

Chapter 1 : Civitas - Wikipedia

Roman Britain was divided into civitas, or towns loosely based on pre-existing Celtic tribal territories. The civitates (Latin plural form of civitas) were independent administrative centres, governed by the Celts themselves, though under the supervision of Roman provincial administration based in London.

Eboracvm York, North Yorkshire c. Fourteen are listed on the OS Map but the existence of several others can be surmised. Major Settlements - These are smaller, undefended settlements containing several substantial Roman buildings, which are normally indicative of a centralised civic administration. Minor Settlements - The smallest Roman settlements are distinguishable from the major settlements in that they contain no evidence of substantial Roman buildings. Fortified Towns or Burgi - These settlements, essential to the military supply and administration of Britain, were fortified during the fourth century to ensure secure military communication. They lie mainly along the course of Watling Street through the Midlands. Apart from the obvious ale-houses, bakeries and brothels, there would be tailors, cobblers, smiths and other tradesmen. Even though it was not permitted for any of the common Roman soldiery to be legally married, plenty of illicit affiliations were constantly going on - such is the nature of man. Canabae and Vici These small settlements were termed vici, as they tended to develop along either side of the street or vicus leading from the main gate of the parent fort, with their frontages opening onto this main road. A settlement of this nature established outside a large fortress, was termed a canabae from the type of four-posted hut Latin canaba which was prevalent. It seems that both of these types of Romano-British settlement were under some degree of military jurisdiction, due to their proximity to the local fort or fortress. This military involvement in the local administration very likely lapsed as soon as the garrison moved on. The settlement left behind either survived or declined as local circumstances dictated. The Development of Towns If a fort was garrisoned for a long period of time, or the local natural resources made possible the establishment of substantial local industries, in time, a vicus may develop into a more substantial settlement or town. The presence of local industries and their associated markets increased trade and brought wealth into the area, which attracted more of the civilian population to settle there. As these settlements became more populous and prosperous, the local governing bodies were able to fund civic building projects such as Fora to encourage general social interaction and market trading, Basilicae for the advancement of local government and the enforcement of civil law, also Bath-houses Temples and Amphitheatres for the entertainment of the masses. The British Tribal Civitates and Pagi Corinium Dobunorum Cirencester, Gloucestershire As in Gaul, the Roman government of the province of Britain was broken down into large administrative areas based on the existing territories of the conquered tribes. This system made use of the established communication links between these tribes and has the fortunate side-effect of preserving the ancient tribal boundaries, which has substantially helped in our understanding of the inter-tribal relationships in pre-Roman Britain. These administrative sub-divisions of Roman provincial government are known as civitates. A further sub-division of these administrative areas, termed pagi were centred on other towns and major settlements within each tribal canton. These settlements were politically answerable to the local civitas capital. Most of our information regarding the place-names of Roman Britain has come from five main written sources, three of which contain the names of British Civitas capitals: These ancient documents list the names of cantonal capitals with tribal suffixes appended, such as Calleva Atrebatum. In this manner, eleven Romano-British towns are confirmed as civitas capitals in one or more of these documents: The fact that these known cantonal capitals are not listed as such in the major sources proves that these documents are not complete lists of the Roman settlements of Britain, only those that lay along well-established military highways and the primary trade-routes. Another important ancient source is that of Ptolemy the geographer and astronomer, from whom we learn the names of many of the rivers and coastal areas of Britain, as well as the names of several of the smaller British tribes. The Notitia Dignitatum also adds further details to our overall knowledge. Further information regarding the physical extent of the territories of the British tribe is available under the individual web page entry for each tribe. Rivet, is unfortunately out of print but may be available at your local library.

In the history of Rome, the Latin term civitas (Latin pronunciation: [ˈkiːwɪˈtaːs]; plural civitates), according to Cicero in the time of the late Roman Republic, was the social body of the cives, or citizens, united by law (concilium coetusque hominum iure sociati).

Roman[edit] Roman ruins at Viroconium Cornoviorum, photographed during excavation by Francis Bedford and digitally restored. The site at Wroxeter was strategically located near the end of the primary Watling Street Roman trunk road that ran across England from Dubris Roman Dover. During the early years the site was a key frontier position lying on the bank of the Severn river whose valley penetrated deep into Wales and also lying on a route to the south leading to the Wye valley. The site was first established in about AD 55 as a frontier post for a Thracian legionary cohort located at a fort near the Severn river crossing. They were replaced in about 69 AD by the Legio XX Valeria Victrix which left to fight with Agricola in Scotland in 78 AD although the fortress may not have been completely abandoned until around 88 AD when it was taken over by the civilian settlement canabae that had grown up around the fort. When the Cornovii were eventually subdued their capital was moved to Wroxeter and given its Roman name. When the legion left, an unfinished bath house remained in the centre of the town where the forum was later to be built. It then had many public buildings, including thermae. Simpler temples and shops have also been excavated. At its peak, Viroconium is estimated to have been the one of the richest and the fourth largest Roman settlement in Britain with a population of more than 15,000. Between AD 410 the forum was burnt down, including neighbouring shops and houses, and many shop contents were subsequently found in excavations. The forum was rebuilt with several modifications. Viroconium may have served as the early sub-Roman capital of Powys. Higham proposes that Viroconium became the site of the court of a sub-Roman kingdom known as the Wrocensaete , which was the successor territorial unit to Cornovia. Between 410 and 450, when most Roman urban sites and villas in Britain were being abandoned, [11] there was a substantial rebuilding programme. The old basilica was carefully demolished and replaced with new timber-framed buildings on rubble platforms. These probably included a very large two-storey building and a number of storage buildings and houses. In all, 33 new buildings were "carefully planned and executed" and "skillfully constructed to Roman measurements using a trained labour force". Reuse of building stone[edit] According to archaeologist Philip A. Barker , the parish churches of Atcham , Wroxeter , and Upton Magna are largely built of stone taken from the buildings of Viroconium Cornoviorum. These are on display to the public and, along with a small museum, are looked after by English Heritage under the name "Wroxeter Roman City". Some of the more important finds are housed in the Music Hall Museum in Shrewsbury. Most of the town still remains buried, but it has largely been mapped through geophysical survey and aerial archaeology. Reconstructed villa[edit] A reconstructed Roman villa was opened to the public on 19 February [17] to give visitors an insight into Roman building techniques and how the Romans lived. The builders were assisted by a team of local volunteers and supervised by archaeologist Dai Morgan Evans , who designed the villa. Literature[edit] A. Wilfred Owen saw archaeological digs in progress at Wroxeter and referred to it in his poem "Uriconium:

Chapter 3 : Romans in Britain - The Deceangli Tribe

Examples of civitas capitals in Britain include; Wroxeter, Chichester, Carlisle, Silchester, Exeter, Ilchester, Aldborough. Vici were the settlements that became established around military sites, predominantly forts.

The Britons were defeated in a two-day battle, then again shortly afterwards on the Thames. Togodumnus died and Caratacus withdrew to more defensible terrain to the west. Early summer AD 43 Emperor Claudius orders the invasion of Britain. An army of four legions and approximately 20, auxiliaries, commanded by senator Aulus Plautius, landed at Richborough, Kent. Late summer AD 43 British capital Camulodunum Colchester falls to the Romans. Following the initial invasion of Britain, the Roman emperor, Claudius, arrived to symbolically lead his army to victory. In August, the Romans captured Camulodunum Colchester, the capital of the powerful Catuvellauni tribe. With the whole of south east Britain overrun, eleven British kings made their submission. Aulus Plautius, commander of the invasion force, was appointed first Roman governor of Britain, but the majority of the island would not be pacified for at least another 50 years. He fought numerous small-scale battles and captured a string of hill forts, including Maiden Castle and Hod Hill. By 48 AD, the Romans had effectively subdued all territory south of a line from the mouth of the Humber river to the Severn Estuary. He was replaced by Publius Ostorius Scapula. When ordered to surrender their weapons by the new Roman governor, Publius Ostorius Scapula, some tribesmen resisted. The revolt was quickly put down. The Icenii remained independent, but it seems likely that the pro-Roman king, Prasutagus, was installed at this time. Summer AD 49 Roman citizen-colony is founded at Camulodunum Colchester. With many legionaries due for retirement, the Romans founded a colony for veterans at Camulodunum Colchester. Barrack-blocks were converted into private houses, public buildings were erected and work was begun on a temple to the imperial cult. Local land was confiscated and parcelled up to make farms for the veterans. Colchester briefly became the capital of the province of Britain. Summer AD 51 British resistance leader Caratacus is defeated and captured. Following his defeat in the initial phase of the Roman invasion, Caratacus, the king of Catuvellauni, had fled west to first the Silures, then the Ordovices tribes in Gloucestershire and Wales. He fought an effective guerrilla war, but was eventually brought to battle and defeated by the Roman governor Publius Ostorius Scapula. He escaped, but was betrayed by the Brigantes tribe and captured. He was nonetheless allowed to live out his days in retirement in Italy. Summer AD 52 Guerrilla war flares up in south east Wales. Following the capture of Caratacus, who had led the opposition to Rome in the west of Britain, the Silures tribe in south Wales and Gloucestershire fought on. The conflict fizzled out under his successor, Aulus Didius Gallus. But in 58 AD, a new Roman governor, Quintus Veranius Nepos, finally crushed the Silures and pacified the region with a network of roads, forts and garrisons. In order to suppress the druids in the far west of Britain, Roman governor Gaius Suetonius Paulinus subdued the island of Mona Anglesey, but he was forced to cut short the campaign to put down the revolt of the Icenii under Boudicca in south east Britain. It sparked a rebellion, led by his widow Boudicca, that erupted across south east Britain. Boudicca was eventually defeated by a vastly outnumbered Roman army under governor Gaius Suetonius Paulinus at the Battle of Watling Street. She died soon afterwards. Vespasian, who had led a legion during the conquest of Britain, emerged victorious to found the Flavian dynasty. With mutinies and uprisings rife across the empire, the military estate of Britain was no different. But no attempts to become emperor were launched from the province. Cartimandua had been responsible for handing over resistance leader Caratacus to the Romans in 51 AD. Shortly afterwards, she divorced Venutius who revolted but was driven off by Roman arms. But in 69 AD, with the Romans in the midst of civil war, Venutius staged a second revolt and successfully overthrew Cartimandua, who fled to the Romans. Summer AD 71 Romans conquer northern England. After ten years of comparative peace, Vespasian, first emperor of the new Flavian dynasty, ordered further conquests in Britain. The new governor, Quintus Petilius Cerialis, campaigned against Venutius, rebel leader of the Brigantes tribe, and defeated him. The territory was pacified by placing auxiliary forts on the hills linked by roads. Two legions, one at Caerleon in the south east and the other at Chester in the north east, could respond quickly to any uprising. Autumn AD 78 Romans invade Mona Anglesey and destroy centre of druidism. Taking

advantage of a change in governor, the recently-conquered Ordovices tribe in north Wales revolted. The new governor, Gnaeus Julius Agricola, immediately led an army into their territory and crushed them. He then invaded the island of Mona Anglesey, effectively destroying the last major druidic centre. The druids left no written texts, but it is known that they were probably animists who practised human sacrifice and may have acknowledged well in excess of gods. The new complex comprised a square forum with colonnaded shops, an assembly room with adjoining council offices basilica and official cult temples. It became one of the biggest and richest towns in Roman Britain. Archaeological evidence suggests Romanisation was swift. By the late first century AD, south east Britain had filled with Roman-style towns and villas. Agricola reputedly believed a single legion plus auxiliaries about 10,000 men would suffice and may even have given refuge to an exiled Irish prince as a pretext for the attempt. The invasion never happened, but regular trading contacts began to develop between Ireland and Roman Britain. Late summer AD 84 Romans defeat Caledonian tribes at the Battle of Mons Graupius. More than three years after extending Roman rule into what is now Scotland, governor Gnaeus Julius Agricola finally succeeded in bringing the Caledonian tribes to a pitched battle at an unidentified place called Mons Graupius, probably somewhere in the Scottish Highlands. Agricola inflicted a heavy defeat, then withdrew south. He also sent ships around the coast of Scotland to establish that Britain truly was an island. Summer AD 87 Northernmost legionary fortress in Britain is evacuated. Pressure elsewhere on the borders of the Roman empire - possibly in Dacia modern day Moldova - compelled the Romans to withdraw troops from the far north of Britain in the late 80s AD. Inconclusive archaeological evidence suggests that the huge legionary fortress at Inchtuthill in Tayside, Scotland was systematically dismantled and abandoned in 87 AD, less than four years after it was built. Summer AD Romans establish a new frontier on the Tyne-Solway line. The new emperor, Trajan, required stable borders and more troops for a punitive campaign against Dacia now Moldova. He ordered a complete withdrawal of Roman forces from what is now Scotland. A new frontier, comprising road, forts and signal-stations, was established on an east-west line through modern Northumberland between Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Carlisle on the Solway. A mile-long stone wall was built by Roman soldiers, stretching from modern Newcastle to Carlisle. A mile-long wall of earth and timber was built. It was intended to help subdue the tribes in what are now northern England and southern Scotland. Summer AD Fire destroys much of central Verulamium. St Albans. Though one of the biggest and richest towns in 2nd century Roman Britain, Verulamium St Albans was still largely composed of small timber houses and shops. What probably started as a domestic fire quickly took hold, sweeping across the central part of the town, perhaps fanned by strong winds. Such was the damage, some sites were not redeveloped for over a century. The greatest conquest of the emperor Antoninus Pius - the southern uplands of Scotland - had been given up almost as soon as he was dead. Summer AD Full-scale war erupts in northern Britain. The tribes of what are now southern Scotland and northern England had never been fully pacified, and outbreaks of violence were relatively frequent. Despite repeated attempts by Roman troops to suppress these revolts, fighting continued for years. Around this time, many towns much further south sought security by constructing circuits of earth-and-timber defences. Following the assassinations of the last Antonine emperor, Commodus, in December AD 192 and his successor Pertinax in March AD 193, three rivals for the throne emerged in different parts of the empire: Severus had defeated and killed his eastern rival, Pescennius Niger, in 193. It seems likely that Clodius Albinus chose to move pre-emptively against Severus by invading Gaul and having himself declared emperor, probably in the autumn of AD 193. Their massed armies met at the Battle of Lugdunum Lyons in a lengthy and bloody clash. Clodius Albinus was killed, leaving Severus as the sole claimant to the imperial throne. Summer AD Emperor Septimius Severus wages war in northern Britain. A generation of frontier conflict prompted Septimius Severus to lead his army in a renewed attempt to subdue the Caledonian tribes in the far north of Britain. But the Caledonians avoided pitched battle and waged guerrilla war, leaving the Romans bogged down in a protracted and inconclusive struggle. Peace treaties were signed, but no sooner had Severus withdrawn south than the Maeatae tribe revolted. It was only put into effect in AD 197, either by Severus or his son Caracalla. He was preparing a new offensive when he died in his bed at his winter-quarters in Eboracum York. The empire was left to his two sons, Caracalla and Geta, who abandoned further campaigns against the tribes of northern Britain to return to Rome and press their separate claims for the throne. AD 211 New

foes attack northern and western Britain and the Picts appear on the record In this period, new enemies began to threaten the British Isles. The Scots - possibly from Iberia - raided Ulster and western Scotland. Angles, Saxons and Jutes attacked the eastern coast from Germany. Summer AD Work begins on a riverside wall in Londinium London Londinium London had been protected by a wall on its landward sides since the early 3rd century. In the mid-4th century, work began on a final stretch along the north bank of the River Thames to completely enclose the city and make it secure from amphibious attack. It is a significant sign of increasingly troubled times, and is mirrored by the building of defensive walls across Britain. He seems to have enjoyed strong local support and established an efficient administration. He sought legitimacy by minting his own coins and recognising the legitimate Roman emperors Diocletian and Maximian. They, in turn, rejected his overtures. Autumn AD Britain-based usurper Carausius is assassinated and replaced by Allectus Carausius was defeated by forces loyal to Rome and lost control of northern Gaul. To bolster his claim to authority and allegiance, Allectus ordered the construction of a palace in his capital, Londonium London. Constantius defeated and killed the usurper Allectus near Silchester. Autumn AD Constantine is hailed as emperor by the army in Britain When the Roman emperor Constantius died while campaigning in northern Britain, his soldiers at Eboracum York hailed his young son, Constantine, emperor. After a period of civil war within the empire, Constantine defeated his remaining rival, Maxentius, at the Battle of Milvian Bridge in AD In reality, Constantine maintained an ambiguous stance somewhere between Christianity and paganism, and was only baptised on his death bed. Little is known about early Christianity in Britain. It may have arrived in Scotland as early as , then England and Wales a century later. It had penetrated southern Ireland by the early 5th century. It seems likely that since he risked the crossing in the winter months and only stayed for the shortest time, it is likely to have been in response to a military emergency. One Roman general was killed and another defeated, allowing the invaders to plunder the province at will. He drove the raiders from southern Britain and restored the frontier defences. Strathclyde south central Scotland , Gododdin modern Lothian and Galloway.

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The Silures, Ordovices and Deceangli remained implacably opposed to the invaders and for the first few decades were the focus of Roman military attention, despite occasional minor revolts among Roman allies like the Brigantes and the Iceni. The Silures were led by Caratacus, and he carried out an effective guerrilla attack campaign against Governor Publius Ostorius Scapula. Finally, in 51, Ostorius lured Caratacus into a set-piece battle and defeated him. The British leader sought refuge among the Brigantes, but their queen, Cartimandua, proved her loyalty by surrendering him to the Romans. Boudica was the widow of the recently deceased king of the Iceni, Prasutagus. The Roman historian Tacitus reports that Prasutagus had left a will leaving half his kingdom to Nero in the hope that the remainder would be left untouched. In consequence, Rome punished her and her daughters by flogging and rape. In response, the Iceni, joined by the Trinovantes, destroyed the Roman colony at Camulodunum Colchester and routed the part of the IXth Legion that was sent to relieve it. Abandoned, it was destroyed, as was Verulamium St. Between seventy and eighty thousand people are said to have been killed in the three cities. But Suetonius regrouped with two of the three legions still available to him, chose a battlefield, and, despite being heavily outnumbered, defeated the rebels in the Battle of Watling Street. Boudica died not long afterwards, by self-administered poison or by illness. The reconstruction was created for Rotherham Museums and Galleries. There was further turmoil in 69, the "Year of the Four Emperors". As civil war raged in Rome, weak governors were unable to control the legions in Britain, and Venutius of the Brigantes seized his chance. The Romans had previously defended Cartimandua against him, but this time were unable to do so. Cartimandua was evacuated, and Venutius was left in control of the north of the country. After Vespasian secured the empire, his first two appointments as governor, Quintus Petillius Cerialis and Sextus Julius Frontinus, took on the task of subduing the Brigantes and Silures respectively. In the following years, the Romans conquered more of the island, increasing the size of Roman Britain. Governor Gnaeus Julius Agricola, father-in-law to the historian Tacitus, conquered the Ordovices in 79. For much of the history of Roman Britain, a large number of soldiers were garrisoned on the island. This required that the emperor station a trusted senior man as governor of the province. As a result, many future emperors served as governors or legates in this province, including Vespasian, Pertinax, and Gordian I. Even the name of his replacement is unknown. Archaeology has shown that some Roman forts south of the Forth-Clyde isthmus were rebuilt and enlarged; others appear to have been abandoned. Roman coins and pottery have been found circulating at native settlement sites in the Scottish Lowlands in the years before 79, indicating growing Romanisation. Some of the most important sources for this era are the writing tablets from the fort at Vindolanda in Northumberland, mostly dating to 90-110 AD. Around there appears to have been a serious setback at the hands of the tribes of the Picts of Alba: There is also circumstantial evidence that auxiliary reinforcements were sent from Germany, and an unnamed British war of the period is mentioned on the gravestone of a tribune of Cyrene. The Romans were also in the habit of destroying their own forts during an orderly withdrawal, in order to deny resources to an enemy. In either case, the frontier probably moved south to the line of the Stanegate at the Solway-Tyne isthmus around this time. This replaced the famous Legio IX Hispana, whose disappearance has been much discussed. Archaeology indicates considerable political instability in Scotland during the first half of the 2nd century, and the shifting frontier at this time should be seen in this context. In the reign of Antoninus Pius the Hadrianic border was briefly extended north to the Forth-Clyde isthmus, where the Antonine Wall was built around following the military reoccupation of the Scottish lowlands by a new governor, Quintus Lollius Urbicus. The first Antonine occupation of Scotland ended as a result of a further crisis in 175, when the Brigantes revolted. With limited options to despatch reinforcements, the Romans moved their troops south, and this rising was suppressed by Governor Gnaeus Julius Verus. Within a year the Antonine Wall was recaptured, but by or it was abandoned. The Romans did not entirely withdraw from Scotland at this time: Increasing numbers of hoards of buried coins in Britain at

this time indicate that peace was not entirely achieved. Sufficient Roman silver has been found in Scotland to suggest more than ordinary trade, and it is likely that the Romans were reinforcing treaty agreements by paying tribute to their implacable enemies, the Picts. In , a large force of Sarmatian cavalry, consisting of 5,000 men, arrived in Britannia, probably to reinforce troops fighting unrecorded uprisings. Ulpius Marcellus was sent as replacement governor and by he had won a new peace, only to be faced with a mutiny from his own troops. The Roman army in Britannia continued its insubordination: Commodus met the party outside Rome and agreed to have Perennis killed, but this only made them feel more secure in their mutiny. The future emperor Pertinax was sent to Britannia to quell the mutiny and was initially successful in regaining control, but a riot broke out among the troops. Pertinax was attacked and left for dead, and asked to be recalled to Rome, where he briefly succeeded Commodus as emperor in . Following the short reign of Pertinax, several rivals for the emperorship emerged, including Septimius Severus and Clodius Albinus. The latter was the new governor of Britannia, and had seemingly won the natives over after their earlier rebellions; he also controlled three legions, making him a potentially significant claimant. Albinus crossed to Gaul in , where the provinces were also sympathetic to him, and set up at Lugdunum. Severus arrived in February , and the ensuing battle was decisive. Albinus had demonstrated the major problem posed by Roman Britain. In order to maintain security, the province required the presence of three legions; but command of these forces provided an ideal power base for ambitious rivals. Deploying those legions elsewhere would strip the island of its garrison, leaving the province defenceless against uprisings by the native Celtic tribes and against invasion by the Picts and Scots. Cassius Dio records that the new Governor, Virius Lupus , was obliged to buy peace from a fractious northern tribe known as the Maeatae. Senecio requested either reinforcements or an Imperial expedition, and Severus chose the latter, despite being 62 years old. The emperor had not come all that way to leave without a victory, and it is likely that he wished to provide his teenage sons Caracalla and Geta with first-hand experience of controlling a hostile barbarian land. Northern campaigns, " An invasion of Caledonia led by Severus and probably numbering around 20,000 troops moved north in or , crossing the Wall and passing through eastern Scotland on a route similar to that used by Agricola. Harried by punishing guerrilla raids by the northern tribes and slowed by an unforgiving terrain, Severus was unable to meet the Caledonians on a battlefield. He assumed the title Britannicus but the title meant little with regard to the unconquered north, which clearly remained outside the authority of the Empire. Almost immediately, another northern tribe, the Maeatae , again went to war. Caracalla left with a punitive expedition , but by the following year his ailing father had died and he and his brother left the province to press their claim to the throne. As one of his last acts, Severus tried to solve the problem of powerful and rebellious governors in Britain by dividing the province into Britannia Superior and Britannia Inferior. This kept the potential for rebellion in check for almost a century. Historical sources provide little information on the following decades, a period known as the Long Peace. Even so, the number of buried hoards found from this period rises, suggesting continuing unrest. A string of forts were built along the coast of southern Britain to control piracy; and over the following hundred years they increased in number, becoming the Saxon Shore Forts. During the middle of the 3rd century, the Roman Empire was convulsed by barbarian invasions, rebellions and new imperial pretenders. Britannia apparently avoided these troubles, but increasing inflation had its economic effect. In a so-called Gallic Empire was established when Postumus rebelled against Gallienus. Britannia was part of this until when Aurelian reunited the empire. To avoid punishment, he proclaimed himself emperor at Colonia Agrippina Cologne but was crushed by Marcus Aurelius Probus. Soon afterwards, an unnamed governor of one of the British provinces also attempted an uprising. Probus put it down by sending irregular troops of Vandals and Burgundians across the Channel. The Carausian Revolt led to a short-lived Britannic Empire from to . Carausius was a Menapian naval commander of the Britannic fleet ; he revolted upon learning of a death sentence ordered by the emperor Maximian on charges of having abetted Frankish and Saxon pirates and having embezzled recovered treasure. He consolidated control over all the provinces of Britain and some of northern Gaul while Maximian dealt with other uprisings. An invasion in failed to unseat him and an uneasy peace ensued, with Carausius issuing coins and inviting official recognition. In , the junior emperor Constantius Chlorus launched a second offensive, besieging the rebel port of Gesoriacum Boulogne-sur-Mer

by land and sea. Julius Asclepiodotus landed an invasion fleet near Southampton and defeated Allectus in a land battle.

Chapter 5 : Viroconium Cornoviorum - Wikipedia

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The Romans used the word Caledones to describe both a single tribe who lived in the Great Glen between the modern towns of Inverness and Fort William. They also called all the tribes living in the north Caledonians. We know the names of some of these other tribes. They include the Cornovii and Smertae who probably lived in Caithness, the Caereni who lived in the far west of the Highlands, the Carnonacae and the Creones in the Western Highlands. The Vacomagi lived in and around the Cairngorms. Other unknown tribes lived in Orkney, Shetland and the Hebrides. Warriors from many of these tribes came together to resist the Romans under a leader called Calgacus at battle of Mons Graupius in AD 83. Although the Romans won this battle, they never successfully conquered the Highlands. The Romans admired the Caledonii for their ability to endure cold, hunger and hardship. Tacitus described them as red-haired and large-limbed. All these tribes lived very different lifestyles than neighbouring peoples in other parts of Scotland. In many areas they lived in tall stone towers, called Brochs, or other fortified sites, called Duns. Unlike the Taexali and Venicones, the Caledones rarely made religious offerings of fine metal objects. Top Taexali Little is known about this group who lived in what is today Grampian, except that the people lived in small undefended farms and hamlets. They shared much with their neighbours the Venicones to the south. These low lying and fertile parts of eastern Scotland provide archaeological evidence for different types of settlement and rituals compared to those of the Highlands and Islands to the west and north. Although the Taexali were defeated by the Romans in AD 84, they were never permanently occupied. Like the Venicones and Caledones, they lived beyond the northern most frontier of the Roman Empire; the Antonine Wall. Carvetii This tribe lived in what is today Cumbria. There is very little archaeological evidence for the people who lived in this area before the Roman Conquest. Like their neighbours, the Novantae, these peoples probably lived in small farms and did not use coins or have big hillforts. The Carvetii might have been a smaller tribe within the large kingdom or federation of the Brigantes. Venicones This tribe lived in what is today Tayside. The Roman army campaigned several times in the territory of this people, but they were never permanently conquered and occupied. The archaeological evidence shows that this people and their northern neighbours, the Taexali, had much in common. The Venicones were one of the few groups in northern Britain at this time that buried their dead in stone lined graves, such graves and cremation burials are very rare in other parts of Britain before the Roman period. Archaeologists suspect many Iron Age peoples often practised complex funeral rituals in which bodies were naturally allowed to decompose. The Venicones and Taexali also made offerings of prestigious decorated locally made metal objects in bogs and lakes, including massive bronze armlets. Only the Venicones and Taexali wore these unusual ornaments, which could weigh over 1. Top Epidii Little is known about this mysterious tribe except that they lived in the modern region of Kintyre and probably the islands of Arran, Jura and Islay. Top Damnonii This is the tribe or people who lived in the central part of Scotland around what is today Glasgow and Strathclyde. The name of this tribe could be spelt either as Damnonii or as Dumnonii although the Dumnonii is also the name of the people who lived in Devon and Cornwall at this time. Many tribes in Britain and France at the time of the Roman Conquest shared similar names which may have been as a result of inter-tribal contact. The Damnonii were conquered by the Romans and for many years their territory was occupied by the Roman army before they retreated further south to the line of Hadrians Wall. Novantae The Novantae were a little known tribe or people who lived in what is today south-west Scotland. The people living in this area did not build massive forts on the tops of mountains, as did the Votadini, nor did they make many offerings of fine metal objects. Like their neighbours to the south, the Carvetii, archaeologists have found little evidence for the lives of these peoples before the Roman Conquest. They were clearly farmers and herders, but few of their farms and other settlements have been excavated by archaeologists so far. The Roman geographer Ptolemy places them in the Southern uplands of Scotland, although it is not clear from the little

evidence we have as to exactly where this people lived. Some scholars place their location as the upper Tweed Basin, and it is unclear if they were part of the Votadini. The Selgovae might have used Eildon Seat as their principal settlement, but this might have been a Votadinian site. Like the Votadini, they were conquered in AD by the Roman army.

Top Votadini The Votadini were a very large tribe or people that lived in the south east of Scotland. In the north, their territory started at Edinburgh and the Firth of Forth and stretched as far south as Northumberland in northern England. It is not clear where the boundary between the Votadini and the other large tribe, the Brigantes, was, although it probably frequently shifted as a result of wars and as smaller tribes and communities changed allegiances. The Votadini, like the Brigantes, were a group made up of smaller tribes, unfortunately the names of these smaller tribes and communities remain unknown. Archaeologically, the territory of the Votadini was very different to that of either the Venicones or the Novantae. Large walls, banks and ditches surrounded most of their farms and the people made offerings of fine metal objects, but never wore massive armlets. There are also at least three very large hillforts in their territory Yeavinger Bell, Eildon Seat and Traprain Law, each was located on the top of a prominent hill or mountain. The hillforts may have been used for over a thousand years by this time as places of refuge and as places for meetings for political and religious ceremonies.

Top Brigantes This large tribe was, like the Votadini, a federation of smaller communities. This name is very appropriate as the Pennines formed the heart of their territory. After the Roman Conquest, the Brigantes were formed into a very large civitates, or administrative unit that covered most of Yorkshire, Cleveland, Durham and Lancashire. It stretched from the North Sea to the Irish Sea. We know the names of some of the smaller tribes they made up the Brigantes at the time of the Roman Conquest. This huge area was very varied. As well as people living in the Dales and hills, many people farmed the fertile land in Durham, Tyneside and Teeside. At the time of the Roman Conquest people in this region wore swords carried in distinctive local metal scabbards that were highly decorated. This was probably the capital of Queen Cartimandua who ruled the Brigantes. Cartimandua was friendly towards the Romans, but her husband was anti-Roman. The Romans invaded and occupied the territory in AD They were a small, but distinctive group of people who farmed the chalk hills of the Yorkshire Wolds. The Parisi share their name with the people who lived in France around what is today Paris although whether both tribes shared strong links is hotly debated. Unlike other people living in Britain between about 43 BC and AD 43, the people in East Yorkshire buried their dead in large cemeteries. This was much like the way many peoples in France and Germany buried their dead at the same time. However, in other respects, the East Yorkshire Parisi lived in British style houses, wore British style ornaments and used British style pottery. At the time of the Romans, the Parisi had stopped burying their dead in this unusual way. However, they carried on other distinctive styles of life and remained separate from their large, powerful neighbours, the Brigantes. After the Roman Conquest they were made into their own small civitas with their capital at Petuaria modern Brough on Humber

Top Cornovii The Cornovii are a surprisingly obscure tribe, given that they lay well within the boundaries of the Roman province and their civitas capital, Wroxeter, was one of the largest in Britain. They share their name with a Caledonian tribe who lived in the far north of Scotland. There is no reason to think that this group shared any common ancestry with the group in Caithness. Many tribes or peoples in Europe at the time of the Roman Conquest shared similar names. This might be because these tribes had contacts with each other. The Cornovii never issued coinage and before the Roman Conquest left little evidence to recognise them. They probably lived in what are today the modern counties of Staffordshire, Shropshire and Cheshire.

Top Deceangli The Deceangli, the Ordovices and the Silures were the three main tribe groups who lived in the mountains of what is today called Wales. However, in prehistory Wales, England and Scotland did not exist in anyway as distinctive entities in the ways they have done so for the last years. The Deceangli were the peoples of what is today north Wales and probably included the peoples who lived on the Isle of Anglesey. The Romans considered Anglesey, or Mona as they and the locals at the time called it, as a stronghold of the Druids. Because the Druids played an important role in encouraging the recently conquered Britons to resist the Roman Conquerors, the Roman army specifically targeted Anglesey for destruction. The final episode of that conquest was the invasion of Anglesey and the slaughter of the Druids there.

Top Ordovices This group covered much of the mountains and valleys of what is today mid-Wales. They were the northern neighbours of

the Silures and the Southern neighbours of the Degeangli. Like the Silures and Degeangli, these peoples lived in small farms, often defended against attack. After the emperor Claudius invaded southern England in AD 43, one of the main leaders of the Britons, called Caratacus escaped to the Ordovices and the Silures. They were stirred into rebellion by Caratacus and for a long time successfully resisted the Romans. The Roman general Agricola only finally defeated the Ordovices in 60 AD. The tribe was incorporated into Britannia and became a civitas an administrative district. Top Corieltauvi This large tribe appears to have been created only shortly before the Roman Conquest of Britain. It offered no resistance to the Romans and was quickly turned into a civitas an administrative district equivalent to a modern county with its capital at the city of Leicester. The Corieltauvi combined groups of people living in what is today most of the East Midlands Lincolnshire. Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire. Before about 50 to 1 BC, archaeological evidence suggests two different groups or tribes lived in this region. One lived in what is today Lincolnshire, the other in what is today Northamptonshire. Both areas were different to each other and were important centres of population and economy in the period c. 50 to 1 BC. The Corieltauvi are known from their coins that are found throughout the East Midlands. This group appears to have been a new federation that united earlier different groups. This was a region where people lived in villages, and some times larger settlements. Leicester was certainly an important large settlement before the Roman Conquest, as were a number of large settlements in Lincolnshire, such as Dragonby and Old Sleaford.

Chapter 6 : Roman Britain - Wikipedia

*'THE CIVITAS CAPITALS OF ROMAN BRITAIN. PAPERS GIVEN AT A CONFERENCE HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEICESTER, DECEMBER EDITED BY J. S. WACHER' on calendrierdelascience.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Roman Britain The conquest Julius Caesar conquered Gaul between 58 and 50 bc and invaded Britain in 55 or 54 bc, thereby bringing the island into close contact with the Roman world. From about 20 bc it is possible to distinguish two principal powers: Tasciovanus was succeeded in about ad 5 by his son Cunobelinus , who, during a long reign, established power all over the southeast, which he ruled from Camulodunum Colchester. Beyond these kingdoms lay the Icenii in what is now Norfolk , the Corieltaevi in the Midlands , the Dobuni Dobunni in the area of Gloucestershire , and the Durotriges in that of Dorset , all of whom issued coins and probably had Belgic rulers. Behind these again lay further independent tribes—the Dumnonii of Devon , the Brigantes in the north, and the Silures and Ordovices in Wales. The Belgic and semi-Belgic tribes later formed the civilized nucleus of the Roman province and thus contributed greatly to Roman Britain. The client relationships that Caesar had established with certain British tribes were extended by Augustus. In particular, the Atrebatian kings welcomed Roman aid in their resistance to Catuvellaunian expansion. The decision of the emperor Claudius to conquer the island was the result partly of his personal ambition, partly of British aggression. Verica had been driven from his kingdom and appealed for help, and it may have been calculated that a hostile Catuvellaunian supremacy would endanger stability across the Channel. Under Aulus Plautius an army of four legions was assembled, together with a number of auxiliary regiments consisting of cavalry and infantry raised among warlike tribes subject to the empire. The British under Togodumnus and Caratacus , sons and successors of Cunobelinus, were taken by surprise and defeated. They retired to defend the Medway crossing near Rochester but were again defeated in a hard battle. The way to Camulodunum lay open, but Plautius halted at the Thames to await the arrival of the emperor, who took personal command of the closing stages of the campaign. In one short season the main military opposition had been crushed: Togodumnus was dead and Caratacus had fled to Wales. The rest of Britain was by no means united, for Belgic expansion had created tensions. Some tribes submitted, and subduing the rest remained the task for the year For this purpose smaller expeditionary forces were formed consisting of single legions or parts of legions with their auxilia subsidiary allied troops. The best-documented campaign is that of Legion II under its legate Vespasian starting from Chichester , where the Atrebatian kingdom was restored; the Isle of Wight was taken and the hill forts of Dorset reduced. Colchester was the chief base, but the fortresses of individual legions at this stage have not yet been identified. By the year 47, when Plautius was succeeded as commanding officer by Ostorius Scapula, a frontier had been established from Exeter to the Humber, based on the road known as the Fosse Way ; from this fact it appears that Claudius did not plan the annexation of the whole island but only of the arable southeast. The intransigence of the tribes of Wales , spurred on by Caratacus, however, caused Scapula to occupy the lowlands beyond the Fosse Way up to the River Severn and to move forward his forces into this area for the struggle with the Silures and Ordovices. The Roman forces were strengthened by the addition of Legion XX, released for this purpose by the foundation of a veteran settlement colonia at Camulodunum in the year The colonia would form a strategic reserve as well as setting the Britons an example of Roman urban organization and life. A provincial centre for the worship of the emperor was also established. Hers was the largest kingdom in Britain, occupying the whole area between Derbyshire and the Tyne; unfortunately it lacked stability, nor was it united behind its queen, who lost popularity when she surrendered the British resistance leader, Caratacus, to the Romans. Nevertheless, with occasional Roman military support, Cartimandua was maintained in power until 69 against the opposition led by her husband, Venutius, and this enabled Roman governors to concentrate on Wales. By ad 60 much had been achieved; Suetonius Paulinus , governor from 59 to 61, was invading the island of Anglesey , the last stronghold of independence, when a serious setback occurred: Under its king Prasutagus the tribe of the Icenii had enjoyed a position of alliance and independence; but on his death 60 the territory was forcibly annexed and outrages occurred. Boudicca was

able to rally other tribes to her assistance; chief of these were the Trinovantes of Essex, who had many grievances against the settlers of Camulodunum for their arrogant seizure of lands. Roman forces were distant and scattered; and, before peace could be restored, the rebels had sacked Camulodunum, Verulamium St. Albans, and London, the three chief centres of Romanized life in Britain. Paulinus acted harshly after his victory, but the procurator of the province, Julius Classicianus, with the revenues in mind and perhaps also because, as a Gaul by birth, he possessed a truer vision of provincial partnership with Rome, brought about his recall. In the first 20 years of occupation some progress had been made in spreading Roman civilization. Towns had been founded, the imperial cult had been established, and merchants were busily introducing the Britons to material benefits. It was not, however, until the Flavian period, ad 69-96, that real advances were made in this field. With the occupation of Wales by Julius Frontinus governor from 74 to 78 and the advance into northern Scotland by Gnaeus Julius Agricola 78-84, troops were removed from southern Britain, and self-governing civitates, administrative areas based for the most part on the indigenous tribes, took over local administration. This involved a large program of urbanization and also of education, which continued into the 2nd century; Tacitus, in his biography of Agricola, emphasizes the encouragement given to it. Moreover, when the British garrison was reduced c. After several experiments, the Solway-Tyne isthmus was chosen, and there the emperor Hadrian built his stone wall c. Condition of the province There was a marked contrast in attitude toward the Roman occupation between the lowland Britons and the inhabitants of Wales and the hill country of the north. The economy of the former was that of settled agriculture, and they were largely of Belgic stock; they soon accepted and appreciated the Roman way of life. The economy of the hill dwellers was pastoral, and the urban civilization of Rome threatened their freedom of life. Although resistance in Wales was stamped out by the end of the 1st century ad, Roman influences were nonetheless weak except in the Vale of Glamorgan. In the Pennines until the beginning of the 3rd century there were repeated rebellions, the more dangerous because of the threat of assistance from free Scotland. Army and frontier After the emperor Domitian had reduced the garrison in about the year 90, three legions remained; their permanent bases were established at York, Chester, and Caerleon. The legions formed the foundation of Roman military power, but they were supplemented in garrison duty by numerous smaller auxiliary regiments both of cavalry and infantry, either 1, or strong. These latter garrisoned the wall and were stationed in a network of other forts established for police work in Wales and northern England. With 15, legionaries and about 40, auxiliaries, the army of Britain was very powerful; its presence had economic as well as political results. Despite a period in the following two reigns when another frontier was laid out on the Glasgow-Edinburgh line—the Antonine Wall, built of turf—the wall of Hadrian came to be the permanent frontier of Roman Britain. The northern tribes only twice succeeded in passing it, and then at moments when the garrison was fighting elsewhere. In the late Roman period, when sea raiding became prevalent, the wall lost its preeminence as a defense for the province, but it was continuously held until the end of the 4th century. In the 2nd century their solution was military occupation. In the 3rd, after active campaigning by the emperor Septimius Severus and his sons during which permanent bases were built on the east coast of Scotland, the solution adopted by the emperor Caracalla was regulation of relationship by treaties. These, perhaps supported by subsidies, were enforced by supervision of the whole Lowlands by patrols based on forts beyond the wall. During the 4th century more and more reliance was placed on friendly native states, and patrols were withdrawn. Administration Britain was an imperial province. The governor represented the emperor, exercising supreme military as well as civil jurisdiction. As commander of three legions he was a senior general of consular rank. From the late 1st century he was assisted on the legal side by a legatus iudicis. The finances were in the hands of the provincial procurator, an independent official of equestrian status whose staff supervised imperial domains and the revenues of mines in addition to normal taxation. In the early 3rd century Britain was divided into two provinces in order to reduce the power of its governor to rebel, as Albinus had done in Britannia Superior had its capital at London and a consular governor in control of two legions and a few auxiliaries; Britannia Inferior, with its capital at York, was under a praetorian governor with one legion but many more auxiliaries. Local administration was of varied character. First came the chartered towns. By the year 98 Lincoln and Gloucester had joined Camulodunum as coloniae, and by York had become a fourth. Coloniae of Roman

citizens enjoyed autonomy with a constitution based on that of republican Rome, and Roman citizens had various privileges before the law. It is likely that Verulamium was chartered as a Latin municipium free town ; in such a town the annual magistrates were rewarded with Roman citizenship. The remainder of the provincials ranked as peregrini subjects. In military districts control was in the hands of fort prefects responsible to legionary commanders; but by the late 1st century local self-government, as already stated, was granted to civitates peregrinae, whose number tended to increase with time. These also had republican constitutions, being controlled by elected councils and annual magistrates and having responsibility for raising taxes and administering local justice. But Rome regarded these as temporary expedients, and none outlasted the Flavian Period 69â€” Roman society Pre-Roman Celtic tribes had been ruled by kings and aristocracies; the Roman civitates remained in the hands of the rich because of the heavy expense of office. But since trade and industry now yielded increasing profits and the old aristocracies no longer derived wealth from war but only from large estates, it is likely that new men rose to power. Soldiers and traders from other parts of the empire significantly enhanced the cosmopolitan character of the population, as did the large number of legionaries, who were already citizens and many of whom must have settled locally. The population of Roman Britain at its peak amounted perhaps to about two million. Economy Even before the conquest, according to the Greek geographer Strabo , Britain exported gold, silver, iron, hides, slaves, and hounds in addition to grain. A Roman gold mine is known in Wales, but its yield was not outstanding. Iron was worked in many places but only for local needs; silver, obtained from lead, was of more significance. But the basis of the economy was agriculture, and the conquest greatly stimulated production because of the requirements of the army. According to Tacitus, grain to feed the troops was levied as a tax; correspondingly more had to be grown before a profit could be made. The pastoralists in Wales and the north probably had to supply leather, which the Roman army needed in quantity for tents, boots, uniforms, and shields. A military tannery is known at Catterick. A profit could, nonetheless, be won from the land because of the increasing demand from the towns. At the same time the development of a system of large estates villas relieved the ancient Celtic farming system of the necessity of shouldering the whole burden. Small peasant farmers tended to till the lighter, less-productive, more easily worked soils. Villa estates were established on heavier, richer soils, sometimes on land recently won by forest clearance, itself a result of the enormous new demand for building timber from the army and the new towns and for fuel for domestic heating and for public baths. The villa owners had access to the precepts of classical farming manuals and also to the improved equipment made available by Roman technology. Their growing prosperity is vouched for by excavation: Archaeological evidence indicates that the Cotswold district was one of the centres of this industry. Trade in imported luxury goods ranging from wine to tableware and bronze trinkets vastly increased as traders swarmed in behind the army to exploit new markets. The profits of developing industries went similarly at first to foreign capitalists. This is clearly seen in the exploitation of silver-lead ore and even in the pottery industry. The Mendip lead field was being worked under military control as early as the year 49, but under Nero 54â€”68 both there and in Flintshire , and not much later also in the Derbyshire lead field, freedmenâ€”the representatives of Roman capitalâ€”were at work. Roman citizens, who must in the context be freedmen, are also found organizing the pottery industry in the late 1st century. Large profits were made by continental businessmen in the first two centuries not only from such sources but also by the import on a vast scale of high-class pottery from Gaul and the Rhineland and on a lesser scale of glass vessels, luxury metalware, and Spanish oil and wine. A large market existed among the military, and the Britons themselves provided a second. Eventually this adverse trade balance was rectified by the gradual capture of the market by British products.

Chapter 7 : Association for Roman Archaeology

Within each area would be the main town (civitas capital) where the Romans would have an internal governor. This would be someone high in Roman office who reported to the provincial governor of Britain, who, in turn, reported directly to Rome.

Chapter 8 : Romans in Britain - Roman Settlements, Towns and Cities

The civitas capitals of Roman Britain: papers given at a conference held at the University of Leicester, December

Chapter 9 : - Civitas Capitals of Roman Britain by n/a

Provincial Capital - Londinivm was unique in the landscape of Roman Britain, a major battle was fought here, followed by a succession of forts, and the thriving military port soon became established as the centre of commerce and administration for the Roman province.