Welcome
As the nights reach their longest and we construct implausibly voluminous lists of all the reading we’ll polish off over the Christmas break (or is that just me?), the latest Epistula is here, and brimming with news of tempting publications to see you through the festive season. 2019 is already well-stocked with events to coax you from your reading chair, and you’ll find a digest of the most exciting upcoming events with a Roman theme over the following pages. At this time of year, it is also traditional to take stock of what’s come before, so we cast an eye over what members of the Roman Society had an opportunity to enjoy earlier in 2018.

I am also delighted to announce the winners of the inaugural Epistula Artefact Award, with a joint effort by Ellie Cox, John Pearce, and Sally Worrell taking first place, and Claudia Vanzo coming second. You can enjoy the piece by Ellie, John, and Sally on p.11, while Claudia’s will appear in the next Epistula. Both sets of winners receive a £50 prize. Many congratulations to them!

In this issue we also catch up with Mike Luke in our interview on p.6. He guides us through some unusual Roman decorations that have been dug up in Bedfordshire. We are also delighted to launch two sets of new Roman Society Archaeology Committee grants, one dedicated to Public Engagement, and the other Development. See p.12 for all the details.

As always, I hope you enjoy this issue of Epistula, and please do keep sending in your news about research, forthcoming events, and new publications.

Matthew Symonds  
Editor

Society news
Events roundup
In July, the Society supported a successful day event, Discovery to Display, organised by Corinium Museum and Cotswold Archaeology. Members of the Roman Society joined members of the Museum on a journey from Cirencester to Cotswold Archaeology’s office at Kemble, to the Museum’s storage facility at Northleach, and finally ending up back at Corinium Museum. Read the blog here: https://coriniummuseum.org/2018/07/discovery-to-display/. The trip was fully booked and it is hoped to repeat it again next year.

The new academic year started with a splendid conference on Sensory Experience in Rome’s Northern Provinces, organised by Tom Derrick and Giacomo Savani. In this fascinating and innovative workshop, the speakers not only presented their papers, conducting the audience through the sights, sounds, smells, taste and feel of the Roman provinces, but allowed the audience to experience these for themselves: they experimented with Tom Derrick’s perfumes, wore the floral crowns created by Patty Baker, and chewed on mastic gum brought along by Caroline Lawrence. Mike Bishop presented the sounds of the
Society news

Tom Derrick talks perfumes at the Sensory experience conference

Hadrian’s Wall and Sophie Jackson gave some memorable insights into the London Mithraeum.

The full line-up of speakers was as follows: Thomas Derrick, Sensory methodologies, urbanism(s), and the Roman North; Andrew Gardner, Theorising the immediate: the pitfalls and possibilities of sensory archaeology; Patty Baker, Experimental archaeology and locating sensory perceptions of floras in Roman Britain; Stuart McKie, “A gift to the gods by which Butu has perished…” Curse tablets and votive rituals in the Roman north-west; Caroline Lawrence, Writing Londinium with the five senses; Sophie Jackson, Evoking the experience of being in a mithraeum; how far do you go?; Nicky Garland, The sensory analysis of military structures in Britannia - The Commanding Officers’ House, Arbeia, Hadrian’s Wall; Mike Bishop, Roman Front Ears 2: Reconstructing a 2nd century AD soundscape of Hadrian’s Wall; Anna Walas, Engaging senses, engaging the troops – The sensory experiences accompanying official military practices within military bases under the Early to High Empire. For a review of the event by a delegate see https://sensorystudiesinantiquity.com/2018/10/23/sensory-experiences-in-romes-northern-provinces-conference-report/

Another successful conference followed in November, this time in collaboration with the Association for Roman Archaeology at the British Museum. The 250-capacity Lecture Theatre was sold out for the conference on The People of Roman Britain at home and abroad featuring talks by Tom Brindle, Hella Eckardt, John Pearce, and Tatiana Ivleva. The proceedings were chaired by the President, Tim Cornell, and concluding words were offered by the ARA’s outgoing President, John Wilkes.

Presenters at the People of Roman Britain conference.
From left to right: Sam Moorhead, John Wilkes, Tatiana Ivleva, Tim Cornell, Tom Brindle, Hella Eckardt, John Pearce.

We have also collaborated with the Roman Research Trust in hosting the Joan Pye Lecture. This year, Simon Esmonde Cleary delivered a fascinating lecture on Chedworth: excavations and reimaginings at a Roman villa 1864-2018.

Finally, Chris Whitton gave a very interesting lecture entitled The arts of imitation in Latin prose: Pliny’s Epistles / Quintilian in Brief. Watch this lecture on youtube: https://www.youtube.com/c/RomanSociety

Delegates at the Sensory experience conference

Dr Chris Whitton
Society news

Dates for your Diary

We have plenty of events to look forward to in 2019. On Tuesday 5 March (5.30pm, Brunswick G7, Senate House), we will hold a joint event with the Hellenic Society on the theme of ‘memorialisation’, 100 years on from the creation of the temporary cenotaph designed by Sir Edward Lutyens for the London Victory Parade in July 1919. Three speakers will consider acts of ‘memorialisation’ in the classical world: Dr Jon Hesk, *The Athenian funeral speeches: commemoration, exhortation, justification and glorification*, Dr Tiziana D'Angelo, *Colours of memory in South Italian funerary painting*, and Dr Valerie Hope, *Mini memorials: the possessions of the Roman dead as objects of memory*.

On Saturday 1 June (G22/26, Senate House), we will hold our AGM (2pm), followed by a colloquium on *Roman Dictators and Dictatorship*:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker/Title</th>
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<tr>
<td>2.30</td>
<td>Professor Tim Cornell: <em>Roman dictators and modern politics</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>Professor Catherine Steel: <em>Sulla’s dictatorship: revival or recreation?</em></td>
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<td>3.45</td>
<td>Tea</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>Professor Federico Santangelo: <em>From Paris to Turi: constructions of Caesarisms</em></td>
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A few days later on Tuesday 4 June (6pm, G22/26, Senate House) we are pleased to be holding a joint event with the British School at Rome, generously sponsored by a member of the Roman Society and the BSR.

Professor Ian Haynes and Dr Thea Ravasi will speak on: *Enriching the soldiers, scorning the rest? New evidence for the impact of Septimius Severus’ restoration of Rome*.

On Wednesday 3 July (Beveridge Hall, Senate House), we are holding a major day conference on the theme *Saving Ancient Treasures for the World*. Speakers will include Dr Roger Bland (Keeper of the Department of Portable Antiquities and Treasure, British Museum, 2005-2013), Professor Eleanor Robson (Professor of Ancient Middle Eastern History, UCL), Dr Maamoun Abdulkarim (Director General for Antiquities and Museums of Syria, 2012-2017), Dr John Curtis (CEO Iran Heritage Foundation), and Colonel Matthew Bogdanos (Chief, Antiquities Trafficking Unit, NY District Attorney’s Office). More details and arrangements for booking will be available later in the year.

This is a joint conference with the Hellenic Society and generously sponsored by Mr Christian Levett.

FIEC / Classical Association Conference 2019

The 15th annual conference of the International Federation of Associations of Classical Associations / Fédération Internationale des Associations d’Études Classiques (FIEC) will take place in conjunction with the 2019 Classical Association Annual conference on 4th-8th
July 2019 in the Institute of Education (UCL). The programme will include plenary lectures, panels, workshops, and cultural activities. As one of the member organisations of FIEC, the Roman Society will be jointly hosting the Congress along with the Hellenic Society, Classical Association, ICS and the London Colleges. There will also be a Roman Society panel with Professor Tim Cornell, Professor Werner Eck, Professor Hella Eckardt, and Professor Catherine Steel.

Keep an eye on the dedicated website for more information: www.fiec2019.org

The Hellenic and Roman Library – fundraising update
We have made some good progress with the Campaign in recent months, receiving a number of donations from individuals, the London colleges, and the first tranche (£20,000) of a generous donation of £100,000 pledged by the Classical Association for digitisation projects. We were touched that two of our readers – Marco Perale and Guen Taietti - ran the Athens Marathon in support of the Library, raising almost £1500.

We are grateful to all members who have contributed to the campaign – and special thanks to all those of you who added a donation to your 2019 subscription renewal. If you would like to make an extra gift, please go to: www.hellenicandromanlibrary.org and discover how you can help. And if you haven’t already done so, do enjoy the films featuring Mary Beard, Paul Cartledge, Natalie Haynes, and Tom Holland.

Joyce Reynolds is almost 100!
An ‘Epigraphic Saturday’ was held in Cambridge on 1 December, as part of the birthday celebrations for Joyce, who had organised many such events in previous years. In front of the sympathetic but critical honorand, a number of papers were presented. Sir Fergus Millar began by honouring Joyce’s achievement in inventing epigraphic history, describing the context of work on Roman inscriptions by British epigraphers from the Second World War until the present day – and imminent future. He was followed by a στοῖχος of young epigraphers from Benghazi to Edinburgh, who gave quick-fire presentations, on topics as diverse as Sertorian bullets to the phonetic value of Umbrian letter ř.

The afternoon was different in character. Susan Walker recounted their travels together in Libya: we saw Joyce on a camel and enjoying a picnic, as well as the serious stuff of looking hard at inscribed stones, whether in the field or the local museum. In a similar vein, Michael Crawford related their shared epigraphic experiences in Turkey, and, above all, Aphrodisias, vividly conveying the physical discomfort of working in such a hot climate, especially in Ramadan. His account of the work on Diocletian’s edict on maximum prices was, however, perhaps overshadowed by the anecdote of the gift made to them of some figs from the ‘cow-shit encrusted hands’ of a local farmer. Finally, an uncharacteristically nervous Charlotte Roueché, anticipating a lack of enthusiasm from her old mentor at modern digital methods, nevertheless made it brilliantly clear that the relevant websites all have structures dictated by Joyce’s unique understanding of the material.

The day ended with Joyce’s recommendations for the future: work hard, work well, publish quickly, and, above all, enjoy yourself.

(Right and below) Joyce Reynolds, former President of the Roman Society

Joyce was President of the Roman Society 1986-1989
Thanks to the generosity of the Roman Society, two fieldwork bursaries were made available to undergraduate students interested in working on the excavations at the Roman imperial estate at Vagnari in July 2018. These bursaries were earmarked specifically for training in Roman ceramics processing and analysis.

The two chosen students, Katherine Hullock and Sarah Hayes, both from the University of Sheffield, spent one week with our Roman ceramics specialist, Dr. David Griffiths, learning about pottery as it came out of the ground and into the field lab. This was an invaluable opportunity for students to begin hands-on training for a specialism that is very much in demand in the UK and abroad. We are very grateful to the Archaeology Committee of the Roman Society for the funds to have enabled this important part of the Vagnari project.

The two students have submitted brief reports (below) on their experiences.

Sarah Hayes (left) and Katherine Hullock (right) sorting through pottery at Vagnari.

During my week in Gravina in Puglia, I worked with pottery specialist David Griffiths and fellow student Katie Hullock. I spent my time working in the old monastic cells of the monastery of San Sebastiano, looking at pottery assemblages found at the Vagnari vicus site. Whilst working with David, I learned how to recognise different wares and types of Roman pottery. I struggled at first, but quickly picked up how to differentiate between the coarse wares, which were usually burnt and rougher, due to them being used for cooking, and plain wares, which are smoother and paler in colour. I also learned to recognise fine wares which usually consist of smaller vessels with decorated surfaces. After a few days I started to be able to separate the different types of fine wares and categorise them into the different styles found at Vagnari. I began to be able to identify the different surface treatments found, for example, on African Red Slip and Italian imitation red-slipped ware (the latter being made to try to replicate the former). I also learned the different types of paint and gloss used on pottery found at the site. By the end of my time at Vagnari, I also was able to identify a few of the sherds of amphorae in the assemblages.

During the week, I got the chance to help David with a presentation on the pottery from the site. I was able to display the knowledge I had obtained to the other participants working at the site, and this was quite exhilarating. I thoroughly enjoyed the experience of working on Roman pottery and my interest really has been piqued in the subject. I am now considering going into the field of ceramics. I would like to thank the Roman Society and Maureen Carroll for giving me this opportunity.

Sarah Hayes, University of Sheffield

Our work on Roman pottery from Vagnari was guided by pottery expert David Griffiths. Having an expert oversee this stage of post-extraction work was not only very educational, but also important in ensuring that we were being trained and taught to do the best possible job. Under his direction, we were able to identify different types of ceramics, learn some typological names for pottery, and gain insight into the post-extraction process.

Whilst working on ceramics, it quickly became apparent that cataloguing was an important part of the post-extraction process. The first step in the assessment of pottery found at the site was to see if the sherds had any interesting features such as a pattern, or were made of an unusual material. Then, if the fragment, or fragments, of
the vessel were seen as worthy of cataloguing, it would be given a unique vessel number. This was written onto the sherd and then bagged with other fragments from the same deposit.

The fragments that were catalogued were very diverse in shape, type, and quality. Of particular interest to me, for example, were the different pottery lamps. These became identifiable almost instantly, as the decoration and shape were distinctive. These fragments are invaluable to those studying Roman ceramics not only because lamps were an integral part of domestic spaces in the Roman period, but also because the texture, colour, material, style, and decoration used to manufacture them allow archaeologists to assess where the lamp was produced. Another interesting aspect of cataloguing finds was seeing all of the different types of pottery found at Vagnari, in particular, African Red Slip, or ARS, which was abundant. This is an important assemblage because it sheds light on long-distance trade between the imperial estate at Vagnari and Roman North Africa from as early as the 1st century AD.

Katherine Hullock, University of Sheffield

Interview

Mike Luke is a Project Manager at Albion Archaeology, which he joined in 1989, and also Secretary of the Roman Society Archaeology Committee. Epistula caught up with Mike to learn more about an unusual discovery that was made during community led excavations at a Roman site in Bedford.

EP: ‘So, you’ve been involved in an archaeological project at Manton Lane, what’s been going on?’

ML: ‘That’s right. It’s a site bisected by Manton Lane on the northern outskirts of Bedford. Despite the construction of two schools during the early 1970s it was completely unknown until the summer of 2010, when building work at Edith Cavell Lower School uncovered Roman objects. Then, during the spring of 2011, two local historians were walking past a pipe trench being dug on the north side of Manton Lane and saw what they thought was a Roman masonry wall. They reported it to the archaeological officer at the Bedford Borough Council, who called in Albion Archaeology to undertake limited rescue investigation around the wall. Ever since then, I’ve been involved during the summers, largely in non-work time, overseeing test pitting and one small open area excavation over the Roman site. During the latter we even found a collapsed Roman wall.’

EP: ‘And the result is that you’ve got what seems to be a villa. How usual is that for the region?’

ML: ‘Well, it is quite unusual. Plenty of villas have been proposed in the Bedford area, but in more recent times a lot of them have been dismissed. There was supposedly one at Newnham, for example, to the east of Bedford, but that was recently written up and published by some of my colleagues and there is no evidence for a stone residential building. There was a bath house, though, so that site has now been reinterpreted as some sort of estate centre. Another proposed villa was on the Biddenham Loop – defined by a great meander in the River Great Ouse – where extensive archaeological investigations have found five Roman settlements, one of which has often been flagged up as a possible villa, but trenching and geophysics suggest that it is more likely to be another farmstead rather than anything with substantial walling. So, in the Bedford area our site at Manton Lane is the one with substantial Roman
buildings that stands out in that they had stone footings, a tiled roof, glass windows, painted wall plaster, and at least one room with a hypocaust. The most unusual thing about it is that it was also decorated with particularly delicate stucco work.’

EP: ‘How common is stucco work?’
ML: ‘It is fairly unusual. About five years ago there were only a handful of sites from Roman Britain with Stucco work, the most famous of which was Fishbourne. However, it’s possible that it was more common and that is largely a result of preservation: because it’s very fragile it doesn’t survive well in normal conditions. At Manton Lane it ended up deposited in the hypocaust void, and so was protected from ploughing and other later disturbance.’

EP: ‘So, it may well be that Romano-British stucco was more common than we’ve realised?’
ML: ‘That’s what I suspect.’
EP: ‘What sort of decoration do you get on the Manton Lane stucco?’
ML: ‘Professor Roger Ling has kindly looked at the stucco work and described it as a particularly unusual type to be found in the north-west of the Roman empire. He has drafted a report that he hopes to publish and most of what I know and say is based on that. He says that the reliefs are of particular interest for their technique. They have been rendered freehand by a craftsman who has handled his material with deft assurance using spatula-like tools to produce subtle modulations and deeper valleys, but always within a maximum height of relief of 6mm. Such delicate freehand stuccowork, as far as Roger Ling is aware, seems to be unparalleled in Britain: the only stuccoes previously known from the province take the form either of high relief figures or miniature friezes produced with moulds or stamps. It is unfortunate that the fragments we have found to date are too small to reveal their subject-matter, but several of them seem to have depicted foliate motifs, or possibly draperies. At sites like Fishbourne they’ve got figures, but that was created using moulds or stamps.’
EP: ‘Presumably this is something that comes in with the Roman period. There’s no Iron Age tradition of stucco?’
ML: ‘Absolutely. Indeed, Roger Ling suggested that the type of stucco found at Manton Lane was until recently virtually unparalleled in Rome’s north-western provinces and most akin to that found on walls and vaults in Roman Italy, which was a surprise.’
EP: ‘Are there any other signs that the site is a high-status settlement?’
ML: ‘That is another oddity about the site. To date we haven’t had a particularly large number of high-status Roman finds. So, for example, the total number of coins for the site is only about 15, which is particularly low, especially as we have been hand-digging, sieving, and metal detecting. The number of items of jewellery and brooches is also very small. To me, the pottery isn’t very remarkable either. So, the finds assemblage seems at the moment to be in complete contrast to the status of the actual building. In terms of dating, we know from the Late Iron Age pottery that there was a settlement at Manton Lane before the conquest. The majority of the coins are 3rd or 4th century, as usual. Our assumption is that the main masonry building went up in the 2nd century and had probably gone by the early 4th century. We’ve had a couple of sherds of Saxon pottery, but no other evidence...’
Interview/From the field

for post-Roman activity. Having said that, we’ve got to accept that all the work done on the site has either been rescue archaeology undertaken by Albion where there was no planning condition requiring archaeological work or relatively small-scale test pitting as part of the community project. Of course, we still don’t know the precise layout of the settlement and it’s possible that much of our work has been peripheral to the main domestic buildings.

EP: ‘Can anything be said about the wider estate?’

ML: ‘From our limited work we are probably either on the edge of the residential area, or within the bathhouse. However, we haven’t seen any obvious signs of agricultural structures like drying ovens, or yards, but I’m sure they are there. Also, Bedford is not a very hilly place, but so much as there are hills this site is on one, overlooking the River Ouse floodplain, so it’s a prime spot. I’d imagine that the estate would have run down and along the Ouse. Its floodplain and adjacent land are known to have been particularly good for agriculture and were well-used in the Iron Age and Roman periods. So, we may be looking at a classic villa estate headquarters. There were a large number of farmsteads in the area that we know about from developer-funded archaeology, but obviously we can’t really tie that to a particular part of the estate. There have been suggestions that the reason why there are so few villas in the area is perhaps because the landownership was quite different. Some have even suggested it was an imperial estate. If that was the case, which is certainly not proven, then you might start wondering if the presence of this villa is down to something more than a private owner and that its establishment can be traced to a much larger landowner.’

From the field

From the ashes: new discoveries at Pompeii

Two prestigious dwellings have been brought to light in Regio V of Pompeii, thanks to maintenance and stabilisation works overseen by the Great Pompeii Project. As part of this process, an area of 1,000m² is being excavated to ensure the integrity of structures unearthed in the 19th century. The two buildings being examined are the House with the Garden – featuring a beautiful frescoed portico and rooms decorated with lively megalographs – and the House of Jupiter – with First Style paintings and exceptional floor mosaics that
The text in question. Do these few words etched in charcoal place the eruption of Vesuvius in October rather than August?

Credit: courtesy of Parco Archeologico di Pompei

One fragile charcoal inscription scrawled on a wall of the House with the Garden supports the theory that the fateful eruption occurred in October rather than August. Indeed, the graffito is dated to the 16th day before the Calends of November, that is 17th October. The text was found in a room that was undergoing refurbishment, while the other rooms in the residence had already been completed; works must therefore have been ongoing at the time of the eruption. Since the ephemeral lettering could not be expected to last long, it is highly probable that it can be dated to the October of AD 79, and more precisely to a week prior to the great catastrophe, which according to this hypothesis occurred on the 24th October.

The House of Jupiter takes its name from the lararium fresco located in its garden, which depicts the deity. The lararium was initially exposed during 19th-century work, when the house was partially investigated. The current excavations have allowed us to identify various tunnels – dug in the 18th and early 19th centuries in search of precious objects – which unfortunately compromised the structure of the house in various locations. Despite this, the mosaic flooring, frescoes, and – in some rooms – sumptuous furnishings remained.

The House with the Garden is named after a large open space defined by a portico, within which paleobotanical analyses have been carried out to provide a complete picture of the plant species growing there when the eruption occurred. Despite this house also being compromised by tunnels, many decorative elements survive. A considerable corpus of graffiti, some of which contain phrases of at times obscene character, enriched the walls of the atrium and entrance corridor. There are also drawings traced with lime or chalk, including one depicting a caricatured human face in profile. Other doodles were executed in charcoal, and also include human faces.

A large scene in the House with the Garden depicts Venus and Eros with a male figure, perhaps Adonis or Paris

Credit: courtesy of Parco Archeologico di Pompei

A serpent on a mosaic in the House of Jupiter.

Credit: courtesy of Parco Archeologico di Pompei

New Museums on Hadrian’s Wall

In April 2018, English Heritage launched the new museum at Corbridge Roman Town, and the new exhibition space at Birdoswald Roman Fort on Hadrian’s Wall. This was the culmination of months of hard work planning the interpretation, but both projects also brought in new research from the past 30 years on both sites.
At Birdoswald we focussed on telling the story of Hadrian’s Wall, when/how/why it was built, and who built, lived, and died on the Wall. We were lucky to be able to display some of the cremation urns from the important 2009 excavations undertaken jointly by English Heritage and Newcastle University. The exhibition at Birdoswald, as well as the new trail and signage outside, is family orientated, but not dumbed down. The cartoon style of the graphics allowed us to get across all the information, whilst not overwhelming with big blocks of text.

Corbridge Museum was a completely different project. The collection from Corbridge is one of the best collections of Roman material English Heritage cares for, and we wanted to showcase this amazing material. A complete refurbishment of the space, along with new cases, gave us the opportunity to update the story of Corbridge, taking into account new research on the site and the collection in the last 30 years. New items were brought out of store, old favourites received conservation cleaning and new mounts, and better lighting brought everything to life.

By using the collection as the driving force for the whole project, we have been able to look at all aspects of life in the most northerly town in Roman Britain.

Both of these projects will appeal to different people, but English Heritage thinks they are a great addition to the offer available on Hadrian’s Wall, alongside the many other sites and museums. Each site gives different information and another piece of the story of life on Hadrian’s Wall in the Roman period, which we all know is much more complicated than soldiers from Rome!

Frances McIntosh

One of the urns now on display at Birdoswald with grave goods and bones still inside of a female, c.20-40 years old

WallCap

September 2018 saw the announcement of an award for £1.17 million from the Heritage Lottery Fund to the
Hadrian’s Wall Community Archaeology Project (WallCAP).

The project is based at Newcastle University, led by Prof Sam Turner and Dr Rob Collins and is scheduled to run from Autumn/Winter 2018 for three years to the same period of 2021.

The project has two key strands. The first is to address concerns captured in Historic England’s Heritage At Risk register, looking specifically at the sites on the register in the World Heritage Site as well as sites nominated by other stakeholders. The second is to examine the fabric of the Wall in detail, trying to further identify the source geology and beds as well as its post-Roman dispersal and reuse. While guided by a team of professional archaeologists (and a geologist), the project will also engage hundreds of members of the general public across the entirety of the World Heritage Site. Across both strands, there are plans to conduct fieldwork at 26 sites, which will include a range of methods such as geophysical survey, buildings archaeology, excavation, and practical conservation works.

Further information is available at: https://wallcap.ncl.ac.uk

Dewlish Leopard and Gazelle mosaic sold

Part of a figured, 4th-century mosaic from Dewlish Roman villa in Dorset, has been sold at auction to an anonymous buyer for £30,000. The fragment, with a particularly fine depiction of a leopard pouncing on a Dorcas gazelle, an animal that would have been familiar to a designer with experience of the North African coast, was uncovered in 1972 and has been on display in Dewlish House for over 40 years.

Excavations at Dewlish, directed by Bill Putnam from 1969 to 1979, recorded the main domestic wing of the villa together with a series of out buildings. Although interim fieldwork statements were published, a full excavation report did not appear prior to Putnam’s death in 2008. Since 2010, staff and students at Bournemouth University together with researchers from other institutions across the country, have been conducting detailed post-exavation analysis with a view to bringing the villa archive to final publication, hopefully in 2019.

The fragment of mosaic from Dewlish, showing a leopard pouncing on a gazelle, which was sold at auction

The leopard and gazelle panel was one of the better-preserved areas of mosaic from a large, centrally placed apsed room, presumably the summer triclinium. Following excavation, the fragment was lifted, together with two further substantial pieces from the area of the bathhouse, one of which featured a lively group of sea creatures. The bathhouse panels were made available to Dorset County Museum by the then landowner as loan items. Recently, however, the new owners of Dewlish House put the leopard panel up for sale. Unfortunately, Dorset Museum did not have the money to buy the mosaic, which is not covered by any relevant legislation concerning the sale or exportation of antiquities, art or other cultural material. There is now a very good chance that this important piece of Romano-British archaeology will never be seen again. Discussions concerning the legal status of the loan panels in Dorchester Museum are ongoing.

Iain Hewitt and Miles Russell (Bournemouth University)

Epistula Artefact Award

Charm bird? An amulet from Roman Northamptonshire (PAS NARC-5C0816)

Reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme in 2018, this find from Rushden in the Nene valley is a striking new variant among the amulets that protected Romans against ill fortune. At first view this 30mm long artefact shows a bird feeding, on berries perhaps, but a second glance reveals that this is no ordinary perch and that these are strange fruit. The
bird stands on a phallus, and tugs at one of the testes with its beak while its claws grip the shaft and beneath its tail is the glans. Some detailing of the bird’s head and beak is preserved in the corroded surface, as are the chevrons on its folded wings, common motifs for marking plumage. However, the creature is too stylised to attribute to a species – a corvid (crow, raven etc) or a bird of prey are possible subjects.

**The bird amulet from Rushden, Northamptonshire**

Roman objects in phallic form often play with incongruous elements to help amuse, confuse, and thus deflect the malign effects of *Invidia*. They add elements to phalluses such as wings or legs, or turn them into hybrid creatures, for example in the case of the famous *tintinnabulum* from Herculaneum where with a will of its own the phallus, morphing into a dog, fights its gladiator ‘owner’. In the case of the Rushden object, the maimed phallus keeps its integrity, just about, but the scene plays with incongruity in a different way. At first sight this might be a conventional scene of avian feeding, for example like the intaglio from the Bloomberg site in London on which an eagle pecks at a hare’s splayed carcass. But the double-take prompted by the pairing of bird and phallus perplexes the viewer, reinforcing the apotropaic power of the Rushden charm to repel the evil eye. In this case the magical context is clearer than the specific use to which the object was put, perhaps worn as a pendant, or attached to an artefact or structure. It offered its symbolic protection, most probably, to the occupants of the large Roman rural settlement, with stone buildings, working areas and a possible vineyard previously excavated nearby.

**Funding Opportunities**

**Roman Society Archaeology Committee Grants: Public Engagement and Development**

The Roman Society is delighted to invite applications for grants to facilitate activities in Roman archaeology along two streams:

1. **Public Engagement**: activities that promote all aspects of Roman Archaeology through public engagement. The application should include:
   i) a 250-word summary of the proposed activity
   ii) the location of the activity
   iii) the number of attendees that can be accommodated
   iv) the delegate fee to be charged (if applicable)
   v) details of costings.

2. **Development**: activities that provide skills-based training in an aspect of Roman archaeology. Preference will be shown to skills which are currently in decline or especially needed in the discipline. The application should include:
   i) a 250-word summary of the proposed activity, including an explanation of the way(s) in which the training will have a legacy in terms of the future of the discipline.
   ii) the location of the activity
   iii) the number of attendees that can be accommodated
   iv) the delegate fee to be charged (if applicable)
   v) details of costings.

Please note that this grant is not for people to attend courses organised by someone else.

Awards are typically £250 or less, but there is the potential for larger awards should a compelling case be made.

We would be grateful if you would email Public Engagement applications to the Society’s Outreach Officer Rebecca Gowland (rebecca.gowland@durham.ac.uk) and Development applications to the Development Officer Ursula Rothe (ursula.rothe@open.ac.uk).

Deadline for applications: **10th February 2019**.
Where an attendance fee is payable, it is expected that events receiving awards would offer a special rate to Roman Society members. When timings permit it is also requested that a short piece of text (less than 300 words) is supplied to promote the event in Epistula, the Society’s digital newsletter.

Conferences and Meetings

The Pilgrimage of Hadrian’s Wall 2019 Running from 20 to 27 July

The Pilgrimage will be based at the Royal Station Hotel in Newcastle for the first four nights and the County Hotel in Carlisle for the second four. Travel will be by coaches, but there will be opportunities for walking. The programme has been designed to illustrate recent work on Hadrian’s Wall, as well as visits to the traditional sites and to museums.

There will be two main themes to the Pilgrimage: sites that illustrate the building of the Wall, and those which illuminate its history in the 3rd and 4th centuries. A special handbook detailing work on the Wall over the last 10 years edited by Drs R Collins and M Symonds will be issued to Pilgrims. The principal guides will be Dr Mike Bishop, Dr Rob Collins, Erik Graafstal, Dr Nick Hodgson, Professor Valerie Maxfield, Graeme Stobbs, Dr Matt Symonds, and Tony Wilmott.

See the booking form attached to the same email sending out this edition of Epistula for more details.

David J Breeze

TRAC 2019

TRAC 2019 (Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference) will be held at the University of Kent, Canterbury, from Thursday 11th April until Sunday 14th April 2019.

First held in 1991, the conference aimed to widen the range of perspectives offered, and voices heard, in Roman archaeology. Following on from this success, TRAC has made a major contribution to research in Roman archaeology over the past 25+ years.

Dr Zena Kamash (Royal Holloway) will open proceedings with her plenary lecture, Decolonising Roman Archaeology on Thursday 11th. Two days of papers on a range of topics relating to theoretical Roman archaeology will follow. The Call for Papers and Posters is now open for anyone wishing to submit an abstract. A full list of sessions along with further details is available at: http://trac.org.uk/2018/10/trac-2019-call-for-papers-and-posters/

Early-bird conference fees of £45 student/unwaged and £55 waged are available until 14th January 2019. There are also day tickets for the Friday and Saturday priced at £25 student/unwaged and £30 waged. Tickets are also available for the pre-party conference dinner on Saturday 13th, and excursions on Sunday 14th to the Roman sites of Richborough, Reculver, and the Roman Painted House in Dover.


For further information on the conference and to get further updates on accommodation, bursaries, and the conference programme, please visit http://trac.org.uk/events/conferences/trac-2019/ or follow TRAC on Twitter and Facebook. The Local Organising Committee can be contacted at TRAC2019@kent.ac.uk.

We look forward to welcoming you to Canterbury next year.

The Roman Army School 2019

The next Roman Army School will meet at St Chad’s, Durham, from 29th March – 1st April 2019 and focus on Roman artillery and sieges.

The annual Roman Army School will focus on Roman artillery and sieges, inspired by the recent publication of Alan Wilkins’ Roman Imperial Artillery. Alan and his colleague Len Morgan will speak and also demonstrate their replica Roman artillery pieces at Binchester. Guy Stiebel will lecture on recent work at Masada and other sieges in the East and Jorit Wintjes on artillery in the field. Graham Sumner will talk about the depiction of the Roman Army on the screen. Other speakers include David Breeze and Val Maxfield on the evidence from Britain.

General booking opened on 19th November on our website: www.ad43.org.uk Email: enquiries@ad43.org.uk for more details.
BES Spring Meeting 2019

The 2019 Spring Meeting of the British Epigraphy Society will take place on Saturday, 11 May 2019, in the Great North Museum in Newcastle.

The meeting is organised by Dr Simon Corcoran, and the theme of the meeting is Epigraphy and Frontiers. Information on the programme will in due course be available from the Society's website: http://www.britishepigraphysociety.org/bes-spring-meeting.html. All welcome!

The Roman Finds Group and Finds Research Group in collaboration with King’s College London and Instrumentum International Meetings

Corinium Museum events

Dress and Identity in the Roman Empire

Afternoon Talk with Dr Valija Evalds

Wednesday 23 January, 2-3.30pm

The third in a series of three talks exploring Roman art and architecture. This illustrated lecture will explore the clothing of the Roman world: its textures, its colours and its symbols; from senators to slaves, to matrons and brides.

Cost: £7 per adult, £6 members. Booking recommended.

Sources of Roman Stone

Evening Lecture with Professor Maurice Tucker

Thursday 28 February, 7-8.30pm

Construction of the Roman city of Bath, *Aquae Sulis*, began 60-70 AD, with its famous thermal baths probably built some decades later. The majority of the city was constructed of Middle Jurassic limestone (informally referred to as Bath stone and Great Oolite) but the exact source(s) of the stone and stratigraphic horizon(s) have not been addressed before. In a project with the Roman Baths and archaeologists from the University of Bournemouth, outcrops of stone around Bath have been studied for their sedimentological features and geochemical signatures using pXRF, and comparisons made with the stone within the Roman baths complex. In some old quarries, Lewis bolt holes have been found cut in the stone, which are identical to those on Roman blocks within the baths complex, as well as circular holes 44mm in diameter considered to be typical of Roman chisels. The quantity of stone required for *Aquae Sulis* would have been enormous, so it is very likely many quarries provided the stone. This talk will discuss the likely sources and supply routes of stone to the Roman city.

Maurice Tucker is a Professor based at the School of Earth Sciences at Bristol University. His interests are in ‘rocks that fizz: limestones and dolomites.’ He is part of the Carbonates Research Group in Bristol, headed by Fiona Whitaker.

Cost: £7 per adult, £6 members. Booking recommended.

Roman Gardens

Evening Lecture with Cherry Hubbard

Thursday 28 March, 7-8.30pm

Pliny the Elder wrote that there was a certain sanctity to a garden... In this talk, Cherry explores the legacy of the Romans in our gardens, how they created peaceful spaces in the midst of their homes, how they used their plants for food, drink, decoration, medicine, and dyes. We look at the primary sources, mosaics, frescos, pollen, and seeds. What did they bring with them and what has survived 2000 years on?

Cherry Hubbard is an engaging professional interpreter of social and domestic history with much experience in public speaking with a wide-ranging demographic. Topics ranging throughout history, but with a First World War, Tudor, and Roman specialist knowledge.

Cost: £7 per adult, £6 members. Booking recommended.

Corinium Mosaics

Afternoon Tour with Emma Stuart

Thursday 18 April, 2.30-3.30pm

Join Emma as she takes you on a journey through the mosaics of Roman Corinium. Hear about the development of the mosaic collection and how mosaics were lifted and laid in their current place in the museum.
The tour will last approximately an hour with places to sit en-route. We will end with a rare look at some of the paintings and sketches of mosaics from the Museum archive.

Cost: £5.50 per adult, £5 members. Booking recommended

For further events, including tours and gallery talks, please visit www.coriniummuseum.org

**Hoarding and deposition in Europe from later prehistory to the medieval period – finds in context.**

The next Instrumentum Meeting will take place at King’s College London, Strand, on 12-14 June 2019

The theme of the next Instrumentum Meeting will be hoarding and deposition. Projects on hoards of coins, metalwork, and other objects or materials currently being conducted in Britain have looked at both their composition and their locations. Recently excavated hoards also offer the chance to look at little-studied aspects of hoarding as a depositional process, such as the environmental data from pollen and seeds or from materials such as textiles and leather. The conference will also explore other aspects of deposition, including finds in wet contexts and structured deposition, as well as ‘stray’ or surface finds.

Five multi-period sessions are open:
- What is a hoard and what is hoarded?
- Hoarding as a depositional process
- Hoards and structured deposits and their setting/topographic context
- Deposition in wet contexts, sacred or profane?
- Recent discoveries of hoards

Call for Papers: Papers and posters may be submitted on subjects such as the contents of hoards, analyses of single hoards, where hoards occur, changes in practice over time. While the majority of papers will be 20 minutes long, there will also be the opportunity to present work in progress or notes in 10 minute slots.

Please download the proposal form for papers and posters from http://www.romanfindsgroup.org.uk/ and return before 31 December 2018 to: emma.durham@reading.ac.uk

**Digital Resources**

**New from the Ancient World Mapping Center (awmc.unc.edu)**

Additions to the Center’s growing Maps for Texts series (all available gratis!):
- The Black Sea Region Described by Arrian around AD 130 (Periplus)
- Dionysius of Byzantium, Treatise on the Bosporus (Anaplous)
- Hierokles, Synekdemos
- Ptolemy, Table of Important Cities (Kanon Poleon Episemon)
- Theophanes: Journeys between Hermopolis and Antioch (Rylands papyri).

Book just published by Routledge:
- Richard Talbert, Challenges of Mapping the Classical World.

Wall Maps for the Ancient World

These seven large maps produced by the Center and published by Routledge (2011) have gone out of print. With the rights now reverting to the Center, it will shortly make all seven maps available for download (gratis for non-profit use).

**Books**

**Andrew Poulter**

*The transition to late antiquity on the lower Danube. Excavations at Dichin: an extraordinary late Roman and early Byzantine fort, intensive site-specific survey and a unique Roman aqueduct*

Oxbow Books
ISBN 9781785709586
£70 – pre-publication offer £52
After the exploration of a late Roman city (JRS monograph 1995), followed by volumes on the pottery, glass, and environmental reports, the aim of the large-scale excavations on the site of a late Roman fort (Dichin) and the implementation of a new approach to intensive survey, meant that it proved possible to place the fort within its economic and geographical context.

The well-preserved fortress, certainly built by Roman engineers c. AD 400, contained a range of stone and mudbrick buildings with the infrequent use of mortar; half the fort was taken up with granaries and the remaining space contained large two-storey ‘barracks’/houses. Amongst the numerous finds recovered from the destruction level c.500, there were not just weapons and armour but also agricultural implements, including two ploughs; evidently, though built by Roman engineers, from its first occupation it contained no normal Roman garrison but a community of soldier/farmers – foederati?

Rebuilt in the early 6th century, the fort continued to exist down to c.585 – but without the granaries, which were replaced by a large building (principia?). The new approach to site-specific survey identified the layout of villas (together with their associated settlements), all of which were destroyed by fire towards the end of the 4th century – which explains the demise of the city of Nicopolis, within whose territory they lay. However, the environmental studies produced surprising results for the 5th and 6th centuries AD when, despite the invasions of Goths, Huns, and Avars, the agricultural economy and farming flourished as strongly as in the Early Empire.

In addition, there is an extraordinary Roman aqueduct, including a syphon with pipes 40cm in diameter, the largest example known in the Roman Empire.

The forthcoming publication of the excavations, together with finds and pottery as well as detailed reports on the environmental evidence is in press. However, before publication of this substantial volume, fully illustrated in colour, there currently exists a generous pre-publication offer of £52 – review Oxbow Books publications, searching for my name, should you wish to obtain the book in the next two months.

Andrew Poulter, University of Birmingham

Embracing the Provinces offers an overview of current research on Roman provinces and frontiers, deconstructing some long-held preconceptions and providing refreshing insights into unexplored areas in provincial studies. Drawing upon a wealth of data made available in recent decades, the 20 essays present the life in the provinces of the Roman Empire by analysing various aspects of daily routine in the frontier regions, such as eating, dressing, and interacting. The case-studies, written by renowned international contributors, further the research into the female and juvenile presence on Roman military sites, challenge our knowledge of military units, present new methods of analysis on provincial cooking, and delve into the subjects of Roman military equipment, leather, personal adornments, and soft furnishings.

This book is not only a collection of thematically divided essays dealing with current issues in Roman provincial studies, it is also a festschrift for Dr Carol van Driel-Murray, to celebrate and honour her achievements. Carol has always been keen to tackle entrenched opinions with provocative and profound ideas, and has introduced gender issues in times when this could still lead to a fierce scholarly debate. She is cherished by generations of her former students as a loved substitute mother: a true Matrona Provinciarum Archaeologiae Romanarum.

The volume is primarily targeted at academics, researchers, and students of Roman provincial archaeology and history, with particular relevance for frontier specialists and those interested in the material culture. The book will appeal to the re-enactors and those working in experimental archaeology, as some essays discuss the subject of experiments and the issues they raise, as well as providing evidence to be tested in the field.

David J. Breeze (ed.) 2018
The Crosby Garrett Helmet
Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society Extra Series 48
ISBN 9781873124796, £18 including p&p (£15 CWAAS members)
The discovery of a Roman sports helmet at Crosby Garrett, Cumbria, in 2010 aroused considerable public interest. The helmet, after conservation and restoration, was sold at auction for over £2m. Subsequent fieldwork and excavation demonstrated that the helmet had been buried in a farm of the Romano-British period. Two coins of the 330s together with contemporary pottery indicate the date when the settlement was occupied. The deposition of the helmet at this place was confirmed through analysis of surviving metal fragments.

The helmet is a unique type of ‘sports’ helmet worn at Roman military exercises and dates to the 3rd century AD. In this book, David Breeze brings together the results of the fieldwork and excavation along with discussions of the helmet and its significance and an account of its discovery.

Orders to Ian Caruana, 10 Peter Street, Carlisle CA3 8QP. (Tel: 01228 544120). Cheques payable to CWAAS. If you have any queries please email: elizabethallnutt@btinternet.com

Arlene Holmes-Henderson, Steven Hunt and Mai Musié 2018 *Forward with Classics: Classical languages in schools and communities* Bloomsbury Academic ISBN 9781474297677 £25.49 (paperback)

Despite their removal from England’s National Curriculum in 1988, and claims of elitism, Latin and Greek are increasingly re-entering the ‘mainstream’ educational arena. Since 2012, there have been more students in state-maintained schools in England studying classical subjects than in independent schools, and the number of schools offering Classics continues to rise in the state-maintained sector. The teaching and learning of Latin and Greek are not, however, confined to the classroom: community-based learning for adults and children is facilitated in newly established regional Classics hubs in evenings and at weekends, in universities as part of outreach, and even in parks and in prisons.

This book investigates the motivations of teachers and learners behind the rise of Classics in the classroom and in communities, and explores ways in which knowledge of classical languages is considered valuable for diverse learners in the 21st century. The role of classical languages within the English educational policy landscape is examined, as new possibilities exist for introducing Latin and Greek into school curricula. The state of Classics education internationally is also investigated, with case studies presenting the status quo in policy and practice from Australasia, North America, the rest of Europe and worldwide. The priorities for the future of Classics education in these diverse locations are compared and contrasted by the editors, who conjecture what strategies are conducive to success.

Renger de Bruin, Astrid Hertog, and Roeland Paardekooper (eds.), 2018 *The Roman Frontier along the River Rhine: The Role of Museums in revitalizing Cultural Landscapes* ICOM Netherlands ISBN 9789082884500

The borders of the Roman Empire (also known as Limes) in Great Britain (Hadrian’s Wall and the Antonine Wall) and parts of the Limes in southern Germany have been added to the UNESCO World Heritage List as ‘Frontiers of the Roman Empire’ (WHS). The so-called Lower Germanic Limes will be nominated by the Dutch government in cooperation with the German federal states of North Rhine-Westphalia and Rhineland-Palatinate in 2020 as a supplement to these ‘Frontiers of the Roman Empire’. In recent years, many initiatives have been developed to increase the profile of the Dutch Limes. After all, the remains are largely underground and therefore invisible. In this publication, the role of museums in these challenges is examined.

This English-language publication contains eight contributions and is based on the international session at the ICOM General Conference in Milan in 2016, organized by ICOM Netherlands. Through an international group of experts, topics such as museums and cultural landscapes, visitor experience, tourism, cooperation, and government responsibility are described and recommendations made. Museums play a crucial role in the revitalization of cultural landscapes, so important to the UNESCO World Heritage List.

This publication is available as an online publication: https://www.icomnederland.nl and can also be ordered as hard copy from ICOM Netherlands via the same website.
Footprints from the past reports on eight sites examined in the course of work on the East West Rail Link between Oxford and Bicester, mostly of Roman date, and with a focus on sites closely adjacent to the small town of Alchester.

The two main sites lay beside successive Roman roads running south to Dorchester-on-Thames, the earlier of which by-passed the eastern side of Otmoor and was superseded by a more direct route across the moor at the end of the 1st century AD. Settlement beside the earlier road perhaps succeeded a pre-Roman settlement and appears from artefactual evidence to have been of quite high status during the initial, military phase, although no contemporary structural evidence was found and little of the artefactual material had clear military associations.

Stone-founded buildings were constructed during the late 1st to early 2nd century, including two single-celled structures of uncertain function that may represent a gatehouse or a pair of shrines. The buildings were demolished by c AD 200, when the area was abandoned. Finds included part of a priestly headdress and two pairs of slave shackles.

Ditched enclosures beside the later road examined due south of Alchester probably related to a discrete agricultural settlement dating from the later 1st century onwards. No buildings were identified but two large pits contained domestic refuse and building material.

Excavations at six other locations investigated farmsteads that dated from the middle Iron Age to the 3rd century AD and included a rare deposit of debris from copper alloy and iron working from a middle Iron Age enclosure ditch. A notable feature of the sites overall was the lack of evidence for late Roman activity.

Gill Mill deals with middle and late Iron Age and (particularly) Roman settlement excavated over a period of 25 years in the eponymous gravel quarry 10 miles west of Oxford, summarised in a short note in Britannia 47.

The main focus of the report is on a minor nucleated settlement roughly 10ha in extent (not entirely excavated) that seems to have been established in the early 2nd century and effectively superseded the elements of a more dispersed Iron Age and early Roman settlement pattern. The economic emphasis of this later settlement, sited on the floodplain of the river Windrush, seems to have been on cattle management, perhaps operating as part of a larger estate centred beyond the extensive area examined (c 129ha, of which some 75ha were fully stripped).

The main features of the settlement, based around two principal roads, comprised ditched enclosures, some in very regular layouts associated with one of the roads, pits, and wells and about 80 (mostly scattered) burials. Relatively few buildings were identified: up to five with stone foundations and a variety of more ephemeral structures. The existence of a shrine in the unexcavated centre of the settlement is postulated and carved stone and other religious artefacts were amongst the finds, which also include over 1000 coins, a tonne of pottery and substantial animal bone and environmental assemblages. The quantity of finds allows the end of significant occupation at the site to be fixed quite closely at about AD 370.
Reviews
‘This is a comprehensive and thorough report of a fascinating site. It adds to a growing knowledge of the Iron Age of Cambridgeshire and the fen-edge, facilitating the construction of a detailed understanding of prehistoric settlement and life in the region.’
Dr Jody Joy, Senior Curator (Archaeology), Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, University of Cambridge

‘Provides a detailed, well written and engaging introduction to the site, with a thorough overview of the fen edge environment the site sits within [and] a wealth of specialist information. … A surprisingly engaging read.’
Michael Bamforth, Project Manager, POSTGLACIAL project, University of York

Black Horse Farm is situated on the Cambridgeshire fen-edge. During the Iron Age and early Romano-British period it occupied a low promontory reaching out into the surrounding wetland. This volume describes the archaeological excavation of the site and the Iron Age settlement and Romano-British activity that was recorded there. The wetland of the fen would have been a prominent part of everyday life at Black Horse Farm and the book examines the way in which the site’s inhabitants utilised and exploited it.

Fluctuations between dry and damp conditions were also a prominent aspect of life at this marginal location and the later sections examine how the population responded to these conditions.

The book examines themes including the organisation of space within the roundhouse, the role of ditches and banks as flood defences versus their social and defensive function, and offers alternative interpretations for some commonly observed features at contemporary sites.

Click on the headings below to read the TOC and Introduction:
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www.barpublishing.com

L’Année épigraphique 2015

Mireille Corbier (corbier@msh-paris.fr), director of L’Année épigraphique, announces that L’Année épigraphique 2015 (containing 1927 entries, and 1130 pages, including 239 pages of index) was published in August, 2018, and is now available. Orders should be sent to Presses Universitaires de France at revues@puf.com

Image of the issue

This feature is designed to take advantage of the wonderful collection of over 4,000 images that can be freely downloaded for educational and research use via IMAGO (www.romansociety.org/imago/home.html).

Mucklebank: a turning point on Hadrian’s Wall

This turret, 44b in the numbering scheme, is nestled in a corner of the Hadrian’s Wall curtain as it descends Mucklebank. As well as occupying a literal turning point, the turret can lay claim to being at the forefront of a pivotal change in both the Roman period and the 19th century, when it was excavated. Digging commenced after J.P. Gibson glimpsed masonry down a rabbit hole, and the ensuing report is judged a watershed moment in Wall studies for taking care to record the stratigraphy within the turret. During the Roman period, the turret was erected late in the construction phase and lay unusually far from its theoretical measured position. This is symptomatic of a wider shift towards allowing the small Wall posts to occupy stronger position within the landscape, hence the glorious vista over Walltown crags and beyond.

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This edition of EPISTULA will also be available via the Society’s website:
http://www.romansociety.org/archaeology/e-newletter-epistula.html