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The Canadian Institute for Mediterranean Studies

in collaboration with

The Archaeological Institute of America, Ottawa Society

presents a lecture by

McKenzie Lewis, PhD

Adjunct Professor and Research Associate at the University of Waterloo

Excavations at the Villa del Vergigno, a Roman villa rustica in northern Tuscany

September 30, 2 p.m., U. Ottawa, Desmarais Bldg, 55 Laurier E., Room 1160

Dr. Lewis is the keynote speaker for AIA Ottawa's International Archaeological Day activities



The Villa Romana del Vergigno, inhabited from ca. 100 BCE to 500 CE, is located on the outskirts of Montelupo Fiorentino in the mid-Arno Valley, twenty kilometers west of Florence. The area of Montelupo has had continuous habitation since the prehistoric era due to its strategic importance at a docking point along the Arno River. This region was prosperous during the last few centuries BCE, resulting in its Etruscan population being subjected to repeated waves of Roman colonization between 82 and 30 BCE, a period that is roughly concurrent with the development of the Villa Vergigno. During the Roman Imperial period, the villa had a large domestic area with mosaic flooring, a hypocaust system, and a bath complex, as well as an agricultural sector for the production of wine, olive oil, glass, metals, pottery, and amphorae.

Professor Lewis has been excavating in Tuscany since 2004. He has been the Director of the Villa del Vergigno Archaeological Project since 2012. It is a summer field school and a volunteer opportunity to participate in an archaeological dig. Enrolment for course credit is optional. Scholarships are available. For more information: <http://www.villadelvergigno.org/>