Papilio (tentorivm nam contvbernii)

HISTORICALLY

This was the basic residential tent in the **castrvm**, 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 contvbernium 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 contvbernium had shared equipment, such as vessels, tools, and equipment for preparing meals, although some of these items were also stored outside the tent.

Tentorivm contvbernii 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 **castrvm**, 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 **decanvs** – 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.

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