

# 4<sup>th</sup> Roman Archaeology Conference and 11<sup>th</sup> Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference

**GLASGOW 2001,**

**29 March - 1 April**

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## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Thursday 29 March

- |       |  |                             |
|-------|--|-----------------------------|
| 17.00 | Keynote lecture: Greg Woolf, <i>The gods of empire</i> | Boyd Orr, lecture theatre 2 |
| 18.30 | Reception hosted by the University of Glasgow          | Hunterian Museum            |

### Friday 30 March

- |            |   |                    |
|------------|---|--------------------|
| 9.00-18.00 | Academic sessions (including TRAC)              |                    |
| 18.45      | Reception hosted by the City Council of Glasgow | Kelvingrove Museum |

### Saturday 31 March

- |            |  |                          |
|------------|--|--------------------------|
| 9.00-18.00 | Academic sessions (including TRAC)                           |                          |
| 20.30      | <i>Ceilidh</i> Scottish dancing<br>to the music of Inishowen | Glasgow University Union |

### Sunday 1 April

- |      |   |                         |
|------|---|-------------------------|
| 9.00 | Field trip to the Antonine Wall and the<br>Royal Museum of Scotland | departure from Boyd Orr |
|------|---|-------------------------|

### Sponsors

We gratefully acknowledge the support of (in alphabetical order)

- |                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| Archaeopress - publishers of BAR | Journal of Roman Archaeology                           |
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| Glasgow City Council             | Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies             |
| Historic Scotland                | University of Glasgow                                  |

### Organisation

The Roman Archaeology Conference 2001 and the Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference 2001 were organised by Bill Hanson, Peter van Dommelen, Martin Carruthers, Lawrence Keppie, Alan Leslie and Jim Devine.

## TIMETABLES

### Academic sessions

Room no.	Friday morning 9.00-13.00	Friday afternoon 14.00-18.00	Saturday morning 9.00-13.00	Saturday afternoon 14.00-18.00
A	Roman Dacia	Rome beyond the imperial frontiers	The Roman province of Dalmatia	The Roman province of Dalmatia
B	Becoming Roman, writing Latin	The perception and presentation of space	What's new in Roman Britain	What's new in Roman Britain
C			Cultural hegemony and local identities	Ports of the Roman world
D	TRAC: Miscellany	TRAC: Archaeology of the everyday	TRAC: Time, action and narrative	

Please note that the TRAC session *Roman religion* has been withdrawn.

### Lecture theatres

Room no.	A	B	C	D
Location	level 4	Level 4	level 5	level 5

The bookshop (organised and run by Oxbow Books) is situated in room 506 (level 5)

### General timetable

Unless otherwise specified, this timetable will apply to all sessions

Morning session		L U N C H  13.00-14.00	Afternoon session	
9.00-9.10	introduction		14.00-14.10	introduction
9.10-9.40	paper 1		14.10-14.40	paper 1
9.40-10.10	paper 2		14.40-15.10	paper 2
10.10-10.40	paper 3		15.10-15.40	paper 3
coffee break			tea break	
11.00-11.30	paper 4		16.00-16.30	paper 4
11.30-12.00	paper 5		16.30-17.00	paper 5
12.00-12.30	paper 6		17.00-17.30	paper 6
12.30-13.00	discussion		17.30-18.00	discussion

## Roman Dacia

Bill Hanson (Glasgow) and Ian Haynes (London)

This aim of this session is to examine the nature of the Roman occupation of Dacia, with up-to-date synthetic surveys of different aspects of the civil province. One focus of attention will be the impact of the Roman presence on the indigenous population. Topics to be covered include the pre-Roman Iron Age, urban development, rural settlement, temples and cults, burial monuments and their implications and coinage and the economy.

The only synthetic volume in English on the Roman province of Dacia is *The Dacian Stones Speak* by Paul MacKendrick, published in 1975. In order to address this lacuna, it is intended to publish the papers offered in this session as a monograph in the Journal of Roman Archaeology supplementary series.

- |             |  |
|-------------|--|
| 9.00-9.10   | Ian Haynes, <i>Introduction</i>  |
| 9.10-9.40   | Kris Lockyear (London), <i>The Iron Age background to Roman Dacia</i>  |
| 9.40-10.10  | Alexandru Diaconescu (Cluj, Romania), <i>Recent research into the towns of Roman Dacia</i>   |
| 10.10-10.40 | Ioana Oltean (Glasgow), <i>Rural settlement in Roman Dacia: some considerations</i>  |
| 11.00-11.30 | Carmen Ciongradi (Cluj, Romania), <i>Burial monuments in Roman Dacia and their implications</i>  |
| 11.30-12.00 | Alfred Schaefer (Berlin, Germany), <i>Establishing the extent of the diffusion of religion in Roman Dacia through the evidence of the gods from Asia Minor</i> |
| 12.00-12.30 | Cristian Gazdac (Oxford), <i>Coinage in Roman Dacia</i>  |
| 12.30-13.00 | Bill Hanson, <i>Discussion</i>   |

This session is sponsored by the Journal of Roman Archaeology

### Kris Lockyear (London), *The Iron Age background to Roman Dacia*

The region which forms ancient Dacia, roughly equivalent to the territory of modern Romania, had been in contact with the Greek and Roman worlds long before the invasion of the province by Trajan, so dramatically celebrated in the reliefs on Trajan's Column and the monument at Adamclisi in Dobrogea. In particular, the Greek city states on the Black Sea coast would appear to have supplied a variety of goods to the peoples in their hinterland, particularly northwards along the river systems into modern Moldavia.

Contact with Rome in the first century BC is most clearly shown by the massive influx of silver *denarii*, mainly in the period c. 75-65 BC, along with a variety of other goods, many of which were catalogued by Glodariu. This period also saw the development of a series of distinctive hill-top sites, mainly in southern Transylvania, characterised by *murus dacicus* walls, external sanctuaries and imported goods. The interpretation of the archaeology of this period has, however, been dominated by the shadowy figure of Burebista, about whom we actually know very little.

This paper will provide a brief overview of the archaeological evidence and then explore problems of dating and interpretation, in particular those created by the imposition of a pseudo-historical framework. It will then go on to suggest avenues for future work.



### Alexandru Diaconescu (Napoca, Cluj), Recent research into the towns of Roman Dacia

Recent archaeological research into the towns of Roman Dacia has revealed much about public life, religion and light industry in Roman urban contexts. Despite the relatively short period during which Dacia was a part of the Roman empire, town life flourished under Roman rule.

This paper will outline the current state of our knowledge of Roman towns, before going on to review recent fieldwork at two of the most important centres, Sarmizegetusa and Apulum. Work at Sarmizegetusa has revealed traces of two *fora*. Analysis of material from these complexes reveals much about the way that the provincial élites operated in public life. Recent work at Apulum includes research undertaken by the Apulum Project, a tri-national programme of fieldwork focusing on a sanctuary of Liber Pater and its surrounding *insula*.

### Ioana Oltean (Glasgow), Rural settlement in Roman Dacia: some considerations

Despite the efforts made during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, archaeological research on rural settlement in Roman Dacia so far has been approached sporadically and in a rather inconsequential manner. This paper attempts to evaluate the current level of knowledge of *villae* and *vici* in Dacia, to consider their spatial distribution and relationships and to stress some of the biases that might have influenced the building of current theories concerning their origins and development. The apparent absence of other elements of the settlement hierarchy relating to the mass of the indigenous population will also be considered.

Apart from its direct relevance for establishing a typology of sites within the sub-urban/rural settlement pattern and for reconstructing the rural landscape of the province, this exercise is of particular importance if we are to consider issues such as the ethnicity of the inhabitants. A further aspect to be examined is whether, or to what extent, the emergence of settlements within Roman times was influenced by the location of military foci. All these issues are of particular importance for the evaluation of both the impact of the Roman conquest on the Dacian landscape and the nature of the romanisation process in Dacia.

### Carmen Ciongradi (The National Museum of Transylvania, Napoca, Cluj), Burial monuments in Roman Dacia and their implications

The funerary monuments from Dacia have been the subject of numerous studies, among the most recent are *Funerary Monuments in Dacia Superior* and *Dacia Porolissensis* by Lucia Teposu-Marinescu in 1982 and *Le stèle funéraires della Dacia. Un'espressione di arte romana periferica* by Luca Bianchi in 1985. However, further analysis and reconsideration of the established interpretation of these monuments is now needed. The social status of the deceased or dedicants has not yet been considered and analysed in conjunction with particular types of monuments. Also, the origins of the decorative motifs raise serious doubts about Bianchi's '*koine Danubiana*' as they do not come just from neighbouring Danube provinces but also from the Orient or, indeed, Italy. The consequent problem is whether these motifs arrive directly or are marked by certain transformations under the influence of local and regional factors, such as the impact of the Roman civilization on Dacian natives, the influence of a cosmopolitan Roman army, or the origin of the deceased or of the artist. These factors could provide a proper basis for a regional and chronological differentiation of the monuments. The funerary monuments could also provide an indicator of the development of romanisation, considering that there was no pre-Roman tradition in Dacia. Apart from the inscriptions, the type of stone itself can reveal something of the social status of the deceased. In general, marble is more easily affordable by the local élite, while limestone and sandstone are preferred by lower socio-economic categories. Bucova, the main marble quarry of Dacia, started to be intensively exploited only during the reign of Marcus Aurelius. Moreover, the presence of artists from Asia Minor in Sarmizegetusa contributed decisively to the development of a genuine 'culture of the marble' there, while in

Apulum, the other major city of Dacia Superior, the use of marble is restricted to the élite till the end of the province in the second half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD.

**Alfred Schaefer (Humboldt University, Berlin), Establishing the extent of the diffusion of religion in Roman Dacia through the evidence of the gods from Asia Minor**

The history and archaeological material relating to the province of Roman Dacia, brought into being in AD106/107, reveals that it was a popular destination for migrants within the empire. The diverse cultural experience of the newcomers necessitated great differences in the way in which they developed their sacred spaces. During the formation of the province, a wide range of religious communication systems emerged. Elements of indigenous and alien traditions fused together in sanctuaries of heterogeneous appearance and character.

By using the evidence from the cults from Asia Minor discovered in Dacia, it is hoped that some understanding can be reached regarding the integrating and separating tendencies of Roman religion in this specific colonial context. Colonists from similar regional origins coalesced through religious cults with restricted membership. The evidence for the cult of the snake god Glycon from Asia Minor, found within Dacia, indicates how these religious communities were formed and could provide a greater comprehension of the phenomena of religious dissemination and the transplanting of cults. The quality of artwork and the semantic categories of the votive material from the Greek east will also be discussed in this context. In conclusion, this study hopes to contribute towards an understanding of the religious trend of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> centuries AD of an increased mobility of provincial cults throughout the Roman empire.

**Cristian Gazdac (Merton College, Oxford), Coinage in Roman Dacia. Patterns of monetary circulation in the period from Trajan to Constantine I (AD 106-337)**

This paper is a study of monetary circulation in the province of Dacia on the Lower Danube. The chronological frame has been chosen to study monetary circulation in a territory which became a Roman province under the reign of Trajan, was under the Roman administration until the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century AD, and was partially re-conquered by Constantine I. The changes of status mean that the pattern of coin circulation in the province is potentially of interest for frontier studies in general. In this study an attempt has been made to analyse possible differences in monetary circulation, both hoards and isolated coin finds in Roman towns, forts and rural settlements and also between different regions of the province of Dacia, especially the towns and forts of Dacia Superior and Porolissensis; and, on the other hand, to analyse the settlements near the Danube of Dacia Malvensis.

## Becoming Roman, writing Latin?

Lawrence Keppie (Glasgow) and Alison Cooley (Warwick)

Who spoke and wrote Latin in the western provinces? The spread of Latin literacy has been studied as a geographical and social phenomenon and as part of the cultural processes commonly known as 'Romanisation'. In Britain epigraphic consciousness has been linked to the presence of the army and of immigrant 'Romans'. The Vindolanda Tablets and other documentary evidence have greatly expanded our picture of Latin literacy on different levels and have provided a historical context for the use of Latin in Britain. This session aims to consider the subject over a wider geographical area, adducing a variety of different forms of archaeological and epigraphic evidence.

- 9.00-9.10 Introduction
- 9.10-9.40 Ralph Häussler (Montpellier, France), *Language, culture and society in Italy and Gaul*
- 9.40-10.10 Andrew Burnett (London), *Latin on coins of the western Empire*
- 10.10-10.40 Jonathan Edmondson (Toronto, Canada), *Writing Latin in Roman Lusitania*
- 11.00-11.30 Ton Derks and Nico Roymans (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), *Seal-boxes and the spread of writing in Lower Germany*
- 11.30-12.00 Jonathan Williams (London), *Writing and coinage in pre-Roman Britain*
- 12.00-12.30 Roger Tomlin (Oxford), *Writing letters to the gods in Roman Britain*
- 12.30-13.00 Greg Woolf (St Andrews), Discussion

### Ralph Häussler (CNRS, Montpellier), *Language, culture and society in Italy and Gaul*

The latinisation of the western empire was not a uniform development. In certain periods of time different strata of society adopted Latin for various reasons. In the republic, the Latin language and Latin rhetoric had become essential for diplomacy long before the presence of written testimonies. And similar to many colonial encounters, certain aspects of the language of the ruler entered into the local vernacular, especially administrative terminology, exemplified by an Oscan *quaestor* or a Gallo-Greek *praetor*. But during the republic epigraphy always lagged behind changes in material culture. The fundamental premise explaining the omnipresence of Latin during the principate was the social integration of local élites and their political and economic participation. The epigraphic record of the empire is therefore largely associated with patrons, their clients and those who participated in a wider imperial hierarchy. Latin had become a common language for an élite that shared aspirations, cultural behaviour, and had social and economic interests throughout the empire. But it also was the language of an educated élite that only considered Latin and Greek as significant. The spread of Latin epigraphy was principally a colonial phenomenon which mirrored the turbulence of migration and marked the possession of land and titles. In the conflict between colonists and colonised, inscriptions could also serve as a useful tool for resistance during the early principate. And while the élite was almost immune from the process of *aemulatio*, the local populace was responsible for many versions of spoken Latin, whose vocabulary was 'barbarised', in the words of Isidorus, with indigenous words and concepts.



**Andrew Burnett (Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London), Latin on coins of the western empire**

Many different languages and scripts were used on the local coins of the late republic in the western empire: as well as Latin, we find Iberian, Greek, Punic and 'Celtic'. The inscriptions also express different sorts of information, although the name of the town and its officials are the most frequent. The datable nature of coinage means that we can chart the changes that take place, as distinct stages in the 'romanisation' of the coinages, in the particular sense of the extent to which they resembled coins made at Rome, and link up the changes in language and script with the changes in shape and design that were also occurring. The final stage of the process was the extinction of these coinages and the adoption of ones from Rome.

**Jonathan Edmondson (York University, Toronto), Writing Latin in Roman Lusitania**

The paper discusses the spread of monumental writing in Latin in the Roman province of Lusitania in the period 50 BC to AD 200. It will argue that a broad tabulation of the quantity of inscriptions per square kilometre (as used, for example, by W.V. Harris to chart the spread of literacy in the western provinces, *Ancient Literacy*, 1989, Table 4) is a potentially misleading index of cultural change, since it obscures significant regional variations within a single province, not to mention change over time, as will become clear from a brief examination of the evidence from Lusitania. It also conflates the development of an epigraphic culture in a Roman province with the spread of literacy, two connected but by no means identical processes. The Latin found on inscribed epitaphs and votive offerings from Lusitania displays in some regions a certain lack of orthography and the persistence of some archaic features even in the second century AD, the significance of which will be examined for the spread of Latin in a provincial context. Finally, it will be shown how a Roman cultural product (an inscribed monument) could serve to convey elements of non-Roman culture, since a small number of votive texts were set up during the Roman period in Lusitanian, a language that had not received written expression in the pre-Roman period and many more tombstones were erected with Latin texts, but with distinctly non-Roman stylistic motifs. Conversely, in some regions indigenous types of monument (life-size statues of wild-boars) were invested with a new cultural meaning in being used as funerary monuments with the addition of an epitaph in Latin. The cultural significance of these developments will be explored.

**Ton Derks and Nico Roymans (Free University, Amsterdam), Seal-boxes and the spread of writing in Lower Germany**

The Dutch part of the Lower Rhine area is not particularly known as a region with a dense distribution of Latin inscriptions. On the contrary, the *civitas* of the Batavians, for example, though part of a frontier province, has not yielded more than some dozen examples of monumental writing, mostly very fragmentary. It has been argued therefore that in this region the epigraphical habit was not particularly widespread. Explanations put forward are the absence of outcrops of suitable stone in the region, high transport costs for those willing to put up monumental inscriptions in stone, economic poverty and also different cultural practices which did not fit in with a habit of monumental writing. Are we to conclude from this that in this part of the Roman frontier the knowledge of writing or reading Latin was essentially restricted to the army of the intruding power and a few representatives of the local administration? The evidence of Roman seal-boxes seems to point in a different direction. Finds of these small bronze objects have long been reported from almost every Roman military fort along the Rhine. Current inventories of seal-boxes in public and private collections make clear that these small objects also occur in graves, sanctuaries and settlements, both urban and rural. Quite surprisingly, a dense distribution of seal-boxes among rural sites may be observed. Together with new finds of writing tablets found during excavations of rural settlement complexes, this may indicate a wide-spread knowledge of writing and reading Latin among the rural population of the area, a phenomenon which would be in sharp contrast with the stereotypical portrayal by the classical authors of the people on the frontier as 'barbarians'.

**Jonathan Williams (Department of Coins and Medals, British Museum, London), Writing and coinage in pre-Roman Britain**

Writing and literacy are rarely if ever discussed in connection with pre-Roman Britain, despite the familiar evidence of the various inscribed coins produced there between about 50 BC and AD 50. This paper will look at the various kinds of inscriptions to be found on these coins - including personal and place names, titles, and one complete Latin sentence - and the languages in use, both local and Latin. What do these inscriptions have to tell us about the distribution and use of writing, and about the spread of Latin language and epigraphic styles in Britain before the Roman invasion? What was the significance of these developments? Are current approaches to Iron Age Britain right to ignore them?

**Roger Tomlin (Wolfson College, Oxford), Writing letters to the gods in Roman Britain**

In the past twenty years or so, more than two hundred inscribed lead tablets have been found in Britain, most of them during the excavation of two religious sites, the spring of Sulis at Bath and the hilltop temple of Mercury at Uley. They are metal manuscripts which range in date from the 2<sup>nd</sup> century to the 4<sup>th</sup>, sometimes only lists of names, but often explicit requests for divine intervention. Many personal names are non-Roman or at least 'provincial', but the language is Latin. This Latin is stiff and formulaic, the syntax often poor, but they are not linguistic fossils, since they are influenced by the spoken language. The hundred Bath tablets amount to an appreciable random sample from a single site, and study of their handwriting has suggested, not the work of a few professional scribes, but a surprisingly wide range of ability extending as far as total illiteracy. The Uley 'archive' gives the same impression; this rural site has even produced a long Latin text, hitherto unpublished, which was neatly inscribed in Greek letters.



## Rome beyond the imperial frontiers

Lindsay Allason-Jones (Newcastle)

Since Sir Mortimer Wheeler published his seminal volume *Rome Beyond the Imperial Frontiers* in 1954 there has been much research activity outside the boundaries of the Roman empire as well as within it. This work - bridging, as it does, Roman and non-Roman research - has not always been absorbed into the mainstream of thinking about the Roman empire.

Recent studies of the populations living in the areas immediately beyond the frontier have revealed a wide range of attitudes to their neighbours - from ignoring Rome completely to regarding it as the ultimate enemy, from fear and trepidation of anticipated attack to calm awareness of the trading potential offered by the Roman markets. The Romans themselves also seem to have differed in their attitudes to those who lived on the other side of the great divide between Roman and 'Barbarian', treating some as enemies and others as trading partners.

The speakers in this session will consider to what extent the discovery of objects of Roman manufacture can be taken to indicate the level of romanisation in barbarian territories. Were these objects considered mere curiosities or were they sought after luxuries? Do the more mundane objects suggest regular trade or immigrants from Rome living in neighbouring countries? Did the governments on either side of the frontier see each other as equal political or trading partners or not?

This session seeks to explore the relationship between Rome and its neighbours through the evidence of recent work on objects, the literary sources and from excavation to see how much our understanding of Rome's relationship with its neighbours has changed since 1954.

14.00-14.10 Introduction

14.10-14.40 C.W.Whittaker (Cambridge), *India beyond or within the Roman frontiers?*

14.40-15.10 M.Erdrich (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), *Rome beyond its frontiers: the evidence from free Germany and Scotland?*

15.10-15.40 Fraser Hunter (Edinburgh), *Rome and Scotland*

16.00-16.30 Dan Robinson (Chester), *An Agricolan invasion of Ireland - more than a possibility?*

16.30-17.00 David Braund (Exeter), *Rome, the Crimean Bosphorus and Caucasus*

17.00-17.30 Lindsay Allason-Jones (Newcastle), *Rome and Merce*

17.30-18.00 Discussion

**C.W.Whittaker (Churchill College, Cambridge), *India beyond or within the Roman frontiers?***

A survey of 'Rome beyond its frontiers' presupposes that Roman frontiers were always clearly demarcated. But India was certainly in some sense assumed by Augustus and his successors to be a Roman *provincia* - a field for the exercise of power in his new empire - even if beyond what we would now conventionally regard as the Roman frontiers. This paper aims to trace the consequences of the proposition both politically and economically. After Augustus, Rome continued to display imperial attitudes towards India, while economically her ties with India became stronger and stronger. Since Wheeler's ground-breaking discoveries at Arekamedu, recent work by archaeologists and historians has considerably modified his conclusions but added depth to our knowledge of just how much trade followed the flag.

**M.Erdrich (IPP, Amsterdam), Rome beyond its frontiers: the evidence from free Germany and Scotland**

For many years Roman archaeology, both in Britain and on the Continent, has concentrated on a variety of research subjects such as the Roman army, the romanisation of the native population or various forms and levels of urbanization, but has neglected the wide field of Roman-Barbarian contacts, leaving the subject to 'barbarian' archaeologists and ancient historians.

In Britain an early masterpiece on the subject of Roman Britain's relationship with the unoccupied North, was Curle's reports on his excavations on Traprain Law. Leslie MacInnes's considerations on *Beads and Bangles in Scotland* provided only a short renaissance. On the Continent there is a similar situation with archaeologists fiercely discussing various aspects of the integration of native societies into the empire or the allocation and periodisation of military forts on the Roman 'frontier' but rarely looking at the people living across the *Limes*.

Bill Hanson organized a session on cross-border relations during the Roman Frontier Congress in Rolduc in 1993. Unfortunately, this very promising attempt at a comparative approach to Romano-barbarian relations along the Rhine and Danube did not result in a change of attitude. On the Continent, the Römisch-Germanische Kommission in Frankfurt is supervising a project that aims to catalogue all Roman finds from Central European *Barbaricum*. Three finds catalogues concentrating on the former East Germany are already published, Lower Saxony is at print stage and catalogues for Poland, Bohemia and Slovakia are pending.

The analysis of the vast amount of data from north-western *Barbaricum* had led to new and very surprising results. These finds and a close evaluation of the contemporaneous historical sources prove that the relationship between the Roman empire and her 'barbarian' neighbours was far more complex than the rather simplified thesis of a continuously expanding, peaceful cross-frontier trade.

**Fraser Hunter (National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh), Rome and Scotland**

Scotland presents an interesting case study of Rome beyond its frontiers because, while the north was never permanently occupied, the south was at times within and at times beyond the empire. However, it suffers from 'low visibility' compared to the Continent because the material is fragmentary settlement finds rather than intact grave or bog deposits. The paper will suggest new ways of tackling this superficially unpromising material and look at the Roman finds coming into Scotland from the perspective of how they were used in Iron Age societies.

**Dan Robinson (Grosvenor Museum, Chester), An Agricola invasion of Ireland - more than a possibility?**

The consensus of scholars has been that the Flavian offensive in North Britain was exclusively directed towards northern England and Scotland. As a consequence of this view, Chapter 24 of Tacitus' *Agricola* has been conventionally interpreted as a description of a Roman camp in south-west Scotland. Here Chapter 24 will be presented as referring to an exploratory invasion of Ireland. It will be argued that this interpretation is more logical within the overall narrative of the *Agricola* and that, consequently, Ireland has to be included in any consideration of Roman ambitions in Britain at this time.

**David Braund (University of Exeter) Rome, the Crimean Bosphorus and Caucasus**

The so-called Pontic *Limes* has become rather better understood in recent years. The present paper offers some remarks on the Roman military presence in the region under the principate, with particular reference to the results of recent archaeology in the south-west Crimea on the north coast of the Black Sea and in Colchis/Lazike on its east coast. In both parts of the region the dominant Roman military concern seems to have been the support of the largely Greek cities of the region and the friendly kingdoms there. Consideration of the earlier history and geography of the region (as well as

the location and scale of Roman installations) encourages the view that the control of banditry/piracy was the first priority as well as the promotion of civic and royal stability.

**Lindsay Allason-Jones (Museum of Antiquities, University of Newcastle upon Tyne) Rome and Meroe**

In *Rome Beyond the Imperial Frontiers* Sir Mortimer Wheeler mentions Meroe in passing as a supplier of goods for the market town of Ptolemais but otherwise dismisses it as 'the decayed capital of Nubia'. Miller, in *The Roman Empire and its Neighbours* does not mention either the city of Meroe or its empire at all.

This paper reviews our knowledge of Meroe, using its literary sources and recent archaeological work and discusses why the Romans appear to have ignored their powerful southern neighbour.

## The perception and presentation of space in the Roman world

Kai Brodersen (Newcastle and Mannheim) and Richard Talbert (Chapel Hill)

Recent research has stressed the Romans' lack of 'map consciousness'. Given their evident success in mastering the world, however, we need to ask how space was perceived and how this perception was presented. First, there are long lists of place-names in the geographical literature and especially in sub-literary lists like the *Itinerarium Antonini*, diagrams (famously the *Tabula Peutingeriana*) or late antique pilgrims' guides. Now these lists and texts are, as yet, not well enough studied (subliterary texts tend to look very unattractive to classicists, of course). At the same time, however, they are frequently the only source for the name of a station, a river, or a settlement (hence the archaeologists' interest in them, witness Rivet & Smith's *Place names of Roman Britain*). But unless the characteristics and idiosyncracies, implicit in the 'genre' are taken into consideration, it is difficult to draw valid conclusions about the information presented in the itineraries and diagrams.

In addition to this 'general' interest, a number of new archaeological discoveries - most of them published only after the last RAC - call for a re-appraisal of our views: a papyrus map of Spain (?) from Antaiupolis in Upper Egypt, a new 'Town Plan' discovered in Rome, a new map-like mosaic of the eastern Mediterranean from Ammaedara in North Africa, and the so-called *Stadiasmus Provinciae Lyciae*.

The session aims to provide this reappraisal and will bring together experts on the modes of perception, and presentation, of space in the Roman world to make the progress in the research on this specialist field accessible to a wider audience and suggest conclusions on how we can use this evidence, both as historians and as archaeologists.

- 14.00-14.10 Kai Brodersen (Newcastle and Mannheim, Germany), *Introduction*
- 14.10-14.40 Roger Batty (Oxford), *Traditions and reputations in Roman geography*
- 14.40-15.10 Benet Salway (Nottingham and London), *Sea and river travel in the Roman itinerary literature*
- 15.10-15.40 Colin Adams (Leicester), *Travel and pilgrimage in Roman Egypt: the evidence of proskynemata*
- 16.00-16.30 David Hunt (Durham), *Pilgrim itineraries and reading the Bible in the fourth-century Holy Land*
- 16.30-17.00 Richard Talbert (UNC, Chapel Hill and the National Humanities Center), *The Peutinger Table: a re-appraisal*
- 17.00-17.30 Discussion

### Roger Batty (University of Oxford), Traditions and reputations in Roman geography

Geographical information in the Roman world seems to have been transmitted in a variety of ways, designed to fill the needs of various people. Detailed lists of places and peoples existed alongside more general accounts and models. How these data sources were constructed and for whom, remains a question of considerable interest. Competition between various kinds of information and, therefore, various kinds of geographical knowledge, was clearly evident. As a result, few people had sufficient information to be able to form a synthetic account; most relied on standardised images, reputations derived orally and traditional ideas.



**Benet Salway (University of Nottingham and UCL), Sea and river travel in the Roman itinerary literature**

This paper will seek to explore the descriptions (and depictions) of sea travel and sea routes, as well as river travel, in the Roman period, taking in the *Stadiasmus Maris Magni*, the maritime section of the Antonine Itinerary, the Dura 'shield', and even the Peutinger Table, as well as more literary accounts such as Avienus' *Ora Maritima* and the *Periplus* of Marcianus of Heraclea. These will be examined in relation to the evidence that exists for the planning and undertaking of actual journeys by water and their relationship with land-based itineraries.

**Colin Adams (University of Leicester), Travel and pilgrimage in Roman Egypt: the evidence of *proskynemata***

This paper will focus on the abundant epigraphic evidence for *proskynemata* (dedications to gods) left by travellers and pilgrims throughout Egypt. Such evidence provides important information: the identity and nature of travellers, purposes of travel, places of pilgrimage, direction and intensity of travel and patterns of communication. As such, they give a rich picture of mobility in pre-Christian Egypt.

**David Hunt (University of Durham), Pilgrim itineraries and reading the Bible in the fourth-century Holy Land**

The Bordeaux Itinerary and the Itinerary of Egeria, both dating from the fourth century AD, provide accounts of visits by early western pilgrims to the new Christian Holy Land. This paper will aim to use these two texts to illustrate and discuss the fundamentally biblical perspective which characterised these journeys to and around the holy places. In contrast to the 'secular' itinerary which transported them to the Holy Land, once there the pilgrims entered into the biblical past, superimposing their Bible on the contemporary map of Palestine, and reading the scriptural texts not only on the page but also in the landscape and topography through which they travelled.

**Richard Talbert (UNC, Chapel Hill and the National Humanities Center), The Peutinger Table: a re-appraisal**

It seems ironic that the lively debate of the past decade concerning how Romans viewed and represented their surroundings has largely left out of account the single large Roman map to survive (albeit in a medieval copy), the so-called Peutinger Table preserved on eleven parchment leaves in Vienna. No full-scale re-appraisal of it has been made in a long time and certainly not since the current debate began.

There is an urgent need to give the Table that overdue attention, especially in the wider context of Roman itineraries (now dramatically augmented by the Claudian *Stadiasmus* from Patara in Lycia), and of medieval maps. The paper addresses the making of the Table, with particular reference to its design, its rendering of physical landscape and its complex presentation of a mass of carefully selected cultural data. Discussion follows of the bold (but seemingly inescapable) conclusion that the Table, far from being some unique curiosity, must rather reflect a longstanding Roman expertise in cartography. This perspective on the Table may thus modify our understanding of Roman perception and representation of space, as well as of medieval mapmaking.



# The Roman province of Dalmatia

Vincent Gaffney (Birmingham) and David Davison (Oxford)

It is now some thirty years since the publication of the last major synthetic work on the Roman archaeology of Dalmatia (J.J. Wilkes: *The Roman Province of Dalmatia*). During this time, much work has been carried out on the archaeology and history of Dalmatia; little of this is known to the wider archaeological world.

It is the purpose of the session to summarise the present state of knowledge of the archaeology and history of the province in the light of work carried out in recent years and to present it to a wider audience. As part of this process, the session will be published by Archaeopress in British Archaeological Reports.

This session is sponsored by Professor John Haldon and the School of Historical Studies, University of Birmingham, Croatia Airlines, the Croatia Cultural Centre and the British-Croatian Society

- 9.00-9.10 Vincent Gaffney (Birmingham), *Introduction*
- 9.10-9.40 Dunja Glogović (Zagreb, Croatia), *Dalmatia from the 8<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> centuries BC*
- 9.40-10.10 Branko Kirigin (Split, Croatia), *The Greek background*
- 10.10-10.40 Mirjana Sanader (Zagreb, Croatia), *The Roman army in Dalmatia (recent excavations at Tilurium – Gardun)*
- 11.00-11.30 Slobodan Čače (Zadar, Croatia), *Roman Illyricum from 156 to 35 BC: the creation of a province*
- 11.30-12.00 Emilio Marin (Split, Croatia), *The urbanism of Salona and Narona*
- 12.00-12.30 Jagoda Mardesić (Split, Croatia), *Salona: researches over the last 30 years*
- 12.30-13.00 Questions

(lunch break)

- 14.10-14.40 Mario Jurišić (Zagreb, Croatia), *The maritime trade of the Roman province*
- 14.40-15.10 Pascale Chevalier (Clermont Ferrand, France), *Early Christianity in Dalmatia (4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> century AD)*
- 15.10-15.40 Anamarija Kurilic (Zadar, Croatia), *Roman Dalmatia in the epigraphic evidence*
- 16.00-16.30 J.J. Wilkes (London), *Summary and discussion*

**Dunja Glogović (Institute of Archaeology, University of Zagreb), *Dalmatia from the 8th to 4th centuries BC***

This paper provides a survey of recent work on the Iron Age in Dalmatia beginning with the most recent discoveries from the Sinj valley. During the nineties a large number of important metal finds have been recovered from the Cetina river and these include belt plates of Krehin Gradac type, fibulae of Golinjevo type (8<sup>th</sup> Century BC) and, of particular interest, several Greco-Illyrian helmets of a type known from the Vela Luka graves on the Island of Brač. In that instance the graves belong to the final, IV<sup>th</sup> and V<sup>th</sup> phases of the Dalmatian Iron Age. These important discoveries are discussed and placed within their wider context.

**Branko Kirigin (Archaeological Museum, Split), The Greek background**

This paper provides a brief overview of the period from the 6<sup>th</sup> to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC in Dalmatia. In the last 30 years (following the publication of Professor Wilkes' book on Roman Dalmatia) many new discoveries have been made in the region, largely in the course of recent investigations on Hvar made during the work by two projects – 'Hvar - Archaeology of a Mediterranean Landscape' and the 'Adriatic Islands Project'. The situation on the island of Korčula is now also much better understood following work by the Korčula Archaeological Research Group. Significant recent discoveries also include material and sites from the island of Palagruža 'Diomedes island', at Cape Planka (*Promunturium Diomedes*), and most recently at the cave of Nakovanj on the Pelješac peninsula, where a sanctuary of Hellenistic date has been excavated. Greek material found in the hinterland of Dalmatia will also be discussed, and an up-to-date bibliography on the topic will be presented.

**Mirjana Sanader (Philosophy Faculty, Department of Archaeology, University of Zagreb), The Roman army in Dalmatia (and recent excavations at the legionary site of Tilurium – Gardun)**

The Roman legionary fortress of Tilurium near Gardun lay within the hinterland of Salona - the most important city of the province of Dalmatia. Its position, c. 30 km from Salona, should be considered in respect of the structure of the coast. The narrow coastal belt is protected by the mountain chain that stretches parallel to the coast. Access to the sea is only possible via a large number of passes and rivers. Salona is located in a bay protected to the north by the hills Kozjak and Mosor. The only route to the north is through the narrow pass at Klis. Behind these hills is the fertile Sinj plain, again defended by the heights of Svilaj and Mosec to the west and the almost impassable mountain massifs of Dinara and Kamešnica. The Sinj plain is rendered fertile by the river Cetina that reaches the sea near Omiš (Oneum). The importance of this route was, of course, evident from the earliest of times and it was clear also to the Romans that the Cetina was vital to the transport of goods and the passage of people.

The Romans defended this strategically important point by building the military camp of Tilurium. A linguistic analysis of the origin of the fortress's name suggests an Illyrian origin, indicating that a local group (the Delmatae), may have been aware of the significance of this position. The military camp of Tilurium lies on the plateau that rises above the right bank of the river Cetina (Hyppus) and covers c. 20 hectares and overlooks its contemporary civilian settlement at Trilj, mentioned in ancient itineraries as Pons Tiluri. To the west, and at the entrance to the Vojnić valley, are preserved remnants of a native defensive structure called Prizida. These ramparts probably played a vital role in the defence of the passages to the hillfort settlement once located in the area of Tilurium.

Several papers have been written on the historical and archaeological significance of Tilurium, its artefacts, communications and topography. Previous knowledge about the Cetina region in general was presented at a symposium held in Sinj in 1980 "The Cetina krajina from prehistory to the arrival of the Turks", and Marin Zaninović discussed the history of the development of Tilurium from an Illyrian hillfort to a *beneficium*. In his study of Tilurium, Professor Zaninović gathered and analysed all available information on the fortress based on ancient sources and epigraphic sources. He then suggested that the first legion to reside in Tilurium was the *legio IX Hispana* followed by the *legio II*. The time of its arrival is still a subject of debate, but it seems to have arrived in Tilurium at the latest in AD 6. By AD 61 the legion leaves the camp after which it is occupied by smaller units until the mid 3<sup>rd</sup> century.

Until 1997 there was no systematic archaeological research on the site, and archaeologists compiled their data exclusively on the basis of artefacts sold to museums by the inhabitants of Gardun; these included epigraphic artefacts, tombstones, votive tables and numerous medical instruments, weapons and coins. Systematic archaeological research on the military fortress of Tilurium began in 1997 and followed a comprehensive two-year programme of preparations. In these excavations, architectural structures of the former camp have been unearthed for the first time and these results will be presented during this paper.

**Slobodan Čače (Philosophy Faculty of Zadar, Department of History, University of Split), Roman Illyricum from 156 to 35 BC: the creation of a province**

Following the defeat of the Illyrian kingdom in 168 BC, Rome gradually gathered together its newly conquered area and its earlier dominions. As a consequence of a number of later actions in Illyricum, Rome eventually extended its control throughout the eastern Adriatic area. Many aspects of this process are still poorly understood, essentially because of the meagre evidence available from the sources. The uneven and inadequate nature of the archaeological evidence is no less an obstacle.

The aim of this paper is to highlight new developments in both fields of research. A number of recent or current projects have provided interesting results that may alter or improve our understanding of the changes that occurred in Illyricum during the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC in a number of fields, including ancient topography, history, religion, society and economy, and cultural relations.

**Emilio Marin (Archaeological Museum, Split), The urbanism of Salona and Narona**

Salona and Narona are the outstanding examples of ancient urbanism in Dalmatia. Salona, capital of the Roman province, has been studied since the beginning of the 19<sup>th</sup> century and presents extensive and long-term evidence for town planning. Recent excavations at Narona, to the south of Salona and seat of the *conventus*, have provided spectacular and unique opportunities to study urban development on a site whose urban core is retained throughout the pre-Roman and Roman periods. To these examples will be added evidence for urbanism to the north of Salona at Iader and Aenona. Within the interior of the province much less new evidence is currently available. On the islands, more new information has emerged over the last three decades, but much of this does not relate to the urban process. Salona and Narona both relate to water, the *Sinus Salonitanus* and the river Naro, whilst commercial relations to their hinterland provide the foundations for their development. They do not, however, share the same pattern of urban change in the Late Antique period or decline during the Middle Ages.

**Jagoda Mardesić (Archaeological Museum, Split), Salona: researches over the last 30 years**

This paper presents research carried out at Salona following the publication of Professor Wilkes' book *The Roman Province of Dalmatia*. During this time, the majority of investigations have been rescue excavations and these include work on the western cemeteries and the southern part of Salona. Work has also proceeded in various locations in the eastern part of Salona, notably in Kralja Zvonimira Street, on the site of the local governmental buildings and within the INA petroleum facility, the local shopping centre, and part of the south-eastern cemetery.

There have been very few systematic excavations within the city. However, systematic research excavation has taken place within the area of the *forum*, on a section of the northern town walls, at Manastirine, at Gospin Otok and at Luplja Crkva. The results of these excavations will be presented during the paper and a short review of the most important publications of the last 30 years will be given.

**Mario Jurišić (Ministry of Culture, Department for the Protection of Culture and Natural Resources, Archaeology Section (Underwater Archaeology), Zagreb), The maritime trade of the Roman province**

By becoming part of the Roman state, the province experienced a period of economic prosperity and intensive communication between the Adriatic and other Mediterranean regions. For half a millennium these connections strengthened or became weaker mostly depending on the contemporary economic situation. The Adriatic area was situated along the general 'eastern' route which connected central parts of the empire with the east. Less strong was the communication route with the western Mediterranean basin.



This paper discusses the maritime trade of the Adriatic based on the underwater finds from the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC to the late Roman period. The most common northern Adriatic cargoes are presented, together with Aegean, rare western Mediterranean cargoes and finally late Roman North African cargoes. All the cargoes consisted mostly of amphorae and pottery vessels.

**Pascale Chevalier (University of Clermont Ferrand), Early Christianity in Dalmatia (4<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> century AD)**

The inventory of Early Christian architecture in Dalmatia today comprises some 300 churches, a figure which appears large for a single late Roman province. But in most cases precise dating is still a problem. Most of the buildings can be dated from the second half of the 5<sup>th</sup> to the second half of the 6<sup>th</sup> century, with a major period of construction during the 6<sup>th</sup> century. There is, of course, a lack of balance between rural architecture, of modest size, and some fifty larger, three-aisled town basilicas; the provincial architecture reflecting - as usual - the main streams of the evolution in the capital city, Salona (here double churches are quite common and one could see here a wish to reproduce Salona's double cathedral on a smaller scale). The introduction of Christian religious structures and the response to political and social changes include the remodelling of urban centres. Out of town, churches are frequently longitudinal one-aisled buildings, sometimes without any annexe; more characteristic, in any case, is the form referred to as a 'complex' church where the nave, sometimes featuring a vestibule, is flanked on both sides by two rows of annexes, looking like a three-aisled basilica from the outside. A fifth of Dalmatian Early Christian churches include a baptistery, which is important to note, though there are less than ten known cathedrals. This is also a good indication of the evolution of country life in Dalmatia during the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> centuries, with the development of the first network of parishes. Well-preserved liturgical features also give useful information about the functions of different churches as well as the very evolution of liturgy over 300 years.

**Anamarija Kurilić (Philosophy Faculty of Zadar, Department of History, University of Split), Roman Dalmatia in the epigraphic evidence**

Inscriptions from Roman Dalmatia published since the appearance of the last (third) volume of *ILJug* up to 1997 have recently been presented by two scholars: M. Šašel Kos (up to 1991) and Professor J.J. Wilkes (up to 1997). Consequently, this paper will concentrate on the most recent epigraphic discoveries, the majority of which have not yet been published or are to be published soon. The paper will also consider revised readings and new interpretations of known epigraphic evidence. In addition, the author will present evidence from a number of current epigraphic and epigraphy-related projects which include local or regional epigraphic corpora and various historical, onomastic, demographic and associated studies based on the epigraphic evidence. The results of recent epigraphic studies will also be presented.

## What's new in Roman Britain

Fraser Hunter (Edinburgh) and Barry Burnham (Lampeter)

This session aims to highlight some of the most recent and more important discoveries in Britain from across the province as a whole, with papers on recent work in England, Scotland and Wales. Inevitably such a session does not readily follow any particular theme, and the choice of papers is that of the organisers, but it is hoped that there will be something of interest to everyone.

This session is sponsored by the Roman Research Trust

### MILITARY

- 9.00-9.10 Introduction
- 9.10-9.40 Eberhard Sauer (Leicester), *New light on the Roman invasion of Britain*
- 9.40-10.10 J.L. Davies (University of Wales, Aberystwyth) and R.H. Jones (RCAHMS), *Recent research on Roman camps in Wales*
- 10.10-10.40 Nick Hodgson (Tyne and Wear Museums), *Where did they keep the horses?...*
- 11.00-11.30 David Woolliscroft (Manchester) and Birgitta Hoffmann (University College Dublin), *Scotland north of the Antonine Wall – recent work*

### FINDS

- 11.30-12.00 Roger Bland (Portable Antiquities Scheme), *The impact of the Treasure Act and Portable Antiquities Scheme on Roman archaeology*
  - 12.00-12.30 H.E.M. Cool (Barbican Research Associates) and M.J. Baxter (Nottingham Trent University), *Finds for the future: new directions in the study of material culture*
  - 12.30-13.00 Questions
- (lunch break)

### URBAN

- 14.10-14.40 M.G. Fulford (Reading University), *Silchester: excavations in insula IX 1997-2000 – an insula transformed*
- 14.40-15.10 Mike McCarthy (Carlisle Archaeology, University of Bradford), *The Roman frontier town at Carlisle*
- 15.10-15.40 Peter Rowsome (MoLAS), *Roman London in the year 2001*

### RURAL

- 16.00-16.30 Edith Evans (Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust), *The South-East Wales lowland Romano-British settlement survey*
- 16.30-17.00 Jeremy Taylor (Leicester University), *Iron Age and Roman rural settlement in England: an overview*
- 17.00-17.30 John Peterson (University of East Anglia), *A comparison of eight proposed cases of limitatio in Britain*
- 17.30-18.00 Discussion



**Eberhard Sauer (Leicester), New light on the Roman invasion of Britain**

'When did the invasion army reach the Midlands?' 'How much resistance did it encounter?' 'Which strategy was employed to keep the population under control?' Until recently there was little evidence to answer such questions. Finds from a vexillation fortress (a fortress for 2,500-3,000 soldiers) at Alchester (Oxfordshire) is now rapidly filling this gap in the history of Roman Britain. It was discovered in 1998 and has been excavated since 1999. Coins, brooches and samian ware date the foundation to the very first years (c. AD 43-47) of Roman dominion. The precise year should be known soon: one of the gateposts of the *porta praetoria* has preserved bark and should yield a dendro-date. A high water table ensures ideal preservation of organic materials. The 2000 season has yielded thin wooden plaques; while so far no traces of writing could be detected, it is clear that the site even has the potential to yield writing tablets to illuminate the history of the invasion.

**J.L. Davies (University of Wales, Aberystwyth) and R.H. Jones (RCAHMS), Recent research on Roman camps in Wales**

This paper will summarise the result of one element of a one-year research project on 'Roman Camps and Communications in Wales', funded by the Board of Celtic Studies of the University of Wales. All camp sites were visited as part of the project and all available information studied for both marching camps and practice camps in Wales and the Marches.

No obvious groupings of marching camps can be determined in Wales, unlike the various series put forward by St Joseph for the North. However, reappraisal of their size, morphology and aspect will enable possible relationships to be suggested in the context of military operations and campaigning routes.

Practice camps are ubiquitous in Wales with over fifty sites now recorded, a larger concentration than anywhere else in the Empire. The significance of these camps will be discussed, and possible contexts explored.

**Nick Hodgson (Tyne and Wear Museums), 'Where did they keep the horses?' and other Roman military mysteries solved: excavations at South Shields and Wallsend 1997-2000**

This paper reports on two outstanding results of large-scale research excavations inside the forts of South Shields and Wallsend, at the eastern end of Hadrian's Wall. At both sites second-century barracks have been discovered which accommodated cavalry horses under the same roof as their riders, 30 per building, showing that each barrack housed men and mounts of a single *turma* or troop (30 strong). Fragmentary parallels from sites outside Britain lead to the conclusion that this was the standard method of accommodating cavalry troops. These discoveries at once overturn the text-book theory of how cavalry were accommodated and solve the mystery of why it has been so persistently difficult to identify separate stables in fort plans.

In the second part of the paper attention will be drawn to the recovery at South Shields in 2000 of stratified imperial sealings which confirm beyond all doubt that the great supply-base there originated at the time of the Severan campaigns in Scotland and not, as has occasionally been suggested, in the AD 180s.

**David Woolliscroft (Manchester) and Birgitta Hoffmann (University College Dublin), Scotland north of the Antonine Wall – recent work**

The last five years have seen a resurgence of research on the Roman presence north of the Antonine Wall. Excavation, survey, air photography and field walking have combined to refine our understanding of the Roman incursions greatly. The Gask frontier now appears to have been in use for significantly longer than previously thought. Better dating evidence has been made available for the forts, with at least one new fort being added to the map of the Antonine occupation. Examination of a number of temporary camps has suggested that their usage may have been more complex than had been thought, whilst increased environmental data have given us a clearer picture of the

landscape within which the Roman story was played out. There has also been a considerable effort to recover and publish past work, mostly from the 1960s and 70s, which for various reasons had never been properly written up. This too is filling in valuable pieces of the puzzle.

**Roger Bland (Portable Antiquities Scheme), The impact of the Treasure Act and Portable Antiquities Scheme on Roman archaeology**

In September 1997 the Treasure Act came into force in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, significantly increasing the number of finds that qualify as treasure. The Act in effect brought single finds of precious-metal artefacts within the scope of treasure for the first time, besides finds of bronze as well as precious-metal coins. In the two annual reports published so far, out of a total of 438 cases of treasure there have been 39 cases of Roman artefacts and 64 Roman coin finds.

At the same time the Government launched an initiative to promote the voluntary recording of all archaeological objects found by members of the public. Six pilot schemes were established in autumn 1997 and a further six have been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund since spring 1999. Roman artefacts and coins have formed a significant proportion of the objects being recorded and in 1998-99 they accounted for 38 per cent of the total, more than for any other period. Details of objects recorded are made available on the Portable Antiquities website ([www.finds.org.uk](http://www.finds.org.uk)).

The paper will look at the issues raised by these two projects and some of the difficulties involved in a voluntary recording scheme, as well as the potential of the database as a research tool for Roman archaeology.

**H.E.M. Cool (Barbican Research Associates) and M.J. Baxter (Nottingham Trent University), Finds for the future: new directions in the study of material culture**

How can the vast quantity of material culture be used to tell us about the nature of life in Roman Britain and its place in the wider Roman world? One way forward is through detailed comparisons of large numbers of well-dated finds assemblages from a range of sites. This enables recurrent patterns to be identified and explanations sought. Another avenue is the more rigorous placing of finds from Britannia within an empire-wide context. Both approaches have been attracting increasing interest over the past decade.

This paper will review recent work by ourselves and others on these subjects to illustrate the richness and diversity of the information that can be derived from them. Questions to be considered will include the place of the province within the empire, the ways different communities manipulated material culture to reflect their needs and aspirations and the changing nature of life in the late to sub-Roman period. Questions of methodology will be discussed and ways in which the approaches could usefully be developed will be suggested.

**M.G. Fulford (Reading), Silchester: excavations in *insula IX* 1997-2000 - an *insula* transformed.**

After four seasons of excavation within a central *insula* of the Roman town of Silchester a major transformation can be seen: sole occupancy by a large early Roman town house complex of first century origins was replaced by multiple occupancy of shops, workshops and modest town houses, developing in the second and continuing through to the late fourth-fifth century. The end of occupation and the context for the Silchester ogham are reconsidered. The project aims to characterise the occupation associated with individual properties and plots and publication will be through a combination of electronic and printed media.

**Mike McCarthy (Carlisle Archaeology, University of Bradford), The Roman frontier town at Carlisle**

Carlisle (Luguvalium) has long been known as an important frontier town in Roman Britain. Investigations over nearly 25 years have amply confirmed that view, adding a richness and texture to our knowledge of a frontier city and its fort(s) on a scale hitherto little appreciated. Large-scale excavations have revealed well-preserved sequences shedding much light on Carlisle's chronological development, economy, population, technology and religion. A recent excavation in the central range of the fort has provided much new information and a wealth of important artefacts including armour, sculpture and drains, as well as a Wroxeter-type sequence extending well beyond the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> century. Other work to the south of Carlisle has located a previously unknown suburb that has the appearance of a relatively short-lived planned settlement. This paper will attempt to outline salient features in the increasingly complicated story of Roman Carlisle, drawing particular attention to new discoveries.

**Peter Rowsome (MoLAS), Roman London in the year 2001**

Important excavations have taken place in the City of London, in Roman Southwark and further afield in Londinium's hinterland. At Plantation Place, just to the south east of the *forum*, part of a defensive system enclosing Cornhill was found which can be dated to the years immediately following the Boudiccan destruction. Large late Roman masonry structures were also recorded and a gold coin hoard recovered. Other work revealed part of the southern wall of Cripplegate Fort, the southern entrance to the amphitheatre at Guildhall Yard, domestic building sequences at Gresham Street and a pottery manufacturing centre at Northgate House in the Upper Walbrook.

Londinium's cemeteries have been a particular focus, notably at Spitalfields with the much-publicised woman buried in a lead coffin and sarcophagus. A cemetery on Watling Street 500m south-east of Roman Southwark included some mausolea - and a bustum burial allegedly of a 'female gladiator'. Excavations on the banks of the River Fleet west of the town included two burials in surviving timber coffins.

Analysis of the 1 Poultry sequence has identified the earliest securely-dated structures from London - drains and revetments beneath and alongside the main east-west road dating to AD 47 - and shown that Londinium's pre-Boudican growth was rapid. Evidence of late 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> century development indicates a more populous town which had evolved into a mixture of roadside timber dwellings and rear extensions in stone - a more complex situation than previously thought.

**Edith Evans (Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust), The South-East Wales lowland Romano-British settlement survey**

This survey was commissioned by Cadw to map settlement of the Roman period in that area of lowland SE Wales affected by developments along the M4 corridor. The initial phase of the project consisted of a desk-based study, resulting in the mapping of sites. One of the aims of the project was to use the known distribution of sites, in conjunction with relief maps, geological maps, soil maps and other topographical variables such as water supply, to predict the likely locations of other as yet undiscovered sites, in order to assist the planning process. By the end of the initial phase, it was clear there were insufficient data to allow for projection; accordingly one of the main aims of the second phase was a detailed study of a limited area to try to determine how the Romans were using the land. The other was to obtain information about the nature and extent of a handful of sites which appeared to have particular potential.

**Jeremy Taylor (Leicester University), Iron Age and Roman rural settlement in England: an overview**

The Monuments Protection Programme's project on Iron Age and Roman rural settlement was aimed at devising a new approach to the basic characterisation and classification of rural settlement across England. The project set out to use our best understanding of the evidence as currently available in order to develop and assess a robust and flexible method for the mapping and characterisation of regional diversity in rural social traditions of settlement that could cope with the inadequacies of the existing evidence. This paper looks at the results of this work, its strengths and weaknesses and possible directions for the future in establishing wider national and regional frameworks for research into Iron Age and Roman rural landscapes.

**John Peterson (University of East Anglia), A comparison of eight proposed cases of *limitatio* in Britain**

The end product of *limitatio* was a map, the *forma*. This was often used to define regular land divisions, or 'centuriations'. Oblique relationships between these centuriation grids and Roman roads were also planned, leading to road segments being parallel. Examples of this can be seen in these eight British cases, including some roads in typical 'bayonet' form. In three of the systems a further use of the *forma* - for planning the position of river crossing and forts - is apparent. Individually these proposed cases of *limitatio* may be unconvincing, but collectively they show a familiar pattern. Hence in the field of military land survey and subsequent land administration, Roman Britain may not, after all, differ greatly from other parts of the empire.



## Cultural hegemony and local identities under the expanding Roman republic

Peter van Dommelen (Glasgow) and Nicola Terrenato (Chapel Hill)

Between the 5<sup>th</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC the Roman republic expanded from a small city-state in central Italy to a major power holding sway over much of the Mediterranean. While the military and political events of this expansion have been widely studied, relatively little attention has been given to the specifically local social and cultural developments, that is, how did the transition affect local elites and especially the hegemonic social structures on which they had based their power? How did the majority of rural inhabitants of the Mediterranean regions cope with the new reality? And what exactly was the reality they were facing?

Roughly at the same time, most of these regions underwent a major cultural transformation usually referred to as 'hellenisation', which begs the question of the relationship between republican conquest and the spread of Hellenistic traditions. Or was it the local inhabitants of the Mediterranean regions who played a major part in this transformation?

The aim of this session is to explore the issue of social and cultural change at grassroots level in various regions of the Mediterranean as these became part of the expanding Roman republic. Rather than looking for signs of 'romanisation', however, we intend to adopt an explicitly 'local' perspective to examine how the various sections of regional communities were incorporated in the Roman republic. The persistence, transformation or disappearance of pre-existing local cultural traditions constitutes a matter of particular interest in this regard, as does the spread of Hellenistic traditions and their reception and perception in the Mediterranean regions.

- 9.00-9.10 Peter van Dommelen (Glasgow), *Introduction*
- 9.10-9.40 Clara Berrendonner (Rome, Italy), *Changing life, changing death: social status and funerary iconography in northern Etruria (3<sup>rd</sup> - 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC)*
- 9.40-10.10 Nicola Terrenato (Chapel Hill, North Carolina), *Resilient clans. The nature of power in early Roman society*
- 10.10-10.40 Guy Bradley (Cardiff), *Colonial identities in Roman Italy*
- 11.00-11.30 Andrew Merryweather (Sydney), *Continuity, change and complexity in the romanisation of Apulia*
- 11.30-12.00 Phil Perkins (Milton Keynes), *Social and cultural change in the interior of north west Sicily*
- 12.00-12.30 Simon Keay (Southampton), *Cultural hegemony in Iberia between the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and later 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC*
- 12.30-13.00 Lin Foxhall (Leicester), *discussion*

POSTER: Jonathan Prag (UCL), *Republican Sicily: identity and provincialisation*



**Peter van Dommelen (University of Glasgow), Introduction**

The introduction to this session will expand on the summary provided by highlighting two aspects in particular. In the first place, the notion of cultural hegemony will be discussed with particular reference to the twin concepts of hegemony and resistance as first proposed by Antonio Gramsci. In the second place, the relevance of these ideas for our understanding of the Roman republic and its ways and means of establishing Roman domination over the Italian peninsula and the western Mediterranean regions will be briefly explored.

**C. Berrendonner (Ecole Française de Rome, Rome), Changing life, changing death: social status and funerary iconography in Northern Etruria (3<sup>rd</sup> -1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC)**

The history of northern Etruria in the Hellenistic Age is dominated by the Roman conquest and its consequences. At the social level, this history is described (M. Torelli, W. V. Harris) in terms of emancipation of the *servi*. This serf class, which had a status similar to the Thessalian *peresteia*, seems to have acquired local citizenship between the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC (at Volsinii) and the Social War. A social group of small landowners would have emerged. Archaeological finds that attest a rapid increase of small rural settlements in northern Etruria in the Hellenistic Age would confirm this idea (M. Cristofani, in *Caratteri dell'ellenismo nelle urne etrusche*, pp. 74-80). At the artistic level, the result of this process was the diffusion in Etruscan society of a unified type of funerary monuments the cinerary urns. In this mass production, the preferred subject to decorate the urn would help us to identify different levels of customers (the urn having the function of representing the dead, that is of exhibiting his status : F.-H. Massa-Pairault, in *Artigianato artistico in Etruria*, p. 81-83 ; M. Nielsen, in *Aspects of Hellenism in Italy*, p. 336). The capacity to use Greek myths would be the evidence of being part of the élite. The degree of hellenisation, correlated with that of romanisation, would also indicate social status. My contribution will try to evaluate the correctness of this interpretation. M. Nielsen's study in *Aspects of Hellenism in Italy* showed that, at Volterra at least, 40% of the cinerary urns were decorated with mythological subjects, which is considerable. We also know that different types of urns could be brought together in one and the same family tomb. I will ask whether the reference to the Greek myth was peculiar to the upper class of northern Etruria and if, in the Hellenistic Age, the subjects chosen by the different social groups changed, revealing the evolution of the representations and of social balance. I will compare social status of the customers (using archaeological and epigraphical criteria), iconography of the funerary monuments and chronology.

**Nicola Terrenato (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), Resilient clans. The nature of power in early Roman society**

The paper will explore internal power relationships in early Roman society, in order to assess their role in the subsequent process of expansion. The original clan structure of the community can be at least in part reconstructed on the basis of textual evidence, now supported by important archaeological findings, such as the *auditorium* site. Early Rome can be seen as an Iron Age society about which, for accidental reasons, we are much better informed. It offers us a tantalising insight into the workings of contemporary communities in Italy, which is in turn essential to understand why and how they later accepted to be part of larger entities, such as city-states and empires. Established theoretical concepts, such as peasant society and hegemony, go some way towards explaining the tightly knit nature of these social structures, but they are still somehow affected by a 'high modernist' bias. Taking a long-term perspective on central Italy, the paper will conclude that clans remain a vital element throughout the history of pre-modern Italy, providing a crucial stabilising and buffering function in the face of wide-ranging and potentially very disruptive political developments.

**Guy Bradley (University of Cardiff), Colonial identities in Roman Italy**

This paper focuses on the ways in which local, pre-existing identities were retained within Latin colonies in Italy after their colonisation. It covers the extent to which local populations were included in republican colonial schemes, and the impact they and the wider environment into which colonies were inserted had on the cultures of colonial cities. Recent archaeological, epigraphic and numismatic evidence shows that many colonies (Paestum and Ariminum are particularly good examples) were not the homogenous, ethnically pure fortresses founded from scratch that modern writers like Brunt have assumed. This is also the attitude taken by many ancient authors, who stressed the use of colonies as ways of incorporating conquered populations. The emphasis of modern writers on colonies as tools of romanisation neglects the complex ways in which colonies interacted with, and were affected by, their environments, and may also stem from an anachronistic retrojection of modern racial consciousness onto the Romans.

**Andrew Merryweather (Sydney), Continuity, change and complexity in the romanisation of Apulia**

The latter part of the fourth and the third centuries BC was an important time for the communities of Apulia in south-eastern Italy. This period of initial Roman contact and colonisation has been seen as representing a watershed in the history of the region. However, the archaeological record does not seem to display the early stages of a uniform march to Roman dominance. There is considerable variability at a regional and local level, representing a complex mix of local change and continuity. How, then, did early Roman involvement in Apulia work at the micro-scale?

Aspects of this question are considered with reference to a selection of burials and other evidence from several sites in Daunia, northern Apulia. An effort is made to compare the influx of material culture and ritual practice from Greek and subsequently Roman areas during the fourth and third centuries BC, with apparent evidence for local continuity. A new and complex world was forming, one in which local identities shifted as the outlook of increasing numbers of people broadened to include Rome. These local shifts formed part of a long-term process of incorporation (of Rome by the 'locals', of the 'locals' by Rome) which eventually helped facilitate Roman hegemony in the region.

**Phil Perkins (Dept of Classical Studies, The Open University), Social and cultural change in the interior of North West Sicily**

This paper will consider processes of transformation in the interior of north-western Sicily during the republican and early imperial periods. This area experienced a variety of cultural influences during the first millennium BC: indigenous Elymian, Punic, Greek and finally Roman hegemony. Using the evidence recovered by the Monreale Survey, the paper will explore local identity and trace social, economic and cultural changes subsequent to the creation of the first Roman province.

In this area there is no evidence in the republican period for the typical means of establishing Roman hegemony - *coloniae* and land assignments. Evidence from the city at Monte Iato indicates a combination of local and Roman influences. Initially the city appeared to have flourished under Roman hegemony. Changing patterns of economic contact identified in the Monreale Survey finds suggest that the area was closely integrated with the republican economy and highlight the pivotal role played by Campania in the development of republican hegemony in the Tyrrhenian area. However, by the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD the traditional, urban settlement pattern had been disrupted and inhabitants of the area effectively led a non-urban life. This history of de-urbanisation will be investigated with reference to changes in the rural settlement pattern and economy as Rome expanded to become the dominant political force in the Mediterranean.

**Simon Keay (University of Southampton), Cultural hegemony in Iberia between the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and later 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC**

On the eve of the arrival of Rome in the late 3<sup>rd</sup> century BC, the communities of Iberia were loosely grouped together in broad groupings, confederations referred to by the Romans as Iberians,

Celtiberians, Turdetanians and others. Recent archaeological work has revealed the strongly regional character of these peoples, their differing settlement patterns and their complex cultural relationships, that were sometimes mediated by long-standing 'Hellenistic' influence. Previous studies of early Roman Iberia have tended to assume that between the early 3<sup>rd</sup> and late 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC, communities were strongly romanised, while more generic studies have perhaps discounted the possibility of significant cultural change in the western Mediterranean prior to the late 1<sup>st</sup> century BC.

This paper makes the point that while the notion of romanisation may not be appropriate in this context, there were pockets of significant cultural change in parts of Iberia and examines them in terms of the emergence of cultural hegemony in the course of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 1<sup>st</sup> centuries BC: sites in the regions of southern Iberia and the lower Ebro valley are taken as case studies. During this period, Rome was heavily dependent upon the compliance of local elites for the management of the provinces, just as they in turn depended upon Roman patronage to ensure the security of their positions. Differing degrees of cultural hegemony developed out of this relationship. Elites pragmatically selected and adopted new ideas, materials and concepts that were being developed at the burgeoning centres of Tarraco, Carthago Nova and Corduba, as part of localised strategies of retaining power during a period marked by periodic instability and an increasingly close economic relationship with Rome. The strongly differentiated cultural aggregates that emerged as a result were subsequently transformed with the urbanisation of south and eastern Iberia from the later 1<sup>st</sup> century BC onwards.

**POSTER (on display in the Boyd Orr building on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor)**

**Jonathan Prag (UCL), Republican Sicily: identity and provincialisation**

Republican Sicily is often neglected in studies of Roman expansion (as imperialism, colonialism, romanisation, etc.). The early date of the island's provincialisation, its strongly Hellenistic character, and the continued presence of diverse other elements in the material record, renders it highly atypical in relation to most models of Roman expansion. Attempts to elucidate the state of the island, often by the 'traditional' approaches of the ancient historian (reliant upon e.g. Cicero's *Verrine Orations*), are undermined by the 'Roman construction' with which we are presented.

After demonstrating how such an approach is problematic, by attempting to pursue Punic persistence on the island, an alternative method of assessing issues of hegemony, resistance, and cultural interaction, will be outlined. The key premise is that study of identities (understood very broadly) on the island provides a means to accessing these issues. If the literary record primarily presents Roman constructions, then epigraphic and archaeological evidence can provide perspectives on other constructions and an opportunity to escape overly colonial or dualist/polarising perspectives. When these are set against a narrative of the construction of the province (esp. after e.g. E. Gabba, p.71ff in Crawford, *L'impero romano e le strutture economiche e sociali delle province* (1986)), we move towards a hypothesised alternative of 'homogenisation' in the construction of these other identities, rather than the problematic concepts of 'romanisation' or 'hellenisation'. The poster will also present preliminary findings of a survey of the island's epigraphic habit, a cornerstone of one part of this study.



## Ports of the Roman world

### Martin Millett (Southampton) and Simon Keay (Southampton)

This session aims to discuss recent work at leading Roman ports in the Mediterranean, against a background of current fieldwork at Portus (Fiumicino), the port of imperial Rome. In particular, speakers will address such issues as the development, organisation and function of ports.

- 14.00-14.10 Simon Keay and Martin Millett (Southampton), *Introduction*
- 14.10-14.30 Simon Keay and Martin Millett (Southampton), *Portus*
- 14.35-14.55 Jean-Yves Empereur (Alexandria), *Alexandria*
- 15.00-15.20 Henry Hurst (Cambridge), *Carthage*
- 15.25-15.45 Antoinette Hesnard (Aix-en-Provence), *The Roman port of Marseilles*
- 16.05-16.25 Avner Raban (Haifa), *The Royal Harbour of Herod the Great by Caesaraea Maritima*
- 16.30-16.50 Robert Hohlfelder (Boulder), *Maritime life beyond the great harbors: the view from Aperlae in ancient Lycia*
- 16.55-17.15 David Peacock and Mick Walsh (Southampton), *Myos Hormos: a Roman port on the Red Sea coast of Egypt*
- 17.20-17.40 Emanuele Curti and Bill McCann (London), *The Harbour of Pompeii*
- 17.45-18.05 Geoffrey Rickman, *Discussion*

### Simon Keay and Martin Millett (Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton), *Portus*

The site of the Portus Romae has been known since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. It was the object of excavations in the later 19<sup>th</sup> and the earlier 20<sup>th</sup> centuries whose results have been synthesised by Lugli & Filibeck, Meiggs and Testaguzza. Since this date, however, comparatively little has been published about Portus and there is much still to learn about the layout and functions of the harbour. This paper synthesises the results of a recent geophysical survey of the harbour complex, focusing essentially on the Trajanic harbour. In all, well over 120 hectares of the site have been studied. This has refined our knowledge of the area lying to the west of the Trajanic hexagon and enhanced our understanding of the sector lying to its east. However, the most significant results have come from the flat ground lying between the 'Constantinian' walls that delimit the eastern edge of the site and the river Tiber further east, pointing to the existence of a river port linked to the Trajanic harbour by a canal, road and aqueduct. Preliminary analysis of these results has permitted us to put forward some new ideas about the role and function of the port as a whole.

### Jean-Yves Empereur (Centres d'Etudes Alexandriennes, Alexandria, Egypt), *Alexandria*

Analysis of the sources and a survey of the evidence on the ground have provided us with a new understanding of the complexity of the harbours of Alexandria. The construction of the Heptastadium, the causeway linking the island of Pharos to the continent, created two maritime harbours. However, these were only a small part of the port system. The harbour on lake Mariut was also of great importance, with customs points at Shedia in the direction of the Nile to the east of Alexandria, and at Taposiris Magna some 50 km to the west. The system was completed by another harbour at the mouth of the Nile, at Canopus, which, according to Strabo (end of the 1<sup>st</sup> century BC) was even more active than the other maritime harbours of Alexandria itself. The paper will also address some of the dangers of the Alexandrian coastline, as well as the relationship of the portuary system of the Alexandrian *emporion* to the Mediterranean, inland to Upper Egypt and to the Indian Ocean through the harbours on the Red Sea coast.



**Henry Hurst (Department of Classics, University of Cambridge), Carthage**

The man-made harbours of Carthage - the two so-called 'Punic ports' - are well known from archaeology but these are evidently only a part of the port of Carthage. The paper sets this in context within the broader topography of Carthage's geomorphological setting and considers the nature of the relationship between the port and city in its ideological as well as physical manifestations. The economic and ideological role of the port of Carthage within the wider Roman imperial Mediterranean is also considered.

**Antoinette Hesnard (Directeur de Recherche, CNRS, Centre Camille Jullian, CNRS – Université de Provence, Aix-en-Provence), The Roman port of Marseilles**

Marseilles was in origin a Greek city that was founded by the Phoceans at the beginning of the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. It remained independent until very late, in 49 BC and the history of its harbour has continued down until the present. Recent excavations have shed light upon continuities and interruptions in the use of its installations structures from the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC down to the Late Antique period. The Roman harbour was discovered during the first rescue excavations at 'La Bourse' some thirty years ago. New excavations at the Places Jules-Verne and Villeneuve Bargemon have shed new light on its development. The archaeological evidence confirms the impact of central Roman political power on the layout of the newly conquered city. The dock, shore and broader surroundings of the earlier Greek harbour were rebuilt. The latest archaeological discoveries and recently discovered inscriptions permit us to re-evaluate the relationship between Marseille and Rome and administrative status in the Roman Empire.

**Avner Raban (Recanati Institute for Maritime Studies, University of Haifa, Haifa 31905, Israel), The case of Sebastos – The Royal Harbour of Herod the Great by Caesarea Maritima**

Sebastos, the full-scale artificial harbour that was built by the Jewish vassal King Herod the Great between the years 21 – 10 BC on the northernmost coast of his territory, was probably unique within the framework of the early Roman Empire in almost every aspect. Though initiated and financed by a vassal king of a rather small and economically unimportant petty state within the amalgamating Roman realm, this harbour was built in a style, scope and technology that surpassed every other imperial port of the time and probably all those which were constructed later on, during the Roman era. Built as part of a larger scheme, in which the city of Caesarea was a focal point, the harbour was not part of the urban entity and retained its separate royal status for 80 years.

Unlike Alexandria, which served mostly for the exportation of Egyptian agricultural products, Puteoli and Portus which were used as sea-gates for imperial importation and Pompeiopolis, Ravenna, Missenum and Portus Julii which were naval stations, Sebastos was planned primarily as a transit harbour, probably for passing grain-carriers on their way from Alexandria to Rome. As a transit port it was planned to have all its components within its sea side, away from the built-up urban area of Caesarea.

Sebastos is the earliest and probably the best example of 'modern' harbour engineering, in the choice of its site and the exercising of building techniques that incorporated local (Phoenician) tradition, the Hellenistic concept of *Limen Kleistos* and extensive use of *pozzolana* in the Italian style. There are some constructive components that attest to an intimate and rather sophisticated knowledge of coastal processes at the site, at a level which still serves as a model for modern harbour engineers and environmentalists.

**Robert Hohlfelder (University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado USA), Maritime life beyond the great harbours: the view from Aperlae in ancient Lycia**

A recently completed archaeological survey of ancient Aperlae on the Lycian coast of Asia Minor has revealed interesting insights into the maritime life of a small, mundane, secondary harbour site largely ignored by ancient writers. Although most probably never a primary port of call for large

merchantmen involved directly in international trade, Aperlae was a vital seaside community whose life depended on the sea and cabotage. Isolated from inland settlements by rugged mountains, this provincial *polis* was forced to develop and sustain coastal trade to survive and occasionally to prosper during its millennial history (c. late 4<sup>th</sup> century BC to c. late 7<sup>th</sup> century AD). Its primary export seems to have been purple dye. This paper will explore the nature and conduct of Aperlae's maritime trade, its relations with its immediate neighbours and the physical elements of its waterfront. In many ways, Aperlae could be typical of scores of seaside settlements in Asia Minor that have escaped scholarly attention and literary mention. Although never a major emporium, it was a commonplace, but integral, cog in the larger maritime network of antiquity.

**David Peacock and Mick Walsh (Department of Archaeology, University of Southampton), Myos Hormos: a Roman port on the Red Sea coast of Egypt**

This paper will present the results of an ongoing excavation conducted by the University of Southampton at Quesir al-Qadim on the Red Sea coast of Egypt. This site has now been positively identified with the discovery of a papyrus giving the full name of the site as Myos Hormos on the Erythraean Sea (an area comprising the Red Sea and parts of the Indian Ocean). The most spectacular discovery last year was a line of Italian wine amphorae of the type Dressel 2-4 against a wharf-like structure that has been interpreted as the 1<sup>st</sup> century AD harbour-side. Excavation of the major Roman buildings associated with the harbour has produced an abundance of Roman material. A topographical survey of the surrounding area has been conducted to place the site in its geographical context and to provide an insight into the relationship between the port and its hinterland. It is hoped that ongoing sedimentological and geomorphological investigations of the low lying *sabkha* will provide the geological/topographical context of the proposed Roman harbour and will identify any environmental factors that may have influenced temporal and spatial changes in settlement patterns.

**Emanuele Curti and Bill McCann (Birkbeck College, University of London), The Harbour of Pompeii**

Pompeii was a very active trade centre and a very important harbour on the Tyrrhenian sea, but its harbour has never been found because the coast line has changed dramatically since the days of the eruption. Various elements of both archaeological (presence of mooring blocks near Porta Marina, structures in the area of the temple of Venus connected with harbour activity, etc.) and a literary nature have lead us to believe that the harbour of Pompeii was actually located just outside the south-west corner of the city, between the areas of Porta Marina and the temple of Venus. Scholars have recently rejected this hypothesis because the distance of the coast line but if we presume that the original course of the river Sarno was actually along the south side of the city, we could envisage the presence of the harbour built along the same river. Furthermore, following our recent intervention in the area, we have been able, through geophysical investigation, to add extra data concerning the position of *horrea* in front of the temple of Venus. At the same time, we are suggesting a new interpretation of the huge building east of the platform of the temple of Venus; not as previously proposed, as a bathhouse, but as a *horreum* for slaves. These data have also lead us to believe that in the pre-Augustan period, the harbour was divided in two areas: one for commercial activity, in front of the temple of Venus and the other for military purposes, by Porta Marina, where *navalia* were possibly present.

## Miscellany

## TRAC

This session offers a kaleidoscope of theoretical approaches to Roman archaeology.

- 9.00-9.10 Martin Carruthers (Glasgow), *Introduction to TRAC*
- 9.10-9.40 Israel Roll (Tell Aviv, Israel), *Imperial roads across and trade roads beyond the eastern provinces of the Roman empire*
- 9.40-10.10 Maria Kostoglou (Glasgow), *Fatal assumptions: the acculturation of the barbarians and the technological superiority of the Romans*
- 10.10-10.40 Imogen Wellington (Durham), *Sanctuaries or temples? Votive deposition in southern Britain and northern France from 200BC to 100AD*
- 11.00-11.30 James Gerrard (York), *Pots for cash? A critique of current approaches to ceramics and the Late Roman economy*
- 11.30-12.00 Colin Wallace (Edinburgh), *Contexts and contacts, or why we need a biographical dictionary of our own*
- 12.00-12.30 Renate Kurzman, *Epigraphy and some problems of methodology*
- 12.30-13.00 Lorraine Kerr (title not received)

All TRAC sessions are supported by the Roman Research Trust.

**Israel Roll (University of Tell Aviv, Israel), *Imperial Roads Across and Trade Roads Beyond the Eastern Provinces of the Roman Empire***  
(no abstract received)

**Maria Kostoglou (University of Glasgow), *Fatal assumptions: The acculturation of the barbarians and the technological superiority of the Romans***

This paper examines technological, economic and artistic uses of iron which could be reflected in culturally distinct groups living within the same area (in that case indigenous vs. the Greek or Roman in Aegean Thrace). Cultural change interpreted as 'hellenisation' or 'romanisation' and the assumed technological superiority of some cultures are questioned in the light of new analytical data and in the context of studies about material culture, and cultural identity.

**Imogen Wellington (University of Durham), *Sanctuaries or temples? Votive deposition in southern Britain and northern France from 200BC to 100AD***

The deposition of coinage on ritual sites in Britain and northern Gaul is well attested in the Roman period. The large number of sites excavated in recent years has led to a great increase in the evidence for pre-Conquest activity. As well as Roman coinage, many of these sites have produced Iron Age coinages and other metalwork, usually assumed to denote pre-Roman activity.

However, it is becoming clear that many of the Iron Age coins found on ritual sites postdate the Gallic War period in Gaul, and the mid first century AD in southern Britain. This has important implications for the circulation of coinage in the early Roman period. Some 'Iron Age' issues appear to postdate this, being minted in the late first century BC. The distinction between Roman 'temples' and Iron Age 'sanctuaries' seems less clear.



These findings lead to some ambiguity in the definition of ritual sites in the transitional period, and implies significant continuity of practice on these sites. The second half of this paper concentrates on the nature of these sites in the late Iron Age and early Roman period, and the nature of the belief systems which led to their introduction. Are they a product of autochthonous belief systems or is the origin of these late ritual sites based on a tradition from the south of Gaul?

The concept of 'sanctuaries' is explored, and the nature of the sites in relation to developments elsewhere in Europe in the second and first centuries BC is considered. Using the numismatic evidence, continuity of belief is considered, and the nature of the transition into the 'Roman' period is examined. Links are suggested between the appearance of major late Iron Age sanctuaries and other archaeological artefacts, forming part of a wider pattern of change at this time.

**James Gerrard (University of York), Pots for cash? A critique of current approaches to ceramics and the Late Roman economy**

Standard works on the end of Roman Britain always associate the 'collapse' of Roman pottery production with the disappearance of Roman Britain's monetary economy. However, 'monetary economy' is a problematic concept and one which is probably untenable. The impact of this conclusion has yet to be applied to Romano-British pottery studies. This paper argues that current 'free market' approaches to the interaction of the Late Roman Oxfordshire and New Forest fine ware industries are flawed. I go on to illustrate this from a case study based on a number of Late Roman sites in Somerset and Dorset. Other economic models are suggested in place of the 'free market' to successfully explain the patterning seen in south western assemblages. If these are accepted then we can not only approach the Late Roman economy more appropriately but also the transition from Late Antiquity to the Early Middle Ages.

**Colin Wallace (Edinburgh), Contexts and contacts, or why we need a biographical dictionary of our own**

In an ideal world, the history of Roman archaeology in Britain should largely concern itself with the life and times of its practitioners and with the history of ways of looking at Roman Britain. Linking both areas of study to another, the development of research methods, means that prescriptive manifestos masquerading as history can be avoided. Likewise, the breathless surveying of actual discoveries can be laid aside. But we do not live in an ideal world; this paper seeks to discover the obstacles to progress and to suggest one way of overcoming them. The key question is: if the significance of any particular piece of writing (or indeed of its author) cannot be seen in context, how can its value as evidence for the history of Roman archaeology in Britain be tested?

**Renate Kurzman, Epigraphy and some problems of methodology**

One of the main features of the study of Roman epigraphy is that it has been used very differently in all areas of the former Roman Empire. Researchers of epigraphy of different countries have very diverse views of what can and cannot be done with Roman inscriptions in terms of methodology. One group of Roman inscriptions that has been treated very differently in Roman Britain than in other parts of Europe are Roman military brick- stamps. Military brick- stamps are generally used for three main reasons: they can provide us with chronologies, they give information about troop dislocations of the Roman military and they show economic distribution patterns. The two methods to research brick- stamps are petrology, which deals with the fabric of the actual brick or tile or epigraphy. Epigraphy deals with the actual inscription on a brick. The study of epigraphy has never been used much when researching brick- stamps in Britain. In the continental research, however, especially Germany and the Netherlands, epigraphic terms are very willingly applied to brick-stamps. Brick- stamps are much more often used for recreating troop dislocations and for dating. The continental method, however, sometimes seems too indiscriminating to use very small numbers of stamps for being able to give definite answers about military history and chronology. In some cases a



more careful approach like in the British research seems more apt. In other cases the British research has given too little attention to stamped brick and tile and the information that it could provide for their excavations. Other areas of the Roman Empire, like North Africa and the Near East do not mention small inscriptions like brick-stamps at all in their excavation reports.

Another sources of Roman military epigraphy are military diplomas. Again the way they are dealt with is very different in some areas. The continental research proposes that they present complete lists of Roman auxiliary units for the provinces. Again, the British research seems more careful. This paper analyses different research methods in different areas and their reliability.

**Lorraine Kerr (title not received)**  
(abstract not received)

The second theme of this session is the way in which landscape archaeology allows us to generate a broad context for the understanding of the lives of ordinary subjects of the empire. Their different experience of empire, as opposed to the experience of those, for example, in positions of power, is an issue of vital importance to contextualising more small-scale studies of the everyday. Whilst studies of elements of material culture can offer the basis for the understanding of the individual, regional, or local landscape studies allow us to consider how each individual related to the communities of which they were a part. In both themes, the everyday is made archaeologically accessible through the role of material culture in these small actions. The broad term 'material culture' includes the disparate elements of pottery, animal bones, items of personal adornment, other small finds, or architecture. However, the patterns that we may observe in the archaeological record were created, first and foremost, in small actions of 'agency'. By considering the archaeology of the everyday, and examining the social 'biographies' of elements of material culture (the way that things were deployed in a variety of social contexts), this session aims to examine the relationships and activities that made up everyday life in the Roman world, the social uses to which material culture was put, and the way in which, cumulatively, these small uses of material culture created the archaeological record.

14.00-14.10	Introduction
14.10-14.40	Garrick Fincham (University of Leicester), Consumer theory and Roman pottery in the British perspective
14.40-15.10	Gillian Hawkes (University of Leicester), Continuity and change: food in Roman Britain
15.10-15.40	Paul Newman (Leicester), Dry farming and nomads in Roman Jordan
15.40-16.30	Kate Meleux (UCL), Nomads in Roman Britain

All TRAC sessions are supported by the Roman Research Trust.

No abstracts received

# The archaeology of the everyday

TRAC

Gillian Hawkes and Garrick Fincham (Leicester)

There are two elements to the 'everyday' that this session aims to address. Firstly, it can be suggested that life in the past, very much as it is today, was made up of the small and insignificant actions that take place everyday. Such actions/decisions might range from the way in which an animal was butchered into joints, or deciding which type of pot to acquire on market day, to the type of brooch chosen to fasten clothing. These actions are key to understanding the 'detail' of the Roman world, in that it is at the level of the everyday, in small choices like the type of pottery used in a household, that life is given meaning and identity is created.

The second theme of this session is the way in which landscape archaeology allows us to generate a broad context for the understanding of the lives of ordinary subjects of the empire. Their discrepant experience of empire, as opposed to the experience of those, for example, in positions of power, is an issue of vital importance to contextualising more small-scale studies of the everyday. Whilst studies of elements of material culture on a site-by-site basis allow the understanding of the individual, regional-based landscape studies allow us to consider how such individuals related to the communities of which they were a part.

In both themes, the everyday is made archaeologically accessible through the role of material culture in these small actions. The broad term 'material culture' includes the disparate elements of pottery, animal bones, items of personal adornment, other small finds, or architecture. However, the patterns that we may observe in the archaeological record were created, first and foremost, in small actions of 'agency'. By considering the archaeology of the everyday, and examining the social 'biographies' of elements of material culture (the way that things were deployed in a variety of social contexts), this session aims to examine the relationships and activities that made up everyday life in the Roman world, the social uses to which material culture was put, and the way in which, cumulatively, these small uses of material culture created the archaeological record.

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|-------------|--|
| 14.00-14.10 | <i>Introduction</i>  |
| 14.10-14.40 | Garrick Fincham (University of Leicester), <i>Consumer theory and Roman pottery in the Lybian pre-desert</i> |
| 14.40-15.10 | Gillian Hawkes (University of Leicester), <i>Continuity and change: food in Roman Britain</i>                |
| 15.10-15.40 | Paul Newson (Leicester), <i>Dry farming and nomads in Roman Jordan</i>                                       |
| 16.00-16.30 | Kate Mehieux (UCL), <i>Nomads in Roman Britain</i>   |

All TRAC sessions are supported by the Roman Research Trust.

No abstracts received.

## Time, action and narrative

TRAC

A. Gardner (London)

Time is a fundamental dimension of all human actions, including of course the practice of archaeology. Indeed, this activity is not just something that takes place in time but is actually concerned with time. This concern has, however, traditionally been extremely one-dimensional, with almost all archaeological attention having been focused on measured time. Thus a great deal of effort has been expended on slotting different kinds of material culture, as well as events described by ancient writers, into a fixed framework of calendar years. The importance of this kind of work is such that it cannot simply be used to create descriptions of 'what actually happened'. Rather, it should be used as a foundation for developing a deeper understanding of the many divergent lifestyles in the Roman world, through an appreciation of experienced time. From this perspective, time is a critical part of the fabric of peoples' lives, as through their actions – and the stories they tell about them – they weave understandings of themselves and the world around them.

This session therefore seeks to explore the inter-related themes of temporality, human action and narrative in Roman archaeology. The role of material culture in the social construction of time, through the medium of human agency, and the narratives that humans construct about sequences of action, have been areas of recent interest to prehistorians (e.g. Gosden 1994; Thomas 1996). The theme of narrative has also long been of interest to philosophers of history, particularly with respect to the relationship between past actions and present narratives (e.g. Berkhofer 1995; White 1973). Roman studies, too, should have a major contribution to make to the understanding of constructions of temporality in the past, and their creation anew in the present, combining readings of material culture and written texts. Topics that contributions might address include: relationships between short and long-term time-scales in interpreting the past; whether different temporalities can be constructed for empire and subject, or institutions and individuals; the significance of specific sequences of actions in the construction of identities; the extent to which material culture fixes temporality – or makes it fluid – and how this might be detected archaeologically; the shape of narratives in Roman writing; ways that memories and narratives about the past were constructed without writing; different experiences of life-cycles and ageing (according to gender, class, etc.); and the extent to which narratives created in the present can capture any of these past experiences of time.

### References

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- Gosden, C. 1994. *Social Being and Time*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Thomas, J. 1996. *Time, Culture and Identity: an interpretive archaeology*. London: Routledge.
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All TRAC sessions are supported by the Roman Research Trust.

- 9.00- 9.10 Andrew Gardner (London) *Introduction: time, action and narrative*  
 9.10- 9.35 Jake Weeks (Canterbury), *Acculturation and the temporal features of ritual*  
 9.35-10.00 Cathy Swift (Liverpool), *Romano-Celtic time-frames - a consideration of the calendars of Coligny & Villards D'heria*  
 10.00-10.25 Carol van Driel-Murray, (Amsterdam, the Netherlands), *Regarding the stars*  
 11.00-11.25 Steven Krebs, *Lost in space and time: the inscriptions of Moesia Inferior*  
 11.25-11.50 Maureen Carroll (Sheffield), *Time, histories and memory in the early empire: Roman and Germanic perspectives*  
 11.50-12.15 Inge Hansen (Edinburgh/Rome), *The metamorphic moment: heroic biographical narratives on Roman sarcophagi*  
 12.15-12.40 Stephanie Koerner, (no title received)  
 12.40-13.00 Ray Laurence, *discussion*

**Jake Weeks (University of Kent at Canterbury), *Acculturation and the temporal features of ritual***  
 Ritual action involves specialist constructions of 'time', specifications for 'when something should be done', 'how long it should be done for', 'what order things should be done in' etc, in order for the ritual to be 'effective'. Such aspects of ritual action can be described as the *temporal features* of a ritual, and the variability of such features in the rituals of past peoples can perhaps be inferred from archaeological data. Because most rituals are by nature participant and contributive rather than simply processes of 'rule governed behaviour' (Parkin 1992), new features, or adaptations of existing features, can be introduced during the ritual. Such changes may be brought about through the introduction of new ideas as a result of acculturation. In light of this, we might reconsider the 'romanisation' of ritual in Britain, through a survey of the temporal features of ritual.

**Cathy Swift (Institute of Irish Studies, University of Liverpool), *Romano-Celtic time-frames - a consideration of the calendars of Coligny & Villards D'heria***

The Coligny calendar - a series of fragments recording a 5-year calendar, with each year being made up of 355 days, has been the subject of academic discourse amongst Celticists for over one hundred years. The archaeological context has, however, been transformed in recent years by the publication of a second calendar and by the suggestion recently canvassed by Irish prehistorians that some neolithic passage tombs are orientated towards sunrise and sunset at the dates of the key festivals commemorated in the Gaulish calendars. Recent work on the Irish vernacular legal corpus has also added much to our understanding of the significance of the medieval Irish festivals, the names of which would appear to imply a connection with those of Iron Age and Roman Gaul. The purpose of this short paper is to review the evidence linking these Gaulish calendars to a specifically Celtic concept of time.

**Carol van Driel-Murray (University of Amsterdam, the Netherlands) *Regarding the stars***

Astrological symbols on shoe soles have been presented at an earlier TRAC, but further research on the nature of the symbolic associations suggests that by the mid 3rd century knowledge of Graeco-Roman planetary theory was sufficiently widespread for the signs to be used in a consistent and logical fashion on mundane items of material culture. The use of Graeco-Roman astrological idiom, which appears quite suddenly all over the northern provinces would appear to carry implications for a major transformation in indigenous attitudes towards cosmology and the manner in which the heavens were regarded.



**Steven A. Krebs, *Lost in space and time: the inscriptions of Moesia Inferior***

Since the inception of Classical Archaeology as a discipline, historians and archaeologists have used the information garnered from inscriptions to mark time, to record or infer action, and to fill in the gaps of the narrative not covered by literary sources. For Moesia Inferior, inscriptions on stone provide almost all of the information for events in the province and for the actors involved.

The problem with inscriptions from an archaeological perspective is that most are lost space and time. While many funerary inscriptions have been found in situ in the Late Roman fortifications, almost all were removed from their original context, i.e. the place of erection, and sometimes moved from one settlement to another. Intensive survey around Pantelimon de Sus shows that the Late Roman citadel was not preceded by an Early Roman phase of occupation as Vasile Prvan had surmised from 32 inscriptions. Ceramic evidence, which Prvan did not take into account, puts the Ulmetum phase four kilometers to the east at the Castra Aestiva site, the only documented yet almost forgotten Early Roman auxiliary camp in Dobrogea.

Prvan's misplacement of the Early Roman phase points up the need for today's researchers to recontextualise inscriptions found by earlier generations of archaeologists. The author demonstrates his own efforts to recontextualise the inscriptions of four sites in Dobrogea, Ulmetum, Troesmis, Histria, and Tomis, and discusses aspects of his revision of the historical narrative for Moesia Inferior.

**Maureen Carroll (University of Sheffield), *Time, histories and memory in the early empire: Roman and Germanic perspectives***

The knowledge of origin and descent was an essential part of the social memory and life history of the population groups in Germany and northern Gaul that was preserved in their own traditions, tales and narratives in the mid-first century BC. These stories were transmitted to a Roman audience and became embedded in an historical written context. In recording these unwritten histories, however, Roman writers had to come to grips with time which was not measured in reference to particular, specific events and names familiar to them and with events which were not rationally calculated based on fixed points and years rooted in the Roman calendar. During profoundly disruptive population shifts on either side of the Rhine under Augustus, new identities in the region emerged and were forged. New beginnings for many of these Germanic tribal groups were experienced partly in relation to older traditions, but ritual also was used to construct links with the remote past, thereby establishing the legitimacy of the new social order in the region.

**Inge Hansen (University of Edinburgh/British School at Rome), *The metamorphic moment: heroic biographical narratives on Roman sarcophagi***

The paper will examine the use of the time for the creation of identity in Roman mythological sarcophagus images. Representations of mythological narratives form a substantial body of works within the funerary arts, but rarely have the effects of the format (as opposed to interpretations of individual myths) been seen as significant - and all too often the images are read as prospective renditions of a happy here-after. Concentrating on depictions in which the mythological protagonist is given portrait features - creating explicit composite statements of identity, it will be argued that the images construct multiple synchronic viewpoints on the articulation of 'to be'. That, indeed, the heroic guise applied to the portrayed individual is simultaneously a revelation of essential form, an explanation of past achievement and a juxtaposing of identities. In this the viewer plays an essential role: in the process of untangling elements the spectator becomes the narrator of the visual biography, and the recipient who by empathetic identification draws the narrative into his own life as a potential example for emulation. The inter-related process of 'self' to 'self' which the image constructs for the person portrayed may therefore also be seen as applicable to the relationship between viewer and narrative.