

**QUARRY-MARKS OR MASONRY-MARKS IN THE PERYSTILE BUILDING
OF SW QUARTER OF PALMYRA (PAL.M.A.I.S. MISSION):
SOME COMPARISONS WITH THE PHOENICO-PUNIC DOCUMENTATION.**

Danila Piacentini (Università La Sapienza di Roma)

danila.piacentini@uniroma1.it

Keywords: Palmyra, quarry-marks, Phoenico-Punic.

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 room A north-west and east walls revealed some red painted signs on the masonry blocks. Two of them have Palmyrene Aramaic alphabetical aspects. Most likely in the Syrian city there was a sort of conventional system for the building realization: some other signs were recovered in a Palmyrene tower tomb.

This structural system is better attested in the Phoenico-Punic world. Some striking comparisons may be done with the available documentation: Rome and August temple S-O wall at Leptis Magna (Libya); different buildings in Cartage (Tunisia); defensive walls in Palermo, Lilibeo and Erice (Sicily); late Roman or Byzantine building in the Tas-Silg sanctuary south area (Malta); an isolated example on a block of presumably Phoenician workmanship in the prehistoric site of Sant'Imbenia (Sardinia).