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# LIFE IN THE MARITIME VILLA IN VERIGE BAY IN THE EARLY EMPIRE IN THE LIGHT OF THE IMPORTED CERAMIC AND GLASS OBJECTS

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**R**ich architecture and sculptural decoration of the peristyle, porticoes, exedras, gardens, baths, and temples of the early imperial maritime villa in Verige Bay on the Brioni islands have been known for over a century. However, the findings of ceramics and glass were neglected in the early excavation reports and never properly published. The archaeological investigations in the Verige, maritime villa site and the harbor conducted under the direction of Mario Jurišić, Marijan Orlić, Josip Šmic and Vlasta Begović (Republički zavod za zaštitu spomenika, Ministry of Culture) and Mira Pavletić and Antun Vitasović (National park Brijuni) between 1985 and 1997 yielded a corpus of over 2500 finds, including pottery, coins, glass vessels, metal objects and loom weights. Only the coins have been published to date by L. Bekić. These systematic excavations provided the most needed evidence of imported tableware, glassware and lamps, which shed much light on the owners' social life during the period of the most ambitious building activities in Verige in the Early Empire. The selected craft objects are only very broadly representative of the most active and prosperous period of the maritime villa. Roman elite lived in the surroundings of luxury items of craft. The findings of tableware, glassware and oil lamps from the harbor of the maritime villa in Verige Bay date from the period of the building of luxurious amenities in the Early Imperial period - from the late Augustan to the Trajanic period.

**Key words:** roman pottery, 1<sup>st</sup> - 2<sup>nd</sup> century, maritime villa, Brioni islands

In the memory of Mario Jurišić and Antun Vitasović

Maritime villa was an architectural answer to a particular social demand for the Roman elite. The social standing of an individual grew proportionally with the number of the extended family members, friends and clients that surrounded him. One of the most impressive material solutions was found in building oversized, monumental structures in pleasant landscape, where

the owner could house, receive and entertain family and guests. The need for chosen luxury with the idea to impress the visitors was fulfilled in exceptional architectural achievements and in rich decoration and contents of interior spaces of a maritime villa. Such villas were conceptualized as cities, which opened to the visitors, especially when approached from the sea. Once inside,

the visitors could hear the sound of waves and experience the splashing of the sea on the portico mosaics. In the Early Empire the difference disappeared in decorative elements of monumental public spaces and luxury private villas. Villas played an important role in constituting and maintaining the social relations.

Rich architecture and sculptural decoration of the peristyle, porticoes, exedras, gardens, baths, and temples of the early imperial maritime villa in Verige Bay have been known for over a century. However, the findings of ceramics and glass were neglected in the early excavation reports and never properly published. The archaeological investigations in the Verige, maritime villa site and the harbor conducted under the direction of Mario Jurišić, Marijan Orlić, Josip Šmic and Vlasta Begović (Republički zavod za zaštitu spomenika, Ministry of Culture) and Mira Pavletić and Anton Vitasović (National park Brijuni) between 1985 and 1997 yielded a corpus of over 2500 finds, including pottery, coins, glass vessels, metal objects and loom weights. Only the coins have been published to date (Bekić 2009). These systematic excavations provided the most needed evidence of imported tableware, glassware and lamps, which shed much light on the owners' social life during the period of the most ambitious building activities in Verige in the Early Empire. The objects were not found in domestic context, their primary depositional context. They were discarded, but we cannot know if the discard was primary, i.e. shortly after the vessels broke, or if the discard was secondary, i.e. the broken vessels found in some domestic refuse site were thrown into the sea in antiquity. (Peña 2007, 272-318)

For this paper we chose only a very small sample of selected pieces from the ceramic and glass assemblage found during the underwater investigations. We present this selection with two objectives in mind: 1) to publish the findings of highest quality, and 2) to relate an aspect of domestic life to the architectural history of the villa, which has been the subject of our previous studies (Begović, Schrunk 2007). The selected craft objects are only very broadly representative of the most active and prosperous period of the maritime villa. We used comparative material from other sites of the same general period, notably Settefinestre for its stratigraphic domestic context and the cemetery at Emona for its tableware assemblages.

Roman elite lived in the surroundings of luxury items of craft. The findings of tableware, glassware and oil lamps from the harbor of the maritime villa in Verige Bay date from the period of the building of luxurious amenities in the Early Imperial period - from the late Augustan to

the Trajanic period. The "building boom" in the time of Augustus was matched also by consumption boom in mass produced ceramic artifacts, some of them luxury articles (Dyson 1985). Factors that sustain consumption were innovations and cost (Green 2009, 65). Specialist craft production was a sphere in which innovation and high cost played the central role. The invention (and subsequent popularity) of the red-gloss tableware could itself have been the consequence of the fact that the red-gloss required a more complex kiln and higher temperature than the black-gloss (Kenrick, 2009, 648).

The furnishings of the villa reflected the cultural identity and social status of the owner. Roman citizens in provincial towns and on their rural estates used stylish and fashionable Italian *terra sigillata* as an expression of their "Romanitas" and elite position. Ramsay MacMullen (2000, 6) states that Roman colonists at Corinth imported Italian pottery and lamps. The high quality dinnerware and lamps came from the centers of ceramic and glass craft in the Mediterranean region. The suppliers and networks that brought those wares to the estate on Brijuni should be a subject of a special study. What is clear is that imports came by sea, either from across the Adriatic, from northern and central Italy or from Asia Minor.

Serving and consuming meals had an important role in social rituals and obligations. Tableware services were a set of ceramic and glass vessels that were used in a specific social setting and for a certain menu. Such services were most likely aesthetically pleasing and intellectually stimulating in conjunction with and in relation to the interior décor and architecture. Oil lamps, which were used in dining and bedroom spaces, were also an integral part of the services and furnishings. The role of lamps as carriers of social messages needs further study (Slane 2004, 665-668).

Italian *terra sigillata* service consisted of three standardized vessel forms used for serving and eating: platter, plate, and cup or small bowl. The size for platters and plates was more formalized and standardized than for cups, which varied in size. The platters were especially formalized with names for particular sizes. We may see the reason for that formality in established rituals of certain foods served in specialized vessels. It could have also been related to the number of diners or the type of dinner, more socially formal or more intimate with close friends or family.

Platter - *catinus* - sizes (by rim diameters) vary from large, medium, small:

*Sesquipedalis* D= 44 cm; *Palmipedalis* D= 37 cm;

*Pedalis* D= 29.6 cm = 1 Rf; *Bessalis* D= 20 cm = 2/3 Rf; *Trientalis* or *canistella* D= 10 cm = 1/3 Rf

Plate - *catillus*, *catinus*, *patena* - individual plate D= 14-15 cm = 1/2 Rf

Cup (or small bowl) - *accetabulum* vary in sizes, generally 7-12 cm.

Two plates and three cups in Italian terra sigillata from Verige (Nos. 1- 5 below) belong to a group of forms with vertical rims (*Conspetus* Forms 18-30). They “represent the output of an industry that is by now accustomed to high volumes of production and a high level of standardization; there might be much variety in the fine detail, but on the whole the various forms and sub-forms are well defined and easily distinguished from one another.” (*Conspetus*, 48) This grouping from Verige is related to Loeschcke’s Service II of the material from Haltern (**Oxé and Comfort 1968, XXV**). These forms occurred together in several graves at Emona. One grave contained a set of two plates (like Verige No. 2) and four cups (like Verige Nos. 3-5), three smaller and one larger, comparable in sizes to the smallest and the largest cup from Verige. A coin of Claudius was found in the grave (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Grave 423, Pl. CXCIX, 2-7).

Comprehensive studies of different types of ceramic and glass vessels from a single site, such as Settefinestre, clearly show that several types of tableware were used together and complemented each other as serving, eating and drinking vessels. Red-gloss sigillata plates and cups/small bowls were used for food, while thin-walled cups and beakers were used for liquids. Cups (or small bowls) of both types could have also been used for holding (serving or individual eating) of various kinds of sauces and condiments. The fabric of thin-walled vessels was generally dark gray in color and some had a metallic slip. The complementing character of the red-gloss sigillata and grey-black thin-walled ware may have been desirable for their color contrast. It is interesting that large, deep bowls of the tableware quality at Settefinestre occurred only in late Italian sigillata and in African Red Slip Ware (Settefinestre III, p. 312-313, Fig. 223). Their appearance in the later part of the first century may also indicate certain changes in the food and eating habits. Glass vessels were generally used for liquids and various shapes of cups, beakers and bottles greatly outnumber plates.

It is possible that fine table vessels of other imported wares, such as Eastern sigillata, were used for specific occasions or for specific food serving and eating. It is also possible that their intrinsic value, as a long-distance import, made them special table pieces.

The question who in the villa used the tableware found in the underwater probes in Verige Bay is an important one, but difficult to answer since the finds do not come from domestic contexts. The excavators at Settefinestre have looked into this issue in the light of the number of finds during the life of the villa and the possible number of occupants. There seemed to have been a limited number of persons of higher rank whose used fine plates and cups. Those were the owner, procurator and vilicus. However, they suggested that servants could have also used the standardized forms of undecorated sigillata and thin-walled ware (Settefinestre 3, 316-317).

### Plates and cups in Italian terra sigillata from Augustus to Nero

1. Arretine terra sigillata plate with molded vertical rim.

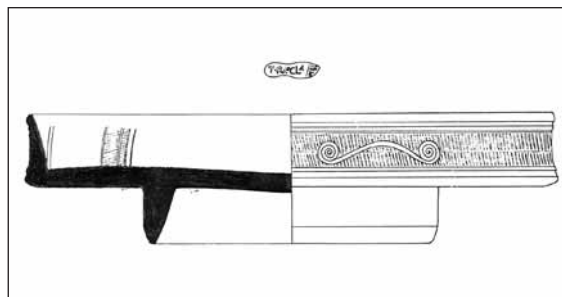
Form: *Consp.* 20.3; Ha 15.

Rim diameter 15 cm = 1/2 Roman foot; base diameter 8 cm; height 4 cm.

Double convex moldings at top and bottom of the rim outside; double band of rouletting on outside between the moldings; applied double spirals over the rouletting; grooves on the floor in the space between the rim and the position of the foot; high, ring-foot, chamfered on the outside. (*Conspetus*, 86) The variant from Verige seems to belong to the period of the gradual evolution of the form in the late Augustan to the early Tiberian period.

Stamp in *planta pedis*, heel to toes: T.R.F.CLA (T. Rufrenus Cla(du)s?); workshop of Arezzo, Augustan period (Oxé and Comfort 1968, p. 389, No. 1603).

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1990, Sonda C-7, Inv. No. 741B



2. Italian terra sigillata plate with concave molded vertical rim and quarter-round molding between rim and floor. Form: *Consp.* 21.3.2

Rim diameter 14 cm; base diameter 7.5 cm; height 4.3 cm.

Simple, convex moldings at top and bottom of the rim outside; no exterior decoration; groove on the floor above the foot; floor raised in the center; high ring-foot,

Fig. 1. Arretine terra sigillata plate with molded vertical rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 2. Italian *terra sigillata* plate with concave molded vertical rim and quarter-round molding between rim and floor (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 3. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a small flat lip (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 4. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a heavier, shorter lip than (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

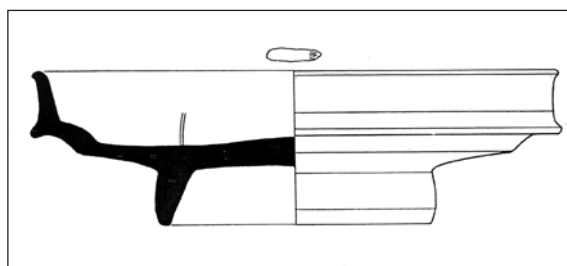
Fig. 5. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a small flat lip (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

chamfered on the outside.

Stamp in *planta pedis*: name illegible?

This was one of the most common plate forms in the Mediterranean from the late Augustan to the late Tiberian period. Without the producer's name or chemical analysis of the clay, it is not possible to tell if the plate was produced in Etruria or Padana.

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1994, Sonda C-7, Inv. No. 409.



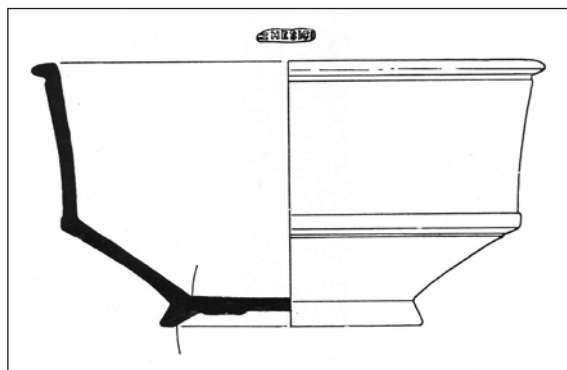
3. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a small flat lip. Form: *Consp.* 27.1; Ritterling 9; Goudineau 41b.

Rim diameter 12 cm; base diameter 6 cm; height 6.3 cm.

A simple molding marks off the upper part from the conical lower part; no decoration. A low ring-foot; the floor is marked off by a groove from the body (base like *Consp.* 27.2)

Stamp in *planta pedis*, toes to heel: HESICI (Hesicius, Padana workshop, Oxé and Comfort 1968, p. 224, number 793). The stamp is common in Aquileia (in the form HESICI), Trieste and the Danubian area. This cup form is common in the Mediterranean from the reign of Tiberius to Nero.

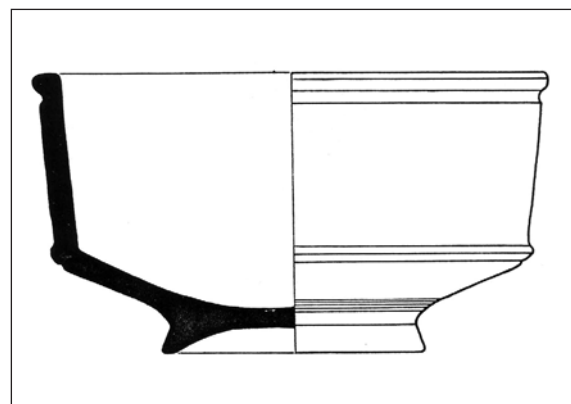
Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 476



4. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a heavier, shorter lip than No. 3. Form: *Consp.* 27.1

Rim diameter 10 cm; base diameter 5 cm; height 5.5 cm.

Thicker walls of this cup are characteristic of the Padana production (*Consp.* 100). There are decorative grooves at the bottom of the conical part on outside. The base has a low, outward flaring ring-foot (base like Form *Consp.* 27.1.2). There is no stamp. The date is the same as No. 3. Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 368.



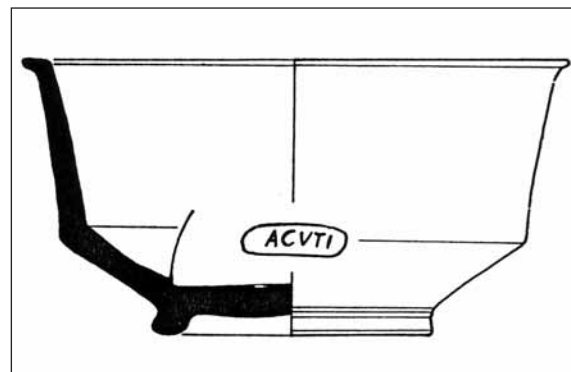
5. Italian *terra sigillata*, carinated cylindrical cup with flat rim and a small flat lip. Form: *Consp.* 27.1

Rim diameter 7.5 cm; base diameter 4 cm; height 4 cm.

There is no molding at the carination; slightly outward flaring upper wall; a groove on inside marks off the floor; a low, heavy ring foot.

Stamp in an elongated oval frame, (pseudo-*planta pedis*?): ACVTI (Acutius, Padana workshop, Oxé and Comfort 1968, p. 5, number 20). The products of this workshop and this shape are common in Aquileia, Trieste and the Danubian area. The date is the same as No. 3.

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1990, Sonda C-6, level 13, Inv. No. 446.



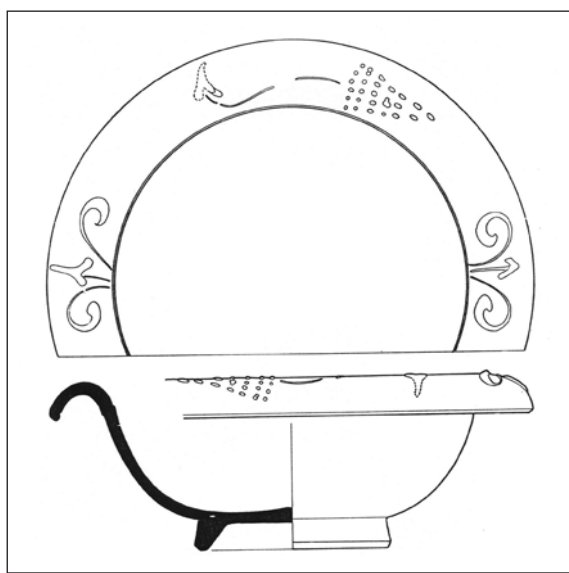
Italian sigillata produced in Etruria and Padana in the Julio-Claudian period shows a great variety of fabrics. It is difficult to distinguish products of individual workshops and production centers, even when the vessels are stamped. Chemical analysis of the clay is needed to identify the place of manufacture.

### Late Italian sigillata and thin-walled cups of the Julio-Claudian and Flavian periods

6. Late Italian *terra sigillata*, hemispherical cup with drooping rim. Form: *Consp.* 43.1. S-shaped profile of the wall; tall, ring-foot; barbotine decoration of two lilies and two bunches of grapes on the rim.

Rim diameter 11.5 cm; base diameter 5 cm; height 4.5 cm.

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1988, Inv. No. 269/88.



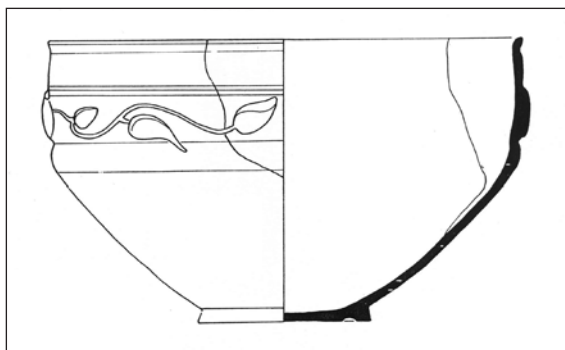
The shape is analogue to Dragendorff Form 35/36 in the Gaulish production. It appeared in the time of Nero in north Italian and Gaulish workshops. Cups with with barbotine decoration were very popular in the Flavian period (*Conspectus*, p. 128). They came in various sizes. At Settefinestre the rim diameter varied from 5-12 cm (Settefinestre III, 144). At Emona, cups identical in form and decoration to the Verige piece were found in graves with coins of Nerva and Domitian respectively (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Graves 916 and 917, Pl. CLXXVII, 7 and 12). The production of this piece is late Italian (Tardo-Italica) or late Padana (Tardo-Padana) - 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 1<sup>st</sup> century to the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 2<sup>nd</sup> century.

The so-called Late Italian sigillata was the last production phase of red-gloss sigillata in the Arretine tradition in Italy (in Padana, Etruria and Campania). These plain and decorated wares were produced from the second half of the first through the first half of the second century. Decorated vessels, mostly with barbotine and rouletting, were not produced before the late Flavian period, since they were not found at Pompeii.

7. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and a band of barbotine ivy leaves on the outside wall below the rim; flat base with a false ring-foot; dark gray fabric.

Rim diameter 14 cm; base diameter 5 cm; height 8.3 cm.

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1990, Sonda C-7, Inv. No. 369.

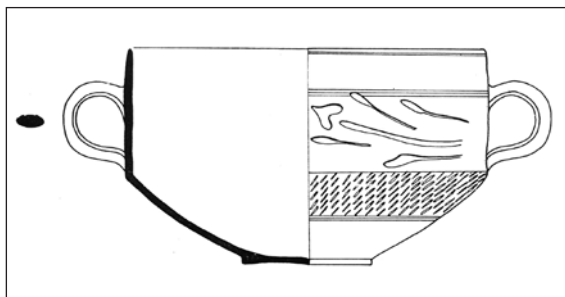


Conical and hemispherical cups with barbotine ivy leaves or other vegetal motifs appear in Emona graves in the second half of the 1<sup>st</sup> century (Plesničar 1971, 116, Pl. I). A conical cup similar to the Verige example was found in a grave with a coin of Vespasian (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Grave 350, Pl. XCIII, 2).

8. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and two handles; a wide band of barbotine ivy leaves on the outside wall between the handles and a band of rouletting decoration below the handles; flat base; dark gray fabric.

Rim diameter 10.3 cm; base diameter 3.8 cm; height 6.5 cm.

Underwater archaeological investigation Verige 1990, Sonda C-6, level 13, Inv. No. 448.



In a grave at Emona, a two-handle cup of comparable shape, decoration and size was found together with a *terra sigillata* plate Form *Consp.* 21.3 (No. 2 above) and a Firma lamp with FORTIS stamp (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Grave 106, Pl. XXVII, 12).

9. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and one handle; a wide band of rouletting on the outside wall below

Fig. 6. Late Italian *terra sigillata*, hemispherical cup with drooping rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 7. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and a band of barbotine ivy leaves on the outside wall below the rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 8. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and two handles; a wide band of barbotine ivy leaves on the outside wall between the handles and a band of rouletting decoration below the handles (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 9. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and one handle (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

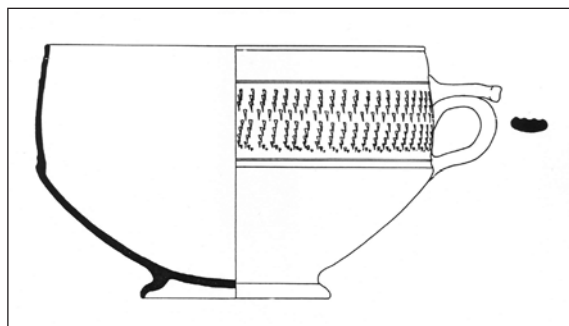
Fig. 10. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and one handle (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 11. Thin-walled small hemispherical cup with vertical rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 12. Thin-walled large hemispherical cup with vertical rim; barbotine scales cover the entire outside wall below the rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

the rim and down to the base of the handle; sagging base with a molded, curved foot; dark gray fabric.

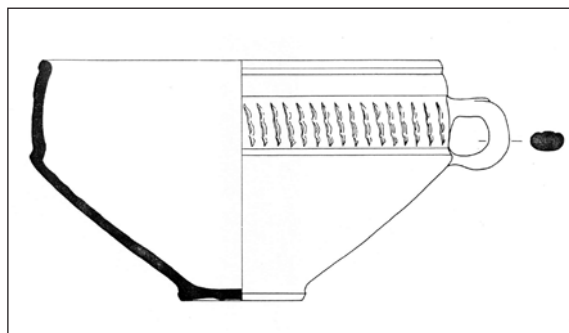
Rim diameter 12 cm; base diameter 6 cm; height 8 cm. Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 393



10. Thin-walled conical cup with vertical rim and one handle; a band of rouletting on the outside wall below the rim at the handle; flat base with a false ring-foot; dark gray fabric.

Rim diameter 12.5 cm; base diameter 3.8 cm; height 7.5 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1990, Sonda C-7, level 9, Inv. No. 712.

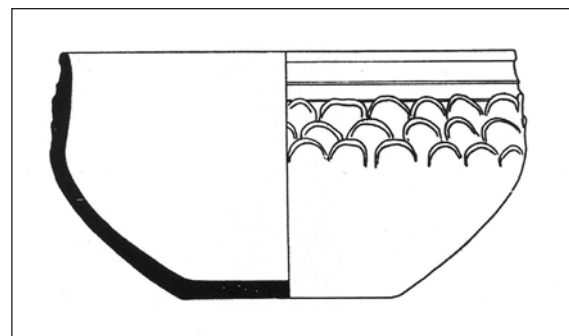


Thin-walled conical and hemispherical cups with rouletting on the exterior, but without handles were very common in the graves at Emona, often found together with Italian *terra sigillata* plates and cups. There were also occurrences with Firma lamps with FORTIS stamp. A date from the 40's on into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century for the Verige pieces has also parallels at Settefinestre (Settefinestre III, 166-172).

11. Thin-walled small hemispherical cup with vertical rim; three rows of barbotine scales on the outside wall below the rim; flat base; dark gray fabric.

Rim diameter 9.8 cm; base diameter 4.5 cm; height 5.3 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-7, Inv. No. 469.

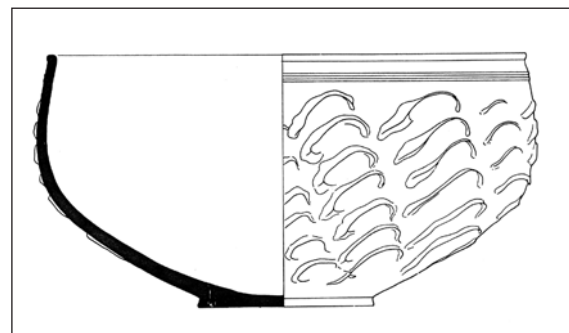


Identical or similar cups were found in six graves at Emona, in two cases with the Julio-Claudian *terra sigillata* and once with a FORTIS lamp (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Graves 126, 129, 364, 427, 567, 724). L. Plesničar dated such cups in the Flavian period (Plesničar 1971, 118, Pl. I, 8).

12. Thin-walled large hemispherical cup with vertical rim; barbotine scales cover the entire outside wall below the rim; flat base.

Rim diameter 16 cm; base diameter 6 cm; height 8.5 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 478.



A cup similar in form and decoration, but half in size, was found in a grave at Emona associated with a coin of Claudius, a *terra sigillata* plate Form *Consp.* 21 and a CRESCES lamp (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Grave 396, Pl. CVII, 21). At Settefinestre, a beaker in Italian sigillata had the outside wall decorated in barbotine scales, very similar to the Verige piece (Settefinestre III, 146-147, Pl. 37, 8 and Fig. 57).

Thin-walled ware (*ceramica a pareti sottili*) was produced in central and northern Italy from the late 1<sup>st</sup> century BC into the 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD. The production was mostly of drinking vessels - beakers and cups with one or two handles or without handles. The fabric of thin-walled vessels was generally dark gray in color and some had a metallic slip. Decoration was done in barbotine (ivy, vines and grapes) and rouletting, the two often combined. These

types of decoration and motifs were shared with the Late Italian sigillata of the same period (Settefinestre III, 144-145). The thin-walled pieces found in Verige most likely come from north Italian workshops, in view of the close parallels at Emona rather than Settefinestre. Lj. Plesničar found comparative material at north Italian and Ligurian sites and suggested workshops in the Po valley as the source of the Emona imports (Plesničar 1971, 117).

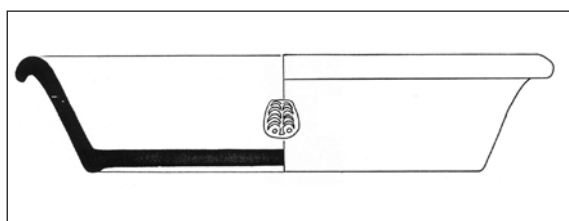
### Plates and cups/small bowls in Eastern Sigillata B

13. Eastern Sigillata B2 plate with straight, outward flaring wall and downturned rim; broad, flat base with a low, false ring-foot.

Rim diameter 16 cm; base diameter 12 cm, height 3.5 cm.

Stamp in oval frame: palmette motif.

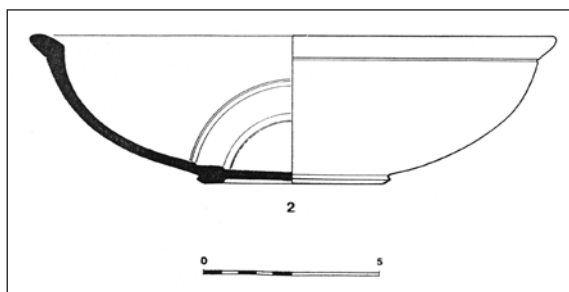
Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 325.



14. Eastern Sigillata B2 cup or small bowl with curving wall and thickened, flaring and tapered rim; a shallow groove on outside below the rim; flat base with a low ring foot; two concentric grooves around the floor.

Rim diameter 15 cm; base diameter 5 cm; height 4 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1990, Sonda C-6, level 11, Inv. No. 258



Italian terra sigillata production and shapes influenced the ESB, when it was first introduced into the eastern provinces (Syria) in the late Augustan period (*Conspectus*, 23-24). The first phase of production ESB1 (10 BC to AD 75) had fine vessels with potter's stamp, while the second phase ESB2 (75-150) had softer fabrics and the name-stamps were replaced by motifs of palmettes and rosettes

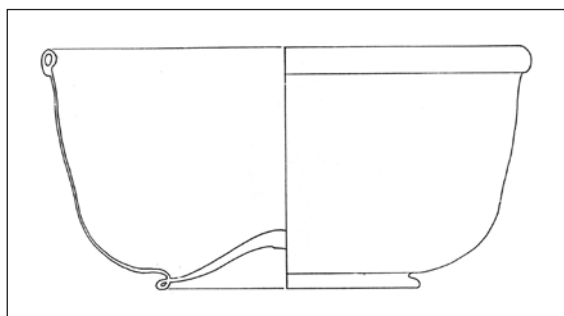
(Hayes 1972, 10). Imports of plates and cups of Eastern Sigillata, especially of the later type B are common in the eastern Adriatic regions and in Italy (Makjanić 1983; Schrunck 1989, 103-106; Settefinestre III, 161-163).

### Glass cup/small bowl

15. Blown glass cup with tubular, vertical rim rolled toward inside; steep, almost vertical wall; base convex on inside and concave on outside, tubular ring foot, inclined outward.

Rim diameter 14 cm; base diameter 7.8 cm; height 7.3 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1990, Sonda C-6, level 10, Inv. No. 599.



Cups with tubular, vertical rim (Form Isings 44) are commonly found in central and northern Italy in the first century (Settefinestre III, 184-185, Pl. 48, 4-5). Such cups or small bowls could have been used for small fruit, perhaps figs. On Pompeian wall paintings similar but larger bowls contain various fruit. The formation of tubular rim and foot takes more time and precision in glassblowing. Vessels made in this technique would be of high quality and more expensive. The Verige piece may be a product of a north Italian (Aquileian?) workshop.

### Lamps

16. Round discus and a short, rounded nozzle with volutes; image of a Roman soldier with a spear and standard on the discus. Type: Loeschcke IV, Broneer XXIII.

Discus diameter 7.7 cm; length 10.3 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-7, Inv. No. 470.

An identical lamp (but filling hole on soldier's left) was found in a grave at Emona (Plesničar-Gec 1972, Grave 594, Pl. CXXXVII, 7). One of the associated finds was a hemispherical, thin-walled cup with rouletting, similar in shape to No. 12 above. Lamps of this form were current in the Early Empire during the 1<sup>st</sup>. century to mid 2<sup>nd</sup>. The rounded nozzle dates this piece later in the 1<sup>st</sup>. century.

Fig. 13. Eastern Sigillata B2 plate with straight, outward flaring wall and downturned rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 14. Eastern Sigillata B2 cup or small bowl with curving wall and thickened, flaring and tapered rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 15. Blown glass cup with tubular, vertical rim rolled toward inside (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 16. Lamp - round discus and a short, rounded nozzle with volutes; image of a Roman soldier with a spear and standard on the discus (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 17. Lamp - round discus and a short, rounded nozzle with volutes; on the discus is image of another lamp with a *lunula* (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

Fig. 18. Firma (Factory) lamp with nozzle channel completely open and three knobs on the rim (documentation Hrvatski restauratorski zavod)

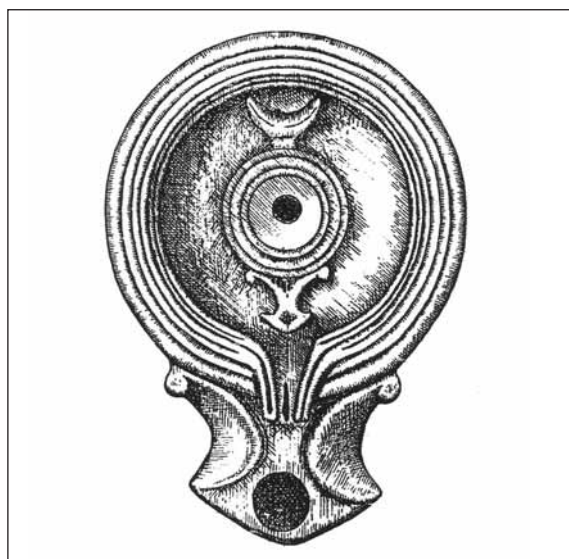


The humorous-erotic image of the soldier may have a symbolic meaning of a victorious lover, perhaps over his rival. It could have been used as a special gift or a piece of conversation, even related to a certain personality or event.

17. Round discus and a short, rounded nozzle with volutes; on the discus is image of another lamp with a *lunula* (made of bronze in reality). Type: Loeschcke IV, Broneer XXIII.

Discus diameter 7 cm; length 10 cm.

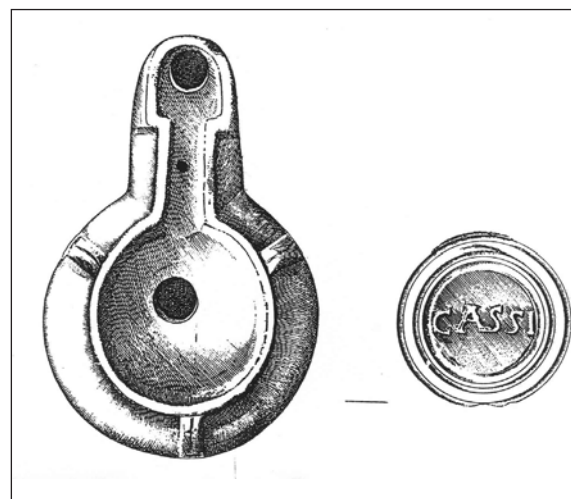
Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1994, Sonda C-8, Inv. No. 471.



18. Firma (Factory) lamp with nozzle channel completely open and three knobs on the rim. Type: Loeschcke X, Ivanyi XVII. The signature CASSI on the base.

Width 6 cm; length 9.3 cm.

Underwater archaeological excavation Verige 1990, Sonda C-7, level 9, Inv. No. 710.



The workshop of Cassius was in north Italy, active from the time of Trajan to the Antonines (Vikić-Belančić 1975, 56).

## Conclusion

The small number of pieces presented here does not do justice to the rich finds from the underwater excavations from 1985-1997, but it does illustrate the life in the villa and its role in the network of the sea-borne trade in luxury craft. The selected material also shows the need to properly study and publish the entire corpus of ceramic and other domestic artifacts from the excavations. A material culture approach would be optimal. Assemblages of tableware, courseware, glass and lamps must be studied in conjunction with each other in order to get a complete and coherent picture of trade and consumption. Studies that emphasize the relationship between production and consumption provide understanding of the system of social relationships and identity. The object itself unites often far-flung populations. (Miller 2006, 350).



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## SAŽETAK

**ŽIVOT U MARITIMNOJ VILI U UVALI VERIGE NA BRIJUNIMA U SVJETLU NALAZA LUKSUZNE KERAMIKE I STAKLENIH POSUDA**

Vlasta BEGOVIĆ DVORŽAK, Ivančica DVORŽAK SCHRUNK

Bogata arhitektonska i skulptorska dekoracija peristila portika ekseadra, vrtova, terma i bramova ranocarske maritimne vile u uvali Verige na Brijunima istražuje se od početka 20 st. te je prezentirana znanstvenoj javnosti. Nalazi keramike i stakla zanemarivani su u ranim istraživanjima i nikada nisu temeljito objavljeni. Arheološka istraživanja maritimne vile i luke u uvali Verige vodili su Mario Jurišić, Marijan Orlić, Josip Šmic i Vlasta Begović (Republički zavod za zaštitu spomenika, Ministarstvo kulture), te Mira Pavletić i Antun Vitasović (Uprava Nacionalnog parka Brijuni) u razdoblju od 1985. do 1997. godine. Pronađeno je više od 2500 nalaza koji uključuju keramiku, staklo, novce, metal i utege za tkalački stan. Godine 2009. L. Bekić je objavio nalaze novca. Navedena sistematska arheološka istraživanja iznijela su na svjetlo dana luksuznu stolnu keramiku, svjetiljke i staklene posude koje su pridonijele da se rasvijetli socijalni status vlasnika u vrijeme najživlje građevinske aktivnosti u zaljevu Verige, u razdoblju Ranog carstva. Rimski elita živjela je okružena luksuznim obrtničkim proizvodima. Datacija nalaza poklapa se s razdobljem intenzivne gradnje maritimne vile od kasnog Augustovog razdoblja do Trajana.

Nalazi keramike i stakla iz podmorja vile u uvali Verige datiraju iz najsajnijeg razdoblja maritimne vile. Njihova obrada pokazuje što se upotrebljavalo u vili i odakle je ta luksuzna roba dolazila. To su najfinije stolno i kućno posude, staklene posude i svjetiljke. Stvari koje su bile najtraženije na tržištu luksuzne robe - aretinska terra sigillata, sjevernoitalska sigillata, galska sigillata (barbotin dekoracija) i istočna sigillata (tzv. Sigillata A i B). Keramika dolazi iz svih glavnih proizvodnih centara Mediterana; i predstavlja ono što je bilo u modi u to vrijeme, te vrhunsku kvalitetu.

Italiska terra sigillata servis se sastojao od pladnja, tanjura, zdjele i šalice. Pladanj i tanjur su imali isti oblik razlika je bila samo u veličini. Pladanj (catinus) je služio za serviranje i imao je obično promjer jednu rimsku stopu (30 cm), ali bilo ih je većih (44 i 37 cm), te

manjih (20 cm).

Tanjur (catillus) je služio za individualnu upotrebu, imao je promjer otprilike od pola rimske stope, ali varira od 15-18 cm. Brijunski primjeri su takvi tanjuri.

Zdjele, zdjelice i šalice su služile za serviranje i individualnu upotrebu, a veličina varira.

Zdjelice tog oblika i sa barbotin dekoracijom poput ljuski su prvo bile proizvedene u južno galijskim radionicama (radionica u Lyonu, tzv. Lyon Ware), a onda su ih počele imitirati i padanske radionice. Prvi primjer je terra sigillata, tanjur (catillus-individualni tanjur, pola rimske stope u promjeru). Žig T.RF.CLA. Radionica Titus Rufrenus Cla(dus?) bila je u današnjem Arezzu i aktivna je u Augustovo doba. Najraniji je primjer, iz augustovog doba, i najfiniji komad od svih.

Šalica sa žigom ACVTI (Oxe, Comfort 1968.). Padanska radionica Acutius, kasno Augustovo i Tiberijevo doba. Puno primjeraka ove radionice je nađeno u Akvileji i Trstu.

Staklena posuda - nađen je fragment oboda i dna posude. Duboka zdjelica, vjerojatno za neko sitnije voće, kao smokve. Na pompejanskim slikama ima takvih većih zdjela u kojima je voće. Oblikovanje oboda i noge - smotano staklo kao tuba - je znak pažljivog rada i visoke kvalitete. Datacija je od sredine do kraja 1.st. Vjerojatno je Akvilejski proizvod.

Lampice su služile kod stola i u spavaćoj sobi. Izvanredni primjerci su uljanica ukrašena likom vojnika s kopljem i uljanica ukrašena prikazom uljanice u sredini. Jedan Brijunski primjerak ima pečat CASSI.

Potreba za izabranim luksuzom kojim se željelo zadiviti posjetitelje težila je posebnim graditeljskim ostvarenjima, te bogatom dekoracijom i opremom unutarnjih prostora. Počevši od 1. st. nema razlike u opremanju velikih javnih prostora i luksuznih privatnih vila. Luksuzna keramika, stakleni i metalni predmeti govore o visokom nivou života u vili. Ovakva oprema maritimne vile ocrtavala je kulturni identitet vlasnika i njegov socijalni status, a vila je igrala značajnu ulogu u konstituiranju i značenju socijalnih odnosa.