

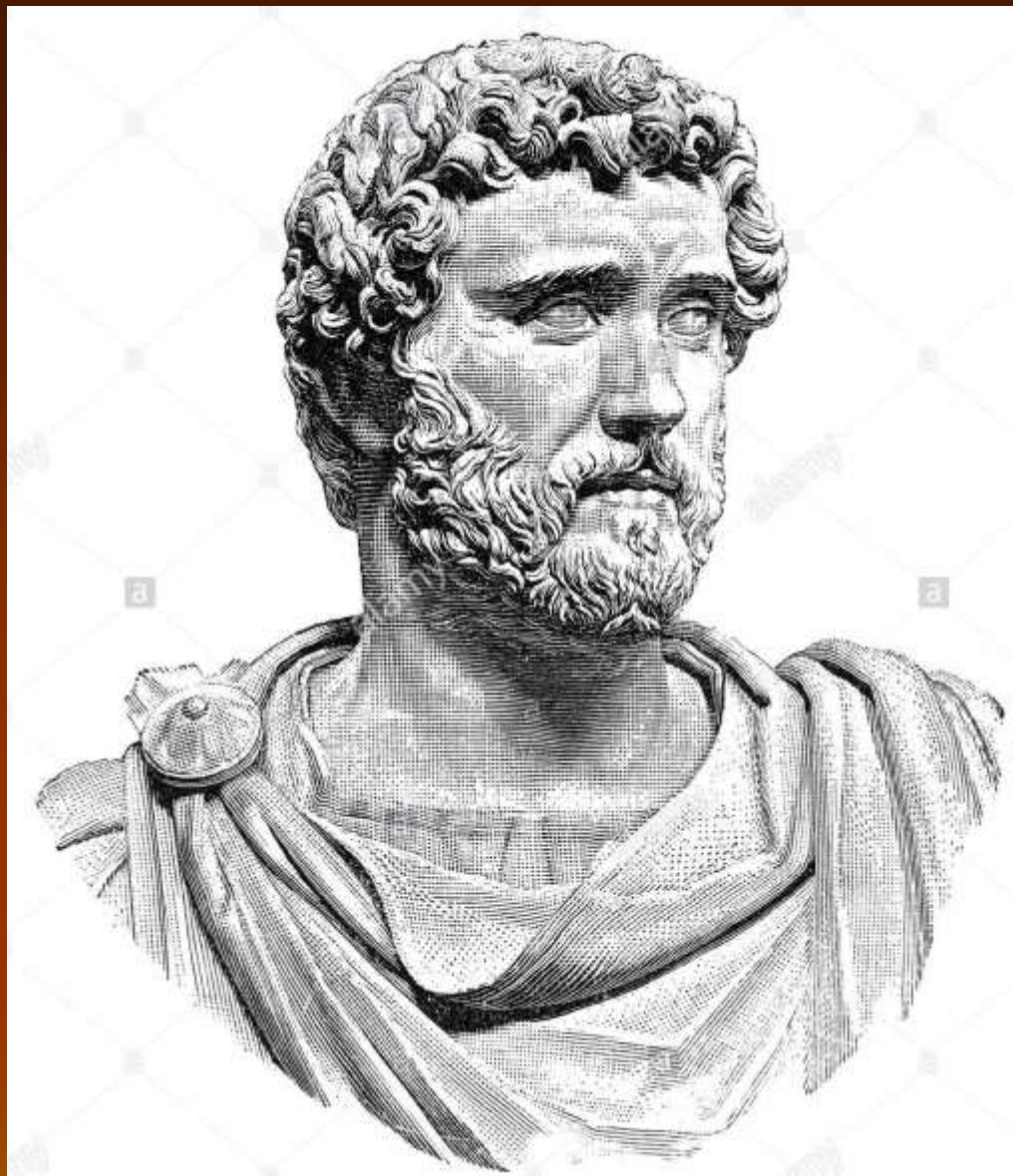


*Presented at the FIC Congress 2018,  
May 6-11, 2018 in Istanbul, Turkey*

# THE DISTANCE SLABS OF THE ANTONINE WALL:

## THE SURVEYORS' RECORD CARVED IN STONE



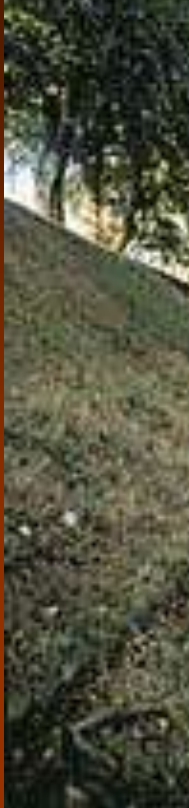


**BUST OF  
EMPEROR  
ANTONINUS PIUS  
(138 – 161 AD)  
THE MAN  
RESPONSIBLE  
FOR THE WALL  
WHICH BORE  
HIS NAME**

# ANTONINE



# WALL







# **BEARSDEN FORT ALONG THE ANTONINE WALL**



## ANTONINE WALL

THE ANTONINE WALL WAS BUILT IN THE 160s AD BY THE ROMAN ARMY ON THE ORDER OF THE EMPEROR ANTONINUS PIVS. IT RAN FOR 600 KM FROM BY NEW IN THE NORTH TO OLD BILTON ON THE CLYDE AND CONSISTED OF A TUFF BARRIAGE BEHIND A WIDE AND DEEP DITCH. ALONG THE WALL WERE FORTS, PORTLETS AND BEACON PLATFORMS, LINKED BY A ROAD.

THIS IS A SECTION OF THE STONE BASE OF THE ANTONINE WALL. IT IS 4.0M (10 ROMAN FEET) WIDE AND IS CROSSED BY A DRAIN. THE TUFF BARRIAGE, PROBABLY 1-4M HIGH AND TOPPED BY A THICK BRACEWORK, RESTED ON THIS BASE. A SECOND SECTION OF BASE LIES BEYOND ON TOP OF THE HILL.

A ROMAN BATH HOUSE, 150M TO THE WEST ON ROMAN ROAD, MAY BE VISITED.







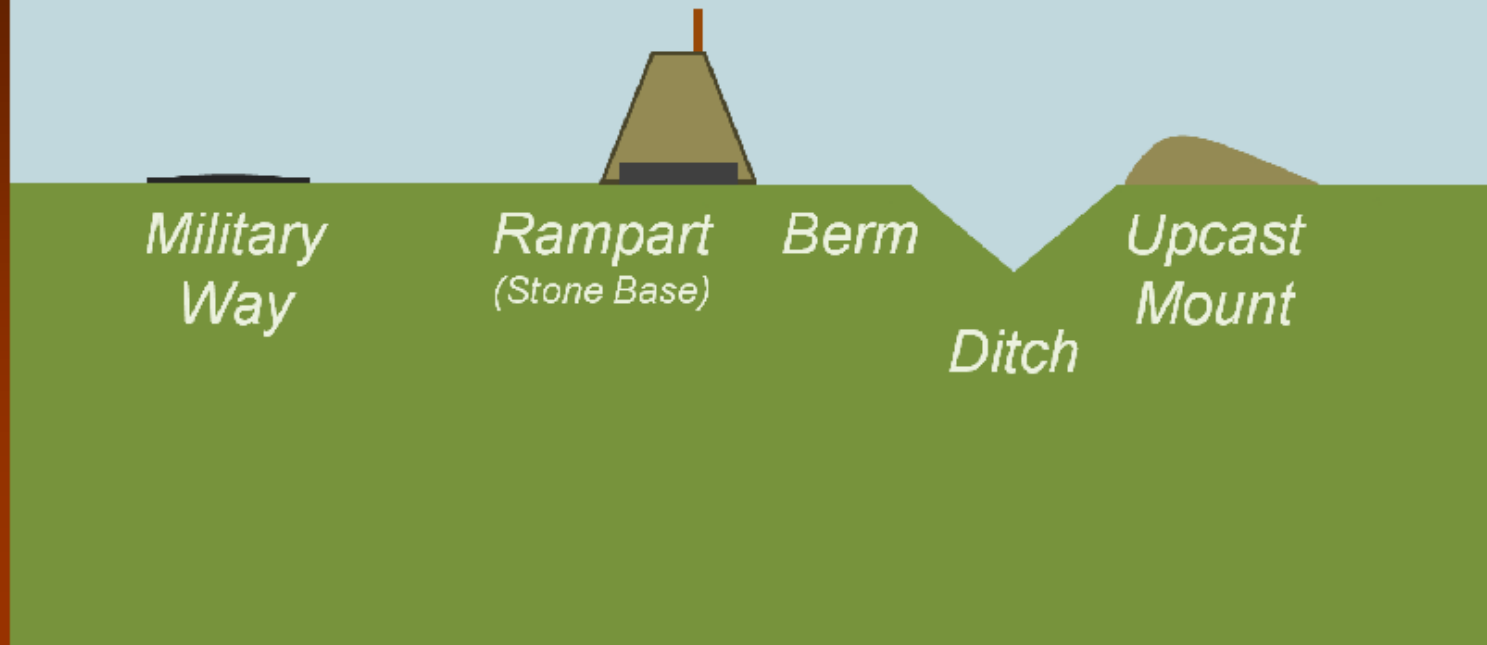
**Rampart**

**Ditch**

**Berm**

# THE ANTONINE WALL

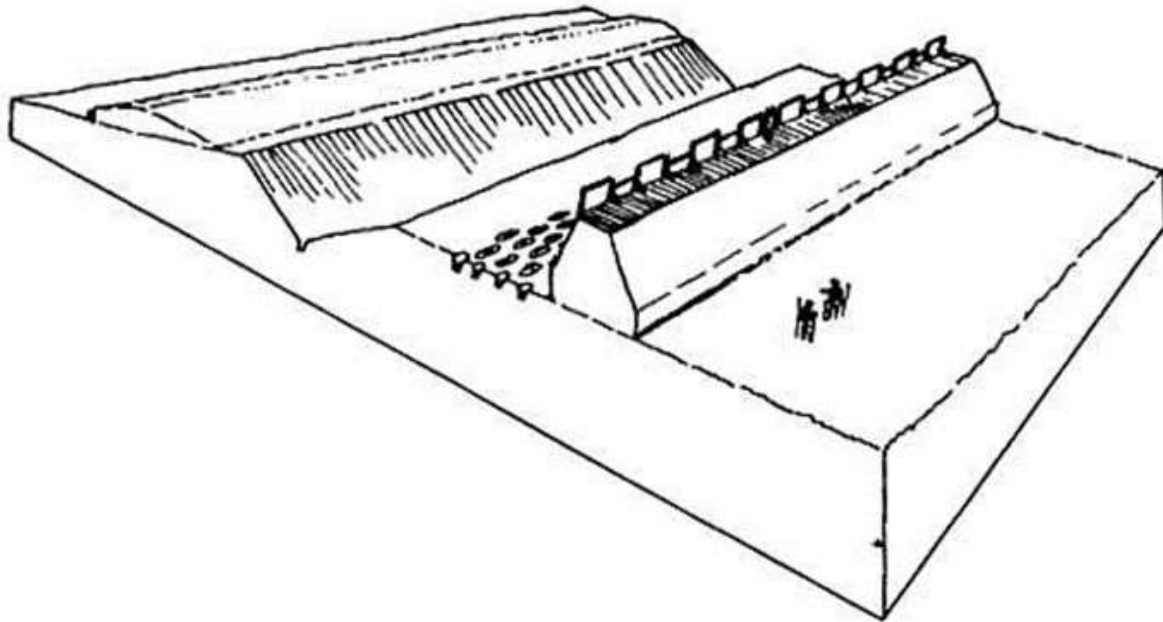
AD 142

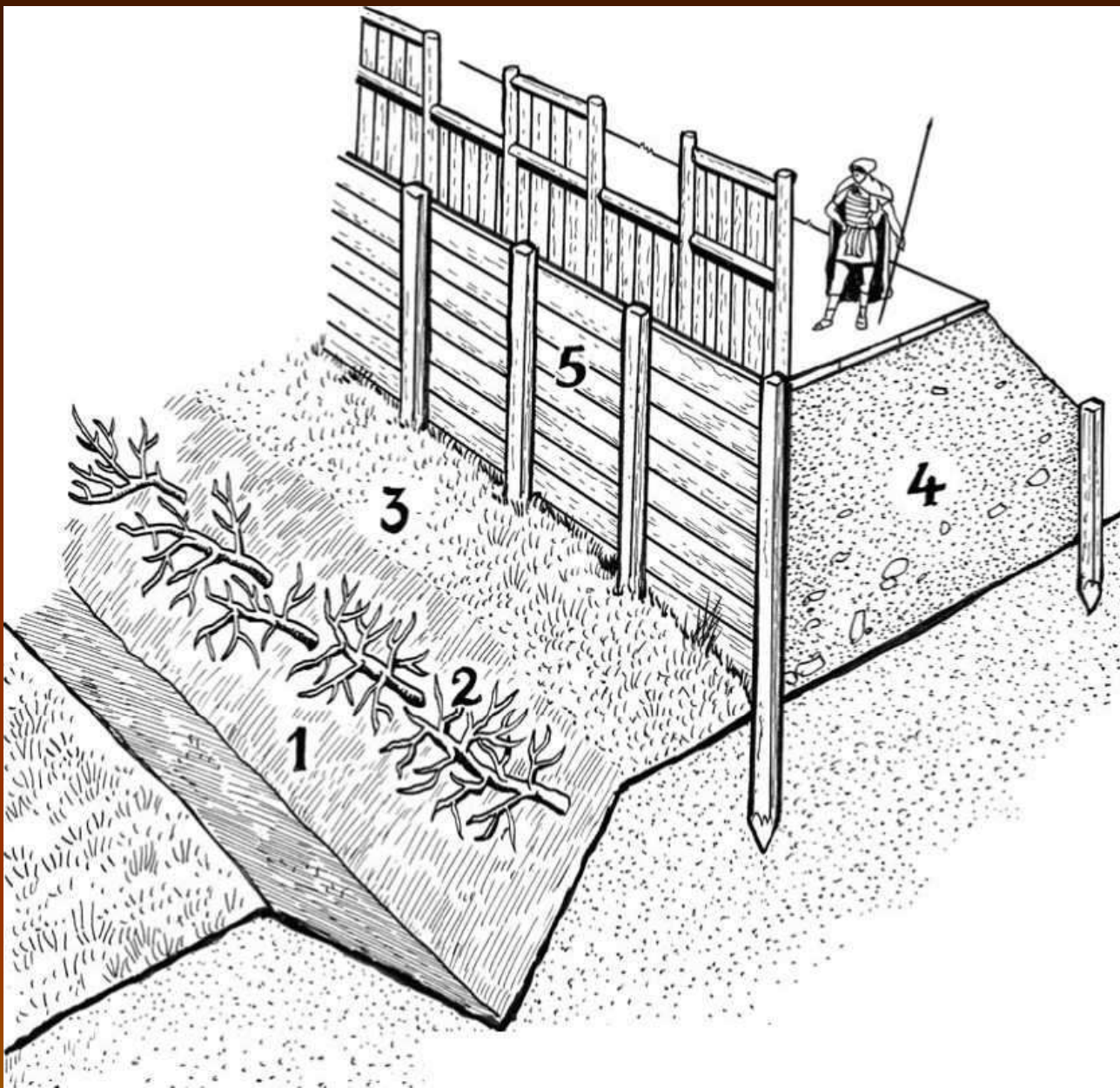


**CROSS SECTIONAL VIEW OF THE ANTONINE WALL CONSTRUCTION**

# The Antonine Wall

- Coins indicate that Pius, through his legate Lollius Urbicus, had regained control of the land Hadrian retreated from by 143 A.D.
- The wall was built out of turf and stood 9ft. high. It runs for 37 miles, and has less fortification than Hadrian's wall.

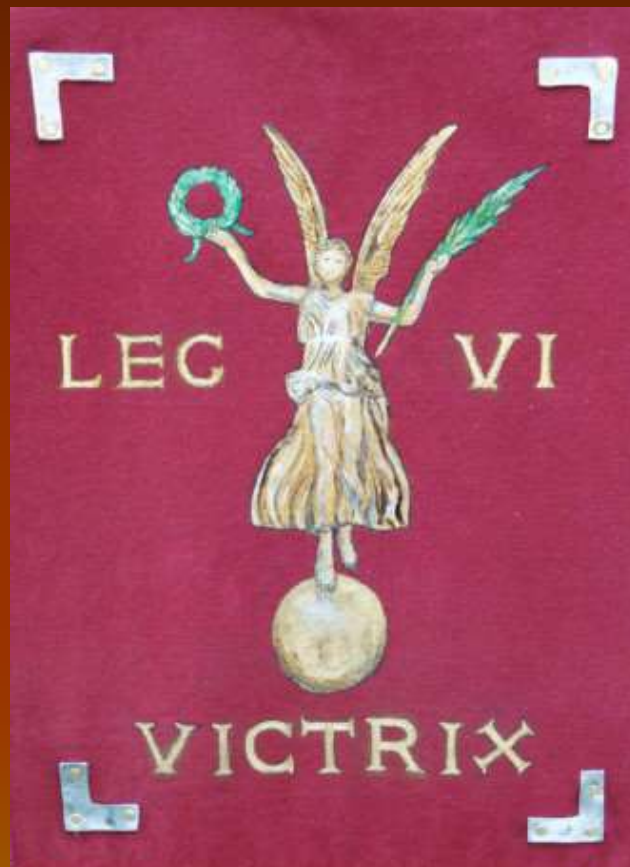




**DETAIL OF  
THE  
ANTONINE  
WALL:  
1 DITCH  
2 WOODEN  
SPIKES  
3 BERM  
4 RAMPART  
OR VALLUM  
5 TIMBER  
FACE WALL**



# THE THREE ROMAN LEGIONS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ERECTION OF HADRIAN'S WALL:



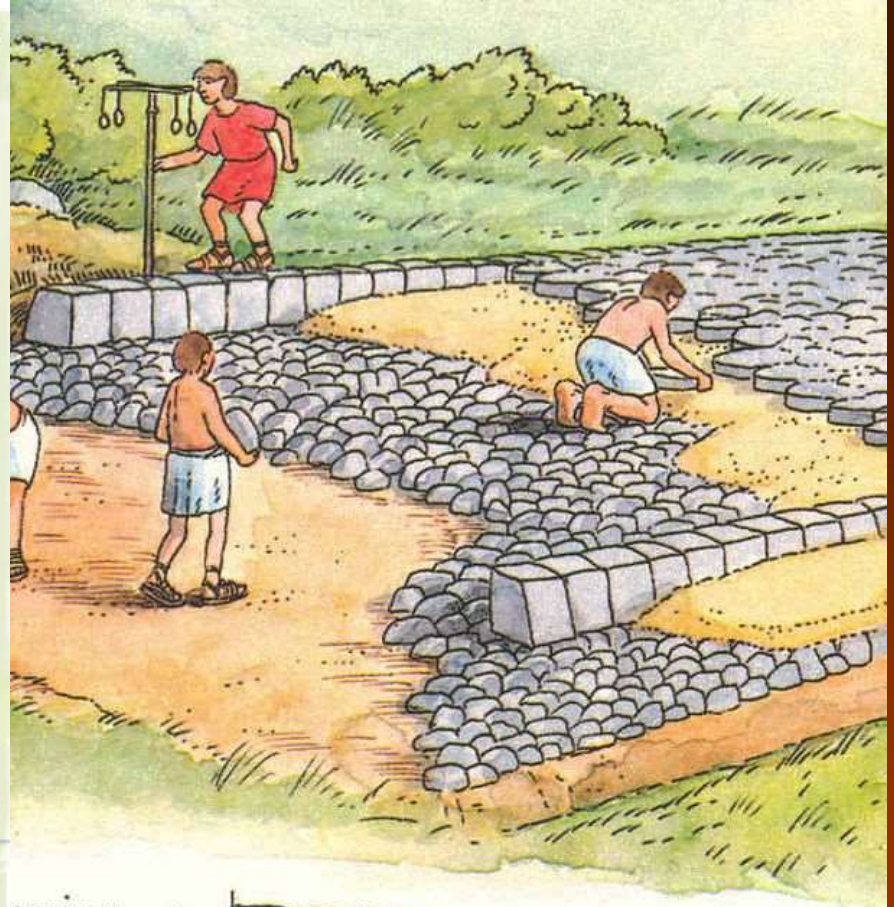
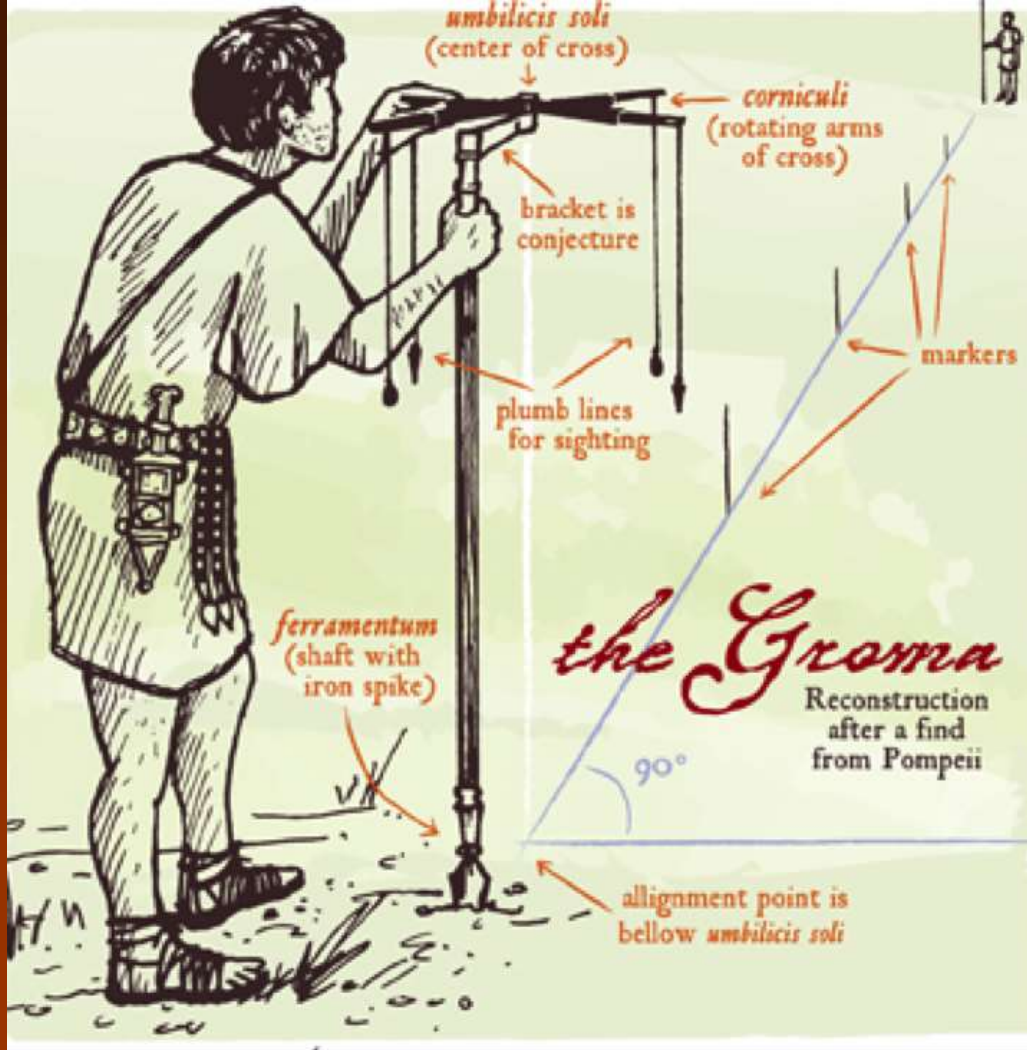
# ANTONINE WALL CONSTRUCTION





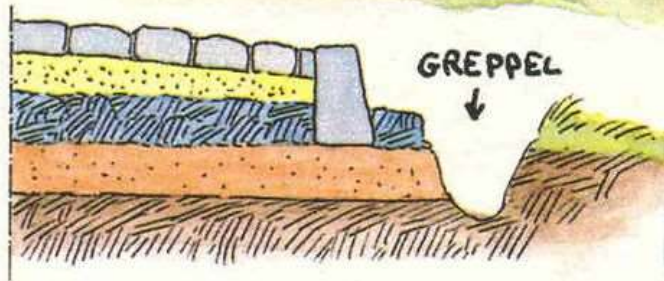
**ROMAN SURVEYOR USING A GROMA TO SET OUT**

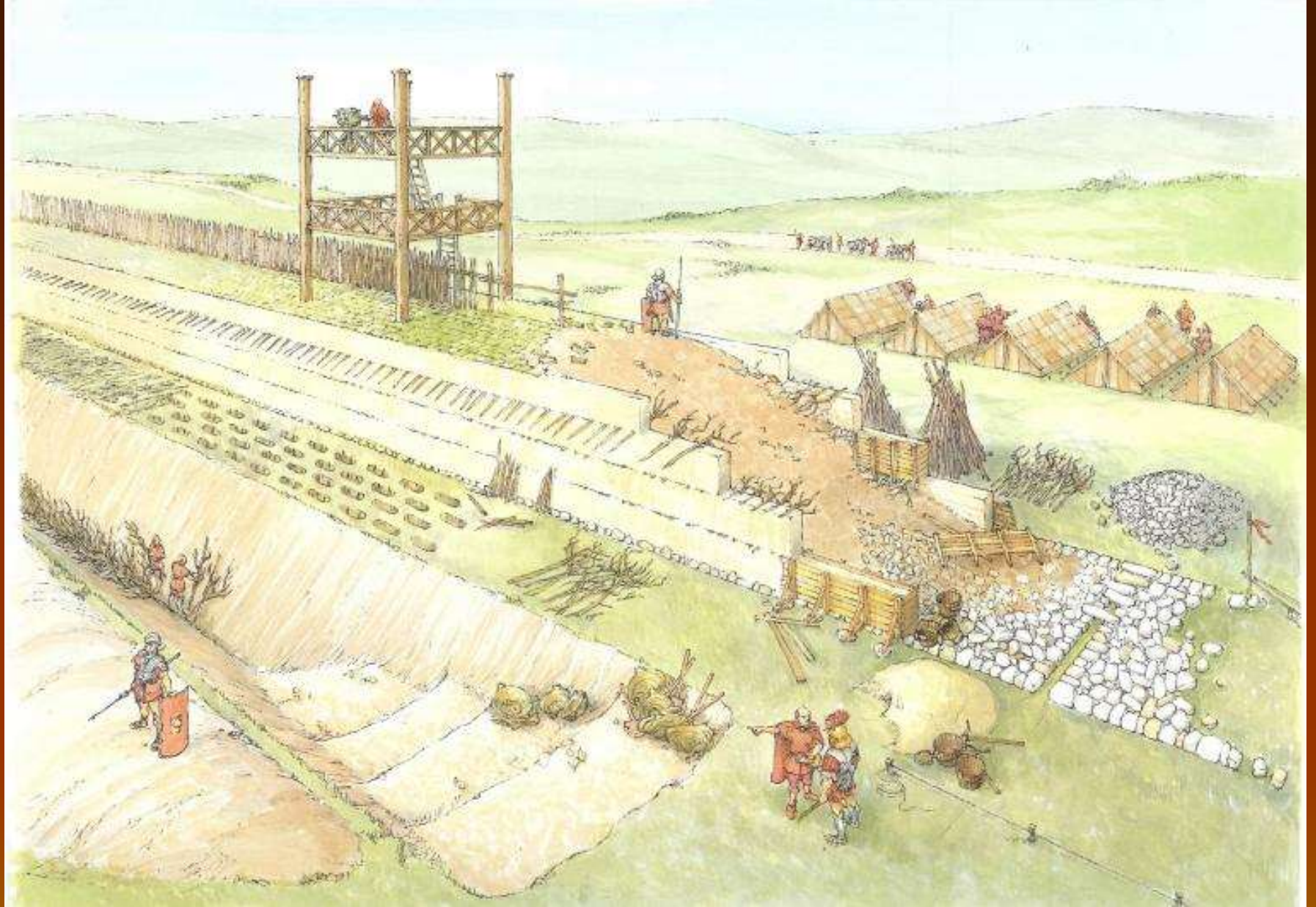




AVEJEN →  
 GRIND →  
 AMPTE →  
 TEEN →

AANGESTAMPTA →  
 AARDE →  
 ROMEINSE  
 WEG



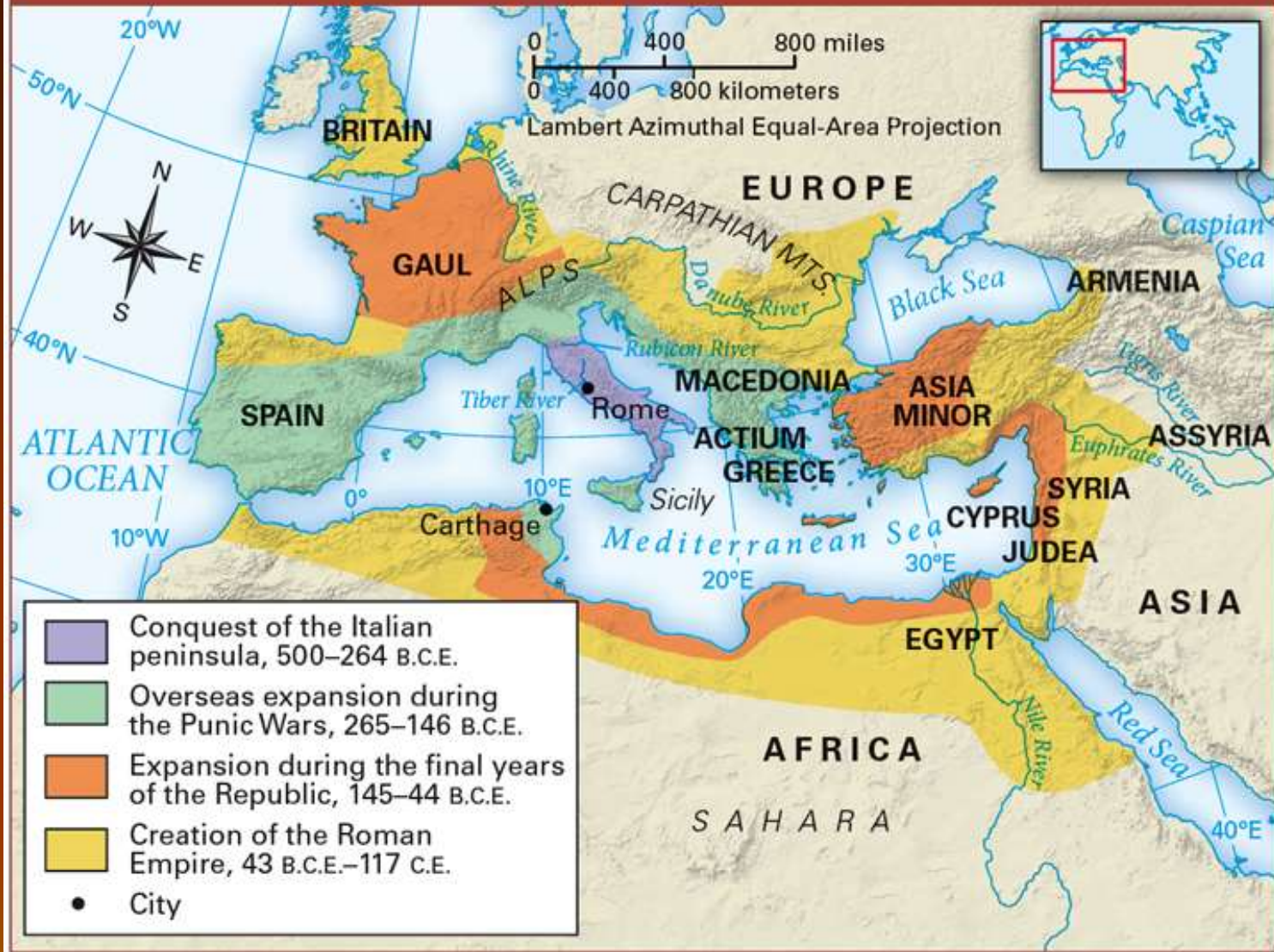




**ARTIST'S  
IMPRESSION  
OF AN  
INVASION  
OF HADRIAN'S  
WALL**



# Territory Controlled by Rome, About 117 C.E.





**MATHEW PARIS  
MAP OF BRITAIN  
IN THE 1250's  
SHOWING BOTH  
HADRIAN'S AND  
THE ANTONINE  
WALL SOMEWHAT  
POORLY  
LOCATED???**



**ANTONINE WALL**

**SCOTTISH BORDERLINE**

**HADRIAN'S WALL**



# Roman Britannia (c. 150 AD)

*Iceni* Brythonic tribe

⊙ Roman city



stationed legion

## Roads

Stane street

Portway

Dere street

Fosse Way

Ermine street

Watling street

Akeman street

other roads

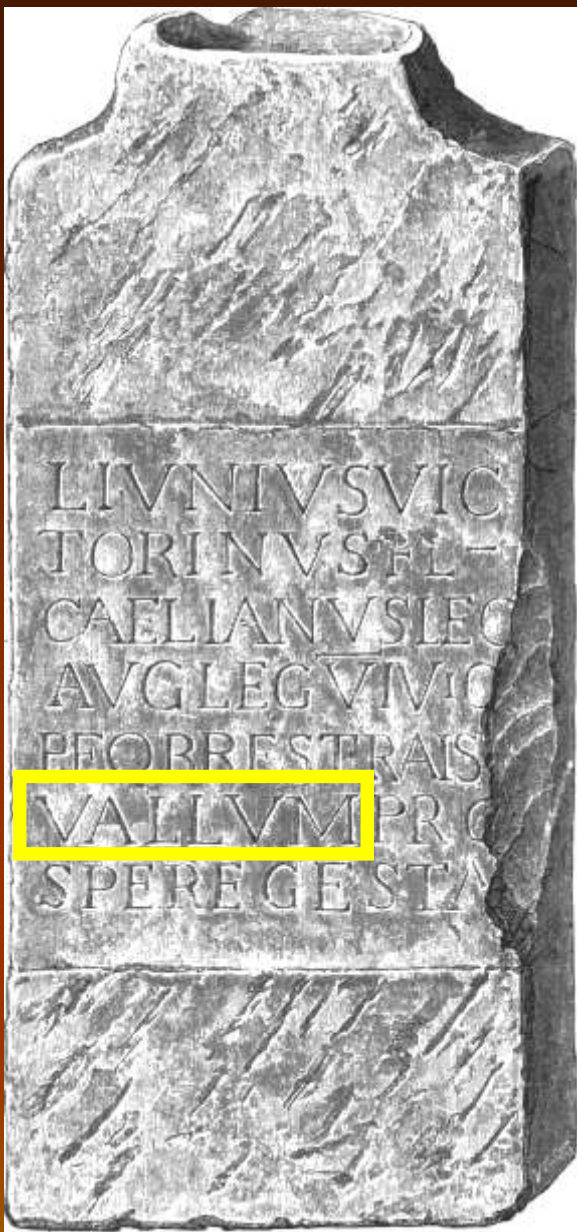




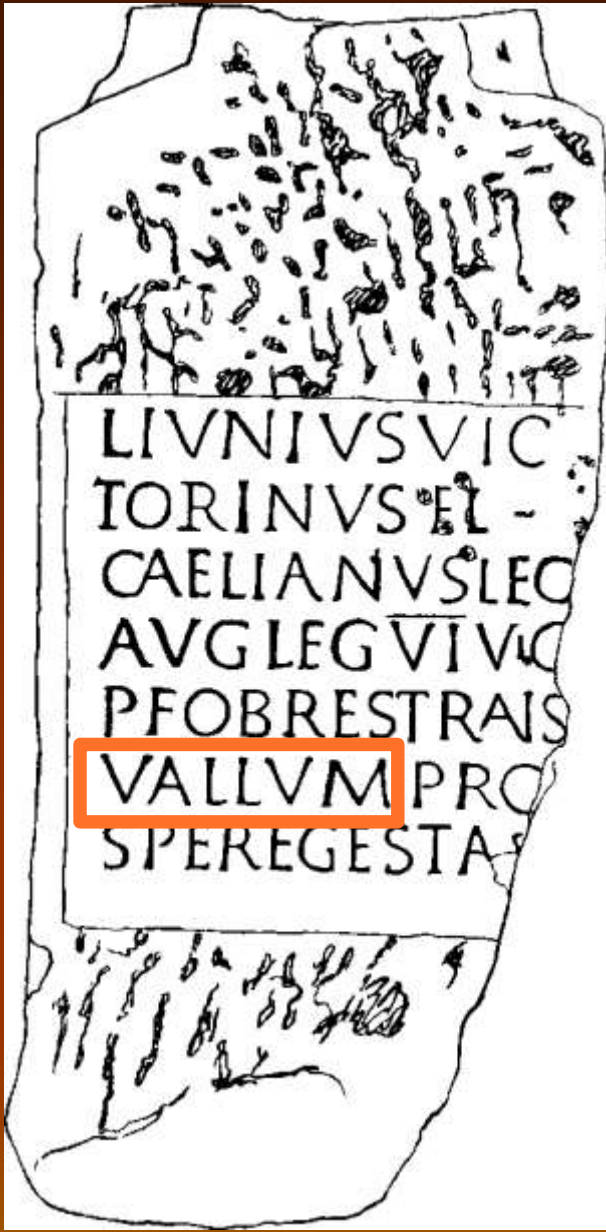


**THE ORIGINAL  
NAMES GIVEN TO  
THE BOUNDARY  
LINES  
DELINEATED BY  
EACH OF THE  
ROMAN WALLS  
USING THE WORD  
VALLUM**





LIVNI SVIC  
TORINVS EL -  
CAELIANVS LEO  
AVGLEGVIVIC  
PFOBRE STRAIS  
VALLVM PRO  
SPEREGESTAS



LIVNI SVIC  
TORINVS EL -  
CAELIANVS LEO  
AVGLEGVIVIC  
PFOBRE STRAIS  
VALLVM PRO  
SPEREGESTAS

**RIB 2034 –  
DEDICATORY  
ALTAR SET  
UP BY LUCIUS  
IUNIUS  
VICTORINUS  
FLAVIUS  
CAELIANUS,  
IMPERIAL  
LEGATE OF 6<sup>TH</sup>  
LEGION VICTRIX  
MENTIONING  
THE VALLUM**

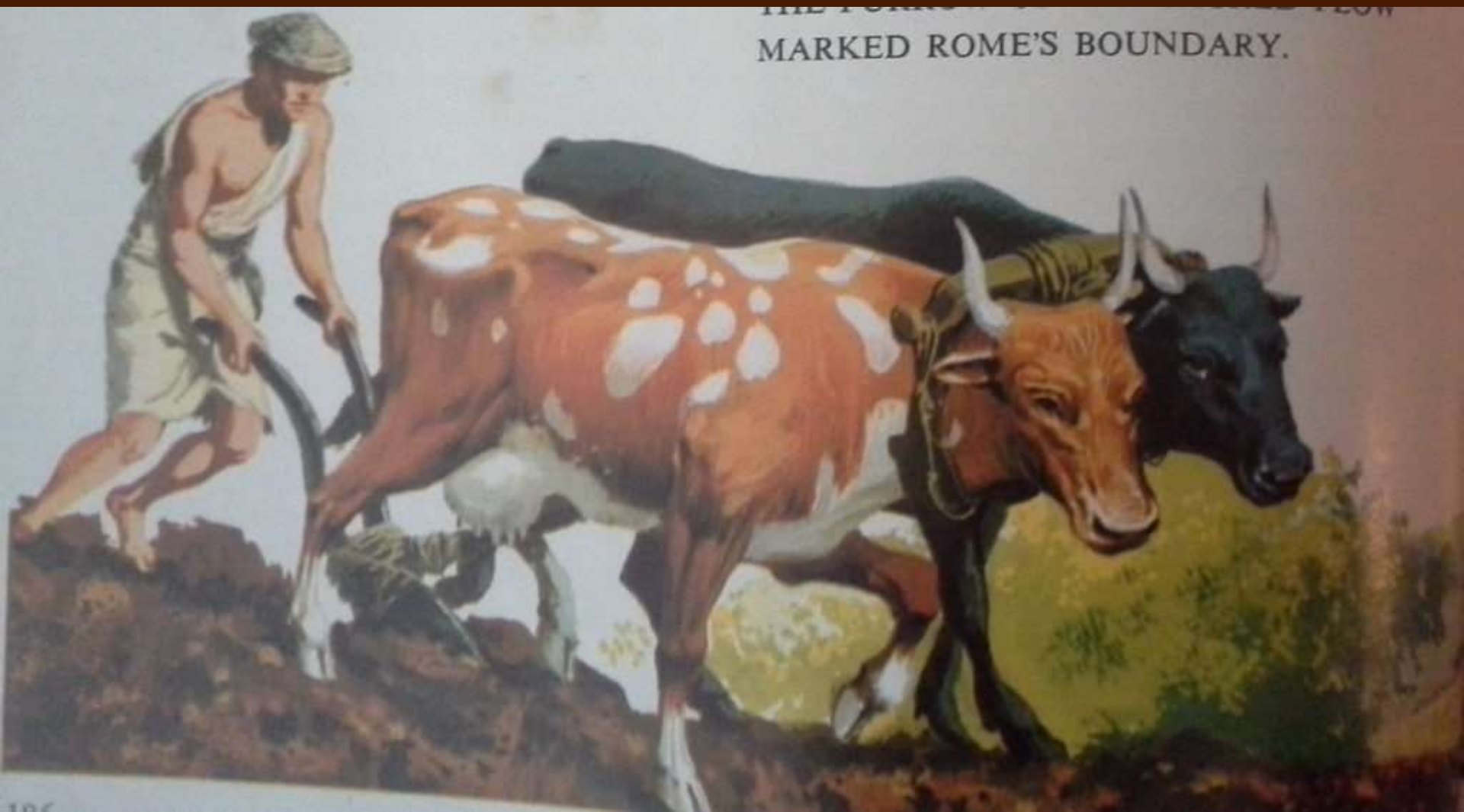
# The Antonine Frontier (including Dere Street)

Key:

- Fort
- Fortlet

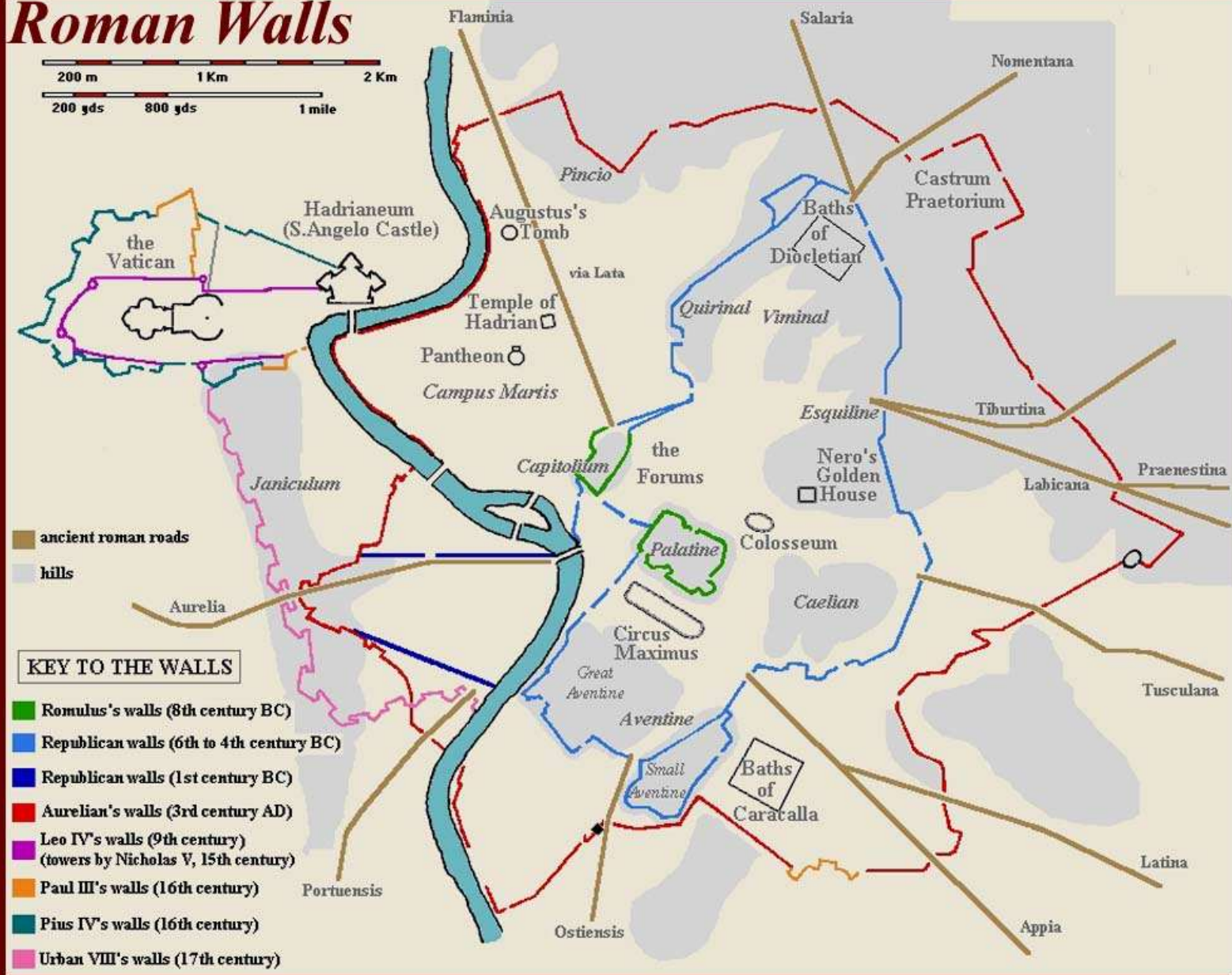


THE FURROW  
MARKED ROME'S BOUNDARY.



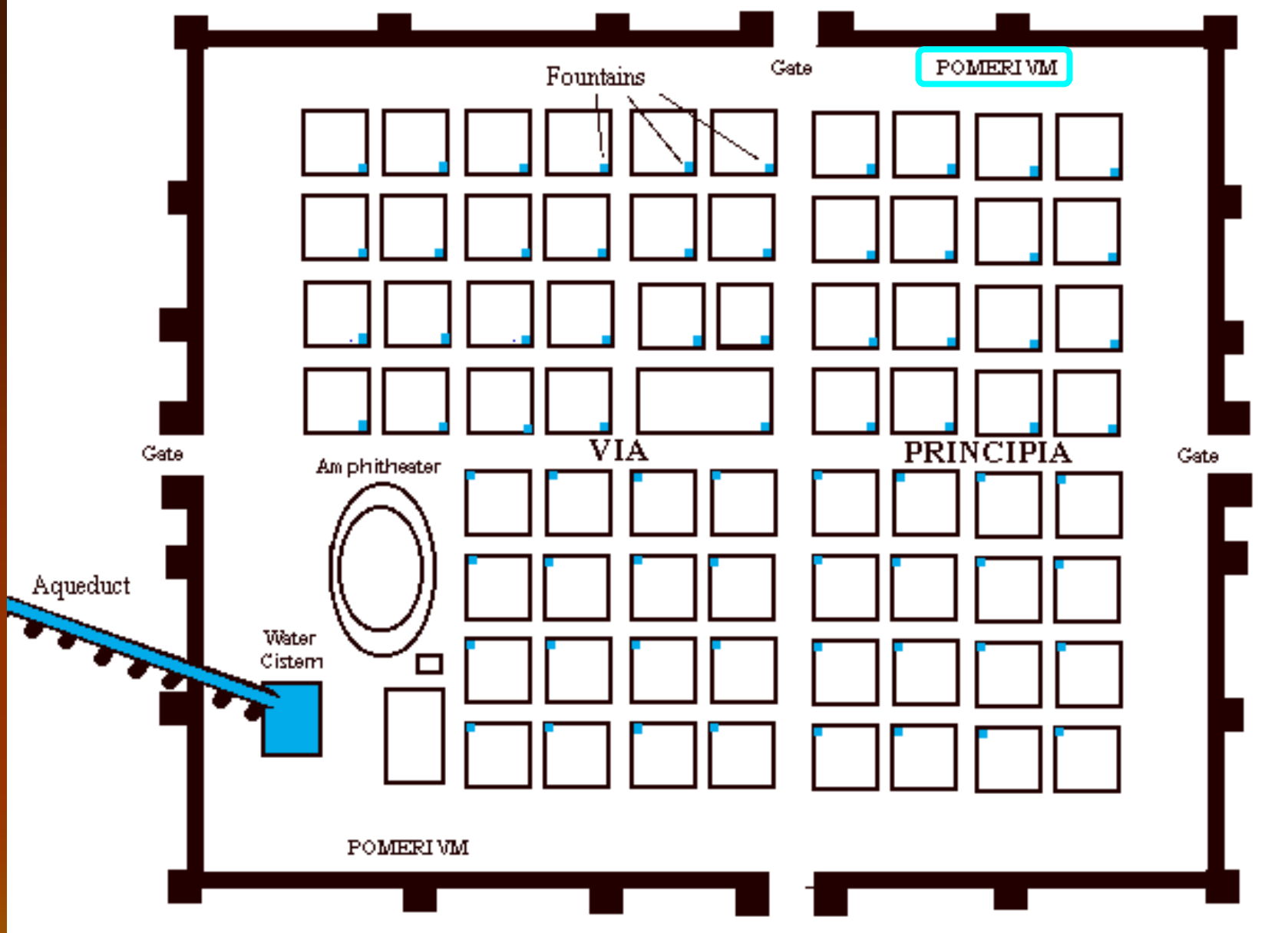
**ROMULUS MARKS ROME'S  
FIRST BOUNDARY FURROW**

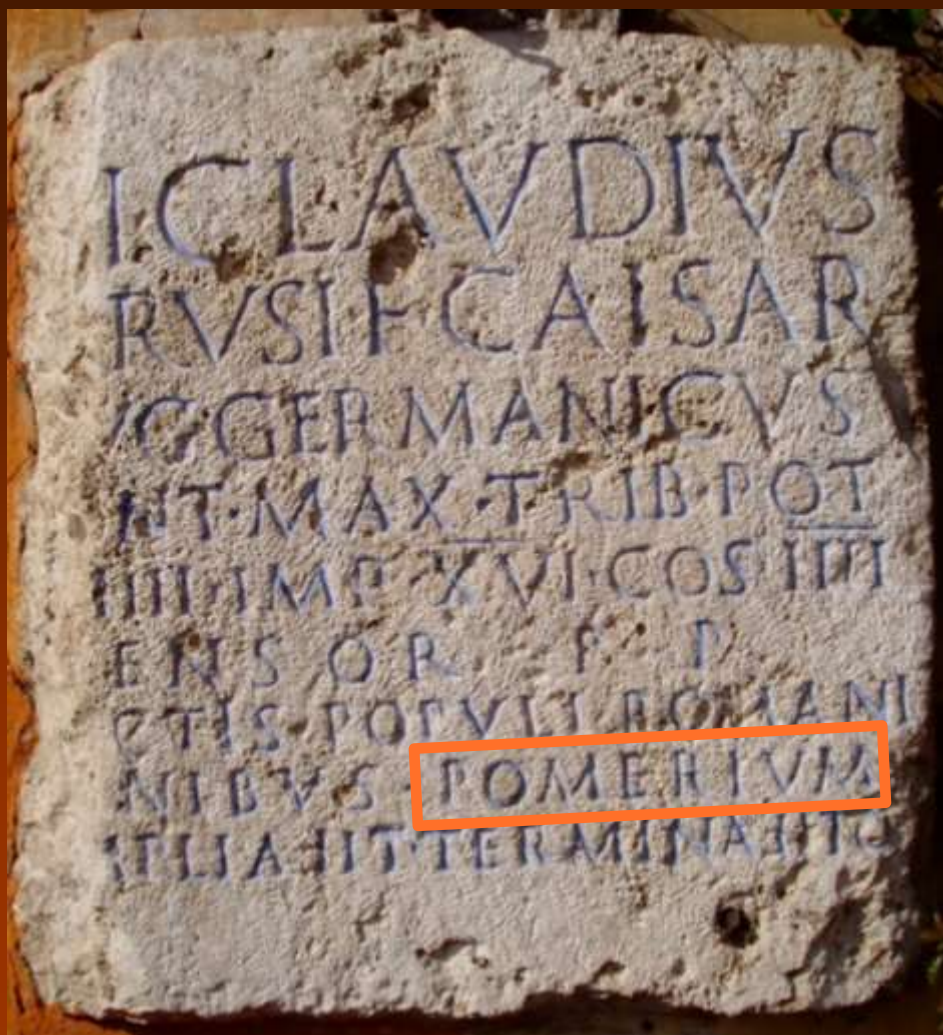
# Roman Walls



## KEY TO THE WALLS

- Green** Romulus's walls (8th century BC)
- Blue** Republican walls (6th to 4th century BC)
- Dark Blue** Republican walls (1st century BC)
- Red** Aurelian's walls (3rd century AD)
- Purple** Leo IV's walls (9th century)  
(towers by Nicholas V, 15th century)
- Orange** Paul III's walls (16th century)
- Dark Teal** Pius IV's walls (16th century)
- Pink** Urban VIII's walls (17th century)





TI CLAVDIVS  
DRVSI F CAISAR  
AVGGERMANICVS  
PONT MAX TRIB POT  
VIII IMP XVI COS III  
CENSOR P P  
AUCTIS POPULI ROMANI  
FINIBVS POMERIUM  
AMPLIATIT TERMINAITQ

**EMPEROR CLAUDIUS (41-54 AD) DECLARES THAT HE HAS  
MOVED THE POMERIUM WHICH IS THE BOUNDARY OF ROME**

IMP CAESAR  
VESPASIANVS  
AVG PONT MAX  
TRIB POT VII IMP XI V PP  
CENSOR COS VI DESIG VII  
T CAESAR AVG F  
VESPASIANVS IMP VI  
PONT TRIB POT IV CENSOR  
COS IV DESIG V  
AVG TR P ENIBVS  
POMERIVM AMPLIAVERVNT  
TERMINAVERVNTQVE

**EMPEROR VESPASIAN  
(69-79 AD) ALSO STATES  
THAT HE HAS MOVED  
THE CITY BOUNDARIES  
ONCE AGAIN WITH  
REFERENCE TO THE  
POMERIUM**





# PLOUGHING THE FIRST FURROW

CAESAR AUGUSTUS  
COIN c.31-29 BC

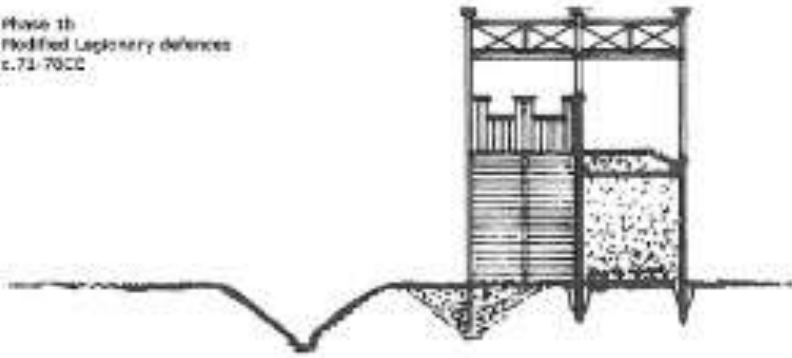
CAESAR  
HADRIANUS  
COIN c.131-136 AD



ANTONINUS  
PIUS COIN  
138-161 AD

# DIAGRAM SHOWING THE CREATION OF THE SULCUS PRIMIGENIUS – THE ORIGIN OF THE POMERIUM WITH A WALL ADDED AT A LATER TIME – LINCOLN, UK.

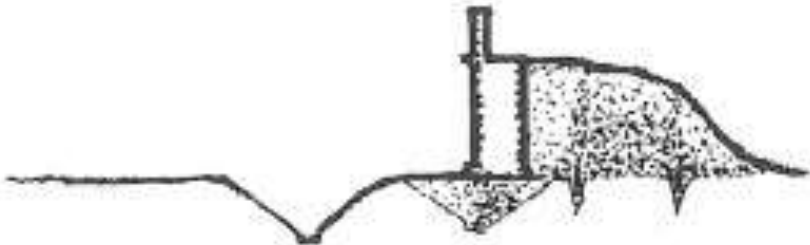
Phase 1b  
Modified Legionary defences  
c. 71-70CE



Phase 2a  
Creation of sulcus primigenius  
c. 84-86CE



Phase 2b  
First Colonia wall  
(late first or early second century CE)







— Vallum Antonini

■ Roman fort

1 Rough Castle

2 Kirkintilloch

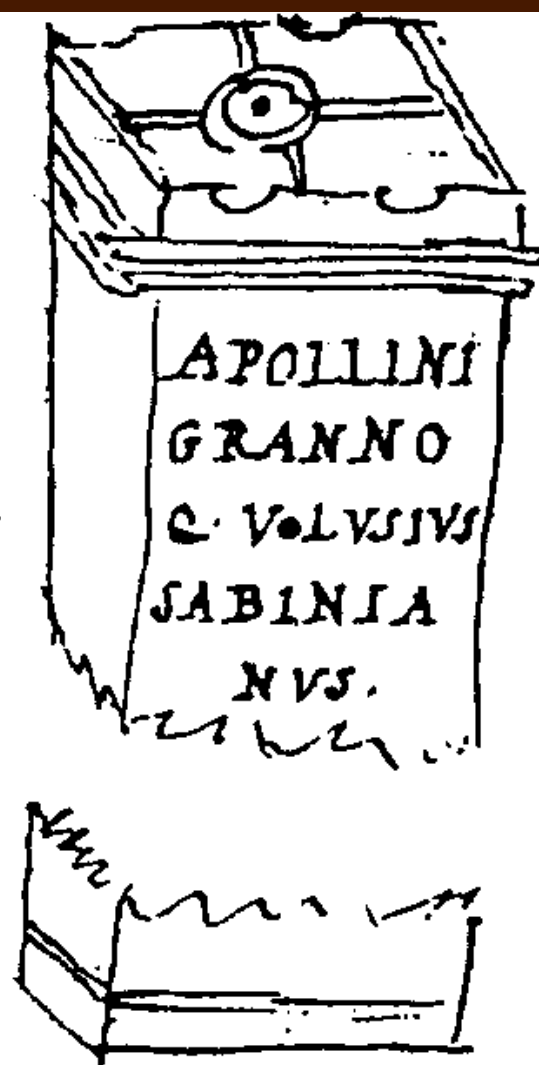
3 Beardsen



# LOCALITY PLAN OF THE ANTONINE WALL

In pago Enderask  
quarto ab Edin  
burgo lapide

~~in~~ marm Thomij  
Segeti habes



**DIAGRAM OF THE FIRST INSCRIBED  
STONE FOUND ON THE WALL c.1565**

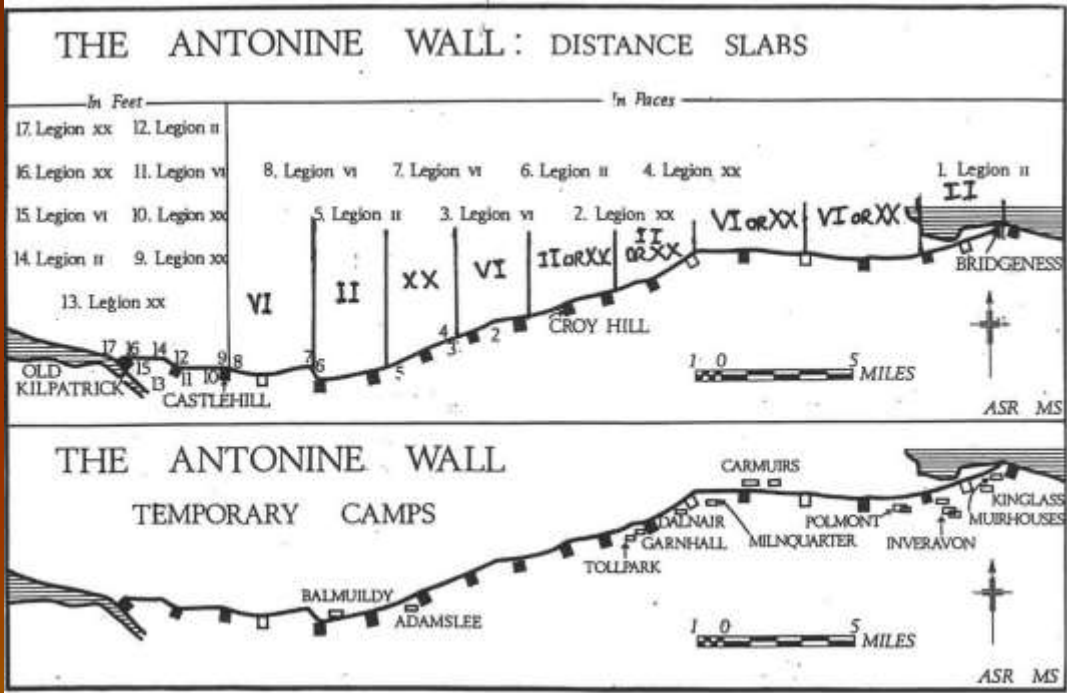
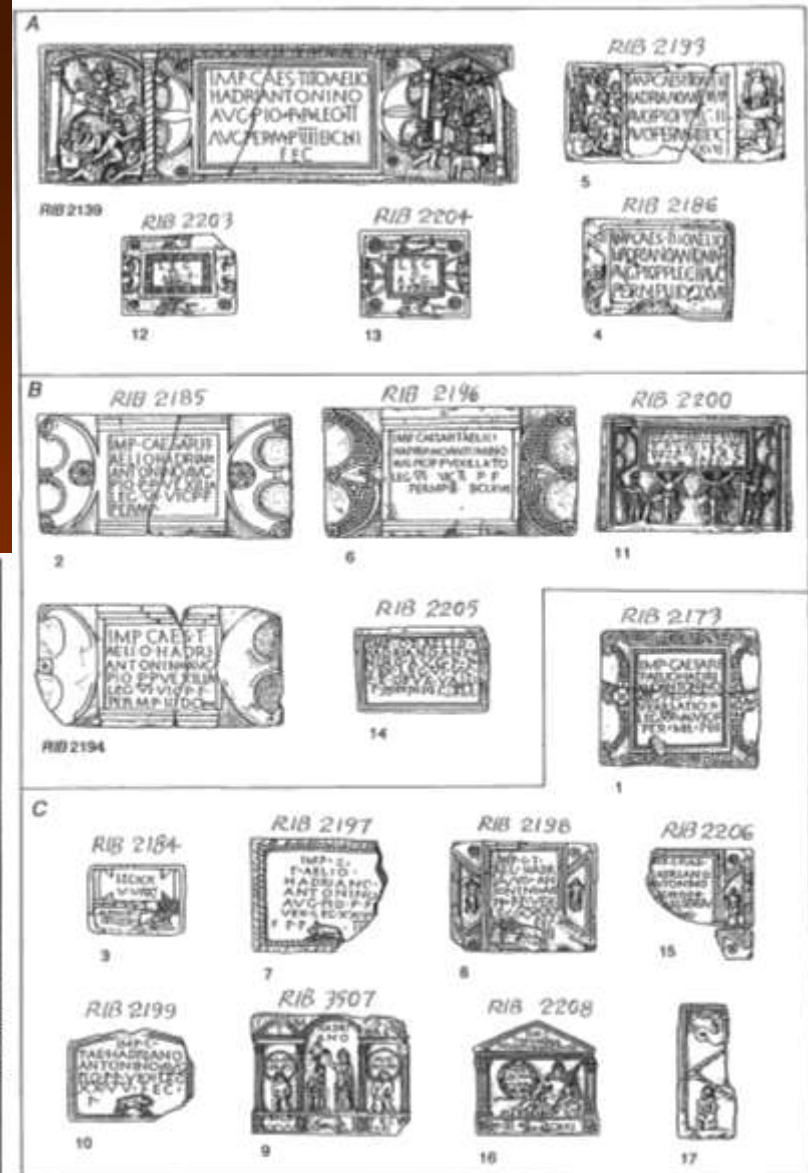
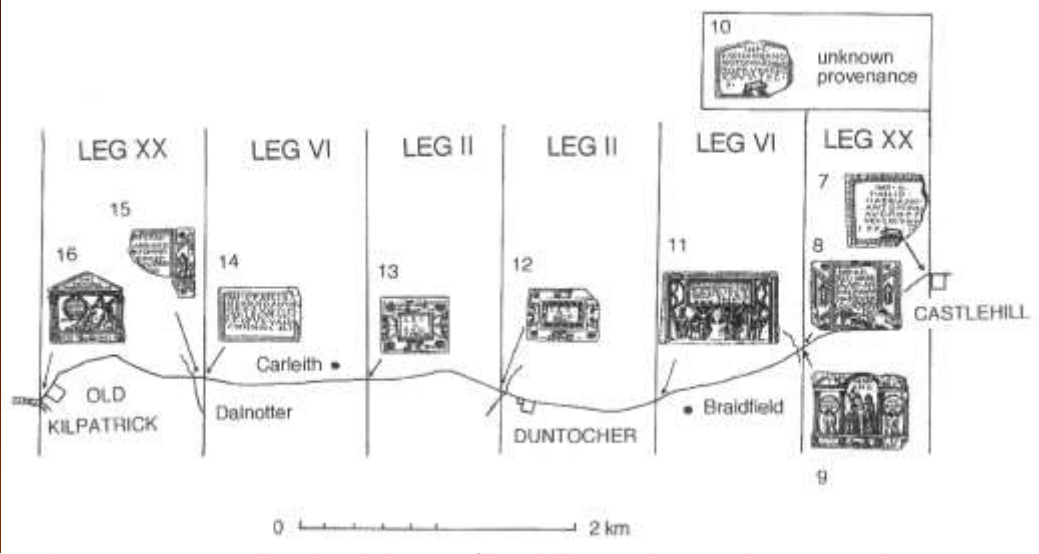


FIG. 23. The distance slabs, according to legion responsible. A = Second Legion; B = Sixth Legion; C = Twentieth Legion. Drawings by Margaret Scott. All are in the Huester collection, except the slabs from Bridgeness (RIB 2139), now in the National Museums of Scotland, Edinburgh, and from Millicher near Summerston (RIB 2194), now in Glasgow Art Gallery & Museum, Kelvingrove. All at scale 1:30.



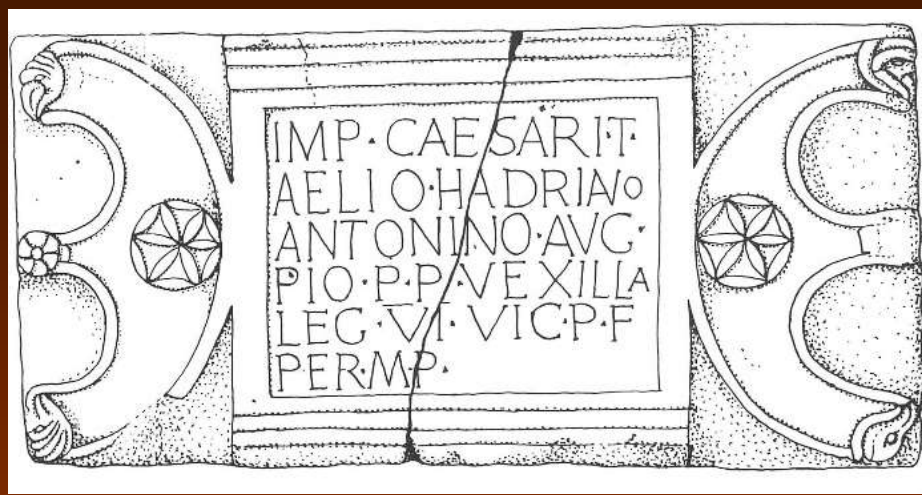
**DISTANCE SLAB 1 – RIB 2173**

**3,000 paces: 15,000 Roman feet**

**=**

**14,562 Imp feet (4,438.5 metres)**





**DISTANCE SLAB 2 - \_ \_ \_ \_ paces  
(RIB 2185)**

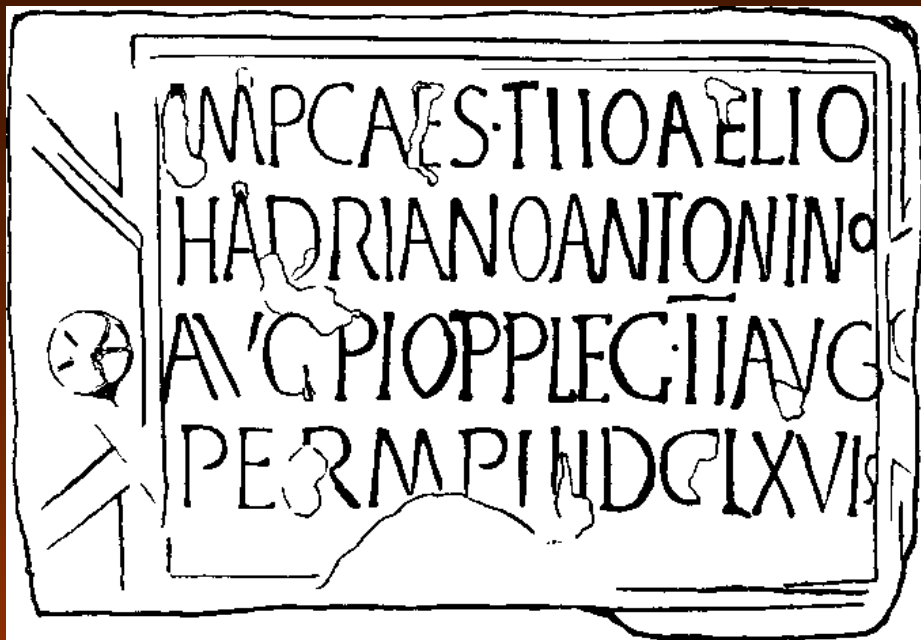


## DISTANCE SLAB 3 — RIB 2184

3,000 paces & 3,304 Roman feet:

18,304 Roman feet = 17,769.5 Imp feet =

5,416 metres



## DISTANCE SLAB 4 – RIB 2186

3,666 ½ paces : 18,332.5 Roman feet

= 17,797 Imp. Feet (5,424.6 metres)



**RIB 2193**

IMPCAESTITIOAELIO  
HADRIANOANTONIN  
AVGPIOPPPICII  
AVGPERMIIIIDC  
LXVI·S

**DISTANCE SLAB 5 –  
3,666.5 paces:  
18,332.5 Rom feet:  
17,797 Imp. Feet –  
5,424.5 metres**



## RIB 2196

**DISTANCE SLAB 6 — 3,666.5 paces:  
18,332.5 Roman feet = 17,797 Imp. Ft  
= 5,424.5 metres**



**RIB 2197**

**DISTANCE SLAB 7 – 3,000 Roman feet:**

**2,912.4 Imp. feet (887.7 metres)**



## RIB 2198

DISTANCE SLAB 8 – 3,000 Roman feet:  
2,912.4 Imp. feet (887.7 metres)



**RIB 3507**

**DISTANCE SLAB 9 – 3,000 Roman feet:  
2,912.4 Imp. feet (887.7 metres)**





RIB 2199

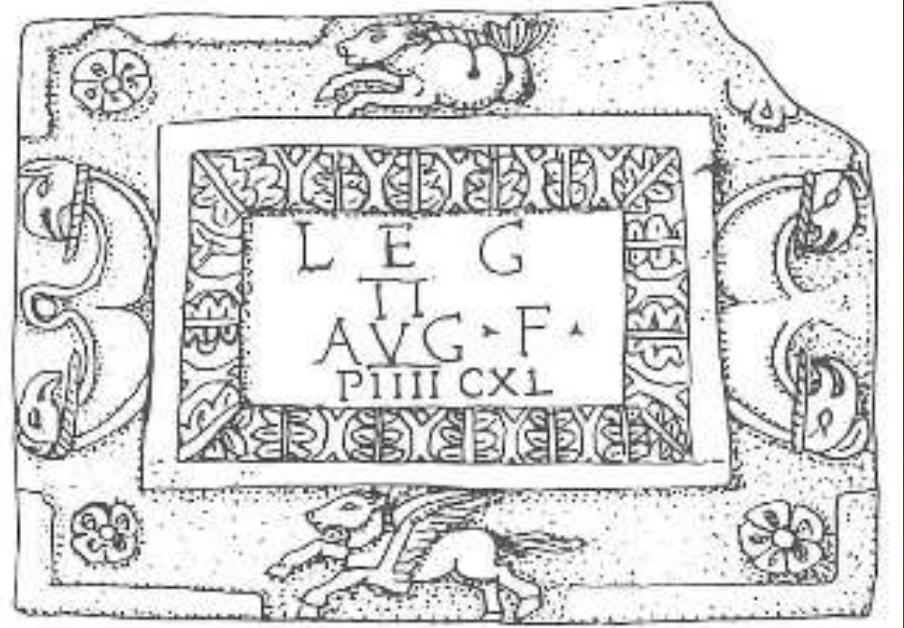
DISTANCE SLAB 10 - \_ \_ \_ \_



# RIB 2200

DISTANCE SLAB 11 —

3,240 Roman feet: 3,145.4 Imp. feet — 958.7 metres



## RIB 2203

DISTANCE SLAB 12 –

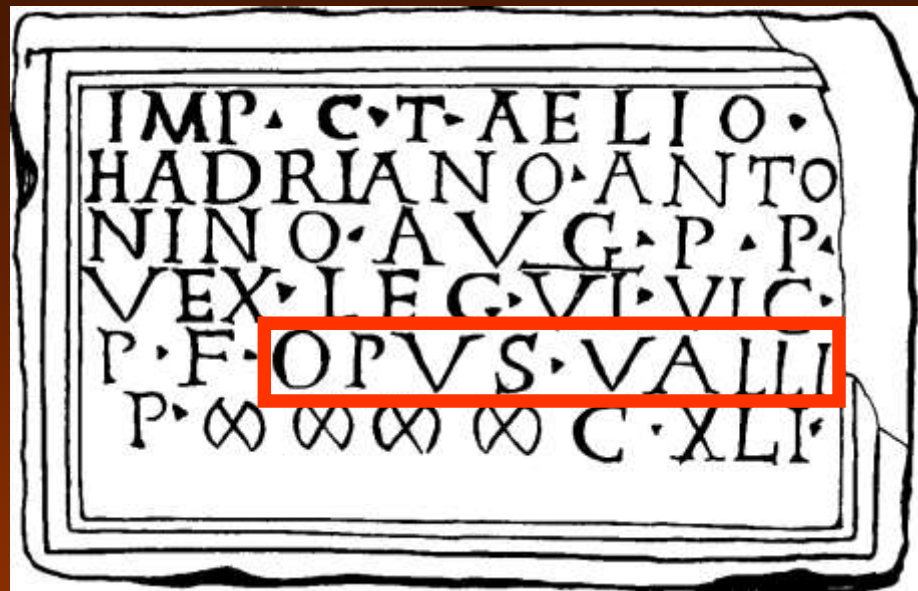
4,140 Roman feet: 4,019 Imp. feet –

1,225 metres



**DISTANCE SLAB 13 – RIB 2204**

**3,271 Roman feet: 3,175.5 Imp. feet –  
967.9 metres**



**DISTANCE SLAB 14 – RIB 2205**

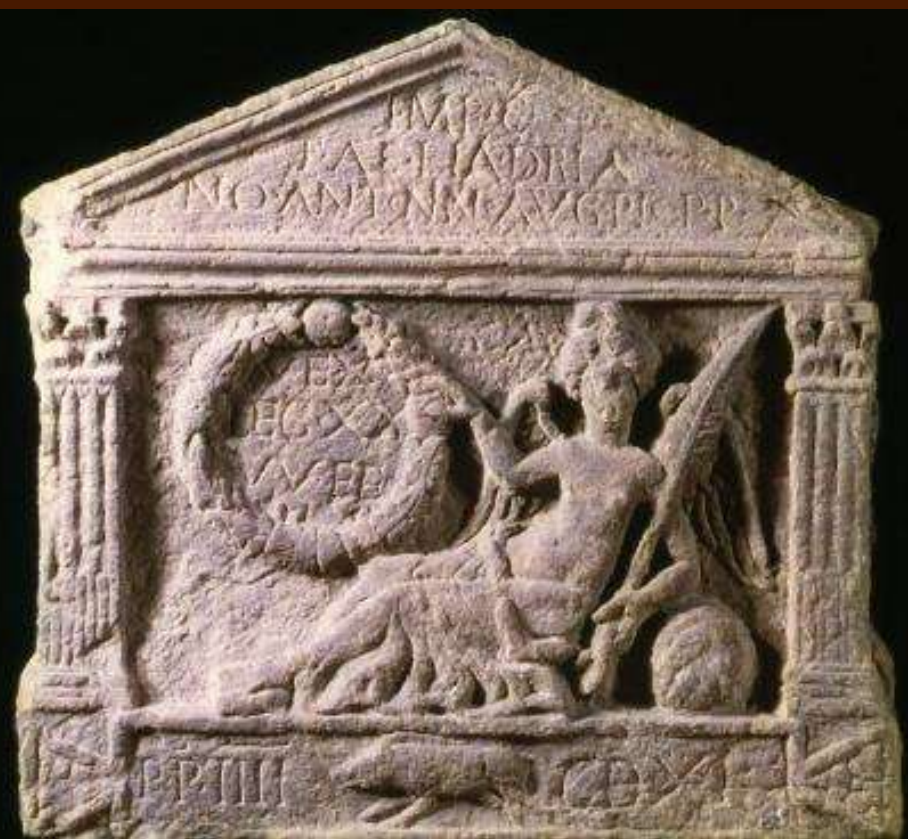
**4,141 Roman feet: 4,020 Imp. feet –**

**1,225.3 metres**

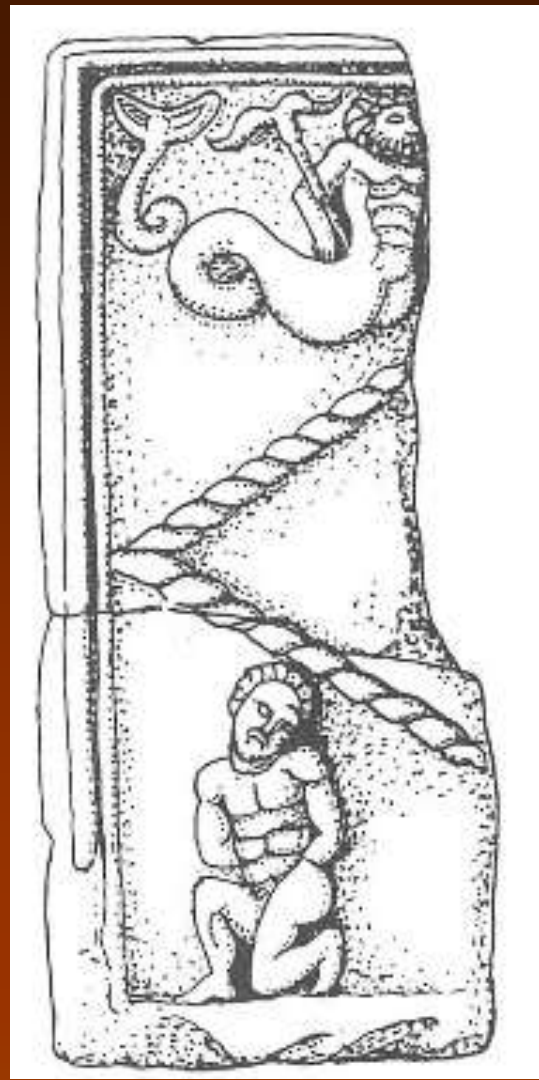


**RIB 2206**

**DISTANCE SLAB 15 — 4,411 Roman feet:  
4,282 Imp. feet = 1,305 metres**



**DISTANCE SLAB 16 – RIB 2208**  
**4,411 Roman feet: 4,282 Imp. feet –**  
**1,305 metres**



**DISTANCE SLAB 17 -** \_ \_ \_ \_





**RIB 2194 –**  
**3,666.5 paces:**  
**18,332.5 R ft:**  
**17,797 Imp. ft**  
**= 5,424.6 m**



**RIB 2139 — 4,652 paces: 23,260 Rom ft.: 22,581 Imp.ft.**

**6,882.6 metres**



**TOMBSTONE OF NICOSTRATUS  
POPIDIUS FROM POMPEII WITH  
GROMA**

**LUCIUS AEBUTIUS FAUSTUS  
TOMBSTONE WITH GROMA**

THE  
MILITARY ANTIQUITIES

OF THE  
ROMANS IN BRITAIN.

BY  
THE LATE WILLIAM ROY, F.R.S. F.S.A.  
MAJOR-GENERAL OF HIS MAJESTY'S FORCES, DEPUTY QUARTER-MASTER GENERAL,  
AND CHIEF OF THE THIRTIETH REGIMENT OF FOOT.

FORAMEN  
BY THE ORDER, AND AT THE EXPENSE OF,  
THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON.

---

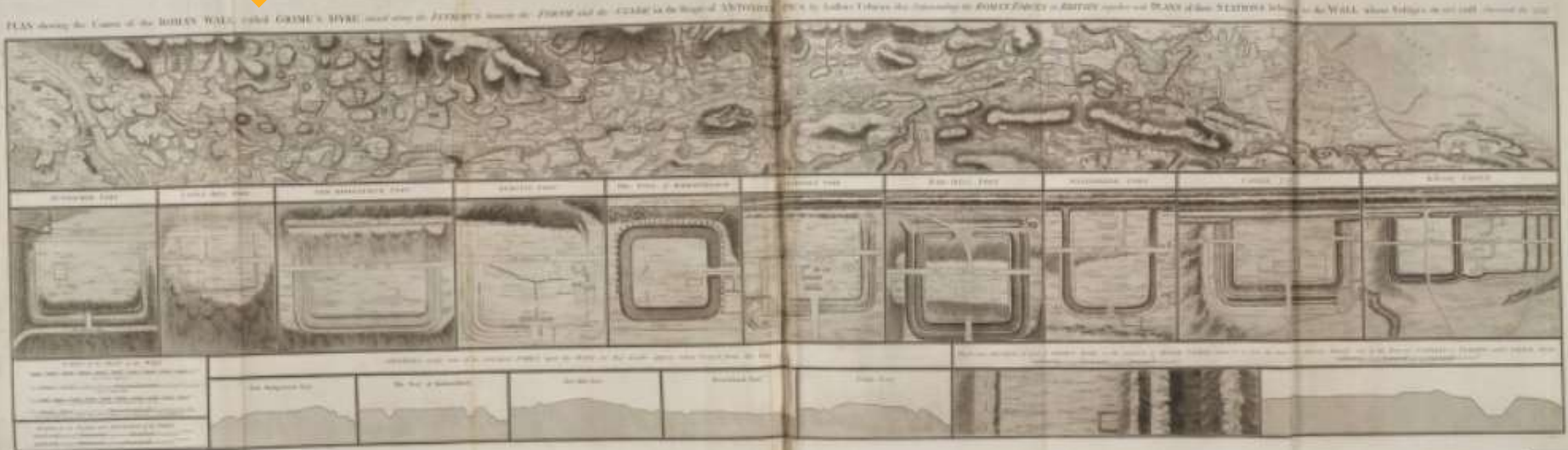
LONDON.

PRINTED BY W. BARNES AND CO.

AND SOLD BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE SOCIETY, BY CHAMBERS AND CO. AND BY HODGKIN, FISHER, GARDNER,  
SMITH, LANGE AND WOODS, BARNES, AND WINDMILL.

MDCCCXXII.

the ROMAN WALL called GRIME'S DYKE



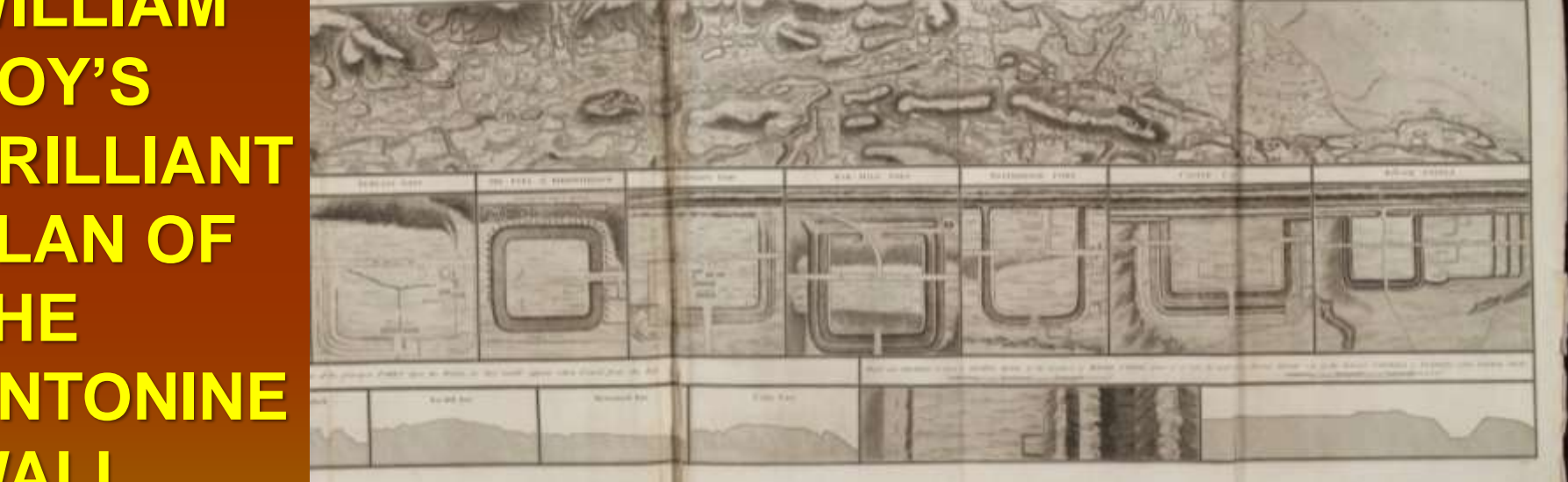
**WILLIAM ROY'S GREAT MAP  
OF THE ANTONINE WALL**

PLAN showing the Location of the ROMAN WALL, within KIRKBY TOWN, near the DEERHOLE, between the TOWN and the CASTLE in the Borough of ANTONINE.

PLAN of the Roman Wall, showing the Location of the ROMAN WALL, within KIRKBY TOWN, near the DEERHOLE, between the TOWN and the CASTLE in the Borough of ANTONINE.



PLAN showing the Location of the ROMAN WALL, within KIRKBY TOWN, near the DEERHOLE, between the TOWN and the CASTLE in the Borough of ANTONINE.



**WILLIAM ROY'S BRILLIANT PLAN OF THE ANTONINE WALL**





Extract from William Roy's Military Antiquities of the Romans in Northern Britain.

# DETAIL OF A ROMAN CAMP ON ROY'S MAP





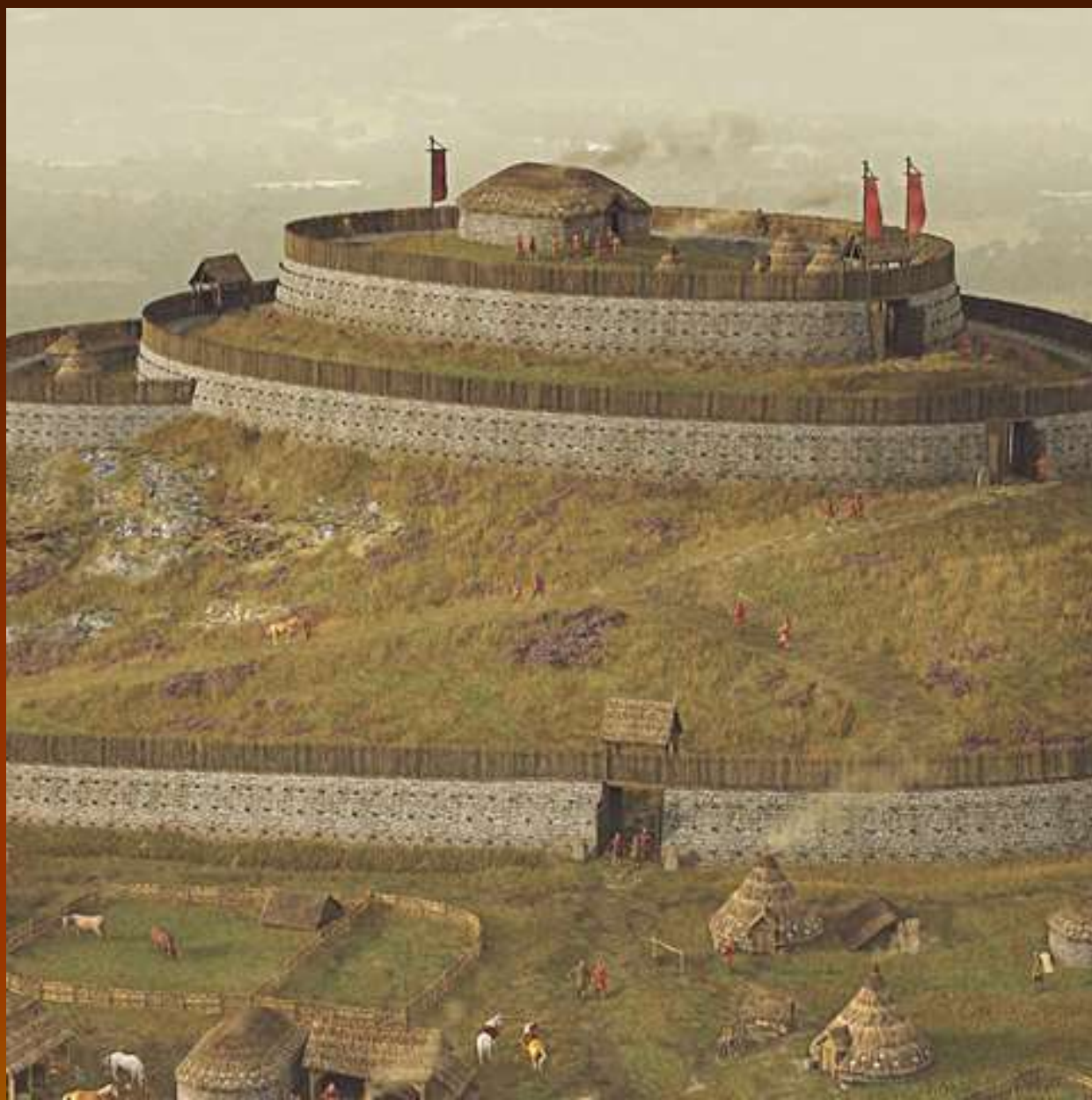
# ARDOCH FORT



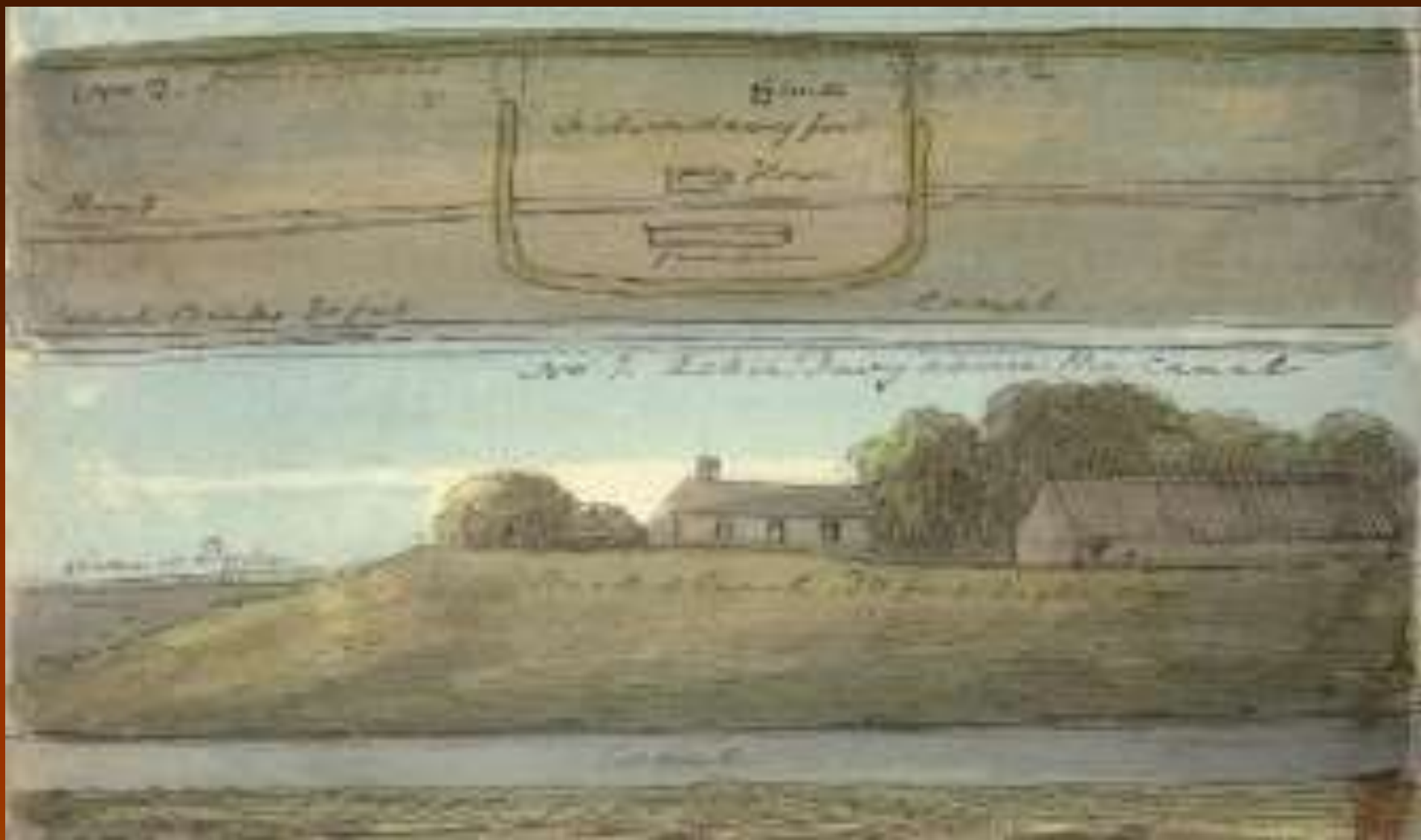
**ARTHUR'S  
O'ON**



# EAST LOMOND HILL FORT



**East Lomond  
Hill Fort zoom**



# AUCHENDAVY FORT 1825



# RIB 1813

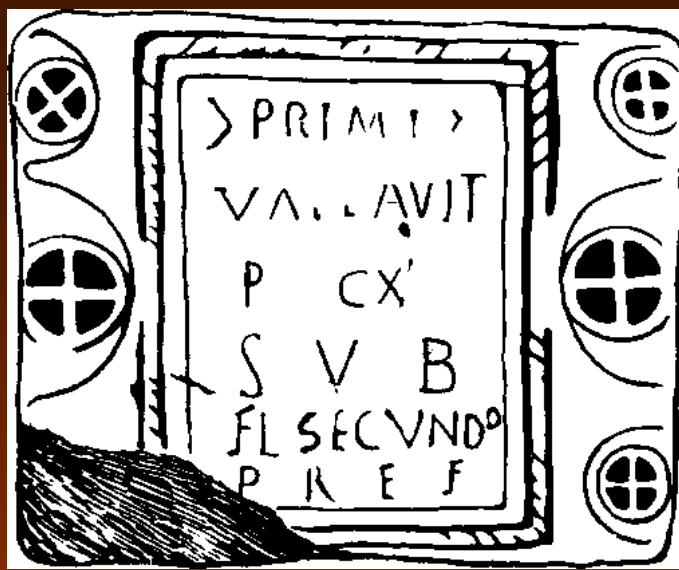
CENTURIAL  
STONE FROM  
CARVORAN:  
"THE CENTURY  
OF CLAUDIUS  
(BUILT) 30 1/2 FT"

# RIB 1816

CENTURIAL  
STONE FROM  
CARVORAN:  
"THE CENTURY  
OF JULIUS CA[...]  
(BUILT) 100 (&  
MORE) FEET OF  
RAMPART"



**"VALLA" MEANS VALLUM**



CENTURIAL STONES – CARVORAN: CENTURIES OF PRIMI... & SYLVANUS UNDER THE COMMAND OF FLAVIUS SECUNDUS.



RIB 1818: “112 FT RAMPART”

RIB 1820: “112 FT RAMPART”



“V” & “VALLA” ARE FOR VALLUM



RIB 1822 – CARVORAN: “THE C. OF VALERIUS CASSIANUS ... 19 FT”



**IMAGE OF A TYPICAL  
ROMAN SOLDIER**

**ARTIST'S IMPRESSION  
OF A TURRET ON H WALL**



**IMAGE OF ROUGH CASTLE FORT  
ALONG THE ANTONINE WALL**





# THE KEEPER OF THE STONES: THE HUNTERIAN MUSEUM AT GLASGOW UNIVERSITY



**THE IMPRESSIVE  
FIGURE OF THE  
“GOOD” ROMAN  
EMPEROR  
ANTONINUS  
PIUS —  
BUILDER OF THE  
ANTONINE WALL**

# THE ANTONINE WALL DISAPPEARS INTO THE SCOTTISH MISTS OF TIME



**THANK  
YOU**

