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# TRAC Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference

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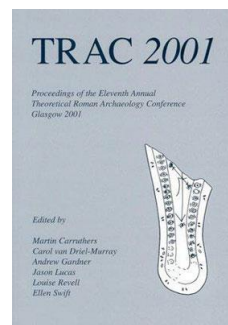
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Author(s): Martin Carruthers, Carol van Driel Murray,  
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Ellen Swift  
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# TRAC 2001

*Proceedings of the Eleventh Annual*

THEORETICAL ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE

*which took place at*

The University of Glasgow  
29–31 March 2001

*edited by*

Martin Carruthers, Carol van Driel-Murray, Andrew Gardner,  
Jason Lucas, Louise Revell and Ellen Swift

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## Preface

TRAC and the TRAC proceedings volumes are now a well-established part of research activities in Roman archaeology. There have over the years been many discussions about the future and direction of TRAC, and varying opinions about what is wrong with it, what is right about it, where we should be heading, and if we should all be heading in the same direction. In all this a pessimistic streak has been evident; but the fact that TRAC is sufficiently well-established to have the luxury of being able to engage in such arguments is testament to its healthy state.

At the organising meeting in Glasgow, however, a number of issues were raised which resulted in a new departure for TRAC – the formation of a standing committee of six members, drawn from past and future conference organisers plus representatives from museum and field unit archaeology. This committee will oversee general continuity between one conference and the next, elect a representative to the Roman Archaeology Committee, and act as a back-up to the specific organisers in various years where necessary.

The aims of the committee are to: 1) ensure the continuity of TRAC; 2) represent the interests of TRAC with regard to RAC; 3) promote TRAC within the wider archaeological community and ensure the participation within TRAC of all interested parties, not just those based in universities; 4) ensure that papers from the conference are then published.

It has been the task of this committee to organise the publication of this volume, exceptionally, since there was not a body of postgraduate students at Glasgow able to take it on. As ever, the eleven papers published in this volume are a selection of those given at the conference. Although lacking a common theme, they are representative of the broad range of Roman archaeology today, and share a commitment to a theoretically informed approach to the subject.

We would like to thank all the speakers who gave papers at TRAC 2001 and all those who attended the conference. Thanks go to the organisers and the discussants for the sessions, including Gillian Hawkes, Garrick Fincham, Richard Hingley and Ray Laurence. We would also like to thank the organisers of TRAC and RAC at Glasgow, the usual cohorts of volunteers who ensured its smooth running, the Glasgow Department of Archaeology and the University of Glasgow itself, as well as the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies for their continued support. TRAC was sponsored by the Roman Research Trust.

The production of this volume has only been made possible due to co-operation of the individual authors in meeting almost impossibly tight deadlines without complaint. We are grateful to the referees for their understanding and promptness in reading and returning papers. We would also like to thank David Brown for his continued support, and Val Lamb at Oxbow Books for setting the book.

Martin Carruthers, Carol van Driel Murray, Andrew Gardner,  
Jason Lucas, Louise Revell, Ellen Swift