



The Parisi

Britons and Romans In Eastern Yorkshire

Peter Halkon

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According to the ancient geographer Ptolemy, the Parisi occupied eastern Yorkshire during the Roman period. This is the first single-authored book about the internationally important Iron Age and Roman archaeology of the region for 35 years. In the last few decades our knowledge has been transformed.

The Parisi may relate to the *Parisii* mentioned by Julius Caesar, after whom the French capital is named and possible continental connections are discussed, with new scientific techniques making it possible to trace past population movement. Iron Age discoveries including chariot burials, one of Britain's largest prehistoric iron industries and largest logboats (both discovered by the author), hoards of gold coins and hundreds of settlements, give a fascinating insight into the lives of these people. This was a time of changing landscape and climate, with rapid sea level rise to almost 1m higher than present.

The remarkable weapons cache from South Cave and newly discovered forts provide fresh insights on the Roman takeover. New finds have been made in Roman Malton and Brough and new settlements along the Roman roads investigated. The up-take of Roman culture through study of beliefs, dress, diet, and the countryside is assessed. Although recent research shows most people did not live in villas, eastern Yorkshire has more villas than anywhere else in northern England, some decorated with fine mosaics. How did Roman control end? Was it violent as evidence from some sites suggests or a peaceful transition? What was the relationship between the resident population and incoming Anglo-Saxons?

Fully illustrated with maps and plans based on the latest data, this book sheds new light on one of the richest regions of Britain for the study of the Iron Age and Roman period.

Dr Peter Halkon, lecturer in Archaeology at Hull University and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London, is a leading authority on the subject. Brought up on a farm in Eastern Yorkshire he is co-director of a landscape archaeology project based around the Foulness Valley, which has received several British Archaeological Awards.

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