

## Compositional Strategies In the Center: The Pantheon



# NUMBERS IN THE DARK

AND OTHER STORIES

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ITALO  
CALVINO



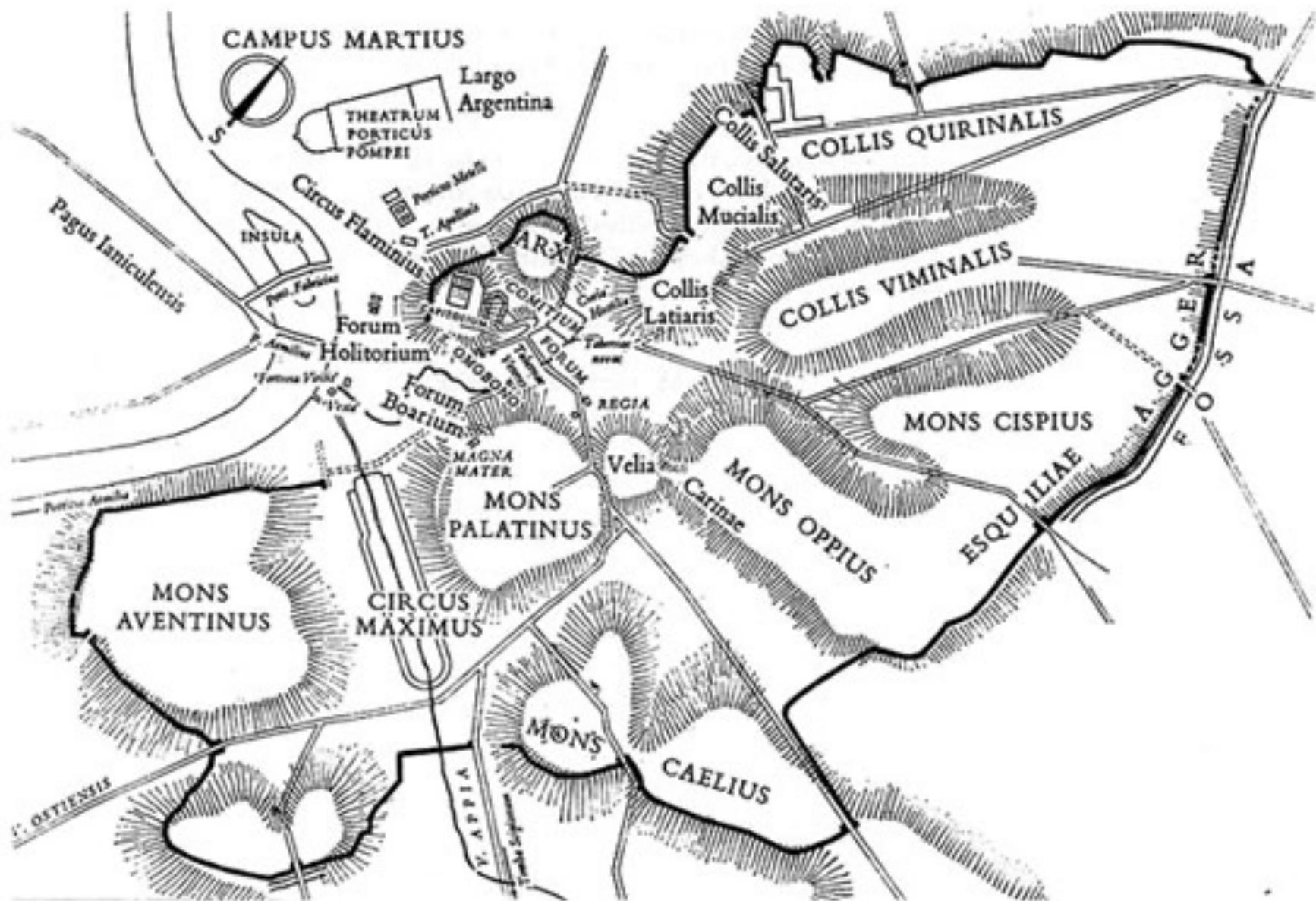


Abb. 161: Rotunde als Mittelpunkt augusteischer und trajanischer Bebauung  
(n. Coarelli, bearb. Sperling)



MAE · DESCRIPTIO

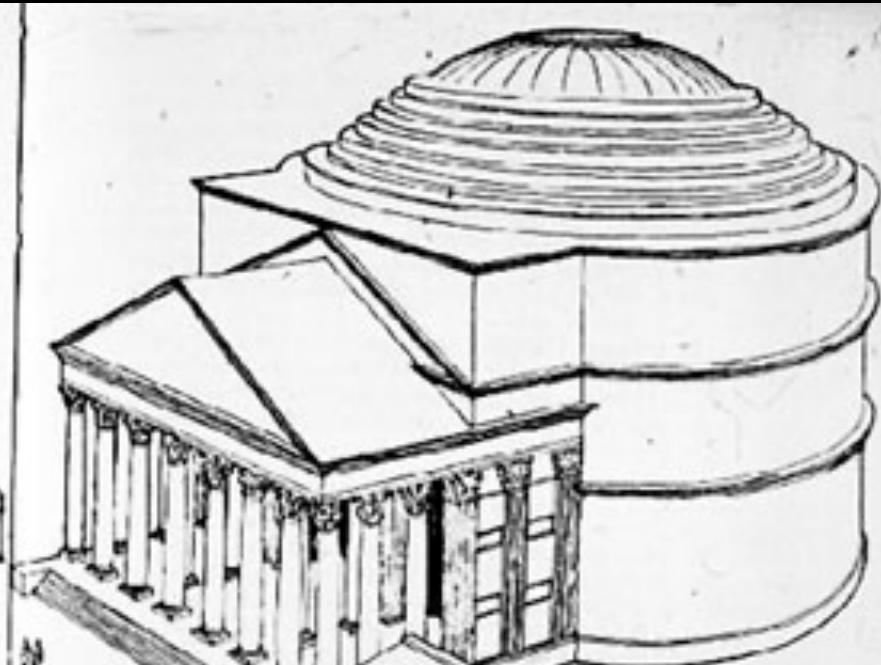
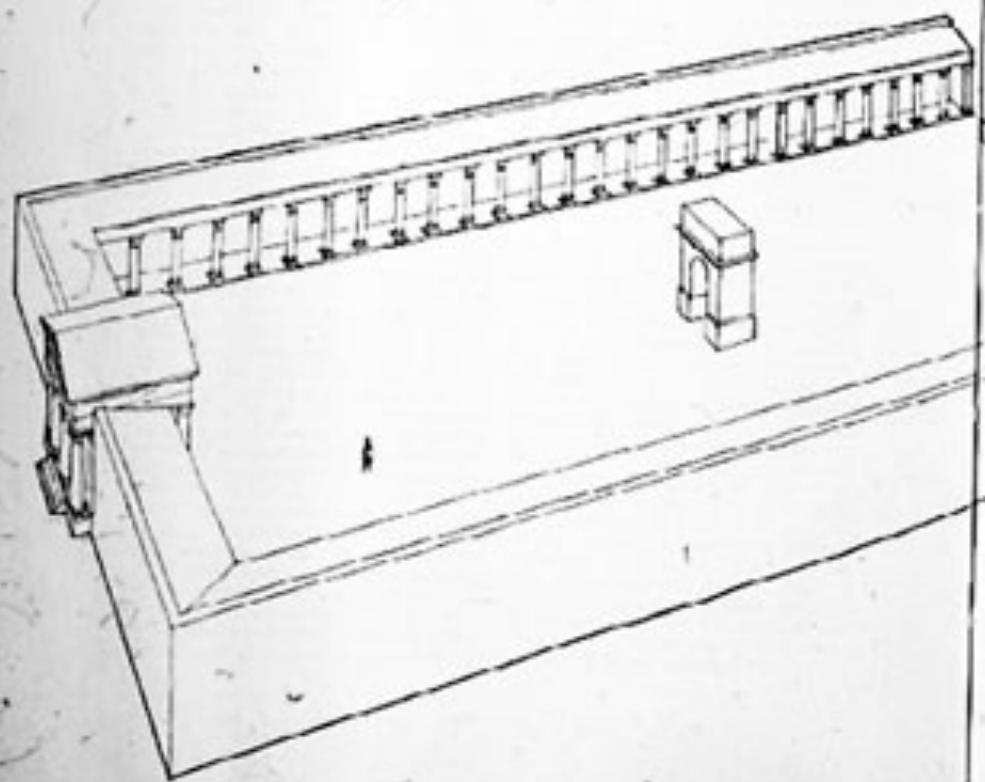
1682  
1680

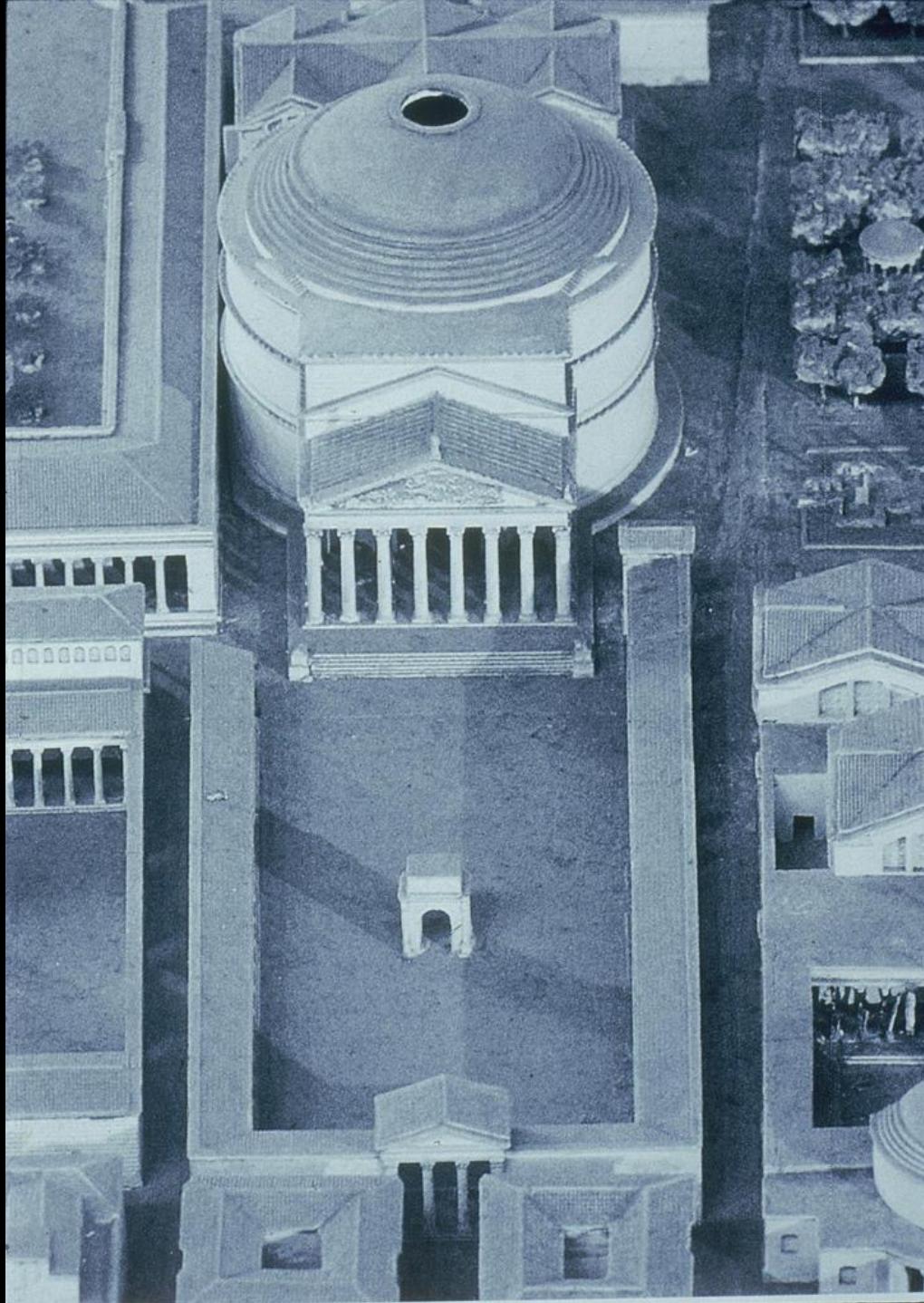






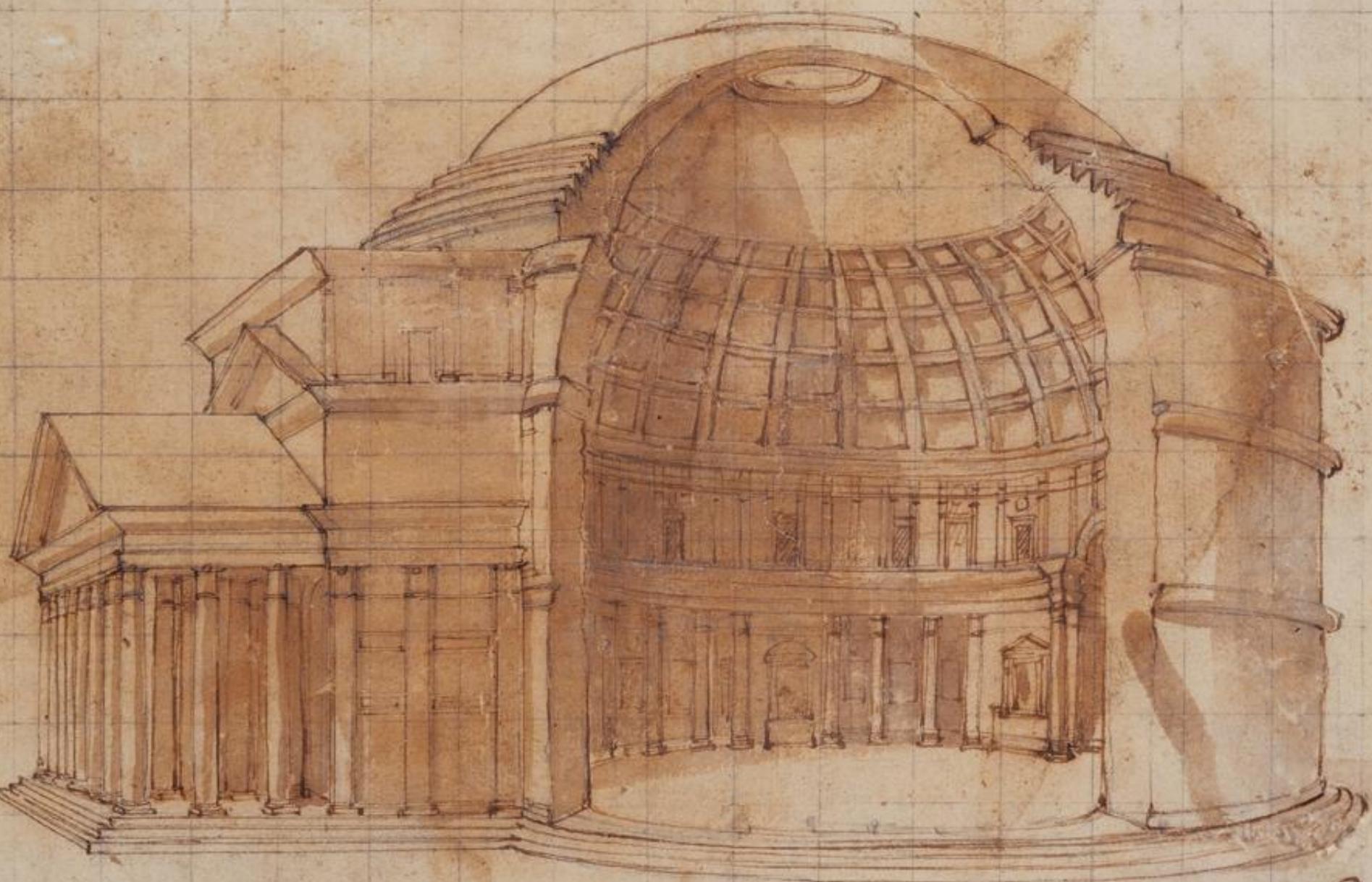
*N. Perspective sketch of the Pantheon with its forecourt restored conjecturally.*





106. *The Pantheon*, analytical drawing of the structure at positions 3,  
7, 11, and 13 (see Figure  
9 on p. 101)





Spaneon sotto la volta



2509

25  
7

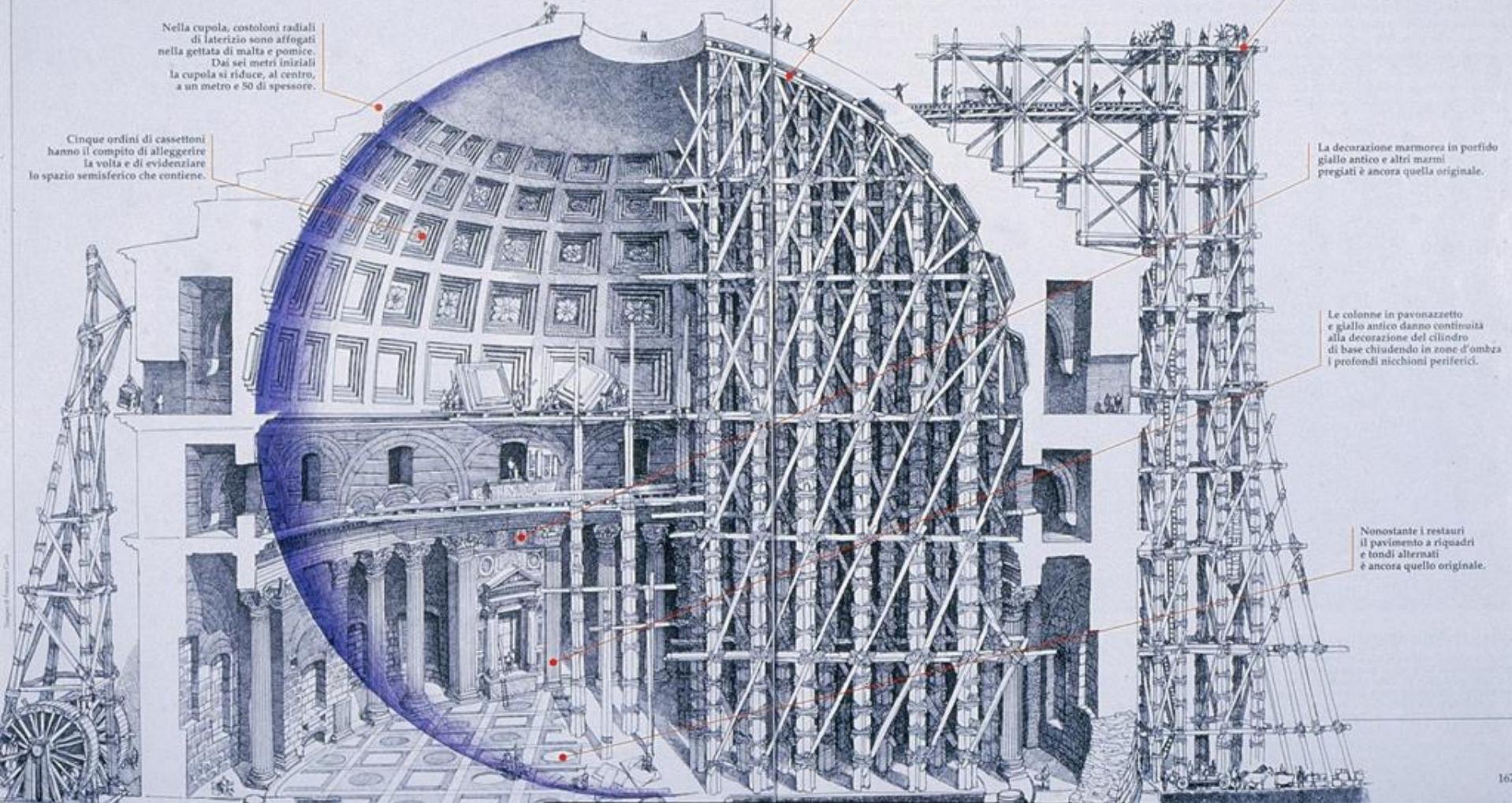
## L'eccezionale impresa dei cantieri romani

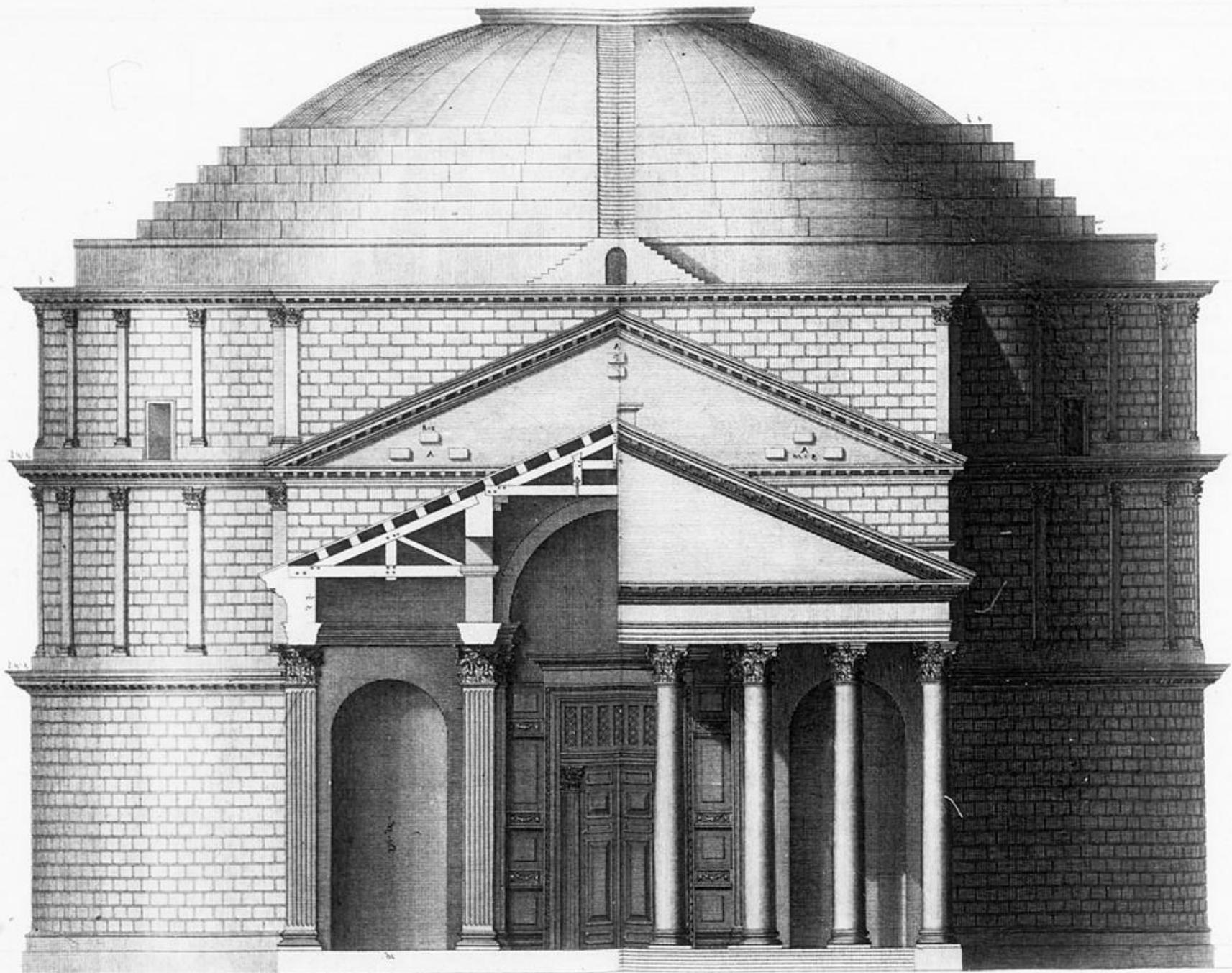
I disegno di queste pagine illustra a grandi linee le tecniche di costruzione adottate per il Pantheon: un'impresa eccezionale in cui la cantieristica romana mostrò il meglio delle sue maestranze e delle sue tecnologie. Nella costruzione del monumento vennero impiegati, dal basso verso l'alto, materiali sempre più leggeri, mentre numerosi archi di scarico distribuivano il peso su otto punti di forza principali.

Qualche cifra può dare un'idea della grandiosità dell'impresa: i muri perimetrali hanno uno spessore di 6 metri e 20 centimetri; il pronao, largo 33 metri e 10 centimetri e profondo 15 metri e mezzo, ha 16 colonne monolitiche di 12 metri e mezzo con una circonferenza di 4 metri e mezzo. La cupola, davvero impressionante, ha un diametro e un'altezza di 43 metri e 30 centimetri, con un grande occhio centrale aperto sul cielo – unica fonte di luce – del diametro di 9 metri. Sotto la sua volta, il Pantheon racchiude uno spazio unitario di 53 mila metri cubi. □

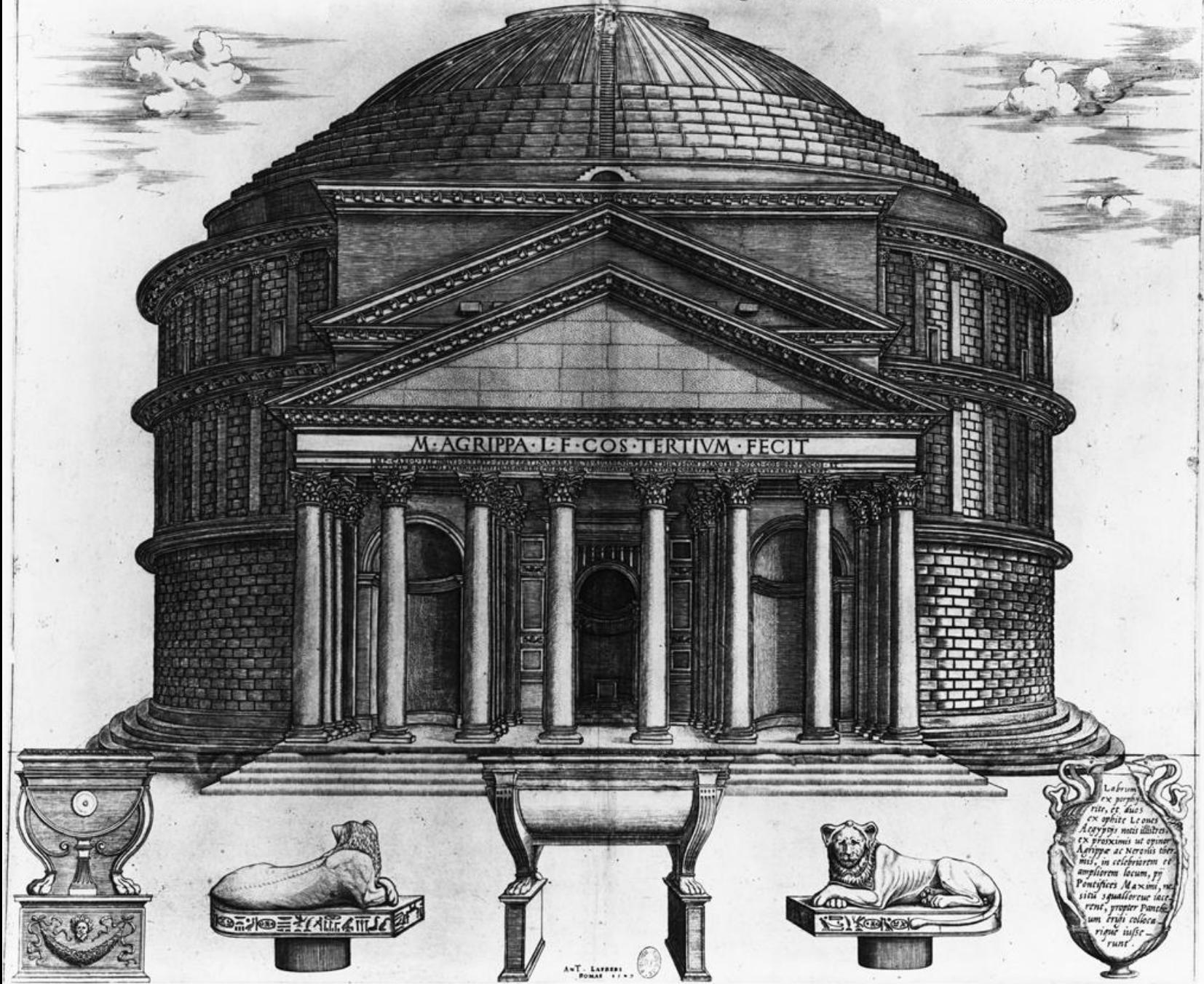
La cupola fu gettata su una cassaforte in legno sostenuta da terra da una selva di "candele", cioè fasci di pali strettamente connessi tra loro.

Nella costruzione del Pantheon la cantieristica romana diede il meglio delle sue maestranze e tecnologie messe a punto nei grandi cantieri imperiali.





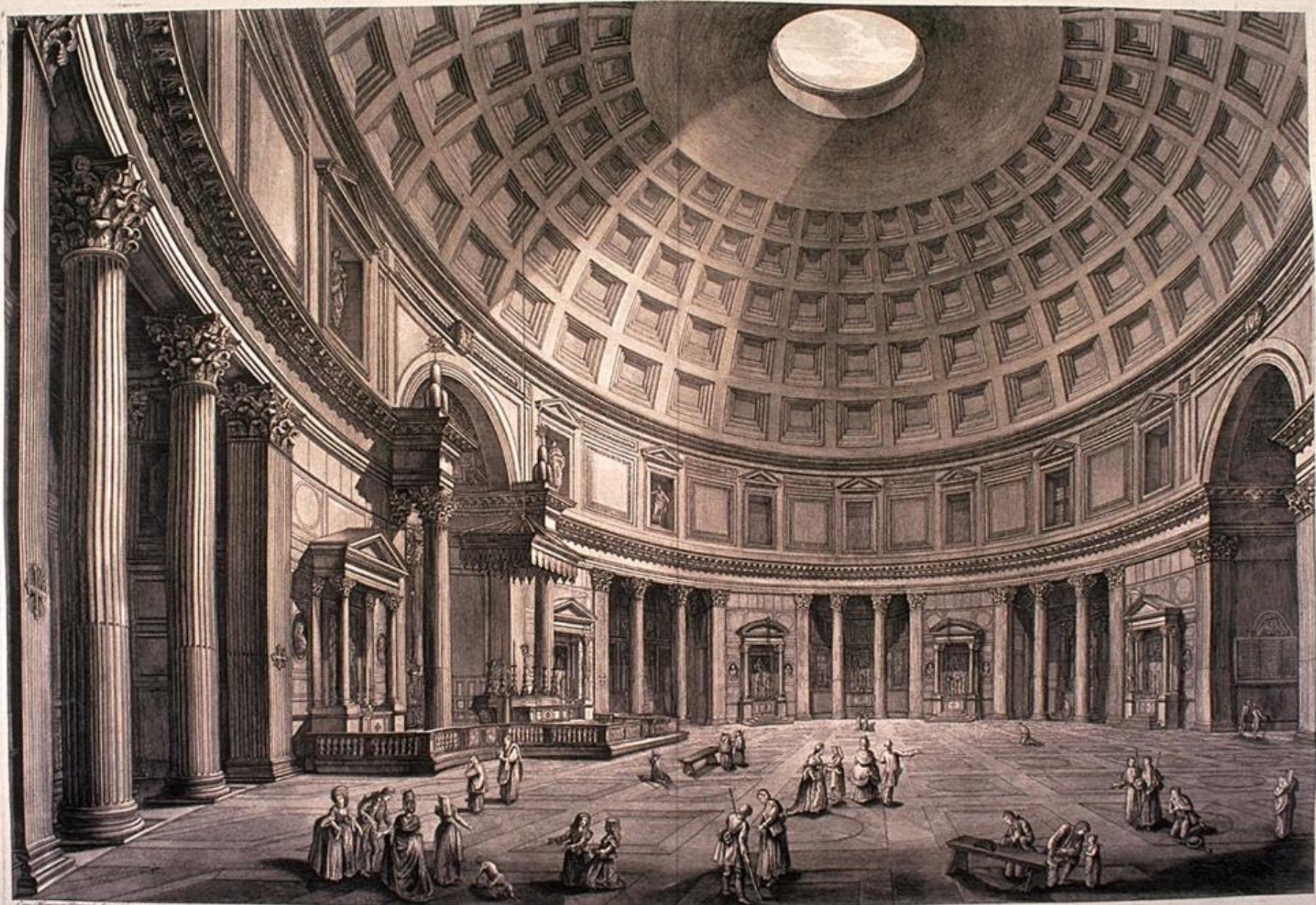
PANTHEVM ROMANVM NVNC MARIAE COGNOMENTO ROTVNDÆ NOTVM AD ANTIQVAM SVAM EFFIGIEM ET FORMAM EXPRESVM



Labrum  
re per  
ris, et duas  
ex opere Leones  
Agrippa non illudens  
Ex proximo ut opin  
Agrippa ac Neronis ther  
mit, in exterritum et  
ampliorem locum, p  
Pontifices Maximi, ne  
sita quadriferae iact  
ente, propter Panthe  
um trios coloca  
vite usque  
runt.

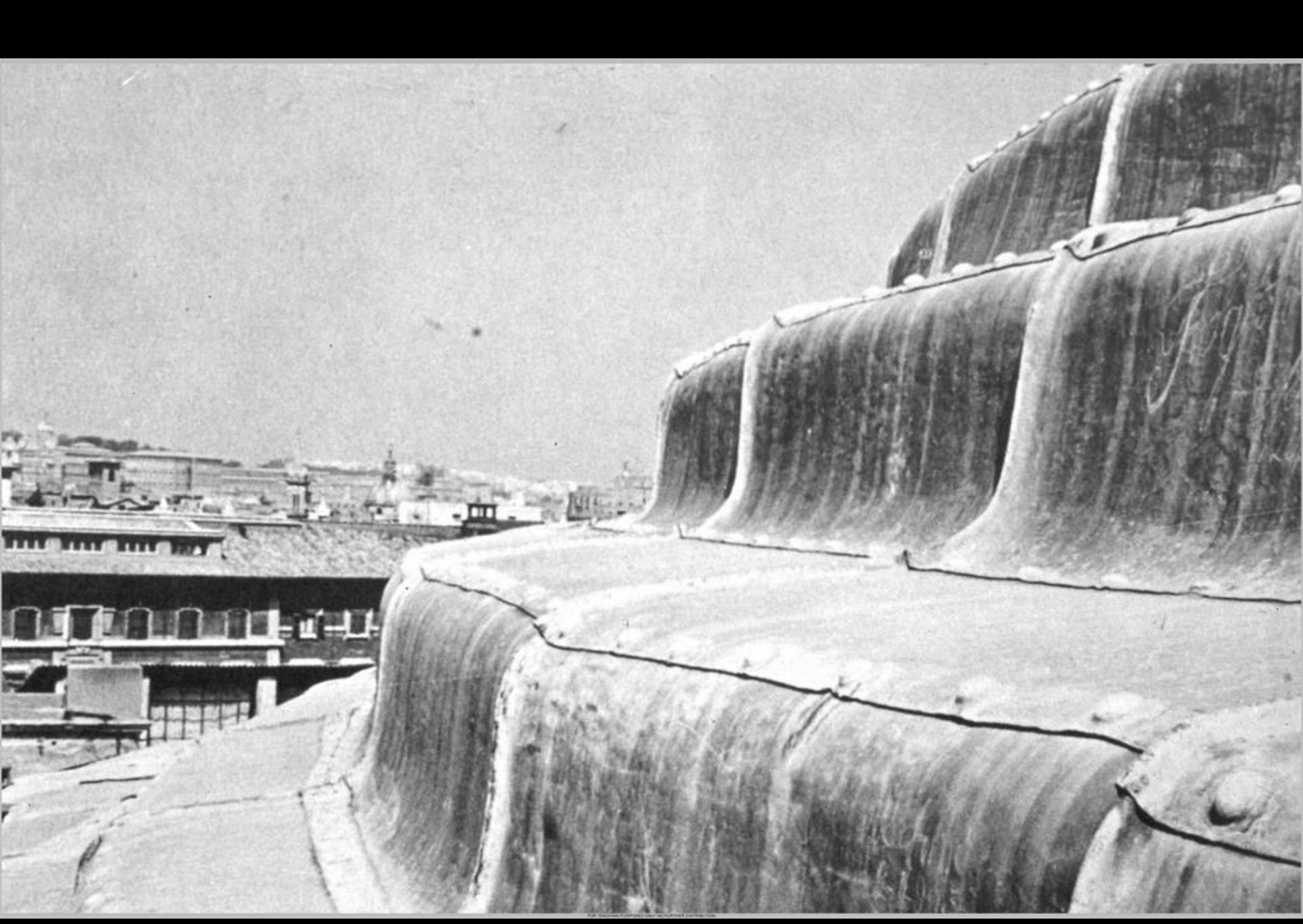






*Veduta interna del Pantheon volgarmente detto la Rotonda*

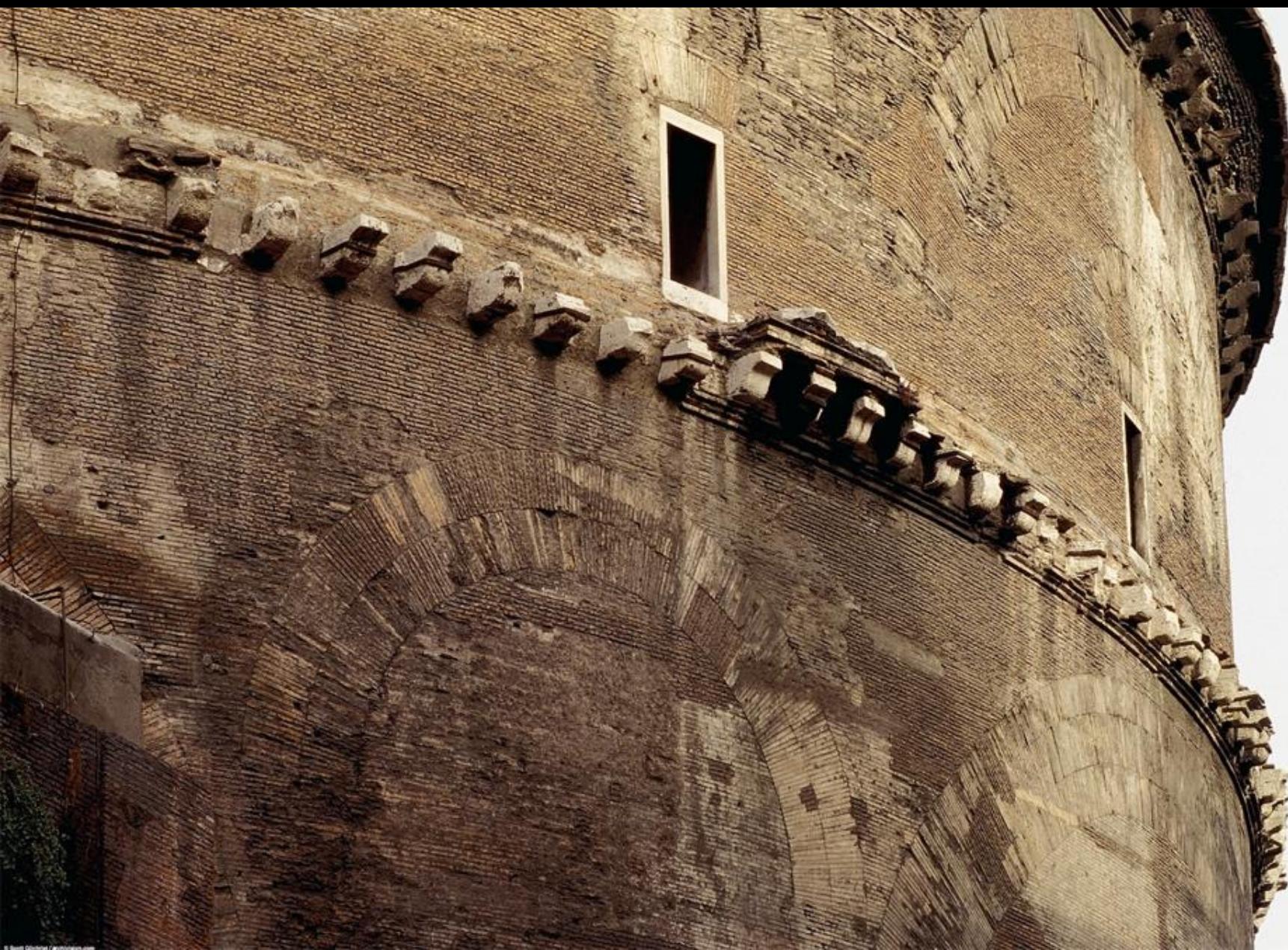






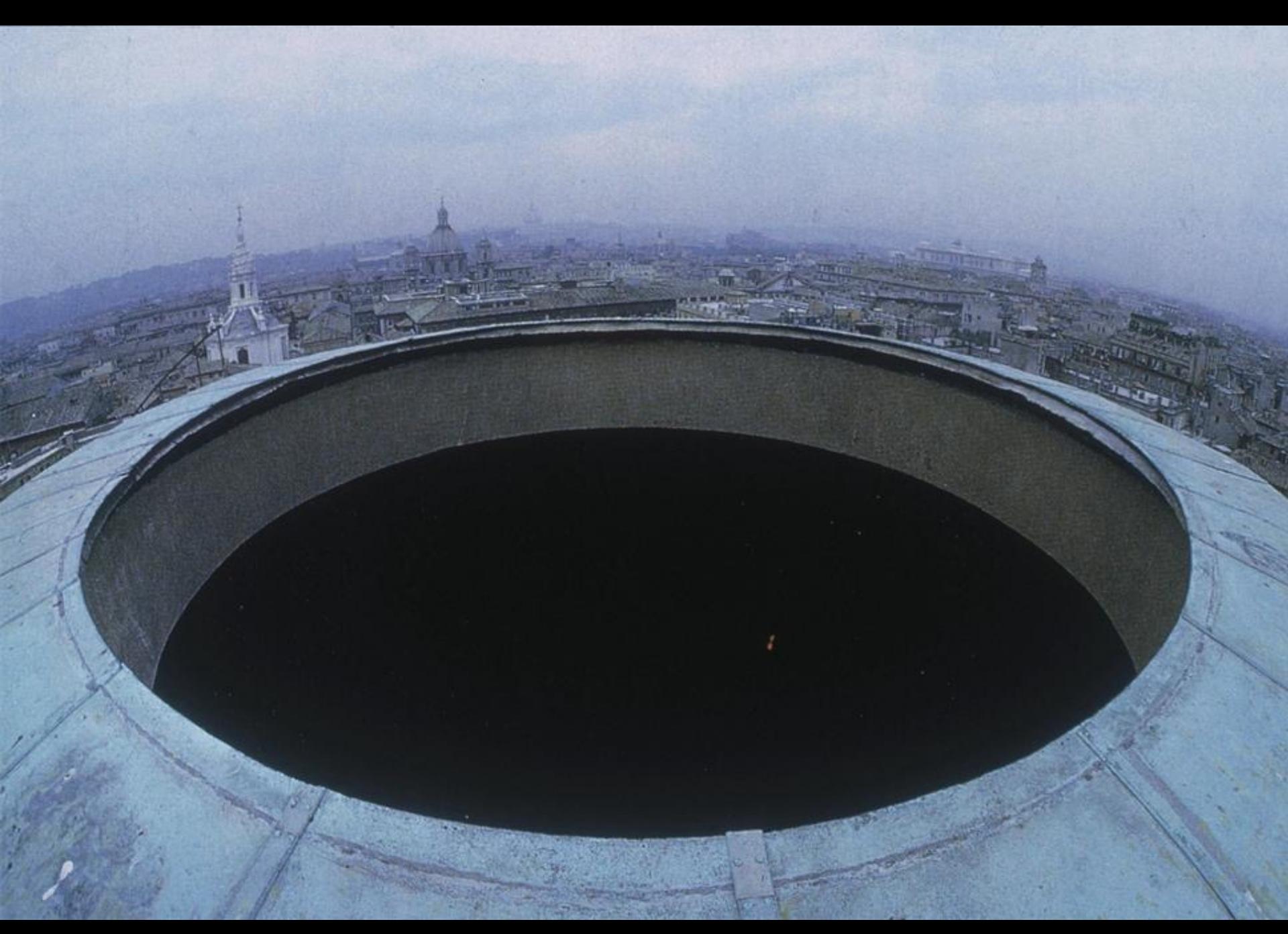












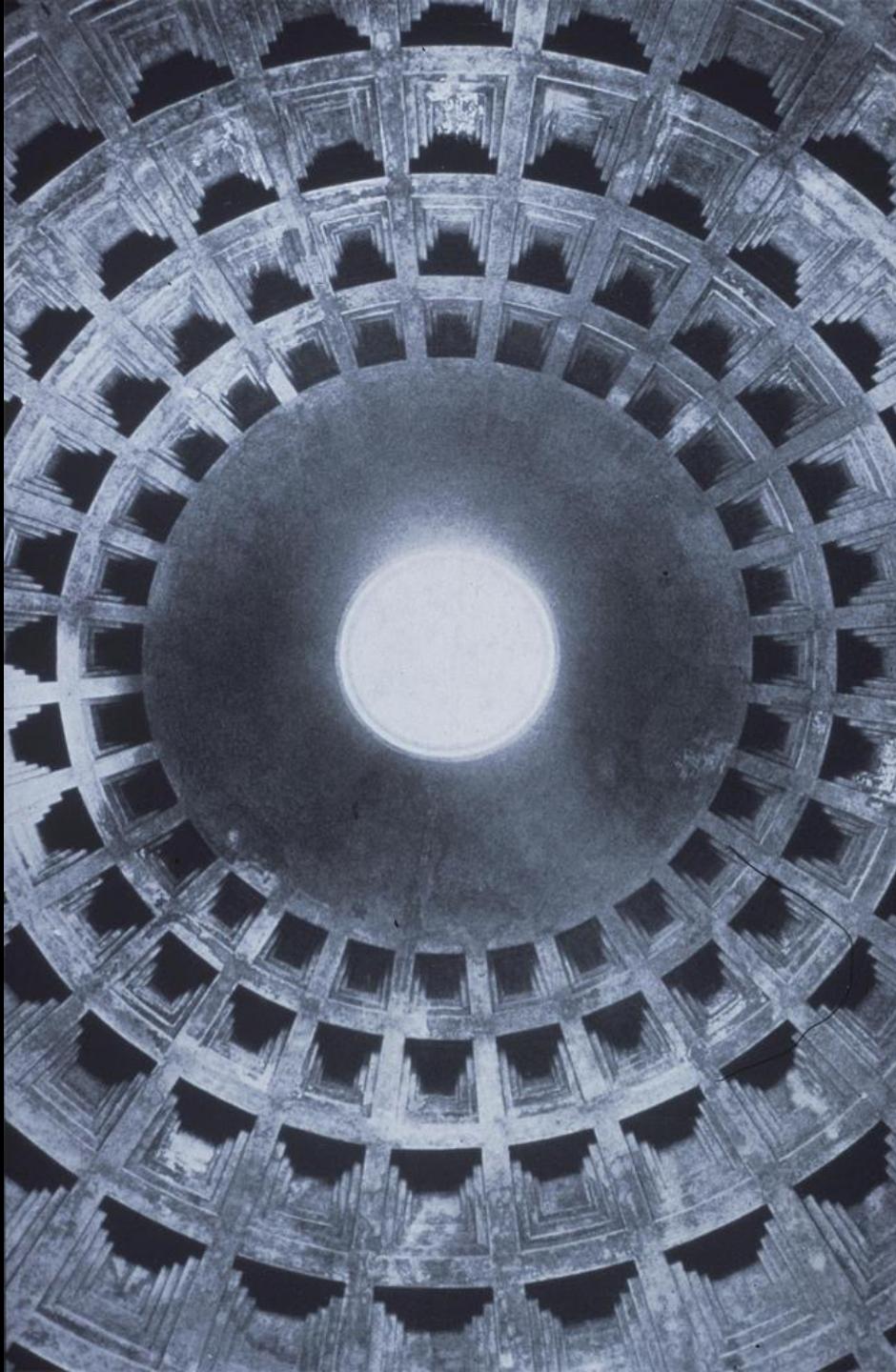














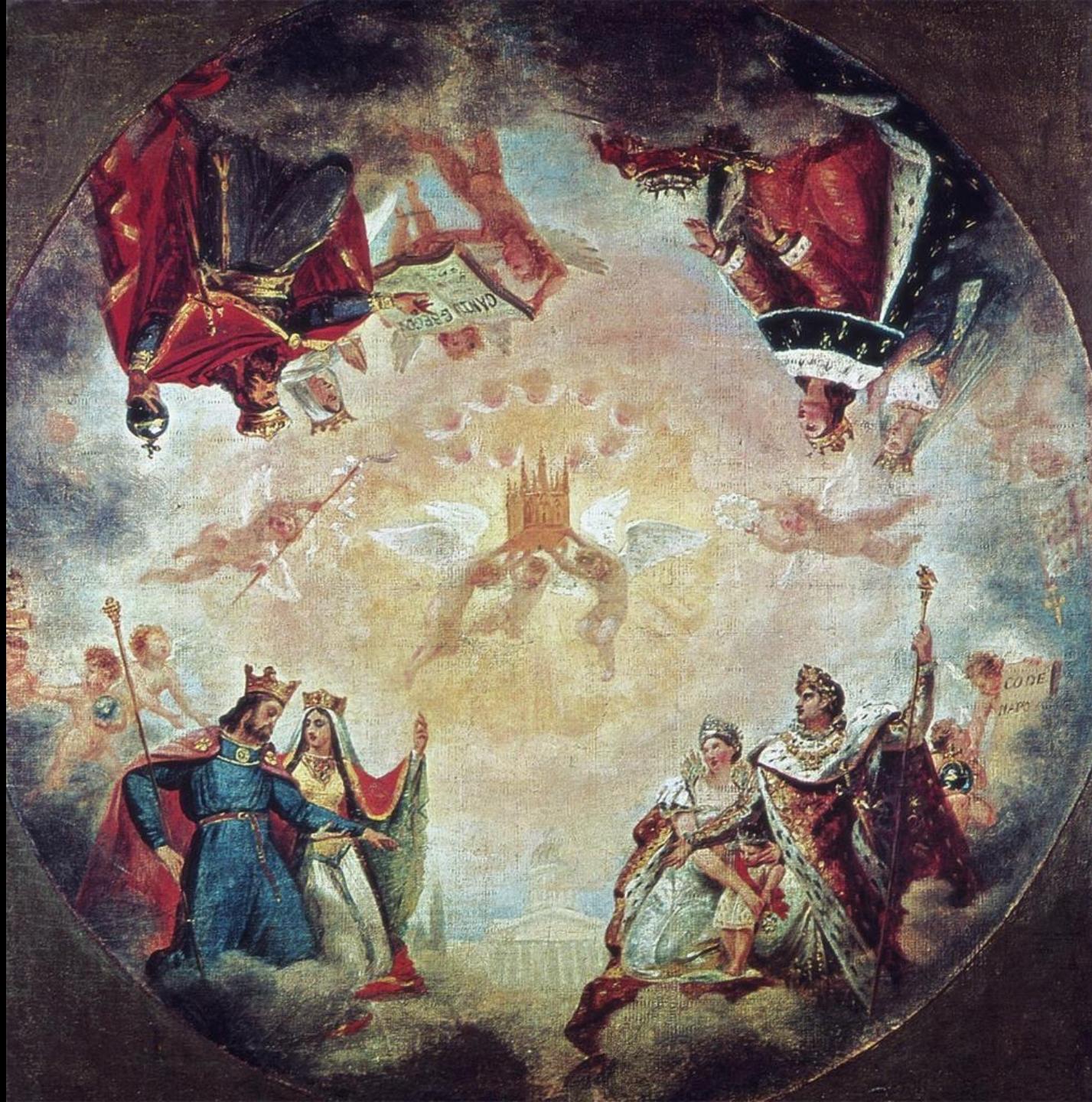
ANILLA

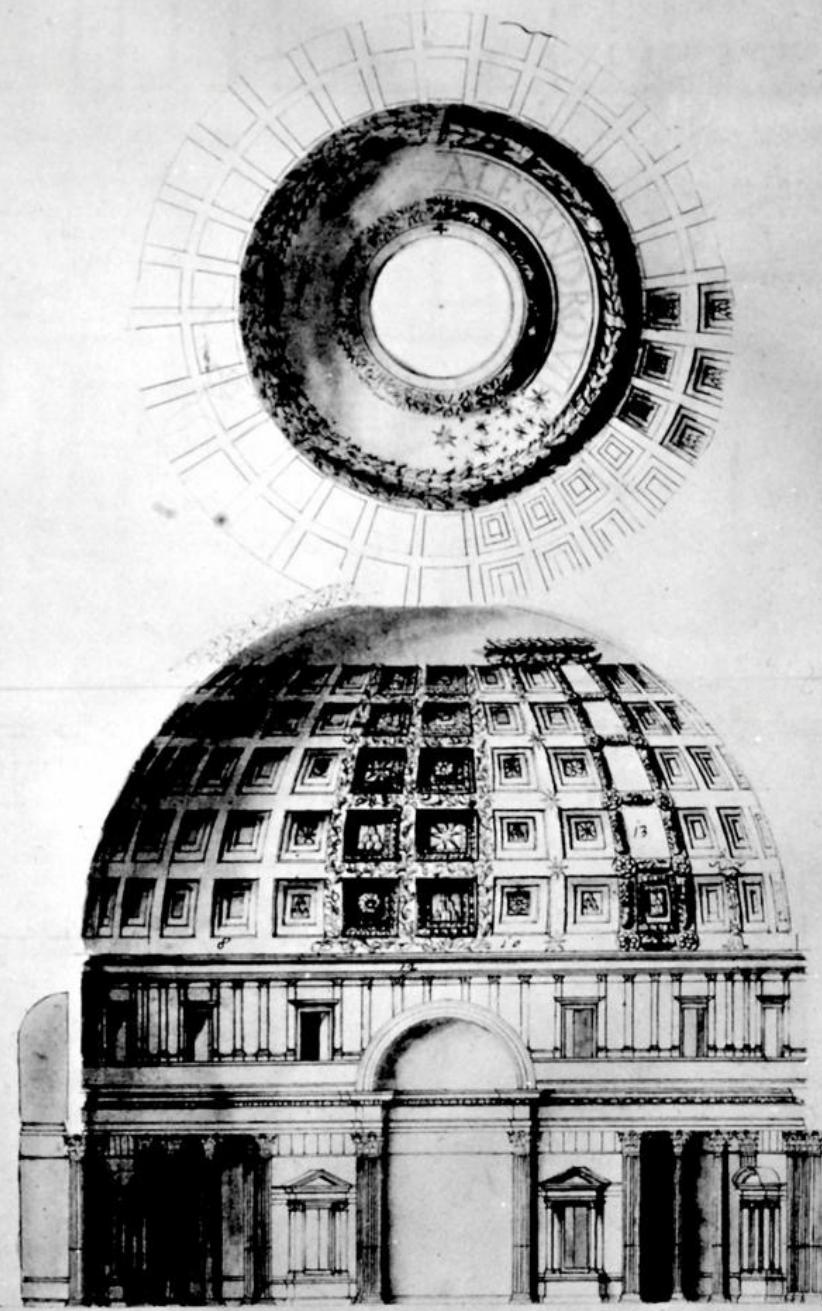
JOHANNES

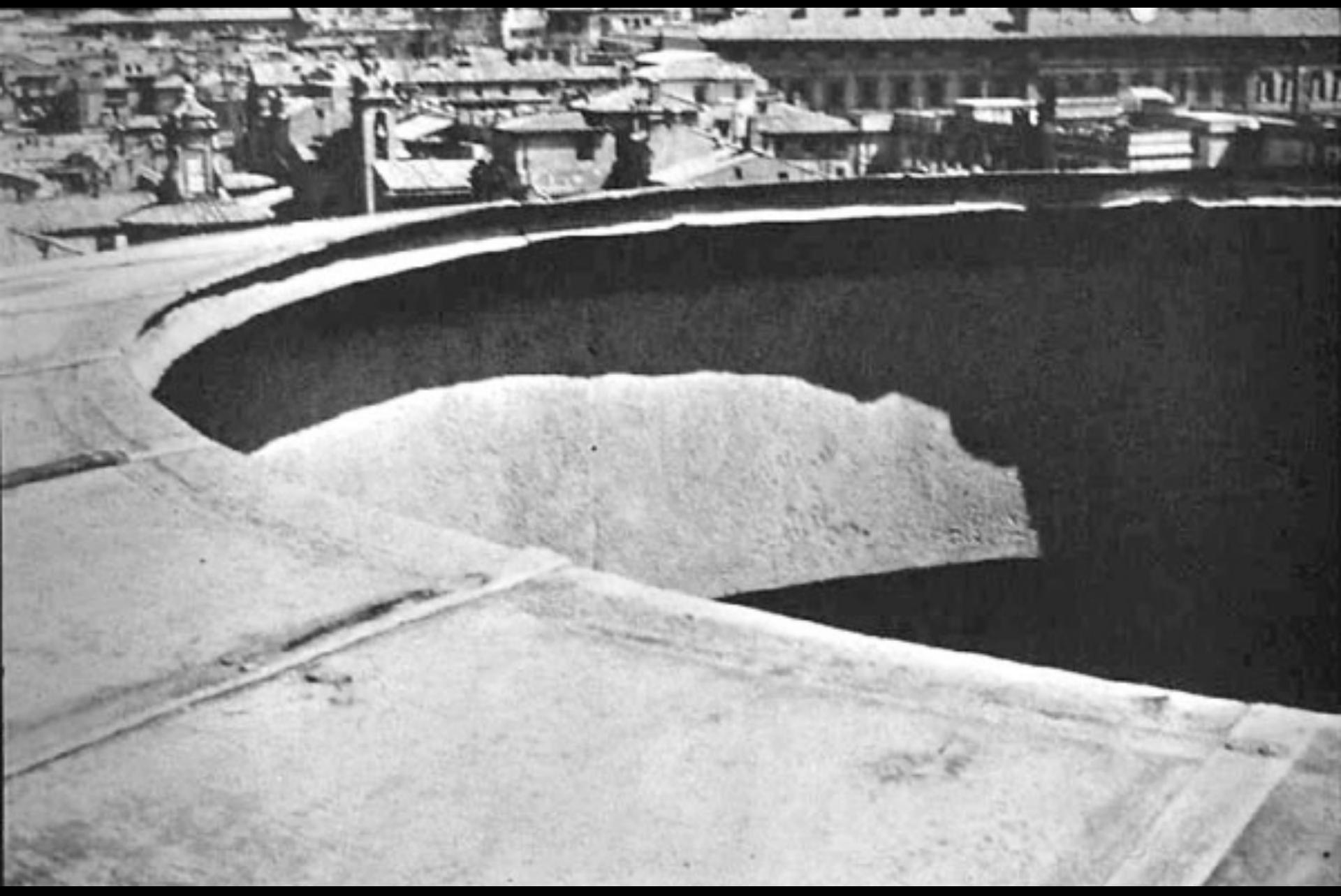
WMT E VSMO.

MARCUS  
LEO

LU  
CAS VI TULO

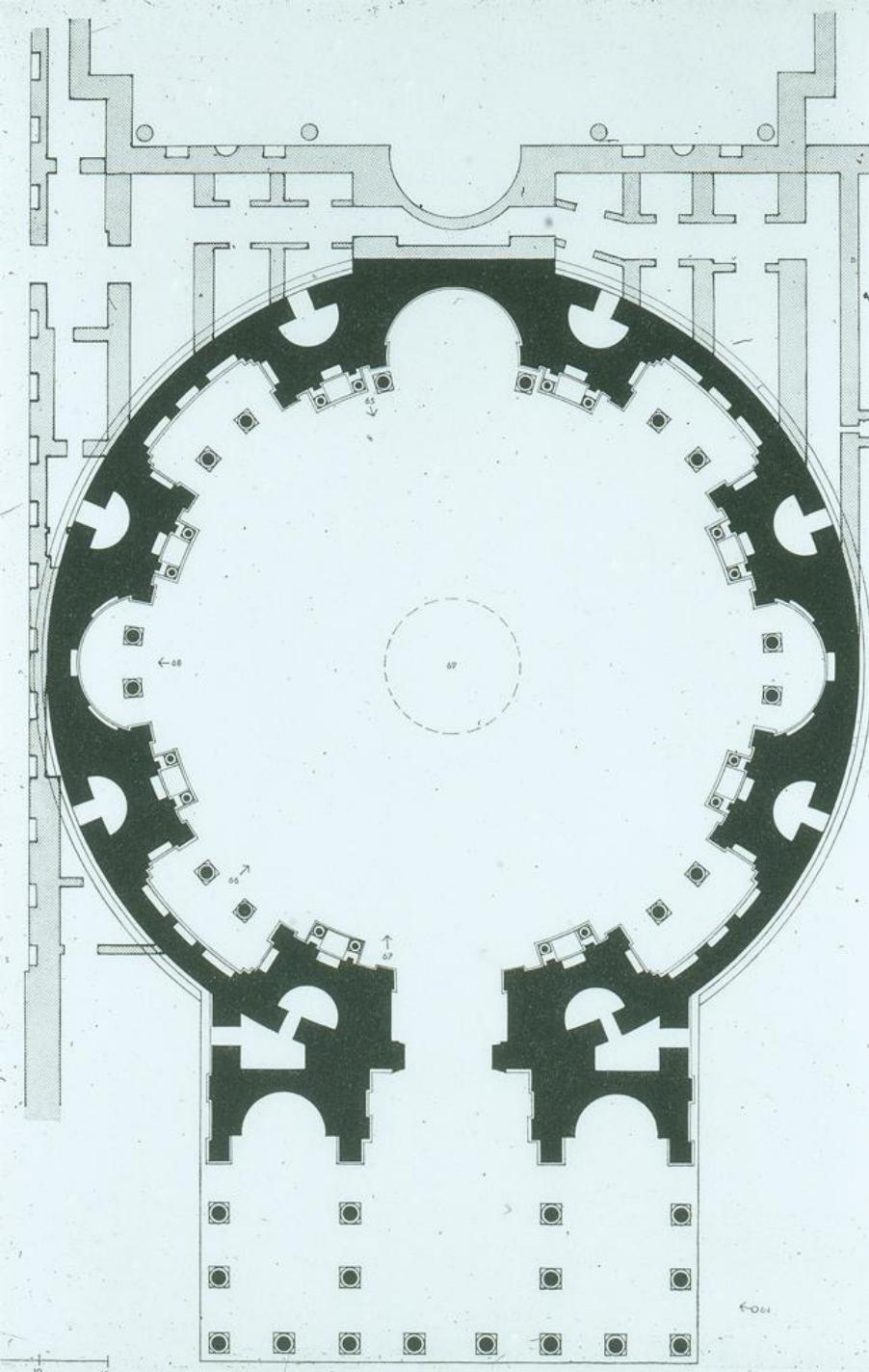


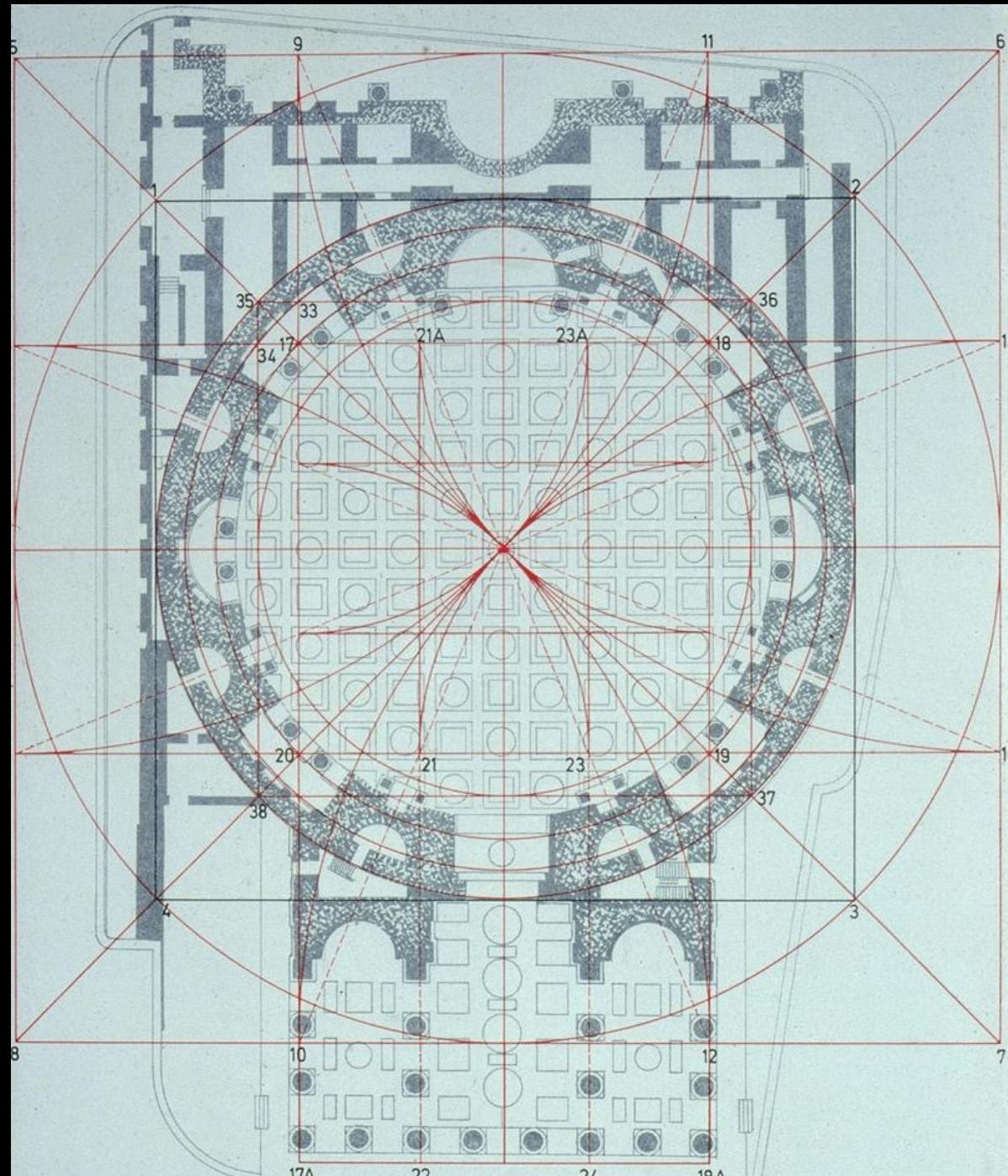




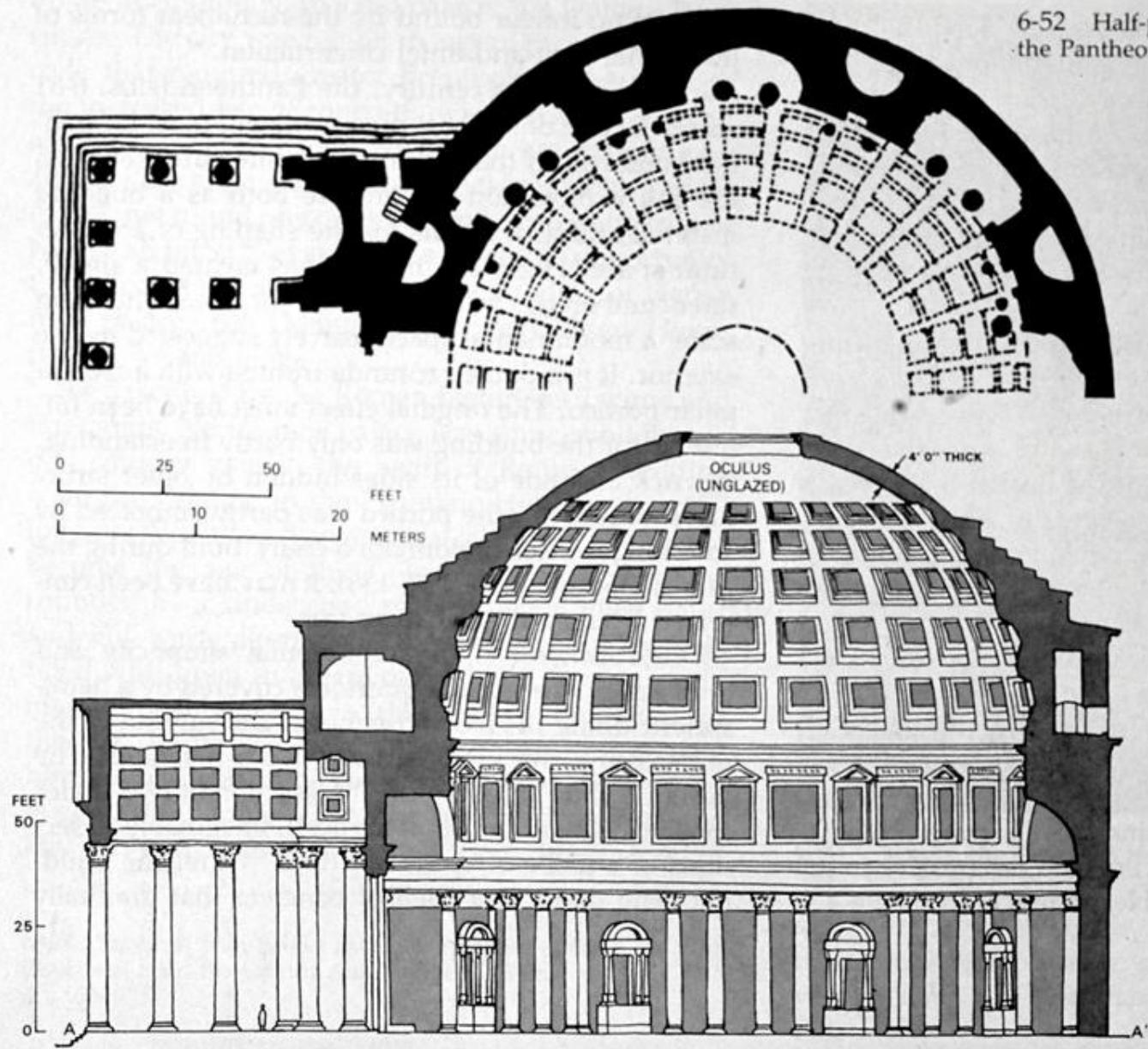


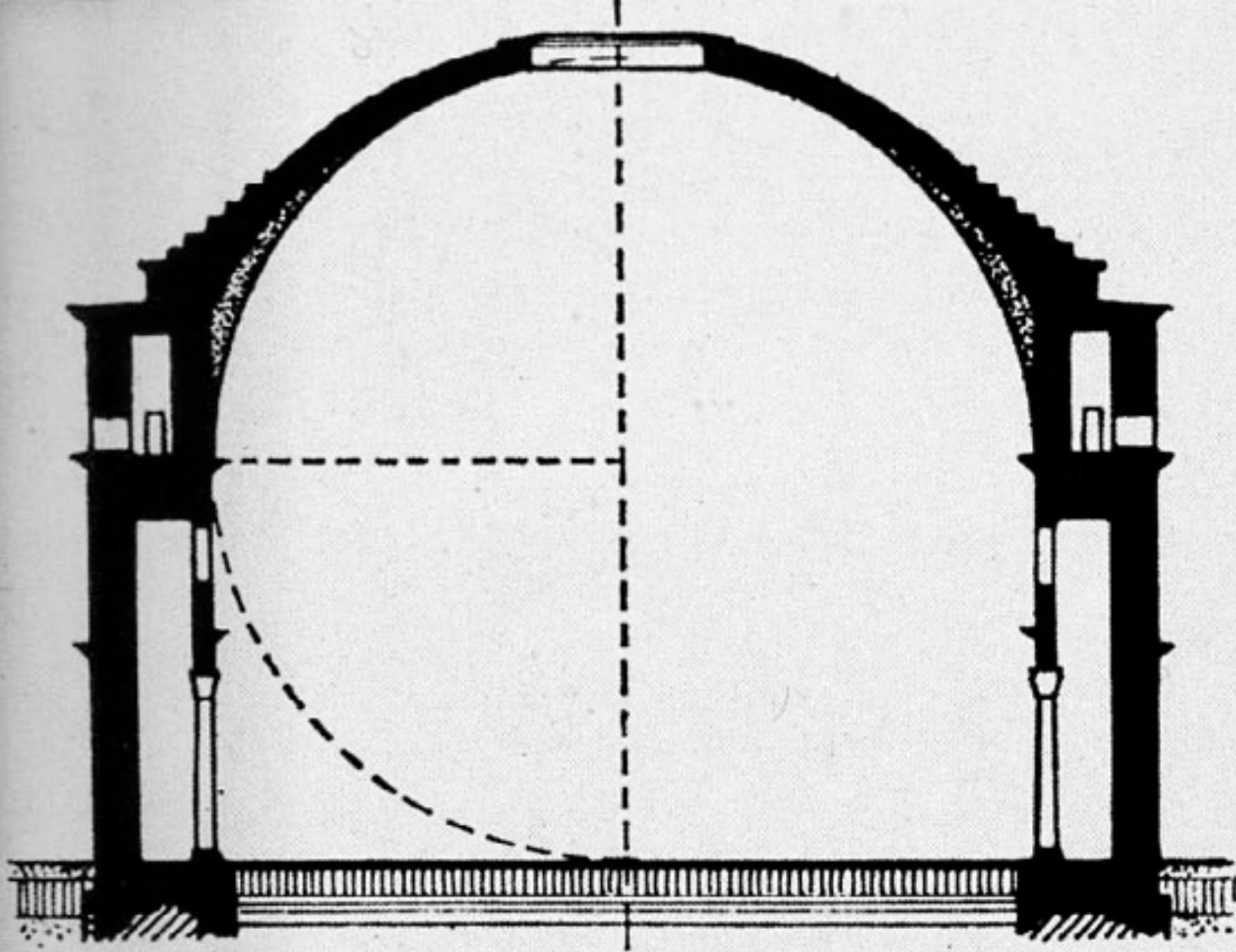


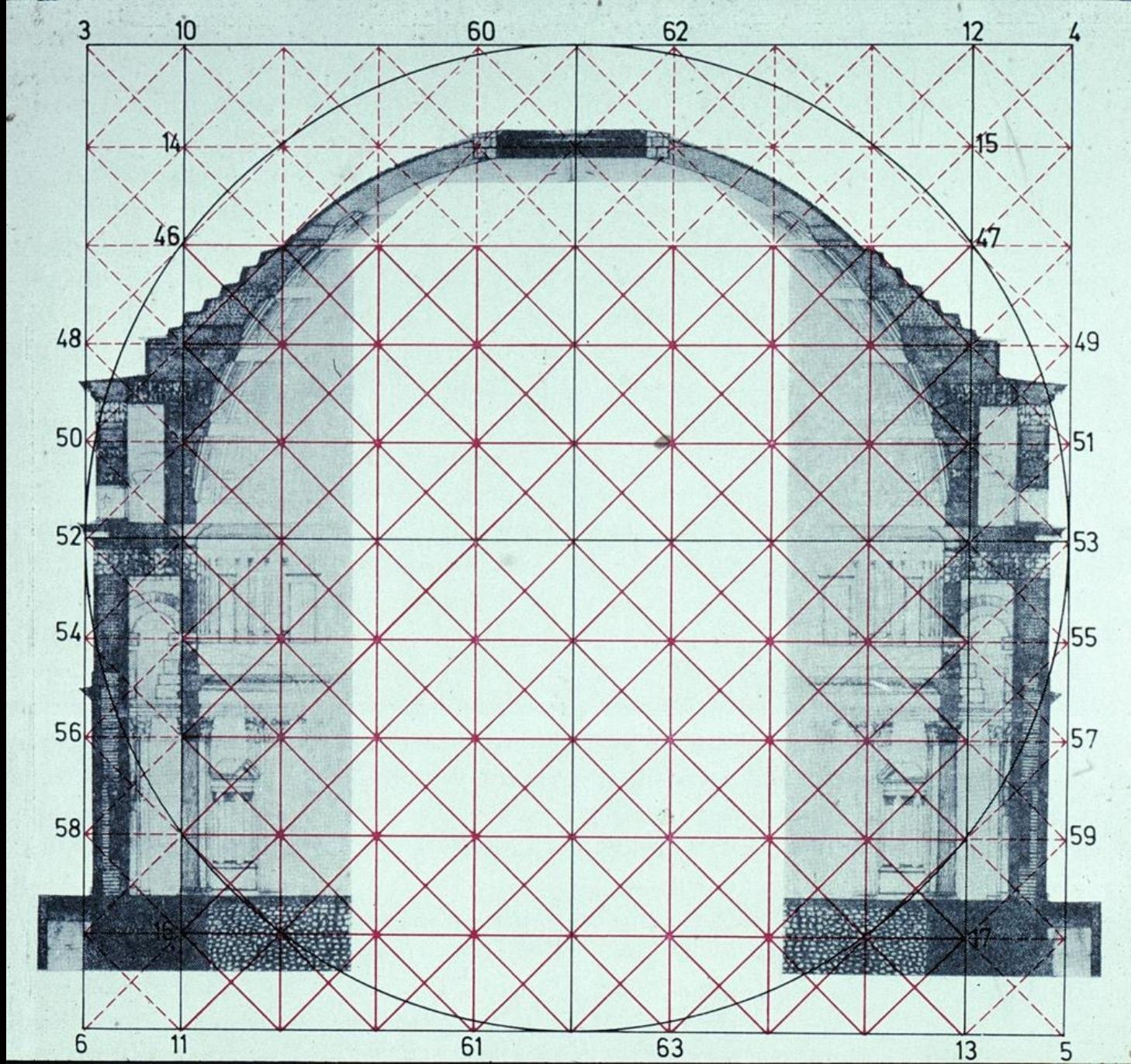




6-52 Half-plan (above) and section (below) of the Pantheon, Rome. (Plan is symmetrical.)







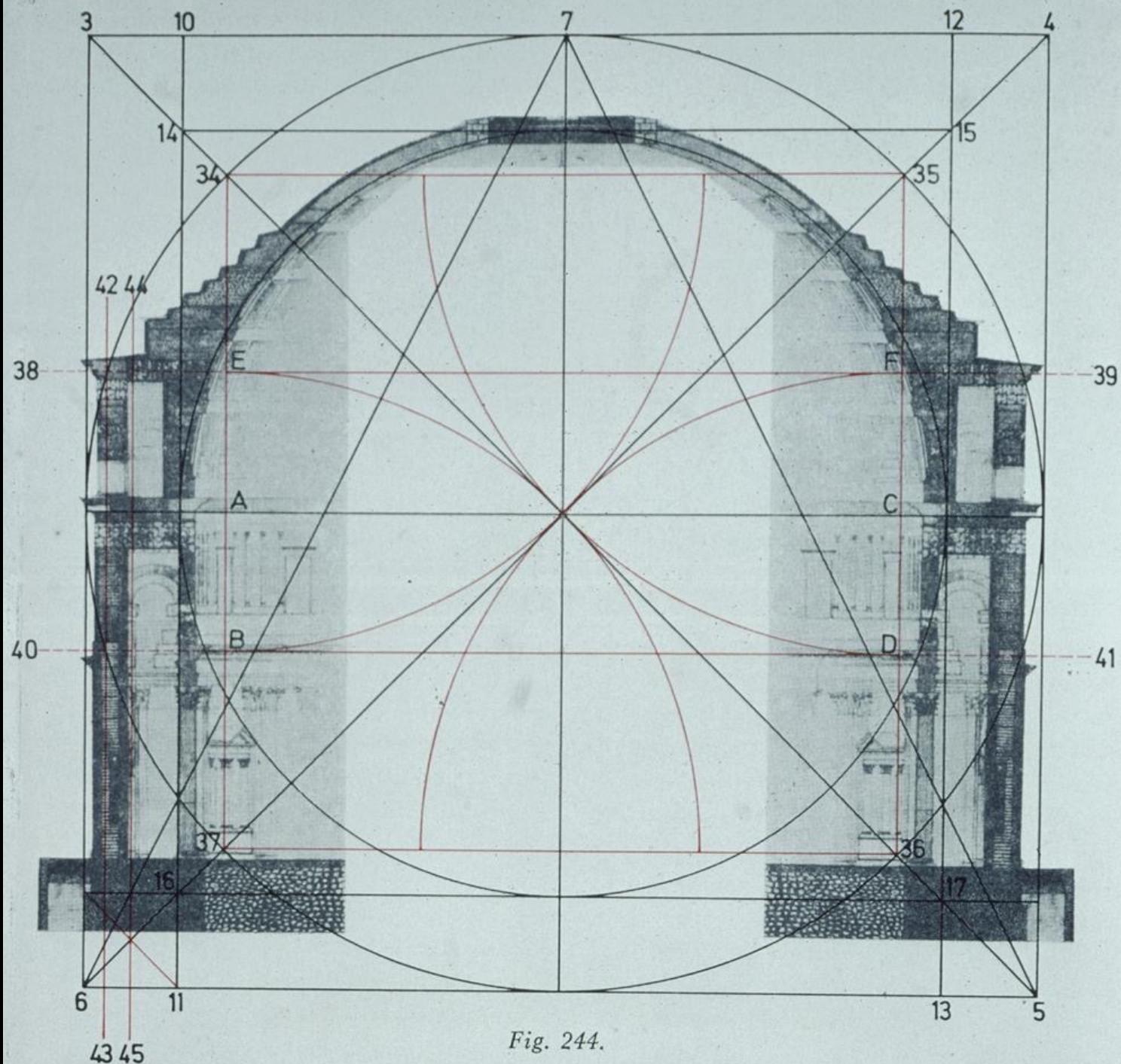
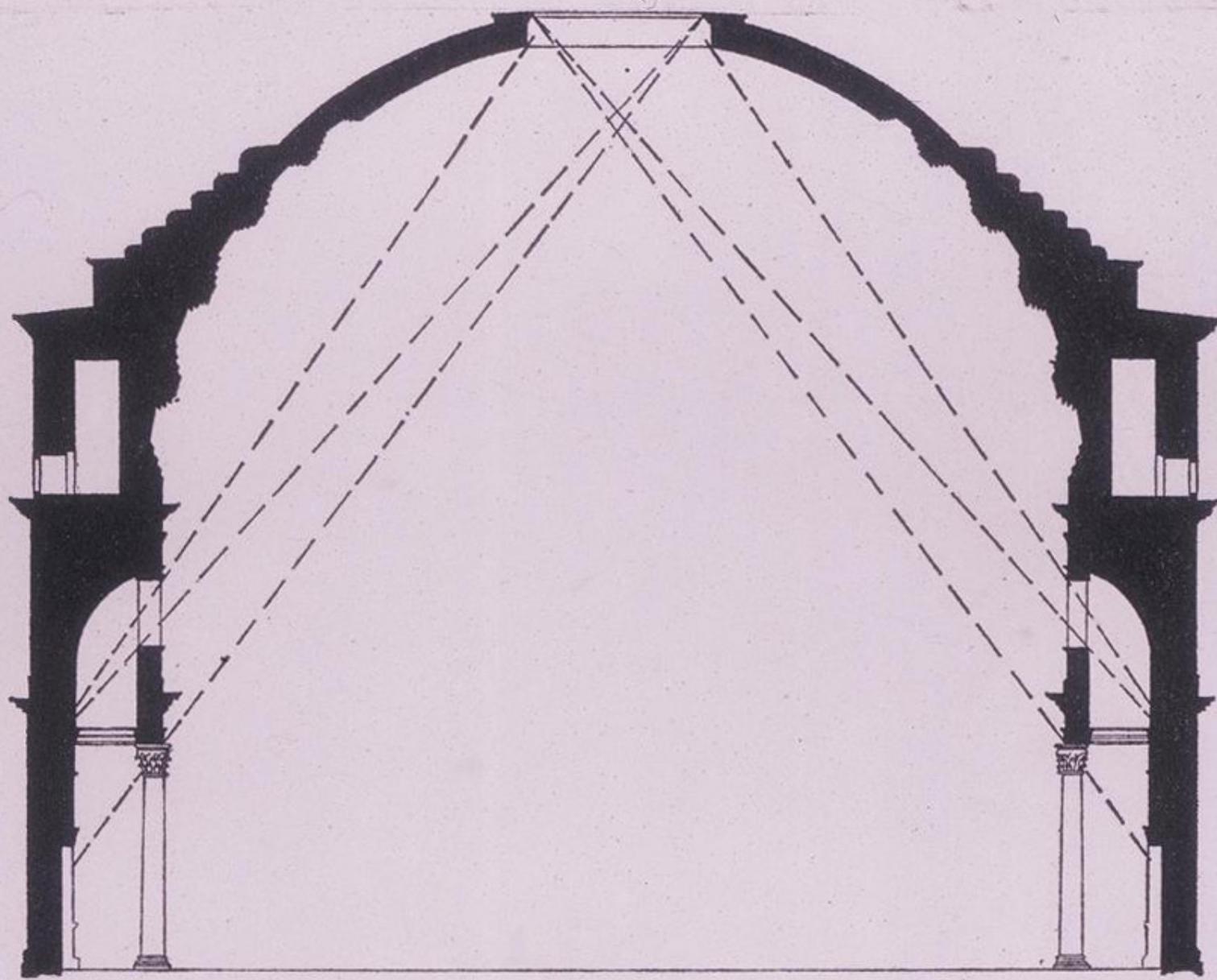
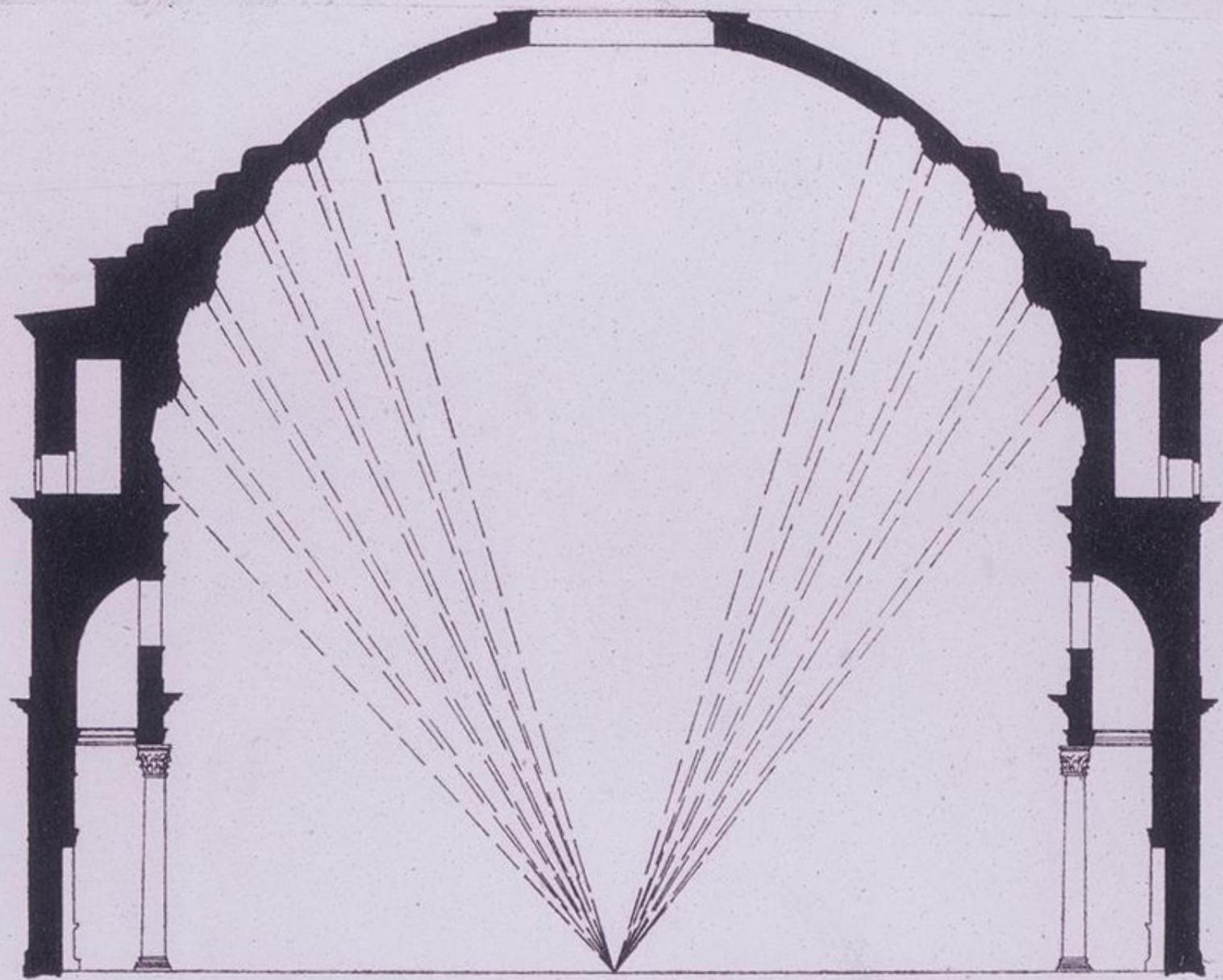


Fig. 244.



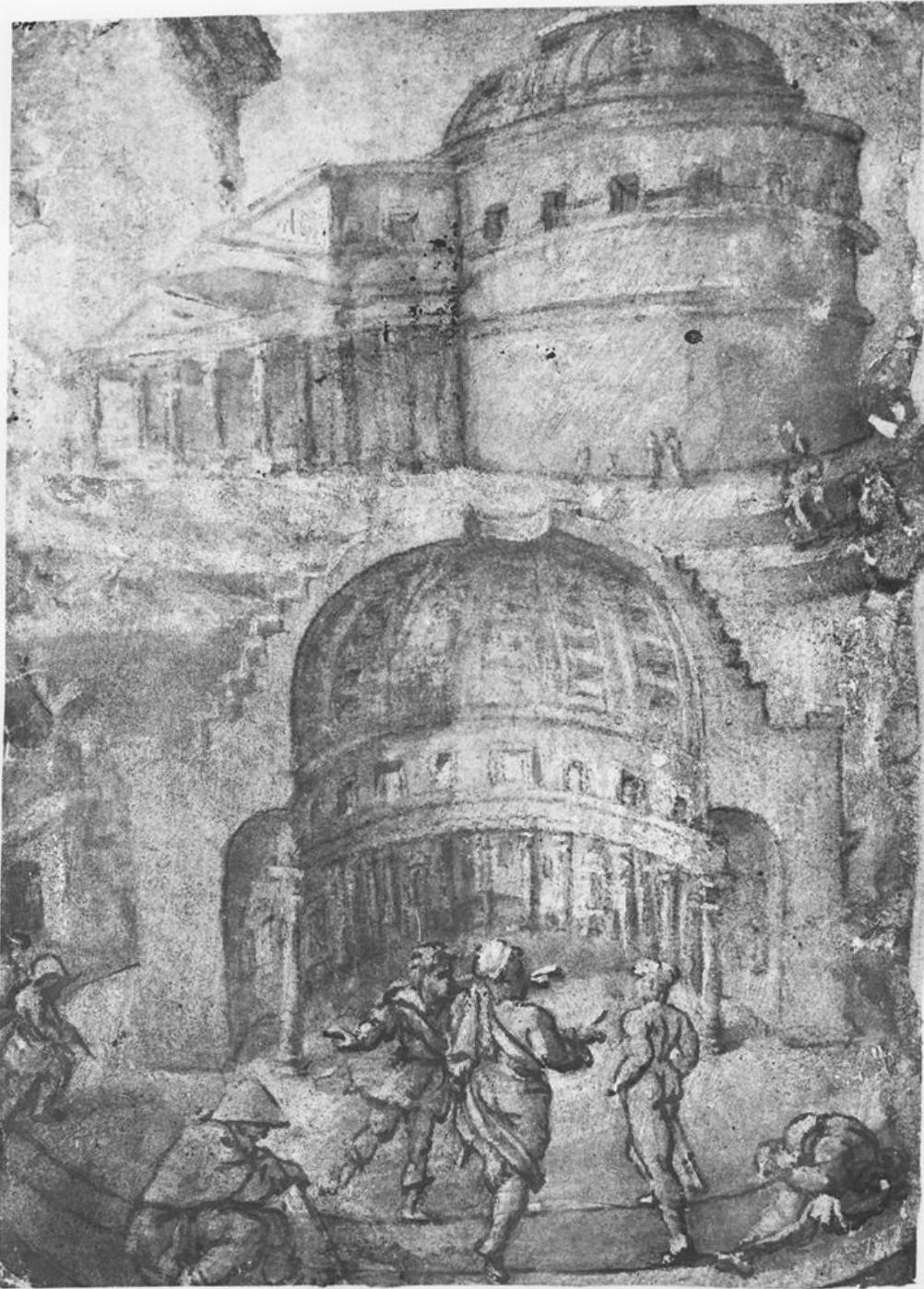




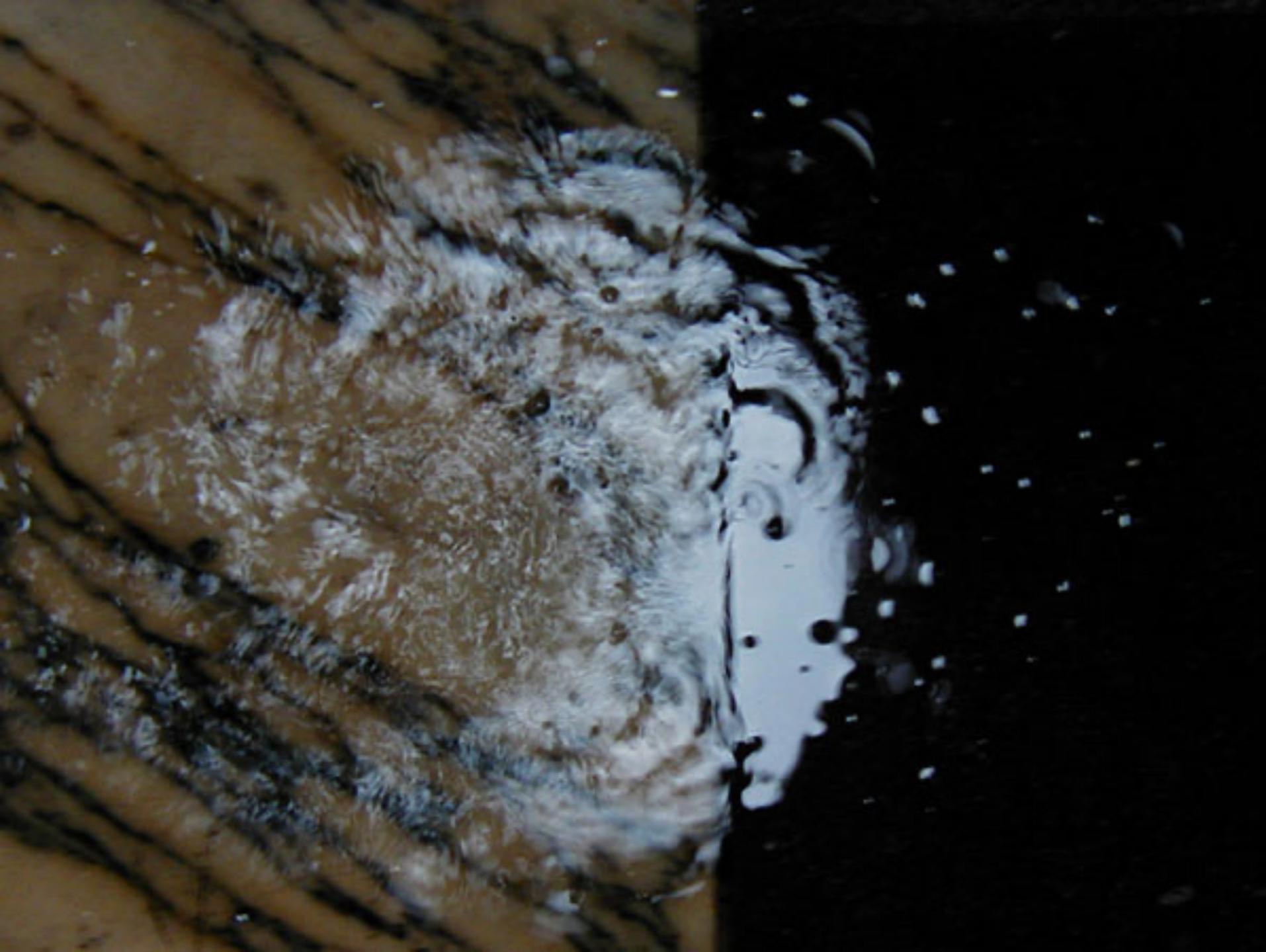




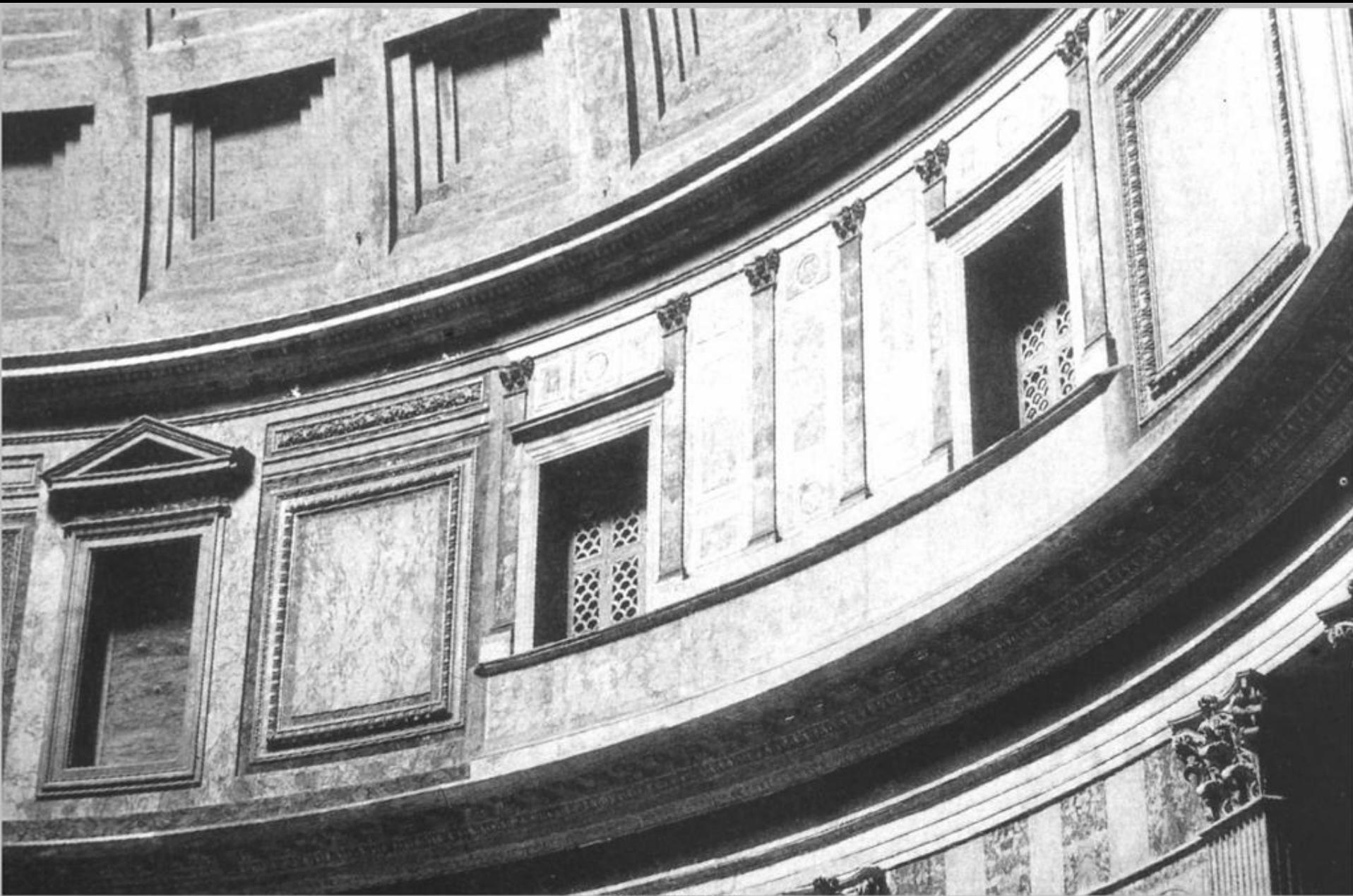




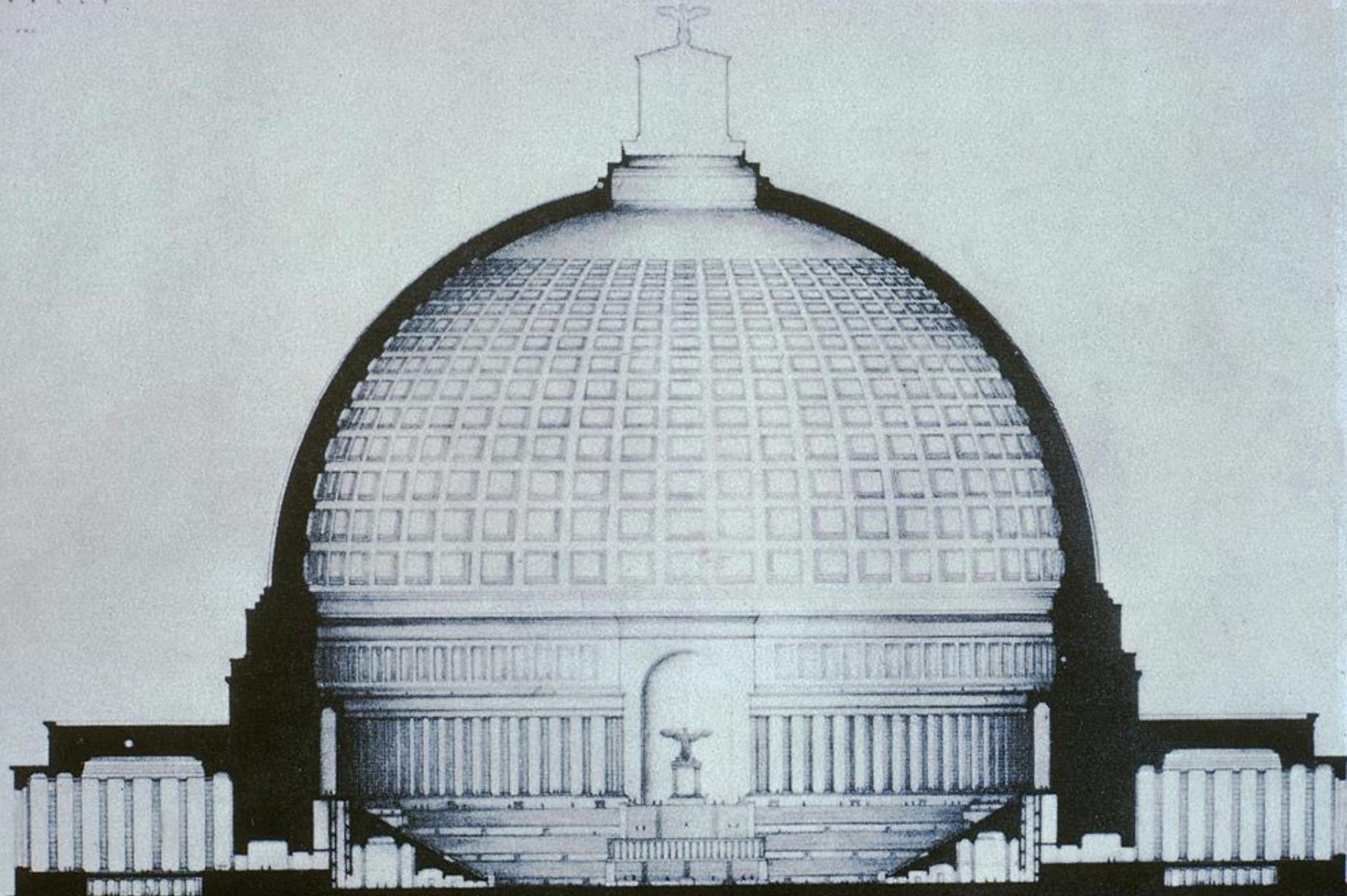












Berlin



England

20691



