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Inside Front and Back Covers: Spring 1998 Art History Study Tour Photographs

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Eurysaces was a slave who bought his freedom and subsequently earned a fortune through his skill as a baker. In the Roman Republic, tombs were erected along roads outside the city walls; this tomb was quite large and complex with multiple levels including a relief sculpture of Eurysaces and his wife, a frieze of relief sculptures showing the work done in a bakery and, the most dominant feature, large framed circular openings which are thought to suggest the actual openings of the ovens. The tomb, made of travertine, was incorporated into the fortifications of the Porta Maggiore, a gate through the wall in the southwest side of the city; it was rediscovered only in 1838 and what remains of it has been separated from the massive gate behind it.
Ostia was the port of Republican Rome, located at the mouth of the Tiber river. Because it was the domestic landing for both cargo boats and warships, a lively trade-based economy evolved which brought appropriate wealth. That wealth was reflected in the elaborate mausolea which were located outside the city walls. The photo shows the remains of one of those structures with compartments for individual burials. Originally covered with a veneer of elaborately patterned marble or with frescoes, the brick substructure is all that remains.

Ostia was active from the 3rd century B.C. through the 4th century A.D.