**ARAH/ARH 9510**

**THE VISIBLE PAST**

**THURSDAYS 1:00-3:30**

**FHL 208**

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**Office Hours Thursdays 10-12 & by appointment**

**Peyton 201**

**Description:**The antique past is a familiar point of reference for many artists and architects across time and place.  Throughout western Europe and around the Mediterranean, the Roman past has been visible through archaeological remains, drawings, prints and texts although the use of the antique past in later art and architecture is often discussed exclusively with regard to what remains in Rome itself. Some, such as Hadrian’s Wall, has remained visible throughout time, while others such as Vindolanda have only been uncovered in the past century while still others, such as the Temple of Claudius provide the foundations for Colchester Castle. Stonework from over 20 individual monuments was embedded in Hexham Abbey and the Venerable Bede provides accounts of Roman remains in his 8thcentury *History of the English People*. This course will explore what was visible when throughout the region through a study of textual and visual evidence from the past with the aim of considering how more localized antique remains and their presentation may have influenced art and architectural production. Assigned readings will focus on the antique in England, with a particular interest in the medieval period but students will be free to develop research projects on any time period or place in relation to the classical past.This seminar is being offered in conjunction with a new digital humanities project which seeks to map information concerning the evidence for the antique past across time and place in Great Britain.

**Requirements:** Class meetings will center on the discussion of related texts, websites, digital projects, short lectures and student presentations.  Attendance is mandatory. Grades will be based on the quality of participation in class discussions, the class presentation, and the final project or paper. All readings will be found either on reserve in FAL or on the course collab site.

Each student will be asked to give one major presentation (30 minutes) on a topic developed in conjunction with the instructor. Each student may either contribute to a digital project currently under development in relation to this topic using arcgis and story map or submit a final paper (15-20 pages) on the same topic. Students will also have the option of contributing to a digital project currently under development in relation to this topic using arcgis and story map in place of the paper. This project maps information and locations for classical antiquities in Great Britain using the evidence of archaeological remains, antiquarian drawings and prints and texts with the aim of identifying what was visible when and where. Several short assignments will also be given throughout the semester.

Students must meet with the instructor early in the semester to discuss possible research projects.   All students must identify their research topic by February 5th. This must be followed by a meeting approximately one week before the student’s presentation date to discuss the outline of his/her presentation.  A final appointment must be made following the presentation to discuss possible revisions for the final paper. To summarize, each student will meet with me at least three times:  1) to select topic and identify possible sources and questions before February 5th; 2) to discuss the outline of the class presentation approximately one week before the actual presentation 3) shortly after the presentation (ideally within a week) to discuss the presentation and the final paper. Students are certainly welcome to meet with me more often.  Final papers are expected to be 15-20 pages long with full footnotes, a bibliography and illustrations.  All papers are due by noon on Friday, May 3rd.

**CLASSROOM ETIQUETTE:**Each student is expected to arrive on time and attend all seminars meetings. All electronic devices (phones, laptops and pads) must be turned off and put away during class apart from workshop settings where we will be using our laptops.

Course Schedule:

1. January 17: Introduction- What is the evidence for the built environment of the past, particularly in the middle ages? Discussion of Possible topics and projects
2. January 24: Plundering the Past: Visible Evidence of the Past
   1. Readings:
      1. *Plundering the Past Roman Stonework in Medieval Britain*by Tim Eaton (FAL reserve) Please read this short book, you may skim the data analysis of stone of remains to focus on the main idea.
      2. “Rubbish recycled: a Study of the re-use of Stone in Lincolnshire” by David Stocker in *Stone Quarrying and Building in England AD 43-1529)*pp. 83-101. (FAL Reserve)
      3. Dale Kinney, “Roman Architectural Spolia” *Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society*v. 145 no 2 (June 2001) 138-61
      4. Richard Brilliant “I piedistalli del giardino di Boboli: spolia in se, spolia in re” *Prospettiva*no. 31 (Ott 1982) 2-17.
3. January 31: ARCGIS & Storymap – Christ Gist-**BRING YOUR LAPTOP**
   1. Readings
      1. Look at [https://storymap.knightlab.com](https://storymap.knightlab.com/" \t "_blank)Look at the overview, and examples before we meet with Chris Gist and Scholar’s Lab
      2. Look at these sites – what do they tell us about the evidence of the Roman past in Britain? What is missing? What other sites can you find for Britain and elsewhere that might be helpful?
         1. [https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/story-of-england/romans/](https://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/story-of-england/romans/" \t "_blank)

1. [https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryMagazine/DestinationsUK/RomanSites/](https://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryMagazine/DestinationsUK/RomanSites/" \t "_blank)with interactive map
2. [https://www.triphistoric.com/explore/articles/roman-sites-in-britain](https://www.triphistoric.com/explore/articles/roman-sites-in-britain" \t "_blank)
3. [http://www.historyofyork.org.uk/home](http://www.historyofyork.org.uk/home" \t "_blank)

1. February 7: Antiquaries: Text and Image – Evidence of the Past
   1. Readings:
      1. *Antiquaries the Discovery of the Past*by Rosemary Sweet (FAL reserve) Read “Introduction”, “The Rise of the Antiquary”(chapter 1) and “The Romans in Britain” (chapter 5)
      2. Antiquarian e-texts available on Collab under resources – class 4 – look through these – what do they tell us not tell us about Roman sites and remains in texts and images (be aware that the search function for several of these – particularly in the 18thcentury series does not work well). What seems to be of interest to these antiquarian authors? What may have been visible in the middle ages?
2. February 14: Class Cancelled – Replaced by meetings to discuss individual projects
3. February 21: Visit to the Fralin to Look at Antiquarian Prints
4. February 28: Textual Evidence of the Past – Primary Sources
   1. Readings:
      1. Bede*Ecclesiastical History of the English People*and Bede biography from Dictionary of National Biography (collab)
      2. Gerald of Wales *The Itinerary through Wales*and Gerald’s biography from the Dictionary of National Biography
   2. For this assignment, the class will be divided into two groups. Each group will take one of these authors, read his text and identify any descriptions of Roman sites and Roman history it contains. What do we learn about the Roman past from these texts. How does the description compare with what survives today?
5. March 7 Visit to Special Collections
6. March 14: Spring Break
7. March 21 TBD pending topic choices
8. March 28 TBD pending topic choices
9. April 4: Student Presentations
10. April 11: Student Presentations
11. April 18: Student Presentations
12. April 25: Conclusion: One page epilogue due today.

Final Paper due May 2