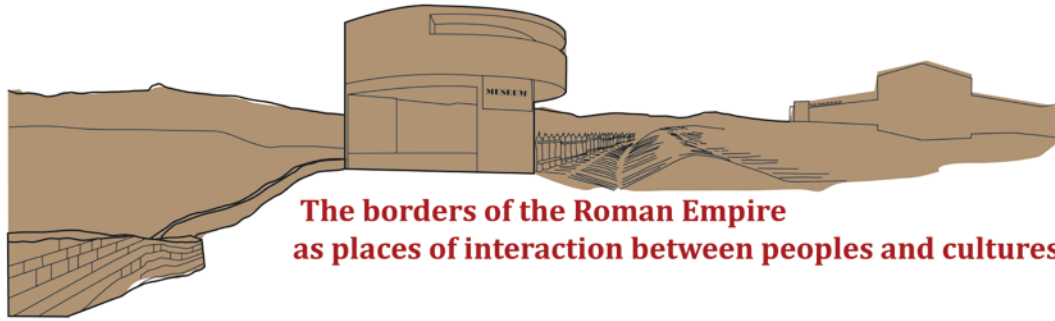


Frontier Museums and Frontiers as Museums:



Rome 18-19 May 2023

FINAL PROGRAMME

*Sapienza Università di Roma
Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia
Odeion del Museo dell'Arte Classica*

DIPARTIMENTO
DI SCIENZE DELL'ANTICHITÀ



SAPIENZA
UNIVERSITÀ DI ROMA

SESSIONS AND PARTICIPANTSⁱ

18 MAY 2023

Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Odeion del Museo dell'Arte Classica

8.30-9.00: REGISTRATION

9.00-9.30: INSTITUTIONAL GREETINGS

SESSION 1 – Frontiers in Roman Britain

Chair: Emanuela Borgia

9.30-10.10: David J. BREEZE, Christof FLÜGEL, *A United Past: Re-Integrating Frontier Sites and Museums*

10.10-10.30: Antony LEE, *'The Romans Walled out Humanity from us': Exploring Roman and Modern Identities through Museum Interpretations of the Hadrianic and Antonine Walls*

10.30-10.50: Andrew GARDNER, *Roman Frontiers in Britain: Towards New Comparative Understandings*

10.50-11.10: DISCUSSION

11.10-11.40: COFFEE BREAK

Chair: Robert Bewley

11.40-12.00: Richard HINGLEY, *Hadrian's Wall as Artscape: Connecting Frontiers in the Past and Present*

12.00-12.20: Marta ALBERTI, *Severan Vindolanda: New Evidence from a Unique Fortlet and Roundhouse Settlement on the Northern Frontier**

12.20-12.40: Elsa PRICE, Jocelyn ANDERSON-WOOD, *Uncovering Roman Carlisle*

12.40-13.00: Francesca RUSSO, *Bewcastle: a Roman Fort beyond Hadrian's Wall*

13.00-13.20: Louisa CAMPBELL, *Re-Experiencing the Antonine Wall: Living on the Edge of Empire*

13.20-13.40: DISCUSSION

13.40-14.40: LUNCH

ⁱ The names of speakers who have asked to participate online are marked by an asterisk (*)

SESSION 2 – *The European Frontier*

Chair: David J. Breeze

14.40-15.00: Ian HAYNES, *Diversity on the Frontier: Recent Archaeological Approaches**

15.00-15.20: Gabriele RASBACH, Christoph RUMMEL, Sandra SCHRÖER-SPANG, *Early Frontiers and Boundaries of Rome: Intangible Fuzz or Open Borders?*

15.20-15.40: Saskia STEVENS, Gertjan PLETS, *The Lower Germanic Limes as a Borderland*

15.40-16.00: Angelina RAIČKOVIĆ SAVIĆ, Nemanja MRĐIĆ, *Destination Viminacium. Where to Deliver Goods at the Roman Frontier*

16.00-16.20: Ljuben TEVDOVSKI, *The Political and Cultural Boundaries of the Roman Balkans through the Archaeological Collections of the Museum of the City of Skopje*

16.20-16.40: George CUPCEA, Felix MARCU, *Preliminaries for an Interpretation Framework of the Limes Dacicus*

16.40-17.00: DISCUSSION

17.00-17.30: TEA BREAK

POSTER SESSIONⁱⁱ

17.30-18.30: Poster Discussion

1. Marika DE FILIPPO, *The cult of Isis in the Nabataean World*
2. Alexander HISCOCK, *The Antonine Wall on Twitter: The Online Heritage of a Globalised Frontier*
3. Matteo MAGAZZINO, *Carlisle – Luguvalium: History, Excavations and the Research of a Clear and Balanced Display*
4. Rebecca PAGLIARI, Federico DI SALVO, *The cult of the Matres along the British limes*
5. Silvia PILLON, *Roman Glasses from the Britannic limes: the fort of Old Penrith*
6. Gabriele POGGI, *Limes arabicus: castra, castella and fortified structures from Trajan to Diocletian*

Note that all Congress Sessions, apart from Posters Session, can be attended online. Please contact the secretary of the Congress to get all instructions and credentials to log in via Zoom (mara.elefante@uniroma1.it)

ⁱⁱ Throughout the duration of the Congress, Posters will be on display in the Museo dell'Arte Classica.

19 MAY 2023

Facoltà di Lettere e Filosofia, Odeion del Museo dell'Arte Classica

9.15-9.30: INSTITUTIONAL GREETINGS

SESSION 3 – The Eastern Frontier

Chair: Michelina Di Cesare

9.30-9.50: Robert H. BEWLEY, *Aerial Archaeology and Rome's Desert Frontier*

9.50-10.10: Ariel Samuel LEWIN, *Milestones as a Museum of the Near Eastern Frontiers*

10.10-10.30: Ramazan BOZKURTTAN, *A New Military Settlement in Osrhoene: the Castellum of Kifri and its Territory*

10.30-10.50: Laïla NEHMÉ, *Frontiers beyond Frontiers in the Arabian Peninsula*

10.50-11.10: DISCUSSION

11.10-11.40: COFFEE BREAK

SESSION 4 – Frontiers in Egypt and Africa

Chair: Marcello Spanu

11.40-12.00: Paola BUZI, *A Permeable Border, a Travelling Goddess and a Difficult Balance between Christianity and Classical Cults: the Egyptian Southern Limit in Late Antiquity in the Light of Coptic Sources*

12.00-12.20: Victor GHICA, *Limes Movens: State and Religion on the Western Frontier of Late Antique Egypt*

12.20-12.40: Michel REDDÉ, *Zeus Helios Megas Sarapis. An Egyptian God in the Roman Praesidia of the Oriental Desert of Egypt*

12.40-13.00: Mara ELEFANTE, *The Egyptian Border as a Crossroads of Cultures through the Analysis of Common Wares*

13.00-13.20: DISCUSSION

13.20-14.30: LUNCH

Chair: Ariel Samuel Lewin

14.30-14.50: Solène MARION DE PROCÉ, *Border or not Border? The Southern Red Sea and the Roman Empire in the 2nd cent. CE as Revealed by the Site of al-Quṣār**

14.50-15.10: Arbia HILALI, *Les interactions culturelles entre civils et militaires dans les zones frontalières de l'Afrique romaine*

15.10-15.40: Paola ZANOVELLO, Jacopo TURCHETTO, Andrea MELERI, *Interaction between Peoples and Cultures along the Roman Frontier: the Case of the Aures Mountains (Algeria)*

15.40-16.00: Steven E. SIDEBOTHAM, *Temples and Shrines as Cultural Cross-Roads at Berenike, Egypt: Near Eastern, South Arabian, Sub-Saharan African, Indian and Other Religious Influences at a Red Sea Port in Roman Times**

16.00-16.20: DISCUSSION

16.20-16.50: TEA BREAK

SESSION 5 – Other Frontiers and out of the Frontiers

Chair: Adolfo La Rocca

16.50-17.10: Marco RAMAZZOTTI, *Interaction between World Empires and Nomad Lands in South-Eastern Arabia, a Quick Glance*

17.10-17.30: Dario NAPPO, *Farasan and Muziris: Outside of the Empire, Inside the Roman World*

17.30-17.50: Carlo Giovanni CERETI, Gianfilippo TERRIBILI, *On the Other Side of the Limes. Study, Documentation, and Musealisation of a Sasanian Monument*

17.50-18.10: Michael SOMMER, *Pentimento. Roman Frontiers and Modern Borders*

18.10-18.30: DISCUSSION

18.30-18.50: Emanuela BORGIA, *Conclusions*

Note that all Congress Sessions, apart from Posters Session, can be attended online. Please contact the secretary of the Congress to get all instructions and credentials to log in via Zoom (mara.elefante@uniroma1.it)

ABSTRACTSⁱⁱⁱ

Marta ALBERTI, *Severan Vindolanda: New Evidence from a Unique Fortlet and Roundhouse Settlement on the Northern Frontier*

Affiliation: Vindolanda Trust, UK

Email: martaalberti@vindolanda.com

Abstract: Between AD 208 and 211, the Northern Frontier of the Roman Empire played host to a massive, systematic, Emperor-led campaign of subjugation. Septimius Severus' push into Caledonia, hastily abandoned after his death by his son Caracalla, has left limited evidence in the archaeological record. At the site of Roman Vindolanda, on Hadrian's Wall, over fifty years of archaeological excavations under modern scientific conditions have offered a glimpse into both the tactics and the emotional impact of the war on the Frontier. A heavily defended, unusually U-shaped fortlet was erected in an advantageous position on the site's western slopes: its ditches exceeded 3 meters depth and 4 meters width, and its northern rampart, facing the Stanegate road, stood 10 meters wide. Two human crania were found in opposing sides of the ditches' fills, with marks indicating that such remains would have been on public display. To the east of the fortlet an orderly settlement stood, composed almost exclusively of roundhouses. These structures, their regimented appearance, demolition and the relative scarcity of their material culture have no parallel elsewhere on the Roman Frontier from military contexts.

In this paper, the author summarizes the results of the Vindolanda Trust's excavations of Severan contexts, focusing on the most recent evidence, from the 2015-2022 excavation of several new roundhouses as well as large slots of both the southern and northern ditches. Using material culture as well as structural evidence, the author will discuss the various possible interpretations of the roundhouse settlement, and the impact that the Severan campaign had on the site.

Robert H. BEWLEY, *Aerial Archaeology and Rome's Desert Frontier*

Affiliation: St Cross College, Oxford, School of Archaeology, UK

Email: bob.bewley@bitnetinternet.com

Abstract: Recent research has helped scholars understand better the nature of the Roman occupation and "management" of the provinces Arabia and Judaea. The Aerial Archaeology in Jordan project has been involved in the discovery and recording of many archaeological sites, especially Roman ones. This paper will highlight many of the discoveries, over the past twenty-five years, as well as mentioning the work of the pioneers of aerial survey, Sir Aurel Stein and

ⁱⁱⁱ Abstracts are in alphabetical order, according to the surname of the speaker (when the speakers are more than one the first surname listed is considered).

Antoine Poidebard. There is an opportunity to suggest re-interpretations of the nature of the frontier, in the east, and especially Jordan, as a result of recent investigations. The paper will explore the nature of the source material for understanding the nature of Rome's Eastern frontier and discuss possible future avenues for exploration, to further expand our knowledge of the edges of the Roman Empire.

Ramazan BOZKURTTAN, *A New Military Settlement in Osrhoene: the Castellum of Kifri and its Territory*

Affiliation: Batman University, Faculty of Arts and Sciences, Department of Archaeology, Turkey

Email: ramazanbozkurttan@gmail.com

Abstract: A group of ruins 35 km south-west of Şanlıurfa, known to the locals as Kifri, is located near the village of Göldere. In the part of Osrhoene within the Turkish borders, the settlement is located between Edessa (Şanlıurfa), Carhæ (Harran) and Batnae (Suruç). The site has not been excavated yet nor surveyed in detail. As a result of the remote sensing survey, a square building with rounded corners was identified in the centre of the village. The building now destroyed to its foundations measures 54 x 60 metres. The structure seems to be similar to the Near Eastern *castella* documented by A. Poidebard and A. Stein. Based on limited research, rock-cut tombs, limestone quarries and structures thought to be *granaria* built of limestone blocks have been studied. The settlement, which we believe to be military in nature, is important for understanding the Roman military installation at Osrhoene.

David J. BREEZE, Christof FLÜGEL, *A United Past: Re-Integrating Frontier Sites and Museums*

Affiliation: David J. Breeze, Former Chair of the International Congress of Roman Frontier Studies, UK; Christof Flügel, Bavarian Department for Museums, Museums of Archaeology, Munich, Germany

Email: davidbreeze@hotmail.co.uk; christof.fluegel@blfd.bayern.de

Abstract: The Frontiers of the Roman Empire (FRE) project began 22 years ago. The aim is to make all the frontiers of the Roman Empire a World Heritage Site. Artefacts related to the physical remains such as linear barriers and forts that have been removed and placed in museums for their protection, however, cannot be awarded world heritage status. This paper examines the process of creating World Heritage Sites and offers suggestions for the association of artefacts with the FRE World Heritage Site.

Paola BUZI, *A Permeable Border, a Travelling Goddess and a Difficult Balance between Christianity and Classical Cults: the Egyptian Southern Limit in Late Antiquity in the Light of Coptic Sources*

Affiliation: Sapienza Università di Roma, Dipartimento di Storia Antropologia Religioni Arte Spettacolo, Italy

Email: paola.buzi@uniroma1.it

Abstract: Whatever the legal and political nature – which is debated and not unanimously defined – of Diocletian's shift of the border between Egypt and Nubia to Aswan, it is undeniable that it was a permeable border. Such cultural and ethnic permeability was favoured by the long-lasting cult of the goddess Isis. This traveling goddess represented one of the main elements that contributed to creating a new political and religious balance, in which the emerging Coptic Church did not disdain to establish a dialogue with the Nubian tribes who preserved the legacy of traditional Egyptian religion.

Louisa CAMPBELL, *Re-Experiencing the Antonine Wall: Living on the Edge of Empire*

Affiliation: University of Glasgow, School of Humanities, UK

Email: Louisa.Campbell@glasgow.ac.uk

Abstract: Frontier regions were, by their very nature, dynamic and complex cultural contexts where the interface between Roman military personnel and indigenous occupants of Northern Britain resulted in hybrid practices and identities negotiated through the reception, perception, use, reuse and deposition of Roman material culture. The spread of that material across Northern Britain in the vicinity of the Antonine Wall demonstrates the complexity of that interface. Focussing on innovative methodologies to investigate and interpret Roman sculpted reliefs unique to the Empire's most north-westerly frontier, this paper develops multi-disciplinary approaches to iconic Roman monumental inscriptions. The Distance Sculptures immortalised in stone the complex relationships between different cultural groups living on the frontier. This was achieved through their unique inscribed texts documenting distances of the frontier built by the legions stationed there and the iconography depicting aspects of life on that frontier, including deities, legionary emblems, religious practices and northern warriors in the midst of conflict or in post-battle scenes.

The value of these sculpted reliefs is priceless since they provide unique perspectives into the culturally diverse peoples negotiating frontier life that is not available to us from any written source and they would undoubtedly have been received differently by various audiences. Surface layers of these monuments have now been stripped back to reveal they were originally adorned in vibrant polychromy which brought them to life and provided additional dimensions to the way audiences engaged with them during the 2nd Century. This paper will shed light onto digital

reconstructions that have now transformed the way contemporary audiences can engage with them as well as physical replicas that have now been set into the landscape along the Wall. This has turned the modern cultural landscape into a museumscape and permits local engaged communities to forge new connections with them without restrictions, necessarily, imposed by modern museum spaces.

Carlo Giovanni CERETI, Gianfilippo TERRIBILI, *On the Other Side of the Limes. Study, Documentation, and Musealisation of a Sasanian Monument*

Affiliation: Sapienza Università di Roma, Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Antichità, Italy

Email: carlogiovanni.cereti@uniroma1.it; gianfilippo.terribili@uniroma1.it

Abstract: To celebrate his victory after a dynastic struggle, the Sasanian king Narseh (293-302 CE) erected an imposing monument on the spot where dignitaries and aristocrats of the Iranian kingdom met him and hailed him as their legitimate sovereign. The monument constituted a landmark of royal prestige along a strategic crossroad in the Zagros mountains (current Paikuli Pass – Kurdistan Region of Iraq), which connected the Sasanian centres of power in Mesopotamia with those in the Iranian Plateau's inner regions and the Roman frontier in the west. Once adorning the monument, Narseh's bilingual inscription (Middle Persian and Parthian) represents one of the most extensive and significant sources about the early Sasanian kingdom. Its content is crucial for understanding the organization and royal ideology of a trans-regional superpower that relentlessly competed with Rome for dominion over the late antique Near East.

The pioneering work carried out in the first decades of the 20th century by the German archaeologist E. Herzfeld (1924) paved the way for the first edition of the inscription and the following scholarly studies up to the current-standard edition by Humbach and Skjærvø (1978-1982). Today, thanks to the long-lasting commitment of the Italian Archaeological Mission in Iraqi Kurdistan (DiSA – Sapienza) in documenting and investigating the monument and its site, a large amount of new epigraphic evidence and archaeological data have been collected, substantially improving the philological reconstruction of the text and the understanding of the structure architectonic features. In this framework, the attention paid to preservation and musealisation led to the creation of two exhibition halls dedicated to Narseh's monument of Paikuli (Sleman Museum). The new display and public fruition show how innovative documentation, study, and field activities can promote the safeguarding and enhancement of the Cultural Heritage at risk, especially in regions placed at the fringes of ancient as well as contemporary frontiers.

George CUPCEA, Felix MARCU, *Preliminaries for an Interpretation Framework of the Limes Dacicus*

Affiliation: National Museum for the History of Transylvania, Romania

Email: george.cupcea@gmail.com

Abstract: The frontiers of the Roman Empire in the province of Dacia (nowadays Romania) are stretching over 1,000 km on the country's territory and are the most variable and complex of the frontiers systems in the Roman world. By comparison to the other European sectors of Roman frontiers (Hadrian's Wall, Antonine Wall, Obergermanisch-Raetischer limes – all continuous linear barriers; or the Rhine and Danube – riverine frontiers), the Dacian limes is a combination of all these systems. The main factor in the establishment of the Dacian frontier was geography: the limes surrounds the already naturally fortified Transylvanian plateau, with a succession of legionary camps (Apulum, Potaissa, Berzobis), more than 50 auxiliary forts (Porolissum, Tibiscum, amongst others), a dozen or so of small fortlets and close to 100 watchtowers. After the submission of the dossier for the inscription of the Dacian limes on the UNESCO World Heritage List, earlier this year, one of the biggest challenges remaining is the interpretation framework for the entire system, in order to better present to the public the sites and finds.

Because of the variations in the frontier system, we cannot establish a single, common 'Dacian limes interpretation story' but we must elaborate on different, separate stories, dedicated to the various types of sites and installations, which should be complementary in the altogether idea of the presentation of the Dacian limes. My paper will attempt to establish some preliminary ideas and checkpoints in the elaboration of such a framework and to propose a structure that can be adopted by research institution, local and regional administration and the museums that are connected to these sites.

The final goal of this framework should be a 'Limes Museum' that would act both as an information point and also as a centre of diffusion, information and education for the future UNESCO heritage. At all stages, the most important principle that should govern our efforts is the value that these sites and finds have, for the entire mankind.

Mara ELEFANTE, *The Egyptian Border as a Crossroads of Cultures through the Analysis of Common Wares*

Affiliation: Independent researcher

Email: mara.elefante@uniroma1.it

Abstract: Egypt has always been a region where the interaction between different cultures was a fundamental part of everyday life. After centuries of being one of the cultures with an enormous impact of the others, Egypt started to be the one affected by the external influences. Especially after becoming a Roman province, Egyptian way of living changed, as we can clearly see through art, but not only. In fact, it was not a change just in the public appearance, but also in the everyday life, as shown by the objects used for the daily activities. Pottery, in particular common wares, is always able to highlight the differences and similarities between dissimilar customs and points of view. In this case, we will analyse Egyptian habits through the various shapes, productions and

purposes of ceramics vessels during the Roman and Late Antique periods, looking for the innovation brought, thanks to the permeability of Egyptian culture, by the contact with other societies. Special focus will be paid to the cooking wares, often neglected but resourceful, considering that everyone had to use them and, being common objects with a short life span, they were strongly influenced by temporary trends and economic changes.

Andrew GARDNER, *Roman Frontiers in Britain: Towards New Comparative Understandings*

Affiliation: UCL, Institute of Archaeology

Email: andrew.gardner@ucl.ac.uk

Abstract: The frontier provinces of the Roman Empire were crucial locales for the generation of new social and cultural trends which transformed the Empire over time. They fulfilled this role precisely because they were borderland regions, with a dynamic mixture of local, state, and trans-border communities interacting in a range of complex ways. Study of the Roman frontiers is in the process of being revitalised not only by new data, but also by new approaches drawn from the interdisciplinary field of Border Studies, which reflects the prominence of debates around boundaries and borders in the 21st century. In this paper, comparative insights from this field will be used to illuminate crucial aspects of bordering practices and processes in the diverse frontier zones of Roman Britain, in the west, the north, and the south-east. Even within the one provincial/diocesan context of Britannia, there is considerable diversity across these zones, with the maritime frontiers of the Irish Sea and the Channel/North Sea contrasting with the linear barriers of the northern frontier, including of course Hadrian's Wall. The ability to compare these regions is a considerable benefit, as it enables us to better understand how even the superficially common features of frontiers, such as military sites and activities, were variable, and how local interactions and dynamics, revealed in patterns of material culture, were even more distinctive. These features are all comprehensible within the wider framework of how borderlands are always complex landscapes of both division and connection, and this in turn signals how study of Roman frontiers can offer much to very contemporary debates.

Victor GHICA, *Limes Movens: State and Religion on the Western Frontier of Late Antique Egypt*

Affiliation:

Email: victor.ghica@mf.no

Abstract: The paper discusses first of all the mapping of the limes in the uninhabited areas of the Western Desert, to then dwell on the control of the frontier, both in the oases and on certain caravan roads. The documented military presence in these areas is examined with relevant examples accompanying each archaeological site. The second component of the paper relates to the

rise of Christianity on the desert frontier and the demise of traditional religious practice, as reflected in the archaeological record.

Ian HAYNES, *Diversity on the Frontier: Recent Archaeological Approaches*

Affiliation: Newcastle University, School of History, Classics and Archaeology, UK

Email: ian.haynes@newcastle.ac.uk

Abstract: Popular narratives of Roman frontiers tend to echo the *Historia Augusta's* claim of Hadrian's Wall, namely that frontiers served to separate the Romans from Barbarians. The reality, of course, is that neither Romans, nor Barbarians, were homogenous groups. Creating and sustaining frontiers involved the movement of people and ideas, including the transplantation of some groups, and the evolution of new forms of difference amongst others. How can recent archaeological research advance understanding of the complexity in all of this?

This paper starts with familiar challenge, the study of ethnic identities on Rome's British frontiers. While museums have employed varied approaches to draw attention to the origins of the different units that served, for example, on Hadrian's Wall, conveying what this meant in practice throughout the long history of the frontier is another matter. Recent archaeological approaches offer some insights to how this approach can be developed.

Ethnicity is, of course, merely one facet of diversity. The remainder of this paper will signal other elements of the museological challenge in presenting the complexity of frontier communities. In doing so, it will also question how we might deepen awareness of variety in indigenous populations, gender, enslavement and disability in frontier communities. Britain's frontier people, an evolving amalgam of individuals drawn from a far wider area than Britain itself, offer an exciting opportunity not only to review these themes, but also to ask about the further potential of an already rich body of archaeological data.

Arbia HILALI, *Cultural Interactions between Civilians and Soldiers in the Cross-Border Areas of Roman Africa*

Affiliation: Université de Tunis, Tunisia

Email: hilaliarbia@gmail.com

Abstract: Roman borders were long understood according to a modern conception of the nation-state which presents the limits of the Roman Empire as a linear, fixed, and military perimeter and prohibiting socio-cultural contact with natives. In a context of colonization of North Africa in the 19th century, archaeologists were prisoners of a strongly militarized vision of the borders of Roman Africa. R. Cagnat himself admits to being overwhelmed by this documentation of a military nature.

Since the Sixties, with the development of archaeological surveys, there is no longer any question of presenting a Roman border frozen in the defensive. The archaeological reality contributes to going beyond the vision of a partitioned border from a purely military perspective. The results of excavations in the areas of the *limes tripolitanus* or Numidia reveal a socio-economic dynamic. In Lambaesis, the camps, the military *vici* develop an urban fabric following the exchanges between Romans and natives, African veterans for the most part. In southern Africa (Tunisia), fortified settlements (Tisavar, Talalati) are associated with non-military remains of various kinds (hydraulic installations, farms, fortified farms). Former chief towns of the tribes have evolved into urban centres such as Telmine (Turrus Tamalleni), Gabès (Tacapes) and Gafsa (Capsa). The presence of temples and religious dedications inside and outside the camps in the back of the Syrtes coast shows a complex religious landscape. The excavations of the Bu Njem camp (Gholaia) reveal a reconfiguration of the local religious landscape. The two cultures in contact transform, mix and evolve together (the temples to the Libyan gods).

The permanence of Roman settlement in the border areas of Roman Africa resulted in interaction between groups of populations of various origins (civilians, soldiers, veterans, administrators). The regional development of these peripheral areas initially responded to military imperatives (legionary presence, military facilities), but above all to cultural specificities specific to the border areas. Through essentially archaeological and epigraphic traces, we wonder about the cultural contributions to understanding border dynamics. In Roman Africa, the border societies integrated into the Roman world were actors in the process of the *Romanitas*. They are endowed with their own cultural referents that fit in and participate in border creativity. Far from a marginalized and immobile space, the cross-border area becomes a region of interaction between two different cultures: an interface between the Roman army and the natives thus creating a new original identity.

Richard HINGLEY, *Hadrian's Wall as Artscape: Connecting Frontiers in the Past and Present*

Affiliation: Durham University, Department of Archaeology, UK

Email: richard.hingley@durham.ac.uk

Abstract: This paper addresses one recent aspect of the commemoration and communication of this world-famous Roman frontier work by addressing ten works of art that have been installed within its landscape during the past two decades. These artworks have been commissioned to attract new visitors to the ancient monuments and museums along the line of the Wall and to encourage them to think about the ethical dilemmas resulting from bordering practices on contested frontiers in today's world. The concept of artscape, derived from border studies and urban studies, provides a critical focus on the motivations and results of the art projects along Hadrian's Wall. The concept of the Roman Wall as a multicultural landscape is central to the monument's role as an artscape. The paper also addresses the creative ways in which many of the artworks draw upon the landscape and materiality of the Roman Wall to impact upon their

visitors. How effective have these artworks been in either encouraging or provoking public responses, and what roles have the Wall's materiality played in conceptualizing these projects?

Antony LEE, *'The Romans Walled out Humanity from us': Exploring Roman and Modern Identities through Museum Interpretations of the Hadrianic and Antonine Walls*

Affiliation: National Museums Scotland, Department of Scottish History & Archaeology, UK

Email: a.lee@nms.ac.uk

Abstract: Hadrian's Wall and the Antonine Wall are often perceived as the dual northern frontiers of Roman Britain, and even the entire Roman world. Though only around a hundred miles apart, their relative receptions have been fundamentally shaped by their subsequent incorporations into the nations of England and Scotland respectively. In this paper, I explore how museums along both monuments differ in their narratives of 'Rome', its ancient cultural influences, and its legacy. Boundaries and borders are potent liminal spaces for the creation and expression of identities. Scholarship which has explored the social lives of the monuments beyond their roles as ancient military structures has led to increasing consideration of their ongoing significance to the identities and social geographies of the modern nations in which they exist, and the communities who live amongst and visit their remains. Complex and fluid physical, cultural and metaphorical landscapes can be reified into notions of being 'within' or 'without' the areas demarcated by the walls. Hadrian's Wall in particular is still often popularly perceived as forming both a boundary between 'civilisation' and 'barbarism' and (erroneously) as the border between England and Scotland. As far back as the 17th Century some people have viewed these as synonymous. While English national identity has often incorporated elements of a Roman cultural inheritance, Scotland has often drawn instead on a sense of indefatigability in the face of rapacious Roman invasions. However, as the title quote demonstrates some Scots, here the Edinburgh antiquary Sir John Clerk (1675-1755), felt a sense of loss at Scotland's disconnect from the ancient classical world. Museums are places of encounter and negotiation between the past and the present, where modern individual, communal and national identities and interpretative narratives interact. This paper explores how museum displays reflect the complexity of frontier identities and cultural interactions, and their role in challenging or reinforcing the influence of the Roman world on modern identities. It bases these analyses on displays at significant museums along both walls: at Tullie House Museum, the Great North Museum, Corbridge, Housesteads and Vindolanda on Hadrian's Wall; and at the National Museum of Scotland, the Hunterian, and Callendar House Museum on the Antonine Wall.

Ariel Samuel LEWIN, *Milestones as a Museum of the Near Eastern Frontiers*

Affiliation: Università della Basilicata, Italy

Email: ariel.lewin@unibas.it

Abstract: The milestones constitute an extraordinary testimony to the Roman military presence in the marginal areas of the Near East. They offer the possibility to ascertain the time when a series of military installations were present along these roads. Various examples that show how imperial propaganda signalled that these marginal areas were kept under control are to be juxtaposed with the epigraphic and archaeological documentation of the construction or rebuilding of forts, fortlets and watchtowers. In particular, the character of the late antique reorganisation of *Palaestina* and *Arabia* and the different policies of Aurelian and Diocletian can be reconstructed thanks to these extraordinary texts, which represent an authentic museum of the Roman military presence in the arid lands.

Solène MARION DE PROCÉ, *Border or not Border? The Southern Red Sea and the Roman Empire in the 2nd cent. CE as Revealed by the Site of al-Quṣār*

Affiliation: Université Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, France

Email: solene.mariondeproce@archaios.fr

Abstract: The Red Sea constituted a major trade route for the Roman Empire in the first centuries CE. As the Classical sources indicate, and particularly the *Periplus Maris Erythraei*, the commodities that were exchanged within this maritime trade network represented a massive source of income. Following the annexation of Egypt in 30 BCE and Nabataea in 106 CE, the Northern Red Sea was controlled by Rome. The frontiers of the Roman Empire were located south of Hegra (Madā'in Šāliḥ, Saudi Arabia) and the harbour of Berenike (Ra's Banas, Egypt) ca. 1000 km north of the Farasān archipelago (Saudi Arabia), which will be the focus of this paper.

Almost 20 years ago, two Latin inscriptions revealed that Rome was also actively involved in the Southern Red Sea. The texts indicated the presence of two military detachments in the Farasān archipelago. In this area of the Red Sea, two powerful kingdoms were dominant: Ḥimyar on the Arabian side, and the emerging kingdom of Aksum on the African side. One can therefore wonder about the entailments of a Roman military presence in this area. Was the Southern Red Sea considered part of the Empire (the Sea of Hercules?) or was the Roman military fort in Farasān only an outpost aimed at stabilizing the trade threatened by piracy and settled there with the agreement of the local powers?

While the question remains open in the absence of more extensive literary sources so far, recent archaeological excavations led on the al-Quṣār fort by the Saudi-French Archaeological Mission in the Farasān Islands (MiFa) offer elements of context. Excavations in the fort have yielded typical Roman military traits (general layout of the fort, material culture, *militaria*). The material culture also illustrates the crossroads nature that was the Southern Red Sea between the Far East, Africa, Arabia and the Mediterranean world. As a local pendant to the Roman military settlement, the South Arabian site of Wādī Maṭar 2, located 3 km away from the fort, exhibits regional

characteristics (material culture, architecture, and religion) mixed with material from the Mediterranean, testifying to contacts between the local population of the archipelago and the foreign military detachment.

Finally, the excellent preservation of the Roman archaeological layers makes the site of al-Quṣār a valuable example of Roman remote military settlement. Several challenges faced in regards to valorisation (modern houses, remoteness, climatic conditions, musealisation of the site) will be presented as well as ways to adapt to them or work around them.

Dario NAPPO, *Farasan and Muziris: Outside of the Empire, Inside the Roman World*

Affiliation: Università degli Studi di Napoli Federico II, Dipartimento di Studi Umanistici, Italy

Email: dario.nappo@unina.it

Abstract: The importance of the Red Sea/Indian Ocean area as a frontier of the Roman Empire can hardly be overestimated. Ancient sources offer only a very sketchy outline of the functioning of this international trade. For this reason, archaeological investigations in the area, aimed at enhancing our understanding of the commercial links between the Mediterranean world and Asia, started extensively around a century ago and yielded so far a huge amount of crucial information. More specifically, discoveries made in the last decades have significantly changed our idea of Roman frontier, at least in this area of the world.

This paper will build upon some of the most recent discoveries and to do so it will focus on two specific sites: the archipelago of Farasan islands, in the Red Sea, and Pattanam, on the Kerala coast, in India (supposedly the ancient site of Muziris). The two sites were both outside what we would define the official borders of the Roman Empire, therefore in theory they could not be regarded as parts of the *res publica*, the Roman commonwealth.

Still, in the Farasan archipelago, since 2003, archaeologists found epigraphic evidence assessing the presence, around the middle of the second century AD, of a Roman *vexillatio*, an official detachment of a *legio*. Such discovery prompted a number of different interpretations, trying to figure out what was the role of such detachment in the archipelago and whether this presence had something to do with Trajan's activities in the area.

Completely different is the situation in Muziris: here, the Peutinger Map assesses the presence of a mysterious temple of Augustus. Archaeological investigations in progress in the site did not find any evidence for the existence of such building so far.

The aim of this paper is to examine the available evidence from the two sites and offer a global interpretation of the Roman policy on the Red Sea/Indian Ocean border that can shed some light on how the Roman rulers envisaged the boundaries of their empire and how they tried to exert some form of control over areas that were in fact never properly conquered. A new interpretation of the relationship between Rome and these remote areas will be put forward, in the attempt to provide a model to understanding the actual reality behind the propagandistic idea of the *imperium sine fine*.

Laila NEHMÉ, *Frontiers beyond Frontiers in the Arabian Peninsula*

Affiliation: CNRS-UMR 8167 Orient & Méditerranée, France

Email: laila.nehme@cnrs.fr

Abstract: This paper will present evidence for a re-examination of the frontiers of the Roman Empire in the Arabian Peninsula. It is based on recent and new material from the area of ancient Hegra, in the Saudi Arabian Hijāz, as well as from areas beyond Hegra to the south and in the Red Sea.

Elsa PRICE, Jocelyn ANDERSON-WOOD, *Uncovering Roman Carlisle*

Affiliation: Tullie House Museum & Art Gallery, Carlisle, UK

Email: Elsa.Price@tulliehouse.org; jocelyna@tulliehouse.org

Abstract: Tullie has acted as a frontier of public engagement with Roman heritage from the Western end of Hadrian's Wall since its founding in 1893. The museum cares for and celebrates not only Roman archaeology but all local Human History, county wide Natural Sciences and a nationally renowned Fine and Decorative Art Collection.

The city of Carlisle rests on the foundations of the only *civitas* along Hadrian's Wall. With its two forts, it was the largest and most powerful manifestation of Roman power along the northern frontier of Britain. Despite this, Carlisle's Roman heritage can feel invisible in the city due to the lack of tangible archaeological remains. The last large-scale excavations across Carlisle in the late 20th century have faded from the public's imagination. The Hadrian's Wall tourist population typically gather along the central and eastern ends of the wall, taking in the sites of intact forts such as Vindolanda, Segedunum, Corbridge and the museums at Newcastle. Bringing Hadrian's Wall – its structures and its material culture – to the forefront of both local and tourist minds is an enduring challenge to the museum which must also balance its spaces with other core collections and audiences.

The project "Uncovering Roman Carlisle" offered the opportunity to work not only with a professional archaeology company, Wardell Armstrong LLP, but also directly with local people in order to engage Carlisle with an active excavation at the site of a Roman bathhouse in Stanwix. Tullie used this opportunity to increase local knowledge, excitement and pride in Carlisle's Roman heritage. The discovery of the bathhouse immediately changed current knowledge of the frontier. It has become the largest bathhouse structure yet excavated, with the largest quantity of IMP tiles, which, alongside the Severus inscription, indicates an imperial commission. The discovery of over 30 intaglios from drains rapidly generated national and international interest in the site.

Tullie has lead engagement of this excavation across Carlisle. From an onsite archaeology lab for volunteer excavators and visitors to an eight-venue touring exhibition across the city and a blockbuster summer exhibition hosted at the museum to celebrate 1900 years of the wall, the

project has engaged over 15,000 individuals. All these engagement techniques alongside key finds and findings from the excavation will be explored in this paper, demonstrating Tullie's commitment to leading innovation and expertise on the frontiers of public engagement and museological practice.

Angelina RAIČKOVIĆ SAVIĆ, Nemanja MRĐIĆ, *Destination Viminacium. Where to Deliver Goods at the Roman Frontier*

Affiliation: Institute of Archaeology, Belgrade, Serbia

Email: araickovic@yahoo.com; nemanjamrdjic@gmail.com

Abstract: Being on the frontier and on the Danube, major river communication, Viminacium become from the first century destination for both local and imported goods. The financial potential of the legionaries with high salaries was extraordinary magnet for traders. The cosmopolitan character of the city, as well as the process of Romanization, is also visible through consumption and demand of specific or characteristic products. Ultimately Viminacium become the largest city, production centre and the capital of the province *Moesia Superior*.

Amphoras, as the most distinctive production segment for decades, are found throughout the site in different contexts with a wide chronological span from the 1st until the end of 6th century AD. We will present distribution and origins as well the analysis of quantities estimated to be delivered and later found in the urban, suburban, funeral, and military contexts.

Following amphoras led us to mapping both spatial and chronological relations. Special attention is devoted to tastes and food preferences of the population. We will examine personal connections and origins with modern trends of the period to establish changes in traditions, Romanization or military campaigns influences. Secondary use of the amphoras was also discussed. Changes in trade trends are also visible and interpreted and influences on this changes analysed.

Marco RAMAZZOTTI, *Interaction between World Empires and Nomad Lands in South-Eastern Arabia, a Quick Glance*

Affiliation: Sapienza Università di Roma, Dipartimento di Scienze dell'Antichità, Italy

Email: marco.ramazzotti@uniroma1.it

Abstract: Some recent archaeological discoveries on the coasts of the Gulf of Oman draw attention to the socio-political relationships between the nomadic and maritime states facing the south-eastern coast of the Arabian Peninsula and the ancient world empires. The most ancient contact between the two different social and political organizations could be dated back at the time of the Kings of Akkad, but many aspects of the relation and of the conflict between the two distant socio-political organizations can be observed and translated until the second century, when romans tried

to dominate the commercial routes of the Indian Ocean. Although the military campaign of Trajan in the year AD 116 aimed at assuming control over the Indian Ocean failed, the discoveries in Musandam as well in other different harbours and sites of the western Arabian Sea are renewing and detailing the geo-historical knowledge of this frontier and revealing a more complex, multifaceted and stratified scenario connecting the two civilizations.

Gabriele RASBACH, Christoph RUMMEL, Sandra SCHRÖER-SPANG, *Early Frontiers and Boundaries of Rome: Intangible Fuzz or Open Borders?*

Affiliation: Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Römisch-Germanische Kommission, Germany

Email: gabriele.rasbach@dainst.de; christoph.rummel@dainst.de; sandra.schroer@dainst.de

Traditionally, Roman Frontier Studies – and the presentation and public awareness of Roman Frontiers in particular – tend to focus on established frontier lines of the late 1st and 2nd century AD or later, and on demarcated lines identifiable by major landmarks such as walls, berms or ditches. This is probably best reflected by the World Heritage Site “Frontiers of the Roman Empire”, and the fact that it “represents the border line of the Roman Empire at its greatest extent in the 2nd century AD” (UNESCO WHS description).

Particularly in the early periods of Roman expansion, however, Roman frontiers were not always linear and defined by physical infrastructure. The same is true, possibly even more so, for interior boundaries between Provinces. Early and interior demarcations of territory by Rome are not entirely understood and modern scholarship tends to use geographical pointers such as mountain ranges or rivers or infrastructure means such as roads as boundary markers.

With research projects in Northern Britain, the German Provinces, the Upper Danube and Croatia, the RGK investigates several early, non-linear frontier zones. This paper outlines research approaches and methods into these more “fuzzy borders” and hopes to stimulate discussion on how to deal with and presents the edge of Empire when and where it does not conform with the traditional and common image of a “Roman Frontier”.

Michel REDDÉ, *Zeus Helios Megas Sarapis. An Egyptian God in the Roman Praesidia of the Oriental Desert of Egypt*

Affiliation: École Pratique des Hautes Études, Paris, France

Email: michel.redde@ephe.psl.eu

Abstract: Located on the caravan trail leading from Coptos on the Nile to the port of Berenice on the Red Sea, the Fort of Dios has revealed a well-preserved military shrine. The excavations uncovered various statues on a masonry podium, one of which is still standing. All of them are relevant to the cult of Sarapis, whose inscription attests that it is a Zeus Helios *megas Sarapis*, very frequent in the eastern desert of Egypt in a military environment. This assimilation of the Roman Jupiter of the armies and a provincial god is not isolated, but it occurs here in a relatively late

context – the beginning of the 3rd century – and allows for new reflections on the forms of religiosity and culture of soldiers on the margins of the Empire.

Francesca RUSSO, *Bewcastle: a Roman Fort beyond Hadrian's Wall*

Affiliation: Independent Researcher

Email: russofra.92@gmail.com

Abstract: The Roman fort of Bewcastle, named after the castle built inside the fort area probably in the 11th century, lies on a geological plateau overlooking the river Kirk Beck which runs on its southern side. Therefore, the fort has an irregular and unique hexagonal shape. Today the area is occupied by St. Cuthbert's church and its churchyard to the south, by the Demesne Farm to the northern and north-western side, and by the Castle to the northern corner.

Since the 17th century, Roman evidence, such as many altars dedicated to the local god Cocidius and inscribed slabs dedicated to the Emperor or to Iuppiter, has occasionally been found in the site or in its surroundings. Most of this material was then lost or destroyed, but three of the altars are still preserved in the Tullie House Museum. In 1937 the first scientific excavations were carried out in the site, being promoted by I. A. Richmond who investigated part of the *praetorium*, the west side of the *principia* and the *porta decumana* through a series of trenches. A second excavation campaign was undertaken in 1949-1956 by J. Gilliam who discovered part of the bath house in the south-eastern part of the site. The third archaeological excavation was carried out in 1977-1978 by P. Austen who focused his attention on the north-western sector of the site, discovering part of a barrack building. The most recent excavation of 2004 focused on the restoration of the Medieval castle.

The aim of this research is to re-examine the site's topographical setting, trying to understand the reasons leading to the construction of a fort to the north of Hadrian's wall, outside the "borders" of the Roman province of Britain. The materials uncovered in the earlier excavations will be reconsidered too, trying to contextualise them and to revise their interpretation when necessary.

Steven E. SIDEBOTHAM, *Temples and Shrines as Cultural Cross-Roads at Berenike, Egypt: Near Eastern, South Arabian, Sub-Saharan African, Indian and Other Religious Influences at a Red Sea Port in Roman Times*

Affiliation: University of Delaware, USA

Email: ses@udel.edu

Abstract: The Ptolemaic-Roman (third century BC-sixth century AD) Red Sea emporium of Berenike, Egypt was a cultural crossroads where peoples, ideas and commodities from across the

Mediterranean world encountered those from the Near East, southern Arabia, sub-Saharan Africa, the Indian subcontinent and elsewhere.

There are many artifacts and ecofacts recorded from our excavations at Berenike that reflect these wide-ranging cosmopolitan contacts. This presentation, however, focuses on evidence for religious practices that lay outside the mainstream of traditional Greco-Roman, Christian and ancient Egyptian religions.

Our excavations between 1994 and 2023 have recorded the presence of numerous cult centers/temples at Berenike. These date primarily from the first to the fourth-fifth centuries AD. Most have preserved documentation for the veneration of multiple deities within each facility.

This presentation will examine the evidence for the worship and presence of objects connected with Palmyrene (Yarhibol/Hierobol), Persian (Zoroastrian), Meroitic (Sebiumeker and Arensnuphis), Blemmye (Isis, Serapis, Horus and, perhaps, Hermes), South Arabian/Axumite (Almaqah) and Indian (Buddhist and Hindu) religious practices. Most of this evidence is glyptic (sculptural), but some is also epigraphic.

Collectively, the evidence indicates a wide-ranging, ethnically, religiously and linguistically diverse population residing at Berenike in at least the first four or five centuries of the common era. The presence of such a variety of religious beliefs at Berenike in this period (alongside more traditional Greco-Roman and Egyptian cults, and Christianity) suggests, in general, that diverse groups of people resided at Berenike who were very tolerant and accepting of one another's beliefs and traditions.

Michael SOMMER, *Pentimento. Roman Frontiers and Modern Borders*

Affiliation: Carl von Ossietzky Universität Oldenburg, Institut für Geschichte, Germany

Email: michael.sommer@uni-oldenburg.de

Abstract: Rome was an empire, and an empire has frontiers, no borders. Yet, the Roman world was not limitless. In many areas, the Roman frontiers were zones of transition not just between different polities, but between civilizations and spaces the Romans perceived as barbarian, if not downright wild. Such frontiers left a permanent mark on many cultural landscapes. The paper will investigate a number of case-studies and trace the impact of Roman frontiers all the way down to the present.

Saskia STEVENS, Gertjan PLETS, *The Lower Germanic Limes as a Borderland* **Affiliation:**

Utrecht University, Department of History and Art History, The Netherlands

Email: s.stevens@uu.nl; g.f.j.plets@uu.nl

Abstract: The Lower Germanic Limes, created in the 80s CE, ran from the modern town of Katwijk in the Netherlands to the German town of Remagen, just south of Bonn. This Roman border

feature has had plenty of attention in the past fifty years and since 2021, the inscription of the Lower Germanic Limes as UNESCO World Heritage, has instigated further interest. Ancient sources describing the Limes are revisited to understand and interpret the border and even though the Limes often features on maps as a line, visually creating the suggestion of a territorial divider and hard border, in scholarship the interpretation has moved towards the idea of a contact zone, and we find terms as frontier and frontier zone in literature that seem to substantiate this understanding. In this contribution, we will first critically assess whether this change in interpretation is actually reflected in the analyses of archaeological data and is not merely about introducing a new terminology. Second, we will introduce the concept of the borderscape, a term coined in the social sciences, which allows for an interpretation of the Limes beyond dichotomies and binary oppositions that generally consist regarding border interpretation and conceptualization. A borderscape fosters the idea of a zone of cultural interaction and steers away from a purely military significance. It can function as a useful tool to understand the impact of borders on societal dynamics and its landscape. Finally, the talk will bring to the fore our interdisciplinary multi-year research project 'Constructing the Limes' that focuses on the significance and impact of the Lower Germanic Limes from antiquity to today. Applying the concept of the borderscape can help us to better understand the archaeological reality of the Lower Germanic Limes and contribute to its revalorization as cultural heritage.

Ljuben TEVDOVSKI, *The Political and Cultural Boundaries of the Roman Balkans through the Archaeological Collections of the Museum of the City of Skopje*

Affiliation: Goce Delcev University, Institute of History and Archaeology, Macedonia

Email: ljuben.tevdovski@ugd.edu.mk

Abstract: Initiated in the first post-war years and established in 1949, the Museum of the city of Skopje was envisioned to represent an important cultural core of the newly established Macedonian state. The museum of the new capital city reflected on the identity of modern Macedonia and Macedonians, deeply rooted on the classical narratives and traditions. With its rich archaeological collection, focused on the archaeological material from the ancient Roman city of Skupi, laying underneath the modern Macedonian capital, the museum still represents one of the most important archaeological and cultural institutions in the country.

Yet, despite its central position of a capital city museum, this institution also speaks of a local history, which is a history of borderlands and cultural interactions. Some researchers even relate the origin of the name of the city of Skopje with this identity, claiming that one of its historical variations Skopia is rooted in the function of this settlement as "watch-place" on the northern frontiers. The area of Skopje, called Skopje valley, spreading over the two shores of the "wide-running", "deep-whirling" river Axios, as Homer calls it, has been closely connected to the Mediterranean cultural influences for millennia. Yet, it also represents the most northern Axios (Vardar) valley and an area of the wider Aegean drainage basin that borders on the north the

geographic and drainage divides, as well as the cultural borders of the continental Central Europe. Thus, throughout history, it represented true borderlands and a meeting point of diverse cultural influences from the Mediterranean and continental areas of Eurasia.

This paper explores the three elements of borderland culture and frontier identity of Skopje valley during Roman times and their treatment and impact over museum collections. It elaborates over the borderlands' position and culture of this area in the first two centuries of the Roman presence in the Balkans. In addition, it reveals the position of this valley as cultural frontier between the prosperous and stable province of Macedonia and the militarized provinces of the Northern Balkans during the most prosperous period of the Roman Empire (1-3 century AD). Finally, it presents the cultural transformations provoked by the process of approaching of the northern imperial frontier that in the later empire reached the fringes of Skopje valley. The paper suggests that despite the position of the Museum of the city of Skopje, as important cultural core of the whole country and its culture, as a local museum it has one more story to tell. An important story of a Frontier Museum that reveals through its archaeological record the complex interactions of various people and cultures over the political and cultural boundaries of the Roman world.

Paola ZANOVELLO, Jacopo TURCHETTO, Andrea MELERI, *Interaction between Peoples and Cultures along the Roman Frontier: the Case of the Aures Mountains (Algeria)*

Affiliation: Università degli Studi di Padova, Dipartimento dei Beni Culturali: archeologia, storia dell'arte, del cinema e della musica, Italy

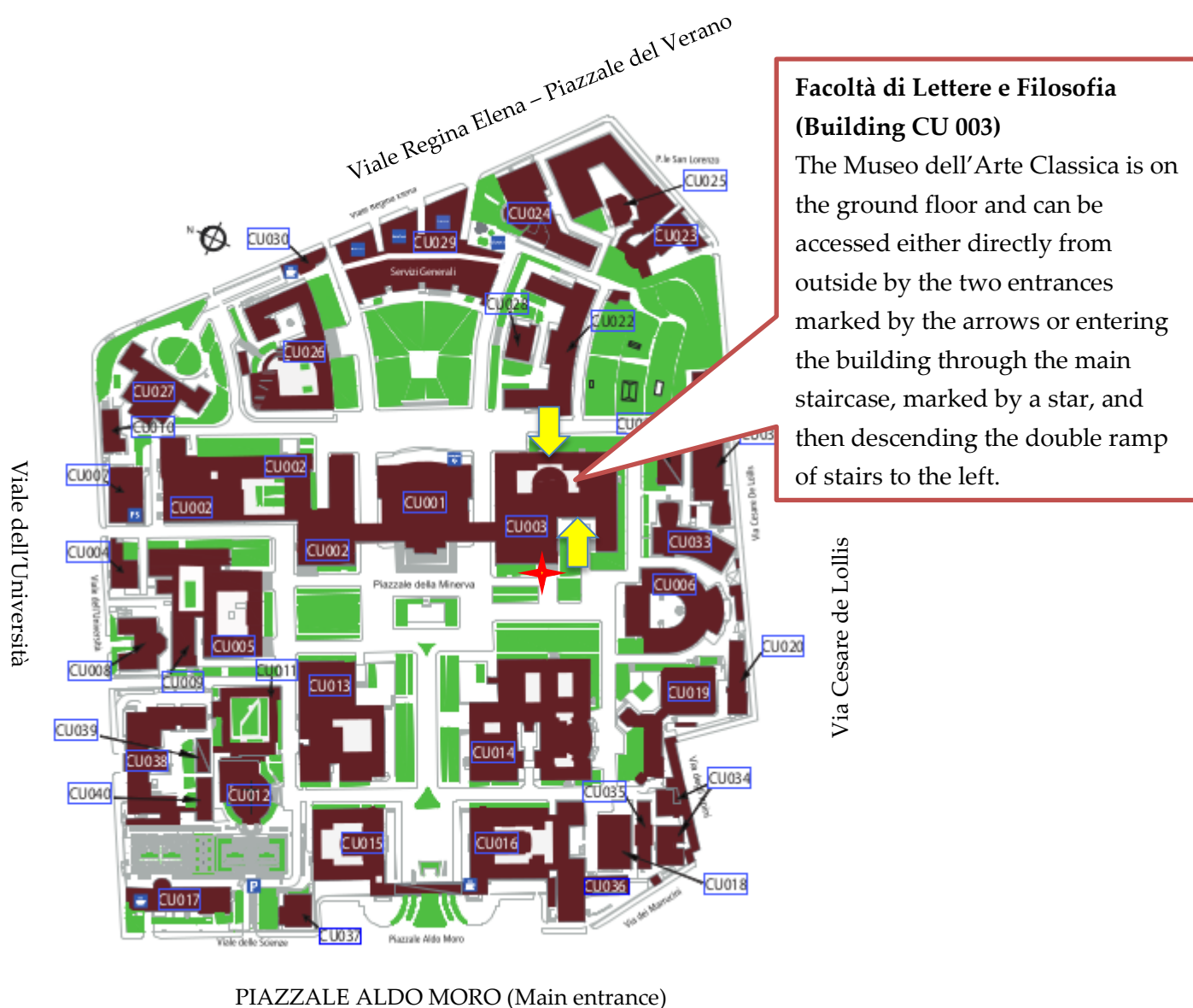
Email: paola.zanovello.1@unipd.it; jacopo.turchetto@unipd.it; andrea.meleri@gmail.com

Abstract: The Roman frontier in Algeria is well documented, not only by Stephane Gsell's monumental research of the early 1900s (Atlas and Monuments) but also through the extraordinary aerial surveys conducted by Jean Baradez, a French pilot who, at the end of World War II, dedicated himself to the systematic documentation of the extensive limes' traces in these areas. This field of research was eventually augmented in the 1990s by Pierre Morizot, who specifically investigated the area of the Aurès Mountains, already well known in ancient times as Aurasios Mons. This southern area, rich in resources despite its location so close to the vast Saharan desert expanse, was incorporated into the Romanised territory and defended by the long line of the limes that ran immediately to the south, a layout that is also recorded in the third segment of the Tabula Peutingeriana, where the main defensive posts are indicated and they are still perfectly recognizable today: Gemellae, Thabudeos, Badias.

The extensive archaeological record, still present in the long transverse valleys of the Aurès, testifies to the systematic exploitation of resources and the interactions and integration between local populations and Roman settlers.

Through the use of modern IT procedures, our group initiated a project to digitise and cross-reference existing documentary sources in order to guide on-site surveys of still-existing archaeological evidence in these areas.

MAP OF SAPIENZA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS



PIAZZALE ALDO MORO (Main entrance)

How to reach the Campus (see <http://www.atac.roma.it/>)

By public bus

Bus lines – Viale dell'Università 310 649

Bus lines – Viale Regina Elena 3 19 88

Bus lines – Via Cesare de Lollis 492

Bus/tram lines – Piazzale del Verano 3 19 71 88 163 492 542 545

By underground lines

Metro Linea B/B1, stop Policlinico, from Policlinico 7 minutes on foot, or stop Castro Pretorio, from Castro Pretorio 5 minutes on foot

Metro Linea A, stop Termini, from Termini railway station bus 310, bus 492 or 15 minutes on foot