


The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource: A guide to accessing, downloading and reusing this dataset

Context

This resource brings together the excavated evidence for all the known rural settlements of Roman Britain. The data includes both traditionally published reports and 'grey literature' reports from developer-funded excavations since 1990.

The data collection was completed in 2016 and includes all sites up to this date. The database only includes site that have excavated evidence

Access the archive homepage by clicking this link <https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449>

**Archaeology
Data Service**

ADS Main Website

Back to Archives Search | Help


The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource



Martyn Allen, Nathan Blick, Tom Brindle, Tim Evans, Michael Fulford, Neil Holbrook, Lisa Lodwick, Julian D Richards, Alex Smith, 2015. (updated 2018) <https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449>. [How to cite using this DOI](#)

Introduction
Overview
Downloads
Query
Map
Metadata
Usage Statistics

Data copyright © University of Reading unless otherwise stated

This work is licensed under the ADS [Terms of Use and Access](#).





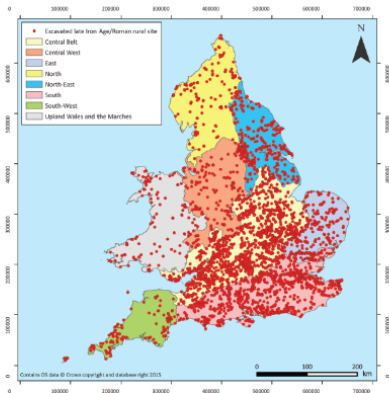
Primary contact
Prof Michael Fulford
Professor of Archaeology
School of Archaeology, Geography and
Environmental Science
University of Reading
Whiteknights
PO Box 218
Reading

Introduction

This resource brings together the excavated evidence for the rural settlement of Roman Britain with the over-arching aim to inform a comprehensive reassessment of the countryside of Roman Britain. It includes both traditionally published reports and 'grey literature' reports from developer-funded excavations since 1990.

The project arose from pilot projects undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology¹ and funded by Historic England and it began in 2012. It is funded by grants from the Leverhulme Trust to the Universities of Reading and York (ADS)² and from Historic England to Cotswold Archaeology.³


This final phase (December 2016) publishes the complete settlement evidence from Roman England and Wales, together with the related finds, environmental and burial data. These are produced alongside a series of integrative studies on rural settlement, economy, and people and ritual, published by the Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies as Britannia Monographs. The first volume, on rural settlement, has now been published, while the two remaining volumes will be released in 2017 and 2018.



How to download data from the archive

To download the datasets from the archive go to the 'Downloads' page. This can be accessed via the menu on the left hand side of the page.

This landing page contains all the metadata for the database at the top of the

**Archaeology
Data Service**

ADS Main WebsiteBack to Archives Search | Help


The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource



Martyn Allen, Nathan Blick, Tom Brindle, Tim Evans, Michael Fulford, Neil Holbrook, Lisa Lodwick, Julian D Richards, Alex Smith, 2015. (updated 2018) <https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449>. [How to cite using this DOI](#)

[Introduction](#)
[Overview](#)
[Downloads](#)
[Query](#)
[Map](#)
[Metadata](#)
[Usage Statistics](#)

Data copyright © University of Reading unless otherwise stated


This work is licensed under the [ADS Terms of Use and Access](#).





Primary contact
Prof Michael Fulford
Professor of Archaeology
School of Archaeology, Geography and Environmental Science

Downloads

Database metadata (ddl)	CSV	31 Kb
Database metadata (faunal ageing conversion tables)	CSV	1 Kb
 Database entity relationship diagram	PNG	101 Kb

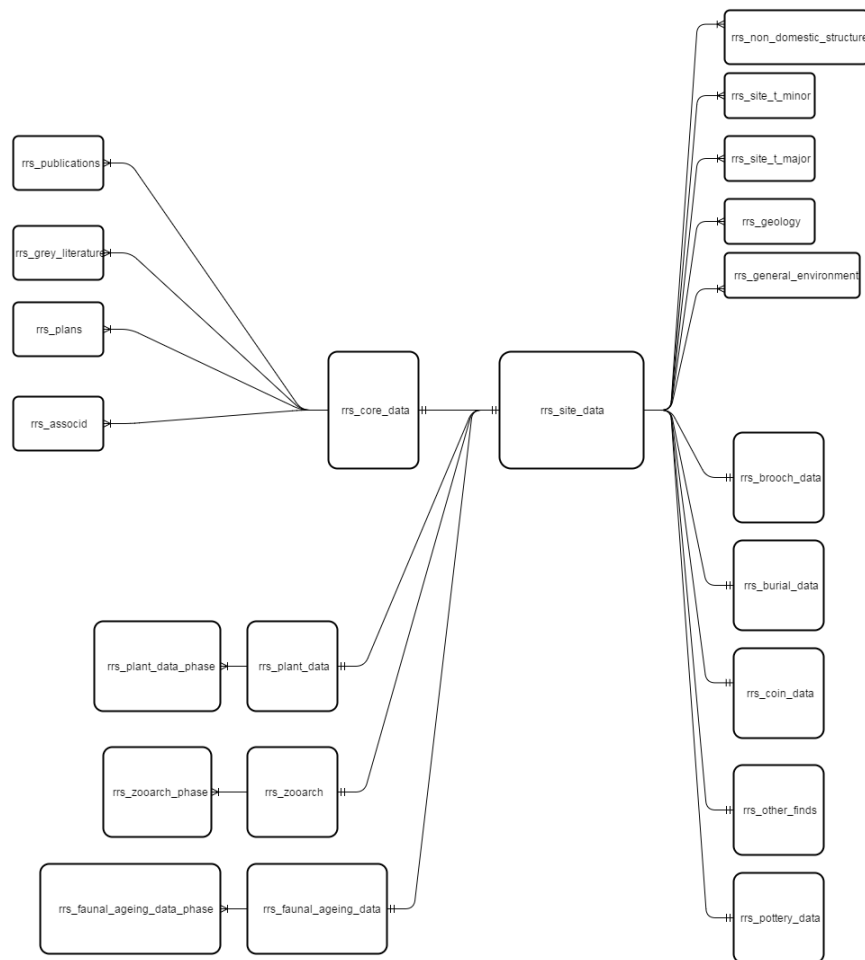
Rural settlement of Roman Britain - database

_lkup_general_environment	CSV	1 Kb
_lkup_non-domestic_structures	CSV	1 Kb
_lkup_site_type_minor	CSV	1 Kb
_lkup_site_type_mjor	CSV	1 Kb
rrs_associd	CSV	131 Kb
rrs_brooch_data	CSV	273 Kb
rrs_burial_data	CSV	802 Kb
rrs_coins_data	CSV	355 Kb
rrs_core_data	CSV	415 Kb
rrs_faunal_ageing_data	CSV	377 Kb
rrs_faunal_ageing_data_phase	CSV	20 Kb
rrs_general_environment	CSV	10 Kb
rrs_geology	CSV	127 Kb

The metadata includes the 'Database entity relationship diagram' (see below). This is a graphical representation of how all of the database tables relate to one another.

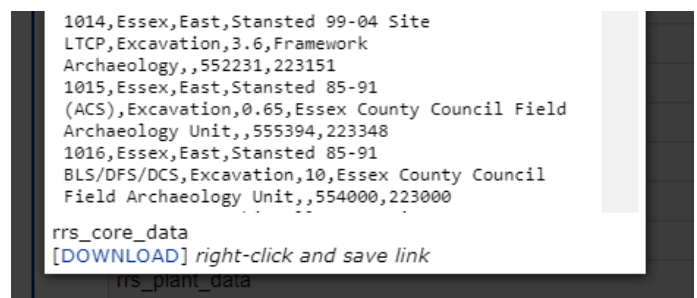
The main database tables are:

- 'rrs_core_data.csv' - This data table relates to archaeological excavations (including geographic information) from which evidence for rural settlement has been found.
- 'rrs_site_data.csv' - This data table provides information about the archaeological evidence for rural settlement, including date and size.



The other data tables include data that relates to finds evidence (pottery, brooches, coins, small finds) as well as osteoarchaeological, archaeobotanical and zooarchaeological data.

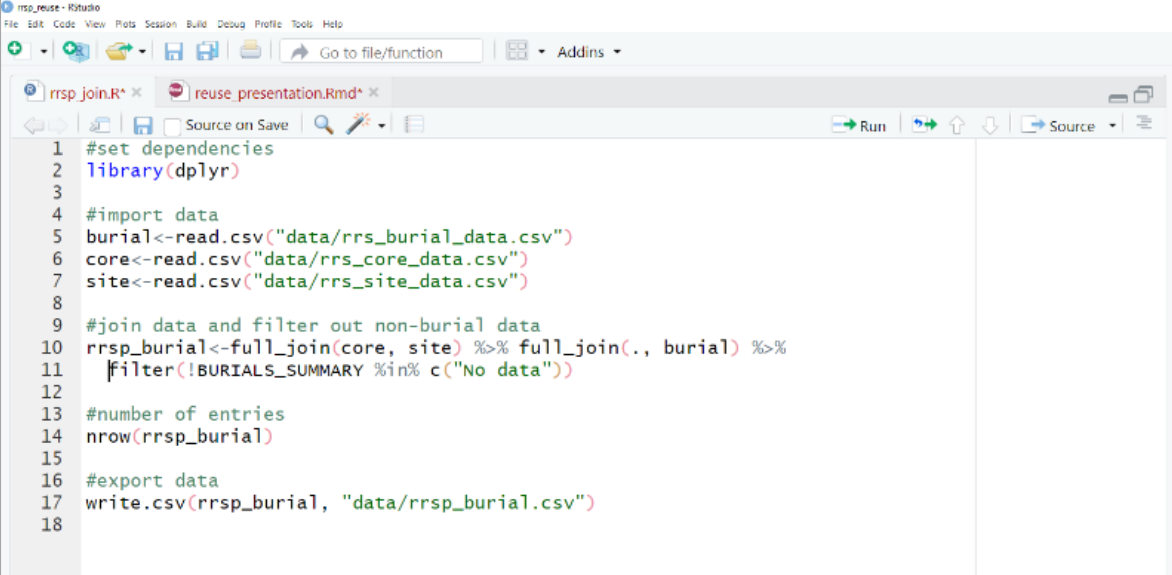
To download any of these files click on the file type (e.g. CSV). A pop up will appear to provide a preview of the data (see below). Click on 'DOWNLOAD' at the bottom of the preview to download the file.



How to reconstruct the database

To recreate the database or parts of the database, first download the 'Core data' and 'Site data' tables.

In each database there is a unique identifier under the 'ID' field. This is the column that will allow you to join the tables together. Use your database software to combine this data. Within this repository the R code to join these tables can be found under 'rrsp_join.R'. Other databases can also be used to join this data.

A screenshot of the RStudio interface. The top menu bar includes File, Edit, Code, View, Plots, Session, Build, Debug, Profile, Tools, and Help. Below the menu is a toolbar with icons for saving, running, and other functions. The main editor window displays the R script 'rrsp_join.R' with the following code:

```
1 #set dependencies
2 library(dplyr)
3
4 #import data
5 burial<-read.csv("data/rrs_burial_data.csv")
6 core<-read.csv("data/rrs_core_data.csv")
7 site<-read.csv("data/rrs_site_data.csv")
8
9 #join data and filter out non-burial data
10 rrsp_burial<-full_join(core, site) %>% full_join(., burial) %>%
11   filter(!BURIALS_SUMMARY %in% c("No data"))
12
13 #number of entries
14 nrow(rrsp_burial)
15
16 #export data
17 write.csv(rrsp_burial, "data/rrsp_burial.csv")
18
```

Once you have joined these two main database tables together you can then download and add any additional tables for evidence that you are interested in.

As part of this repository, I have shown how to add 'rrsp_burial_data.csv'.

The majority of the other data tables can be substituted to the workflow described above the R code provided. For other supplementary data tables you may be required to add major tables first. Please see the 'Database entity relationship diagram' to see how data tables are related to one another.

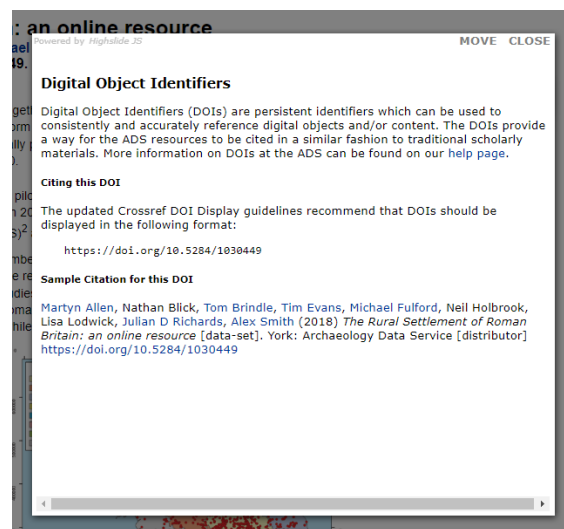
How to cite the archive.

If you use the data found in the archive, it is important to properly cite this resource. This can be found at the top of the archive page:

The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource

Martyn Allen, Nathan Blick, Tom Brindle, Tim Evans, Michael Fulford, Neil Holbrook, Lisa Lodwick, Julian D Richards, Alex Smith, 2015. (updated 2018) <https://doi.org/10.5284/1030449>. [How to cite using this DOI](#)

If you click on the link 'How to cite using this DOI' a small box will appear (see below) which will text you more about using the DOI and a sample citation for you to use.



Please use the DOI (or digital object identifier) rather than the web page link (the <https://> address). This is important because the web page address may change in the future but the DOI will NEVER change. Also it helps us at the ADS because we can track the researchers who are using the archive.

Any questions?

If you have any questions about the project or the data contained in this archive the first person to contact is the primary contact. The contact details can be found on the left hand side of the page towards the bottom under 'Primary Contact'.

If you have any questions about using the web interface or downloading the data itself, you should contact the ADS via the helpdesk - help@archaeologydataservice.ac.uk

Author: N. Garland

Last updated: 6.3.23