



Universiteit
Leiden
The Netherlands

Colonial landscapes : demography, settlement organization and impact of colonies founded by Rome (4th-2nd centuries BC)

Pelgrom, J.

Citation

Pelgrom, J. (2012, January 12). *Colonial landscapes : demography, settlement organization and impact of colonies founded by Rome (4th-2nd centuries BC)*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/18335>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Licence agreement concerning inclusion of doctoral thesis in the Institutional Repository of the University of Leiden](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/18335>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

1. Cornell's claim that the scale of the colonial enterprises suggested by Livy is too high for mid-Republican Roman society, because Rome could not have sustained such a drain on its manpower resources is incorrect. The enfranchisement of large numbers of inhabitants of conquered areas in the fourth and early third centuries easily compensated the loss of Roman manpower caused by migration of Roman citizens to Latin colonies.
2. Population estimates for Roman Italy based on archaeological field survey data are much too optimistic about recovery rates.
3. The 'problem of the missing sites' cannot be solved solely by the use of more intensive field walking strategies.
4. In Roman settlement archaeology site classifications have been steered too strongly by historical expectations. For the mid-Republican period, which is conventionally seen as the 'golden age' of the autarchic Roman peasant, this has resulted in a marginalisation of nucleated settlements.
5. There is no convincing evidence to suggest that Roman colonial landscapes were divided in an orthogonal fashion in the pre-Punic War period.
6. Roman colonial settlement organization in the early Hellenistic period resembled closely that of the contemporary Oscan-speaking people of central Italy. The decision to organise colonies as city-states is a later development.
7. The allegedly old-fashioned paradigm that Roman society was radically transformed during and after the Punic Wars should be rehabilitated.
8. As a general rule the complete political and juridical amalgamation of colonial and indigenous communities did not take place before the Hannibalic War.
9. Geo-political maps of Italy during the mid-Republic are seriously misleading. They give the false impression that colonial communities were territorially defined entities. On closer inspection, colonies are better interpreted as communities of people bound together by socio-political and cultural practices, which were not necessarily spatially separated from other communities living on territory conquered by Rome.
10. Facebook and Roman citizenship have much in common. Both can be entered upon invitation and are not based on kinship or territorial criteria. Also, their ultimate goal is to serve imperialistic agendas.