

Parts of the camp

The tent structures most commonly erected within our camp. Description, operating rules, and appearance.

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Praetorium

!!! ARTICLE REQUIRES COMPLETION !!! It has not yet reached its basic version.

Historically

Praetorium – originally denoted the commander's tent, and over time also his permanent quarters in permanent camps.

Praetorium was located in the central part of the camp, at the intersection of the two main roads: *via praetoria* and *via principalis*. This location emphasised the importance of the commander and allowed rapid access to all parts of the camp.

In the tent, or building in the case of permanent camps, resided the commander of the legion, that is the legate (*legatus legionis*), as well as his closest collaborators, for example military tribunes (*tribuni militum*) and administrative personnel. Praetorium served both as a residential and staff space – decisions were made there, documents were stored, councils were held, and messengers were received.

Inside were, among other things, the commander's everyday equipment, chests for documents and money, and symbolic elements associated with authority and prestige. In practice, it was the command centre of the legion, on which the functioning of the entire camp depended.

Castrum Rapacis

In our camp, it serves as the central command tent, modelled on Roman military realities. It is located in the middle of the camp, in a symbolic place that is easily accessible to all members of the unit.

The Centurio lives in the Praetorium, serving as the main commander, together with the highest command – the Optio, his deputy, and the Tribunus. This tent is not only a place of rest for the command staff, but above all a space for work and camp management.

Legion documents are stored there, such as attendance lists, orders, and organisational records. Petitioners, that is members of the group bringing matters to the command, are also received in the Praetorium. An important role is played by the scribe, who is responsible for maintaining documentation, preparing records, and supporting administrative work.

Praetorium therefore serves as the organisational and decision-making centre, being the heart of the group's camp life.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add that red rectangle) — entry to the Praetorium without the presence of someone from the command or without their explicit consent is absolutely forbidden and punishable!

Tentorium signiferorum

!!! ARTICLE REQUIRES COMPLETION !!! It has not yet reached its basic version.

HISTORICALLY

Tentorium signiferorum – in the realities of the Roman army, this was a tent intended for the *signiferi*, that is, soldiers carrying the standards of the centuria and responsible for their protection and for the prestige of the unit.

Within the **castrum**, this tent was usually located near the area occupied by the given centuria, often in the vicinity of its main line of tents. Its location had practical significance – it allowed quick access to the standard in the event of an alarm or march-out, while at the same time ensuring its constant protection.

The *signiferi* themselves stayed in the Tentorium signiferorum, and the most important insignia of the unit, such as **signa** — the standards of the centuria — were also kept there. They were not only identifying elements, but also symbols of the honour and continuity of the unit. The loss of a standard in battle was regarded as a great disgrace, which is why great importance was attached to its security.

In addition to their symbolic function, the *signiferi* also served as treasurers – they often kept the soldiers' pay and the savings deposited by legionaries. Therefore, the tent could contain chests or containers for money and financial documents.

The Tentorium signiferorum was therefore not only a place of accommodation for selected soldiers, but also an important organisational point, combining symbolic, financial, and practical functions within the structure of the legion.

IN OUR CAMP

Tentorium signiferorum – in the camp of our reenactment group, this is the tent intended for the standard-bearers, who perform one of the most prestigious functions in the unit. It is both a place of accommodation and a space of special symbolic significance.

The **aquilifer**, who carries the legionary eagle, lives in this tent, together with the other **signiferi**, responsible for the standards of individual sub-units. Their presence emphasises the rank of this place as a guardian of the tradition and honour of the reconstructed legion.

The legionary eagle and other standards are kept in the Tentorium signiferorum, where they serve an identifying and ceremonial function. They are surrounded with special care and treated as the

most important symbols of the unit, used during demonstrations, marches, and staged presentations. Every legionary should care for the safety of our **signa** , as they testify to the honour of the entire legion.

This tent therefore has not only a residential character, but above all a representative and symbolic one – it is one of the key places in the structure of the reenactment camp, gathering around itself the idea of continuity, discipline, and legionary pride.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add that red rectangle) — entry to the tent without the presence of one of the *signiferi* or without their explicit consent is absolutely forbidden and punishable!

Papilio (tentorium nam contubernii)

HISTORICALLY

This was the basic residential tent in the **castrum**, intended for one **contubernium**, that is, an eight-man group of legionaries forming the smallest organisational unit of the army.

Tents of this type were arranged in regular rows, according to the strict plan of the camp, within the designated area of a given centuria. Each contubernium shared one tent, which was most often made of leather and had a simple, functional structure, easy to set up and dismantle during a march.

Inside there was space for sleeping and for storing the soldiers' basic equipment. In addition, the contubernium had shared equipment, such as vessels, tools, and equipment for preparing meals, although some of these items were also stored outside the tent.

Tentorium contubernii was not only a place of rest, but also the basic space of the legionaries' daily life – it was here that bonds were built, duties were organised, and the men functioned as a small, cohesive group within the larger structure of the legion.

IN OUR CAMP

In our **castrum**, this is the basic residential tent, intended for four legionaries forming the smallest organisational unit.

Each such tent is occupied by a fixed group of four, headed by a **decanus** – the commander responsible for organising life inside the tent. The tent is labelled after his **cognomen** (con Vagini, con Holi...), which facilitates identification and emphasises the structure and discipline within the camp.

The tent constitutes a shared living space in which equipment is stored and the realities of legionary life are reconstructed. Particular emphasis is placed on maintaining order – both for practical reasons and in order to preserve the appropriate level of reconstruction. All modern items should be carefully hidden so that they do not disturb the historical character of the camp.

Tectvm ballistariorvm

Tectvm ballistarorvm is a tent / shelter in which the legionary **scorpiones** and other missile weapons are stored in order to protect them from weather conditions.

Cvlina

Cvlina – the camp kitchen in which the kitchen section prepares meals for the legionaries. It is overseen by the Rapax **dominae** together with the legionaries who have **excvbia** on that day.

Cellarivm

Cellarivm is one of the storage tents, alongside such tents as the technical tent, **lvdorvm**, and **aqvarivm**. It is used for storing food supplies and semi-finished products for meal preparation.

The person responsible for its functioning is the *frvmentarivs*, who serves as the manager in matters of provisioning and resource management.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add those red rectangles) Every legionary is responsible for maintaining order in the **cellarivm**, rubbish should be properly stored and disposed of. Any violation of the rules will be severely punished.

Aqvarivm

Aqvarivm is one of the storage tents, alongside such tents as the technical tent, **lvdorvm**, and **celarivm**. It is used for storing supplies of drinking water and oil used for lamps. Every legionary has access to this tent in order to obtain the resources mentioned above.

The person responsible for its functioning is the *frumentarius*, who serves as the manager in matters of provisioning and resource management.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add those red rectangles) Every legionary is responsible for maintaining order in the **aqvarivm**, rubbish should be properly stored and disposed of. Any violation of the rules will be severely punished.

Popina

Popina – the largest of the tents located in the **castrvm**, serving as a shared space for eating meals and conducting educational activities. The name refers to the Latin term for an inn or eating-house (**popina**).

The tent serves as a place for the daily meetings of camp participants, where shared meals, rest, and Latin language lessons are organised. Thanks to its large size, it can accommodate a greater number of people and serves as the central point of camp life.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add those red rectangles) Every legionary is responsible for maintaining order in the **popina**, rubbish should be disposed of, and everyone should make sure to leave the place tidy after themselves. Any violation of the rules will be severely punished.

Lvpanarivm

Lvpanarivm – a residential tent intended for the **dominae** . It constitutes a separate private space to which rank-and-file soldiers have no access.

The tent serves as a place of rest and daily life for its inhabitants, ensuring their separation from the rest of the camp. The name **lvpanarivm** refers to ancient Roman houses of pleasure.

Herbarivm

Tentorium pictoris

Tentorium Ivdorum / instrumentorum scaenicorum

Tentorium Ivdorum belongs to the organisational support area and serves as a storage tent intended for keeping the equipment used during the organisation of the Games. Supervision of the tent is held by the **Optio Ivdorum**, who is responsible for coordination and for maintaining order in regard to the equipment used for the Games.

NOTE! (I forgot how to add those red rectangles) Entry to the tent without permission from the **Optio Ivdorum** is strictly forbidden. Any violation of the rules will be severely punished.