



Type: Tombstone
Findspot: Housesteads fort, Hadrian's Wall
Chronology: 2nd – 3rd Century AD

Actual location: Great North Museum, Newcastle upon Tyne
Reference:

<https://collectionssearchtwmuseum.org.uk/#details=ecatalogue.26>

Reference: Coulston, J.C. and Philips, E.J. 1988. *Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani. Great Britain. Volume I. Fasicule 6.* (Oxford University Press), pp. 83-4.

Weblink: <http://www.romanarmy.net/images/Pages/Military/hamians.htm>

This tombstone, from Housesteads, represents an archer, holding a composite bow in his left hand and wearing distinctive military equipment, including a quiver, knife, cloak and pointed or crested headgear. The figure has been identified as an auxiliary soldier serving with a unit of Syrian archers (cohors I Hamiorum) in Britain. Auxiliaries were non-citizen troops recruited from throughout the Roman Empire. After 25 years of service auxiliaries were granted full Roman citizenship. Service as an auxiliary was an important way for provincial men to eventually become Roman citizens.

MY RESEARCH

What do the terms of service for an auxiliary soldier tell us about Roman attitudes to citizenship?