

In 1998 the University of Santiago de Compostela decided to turn the *Pazo de Montenegro* into its institutional building in the city of Lugo. The necessary archaeological intervention that was carried out allowed us to discover several findings of relevance, among which there is an outstanding Roman house (*domus*) built in the first quarter of I century AD according to the recommendations of the architect Vitrubius in terms of proportions, materials, hydraulic management, insulation, floors, etc.

This *domus* shows that the technical innovations of Roman theorists, aimed at improving the quality of the lives of the noble families that inhabited these spaces, had a remarkable diffusion, and reached even the westernmost parts of the empire **(5)**.

The preserved remains of the *domus* show a building that had two floors (ground and first floor) and was organized from a porticoed courtyard or peristyle (1). The different rooms led to this courtyard, not only those intended for domestic work (kitchen, warehouses, latrines, stables) (2), the servants' residence, but also those intended for the master of the house (room to receive visits or *oecus*) (3) and occupied by the owners for their enjoyment (bedrooms) (4). Private resting and public reception spaces are decorated with frescoes on the walls (5) and ceiling, recovered after a complex restoration process.

cess (sala de recibir visitar ou oecus) (* o ocupades polos donos para o sou dosfrube particular (darmitarica) (*. Esperos privados de descarso e públicos de recepción aparecen decorrados con pinturne murais In the period of the Later Empire (III century AD) the *domus* is transformed to build a temple inside, dedicated to God Mithras (6), who today gives name to the house, Mithraeum. Finding a perfectly legible votive altar (7) was decisive to identify the temple. The person who dedicated it to God Mithra is mentioned in this inscription. He is a centurion of the *Legio VII Gemina Antoniniana, Gaius Victorius Victorinus*, who was in charge of the administrative control office of *Lucus Augusti* (*statio*) located in his home, probably, at the time of Emperor Caracalla (211-217 AD).

The worship of God Mithras or Mithraism was brought to the western end of the empire by military personnel who contacted him, probably during campaigns in Asia Minor, to which we must add eastern traders and imperial representatives. New vicissitudes changed the structure of the *domus* at the end of the third century: the construction of the wall with its moat and *intervallum* (inner round) causes, first, the expropriation and, then, the destruction of the habitable part of the *domus*, though the Mithraic temple will remain functioning until the 4th century AD.

Unita neva vicisitade mutia de novo a fisonomía de deetes e finais deste século III; e construción de muralle e foso e do seu *imberselferm* (rolda interior) provoca a ceproplación primeiro, e e destrución despois, de parte habitable de domus, aínde que o templo mitraico permanecerá en funcionamento ata o aéculo IV d.C















