

**THE MARBLE DECORATION OF THE PERYSTILE BUILDING IN THE SW QUARTER
OF PALMYRA (PAL.M.A.I.S.)**

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Keywords: Palmyra, excavation, marble.

The Italian-Syrian joint mission PAL.M.A.I.S. (<http://users.unimi.it/progettopalmyra/>) started at Palmyra in 2008 the stratigraphical excavation of the Peristyle Building in the South-West Quarter of the ancient city.

The excavation have yielded many fragments of white and colored marble slabs probably dating back to the first phase of the Peristyle Building (end of the 2nd - beginning of the 3rd century AD) and belonging to the original decoration of walls and floors. These marbles are different in provenance and types.

The presence of these marbles proves the extreme luxury of the building and gives important information on decorations in private housing in Palmyra, a field of study not very well-known at the present state of the research.