

Storie di una città. Stari Bar tra antichità ed epoca moderna attraverso le ricerche archeologiche. Edited by Sauro Gelichi & Mladen Zagarčanin. 21 × 30 cm. 193 pp, 216 colour and b&w pls and figs, 34 colour 'tavole', 34 tables. Florence: All'Insegna del Giglio, 2013. ISBN 978-88-7814-592-4. Price: €50.00 pb.

This is the latest volume dedicated to the extended, extensive Italian-Montenegrin project/mission active since 2004 at the city site of *Antivari*–Stari Bar — largely abandoned in the wake of bombing in the Montenegrin–Ottoman war of 1876–78 (site history and project aims are outlined by Gelichi in Section 1; see previous reviews in *Medieval Archaeol* **52**, 2008, 468–9). *Storie di una città* centres (pp 62–176) on one main built complex, the so-called 'Palazzo del Doge', likely a high status private building of Venetian date (mid-15th to 16th century), if with a modest medieval predecessor. Combining, to strong effect, architectural survey, laser mapping, close analysis of construction methods and internal excavation, a valuable late-medieval to early modern sequence is unravelled; archaeologically valuable is also the earlier dump material imported to prepare the complex's ground level and relating to the 14th and 15th centuries and including much traded Venetian material, predating actual Venetian control here. Later finds from the house featured weaponry, cannon shot and other projectiles from the destructive 19th-century conflicts.

The volume's other papers are more compact and scattered: in Section 4, Riccardo Belcari catalogues and discusses 15th-century graffiti in a ground-floor room of another house unit (no 153); he also discusses 9th-century church sculptural fittings from *Antivari* and the region (Section 3). In Section 2, co-editor Zagarčanin offers a review of the excavation, ceramic and religious evidence for Roman to Byzantine Stari Bar and its territory (part of the imperial *Dalmatia* province). And a final, too brief note/appendix by Belcari reproduces the fine bird's eye view of *Antivari* in Giuseppe's Rosaccio's 1598 *Viaggio da Venetia a Costantinopoli*, depicting a peculiarly partially vacant townscape, emphasising chiefly the Venetian bastions, citadel and walled suburb.

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