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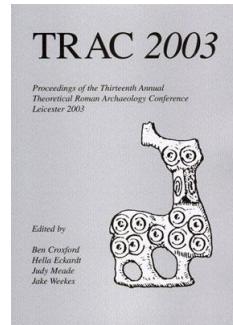
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TRAC 2003

*Proceedings of the Thirteenth Annual
THEORETICAL ROMAN ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE*

which took place at

The University of Leicester
3–6 April 2003

edited by

Ben Croxford, Hella Eckardt, Judy Meade and Jake Weekes

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Preface

This volume presents twelve of the thirty-two papers given at the 13th Theoretical Roman Archaeology Conference, held at the University of Leicester in April 2003. We would like to thank all those who contributed papers and posters as well as all session organisers and discussants. TRAC 2003 was held jointly with RAC and we would like to thank Neil Christie, Simon James, David Mattingly and Jeremy Taylor for their support throughout.

TRAC 2003 was generously supported by the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies and by Barbican Research Associates. Finally, we would like to thank the referees for commenting on papers so promptly and fully and David Brown from Oxbow Books for his continued commitment to the publication of these proceedings.

The papers in this volume fall into five themes.

- 1) The first three papers are concerned with material culture, consumption and identity and were given in the ‘Practice of Theory in Roman Archaeology’ session organised by Andrew Gardner. Two present new approaches to pottery assemblages while the third focuses on a specific pottery form (mortaria) and small finds.
- 2) The next four papers were part of the ‘Memory and the Past in the Roman period’ session organised by Hella Eckardt. These include two more thematic papers, focusing in particular on issues of forgetting, and two case studies from Greece and Britain.
- 3) Two papers look at new approaches to Roman landscapes, one given in the ‘Where’s the Landscape?’ session organised by James Bruhn and Ben Croxford, and the other in the session organised by Andrew Gardner.
- 4) Two papers are drawn from the ‘Body and Soul: Health, Treatment and Well-being in the Roman World’ session organised by Patricia Baker, Rebecca Redfern and Rebecca Gowland. While one focuses on artefacts (curse tablets), the other discusses new integrated approaches to skeletal data.
- 5) Finally, there is one paper from the ‘Writing and Using Histories of Roman Archaeology’ session organised by Colin Wallace. This paper considers the origins of Romano-British studies and acknowledges the role played by a very early scholar.

The volume was edited by the conference organisers (Hella Eckardt and Judy Meade), together with Jake Weekes (who provides a link with the previous TRAC, held at Canterbury in 2002) and Ben Croxford (who provides a link with the next TRAC, to be held at Durham in 2004). We hope that such an arrangement will foster editorial continuity and allow TRAC to continue to provide an exciting and informal environment for discussion and debate.