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From Prehistory to Protohistory — the transition from Iron Age to Roman Britain

Session organiser: Fraser Hunter (National Museums of Scotland)

This session has been organised in collaboration with the Prehistoric Society

Session Abstract

Recent years have seen renewed interest in the later Iron Age societies of Britain and their entanglement with Rome both before and after conquest. Much of this work has focussed on elite-level interactions and on southern English evidence. This session will consider the period *c.* 100 BC— AD 100 and look at some of the social changes across Britain at this time. What was the impact of contact with and conquest by Rome, and how did this vary? Can we get any closer to questions of whether Rome catalysed existing changes or created them? How did the experience of Rome vary spatially and socially? This is a vast topic, but selected case-studies will consider aspects from across Roman Britain to fuel the debate. The session will include five contributions; the sixth is reserved for an extended discussion.

Chair: Fraser Hunter

1. Long-term changes in Britain and Ireland 300 BC— AD 100. *J. D. Hill (British Museum)*
2. Hegemony or fragmentation? The Late Iron Age-Roman transition in Western Britain. *Tom Moore (University of Durham)*
3. Prehistoric deposition and Roman period roundhouses. *Rachel Pope (University of Cambridge)*

Chair: John Creighton

4. Transitions across the frontier *Fraser Hunter (National Museums Scotland)*
5. Rewriting the Later Iron Age in central Britain. *Colin Haselgrove (University of Leicester)*

Discussion led by John Creighton

Long-term changes in the later Iron Age

J. D. Hill (British Museum)

This paper will take a long-term perspective on the impact of the Roman world, considering Britain and Ireland from 300 BC onwards to assess what are the real changes brought about by contact and conquest in the light of ongoing social developments.

Hegemony or fragmentation? The Late Iron Age-Roman transition in Western Britain

Tom Moore (University of Durham)

Discussion of the changes taking place in the late Iron Age and early Roman period have tended to focus on south east England with limited re-evaluation of societies beyond the suggested client kingdoms. Despite new evidence, our social models of these societies continue to focus on visualising coherent tribal groups, with their antecedents in the middle Iron Age; groups which, it is suggested, then developed in to the Roman civitates. Increasingly, however, this model of social continuity can be seen more as a reflection of our research patterns and preconceptions, than as a real representation of Late Iron Age communities.

Re-examining the archaeology of the Severn-Cotswolds, this paper will argue that a very different picture can be presented. In contrast to earlier models, societies in the west of Britain appear to have been undergoing a process of fragmentation from the 2nd century BC to later 1st century AD; a process which has been masked by an ill-conceived retrospective projection of Roman hegemony. It will be suggested that rather than place the late Iron Age evidence within a framework devised from south east England, we need to examine these developments on their own merits, questioning the specific roles of *oppida*, imports and social landscapes in the region. It will also be suggested that a recent focus on identity in both Iron Age and Roman studies, whilst useful, has obscured more detailed examination of how power was brokered by Late Iron Age communities and who the communities were that emerged as pre-eminent in the early Roman province. Were interpersonal political links between individuals more important than a generalised pattern of Roman- or Gallo-Belgicisation?

Prehistoric deposition and Roman period roundhouses

Rachel Pope (University of Cambridge)

In traditional Iron Age studies, an archaeology fettered by the historical texts, and with a geographical emphasis on south-east England, has worked to create an unbalanced view of everyday life at the time of the Roman conquest. With an increasingly archaeological approach, it is becoming clear that social change at this point in history pales in comparison to changes both in the Later Bronze Age and at *c.* 400 BC. For many areas of Britain, it is now difficult to see this as a period of real transition. We might now say that, for much of the country, the impact of Rome was not actually very great.

One area where we do see significant change is in the deliberate deposition of artefacts. The ritual deposition of everyday objects in domestic contexts is a long-lived tradition in north-west Europe, with its origins in the early second millennium BC. This practice does not end with the Roman conquest of Britain. Instead, the Roman Iron Age sees a swell in these traditions, to levels not witnessed since the Late Bronze Age. This is the strengthening of prehistoric practice and is particularly found in North Wales and North-East England. What was the social impact of Rome in these areas?

We certainly see the continuation of prehistoric themes: the household association, the process of fragmentation and the role of the quern stone; alongside greater emphasis on personal items and house abandonment. The author's recent work on the Bronze Age material reveals a clear link between peaks in ritual deposition and major changes in the settlement record. This currently seems to occur both in cases of change as a result of new economic

opportunity, as well as change as a result of social crisis. Which of these is represented in the transition to the Roman Iron Age?

Transitions across the frontier

Fraser Hunter (National Museums Scotland)

One way of comparing the effect of the Roman presence is to look at the variable responses (if any) on either side of the fluctuating provincial boundary. This contribution will look at the evidence from material culture for responses to and uses of the Roman world in the context of developments in indigenous societies.

Rewriting the Later Iron Age in central Britain.

Colin Haselgrove (University of Leicester)

Fifty years on from Wheeler and Piggott, we may no longer believe in 'Celtic cowboys', but what do we actually know about the year-on-year existence, social relations and world-view of the Late Iron Age inhabitants of central Britain? Thanks to the mass of new data we have accumulated (and continue to accumulate), the answer is a good deal more about their material world and how this varied through the region (settlement pattern and subsistence, exchanges, even ritual engagements), but there has been much less progress in social interpretation. A single new discovery like the East Leicestershire hoard has the capacity to rewrite existing ideas about the period, underlining the frailty of current understanding of Late Iron Age societies. No wonder we then have difficulty in evaluating the nature of Roman involvement in central Britain and factoring this into our narratives of change for the first century AD, let alone understanding what it really meant for individuals and communities to become 'Roman' in a formally-constituted province. Using case studies, this paper will look at what we know about the Late Iron Age in central Britain and how we might go about finding out more. Should our approach to Late Iron Age societies be 'bottom-up' or 'top-down'? The short answer is surely wherever possible both, but we should remember that because of the character of the evidence we have (texts, coins, imports, central sites, *etc.*) and our own imperial legacy, the traditional top-down approach gives us at best a selective and at worst a completely false view of Late Iron Age societies.

Developing Identity in Roman Studies?

Jennifer Baird (University of Leicester) and Judith Rosten (University of Leicester)

Session Abstract

This session is intends to return to the roots of TRAC — to stimulate a theoretically informed discussion on the use and future of a commonly flouted but rarely defined interpretive framework. Identity has become a buzz-word in Roman archaeology, often used with abandon and wanton neglect. At conferences the word can frequently be seen in the title of many papers, but few actually go on to use or develop this concept. Alternately, it has come to act as a *de facto* replacement for Romanization. Is this all that studies of identity have to offer? Is it really no more that a fashionable product of its time, a useful replacement for a concept that has fallen out of favour? Or, does 'identity' have to potential to transcend these criticisms and become an interpretive model in its own right?

1. The Ill-Understood Word: Ways of Making Identity Work for Roman Archaeology. *Lisa Anderson (Brown University)*
2. Searching for Social Identities in Italian Landscapes. *Martin Sterry (University of Leicester)*
3. The Social Significance of Conviviality between the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Periods. *Mariana Egri (University of Cambridge)*
4. Roman Dacia: Stressing Identity or Identity Stress? *Ioana Oltean (University of Glasgow) and Carmen Ciongradi (National History Museum of Transylvania, Cluj Napoca)*
5. Identity in the Frontier: Theory and Multiple Community Interfacing. *Rob Collis (Newcastle University)*
6. The Case-Study of the Germanic Auxiliaries Stationed on Hadrian's Wall. *Cheryl Clay (University of Sheffield)*

The Ill-Understood Word: Ways of Making Identity Work for Roman Archaeology

Lisa Anderson (Brown University)

> There has been a veritable discursive explosion in recent years around the concept of 'identity', at the same moment as it has been subjected to a searching critique.
> (Hall 2000: 15)

> [Identity] has become a 'hot topic'... just as its everyday application becomes so fluid as to defy coherent definition
> (MacInnes 2004: 532)

The above statements, given the burgeoning attitude towards identity within TRAC, could have been made by any number of Roman archaeologists but instead originate in disciplines outside archaeology. The main problem with identity in Roman archaeology is the apparent insularity of our field, where many too frequently ignore anything other than Roman archaeology. Identity studies play a popular role in many subjects — other archaeologies, anthropology, geography, literature, linguistics, sociology, psychology, philosophy, *etc.*— where identity has been subjected to frequent criticisms of its continuing relevance and general misuse. The fact remains that identity is extremely important, not as a path toward an absolute explanation of human behaviour but as a way of better conceptualizing it. To achieve a clearer sense of 'identity', we need to be aware of the work done in these other fields, some of which can show ways out of our conundrums. The second problem with identity, with which other disciplines have been grappling and we have just begun to struggle, is the enormity of the term. If we are to use 'identity' in a meaningful way, we must first better understand the concept, at its core a highly abstract sociological/psychological one, and then carefully define how we are using it and what we expect it to tell us about the reality of material culture.

As an illustration of these points, this paper will outline my use of community identity in my research on the burial practices of the Roman military. Informed application of the theories about and conceptions of identity from other disciplines in concordance with the proper amount of scope on what 'identity' can actually do has proved to be the best way of approaching this large, multifaceted topic.

S. Hall, 2000, "Who needs 'identity'?" *in* P. du Gay, J. Evans and P. Redman, eds., *Identity: A Reader*. Sage Publications: 15–30.

J. MacInnes, 2004, "The sociology of identity: social science or social comment?" *The British Journal of Sociology* 55.4: 531–543.

Searching for Social Identities in Italian Landscapes

Martin Sterry (University of Leicester)

The study of Roman landscapes has been a major focus of research over recent decades and has been driven by the growth in field-survey and GIS analysis, but the subject has often been criticised for its lack of theoretical rigour. Identity is a subject that has been largely avoided in the growing body of landscape research, though it has been increasingly prominent in TRAC discussion. Instead, the same historically defined questions of demography and economy are considered, and research often focuses on the relationship of humans to their environment, rather than on communities. In Italy, classical sources have been used to create rigid cultural maps of pre-Roman *ethnoi* that are imposed upon the data and treated as being synonymous with identity, until they are extinguished by changes in the Roman state. The resulting landscapes are effectively de-socialised as a result.

Landscapes are developed at different rates through time as they are continuously reshaped and reconceptualised by communities in concert and conflict. Survey projects provide an ideal source from which to begin to consider these overlapping and competing landscapes and draw out the identities of the people who lived in them. I intend to show that by considering the data at different scales and drawing contrasts between them it is possible to consider aspects of identity expressed in everyday activities whether they be ethnic, social or economic differences. A series of major projects in central Italy provides a platform for exploring the development of a regional identity and also important differences in the activities of this area.

The Social Significance of Conviviality between the Late Iron Age and Early Roman Periods

Mariana Egri (University of Cambridge)

Communal food consumption represents, within all societies, a condensed symbolic depiction of social relationships and therefore, it is often used not only to define or re-define status, but also to enforce more or less institutionalized bonds. Social groups or individuals compete, differentiate themselves and establish their own identity through what and how they eat and drink.

This paper aims to investigate the types of communal feasts practiced within Late Iron Age communities from the Lower Danube region, as well as the ways in which Mediterranean forms of conviviality were adopted and adapted before and after the Roman conquest. All these communities were exposed, in different degrees, to influences coming from the Hellenistic or Roman world and some of them were incorporated into the indigenous conviviality in a variety of manners.

Such differentiated attitudes can be explained by a variety of factors, like the differences in the indigenous political structures — a tribal society in the case of the Scordisci, but a kingdom in the case of the Dacians — determining the ways in which feasts were used as a social-political instrument. At the same time, the availability of first-hand exchange contacts played a significant role, influencing the distribution patterns, both geographically and along the social scale.

The Roman conquest brought in another social-political structure, with distinct identities and social divisions, yet conviviality remained an important aspect of provincial life. The indigenous response to such new challenges was far from uniform and was influenced by the pre-conquest attitudes, but also by the degree of interest manifested by certain social groups for re-defining identity within these new structures.

Roman Dacia: Stressing Identity or Identity Stress?

Ioana Oltean (University of Glasgow) and Carmen Ciongradi (National History Museum of Transylvania, Cluj Napoca)

Roman expansionism involved variable movement of individuals and groups across the empire: Italians, but also provincials, with variable ethnic background and level of *Romanitas*. But, within provincial environment the ways in which ethnic identity of the natives and of the immigrants is manifest within the expression of their personal and social identity varies greatly. This variety impacted severely on the way Romanization has been interpreted and criticized in the past. Using the cases of the Dacians and the Dalmatines in Roman Dacia, this paper intends to discuss the nature and evolution of the epigraphic and archaeological expression of ethnic identity by both natives and immigrants, as motivated by identity stress.

Identity in the Frontier: Theory and Multiple Community Interfacing

Rob Collis (Newcastle University)

Typical studies of identity in the Roman period have focused on identity as a substitute for Romanization at the upper levels of society or at the level of the individual, for example through the use of tombstones. Yet identity is a complex social construct that has significance at all scales of social organization and cannot simply be equated with Romanization. Identity,

at the level of the individual is highly complex, but as the social group increases in scale identity becomes a simpler construct. This paper focuses on identity constructs at the scale of the community. Upon reviewing various definitions of community, the frontier of northern England is characterized as a border zone containing multiple communities: military, rural, and urban. These distinct types of communities coexisted within the frontier, and their differing qualities point to identity constructs that maintained community identity and characterized cross-community interaction in the dynamic interplay between the empire, its soldiers, and its citizens. Theory is used to provide a model of community interface, and it is hoped that this model is found to be applicable for study of all Roman frontiers.

The Case-Study of the Germanic Auxiliaries Stationed on Hadrian's Wall

Cheryl Clay (University of Sheffield)

The task of evaluating the identities of those persons responsible for the material and epigraphic remains of the past is both an enduring topic of interest as well as a pragmatic form of research, which is intimately connected with an archaeologist's role of 'labelling' his/her material and identifying the means of its production.

This paper examines one particular form of archaeological evidence, which is used to explore the various identities of Germanic auxiliary units stationed on Hadrian's Wall: the epigraphic data. These Germanic auxiliaries, under an eclectic assortment of tribal names, were responsible for generating a huge corpus of inscriptions between the second and fourth centuries AD. Their manipulation of this particular form of material culture has left a series of identities being manifested in the epigraphic record. Inscriptions record soldiers with Germanic names as well as soldiers proclaiming themselves to be German (*germanus*), Frisian, Suebian and so forth. Another integral component of the soldiers' identity is also clearly expressed through their worship of Germanic gods associated with their continental homeland.

An interrelated factor to all these types of identities is also the identity and status of the soldiers' native language. The Germanic names embedded in these monuments are testament to the linguistic roots of these soldiers originating from the Lower Rhine. The paper evaluates the importance of these linguistic traits in tracing the more philological aspects of the Germanic soldiers' identity.

The Army in Judaea/Palaestina

Session organiser: Gwyn Davies, Florida International University

Session Abstract

This session explores the functions and activities of the Roman army in the provinces of Judaea/Palaestina from the First to Fifth Centuries CE. These six papers traverse subjects that discuss the mechanisms of internal security and field operational matters, the form and function of military bath houses and the identification of 'military' personnel from a funerary context. In a small way, this forum illustrates the extensive fieldwork concerning the Roman army that has been carried out in this area in recent years.

1. Bathing on the Frontier: A Study of Roman Military Bath-Houses in Judaea-Palaestina. *Robert Darby (University of Missouri)*
2. The Ballista Stones from Gamla. *Andrew Holley (Independent Scholar)*
3. Skeletal Remains of Roman Soldiers in the City of Acre. *Yossi Nagar and Yotam Tepper (Israel Antiquities Authority)*
4. Late Roman Forts in the Central Negev and the Araba Valley: A Re-Assessment of the Archaeological Evidence. *Tali Erickson-Gini (Israel Antiquities Authority) and Benjamin J. Dolinka (W. F. Albright Institute).*
5. Excavations in the Late Roman Fort at Yotvata, 2003–2006. *Gwyn Davies (Florida International University) and Jodi Magness (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill).*
6. The Military History of Masada Reconsidered. *Guy D. Stiebel (Institute of Archaeology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem)*

Bathing on the Frontier: A Study of Roman Military Bath-Houses in Judaea-Palaestina.

Robert Darby (University of Missouri)

The remains of military *balnea* are found throughout the provinces of the Roman empire. However, unlike their counter-parts found in cities, towns, and villas, military baths and their place in the Roman cultural practice of public bathing have received comparatively little attention from scholars. Moreover, recent studies of Roman military architecture have also neglected *balnea*, often noting only their relationship to an associated *castellum* and relegating them as secondary installations. To date, most archaeological research on military *balnea* has come from Britain and the northern provinces. Military bath-houses, however, were equally prevalent in other regions, including the eastern provinces. This paper presents the interim results of research currently being conducted on the archaeological remains of several bath-houses associated with military sites in Roman Judaea-Palaestina.

The Ballista Stones from Gamla

Andrew Holley (Independent Scholar)

Large numbers of stone balls were found during excavations at Gamla in Israel. Many of these are projectiles that were fired by Roman stone-throwing artillery (*ballistae*) during the siege of 7 AD. This paper examines issues relating to the study of the ballista stones from Gamla, including problems with identification and the determination of possible artillery calibres. It will also compare the locations of ballista stones with finds of other projectile weapons from the site, the whole being correlated with Josephus' account of the siege (*Jewish War* IV. 1-83).

Skeletal Remains of Roman Soldiers in the City of Acre

Yossi Nagar and Yotam Tepper Israel Antiquities Authority)

Large amount of human skeletal remains from the Roman period are found and studied in Israel each year. However, bones that could be attributed to the Romans themselves were first discovered only recently. This paper describes the skeletal remains found around the city of Acre (Acre-Remez excavation, held by Tepper, Y. 2004). During the excavation, the remains of at least 165 individuals, dated to the Roman period, were found. Unique artifacts suggest some of these individuals were Roman soldiers. The burial customs at Acre-Remez are different from any other cemetery yet described in Israel. The palaeo-demographic parameters are also significantly different from those that charactrize contemporary civilian populations: the age and sex distributions show a greater frequency of adult males. This strengthens our hypothesis as to the military nature of this population (the women and children in this cemetery perhaps representing the families of the soldiers). Since these individuals were generally found at a relatively high level in the cemetery, they presumably represent a later phase of the Roman presence in Acre.

Late Roman Forts in the Central Negev and the Araba Valley: A Re-Assessment of the Archaeological Evidence

Tali Erickson-Gini (Israel Antiquities Authority) and Benjamin J. Dolinka (W. F. Albright Institute)

Archaeological excavations of sites in the central Negev and Arava Valley conducted by Rudolph Cohen on behalf of the Israel Department of Antiquities during the 1980s revealed a number of small Roman forts that are only now being published. These small forts can be characterized as "towers" since they usually contain evidence of a second story and are found along major roads used by the Nabataeans in the Early and Late Roman periods. These structures also feature small, walled annexes. Forts of this type have been found along the Petra-Gaza road (*i.e.*, the "Incense Road") at Horvat Qasra, Mezad Neqarot and Mezad Ma'ale Mahmal. Similar forts have been found in the southern Arava Valley at the sites of Horvat Dafit, Be'er Menuha and possibly Rujm Taba, all of which were constructed at Nabataean caravanserais. A final example was built along the Oboda-Mampsis road in the Iron Age site of Horvat Haluqim. The archaeological evidence suggests that these installations were constructed towards the end of the second century AD, during the Severan period, and abandoned sometime in the first half of the third century AD. This paper will present and examine the evidence for the construction and occupation of these forts.

Excavations in the Late Roman Fort at Yotvata, 2003–2006

Gwyn Davies (Florida International University) and Jodi Magness (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

This paper provides a summary of the four seasons of excavations carried out at the site of the Roman fort at Yotvata in the Arava Valley, Israel. Our work indicates three main occupation phases at the site: late Roman with four successive occupation levels (first half of the fourth century); early Islamic with three levels (late sixth to eighth centuries); and a recent, possibly Ottoman, phase. Although unconnected with the frontier arrangements on the Edomite plateau further to the east, the quadriburgium at Yotvata appears to have formed an important component of the internal security apparatus established in the wake of the Diocletianic transfer of *Legio X Fretensis* to Aila/Aqaba.

The Military History of Masada Reconsidered

Guy D. Stiebel (Institute of Archaeology, Hebrew University of Jerusalem)

One of the most celebrated Roman sieges took place at Masada in AD 73/4. The detailed description provided by Flavius Josephus and the extensive archaeological excavations that were carried-out in the early 1960s, have provided the basis for our understanding of the military history of the site. However, over the last decade, Masada has been the subject of renewed investigations that have re-focused attention on the credibility of Josephus' account and the integrity of Yadin's scientific work at the site. The paper presents a multidisciplinary synthesis that aims to illustrate current knowledge concerning nearly one hundred years of military history at Masada, from the days of King Herod to the destruction of the fortress at the end of the First Jewish Revolt. This will include the results of recent excavations at the site and a survey conducted at the base of the rock, the interpretation of early aerial photographs, a spatial distribution analysis of military equipment found at site and a reinterpretation of Josephus. In addition to the description of remains possibly attributable to an earlier siege, the paper presents the panoplies of the opposing forces during the First Jewish Revolt and sheds new light both on the course of battle and on questions of Roman motivation.

Beyond the Frontier in Roman Wales

Session organiser: Peter Guest

Session Abstract

Think of the Roman period in Wales and it is likely that images of soldiers, warfare and conquest will spring to mind. This is hardly surprising given that Tacitus described at considerable length the campaigns against the tribes of Wales that lasted, on-and-off, from AD 47 until their final subjugation in 77/8, while the numerous military installations of the conquest period have been the focus of antiquarian and archaeological attention for well over a century. The remains of five legionary fortresses and over forty auxiliary forts have been identified in the area of modern Wales and the Marches, and the excavations at Brecon Gaer, Caerleon, Caernarfon and Usk, among many others, have come to characterise the archaeology of the Roman period in this part of western Britain. This is despite the fact that the withdrawal of the army from Wales, which began early in the second century, had by *c.* 160 reduced the Welsh garrison, apart from the IInd and XXth legions at Caerleon and Chester, to fewer than half a dozen auxiliary units. Nevertheless, the army remains the predominant subject of archaeological research in Roman Wales and a third edition of Roman Frontiers in Wales is currently being prepared for publication.

This session aims to provide a balance to this traditional account by highlighting research projects that focus on non-military subjects and themes in Roman Wales. The intention is not to diminish the importance of the army to the history of Roman Wales, but to offer a series of papers that together present an alternative, perhaps 'civilian' and/or 'native' (if these terms have any real meaning), perspective with which to develop a broader, more representative narrative. We will begin at the Roman end of the spectrum with papers on the basilica at Caerwent (Brewer) and CaerleonŠs satellite settlement at Bulmore (Marvel and Reynolds), after which the focus turns to the less familiar themes of rural settlement in southwest Wales (Murphy) and the continuity of native burial practices after the Roman conquest (Pollock). The final papers consider the contribution that artefacts can make to the study of Roman Wales (Chapman), and the evidence for continuity from the Roman to medieval periods and the development of Welsh identities (White).

1. Building a Basilica. *Richard Brewer, National Museum Wales.*
2. Life and Death in the Suburbs of Isca (Bulmore and Bulmore Road). *Andrew Marvel, Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd Julie Reynolds, National Roman Legion Museum*
3. Enclosures in southwest Wales — finally some evidence for settlement. *Ken Murphy, Cambria Archaeology.*
4. Roman or Countryman: prehistoric funerary traditions in Roman Wales. *Karen Pollock, University of Wales Bangor.*
5. Roman Wales from its Finds. *Evan Chapman, National Museum Wales.*

6. Britannia Prima and the genesis of Welsh identity. *Roger White, University of Birmingham.*

Building a Basilica

Richard Brewer, National Museum Wales

Between 1987 and 1995 extensive excavations were undertaken on the site of the forum-basilica at Caerwent (Venta Silurum). These excavations revealed the various stages in the construction process, including preliminary site works, the laying of foundations and drainage and a phase of building inspection. There is also evidence for cranes and other lifting devices utilised during construction of the walls and superstructure. The carving of the Corinthian capitals from the colonnades of the basilica and other architectural embellishments will be reviewed. Meticulous study of the roofing material from the site has shed light on the roof structure and a possible interruption in the construction of the building. How can we relate the plan of the Caerwent complex to the description of a forum-basilica provided by the writer and architect Vitruvius? The construction techniques required to build such a complex on this scale would have been unfamiliar to the local inhabitants. So who was responsible, or provided specialist guidance, for this building project? How long did it take to build the forum-basilica? What repairs were necessary over time?

Life and Death in the Suburbs of Isca (Bulmore and Bulmore Road)

Andrew Marvel, Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd and Julie Reynolds, National Roman Legion Museum

Andrew Marvel will outline the history of the archaeological excavations of the small Roman settlement at Bulmore, which lies just some 2km to the south east of the legionary fortress of Isca (Caerleon). He will discuss the known extent of the settlement, the duration of its occupation, the buildings and the evidence for activities taking place within them and their environs. Julie Reynolds will discuss the evidence for cemeteries to the south east of the fortress and the vicinity of Bulmore. She will be incorporating her recent research into the cremation cemetery just across the river from the fortress, at Ultra Pontem, which sheds new light on funerary practices at Isca. The evidence for the continuation of the cemetery along Bulmore Road will be examined as well as the discovery of burials associated with the settlement at Bulmore itself.

Enclosures in southwest Wales — finally some evidence for settlement

Ken Murphy, Cambria Archaeology

Since the 1980s aerial photography has dramatically increased the number of small, defended enclosures in southwest Wales. Many of these are circular or oval, and are probably late prehistoric in origin, but in a group of about 60 crop-marked sites near Cardigan over 50% are rectangular or sub-rectangular, suggesting an origin other than the Iron Age. This is a part of the country where our knowledge of prehistoric, Roman and post-Roman settlement is lacking, and therefore, in 2004, Cambria Archaeology and the University of York initiated a programme of field investigation. Geophysical survey on a number of enclosures demonstrated that archaeological remains such as roundhouses and other structures are likely to survive at most sites. Geophysics was followed by exploratory excavation of two sites. In 2005, excavation

at Troedyrhiw rectangular enclosure revealed a strong Roman period presence with over 200 sherds pottery discovered. This is the first assemblage of Roman pottery from the county of Ceredigion outside military sites. A circular concentric enclosure, Ffynnonwen, was examined in 2006. Several roundhouses and other buildings were excavated, but the almost total lack of artefacts renders dating difficult until radiocarbon dates are obtained.

Roman or Countryman: prehistoric funerary traditions in Roman Wales.

Karen Pollock, University of Wales Bangor

Roman Wales contained a mix of peoples and settlement types and covered a wide geographical area. Such 'Romanization' that took place was largely confined to the south of Wales where the Roman presence was the most concentrated and longstanding. How people buried their dead in Wales during this period provides an indication of the degree of fusion between Roman and native cultural practices and sheds new light on the social dynamics of frontier life. This paper discusses the evidence for indigenous burial forms in Roman Wales and argues that native burial traditions were not eclipsed by intrusive 'Roman' practices. Once we glance past the façade of Roman villa or fort defences to the individuals who peopled Wales during this period, it is clear that, whilst there is no doubt that Roman burial practices were adopted and assimilated, native burial traditions were still an intrinsic part of funerary behaviour. By examining burials from military, urban and rural contexts in Roman Wales, this paper will explore the role of burial practice as a means of actively maintaining links with the prehistoric past for social, religious and political reasons.

Roman Wales from its Finds

Evan Chapman, National Museum Wales

Born out of the planning of a new archaeology gallery at Amgueddfa Cymru — National Museum of Wales, this paper aims to consider the picture of Roman Wales given by the Roman objects found in Wales. Archaeologists methodically collect finds and museums carefully store and display them, but what can their study tell us at a national or regional, rather than simply site, level? This paper will first consider some of the problems and constraints on the study of finds beyond a single site. On a more positive note it will then look at a number of areas where objects provide useful information: on the questions of the spread of Roman influence and the survival of native traditions, on the presence of regional differences and areas of contact. It will end by pondering the interpretation of isolated 'spectacular finds'. How do they relate to the real material culture of Roman Wales? Would they also have been unusual at the time or are they exceptional simply by virtue of their survival?

Britannia Prima and the genesis of Welsh identity

Roger White, University of Birmingham

The late Roman dioceses of Britain are a curiously neglected area of Romano-British studies. Their boundaries are not generally agreed, the location of some capitals is contested and the existence of a fifth province is debated. Their creation is presented as a bureaucratic detail that did not affect the overall unity of the island of Britannia, yet this is assumption rather than the outcome of reasoned argument. In existence for only a century, it is true that the late Roman provinces had little chance to develop coherent identities, but that need not mean

that they did not have an impact. Indeed, it is in the demise of Roman Britain that their impact is likely to have been greatest. Is it mere coincidence that three of the provinces were rapidly overwhelmed during the fifth century, while parts of the fourth survived until conquered by Edward I in the 1270s? Was there a failure by the provincial civil and military authorities to react in combination to the military crisis of the fifth century, choosing instead their own separate paths of resistance? Once the province had fragmented, how significant was the Roman legacy to the emerging Welsh, and how was this ancestry expressed? This presentation will aim to open the debate on the significance of the late Roman provinces.

The archaeology of ethnic conflict: Race, equality and power in the Roman world

Session organiser: Dr Irene Schrüfer-Kolb (Open University)

Session Abstract

In our increasingly globalised, multi-cultural world, ethnic conflict seems unavoidable. Today, there is an ever increasing awareness of social inclusiveness, equal opportunities and religious and cultural tolerance. And yet tensions, prejudice and discrimination still arise. In the Roman world, even before the days of the empire, a similarly complex society developed and the ever expanding empire brought a wide range of ethnic groups into contact with Rome. The Romans justified imperial expansionism through a god-given right to an 'empire without end' and their ideas of supremacy were fueled by a mission of bringing civilisation to the barbarians. Romanisation today is often seen as a largely integrative process, resulting in the gradual fusion of indigenous and Roman elements. Yet all this happened not without sacrifice: there are various instances of native dissent in the provinces, and the initial conquest and occupation must have been brutal, blood-shedding events. Various ethnic groups were subjected to slavery, some became gladiators. Even Roman law long distinguished between *peregrini* and citizens. But to what extent are the tensions resulting from Roman imperialism a sign of ethnic conflict or rather a clash of different cultures? Can the two be separated? Or was it ultimately a question of power?

1. Architecture and Power in northern Roman Palestine: The Temples at Omrit. *Michael Nelson (Mcalester College) and Dr Dan Schowalter (Carthage College).*
2. Ethnicity and Conflict in the Roman Conquest of Spain (218–19 BC). *Lyra Monteiro (University of Michigan).*
3. Routes to slavery: approaching slave origins and ethnicity in the Roman World. *Dr Jane Webster (University of Newcastle).*
4. Language, culture and the exclusivity of law. *Dr Paul du Plessis (University of Edinburgh).*
5. The Roman-Persian Conflict near Dara, AD 530: where was it? Topography, Texts and Tactical Trenches. *Christopher Lillington-Martin (Open University).*
6. Hannibal: Alpine routes and theoretical motives reappraised. *Dr Patrick Hunt (Stanford University).*

Architecture and Power in northern Roman Palestine: The Temples at Omrit

Michael C. Nelson, Macalester College and Dan Schowalter, Carthage College

References in Josephus relate that the deaths of Antony and Cleopatra in 31 BC created a power vacuum in northern Palestine that led to a struggle between local tribal groups. Once

Herod the Great solidified his position as client king for Rome, he worked to establish control throughout the land and especially in the rough and ready upper Galilee. His quest for power was rewarded when Augustus came to the region ten years later and confirmed Herod's control. In response, Herod sponsored a temple to Augustus near the sanctuary of Pan at Paneion (Banias; Josephus, *Ant.* 15.10.3). The site of Omrit lies at a highly visible point about three kilometers from Banias, and features a series of structures built during the late Hellenistic and early Roman periods. Of special interest is the earliest, very ornate shrine built with frescoed and gilded stone blocks. However shortly after its construction, the shrine was disassembled and a tetrastyle Roman podium temple was built over it. The quick succession of the second structure and the way in which the later temple subsumed the earlier building represents an intentional process of architectural "triumphalism" and propaganda that corresponded to political change, and increasing Roman control over the indigenous population of the region.

Ethnicity and Conflict in the Roman Conquest of Spain (218–19 BC)

Lyra D. Monteiro, Brown University

This paper explores the ethnic dimensions of the various battles which occurred during the Roman conquest of the Iberian Peninsula, from the Second Punic War (218–206 BC) to the final incorporation of Northwestern Spain under Augustus (29–19 BC). The degree to which any of these conflicts can be viewed as "ethnic" varies greatly, for example, between the initial wars of conquest and later native rebellions. While ethnicity existed in all period of human history, ethnogenesis only occurs in particular political and economic circumstances. Even given pre-existing ethnic groups, ethnic conflict can only develop when these groups have coexisted for a sufficient period of time as to exhaust all peaceful methods of interaction. In order to establish the role that ethnicity may have played in the conquest of Spain, this paper looks at both the degree and type of contacts between the population groups that preceded the outbreak of hostilities at different stages; and when no significant contacts predated the conflict, the degree to which ethnicity was already an important self-defining force for each of the groups. This examination further helps us to understand the strategies employed in different conflicts, as well as the character of the provinces that emerged from these wars.

Routes to slavery: classical archaeology and the ethnicity of the unfree

Dr Jane Webster, University of Newcastle

Scholars of early modern slavery have access to data of a kind that Romanists can only dream of. In 1999, forty years of archival research into the movements of European slave ships was synthesised in *The Transatlantic Slave Trade: A Database on CD Rom.* This dataset (containing data on some 27,000 slaving voyages) is transforming the study of slave trade demographics, but considerable debate rages even here as to the extent to which it is possible to explain localised traditions practiced by discrete New World slave populations in terms of shared ethnic origins. Pity the poor Roman archaeologist — it is difficult enough for us to identify slavery in the material record, let alone answer questions about the ethnic origins of servile populations. As this contribution aims to show, Roman ethnic (rather than racial) prejudice does sometimes appear to have been a factor in deciding who to enslave. But having made this point, what (if anything) can archaeologists contribute to its exploration? More fundamentally, why should we bother? Prehistorians have long fought shy of making broad

ethnic identifications on the basis of material remains alone, and for good reason. As I hope to show, however, ethnicity does matter when we come to consider Rome's unfree.

Language, culture and the exclusivity of law

Dr P. J. Plessis, University of Edinburgh

The main prerequisite for the creation of any legal system is the formation of a sense of cultural identity. Once this has been recognized and has become widely accepted among a certain group of people, political and legal structures reinforcing this sense of "otherness" will develop. This pattern is visible in the foundation of Roman law. Throughout the period of the Monarchy and until the mid-Republic, the language and content of Roman law emphasised the cultural exclusivity of the Roman people. The legal system developed around a central concept — citizenship — the holders of which had all the rights and privileges associated with being Roman. Similarly, those who did not have the benefit of citizenship, a scarce commodity cherished by the Romans, were at first almost completely ignored in Roman law. As Rome's territories expanded, however, the presence of foreigners could no longer be disregarded by Roman law. From the mid-third century BC, Roman law started to take account of the foreigner in Roman society in a variety of ways and an, in time, an entirely new system of law developed. This paper will investigate the treatment of the foreigner in Roman law by examining both the content of the law and the language used to describe it.

Topography, Texts and Tactical Trenches: The Roman-Persian Conflict near Dara, AD 530

Christopher Lillington-Martin, Open University

This paper proposes a methodology to utilise satellite imagery, field-visit photography and historical sources to reconsider conflicts. Images illustrate the battlefield topography, with proposed Roman and Persian army deployments (*cf.* Prokopios, *Wars*, I.xiii.12 ff.), and show views of the battlefield to signal features perhaps related to battle fieldworks.

The battle was fought near the fortress of Dara in AD 530. It had been constructed on Anastasias' orders in *c.* 506. The fortress provoked Persian invasions in AD 530, 540, 544 and 573. In AD 530 their intention appears to have become the capture of Dara. Prokopios, General Belisarios' legal adviser and an eyewitness, describes a "deep trench" constructed by the Romans. Prokopios relates Roman tactics to the "trench" and a "low hill" on the eastern side of the plain. The outstanding Roman victory depended greatly on intelligent army deployment along the defensive/offensive trench within the topography.

Hannibal — Alpine routes and theoretical motives reappraised

Dr Patrick Hunt, Stanford University

Since 1994 the Stanford Alpine Archaeology Project has hiked the major historic Alpine routes suggested through millennia. Using Polybius (III.33-56) and Livy (XXI.26-39) as optimum ancient sources, we attempt, like many others, to match topography to text with new research tools including GIS and current geomorphology. Our assumptions are that Polybius is most reliable but no one has proved the exact route because of several possible factors: *e.g.*, reading

the texts too closely; looking in the wrong places; or alpine landscapes' geomorphology and topography have sufficiently altered in 2,200+ years. Additionally, potential artifactual evidence is in near-inaccessible alpine contexts with high gradients, compounding such searches.

Using criteria established in prior studies and addressed in annual fieldwork over a decade, selected passes we compare include Clapier-Savine, Mont Cenis, Petit-St-Bernard, Mont-Genevre and Traversette, with rationales presented for which pass appears most tenable. Additionally, was Hannibal predisposed to crossing the Alps for possible reasons that Romans would not have shared? Their own names were not generally theophoric and thus tied to their destiny, unlike the Carthaginians and cultures in the Ancient Near East. Hannibal's theophoric name, Punic religious tradition and his personal experience may provide possible added incentives for his intrepid march.

Romans and Other Peoples: Within and Beyond the Frontiers

Session Organiser: Peter S. Wells, University of Minnesota

Session Abstract

Archaeological evidence pertaining to interactions between representatives of Rome (both military and civilian) and other peoples can provide a valuable way of understanding political, economic, and cultural changes. Papers in this session examine societies both within the Roman provinces and beyond the frontiers to analyze the evidence for interaction and change. The results offer better understanding of social and political dynamics during, and after, the Roman Period than does a focus on either Roman or native communities as separate entities.

1. Roman Historians and the Edge of Empire: Theodor Mommsen, Michael Rostovtzeff, and the World of the Roman Provinces. *Stephen L. Dyson (Classics, University of Buffalo).*

2. The Cultural Implications of the Roman Conquest in Italy: A Global Reflection. *Nicola Terrenato (Classics, University of North Carolina)*

3. The Roman Empire and South Scandinavia: a North Germanic Connection? A Survey of Military-Political Relations between the Roman Empire and the Barbaricum in the First Three Centuries AD with Special Emphasis on South Scandinavia. *Thomas Grane (Classical Archaeology, University of Copenhagen).*

4. Something Borrowed, Something New: The Culture of Rome's Upper Rhine Frontier in the 4th Century. *Eric Bangs (Anthropology, University of Minnesota)*

5. The Roman Influences in the Southernmost Part of the Scandinavian Peninsula. *Lars Larsson (Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Lund).*

6. The Question of Roman Contact with Ireland. *Pam J. Crabtree (Anthropology, New York University).*

Roman Historians and the Edge of Empire: Theodor Mommsen, Michael Rostovtzeff, and the World of the Roman Provinces

Stephen L. Dyson (Classics, University of Buffalo)

Roman historians and Roman archaeologists have been notoriously uninterested in the Roman provinces. Historians in particular have been reluctant to move beyond the Mediterranean. That reflects both a "center of power" orientation and a reluctance to leave the literary texts for the world of material culture. However, two of the greatest Roman historians, Theodor Mommsen and Michael Rostovtzeff, understood the importance of the provinces for understanding Roman society under the Empire and made pioneering contributions to the reconstruction of provincial history through archaeology.

Mommsen's contributions were twofold. He wrote one of the first overviews of the Roman provinces. It reflected Mommsen's mastery of the literary sources, but also the importance that

he placed on inscriptions. Increasingly he also came to appreciate the potential contribution of archaeology for reconstructing provincial history. Late in life he applied his political and administrative talents to the establishment of organizations that would systematically study the Roman frontier in Germany. In doing so he laid the foundations for the first really scientific archaeological studies of the western provinces.

Rostovtzeff as a Russian came to ancient studies with a perspective shaped by the interactions of cultures on the classical frontier. Early research centered on Scythians and Greeks in South Russia. Even more than Mommsen he appreciated the importance of material culture in understanding aspects of antiquity not covered by the literary texts. That can be seen in the fully annotated illustrations in the social and economic histories of both the Hellenistic and Roman world. He too stressed the importance of excavation in frontier zones. He organized the excavations at Dura Europos and used the results to reconstruct the interface of cultures in the eastern borderlands of Rome.

The Cultural Implications of the Roman Conquest in Italy: A Global Reflection

Nicola Terrenato (Classics, University of North Carolina)

This paper will take stock of the broad issue of cultural changes resulting from the Roman conquest. Surveying a wide variety of areas, from settlement patterns and types to language and law, it will try to assess the overall impact of the conquest on the Italian peninsula. The resulting picture shows that there is relatively little that can be considered a direct effect of the conquest, while there is a lot that seems to be influenced by global cultural trends that are largely independent of it. This perspective on Roman Italy may be relevant for a new understanding of cultural processes and interactions across the whole empire.

The Roman Empire and South Scandinavia: a North Germanic Connection? A Survey of Military-Political Relations between the Roman Empire and the Barbaricum in the First Three Centuries AD with Special Emphasis on South Scandinavia

Thomas Grane (Classical Archaeology, University of Copenhagen)

That the Romans should have had diplomatic relations to an area as far away as South Scandinavia is not the general belief among scholars working with the Roman Empire. Nor is it generally accepted among scholars of the North, but certain aspects of the prehistoric society in South Scandinavia in the first few centuries AD have led certain archaeologists to suggest that relations may have been present. Obviously these contacts have been related to the usual factors, such as trade, war and diplomacy. In the occasions where such contacts were seen, they would, nevertheless, only be of marginal interest. An examination of the development of the north-western *limes* with emphasis on relations to the northern *Barbaricum*, different aspects of Roman-Scandinavian contacts such as Roman "imports", Roman coins, the possible use of Scandinavian *foederati* or *auxilia* and literary sources to the North correlated with certain aspects of the South Scandinavian region such as war booty sacrifices and defensive structures might possibly reveal a pattern in these occasional indications. And indeed, a survey of these many different archaeological sources of both a Roman provincial and prehistoric nature as well as the historical sources have shown a great number of indications that such contacts between the Roman Empire and South Scandinavia did exist in this period.

Something Borrowed, Something New: The Culture of Rome's Upper Rhine Frontier in the 4th Century

Eric Bangs (Anthropology, University of Minnesota)

The traditional view of culture contact in southwest Germany during the late Antique period is that of population replacement and culture conflict between the Romans and the Alamanni. Each group was treated as a distinct entity with an easily identifiable material culture. Recent archaeological research on the Upper Rhine indicates, however, that the cultural boundary in this region was not at all clear and that through interaction a "frontier" culture, neither entirely Roman nor German, developed as a new entity.

The Roman Influences in the Southernmost Part of the Scandinavian Peninsula

Lars Larsson (Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Lund)

The influences from the Roman Empire are evident already during the first century BC. However, it is not until the second century AD that a considerable number of imports are found in graves within southern Scandinavia. The imported materials are used in a complex network in which alliances as well as conflicts might be indicated. It is not until the late Roman Iron Age (AD 200–400) that not only Roman artefacts but other aspects of Roman life such as ideas about organisation are implemented in the south Scandinavian societies. These aspects are best viewed in the central places — places of political, economic and ritual importance — that have been found during recent years of archaeological research. One of them is Uppåkra located in southwest Scania, the southernmost part of Sweden. From this site, finds as well as features provide a variety of information about the influence of the Roman Empire and its incorporation within the society with marked traditional structures.

The Question of Roman Contact with Ireland

Pam J. Crabtree (Anthropology, New York University)

Ireland differs from most of the rest of Western Europe in that Ireland was never part of the Roman Empire. However, occasional finds of Roman coins and other items of Roman material culture in Ireland point to some degree of contact between Ireland and the Roman world. The nature and the extent of this contact have been subjects of intense debate in recent years. Traditionally, many scholars adopted a "nativist" position and emphasized long-term continuities between Iron Age and early Christian Ireland. In their view, Ireland was unique in Western Europe because the impact of the Roman world was so limited. Since the late 1980s, "revisionist" archaeologists and historians have argued for a much greater degree of contact with Rome, some of this contact coming by way of Irish settlers in western Britain, Most recently, di Martino (2003) has even argued for a Roman military invasion of Ireland. This paper will examine the archaeological evidence for contact between Ireland and the Roman world prior to the introduction of Christianity and the nature of this contact.

di Martino, V., 2003: Roman Ireland. Collins.

Roman Thrace

Session Organiser: Ian Haynes (Birkbeck College, University of London)

Discussant: Andrew Poulter (University of Nottingham)

Session Abstract

The Thracian lands, incorporated for the most part into the Roman provinces of Thracia and Lower Moesia, span several modern international borders. Together they comprise a region of considerable interest to student of Roman archaeology. The use of Latin for official purposes in Moesia, contrasted with the overwhelming use of Greek for the same functions in Thracia, must be set alongside the existence of distinct cultural attributes common to both territories. An important example of this is the role played by the Thracian lands in the military history of the empire.

This session focuses more specifically on the achievements of Bulgarian archaeology in recent years. The last decade has seen a dramatic intensification of large scale rescue work often undertaken in intensely difficult conditions. Major infrastructure projects, such as the Thrakiya and Maritsa motorways, the renovation of the railway line from Plovdiv to the borders of Greece and Turkey, and construction of the Danube Bridge linking NW Bulgaria to Romania have all had significant archaeological implications. To work on these projects, we can add exciting new reappraisals of finds assemblages from Roman period sites and, of course, the vital contribution of work by local museums.

While it will not be possible to discuss more than a fraction of work undertaken to date, this session will examine key themes central to our understanding of the incorporation of Thrace under the Roman Empire. These themes present data of the greatest importance to scholars interested in comparative studies of regional cultures under imperial rule.

Session Introduction (Ian Haynes)

1. Recent Developments in the History of the Thracian Lands (1st century BC— 3rd century AD). *Dilyana Boteva, Sofia University.*
2. Greek Traditions and Roman Taste: Continuity and change in Odessos/Odessus (1st century — 3rd century AD). *Alexander Minchev, Varna Museum.*
3. Rituals of the Living and the Dead. *Petr Balabanov, Institute of Archaeology, Sofia & New Bulgarian University.*

Discussion *Chair: Andrew Poulter.*

4. Consumption and Production of Bronzework in Roman Thrace: A case study. *Rossitsa Nenova-Merdjanova.*
5. Light Industry in Roman Thrace. *Lyudmil Vagalinski, Institute of Archaeology, Sofia & New Bulgarian University.*
6. Language and Society in Roman Thrace. *Nicolay Sharankov, Sofia University.*

Discussion. *Chair: Andrew Poulter.*

Recent Developments in the History of the Thracian Lands (1st century BC— 3rd century AD)

Dilyana Boteva (Sofia University)

This paper surveys key developments in our understanding of the history of the Thracian lands within the Roman imperial system. It draws on both the results of recent excavations and the re-interpretation of artifacts long known to scholars. In addition to reconsidering important political and military events, there have been important advances in our knowledge of the provincial borders and imperial administration, as well as a growing appreciation of demographic and cultural situation.

Our survey begins with a consideration of the territories prior to the creation of the Thracian provinces. The review starts with the turbulent events following Caesar's assassination, when Octavian appeared in the region for the first time as a political factor, and their impact on the territories under scrutiny. A recent hypothesis connects the first foundation of the city of Nicopolis ad Nestum with the battle near Philippi in 42 BC and the subsequent activity of Mark Antony on the Balkans. It will be suggested therefore that the Emperor Trajan should be regarded as a re-founder of the city, not a founder as previously argued.

The review ends with the first real set-back to Roman power in the region, caused by the Gothic invasions during the reign of emperor Decius which resulted in the death of the emperor and his son on the battle field. According to a chronology argued in the recent years, these Gothic invasions were neither two, nor one (as traditionally argued), but three.

Greek Traditions and Roman Taste: Continuity and change in Odessos/Odessus (1st century — 3rd century AD)

Alexander Minchev (Varna Museum)

The ancient city of Odessos was established as a Milesian colony (apoikia) on the Western Black Sea coast *c.* 575–550 BC over an existing Thracian or even Pre-Thracian settlement of the same name. The city's administrative and religious organization followed Greek poleis traditions but displayed local particularities. Tide connections with the mother city of Miletus and other communities in Asia Minor as well as with Mainland and Island Greece continued during the Hellenistic period (mainly in 3rd–2nd c. BC). This was the time when the coastal city had its first period of both economic boom and cultural bloom.

After almost one hundred years of Rome's expansion on the Balkans, in 15 AD Odessos was incorporated within the boundaries of the newly established Roman Province of Moesia (later Moesia Inferior/ Lower Moesia). Nevertheless, the city organization remained a democratic one as before. The city was ruled by a boule (City council) and a demos (City assembly). All titles of functionaries involved in City administration, which are mentioned in numerous inscriptions from Odessos are traditional and the same as in other former City-states of the Greek diaspora.

The local people: Greeks, Thracians and Eastern immigrants were divided in tribes (*phylai*). During the Roman period two new *philai*, the *Oinopoi* and *Romaion* were added to the established five Ionian *philai.* The new *philai* was introduced especially for the Roman citizens who settled here after first century AD as either official functionaries or army veterans. The

large Thermal baths (*thermae*) erected in late 2nd c. AD added a Roman flavour to the life of the local people.

The Greek language continued to be the main spoken in Odessos and most of the official and private inscriptions found here are in Greek with very few exceptions, written in either Latin or bilingual. The inscriptions on all locally minted bronze coins of 1st–mid 3rd c. AD, are also in Greek. They bear the name of Odessos on reverse. Main trade contacts were kept with the traditional partners of Asia Minor, Greece and the Near East and occasionally with Italy and some other Western provinces of the Empire. The city flourished under the Antonine and Severan dynasties.

There were a few changes in the pantheon of the local citizens during Roman period. The main deities continued to be the same as in the Hellenistic period: Apollo and the Great God [of Odessos]. Most of the Greek and some traditionally venerated Thracian deities (the Thracian Horseman and the so-called Three Nymphs) are mentioned in many votive or official inscriptions too. Occasionally, there appeared anyhow some typical Roman deities: Dea Roma, Sol Invictus, Luna, Silvan as well as the obligatory Imperial cult, which seems to have gained greater prominence in the city in around the early 3rd c. AD.

In public life, some adopted Roman traditions followed Greek ones. Besides the traditional public games held in the city since late Hellenistic period (*i.e.,* late 2nd–1st c. BC), which included various sports and cultural events, the gladiatorial fights were welcomed by the locals too, not later than 2nd c. AD.

Based on the available evidence it becomes clear that during Roman period Odessos continued to be a Greek city in every sense of the word. Some new rules, ideas and habits were added too because of the new official power and trends in the Roman Empire. The retention of traditional way of living, trading and worshipping within the city was possible due to the tolerance and the adaptable politics of the Roman state authorities.

Rituals of the Living and the Dead

Petr Balabanov (Institute of Archaeology, Sofia and New Bulgarian University)

Human sacrifice, 'vampire burials', and the ritual deposit of strange objects in vessel-form pits have all been recently recorded by archaeologists working in Roman Thrace. These and other intriguing ritual practices are coming to light in present-day Bulgaria due to an increase in rescue-led excavations. This paper presents a snapshot of ritual landscapes of the living and dead, and demonstrates the continuity and overlap of practices across ritual domains. The first case study examines deposits found within a tumulus just outside the western entrance of the Roman city of Deultum. The second offers a brief introduction to the phenomenon of pit sanctuaries in the Thracian lands. In both cases, it is apparent that the origins of these sites significantly pre-date the Roman period.

Excavations over the last four years at the first site, a multi-period tumulus, have identified a fascinating range of funerary deposits. Though difficulties of dating remain, the earliest of these deposits appears to date from the late Bronze Age, the latest from the Late Roman period. Late Hellenistic internments involved the construction of stone platforms and individual funerary mounds. Traces of funerary ritual involving the secondary deposition of pottery sherds, the lighting of fires and possibly the practice of human sacrifice are preserved. First and second century internments reflect the influence of Roman practice. Five inhumations and three cremations including exceptionally rich burial assemblages were identified. The earliest of these burials appears to date from the time of Vespasian, suggesting that the deceased lived

at the time of the founding of the Roman colony, the latest grave was that of a child's - found associated with a coin of Faustina. The late second, early third century saw a transformation. The whole complex was covered under a large mound, after which the tumulus was used as a place for 'Christian' burials. Two of the later burials were staked to the ground, indicating that the corpses had been deliberately nailed down, the reason for this practice is unclear, though it may have been intended to keep the dead from walking. Although there were no grave goods found within these graves, their situation within the stratigraphy suggests that they dated to the 4th–6th centuries AD.

The second type of site, called 'pit sanctuaries', although differing in location, physical characteristics and apparent function, appears closely connected to tumuli via similar practice. In the 1930s, over one hundred pits were found within the fill of a tumulus burial dating to the 5th century BC on the Thracian plain. The unusual vessel-like forms of the pits, the burnt bones and votive content marked them out possibly part of the burial or commemoration rites. It was not until the 1980s, however, that the discovery of hundreds of similar features cut into the banks of a river near the location of the first tumulus site presented here, led to identification of a new type of sanctuary. Located near natural springs or rivers and at some distance from the nearest identified settlements, these sites consist of hundreds of vessel-shaped pits containing carefully deposited and deliberately fragmented objects, animal bones, figurines, human sacrifice, and interior altars. Importantly, the pits are cut into bedrock below the ploughsoil and so provide well-preserved evidence for ritual actions. Several sanctuaries were active from the Early Bronze Age to the Late Roman period, and therefore offer an invaluable opportunity to investigate the past unbound by restrictive chronological categories or socio-political boundaries.

Consumption and Production of Bronzework in Roman Thrace: A case study

Rossitsa Nenova-Merdjanova

Regular archaeological excavations together with accidental finds have contributed to the creation of a large collection of ancient bronzes from Roman Thrace.

In the course of three centuries the local Thracian aristocrats-landlords as well as the nobility in the flourishing towns were significant consumers of luxurious goods including decorative bronzes. An outstanding group of objects was represented by bronze vessels, most of which were used for washing, during the making of the toilet and in the baths. They also played a role in spiritual rituals and were related to the purification of body and soul.

In Roman Thrace there was an intensive import of luxurious bronze vessels from the centre of the Empire as well as from the eastern provinces. The local nobility not only bought such expensive objects but they were also able to afford to leave them as burial gifts. Due to the nature of the traditional burial customs in the province precious examples of bronze vessels have been found in unique archaeological contexts, thus providing information on a range of questions such as import, technology of production, use and functional relation between the objects, as well as Thracian burial rites.

The local production of bronzework included different types of objects but among them the bronze vessels were not distinguished for wide variety nor high quality. A separate, complicated industry dealing with bronze vessels was never developed in the way it did in Italy, Gaul or the East. Some of the local products are unique in shape or construction and speak of the inventiveness of the local craftsmen.

In some cases the flourishing production of bronze chariot decorations was combined with the production of bust vessels for oil used in the baths. The craftsmen in Roman Thrace did not have the ambition to organize a separate specialized industry for bronze vessels, but never the less their production was quite large since it was meant to satisfy the needs of the citizens in the towns whose everyday style of life emulated the standards of Rome herself.

Light Industry in Roman Thrace: The Case of the Lime Production

Lyudmil Vagalinski (Institute of Archaeology, Sofia; New Bulgarian University)

This paper examines preliminary results from a major Roman centre for lime production, discovered in 2005 near the Danube village of Krivina/Roman Iatrus, district of Ruse (northern Bulgaria) and considers them within the wider context of lime production in Roman industry.

The kilns are dug in into a deep loess layer. They have a barrel-like shape with maximum sizes: 4.50m in height and 3.65–4m in diameter. Seven of them have been surveyed until now and other four have been localized. They are supposed to be other kilns. This site, which functioned during the last third of first century AD through to the second century, was under the auspices of *Legio I Italica.* It's permanent camp, *Novae*, lies 20km west on the right Danube bank. The site near the village of Krivina is considered among others in Europe.

Language and Society in Roman Thrace

Nicolay Sharankov (University of Sofia)

The Greek language spread along the sea coasts of Thrace during the heyday of Greek colonisation and is found in the interior as early as the mid-fourth c. BC. By the Hellenistic period it had become the common written language in Thrace. After Thrace became a Roman province, the use of Latin as an official language was restricted to a few texts issued by the provincial government. The majority of such documents, including letters of emperors and high Roman officials, were published in Greek. The documents of the local administration (except those of the two Roman colonies) were written entirely in Greek.

As far as we can judge from the complete lack of texts written in Thracian, as opposed to the large number of Thracian proper names, Thracian was used by many people, but only as a spoken language. Its influence upon the language of Greek inscriptions is to be traced only in the declension of Thracian proper names and a few phonological phenomena.

The exceptionally small number of Latin inscriptions in Thrace indicates that speakers of Latin in the province were never numerous, and the extent of their knowledge of the language often proved insufficient. The quantity of Latin loanwords — mainly administrative and military terms — in Greek inscriptions and the tendency to replace them with Greek equivalents also demonstrate the insignificance of Latin for the province.

Only three classes of people used to write (and speak) in Latin because of their position and/or social condition: 1) provincial administration, for example the staff of the *legatus Augusti* or the officials in the fiscus; 2) soldiers serving in Thrace, for example the auxilia quartered in Cabyle; 3) veterans, such as those settled in Augusta Traiana and Philippopolis, and citizens of the two Roman colonies of Deultum and Apri. Even the representatives of these groups, as well as Latin speakers from the western provinces often set up Greek or bilingual inscriptions.

Creating Ethnicities in the Roman World

Session Organisers: Andrew Gardner and Kathryn Lomas (Institute of Archaeology, UCL)

Session Abstract

The expansion of Rome across Italy, the Mediterranean and beyond entailed encounters with a wide range of people, several of whom had well-established identities. In many cases, however, the ethnicity of peoples conquered by Rome has largely been perceived through the lenses of Roman ethnographic writing and administrative structure. In this session, we wish to explore both how these kinds of practices were a part of Roman strategies of control, and how people living in particular places internalised them and developed their own senses of belonging to an ethnic community. The formation of such identities seems a vital part of the process of Roman imperialism, and one which runs against the grain of homogenisation implied by traditional narratives of cultural change. Nonetheless, comparisons across the empire may reveal similar kinds of processes of boundary formation and symbolic community-building. Case studies are therefore invited, both from beyond the frontiers and from the heart of the empire (and everywhere in-between), which explore the dynamic interaction between imperial and local power-structures and the formation of ideologies of shared culture and origins in specific localities.

1. The Body and Health as a Measure of Civilian Identity in the Western Roman Provinces. *Patricia Baker (Kent).*
2. The Local politics of Global Latin. *Richard Hingley (Durham)*
3. Cult Fashions from the Fringe: Religious Politics of the Social Elite in South France, 3rd–2nd centuries BC. *Victoria Jefferson (Oxford)*
4. Language and identity in ancient Italy. *Kathryn Lomas (UCL)*
5. Reconfiguring identities or creating ethnicities in the Roman empire? *David Mattingly (Leicester)*
6. Dress and identity in the Rhine-Moselle region of the Roman Empire: the 'Third Way'. *Ursula Rothe (Manchester)*

The Body and Health as a Measure of Civilian Identity in the Western Roman Provinces

Patricia Baker

Studies of medical anthropology and history have demonstrated that interactions between different groups of people in relation to medicine meet with diverse reactions of adoption, adaptation and rejection of newly instituted ideas. The reason for this has to do with views of the body, which are intrinsically linked to one's social and cultural identity. Such diversity in medical identity is evident in Greco-Roman literature and archaeological material. However,

in spite of this, little consideration has been given to understanding how those living in the Roman Empire characterized themselves through their medical practices. The empire was inhabited by a variety of social groups joined by a fluidity of contact, allowing for an exchange of diverse beliefs. By understanding reactions to new systems of healthcare and ideas about the body introduced between societies it is possible to determine the cultural traits that distinguished one group from another. In this paper medical tools will be examined from Gallia Narbonnensis, Lugdunensis and Belgica and Germania Inferior and Superior. The basic approach used is a contextual one, which seeks to identify patterning in the presence, location and association of objects. By understanding attitudes towards remains as seen through their use and deposition, it is possible to ascertain how indigenous groups negotiated the influx of new medical practices and bodily understandings. Therefore, bodily identity will ultimately inform us of social identity in the western Roman Empire.

The Local politics of Global Latin

Richard Hingley

This paper addresses the dominance of the Latin language in the west of the Roman empire during the first century AD. By addressing some of the evidence for Latin literacy in Gaul, Germany and Britain (summarised in Hingley 2005, 94–102), it explores the power of the new language (and innovative technologies of writing) as part of a dynamic and hybrid culture of empire (see Sonntag 2003). Latin was adopted locally to communicate with the broad international network of contacts established through the creation of empire, but also to articulate local concerns. Through an exploration of the relevance of the 'ancient genealogies' of our contemporary world (Balakrishnan 2003, xiii; Hingley 2005, 9), the paper also addresses the significance of the spread of Latin culture today.

Cult Fashions from the Fringe: Religious Politics of the Social Elite in South France, 3rd–2nd centuries BC.

Victoria Jefferson

Cults had an important role in focusing the local identity of communities in Iron Age Provence. This paper will explore how a minor local cult to Belenus became an important focus of Gallic political identity at the site of Glanum, only after it was reconfigured as the Greek Apollo through the *Interpretatio Romana*. The geographical context for this study is the stretch of coastline in Southern France, which was shared between Greeks and Celts from the 6th century BC, and then with the Romans after the 125 BC invasion. Political identities are attested from 3rd/2nd centuries BC. A number of inconsistencies hamper the direct translation of Belenus to Apollo which is implied in the *Intrepretatio Romana*. Firstly, Apollo took a major role in communicating the political identity of Glanum, yet the cult of Belenus had no comparable role before the Roman presence. Instead this cult had a more pronounced following outside the settlements, in contact zones between Greeks and Gauls. Secondly, there are no local traditions for the equation of Belenus with Apollo before Roman accounts, and if anything the opposite is indicated. Both cults were performed separately yet contemporaneously in some Greek and Gallic localities. It will be suggested that the cult to Belenus-Apollo was a local construct, yet was unrepresentative of established social traditions. Instead, it combined Roman ideals and fringe traditions, possibly in response to the shifts in power created by the Roman invasion. Where elite exchanged their social ties and local knowledge for political links

with Rome, established local cults became less useful. This is in contrast to socially marginal cults, which had potential to be modified. Belenus was useful to elite power strategies which could capitalize on the marginality and Greek symbolism of this hybrid cult; the fringes of Gallic social traditions thus became the platform from which the Greco-Roman deity Apollo was launched.

Language and identity in ancient Italy

Kathryn Lomas

In the study of ancient Italy, the relationship between language and ethnic identity is a very problematic area. The non-Roman languages of Italy have, until recently, been studied from an exclusively linguistic and philological viewpoint, with very little consideration of the wider context of the written documents (primarily inscriptions) on which they are preserved. There has also been a tendency to treat them as undifferentiated blocks and to map ethnic identities onto linguistic identities in a way which — implicitly or explicitly — prioritises language over other markers of identity such as material culture. This paper will re-examine these issues of language identities and their relation to other markers of ethnic and cultural identity in relation to a regional case-study from Italy. It will explore the role of language as a marker of ethnic/cultural identity in the region in the context of material culture, and will examine the role of both language and literacy in the formation and maintenance of ethnic and cultural identities in the period of Roman expansion.

Reconfiguring identities or creating ethnicities in the Roman empire?

David Mattingly

This paper will explore different interpretations of the cultural changes that occurred in Roman provincial contexts during the period of imperial rule. The fundamental issue concerns whether we are witnesses to genuine ethnogenesis, or to enhanced ethnic identification, or whether the observed changes are better explained as a manifestation of other sorts of identity transformation. The presentation will build on my earlier work on discrepant identity and draw on examples from Britain and Africa under Rome and from more recent colonial situations. Some suggestions will be made about the motors behind major cultural change in such colonial situations.

Dress and identity in the Rhine-Moselle region of the Roman Empire: the 'Third Way'

Ursula Rothe

Recently completed research based on funerary monument depictions has revealed a variety of patterns in the dress behaviour of the population of the Rhine-Moselle region of the Roman Empire. In some places pre-Roman costume continued to be worn on portraits until the late 3rd century AD, while other portraits show full Roman dress or combinations of Roman and indigenous garments. The most widespread and intriguing phenomenon observed was a change in dress behaviour as a result of Roman conquest that, however, did not involve the adoption of Roman dress, but the development of a new, pan-regional native ensemble. Comprehensive comparative work with anthropological studies of dress behaviour in more recent contexts have enabled hypotheses to be tested as to the meaning of this apparent 'Third Way' in dress

practice. The results reveal that the cultural consequences of integration into the Roman Empire were far more complicated than a mere negotiation of place along a spectrum from native to Roman, and that the adoption of ideas originating in the Roman core could have a profound effect on provincials, while in no way impairing their native identity.

Feeding the Roman army: the archaeology of supply chains and provisioning networks

Session organiser: Richard Thomas

Discussant: Eberhard Sauer (School of History and Classics, University of Edinburgh, UK)

Session Abstract

This session seeks to bring together a growing body of new archaeological evidence in an attempt to reconsider the way in which the Roman army was provisioned. Clearly, the adequate supply of food was essential to the success of the Roman military. But was the nature of those supply networks? Did the army rely on imperial supply lines from the continent, as certainly appears to be the case for some commodities, or were provisions requisitioned from local agricultural communities? If the latter was the case, was unsustainable pressure placed on such resources and how did local communities respond? Alternatively, did the early stages of conquest include not only the development of a military infrastructure, but also an effective supply-chain network based on contracts? Beyond the initial stages of conquest, this session also seeks to explore, how provisioning arrangements were maintained in the longer term, did supply chains remain static or did they change over time and, if so, what precipitated those changes? Addressing such questions is critical if we are to understand the nature of Roman conquest and the extent of interaction between indigenous communities and the Roman army.

1. Questioning the purchasing power of the Roman army: a zooarchaeological case study from the legionary fortress at Alchester. *Richard Thomas (School of Archaeology and Ancient History, University of Leicester)*

2. Surplus production of animal products for the Roman army in a rural settlement in the Eastern Dutch River Area. *Maaike Groot (Free University, Amsterdam).*

3. Food supply in two successive military settlements, from the first centuries BC and AD in Arras (France). *Marie Derreumaux (Archéologie de la Gaule, France) and Sébastien Lepetz (Archéologie, Histoire des Sociétés humaines et des peuplements, France)*

4. A new biometric perspective on the size of cattle in Roman Nijmegen, The Netherlands: implications for the supply of the Tenth Legion. *Erik Filean (Department of Anthropology, The University of Iowa)*

5. Commodities or logistics? The role of equids in Roman supply networks. *Cluny Johnstone (Department of Archaeology, University of York).*

6. Grain pests from Roman military sites: implications for importation, supply to Roman army and agricultural production. *David Smith (Institute of Archaeology and Antiquity, University of Birmingham)*

Questioning the purchasing power of the Roman army: a zooarchaeological case study from the legionary fortress at Alchester

Richard Thomas

This paper details the provisional results of the analysis of the faunal remains from the legionary fortress at Alchester, Oxfordshire. Returning dendrochronological dates of autumn AD 44, this site provides a unique opportunity to assess the nature of military supply chains and food provisioning in the immediate wake of the Roman conquest of Britain. Comparison of the animal bones from Alchester with a number of later Iron Age and early-Roman sites in the Thames-Valley region reveals that, apart from the introduction of oysters, the assemblage is very much late Iron Age in character. The inference drawn from this evidence is that while the Roman army may have operated a 'command economy' in principal, the practicalities of acquisition at a local level meant that the supply chains in the early conquest period were supply rather than demand-driven.

Surplus production of animal products for the Roman army in a rural settlement in the Eastern Dutch River Area

Maaike Groot

The large presence of the Roman army in the military camps along the Rhine in the Netherlands had direct consequences on the agricultural production in rural settlements in the area adjacent to the frontier. The eastern part of this area, a dynamic river landscape with extensive flood basins and traditional byre houses, will be the focus of this paper.

The available land that was suitable for arable agriculture in the Eastern Dutch River Area imposed limitations on the amount of crops that could be grown. Nevertheless, there are signs that a surplus was produced, consisting both of crops and animal products. This paper will focus on the animal husbandry in one rural community in the Eastern Dutch River Area: Tiel–Passewaaij. Because identifying surplus production based on the quantification of animal bone data is nearly impossible, major changes in animal husbandry are interpreted as a response to the demand from a market, in this case the Roman army. Several animal species or products were produced as a surplus, but the types of surplus produced show some interesting changes over time. Some additional data on animal husbandry from other rural settlements in the region will be used to compliment the data from Tiel-Passewaaij. While some settlements show a similar development, others show an early specialisation in horse breeding, which is not found in Tiel-Passewaaij until around 100 AD. While the demand for several different products entered the region along with the Roman army, rural settlements were limited in their response by their livestock and their expertise. Thus, the development of animal husbandry in rural settlements in the Roman period was dependent to some degree on Late Iron Age animal husbandry.

Food supply in two successive military settlements, from the first centuries BC and AD in Arras (France)

Marie Derreumaux and Sébastien Lepetz

A Roman military settlement has been found in Arras "Actiparc". It is dated from the 50s and 40s BC and is located on a former Gallic aristocratic domain. This military complex had a fort, a storage area and a civil settlement. Military presence in this area ended during

the Augustan period. It then moved to the current city of Arras in the "Baudimont" site where it looked down upon a crossroads of Agrippa's way. This constituted what became the Nemetacum city.

The fruits, seeds and animal bones from these two sites have been studied. The material from Actiparc was badly preserved but it seems that the cereal consumed and stored in the military complex were local species. No Mediterranean fruits or condiments were found but this lack is probably due to the kind of context studied.

When the military presence moved to "Baudimont", the food supplies changed. Indeed, not only grape, fennel, coriander and olives have been found, but a body of evidence makes us think that cereal grains were also imported. This statement is based on the cereal and weeds species found and on the presence of grain infested by *Sitophilus granarius*.

The animal bones are very numerous on both settlements and their study is not completely finished yet. This communication will be the occasion to compare the data of the Gallic, Late Republican and Augustan periods. The first results seem to indicate a significant evolution in the representation of the species.

A new biometric perspective on the size of cattle in Roman Nijmegen, the Netherlands: implications for the supply of the Tenth Legion

Erik P. Filean

Developments in biometric discrimination of cattle sex and breed necessitate a re-evaluation of evidence for larger cattle or multiple cattle populations in the Dutch river area (*civitas Batavorum*, province *Germania Inferior*) during the period AD 70–200. Bimodal distributions of Romano-Batavian cattle withers heights have been interpreted as revealing two breeds or populations variously hypothesized to be economically specialized breeds or a smaller local stock supplemented by a larger, imported population as part of an improved stockbreeding programme. The stationing of the Tenth Legion in the *civitas Batavorum* and the growth of an urban centre at Nijmegen after AD 70 have been implicated as stimuli for the introduction or breeding of larger cattle.

The alternative hypothesis that the bimodal pattern might result from sexual dimorphism was discarded early on. However, the biometric methods used to arrive at this conclusion have been shown to be flawed, and the possible presence of castrate cattle was not considered. More accurate sex determination metrics for metacarpi and metatarsi and comparison to unimproved modern bulls and oxen suggest that many of the Romano-Batavian cattle are, in fact, oxen. Moreover, the larger "population" is made up primarily of oxen, while the smaller group includes both bulls and cows little changed in size compared to those of the first century AD.

This new analysis indicates, first, that the evidence for larger cattle is largely an artifact of sexual polymorphism and not of breeding programmes or economic specialization; and second, that Roman soldiers and urban populations in the *civitas Batavorum* of the 2nd century did not stimulate the breeding of cattle much larger than those seen in the first centuries BC or AD.

Commodities or logistics? The role of equids in Roman supply networks.

Cluny Johnstone

Equids (horses, donkeys and mules) played a critical role in the expansion and success of the Roman Empire. This was at least partly due to military foresight in making full use of the equids available, not only as cavalry but to move infantry from place to place and to provision the army both on campaign and at base. In addition, equids were important in civilian trade and communications both within the Empire and across its borders.

The trade of breeding stock, chariot racehorses and some aspects of horses in the military are discussed by various contemporaneous authors, but very little is said about the use and trade of 'ordinary' equids. The zooarchaeological record can help us understand a little more about the movement of equids around the Empire and some of their possible uses both as a commodity in their own right and as a means of getting other goods from A to B.

Research has shown that there is a split between horses and mules/donkeys in this respect with horses more of a commodity and mules and donkeys being used in logistics. However, this was not always the case and the two aspects are interlinked. It appears that in some cases the mules and donkeys were used to transport goods and then sold on as well. On the other hand the requisitioning of baggage animals and remounts for the army could be classed as a commodity issue. The role of equids in Roman supply networks is a complex one, but perhaps shows another side to the story not seen from other lines of evidence.

Grain pests from Roman military sites: implications for importation, supply to Roman army and agricultural production

David Smith

In 1979 Paul Buckland outlined a number of implications based on the presence of grain pests in a number of Roman deposits. In particular he outlined the difficulties that they could present for people trying to reconstruct both Roman agricultural history and estimates of production.

This paper presents the archaeoentomological results from mid first-century London and Carlisle alongside those from a number of later Roman sites. An argument will be made that inadequate storage of grain seems to have been a widespread problem throughout the period. The implications of this for trade, grain supply and agricultural production in Roman Britain will not only be restated but also explored with the knowledge gained from an extra 25 years of research.

Death as a process: funerals in the Roman World

Session organisers: John Pearce and Jake Weekes

Session abstract

The study of Roman burial practice has the potential to yield insights into modes of thought and action, identities, individual and population histories, though it remains a somewhat neglected research area. This session is therefore devoted to recent study of burial practice in the Roman world, with particular attention to the sequence of rituals by which the dead are buried. One of the most significant emphases in recent excavation and the re-analysis of previously excavated material has been the reconstruction of a dynamic understanding of funerary ritual. Relevant data can be derived from non-grave contexts (pyre sites, surfaces and deposits around the grave from feasting *etc.*) and from the grave itself, complete artefacts deposited as grave goods and the burnt and broken materials deposited in the grave. The study of human remains, both cremated and inhumed, is also a key area for developing a fuller understanding of funerary ritual. However significant regional differences remain in approaches to such data and the interpretation of these ritual sequences arguably remains under-theorised. The session therefore aims to evaluate the theoretical and methodological bases for understanding death as a process in a Roman context. It revisits older material and draws on the results of recent major fieldwork projects from the centre and periphery of the Roman world. From the periphery these projects include major excavations of urban/small town and rural cemeteries in and on the margins of Roman Britain. From the 'centre' they include both large scale excavations of cemeteries from the city of Rome and its immediate hinterland and micro-analysis of funerary stratigraphy at Ravenna and Sarsina.

1. Introduction. Death as a process: approaches to Roman burial ritual *John Pearce, KingŠs College London and Jake Weekes, University of Kent.*
2. Aspects of funerary archaeology in suburban Rome: the Collatina cemetery. *Anna Buccellato, Paola Catalano, and Stefano Musco, Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma and Rebecca Gowland, University of Durham.*
3. Excavation and interpretation of burials: some recent Romano-British examples. *Paul Booth, Oxford Archaeology*
4. How did it go? ... putting the process back into cremation *Jacqueline I. McKinley, Wessex Archaeology*
5. Archaeology and funerary cult: stratigraphy of soils in the cemeteries of Cispadana *Professor Jacopo Ortalli, University of Ferrara*
6. Funerals and beyond: the treatment of human remains in Roman Iron Age Scotland *Colin Wallace, School of Archaeology, Classics & Egyptology, University of Liverpool*

Introduction. Death as a process: approaches to Roman burial ritual

John Pearce (KingŠs College London) and Jake Weekes, (University of Kent).

Please see session abstract.

Aspects of funerary archaeology in suburban Rome: the Collatina cemetery.

Anna Buccellato, Paola Catalano, Stefano Musco (Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma) and Rebecca Gowland (University of Durham)

The archaeological assessments undertaken by the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Roma, in advance of the construction of the high speed Rome-Naples railway, have involved an extensive area of the eastern suburb of Rome and have allowed the collection of highly significant archaeological data. In particular a long section of the ancient route of the via Collatina has been identified, along which (*c.* 4km from Porta Maggiore) a large burial area has been found. This has not been completely excavated and is partly obliterated in its southern area by post-war urban expansion and partly destroyed by the construction of the Rome to Sulmona railway at the end of the 19th century. Up till now 2200 burials have been excavated, some placed in monumental mausolea but for the most part in pits dug into the volcanic/earth substratum, with covers of bricks and tiles laid flat or a cappuccina, sometimes covered with a mound of tufa fragments. The data as a whole allow the use of the cemetery to be dated between the second half of the first century AD and the end of the second century AD. From an anthropological perspective, this is undoubtedly the most important find of those made in recent years at Rome. The complex and meticulous work undertaken directly on site by a group of young anthropologists and archaeologists has allowed an enormous quantity of data to be gathered. The number of burials and the heterogeneity of the biological characteristics of this skeletal sample mean that the study of the cemetery (currently underway in the laboratories of the Soprintendenza) is long and difficult but highly important. This study is generating significant information on funerary rituals and living conditions at the height of the imperial period. This paper will present both the funerary and anthropological data from this site. The anthropological evidence will focus primarily on skeletal indicators of stress (*e.g.*, enamel hypoplasia) and will compare and interpret the findings from Via Collatina with those from contemporary sites in Rome and from elsewhere in the Empire.

Excavation and interpretation of burials: some recent Romano-British examples

Paul Booth (Oxford Archaeology)

Recent developments in Roman cemetery studies in Britain, in terms of theoretical approaches, synthesis and publication of major sites, have provided important material for the subject as a whole. Nevertheless, the number of substantial and well published cemetery excavations is still relatively small and each new cemetery excavation in Britain still has the potential to reveal something unexpected. Unless we are careful, however, interpretations of the new evidence may be relatively superficial. They have to be both firmly grounded in what we already know and take full account of recent work, particularly that emphasising the importance of burial as a dynamic process. This understanding should not be restricted to the post-excavation stage of projects, but needs carried into the field, despite the practical difficulties

that may be encountered there. One area that merits more attention is consideration of regional variation in burial practice throughout the period, both in terms of broad trends as well as in respect of local characteristics, which are in some cases already quite well-defined. This survey examines a sample of recent excavation and post-excavation projects and considers their potential contribution to these issues.

"How did it go?" ... putting the process back into cremation

Jacqueline I. McKinley (Wessex Archaeology)

Archaeologist: "We found a cremation..."

Pedant: "Did you?... was it still smouldering?" (were the mourners still crying?)

This common archaeological cry — effectively the result of seeing the remains of 'the burial' as an object/group of objects in the ground, *i.e.*, 'stuff' — detracts from the correct meaning of both 'cremation' and 'burial'; they are separate actions of which we see the remains as well/rather than 'things' in themselves. In excavation of the features and deposits linked to the mortuary rite of cremation and analysis of the material recovered from them we are not just recovering 'stuff' but trying to deduce the formation processes involved in the deposition of the archaeological remains within the various forms of mortuary-related deposit. Pyre sites may hold clues to the pyre construction, manipulation and tending of the pyre, recovery of the remains for burial and, or other forms of disposal. Urned burials may contain information pertaining to the order and manner in which the cremated bone and other materials were placed within them. Graves may contain evidence of a sequence of mortuary-related deposits not just the remains of the formal burial of the human bone. The crucial key to any analysis and interpretation of the archaeological components recovered from cremation-related deposits — be it the human remains, artefactual or environmental materials — is the context. The distribution of archaeological components within cremation-related deposits can be difficult to deduce by eye in excavation; a more detailed breakdown of contexts in excavation will assist the analysis of these distributions and thereby enhance our understanding of the formation process of the deposit/s. The aim of this paper will be to demonstrate how this can be achieved and the benefits thereof to data recovery and comprehension/widening our understanding of the multifaceted mortuary rite of cremation.

Archaeology and funerary cult: stratigraphy of soils in the cemeteries of Cispadana (Archeologia e culto funerario: stratigrafia dei suoli in necropoli della Cispadana)

Professor Jacopo Ortalli (University of Ferrara)

Normal archaeological fieldwork practices have not yet succeeded in exhausting all the potential of cemeteries for documenting ancient ritual; often in fact the opportunity is missed to recognize traces of the numerous rituals conducted outside the tomb during the funeral or in later rituals. This depends above all on stratigraphic problems, linked to the difficulty of identifying ancient cemetery surface levels and recording the presence of small finds distributed across them. Starting from these assumptions, the attempt has been made for some time in Emilia Romagna to develop and apply new excavation methods: following the first positive results obtained at Sarsina, in recent years the Soprintendenza Archeologica di Bologna, the University of Ferrara and the Collège de France have begun an international research project in which many European scholars from various backgrounds have collaborated. All share an

interest in comparing and experimenting with different excavation and recording techniques in a funerary context.

The investigation has been focused on a sector of the Imperial period cemetery at Classe, near Ravenna, where more than 150 cremation and inhumation burials of various types have been discovered. The results so far achieved have been very positive, in particular as regards the analysis on the ground of archaeological evidence in detail and of activity surfaces. By this means interesting evidence has been gathered both of the materials used in the celebration of rituals outside the tomb and of the handling of the corpses of inhumed individuals and the remains of cremated individuals.

Funerals and beyond: the treatment of human remains in Roman Iron Age Scotland

Colin Wallace (School of Archaeology, Classics & Egyptology, University of Liverpool)

Recent regional reviews have often been quite pessimistic about our present understanding of the treatment of the dead in Iron Age Scotland, on the northern edge of the Empire. However, a thorough review of the evidence allows discussion of a range of excavated burials — single inhumations in graves and cists, multiple inhumations, cremations, cave burials — and ways of marking burials, whether by cairns and mounds or by accompanying items of material culture. This paper moves on to consider both the multiple significance of selected burials (*e.g.*, a single inhumation, in a stone-lined grave, in a cave, as part of a structured sequence of deposits) and the possible local impact of Roman traditions of the display of human remains on both ancient and present-day observers.

RAC/TRAC General Session I

RAC/TRAC Committee

1. *Cur gallina per viam transire maluit?* Or: Humour in Roman Archaeology? *Ben Croxford, Cambridge University.*
2. Earith–Somersham: evidence of large-scale supply. *Grahame Appleby, Cambridge Archaeological Unit.*
3. Fields of gold (and silver, but mostly copper-alloy): assessing Roman material culture recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (1997–2007). *Sally Worrell, University College London, Portable Antiquities Scheme.*
4. Any old iron? Implements and specialisms in the Roman army. *Andrew Rich, University of Edinburgh.*
5. Power, architecture and community in the distribution of honorary statues in Roman public space. *Francesco Trifiló, Birkbeck College, University of London.*

   "Unpleasant to live in, yet it makes the city rich": functions of strip-buildings in the Aquincum Civil Town in the light of new discoveries. *Orsolya T. Láng, Aquincum Museum, Budapest.*

Cur gallina per viam transire maluit? Or: Humour in Roman Archaeology?

Ben Croxford (University of Cambridge)

A recent description of Romanists by Peter Ellis (2004) claimed we were somewhat dour and uninteresting; by extension, the implication is that we are all too often humourless too. This paper is a decidedly tongue-in-cheek consideration of our subject but with a very real agenda. That humour features in most archaeologists' day-to-day lives is unquestionable — be it 'trench humour', amusing cartoons pinned to notice boards and office doors or in conversation. Such irreverence on occasion transfers to writing, most frequently in the form of carefully worded titles on papers but also in obscure references (comedy programmes, song titles or lyrics and puns being the most common) hidden amongst text or talk. It is unusual for such frivolity to form the focus of a paper but one entire volume of the *Archaeological Review from Cambridge* was given over to just such an endeavour (1992 volume 11:2).

Rarer still is a consideration of humorous activity in the Roman past itself, as evidenced in the archaeological record. In discussing the Camomile Street Soldier, Mike Bishop proposed, "the treatment afforded to the statue [*sic*] [was] a deliberate symbolic act, either in humorous vein or as atonement for damaging the memorial" (1983: 44). Such a seemingly offhand comment opens up a complex world and array of multifaceted interpretive potentials. Is it possible, firstly, for objects to be deposited with a humorous intent and, secondly, are we equipped, prepared and able to identify such behaviour?

Archaeological Review From Cambridge 1992. 11:2 Digging for a Laugh.

Bishop, M. 1983. 'The Camomile Street soldier reconsidered'. *Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society* 34: 31–48.

Ellis, P. 2004. 'Romanists are grey secondary teachers in jackets and ties getting out of their Vauxhalls'. *British Archaeology* 74: 31.

Earith–Somersham: evidence of large-scale supply.

Grahame Appleby (Cambridge Archaeological Unit)

Over the past thirty years evidence for the exploitation of the Fens during the Romano-British period has increased dramatically. Much new information has been provided by aerial photography, revealing numerous settlements, droveways, tracks and enclosures. Excavations in the region have added to this aerial record and reinforced the perception that the Fens were of significant economic importance to the Roman State between the 2nd and 4th centuries AD. This economic role has been debated in terms of Imperial Estate, cadastration and centuriation, despite the lack of unequivocal evidence for these. Nonetheless, official involvement in the region cannot be denied. This is most clearly seen in the construction of the Fen Causeway and the cutting of the Lincolnshire and Cambridgeshire Car Dykes, although the purpose of the Car Dyke continues to be debated.

Against this backdrop of earlier work this paper discusses the ten-year programme of excavations undertaken by the Cambridge Archaeological Unit (University of Cambridge) along the fen edge beside the Car Dyke between Earith and Somersham. Placing the results of these excavations within a temporal, spatial and regional context, the presence of mill-like structures, millstones, warehouses and the large quantities of processed and butchered bone and pottery will be presented as evidence of the economic importance of the area, and Romano-British settlements along the Cambridgeshire Car Dyke in general, in the production and processing of significant quantities of grain (flour) and meat for export and considers who may have been the most likely recipient of this produce. Finally, the paper will present evidence of an inland port connected to the natural waterways of the region.

Fields of gold (and silver, but mostly copper-alloy): assessing Roman material culture recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (1997–2007).

Sally Worrell (University College London, Portable Antiquities Scheme)

This paper aims to explore aspects of the research value of Roman artefacts recorded through the Portable Antiquities Scheme. (PAS) The PAS is a national (England & Wales) project to record chance finds of archaeological material and to encourage best practice among finders, in particular metal-detector users. In the ten years since its introduction, the PAS has recorded both spectacular individual finds (Staffordshire Moorlands Pan, Winchester Treasure) and a very substantial quantity of everyday objects and their findspots. Of the 160, 000 objects so far recorded, more than 60,000 date to the Roman period. This volume is significant in comparison to material acquired through other methods and at both national and regional level offers potential new insights into the circulation and deposition of material culture in the Roman period. Arguably no study that uses distributions of particular artefact types can legitimately ignore these data.

This paper aims to illustrate this potential with reference to the national distribution of specific artefact types (*e.g.*, copper alloy figurines and miniature objects), regional distributions of PAS records and individual 'assemblages' of objects. It will also consider the

theoretical and methodological issues raised by the analysis of unstratified small finds. Although methodologies have been developed for the analysis of the materials from excavations which are also commonly collected by the PAS, coins and copper alloy small finds, it is not clear how far these are appropriate for the analysis of a non-systematically collected resource.

Any old iron? Implements and specialisms in the Roman army.

Andrew Rich (University of Edinburgh)

In order for the Roman army to maintain its flexibility and fulfill a variety of different roles, a degree of self sufficiency was required. Both skilled specialists (such as *immunes*) and other soldiers would have been expected to provide and maintain iron tools that secured the independence of the military unit. Irrespective of where the unit was stationed in the provinces, perhaps garrisoned in a stone fort, a temporary camp on the front lines, or deep within hostile territory, the tools and specialists who used them were one way of ensuring the self sufficiency of the unit. Frequently we find tools deposited in pits, foundation trenches and ditches. This paper attempts to provide an explanation. By looking at these implements and their archaeological context in relation to known military structures, we gain new insights into the function and storage of tools in a military environment.

Power, architecture and community in the distribution of honorary statues in Roman public space.

Francesco Trifiló (Birkbeck College, University of London)

The location of honorary statues representing members of the urban elite can tell us much about the use of Roman public space. This paper re-discovers their role as finer elements in the relationship between static forum architecture and the communities which saw the forum as a space for social display. Working within the specific setting of the Trajanic Forum Vetus of the colonia of Sarmizegetusa, I will outline and interpret meaningful patterns in the distribution of honorary statuary. These will be compared to other examples in order to outline general tendencies and local patterns. The resulting work will show key dynamics operating in the specific context of social display as conveyed through honorary statuary. The evidence underlines the role of the forum in re-asserting hierarchy in the urban community, but also demonstrates how statue erection is intimately connected with the material organization of space. Through the filter of static architecture and its constraints, honorary statuary outlines the freedom of local initiative in determining hierarchical patterns. Furthermore, the analysis of the dynamics regulating the practice highlights the key role of the urban community as the audience for practices of social display.

"Unpleasant to live in, yet it makes the city rich": functions of strip-buildings in the Aquincum Civil Town in the light of new discoveries.

Orsolya T. Láng, Aquincum Museum, Budapest

The "Strip-house with an oil-press" in the north-eastern zone of the Aquincum Civil Town has recently been re-excavated (2004–2006). As preliminary results already show, the southern part of the building functioned as a workshop, while its northern part was used as a residence. For the first time in the history of excavated strip-buildings in Aquincum, several building phases could be distinguished and dated. In spite of the previous research (identification of

the area as an oil press) new finds and archaeozoological data rather suggest glue-making and tanning were carried out in the workshop. In this paper there will be a discussion of analogies to these kind of 'unpleasant' activities taking place so close to the town center and, at the same time, I will investigate the function of the strip-houses in the north-eastern zone of the town or even the whole town quarter which may even be connected to a certain community of people.

The Archaeological Potential of *Londinium*

Session organiser: Jenny Hall (Museum of London)

Session Abstract

The material housed in the Museum of London's Archaeological Archive and Research Centre (LAARC) has been the culmination of decades of archaeological excavation in the City and Greater London. Combined with the nationally important Roman reserve collections and newly excavated material, it provides a rich treasure-house for research. So, what is the next step for promulgating Roman London's material culture? The publication of detailed finds catalogues are an expensive and time-consuming option and are out-of-date as soon as the ink dries on the paper. Providing access is the key to new research projects. This session suggests methods for the future and reviews examples of current work.

Chair: Tim Williams (University College London)

1. The London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre collections and research into Roman London. *Roy Stephenson (London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre).*
2. The preservation of Roman Britain 'by record' and its use and usefulness. *John Shepherd (University College London).*
3. 'Living in Roman London' — providing public access to a 'virtual' collection. *Angela Wardle (Museum of London Archaeological Service)*
4. A review of Roman London's pottery in the light of the discovery of the Moorgate kilns. *Fiona Seeley (Museum of London Archaeological Service).*
5. *Adde parvum parvo magnus acervus erit*: Towards a new model for Londinium's cemeteries. *Natasha Powers (Museum of London Archaeological Service).*
6. Mapping the inscriptions of Roman London. *Nick Holder (Museum of London Archaeological Service).*

The London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre collections and research into Roman London

Roy Stephenson, London Archaeological Archive and Research Centre

With the opening of the Museum of London's LAARC and the publication of the 'Research Framework for London Archaeology' in 2002, Roman London's archaeological resources seemed set. Probably the largest archaeological archive in Europe, holding some 20% of all of England's resources, the LAARC should provide an environment for focused research into Roman archaeology. Commercial archaeological interventions have produced many fine site-specific, scholarly pieces of research but the current commercial environment means that overarching thematic research, ideally within the parameters of the Research Framework, has to be funded separately.

The future effectiveness of the LAARC as a research tool depends on actively enabling flexible access to and manipulation of the data. A current deficiency in the research process is the dissemination of digital resources for the benefit of researchers into Roman London, for which a methodology has been proposed. This paper will examine and summarise post-graduate research carried on the collections at the LAARC and to what extent it is fulfilling the aspirations of the Research Framework. In addition, it will highlight the recent pieces of work produced by commercial archaeology that either do or do not address elements of the Research Framework.

The preservation of Roman Britain 'by record' and its use and usefulness

John Shepherd, University College London

A series of period-based seminars at the Museum of London around 2000 and the subsequent publication of the 'Research Framework for London Archaeology' highlighted the general consensus that there was still much to discover and understand about the contents of the extensive London Archaeological Archive. The opening of the LAARC gave everyone access to the contents of this collection. Since then many successful initiatives have been created involving a wide range of users but it has to be said that the involvement of the Higher Education sector, its staff and students, has not developed to the extent we expected or hoped.

To compensate for this under use and to ensure common standards across the HE archaeological sector, UCL designed a project, the Archive Archaeology Project, that examines the use of archaeological resources across the country — in particular, archaeological archives, SMR/HER resources and University museum collections. With special reference to the archaeology of the Roman Empire, this paper will examine how these resources are being used in undergraduate teaching and learning programmes and the issues related to graduate use of these resources.

'Living in Roman London' — providing public access to a 'virtual' collection

Angela Wardle, Museum of London Archaeological Service

The internationally important Roman collections of the Museum of London are an under-exploited resource with great potential for research. Much of the permanent collection remains unpublished. The publication of excavated finds from London has historically been by site rather than by theme, within a traditional framework affording little opportunity for overview. Area studies often provide only brief finds summaries and although there is a vast quantity of information in the archive, much is available only in a very basic form.

A recent assessment, funded by English Heritage, examined the potential of all the material from Roman London, most importantly the excavated finds held in the London Archaeological Archive including the contextual and environmental archives. A series of multidisciplinary thematic publications, using current methods of research, was proposed. With the support of a major grant from the Designated Challenge Fund, the Museum of London has embarked on a ground-breaking project entitled 'Living in Roman London' supported by an on-line finds catalogue giving immediate access to the research archive. The paper outlines our plans to provide public access to the collections and to create an educational and innovative website.

A review of Roman London's pottery in the light of the discovery of the Moorgate kilns

Fiona Seeley, Museum of London Archaeological Service

The discovery of a complex of 2nd-century kilns in Moorgate in 1999, which produced Verulamium region wares, has resulted in ceramicists having to reinterpret the supply of pottery to the provincial capital during the first half of the 2nd century AD, a period of expansion and change for Roman London. Prior to this discovery, the majority of London's pottery was thought to have been supplied by industries outside the City. Indeed, previous evidence at Copthall Close had suggested small-scale production of coarse and fine reduced wares and Marsh, in his study of early 2nd-century fine wares, had argued for local production of mica-dusted and eggshell wares but there had been no evidence of large-scale production.

This paper will look at how much of the pottery in London was supplied by the local kilns at this period and how the Moorgate kilns are linked to the Verulamium region industry, one of the most important suppliers of oxidised wares in the later 1st and early 2nd centuries AD. Recent evidence from consumer sites in London will also be considered in the examination of how the industry was organised and how it interacted with the consumer.

Adde parvum parvo magnus acervus erit†: Towards a new model for Londinium's cemeteries

Natasha Powers, Museum of London Archaeological Service

Numerous publications have addressed the nature of Romano-British burial practices, yet, disappointingly, few refer to the extensive skeletal assemblages available from Londinium, since they remained largely unpublished until the work on the East London Cemetery. In a commercial environment, the opportunity to integrate data from more than one site is rarely available and, historically, well-phased cemetery sites have been lacking. Archaeological and practical limitations, therefore, lead to the simple geographical association of burials while scant heed is paid to interment outside the traditionally understood extra-mural 'compass-point' cemetery areas, thus limiting our understanding of Roman burial practices.

This paper summarises findings from several recent, developer-funded excavations: An intriguing burial ground situated at the limit of urban occupation at the head of the Walbrook stream; spatial organisation in the Spitalfields cemetery, and the often ephemeral glimpses of burials within the City. The emerging data indicate that detailed osteological, spatial and temporal investigations of archaeologically-derived human remains are essential and may result in a new and radically different view of burial within and around Londinium.

† Add a little to a little and there will be a great pile (Ovid).

Mapping the inscriptions of Roman London

Nick Holder, Museum of London Archaeological Service

This paper studies the Roman inscriptions from London primarily as archaeological finds, but also as a unique category of find with 'added value'. The task is made easier by the superb body of accessible data: the inscriptions themselves are published annually in Britannia and also in the extensive fascicules of Roman Inscriptions of Britain and research for The Archaeology of Greater London, published by MoLAS in 2000, allowed the re-working of the map of Roman London.

Over 500 inscribed objects have been found from Roman London and in this paper I will examine the corpus using the object data, the inscription and the find-spot. With a Geographic Information System (GIS) it is now relatively easy to combine and interrogate the data: can we see evidence of 'zoning' within Londinium, perhaps by comparing the distribution of official inscriptions on monuments and stamped tiles with more personal inscriptions on drinking cups? Where are the scratched inscriptions associated with retail? Do different areas of the London waterfront have different types of inscriptions, perhaps suggesting specialisation of port activities? Finally, what about all those Roman Londoners — did men and women use inscriptions and writing in different ways?

Revisiting the Economy

Session organisers: Dave Wythe (Birkbeck) and Kris Lockyear (UCL)

Session abstract

During the 1970s and 80s one major area of archaeological research was the economy of past societies. More recently, the economy has received less attention. So, for example, the Research Agenda for Roman Britain does not contain a section on the economy, nor does the word itself even appear in the index. This is not to say, however, that economic matters have not been the subject of study in other guises, for example in the application of consumer theory, or in the need to understand patterns of rural settlement and production. This session will consider a variety of different approaches to the Roman economy and how a holistic understanding of Roman society requires an integration of economic factors into the broader picture.

1. A Reconsideration of Red Slip Tableware at Pompeii. *Jaye Pont.*
2. "Fundi" and Land Management in the Colony Of Barcino (Hispania Tarraconensis): A Methodological Approach. *Oriol Olesti-Vila, University Autonoma de Barcelona.*
3. Wood fuel supply to Samnite and Roman Pompeii: economic and cultural indicators from charcoal analysis. *Robyn Veal, University of Sydney.*
4. Where do we go from here? *Kris Lockyear, University College London.*
5. An Analysis of Roman coins from Verulamium. *Dave Wythe, Birkbeck.*
6. Ever smaller change: the *nummus* economy in the Mediterranean and beyond, 4th–7th centuries AD. *Sam Moorhead Finds Adviser for Iron Age and Roman Coins Department of Portable Antiquities and Treasure, The British Museum.*

A Reconsideration of Red Slip Tableware at Pompeii

Jaye Pont

The assessment of red slip tableware at Pompeii has traditionally involved the study of pottery from AD 79 contexts housed in the National Archaeological Museum of Naples and storerooms of Pompeii and Herculaneum. These collections represent only a partial view of the ceramics in use in Pompeii because they reflect the priorities and values of past excavators, who customarily retained only well preserved or interesting vessels. This paper investigates red slip pottery found in pre-AD 79 contexts in two regions of the city. The systematic and detailed examination of these ceramics has enabled a comprehensive and scientific assessment of red slip pottery found at Pompeii. Determination of the provenance of this tableware provides new insight into local, regional, and inter-regional trade patterns operating in Campania.

"Fundi" and Land Management in the Colony Of Barcino (Hispania Tarraconensis): A Methodological Approach.

Oriol Olesti-Vila, University Autonoma de Barcelona

Attempting to study forms of land ownership in the Roman period through archaeological evidence is often considered a fanciful aim. Land survey studies and diachronic analyses of settlement pattern on the basis of archaeological data, have just allowed a general approach to the question.

However, they cannot provide in any case particular information on the property structure in a specific area. Studies on amphora and ceramic epigraphy may give a more specific information, but without a required territorial projection. In this sense, places-names, historic phonetics, and landscape morphology preserved in the early medieval documentation have been sources hardly taken into account by scholars. Especially places-names derived from endings such -anum or -ana, parts of names of Roman praedia or fundi, signs of the existence of ancient Roman estates. We try to use this kind of data in the study of Roman Barcino (Hispania Tarraconensis). Some examples, well preserved in the toponomy but also in the epigraphic register of Barcino, shows the possibilites of this method.

Wood fuel supply to Samnite and Roman Pompeii: economic and cultural indicators from charcoal analysis

Robyn Veal, University of Sydney

Pompeii's Roman economy — and to some extent the Samnite economy that preceded it — has received much attention in terms of analysis of inputs and outputs, particularly foodstuffs, and ceramics. However, one aspect of economic activity has to date received little attention: that of the wood fuel supply. Wood and wood charcoal were the major energy sources to fuel the economy. This paper outlines progress on a study which seeks to gain an insight into the structure and economics of the urban wood fuel supply. Charcoal remains from several sites within the city walls have been analysed and are being interpreted in light of ancient and modern scholarship; associated archaeological evidence; pollen studies and modern phytosociological analogues. Results show that at least in several areas of the city, Pompeiians practised heavy selection of high heat value woods for general use in cooking and heating. Of these woods, the dominant taxon, *Fagus sylvatica* (beech) is a montane wood which would have required significant effort to harvest and transport. Woods associated with domestic ritual and industrial applications suggest other, specialised patterns of wood collection and use. A qualitative review of tree ring patterns provides a partial view of wood management and cropping practices.

Where do we go from here?

Kris Lockyear, University College London

This paper takes a look at what we have been doing with coins finds from excavations, what we are doing, and suggests some things we ought to be doing. It is intended as a stimulus to debate on these issues, not as definitive prescriptive guidelines. In particular it argues that many of the issues which the EH guidelines raise as problems, and perhaps matters for debate, would be irrelevant if we made efficient use of the available technology.

An Analysis of Roman coins from Verulamium

Dave Wythe, Birkbeck College, University of London

Excavations at Verulamium have now been conducted for over a century and between them a great mass of material evidence has now been accumulated. Following detailed work conducted as part of my thesis, it is now possible to analyse in detail the coin finds from each of the various insulae and other sites both inside and in the immediate environs of the Roman town. The purpose of this paper is to use these finds to explore the economic development of the Roman town, from the mid-first century through to the end of the fourth century, comparing both public and private areas together with commercial and non-commercial sites, assessing their development and evolution, and to question the appropriateness of the definitions that we chosen to employ. It is further anticipated that we may also be possible to apply new definitions to those insulae described simply as "buildings" in the published reports. In conjunction with this, these shifting processes of economic development will be compared with the coin finds from villas in the nearby region in order to attempt to assess how far the urban economy may or may not have influenced the rural economy. Finally, it will asked, what are the implications of such a study for the future of economic and urban studies in Roman Britain.

Ever smaller change: the *nummus* economy in the Mediterranean and beyond, 4th–7th centuries AD

Sam Moorhead, Portable Antiquities and Treasure, The British Museum

This paper largely emanates from recent work on the coins found on excavations at Butrint in Albania (conducted by the Butrint Foundation and the University of East Anglia). Several thousand bronze coins, dating from the 4th to 7th centuries have been found in contexts on four different sites in and around the city. Not only in general do these coins present an overview of the circulating currency in late antiquity, their stratigraphic recording provides further insights into the circulation patterns over time.

The work at Butrint does enable a fresh look at the nature of the *nummus* economy across the Mediterranean. With the general decline in the complexity of the coinage in the 4th and early 5th centuries, by the mid-5th century the coinage effectively consisted of a gold solidus and the miserable bronze *nummus*. 7,000 of these were needed in exchange for a solidus! However, did this mean that the smooth running of the economy was impossible, a view taken in light of Anastasius' reforms of AD 498? Some parts of the Mediterranean, notably Vandal North Africa, still clung on to the *nummus* and at Butrint we have contexts with late 6th century post-reform coins found alongside earlier Justinianic *nummi*. We even have evidence that the *nummus* economy extended way beyond the realm of Rome and Byzantium.

Experiencing the Sacred

Session organiser: Andrew Green (Birkbeck College)

Session Abstract

The key aim of the session is to study provincial Roman religion through the lens of human experience. The session will explore the archaeology of the senses by bringing sight, sound, smell, touch and taste to the fore. Sensual experience is of course central to much religious activity. Spatial and temporal aspects of the sacred are also important through interaction with the wider landscape, memory and ritual time. Phenomenological approaches to archaeology such as those of Chris Tilley have been central to such discussions in the past and are central here too. However, the session aims to broaden the outlook of such approaches and to approach an 'archaeology of experience'.

1. Experiencing Roman Sacred Landscapes. *Andrew Green (Birkbeck College).*
2. A sense of place: looking beyond decline in the towns of late Roman Britain. *Adam Rogers (University of Durham).*
3. Towards identifying a visual language in cult practice. *Dr Ian Haynes (Birkbeck College)*
4. Experiencing the Sacred: saints' shrines in early medieval Italy. *Dr Caroline Goodson (Birkbeck College)*
5. Experiencing the Romano-Celtic Temple. *Philip Kiernan (Ruprecht-Karls Universität, Heidelberg).*

Discussant: Dr Caroline Humfress (Birkbeck College)

Experiencing Roman Sacred Landscapes

Andrew Green (Birkbeck College, University of London)

How should we approach constructing an 'archaeology of experience' in the context of the wider landscape? How should we examine human experience of sacred landscapes? Can we develop archaeologies that centre themselves on the senses and bring sight, sound, smell, touch and taste in ritual and religious contexts? Phenomenology offers one approach with the work of Julian Thomas centred on human temporality and that of Chris Tilley centred on human sensual experience of the landscape, developing the phenomenology of Heidegger and Merleau-Ponty respectively. The idea of a 'lived landscape' is prominent in these approaches. An alternative encompassing temporality and sensual experience can be found in the 'anthropology of experience' developed by Victor Turner and others. This paper examines how such approaches can be used to inform the development of 'archaeologies of experience' and how these ideas can inform studies of religion in a provincial Roman context.

A sense of place: looking beyond decline in the towns of late Roman Britain

Adam Rogers (University of Durham)

This paper is an examination of towns in the later Roman period in Britain through a study of their public buildings and their significance as places within the wider landscape. It will be argued that in order to study towns in the later Roman period, it is necessary to understand the use of these places in the earlier Roman but also pre-Roman periods. Many of these sites in the pre-Roman period were highly meaning-laden with social, religious and political activity and involving vastly different ways of conceptualising place and space to those of today. As places they will have gathered people, experiences, histories and thoughts and kept them to influence on later action. Places are bodies of collection and recollection; they are generative and regenerative on their own scale and do not age according to any pre-established schedule of growth and decline such as the recorded events of the later Roman period. The power of place, in the gathering of people, things and memories together, can continue beyond historically-attested periods of change which is important for studying the way in which towns were considered in the late Empire. Towns as places, gather people in deeply acculturated ways but they were also located on sites of pre-Roman significance which will have articulated with Roman urbanism and influenced the way in which towns were understood and experienced. Public buildings, as foci within these places in the Roman period, are an important way of observing how these towns remained significant places in the later Roman period.

Towards identifying a visual language in cult practice

Dr Ian Haynes (Birkbeck College, University of London)

Our appreciation of the way worshippers experienced the sacred in the Roman world has been profoundly influenced by scholarly emphases on architecture, iconography and epigraphy. While noting that each of these elements is indeed vital to the development of the archaeology of cult other elements require vastly more attention. Excavation of temple sites frequently reveals a series of potent juxtapositions, fine marble statuary is displayed alongside humble terracotta figurines, delicately carved altars alongside rough clay pots, expensive wall plaster alongside mass produced pottery lamps. These juxtapositions can be profoundly unsettling to established readings of 'privileged artefacts' such as statuary and altar dedications, because they reveal the way in which they formed part of an evolving visual language within a site. Such artefacts cannot therefore be studied in isolation.

Though such an analysis inevitably touches on theories of aesthetics and semantics it ultimately demands a different theoretical approach. It must begin with a reconsideration of the role of C-transforms in creating our picture of temple interiors. This involves the analysis not only of sites alleged to have preserved substantial quantities of their finds' assemblages in situ, but also crucially of the altogether more common evidence for so-called *favissae*. The paper will consider the problems inherent in analysing both phenomena before considering the degree to which a larger visual language may be identified in temple site assemblages as a whole. In arguing that considerable progress is possible in this area of research, it will draw on new research in the archaeology of the senses and stress the importance of both agency and temporal change. Each element of analysis will be considered with reference to actual archaeological examples while a final conclusion will draw on a single case study to demonstrate the dangers of failing to apply this broader approach to the archaeology of cult.

Experiencing the Sacred: saints' shrines in early medieval Italy

Dr Caroline Goodson (Birkbeck College, University of London)

There are many theories about the origins and reason of the development of the cult of saints. Each of these attempts to situate the new phenomenon in traditional classical practice, either as the successor of gods and heroes, or classical mystical figures, or even within earthly social patterns. How can these be perceived in the material record?

The architectural language of martyria, the dome, the apses, the marble speak to the absent martyr, the glory owed to him. Some of this language of architecture derives from imperial-era funerary and residential settings. But saints' shrines often had a greater degree of site-specificity than theses about architectural vocabulary would permit. In these first centuries of Christianity at Rome, there was a demonstrable attention to the tomb, to the original space where the body was laid to rest, which shaped later medieval veneration. The space around the body was structured with passageways and/or windows facing into the tomb structure. The walls were decorated with colored marbles, glittering figurative and ornamental mosaics, and in larger basilicas and oratories, imported liturgical textiles and silver and gold ornaments. This material and spiritual conglomeration was infused with further splendor by ephemeral elements such as candles, incense, and sacred chanting, as each of these extramural basilicas was administered by a monastery or convents at the site of the very special tomb or tombs. There was another way that this same kind of tomb worked to express another aspect of saints power: that is as a new family. The cult of the saints that invigorated Italian cities during the fourth through sixth centuries subsumed the importance of locales of ancestor and family to create shrines of new families around saints' bodies. This has long been a special consideration of the heightened virtus of a saint's body over a mere contact relic. However we have seen that in these early shrines there is a consistent language of form used for both corporeal and contact relics that expresses the presence and power of the saint. That presence and power operates in many different social categories, stressing the overlapping nature of saints in ways that examination of purely textual sources cannot.

Experiencing the Romano-Celtic Temple

Philip Kiernan (Ruprecht-Karls Universität, Heidelberg)

The Romano-Celtic temple is one of the most distinctive and common type of sites found in the north west provinces of the Roman Empire.

Since there is seldom much left of them, it is very difficult to get any kind of a 'feel' as to how a Romano-Celtic temple would have impacted the senses of its visitors. Modern reconstructions may be of some help in this respect, but reveal more about architecture than anything else. We have very little information about the more qualitative aspects of the Romano-Celtic sanctuary. Using evidence from select sites, this paper will consider the impression made by the less permanent elements of sanctuaries (offerings, furniture, statues, altars *etc.*), and how visitors interacted with them. The question of access and movement within the sanctuary will also be touched upon.

Understanding the Romano-British Countryside

Session Organiser: Dr Pete Wilson, English Heritage.

This session is sponsored by English Heritage

Session Abstract

We know of some 100,000 rural sites of Roman-period, or probable Roman period date and clearly further developing our understanding of the Romano-British Countryside is crucial to both our understanding of Roman Britain at local, regional and national level and to the management the Roman-period resource. It is widely acknowledged that Roman Britain was essentially a rural society, and while it has been long accepted that the relationship between the urban and rural populations of Roman Britain was complex, it is becoming increasingly clear that differences can be recognised in the countryside that suggest similar, or perhaps greater complexities in the rural archaeological resource. Understanding these differences demands the adoption of increasingly sophisticated approaches that not only take account of 'traditional' considerations such as the impact of the Roman army and the development of urban centres, but also seek to identify regional and sub-regional variation, differing responses to the Imperial presence and consider these and other issues in terms of the landscape within which they took place — potentially producing a 100,000 site-specific responses. What this session will seek to do is look at some problems and possible approaches to aspects of our data. The objective will not to promote any one approach, but to suggest ways of developing a more nuanced understanding of the Romano-British countryside, while at the same time possibly identifying some approaches that could be more widely applied and perhaps in doing so some priorities for future research.

1. The Roman countryside: a view from Transylvania. *Professor W. S. Hanson and Dr I. A. Oltean, University of Glasgow.*

2. Settlements in context: some future approaches to the study of Roman rural society. *Dr Jeremy Taylor, University of Leicester.*

3. If it has corners it must be Roman? Using aerial photographs to assess possible change and continuity in the Romano-British countryside in England. *Helen Winton, English Heritage*

4. Where do we go from here: the contribution of archaeobotany and zooarchaeology. *Gill Campbell and Dr Andy Hammon, English Heritage.*

5. The making of invisible cities: describing towns from the evidence of their absence in the Romano-British countryside. *Dominic Perring, Institute of Archaeology University College London/Archaeology South-East.*

6. Landscapes with Villas. *Richard Hingley and Chris Martin (University of Durham).*

Keynote Paper: The Roman countryside: a view from Transylvania

Professor W. S. Hanson and Dr I. A. Oltean, University of Glasgow

Since 1998 the authors have been conducting aerial survey in western Transylvania, focusing on the heart of the Roman province of Dacia in the Mureş valley and the plain of Haţeg. Apart from producing substantial new information about rural settlement patterns in the region, the project has required us to focus on the nature of, and the problems with, Roman settlement data in an area both very different and surprisingly similar to Britain in the Roman period. From that distant perspective, we offer some comments on both the data set for Roman rural settlement in Britain and its interpretation, with suggestions for future research foci and approaches. Issues covered will include data recovery and quality; site distribution patterns and the role of central places; the acculturation process; regional variation; and chronological development.

Settlements in context: some future approaches to the study of Roman rural society

Dr Jeremy Taylor, University of Leicester

Roman Britain comprised a series of overwhelmingly rural societies whose history was largely unwritten and in consequence has been poorly incorporated into accounts of the province. A recent overview of Roman period rural settlement archaeology across England, however, has noted a number of distinctive regional and national trends of importance to understanding the development of the province as a whole. Rural societies and their landscapes, it can be argued, were fundamental to the nature of the evolving province not just a reflection of its experience of empire. This paper notes some of the conclusions of this work, and its attendant weaknesses in order to address the future prospects of this subject. It then looks at how we might better utilise the archaeological evidence we have to place the great mass of the population at the centre of debates about Roman imperialism rather than at its margins.

If it has corners it must be Roman? Using aerial photographs to assess possible change and continuity in the Romano-British countryside in England.

Helen Winton, English Heritage

This paper will address some of the issues relating to the use of aerial photographs for the study of the Romano-British countryside. Discovery and recording of Roman sites from the air has in the past suffered from the same biases as other forms of prospection, that is, an over emphasis on easily recognised Roman sites such as military structures and their related *vici* and presumed "high status" villa sites. However a change in emphasis, in the last 10 to 20 years, from photographing individual sites to landscape mapping from aerial photographs has, in some areas of England, shown the real potential of the aerial evidence. Examination of large areas of archaeological landscapes mapped from aerial photographs can complement the existing detailed knowledge from excavation of relatively few isolated sites. This should enable us to postulate theories of regional diversity as well as change and continuity in the social and economic structure of rural areas from the later prehistoric through to the Roman period. Large amounts of data have been collected and analysed to a certain degree but there are still major gaps in our understanding of the aerial evidence. I shall use examples from

diverse landscapes across England, including the Solway Plain, the Yorkshire and Lincolnshire Wolds, East Anglia and the southern chalk downland, to try to explore some of these themes. Targeted follow up work, within regional research frameworks, is required on these cropmark landscapes to enable us to use the aerial evidence in a meaningful way for research into the Romano-British countryside.

Where do we go from here: the contribution of archaeobotany and zooarchaeology

Gill Campbell and Dr Andy Hammon, English Heritage

This paper will explore the nature of the archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological evidence from the Romano-British countryside. It will concentrate on the nature of the agricultural economy, especially in relation to the marketing of produce with reference to recent work on the Danebury Environs Roman Project and elsewhere.

Understanding the Romano-British countryside, and its evolution from the Iron Age countryside, from an environmental archaeological perspective is problematic for three principal reasons: 1) the contrasting nature of Iron Age and Romano-British feature and deposit types, 2) biased excavation and sampling strategies and 3) the lack of excavated producer (rural) and consumer (urban) sites within any given locality.

One feature of Iron Age archaeology is that deep features, that were deliberately in-filled over relatively short time span, generally provide much of the evidence-base. By contrast, Romano-British archaeology, or at least the excavated archaeology, tends to be characterised by shallow features or large deep features such as ditches or wells. Such features may have been repeatedly cleaned-out, backfilled with material derived from many different events and sources, or allowed to silt-up over time. Additionally, sampling has tended to concentrate on particular feature types, *e.g.,* pits and corn-driers which means that the resultant datasets are not representative, making it difficult to look at continuity and innovation following Roman colonisation, except on a very broad scale. As regards the marketing of agricultural produce while we may be able to propose that particular sites were either producing products in response to demand or were receiving products from the farmed countryside we are often unable to look at both sides of the coin, as we either lack material from the town sites or from the sites that are likely to have supplied the towns.

The making of invisible cities: describing towns from the evidence of their absence in the Romano-British countryside.

Dominic Perring, Institute of Archaeology University College London, Archaeology South-East

Landscapes with Villas.

Richard Hingley and Chris Martin (University of Durham).

This paper reassesses earlier ideas concerning the value of applying a consumption perspective to the evidence provided by the villas of Roman Britain (Martins 2005) and applies these to a new study. It explores, through three case studies, the analysis (through GIS) of the visibility of villas from Roman roads. It would appear that many villas may have been positioned to be visible from roads, enabling an assessment of the motivation of those who commissioned or

built these impressive houses. Outlining a methodology and theory for additional work, the paper also assesses the potential of applying such an approach to the variety of settlement types and infrastructural features of Roman date (towns, small towns, villas, non-villa settlements, forts, frontiers, *etc.*); a case study of selected temple sites will be used to draw some contrasts with the observed pattern for villas. Such a study of visibility and communication should enable consideration of the varying significance of the classes into which past accounts have placed the distinct types of Roman settlement that occur in Roman Britain.

Martins, C. (2005) *Becoming Consumers: Looking beyond wealth as an explanation for villa variability.* BAR, Oxford. British Series 403.

TRAC 2007 workshop: Food for thought: Economics, natural resources and the Roman military organisation.

Session organiser: Dr Sue Stallibrass

14.05 Feeding the wolf in Cheshire: models and (a few) facts. *Peter Carrington*

14.30 Feeding the Wall from Dorset?: Black Burnished ware, salt and the Roman state. *James Gerrard*

14.55 Food supply to the Roman army in the Rhine delta in the first century AD. *Laura Kooistra, Chiara Cavallo & Monica Dütting*

15.20–15.30 Discussion

16.00 Introduction to the workshop debate: Testing theories with real data. *Sue Stallibrass et al.*

16.30–17.15 Workshop debate: small group discussion and reporting/

17.15–17.30 Closing discussion. Discussants include Roel Lauwerier and Richard Thomas.

RAC/TRAC Themed Session: Death And Burial In The Roman World

Session organiser: RAC/TRAC Committee

1. A critical approach to the concept of resistance: new 'traditional' rituals and objects in funerary contexts of Roman Baetica. *Dr Alicia Jiménez (Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientificas, Spain)*
2. Mourning and Materiality. *John Manley (Sussex Archaeological Society and University of Sussex)*
3. Music in the Roman funeral ceremonies: study of the written, iconographical and archaeological evidence. *Dr Cristina Alexandrescu (Institutul de Arheologie 'Vasile Pârvan', Bucharest)*
4. The Coin in the Grave. *Lisa Brown (University of Edinburgh)*
5. Tradition and Memory. Roman reuse of megalithic structures in Southern Spain. *Dr. Leonardo García Sanjuán, Dr. Pablo Garrido González and Dr. Fernando Lozano Gómez (Universidad de Sevilla).*

A critical approach to the concept of resistance: new 'traditional' rituals and objects in funerary contexts of Roman Baetica.

Dr Alicia Jiménez, Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas.

In this lecture I would like to explore the usefulness of the concept 'resistance' as a tool to interpret the consumption of 'archaic' looking objects and the performance of 'traditional' rituals, employing as an example funerary contexts of Roman Baetica. Traditional approaches to this notion seem often to portray an 'inverted' image of the controversial 'Romanization' theory in those places where native communities 'failed' in the process of becoming Roman. In some cases, the concept of 'resistance' has also been used to connect symbolically contemporary populations — subjected in the recent past to different colonial powers — with a glorious history of opposition to the Roman invader. In this respect post-colonial theory provides us with new tools to stress the links between the present and the interpretation of the past and to overcome binary oppositions such as conqueror-conquered, roman-native, civilization-barbarism and domination-resistance.

Mourning and Materiality

John Manley, Sussex Archaeological Society and University of Sussex

The rite of cremation, the burning of a body on a funerary pyre, with or without associated artefacts, stimulates the senses, particularly of sight, hearing and smell. The carrying of the deceased to the pyre, the collection of cremated remains, the bodily engagement with the grave goods by the mourners are all sensations experienced primarily through touch; the

consumption of food-stuffs at the grave-side stimulate taste; and any one of these activities, including the experience of landscape and place, the location of pyre and grave, are triggers for emotion and memory. Human sensory experiences are magnified through the trauma of dealing with the death of one of their own; these experiences are felt both at the collective and individual levels. To what extent did shared rituals and beliefs in Roman Britain exacerbate, channel or subdue such experiences, through sensory and bodily engagements with active material culture? It may be that through the material culture, and its role in the rite of passage of death, burial and mourning that we can come closer to an experiential archaeology of memory, emotions and senses. These points will be illustrated with reference to a few cremation cemeteries in southern Britain.

Music in the Roman funeral ceremonies: study of the written, iconographical and archaeological evidence

Dr Cristina Alexandrescu, Institutul de Arheologie 'Vasile Pârvan', Bucharest

The Roman funeral seems to have been a well and meticulously organised ceremony. At each of its moments, participants had a particular role in the proceedings. Each of these elements had a special kind of music or of musical accompaniment, performed by professionals following certain rules. The written evidence on the Roman funeral is substantial. Some of this information is wonderfully complemented in the iconography and sometimes in archaeological funerary contexts. Indeed, the funeral is one of the best-documented events of Roman life, where musicians and their musical instruments (wind instruments and chordophones) can be seen 'at work'. Besides the instruments, a musician's place in the procession as well as the conventional combination of players of two different instruments are depicted as ancient authors describe them. The aim of the present paper is to present some of the moments of the ceremony, which are attested by more then one kind of source. Further this presentation will look at the differences between certain periods in order to point out the details concerning the musical element of the funeral, when it was present and when not, what was the reason for it (*i.e.*, its function) and who performed it.

The Coin in the Grave

Lisa Brown, University of Edinburgh

The role of coins in Roman burials is a more complex issue than has often been realised. The normative approach to understand their function can be misleading, as it applies much the same symbolic interpretation (Charon's obols) to all examples within the Empire. This creates problems as does not allow for variation in ritual and belief to be identified. Furthermore, a great deal more emphasis is placed on the numismatics than on understanding the coin in the context of the burial.

This paper will analyse the coins in their burial context, paying equal attention to archaeology and numismatics. Geographically, the study ranges from Britain and Upper Germany to territories beyond imperial frontiers. In addition to coin type and date of mintage, I analyse the number of coins in each grave, the time gap between mintage and burial, the location in the grave and other relevant details (*e.g.*, whether the coin has been pierced, the degree of wear, association with other grave goods and symbolism of the reverse types). This suggests that the meaning of coins in burials changed over time and in different areas, indicating a more complex picture of development. Aspects of this interpretation will be explored.

Tradition and Memory. Roman reuse of megalithic structures in Southern Spain

Dr Leonardo García Sanjuán, Dr Pablo Garrido González and Dr Fernando Lozano Gómez (Universidad de Sevilla)

This paper analyses a series of cases of Roman times reutilization of prehistoric sacred spaces and monuments, recorded throughout the South of the Iberian Peninsula. The cases under study are grouped into three main categories: (i) spatial proximity or overlapping of prehistoric and Roman burial areas, (ii) reutilisation of the inner and outer spaces of prehistoric mortuary chambers, and (iii) re-use of rock art sanctuaries and prehistoric stelae. As a conclusion, we suggest, firstly, the need to reconsider the recording criteria by which the appearance of later materials in old monuments is archaeologically assessed; secondly, we point out the need to look at these cases from the viewpoint of the elements of tradition and memory that some old sacred sites convey for the Iberian-Roman populations. Finally, we suggest these cases must be interpreted in terms of religious and political ideology.

The Emergence of Roman Identities: Italy, 300 BC–AD 100

Session Organisers: Edward Herring (Department of Classics, NUI Galway) and Kathryn Lomas (Institute of Archaeology, UCL)

Session Abstract

Italy held a unique position in relation to Rome by virtue of the early date of conquest and its eventual status, post-90 BC, as part of the Roman state rather than a province. It is also a uniquely complex case because of its very high level of ethnic, cultural and linguistic diversity. During the process of expansion and conquest Rome encountered a wide range of different cultural and ethnic groups, many of which had well-established identities of their own. This diversity persists long after the Roman conquest, and has an important role in the development of both Roman culture and wider Italian identities. In addition, the study of culture-change in Italy is an area in which there is a large (and growing) body of both new theoretical approaches and new archaeological and epigraphic evidence. One of the most exciting and innovative themes in scholarship on Italy in recent years has been that of cultural identities and their formation, and in particular the radical re-evaluation of the concept of Romanisation. The session will address central themes, such as the changing identities of states and ethnic groups in response to Rome and its relationship with the rest of Italy. However, it will particularly seek to widen the debate by including aspects such as the impact of Rome on gender identities and personal/family identities, and on groups other than the elite.

1. The changing face of Picene identity, 300–200 BC. *Eleanor Betts (University of Reading)*
2. Local identity, assimilation and integration in second-century Italy. *Tim Cornell (University of Manchester)*
3. Cultural change in North West Italy. *Ralph Häussler (University of Osnabruck)*
4. A house divided in the 2nd *c.* BC boom in South-West Italy: the termini on the road to the Social War. *Elena Isayev (University of Exeter)*
5. A Peripheral Existence? Placing Capena in Republican Italy. *Roman Roth (Peterhouse College, Cambridge)*
6. Pompeian identities: between Oscan, Samnite, Greek, Etruscan and Roman? *Andrew Wallace-Hadrill (British School at Rome)*

The changing face of Picene identity, 300–200 BC

Eleanor Betts

A distinctive Picene culture flourished until the 4th century BC, with written language, elaborate high status artefacts, complex trade connections and diverse religion. The 4th to 1st centuries BC saw this culture impacted upon by the neighbouring groups from Umbria, the Celtic north, and Rome. Rome influenced the region from 299 BC, eventually resulting in its complete conquest by 264 BC, with Asculum (Ascoli Piceno) reappearing in opposition

to Rome during the Social War. This paper considers the changing identity of the Picenes through the 3rd century BC, visible in the archaeological record and in the later accounts of Greek and Roman writers, such as Strabo and Pliny. Graeco-Roman literary sources of the 1st century BC and AD coined the name 'Picenes' and recorded the foundation myth of the *ver sacrum*, with the group's totem animal *picus* ('woodpecker'). This creation or preservation of a Picene identity gives a valuable insight into the Roman concept of the region and its people. As the archaeologically visible Picene culture was consumed, gradually transforming and adapting to outside influences, first of the Celts and the other Italic peoples, then the emerging star that was Rome, another, more permanent, identity was created, one that has survived through to today. With no etymological evidence that the Picenes knew themselves as such, why were the Romans so keen to give them a lasting identity? Was this identity taken on by the people native to the region, or did it belong only to those who colonised the region, from the foundation of Latin colonies such as Hatria (Atri) and Castrum Novum (Giulianova) in 290 BC? Through examination of the archaeology and mythology of Picenum, the paper concludes that the period of 300-200 BC saw not only the Romanisation of the region, but also the Picenisation.

Local identity, assimilation and integration in second-century Italy

Tim Cornell

After the Hannibalic War there is evidence that the peoples of Italy began to explore their own cultural traditions and institutions as part of an assertion of identity, which went together with unmistakable signs of assimilation and increasing uniformity. At the same time we can begin to detect evidence of consciousness of a broader Italian identity. The problem is to determine whether these phenomena can be adequately or rightly defined as 'Romanisation', how far they can be explained as the inevitable result of the growing power of the Roman state and its efforts to coordinate the efforts and harness the energies of the Italian allies; or whether, as some recent studies have argued, the indications of assimilation are partly illusory and partly the effect of unspoken teleological assumptions by modern historians, and that the cultural changes that can be observed in the evidence were actually tending towards disintegration rather than political union.

Cultural change in North West Italy

Ralph Häussler

It seems that the Roman conquest in 222/196 BC hardly had any immediate effects on local culture and society in North-West Italy. Over the following 200 years we can recognise many gradual developments taking place in local societies. But many of these changes do not seem to have been inspired by Rome: some aspects even contradict Roman perceptions, creating a local identity distinct from Rome. This shows that the local population employed a variety of strategies in order to consolidate their power and authority in a world dominated by Rome. People were adapting to Roman impositions (taxation, colonisation, *etc.*). But there was certainly no tendency towards 'self-Romanisation' during the Republican period. The material evidence allows us to build up a chronology of change, revealing numerous changes and culminating in a general rupture across many sites in the Augustan period. Changes in material culture do not necessarily reflect changes in people's identity and the question arises how to identify significant changes in the archaeological record. Certain artefacts have wrongly been

considered as leitmotif for an early 'Romanisation'. Only in the 1st century BC can we recognise that sociocultural patterns were evolving more significantly. But the questions remain: Does this reflect the creation of a Roman identity? How can we understand the complete abandonment of local (La Tène and Ligurian) culture in the late 1st century BC? What could have possibly motivated the local population to initiate such extreme cultural changes in this period?

A house divided in the 2nd *c.* BC boom in south-west Italy: the termini on the road to the Social War

Elena Isayev

If, as archaeological evidence suggests, post-Hannibalic South Italy is not the image of desolation portrayed in the ancient narratives, than, what is it? By focusing on South West Italy the paper considers the transformations of the inhabited landscape in the 2nd century BC, particularly in the ancient regions of Irpinia and Lucania. It investigates a number of apparent patterns in the rise and fall of settlement density, and the nature of new sites in the 2nd century BC. Some of these sites were positioned on the ruins of earlier Italic fortified centres in the mountainous hinterland, while others fringed the Tyrrhenian coast. By bringing together recent evidence from archaeological projects in the region, as well as topographical concerns, and epigraphic evidence, particularly the Gracchan termini, the paper contextualises the forces behind the shifts in occupation and the effect of Roman intervention on the Italic landscape. It stresses continuity of settlement from the 3rd century BC and identifies a break in occupation in the early 1st *c.* BC. The results provide a further challenge to the image of a devastated Italic countryside and instead highlight the diversity in landscape use, which was dependent on a combination of socio-political and topographical factors.

A Peripheral Existence? Placing Capena in Republican Italy

Roman Roth

As far as central Italian towns go, there are few places less peripheral than Capena. Originally in the territory of Veii, the city was absorbed into Rome's sphere of influence as early as the 390s BC, never being strong enough to develop into an important power-political factor in its own right. Through its location on the northern edge of the *suburbium*, Capena's economic position was utterly subsidiary to that of Rome. Overall, the identity of the Capenates was therefore defined solely in terms of their political and economic inferiority, which left little room to the expression of distinctly local points of view. Or did it? This paper argues that the inhabitants of Capena developed a strong sense of local cultural identity from an early date. As suggested both by the results of recent fieldwork and by other evidence, the Capenates were very much aware of their important position within the economic networks of Republican Italy. These, in turn, they employed as a source of cultural knowledge that manifested itself in both the distinctive townscape and the material culture of their city.

Pompeian identities: between Oscan, Samnite, Greek, Etruscan and Roman?

Andrew Wallace-Hadrill

Pompeii is best known for its later, Roman, phases of development, but many different ethnicities and cultures contributed to the earlier development of the city. This paper explores these various cultures and ethnicities which were present at Pompeii, and the interactions between them.

Roman Archaeologies in Context

Session organisers: Corisande Fenwick (Stanford University) and Kathryn Lafrenz (Stanford University)

Session Abstract

This session seeks to explicitly situate Roman archaeology in its contexts of practice, whether social, political, economic etc. Recently, there have been a number of excellent studies adopting a critical self-awareness of the contexts in which Roman archaeology developed as an academic discipline. Thus far, however, few attempts have been made to discuss the inherent complexities involved in the practice of Roman archaeology in the post-colonial period. For example, we still lack theoretical approaches specific to Roman archaeology that address how we deal with issues such as communicating across academic boundaries, mediating diverse management policies, and incorporating alternative approaches to the past. Similarly, there has been little discussion of the responsibilities that Roman archaeologists have towards multiple stakeholders, such as local communities, the nation-state, and indeed the discipline as a whole. The sheer size and diversity of the Roman world in the past warrants comparative studies of the contexts in which Roman archaeology is situated in the present. It is, therefore, the ideal arena for theorizing about these issues and incorporating them into practice. Papers in this session will not be simply descriptive of historical circumstances but will also explicitly theorize the relationship between Roman archaeology and its contemporary context to suggest new directions for research.

1. The Political Economy of Roman Archaeology in North Africa. *Kathryn Lafrenz (Stanford University.*
2. Archaeology and the search for authenticity: colonialist, nationalist and Berberist visions of an Algerian past. *Corisande Fenwick (Stanford University).*
3. The unfinished Past is an incomplete future; past work as a basis for future research. *David Fagg (University of Wales, Aberystwyth)*
4. Roman archaeology in an epoch of neoliberalism and imperialist war. *Dr Neil Faulkner (University College London).*
5. Typological studies of ancient Roman theatre architecture in the context of the Old and New Europe: the 'Tree' vs. the 'Rhizome' Model. *Dr Zeynep Akture (Izmir Institute of Technology)*
6. Reading the evidence: more on boundaries between archaeological and historical perceptions. *Dr Penelope Allison (University of Leicester).*

The Political Economy of Roman Archaeology in North Africa

Kathryn Lafrenz (Stanford University)

This paper examines the contexts of Roman archaeology in North Africa. The analysis of these contexts begins from a position that takes seriously the ways in which Roman archaeology (both as a subject of historical study and as a practice) is constituted within those webs of power to which we have given various names: imperialism, colonialism, and now today globalization and transnationalism.

I apply an analytical framework based upon anthropological theories of value to examine how the management of Roman archaeological sites in North Africa is wrapped up in those discourses of development and modernity which form the tools of governmentality. I discuss as evidentiary examples the 'universal value' ascribed to World Heritage sites by UNESCO, the structural adjustment policies of the World Bank and the IMF, and the promotion of archaeological tourism in Tunisia and Morocco.

Indeed, according to anthropological theories of value, managing material heritage is the principal practice for producing value, thereby situating value at the intersections of temporality and materiality. An analysis of the management of material heritage, moreover, is applicable not only to the past of the present, but also the past of the past. In this way I emphasize the historicity of these webs of power, within which both the past and present are inextricably linked and implicated. I argue that rather than using Roman archaeology to inform history for the sake of history, Roman archaeology is history with a point.

Archaeology and the search for authenticity: colonialist, nationalist and Berberist visions of an Algerian past.

Corisande Fenwick (Stanford University)

This paper explores the ongoing social upheaval in Algeria in relation to representations of the pre-Islamic past in colonialist, nationalist and Berberist discourses, and discusses some of the ways in which archaeology is implicated in these narratives. Foundational events, such as the Roman or Arab conquest, and legendary figures, such as Jugurtha, the Kahina or Abd al-Mu'min, are the symbolic focal points in these competing histories. National stereotypes also play a key role, in particular the Arab/Berber binary routinely used since the early days of French colonialism to explain the complex socio-cultural reality of Algerian society.

The 'Berber myth' was a central theme of colonial rhetoric: the Berbers, mainly settled in the mountain region of Kabylia, were depicted as socially and culturally superior, to their nomadic Arab counterparts of the plains and the interior. Following independence, this definition of Algeria's sociological reality was countered by a nationalist history which emphasized and legitimized an Algerian Arab-Islamic identity. The Berbers were consigned to a distant Algerian past or ignored entirely. In this "official" history, there was little room for the independent Berber voices demonstrated, for example, through the events of the 'Berber Spring' of 1980, the 'Black Spring' of 2001 and by the Berber cultural movement. In this struggle, a notion of a distinct Berber history, antithetical to the nationalist vision, has become a powerful expression of dissent.

These different understandings of the past should not be dismissed as ideological distortions of a detectable historical reality, but rather should be seen as examples of the struggle to control, produce and disseminate knowledge. The authenticity of these narratives is not simply an academic question about the distant past, but a politically and emotionally charged issue in the present. The challenge becomes making space for multiple understandings of the past to be heard.

The unfinished Past is an incomplete future; past work as a basis for future research.

David Fagg, University of Wales Aberystwyth.

Archaeology presents questions about use, ownership, context and date. 'Theories,' observational or theoretical, suggest interpretations based on current evidence. The search for evidentiary support may then be biased towards supporting a theory that will reflect the current view of the past.

Horsley's 1733 *Britannia Romana* provided a methodical analysis, based on accurate observation, of the problems in understanding Hadrian's Wall. The issue of the broad and narrow wall has been resolved whilst the function of the vallum continues to generate alternative theories, however space limitations, clarity and generating interest present difficulties in displaying accurate information to the general public.

Many early excavations of Hadrian's Wall concentrated on structural evidence, reporting few details of pottery finds that could demonstrate evidence of third century occupation. The differential level of detail in the publication of sites confounds the overall picture. Although catalogues of finds are being developed, a universal cataloguing system might assist. The necessary piecemeal nature of modern excavations, particularly rescue archaeology provides only a view of a specific area rather than an overall picture.

Consolidation of all the information on a site should provide a firm basis for future research, crossing academic boundaries, management strategies and incorporating differing approaches.

Roman archaeology in an epoch of neoliberalism and imperialist war

Dr Neil Faulkner, University College London

The present epoch of neoliberalism and imperialist war dates from approximately 1979/1980. Its three predominant global characteristics are: a) privatisation of public industries and services; b) redistribution of wealth from peasants, workers and public services to the rich and corporate capital; and c) increased use of military force to defend the economic and political hegemony of the United States and other great powers.

Neoliberalism and imperialism have given rise to strong ideological correlates. In particular, revisionist perspectives on the British Empire have gained widespread support and promotion. Niall Ferguson has argued that: a) the British Empire was flawed but essentially progressive; b) the only alternative was rival empires that were more reactionary; and c) the British Empire can therefore be regarded as a model for the American Empire today.

Traditional approaches to the study of the Roman Empire have often been based on an implicit revisionist model of this kind. The Roman Empire was often violent and brutal, the argument goes, but the empire nonetheless brought peace and progress, and was certainly better than the available alternatives. This argument depends upon ignoring or downplaying the following essential characteristics of Roman imperialism:

1. Roman conquest involved huge levels of killing, displacement, plunder and destruction, which were highly wasteful.

2. Roman rule involved huge on-going transfers of surplus to the imperial centre, which despoiled and debilitated local economies; the bulk of this was wasted in military and other non-productive expenditures.

3. Rome empowered the landowning elite and enabled it to increase the rate of exploitation; the enlarged surpluses accumulated were then mainly wasted in monumental building and privatised luxury.

Theatres, aqueducts, villas and mosaics are no more symbols of progress than the country houses, fast cars and luxury yachts of the modern bourgeoisie. Revisionists are rewriting imperial pasts to justify the greed and violence of the global elite. Archaeologists should contest sanitised images of the Roman Empire and develop an archaeology from below that identifies with its victims.

Typological studies of ancient Roman theatre architecture in the context of the Old and New Europe: the 'Tree' *v.* the 'Rhizome' Model

Dr Zeynep Akture, Izmir Institute of Technology

In recent decades, the concept of 'Romanisation' has ceased to denote a colonial and Romano-centric view of cultural change, parallel to the emergence of the idea of a new and united Europe that encourages the growth of multiple identities among citizens, including minorities. This new conception is different from the nineteenth-century ideal of a common European identity attested in Europe's common heritage, of which ancient theatres were considered a vital part. Classical works such as Margaret Bieber's *The History of the Greek and Roman Theatre* (1961) characteristically build on this accent on 'commonness' in their classification of ancient theatres as either 'Greek-Hellenistic' or 'Roman' with regards to the attributes of prominent examples that were presumed to have persisted unchanged through time and space. With the excavation and publication of some more dilapidated or less spectacular remains parallel to the rise of cultural pluralism, this 'tree-like' classificatory model has started to transform into a 'rhizomatic' one to include local sub-types such as the 'Greco-Roman' and 'Gallo-Roman' theatres respectively of the provinces of Asia and Gallia, implying the existence of multiple identities, not only in the present, but also in the Roman past of Europe and the Mediterranean basin as a whole.

Reading the evidence: more on boundaries between archaeological and historical perceptions

Dr Penelope Allison (University of Leicester)

In 2001 I published an article in the *American Journal of Archaeology*, called 'Using the Material and the Written Sources: Turn of the Millennium Approaches to Roman Domestic Space Responses'. Responses to this article, which concerned current approaches to material culture and text in studies of Roman domestic space, have been both strongly positive and strongly negative, although not necessarily bounded by whether particular scholars might be classified as archaeologists or historians. In the present paper, I would like to examine some of the underlying causes of these responses and how they reflect current positions on the reading of data available for investigating Roman social history.

Despite my belief that I am more skilled in reading material evidence, I will attempt to investigate the written evidence that appears to have given rise to these responses, particularly the negative ones. In this I will highlight diverse perceptions that can arise from readings of modern written sources and discuss how this might give insights into our abilities in articulating and communicating with each other when dealing with ancient sources and their significance, both documentary and material.

Recent work on Roman Britain

Session organiser: Tony Wilmott

1. *Timebam Oceanum, timebam litus insulae.* Campaigns to the edge of the World *Christopher Sparey-Green, Canterbury Archaeological Trust.*
2. Boudica and the Boudican revolt reconsidered. *Philip Crummy, Colchester Archaeological Trust.*
3. The Bartlow Hills in Context. *Hella Eckardt, University of Reading.*
4. Curses, Coins and Collapse: recent discoveries from Leicester. *Richard Buckley, University of Leicester Archaeological Services.*
5. The Temples of the Legions: new discoveries in the legionary base and cult centre at Corbridge. *Nick Hodgson, Tyne and Wear Museums.*
6. Title to be confirmed. *Neil Holbrook, Cotswold Archaeology.*

Timebam Oceanum, timebam litus insulae. Campaigns to the edge of the World

Christopher Sparey-Green, Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

This paper considers two issues concerning Caesar's campaigns in Britain. The first is the nature of the documentary sources, in particular the references in Cicero's letters to the conduct of the campaign in 54 BC and the relationship of these texts to Caesar's own accounts of the invasion and the nature of the island.

The second issue is that of the identification of Caesarian sites in Britain. In Gaul Caesarian sites have been identified, most notably at Alesia and the results from this site, so well published recently, may provide the tools for the identification of similar sites in Britain. I would draw attention to one artifact from Alesia, lead sling bullets, which are a rare find type in Britain but which have been recovered from one significant site in South-East Britain. The identification of actual fort sites is more problematic and only potential candidate sites can be suggested on the basis of their similarity to sites in Northern France.

Boudica and the Boudican revolt reconsidered

Philip Crummy, Colchester Archaeological Trust

Boudica continues to be a popular subject not only in books but on screen and radio. The histories given in these works tend to be linear with few alternative possibilities allowed, and Boudica is generally presented in her stereotyped role as feisty champion of the oppressed British. In this reconsideration, different aspects of the Boudican story will be examined to highlight other interpretations.

Firstly, the sources and the related archaeological evidence will be reviewed. It will be argued that the narrative elements in Cassius Dio and Tacitus draw on the same source and

that this source is first-hand and basically sound. This and other sources consulted by Tacitus will then be tentatively identified.

Secondly, laws and practice relating to inheritance and debt recovery in the Roman world will be reviewed in an attempt to understand better the treatment of the British as described by Tacitus.

Thirdly, the status of Boudica in relation to the Iceni and her army will be reviewed and the concept of the "Warrior Queen" challenged.

Finally, the composition of Boudica's army will be considered and it will be argued that many more tribes were involved in the revolt than is usually assumed.

The Bartlow Hills in Context

Hella Eckardt, University of Reading

This paper will present the results of recent fieldwork on the Bartlow Hills, a group of seven burial mounds in Cambridgeshire. The Bartlow Hills are among the largest surviving Roman burial mounds in Western Europe but since their original excavation (1815–1840) no further research has been conducted on this unique site. We have carried out the first detailed modern survey of the mounds themselves, which employed Electrical Resistance Tomography to examine the Roman construction and antiquarian exploration of the four large mounds (Astin & Eckardt 2006). In 2006, we completed a topographical and geophysical survey of the surrounding area, aiming to identify and survey a villa and enclosing earthwork mentioned in antiquarian reports. The geophysical survey also identified additional archaeological features of various phases. The wider landscape context of the mounds will be further explored through GIS analysis, plotting the settlement and burial evidence within a 15km radius of Bartlow.

Astin, T. & Eckardt, H., with S. Hay (2006). Resistivity Imaging Survey of the Roman barrows at Bartlow, Cambridgeshire, UK. *Archaeological Prospection* 13: 1–14.

Curses, Coins and Collapse: recent discoveries from Leicester

Richard Buckley, University of Leicester Archaeological Services

A significant proportion of the historic core of Leicester is currently under redevelopment and four large sites were investigated by ULAS between 2003 and 2006. These represent the most extensive excavations the city has ever seen and have provided a unique opportunity to examine large areas of the Roman town, revealing the complete plan of a town house, the remains of a a possible public building and a stretch of the town defences. Rare evidence for the town in the 4th and 5th centuries has also been uncovered, including the collapsed wall of the macellum and early Anglo-Saxon structural remains.

The Temples of the Legions: new discoveries in the legionary base and cult centre at Corbridge

Nick Hodgson, Tyne and Wear Museums

In the second and third centuries, legionary detachments were stationed at the town of Corbridge on the northern frontier of Britain. A new study of the large collection of architectural fragments from Corbridge by Tyne and Wear Museums in collaboration with English Heritage has shown that many of the stones belong to a series of classical temples constructed by the

legionaries and dedicated to oriental cults. The location of these temples is discussed, and it is argued that they lay not in the centre of the site (as Sir Ian Richmond believed) but in a sacred area in the outskirts of Roman Corbridge. Scrutiny of the architectural fragments allows the scale and decoration of the temples to be reconstructed in detail, and provides a remarkable amount of new information about the appearance of temple buildings in the frontier areas of the western empire. Finally, the paper discusses the reason for the establishment of a legionary base and cult centre so far away from the main fortresses of the legions concerned.

To be confirmed

Neil Holbrook, Cotswold Archaeology

RAC/TRAC General Session II

Session organisers: RAC/TRAC Committee

1. Feeding the Wall from Dorset?: Black Burnished ware, salt and the Roman state. *James Gerrard, Pre-Construct Archaeology & Birkbeck College, University of London.*
2. Centre stage and side show? Persian and Roman military barriers. *Eberhard Sauer, University of Edinburgh.*
3. Raman spectroscopy and Roman wall plaster: new light on old pigments. *Paul Middleton, Peterborough Regional College.*
4. A Tale of Two Villas. *David Rudling, University of Sussex.*
5. Creating a crisis of identity in the archaeological record. *Zenobie Garrett, Cambridge University.*

Feeding the Wall from Dorset?: Black Burnished ware, salt and the Roman state.

James Gerrard (Pre-Construct Archaeology (London), Birkbeck College, University of London)

The distribution of a hand-made coarse ware from south-east Dorset, known as Black Burnished ware (BB1), has been studied and commented upon since the late 1970s. From an Iron Age 'Durotrigian' origin this pottery went on to have a long and complex association with the organs of the Roman state. Found in the frontier zone from the early second century to the middle of the fourth century, the 'commercial success' of this coarse ware over its wheel-thrown rivals and copies has usually been explained in terms of military contracts and the procurator's office.

A perspective focussed on the area in which Black Burnished ware was produced (Poole Harbour) gives a different view of this distribution. The economic context of that landscape and the evidence for the exploitation of other resources (particularly salt) strongly suggest that the long-standing links between Dorset and the frontier need to be seen in a different light. Are pseudo-historical explanations, like contracts and procurators, realistic or believable? Perhaps we should downplay the significance of the archaeologically visible pottery and emphasise the archaeologically invisible surpluses and foodstuffs, arguably extracted by the state from a wealthy, civilian region in the south to feed hungry garrisons in the north. Centre stage and side show?

Persian and Roman military barriers.

Eberhard Sauer (University of Edinburgh). Project by Jebrael Nokandeh, Eberhard Sauer, Hamid Omrani and Tony Wilkinson

Linear barriers, such as Hadrian's Wall, the Antonine Wall and the 'Limes', are widely considered the very epitomes of Roman power and military organisation. Yet, neither were they

a Roman invention nor does their scale exceed that of similar monuments created by other pre-medieval civilisations before and after.

A joint Iranian and British project has now explored the Great Wall of Gorgan and the Wall of Tammishe in northern Iran. The former is, with a length of over 195km, longer than Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall taken together and the combined size of its associated forts exceeds that of those on Hadrian's Wall three- to fourfold. Our project narrowed down the date of the walls from 900 years to *c.* one century. We found the almost complete plan of interior buildings in one of the forts. Fascinating similarities and differences to its Roman and late Roman counterparts emerge. The latter include the Gorgan Wall's large-scale water supply system. Can these walls, furthermore, help to explain the Sasanian Empire's power and military successes?

Raman spectroscopy and Roman wall plaster: new light on old pigments.

Paul Middleton (Peterborough Regional College)

There is a rapidly growing literature in Raman studies, demonstrating the versatility of the technique in the archaeological and art-historical world. One of the principal attractions of the technique is the non-destructive nature of the analysis and its ability to generate reliable results from small, unprepared samples. Raman spectroscopy is a laser-based molecular scattering technique for the characterisation of both organic and inorganic materials. It provides important information, with no damage to the sample, and is capable of sampling in depth, so that, in the case of wall plaster, it is possible to study both surface treatment and substrates. This paper will introduce the technique and review the results from recent studies in Roman Britain, which have focussed on painted wall plaster from both rural and urban contexts. Such studies can be set within the wider context of Roman provincial practice, where the contrasts and parallels revealed highlight a common body of knowledge of painting techniques, summarised by the classical ancient authors. The potential significance of the technique for Roman studies in developing our understanding of craft development and supply networks is also indicated.

A Tale of Two Villas.

David Rudling (University of Sussex)

Excavations in the parishes of Beddingham and Barcombe, to the east and west respectively of the Sussex Ouse river, have provided comparative information regarding the nature and developmental histories of two contemporary Romano-British rural settlements. At both sites the earliest structural evidence is for one or more early Roman period timber roundhouses located within rectangular ditched enclosures. Subsequently at both sites there were switches to buildings (including winged-corridor type houses) with masonry foundations and considerably larger enclosures. By the mid-fourth century both settlements were in decline before experiencing different fates during the Saxon and medieval periods. We will make comparisons between the two sites in terms of aspects of development, building methods and ritual practices.

Creating a Crisis of Identity in the Archaeological Record.

Zenobie Garrett (Cambridge University)

This paper begins by addressing the first crisis in identity studies: What is meant by identity? My definition will specifically focus on how an individual's identity differs from the roles they fill or have the capability to fill. Defining identity includes realizing that archaeological identity categories are modern day constructions. This creates a second crisis for the archaeologist: how can we transpose these modern day categories onto the past? After addressing this, I explore how the singularity of identity in studies creates a crisis both for the archaeologist and the subject of study. Although studies often focus on a singular identity both out of necessity and clarity, this singular focus negates the reality that individuals negotiate multiple identities which constantly shift in importance. Superficially this problem has been addressed with the hyphenated identity, *i.e.,* Romano-Britain, but this does little to alleviate the problem. I propose that identity studies would benefit taking multiple identities into account when interpreting the archaeological record and I examine how this can be done.

Posters

Nundinae and Regional Networks

Rebecca R. Benefiel, Washington and Lee University

The inscriptions known as *indices nundinarii*, with their complicated and apparently unsynchronized lists of towns, have long confounded scholars, persuading one leading historian to characterize the calendar they represent as "entangled... in an exquisite chaos" (MacMullen 1970: 339). By reinterpreting the *index nundinarius* from Pompeii and marshalling supporting evidence from the town's graffiti, I demonstrate that the eight-day cycle of market days (*nundinae*) was in fact a flourishing and actively important calendrical system in the mid-first century AD. In addition, by analyzing the pattern of cities in Campania holding *nundinae* and identifying a particular "zig-zagging" characteristic of the system, I submit that the *nundinae* present a regional network specifically designed to facilitate regional trade and to benefit local inhabitants — not itinerant merchants, the audience for whom it is generally assumed that the index documents were produced.

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A Long Way from Home: Diaspora Communities in Roman Britain

Dr Hella Eckardt, Dr Mary Lewis & Dr Gundula Müldner, University of Reading

This project explores the cultural and biological experience of immigrant communities in Roman Britain. We wish to challenge popular assumptions of an essentially homogenous

Romano-British population by examining the diversity of cultural identities in this remote province. Evidence for diaspora communities will be analysed through an innovative combination of material culture, skeletal and isotope research.

This project is funded by the AHRC "Diasporas, Migration and Identities" Programme.

Study of the Cremation Burials from the Roman Necropolis of Monteiras (Bustelo, Portugal)

Filipa Cortesão Silva, Teresa Soeiro and Ana Luísa Santos

The necropolis of Monteiras is located on the North of Portugal, a few kilometres away from the Douro river, in the south border Roman province of Tarraconense. Approximately 90 burials, both from cremation and inhumation, were excavated between 1993 and 1995 by Teresa Soeiro and Gilda Pinto. According to the grave goods this necropolis dates from 1st to 4th centuries AD.

In this work will be presented the archaeological and anthropological results from 17 graves with preserved fragments of human bone. Pottery, metal, glass and charcoal were also studied. Through macroscopic observations and using a magnified lent, the colour and texture of the cremated bone were evaluated showing a whitish colour and transversal cracks on some fragments of long bone. For each grave, the total weight of the bone fragments and the degree of fragmentation is also specified. The human bone fragments identified, mainly from long bones and skull, allowed the determination of the demographic profile.

The study of the funerary practices in this archaeological site across time is a contribution to the knowledge of the roman funerary world.

Assessing the Research Potential of Grey Literature in the Study of the Roman Period in England

Neil Holbrook and Richard Morton (Cotswold Archaeology), Michael Fulford (Reading University)

The poster will explain the rationale, objectives and methods of a project which it is hoped will commence in 2007.

Roman mosaics of Ostia and Rome during the first until the fourth century AD.

Stephanie Wolff

Animals and Ideology: Archaeozoological Study of the Vila de Madrid Necropolis

Lidia Colominas, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona

In this poster is presented an evaluation of the animal roles in roman funerary contexts from the study of faunal remains from the Vila de Madrid necropolis (Barcelona, Spain, second half of the II century AD– first quarter of the III century AD).

The aim of this study is to establish the origin of the deposits attending to the processes of work and social relations, in order to evaluate the types of ritual practices that were carried out and the social meaning of the animals implayed in them. From the exposed results, it

has been documented that the 4882 faunal remains studied in this funerary structure are the result of a diversity of activities documented for the spatial distribution of the animal remains, for the anatomical variability, for the butchered bones, as for the implicated species.

These processes of work that have originated the deposits would have developed during a series of funerary rituals that encompass different activities, like the realization of funerary meals, food offerings or the sacrifice of pets, showing a different utilization and signification of the animals according with the ritual practices.

Finally a state of question about the integration of these animal species in the ideological practices and about which archaeozoological ways could be use to attend these aspects is presented.

This work was partly supported by the grant of the projects "Cultural landscapes of the pasture: recovering crop fields and gardens in archaeological parks of Europe" (Museu d'Història de la ciutat) and EME2006-17: "Aplicación de la biogeoquímica isotópica a la investigación arqueológica" (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona).

Burial in Viminacium I–IV century AD

Dr Snežana Golubović, Archaeological Institute Belgrade

The fathers of archaeology in Serbia, Mihajlo Valtrović and Miloje Vasić, undertook the first systematic explorations of Viminacium in 1884 and 1902/3 respectively. By that occasion a big roman cemetery was recorded south of roman town all the way long to the right bank of river Mlava. Investigations from 1973 revealed graves eastern, northern and southern of legionary camp and settlement founded beside the camp. From 1977 to 1997 explorations were completed in the ancient cemeteries which extend to the south and west of the city.

Over 13,000 graves were uncovered which contained both cremated and inhumed burials with various types of artefacts. The tombstones and the sarcophagi often featured sculpted relief depicting mythological or scenes from everyday life. Numerous built grave structures were also identified, with the fresco-decorated tombs from the 4th century being the most remarkable. A fresco depicting a young woman represents one of the finest examples of the art of painting in late antiquity. Additionally a cemetery from an even later period, the time of the migration of nations, has been partially explored.

Viminacium was a *municipium*, then *colonia*, strategic and administrative centre of Roman province *Moesia Superior*, which owes its growth to the closeness of Roman Limes. Besides steady military garrison settled in the camp, in the camp settlement lived the veterans with their families, immigrants from Italy, roman provinces, Syria and domestic population of Illyrian and Thracian origin. In the course of 500 years, the cemeteries have been established beside the camp and canabae, encompassing a chronological span between I and IV century.

All cemeteries at Viminacium contain parallel burial, both of the cremated and skeletal remains of the deceased. Contemporary graves with skeletal remains contain the same types of grave goods. Coins were often found in the mouth, and rarely in the hand of the deceased. Jewellery and metal parts of garment, such as buttons, pins and belts were placed at the spots corresponding to their function, while other items were arranged around the body of the deceased. The same arrangement was registered in the case of cremations. It seems therefore, that a burial procedure for cremated remains was based in the older tradition of skeletal burials. This assumption may be confirmed by an anatomical arrangement of bones in the case of incomplete cremations, as well as by the size of cremation graves.

Graves with cremation at the Viminacium cemeteries were neither oriented in particular direction, nor had a durable above-ground marker. Multilayer burials are noticeable. Graves are close one to another, crosscutting and damage followed shortly after a burial, within the same chronological time span, and only a sequence of burial could then be reconstructed. This fact explains the lack of above-ground markers, *i.e.*, that grave mound itself had a role of temporary marker.

Graves containing both the cremated and the skeletal remains were also noted at the Viminacium cemeteries. According to their sequence, the cremation was primary, *i.e.*, body of the deceased was posed over cremated remains previously brought from the stake. Slightly burned bones of the deceased, placed in a still red-hot grave pit, confirm that burials were simultaneous. Anthropometrical analysis implied that mainly the women were cremated while the men were buried. It may be explained by mixed marriages of indigenous woman and arriving Orientals.

Inhumation concerns placing of deceased wrapped in the linen cover into plain quadrangular pits. By its number follow the burials in wooden coffins and than come graves with the construction of bricks. The rarest are burials in lead coffins. Graves with inhumation began at the end of I century and by the second half of III century became the dominant burial mode.

At the beginning of nineties of XX century the monograph of first five hundred graves from the site Više grobalja is published and now another five hundred from the same site are ready to be print, just as two hundred and fifty from the site Pećine. Examined material enabled making the precise chart of interments and determines the position and relations between graves, as the directions of extension and the organisation of graveyard. That way were possible the comprehension of graveyard chronology, classification of grave architecture and grave findings. Finally, the aim of having the clue how the complexity of heterogeneous population of Viminacium reflected upon funeral customs and religious practice is closer to us.

Archaeological Park Viminacium

Dr Miomir Korać, Archaeological Institute Belgrade

The present-day territories of the villages of Stari Kostolac and Drmno, which are located about 95 kilometres south-east of Belgrade, lie within the limits of the urban territory of the ancient city of Viminacium, the capital of the Roman province of Moesia Superior, which was called Moesia Prima in the late Empire. The ancient Roman city and military encampment (covering the area of over 450 hectares of the wider city region and 220 hectares of the inner city) is located today under cultivated arable land and artefacts and fragments of objects from the Roman times are scattered in furrows. The first excavations were undertaken by the end of XIX century. It has to be remarked that in the 19th century, the contours of the ancient city and military camp of Viminacium were still visible: wide streets intersecting at right angles, public squares, an amphitheatre, baths, water supply conduits, city walls and towers.

During long term protective excavations in the second half of XX century big necropolis of Viminacium came to daylight.

A new impetus to the exploration of Viminacium was given by the multi-disciplinary team of young research workers from the Archaeological Institute in Belgrade. Concerning Viminacium the most up-to-date methods as follows are applied: remote sensing, geo electrical and georadar. The aerial photos, georadar and geomagnetic surveys of the site gave a reliable picture of the camp with its defence walls, gates, towers and an administrative building

(*praetoria*) lying beneath the fertile farmlands of Stig.

Using these methods gave the total result of twenty one structures of great importance which have been detected. By using ground penetrating radar antenna and a magnetometer (gradiometer) the units were examined simultaneously with both devices, and then the results were combined and collated. In addition to the general perimeter of the city and military camp, a number of individual structures have been identified: within the city walls, an amphitheater, a public bath complex — *thermae*; in the legionary camp, the north gate — *porta praetoria*, the east gate — *porta principalis sinistra* and the headquarters of the camp commander — *principia*; outside of the city and camp walls, a mausoleum, a hippodrome, as well as an aqueduct approximately 10 km long.

Until now the Archaeological Park Viminacium comprised three protected and presented objects: roman baths, the north gate of *castrum* (camp of *Legio VII Claudia Pia Fidelis*) and Mausoleum. The Viminacium project has introduced a very important protective measure that concerns the future of archaeological monuments and sites. All mentioned objects are covered with a kind of roof and presented as objects of interest for tourists. The roofing consists of a light lamellar structure and a special covering sheet. The use of these materials makes it possible to bridge large spans without any support in the monument itself. What is especially important, the setting up of such roofing structures does not involve any damage to the archaeological layers. The objects are covered with transparent sheets made of a special material and have curtains designed in such a way as to provide good ventilation in the summer months.

The north gate of the camp, *porta praetoria*, was uncovered during the systematic excavations carried out in 2002 and 2003. In 2002 the collaboration with the State University of New York at Albany was established, and this object was explored with the American students too. Each summer 10 to 15 American students participate in the work on the site as members of the Field School.

The mausoleum is square in plan and it measures 20 by 20 meters. It is built of stone blocks and ashlars and decorated with columns. A tomb is in the central part of the structure. This form of burial, known as *bustum*, is generally very rare, and it was quite exceptional in the period to which the mausoleum belongs. The individual cremated and buried in this place must have been a person of great distinction in the Roman hierarchy.

The visitor to Mausoleum could have unique experience. Digging the tunnel 20 m long, along northern outside wall, was intended to make possible watching the inner space of tomb with fresco paintings. The bricks forming the floor of the tomb were removed so visitor can come inside of the tomb and watched the fresco.

The further step in presentation Viminacium is building of so called Viminacium Centre, an exceptional place, with an important meaning both in a scientific and business sense. It is an integral part of the site of the ancient Roman town and military camp.

The Centre's purpose is conceived as a place where at certain periods business and intellectual elite may gather together in an ambient of the Roman town and military camp research. The Centre's Function is to operate at more levels: expert, scientific, educative, and marketing — in order to promote the Centre as an attractive tourist offer. The Viminacium Centre has been planned as a Roman imperial rustic villa. Total useful area: 2833.5 m^2. The central locations in the area would be 7 atriums, with working-expert, residential and economic and servicing zones.

The wish of interdisciplinary team engaged at the project Viminacium is to bring out forum and temples, theatres and the hippodrome, baths, streets and blocks from the furrows

in which they had been lying for centuries, so that they could become a part of the world cultural heritage, as well as the recognizable symbol of the Danubian range.

Pit-sanctuaries of the Balkans: Towards a New Archaeology of Cult

Kathleen Hawthorne, Birkbeck College, University of London

This thesis advances a new theory for the study of cult by examining pit sanctuaries found in present-day Bulgaria.

Located near natural springs, pit sanctuaries consist of hundreds of pits containing carefully deposited and deliberately fragmented objects, animal bones, figurines, human sacrifice, and interior altars. Importantly, the pits are cut into bedrock below the ploughsoil and so provide well-preserved evidence for ritual actions. Several sanctuaries were active from the Early Bronze Age to the Late Roman period, and therefore offer an invaluable opportunity to investigate the past unbound by restrictive chronological categories or socio-political boundaries.

Despite attempts by cognitive and processual scholars to formulate guidelines for studying ritual, the archaeology of cult currently lacks an adequate body of theory. In order to move the study of such material forward, this thesis tests the practical application of insights gained from post-colonial theory, where the notion of value systems replaces the concept 'religion'. Removing artificial categories (sacred/profane, popular/elite) and the focus on belief imposed by the term 'religion' facilitates a more compelling approach to studying ritual.

From Emporion to Castra: Archaeological Research at the site of Salsovia (Mahumudia), Romania

Dr Ian Haynes (Birkbeck College, University of London), Doru Bogdan (Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai, Cluj, Romania) and Dr Florin Topoleanu (EcoMuseum, Tulcea, Romania)

The ancient site of Salsovia lies west of the modern village of Mahmudia on the southern bank of the St Gheorghe arm of the Danube. It is situated within a rich archaeological landscape close the Black Sea coast. Since 2002 members of the Salsovia Project have examined the citadel and settlement of Salsovia through a range of methods in order to address key questions about the sites history and character.

The Salsovia Project addresses four key questions. First, what was the larger environmental context for settlement at Salsovia? Analysis of evidence for coastal change, fluvial geography and the formation of the Danube Delta have profound implications for our understanding of the site and its role. Second, though the most conspicuous features of the site today date from the late Roman period, how does this sequence fit into the sites longer term history? Field-walking, geophysics and selective excavation have yielded considerable information into the site's development and raise interesting issues about the pattern of Greek colonisation and the development of Roman urbanism in the region. A third concern is the question of how far it is possible to study the archaeology of river side structures. The team have tried to identify these through extensive geophysical survey. Finally, many local archaeologists considered the hsite to be so damaged that further investigation was unlikely to be rewarding. Our analysis has demonstrated that the truncation of deposits during the digging of Second World War defences was much less significant than hitherto believed. Rather it demonstrates that these cuts can actually help expedite analysis of the site's complex stratigraphy.

Excavations under St John Lateran, Rome: The Development and Application of Three Tier Visualisation

Paolo Liverani (Florence), Ian Haynes (Birkbeck College, University of London), Vince Gaffney (Birmingham), Meg Watters (Birmingham VISTA), Steve Wilkes (Birmingham VISTA) and Salvatore Piro (ITABC, CNR, Rome)

Work on the basilica of St John Lateran offers excellent examples of the difficulties faced by archaeologists tackling sites combining standing structures, excavated data and anomalies revealed through remote sensing. It also, however, offers a model for advancing such studies. St John Lateran is the Pope's own church and was founded by the Emperor Constantine around 312. The site of the Lateran, however, went through many incarnations before it was given to the Church by Constantine. Most notably it accommodated an area of extensive, somewhat palatial, housing prior to being given over to the *Castra Nova* of the *equites singulares*. Foundations and upstanding walls excavated beneath the basilica range in depth from 0.75 to 5.5 meters below the modern ground surface. Much more remains below the site and in adjacent, unexcavated zones.

A team from the University of Birmingham's Visual and Spatial Technology Centre and Birmingham Archaeology collaborating with Salvatore Piro (CNR), and led by Dr Ian Haynes (University of London) and Dr Paolo Liverani (University of Florence) investigated methodologies for phased recording and modelling of subsurface chambers using a combination of multiple laser scanners and Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR). By utilising 3D modelling techniques for GPR data, developed by Meg Watters at VISTA, it was possible to integrate scans of standing remains and excavated features with radar anomalies. All of this data was held within the same 'Three-Tier Visualisation' model space allowing researchers to interrogate this complex data in a manner never previously attempted.

Roman Pottery from Sparta

Clare Pickersgill, Birkbeck College

The poster will outline the research currently being undertaken on the Roman pottery from Sparta in Southern Greece dating from the first century BC to the sixth century AD. Until recently, the scarcity of well dated and published material has been a particular problem for Sparta because throughout the Roman period the majority of pottery types were locally produced with very few imports. The types of information and the contribution that the pottery can make to an understanding of the city during the Roman period will be examined. The pottery assemblage to be discussed was excavated at the Roman theatre and stoa by the University of London and from excavations undertaken by the 5th Ephoria of Prehistoric and Classical Antiquities in Sparta. It is hoped that people interested in Roman Greece and/or Roman pottery in Greece and the eastern empire will make contact for further detailed discussion.

Migration in Roman Britain: a Craniometric approach

Nichola Lyons, Birkbeck College

This project explores migration in Roman Britain by investigating changes to the homogeneity of skull shape from the Iron Age to the end of the Roman period. It compares classical

craniometric techniques such as cephalic index and cranial indices to newer multivariate techniques and recent computer packages CRANID 5.0 and FORDISC 2.0. Rather than using selected samples the project was undertaken using random samples to try and identify possible 'invisible' migrants. In addition it compares traditional archaeological methods of assessing migration to any outliers found, to see if traditional methods are corroborative.

Exchange and communication of knowledge and theories for medical treatment in Iron Age Scandinavia: the Roman artefactual evidence.

Annette Frolich

During the last 150 years a relatively large amount of Roman artefacts have been excavated in Denmark . The majority are luxury goods such as glass, samian ware, silver and Roman swords. But in the last few years surgical instruments have also been identified, mostly local produced items which can be dated to the period after the Marcomannic wars. Recent excavations have also found a number of surgical instruments produced in the Roman period as well as a tool / instrument perhaps dating to a later period. These reveal that past people in Scandinavia treated illnesses and disorders following classical humoral pathological theories.

Legitimization in Late Antique Gaul (393–470): A Visigothic Non-Case Study

Sarah Dawson (Brown University)

This poster will investigate the religious iconography of the Visigoths in the late fourth century and early fifth century. My thesis proposes that the Visigoths used religious symbols to manipulate the Gallo-Roman elites of the region, resulting in favors that they parlayed into a 60-year period of political and social prestige. As I progressed through numerous sources, I became increasingly aware that material culture for the Visigoths in this period was rare. Scholarly examinations of material from this period often refer to the objects as "barbarian" or "Germanic", rather than Visigothic. Historians have also written prolifically on the Visigoths as an ethnic group or band of military allies. Their very ethnicity has likewise been questioned. The coinage of this period and region also proves dubious, with no firm evidence of Visigothic involvement. Clearly an unusual phenomenon occurred in southern Gaul during this transitional phase. This seeming lack of material, despite large quantities of archaeological material garnered from northern and central Gaul as well as Visigothic Iberia, is curious. Archaeologically, the Visigoths appear to have no sustainable identity before their resettlement to Iberia in 509 AD.

In reviewing the available material culture in southern Gaul between 393–470 AD, predominantly garnet jewelry and imperial coinage, I will attempt to demonstrate how a small quantity of evidence can nonetheless help shape a picture of Visigothic legitimization. Although their material culture lacks distinction, the absence of this group's individuality can, in turn, emphasize the communal dynamics into which it inserted itself, as well as its own particular religious, political, and cultural agendas.

Two separate pictures can be drawn from the evidence to be presented. The first is that Germanic tribes in Late Antique Gaul used jewelry to spread the new faith of Christianity. It is impossible to divide this jewelry into Arian Christianity or Trinitarian Christianity. Instead, a unified religion is presented and disseminated throughout the elite class residing in Gaul and the Black Sea region. The second picture is of a politically charged numismatic programme.

Christian iconography rarely appears on coinage. When it does, it nearly always presents itself on smaller coins that circulated throughout the general population. If the Visigoths were responsible for the production of garnet-based jewelry and they were the financial partners of at least some of the usurpers, an agenda appears. Although their actions often contradicted this intention, the material culture shows the Visigoths wanted to be regarded by the entire Roman community, both elites and non-elites, as civilized, trustworthy allies. While in Gaul, their precarious position and constant need to legitimate their rule, led them to adopt Gallo-Roman iconography. The continuity of the iconography would have had a calming effect on the Gallo-Roman elites and non-elites who fell under the local rule of this barbarian group. Perhaps by erasing distinction, the Visigoths were able to maneuver between two spheres, the barbarian and the Roman. In essence, the Visigoths were late antique chameleons.

Votive Deposits Database

Ian Haynes

Location	Thursday 29th March	Friday 30th March	Saturday 31st March	Sunday 1st April
British Museum: BP Lecture Theatre	6pm: Welcome and Plenary: Bryan Ward-Perkins and Peter Heather, Britain and the End of the Roman Empire			
Harrie Massey (UCL)		AM: From Prehistory to Protohistory PM: Beyond the Frontier in Roman Wales	AM: Creating Ethnicities in the Roman World PM: Revisiting the Economy	AM: The Emergence of Roman Identities: Italy, 300 BC–AD 100
Chemistry LT, UCL. TRAC Sessions		AM: Developing Identity in Roman Studies? PM: The archaeology of ethnic conflict	AM: Feeding the Roman army PM: Experiencing the Sacred	AM: Roman Archaeologies in Context
Chemistry Auditorium, UCL		PM: Romans and Other Peoples	AM: Death as a process: funerals in the Roman World PM: Understanding the Romano-British Countryside	AM: Recent work on Roman Britain
Archaeology LT (G6)		AM: The Army in Judaea/Palaestina PM: Roman Thrace		
Archaeology 612			AM: RAC/TRAC General Session I TRAC 2007 workshop: Food for thought	AM: RAC/TRAC General Session II
Birkbeck B34			AM: The Archaeological Potential of *Londinium* PM: RAC/TRAC Themed Session: Death And Burial In The Roman World	
Social Events	Evening Reception at Birkbeck College	6.30–8.30 pm: Evening Reception at the Museum of London	RAC/TRAC Party at UCL Union (Huntley Street)	
	trips			trips

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