

## **La Palma – Nova Classis: Archaeological evidences of war booty in a roman encampment during the Second Punic War.**

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Since 2006 a research team from the Universitat de Barcelona has conducted a systematic survey at the roman encampment of la Palma (Tarragona, España). It is a military encampment that lies near the ancient mouth of the river Ebro, occupied between 217 and 209 BC during the Second Punic War, most likely the *Nova Classis* of Livy (XXII, 21) and where *Publius Cornelius Scipio* gathered his troops before the attack over the punic base of *Qart-Hadasht* (Cartagena, España). For the time being, no constructive structure has been identified but the survey has recovered hundreds of coins, remains of weaponry, *fibulae*, tent pegs and studs from *caligae*.

The aim of this paper is to highlight the latest conclusions of the current investigation, and to propose that certain materials, of Carthaginian origin, came from the spoils of the confrontations developed in the geographical surroundings of la Palma as the battle of *Cissa* (218 BC), the naval battle of the Ebro (217 BC), *Hibera* (216 BC) and *Intibilis* (215 BC). Maybe, a sign that plunder was a basic element for supplying the army and a solution to the logistical problems faced by the roman legions in Iberia during the Second Punic War.