CORINIUM MUSEUM

Inscriptions

TOMBSTONES

Text of the Tombstones

- Formulaic.
- Basic information on the person.
- Possibly suggests the mass production of tombstones for the less wealthy.
- Supported by rough carving and occasional corrections of errors.
- Alternatively could be to ensure the manes have been commemorated in the proper way.





Family Relationships

- Women's tombstones often feature some form of the word 'coniunx'
- Little extra information given
- Emphasis is on the woman's relationship with her husband, not her personally.
- Quality of carving here suggests a higher expense, although there are still corrections in it.

Unusual text

Use of Greek form 'Geta' not Latin 'Dacus'.

- Likely the son of Metus didn't speak Latin as his first language.
- Again could suggest a kind of mass production of tombstones.
- Quality of carving also suggests this was a low-cost gravestone.



Personalisation

Motifs & Stylisation



Various examples of margin styles



Addition of an ivy leaf in between D & M



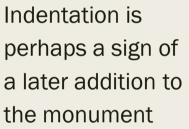
Relief of a crescent moon-Possible religious connotation

Imperfections

- Examples of ligature
- Indented rather than raised crescent moon
- Poor examples of carving



CASTREN written unprofessionally







Two N's combined



Second O & M miniaturised



Merging of 2 X's and a V

Modern Day Comparison

Floral Motif

Contextualisation



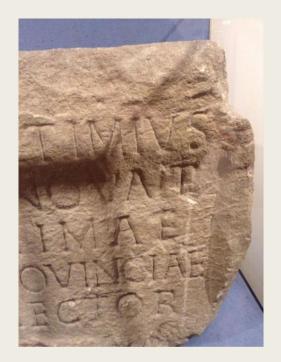
I H S- Abbreviation for the Greek translation of Jesus

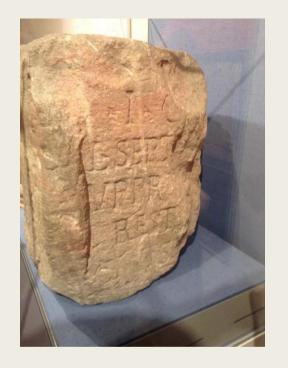


RELIGIOUS INSCRIPTION

RIB 103: Dedication to Jupiter Optimus Maximus







- Inscription commissioned under the reign of Diocletian (296-320 AD)
- Stood at the base of "Jupiter's column"
- Inscription would have been visible from wherever you stood.

10 [......] L SEPT [...] V P PR .[.....] RESTI[.....]

CIVIS .[.....]

[...]GNVM ET [..]RECTAM [..]RISCA RE [...]GIONE CO [..]VMNAM

SEPTIMIVS RENOVAT PRIMAE **PROVINCIAE** RECTOR

1

I(ovi) O(ptimo) [M(aximo)] L(ucius) Sept(imius) [...]

v(ir) p(erfectissimus) pr(aeses) B[r(itanniae) pr(imae)]

resti[tuit]

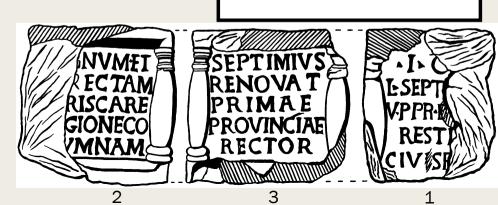
civis R[emus]

[Si]gnum et [e]rectam [p]risca re-[li]gione co-[l]umnam

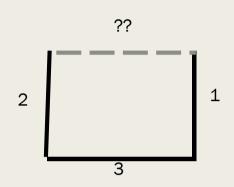
Septimius renovat primae provinciae rector

To Jupiter, Best and Greatest, His Perfection Lucius Septimius ..., governor of Britannia Prima, restored (this monument), being a citizen of Reims.

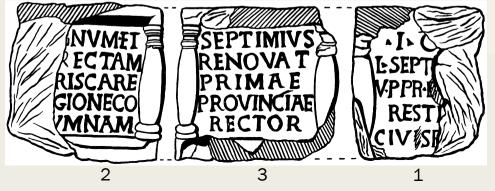
This statue and column erected under the ancient religion Septimius restores, ruler of Britannia Prima.

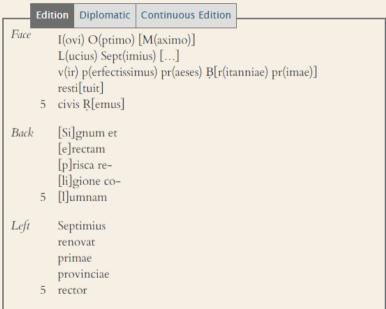


RIB Interpretation vs. Corinium Interpretation

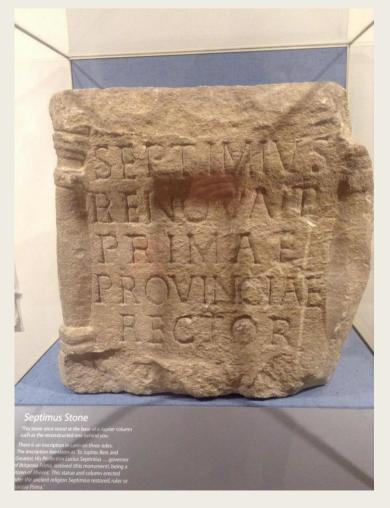








- RIB displays the text under the headings 'face', 'back' and 'left' (above).
- Museum displays the **final** part of the inscription as the **face**.



Present context within the space of the museum.

- The Septimius stone is presented within a glass display cabinet.
- Not able to see all four sides as you would have been able to within the contemporary context.
- Nevertheless the 3 dimensional quality of the inscription reinforces the idea that inscriptions must be studied as inscriptions, not as just text on a page. Hence why museum trips such as these are so important.

List of Abbreviations

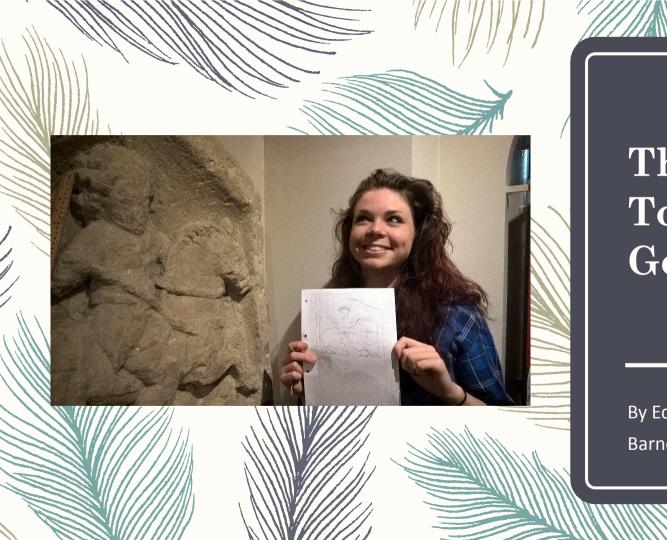
Altar

V P Vir Perfectissimus - His perfection

L Lucius

P R Praeses

I O M Iovi Optimo Maximo



The Tombstone of Genialis

By Ed Villiers, Grace Walsh, Stuart Barnes and Belle Livingstone



Imagery

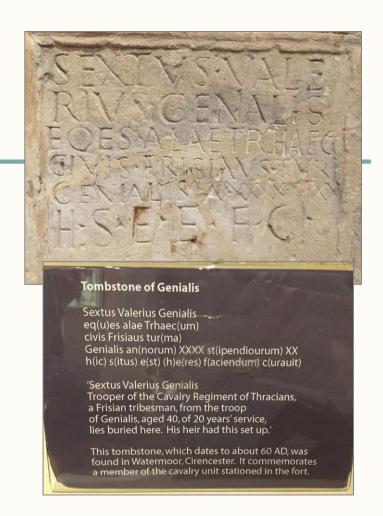
- Space
- Imagery
- Violent final depiction
- Scale
- Decoration





Epigraphy

- Indentation
- Informal
- Order of text
 - Representation of the man
 - Propaganda
- Master and Apprentice





- **Rough Edges**
- **Local Stone**
- Set up by an heir
- Gender roles
- Ideology
- Placement and carving of the face

