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Joyce Kewley

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THE SCULPTURED DECORATION ON ROMAN VOTIVE  
ALTARS AND PEDESTALS FROM NORTHERN BRITAIN

JOYCE KEWLEY, B.A. (MANCHESTER)

A thesis presented in candidacy for the degree of  
Doctor of Philosophy in the University of Durham, 1970.

Vol. II.

Vol. II

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## Introduction

Of the altars and fragments of altars from Northern Britain, fifteen surviving altars no longer retain their original form. A list of these is given in Appendix T. The catalogue describes the remainder.

In the catalogue, the stones are arranged in four sections:

- A. Altars naming legions which may with confidence be ascribed to legionary workshops. These are arranged in the chronological order indicated either by the inscriptions or by stylistic criteria. There follow altars which on stylistic grounds are assignable to individual legions; these are arranged in alphabetical order of sites. The legions are in numerical order. After each legion's altars there are descriptions of the altars of the auxiliary units belonging to that legion's "school". These auxiliary units are arranged in numerical and alphabetical order of alae and cohortes, and in alphabetical order of cunei, numeri and vexillationes. Where the attribution is certain the altars are arranged in chronological order as above. Where an attribution is "probable", the stones are arranged in alphabetical order of sites.
- B. Altars from auxiliary workshops which betray no obvious legionary influences, followed by stones assignable to these units. These are arranged in the same order of units as in Section A and in the best chronological order for altars of certain attribution and in alphabetical order of sites for "probables."
- C. Altars which probably come from military workshops but which it has been impossible to assign to any specific unit. The stones are arranged in the first place according to workshops where these can be defined, and within each group the stones may come from several sites. In the second place altars are arranged in alphabetical order of sites.
- D. Altars, possibly from civilian workshops, arranged first as far as possible in workshop-groups in alphabetical order of the main centres of each atelier, and secondly in alphabetical order of sites.

In all sections where altars are arranged under sites, the stones are

grouped as follows: first the inscribed and secondly the uninscribed stones, in descending order of size: first complete stones, second those where only the upper part survives and third, those where only the lower part remains. Altars of uncertain provenance are put last.

The measurements given are maximum dimensions. Where stones are set in cement, it has been assumed that the lowest part of the stone is on the same level as the base of the cement.

Mouldings are described in descending order.

No attempt has been made to give an exhaustive bibliography for each stone. For the most part, writers on Roman altars have confined their interest to the inscriptions, and many references deal solely with epigraphy. In the catalogue the reference most useful to the present study is given. Wherever a plate or figure appears, this reference is preferred, even though it may be older than more recent comments or interpretations. Where a stone is lost, that reference is given whose figure gives the clearest idea of the shape of the altar. It should be noted that, in many early publications, the figure bears little relation to the actual appearance of the stone. The failure of some earlier antiquaries to observe the shape of altars accurately casts doubt on the authenticity of their depiction of the form of altars now lost and of their rendering of the inscriptions on these stones. In the catalogue more than one reference is given only when a second or third contributes materially to the object of the study, as for instance when varying opinions as to the date are advanced, or if the altar is noted in a list of stones from a specific site, or in a catalogue. If the stone is illustrated, the LS number is given. When the altar is published in the same year both in a learned journal and in the Proceedings of a learned society, preference is given to the former.

The numbers on the photographs in the filing drawers refer to the catalogue numbers. Letter A following the number indicates that the photograph is of the side of the shaft; letter B signifies that the picture is of the top of the stone.

SECTION A.

Altars attributable to Legionary workshops and  
to workshops of auxiliary units reflecting  
Legionary styles.

Legio II Augusta

The impressive series of distance slabs from the Antonine Wall attests the skill of the masons of Legio II Augusta and indicates the existence of a strong regimental tradition of stone carving. Indeed, it seems that this legion took especial pride in the quality of the decorative stonework for which it was responsible.

The altar styles of this legion are clear cut. Ten altars and one pedestal have survived from its workshops and a further eleven altars (nos. 12-22) may be attributed to it with confidence. The die is plain. The sides of the shaft in all but one example are left without ornament. Bolsters are not an important feature; they are sometimes small and are usually plain, although two strapped examples survive. Their fronts, if decorated, have circular designs, either grooved or rimmed. The focus is generally round with raised rim and may be either flat-bottomed or dished, and may have an umbo, sometimes with central depression. The shape of the capital is characteristic. The fascia is often moulded and the favourite focus mount is a shallow pediment springing from the bolsters. Two other variants exist: the simpler has a flat-topped focus mount springing from the bolsters; the other has a semi-circular central profile which accommodates a roundel similar to those decorating the ends of some bolsters. In three instances the name of the god appears on the fascia. Although the masons of Legio II had templates for carving cyma mouldings, they preferred tori and fillets to separate capital and base. Where cymas are used, the arcs are tangential. Characteristic enrichments are cable, pellets and chevron. One altar with an unusual focus has a band of rimmed bay leaves, set out with compasses, running across the fascia. This is a variant of the moulded fascia.

The number of dedications made by detachments describing themselves as Milites is noteworthy and it is also interesting that most of the altars may be placed in the pre-Severan period. This no doubt reflects the division of military power in Britain after Septimius Severus' visit. It

is also interesting that the one legionary altar from Caerleon (RIB 324) found in third century debris, has the same type of moulded capital as those which survive from Northern Britain.

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1. The upper part of an altar, split from top to bottom, from Milecastle 52; now at Lanercost Priory.

The stone is dedicated to Cocidius by soldiers of Legio II. It is carved in cream sandstone and is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. The width is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to both front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches; it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), with a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is fully moulded only at the front of the stone; here there are a chanfered fillet, a stepped fillet and an ovolo. The sides and back are chamfered.

The stone was found in the foundations of the Milecastle. This indicates that it must be placed in the period before the building of the stone-wall milecastle. It may well be of Hadrianic date.

RIB 1955

Bruce, Wall 3, 268 with fig.

- 2-5. Four altars dedicated by Marcus Cocceius Firmus at Auchendavy; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

Four altars and a fifth (no. 12) from the same site are clearly from the same workshop and are probably from the same hand.

Three of the stones are of the same size and have plain bolsters; the ends of the bolsters of two of this group of three are plain; the third has ends decorated with a rim and boss. The foci of all three stones are dished with umbo. The mouldings of two of the altars are the same and these both have focus mounts of type 2, typical of Legio II. One of the stones has an inscribed fascia.

The fourth of the Cocceius altars is larger than the rest, has double-strapped bolsters and a bigger focus with flat bottom and small umbo. It is linked with the other stones by its mouldings, by the similarity of the capital and of the front of the bolsters to those of one of the other stones, and by the inscribed fascia which one of the group of three also displays.

The altars probably date from the mid-second century.

RBRA, 87-103.

2. The altar is dedicated to Diana and Apollo and is carved in coarse sandstone. It is broken across the shaft. It is  $28\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), the ends decorated with two concentric raised rims. The centre is sunken.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo with depressed centre (type A2e). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). It measures  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Cabled torus mouldings enclose four smaller tori.

The focus mount is "extended", curved under the bolsters (type 5c). The central profile is formed by a roundel with rim and centre boss (type 2). It is possible that the back of the capital was originally decorated in a similar way.

The altar is fully carved on three sides. The fourth is given some shape but is not moulded. The mouldings of the capital are three stepped-in tori. At the base there are two stepped-out tori, a cabled torus, a large torus, a smaller torus and the plinth.

RIB 2174

Macdonald, 429, no. 46; plate LIV, 3.

3. The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to Victorious Victory. It is carved in coarse sandstone. The height is 36 inches and the stone is  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are double-strapped in the centre (type A3b). Both the back and fronts of the bolsters are decorated with roundels, dished with rim and boss.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom in the centre of which there is a small boss (type B7b). It is attached to the straps of the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 9). It has an internal diameter of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches and is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The focus mount is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5c). It slopes upwards from the bolsters to accommodate a roundel similar to those decorating the ends of the bolsters. There is an equivalent roundel at the back of the stone. The central profile is a combination of types 1 and 2.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a stepped-

in fillet, a cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs and another stepped-in fillet. The same mouldings occur at the base except that the bottom-most fillet has degenerated into a cant moulding and there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 2176

Macdonald, 427-428, no. 44; plate LIV, 1.

4. The altar is dedicated to the Genius of the Land of Britain and is carved in coarse buff sandstone. It is broken across the shaft. It is  $30\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 11 inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 9 inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and have plain fronts.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo with sunken centre (type A2e). It touches the bolsters and is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 10). It is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises to form a central profile in the shape of a low pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. Both capital and base have mouldings cut from the same templet. At the capital a cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs surmounts a stepped-in fillet. At the base, the fillet adjoins the shaft and is stepped out. There is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 2175

Macdonald, 429-430, no. 47; plate LIV, 4.

5. The altar is dedicated to Mars, Minerva, the Goddesses of the

parade ground, Hercules, Epona and Victory. It is carved in coarse buff sandstone and is broken across the shaft. It is 33 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 8 inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a) with plain fronts.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo (type A2c). It has an internal diameter of  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches and is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises to form a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. The templet used to set out the mouldings of the capital is reversed to serve as the pattern for the base. The capital mouldings are a small torus, a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs, and an inclined fillet. At the base the plinth is stepped-out.

RIB 2177

Macdonald, 428-429, no. 45; plate LIV, 2.

6. The upper part of an altar from Bar Hill; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The stone, dedicated to Mars Camulus by Legio II, is carved in gritty sandstone. It is 21 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are ornamented. On the dexter side only the handle of a sacrificial implement remains; it is impossible to determine whether this has been an axe, knife or patera, but as the sinister side bears a representation of a patera, it seems likely that the relief was

of either a knife or axe.

The bolsters are cylindrical and strapped in the centre with a double, narrow strap (type A3a). At the front of the sinister bolster there are two concentric grooves, an indication of the original ornamentation.

The focus is circular with a flat rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). It is now broken but had an internal measurement of c.5 inches; the depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "extended" and curved under the bolsters (type 5b), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1). The pediment is outlined in relief and encloses an indeterminate object, possible a pine cone, the bust of a god or even a full length figure of Mars with spear and shield. In the present damaged state of the stone it is difficult to be sure that the apparent object is not fortuitous.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet decorated with chevron ornamentation, a torus decorated with a band of pellets, another fillet and a plain torus moulding.

The stone must belong to the second century and probably, if the "extended" focus mount is a guide, to the late Antonine period.

RIB 2166

Macdonald, 426, no. 43; plate LIII, 4.

7. An altar from Housesteads; now in Chesters Museum.

The altar, dedicated to Jupiter, Cocidius and the Genius of this Place by soldiers of Legio II on garrison duty at Housesteads, is carved in sandstone. It is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The shaft is  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type 1a). The fronts are damaged.

The focus is in the form of an eleven-petalled flower with centre boss. It measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2), and is decorated with a band of four pairs of bay leaves in relief, set out with compasses.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2).

The central profile of the capital is a shallow, convex arc (type 2), outlined by a bead moulding.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the capital there are two torus mouldings, the lower chamfered to the shaft. At the base there is an angular torus, another torus and a stepped-out plinth.

Dr. Jarrett suggests a third century date for the altar,<sup>1</sup> but stylistically it fits best into the second century. The moulded fascia, the form of the focus and the pattern of semi-circles used to form a leaf design, which may be paralleled on altars from Stockstadt dated A.D. 167<sup>2</sup> and from Kastell-Jagathausen dated A.D. 179,<sup>3</sup> place it most happily in the Antonine period.

RIB 1583

Haverfield, AA<sup>2</sup> XXV, 281, no. 8; 280, fig. 41.

8. The upper part of an altar from near Housesteads Milecastle (no. 37); now in Chesters Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by soldiers of Legio II. It is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $7\frac{1}{2}$

1. Arch. Camb. 113, 60.

2. CIL XIII, 6634, 6636.

3. ORL Lieferung XXXII Band IV no. 41, 42-43, no. 3; 43, fig. 6.

inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), and are small for the size of the altar.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b). The long axis is from front to back of the capital. It measures  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back and 4 inches from side to side. The depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), with horizontal grooves marking the transition to mouldings and focus mount.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2).

The altar is fully moulded on all four sides, although only with a stepped fillet.

The altar probably dates from the same period as that found at Housesteads, that is from Antonine times.

RIB 1582

Clayton, AA IV<sup>1</sup>, 273 and figure.

Budge, 329-330, no. 141.

9. An altar found near Milecastle 65; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar, dedicated to Mars Cocidius by soldiers of Legio II, is carved in red sandstone. It is 18 inches high,  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 7 inches wide and 6 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), and damaged at both front and back.

There is no focus.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus-mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2).

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar has irregular mouldings on three sides. At the capital, below the torus moulding of the fascia, there is a bead or small torus moulding and a stepped-in fillet; the latter is decorated with a band of incised chevron. At the base of the stone there is a torus moulding which becomes a simple chamfer at each side.

There is nothing except the absence of a focus to suggest that this altar is later than the second century. Even this might be explained by the lack of skill of the mason who carved the stone, for it is not an example of Legio II's best work. It seems best therefore to place it in the second century, as Professor Birley suggests.

RIB 2024

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LI, 70-72.

TH. Cat., 12-13, no. 31.

10. A pedestal from Corbridge; now in Corbridge Museum.

The pedestal is dedicated by Legio II to the Discipline of the Emperors and is carved in buff sandstone. It is 45 inches high, 23 inches wide and  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $28\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The top of the stone is flat.

The stone is moulded on four sides. Below a narrow fillet, a cyma recta, with convex arc projecting farther than would be the case in classical renderings of the moulding, surmounts two stepped-in cyma reversa mouldings and a stepped-in fillet. The base mouldings are damaged at the front of the stone but at the sides there is a stepped-out fillet, a stepped, flattened scotia, a fillet, a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs, and a small scotia.

The front and back of the stone have been given their final rubbing down by the mason, but the sides, still show the preliminary work. The drafted margins still survive; the surplus stone has not been punched away, although the topmost six inches of the shaft have been treated with point and chisel.

From its dedication the pedestal cannot be earlier than A.D. 161-169 and, since it was found on the steps of the underground strong-room of the Headquarters building of the Western Compound, may well be Severan.

RIB 1127

Richmond, AA<sup>4</sup> XXI, 167; plate Xc.

11. An altar from Corbridge; now built into the north wall of Orchard House, Corbridge.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus by a vexillation of Legio II Augusta and of another formation whose name does not survive. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $33\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide. The shaft is 11 inches high and  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The die is plain.

The bolsters have plain ends. A groove at the lower edge emphasises their presence.

The focus is now built in.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5).

The central profile of the capital is flat (type 11).

At the front of both capital and base the altar displays two tori.

One line of the inscription appears on the base.

The altar is of good third-century style and must be the latest in the series of Legio II altars.

RIB 1136

Haverfield, NCH X, 498, no. 6.

Altars probably from the workshop of Legio IIAugusta.

12. The upper part of an altar from Auchendavy; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus and is carved in cream coloured sandstone. It is  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with plain fronts.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo with sunken centre (type A2e). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). It has an internal diameter of 3 inches and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises to form a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. The capital mouldings are a torus and cant moulding which may be a badly carved cyma reversa, and a very small torus.

The fascia, the focus mount and the mouldings of the small stone suggest that it comes from the same workshop as the altars dedicated by M. Cocceius Firmus. It is probably of mid-second-century date.

RIB 2178

Macdonald, 430, no. 48; plate LIV. 5.

13. An altar from Bewcastle; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to the Discipline of the Emperor, although this is a secondary text. It is carved in cream sandstone and is  $40\frac{3}{4}$

inches high. It is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and 13 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and have plain fronts.

The focus is damaged but has been circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The maximum internal measurement is now  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "extended" (type 5c), curving upwards to form a truncated gable as the central profile (type 1/3). There is no distinction between the plane of the bolsters and that of the focus mount, a feature which may be paralleled on the fasciae of altars of Cohors I Baetasiorum from Bar Hill (80) and Ala Vocontiorum from Newstead (205). The focus mount is decorated with two dolphins in relief with bifurcated tails, and fins emerging from their heads and chests, which confront each other on each side of what appears to be either a vase or a bucranium resting on an altar.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Below the two tori of the fascia there are four stepped-in small tori. At the base, set above a plinth and large torus moulding, there are three stepped-out tori.

The altar was found in the sacellum pit of the Principia where it had been used for filling up after the destruction of c.297. The secondary inscription is said to be in third-century lettering. The altar itself is more at home in the second century and there is no reason why this should not be so since it could easily have been re-used in the Severan age or later.

The altar accords best with those carved by masons of Legio II and the quality of the workmanship is appropriate to men trained in its schools.  
RIB 990.

Richmond, Hodgson, St. Joseph, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXVIII, 210; fig. 11 facing 210.

14. An uninscribed altar from Camelon; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is carved in gritty sandstone. It is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It measures  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). One fillet and five small bead mouldings are set vertically above each other. Two of the tori have been cable-moulded.

The focus mount is "extended", curved under the bolsters (type 5c). The central profile of the capital at both back and front is formed by a roundel in relief which echoes the ends of the bolsters. This gives a semi-circular profile of type 2.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital the transition to the shaft is effected by an ovolo. The base is chamfered.

The altar may well belong with those carved by masons of Legio II. It accords best with their general styles.

Museum no. FX336

15. An uninscribed altar from Carrawburgh; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is carved in sandstone and is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 7 inches deep. The shaft is 6 inches high,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are strapped in the centre (type A2b). The ends are

damaged.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and large umbo (type A2c). It is attached to the straps of the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 9). The internal diameter is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches and the depth is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori and a stepped-in fillet and at the base, two stepped-out fillets and a plinth.

The shape of the focus mount suggests that this altar is the work of a mason trained in the workshops of Legio II. It probably belongs to the second century.

Budge, 314, no. 79.

Chesters Cat., 27, no. 165.

16. An altar from the baths building inside Castlecary fort; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated to Fortuna by a vexillation of Legio II and Legio VI. It is carved in sandstone, and is 29 inches high, 14 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and are now damaged.

The focus is circular with rim and umbo (type A2c). It is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide internally and 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises to a pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital a stepped-in fillet is placed above a *cyma reversa* moulding. Another stepped-in fillet completes the scheme. The base mouldings are similar except that the fillets are stepped-out and a stepped-out plinth replaces the topmost fillet of the capital.

The general style of this altar is similar to that of Legio II although the *cyma* moulding, based on intersecting arcs, is of a type favoured by Legio VI. It may be that here masons from both units were associated with the work. The altar is included with those of Legio II as it most nearly resembles other stones of that legion. The altar most probably dates from the second century.

RIB 2146

Macdonald, 419-420, no. 35; plate LXXIV, 2.

17. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Castlecary.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by soldiers. The name of the unit is not preserved.

Horsley's figure of this stone, for which no dimensions exist, shows the altar to have had a plain die and probably a plain shaft.

The bolsters are small and plain (type Ala), the centre of the circle being indicated on the front of each.

The focus is elliptical, set with the long axis from back to front of the stone, and has a rim (type A2b or B6a).

The fascia is moulded (type 2), two tori surmounting an inscribed rectangular member.

There is apparently no focus mount apart from a small roundel in the centre of the front of the capital.

The altar has mouldings on at least three sides of the stone. These are two stepped-in fillets.

The moulded fascia, the elliptical focus which may be paralleled on a legionary stone from near Housesteads (8), and the central roundel at the front of the capital place this stone most happily with those of Legio II.

RIB 2147

Horsley, 201, Scot. XXI.

18. The upper part of an altar from Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is 11 inches high,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 2 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there are two heads, as if of serpents.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a). The fronts are damaged.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. At the sides of the capital the fascia is decorated with a band of bay leaves, based on semi-circles and set out with compasses.

The focus mount is from the bolsters (type 2). The central profile is now flat (type 10) but may once have been pedimented.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The front of the capital is now damaged but at the sides there are two tori, a larger torus, a fillet and a chamfered fillet.

The decoration of the fascia suggests that the mason responsible for this altar had been trained in the workshop of Legio II and that the stone dates from the Antonine period.

RIB 1985

Carlisle, Arch. XI, 67; plate 5, fig. 13.

LS 429

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> 208, no. 3.

19. An altar from Chesterholm; now in Chesters Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and is carved in sandstone. It is  $32\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain with a central groove (type A2a). The ends are plain.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). From the dish, handles project towards the back and front of the stone. The focus measures internally 6 inches and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2).

The central profile is now flat, but it probably once had a small projection.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa moulding. At the base there are three shallow stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The moulded fascia and the focus mount place this stone in the second century. In spite of the grooved bolsters it fits in best with those carved by masons of Legio II. It may be noted that there is evidence of this legion's building at Chesterholm (RIB 1707).

RIB 1689

Haverfield, AA<sup>3</sup> XII, 203, no. 2; plate, 200.

20. An altar with defaced inscription from Ilkley; now in Ilkley Museum.

The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. It is  $30\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 16 inches wide and 17 inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high; it tapers towards the top and has mean dimensions of 13 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and have plain fronts.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It measures internally  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters," (type 2), rising to a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two stepped-in fillets, the lower slightly flaring. At the base there is one stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is not of the best workmanship. In general style it fits best into the second century and is similar in type to other stones carved by masons of Legio II.

RIB 634

Woodward, YAJ XXVIII, 320.

21. An uninscribed altar from Lanchester; now in the south porch of Lanchester church.

The altar is carved in gritty sandstone. It is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 8 inches wide and 6 inches thick. The shaft is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 5 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On each side of the shaft there is an eight-spoked wheel in relief.

The bolsters are small and plain (type Ala).

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo with central depression (type A2e). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). It measures  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. Below the small torus of the fascia, two other tori appear, the lower chamfered to the shaft. At the base, there are two small tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar seems to belong to the second century and its general shape is similar to those carved by masons of Legio II. The presence of the wheel decoration on the shaft is perhaps indicative of a dedication in paint either to Jupiter or to the Celtic Taranis. In view of the classical form of the altar, the former seems the more likely.

22. The upper part of an altar of unknown provenance; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It now measures 15 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is much damaged but appears to have been about  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain but it is impossible to say whether the shaft has been decorated, for little remains.

The bolsters are damaged but seem to have been plain (type A1a).

The focus is broken but has been circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It may have oversailed the bolsters (upper surface type 5). It is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Two small tori and a larger torus decorated with a band of pellets are set vertically one above the other.

The focus mount is very damaged.

The altar is moulded on four sides. The moulding separating the capital from the shaft is a clumsy cant moulding.

It is difficult to place this altar but, in view of the pellet decoration which appears on an altar of Legio II, it is possible that the mason responsible for the stone had been trained or influenced by this legion. It is probably of second century date.

RIB 2214

Tit. Hunt., 77-78, no. 34; plate XII, fig. 5.

Legio VI Victrix Pia Fidelis

The sculpture of the monumental building inscriptions erected by Legio VI is not impressive. Although two distance slabs from near Duntocher are of unusual design, two others seem to be inept attempts to copy a pattern in the design book of Legio II Augusta, while the scale-filled pelta of another reflects the decoration of a commemorative tablet of Legio XX. Slabs from Brougham, Corbridge and Halton Chesters achieve a higher standard but even then fall short of excellence.

Twenty-three altars mentioning Legio VI survive. Of these, six have panelled dies and another encloses the inscription in a wreath. Two others have had pilasters, either fluted or baluster-shaped, at the corners of the shaft. The sides of the shaft are frequently adorned with representations of sacrificial implements and vessels or with depictions of deities or their attributes.

If the two altars from the River Tyne at Newcastle are associated with the arrival of Legio VI in Britain or with the building of the bridge which must have been part of the Hadrianic plan for the northern frontier, it is clear that the unit brought with it well defined styles. In particular, the flat-bottomed rectangular focus, bolsters with geometric patterns and the ansate panel enclosing the first line of the inscription may be noted. The characteristic bolster of Legio VI is cigar-shaped, although plain and baluster types appear. Bolsters are sometimes decorated with straps or grooves; incised bay-leaf is to be seen on the altars from the River Tyne. Foci may be rectangular or circular, flat-bottomed or dished, but only rarely are foci given umbones.

A popular focus mount of the legion springs from the bolsters (type 2), and takes the form of two concave arcs linked by a horizontal (central profile type 3). Gabled focus mounts (central profile type 1) are also common.

The cyma reversa moulding with outline based on intersecting arcs is used, although tori and fillets are also popular.

The influence of Legio VI's styles on the auxiliary units of the north is marked. This is not surprising, since York was the legionary fortress nearest to most of their stations and, after the Severan division of Britain, was the headquarters of the army of the northern frontier. What is perhaps remarkable is the speed with which the legion's influence made itself felt. By the Antonine period the legion was supplying templets to auxiliary masons, and many of their altars reflect legionary styles. In particular the cigar-shaped bolster and the central profile of types 3 and 5 may be noted. The practice of framing the die with pilasters may also spring from Legio VI's inspiration, together with the affection for highly ornamented shafts. This is not to suggest however that the auxiliary units of the Antonine period who drew templets and ideas from Legio VI, had no well established regimental traditions of sculpture. Indeed, the wide variety of foci carved by the masons of Cohors II Tungrorum and Cohors I Hamiorum Sagittariorum strongly suggests that other influences had been at work and that these patterns had come from another source, possibly from Legio IX Hispana.

From the Severan period onwards it is to be expected that the influence of Legio VI will become paramount, although masons might pick up ideas from the sculpture of detachments of other legions seconded for special duties, as for instance in the legionary compounds at Corbridge, or from civilian masons. Commanding officers from the Continent may also have proved useful disseminators of new styles and motifs.

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23. An altar from the River Tyne at Newcastle; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Neptune by Legio VI. It is carved in buff sandstone and is  $48\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. It is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 28 inches high, 16 wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The

altar stands upon a base 8 inches high, 24 inches wide and 18 inches thick.

The die, in a sunken panel outlined by a cyma moulding and stepped fillet, is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide. The first line of the inscription is on the fascia. The die itself accommodates two further lines of inscription and, in relief, a dolphin entwined around a trident.

The dexter and sinister sides of the shaft bear moulded panels similar to those of the die but these are without reliefs.

The bolsters are cylindrical, decorated with incised bay-leaf and girded in the middle by cabled straps (type A2f). The ends are adorned by five-petalled rosettes in relief.

The focus is rectangular with a rim, triangular in section, and a flat bottom (type B6a). It measures internally  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches from side to side and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches from front to back. The depth is about 1 inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, with lettering in an ansate, sunken panel outlined by a bead moulding.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). The upper profile is formed by twin pairs of concave and convex arcs which meet in the centre of the capital (type 6). The curving line of the profile is emphasised by bead mouldings which terminate in two reversed scrolls at the centre-front.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital front there is a small torus moulding, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and a stepped in fillet. The base mouldings are the same but in reverse.

The altar probably came from a shrine on the bridge across the River Tyne. This bridge must have been built in the early stages of the development of the Hadrianic frontier and may well have been erected by Legio VI on its arrival from Vetera. If so, the altar and its counterpart (24) no doubt reflect the work of legionary masons circa A.D. 122.

RIB 1319

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 543, no. 1; 544, fig., no. 1.

Cat. Ant., 67, no. 44; plate IV, facing 67.

24. An altar from the River Tyne, Newcastle; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Ocean by Legio VI and is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $48\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $27\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 16 inches wide and 8 inches thick.

The die is 21 inches high and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide. It is enclosed by a cyma moulding and stepped-in fillet. The first line of the inscription is carved on the fascia. Two other lines and an anchor in relief appear on the die itself.

The dexter and sinister sides of the shaft bear moulded panels similar to those of the die but without reliefs.

The bolsters are cylindrical, decorated with an incised bay-leaf pattern and bound by cabled straps (type A2f). At the front the ends are damaged but it is clear that they have had rosettes with petals outlined in relief and separated by a pellet.

The focus is rectangular with rim, triangular in section, and flat bottom (type B5a).

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, with one line of inscription in an ansate panel. The shape of this panel is different from that of 23 for the sunken ansae are separated from the rectangular panel by a moulding.

The focus mount is damaged but was apparently similar to that of 23 (type 2), and had the same scroll design at the capital front. The back of the capital has a central profile of type 6.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a small torus moulding, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and a stepped-in fillet. The order of these mouldings is reversed at the base.

The altar is a pair with 23 and must date from the same period, probably circa A.D. 122.

RIB 1320

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 543, no. 2; 544, fig., no. 2.

Cat. Ant., 67-68, no. 46; plate IV, facing 67.

25. An altar, now lost, from Slack, near Stainland.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Gaius Antonius Modestus, centurion of Legio VI. No dimensions for this altar are preserved.

The die is plain.

The shaft has had a guttus carved on the dexter side.

The bolsters, from Gough's illustration, are of type Ala (cylindrical).

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It appears to be attached to the front of the capital, and may have had an umbo.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and curves upwards to form a central profile of pedimented shape (type 1).

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. There seems to have been a torus and cyma reversa moulding at the capital and four tori at the base.

The altar is probably of Hadrianic date for there is no evidence of the occupation of Slack after c.A.D. 140.

RIB 624

Gough, III, 36; plate I, fig. 5, facing 34.

Richmond, I.A., Huddersfield in Roman Times, 41; 40, fig. 24.

26. An altar from Chesterholm; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar, dedicated to the Fortune of the Roman People by Gaius Julius Raeticus, centurion of Legio VI, is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 24 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body, long neck, small, spouted mouth and concave pedestal base (type B1).

There is also a long-handled strainer placed obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone. The bowl is carved with base uppermost, as is the patera on a tombstone from Bingen;<sup>1.</sup> the dished cavity of the strainer appears as an umbo. There is also a flange for steadying the vessel. In addition to these vessels, there is a knife of type 3 (broad-bladed with the blunt side of the blade sloping in towards the tip). The sinister side of the shaft has a carving of a fine patera with umbo with depressed centre, and fluted, ram-headed handle which grips the rim of the bowl on each side.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are not set at the edges of the capital and are flanked by acroteria at each corner. The ends of the bolsters are decorated with quatrefoil rosettes outlined in relief, with centre boss and set within a plain border.

The focus is circular with large, thick rim (type A2b). It measures 5 inches internally from side to side and is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

There is no focus mount, although the acroteria spring from a fillet which runs across the full width of the capital.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet, a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a small torus. These mouldings are reversed at the base of the stone.

The altar fits best into the second century, and into the early part of the period. It may well be Hadrianic.

RIB 1684

Bruce, Wall 3, 211 with fig.

Cat. Durh. 36-37, no. XLIV; fig., 36.

1. Esp. VIII, 163, no. 6126.

27. An altar, now lost, from near Castlecary fort.

The altar is dedicated by Gaius Julius Speratus, a soldier of Legio VI. It is said to be about 20 inches high.

From the drawing in RIB, taken from a manuscript sketch, it is clear that the die was plain.

It is impossible to comment on the bolsters, except to say that they had plain ends.

Nothing is known of the focus.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5).

The altar displays mouldings at capital and base. At the capital, these seem to have been a stepped-in fillet and a cyma reversa moulding. At the base there seems to have been a stepped-out fillet, an inverted cyma reversa moulding and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar, with its cyma mouldings fits in well into the styles of Legio VI in the second century.

RIB 2151

Known only from a ms. drawing. See RIB.

28. An altar from the foot of Croy Hill; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the Nymphs by a vexillation of Legio VI and is carved in sandstone. The dexter corner of the base is lost. The altar is  $36\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 17 inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped, and encircled by a deep central groove (type B2a). The ends are damaged.

The focus is circular, dished with rim, (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and touches the bolsters (upper

surface type 10). It measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally and is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow, and is inscribed.

As the front of the capital is damaged it is difficult to establish whether the focus mount was "from the bolsters" (type 2), or "extended" (type 5b). It seems however that the central profile was formed by two concave arcs joined by a short horizontal (type 3). In the middle of the focus mount there has been a rosette with petals outlined in relief.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital the fascia is stepped-in and below this there is a stepped-in fillet, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and another stepped-in fillet. The cyma is cut from the same set of templates as that used by masons of Cohors IV Gallorum at Castlehill (156). At the base there are two inverted cyma reversa mouldings, a stepped fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the Antonine period.

RIB 2160

Macdonald, 423-424, no. 39; plate LXXII, 4.

29. An altar, now lost, from Dykesfield, near Burgh-by-Sands.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses of the household by a vexillation of Legio VI. Bruce gives the height of the stone as 10 inches and the width as 6 inches.

The die and shaft appear to be plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with one strap (type A2b).

The focus is circular, apparently dished with rim (type A2b).

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3 or 5) and curves upwards in two concave arcs which are linked by a short horizontal (central profile type 3). This profile is characteristic of the masons of Legio VI.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there seem to have been two stepped-in fillets.

RIB 2050

Bruce, Wall 3, 300 with fig.

30. Part of the dexter side of an altar or statue base from Corbridge; now in the Museum there.

The stone was set up by a vexillation of Legio VI. It is carved in sandstone. The fragment is 10 inches high,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is bordered by a pilaster with stopped flutings.

The inscription mentions the governor Gnaeus Julius Verus who was in Britain c. 155-159.

RIB 1132

Richmond, AA<sup>4</sup> XXI, 177; plate X D.

31. Part of an altar from Manchester; now in the Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune the Preserver by Lucius Senecianus Martius, centurion of Legio VI. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is  $27\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 16 inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is 15 inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die is 11 inches wide and is flanked by angular, fluted pilasters with stiff, foliate capitals and stepped bases. These pilasters appear at the front and back of the sides of the shaft, creating sunken panels 7 inches wide.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B<sub>3</sub>). On the sinister side there is a patera, dished, with rim and umbo, set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone. The handle is encircled by a projecting band to which a plate gripping the inner edge of the bowl is attached.

The capital has been removed, so that bolsters and focus no longer exist. The top of the stone is flat but a hole, now filled with lead, has been cut in it, as if some feature such as a sun-dial had been attached there.

All mouldings have now gone. The back is flat and roughly tooled.

The base of the stone has also been removed.

RIB 575

Ed. Bruton F.A., The Roman Fort at Manchester (Manchester 1909),  
20-23, no. 1; plate facing 20.

32. An altar from Corbridge; now in Hexham Priory.

The altar is dedicated to Apollo Maponus by Quintus Terentius Firmus, camp prefect of Legio VI. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height is 50 inches, the width is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $33\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

Both the die and shaft are plain.

There are now no bolsters although the sides of the capital are slightly raised. If bolsters ever existed they were very small.

The focus is circular and, as it now exists, is a raised platform (type D12). The diameter is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches; the height is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The front of the capital is defaced and it is impossible to comment on the shape of the fascia, or on the form of the focus mount. The central profile however seems to have been formed by two arcs curving upwards to join the focus platform (type 5 variant).

The altar has been moulded on four sides but, except at the back of the stone, the mouldings have been chipped away. The back displays, at both capital and base, a cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs.

The altar probably dates from the late second century for the title Praefectus Castrorum is not found in the third century.

RIB 1120

Richmond, AA<sup>4</sup> XXI 206-208; 207, fig. 10, no. 1.

33. Part of an altar, probably from Corbridge; now built into an arch-head in the Saxon crypt, Hexham Priory.

The altar is dedicated to Apollo Maponus by Publius Aelius.....,

centurion of Legio VI, and is carved in buff sandstone. It is now  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and 19 inches wide. The shaft is 11 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft have been cut away.

Bolsters and focus have been removed.

The fascia is defaced.

Little of the mouldings survives but small tori have been elements in the decoration of capital and base in association with a band of bar chevron ornament.

The altar probably belongs to the second century, the period to which the other altars from Corbridge dedicated to Apollo Maponus may be attributed.

RIB 1122

Richmond, AA<sup>4</sup> XXI 207-208; 207, fig. 10, no. 2.

34. An altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is dedicated to the African, Italian and Gallic Mother Goddesses by Marcus Minucius Audens, a soldier and pilot of Legio VI. It is carved in magnesian limestone and is 10 inches high. It is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 3 inches high, and  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The shape of the ends, which are not quite circular is emphasised by an incised line.

There is no focus but instead, a projecting, angular cone-like object springs from the upper surface. This may be intended to represent the sacrificial fire, or it may stand for an offering of fruit, or may be a phallic symbol. In view of the association of the Mother Goddesses with fertility, the last of these suggestions seems likely.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

A bead moulding runs across the upper edge.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), and forms a central profile of type 1 (a pediment), the line of which is marked by a groove.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a bead moulding above two stepped-in fillets. The base has similar mouldings in reverse, and a plinth.

The altar is best attributed to the second century.

RIB 653

Ebur., 116, no. 36; plate 44, fig. 81.

35. An altar from Castlecary; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Mercury by soldiers of Legio VI, citizens of Italy and Noricum. It is carved in sandstone and is 20 inches high. It is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 9 inches high,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel with a flat border. It measures 8 inches high and is  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with a central strap (type A2b).

The fronts are damaged.

The focus is circular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It has an internal diameter of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep. It shows signs of burning.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is damaged but it has been of type 2 ("from the bolsters").

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two cyma reversa mouldings based on intersecting arcs. At the base there is one small and one larger cyma reversa moulding and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is probably to be placed in the late second century. The soldiers describing themselves as citizens of Italy and Noricum may have been sent from Legiones II or III Italica as reinforcements for Legio VI. These two legions had been raised by Marcus Aurelius in A.D. 165 and had been used to garrison Raetia and Noricum.<sup>1</sup>

RIB 2148

Macdonald, 420-421, no. 36; plate LXXIV, 3.

36. An altar from Kirksteads; now in Lowther Castle. This stone has not been examined at first hand.

The altar is dedicated by Lucius Junius Victorinus Flavius Caelianus, an imperial legate of Legio VI. The name of the deity is not preserved for it was carved on the fascia which is now mutilated. The altar is carved in red sandstone. The altar is said to be 53 inches high and 24 inches wide. There are no recorded dimensions of the shaft.

The die seems to have been in a sunken panel within a plain, flat border.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

No bolsters appear to survive but the focus has been circular.

As this stone has not been examined at first hand it is impossible to comment on the mouldings.

Haverfield suggested a mid-second century date for the altar. Dr. J.C. Mann places it later in the pre-Severan period.

RIB 2034

Lysons, Cumb., clviii, no. 95; plate facing clxiii, 1; clxxx - clxxxi.

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1. Parker, Roman Legions, 116.

37. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius and the Genius of the garrison by Valerius, a soldier of Legio VI. It is carved in buff sandstone. It is 17 inches high,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 6 inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft displays a patera set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone; it has a rim and umbo with central depression. The handle is animal-headed. On the sinister side there is a guttus with globular body, long neck and spouted mouth, the handle facing the front of the stone (type A1). The base is concave.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The fronts are damaged.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches; the depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5).

The central profile is a pediment (type 1), which accommodates a sunken roundel with a raised rim.

The altar is fully moulded on three sides. The back is chamfered. At the capital there is a torus and an ovolo. At the base there is a torus and a stepped-out plinth.

The base is decorated. On the front a pair of dolphins, in relief, with mouths agape and tails curled over their backs, face each other from within rectangular panels outlined by bead mouldings.

RIB 1577

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> I, 267 with fig.

38. The lower part of an altar, now lost, from Housesteads.

The altar is dedicated by a centurion of Legio VI.

Horsley's drawing shows the stone to have had seven torus mouldings set vertically above each other at the base.

It is not possible to date the stone although the double L of the inscription may indicate that it comes from the late second or early third centuries.

RIB 1609

Horsley, 221, North. XLIV.

39. An altar, broken across the shaft, from near Milecastle 60; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by soldiers of Legio VI. It is carved in red sandstone and is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 6 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 6 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters have been chiselled off but enough of the stone survives to show that they have been cylindrical (type Al $\bar{a}$ ), and have not reached the edge of the capital.

The focus is circular, dished and sunk into the capital (type Ala). It measures  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type l), narrow, and is inscribed.

No fo~~cus~~ mount survives.

The altar is moulded on three sides although the mouldings are not in the best traditions of classical sculpture. At the capital there is a cavetto with a flaring cyma reversa below it. At the base there are two irregular tori and a stepped-out plinth.

It is difficult to date the altar. The inscribed fascia and the

awkward mouldings point to a third century date. The lettering is clear and of good style.

RIB 2020

Bruce Wall 3, 289 with fig.

40. An altar from near Milecastle 55; now in the possession of Mr. Mounsey-Heysham, Castletown, Rockcliffe, near Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by a vexillation of Legio VI and is carved in red sandstone. It is  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is 13 inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

Both the die and the sides of the shaft have been bordered by swelling pilasters. At the front of the stone they have now disappeared.

On the dexter side of the shaft, within the sunken panel formed by the pilasters, there is a knife of type 3 (broad blade sloping in to the tip at the blunt side). On the sinister side there is a patera with raised rim and umbo with central depression set vertically on the shaft with the bowl towards the base of the stone. The handle is grooved and there are hollows near the top and base.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), and have weathered away at the front.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo with central depression (type A2e). The internal diameter is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and its depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 4), rising to a central profile of type 1 (pedimented). The fascia is decorated with three gables with moulded rims, set within each other.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front the mouldings have weathered away but they are in good condition at the sides. There are two debased tori at the capital and three debased tori at the base. These torus mouldings are neither stepped-in nor stepped out.

The altar has been a handsome one and is the work of accomplished craftsmen. The general shape of the capital suggests that it belongs to the late second or early third centuries.

RIB 1961

LS 376.

41. An altar from Rudchester, now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the God (Mithras), by Lucius Sentius Castus, centurion of Legio VI. It is carved in cream coloured coarse sandstone. It is 50 inches high, 18 inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is flanked by palm branches curving to form an arch-like frame. Within this frame, a wreath of bay leaves  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter encloses the word DEO. From the wreath, two diagonal cabled ribbons and a third, vertical moulding with a palm-branch motif, support a panel on which three further lines of inscription are carved. The panel,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, is decorated with a cabled moulding at the top and sides and has tiny ansae in relief.

The sides of the shaft are plain but at the back of the stone there are two recesses which may have held lamps either to throw light on an object standing behind the altar or to be used in the ritual at appropriate moments. One recess is 15 inches high and 8 inches deep; the other is 9 inches high and 6 inches deep.

The top of the altar is damaged and it is difficult to draw any conclusions as to the bolsters, although these certainly existed.

The focus too is damaged. It may have been circular.

The fascia has been deep and is marked on each side by a vertical groove. Immediately above the mouldings there is a row of five incised arches. The central part of the fascia has been cut away to form a

sunken panel within which a figure in relief is set. This figure seems best interpreted as the Mithraic symbol of Phrygian cap surmounted by a crescent moon. On the dexter side of the capital there is in relief a bucranium with long curling horns. On the sinister side another relief of doubtful interpretation probably represents a priestly cap.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the capital there is a cabled torus and stepped-in fillet. These mouldings continue around the sinister side of the stone though they are undecorated. On the dexter side, the mouldings have only been fully carved at the front of the stone and a simple step is all that marks the change in dimension along the remainder of this side of the capital. The transition to the base is rather abrupt. First there is a small ovolo and then two cabled tori grooved in alternate directions. At the dexter side of the base the mouldings have not been fully carved; a single step separates shaft from base, though a lower horizontal groove indicates the size of the uncompleted moulding. At the sinister side there is an ovolo with a torus moulding below it.

The base is decorated on two sides. At the front, in a sunken panel flanked by columns with cabled shafts, a figure, probably Mithras, guides a bull by the horns. The scene probably refers to Mithras' capture and sacrifice of the bull and the deity is undoubtedly about to throw the animal to the ground. The flanking columns have large capitals and the base of the dexter pillar bears an incised triangle. On the sinister side of the base three vertical daggers or short swords, with knobbed hilts and in their sheaths, recall the weapon used by Mithras to despatch the bull.

The altar probably belongs to the third century, the period in which the cult of Mithras spread to Britain. It is linked with other Mithraic altars (eg. 218, from Housesteads), by the incised arcade of the capital which may have had a special significance.

RIB 1398

Gillam and MacIvor, AA<sup>4</sup> XXXII, 206, 208; 207, fig. 9.

Bosanquet, NCH XII, 38; plate facing 36, no. 2.

42. An altar from Whitley Castle; now in the Bedford Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules by Gaius Vitellius Atticianus, centurion of Legio VI, and is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $33\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain although the reliefs of the side of the shaft oversail the edges of the die.

The sides of the shaft are decorated with reliefs of Hercules. On the dexter side the naked deity stands with legs astride facing forward. The figure is rudely carved although there is some attempt at modelling. The ears are large, the eyes are lentoid; the smiling mouth is marked by a wide groove. Two serpents are entwined around his legs, their necks being gripped by the hero. Their mouths are agape as they reach upwards to bite the face of their adversary. The design is symmetrical and clearly represents the story of Hercules' triumph over the snakes sent by Juno to devour him. The relief is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. On the sinister side, in relief 1 inch high, the story of the combat between Hercules and the dragon in the garden of the Hesperides is depicted. Here the hero is again naked but the pose follows Egyptian conventions: the face, legs and feet are in profile; the torso faces the front. The ear is deeply hollowed, the eye lentoid and the hair curly. The deity holds in his left hand an object which may be a stone; it can scarcely be the Hesperidean apple for the guardian of the tree is still alive. In his right hand he holds a club. At the front edge of the stone the dragon Ladon coils itself around the apple tree from each of whose four stylized branches an apple depends. The dragon in the form of a serpent, with lentoid eye and mouth slightly open, faces Hercules, its tail almost touching his right foot. The work is clumsy and seems to be from the hand of a native workman.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is rectangular, bevelled to a flat bottom (type B5a). There are signs of blackening at the edges. The focus measures  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches from side to side and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches from back to front. The depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

There is no focus mount of a regular pattern but the focus is carved in a raised secondary capital with fillets inclined inwards at the front and sides.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital below the fascia there is a cant moulding and stepped-in fillet. These mouldings may have started as a debased torus into which a median groove has been carved. At the sides of the stone the lower moulding is cut away to make room for the figures. The base mouldings in descending order from the shaft are: one small and one large cant moulding and a stepped-out plinth. At the sides of the base there is only a deep groove under the relief.

In spite of Bosanquet's view that the lettering may well be of second century date, the altar seems best assigned to the third century for its workmanship, although ambitious, is crude and has little in common with the traditions of classical sculpture. In particular the extraordinary mouldings and the representations of the figures seem to come from a hand and period later than the pre-Severan age. The absence of bolsters too is an indication of late date, although the narrow fascia and secondary capital fit in with second-century styles.

RIB 1199

... Weston, Arch. XVII, 229-230; plate facing 230.

43. Part of an altar or pedestal from Ribchester; now in the Museum at Ribchester.

The stone is dedicated to Apollo Maponus for the welfare of the Emperor and of Gordian's Own Unit of Sarmatian cavalry of Bremetennacum

by Aelius Antoninus, centurion of Legio VI, the commandant of the regiment and of the region. It is carved in coarse sandstone. It is 51 inches high and is now  $23\frac{1}{4}$  inches across the die. The maximum thickness is now 20 inches.

The die, which is 43 inches high, is enclosed in a cyma moulding and plain border  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide. The dexter side of the shaft has been chiselled away.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a figure of Apollo in relief  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. The god is set in a round-headed niche. He is naked except for a cloak falling in four folds over his chest and behind his back; he wears either a Phrygian cap or has his hair dressed in a "top-knot", a style shown by Professor Toynbee to be characteristic of late second- and third-century work.<sup>1.</sup> The god is standing with his weight on his left leg, the right being bent and crossed behind the left at the ankle. He rests his chin on the back of his right hand while his left supports his lyre, gripping it by the cross piece. At his left shoulder his quiver may be discerned.

On the back of the stone there are two female figures carved in relief  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and standing in round-headed niches. The dexter figure is draped from the thighs downwards; she has on her head what may be a mural crown with a veil falling behind her shoulders. Her hair is taken back behind the ears. She has her right hand across her body and is giving an urn or guttus to her companion who extends both hands to receive it. The sinister figure has her right leg slightly flexed. She is fully draped but has a headdress similar to that of the dexter figure. The identity of the females is difficult to establish. Richmond suggests that they may represent Leto and Artemis, the mother and sister

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1. Hadrianic School, 209.

of Apollo, or that they are the personifications of the Regio  
Bremetennacensis and Britannia Inferior. Dr. Ross identifies them  
as perhaps Modron the mother of Maponus and a native goddess of veneration.  
Richmond's second suggestion seems the most acceptable:

The top of the stone is roughly chiselled flat and has a dowel  
hole 3 inches deep in the centre.

The stone has probably been moulded on four sides although now  
all are squared off to make a roughly rectangular block.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 238-244.

RIB 583

Bruce, Arch. J. XII, 225-228; figs., 226 and 228.

Richmond, JRS XXXV, 15; plate I, 1, 2.

44. The lower part of an altar from Birdoswald, now lost.

The stone is dedicated by Lucius Vereius Fortunatus, a centurion  
of Legio VI.

The sketch in RIB shows the stone to have had two stepped fillets  
and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1907

Haverfield, CW<sup>2</sup> XI, 376; without fig.

Known from a manuscript source; see RIB.

45. The lower part of an altar from Ebchester; now in the Museum  
at Mains Farm, Ebchester.

The altar is dedicated by Samnius Victor, a centurion of Legio VI.  
The name of the deity is not preserved although the Numen Augusti may  
have been associated with the main god. The altar is carved in buff  
sandstone. The stone is 15 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches  
thick.

Mouldings only survive on the sinister side of the base. Here there is a small stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

JRS LIII, 161, no. 7.

46. The dexter side of the upper part of an altar from South Shields; now in the Museum at South Shields.

The altar is dedicated by Julius Verax, a centurion of Legio VI but the name of the deity is not mentioned in the surviving part of the inscription. It is carved in gritty sandstone. The stone is  $25\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick. The shaft is now  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The bolsters are baluster-shaped and double-strapped in the centre (type C3). Only the dexter survives and the end of that is damaged.

The focus is damaged but has been circular.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), probably of medium depth.

The focus mount is damaged but it is clear that it is of type 1 ("between the bolsters").

The altar is moulded on three sides. Three stepped-in fillets mark the transition from the capital to the shaft.

RIB 1057

Haverfield, AA<sup>2</sup> XIX, 273-4; fig., 274.

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Probably from the workshop of Legio VI V.P.F.

47. An altar from Adel; now in the City Museum, Leeds.

The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 7 inches high, 11 inches

wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an axe in relief, with blade square-ended on each side of the haft (type 6). On the sinister side there is a handle-less patera with two raised rims and a sunken centre.

If bolsters existed they were vestigial.

The focus is rectangular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a).

From side to side it measures internally  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches; from front to back the measurement is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The maximum depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

There is no focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the capital there is a torus and an ovolo. The sides of the capital have two flattened tori above an ovolo. At the base, a simple step separates the shaft from the plinth.

The altar seems to belong to the traditions of sculpture of Legio VI, and may have been carved by a soldier or a veteran. The rectangular focus may be compared with others from the legionary workshop and the presence of the axe on the shaft points to a military origin.

Leeds Museum, D.159. 1966.

48. The upper part of an altar from Aldborough; now in the Aldborough Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Mother Goddesses and is carved in limestone. It is now  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 8 inches thick. The shaft is 8 inches wide and 5 inches thick.

As far as can be determined from the fragment, the die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), with plain ends.

The focus is circular, dished (a variant of type A2b), and is attached to the bolsters and to the front and back of the stone, giving an upper surface of type 8.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6); it is carved in one plane with the front of the bolsters. This may be paralleled on altars of Cohors I Baetasiorum (80).

The central profile springs "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises to form a curved gable (a variant of central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. A stepped-in fillet, a torus and two other stepped-in fillets appear in descending order.

The altar is not out of place in the second century and, in view of the unusual carving of fascia and bolsters in one plane, a feature occurring on altars carved by masons in auxiliary units associated with Legio VI, may be attributed to that legion's school.

RIB 708

Smith, Rel. Isur., 45; plate XXI, 3.

49. An altar from Balmuildy; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar, dedicated to Fortune by Caecilius Nepos, a tribune, is carved in sandstone. It is  $29\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 13 inches wide, and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 11 inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) with damaged fronts.

The focus is circular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a). The internal diameter is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is damaged but seems to have been "from the bolsters" (type 2). It had an inclined face.

The central profile is damaged but may well have been a gable (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a debased torus and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a debased torus which has the form of a rounded, inclined fillet, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably belongs to the Antonine period. The shape of the capital is similar to that of a stone of Cohors IV Gallorum from Hadrian's Wall (163), and, as this unit is known to have been associated with Legio VI, the altar may be tentatively assigned to the same group.

RIB 2189

Macdonald, 432-433, no. 50; plate LXXV, 2.

50. An altar from Benwell; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar now has a secondary inscription dedicating it to the Three Witches. It is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $31\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 17 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped (type B1). The ends are damaged. The bolsters project beyond the width of the fascia.

The focus is circular, flattish with a low umbo with central depression (a shallow variant of type A2e). The internal diameter is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and rises in the centre to form a low pediment (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital, stepped-in

from the fascia, there is a fillet, a vertical fillet and a torus moulding. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet and a large, debased torus moulding above a stepped plinth.

The cigar-shaped bolsters seem to place this stone in the group of those associated with Legio VI. The altar may have been carved in the second century, the period when this type of bolster was in vogue. Spain suggests that the inscription may be a fourth century jibe at the cult of the three Mother Goddesses.

RIB 1331

Spain, NCH XIII, 555, no. 9; plate, 556.

51. An altar with an indecipherable inscription from Brough on Noe; now in the Buxton Museum.

The altar is carved in gritstone. It is  $27\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 10 inches high, 10 inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The capital is much damaged and neither bolsters or focus remain.

The fascia seems to have been rectangular (type 1), deep, and decorated with a band of vertical grooves, similar to those on altars from Gainford (62) and Chesterholm (161).

The altar is moulded on three sides. Below the fascia there is a large flattened torus with a band of vertical grooves, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet and large torus chamfered to another stepped-out fillet and plinth.

There is little to date this altar except the chamfered torus at the base of the stone. This is appropriate to the third century. The bands of vertical grooves suggest a third century date, if these are held to be significant. They also point to an affiliation with Legio VI, for an altar similarly decorated from Chesterholm is the work of masons of

Cohors IV Gallorum, a unit known to be connected with this legion.

VCH Derbyshire 1 (1905), 208, no. 3.

Garstang, DAJ 26, 194, c, 195; fig. 7, no. 5.

52. An altar, now lost, from Burrow-in-Lonsdale.

The altar is dedicated to Contrebis by Vatta, probably a civilian.

No dimensions are preserved.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are decorated. On one side there is a bird which, according to Rauthmel's drawing looks like an owl but which was most probably an eagle. An axe with divergent curved blade (type 5) and a knife, with a blade apparently of type 2 (broad without pronounced angle) are on the other side of the shaft.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is rectangular.

There seems to have been neither a fascia nor a focus mount.

The altar is moulded but it is difficult to determine the nature of the mouldings. They seem to have been fillets and cymas.

Although the altar is dedicated by a civilian it has the hallmarks of a stone carved by a military mason. It may be that the inscription is secondary. The general shape of the stone suggests a date in the second century although perhaps in the later part of the period. The rectangular focus is characteristic of the styles of Legio VI and the stone may be attributed to that school.

RIB 610

A. Rauthmel, Antiquitates Bremetonacenses or the Roman Antiquities of Overborough (Kirkby Lonsdale 1746, reprinted 1824), 101-102; Tab. 4, figs. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5.

53. An altar, now lost, from Kirkby Lonsdale; near Burrow-in-Lonsdale.

The altar is dedicated to the Deities of the Emperor and the Genius of the guild of Apollo by Bellinus. It is said to have been over 36 inches high.

The die is plain.

The sinister side of the shaft has carvings of a patera with umbo and knobbed handle placed obliquely with the bowl towards the front and top of the stone, and a guttus. The body of the latter is globular with a long neck and spouted mouth (type A1). The dexter side of the shaft probably had reliefs of the sacrificial knife and axe.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The fronts have had bosses.

The focus is circular, sunken (type Ala).

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5). At the upper surface it springs from the top of the bolsters and runs horizontally across the top of the capital (central profile type 10). In the centre of the fascia there is a handleless vase.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. From Machell's drawing, reproduced in RIB, at the capital there seems to have been two angular tori and at the base a stepped-out fillet and large torus.

Although the altar is apparently dedicated by a civilian, it seems likely that this stone was carved by a mason trained in a military workshop. The vase motif is similar to that carved on the back of an altar of Cohors II Tungrorum from Birrens (136). Cohors II Tungrorum is a regiment known to have been associated with Legio VI in the second century and probably later. This altar may well date from the late second or early third centuries.

RIB 611

Watkin, 196-197; fig., 196.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XLVI, 138-140; fig. 3, 139.  
See RIB for drawing.

54. The upper part of an altar from Castlecary; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated to a goddess whose name is not preserved. It is carved in sandstone. The fragment is  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and have plain fronts.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom; a second small rim encircles the centre of the dish (type B6b). The focus touches the front and rear projections of the capital (upper surface type 7). It measures  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), although almost "filled-in".

The central profile has a design based on three convex arcs (type 8).

The altar is moulded on four sides. A cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs surmounts a small stepped-in fillet.

The altar is well carved and comes from a good tradition of sculpture. The type of focus mount and the deep fascia suggest that it belongs to the later part of the second century and, if the cyma reversa and central profile are taken into account, it may be attributed to the workshop of Legio VI.

RIB 2150

Macdonald, 422, no. 38; plate LXXIV, 4.

55. An altar with undecipherable inscription, probably from Chesters; now in the church of St. Oswald in Lee.

The inscription has perished although some faint signs of lettering may still be distinguished. The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. The height is  $55\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width 24 inches and the thickness  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is 32 inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The inscription has been in a sunken panel  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, flanked by pilasters, the capitals of which still survive.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a knife with triangular blade (type 4), and a patera set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone and carved with the base uppermost. A vine branch decorates the sinister side of the shaft.

The bolsters have been very large and strapped in the middle (type A2b). They are damaged at the top and at the front.

The focus has been cut away to form a socket-hole now measuring 10 inches from side to side. This has removed the central portion of the capital front.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

It is impossible to comment on the focus mount as it has been cut away.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in tori. At the base only a simple step separates the shaft from the plinth.

A fine vine scroll ornaments the front of the base.

It is clear that the mason responsible for carving the altar was a skilled craftsman and that the stone was an imposing one. It seems likely that the altar comes from a military workshop. The pilasters suggest a connection with Legio VI, a suggestion which finds support in the vine scroll decoration of a legionary dedication-slab from Corbridge.

RIB 1159.

Westgarth, PSAN<sup>5</sup> I, 13-15; plate II facing 12.

56. An altar from the Bath-house, Chesters; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune the Preserver. by Venenus, a German. It is carved in sandstone and measures  $30\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height. It is  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 12 inches high, 9 inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The inscription is cut on the capital, shaft and base. The main part of the die is filled with a relief of the goddess, facing the front and standing in a sunken panel the upper edge of which is slightly curved in the centre to give the appearance of a very shallow shouldered niche. The goddess is robed although there is little attempt to render the draping plastically. In her left hand she grasps a long-stemmed three-branched object presumably intended to represent a cornucopia while her right hand is held away from her body with wrist bent backwards so that the palm of the hand is uppermost. Below this hand there is a disk-like wheel.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and are set away from the edges of the capital. The fronts carry letters of the inscription.

The focus is circular with raised rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is 4 inches and the depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A grotesque sagging cyma reversa and a torus moulding replace the more conventional flat feature.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and carries the first line of the inscription. It rises to a central profile of type 4 (concave arcs linked by broad horizontal).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital, below the moulded fascia, there is a torus moulding. This moulding is repeated

at the base and here there is a stepped-out plinth below a small scotia.

The altar is unusual in design but its find-spot indicates that it is of military origin. Venenus, the dedicator, was no doubt a member of one of the auxiliary units stationed at Chesters. The central profile is of a type favoured by masons of Legio VI and the figure on the shaft is in keeping with the traditions of that regiment. The altar seems to be of second century date but as the unit garrisoning Chesters at that period is not clearly established it is not possible to be exact in its attribution.

RIB 1449

Clayton, AA<sup>2</sup> XI, 117-119; fig., 117.

Budge, 306-307, no. 47; fig., 113.

Chesters Cat., 21, no. 94.

57. An altar, broken across the shaft, from Corbridge; now in Corbridge Museum.

The name of the deity honoured by the erection of the altar has perished although the stone was set up by the officer in charge of the granaries. It is carved in sandstone. It measures 54 inches in height and is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an axe of pick-axe type (type 1), and a knife with a broad blade, the cutting edge sharply angled to the tip (type 1).

The bolsters are broken except the rearward portion at the dexter side. It seems clear that they were cylindrical (type A).

The focus is damaged but was fairly shallow with a small raised rim. It may have been flat-bottomed. It shows signs of burning.

The front of the capital is damaged and it is impossible to comment on the shape of either the fascia or the focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is one large and one debased torus. At the base the order is reversed and there is a stepped plinth. The orthodox torus mouldings of this stone are the most regular in their carving of any in Northern Britain.

Haverfield suggested that the altar dated from the British expedition of Septimius Severus and Caracalla and there seems no reason to dispute this view. The identification of the workshop is more difficult but the type of knife on the shaft is one used by masons of Legio VI and it seems justifiable to include the stone in this group.

RIB 1143

Haverfield, AA<sup>3</sup> V, 395-398; fig. 15 facing 397.

58. An altar from Corbridge; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by detachments of Legiones XX and VI. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 42 inches high, 18 inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches high, 17½ inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with globular body, long neck and spouted mouth (type A1) and a patera set obliquely with the bowl towards the top and back of the stone. The sinister side of the stone is now very weathered and no figure is now to be seen there.

Neither bolsters nor focus survive. The top of the stone is now flat.

The fascia is now rectangular (type 1), deep.

The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

Mouldings survive only at the front of the stone. At both capital and base there is a tiny step.

As the guttus may be paralleled on another altar of Legio VI (37), this altar is included with others carved by masons of that unit.

RIB 1130

Cat. Ant., 61, no. 24.

59. An altar probably from near Corbridge; now in the Church of St. John, Lee.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is 44 inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 17 inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

At present the altar is inverted so that it is impossible to comment on the details of the bolsters and focus. There is a socket hole in the base as if for the shaft of a cross. The stone has been used as a sundial.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in tori and at the base two stepped-in tori, five tori set vertically above each other and a plinth.

The multiple vertical tori of the base are reminiscent of those on the base of an altar base, now lost, dedicated by a centurion of Legio VI (38). For this reason the stone is included with those carved by masons using Legio VI's traditions.

Hodgson, NCH IV, 130.

Westgarth, PSAN<sup>5</sup>I, 15.

60. The upper part of an uninscribed altar found in the River Tyne and probably from Corbridge; now in Hexham Priory Church.

The altar is carved in cream sandstone. The complete stone has been a large one for the portion still extant is  $34\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is  $26\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches wide and 13 inches thick.

There seems to have been a swag on the front of the shaft. On the dexter side, within a sunken arch, there is the head of a man in relief. The motif on the sinister side of the shaft is very weathered and its nature cannot now be determined.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) set well away from the edges of the capital and flanked by three acroterion-like projections.

The focus is circular, dished and attached to the front and back of the capital (focus type A2b; upper surface type 7/10). The internal diameter is 7 inches. The depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5b), and rising to form a central profile of type 1 (pediment). It is possible that there was once a decorative motif in the pediment but this is so weathered as to defy identification.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The mouldings are very worn but seem to have been two large, stepped-in tori.

The shape of the altar has no close parallels in Northern Britain. The three acroterion-like projections, however, are similar to those on an altar of Cohors IV Gallorum from Chesterholm and the decorated pediment is reminiscent of that of another fragment from Corbridge, now in the churchyard there. As it can be established that Cohors IV Gallorum was associated with Legio VI, it seems justifiable to include this stone with those belonging to that legion's sphere of influence.

Hodges, PSAN<sup>2</sup> III, 59.

61. An altar from Ebchester; now in the porch of Ebchester Church.

The altar is dedicated to a Genius by a prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height is 35 inches and it is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is 15 inches high, 18 inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a much weathered guttus (type A2) and patera. On the sinister side there is an eagle, with wings outstretched, standing on a bar.

The bolsters are cylindrical and double strapped in the centre (type A3b). They are flattened on the top. The ends seem to have been plain.

Only a very slight depression marks the rectangular focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow, and has been decorated, probably with a band of rosettes, as on the base.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), curving to form a central profile of type 5.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there is a large cable-moulded torus above two small tori. At the base the order of these mouldings is reversed.

The front of the base is decorated with a band of roundels enclosing geometric patterns in relief. Some of these rosettes have four and some have five petals.

The general style of the altar suggests that it belongs to the second century. The rectangular focus, the focus mount and the eagle carved on the side of the shaft point to an origin in the workshop of a unit associated with Legio VI.

RIB 1099

Watkin, Arch. J. XLI, 177, no. 2.

62. Part of an altar from Gainford, near Piercebridge; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter of Doliche by Julius Valentinus, centurion. It is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $31\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, and at present  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The altar has been recut for use in the capital of a pillar and it is impossible to determine the maximum width

of the stone. The shaft is 17 inches high,  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide at present and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The shaft bears a fine relief of an eagle standing on a bar with wings partly open and holding in its beak a wreath. Its head is turned towards the front of the altar.

The capital has been cut away and only the sinister side is preserved but here the fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. It is decorated with a band of vertical flutings.

The mouldings remain at the sinister side. At the capital there are four tori of various sizes. At the base there are three tori.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D.217. The vertical flutings, which may be paralleled on a stone of Cohors IV Gallorum from Chesterholm (161) suggest that the centurion belonged to Legio VI and indeed there is nothing improbable in this; a building stone of the legion has been found at the site (RIB 1025). Certainly the altar may well be the work of a skilled legionary mason.

RIB 1022

Merlat, 264-5 no. 272; fig. 54.

Edleston, PSAN<sup>3</sup> II, 344 with fig.

63. An uninscribed altar from Wyke, near Harewood; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 6 inches high, 11 inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft bears a relief of a patera with raised rim, umbo and handle, but now damaged. On the sinister side there is a geometric design which may be intended for a wheel, or a type of solar

disk. It has a rim enclosing four double spokes set at right angles to each other.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends seem to have had moulded rims.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b), and is attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). It measures internally  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches from side to side and 4 inches from back to front. It is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1). It is decorated with a smaller gable outlined in relief and enclosing a sunken pediment.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two widely spaced tori and a stepped-in fillet. These mouldings are reversed at the base and there is a plinth.

YMH 45, no. 27.

64. An uninscribed altar from Kirkham or Ribchester; now used as a font in Lund Church, Kirkham.

The altar is carved in gritstone. It is  $33\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $23\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

The front and sides of the shaft bear reliefs of female figures. On the front of the stone, on a raised bar, there are three figures in 1 inch relief. They are fully clothed and appear to be standing with their arms curving inwards to rest upon the front of their thighs. The shoulders are heavily emphasized in a manner reminiscent of the treatment of the thorax of a female figure from near Great Chesters fort (RIB 1747).

The heads of the figures have almost entirely gone. The figures on the

sides of the shaft are in a different pose. They are dancing, their arms upstretched as in Highland reels. They are wearing long, flowing robes.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and small in relation to the top. The fronts are now damaged but it is likely that they were plain.

The focus has now gone and an oval vessel has been inserted. It seems likely that the focus was itself oval and that it had a raised rim.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to form a low curving truncated pediment. The original shape seems to have been central profile type 4.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The front of the capital displays a cavetto, a torus and one stepped-in fillet. At the sides there is extra fillet. At the base a torus, cavetto and fillet are placed in descending order from the shaft.

The decoration of this altar is unique and difficult to parallel. Droop compares the figures to the dancing worshippers of the Matres carved on stones from Pallanza and Avigliana. As the three females on the front of the shaft are best identified as the Mother Goddesses, these parallels seem justified. From the general shape of the stone it would appear to be of relatively early date and certainly not later than the end of the second century. Certain features such as the shape of the focus mount suggest that the mason responsible for the carving had been influenced by the styles of Legio VI and it is accordingly included in that unit's group.

Droop, Ant. J. XIII, 30-32; plate VI facing 30.

65. The upper part of an altar from near Mumrills; now in the National Museum, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by Cassius, a standard

bearer. It is carved in gritty sandstone. The height of the stone is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It is 10 inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

The focus is elliptical, irregular in shape and sunken (type Ala).

From side to side it measures 4 inches internally; it measures 2 inches from front to back. The depth is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters, (type 5).

The central profile is formed by convex arcs which meet in a deep central groove (type 6).

The altar is moulded on three sides. The upper moulding is a small torus. Below this there is a sagging cyma reversa moulding and then another small torus.

The altar probably comes from the later second century and it may well be the product of a mason trained in the school of Legio VI for the central profile is similar to those of the legionary stones from the River Tyne at Newcastle (23, 24). The sagging cyma reversa moulding indicates that the mason was out of touch with classical conventions.

RIB 2141

Macdonald, PSAS LXXIII, 245-246; plate LXXX facing 246.

66. An altar from Newcastle; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter for the welfare and victory of the Emperor. It is carved in coarse sandstone and is 24 inches high. It is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 8 inches high,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with an ovoid body and wide neck (type B2), set diagonally across the shaft. The sinister side bears a relief of a patera with raised rim and umbo, set obliquely with the bowl to the front and base of the stone.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped, with grooved central straps (type B2a). The ends are plain.

The focus is circular with raised rim and umbo (type A2c). It is attached to the front of the capital by a spout-like projection (upper surface type 6/10). The internal diameter is 4 inches. It is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), and curves upwards to form a central profile of type 5.

The altar is moulded on three sides and has a chamfer at the back. At the capital there is a torus, a *cyma reversa* and a stepped-in fillet. At the base a stepped-out fillet surmounts a *cyma reversa*, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is clearly of second-century date as the bolsters and focus mount indicate. It apparently belongs to the group of altars carved by masons trained in the workshops of Legio VI.

RIB 1316

Spain, AA<sup>4</sup> X, 109-110; plate IX facing 110.

67. An altar found south west of the Roman fort at Old Carlisle; now built into the garden wall of the Cumberland County Council's Childrens' Home, Greenhill House, Wigton.

The altar is dedicated to Belatucadrus by Aurelius Tasulus, a veteran, and is carved in red sandstone. Only the face of the stone is visible. The altar is  $26\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches

high and 9 inches wide.

The die is plain.

It is impossible to see the sides of the shaft.

The altar does not seem to have had traditional bolsters but these are suggested by the carving of circular mouldings on the front of the capital.

The focus cannot be seen but it seems likely that the top was flat and that none exists.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7). The top of the capital is flat but between the roundels of the bolsters there is a gable in low relief within which a double gable is incised. The base of these gables is also incised and a perpendicular groove, dropped from the apex, bisects the base line.

It is clear that the altar was moulded on at least three sides. At both capital and base there is chamfer, somewhat irregular in shape. At the front of the base the chamfer is cabled and below it two smaller mouldings, the upper one cabled, echo the shape of the lateral profile. These small mouldings do not reach the edges of the stone.

The altar is a good example of the new-style altars of the third century. The "enlarged" fascia, so big that it has swallowed up the bolsters, and the chamfered mouldings are typical of the post-Severan age. Also interesting is the shape of the central profile, now incorporated into the mass of the capital, but clearly representing a devolved form of the pediment and of the "enlarged" fascia of 40. It seems likely that the veteran who dedicated the altar and who may well have carved it, had served with Legio VI.

RIB 887

LS 831

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 113, no. 2.

68. The upper part of an altar from Ribchester; now in Ribchester Museum.

The altar is dedicated for the welfare and victory of the Emperor Caracalla and his mother Julia Domna. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is 26 inches high,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 20 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is outlined by two bead mouldings forming a panel  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are decorated with panels outlined by a plain border  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and enclosing vine scrolls. On the dexter side of the stone the scroll faces the front; on the sinister side the scroll faces the rear.

The top of the stone is now flat although Watkin reports that when first discovered part of the capital remained, and that it was removed in order to support a large slab on which a bust could rest.

The fascia appears to have been rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The altar is moulded on three sides and has chamfers at the back. A cyma recta marks the transition to the shaft.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 212-217. It is difficult to place into a definite workshop although the use of the vine scroll and the panelled die lend support to the view that it belongs to that of Legio VI.

RIB 590

Watkin, 143-144; fig., 143.

69. An uninscribed altar from South Shields; now in South Shields Museum.

The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is 9 inches high,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 3 inches high,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches

wide and 3 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are broken.

The focus is circular, dished (type Ala), set on a lozenge-shaped platform with concave sides (upper surface type 13). It has an internal diameter of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3) and rises in arcs to a truncated gable (type 3). The back of the capital is similar.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the front of the capital there are two tori; at the sides there are three. There are two tori at the base.

This small altar may well be the work of a mason of Legio VI. The upper surface has something in common with that of 73 which was found at York.

70. An altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is dedicated to the god Arciaco and to the Emperor's Numen by Mat.... Vitalis, centurion. The dedicator's unit is not specified but the form of the capital and the style of lettering suggest that it was not Legio IX Hispana. It is almost certainly Legio VI. The altar is carved in gritstone. It is 24 inches high, 12 inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and 12 inches wide.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain and curve slightly at the inner side to frame the focus (type F). The fronts are decorated with drilled holes; five survive on the sinister bolster.

The focus is circular, dished with slightly raised rim (type A2b). It oversails the bolsters (upper surface type 5). The internal diameter is 7 inches. The depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. The focus fills the area above the fascia and between the bolsters so that the upper profile of the capital

is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5). The central profile of the fascia is in the shape of a pediment (type 1), outlined by a bead mould. An incised supine crescent is the central decorative feature.

The altar is moulded on the front only. At the capital there are three stepped-in tori. At the base there are two stepped-out tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The bolsters with curving inner edge and the enlarged fascia suggest that the altar is at home in the first part of the third century. The use of the drill is noteworthy but can give no clue as to date.

RIB 640

Ebur. 118, no. 40; plate 43.

71. An altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses of the household by Gaius Julius Crescens. It is carved in limestone. The altar is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 8 inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is enclosed in a cyma-moulded panel  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and 6 inches wide.

The dexter side of the shaft is ornamented by raised, round-ended straps, springing alternately from the top and bottom of the stone. These still retain their colouring; the straps are red and the field in which they are set is yellow. The sinister side of the shaft is fluted: large stopped flutings, coloured red, alternate with irregularly spaced grooves, some close together and others wide apart.

The bolsters have now gone.

The focus is broken but a fragment remains and seems to have had a rim. It was probably circular.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and concave. This is a feature appearing on an uninscribed altar from Birrens (148).

The front of the capital is broken but the fragment remaining suggests that the focus mount was between the bolsters (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two tori, a bead and an inverted cyma reversa. At the base there is a large, stepped-out cyma reversa, two bead mouldings and a small plinth.

The altar is elegantly carved and must have presented an impressive appearance in its original state. The concave fascia, paralleled on an altar carved most probably by a mason of Cohors II Tungrorum, suggests that this stone too is the product of a military workshop. Cohors II Tungrorum is a unit associated with Legio VI in the second century and, as this altar comes from York, it seems reasonable to ascribe it to that legion's craftsmen. It may be significant that a man of the same name as the dedicator set up a statue base at Birrens.

RIB 652

Ebur., 118, no. 38; plate 43; fig. 81.

YMH, 38, no. 15.

72. An altar base from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

Only the base and part of the shaft survive. On the plinth the letters S P R appear; these may be a forgery. The base is carved in limestone. The stone is  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 8 inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

At the front of the die there is pilaster with two vertical grooves and double-torus moulded base.

The stone has been moulded on three sides. An ovolo, two tori and a stepped-out plinth occur in descending order from the shaft.

The pilaster-bordered die and the provenance of the altar make it possible to associate the stone with the workshops of Legio VI.

RIB 664

Ebur., 118, no. 41.

73. An uninscribed altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. It is 28 inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a relief of an axe with curved blade, square-ended beyond the haft (type 2). There is simple wreath on the sinister side of the shaft.

The bolsters are cylindrical with broad straps (type A2c). The ends are damaged.

The focus is circular, dished (type Ala), and attached to the straps of the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 14).

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5). The front of the capital is damaged but it seems likely that the central profile was in pediment form (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus flanked by fillets. At the base, there are two tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The presence of the axe on the shaft makes it likely that this stone was produced in a military workshop. As it is from York the most probable source is the workshop of Legio VI.

Ebur., 118, no. 45; plate 44.

YMH., 45, no. 25.

74. An uninscribed altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. It is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The shaft bears carvings in relief on all four sides. At the front of the stone, three Mother Goddesses sit in a round-headed niche, their right arms folded diagonally across their breasts, their left hands in their laps. On the dexter side, in a similar niche, stands a figure in knee-length cloak, holding with both hands an offering, possibly a dead animal, in front of him. The sinister side of the shaft depicts two figures in ankle-length cloaks over long tunics, standing in a round-headed niche. The shorter of the two figures carries an offering, grasping it with the left hand and steadying it with the right. The larger figure grips the fold of his cloak with his left hand. At the back of the shaft a boar in relief runs towards a jar or urn.

The bolsters are now damaged but they may have had swelling centres (type B1).

The focus is now broken but has been circular.

There is neither fascia nor focus mount.

The upper profile of the capital is now flat.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the base there is a torus and a plinth.

The altar is weathered and has been mutilated. The bolsters, if cigar-shaped, and the figure sculpture on the shaft accord with the legionary styles of Legio VI and it seems likely that this stone was carved by a soldier, perhaps a veteran.

Ebur., 118, no. 42; plate 45.

YMH, 37, no. 13.

75. An uninscribed altar from Dunnington near York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 8 inches wide and 9 inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 6 inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a much damaged object which may be a guttus. On the sinister side there is an axe with curved blade, square-ended beyond the haft (type 2), and a broad bladed knife of type 2.

If there have been any bolsters they have been plain (type 1a).

The focus is circular, dished with a rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is 6 inches. The depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The central profile is a pediment, sunken and outlined by a bead moulding (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cabled fillet, a torus and a plain fillet. At the base there are three tori and the plinth.

The presence of the knife and axe point to a military origin for the stone and, as it was found near York, the most likely mason is a soldier of Legio VI.

Ebur., 118, no. 47.

Proctor W. in ed. Bowman W., Reliquiae Antiquae Eboracenses (Leeds 1855), 86-87 with fig., 86.

YMH., 46, no. 31.

76. An altar or pedestal of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $47\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $28\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $28\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel 21 inches wide, flanked by rounded attached shafts.

The sides of the shaft are panelled and edged by a plain border 1 inch wide. On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid

body, long neck and round mouth (type B5). The base is shallow but wide. On the sinister side of the shaft there is a long-handled axe with straight-sided blade. It is damaged but may well have been of type 4. A triangular-bladed knife also appears on this side of the shaft (type 4).

There are no bolsters.

A rectangular socket occupies the centre of the upper surface of the capital (type B5a). It measures  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back and 7 inches from side to side. It is 2 inches deep.

The front of the capital is damaged but at the back of the capital there is a rectangular fascia (type 1), narrow.

The upper profile of the capital cannot be determined. At the back the stone is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in fillets. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, two tori and a plinth.

The size of the stone and the presence of the sacrificial implements and vessel suggest a military origin. The rounded attached shaft may indicate the influence of Legio VI (40).

77. An altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum at Chesters.

Most of the inscription is obliterated and no dedication survives. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is 42 inches high, 18 inches wide and 17 inches thick. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an axe of type 1. A handled patera set obliquely with the bowl towards the front and base of the stone appears on the sinister side while the back of the shaft bears a handle-less patera with two concentric rims.

The sinister bolster remains. It is plain (type Ala).

There is no focus; the top of the capital is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and is decorated by four bucrania in relief within a sunken panel.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), sweeping upwards in two concave arcs to form a central profile of type 4.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a sagging cyma reversa and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a small angular torus, a cyma reversa and three small tori. At the sides of the base there are two instead of three small tori.

The central profile of this altar connects its mason with Legio VI and the presence of the sacrificial vessels and axe confirms the view that the stone is of military origin. The decorated fascia is unique. It is impossible to be precise about the auxiliary unit to which the mason belonged although it may well be that it is legionary work.

RIB 2073

Budge, 339, no. 197.

Chesters Cat., 32, no. 229.

78. The lower part of an altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Durham and Newcastle Universities Excavation Committee's hut at Corbridge.

The inscription is defective. The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. The stone is 19 inches high, 14 inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft the blade of an axe (type 3 or 4) survives. The sinister side is less damaged and here there is the bowl of a patera or strainer, carved base uppermost with projecting umbo. The vessel is set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Two tori appear at the front

of the stone.

The presence of the sacrificial axe and vessel suggests that the altar is the product of a military workshop. If the bowl is that of a strainer, as the umbo seems to indicate, it may well be that the altar comes from Chesterholm for two stones with this motif have been found on that site, one a product of Legio VI (26); the other stone is 400.

JRS LII, 195, no. 22.

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Auxiliary units using templets similar to those of Legio VI ~~ca~~ carving altars from designs similar to those of the legion.

Ala Tungrorum

The one altar from this unit has the curved central profile of type 3, associated with Legio VI and is therefore included with the regiments of that legion's "school".

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79. An altar from near Mumrills fort; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules Magusanus by Valerius Nigrinus, duplicarius of Ala Tungrorum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is  $33\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 9 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), but are damaged at the front and the back.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and high umbo (type A2c). It is attached to the bolsters by uncut ridges of stone and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 8). The internal diameter is 4 inches and the depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged" but damage to the bolsters makes its relationship to them obscure. The centre profile of the capital has been formed by twin concave arcs, emphasised by a groove, and probably giving a profile of type 3.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a bead

moulding outlining the fascia and below it a fillet inclined outwards, a bead and two torus mouldings, the lower chamfered to the shaft. At the base there are two tori, one bead, one fillet inclined inwards, one bead and the plinth.

The altar is probably of second century date. The fascia suggests that it belongs to the latter part of the period.

RIB 2140

Macdonald, 417-8, no. 33; plate LXXIV, 1.

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Cohors I Baetasiorum

Six altars naming Cohors I Baetasiorum are extant.

The shaft and die, in every instance, are plain.

It is clear that by the Antonine period, this unit was receiving templets from Legio VI. The cigar-shaped bolster had been adopted by its masons by the time the cohort reached Maryport. Other features of the unit's altars seem to reflect different influences. The unusual capital of the one surviving altar from the Antonine Wall with its large bolsters, large, flat-bottomed, flat-rimmed focus and "enlarged" fascia in which bolster-ends and fascia are in one plane, is the same as that of an altar of Ala Augusta Vocontiorum from Newstead, which is presumably to be associated with Legio XX. At Maryport, the altars are of distinctive style with round, raised foci standing high above the upper surface, and carved independently of any other feature. The focus mounts are also free-standing. Four of the stones are without fasciae. It is tempting to speculate that the Maryport altars, all carved on four sides and much of a size, reflect the styles of an earlier period, perhaps those of Legio IX Hispana. The inscriptions all bear the formula V S L L M, a form used by Legio IX (RIB 659)

The altars from Maryport fall within a narrow time-scale; only two prefects are mentioned and the carving is clearly the work of one man. If Cohors I Baetasiorum were stationed at Maryport after the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall in or about A.D. 158, then, these altars ought to date from the next decade. The set of templets used at Bar Hill was still part of the unit's equipment at Maryport.

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80. An altar from Bar Hill fort; now in the Hunterian Museum,  
Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated by Cohors I Baetasiorum to a deity unspecified. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 37 inches high, 17 inches wide and

$16\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches high,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and, although damaged, seem to have had plain ends.

The focus is large, almost circular and has a flat rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It touches the bolsters and is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 10). The internal diameter from side to side is 10 inches and the depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6). It is carved in one plane with the ends of the bolsters.

The front of the capital is now damaged but the central profile seems to have been flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a torus, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and carved from a set of templets used by Legio VI, and two small stepped-in fillets. At the base the order is reversed and there is a plinth. The cyma moulding of the base is set out with the same templet as that used for the capital. This set of templets was also used while the unit was stationed at Maryport.

The altar probably comes from the early Antonine period when the cohort was in garrison at Bar Hill.

RIB 2169

Macdonald, 424-425, no. 41; plate LIII, 2.

81. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to the Victory of the Emperor by Cohors I Baetasiorum under the command of Ulpus Titianus. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 17 inches high, 12 inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), tapering slightly towards the front.

The ends are plain.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is 6 inches and the depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to a rounded central profile (type 1/2).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and taken from a set of templets emanating from Legio VI, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a plinth.

The altar probably belongs to the decade following the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall c. A.D. 158.

RIB 843

Bailey, 145, no. 35; plate V facing 146.

82. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Military Mars by Cohors I Baetasiorum under the command of Ulpus Titianus. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $35\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and set back from the edges of the capital. The ends are plain.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). The internal diameter is 6 inches. The depth is 1 inch.

There is no fascia.

The front of the capital is damaged but there survives a platform

from the bolsters on which the focus rests (focus mount type 2).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs set out with a templet from the same set as that used by masons of Cohors I Hamiorum c. A.D. 163 at Carvoran, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a plinth.

The altar probably belongs to the decade following the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall c. A.D. 158.

RIB 838

Bailey, 144, no. 32; plate IV facing 145.

83. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Baetasiorum under the command to Titus Attius Tutor. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches high,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped (type B1), set back slightly from the edges of the capital. The ends are damaged but at the sinister side there is a groove, apparently all that is left of an incised roundel.

The focus is small, circular, dished with umbo (type A2c) raised well above the upper surface of the capital. The diameter is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1) and now damaged.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a torus, a fillet and another torus. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a plinth.

The altar probably dates from the decade following the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall c. A.D. 158.

RIB 830

Bailey, 143, no. 27; plate II facing 143.

84. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Military Mars by Cohors I Baetasiorum under the command of Titus Attius Tutor. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is  $36\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the width is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is 14 inches. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The sinister bolster has gone but the dexter is cigar-shaped (type B1), with a plain end.

The focus is circular and steeply dished (type A2a). The internal diameter is 7 inches. It is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to form a semi-circular profile (type 2).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a torus and two stepped-in fillets. The base has the same mouldings in reverse and there is a plinth.

The altar probably belongs to the decade following the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall c. A.D. 158.

RIB 837

Bailey, 141, no. 17; plate I, facing 139.

85. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to the Emperor's Victory by Cohors I Baetasiorum under the command of Titus Attius Tutor. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 37 inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The one surviving bolster is small and cigar-shaped (type B1). It has a plain end.

The focus is large, circular and steeply dished (type A2a). The internal diameter is 7 inches. The depth is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is damaged but has been "between the bolsters" (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a torus and two stepped-in fillets. These mouldings are reversed at the base although the torus is larger and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the decade after the re-occupation of Hadrian's Wall, c. A.D. 158.

RIB 842

Bailey, 143, no. 38; plate III facing 144.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Baetasiorum.

86. A fragment of the sinister side of the capital of an altar, from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The fragment is carved in red sandstone. It is 9 inches high, 7 inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The surviving bolster is cylindrical (type A1a).

The fascia is carved in one plane with the fronts of the bolsters (type 6). This is reminiscent of the fasciae carved by masons of Cohors I Baetasiorum and the stone may well belong to their workshop.

The central profile of the capital sweeps down from the bolsters in a style favoured by the school of Legio VI.

87. The lower part of an uninscribed altar or pedestal from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is 39 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the base there is a cyma reversa inverted, based on intersecting arcs, cut from the same templet as one used by masons at Birrens (148). At Birrens the moulding is probably the work of Cohors II Tungrorum, a unit associated with Legio VI. This suggests that Cohors I Baetasiorum is the most likely of the known Maryport units to have produced this stone.

Bailey, 142, no. 22.

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Cohors I Delmatarum

The small group of altars dedicated by this cohort all come from Maryport and date from the Antonine period. If Cohors I Hispanorum remained in garrison at Maryport into the early part of Antoninus Pius' reign, Cohors I Delmatarum's tour of duty there would fall into the second half of the second century, say after the new frontier dispositions of c. A.D. 158. Publius Postumius Acilianus may have been in command at the moment of transfer with Lucius Caecilius Vegetus succeeding him.

The unit had a well-founded sculptural tradition which seems to have had affinities with that of Cohors I Baetasiorum. One large altar has panelled sides bearing representations of Mars and Hercules, and a scroll decoration in relief on the fascia. A pedestal of unique design has on each side a gable within which, in a sunken pentagon, a fine six-petalled naturalistic rosette is carved. The quality of the carving of this stone is remarkable and must represent the best work of the regimental masons.

"Enlarged" fasciae with central profiles of type 3 were used.

The chief mouldings are cymas reversa and fillets.

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§8. A base from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The stone is dedicated to Jupiter by Acilianus, a prefect of Cohors I Delmatarum. It is carved in red sandstone. The base is now set in another base from which it projects  $33\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The width of the stone is 12 inches and it is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 10 inches wide and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1). Within the fascia, there is on each side an irregular pentagon containing a six-petalled, naturalistic rosette.

The capital is moulded on four sides. A very fine cyma reversa based on tangential arcs is stepped-in to the shaft.

Acilianus is known to have been in command of Cohors I Delmatarum during the reign of Antoninus Pius (RIB 832), and the stone must therefore fall within the period A.D. 139- 161.

RIB 833

Bailey, 142, no. 19; plate I facing 139.

89. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to the gods and goddesses by Paulus Postumius Acilianus, prefect of Cohors I Delmatarum. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is  $44\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 19 inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

Most of the die has now flaked off but sufficient remains to show that it has been plain. Stukeley's drawing depicts a sunken panel.

The sides of the shaft bear reliefs of deities set within sunken panels. On the dexter side Mars appears clad in helmet and tunic, holding his shield at his right side and grasping his lance with his left hand. On the sinister side, Hercules stands astride, the pelt of the Nemeaan lion over his left shoulder, and holding his club in his right hand and the apples of the Hesperides in his left. The apple tree appears behind his left shoulder. The head of the hero is in profile.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the altar is

now flat.

The fascia has flaked away at the front of the stone but survives at the sides. It is rectangular (type 1), deep, and decorated with a design of scrolls in relief below which two fillets appear.

The altar has been moulded on three sides although at the front the mouldings have been chiselled off. At the sides of the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a cyma reversa, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar belongs to the reign of Antoninus Pius, for Postumius Acilianus was in command at Maryport during this period.

RIB 810

Stukeley, It. cur. ii, 48; plate 73: sinister relief very inaccurate.

Horsley, 280, Cumb. LXV

Bailey, 140, no. 9.

90. The lower part of an altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The inscription is defective but mentions Cohors I Delmatarum and a prefect, restored as Postumius Acilianus. The stone is carved in red sandstone. It is  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and 21 inches thick.

The mouldings surviving on the front of the base are four stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

If the prefect is correctly restored the altar must date from the reign of Antoninus Pius.

RIB 847

Bailey, 147, no. 46.

91. An altar from Maryport now in the Museo della Civiltà Romana, Rome. This altar has not been examined at first hand.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Delmatarum under the command of Lucius Caecilius Vegetus. It is carved in red sandstone. It is 39 inches high. According to Bailey it is 16 inches wide but RIB gives this dimension as 25 inches.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and have ends decorated with naturalistic four-petalled rosettes.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo (type A2c). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7).

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6).

The central profile is of type 3.

The mouldings of the capital are a stepped-in fillet, a *cyma reversa*, the convex arc of which has been ornamented by cabling, and another stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar must belong to the middle years of the second century when the cohort was stationed at Maryport.

RIB 831

Bailey, 144, no. 30; plate III facing 144.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Delmatarum.

92-93. The two altars dedicated at Maryport by Hermione, daughter of Quintus, are clearly from the same hand. They are much of a size, with bolsters, foci and elaborate mouldings.

Nearest to these stones in regard to mouldings is a fragment

from Port Carlisle and this is accordingly grouped with them. They all appear to be of second century date, and may be the products of a military workshop. The shape of the focus mounts and the cyma reversa moulding of 93 suggest that, if the stones are of military origin, they come from the workshop of Cohors I Delmatarum.

92. An altar, broken across the shaft; from Maryport; now in the Museum, Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to the Valour of the Emperor by Hermione, daughter of Quintus. It is carved in red sandstone. The back of the altar has been cut away. The altar is 46 inches high, 18 inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with straps leading over the bolsters but not encircling them completely (type A2b).

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front of the capital and to the straps of the bolsters (upper surface type 9). The focus has been  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches in internal diameter and is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It forms a central profile of type 4 (two concave arcs joined by a horizontal), into which a semi-circle is recessed.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a small torus, an elongated, inverted cyma reversa, a fillet, a torus and a fillet, stepped and inclined inwards. At the base there are two debased tori, a debased cyma reversa and a plinth.

RIB 845

LS 868

Hutchinson, Cumb. II, plate III, 29.

Bailey, 140, no. 10.

93. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Juno by Hermione, daughter of Quintus. It is carved in gritstone. The altar is 42 inches high,  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

The focus is elliptical with the long axis from side to side. It is dished with pointed umbo projecting above the edges of the dish (type Alb). It is attached to the bolsters by uncut ribs of stone (upper surface type 2). From front to back the focus measures 9 inches; it measures  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches from side to side. The depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It takes the form of two gables (central profile type 9 modified). The back of the capital has the same shape.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs, a bead moulding, a cyma reversa and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is an ovolo, a stepped-in cyma reversa and a plinth.

RIB 813

Bailey, 148, no. 52.

94. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter but the rest of the inscription is defective and the name of the cohort commanded by the prefect setting

up the stone is not preserved. The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is 33 inches high,  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 16 inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters have gone although they retain their shape at the sides of the stone.

The focus is elliptical with the long axis from side to side. It is sunk into the top of the capital (type Ala). From front to back it measures  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches. From side to side it measures 8 inches and it is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6), and cut in one plane with the ends of the bolsters. It is inscribed.

The central profile of the capital is now flat (type 10). The top of the capital seems to have been shaved off.

The mouldings of the altar are a torus and two stepped-in fillets at the capital, and a slightly hollowed chamfer and a stepped-out plinth at the base.

The altar seems to fit best into the group carved by masons of Cohors I Delmatarum since the fascia may be paralleled on 91. The stone probably dates from the later part of the reign of Antoninus Pius or the early years of his successor's reign.

RIB 834

Bailey, 143, no. 23.

95. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The inscription of the altar is defective. The altar is carved in red sandstone and is  $27\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is 16 inches wide and 12 inches thick. At the side of the shaft the vertical measurement is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The shaft is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The end of the dexter bolster is decorated with a six-petalled rosette in relief. The front of the sinister bolster is damaged.

The focus is circular with a flat bottom and probably a pointed umbo (type B7a). It is attached to the front and the back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is 7 inches and it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6), and carved in one plane with the ends of the bolsters. It is decorated with a band of interlocking semi-circles, alternately convex and concave, the resulting petal shapes being hollowed.

The central profile of the capital is of type 3. In the middle, within an incised roundel, there is a six-petalled rosette in relief within a raised rim.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet and a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs. At the base the templet is reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The cyma mouldings of this altar are almost identical with those of the altar to the Gods and Goddesses set up by a prefect of Cohors I Delmatarum (89) and the fascia may be compared with that of 91. This suggests that this stone comes from this unit's workshop for the same templet has been used for the mouldings of both altars. The shape of the capital is similar to those carved by masons influenced by the styles of Legio VI, and the "enlarged" fascia may be paralleled on an altar of Cohors I Baetasiorum from Bar Hill (80). Nevertheless the altar is best placed with those of the Delmatae.

RIB 836

Bailey, 147, no. 50.

96. The upper part of an altar from Port Carlisle; now built-in over the door of Hesketh House, Port Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by soldiers. The stone is now painted navy blue but is apparently carved in red sandstone. The fragment is 10 inches high and 6 inches wide.

The die is plain.

The fronts of the bolsters are plain.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It rises to give a central profile of pedimental shape (type 1).

Only the front of the stone is visible but the main element in the mouldings is an elongated, inverted cyma reversa such as appears on 92. Below this, two small, angular tori seem to be set.

RIB 2055

LS 521

Bruce, Wall 3, 303.

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Cohors I Hamiorum Sagittariorum

The masons of Cohors I Hamiorum have a distinctive sculptural style which may stem from early recruiting in Syria.

The focus is an important feature of the altars. The earliest example has a two-handled dish; another has a base sloping gently upwards to the centre.

The capital is often decorated. The most usual form of central profile is a gable (type 1).

By A.D. 163 the unit was using templets supplied by Legio VI but its masons maintained their traditional patterns. In particular, the cable, chevron and rosette designs enriching the mouldings of the fascia may be noted.

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97. An altar from Carvoran; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Emperor's Fortune for the welfare of Lucius Aelius Caesar by Titus Flavius Secundus, prefect of Cohors I Hamiorum. It is carved in pinkish sandstone and is  $25\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. It is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are small and plain (type Ala), with damaged ends.

The focus is in the form of a handled dish with a double rim and umbo. The internal diameter is now  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2) and decorated. The topmost element of the fascia is a plain fillet. Below this there is a cabled torus and a fascia with sunken chevrons rising from its lower edge.

The focus mount is "extended" (type 5d), but barely projects beyond the bolsters. It rises to form a central profile of pedimental shape (type 1), and both the front and the back display an incised roundel in the apex.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a torus and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there are three stepped-out fillets, another fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 136-138.

RIB 1778

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> I, 249-250, with fig., 250.

Cat. Ant., 58, no. 13.

98. An altar from near Bar Hill fort; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus by Caristianus Iustianus, prefect of Cohors I Hamiorum. It is carved in buff sandstone and is  $36\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. The width of the altar is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is now  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick. The altar has a separate base  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $27\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 25 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The sinister side of the shaft bears a relief of a knife with triangular blade (type 4).

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and damaged.

The focus is circular with a flattish rim and a bottom which slopes gently upwards towards the centre where there is a small hole (type A4c). It is attached to the bolsters by uncut ridges of stone and to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6/8). The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep at the sides and  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch deep in the centre.

The fascia and the focus mount are both very damaged and it is not possible to ascertain their form.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the dexter side of the capital there seems to have been a cyma reversa. Presumably this moulding was also present at the front of the stone. The mouldings are best preserved at the sinister side of the base; here there is a small torus, a large torus, a small torus and the plinth.

The altar must date from after c. A.D. 161 when Cohors I Hamiorum was stationed at Bar Hill.

RIB 2167

Macdonald, 425-426, no. 42; plate LIII, 3.

99. An altar from near Carvoran; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to the Goddess Syria by Licinius Clemens, prefect of Cohors I Hamiorum. It is carved in sandstone. It is 30 inches high and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and 14 inches wide.

The die is plain and so are the sides of the shaft as far as these can be seen.

The bolsters have gone and the focus, if any, is built in.

The fascia is damaged and it is impossible to ascertain the original shape. It is decorated. There have been two rows of five rosettes, each with six petals outlined in relief within a raised rim. The upper row is much damaged. A bar saltire links each rosette of the lower row to its neighbour and a band of chip-carved bar chevron completes the design.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there is a shallow stepped-in cavetto. At the base there is a torus, a cavetto

and a plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the period of Calpurnius Agricola's governorship in Britain, A.D. 163-c. 166.

RIB 1792

Bruce, Wall 3, 400 with fig.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Hamiorum Sagittariorum.

100. An altar from near Bar Hill; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The inscription of the altar is defective but the deity honoured appears to have been Apollo. The altar is carved in coarse sandstone and is  $38\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. It is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel with a plain, flat border.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is in relief a quiver full of arrows. The sinister side bears a relief of a bow, while a laurel wreath with ribbons appears on the back.

The bolsters are cylindrical with three well-spaced straps (type A4a). At the back of the stone the letters I and M have been cut on the ends of the sinister and dexter bolster respectively. Originally there was a grooved roundel on the end of each.

The focus is circular with a double moulded rim and a small concentric rim in the middle of the flat bottom (type B7d). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). It measures  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded and decorated (type 2). The topmost fillet is ornamented by a herring-bone design in relief. Below this, a band of sunken chevron, set with the base of the triangles to the bottom of

the stone, surmounts a row of pellets. Two plain flattish tori complete the design.

The focus mount is "extended," slightly curved under the bolsters and outlined by a moulding (type 5b). It rises to form a central profile of type 1 (pediment). At the front of the stone an incised roundel occupies the centre of the pediment.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital a stepped-in chamfered fillet makes the transition to the shaft. At the base there are three stepped-out fillets, two flattened tori and a stepped-out plinth.

This altar seems to belong to the workshop of Cohors I Hamiorum. The decorated fascia, the sunken chevron pattern and the pediment with central roundel may all be paralleled on other altars from masons of this unit. The unusual focus too accords well with the importance placed on this feature by the Hamii. The stone no doubt comes from the same period as 98 and 101.

RIB 2165

Gordon, 55; plate 13, 1.

Macdonald, 427.

101. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Bar Hill.

The names of the deity and of the dedicator are not preserved. The stone is 16 inches high. Another fragment of the same altar is said to have been 14 inches high.

According to the drawing in RIB, reproduced from Skinner's manuscript, the altar had bolsters the ends of which were decorated with spirals in relief.

Nothing is known of the focus.

The fascia is apparently moulded (type 2), and decorated. A band of bar chevron is the central element of the design. It is difficult

to determine whether the remaining mouldings of the fascia are tori or fillets.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It is of pedimental form (central profile type 1), and seems to have been outlined by a moulding. Within the pediment there is a roundel in relief.

The lowest moulding seems to have been a torus.

The altar may have been carved by a mason of Cohors I Hamiorum for the decorated fascia and focus mount accord with the sculptural traditions of that unit.

RIB 2168

See RIB for drawing from ms.

102. The upper part of an altar from Carvoran; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. There is no well defined capital.

The front of the shaft bears a representation of a figure, apparently female, standing beside an altar in a round-headed niche. The sinister side of the niche retains traces of palm leaf decoration. On the dexter side of the shaft there is in relief an axe, and a knife, both now broken. On the sinister side there is a guttus with ovoid body, long neck and small spouted mouth (type B1), and a patera set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a).

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

There is no fascia at the front of the stone but, at the dexter side, there is a panel bounded on the upper and lower edges by a torus

moulding and enclosing two bosses with incised crosses. At the sinister side there are three of these motifs. The presence of the solar disk as a decorative feature of this altar calls to mind the use of the motif on building stones of Cohors I Hamiorum found near Carvoran and suggests that masons of that unit were responsible for carving the altar.

There are no surviving mouldings.

If the altar is to be attributed to Cohors I Hamiorum it probably dates from the late Hadrianic period when the unit was stationed at Carvoran.

RIB 1785

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> XII, 285-286; fig., 285.

Budge, 340, no. 202.

Chesters Cat., 27, no. 177.

103. The upper part of an altar from near Carvoran; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Hammia. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is 11 inches high, 6 inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters do not survive.

The top of the altar is damaged and only faint indications of the focus may be seen.

The fascia is damaged but, from the sides of the capital, may well have been moulded.

Nothing remains of the focus mount and central profile.

The altar is moulded on three sides and has a chamfer at the back. At the sinister side of the capital there is a torus, a bead moulding and a chamfered fillet. Of these probably only the last two represent the mouldings proper.

The dedication to the goddess Hammia and the find-spot of the altar suggest that the stone is the work of a soldier of Cohors I Hamiorum, the unit known to have been at Carvoran by A.D. 136-138.

RIB 1780

Bruce, Wall 3, 400 with fig.

104. The upper part of an uninscribed altar from Carvoran; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

Nothing of the die and shaft survives.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and do not reach the front of the capital. At the front they are decorated with a rim and boss.

The focus is rectangular with flat bottom and rim (type B6a). It is raised above the front of the capital. It is damaged at the back.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5), and accommodates a bust of a deity.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the sides of the capital there are two flattened tori. At the front there is a cabled bead moulding and a fillet.

Budge, 359, no. 287.

Chesters Cat., 17, no. 33.

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Cohors I Thracum

No altars of this unit date from earlier than Severan times.

Three altars survive, one of them a fine example. The earliest stone is built into a wall and impossible to examine fully.

Two of the stones have plain dies; the third is panelled. This stone has a patera and guttus carved on the shaft.

The two accessible altars have had plain bolsters. One of them has a mortarium-shaped focus. The other focus is damaged.

Both these stones have probably had "enlarged" fasciae. One of them is decorated with rosettes and bar saltires.

The mouldings of the largest stone are cut from templets of Legio VI. The peltae carved on a monumental slab of Cohors I Thracum (RIB 740), have affinities with these on a stone of Cohors I Vardullorum from High Rochester, a unit whose connection with Legio VI is well attested.

At the turn of the third century Cohors I Thracum seems to have been under the general supervision of Ala Vettonum at Binchester (RIB 730) but, if Horsley's drawing of a lost stone from Binchester is to be trusted, there seems to have been little connection between the sculpture of the two regiments.

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105. An altar from Bowes; now built in to a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune and commemorates the restoration of a bath-house for Cohors I Thracum under the supervision of Valerius Fronto, prefect of Ala Vettonum. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 29 inches high and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The die is plain.

It is impossible to see the sides of the shaft.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is inaccessible.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and inscribed.

The profile of the front of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides at least. At the capital there is a shallow cavetto. At the base there is a stepped-out cavetto.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the period of Virius Lupus' governorship of Britain, A.D. 197- c.202. As the formula does not mention Caracalla as Augustus it must have been cut before news of his elevation to the purple reached Britain.

RIB 730

Horsley, 304, Yorks. I; 352.

Wooler, YAJ XXII, 407.

106. An altar from Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

The altar is dedicated to Vinotonus by Lucius Caesius Frontinus, prefect of Cohors I Thracum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is 64 inches high,  $29\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 23 inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The inscription is in a sunken panel outlined by a cyma reversa moulding. The panel is  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and 19 inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are panelled and bear reliefs of sacrificial vessels. On the dexter side there is a guttus with concave base, ovoid body, long neck and small spouted mouth (type B1). On the sinister side there is a deeply recessed dished patera, with ridged, ram-headed handle, set obliquely with the bowl towards the front and

base of the stone.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and set back from the edges of the capital. The ends are damaged.

The focus is mortarium-shaped. The internal diameter of the dish is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is damaged. At the dexter side a portion survives to show that it has been elaborately decorated. Above two tori enriched with alternate cable pattern there is a rosette with six petals outlined in relief set in a rim. Adjoining this motif there has apparently been a double row of chip-carved bar saltires.

No trace of the focus mount remains.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a large cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and carved from the same set of templets as one used by Cohors I Vardullorum, a unit shown to have been associated with Legio VI. Two stepped-in fillets complete the scheme. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is dated by Wright to the first half of the third century.

RIB 733

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 113-115. (1); plate I facing 110.

107. An altar from Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum,  
Barnard Castle.

The altar is dedicated to Vinotonus by Julius Secundus, centurion of Cohors I Thracum. It is carved in mill-stone grit. The height of the altar is  $44\frac{1}{4}$  inches. It is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The dexter bolster has gone but the sinister bolster is plain (type Ala), although damaged at the front.

No trace of the focus remains.

The fascia is damaged.

There is no clearly defined focus mount.

The central profile of the capital is almost flat though there is a slight suggestion of a pediment.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. At the base there are two stepped out tori, the upper one smaller than the lower, and a stepped-out plinth.

Cohors I Thracum was stationed at Bowes during the Severan and post-Severan periods and this altar must come from that time. Wright suggests that a date in the first half of the third century is more likely than one in the latter part of the period and there is nothing in the style of the altar to indicate that it is of significantly late date. The first half of the third century is entirely appropriate.

RIB 732

JRS XXXVI, 146-147, no. 1; plate X, 1, 2.

Wright, YAJ XXXVI, 383-386; figs. 1 and 2, inserted between 384 and 385.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Thracum.

108. Part of the capital of an altar from Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

Only one letter of the inscription remains. The altar is carved in gritstone. It is 13 inches high, 10 inches wide and 5 inches thick.

The bolster survives and this is plain and has a plain front (type Ala).

Nothing remains of the focus.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5), and inscribed.

Nothing is known of the central profile of the capital.

Part of a torus or cyma reversa moulding is preserved below the fascia.

The shape of the fascia suggests that the altar dates from the third century.

RIB 736

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 115, no. iii.

109. A fragment from the dexter side of a capital of an altar from Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

Of the inscription only the first two letters of the word DEO survive. The altar is carved in gritstone. The fragment is 9 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 3 inches thick.

The bolsters have had plain ends.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It rises to form a central profile of pediment shape (type 1).

The mouldings only survive in part. A torus with inscription remains. It is unusual to find lettering on a curved moulding of this kind.

As the stone was found in the shrine of Vinotonus it most probably dates from the same period as other altars from the site and

may be attributed to the third century.

RIB 735

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 115, no. ii.

110. A fragment from the sinister margin of an altar, found in the shrine of Vinotonus, Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

The letter M remains on the stone.

The fragment is carved in sandstone. It is 6 inches high, 3 inches wide and 4 inches thick.

The edge of the stone is bevelled.

RIB 738

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 115, no. v.

111. Three fragments from the same site and possibly from the same altar; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

1. A plain bolster (type A1), 5 inches in diameter.

2. Two pieces of a base, 11 inches high, 17 inches wide and 7 inches thick. Fillets survive at the sinister side of the base.

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 115, no. v, (a) and (b).

112. A fragment from the top of an altar from the shrine of Vinotonus, Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

The fragment is carved in sandstone. It is 9 inches high,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

Only one groove of decoration remains.

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXVII, 115-116, no. vii.

113. A fragment of bolster from the shrine of Vinotonus,  
Scargill Moor; now in the Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle.

The fragment is carved in gritstone. It is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter and 2 inches thick.

The end of the bolster has a boss with incised cross. This is reminiscent of the decorated umbo of the patera carved on the shaft of an *alta* from Birrens (136).

Richmond and Wright, YAJ XXXVII, 115, no. vi.

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Cohors I Vardullorum

Cohors I Vardullorum served on the Antonine Wall and by A.D. 175 to 178 was in garrison at Lanchester. Eleven altars may be ascribed to its workshops, all of them well carved and interesting.

The die is usually, although not invariably, plain, and the shaft is commonly left unadorned.

Bolsters may be cigar-shaped but are usually plain with ends ornamented by designs of concentric circles, either grooved or in relief. Foci, where they exist, are usually flat-bottomed and may be square or oval in shape.

Fasciae are either deep or "enlarged". In the second century the central profile of the capital may be a pediment (type 1), or may be formed by concave arcs linked by a horizontal (type 3), or by convex intersecting arcs (type 6). In the third century the top of the capital is usually flat.

The cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs is a popular moulding. The mouldings of a second century altar from Lanchester (117) are carved from the same set of templets<sup>as</sup> those of altars from Binchester (123, 385), while those of two other stones of Cohors I Vardullorum (116, 120) are from the same templets as those of an altar of Cohors I Thracum from Bowes (106). This points to a close connection between the forts of Bowes, Binchester and Lanchester.

At High Rochester in the third century the masons of Cohors I Vardullorum used the swastika as an ornamental motif, a device also used at Piercebridge on an altar now lost. From Piercebridge too comes a stone decorated with vertical flutings, a feature to be noted at Lanchester (130), at Chesterholm (161) in a unit also associated with Legio VI and at Brough on Noe (51). It seems that the influence of Legio VI is to be seen in this simple means of ornamenting a fascia.

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114. An altar from Castlecary; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Neptune by Cohors I Fida Vardullorum under the command of Trebius Verus, prefect. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $36\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. It has a plain border.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are outlined by a groove and the sinister bolster has an incised saltire.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The focus measures internally from side to side  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches, and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back. It is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5). It springs from the bolsters and forms a central profile of two concave arcs linked by a short horizontal (type 3). A sunken cockle shell with the valve uppermost adorns the centre of the fascia. The platform upon which the focus is placed rises above the outline of the fascia.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a large, inverted cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a small torus moulding. At the base there is a torus, an inverted cyma reversa, a scotia and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the second century. The central profile of the capital may be paralleled on mid-century stones from Birrens although the sagging cyma mouldings suggest that a date rather later than that would be appropriate.

RIB 2149

Stuart, 350; plate XIV, 2 facing 348.

Macdonald, 421-422, no. 37.

115. The upper part of an altar from Lanchester; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to the Deity of the Emperor and to the Genius of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum under the command of Flavius Titianus, tribune. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 27 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped with a central groove (type B2a). The ends are plain.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). The internal diameter is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," sloping under the bolsters (type 4). It rises to form a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs and two stepped-in fillets.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years when Quintus Antistius Adventus was governor of Britain, c. A.D. 175-178. Wright points out that as only one emperor is mentioned the stone must antedate Commodus' admission to the imperial position on 27 November, 176.

RIB 1083

LS 685

Hutchinson, Durh. II, 364; plate facing 360, no. 17,1.

Budge, 360-361, no. 301.

Chesters Cat., 40, no. 311

116. The lower part of an altar from Lanchester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is inscribed on the front in Latin and on the back in Greek. The stone is dedicated to Aesculapius by Titus Flavius Titianus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 20 inches high, 13 inches wide and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, an inverted cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and cut from the same set of templets as those used by Cohors I Thracum (see 106) in the early third century, and a plinth.

Flavius Titianus was tribune of Cohors I Vardullorum under Q. Antistius Adventus, c. A.D. 175-178, so that this altar may be attributed to the workshop of that unit. The templets used by the unit are interesting for here, as in 120, there is a link with Cohors I Thracum.

RIB 1072

Horsley, 293-4, pref. xi, Durham XXV.

Cat. Durh., 9-10, no. V; figs., 9.

117. An altar, broken across the shaft, from Lanchester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Fida Vardullorum. It is carved in coarse sandstone. It is very damaged at the dexter side. The altar is  $40\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The capital is so damaged that it is impossible to comment upon the nature of the bolsters and focus, if these existed.

The fascia, too, is damaged but, if it has been rectangular, is deep.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and a stepped-out plinth. The templets from which the cyma mouldings are cut are from the same sets as those used by masons at Binchester (123, 385).

The altar must date from the later second century, when the cohort was stationed at Lanchester.

RIB 1076

Horsley, 294-5, Durh. XXVI

Cat. Durh., 12-13, no. IX; fig., 12.

118. An altar from Milecastle 19; now in the Department of Archaeology, The Old Fulling Mill, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by a detachment of Cohors I Vardullorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 30 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 13 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The inscription is in a sunken panel 8 inches wide with a plain border at each side.

The sides of the shaft are panelled. On the dexter side there is a relief of an axe with curved blade square-ended beyond the haft (type 2). The blade is set towards the front of the stone. On the sinister side, a triangular-bladed knife (type 4), is placed horizontally with the blade nearest the back of the altar.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). At the front of the capital they are indicated by an incised line.

The focus is rectangular with rounded corners. It has a rim and

flat bottom (type B6a). It is not placed in the middle of the upper surface, but is nearer to the front than to the back of the capital. The internal dimension from side to side is 5 inches; it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters, (type 5). It rises to form a central profile of two small rounded gables separated by a groove (type 6). The back of the capital has the same shape.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are three small tori and a small stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a chamfered fillet, two small tori and a plinth.

The altar was found outside the south gate of the milecastle on a level with the footings of the milecastle wall. Professor Birley notes that the altar must have been covered by the first raising of the road surface there so that the altar is unlikely to be later than the second century in date.

RIB 1421

Birley, AA<sup>4</sup> IX, 205-210; plate XXVI facing 205.

119. An altar from High Rochester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Minerva and to the Genius of the guild by Caecilius Optatus, tribune. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $47\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are decorated with a rim enclosing a lens-shaped moulding.

There is no focus. The top of the altar is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and decorated with a design of incised wavy lines.

The focus mount is "extended," straight under the bolsters (type 5a). The upper profile is flat (type 10). The focus mount is richly decorated. Immediately within the bolsters there is at each side a roundel of two concentric rims with a sunken centre, suggesting the existence of a second pair of bolsters. Between the bolsters and the roundels there is an elegantly shaped cavity, curving inwards from each side of a base parallel to the fascia. The central motif of the focus mount is a sunken roundel which encloses an incised saltire. Reversed swastikas occupy the field between the central roundel and those with moulded rims.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus enriched by a cable decoration carved in two sections; the grooving slopes outwards and downwards from the centre of the moulding towards the edges of the capital. Below this there is a larger torus, a torus enriched with cabling in two sections, but here sloping outwards and upwards from the centre, and two stepped-in fillets. The scheme is rounded off by a row of stepped dentils, fifteen at the front and seven at each side. The base mouldings are a stepped-out fillet, two tori and a plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to c. A.D. 213 for the tribune is known to have been in command at High Rochester at that time. He probably commanded Cohors I Fida Vardullorum.

RIB 1268

LS 546

Richmond, NCH XV, 149, no. 21

120. An altar from High Rochester; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to the Goddess Roma by the duplicarii of the Numerus Exploratorum Bremaniensium. It is carved in buff sandstone. It is difficult to determine the exact height of the stone for it is set in cement; if the cement is excluded from the measurement the

altar is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches high; if it is included in the measurement, the altar is  $38\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. The stone is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, and  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are not visible.

There are no signs of bolsters.

The focus, if any, is built in.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At both capital and base there is a cyma reversa cut from the same templet based on intersecting arcs. This templet is from the same set as that used by Cohors I Thracum at Bowes in the early third century (106). The moulding is inverted at the base and there is a stepped-out plinth.

Richmond suggests A.D. 213 as a likely date for this stone. It seems clear that the altar belongs to the third century for it has all the hallmarks of that period. It is probable that masons of Cohors I Vardullorum were responsible for carving the altar for they were no doubt more experienced in stone working than were the frontier scouts.

RIB 1270

Richmond, NCH XV, 149, no. 19; plate facing 64.

121. An altar from High Rochester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Genius of the Emperor and of the standards of Cohors I Vardullorum and of the Numerus Exploratorum Bremaniensium. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 47 inches high,  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top is roughly flattened.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7) and inscribed.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a small torus and a cyma reversa moulding based on intersecting arcs. At the base the cyma moulding is inverted and there is a fillet above the plinth. The templet used for the mouldings is the same as that used to set out the mouldings of 126.

The altar is a good example of third century styles. It is dated by the inscription to the reign of Gordian A.D. 238-244.

RIB 1262

Richmond, NCH XV, 148, no. 16; plate facing 64.

122. An altar from High Rochester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Genius and standards of Cohors I Vardullorum by Titus Licinius Valerianus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone but has been burned and split in two vertically. The altar is  $39\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is 15 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are set back from the edges of the capital. The front of the dexter bolster is undamaged and shows that the ends were decorated with three concentric rings in relief with a sunken centre.

The focus is circular with rim, flat bottom and large umbo with depressed centre (type B7c). It fills the area between the bolsters and touches the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 10). It measures 8 inches internally and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," straight under the bolsters (type 3). It rises to form a flat central profile (type 10) which almost extends across the whole space between the bolsters. The fascia is decorated; an incised supine crescent is flanked by incised swastikas.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The mouldings of the capital are inverted at the base. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and a stepped-in fillet. At the base, in addition to the mouldings there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is clearly from the third century but probably comes from the earlier part of the period.

RIB 1263

Richmond, NCH XV, 148, no. 17; plate facing 148.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Vardullorum.

123. An altar from Binchester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Marcus Valerius Fulvianus, prefect of cavalry. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $29\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B3). The handle stands well away from the body. In shape the guttus may be paralleled by an extant example from Erd.<sup>1</sup> The sinister side of the shaft bears a relief of a patera with

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1. Radnóti, op. cit., plate XLIX, 4.

large umbo with depressed centre, set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone.

The bolsters are damaged.

The focus is circular with flat rim and flat bottom (type B6a).

The internal diameter is 6 inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The capital is much damaged and it is impossible to ascertain the type of fascia, focus mount or upper profile.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the back of the capital there is a large cyma reversa moulding based on intersecting arcs, cut from the same set of templets as the base of an altar of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum at Lanchester (117). The mouldings of the base are damaged.

As the altar is so damaged it is difficult to date. Nevertheless the cyma moulding, cut from a set in use at Lanchester in the later part of the second century, suggests that this stone ought to be placed in the same period or that immediately following it, so that a date in the years c. A.D. 170-213 might be appropriate.

RIB 1029

LS 715

Cat. Durh., 8-9, no. IV; fig., 8.

124. An altar from Featherwood, three and a half miles north of High Rochester fort; now in the porch of the parish church of the Holy Trinity, Horsley-on-Rede.

The altar is dedicated to Victory and Peace by Julius Melanicus. It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is  $51\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 19 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the altar is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the capital the mouldings are very worn but they seem to have been two large tori. At the sides of the capital there is a torus, a fillet inclined outwards and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a fillet, a fillet inclined inwards, a torus and stepped-out plinth.

The third-century shape of the capital of this altar suggests that it was set up by a man, and obviously, from the size of the stone, a wealthy one, from the nearby fort. The dedication of the stone points to the military status of the erector so that it seems likely that Julius Melanicus was connected with Cohors I Fida Vardullorum or with Numerus Exploratorum.

RIB 1273

Haverfield, AA<sup>3</sup> XII, 204 with fig. of text.

Richmond, NCH XV, 150, no. 24.

125. An altar from High Rochester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Minerva by Flavius Severinus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $45\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 20 inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the altar is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), and decorated. Two six-petalled rosettes with moulded petals set in sunken roundels suggest the existence of bolsters. Between these motifs another roundel enclosing a four-petalled rosette forms the central device of the capital. The areas between these three rosettes is occupied by palm branches in relief, surmounting sunken roundels with supine crescents in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The mouldings of capital and base are cut from the same templet. At the capital there is an ovolo, a wide fillet and a small, flattened torus. At the base these are reversed, and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar clearly belongs to the third century and is to be attributed to the workshop of Cohors I Vardullorum.

RIB 1267

LS 547

Richmond, NCH XV, 150, no. 22.

126. An altar from High Rochester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Minerva by Julius Carantus, singularis consularis. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 37 inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick. The shaft is 15 inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the altar is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), and decorated. Three rosettes with sunken petals are placed in line across the fascia. Each is set in an incised roundel. The central motif has four petals with an incised arc between each. The outer pair has six petals; that on the dexter side has tiny holes in four of the interstices.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a *cyma reversa* moulding based on intersecting arcs and cut from the same templet as 121. At the base there is a stepped-out plinth and the moulding is inverted.

The shape and decoration of this altar and the templet used to set out the moulding point to an origin in the workshop of Cohors I Vardullorum

during the third century, probably in or near Gordian's reign.

RIB 1266

LS 548

Richmond, NCH XV, 150, no. 23.

127-128. The two fragments of bases following are clearly from one hand. They are linked by their proportions and by the cabled torus which is the main element of the mouldings. This may be paralleled on an altar from Greetland (407), which comes from the same workshop as stones from York (407-409). If, as seems likely, these bases date from the third century, they probably come from masons of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum, a unit whose connection with Legio VI has been established.

127. The lower part of an altar from High Rochester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules. It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 4 inches thick. The shaft is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 4 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a relief of Hercules' club.

The altar is moulded on three sides and has a rough chamfer at the back. A large torus moulding, cabled at the front of the stone, is set above a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1264

LS 549

Richmond, NCH XV, 150, no. 25.

Cat. Durh., 26, no. XXX with fig.

128. The lower part of an altar from High Rochester; now at Redesdale Cottage, Horsley on Rede.

The name of the deity to whom the altar has been erected is not preserved. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 7 inches high, 6 inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and 4 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The altar is moulded on four sides. A small torus is set above a torus cabled on three sides, and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1275

PSAN<sup>2</sup> III, 322.

129. An altar from Lanchester; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Vitiris by a princeps. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 5 inches high,  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a).

The focus is circular with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). It measures internally  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches and is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The front of the capital is damaged and it is impossible to determine the shape of the fascia; it is inscribed.

The shape of the focus mount is not clear, and the central profile seems to have been either flat or to have had a low pediment (type 10 or 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is an

elongated cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. The moulding is inverted at the base and there is a plinth.

The altar seems to be the product of a military workshop and may be best attributed to that of Cohors I Vardullorum in the second century.

RIB 1088

LS 691

Cat. Ant., 72, no. 58.

130. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Lanchester.

Only the word DEO is preserved. No measurements are given.

The die is plain.

As far as can be ascertained the shaft is plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep, and decorated with vertical flutings.

The altar is apparently moulded on at least three sides. The capital is separated from the shaft either by a simple step or by a chamfer.

The shape of the altar suggests that it is of late second or third century date. As the altar was found at Lanchester it seems best to suggest that it is from the workshop of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum.

RIB 1089

LS 690

131. An altar, now lost, from near Piercebridge.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Condates by Attonius Quintianus, surveyor. The height of the stone is given by Gale as 11 inches and the width as 8 inches.

In both Gale's and Horsley's drawings, the die is a sunken panel

with a plain border.

The bolsters appear to be cylindrical, although Gale's drawing does not carry them across the capital. The ends are inscribed, each with one letter of the inscription.

Gale's drawing depicts the focus as circular and sunken (Ala).

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 3). In the centre there is a swastika, apparently incised. The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded. At the capital there is a large torus. At the base there is a smaller torus and stepped-out plinth.

The last line of the inscription is on the plinth.

The "filled-in" focus mount suggests that the altar is of fairly late date, not earlier than the third century. The absence of fascia may also point in the same direction, while the swastika motif links the altar with those of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum from High Rochester (119, 122). It seems likely that masons responsible for this stone had been trained in the same traditions as those of the Vardulli.

RIB 1024

Gale, Ant. It., 49; fig., 50.

Horsley, 296-7, Durh. XXXII.

132. A fragment of the dexter side of a capital of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The fragment is carved in buff sandstone. It is 10 inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The surviving bolster is plain (type Ala).

The focus has been large, circular and dished although without

real rim (type A2b). It displays signs of burning.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1). The side of the capital retains a design of undulating grooves, reminiscent of those decorating the fascia of an altar of Cohors I Vardullorum (119), and a band of lozenges in relief on a fillet.

The focus mount is between the bolsters (type 1).

The central profile is in the shape of a pediment (type 1).

The altar retains mouldings on one side. Here there are three stepped-in fillets.

It seems possible that the stone has come from High Rochester and is from the workshop of Cohors I Vardullorum.

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Cohors II Gallorum

Only two altars, both of them now lost, are known from the workshops of Cohors II Gallorum at Old Penrith. One of them, dated A.D. 244-249, with flat top, chamfer and deep inscribed fascia is a fine example of the new styles of the third century. From Horsley's drawing, the other seems either to have had a flat-topped capital with bolsters indicated only at the front of the stone, or to have had angular straps over the bolsters. The fascia is shown as having designs of incised chevrons and saltires. This is interesting in view of an extant altar of Cohors IV Gallorum from Castlesteads which has exactly this decoration on the fascia, although it lacks the bolster ends and torus mouldings and, if the Old Penrith stone is to be thought of as third century, must come from an earlier period. The striking similarity between the altars suggests that the two units belong to the same sculptural tradition, or that the numerals of the inscription were mis-read. Horsley is emphatic, however, that the cohort is II Gallorum rather than IV Gallorum.

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133. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Old Penrith.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Titus Domitius Heron for Cohors II Gallorum. No dimensions are preserved.

From Horsley's sketch the die seems to be plain.

Traditional bolsters do not seem to exist, although at the front of the stone roundels with rims seem to have marked their place.

No details of the focus are preserved.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and decorated with a band of chevron. The nature of this pattern is not clear.

The focus mount is filled in (type 3 $\alpha$ ), and is decorated with a

band of lozenge pattern although it is impossible to be certain of its exact nature.

Two torus mouldings survive at the capital and one at the base.

The shape of the capital, characteristic of the new styles of the third century, places this stone securely in that period. The decoration of the capital is significantly like that of an altar set up by Cohors IV Gallorum. On this account the altars of Cohors II Gallorum are placed in the group of stones carved by masons who had been influenced by the styles of Legio VI, for Cohors IV Gallorum can be shown to have been connected with the legion stationed at York.

RIB 917

Horsley, 275, Cumb. LII.

134. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Old Penrith.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Genius of the Emperors Philippi by Cohors II Gallorum. No dimensions are preserved.

According to Horsley's drawing the shaft is plain.

There are no bolsters.

The fascia is apparently "enlarged" (type 7) and is inscribed.

The upper profile of the altar is flat.

The capital is separated from the shaft by a chamfer.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 244-249, a dating which accords well with the general style of the capital.

RIB 915

Horsley, pref. xx, Cumb. LIIa.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors II Gallorum.

135. An altar from Old Penrith; now in the British Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Belatucadrus and to the Deities of the Emperors by Julius Augustalis, actor of Julius Lupus, prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $30\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is 16 inches high,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters.

There is no focus.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7) and inscribed. It is decorated with crudely carved cable moulding at the top and at each side.

There is no focus mount. The central profile is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the stone, at both capital and base, there are two fillets, stepped-in at the capital and stepped-out at the base. At the sides of the altar chamfers take the place of the fillets at both the upper and lower end of the shaft.

Haverfield suggested that this altar belonged to Cohors II Gallorum and there is nothing improbable in this. The altar is clearly of third century date.

RIB 918

Rooke, Arch. IX, 220; plate XVII

Haverfield, CW<sup>2</sup> XIII, 185, no. 5.

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Cohors II Tungrorum

The series of altars carved by masons of Cohors II Tungrorum at Birrens is perhaps the finest in the whole of Britain. Six altars mention the unit by name and four others may be attributed to the workshop.

The die may be either plain or panelled and the shaft, although usually plain, may have sacrificial implements.

The bolsters are either cylindrical or cigar-shaped. The ends are usually decorated with geometric, rosette-like designs, sometimes with linking raised arcs. There is a wide variety of focus; one of them is a two-handled dish; another resembles an inverted fluted bowl.

Fasciae are often beautifully decorated with leaves, arcades and supine crescents. One of the altars carries a representation of a domed niche with door. The characteristic focus mount is from the bolsters (type 2), with central profile of type 3.

The mouldings are always well cut and in most instances are cymas<sup>s</sup> reversa. The masons of this unit used enrichments such as cable, bead and reel and chip-carved chevron.

The altars date from the period about A.D.158 when the cohort was in garrison at Birrens. They show several stylistic influences. The cyma mouldings are based on templets provided by Legio VI, from whose masons the cigar-shaped bolsters and central profile of type 3 seem to come. The affection for the supine crescent seems to belong to Legio XX although it may come from Leon, where crescents on triangular bases similar to those on three of the Birrens altars are not unusual. There is some evidence for the presence of Legio VII Gemina in Britain (ILS 2726), and the motif may either stem from this unit or from a recruit from the Leon region to Cohors II Tungrorum. The elaborate ivy-leaf scroll on one of the stones is based on that of an enamelled plaque from Tungria while the bolsters ends of one altar may be paralleled from Regensburg.

It is difficult to account for these interesting motifs. The likeliest explanation would seem to be that ideas for them were brought to the unit by recruits. The Raetians serving in the unit may be mentioned in this connection (RIB 2100). Or it may be that the skilled craftsmen responsible for the altars were constantly picking up new motifs and stocking their notebooks with them. This may have happened, for instance, when a detachment of the unit was serving in Raetia.

At Castlesteads in the third century, the unit decorated its altars to Jupiter with wheels and thunderbolts.

Bolsters are plain and foci circular. Bands of solar disks and lens-shapes ornament the capitals.

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136. An altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the Discipline of the Emperor by Cohors II Tungrorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 39 inches high, 23 inches wide and  $19\frac{5}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a dished patera with umbo decorated with an incised saltire, set obliquely with the bowl towards the back and base of the stone. The rim of the bowl is ornamented by a cable moulding. The handle is ram-headed. The shaft is bordered by a cable moulding and a tiny cabled bead runs down the centre to terminate in a leaf-shaped feature at the rim of the bowl. On the sinister side of the shaft there are representations of an axe and knife. The axe is of the pick-axe variety (type 1). The knife has a broad blade tapering to the tip (type 2).

The bolsters are cylindrical (type Ala). At the outer sides there are three large, spaced out, dished rosettes with eight bi-lobed petals and centre bosses. This is a unique feature. The closest parallel is the altar on the bolsters of which bosses are carved (140). The fronts of the bolsters are ornamented by dished rosettes of four angular bi-lobed petals with bossed centres. All the rosettes are set within larger roundels which provide a plain frame for the motifs.

The focus is in the form of a two handled dish. The dish is circular and measures  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches internally. It is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. One handle survives. This is cabled. The focus is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7).

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3) and decorated at both back and front. At the sides and at each side of the front of the capital there is a band of bead and reel design bordered at both the upper and lower edge by tiny chip-carved chevron. In the centre of the front, a small arched niche with fan vault appears. The entrance is flanked by baluster-shaped columns girdled by double bead mouldings and with moulded capitals and bases. Upon the pillars rest large chamfered imposts supporting triple archivolt mouldings, the outer one cabled. The doors of the niche are suggested by two rectangular panels in mitred frames, each having a double border at the inner side. The doors do not rise to the full height of the niche and their upper limit is marked by a cable moulding and band of tiny chip-carved chevron. The doors rest on three baluster-shaped shafts which may well depict an open, fenced enclosure in front of the niche. The niche is perhaps best understood as a sacellum. The back of the capital is broken but it is clear that there has been a cantharus or urn in the centre and that it has been flanked by small, four-petalled rosettes in relief with bossed centres.

The central profile of the capital springs from the bolsters and has the form of two concave arcs linked by a broad horizontal (type 4).

The edge is outlined by a cable moulding.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and underpinned by a row of small dentils. At the base there is a cabled torus, a bead moulding, an inverted cyma reversa and a plinth.

This altar is one of the most elaborately decorated and best executed in Northern Britain.

RIB 2092

Brown, B., PSAS XXX, 171-172.

Macdonald, J., ibid., 130-132, no. 4; 131, fig. 9.

137. An altar from Birrens; now in the Burgh Museum, Dumfries.

The altar is dedicated to Minerva by Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Gaius Silvius Auspex, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $49\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 17 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is enclosed in a double bead moulding  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are decorated. On each side there is a panel with a flat border in which a pattern of ivy leaves, each with the median vein indicated, appears in relief. The designs are not identical. On the dexter side the leaves meander without botanical form but on the sinister side they spring from an upright stem. The free-er motif is apparently based on that of an enamelled plaque in the museum in Karlsruhe.<sup>1</sup>

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1. See I, p.92f.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). At the front, the ends are decorated with six-petalled rosettes outlined in relief; the tip of each petal is linked to its neighbour by a similar petal and the motif is set within a rim.

The focus is circular with a flat rim. Within the dish there is a second rim and umbo with sunken centre (type A3c). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches; it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep, and decorated. The front and sides have panels outlined by a bead moulding. The central motif of the front of the fascia is a roundel with two concentric rims and umbo with sunken centre. Flanking this, a pair of dolphins with incised eyes, two dorsal and two ventral fins, and tail in six segments, face each other, their snouts touching. In each of the spandrels formed by the corners of the panel and the backs of the fishes, a bird, standing on a bar and in profile, faces outwards. The type of bird is not clear; the reliefs might be intended for sea-birds or perhaps for ravens<sup>1</sup>. The sides of the fascia have designs of ivy leaves. At the dexter side three leaves form the pattern; on the sinister side four leaves are arranged symmetrically.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a central profile of concave arcs linked by a short horizontal (type 3). The main interest of the front of the focus mount is given by a supine crescent on a pedestal base in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a *cyra reversa* based on tangential arcs.

The base of the altar is decorated with motifs which complement those of the fascia. Panels outlined by a bead moulding are to be

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1. See I, p. 101.

found on the front and sides. The central motif of the front panel is a bird, similar to those of the fascia and facing the dexter side of the stone. Flanking this, and facing the sides of the altar, is a pair of dolphins of the same type as those on the fascia but with tails in three parts only. At the sides of the base there are ivy leaf designs carved from the same pattern as that on the sinister side of the fascia.

This altar is clearly from the same hand as 138 and 139.

RIB 1204

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 152-155, no. 16; 153, figs. 21, 22, 23.

138. An altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Mars and to the Emperor's Victory by Raetians serving in Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Silvius Auspex, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 54 inches high, 23 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 21 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die is plain although the last line of the inscription is punctuated by incised ivy leaves and a roundel of two concentric circles and boss with sunken centre.

The shaft is plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and large. The fronts are decorated with rosettes, the six petals of which are outlined in relief and the tips joined by petals of similar type. The motif is set within a rim.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and decorated. A panel

outlined by a bead moulding encloses a design of five ivy leaves in relief.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). The central profile is of type 5. This is reminiscent of the central profiles of altars of Cohors I Hispanorum from Maryport. The crescentic outline is emphasised by a supine crescent in relief, carved parallel to the upper profile and resting, not on a pyramidal support, but on the central one of three convex semi-circles outlined in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At capital and base there are cyma reversa mouldings cut from the same templet and based on intersecting arcs. The templets are from the set used to carve the mouldings of 139 and were used by masons of Legio VI. There is a bead moulding at the narrower edge of each moulding and the base moulding is inverted. At the base there is an extended plinth; below the mouldings there is a decorated band separated by a groove from a plain fascia 3 inches wide which is chamfered to a roughly finished socle.

The decorated panel at the front of the base is outlined by a bead moulding. Four pairs of ivy leaves with median vein point the eye upwards to the shaft.

The altar is clearly linked with 137 and 139 by its inscription, general shape and decoration.

RIB 2100

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 155-157, no. 18; 156, fig. 25.

139. An altar from Birrens; now in the Burgh Museum, Dumfries.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Viradecthis by men serving in Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Silvius Auspex, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is  $29\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is 13 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped (type B1). The ends are outlined by a rim and each displays a boss decorated with a rosette of four double-grooved petals. This motif calls to mind the decorated bolsters of an altar in the Museum at Regensburg where the rosettes are carved on bosses (Plate F).

The focus is circular with flat rim and umbo with inner boss (type A2f). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to form a central profile of concave arcs linked by a broad horizontal (type 4). In the centre of the focus mount there is in relief a supine crescent resting on a pyramidal support.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs carved from a templet from a set used by Legio VI (23) and used for another altar made by the same masons at Birrens (138). At the base there is a smaller version of the moulding and a stepped-out plinth.

Professor Birley points out that the dedicators of the altar were recruited apparently in either Belgic Gaul or Lower Germany. The decoration of the bolsters suggests that the mason was one of the Raetians mentioned on 138.

RIB 2108

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 142-144, no. 11; 143, fig. 16.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXV, 58.

140. An altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Ricagambeda by men serving

in Cohors II Tungrorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 44 inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical (type Ala) but have on the outer sides, two bosses, flat at the dexter side and rounded at the sinister side. This is a unique feature. The fronts of the bolsters are ornamented by seven-petalled rosettes outlined in relief and set within an incised roundel.

The focus is in the form of an inverted bowl with seventeen flutings and an umbo with sunken centre. It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The diameter of the bowl is 6 inches.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). An inverted cyma reversa based on tangential arcs is set above a fillet.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It rises to form a central profile of concave arcs linked by a short horizontal (type 3). The outline of the central profile is emphasised by a groove. An incised supine crescent provides a third arc below the horizontal of the focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a large cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs and cut from the same templet. At the base the moulding is inverted and there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 2107

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 157-158, no. 19; 157, fig. 26.

141. An altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to all the gods and goddesses by a soldier of Cohors II Tungrorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The

stone is  $27\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 21 inches high,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is enclosed on three sides by a cable moulding and by a plain torus at the lower edge. The inscribed panel is 21 inches high and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide. Below the inscription there are two incised supine crescents.

The shaft is plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) with dished fronts and large bosses.

There is no focus.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5).

The central profile is formed by two concave arcs linked by a broad horizontal (type 4).

Mouldings appear only on the front of the stone. At the capital there is the cabled torus framing the die. At the base an irregular, rounded moulding marks the lower edge of the shaft.

RIB 2109

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 158-9, no. 20; 158, fig. 27.

142. An altar from Castlesteads; now in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor by Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Tiberius Claudius Claudianus. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 50 inches high,  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and is now 11 inches thick. The shaft is  $27\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a thunderbolt in relief in the shape of a double-ended, three pronged pitch-fork. The sinister

side bears a wheel with ten spokes and rim in relief. The hub is pierced.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The front of the capital is defaced and it is not possible to ascertain whether the ends of the bolsters were decorated.

The focus is large, circular and raised above the level of the bolsters. It is dished with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

The frontal fascia is damaged but the sides of the capital have rectangular fasciae, interestingly decorated; a row of vesicae piscis outlined in relief is set above a band of pointed arches also in relief. The elliptical motif may be compared with that decorating the fascia of an altar from Cologne.<sup>1</sup>

The form of the focus mount is not clear, although the front of the capital seems to have been pediment-shaped (type 1). The back of the capital has a rectangular central profile.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two cant mouldings. At the base there are two angular tori.

The altar is dated by its inscription to A.D. 241.

RIB 1983

Hutchinson, Cumb. I, 110; plate facing 103, 14.

Bruce, Wall 3, 278-279; fig., 278.

TH. Cat., 9-10, no. 23.

143. An altar from near Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Albius Severus, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The

1. Schoppa, Römische Götterdenkmäler, 58, no. 52; plates 50 and 51.

altar is 49 inches high,  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $26\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is in relief a thunderbolt with twisted prongs. On the sinister side there is a six-spoked wheel with pierced hub.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at the front.

The focus has gone but it seems to have been circular and sunken.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1, narrow) and decorated. At the front of the stone a band of solar disks runs across the width of the stone. At the sides of the capital a band of bar saltires separated by vertical ribs takes the place of the solar disks. All these decorative strips are executed in chip carving.

The front of the capital is damaged and it is not possible to ascertain the type of focus mount or central profile.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a small torus and a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. The same mouldings are reversed at the base and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The style of the decoration of the shaft of this altar links it with 142 which may be dated A.D. 241. It seems appropriate therefore to place this stone in the same period. The use of solar disks to decorate the fascia of 153 may also be noted.

RIB 1981

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 206-7, no. 1; 206, fig. 2.

144. An altar, now lost, from Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors II Tungrorum under the command of Aurelius Optatus, prefect. No measurements are recorded.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an angular thunderbolt in relief, identical in shape with that appearing on the reverse of a coin of Tiberius<sup>1</sup>.

From the drawing in Gibson's Camden, the bolsters seem to have been small and may not have been cut separately from the capital. The ends have rims and, perhaps, bosses.

No details of the focus are preserved. On the drawing the top of the altar appears to be flat.

The fascia seems to have been rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and decorated. A band of seven arches, apparently outlined in relief, is the main decorative element, although at the upper edge of the fascia there is a tiny chevron pattern. It is not possible to determine whether this is incised or in relief.

The focus mount is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5c). It is ornamented by a central roundel in the apex, of a pediment formed by raised or incised diagonals from each side of which chevron patterns project. From the lowest point of these diagonals vertical ribs similarly decorated reach the top of the capital and others slope to meet the top of the bolsters. Similar bands run along the outer edges of the focus mount. The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar has mouldings at capital and base. At the capital there seems to be a bead moulding, a large, cabled torus, a smaller, stepped-in torus, a stepped-out torus, and a cabled bead. The base mouldings seem to have been a stepped-out cavetto, a fillet, an inverted cyma reversa decorated with a band of chevron pattern in relief with the

1. Robertson A.S., Roman Imperial Coins in the Hunter Coin Cabinet, University of Glasgow, I, Augustus to Nerva (London 1962), 61, no. 16; plate 10.

base of the triangles at the top, two tori, the lower of which is decorated with cable pattern, and a plinth, although this is very small and seems to be chamfered.

RIB 1982

Gibson's Camden II, 1035 with fig.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum

145. A statue base from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The base is dedicated to the Deity of the Emperor and to Mercury. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is 31 inches and it is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the stone is flat and roughly tooled.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The base is moulded only at the front of the stone. At the capital there is a fine cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs and cut from the same templet as the smaller capital moulding of 140, an altar carved by masons of Cohors II Tungrorum. This base no doubt comes from the same workshop. There is a stepped-out plinth.

The base may be ascribed to the second century and to Cohors II Tungrorum.

RIB 2103

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 138-140, no. 8; 138, fig. 13.

146. An altar from Birrens; now in the Burgh Museum, Dumfries.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Harimella by an engineer,

(architectus). It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is  $27\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 11 inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are ornamented by rosettes with six petals outlined in relief set within a rim.

The focus is circular with flat rim, flat bottom and umbo not quite accurately centred (type B7b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and touches the bolsters (upper surface type 10). The internal diameter is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches; it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It forms a central profile of concave arcs linked by a short horizontal (type 3). A pellet appears in the centre of the focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs.

It seems clear that this altar is from the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum. The decorated bolsters, the flat rim of the focus, the type of focus mount and the cyma mouldings based on intersecting arcs are all characteristic of this unit's work in the mid-second century.

RIB 2096

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 141-142, no. 10; 141, fig. 15.

147. A fragment of an altar, now lost, from Birrens.

As only the upper dexter portion of the altar is recorded, the inscription is imperfectly preserved. No measurements of the stone are given.

The die is enclosed in a moulded panel.

The dexter side of the shaft, as far as it survived, is plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The end of the remaining example is decorated with a rosette with six petals outlined in relief and tips linked by a moulded arc, set within a rim.

No details of the focus survive.

There seems to have been no fascia, if reliance can be placed in Macdonald's drawing.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), apparently rising in concave arcs to the central profile which seems to be rounded. In the centre of the focus mount there is a rosette, probably similar to that carved on the end of the bolster. A fragment of an arch between the bolsters and the central rosette remains.

Macdonald's drawing shows mouldings at the dexter side of the stone. These seem to be a projecting fillet, and a bead mould set at an interval below it.

This altar has stylistic affinities with the stones dedicated to Minerva, and to Mars and the Emperor's Victory by soldiers of Cohors II Tungrorum (137, 138). The panelled die is paralleled on the first of these altars, while the arch of the focus mount is reminiscent of the ornamentation of the comparable feature of the other stone. The rosettes of the bolsters were no doubt of the same type as those on both these altars. It seems safe therefore to attribute the fragment to the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum at the same period as the other stones.

RIB 2101

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 155, no. 17; fig. 24.

148. An uninscribed altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is  $36\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 21 inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 12 inches

wide and 11 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cigar-shaped, banded by a cabled strap (type B2b). From the straps three lance-shaped thunderbolts with cabled shafts project towards the front and back of the capital. The ends of the bolsters are dished with bosses.

The focus is circular, dished (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is concave. It is ornamented by a band of leaves, either elm or beech, on three sides.

The focus mount is "extended", curved under the bolsters (type 5c), springing from the bolsters in concave arcs to form a central profile of type 4. A cantharus in relief occupies the central zone.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs cut from the same templet as 87. At the base there is an inverted cyma reversa, two stepped-out fillets, a cavetto, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The cigar-shaped bolsters, the central profile of the capital and the cyma reversa mouldings based on intersecting arcs point to an origin in a workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum. This view is reinforced by the cantharus on the front of the capital, a motif which appears on the back of the capital of another stone carved by masons of this unit (136).

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 132-133, no. 5; 132, fig. 10.

149. An altar from Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to the Discipline of the Emperors, emended in a secondary text to the Discipline of the Emperor. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 38 inches high, 22 inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches

thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are rimmed with sunken centres.

The focus is roughly elliptical with the long axis from side to side. It has a rim and is dished, but no attempt has been made to finish the stone smoothly (type A2b). From side to side the internal measurement is 9 inches; from back to front it measures 7 inches. The depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 4). Two cant mouldings take the place of a vertical plane at the sides of the capital.

The central profile of the capital is damaged so that the original shape is not clear but it may well have been a pediment. It has been decorated with an incised ornament; in the centre a single leaf is flanked by what now appear to be roundels adorned by leaf motifs.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there are three angular tori. There is a plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 209-211 and it seems likely that it is a product of the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum, the unit stationed at Castlesteads at that time. The inscription indicates the military status of the dedicator.

RIB 1978

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 210, no. 10; fig. 6.

150. An altar, probably from Castlesteads; now at Rokeby.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras by Marcus Licinius Ripanus, prefect. It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is 38 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), but they have had their tops shaved off to make a flat upper surface. The end of the sinister bolster survives and shows that the outline has been emphasised by a moulded rim.

The focus is circular with a double rim, set within a rectangle outlined by a rim. The bottom of the focus slopes upwards towards the centre, as in a pottery dish found at Hofheim (focus type A4b). The upper surface is type 16. The internal diameter of the focus is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches; it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5) and filled in. It is decorated with three canthari in relief. The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is fully moulded on three sides. At the back there are chamfers. The mouldings of the capital are a torus and a stepped-in fillet. At the base, the fillet is stepped out and the torus is debased.

Professor Birley suggests that this altar is from the Mithraeum at Castlesteads and that the prefect mentioned is commandant of Cohors II Tungrorum.

RIB 1993

Horwley, 255, Cumb. KV

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LI, 67-68.

151. An altar from Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to the Deity of the Emperor and to the god Vanauns by Aurelius Armiger, decurio princeps. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters although the sides of the capital are raised above the level of the upper surface of the capital.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). The internal diameter is 5 inches and it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia extends to the top of the capital and is decorated with an arcade. Two round-headed arches outlined by a bead moulding flank a pointed arch. The columns from which the arches spring are cylindrical and have well defined capitals. Chip-carved stops occupy the spandrels.

There is no focus mount. The central profile of the capital has apparently been flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a chamfered torus. At the base there are two tori and a plinth.

The altar seems to be of third century date as the absence of bolsters and the architectural scheme of the fascia indicate. The pointed arch suggests that the masons responsible for carving the stone were from Cohors II Tungrorum for an arcade of pointed arches occurs on an altar dedicated by the unit in A.D. 241 (142).

RIB 1991

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 209, no. 7; 209, fig. 5.

152. An altar, now lost, from Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Mars by Venustinus Lupus. No measurements are recorded.

The die and shaft are plain.

Horsley's drawing shows the bolsters as strapped, (type A2b or A2d), with ends outlined by rims.

The focus is apparently elliptical with the long axis from front to back. It is placed between two ribs of stone running across the capital from front to back.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Three torus mouldings are set vertically above each other, the lowest one making the change of dimension to the shaft.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It curves upwards, apparently high above the bolsters, in two arcs joined by a broad horizontal (type 4).

The altar is moulded on three sides at least. At the capital the tori of the fascia stand alone. At the base there is a large torus.

The central profile of the altar is reminiscent of those carved by Cohors II Tungrorum at Birrens in the second century. It seems reasonable to attribute this stone to the same workshop.

RIB 1986

Gordon, 81; plate 47, 2.

Horsley, 263, Cumb. XXXV.

153. An altar, now lost, from Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to the Invincible Sun-god by Sextus Severius Salvator, prefect. No measurements of the stone are preserved.

From Gibson's Camden, reproduced in RIB, the die and shaft seem to have been plain.

The bolsters seem to have been plain (type Ala). The ends are damaged.

No details of the focus survive.

The front of the capital is damaged and both fascia and focus mount have gone. The sides of the capital however are decorated with solar disks in relief.

From the shape of the upper surface of the capital, the focus mount appears to have been "from the bolsters" (type 2), although it is difficult to be certain of this.

The altar is moulded on three sides at least. There seems to have been a cavetto at the capital and a stepped-out cavetto at the base.

The decoration of the lateral fascia strongly suggests that the altar is a product of the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum for the pattern

of solar disks is not common and appears on a third century altar naming the unit (143), Professor Birley's suggestion that the dedicating prefect was in command of this cohort is supported therefore by stylistic criteria.

RIB 1992

Horsley, 259, Cumb. XXVIII

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LI, 68.

154. An altar, now lost, from Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras. No measurements are recorded.

The drawing in Horsley shows the die as plain.

No details of the upper features of the capital are given.

The fascia is apparently rectangular (type 1), deep.

The mouldings of the altar are of the simplest. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet stepped-in to the shaft. At the base only a stepped-out plinth is indicated.

It seems likely that the altar is of third century date and may be ascribed tentatively to the workshop of Cohors II Tungrorum.

RIB 1994

Horsley, 259, Cumb. XXIX

155. The lower part of an altar from Castlesteads; now in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses of all nations by Gaius Julius Cupitianus, centurion. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is 35 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches wide and 8 inches thick.

No details of the upper part of the altar survive.

The altar is moulded on three sides. Two torus mouldings are set above the plinth.

Professor Birley suggests that the stone dates from the first half of the third century and that the unit commanded by the centurion was

Cohors II Tungrorum.

RIB 1988

Horsley, 262, pref. xix., Cumb. XXXIV

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LI, 69.

TH. Cat., 13-14, no. 33.

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### Cohors IV Gallorum

The surviving altars of Cohors IV Gallorum are from three sites and have a wide chronological spread. Their workmanship, together with that of the splendid building inscription from Risingham (RIB 1227), indicates the presence of strong traditions of stone-carving within the unit. The altars show a great affection for elaborate ornament.

The die is usually plain, although ansate panels bearing inscriptions sometimes appear on capital and shaft. The sides of the shaft are often ornamented by carvings in relief, some of them of unique design. In particular, the bird motifs and the female figure playing a tuba may be mentioned.

Apart from one instance bolsters, where they exist, are plain. The ends are sometimes decorated with concentric raised rims or with rosette designs with petals outlined in relief.

The one well-preserved focus is elliptical and sunken, with umbo with depressed centre (type Alc).

The central profile of the altars is usually flat though one based on convex arcs (type 6) appears. In two instances the focus mount accommodates a roundel in relief.

Fasciae are usually decorated; bands of incised saltires, and chevron, both incised and of the bar type, are popular. One fascia has a band of vertical grooves. Chip-carving does not appear on these altars.

Mouldings are either tori or cymas reversa. One of the cymas from Castle Hill is carved from a set of templates used by Legio VI. Cable enrichment is used to good effect.

There seems to have been a connection between Cohors IV Gallorum and the site at South Shields. Not only do similar foci and central profiles of type 6 appear on an altar from South Shields (590), but the bucranium carved on the shaft of an altar from Chesterholm is

clearly from the same pattern as that on a keystone from South Shields (Plate E). This may be attributed to the overall influence of Legio VI which, as already stated, was supplying Cohors IV Gallorum with templets in the second century. The use of ansate panels to carry the first line of a dedication is a device of Legio VI, while the incorporation of a roundel as the central feature of a capital front is also found in an altar set up by a legionary (37). The "enlarged" fascia with central profile of type 6 may be seen as a devolved form of the profiles of the legion's altars from the River Tyne. It is likely that Legio VI was building at South Shields in the Severan period and this may account for the apparent links with Cohors IV Gallorum.

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156. An altar from near Castlehill fort; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses of the parade ground and to Britannia by Quintus Pisentius Justus, a prefect of Cohors IV Gallorum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is 41 inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at the front.

The focus has gone but traces remain to suggest that it was circular and had a rim. It was originally about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5b). In the centre there is a raised roundel.

The upper profile is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is an

irregularly carved cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs. This moulding is carved from a set of templets used by Legio VI (See Appendix N(1)). At the base there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs, and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is clearly of second-century date and seems to belong to the later part of that period.

RIB 2195

Macdonald, 433-434, no. 52; plate LXXV 4.

157. An altar from near Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors IV Gallorum. The name of the commanding officer has weathered away. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. Its height is 26 inches. The width is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the thickness is 14 inches. The shaft is 13 inches high, 14 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel 12 inches high and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide with a flat border.

The shaft is plain.

The bolsters have gone and the focus is not visible as the altar is inverted.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

No focus mount now exists but there is a rectangular projection above the fascia.

Mouldings appear only on the front of the stone. At the capital there is a bead moulding, an ovolo enriched with an egg and dart design, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there are three small tori and a plinth.

The altar probably dates from the second century when Cohors IV Gallorum was stationed at Castlesteads.

RIB 1979

Bruce, Wall 3, 285-286; fig., 286.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 207, no. 2; 207, fig. 3.

158. An altar from Castlesteads; now in the Tullie House Museum,  
Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors IV Gallorum under the command of Volcacius Hospes. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the altar is  $24\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is 17 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters.

There is no focus although a sunken rectangle  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep, set obliquely to the front of the stone marks the re-use of the altar as a sundial in post-Roman times.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), and decorated with a band of incised saltires above a band of incised chevrons, separated from each other and from the shaft by grooves.

The upper profile of the stone is flat (type 10).

There are no mouldings but the base of the altar has been cut so that a tenon projects.

As the altar comes from Castlesteads, it seems likely that it belongs to the second century, for the unit was at Chesterholm in the third century. Nevertheless the form of the altar is not of early date and if it belongs to the earlier period it fits most happily into the latter part of the century.

RIB 1980

Gordon, 97; plate XLV, 4.

Horsley, 260, Cumb. XXX

159. An altar from Chesterholm; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and the other immortal gods and to the Genius of the Praetorium by Quintus Petronius Urbicus, prefect

of Cohors IV Gallorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $56\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 23 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 31 inches high,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel outlined at the sides by a plain rounded border. It is  $16\frac{3}{8}$  inches wide. The first line of the inscription is carved on a raised ansate panel on the fascia.

The sides of the shaft are decorated with reliefs. On the dexter side, within a sunken panel, there is an ansate tablet above a large crane moving towards the back of the stone with its chick. The other side carries a representation of the sentinel crane standing upon an eminence with one leg raised. From his claw has just dropped the stone he grappled and thus he has been awakened from sleep.<sup>1</sup>

There are no bolsters but three rounded projections are set along the edges of the capital in their place.

There is no focus. The top of the stone is fashioned so that a rectangular panel runs from back to front of the capital in the position of the focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep. It is inscribed and decorated. At the front of the capital two cable mouldings run vertically down each side of the fascia. The inner of these mouldings terminates in a rosette. Horizontal cable mouldings also frame the sunken panel in which the ansate, inscribed tablet is set. Below this a band of bar chevron outlined by bead mouldings emphasises the essential rectangularity of the capital and below this another cable moulding appears. The decoration of the sides of the fascia is equally elaborate. At the dexter side two bands of bar chevron flank four small tori which may once have had a cabled ornamentation. Below the lower of these bands there is yet another cabled torus and similar mouldings frame the front and back of

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1. See I, p. 102.

the fascia. At the top the sinister side of the capital is much weathered. Here the decoration consists of three cabled tori, a band of bar chevron and three other tori, the middle one of which is cabled.

The base carries equivalent mouldings. At the front there is a band of bar chevron and three tori of which the middle one is cabled.

There is no focus mount although interest is given to the upper profile of the altar by the carving of two sunken channels which break the flat outline.

The altar is moulded on three sides. There are no elaborate graded mouldings at either capital or base. Instead, the transition to the shaft is made in one stepped-in torus at the capital and a stepped-out torus at the base. The dexter side of the base has, in addition, a tiny ovolo linking the shaft to the base.

The altar is a splendid example of third-century styles. It is dated by the inscription to the years A.D. 213-235. The bar chevron pattern with flat background links this stone with 160 and it seems likely that both stones are roughly contemporary.

RIB 1686

LS 244

Bruce, Wall 3, 212-214; figs., 213

Budge, 344-345, no. 240; fig., 50.

Chesters Cat., 33, no. 233.

160. An altar from Chesterholm; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to the Genius of the Praetorium by Pituanus Secundus, prefect of Cohors IV Gallorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 49 inches high, 22 inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $26\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft bears in relief representations of the sacrificial axe and knife and of an animal. The axe is of type 2 (with curved blade and end square beyond the haft). The knife is of type 1 (broad bladed with cutting edge sharply angled to the tip). The animal is an ox. On the sinister side of the shaft there is a bag-shaped guttus (type C), a patera with umbo in the form of a man's face, and handle curved at the tip, set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the shaft; there is also an egg shape.

The bolsters are cylindrical with double, contiguous alternately cabled straps in the centre of the roll (type A3c). The fronts are decorated with rosettes, the six petals of which are outlined by a moulding. Each rosette has a centre boss and the motif is in each case set within a raised rim.

The focus is elliptical and sunken with an umbo with depressed centre (type Alc). From side to side it measures  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches from back to front and the depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 4). At the sinister side the bolster does not touch the fascia so that there the focus mount is "extended" (type 5c). The upper profile of the focus mount rises above the bolsters (type 11) and is flat. It accommodates an oval patera with ansate handles. In the dish there are three objects which must represent the sacred offerings.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a fillet decorated with a band of bar-chevron carved with a flat background, two plain and two cabled tori arranged alternately and a stepped-in torus. At the base there is a stepped-out torus, and five weathered torus mouldings and a band of chevron balance the mouldings of the capital. At the sides of the base the four mouldings seem to have been cabled.

The altar is an elaborate one and reflects the excellent traditions of the masons of Cohors IV Gallorum. It must belong to the third century

when the unit was stationed at Chesterholm. The bar chevron pattern with flat background links this altar with 159 which may be dated A.D. 213-235. This stone probably comes from the same period.

RIB 1685

LS 251

Bruce, Wall 3, 67 with figs.

Budge, 436, no. 242.

Chesters Cat., 33, no. 234.

161. An altar from Chesterholm; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Genius and Guardian-gods by Cohors IV Gallorum. The remainder of the inscription is defective. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is 50 inches high, 21 inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no separately-cut bolsters but the sides are shaped and, at the front, large bosses within a dished roundel mark their position.

There is no focus. The top of the altar is quite flat.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5), and decorated with a band of vertical flutings. It rises from the bolsters to form a profile of two convex arcs (type 6), in relief below the flat top of the capital. This may be seen as a devolved form of the upper profile of the Legio VI altars from the River Tyne at Newcastle (23 and 24).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet and a large sagging cyma reversa. The base of the altar displays a stepped-out fillet, a debased torus, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth. At the sides of the base the torus

is very angular.

The altar is a good example of third century styles and accords well with other altars of Cohors IV Gallorum of the period.

RIB 1687

Bruce, Wall 3, 214-215; fig., 215.

Budge, 345-346, no. 241.

Chesters Cat., 33, no. 235.

162. An altar from Staward Pele, probably originally from Chesterholm; now at Staward Manor, Northumberland.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors IV Gallorum under a prefect whose name is imperfectly preserved. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain although a small recess at the sinister side may indicate the presence of an ansate panel.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a bucranium in medium relief, similar in pattern to that carved on a keystone from the Roman fort at South Shields (Plate E). Nothing survives of the dexter side of the shaft for it has been dressed off.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The end of the sinister bolster has a decoration of two concentric rims.

There is no focus. The top of the capital is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and is decorated with a band of incised lattice pattern.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). The central profile is a convex arc (type 2). A boss with central depression ornaments the focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital two, and at

the base, three irregularly carved tori mark the transition to the shaft.

The altar clearly comes from the third century.

RIB 1688

Birley, AA<sup>4</sup> XXVIII, 132-141; plate X facing 136.

163. The upper part of an altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors IV Gallorum and Naevius Hilarus their prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 31 inches high, 23 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a raised ansate panel  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide at the top of the stone.

The sides of the shaft are decorated with reliefs. On the dexter side there is a relief of a woman with her hair in a bun and fully clad, holding up and playing a tuba. On the sinister side there is a spiky chaplet of odd design. The back of the shaft bears a vertical rod in relief to which a rectangular tablet is attached. This may represent a standard.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and are damaged at both front and back.

Of the focus nothing now remains. Between the bolsters there is a flattish surface sloping downwards from the sinister to the dexter side.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1) and, although it is now damaged, it was probably of pedimental shape (central profile type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet, another fillet, a crude, inverted cyma reversa and another stepped-in fillet. No base mouldings survive.

It seems likely that this altar is to be associated with the third century when Cohors IV Gallorum was stationed at Chesterholm, although the hair style of the woman playing the tuba is similar to that favoured by Faustina the Younger, the wife of Marcus Aurelius.

RIB 2062

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> I, 262, no. 136.

Cat. Ant., 60-61, no. 22.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors IV Gallorum.

164. An altar from Castlesteads; now at Castlesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Genius of the place by Gaius Verecundius Severus. It is carved in red sandstone. It is 31 inches high, 17 inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a patera in relief, set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone. On the sinister side there is a bag-shaped guttus with broad neck and spouted mouth (type C). The handle is carved in one with the body; there is no hole through which fingers might be inserted.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The internal diameter of the focus is 5 inches and it is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. It is decorated with bar lattice pattern.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It probably was of pediment shape but is now damaged. It is decorated with bar

lattice pattern.

The central profile of the capital is now flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a chamfer.

The size of the altar and the sacrificial vessels carved on the shaft suggest that this stone is the product of a military workshop. The lattice pattern was used by masons of Cohors IV Gallorum and the stone may well come from this unit.

RIB 1984

LS 428

Carlisle, Arch. XI, 67; plate 5, fig. 15.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 208, no. 4; fig. 4.

165. The upper part of an altar from Castlesteads; now at  
Castlesteads.

The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is now embedded in the ground and projects 16 inches above ground level. It is 20 inches wide and 6 inches thick. The shaft is buried.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are decorated with six-petalled rosettes, the petals outlined in relief.

The focus is circular (type Ala), placed eccentrically in a raised rectangular platform. It is 3 inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep. It is decorated on three sides. At the front of the stone there are four horizontal bands of ornament separated from each other by a bead moulding. The topmost band is a strip of double bar chevron pattern. Below this, bar saltires alternate with six-petalled rosettes similar to those on the ends of the bolsters. The third band is the same as the topmost and the lowest has a series of convex arcs outlined in relief, from the zenith of which

perpendiculars are dropped. Vertical mouldings define the elements of each row of decoration. The dexter side of the capital is decorated with a pattern based on double bar chevrons and diagonals. At the sinister side there is a Union Jack pattern with double bars at the diagonals. The upper dexter corner is a bar saltire.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It displays two zones of ornament. The uppermost is a bar chevron pattern; the lower is a band of convex arcs outlined in relief from the centres of which two spokes radiate at right angles.

This stone is part of a large and imposing altar. It must be from a military workshop. The capital is the most ornate of any from Northern Britain. It is difficult to place for it may have come from masons of either Cohors IV Gallorum or of Cohors II Tungrorum. The rectangular fascia perhaps tips the balance in favour of the Gauls.

166. Part of the capital of an altar from Great Chesters; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The stone is dedicated to Jupiter by a cohort of Gauls. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is 18 inches high, 10 inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is flanked by fluted pilasters with fluted capitals.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a fragment of a guttus.

The top of the stone is damaged but traces of an incised roundel with incised saltire hint at the representation of bolsters.

The fascia is decorated with a band of bar lozenge pattern.

The mouldings at the side are a fillet and a torus.

The fragment seems best attributed to Cohors IV Gallorum.

RIB 1727

Cat. Ant., 62, no. 28.

Legio IX Hispana

Only one altar or pedestal from this legion's workshop survives.

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167. An altar from York; now in the Yorkshire Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus by Lucius Celerinius Vitalis, a staff-clerk of Legio IX. It is carved in limestone and is by no means complete. The base and greater part of the shaft survive and most of a flat-topped capital. As it is now restored it is  $31\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 8 inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches high,  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

There is no focus mount.

The altar is moulded on four sides. The surviving mouldings of the capital are an inclined fillet, a torus and a second inclined fillet. At the base there is an inclined fillet, a torus, an inclined fillet, a torus, an inclined fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar must date at the latest from the first half of the second century and probably from not later than the middle years of Hadrian's reign. It may come from the first century, although it is difficult to make any firm assertion. It is the only altar from Northern Britain which mentions Legio IX.

RIB 659

Ebur., 116, no. 32; plate 44; fig. 81 facing 116.

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Legio XX Valeria Victrix.

Both the building slabs and the altars of Legio XX attest the delight taken by the masons of this legion in ornamental schemes and decorative effects. In particular, they had an affection for the boar, their regimental badge, and incorporated it into their designs whenever possible.

Although only nine altars mentioning the legion survive, if additional stones from Chester are taken into account, a clear picture of the legionary styles emerges.

The die is usually plain, although panels are not unknown. Sacrificial implements and vessels are often carved on the sides of the shaft.

Bolsters are an important feature. They may be plain (type A), baluster-shaped (type C), or may narrow towards the middle (type E). Bolsters are frequently strapped with a single or double band. The strap may be broad and the surface of the bolster may be decorated, either with bay-leaf in relief or with designs of incised lines. The ends of the bolsters are often decorated with rosettes in relief or with sunken petals or with roundels with concentric rims. Where foci survive they are usually circular and dished, though umbones appear.

Fasciae are often decorated. A supine crescent appears on the fasciae of two important Legio XX altars.

The cyma reversa moulding is popular with this unit, especially that based on tangential arcs. Mouldings may be enriched with palmette or cable motifs.

There is evidence of continental influence in the patterns used by Legio XX. Two altars from Chester (RIB 450, 454) incorporate Rhenish designs, while one from Newstead has a focus mount that may be paralleled exactly by one in Bologna. This suggests that recruits from Germany and Italy were being enrolled in the legion. The presence of a rosette with curving rays, or "fiery swastika", on a stone from

Great Chesters suggests the transfer to Legio XX of a mason from Legio VII Gemina, while it was in Britain, for this motif is a common one in Roman sculpture found at Leon.

All the altars of Legio XX, except one, date from the second century. This is not surprising in view of the fact that, after the division of Britain into two provinces, Chester was in Britannia Superior. Its activities in the north after that date must have been confined to occasional special missions as for instance at Maryport in A.D.219.

This legion seems to have been responsible for the introduction of several new styles. The altar erected by the centurion Gaetulicus at Great Chesters heralds the advent of the new-style capitals of the third century and it is likely that half-bolsters were developed by masons trained in Legio XX's workshops. Similarly, angular straps on bolsters occur at Chester and fit best into Legio XX contexts. The solitary example from York appears to be late and may be explained either by a transfer of personnel from Legio XX to Legio VI or by the establishment at York of a workshop by a veteran of Legio XX, although this is less likely.

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168. An altar from Benwell; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Antenociticus and to the Deities of the Emperors by Aelius Vibius, centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in gritty sandstone. The height of the stone is 51 inches, the width  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness 16 inches. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick.

The die is enclosed in a cyma moulded panel  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are also panelled and are highly ornamented. On the dexter side, a triangular-bladed knife (type 4), with ridged handle is carved below a swag of bay leaves which terminates at the dexter side in a spade-shaped ornament and, at the sinister, in three loops. On the sinister side of the shaft, a very elegant lidded guttus with high pedestal base and ovoid body is carved (type B1). Both body and base are girdled by ornamental bands and the handle is high and elaborately curved. Above the guttus an ornate swag incorporating five roundels appears. The central roundel has three raised rims and a sunken centre. Flanking this, there are on each side one large and one small roundel each with a single rim and central boss. The back of the shaft is decorated with a conventional wreath with ribbons. There is no attempt to cut the leaves of the wreath; they are indicated by a series of sloping grooves.

The bolsters and focus are set back from the edges of the capital on a secondary capital.

The bolsters are cylindrical and are decorated with bay-leaf ornament in relief springing from central straps which terminate at the sides of the capital in roundels with rims and bosses (bolster type A2f). The front of the bolsters is damaged but the back of the dexter bolster still displays a roundel with rim and boss. It may be presumed that this type of ornament was also carved on the other ends of the bolsters.

The focus is circular with high rim (type A2a). Ansa-shaped handles with central grooves project from it towards the front and back of the stone, giving the appearance of a dish. The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1) deep and highly decorated. On three sides a cable moulding edges the fascia; on the back a plain flat

border replaces the cable. At the front of the stone, within the sunken panel enclosed by the cable-moulded border, one five-petalled, naturalistic rosette with raised centre survives. Judging by the ornamentation of the back of the main capital and of the front of the secondary capital, this would seem to be one of three originals. At the back of the main capital, three roundels with triple concentric moulded rims and sunken centres take the place of the naturalistic rosettes. The cabled enrichment of the border of the fascia is, at the sides of the stone, applied to a fillet, and a vine-scroll with fruit occupies the panel. The patterns are not identical for, on the dexter side, the vine-scroll emerges from a cantharus.

The secondary capital has a rectangular fascia edged by a bead moulding. The front is decorated with three roundels with rims and bosses, of which two now survive. A similar roundel appears on each of the lateral fasciae, attached to the straps of the bolsters.

There is no focus mount for the focus is entirely free-standing and is not masked by any projection from the front of the capital.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa decorated with palmettes, and two head mouldings. The palmette enrichment of the cyma is carried around three sides of the capital and is partly completed on the back of the stone. At the base, the transition to the plinth is effected by a small cabled torus, an inverted cyma reversa and a larger cabled torus. These mouldings are modified at the back of the stone. The upper torus and cyma reversa are skillfully shaped into one and there is no enrichment.

The altar is a fine example of legionary work. The sacrificial utensils, the elaborate swags at the sides of the shaft and the palmette enrichment of the cyma mouldings point to a mason who has had contact with the traditions of the classical world. The altar appears to be of second century date.

RIB 1327

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 549-550, no. 1; figs., 549 and 550.  
Cat. Ant., 55, no. 2.

169. The lower part of an altar from Benwell; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated by a centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in coarse-grained sandstone. The height of the stone is  $26\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The width is 24 inches and the thickness 20 inches. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

The inscription is enclosed in a double bead moulding forming a panel 17 inches wide.

The shaft has had reliefs of sacrificial vessels. On the dexter there remains part of the concave base of a guttus and on the sinister side there is the handle of a knife or patera, set vertically.

The altar is moulded on four sides. A bead moulding is placed above a shallow scotia which itself turns into another bead. Below this there is a fascia, then a small torus and the plinth. The scotia is ornamented by a band of debased palmette designs in relief, each separated from its neighbour by a vertical bar. There is no uniformity in the shape of these designs and the variations suggest that different hands were responsible for the carving of different sides. The fascia is decorated with a conventionalised, scrolly tendril.

It is clear that the altar has been a large and imposing one. It probably comes from the same workshop as other altars of Legio XX from Benwell and must be placed in the second century, although it is difficult to say how early in the period. A date in the Hadrianic or early Antonine periods, however, may well be appropriate.

RIB 1338

LS 16a

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 555, no. 8 with fig.

170. An altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Diana the Queen-goddess by Gaius Arrius Domitianus, centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in buff sandstone and is  $38\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. The width of the stone is  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches and the thickness is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

Most of the die has broken away but it appears to have been plain.

The shaft has plain sides.

The bolsters and focus have gone.

The fascia seems to have been rectangular (type 1) of medium depth.

The focus mount is now rectangular and may well have been "extended."

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori and, at the base, two stepped-out fillets.

The altar is one of three dedicated by C. Arrius Domitianus. He was probably at Newstead in the early Antonine period from which time this stone appears to date.

RIB 2122

Curle, 142-143, no. 5.

RCAMS Roxburgh II, 318, no. (iii); fig. 429.

171. A statue base from near Newstead fort; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The stone is dedicated to Silvanus by Gaius Arrius Domitianus, centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the base is  $43\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the thickness is 11 inches. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick. The stone is not of uniform thickness.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet above a debased cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. At the base there is a cyma reversa, an ovolo and a stepped-out plinth.

The stone probably comes from the early Antonine period.

RIB 2124

Stuart, 152; plate III facing.

RCAMS Roxburgh II, 317-318, no. 11; fig. 428.

172. An altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Gaius Arrius Domitianus, a centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height is 48 inches, the width  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the thickness  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 18 inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical (type 1a). Their ends are decorated with six-petalled rosettes in relief with a centre boss.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo (type A2c). The internal diameter is  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The depth is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inch. Around the umbo, there is a suggestion of burning.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5c). It forms a profile of two widely spaced arcs (type 9).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital a fillet and a large inverted cyma reversa are set above the die. At the base these mouldings are inverted and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is said to date from the first Antonine phase at Newstead.

The sagging cyma mouldings of the capital are unusual in the best legionary work but the execution of the carving is good and there can be no doubt that it comes from a legionary mason.

RIB 2123

Curle, 141-142, no. 3; plate XVI.

RCAMS Roxburgh II, 317; fig. 427.

173. An altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Apollo by Lucius Maximus Gaetulicus, a centurion who, from another stone (174), is known to have served in Legio XX. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar stands in a base 11 inches high,  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. Without the base the height of the altar is  $34\frac{1}{4}$  inches. It is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is, in relief, a quiver and on the sinister side, a bow.

The bolsters are baluster-shaped with a central groove (type D2a). The surviving end of the sinister bolster shows that there have been terminal decorations of rosettes with sunken petals.

The focus is circular and raised, but has no real rim. It is slightly dished (a variant of type 2b). It measures 6 inches from side to side and is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It rises to form a central profile of two arcs, outlined by a moulding and emphasised in the centre by two adjacent roundels (type 7). This focus

mount may be paralleled exactly on an altar from Bologna<sup>1</sup>.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs, a fillet, and a larger cyma reversa chamfered to the shaft. At the base a chamfer is set above an inverted cyma reversa and stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the Antonine period for it was found in a pit in association with Antonine pottery. The stone is of interest, not only on account of the focus mount but also because the cyma mouldings are of unusual proportions.

RIB 2120

Curle, 143, no. 6; plate XVII.

174. An altar from Great Chesters; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter of Doliche by Lucius Maximius Gaetulicus, centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is  $39\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the width is 21 inches and the thickness is now  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The back of the stone is broken. The shaft is 17 inches high; it is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and is now 9 inches thick.

The die is plain except for a curvilinear rosette or "fiery swastika" carved in the bottom line of the inscription. The die is separated from the capital by an incised line  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch below the capital moulding.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

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1. G. Susini and R. Pincelli, Il Lapidario a cura del Comune di Bologna, 43-44, no. 37; plate II.

The top of the altar is flat. There are no bolsters but two large rosettes,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, suggest their presence. These rosettes have petals outlined in relief. The tips of the petals are linked by arcs in relief which, with the edge of the sunken roundel in which the motif is carved, give the appearance of peripheral petals. These motifs are executed in chip-carving technique.

There is no focus.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7) and, in addition to the chip-carved rosettes, displays a supine crescent in rounded relief, outlined by grooves. Below this device and between the rosettes there is an incised curvilinear motif similar to that carved in the inscription. The fascia has a lower border of chip-carved bar saltire separated by vertical bars. It is clear that this design was intended to continue on the sides of the capital and that a similar decoration was envisaged for the base, for guide lines for the carving may be seen at the dexter side of both capital and base.

The altar was moulded on at least three sides. Both capital and base display chamfers.

The general shape of the altar is characteristic of third century styles but Lucius Maximus Gaetulicus served at Newstead in the pre-Severan period, and if the association of his altar from Newstead with Antonine pottery is to be taken seriously, in the middle years of the second century. As a centurion's service might last for many years it seems possible to place this altar towards the end of the second century and to see it as the first in the series of new-style votive altars.

RIB 1725

Haverfield, AA<sup>2</sup> XIX, 271 with fig.

Cat. Ant., 60, no. 21; plate facing 95.

175. An altar from Milecastle 52; now at Lanercost Priory.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by soldiers of Legio XX. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height is  $27\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches

and the thickness  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 9 inches wide and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a bag-shaped guttus (type C) with a concave base and high thumb rest. At the other side there is a patera with umbo and fluted, animal-headed handle, set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone.

The bolsters are cylindrical and girded by flat, central straps. At the sinister side the strap is divided by a groove. They are decorated with a series of grooves running in contrary directions on each side of the straps (type A6b). This ornamentation may be compared with that on an altar from Chester (RIB 450). Its origin may perhaps be seen in the decorated bolsters of an altar from Cologne.<sup>1</sup>

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and, by straps, to the bolsters (upper surface type 9). It has an internal diameter of 5 inches and is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 4), rising to form a pedimented central profile (type 1). At the front there are two incised, supine crescents and a smaller, incised semi-circle set below a recessed double-headed niche. At the dexter side of the capital, diagonal bead mouldings bisected by a vertical, form a modified Union Jack pattern. In the lateral triangles there is a solar disk in relief. The design on the sinister side of the capital is identical except that the vertical line is incised.

The altar is moulded on three sides and has a chamfer at the back. At the front of the capital the bottom of the fascia is outlined by a bead moulding. Below this a large, cabled torus is followed by another bead;

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1. Schoppa, Römische Götterdenkmäler, 49, no. 14; plates 14, 15.

a cyma reversa and a very small stepped-in fillet complete the series of mouldings. At the base a stepped-out fillet, an inverted cyma reversa and two stepped-out fillets mark the transition to the wider dimension.

The front of the base is decorated with a relief of a boar running to the dexter side of the stone and flanked by trees. This is a favourite motif of Legio XX. The upper edge of the relief is defined by a bead moulding.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 262-266. It is of good workmanship and shows high traditions of stone-carving surviving into the second half of the third century.

RIB 1956

LS 374

Bruce, Wall 3, 268 with fig.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXVI, 1-5: RBRA, 58-61.

176. The lower part of an altar from Ribchester; now in the Museum at Ribchester.

The stone is dedicated by a centurion of Legio XX. It is carved in coarse sandstone. It is  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

The stone is moulded on three sides. A stepped inverted cyma reversa, based on tangential arcs, is placed above a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 588

Watkin, 142-143; fig., 143.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Legio XX V.V.

177. The lower part of an altar from Benwell; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter of Doliche and to the Deities of the Emperors by a centurion of Legio II Augusta. It is carved in sandstone. The height is  $37\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, outlined by a cyma moulding.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a triangular-bladed knife with the blade sloping in to the tip (type 4) and an axe with curved blade and square end (type 2). On the sinister side there is a guttus with a globular body and short neck (type A2) and a patera, the handle with terminal knob, set obliquely with the bowl towards the back and base of the stone. These motifs are in sunken panels.

The altar is moulded on three sides. Two stepped-out, inverted cymas reversa surmount a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The base of the stone is decorated with an oundy moulding below which a double row of four right-angled triangles appears. The triangles of the upper band are in groups of two. The triangles in each group adjoin at the short side and share common hypotenuses with the triangles of the lower band. The triangles are separated from each other by ridges of stone left after the careful cutting away of the inner surface by the chip-carving technique so that each triangle presents three inward-sloping bevels.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the reign of the Emperor Antoninus Pius. The dedicator of the stone, Liburnius Fronto, may once have served in Legio XX<sup>1</sup>. The altar is certainly more in keeping with the work of the masons of this legion than with those of Legio II Augusta and it may well be that Liburnius Fronto laid down precisely the form of the carving. The altar is accordingly assigned to the group showing the influence of Legio XX.

RIB 1330

LS 16

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 554, no. 7 with fig.

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1. Birley, AA<sup>4</sup> X, 107.

178. An altar from Carvoran; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the gods the Veteres. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 3 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an incised boar. On the sinister side there is an incised serpentine creature, variously interpreted as a snake or dolphin. It certainly has a fish-like appearance.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with plain ends.

The focus is circular with rim and umbo, (type A2c). The internal diameter is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the depth  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 3).

The central profile, although damaged, has been flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At both capital and base there are two torus mouldings.

The altar is a small one and makes no pretence to elaboration of style. The animals carved on the sides of the shaft are thought by Dr. Ross to indicate the Celtic nature of the deity and of the dedicator. It seems possible however that the boar represents the regimental badge of Legio XX and that the altar was carved by a soldier of that legion. For this reason the altar is included in the group of stones which seem to be connected with the workshop of Legio XX.

RIB 1805

LS 311

Bruce, Wall 3, 238 with fig.

179. An uninscribed altar, once in two pieces, from Chesters;  
now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is 11 inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 6 inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft bears in relief a serpent. On the sinister side there is a pigeon in relief.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with damaged fronts.

The focus is circular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is broken across the centre. The internal diameter is 4 inches and the depth is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is damaged but, at the sides of the capital, is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is damaged but was probably of type 2 ("from the bolsters").

The central profile of the capital is defaced.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two stepped-in fillets. At the base there is a chamfer.

This small altar is one of the group of stones bearing representations of birds, serpents and boars on the shaft. The masons responsible for these stones were most probably connected in some way with Legio XX and the altar is accordingly put into this section.

Budge, 303, no. 29

Chesters Cat., 18, no. 62.

180. An uninscribed altar from Chesters; now in the Museum at  
Chesters.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches

wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is, in relief, a boar running towards the front of the stone. The sinister side of the shaft bears a representation of a serpent placed diagonally across the stone with its head uppermost.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with damaged ends.

The focus is circular with a large rim (type A2a). The internal diameter is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to form a central profile of type 1 (pediment).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two torus mouldings. At the base there is a chamfer.

The altar has the same iconography as that of a stone from Carvoran (425) although here the creatures are in relief. While it is possible to see the stone as reflecting Celtic ideas, it seems equally possible that the boar represents the regimental badge of Legio XX and that the altar was carved by a member of that unit.

LS 114

Budge, 302-3, no. 24.

Chesters Cat., 18, no. 61.

181. The upper part of an uninscribed altar from Corbridge; now outside the north door of Corbridge Church.

The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. It is 27 inches high,  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On each side of the shaft there is the head and shoulders of a figure. That on the dexter side has arms upstretched. Pelta-like figures appear on each side of the capital.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) but damaged.

The focus is circular with two concentric raised rims (type B6b). The internal diameter is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the depth is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow, and decorated with a band of five sunken roundels.

The focus mount is "enlarged", sloping under the bolsters (type 5d). It rises to a pedimented central profile which is outlined by a moulded rim (type 1). Within the pediment a figure seems to be moving towards a smaller figure, but it is so weathered that it is difficult to be exact.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the sinister side of the capital where they are best preserved, the mouldings are, in descending order, five small tori, a cavetto and three stepped-in fillets.

The shape of the capital of this altar is similar to that of an altar found at Newcastle (189). That stone can be ascribed to Legio XX and it seems likely that this altar too comes from the same traditions. The decorated fascia is another pointer to a twentieth legionary attribution.

RIB 1146

182. An altar found near Duntocher fort; now in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow.

The altar, which is dedicated to Jupiter, is carved in sandstone. It is 26 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{5}{8}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body, long neck and small spouted mouth (type B1), and a damaged knife. The sinister side of the shaft accommodates a patera but this is not well preserved.

The bolsters are not regularly carved for they are wider at the front than at the back. They have central straps and, if cylindrical, would have been of type A2b. Slight traces of a groove on the front of the sinister bolster suggest that incised roundels once decorated their ends.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached by straps to the bolsters (upper surface type 2). The internal diameter is 7 inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. The photograph in Tit. Hunt. shows it to be decorated with a row of sunken roundels.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1).

The central profile is a truncated gable (type 1 variant).

The altar is moulded on three sides but the mouldings are very worn. At the capital there seems to have been a torus, a broad fillet and a stepped-in fillet. At the base a broad fillet seems to have been flanked by torus mouldings.

The altar clearly comes from a military workshop and seems to accord with others carved by masons trained by Legio XX's instructors. It probably dates from the second century.

RIB 2201

Tit. Hunt., 32, no. 9; plate XV, fig. 2.

Macdonald, 434, no. 53.

183. An altar from Ebchester; now at Ushaw College, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Vernostonus Cocidius by Virilis, a German. It is carved in coarse sandstone. The altar is  $29\frac{1}{2}$  inches

high,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical, with angular straps (type A2d).

The fronts carry letters of the inscription.

The focus is circular, dished (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and to the straps of the bolsters (upper surface type 9). The diameter of the focus is 6 inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," straight under the bolsters and carved in one plane with them (type 6). It rises to a pediment (central profile type 1). One letter of the inscription is carved in the field provided.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet, a cyma reversa moulding and a small torus. The base displays two tori, an ovolo and a plinth.

The altar is no doubt the product of a military workshop. The angular straps point to an association with Legio XX. The general shape of the altar suggests a mid-second century date.

RIB 1102

Wright, PSAN<sup>4</sup> IX, 167-169; plate VII facing 167

184. An altar from Ebohester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to the god Vitiris and is carved in coarse sandstone. It is  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 5 inches high, 7 inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The shaft is decorated on the dexter side with a relief of a bird, running towards the front of the stone. On the sinister side

there is a boar in relief, also running towards the front of the stone.

The bolsters are strapped and taper towards the middle (type E).

The ends display rims and bosses.

The focus is horse-shoe shaped with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It measures 3 inches from side to side and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2).

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2a), almost filled in. The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10) and accommodates an ivy leaf in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. Below the torus of the fascia there is a larger chamfered torus and a stepped-in smaller torus. At the base there is a torus, a large torus and a chamfered plinth.

The altar must belong to the group of those stones associated with Legio XX for the bolsters are characteristic. Moreover the presence of the boar upon the shaft supports this view.

RIB 1103

LS 666

Cat. Dur., 22, no. XXV with fig.

185. The upper part of an altar from Gloster Hill, Northumberland; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses of the Parade Ground by Cohors I .....The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is now  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. No measurements of the shaft are possible.

The die is plain.

The bolsters are not preserved and the focus is broken.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and is decorated with a pattern of double incised saltires. This may be no

more than the guide lines for carving a bar saltire design.

No focus mount survives.

The altar is moulded on three sides, although the back of the stone has been trimmed off and it is not possible to say whether it too was once moulded. Below the fascia there is a torus, a large cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs, a torus moulding and a stepped-in fillet.

The altar is too fragmentary to allow of exact attribution. Nevertheless it appears from the decorated fascia that it is the work of an auxiliary unit whose masons had drawn their styles from Legio XX. It probably dates from the second century.

RIB 1206

LS 534

Bruce, Wall 3, 404 with fig.

NCH V, 262-3; fig., 262.

186 An altar from Housesteads; now in Housesteads Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Mars and Victory and the Deities of the Emperors. It is carved in sandstone and is 51 inches high. The width is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft bears a relief of Mars. He is wearing full armour with crested helmet and a cloak over his shoulders. With his right hand, at shoulder height, he grasps a lance, and holds a small circular shield behind his left thigh. A goose stands at his left side. The figure is well carved and overflows on to the upper mouldings.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a). They are damaged at the ends but may have been decorated by rosettes or roundels.

The focus is elliptical with rim and flat bottom (type B6a).

The internal measurement from side to side is  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches; from front to back it measures  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is "enlarged" and inscribed (type 5). It rises to form a gently rounded pediment (type 1/2).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a small torus on either side of a large, debased torus moulding. At the base, a stepped-out fillet, a flattened torus and a stepped-out plinth give the wider dimension.

By its style the altar seems to belong to the third century. It may come from a workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum or directly from the hand of a soldier of Legio XX. The mouldings are reminiscent of others on altars from Newstead and Ribchester which are probably from the legionary workshop and the figure sculpture is more likely to have come from a legionary than from one of the Tungrians. For this reason the altar is included in Legio XX's group.

RIB 2596

LS 667

PSAN<sup>3</sup> V, 240; plate facing.

187. An altar, now lost, from near Kirkby Thore.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus. No dimensions are known.

The die is plain.

The shaft is decorated with reliefs of sacrificial vessels and implements. On the dexter side there is an axe of pick-axe type (type 1) and a knife with a broad blade, sharply angled to the tip (type 1). The sinister side of the shaft carries representations of the guttus and patera. The guttus has a globular body, high pedestal base and long spouted neck (type A1). The patera seems to have been handleless

and to have been in the form of a fluted bowl. It is however possible that the relief depicts a wheel rather than a patera.

The bolsters are cylindrical and apparently cabled (type A5a). They seem to have had plain ends.

The focus is apparently rectangular.

The fascia is "extended," curved under the bolsters (type 5). It rises to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides at least. At the capital there seem to have been three stepped-in tori. At the base there has been a chamfer.

This altar is known from Machell's drawing, reproduced in RIB. The cabled bolsters suggest that it comes from the hand of a mason who has been influenced by the styles of Legio XX and it is accordingly included in this group.

RIB 763

See RIB for drawing from manuscript source.

188. The upper part of an altar from Kirkby Thore; now at Lowther Castle. This altar has not been examined at first hand.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter Serapis and is carved in red sandstone. It is 15 inches high and 15 inches wide.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters have almost gone. They have a decoration of incised spokes on their ends.

The focus has gone.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. It has decoration of three six-spoked rosettes, apparently incised.

The focus mount is damaged.

The mouldings of the front of the capital seem to be either tori or fillets.

It is difficult to comment on this stone. The decorated fascia however suggests that it was carved by a mason influenced by the styles of Legio XX. The three-rosetted fascia calls to mind a legionary stone from Chester (RIB 448).

RIB 762

LS 745

189. The upper part of an altar from Newcastle upon Tyne; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the stone is  $31\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width is 16 inches and the thickness is 11 inches. The shaft is 13 inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The shaft is not decorated but is rounded rather than rectangular.

The bolsters are strapped and taper towards the middle (type E).

The ends of the bolsters are dished.

The focus is circular with rim. The sloping sides lead to an umbo with sunken centre (a variant of type A2e). It has an internal diameter of 6 inches. The depth is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). It is a cabled, flattened torus moulding.

The focus mount is "extended," sloping (type 5d). It rises to a central profile of pedimental shape (type 1). The pediment is outlined by a double moulding and encloses a roundel with two concentric rims. The lower edge of the focus mount is marked by a fillet with a central roundel.

The sides of the capital are also decorated. On the dexter side there is a fillet ornamented by a row of three arches in relief, flanked

by roundels. Below this, another fillet surmounts a cabled torus moulding; two plain tori complete the mouldings. The design of the sinister fascia is different. Here there is a square panel outlined by a plain moulding and enclosing an arch in relief. Within the arch a supine crescent carved with a hole above it forms the central feature. A bunch of grapes occupies each of the lower corners of the panel.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The moulding making the transition to the shaft at the front of the stone is a broad stepped-in fillet. It is decorated with a central roundel flanked by sunken triangles.

This altar is clearly a virtuoso piece. It may be attributed to the school of Legio XX in virtue of the distinctive bolsters which may be paralleled from Chester (RIB 446). It is difficult to date the stone although it may well belong to the second century.

RIB 1317

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 545, no. 7; fig., 546.

190. An altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar has lost most of its inscription through the flaking off of the surface of the die. It is no longer possible to discern the name either of the deity or the dedicator. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $39\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 25 inches high, 17 inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die seems to have been plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a patera, now very weathered, in relief. The sinister side of the shaft bears the representation of a guttus, bag-shaped (type C), with straight handle.

The bolsters are cylindrical, with a broad central strap (type A2c). The front of the bolsters is much weathered but there is a faint suggestion that they originally had rosettes with sunken petals.

The focus has been circular with rim and large, flat umbo (type A2g). The internal diameter is 9 inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia has been either rectangular (type 1), or enlarged. The surviving decoration at the sides of the capital indicates that it has been of imposing appearance. A band of pointed leaves set out with the aid of compasses and executed in chip-carved technique ornaments the lateral fasciae.

No comment is possible on the form of the focus mount. The central profile seems to have been a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital, below the decorated fascia, there is a fillet, a cabled torus, another fillet, a cyma recta and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a cyma, a fillet, a cabled torus and another fillet.

The altar is probably of the same date as those dedicated by Gaius Arrius Domitianus and is most likely from the workshop of Legio XX.

RIB 2125

Curle, 142, no. 4; plate XVIII, 1.

RCAMS Roxburgh II, 318, no. (iv).

191. The upper part of an uninscribed altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is 13 inches high,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top of the stone is flat. There are neither bolsters nor focus.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A torus moulding is carved in the centre of a rectangular fascia.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At both capital and base there is a chamfered torus. This moulding, together with the torus of the fascia and the intervening fillet, give an impression of a triple moulding.

The altar probably dates from the second century and is most likely to have come from a workshop of Legio XX.

Museum no. FRA. 1609

192. An altar from Old Penrith; now in Tullie House Museum,  
Carlisle.

This stone is described in RIB as an altar-shaped monument. It has all the features of an altar and must have been carved for the purpose of offering sacrifice. It is made from red sandstone. The height of the altar is  $43\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the width is 17 inches and the thickness is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $24\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is framed in a double bead-moulded panel 24 inches high and 12 inches wide.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a serpent in relief and a bag-shaped guttus (type C). The other side of the shaft displays a triangular-bladed knife (type 4), and a patera with rim, umbo and handle curving slightly at the end, set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone. The handle may be paralleled on altars from Chester (RIB 446) and from Scarcroft, Yorks (500).

The bolsters are smallish and girdled by a broad strap (type A2c). The ends have been decorated with rosettes whose petals have been outlined in relief.

The focus is circular but is now damaged. It was probably about 9 inches in diameter.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and decorated with a band of bar saltires.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 3).

The altar is moulded in three sides. At the capital there is a torus and two stepped-in fillets. At the base there are two stepped-out tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar belongs to the group of those carved by masons taking their styles from Legio XX. This is indicated by the decorated fascia, the bolsters with broad straps and the guttus which resembles one on an altar from Chester (RIB 454). The general shape of the altar seems to be early and it is possible that the inscription is of a later date than the carving.

RIB 927

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LII, 185-186

TH. Cat., 19, no. 47.

193. An altar from Ribchester; now in Ribchester Museum.

The inscription and back of the stone have been cut away. The altar is carved in sandstone. It is 24 inches high, and is now  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 10 inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The shaft of the altar is plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), but have been shaved off.

The focus has been circular and has probably had a rim and flat bottom (type B6a).

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the sides of the capital a large torus is sandwiched between two smaller tori. At

the base a small and a large torus are set above the plinth.

The mouldings of the capital place this altar in the same tradition as stones from Newstead and Housesteads which may well be the products of masons of Legio XX. This altar is therefore included in that legion's group.

Smith and Shortt, The History of the Parish of Ribchester, in the County of Lancaster (London & Preston 1890), 26, 41.

194. Part of an uninscribed altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in buff sandstone. The fragment measures 29 inches high and is now  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 12 inches high.

The die has been flanked by fluted pilasters, one of which survives. Its capital is decorated with arrow-like grooves suggesting a conventionalised lotus motif. Within the die there is, in relief, a cornucopia overflowing with fruit, supported by a winged figure and attached by a swag to a feature now missing.

If bolsters existed their ends were decorated with spirals in relief.

The focus and the focus mount have both gone.

Mouldings remain on two sides of the altar. At the capital there is a small torus, a larger torus and a fillet. These appear at the base but in a different order. Here there is a fillet, a small torus and a larger torus.

The altar seems to have affinities with those carved by masons of Legio XX. The spiral ornamentation of the bolsters, and the swag, may be paralleled on stones from Chester (RIB 454, 460). The fluted pilaster is also known in the workshops of Chester (RIB 453).

Cat. Ant., 105, no. 206.

195. The cap-stone of an altar of uncertain provenance; now in  
Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is carved in sandstone. The fragment is 6 inches high,  
 $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The bolsters are double-strapped in the middle and taper towards  
the centre (type E but with double strap).

Only half of the focus remains but it is clear that it has been  
large, circular and dished with rim (type A2b). It has an internal  
diameter of  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches and is 1 inch deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is carved in one plane with the ends of the bolsters  
(as in fascia type 6).

The central profile has been of pedimented shape (type 1) but is  
now damaged.

The stone is moulded on four sides. A torus moulding is set above  
a cyma reversa.

The shape of the bolsters places this stone in the group of altars  
carved by masons associated with Legio XX.

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Ala Augusta ob Virtutem Appellata

It is difficult to assess the altars of Ala Augusta ob Virtutem Appellata for most of them are in the Lowther Collection and it has not been possible to examine them at first hand. The series is a fine one; it shows the unit in garrison at Old Carlisle over a long period and indicates that here at any rate there was no change of ala in Severan times.

The earliest altar is undated but is so like another stone from Heddon Hall (206), datable to the mid-second century that it seems safe to ascribe it to the same period.

The masons of the unit seem to have favoured "enlarged" fasciae swinging upwards from the base of the bolsters in concave arcs.

The most popular mouldings seem to have been fillets and tori, the latter being sometimes cabled.

The origin of the styles of the unit is not easy to spot although it seems possible that it was Legio XX. The close connection between the earliest altar and that of Cohors I Aquitanorum from Haddon appears to place the ala in Legio XX's group, for that is where the cohort belongs.

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196. An altar from Old Carlisle; now in Tullie House Museum,  
Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Bellona by a Rufinus, prefect of Ala Augusta, and Latinianus, his son. It is carved in red sandstone. It is 37 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are damaged but have been cylindrical (type Ala).

The focus is broken but has been circular, dished (type A2b). It

is attached to the front of the capital and may have been joined to the back (upper surface type 6 or 7). It has been at least  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), forming a central profile of pedimented shape (type 1). It is decorated with a leaf design in relief. This decoration may be paralleled on an altar of Cohors I Aquitanorum from Haddon Hall (206).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. This moulding is identical in size and proportion with that of the capital of the Haddon Hall stone. At the base there is a large inverted cyma reversa moulding and a stepped-out plinth.

In view of the similarities of this altar with those of the altar of Cohors I Aquitanorum from Haddon Hall, which may be dated to the mid-second century, it seems safe to attribute this stone to the same period.

RIB 890

LS 822

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 113, no. 4.

TH. Cat., 3, no. 4.

197. The upper part of an altar from Old Carlisle; now at Lowther Castle. This stone has not been examined at first hand.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Ala Augusta under the command of Tiberius Claudius Justinus, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is said to be 32 inches and the width, 22 inches.

The bolsters seem to have had plain ends.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount seems to be "filled-in" (type 3).

The mouldings of the capital are a stepped-in fillet, a cavetto and another stepped-in fillet.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 188.

RIB 893

LS 821

Horsley, 276-7, Cumb. LVI.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 114, no. 4.

198. An altar from Old Carlisle; now at Lowther Castle. This stone has not been examined at first hand.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by the Ala Augusta ob Virtutem Appellata under the command of Publius Aelius Magnus. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is 44 inches and the width 21 inches.

The die and shaft are plain.

The ends of the bolsters seem to be plain.

The fascia seems to be rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1/2).

The mouldings of the capital seem to be a stepped-in fillet, a shallow cavetto and two stepped-in fillets. At the base there seem to be five stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 191.

RIB 894

LS 823

Bruce, Wall<sup>3</sup>, 362 with fig.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 114, no. 8.

199. An altar from Old Carlisle; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter of Doliche for the welfare of

the Emperor Septimius Severus by the Ala Augusta under the command of Egnatius Verecundus, prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the stone is  $40\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the width is 17 inches and the thickness is 9 inches.

The altar is much damaged. Since its discovery the stone has been trimmed down for re-use in building. The capital and base have been knocked off and the stone shaped for use as an arch head.

The figure in LS, based on a plate in the Gentleman's Magazine, shows that the stone had bolsters and a narrow, rectangular fascia (type 1).

The focus mount seems to have been "from the bolsters" (type 1) rising to a central profile of either type 1 or, less likely, of type 3.

The mouldings seem to have been mainly stepped-in fillets at the capital and stepped-out fillets and an inverted cyma at the base.

The altar is dated A.D. 197-8 by its inscription.

RIB 895

LS 825

Gough's Camden III, 440; plate XXIII, no. 2.

Lysons, Cumb., clxiii, no. 17; plate facing clxiii, no. 2.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 114-115, no. 9.

TH. Cat., 9, no. 22.

200. An altar from Old Carlisle; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter for the welfare of the Emperor Gordian III, his wife and family by the Ala Augusta under the command of Aemilius Crispinus, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is  $30\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches high and 18 inches wide.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are not accessible but no trace of ornamentation may be discerned on the portions visible.

The bolsters are large (type Ala) with plain fronts. They do not reach the edges of the capital.

The focus is not accessible.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5), but filled in from the top of the bolsters as in a focus mount of type 3. The fascia forms a central profile in the shape of a curving, truncated pediment (type 1 variant). The fascia is inscribed.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there is a torus and ovolo and at the base an ovolo and stepped-out plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 242. It is a good example of third-century altar styles.

RIB 897

LS 827

Horsley, 276, Cumb., LV

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 115, no. 11.

Altars probably from the workshop of Ala Augusta ob Virtutem

Appellata

201. An altar from Old Carlisle; now in the garden of Mr. C.F.A.

Ritson, Westway, West Road, Wigton.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter the Preserver. It is carved in red sandstone and is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. The width is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 17 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala).

There is no focus. The top of the capital is flat between the bolsters although a hollow separates the central area from the lateral rolls.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It is damaged at the front and its shape is not ascertainable.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a cavetto and a stepped-in fillet. These mouldings are reversed at the base and there is a stepped-out plinth. The mouldings of the altar appear to be the same as those of another altar from Old Carlisle (197). The last stone is dated by its inscription to A.D. 188 and this stone must belong to roughly the same period.

RIB 898

LS 819

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 115-116, no. 12 and 367-369; 368, fig. 1.

202. Part of an altar from Cardewlees; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar has been split length-wise and the inscription is defective although it appears to have been dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deities of the Emperors Valerianus and Gallienus and of Valerianus, most noble Caesar. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the width is  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is now  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and now 5 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are missing.

Little survives of the bolsters and nothing of the focus.

The fascia is moulded (type 2); one cabled and three plain,

angular tori are set one above the other.

The focus mount seems to have been "extended", curved under the bolsters (type 5b) and outlined by a moulding.

It is impossible to establish on how many sides the altar was moulded. Apart from the mouldings of the fascia there are no others at the capital. At the base there is a chamfer.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 255-259. The name of the unit erecting the stone is not preserved although its commanding officer was a centurion of Legio II. It seems possible that the masons responsible for the work were associated with the nearby fort of Old Carlisle and with Ala Augusta.

RIB 913

Haverfield, CW<sup>1</sup> XVI, 45; plate facing.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXIV, 88-93.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LI, 29.

TH. Cat., 8-9, no. 21.

203. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from near the fort at Old Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter for the welfare of Septimius Severus and Caracalla. The height of the stone is given in the Gentleman's Magazine as about 24 inches and the width as about 15 inches.

The die is plain.

The bolsters have a decoration of six-petalled rosettes set within a raised rim.

The fascia is apparently "enlarged" and decorated with a band of incised interlocking circles.

The fascia curves upwards to form a central profile of type 4. The focus has clearly filled the area between bolsters and fascia.

The mouldings of the capital incorporate a cabled torus.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 198-211.

The altar must originally have been a large and imposing one. It no doubt comes from the workshop of Ala Augusta.

RIB 896

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 115, no. 10.

Hutchinson, Cumb. II, 408; plate facing 410, fig. 13.

204. The lower part of an altar from Old Carlisle; now in  
Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The upper portion of the inscription is lost. The altar is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is now 14 inches; the width is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches and the thickness  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The altar is now moulded on one side. The topmost moulding is a fillet. Below this there is a cyma reversa, the convex curve of which is decorated with a band of twenty-four tiny triangles in relief. A flattened torus and a stepped-out plinth complete the mouldings.

The stone is dated by its inscription to A.D. 185. It seems likely that the stone was carved by masons of Ala Augusta, the unit in garrison at the fort at that time.

RIB 903

LS 818

Lysons, Cumb., clviii, no. 94; plate facing clxiii, no. 3.

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 117, no. 18.

TH. Cat., 19, no. 48.

Ala Augusta Vocontiorum

It seems likely that this unit was associated with Legio XX for the two regiments were brigaded together at Newstead. Only one altar, from Newstead, survives and this has an unusual capital which may be paralleled on stones from Aldborough and from Cohors I Baetasiorum at Bar Hill.

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205. An altar from Newstead; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to the Goddesses of the Parade Ground by Aelius Marcus, ~~decurion~~ of Ala Augusta Vocontiorum. It is carved in red sandstone. It is 27 inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at both the front and the back of the stone.

The focus is circular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). The internal diameter is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged," straight under the bolsters but carved in one plane with them (type 6).

The shape of the focus suggests that the central profile of the capital was a pediment (type 1), although this is now damaged. There seems to have been a supine crescent in relief in the centre of the pediment.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus moulding. At the base there is a chamfer.

Richmond suggested that Ala Augusta Vocontiorum was in occupation at Newstead in the early Antonine period<sup>1</sup>. If this view is correct the altar must come from that time and indeed there is nothing in the carving of the stone to make this improbable. The mouldings are simple but the finish of the stone is good and shows careful and methodical workmanship. The similarity of this capital with that of an altar of Cohors I Baetasiorum (80), is noteworthy as both are probably from the same period.

RIB 2121

Curle, 140-141, no.1; plate XVII.

RCAMS Roxburgh II, 319, no. vi; fig. 431.

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1. PSAS LXXXIV, 21.

Cohors I Aquitanorum

One altar dedicated by a prefect of this Cohort is known. It is linked with the work of masons of Legio XX by the cyma moulding decorated with palmettes, by the grooved bolsters of type C2 and by the ornamented fascia. The leaf motif of the focus mount may be paralleled on an altar of Ala Augusta from Old Carlisle (196).

The date of the stone is presumably about or after A.D. 158 when Cohors I Aquitanorum was stationed at Brough-on-Noe.

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206. An altar from Haddon Hall, Bakewell; now in Haddon Hall.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Braciaca by Quintus Sittius Caecilianus, prefect of Cohors I Aquitanorum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the stone is 48 inches, the width is 19 inches and the thickness  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $29\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are baluster-shaped with a central groove (type C2). The ends have a sunken roundel.

The focus is circular, dished with a flattish rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and touches the bolsters (upper surface type 10). The internal diameter is 9 inches and the depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and decorated with a series of S-curves in relief.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1). It has a leaf design in relief, similar to that occurring on the focus mount of an altar of Ala Augusta ob Virtutem Appellata from Old Carlisle (196).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa moulding based on tangential arcs identical in size and proportion with that of the altar of Ala Augusta referred to above. The moulding is ornamented by palmettes in relief. At the base of the shaft there is a bead moulding and a cyma reversa moulding.

The altar probably comes from the mid-second century when Cohors I Aquitanorum was stationed at Brough-on-Noe (RIB 283).

RIB 278

Haverfield, YCH Derbyshire I, 252, no. 1; plate facing 256, fig. 45.

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Cohors I Cugernorum

Only one altar mentioning this unit remains (365). The paramount influence seems to be that of Legio XX.

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Cohors I Lingonum

One altar dating from Gordian's reign mentions this cohort.

The main influence in the carving seems to be that of Legio XX: the fascia decorated with a supine crescent accords best with that legion's traditions.

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207. An altar from Eastgate near Stanhope, Co. Durham; now in the Department of Archaeology, the Old Fulling Mill, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus by Aurelius Quirinus, prefect of Cohors I Lingonum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is  $50\frac{1}{4}$  inches. It is higher at the dexter side than at the sinister side and at the back than at the front. The width of the stone is  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are not fully cut. They are indicated only for the first 2 inches at the top of the stone. Their fronts are dished with bosses.

The focus is recessed into the top of the capital. It is circular, dished with umbo with sunken centre (type Alc). The diameter is 8 inches and it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and decorated. It is outlined by a bead moulding and encloses a flattened, supine crescent in relief.

The focus mount is "filled-in" (type 3). On the front two dolphins in relief with trefoil tails, open mouths and large eyes face each other.

The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10) but the front of the top is shaped into an elegant curve.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs, three tori and one stepped-in torus. At the base there are two angular tori, an inverted cyma reversa based on tangential arcs, a bead moulding and the plinth.

The front of the plinth bears an incised trapezoid.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 238-244.

RIB 1042

LS 682

Steer, DNAAST VII, 211-12.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Lingonum

Two altars from Lanchester seem to belong to the workshop of Cohors I Lingonum.

The dies are plain and, apart from a small patera on the smaller altar, so are the shafts.

The bolsters of one altar are cylindrical (type A1a): one set has a central groove (type A2a). In one instance the ends of the bolsters are decorated with bosses. The foci are important features on both altars. One is dished with umbo; the other is flat-bottomed with rim.

One stone has a rectangular, decorated fascia. The second altar has a pedimented focus mount of type 1.

The mouldings used are mainly tori, sometimes angular, fillets and scotias.

The main influence to be seen in the carving of these altars

is that of Legio XX. The decorated fascia, the grooved bolsters and the gabled focus mount outlined by a groove accord best with that legion's traditions.

The date of the altars seems to be the period following the Severan redeployment of forces. The altar from Weardale (207) seems to be the last of the series and this may be securely placed in Gordian's reign.

208. An altar from Lanchester; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to the Fortune of the Emperor by Publius Aelius Atticus, prefect. It is carved in coarse sandstone. The altar is  $40\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 16 inches high, 11 inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with median groove (type A2a). The fronts have a boss with the centre indicated. The bolsters are set back from the front edge of the capital.

The focus is circular with a flat bottom and rim (type B6a). It is damaged at the sinister side. The external diameter seems to have been about 8 inches. It is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and decorated. Two incised bay leaves appear in the centre of the fascia; these are flanked by an incised ivy leaf.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), in the shape of a pediment (central profile type 1). It is outlined at both the front and top of the focus mount by a groove. This gives the effect of a bead moulding.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is an inclined fillet, an inverted cyma reversa and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a large fillet inclined inwards, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

This altar seems to be earlier in date than the two others in this group.

RIB 1073

LS 684

Horsley, 290, Durh. XIV.

Cat. Durh. 11, no. VII; fig., 11.

209. An altar from Lanchester; now in the British Museum.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Victory by Ulpian. It is carved in sandstone and is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is 8 inches wide and 4 inches thick. The shaft is 9 inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 4 inches thick.

The die is plain except for a cabled torus towards the base of the shaft.

The dexter side of the shaft has a small patera with dished bowl and umbo. It is set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at the front and back of the stone.

The focus is circular with a large boss (type Alb). The diameter is 2 inches. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5). It is decorated with a shallow rectangular panel outlined by a moulding. From the centre of the upper border, a knob projects.

The central profile of the capital is flat and slightly raised above the bolsters (type 11) but, at the top of the stone, the capital makes an elegant curve, similar to that of the altar from Eastgate, near Stanhope (207).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori separated by a scotia. At the base there is a chamfer.

The outline of the front of the top of the capital and the chamfered base of the altar suggests that this stone is the product of the workshop of Cohors I Lingonum during the period of the reign of the Emperor Gordian, A.D. 238-244.

RIB 1086

LS 692

B.M. Guide (1922), 23

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Cohors I Tungrorum

All the large and imposing altars of Cohors I Tungrorum except one, from Cramond, were found at Housesteads. With them may be associated a third-century altar of Cuneus Frisiorum from Housesteads and a fragment from Chesters fort.

The stone from Cramond is lost but from Horsley's drawing appears to have had a plain die and bolsters, with rectangular focus attached to the front and back of the capital. Chamfers separate capital and base from the shaft. The form of the central profile is not clear from Horsley's sketch for he depicts nothing above the rectangular fascia.

The Housesteads altars are of more interest. The die in every case is plain and the shaft is usually unornamented though it may have carvings of sacrificial vessels and implements. The bolsters are simple cylindrical rolls but five are strapped, in one instance with grooves and in another with an angular strap. Two altars have bolsters with double straps; one of these has bay-leaf decoration emerging from the straps. The foci are round and usually have flat bottoms and rims. In most instances they are attached to the bolsters by uncarved ribs of stone. One focus has a double rim, a feature which may be paralleled at Chester (RIB 457).

All types of enlarged fascia are to be found amongst the altars of Cohors I Tungrorum. Two of them are decorated. Three fasciae are inscribed. Central profiles are most commonly in the form of pediments (type 1), although there are three with profiles based on intersecting convex arcs (type 6).

The mouldings are, in all instances except one, cut on four sides and, in the main, are composed of fillets and cymas reversa. The cyma mouldings are interesting for sometimes they seem to have been carved

from templets based on intersecting arcs similar to those used by masons of Legio XX.

The most obvious influence on the altar styles of Cohors I Tungrorum is that of Legio XX, the legion which supplied a commander of the unit while it was based at Cramond. This influence is to be seen in the templets used for cyma mouldings, in the double-rimmed focus, in the angular straps and in the incised bay-leaf decoration of another pair of bolsters.

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210. An altar, now lost, from Nether Cramond.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses the Alatervae and to the Mother Goddesses of the Parade-ground by Cohors I Tungrorum under the command of a centurion of Legio XX Valeria Victrix. No measurements of the stone are preserved.

The die is plain.

According to Horsley's drawing, the bolsters are plain (type Ala).

Horsley's drawing shows the focus as rectangular, with rim (type B6a) and attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7).

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

The focus mount appears to have been in the form of a pediment (central profile type 1), "between the bolsters" (type 1).

Horsley's drawing indicates that the mouldings of capital and base were chamfers.

This altar is probably the earliest of these set up by Cohors I Tungrorum. The shape of the capital has features which are at home in the second century but the deep fascia and chamfers suggest that the stone does not belong to the first half of the period and that a

date towards the end of the century is more appropriate.

RIB 2135

Gordon, 116; plate XIV, 2.

Horsley, 205, Scot. XXIX.

211. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deities of the Emperors by Cohors I Tungrorum under the command of a prefect whose name is imperfectly preserved. The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $44\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with triple decorated straps (type A4b). The central strap is bordered on each side by projecting bay leaves in relief. The other straps are double; bay leaves in relief project towards the central strap from the inner side of these bands. The ends of the bolsters are decorated with rosettes of six petals in relief.

The focus is circular and almost flat. It has a central hole as if to accommodate a spike. It measures  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and decorated on the front and sides with an incised guilloche.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It seems to have formed a central profile of two convex arcs, each of which forms the upper edge of a solar disk in relief (type 6). Along the lower border of the focus mount there is an incised arcade.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reverse based on tangential arcs, and a stepped-in fillet. At the

base these mouldings are reversed, although the cyma is of a larger size.

This altar is the most highly decorated of the stones from the workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum.

RIB 1585

LS 176

Gordon, 76; plate XXXV, fig. 1.

Horsley, 220, North XXXIX

Cat. Ant., 63, no. 31.

212. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Silvanus Cocidius by Quintus Florius Maternus, prefect of Cohors I Tungrorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 48 inches high, 15 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with two-spaced grooves (type A2c). The fronts are outlined by a moulded rim.

The focus is round, dished (type A2b). It is attached to the bolsters by ribs of uncut stone and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 9). The internal diameter is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and inscribed.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It is in the shape of a pediment (central profile type 1), the outer edge of which is emphasized by a bead moulding.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a tiny stepped-in fillet. These mouldings are reversed for the base and there is a stepped-out plinth.

Another altar dedicated by the same prefect has also been found (213).

RIB 1578

LS 182

Budge, 338-9, no. 196; fig., 45

Bruce, Wall 3, 193

Chesters Cat., 32, no. 230.

213. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mars by Quintus Florius Maternus, prefect of Cohors I Tungrorum. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 52 inches high, 22 inches wide and  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). At both back and front they are decorated with six-petalled rosettes in relief.

The focus is circular with a double moulded rim; it is dished with umbo (type A3b) and is attached to the bolsters (upper surface type 2). The internal diameter of the focus is 10 inches. It is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and in two sections. The upper part, separated from the fascia proper by a tiny step, is decorated with a band of wavy ornament in relief, similar to, but more elaborate than, that made by arranging arcs alternately concave and convex, each arc springing from the mid-point of its neighbour.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), but sweeps downwards to the top of the fascia before rising to form a central profile of type 7 (three convex arcs).

The altar is moulded on four sides although the mouldings at the back are mutilated. At the capital there is a small torus, a sagging

cyma and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a cyma reversa, a fillet and then a fascia decorated with a globe, gently curved within a sunken roundel and bearing in relief the equinoctial and solstitial lines. Below this fascia there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1591

LS 180

Gordon, 76; plate XXXV, fig. 2

Horsley, 220, North XL.

Cat. Ant., 64, no. 33.

214. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deities of the Emperors by Cohors I Tungrorum under the command of Quintus Verius Superstis. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $45\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 22 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 18 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical, strapped in the centre (type A2b). The ends are decorated with rosettes with six sunken petals.

The focus is circular with rim. It is dished to a flat bottom (type A2b/B6a), and is attached to the bolsters by straps (upper surface type 2). The internal diameter is  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5). It is inscribed.

The central profile of the fascia is a pediment (type 1), although now it is slightly damaged. A similar feature appears at the back of the capital.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus, a smaller torus, an ovolo and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, an ovolo, two tori and a plinth.

RIB 1586

LS 172

Horsley, 219, North. XXXVI.

Cat. Ant. 63, no. 30.

215. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules by Cohors I Tungrorum under the command of Publius Aelius Modestus, prefect. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 42 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical (type Ala). The ends are decorated with grooved roundels with sunken centres.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 8). The internal diameter is 6 inches and the depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5). The central profile is in the shape of a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a torus, a cavetto, a smaller torus and a stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1580

LS 179

Gordon, 76; plate XXXV, fig. 3.

Horsley, 220, North. XLI.

Cat. Ant. 58-59. no. 17.

216. An altar, now lost, from Housesteads.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by Cohors I Tungrorum. No measurements are preserved.

Gordon's and Horsley's drawings depict a plain die.

No details of the shaft, bolsters and focus survive.

The fascia is apparently rectangular (type 1) deep.

No focus mount is recorded.

The mouldings of the capital seem to have been an ovolo, and two stepped-in tori. At the base there are two larger tori and a stepped-out plinth.

It is difficult to comment on this stone except to say that it must come from the third century or later. The mouldings suggest that it is more likely to be from the third than the fourth century.

RIB 1598

Gordon, 75; plate XXXIII, fig. 2.

Horsley, 220, North. XLII

217. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum at Housesteads.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deities of the Emperors by Cohors I Tungrorum under the command of Quintus Julius Maximus, prefect. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $47\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft, within a moulded arch, there is a patera with umbo and knobbed handle set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone. The sinister side of the shaft bears an elegant guttus set within a moulded arch. The body tapers towards the base (type B4) with a convex recess carved in the pedestal. This

may represent the hollow character of the pedestal. The neck of the vessel is long with a spouted mouth. A concave recess appears at the mouth, echoing the hollowed base.

The bolsters are cylindrical with two spaced straps (type A3a). Although the fronts of the bolsters are now plain, the back of the sinister bolster retains traces of a rosette set within a groove. This perhaps points to a similar decoration's having also existed on the other ends of the bolsters.

The focus is circular with a rim and roughly flattened bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 9). The internal diameter is  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The front of the capital is much weathered and seems to have an "enlarged" fascia of type 4, inscribed, but at the back of the altar, the fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

At the back of the capital the focus mount is between the bolsters (type 1) and is in the shape of a pediment (central profile type 1). A four-petalled naturalistic rosette adorns the gable.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1584

Haverfield, PSAN<sup>3</sup> V, 240 with plate facing.

Cowen, PSAN<sup>4</sup> III, 231

Haverfield, Arch. J. LXVIII, 145-146, no. 1.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum

218. An altar from Housesteads Mithraeum; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras by Litorius Pacatianus, beneficiarius of the governor. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $55\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 19 inches thick. The shaft is  $26\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft bears a patera set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and back of the altar. The bowl has an umbo and concentric moulding within the bowl. The handle is unusual in that it terminates in two "horns". On the sinister side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B3).

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are undecorated.

The focus is circular, sunken into the top of the capital (type Ala). A groove leads to the front of the capital. The internal diameter of the focus is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep. It is inscribed, and decorated with a band of six incised, concave semi-circles depending from the upper edge. This ornamentation is also to be found at the back and dexter side of the stone.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It is not of standard type for, before sweeping downwards in two concave arcs, it curves upwards in two horns. This may be paralleled on 221. The central profile is a modification of type 4 and may best be described as type 4/8.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three tiny stepped-in fillets, a fillet, a torus and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a torus, a fillet, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth. These mouldings are not classical in their conception and are a pointer to the late date of the altar.

The altar is clearly of third century date. On the basis of the inscription, Cumont dates the stone to the year A.D. 246. Stylistically there is nothing to object to in this for the deep

inscribed fascia and the unusual mouldings are at home in the third century. Moreover the focus is by no means an important feature of the capital. The shape of the focus mount resembles one carved on an altar dedicated by a prefect of Cohors I Tungrorum. That stone was no doubt carved by an auxiliary mason and this altar probably comes from the same workshop.

RIB 1599

LS 189

Hodgson, AA<sup>1</sup> I, 302, no. 7; plate facing 263; no. 7.

Cumont, Textes et Monuments relatifs aux Mystères de Mithra (Bruxelles, 1899, 1896), II, 161, no. 479.

Cat. Ant. 69, no. 51.

219. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the deities of the Emperors by a prefect, presumably of Cohors I Tungrorum. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 47 inches high,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The front of the dexter bolster retains traces of a rosette motif.

The focus is circular, sunken, with a flat bottom (type B5a). The diameter is 10 inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep, and inscribed.

The focus mount is unusual. It emerges from below the bolsters and rises above them in two curved horns before sweeping down and then upwards to form a more conventional central profile of type 6 (two convex arcs). A groove runs vertically from the point of inter-

section and, on each side, there is a bucranium in relief.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is an ugly projecting moulding which may be intended as a sagging cyma, and a stepped-in fillet or ovolo. The front of the base is weathered but at the sinister side there has been a stepped-out fillet and a cyma reversa moulding. There is no fillet at the dexter side.

RIB 1588

LS 175

Horsley, 220, North. XLIII

Cat. Ant., 61-62, no. 25.

220. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum at Housesteads.

The inscription is defective but enough survives to show that the dedication has been to Jupiter and to the Deities, presumably of the Emperors. The name of the cohort does not remain but Wright suggests that the prefect mentioned is Quintus Verius Superstis. The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $43\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 22 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with angular straps (type A2d). One letter of the first line of the inscription are carved on the end of each.

The focus is circular, rimmed with flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and to the bolsters by straps (upper surface type 9). The internal diameter is  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches; it is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5), and inscribed. It rises to form a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two cyma reversa mouldings stepped-in to the shaft, the lower one chamfered to the die. At the base there is a fillet, an inverted cyma reversa, a stepped-out fillet and a plinth.

The altar clearly belongs to the workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum. It is similar in many ways to 214.

RIB 1587

Haverfield, PSAN<sup>3</sup> V, 240 with plate facing

Haverfield, Arch. J. LXVIII, 146-7, no. 2.

221. An uninscribed altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in sandstone and is  $47\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. It is  $24\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body, long neck and small spouted mouth (type B1), within a wreath. The sinister side bears a patera with rim and umbo encircled by a concentric moulding, set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone. This is enclosed in a wreath tied by a loose knot of ribbons.

The bolsters are damaged but have probably been cylindrical with a central strap (type A2b).

There is no focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2) but rises to form "horns" before curving into concave arcs. The central profile of the capital is given by a reverse curve at the inner side of each concave arc, a third convex arc being sandwiched between the two (type 7). This is identical with the central profile of 213.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital two tiny stepped-in fillets surmount a large inverted cyma reversa moulding

and a third stepped-in fillet. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The "horns" of the focus mount may be paralleled on an altar probably of Cohors I Tungrorum (219) and on another altar from Housesteads (218). The similarity of focus mount with that of an altar probably from the workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum makes possible the attribution of this stone to the same unit, while the connection with 218 enables it to be placed in the mid third century.

LS 174.

Horsley, 220, North. XXXVIII.

Cat. Ant., 104, no. 201.

222. An altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the German Mother Goddesses. The rest of the inscription is defective. The altar is carved in cream sandstone. It is  $34\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 11 inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 12 inches high,  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical with grooved straps (type A2a). The ends of the bolsters are outlined by a groove and may have had rosettes with incised petals.

The focus is circular, sunken with flat bottom (type B5a). The diameter is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the focus is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and inscribed.

The focus mount is "filled-in" (type 3). The central profile is flat (type 10) but interest is given to front and back of the capital by a motif in relief; this has been either a roundel or a supine crescent. Damage prevents certainty.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there are two tori separated by a fillet and a stepped plinth.

The style of the bolsters and of the focus, and the mouldings based on tangential arcs suggest that the altar comes from the workshop of Cohors I Tungrorum. The deep, inscribed fascia suggests a third-century date. The roundel or supine crescent at the front of the focus mount may be paralleled on an altar from Housesteads dedicated by the Numerus Hnaudifridi, a unit which was probably associated with Housesteads in the third century. This seems to point to Housesteads as the find-spot for this altar, as Bruce suggested.

RIB 2064

LS 186

Cat. Ant., 64, no. 36

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Cohors I Vangionum

Cohors I Vangionum has a well defined tradition of sculpture revealed both by its building inscriptions and by its altars.

The die of altars is usually plain but may be panelled. The shaft is often decorated with carvings of sacrificial implements and vessels.

Bolsters may be strapped and the ends decorated with rosettes or bosses. The focus is an important feature and in one instance has the form of a handled dish.

Fasciae are "enlarged" and often bear interesting decorative schemes. Central profiles are either gabled (type 1), or flat (type 10).

Mouldings are not usually very elaborate. Fillets, tori and chamfers are the most common.

The main influence on the styles of Cohors I Vangionum seems to spring from Legio XX. The unit may have been in contact with the legion at Benwell before moving to Risingham. The decorated fasciae, the focus in the form of a handled dish and the supine crescent in relief may all be paralleled on legionary stones. The angular straps of an altar from Brougham also seem to come from this tradition, and it seems likely that a detachment of the cohort was serving in Westmorland. Another stone, from Kirkby Thore, has ornamentation which may be found on a dedication from Risingham.

The altars of Vexillatio Gaesatorum Raetorum, which was stationed at Risingham with Cohors I Vangionum, probably belong to the same workshop. Moreover, the decoration of one Risingham altar is strikingly similar to that of the imposing altar erected by Vexillatio Sueborum at Lanchester. This suggests that either a mason from Cohors I Vangionum was seconded to Vexillatio Sueborum or that a skilled craftsman from Lanchester moved to the unit at Risingham.

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223. Three fragments of an altar from Benwell; now in the  
Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the god Antenociticus by Cohors I Vangionum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the surviving fragments is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the capital as it now remains is  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick. The shaft is 15 inches wide.

The inscription is in a sunken panel outlined by a double bead moulding.

The sinister side of the shaft retains its original form; a panel is outlined by a bead moulding.

The upper part of the altar is very badly damaged and no trace of bolsters, focus, fascia or focus mount remains.

The mouldings of the capital have all been chipped away.

This stone is probably the earliest in the series of stones from the workshop of Cohors I Vangionum and is no doubt to be placed in the second century.

RIB 1328

LS 29

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 552, no. 3 with plate.

Cat. Ant., 55, no. 3.

224. An altar from Risingham; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules by Lucius Aemilius Salvianus, tribune of Cohors I Vangionum. It is carved in sandstone, reddened by fire. The altar is 49 inches high,  $25\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $23\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The inscription is in a sunken panel  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

On the dexter side of the shaft a docile bull in relief, its neck and belly bound by fillets, moves towards the front of the altar. On the sinister side of the shaft there is a semi-circle in relief below which a swag depends, bound with six fillets and having long ends terminating in tassels.

The bolsters are cylindrical and double strapped (type A3a). The ends are damaged.

The focus is elliptical with the long axis from front to back, and set so that it is nearer to the front than to the back of the capital. It is dished (type A2b) and is attached by straps to the bolsters (upper surface type 3). It measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally from side to side and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back. It is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia and base are moulded (type 2). At the capital there is a flattened torus, a fillet and an ovolo. The equivalent mouldings of the base are two debased tori. At the sides of the capital rectangular fasciae of type 1 may be found. The fascia at the front of the altar is damaged but seems to have been "enlarged" as well as moulded.

The front of the capital is damaged but traces of a gable outlined in relief remain (type 1).

The altar is fully moulded only at the front of the stone. The sides are chamfered. At the capital the mouldings, below the fascia are a fillet, two stepped-in small tori and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there are four stepped-out tori, then the extra mouldings noted above and a plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 205-208 (RIB 1234). The design of the altar is ambitious but technique has not been equal to conception and in many ways the execution is crude. The top of the altar, for instance, is higher at the back

than at the front and the straps of the bolsters are not well carved. Nevertheless the altar gives an insight into the motifs current amongst the masons of Cohors I Vangionum at the turn of the century.

RIB 1215

LS 598

Horsley, 235, North. LXXXI

Richmond, NCH XV, 133, no. 11.

225. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The name of the deity is lacking but the altar was erected by Cohors I Vangionum under the command of Marcus Peregrinius Super, tribune. Horsley states that it is carved in reddish stone. No measurements are recorded.

According to Horsley's sketch and the drawing reproduced in RIB from a Bodleian ms., the die is plain.

No details of bolsters or focus remain although the ends of bolsters appear in Horsley's drawing.

If the topmost element of the mouldings of the capital shown in the ms. drawing is the fascia, then this feature is rectangular (type 1), narrow. Horsley, however, shows an "enlarged" fascia (type 5) decorated with a flattened supine crescent.

The altar has a moulded capital and base. According to RIB, the upper set of mouldings seems to have been an ovolo or cavetto, a fillet, a cyma recta and a bead moulding. At the base there seems to have been a bead moulding, an inverted cyma recta and a stepped-out plinth. Horsley shows a chamfer at the capital and a chamfer and fillet at the base.

The altar probably comes from the third century when Cohors I Vangionum was stationed at Risingham. The supine crescent may be

paralleled on 228.

RIB 1231

Horsley, 237, North. LXXXVI.

Richmond, NCH XV, 139, no. 28

226. An altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Gods who dwell in this place by Julius Victor, tribune. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 28 inches high, 14 inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at the front.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital, making a lozenge shape (upper surface type 11). It measures internally  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches from side to side and 5 inches from front to back. It is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. The focus displays signs of burning.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5). It rises to a pedimented central profile (type 1). The gable is outlined by a plain, flat moulding.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori. At the base there is a small chamfer.

Julius Victor was tribune of Cohors I Vangionum (250) so that this altar may be ascribed to the masons of that unit. The style of the capital and the chamfered base point to a date in the third century, a period when it is entirely appropriate for Julius Victor to have been in command.

RIB 1208

LS 605

Richmond, NCH XV, 136, no. 23.

Bell, AA<sup>1</sup> III, 155, no. 6 plate facing 153, no. 6.

Cat. Ant., 56-57, no. 9.

227. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The altar is dedicated to Hercules by Julius Paullus, tribune.

No measurements are recorded.

The die, according to Horsley's drawing, is plain.

The upper part of the altar is not known so that details of the bolsters, focus and fascia are wanting.

The altar is moulded. At the base there are five stepped-out tori and a plinth.

A building inscription (RIB 1241) records Julius Paullus as tribune of Cohors I Vangionum so that this altar may with confidence be ascribed to the masons of that unit. The stone therefore is most likely of third century date.

RIB 1213

Horsley, 236, North. LXXXIII.

Richmond, NCH XV, 133, no. 12.

228. An altar, probably from Risingham; now at Hallington Hall, Northumberland.

The inscription is defective but the dedicator has been connected with Cohors I Vangionum. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $37\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a patera set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone. The bowl is very shallow and is dished with a large, flattish umbo. The handle is grooved along its length in imitation of fluting. On the sinister side of the shaft there is a knife with triangular blade (type 4).

There are no bolsters.

The focus is in the form of an oval dish with ansa-shaped handles, similar to that decorating the front of the capital of an altar of Cohors IV Gallorum from Chesterholm (160). The dish measures 7 inches from side to side and 4 inches from back to front. The depth is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), decorated with a supine crescent in relief. The sides of the fascia are also decorated. Towards the front of the dexter side of the capital there is a roundel with two concentric rings and boss. There is a similar roundel, but larger, on the sinister side. This motif is placed centrally and has a large boss.

The central profile of the altar is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a shallow cyma reversa and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a wider fillet and a plinth.

Judging by its shape, the altar seems to belong to the post-Severan age.

RIB 1230

LS mentioned with 566

JRS XLVIII, 151, no. 7.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Vangionum.

229. An altar found at Clifton, Westmorland, but probably from Brougham; now in the garden of Mr. J.H. Brett, 137, Fishpool Street, St. Albans.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Genius of this place by Subrius Apollinaris, a princeps of Cohors I V..... It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is 37 inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and neck gradually merging into the body (type B2). The handle is indicated by a groove and the body rests on a small pedestal. The sinister side bears a relief of a patera set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone. The bowl has no rim but has an umbo. It is possible that the handle has been animal-headed.

The cylindrical shape of the bolsters is suggested by their ends although the focus is so large that it oversails them and prevents their being fully carved. Angular straps girdle the bolsters (type A2d). The ends of the bolsters have been decorated with an incised eight-spoked wheel or rosette within an incised roundel.

The focus is raised above the level of the top of the bolsters. It is roughly circular and slightly dished. There is no rim (type A1a). It is attached to the straps of the bolsters (upper surface type 5/3). The focus is 8 inches in diameter from side to side and is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," flat under the bolsters (type 3), and inscribed. It rises to a central profile of type 1 (pediment).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two stepped-in fillets and at the base there are two stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The inscription suggests that the unit commanded by the princeps is Cohors I Vangionum. The enlarged fascia, the sacrificial vessels on the shaft and the simple mouldings are all in keeping with the traditions of this cohort. The shape of the fascia seems to indicate that a date in the mid-second century or slightly later would not be amiss.

RIB 792

LS 809

Bruce, Wall 3, 361 with fig.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXII, 132, no. 7

230. An altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Victor by a freedman. The altar is carved in buff sandstone and is 50 inches high. It is 20 inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top is damaged and no traces of bolsters and focus are preserved. Damage to the capital prevents any description of fascia and focus mount.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori. At the base there are also two tori, the upper with a decoration of vertical parallel grooves. This is similar to the decoration of a building slab from Risingham, set up by Cohors I Vangionum and suggests that auxiliary masons from this unit may be responsible for the carving of this stone also.

If the altar is to be attributed to Cohors I Vangionum, it probably dates from the third century.

RIB 1223

Cat. Ant., 73, no. 65.

231. An altar probably from Risingham; now built into the garage  
at Townfoot Farm, East Woodburn.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius and Silvanus. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 41 inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 12

inches thick, as it now appears. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a triangular-bladed knife (type 4), and axe with straight-sided blade not projecting beyond the shaft (type 4). In each case the blade is towards the base of the altar. The sinister side of the shaft carries representations of a guttus and a patera, both of which are set horizontally. The guttus has an ovoid body with short, broad neck (type B3). The patera has a rim and umbo with depressed centre. The bowl is towards the front of the stone.

The top of the altar has gone and there are no signs of bolsters or focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep, and decorated. On the front, a male figure stands astride. He wears a short tunic and holds a bow in his left hand. At the dexter side of the stone, from beneath a damaged tree, a deer moves towards the figure while at the other side an animal, probably a dog, sits on his hindquarters under another tree. The whole group is framed in a plain, flat border. Richmond interpreted this scene as a depiction of Cocidius in his aspect of Silvanus the hunter. The sinister side of the capital is also decorated. Here the scene is again sylvan. A doe and her young walk past a tree. The dexter panel is missing.

The top of the capital is now flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded at least on three sides. At the capital a flattened, projecting moulding acts as a frame for the sculptured panel. At the base three tori are now visible.

The style of the decorated capital is reminiscent of the capital of 235, a stone which clearly comes from a military workshop, probably that of Cohors I Vangionum. Moreover the size of the altar indicates the social status of the dedicator and makes it likely that he was either a civil or military official. On balance it seems possible to ascribe

this altar to army masons for it has the sacrificial vessels on the shaft. It seems likely that it comes from the workshop of Cohors I Vangionum and that it is of third century date.

RIB 1207; plate XVII.

Richmond, NCH XV, 139, no. 29; 137, fig. 38; 138, fig. 39.

232. An altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Gaius Valerius Longinus, tribune. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $39\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The altar stands on a socketed base 8 inches high, 37 inches wide and 24 inches thick, upon which the inscription is repeated.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and short broad neck (type B3). A patera appears on the sinister side of the shaft, set obliquely with the bowl towards the top and front of the stone. It has a raised rim and umbo which itself has another small boss within it.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are decorated with rosettes of six petals outlined in relief set within moulded rims and separated by chip-carving.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It measures 6 inches internally and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep. It displays signs of burning. Two foci are carved in the base; one,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter and 1 inch deep, is outlined by an incised line and has a large umbo; the other is a sunken roundel,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter.

The fascia is "enlarged", flat under the bolsters (type 3) and decorated. A row of six baluster-shaped columns with capitals and

bases, supports two cross-beams on which a pediment, outlined by a plain moulding rests. The two innermost columns support a third cross-beam at a lower level, and from this an arch springs. At the sides of the capital there is an ivy leaf tendril in relief.

The central profile of the capital is a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus moulding. At the base there are two small tori, two fillets inclined inwards and a stepped-out plinth.

The enlarged, decorated fascia, and the debased mouldings suggest that this stone belongs to the third, rather than to the second century. Indeed it seems likely that the altar was carved by masons of Cohors I Vangionum.

RIB 1210

LS 600

Richmond, NCH XV, 133, no. 13; plate facing 136.

Cat. Ant., 57, no. 11.

233. An altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune the Home-bringer by Julius Severinus, tribune. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $36\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 14 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

The dexter side of the shaft is ornamented by an axe of either type 1 or type 2 and a knife with broad blade curving towards the tip (type 2). On the sinister side there is a guttus with globular body and long neck with spouted mouth (type A1), and a patera with umbo with depressed centre set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the altar.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends have rims and large bosses.

The focus is circular with rim and large, flat umbo (type A2g). It has an internal diameter of  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches and is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep. It shows signs of burning. A small sunken roundel appears in the angle formed by the dexter bolster and the back of the capital. This may be a second focus.

The fascia is "enlarged", flat under the bolsters and decorated (type 3). The main motif is an architectural façade the central feature of which is a round-headed, shouldered recess, set within a pediment from which pellets depend. This calls to mind the treatment of gables on some Roman coins<sup>1</sup>. Flanking the recess there is a row of three cylindrical columns with pronounced bases and capitals, the latter surmounted by tiny arches. The shaft of the middle column is cabled. Below this façade there has been a sunken panel but this is much damaged. The central profile of the capital has been a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there is a chamfer.

The front of the base is ornamented by a band of chip-carved bar saltire set within incised lines.

The altar is clearly linked with 232 in virtue of the similarity of the decorated fascia. It seems likely that the stones were carved in the same workshop, most probably that of Cohors I Vangionum in the third century.

RIB 1212

LS 602

Richmond, NCH XV, 133-134, no. 14; plate facing 136.

Cat. Ant., 57-58, no. 12.

1. See I, p. 86.

234. An altar from Risingham; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to the god Mogonitus Cad.... by a beneficiarius consularis. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is 20 inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 11 inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and inscribed.

The upper profile of the altar is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. A chamfer appears at both capital and base.

The inscribed fascia and the chamfers suggest that this altar comes from the third century. Although Beneficiarii were independent of the units garrisoning forts, it seems likely that important officials of this kind would have had the resources of auxiliary craftsmen at their disposal, especially in times of peace. It seems probable then that this stone was carved in the workshop of Cohors I Vangionum.

RIB 1225

LS 603

Richmond, NCH XV, 137, no. 24; plate facing 64.

Birley, JRS LVI, 228.

235. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Victor by Julius Publilius Pius, tribune. No measurements are recorded.

Horsley's drawing shows the die to be plain.

No details of the bolsters and focus are known.

The fascia is apparently rectangular (type 1), deep, and

decorated with full length figures of Mars and Victory. Mars is on the dexter side and wears a strange kilt-like garment. He holds a spear in his right hand and grasps a shield with his left. He seems to have a helmet on his head. Victory stands beside him resting her weight on her left leg. She is draped but with the right leg bare from the thigh. She has small wings and holds aloft in her right hand a globe, on which the solstitial lines are marked, while grasping a palm branch in the other hand.

The altar is moulded. It is difficult to know whether there have been mouldings at the capital but at the base there are apparently two tori.

On the base there is a bucranium.

It is difficult to ascribe this altar to a workshop though it clearly has affinities with 231. The figure of Mars and Victory appear on a dedication slab of Cohors I Vangionum from Risingham and it is a distinct possibility that the altar comes from masons of that unit.

RIB 1221

Warburton.

Horsley, 236, North. LXXXIII.

Richmond, NCH XV, 134, no. 16.

236. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The inscription is defective but sufficient remains to show that the altar has been dedicated to Mars Victor. No measurements are preserved.

The die and shaft, according to Warburton's Map of Northumberland, are plain.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is rectangular, sunken.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7).

The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there seem to be two tori separated by a fillet. At the base the tori seem to be replaced by chamfers and there is a plinth.

The dedication indicates that the altar was set up by soldiers. The shape of the capital suggests a third-century date so that an attribution to Cohors I Vangionum is not unlikely.

RIB 1222

Warburton.

Richmond, NCH XV, 134, no. 17.

237. The capital of an altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The capital is carved in buff sandstone. It is 13 inches high, 23 inches wide and 15 inches thick.

At the front of the capital there are acroteria. There are no bolsters.

In the centre of the capital there is a square, raised panel which may be intended to act as the focus (type D12). It measures 12 inches from side to side and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches from front to back.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and decorated. At the front of the capital, in a sunken panel outlined by a plain, flat border, there are four trees, behind which a bull moves towards the dexter side of the stone. On the dexter side of the capital there are two swags with pendants, while on the sinister side two plain swags, bound by fillets, appear in a sunken panel.

The find-spot of the capital and the motif of trees and bull calls to mind the capital of an altar from the same site on which trees and animals are depicted. It seems likely that this stone is from a military workshop; it may well be that of Cohors I Vangionum.

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> I, 240, no. 55 with fig.

Richmond, NCH XV, 143, no. 50.

Cat. Ant., 118, no. 318.

Cohors II Delmatarum

Only one altar mentioning this unit survives, and it is a small and unimportant one. The grooved focus suggests that it comes from the third century.

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238. An altar from near Thirlwall Castle; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Veteris by Julius Pastor, imaginifer of Cohors II Delmatarum. It is carved in gritty sandstone and is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is 9 inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is rectangular and marked only by a groove (type C8). It measures internally  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches from side to side.

There is no real fascia or focus mount. The top of the altar is flat except for the incised focus.

The upper profile of the altar is flat (type 10).

Mouldings are of the simplest. At the front of the capital and of the base there is an ovolo. The sides of the capital have no moulding other than a step.

The absence of bolsters and the grooved focus place this altar in the third century. The mason responsible for the carving may well have been influenced by the craftsmen working at Lanchester during this period (eg. 511, 513, 527), and so the altar is included in Legio XX's group.

RIB 1795

LS 316

Bruce, Wall 2, 399 with fig.

Cohors IV Lingonum

Of the three altars from Wallsend naming Cohors IV Lingonum, two have panelled dies and shafts highly ornamented with sacrificial implements and vessels, snakes and a human figure. In addition the base of one stone depicts an anguipes, an unusual motif but one which occurs on a coffin from Chester.<sup>1</sup>

One of the altars (239) is of conventional shape with plain bolsters. One is a fragment and the third has a third-century-style capital with bolsters indicated only by rosetted roundels, with flat top and chamfers. The focus of the conventional altar is flat-bottomed and is attached to the focus mount.

Both of the well-preserved altars (239 and 241) have rectangular fasciae, one of them highly ornamented. The central profile of the focus mount of the conventional altar (type 2) is formed by two convex arcs (type 6).

The mouldings of the conventional altar (239) are the *cyma reversa* and *cavetto*.

The panelled dies and lavishly ornamented shafts put the products of this workshop in the stream of tradition emanating from the craftsmen of either Legio XX or of Legio VI. All three stones apparently date from the third century at a time when Legio VI's influence was in the ascendant. Nevertheless, the highly decorated fascia and the presence of the anguipes tip the balance in favour of Legio XX.

239. An altar, broken across the shaft, from Wallsend; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors IV Lingonum under the command of Julius Honoratus, centurion of Legio II Augusta. It is carved

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1. Wright and Richmond, op. cit., 51, no. 138; plate XXXV.

in sandstone. The altar is 36 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick and is in a socketed base  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and set away from the edges of the capital. The unadorned fronts of the bolsters are not quite circular; their lower side is flat.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital by two projections (upper surface type 7) which give a spouted appearance to the focus. The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow. At the back and dexter side diagonal grooves appear.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It rises to form two small arcs (central profile type 6), with traces of an incised gable still remaining. At the back of the capital the upper profile is similar but in addition, a sunken band runs across the capital which swells to form two semi-circles below the arcs of the focus mount.

The altar is moulded on four sides although at the back of the stone the mouldings are simplified. At the capital there is a small cavetto and a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs. At the base these mouldings appear in reverse and there is a plinth.

The altar probably comes from the early part of the third century when Cohors IV Lingonum was stationed at Wallsend.

RIB 1299

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 541, no. 1 with plate.

Cat. Ant., 59-60, no. 19.

240. Two fragments of an altar from Wallsend; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar has been dedicated to Jupiter by Cornelius Celer, prefect of Cohors IV Lingonum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone measures 10 inches in height, 15 inches in width and is  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is flanked by two torus mouldings. The panel they form is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are edged by a large rounded moulding. On the dexter side of the shaft there is a relief of a figure facing forwards, and wearing a belted, sleeved tunic. On the sinister side there is a large cleaver (type 4) and part of an axe.

RIB 1301

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 542, no. 3; with plate, 541.

Cat. Ant., 75, no. 72.

241. The upper part of an altar from Wallsend; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Aelius Rufus, prefect of Cohors IV Lingonum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is  $37\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick. The shaft is 17 inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, outlined by a bead moulding.

The sides of the shaft are panelled, with a beaded border. On the dexter side there is a triangular-bladed knife (type 4), an axe with divergent straight blade and square end (type 3), a guttus with globular body, and long neck with spout (type A1), and a bucranium. On the sinister side there is a patera with umbo, set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone and flanked by two serpents.

The top of the altar is now flat. The bolsters are indicated by roundels at the front of the capital. They are decorated with six-petalled rosettes in relief set within a raised rim.

If any focus existed it has been cut away.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), and decorated. Across the front of the stone, a band of twelve upright chevrons in relief is placed above a series of fourteen bar saltires or vesicae piscis. Between the roundels of the bolsters a diagonal bar, possibly a palm branch, is set on either side of a roundel, or wreath.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the stone there is a chamfer. The sides of the capital are roughly chiselled flat.

The dexter side of the base bears a representation of an anguipes.

The altar no doubt comes from the third century.

RIB 1300

LS 1.

Brand, Arch VIII, 326; plate XXI, 1, 2, 3 facing 326

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Cohors VI Nerviorum

242. The lower part of an altar from Rough Castle; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Victory by Cohors VI Nerviorum under the acting command of Flavius Betto, centurion of Legio XX Valeria Victrix. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is 27 inches high, 17 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The altar is moulded on four sides. A well-cut stepped-out cavetto is set above a fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the Antonine period. The cavetto of the base is identical in size and proportion to that on an altar of Legio XX from Chester (RIB 452) and this, together with the fact that the acting commandant of the cohort is from the same legion suggests that Cohors VI Nerviorum was associated with Legio XX at least during the first half of the second century.

RIB 2144

Macdonald, 418-419, no. 34; plate XL, 1.

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Cuneus Frisiorum

This unit was associated with Cohors I Tungrorum at Housesteads in the third century.

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243. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Mars, the two Alaisiagae and the Deity of the Emperor by German soldiers of the Cuneus Frisiorum Vercovicianorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 50 inches high,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 17 inches thick. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is an axe of pick-axe type (type 1), and a knife with a broad cutting edge, sharply angled to the tip (type 1). The sinister side bears representations of a guttus and patera. The guttus has a globular body with a short broad neck (type A2). It is not carved in an upright position but is apparently lying on its side. This suggests that the motif was carved at the same time as other parts of the altar were being fashioned and that more than one mason was at work on the stone. The patera has a flat bottom and small umbo with recessed centre. It is set obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone.

The bolsters are cylindrical with angular straps (type A2d). The ends are decorated with six-petalled rosettes, the petals outlined in relief and linked at the outer side by petals of a similar nature.

The focus is large, circular and dished (type A2b). It is attached to the bolsters by straps and to the back and front of the capital (upper surface type 9). The internal diameter is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It is in the shape of a pediment (type 1), with a raised, chamfered border, and accommodates a bust, presumably that of a deity. At the back of the stone there is a plain pediment.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two mouldings which seem to have been intended for stepped-in tori but which were modified in carving to become a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs, a bead moulding and an ovolo. A stepped-in fillet completes the scheme. At the base these mouldings are reversed but are smaller in size. There is a stepped plinth. The cyma mouldings are from the same set as those used to carve the mouldings of another third century altar from Housesteads (244) and very similar to those used by Cohors I Tungrorum.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the reign of Severus Alexander, A.D. 222-235. It seems likely that the masons of the Cuneus Frisiorum were indebted to those of Cohors I Tungrorum for their templates and styles. The angular-straped bolsters may be paralleled at Housesteads (220).

RIB 1594

Clayton, AA<sup>2</sup> X, 148-150; plate III.

Watkin, ibid. 150-154.

Budge, 338, no. 195; fig., 187.

Chesters Cat. 32, no. 231.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cuneus Frisiorum

244. An altar from Housesteads Mithraeum; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar has had two inscriptions. The earlier, survives only in the word DEO. The later dedication is to Mithras by Publicius Proculinus, centurion. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $44\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 16 inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 19 inches high, 14 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and damaged at the front.

The focus is almost square, with rim and flat bottom (type B6a).

The internal measurement is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1) and gives a central profile in the shape of a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a cyma reversa based on intersecting arcs cut from the same set of templates as one used by masons of Cuneus Frisiorum at Housesteads, and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, an inverted cyma reversa and a stepped plinth.

The plinth is inscribed.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 252.

RIB 1600

LS 190

Hodgson, AA<sup>1</sup> I, 299-302, no. 6; plate facing 263, no. 6.

Cat. Ant., 61, no. 23.

245. An altar from Housesteads; now built into a wall at Trinity College, Cambridge.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter for the welfare of Desidienus Aemilianus, prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

The die is plain.

The ends of the bolsters are adorned by large bosses within rims.

It is not possible to ascertain details of the focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth. It has been inscribed and now bears traces of cross hatching.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The central profile of the capital is a pediment shape (type 1).

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there is a small torus, a large, inverted cyma reversa and another small torus. At the base there is a small torus, a cyma reversa, another small torus and a stepped-out plinth. The cyma mouldings of this altar are based on intersecting arcs but do not appear to belong to any well defined set.

The plinth is inscribed.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 258. It is similar in style to no. 244 and may come from the same hand. Both altars have plain dies and on both, the inscription begins on the rectangular fascia and ends on the base of the stone. In both instances the focus mount and central profile are similar and both altars have cyma reversa mouldings.

RIB 1589

LS 295

Horsley, 226-7, North. LIV.

246. A fragment of an altar from Chesters; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The fragment is part of a bolster decorated with a rosette. The stone is sandstone. The fragment is 12 inches high,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 6 inches thick.

The rosette is 8 inches in diameter and has a raised outer rim.

An inner rim frames a rosette of five sunken petals, linked by sunken, petal-like arcs. A sixth petal has been intended but never carved although its position is marked by a ridge. Chip-carved three-sided cavities separate the petals.

This fragment is very similar to the ornamented bolsters of an altar of Cuneus Frisiorum from Housesteads (243), and may be put in the same group.

Budge, 298, no. 6

Not in Chesters Cat.

Numerus Hnaudifridi

This unit was associated with Cohors I Tungrorum at Housesteads in the third century.

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247. An altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum at Housesteads.

The altar is dedicated to the Alaisiagae and to the Deity of the Emperor, by Numerus Hnaudifridi. It is carved in gritty sandstone. The altar is  $34\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The front of the sinister bolster retains traces of a roundel.

The focus is circular and slopes steeply to the bottom (a variant of type Ala). The diameter is 5 inches and the depth  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The focus is set in the centre of a lozenge-shaped platform (upper surface type 11).

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5) and inscribed. The central profile of the fascia is a pediment (type 1), in the apex of which there is an incised motif, either a roundel or a supine crescent. At the back there is a plain pediment.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a flattened torus, a bead, an ovolo and another bead moulding. At the base three stepped-out bead mouldings surmount a torus moulding and a plinth.

The base carves the last line of the inscription.

The altar accords well with the stones carved by masons of Cohors I Tungrorum at Housesteads in the third century. It may be supposed that these auxiliary troops of an established unit would give assistance

to the men of Numerus Hnaudifridi who were possibly less familiar with Roman conventions. The dedication suggests that the altar may date from about Severus Alexander's reign (of. 243).

RIB 1576

Bosanquet, AA<sup>3</sup> XIX, 185-192; plate 187.

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Vexillatio Gaesatorum Raetorum

This unit was associated with Cohors I Vangionum at Risingham in the third century.

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248. An altar from Great Chesters; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Vexillatio Gaesatorum Raetorum under the command of Tabellius Victor, centurion. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 25 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical (type Ala), small, and set back from the edges of the capital. The ends are damaged but have been plain.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b), and is placed in the middle of a large handled dish, projecting  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches above the top of the capital and occupying the entire surface from front to back. The focus itself has an internal diameter of 2 inches and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep. It shows signs of burning.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Two small tori form the fascia.

The focus mount is the vertical plane provided by the projecting handled dish on which the focus is set. It is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The rim of the dish forms two small rounded gables separated by a horizontal.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two debased tori. At the base there are two angular tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The shape of the altar suggests that it belongs to the second century.

RIB 1724

Gibson and Simpson, AA<sup>3</sup> V, 158-167 with plate, 160.

Cat. Ant., 58, no. 14.

249. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Vexillatio Gaesatorum Raetorum under the command of Aemilius Aemilianus, tribune of Cohors I Vangionum. No measurements are extant. The shape of the altar is known from a drawing in the Gentleman's Magazine.

The die is plain.

The sinister side of the shaft has in relief an axe with divergent curved blade (type 5), and a knife with broad blade angled to the tip (type 2).

No bolsters are shown in the figure and there is no indication of the focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar seems to have been moulded on four sides. At both capital and base three stepped-in cavettos are shown but it seems likely that these were actually stepped-in and stepped-out fillets. At the base there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar no doubt comes from the third century when the unit was stationed at Risingham in association with Cohors I Vangionum.

RIB 1216

Richmond, NCH XV, 132, no. 8.

See RIB for a reproduction of drawing from The Gentleman's Magazine.

250. An altar, now lost, from Risingham.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Vexillation Gaesatorum

Raetorum under the command of Julius Victor, tribune of Cohors I Vangionum. No measurements are preserved. The shape of the altar is known from a drawing in the Gentleman's Magazine, and from a sketch in Hodgson.

The die is plain.

No details of the sides of the shaft are recorded.

The capital has been removed.

The mouldings of the capital seem to have been three stepped-in fillets. At the base there has apparently been a chamfered plinth.

The altar must date from the third century for Julius Victor is known from two other stones which seem, by their shape, to belong to this period.

RIB 1217

Richmond, NCH XV, 132, no. 9.

Hodgson, II, 1, 183, no. 32c with fig.

See RIB for a reproduction of the drawing from The Gentleman's Magazine.

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Vexillatio Sueborum Longovicianorum

This unit was associated with Cohors I Lingonum at Lanchester in the third century.

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251. An altar from Lanchester; now in the south porch of Lanchester Church.

The altar is dedicated to the goddess Garmangabis and to the Deity of the Emperor Gordian for the welfare of Vexillatio Sueborum Longovicianorum Gordiana by soldiers of the unit. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $54\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $25\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 20 inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The sides of the shaft are elaborately decorated. Panels with plain, flat borders and divided horizontally to form two smaller areas appear on both sides. On the dexter side, the upper panel encloses a knife with broad blade and cutting edge sharply angled to form the tip (type 1). The space between this motif and the front of the panel is filled with chip carving. To the rear of the altar, there is a band of well carved chevron in relief with the base of the triangles towards the front of the panel. The lower panel is occupied by a guttus with ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B3). The interstices are filled with chip-carving. On the sinister side, the upper panel bears a patera with rim and umbo, set vertically with the bowl towards the top of the stone. The field above this motif is filled with chip-carving, while below it a panel of three rows of chip-carved chevron acts as a base on which the patera rests. In the lower panel a rosette, with curvilinear rays moving clockwise, is set within a rim. Again, the spandrels are filled with chip-carved ornament.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the altar is roughly flattened.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7). It is decorated on three sides. The main features of the front of the fascia are two curved, pelta-like, strapped bundles set vertically with the concave arc towards the side of the stone, which are probably to be interpreted as swags. Each is outlined by a bead moulding. In each of the upper corners there is a suggestion of bolsters in the presence of a rosette with six petals outlined in relief set within a moulded rim. At the lower corners of the fascia a solar disk within a moulded rim appears. The field bounded by the swags is filled with chip-carved ornament springing from horizontal ribs. At the lower edge of the fascia a band of chip-carved chevron links the solar disks, while both top and bottom of the field between the swags is marked by a shorter band of the same type of ornament. Between the upper rosettes and the solar disks, each side of the fascia is bounded by a double row of chip-carved chevron. On the dexter side of the capital, a rosette of six petals in relief, set within a sunken circle on a square panel, is the main motif. A band of cable moulding appears above the rosette. The lower edge is bounded by a band of chip-carved chevron. The motif at the sinister side of the capital is more elaborate. Here a rosette with six petals outlined in relief is set within a hexagon formed by similar petals which link the tips of those of the rosette. There is a band of cable moulding above the motif, and below it, an alternate cable moulding is placed between two tori.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base, simple chamfers make the transition to the shaft.

The base of the altar is decorated. The dexter side is damaged but at the sinister side there are two rows of triangles in relief, set apex to apex with a string moulding separating them. The effect given is that of a band of sunken lozenges divided by a horizontal moulding.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 238-244. It is a good example of the new styles of the third century and notable for the richness of its ornament. The use of cable moulding carved in divergent directions may be paralleled on an altar of Cohors I Fida Vardullorum from High Rochester (119), and on a tombstone of a freedman from the same site (RIB 1290), while the motifs of the altar are clearly linked with those of another from Risingham (253). This suggests that masons either from the Vardulli or the Vangiones or both were responsible for training the masons of Vexillatio Sueborum, or that the actual carving was done by men from these units. The Risingham altar and the Lanchester stone may well be from the same hand. The chip-carved bar chevron ornament which is a feature of the altar may be paralleled on a stone probably of Legio XX, from Chester (RIB 448), a fact which tips the scale in favour of associating the altar with the Vangiones rather than with the Vardulli, for the latter clearly took their styles from Legio VI.

RIB 1074

Hoopell and Haverfield, AA<sup>2</sup> XVI, 313-327 with figs., 316, 317; plate XXIV facing 314.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Vexillatio Sueborum Longovicianorum.

252. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Kirkby Thore.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune the Preserver by a civilian. No measurements are recorded. The altar is known from a sketch by Machell, reproduced in RIB.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the stone is flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and inscribed.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The mouldings seem to be a stepped-in fillet, inscribed, a torus, a fascia, apparently stepped-in. This lower fascia is decorated with vertical flutings and a row of bar chevron. At the side of the capital there seems to have been a band of triangles set apex to apex and separated by a moulding. This ornament seems to be the same as that on altars from Lanchester and Risingham (251 and 253), and suggests that the stones come from the same workshop.

RIB 760

Gough, III, 159.

See RIB for a reproduction of Machell's sketch.

253. An altar from Risingham; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses from overseas by Julius Victor, possibly tribune of Cohors I Vangionum. The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is 28 inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On each side of the shaft there is a rosette, 6 inches in diameter, with curvilinear rays.

There are no bolsters but two rosettes, with six petals outlined in relief set within a moulded rim, indicate where they would have been placed in a more conventional form of altar.

There is no focus. The top of the stone is flat (type 10).

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7), and decorated. The central motif of the fascia is a triangle outlined by a flat moulding, enclosing a pine-cone in relief, and set within a sunken, round-headed panel, bounded at the upper corners by the rosettes suggesting the presence of bolsters. The lower section of the panel is rectangular. The significance of the motif is discussed above.<sup>1</sup>

A band of ornament runs across the bottom of the fascia and extends upwards to join the rosettes. The decoration is based on the solar disk motif. The roundel is formed by four arcs within which another four curve in a direction opposite from that of the outer rim; within the roundel the cross of the disk is set. A bead moulding outlines the upper edge of the band of ornament and separates each solar disk from its neighbours. Each side of the capital is decorated with two rows of triangles in relief, set apex to apex, and separated by a string moulding, giving the appearance of a band of sunken lozenges with a moulding bisecting them horizontally. Below this decoration there is a cable moulding with the grooving running in two directions.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there are chamfers.

The sunken lozenge pattern, the cabling in divergent directions, the chamfers and the shape of the capital link this altar with that erected by soldiers of Vexillatio Sueborum at Lanchester and makes it possible to place it in the same period, that is, about the years A.D. 238-244. It seems very likely that the two stones were carved by the same mason although the workmanship of this stone is much superior to that from Lanchester.

RIB 1224

LS 606

Brand I, 618; plate between 608 and 609, no. 5.

Richmond, NCH XV, 136, no. 22.

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1. See Ip. 96.

SECTION B

Altars from auxiliary units whose sculptural styles do not display obvious legionary influences.

? Ala Sebosiana

It is difficult to place the one altar mentioning Ala Sebosiana. The inscription naming the prefect of the unit is secondary and is no indication of the presence of the regiment in Weardale. The prefect may have been enjoying a hunting holiday on leave from another fort. The form of the altar gives little clue.

The mortarium-shaped focus appears also at Bowes in the early third century, a product of the Cohors I Thracum workshop (106). The focus mount (type 1) rises to form a central profile of double convex arcs (type 6), reminiscent in outline of a Legio VI style. Yet the mouldings are barbarized and the decorated ends of the bolsters are of unique design.

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254. An altar from Bollihope Common, Stanhope, Co. Durham; now in the Old Rectory, Stanhope.

The first dedication of this stone was to the Deities of the Emperors but the altar has been re-used and a secondary inscription to Silvanus is carved on the die. The later inscription mentions Gaius Tetius Veturius Micianus, prefect of Ala Sebosiana, a unit stationed at Lancaster in the third century. The altar is carved in gritstone. It is  $36\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). Their ends have an unusual rosetted design formed by five recessed arcs set within a moulded rim with a separately cut central boss.

The focus is mortarium-shaped, with a frontal spout and raised rim. It is attached to both the front and back of the capital and touches the

bolsters (upper surface type 10).

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to form a central profile in two convex arcs (type 6). Within the focus mount there is a sunken pediment outlined by a bead moulding. This feature also appears at the back of the capital.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Below the fascia there is a bead moulding, a torus, a bead moulding and a stepped-in cant moulding. At the base there are two stepped-out cant mouldings which seem to be intended for tori, and a stepped-out plinth.

Although the secondary inscription is in all probability of third century date, the altar may well have been carved in the second century. It is clearly the work of one who, although quite a skilled mason, had little idea of the conventions of classical sculpture. It is difficult to place the stone in any group.

RIB 1041

LS 683

JRS XXXII, 115, no. 2; plate II, 1.

Altars probably from the workshop of Ala Vettonum

255. An altar, now lost, from Binchester.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses Ollototae by Tiberius Claudius Quintianus, beneficiarius of the governor. No dimensions are extant.

The die is plain.

The bolsters appear to have been cylindrical (type Ala), with plain ends.

There is no record of the focus although it seems to have touched the bolsters.

The fascia is "enlarged" curved under the bolsters (type 5), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar seems to have been boldly moulded. At the capital there seems to have been a large inverted cyma reversa. At the base there was a cyma reversa and plinth.

The general shape of the altar suggests that it belongs to the third century. Although the dedicator was not a member of the garrison of the fort, it seems likely that the altar was carved in the regimental workshops. If this is so, it is probably the product of masons of Ala Vettonum.

RIB 1031

LS 716

Gale, Ant It., 11.

Horsley, 295-6, Durh. XXVIII.

256. An altar, now lost, from Binchester.

The inscription is lost and no dimensions of the stone survive.

The shaft is plain.

The bolsters seem to have been plain (type Ala) with plain ends.

No details of the focus survive.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar has been boldly moulded. At the capital there is an inverted cyma reversa and at the base there seems to have been above the stepped-out plinth either two tori or one torus and a stepped-out fillet.

Horsley's drawing of the altar depicts a capital of similar shape to, although of different proportions from, that of 255. This suggests that the two stones are from the same workshop. The third century is an appropriate period for the altar and it is probably the product of the masons of Ala Vettonum.

RIB 1037

Horsley, 296, Durh. XXX.

257. An altar, now lost, from Binchester.

The stone is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses by Gemellus. No dimensions are preserved.

The die is plain.

The bolsters seem to have been cylindrical (type Ala) with plain fronts.

No details of the focus are extant.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5), rising to a rounded pedimental central profile (type 1/2).

The altar has chamfers at both capital and base.

To judge by its general shape, the altar is of third century date. Although the dedicator is not named as a soldier, the style of altar is not inconsistent with other stones from military workshops and for this reason it is included with those produced by masons of the Ala Vettonum.

RIB 1033

Horsley, 296, Durh. XXIX.

258. An altar, now lost, from Binchester.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses Ollototae either by Ala Vettonum or by a member of the unit. No dimensions are preserved.

From Horsley's sketch the die seems to have been plain.

Neither bolsters nor focus survived when the sketch was drawn.

At the capital there seems to have been a cyma reversa moulding.

The base displays a simple stepped-out plinth.

Horsley suggests that this altar, the smaller of two seen by him at Binchester, is the one upon which Camden read an inscription.

RIB 1032

Horsley, 296, Durh. XXXI.

259. Part of an altar, now lost, from Binchester.

The altar has been dedicated by a member of the Cuneus Frisiorum of Vinovia. The height of the stone is given in CIL as c.15 inches and the width as c.9½ inches.

The die seems to have been in a sunken panel.

The mouldings of the base appear to have been an inverted cyma reversa and a plinth.

The inscriptions suggests that a third-century date would not be amiss for this altar. It is clearly from a military workshop, and probably one associated with Ala Vettonum.

RIB 1036

CIL 427

Lysons, Reliquiae Britannico-Romanae, I, pt. 4 (London 1813) plate III,5.

260. An uninscribed altar, now lost, from Binchester.

No dimensions of the altar are preserved.

From Horsley's sketch the die seems to have been plain.

Horsley states that there was a guttus on one side of the shaft and a patera on the other.

No bolsters survive and there is no record of the focus.

Apparently the fascia was moulded, three stepped-out fillets surmounting two stepped-in fillets. This is reminiscent of the capital of a Mithraic altar from Carrawburgh (265) dated A.D. 213-222.

The base mouldings are two stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The unusual form of capital suggests that the altar belongs to the third century when Ala Vettonum was stationed at Binchester.

Horsley, 296, Durh. XXXI.

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Ala II Asturum

Only one altar naming this ala survives and this is a stone of unusual design.

All four sides of the shaft are thrown into relief by a vertical fluting carved on each side of the four arrises which are themselves rounded off to form small pilaster-like shafts. This is a unique feature.

The mouldings too are difficult to compare with others.

If the altar is to be dated to the period A.D. 80 - A.D. 120, as suggested by the National Trust Guide to the Ribchester Collection, it must be one of the earliest surviving stones of the Roman north.

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261. An altar from Ribchester, now in the Museum there.

The altar is dedicated to the Mother Goddesses or to the Mother Goddesses of the Parade Ground by Marcus Ingenius Asiaticus, decurion of Ala II Asturum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the stone is 33 inches, the width is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The shaft is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 17 inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and sides of the shaft are plain except that each is given the appearance of a raised panel by a vertical fluting cut on either side of the arris. The arris itself is rounded.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), but damaged at the front and back.

The focus is damaged but has been circular with a rim and flat bottom (type B6a), and has been attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). The internal measurement has been about 10 inches.

A torus moulding replaces the fascia (type 2).

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The central

profile seems to have been a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. Below the torus of the fascia there is a smaller torus moulding and a shallow, stepped-in cavetto. At the base there is a stepped-out cavetto and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar cannot be later than the beginning of the third century for by that time the Ala was in garrison at Chesters (RIB 1462), and is probably much earlier. It may even belong to the first century.

RIB 586

Just and Harland, JBAA VI, 233 with fig.

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Cohors I Batavorum

Seven altars and possibly an eighth from the workshop of Cohors I Batavorum are known. The earliest, from Castlecary, is not extant, but another second-century stone from the western sector of Hadrian's Wall survives although in a damaged condition. The remainder date from the period when the cohort was stationed at Carrawburgh.

The die is usually plain. The shaft may be embellished with carvings of sacrificial vessels or wreaths. In one instance, above the inscribed panel, the shaft bears a representation of Mithras.

Where bolsters exist, they are, in all except one case, simple cylindrical rolls (type Ala). The exception has bolsters hollowed out in a lens shape (type G). Foci are circular and dished, sometimes with umbo.

Moulded fasciae occur in relatively late contexts, and the gabled central profiles of the early altars give way to flat-topped third century styles. When this occurs the fascia is decorated.

Cyma mouldings were in use in the late second and early third century. The same templet was used to carve the stone from west of Milecastle 59 (263) and that to the Nymphs from Carrawburgh (266). This moulding is based on tangential arcs. In later periods, combinations of tori and fillets were used in ways which depart radically from classical conventions.

It is difficult to detect any connection between the sculpture of Cohors I Batavorum and that of other units. That its masons were skilled craftsmen is obvious from their work, although it is equally clear that they were out of touch with the traditions of the classical world.

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262. The lower part of an altar, now lost, from Castlecary.

The only line of inscription to survive seems to have mentioned Cohors I Batavorum, although the numeral is lacking and this has thrown doubt on the attribution to the Batavians. No dimensions of the stone are preserved.

The die is plain.

The altar was moulded on at least three sides. Gordon's sketch suggests that three stepped-out fillets or tori surmounted a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 2154

Gordon, 57; plate 15, fig. 4.

Horsley, 202, Scot XXII.

263. Part of an altar found near Milecastle 59; now in the possession of Mr. Mounsey-Heysham, Castletown, Rockcliffe, near Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Mars Cocidius and to a Genius by a centurion of Cohors I Batavorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is now 7 inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain and so is the sinister side of the shaft.

The sinister bolster is preserved. This is cylindrical (type Ala), but very small.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo (type A2c). The internal diameter is  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches. It is  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is "filled-in" (type 3) and seems to have formed a central profile of type 1, the pediment being bisected by a vertical line.

As the dexter side of the stone is split away, the altar displays mouldings only on two sides. These are a torus and a fine cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and almost identical with that on another altar carved by the same unit at Carrawburgh (266).

The altar probably comes from the second half of the second century. The unit was stationed at Carrawburgh in the third century and, as this stone must have been carved within the lifetime of the templets in use at the fort in the later period, it is more likely to date from the end rather than from the middle of the second century.

RIB 2015

Bruce, Wall 3, 287 with fig.

264. An altar from Carrawburgh; now in the undercroft of the Chapter Library, Durham.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Cohors I Batavorum under the command of Marcus Flaccinius Marcellus. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is 32 inches, the width is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On each side of the shaft there is, in relief, a circle. This is probably intended to represent a wreath.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), although damaged.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and large umbo with sunken centre (type A2e). It oversails the bolsters and is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 10). It is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide internally and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "extended" (type 5b), rising to a pedimented

central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a small torus, a larger torus, a small torus and a fillet stepped-in to the die. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a small torus, a larger torus, two stepped-out, debased tori and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the early Severan period when Cohors I Batavorum was first stationed at Carrawburgh.

RIB 1536

Horsley, 218, North XXXII

Cat. Durh., 33, no. XLI with fig.

265. An altar from Carrawburgh Mithraeum; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras by Lucius Antonius Proculus, prefect of Cohors I Batavorum. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $46\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 21 inches wide and  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are cylindrical (type Ala). The ends are decorated with double concentric raised rims and bosses.

The focus is circular, with flat bottom and rim (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital and touches the bolsters (upper surface type 10). The internal diameter is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches. The depth is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch.

The fascia is moulded. Four stepped-out fillets are set above the mouldings of the capital.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The central profile is a pediment (type 1), outlined by a bead moulding and

enclosing a leaf shape in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital, below the stepped-out fillets of the fascia, there are four fillets stepped inwards and, below these, a fillet inclined outwards and a simple stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a fillet inclined inwards, three stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 213-222.

RIB 1544

Richmond and Gillam, AA<sup>4</sup> XXIX, 35-37; plate XIA.

Birley, ibid., 48-49.

266. An altar from Carrawburgh; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to the Nymphs and to the Genius of the place by Marcus Hispanius Modestinus, prefect of Cohors I Batavorum. It is carved in buff sandstone and is set in a base  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $26\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 20 inches deep. The height of the altar is  $42\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is 20 inches wide and  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 18 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The altar is not carved regularly: the front is wider than the back and the sinister side is wider than the dexter.

Both the back and front of the shaft serve as dies and both are plain.

The sides of the shaft bear reliefs of sacrificial implements. On the dexter side there is a knife of type 2 and a long-handled, dished strainer. On the sinister side there is a guttus with ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B3), and a dished patera set slightly obliquely with the bowl towards the base and front of the stone.

The outer sides of the bolsters are worn away into a lens-shaped hollow (type G). Their fronts have been decorated with rosettes with grooved petals linked by grooved arcs. The backs are plain.

The focus is circular, dished with rim and large umbo (type A2c). It is attached to the bolsters and to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 8). The internal diameter is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged", sloping under the bolsters (type 4). It rises to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital the lower edge of the fascia is bordered by a bead moulding and below this a distorted cyma recta moulding forms the main element. It is edged by another bead moulding. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

Dr. D.J. Smith suggests that this altar belongs to the period before A.D. 213.

JRS LI, 193, no. 9

D.J. Smith, AA<sup>4</sup> XL, 61-64; plates 8 and 9 facing 66.

267. An altar from Coventina's Well, Carrawburgh; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Coventina by a prefect of Cohors I Batavorum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches, the width is  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the thickness is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The altar has been made easily portable by the insertion of an iron staple into the top of the capital; presumably this once had a ring attached. The remains of the staple may still be seen.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are damaged but seem to have been plain, (type Ala).

There is no focus.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 6), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a bead moulding, a sagging cyma recta and another bead moulding. These mouldings are the same, although smaller in size, as those on the altar from the Nymphaeum at Carrawburgh (266). At the base the mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth. The same templet has been used for both sets of mouldings.

The altar must be dated to the end of the second or the early years of the third century.

RIB 1535

Clayton, AA<sup>2</sup> VIII, 17 with fig.

Budge, 319, no. 93

Chesters Cat., 26, no. 152.

268. An altar from Carrawburgh Mithraeum; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras by Aulus Cluentius Habitus, prefect of Cohors I Batavorum. It is carved in sandstone. The altar is  $42\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters but their presence is suggested by roundels, which have been decorated with solar disks in relief, carved at each side of the capital.

The top is flat and roughly chiselled. There is no focus.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 3). The front of the focus mount is decorated with three egg shapes in relief. The central profile is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital, below a scotia and torus, there are two stepped-in fillets and a fillet inclined outwards. These mouldings are reversed at the base and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is linked to 265 not only by its find-spot but by the inclined fillets of the mouldings. The shape of the capital suggests that it is of later date.

RIB 1545

Richmond and Gillam, AA<sup>4</sup> XXIX, 36; plate XIA.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Batavorum.

269. An altar from Carrawburgh Mithraeum; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Mithras by Marcus Simplicius Simplex, prefect. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is  $47\frac{3}{4}$  inches. It is 18 inches wide and  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel 6 inches high and 12 inches wide. It has two stepped fillets at the top, dexter and sinister sides and an incised horizontal band of interlocking, horizontal S-curves at the bottom of the panel. The setting out lines for the lettering may still be seen.

The sides of the shaft are plain but the front bears a bust of

Mithras in a shouldered niche, flanked by ribbons or straps decorated with lunar and solar symbols; the ends are "dagged". The god himself faces the front, a grooved cloak, fastened on the right shoulder with a circular brooch, covering his left hand and arm. In his right hand he holds a whip. He has a laurel wreath around his head and small incised lines lead to a halo of perforated rays encircling his hair. Through these rays the light from a lamp placed in a hollow, 10 inches wide, at the back of the stone might shine so that the god seemed to be crowned by a diadem of radiance. The pierced rays may be paralleled at Sarmiszegethusa.<sup>1</sup> The torso of the god is very muscular. The eyes are lentoid. When found, traces of the colouring remained on the stone. The cloak and lateral ribbons had been red; the body of the god had been plastered white and painted. The figure represents the epiphany of the god.

There are neither bolsters nor focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth and decorated with two ivy leaves in relief on each side of a triskeles.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet, a torus moulding, two stepped-in fillets, a shallow scotia and a smaller torus. At the base there is a torus with shallow scotia, one large and one small stepped-out fillet, a large torus, a fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

Richmond suggests that the altar belongs to the early fourth century, but there is little to indicate so late a date. Indeed the mouldings suggest that it is not much later in date than the other two major altars from the Mithraeum. A third century attribution is entirely appropriate.

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1. Cumont, Textes et Monuments II, fig. 144.

RIB 1546

Richmond and Gillam, AA<sup>4</sup> XXIX, 36-38; plate XIIB

Toynbee, Art in Roman Britain, 154, no. 70; plate 75.

270. An uninscribed altar of uncertain provenance; now in the  
Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in coarse sandstone. It is 14 inches high,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 6 inches thick. The shaft is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

On the front of the shaft there is a raised ansate panel. This motif is repeated on the base.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with plain ends. They are set back from the edges of the capital.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The focus measures  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches internally from side to side and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back. It is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged", carved with the ends of the bolsters in one plane (type 6).

The central profile is formed by twin concave arcs sweeping upwards to meet in a convex arc (type 3/2).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the front of the capital there are two tori. At the base there are three tori and a plinth. The sides of both capital and base have one torus fewer than the front of the stone.

Cat. Ant. 105, no. 212.

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Cohors I Aelia Dacorum

An impressive series of stones has come from the workshops of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum at Birdoswald. Unfortunately ten of these are now lost.

For the most part, the die and shaft are plain. Sacrificial implements and vessels never appear.

Where they exist, bolsters are plain. No traditional focus survives. Two stones have raised, flat platforms in its place.

Fasciae are often "enlarged". The focus mount is either gable-shaped (type 1) or flat (type 10).

The mouldings are usually tori and fillets, although cymas are also used.

The earliest altar is undecorated and therefore omitted from the catalogue (RIB 991). The altars stretch throughout the third century and give a good indication of the way in which the styles of altars were being modified, possibly to reflect the gradual decline in standards of craftsmanship during the period.

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271. An altar probably from Birdoswald; now at Rokeby.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 47 inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 21 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The inscription is set in a panel outlined by two fillets. The panel is 17 inches high and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. A band of tiny chip-carved bar chevron ornaments the margin above and below the panel. The back and sides of the shaft are panelled. At the sides the panels are 17 inches high and 7 inches wide. Bands of chip-carved bar chevron

appear on the back and sides also.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) with damaged ends.

The focus is now an elliptical, raised flat platform  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high (type D12). From side to side it measures  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back. The presence of two iron rivets indicates that the focus has been altered for use as a sun-dial.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow and decorated, although at the front of the stone the ornament is not well preserved. On the other three sides of the capital a series of roundels outlined by a bead mould and linked with each other by a curving moulding encloses rosettes of either four or six petals. In the present state of weathering it is difficult to ascertain the original form. Below the roundels there is a horizontal bead moulding.

The focus mount is damaged but it is clear that it has been "between the bolsters" (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a torus, a stepped-in fillet and a stepped-in flaring cavetto. These may be a cyma reversa moulding in a modified form. The front of the stone has been mutilated and now appears to have deeply grooved diagonal scoring imposed on a large cyma reversa moulding. The back and sides of the capital reveal the true nature of the original carving. At the base there is a stepped-out flaring cavetto, a flattened torus and a plinth. These mouldings may also be seen as modifications of a cyma reversa.

The altar seems to belong to the early part of the third century. The rectangular fascia and the focus mount of type 1 place it in this period in contrast to other stones carved by members of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.

RIB 1889

LS 356

Horsley, 254, Cumb. XI.

272. The lower part of an altar, now lost, from Birdoswald.

The altar is dedicated to Mars by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.

No dimensions are preserved.

The die is a panel with a plain border.

No mouldings appear to have survived.

The altar is linked to 271 and 273 by the panelled die.

RIB 1898

Horsley, 255, Cumb. XIII.

273. Part of an altar, now mutilated, from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to the Standards and to the Deity of the Emperor by Cohors I Dacorum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is  $28\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 15 inches thick. Shaft and capital now have the same dimensions.

The die is a sunken panel  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, outlined by a torus and a bead moulding. Similar panels appear on the sides of the shaft.

The altar is much damaged but Horsley's drawing shows that it had bolsters with plain ends.

No details of the focus are preserved.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5). It rises to a pedimented central profile (type 1).

The altar is moulded according to Horsley. A fillet, scotia and large torus surmount a smaller fillet.

The stone is linked with 271 and 272 by the panelled die and to 274-276 by the "enlarged" fascia of type 5.

RIB 1904

LS 377

Horsley, Cumb., VI.

TH. Cat., 16, no. 40.

274. The upper part of an altar, now lost, from Birdoswald.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Dacorum. No dimensions of the stone are preserved.

The die is plain.

The bolsters have plain ends.

Accordingly to Horsley, the fascia is "enlarged", curved under the bolsters (type 5), rising to a rounded pediment, no doubt originally of type 1. Gordon's sketch shows a rectangular fascia and focus mount of type 1, with semi-circular profile (type 2). Horsley's figure is more in keeping with third century styles.

The mouldings at the capital are a torus and a stepped-in fillet.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 213-222.

RIB 1892

Gordon, 80; plate XLVII, 3.

Horsley, 253, Cumb V.

275. An altar from near Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Julius Marcellinus, centurion of Legio II Augusta. It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is 50 inches high,  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 24 inches high, 18 inches wide and 15 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). At the front they are outlined by a groove.

The focus is a raised square platform (type D12) measuring 11 inches by 11 inches. It is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches high.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5).

The front of the central profile is damaged but at the back a pediment terminates in twin incised scrolls. This pattern most probably also appeared at the front of the stone.

The altar is carved on four sides. At the capital there is a large quirked cyma reversa based on tangential arcs. At the base the order of the mouldings is reversed and there is a plinth.

RIB 1880

Watkin, CW<sup>1</sup> IX, 291-293; fig., 293.

TH. Cat., 7, no. 15.

276. An altar probably from Birdoswald; now at Rokeby.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Statius Longinus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is  $41\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 22 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches high, 17 inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. At the back of the altar, the sinister side of the shaft has been cut away.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are damaged.

The focus is mutilated. It has been hollowed out to take a plant and now measures 7 inches from side to side and  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches from back to front. Towards the back of the stone, two ridges connect the focus to the bolsters (upper surface type 2).

The fascia is "enlarged" and seems to have been carved in one plane with the ends of the bolsters (type 6). The central profile has probably been a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital the mouldings are similar to those of nos. 271 and 291: a large cyma reversa seems to have been modified to form a torus and a quirked cavetto stepped-in to the die. At the base there is a large stepped-out cyma reversa

and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 1887

Horsley, 254, Cumb. X.

277. An altar from Birdoswald; now at Rokeby.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Aurelius Faustus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the altar is  $32\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is 16 inches wide and 13 inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. It has not been correctly squared in relation to the die.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and very damaged.

There is no conventional focus. A gable runs across the whole width of the capital. In the centre of this there is a very small depression which may have served as a focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), and forms a central profile of type 1 (pediment).

The altar is carved on three sides. At the capital there is a fillet and a stepped-in cavetto. This may be a debased form of the mouldings on 275. At the base there is only a simple step. The base does not survive in its entirety.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the year A.D. 237.

RIB 1875

Horsley, 254, Cumb. IX.

278. Part of an altar probably from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter of Doliche by Cohors I Aelia

Dacorum under the command of Flavius Maximianus. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 29 inches high, 11 inches wide and 7 inches thick. The shaft is now 7 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain. The sinister side of the shaft is broken away.

The capital is mutilated. The top has been removed and neither bolsters nor focus survive.

In its present state the fascia is rectangular (type 1), and both front and dexter side are decorated with bar chevron pattern.

No focus mount now exists.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. The back is broken away. The capital bears a large torus moulding.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 235-238.

RIB 1896

LS 349

Horsley, 252, Cumb. II.

TH. Cat., 6-7, no. 14.

279. The upper part of an altar from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar was at first dedicated to Cocidius but a secondary text has been superimposed naming Jupiter as the deity and Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Pomponius Desideratus as the dedicator. The altar is carved in red sandstone. It is 36 inches high,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with sunken fronts.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3), rising to a slightly curved pediment (type 1).

The central profile is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is one large torus. The mouldings of the base do not survive.

The secondary inscription gives the unit the title Tetriciana and thus places the carving of the altar before A.D. 273. It fits best into the mid-third century.

RIB 1885

LS 353

Horsley, 253-4, Cumb. VII.

TH. Cat., 7, no. 16

280. The upper part of an altar, probably from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Dacorum. It is carved in red sandstone. It is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 18 inches wide and 16 inches thick. The shaft is 18 inches wide and 11 inches thick.

The die is plain.

The altar is now inverted but seems to lack bolsters.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is between the bolsters (type 1). It curves to form a pedimented central profile (type 1). The stone is left uncut between the focus mount and the bolsters.

Mouldings survive only on the front of the stone. Here there is a fillet and a cyma reversa.

The shape of the fascia combines with the dedication to suggest that a date in the third century is appropriate.

RIB 1891

LS 364

Bruce, Wall 3, 263 with fig.

TH. Cat., 7-8, no. 17.

281. An altar, broken across the shaft, probably from Birdoswald;  
now at Lanercost Priory.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.  
It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar as it is now  
preserved is  $46\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.  
The shaft is 22 inches high,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters and focus have gone and the top of the stone is now  
flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 5).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is  
a torus and a flattened cyma reversa moulding. At the base these  
mouldings appear in reverse.

RIB 1894

LS 365

282. An altar, now lost, found near Birdoswald fort.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum  
under the command of Probius Augendus, tribune. No dimensions are  
preserved.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top of the capital is damaged. No bolsters are shown on  
Hutchinson's figure.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the  
capital there seems to be an inverted cyma reversa moulding. At the  
base there are apparently two sets of mouldings, one on each side  
of a deep base. The upper group seems to have been a stepped-out  
cavetto and a torus, while the lower seems to have been a cyma reversa.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 259-268.

RIB 1886

Hutchinson, Cumb. I, 73 with fig.

283. An altar, now lost, from near Birdoswald.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Marcius Gallicus, tribune. No dimensions are preserved.

The die and shaft are plain.

The upper surface of the altar is damaged and it is impossible to comment on bolsters, focus or fascia.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there seems to have been two tori. As with 282, the base displays two sets of mouldings, one on either side of a deep base. In both cases these seem to have been flaring cymas reversa.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 259-268 and is clearly linked stylistically with 282. They are probably from the same hand. See also 284.

RIB 1883

Hutchinson, Cumb. I, 73 with fig.

284. A slab intended as an altar, from Waterhead; now at  
Castlesteads.

The stone is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Marcius Gallicus, tribune. It is carved in cream sandstone. The height of the stone is 28 inches, the width is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches and the thickness is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches. The shaft is 15 inches wide.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus. The top of the stone is flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7).

The only moulding is a cabled torus at the front of the stone, separating the die from the fascia.

The altar was carved during the period of command of a tribune known to have been at Birdoswald in the years A.D. 259-268. See 283.

RIB 1882

LS 363

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXII, 214, no. 23.

285. An altar probably from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Ammonius Victorinus, tribune. It is carved in cream sandstone. The height of the altar is 34 inches; the width is  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the thickness 7 inches. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 8 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and have plain ends.

The top of the stone is flat. The focus, if any existed, has been chipped away.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5) and forms a flat central profile of type 10.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the front of the capital there is a very large, flattened torus. At the sides of the capital there are two tori. At the base there is a large, flattened torus and plinth.

From the general shape of this altar, it would seem to be fairly late in the series. See 286.

RIB 1874

LS 357

Hutchinson, Cumb. II, plate II, 21, between 534 and 535.

TH. Cat., 6, no. 13.

286. An altar from Birdoswald; now at Rokeby.

The inscription is defective but the altar has been dedicated by a unit commanded by Ammonius Victorinus. He was tribune of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 34 inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 16 inches thick. The shaft is  $19\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top of the capital has been shaved off and no bolsters now remain.

The focus has been hollowed out to take a plant. The internal dimensions are  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches from side to side and  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches from back to front.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

No focus mount survives.

The altar is moulded on four sides. There is a large torus at the capital and a similar moulding and stepped-out plinth at the base.

The altar probably comes from the second half of the third century. See 285.

RIB 1906

Horsley, 255, Cumb. XIV.

287. The upper part of an altar, now lost, probably from Birdoswald.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.

No dimensions are preserved.

The die is plain.

The ends of the bolsters are plain.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7).

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar has a torus moulding at the front of the capital.

The altar is linked stylistically with 285.

RIB 1890

Horsley, 252, Cumb. I.

288. An altar from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum,  
Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Aurelius Verinus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the stone is  $32\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the width is  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is 7 inches. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with plain ends.

There is no focus.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5/7).

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

Apart from a step at the front of the capital there are no mouldings. The base is broken.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 276-282. It is a good example of late third-century styles.

JRS LI, 194, no. 12.

289. An altar from Birdoswald; sought in vain at Tullie House Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Dacorum styled Augusta. It is said to be 19 inches high and 11 inches wide.

The die is a panel with a plain border.

There are no bolsters. Their presence is suggested by solar disks within circles incised on the fascia.

The figure in LS shows a small depression on the top of the stone which seems to indicate the focus.

The fascia is enlarged (type 7). An incised swastika is flanked by the two solar disks mentioned above.

The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. The capital is separated from the shaft by a step.

RIB 1877

LS 366

TH. Cat., 8, no. 18.

290. Part of an altar probably from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by Cohors I Aelia Dacorum under the command of Terentius Valerianus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The lower part of the altar has been cut away, the top has been trimmed flat and the back has been hollowed out to form a feeding trough.

The die is plain.

Neither bolsters nor focus survive.

The fascia is now rectangular (type 1).

No mouldings survive.

RIB 1872

Horsley, 256, Cumb. XVII

Collingwood, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVIII, 135-136, no. 1; 135, fig. 1.

Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.

291. An altar probably from Birdoswald; now built in at Corby Castle.

The altar is dedicated for the welfare of the Emperor Caracalla. It is carved in buff sandstone. The height of the stone is  $34\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and the width is 18 inches. The shaft is 17 inches high and 15 inches wide.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a guttus with ovoid body and neck gradually merging into the body (type B2), and a patera of which only the rim is now visible. On the sinister side of the shaft there is an axe with very narrow square-ended blade (type 3) and a knife of which only the cutting edge is now visible (type 1).

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), flattened on the top and very weathered at the front.

There is now no focus. A rectangular channel 5 inches wide and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep runs diagonally across the top of the capital.

The fascia is "enlarged", sloping under the bolsters (type 4). The central profile of the capital may have been a pediment but little of this now remains.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there is a modified cyma reversa based on tangential arcs and now appearing as a flattened torus and flaring chamfered cavetto, stepped-in to the shaft. This calls to mind the mouldings of another altar probably from Birdoswald (276). The mouldings at the front of the base have gone but at the sinister side there appears a stepped-out, inverted cyma reversa, a torus and the plinth.

The inscription is defective and the name of the dedicator is not preserved. It seems likely however that Cohors I Aelia Dacorum was responsible for the altar. The presence of the sacrificial implements on the shaft points to a military origin and the resemblance between

the mouldings of this altar and those of 276 is striking. The altar dates from the period A.D. 212-217.

RIB 1911

LS 368

Horsley, 256, Cumb. XVI.

292. An altar from Birdoswald; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune and is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $30\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters and focus have gone. The top ~~is~~ now flat.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep.

It is impossible to determine the form of the focus mount.

The altar has been moulded on three sides at least. The back of the stone is broken. The capital is damaged but the mouldings survive at the base. Here there are two small and one larger flattened torus.

The altar probably comes from the workshop of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum in the late third century.

RIB 1873

LS 371

Bruce, Wall 3, 263 with fig.

TH. Cat., 5, no. 9.

293. Part of an altar, now lost, probably from Birdoswald.

The inscription is defective but the shape of the altar is clearly third century in type and the stone has probably come from the workshop of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum. No dimensions are recorded.

The die is plain.

The bolsters are small with plain ends.

The fascia is "enlarged" and has probably been of type 4. If Horsley's sketch is to be relied upon it seems to have been carved in one plane with the ends of the bolsters. The central profile of the fascia is a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded at capital and base. At the capital there is a projecting cyma reversa. At the base the moulding is reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar fits best into an early third century context.

RIB 1923

Horsley, 253, Cumb. IV.

294. An uninscribed altar, now lost, probably from Birdoswald.

No dimensions are preserved.

The die is plain.

The bolsters have plain ends.

The fascia is enlarged (type 7).

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar has been boldly moulded. At both capital and base there has been a cyma reversa moulding. At the base the plinth has been stepped-out.

Horsley identified this altar as a stone whose inscription was recorded by Camden (RIB 1876). The shape of the altar strongly suggests the view that it was carved in the workshop of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum.

Horsley, 252, Cumb. III

295. An uninscribed altar from Housesteads; now in the Museum there.

The altar is carved in sandstone. It is  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches

wide and 5 inches thick. The shaft is  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are very small and are double, set side by side.

There is no focus. A gable runs from front to back of the capital.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Two tori are set above the capital mouldings.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It forms a central profile of type 1 (pediment).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori. At the base there are two tori and a plinth.

The gabled top of the altar places the stone in a small group, one of which was carved by a mason of Cohors I Dacorum (277).

296. An uninscribed altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in buff sandstone. It is  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 8 inches thick. The shaft is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a). Their fronts are decorated with two concentric incised circles.

The focus is square, sunken (type B5a). It is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. It is cut into a gable running across the top of the capital from front to back.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is from the bolsters (type 2), rising to form a central profile of **type 1** (pediment).

The altar is moulded on four sides but the back is not well finished. At the capital there is a flattened torus and a chamfered

fillet. At the base there is a large torus and plinth.

The gabled upper surface of this altar puts it into a small group of stones displaying this feature. Of these, one, from Bath (RIB 143), is dedicated for the welfare and safety of a centurion of Legio VI and another is from the workshop of Cohors I Aelia Dacorum at Birdoswald (277). This suggests that the altar is from a military workshop, possibly one associated with Legio VI, and perhaps that of the Dacians.

Cat. Ant., 105, no. 216.

297. An altar of uncertain provenance; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar, which has a tenon for insertion into a base, is carved in red sandstone. It is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), small.

The focus is circular with rim and bottom gently sloping upwards to the centre (type A4a). It measures  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches internally and is  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged," curved under the bolsters (type 5). It is of pedimented shape (type 1) but the stone is not cut away between the gable and the bolsters so that the central profile is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides and has a chamfer at the back. At the capital there is one large and one small torus.

The shape of the fascia suggests that the altar belongs to the third century and that it has been carved by masons of Cohors I Dacorum

at Birdoswald. It is accordingly placed with that unit's stones.

298. An uninscribed altar of uncertain provenance; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is carved in gritty buff sandstone. It is 7 inches high,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 4 inches high,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel 4 inches high and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. It is outlined by a plain border 1 inch wide at the sides and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches at the bottom.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) but damaged.

There is no focus but a gable extends across the capital from front to back.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1).

The central profile has the shape of a semi-circle (type 2).

There are no mouldings.

The gable running across the top of the capital may be paralleled on 277, 295 and 296.

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Cohors I Hispanorum

The fine series of sixteen altars carved by masons of this unit while at Maryport mention seven commanders of whom two are tribunes. To these stones another uninscribed altar may be added in virtue of its similarity of style. All are dedicated to Jupiter, although in three instances the Numina Augustorum are linked with the great god of Rome. Thirteen of the sixteen altars are fully carved on all four sides and all the extant examples except one are more than thirty inches high.

The altars fall into two distinct groups. The first, eleven stones mentioning the two tribunes and one prefect, Helstrius Novellus, is simple in general style. The altars of the second group are more ambitious in design, although retaining some features common to Group 1.

All the altars of Group 1 have plain dies and shafts. Four out of the five altars of Group 2 have the inscriptions set within a moulded panel. One altar of this group bears motifs on the shaft: on each side there is a patera and on the back a wheel.

The bolsters of both groups are plain, the ends sometimes decorated with geometric, rosette-like patterns or in one instance with concentric grooves. Foci are circular and usually dished, although in each group one focus is flat-bottomed with a pronounced "kick" in the centre.

The fasciae of the two groups are dissimilar. In Group 1 there are ten moulded fasciae and one enlarged fascia. The fasciae of the stones of Group 2 are all decorated; in three cases they are deep and in two, narrow. The focus mounts of Group 1 are, in every case except one, "between the bolsters" and are mainly based on the pedimental shape (type 1). In group 2 those of the extant stones are invariably "from the bolsters" (type 2) with central profile of

type 5. This central profile has great affinities with that carved on altars of Cohors II Tungrorum at Birrens.

Apart from the unsuccessful attempts at more elaborate mouldings, the masons who carved both groups were dependent on the fillet to effect the change from the shaft to capital and base. This suggests that they had been trained in a workshop, perhaps that of Legio IX Elspana, about which little is as yet known.

The characteristic ornament of Group 1 is an incised circle with a well defined centre. This motif occurs on seven out of eleven stones. The designs favoured by the masons of Group 2 are either based upon sparrow-pecked semi-circles separated by bands of chip-carved chevron or are varieties of scroll ornament in relief. One of the altars has the sides of the capital decorated with a band of leaf ornament in relief set out with compasses. This is similar to the design on an altar of Legio XX from Chester.

The dating of the two groups of altars is difficult, Wenham<sup>1</sup> suggests that chronologically the order of command at Maryport should be, first the prefects and then the tribunes, the increased dignity of the commander indicating the ungrading of the regiment from five-hundred to one thousand men. In the third century at Netherby the unit was milliary. One of the two tribunes named on the inscriptions is Marcus Maenius Agrippa, who is known to have been in Britain at some time in Hadrian's reign, although the exact date is uncertain. The other tribune, Gaius Caballius Priscus, presumably either preceded or followed Maenius Agrippa within a fairly short time bracket. If Maenius Agrippa's period at Maryport is thought to be early in Hadrian's reign, c. A.D. 118 to 121, then Caballius Priscus' command would fall not later than about A.D. 130. If Maenius Agrippa did not serve in Britain until the later part of Hadrian's reign, then Caballius Priscus' command

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1. CW<sup>2</sup> XXXIX, 25.

could be pushed as late as the immediate pre-Antonine period. In any event, on this argument all the prefects would serve either before c.A.D. 118 or c.A.D. 130, and the date of the earliest of their altars would go back to Trajanic times, or earlier.

Now stylistically the altars of Group 2, dedicated when Lucius Cammius Maximus, Lucius Antistius Lupus Verianus and Marcus Censorius Cornelianus were prefects, accord best with a mid-second century date. The band of leaves, paralleled on a legionary stone dated A.D. 154, an altar from Stockstadt dated A.D. 167, another from Jagsthausen dated A.D. 179 and on an altar in the Bonn Museum to which a third century date is given, the sparrow-pecked semi-circles paralleled on an altar from Stockstadt dated A.D. 167,<sup>1</sup> strongly suggest that a date later than the late first or early second century is desirable. By contrast, the two altars dedicated when Helstrius Novellus was prefect accord well with those of the tribunes and, if Wenham's theory holds, he must be considered as one of the last prefects to command Cohors I Hispanorum.

In an article on Roman officers at Maryport, Jarrett suggests<sup>2</sup> that Lucius Cammius Maximus was probably in command during the late Hadrianic period. Thus he assumes either that the appearance of tribunes in Cohors I Hispanorum was not the result of the enlargement of the unit or that, as in Cohors I Tungrorum, a prefect could command a milliary cohort. It is also a possibility that the rank of tribune was bestowed by the Emperor on distinguished men as a mark of special favour, as he might well do in the case of Maenius Agrippa, and that the up-grading of the cohort took place in Severan times. Had it been

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1. See I, p. 83

2. CW<sup>2</sup> LXV, 123.

done at Maryport, at least one inscription would surely have mentioned the fact.

The altars are listed in the best stylistic chronology. This pushes the period of service of Cohors I Hispanorum at Maryport into the Antonine period, but as there is no evidence of the unit's presence on the Antonine Wall, there can be no objection to this.

The one surviving altar from Netherby belongs to a different stylistic tradition and is typical of the new vogue in altar design in the third century.

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299. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Hispanorum under the command of Helstrius Novellus, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is 44 inches. It is  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $26\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and are broken at both front and back.

The focus is circular, dished, and has had a rim (type A2a). It is now broken but it has been at least  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 2 inches deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2)†. A torus moulding is sandwiched between two fillets.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It is in the shape of a pediment the apex of which has been cut away to form three points, the central one being higher than the others. In the

centre of the focus mount there is a sunken aedicula flanked by incised circles with centres indicated.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in fillets. At the base there are three stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

This altar is probably the earliest in the series of altars from Maryport.

RIB 822

LS 856

Bailey, 145-146, no. 39; plate V facing 146.

300. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor by Maenius Agrippa, tribune of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in light coloured sandstone and stands  $26\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is 23 inches high,  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The front of the sinister bolster is decorated with a sunken roundel. The dexter bolster has gone.

The focus is circular with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2); a torus moulding is sandwiched between fillets.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), and shaped like a pediment (type 1). Two vertical incised lines divide the pediment into three parts in each of which there is an incised roundel with the centre indicated. The middle circle is larger than the others.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Two stepped-in fillets at the capital and two stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth at the base effect the change of dimension.

The altar is clearly of Hadrianic date.

RIB 825

LS 862

Bailey, 146, no. 40

301. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and, although the inscription is defective, perhaps as a result of tool sharpening, it mentions the tribune Maenius Agrippa so that the attribution to Cohors I Hispanorum is certain. It is carved in red sandstone and stands  $31\frac{1}{4}$  inches high. The width of the stone is  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches and the thickness is  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The shaft is  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, and 10 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and the front of the dexter displays a geometric pattern of six incised spokes the tips of which are linked by incised lines.

The focus is large and circular (type A2b). It touches the bolsters (upper surface type 4). The internal diameter is 8 inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). It seems to be a badly carved version of that on 299 and 300. A torus moulding is decorated with three equidistant incised circles the centres of which are indicated. At the sides of the capital a similar motif appears at each end of the fascia.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It forms a central profile of type 1 (pediment), within which three incised circles with their centres indicated are arranged in triangular shape.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital three stepped-in fillets and at the base three stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth make the transition to the shaft.

RIB 826

LS 847

Bailey, 146, no. 42.

302. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor by Marcus Maenius Agrippa, tribune of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in light-coloured sandstone. The altar is  $33\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain. Guide lines for the lettering may still be seen on the die.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a). The ends are decorated with two concentric incised circles with the centre of the circle indicated.

The focus is circular with high rim (type A2a). It touches the bolsters and the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 10).

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A torus moulding is sandwiched between two fillets. The topmost of these fillets is decorated with a band of incised chevron with a small hollow in each interstice. The lower fillet has a band of incised concave semi-circles with a small hollow in each arc.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1) and is pediment-

shaped (type 1), although the apex is cut away in a V shape. The slope of the diagonals is emphasised by an incised line, and three incised roundels with their centres indicated are arranged in an inverted triangle.

The altar is moulded on four sides. There are three stepped-in and three stepped-out fillets at the capital and base respectively and, in addition, the base has a stepped-out plinth.

The altar dates from the reign of the Emperor Hadrian.

RIB 824

LS 857

Bailey, 144, no. 29; plate III facing 144.

303. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Hispanorum under the command of Marcus Maenius Agrippa. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is 43 inches and it is 18 inches wide and  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $26\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are small (type Ala). The dexter bolster is almost gone and the front of the sinister bolster is damaged but, at the back, it displays a wheel or rosette, the tips of the five incised spokes being linked by incised lines. There is no doubt that this decoration originally also appeared on the fronts of the bolsters.

The focus is large, circular with rim (type A2b). A groove and drainage channel have been **cut** into the bowl in post-Roman times. The focus is attached to the front and back of the capital and touches the bolsters (upper surface type 10). The internal diameter is  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The depth is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A cable moulding with grooving sloping in two directions, is set above a torus decorated with three rosettes, similar to that described above but with six spokes, and a fillet. At the back of the capital only two rosettes appear; the central one is absent. The sides of the capital display at each end of the torus an incised circle with centre indicated.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1) and is shaped like a pediment (type 1). Within the mount there is a five-spoked rosette with petals linked by incised lines. At the back of the capital there is a pediment with rosette.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in fillets. At the base there are three stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar dated from the Hadrianic period when Maenius Agrippa was in command at Maryport. The decoration of the sides of the fascia links this stone with 299-301.

RIB 823

LS 846

Horsley, 279-80, Cumb LXII

Bailey, 142, no. 21.

304. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter and to the Deity of the Emperor by Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is 44 inches and it is 17 inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is plain. Two large incised ivy leaves are carved under the inscription.

The shaft is plain.

The bolsters are smallish and do not reach the edge of the capital (type A1a). The dexter survives and its front is ornamented by a rosette; it has eight petals in relief and a boss with sunken centre.

The focus is broken but has been circular and raised (type A2a). The minimum internal diameter is 7 inches and the focus has been at least  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Two small tori are set above a fillet decorated with small incised circles with centres indicated. In the centre there are three circles arranged in the form of a triangle and on each side there are groups of two vertical and three horizontal circles.

The focus mount is damaged but has been "between the bolsters" (type 1) It has been ornamented by a feature outlined by a bead moulding. It may have been an aedicula.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in fillets and at the base there are three stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 815

LS 861

Bailey, 144, no. 33

305. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Gaius Caballius Priscus, tribune of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in light-coloured sandstone. The height of the altar is  $35\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $12\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 13

inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), but damaged.

The focus is circular dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). It has an internal diameter of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches and is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3). It rises to a pedimented central profile (type 1), within which there is a sunken gable. At each side, under the bolsters, there is an incised circle with the centre indicated.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet, a sagging cyma reversa moulding carved from the same templet as one used by Cohors I Nervana Germanorum (319), and an ovolo or rounded stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a debased torus, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 819

LS 855

Bailey, 145, no. 37

306. The upper part of an altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Gaius Caballius Priscus, tribune of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is now  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a). The front of the sinister bolster displays a moulded rim with sunken centre.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). Three fillets are set one above the other.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). The upper profile of the focus mount is that of two convex arcs (type 6). In the centre of the focus mount there is an incised circle with its centre indicated and flanked by tiny inset roundels.

The altar is moulded on three sides. Two stepped-in fillets make the transition to the shaft.

RIB 820

Ferguson, PSAL<sup>2</sup> VIII, 394 without fig.

Bailey, 149, no. 57.

307. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Gaius Caballius Priscus, tribune of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the altar is  $32\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is 15 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a), and are set back from the edges of the capital. They are broken at the front.

The focus is raised above the level of the top of the bolsters. It is circular, dished with rim (type A2b) and measures 4 inches internally. It is 1 inch deep.

Bolsters and focus form a secondary capital.

There is no fascia.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). The central feature of the focus mount is a trapezoidal projection.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet and three small debased tori. At the base there are three fillets, a debased torus and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 818

LS 850

Horsley, 281, Cumb. LXVII.

Bailey, 141, no. 16; plate I facing 139.

308. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Hispanorum under the command of Gaius Caballius Priscus. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 40 inches high,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{5}{8}$  inches thick at the sinister side. At the dexter side of the shaft the stone is only 13 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), but are wider at the back than at the front. The ends are decorated with seven-petalled naturalistic rosettes in relief with centre bosses.

The focus is almost circular and has a rim and flat bottom with pointed umbo (type B7a). At the edges of the bottom there are small groups of flutings. The internal diameter is  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A small torus with cabling running

from the upper dexter to the lower sinister side is set above and below a larger torus with cabling running in the opposite direction.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), but its main feature is a roundel attached to the front of the focus and carved in the form of a man's face.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Three stepped-in fillets at the capital and three stepped-out fillets at the base make the change of dimension. At the base there is also a stepped-out plinth.

This altar is the most richly ornamented of those dedicated by Cohors I Hispanorum under Caballius Priscus.

RIB 817

LS 853

Bailey, 144, no. 31; plate II facing 143.

309. An altar, now lost, from Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Lucius Cammius Maximus, prefect of Cohors I Hispanorum. No dimensions are preserved.

The die is enclosed in a moulded panel.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type A1a).

The focus is circular, dished with rim and umbo, apparently with a central depression (type A2e).

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow, and decorated with a band of S-curves set horizontally. Above and below this, Horsley's drawing shows a fillet ornamented by widely spaced, incised chevrons. It seems likely that this is intended to represent the bar chevron enrichment found on other altars of Cohors I Hispanorum, one of them (310), dedicated by the same commander.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), rising to a pedimented central profile (type 1). Horsley's drawing shows a gable in the centre of the pediment.

The altar is moulded on at least three sides. At the capital there seems to be a torus and four stepped-in fillets. At the base these mouldings are reversed and there is a stepped-out plinth.

The altar is clearly one of a well-defined group of stones from Cohors I Hispanorum's workshop.

RLB 829

Horsley, 279, Cumb. LXI

310. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Lucius Cammius Maximus, prefect of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in light-coloured sandstone. The altar is 45 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel outlined by a cyma moulding. This panel is  $19\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and 12 inches wide.

Each side of the shaft bears a representation of a sacrificial patera set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone. Both are recessed into the shaft. The patera on the dexter side has a dished bowl, a knobbed, grooved handle and a trapezoidal flange for steadying the vessel. The patera, on the sinister side of the shaft is flat bottomed with umbo. The back of the shaft carries a representation of a six-spoked wheel in relief.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). Their fronts are decorated with rosettes with nine sunken petals.

The focus is broken, since the upper part of the back of the stone

is missing. However, sufficient remains to show that it has been circular with a rim.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep, and elaborately decorated. A band of tiny chip-carved chevron runs around the edges of the fascia and within this border two zones of ornament are created by another band of tiny chevron cut horizontally across the fascia. The upper zone has a well-carved scroll pattern in relief. The lower zone is filled by seven sunken, sparrow-pecked semi-circles with a triangular stop on each spandrel. The setting out lines may still be seen. The sides of the capital display a design of bay leaves with a median rib above a band of chip-carved chevron and a row of sparrow-pecked convex semi-circles.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a central profile of type 5 within which a sparrow-pecked sunken gable bisected by a perpendicular bead moulding is carved. Incised cross-hatching flanks the gable.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a torus and two stepped-in fillets. At the base there are two stepped-out fillets, a torus, another stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 827

LS 852

Bailey, 146, no. 43; plate III facing 144.

311. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Lucius Cammius Maximus, prefect of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 39 inches high, 17 inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $25\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), with plain ends.

The focus is almost circular. It has a rim and flat bottom with pointed umbo (type B7a). It measures 8 inches internally from side to side and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches from back to front. It is 1 inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow, and decorated. A row of concave, sparrow-pecked semi-circles is set above a band of nine convex arcs similarly ornamented. Small sparrow-pecked roundels appear in the spandrels.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It sweeps upwards in concave arcs to form a central profile of type 5.

The altar is moulded on four sides. Four tiny fillets, stepped-in at the capital and stepped-out at the base, make the change of dimension to the shaft. At the base there is a stepped-out plinth.

RIB 828

LS 849

Bailey, 143, no. 28; plate II facing 143.

312. An altar from Maryport; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Marcus Censorius Cornelianus, centurion of Legio X Fretensis and commandant of Cohors I Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 42 inches high, 16 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick.

The die is enclosed in a panel  $20\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide, outlined by a cyma moulding.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), and fairly small. The ends are damaged.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). The interior of the focus is not well finished. The internal diameter is  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and decorated. Bands of tiny bar chevron are set above and below a row of eight sparrow-pecked, convex semi-circles. The sides of the capital have a row of sunken, sparrow-pecked circles between double bands of semi-circles similarly finished, the upper concave and the lower convex. This is an elaboration of the pattern carved on the front of one of the altars dedicated by Lucius Cammius Maximus (311).

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). It sweeps down in a concave arc before rising towards the centre-front of the capital in a profile of type 5. Although now very weathered, a decoration of sparrow-necked arcs may still be distinguished.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are five tiny, stepped-in fillets. At the base there are six similar stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The decoration of the fascia and the shape of the focus mount link this altar with those carved when Lucius Cammius Maximus was in command at Maryport. The same mason seems to have been at work.

RIB 814

TH. Cat., 6, no. 12

Oswald, Arch Scot. II, 499; plate XIX, fig. L

313. An altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall,  
Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Hispanorum under the command of Lucius Antistius Lupus Verianus, prefect. It is carved

in red sandstone. The altar is  $43\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 16 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is enclosed in a cyma-moulded panel,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and 12 inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are decorated with a wheel with eight raised spokes and sunken centre, set within a flat rim;

The focus is circular, dished with rim and pointed umbo (type A2d). It has an internal diameter of 5 inches. It is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep and is attached to the front of the stone (upper surface type 6).

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and decorated. There are three zones of ornament. The upper edge of the fascia is marked by a band of bar chevron carved with a flat background. Below this a row of seven convex, sparrow-pecked semi-circles appears with a triangular-shaped chip-carved stop in each spandrel. The next zone is marked by another row of bar chevron. Eight smaller convex, sparrow-pecked semi-circles with stops in each spandrel occupy the field. Below this, a third row of bar chevron runs across from the sinister side of the fascia but does not reach the dexter side. Five large sparrow-pecked semi-circles with sparrow-pecked sunken roundels in the spandrels complete the design. The sides of the fascia are decorated with four tiers of sparrow-pecked semi-circles set alternately concave and convex.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2), rising to a central profile of type 5.

The altar is moulded on three sides. The mouldings are tiny. At the capital two small stepped-in fillets, an ovolo, a bead and another stepped-in fillet are the elements. At the base there is a

stepped-out fillet, a bead, an ovolo and three stepped-out fillets.

The decoration of the fascia may be compared with that of 311 and 312.

RIB 816

LS 854

Bailey, 145, no. 36; plate III facing 144.

314. An altar, now lost, from Maryport.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors I Hispanorum under the command of Publius Cornelius ..... No measurements of the stone are preserved.

The die, according to the sketch from Dugdale's ms. reproduced in RIB, is a sunken panel within a plain border.

There are no details of bolsters or focus.

The fascia may have been rectangular (type 1), narrow.

There is no focus mount in the sketch.

The altar is boldly moulded. At the capital there are two fillets separated both from each other and from the fascia by a scotia. Below these there is a stepped-in fillet. The base mouldings are a stepped-out fillet, a large ovolo or torus, a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The plinth displays a sunken rectangular panel.

RIB 821

Bailey, 149, no. 63 (in footnote).

See RIB for drawing from manuscript source.

315. An altar from Netherby; now at Netherby Hall.

The altar is dedicated to Fortuna Conservatrix by Marcus Aurelius

Salvius, tribune of Cohors I Aelia Hispanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The height of the stone is 42 inches. The altar is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 15 inches wide and  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters but their presence is suggested by two roundels. At present they are sunken with flat bottoms although they may once have had rims.

There is no focus. The top of the capital is roughly chiselled flat.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 7). A bevelled curving gable gives interest to the front of the capital.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a torus and a larger torus with a longitudinal central groove. At the base there is a debased torus, another torus and a plinth.

The tribune mentioned in the inscription is known to have been at Netherby during the reign of Severus Alexander (RIB 978), so that the altar may be securely placed in that period. The stone is an excellent example of third century altar styles.

RIB 968

LS 763

Hutchinson, Cumb. II, 586, 538; plate III, facing 535.

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Hispanorum.

316. An uninscribed altar from Maryport; now in the Museum at Netherhall, Maryport.

The altar is carved in coarse yellow sandstone. It is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches

high,  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is 11 inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 7 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). The ends are decorated with rosettes with six grooved petals.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). It touches the bolsters (upper surface type 4). The internal diameter is  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches and the depth is 1 inch.

The fascia is flat at the front of the stone but at the sides and back it is moulded. At the front, two fillets border a wider fillet decorated with three rosettes the tips of whose grooved petals are linked by grooved arcs. This wide fillet becomes a torus at the sides and back.

The focus mount is between the bolsters (type 1). It is shaped like a pediment (type 1) and accommodates a six-petalled, grooved rosette. At the back of the capital there is a plain gable.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are two stepped-in fillets and at the base, two stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

This altar fits best into the group carved when M. Maenius Agrippa was commanding Cohors I Hispanorum at Maryport. The moulded fascia, the pedimental focus mount with grooved rosette and the carving of the mouldings on four sides of the stone accord with the practices of the unit's masons at that time.

LS 889

Bailey, 147, no. 44.

317. Part of the capital of an altar from Maryport; now in the Netherhall Museum.

The fragment is carved in red sandstone. It is 11 inches high, 14 inches wide and 5 inches thick.

Traces of the focus show that it has been dished.

The fascia is ornamented by two rows of large sparrow-pecked sunken semi-circles, the upper tier concave and the lower convex. This decoration suggests that the stone is the product of the workshop of Cohors I Hispanorum.

Mouldings are preserved on two sides. These are a stepped-in fillet, a torus and two stepped-in fillets.

Bailey, 157, no. 78.

318. A fragment of the capital of an altar from Maryport; now in the Netherhall Museum.

The fragment is carved in red sandstone. It is 7 inches high, 8 inches wide and  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

It is decorated with a double row of sparrow-pecked sunken semi-circles, the upper tier concave and the lower convex. This decoration suggests that the altar was carved by the mason responsible for 310-313 and 317 and that he belonged to Cohors I Hispanorum.

Bailey, CW<sup>2</sup> XXVI, 420, no. 92.

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Cohors I Nervana Germanorum

The two altars surviving from this unit's workshop differ greatly in style and date.

The first, from the early Antonine period, has a strange, secondary capital and an ugly, inverted cyma reversa moulding which is identical with one carved on an altar of Cohors I Hispanorum at Maryport.

The second stone is typical of the third, or even the early fourth century, as Professor Birley suggests, with bolsters indicated by raised roundels, with a flat top and chamfers.

In view of the similarity of the cyma mouldings, these altars are included after those of Cohors I Hispanorum, a unit whose latest altar (315), also displays some characteristic third-century stylistic developments.

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319. An altar from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Fortune by Cohors I Nervana Germanorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is 48 inches high,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 12 inches thick. The shaft is  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are set back from the edges of the capital and form a smaller secondary capital. The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and, at the front, are outlined by a groove.

The focus lies within the bolsters and the front of the secondary capital. It is rectangular with a flat bottom (type B6a). From side to side it measures  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $4\frac{3}{4}$  inches from front to back. The bottom is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches lower than the top of the bolsters.

The front and back of the secondary capital are formed by three convex arcs, outlined by a groove at the front of the stone.

The fascia of the capital proper is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a stepped-in fillet and a large sagging cyma reversa moulding. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a large, inverted cyma reversa cut from the same templet as that on an altar of Cohors I Hispanorum (305), a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar must date from the period before A.D. 158 when Cohors II Tungrorum was stationed at Birrens. This dating fits in with that of the altar of Cohors I Hispanorum from Maryport.

RIB 2093

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX 147-148, no. 14; 147, fig. 19.

320. An altar from either Netherby or Bewcastle; now at Netherby Hall.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by Paternius Maternus, tribune of Cohors I Nervana. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 35 inches high, 14 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $10\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters although their presence is suggested at the front of the capital by raised roundels.

There is no focus. The top of the capital is flat and roughly pecked off.

The fascia is moulded (type 2). A cant moulding is placed above a broad fillet.

The focus mount is "filled-in" (type 3), but the idea of a pedimented mount of type 1, "between the bolsters," is given by a truncated gable in relief.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital a cant moulding or angular torus is placed below the fascia. At the base there is a chamfered fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The shape of the capital with its devolved focus mount of type 3, its flat top and absence of focus is a good example of the new styles of the third century. The mouldings also fit in with masons' work of this period. Professor Birley's suggestion that the altar comes from the second half of the third century is supported on stylistic grounds.

RIB 966

LS 764

Hutchinson, Cumb. II, 535, no. 2; plate II no. 2.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXI, 139 (c).

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> LIII, 27, no. 20

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors I Nervana Germanorum

321. An altar from Bewcastle; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by Aurunceius Felicessemus, tribune. It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $13\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is 10 inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are no bolsters.

The focus is circular, outlined by a groove and dished with rim (type C10). It has an internal diameter of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

There is neither real fascia nor focus mount.

The upper profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there are two tori. At the base there is a large torus chamfered to the shaft and a plinth.

This altar is clearly of late date. The absence of bolsters, focus mount and regular fascia points to an origin in a period when considerable devolution of style had taken place. Professor Birley suggests that a date in the third century is appropriate for the stone and stylistically there is no objection to this. It seems to come from the later years of that period or perhaps even from the early years of the fourth century. If this is so, it is probably a product of the workshop of Cohors I Nervana Germanorum.

RIB 988

LS 732

Carlisle, Arch. XI, 69; plate VI, 23

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXI, 138

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXIX, 223

Richmond, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXVIII, 201.

322. Part of the dexter side of the capital of an altar from  
Bewcastle; now in the Old Schoolroom, Bewcastle.

The inscription is defective. The altar is carved in cream sandstone. The fragment is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $15\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and damaged.

The focus is raised, rectangular and flat (type D12). It rises  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches above the level of the fascia.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), inscribed. In the centre there seems to have been a trefoil in relief.

Mouldings survive only on the front of the stone. Here there is a large torus.

The shape of the focus and the single large torus at the capital, together with the inscribed fascia suggest that this stone comes from the third century. The size of the fragment indicates that the altar was originally of large dimensions. This points to a military origin for the stone. The garrison at Bewcastle in the third century seems to have been Cohors I Nervana Germanorum and this fragment is accordingly included with the products of that unit's workshop.

JRS XLVII, 228-229, no. 12.

323. The lower part of an altar from Bewcastle; now in Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by Quintus Peltradius Maximus, tribune. It is carved in buff sandstone, reddened on the surface. The altar is 33 inches high,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 10 inches thick. The shaft is 16 inches wide and 9 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

No trace of bolsters or focus remains.

The fascia has gone and there is now no focus mount.

The altar is now moulded on two sides. No mouldings survive at the capital. At the base there is a torus which may once have been cabled, a fillet, a torus and a plinth.

The altar has occasioned much discussion as to date. Too little of the significant features of the stone survive for any valid conclusions to be drawn on the basis of style alone. There appears to be no objection to a date in the third or even fourth century for the altar. As the altar is dedicated by a tribune, it was probably carved by a military mason, most probably one from Cohors I Nervana Germanorum.

RIB 989

Haverfield, CW<sup>1</sup> XV, 459; plate facing 459; and 500, no. 102.

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXI, 138 (b)

TH. Cat., 4 no. 7; plate facing 4.

Cohors II Lingonum

Only one altar can be ascribed to this workshop with certainty and it is difficult to detect any influence in its design, unless the stepped fillets are to be associated with Legio IX Hispana as suggested above.

RIB 798 may have been decorated with a figure of Silvanus but as there is some doubt about this, the stone is not included in the Catalogue.

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324. An altar from Ilkley, now at Myddelton Lodge, Ilkley.

The altar is dedicated to Verbeia by Clodius Fronto, prefect of Cohors II Lingonum. It is carved in fine-grained sandstone. As it now stands, set in concrete, the altar is  $53\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It is  $16\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 18 inches thick. The shaft is  $29\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $15\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $14\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel, 30 inches high and c. 14 inches wide, with a rounded border.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a patera with a raised rim and handle with curved end. It is set vertically with the bowl towards the bottom of the stone. In the middle of the patera there is a hole as if to accommodate a bolt.

The bolsters are cylindrical and show slight traces of having had three spaced-out, grooved straps (type A4c). The ends are decorated with rosettes set within an incised roundel. Each rosette has eight sunken petals. Between each pair of petals there is a triangular sunken stop.

The focus is circular with rim and flat bottom (type B6a). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7).

The internal diameter is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1). It has the form of a pediment (type 1), and accommodates a rosette within an incised circle. The rosette seems to have had eight sunken petals.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there are three stepped-in fillets. At the base there are two stepped-out fillets and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the late Antonine period.

RIB 635

Horsley, 311, Yorks. XIV

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Altars probably from the workshop of Cohors II Lingonum.

325. Part of an altar, now lost, from Ilkley.

The stone has been dedicated for the welfare of the Emperor-Caesars Antoninus and Verus by Caecilius Lucanus, prefect. No dimensions are preserved.

Horsley's sketch shows the die to have been a panel bordered by a cyma moulding.

The date of the stone is between A.D. 161 and 169.

The altar is clearly of military workmanship as the dedicator and cyma moulded panel indicate. It seems likely that the unit concerned is Cohors II Lingonum which was probably stationed at Ilkley during the middle years of the second century.

RIB 636

Horsley, 311, Yorks. XIII.

326. Part of an altar, broken across the die, from Ilkley; now in the parish church at Ilkley.

No trace of the inscription remains. The altar has been cut at one side to form the arch of a window. The stone used for the altar is coarse sandstone. The altar is  $38\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 14 inches thick.

Only one face of the stone is undamaged. On this side of the shaft there is a guttus with concave base, ovoid body and short, broad neck (type B3), and a patera with rim and umbo with depressed centre set vertically with the bowl towards the bottom of the altar. The handle of the patera is fan-tailed with a hole for suspension.

Nothing survives of the bolsters and focus. The top of the stone is now flat.

There is now no trace of fascia, focus mount or mouldings.

The altar most probably comes from a military workshop for paterae and gutti usually give an indication of this. The unusual handle of the patera calls to mind the curved handle of 324, an altar of Cohors II Lingonum. It seems likely that this altar comes from the same workshop. Woodward, YAJ XXVIII, 319, no. 8; 318, fig. 55.

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Cohors II Nerviorum

The four altars in this group are from widely spaced sites and have few features in common.

In two instances the die is plain. One of the others has a panelled die and the fourth inscription is carved on a raised panel. Without exception the shaft is plain.

Three altars have plain bolsters. The other has baluster-shaped, double-strapped bolsters. Two altars have no focus.

Fasciae are both decorated and inscribed.

Except on one altar, with a decorated ovolo moulding, mouldings are a relatively unimportant feature.

It is difficult to date these stones. Those from Wallsend, Carrawburgh and Chesterholm seem to fit best into the second century. The fourth, from Whitley Castle, must surely be later, for the syncretic aspects of its iconography are sophisticated and reflect conditions in which oriental symbolism was widely understood.

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327. An altar from Carrawburgh; now in the Museum at Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to the Genius of this place by the Texandri and Suvevae, members of a detachment of Cohors II Nerviorum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the altar is 21 inches and it is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

The die is a raised rectangular panel 6 inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are now damaged but it is clear that they have been plain (type Ala).

There is no focus. The top of the capital is flat between the bolsters.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth, and decorated with four incised saltires separated from each other by vertical lines.

The focus mount is "from the bolsters" (type 2). The central profile of the capital is flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the front of the capital there is a flattened torus moulding. At the sides of the capital there are two tori. At the base there is a chamfer.

The shape of the focus mount suggests that this altar is of second century date, although the chamfered base is at home in later periods.

RIB 1538

LS 925

Clayton, AA<sup>2</sup> VII, 282

Budge, 318-319, no. 91; fig., 163.

Chesters Cat., 26, no. 158.

328. An altar from near Chesterholm; now in the Museum at  
Chesters.

The altar is dedicated to Cocidius by Decimus Caerellius Victor, prefect of Cohors II Nerviorum. It is carved in sandstone. The height of the stone is 41 inches. It is 18 inches wide and 15 inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $14\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The inscription is in a sunken panel  $12\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide, bordered at each side by a bead moulding with ovolos at top and bottom.

The sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala) and are set back from the edges of the capital. The fronts are damaged.

There is no focus.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), deep and inscribed. On three sides the fascia is bordered by a double bead moulding.

The focus mount is "between the bolsters" (type 1), and seems to have been a semi-circular projection (type 2). The same type of feature appears at the back of the capital.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is an ovolo and a distorted bead moulding. At the base these mouldings appear in reverse.

The base of the altar is very rough as if the stone had been set in the ground.

The general shape of the capital, with focus mount "between the bolsters", suggests an early date for the stone but the deep, inscribed fascia and the cramped mouldings would be more at home in the third century. A date at the end of the second century is perhaps appropriate.

RIB 1683

LS 257

Birley, AA<sup>4</sup> VIII, 191, no. 4

Budge, 356, no. 267; fig., 60.

Chesters Cat., 32, no. 228.

329. An altar from Whitley Castle; now in the Museum of Antiquities, Newcastle upon Tyne.

The altar is dedicated to Apollo. The inscription is defective but the Cohors II Nerviorum is mentioned. The altar is carved in buff sandstone. The stone is 55 inches high, 21 inches wide and  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. It is set in a slab 28 inches high, 48 inches wide and 8 inches thick. The shaft is  $21\frac{3}{4}$  inches high,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and sides of the shaft are plain.

The bolsters are baluster-shaped and double strapped in the centre (type C3b). The backs of the bolsters display bosses with tiny central

depressions, within raised rims. At the front of the bolsters two concentric mouldings with a sunken centre take the place of the bosses.

The focus is elliptical, dished with rim (type A2b). It is attached to the front and back of the capital (upper surface type 7). From side to side the internal dimension is  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches; from front to back the internal measurement is  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches. There is more variation in the external measurements of the focus; from side to side the measurement of  $6\frac{1}{4}$  inches compares with a measurement of  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches from front to back. The depth of the focus is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

The fascia is "enlarged" (type 3), and decorated on all four sides. The central profile of the capital at both front and back is a gable (type 1). In the apex at the back there is a sunken roundel with centre boss.

The decorative motifs of the sunken panels of the fascia are amongst the most interesting to be found on the altars of Northern Britain. Mr. R.P. Wright has pointed out that they are a splendid example of syncretism. He interprets the figure on the front of the stone as Apollo Citharoedus. The god stands astride, naked except for a cloak hanging behind him, and grasping in his left hand the cross bar of a schematic lyre. In his right hand he holds a roll away from his body. Wright suggests that this is a plectrum. Above the head of the deity, swags linked with the moulding at the sides of the fascia provide a framework for the figure. On the back of the capital, in a round-headed, shouldered niche, the god stands on an eminence. He faces the front and is apparently wearing a knee-length, enveloping garment. In his right hand he holds a whip or sceptre. On each side a figure stepping forward with the near side leg faces him. The left foot of the dexter figure rests upon a rounded object resembling a rock or globe. Both figures wear knee-length tunics. The dexter figure holds a lowered torch or baton. The sinister figure has his torch upraised. Wright's interpretation of these figures as representing the Mithraic torchbearers is a reasonable one. At the

dexter side of the fascia the Mithraic connotations are continued. The sun god appears, again astride and naked except for his cloak. He wears a five-spoked radiate crown and holds up his right hand as if in greeting or blessing. In his left hand he holds a whip. The sinister side of the fascia depicts two figures, both of them clothed. On the dexter side, a man in a knee-length tunic and cloak stands in profile upon a low platform. In his right hand he holds a staff which rests on his shoulder. Facing him and advancing towards him, a bearded figure in a tunic holds up a cup in his right hand and grasps with the other the handle of a jug, presumably a sacrificial guttus. Wright suggests that these figures represent Apollo as a local god and the dedicator of the altar who offers worship to him. Interesting though these reliefs are, they are by no means distinguished in their execution. There is little attempt to render the figures plastically and that of the radiate god is very ill-proportioned.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a Greek ovolo ornamented by a design of sunken semi-circles outlined by a bead moulding. Below this there is a cabled bead moulding. The base displays the same design but reversed.

The mason responsible for the carving of this altar was well versed in the iconography of Mithraism in its Greek, Syrian and Persian aspects. He was also conversant with the Greek ovolo. This suggests that he was from the eastern part of the Mediterranean. The whole scheme is an ambitious one. The altar cannot be paralleled from Northern Britain. It seems likely that it was the work of a soldier for the size of the stone makes it unlikely that anyone but the commanding officer of an auxiliary cohort would have been sufficiently affluent to have purchased or commissioned it. The Mithraic aspects of the sculpture suggest that the altar dates from the third rather than the second century.

RIB 1198

Wright, JRS XXXIII, 36-38; plate II; 77-78, no. 1.

An altar probably from the workshop of Cohors II Nerviorum.

330. An altar from Wallsend; now in the Museum of Antiquities,  
Newcastle upon Tyne.

The deity to whom the altar was dedicated by Didius Severus, prefect, is uncertain. The altar is carved in buff sandstone and is  $31\frac{3}{4}$  inches high. It is 14 inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The bolsters are plain (type Ala), small, and damaged at front and back.

The focus is damaged but has been circular and may have been raised. The internal diameter has been about  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches. It is now attached to the front of the capital (upper surface type 6). The back of the capital is damaged.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), narrow.

The focus mount is now damaged. It may have been in the shape of a pediment (type 1).

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the capital there is a fillet, a sagging, inverted cyma reversa and a stepped-in fillet. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet, a cyma reversa, a fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

This altar is best grouped with those of Cohors II Nerviorum, a unit known to have been at Wallsend probably in the second century.

RIB 1302

LS 181

Horsley, 208, North. VI, although he describes the stone as "a small altar".

Spain and Bosanquet, NCH XIII, 542, no. 2.

Cat. Ant., 75, no. 75

Cohors II Thracum

The solitary altar of this unit is much damaged and difficult to place on that account.

The die is within a recessed panel, whose corners are given a mitred effect by a diagonal groove. This calls to mind the panel of a lost altar from Ilkley which dates from the period A.D. 161 to 169. The flat top of the stone from Moresby however seems to place it in the third century.

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331. An altar from Moresby; now in the Tullie House Museum, Carlisle.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors II Thracum under the command of Mamius Nepos, prefect. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $34\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and 14 inches thick. The shaft is 10 inches high,  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is a sunken panel  $9\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide.

The sides of the shaft are panelled, the plain border having diagonal grooves at each corner to give a mitred effect.

The capital is much damaged and nothing remains of the bolsters and focus, if any existed. The top of the stone is flat.

The front of the capital has been chipped away and it is impossible to determine the form of the fascia and focus mount.

The altar has been moulded on at least three sides. At the capital, all that survives is a stepped-in fillet. At the sides of the base traces of a moulding remain; there is a chamfer at the dexter side.

Professor Birley suggests a third century date for this altar. This seems likely in view of the depth of the capital which indicates a fascia that was either deep or "enlarged". The flat top, if this is

an original feature, also points to a date in the second half of the Roman period.

RIB 797

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XLVIII, 55-56, no. 5

TH. Cat., 8, no. 19

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Cohors V Gallorum

As only two altars of this cohort survive, and one of those is a fragment, it is difficult to establish any particular style or influence.

The major altar is damaged at the top so that no conclusions as to the form of bolsters or focus are possible.

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332. An altar from Cramond; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The altar is dedicated to Jupiter by Cohors V Gallorum under the command of Lucius Minthionius Pertullus, prefect. It is carved in buff sandstone. The altar is 43 inches high,  $17\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $15\frac{1}{4}$  inches high,  $16\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick.

The die and shaft are plain.

The top of the altar is damaged and the bolsters have now gone.

The focus is broken.

The fascia is "enlarged," of a type impossible to determine, and is inscribed and decorated. Two incised leaves with long stalks hang down from the centre of the capital.

The upper profile of the capital has gone.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At both capital and base there are two tori. The plinth is stepped-out.

The "enlarged" fascia and the presence of the first line of the inscription on the fascia suggests that this stone comes from the late second or early part of the third century.

RIB 2134

Gordon, 116, plate XIV 1.

Horsley, 204, Scot. XXVII.

333. A very damaged fragment of an altar from South Shields;  
now in the Museum there.

Only a part of the shaft survives. The inscription mentions  
Cohors V Gallorum. It is carved in sandstone. The stone is  $8\frac{3}{4}$   
inches high,  $7\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and  $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick.

On the sinister side of the shaft there is a motif in relief.  
This is interpreted by Bruce as being part of an axe but it resembles  
more an eagle with out-stretched wings.

RIB 1059

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> X, 246 with fig.

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Cuneus Frisionum Aballavensium

334. A fragment of the base of an altar, probably from Papcastle; now in Cockermouth Castle.

The name of the deity to whom the altar was dedicated does not survive although a reconstruction of the inscription restores the name of the unit as Cuneus Frisionum Aballavensium. The fragment is carved in red sandstone. It is 13 inches high,  $16\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches thick.

At the base only a torus moulding now remains.

The altar is dated by the inscription to the year A.D. 241.

RIB 882

LS 906

Lysons, Cumb., ~~clxxxi~~, no. 99; plate facing clxiii.

335. The lower part of an altar from Papcastle; now at Petworth, Sussex. This altar has not been examined at first hand.

The inscription is defective and no details of the deity survive. The man erecting the altar is apparently commandant of Cuneus Frisionum Aballavensium. The stone is carved in red sandstone. It is 30 inches high and 20 inches wide.

The altar is moulded. It seems to have either three small mouldings and a plinth or a fillet, torus and plinth.

The altar is dated by its inscription to the years A.D. 244-249.

RIB 883

LS 907

Bruce, AA<sup>2</sup> VII, 80.

Numerus Barcariorum

336. An altar from Halton, 3 miles north-east of Lancaster; now in Lancaster Museum.

The altar is dedicated to Mars by the commandant and men of Numerus Barcariorum. It is carved in red sandstone. The sinister side of the altar is cut off. The altar is 42 inches high,  $19\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high,  $18\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide and 13 inches thick.

The die and dexter side of the shaft are plain.

No bolsters remain.

The focus is damaged but sufficient is preserved to show that it was circular with two concentric rims (type A3a). The external diameter is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The fascia is rectangular (type 1), of medium depth.

The focus mount is "filled in" (type 3). The central profile of the altar is now flat (type 10).

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the capital there is a flattened torus. At the base there is a stepped-out fillet and a stepped-out plinth.

The altar probably dates from the third century.

RIB 601

Watkin, 177-178 with fig., 177.

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Numerus Equitum Stratonicianorum

Only one altar of this unit is known. Its sole feature of interest is the carving of the sacrificial vessels and implements on the sides of the shaft. The guttus has a cone-shaped base, similar to that which appears on a stone from Birrens, while the knife has a knobbed handle and blade of type 1.

The altar probably dates from the early third century, a period into which the statue base from Birrens can also fit most happily.

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337. An altar from Brougham; now at Brougham Castle.

The altar is dedicated to Mars by a soldier of Numerus Equitum Stratonicianorum. It is carved in cream sandstone. The altar is  $23\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 12 inches wide and 6 inches thick. The shaft is 10 inches high,  $9\frac{1}{4}$  inches wide and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there is a patera with rim, umbo and long handle terminating in a knob, set vertically with the bowl towards the base of the stone, and an elongated guttus with ovoid body, long neck and small spouted mouth (type BI). The foot-stand of the guttus is in the shape of a conical projection, a rare feature, but one which may be paralleled on 338. On the sinister side of the shaft there is an axe with divergent, straight blade square-ended beyond the haft (type 3), and a knife with knobbed handle and broad cutting edge, sharply angled to the tip (type 1).

The bolsters are plain (type Ala). They are damaged at the front.

The focus is circular, dished with rim (type A2b). The internal diameter is  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches and it is  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep.

The front of the capital is damaged so that it is impossible to be certain of the original form of the fascia.

The same is true of the focus mount and of the central profile of the capital.

The altar is moulded on three sides. At the sides of the capital there is a torus and two stepped-in fillets. At the base there are three stepped-out fillets and a plinth.

Professor Birley suggests that the altar dates from the early third century. This may well be the case although stylistically the stone would be at home in an earlier period. The unusual base of the guttus on the shaft strongly suggests that the altar and the other, from Birrens (338), on which the same feature may be noted, are from the hand of the same mason or at least from the same workshop.

RIB 780

LS 941

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXII, 131, no. 2

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Altars probably from the workshop of Numerus Equitum Stratonicianorum

338. A statue base from Birrens; now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh.

The base is dedicated to Mercury by Julius Crescens. It is carved in buff sandstone. The base is  $30\frac{3}{4}$  inches high, 18 inches wide and  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches thick. The shaft is  $18\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, 14 inches wide and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick.

The die is plain.

On the dexter side of the shaft there are two motifs: a cock standing on an inverted cone and a phalera, identical with examples in the set of phalerae found at the Villa Vecchia di Manerbio, near Brescia.<sup>1</sup> The sinister side of the shaft bears reliefs of patera and guttus. The patera, with rim and umbo, is set vertically with the bowl towards the top of

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1. See I, p. 144.

the stone. It has an interesting handle, for not only is it animal-headed but it joins the bowl in an angular projection, a feature which may be paralleled on a stone from South Shields (589). The guttus is also interesting. It has an ovoid body with long neck and small spouted mouth (type B1). Both sides of the mouth are shown, unless the guttus is intended to be lidded. The handle of the guttus is angular with thumb-rest. The base of the guttus is a cone-shape, similar to that on an altar from Brougham (337).

There are no bolsters but the top of the stone has a rectangular recess 13 inches from side to side and c. 8 inches from front to back. It is 2 inches deep.

The stone is chamfered at both capital and base on four sides, although the back is only roughly shaped.

The base seems to be from the same hand as that of an altar from Brougham (337). It probably dates from the years about the turn of the second century.

RIB 2102

Macdonald, J., PSAS XXX, 136-38, no. 7; 136, fig. 12.

339. An altar from near Brougham; now at Brougham Castle.

The inscription is defective but the altar has been dedicated to Belatucadrus by a soldier. It is carved in red sandstone. The altar is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and 11 inches wide. The stone is very weathered and is of crude shape; there is no real capital or base.

The die and shaft are plain.

There are neither bolsters nor focus.

RIB 772

LS 807

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXII, 132, no. 5.

Numerus Maurorum Aureliianorum

340. The upper part of an altar from Burgh upon Sands, once at Romanway, Beaumont. This altar has not been examined at first hand.

The inscription is defective but the altar was probably dedicated to Jupiter, to the Deities of the two Emperors and the Genius of the unit by Caelius Vibianus, tribune of the cohort and commander of Numerus Maurorum Aureliianorum. It is 33 inches high and 15 inches wide.

The die is a sunken panel, bordered at the top by rudimentary dentils.

The mouldings at the capital have been chiselled away and the base of the altar has been cut off.

The altar is dated by its inscription to A.D. 253. Professor Birley suggests that the cohort commanded by Caelius Vibianus was Cohors I Nervana Germanorum.

RIB 2042

Birley, CW<sup>2</sup> XXXVI, 61-63; plate facing 64.

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Vexillatio Raetorum et Noricorum

341. The lower part of an altar from Manchester; now in the Manchester Museum.

The altar is dedicated by the commander of a vexillation of Raetians and Noricans. It is carved in red sandstone. The stone is 28 inches high,  $22\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and 15 inches thick. The shaft is  $20\frac{1}{2}$  inches at the widest part and 9 inches thick if the relief at the back of the stone is included; without the wreath the shaft is 6 inches thick.

The die is recessed within a plain border  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. The panel is  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. A small ovolo bounds the panel at the lower edge.

On the dexter side of the shaft the lower part of a situla, or bucket in which the exta were cooked, appears in relief. The sinister side has a similar motif decorated with drilled holes. The handles of this situla may be distinguished. These situlae are of the same shape as those carved on tombstones in the Regensburg region and an actual example survives in the Regensburg Museum (Plate C). On the back of the shaft there is a thick, clumsy wreath from the lower edge of which two ribbons depend vertically. In the centre of the wreath a hole is drilled.

The altar is moulded on four sides. At the back of the stone, projections at each corner of the base suggest that either angular columns or acroteria once decorated the altar. The front corners of the base are damaged so that it is impossible to ascertain whether similar features also once existed here. The mouldings themselves begin  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches from the edge of the base. At the front of the altar there are three stepped-out ovolos and a stepped-out plinth. At the back and sides of the stone, stepped-out fillets replace the ovolos.

Professor Birley suggests that the vesillation mentioned in the inscription was sent to Britain after the Severan victory at Tinurtium so that the altar would date from the late second or early third centuries. It is interesting to note the correspondence between the motifs on the shaft and those to be found in Raetia, a similarity which perhaps indicates that no long time had elapsed between the arrival of the contingent and the carving of the altar.

RIB 576

ed. F.A. Bruton, The Roman Fort at Manchester (Manchester, 1909),

23-28; plate 8 facing 24; plate 86 facing 150.

Birley in Festschrift fur R. Egger (Klagenfurt 1952) I, 183-185.

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SECTION C

Altars from workshops showing links with military units.