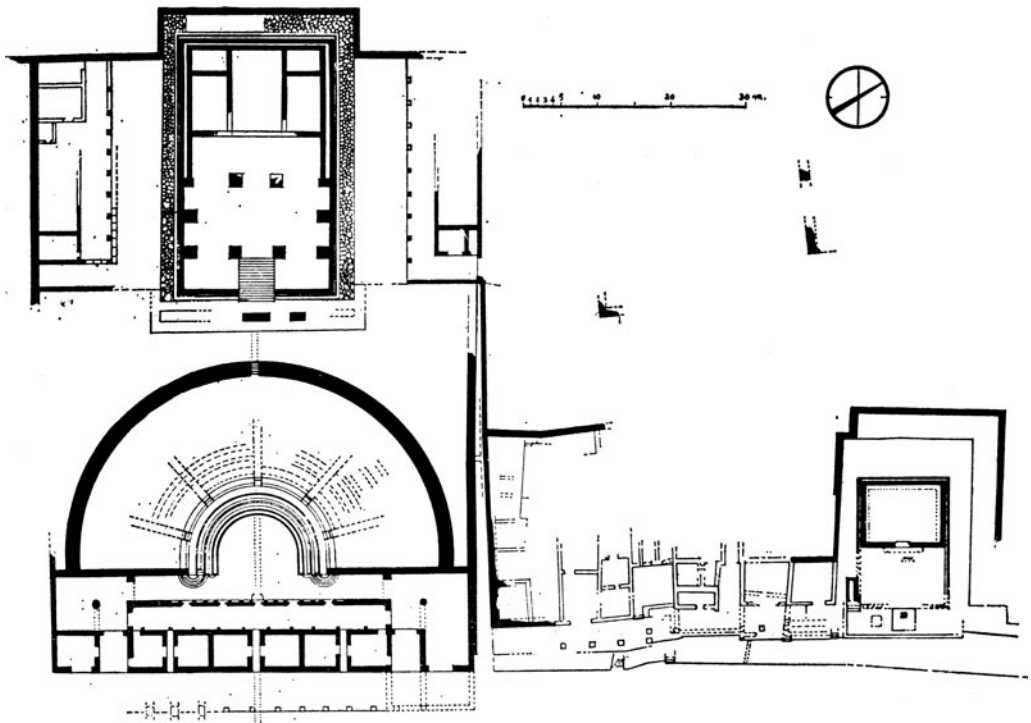


FIG. 2. Pietrabbondante: plan of the temple with a triple cella (not a Capitolium) above the theatre (M. J. Strazzulla, *Il Santuario sannitico di Pietrabbondante* (1973), fig. 1).

such as the second-century B.C. temple of the Dioscuri at Cori, and the great temple at Pietrabbondante, which would make a surprising Capitolium (Fig. 2).⁸⁵ Outside Italy, the Qasr al-Bint at Nabatean Petra has a tripartite cella, as does the temple of Artemis at Parthian Dura Europos, to take just two striking examples. As we discuss below, however, none of the certain Capitolia in Africa demonstrably has a triple cella, although several have tripartite substructures. At Dougga, for instance, while three temples *besides* the Capitolium (those of Mercury, Tellus and Saturn) have a triple cella,⁸⁶ the Capitolium itself has a single cella with three bays for the cult statues (Fig. 3).⁸⁷ In many cases the identification of a triple cella is in fact based on the existence of three vaulted chambers in the substructures of the temple podium; the extrapolation from these to a three-chambered cella above is logical, but not certain.⁸⁸

Nor does the dominating situation of a temple — either on high or on a podium — seem persuasive evidence; at least, not by itself. The notion of the Capitolium occupying the highest place in a town is extrapolated both from the topographical situation at Rome

⁸⁵ Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 100 for more Italian examples.

⁸⁶ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 273.

⁸⁷ A point noted already by Toutain, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1899), 19.

⁸⁸ P. Gros, *L'Architecture romaine* (1996), 194 points out that 'on a trop souvent déduit du compartimentage technique des substructions de ces temples une organisation à trois *cellae* qui ne se vérifie que rarement lorsque les niveaux d'occupation sont suffisamment conservés pour qu'il soit possible d'en juger'. To his counter-example of the Capitolium at Thuburbo Maius could be added the supposed Capitolia at Gighthis and Cuicul, and, probably, the temple of Roma and Augustus at Lepcis (M. Livadiotti and G. Rocco, 'Il tempio di Roma e Augusto', in A. Di Vita and M. Livadiotti (eds), *I Tre Templi del lato nord-ovest del Foro Vecchio a Leptis Magna* (2005), 217–18).

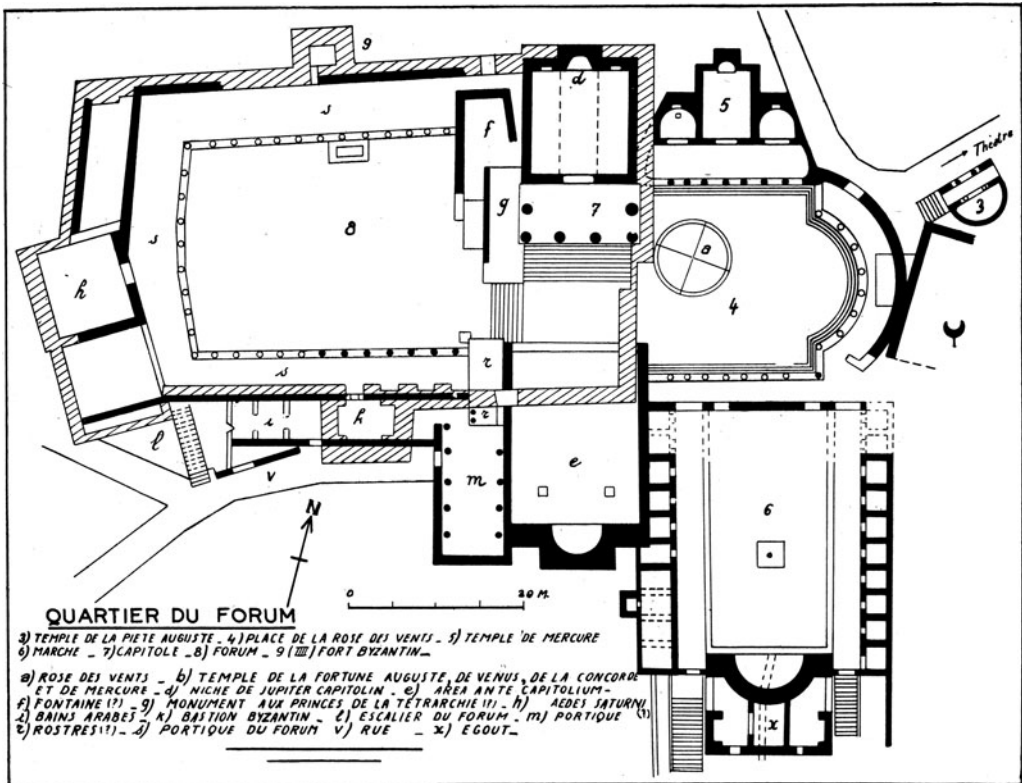


FIG. 3. Dougga: plan of the forum and Capitulum (Poinssot, op. cit. (n. 265), fig. 2).

and from the famous passage in Vitruvius where he advises his readers looking to build a fortified town on where to site the public buildings:

aedibus vero sacris, quorum deorum maxime in tutela civitas videtur esse, et Ioui et Iunoni et Mineruae, in excelsissimo loco unde moenium maxima pars conspiciatur areae distribuuntur.⁸⁹

But for the sacred shrines of those gods under whose particular protection the community is thought to be, [and] for Jupiter and Juno and Minerva, the sites should be distributed on the very highest point commanding a view of the greater part of the walls of the city.

The purely modern idea that Capitolia dominate the forum surely derives in great part from the more general idea of domination expressed in this passage, but Vitruvius is claiming here to describe an ideal, not the situation in any existing city: he was an aspiring architect of the Roman imagination at least as much as of Roman colonies.⁹⁰ Vitruvius'

⁸⁹ Vitruvius 1.7.1. There is ambiguity in the Latin over whether Vitruvius means that the community's tutelary deities are Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, or whether these three and the tutelary deities are all candidates for the highest location in the city, and it is not even certain that Vitruvius is discussing a single 'Capitoline' cult entity here, rather than individual shrines to Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, any one of whom may be an example of a tutelary deity. Todd (op. cit. (n. 1), 57), however, takes this as an uncomplicated claim that the 'most prominent site in the city must be reserved for the Capitoline Triad'.

⁹⁰ cf. I. McEwen, *Vitruvius: Writing the Body of Architecture* (2004), A. Wallace-Hadrill, *Rome's Cultural Revolution* (2008), 144–210.

image of a temple to Jupiter, Juno and Minerva on a great height within the city does seem to map in a general sense onto the picture at Rome itself, and it is an interesting question how much Vitruvius' description of the ideal new city is in fact a rhetorical re-description of the old one.⁹¹ It is worth noting, however, that the model's implicit comparison with the temple in Rome towering above its own forum is difficult to reconcile with the actual alignment of that building; while the Capitolium at Rome was certainly visible from the Forum Romanum, it was significantly off-axis from its alignment, and over time an increasing number of other temples came to dominate the Forum more immediately.

Furthermore, while plenty of Italian cities did have temples in high places by the time Vitruvius was writing, for none of these is there good independent evidence identifying those temples as Capitolia. For instance although a Republican-period Capitolium was identified by Frank Brown on the 'Arx' at Cosa, as noted above, this was part of what Fentress has shown to be his desire to see Cosa as a mini-Rome; Brown's positive identification based on the temple's high location and its form, including a tripartite cella, which for him recalls (but does not reproduce) that of the Capitolium at Rome, has been comprehensively refuted by Bispham.⁹²

In this paper we take the only definite markers of a Capitolium to be (1) a clear description as a Capitolium in a building inscription, or (2) a building inscription with a dedication to at least two of Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno and Minerva (with the third restorable in a lacuna), or (3) the remains of cult statues likely to represent at least two of those divinities associated with a temple structure. We then use these attested examples to reassess the distribution, form and urban placement of provincial Capitolia. The Capitolia that we regard as certain or probable are summarized in the final column of Table 1 and mapped in Fig. 4.

III CAPITOLIA IN ITALY

Judging by these conservative criteria, Capitolia are not found in great numbers in Italian towns. There are references to only two Italian Capitolia outside Rome in ancient literary sources before the early Middle Ages (though of course we should not expect detailed topographical information from our Rome-focused literary sources): Suetonius tells us about a statue at Beneventum which is *in Capitolio*,⁹³ and twice refers to a Capitolium at Capua, dedicated by Tiberius on his way to Capri in A.D. 26, which is also mentioned (as *Capitolia*) by Silius Italicus.⁹⁴ Five more Capitolia are referred to in inscriptions from Italy, at Marruvium Marsorum,⁹⁵ Falerio in

⁹¹ cf. Vergil's contemporary literary construction of Carthage, where the Phoenician colony is at least in part a reconstruction of the Roman one (*Aen.* 1.419–40, with the brief comment at P. Gros, 'Carthage: faillite d'un Empire et résurrection d'une capitale', in *Actes du Colloque Les Mégapoles méditerranéennes* (2000), 535).

⁹² Brown *et al.*, *op. cit.* (n. 45), 103–6: 'The name "Capitolium" has been applied to the great temple of three cellae on the Arx of Cosa in default of explicit evidence of its identity, because the circumstantial evidence admits of no other ... Its presence in the colony is warranted by Gellius' definition of the *effigies parvas simulacraque* of the metropolis.' See Fentress, *op. cit.* (n. 49) on Brown's general model; Bispham, *op. cit.* (n. 50), 99–103 for the detailed case against an identification of the temple at Cosa as a Capitolium. Terracotta acroterial sculptures found on the Arx depicting the abduction of Ganymede may suggest that this area had a temple to Jupiter at some point (Torelli, *op. cit.* (n. 49), 39), but no more than that.

⁹³ Suet., *Gramm.* 9.6. It is interesting to note that the Budé edition (1993) translates Suetonius' 'statua eius (i.e. Orbilius) Beneventi ostenditur in Capitolio ad sinistrum latus marmorea' as 'On peut voir à Bénévent, sur le côté gauche du forum, une statue en marbre'.

⁹⁴ Suet., *Tib.* 40, *Gaius* 57 (Tacitus, *Ann.* 4.57, telling the same story refers simply to *templa Iovi*); Silius Italicus 11.265. Cf. Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 14–19.

⁹⁵ *CIL IX.3688 = ILS 5364*. This seems likely on the basis of nomenclature and the letter-forms to go back to the late Republic or early Empire: C. Letta and S. D'Amato, *Epigrafia della regione dei Marsi* (1975), 64 (no. 49).

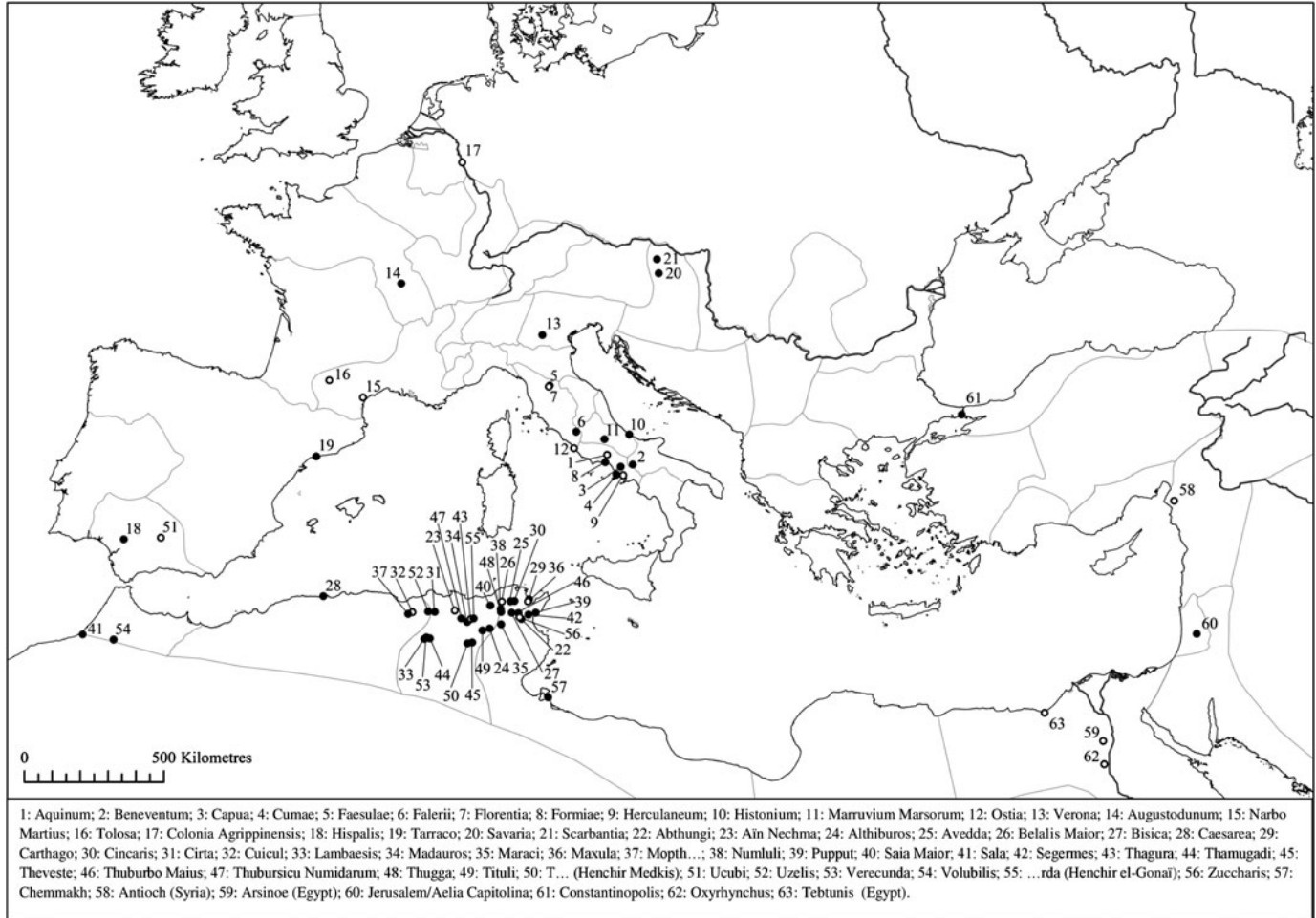


FIG. 4. Distribution map of certain and likely Capitolia. (Map by Jack Hanson)

Piceno,⁹⁶ Histonium in Samnio,⁹⁷ Verona,⁹⁸ and Formiae.⁹⁹ None of these is a building inscription, but it seems certain that the references are to local Capitolia. Two more cases are less certain: a small altar at Faesulae concerns the *restitutio* of a Capitulum,¹⁰⁰ and a recently published later first-century A.D. inscription from Herculaneum mentions a *refectio* of a Capitulum:¹⁰¹ in both cases the reference could be to a local temple, or to the temple in Rome. The inscription from Faesulae is particularly interesting because here, uniquely outside Africa, we find the name ‘Capitulum’ applied to a temple on an inscription in association with a dedication to the Capitoline Triad.¹⁰² None of these nine Capitolia can be identified for certain with a particular building, though a partially excavated temple with tripartite foundations to the north of the forum at Verona and dated in its earliest phase to the second half of the first century B.C. has recently been published in detail as the city’s Capitulum (Fig. 5).¹⁰³

This identification of the Capitulum at Verona can be regarded as probable. The late fourth-century inscription mentioned above records that a senator transferred a statue that had been lying in the Capitulum and re-erected it in the forum: ‘statuam in Capitolio diu iacentem in celeberrimo foro loco constitui iussit.’ Cavalieri Manasse’s detailed publication of the remains of a massive temple enclosed in a U-shaped portico in an area immediately north-west of and dominating the forum and occupying a space equivalent to a city block shows how the foundations clearly reflect the load-bearing elements above; the temple had a particularly deep porch, with three rows of columns, represented at foundation level by piers linked by walls and separated by void spaces. Cavalieri Manasse reconstructs the substructures as divided with a triple barrel vault on the basis of the traces of a wall stub (which would separate the central from the north-east unit) in the foundations aligned with the columns of the porch; the load-bearing arrangement of the rest of the foundations would in this instance reasonably suggest that the cella above was tripartite.¹⁰⁴ The porch with three rows of

⁹⁶ *CIL* IX.5438 = *ILS* 5368: a reference to paving a street as far as an arch adjoining an existing Capitulum in A.D. 119.

⁹⁷ *CIL* IX.2842 = *ILS* 5362. The inscription is likely to be second-century A.D. or later, as it contains the expression *v(ir) c(larissimus)*.

⁹⁸ *CIL* V.3332 = *ILS* 5363 = *AE* 1989, 325; A. Buonopane, ‘Il materiale epigrafico’, in G. Cavalieri Manasse (ed.), *L’Area del Capitulum di Verona: ricerche storiche e archeologiche* (2008), 287–8. This inscribed statue base refers to the transfer of a statue from the Capitulum at Verona during the reign of Gratian, Valentinian and Theodosius, dating the inscription to A.D. 379–83.

⁹⁹ *AE* 1927, 124 = *AE* 2005, 324.

¹⁰⁰ *CIL* XI.1545 = *ILS* 3084.

¹⁰¹ G. Camodeca, ‘Evergeti ad Ercolano. Le iscrizioni di dedica del tempio di Venere’, *Rendiconti della Pontificia Accademia Romana di Archeologia* 81 (2008–2009), 51–7; see 51–2 for the text (with 56–7 for the relevant restoration): ‘[Vibi]dia virginis l(iberta) Saturni[na] et A. Fu[r]ius Saturnin[us] / [o]b honores sibi et suis decret[os] a[le]dem Ven[er]is vetustate corr[uptam] / [im]p[ens]a sua refectam adornaverunt pronao a solo fa[ct]o; id[em] HS – 3 c. – in Capit[oli] refec[it] / [tio]ne contulerunt et amplius HS LIII reip. dederunt ob flamon[um] et dec[urion]alia ornamenta? m[axima].’ (‘Vibidia Saturninia, freedwoman of the [Vestal] virgin, and A. Furius Saturninus because of the honours decreed for themselves and their descendants, decorated the temple of Venus which had been ruined by age and was repaired at their expense, with the porch built from the ground upwards; they also contributed HS [...] for the repair of the Capitulum and moreover gave HS 54,000 to the town on account of the flaminiate and the highest insignia [?] of a decurion.’) We thank Nicholas Purcell for discussion of Faesulae and Herculaneum.

¹⁰² Althiburos is an African example, as is Saia Maior.

¹⁰³ Cavalieri Manasse, op. cit. (n. 39); for the identification and earlier studies see e.g. A. L. Frothingham, ‘Discovery of the Capitulum and forum of Verona’, *AJA* 18.2 (1914), 129–45; G. Cavalieri Manasse, ‘Il foro di Verona: recenti indagini’, in *La Città nell’Italia Settentrionale in età romana* (1990), 579–616. The identification at Verona, made already by Maffei in 1732 (reprint, op. cit. (n. 5), vol. I, 209–11) ‘è uno dei pochissimi attestati inequivocabilmente dalla convergenza dei requisiti necessari, epigrafici, urbanistici e planimetrici – i suoi resti, anche se conservati solo in fondazione, non si prestano a dubbi interpretative circa lo sviluppo dell’alzato’ (Cavalieri Manasse, op. cit. (n. 39), 312).

¹⁰⁴ Cavalieri Manasse, op. cit. (n. 39); p. 83 for discussion of the cella substructures and Tav. 5.

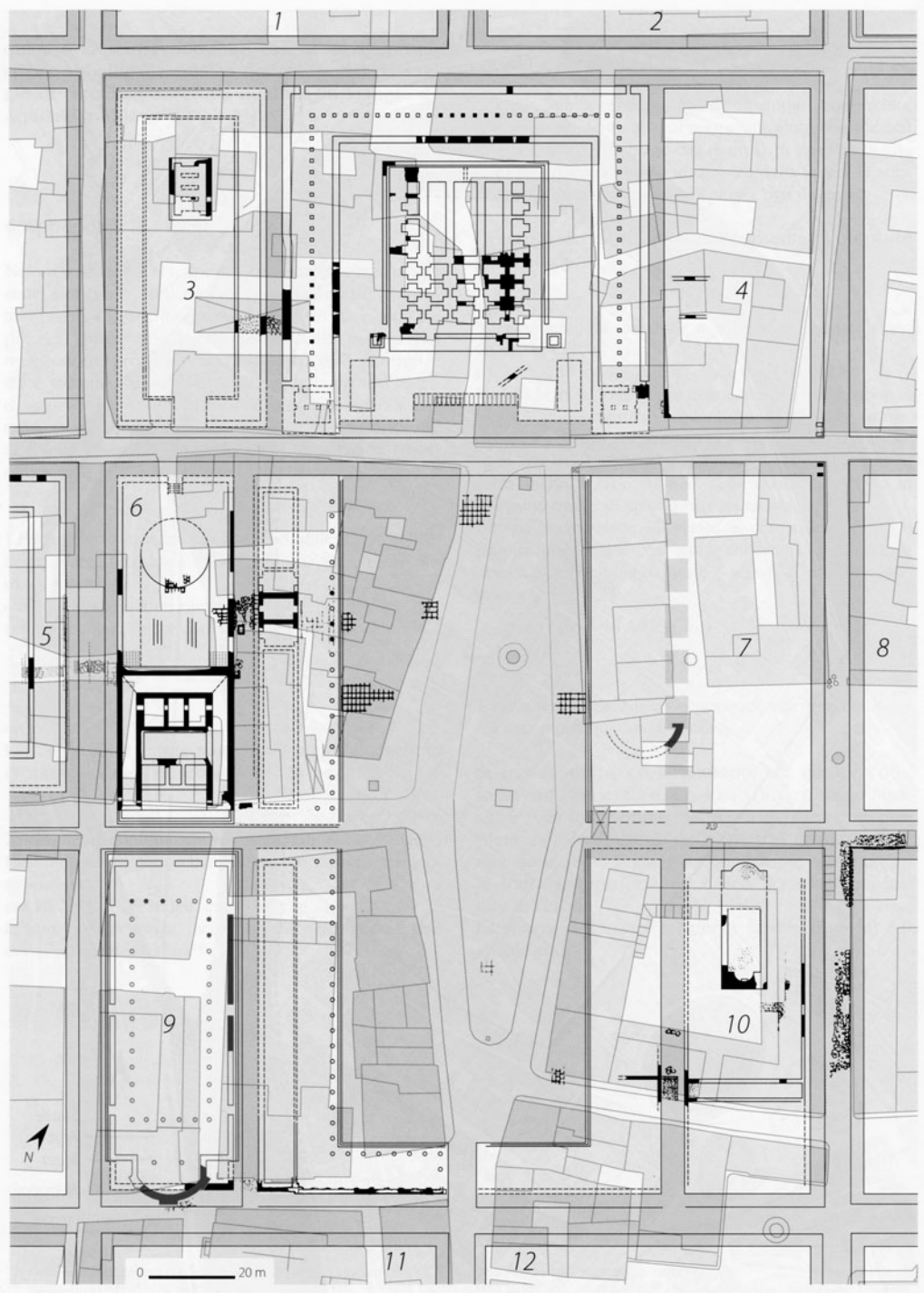


FIG. 5. Plan of the forum and probable Capitulum at Verona. The Capitulum, at the top of the figure, is enclosed within a *porticus triplex* and the foundation arrangements indicate a deep porch with three rows of columns, recalling the Capitulum at Rome (Cavaliere Manasse, *op. cit.* (n. 39), Tav. 2).

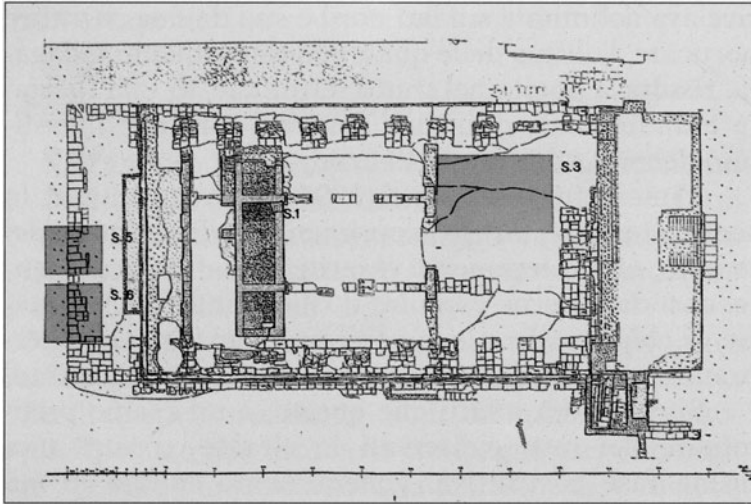


FIG. 6. Cumae: plan of Flavian phase temple with tripartite cella. S1, S2, S5 and S6 are the locations of 1994 excavation trenches (Gasparri *et al.*, *op. cit.* (n. 107), fig. 3 p. 46).

columns does seem to recall the arrangement of the Capitolium at Rome itself, although, as noted above, the exact reconstruction of that is still a matter for controversy. There is nothing explicit to identify this temple as the Capitolium, but given the epigraphic attestation of a Capitolium at Verona (possibly close to the forum),¹⁰⁵ it seems very plausible; the discovery in the area of the temple podium of a statue base with a dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus by the *ordo Veronensium* also provides support for this view.¹⁰⁶

One other building can, on our criteria, be definitely identified as a Capitolium, at least from the Flavian period, although it is nowhere named as such: this is the third-century B.C. temple with a high podium on the forum at Cumae that acquired a tripartite cella in a reconstruction dated in recent excavations to the late first century A.D. (Fig. 6).¹⁰⁷ Crucially, colossal heads of Minerva and Juno were found here, evidently from cult statues, and the colossal Jupiter known as the ‘Gigante di Palazzo’ discovered around 1640 may well come from this temple as well.¹⁰⁸ A similar situation may be found at Aquinum, near Frosinone in Lazio: two colossal and expressionless female heads were reported during the 1827 excavation of a temple with a tripartite cella in the highest part of the town. But they have now disappeared, and so without sight of them we are not as confident as the excavators in identifying them as Athena (i.e. Minerva) and Juno.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁵ Although the inscription is late fourth-century, and a question may therefore arise over what sense the word ‘Capitolium’ has here, the context is not one of Christian differentiation from pagan religion, and the meaning may well be the original one, of a temple to the Capitoline Triad.

¹⁰⁶ Buonopane, *op. cit.* (n. 98), 272 no. 1.

¹⁰⁷ C. Gasparri *et al.*, ‘Cuma (Napoli). Il foro: campagne di scavo 1994, 196–7’, *Bolletino di Archeologia* 39–40 (1996 [2001]), 44–8; C. Gasparri, ‘Nuove indagini sul Foro di Cuma’, in S. Quilici Gigli (ed.), *La Forma della città e del territorio: esperienze metodologiche e risultati a confronto* (1999), 131–7; M. L. Nava, ‘L’attività archeologica a Napoli e Caserta nel 2005’, in *Atti del Quarantacinquesimo Convegno di Studi sulla Magna Grecia* (2006), 650–2.

¹⁰⁸ S. Adamo Muscettola, ‘La Triade del capitolium di Cuma’, in *I Culti della Campania antica* (1998), 219–30.

¹⁰⁹ Cagiano de Azevedo, *op. cit.* (n. 3), 16–17 and *idem.*, *Aquinum (Aquino)* (1949), 40 n. 22, based on a letter in the archive of the Soprintendenza. F. Coarelli, *Lazio* (1982), 214–15 presents doubts about the identification, based only in part on the location of the temple ‘in una zona troppo marginale della città’ (214).

One other known temple is associated with the name ‘Capitolium’, at least in a medieval context: the temple with late Republican and early Imperial phases, both of which had tripartite foundations from which a triple-cella arrangement has been extrapolated,¹¹⁰ under the now-demolished church of S. Maria in Campidoglio in Florence, fronting the Roman forum. In this case the combined evidence of the toponym, the location on the forum and the probably triple cella make the identification attractive. However, as noted above, such medieval toponyms are by no means a certain guide: the Maison Carrée in Nîmes, known from its building inscription to have been dedicated to Gaius and Lucius Caesar, was by the fifteenth century flanked by the chapel of St Étienne-du-Capitole; and we have seen how in the Middle Ages the term Capitolium might mean ‘citadel’, or simply ‘temple’.¹¹¹

The Capitoline identification has also been suggested for many other temples excavated in Italy, usually on the basis of their (more or less certain) tripartite cella, or their topographical location; we will pause here over only the best known examples. The case for a Capitolium at Ostia rests on a dedication to Mars that was found in Rome, in which one A. Ostiensis Asclepiades describes himself as *aeditu(u)s Capitoli*.¹¹² This could well be a reference to the Capitolium in Rome itself, although Meiggs argues that ‘since the name recurs in the roll of members of the *familia publica* of Ostia, and since his dedication was made to them, it is reasonably certain that the Capitolium in question is Ostian’.¹¹³ It is often further assumed on the grounds of its ‘size and dominating position’ that the Hadrianic temple on a high podium at one end of the forum at Ostia is the Capitolium mentioned in this inscription.¹¹⁴ If this edifice is a Capitolium, it is interesting that it has a single cella; the raised podium at the back of the cella on which one or more cult statues presumably stood consists of a triple-vaulted substructure, although there is no direct evidence for how many statues it supported.¹¹⁵ It is also interesting that in the first century A.D., when two smaller temples stood on the site of the Hadrianic ‘Capitolium’,¹¹⁶ it may have been the Tiberian temple of Roma and Augustus at the other end of the forum that more strikingly dominated the public space in terms of visual axiality, as at Lepcis Magna (discussed further below).

A second example is the single-cella temple that sits on a high podium at the north end of the forum at Pompeii (Fig. 7). The phasing is very complex, but it is generally agreed that the first phase belongs to the second century B.C., before the Sullan colony; that there was a major restructuring at some time in the first century B.C. (dated by Second Style painting in the cella) that is not necessarily to be connected with the foundation of the Sullan colony; and that there was then a third phase, accompanied by restuccoing and the repaving of the pronaos.¹¹⁷ The substructures of the podium consist of vaulted chambers in a tripartite alignment, but even if these were to imply a tripartite cella above, they belong to the first phase of the temple, before the Sullan colony, and cannot therefore be used to

¹¹⁰ G. Maetzke, *Florentia (Firenze)* (1941), 49–56; Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 265; M. Pagni, ‘Dalla città augustea alla Florentia imperiale’, in M. Pagni (ed.), *Atlante Archeologico di Firenze* (2010), 144–7.

¹¹¹ Maison Carrée: J.-L. Fiches and A. Veyrac, *Nîmes. Carte archéologique de la Gaule 30/1* (1996), 282–3.

¹¹² *CIL* XIV.32.

¹¹³ R. Meiggs, *Roman Ostia* (1973), 380; cf. Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 26–7.

¹¹⁴ Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 264; Meiggs notes that the ‘direct evidence that this Ostian temple was a Capitolium is not strong’ (op. cit. (n. 113), 380). For the dating and construction of this temple, see C. Albo, ‘Il Capitolium di Ostia. Alcune considerazioni sulla tecnica edilizia ed ipotesi ricostruttiva’, *Mélanges de l’École française de Rome, Antiquité* 114 (2002), 363–90 and J. DeLaine, ‘Building activity at Ostia in the second century AD’, in C. Bruun and A. Gallina Zevi (eds), *Ostia e Portus nelle loro relazioni con Roma* (2002), 64–71.

¹¹⁵ Meiggs, op. cit. (n. 113), 380; C. Pavolini, *Ostia* (1983), 102.

¹¹⁶ Barton’s arguments for the identification of one of these earlier temples as a Capitolium (op. cit. (n. 1), 263) are not compelling.

¹¹⁷ *Pompeii: Pitture e Mosaici*, vol. VII (1997), 305–11.

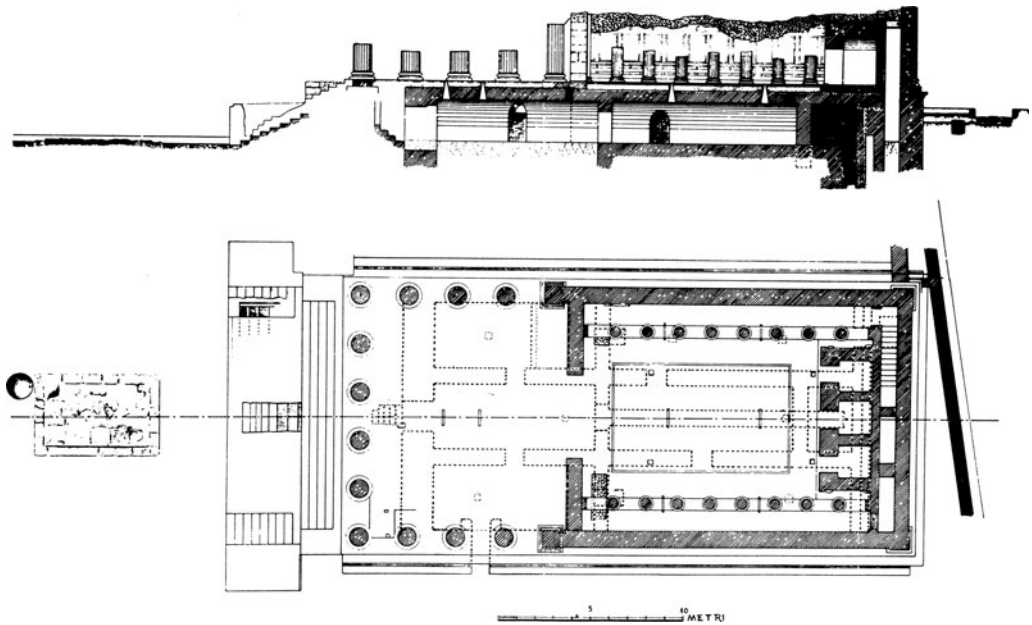


FIG. 7. Plan of the Temple of Jupiter at Pompeii (L. Richardson, *Pompeii: An Architectural History* (1988), fig. 19).

identify the temple as a Capitulum connected with that colony.¹¹⁸ In the second and third phases the cella was certainly not divided into three, although as in the supposed Capitulum at Ostia, there are three small vaulted chambers, identified as *favissae*, in a podium at the back of the cella that originally supported the cult statue(s). They measure 1.66–69 by 1.83–85m, and one has to stoop to enter the door.¹¹⁹ These triple *favissae* do not imply a triple cult, but simply a multiplication of small secure strongrooms under the statue base — which might or might not have supported three statues.

The consensus is that the temple was originally dedicated to Jupiter but was rededicated as a Capitulum when, or after, the Sullan colony was founded.¹²⁰ According to Barton this identification as a Capitulum is unequivocal,¹²¹ but we cannot agree. The evidence consists of the remains of a colossal seated cult statue of Jupiter, over 5.5 m tall,¹²² and a marble plaque with a dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus for the well-being of

¹¹⁸ Richardson is unusual in arguing for a Sullan date for the original temple, on the basis that the 'original architecture showed strongly classicizing tendencies before any restructuring took place ... And the masonry faced with opus incertum of broken lava most closely resembles that of the Theatrum Tectum' (L. Richardson, *Pompeii: an Architectural History* (1988), 138).

¹¹⁹ A. Maiuri, 'Pompei – Saggi nel edifici del Foro', *Notizie degli scavi di antichità* (1942), 213–320, and subsequent authors (e.g. A. de Vos and M. de Vos, *Pompeii, Ercolano, Stabia* (1982), 46 and F. Coarelli, *Pompeii* (2002), 69).

¹²⁰ e.g. de Vos and de Vos, op. cit. (n. 119), 46; Zanker, op. cit. (n. 46), 64; Coarelli, op. cit. (n. 119), 69.

¹²¹ Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 261. The identification goes back to Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 19–20 (but see n. 125 below); cf. also Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 20–3.

¹²² NM Nap 6266; for A. Mau, *Pompeii, its Life and Art* (1899), 63, the relief of two figures on the back of the torso suggested that the temple was in the post-earthquake period a marble workshop, but Cooley argues that the relief is instead likely to have been recut to make the torso (A. E. Cooley, *Pompeii* (2003), 32).

the emperor Gaius, which dates it to A.D. 37.¹²³ However, there is no evidence for dedications to or statues of Juno and Minerva,¹²⁴ and even the identification of the temple with Jupiter Optimus Maximus is uncertain: the dedication to him was written on the back of an earlier Greek dedication from 3 B.C., by a Gaius Iulius Hephæstion to Zeus Phrygios. A temple of Jupiter this definitely was, whether simply Jupiter, or Phrygian or Optimus Maximus, but there is no solid evidence for the identification of it as a Capitolium; once again, this identification seems to be a product of the widespread view that colonies had Capitolia in their fora. The assertion found in some standard reference works that Vitruvius (3.2.5) refers to the Capitolium of Pompeii is based on a mistranslation.¹²⁵

The claim of the temple on the forum at Brixia (Brescia) to be a Capitolium has often been advanced,¹²⁶ on the basis of its three cellae accessed by a single staircase, and its dominant position overlooking the forum, but the evidence does not go much beyond that. A fragment of a colossal seated male statue, well over life-size (5 m high), might be Jupiter, or any of several other male deities; but a head of Minerva in archaizing style is much smaller (life-size).¹²⁷ The inscription across the façade has the imperial titulature of Vespasian (A.D. 73), and little room for anything else;¹²⁸ this and the extraordinary cache of gilt-bronze statues of members of the imperial family from the Flavian period to the mid-third century, and a bronze Victory writing on a shield,¹²⁹ raise the possibility that this temple had something to do with the imperial cult (not in itself necessarily incompatible with the idea of a Capitolium). This was certainly Brixia's main and most impressive temple, but that fact in itself does not force its identification as a Capitolium. Similarly, the identification of the so-called Capitolium at Luna is based solely on its plan and location — the presumed reconstruction of a triple cella on top of the surviving foundations, set within a U-shaped colonnade overlooking the forum and separated from it by a transverse street¹³⁰ — but this is a

¹²³ *CIL* X.796. Another dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus (*CIL* X.928) was found elsewhere in the city during the construction of the Sarno aqueduct at the end of the sixteenth century; its original context is unknown.

¹²⁴ A marble head of a woman was found in the temple, as was the base for a statue dedicated by one Spurius Turranius (*CIL* X.797), which may account for it: Cooley, op. cit. (n. 122), 32. Coarelli, op. cit. (n. 119), 69 assumes that the female head is a head of Juno.

¹²⁵ A misconception originating with Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 20, followed by e.g. Daremberg-Saglio, *Dict.* II.905; and repeated as recently as 2003 in *Brill's New Pauly* 2.1073. Vitruvius, *De Arch.* 3.2: 'ornanturque signis fictilibus aut aereis inauratis earum fastigia tuscanico more, uti est ad Circum Maximum Cereris et Herculis Pompeiani, item Capitoli', is correctly translated as: 'The pediments are ornamented with statues of terracotta or gilt bronze in the Etruscan fashion, as are the Temple of Ceres and Pompey's Temple of Hercules at the Circus Maximus, and the Capitoline Temple.' Vitruvius gives examples in this chapter entirely from Rome; see Platner-Ashby s.v. *Aedes Herculis Pompeiani* (*A Topographical Dictionary of Ancient Rome* (1929)) for Pompey's Temple of Hercules at the Circus Maximus. Kuhfeldt (op. cit. (n. 1), 20–1) pointed out the error, and Castan accepted the correction in his 1886 publication (op. cit. (n. 1, 1886), 25–6).

¹²⁶ e.g. Cagiano de Azevedo, op. cit. (n. 3), 34; C. Stella in *Comune di Brescia* (1979), 48–9; A. Frova, 'Il Capitolium di Brescia', in *La città nell'Italia Settentrionale in età romana* (1990), 341–63; C. Stella, *Brixia. Scoperta e risoperte* (2003); accepted by Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 264. The identification is doubted, however, by G. L. Gregori, *Brescia romana. Ricerche di prosopografia e storia sociale*, vol. 2 (1999), 271; and Degrassi suggested that it was instead an imperial cult temple (N. Degrassi, 'I fasti imperiali romani nel Capitolium di Brescia', in *Atti del Convegno internazionale per il XIX centenario della dedizione del Capitolium e per il 150 anniversario della sua scoperta* (1975), 197–204).

¹²⁷ *Comune di Brescia*, op. cit. (n. 126), 82, 95; Stella, op. cit. (n. 126, 2003), 51–2.

¹²⁸ *CIL* V.4312.

¹²⁹ For the bronze statues, see *Comune di Brescia*, op. cit. (n. 126), 69–75; Stella, op. cit. (n. 126, 2003), 56–77.

¹³⁰ M.-P. Rossignani, *Luni. Guida Archeologica* (1985), 55–7, 65 fig. 105 (a reconstructed, schematic plan). The identification is clearly made on the basis of what we have called above 'the standard view': 'Il tempio fu costruito pochi anni dopo la fondazione della colonia: l'erezione di tali edifici templari (dedicati alla triada di Giove, Giunone, Minerva venerata nel Capitolium di Roma), quasi sempre collocati su uno dei lati brevi del Foro, sancisce nelle colonie il legame politico e religioso con la città-madre' (p. 56). The identification is assumed in

common late Republican or Imperial arrangement in which other cults are also attested.¹³¹

There is at present no positive evidence to identify any other temple in Italy as a Capitolium. Of the nineteen Italian Capitolia outside Rome identified in Barton's 1982 survey, then, we would accept as certain only eight (Beneventum, Capua, Cumae, Formiae, Falerio in Piceno, Histonium in Samnio, Marruvium Marsorum, and Verona). To only two of these can we with some confidence attach a specific building (at Cumae, and probably Verona), though of course the continued urbanization on the sites of most Roman cities means that few temples of any kind survive. Inscriptions at Faesulae and Herculaneum might refer either to Capitolia there or to the one at Rome, and evidence that has been presented for a few further identifications of existing buildings — at Aquinum, Brixia, Florentia, Luna, Ostia, and Pompeii — is either problematic or less than compelling, and we can see no positive evidence at all for Barton's identifications of Capitolia at Asisium, Linternum, Minturnae, Teate Marrucinorum, Tergeste or Terracina, nor for those identifications made by others at Aquileia, Aosta, Bologna, Capua, Nesazion, Pola, Pozzuoli, Privernum, Scolacium, and Grumentum.¹³²

Our findings underline among other things how difficult it is to say much about the standard topographical position or design of Capitolia in Italy. Only at Cumae and probably Verona do we have both a Capitolium and the forum; the temple *is* on the forum there, however, as it is in the less certain cases of Florentia, Ostia, Pompeii, and Brixia (though in the latter three examples the position of the temple on the forum has been used as part of the argument for their identification, which cannot then be used in turn to help establish the idea that Capitolia were normally on the forum). Again, the temple at Cumae was given a triple cella in its late first-century A.D. reconstruction, but with no definite comparanda there is no clear reason to think that this was the norm.

More importantly, our proposed reduction in the number of confidently identifiable examples in Italy exposes the lack of evidence for the supposed relationship between Capitolia and the award of colonial status, at least on the Italian evidence; breaking the link between colonization and Capitolia puts another nail in the coffin of the approach to Rome's Italian colonies that sees them as mimicking the capital. Seven of our eight certain Capitolia in Italy became Roman colonies at some point — Marruvium (like Herculaneum) remained a *municipium* — but in the only case where the temple can be confidently dated, at Cumae, the dates show no certain correlation with colonial foundation or status.¹³³ The recent excavations there have shown the Capitolium to have fourth-century B.C., Augustan and Flavian phases;¹³⁴ Cumae was given *civitas sine suffragio* in 338 B.C., and granted colonial status under Augustus,¹³⁵ either of which might but need not be related to building phases of the temple, although the excavators

M.-P. Rossignani, 'Gli edifice pubblici nell'area del Foro di Luni', *Quaderni del Centro Studi Lunensi* 10/12 (1985–87), 123–48.

¹³¹ cf. J. B. Ward-Perkins, 'From Republic to Empire: reflections on the early provincial architecture of the Roman West', *JRS* 60 (1970), 6–13 for discussion of several examples (Augusta Raurica, Augusta Bagenniorum, St Bertrand de Comminges, Zadar, Conimbriga, Virunum), in which none of the temples is in fact identified definitively as a Capitolium. Blustein-Latrémolière, *op. cit.* (n. 39), 61–3, shows that there are in fact temples of imperial cult in the fora she identifies as 'places capitoline' (Barcino, Italica) — see below for discussion.

¹³² Up-to-date bibliography and cautious discussion of most of these possibilities can be conveniently found at Cavalieri Manasse, *op. cit.* (n. 39), 310–14; for her there are 'poco più di venti casi' in Italy (314). For Grumentum, Mastrocinque has argued not only that the mid-first-century A.D. 'Temple D' on the Forum was a Capitolium, but also that 'il più antico monumento del Foro è il [Augustan] tempio C, il cosiddetto Cesareo, che dunque non nacque come tale, ma come Capitolio, data la sua posizione central nella città e la sua dimensioni: in una colonia romana non poteva mancare il Capitolio e un enorme tempio sul Foro non poteva essere che il Capitolio' (A. Mastrocinque, 'Grumentum: nuove ricerche', in *Grumentum Romana* (2009), 253).

¹³³ A connection would be equally hard to demonstrate at Aquinum, Florentia or Ostia.

¹³⁴ Gasparri *et al.*, *op. cit.* (n. 107).

¹³⁵ *CIL* X.3703–4.

date the reconstruction of the cella into a tripartite structure to the Flavian phase.¹³⁶ By contrast, the colony at Capua was founded in 83 B.C., and increased several times, but not in the reign of Tiberius, who dedicated the temple there in A.D. 26.

IV PROVINCIAL CAPITOLIA

There are very few certain Capitolia in Roman provinces other than Africa, and as in Italy none of those that do exist can be shown to date from earlier than the Julio-Claudian period; most of them are much later. In Britain, there is no evidence for Capitolia; British cities tend to have forum-basilica complexes without temples in the forum at all, as at London, Silchester and Lincoln.¹³⁷ Despite a substantial number of dedications to the Capitoline Triad in some Western provinces, the situation found in Britain is in fact the norm. There is, for instance, good evidence for only two Capitoline temples in Spain, at Hispalis (Sevilla), where a fragmentary inscription mentions a [*st*]atuum in Capit[olio],¹³⁸ and Tarraco (Tarragona), a second-century dedication to a *curator Capitoli*.¹³⁹ Neither can yet be identified with certainty with any physical remains; a very partially excavated structure next to the lower forum at Tarraco has recently been interpreted as the podium of a temple with a triple cella, which is then assumed to be the Capitolium mentioned in the inscription, but others have wished to see the Capitolium as being located in the higher part of the city.¹⁴⁰

At Baelo Claudia the three side-by-side temples erected as an integrated structure on a terrace overlooking the forum have usually been identified as a kind of composite Capitolium (Fig. 8), like the complex at Sufetula in North Africa,¹⁴¹ but triple temple structures on the forum need not form a Capitolium; they are rare and we know of no cases in which they definitely do. At Baelo the easternmost of the three temples contained a statue of a seated goddess, which may be Juno; fragments of statuary in the western temple also indicate a female deity, unidentifiable; but togate statues were added to the statue plinth in the central temple which apparently represent imperial portraits and thus suggest an admixture of imperial cult — again, not necessarily incompatible with the idea of a Capitolium. Perhaps the strongest argument in favour of the possible interpretation of the temples at Baelo as a Capitolium complex is the altar arrangement on the esplanade in front of the three temples; a single base seems to have supported three stone altars (two of

¹³⁶ Note though Adamo Muscettola, *op. cit.* (n. 108), 228–30, on the dating of the cult statues.

¹³⁷ Our knowledge of the topography of the Roman *coloniae* in Britain such as London, Colchester, York and Lincoln is much poorer than that of other cities such as Silchester and Caistor-by-Norwich for which we have complete plans, and we cannot say for certain that *coloniae* in Britain lacked Capitolia. We thank Roger Wilson for this point.

¹³⁸ *CIL* II.1194. References to the Capitoline gods in the *lex coloniae* from Urso concern games to be celebrated for them, and do not mention any associated building: *ILS* 6087, LXX–LXXI. Rüpke discusses the ‘symbolic link to Rome’ these provisions created (J. Rüpke, ‘Religion in the *lex Ursoniensis*’, in C. Ando and J. Rüpke (eds), *Religion and Law in Classical and Christian Rome* (2006), 41).

¹³⁹ *RIT* 922. Cf. also *RIT* 34 from Tarraco, a dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno, Minerva, the Genius praetorii and the Dii Penates; findspot unknown.

¹⁴⁰ R. Mar *et al.* ‘Arqueología Urbana en el foro de Tarraco’, in *Arqueología, Patrimonio y desarrollo urbano. Problemática y soluciones* (2010), 61–3 for the structure near the lower forum; G. Alföldy, *Die römischen Inschriften von Tarraco* (1975), 403 *apud* *RIT* 922, for the hypothesis that the Capitolium was on the citadel.

¹⁴¹ e.g. Paris *et al.*, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 68–75; S. Keay, *Roman Spain* (1988), 136; S. Keay, ‘The development of towns in early Roman Baetica’, in S. Keay (ed.), *The Archaeology of Early Roman Baetica* (1998), 73; P. Sillières, *Baelo Claudio, une cité romaine de Bétique* (1995), 85–96; MacMullen, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 60; J.-N. Bonneville *et al.*, *Belo VII. Le capitole* (2000); cf. P. Barresi, ‘I Capitolia di Sufetula e di Baelo Claudia: analisi dei progetti’, in S. Camporeale, H. Dessales and A. Pizzo (eds), *Arqueología de la construcción I. Los procesos constructivos en el mundo romana: Italia y provincias occidentales* (2008) for similarities in the design conceptions and proportions of the two complexes.

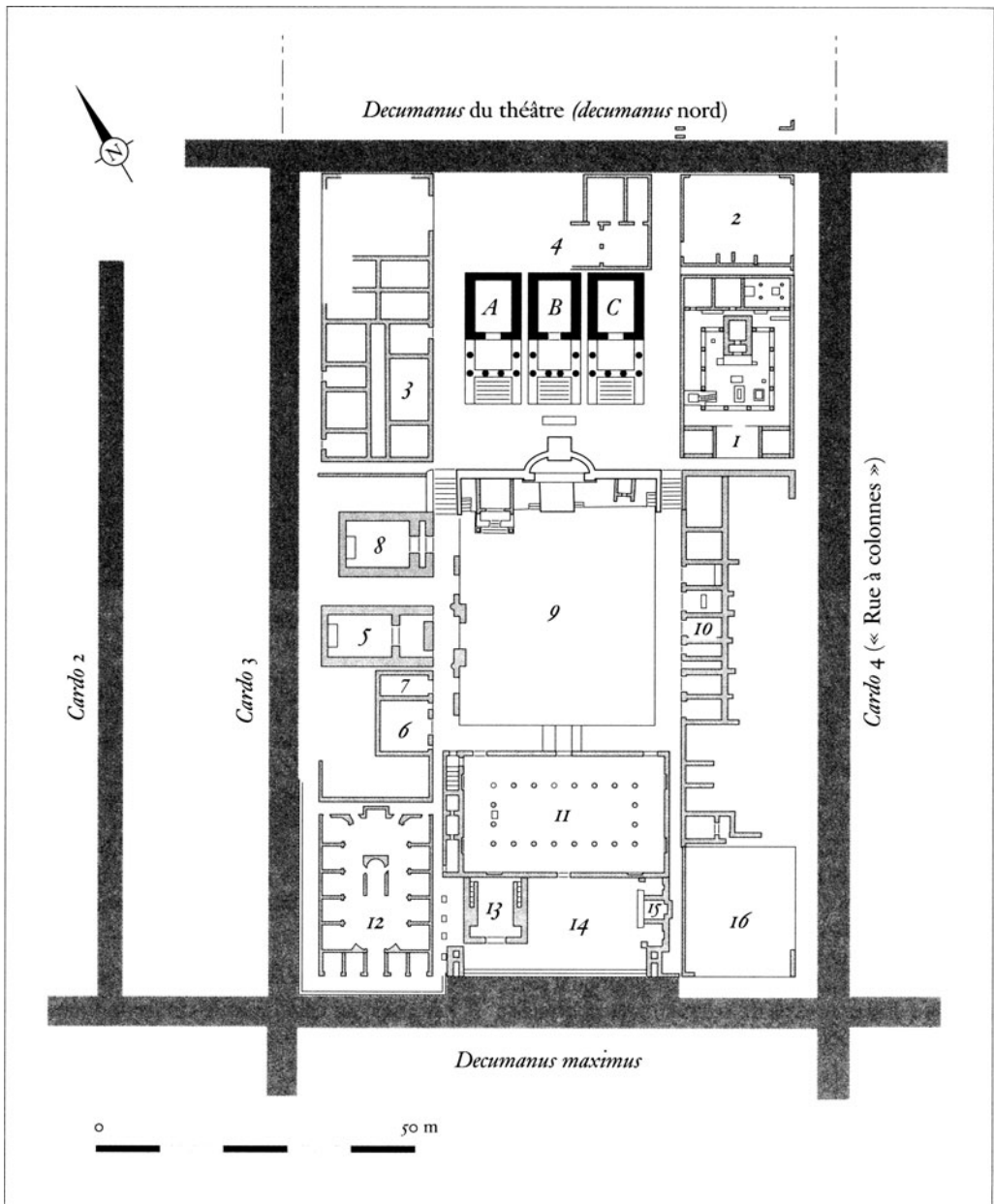


FIG. 8. Baelo Claudia: plan of triple temple complex overlooking forum (Bonneville *et al.*, op. cit. (n. 141), fig. 4).

which were actually discovered) in front of the central temple, and this may imply a common ritual of sacrifice to all three divinities in the temples — but even if so, that would not necessarily imply that they were the Capitoline Triad.¹⁴² Against the view that together they constituted a Capitolium, it has recently been argued that the three temples display neither architectural nor chronological unity: the central and western temple are dated *c.* A.D. 50,

¹⁴² Sillières, op. cit. (n. 141), 91; Bonneville *et al.*, op. cit. (n. 141), 179–95.

the eastern temple *c.* A.D. 65; architectural mouldings and dimensions are different, and the central temple is somewhat smaller than the others, which would certainly be unexpected in a Capitoline complex. Bendala Galán thus argues that these are three separate temples arranged in a row, and further suggests that this disposition is traceable to Punic influence.¹⁴³

For the rest of Spain, there are no certain examples, although Capitolia have been claimed for numerous sites. Blutstein-Latrémollière's study on 'Les places capitoline', for example, although it notes the shortcomings of earlier works and the unreliability of medieval toponyms, is nevertheless vitiated by the fact that in the numerous temple precincts or temple-forum complexes it discusses, not a single temple is proven to be a Capitolum.¹⁴⁴ Previous identifications of the temples under discussion as Capitolia are simply accepted, usually on the basis of nothing more than a (definite or supposed) tripartite cella and/or a location on the forum (e.g. Emporiae/Ampurias, Pollentia, Saguntum,¹⁴⁵ Mérida, Corduba, Tarraco, and Italica); and on the basis of this, a whole new category of 'Capitoline fora' is invented, defined by the fact that there is a Capitoline temple on the forum. The circularity of the argument should be obvious. Gros, likewise, accepts that the temples of the first half of the second century B.C. whose foundations have been discovered at Saguntum and Italica are Capitolia because they have a triple cella and their proportions conform to the schema of Tuscan temples;¹⁴⁶ but as noted above, that is the standard Italic type for many temples in Italy in the second century B.C., which provides the model for Republican Spain, and proves nothing about their specific dedications.

In Gaul, however, there are three positive identifications from literary sources, of which one can certainly be accepted; the late date of the others, written at a time when 'Capitolium' had begun to be used sometimes to mean 'citadel' or 'temple' generally, may raise doubts. Eumenius mentions a Capitolium at Augustodunum (Autun) in his late third-century *Panegyric*; and the fact that he distinguishes it from a temple of Apollo and specifically lists Jupiter, Juno and Minerva confirms that we really are dealing with a temple of the Capitoline Triad here.¹⁴⁷ In the fifth century, however, Sidonius describes the fate of St Saturninus at Tolosa (Toulouse): 'Of these [martyrs] may he be the first theme of my hymn who held the bishop's throne at Toulouse and was flung headlong from the topmost step of the *Capitolia*' (note the plural); a variant of the story is also given by Gregory of Tours in the sixth century.¹⁴⁸ A large temple on

¹⁴³ M. Bendala Galán, 'Baelo Claudio y su personalidad ciudadana y urbana: diálogo desde el estudio y la amistad', *Pallas: revue d'études antiques* 82 (2010), 473–7. He speculatively suggests that the central temple may be to Melkart/Hercules, the eastern temple to Tanit, and the western one to another Punic deity, possibly Eshmun.

¹⁴⁴ Blutstein-Latrémollière, *op. cit.* (n. 39).

¹⁴⁵ cf. also C. Aranegui Gascó *et al.*, 'El Foro di Saguntum: la planta arquitectónica', in *Los foros Romanos de las provincias occidentales* (1987), 74–7; the argument for this being a Capitolum is based on the tripartite substructures and the location on the forum. C. Aranegui Gascó, 'Un templo republicano en el centro cívico saguntino', in *Templos Romanos de Hispania* (1991), 67–82, is extremely cautious about the possibility of this identification.

¹⁴⁶ Gros, *op. cit.* (n. 39), 113; *op. cit.* (n. 88), 151. Likewise, he accepts (*op. cit.* (n. 39), 114; *op. cit.* (n. 88), 152) the identification of the so-called Capitolum at Ampurias purely on the basis of its situation on the forum within a U-shaped portico (*porticus triplex*), although he had earlier pointed out (*op. cit.* (n. 39), 112) that such an arrangement within a *porticus triplex* was also characteristic of imperial cult temples.

¹⁴⁷ Eumenius, *Pan. Lat.* 9 (4), 9f: 'quod praecipuo est positum quasi inter ipsos oculos civitatis, inter Apollinis templum atque Capitolium ... ibi adulescentes optimi discant ... maximorum principum facta celebrare ... ubi ante aras quommodo suas Iouios Herculosque audiant praedicari Iuppiter pater et Minerua socia et Iuno placata.'

¹⁴⁸ Sid. Apoll., *Ep.* 9.16 (*carm.* 65–72): 'e quibus primum mihi psallat hymnus, qui Tolosatem tenuit cathedram [i.e. St Saturninus], de gradu summo Capitoliorum praecipitatum.' The late antique martyr narrative of Saint Saturninus has a rather different story, but still involving a Capitolum: the bishop used to pass by the Capitolum on his way to his church, and the priests in the temple blamed the silence of their oracles on this

the Place Esquirol has been identified as this Capitolium,¹⁴⁹ but there is no hard evidence to link it specifically to the Capitoline Triad. At Narbo Martius too, Sidonius Apollinaris lists not a *Capitolium*, but *Capitolia*, among the city's attractions, apparently part of a wider tendency in this author to use plural for singular — or is the late usage meaning 'temples' already manifesting itself here?¹⁵⁰ There is little concrete to relate this comment to the temple situated above the Roman forum on Les Moulinassès that has been labelled a Capitolium since the eleventh century, though excavations have shown this to be a very large temple (larger than the Capitolia at Timgad or Cirta) with a triple division of the podium, and architectural elements in Carrara marble.¹⁵¹ A dedication which may be to Jupiter Optimus Maximus — only a part of the M is extant — was discovered in the excavations of 1883,¹⁵² dedicated by a *sevir Augustalis*, as were others also found in the same circumstances, which may in turn point to a link between the Capitolium — if the medieval toponym is really enough to establish this identification — and imperial cult worship, as Gayraud suggests.¹⁵³

In Ödenburg in Austria (ancient Scarbantia, Pannonia) the marble fragments of three second-century colossal seated statues of Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, some two-and-a-third times life-size, were found in a single-cella temple 9.8 m wide, with three deep niches of which the central one was 2 m wide, during the construction of the town hall in 1894. They must surely represent the cult statues of the Capitolium of Scarbantia; significantly, fragments of a seated imperial statue at the same scale were also found with them, suggesting here also some association between Capitoline and imperial cults. The cult statues had been deliberately smashed into pieces, an action

fact, seized him and attempted to force him to sacrifice to their idols; when he would not, they had him tied to a bull who dragged him around the town to his death: P. Cabau, 'Opusculum de passion ac translatione sancti Saturnini, episcopi Tolosanae ciuitatis et martyris', in *Mémoires de la Société archéologique du Midi de la France* 61 (2001) for a provisional edition of this *Opusculum de passione ac translatione Sancti Saturnini, episcopi Tolosanae civitas et martyris*, where the text is dated to the early fifth century (59); we thank one of JRS's anonymous referees for this reference. Gregory of Tours, *Hist. Franc.* 1.28; see Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 63 n. 237.

¹⁴⁹ J.-L. Boudartchouk *et al.*, 'Le Capitolium de Toulouse, l'Église Saint-Pierre-et-Saint-Géraud et le martyr de l'évêque Saturnin: nouvelles données', *Mémoires de la Société archéologique du Midi de la France* 65 (2005), 15–50.

¹⁵⁰ Sid. Apoll., *Carm.* 23, 39–45: 'Salve, Narbo potens salubritate, urbe et rure simul bonus videri, muris, civibus, ambitu, tabernis, portis, porticibus, foro, theatro, delubriis, capitoliis, monetis': the plural is not explicable simply by the demands of scansion (*contra* Castan, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1869), 22), since the final syllable of the singular *capitolio* could also be long, but Sidonius also talks here of *monetae*. Cf. Ausonius 11.19.14–17, comparing a temple at Narbo to the Capitolium at Rome: 'quodque tibi Pario quondam de marmore templum tantae molis erat, quantam non sperneret olim Tarquinius Catulusque iterum, postremus et ille aurea qui statuit Capitoli culmina Caesar?' (11.19, 14–17) 'Or of that temple of Parian marble, once yours, so vast in bulk that Tarquin once would not scorn it, nor again Catulus, nor finally he who last raised the golden roofs of the Capitolium, Caesar himself [i.e. Domitian]?' We do not see a positive claim in this passage that the temple under discussion at Narbo was itself a Capitolium, though many have (e.g. Castan, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1869), 21–2; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 267).

¹⁵¹ Castan, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1869), 22–3 accepts the identification, and Grenier, *op. cit.* (n. 14) also argues for it; Gros, *op. cit.* (n. 39), 112 and n. 2 regards it as an unresolved question. See Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 61–2 and n. 232 for the medieval documents which mention this toponym; in the extracts which he cites the Capitolium is mentioned in connection with forts, towers and other strong points of the city's defences, which raises the suspicion that we are here dealing with 'Capitolium' in the medieval sense of 'citadel'. For Gayraud (*op. cit.* (n. 14), 260), the arrangement of the foundations, in which walls divide the podium of the temple into three longitudinally and two latitudinally, 'invite à concevoir une *cella* tripartite', but no more than that. On the size, see Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 334 *fig. 1*.

¹⁵² *CIL* XII.4318

¹⁵³ *CIL* XII.4437, 4439, A. Grenier, 'Appendice épigraphique', in *Carte archéologique de la Gaule Romaine* 12 (1959), 207 no. 6, and for a possible [*ma*]gister [*la*]rum *augustalium*] *CIL* XII.4386. On the evidence for the temple's identification as a Capitolium, see Grenier, *op. cit.* (n. 14) and Gayraud, *op. cit.* (n. 14), 269–71; for the suggestion that the temple combined this with an imperial cult function, 271–2. Cf. also D. Fishwick, 'Un don de statues d'argent à Narbo Martius', *CRAI* 136.2 (1992), 381–401.

attributed by Praschniker, not unreasonably, to late antique Christians.¹⁵⁴ At Savaria, also in Pannonia, excavations for the foundations of a cathedral in 1777 uncovered the torso of a colossal statue of Jupiter and another of Minerva, and a fragmentary third large statue (since lost), presumably Juno.¹⁵⁵ Again, these must be the cult statues from a Capitulum, and their position in the centre of the early modern town appears to reflect a central position in the ancient town too.

A third site in Pannonia, Arrabona (modern Raab), is worth mentioning: an inscription from here records the repair of a temple to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno Regina, Minerva, Liber Pater, Diana and *ceteris(ue) dibus* (sic) by a *cornicularius* of Legion I and his wife; this temple seems in fact to be a Pantheon of sorts, dedicated to all the gods, but the Capitoline Triad are named first.¹⁵⁶ Finally, the evidence for the claimed Capitulum at Gorsium (Tac, Hungary) is not compelling.¹⁵⁷

In other Western provinces, there are no certain examples. A ‘Capitulum’ at Aalen in Rhaetia was restored in A.D. 208, but the inscription recording the event makes it clear that this was a shrine in the *principia* of the army camp, not a civic temple.¹⁵⁸ A dedication to I. O. M., Juno Regina and Minerva at Troesmis in Moesia Inferior is unlikely to be a building inscription.¹⁵⁹ A temple with three cellae on the forum at Aenona in Dalmatia, near which was found a statue of Juno, presents a possibility.¹⁶⁰ The late first-century A.D. temple under the church of Sankt Maria im Kapitol in Cologne is intriguing on the grounds, as at Florentia, of the medieval toponym S. Maria in Capitolio, although with the same reservations noted above in relation to that example;¹⁶¹ the surviving foundation walls indicate three vaulted chambers in the substructures of the cella.¹⁶² This may be a Capitulum, though as we have noted, triple-vaulted substructures need not necessarily imply a tripartite division of the cella above, and in any case a triple cella is neither a necessary nor a sufficient condition for an identification. *If* this is a Capitulum, then its location well away from the forum in the south-east of the city is worth noting.¹⁶³

In the Eastern provinces there were Capitolia at Jerusalem and Constantinople, Oxyrhynchus, and possibly Cyrene, and although the widespread evidence for the cult of Zeus Kapetolios (Jupiter Capitolinus) must be distinguished from temples of the Capitoline Triad (below), it is in the East that the ideological significance of Capitolia as a physical reminder of Rome is clearest.

¹⁵⁴ C. Praschniker, ‘Die kapitolinische Trias von Ödenburg-Sopron’, *Jahreshefte des Österreichischen archäologischen Instituts in Wien* 30 (1937), 111–34, especially 120–2 for the context; cited also by Cagianò de Azevedo, op. cit. (n. 3), 42.

¹⁵⁵ Praschniker, op. cit. (n. 154), 127–9.

¹⁵⁶ *CIL* III.4363 = 11079, accepted as a Capitulum by Toutain, op. cit. (n. 1, 1899), 6.

¹⁵⁷ J. Fitz, ‘Forschungen in Gorsium im Jahre 1979’, *Alba Regia* 19 (1982), 204–6 and 209; Abb. 8 and Tav. XX; the building described in Fitz and Fedak, op. cit. (n. 43), 265 as a Capitulum with three cellae does not look especially temple-like on the plan in Fitz, op. cit. (n. 157), Abb. 8; the initial identification of the half-life size head was that it *might* be Jupiter (Fitz, op. cit. (n. 157), 209 no. 1; Tav. XX). Fragments of a statue of Minerva were found in the vicinity (Fitz and Fedak, op. cit. (n. 43), 265).

¹⁵⁸ *AE* 1989, 581.

¹⁵⁹ *CIL* III.6167; Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 269: ‘since it is in seven relatively short lines it is unlikely to come from the entablature of a temple.’

¹⁶⁰ Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 270; Todd, op. cit. (n. 1), 63.

¹⁶¹ And indeed the name S. Maria in Capitolio is not attested before the thirteenth century; before that it was called Maria alta or Maria in altis, S. Maria in Malzbuchel, S. Maria super Malzbuchel. The church is on a low hill and we may again be dealing with the medieval sense of the term ‘Capitulum’, as citadel, with no evidential value for the Roman period. See Kuhfeldt, op. cit. (n. 1), 74–5 for the sources.

¹⁶² Hellenkemper, op. cit. (n. 45), 804–9; Todd, op. cit. (n. 1), 65; A. B. Follmann-Schulz, ‘Die römischen Tempelanlagen in der Provinz Germania inferior’, *ANRW* II.19.1 (1986), 735–8.

¹⁶³ H. J. Schalles, ‘Forum und zentraler Tempel im 2. Jahrhundert n. Chr.’, in *Die römischen Stadt im 2. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* (1992), 201.

Hadrian's refoundation of Jerusalem as Aelia Capitolina, with a temple to Zeus Kapitolios on the Temple Mount, was a blatant imposition of Roman religion and urbanism onto Jewish sacred space that provoked the Bar Kochba revolt in A.D. 132.¹⁶⁴ Among the Hadrianic coinage of Aelia Capitolina is a bronze ?dupondius issue showing Jupiter seated in a distyle structure, flanked by Juno and Minerva (both standing), suggesting that the temple of Zeus Kapitolios here was indeed, as the new name of the city would also suggest, a true Capitolium.¹⁶⁵

A Capitolium is attested at Constantinople,¹⁶⁶ and is said in one of the manuscripts of Hesychius to be a Constantinian foundation, along with lavish houses which he built *κατὰ μίμησιν Ῥώμης*, 'in imitation of Rome'.¹⁶⁷ It seems that it was part of a necessary cultural package in refounding the new Rome at Constantinople. Nothing is known of its design or appearance; Janin argues it lay between the Forum Bovis and the Philadelphion, along the south side of the Mese at the junction with the street from the Golden Gate, probably on a height in what is now the Şahzade quarter of Istanbul.¹⁶⁸ Hesychius also mentions Constantine's repair of the pagan temples and the building of a number of churches, reflecting the religious ambivalence of his construction programme. The use of the Capitolium at Constantinople as a temple of the Triad can hardly have outlasted the closure of pagan temples in the fourth century, and in the early fifth century it had become Christianized at least to the extent of having a cross placed on the top of it (although it is nowhere referred to as a church), which fell down in a violent storm in A.D. 407.¹⁶⁹ It subsequently became — or perhaps had already become — a sort of university: a law of 27 February 425 refers to an auditorium there and makes provision for teaching in it of Latin, by three professors of rhetoric and ten of grammar, and of Greek, by five sophists and ten grammarians; in addition, there was a professor of philosophy and two professors of law.¹⁷⁰ The fifth-century Latin grammarian Cledonius taught here, and makes reference to an incident in a class in the Capitolium.¹⁷¹

At Cyrene, the temple of Zeus immediately south of the agora was rebuilt in the Roman period after the Jewish Revolt, as a tetrastyle, prostyle temple. An almost completely reconstructable cult statue of a standing Zeus was found within the single cella, over life-size in Parian marble, with sceptre, aegis and eagle, and fallen from its base (3.60 m wide with a Hadrianic inscription of A.D. 139 referring to Hadrian's rebuilding or redecoration of the city and *tois agalmasin* — the statues which stood on the base). Controversy reigns over whether fragments of two other statues, one of Athena and the other of another female, whether mortal or divine is unclear, are to be considered associated with the Zeus. Found by Smith and Porcher in 1861, they are now in the

¹⁶⁴ Dio 69.12.1. The variant version at Eusebius, *HE* 4.6, which says Aelia Capitolina arose *after* the Bar Kochba revolt, is ruled out by the evidence of hoards containing both Aelia and Bar Kochba coinage: Y. Meshorer, *The Coinage of Aelia Capitolina* (1989), 19; M. Goodman, 'Judaea', in *The Cambridge Ancient History* XI (2000), 673 (with thanks to JRS's anonymous reader for the latter reference). Cf. Paulinus of Nola, *Ep.* 31: 'nam Hadrianus ... in loco passionis simulacrum Iovis consecravit' — *Patrologia Latina* 61, p. 326 D (Migne); Sulpicius Severus, *Chronica* 2.31.3.

¹⁶⁵ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 60; Castan, *op. cit.* (n. 1, 1869), 186–8; Meshorer, *op. cit.* (n. 164), 22 and 70–1 no. 1. Coins of Antoninus Pius, however, show Jupiter seated alone in a tetrastyle temple (Meshorer, *op. cit.* (n. 164), 27–8 and 72–3 nos 18–19).

¹⁶⁶ Kuhfeldt, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 54–5.

¹⁶⁷ Hesychius of Miletus 1.41bis (= T. Preger, *Scriptores originum Constantinopolitanarum*, vol. 1 (1901), 18): Ὁ δὲ βασιλεὺς οὐ μόνον οἴκους ἐν Κωνσταντινουπόλει περιφανεῖς κατὰ μίμησιν Ῥώμης καὶ τὸ Καπετώλιον ἔκτισεν, ἀλλὰ καὶ θεῖους τε καὶ ἱεροὺς ναοὺς πολυτελῶς ἀνεδείματο, τὸν τε τῆς ἁγίας Εἰρήνης ναὸν καὶ τῶν σεβασμίων καὶ κορυφαίων Χριστοῦ μαθητῶν ... [followed by a list of other churches]

¹⁶⁸ R. Janin, 'Du Forum Bovis au Forum Tauri. Étude de topographie', *Revue des études byzantines* 13 (1955), 85–108; *op. cit.* (n. 4), 174–6.

¹⁶⁹ L. Dindorf, *Chronicon Paschale* I (1832), 570.

¹⁷⁰ *C. Th.* 14.9.3 (law *de studiis liberalibus*); cf. *C. Th.* 6.21.1 (law of 15 March 425, *de professoribus*).

¹⁷¹ Cledonius in H. Keil, *Grammatici Latini*, vol. 5 (1868), 14.

British Museum; their findspots are not closely recorded, but seem to have been either in or very near this temple.¹⁷² Some have identified the three statues together as the Capitoline Triad;¹⁷³ Chamoux on the other hand points out that all three statues are of different scales (their heights are: Zeus, 2.18 m high; Athena (headless), 1.44 m; and the other statue (also headless), 1.63 m); and that Zeus represented with the aegis is associated on coins with the legend Zeus Soter/Jupiter Conservator and that one of a pair of altars nearby was dedicated to Zeus Soter; he proposes that the base may have held a pair of statues of Zeus Soter and Athena Soteira.¹⁷⁴ Tempting as it is to see this temple as a Capitolium, and its conversion from a prior temple of Zeus in the rebuilding of Cyrene after the Jewish Revolt as an act of ideological significance similar to Hadrian's Aelia Capitolina at Jerusalem, this is pure hypothesis and other interpretations of the temple are possible or even likely.

In the other Eastern provinces no surviving remains can be identified as Capitolia, and although there are several examples in the written sources of temples to Zeus Kapitoliōs, that is to say Jupiter Capitolinus, it is not clear how many of these included the worship of Juno and Minerva as well. At Antioch in Syria Antiochus IV Epiphanes began a temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, evidently as a statement of loyalty to Rome, with lavish gold panelling internally, but it was left unfinished on his death in 164 B.C.;¹⁷⁵ it was subsequently completed or restored by Tiberius.¹⁷⁶ The account (anonymous and undated) of the martyrdom of Julian, Basilissa, Celsus and their companions refers to a Capitolium at a city called Antioch, which might be any of the fourteen Antiochs in the East but may well be Antioch in Syria as it also lays stress on the gold and silver panelling of the temple; that we are dealing with a Capitolium to the full triad (at least in the mind of the author of the text) and not simply of Jupiter Capitolinus is shown by the explicit mention of electrum and gold statues inside it of Jupiter, Juno and Minerva.¹⁷⁷ Coins of Antiochia in Caria struck under Antoninus Pius, with the legend *Zeus Kapitoliōs Antiocheon*, show Jupiter in a tetrastyle temple, holding a Victory in his right hand and a spear in his left; it is significant here that Juno and Minerva are not shown, and this is probably a cult of Jupiter Capitolinus alone.¹⁷⁸ Similarly, priests of Zeus Kapetoliōs are attested at Smyrna,¹⁷⁹ and Nysa in Caria,¹⁸⁰ and there are indications of his cult also at Teos (Lydia),¹⁸¹ but none of this evidence suggests the cult, still less a temple, of the Capitoline Triad. Finally, Pausanias mentions a temple at Corinth: 'above the theatre (ὑπὲρ δὲ τὸ θεατρὸν) is a temple to Zeus called Kapetoliōs

¹⁷² E. Ghislanzoni, 'Statua di Giove ed iscrizione onoraria agli imperatori Adriano e Antonino Pio rinvenute a Cirene', *Notizario Archeologico* 39–40 (1916), 193–216.

¹⁷³ L. Mariani, 'Zeus aigiochos', *Notizario Archeologico* 3 (1922), 7–10; G. Bagnani, 'Hellenistic sculpture from Cyrene', *JHS* 41 (1921), 238–41; Cagiano de Azevedo, op. cit. (n. 3), 46; N. Bonacasa and S. Ensoli, *Cirene* (2000), 76–7.

¹⁷⁴ F. Chamoux, 'Un sculpteur de Cyrène: Zénion, fils de Zénion', *Bulletin de correspondance hellénique* 70 (1946), 67–77. For the Zeus statue, see E. Paribeni, *Catalogo delle sculture di Cirene, statue e rilievi di carattere religioso* (1959), 78–9 (no. 185) and Tav. 106; for the others, A. H. Smith, *A Catalogue of Sculpture in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum*, vol. 2 (1900), 255 nos 1478 and 1479.

¹⁷⁵ Livy 41.20.9: '... et Antiochia Iovis Capitolini magnificum templum, non laqueatum auro tantum, sed parietibus totis lammina inauratum, et alia multa in aliis locis pollicitus, quia perbreve tempus regni eius fuit, non perfecit' ('and at Antioch a magnificent temple of Jupiter Capitolinus, not merely gilded, but decorated with gold sheets on all its walls, and he promised many other buildings in other places, which he did not finish because of the very short time of his reign').

¹⁷⁶ John Malalas, *Hist. Chron.* 10.10 (J. Thurn, *Ioannis Malalae Chronographia* (2000), 178 ll. 44–5).

¹⁷⁷ *Acta SS. Juliani, Basilissae, et Sociorum* apud *Acta Sanctorum*, Januarii vol. 1, pp. 580 and 585 (Bolland.).

¹⁷⁸ Castan, op. cit. (n. 1, 1869), 181; *RPC Online* <http://rpc.ashmus.ox.ac.uk/coins/9463/> (Accessed 11 December 2011).

¹⁷⁹ *CIG* 3153.

¹⁸⁰ *CIG* 2943.

¹⁸¹ *CIG* 3074 = *IGR* IV.1556, an altar of Zeus Ktesios, Zeus Kapetoliōs, Roma and Agathos Daimon; cf. R. Mellor, 'The Goddess Roma', in *ANRW* II.17.2 (1981), 960, who explains: 'Here Zeus appears both as protector of the home (Ktesios) and as protector of treaties (Jupiter Capitolinus).'

in the language of the Romans; in the Greek tongue this might be rendered Zeus Koryphaios' (i.e. Zeus the Highest).¹⁸²

The Oxyrhynchus papyri contain several references to a Kapitolion in the city,¹⁸³ including a payment of 2,500 drachmas to the contractors for the doors of the Kapitolion, in the late second century.¹⁸⁴ A document dated A.D. 261 is an offer to lease the workshop below the east colonnade of the Kapitolion with a view to opening a tavern.¹⁸⁵ This suggests that the Kapitolion here may have stood in its own colonnaded precinct. From the third century, we possess an invitation from one Serapion to a feast in the Kapitolion to celebrate the *epikrisis* of his son.¹⁸⁶ Two documents of A.D. 325 record proceedings before the *logistes*, held πρὸς τῷ Καπιτωλίῳ, 'in front of the Kapitolion'.¹⁸⁷ That the Kapitolion was a place for the transaction of civic business appears to be confirmed by an early fourth-century papyrus from the Oxyrhynchite nome mentioning a forthcoming sale of land belonging to the *fiscus* which is to be held, according to custom, in the Kapitolion, doubtless at Oxyrhynchus itself.¹⁸⁸ From Tebtunis, a third-century A.D. petition refers to land owned by the city and by Zeus Kapitolios, which may either be temple lands or refer to the function of the Kapitolion as a city treasury, as at Oxyrhynchus, and also at Carthage, Cirta and Theveste in North Africa (see below).¹⁸⁹ At Arsinoe there is a set of accounts from A.D. 215 for the temple to Zeus Kapitolios, where rituals with particular reference to Rome were celebrated, such as holidays celebrating anniversaries of the accession of the emperor and the foundation of Rome, on which the statues of gods and men were hung with garlands (cf. Tertullian, *de Corona* 12.3, discussed above); a colossal statue of Caracalla was also erected in the temple.¹⁹⁰ There is, however, no mention in these accounts of Juno or Minerva.

Of the non-African provincial Capitolia, then, we accept Hispalis and Tarraco in Spain, Augustodunum, and, with the terminological hesitation outlined above, those at Narbo, and Tolosa in Gaul; Savaria and Scarbantia in Pannonia; perhaps Cologne in Germany; and certainly Jerusalem and Constantinople, and Oxyrhynchus. Antioch, Corinth, Arsinoe and Tebtunis are possibilities, depending on whether one should equate a temple of Zeus Kapitolios with a Capitulum. We find no compelling evidence for those suggested at Aenona, Brigantium and Virunum,¹⁹¹ and are equally unconvinced by claims for Xanten and Zara.¹⁹² Presumably there were in fact more Capitolia than this in the provinces: we admit the *possibilities* of the other examples claimed by Barton, but we are simply arguing that there are very few credibly attested Capitolia, and we question the wider assumptions that have resulted from more optimistic identifications that see them as a regular and necessary part of a Roman urban model exported from Italy, or one that was *regularly* included to reify a symbolic link with Rome. As in Italy, a link between Capitolia and provincial colonies (or *municipia*) is unclear: Tolosa remained a *civitas* throughout its existence, and only at Jerusalem and Constantinople can we see an association with something like colonial foundation, but these are both

¹⁸² Paus. 2.4.5. Walbank takes ὑπὲρ δὲ to mean 'beyond' and admits that 'this sanctuary ... must be well away from the city centre if it is beyond the theatre' (op. cit. (n. 54), 367), though she makes an unconvincing case that Temple E on the Forum is a separate temple to the Capitoline Triad.

¹⁸³ e.g. *P. Oxy.* I.43 verso iv.3 (A.D. 295) — a house behind the Kapitolion.

¹⁸⁴ *P. Oxy.* XVII.2128.4.

¹⁸⁵ *P. Oxy.* XVII.2109.8–9.

¹⁸⁶ *P. Oxy.* LXVI.4541.

¹⁸⁷ *P. Oxy.* LIV.3757.3; 3758.78 and 156.

¹⁸⁸ *P. NYU* 2 40.

¹⁸⁹ *P. Mil. Vogl.* 4 233.

¹⁹⁰ *BGU* II 362; see A. C. Johnson, *An Economic Survey of Ancient Rome vol. 2: Egypt* (1936), 662–8; N. Lewis, *Life in Egypt under Roman Rule* (1983), 88–9.

¹⁹¹ Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 266–70.

¹⁹² Both discussed with bibliography at Cavalieri Manasse, op. cit. (n. 39), 315.

special circumstances where the ideological loading of the Capitolia built there goes far beyond normal colonial foundations. While these cases stress the importance of the symbolic attachment between provincial Capitolia and Rome, it is significant that in neither case does the city seem to have had a Capitolium before the reigns of Hadrian and Constantine respectively. Furthermore, there is too little evidence on the location of the definitively identified Capitolia to establish a close and regular link between Capitolia and forum space in the provinces outside Italy.

V AFRICAN CAPITOLIA

In the North African provinces there is more evidence for Capitolia — evidence that both marks Africa out as special, but also confirms the lack of correlation between Capitolia and colonial status, and that Capitolia are not a regular feature of city foundations in the Roman Empire, or even necessarily of urban development. Rather, they seem to result from particular local circumstances and initiatives.

Barton lists and discusses the Capitolia that had been identified in North Africa by 1982, assigning them varying degrees of probability; in most cases we agree with his assessments.¹⁹³ In twelve cases the physical remains of temples can be associated with inscriptions mentioning either a Capitolium — Abthungi (Hadrianic or later),¹⁹⁴ Timgad (early third century),¹⁹⁵ and Cirta¹⁹⁶, or dedications to the Capitoline Triad — Thubursicu Numidarum (A.D. 113),¹⁹⁷ Thugga (A.D. 166/169),¹⁹⁸ Mopth... (Mons) (A.D. 209/211),¹⁹⁹ Lambaesis (c. A.D. 248)²⁰⁰, or both — Thuburbo Maius (A.D. 169),²⁰¹

¹⁹³ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 279–326. In each of our categories we list the examples in chronological order in so far as that can be ascertained.

¹⁹⁴ *CIL* VIII.929 = *CIL* VIII.11206, a building inscription giving a Hadrianic or later date; and *CIL* VIII.928 = *CIL* VIII.11205, an inscription of A.D. 388/392 referring to *cellis Capi[toli]*.

¹⁹⁵ The Capitolium is approximately dated by an inscription found reused in the paving of its precinct, which originally came from the epistyle of the colonnade and records its dedication by M. Plotius Faustus ('Sertius') and Cornelia Valentina Tucciana ('Sertia'): H. Pavis d'Escurac Doisy, 'Flaminat et société dans la colonie de Timgad', *Antiquités Africaines* 15 (1980), 190, 198–9. This couple also built the nearby Market of Sertius, thought to belong to the Severan period because of several characteristics of the inscriptions on the statue bases to Sertius and his wife (*CIL* VIII.2393–9, 17904–5): the use of *signa* or nicknames ('Sertius', 'Sertia'), the absence of the voting tribe, the formula *a militiis*, and the absence of imperial epithets in the names of the military units mentioned, all combine to suggest an early third-century date: E. Boeswillwald, R. Cagnat and A. Ballu, *Timgad, une cité africaine sous l'empire romain* (1905), 188–9. J. B. Ward-Perkins, *Roman Imperial Architecture* (1981), 394, considered on stylistic grounds that it dated 'probably from the latter part of the second century', but this now seems slightly too early.

¹⁹⁶ Inventory of municipal treasures held 'in Kapitolio' (*CIL* VIII.6981 = *CIL* VIII.6982 = *ILAlg* 2.1.483 = *ILS* 4921; *CIL* VIII.6983 = *ILAlg* 2.1.538; *CIL* VIII.6984 = *ILAlg* 2.1.539); dedication of statue possibly *iuxta C[apitolium]* (*CIL* VIII.7014 = *ILAlg* 2.1.591 = *ILS* 758).

¹⁹⁷ Temple with a single cella, with dedications to Juno Regina (*IL Alg* 1.1230 = *AE* 1909, 239) and to Minerva Augusta (*ILAlg* 1.1231 = *AE* 1906, 4 and 5 = *AE* 1909, 238), both on marble plaques probably from the base of cult statues. In addition, a colossal statue of Jupiter, a colossal head of Minerva and fragments which could belong to a head of Juno were found, apparently remains of the cult statues themselves.

¹⁹⁸ Single-cella temple with three niches, building dedication to the Capitoline Triad (*CIL* VIII.1471 = *CIL* VIII.15513 = *CIL* VIII.15514 = *Dougga* 31 = *Dougga* 32 = *ILTun* 1379), and a head of Jupiter. See also Cagnat and Gauckler, *op. cit.* (n. 27), 1–3.

¹⁹⁹ Probably single-cella temple with building inscription dedicated to the Capitoline Triad (*AE* 1950, 136), and a head and upper torso of Jupiter.

²⁰⁰ Double-cella temple of peculiar design, in colonnaded court, with building inscription and dedications to all of the Capitoline Triad plus the Genius of the Colony (*CIL* VIII.2611 = *AE* 1951, 121 = *AE* 1992, 1862; *CIL* VIII.2612; *CIL* VIII.18226; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 289–91).

²⁰¹ Building inscription mentioning Capitolium, dedicated to the Capitoline Triad (*ILTun* 699 = *AE* 1914, 55 = *AE* 1923, 106 = *AE* 1942/43, 111 = *IL Afr* 244 = *ILPBardo* I, 339). In addition, a head of Jupiter was found. Description of the temple (before its excavation and identification): Cagnat and Gauckler, *op. cit.* (n. 27), 120–1.

Numluli (A.D. 170),²⁰² Althiburos (A.D. 185/191),²⁰³ Volubilis (A.D. 217),²⁰⁴ and Segermes (c. A.D. 300).²⁰⁵ These at last give us some idea of what Capitolia actually looked like, at least in Africa, and where they were in the town. There are a further fifteen instances where Capitolia are attested in inscriptions, again, either with the explicit mention of a Capitolium — Sala (c. A.D. 120),²⁰⁶ Saia Maior (A.D. 196),²⁰⁷ Theveste (before A.D. 214),²⁰⁸ Henchir el Gonai (A.D. 222/235),²⁰⁹ Caesarea (in existence A.D. 238/244),²¹⁰ Carthage (in existence in A.D. 251),²¹¹ Puppit (restored A.D. 282),²¹² Madauros,²¹³ Uzelis,²¹⁴ Cincaris (repaired A.D. 326/333)²¹⁵, or with a dedication to the Capitoline Triad in a building inscription — Chemmakh (A.D. 113),²¹⁶ Verecunda (A.D. 166),²¹⁷ Avedda (A.D. 212/217),²¹⁸

²⁰² Tetrastyle Corinthian temple on the highest part of town (but not the forum as built on private land), with building inscription mentioning Capitolium, dedicated to the Capitoline Triad (CIL VIII.26161 = AE 1892, 145). See also Cagnat and Gauckler, op. cit. (n. 27), 6–8.

²⁰³ Temple with a cella and two ‘transepts’, dominating a paved court opposite the forum; in the cella was found a head of Juno. The building inscription is dedicated to the Capitoline Triad and refers to the temple as a *Ka[p]itolium* (CIL VIII.27769 = CIL VIII.1824 = CIL VIII.1826 = CIL VIII.1831 = CIL VIII.16470 = AE 1913, 45). Cagnat and Gauckler, op. cit. (n. 27), 8–10.

²⁰⁴ Temple in its own precinct off the forum, with a building inscription referring to *K[apitolium]* and dedicated to Capitoline Triad (IAM II.2, 355 = ILM 45 = AE 1925, 30 = AE 1926, 26).

²⁰⁵ Temple structure with a curious plan, located on one side of a paved area assumed to be the forum; the building inscription calls the building a Capitolium and is dedicated to the variant Capitoline Triad of Jupiter Conservator, Juno Regina and Miner[va Augusta] — see above, Section 1 (CIL VIII.906 = CIL VIII.11167 = CIL VIII.23062 = AE 1905, 127 = AE 1995, 1645).

²⁰⁶ Fragments of a monumental building inscription mentioning a Capitolium, reused in the paving of a late workshop: IAM-S, 861 = AE 1991, 1750.

²⁰⁷ Building inscription dedicated to the Capitoline Triad and referring to *aedem Capitoli* (CIL VIII.25500), apparently placed within a colonnaded enclosure entered by a monumental arch, and decorated with twelve statues.

²⁰⁸ Inscription recording, amongst other testamentary benefactions, 170 lb of silver and 14 lb of gold given *ad Capitol.* (CIL VIII.1858 = CIL VIII.16504d = ILM 1.3040 = BCTH 1943/45, 112 = AE 1942/43, +56 = AE 1945, 58 = AE 1988, 1120).

²⁰⁹ Building inscription mentioning *Kapitolium*: CIL VIII.10767 = CIL VIII.16849 = ILM 1.1097.

²¹⁰ Inscription mentioning Capitolium: AE 1914, 35.

²¹¹ A list of votive offerings or inventory of precious artefacts in the Capitolium: CIL VIII.1013 = 8.12464; and a fragment of marble plaque apparently mentioning the Capitolium: AE 1999, 1841 = AE 2007, 1729. The Capitolium at Carthage is also mentioned in literary sources: Cyprian, *de lapsis* 26 (A.D. 251); *C.Th.* 11.1.34 (25 February 429).

²¹² Statue base honouring a benefactor who rebuilt the forum *cum aedibus e[st] Cap[itolio]* — suggesting that the Capitolium was on the forum: CIL VIII.24095 = ILPBardo I.418 = ILS 5361 = AE 1894, 115.

²¹³ Inscription mentioning *sacerdotes Capitoli*: ILM 1.2146 = AE 1907, 2.

²¹⁴ Dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, also mentioning a statue promised in *Capitolium*: CIL VIII.6339 (p. 965, 1841) = ILS 3669 = ILM 1.3, 8795.

²¹⁵ Twelve fragments of a marble plaque attesting repair of a Capitolium: AE 2003, 2004; J. Peyras, ‘Inscriptions latines du bassin de Bagrada’, in J.-P. Bost et al. (eds), *Itinéraire de Saintes à Dougga* (2003), 277–9.

²¹⁶ Building dedication to Capitoline Triad (fragmentary, but not in doubt): ILM 1.3 = AE 1909, 240.

²¹⁷ This inscription (CIL VIII.4195) has been published as follows: ‘[In honorem domus A]ug[ustae] Iovi Opt[imo Max]imo Iun[oni] Reginae, Minervae Augustae: / Imp[eratori] Caes[ari] M[arco] Aurelio Antonino Aug[usto] Armeniaco Parthico [maximo Medico] pont[ifici] max[imo] trib[unici]a pote[st]ate XX imp[eratori] IIII co[n]s[ul]i III / et Imp[eratori] Caes[ari] L[ucio] Aurelio Vero Aug[usto] A[r]meniaco Parthico maximo Medico trib[unici]a pote[st]ate VI imp[eratori] IIII co[n]s[ul]i II / [...]us Venustus leg[atus] [Aug[usti] pr[ost]ator) pr[ost]ator) co[n]s[ul]i desig[natus] dedica[vit].’ But this seems unsatisfactory; it would be very odd to have the phrase *In honorem domus Augustae* beginning the inscription and carved in larger letters than the subsequent lines, on a par with the letter sizes for the deities. Moreover, if one restores *Iunoni Reginae* as would be expected with *IOM* there is not room on the right-hand side for Minerva. But since Minerva’s epithet, *Augusta*, is present in the inscription, it is easiest to restore her at the start; the order of divinities is unusual, but the order of names on the temple’s lintel would exactly parallel the spatial arrangement of the cellae or statues of the divinities within the temple. We would restore the first line as ‘[Minervae A]ug[ustae] Iovi Opt[imo Max]imo Iun[oni] Reginae’.

²¹⁸ Building inscription dedicated to the Capitoline Triad: CIL VIII.14369 = ILM 1.3 = AE 1934, +34 = ILM 1.206.

Henchir Medkis (A.D. 214),²¹⁹ and Tituli.²²⁰ This total of twenty-seven definite Capitolia far exceeds the number identified in Italy, and indeed in all the other provinces put together.²²¹

There is some likely evidence for further identifications, at Cuicul (a temple on the forum with a cella divided into nave and side aisles by columns and pilasters, within which a torso of Jupiter was found²²²), Ucubi (a building inscription of A.D. 185/192 that was found in the ruins of a temple mentions Minerva and is restorable as a dedication to the Capitoline Triad²²³), Thagura (a building inscription of A.D. 98–117 mentions a temple and is dedicated to Juno Regina and perhaps others²²⁴), Belalis Maior (a base of A.D. 138–161 has a dedication to the Capitoline Triad and mention of a *templum C[...]*; the association of dedication and temple here suggests the temple may be a Capitolum²²⁵), and Ain Nechma (a very fragmentary building inscription includes a dedication to Minerva Augusta, and perhaps others²²⁶). Other temples whose fragmentary dedicatory inscriptions mention at least one of the Capitoline Triad and might be restored with the others are Maxula (a fragmentary building dedication to Minerva Augusta, and probably other deities, of the Hadrianic period or later),²²⁷ Maraci (see below), and perhaps Zuccharis (a fragmentary building inscription with a dedication to [...]*Reginae* [...] and room for the other deities to be restored).²²⁸ A Capitolum has been claimed for Zama M...or on the basis of a fragmentary inscription to [*Iuppiter Optimus M*]axim[us],²²⁹ but even if Maximus was part of Jupiter's titles rather than imperial titulature, there is hardly room for the rest of the triad.

In several instances there is a close link between Capitolia and imperial cult, or even a degree of blending of the two: at Bisica a dedication on a frieze block is for the health of the emperor and his children and to the Capitoline Triad,²³⁰ while at Maraci a building inscription (of A.D. 202/211) bears a dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus and Juno Regina, who are assimilated to Septimius Severus and Julia Domna, with the possibility that a third deity could have been included in a lacuna.²³¹ As noted above, the dedication of the Capitolum at Segermes to Jupiter Conservator rather than Optimus Maximus, besides the usual Juno Regina and Minerva Augusta, reflects Diocletianic ideology and suggests a partial assimilation with Diocletian. It is possible that something similar explains the curious example of Sustris, where a repair inscription of a temple is

²¹⁹ Building inscription (eight fragments of entablature) dedicated to Capitoline Triad: *CIL* VIII.2194. Corinthian capitals and column shafts were found at the site, but how closely associated with the inscription is unclear (A. Moll, 'Inscriptions romaines découvertes à Tébessa et dans les environs pendant les années 1858 et 1859', *Recueil des notices et mémoires de la Société archéologique de Constantine* 4 (1858–1859), 178–80, inscriptions nos 9–13).

²²⁰ *CIL* VIII.27827. This dedication to the Capitoline Triad has a slightly unusual format for a Capitolum, but is apparently a building inscription: the surviving fragment is 1.2 m wide, 0.6 m high, with letters 0.24 m high.

²²¹ Given that this is true on the literary and epigraphic evidence alone, our argument about the relative popularity of the cult in Africa is not affected by Barton's point that one needs to take into account the better preservation of monuments in Africa where comparatively few sites have been built over — an observation which is in any case also true of Spain: Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 260, where he also notes that whereas 'in Gaul and Spain municipal life tended to be concentrated on the larger cities, each with an extended *territorium*, in Africa it was dispersed among numerous small *civitates*, more and more of which as time went on acquired municipal institutions of their own', and he relates this to the late second-/early third-century dating of 'the majority of the African capitolia'. He still thinks that there are a disproportionate number of Capitolia in Africa.

²²² Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 286.

²²³ *CIL* VIII.15663; Cagnat and Gauckler, *op. cit.* (n. 27), 13.

²²⁴ *ILAlg.* 1.1026 = *CIL* VIII.28064 = *AE* 1909, 7.

²²⁵ *AE* 1978, 855.

²²⁶ *CIL* VIII.17511 = *ILAlg.* 1.470.

²²⁷ *CIL* VIII.24328; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 295.

²²⁸ *CIL* VIII.11198 = 921; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 324.

²²⁹ *CIL* VIII.16439; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 323–4.

²³⁰ *CIL* VIII.23876 (= 12286); Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 283.

²³¹ *AE* 1949, 109; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 294–5.

dedicated to a variation on the Capitoline Triad, with Fortuna Augusta substituted for Minerva;²³² this seems not to be a true Capitolium, but the choice of Fortuna Augusta may be related to imperial cult. Likewise the case of Urusi (Henchir Sougga) seems unlikely to be a Capitolium, as there is no mention of Minerva: an inscription over the door of a temple is dedicated to Iuno Augusta, but states also that the city made a *templum cum sanctuari[o Io]vis*.²³³ In both these two latter cases the epithet Augusta applied to Fortuna and Iuno rather suggests associations with (though not necessarily a prime focus on) imperial cult.

Sometimes, as at Sabratha, a temple's situation on the forum has been the main reason for identifying it as a Capitolium. A dedication to Jupiter by one Africanus was found in this triple-cella temple, with an accompanying colossal bust, but so was a dedication to and bust of Concordia, by the same Africanus,²³⁴ and a head of Hermes and a statuette of Caelestis.²³⁵ There was no sign of Juno or Minerva: one sees at once how fragile the argument is. Moreover, the sculpture was all found in the vaults of the temple, which were used to store inscriptions and statues from all over the city, salvaged from the ruins after the devastation wrought probably by an earthquake in the 360s; they have no evidential value for the dedication of the temple itself.²³⁶ The temple at Gighthis has also been identified as a Capitolium on the basis that it stands at one end of the forum. However, as early as 1916 Constans noted that this was insufficient for the identification, and that in fact fragments of a stucco relief decorating the front of the platform, including the head of a crocodile, clearly showed an Egyptian scene, and a colossal head of Serapis was found beside the temple, suggesting that this is actually a temple to Serapis.²³⁷

At Sbeitla/Sufetula the three mid-second-century A.D. temples on the forum (Fig. 9) have often been seen as a sort of composite Capitolium; they are contemporary with each other, and all prostyle tetrastyle and pseudo-peripteral; the central one is a little larger than the others and is distinguished by its engaged columns rather than flat pilasters. No dedication survives, nor is there any evidence of cult statues to indicate the divinities to which they are dedicated; the reasons for seeing them as together forming a Capitolium are their location on the forum and the fact that the three temples have only two staircases, in front of the two side temples, so the podium of the middle temple is accessed from these, across a bridge over the intervening passages. The whole complex is thus conceived of as a single entity and linked, as at Baelo Claudia.²³⁸ However, proof for the identification is lacking, and others have preferred to see the collocation of three temples as reflecting influence from Punic sanctuaries containing several cult buildings within a precinct.²³⁹

A comparable arrangement is seen at Lepcis (Fig. 10), where three temples in the Old Forum were physically and visually linked with bridges and arches, but here the three

²³² *CIL* VIII.25935.

²³³ *CIL* VIII.12014 = *ILS* 5412; Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 321–2.

²³⁴ *IRT* 4 and 9; cf. Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 300–2.

²³⁵ P. Ward, *Sabratha: a Guide for Visitors* (1970), 35.

²³⁶ cf. P. M. Kenrick, *Excavations at Sabratha 1948–1951* (1986), 114. Giudi (unpublished; communication cited by Cagiano de Azvedo, op. cit. (n. 3), 48) noted Egyptianizing decoration, and considered that the temple might have been dedicated to Jupiter Ammon (G. Giudi, 'I monumenti della Tripolitania romana', *Africa Romana* (1935), 247), but it appears that this refers to the Egyptianizing marble reliefs found in the vaults of the temple, which Kenrick argues derive from the nearby temple of Serapis (Kenrick, op. cit. (n. 236), 115 and pl. 28).

²³⁷ L. A. Constans, *Gighthis. Études d'histoire et d'archéologie sur un emporium de la Petite Syrte* (1916), 29–32; cf. Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 286–7.

²³⁸ Cagnat and Gauckler, op. cit. (n. 27), 14–18; Cagnat and Chapot, op. cit. (n. 1), 159–60; N. Duval and F. Baratte, *Les ruines de Sbeitla* (1973), 23–30; N. Duval, 'L'urbanisme de Sufetula = Sbeitla en Tunisie', *ANRW* II.10.2 (1982), 606–7. Cf. Barresi, op. cit. (n. 141) on similarities in the proportions of the designs between Baelo and Sufetula.

²³⁹ e.g. Bendala Galán, op. cit. (n. 143), 473–4; cf. n. 143 above on Baelo Claudia.



FIG. 9. Sbeitla: the triple-temple complex on the forum. (Photo: A. Wilson)

temples are of different dates and definitely do not constitute a Capitolium, since the middle one is dedicated to Roma and Augustus.²⁴⁰ It has recently been suggested that the southern temple at Lepcis was in fact a Capitolium from the Augustan period, on the basis of an inscription of unknown date found in the Old Forum which preserves the names of Juno Regina and Minerva, and a second- to third-century A.D. head of Athena/Minerva and a fragment of a colossal statue with curls of a beard which were discovered (separately) near the temple.²⁴¹ The inscription, however, is not a building inscription: it is written on the edge of a marble table and proves nothing about the identification of any of the temples in the forum. Furthermore, the supposed cult statues are of very different scales, and the head of Athena/Minerva was found outside the wall of this temple, along with heads of Dea Roma, Divus Augustus, Tiberius and Drusus IV, which apparently came from the adjacent temple of Rome and Augustus: it too may have come from that temple rather than the southern one.²⁴² One of us has argued elsewhere for the traditional identification of this southern temple with the Phoenician

²⁴⁰ J. C. Quinn, 'The reinvention of Lepcis', in A. Jiménez (ed.), *Colonising a Colonized Territory: Settlements with Punic Roots in Roman Times*, in M. Dalla Riva and H. Di Giuseppe (eds), *Meetings between Cultures in the Ancient Mediterranean. Proceedings of the 17th International Congress of Classical Archaeology*. Bolletino di Archeologia online 1 (2010), 56.

²⁴¹ N. Masturzo, 'Il tempio occidentale – tempio di "Liber Pater"', in A. Di Vita and M. Liviadiotti (eds), *I Tre Templi del lato nord-ovest del Foro Vecchio a Leptis Magna* (2005), especially 57 and 129–31, building on L. Musso, 'Nuovi ritrovamenti di scultura a Leptis Magna: Athena tipo Medici', in L. Bacchielli and M. B. Aravantinos (eds), *Studi Miscellanei* 29, vol. 2 (1996), 115–39; the inscription is IRT 290.

²⁴² cf. Masturzo, op. cit. (n. 241), 57.

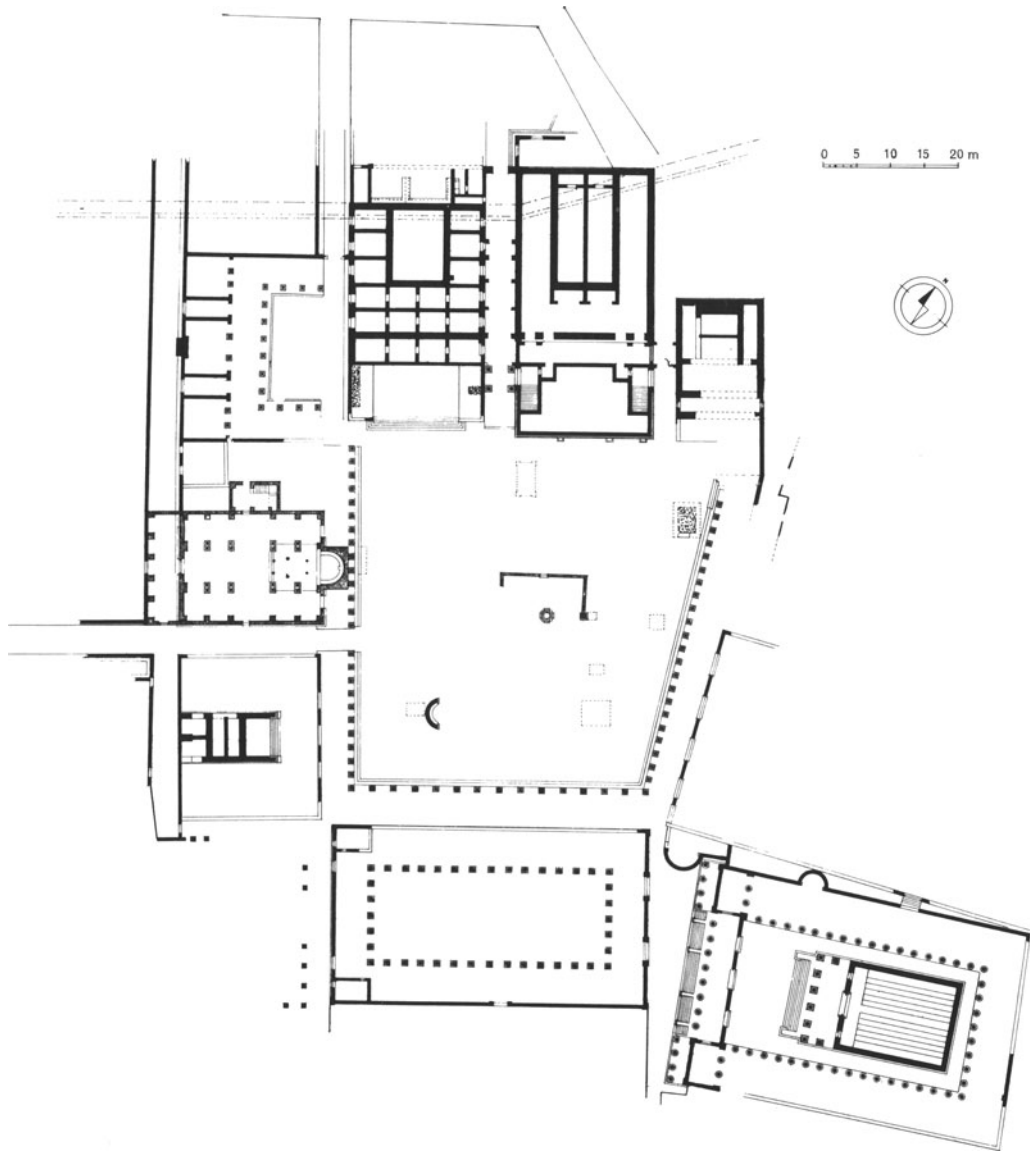


FIG. 10. Leptis Magna: plan of Old Forum with three temples (after Bianchi Bandinelli *et al.*, *The Buried City. Excavations at Leptis Magna* (1966), 84 fig. 235).

god Shadrapa (Roman Liber Pater, Greek Dionysus),²⁴³ who was, with Milk'ashtart (Hercules/Herakles), one of the city's two patron gods,²⁴⁴ or for a double dedication to both of these gods, along the lines of the temple of Castor in the Roman Forum.²⁴⁵

²⁴³ A. Di Vita, 'Liber Pater o *Capitolium*? Una nota', in A. Di Vita and M. Liviadiotti (eds), *I Tre Templi del lato nord-ovest del Foro Vecchio a Leptis Magna* (2005), 16.

²⁴⁴ *IPT* 31.

²⁴⁵ Quinn, *op. cit.* (n. 240), 58.

We find no clear evidence for the other possibilities which Barton surveys, but does not defend, at Aqqar, Ammaedara, Banasa, Bulla Regia, Gigthis, Hippo Regius, Limisa, Mactaris, Portus Magnus, Regiae, Rusicade, Thabraca, Thibilis, Thamusida, Thuburnica, Tipasa, Tubernuc, Vallis, Utica, Zitha, and Guelaa Bou Atfane. We also reject the identification of a Capitolium at Rapidum, as the statues on which this is based have been mis-identified.²⁴⁶ Barton's later identification of a possible Capitolium at Cillium (Kasserine) seems entirely speculative, based primarily on the temple's commanding position and without other good evidence.²⁴⁷ Many of these supposed Capitolia are indeed possibilities; but the evidence falls well short of proof.

Some general points about these African examples can be made. First, most dated examples are relatively late; there is none before the second century A.D., and most are Hadrianic to Severan; by contrast, there are no examples of post-Severan construction, though there are several third- and fourth-century repairs.²⁴⁸ While North African building inscriptions in general peak in numbers in the late second century, and drop sharply after the reign of Severus Alexander, if the chronological pattern for Capitolia inscriptions simply reflected the general pattern of building dedication in the North African provinces, and there were in fact a significant number of earlier examples of the temple-type, we should still expect attestations before the second century A.D. The late appearance of Capitolia in African towns, where in general an abundant epigraphic record goes back to the early first century A.D., is particularly significant.

Second, as with the Italian and other provincial examples, there is no association with colonial foundation, nor with promotion to colonial rank, nor indeed with any upgrade of municipal status.²⁴⁹ There are certain examples of Capitolia at sites which were not even *municipia* at the time their Capitolium was built, such as Numluli (A.D. 170), which later became a *municipium* but is described as a *pagus* and *civitas* in the Capitoline building inscription, and Dougga, where the Capitolium is dated by its inscription to A.D. 166/169, almost half a century before the town became a *municipium* in A.D. 205, although it is possible that the construction of the temple reflects some other increase in civic status.²⁵⁰ Conversely, there are examples of Capitolia built at sites long after they became *coloniae* (Timgad, Cuicul). At Timgad, a Trajanic colony founded in A.D. 100 with a temple/forum/basilica complex, the small temple on one side of the forum is not

²⁴⁶ Statues found at Rapidum have been claimed to represent Jupiter (seated, with a thunderbolt) and Minerva (Chabassière, 'Notice sur Sour Djouab et ses environs', *Revue africaine* 13 (1869), 456 and pl. IV; S. Gsell, *Les Monuments antiques de l'Algérie* (1901), vol. 1, 153; A. Ballu, 'Rapport sur les fouilles exécutées en 1910 par le Service des monuments historiques de l'Algérie', *Bulletin archéologique du Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques* (1911), 93–4; Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 299), but J.-P. Laporte has shown that the seated statue is probably Aesculapius (J.-P. Laporte, *Rapidum. Le camp de la cohorte des Sardes en Maurétanie Césarienne* (1989), 121–3, 170–5) and in any case the female statue is of a different scale, making it hard to see them as part of a cult triad. Laporte's photo (172 pl. 18) shows the statue of Jupiter to be approximately twice life-size, while the female deity (previously claimed on no real evidence to be Minerva or Juno) is said to be life-size (174).

²⁴⁷ I. M. Barton, 'Encore un Capitole africain? Le temple de Cillium', *Antiquités africaines* 25 (1989), 227–34.

²⁴⁸ cf. Di Vita, op. cit. (n. 243), 19, who argues that the cult of Jupiter Optimus Maximus in the provinces only became popular from the reign of Domitian, when the emperor was first more or less directly assimilated to Jupiter. But the bulk of dated Capitolia are much later, and even if Di Vita's argument were true, it would not explain the opposite cases of Britain, with no Capitolia, and Africa with so many.

²⁴⁹ This point was made by Barton (op. cit. (n. 1), 278; and cf. 266–8), although he appeared reluctant to abandon the idea of a connection altogether (cf. his discussion of Sustris, pp. 306–7, which assumes that only *coloniae* could have Capitolia).

²⁵⁰ *CIL* VIII.26539; J. Gascou, *La Politique municipale de l'empire romain en Afrique Proconsulaire de Trajan à Septime-Sévère* (1972), 179. A. Beschaouch 'Thugga, une cité de droit latin sous Marc Aurèle: *Civitas Aurelia Thugga*', in M. Khanoussi and L. Maurin (eds), *Dougga (Thugga). Études épigraphiques* (1997), 61–73 discusses the possibility that the city's earlier title *Civitas Aurelia Thugga* (used in the second half of the second century) indicates some particular favour from Marcus Aurelius (r. A.D. 161–180), and suggests that this was the award of the Latin right.

a Capitolium; there is no positive identification for its dedication, though it has been suggested that it was ‘probably intended for the imperial cult’.²⁵¹ Instead, the Timgad Capitolium, identified as such by a repair inscription of A.D. 364/7,²⁵² was built by M. Plotius Faustus (‘Sertius’) and his wife Cornelia Valentina Tucciana (‘Sertia’) in the Severan period,²⁵³ a hundred years or more after the initial colony; it was certainly built *outside* the original Trajanic grid-planned town, and on a different alignment (Fig. 11). This temple is huge, on a slight natural rise, in its own colonnaded precinct; it dominates the town but was not part of the initial plan for the colony. And for such a regularly planned colonial foundation, this point is significant since it is irreconcilable with an association between Capitolia and colonization. It is also instructive to note that in the precinct of a *different* temple at Timgad, the temple of the Genius of the Colony near the honorific arch at the west end of the *decumanus maximus*, three statue bases were found, identical in format and dedicated to Jupiter, Juno and Minerva, as well as two to Liber Pater and Saturn — in other words, dedications to the deities of the Capitoline Triad among others, but in a temple that is not the city’s Capitolium.²⁵⁴ Nevertheless, where Capitolia did exist they sometimes served an important civic rôle beyond the purely religious (as we have already seen for Oxyrhynchus); in at least three cases (Carthage, Cirta and Theveste), there is epigraphic evidence that the Capitolium functioned as a civic treasury;²⁵⁵ and at Carthage, the Capitolium was in the fifth century also the *aerarium* for the province of Africa.²⁵⁶

Third, there is the remarkable variety in the design of the cellae:²⁵⁷ several had a single cella, but sometimes with three niches at the back, as at Dougga; Lambaesis had a double cella, also accommodating the Genius of the Colony (Fig. 12), and Abthungi and Althiburos had a cella flanked by two smaller laterally projecting rooms sometimes referred to as transepts (Fig. 13).²⁵⁸ Only the temple at Cuicul, where the evidence for a Capitoline dedication is rather meagre, definitely had a triple cella; that at Thibilis possibly did.²⁵⁹ At Timgad and Thuburbo Maius the substructures are divided into three, perhaps suggesting a tripartite cella above, but nothing remains of the cella itself.²⁶⁰ While in some cases, therefore, the triple cult does find an architectural reflection in the design of the cella, either with a tripartite division or with three niches for the cult statues, this was by no means always necessary — and we have seen above that tripartite cellae can be found in non-Capitoline temples too. Different designs for the porch and temple façade are also employed: tetrastyle at Dougga, hexastyle at Timgad and Thuburbo Maius; this and the variety of cella arrangements make it hard to see provincial Capitoline temples in Africa as a visual copy of the one in Rome.

And fourth, there is no strong correlation with forum space, as the Timgad example shows. Of the fourteen African temples definitely identified as Capitolia whose location within the city is known, seven are on the forum,²⁶¹ and seven are demonstrably not,

²⁵¹ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 308.

²⁵² *CIL* VIII.2388 = *ILS* 5554.

²⁵³ See n. 195 above.

²⁵⁴ R. Cagnat and A. Ballu, ‘Communication, Séance de la Commission de l’Afrique du Nord’, *Bulletin archéologique du Comité des travaux historiques et scientifiques* (1898), clvi–clviii; Gsell, *op. cit.* (n. 246), 140; J. Eingartner, ‘Fora, Capitolia und Heiligtümer im westlichen Nordafrika’, in H.-J. Schalles *et al.* (eds), *Die römische Stadt im 2. Jahrhundert n. Chr.* (1992), 234–6.

²⁵⁵ Carthage: see n. 211 above. Cirta: see n. 196 above. Theveste: see n. 208 above.

²⁵⁶ *C.Th.* 11.1.34 (law of 25 February 429).

²⁵⁷ cf. Gros, *op. cit.* (n. 88), 193–6.

²⁵⁸ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 279–81; Gsell, *op. cit.* (n. 246), 143–5 (Lambaesis).

²⁵⁹ Gsell, *op. cit.* (n. 246), 148 (Cuicul); S. Gsell and C. A. Joly, *Khamissa, Mdaourouch, Annouma. Fouilles exécutées par le Service des Monuments Historiques de l’Algérie* (1918), 70–3 (Thibilis).

²⁶⁰ Gsell, *op. cit.* (n. 246), 137–9; Ward-Perkins, *op. cit.* (n. 253), 394; Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 313.

²⁶¹ Althiburos (but in its own enclosure), Mopht... (Mons), Puppūt, Segermes, Thuburbo Maius, Thubursicu Numidarum, Thugga (added to the forum later).

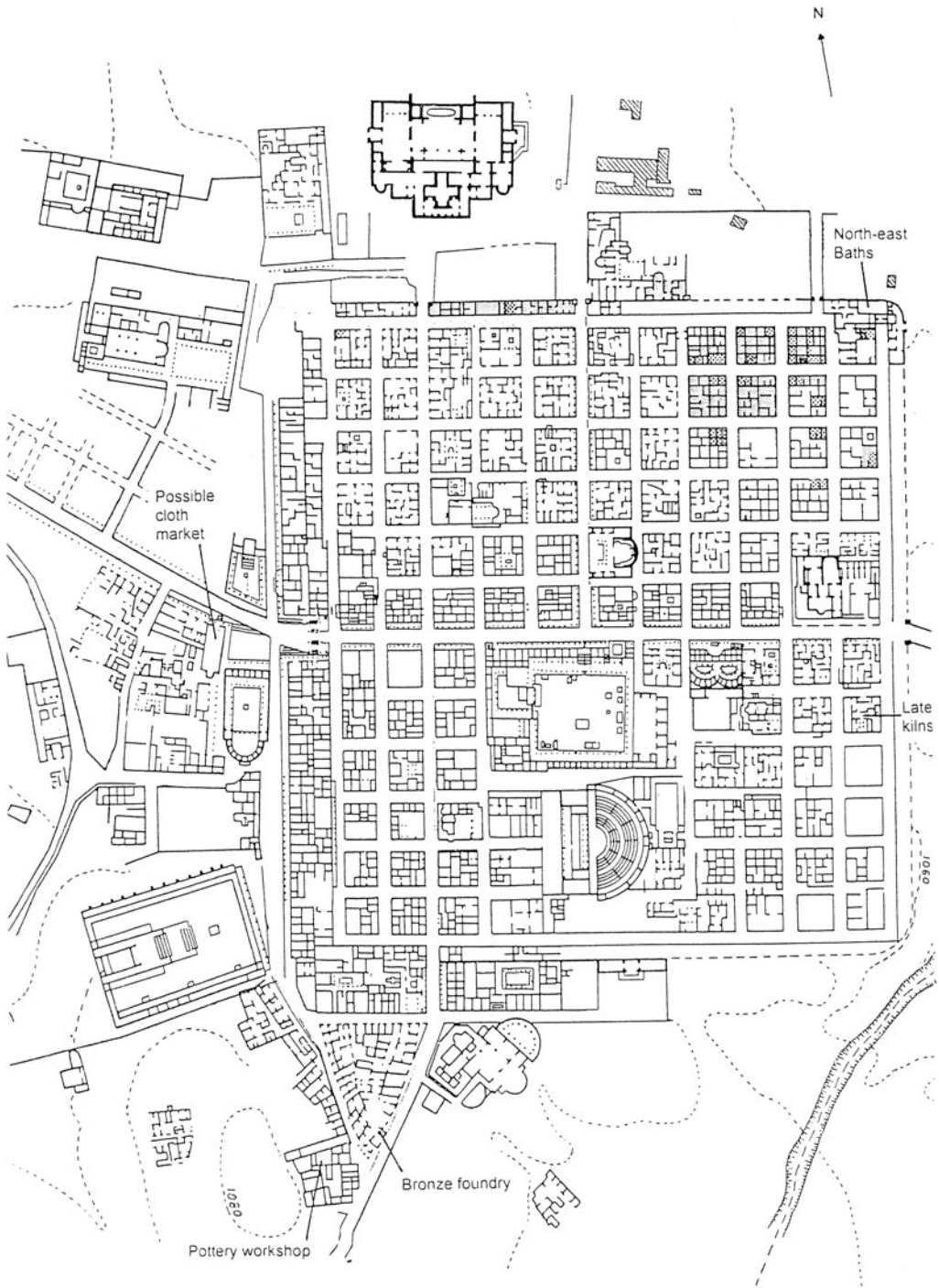


FIG. 11. Timgad: plan of the city, showing the location of the Capitolium in its own precinct at lower left, outside the original Trajanic colony (A. I. Wilson, 'Timgad and textile production', in D. J. Mattingly and J. Salmon (eds), *Economies beyond Agriculture in the Classical World* (2001), fig. 8).

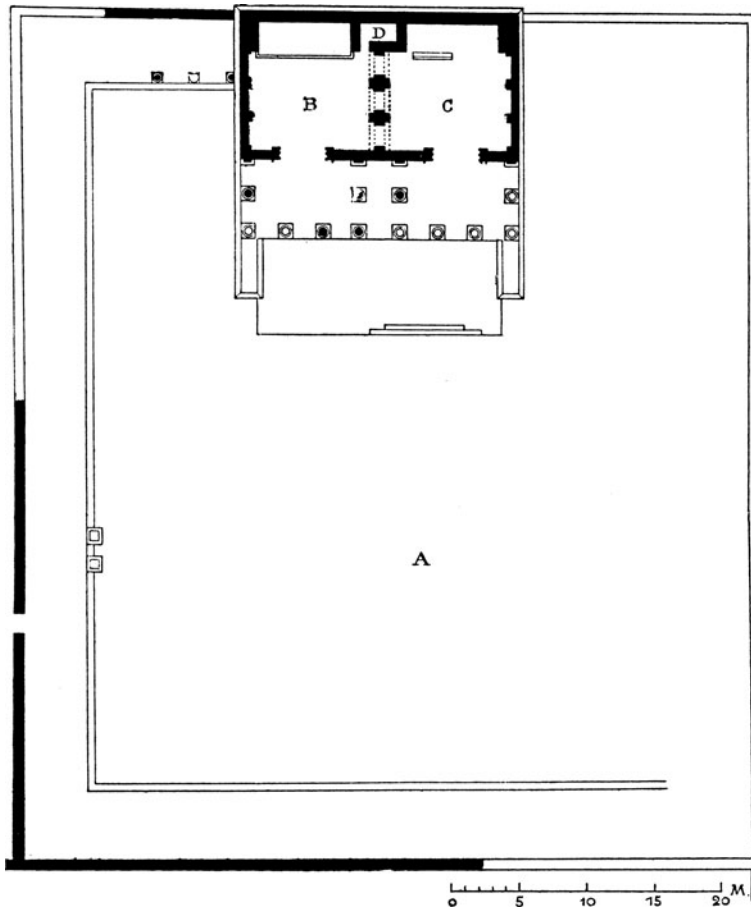


FIG. 12. Lambaesis: plan of Capitulum (S. Gsell, *Les Monuments antiques de l'Algérie* (1901), vol. 1, fig. 42).

being in their own precinct, sometimes near the forum, but not directly opening onto it, and sometimes at some distance.²⁶² One could raise the figure for Capitulia on the forum to eleven if one accepted that the Capitulum at Carthage was on the Byrsa Hill, under what is now the Cathedral of St Louis, and was probably therefore on the civic forum; and if one also counted Cuicul, Sufetula and Sabratha (but the latter two are identified as Capitulia partly on the basis of their location on the forum, so the argument becomes circular). Even so, the Capitulia at Thugga and Cuicul at least are late additions to their fora, and there is not such a preponderance of Capitulia on the forum that one could see this as the normal arrangement, or as a sort of model for civic space, even though the arrangement was clearly common. A few examples will illustrate the multiplicity of possibilities for the placement of Capitulia.

Thuburbo Maius has a Capitulum that largely conforms to the traditional expectations: a temple dedicated to the Capitoline Triad and explicitly called a Capitulum in the dedication which dates it to A.D. 169,²⁶³ set on a high podium and looking over the forum from its north-west end (Fig. 14). The substructures of the cella are divided into

²⁶² Abthungi, Lambaesis, Numluli, Maraci, Thamugadi, Ucubi, Volubilis.

²⁶³ *ILT* 699.

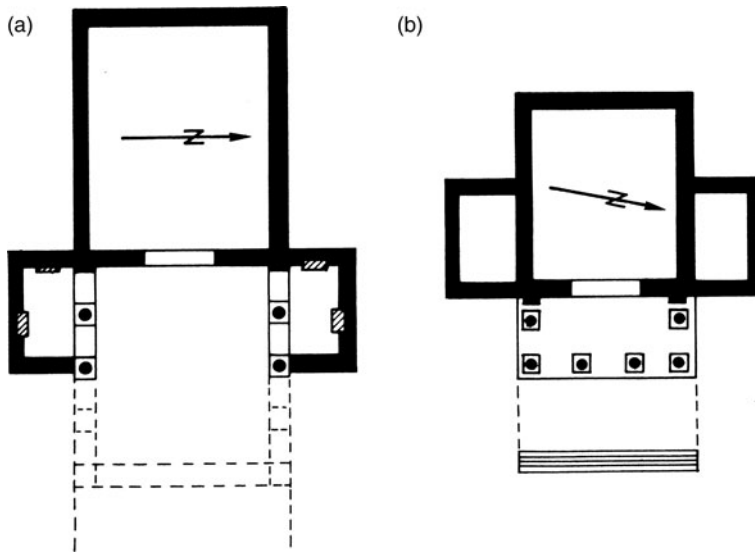


FIG. 13. Plans of Capitolia with cella and 'transepts': (a) Abthungi; (b) Althiburos (Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), fig. 8a–b).

three, which may reflect a triple division of the cella (now lost) above; and the head, feet and parts of the left arm of a colossal statue of Jupiter were found in the substructures.²⁶⁴ At Dougga, however, although the contemporary Capitulum (A.D. 166/169) sits at one end of the forum, it was not an integral part of the original design of the forum, which was monumentalized with a colonnade under Antoninus Pius (Fig. 15).²⁶⁵ Indeed, so much is the Capitulum here an afterthought that it had to be placed sideways on to the forum for lack of space. A similar situation is found at Cuicul, where the triple-cella temple is on the forum, but on a slightly different alignment, somewhat awkwardly abutting the existing *macellum* and, as noted above, blocking one of its entrances (Fig. 16).²⁶⁶ Whether or not it is a Capitulum, the temple must be a later addition to the colony originally founded under Nerva.²⁶⁷ Alternatively, Capitolia might be entirely separate from the forum, as at Timgad, and at Volubilis in Mauretania Tingitana, where the relatively late Capitulum (A.D. 217) has its own small precinct near the forum, but separate from it, tucked away behind the basilica.

As the case of Timgad shows most clearly, Capitolia were not a necessary part even of the most regular town plans of the first century A.D.; and indeed, the second-century or later date of most attested Capitolia suggests that they were not even a *normal* feature of such plans. All this raises an interesting question: if many of the temples dominating fora in the provinces — Africa and elsewhere — are not Capitolia, what are they? Sometimes, as at Lepcis, we have evidence for imperial cult temples, and for temples to the patron deities of the city; in other cases they may be temples of the Genius of the Colony, which certainly existed at Oea, Sabratha, Timgad (though not on the forum), Bulla Regia, and Aubuzza.²⁶⁸ Central urban

²⁶⁴ Barton, *op. cit.* (n. 1), 313: the head was 1.35 m high, and Barton calculates that the seated figure would have been some 7 m high, or five times life-size.

²⁶⁵ *CIL* VIII.26524 = *ILAf* 521; C. Poinssot, *Les Ruines de Dougga* (1983), 38–9.

²⁶⁶ Schalles, *op. cit.* (n. 163), 208–9; n. 60 above.

²⁶⁷ *Contra* van Andringa, quoted above, n. 58.

²⁶⁸ Oea: *IRT* 230. Sabratha: *IRT* 6. Timgad: *AE* 1968, 647. Bulla Regia: *CIL* VIII.25512. Aubuzza: *CIL* VIII.16367 = *ILS* 6783 = *ILLun* 1628 = *AE* 2004, 67.

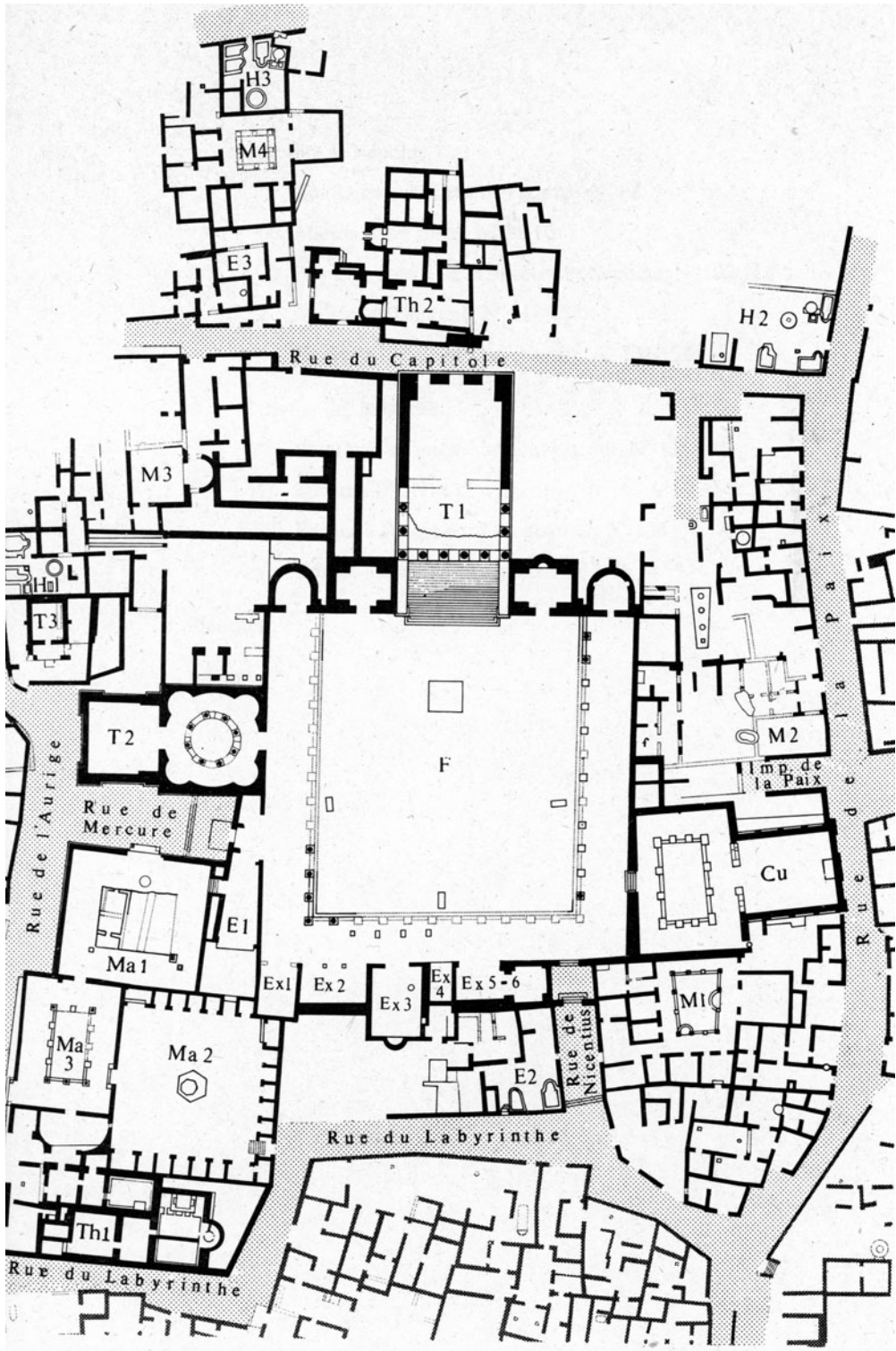


FIG. 14. Thuburbo Maius: plan showing Capitolium (T1) in relation to forum (Alexander *et al.*, *Corpus des Mosaïques de Tunisie*, vol. II.1 (1980), plan 1).



FIG. 15. Dougga: the Capitulum seen from the earlier forum; note its placement side-on to the forum. (Photo: A. Wilson)

space was frequently dominated by religious buildings that at the same time had an overt ideological significance, but Capitolia were only one of a number of possible ways of doing this. The emphasis may be local, or on links with Rome or the imperial house; or all at the same time, as at Lepcis, with the city's patron deity or deities beside and linked with Roma and Augustus; one of us has suggested that the presence of the imperial cult there gives the local god(s) on the forum equal standing with the rulers of the world.²⁶⁹

However, the relative popularity of Capitolia in Africa in the second and third centuries raises a second question: why do we find so many in this region in such a limited time period? Are they an export from Italy, driven by an ideological need to replicate links with Rome in the provinces, as apparently at Jerusalem? Or does the impetus come instead from North African élites, for their own local reasons?²⁷⁰

At most one of the Capitolia in Africa was actually paid for by the emperor, so far as we can see; and possibly not even that. The dedicatory inscription of the Capitulum at Henchir Medkis refers to the *indulgentia* of the emperor, Caracalla, and this may hint at a remission of taxes which enabled the community to build the temple; or it may simply refer to the granting of permission to spend their own funds to this end.²⁷¹ Not only are Capitolia not linked to colonization or the award of colonial status, but it seems that

²⁶⁹ Quinn, *op. cit.* (n. 240), 62.

²⁷⁰ Brent Shaw notes that most African Capitolia date from the Antonine period or later and are unrelated to civic status, and that their spread is correlated with the growing power of local élites, 'more a measure of the final acceptance of Roman identity by the urban elites of the African provinces than it was any pre-emptive strike by either side to incite a new sense of belonging'. (B. Shaw, 'Cult and belief in Punic and Roman Africa', in M. R. Salzman and M. A. Sweeney (eds), *The Cambridge History of Religions in the Ancient World* (2013), vol. 2, 246).

²⁷¹ *CIL* VIII.2194.

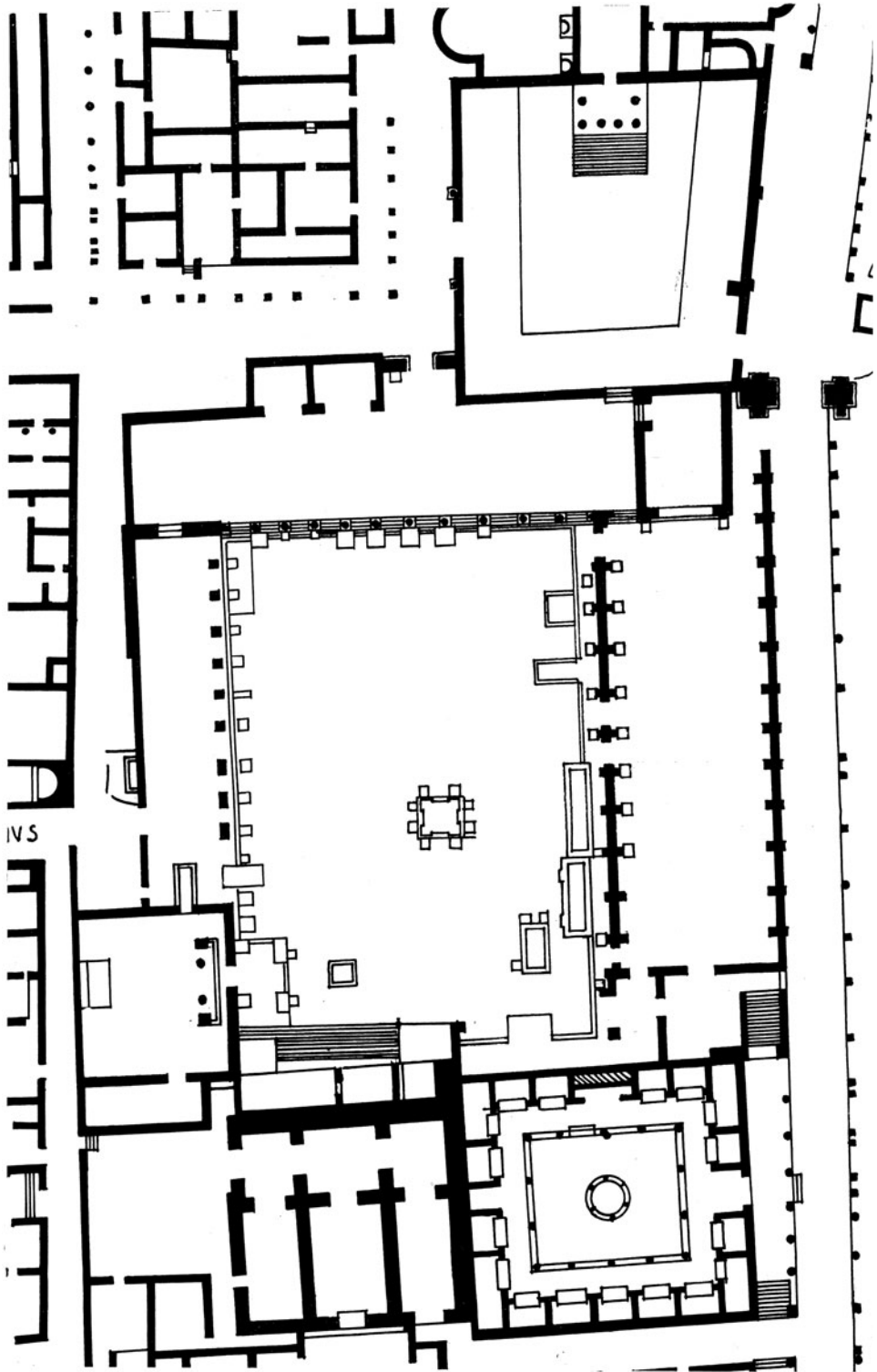


FIG. 16. Cuicul: plan of the presumed Capitolium (bottom centre) in relation to the forum and *macellum* (bottom right) (P.-A. Février, *Djemila* (1968), 38).

the construction drive did not come from the centre. Rather, the financing was local: at least eleven North African Capitolia were paid for by the community;²⁷² and in several cases by individuals.²⁷³ Only three dedications by private individuals are sufficiently complete to allow us to reconstruct their career and standing, but we think that these may provide an important clue to the whole phenomenon.

The Capitulum at Numluli was the gift of L. Memmius Pecuarium Marcellinum, and of his son, decurion at Carthage and *flamen designatus Divi Nervae*, with money given in his son's name (perhaps to celebrate his flaminiate) and a further sum explicitly to celebrate his wife's flaminiate:²⁷⁴

[I]ovi Optimo Maximo Iunoni Reginae Minervae Augustae sacrum / [p]ro salute Imp(eratoris) Caes(aris) M(arci) Aureli Antonini Aug(usti) Armeniaci Medici Part(hici) max(im)i pont(ificis) max(im)i trib(unicia) pot(estate) XXIII imp(eratoris) V co(n)s(ulis) III p(atris) p(atriciae) liberorumq(ue) eius totiusque domus divinae / [L(ucius)] Memmius Pecuarium Marcellinum cum suo et L(uci) Memmi Marcelli Pecuariani decurionis c(oloniae) I(uliae) K(arthaginis) flaminis divi Nervae designati filii sui nomine templum Capitoli liberalitate sua / [f]aciendum ex HS XX mil(ibus) n(ummum) patriae suae pago et civitati Numlulitanae promississet et ob honorem flami(n)i Iunia Saturninae uxoris suae ex decreto utriusque ordinis HS III m(ilia) n(ummum) in id / opus proc(ur)a(vi)sset(?) multiplicata pecunia solo suo extruxit et marmoribus et statuīs omniq(ue) cultu exornavit itemq(ue) dedicavit ob quam dedicationem decurionibus utriusq(ue) ordinis sportulas / item populo epulum et gymnasium dedit praeterea exigente annona frumenta quantacumq(ue) habuit populo multo minore pretio quam tunc erat benignissime praestitit item ludos scaenicos et gymnasia adsidue dedit.

Sacred to Jupiter Optimus Maximus, Juno Regina and Minerva Augusta, for the health of the Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Antoninus Augustus, Armeniacus, Medicus, Parthicus maximus, pontifex maximus, holder of tribunician power for the 24th time, hailed as imperator for the 5th time, consul for the 3rd time, father of his country, and of all his children and of the divine house, [L.?] Memmius Pecuarium Marcellinum, when he had promised to his home town, the *pagus* and *civitas* of Numluli, in his own name and the name of his son Lucius Memmius Marcellus Pecuarianus, councillor of the colony of Julia Karthago and priest designate of the deified Nerva, the building of the temple of the Capitulum, by his generosity from the sum of HS 20,000, and because of the honour of the flaminiate of Junia Saturnina his wife, by decree of both councils [i.e. the *pagus* and the *civitas*] he had obtained HS 4,000 for that work, having increased the money he built it on his own land and adorned it with marbles and statues and all kinds of decoration, and dedicated the same, because of which dedication he gave handouts to the members of both councils and a feast and a distribution of oil to the people, and moreover when the supply of corn required it he most kindly provided however much grain he had to the people at a much lower price than was then current, and he also continually gave theatrical shows and *gymnasia*.²⁷⁵

²⁷² Abthungi, Althiburos, Avedda, Lambaesis, Mopth..., Segermes, Thuburbo Maius, Thubursicu Numidarum, Tinfadi/Henchir Medkis, Volubilis, and Henchir el Gonāi (cf. Bianchi, op. cit. (n. 1), 401). The fact that at Thuburbo Maius the temple was dedicated by the proconsul of Africa ('dedicante L. Octavio Cornelio Salvio Iuliano Aemilia[no pro]cos.') is absolutely standard in cases of municipally-funded construction and does not imply that the proconsul paid for it; the city usually had to seek imperial permission for the expenditure of large sums on public building, and this permission was negotiated by the provincial governor, who was then frequently involved in the opening ceremony.

²⁷³ Four of the certain Capitolia (Thugga, Numluli, Sala and Timgad) and three of the possible ones (Belalis Maior, Thagura and Ain Nechma). Cf. Barton, op. cit. (n. 1), 277; see n. 195 above.

²⁷⁴ *CIL* VIII.26121.

²⁷⁵ On whether *gymnasium* in such contexts means 'a gymnastic display' or a 'distribution of olive oil', see G. G. Fagan, 'Gifts of *gymnasia*: a test case for reading quasi-technical jargon in Latin inscriptions', *ZPE* 124 (1999), 263–75.

Here the donor is a local and it seems an extremely wealthy member of the town council whose son also became a prominent figure at Carthage, the provincial capital, being town councillor and *flamen* of the emperor Nerva there. The sequence of the text may perhaps suggest the kind of euergetic ‘capping game’ that can be seen in some other North African inscriptions;²⁷⁶ it appears that Memmius initially promised 20,000 sesterces for the Capitolium; did he subsequently promise the separately specified 4,000 sesterces because the city granted (*ex decreto utriusque ordinis*) a flamine to his wife in gratitude for this? In addition, the temple was built on his own land, *in solo suo*, which would exclude its being on the forum; the remains of the temple in which it was found are located in the highest part of town.²⁷⁷ The inclusion of the formula for the health of the emperor is standard on many North African building inscriptions, where no opportunity to proclaim loyalty to the emperor was lost; *contra Gros*, it does not imply any direct assimilation with the imperial cult or that the emperor is being honoured ‘comme un père de la triade capitoline’.²⁷⁸

At Dougga, the Capitolium was built by L. Marcius Simplex and his son.²⁷⁹ We know less about them directly, except that the Marcii are one of the four or five families most commonly attested as donors at Dougga. His brother, P. Marcius Quadratus, built the theatre, dedicated the year after the Capitolium, to celebrate his perpetual flamine (of Divus Augustus) at Carthage; he had also been adlected to one of the five jury courts at Rome.²⁸⁰

The massive Capitolium at Timgad was built by M. Plotius Faustus, known as Sertius, and his wife Cornelia Valentina Tucciana. Sertius was one of the wealthiest of Timgad’s élite; his house is one of the largest in the city, and besides the Capitolium he built a market, and may have been responsible for the redevelopment of a swathe of buildings over the line of the western wall of the original colony.²⁸¹ We know from the inscriptions on statue bases in the Market of Sertius that he had had a military career and was of equestrian rank, and both he and his wife were *flamines perpetui* of the imperial cult; but he also describes himself, both on the inscriptions in his market and on the inscription from the precinct of the Capitolium, as *sacerdos Urbis* – priest of the cult of the city of Rome. Sertius’ influence in the municipal politics of Timgad was bolstered not only by his euergetism but also his display of connections to the centre of

²⁷⁶ e.g. a statue base honouring the donor of an aqueduct at Sabratha (*IRT 117 = AE 1925, 103*); cf. J. E. Sandys, *Latin Epigraphy. An Introduction to the Study of Latin Inscriptions* (1927), 109–10 for examples of donors offering to pay for the statues voted to them (although he misinterprets the formulae *honore accepto impensam remisit*, ‘having accepted the honour he repaid the expense’ and *honore contentus sua pecunia posuit*, ‘content with the honour alone he erected it with his own money’: the honorand is not declining the compliment of a statue, but accepting it and also paying for it).

²⁷⁷ Schalles, *op. cit.* (n. 163), 210.

²⁷⁸ *Contra Gros*, *op. cit.* (n. 88), 227. For other examples, see e.g. *CIL VIII.15383*, a dedication of a fountain also at Numluli; *AE 1949, 27*, dedication of the Antonine Baths at Carthage (A.D. 161/162); *CIL VIII.12274*, construction of public baths at Avitta Bibba (A.D. 204); *CIL VIII.2706* cf. p. 1739, restoration of bath-house at Lambaesis (Severan); *ILS 5776 = CIL VIII.23991*, construction of fountain and tap at Giufi (dedicated also to Mercury Augustus, A.D. 233).

²⁷⁹ *CIL VIII.15513*.

²⁸⁰ *CIL VIII.26606*: ‘P(ublius) Marcius Q(uinti) f(ilius) Arn(ensi tribu) Quadratus flamen divi Aug(usti) pont(ifex) C(oloniae) I(uliae) K(arthaginis) in quinque decurias [ad]lectus ab imp(eratore) Antonin[o] Aug(usto) Pio ob honorem flaminatus sui perpetui patriae suae theatrum cum basilicis et porticu et xystis et scaena cum siparis et ornamentis omnibus a [solo ext]ructum sua pec(unia) fec(it) idemq(ue) ludis scaenicis editis et sportulis datis et epulo et gymnasio ded(icavit).’ ‘Publius Marcius Quadratus, son of Quintus, of the Arnensian tribe, priest of the deified Augustus, pontifex in the Colony of Julia Karthago, adlected into the five jury courts by the emperor Antoninus Pius, because of the honour of his perpetual flamine in his home town built the theatre with halls and porticus and covered walks and the stage building with the curtain mechanism and with all the decoration, with his own money from the ground upwards, and he dedicated the same with the staging of theatrical shows and by giving a handout and a feast and a *gymnasium*.’

²⁸¹ J. Lassus, ‘Une opération immobilière à Timgad’, in R. Chevallier (ed.), *Mélanges d’archéologie et d’histoire offerts à André Piganiol* (1966), 1221–31.

power through the holding of priesthoods of the imperial cult, of Urbs Roma, and the choice of the peculiarly Roman Capitolium as the object of his largest benefaction.²⁸²

These inscriptions demonstrate the second- and early third-century links between provincial élites, Carthage and Rome — and this is no surprise, given the growing power of North African élites and their access to power structures at Rome in the second century; by the 180s nearly a third of the Roman Senate was of African origin. We would propose that the fashion for Capitolia in North Africa was in part the result of this growing African power within Roman institutional structures, both at the level of cities and individuals, and both in Rome and in Carthage — which of course had a Capitolium. Building Capitolia back at home was one way of advertising this involvement and loyalty, whether at a personal or a civic level; after all emperors from the Flavian period onwards had made their interest in this building, or concept, clear.²⁸³ It was also a way of imitating and outdoing one's neighbours: the Capitolia at Dougga and Numluli are close together both in space and time, and should be seen within a broader picture of local pride and competitive euergetism, as a particularly efficacious way of asserting a town's importance and its belonging in a larger Roman world. For comparison, another popular form of advertisement of loyalty to and involvement in the regime which is particularly apparent in second-century Africa was the construction of arches dedicated to Roman emperors, in both large and small cities, much more so than in other provinces.²⁸⁴ But given similar conditions other provinces seem to have made different choices for such competitive display; Spanish élites were also increasingly influential in the second century, for instance, but Capitolia did not proliferate in Spain. Capitolia — like honorific arches — were a local means of displaying civic pride and loyalty to the empire and emperor, but although this seems to have worked competitively on a regional level, it does not seem have extended to competition between regions in the same way.

Capitolia continued to be built in Africa under the Severans, at least until the time of Caracalla.²⁸⁵ But, as one of us has discussed elsewhere, the Severan period also introduces another religious building dominating the forum or similar central urban space: temples to the Severan imperial family, as at Cuicul and possibly also, or to Concordia Augusta, in the Severan forum at Lepcis Magna.²⁸⁶ Here we see a particular emphasis on ostentatious loyalty to the Severan family,²⁸⁷ and more importantly for our purposes here we see a strategic shift in the religious display of loyalty to Rome.²⁸⁸ In the case of the possible Capitolium at Maraci, there is a conflation of the two approaches: this temple is dedicated to at least two of the Capitoline Triad,²⁸⁹ with Jupiter Optimus Maximus assimilated to Septimius Severus and Juno Regina to Julia Domna; an association also made on Julia

²⁸² E. W. B. Fentress, 'Frontier culture and politics at Timgad', *BCTH* 17B (1981), 405–7.

²⁸³ See for instance Suet., *Vesp.* 8 and Section III above.

²⁸⁴ A. I. Wilson, 'Urban development in the Severan Empire', in S. C. R. Swain *et al.* (eds), *Severan Culture* (2007), 307–10.

²⁸⁵ Timgad, apparently Severan (n. 195, above); Maraci (*AE* 1949, 109) and Moph... (*AE* 1950, 136), both A.D. 198/211; Avedda, A.D. 212/217 (*ILT* 1206); T... [Henchir Medkis], A.D. 214 (*CIL* VIII.2194); Volubilis, A.D. 217 (*ILM* 45); ...rda, A.D. 222/235 (*ILAlg* 1.1097).

²⁸⁶ Lepcis: J. B. Ward-Perkins, *The Severan Buildings of Lepcis Magna* (1993), 31, 52–4. The suggestion sometimes made, that the temple in the Severan forum at Lepcis was dedicated to Bacchus and Hercules (e.g. E. Thomas, 'Metaphor and reality in Severan architecture: the Septizodium at Rome between "reality" and "fantasy"', in S. C. R. Swain *et al.* (eds), *Severan Culture* (2007), 334, with references to earlier literature) has no direct support, and relies on transposing Dio's mention of Severus constructing a temple to these deities from Rome to Lepcis (Dio 77.16.3); cf. Wilson, *op. cit.* (n. 282), 299.

²⁸⁷ Wilson, *op. cit.* (n. 284).

²⁸⁸ cf. Gros, *op. cit.* (n. 88), 196, but his suggestion that in the late second century Capitolia gave way to temples of the imperial cult is over-simplistic, being based on the temples to the Severan family at Lepcis Magna and Cuicul, and ignoring the third-century date of several of the African Capitolia (see above).

²⁸⁹ L. Déroche, 'Les fouilles de Ksar Toual Zammel et le question de Zama', *Mélanges de l'École française de Rome, Antiquité* 60 (1948), 72–9; Minerva may have been mentioned in the lost right-hand part of the inscription, or possibly Mars or another male deity was substituted who could have been assimilated to Caracalla.

Domna's coinage.²⁹⁰ A direct linkage between Capitolia and imperial ideology is also apparent in the dedication of the latest example, at Segermes, under Diocletian and Maximian between A.D. 286 and 305. Here, as mentioned above, Jupiter has become Jupiter Conservator rather than Optimus Maximus, in line with the Tetrarchic emphasis on Jupiter Conservator as the protective deity of the Augusti.

VI CONCLUSION

We are certainly not arguing that our list of certainly identified Capitolia is exhaustive; there will have been others, even many others. But we are concerned to establish which examples are securely identified, so as to be able to judge what wider patterns can — or cannot — be extrapolated from them. Where they existed, Capitolia were clearly seen as the city's most important temple and were sometimes exceptional on grounds of size; the examples of Capitolia acting as civic or even provincial treasuries further underscores their importance. The papyri also suggest that temples of Zeus Kapitolios in Egypt also served an important civic function in administration, although uncertainty remains over whether these temples included worship of the full Capitoline Triad or were in fact temples of Jupiter Capitolinus alone. Capitolia seem to have had an increasingly close connection with worship of the imperial family, especially in the second and third centuries, and their symbolic link with Rome is clear. The evolution of the term Capitolium to mean, by the late antique period, a pagan temple generally, also underscores the popular importance of Capitolia and may support the view that they were widespread.

Instead, our argument is that the unambiguous evidence for Capitolia, as temples of the full Triad, in Italy and the provinces is much weaker than has almost universally been assumed, that they were not linked to grants of civic status, and that the evidence is not yet strong enough to sustain the view that they were part of a normal 'package' of Roman urban design (if such a thing existed). Although dedications to the Capitoline Triad are common, especially among the army, temples to the three Capitoline deities were a really popular choice only in Africa, and only from the second century onwards. The view that Capitolia were an essential or normal part of a Roman urban package is simply an assumption, reinforced by circular argument; the traditional identifications of many buildings as Capitolia rest purely on the assumption that a Roman city ought to have a Capitolium, preferably overlooking its forum; the abundance of such supposed examples then reinforces the view that Capitolia were common and normal, which is used in turn to prompt further identifications. It seems that it was indeed common to place a temple whose ideological significance expressed loyalty to Rome or the imperial house, or reflected a civic cult, in a dominant relationship to the forum, but a Capitolium was only one of a number of possibilities: these also include temples to civic protecting deities, the Genius of the Colony, Roma and Augustus, and the imperial family. The choice of which deities to honour in this central location deserves further study, but research along these lines has so far been hampered by the assumption that the Capitolium was the default choice for the temple on the forum.²⁹¹ In reality, there are not enough securely attested Capitolia that were placed on the forum to establish this as a normative model.²⁹²

²⁹⁰ *AE* 1949, 109; *RIC* 640, 840.

²⁹¹ Todd, *op. cit.* (n. 1); Blutstein-Latrémolière, *op. cit.* (n. 39); Eingartner, *op. cit.* (n. 254); Schalles, *op. cit.* (n. 163); Gros, *op. cit.* (n. 88), 220–3; although he does give consideration also to the imperial cult (and especially at pp. 229–31).

²⁹² Schalles (*op. cit.* (n. 163), *passim*, especially 211) sees an initial tight link between Forum and Capitolium in the early Imperial period breaking down by the second century, with the creation of more sanctuaries in their own enclosures; but this too is based on the assumption that many temples which are sited on the forum are Capitolia, for which the evidence is insufficient.

Our survey demonstrates that the actual picture on the ground will not support the idea of a single architectural or topographical model for Capitolia, of the Capitolium as a standard export from Rome, or of any overall ideological explanation for them emanating from Rome, such as a connection with colonial foundation or status. Instead, we must look for local explanations for the phenomenon. In the Eastern provinces, in the few clear cases where Capitoline associations are found, as in the renaming of Jerusalem as Aelia Capitolina, or the probably Constantinian Capitolium at Constantinople (the New Rome), there was indeed a clear impetus from the imperial power and a strong association with the ideology of imperial Rome — something that in these two cases at least goes well beyond the significance of colonization or the granting of colonial status. In Africa, by contrast, local élites seem to have taken the political and financial initiative, as part of a wider habit in those provinces of advertising ostentatious loyalty to Rome through public building programmes.

APPENDIX

TABLE I. List of Capitolia considered certain (X) or probable (?) by various different studies of provincial Capitolia. (Cagiano de Azevedo's list is not included here, as it includes so many speculative cases.)

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHFELDT 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Italy						
Abellinum			X			
Aquileia		X	X			
Aquinum				X	X	?
Asisium					X	
Augusta Praetoria				?		
Beneventum	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brixia		X	X	X	?	
Capua	X	X	X	X	X	X
Cosa				X		
Cumae				X	X	X
Faesulae			X	X	X	?
Falerii		X	X	X	X	X
Florentia		X		X	X	?
Formiae					X	X
Herculaneum						?
Histonium		X	X	X	X	X
Liternum					X	
Luna				X		

Continued

TABLE I. Continued

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHFELDT 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Marruvium Marsorum		X	X	X	X	X
Minturnae				X	X	
Nola			X			
Ostia			X	X	X	?
Paestum				X		
Pompeii		X	?	X	X	
Ravenna	X	X	X			
Signia				X		
Tarracina				X	X	
Teate Marrucinorum					X	
Tergeste					X	
Verona	X	X	X	X	X	X
Gaul						
Alesia				?		
Arausio					?	
Arelate				?		
Augustodunum	X	X	X	X	X	X
Baeterrae					?	
Clermont	X					
Forum Iulii				?		
Lugdunum					?	
Narbo Martius	X	X	X	X	X	?
Nemausus	X	X	X			
Pamiers	X					
Rheims	X					
Saintong	X					
Tolosa	X	X	X	X	X	?
Vesontio	X	X		X		
Vienne					?	
Germany						
Augusta Vindelicorum (Augsburg)	X			?	X	
Augusta Raurica					X	

Continued

TABLE I. Continued

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHFELDT 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Augusta Treverorum	X		X	?		
Colonia Agrippinensis	X	X	X	?		?
Spain						
Augusta Emerita					?	
Baelo Claudia					?	
Barcino					?	
Carteia					?	
Illiberi	X					
Italica					?	
Hispalis	X		X	X		X
Roda (Rosas)	X					
Saguntum					?	
Tarraco					?	X
Urso				X		
Sardinia						
Caralis (Cagliari)				?		
Danube provinces & Dalmatia						
Aenona				X	X	
Apulum					?	
Brigantium (Noricum)				?	X	
Iader					X	
Salona					?	
Savaria					X	X
Scarbantia				X	X	X
Troesmis				?	?	
Virunum				X	X	
Eastern provinces						
Antioch (Caria)			X			
Antioch (Syria)		X	X			?
Arsinoe (Egypt)						?
Jerusalem/Aelia Capitolina	X	X	X	X		X

Continued

TABLE I. Continued

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHFELDT 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Corinthus		X	X	X		
Neapolis, Samaria				?		
Nysa			X			
Constantinopolis	X	X	X			X
Olbasa						
Oxyrhynchus						X
Sebaste, Samaria				?		
Smyrna			X			
Tebtunis (Egypt)						?
Teos			X			
Africa						
Abthungi					X	X
Aggar					?	
Aïn Nechma					?	?
Althiburos					X	X
Ammaedara					?	
Avedda				?	X	X
Belalis Maior						?
Biracsacar						
Bisica					?	?
Bulla Regia					?	
Caesarea					X	X
Carthago	X	X	X		X	X
Chemmakh					X	X
Cincaris						X
Cirta		X	X		X	X
Cuicul				?	X	?
Gigthis					?	
Guelâa Bou Atfane					?	
Henchir Douemis es Slitnia				?	?	
Hippo Regius					?	
Lambaesis			X		X	X

Continued

TABLE I. Continued

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHFELDT 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Lepcis Magna				?	?	
Limisa				?	X	
Mactaris					X	
Madauros					X	X
Maraci					X	?
Maxula					?	?
Mopth...					X	X
Muzuc						
Numluli					X	X
Portus Magnus					?	
Pupput					X	X
Rapidum					?	
Regiae					X	
Rusicade					?	
Sabratha				?	?	
Saia Maior					X	X
Sala					?	X
Segermes [wrongly called Bibae by Kuhfeldt and others]			X		X	X
Sitifis			X			
Sua			X			
Sufetula				?	?	
Sustri				?	X	
Thabraca				?	?	
Thagura					X	?
Thamugadi		X	X		X	X
Theveste			X		X	X
Thibilis					?	
Thuburbo Maius					X	X
Thuburnica					?	
Thubursicu Numidarum				?	X	X
Thugga			X		X	X

Continued

TABLE I. Continued

SITE	BRAUN 1849	CASTAN 1869	KUHfeldt 1883	BIANCHI 1950	BARTON 1982	QUINN/ WILSON
Tipasa					?	
Tituli					?	X
T... (Henchir Medkis)					X	X
Ucubi				?	X	?
Urusi					X	
Utica					?	
Uzelis			X		X	X
Vallis					?	
Verecunda				?	X	X
Volubilis					X	X
Zama M....or				?	X	
...rda (Henchir el-Gonai)					X	X
Zitha					?	
Zuccharis				?	?	?

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