

Julie Rowe

Reconstructing Mediaeval Rome The Church of S. Giovanni Calibita



Sources which allow us to reconstruct the urban topography of mediaeval Rome are not abundant in any form, especially visual. Fortunately, preserved among the drawings of the Codex Escorialensis, is a series of vedute (views) showing the city as it was around 1493, before Renaissance building programs had significantly altered its skyline or neighbourhoods. Three of the vedute focus on the river Tiber and its surroundings and provide a starting point for investigating the urban districts which bordered it. This paper examines the form and history of the earliest mediaeval structure identifiable in the view on Escorialensis folio 27v, the church of S. Giovanni Calibita on Tiber Island which, although still in existence, retains barely a trace of its mediaeval predecessor.

Please RSVP Mark Shephard (shepm@unimelb.edu.au) if you plan to join us for dinner in Lygon st afterwards.

Tuesday 27 May 2008 6.45 pm
Room 110 Elisabeth Murdoch Building
All Welcome