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Nota di contenuto	Late Antique Carthage : archaeological and historical contexts / Richard Miles -- The early history of Bir Messaouda : Punic and Roman / Simon Greenslade and Richard Miles -- The transition of Bir Messaouda in the early to mid-6th century AD / Simon Greenslade and Richard Miles -- The transition of Bir Messaouda in the later 6th century AD / Simon Greenslade and Richard Miles -- The baptistery and crypt / Simon Greenslade and Richard Miles -- The later history of the basilica / Simon Greenslade and Richard Miles -- The 6th-century mosaics at Bir Messaouda / Jane Chick -- Plaster / Claudia Goodbrand -- The glass from the excavation at Bir Messaouda / Sylvia Funfschilling -- The Bir Messaouda pottery / Claudia Goodbrand -- Appendix 1. The coins / Stefan Krmnicek -- Metal building materials, personal and utilitarian objects and other small metal finds / Ralf Bockmann -- Ceramic building material from the Bir Messaouda Excavations 2000-2002 / Philip Mills -- The stone finds / Ben Croxford. -- Appendix 1: The marble typology. Appendix 2: Catalogue of illustrated finds -- Conclusions / Richard Miles -- Appendix: The search for the Maritime

Sommario/riassunto

"This volume charts the radical transformation of an inner city neighbourhood in Late Antique Carthage which was excavated over a five-year period by a team from the University of Cambridge. Bordering the main thoroughfare leading from the Byrsa Hill to the ports, the neighbourhood remained primarily a residential one from the second century until 530s AD when a substantial basilica was constructed over the eastern half of the insula. Further extensive modifications were made to the basilica half a century later when the structures on the western half of the insula were demolished and the basilica greatly enlarged with the addition of new east-west aisles, a large monumental baptistery and a crypt. By carefully reconstructing the complex architectural plan of this innovative building, this study shows how the remodelled Bir Messaouda basilica was transformed into a major pilgrimage centre; overturning established tradition that located such complexes outside the city walls. The Bir Messaouda basilica provides important insights into the transition between Vandal and Byzantine control of the city, the development of a new Christian intermural urban landscape in the sixth century AD, and the significance of the pilgrimage in reinforcing ecclesiastical authority in post-Justinianic North Africa." --
