

Roman Solar Energy Storage





Overview

Did ancient Romans use solar heating?

Among the many interesting topics that Perlin surveys in the book, one section that caught my attention concerns the ancient Romans' use of solar heating in their monumental bath structures. Perlin wrote: 'the Romans usually glazed the whole south wall of their bathhouses.'

Did Roman baths use solar energy?

A growing Republic when baths were properly and modestly literature attests to the Romans' use of solar energy in dark. heating these large buildings. Edwin Thatcher claimed in 1956 that the windows in such baths did not require Roman baths of the Early Empire were in the fore- glazing.

Why did the Romans turn to solar heat?

The Romans probably turned to solar heat out of economic necessity---they were running out of wood, and prices rose steeply.

What was the main source of heat in Roman baths?

In the Roman baths, the solar heat assisted the hypocaust system of 'mechanical' heating. The technology of the hypocaust is fascinating. The baths included boiling rooms with tanks where hot and warm water was produced by burning wood.



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