

32. E.Bayer, *Fischerbilder in der hellenistischen Plastik* (Bonn, 1983); H.P.Laubscher, *Fischer und Landleute* (Mainz, 1982).
33. T.W.Gallant, *A fisherman's tale: an analysis of the potential productivity of fishing in the ancient world* (*Miscellanea Graeca* 7; Ghent, 1985).
34. N. & B.Kitz, *Pains Hill Park* (London, 1984), p. 35.
35. The villa has been largely destroyed but was recorded in considerable detail in the 19th century: L.Fortunati, *Relazione generale degli scavi e scoperte fatte lungo la via Latina* (Rome, 1859), cf. Coarelli, *Dintorni di Roma*, pp. 138–40.
36. A.Carandini & A.Ricci (eds), *Settefinestre, una villa schiavistica nell'Etruria romana* (Modena, 1985), vol. ii, for the *pars fructuaria* of Settefinestre; cf. N. Purcell, review of Carandini & Ricci, *JRS* 88, 1988, pp. 194–8. For excessive investment in a country estate, see above all the elder Pliny on Tarius Rufus: *NH* 18.37.
37. For a parallel, see the Massaciuccoli villa, *NSc.* 1935, p. 212.
38. Carandini & Ricci, *Settefinestre*.
39. Cf. P.Miniero, Ricerche sull'Ager Stabianus, in *Studia Pompeiana et classica in honor of Wilhelmina F.Jashemski*, ed. R.I.Curtis (New Rochelle, NY, 1988) vol. i, pp. 262–5.
40. Kitz, *Pains Hill Park*, p. 87.
41. See *Misurare la terra*, pp. 131–7.
42. *Ibid.*, p. 110.
43. “Ubi agros optime cultos vidisset, in his regionibus excelsissimo loco gromam statuere aiebat; inde corrigere viam, aliis per vineas medias, aliis per roborarium atque piscinam, aliis per villam.” A.E.Astin, *Scipio Aemilianus* (Oxford, 1967), pp. 175–7, takes this simply as Scipio's counter-attack, focusing on Asellus' “irresponsibility”.
44. The last great road building project before this date seems to have been the Via Postumia in Cisalpina (148 BC, *ILLRP* 452). For the aqueducts, S.B.Platner & T.Ashby, *A topographical dictionary of ancient Rome* (Oxford, 1929), s.vv. On compulsory distraint for aqueduct building, cf. Tacitus, *Ann.* 1.75.3; but note Livy, 40.51.7, M.Licinius Crassus obstructs the building of an aqueduct by the censors of 179 BC by refusing to allow it to pass through his farm (*fundus*).
45. M.I.Finley, *The ancient economy*, 2nd edn (London, 1985), pp. 188–9.
46. *Ibid.*, p. 58.
47. *Ibid.*, p. 109, cf. 58 and, on Cato's ignorance, famously, 110; cf. M.I.Finley, *Ancient slavery and modern ideology* (London, 1980), p. 137.
48. The *locus classicus* for the reception of the Roman villa in England is R.Castell, *The villas of the ancients illustrated* (London, 1728); see J.D.Hunt, *Garden and grove: the Italian Renaissance garden in the English imagination: 1600–1750* (London, 1986), pp. 30–41.
49. E.g. Shatzman, Senatorial wealth and Roman politics, p. 26; *Misurare la terra*, pp. 107–9, noting with surprise that only a few villae in the territory of Tibur appear to be solely for *otium*.
50. “Et si forte voluptarium fuit praedium, viridaria vel gestationes vel deambulationes arboribus infructuosis opacas atque amoenas habens, non debet deicere ut forte hortos olitorios faciat vel aliud quid, quod ad reditum spectat.”
51. Heitland also makes much of *Dig.* 7.4.8 and 10, on the question of whether the *fundus* belongs to the villa or vice versa. But logically, the fact that the question is

- difficult would not have arisen if everyone knew simply that the principal meaning of *villa* was a largely or totally unproductive luxury home. This evidence reinforces the case for taking the sterile *villa* as untypical. Note, on the terminology, R.J.Buck, *Agriculture and agricultural practice in Roman law* (Wiesbaden, 1983), pp. 9–14; the normal term is simply *praedium*, which does not even discriminate between town and country. The word *praetorium* for *villa* is an interesting development, but it does not reflect on the question of production.
52. J.S.Ackerman, *The villa: form and ideology of country houses* (Washington DC, 1990), pp. 9–34.
  53. Castelli, *The villas of the ancients illustrated*, p. 77.
  54. A.G.McKay, *Houses, villas and palaces in the Roman world* (London, 1987), ch.5; K. M.Swoboda, *Römische und Romanische Paläste: eine architekturgeschichtliche Untersuchung*, 3rd edn (Böhlau, 1969). Note also Rostovtzeff's Type One, in M.I.Rostovtzeff, *The social and economic history of the Roman empire*, 2nd edn (Oxford, 1957), pp. 59–66. J.Percival, *The Roman villa: an historical introduction* (London, 1976), pp. 57–8, develops the idea of "urban influence", which he sees as functioning in inverse proportion to the extent to which sites were "primarily working establishments". On the actual preponderance of mixed sites in the area of Rome itself, *Misurare la terra*, p. 83.
  55. K.D.White, *Roman farming* (London, 1970), pp. 438–9; W. Johannowsky (ed.), *Le ville romane dell'età imperiale (Itinerari turistico-culturali in Campania 3)* (Naples, 1986), pp. 13–20.
  56. J.Kolendo, *Le attività agricole degli abitanti di Pompei e gli attrezzi agricoli ritrovati all'interno della città*, *Opus* 4, 1985, pp. 111–24.
  57. Percival, *The Roman villa*, pp. 14–15.
  58. Galen, *Antid.* 1.3—Kühn XIV 17–18. Cf. Boscoreale "Stazione", J.J.Rossiter, *Roman farm buildings in Italy* (BAR Int. Ser. 52; Oxford, 1978), pp. 12–14; Vitruvius 6.6.1–2. For Greek precursors of the Italian *villa*, note the luxury prison of Demetrius Poliorcetes in the lush plain below Apamea, with its walks and *paradeisos*, Plutarch, *Dem.* 50.
  59. Homer, *Od.* 1.190, 11.187, 24.205, 336.
  60. B.M.Felletti Maj, Roma (Via Tiberina)—*villa rustica*, *NSc.*, 1955, p. 207, cf. *Misurare la terra*, pp. 124–6.
  61. Compare the luxury *villa maritima* at Barbariga in Istria whose grand section was explored in 1901; the large-scale and monumental oilpressery was only discovered in 1953–4. See R.Matijasic, Roman rural architecture in the territory of Colonia Iulia Pola, *AJA* 86, 1982, pp. 57–9.
  62. A.Wallace-Hadrill, The social structure of the Roman house *PBSR* 56, 1988, pp. 44–50.
  63. Finley, *Ancient slavery and modern ideology*, pp. 132–7, returned to the question of units of exploitation in Roman agriculture and here distinguished it from the patterns of owner-residence. He might have regarded the ideological investigations of the present essay as equally clearly distinct from the economic questions. For the move towards more holistic interpretations of *villae*, J.J.Rossiter, Some recent books on Roman *villae*, *JRA* 6, 1993, p. 449.
  64. Carandini & Ricci, *Settefinestre*, vol. i, cf. Purcell, review of Carandini & Ricci.
  65. Ph. Leveau, *Villa ville village: la ville antique et l'organisation de l'espace rurale Annales (ESC)* 38, 1983, p. 923. See also now H.Mielsch, *Die römische Villa*

- Architektur und Lebenform* (Munich, 1987), with the review by P.Gros, *Latomus* 48, 1989, pp. 708–9; and M.Oehme, *Die römische Villenwirtschaft. Untersuchungen zu den Agrarschriften Catos und Columellas und ihrer Darstellungen bei Niebuhr und Mommsen* (Bonn, 1988).
66. Ackerman, *The villa*, p. 286.
  67. Wallace-Hadrill, The social structure of the Roman house.
  68. Cf.E.Bellamy & T.Williamson, *Property and landscape: a social history of landown- ership and the English countryside* (London, 1987).
  69. Thus N.Brockmeyer, Die villa rustica als Wirtschaftsform und die Ideologisierung der Landwirtschaft, *Ancient society* 6, 1975, pp. 227–8: “bekam die villa rustica im Rahmen der kaiserzeitlichen Socialordnung eine über ihre ökonomische Bedeutung hinausgehende systemstabilisierende Funktion”.
  70. Carandini & Ricci, *Settefinestre*.
  71. Livy, 2.5.
  72. Livy, 34.44.
  73. CIL VI 933=31208.
  74. For the granary at Settefinestre, Carandini & Ricci, *Settefinestre*, vol. ii, pp. 189–208; for some spectacular instances of enormously ramified storerooms in substructions, Coarelli, *Dintorni di Roma*, pp. 126, 45, 156. There is a vivid illustration of the complexity and importance of the storage function of *villae* throughout the discussion *De instructo vel instructo legato*, *Digest*, 33.7.
  75. L.Foxhall, *Olive cultivation within Greek and Roman agriculture: the ancient economy revisited* (Diss., Liverpool, 1990), pp. 348–51; cf. Columella 2.20.6
  76. T.W.Gallant, Crisis and response: risk-buffering behaviour in Hellenistic Greek communities, *Journal of Interdisciplinary History* 19, 1989, pp. 393–413, on the connection between risk-buffering and accumulation by elites or states.
  77. Rossiter, Roman farm buildings in Italy, pp. 18–21, 31.
  78. The best case is Pliny, *Ep.* 6.31 (Centum Cellae): “cingitur viridissimis agris: imminet litora cuius in sinu fit cum maxime portus”.
  79. I owe this point to Ann Kuttner.
  80. Granaries on imperial estates: the Horrea Nervae, CIL VI 8681; Castel Giubileo *NSc.* 1976, p. 224; Via Gabina, W.M.Widrig, Land use at the Via Gabina Villas, in *Ancient Roman villa gardens*, ed. E.B.MacDougall (Washington DC, 1987). In general see Rossiter, *Roman farm buildings in Italy*, Ch. 6.
  81. Aristotle, *Oec.* 1.1394b 31–3.
  82. J.Nollé, *Nundinas instituere et habere* (Hildesheim, 1982); J.M.Frayn, *Markets and fairs in Roman Italy* (Oxford, 1993), pp. 121–3.
  83. Varro, 1.2.14.
  84. Pliny, *Ep.* 3.19; 5.14; 7.30; 9.15, 36–7; 10.8; cf. J.R.Patterson, Crisis: what crisis? Rural change and urban development in imperial Appennine Italy, *PBSR* 55, 1987.
  85. *Misurare la terra*, pp. 150–1 “CN. POM. M. LIC. COS.” Given the troubles of the 50s, the first sensational consulship of the two dynasts might be thought the more likely moment for commemoration; the threats of Sertorius and Spartacus were now satisfactorily laid to rest.
  86. Cf.Purcell, Wine and wealth in ancient Italy, pp. 18–19.
  87. N.Purcell, The city of Rome and its people in the late republic, in *CAH*<sup>2</sup>, vol. ix (Cambridge, 1994).
  88. E.g. *Misurare la terra*, p. 91.

89. The dichotomy between “recreational” and “utilitarian” in Roman engineering is in some ways parallel to that between “sterile” and “practical” in Roman agriculture. In fact the advanced technology of Roman hydraulics—and the same can be said of agricultural processing techniques—straddles the divide: it is expensive and learned and spectacular as well as being useful and functional, but it also bridges the gap between town and country. Vats and tanks are the common paraphernalia of the urban *officina* and the *villa*; hydraulic wizardry is the sign of the privileged city and the prestigious country estate. For a splendid example of show hydraulics in a setting of *pastio villatica*, we may note A.M.McCann, *The Roman port and fishery of Cosa* (Princeton, NJ, 1987), pp. 98–128 (the Spring House at the Portus Cosanus); this is also the context of the famous epigram (Anth. Pal. 9.418) on the waterwheel, not the paradoxical connecting of industrial banality and high poetry that it can seem to us: cf. also Strabo, 12.3.30 (King Mithridates). For a parallel in English landscape management of the 18th century, Kitz, *Pains Hill Park*, pp. 51–2, 111–17.
90. Donlan, Homeric *temenos*, pp. 129–45; cf. also C.Parain, *La Méditerranée: les hommes et leurs travaux* (Paris, 1936), pp. 56–9.
91. Purcell, Tomb and suburb.
92. P.Zanker, Die Villa als Vorbild des späten pompejanischen Wohngeschmacks, *JdI* 94, 1979, pp. 460–523.
93. Strabo, 5.3.5; Pliny, NH 3.70.
94. Cf. Cato, *Agr.* 4.
95. Ackerman, *The villa*, pp. 9, 12, makes the link with the town define the *villa*.
96. N.Purcell, Town in country and country in town, in *Ancient Roman villa gardens*, ed. E.B.MacDougall (Washington DC, 1987b), pp. 185–203.
97. Cic. *Sext. Rosc.* 132.
98. Petr. *Sat.* 53.
99. W.Jongman, *The Economy and Society of Pompeii* (Amsterdam, 1988).

# The idea of the city and the excavations at Pompeii

*Martin Goalen*

O what a great adventure of our times that we discover not just another ancient monument but a city.<sup>1</sup> Scippione Maffei, 1748

## Introduction

“The ancients”, Moses Finley tells us, “were firm in their view that civilized life was thinkable only in and because of cities.” To the ancients a city “must be more than a mere conglomeration of people; there are necessary conditions of architecture and amenity”.<sup>2</sup> The discovery and excavation of the two buried ancient cities of Herculaneum and Pompeii in the 18th century offered, for the first time since antiquity, a glimpse into just those “conditions of architecture and amenity” referred to by Finley—that is to say, into the physical structure of the ancient city,<sup>3</sup> with its walls, streets, tombs, public and private buildings. It is all the more surprising therefore that it took half a century after the identification of Pompeii in 1763 (digging had been in progress since 1748),<sup>4</sup> for Pompeii to be published *as a city* in François Mazois’s (1783–1826)<sup>5</sup> magnificent *Les ruines de Pompéi*, published from 1812 onwards.<sup>6</sup>

At Pompeii, wrote the authors of a work claiming<sup>7</sup> to be the first *in English* to describe the ruins (Sir William Gell and John Gandy’s *Pompeiana*, of 1817–19), “in the mind of the liberal antiquary the loneliness of the ruins may be animated by learned recollection”. It is a sense of that “civilized life...thinkable only in and because of cities”, noted by Finley, that Mazois, Gell and Gandy seek to recreate. “Animation” of the ruins by “learned recollection” is suggested, for instance, by the frontispiece to *Pompeiana* (Fig. 10.1), “wholly compiled from paintings and bronzes found at Pompeii”.<sup>8</sup> An image is created through the combination of the artefacts of everyday life, the chairs, the tables, the lamps, the paintings, the marbles, with “pavements and distant buildings”.<sup>9</sup> Images from different sources are composed, rather in the manner of 20th century *collage*, to create a new composite image. The second volume of Mazois’s work, *Habitations* (published in 1824), has a similarly *composed* frontispiece (Fig. 10.2):



Figure 10.2 Mazois, Ruines de Pompéi, *frontispiece*.

The disposition of the door, the inscription, the mosaic threshold can be seen in several dwellings. The Pilasters and the capitals belong to house no.27,<sup>[10]</sup> the entablature and the stucco which decorate it, the paintings which ornament the interior frieze, the portico at the end and several other details are taken from various buildings. The fountain can be seen in house no.46, called *L'Actéon*; <sup>[11]</sup> the motif of the garden which completes the *tableau* was given to me by a painting existing in the same place; the two herms are kept at the *Musée des Études* at Naples; in short all the elements of this composition are antique, and the arrangement in which I offer them gives an exact view of the entry into one of the principal houses of Pompeii.<sup>12</sup>

The tradition of compositions and vignettes drawn from the elements of Pompeii continued. In 1851, for instance, Jules Bouchet (1799–1860) published a book of such *Compositions antiques* freely modelled on Pompeii. It is the making, the transmission, and the absorption of such images of ancient city life into the modern world that is the subject of this essay. These images combine, on the one hand, “the figure reading a volume, the chair upon which she sits, the footstool...manuscripts at her feet...marble table”,<sup>13</sup> with, on the other hand, Pausanius’ “government offices, ...gymnasium, ...market-place, ...water descending to a fountain”<sup>14</sup>—linking the world of the individual with that of the community, the microcosm represented by the house with the macrocosm represented by the city.<sup>15</sup>

### Vitruvius

“To the ancients”, writes Moses Finley, “the urban underpinning of civilization”<sup>16</sup> was self-evident. When one turns to the only ancient exposition of the discipline of architecture that has survived, Vitruvius’ *De architectura*, it is indeed the idea of the building of a *city* that underpins the structure of the book. For Vitruvius the art of building is the art of building the city—his exposition proceeds from the choice of site (1.4), to the building of the city walls (1.5), to the laying out of the broad streets and the alleys (1.6.1), and continues with the division into building plots:

After apportioning the alleys and settling the main streets the choice of sites for the convenience and common use of the citizens has to be explained; for sacred buildings, the forum and the other public places. (1.7.1)<sup>17</sup>

After the public buildings, he moves to the *private* ones and then to a discussion (an opinionated one, it will be recalled: 7.5.3–4) of wall-paintings, showing for instance, “the battles of Troy and the wanderings of Ulysses over the countryside” (7.5.2). In other words, the work of Vitruvius’ architect ranged over every aspect of the city—from the choice (and defence) of the site to landscape painting in the *cubiculum* of a private house.

### Alberti and Palladio

Of the ancient works on architecture that we know<sup>18</sup> to have been written, the sole survival of Vitruvius’ *De architectura* into the Renaissance gave that work an extraordinary, perhaps undeserved, influence. The idea, though, that architecture is structured as a discipline by a hierarchy of tasks involved in the building of a city is one that remained pivotal. The two key architectural treatises of the *quattrocento* and the *cinquecento*, those of Leon Battista Alberti

(1404–72) and Andrea Palladio (1508–80), both depend upon it. Alberti's *De re aedificatoria*<sup>19</sup> reveals a critical study of Vitruvius:

For I grieved that so many works of such brilliant writers had been destroyed by the hostility of time and of man, and that almost the sole survivor from this vast shipwreck is Vitruvius, an author of unquestioned experience, though one whose writings have been so corrupted by time that there are many omissions and many shortcomings. (6.1)

Alberti's treatise sets out to provide what Vitruvius lacks. The result, abstract and analytical compared to Vitruvius, has as its starting point patterns of association in the family and in society:

In the beginning, men sought a place of rest in some region safe from danger; having found a place both suitable and agreeable, they settled down and took possession of the site. Not wishing to have all their household and private affairs conducted in the same place, they set aside one space for sleeping, another for the hearth, and allocated other spaces for different uses. *After this* [my emphasis] men began to consider...shelter from the sun and rain. (1.2)

For Alberti the art of building consists of six things: "(1) locality, (2) *area* [the site], (3) compartition, (4) wall, (5) roof, and (6) openings" (1.2). In this sequence "compartition", the division into public and private, is the more fundamental operation than the provision of shelter. It is the primacy of the social operation of architecture that defines it, for Alberti, as the building of the city-and analogously the house:

If (as the philosophers maintain) the city is like some large house, and the house some large city, cannot the various parts of the house...be considered miniature buildings? (1.9)<sup>20</sup>

Both Alberti and Palladio acknowledge dual sources for their work: Vitruvius and the ancient ruins.<sup>21</sup> Palladio in turn is deeply indebted to Alberti,<sup>22</sup> but what distinguishes Palladio's *Quattro libri* is its dependence on the visual image. The aim of the *Quattro libri* is, Palladio tells us:

to publish the designs of those [ancient] edifices, (in collecting which, I have employed so much time, and exposed myself to so many dangers)... and...those rules which I have observed...that they who shall read these my books, may be able to make use of whatever may be good therein...,<sup>23</sup>



When, as he must in a complete presentation of architecture through the context of the city, Palladio turns (in book II) to the description and illustration of building for individuals, the town houses and country villas, he tells us:

as we have but very few examples from the ancients, of which we can make use, I shall insert the plans and elevations of many fabrics I have erected...[as well as] the designs of ancient houses, in the manner that Vitruvius shews us they were made.<sup>24</sup>

At this critical point in his book, then, Palladio has no ancient houses to illustrate. Instead he must fall back, first, on his attempts to reconstruct, from Vitruvius' *written* description, what an ancient house might have looked like, then presenting images of houses that he himself had built. It is perhaps not surprising that there is a resemblance between Palladio's version of the ancient house and contemporary work. Vitruvius' ancient house is reconstructed in the classicizing language of Palladio's own practice; past and present are elided in a passion to represent the ancient city. François Mazois clearly understood this aspect of Palladio:

The descriptions which Vitruvius and Varro...have given of the atrium become extremely clear once one has seen ancient houses, but before any had been discovered it was difficult to understand these authors. However, Palladio had guessed the form of the atrium, and applied it to modern buildings so ingeniously, that it must be regarded in some ways as a new invention.<sup>25</sup>

#### Mazois

After 1748—or more importantly perhaps, when the excavations at Pompeii had been adequately published—such misprision was no longer possible. Excavations reached their first peak during the French occupation of Naples in the period between 1806 and 1815,<sup>26</sup> and it was as a result of this work that Mazois's book, presenting the city as a whole, became possible.

The earlier publication of Herculaneum, the *Antichità d'Ercolano* (8 vols, 1757–92), had, like the early excavations themselves, focused on the movable objects, the paintings, sculptures, bronzes, candelabra (all this, of course, having its influence: Ferdinando Bologna has described the volumes as “models for the very modern production of ornaments and tools.”).<sup>27</sup> In contrast to the impact of the 18th century discovery and measurement of ancient Greek buildings which led, at first, only to the construction of delicately scaled garden temples, in the manner of the Hephaisteion, the Tower of the Winds or the Arch of Hadrian,<sup>28</sup> the discovery of Herculaneum and Pompeii created a fascination for their objects and interior decoration; motifs were simply grafted onto existing types.<sup>29</sup> (The study of Greek architecture was of course to develop through the

19th century; by 1830 and Schinkel's *Altes Museum* we see Greek architecture so thoroughly absorbed and interpreted that it becomes, as Palladio's ancient house, almost re-invented.)<sup>30</sup>

Mazois's aim in publishing *Les ruines*...is clear. It is to replace partial with complete publication:

Les monuments de Pompéi ne sont encore connus que par l'ouvrage de l'Académie de Naples sur les mosaïques et les peintures...aussi les savants, les artistes, les amateurs, attendent-ils avec impatience, depuis près de cinquante ans, un ouvrage exact et complet sur les antiquités de cette ville....<sup>31</sup> Les plans sont tout réduits sur une même échelle, ainsi que les elevations et les coupes...en un mot j'ai cherché à ne rien omettre de ce qui peut aider à expliquer clairement chacun des édifices, et servir à les comparer entre eux.<sup>32</sup>

And as we have seen (above, p. 186) Mazois is aware, too, of the importance of Pompeii in transforming knowledge of the ancient house (and hence of the fabric of the city). He placed his study of the ruins of Pompeii in the context of thoughts about the relation of the discipline of architecture to the city and to the house, a context that links Vitruvius, Alberti, and Palladio. The manner of Mazois's presentation makes these connections clear; the first volume describes the walls, the gates, the roads that lead to them (and the tombs that line them); the second volume, the houses; the third volume, secular public buildings; the fourth, temples (and theatres). The city is presented to us in a Vitruvian sequence; Mazois's division into volumes closely parallels that of Palladio's *Quattro Libri* (book II, houses; book III, fora and basilicas; book IV, temples). Mazois, like Vitruvius, describes the ancient city through the whole range of its elements, from the walls and streets (Fig. 10.3) to the buildings, both public and private, and then, like Vitruvius, to detail of painted decoration (Fig. 10.4):

Les ruines de Pompéi permettent de remplacer désormais les conjectures par des certitudes, et les restaurations hasardées des artistes modernes par le portrait fidèle des monuments demeurés presque intacts jusque dans les parties les plus fugitives de leurs décorations brillantes.<sup>33</sup>

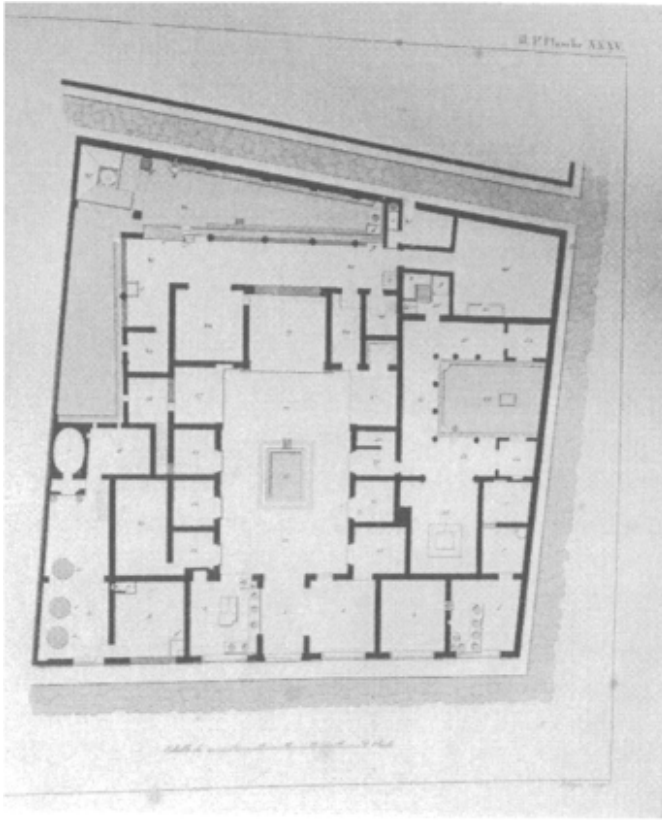


Figure 10.3 Mazois, Ruines de Pompéi, detail of plan.

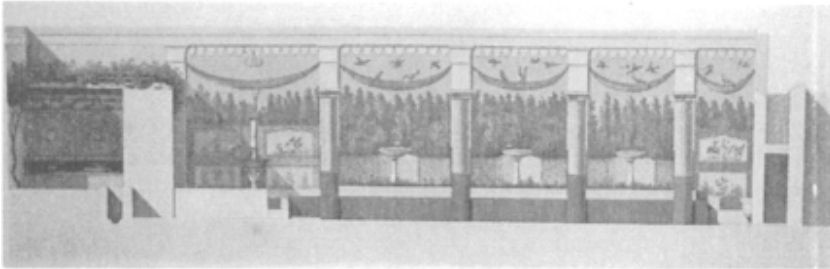
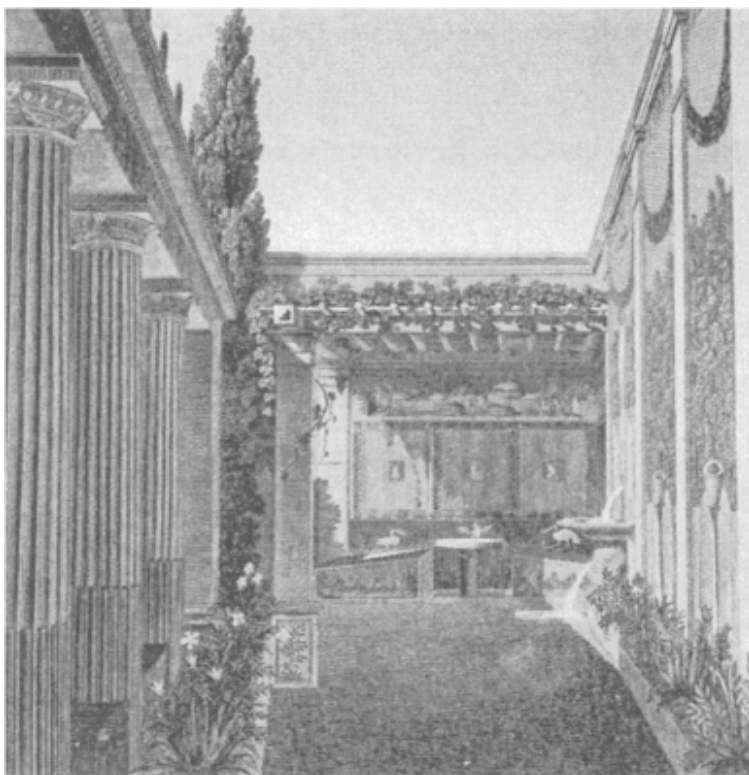


Figure 10.4 Mazois, Ruines de Pompéi, House of Sallust, plan.

And so in discussing, for example, the House of Sallust, Mazois' shows the way that, in the pergola garden, the painted walls with their painted plants, painted birds, and painted fountain contribute to the charm of the whole (Fig 10.4 & 5):



*Figure 10.5 Mazois, Ruines de Pompéi, House of Sallust, section.*

Les parois du mur, qui entoure de deux côtés ce délicieux réduit, sont peintes avec une goût exquis...la decoration...rapelle cette piece de la maison de Pline en Toscane: "ou l'on voyait des oiseaux perchés sur des ramaux verdoyants et au-dessous une petite fontaine dont l'eau tombait dans un bassin avec un agréable 'murmur'."<sup>34</sup>

The same attention to the indissoluble effect of architecture and decoration is evident when Mazois describes the peristyle of the house with the rooms that surround it. The group must, he says, be, "un appartement secret, consacré au plaisir et à l'amour"<sup>35</sup> with its:

Cabinets: dans l'un d'eux existe encore une peinture qui indique assez la destination de ces boudoirs; on y voit Mars enchaîné dans les bras de Vénus, tandis que l'amour joue en riant avec les armes terribles du dieu de combats.<sup>[36]</sup> ... Cette decoration est d'un goût délicieux; les ornements ôtent au fond noir, ce qu'a de trop lugubre cette couleur dont on fit choix,

sans doute, a fin de donner plus d'éclat au tient et aux vêtements des femmes admises dans ce voluptueux séjour... Le tableau au fond de la cour représente... Actéon découvrant Diane au bain, et...le même personnage dévoré par ses chiens. Ce sujet semble avoir été choisi, et place dans l'endroit le plus apparent pour avertir tout indiscret qui eût tenté de pénétrer les mystères de ce lieu des châtiments inévitables qui l'attendraient.<sup>37</sup>

Mazois returned finally to Paris in 1820 (where he built little, this little however including the Passages Choiseul and Saucède); he died in 1826. The remainder of the century saw a continuous stream of studies and reconstructions from the students of the Villa Medici<sup>38</sup>—but none of this work, though, goes beyond Mazois in conception. Perhaps inevitably, due to the particular requirements of the *Envois*,<sup>39</sup> the concentration was on the details of the orders, painted decoration, or monumental groups of buildings, such as the forum<sup>40</sup> or the theatre district,<sup>41</sup> but not with the city as a whole. Not until the turn of the century did *pensionnaires* concern themselves with the study of a complete<sup>42</sup> town with, most notably, Tony Garnier's study of Tusculum of 1903 and Jean Hulot's reconstruction of Selinus of 1904–1906.<sup>43</sup> Of prime importance for the 20th century is the work of Tony Garnier.

### Tony Garnier

Tony Garnier (1869–1948) seems to us now to stand between two worlds—the world of the great French academic system of architectural teaching and practice, represented by the École des Beaux-Arts in Paris and the Villa Medici in Rome—and the world of the beginning of what we now call Modern architecture. Garnier's time as *pensionnaire* at the Villa Medici, between 1900 and 1904, precisely marks this transition.<sup>44</sup> In the first year of his tenure, in addition to the required (but according to the academy, inadequate)<sup>45</sup> study of an ancient monument (in his case the *Tabularium*) Garnier submitted drawings of an Industrial City invented for a site near Lyons (“a daub of pencil marks”, reported the academy).<sup>46</sup> Garnier's final *envoi*, too, was an urban study—a restoration of the town of Tusculum (which for Garnier had the advantage of very few remains to constrain him).<sup>47</sup> That restoration (Fig. 10.6) clearly borrowed from Pompeii, where Garnier's fellow *pensionnaire*, Chiffot, had made restoration drawings of the House of the Centenary in the previous year.<sup>48</sup>

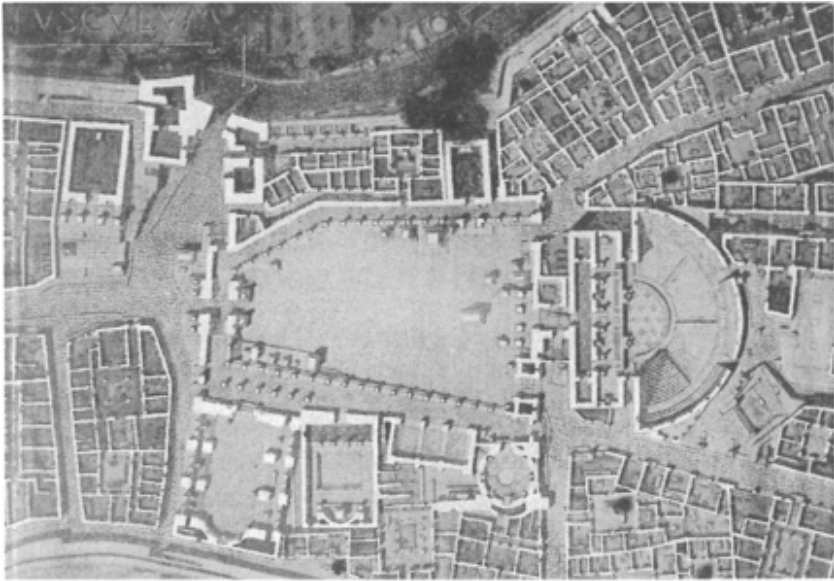


Figure 10.6 Tony Garnier, *Tusculum*.

Study of ancient cities by the *pensionnaires* of the Villa Medici was, as we have seen, part of a continuing trend by the turn of the century (and was to continue with studies of Delos, 1910, and Priene, 1911)<sup>49</sup> but Garnier, in his final *envoi*, went beyond the study and restoration of the ancient city and presented again, in a revised and enlarged and form, his *Cité industrielle* (Fig. 10.7).





Figure 10.7 Tony Garnier, *Cité industrielle*.

Following his return to his home town of Lyons in 1904, a further enlarged and revised version of the *Cité industrielle* reached publication in 1917,<sup>50</sup> this publication now being augmented by built work carried out in Lyons, presented uniformly as if part of the development of the earlier proposals. The house and studio, of 1909–10, that Garnier had built for himself at SaintRambert, is included in the plates (Fig. 10.8),<sup>51</sup> a house that, without columns or classical detail, is an abstraction of a Pompeian house. Garnier's *atelier* is as symmetrically related to its atrium as, say, the *tablinum* of the House of the Faun to its atrium and peristyle, and the house is photographed (plates 121 and 122 of *Une cité industrielle*) with all the attention to ways in which a sense of light and greenery suffuses from atrium and garden that so delighted Mazois at the House of Sallust. A half-size nude statue of Madame Garnier facing the atrium seems to play the same rôle in suggesting the intimacy of domestic life as does the painting of Mars and Venus in Mazois's description of the peristyle at the House of Sallust (p. 189 above).

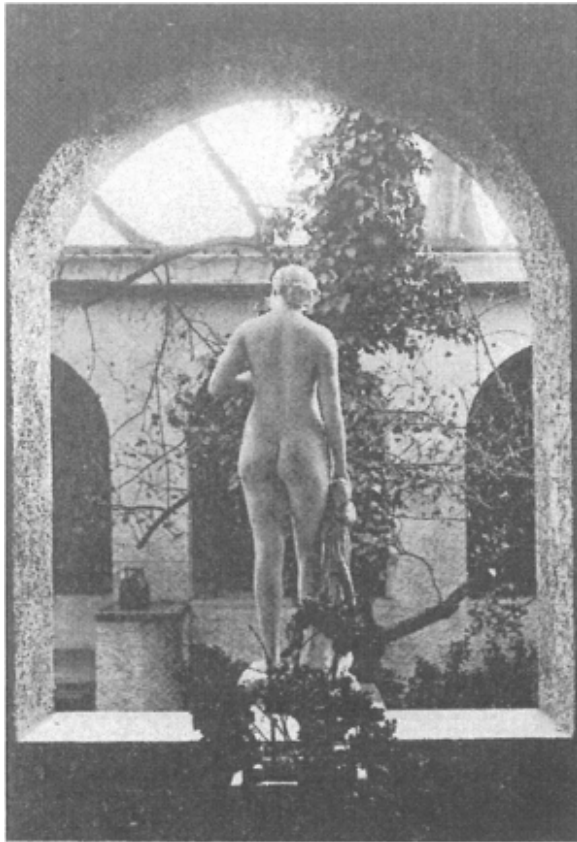


Figure 10.8 Tony Garnier, house in the Cité industrielle.

In the 1917 publication, the industrial and public elements, too, are supplemented by examples from Garnier's practice in Lyon; but the real point here is not the separate elements, but that *all* elements are presented together as part of a total organization—the visual equivalent of a social organization—and there is indeed a social as well as a cultural programme in the work. Garnier proposes the inscription of passages from Zola's *Travail* on the walls of his "Chamber of Assemblies" (*Travail* was first published Garnier was searching for a topic for his work at the Villa Medici).<sup>52</sup>

Anthony Vidler has discussed this social programme in the catalogue of the 1990 exhibition of Garnier's work at the Centre Pompidou<sup>53</sup> but my concern here is to note that Garnier presents the city as an organic whole, a collective work of art—proceeding, in a way reminiscent of Vitruvius, from the establishment of the settlement on its site, to the various types of public buildings: the assembly halls, the sports buildings, the schools, the factories, each finding a place within a structure articulated by streets and alleys, with individual houses, like Garnier's own, offering at once a retreat from, and by analogy, a connection with, the organism as a whole.

Garnier's period at the Villa Medici had been a turbulent one. The inscription on his 1901 drawing of the *Tabularium*, "Ainsi que toutes les architectures reposant sur des principes faux l'architecture antique fut une erreur. La vérité seule est belle",<sup>54</sup> is indicative (and duly enraged the academy). Garnier's pugnaciously critical attitude to antiquity released him from its sway. What he did take from antiquity became his own.

### Le Corbusier

Garnier's work was widely transmitted to the architectural world through the most influential architectural text of the 20th century, Le Corbusier's *Vers une architecture* of 1923, which presented, with approving comments, plans and perspectives of the housing areas of the *Cité*.<sup>55</sup> Le Corbusier had met Tony Garnier in Lyons in 1907 and tells us:

He had won the "Grand Prix d'Architecture" and it was from Rome that he sent his project the "ville industrielle". This man discerned the approach of a new architecture based on social phenomena. His plans show great sophistication. They stand at the end of a hundred years of architectural evolution in France.<sup>56</sup>

Four years after that meeting, Le Corbusier was himself in Pompeii,<sup>57</sup> and responding in a way that is close to the abstracted interpretation of the atrium house that Garnier created at Saint-Rambert. Le Corbusier describes his experience of the House of the Silver Wedding thus:



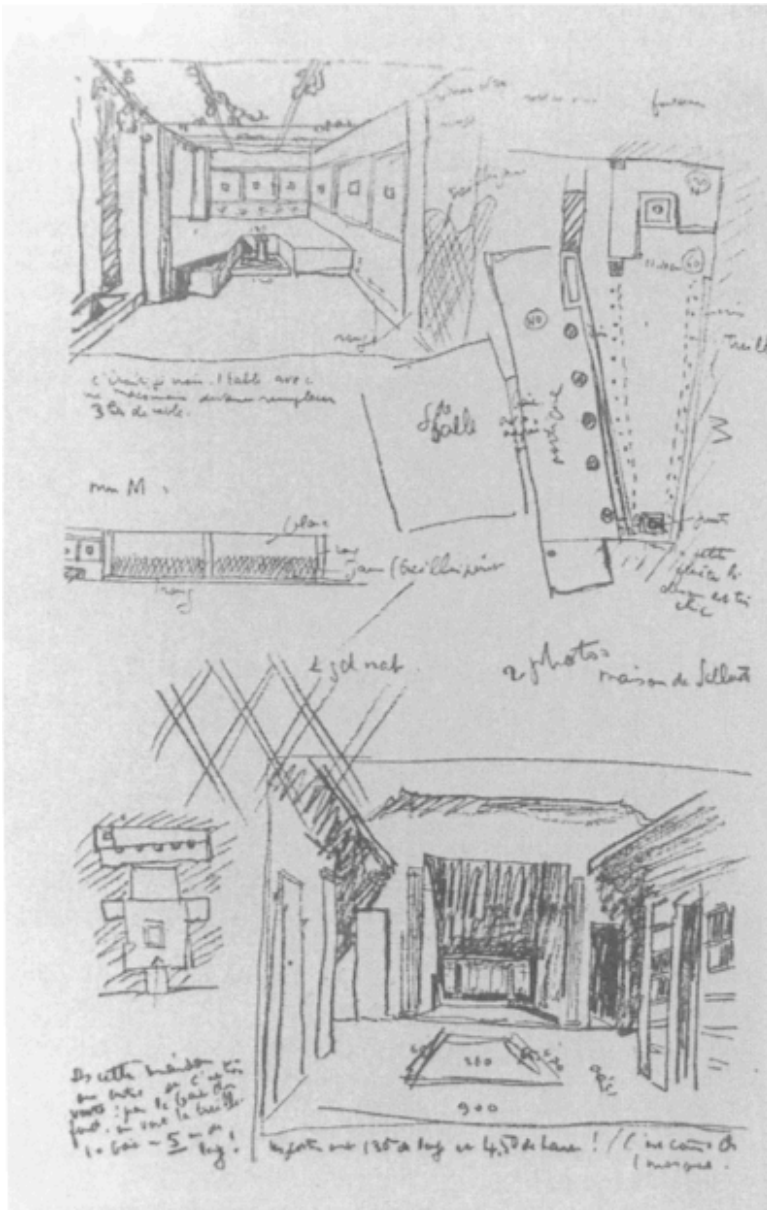


Figure 10.9 Le Corbusier, House of Sallust. Dessin extrait de l'oeuvre complete, © DACS 1995. Taken from Tony Garnier: l'oeuvre complete (Paris, 1989, p. 19).

And then you are in the atrium; four columns (four *cylinders*) shoot upwards towards the shade of the roof...but at the far end is the brilliance

of the garden seen through the peristyle which spreads out this light with a large gesture, distributes it and accentuates it, stretching widely from left to right... Our elements are walls.... The walls are in full brilliant light or in half shade or in full shadow...your symphony is made.... Have respect for walls. The Pompeian did not cut up his wallspaces. He was devoted to wall spaces and loved light... The impression of light is extended outside by cylinders (I hardly like to say columns, a worn out word)<sup>58</sup>

### Pavillon de l'Esprit Nouveau

Le Corbusier conducted much of his research, in architecture, in painting, and in what he called the aesthetics of modern life, through the pages of the review *L'Esprit Nouveau*, produced in Paris between 1920 and 1925. The *parti pris* of the review (from June 1922, Le Corbusier<sup>59</sup> and the painter Amédée Ozenfant were directors) was summarized in a tiny exhibition pavilion, the Pavillon de l'Esprit Nouveau in the Paris Exposition des Arts Décoratifs of 1925 (Fig. 10.10).

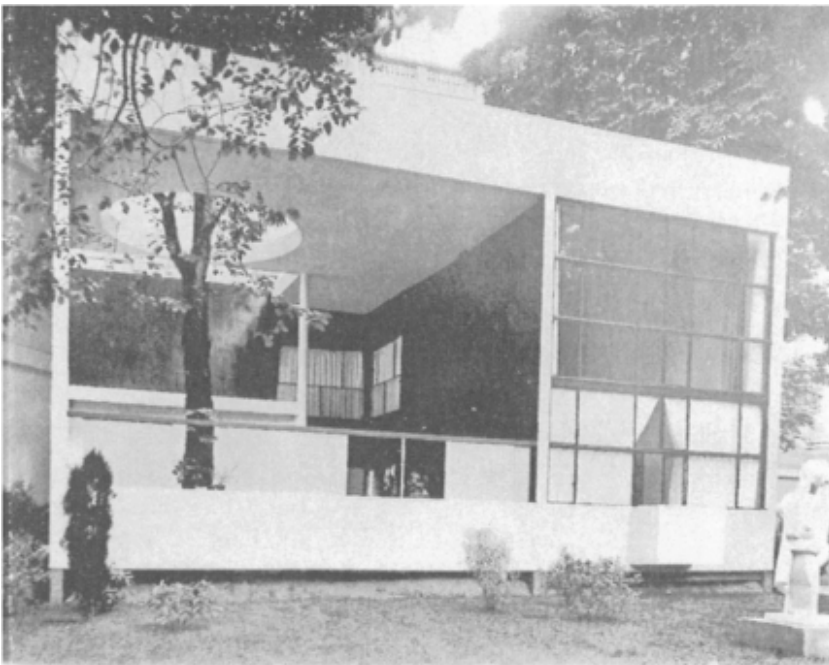


Figure 10.10 Le Corbusier, Pavillon de l'esprit nouveau L2(8).1-3, © DACS CS 1995.

Designed by Le Corbusier, and incorporating his own version of a *Cité industrielle*, the pavilion itself was in the form of a prototypical apartment dwelling, arranged round a hanging garden. Within the pavilion is presented a

diorama of the city, of which the apartment blocks—Le Corbusier called them *immeubles-villas* (Fig. 10.11)—were the elements, the *insulae*, of the city. As well as this presentation at the city scale were shown the paintings, rugs, furniture and equipment conforming to that new spirit, *l'esprit nouveau*, which Le Corbusier and his collaborators were exploring and promoting through their magazine—the final issue of which served as a catalogue for the pavillon.<sup>60</sup> “We were not concerned with frivolities,” wrote Le Corbusier; “we went from the everyday object to the urbanisation of great cities—an enormous undertaking.”<sup>61</sup> Within the pavilion, arranged around the atrium-like *jardin suspendu*, as in a Pompeian house, or Garnier’s studio at Saint-Rambert, the visitor’s mind was focused on the one hand, by means of the diorama, to the scale of the city of which the pavilion was a microcosm, and on the other to the scale of the objects of everyday life—most particularly to works of painting and sculpture (Fig. 10.12):



Figure 10.11 Le Corbusier, *immeubles-villas*, *Pavillon de l'esprit nouveau*, 12(8)1–19, © DACS 1995.

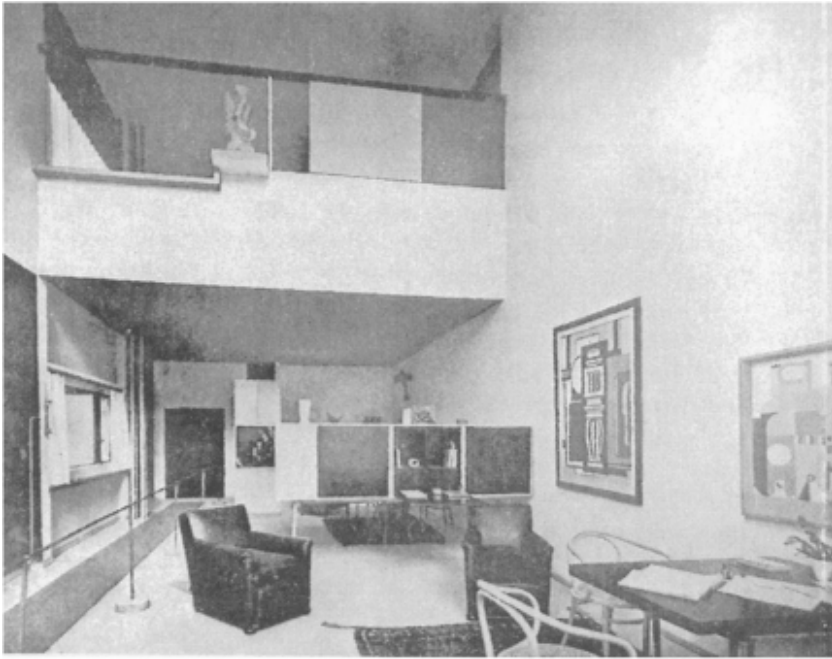


Figure 10.12 *Le Corbusier, Pavilion de l'esprit nouveau (interior) L2(8)l-15, © DACS 1995.*

Painting: We have placed on the wall-paintings of Picasso, Braque, Léger, Gris, Ozenfant, Jeanneret, and arranged sculptures by Lipchitz; easel paintings in frames and free standing sculpture, independent of the wall. We are not, at the moment, partisans of fresco painting... It is better that painting or sculpture is not made to order but is a direct product of the imagination. We want to create an architectural terrain made from matter, from light, and from proportion, in which works with high emotional potential are at ease. We detach painting and sculpture from the wall so that they are free to act with the charge that they contain.<sup>62</sup>

These “purist” paintings (as their authors christened them) presented an imaginative reflection of images of everyday and industrial life, surely the equivalent in the Pompeian house of paintings of “poultry, eggs, vegetables, fruit”,<sup>63</sup> “the battles of Troy and the wanderings of Ulysses over the countryside”, or “Mars locked in the arms of Venus”. This equivalence is not, of course, to be taken as an exact one; in what is for Le Corbusier a characteristic strategy of disengagement, or articulation, of elements, the wall and its modulation of light<sup>64</sup> are separated from the figuration of representational painting. The continuum between the macrocosm of the city and the microcosm of the dwelling (and the

imaginative world re-created through its decoration), so powerfully presented by Mazois, has been taken apart and reassembled. The desire for that continuum, though, remains. In the introduction to his *Aspects of antiquity* Moses Finley cites John Jones, in turn citing Fustel de Coulanges: “Rien dans les temps moderne ne leur [Grèce et Rome] ressemble. Riens dans l’avenir ne pourra leur ressembler”.<sup>65</sup> The responses, in the modern world, to the ruins of Pompeii that I have discussed may show resemblances to the ancient city but, to echo Mazois’s comment on Palladio’s atria, each “must be regarded in some way as a new invention”. One might say that it is when most thoroughly and critically transformed, in the work of a Le Corbusier or a Garnier, that responses to the ancient city have had most resonance. The *Nachleben* of the ancient world does not flow simply as a stream.

### Acknowledgements

Figures 10.6, 10.7 and 10.8 were taken from *Tony Garnier. L’oeuvre complete*, Paris: Centre Georges Pompidou, 1989. Figures 10.9, 10.10, 10.11 and 10.12 were taken from *Le Corbusier and Pierre Jeanneret. The complete architectural works. Volume 1, 1910– 1929*, London: Thames and Hudson, 1964, but are the original property of the Foundation Le Corbusier in Paris.

### Notes

1. S.Maffei, *Tre lettere del Signor Marchese Scipione Maffei* (Verona, 1748), cited in F.Bologna, The rediscovery of Herculeanum and Pompeii in the artistic culture of Europe in the eighteenth century, in *Rediscovering Pompeii* (Rome, 1990), p. 85. The passage continues: “by excavating and leaving everything in place the city would become an unequalled museum”.
2. M.I.Finley, The ancient city: from Fustel de Coulanges to Max Weber and beyond, in *Economy and society in ancient Greece*, eds B.D.Shaw & R.P.Saller (London, 1983), p. 3.
3. *Ibid.*, p. 4, draws the distinction between “‘town’ in the narrow sense and ‘citystate’ in a political sense.” The ambiguity of the word city seems appropriate here and I shall use it throughout even though, mostly, it is indeed the physical structure, the “town”, that I shall be discussing.
4. A summary of the history of excavation at Pompeii is given in E.C.C.Corti, *The destruction and resurrection of Pompeii and Herculeanum* (London, 1951). The basic source is G.Fiorelli (ed.), *Pompeianarum antiquitatum historia*, 3 vols. (Naples, 1860–64). F.Furchheim, *Bibliografia di Pompei, Ercolano e Stabia*, 2nd edn (Naples, 1972), has a chronological list of publications, xiii–xxx. C.Grell, *Herculanum et Pompéi dans les récits des voyageurs Français du XVIIIe siècle* (Naples, 1982), pp. 212–19, has a useful table showing excavation and publication in the 18th century.
5. There is a necrology *Notice sur M.Mazois* by Artaud in the posthumous vol. iv of *Les ruines des Pompéi* (1837), and biographical notes in *Pompéi: travaux et envois des arc*

- hitectes Français au XIX<sup>e</sup> siècle* (Paris, 1980), pp. 291–2. F & J.B. Piranesi, *Antiquités de Pompeia*, 2 vols, (Paris, 1804), might be said to herald Mazois's work but, compared to Mazois, is neither complete nor systematic; there is no text.
6. Vol. i, *Voie, tombeaux, murailles et porte de la ville* (1812); vol. ii, *Habitations* (1824). The work was completed posthumously, vol. iii, (1829); and vol. iv (1838).
  7. W.Gell & J.P.Gandy, *Pompeiana* (London, 1817–1819), pp. ix-x: "Pompeii was begun upon in 1748; and it may at first excite our surprise that from this date to the present day, no work has appeared in the English language upon the subject of its domestic antiquities, except a few pages by Sir William Hamilton."
  8. *Ibid.*, p. xviii. The passage continues: "The figure reading a volume, the chair upon which she sits, the footstool and scrinium, or capsas, for manuscripts at her feet. The marble table, and implements for writing; the pavement and distant building, are all from the same source."
  9. *Ibid.*, p. xviii.
  10. The reader is referred to a plan at the end of the work for the numbering of the houses. In fact the numbering in the general plan at the end of vol. iv, by H.Roux *ainé*, 1837, does not correspond to the numbers in this passage; no. 46, for instance, is *not* the House of Sallust!
  11. I.e. The House of Sallust (VI.2.4).
  12. F.Mazois, *Les ruines de Pompéi*, 4 vols, (Paris, 1812–38), vol. ii, p. 35: "Cette planche, qui sert de frontispice a la seconde partie, représente l'entrée d'une maison antique. La disposition de la porte, et l'inscription en mosaïque placée sur le seuil, se remarquent dans plusieurs habitations. Les pilastres et leurs chapiteaux appartiennent a la maison n°.27; l'entablement et les stucs qui lui le décorent, les peintures qui ornent la frise intérieure, le portique du fond, et plusieurs autres details, ont été pris de divers edifices. La fontaine se voit dans la maison n°.46, dite d'Actéon; le motif du jardin qui fait le fond du tableau m'a été fourni par une peinture existante dans le même lieu; les deux termes sont conservés dans le Musée des Études a Naples; enfin tous les elements de cette composition sont antiques; et l'arrangement dans lequel je les offre donne une idée exacte de l'entrée d'une des maisons principales de Pompéi." There is a similar composition at the heading to the Chapter, *Essai sur les habitations des anciens Romains*, vol. ii, p. 3, described by Mazois as a "Museum compose de fragments et d'objets antiques du cabinet de la Reine, existant au palais Royale de Naples avant 1815". vol. ii, p. 102.
  13. Gell & Gandy, *Pompeiana*, p. xviii.
  14. Pausanias, 10.4.1. It was, of course, the absence of these elements that prevented Panopeus from being considered a city; cf. Finley, *The ancient city*, pp. 3–4.
  15. Palladio, *Quattro Libri* 2.12: "the city is as it were but a great house, and, on the contrary, a...house a little city."
  16. Finley, *The ancient city*, p. 3.
  17. English translations are taken from Frank Granger's translation in the Loeb edition (1931).
  18. E.g. from Vitruvius himself: 7.11–14, preface.
  19. Written in the mid 15th century, first printed 1486; quotations are taken from the most recent English translation by J.Rykwert, N.Leach & R.Tavernor: L.B.Alberti, *Leon Battista Alberti: on the art of building in ten books* (Cambridge, Mass. & London 1988).