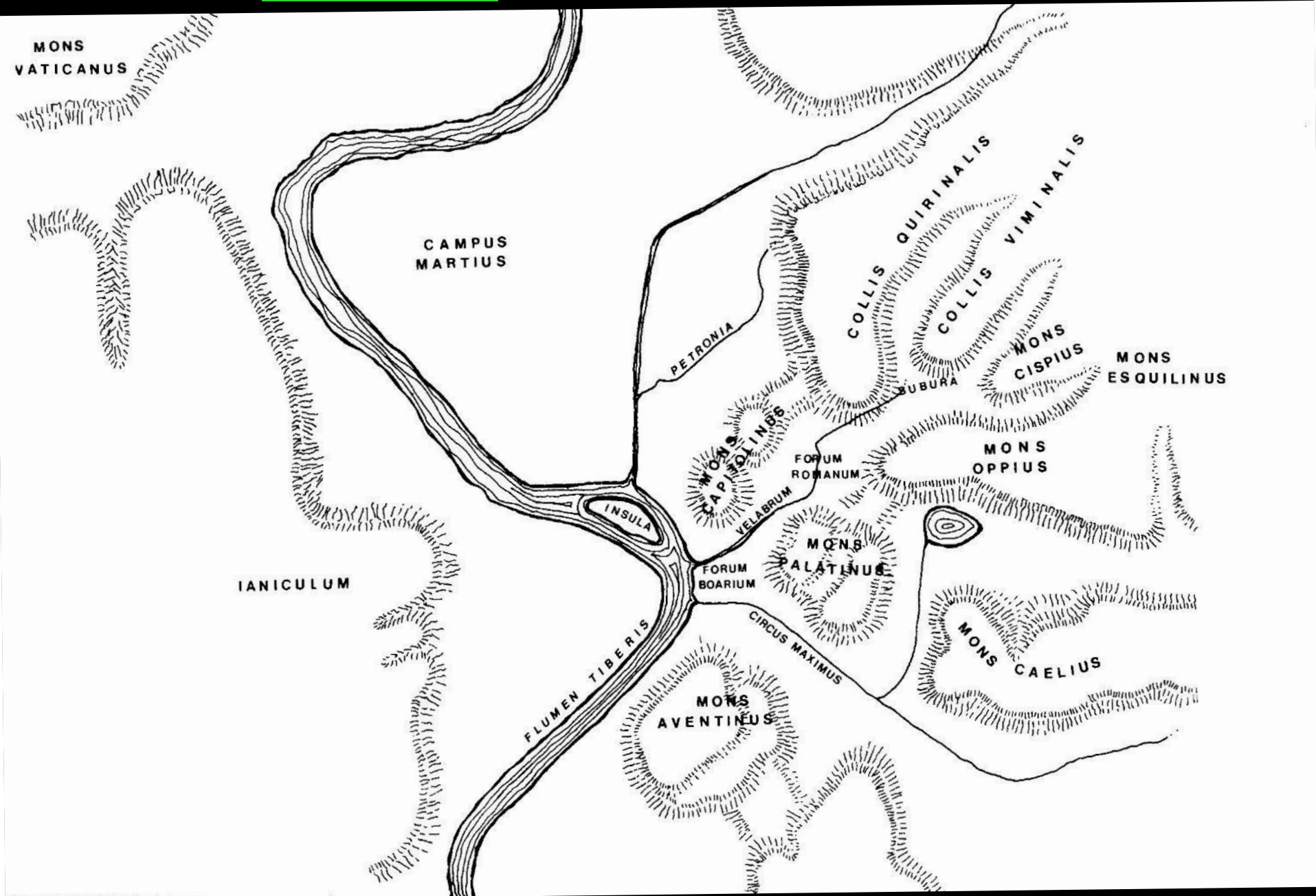


# The Forum of Augustus



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Imagery Date: Jul 29, 2007

41°53'58.31" N 12°28'48.39" E elev. 118 ft

Eye alt. 15937 ft

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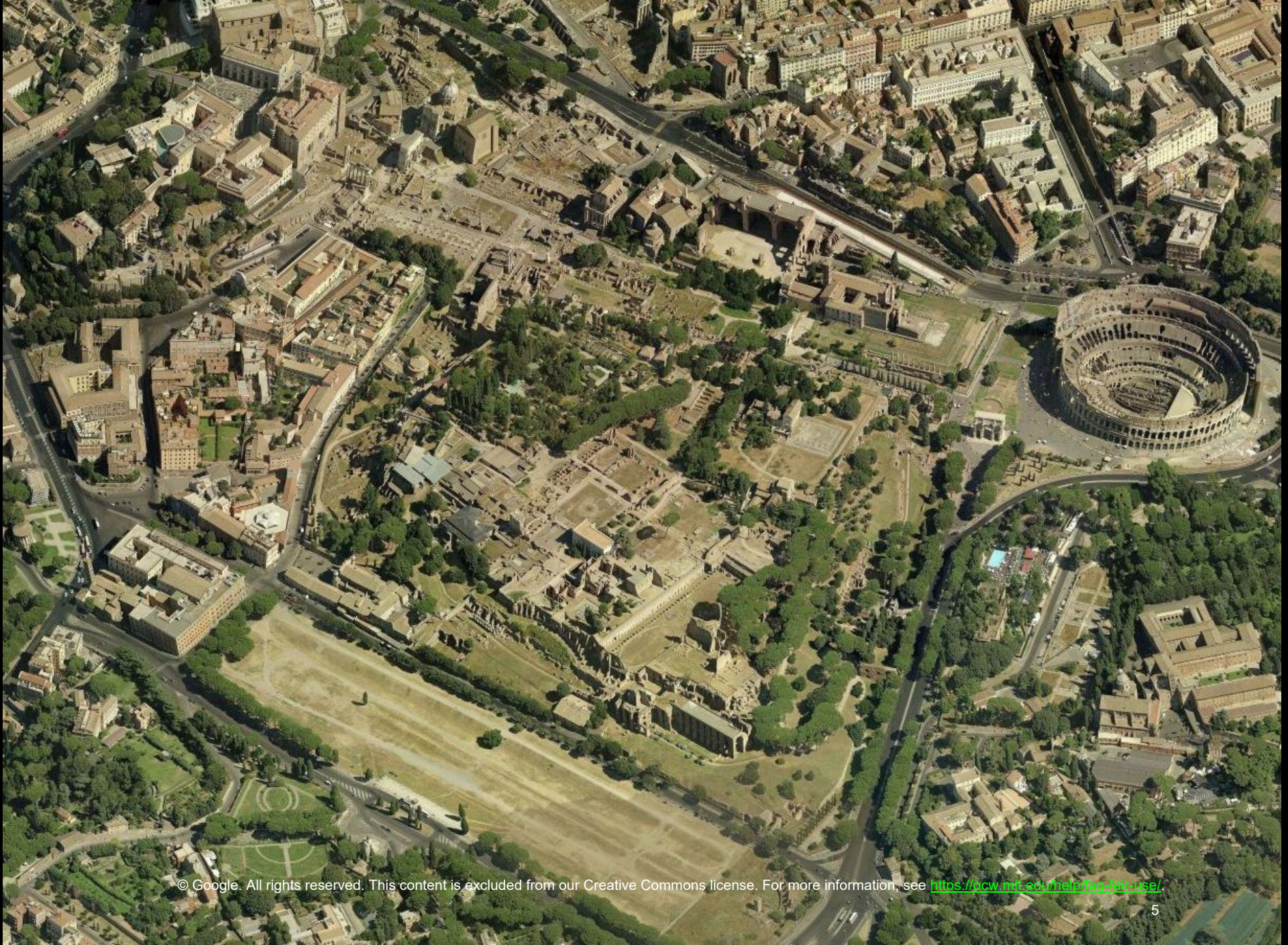
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Imagery Date: Jul 29, 2007

41°53'22.91" N 12°29'08.55" E elev 154 ft

Eye alt 5536 ft









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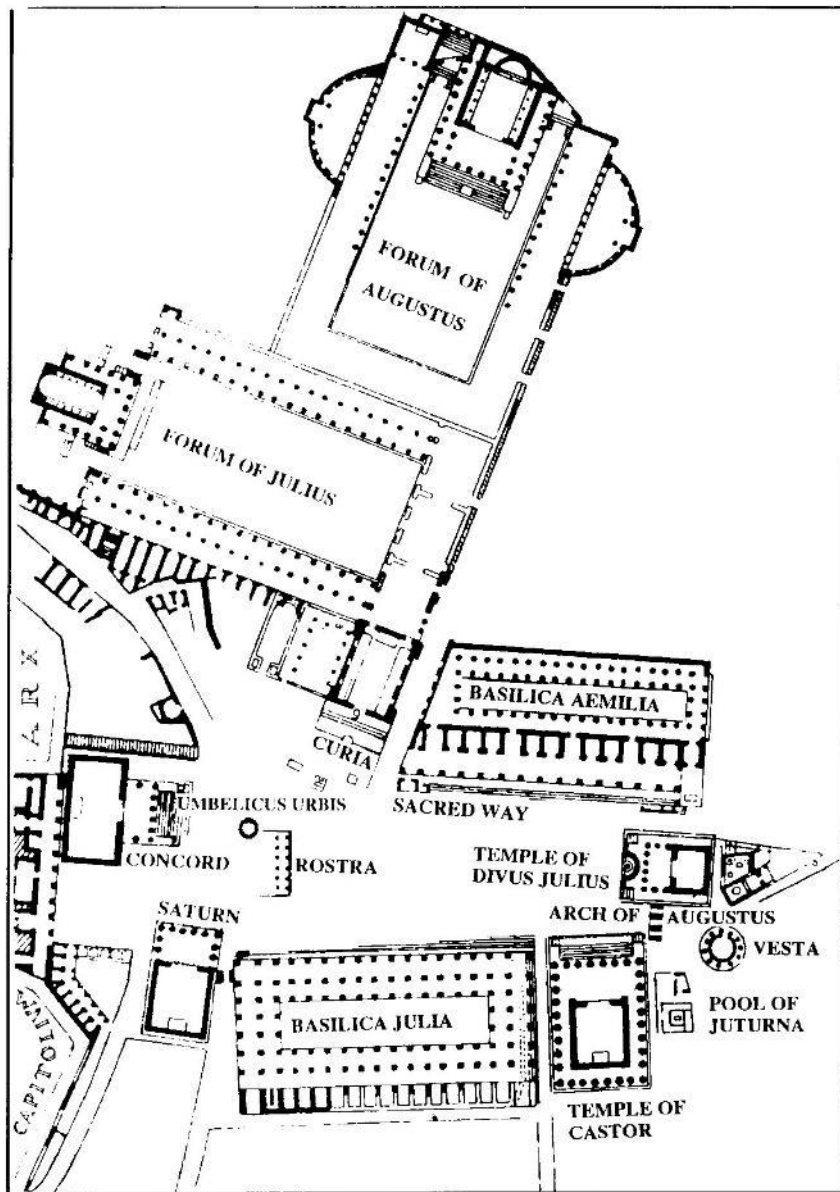


Fig. 16 The Roman Forum under Augustus (after Gatti).

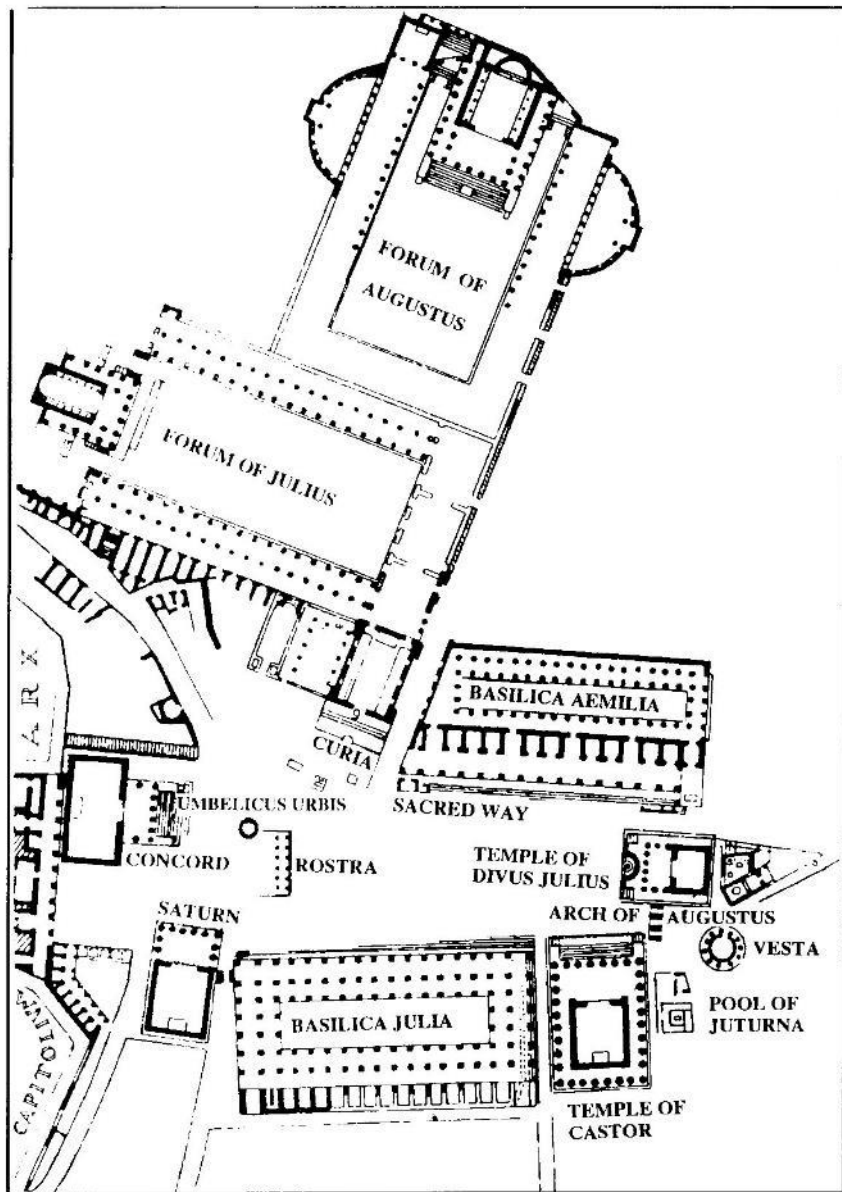
## The Roman Forum

- Curia Julia
- Rostra Julia
- Basilica Julia
- Porticus of Gaius and Lucius
- Temple of the Deified Julius Caesar
- Forum of Julius Caesar
- Temple of Venus Genetrix









# The Forum of Augustus

- Temple to Mars vowed 42 BC
- Construction (mostly) 10 – 2 BC
- Dedicated 2 BC

Fig. 16 The Roman Forum under Augustus (after Gatti).



- *Res Gestae* 21:
  - “I built with war booty the Temple of Mars the Avenger and the Forum of Augustus on my own land.”
- Suetonius, *Augustus* 56:
  - “Augustus made his forum smaller than planned, out of his reluctance to appropriate the adjoining homes from their owners.”



# Suetonius, *Augustus* 29

- “Augustus built his forum because the two existing forums could no longer accommodate the increasing number of people and law cases, so that a third was thought necessary. Because of this need for space it was opened for business even before the temple was finished, and it was stipulated that the new forum be the venue for public trials as well as the selection of jurors by lot.”





Ungaro (2007)











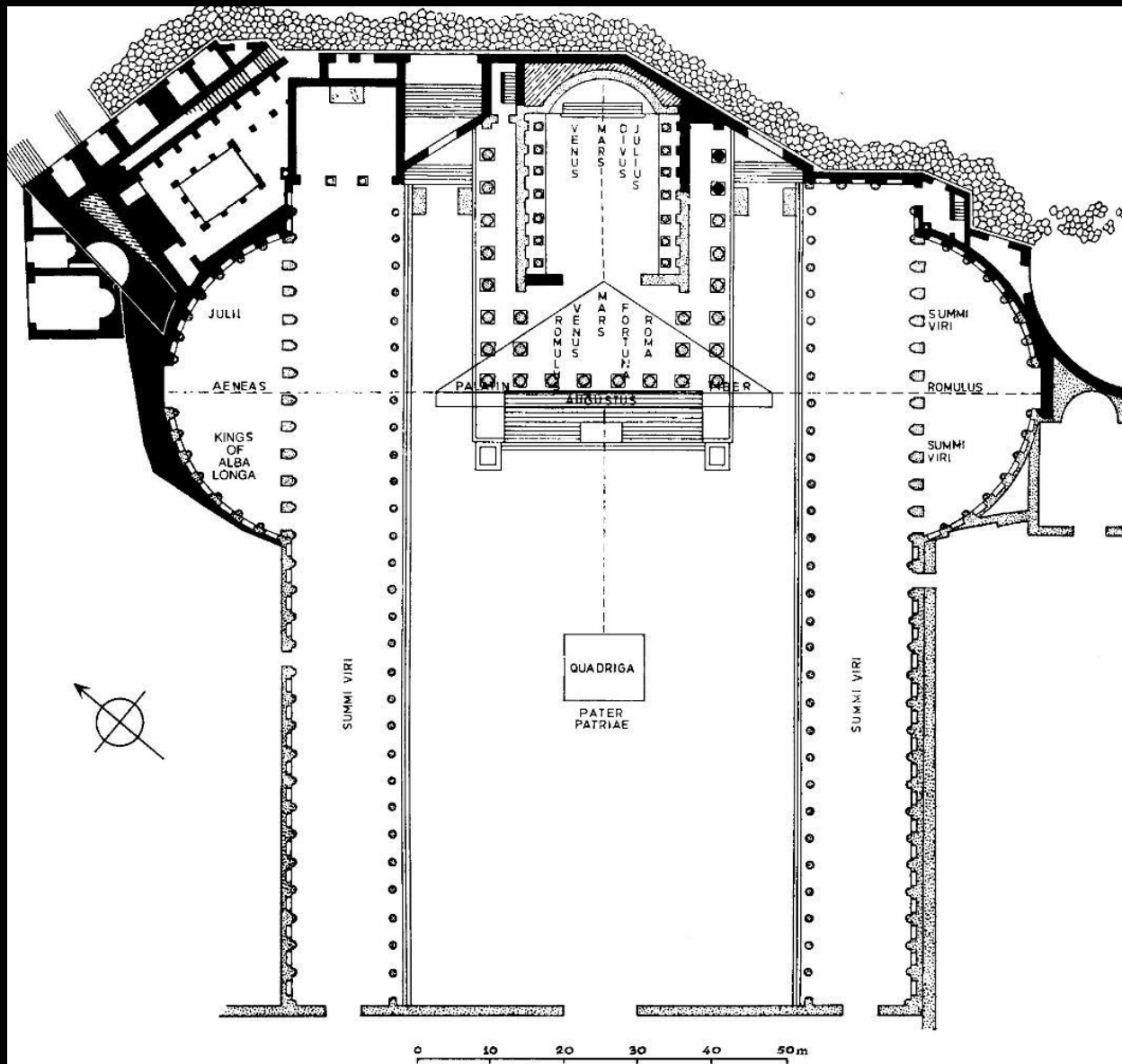
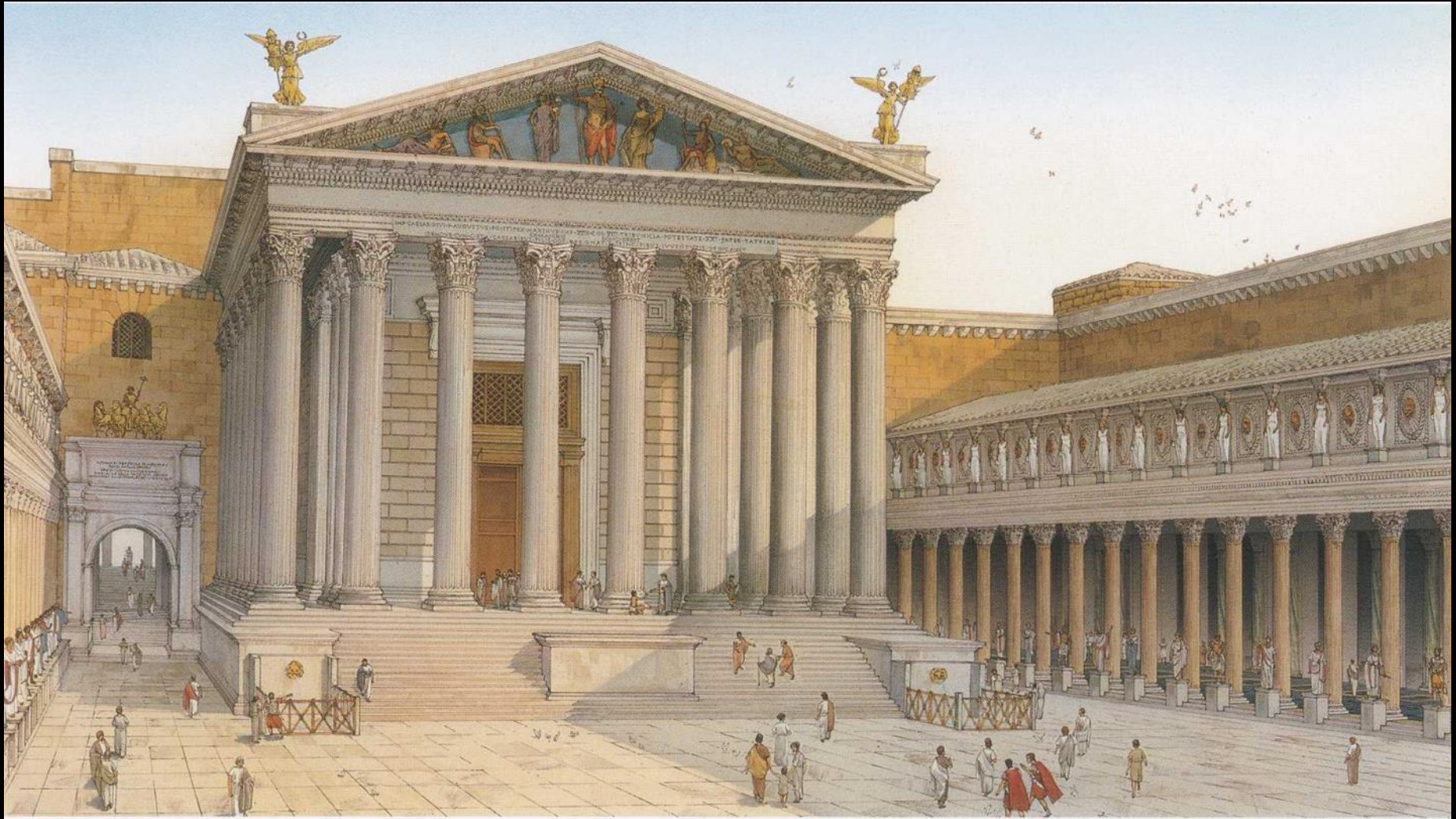


Fig. 149. Rome, Forum of Augustus. Ground plan, with reconstruction of the sculptural program. The southern part of the square is still unexcavated.





Watercolor reconstruction in Ungaro (2007)



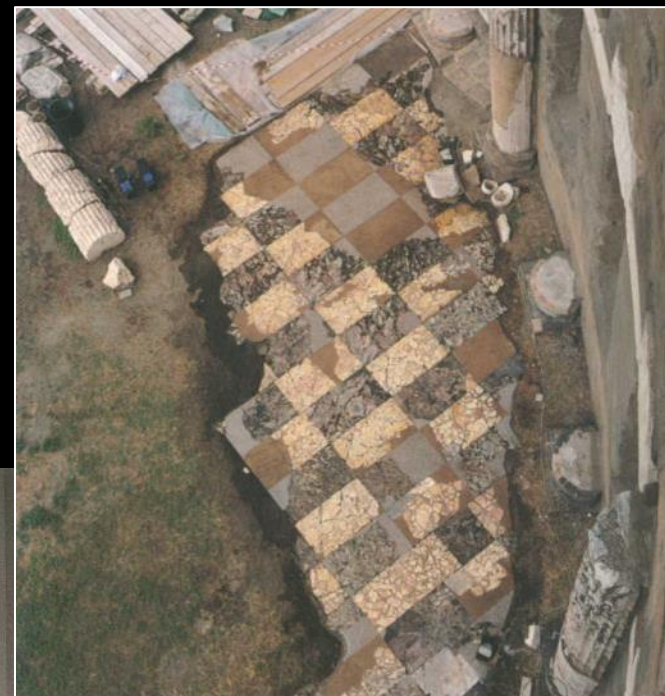


Luna/Carrara marble



## Exedra paving

- Numidian yellow - north Africa
- Lucullan black/red - western Turkey



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## Colonnade



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Italian grey  
Numidian yellow  
Lucullan red/black

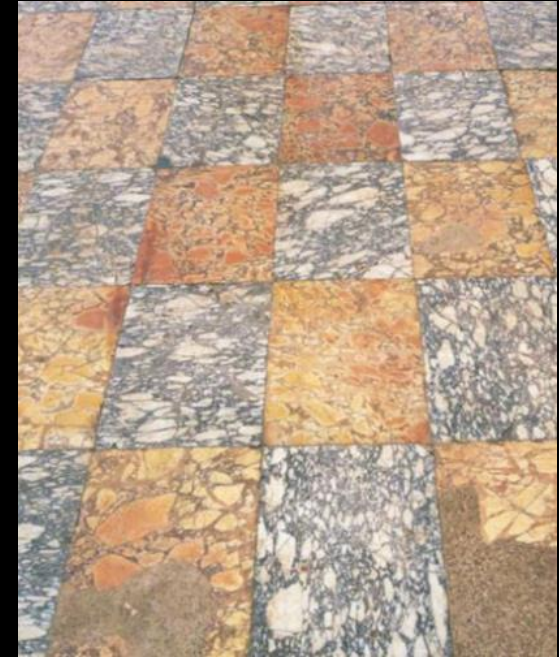
## Temple of Mars



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Numidian yellow  
Phrygian purple  
Lucullan red/black

## Hall of Colossus



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Numidian yellow  
Phrygian purple



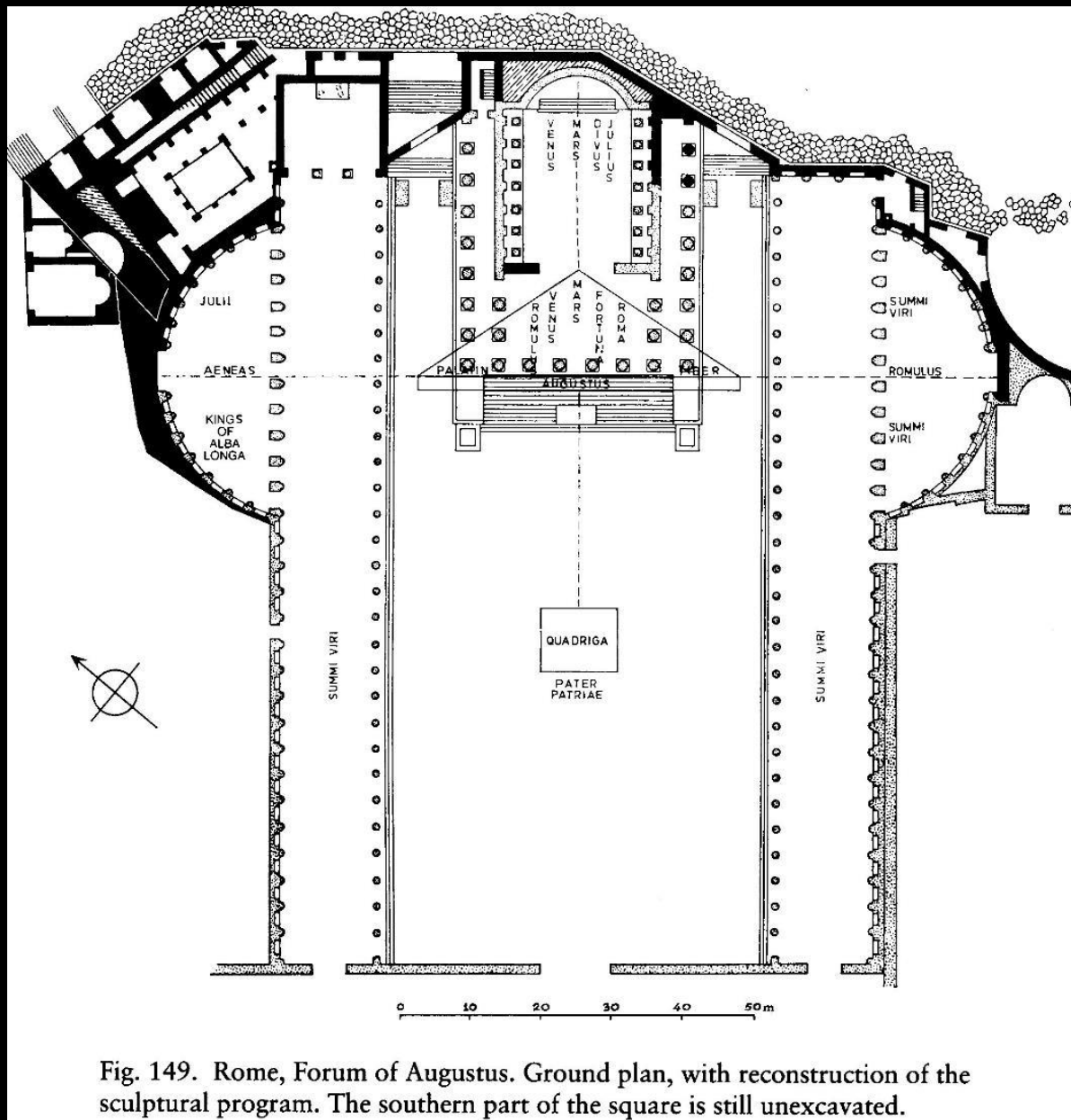


Fig. 149. Rome, Forum of Augustus. Ground plan, with reconstruction of the sculptural program. The southern part of the square is still unexcavated.









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## Temple of Mars Ultor

- Corinthian capitals - exterior





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## Temple of Mars Ultor Exterior













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## Temple of Mars Ultor

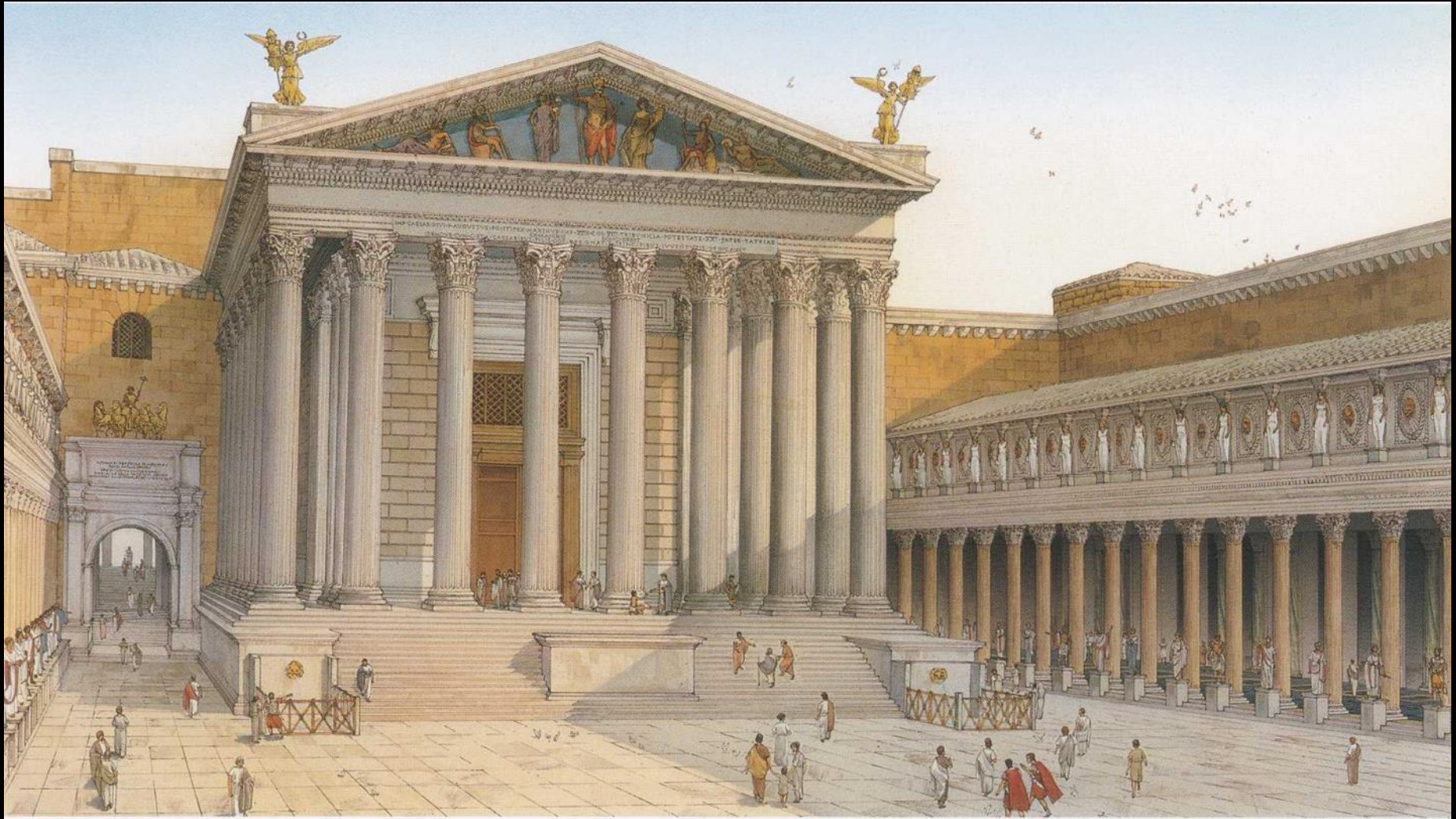
- Corinthian capital - interior





## Temple of Mars Ultor Interior





Watercolor reconstruction in Ungaro (2007)

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# Ara Pietatis Augustae

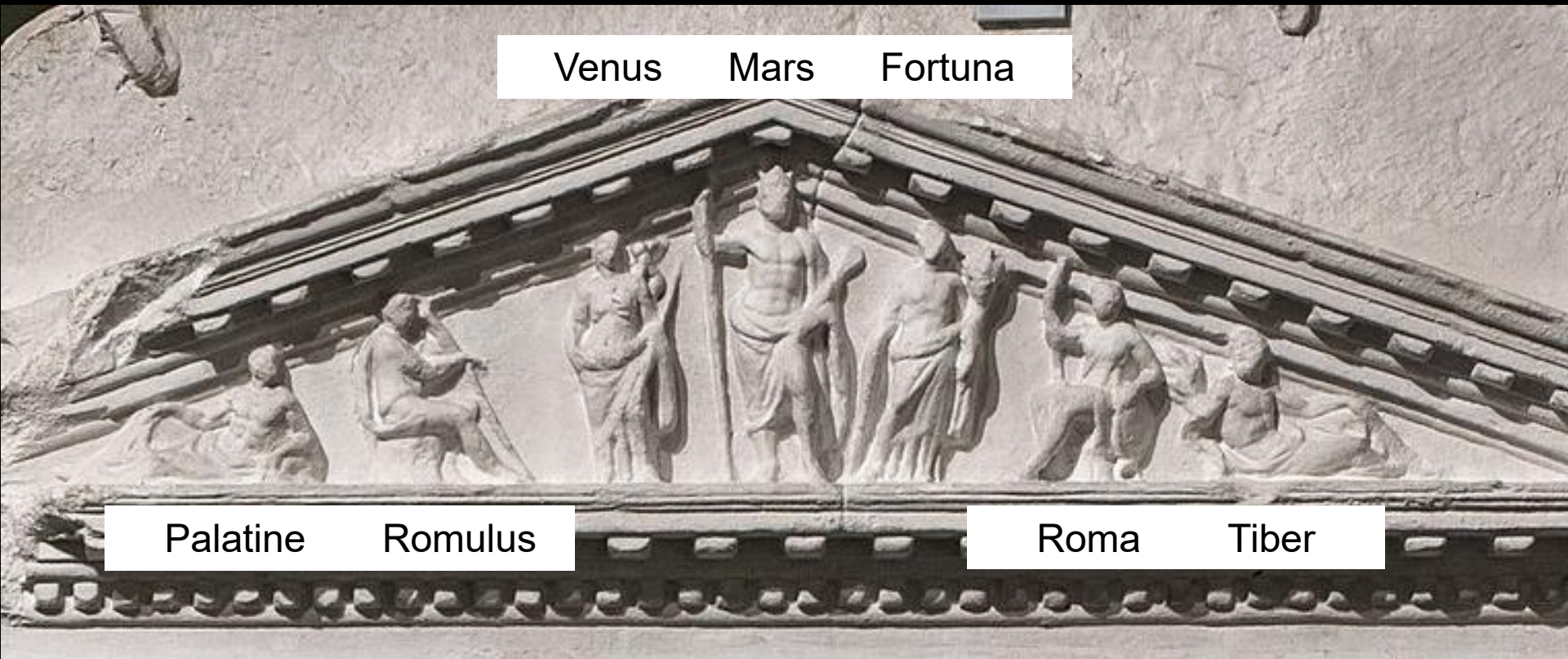
Plaster cast of Villa Medici relief  
Ara Pacis Museum



# Mars Ultor - pediment







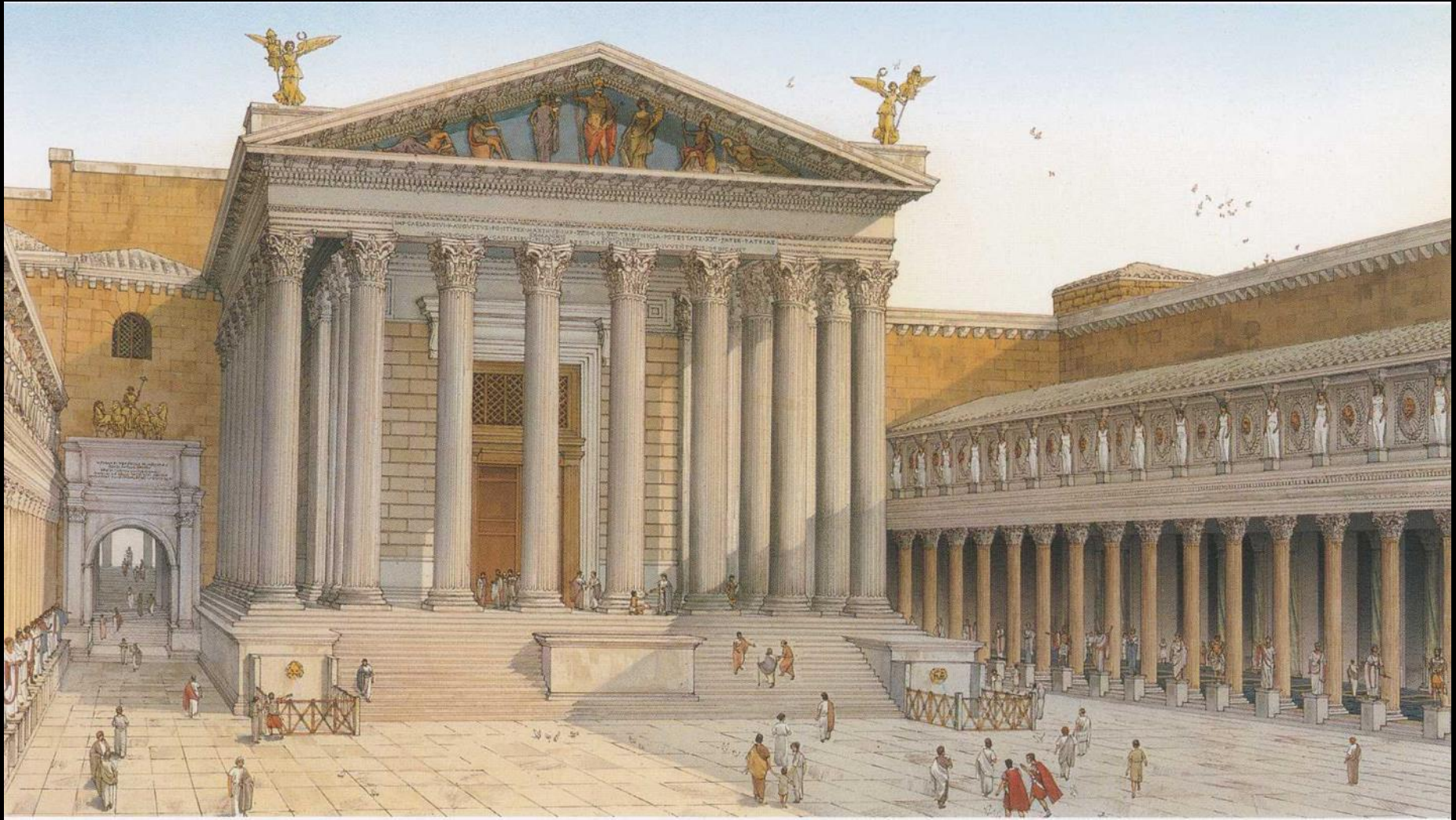
Venus Mars Fortuna

Palatine Romulus

Roma Tiber

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# Ovid, *Tristia* 2.295-6

“Should a matron enter your temple of mighty  
Mars, Augustus,

There in armor by the door stands Venus beside  
the Avenger.”

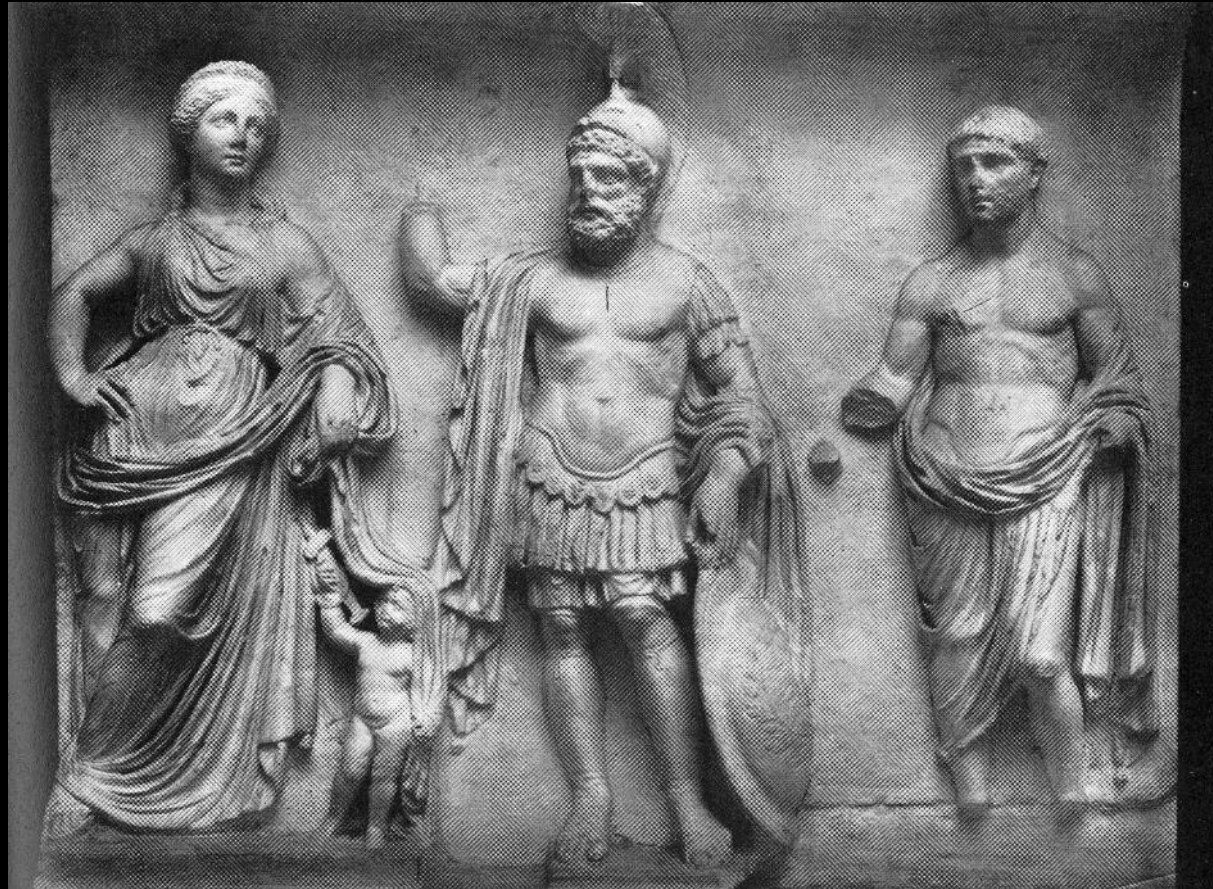
Aicher, Peter J. *Rome Alive: A Source-Guide to the Ancient City*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 2004. © Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.





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## Algiers Relief – Venus, Mars, and ‘Augustan Prince’



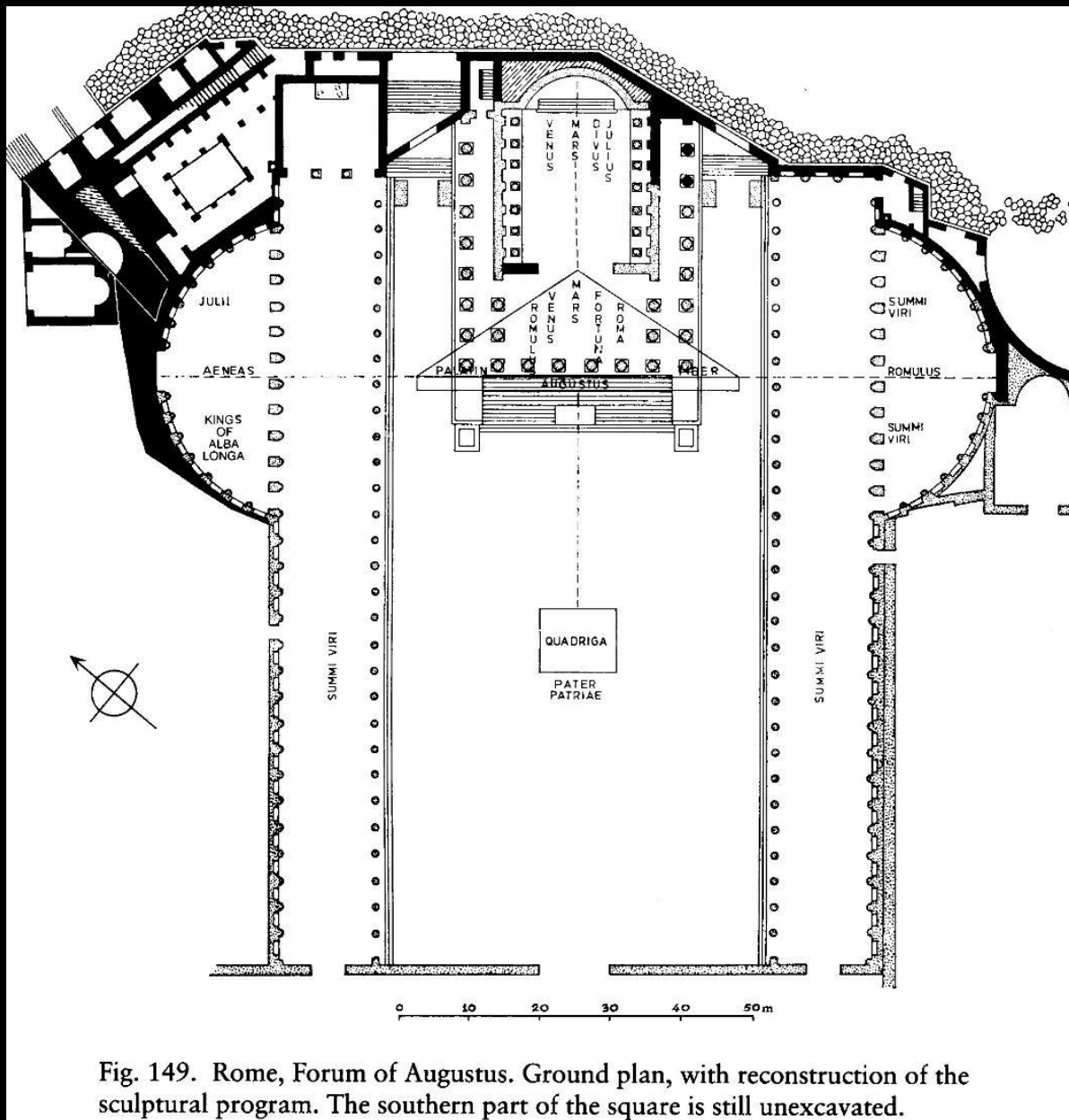
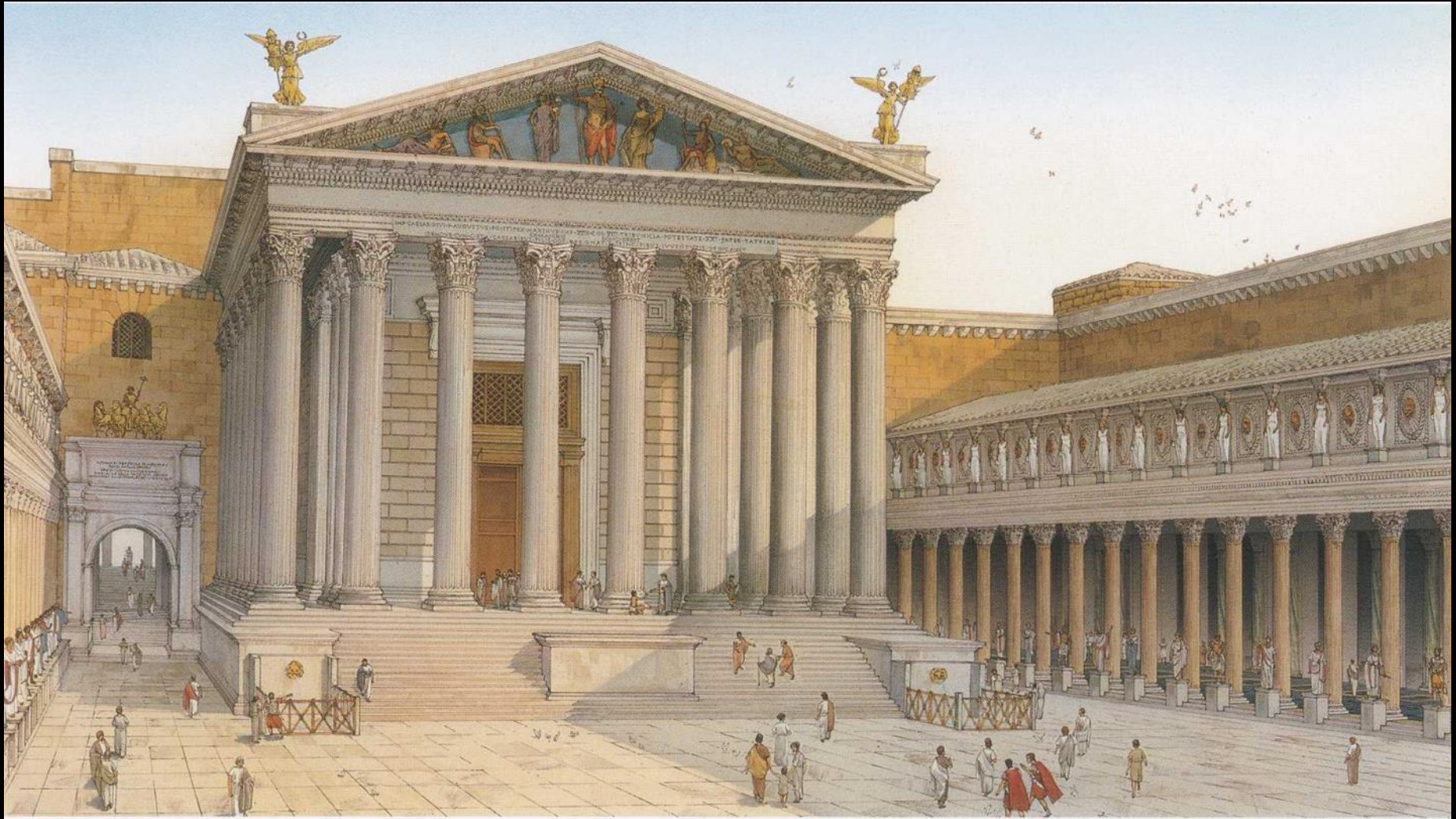


Fig. 149. Rome, Forum of Augustus. Ground plan, with reconstruction of the sculptural program. The southern part of the square is still unexcavated.

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Watercolor reconstruction in Ungaro (2007)

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## Forum of Augustus Colonnades, upper

Caryatid statue-column

*Imago clipeata* w/ Celtic warrior







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## Caryatids & Shield with head of Jupiter Ammon

House of the Knights of Rhodes, Rome





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# The Erechtheion, Acropolis, Athens 421 – 405 BC





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92. Caryatids from the south porch of the Erechtheion viewed from the southeast.



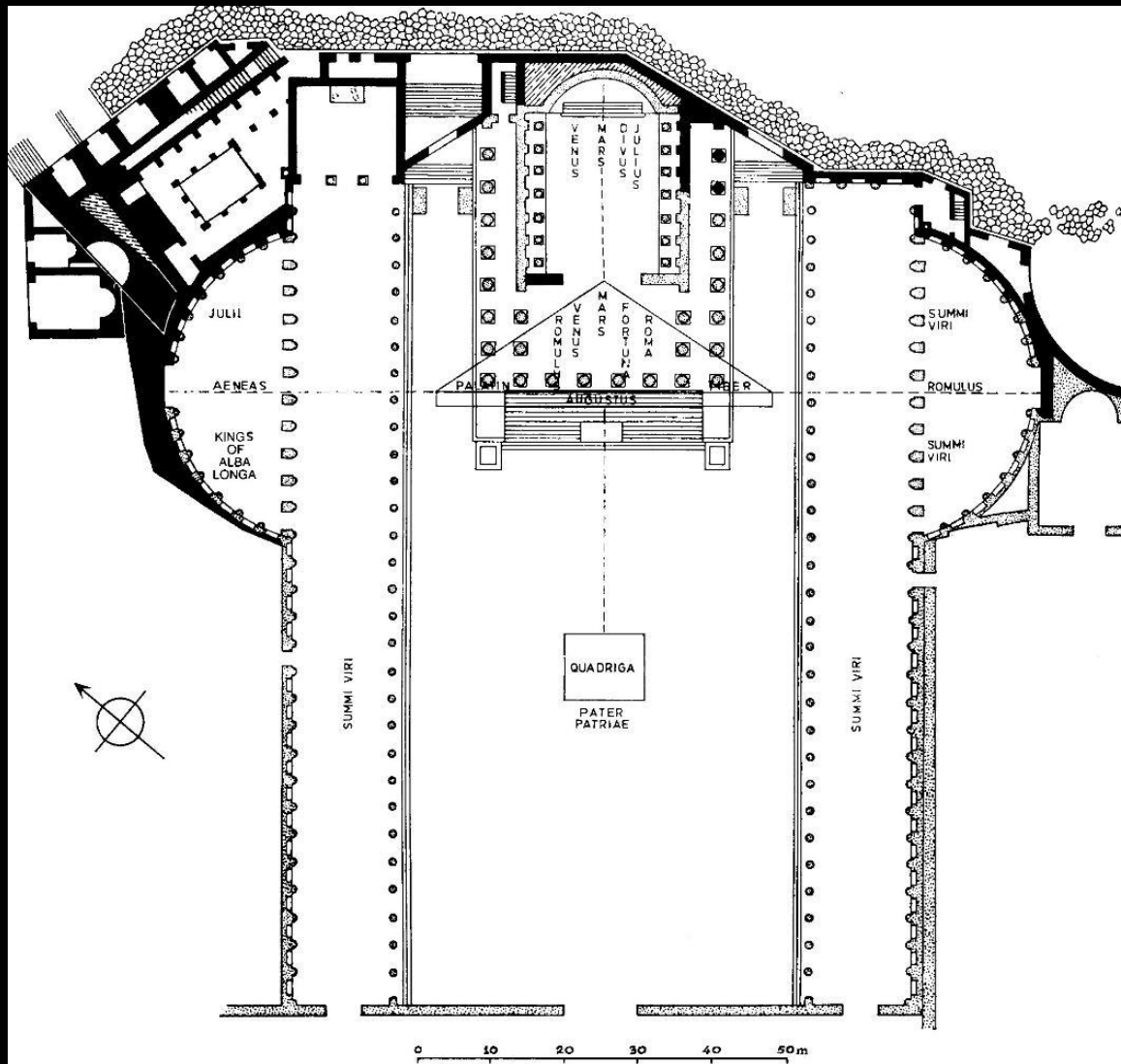


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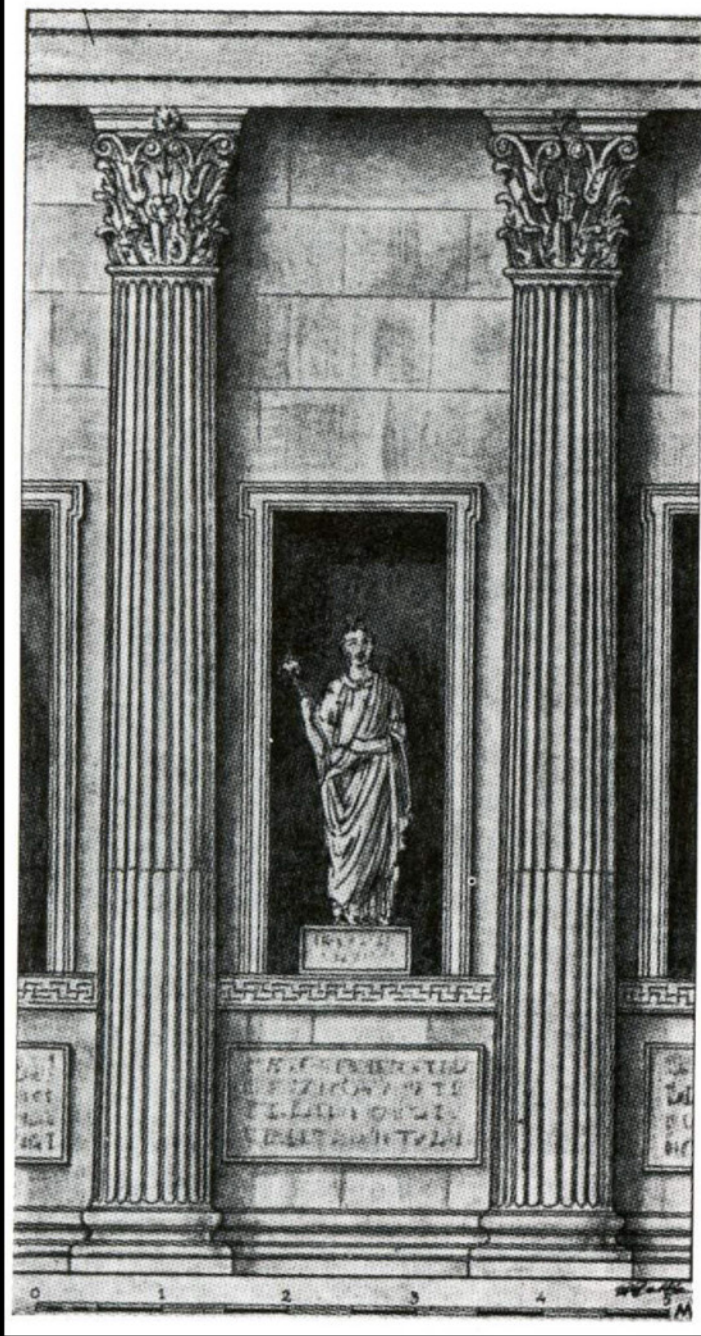
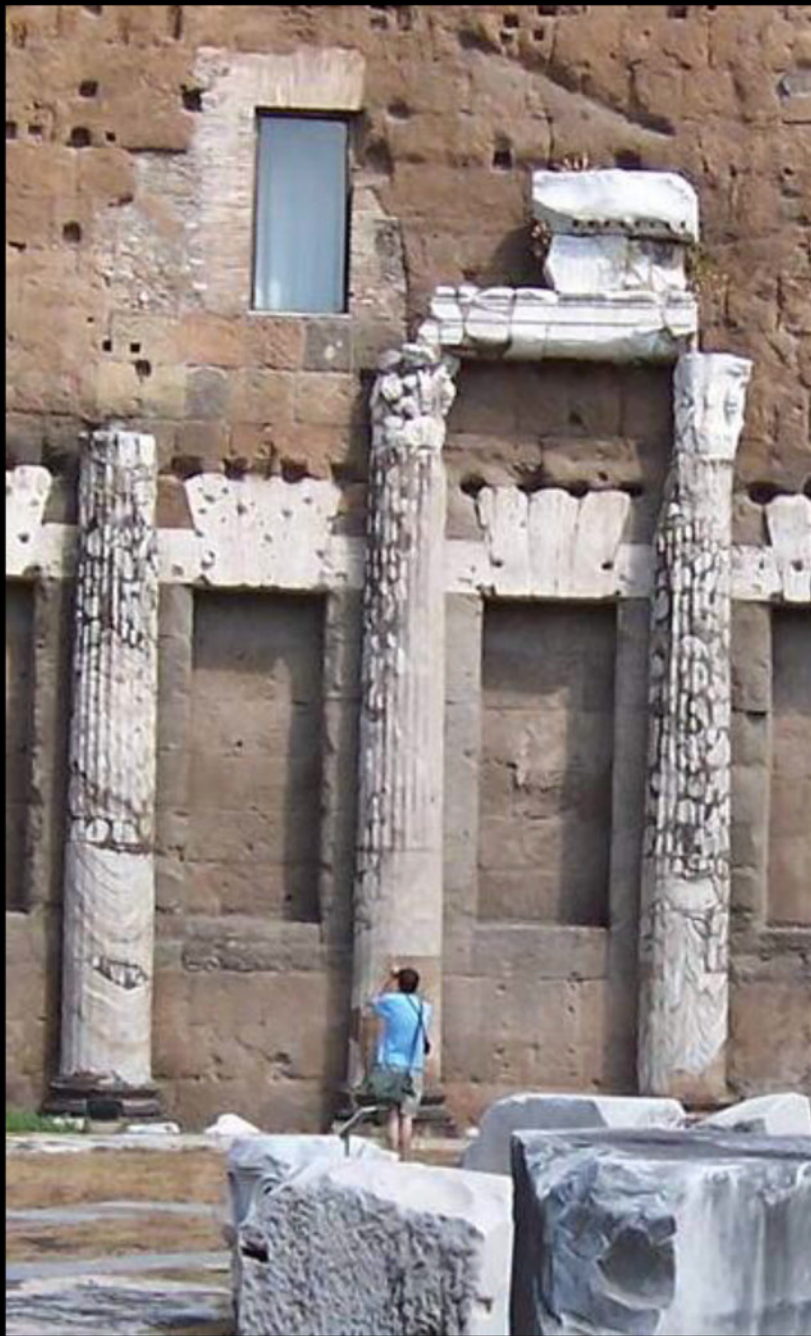






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[NERO] CL[AVD]IV[S] TI. F  
[DRV]SVS GE[R]MAN[IC]VS  
[COS.] PR. VRB. Q. AVG. IMP.  
[APP]ELLA[T]VS IN GERMANANIA

Nero Claudius Drusus Germanicus, son of Tiberius, consul, urban praetor, quaestor, augur, acclaimed imperator in Germany.

(Drusus = younger brother of Tiberius; died 9 BC)



# Suetonius, *Augustus* 31

“Next to the immortal gods, Augustus most honored the memory of those leaders who created the mighty empire of the Roman people from small beginnings. Accordingly he restored the public works of each man, retaining their original inscriptions. Furthermore, in the colonnades of his forum he dedicated statues to all of them in triumphal garb, declaring in an edict that he contrived this so that the citizens might have the example of these eminent men as a standard to which he during his own life as well as subsequent rulers must conform.”

Aicher, Peter J. *Rome Alive: A Source-Guide to the Ancient City*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 2004. © Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.



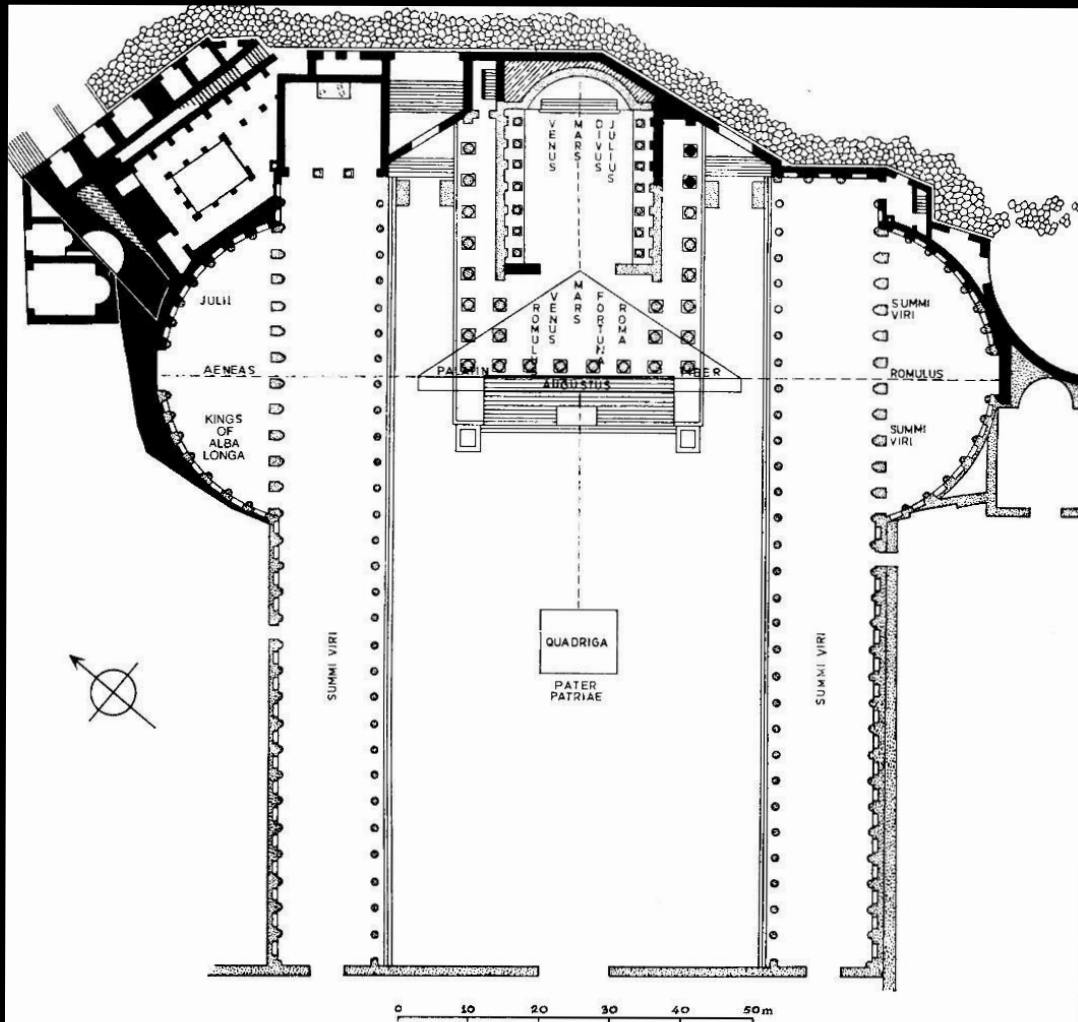
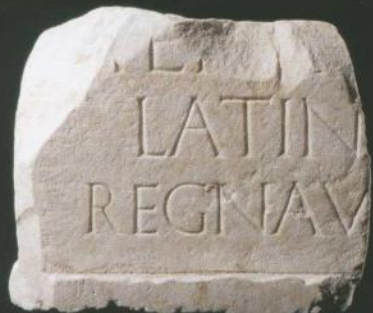


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AEN[EAS PRIMIS]  
LATIN[ORVM REX]  
REGNAV[IT ANNOS III]

Aeneas, first king of the Latins, reigned three years



# Ovid, *Fasti* 5.559-566

“The god of War surveys the heights of his lofty temple  
And approves that gods unconquered possess the pediment.

He surveys the various weapons that decorate the doorways  
And the arms of other lands defeated by his soldiers;

He sees Aeneas, bent by the precious weight of his father,  
And the lengthy line of descendants sprung from the noble Julius;

Across stands Romulus, shouldering the arms of a conquered leader,  
And the row of Romans above their records of famous deeds.”

Aicher, Peter J. *Rome Alive: A Source-Guide to the Ancient City*. Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers, 2004. © Bolchazy-Carducci Publishers. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.



Aeneas, Anchises, Ascanius (Iulus)



Romulus

Wall paintings, 1<sup>st</sup> c. AD  
Pompeii, via dell'Abbondanza



# *Res Gestae* 35.1

“When I was holding my thirteenth consulship [2 BC] the senate, the equestrian order, and the whole Roman people called me *pater patriae* and decreed that this should be inscribed on the porch of my house, in the Julian Senate-house, and in the Forum of Augustus below the chariot which was set up there for me by decree of the senate.”

M.G.L. Cooley, ed. *The Age of Augustus*. Translated by B.W.J.G. Wilson. Cambridge University Press, 2003. © Cambridge University Press. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <https://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.

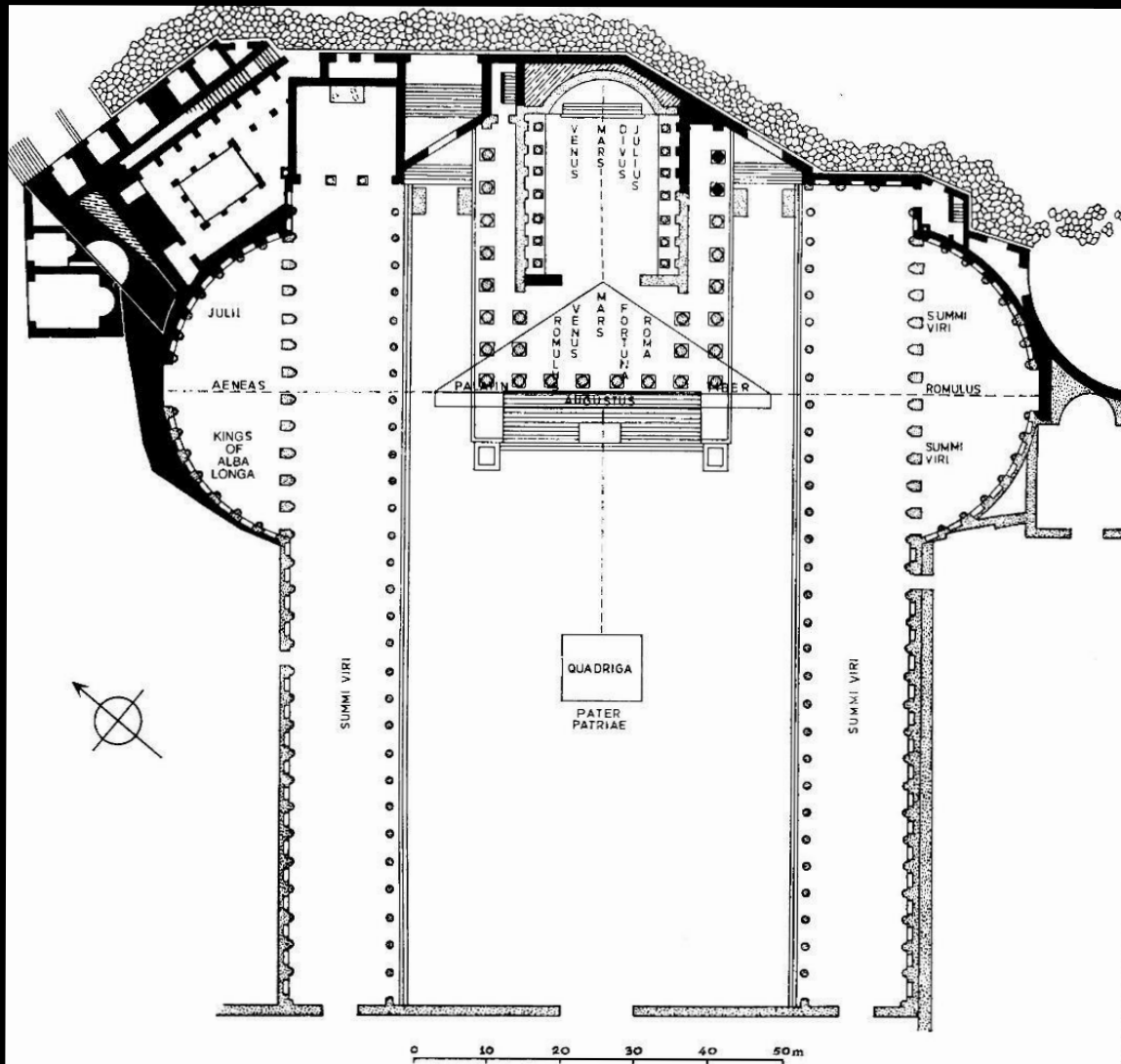
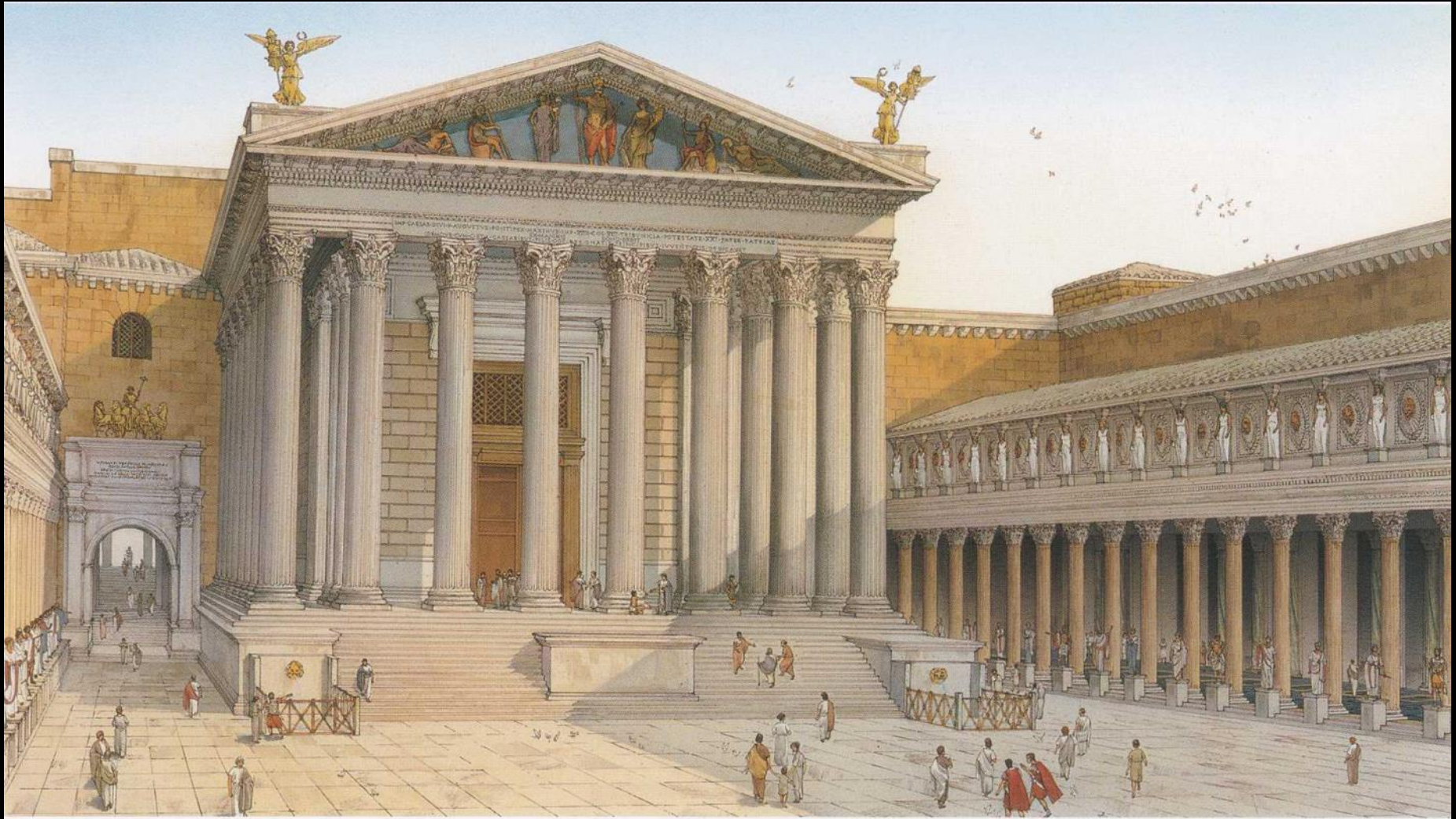


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- Suetonius, *Augustus* 29:
  - “He decreed therefore that the Senate use the forum to deliberate on war and the awarding of triumphs, that those heading off to provinces with military command be officially escorted from there, and that those who returned victorious should deposit the insignia of their triumphs in his forum.”
  
- Dio 55.10.2:
  - “Those passing from the class of boys to young men of military age should all be enrolled here...”



Watercolor reconstruction in Ungaro (2007)

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## Forum of Augustus

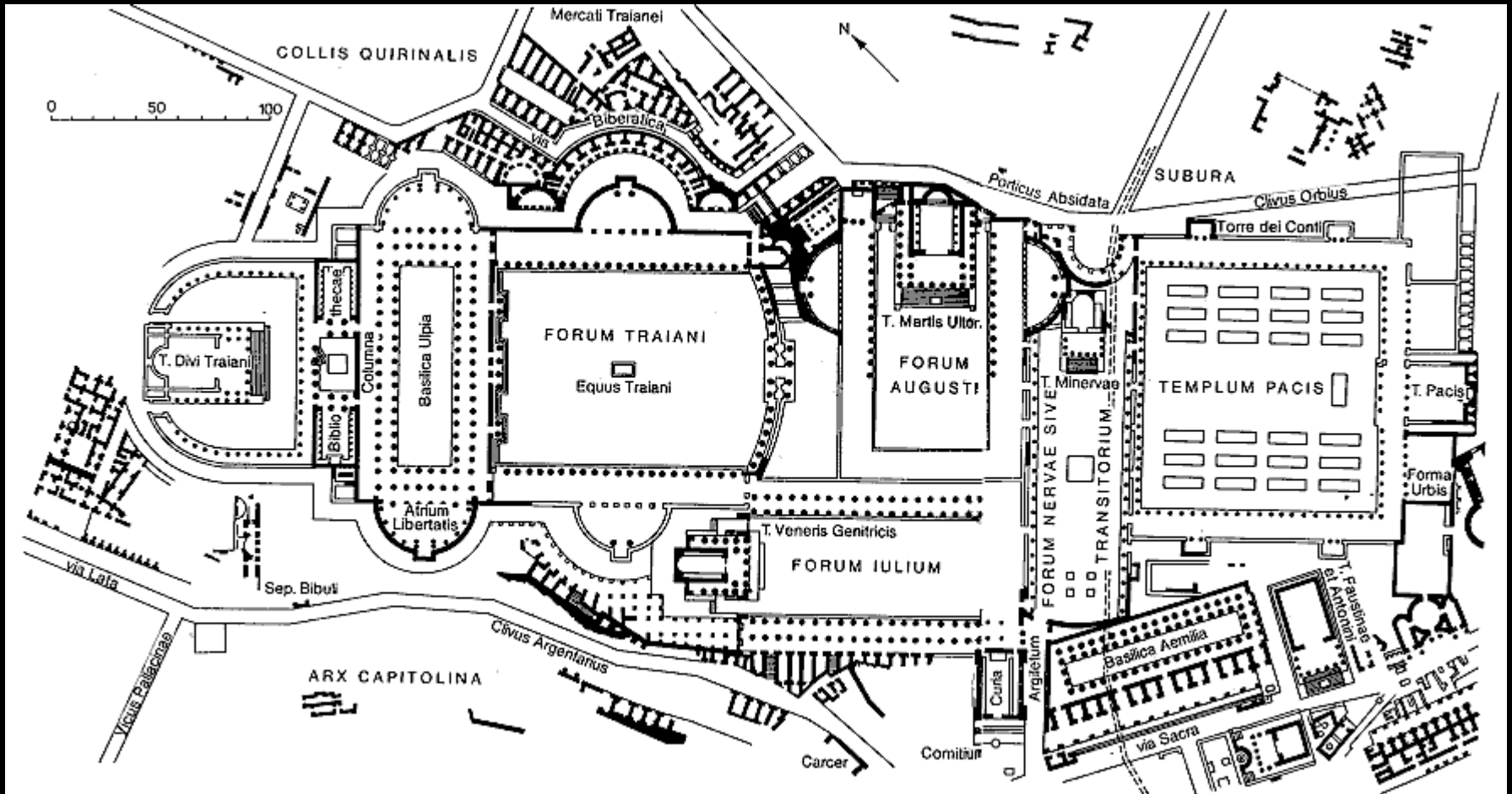
- Hall of the Colossus



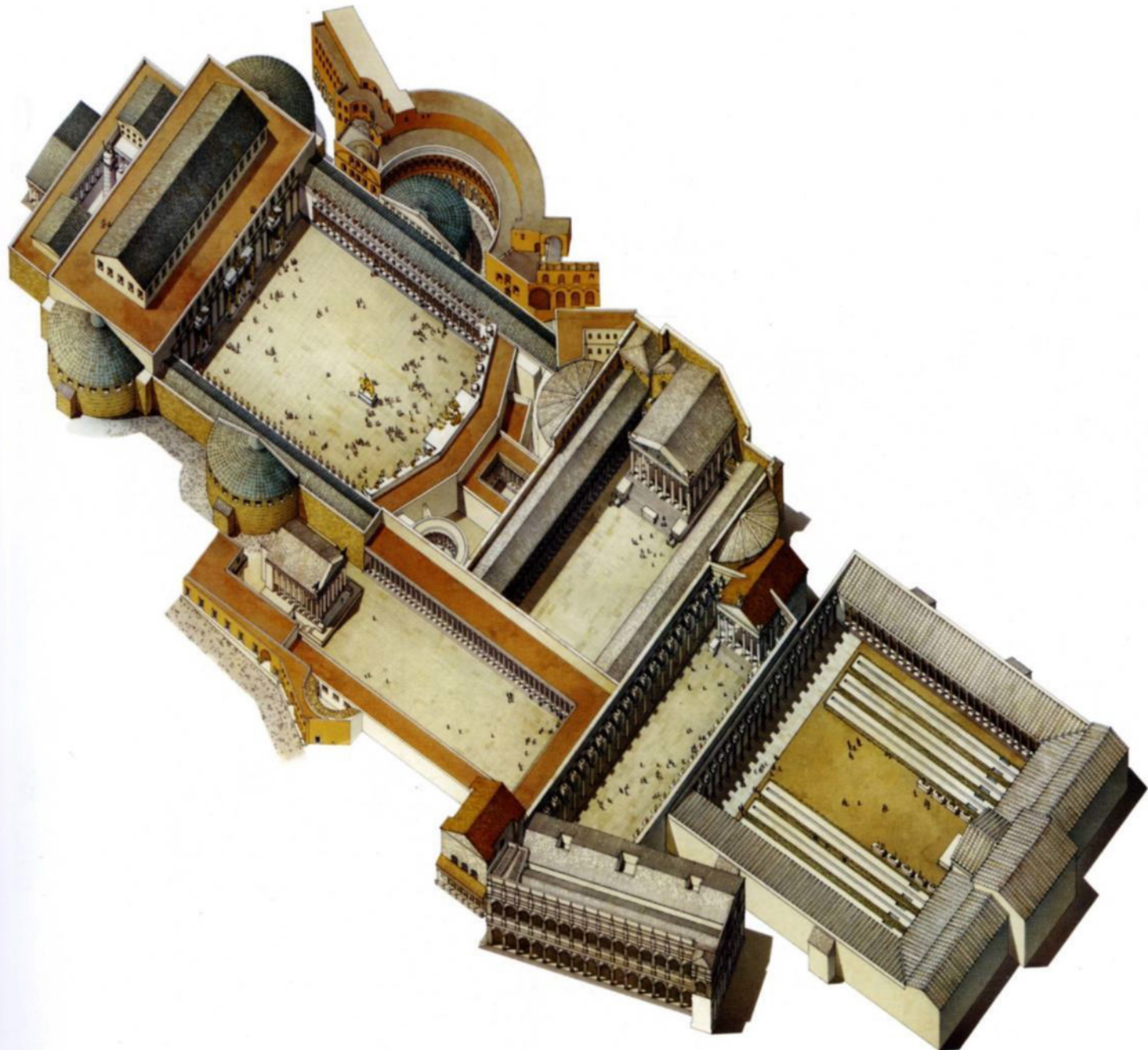




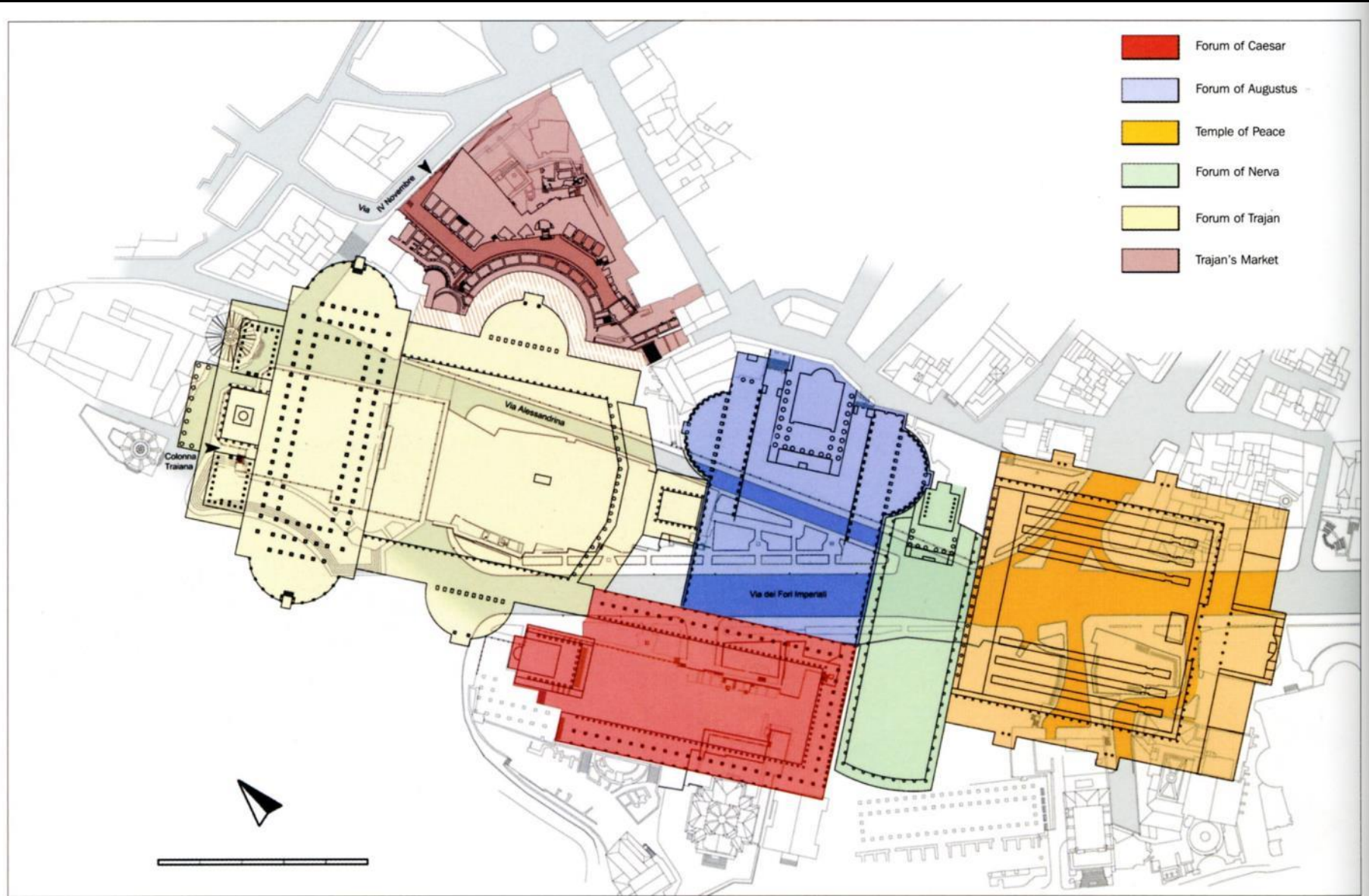
# Imperial Fora



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