

THE ASHMOLEAN LATIN INSCRIPTIONS PROJECT (AshLI): Bringing epigraphic research to museum visitors and schools



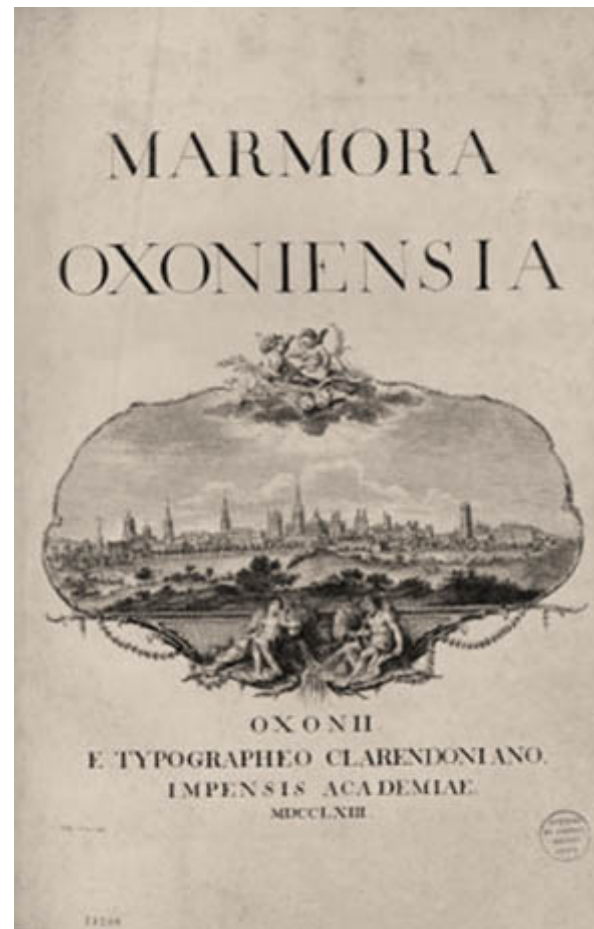
Dr Jane Masségia, CSAD, University of Oxford



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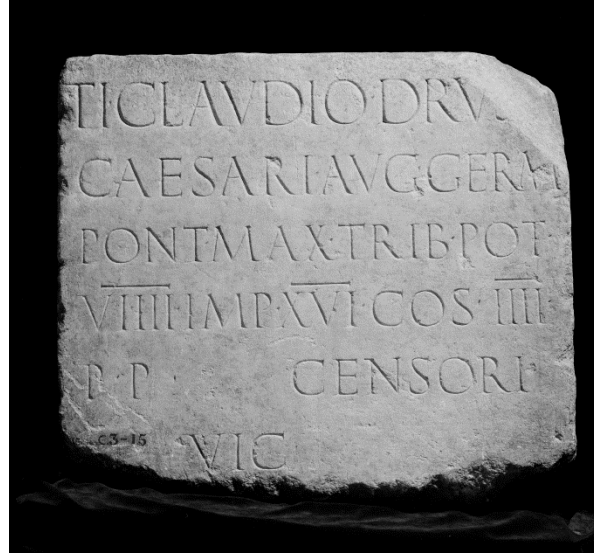
Thomas Howard, 21st Earl of Arundel
(1585 – 1646)



Richard Chandler,
Marmora Oxoniensia (1763)



Labels and Stamps



Honorific



Votive



Funerary



Gold-glass

Over 300
Latin-
inscribed
objects in
total



School children
& Teachers



The Visually
Impaired



University Students
& Teachers



International
Academics

Alison Cooley



THE UNIVERSITY OF
WARWICK

Susan Walker



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Charles Crowther



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Janie Masségia



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Ben Altshuler



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Epigraphic Research

Inventory of Ashmolean
Latin Inscriptions

Research, RTI, Digital Photography

New Catalogue

Public Engagement

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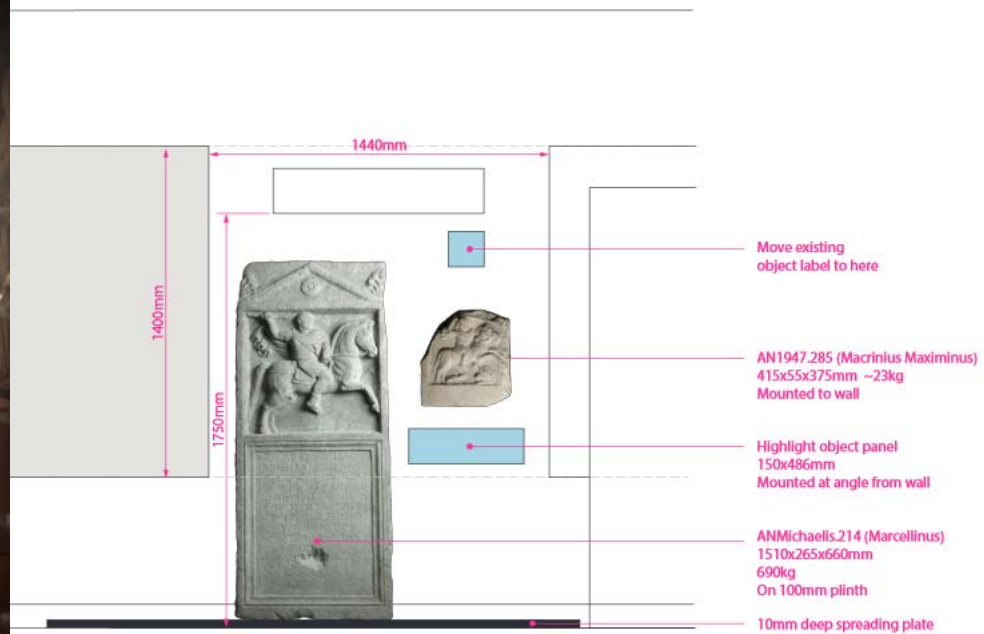
Social Media

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Rome Gallery



Rome Gallery

Ritual Feasting

For many Romans, sharing food was an important part of any religious celebration. Some belonged to cult associations ('sodalitates') which functioned like private dining clubs, organizing ritual feasts using funds contributed by their members.

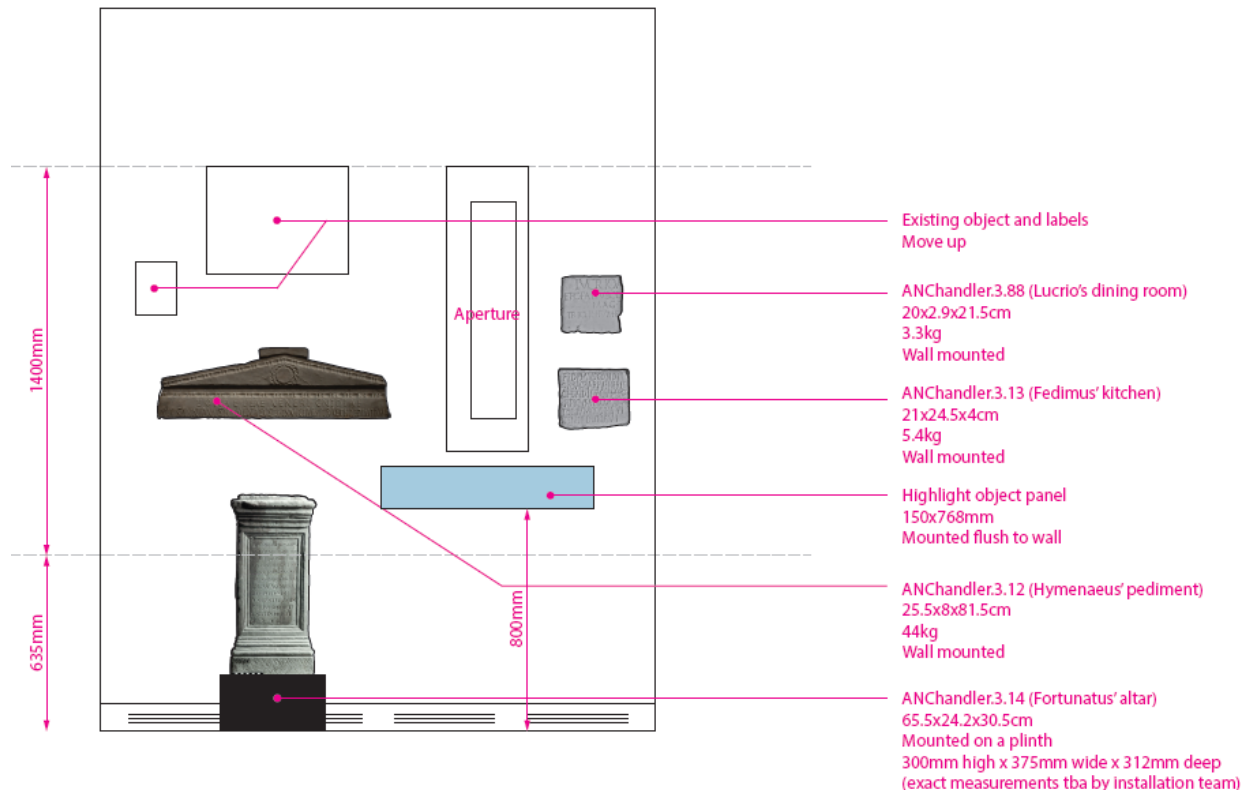
These inscriptions were set up by individuals keen to advertise their generosity towards a cult association. They record donations towards various feasting essentials including food and even a dining room. One man, named Fedimus, set up an inscription after furnishing his cult association with a new shrine, portico, and kitchen.

- 1 Pediment dedicated to Bona Dea Venus, Rome, AD 160-212, marble. Arundel coll., ANCHANDLER.3.12.
'To the Good Goddess Venus of Cnidus. Decimus Iunius Annianus Hymenaeus and the sodality Invicta Phaedimiana gave as a gift.'
- 2 Inscription commemorating a new shrine to Cnidian Venus, Rome, AD 160-212, marble. Arundel coll., ANCHANDLER.3.13.
'I, Fedimus, founder of the shrine of Cnidian Venus, established it with a portico and kitchen, and in addition I also donated it.'

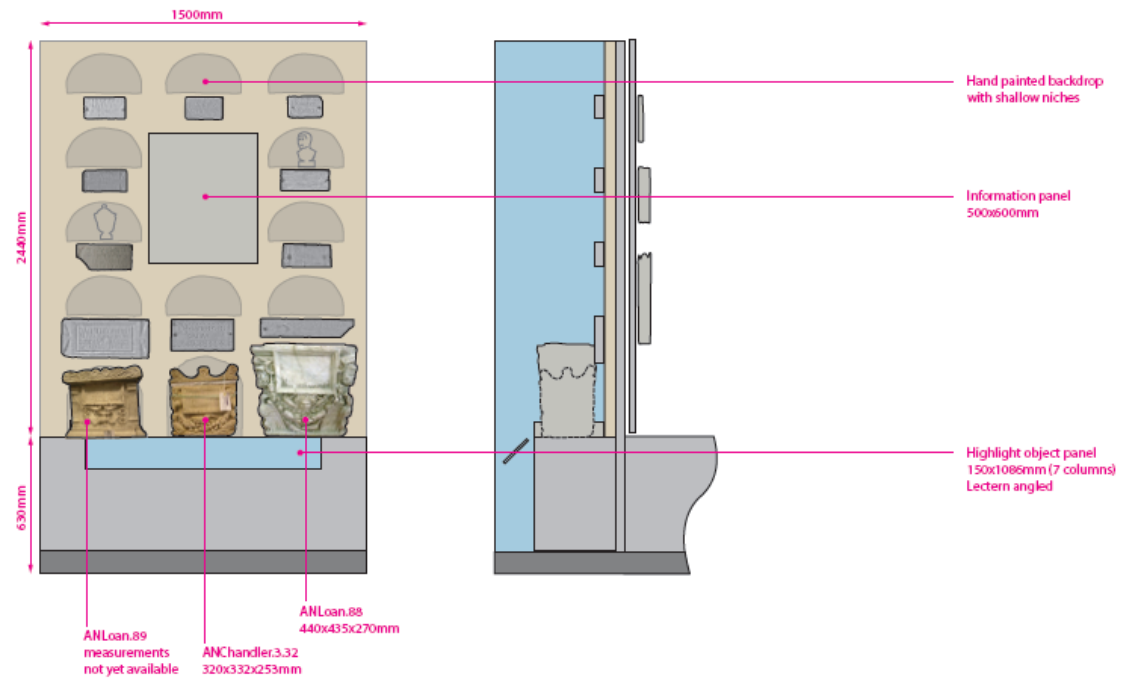
- 3 Inscription commemorating the dedication of a triclinium (dining room), Rome, 20 BC - AD 20, marble. Arundel coll., ANCHANDLER.3.88.
'Lucrio, slave of A. Ikenus Varus, and Gaius Fabius Agathopus freedman of Gaius and of a woman, officials for the third time, donated an elegant dining-room.'
- 4 Altar dedicated to Silvanus and the Lares, Rome, 1st August AD 108, marble. Arundel coll., ANCHANDLER.3.14.
'Tiberius Claudius Fortunatus, freedman of the emperor, set this up sacred to Silvanus, as a gift for the cult association of Silvanus and of the Lares

through the agency of his friends. He also dedicated and gave a feast to officials, four in number, on the 1st August in the consulship of Gaius Minicius Fundanus and Gaius Vettennius Severus.'

Displayed as part of the Ashmolean Latin Inscriptions Project, supported by



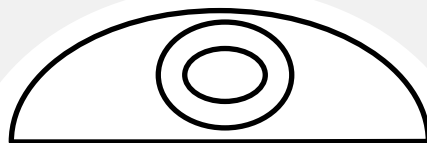
Reading & Writing Gallery



Reading & Writing Gallery



Touchable replica
of ANChandler.3.5



D M

To the spirits of the dead

M.

Marcus

POMPONIUS

MAXIMUS

the Greatest

ARRIAE

for Arria

PAULLAE

the Little

MATRI SUAE

his mother

FECIT

made this.

QUI VIXIT ANNOS

who lived for ... years

LXI

61

I.

Julius

FLAVIUS

L.

Lucius

VALERIUS

RUFUS

the Redhead

VITALIS

the Lively

LIVIAE

for Livia

TERTIAE

the Third

IULIAE

for Julia

PULCHRAE

the Beautiful

CONIUGI OPTIMO

his excellent wife

FILIAE CARISSIMAE

his dearest daughter

XXIV

24

XXXVI

36

Who set up the
tombstone?

Many Romans had
a third, nickname

Who is the
tombstone for?

How old were they
when they died?

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Reading, Writing, Romans

The Ashmolean Latin Inscriptions Project (AshLI)



RECENT POSTS

- The Roman soldier who went to Newcastle and punched Hercules
- 'He lived 5 years, 2 months, 6 days, 6 hours' – The Roman child-slave and the woman who loved him
- When is a Roman not a Roman? International relations on Duty Free Delos
- Teaching with Ancient Artefacts: Classics Teachers' INSET day at the Ashmolean Museum, 22nd November 2014
- Now you see it, now you don't: a disappearing text from Roman Chester

RECENT COMMENTS

- Latin Inscriptions on A Roman Centurion in London
- Mike Bishop on A Roman Centurion in London

ARCHIVES

- September 2014
- August 2014
- July 2014
- May 2014
- April 2014
- March 2014
- January 2014
- December 2013
- November 2013

EPIGRAPHY, LATIN INSCRIPTIONS, ROMAN ARMY, ROMAN BRITAIN, UNCATEGORIZED

The Roman soldier who went to Newcastle and punched Hercules

by [AshLI](#) • September 2, 2014 • [0 Comments](#)

Test your decipherment skills on a bronze plaque from Roman Britain. On a shelf in the Ashmolean's Rome Gallery, eagle-eyed visitors might spot a tiny bronze plaque, with a rectangular body and triangular handles (a shape called a *tabula ansata*)....

[Read more →](#)

ARCHAEOLOGY, EPIGRAPHY, FUNERARY RELIEFS/TOMBSTONES, LATIN INSCRIPTIONS, ROMAN CHILDHOOD, ROMAN SLAVERY

'He lived 5 years, 2 months, 6 days, 6 hours' – The Roman child-slave and the woman who loved him

by [AshLI](#) • August 1, 2014 • [0 Comments](#)

In 1667, Henry Howard, grandson of Thomas Howard 2nd Earl of Arundel, presented Oxford University with a collection of inscriptions which today belong to the Ashmolean Museum. Among the collection is ANChandler.3.90, a badly worn marble tombstone from Rome. While...

[Read more →](#)

ARCHIVES

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- November 2013

ARCHAEOLOGY, EPIGRAPHY, FUNERARY RELIEFS/TOMBSTONES, LATIN INSCRIPTIONS, ROMAN TRADE

When is a Roman not a Roman? International relations on Duty Free Delos

by [AshLI](#) • July 3, 2014 • [0 Comments](#)

A bilingual inscription from Delos, Ashmolean Museum
ANMichaelis.209. (H. 0.84cm. Diam. 0.70cm) Duty Free Delos
In the second century BC, the little Greek island of Delos in the Cyclades experienced an unexpected boom, as it became the place to...

[Read more →](#)

Google Analytics

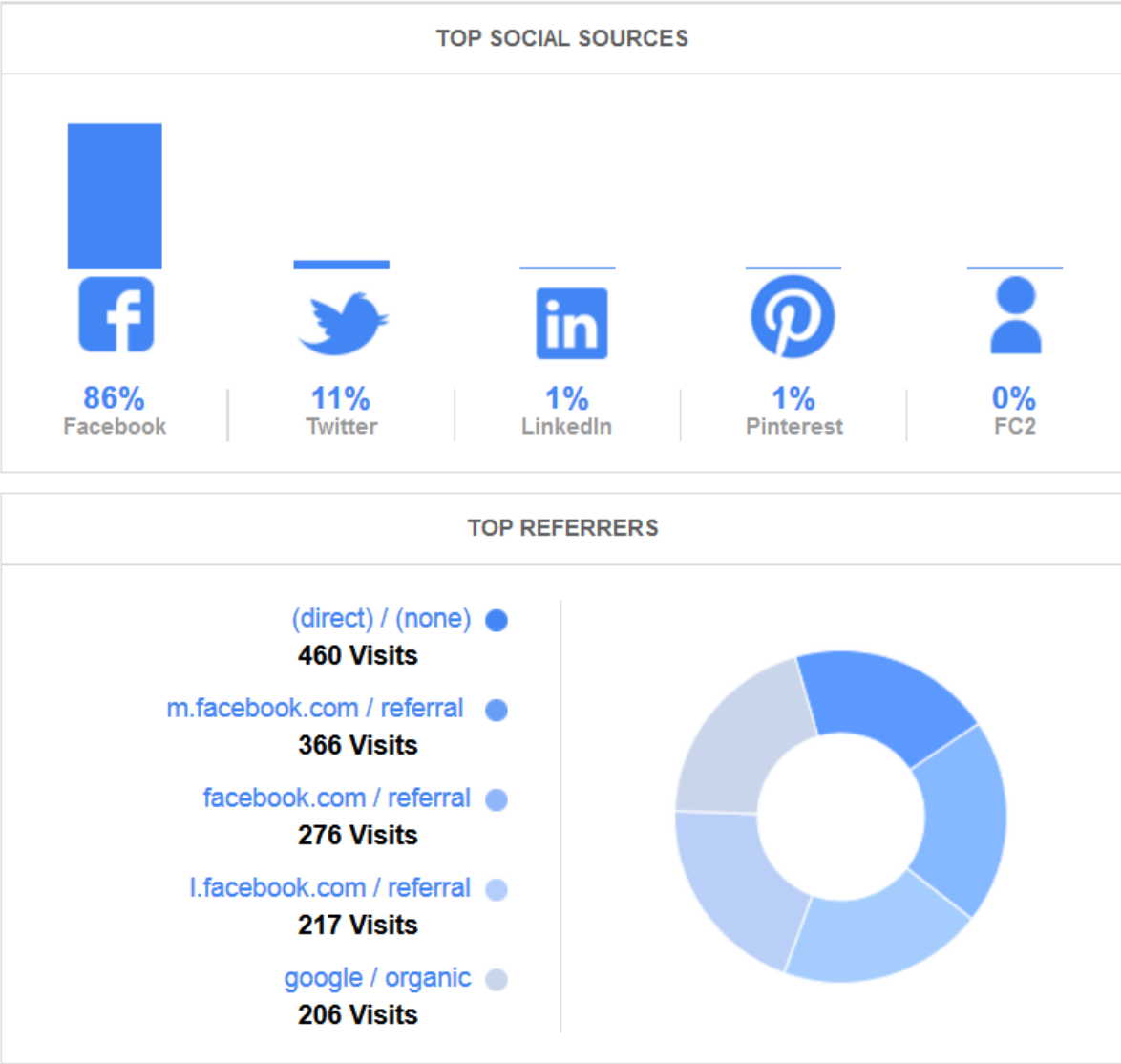
July-August:
411 (207 from UK, 59 from US)

August-Sept:
1799 (361 from UK, 900 from US)

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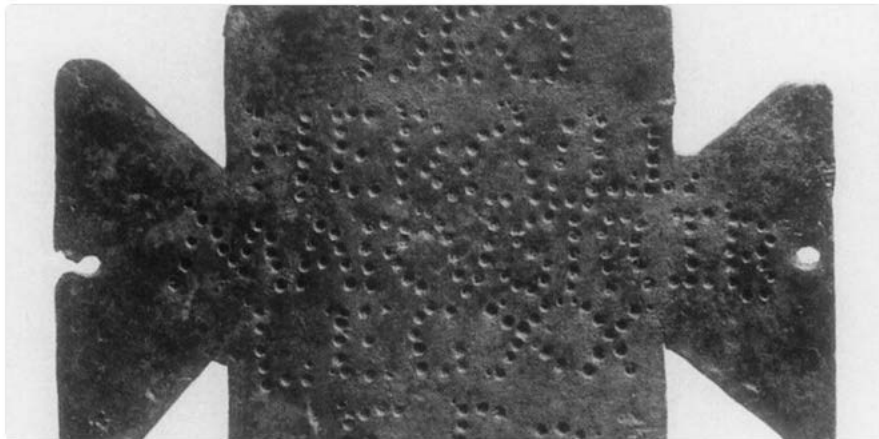




@AshmoleanLatin

Ashmolean Latin @AshmoleanLatin · Sep 2

Can you read this tiny inscription from Roman Newcastle in the @AshmoleanMuseum? Tell us what you see! #AshLteaser



11 4

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Astrid D'Eredità @astridrome · Sep 2
[@AshmoleanLatin](#) [@AshmoleanMuseum](#)
Deo
Herculi
Marusirir (???)
Leg XX
FFC

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Julia Iball @Julialball · Sep 2
[@astridrome](#) [@AshmoleanLatin](#) [@AshmoleanMuseum](#) | agree - equally confused by Marusirir!!

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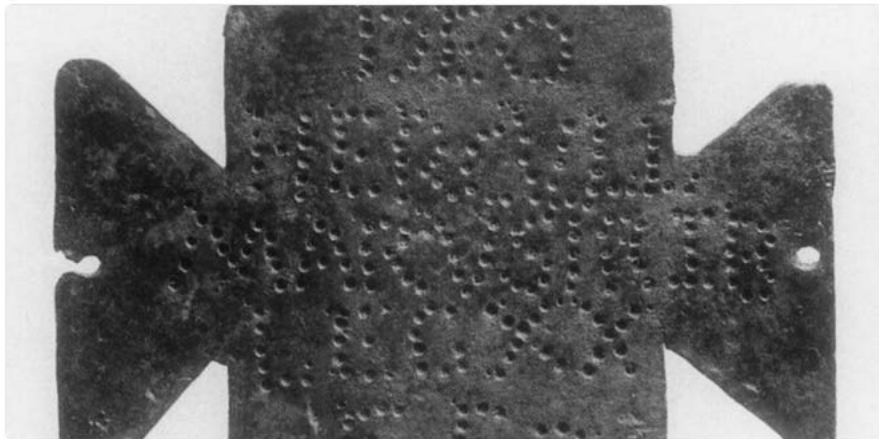
[@Julialball](#) [@astridrome](#)
[@AshmoleanMuseum](#) Very close! That third line's a tricky one. We'll post the solution tomorrow!



@AshmoleanLatin

 Ashmolean Latin @AshmoleanLatin · Sep 2

Can you read this tiny inscription from Roman Newcastle in the @AshmoleanMuseum? Tell us what you see! #AshLlteaser



← ↻ 11 ★ 4 ...

[View more photos and videos](#)



Peter Jones @PeterJones40 · Sep 2

@AshmoleanLatin @AshmoleanMuseum Chariot garage is in use at all times - no parking.

↩ Reply ↻ Retweet ★ Favourite ... More



Ashmolean Latin

@AshmoleanLatin

@PeterJones40 XXIV hour access required :)

↩ Reply ★ Favourite ... More

FAVOURITE

1



2:28 pm - 2 Sep 2014



edie scott @ediescott · Sep 2

@AshmoleanLatin @AshmoleanMuseum it's the starting line up for The Toon. Some of them are still playing....

↩ Reply ↻ Retweet ★ Favourite ... More



Ashmolean Latin

@AshmoleanLatin

@ediescott "We went to down Condercum, 'twas on the Ides of June, AD 162, on a summer's afternoon..."

↩ Reply ★ Favourite ... More

FAVOURITE

1



2:52 pm - 2 Sep 2014

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Pilot Schools

School (boys, girls, co-ed)	State/ Indep.	Subjects Taught	KS2 7-11	KS3 11-14	KS4 (GCSE) 14-15	6 th Form 16-18
Barton Peveril 6th Form College (c)	S	• Classical Civilization				✓
KES VI, Stratford (b)	S	• Latin, • Ancient History • Classical Civilization		✓	✓	✓
New College Worcester (School for Visually Impaired)	I	• History		✓	✓	✓
Oxford High School (g)	I	• Latin		✓	✓	✓
Radley College (b)	I	• Latin • Classical Civilization			✓	✓
St John Rigby College, Wigan (c)	S	• Latin				✓
Leafield C of E Primary (c)	S	• History	✓			
Appleton C of E Primary (c)	S	• History	✓			
Bure Park Primary, Bicester (c)	S	• History	✓			
Summerfields Prep (b)	I	• Latin • Roman History (CE)	✓	✓		

Museum Sessions



Museum Sessions



JACT INSET

Secondary teaching with ancient artefacts



Ioannou Centre and Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

Saturday 22nd November 2014

*This INSET aims to support Secondary teachers of Classical subjects
(Classical Civilization, Ancient History, Latin and Ancient Greek)
who use, or would like to use, visual and material culture in their teaching.*

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UNIVERSITY OF
OXFORD

What will it involve?

In addition to an opening lecture, each participant will attend three, 45-minute workshops run by University and Museum specialists on **Ancient Art, Inscriptions and Coins**. There will also be a 45-minute slot for teachers to explore other galleries in the Ashmolean in their own time. Speakers and workshop leaders will include: Prof. Kevin Butcher, Dr Suzanne Frey-Kupper, Prof. Alison Cooley, Dr Jane Masségia, Dr Zahra Newby, Dr Dan Orrells and Dr Clare Rowan. Representatives of the Ashmolean Education Department and Oxford Classics Outreach will also be on hand.

Is there a fee?

There is **no charge** for this event, thanks to support from Oxford and Warwick Universities. **Lunch and refreshments** will be provided, courtesy of Oxford Classics Outreach, and **travel bursaries** are being offered to teachers from state schools by Warwick's Institute of Advanced Study, Public Engagement Fund.

How to apply:

Places are limited and early application is encouraged. Application forms can be downloaded from <http://bit.ly/AshmusINSET> or by googling AshLP's blog "Reading, Writing, Romans".

Application deadline is 1st July 2014.

Enquiries may be directed to jane.masseglia@classics.ox.ac.uk.

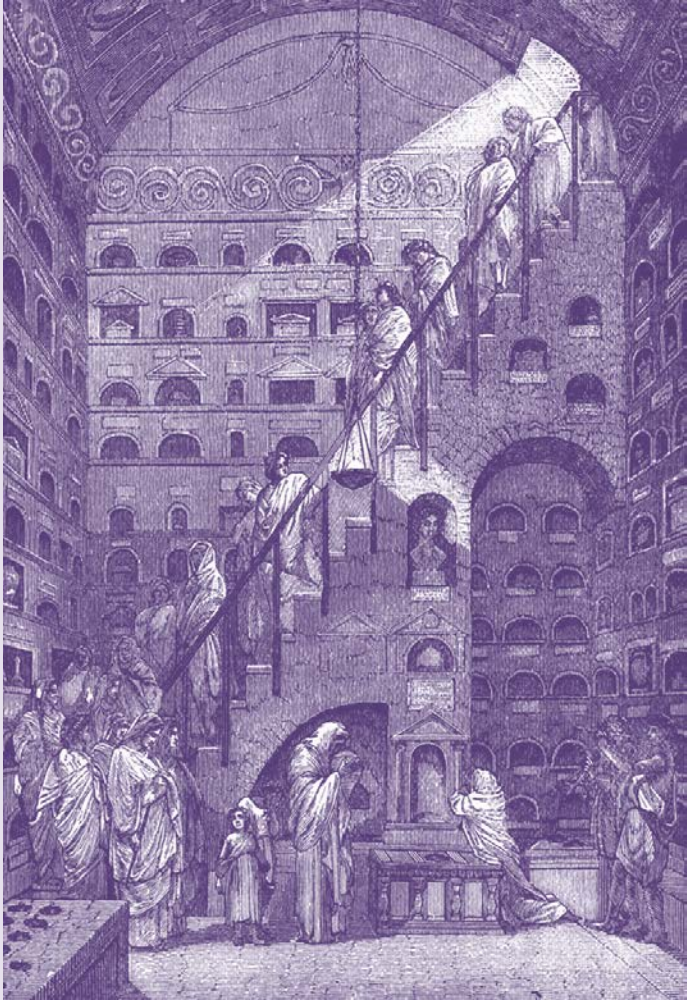
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Museum Sessions: 'Death in Rome'



Craft workshop - ancestor masks (all day):

A drop-in session running throughout the event.
Education Suite.

Gallery Tours (20 mins), each repeated three times:

- 'Remembering the Romans'. A look at the very different objects used by the Romans to remember the dead. The Rome Gallery
- 'Learn to read a Roman Tombstone'. A chance to test your code-cracking skills on real Latin inscriptions. No previous Latin required! The Reading and Writing Gallery.

Story-telling (15 minutes), repeated three times:

Aeneas's journey to the underworld. Cast Gallery.

Public Lecture (30 minutes), repeated twice:

'Popping your sandals. A beginner's guide to death in Rome.' Lecture Theatre.

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Online Teaching Resources

A. A New Name for a New Life

How would these slaves write down their names once they've been freed?



Myrtis

freed by her master
Marcus Claudius Paulinus



Gallo

freed by his master
Lucius Mussius Dextrus



Anna

freed by her master
Gnaeus Dellius Lentulus



Dionysios

freed by his master
Publius Cornelius Taurus

B. Read a real Latin inscription

You are going to see some pictures of real Latin inscriptions. Try copying down the names highlighted in red, and say whether they belong to a freedperson or a free-born citizen by circling the correct word.

1. _____ Freedperson / Freeborn
2. _____ Freedperson / Freeborn
3. _____ Freedperson / Freeborn
4. _____ Freedperson / Freeborn
5. _____ Freedperson / Freeborn

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Worksheets

<p>4. Paint a thick layer of PVA glue around the inside of the frame, making sure to block any gaps in the cardboard. This will stop the wax leaking when you pour it in. Leave to dry completely.</p>	<p>5. Paint both front and back of the tablet using brown poster paint so that it looks like wood. Leave to dry completely.</p>	<p>6. Prepare the votive candles by removing their metal casings, wicks and metal discs underneath. Put the candles inside a heatproof jug, and stand the jug inside a heatproof bowl. If it has the right sort of handle, hang the jug from the edge of the bowl.</p>
<p>7. Remove bowl from the microwave using an oven glove, take out the jug and dry its base thoroughly.</p> <p>Put the tablet on a flat surface (weigh-down the corners if your cardboard is a bit curly). Carefully pour the hot wax onto the tablet, until it fills the frame. Leave to harden completely.</p>	<p>8. Once the wax has hardened, your tablet is ready to use! Use a sharp pencil or knitting needle to scratch words into the wax and write like a Roman.</p>	<p>9. If you would like more room for your messages, you can join two tablets together to make a diptych.</p> <p>With the point of a pencil, carefully made two holes in the frames of your tablets and tie them loosely together with string.</p>

THE ASHMOLEAN LATIN INSCRIPTIONS PROJECT



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Craft Activities



This box-shaped flue tile is made from terracotta, and was used to carry hot air up the wall of a hot room in a Roman military bath-house. As the flue was made especially for this particular job, its maker was able to personalise it with the name of the legion who used the bath-house. The 22nd Legion was dedicated to the goddess *Fortuna Primigenia* ('Good luck from birth'), and also carried the titles *Pia* (devout) and *Fidelis* (faithful). The legion was stationed on the Rhine near Mainz in Germany. Many objects have survived which are marked with the 22nd Legion's name.

The inscription reads:

LEG XXII PR P F – 'Legion 22 Primigenia Pia Fidelis'

Compare:

The tombstone of a soldier from the 22nd Legion Primigenia, in the Romano-Germanic Museum in Cologne:
<http://klassisk.ribekeaterskole.dk/steder/koeln/grave/tutius.jpg>

Roman coins issued to celebrate military victories of the 22nd Legion Primigenia:
<http://www.romancoins.info/Legionary-Coins-2.html>

Details:

Ashmolean Museum AN1939.120

1-slide presentations

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Online Teaching Resources



FREE ADMISSION

Opens: 10am–5pm
Tues–Sun & Bank Holiday Mon



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- > Adults & Young People
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- > Key Stage 3 to Post-16

> Skills For the Future

Heritage Lottery Fund Skills for the Future - Trainee Education Officer Programme.



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Primary /

History Key Stage 1 teaching resources

3,395 free KS1 history resources: history lesson plans, history worksheets, history revision, history teaching ideas and much more.

Last updated: 24 September 2014

Delve into the past and take your students on a time-travelling trip without leaving their seats with our collection of free KS1 history resources, devised by teachers, for teachers.



Our most recent collections include a look back to [Ancient Greece](#) as well as [Black History Month](#). You can also search for highly rated resources, history worksheets and lesson plans and materials for history revision to find out how to bring new life to your lessons.

National Curriculum reform 2014

Find blogs, resources and live chats related to the new national curriculum in England




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- Ancient China
- Ancient Egypt
- Ancient Greece
- Ancient Rome
- Battle of Hastings and 1066
- Black History
- First World War and Remembrance Day
- Florence Nightingale and Mary Seacole
- Great Fire of London
- Gunpowder Plot
- Historical enquiry
- Homes in the past

- Indus Valley
- Life in Britain since 1930
- Local study
- Museums and galleries
- Personal history
- Seaside holidays in the past
- Second World War
- The Anglo-Saxons
- The Tudors
- The Victorians
- The Vikings
- Toys from the past

Contact details and weblinks:

AshLI:

- **E-mail:** jane.masseglia@classics.ox.ac.uk
- **Blog:** <http://www.ashmolean.org/ashwpress/latininscriptions>
or Google 'Reading, Writing, Romans'
- **Twitter:**  @AshmoleanLatin

Ashmolean Museum:

- **Homepage:** <http://www.ashmolean.org>
- **Schools and Learning pages:** <http://www.ashmolean.org/education>

TES Connect (online teaching resources):

- <http://www.tes.co.uk/teaching-resources>

Google Analytics:

- <http://www.google.co.uk/analytics>