

APPROACHES TO THE INVESTIGATION, ANALYSIS AND DISSEMINATION OF WORK ON ROMAN RURAL SETTLEMENTS AND LANDSCAPES IN BRITAIN: A CRITICAL REVIEW

Professional Workshop

Palmer Building, Whiteknights Campus, University of Reading

Wednesday 14 September 2016

The Roman Rural Settlement Project is a collaboration between the Department of Archaeology at the University of Reading, Cotswold Archaeology and the Archaeology Data Service. Over the last four years the project has gathered a huge amount of data which is available on the internet at <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/romangl/>. The project is now entering its final phase, and the first of three monographs will appear in the autumn. In addition to the academic study, we want to harness the intelligence gathered by the project team to evaluate what we have seen of commercial professional practice in the investigation, analysis and reporting of Romano-British rural settlements and landscapes, and offer suggestions for how commercial approaches can be improved in the future. We hope this will be one of the major legacies of the project and one of its biggest impacts.

The project team has written eight short discussion papers covering a variety of aspects of our topic and these can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk/methodology-study/>. We have provided an opportunity for written comments on the papers to be submitted by email.

We will discuss the papers at a day meeting at the Palmer Building, Whiteknights, University of Reading on **Wednesday 14 September**. At that meeting we would like to get reactions to what the team has written from senior figures in the various different professional constituencies that either generate data, or have an interest in what is produced by the commercial sector. However, we have also provided plenty of space in the programme for comment and discussion from all present, so we hope it will be a dynamic event where many different views can be aired and debated. While the theme is primarily Roman-period rural settlement, our thoughts and discussions will have wider applicability to other settlement types and other periods. The project team will use the feedback received as they revise the papers for formal publication in 2017.

The programme for the day can be found on the next page. If you would like to attend the meeting please reserve your place by emailing a booking form (available at the web page) to Vicki Forder at Cotswold Archaeology on vicki.forder@cotswoldarchaeology.co.uk or phone: 01908 564660 **by Monday 15 August**. Places are limited and early booking is advised. In the event of oversubscription we cannot guarantee attendance. There is no charge for attending the seminar. Lunch will be provided. The Palmer Building is Building 26 on the Whiteknights campus map which can be found at <https://www.reading.ac.uk/about/visit-us.aspx>. The postcode is RG6 6UR.

Professor Michael Fulford, University of Reading
Neil Holbrook, Cotswold Archaeology



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PROGRAMME

9.30-10.00 Coffee

Chair: [Stephen Rippon, University of Exeter](#)

Setting Out Our Stall

10.00-10.15 Welcome and Introduction to the day ([Michael Fulford, University of Reading](#))

10.15-10.45 Current State of Play and Background to our Recommendations ([Neil Holbrook, Cotswold Archaeology](#))

10.45-11.00 Discussion

Responses From Those That Create The Data

11.00-11.20 FAME ([Nick Sheppard, FAME](#))

11.20-11.40 Contracting Organisations ([Anne Dodd, Oxford Archaeology](#))

11.40-12.00 Environmental Disciplines ([Mary Ruddy, MoLA](#))

12.00-12.30 Discussion

12.30-1.30 Lunch

Chair: [Michael Fulford](#)

Responses From Those With An Interest In The Data Generated

1.30-1.50 Consultants/Clients ([Paul Chadwick, CgMs](#))

1.50-2.10 ALGAO/ClfA ([Fiona MacDonald, ALGAO and Stewart Bryant, ClfA](#))

2.10-2.30 Historic England ([Barney Sloane, Historic England](#))

2.30-2.50 Universities ([Jeremy Taylor, University of Leicester](#))

3.00-3.15 Tea

3.15-4.00 Open Discussion and Summing Up