

An Introduction to the archaeology and landscapes of Roman Britain

Start date	6 th April 2018	End date	8 th April 2018
Venue	Madingley Hall Madingley Cambridge		
Tutor	Prof. Stephen Upex	Course code	1718NRX050
Interim Co-Directors of Public and Professional Programmes	Dr Liz Morfoot Dr Tom Monie		
For further information on this course, please contact	Public Programme Coordinator, Clare Kerr clare.kerr@ice.cam.ac.uk or 01223 746237		
To book	See: www.ice.cam.ac.uk or telephone 01223 746262		

Tutor biography Stephen Upex has written on a wide variety of topics related to British landscape history and archaeology and his interests range from Roman and Saxon landscapes and archaeology to medieval open fields systems – a topic which formed the subject of his PhD dissertation. He worked at the University Brunei Darussalam from 1996- 2008 and, since 2009, has been a part-time tutor at ICE. He has directed excavations on Roman and Saxon sites in the East Midlands and contributed to several Time Team programmes for Channel Four. Currently Stephen is writing up a series of landscape and archaeological reports and books on sites within the East Midlands. Three of these have been published: one on 4th century pottery kilns (*Archaeological Journal*) at Stibbington; another (*Britannia*) on the major palatial Roman structure at Castor near Peterborough; and a third volume, on the Iron Age and Roman landscapes in the Nene valley at Ferry Meadows (Peterborough). His book on the *Romans in the East of England* was published in 2008. Stephen's current research interests include various aspects related to medieval agriculture and the landscape and archaeology of Roman and Saxon settlement. He is currently writing a book on the Roman pottery industry within the lower Nene valley and researching the life and work of the 19th century antiquarian Edmund Artis. He is also leading a major project involving remote sensing, field survey and excavation into the landscape of the Roman town of *Durobrivae* where he has already part excavated the small Roman fort at Water Newton, which preceded the town, and is now currently surveying the interior of the Roman town prior to selected excavations. In addition Stephen lectures widely within the UK and works as a freelance archaeologist and consultant. He is a member of the Chartered Institute for Field Archaeologists (MCIfA) and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries (FSA).

Course programme

Friday

Please plan to arrive between 16:30 and 18:30. You can meet other course members in the bar which opens at 18:15. Tea and coffee making facilities are available in the study bedrooms.

19:00	Dinner.
20:30 – 22:00	Introduction – Iron Age background/Roman invasion of AD 43
22:00	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Saturday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	The army, forts and fortresses, the frontier, roads
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	Towns and their development, villas, agriculture
13:00	Lunch
14:00 – 16:00	Free
16:00	Tea
16:30 – 18:00	Roman industry and commerce
18:00 – 18:30	Free
18:30	Dinner
20:00 – 21:30	A practical session handling Roman artefacts (pottery, coins etc) from recent excavations
21:30	Terrace bar open for informal discussion

Sunday

07:30	Breakfast
09:00 – 10:30	Religion, beliefs and burial
10:30	Coffee
11:00 – 12:30	The end of Roman Britain and what came next.
12:45	Lunch

The course will disperse after lunch

Course syllabus

The course aims to cover the Iron Age background to Roman Britain and chart the progress of the Invasion of AD 43 with a discussion and evaluation of forts and military installations including the Hadrianic and Antonine frontiers. The landscape of towns, villas and the countryside will link with discussions of trade, religion, and death and burial. One session will be a practical period when the group can handle original Roman objects from recent excavations.

Aims:

1. Provide an overview of the way that the history and archaeology of Roman Britain unfolds
2. Students will have a general overview of the main features of the Roman built and rural landscapes
3. Students will have a grasp of the way in which Roman society operated within Britain
4. The course will also provide an overview of the types of objects and artefacts which are associated Roman Britain and how to recognise such material culture.

Content:

An introductory session to the course will be followed by topic-based sessions on the Iron Age background to Roman Britain, and then by an account of the invasion in 43 AD of the province. This will be followed by work on forts, fortresses and the Hadrianic frontier and then an outline of the Roman army. Roman towns will be discussed and their development and decline plotted. The rural economy will be linked with villas and the landscape as well as other aspects of commerce such as pottery, metalworking and other trade industries. A discussion on religion, beliefs systems and the disposal of the dead will also include information on early Christianity. The final lecture session will be on the decline of Roman Britain. One session will be set aside for handling Roman artefacts from recent excavations and these objects will link with the other sessions covered during the weekend.

Presentation of the course:

A series of lecture led topics, with ample opportunity for discussion and questions along the way linked with a practical handling session of original Roman artefacts.

As a result of the course, within the constraints of the time available, students should be able to:

1. Demonstrate an understanding of the broad range of Roman monuments which survive in the archaeological record and how and why they were built.
2. Have an understanding of the way in which society developed throughout the Roman period.
3. Have a basic understanding of the range of artefacts which survive from the Roman period and be able to recognise those artefacts and understand some of the processes of their manufacture.
4. Understand how the Roman province was administered, occupied, controlled and then abandoned.

Reading and resources list

Listed below are texts that might be of interest should you wish to supplement your learning on the course. Any essential reading is marked with an asterisk *

Author	Title	Publisher and date
Dark, K. & P. Dark	1997 <i>The landscape of Roman Britain</i> ,	Stroud: Sutton
De la Bedoyere, G.	1993 <i>Roman villas and the countryside</i> ,	London: Batsford
Frere, S.S. & J.K. St Joseph	1983 <i>Roman Britain from the air</i> ,	Cambridge: CUP
Jones, B. & D. Mattingly	1990 <i>An atlas of Roman Britain</i> ,	Oxford: Blackwell
Millett, M. Revell, L. and Moore, A.	2016. <i>The Oxford handbook of Roman Britain</i> ,	Oxford
Morehead, S and Stuttard, D.	2012. <i>The Romans who shaped Britain</i> .	Thames and Hudson
Upex, S.G.	2008. <i>The Romans in the East of England</i> ,	Tempus

Note Students of the Institute of Continuing Education are entitled to 20% discount on books published by Cambridge University Press (CUP) which are purchased at the Press bookshop, 1 Trinity Street, Cambridge (Mon-Sat 9am – 5:30pm, Sun 11am – 5pm). A letter or email confirming acceptance on to a current Institute course should be taken as evidence of enrolment.

Information correct as of: 20 March 2018