



This is a section of lead water pipe from near the Porta Maggiore, a gate on the eastern side of Rome. It was big enough to supply water for 16 households.

This water supply was provided by the state and was a source of great pride. This section of the pipe includes the name of the emperor and the magistrate who oversaw its construction, so that people would know who was responsible.

**The inscription reads:**

“The Emperor Vespasian’s pipeline, laid by the procurator Callistus, a freedman of the Emperor”.

**Compare:**

A long section of Roman lead piping still in the ground at Bath (this pipe would have been covered in Roman times): [http://www.timetrips.co.uk/roman\\_bath\\_caerleon.htm](http://www.timetrips.co.uk/roman_bath_caerleon.htm)

**Details:**

Lead, length 37cm, AN1924.8