

# THE INSCRIPTIONS OF THE PERUSIAN TOMBA DEI CAI CARCU AND TOMBA DEGLI ALFA

(Con le tavv. XXV-XLV f.t.)

## ABSTRACT

To the remarkable series of recently discovered family tombs from Perusia is added here *tomba dei Cai Carcu* and *tomba degli Alfa*. While these tombs had been uncovered half a century ago and were described in a preliminary report in 1977, including the text of five inscriptions, the urns and the other inscriptions have remained unpublished. The inscriptions from the two tombs number forty-three. As rather reliable family trees of the deceased can be sketched out, most inscriptions can be approximately dated: *tomba dei Cai Carcu* to between the first quarter of the second century and the second quarter of the first century BCE, *tomba degli Alfa* to between the first quarter of the second century and the first quarter of the first century BCE.

*La serie delle notevoli tombe familiari perugine aumenta in questo articolo con la tomba dei Cai Carcu e la tomba degli Alfa. Scoperte una cinquantina di anni fa sono state oggetto di un rapporto preliminare nel 1977, con i testi di cinque iscrizioni, ma le urne e le altre iscrizioni sono ancora inedite. Il totale delle iscrizioni dalle due tombe ammonta a quarantatré. In base alle genealogie abbastanza attendibili delle due famiglie, la maggioranza delle iscrizioni può essere datata, nella tomba dei Cai Carcu dal primo quarto del II secolo al secondo quarto del I secolo a.C., e nella tomba degli Alfa dal primo quarto del II secolo al primo quarto del I secolo a.C.*

## INTRODUCTION

In the congress of Siena in 1976, Anna Eugenia Feruglio presented then-recently excavated tombs from the Perusian area, offering a preliminary report of the finds at the tomb of the family Cai Carcu, discovered in 1963 at Ponticello di Campo, and at the tomb of the family Alfa, discovered in 1975 at Madonna Alta. She also gave the texts of two inscriptions of the Cai Carcu tomb and three inscriptions of the Alfa tomb. These reports were published in 1977 in *Caratteri dell'ellenismo nelle urne etrusche*<sup>1</sup>. Feruglio stated that the Cai Carcu tomb included approximately 26 urns («ben 26 urne») and the Alfa tomb 16 urns, of which two were uninscribed. Helmut Rix – present at the congress – notated the inscriptions given by Feruglio to *Etruskische Texte* as Nos. Pe 1.720, 725, 726 (Alfa) and Pe 1.233 and 250 (Cai Carcu). Aware that more inscriptions were forthcoming, he reserved the Nos. Pe 1.233-259 for the Cai Carcu tomb and Nos. Pe 1.716-729 for the Alfa tomb to preserve sequence continuity. Rix included three more inscriptions of the Cai Carcu tomb,

<sup>1</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, pp. 111-113.

which he had found and copied, in *ET* as Pe 1.234-236. As the other inscriptions were still unpublished when Gerhard Meiser was preparing the second edition of *Etruskische Texte*, *ET* Pe 1.237-249, 251-259, 716-719, 721-724 and 727-729 subsequently had only the text *vacant*.

Five of the urns are preserved in the Antiquarium, the rest in the storehouse of the Ipogeo dei Volumni, shelves 308-323, 356-374. I am very grateful to the Soprintendenza Archeologia, Belle Arti e Paesaggio dell'Umbria and the Soprintendente, dr.ssa Marica Mercalli, for the authorization to publish these inscriptions<sup>2</sup>. I studied and photographed the inscriptions in September 2018 and May 2019. The original excavation reports, tomb maps or photographs were not available. Consequently, I have based the archaeological considerations of my publication on the report and photographs of Feruglio – an unsatisfactory approach but not a reason to further postpone the publication of the inscriptions. I have discussed the matter of *ET*-numbers with prof. Meiser and have had his permission to suggest filling of the *vacat* lines according to my best understanding in this paper.

#### THE INSCRIPTIONS OF THE TOMB OF THE FAMILY CAI CARCU

The necropolis of Ponticello di Campo lies three km SE of the centre of Perugia, on the northern side of the necropolis of Palazzone. From 1792 to 1968, it has provided over ten chamber tombs with inscribed urns<sup>3</sup>. The most remarkable are the tombs of the family Petui (Meiser, *ET* Pe 1.181-196; *CIE* 3663-3672), the family Vlesi (*ET* Pe 1.203-211; *CIE* 3684-3692), the family Veti (*ET* Pe 1.219-223), the family Satna (*ET* Pe 1.225-232)<sup>4</sup> and the family Pumpu Plute (*ET* Pe 1.260-272; *CIE* 3617-3631).

The Cai Carcu family's name consists of the so-called *Vornamengentile cai*<sup>5</sup> and the cognomen *carcu*. This name also appears as a gentilicium at Clusium. Interestingly, a Clusian woman bears the name *cainei carcunia* (Meiser, *ET* Cl 1.1182), though nothing else seems to link her with the family of the Perusian tomb<sup>6</sup>. At Perusia, *carcu* has

<sup>2</sup> I would also thank the whole personnel of the Ipogeo dei Volumni for their generous and ready assistance with the study of the heavy urns.

<sup>3</sup> Many of these urns are exhibited in the Lapidario of the Museo Archeologico Nazionale dell'Umbria and presented in *Lapidario* 2004, pp. 20-29, 44-47.

<sup>4</sup> This tomb still awaits an epigraphical publication, the preliminary findings having been published by Feruglio in *Caratteri dell'ellenismo*, together with those of the tombs of Alfa and Cai Carcu. For the tomb of Satna, Feruglio gave the texts of all eight inscriptions (FERUGLIO 1977, p. 112), which were then taken to *Etruskische Texte* (MEISER, *ET* Pe 1.225-232). In my project "The Funeral Inscriptions of Perugia", these inscriptions will receive a proper epigraphical publication complete with photographs and facsimiles.

<sup>5</sup> The *Vornamengentile* at Perusia differs from those at Clusium in that its basic form is not identical to the praenomen, or individual name; in this case, the gentilicium is *cai* but the praenomen *cae*. See BENELLI 2002, pp. 518-521.

<sup>6</sup> She was married to an *alfni* – i.e., to a typical Clusian family – and was the mother of *C. Alfius Cainnia natus* of the bilingual inscription MEISER, *ET* Cl 1.1181. For the name *carcu*, see RIX 1963, p. 153.

been encountered before twice as cognomina, *θana vlesi afles carcus* (Pe 1.209) and *la veti la. carcu* (Pe 1.220). A third case outside this tomb comes from an unpublished<sup>7</sup> inscription from the Tomb 6 of Strozzacapponi, which I preliminarily read as *θana caia carcus sennat*<sup>8</sup>. She could have belonged to this family, but the name of the mother, whatever it was, does not appear in this tomb, making the link uncertain.

In the chamber tomb of the Cai Carcu family, some 20 pieces of pottery and three bronze objects were found in addition to the urns. Feruglio gave a complete list of the tomb gifts with a photograph, as well as two photographs from the interior of the tomb<sup>9</sup>. The tomb she dated to the second and early first century BCE. I cannot determine the exact number of inscribed urns. In the premises of Palazzone, 26 urns are attributed to the tomb. This is confirmed by numbered slips found inside the urns, which correspond to the numbers presented by Feruglio<sup>10</sup>. Together with the photograph in Feruglio's paper, these numbers provide enough data to sketch a general map of the tomb. There were likely, however, at least three more inscribed urns that are now lost. Rix copied two inscriptions for ET (Pe 1.234 and 236, Nos. 27 and 28), of which the latter is clearly visible in the photograph of Feruglio. In addition, in 2018, I copied and measured out a lid inscription from the storehouse but could not find it again for photographing in 2019 (No. 29). I follow here the numbering of Feruglio, starting from the left wall row and the urn closest to the entrance and therefore most likely one of the last burials; see the tomb plan sketch below.

The Cai Carcu family probably belonged to the Perusian middle class, having had a family tomb in which all urns were inscribed, though, after the splendid lid sculpture of the tomb founder, the urns are rather modest: there are only two other lid sculptures, while one half of the urns are plain.

1. (suggested ET-number Pe 1. 1361)<sup>11</sup>



*ar(nθ). cai. aθnu | asial*

<sup>7</sup> To be published by R. Massarelli.

<sup>8</sup> The reading is uncertain, as the surface is partly destroyed. The metronymic is very uncertain. There is space for two letters between gentilicium and cognomen, possibly for the patronymic.

<sup>9</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, photographs 77 and 75-76, p. 201.

<sup>10</sup> I am grateful to dr. Giorgio Postrioti and Enrico Bizzarri for this discovery.

<sup>11</sup> Rix reserved 27 numbers in ET for the inscriptions of the Cai Carcu tomb. As 29 inscriptions are now being published here for the tomb, Nos. 1 and 2, possibly from a reopening of the tomb (like No. 3), are assigned the first available numbers of ET, while No. 3 is assigned the last reserved number Pe 1.259.

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,505. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. The measures of the container are H 30.5 cm, B 40.5 cm, D 28.5 cm. The inscription was carved on the upper edge in two lines and painted in red. The letters are 4 cm high. The measures of the gabled-roof lid are H 13.5 cm, B 42 cm, D 35 cm (*pl. XXV a*).

The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen and metronymic. If a member of the Cai Carcu family, the person has taken another cognomen, *aθnu* being rather common both at Clusium and Perusia<sup>12</sup>. The ashes of the mother *asia*, were in No. 3. This gentilicium is encountered three times at Perusia, Meiser, *ET Pe* 1.261, 1.423 and 1.616<sup>13</sup>. The inscription has triangular dots between the words and serifs at some bar ends – a clear late feature<sup>14</sup>. This is contrasted by R, which has a loop of full height and a short tail.

2. (suggested *ET*-number *Pe 1.1362*)

*θana: cati:*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,508. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The measures of the gabled-roof lid are H 15.5 cm, B 47 cm, D 36 cm. The inscription is carved and painted on the lower edge of the lid, starting from the right edge. The letters are 4.5-6.0 cm high. The measures of the container are H 33.5 cm, B 40 cm, D 28.5 cm (*pl. XXV b*).

The woman's name comprises a praenomen and a gentilicium and does not disclose any connection with the family; given the large amount of space, an abbreviation like *ca(la)ti* (cf. Nos. 26 and 29) is improbable. The name *cate* is known only from Meiser, *ET Cl* 1.276. The letters are uniformly carved. C is narrow, and T has a descending bar.

3. (suggested *ET*-number *Pe 1.259*)

*larθi. asia. ar(nθial)*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,370. Both are plain. The urn has high feet. The measures of the container are H 45.5 cm, B 51 cm, D 40.5 cm. The in-

<sup>12</sup> See RIX 1963, p. 153.

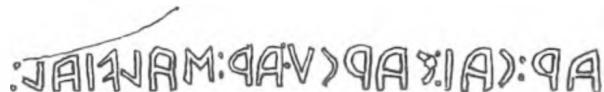
<sup>13</sup> In MEISER, *ET Pe* 1.361 from the tomb of Acsi, I prefer, based on the gypsum copy of Conestabile, *aṣsi* instead of *asi*. I do not see in *asi* a variant of *acsī*, *axsi*.

<sup>14</sup> For serifs in Etruscan inscriptions, see AGOSTINIANI 2012, pp. 2-3.

scription is carved on the upper edge of the container. The letters are 2.5 cm high. The measures of the gabled-roof lid are H 11.5 cm, B 52.5 cm, D 44 cm (*pls. XXVI a; XXVII b*)

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and patronymic. This is the mother of No. 1. For the name *asia*, see the entry above. The dots between names are triangular, and at some bar ends, serifs of some kind can be seen, similarly in the epitaph of the son. *L* has a horizontal side bar. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

4. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.237)

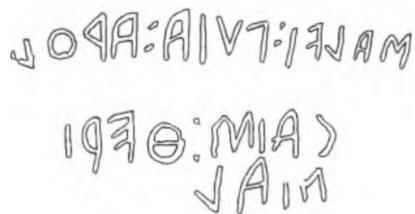


*ar(nθ): cai: carcu: ar(nθial): salvial:*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,502. The urn has feet. On the gabled-roof lid, two peltae rising over the roof flats have a four-petal flower in the middle, with the background painted in black. The measures are H 19.5 cm, B 55 cm, D 44 cm. The inscription is on the lower list, starting from where the right pelta meets the edge of the lid, and is carved and painted in red. The letters are 2 cm high. The container has a banquet relief, in which a veiled man lies on the banquet bed, leaning his left elbow on a pillow, a patera in the right hand. A servant is on either side of the bed. The measures are H 45 cm, B 50 cm, D 41.5 cm (*pls. XXVI b; XXVII a*).

The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen, patronymic and metronymic. The parents of the deceased are Nos. 5 and 6. The letters are nicely carved. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height. *San* is inscribed with vertical side bars.

5. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.238)



*salvi: puia: ar(n)θi(al) | cais: heri|nial*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,520. Both are plain. The gabled-roof lid measures H 15.5 cm, B 49 cm, D 36.5 cm, and the container H 34 cm, B 39.5 cm, D 28.5 cm. The inscription starts on the lid and continues on the container. It is carved and painted in red. On the urn, less paint is used and the letters are larger, but, based on the letter shapes, they appear nevertheless to have been inscribed by

the same carver. On the lid, the letters are 2.5-4.0 cm high, on the container 4.0-4.5 cm high (*pl. XXVI c*)

There are some disparities between the carving and the painting of the letters. After *pua*, a colon is carved, but something like a *C* is – in my opinion, erroneously – painted. At the end of the first line, an *I* is carved, but an *L* with a dot is painted, *ar(n)θ(ia)l*. As both abbreviations are obsolete, I have followed the carved form in the text given above. The name form comprises a gentilicium and gamronymic (the latter consisting of the word *pua*, praenomen, gentilicium and metronymic of the husband, buried in the urn No. 6). As in the epitaph of the husband, the gentilicium *cai* is given without the cognomen *carcu*. Of the three brothers belonging to the second generation of the tomb, it appears only Vel (No. 10) had adopted the cognomen *Carcu*. The simple genitive *herinial* is used instead of *herinialisla*, as is also the case with the two other names, where the gamronymic includes the metronymic of the husband (Nos. 9 and 15).

Of the letter forms, *san* has a curved left bar. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height – that of the first *R* is angular. *Theta* is inscribed above the line. The round *H* has a slightly descending middle bar.

6. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.239)



*ar(nθ): ca(i): herinial*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,506. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The measures of the gabled-roof lid are H 12.5 cm, B 53.5 cm, D 36.5 cm. The inscription was carved and painted in red, starting from the right edge of the front gable. The letters are 3-4 cm high. The measures of the container are H 32 cm, B 50 cm, D 32 cm (*pl. XXVII c-d*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, abbreviated gentilicium and metronymic. The cognomen *carcu* is omitted, as in the name form of his brother No. 21, and the patronymic is missing, as in the name forms of all three brothers (Nos. 6, 10, and 21). *R* has a loop of two-thirds height. The round *H* has an ascending middle bar. *E* has horizontal or slightly ascending side bars.

7. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.240)



*larθia. herinia. s(anis?)*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,511. It is now in the Antiquarium of the Ipogeo dei Volumni. On the tympanum of the gabled-roof lid, there is a deco-

rative relief with two peltae rising over the roof flats, with the face of a lion in the middle<sup>15</sup>. The relief is painted in red, brown and black. The lid measures H 25.5 cm, B 60.5 cm, D 41.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red in the middle of the lower list. Letters are 2.0-2.5 cm high. The container has low feet. In the relief, three men (Arimaspi?) are fighting a griffin. One has fallen to the ground, by the hind legs of the animal, one is falling at its fore legs, and a third is trying to hit the beast with a club. The black colour in the background is well preserved, while only remnants remain of the red, black and brown colours of the figures. The measures are H 56 cm, B 60.5 cm, D 41.5 cm (*pl. XXVII e*).

Larthi was probably the sister of Thana Herini (No. 9), the mother of the tomb founder (see below). In the name form, the praenomen and gentilicium are clear, but the *san*, after an intermediary dot, is problematic. I believe that it stands for *s(anis)*, which appears in epitaphs honouring the deceased. From Perusia, we have one uncertain case of the word in the lost urn *CIE 4149 la. venete sanis*, corrected, without good reason, in Meiser, *ET Pe 1.812* to *mania(l)*<sup>16</sup>. The alternative supplements are unlikely. The letter could come from an abbreviated cognomen, but there was enough space for many more letters. A patronymic is out of question, as there is no praenomen beginning with *san* at Perusia.

As for the letter forms, there appear to be three different *A*s: the first two with vertical right bars and curved left bars, the first with ascending middle bar and the second horizontal, while the third has oblique side bars with a curved top. *R* has a loop of full height. *Theta* is inscribed above the line, as is *H*, of the round type, with a horizontal middle bar. The final *san* has a nearly vertical first and third bar, curved second and fourth bars, a type for which I have only found three parallels from Perusia (Meiser, *ET Pe 1.871, 1.1033 and 1.1311*).

8. (suggested *ET*-number *Pe 1.241*)



[θa]na. aneine[i---]

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No 266,507. The urn probably had feet. The gabled-roof lid has a decorative relief of a flower between two palm leaves<sup>17</sup>. There have been lists on all three sides, but the upper ones are almost entirely destroyed. The measures of the lid are H 12 cm, B 44.5 cm, D 34.5 cm. The inscription is carved

<sup>15</sup> I do not know of a similar lid decoration. Lion faces are encountered in the urn reliefs of MEISER, *ET Pe 1.555* (with a ring in the mouth), 1.601, 1.1310, 1.1320 (all three with a poniard in the mouth).

<sup>16</sup> For the appearance of the word and its meaning, see G. COLONNA, in *StEtr LXXIII*, 2007 [2009], *REE*, pp. 342-343.

<sup>17</sup> I know of four other lids with the same decoration, of which MEISER, *ET 1.263* and 1.1312 are published and the two others are still waiting publication.

and possibly painted in red on the lower list, which is also badly damaged. The letters are 2 cm high. On the container relief, there are two peltae with a four-petal flower in the middle, and, on the upper edge, a garland with two loops. The measures of the container are H 31 cm, B 44.5 cm, D 35 cm (*pl. XXVIII a-b*).

The inscription is almost illegible. It may have been longer, with other name parts, but the surface of the list is damaged; the visible paint traces are not from the inscription. I have tried to reconstruct the name as best as I can, resulting in a woman's name with the common Perusian gentilicium. She was probably married into the Cai Carcu family (see below).

9. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.242)



*θana: herini: puia | 'la(rθial): ca(is'): vipial*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,503. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. The measures of the container are H 28.5 cm, B 37.5 cm, D 25.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the upper edge of the container in two lines. The letters are 3.5-4.0 cm high. The measures of the gabled-roof lid are H 9.5 cm, B 44 cm, D 29 cm (*pl. XXVIII c*).

In the gamonymic, *ca(rcus)* is possible instead of *ca(is)*<sup>18</sup>. The first letter *L* of the second line was added afterwards. After the last word in the second line, there are traces of red paint (but no carvings), that can be approximated to letters; the best that I could read is *VUSIA* or *VUSIS*, but these can as well be the forms of accidental brush draining, especially as there are two vertical bars above *U* and *S*.

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and gamonymic, consisting of the word *puia*, a praenomen, an abbreviated gentilicium and a metronymic. The place of the urn in the rear row probably indicates that Thana was the mother of the tomb founder and his two brothers (Nos. 6, 10 and 21). The gamonymic then gives the father of the brothers, Larth Cai, son of Vipi, who is not buried in the tomb. The mother's urn was probably brought to this tomb from another, with the inscription having been carved first later. Larthi Herinia (No. 7) is probably Thana's sister. Of the letters, *theta* is inscribed above the line. The round *H* has a descending middle bar. *R* has a loop of half height.

10. Meiser, ET Pe 1.233

<sup>18</sup> The same abbreviation appears in the gamonymics of Nos. 15 and 24. In other name parts, there is only the abbreviated *ca(rcu)* in No. 29, while abbreviated *ca(i)*, *c(ai)* appears in Nos. 18, 24 and 25.

vel: cais: carcu: herinal

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,515. Now in the Antiquarium of the Ipogeo dei Volumni. This urn had a central and elevated position at the rear end of the tomb. The urn has feet. On the lid, a married couple is depicted reclining at a banquet<sup>19</sup>. The wife leans tenderly against the chest of the husband, who has the right arm around her shoulders. The wife holds a fan in her left hand, the man a patera in his. The measures of the lid are H 54 cm, B 69 cm, D 43 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on a list under the mattress. The letters are 3.0-3.5 cm high. On the container is a mythological relief, with Telephos menacing the infant Orestes on an altar<sup>20</sup>. The measures are H 52 cm, B 61 cm, D 43 cm (*pl. XXIX a*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium in the genitive, cognomen and metronymic. On the family of Vel, see below. In the second *E*, the lowest side bar is horizontal and the top side bar curved. *A* has a horizontal middle bar twice and an ascending middle bar once. *C* is narrow. In *san*, the left top is curved and the side bars oblique. *R* has a loop of full height. *H* is of the ladder-type, with horizontal middle bars.

#### 11. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.243)

θana. caia: prucui trace: qv(il) sva(lθas) LXXXI

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,516. The urn probably had no feet. On the lid tympanum is a pelta relief with a four-petal flower in the middle, the most common decorative relief on Perusian lid tympana. The peltae and the flower are painted in red. The lid measures H 20.5 cm, B 65.5 cm, D 48 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower list, letters 2.0-2.5 cm high. On the urn relief, a female demon is riding on a hippocamp. Both the lid decoration and the container relief are very similar to those of No. 13 (there, the female demon is depicted with wings). No colour is preserved on the container, which measures H 43.5 cm, B 49 cm, D 36 cm (*pl. XXX b-c*).

<sup>19</sup> NIELSEN 1992, p. 117, defines the distinction between banquet and matrimonial bed scenes in the way that in the former, the man and woman have individual cloaks, in the latter a common blanket. In the banquet scene, there are often drinking vessels and garland for the man, rich jewellery for the woman. Expressions of conjugal love appear both at a banquet and a bed. This urn is in Nielsen's list of sarcophagi and urns with married couples No. 33, pp. 116 and 129.

<sup>20</sup> For an analysis of the persons in the relief and its contacts with other Etruscan monuments, see FERUGLIO 1977, pp. 115-116.

The text of the inscription is a problem, partly because the carving and the painting of the letters differ from one another. Even though the gamonymic is missing, the woman is obviously the wife of the tomb founder Vel (No. 10) and the mother of Nos. 14, 19, 22 and 23. The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and cognomen. *prucui* appears in this tomb for the first time at Perusia. Three names from Clusium contain the stem *pruciu* (Meiser, ET Cl 1.217, 251, 2143; so also in No. 20). At the end of the inscription, we have a remarkable age of the woman, 91 years. Age is not a common element in Perusian epitaphs; I know of only one other example, from the Anei Marcna tomb of Strozzacapponi, where it is given in the form *s(valce) IIII*<sup>21</sup>. Between the cognomen and the numeral, the partly carved, partly painted letters are unclear. Before the numeral, I can discern the formula *av(il) sva(lthas)*<sup>22</sup>. In the latter word, V is only carved, A only painted. Before this formula, the best reading I can offer is *trace* (or possibly *tracei*)<sup>23</sup>. While this could reasonably be a verb in the preterite form or an abbreviated metronymic, no known verbs and names correspond to these letters.

Of the letters that can be read reliably, *theta* is inscribed above the line and *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

12. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.244)



θana: cai: velus: nuθunial | sec

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,521. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. The gabled-roof lid measures H 13 cm, B 55 cm, D 34 cm. The inscription, painted in red without any carving, is on the lower edge of the lid with 3.5-4.0 high letters. The last word is added to the upper edge of the container, ca. 5 cm from the right edge, with 3.5 cm high letters. The container measures H 36 cm, B 52 cm, D 31 cm (pls. XXIX b; XXX a).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium, patronymic and metronymic with the word *sec* (with an unaspirated stop, as in No. 28; cf. *sex* in No. 16). She may be an unmarried daughter of the family. The place of the urn in the rear row

<sup>21</sup> Published by M. CAPPELLETTI, in CALANDRA *et al.* 2014, pp. 93-94. A late example comes from the tomb of Aconi, where the marble urn of *Aconia Quartilla* (CIE 3735; CIL XI 1983; *Supplementa Italica* 30 [2018], p. 162) gives her age of six years.

<sup>22</sup> This formula is encountered at Tarquinia, MEISER, ET Ta 1.9, 1.171.

<sup>23</sup> Instead of *T*, there could instead be a colon, and the subsequent letter could alternatively be *V*. Of *A*, only the vertical is carved. *CE* is clearly carved. A painted vertical (or colon) follows *E*.

should indicate her having belonged to the second or third generation, but there we have only one Vel, married to Thana Caia Prucui (No. 11). Thana is either a daughter from Vel's first marriage, or, for instance, his cousin. The mother's name *nuθunial* is a *hapax*.

The painted letters are difficult for palaeographic study, but *theta* appears to have a dot in the middle.

13. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.245)

*ar(nθ). cai. carcu. vuisial*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,518. The urn probably has no feet. The container has a mythological relief with a winged female demon riding a sea monster (cf. No. 11) and measures H 37.5 cm, B 50 cm, D 37 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the upper edge of the container. The letters are 2.5 cm high. The lid has a decorative relief with two peltae and a four-petal (?) flower. There is a list on the lower edge of the lid. The measures are H 19 cm, B 55.5 cm, D 43.5 cm (*pl. XXXI a*).

The parents are Nos. 14 and 15. No. 16 is a sister. The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen and metronymic, but no patronymic. There are some errors in the paintings: *I* in *cai* is painted as *T*, *V* in *vuisial* as *E*. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height. The side bar in the final *L* is almost horizontal.

14. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.246)

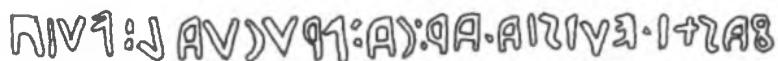
*ar(nθ). cai carcu. ve(lus). prucual*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,514. The urn has no feet. On the lid, the veiled deceased man is in a half-recumbent position, a scroll in his right hand, with his left elbow leaning on two pillows and his fingers touching his nose. He has a garland around his neck, and his upper body is bare. The lid measures H 45 cm, B 56 cm, D 43.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on a list under the mattress, starting ca. 5 cm from the right edge. The letters are 3.0-3.5 cm high. On the container, a mythological relief presents Orestes pursued by Erinyes near an altar (cf. No. 18). The lower edge list has three flowers. The container measures H 43 cm, B 55.5 cm, D 47 cm. Feruglio considers the urn to have come from the "workshop of Satna"<sup>24</sup> (*pl. XXXI b-c*).

<sup>24</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 115.

The deceased was the son of Nos. 10 and 11, husband of No. 15. The space between *C* and *A* in *prucual* is tight, with few traces of the letter visible. *prucial* would be possible, but I prefer the normal form, appearing in Nos. 15 and 23. The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen, patronymic and metronymic. The man was the son of Nos. 10 and 11 and the brother of Nos. 5, 19 and 23. The letter forms show no peculiarities. The first *R* has a loop of two-thirds height, the second and third having loops of half height.

15. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.247)



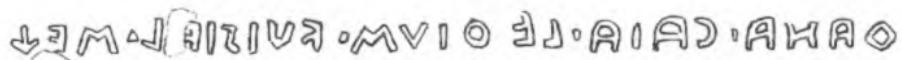
*fasti: vuisia. ar(nθial): ca(is): prucual: pua*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,416. The urn has feet. On the gabled-roof lid, there is a decorative relief with a four-petal flower between two bunches of grape, surrounded on all three sides by lists. This common lid decoration appears also in No. 22. The lid measures H 15.5 cm, B 58 cm, D 37 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower list of the lid. The letters are 2.5 cm high. The relief on the container presents a soldier riding on a hippocamp, holding a sword in his right hand and a shield in his left. The container measures H 45.5 cm, B 49.5 cm, D 30.5 cm (*pl. XXXII a-b*).

The deceased was the wife of No. 14. Her name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and gamonymic, which consists of an abbreviated praenomen, abbreviated gentilicium, metronymic and the word *pua*. In the gamonymic, *ca(rcus)* is possible instead of *ca(is)* – see note 18. The name *vuisi*, of Umbrian origin, is common in both Clusium and Perusia.

In *pua*, the first letter looks like *V*. It is possible that the carver corrected the letter, which would have been carved too high, by drawing a new side bar on the list, but it can also be a misspelling of *vuisia*. Both *C* and *S* are narrow and rather angular. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

16. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.248)



*θana. caia. leθius. vuisial. sex*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,517. The urn has no feet. On the tympanum of the gabled-roof lid is a decorative relief with two dolphins swimming away from a four-petal flower. The same relief appears in Meiser, ET Pe 1.616, 1.941 and 1.1344. Lists surround the gable on all three sides. The corolla of the flower is painted in red. The lid measures H 13.5 cm, B 60 cm, D 41.5 cm. The inscription

is on the lower list, carved and painted in red with letters 1.5 cm high. The relief on the container has two slanting peltae with spear heads for handles, a four-petal flower lying between them. The same decoration appears in Pe 1.450. The corolla of the flower and the centres of the pelta volutes are painted in red. The container measures H 37 cm, B 53.5 cm, D 35.5 cm (*pl. XXXII c-d*).

This is a sister of No. 13, daughter of Nos. 14 and 15. The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium, gamronymic and metronymic, with the word *sex*. There is no cognomen or patronymic. *leθiu*, the name of her husband, has been encountered before at Perusia as a cognomen in eight urns of the family *petru* (Meiser, *ET* Pe 1.875-882). Maggiani suggested that the name emerged when a *petru*, *lautni* of a *leθe*, received citizenship<sup>25</sup>. This inscription brings no new light on the question, though it is worth noting that Thana's uncle, Vel, was married to a *petrui*. The letters in the lower list of the lid are very small. *V* seems to have horizontal side bars. *San* has oblique side bars.

17. (suggested *ET*-number Pe 1.249)



*θana. custurnei. carlcus*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,510. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. The gabled-roof lid measures H 17 cm, B 52.5 cm, D 40 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower edge of the lid. The last three letters are added above the end of the inscription. The height of the letters is 3 cm. The container measures H 30.5 cm, B 50 cm, D 31.5 cm (*pls. XXXIII b; XXXIV a*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and gamronymic, given by the cognomen. The husband of this Carcu wife remains a mystery. Her gentilicium *custurnei* does not appear among the published inscriptions, but two members of the family are buried in a tomb found at Strozzacapponi in 2007<sup>26</sup>. In the gamronymic, the genitive is spelled with *S* instead of *san*. The phenomenon is common among late Perusian inscriptions, but this is the only case of the kind in this tomb. As for letter forms, *R* has a loop of two-thirds height and *T* a descending bar.

<sup>25</sup> A. MAGGIANI, in *StEtr L*, 1982 [1984], p. 279.

<sup>26</sup> I thank Riccardo Massarelli for this information. In that tomb, the mother of Larthia Custurnei is Petru, namesake of the mother of Nos. 18 and 25 of the Cai Carcu tomb. They could perhaps have been cousins. *Custurna* is the cognomen of *A. Cosconius A.f. Tro. Custurna*, *Supplementa Italica* 30 (2018), p. 252, No. 31. The urn was found in 2005 in the city centre of Perugia. I believe that *custurna* was the Etruscan gentilicium of the deceased, changed into *Cosconius*, when he obtained the Roman citizenship.

## 18. Meiser, ET Pe 1.250

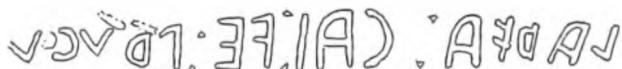


*ar(nθ) ca(i). carcu. petrual.*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,352. In front of the urn, an iron *strigilis*, a bronze bracelet and a small bronze spatula were found<sup>27</sup>. The urn probably had no feet. A banquet relief can be seen on the tympanum of the gabled-roof lid<sup>28</sup>. In the background are peltae rising over the roof flats, partly covered by the half-reclining man, who holds a patera in his right hand. The lid measures H 20.5 cm, B 49.5 cm, D 35.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower list. The letters are 3-4 cm high. On the container is a relief of Orestes pursued by the Erinyes near an altar (cf. No. 14). According to Feruglio, the urn bears remarkable similarities with those from the "workshop of Satna"<sup>29</sup>. The container measures H 37.5 cm, B 40.5 cm, D 36.5 cm (*pl. XXXIII a*).

The deceased belongs to the fourth generation of the tomb. His father is No. 23, but the mother *petrui* was probably not buried in this tomb. No. 25 is his brother. The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, abbreviated gentilicium, cognomen and metronymic but no patronymic. As for the letters, *A* is of the rectangular type. *R* has a loop of half height, *C* is narrow and *T* has horizontal bar across the vertical bar.

## 19. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.251)



*larza: cai: ve(lus): prucu(al)*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,509. While the previous urns come from the wall rows of the tomb, this and the following urns are from the floor row. Both the container and the lid are plain. The urn has feet. The gabled-roof lid measures H 11 cm, B 46.5 cm, D 32.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower edge of the lid. The letters are 3-4 cm high. The container measures H 28.5 cm, B 42 cm, D 27.5 cm (*pl. XXXIV b, d*).

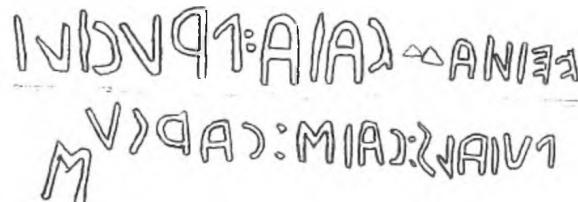
<sup>27</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 113.

<sup>28</sup> This type is presented in MAGGIANI 2011, pp. 194-196, with a small *corpus* of 13 examples. This lid is not included. Other additions to the *corpus*: MEISER, ET Pe 1.43, 1.486, 1.750 and 1.866. Two further monuments in the storehouse of Palazzone still wait the publishing. Maggiani's interesting observation was that this type is mainly found on lids of women (10 women, 3 men). My additions to the *corpus* leave this observation valid; the figures are now 13 women, 7 men.

<sup>29</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 115.

This is the urn of the fourth son of Nos. 10 and 11. He probably died as an infant, as his praenomen is given in the diminutive form. *larza* is a common and widespread name, but at Perusia it is otherwise known only from Meiser, ET Pe 1.1011. After this is the gentilicium, patronymic and metronymic. The first letters are backwards slanting. *R* has a loop of full height. The bars of *Z* are ascending. The sidebars of *E* and *V* are rather horizontal.

20. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.252)



*veilia. caia: pruciui | pua l(ari)s(al): cais: carcu|s*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,504. The urn has no feet. Both the container and the lid are plain. The container measures H 33.5 cm, B 42 cm, D 27.5 cm, the lid H 15 cm, B 48 cm, D 32 cm. The inscription starts on the lower edge of the lid and continues to the upper part of the container. The letters are carved and painted, 3.5-6.0 cm high on the lid and 3.0-3.5 cm high on the container (pl. XXXIV c, e).

The wife of No. 22 has in her name form a praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen and gamonymic, consisting of the word *pua* and praenomen, gentilicium and cognomen of the husband. Curiously, *Veilia* bears as her cognomen the name of her mother-in-law (No. 11) – it is doubtful that the variation *prucui-pruciui* should refer to different families. There thus seems to have been a matrimonial alliance between the Cai Carcu and Cai Prucu families over two generations.

*A* appears in the first line three times with a rounded top. *U* in most cases has a vertical right bar. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height. The narrow *S* is rather angular. The side bars of *san* are vertical. The first dot after the praenomen is triangular. There are two triangular dots and faint traces of carved letters, possibly *CAI*. I think that the carver started the gentilicium without interpunctuation, and then corrected it by reshaping *I* to *C* and adding a triangular dot, first having been too far from *veilia*.

21. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.253)



*l(ari)s: cai: herinial:*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,519. It is now in the Antiquarium of the Ipogeo dei Volumni. The urn has feet. It has a relief of a winged Medusa face

inside a square. Some remnants of red colour are visible on the wings and locks of the hair. The eyes and the background are painted in black. The inscription is carved and painted in red above the square. The letters are 3 cm high. The container measures H 37 cm, B 42.5 cm, D 34 cm. The steeply pitched roof of the lid has two peltae, rising over the roof flats, and a four-petal flower between them. The peltae and the outer parts of the flower are painted in red, the outer edges of the peltae and the corolla of the flower in yellow, and the background in black. The lid measures H 32.5 cm, B 54 cm, D 34 cm. On the lower list, the remnants of the painted letters are still visible but cannot belong to this inscription. The lid was possibly first intended for another deceased individual. Little can be discerned from these traces. The clearest letters would give *axu*; one could possibly discern *lei axunia*×××, all with underdots (*pls. XXXV a; XXXVI a*).

Laris is the brother of the tomb founder Vel (No. 10). The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium and metronymic. It is to be noted that the cognomen *carcu* is missing (the *Vornamengentile* sufficed), as in the epitaph of his brother No. 6. There seems to have been a corrected misspelling at the beginning. It seems that *l · c · c* was first written, possibly with *l(aris) c(ai) carcu* in mind (cf. No. 25). But then the carver noticed that *l* is not the right abbreviation and corrected the first *C* to *S*. As for the letter forms, *R* has a loop of half height. The round *H* has horizontal middle bar. *E* has an extra side bar. Probably the lowest one was added, as the letter was otherwise too high up.

22. (suggested ET-number Pe 1. 254)



*l(aris). cai. carcu. ve(lus). l prucual.*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,512. The urn has feet. It has a decoration relief with two crosswise peltae inside a square. I know of no examples comparable to this design. The container measures H 47 cm, B 49.5 cm, D 36 cm. The inscription starts on the upper edge of the container, ca. 10 cm from the right edge and continues to the left side of the lower list of the lid. Evidently, it was not well planned: starting the inscription at the right edge of the container would have given enough space for the metronymic, which is given instead on the lid. The letters on the container are 3.0-3.5 cm high, on the lid 2.5 cm high. The gabled-roof lid has on the tympanum a decorative relief with a four-petal flower between two bunches of grape and is surrounded on all three sides by lists (cf. No 15) (*pls. XXXV b; XXXVI b*).

The parents of Laris are Nos. 10 and 11. His name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen, patronymic and metronymic. The letter forms have no peculiarities. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

23. Meiser, ETP 1.235



*ve(l): cai. carcu. ve(lus). prucual*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,522. It is now in the Antiquarium of the Ipogeo dei Volumni. The urn has feet. On the lid, the half-recumbent deceased man is leaning on two pillows. His upper body is bare<sup>30</sup>. He has a garland around the neck and holds no objects in his hands. There are remnants of black colour in the upper pillow and in the garland. The lid measures H 44 cm, B 66.5 cm, D 43 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower list of the lid. Two borders of the bed cloth break it up before the patronymic and in the middle of the metronymic. The letters are 3 cm high. On the container is a relief depicting the battle against the Gauls: a horseman in the middle aims his spear at a falling enemy, supported on both sides by soldiers with sword and shield in hand. The red colour of the background is well preserved, and there are some remnants of black in the spear head and the helmets. The container measures H 52 cm, B 61 cm, D 43 cm (*pl. XXXVI c.*).

In Meiser, *ET*, the final *L* is in square brackets, but part of the letter is in fact visible, carved but not painted<sup>31</sup>. The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, cognomen, patronymic and metronymic. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

24. (suggested *ET*-number Pe 1.255)



*[θ]an(a) huzei. arzneal. | cai(s). carcus*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,368. The urn probably had feet. On the container, the decorative relief has a four-petal flower between two peltae. The container measures H 49.5 cm, B 49.5 cm, D 39.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the upper edge. The letters are 3.5-4.0 cm high. The gabled-roof

<sup>30</sup> SCLAFANI 2010, p. 167, dates the bare upper body to the third century BCE, probably too ambitiously.

<sup>31</sup> Whether the paint is original or has been partly strengthened in the restoration process of the urns remains a mystery. In any case, the painting over the carvings causes difficulties, especially in the drawing of facsimiles. The painting is often thicker than the carving and does not always follow the carved lines.

lid has the same decoration of a flower between two peltae. The lid measures H 15.5 cm, B 56 cm, D 39 cm. The inscription is continued on it, in the middle of the lower edge, with a letter height of 2 cm (*pls. XXXVII a; XXXVIII a*).

The beginning of the inscription is damaged. The first fully visible letter is *N*, followed by *H*. At Perusia, *H* is also encountered inside words<sup>32</sup>, but the combination *NH* is unknown and improbable. Hence, I interpret *N* as the end of an abbreviated praenomen, even though the punctuation mark is missing. As the bar before *N* makes *[a]rn(θ)* impossible – *buzei* could also be masculine – *[θ]an(a)* is the only possibility that remains<sup>33</sup>. The reading of the husband's cognomen is difficult due to the uneven relief surface. The space between *C* and *U* is very tight for *ARC*, and especially *C* seems to be just a straight bar.

The name on the lid could present a second person with his ashes in the same urn, but I prefer to understand it as a gamonymic, as there are no examples otherwise of double burials from this tomb. Consequently, the name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, metronymic, and gamonymic with the abbreviated gentilicium and cognomen of the husband. It is unclear who *cai carcu* husband was. The gentilicium *buzei* is hapax, perhaps connected with *buzetna* (Meiser, ET Pe 1.344, 1.658, 1.1085). *arzni* is a common Perusian name. The letter form of *H* is round, with an ascending middle bar. *Z* has descending bars. The loop of *R* is of half height.

25. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.256)

*v(e)l. c(ai). carcu. v(e)l(us). petrual*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,369. It is now in the Antiquarium of the Ipogeo dei Volumni. The lid has a typical pelta relief, with an eight-petal (?) flower in the middle. The background is painted in red, the edges of the peltae and the corolla of the flower in yellow. The measures of the lid are H 20.5 cm, B 49 cm, D 45.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower list. The letters are 3.0-3.5 cm high. The urn probably had no feet. The decorative relief on the container has equally two peltae and an eight-petal flower (with a cross in the corolla) between them. The upper halves of the peltae are painted in red. On the upper edge of the container are three more flowers and garlands under them. The container measures H 33.5 cm, B 48 cm, D 44 cm (*pls. XXXVII b; XXXVIII b*).

This is the fourth generation of the tomb. His father is No. 23 and brother No. 18. The name form has an abbreviated praenomen, abbreviated gentilicium,

<sup>32</sup> See AGOSTINIANI 2002, pp. 305-309.

<sup>33</sup> I know three other examples of this abbreviation at Perusia, MEISER, ET Pe 1.733; M. CAPPELLETTI, in CALANDRA *et al.* 2014, pp. 92-94, and an unpublished lid in the storehouse of Palazzone.

cognomen, patronymic and metronymic. *T* has a descending bar. *R* has a loop of two-thirds height.

26. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.257)



vei(lia) calatia. ca(is) ersial | ſe(χ)

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 266,513. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. The lid is of the gabled-roof type, but it has on both sides broad flat cornices. The measures are H 11 cm, B 39.5 cm, D 36.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the lower edge of the lid, with letters 3.5-4.0 high. The container measures H 30.5 cm, B 34.5 cm, D 34 cm (pls. XXXVII c; XXXVIII c).

There is a confusion at the beginning: the carver had probably first written *veila*, then started to emend this by first trying to add a hook to the third letter – erroneously – and then reshaping the *L* after it to *C* by adding an upper hook to begin the gentilicium. Hence, the name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium, abbreviated gamonymic and metronymic, with the word *ſe(χ)* – or *ſe(c)* – added above the last letters of the first line. She is the mother of No. 29 and married to Larth Cai Carcu who does not appear in the tomb. In the gamonymic, *ca(rcus)* is possible instead of *ca(is)*; see note 18. *calatia* does not otherwise occur at Perusia but can be found at Volaterrae (Meiser, ET Vt 4.1) and Clusium (Cl 1.2104). The mother's name, *ersial*, is a hapax. Besides the confusion at the beginning of the inscription, the letters show few peculiarities. Two *A*s have a rounded top. *T* has descending bar. *R* has loop of half height. The side bars of *san* are vertical.

27. Meiser, ET Pe 1.234

[au]l[e]. cai. carcus

Travertine container. It was copied by Rix for ET, but I have not found it, and no photograph or facsimile is available. The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and cognomen in the genitive.

28. Meiser, ET Pe 1.236

[. . .]rθnei. au. vahrial. ſec

The text above is the reading of H. Rix and F. Kouba for *Etruskische Texte*. Travertine container and lid. Now missing but is visible in the photograph of the tomb in Feruglio 1977, p. 201, pl. 75. The urn was located at the centre of the tomb, in the second rear row, between Nos. 22 and 23. Both the container and the lid are plain. The inscription is carved and painted on the lid (pl. XXXVIII d).

Approximately three or possibly four letters seem to be missing from the beginning. No known Etruscan gentilicium offers a supplement for the name. *\*arθnei* or *\*larθnei* are possible, but such names are not encountered elsewhere. At the beginning, there may have been a two-letter abbreviation for a praenomen (*θa.*, *lθ?*), or the gentilicium could have been longer, without a praenomen being given. After that, the name form comprises a patronymic and metronymic, with *sec* (the same spelling in No. 27; cf. *sex* in No. 17). *vabri*<sup>34</sup> is known from Meiser, *ET Pe* 1.599, 1.1012.

The location of the urn makes it rather certain that the deceased was a wife of one of the Cai Carcus, even though there seems to be no gamronymic; see below. *R* seems to have a loop of two-thirds height. The middle bar of the round *H* is horizontal.

### 29. (suggested *ET*-number *Pe 1.258*)

*cai ca(rcui) la(rθial) m( ) calatia*

Travertine lid. I copied and measured the lid from the storehouse of the Ipogeo dei Volumni 20 September 2018 but did not find it again the next spring for photographing. Hence, I can only give the measures: H 13 cm, B 55.5 cm, D 32 cm. The lid is plain. The letters are carved and painted in red, 4 cm high.

The name form comprises a gentilicium, abbreviated cognomen, patronymic, abbreviated gamronymic (probably), and metronymic. She bears no praenomen. Her mother is No. 26, but her father Larth does not appear among the persons of the tomb. The abbreviation *m( )* is strange, but the only possible name part between patronymic and metronymic is the gamronymic.

### THE PERSONS OF THE TOMB

1. *ar(nθ). cai. aθnu | asial*
2. *θana: cati:*
3. *larθi. asia. ar(nθial)*
4. *ar(nθ): cai: carcu: ar(nθial): salvial:*
5. *salvi: puia: ar(n)θi(al) | cais: herinial*
6. *ar(nθ): ca(i): herinial*
7. *larθia. herinia. s( )*
8. *[θa]na. aneinqe[i--]*
9. *θana: herini: puia | l'a(rθial): ca(is): viptial*
10. *vel: cais: carcu: herinial*
11. *θana. caia: prucui trāce: q̄y sva LXXXI*
12. *θana: cai: velus: nuθunial | sec*

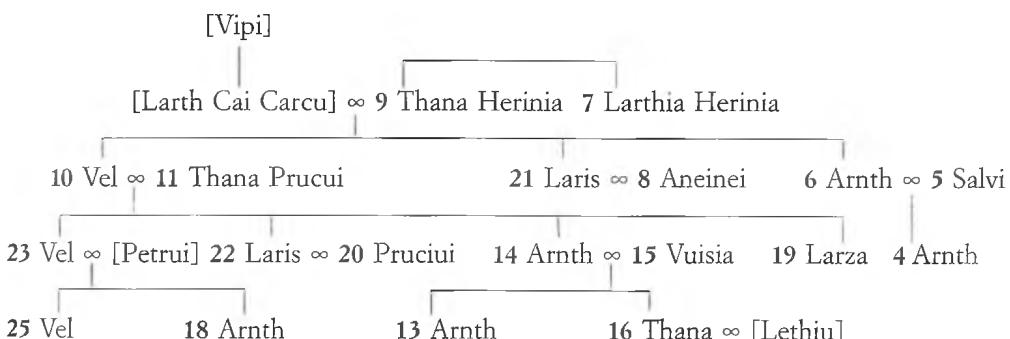
8	9	10	11	12
7	22	28	23	13
6	21		25	14
5	20		26	15
4	19			
3			16	
2			17	
1			18	

graph 1 - The probable tomb plan.  
24, 27 and 29 cannot be placed.

<sup>34</sup> For word-medial *H*, see AGOSTINIANI 2002, pp. 307-310. For the connection of *vabri* to *vari*, see RIX 1963, p. 127, note 69.

13. *ar(nθ) cai. carcu. vuisial*
14. *ar(nθ). cai carcu. ve(lus). prucual*
15. *fasti: vuisia. ar(nθiūl): calis): prucual: puia*
16. *θana. cai. iegius. vuisial. sex*
17. *θana. custurnei. carcus*
18. *ar(nθ) ca(i). carcu. petrual.*
19. *larza: cai: ve(lus): prucu(al)*
20. *veilia. caia: pruciui | puia l(ari)s(al): cais: carculs*
21. *l(ari)s: cai: herinial*
22. *l(ari)s. cai. carcu. ve(lus). | prucual*
23. *ve(l). cai. carcu. ve(lus). prucual*
24. *[θ]an(a) buzei. arzneal. | cai(s). carcus*
25. *v(e)l. c(ai). carcu. v(e)l(lus). petrual*
26. *vej(lia) çalatia. ca(is) ersial | se(x)*
27. *[au]l[e]. cai. carcus*
28. *[. . .]rθnei au. vahrial. sec*
29. *cai ca(rcui) la(rθial) m( ) calatial*

POSSIBLE FAMILY TREE



Numbers 1, 2 and 3 show no connection with the family. It is possible that they are a result of the reopening of the tomb. No. 12 can be a daughter of the tomb founder, No. 10, from an earlier marriage. The husband of No. 17 may be Arnth (No. 18), as the urns of married couples are often placed side by side. The husbands of Nos. 24 and 26 cannot be determined. On basis of her daughter No. 29, No. 26 was married to Larth Cai Carcu, but no Larth is buried in the tomb. No. 28 might be the second wife of Vel (No. 23), as their urns were placed side by side and as Petru, the mother of Vel's sons, was not buried in the tomb. No. 27 cannot be placed in the family tree.

## THE DATING OF THE INSCRIPTIONS

On the basis of the tomb architecture and the tomb gifts, Feruglio dated the tomb to the second and possibly early first century BCE<sup>35</sup>. The urn types, lid sculptures and relief decoration (or lack thereof) fit these time limits well. The fine urn of the tomb founder (No. 10), together with the lid sculpture of the banqueting married couple, could offer possibilities for more exact artistic dating to support a date for the construction of the tomb. Nielsen dated the lid sculpture to the late second century<sup>36</sup>, but the internal chronology of the tomb is simpler, if it comes from the early second century.

The palaeography and the onomastics fit well with Feruglio's dating. The loops of *R* are of full height in the first urns and of two-thirds height in the majority, with only a few of half height<sup>37</sup>. With the exception of the tomb founder's epitaph, male praenomina are always abbreviated. All inscriptions are Etruscan. This determines a *terminus ante quem* of the middle of the first century BCE.

Luckily, we have a rather reliable family tree for the deceased. There seems to be at least four generations buried in the tomb, which, on the average, means that the tomb was used for one hundred years, perhaps a little longer. Taking all evidence into account, I believe that the tomb of Cai Carcu was built in the first quarter of the second century BCE, with the last burials from the second quarter of the first century. The dating of single inscriptions is more risky – within the same generation, the date of death can vary by 50 years. Nevertheless, the following is a list of the approximate dates of the individual inscriptions.

Second century BCE,	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter: 7, 10 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter: 6, 8, 11, 12 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter: 5, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23, 28 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter: 4, 9 <sup>38</sup> , 20, 24, 26
First century BCE,	1 <sup>st</sup> quarter: 13, 16, 25, 29 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter: 1, 2, 3, 17, 18

No. 27, disappeared and without a place in the family tree, cannot be dated.

<sup>35</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 113.

<sup>36</sup> NIELSEN 2009, p. 90.

<sup>37</sup> Even though this indicates a clear development, an absolute dating on this basis remains uncertain. The tomb of the family Alfa is probably from the same period, but there all inscriptions except one have *R* with a loop of full height. In the tomb of the family Satna (MEISER, ET Pe 1.225-232), also from Ponticello di Campo, though probably somewhat later than the tomb of Cai Carcu, *R* consistently has a half-height loop.

<sup>38</sup> I believe that the inscription on the urn of the tomb founder's mother was written much later given its placement in the rear row.

THE INSCRIPTIONS OF THE TOMB OF THE FAMILY ALFA

I do not know of any larger necropolis found at Madonna Alta, 2.5 km southwest of the city centre. Four funeral cippi, now exhibited in the Museo Archeologico Nazionale dell'Umbria, were found in connection with the excavation of the Alfa tomb<sup>39</sup>. Two of them are uninscribed, one belonging to the family *cacni* (Meiser, ET Pe 1.1348; *StEtr* LXXIII, 2007 [2009], *REE*, pp. 392-393, No. 121) and one to the family *spurina* (ET Pe 1.1349). These cippi are older than the tomb of the Alfa family.

The Alfa tomb was built with great rectangular travertine flagstones. It had a central pillar and a gabled roof. Around the walls, travertine slabs formed low benches, on which most of the urns were placed. Feruglio listed, in addition to the urns, twenty items of tomb material, including late Hellenistic ceramics, one small leaden pyxis and one bronze mirror. The tomb gifts could, only in a few cases, be connected to single burials, partly because the original places of the urns may have been changed when new burials came in. Feruglio dated the tomb to the second century BCE, but stated that «non è escluso in base ad alcuni materiali che essa possa scendere anche all'inizio del I secolo a.C.»<sup>40</sup>.

The name *alfa* is probably of Italic etymology. The stem *alf-* can be found in Oscan and Umbrian with the meaning "white"<sup>41</sup>. Before the discovery of this tomb, the Etruscan name *alfa* was only encountered as a cognomen, at Perusia, belonging to the family *vipi alfa* (Meiser, ET Pe 1.318-321, 1.566)<sup>42</sup>, and at Clusium, belonging to the family *purni alfa* (Cl 1.652, 1.665). In the storehouse of the Ipogeo dei Volumni, I found one more urn of unknown provenance, with the unpublished inscription *alfei la*. Her connection with the family Alfa of this tomb remains unclear. It is possible that the name of the family here is an original cognomen. This could be supported by the fact that no (other) cognomen is borne by the members of the family<sup>43</sup>. The family probably belonged to the Perusian middle class. It had a family tomb with inscribed urns, but, with some exceptions, the urns are quite modest and most of them plain.

I have tried here to follow Feruglio's numbers of 1-16, which obviously start from the urn closest to the entrance on the left wall bench. For a probable tomb plan, see below.

<sup>39</sup> *Lapidario* 2004, p. 35, Nos. 75-78.

<sup>40</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, pp. 111-112.

<sup>41</sup> See RIX 1963, pp. 249-250. In Latin, *Alba* appears as masculine cognomen, see KAJANTO 1965, pp. 105, 226.

<sup>42</sup> The tomb of Vipi Alfa, with four urns of men, was found in 1840 at Palazzone close to the Velimna tomb. A woman of the family, married to a Vete, was found four years later in a neighbouring tomb of Vipi Vari. The appearance of the name in the lost inscriptions MEISER, ET Pe 1.899 and 1.900 is very uncertain.

<sup>43</sup> We also encounter at Perusia as gentilicium the feminine form *alfi* (MEISER, ET Pe 1.80, 1.625, 1.626, 1.648, 1.1358), genitive *alfial* (Pe 1.79, 1.624, 1.702, 1.834).

## 1. (suggested ET-number: Pe 1.716)

A R N V A O D A N

*larθ auleṣa*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No 81,131. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The container measures H 55.5 cm, B 66.5 cm, D 45 cm. The inscription is carved on the container, in the middle of the front side. The letters are 6.0-7.0 cm high. There are no traces of painting. The gabled-roof lid has gables on the sides (like Nos. 4 and 8) and measures H 18 cm, B 68.5 cm, D 48 cm (*pls. XXXIX a; XLI a*).

The name form, given without the gentilicium, is exceptional in this tomb, and the patronymic, with the enclitic definite article *-sa*, is rare in Perusian names. These two features are possibly linked (cf. *seθre: velusa* in the Cai Cutu tomb, Meiser, *ET Pe 1.1303*). The middle bar of *A* is descending. *R* has a full-height loop. The round, rather small *theta* is inscribed slightly above the line and has a dot in the middle. The left bar of *U* is more upright than the right one. *E* and *S* are forward slanting. *E* has a vertical curve, and *S* is rather narrow and angular.

## 2. (suggested ET-number: Pe 1.717)

M A 8 J A O D A N  
M 3 J V A : M

*larθ alfas̄ |{s̄}: aules̄*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,132. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The container measures H 24.5 cm, B 38 cm, D 31 cm. The inscription is carved on the front side of the container in two lines. The letters are 4.0-6.5 cm high. While it is not impossible that they were originally painted in black, it is more likely that the colour comes instead from the pigment of the stone. The gabled-roof lid measures H 12 cm, B 39 cm, D 29.5 cm (*pl. XXXIX b*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium in the genitive and unabridged patronymic. The space became tight at the end of the first line, and the final *san* is clearly smaller than the other letters. The carver was unhappy with this and added a new *san* at the beginning of the second line, without removing the first letter. It may also have happened the other way around: the *san* beginning the second line was carved first, but the customer was not satisfied with the line division, so a new *san* was added. While there is no interpunct between the praenomen and the gentilicium, there is a colon before the patronymic.

*A* has curved left bars in the first two occurrences, the two following having angular left bars. The narrow *R* has a full-height loop. *Theta* is inscribed above the

line. *F* is backwards slanting. All three *sans* have four oblique bars of equal length. *E* is a high letter, and the lowest descending side bar starts clearly above the bottom.

3. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.718)

M̄ J V R · A 8 J A · E J V A  
aule. alfa. aules

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,133. The urn has feet. The container has a decorative relief of two peltae inside a square, the rounded sides resting against one another<sup>44</sup>. The front side with the relief was covered with a thin layer of clay and painted in three different colours: all four edge lists and the edges of the peltae in a yellowish colour, the shields in red, and the background in a brownish colour. The container measures H 49 cm, B 41 cm, D 34.5 cm. The inscription was carved and painted in red on the upper list of the container. The letters are 2.5-3.0 cm high. Equally, on the tympanum, the gabled-roof lid has a decorative relief of two peltae, which rise above the roof flats. The peltae have volutes on the side ends, while, at the top, they end in a common sharp point. Beneath them is a list. The space between the peltae is plain<sup>45</sup>. The painting is made on the travertine, without an intermediate layer of clay, and only red colour is used in the shields of the peltae and the space between the volutes. The lid measures H 23.5 cm, B 50.5 cm, D 42.5 cm (pls. XXXIX c; XLI b).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and patronymic. The first *A* has two carved and painted left bars, the first having possibly been considered too broad. The carver first inscribed an angular *S* after *alfa*, evidently for the genitive of the gentilicium (cf. No. 2), but then corrected this to an *A*. *E* has horizontal side bars. *F* is slightly backwards slanting. *San* has vertical side bars; the right middle bar is slightly curved.

4. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.719)

W̄ F · A 8 J V A  
F 1 A

au(le) alfa. au(les) | apa

<sup>44</sup> I do not know of any other examples of this type among the inscribed Perusian urns. Usually, there is a flower or several, or some other plant element between the two peltae – e.g., MEISER, ET Pe 1.63, 1.228, 1.423, 1.494, 1.695 and 1.878.

<sup>45</sup> This, too, is a rare type among inscribed Perusian urn lids. The best parallel is MEISER, ET Pe 1.1206. Normally, there is a flower or some other element in the space between the peltae.

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,134. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The container measures H 49 cm, B 41 cm, D 34.5 cm. The inscription is painted (without carving) on the upper part of the front side of the container, the first line in red, the descending second line in black. The letters, especially the two last ones of the first line, have almost vanished entirely. They are 7-12 cm high. The gabled-roof lid has gables on the sides (like Nos. 1 and 8) and measures H 23.5 cm, B 50.5 cm, D 42.5 cm. (*pls. XL a; XLI c*).

The inscription bears a namesake of No. 3, but both the praenomen and the patronymic are abbreviated here. The word *apa*, “father”, has probably been painted afterwards to distinguish between father and son. The letters of the first line are crude – the line is not straight, and, for instance, *F* is misshapen.

5. Meiser, *ET Pe* 1.720



*vel. alfa. velus. temunall*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,135. This is one of the three inscriptions published by Feruglio and included in *Etruskische Texte*, but these editions do not know the metronymic. Feruglio connects with this urn a small olla of the type Cosa I, which can be dated to between the second quarter of the second and the third quarter of the first century BCE<sup>46</sup>.

The container has feet. It has a decorative relief with two amphoras and an eight-petal rose inside a square<sup>47</sup>. The container measures H 36 cm, B 62.5 cm, D 38 cm. The gabled-roof lid has on the tympanum a decorative relief with the same theme as the container: two amphoras lying on their sides and a four-petal rose between them. This decoration theme is quite common among lid tympana<sup>48</sup>. The gable has lists on all three sides. The lid measures H 21 cm, B 64.5 cm, D 44.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the bottom list of the lid. The space is tight, with the last letter carved around the corner of the left side of the lid. The letters are 2.1-3.0 cm high (*pls. XL c; XLI d*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium, patronymic and metronymic. The brother (No. 12) has the metronymic in the form *temunial*, making such a reading tempting here, but close examination reveals no *I* before *A*. This name was hitherto unknown in Etruscan, but I found a third example in the storehouse of the

<sup>46</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 111.

<sup>47</sup> I do not know of any parallel for this decorative design among the inscribed Perusian urns.

<sup>48</sup> I know of nine similar cases: MEISER, *ET Pe* 1.89, 1.295, 1.330, 1.536, 1.834, 1.1102, 1.1320, 1.1339 and *CIE* 3731.

Ipogeo dei Volumni. The unpublished inscription *ar. pu(m)pu temunes* is on a plain lid of unknown provenance<sup>49</sup>.

In the palaeography of the inscription, *M* has an interesting form, carved with two verticals and between them three oblique bars not coming down to the line. The same *M* occurs in the inscription of the brother (No. 12), but it is rare elsewhere in Perusian inscriptions<sup>50</sup>. *San* has rather vertical side bars; the right middle bar is slightly curved. *T* has an ascending bar crossing the vertical. The final *L* behind the corner is strongly backwards slanting.

#### 6. Uninscribed

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 81,141 (or rather 81,136)<sup>51</sup>. Both are plain (*pl. XL b*).

#### 7. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.721)

JAI NIEM A·A 8 JA·VA

*au(le). alfa. aneinial*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,137. While the previous urns were placed on the benches, this one was on the floor, in front of the rear bench, with Nos. 6 and 8, and should thus belong among the later burials. Both the container and the lid are plain. The container measures H 36 cm, B 44.5 cm, D 29.5 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the upper edge of the front side of the container. The carved letters are 2.5-3.0 cm high. The gabled-roof lid measures H 12 cm, B 49 cm, D 32.5 cm (*pl. XLII a, c*).

The name form comprises an abbreviated praenomen, gentilicium and metronymic, but no patronymic. The mother was a member of the family *anei*. Her name may have been *aneinia* or *aneinei*, which is somewhat more common. The feminine genitive form is normally *aneinal*; I have found only two other cases of *aneinial*, both from the Cai Cutu tomb (Meiser, *ET Pe* 1.1298, 1.1309). In this inscription, all four occurrences of *A* are close to the Latin type: they have horizontal middle bar, but the oblique side bars are often somewhat curved.

<sup>49</sup> For Latin *Temonius*, see SCHULZE, *ZGLE*, p. 112.

<sup>50</sup> The other cases are MEISER, *ET Pe* 1.632, 1.842, 1.1051 (wrong in Pauli's facsimile *CIE* 4060) and 1.1117. Some of the forms of *M* in the Velimna tomb are close to this type, especially MEISER, *ET Pe* 1.306 and 1.309.

<sup>51</sup> I have read the number as 83,141, but if the numbering follows that of Feruglio, it should be 81,136.

### 8. Uninscribed

Large travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 267,381<sup>52</sup>. Both are plain. The container measures H 61.5 cm, B 82 cm, D 55 cm. The gabled-roof lid has the gables on the sides (like Nos. 1 and 4). Its measures are H 17.5 cm, B 82.5 cm, D 56.5 cm (*pl. XLII b*).

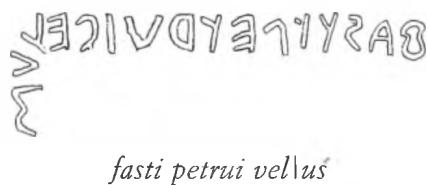
### 9. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.722)



Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 81,139. The container has feet. It measures H 42.5 cm, B 50 cm, D 44 cm. There is a decorative relief with a four-petal flower inside a square. Between the petals are four rectangular sepals<sup>53</sup>. The inscription is painted in black above the relief square, letters 4.0-5.0 cm high. The gabled-roof lid has on the tympanum a decorative relief of two peltae, which rise above the flat of the lid. Between them is a flower with four petals, quite schematically sculpted. There is a lower list. The lid measures H 19.5 cm, B 61.5 cm, D 44 cm (*pl. XLII d*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium in the genitive and metronymic. The inscription begins with broad letters, the first five letters of which take one half of the space. The writing subsequently becomes tighter and the reading more problematic. The metronymic begins with a broad *U*. Afterwards, *S* is perhaps added between *U* and *N*. *S* is rather angular, its upper part is fast in *U* and the lower part goes under the line. *S* is so clearly visible that I reject the more common name *uni(a)l*. *usnil* is hapax but can be connected to *usuna* (Meiser, *ET Pe 1.1269*). A parallel for the ending is *catrnil* *Pe 1.1334*. The other letter forms are normal. The side bars of *san* are slightly oblique.

### 10. Meiser, *ET Pe 1.725*



<sup>52</sup> Following the sequence, this should be 83,138. The uninscribed urns might have received an inventory number first later, but no other urn seems to bear the No. 83,138.

<sup>53</sup> Similar decorative relief is encountered in MEISER, *ET Pe 1.536* and *1.1147*. Especially the former, from the Casni tomb of Palazzone, is so similar that their origin in the same workshop is possible, especially as the relief on the lid, a flower placed between two amphoras lying on their sides, is similar to that of No. 5.

Travertine contain r and lid, Inv. No. 83,140. This is the second inscription published by Feruglio and is included in *Etruskische Texte*. The container has feet. It measures H 59.5 cm, B 53.5 cm, D 43 cm. On the front side is the delicate portrait of a woman, framed by one decorative and one plain list. The woman looks quite young, with curly, untied hair parted in the middle. Her eyes were painted in black and blue, but the remnants of the other colours are uncertain. She has a collar around her neck<sup>54</sup>. In contrast to the delicate portrait, the inscription above the frame of the portrait and continuing to its left side is quite crude. It was carved faintly and then painted in red. The letters are 3.5-5.5 cm high. The gabled-roof lid has on the tympanum a decorative relief with two peltae rising over the roof flats. They have volutes at the side ends and an intricate acanthus (?) flower where they meet. Between the peltae are two dolphins diving downwards, with a four-petal flower in the middle<sup>55</sup>. The lid measures H 29 cm, B 58 cm, D 46 cm (*pl. XLIII a*).

Fasti is the wife of the tomb founder (No. 5). The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and patronymic. The letter forms show many peculiarities. In *F*, the left and right curve do not meet in the middle. The side bar of *T* is ascending and starts from the vertical<sup>56</sup>, as is often the case at Perusia, but these two examples here are clearly backwards slanting. The vertical of *P* twists forwards, as does that of *E*. In *E*, the top angle is therefore rounded. *V* has the same top angle, but the curved vertical continues to the lower side bar. Consequently, the letter has almost the form of *C*. The form is close to that appearing, according to Maggiani's classification, in *grafia corsivizzante*<sup>57</sup>. This type of *V* occurs in two other epitaphs of the tomb, Nos. 11 and 12, but, here, the painter has tried to emend the letter by adding a small tail to the lower corner of the carved letter. The rounded type is also found in the final *san* with the right bar starting vertically, while the left bar is oblique.

11. Meiser, *ET* Pe 1.726



*vel alfa velus peltrual*

<sup>54</sup> This portrait is rather unique in Perusian funerary monuments. Its model may be in the typical Medusa reliefs on the frontside of cinerary urns. This may explain the untied hair. But the impression is quite different. I thank M. Nielsen for these views. I think that even a better counterpart is found in the tomb of Volumni, in the *lacunare* on the wall of the right *ala* (a photograph can be seen in COLONNA 2011, p. 133, fig. 27). Colonna (p. 120) sees in the relief of the veiled woman Cavtha, the Etruscan goddess of the Underworld.

<sup>55</sup> Two dolphins commonly appear in the lid decoration, e.g., with a flower in the middle, in MEISER, *ET* 1.616, 1.941 and 1.1344, but mainly on triangular tympana without peltae.

<sup>56</sup> It was carved so, but in the second *T*, the painting continues to the right side.

<sup>57</sup> MAGGIANI 1990, pp. 179-187.

Travertine container, Inv. No. probably 83,141<sup>58</sup>. This is the third inscription published by Feruglio and included in *Etruskische Texte*. In the photograph of the preliminary report, it has a plain lid, with gables on the sides, but it is now without its lid, and I have not been able to locate the lid from the storehouse. The urn has feet. At the centre of the front side is a large flower with four petals, which are painted red. The edges of the front are painted in red, as if a frame. The container measures H 39 cm, B 48.5 cm, D 34 cm. The first line of the inscription is carved above the flower, beginning with larger letters but becoming smaller to fit the space above the flower. The inscription's last five letters are in a second line at the right. The letters are crudely carved and painted, 3.5-5.5 cm high (*pl. XLIII b-c*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium, patronymic and metronymic (for the family connections, see below). The letter forms show many peculiarities, close to *grafia corsivizzante*. *V* looks almost like *C*, the lower side bar continuing the curved vertical. The same form occurs in No. 12 (also cf. No. 10), as well as in nine other Perusian epitaphs<sup>59</sup>. The second *V* in the tight space is strongly forwards slanting, as is *E*, with a curved main bar. In the first instance, *E* is upright and has horizontal side bars. *San* looks like it would have been normally carved, but the painting is misshaped. In the second line, *T* is discernible, with an ascending bar from the vertical. *R* has a full-height loop.

12. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.723)<sup>60</sup>



*larθ. alfa. velus | temunia.*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,142. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The container measures H 37 cm, B 43 cm, D 28.5 cm. The inscription is on the upper edge of the front side. The letters are carved and painted in red, 3-4 cm high. The gabled-roof lid has the measures H 8.5 cm, B 43 cm, D 35 cm (*pl. XLIV a, c*).

This is the brother of No. 5, with his praenomen, gentilicium, patronymic and metronymic given. In the letter forms is the same *C*-like *V* seen earlier in Nos. 10 and 11, and the same *M* with two verticals and three oblique bars between them, as seen in No. 5. *R* has a full-height loop. The *san* at the end of the first line is inscribed above the line; it has oblique side bars and high middle bars. The side

<sup>58</sup> I have copied it 83,143, but obviously misread the last number, as I have the same number for No. 13 (correct, I believe); 83,141 is based on the number sequence.

<sup>59</sup> MEISER, ET Pe 1.536, 1.631, 1.669, 1.673, 1.774, 1.1050, 1.1074, 1.1213, and 1.1284.

<sup>60</sup> According to the sequence, the number should be Pe 1.727, but, as Feruglio's Nos. 6 and 8 are uninscribed, which Rix could not know when leaving the numbers open, their numbers must be used up.

bar of *T* is ascending and starts from the vertical. *N* has a middle bar from top to bottom, and the side bars are forwards slanting. This form is mainly encountered in *grafa capitale*<sup>61</sup>.

13. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.724)

VA·A·8·J·A·J·J

*vel. alfa. au(les)*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,143. Both are plain. The urn has feet. The container measures H 25 cm, B 39 cm, D 27 cm. The inscription is carved and painted in red on the upper edge of the front side of the container. The letters are 2.5-3.0 cm high. The gabled-roof lid measures H 13.5 cm, B 43.5 cm, D 30.5 cm (*pl. XLIV b, d*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and abbreviated patronymic. The letter *A* has the Latin form. *F* is backwards slanting. There may be serifs of some kind at some bar ends (*L*, the second *A* of *alfa* and the final *U*), which would support the view that this is among the last urns of the tomb.

14. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.727)

Α Κ Σ Φ

[---] *alfa* [---]

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 81,144. Both are plain. The urn has no feet. It gets narrower downwards. The painted inscription on the upper edge of the container is almost entirely vanished, but traces of the name of the family can be discerned. Other parts of the name are illegible. The container measures H 29 cm, B 41 cm, D 29 cm, the gabled-roof lid H 12.5 cm, B 47 cm, D 33.5 cm. The letters are ca. 2.5 cm high (*pl. XLIV e*).

15. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.728)

ΜΑ ΣΥΛΕΙ· ΑΣΥΛΑ· Α· Υ· Ζ· "

*veilia. arzanei alfas*

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<sup>61</sup> MAGGIANI 1990, p. 186.

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,145. Both are plain. In front of the urn was a small olla, rather similar with that close to No. 5<sup>62</sup>. The urn has feet. The container measures H 31.5 cm, B 42.5 cm, D 28.5 cm. The inscription is painted in red, without carving, on the upper edge of the front side of the container. Many letters have almost entirely vanished. The letter height is 2.5 cm. The gabled-roof lid measures H 14 cm, B 45 cm, D 35 cm (*pl. XLV a-b*).

The reading of the inscription is uncertain. The name form seems to have comprised a praenomen, gentilicium and gamonymic. Of the praenomen, only the ending -ia is clear. The remnants of the paint better fit *veilia* than *θania* or *larθia*. *arzanei* is the best reading for the gentilicium. It is hapax but can be connected to the common Perusian name *arzni*, *arznei*. R has a full-height loop and *san* vertical side bars.

16. (suggested ET-number Pe 1.729)



*θana: ancari. | alfas.*

Travertine container and lid, Inv. No. 83,146. Both are plain. In front of the urn was a small leaden pyxis, a bronze mirror, a small olla, a *balsamario* and a small kantharos, most of which can be dated to the period from the end of the third century to the second century BCE<sup>63</sup>. The urn has no feet. The container measures H 37.5 cm, B 40.5 cm, D 36.5 cm. The inscription is carved in two lines and painted in red on the upper edge of the front side of the container. The letters are 3-4 cm high. The gabled-roof lid measures H 12 cm, B 44 cm, D 36.5 cm (*pl. XLV c*).

The name form comprises a praenomen, gentilicium and gamonymic. *ancari* is a common gentilicium both at Clusium and Perusia. *Theta* is inscribed above the line. R has a half-height loop, the only instance in the tomb. The sidebar of *san* are vertical.

<sup>62</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 111.

<sup>63</sup> FERUGLIO 1977, p. 111.

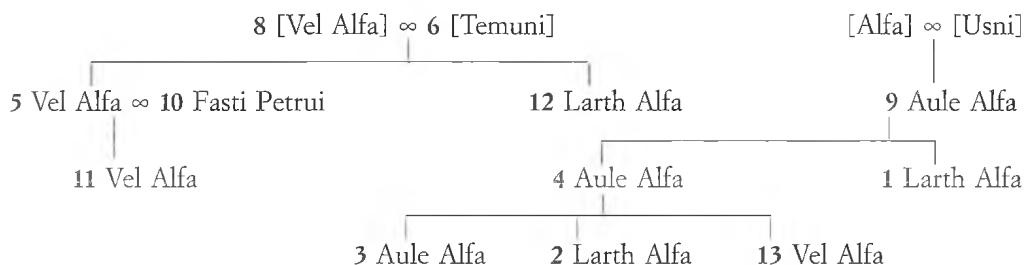
THE PERSONS OF THE TOMB

1. *larθ aulesa*
2. *larθ alfas* {s}. *autes*
3. *aule. alfa. aules*
4. *au(le) alfa. ay(les) | apa*
5. *vel. alfa. velus. temunial*
6. Uninscribed
7. *au(le). alfa. aneinial*
8. Uninscribed
9. *aule alfas usni(a)l*
10. *fasti petrui velus*
11. *vel alfa velus peltrual*
12. *larθ. alfa. velus | temunial.*
13. *vel. alfa. au(les)*
14. [...] *alfa* [...]
15. *veilia. arzanei alfas*
16. *θana: ancari. | alfas.*

6	8	
5	7	9
	16	
4		10
	15	
3		11
	14	
2		12
1		13

graph 2 - The probable tomb plan.

POSSIBLE FAMILY TREE



The uninscribed urns (Nos. 6 and 8) probably belong to the parents of the tomb founder, who I believe is Vel (No. 5). His wife is Fasti Petrui (No. 10) and his younger brother Larth is No. 12, who probably died later. Another line seems to lead from Aule (No. 9); the kinship between Vel and Aule is uncertain. Two other wives married into the family are Nos. 15 and 16. Their husbands are unknown.

THE DATING OF THE INSCRIPTIONS

On palaeographic grounds alone, I would date the inscription of the tomb founder (No. 5) to the late third or early second century BCE. However, with the tomb founder's urn was connected, according to Feruglio, an olla not earlier than the second quarter of the second century. Hence, we must probably attribute some

letter forms (*M*, *V*) to a local or ‘family’ tradition, especially as they still appear in the epitaphs of the founder’s son (No. 11) and brother, who died later (No. 12). We may also observe in the inscriptions of the third and fourth generations such early feature as a dot in the middle of *theta* (No. 1) and full-height loop in *R* (Nos. 1, 2, 11, 15). Four generations were probably buried in the tomb (the uninscribed urns included). My tentative dates for the inscriptions are as follows:

- |                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| Second century BCE, | 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter: 6, 8           |
|                     | 2 <sup>nd</sup> quarter: 5, 9, 10       |
|                     | 3 <sup>rd</sup> quarter: 4, 11, 12      |
|                     | 4 <sup>th</sup> quarter: 1, 2, 3, 7, 13 |
| First century BCE,  | 1 <sup>st</sup> quarter: 14, 15, 16     |

JORMA KAIMIO

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PHOTO CREDIT

*Pl. XXXIX d:* from Feruglio 1977.



a



b

a) Cai Carcu 1; b) Cai Carcu 2.



a



b



c

a) Cai Carcu 3; b) Cai Carcu 4; c) Cai Carcu 5.



a) Cai Carcu 4; b) Cai Carcu 3; c-d) Cai Carcu 6; e) Cai Carcu 7.



a-b) Cai Carcu 8; c) Cai Carcu 9.



a



b

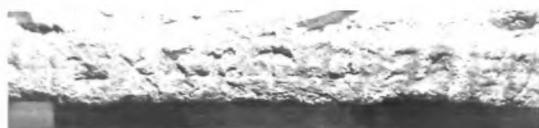
a) Cai Carcu 10; b) Cai Carcu 12.



a



b



c

a) Cai Carcu 12; b-c) Cai Carcu 11.



a



b



c

a) Cai Carcu 13; b-c) Cai Carcu 14.



a



b



c



d

a-b) Cai Carcu 15; c-d) Cai Carcu 16.

*a**b*

*a) Cai Carcu 18; b) Cai Carcu 17.*



a) Cai Carcu 17; b, d) Cai Carcu 19; c, e) Cai Carcu 20.



a



b

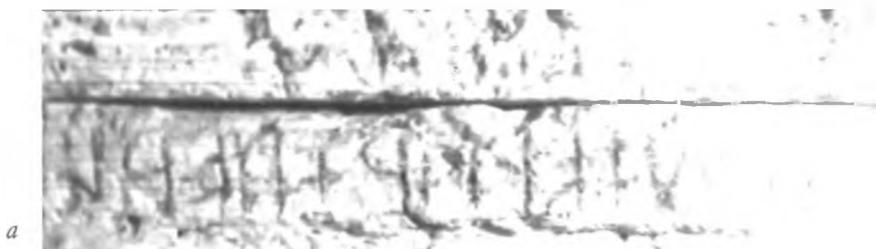
a) Cai Carcu 21; b) Cai Carcu 22.



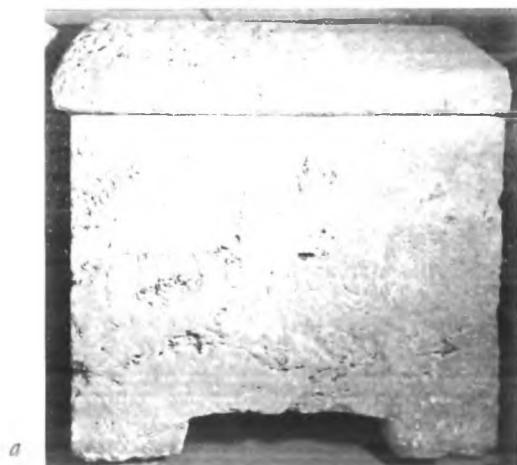
a) Cai Carcu 21; b) Cai Carcu 22; c) Cai Carcu 23.



a) Cai Carcu 24; b) Cai Carcu 25; c) Cai Carcu 26.



a) Cai Carcu 24; b) Cai Carcu 25; c) Cai Carcu 26; d) Cai Carcu 28.



a) Alfa 1; b) Alfa 2; c) Alfa 3.



a) Alfa 4; b) Alfa 6 (uninscribed); c) Alfa 5.



a



b



c



d

a) Alfa 1; b) Alfa 3; c) Alfa 4; d) Alfa 5.



a, c) Alfa 7; b) Alfa 8 (uninscribed); d) Alfa 9.

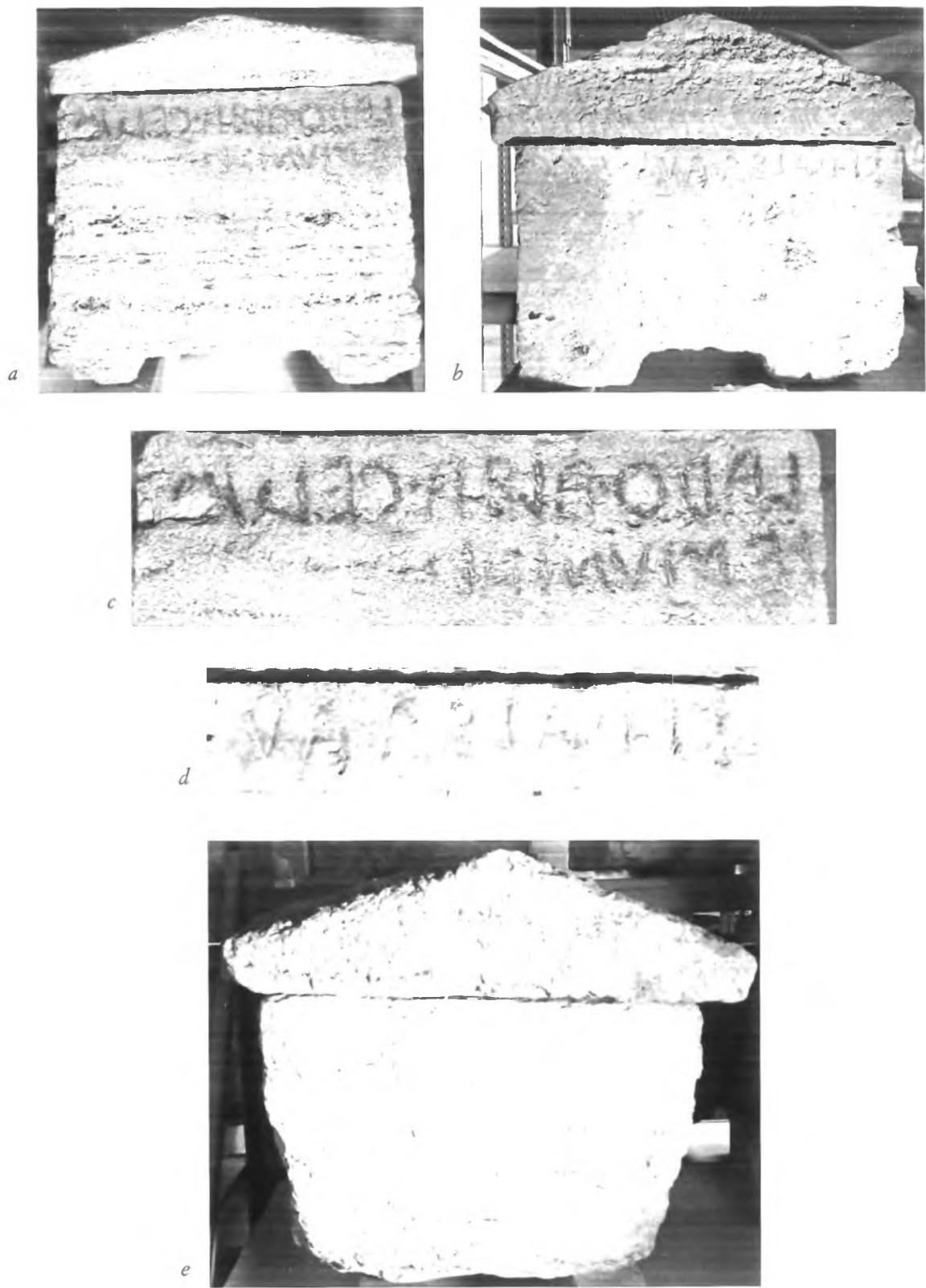


b



c

a) Alfa 10; b-c) Alfa 11.



a, c) Alfa 12; b, d) Alfa 13; e) Alfa 14.



a-b) Alfa 15; c) Alfa 16.



1



2

