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Eduqas Latin GCSE

Teaching Support Material for Component 3B:  
Roman Civilisation

*Topic 4: Roman Britain*

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## Introduction

This booklet of sources on Roman Britain is intended to support teachers and students preparing for Topic 4 of the EDUQAS GCSE Unit 3B: Roman Civilisation Topic 4: Roman Britain.

### Important notice: the purpose and status of this booklet

The purpose of this booklet is to provide teachers with a wide range of sources for their teaching. It should therefore be considered only as a **teaching support publication**. At GCSE, such booklets are not intended to be definitive catalogues of sources which may be used in the examination and students should not attempt, nor be encouraged, to 'rote learn' the sources contained within. Although examiners may use some of the sources in the booklets, other similar sources may also be used in the GCSE examination.

Likewise, teachers should feel under no obligation to study any or all of the sources contained herein with their students.

### Relevant Stages of the Cambridge Latin Course

Books II and III of the Cambridge Latin Course and the accompanying Teacher's Guides contain a significant amount of primary source material, together with explanatory texts, to support this topic:

#### Book II

Stage 13: Country villas and farming

Stage 14: Roads, travel and trade

Stage 14: Britain in the first century AD

Stage 15: Cogidubnus and Fishbourne palace

Stage 16: Cogidubnus and Fishbourne palace

#### Book III

Stages 21-23: Bath (Aquae Sulis)

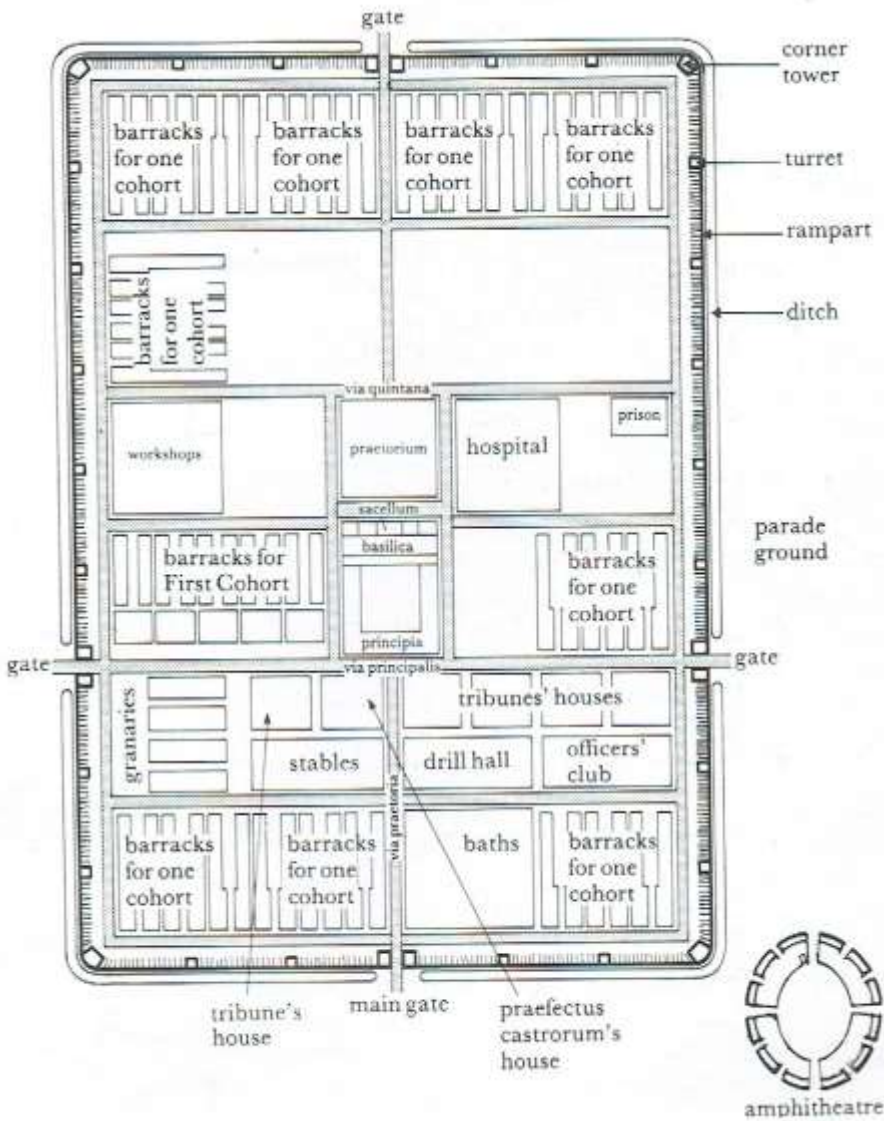
Stage 24: Roads, travel and trade

Stage 27: The legionary fortress at Chester (Deva)

## **The legionary fortress at Chester (Deva)**



Model of the Roman legionary fortress at Chester (Deva)



Plan of a legionary fortress (based on Chester)



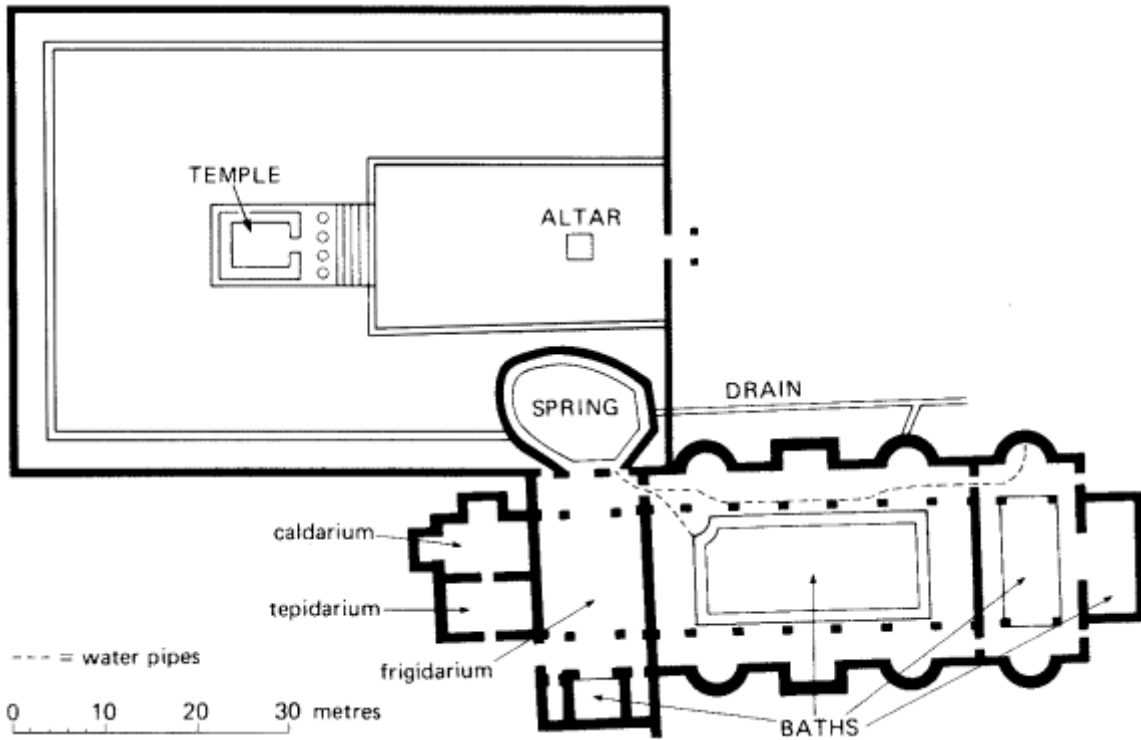
**Barrack block, Caerleon**



**Model of the principia at Chester**

# **Aquae Sulis**





Plan of the baths complex at Aquae Sulis



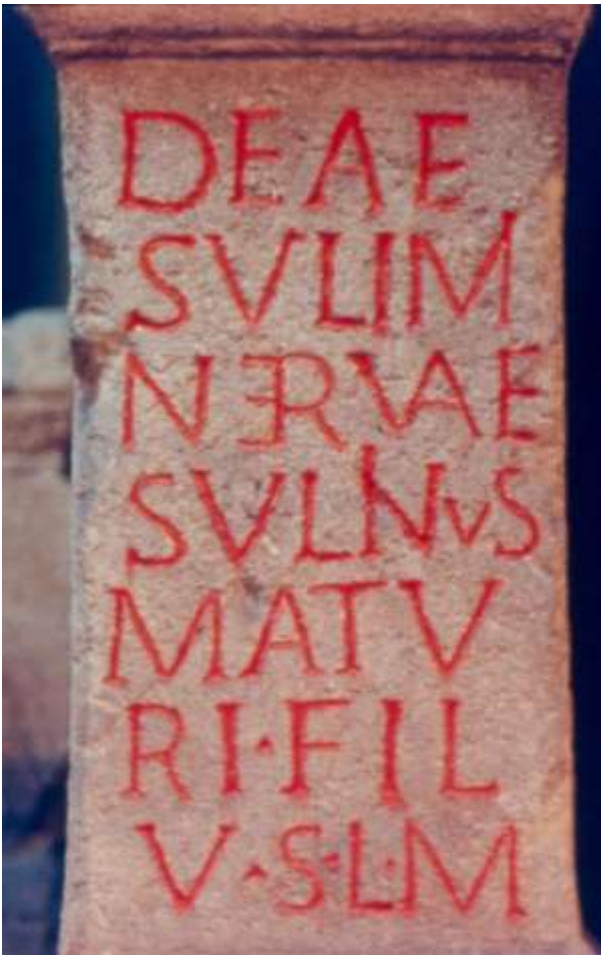
Gorgon's head, temple of Sulis Minerva, Bath



**Lead pipe, Roman Baths, Bath**



**Hypocaust, caldarium, Roman Baths, Bath**



Altar, Bath

Sulinus, Son of Maturus, willingly and deservedly fulfilled his vow to the goddess Sulis Minerva.



Statue base, Bath

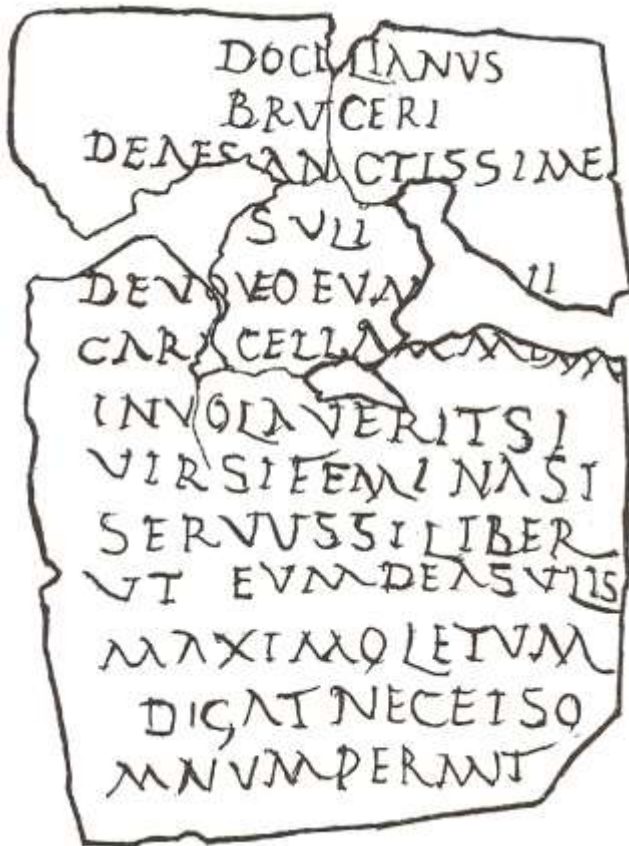
Lucius Marcius Memor gave this as a gift to the goddess Sulis.



**Altar, temple of Sulis Minerva, Bath**

**Gold earring, found in the sacred spring**





**Curse tablet, Bath**

Docilianus, son of Brucerus, to the most holy goddess Sulis. I curse him who has stolen my hooded cloak, whether man or woman, whether slave or free, that the goddess Sulis drive him to the greatest death and not allow him sleep [continues on other face] or children, now or in the future, until he has brought my hooded cloak to the temple.



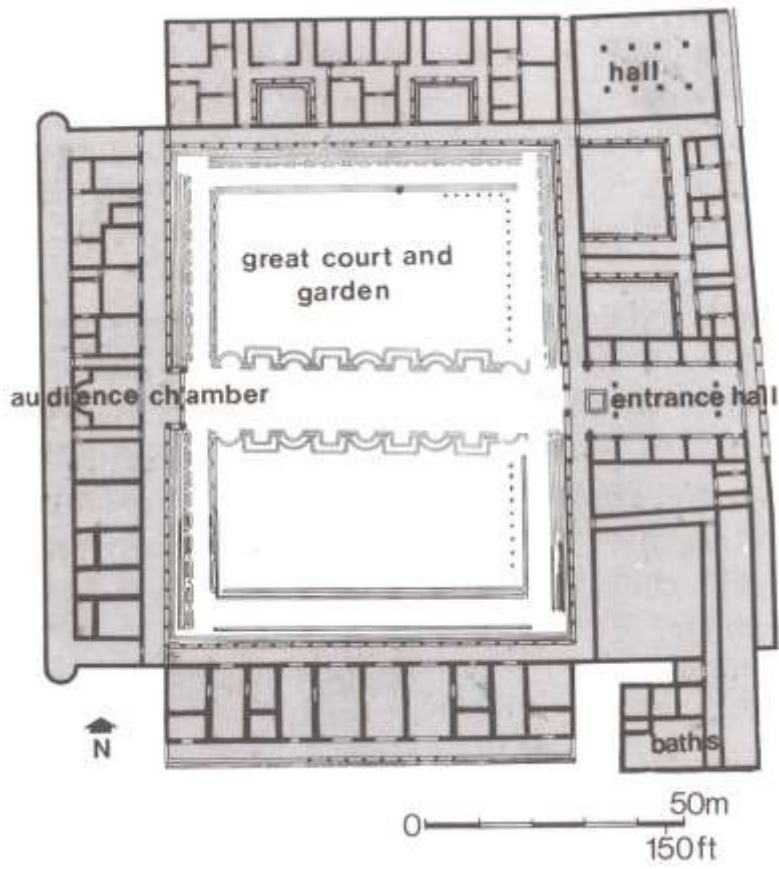
**Drawing and inscription, tomb, Hadrumetum, North Africa**

I charge you demon, whoever you are, and demand of you, from this day, from this hour, from this minute, that you torture the horses of the Greens and the Whites, and that you kill and crash their drivers, Clarus and Felix and Primulus and Romanus, and leave them without life. I charge you by the god of the sea, who set you free at the right time, and by the god of the air...



**Model of the temple and baths complex at Aquae Sulis**

# **The Roman 'Palace' at Fishbourne**



**Plan of Fishbourne 'Palace'**

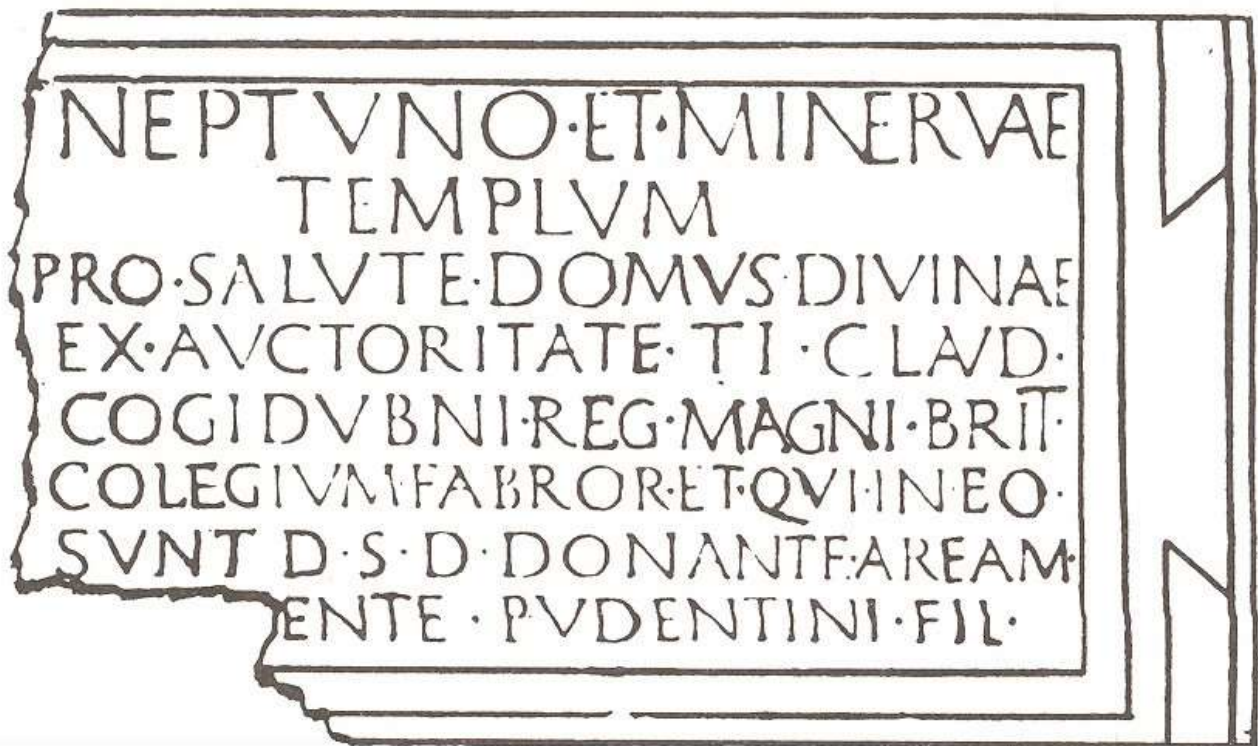


**Model of Fishbourne 'Palace'**



**Tacitus, Agricola 14 (CSCP translation)**

The nearest part of Britain was gradually made into a province. A colonia of veteran soldiers was set up there. Some tribal states were handed over to King Cogidubnus who has remained completely loyal down to our own times. This is a good example of how we Romans use even kings to help us make people slaves.



**Temple dedication stone, Chichester (RIB 91 – translation CSCP)**

To Neptune and Minerva, for the welfare of the divine house, by the authority of Tiberius Claudius Cogidubnus, Great King of the Britons, the Guild of Smiths and those in it gave this temple at their own expense. ...ens, son of Pudentinus, presented the forecourt.



Mosaic, north wing



Mosaic, north wing,  
showing Cupid riding a dolphin



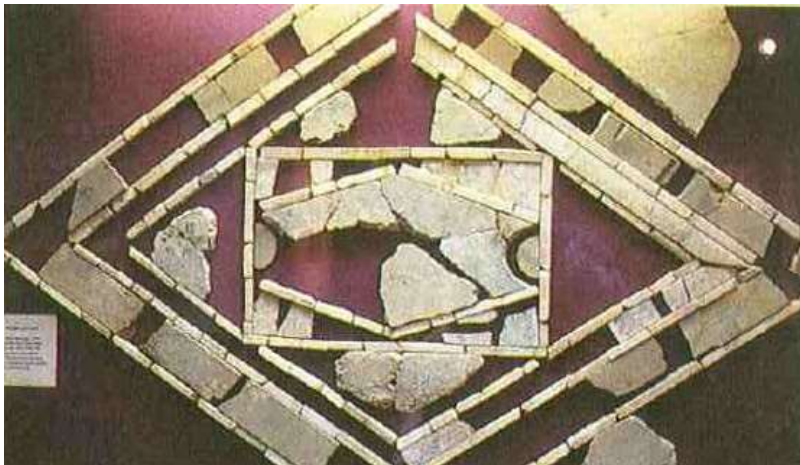
**Mosaic, north wing**



**Stucco wall frieze, north wing**



**Fragment of painted wall plaster**



**Marble wall decoration**

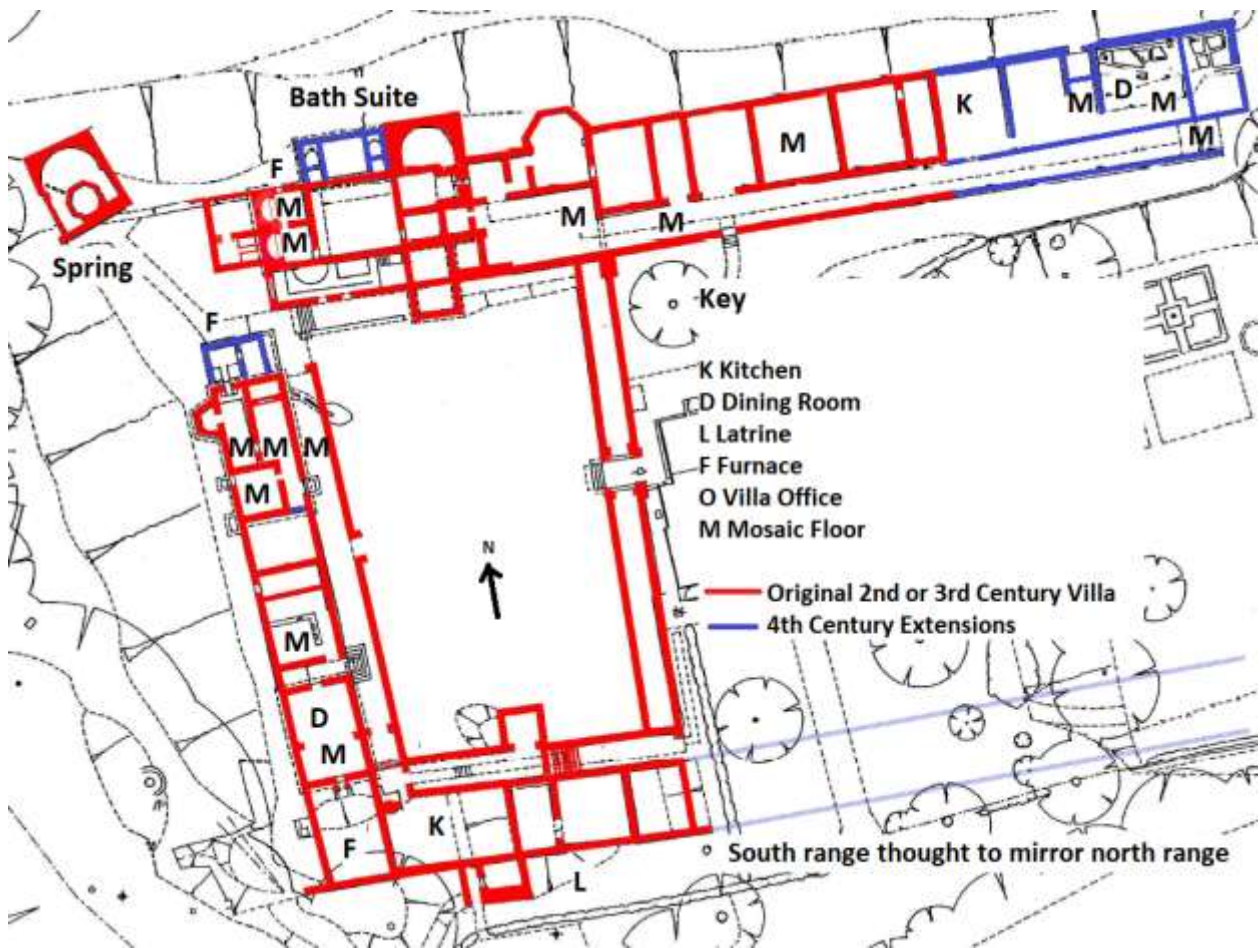


**Bedding slots, garden**



**Box hedges, garden**

## **Country villas and farming**



Plan of Chedworth Roman villa



Reconstruction of Chedworth Roman Villa in the 4<sup>th</sup> Century



**Reconstruction of a later villa in Lullingstone, Kent**

### **Columella, De Re Rustica I.6 (CSCP translation)**

The size of the villa and the number of its parts should all be in proportion, and it should be divided into three areas: the living area, the farming area, and the storage area. The living area should be subdivided into winter and summer apartments, so that the winter bedrooms face south-east to get the sun in the morning, and the winter dining-room faces west to get the sun in the evening. The summer bedrooms, on the other hand, should face south, but the summer dining-rooms should face south east. The baths should face north-west, so that they may have light from midday right up to evening. The perystilia should be sited so that they receive both the maximum of sun in winter and the minimum in summer.

In the farming part of the villa there should be a large kitchen with a high ceiling. This is to make sure that the rafters are well clear of the fire and also provide a room where all the household can be together at any time of the year.

The villa should have an oven and a mill large enough to provide flour for all the household.

It is best to build the cells of the slaves who are not kept in chains facing south.

For cattle there should be stables which will not be troubled by either heat or cold; for animals broken in for work, two sets of stalls – one for winter, another for summer; and for the other animals which need to be kept within the farming part of the villa there should be places partly covered, partly open to the sky, and surrounded with high walls so that the animals may rest in the one place in winter, in the other in summer, without being attacked by wild beasts. But stables should be roomy and arranged so that no moisture can get in and that whatever is made there may run off very quickly, to prevent the rotting of either the bases of the walls or the hooves of the cattle.

Near both of them should be the store-room in which all the farm tools are kept; inside this there should be a place for locking up the iron tools.

The cells for the shepherds and the oxherds should be close to their animals so that they can easily run out and attend to them. However, they should all live as closely together as possible so that the vilicus doesn't have to waste too much time in making the rounds and also so that they can all watch each other and gather information about who works hard and who doesn't.

In the storage area of the villa there should be rooms for oil, for presses, for wine, for boiling down must, lofts for hay and chaff, store-rooms and granaries. The ground floor is to be used for liquid products which are to be sold – wine, for example, and oil. Dry goods such as grain, hay, leaves, chaff and other fodder should be stored in lofts.

The wine store should be on the ground floor and it should be well away from the baths, the oven, the midden and other filthy places which give off evil smells.

It is all right to store wine above places from which smoke rises since wines mature more quickly in some sorts of smoke.

The press-rooms and the rooms where the oil is stored should be warm. Natural warmth is what is wanted and this depends on the direction in which the room faces. Don't use fires or torches as soot and smoke will spoil the taste of the oil. For this reason, the press-rooms should face south.

The cauldron-room in which defrutum is made shouldn't be so narrow and dark as to cramp the slave who is boiling down the must.

There should be a smoke-room in which timber which has been recently cut down can be seasoned quickly. It can be built near the slaves' bathhouse. (It is important that the slaves should have somewhere to go for a bath – but only on feast days for too much bathing isn't good for the health.)





Map showing the locations of Roman villas in Britain



Slave chains, Lord's Bridge, Cambridgeshire



**Bill hook from Fishbourne**

**Columella, De Re Rustica (Meg Thorpe adaptation and translation )**

He (the bailiff) must look after the farm equipment and the tools. He must keep in good repair in the store room all the tools the slaves need. He must organise the slaves' clothing, which should protect them from the wind and the rain. The best clothes are leather tunics with long sleeves or cloaks with hoods. He should be first out of bed in the morning, as it is most important that the slaves begin work at the crack of dawn and get on with it without slacking.

**Cato, De Agricultura 56-57 (CSCP Translation)**

Rations for the household: for those who labour, in winter, four modii of wheat, and in summer, four and a half. For the bailiff, the housekeeper, the foreman, and the shepherd, three modii of wheat. For the chain-gang, four pounds of bread in winter, five when they begin to work the vines, then return to four when the figs ripen.



**Mosaic showing Hunting dogs, Corinium Museum (Cirencester)**

**Pliny, Natural History XVIII.41-3 (CSCP translation)**

Gaius Furius Chresimus was a freedman. He owned a tiny scrap of land, but he always gathered a much bigger harvest than the men who owned the huge farms all around. They turned against him and accused him of stealing everybody else's crops by magic. He was summoned to court by the aedile Spurius Albinus. He thought he was going to lose the case, so before judgement was passed, he brought all his gear from the country into the forum. He brought his slaves – big strong fellows, all well dressed and well fed, his iron tools all beautifully made, his heavy mattocks, his massive ploughs and his fat oxen and he said: 'There's my magic, gentlemen! I'm afraid I can't show you my late nights, early mornings and sweat.' They all declared him innocent.



**Bronze model of a ploughman,  
Piercebridge, County Durham**

## Columella, On Agriculture 1.8

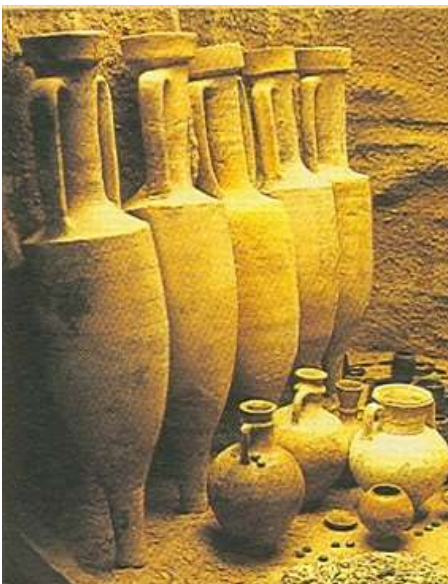
There is no better method of maintaining control over even the most worthless of men than demanding hard labor ... After their exhausting toil, they will turn their attention to rest and sleep rather than to fun and games ...

It should be an established custom for the landowner to inspect the slaves chained in the prison, to examine whether they are securely chained, whether their quarters are safe and well guarded, whether the foreman has put anyone in chains or released anyone from chains without his master's knowledge.

A diligent master investigates the quality of his slaves' food and drink by tasting it himself. He examines their clothing, hand-coverings, and food-coverings. He should even grant them the opportunity of registering complaints against those who have harmed them either through cruelty or dishonesty ... I have given exemption from work and sometimes even freedom to very fertile female slaves when they have borne many children, since bearing a certain number of offspring ought to be rewarded. For a woman who has three sons, exemption from work is the reward; for a woman who has more, freedom.

Shelton, Jo-Ann (1988) *As the Romans Did: Sourcebook in Roman Social History*, Oxford, OUP, p.172

*Among the items exported from Britain in Roman times were grain, hunting dogs and metals: iron, gold, tin and lead. In return, Britain imported wine, oil, and other goods from Rome and the rest of the Empire.*



**A wealthy Briton who died shortly before the Roman conquest was already importing wine. He had jars of it (amphorae) buried with him.**



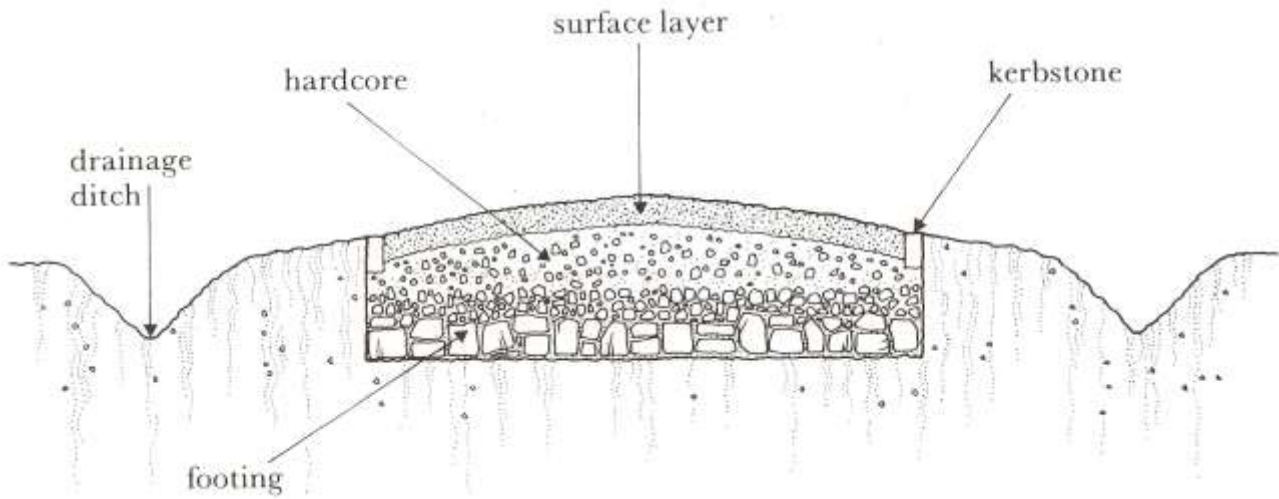
**A lead miner**

## **Altar, Domburg, Netherlands (ILS 4751 – Lactor translation)**

To the goddess Nehalennia, on account of goods duly kept safe, Marcus Secund[inius?] Silvanus, trader in pottery with Britain, fulfilled his vow willingly and deservedly.

**Lactor 4, Inscriptions of Roman Britain, 216**

# Roman Roads



**Cross-section of a Roman Road**



**Roman road, Vindolanda**



**Watling Street, Northamptonshire**



**Milestone, near Llanfairfechan, Conwy**



**Light carriage relief,  
Igel, Germany**



Map of Roman Britain in the later first century AD



A traveller in a hooded cloak