SEEING RED
New economic and social perspectives on terra sigillata
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edited by

Michael Fulford and Emma Durham
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The idea of a conference to bring together new research of colleagues working on Gallo-Roman *terra sigillata* developed in the context of the project to publish Brian Hartley’s ‘Leeds Index of Samian Potters’, published as *Names on Terra Sigillata*, which was begun with British Academy funding in 2006 and has been completed with funding from the Arts and Humanities Research council this year, 2012, with the publication of the ninth and final volume. A preparatory workshop for the conference was held at the Römisch-Germanisches Zentralmuseum in Mainz, Germany in September 2009. A principal aim of the conference was to demonstrate the potential of the research resource generated by the *Names* project. In parallel with the publication programme Dr Allard Mees of RGZM initiated the development of an electronic database founded on the digital record which was the basis of the published volumes. This resource allowed for the possibility of quantitatively based research on the potters names and the distributions of their vessels and, by 2010, about half of the publication project was completed, offering a substantial sample of data for manipulation. It has been calculated, for example, that the total number of confirmed potters recorded is 4,910; of vessels 210,916; of vessels rubbed is 173,097; of confirmed sites is 3,588 and of individual dies is 32,572. The conference itself, *Seeing Red: new economic and social perspectives on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata*, was held at the University of Reading in April 2011, with more than half of the proceedings drawing directly on the results of the project and the Mainz database. In addition to contributions originally scoped in Mainz, further papers were offered or elicited from colleagues unable to attend the Reading conference. With those additions, this volume, therefore, contains the vast majority of the papers given at the Reading conference.

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November 2012
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The conference, Seeing Red: new economic and social perspectives on Gallo-Roman terra sigillata, which was held at the University of Reading 1st–3rd April 2011, was generously supported with a conference grant from the British Academy. We acknowledge that support with grateful thanks, as we do the most welcome provision of student bursaries by Mrs Elizabeth Hartley. Elizabeth has also generously supported the publication of this volume to ensure the provision of colour, where appropriate, throughout the book.

I would also like to thank several colleagues for their unstinting help, from the first conception of the conference at the workshop in Mainz in September 2009 to this publication of the proceedings and the conclusion of the project. For his organisation of the Mainz workshop, for his help to contributors through the supply of information from the RGZM database and for his assistance with the provision of illustrations for this volume, we are indebted to Dr Allard Mees. Along with Geoffrey Dannell, he has also played a crucial role in the planning of the conference and both, individually and collectively, have made major contributions to this volume.

I am indebted to my secretary Jen Eaton for her help with the organisation of the accommodation and travel arrangements of the speakers and for the day-to-day running of the conference itself at Reading.

In an effort to reach as wide an audience as possible it was decided to produce the book in a single language, English. I am therefore very grateful to contributors for the extra work involved in providing translations of their papers.

The high quality and consistency of the illustrations of the volume is very much due to the careful work of Sarah Lucas, archaeological illustrator in the School of Human & Environmental Sciences of the University of Reading, and we thank her for her crucial contribution.

Most importantly, I wish to than my Research Assistant, Dr Emma Durham, for volunteering at short notice to assist me with the editing of the volume, including translations, and with the necessary liaison with contributors, with illustrator Sarah Lucas, and with Val Lamb who has typeset and produced the book for publication by the Institute of Classical Studies, University of London. Without Emma’s help, the volume would have taken considerably longer to publish. We are grateful to Val Lamb for her efficient and careful work to produce the book and to Nina Crummy for the Index. Finally, as with the publication of all nine volumes of Names on Terra Sigillata, Richard Simpson at the ICS has played a key role in the publication, printing and promotion of the volume.

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November 2012
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