

New Perspectives

Looking at
Fishbourne Roman Palace
through the eyes of others.



Published by Sussex Archaeological Society

Antony Muzzall BEd (Hons)

Education Department, Fishbourne Roman Palace

PO19 3QR Tel: (01243) 785859



Welcome to Fishbourne Roman Palace and Gardens.

We have a challenge for you—to look at the Palace and its treasures through the eyes of other people.

People in the past and people in the present:

Diggory Scrubbs - the curator of the new Romano British Museum

Annie State-Cellar - an estate agent

Moss Akeman - a fashion designer/artist

Melvina - the female leader of a Celtic tribe

Caedmon - a Celtic leader and spy

Roisin - A Celtic medicine woman

They have different reasons for visiting and need your help.

Have fun exploring the palace through their eyes.

You may help all of them, or just some of them, you choose.

This page is for your own notes about the Palace.

Patient: **Venetia**
Problem: **Hates snakes**
Remedy:

Other uses for the plant:

Drawing:

Patient: **Murtagh**
Problem: **Thinks his wife is poisoning him**
Remedy:

Other uses for the plant:

Drawing:

The **Romans** thought that **all** these remedies worked. **Some** of the plants might actually help the problems. Which ones do **you** think will work?



Diggory Scrubbs is organising a very important opening exhibition for a new museum. He has been told he may borrow **three** artefacts from **Fishbourne** and he wants the **best**!

Which objects would **you** choose and **why**?

Sketch

Object 1

Description:

Sketch

Object 2

Description:

Sketch

Object 3

Description:

What is it about these objects that made you choose them?



Roisin is a local Celtic medicine woman. She has come to the Palace looking for Roman remedies that might help some of her patients.

Look in the garden to help her to find the plants she needs. You can draw the plant (if it is growing) so that she recognises it.

Patient: **Penarddun**

Problem: **Toothache**

Remedy:

Drawing:

Other uses for the plant:

Patient: **Eoin**

Problem: **Flatulence ("farting" in his words)**

Remedy:

Drawing:

Other uses for the plant:

Caedmon is also looking for any reasons why Togidubnus has chosen the Roman way of life.

Find some reasons why **you** might be tempted by Roman ideas.

Roman Idea:	Why would this tempt you to become a Roman?
Roman Idea:	Why would this tempt you to become a Roman?
Roman Idea:	Why would this tempt you to become a Roman?

Do **you** think Togidubnus is a traitor? Or would you rather live the way he does? Would you help Caedmon or Togidubnus?

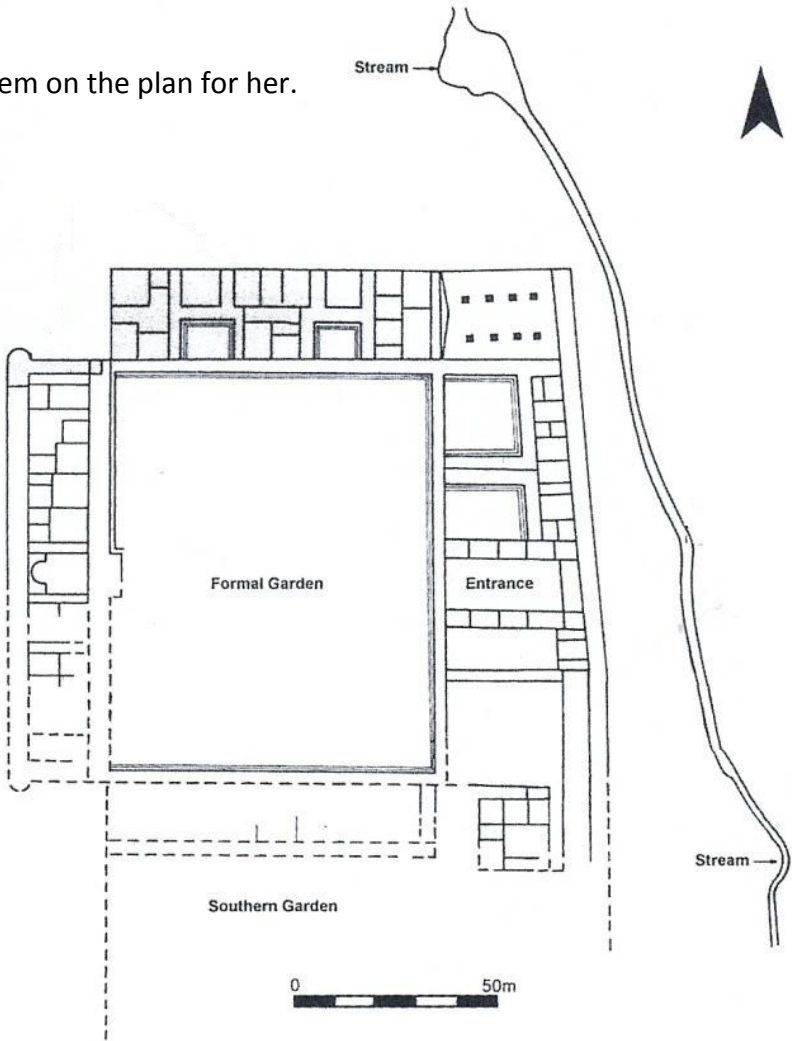
Togidubnus **Caedmon**



Annie State-Cellar has been asked to gather the details so that she can sell the Palace. She needs to find the places on the list below:

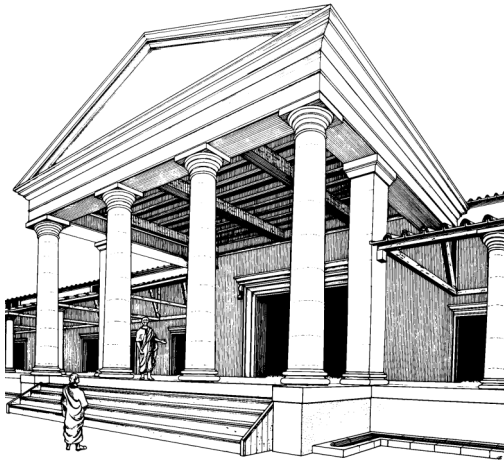
- Audience Chamber** (to greet visitors)
- Bath House**
- Hypocaust** (underfloor heating)
- Triclinium** (dining area)
- Aisled Hall**

Mark them on the plan for her.



This is the main entrance to the palace.

What high impact words would you use to describe it?



Describe the formal gardens in a way that would attract a buyer.

How much do you think the palace would be worth today if it was brand new?

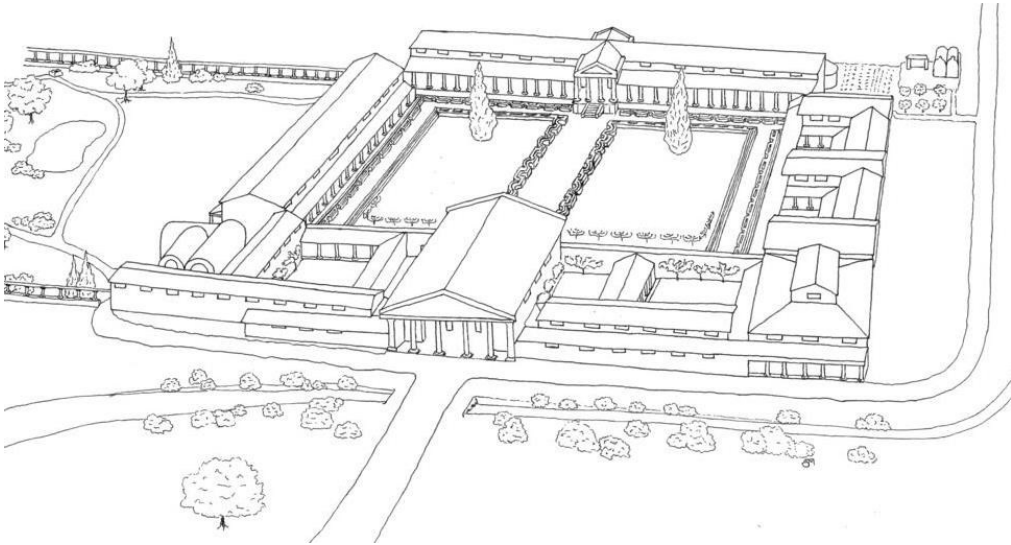
£



Caedmon is the leader of a neighbouring Celtic Tribe. He thinks Togidubnus is a traitor for becoming a Roman citizen.

He is planning to attack the Palace - but he needs to know his way around.

Where in the Palace would be the best place to assassinate Togidubnus?



Label on the drawing where you think these places are:

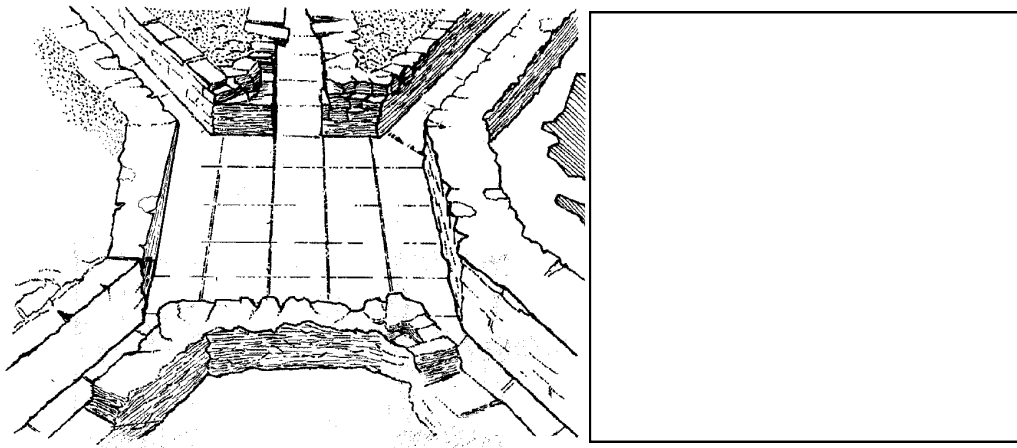
- A) **The Bath House**. (This might be a good place as he is unlikely to be armed).
- B) **Vestibulum** - Main Entrance. (He would never expect us to walk straight in)!
- C) **Triclinium** - Dining Room. (All that fine wine might have dulled his senses).
- D) **Peristylum** - colonnade. (Surprise him when he is relaxing in his garden).
- E) **The Audience Chamber**. (He would never expect to be attacked when greeting guests).

Which place would **you** choose and why?

Togidubnus is very proud of his palace and shows Melvina the North Wing. He shows her the new **hypocaust**.

“I can have rooms as warm as I want without having fires inside.”

How does the hypocaust work?



He asks Melvina if she likes the geometric patterns on his favourite black and white mosaic. She does and points out three of the parts she likes most.

Which three sections do **you** like? Draw them below.

Finally he asks her if she likes the Roman way of life?

What would **you** say - and **why**?



Moss Akeman is researching mosaic patterns so he can develop a new range of designer label menswear based on Roman ideas.

He needs three main patterns that would look good on shirts or ties.

Which three would **you** use?

At Fishbourne the Romans used four colours:

Black
White
Reddish/brown
Yellow

Which four colours would **you** choose for the clothes?

Moss has also seen that some mosaics seem to have a **maker's mark**. One is a bird on a leaf. Can you find it and draw it?

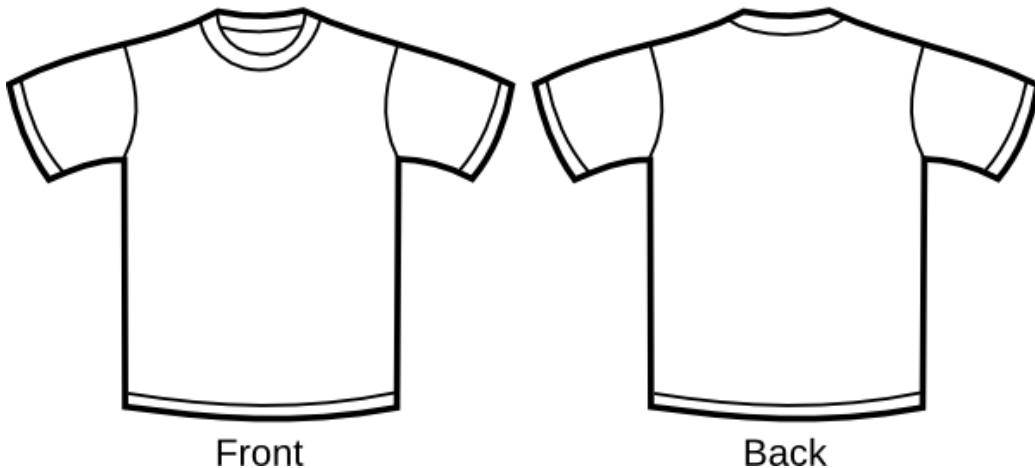
What would **your** design be for your own **mark**?

Moss really likes the patterns in **'Cupid on a Dolphin'** Mosaic. He has spotted some mistakes, though.

Can you find **three** of them? Draw them or describe them in the boxes.

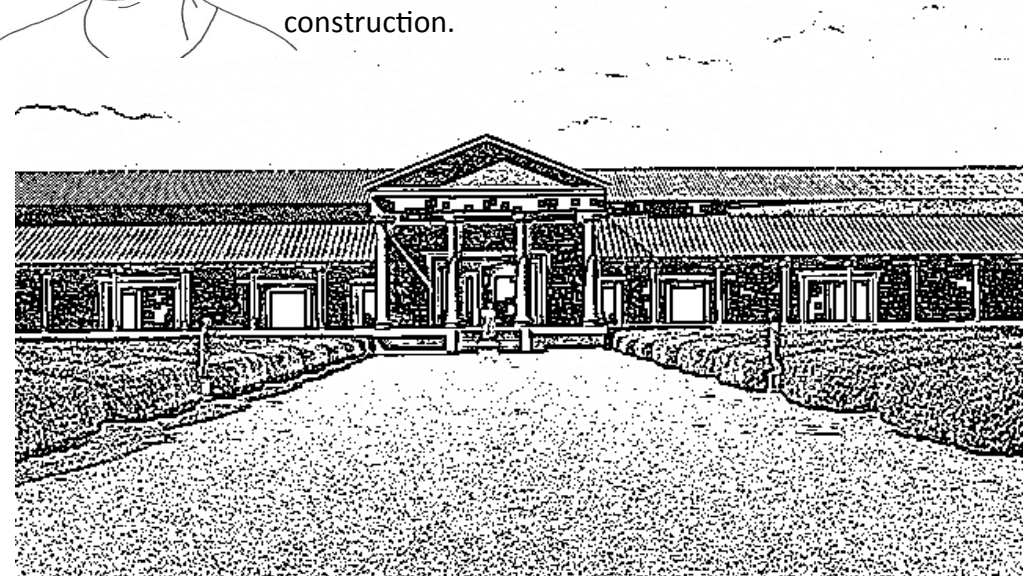
Perhaps they are not mistakes. Why might they be deliberate?

Sketch out your own design for a t-shirt using the patterns you chose. Moss is always looking for good fashion designers. Do not forget to put in your designer's mark!



Melvina is distantly related to Togidubnus.

The female leader of a Celtic tribe has come to Fishbourne to see what the Roman way of life has to offer her. She has never seen a building of this size or construction.



She has to walk through the garden to meet Togidubnus. She looks at the plants as she walks through it.

"It looks like the Romans can control nature."

What can you see that has made her say this?

Togidubnus is waiting for her at the top of the steps. His feet are at the height of your head. She has to look up at him. How do you think she feels?