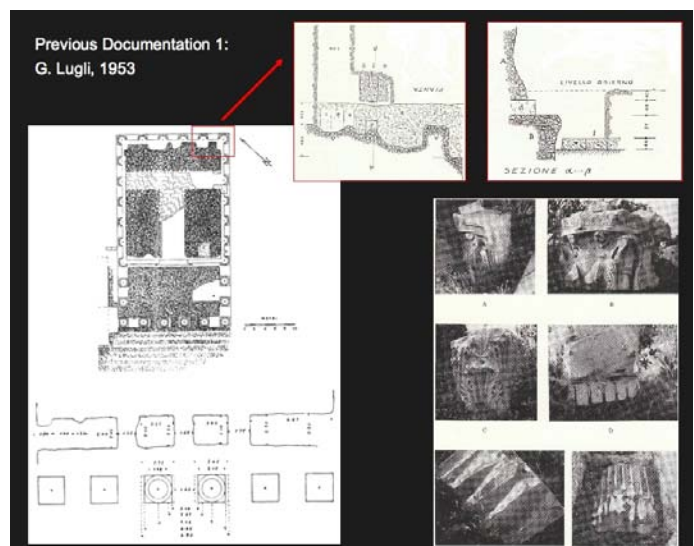
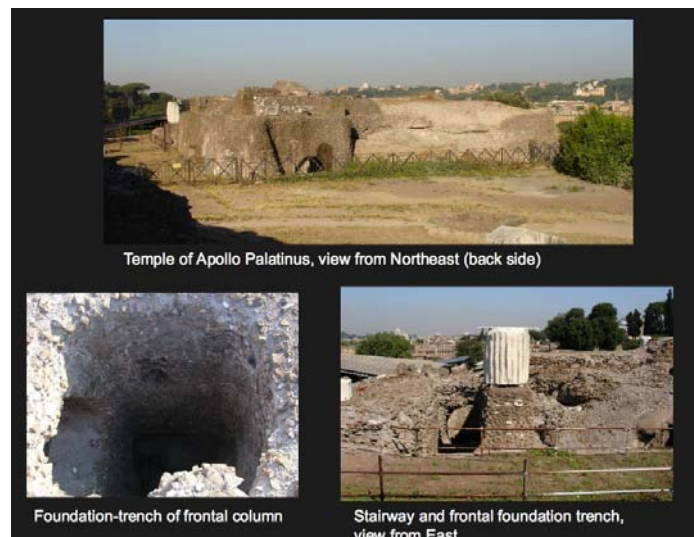


Augustus' Temple of Apollo on the Palatine: A New Reconstruction (abstract of presentation)*
Stephan Zink, University of Pennsylvania

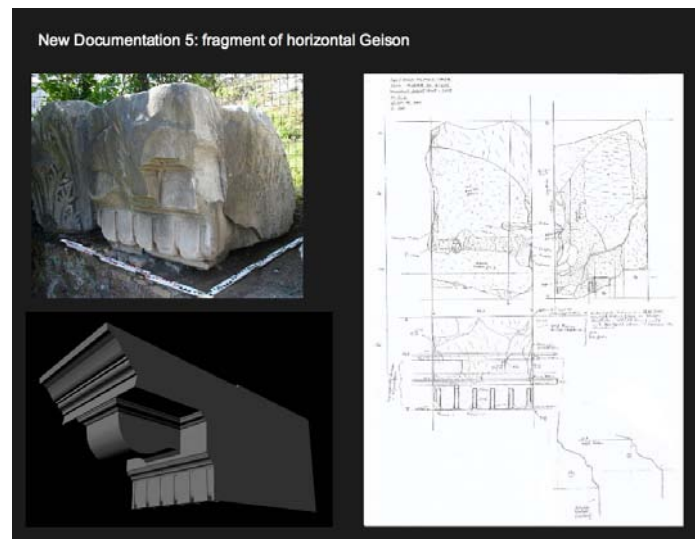
Dedicated in 28 BC as an integral part of both his Palatine residence and a new sanctuary to Apollo, the Temple of Apollo *Palatinus* was Octavian's earliest and probably also his most intimate building project in Rome. Its facade, however, towered prominently and clearly visible over the *Circus Maximus* throughout Antiquity. The goal of this paper is to present a new reconstruction of this façade - in ground plan and elevation. The novelty of my reconstruction is that it relies almost entirely on new data, which I gained during three field campaigns on the Palatine hill.

In its current state of preservation, the ruin essentially consists of the building's foundations, which are of two types. Massive blocks of *opus caementitium* provided support for the podium and foundations in ashlar masonry of tuff and travertine carried all load-bearing parts of the building, such as columns and walls. Although the stone-foundations of the temple's six frontal columns are entirely lost, a series of trenches in the *opus caementitium* still indicates their original location. Still scattered around the site also are a number of architectural fragments, including a full column drum now mounted on the Pronaos' concrete foundations.

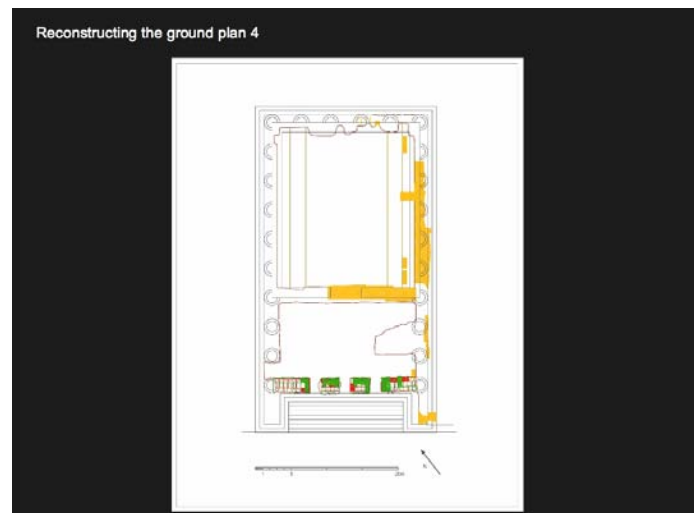
It is somewhat surprising that available documentation on this prominent Augustan temple is not only incomplete but even contradictory. Next to H. Bauer's meticulous 1968-documentation of the capital-fragments, the most relevant study of the ruin remains the one executed by G. Lugli in the 1950s. However, like more recent contributions (most importantly C.K. Quenemoen 2006), Lugli's documentation lacks scale-drawings of the preserved architectural fragments and therefore fails to conclusively establish a set of key measurements that are necessary to reliably reconstruct the temple's ground plan and elevation.



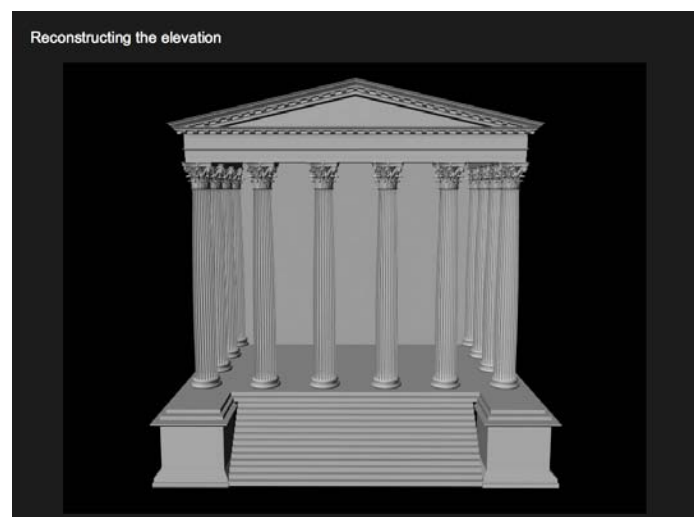
My documentation of the structure therefore entailed a series of scale-drawing of the building's architectural members. Among them is the fragment of a full column- drum (which turned out to be the lowest of a shaft and thus provides reliable information on the column's lower diameter), as well as the fragments of a column base, a (newly discovered) architrave, and a horizontal cornice. Each of these pieces underwent the same documentation-process, from hand drawing in the field to a 3-D model, in which missing parts were reconstructed. A newly drawn plan of the temple's frontal foundations also allowed their contours to be determined more precisely than ever.



In combination with previous plans and re-measuring the foundation's principal dimensions, the frontal plan makes it possible to establish a new plan of the ruin, which provides the basis for determining the original locations of front- and side columns. The revised plan of the temple allows us - for the first time - to conclusively classify the temple's ground plan according to Vitruvian design categories. With a ratio of lower columnar diameter to inter-columnium (clear spacing) of ca. $1:1\frac{3}{4}$, the temple lies in fact quite precisely in between Vitruvius' very narrowly spaced "pycnostyle" and his slightly wider "systyle" facade-type.



Finally, a 3D- computer model of the facade opens up possibilities for a comprehensive assessment of the temple's design. Although still strongly rooted in Republican architectural traditions, the structure reveals itself as a member of a "historicizing" mode of building that coexisted with somewhat more progressive designs (exemplified by the Temple of Apollo Sosianus) throughout the Augustan period. As a new reference point in early Augustan temple design, my reconstruction of the Temple of Apollo *Palatinus* thus makes, for the first time in Rome, the full spectrum of Augustan temple design available.



*an extended version of this paper is forthcoming in the *Journal of Roman Archaeology* under the title "Reconstructing the Temple of Apollo *Palatinus*: A Case Study in Early Augustan Temple Design".