

clearly defined structures [7.8]. One rectilinear feature (c. 10×8 m) is defined relatively clearly, while a series of discrete maculae hints at the presence of further structures elsewhere. The eastern part of the survey is obscured by responses from modern debris, although there are faint traces of rectilinear structures [7.9], immediately to the south of the extant remains of the *Grandi Magazzini di Settimio Severo*.

The edge of the *Canale di Imbocco del Porto di Traiano* was again discerned in the small survey transect located beside the entrance to the Trajanic harbour to the southeast. The revetment wall [7.10] ran southeastwards at a slight angle to the inner face of the eastern arm of the *Grandi Magazzini di Settimio Severo*, before turning to the east through a 60° angle and running a further c. 10 m in the direction of the mouth of the Trajanic harbour.

A triangular strip of land covering c. 0.36 ha was surveyed between the northern side of the *Grandi Magazzini di Settimio Severo* and the western side of the *Palazzo Imperiale (Terrazza di Traiano)*. Although a number of archaeological features was located, the disturbed nature of the terrain and the presence of uneven modern deposits across the surface meant that they lacked clarity. One positive linear anomaly runs in a northeast–southwest direction for c. 35 m in the northern part of the area [7.11]. This abuts a large rectilinear structure (c. 14×15 m) to the southeast [7.12]. Two faint rectilinear features are situated between this and the line of the *Grandi Magazzini di Settimio Severo* to the south [7.13, 7.14]. To the west, late antique structures are visible flanking the modern track that runs north from the entrance through the north range of the *Grandi Magazzini*. These probably form part of the same complex as 7.12–7.14, but no plan of them is available.

AREA 8 (Figs 5.22 and 5.23)

This area of c. 4 ha is defined by the *Terrazza di Traiano* to the southwest (Fig. 5.24), the basin of the Claudian harbour to the northwest, and side VI of the hexagon of the Trajanic harbour to the east (below, Fig. 9.6). It corresponds to the suite of buildings first described in some detail by Lanciani (1868: 170–5). He mentioned a small theatre, an atrium, baths and a number of luxuriously appointed rooms, and suggested that they belonged to a *Palazzo Imperiale* located at a key position between the Claudian harbour and the Trajanic harbour (p. 50). However, he did not see the excavation for himself and his account was second-hand, based on the testimony of others. Lugli's review of the evidence was based largely on the little that was visible in his time

(Lugli and Filibeck 1935: 97–100, tav. III no. 26), and omits many of these details. Some further useful details, derived from notes of Van Deman's close inspection of the visible remains in 1913, were published by Blake and Bishop (1973: 286–90).

Most of the standing structures in the southern part of this area were built on vaulted substructures and are, thus, at first-floor level (cf. Fig. 5.25). Moreover, trenches from early excavations and voids through the upper levels perforate the surface, making survey hazardous. Notwithstanding this, topographic survey was completed over much of the area. The surface is very undulating and a number of structural groups are evident. The most visually striking is the *Terrazza di Traiano*, which survives to a height of more than 2 m and extends from the *Grandi Magazzini di Settimio Severo* northwest for c. 210 m before turning northeast along the side of the *Palazzo Imperiale* (Fig. 5.24). It comprises an arcade, the front elements of which are built of red brick-faced concrete supported on travertine corbels whilst the back walls of the recesses below use a contrasting grey *opus reticulatum* that used *selce* blocks. A cryptoporticus (illustrated by Mannucci (1992: 78)) runs immediately behind the façade along its western side.

To the north of the *Terrazza di Traiano*, for c. 60 m, several discrete areas rise above 5 m (below, Fig. 9.6). The ground in this area slopes steeply towards side VI of the hexagon to the east. Immediately overlooking the hexagon, and parallel to it, the remains of a series of vaulted rooms constructed in *opus caementicium* are exposed. A similar steep edge occurs to the northwest, but this area was too hazardous to survey. Van Deman reported the presence of a cryptoporticus like that behind the *Terrazza di Traiano* along this flank (Blake and Bishop 1973: 286). Vaulted rooms in brick-faced concrete are visible along this side, overlooking the Claudian harbour, but it is difficult to understand their relationship to the other structures. Their outer walls appear to have been incorporated into the late antique *Mura Costantiniane*. To the north there is a fairly steep east–west slope down to an area between 4 m and 3 m towards the modern access path, which has been cut through the line of ancient buildings. To the north of the path, the eastern area continues at the same elevation but to the west two peaks rise steeply to above 5 m. These undulations coincide with a number of the buried structures visible in the geophysical survey. In the highest areas, at the northwestern extremity of the survey, a complex series of substantial walls of different periods in *opus caementicium* and *opus reticulatum* is exposed.

The unevenness of the ground surface meant that geophysical survey was impossible in some areas, both around the margins of the buildings and at some points in the centre. On the higher ground to the south, the area surveyed was on the upper floor of a complex building with concrete vaults below. Substantial walls are still standing and several voids represent subsidence caused by the collapse of vaults into underground rooms and passages below. Despite these difficulties, the magnetometer survey successfully identified a series of features relating primarily to the upper floor of this southern range of buildings.

The structures identified in the survey are most conveniently described by taking the southern complex of buildings first. Immediately adjacent to side VI of the hexagon of the Trajanic harbour the topographic survey reveals a range of buildings whose walls are visible in the slope facing the harbour. The western and southern edges of this complex were partly obscured in the magnetometer survey by a modern trackway. The walls visible on our survey [8.1] are not easily understood. Some relate to structures parallel with the *Terrazza di Traiano* whilst others represent structures aligned on the hexagon. These walls probably relate to the quayside structures discussed by Lugli and Filibeck (1935: 96–7, tav. III no. 25).

Behind, and set back at a distance of *c.* 40 m from the hexagon, was a series of rectilinear anomalies that define three adjacent structures, delimited to the west and east by streets. Their eastern frontage lies beneath a modern trackway, making interpretation difficult, but their overall forms are clear. The southernmost structure [8.2] measures *c.* 36 × 24 m, and appears to comprise a series of rooms set around a central court. This is separated from the second [8.3] by a narrow gap (*c.* 3 m wide), which may be a street. This building is *c.* 37 m deep by *c.* 16 m wide, with separate rooms to east and west. The central area could not be surveyed because of a large hole that appears to coincide with a courtyard. The third [8.4], separated from 8.3 by a narrow (*c.* 2 m wide) gap or street, measures *c.* 37 × 25 m, and is almost identical in plan to 8.2. To its north, coinciding with the steep east–west slope, abundant surface rubble obscures detail in the survey. Both the topographic detail and the survey suggest the presence of an east–west street, *c.* 12 m wide.

The western side of the *Palazzo Imperiale* is defined by an excavated cryptoporticus (the western façade of which forms the *Terrazza di Traiano*), whose southern stretch of vaulting remains exposed (Fig. 5.24). The survey shows the continuation of this vault underground

to the northwest [8.5]. A row of rectangular structures opens onto the northeast side of this feature [8.6, 8.7, 8.8]. Behind these is a rectangular room *c.* 12 × 36 m [8.9]. To the northeast and east, in the remainder of the area covered by the *Palazzo Imperiale*, it is difficult to discern any clear pattern to the structures revealed in the survey, although all the walls follow the alignment of the hexagon rather than that of the *Terrazza di Traiano*. It should also be noted that the structure in the centre of this area [8.10] continues the principal western wall line of the buildings to the north [8.11, 8.12, 8.13]. The survey provides no evidence for the theatre in this area described by Lanciani (1868: 172–3).

In the northern part of the area is a massive structure *c.* 65 m east–west by *c.* 90 m north–south. It is divided into three units [8.11, 8.12, 8.13] and is cut through near the centre by the modern access path. The two southern blocks are subdivided into a series of eight rooms, each *c.* 8 m wide. Certain of these strips are themselves bisected by walls to create rooms *c.* 14 × 8 m. Much of the area between these structures and the quay of the hexagon had rubble near the surface that obscures the results. However, the stretch that was examined shows no evidence for substantial buildings within the strip *c.* 35 m wide that flanks the quayside. The western wall of the northernmost building [8.13] coincides at the north with a ridge that rises to above 5 m. This wall was incorporated into a surviving stretch of the *Mura Costantiniane*, which subsequently turns to the west through 90° immediately to the south of the boundary wall between 8.12 and 8.13. It is assumed that this late defensive wall then turned southwest to follow the western wall of the *Palazzo Imperiale* (pp. 291–3). The dangerous state of the standing structures made it impossible to verify this.

Along the northwest side of the large building [8.11–8.13] lies a zone *c.* 35 m wide, defined to the west by a series of walls, including the *Banchina* discussed below (Area 9). To the south is a rectangular area [8.13] defined by parallel walls, *c.* 3–5 m apart on its northern, western and southern sides. To the east details are obscured. This structure enclosed a central square *c.* 27 m across, with generally low readings, and it may represent a peristyle. The anomalies within it are superficial structures perhaps of a different date. To the north is a circular feature [8.15] with an external diameter of *c.* 35 m and an inner circle of *c.* 28 m. This is certainly cut by the remains of the *Mura Costantiniane* and three sections of north–south wall that abut it to the south. It is also overlain by another wall parallel

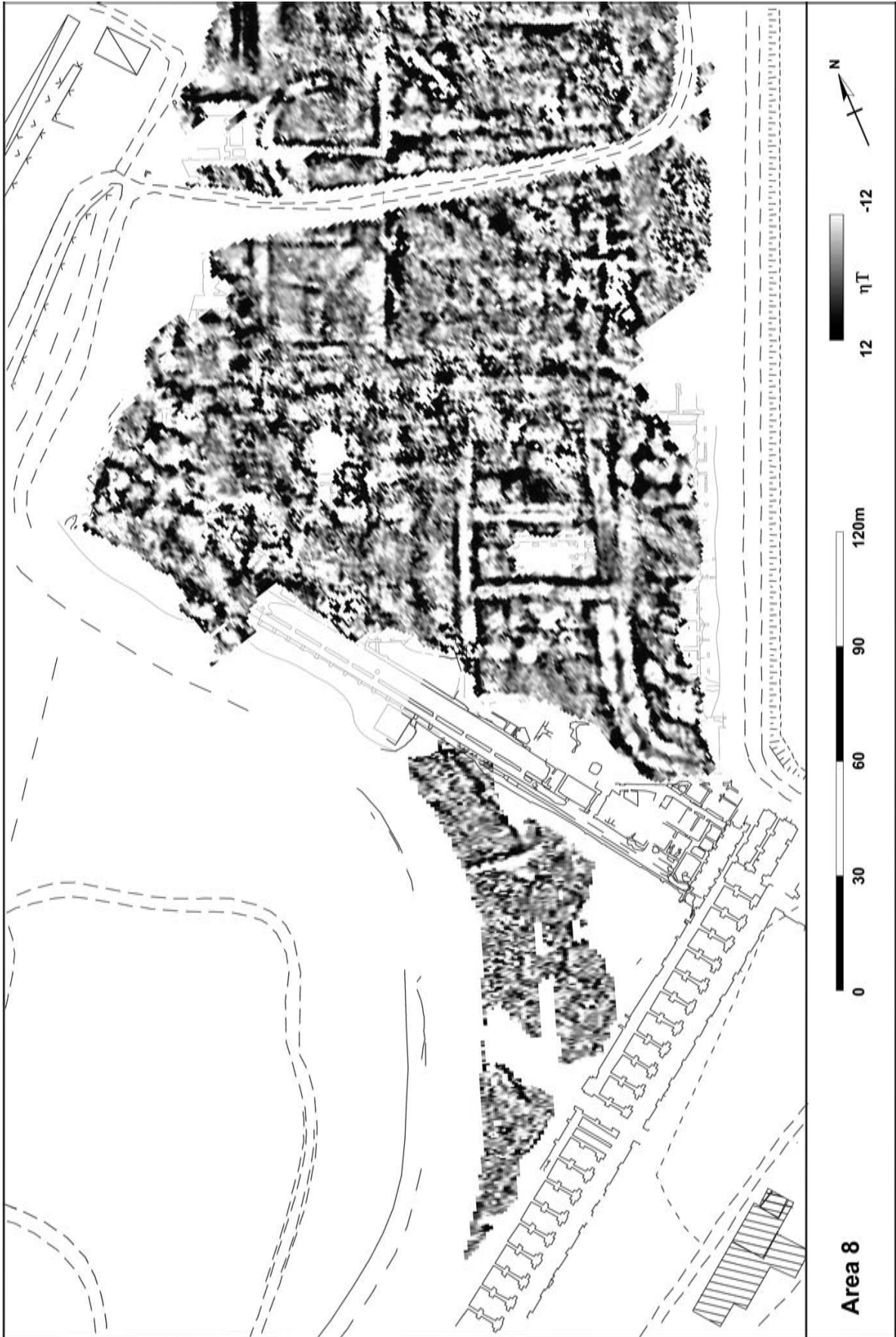


FIG. 5.22. Area 8 showing the magnetometer survey results in relation to modern topography. For the location, see Fig. 5.1.

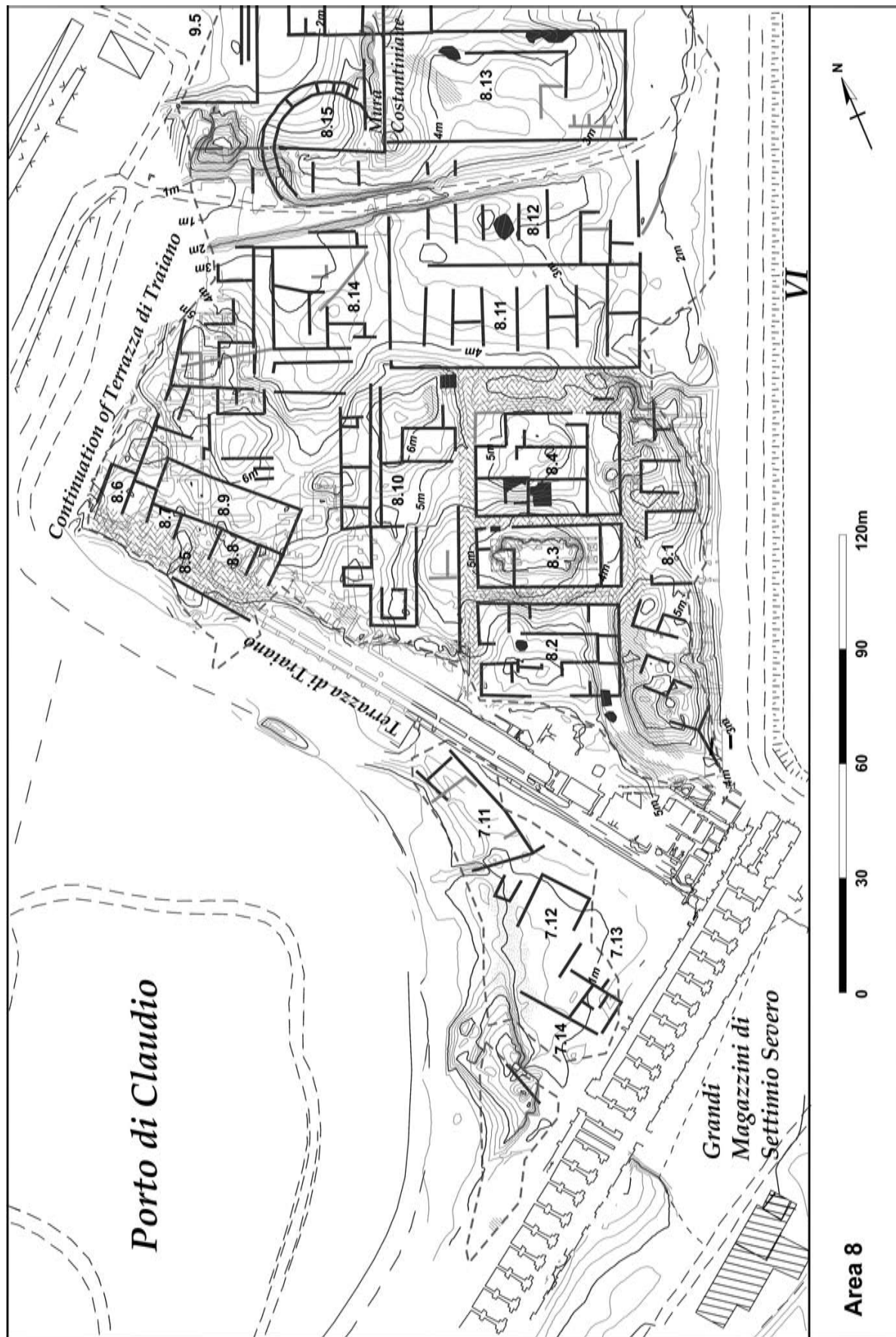


FIG. 5.23. Area 8 showing the interpretation of the magnetometer survey results in relation to excavated features. For the location, see Fig. 5.1.



FIG. 5.24. The excavated façade of the *Terrazza di Traiano* in Area 8 from the northwest. (Photo: Martin Millett.)

with the rear wall of structure 8.13. Visual inspection also suggests that 8.15 is very early in the archaeological sequence in this part of the site, although its function is unclear. It is possible that it is to be

identified with the structure Lanciani (1868) described as a theatre, although his plan shows this further to the southwest and it is difficult to reconcile with his description.



FIG. 5.25. The entrance to the *cryptoporticus* parallel with the *Terrazza di Traiano* beneath the *Palazzo Imperiale* in Area 8, showing the height of the surviving structures. View from the north. (Photo: Martin Millett.)

AREA 9 (Figs 5.26 and 5.27)

This area is a northeastward extension of Area 8 and lies between Monte Giulio to the northwest and side VI of the hexagon of the Trajanic harbour to the east. It is little known, and dominated by a large building that runs parallel to side VI of the hexagon, which Lanciani (1868) and Lugli (Lugli and Filibeck 1935: 100–1, tav. III no. 29) both described as warehouses. The wall that defines the west side of these buildings was incorporated into the late antique *Mura Costantiniane* and still stands to a considerable height. Beyond it lies the *Banchina*, which defines the southeastern side of the Claudian harbour (Lugli and Filibeck 1935: 90, tav. III no. 14).

Topographic survey was confined to the area between the *Mura Costantiniane* and the hexagon. To the west, the triangle of land left unsurveyed was low-lying, undulating and very heavily overgrown with some wall foundations visible, running parallel to the *Mura Costantiniane*. To the east, the ground rises to above 6 m in places, with the highest ground overlying the *Mura Costantiniane*. The western face of this wall is exposed for most of its length in this area. It adopted the façade of earlier buildings, openings through which were filled with brick-faced concrete walling (Fig. 5.28). It then dips to the southeast, towards the hexagon, with