

An Underground Basilica

4474
BATES, W.N.
1918

In: American Journal of Archaeology,

22 - 1918 p. 79

23 - 1919 p. 82 - 83

23 - 1919 p. 429 - 430

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Arch.

1 Ref

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NEWS¹

NOTES ON RECENT EXCAVATIONS AND
DISCOVERIES; OTHER NEWS

1917
July-December

in: AMERICAN JOURNAL OF ARCHAEOLOGY [Vol. XXII, 1918 H-73

Italy

An Underground Basilica.—At a distance of less than two kilometres from the Stazione di Termini on the railroad from Rome to Naples a sinking of the earth recently led to the discovery of a large underground basilica. It has three aisles separated by pillars with arches. The walls, vaults, pilasters, and apse are covered with reliefs in white stucco, some representing mythological scenes, others cult objects and ornamental patterns. A vestibule also adorned with stucco served as an entrance. Both rooms were paved with mosaic. The building, which is practically intact, will be made accessible to visitors. (*Cronaca delle Belle Arti*, IV, 1917, p. 41.)