The Roman Archaeology Conference

University of Reading
Friday 31 March to Sunday 2 April 1995

Sponsored by
Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies
Journal of Roman Archaeology
British Academy

Edited by John Creighton
Dear Delegate,

Welcome to the Roman Archaeology Conference! This is the first of what we hope will be many similar occasions when all those interested in the archaeology of the Roman world can meet and discuss new ideas and discoveries. The conference has been organised by Dr. John Creighton on behalf of the Archaeology Committee of the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies which has provided essential support to make the occasion viable. The biennial conference is the first initiative of the Committee which looks forward to further developments. Indeed, if you have any ideas to put to the committee, please let me know. The other members consist of M. Jones, S. Keay, D. Mattingly, M. Millett, T. Potter, E. Scott, S. Walker and G. Woolf.

We hope that you will enjoy the papers on offer this weekend and that you will feel able to tell others about it. We very much look forward to seeing you again at the next conference in 1997, venue to be announced. With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Professor M. G. Fulford
Chairman
Contents

Letter of Welcome 1
Contents 2
Programme 3
The Ure Museum 7

The Abstracts
   The Hoxne Treasure 8
   Presenting the Romans 8
   What's New in Roman Britain 10
   TRAC '95 13
   Roman Baetica: A Reappraisal 17
   Archaeology, Latin and the People of Roman Britain 18
   Dialogues in Imperialism 19
   Cash in the Roman World 22
   The World of Late Antiquity 25
   Mapping Roman Britain 26
   Roman Finds Group Meeting 28

Useful information
   The Pub Guide 30
   A Map of Reading 31
   A Map of the University Campus 32
FRIDAY LUNCH
Child’s Hall: Bar open 12:30 until 13:15. Lunch served from 13:00 until 13:30

FRIDAY AFTERNOON
Palmer Building

Presenting the Romans
Room G10
14:00 - 15:00 Maria Wyke Cinema and the City of the Dead: Real Histories of Pompeii
15:00 - 15:40 Mike Corbishley Presenting piles of old: the Romans in the late 20th century
15:40 - 16:00 Afternoon Tea
16:00 - 16:40 Jenny Hall A New Roman Gallery - can archaeological interpretations and challenging displays be designed to suit all visitors?
16:40 - 17:20 Simon James Vox Populi: Public perceptions of the Roman World

What’s New in Roman Britain?
Room G109
Theme 1: The Army
14:00 - 14:30 Rick Jones Frontier Contacts: theory and practice in the Newstead Research Project
14:30 - 15:00 Ian Rogers Lines of supply, conquest & industry in the Roman N.W.
15:00 - 15:30 Mark Corney Reappraisal of late Roman belt fittings
15:30 - 15:50 Afternoon Tea
Theme 2: Urban Life
15:50 - 16:20 Chris Henderson 2nd century town defences at Exeter
16:20 - 16:50 Nick Bateman The London Amphitheatre
16:50 - 17:20 David Sankey The Recent discovery of a Late Roman building in London

TRAC ’95
Room G101
Theme 1: Cultural Identity
14:00 - 14:20 Alex Woolf Mac Fir Bhisigh’s Law in Roman Britain: a segmentary approach
14:20 - 14:40 Richard Alston Reinventing the Ancient City
14:40 - 15:00 Joanne Berry Artefacts and Identity
15:00 - 15:20 John C. Barrett Romanisation: a Critical Comment
15:20 - 15:50 Discussion Discussion of all the papers in this session
15:50 - 16:10 Afternoon Tea
Theme 2: Acculturation
16:10 - 16:30 Peter van Dommelen Roman colonisation and Punic local culture in West Central Sardinia
16:30 - 16:50 Valerie Hope The Identity of the Dead: The Gladiators of Roman Names
16:50 - 17:10 John Pearce Romanisation and the Dead
17:10 - 17:30 Discussion Discussion of all the papers in this session

Reception in the Palmer Building Foyer
Sponsored by Journal of Roman Archaeology

WELCOME AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Room G10
18:00 - 18:10 Welcome address: Ms M. McCulloch, Pro Vice-Chancellor, on behalf of Reading University
18:10 - 19:00 Catherine Johns The Hoxne Treasure

FRIDAY DINNER
19:00 - 23:00 Bar open in Child’s Hall
19:30 - 20:00 Dinner being served in Child’s Hall - wine provided on the table
SATURDAY BREAKFAST
Breakfast will be served in Child's Hall from 08:00 until 08:30

SATURDAY MORNING
Palmer Building

Roman Baetica: A Reappraisal
Room G10
09:00 - 09:30 Pedro Rodriguez Oliva Architectural Decoration in the Towns of Roman Baetica
09:30 - 10:00 Simon Keay Recent work on early Roman towns in Baetica
10:00 - 10:30 J. Remesal Rodriguez Recent work on the production of olive oil in Baetica and its exports to the city of Rome
10:30 - 10:50 - Morning Coffee
10:50 - 11:20 Prof. C. Domergue Production and commerce in metals in Baetica during the 1st century AD
11:20 - 11:50 Dr I. Roda Patterns of marble supply to the Roman province of Baetica
11:50 - 12:20 Dr. A Caballos Rufino The newly discovered Senatus Consultum of Cnaeus Piso
12:20 - 12:50 Mary Downs Turdetani and Turdetania: cultural identity in early Roman Baetica

What's New in Roman Britain? (continued)
Room G109
09:00 - 09:25 David Miles Reconstructing Pastoral Economies: Romans and Britons in the Cotswold Water Park
09:25 - 09:50 Mark Atkinson Heybridge Excavations
09:50 - 10:15 Bill Putnam The Dorchester Aqueduct
10:15 - 10:35 Martin Henig The Romanisation of British Art
10:35 - 11:00 - Morning Coffee

Archaeology, Latin and the People of Roman Britain
Room G109
11:00 - 11:30 A Bowman & JD Thomas New Texts from Vindolanda
11:30 - 12:00 Jim Adams Language contact and linguistic variety at Vindolanda
12:00 - 12:30 Tony Birley The People of Vindolanda
12:30 - 13:00 Discussion

TRAC '95
Room G101
Theme 3: Approaches to the symbolic
09:30 - 10:00 Simon Clarke Abandonment, Rubbish Disposal and 'Special' Deposits at Newstead
10:00 - 10:30 Rene Rodgers An Examination of the Nature of Female Images in 4th Century Romano-British Mosaics
10:30 - 11:00 - Morning Coffee
11:00 - 11:30 Raphael Isserlin Pilgrim's Tales in Roman Britain
11:30 - 12:00 David Petts Reconstructing the Roman Landscape
12:00 - 12:30 Dieke Wesselingh Native Neighbours: some ideas on the settlement system in the 'Romano-Dutch' countryside

The Ure Museum
The Ure Museum in the Department of Classics will be open from 10:00 until 13:00

SATURDAY LUNCH
Lunch will be served in Child's Hall from 13:00 until 13:30
The bar will be open from 12:30 until 13:15
# Dialogue in Imperialism

**Room G10**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:05</td>
<td>David Mattingly</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:05 - 14:35</td>
<td>Bill Hanson</td>
<td>The Roman viewpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:35 - 15:05</td>
<td>Richard Hingley</td>
<td>The indigenous viewpoint</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:05 - 15:35</td>
<td>Sue Alcock</td>
<td>Greece: a landscape of resistance?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:35 - 15:55</td>
<td>David Mattingly</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:55 - 16:25</td>
<td>David Mattingly</td>
<td>Africa: a landscape of opportunity?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Imperialism and territory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:30</td>
<td>Kevin Butcher</td>
<td>Singular or Plural? Currency systems of the Early Roman Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>Dirk Backendorf</td>
<td>New light on old hoards: some remarks on the internal structure of Roman Republican coin hoards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>David Wigg</td>
<td>Cash on the North-West Frontier: the development of coin use in N. Gaul in the early Empire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:00</td>
<td>Markus Peter</td>
<td>Influences on coin circulation: An example from Germania Superior</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:00 - 16:20</td>
<td>Peter Guest</td>
<td>Afternoon tea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:20 - 16:50</td>
<td>Peter Guest</td>
<td>Cash: deduction or deception?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:50 - 17:20</td>
<td>S Esmonde Cleary</td>
<td>Coin use and loss in a small town: the deposition of coins at Shepton Mallet, Somerset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17:20 - 17:50</td>
<td>Aleksander Bursche</td>
<td>The function of Roman denarii in Barbaricum</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# Cash in the Roman World

**Room G109**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14:00 - 14:30</td>
<td>Kevin Butcher</td>
<td>Building Materials, Quantities and Labour Requirements at the Frontier: The construction of the Roman legionary fortress at Inchtuthil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14:30 - 15:00</td>
<td>E.M. Evans</td>
<td>Caution: Roman architects at work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:00 - 15:30</td>
<td>David Sim</td>
<td>Roman Iron Technology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15:30 - 16:00</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>Afternoon Tea</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Theme 4: Technology**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16:00 - 16:30</td>
<td>Sara Bon</td>
<td>Form, Function and Culture Change: ceramic analysis from Southern Burgundy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16:30 - 17:00</td>
<td>Damian Robinson</td>
<td>The changing nature of the economy in a North African classical city</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Theme 5: The Exchange Economy**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker</th>
<th>Topic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17:00 - 17:30</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
<td>The future of TRAC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**SATURDAY DINNER**

Dinner will be served in Child's Hall from 19:30 until 20:00

The bar will be open

**CONFERENCE PARTY**

In Toni's Bar, Reading University Student's Union; with live music.

The bar will be open until 23:45
SUNDAY BREAKFAST
Breakfast will be served in Child's Hall from 08:00 until 08:30

SUNDAY MORNING
Palmer Building

The World of Late Antiquity
Room G10
09:00 - 09:40 Eleanor Scott Processes and production: urban and rural late-Roman Palestine
09:40 - 10:20 Andrew Poulter Urbane life in the countryside and soldiers in towns: a voyage down the Danube in late Antiquity
10:20 - 11:00 Simon Loseby Continuity and Change in Late Antique Cities in Southern Gaul: The case of Arles
11:00 - 11:20 - Morning coffee
11:20 - 12:00 Tim Potter The land of St. Augustine: the North African city and the Church
12:00 - 12:40 Bryan Ward-Perkins The Distribution of Wealth and Power in the Later Roman State
12:40 - 13:00 Discussion

Mapping Roman Britain
Room G109
09:00 - 09:30 Humphrey Welfare RCHME and Hadrian's Wall: the revised cartographic record of a World Heritage Site
09:30 - 10:00 Barri Jones Ptolemy, Marinus and the Turning of Scotland
10:00 - 10:30 S. Esmonde Cleary Britannia depicta: Problems in mapping Roman Britain
10:30 - 10:50 - Morning coffee
10:50 - 11:20 Michael Fulford The Romanised Landscape of Salisbury Plain
11:20 - 11:50 Bob Bewley Mapping Roman Britain
11:50 - 12:20 Mike Bishop From Trackway to road: Corbridge, Rocecliffe, and the case for a proto-Dere Street
12:20 - 12:50 Vince Gaffney The Wroxeter Hinterland Project

Roman Finds Group Meeting
Room G101
09:00 - 09:35 Justine Bayley Two groups of Roman piecemoulds from Castleford, Yorkshire
09:35 - 10:10 John Davies A brooch manufacturing site in South Norfolk
10:10 - 10:45 Angela Wardle Rites and rituals in the East cemetery of Roman London
10:45 - 11:05 - Morning coffee
11:05 - 11:40 Christine Jones Looking out from the gallery: finds studies and museums
11:40 - 12:15 H. Cool & M.J. Baxter Similarity and difference: the comparison of finds assemblages
12:15 - 12:50 Lindsay Allason-Jones A typical assemblage

SUNDAY LUNCH
Lunch will be served in Child's Hall from 13:00 until 13:30

SILCHESTER EXCURSION
The coach departs from the carpark near the Palmer Building at 14:00, returns at 16:30
Your guide to the site will be Michael Fulford
The Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology
This will be open on Saturday from 10:00 until 13:00

The Ure Museum of Greek Archaeology in the Department of Classics at the University of Reading offers one of the major specialist resources in Greek archaeology in the United Kingdom. It is about the fourth largest collection of Greek ceramics in Britain, and probably the premier small teaching collection in this country which is readily available to students and teachers from either schools or universities.

The Ure Museum began in 1911 as a teaching collection under Percy Ure, then Professor of Ancient History at Reading. Vases were drawn from his own collection, and, after World War I, purchased in order to complement material from excavations conducted by Ure and his wife at Rhistona in Boeotia. The early collection concentrated on Boeotian, Attic and Corinthian pottery. However, from the beginning, other Greek material also came to be included as the collection benefited from several gifts. The collection today numbers about 2,000 objects, and features a large range of Greek ceramics from the Bronze Age to Classical periods, including groups of Corinthian, Attic Red and Black Figure, Boeotian Black Figure, and East Greek vases. In addition, there are collections of South Italian pottery, Etruscan ceramics and terracottas, some metal and stone artefacts of Greek and Roman date, a group of Cypriot Bronze Age, Iron Age and Classical ceramics and terracottas, and finally a selection of Egyptian antiquities ranging in date from the Pre-dynastic to Roman periods. There is also the noted Reading Aulos (an ancient Greek reed-pipe musical instrument).
Keynote Address: The Hoxne Treasure
Catherine Johns (British Museum)

A great find of Roman gold and silver was made by Mr Eric Lawes on 16 November 1992 while searching with a metal detector in a field at Hoxne in Suffolk. Within a large wooden chest were some 200 objects of gold and silver and some 14,670 coins dating up to the reign of Constantine III. Although we do not know who originally owned the hoard, it is likely that it represented the accumulated wealth of a very affluent private family, possibly one which owned land in many parts of the Roman empire. This talk will explore some of the new things which have come to light as the analysis of the find has continued at the British Museum under the guidance of Catherine Johns and Roger Bland.

Presenting the Romans
Organiser: Susan Walker (British Museum)

Most people today first learn about the Romans at school. Then and thereafter exposure to Roman history and culture comes in a mixed context of learning and leisure, through visits to archaeological sites and museum galleries, and, most pleasurably, through film. In this session four speakers explore the ways in which the Romans are presented in these media: at sites and museums, Mike Corbishley and Jennifer Hall focus on current practice and future plans, while Maria Wyke offers a history of Pompeii in twentieth-century cinema. Simon James gives a critical survey of what is learned about the Romans by the British public. In an accompanying exhibition, Mariella Pasquiniucci and Alberto Fremura present a graphic vision of Roman baths, granaries and harbours now being devised for the Italian public.

Maria Wyke (Dept. Classics, Reading University): Cinema and the City of the Dead: Reel Histories of Pompeii

The architecture and art of Pompeii, its buildings, wallpaintings, statuary, and furnishings, have been appropriated by and recreated in many films through the course of this century, from the beginnings of the cinematic art in the 1900s up to a television mini-series of the 1980s. The purpose of this paper is to explore that cycle of cinematic reconstructions of Pompeii, and the process whereby cinema interacts with archaeology and historiography to produce an imaginative reconstruction of the ancient city that addresses and gives pleasure to a huge mass audience.

Film is a realistic medium. At the moment of its origin, one of the most fascinating attractions the new medium claimed to offer was the possibility of reconstructing the past with a realism superior to that available from fragmentary ruins, documentary sources, and the historical fictions of painting, theatre and the novel. But whatever the antiquarian attention paid to accurate reconstruction in the surface texture of the 'Pompeian' films (the set designs, costumes and props), the 'reel' histories of Pompeii are also intriguing and pleasurable fictions. The first 'reel' histories of Pompeii produced in Italy between the 1900s and the 1920s, while drawing on the cultural hold of the city which the twentieth-century excavations constantly stimulated, borrowed their pictorially impressive visual conventions from Victorian paintings and stage designs, conceived the Pompeian past as a spectacular pyrodrama, and based their melodramatic narrative concerning the love of the 'Pompeians' Glaucus and Ione on a nineteenth-century historical novel. The Italian films set in Pompeii were sold to their audiences through an appeal both to the visual pleasures of seeing their own cultural heritage reconstructed on screen and to the moral value of their story: the innocence of the lovers survives the destruction of a decadent and cruel Roman city.

In the new era of sound films, Hollywood took on the task of bringing Pompeii back to life, but the ancient city held a much weaker grip on the culture of America than of Italy. There was not the same degree of familiarity with or interest in far-off classical ruins. If Pompeii was to come to life for American audiences, its ancient citizens had to have the same sort of experiences and speak the same kind of dialogue as modern-day Americans. So when RKO produced The Last Days of Pompeii in 1935, the ancient city gained a new fictional hero 'Marcus' whose life and death matches that of the rise and fall of Chicago gangsters. Similarly, the Pompeii reconstructed in 1984 as the setting for a television mini-series, although filmed partly on location in the original amphitheatre, set up parallels with the materialism, the religious cults, and the sports heroes of late twentieth-century America. And the story of the city's last days became a parable for the life of 1980s Californians awaiting the destruction that the San Andreas fault might bring them.
Thus the cinematic reconstructions of Pompeii in both the Italian and the American film industries have drawn their appeal from twentieth-century notions of a continuing classical heritage which is at the same time both aesthetically pleasing and morally edifying.

Mike Corbishley (Head of Education, English Heritage): Presenting piles of old: the Romans in the late 20th century
This paper will review the ways in which the Roman past is presented to the visiting public - whether as individuals, families or education parties. In some parts of the Roman world the remnants form part of the familiar surface of the landscape. In northern Europe those remains are usually brought to the surface by excavation. How difficult is it for the non-specialist to make any meaningful connection with people who appeared to live underground? The author has worked on a number of Roman sites in Britain, in particular Wroxeter Roman city, and will present current views of interpretation in Britain and in other countries of the Roman world, especially in Germany.

Jenny Hall (Museum of London): A New Roman Gallery - can archaeological interpretations and challenging displays be designed to suit all visitors?
In representing the past in museums, we are dealing with the art of communication. With whom and what are we trying to communicate and what are our methods of communication?
Most people have heard of the Romans and therefore Roman galleries are popular with children and adults alike. Recent research at the Museum of London has shown that 40% of the museum's public is under the age of 13. Therefore, to make a child's visit to a museum a memorable and pleasurable experience will keep that child interested in museums through to adulthood. How, therefore, does one satisfy the need to communicate information and to stimulate thought at all levels?
The existing Roman gallery at the Museum of London has been evaluated and the results used to formulate plans for renewing the gallery. However, the Romans are still being studied by schools as a fossilised period or theme and not as changing with the passage of time. The new Roman gallery will be considered in chronological units in order to convey a sense of walking through time. Within each time capsule, specific themes will be isolated for expanded consideration and related to the whole timespan of Roman London's development. It is intended that the public will leave the gallery with the lasting impression of the rise and decline of the Roman city. How can we satisfactorily combine chronology with themes?
Since the Museum of London was opened in 1976, there have been many archaeological discoveries in London in the wake of the development boom. These discoveries have led to a substantial increase in our knowledge of Roman London. Neither the discoveries nor the knowledge gained is reflected in the current gallery. How can we best present this new information? Can new technology assist?

Simon James (British Museum): Vox Populi: Public perceptions of the Roman World
If we believe that knowing about the Roman world (or the past in general) is worthwhile, then presumably we agree that we should tell people about it. But what are the British public told, and what do they know about the Roman past? My own experience suggests that people typically know little, and much of that is wildly inaccurate and/or out of date. Further, people often find it very hard to get information about those aspects which do interest them.
To many, of all ages, the Romans were either sophisticated people who were a mirror of ourselves ("they had central heating and politics, didn't they?") or they were nasty imperialist oppressors who went around conquering people and persecuting them for their beliefs. To caricature a caricature: Roman civilisation, apart from Fishbourne and Hadrian's Wall, was something that 'happened' in the city of Rome and at Pompeii between the time of Caesar and the eruption of Vesuvius.
How has this arisen, and what can be done about it? The explanation, and the way to possible improvements, lie in scrutiny of how people find out about Rome, both at school and in adult life.
PART 1: The Army

Rick Jones (University of Bradford): Frontier Contacts: theory and practice in the Newstead Research Project

The Newstead Research Project has addressed the problem of how to tackle the archaeology of contact on the Roman frontier. The relationship between the Roman incomers and indigenous peoples has often been approached through analysis of the movement of artefacts between Roman and native settlements, and by comparing the natures of the settlements themselves. Since both groups of people certainly did live as neighbours together at the same periods in the same landscape, the questions seem clearly enough constructed. However the experience of the Newstead Project shows that interpreting the archaeological record of such interactions presents major difficulties both of practical field research and of theoretical interpretation. What levels of intensity of evidence can be recovered from a region even in a large field research programme? How can contemporaneity and comparability between settlements be established when the archaeological records of the Roman and native settlements have very different characters? What do we understand by “culture contact”?

The Newstead field research has dramatically expanded the available evidence in our region, through an integrated programme of excavation, geophysical survey and air photograph rectification. However the more significant challenges lie in the way in which that evidence requires more subtle formulations of the questions asked of the Roman frontier. The contexts of both the regional archaeology and the dynamics of Roman Imperial policy must be acknowledged. The archaeological evidence for the nature of cultural contact and comparison may be interpreted at several levels, going beyond the simplistic historical formulation of “what happened to the natives when the Romans arrived.”

Ian Rogers (Gifford & Partners): Lines of supply, conquest & industry in the Roman N.W.

It has long been thought that the main line of the Roman advance north into Brigantia is represented by the road extending from the fortress at Chester through Northwich and crossing the Mersey at Manchester. The major south-north Roman road known as King Street, which extends from Holditch in Staffordshire through Middlewich in Cheshire to cross the Mersey at Wilderspool in Warrington, has generally been assumed to post-date the early advances north. The discovery of a Roman military enclosure at Middlewich, during an evaluation by Giffords, together with evidence of an early military presence in the civilian sites at Wilderspool and Holditch, both recently excavated by Giffords, suggests that King Street was an early military route. Furthermore the results of the excavations suggest that both the rapid early expansion of these settlements and their subsequent form and history were very strongly linked with military activity. Wilderspool in particular seems to have rapidly developed as a manufacturing site specialising in military equipment. This has wide implications for our understanding of the form, nature and functions of towns in the Roman North-West and the degree of Romanisation which took place in the area.

Mark Corney (RCHME, Salisbury): Reappraisal of late Roman belt fittings

Late Roman belt fittings, representing narrow and broad belts, were first brought to the attention of British scholars by Hawkes and Dunning in 1961. Since that date further examples have appeared in print and the type series of strap ends extended (Simpson 1976).

This paper will give an account of recent finds from Britain, now numbering over 500 items, and discuss their distribution, typology and dating. The recognition of a class manufactured in Britain (Hawkes & Dunning 1961) is confirmed and expanded. Most intriguing however is the distribution pattern now available for Britain, with that for narrow belt related items (Hawkes and Dunning types 1a & 1b) showing significant concentrations in modern Gloucestershire, Wiltshire and Dorset. Within this region there are especially notable concentrations in the Avon Valley of Wiltshire and to the south of Bokerley Dyke - a late fourth or early fifth century boundary system in Cranborne Chase, Dorset. This aspect of the study will be emphasised and the suggestion made that such items may represent the presence of persons connected with the later fourth and fifth century administration of Britannia Prima.
PART 2: Urban Life

Chris Henderson (Exeter City Museums, Archaeological Field Unit): 2nd century town defences at Exeter

Excavations over the past 20 years on sites in the South Gate area and elsewhere on the circuit of Exeter's town walls have produced a reasonably clear picture of the character of the Antonine earthwork defences. These were erected following the demolition of the mid-first century legionary fortress rampart which had been retained to form the initial boundary of the early Roman town. The stone tower discovered at South Gate by Aileen Fox in 1964-5, thought by her to be contemporary with the second-century rampart is usually found to be no more than 1.5m high, yet everywhere it exceeds 12m in breadth; this earthwork was probably fronted by a relatively insubstantial revetment, perhaps built of wattlework. There were two large V-shaped ditches in front of the rampart, separated by an open zone 12m wide; the need to dispose of the spoil from these features accounts for the excessive width of the rampart. The form of Exeter's second-century earthwork defences suggests they served a short-term military purpose. They have more in common with early modern temporary field fortifications, such as English Civil War entrenchments, than with the permanent stone wall and gates that replaced them, and their builders could not have expected them to last for more than a year or two before serious decay set in. Exeter's Antonine earthwork defences are thus likely to have been erected for emergency defence rather than as a symbol of civic status.

Nick Bateman (Museum of London Archaeology Service): The London Amphitheatre

London's Roman amphitheatre was first discovered in 1987 during redevelopment near the mediaeval Guildhall in the City. The main campaign of excavation has been since 1992 and will continue through 1995. About one sixth of the total ground plan has been uncovered, including part of the arena itself, a ramped entrance though a gateway into the arena, two side chambers and evidence for the superstructure. The earliest amphitheatre was built entirely in timber in AD 70; it was replaced in the early- to mid-second century by an amphitheatre which combined both masonry and timber elements. Two of the most remarkable features of the site have been the depth of stratigraphy, Roman and later, and the state of preservation of timber features such as drains, thresholds and gateposts. Dendrochronology shows that the drainage system was still being repaired in the mid-third century and the amphitheatre may have survived into the fourth. Much of the masonry was eventually robbed out and the site was sealed by 'dark earth' deposits.

David Sankey (MoLAS): The Recent discovery of a Late Roman building in London

A very large late 4th century building has been found on Tower Hill, overlooking the south-east corner of the walled city. Exceeding the site in three directions, and with wall foundations 2.0m wide, it was approximately 1/2 the size of the second basilica and 2/3 the size of St. Paul's cathedral. The construction technique is massive with wooden piles driven mechanically into sand and gravels; other details also agree with contemporary building manuals. The closest structural analogue from late antiquity is the cathedral built ca. 380 by St. Ambrose in Milan. Alternative reconstructions, and uses, for the London building are considered and the flaws in the evidence readily conceded. Finally, the significance of the find for illuminating the life and vigour of the late Roman city is examined.

PART 3: Misc.

David Miles (Oxford Archaeological Unit): Reconstructing Pastoral Economies: Romans and Britons in the Cotswold Water Park

The Oxford Archaeological Unit's project in the Cotswold Water Park is one of the largest Romano-British landscape investigations ever undertaken in Britain. Settlements, cemeteries, fields, roads, shrines and watercourses have been examined, in what was a predominately pastoral environment. The multi-disciplinary team used a wide variety of exploratory techniques, from aerial photography, geophysical survey and phosphate analysis to large scale excavation. Emphasis was placed on the recovery of biological data. From about 300BC to AD400 the pastoral management systems changed from overgrazed grassland, with sheep and cattle, to horse herding and hay meadow.

These changes will be examined against the regional social, political and economic background. It is proposed that in the later first century the riverside land east of Corinium was under official control. This paper will consider what forms this control might have taken, and in particular argue that we have here an example of military Prata which then passed into private ownership.

Mark Atkinson (Archaeology Department, Essex County Council): News from Heybridge

Known from casual finds and small scale excavation since the 1880's, Essex County Council Field Archaeology Group was presented with the opportunity to excavate a substantial part of this Roman small town following the decision to build housing over a 32 acre (13 ha) area at Heybridge near Maldon, Essex. The excavation has revealed a site far more complex than anticipated, spanning the Late pre-Roman Iron Age to Early Saxon periods. The Iron Age settlement probably developed along a prehistoric trackway, close to the crossing of the River Blackwater at the head of its estuary. The large and diverse range of imported ceramics indicate that the Iron Age settlement was of considerable importance, perhaps engaged in continental trade.
Indeed, the settlement seems to have been well developed, perhaps centred upon the Romano-celtic style temple complex which may be seen to have influenced the subsequent development of the Roman town.

The settlement appears to have enjoyed its heyday in the late 1st centuries BC to AD, with a road infrastructure being introduced soon after the Claudian conquest which respects the temple, itself replaced by a later Roman religious complex. As well as roads, large expanses of metallised surfaces were laid in the core of the town on which antiquated Iron age buildings continued to be constructed.

While the later Roman wooden structures have proven difficult to identify in sequences of dump and levelling material overlying the metallised surfaces, zoning of activity is immediately apparent between each of the three ‘side’ roads which run off the main north-south thoroughfare; these include pitting and industrial activity to the south, the religious precinct and possible public open space (both centrally placed) and domestic activity to the north and further east.

The site, with its vast array of pottery, metalwork and both industrial and domestic structures, is perhaps the most expansive insight into an undefended small town to date. It is certainly a rare opportunity to add to our understanding of Late Iron Age society, its transition into the Romano-British period and of the origin, morphology, development and eventual decline of a Roman minor town.

Bill Putnam (University of Bournemouth): The Dorchester Aqueducr

The most recent study of the Aqueduct is that by Ray Ferrar for RCHME, carried out in the 1960s. An aerial photograph taken by John Boyden in the drought of 1976 shows two channels, a larger and a smaller. All attempts this century to find the channel in its upper half north-west of Muckleyford have in fact failed to locate it, in spite of the extraordinarily large size of the channel in the obvious sections nearer Dorchester.

Fieldwork and excavation by Bournemouth University during 1992-4 have found the aqueduct to be a complex monument. Solutions have been suggested to some of the problems, but not all. Work continues in 1995.

[Reference: RCHME 1970 Historical Monuments in the County of Dorset II, part 3, p.585]

Martin Henig (Institute of Archaeology, Oxford): The Romanisation of British Art

Despite the publication of major studies by the late Jocelyn Toynbee in the early 60s and the appearance of various monographs since (notably on mosaics, wall-painting, sculpture and gems) the changes in the arts of Roman Britain have been seen rather as the inevitable result of conquest than as a dynamic response to changing circumstances. The visual culture of our period has been taken less seriously than that of the preceding Iron Age or than the arts of the Anglo-Saxons and early Christian Celts. For this pessimistic view we have to thank two Oxford professors, Haverfield and Collingwood, who both overvalued the crafts of the Iron Age at the expense of provincial Roman art, setting aside the extraordinary success of the symbiosis between the two traditions achieved by insular artists first in metalwork but very soon in other media such as sculpture.

Much of the impetus for change came from British smiths, perhaps even before AD 43 and certainly very soon afterwards, both in areas under Roman control and in the client kingdoms of the Iceni and Regni (note the Crownthorpe cups and the ‘Brighton’ stag). Soon other artists of Celtic (often British) stock were carving stone (the Bath pediment belongs in this context) and at least from the second century they were making distinctive contributions to mosaic and wall-painting. The new symbiosis combines native linearity and taste in colour with classical forms. Its ultimate culmination lies in the great masterpieces of mosaic art produced in the Cotswolds and elsewhere in fourth-century Britain as well as in the distinctive jewellery and silver from Thetford and Hoxne in East Anglia.

Romanisation in art has a great deal in common with the romanization of religion. In both instances Roman organisation and patronage provided the occasion for a much greater range of expression. The individuality of the art of pre-Roman period in Britain is if anything more marked than that of cult-practice. Rather than being a term of denigration, ‘Romano-British Art’ designates a style of great sensitivity and refinement. I intend to demonstrate this briefly in my conference paper and at length in a book The Art of Roman Britain to be published by Batsford a little later this spring.
Theme 1: Cultural Identity

Alex Woolf (Sheffield), 'Mac Fir Bhisigh’s Law in Roman Britain: a segmentary approach'.

Taking as a starting point the model for population replacement described, with reference to Ireland, by Duabhaltach Mac Fir Bhisigh in 1650, this paper aims to explore the relationships between Romanising elites and the spread of features of Roman culture amongst the lower economic orders. Particular attention will be paid to rural house plans although other aspects of culture, including language, will be discussed. The paper will attempt to present a model of Roman Britain as a segmentary society in which clan structure was important as landlordship. The role of the army in slowing down rates of acculturation will also be examined. The main theme of my argument, here and elsewhere, will be that cultural change can best be understood if one stresses the continuity of underlying structures. The hinged nature of Imperial society will be presented as its most characteristic feature and it is hoped that these ideas will prove stimulating to those working in areas beyond the Gaulish sea, particularly in the Gauls and Spain.

Richard Alston (Royal Holloway), 'Reinventing the Ancient City'.

This paper will seek to examine the different ancient responses to the urban form and reconstruct the urban experience of the people who visited and lived in the cities of the Eastern Mediterranean in the imperial period. The archaeology of these sites frequently concentrates on public buildings and the administrative and political centres of the cities. Since these centres were constructed by the elite, they may reflect an image of the city specific to elite aspirations, especially in an area which did share the Graeco-Roman tradition of urbanism. The reality of the cities may have been very different. Using archaeological data from various sites in the East and literary and papyrological data, I examine how much can be discovered about how the ‘alternative city’ relates to the official images of urban life created by the elite and uncovered by archaeology.

Joanne Berry Geaning, 'Artifacts and Identity'.

This paper aims to demonstrate the huge potential of artefactual evidence for our understanding of social processes within the defined area of the Roman house. In particular it will address the problem of the interpretation of artefacts: to what extent can they be used to reveal the construction and maintenance of domestic relationships, such as slave and master, master and mistress, master and guest. My aim is to suggest that artefacts have an active role to play in the organisation of the house, and in the creation of social relationships.

John C. Barrett (Glasgow), 'Romanisation: a Critical Comment'.

This paper will argue that the concept of Romanisation, which appears to define both a cause (the mechanisms by which indigenous people were incorporated into the empire) and effect (the adoption of Roman culture), is analytically worthless. It will be questioned in terms of its teleology and an alternative way of thinking through the processes of social change will be outlined.

Theme 2: Acculturation

Peter van Dommelen (Leiden), 'Roman colonisation and Punic local culture in West Central Sardinia'.

Sardinia had been part and parcel of the Carthaginian empire in the western Mediterranean for several centuries until it was formally handed over to Rome in 238 BC at the end of the 1st Punic War. While the Roman presence was initially limited to a few major coastal cities, the Roman occupation of the island as a whole was more gradually and more painstakingly accomplished through a series of military campaigns in the following decade. In 227 BC Sardinia, together with Corsica, was formally annexed as the second Roman provincia. The 2nd Punic War, however, provoked several new uprisings which showed that Sardinia had become all but a loyal ally of Rome.
The Roman expansion in the Mediterranean as well as north of the Alps has often been described in colonial terms of power, domination and resistance. In the case of Sardinia, this has entailed an emphasis on the military occupation of the island and the local resistance against it. The persistence of numerous Punic features in the Roman period (in particular the use of the Punic language in inscriptions) has moreover been interpreted in terms of indigenous resistance against colonial domination. In this perspective, the existing Punic (or Sardo-Punic) culture was gradually but persistently replaced by or integrated into the Roman culture.

Such a view of the Roman colonisation of Punic Sardinia has its roots in a dualist conceptualisation of colonial encounters as consisting of a clash between two essentially closed and opposed cultures. In such a perspective, the dominant culture either entirely replaces or absorbs the other 'indigenous' culture. Alternatively, the opposition between coloniser and colonised may be played down and attention be given to specific contact situations between local residents and newcomers. In recent anthropological work along these lines the local and specific outcomes of colonial contacts are emphasised in order to enable more nuanced as well as more intricate interpretations of so-called colonial encounters.

In this paper, such an alternative perspective on the particular situation of Roman contacts with Sardinians and Carthaginians in west central Sardinia will be outlined. Taking the characteristics of Punic rural and urban settlement as a point of reference, an attempt will be made to interpret the development of the region in Roman times in terms of local cultures in the context of allegedly colonial supra-regional networks.

Valerie Hope (Reading), 'The Identity of the Dead: The Gladiators of Roman Nimes'.
The act of burying and commemorating the Roman dead consisted of diverse actions and elements not all of which are recoverable from the archaeological record. Nonetheless there is a need to optimise the evidence available and consider the differing surviving features as an integrated record. This approach to the burial record should increase our understanding of how the living society which created it was reflected through it.

As a method of illuminating the possibilities of contextual study I will use the funerary record from the Roman town of Nimes and examine how it mirrored differing levels of social status. In particular I will concentrate on the memorials of the gladiators of the town and assess how the use of epigraphs, types of memorial and burial location were all integral aspects of the expression of identity in death.

John Pearce (Durham), 'Romanisation and the Dead'.
Although there is a substantial body of work on Romano-British funerary practice, its chief concern is with reconstructing religious belief. The social dimension of the funerary rites is little considered. Even those studies which have paid attention to the latter have yet to be incorporated in synthetic works on Roman Britain; both more traditional historical syntheses and approaches concerned with economic and social processes have ignored the archaeological evidence for the dead of Roman Britain.

In recent TRACs, discussion of Romanisation had suggested that close study of the mass of mundane 'Romanised' material culture can provide an alternative to current models of Romanisation. The latter have not considered the different uses of Roman material culture in different contexts. Using data from the large LPRIA and early Roman cemeteries of St. Albans I hope to show how 'Roman' materials were not necessarily used during funerary ritual as they were elsewhere. Instead they played an important but circumscribed part in the treatment of the dead. I will explore the significance of this treatment for the creation of new identities and relationships which were the consequences of Romanisation.

Theme 3: Approaches to the symbolic

Simon Clarke (Bradford), 'Abandonment, Rubbish Disposal and 'Special' Deposits at Newstead'.
Recent excavation within the Roman fort and attendant annexes at Newstead in southern Scotland have allowed the radical re-interpretation of an exceptional finds collection recovered from deep pits and wells. The assemblage, ranging from parade helmets and other military equipment to everyday items such as shoes and tent pegs, has provided a vivid picture of almost every aspect of the settlement's life. However in spite of this, or perhaps because of it, very little comment has been made about the context of the assemblage or the formation processes that produced it. This paper offers new explanations for the Newstead pits and their contents which blur the distinction between symbolic and the simply functional. This in turn has implications for the interpretation of finds on a wide range of both military and civilian sites in Britain and on the continent throughout the Roman period.

Rene Rodgers (Durham), 'An Examination of the Nature of Female Images in 4th Century Romano-British Mosaics'.
In the past, the consideration of Romano-British mosaics has often been confined to typological and iconographical description. This study seeks to move beyond the limits of iconographical interpretation to a detailed examination and analysis of the mosaic evidence in relation to female symbolism within the social and cultural context of the province and the Roman empire.
Recent feminist theory may be utilised to evaluate the possibility of a cultural devaluation of women based on the culture's ideology and power structure, and also on its use of symbolic devices. The main body of this examination addresses the question of the symbolic devices utilised in the 4th century Romano-British mosaics. In an analysis of the nature of female images in these mosaics, coupled with a comparison with similar themes and images found in other areas of the empire and with male images, I observed a dichotomy in treatment between female and male images. This dichotomy can be seen in the predominance of female images used to portray Nature, in opposition to male images representative of Culture. This type of treatment places Men/Culture as the tamers and civilisers of Women/Nature. Secondly, women are most often used to portray allegorical figures. Images of this type can be classified as non-specific entities because they very rarely possess an active mythology or personality of their own. Rather, they are simply passive personifications of abstract concepts and aspirations popular in Roman culture. Male images, however, are often used in idealised representations of realistic genre such as hunting, amphitheatre and circus scenes. The more specific character of these representations, with their reliance on male images, reflects the importance and interest found in male-orientated activities, at the expense of female-orientated activities. I believe that this dichotomy in symbolic treatment that can be found in 4th century Romano-British mosaics does reflect a cultural devaluation of Women. The images chosen were representative of the perceived significance of men and women in late antiquity.

Raphael Isserlin (Leeds), 'Pilgrim's Tales in Roman Britain'.
The ritual landscape has far too often been ignored in Roman Britain and is generally viewed as the result of a static, finite process rather than a dynamic entity. British rural religious sites (loca sacra) formed an integral part in the creation of a Roman province, particularly the boundaries of urban territoria or at a larger scale, civitates. In some cases their distribution can be easily recognised or predicted, and explanations for this compare well with contemporary documented cases of dynamic processes in other provinces. The role that they played not only in the creation of boundaries but as goals of pilgrimage is briefly discussed.

David Petts (Reading), 'Reconstructing the Roman Landscape'.
Traditional approaches to Roman landscape studies have emphasised the landscape as an economic resource, this is reflected in the emphasis of archaeological field surveys on recreating settlements and landscapes as agrarian systems. This may be a result of one of the most enduring paradigms of landscape archaeology, the notion of landscape as a 'palimpsest'. The implications of this approach are that the archaeologist's task is to remove layers of 'noise' to reveal the elements of a Roman landscape. It is wrong that earlier elements of the landscape such as round-barrows and long-barrows are not viewed as part of the Roman landscape. Reconstructing 'deep' landscapes which take account of all the relevant elements and examine the way in which they are treated will reveal much more than 'economic' data. It is proposed for example that Roman uses of prehistoric features on the Berkshire Downs such as the White Horse and Waylands Smithy have important implications for examining Roman attitudes to both temporality and liminality. It is also suggested that David Harvey's belief that one of the problems of modernity is the reconciling of widespread structures of space with a local perspective rooted in a sense of familiarity in space (Harvey 1989: part III) may also reflect a fundamental dichotomy also found in ancient societies.

Dieke Wesselingh (Leiden), 'Native Neighbours: some ideas on the settlement system in the Roman-Dutch countryside'.
During the past 15 years, a major point of attention in (Roman) archaeology has been the effect of the Romanisation process on indigenous communities. Studies that have appeared on this subject (Brandt & Stofstra 1983, Roymans 1990, Millet 1990) are concerned mainly with the regional and supra-regional level, discussing the social and administrative organisation. Since the 1970s, large-scale settlement research in the Netherlands has focused on uncovering (pre)historical landscapes by excavating large areas in a micro-region. At present, the excavations in and around the town of Oss (Province of North-Brabant) form the best example of this strategy. In the course of 20 years, an area of over 60 hectares has been unearthed, offering the opportunity to study spatial and diachronic developments in detail. The wealth of data from Oss forms the starting point of an analysis of the settlement system in the Dutch 'Maaskant' region during the Roman period. The results show that at least six native settlements were situated in the area. Their layout and the distribution of certain find groups indicate the existence of hierarchical differences, between single farmyards as well as between settlements. This paper will consist of a brief outline of the settlements from Oss, after which some ideas on hierarchy and the settlement system will be presented.
**Theme 4: Technology**

**Elizabeth Shirley (Reading), 'Building Materials, Quantities and Labour Requirements at the Frontier: The construction of the Roman legionary fortress at Inchtuthil'**.

This paper discusses problems and suggests solutions associated with the calculation of the likely scale of building materials and labour requirements for the construction of the Roman single-phase timber legionary fortress of Inchtuthil. It is based on research in progress.

To calculate the quantity of timber (in linear metres, cubic metres, and tonnes) and other materials (unit numbers, volumes and weights) it is necessary to determine building plan dimensions, building sizes and shapes, materials used, construction methods, materials dimensions, and Roman work rates. The excavation report provides little or no direct evidence about these key matters. Taking specific examples, this paper discusses how answers can be suggested to these key questions. Comparative calculations, critical options, and adjustment factors, are explained and their significance discussed. The implications of the supply of material and labour on this massive scale, and what this can tell us about conditions at the frontier, are considered.

**E.M. Evans (Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust), 'Caution: Roman architects at work'**.

It is becoming increasingly clear that the design of Roman buildings could be quite a sophisticated process. If the architectural design of excavated buildings is to be considered, as it should be, as part of the excavation report, it is imperative that methodologies should be devised to enable such analysis to be carried out. Only in this way will it be possible to ensure that the relevant data are collected on site.

This paper will look at some methods of analysis which have been carried out in the past, consider their potential for providing information, and suggest possible ways forward.

**David Sim (Reading), 'Roman Iron Technology'**.

The time involved in the manufacture of iron items such as weapons takes on a greater significance when such items are produced in large numbers. This proposition will be studied by considering the production processes involved in the manufacture of chain mail and go on to examine the necessity of re-evaluating the current view of Roman iron-working technology.

**Theme 5: The Exchange Economy**

**Sara Bon (North Carolina), 'Form, Function and Culture Change: ceramic analysis from Southern Burgundy'**.

Regional ceramic evidence is a type of archaeological data which allows the examination of interaction between the Roman polity and its specific non-Roman neighbours. A study of functional variation in southern Burgundy explores the possibility of vessel form as an indicator of change in the realm of food transportation, storage, and preparation in the region.

This work emphasises highly understudied utilitarian vessels which were produced for everyday use and limited distribution. The forms and fabrics of these vessels adhere to functional mandates rather than influences of style which affect the better-studied elite wares, destined for trade and often following trends which cover large portions of the empire. Changes which are visible in the regional utilitarian assemblage, therefore, should reflect changes in the activities for which these vessels were used.

The examination of a type of material evidence which is present and indeed common at most sites of the period presents a likely manner of addressing crucial issues of regional interaction across the cultural boundaries of the Empire. An understanding of these processes will shed light on the larger issues of power and empire formation in the Roman world.

**Damian Robinson (Bradford), The changing nature of the economy in a North African classical city**.

This paper intends to consider the changing nature of the economy of the North African city of Thamugadi (Timgad), from its foundation as a veteran colony in the Second Century AD, to the peak of its prosperity in the mid-Fourth Century. The resultant analysis will then be contextualised within the ongoing debate into the general nature of the ancient economy and the monothetic conception of the city as a 'consumer' or 'service' economy will be challenged.
### Roman Baetica: A Reappraisal

Organiser: Simon Keay, University of Southampton

The province of Hispania Ulterior Baetica, which can be roughly equated with the modern Spanish autonomous region of Andalucia, was one of Rome’s oldest provinces in the west. It is perhaps best associated with the Roman emperors Trajan and Hadrian, whose patria was at the town of Italica, and with the olive oil amphorae (Dressel 20) which are to be found widely throughout the western Empire. However, it is one of the provinces least known to British scholars. Archaeological work has been undertaken at Roman sites in Andalucia since the middle of the 19th century and, after a fallow period during the 1960’s and 1970’s, has now entered a new phase. The delegation of the management of cultural affairs to the regional government of Andalucia and the great explosion of rescue work in the 1980’s and 1990’s has led to important new discoveries. This session attempts to review some of these focuses upon aspects of urbanism, the economy and the persistence of native ethnic identity into the imperial period. It is hoped that the work presented here will provide a useful comparison for better known parts of the western Empire, stimulate debate and promote an awareness of the great archaeological potential of one of the least explored provinces of the Roman west.

---

**Prof. Pedro Rodríguez Oliva (University of Malaga): Architectural Decoration in the Towns of Roman Baetica**

The amount and quality of sculptured decoration is a good index for measuring the degree of romanization in many parts of the Roman Empire. The presence of sculpture must reflect the adoption of ideas and beliefs and when they are fine quality pieces must, moreover, provide an indication of the degree of private or public wealth. This is the sense in which the sculptures known from public environments in the provinces of Baetica are analysed, and it is also known that they formed part of the decorative programmes of private domus or villae. This is a general study of groups of statuary from this province from the archaeological, rather than artistic, point of view. Its rationale, significance, and ideology, both in the domestic and urban environments, speak clearly of the wealth of many Baetican cities of the 1st and 2nd centuries AD, as well as the degree of romanisation which their inhabitants had begun to achieve from an early date.

**Dr. S. Keay (University of Southampton): Recent work on early Roman towns in Baetica**

Baetica was one of the most heavily urbanised provinces in the Roman west. It is perhaps most famous for the discovery of municipal charters, most recently that from Irni. However, the broader archaeological panorama of towns in the province is more poorly known. This paper is an attempt to review the state of archaeological knowledge about the urban structure of the province. It focuses upon the range, size and density of settlement types where known, outlines their development and attempts a preliminary interpretation of their functions. Grosso modo, Baetica corresponds to the modern autonomous region of Andalucia and this paper will largely concentrate upon the provinces of Huelva, Sevilla, Córdoba and Jaén.

**Prof. J. Remesal Rodríguez (Central University of Barcelona): Recent work on the production of olive oil in Baetica and its exports to the city of Rome**

The study of Baetican olive oil amphorae (Dressel 20) is an important starting point for understanding the economy and development of the Roman province of Baetica. This is largely because of the important epigraphic information (stamps, tituli picti and graffiti) which is preserved in large quantity on amphora sherds at Monte Testaccio in Rome. Excavations at this site since 1989 have contributed enormously to our understanding of this field. It has allowed more general questions about the organisation of commerce in the Roman World to be addressed and enabled the involvement of the Roman state in the re-distribution of foodstuffs to be examined.

**Prof. C. Domergue (University of Toulouse - Le Mirail): Production and commerce in metals in Baetica during the 1st century AD**

The study of stamps on 1st century AD Spanish lead ingots allows one to develop a model which proposes that metals produced by Baetican mines were commercialised. This invites comparison with the commercialisation of other products, such as that suggested by amphora inscriptions.

**Dr I. Rodà (Autonomous University of Barcelona): Patterns of marble supply to the Roman province of Baetica**

This study is concerned with the appearance and progressive use of marble in the ornamental programmes of Roman cities in Baetica. It draws upon on-going programmes of field-research as well as the work of earlier scholars, such as Canto, Branner, Cisneros, Grunhagen, Alvarez, Beltrán and Loza. The wealth and cultural diversity of the province gave rise to a complex process, in which imported and local marbles were used in a wide range of regional combinations to produce decorative programmes of great originality. Aside from
enhancing our understanding of building programmes in the province, the study of marble contributes to our knowledge of its economic life and raises questions about systems of transport and re-distribution. For example, there is still debate as to the identity of the 'Spanish' cargoes which would have filled ships returning from Spain after having delivered imported marble. Finally attention is focused upon the marble from the Sierra de Filabres (Macael). It is still not certain as to whether this was located in south-eastern Tarraconensis or Baetica. Nevertheless it now seems clear that its primary market lay with the cities of Baetica.

Dr A. Caballero Rufinos (University of Seville): The newly discovered Senatus Consultum of Caena Piso
This remarkable bronze document dates to the 10th December AD 20. It was issued in the aftermath of the Pisonian conspiracy and contains senatorial resolutions about the punishments imposed upon Piso and his fellow conspirators. It also provides us with broader politico-ideological considerations of the imperial house during the reign of the Emperor Tiberius. To some degree the Pisonian conspiracy undermined the credibility of the Emperor and it is suggested that the presence of copies of the Senatus Consultum at a number of cities in Roman Baetica reflects the implantation of Imperial ideology in the province. Their presence amongst urban communities in the province may also have been a key element in their romanisation. This paper begins with a brief description of the document and is then followed by an analysis of its broader significance in the romanisation of the province.

Dr Mary Downs (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill):
Turdetani and Turdetania: cultural identity in early Roman Baetica
The historical and geographical tradition for southern Spain distinguishes between two basic cultural groups - the Turdetani and the Bastetani - inhabiting the Guadalquivir valley. While Strabo, Pliny and Ptolemy provide the rough outlines for the territories of these groups, the chronological periods to which they refer and the criteria for their differentiation are ambiguous. The archaeological evidence for the Iberian period may reflect a variation in ceramic traditions and burial customs but this evidence is too inconclusive; moreover, the continuity of a variation between groups cannot be traced through the Republic and into the early Empire. In attempting to come to terms with the notion of cultural identity in early Roman Baetica, this paper considers the significance of such an ethnic distinction in the early Empire. Without doubting a continuity in Iberian cultural tradition into the early Empire, we need to admit that identifying a distinction between Turdetanian and Bastetanian material culture remains highly problematic. Does the historical record reflect a reality or simply earlier textual traditions? Was the distinction purely geographical? Or, can a homogenisation of the material evidence, related to romanisation, be detected in the archaeological record?

Archaeology, Latin and the People of Roman Britain
Organised by Dr Alan Bowman & Prof. J. N. Adams
This session is devoted to papers discussing the evidence of recently published and newly discovered writing-tablets from Roman Britain. Dr. Bowman and Professor Thomas will offer a brief general account of the discoveries at Vindolanda in 1991-3, followed by a presentation of three texts (two of them accounts, one a letter). Professor Adams will discuss philological and linguistic problems and issues raised by the writing-tablets from Vindolanda. Professor Birley will discuss the evidence the Vindolanda documents provide for those archaeologically elusive individuals in Roman Britain. In conclusion there will be a brief report from Dr Tomlin on the Carlisle tablets.

Alan Bowman (Christchurch College, Oxford) & J.D. Thomas (University of Durham):
New Texts from Vindolanda
The paper will offer a brief description of the context and content of the finds at Vindolanda in the excavations of 1991-3. Three texts, in their preliminary form, will be presented and discussed. These are: (1) A cash account listing a miscellany of items including equestrian equipment and textiles. (2) A dated account concerned with the provision and use of foodstuffs, including poultry, in the commanding officer's household at Vindolanda. (3) A letter from a decurion named Masculus to Flavius Cerialis asking whether he should return his detachment to base.

Prof. Jim Adams (University of Manchester / St. John's College, Oxford): Language contact and linguistic variety at Vindolanda
This paper will deal partly with the Latin of the full collection of tablets, recently published, and partly with problems in some unpublished texts. Three main topics will be discussed: (1) scribal correctness; (2) language
contact and its possible consequences at Vindolanda; and (3) substandard Latin and anticipations of the Romance languages.

Tony Birley (University of Dusseldorf): The People of Vindolanda

The tablets supply several hundred names, almost all of people previously unknown; most of these are soldiers or officers serving at Vindolanda, but also persons from other places; and some are civilians (but this is difficult to establish). There are also important indications of attitude or distinctions between persons of different origin of Roman to native British, or between Batavians (?) and others. Something can be said about: the persons of senatorial rank, equestrian officers; centurions and optiones; women; slaves and freedmen; soldiers with Celtic or German names.

1. In one tablet the natives are called Britunculi, obviously derogatory. In another a man claims he should not have been beaten, since he is (a) innocent and (b) a transmarinus. The implication is that the Brits can be flogged without anyone minding. One tablet refers to supplies of grain delivered by 'wagons of the Britons' and a name might be of one of these. The treatment of the Britons may have something to do with the revolt of 117.

2. One letter asks for greetings to be given to omnes cives et amicos. The cives are probably 'fellow-Batavians'. A non-Batavian in one document is specified: Sabinus Trever.

3. Of senators, the governor Neratius Marcellus was identified on one of the first tablets to be found; another senator is one Ferox; the name of a third is not fully legible, a fourth might also be detectable.

4. Three or four equestrian officers are attested elsewhere: C. Aelius Brocchus, M. Caecilius September, T. Haterius Nepos and perhaps Celonium Justus. Of particular interest is the fact that several officers or presumed officers are called Flavius. Cerialis and Genialis are the most frequently attested; note also Procclus, Similis and Vindex.

5. The names of the centurions (and decurions) and optiones are not markedly different from those of the men. There is evidence for a schola, presumably a club for the 'NCOs'.

6. Two officers' wives, Sulpicia Lepidina and Claudia Severa, are represented in several tablets; note also Thutena, Pacata, and perhaps one or two more women.

7. Several slaves are detectable: Candidus, Severus, Rhenus, Primigenus. One freedman (of Flavius Genialis) is named, Cenosis (?) and perhaps an imperial freedman at York, Optatus. One letter refers to Caesariani, who should be the members of the familia Caesars.

8. The names of soldiers or others can be classified as Latin; Greek; Celtic; Germanic; other. Some provisional conclusions can be drawn.

Dialogues in Imperialism

Organiser: David Mattingly (School of Archaeological Studies, University of Leicester)

The aim of the session is to construct a series of dialogues on aspects of Roman imperialism and the indigenous responses to Roman rule. The first and last of these dialogues will present views reflecting the inherent dichotomy of perspective between imperial power and subject people. The middle pairing will look at issues of success and failure, resistance and participation as illustrated by the landscape archaeology of two contrasting regions. It is hoped to generate some interesting discussion regarding the different perceptions of imperialism that existed in antiquity as today (in part the idea here is based around Edward Said's view of 'discrepant experiences' in the modern imperial age, see his Culture and Imperialism). In other words, we shall explore the variability of perception and actuality of Roman imperialism in three critical areas: government, land and culture.

Resistance, cooperation and coercion

Bill Hanson (University of Glasgow): The Roman viewpoint

Perceptions of the Roman attitude to the control of her Empire tend to be dominated by her use of military might. Clearly, this was fundamentally important, whether directly applied or merely threatened, but it is the contention of this paper that control of conquered territory was more subtle and utilised a wider range of approaches than just the iron fist.

The exercise of control by political means is well established in the use of the so called client kings, even if only as a temporary measure in the west. But looser treaty relationships are also attested around the periphery of the Empire, involving payment both to and by Rome. Rome can also be seen controlling trade and access to land in these areas, so much so that it can sometimes be difficult to define the precise geographical limits of Empire.

The inevitable consequence of the relatively limited membership of the imperial administration was a heavy dependence on local self-administration. Rome demonstrates considerable flexibility, not to say tolerance, in her approaches to administrative control in the provinces, but an urban sub-structure was preferred. Where it did not
exist, it was not possible, military control of the civilian population was maintained. Vital to this process was the participation of the indigenous elite. Without the willing and active co-operation of such individuals, Roman local administrative control could not have functioned, for members of that elite made up the town councils and became the magistrates. It was, therefore, in the interest of Rome to attempt to control the hearts and minds of the indigenous population. Thus, romanization was, contrary to recent assertions, deliberately and directly promoted, for 'civilised' men were easier to control than the 'barbarians'.

Richard Hingley (Historic Scotland): The indigenous viewpoint

The Roman invasion and domination of Britain had a major impact on native communities. It has long been known that at least one revolt occurred early in the history of Roman Britain. Yet it is also commonly accepted by Romanists that the province settled down into a peaceful pro-Roman territory in which 'Roman' standards spread throughout society, deeply affecting all provincials in the lowlands. The highlands are considered to contrast with the lowlands and are seen in negative terms: natives are backward in failing to adopt new ways and retaining their own material culture. This perspective places a distinct value on 'Roman' standards and denigrates the ways of life of native communities. It also views southern natives at the time of conquest as uncivilised but intelligent - ripe for romanization. In contrast, Romans are the opposite - civilised, and with a culture of progress. Recent attempts to rewrite the British Empire (and other modern Western Empires) suggest that the processes of change are never this simple. This suggests that we have imposed the pattern that we expect - a progressive 'meaningful' development of primitive society into civilised Roman society - onto our data. In reality, natives within imperial/colonial situations adopt a variety of views on those who conquer and dominate them. Some may hold views that support the dominant power, but others will oppose increased domination over their lives. Often this opposition is subtle and hidden rather than overt and those who share the views of the dominant power often choose not to notice or react.

In this paper the concept of romanization will be subject to a critical assessment. It will be suggested that, while some members of the tribal elite may have had an interest in supporting and mimicking Rome, others within the tribes did not. The process of change in Roman Britain will have been far more complex than previous accounts propose and the archaeological evidence contains information on acts of opposition. However, it will also be argued that after the first few years of Roman control the opposition Roman-native may be too simplistic in lowland Britain. Once the Roman army had moved on, native opposition may often have been intended to counter the extension of control by the native elite. The result may be that acts of opposition need not always draw on native/pre-Roman concepts or symbols.

A much more flexible and less deterministic interpretation of change is required if we are ever to be able to reconstruct the variety of views held by natives about Rome and the changes brought about by Rome. This flexible system should allow a critical assessment of some of the basic concepts behind study - concepts such as Roman and native, military and civilian zones, wealthy and poor, civilised and primitive.

Imperialism and territory

Sue Alcock (University of Michigan): Greece: a landscape of resistance?

If characterizations of 'successful' and 'unsuccessful' provinces within the Roman empire are no longer tenable (certainly are no longer fashionable), we still require some vocabulary for analysing provincial development in a manner that allows for comparative discussion. 'Resistance' and 'opportunity' are the terms around which one particular dialogue can be constructed. Unlike its counterpart in this particular session (Africa), Greece (Achaia) did not 'boom' under the empire. The traditional indices of imperially-induced prosperity (urbanization, agricultural intensification, exploitation of natural resources, population growth) are by and large lacking here, and in most cases their opposites can be inferred from our literary and archaeological sources. Yet I would argue that Greece is equally an 'imperial landscape', a landscape created through a complex negotiation of external devices and internal desires.

What is achieved by considering Greece as a landscape of resistance? Resistance in an active sense, involving violent opposition of imperial policies, is not our chief focus here, though instances of direct imperial intervention (centuriation, forced relocation) and its rejection are to be found in Achaia. More significant are signs of resistance sheathed in more passive or subtle forms, including the maintenance of traditional practices and allegiances. The extent to which such various forms of resistance shaped the Greek response to Roman rule can be compared with the manner in which the peoples of Africa, also loyal in many ways to indigenous practices, embraced their 'opportunities' more vigorously.
David Mattingly (University of Leicester): Africa: a landscape of opportunity?

It is now less controversial than it was a decade ago to speak of economic growth in certain provinces of the Roman empire, with the olive oil production of North Africa providing one of the clearest examples. That this rural transformation must be read as an artefact of imperialism is clear at an intuitive level. The extensive evidence of centurization and of the delimitation of tribal lands provides impressive testimony to the interference of the Roman state in pre-existing landholding arrangements. Similarly, results of recent field surveys in the region have demonstrated a dramatic increase of sedentary agriculture during the first centuries AD in both the core agricultural zones and in the more marginal landscapes of the desert. The symptoms of growth and prosperity are visible in the parallel urban development and embellishment, in the rise in population, in the capital-intensive and increasingly specialised nature of rural estates as revealed by archaeology. The extensive imperial and senatorial estates of the early Principate provide only a partial answer for this economic development, there being ample evidence to show that much of the growth and the profits of the expansion was due to African elites. As such Africa may be characterised as a landscape of opportunity. One important question to be raised is the extent to which this was the end result of imperial policy or, alternatively, of broader economic forces. The degree of difference in economic trajectory between various provinces (and the reasons for it) would seem to be an important area for future research.

However, there is another perspective: one that would identify, even in Africa, characteristics of a 'landscape of resistance'. Our appreciation of the imperial landscapes in Africa and of their medium-term success is enhanced by our consideration of such negative factors. Indeed, the eventual failure of Roman landscapes in regions like North Africa may be better understood in relation to the latent forces of resistance encapsulated within them.

Imperialism and culture

Dick Whittaker (Churchill College, Cambridge): The Roman viewpoint

To explain Romanization as simply a struggle between the central state and the aspirations of local populations is a false dichotomy, since it was the internal tensions of the society that determined the responses which different sectors of the people made to Romanization. Nevertheless, for the purposes of this debate we should not underestimate the role of state 'policy' in shaping the various cultural choices. The best way to demonstrate this proposition is a comparative approach to various provinces.

For instance, in the early settlement of both Gaul and Africa native cults were banned, and sanitized rural or urban sanctuaries, usually associated with the imperial cult, were attached to secondary agglomerations for civil administration (collection of taxes, etc.). Why should such developments have happened at more or less the same time in the early history of two very different western provinces, if they had not been part of officially inspired policy? The same question can be posed in later periods. In Gaul and Africa the original colonial and tribal elites were replaced during the second century. The change coincided with a secondary phase of urban building, the Romanization of rural sanctuaries and the participation of the "seigneurs des villes" in formerly lower class cults. In Roman Britain the same rhythm seems apparent. Immediately after the conquest there was diminished support for the local cult sanctuaries; then in the second century the temples became more and more substantial, as in Gaul, with stone building and rich dedications. As in Gaul and Africa, the rich began to build luxurious villas from the mid-second century. And so on.

Even if the precise dates of the changes are not always easy to establish and may not be exactly the same, the common experience is close enough to ask the question, Why is that in Britain, Gaul, Spain and Africa we find such coincidences, given the very different histories and economies of the provinces? It would be curious, if Romanization had depended solely on the spontaneous reaction of indigenous populations, that everything everywhere changed with Augustus; even more curious that all over the western world elite were transformed and a kind of native Romanization took over in the second century.

Jane Webster (University of Leicester): The indigenous viewpoint

Focusing on the western provinces of Gaul and Britain, this paper will argue that the archaeology of the syncretistic processes by which 'Romano-Celtic' religion was created has paid little attention to native perspectives, and has almost wholly ignored the possibility that native dissent may sometimes have crystallised in the religious arena.

In 12 BC, with the establishment of the Altar and Temple to Rome and the Divine Caesar at Lugdunum, Augustus introduced the imperial cult into the western provinces. The cult of the deified imperial numen is perhaps the clearest outward manifestation of an awareness by the Roman state that provincial loyalty could be encouraged by the manipulation of ritual and belief.

Yet acceptance of the argument that the imperial cult in the west was to some degree a tool of the state has not led us to question traditional notions of Roman religious 'tolerance'. This tolerance - especially as reflected by deity syncretism - is still widely seen as a pragmatic, even benign, response towards alien deities by a polytheistic power. This tolerance, it has long been argued, is most clearly characterised by the syncretistic interpretatio Romana by which alien deities were accommodated into an ever-expanding Roman pantheon.

The first part of this paper will argue, on the contrary, that syncretism is power: interpretatio and other syncretistic processes are less a tolerant dialogue between the empire and its colonies than a monologue, which, even when embraced by certain sectors of native populations (such as elites), was enacted according to imperial
Cash in the Roman World
Organisers: John Creighton (University of Reading), Greg Woolf (Brasenose College, Oxford)

The coinage of the late Republic and early Empire, based upon the principle silver coin the denarius, could be seen as the predecessor of the European Monetary Unit. However, the idea of one single currency for the whole empire is only a true up to a point. Kevin Butcher sets the scene by looking at the diversity of coinages in use around the empire, particularly in the East. From here the session shifts to look at the very diverse ways coinage was used and circulated in different regions of the Empire, concluding with Aleksander Bursche's paper on dissent from beyond the Imperial frontiers.

Kevin Butcher (Institute of Archaeology, London): Singular or Plural? Currency systems in the Early Roman Empire

There is a trend in recent publications which discuss this subject to treat the Roman empire during the first three centuries AD as if it possessed a single, unified currency system, which was imposed by the 'Roman authorities'. This belief no doubt stems from the predominantly Eurocentric observation of the wide circulation of Roman coins of known denomination, mainly produced at Rome, in Italy and the western provinces. The belief has influenced those who work on eastern coinages, to the extent that many specialists have been fruitlessly engaged in what the author believes is a futile attempt to translate the denominational structures of the issues of eastern cities (the so-called 'Greek Iinperial' coinages) into Roman denominations (asses, semisses, quadrantes etc.), and to find a comprehensive system for individual provinces or even for the whole east. So far the denominational structure of these civic coinages has eluded scholarship, because, I suggest, there was no single, unified structure. The model which I propose, of the ad hoc arrangements of these cities for obtaining currency, has implications not only for the production but also of supply of coinage throughout the Roman world, and gives us another means of circumventing the model which proposes that states only produced coins to pay their debts.

Dirk Backendorf (SFMA Frankfurt): New light on old hoards: some remarks on the internal structure of Roman Republican coin hoards

This paper will look at hoards of republican silver coins from the Italian mainland, and present some of the results of a new analysis. The terminal dates of the hoards range from the late-3rd cen. B.C. to the reign of Tiberius.

Since there was little development in the range of denominations, weight and fineness of the silver coinage in this period, it should provide an ideal illustration of a number of theoretical expectations. When the individual issues are grouped together into much longer periods, then the chronological structure appears as a skew-curve with a peak to the right. So too individual types, when subsumed into groups, reveal the expected "life curve", that is again a skew-curve, with a peak to the left. Furthermore the geographical distribution of coin types shows how immediately after striking they only appear in numbers in finds near the place of minting, whereas later they are most common at sites further afield.

Apart from this possibility of confirming the basic precepts of the interpretation of coin finds, the Italian material also allows us to examine how the coinage spread out through the area from the mint at Rome. A comparison of the time which elapsed between striking and the peak in the "life curve" for various issues in the years c. 150 to c. 40 B.C. makes it possible to estimate the time required for geographical diffusion. The relative velocity of diffusion varies enormously before the Social War, and reaches its peak in the first half of the 80s. Thereafter the level remains lower, but steady, through to the 40s. This observation has consequences for our view of economic life in Italy - if velocity of diffusion is indeed an indicator of economic activity.

The various coin types (which were struck in Rome) are fairly evenly distributed throughout the Italian mainland, and it is not possible to establish particular directions for the distribution of individual types or groups of types. Coins struck outside Rome can be used to check these results.
However, on one occasion it is indeed possible to observe an irregular geographical distribution: a small group of denarius hoards, which have a noticeably thinner "tail" than other contemporary hoards, proved to be a regional phenomenon restricted to the Transpadana, which continues well into the first century B.C. This suggests a connection between the intensity of Roman domination of the area, and the intensity of coin input from Rome.

David Wigg (SFMA Frankfurt): Cash on the North-West Frontier: the development of coin use in N. Gaul in the early Empire

It was not until the Roman army was permanently stationed on the Rhine from about 15 B.C., in connection with the Augustan advance into Germany, that Roman coinage made a significant impact upon the pool of coinage in circulation in the area. From this time on the army was to become the main motor in the dynamics of coin supply and use along the Rhine. Above all very large quantities of bronze coin were supplied, and this seems to have circulated rapidly, often disappearing almost completely from military contexts within little more than a decade. This is in contrast to silver finds, which generally reveal a much "older" profile. Clearly the average soldier in fact received and used mainly bronze. Presumably it was into non-military "native" or civilian contexts that the bronze "disappeared" from the military camps.

Against the background of which mints were supplying the Rhineland army with new coin during the Julio-Claudian period, a variety of phenomena will be discussed:
- The role of native coinage.
- The sudden appearance in the late-Augustan, early-Tiberian period of worn republican bronze and old Augustan moneymakers' asses in North Gaul, apparently as part of the coin supply.
- The role of copies; not only does the army seem to have been responsible for these, it is also possible to identify a group of "native" copies struck to a closely-controlled standard just below half the weight of an as. This suggests an increased requirement for coin in non-military areas in the Claudian period, as well as posing the question of what "native" structures were functioning and were responsible for striking these copies.
- The establishment of a more stable coin-supply in the Flavian period.
- Regionalisation and mobility.

Markus Peter (Römermuseum, Augst): Influences on coin circulation: An example from Germania Superior

The number and variety of coins found in Roman settlements are determined by several historical and modern factors. In order to use coins from archaeological sites as historical evidence in an adequate manner, it is important to know these factors and take them into account as best as possible.

This paper presents a number of approaches to the study of influences on coin circulation in antiquity and some conclusions which can be drawn from them. A study of the coins found in the Upper Rhine region shows that the disbandment of the legionary camp at Vindonissa (Windisch, Switzerland) in AD101 caused a considerable drop in the money supply of a large area. This indicates that the Roman soldiers stationed at Vindonissa must have had access to new small coinage; their presence was an important factor for the supply of coin in the region.

Coin finds of the Flavian and Trajanic period have other notable aspects, however, which must be due to other influences. The examination of traces of wear, the numbers of the different denominations and the stratigraphical evidence suggest that Imperial decisions had a greater bearing on the circulation of small coinage than expected. It seems that around AD104-107 not only aurei and denarii, but also many aes coins were withdrawn from circulation and melted down.

Similar phenomena can also be observed in the first century AD. The partial withdrawal of Caligula's coinage under Claudius, as depicted by Dio Cassius (60, 22, 3), can indeed be confirmed for the province of Germania Superior by the numismatic and archaeological evidence.

Peter Guest (Institute of Archaeology, London): Cash: deduction or deception?

Current studies of coin hoards tend to restrict themselves to dealing with historically generated interpretations and particular aspects of coin circulation. These discussions are ultimately founded upon the application of modern perceptions to the archaeology:
- That coin use in the ancient world was limited to acting as money
- That all provinces under Roman rule behaved in the same identifiable Roman manner.

By studying the diversity of coins contained in hoards from the first and second centuries AD it is argued that the process of hoarding within the empire was far from homogeneous and must have been heavily influenced by regional factors. It is suggested that such regionalisation could have come about in two ways:
- The different denominations were intended for introduction and circulation in specific areas
- The populations of the various provinces used different criteria when deciding which coins to hoard.

Together with a further analysis of comparative material from outside the empire this reveals the fragility of the idea that coins must be perceived in terms of cash and supports the interpretation of hoards as a result of social activity/tradition within the local populations.
Sinon Esmo de ClearJ (University of Birmingham): Coin use and loss in a small town: the deposition of coins at Shepton Mallet, Somerset

Excavations in 1990 sampled 20,000 m² of the Romano-British 'small town' at Shepton Mallet, Somerset. Much of the artefactual material was recorded using an EDM, giving precise spatial co-ordinates. Amongst this material were 573 coins, mainly of the later third and fourth centuries. Analysis of the distributions of the coins (with Dr. M.A. Oliver) is now under way, using techniques and packages developed for geostatistics. Before the patterning of the coins can be analysed in solely numismatic terms at least two major problems need to be addressed. The first is the extent to which site formation and taphonomic processes may have influenced the incidence of coins rather than it being a simple reflection of use/loss. The second is to compare the distribution of coins with those for other classes of artefacts to ascertain whether coins are behaving distinctively, or are just another class of 'rubbish'.

Numismatic analysis of the spatial patterning of the coins can compare their relationship to functional areas of the site, such as structures or cemeteries, and can compare coins using criteria such as issue-date or regular issues versus copies. These analyses should contribute a more detailed body of evidence, affording insight into patterns and processes of coin loss or deposition or discard, and thus allow inferences to be drawn as to the use of coins at the site and wider questions of monetisation and the use of coins as cash.

Aleksander Bursche (University of Warsaw): The function of Roman denarii in Barbaricum

Roman coinage leaving the limes as tribute or payment for goods or service changed its function when it passed into deeper Barbaricum. The function of Roman coinage in Barbaricum is quite complicated because different types of coin (gold, silver, bronze) played a different role in a particular region at different times. Instead of 'all purpose money' as in the case of the Roman Empire, in Barbaricum coins played the role of 'special purpose money' in a so-called 'prestige' or 'gift exchange' economy, as 'means of payment' in socially or politically motivated transactions like tribute, ransoms, so-called blood-money, brideprice or marriage-money (compare Polanyi 1968; Dalton 1965).

The most common type, denarii, could have an economic function, as 'means of exchange' in very limited cases - within power and economical centres, early ports of trade like Lundeborg (Fyn, near Gedme) or Jakuszowice. Even within such gateway communities denarii were used rather as personal wealth containing practical and floating value. There were no standard values, or standardised prices, a phenomenon which is connected with state societies and did not exist within German societies before the Middle Ages. No domestic coinage or even native imitations were produced in north-central Europe and first experiments with native coinage within German societies began in late 5th century A.D. Very few denarii were cut in pieces or clipped, almost none belong to the scrap-silver hoards horizon which means that denarii as opposed to solidi and siliqua did not participate in the weight-based economy of the Migration Period. Coin hoards themselves could form a specific category of personal belongings, having only individual wealth and no objective value. Kilograms of denarii from rich dynastic hoards, often found on the Continent together with Roman medallions and silver plate, symbolised status, prestige, rank and power. In such a context, the purpose for depositing a hoard could often come from the religious sphere, having e.g. apotropaic function - to carry the owner's power (mana) after death, in the same way as furnishing graves. Such possibility is confirmed by Islandic Egil Skallagrím Saga.

The specific function of coins in sacramum of German societies, could be additionally related to the images of human figures, which play a particular role in Germanic symbolic language. Gold coins changed their function in time and place, playing specific social, political and religious roles in a 'gift system' as a symbol of power, rank and status, marking loyalty and friendship in political and personal contacts. In particular Roman gold medallions (and later bracteats) had a very specific function in this respect, which could be compared to the Middle Age regalia, where the Roman emperor portrait plays the symbolic role of the medieval cross. Gold was often melted down to be transformed into practical primitive-valuables (like spiral-rings, ingots) or into different forms of status symbols (like Kolbet-barcelets, neck-rings, later bracteats) both used in the Migration Period weight-based and/or prestige economies.

There was no distinct, clear border between the economical and social, political or symbolic function of coins, between profanum and sacram, which was a characteristic phenomenon for German societies until the Medieval Period.
The World of Late Antiquity
Organiser: Tim Potter (British Museum)

The archaeology of the late-Antique city has been the focus of particular attention in all parts of the Empire in recent years. There were changes of immense significance to the layout of many sites, not least through the adoption of Christianity as the principal religion. Likewise, the countryside underwent a significant degree of transformation. What, then, did the world of the people who owned the Hope or Sevso treasure look like? How did it function? And what were the differences in urban and rural life from one part of the Empire to the other? Recent work is beginning to come up with some fascinating new ideas and perspectives, some of which will be explored in these papers.

Eleanor Scott (King Alfred’s College, Winchester): Processes and production: urban and rural late-Roman Palestine
This study will begin by describing the known urban and rural situation in northern Palestine in the late Roman and Byzantine periods, focusing on the results of recent excavations and survey work at sites such as: Caesarea; the village of Sumaq in the Carmel; and a number of villas in the Carmel and northern part of the West Bank. The methods of analysis and interpretation traditionally employed in this field of study will be examined, particularly the view that archaeological data exist to corroborate and support the conclusions already drawn from analysis of texts, notably rabbinic texts. It will be argued that this "handmaid" approach is inappropriate for a number of reasons, especially in a late Roman context, and obscures a full understanding of cultural processes and production in the broadest sense. Indeed, it remains to be recognised that certain "categories" of evidence are processes. An alternative "reading" of the landscape of late antique Palestine is offered, and, rather than using archaeological findings to confirm or validate the rabbinic and other texts, it is suggested that it is archaeological data which can often reconstruct the social, economic and symbolic structures through which the texts were produced and through which they must be read. Late Roman Palestine will also be used as a case study; it is a framework within which we might examine the very nature of many questions asked about urbanism in general and late antiquity in particular. Why do we ask the questions we do, and how useful are they? What kinds of information are they seeking, and what underlying assumptions are being made? What audience is assumed? To this end, particular attention will be paid to Professor Safrai’s The Economy of Roman Palestine (first published in English in 1994), notably contentions made about settlement patterns and the structure of the economy in the late Roman and Byzantine periods.

Andrew Poulter (University of Nottingham): Urban life in the countryside and soldiers in towns: a voyage down the Danube in late Antiquity
For those unfamiliar with the Danubian provinces, the first surprise is the unexpected quantity and remarkable preservation of the Roman remains, but the second is the frustrating realisation that there are peculiar difficulties inherent in the interpretation of the region’s archaeology, relevant though it clearly is for our understanding of the rural and urban landscape of the Western Empire. Examples of late Roman cities in the hinterland of the Danubian frontier from Austria (Noricum) in the north-west down to Bulgaria and the Black Sea coast (Thracia) to the south-east illustrate the potential of the region as well as the complexity of the archaeology. Impressive walled ‘cities’ contained both small administrative buildings and large palatial complexes. Urban garrisons and imperial use can account for the importance of some ‘urban centres’ but may have equally contributed to the demise of civic administration and a reduction in the urban population by c. 300. In the countryside, large and occasionally palatial villas provide a deceptive impression of wealth (improbable interpreted as evidence for a ‘late Roman revival’) which must be set against a decline in the number of villae-estates and a possible dislocation of rural settlement as early as the 3rd century, certainly attested by the late 4th.

Paradoxes abound. Despite an apparent failure of Roman urbanism in the 4th century, it is suggested, tentatively, that there was no corresponding decline in agriculture, but that there may have been a radical change in the character of landholding and a reorientation of supply, away from urban markets to satisfy military demands. A growth of population in smaller cities can be detected after c. 350, but, it is argued, this did not follow – nor stimulate – an urban revival. Still more profound (or evident), is the discontinuity in both town and country which distinguishes the late Roman from the early Byzantine period (after c. 450). Whereas, in Noricum and Pannonia, the collapse of Roman military control in the early 5th century provides a reasonable explanation, on the lower Danube, where cities survived, if precariously, under East Roman military control until the closing years of the 6th century, their economic and physical appearance (and probably their function) contraste sharply with the classical foundations they replaced. However, regional differences in the 6th century are still more marked and point to a diversity of character which (at present) defies any attempt to draw general conclusions. Nor does the evidence allow the origins of early medieval urbanism in the Balkans to be traced back to the condition of cities in the late Roman period.
Simon Loseby (Wadham College, Oxford): Continuity and Change in Late Antique Cities in Southern Gaul: The case of Arles

The political and religious significance of Arles in the late antique west combines with the comparative richness of the written and now archaeological documentation available from the city to make it a valuable case-study in the evolution of urban forms and functions in Late Antiquity under the twin impact of the transition from paganism to Christianity and of the changing character and fortunes of the Roman Empire. Arles became more important in the secular and ecclesiastical urban hierarchies of Late Antiquity, but this had both advantages and disadvantages, and it raised the problem of how the city could retain its regional hegemony without the Empire. Meanwhile, its topography was transformed not just by the requirements of the new Christian religion, but also by the emperors, and by changing attitudes to public and private space. The resulting urban landscape was radically different from its early imperial predecessor in some respects, but surprisingly conservative in others. A gradual redefinition of urban identity in Christian terms can be followed into the sixth century ideologically and topographically, in function and form.

Tim Potter (British Museum): The land of St. Augustine: the North African city and the Church

What happened to the civic centres that graced the classical city in late Antiquity? Some hold that they often developed into the market places of medieval towns, especially in Italy; others that they gradually lost their pre-eminence to souks, lining the principal streets, notably in the East. This paper will take as its starting point the excavation of the forum of Iul. Caesarea, capital of Mauretania Caesariensis, modern Cherchel in Algeria. A remarkable picture of changes in late Antiquity emerged from this work, which in turn serves to illuminate what went on in other North African cities in the transition from the Roman to the medieval world. The Church emerged as playing a central role.

Bryan Ward-Perkins (Trinity College, Oxford): The Distribution of Wealth and Power in the Later Roman State

In the fourth and fifth centuries the need to stay close to the army kept emperors close to the frontier in cities like Trier, Milan, Sirmium, Constantinople and Antioch. Rome remained the symbolic capital of Empire and the home of an aristocracy with empire-wide estates; but the greater part of the State’s immense wealth and patronage was expended within a broad frontier-belt, stretching from the mouth of the Rhine to upper Mesopotamia. The cities of the interior provinces paid the necessary taxes, but never saw the emperor and received little benefit from the State, except the all-important gift of peace. The later Roman Empire was a curious empire: the ‘periphery’ had become the political ‘centre’ and the main beneficiary of state spending; while the old centre (Italy) had become a contributing rather than an exploiting area. This curious inversion also had the unfortunate effect of drawing some of the greatest wealth and splendour of the Empire out to its very edges, where it was all too obvious to the barbarians immediately across the Rhine and Danube frontiers.

Mapping Roman Britain
Organiser: Mick Jones, City of Lincoln Archaeology Unit

In ‘What’s New in Roman Britain?’ we have examined a number of new sites and monuments. Here a broader perspective is taken, zooming out to look at how we perceive the Roman landscape as a whole.

Humphrey Welfare (RCHME): RCHME and Hadrian's Wall: the revised cartographic record of a World Heritage Site

In the mid 1980s three principal stimuli combined to highlight the pressing need for new archaeological cartography of the Hadrian's Wall zone. The first was the early rumblings of the Hadrian's Wall National Trail. It was clear to RCHME that the existing Ordnance Survey material would be inadequate for the levels of information and confidence that would be required to advise the developers, the Countryside Commission, and the guardians, especially English Heritage and the National Trust. Secondly, it had become apparent that the field archaeology of the Wall corridor had been strangely neglected and that, thirdly, a cartographic context was urgently required for the large-scale analytical plans of forts and camps that had already been produced by RCHME.

The scale of the problem - a 'site' up to 1 km wide and 180 km long - dictated that the specification of the cartographic product had to be realistic: an accurate overlay for the OS 1:2500 basic-scale map, depicting all the elements of the Wall complex and any earlier or later features that impinged upon them. Each linear element was divided into sections, according to its changing condition, and individual items such as offsets and centurial stones were also mapped. In all, over 3000 separate records were made. There was no attempt, however, to depict
distinctions that were beyond the scale as, for instance, the Clayton Wall or the survival of Broad Wall foundations.

A major aim was to strip the Wall of its cartographic myths, errors and assumptions that had been perpetuated from the nineteenth-century mapping. In many instances the Military Wall and the Vallum were found to be some distance from their commonly and tacitly accepted lines; elsewhere, especially around Carlisle and along the southern shore of the Solway, there proved to be no firm evidence of the line of the Wall itself.

The data has been deposited in the National Monuments Record and will form a constituent part of the information underpinning the emerging Hadrian's Wall Management Plan.

Barri Jones (University of Manchester): Ptolemy, Marinus and the Turning of Scotland
No abstract received

Simon Esmonde Cleary (University of Birmingham): Britannia depicta: Problems in mapping Roman Britain
A map reflects the concerns of its compiler. As far back as Ptolemy and the Tabula Peutingeriana Roman Britain has been 'mapped': these ancient compilers had a clear idea of what they wanted to know about the island and their compilations reflect this. But in this century we have not been very self-critical about our aims and have generated a series of single-sheet, authoritative depictions where inclusion implies importance and exclusion consigns to neglect.

By the beginning of the twentieth century a tradition had grown up of taking the modern physical geography of the British Isles, and onto it projecting certain classes of site and monument. These were overwhelmingly the distinctively Roman forts, towns, villas and roads. Since World War II there has been an enormous growth in our knowledge of the number and variety of sites of the Roman period, and there has been a parallel development of our understanding of development over four centuries. Yet the cartographic paradigm established a century ago is still dominant. The form and the content of these maps serve to make Roman Britain more familiar than it should be.

Both form and content need revision. Recent research has done much to show us that Britain in the Roman period was a different shape to Britain today. More importantly, inclusion of different classes of phenomenon on the same map, albeit symbolically differentiated, tends to imply parity of significance. Additionally the legacy of the growth of the subject is often more obtrusive than need be. The depiction of military sites is a particularly good example of these trends. Maps can now suffer both from too much information and too little evident purpose.

Is it any longer possible or desirable to produce single-sheet portraits of Britannia? Of course, people will continue to do so. But perhaps we should abandon the idea of inclusiveness and return to the idea of Ptolemy and the Tabula Peutingeriana. We should simply depict those things which we want to, leaving others to show what they want, thereby emphasising the diversity of Roman Britain rather than trying to homogenise it.

Michael Fulford, Roy Entwistle & Francis Raymond (University of Reading): The Romanised Landscape of Salisbury Plain
A research project has been undertaken to investigate transition in the landscape between the Iron Age and the Anglo-Saxon period in part of the military training area of Salisbury Plain. A range of methodologies - aerial photographic survey, geophysical and earthwork survey, extensive and intensive field-walking, small-and medium-scale excavation - has been employed to sample blocks of this chalkland landscape. Preliminary results indicate that, by the late first-to-mid second century AD, a widespread abandonment of, or radical alteration to, settlements originally occupied in the early-to-middle Iron Age had taken place. An extraordinarily diverse pattern of settlement, difficult to characterise and ranging from extensive nucleated villages to small, isolated farms/buildings, emerges in the early Roman period with evidence for the associated intensive arable cultivation of both river valleys and chalk uplands. The larger-scale excavations have produced evidence of settlement continuity to the sixth century.

Bob Bewley (RCHME): Mapping Roman Britain
This paper will explain the RCHME approach to archaeological aerial survey and its recent contribution to the archaeology of Roman Britain. There are three strands to aerial survey:
(1) Reconnaissance. The APU undertakes national programmes of aerial survey (co-ordinated with regionally flyers) with the purpose of finding new sites and recording more information about known sites.
(2) The National Mapping Programme. This programme aims to map (at 1:10,000 scale), interpret and classify all archaeological features seen on aerial photographs. In the classification and recording process sites and landscapes of particular periods are identified, thus for any region covered it is possible to extract all the Roman sites by site type (military, civilian etc).
(3) Detailed mapping projects at 1:2500 scale are also very much a part of our work. The most notable recent Roman plans are the of the Roman Town at Silchester which was completed earlier this year and the plan of the Roman Fort and vicus at Newton Kyme, Yorkshire.
Mike Bishop (DUNS): From Trackway to road: Corbridge, Roecliffe, and the case for a proto-Dere Street

It has long been suspected that the Roman army used native trackways for communication during the early stages of the conquest of Britain. The time taken to construct just cleared routes, let alone well-founded, all-weather surfaces, made it impossible for construction to keep up with an advancing battle-group. Where routes were re-used by Roman roads, it is difficult to prove their existence, but at points where Roman roads deviate from earlier trackways, it may be possible to glimpse something of the road network, particularly in the earliest days of the Flavian conquest of the north.

Recent excavations at Roecliffe, North Yorkshire, identified a previously unknown Flavian military site less than 2km from the long-supposed military predecessor to the Roman town of Isurium Brigantum at Aldborough. There were indications that Roecliffe superintended a crossing of the river Ure that may have pre-dated the Dere Street crossing at Aldborough. Moreover, there was some evidence to point to a prehistoric north-south route that was utilised by the Romans during the conquest of Brigantia.

The situation apparent at Roecliffe - rapidly replaced by another site nearby - is paralleled elsewhere on Dere Street, with the neighbouring sites of Beaufont Red House and Corbridge in the Tyne valley. The short move from Red House to Corbridge makes sense if the crossing point of the Tyne had changed and it is believed by some that an earlier road network, incorporating Red House, may have been superseded by the more familiar scheme. Thus Corbridge, like Aldborough, may have been a greenfield site established to accommodate the revised course of the main north road, now known as Dere Street, evidently constructed during the Domitianic period.

This paper reviews the evidence for these theories, then tackles the wider strategic and logistical implications of a proto-Dere Street.

Vince Gaffney (BUFAU, University of Birmingham), M. van Leusen & R. White: The Wroxeter Hinterland Project

The relationship between towns and their hinterlands is one of the key problems of archaeological research, central to the understanding of economic and social organisation. Despite this very little research on the question has been based on rigorous analysis of systematically collected data. The Roman town of Wroxeter and the surrounding region in large measure because the remains of early settlement have not been obliterated by extensive medieval and modern development, present a rare opportunity to investigate the relationship in the necessary detail, and on a sufficient scale, to provide theoretical and methodological frameworks of broader application.

The Wroxeter hinterland project seeks to develop new, inter-disciplinary methods to investigate the problems of rural-urban relationships. It seeks to build upon the results of recent and on-going research, excavation and survey carried out within and around Wroxeter. Central to the research objectives will be the implementation of novel approaches to the analysis of landscape archaeological data based upon the latest technology. Despite the richness of the ancient landscape around Wroxeter, this is an archaeological resource which like many others is under continuous threat from infrastructural and other development, and from the erosive effects of modern agriculture. A secondary aim of the project is to make use of the latest developments in information technology to monitor and model such threats, and thus develop a strategy, from a methodological point-of-view of wide applicability, for the management of the archaeological landscape.
Ronan Archaeology Conference 1995 - The Abstracts

being made. These vessels are not common finds and no close parallels for the main form, a flask, are known in Britain. The recently found enamelled vessel from Nijmegen has many of the same decorative motifs while a flask from Pinguenre, Istria now in the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna shows the form represented by the majority of the mould fragments as well as some more of the decorative motifs.

The second group of moulds date to the late 3rd or 4th century and are for ‘purse-shaped’ spoons with offset handles. Investigation of the fragments has shown that the individual 2-piece moulds were assembled into cone-shaped multiples and between 12 and 16 spoons were cast at one time.

**John Davies** (Norwich Castle Museum): A brooch manufacturing site in South Norfolk

No abstract received

**Angela Wardle** (MoLAS): Rites and rituals in the East cemetery of Roman London

The area to the east of Roman London has yielded evidence for an extensive cemetery, one of the several burial grounds known from antiquarian finds and recent excavations to exist outside the city. Current work at MOLAS concentrates on the area to the south of the Aldgate road, which dates from the beginning of Roman settlement in London, where excavations between 1983 and 1990 have recovered a minimum of 122 cremations and 587 inhumations, dating from the first to the fifth century AD. Evidence exists for a variety of burial rites and many burials were accompanied by a wide range of grave goods, among them several spectacular groups, which suggest specific rituals. Complete glass vessels representing types found only in fragmentary condition in contemporary contexts are of especial interest.

The multi-disciplinary project involves study of the development of the cemetery area and its organisation, burial rites and rituals, demographic evidence and the wider implications for Roman London. The paper discusses the overall aims with special reference to the finds, the methods of analysis, the limits of interpretation and the logistical problems of a complex programme.

**Christine Jones** (National Postal Museum): Looking out from the gallery: finds studies and museums

This paper presents the personal view of a museum curator on the subject of finds research and who does the research. It sets out to analyse curatorial responsibilities and duties in a local authority museum, makes comparisons with colleagues in museums funded by other sources, and briefly surveys Roman research projects. The conclusions indicate that active research in Roman finds is, by and large, not undertaken by curators working within local government.

**Hilary Cool** (York Archaeological Trust) and M.J. Baxter (Nottingham Trent University): Similarity and difference: the comparison of finds assemblages

The integration of different types of excavated data and the ability to compare assemblages from different sites and buildings are fundamental building blocks in archaeology. This paper is a contribution to the methodology for doing this. It will outline a way of comparing assemblages of small finds by tabulating them according to the function of the object, the different periods and/or areas of the sites. These data are then explored using the statistical technique of correspondence analysis which provides plots that enable similarities and differences in assemblages to be quickly identified.

This technique has already been used with some success to explore the function of various enigmatic buildings in the legionary fortress at York by comparing their finds assemblages with those of legionary buildings of known function in both York and Caerleon. This paper extends this work, and will apply the methodology to assemblages from a variety of military and civilian contexts of first to third century date.

**Lindsay Allason-Jones** (Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle): A typical assemblage

Archaeological small finds reports tend to concentrate on the material from a particular site; museum catalogues are usually confined to material in one particular institution, which may be from many unconnected sites and periods; scholarly articles invariably look at a specific group of artefacts, such as a particular form of brooch. It is very difficult from these varied publications to get a sense of what might be expected from a particular sort of site at a particular period, information which is not only important for our knowledge of life in Roman Britain but which may also be essential for directors of excavations when preparing budgets and forward plans.

In 1988 an attempt was made to look at tile material found in the turrets on Hadrian's Wall. This limited project produced some surprising results and suggested that this approach could be tried on other types of sites. This paper will look at the potential of this approach and will explore whether we are yet in a position to identify a typical assemblage from a fort, a cemetery, a town site, or a villa.
The Pub Guide

(1) **The Queen's Head**, (otherwise known as 'the Nob')
Christchurch Road
The closest pub to the campus, with two bars, very studenty atmosphere, big-screen telly. ☆☆

(2) **The Lyndhurst**
Queen's Road
Local's pub with a good atmosphere, nice wooden floors, good selection of ales, wines, food, good Sunday brunch. ★★★★

(3) **The College Arms**
Wokingham Road
Student pub during term time, otherwise not. Good atmosphere, good food, good selection of guest ales, LOTS & LOTS of exotic bottled beers, wines. Games with flashing lights ☆☆☆

(4) **The Turk's Head**
London Road
Town pub. Good selection of food served all day and an okay selection of beer. Pool and table football. ☆☆☆

(5) **The Purple Turtle**
Corner of Duke Street and King's Road
An after-hours kind of pub. Open until 2am, so it packs when the regular pubs close. Excellent selection of exotic foreign bottled beers (try the Mexican Chilli beer!). Occasional "entertainment", table football, various games. ☆☆

(6) **The Granby**
London Road at Cemetery Junction
Bit of a dive. Bands on most nights. Popular with Bikers ☆

(7) **The Monk's Retreat**
Friar's Street
An upmarket town pub and wine bar, with a good selection of food. A bit of a trek but could be worth your while. ☆☆

(8) **The Eldon Arms**
Eldon Terrace
A bit hidden but a nice local's pub with a good quiet and rather Irish atmosphere. Live music if you're lucky. ★★★★
Roman Archaeology Conference 1995 - The Abstracts

31 March to 2nd April 1995
University of Reading

Accommodation: Child's Hall

Car Parks: Residential delegates are asked to use the Child's Hall car park. Car parking permits are not required.