

## THE WRITING ON THE WALL

Around twenty 'distance slabs' have been found along the Antonine Wall. Once they had completed building a section of the Wall, the builders celebrated their achievement by placing a commemorative slab on the Wall. Here is a selection of the slabs. They can be seen in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow and the National Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh.

They are a unique and important evidence source for historians today.

**Look at the 'distance slabs' on page 2, and discuss what they can tell us about the Romans during their time in Scotland.**

**What further questions do they present for us?**

### 1) Distance slab of the Second legion, Bridgeness

For the Emperor Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Father of his country, the Second Augustan Legion completed (the Wall) over a distance of 4655 paces.

### 2) Distance slab of the Second Legion, Summerston

For the Emperor Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, father of his country, the Second Augustan Legion completed (this work) over a distance of 3666 ½ paces.

### 3) Distance slab of the Twentieth legion, Hutcheson Hill

For the Emperor Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Father of his country, a detachment of the Twentieth Valerian and Victorious Legion completed (the Wall) over a distance of 3000 feet.

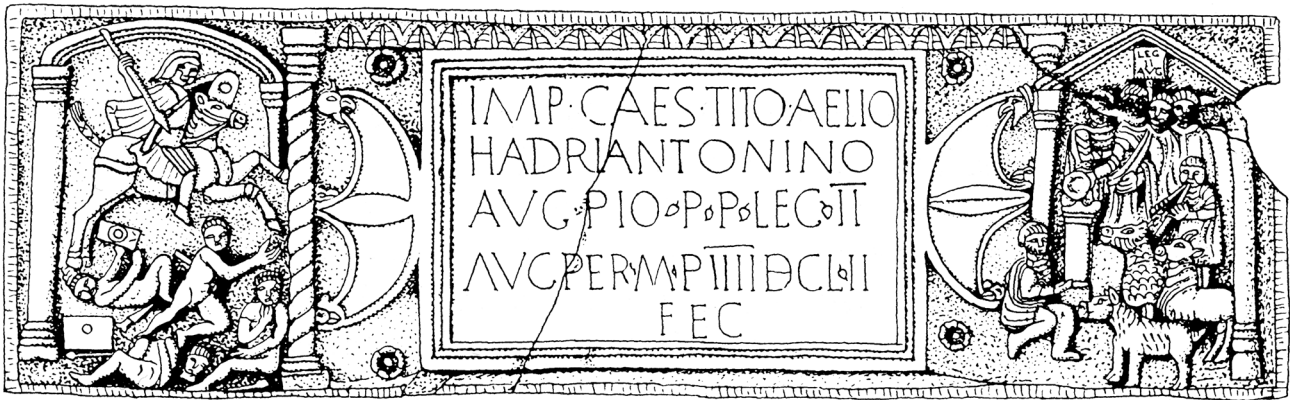
### 4) Distance slab of the Sixth Legion, Duntocher

For the Emperor Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus, Father of his Country, a detachment of the Sixth Victorious, Loyal and Faithful Legion completed rampart-work (over a distance of) 3240 feet.

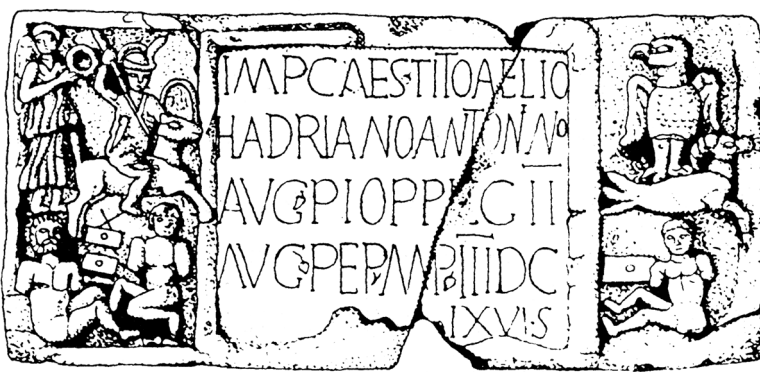
### 5) Distance slab of the Twentieth legion, Old Kilpatrick

For the Emperor Caesar Titus Aelius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Father of his Country, a detachment of the Twentieth Valerian and Victorious Legion completed (the Wall) over a distance of 4411 feet.

1)



2)



3)



4)



5)



All images © Hunterian Museum, drawn by Margaret Scott.