



Signs, Symbols, and Spaces in the Ashmolean Latin Collection



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Marmora Oxoniensia
 (1763)



Stones



Brick Stamps



Gold-glass



Pottery



Glassware



Sling Bullets



Gems



Jewellery



Metalware



Applied Letters

Textual Transcriptions:

i) Glyphs/Symbols:

- Cross
- Leaf interpuncts
- Chi-Rho
- HS / SS
- Centurion mark (possibly)
- ⊥ (numeral)
- Gaia mark

ii) Form & Appearance:

Characters within characters (monumental)

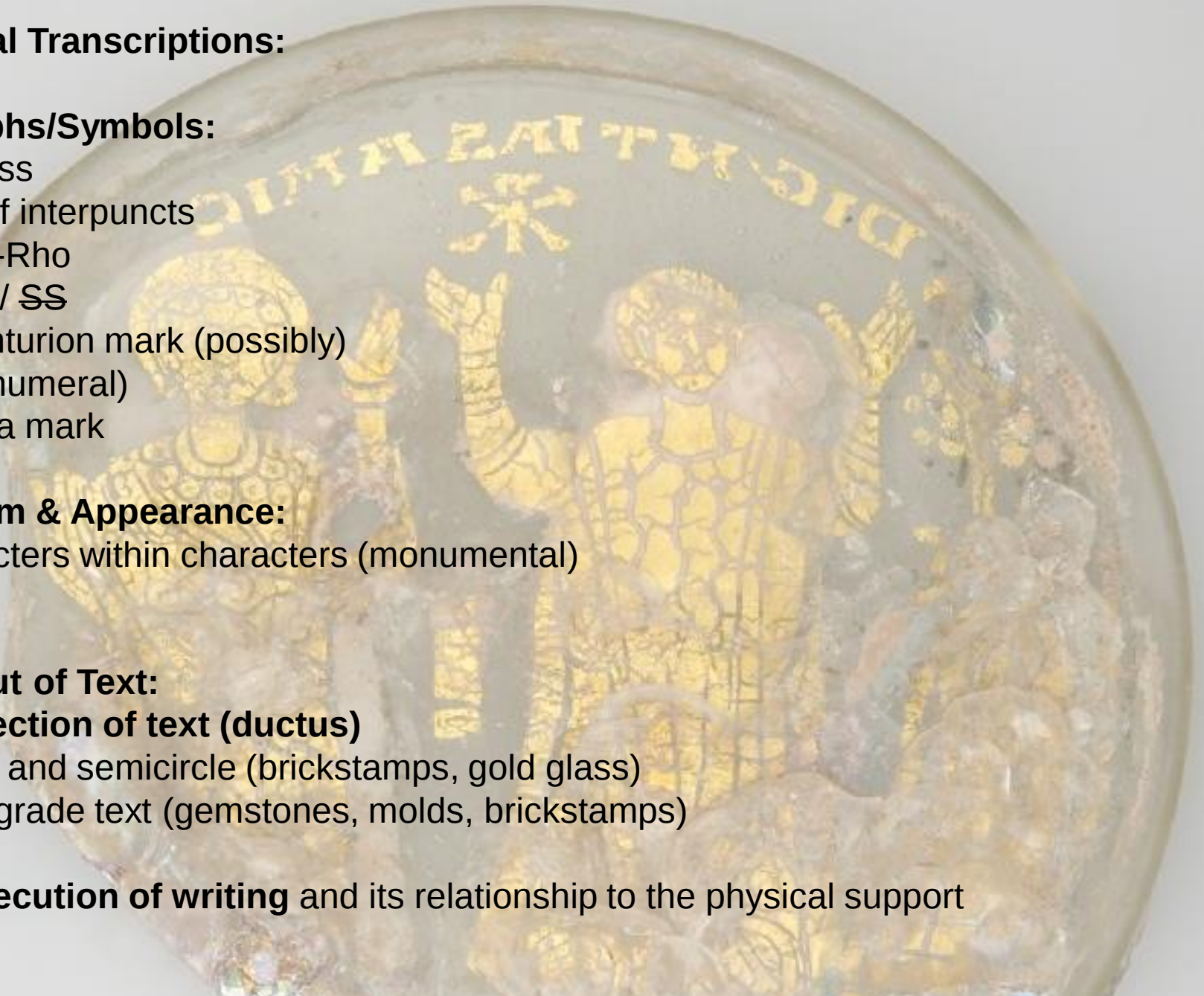
Layout of Text:

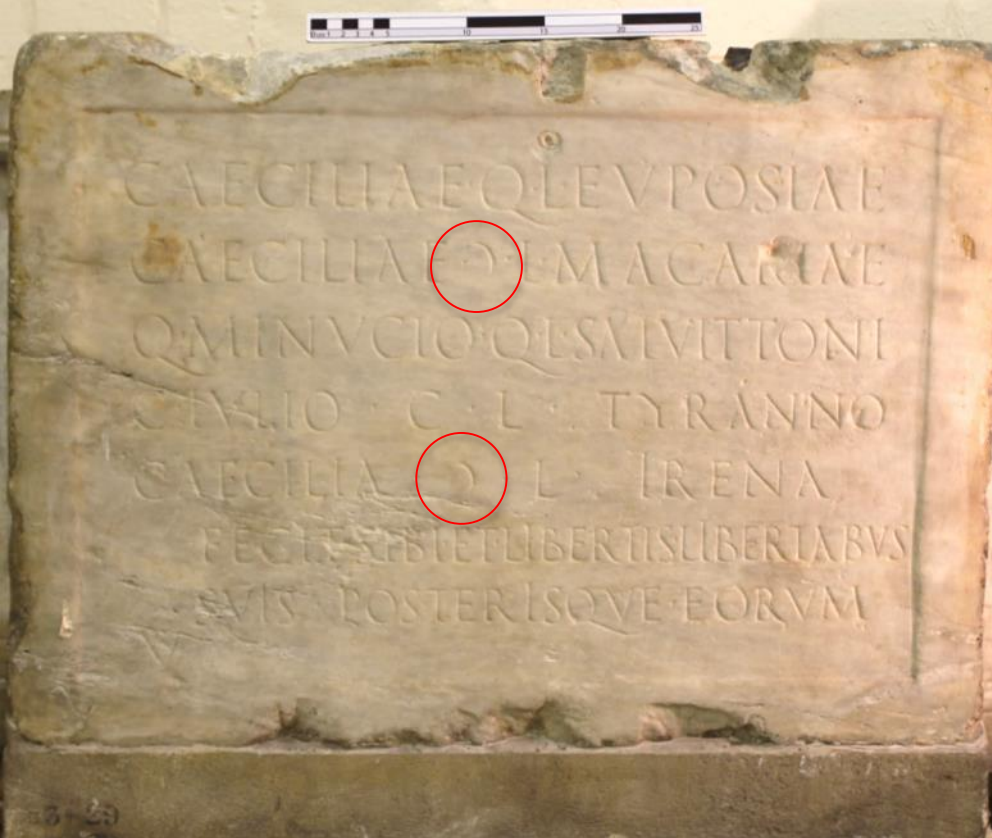
i) Direction of text (ductus)

Circle and semicircle (brickstamps, gold glass)

Retrograde text (gemstones, molds, brickstamps)

ii) Execution of writing and its relationship to the physical support





Gaia, cf. Quint. Inst. 1.28: *Nam et "Gaius" C littera significatur, quae **inversa** mulierem declarat.*

Inverted Character?

`<hi rend="inverted">C</hi>`

Symbol?

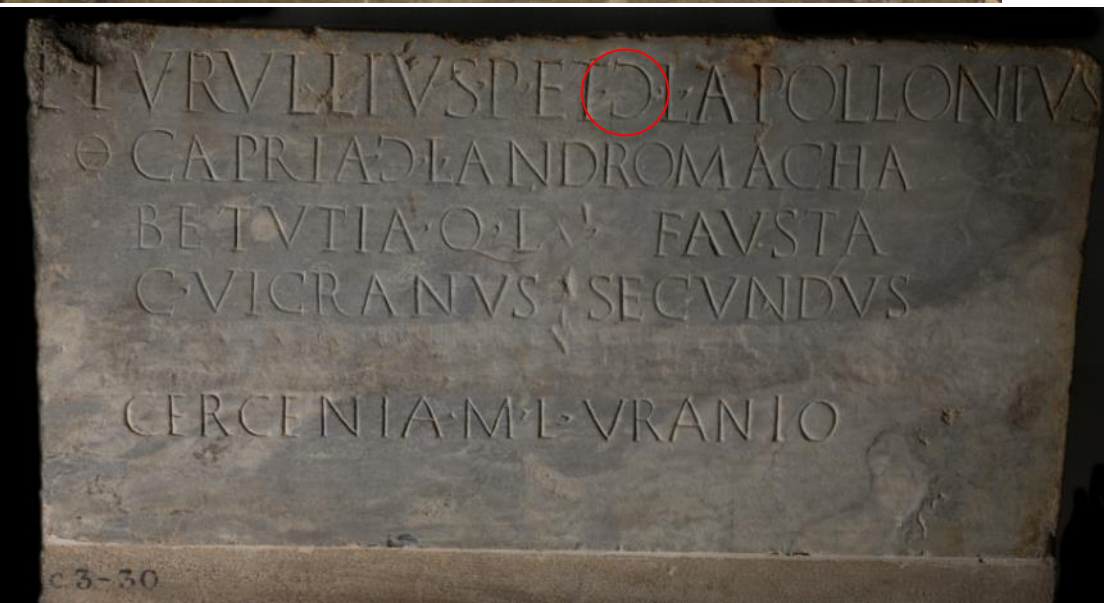
`<g type="gaia">U+0186</g>`

`<g type="mulieris">mulieris</g>`

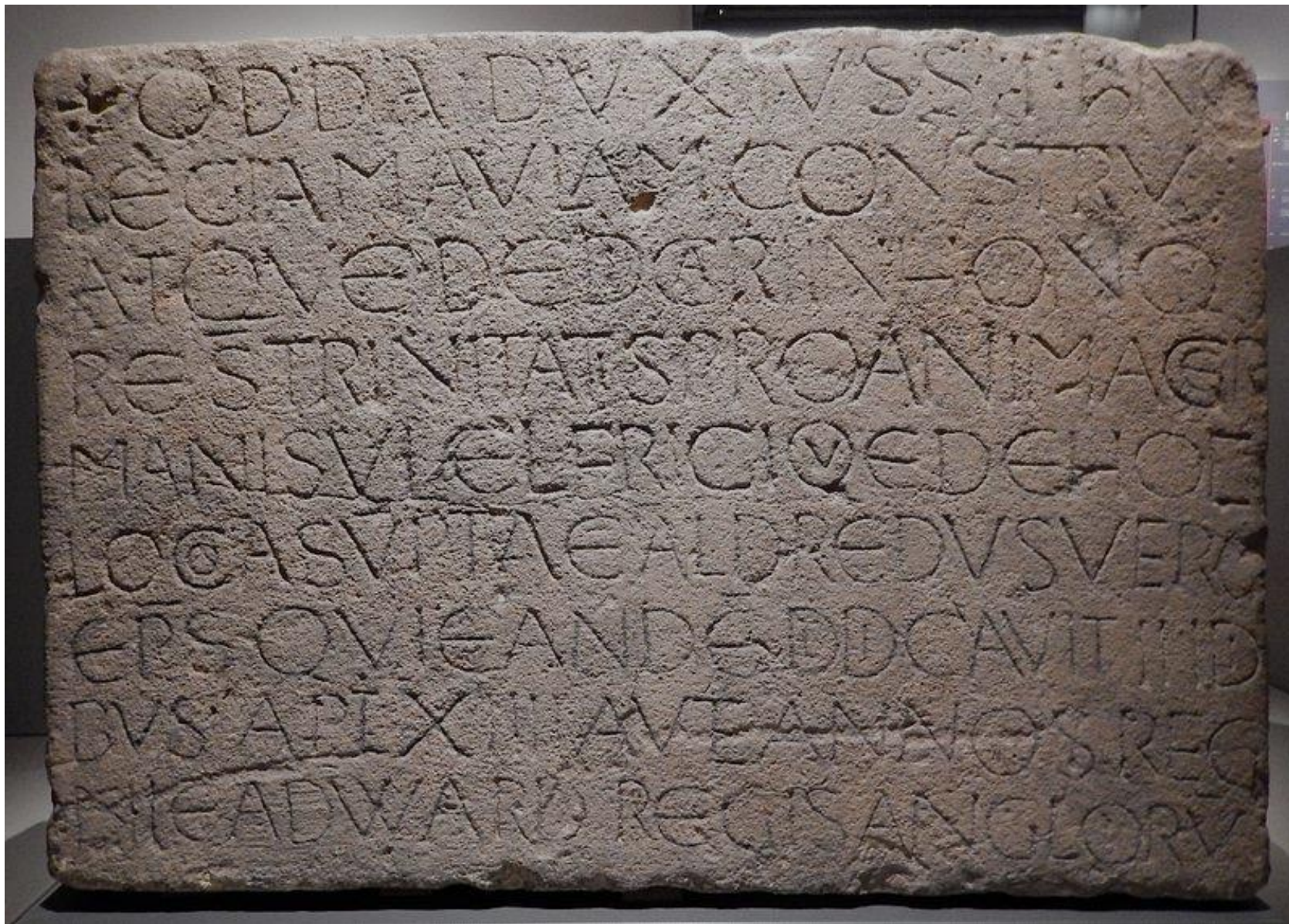
Or

Abbreviation?

`<expan><abbr><am><g type="gaia">U+0186</g></am></abbr><ex>mulieris</ex></expan>`



Text layout and relationship to the material support



<hi> @ rend value of @ rend needed to define characters

Possible value="inside"/"inside-previous"



Execution: Scriptura

Additional, Hard Techniques:

Impression, Soft Techniques



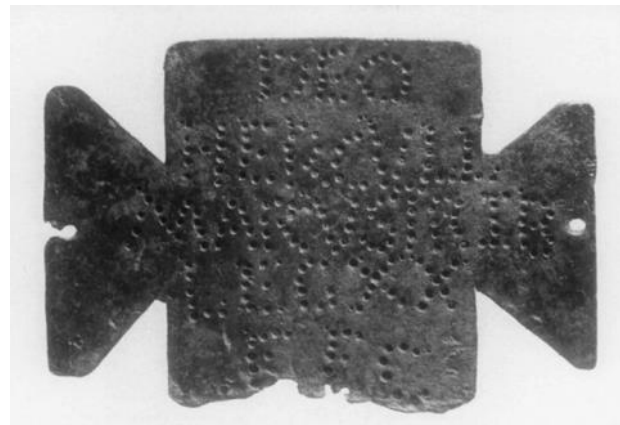
“ex forma”

“litt. Applicatis”

“pictura”

“signaculo”

Subtractive, Hard Techniques:



“scalpro”

“scariphatis”

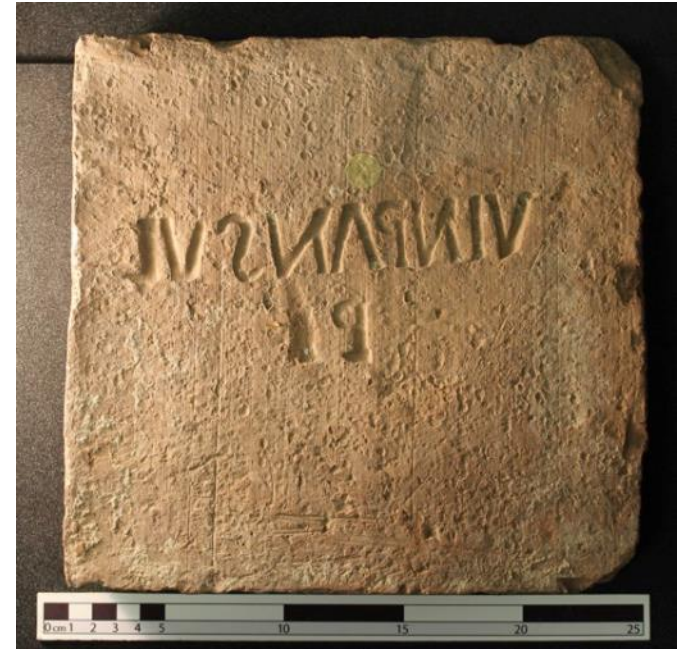
“punctim”

“caelo”



“terebro”
or
“litteris incisiss”?

Retrograde Characters:





1872.1527





TONNEI ° DE FICILINIS /
V[[ICCI]]ANIS

Tonnei(ana) ° de firgilinis /V[[icci]]anis

<lb n="1" rend="semicircle"/>

<expan><abbr>Tonnei</abbr><ex>ana</ex></expan> <g type="interpunct"/> de
fi<choice><sic>c</sic><corr>g</corr></choice>ilinis

<lb n="2" rend="left-to-right"/> V<del rend="erasure">iccianis

The stamp refers to two brickyards (*figlinae*), *Tonneianae* and *Viccianae*, possibly meaning that they could jointly produce brick products. It is not clear why the word *Viccianis* has been partly erased, but it appears intact on other similar stamps.



Tonnei(ana) ° de figlinis /V[[icci]]anis

(Mid-first century AD/Flavian)



VICCIANIS / TONNEI DE.FIGLN.

(Neronian)

Da Guidonia, Tenuta del Cavaliere,
villa dell'Ercole fanciullo, necropoli





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