of premature children. The rite was not exclusive and homogenous. Bernardini suggests that we need to rethink using the term 'tophet', since it brings to mind images that have nothing to do with what at its most basic level is a sanctuary for children. The very rich final publication for excavations previously undertaken in **zone A** (cf. *AR* [1995–1996], 119) has appeared in this period: M.L. Famà, *Mozia: gli scavi nella 'Zona A' dell'abitato* (Bari 2002). Rome's 'La Sapienza' University has been carrying out new work in various parts of the anc. city, especially in the area of the *kothon*. Preliminary reports have already appeared: L. Nigro, *Scienze dell'Antichità* 11 (2001–2003), 567–77; *SicArch* xxxvi.101 (2003), 85–98; *Archeo* xix.6 (2003), 32–43; *Archeo* xxii.4 (2006), 42–53; L. Nigro (ed.), *Mozia X: Zona C. Il kothon, Zona D. Le pendici occidentali dell'acropoli. Zona F. La porta ovest* (Rome 2004); L. Nigro (ed.), *Mozia XI: Zona C, il tempio del Kothon* (Rome 2005). See also the volume edited by Nigro and Rossoni, *'La Sapienza' a Mozia*, cited above. Among the results, we may especially note the theory that the *kothon* was a sacred pool, closed off to the sea and fed by a freshwater spring, meant to accompany a nearby recently discovered sacred complex on the *kothon*'s E side. The complex consists of a paved area with temple, whose entrance faced the S gate and dates to the 6th to 4th Cts BC. Five naves of quadrangular columns (the intercolumniation is 3.12m) made up the temple, which also has a rectangular cella and large interior courtyard. A kind of *pyramidion* was set up as a marker around which offerings of metal and animals were made. This theory has already stirred up reactions, just as the long-known '**Motya Boy**' marble statue continues to do. A 1:1 plaster cast of the 'Motya Boy' now stands in the Museo dell'Arte Classica in Rome's 'La Sapienza' University. The reasons for creating this cast, along with an overview of what is known or thought to be known of the sculpture, can be found in the Nigro and Rossoni *'La Sapienza' a Mozia* volume cited above (98–101). Elsewhere, E. Pochmarski (*Ägäis und Mittelmeer*, 299–306) places the piece in a wider WGr sculptural context; P. Moreno (*Kalós* 14.1 [2002], 12–19) returns to the identification with Melqart; and F. Zevi (*Studi De Miro*, 749–56) considers Akragantine connections. See also J.-P. Thuiller's (*CRAI* [1999], 1081–1106) mention of the piece in his discussion of another statue from Carthage – an interesting perspective to take. A preliminary air photography investigation has happened in this period, part of a larger project already mentioned above (under 'Halaisa' in the 'Northeast Sicily' section): O. Belvedere *et al.*, *Agri Centuriati* 1 (2004), 199–215. Almost due W of Motya is a series of low hills known as **Montagnola della Borrania**, where two seasons of surface survey have now been published by D. Lauro, *Kokalos* 45 (1999 [2004]), 157–271. The survey revealed 42 sites/scatters in an area of 14km^2; the earliest material is Pal and the latest Arab. Most of the material recovered, comprising the usual kinds of surface finds, is thought to belong to villages and small rural settlements, which are particularly thick on the ground in the Rom period, when the sites/scatters cover surface areas of 4–6ha, but none has so far revealed evidence of luxury mosaics and architecture. Small Arab hamlets/villages with accompanying burial plots may be in evidence.

On the island of **Favignana**, NW of Motya, M.L. Famà (*Studi Ciasca*, 213–25) discusses discoveries made at the anc. and EMed site roughly 2km SE of the town of Favignana. The finds consist mostly of pottery (like amphorae) and belong mainly to a plundered necropolis, for which two phases of use, spanning the 3rd and 2nd Cts BC, can nevertheless be recognized. Also found is a possible agricultural building that may have produced wine or oil. There are some developments relating to the famous naval battle around the **Aegades islands** that helped to end the First Punic War. M.I. Gulletta (*SicArch* xxxiv.99 [2001], 97–106) attempts to reconstruct the battle's topography, while S. Tusa (*Archeo* xxi.3 [2005], 10–12) publishes a confiscated rostrum and a legally retrieved Rom helmet found off Levanzo in 2004. *The Times* reported on Saturday 7 August 2004 that 25 Punic shipwrecks, victims of the defeat by Rome in 241 BC, have been discovered in the Stagnone lagoon at Marsala (a reference I owe to R.J.A. Wilson). These developments have helped to stimulate new work in these waters, some of it being conducted collaboratively by Tusa and Jeffrey Royal, Director of the RPM Nautical Foundation in Key West, FL. A new shipwreck of the 4th Ct AD has already been found; its cargo comprised, among other things, vaulting tubes. There have also been further publications relating to the Rom shipwrecks in the **Skerki bank** mentioned in the previous report (*AR* [2000–2001], 189–90): A.M. McCann, *Rei Cretariae Romanae Fautorum Acta* 36 (2000), 443–48 (on the amphorae, particularly those of wreck D); 37 (2001), 257–64 (on wreck F); A.M. McCann and J.P. Oleson, *Deep-water Shipwrecks off Skerki Bank: The 1997 Survey* (JRA suppl. vol. 59) (Portsmouth, RI 2004) (reviewed by J. Lediwanger, *BMCR* 2007.03.21).

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July 2007

SOURCES OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Photographs

J. Bergemann	18–19
D. Blackman and M.C. Lentini	8
H.P. Isler	27–28
D. Mertens	33
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York	14
I. Morris	31–32
R. Panvini	15–17
M. Pluciennik	9
T. Schäfer	35–37
F. Spatafora	21, 26, 29
G. Storey	23
S. Vassallo	24–25

Line-drawings after:

1 B. Basile and S. Mirabella, *Studi ClassiciBB*, 316 tav. IV
2 E. Messina and G. Ancona, *Studi ClassiciBB*, 52 tav. II
3 E. Russo, *Studi Lavagnini*, tav. XXVI
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11 L. Guzzardi, *Kokalos* 45 (1999 [2004]), 537, fig. 1
12 L. Guzzardi, *Kokalos* 45 (1999 [2004]), 545, fig. 5
13 L. Guzzardi, *Kokalos* 45 (1999 [2004]), 540, fig. 3
20 C.A. Di Stefano, *Studi Ciasca*, 196, fig. 2
22 S. Vassallo, *Kokalos* 45 (1999 [2004]), 354, fig. 10
30 Courtesy of I. Morris
34 M.C. Conti, *Bollettino di Archeologia*, 51–52 (1998 [2003]), 35, fig. 4

https://doi.org/10.1017/S0570608400000478 Published online by Cambridge University Press