ROMANS ON THE DON

When the Romans arrived in Doncaster

Hidden ancient landscapes reveal Doncaster's past.

Some of these landscapes have been excavated by archaeologists in advance of aggregates quarrying. The results of this work have told us much about life in Doncaster before and after the Romans arrived almost 2000 years ago.



Roman Conquest

The Romans invaded Britain in 43 AD. Within 10 years their armies reached Doncaster to find a landscape full of people. Doncaster had long been settled by families farming land divided into large fields and living in timber round houses.

Origins of Doncaster

The Romans' impact was to be massive. They built forts and roads, introduced money and created a large-scale pottery industry. Their biggest legacy is Doncaster itself. The town originally grew up next to the Roman fort of Danum, named after the River Don.



Hidden Ancient Landscapes

These dark lines in a field near Rossington reveal the locations of filled-in ditches hidden below the ground surface. The ditches are boundaries of fields that were farmed around the time of the Roman conquest. Aerial photography has revealed these hidden landscapes throughout Doncaster.



Living in a Round House

This cutaway reconstruction shows life in a 2000 year-old round house excavated near Brodsworth. A girl grinds corn into flour using a quern stone. Other members of the family make pots by building up coils of clay. Clay was rarely used for pots before the Romans arrived and may have been reserved for special occasions.

Find Out more about the Romans on the Don visit www.doncaster.gov.uk/romansonthedon







This exhibition is part of the Romans on the Don project. The project has been produced by *in*Heritage in partnership with South Yorkshire Archaeology Service and funded by English Heritage through the Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund. Romans on the Don tells the story of Roman Doncaster as has been discovered by archaeological excavations in advance of aggregates quarrying.