

CAISTOR ROMAN PROJECT

Volunteers and Caistor Roman town

Volunteers have been an important part of the work at Caistor Roman town and its surroundings since the start of the project in 2006. Initially working as part of the University of Nottingham's research project, since the conclusion of major excavations in the walled town in 2012, Caistor Roman Project has established itself as an independent archaeological research group in its own right.



Caistor Roman project members excavating the town's defensive ditches in 2016 (left) and digging test pits to explore the village of Caistor St Edmund (right)



The group aims to allow volunteers of all backgrounds to participate in all aspects of the archaeological process from project design to publication. Working alongside professional archaeologists, our aim is to conduct archaeological research of the highest standard, while developing the skills of all our members. In addition we work with members of the community of all ages to show how archaeology helps us understand the landscape around us, as well as working with the Norfolk Archaeological Trust to promote Caistor and its heritage to the wider community.

Since 2014, we have been working in and around the present village of Caistor St Edmund to establish the nature and extent of Roman settlement beyond the walls of the Roman town and to better understand the development of the medieval and post-medieval village of Caistor St Edmund. Supported in particular by grants from the Foyle Foundation and two awards from the Heritage Lottery Fund, we have conducted a programme of test-pitting in people's gardens and fields that has shown how Roman settlement extended well beyond the walled town.



Learning the skills of archaeological recording

As well as excavation and recording, our work has included geophysical survey and environmental sampling and volunteers can participate in regular workshops with visiting specialists to learn about different types of archaeological finds. If you want to get involved, get in touch at www.caistorromanproject.org



Roman pottery workshop at Caistor Hall Hotel (above) and CRP members on a trip to Silchester Roman town (right)

