III. Inscriptions[1]

By R.S.O. TOMLIN and M.W.C. HASSALL

A. MONUMENTAL

1. **Canterbury** (*Durovernum*, TR 1501 5885), Cattle Auction Yard, Market Way (FIG. 1). Marble funerary plaque, 0.34 by 0.26 m, 0.05 m thick, found[2] in 2004 face-downward over the skull of a male inhumation burial on the site of abandoned tile and pottery kilns and ditched enclosures of early Roman and pre-Roman date.[3] The plaque is complete, but too worn to establish the margins of the inscription with certainty; there are three lines of letters 25 mm high: ṾC̣[.]Ṛ[...]ṆṾṂỊṾ | F̣ỊḶORACO | NṬISSIM ▵ VI.[4]



FIG. 1. Canterbury, marble plaque (No. 1). Width: 0.34 m.
(*Photo: Canterbury Archaeological Trust*)

[1] Inscriptions on STONE have been arranged as in the order followed by R.G. Collingwood and R.P. Wright in *The Roman Inscriptions of Britain* Vol. i (Oxford, 1965), henceforth cited as *RIB*. Citation is by item and not page number. Inscriptions on PERSONAL BELONGINGS and the like (*instrumentum domesticum*) have been arranged alphabetically by site under their counties. For each site they have been ordered as in *RIB*, pp. xiii–xiv. The items of *instrumentum domesticum* published in the eight fascicules of *RIB* II (1990–95), edited by S.S. Frere and R.S.O. Tomlin, are cited by fascicule, by the number of their category (*RIB* 2401–2505) and by their sub-number within it (e.g. *RIB* II.2, 2415. 53). When measurements are quoted, the width precedes the height.

Mr Hassall (MWCH) is responsible for entries Nos. 1–3, 6–7, and 28–9; Dr Tomlin (RSOT) for the others, and for overall editing.

[2] During excavation by Canterbury Archaeological Trust for David Wilson Homes (Eastern) Ltd directed by Richard Helm, who has noted it in *Canterbury Archaeology* 28 (2003/4), 10–12. See above, p. 444. Louise Harrison and Christopher Sparey Green, staff members of the Trust, made it available and discussed it with us. Paul Bennett, Director of the Trust, identified the marble as Carrara.

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2. **Gloucester** (*Glevum*, SO 843 189), 118–120 London Road (FIG. 2). Tombstone of oolitic limestone depicting a funerary banquet scene, found[5] in 2004 *c*. 10 m from the next item (No. 3). It consists of three major conjoining pieces, one smaller (inscribed) piece, and some minor fragments. When complete it measured 0.59 by at least 1.03 m, and up to 0.14 m thick, but the base and top (which may have been gabled) are missing, so the original height may have been 1.30 m or more. It depicts a figure reclining on a couch with his face to the front. He wears a toga which is draped over his head, but his short hairstyle is quite clear. In his left hand he holds a scroll.[6] At the foot of the couch, to the viewer's left, is a smaller, standing figure whose body is badly damaged, but whose head and feet are relatively clear.[7] In front of the couch is a tripod table with the round top in plan view. The two 'side' legs are widely splayed, while the third is squat and rounded. On the table are two vessels of flaring shape with handles projecting horizontally from the rim, shown front-on and probably intended to represent glass or metal (perhaps silver) *canthari*. Below is the inscription, which is not set in a recessed panel, nor apparently defined by any moulding or border: M[.]RTIALIṢ | Ç[..]LONI ᐞ SERV[..] | [...]Ọ ᐞ XIIII | [...] E, *M[a]rtialis | C[. .]loni serv[us] | [ann]o(rum) XIIII | [h(ic) s(itus)] e(st)*. 'Martialis, the slave of [...]lonius, aged 14, lies here.'[8]

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3 The body was placed in an extended position on its back, the arms folded across the chest. It wore hob-nailed shoes or sandals. In contrast to the rest of the skeleton, the skull and upper post-cranial bones were well preserved, as Mr Sparey Green points out, because of the decay products of calcium carbonate from the marble. He further suggests that the plaque originally accompanied an earlier burial (with which the new one was deliberately associated), and that when the former was disturbed, the plaque was carefully replaced in its position as found, in the new grave.

4 Lines 2 and 3 might be interpreted as *Filora co|n(iunx) piissime vi(xit)*, 'Filora, his wife, lived most dutifully', but other interpretations are possible. 2 might be read as a second declension name in the dative, with M VI at the end of 3 as *m(enses)* VI, 'six months', the age at death. It would be tempting to restore the first word in 3 as *[pie]ntissim(e)*, 'most dutifully', but there does not appear to be enough space at the beginning of the line for three letters, and the space before N also appears to have been blank. If the end of line 2 is also blank, this would exclude *pientissime* being divided between two lines. For *pientissima/e* and *piissima/e*, see L.A. Curchin, 'Familial epithets in the epigraphy of Roman Britain', *Britannia* 14 (1983), 255–6.

5 During excavation by Oxford Archaeology for CgMs Consulting on behalf of the developer, directed by Angela Boyle, who made this and the next item available to MWCH. Paul Booth, also of Oxford Archaeology, made them also available to RSOT, and provided information on the circumstances of discovery, and shared the results of his work with us; the description of the tombstones is his almost verbatim. Martin Henig discussed the first item with us, noting that the closest parallels to this style of banqueting scene come from Chester: see R.P. Wright and I.A. Richmond, *Catalogue of the Roman Inscriptions and Sculptured Stones in the Grosvenor Museum, Chester* (1955); and M. Henig, *The Roman Sculpture from the North West Midlands* (2004) = *Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani* I.9, Part I (Chester and the rest of Cheshire), pp. 9–35 (Funerary Monuments). In Part II (Shropshire and Staffordshire), pp. 47–50 (Funerary Monuments), Henig includes six tombstones from Wroxeter, but none is of the funerary banquet type. The close stylistic connection between the Gloucester example and those from Chester, therefore, is to be explained by the presence of Legion XX at both places.

6 Compare *RIB* 523 (Chester), where the scroll is presumably the deceased's will.

7 In funerary scenes of this type, the deceased is represented by the reclining figure who is often attended, as here, by a (living) slave or servant. In the present case, uniquely for Roman Britain, the identity of the two figures is reversed: it is the standing figure, a fourteen-year-old slave boy, who is commemorated, and the reclining figure, his master, who survives him. It seems likely, however, that the tombstone was purchased in its finished state, complete but uninscribed, from the mason's yard, rather than being specially commssioned. The iconographic type, however, lent itself easily to the role-reversal seen here, incidentally preserving the difference in status between master and slave even after the latter's death.

8 The absence of *Dis Manibus* with the use of the *h(ic) s(itus) e(st)* formula suggests a pre-Flavian date; compare the next item (No. 3). In line 2, the first letter is either C or G, not (apparently) an incomplete Q or O. There is no obvious restoration, but the possibilities include *G(ai) [Ci]loni and G[al]loni*. In 3, there is a suprascript bar over X which does not extend to the four following digits.

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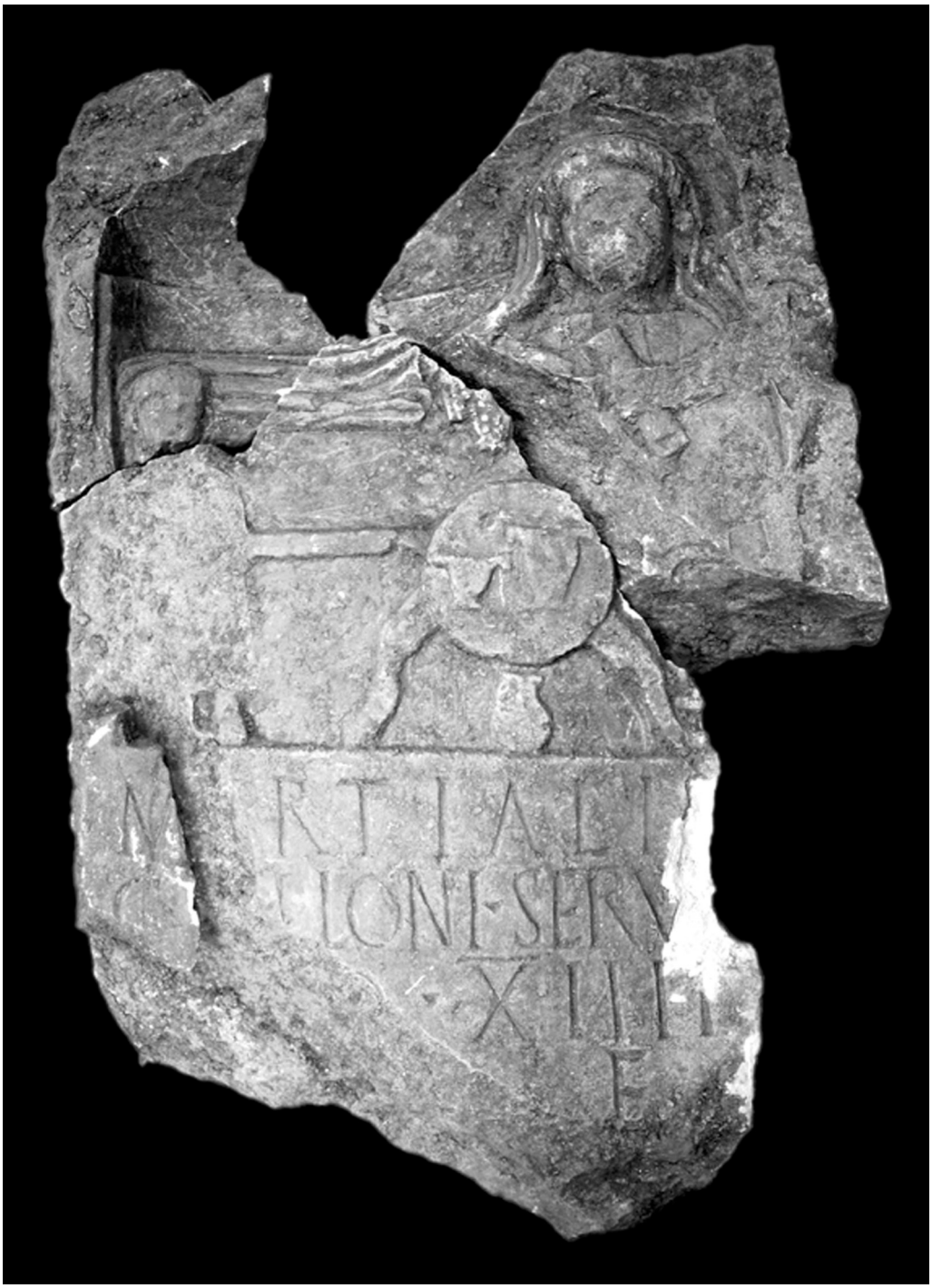


FIG. 2. Gloucester, tombstone (No. 2). Width: 0.59 m.
(*Photo: Oxford Archaeology*)

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3. Ibid. (FIG. 3). Rectangular tombstone of oolitic limestone, originally 0.51 by at least 1.00 m, up to 0.11 m thick, found[9] in 2004 *c.* 10 m from the previous item (No. 2). The stone is incomplete but consists of two main pieces and fifteen smaller ones, as well as minor fragments. The front of the tombstone carries a recess within a plain border, and this area is further subdivided into two panels. In the upper panel is the bust of the deceased, the top of the recess being carried up over his head in the form of an arch. He has projecting ears and hair brushed forward, and beneath his chin is a knot from which emanate two horizontal ends.[10] Below and surrounded by its own plain border, is a larger panel on which is cut a five-line inscription: L ▵ OCTAVI | L ▵ POL | MARTIALIS | EPOREDIA | M ▵ LEG XX, *L(uci) Octavi | L(uci fili) Pol(lia tribu) | Martialis | Eporedia | m(ilitis) leg(ionis) XX*. '(To the Shades of the Dead and) of Lucius Octavius Martialis, son of Lucius, of the Pollian voting-tribe, from Eporedia, soldier of the Twentieth Legion.'[11]

[9] During a watching-brief.

[10] It acts as a divider, but was perhaps meant to represent an amulet-thong. The soldier's face, with its jug-ears and fringe, is Claudio-Neronian in style: Favonius Facilis (*RIB* 200) is the classic example in Britain.

[11] This is the first tombstone of a serving soldier of Legion XX from Gloucester, except for *RIB* 122 (Wotton, north-east of Gloucester), which however is incomplete and now lost. A veteran is also attested, in *Britannia* 15 (1984), 333, No. 1, with *Britannia* 17 (1986), 454 corrigendum (e).

The legion is likely to have been stationed at Gloucester on two separate occasions: first during A.D. 48–57 at Kingsholm, and second during A.D. 67–75 at the (later) *colonia* site, before its transfer to Wroxeter and eventually to Chester: see Hassall in R.J. Brewer (ed.), *Roman Fortresses and their Legions* (2000), esp. 61–4, and in Y. le Bohec (ed.), *Les Légions de Rome sous le Haut-Empire* (2000), 441–57. It also constructed defences at Gloucester (see *Britannia* 17 (1986), 429, No. 3), either those of the *colonia* (thus Hassall) or of a late first-century legionary fortress (thus Hurst in H. Hurst (ed.), *The Coloniae of Roman Britain* (1999) [*Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplementary Series* No. 36], 181–9).

The location of the tombstone is appropriate either to Kingsholm or the (later) *colonia* site, but Kingsholm is closer, and this suits its very early date. This can be deduced stylistically (see previous note) and from the formulation: there is no *Dis Manibus*, and the name of the deceased is in the genitive case. This unusual combination is found in the epitaph of Favonius Facilis (*RIB* 200, where the expansion *Favoni(us)* is unwarranted), and in the epitaphs of two serving legionaries at Lincoln, when the Ninth legion was still based there (*RIB* 256, where the genitive case is unambiguous, and *RIB* 254). This genitive probably represents an ellipse of *Dis Manibus*, which is explicit in the almost contemporary but more sophisticated tombstone of Julius Classicianus (*RIB* 12), whose name is also in the genitive case.

As apparently in *RIB* 122, the legion lacks its cognomina *V(aleria) V(ictrix)*, but this has little bearing on the question of whether it gained them in A.D. 61 or 83 (compare Tomlin in *Britannia* 23 (1992), 154–8), since the tombstone is probably earlier than 61. More surprising is the omission of the age of the deceased and his years of service, and perhaps of a concluding formula like *h(ic) s(itus) e(st)*. In line 2, F for *f(ili)* is also omitted; this also is unusual, but for another example, see the next item (No. 4, Alchester).

Eporedia in Italia Transpadana, modern Ivrea north of Turin, is noted by G. Forni, *Il Reclutamento delle Legioni da Augusto a Diocleziano* (1953), 162 and 171, as the origin of four legionaries in the period from Augustus to Nero; to them may be added a fifth (*AE* 1966, 466) and a military tribune (*CIL* iii 2711). These and other inscriptions show that it was enrolled in the *Pollia* voting-tribe: earlier references are collected by de Ruggiero, *Dizionario Epigraphico* 2, s.v. *Eporedia*, 2139, col. 2.

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FIG. 3. Gloucester, tombstone (No. 3). Width: 0.51 m.
(*Photo: Oxford Archaeology*)

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4. **Alchester** (SP 570 203), Oxfordshire. Twenty conjoining fragments of a gabled limestone tombstone, overall 645 by 1360 mm, 170 mm thick, found[12] in 2003 re-used in the foundations of the wall of the Roman town just north of the west gate. Inscribed within a panel below the gable: DIS MANIBVS | L ᐞ VAL ᐞ L ᐞ POL ᐞ GEMI|NVS ᐞ FOR ᐞ GERM | VET ᐞ LEG [ᐞ I]I AVG | AN[ᐞ] L H ᐞ S ᐞ E | H E ᐞ C ᐞ | E T, *Dis Manibus* | *L(ucius) Val(erius) L(uci filius) Pol(lia tribu) Gemi|nus For(o) Germ(anorum)* | *vet(eranus) leg(ionis) [I]I Aug(ustae)* | *an(norum) L h(ic) s(itus) e(st)* | *he(res) c(uravit)* | *e(x) t(estamento)*. 'To the Shades of the Dead. Lucius Valerius Geminus, son of Lucius, of the Pollian voting-tribe, from Forum Germanorum, veteran of the Second Legion Augusta, aged 50, lies here. His heir saw to this in accordance with his will.'[13]

5. Ibid. Fragment of a limestone slab, 230 by 95 mm, up to 60 mm thick, found in 2003 near the previous item (No. 4). Inscribed below a plain moulded border: D […] | […]. Probably *D(is) [M(anibus)]* | *[...]*, 'To the Shades of the Dead …'

6. **Chester** (*Deva*, SJ 39300 62860), Chester Business Park, Wrexham Road. Fragment of a slate inscription, 85 by 65 mm, 20 mm thick, found[14] in 2003 in a layer of sandy silt above the remains of a ruined Roman building. Only two lines of the inscription survive, cut in monumental capitals: [...]A[... | ...]V[...].[15]

[12] With the next item during excavation by the Institute of Archaeology, Oxford University, and the School of Archaeology and Ancient History, Leicester University, directed by Eberhard Sauer. They are published by him above, pp. 101–33. For a well-illustrated interim report, see his 'Alchester: in search of Vespasian', in *Current Archaeology* 196 (March/April 2005), 168–76.

[13] For a full commentary, see above, pp. 101–33.

[14] During excavation by Network Archaeology directed by Gerry Martin, with Martin Lightfoot as project director. Full information from Ms Gillian Dunn of the Chester Archaeological Service, Grosvenor Museum, who made it available to MWCH.

[15] In line 1, only the first serif of A remains, and in 2 only the top of the two strokes of V. This second letter might be the top of X rather than V. It is also possible that the fragment should be inverted, but the reading would be the same, save that it would be the bottom of A (line 1) and the right-hand serif of V (line 2) which would survive. In this case, the first letter might also be X. If the letter with two strokes is A or V, it would be *c.* 57 mm tall; but if X, it would be *c.* 90 mm.

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7. **Heronbridge** (SJ 4105 6350), on the west bank of the River Dee *c*. 2 km south of Chester (FIG. 4). Part of a red sandstone tombstone, 0.52 by 0.54 m, 0.12 m thick, found[16] in 2004 in a sub-Roman cemetery.[17] It is smoothly dressed on the back and preserves the lower part of a funerary banqueting scene, the various elements of which have been produced by roughly pecking back the surface of the stone surrounding them. These include the couch on which the figure of the deceased will have reclined, and the adjacent tripod table. Below the banqueting scene, a recessed panel has been lightly pecked into the stone for an inscription, of which the first two lines and part of the third survive: D M | IVSTΛ DO *vacat* | ..T̤I̤ ᐞ ..... , *D(is) M(anibus) Iusta Do|[na]ti* ... 'To the Shades of the Dead. Iusta (wife) of Donatus ...'[18]



FIG. 4. Heronbridge, tombstone (No. 7). Width: 0.52 m.
(Photo: Grosvenor Museum, Chester)

[16] During excavation by Chester Archeological Society, directed by David Mason, who has published a preliminary account in *The Past Uncovered: Four-monthly Newsletter of Chester Archaeology*, February 2005, 1–2. It was made available by Chester Archaeological Service and the Grosvenor Museum, Chester, where Dan Robinson discussed it with MWCH. See above, pp. 422–3.

[17] Mason (see previous note) argues that it is almost certainly to be associated with the Battle of Chester (*c*. A.D. 613), at which Aethelfrith of Northumbria defeated the forces of Gwynedd and Powys.

[18] The inscription would have been five or six lines long. In 1, there is a possible trace of S for *D(is) M(anibus) S(acrum)*, but the letter would have to be very narrow. In 3, the first letter after the medial point is apparently B, P or R, perhaps followed by II, which suggests a phrase like *piissima uxor*. The cognomen *Donatus* is quite common, but it does occur on another tombstone from Chester (*RIB* 523).

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8. **Chesters** (*Cilurnum*, NY 913 700), Northumberland (FIG. 5). Fragment of a buff sandstone slab, 0.32 by 0.48 m, 0.21 m thick, found[19] in 2004. The bottom edge is original, and it includes a plain double-moulding 70 mm wide, indicating that the inscribed panel was recessed. This would have measured *c*. 0.60 m (or more) by 0.44 m, to judge by the surviving text, part of seven lines, in letters rather narrow for their height (55 mm). In line 1, only their bottoms survive, but from the content it can be deduced that this was the original first line. The width can be calculated from the restoration of lines 1 and 7.[20] In the bottom edge there is part of a socket 55 mm deep, indicating that the slab was intended for insertion into a masonry structure. The inscribed face is damaged and very worn: [...]ṂDOL[...] | [...]AVG ▵ SAC[...] | [...]A̤C̣ENTA̤[...] | [...]MṂA̤CHAR̤[...] | [...]TEMPLI̤[...] | [...]NSTITVERO̤Ṃ[...] | [...]MOETAQ̣VI[...], perhaps *[I(ovi) O(ptimo)] M(aximo) Dol[icheno] | [Sal(uti)] Aug(ustae) sac[rum ...] | [...]ACENTA[...] | [sy]mmachar[...] | [...] templi [...] | [co]nstituer(unt) OM[...] | [Maxi]mo et Aqui[lino co(n)s(ulibus)]*. 'Sacred to Jupiter Dolichenus Best (and) Greatest (and) to Salus Augusta ... *symmacharii* ... established ... of the temple, in the consulship of Maximus and Aquilinus.' (A.D. 286.)[21]

[19] In the bed of the river North Tyne, just downstream from the bath-house. The landowner, Mr George Benson, presented it to the Trustees of the Clayton Collection, who have placed it on display in Chesters Museum, where Georgina Plowright made it available. She and RSOT have contributed a brief report, 'A new inscription from Chesters', to *Archaeology in Northumberland* 15 (2005), 50, with photographs.

[20] Line 7 is clearly a consular date, and A.D. 286 is the only year in which an Aquilinus was the colleague of [...]mus; it was actually the second consulship of Marcus Iunius Maximus, but the numeral of iteration has been omitted, perhaps for reasons of space (see below). Their consulship gives the approximate width, showing that DOLICHENO belongs entirely to 1. But [I O] M DOL[ICHENO], unless it was generously spaced (and there is no sign that it was), would require only *c*. 0.60 m, rather less than [MAXI]MO ET AQVI[LINO COS] in 7. It follows that 7 was compressed, perhaps by ligaturing 'MA', 'NO' and 'CoS': compression is already implied by the surviving ligature 'MO'. This line-width of *c*. 0.60 m also suits the restoration of [SAL] in 2, [SY] in 4, and [CO] in 6: see next note.

[21] For the restoration of 1 and 7, see previous note. In 2, three letters seem to have been lost between DOLICHENO and AVG. Although *Augustus* occurs as an epithet of Dolichenus (compare *AE* 1999, 1784, *Iovi Optimo Maximo Dolicheno Aug(usto) sacr(um)*), an extra intervening epithet is most unlikely. There is no room either for [PRO SAL] AVG (compare *RIB* 1452, also from Chesters), which any way is precluded by SAC. But a secondary dedication to *Salus Augusta* is quite possible: compare *AE* 1988, 937, [I] O M DOLICHENO [S]AL AVG, and note that the deities are coupled in *RIB* 1131 (Corbridge). The next word, *sacrum*, may have been abbreviated. Nothing can be made of 3, which may have contained the dedicators' names: note the plural verb in 6. The second surviving letter is either C or G. Line 4 might contain two feminine names, *[...]ma Char[is]*, but a more attractive possibility is the rare word [SY]MMACHAR[II ...] or [SY]MMACHAR[ORVM]. Little is known of the *symmacharii* ('allied troops'), but the only literary reference, ps.Hyginus, *liber de munitionibus castrorum* 29, implies that it was a collective term for irregular units of un-Roman type. The only epigraphic evidence is *AE* 1935, 12 (Ujo in Asturia), the career of Gaius Sulpicius Ursulus, whose first command was *praefectus symmachiariorum Asturum belli Dacici*. (For a brief discussion after Dobson, see E. Birley, *Mavors* IV, 389.) As it happens, the third-century garrison of Chesters was the *ala II Asturum*, and possibly it was reinforced by a draft from the original recruitment-area, but this can only be a guess. In line 5, the letter after TEMPL is almost lost, but the traces exclude V (for *templum*), and make A unlikely. The genitive case suggests a reference to the fittings of a temple, *ornamenta omnia*, or similar. In 6, the verb must be *[co]nstituer(unt)*, not *[i]nstituer(unt)*, for reasons of space. *[re]stituer(unt)* might have been expected here, but the letter before S is N, not E. The next word might be a case of *omnis*, but OM[NIA] is rather short for the space available; OM[NIBVS] would fit quite well.

The consular date is the latest on an inscription from Roman Britain (see the Index to *RIB*, 31–32, where *RIB* 180 must be earlier), and this stone is apparently the latest military evidence of the cult of Jupiter Dolichenus (compare M.P. Speidel, *The Religion of Jupiter Dolichenus in the Roman Army* (1978), esp. 72–5). The cult did survive into the fourth century, but it was fatally compromised when the god failed to protect his own cult-centre from the Persians in A.D. 253 or 256. At Chesters it is already attested by *RIB* 1452 (where line 1 surely reads DOL[ICHENO] and GAL in 3 should be expanded as *Gal(eria tribu)*) and by a statue-base matching the statue of his consort Juno Regina (*CSIR* I.6, Nos 118 and 117 respectively); these imply quite a substantial temple, whose existence is now explicit.

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FIG. 5 (a). Chesters, fragment of an inscribed slab (No. 8). Width: 0.32 m. (*Photo: English Heritage*)

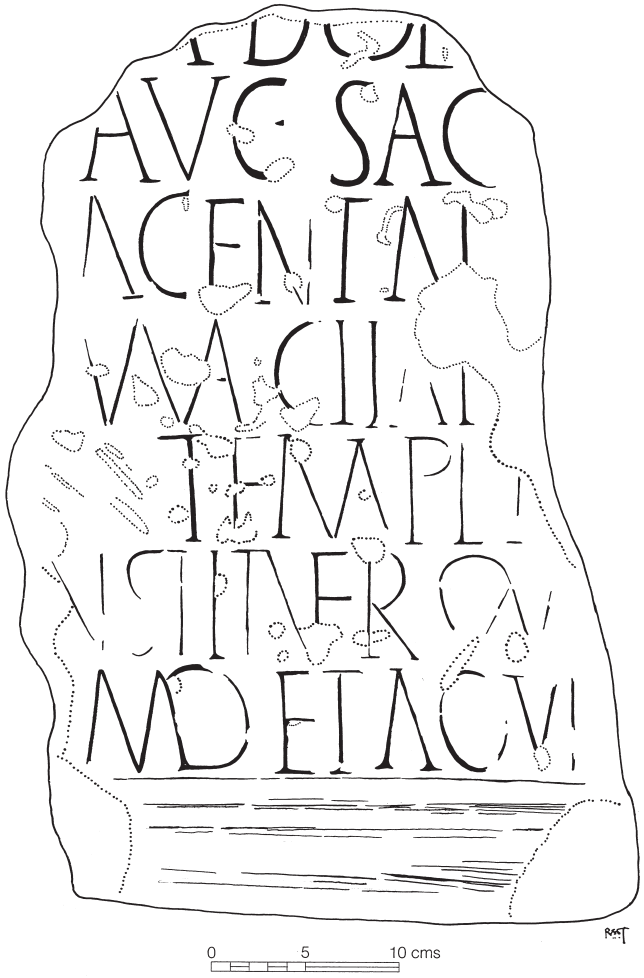


FIG. 5 (b). Chesters, fragment of an inscribed slab (No. 8). Scale 1:4. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

9. **Hadrian's Wall**, unknown provenance. Buff sandstone building-stone, 0.24 by 0.18 m, 0.39 m deep, found[22] in 1956 or earlier. A recessed ansate panel has been incised on the face with a pick, and, within it, crudely-formed letters now very worn: 7ḌVḌ|IΛNΛ, *(centuria) Cud|iana*. 'The century formerly of Cudius(?) (built this).'[23]

10. **Scottish Borders**, unknown provenance but possibly Risingham.[24] Small grey sandstone altar, 123 mm (at base) by 240 mm, found in unknown circumstances but removed to Abbotsford (NT 508 342) during 1812–32, where it remains.[25] The front of the capital is lost, but most of the recessed die (100 mm wide) and the plain stepped base survive. Inscribed on the die: [.]RVBRIV[S] | SVCCESSV[.] | NYMPHABVS | V ◦ S ◦ L ◦ M ◦ , *[.] Rubrius Successu[s] Nymphis v(otum) s(olvit) l(ibens) m(erito)*. '[…us] Rubrius Successus paid his vow to the Nymphs, willingly, deservedly.'[26]

11. **Langwathby** (NY 54 30), Cumbria [Westmorland], *c*. 2 km north-north-east of Brougham Castle (*Brocavum*) (FIG. 6). Upper half (or possibly one-third) of a near-cylindrical milestone, 850 mm high and *c*. 450 mm in diameter, cut from yellowish sandstone, not the local red sandstone, found[27] in 1993. The inscribed surface, *c*. 500 by 450 mm, was flattened before cutting the seven lines of text: IMP ▵ CAES ▵ M ▵ AVR ▵ | SEV ▵ ALEXANDRO | P ▵ F ▵ AVG ▵ PONT ▵ | MAX ▵ TR ▵ P ▵ II ▵ COS ▵ | PCOS ▵ P ▵ P ▵ C ▵ CAR ▵ | LVG ▵ M ▵ P ▵ | XVIIII, *imp(eratori) Caes(ari) M(arco) Aur(elio) | Sev(ero) Alexandro | p(io) f(elici) Aug(usto) pont(ifici)| max(imo) tr(ibunicia) p(otestate) II co(n)s(uli) | p(ro)co(n)s(uli) p(atri) p(atriae) c(ivitas) Car(vetiorum) | Lug(uvalio) m(ilia) p(assuum) | XVIIII*. 'For the Emperor Caesar Marcus Aurelius Severus Alexander Pius Felix Augustus, pontifex maximus, in his second year of tribunician power, consul, proconsul, father of his country, the Community of the Carvetii (set this up). From Carlisle, 19 miles.' (10 Dec. 222–9 Dec. 223.)[28]

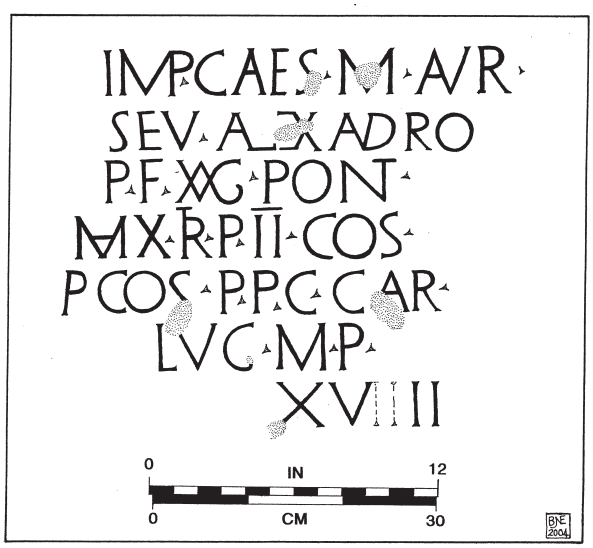


FIG. 6. Langwathby, milestone (No. 11). Scale 1:8. (*Drawn by B.J.N. Edwards*)

[22] In unknown circumstances. It is stored (acc. no. 1956.427) in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne, where Lindsay Allason-Jones made it available.

[23] The adjectival form of the centurion's name indicates that his command was now vacant. The first letter is C or G, followed by what might be cursive LI, but which is more acceptable as cursive V. The other letters are also damaged, but their reading is fairly certain. The cognomen is attested both as *Cuda* (*CIL* v 2708) and the derived

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B. INSTRUMENTUM DOMESTICUM

AVON [GLOUCESTERSHIRE]

12. **Hawkesbury** (ST 7447 8822), Lower Woods Lodge (FIG. 7). Fragmentary mosaic pavement found[29] in 2003 and 2004 in the south-east pavilion of the Roman villa. The border consists of coarse tesserae of brownish-purplish pennant stone, in which are letters *c*. 300 mm high formed by coarse white tesserae: [...]REGI̯[2-3]S̱ | V[...].[30]

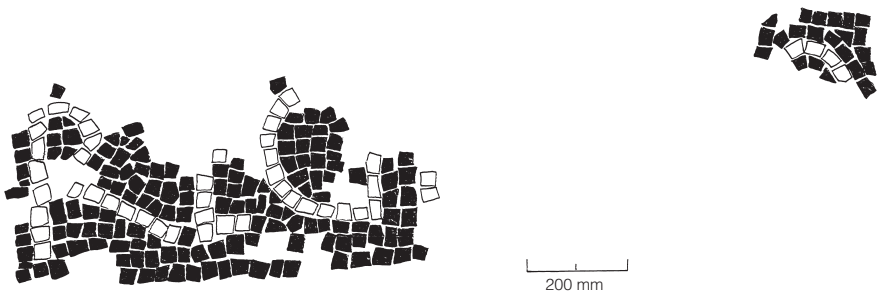


FIG. 7. Hawkesbury, mosaic inscription (No. 12). Scale 1:16.
(Drawn by Stephen Cosh)

Cudius (in the genitive *Cudi*, a samian potter, whose name can be deduced from the feminine form *Cudia* in *CIL* x 6447).

[24] See further, next note. Scott collected local antiquities including *RIB* 2216, and was especially interested in the rock-cut figure 'Rob of Risingham' and its destruction. An altar (*RIB* 1228) dedicated to the Nymphs was found at a spring near Risingham in 1825.

[25] Information from Colin Wallace, who sent a slide taken by Trevor Cowie. They were not able to establish provenance, but for Scott as an archaeologist and collector see H. Cheape, T. Cowie and C. Wallace, 'Sir Walter Scott, the Abbotsford collection and the National Museums of Scotland', in I.G. Brown (ed.), *Abbotsford and Sir Walter Scott: The Image and the Influence* (2003), 49–89.

[26] The photograph (see previous note) makes it almost certain that there were only four lines, and this is confirmed by the text itself. To the left of RVBRIVS there must have been an abbreviated praenomen. The dedicator is otherwise unknown.

[27] By the landowner, in whose possession it remains. It is fully published with commentary by B.J.N. Edwards and D.C.A. Shotter, 'Two Roman milestones from the Penrith area', in *Cumb. Westm. Antiq. and Arch. Soc. Transactions* 105 (2005), forthcoming. We are indebted to the authors for a copy of their paper and other information.

[28] Except for the insertion of PCOS, the Emperor's name and titles are identical to those of the Cawfields milestone (*RIB* 2306) of the same year. It is the first milestone to measure the distance explicitly from Carlisle, although this can be inferred for *RIB* 2283, and the second to be erected by the *civitas Carvetiorum*; the other is *JRS* 55 (1965), 224, No. 11, found nearby at Frenchfield, Brougham Castle, and dating to Postumus (A.D. 259–68). The *civitas* is also attested by the tombstone *RIB* 933 (Old Penrith), but since this is undated, the Langwathby milestone is now its earliest attestation.

[29] During excavation by Grumbalds Ash Archaeology, directed by Rebecca Ireland and Andrew Jackson. Stephen Cosh sent a copy of the notice in *Mosaic* 31 (2004), 4–5, and his own drawing of the inscription which he recognized in 2004.

[30] The inscription was meant to be read by standing in the room, and looking towards the walls; the surviving portion belongs to one corner, the two lines being at right-angles. Thus REGI[..]S is likely to be a word-ending, possibly the name *Regi[nu]s*, but there are other possibilities, e.g. *regi[bu]s*. The letters are too bold to be a mosaicist's signature, but may record the person(s) who commissioned the mosaic: compare *RIB* II.4, 2448.9 (Thruxton).

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE

13. Unknown provenance, but said to be a Roman villa in Cambridgeshire (FIG. 8). Two fragments of tile (*tegula*) found in *c*. 2004, each bearing an impressed stamp: DIVTICA.[31]

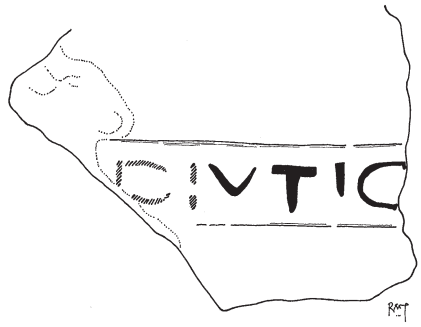


FIG. 8. Cambridgeshire(?), tile-stamp (No. 13). Scale 1:2.
(*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin from a photograph*)

14. **Stonea** (TL 450 930), Grange Farm. Third-century copper-alloy finger-ring, found[32] unstratified in *c*. 1960/80. Engraved on the bezel: M̄ER, *Mer(curio)*, 'To Mercury'.

15. Ibid. Complete *stilus* writing-tablet of ash, 162 by 99 mm, found[33] in 1980/84. The wood retains traces of about fifteen lines of incised writing, but they have not been deciphered.

16. Ibid. (FIG. 9). Substantially complete amphora 'of unparalleled form', with two graffiti scratched after firing.[34] (i) Below one handle: PXI | PPXXXIII, *p(ondo libras) XI* | *p(lena) p(ondo libras) XXXIII*. 'Weight 11 pounds; weight full, 33 pounds.'[35] (ii) Between the handles: VIIRI, *Veri*. '(Property) of Verus'.[36]

[31] Guy de la Bédoyère sent information from the vendor, the dealer Keith Lloyd in Ipswich, who gave his own reading of a complete impression. No photograph of this was available, but FIG. 8 has been drawn from a photograph of the other, an incomplete impression which reads: [...]DIVTIC[...]. The legend, which is otherwise unknown (compare *RIB* II.5, 2489), is presumably a place-name or the name of a tile-maker.

[32] By a metal-detectorist. See R.P.J. Jackson and T.W. Potter, *Excavations at Stonea, Cambridgeshire, 1980–85* (1996), 332, No. 17 with fig. 104. Another ring (ibid., 332, No. 19) may also be inscribed: SC.

[33] With the next four items during excavation. (We omit nine minor graffiti, including one on wall-plaster.) The writing-tablet is Jackson and Potter (see above, n. 32), 544, No. 1, with fig. 204 and pl. XXIX. Parts of three other tablets, also of ash, were found.

[34] Jackson and Potter (see above, n. 32), 491, No. 8 with 437, fig. 150, No. 22. The cross-hatching also shown in the published drawing (see above, FIG. 9) may be an earlier ownership-graffito deleted.

[35] The actual weight is 3360.6 gm, and the estimated weight, if complete, would be about 3400 gm. The equivalent in Roman pounds (*libras*) of 327.45 gm is 10.37.

[36] Potter (see above, n. 34) reads VORII, but there is no such name, whereas *Verus* is very common. In FIG. 9 it looks as if II was scratched with two curving strokes which do not meet, and the final I is a single down-stroke with some damage to the left.

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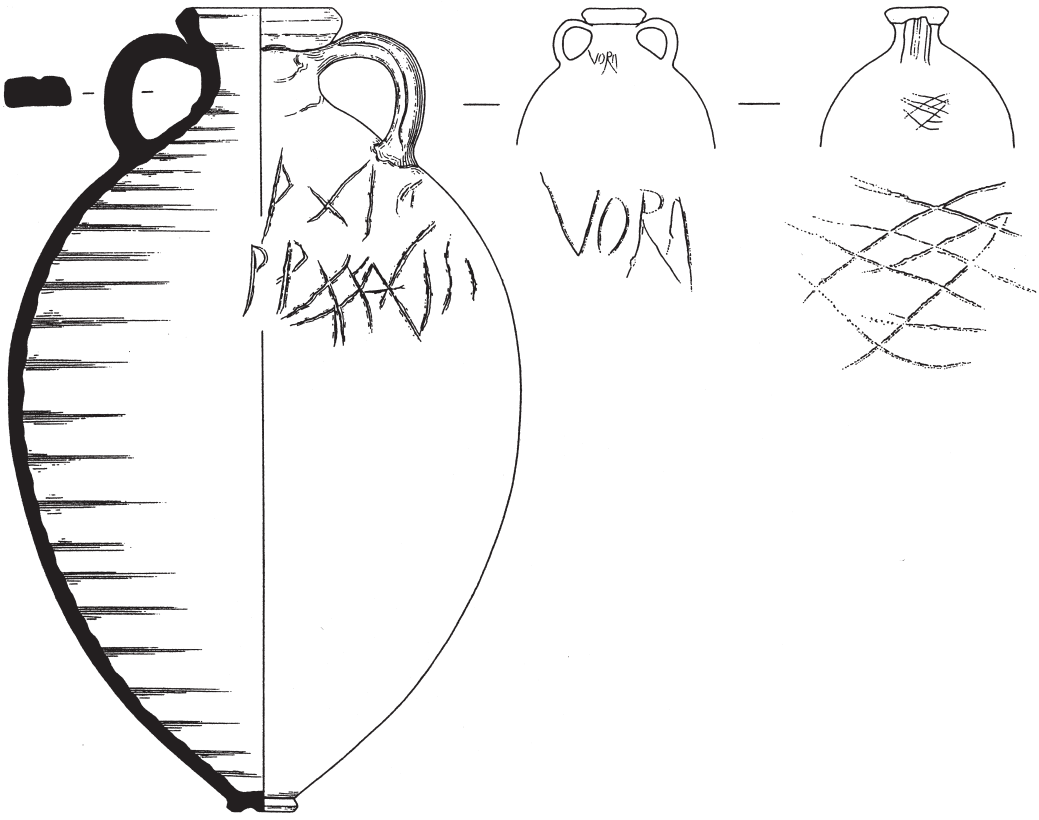


FIG. 9. Stonea, amphora graffiti (No. 16). Scale (main drawing) 1:4.
(*Potter and Jackson, Stonea, fig. 150.22*)

17. Ibid. Ridged tile (*imbrex*), incised before firing: CC[…], '200 (or more)'.[37]

18. Ibid. (FIG. 10). Building-tile, incised on the side before firing: CCLVIII, '258'.[38]

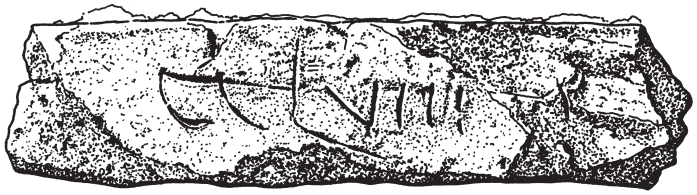


FIG. 10. Stonea, tile graffito (No. 18). Scale 1:2.
(*Potter and Jackson, Stonea, fig. 179.4*)

[37] Jackson and Potter (see above, n. 32), 491, No. 1. This and the next item were presumably batch-totals.
[38] Jackson and Potter (see above, n. 32), 491, No. 4. There are five other numerals(?) incised on tiles, all fragmentary (ibid., 491).

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19. Ibid. (FIG. 11). Incised after firing below the rim of a London-type bowl: MVA.[39]

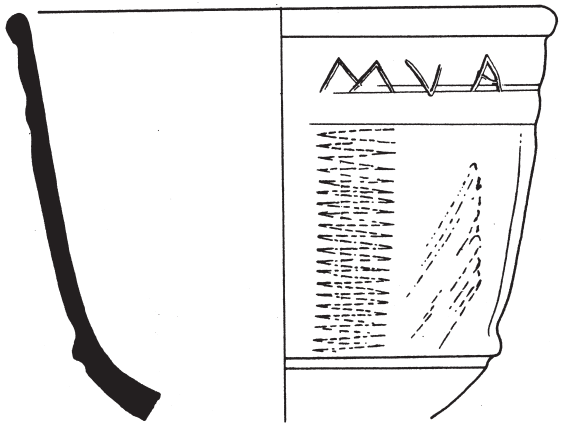


FIG. 11. Stonea, graffito on a bowl (No. 19). Scale 1:2.
(*Potter and Jackson, Stonea, fig. 180.17*)

CHESHIRE

20. **Middlewich** (*Salinae*, SJ 703 665), east of King Street. Rectangular fragment of a cast-lead sheet from a brine-pan, *c*. 0.60 by 0.33 m, found[40] in 1997. Parallel with the folded edge which formed the rim, there is an inscription cast in low relief: [...]ḶVTΛMI, probably *[C]lutami*. '(Property) of Clutamus.'[41]

CUMBRIA

21. **Carlisle** (*Luguvalium*, NY 404 553), Scotch Street (FIG. 12). Conjoining sherds amounting to more than half a samian bowl (Drag. 31R, stamped by Uxopillus of Lezoux, *c*. A.D. 160–80) found[42] in 2003 in a late second-century context. Scratched underneath after firing, concentrically within the foot-ring, are four ownership-graffiti now incomplete. Clockwise from the top of FIG. 12. (i) The lower portion of *c*. 7–8 letters, subsequently erased. (ii) In neat letters: MA[.], probably *Ma[.](...)*.[43] (iii) […].STIVI.[44] (iv) ḶΛVIIṚ.[45]

[39] Probably the three initials of the owner's *tria nomina*, i.e. *M(arcus) V(...) A(...)*. The most likely nomen is *Valerius*. For CVA, LVA, QVA, and TVA, see *RIB* II Index, 18.

[40] By a metal-detectorist: see Penney and Shotter in M. Nevell and A.P. Fielding (eds), *Brine in Britannia* (2005), 23 and 42, fig. 2 (a reference we owe to Sheppard Frere). For other inscribed brine-pans from Cheshire, see *RIB* II.2, 2416.2, 3, 5, 6; *Britannia* 29 (1998), 436–7, Nos 11 and 12.

[41] The angle between the strokes of L is acute, but no other letter is likely. To the left of it, the edge is broken, but the photograph indicates folded metal which might mask the tip of C. **Lutamus* is unattested, but the name *Clutamus* (a Celtic superlative meaning 'very famous') is found in Spain (*CIL* ii 2584, 2633) and as the patronymic of a cavalry officer likely to be Spanish in origin (*CIL* iii 2016).

[42] During excavation by North Pennines Archaeology for Leader Construction, directed by Frank Giecco, who made them available (context 487, s.f. 273). They will go to Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

[43] There is only space for one letter before graffito (iii), so (ii) was probably a personal name abbreviated to its first three letters, for example MAR for *Martialis* (*RIB* II.7, 2501.322–325, 332).

[44] This graffito overlies two unrelated scratches; the third, a 'descender' from S, is only a slip. Almost the only possible names are *Aestivus* and *Festivus*, but the incomplete letter before S cannot be E; it looks more like X or possibly A.

[45] Perhaps an abbreviation of *tria nomina* formed like *RIB* 1445, *L(uci) A(.) Fani*. Names incorporating the Celtic name-element **vero*- are popular in Britain, and may be abbreviated to VIIR (*RIB* II.7, 2501.584).

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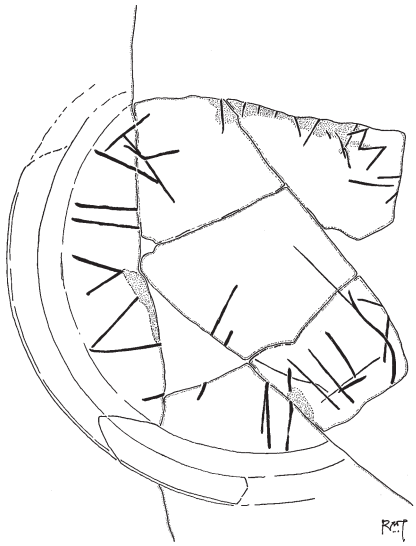


FIG. 12. Carlisle, samian graffiti (No. 21). Scale 1:2. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

22. **Papcastle** (*Derventio*, NY 1103 3146) Roman fort *vicus* (FIG. 13). Six oval leaden sealings of the *ala I Tungrorum* were found[46] unstratified in 2004. The first [B104, sf 39], 26 by 19 mm, is quite legible, and enables the other obverse inscriptions to be read. It reads, obverse: ALÈ TV|NG, *al(a)e Tung(rorum)*. Reverse: OLVṢ | ∗Ḍ∗, *Olus d(ecurio)*.[47]

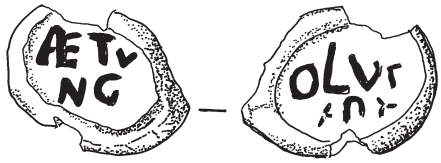


FIG. 13. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 22). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

23. Ibid. (FIG. 14). Left-hand half of a sealing [B105, sf 56], 18 by 10 mm, broken by the vertical cord. Obverse: ALÈ [TV]|N̤[G]. Reverse: […]AS | […]S̤.



FIG. 14. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 23). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

[46] During excavation by the North Pennine Heritage Trust, directed by Frank Giecco. A seventh sealing (B104, sf 51) was illegible. Ian Caruana provided full descriptions with drawings and commentary. These are the first sealings of the *ala* to be found, which is already attested in Britain by diplomas (see *Britannia* 25 (1994), 44) but only by one inscription, *RIB* 2140 at Mumrills in the Antonine period. The sealings are unstratified, but the pottery from the excavation was predominantly third-century (information from L. Hird), so it is likely that the *ala* was then stationed at Papcastle.

[47] *Olus* is a doublet of the praenomen *Aulus*; see for example *CIL* iv 2353, *Aulus Olo suo salutem* (quoted by V. Väänänen, *Introduction au Latin Vulgaire* (1981), 39), and *Britannia* 8 (1977), 426, No. 4, dedicated by *Ol(us) Cor[nel(ius)] Candid(us)*. Here it is presumably the decurion's cognomen.

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24. Ibid. (FIG. 15). Sealing [B105, sf 54], 29 by 22 mm. Obverse: ALE TV|NG. Reverse: ASP | ∗D, probably *Asp(er) d(ecurio)*.[48]

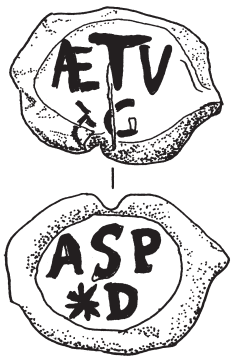


FIG. 15. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 24). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

25. Ibid. (FIG. 16). Sealing [B105, sf 55 and 57], 25 by 18 mm, broken into two by the vertical cord. Obverse: ALE TV|NG. Reverse: MA[…] | ∗[…].[49]

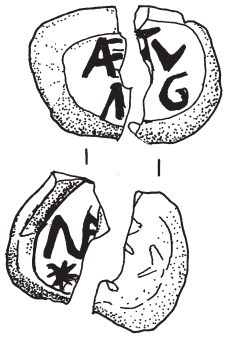


FIG. 16. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 25). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

26. Ibid. (FIG. 17). Sealing [B129], 24 by 10 mm. Obverse (obscured by corrosion): ALE TV|NG. Reverse: ASP | ∗D, probably *Asp(er) d(ecurio)*.[50]

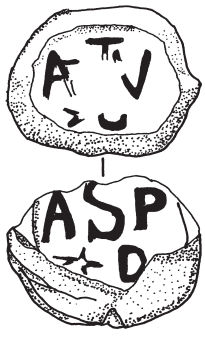


FIG. 17. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 26). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

48 The same officer as No. 26. The die is probably the same.
49 Evidently the decurion's abbreviated cognomen, perhaps MA[R] for *Ma[r(tialis)]*.
50 The same officer as No. 24. The die is probably the same.

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27. Ibid. (FIG. 18). Sealing [B104, sf 52], 20 by 16 mm, impressed on one face only with a rectangular die: AT̄T, *a(lae) I T(ungrorum)*.

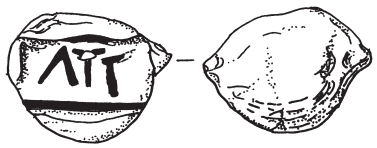


FIG. 18. Papcastle, lead sealing (No. 27). Scale 1:1. (*Drawn by Ian Caruana*)

ESSEX

28. **Colchester** (*Camulodunum*, TL 9930 2544), Sixth Form College site. Fine-ware body sherd in a reduced fabric oxidised on the surface and coated in cream slip, found[51] in 2003 in demolition material sealing a mosaic floor. Lightly incised in the slip: [...]ΛPICIΛ, *Apicia*.[52]

29. Ibid. Fragment of white-painted wall plaster found in 2003 in the same context. A graffito has been cut into the surface of the plaster: MΛRI[...], probably *Mari[nus]*.[53]

HERTFORDSHIRE

30. Near **Baldock** (TL 24 33). Hoard found[54] in 2002, comprising gold jewellery, a silver figurine and inscribed base, two silver model arms, and nineteen votive plaques, seven of gold and twelve of silver. The plaques are very similar in style to *RIB* 218 and 220 (Barkway), and most of them are inscribed. They are dedicated to the same deity as the silver base itself; on this, in letters formed by punched dots: ◦ D ◦ SENVNE FḶAVIA ◦ CVNORIS ◦ V ◦ S ◦ L ◦ M, *d(eae) Senun(a)e Flavia Cunoris v(otum) s(olvit) l(ibens) m(erito)*. 'To the goddess Senuna, Flavia Cunoris paid her vow, willingly, deservedly.'[55]

51 With the next item during excavation by Colchester Archaeological Trust for Roff Marsh Partnership on behalf of the Sixth Form College, directed by Ben Holloway, who provided details of both items.

52 This is a (feminine) nomen, but there is no other possibility in Mócsy, *Nomenclator*; six of his examples come from Gallia Narbonensis, and three from Italy.

53 There are other possibilities, for example *Mari[anus]* (compare item No. 42 below) and *Mari[nianus]* (compare *CIL* vi 3279, *natione Britanicianus*).

54 By a metal-detectorist who informed Gil Burleigh, the local archaeological adviser to the Coroner. The hoard was declared Treasure in 2003 and was acquired by the British Museum, where it is now on display; here Ralph Jackson made it available to RSOT. When the subsequent series of excavations directed by Mr Burleigh has come to an end, and the plaques have all been cleaned, there will be an interim account of the inscriptions in these pages. Meanwhile there is a brief report by Ralph Jackson in *Instrumentum* 20 (Dec. 2004), 10, and another by RSOT in the forthcoming Proceedings of the second international Instrumentum Domesticum conference at Klagenfurt (May 2005). We have discussed the names with Patrick Sims-Williams.

55 *Senuna* is once attested as a personal name (*RIB* II.7, 501.505), but the goddess was hitherto unknown; she can now be recognized in *RIB* II.3, 2422.33 (see below, Addenda et Corrigenda (a)). Her name is apparently compounded from the adjective **seno*- ('old'), a frequent name-element, and the suffix *-una*, the latter found (for example) in the British river-name *Ituna*. The plaques, but not the figurine, give her the visual attributes of Minerva, like the spring-goddess Sulis Minerva. Since there are springs near the find-spot, it is tempting therefore to associate her with the south-British river whose name is transmitted by the Ravenna Cosmography (108.40) as *Senua*.

Cunoris is presumably a variant of **Cunorix*, compounded from the well-attested elements, **cuno*- ('hound') and **rix* ('king'); *-rix* names are sometimes borne by women.

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LONDON

31. **The City** (*Londinium*, TQ 3192 8132), Newgate Triangle, Paternoster Square, a site bounded to the north by the main Roman road leading west from the city. The immediate context is the primary fill of an early pit perhaps associated with land-clearance and road-building. Copper-alloy rectangular name-tag or label, 62 by 17 mm, tapering in thickness from 3 mm (right) to 2 mm (left), found[56] in 2001. There is a round hole for attachment at each end, still containing traces of iron from a nail or pin. The surface is coated with copper corrosion-products which have obscured the lettering, but the whole is visible by X-ray. The inscription is neatly incised in well-formed capital letters: SVRI ◦ VITALIS | SIMILIS ◦ F, probably *(centuria) Suri Vitalis Similis f(ili)*, '(century) of Surus, (the property) of Vitalis, son of Similis'.[57]

GREATER MANCHESTER [LANCASHIRE]

32. **Manchester** (*Mamucium*, SJ 8346 9765) Deansgate, Beetham Hill, in the *vicus* of the Roman fort (FIG. 19). Wall sherd [(193) 70] of a samian bowl (Drag. 35/36 (CG), Antonine), found[58] in 2004. Scratched after firing: [...]F̣LAVIΛ[...], *Flavia [...]* or *[...] Flavia[nus]*.[59]

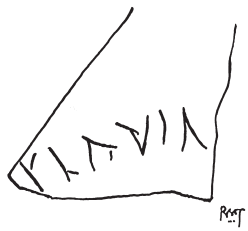


FIG. 19. Manchester, samian graffito (No. 32). Scale 1:2. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

33. Ibid. [(195) 75] (FIG. 20). Wall sherd with part of the rim and foot-ring of a samian bowl (Drag. 35 (CG), Hadrianic or Antonine), scratched on the wall after firing: [...]ṚỊVS, perhaps *[Ianua]rius*.[60]

56 During excavation by MoLAS supervised by Sadie Watson, for which see *Britannia* 33 (2002), 335–6. Jackie Keily provided information and made the tag, <468> from context NGT00 [185], available to RSOT.

57 L of *Similis* resembles inverted T. The cognomen *Surus* is much more common than the derived nomen *Surius* (they both have the genitive *Suri*), and a name 'Surius Vitalis, son of Similis' would be unlikely for other reasons. The sequence of three cognomina could be understood as *Suri (servi) Vitalis Similis f(ili)*, '(the property) of Surus, the slave of Vitalis son of Similis', but this again is unlikely, particularly since the cognomen *Surus* is not typical of slaves; it is widely distributed, especially in northern Italy, Noricum and Dalmatia. The label looks as if it were made for attachment to a piece of military equipment, and would have identified the owner as usual by name and century, in this case not legionary, but auxiliary. There is no trace of a centurial sign before SVRI, so this would be a rare instance of its omission (compare *RIB* 344 and *Britannia* 8 (1977), 433, No. 32). The name *Vitalis* is very common, but *Similis* is found especially in the Cologne area and the lower Rhineland, from which came much of the invading army.

58 With the next four items during excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology directed by Helen Clough (site supervisor) and Robin Taylor-Wilson (project manager). Jenny Proctor made the sherds available, and they were identified by Felicity Wild.

59 The first letter is now incomplete. The first A has a short diagonal 'cross-bar', but the second A is 'open'. It is uncertain whether the graffito consisted of a single word or not, but if so, it was probably the masculine cognomen *Flavianus*, in the nominative or genitive case.

60 Only the tip survives of R, and the first letter(s) might be N, but the angle formed by the two scratches (which do not meet) is rather too wide. An inverted reading SAN[...] cannot be excluded, but it looks unlikely. Many names end in *-rius*, but they are nomina which would be followed by a cognomen. A few, like *Valerius*, were sometimes used as cognomina; but much the commonest, in Britain at least, is *Ianuarius*: for other instances on samian, see *RIB* II.7, 2501.226–233.

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FIG. 20. Manchester, samian graffito (No. 33). Scale 1:2.
(*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

34. Ibid. [(200) 97] (FIG. 21). Two conjoining base sherds of a samian dish (Drag. 18/31 (CG), Antonine), now much abraded. There are two graffiti made after firing, which probably belong together. (i) Underneath, within the foot-ring: two lines intersecting in the centre at right-angles, a mark of identification. (ii) On the wall, above the foot-ring: four vertical strokes, probably IIII, '4'.

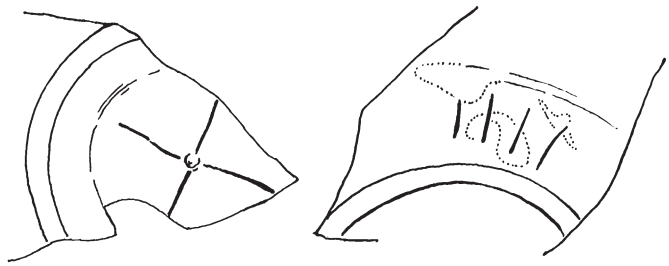


FIG. 21. Manchester, samian graffito (No. 34). Scale 1:2.
(*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

35. Ibid. [(200) 102] (FIG. 22). Rim sherd of a South-Spanish oil amphora (Dressel 20), comprising almost half the circumference. Scratched on the upper surface after firing: [...]VICTORIṢ VIIṢ, *Victoris VII s(emis)*. '(Property) of Victor, (capacity) 7½ (*modii*).'[61]



FIG. 22. Manchester, amphora graffito (No. 35). Scale 1:2.
(*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

61 VICTORI is quite deeply incised, but the rest of the graffito is badly abraded. Graffiti indicating capacity, usually from 7 to 8 *modii*, are quite frequent on Dressel 20.

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36. Ibid. [(221) 71] (FIG. 23). Rim sherd of a black-burnished (BB1) vessel. Scratched after firing below the rim in irregular capitals: [...]VRPILI[...], *[T]urpili [...]* or *[T]urpili[us ...]*, or *[T]urpili[anus]*.[62]



FIG. 23. Manchester, coarseware graffito (No. 36). Scale 1:2. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

NORTHUMBERLAND

Vindolanda (NY 768 663) west of the stone fort, in the *vicus* and the underlying pre-Hadrianic forts. The following graffiti were found[63] in 2003 and 2004, and are identified by their Chesterholm Museum small finds number in square brackets.

37. [9213] Silvered pewter dish, 97 mm in diameter, found in an early second-century context. Inscribed on the base: PIIRIIGRNI | 7 CΛN, *Peregr(i)ni (centuria) Can(didi)*, '(property) of Peregrinus, century of Candidus'.[64]

38. [9161] Part of the handle of a bronze *patera*, found in an early second-century context within a fort. Inscribed underneath in punched dots partly obscured by an ancient repair: […]ERIORIS[65]

39. [8598] Handle of a bronze *patera*, from an early second-century context within a fort. Inscribed in punched dots: BRO, probably *Bro(cchi)*, '(property) of Brocchus'.[66]

40. [9009] Hypocaust-column brick, 235 by 233 mm, 57 mm thick, found in the *caldarium* of the pre-Hadrianic military bath-house. Inscribed on the edge before firing: LIBIIRA, probably *Libera(lis)*.[67]

62 Either the nomen *Turpilius* in the genitive or nominative case, probably followed by a cognomen, or else the derived cognomen *Turpilianus*.

63 During excavation for the Vindolanda Trust directed by Andrew Birley and Justin Blake, which they have published as *Vindolanda: The Excavations of 2003/2004* (2005). The graffiti on pottery (Nos 41–70) were all made after firing. Robin Birley showed most of the graffiti to RSOT, who made his preliminary readings available to Anthony Birley, by whom the graffiti have been published with improvements and onomastic commentary (ibid., 94–103, with figs 138 and 139, cited below as 'Birley'). His sequence is retained here, with the omission of a few brief or illegible fragments. Graffiti not seen by RSOT are noted below.

66 Not seen by RSOT. According to the line-drawing (102, fig. 138.17), the scribe omitted the first I by oversight.

65 This might be the uniquely-attested cognomen *Superior*, but is more likely to refer to a province, probably *[Germaniae inf]erioris or [Germaniae sup]erioris*.

66 Not seen by RSOT. Birley notes that Flavius Cerialis' friend Aelius Brocchus visited Vindolanda four times (*Tab. Vindol*. III 581).

67 The word is followed after a gap by what may be a repetition of the initial L, shallowly incised. Both letters resemble C, but L (with Birley) is quite possible and to be preferred.

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41. [9746] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18 stamped BELINIC[…]), found in the fill of a late first-century ditch. Scratched underneath (i) around the circumference: VA, an abbreviated personal name. (ii) X (a cross) and T, perhaps two graffiti and not necessarily complete.

42. [9279] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18) preserving the whole foot-ring and profile, found in an early second-century context. Inscribed retrograde underneath: MARIANI, *Mariani*. '(Property) of Marianus.'

43. [9318] Base sherd of a samian cup (Drag. 27 stamped BIGA ᵒ FEC), found in an early second-century context. Scratched underneath: (i) A; scored over it (ii) X (a cross).

44. [8689] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18 stamped IVL), found in an early second-century context. Scratched underneath: ȻASS[…], probably *Cass[ius]* or *Cass[ianus]*.[68]

45. [9684] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18), found in an early second-century context. Scratched underneath: VII[…], a numeral or an abbreviated personal name.[69]

46. [9276] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18R stamped OFR[…]), found in an early second-century context. Scratched underneath within the foot-ring, of which half survives: X[…] | X[…], perhaps four crosses as a mark of identification.

47. [9367] Base sherd of a samian vessel (?Drag. 27), found in an early second-century military context. Scratched underneath: perhaps ΛTṬ[…][70]

48. [9006] Base sherd of a samian bowl (Drag. 37), found in a mid-second-century context. Above the foot-ring and below the band of decoration, a lightly incised graffito: TΛȻ..[71]

49. [9410] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18R), found in a mid-second-century context. Scratched underneath: XII[.], probably a numeral.

50. [9677] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18), found in the fill above the pre-Hadrianic forts. Scratched underneath: […]TIIRONI[…][72]

51. [8559] Very worn base sherd of a samian vessel (?Drag. 18/31), found in a mid-second-century context. Faintly scratched underneath: IVLIṆ[…], probably *Iulin[i]*. '(Property) of Iulinus.'

52. [9022] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18 stamped C ᵒ FAM[…]), found in a mid-second-century context. Scratched underneath: […]ṚTIΛLIS, *[Ma]rtialis*.[73]

53. [9773] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18), found in a second-century context. Deeply scored on the inside edge of the foot-ring: […]OMARVS[74]

54. [9755] Base sherd of a samian bowl (Drag. 37), found in a second-century context. Scratched below the band of decoration: VIIGIIṬ[…], *Veget[us]*.[75]

[68] The first letter resembles L, but C (with Birley) is quite possible and to be preferred.

[69] For example VEL (*RIB* II.7, 2501.577–79), VEN (581), VER (584); or even *Ve[ri]*.

[70] Not seen by RSOT. Birley reads ADV[...], but the line-drawing (fig. 139.27) supports the reading suggested here. *Atto* and its cognates are frequent in the Rhineland, and thus in Britain; an example is the decurion Atto at Vindolanda (*Tab. Vindol*. II 345 i 1-2, etc.).

[71] The third letter might be G. It is followed by two 'letters', the first a hook, the second a triangle. Possibilities are discussed by Birley.

[72] There is no obvious name; possibilities are discussed by Birley.

[73] The cognomen is common, especially among soldiers, and is well attested at Vindolanda.

[74] Not seen by RSOT. Many Celtic names incorporate the element **maro-* ('great').

[75] The cognomen is quite common, but is found in two of the ink tablets (*Tab. Vindol*. II 352 + add., III 514) and a stilus tablet (Inv. no. 87.689).

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55. [9244] Very worn base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 15/17), found in a late second-century context. Scratched above the foot-ring: .RII.II.[…][76]

56. [9471] Base sherd of a samian platter (Drag. 18), found in a context of *c*. A.D. 200. Scratched underneath within the foot-ring: MHN[77]

57. [9246] Part of the foot-ring of a samian dish (Drag. 18/31), deeply scored: ΛDΛ

58. [8972] Base sherd of a samian bowl (Drag. 37), found in a third-century *vicus* context. Scratched underneath: […]ḶELENT[…][78]

59. [9693] Base sherd of a samian vessel (?Drag. 37), found in a third-century context. There is a graffito: […].LIITḶ[…][79]

60. [9470] Rim sherd of a samian dish (Drag. 36), found in a third-century *vicus* context. Scratched inside: […]ALACI[…][80]

61. [9697] Wall sherd of a samian cup (Drag. 33), found in a third-century *vicus* context. The sherd is broken to the right, but the graffito is probably complete: NEVTO[81]

62. [9401] Wall sherd of a grey mortarium preserving the junction with the base, found in an early second-century context. Scratched underneath in elongated letters: MINC̣[…], probably *Minc[i]*. '(Property) of Mincius.'

63. [9317] Wall sherd of a dark grey cooking vessel, found in an early second-century context. Graffito: NIGRIN[…], *Nigrin[us]*.

64. [9687] Complete buff-coloured single-handled ring-neck flagon, 183 mm high, 0.75 litre in capacity, found in the fill above the pre-Hadrianic forts. Scratched on the shoulder to the right of the handle: ΛR, an abbreviated personal name.

65. [8903] Wall sherd of a large buff flagon, found in an early second-century context. Deeply scored in stylish capitals: […]Ṛ TISXX, *[...]rti (sextarios) XX*. '... of […], 20 *sextarii*'.[82]

66. [9681] Wall sherds of a large orange/buff storage jar, found in a late second-century context. Scratched on the shoulder: ⤫S≡, *(denarium) s(emissem) (asses) III*. 'Half a *denarius* and three *asses*.'[83]

67. [8992] Wall sherd of a barbotine-decorated vessel, found in a late first-century context. […]NIG, *Nig(er)* or *Nig(rinus)*.[84]

[76] The rest of the reading is uncertain. The first letter might be A or D, the fourth letter D or G. Birley discusses it in detail, and tentatively offers DRIIGIIN[..].

[77] Most likely the abbreviated *tria nomina*, *M(arcus) H(.) N(.)*, but the letters might be Greek and thus a personal name abbreviated to *Men(...)*.

[78] The first letter is made with a curve and diagonal stroke more appropriate to G than C (thus Birley), but C is also possible; neither reading is attractive.

[79] Not seen by RSOT.

[80] There is no obvious solution. Birley cites some unique names with this letter-sequence, to which *Valacius* can be added.

[81] This name occurs at Housesteads as well as in Lower Germany (*RIB* II.8, 2503.355 with note), and it may be a Tungrian personal name. The First Cohort of Tungrians was at Vindolanda in *c*. A.D. 90–120, and at Housesteads in the third century.

[82] Only an upper loop survives of the first letter, which might be P, but the spacing suits R. S is barred (i.e. *sextarios*). The first word might identify the contents, but there is no likely candidate, so it is probably the owner's name in the genitive case, for example *[Te]rti*.

[83] There were 16 asses to the denarius. For the symbols used in monetary accounts at Vindolanda, see *Tab. Vindol*. II, pp. 54–5. The broken edge cuts the denarii sign, so that it resembles half an X, but the end of the horizontal stroke to the left can just be seen.

[84] There is a point before N, perhaps indicating that an abbreviated nomen has been lost, but the graffito is probably complete. For *Nigrinus*, see above, No. 63. The cognomen *Niger*, from which it derives, is also common.

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68. [9311] Shoulder sherd of a South-Spanish oil amphora (Dressel 20), found in an early second-century context. Scored in irregular capitals: […]ENEFICIARI, *[... b]eneficiari*. '(Property) of […], *beneficiarius*.'[85]

69. [9545] South-Spanish oil amphora (Dressel 20), complete except for its neck, found *in situ* sunk into a mid-second-century floor. Deeply scored on the shoulder: AD, an abbreviated personal name.

70. [9762] Wall sherd of a South-Spanish oil amphora (Dressel 20), found in an early second-century context. There is a two-line graffito: […]..[…] | 7 FEL, … | *(centuria) Fel(icionis)*. '… century of Felicio.'[86]

WARWICKSHIRE

71. **Metchley** Roman fort (SP 044 838), Birmingham (FIG. 24). Wall sherd of a mortarium in orange fabric, found[87] in 2004 in a re-cut of the palisade trench defining the western annexe. This feature is Claudio-Neronian in date. Incised with a fine point before firing, while the vessel was inverted: [...]ISIONIS.[88]

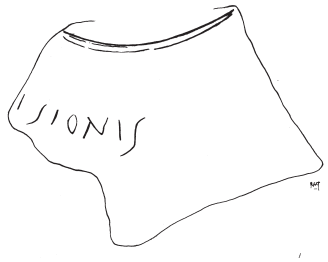


FIG. 24. Metchley, mortarium graffito (No. 71). Scale 1:4. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

SCOTLAND

CENTRAL REGION [STIRLINGSHIRE]

72. **Mumrills** (NS 916 794), Roman fort annexe (FIG. 25). Sherd of a south-Spanish oil amphora (Dressel 20), found[89] in 1982. Incised after firing: IISTIV[…], probably *Estiv[us]* or *Estiv[i]*. 'Aestivus' *or* '(property) of Aestivus'.[90]

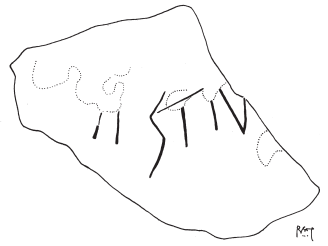


FIG. 25. Mumrills, amphora graffito (No. 72). Scale 1:4. (*Drawn by R.S.O. Tomlin*)

85 Contemporary writing-tablets refer to *beneficiarii* at Vindolanda: *Tab. Vindol*. II 180.18, 344.10; III 643 a.i.5, etc.

86 Nothing remains of the name in the first line but two converging scratches, perhaps CA. The century of Felicio, in *Cohors VIIII Batavorum*, is well attested in the writing-tablets: *Tab. Vindol*. II 138, 166.1, 168.1, III 578. Likewise the centurion himself: II 182 i.6, 193.1.

87 During excavation by Birmingham University Field Archaeology Unit. Erica Macey-Bracken, the post-excavation officer, made it available to RSOT.

88 The genitive of a personal name in *-isio(n)*. Kay Hartley reminds us that an early mortarium might be made for a century (*RIB* II.6, 2496.2) or *contubernium* (ibid., 3), so this may be the name of a centurion: there are a few

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ADDENDA ET CORRIGENDA

(a) ***RIB* II.3, 2422.33**, silver ring, said to have been found in Kent, inscribed: DAE | SENV. In view of No. 30 (above), this can now be expanded as *d(e)ae Senu(nae)*, 'to the goddess Senuna'.

(b) ***RIB* II.4, 2448.5**, the 'Helicon' mosaic, Aldborough. A photograph taken *c*. 1900 records details now lost of the standing figure to the left of the published inscription. A theatrical mask hangs by her right knee, and she holds open an inscribed scroll. This apparently reads: […] | IEIA, and may identify her as Thalia (the Muse of pantomime) or Polymnia (the Muse of sacred song).[91]

(c) ***RIB* II.7, 2501.194** (Vindolanda), samian (Drag. 43) graffito reading FOF, 'present whereabouts unknown'. This is apparently an error for Chesterholm Museum No. 6644, four sherds comprising most of a black-burnished (BB1) platter, which has now been found[92] with pottery from the 1930s excavations. Scratched inside after firing, on the upper surface of the flat base: FOF.

(d) ***Britannia* 34 (2003), 362, No. 2**, City of London, Guildhall Yard. The translation of this 'curse tablet' should read: 'I give to the goddess Deana (my) headgear and band less one-third. If anyone has done this, whether boy or girl, whether slave or free, I give him, and through me let him be unable to live.' The commentary should have emphasized that it was found in the Roman amphitheatre, since Diana (or Deana), sometimes identified with Nemesis, was particularly associated with gladiatorial games and the amphitheatre.[93]

CHANGES OF LOCATION

(a) ***RIB* 1004**, Wetheral (Cumbria). This quarry-inscription (one of three) was found to be detached in 1996, and is now in store at Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.[94]

(b) ***RIB* 2280** and **RIB 2281**, Stainmore. These milestones have been moved from the County Hall, Northallerton, to a North Yorkshire County Council store, Northallerton.[95]

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possible names, un-Roman and attested only once, for example the father's name of *M(arcus) Traianiu[s] Gumattius Gaisionis f(ilius)*, veteran of the *ala Afror(um)* (*CIL* xiii 8806). Alternatively it is the potter's name ('product of ...'), for example *Isio(n)*, a Greek personal name found in Rome and Italy, where it is typical of freedmen.

89 During a watching-brief: see *Britannia* 14 (1983), 288. Now in Falkirk Museum (MA 82 | 1983-8-1), from where Geoff Bailey sent it for examination.

90 II is apparently the first letter, which excludes *[A]estiv[us]* or *[F]estiv[us]*.

91 David Neal has discussed his reading with us: see S. Johnson and D.S. Neal (and others), 'The re-excavation and study of the Helicon mosaic, Aldborough Roman town', *Yorks. Arch. J.* 74 (2002), 113–34.

92 By Robin Birley, who showed the graffito to RSOT and suggests that it was misattributed when first published in *Arch. Ael*. 4th ser. 9 (1932), 219.

93 As the excavator, Nick Bateman, has reminded us. The connection is made by Tertullian, *De Spectaculis* 12, and is confirmed by many dedications from amphitheatres, for example *CIL* iii 10440 (Aquincum), 14074 (Carnuntum), and *Bonner Jahrbücher* 160 (1960), 162–3 (Cologne). See also L. Foucher, 'Nemesis, le griffon et les jeux d'amphithéatre', *Mélanges W. Seston* (1974), 187–95.

94 Deposited by the National Trust on a rolling three-year loan to be reviewed in February 2008. Information from Tim Padley.

95 Information from Linda Smith, Rural Archaeologist, North Yorkshire County Council, relayed by Ben Edwards.

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(c) ***RIB* 2285**, Brougham Castle. This milestone has been moved from Brougham Castle to the English Heritage store at Helmsley Castle.[96]

FALSA

(a) *Britannia* 26 (1995), 379, No. 5. This small stone altar of unknown provenance, said to be from Bath or Ilchester, is probably a modern pastiche of *RIB* 153 (Bath).[97]

(b) Small stone altar, 152 by 292 mm, 110 mm thick, said to have been found in Scarborough.[98] Inscribed on the die: DEO ◦ M|ARTI ◦ TI

[96] Catalogue No. 81029084. Information from Ben Edwards.

[97] RSOT has not seen it, but he has been told that there were traces of polish(?) in the letters as if to 'age' them. Another informant has told him independently that he knew the local collector who was responsible for cutting this altar and several 'Celtic' heads, using stone from a garden in Bradford-on-Avon. When it was offered for sale to the Roman Baths Museum, Bath, it was declined.

[98] Illustrated as (part) Lot 365 in the Bonhams (Knightsbridge, London) auction of Antiquities, 22 September 1998. It is Romano-British in appearance, as are most of the letters, but they have been picked out in modern red paint. Also suspicious is the abbreviation of the dedicator's name to TI and the coincidence with the last two letters of the god's name. It was offered with 'a stone Fragment with remains of a Latin inscription', 172 by 165 mm, 45 mm thick, said to have been found in Bath [but not illustrated].

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