

Piranesi, View of the ancient Appian Way



Subject

View of the stone pavement of the Via Appia, from "Le Antichità Romane".

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Prints

Giovanni Battista Piranesi, Mogliano Veneto (?) 1720 – 1778 Rome

1756

52 x 38.7 cm

Inscriptions

Top left: III. VII / 119

(View of the ancient Via Appia, running under the walls already described in the tables of the Ustrino, now covered by its ruins.

A: Solid street level before applying the filling material (around 7 cm) composed of lime pozzolana and flint chips; the flints are strongly fixed above it.

B: They are cut below in the shape of spearhead.

C: Other flints are put every 2 metres like wedges to press and tighten them.

D: The upper layer was probably used by people riding and getting off their horses and by wayfarers to

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rest. This part and the lower one are placed over a big infill wall made of flint chips larger than the previous.)

Lower right: *Piranesi Archit. dis. inc.*

Placement

[The Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) (storage)

Credits

[The Met Collection](#)

References

John Wilton-Ely Giovanni Battista Piranesi: The Complete Etchings. Alan Wofsy, San Francisco, 1994.

[MISITI, Maria Cristina; SCALONI, Giovanna \(ed.\), Giambattista Piranesi: sognare il sogno impossibile, Istituto Centrale per la Grafica, Roma, 2022, libro multimedia.](#)