Roman inscriptions from Saguntum and its territory (IRSAT)

JOSEP CORELL VICENT (X. GÓMEZ FONT, COL·L.), Inscripcions romanes del País Valencià. I. Saguntum i el seu territori. Valencia: Publicacions de la Universitat de Valencia, 2002. Fonts Històriques Valencianes, 12. 2 vols. 404 + 392 pp.; 19 x 27 cm; rústica. ISBN: vol. IA: 84-370-5524-5; vol. IB: 84-370-5525-3; obra completa: 84-370-5523-7. 50 €

This volume includes the Roman inscriptions from *Saguntum* and its territory. Map 1 indicates the geographical area under study. Chronologically, it covers the period ranging from the beginning of the Romanization to the Muslim domination. Graphic 4 shows the epigraphic production throughout this period. From the point of view of the materials, the volume includes the Roman inscriptions (there is even one in Greek), some *instrumenta domestica*, and some anepigraphic supports, as well as the few existing Christian inscriptions. The volume finally includes the false inscriptions, *alienae*, non-Roman (although subject to be considered Roman) and dubious. Yet, the milliaries have not been taken into account.

The corpus is organized according to the geographical structure and some steady criteria both regarding the order and the layout of the inscriptions. In the first place, we present the inscriptions of the city of *Saguntum* (map 2). Next, those of the *territorium* in this order: the inscriptions of Sagunto city boundaries; those of the remaining towns in Camp de Morvedre; those of the other areas ('comarcas') of the *territorium* (maps 3 and 4). The order of presentation is: votive inscriptions, *defixiones*, honorific, funerary, unknown typology inscriptions, *instrumenta domestica*, and Christian inscriptions. They all appear in alphabetical order, except for the imperial ones, which follow a chronological order. The layout of each inscription is always the same: class, type, supporting material, structural elements, decoration, conservation state, finding circumstances, size (height, width, thickness), bibliography. Following, we present the text, the translation and the critical apparatus. Next, the general commentaries: epigraphic, onomastic, linguistic, historical. Finally, we indicate the chronology.

The corpus is based on a thorough reading of the existing bibliography and on the autoptic revision of all the existing inscriptions. Regarding the bibliography, we would like to highlight that we provide several manuscripts which had not been used before or which had not been used thoroughly (Carbonell, Wijngaerde, Rubertí, Muñoz, Ballester, Velázquez, Marín, Dempere, Cerrillo, Lumiares, Fígols, Ribelles, Cebrián Mezquita's manuscripts, several 18th and 19th century anonymous manuscripts). This has allowed us to present for the first time some one hundred and seventy drawings of inscriptions from these manuscripts. On the other hand, thanks to the reading of almost all the existing bibliography and the autoptic revision of all the inscriptions we have corrected or specified the indications referring to the finding circumstances of many of the inscriptions (Nr. 2, 3, 4, 45, 62, 64, 81,

104, 106, 131, 154, 186, 197, 250, 259, 284, 327, 329, 408, 415, 424, 453, 485, etc.).

We have contributed with numerous corrections and new proposals for the restitution of fragmentary inscriptions. In those cases - about 200 - when our reading differs from those of the previous editions, it is indicated in the concordance tables with numbers in bold, so that the reader can find the differences in reading more easily. On the other hand, we present unknown inscriptions (Nr. 14a, 14b, 17, 28, 190, 201, 264, 268, 275, 276, 289, 291, 294, 295, 299, 303, 304, 347, 369b, 383,392, 397, 399, 403, 489, 502, 503, 505, 511, 512, 513, 542) and others which, although already known, had not appeared in the most recent compilations (Nr. 13, 18, 66, 217, 238, 244, 247, 285, 301, 302, 305, 306, 308, 309, 310, 313, 314, 315, 316, 319, 338, 379, 380, 402, 448, 450, 488, 489, 504, 506, 530).

We would like to point out some other contributions to the development of the epigraphy of Saguntum. We present unknow references about the inscriptions in Diana's temple and we propose a new reading of two of them (Nr. 2, 4). We believe that we have proved that there is only one inscription of Claudius II Nr. 30). We present a new restitution of the inscription of the forum (Nr. 80). On the other hand, we present the inscription of the circus, so far unknown as such (Nr. 81). We publish several defixiones (Nr. 13-18), which seem to indicate the popularity of magical practices in Sagunto. We emphasize the importance of both the sanctuary of the Muntanya Frontera and that of the Muntanya de Santa Bárbara. The latter is attributed by us to Apollo. We shed new light on the important burial and sacred complex of the Muntanveta dels Estanys, revealing the falsifications of Pla, to be blamed for the chaos and confusion created long ago around this singular site (Nr. 456-469). We have discovered one Arab inscription on the reverse of a Roman inscription (Nr. 282), as well as a Roman inscription which re-uses a previous one, also Roman (Nr. 346, 347), and another Roman inscription on the right side of an Iberian one (Nr. 369). We observe, in general for the first time, the presence of Christian inscriptions in the area under study (Nr. 318, 319, 469, 488, 489, 524, note 58). Finally, we would like to emphasize the contribution of this corpus to the issue of false inscriptions, alienae, non-Roman or dubious, especially in numbers I, IX and XVII-XXII.

The layout of the inscriptions with the respective pictures and drawings makes the possibility of contrasting both the readings and the comments much easier. In order to make the use of this corpus easier, we have also added maps, graphics and indexes as complete as possible. Finally, we just wish this book a good reception.