

## ROMAN PAPCASTLE

A Roman fort was established at Papcastle in AD 70's, later identified as Derventio. (There is no evidence to date of any earlier settlement here but as usual a vicus developed below the fort.

The major floods of November 2009, which put Cockermouth on the national and even international news stripped the topsoil off the first field downstream, Broomlands. This led to the discovery of Roman artefacts in an area where they were unknown. In 2010 a community archaeological dig worked on eight evaluation trenches revealing that Derventio extended massively on to the south side of the river. With the discovery of the remains of a Roman water mill, a bid to Heritage Lottery led to a three-year major-excavations operation, 2012-2014, under the auspices of Grampus Heritage and Training, a local organisation.

At its conclusion, Eric Apperley, who had been involved with the project, and who as author of 'Papcastle History' felt it desirable to update the whole story and offered to write this up. Funded by Heritage Lottery, and hence free at this stage, a 42-page illustrated booklet was produced in 2016. Copies are available (free) from The Tourist Information Centre, The Library, Main Street, Cockermouth, CA13 9LU,  
Tel: 01900 822634 email: [tic@cockermouth.org](mailto:tic@cockermouth.org)

A SAE of size 228mm by 160 mm would be appreciated.

*[Eric is a member of CCHT and is a major contributor to this website.]*