

General Glossary

Ab Urbe Condita—Roman phrase and dating system “from the founding of the city.” The Ancient Romans believed Rome was founded in 753 BC, and therefore this year is AUC 1. As such, 107–106 BC would correspond to 647–648 AUC.

Agnomen—A form of nickname given to men for traits or accomplishments unique to them. Many conquering generals received agnomen to designate the nation they had conquered, such as Africanus, Macedonicus, and Numidicus.

Amicus (f. Amica)—Latin for friend. The vocative form (when addressing someone) would be amice.

Arausio—the location of a battle in which Rome suffered a great loss. Numbers were reported as high as 90,000 Roman casualties. Sertorius and Lucius Hirtuleius barely escaped with their lives, and Sertorius’ brother Titus died upon the battlefield.

Ave—Latin for hail, or hello.

Balatrone—“jesters”, an insult.

Boni—Literally “good men.” They were a political party prevalent in the Late Roman Republic. They desired to restrict the power of the popular assembly and the tribune of the plebs, while extending the power of the Senate. The title “Optimates” was more common at the time, but these aristocrats often referred to themselves favorably as the boni. They were natural enemies of the populares.

Cac—“shit”, see **Faex**.

Caepiones—A powerful aristocratic family, and the former patrons of Sertorius.

Caldarium—hot bathes.

Carcer—a small prison, the only one in Rome. It typically held war captives awaiting execution or held those deemed as threats by those in political power.

Carnifex—Latin for executioner.

Carthage—an ancient city which struggled against Rome for supremacy of the Mediterranean Sea until it was completely destroyed in 146 BC.

Carthago delenda est—“Carthage must be destroyed”, a saying made famous by Cato the Censor.

Centuriate Assembly—one of the three Roman assemblies. It met on the Field of Mars and elected the Consuls and Praetors. It could also pass laws and acted as a court of appeals in certain capital cases. It was based initially on 198 centuries, and was structured in a way that favored the rich over the poor, and the aged over the young.

Century—Roman tactical unit made of eighty to one hundred men.

Cimbri—a tribe of northern invaders with uncertain origins that fought Rome for over a decade. Sertorius began his career by fighting them.

Client—A man who pledged himself to a patron (see also **patron**) in return for protection or favors.

Cocina—Kitchen.

Cognomen—the third personal name given to an ancient Roman, typically passed down from father to son. Examples are Caepio, Caesar, and Cicero.

Cohort—Roman tactical unit made of six centuries (see also **century**), or 480–600 men. The introduction of the cohort as the standard tactical unit of the legion is attributed to Marius's reforms.

Collegium(a)—Any association or body of men with something in common. Some functioned as guilds or social clubs, others were criminal in nature.

Comitiatus (pl. Comitia)—a public assembly that made decisions, held elections, and passed legislation or judicial verdicts.

Conium Maculatum—hemlock, used as a poison.

Contiones (pl. Contio)—a public assembly that did not handle official matters. Discussions could be held on almost anything, and debates were a regular cause for a contiones to be called, but they did not pass legislation or pass down verdicts.

Contubernalis(es)—A military cadet assigned to the commander specifically. They were generally considered officers, but held little authority.

Contubernium—The smallest unit in the Roman legion. It was led by the decanus (see also **decanus**).

Cum Ordine Seque—“follow in good order”.

Denarius(i)—standard Roman coin introduced during the Second Punic War.

Dignitas—a word that represents a Roman man’s reputation and his entitlement to respect. Dignitas correlated with personal achievements and honor.

Dominus(a)—Latin for “master.” A term most often used by slaves when interacting with their owner, but it could also be used to convey reverence or submission by others. The vocative form would be domine.

Domus- the type of home owned by the upper class and the wealthy in Ancient Rome.

Ede Faecum—“eat shit”. See **Faec**.

Elysium—concept of the afterlife, oftentimes known as the Elysium Fields or Elysium Plains.

Equestrian—Sometimes considered the lesser of the two aristocratic classes (see also **patrician**) and other times considered the higher of the two lower-class citizens (see also **plebeian**). Those in the equestrian order had to maintain a certain amount of wealth or property, or otherwise would be removed from the class.

Es Mundus excrementi—lit. “you are a pile of shit”.

Faec—Latin for “shit.”

Falernian wine—The most renowned and sought-after wine in Rome at this time. The grapes were harvested from the foothills of Vesuvius.

Filii Remi—lit. “Sons of Remus”, a name used by Roman citizens who opposed Roman rule during the Social War.

Filius Canis—lit. “Son of a bitch”.

Garum—fish sauced beloved by the Romans.

Gerrae—“Nonsense!” An exclamation.

Gladius(i)—The standard short-sword used in the Roman legion.

Gracchi—Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus were brothers who held the rank of tribune of the plebs at various times throughout the second century BC. They were political revolutionaries whose attempts at reforms eventually led to their murder (or in one case, forced suicide). Tiberius and Gaius were still fresh in the minds of Romans in Sertorius’s day. The boni feared that another politician might rise in their image, and the populares were searching for Gracchi to rally around.

Impluvium—A cistern or tank in the atrium of the domus that collects rainfall water from a hole in the ceiling above.

Instate Hostibus—lit. “Chase the enemy!”

Insula(e)—Apartment complexes. They varied in size and accommodations, but generally became less desirable the higher up the insula one went.

Jupiter’s Stone—A stone on which oaths were sworn.

Kalends—The first day of the Ancient Roman month.

Latrina—bathroom

Latrunculi— (lit. Game of Brigands) a popular board game of sorts played by the Romans. It shares similarities with games like chess or checkers.

Lorica Hamata—chainmail armor worn by Roman legionaries

Lorica Musculata—anatomical cuirass worn by Romans made to fit the wearer’s male human physique.

Mos Maiorum—lit. “the way of the ancestors”, this is the unwritten code of social norms used by the Romans.

Murum Aries Attigit—lit. “the ram has touched the wall.”

Nomen—the hereditary or family name of the Romans. Examples are Sertorius, Julius (as in Julius Caesar), or Cornelius (as in Lucius Cornelius Sulla).

October Horse—A festival that took place on October 15th. An animal was sacrificed to Mars, which designated the end of the agricultural and military campaigning season.

Optimates—(see **boni**).

Oscan—a language spoken by several Italian tribes.

Passum—a raisin based wine, originally developed in ancient Carthage.

Pasteli—honey cakes with sesame seeds, a beloved Greek pastry.

Paterfamilias—the male head of the family or household.

Patron—A person who offers protection and favors to his clients (see also **clients**), in favor of services of varying degrees.

Peristylum—An open courtyard containing a garden within the Roman domus.

Pilum(a)—The throwing javelin used by the Roman legion. Gaius Marius changed the design of the pilum in his reforms. Each legionary carried two, and typically launched them at the enemy to begin a conflict.

Plebeian—Lower-born Roman citizens, commoners. Plebeians were born into their social class, so the term designated both wealth and ancestry. They typically had fewer assets and less land than equestrians, but more than the proletariat. Some, like the Metelli, were able to ascend to nobility and wealth despite their plebeian roots. These were known as “noble plebeians” and were not restricted from any power in the Roman political system.

Popular assembly—A legislative assembly that allowed plebeians to elect magistrates, try judicial cases, and pass laws.

Posca—vinegar wine, typically consumed by the lower class and considered to be of poor quality.

Praenomen—the first name given to Roman males, generally eight days after their birth. Examples are Gaius, Quintus, and Lucius.

Res Publica—“Republic,” the sacred word that encompassed everything Rome was at the time. More than just a political system, res publica represented Rome’s authority and power. The Republic was founded in 509 BC, when Lucius Brutus and his fellow patriots overthrew the kings.

Roma Invicta—lit. “unconquered Rome”, an inspirational motto used by the Romans.

Salve—Latin for hail, or hello.

Salvete—a casual, familiar greeting.

Sancrosanctitas—a level of religious protection offered to certain political figures and religious officials.

Saturnalia—A festival held on December 17 in honor the Roman deity Saturn.

Scutum(a)—Standard shield issued to Roman legionaries.

Servus(i)—Slave or servant.

Sesterces—an ancient Roman coin, roughly \$.50 in today’s value.

Sibylline Books—a collection of oracular texts the Romans considered to be prophetic.

Sinite Milites Exsultare—lit. “Allow soldiers to rejoice.”

Taberna(e)—Could be translated as “tavern,” but tabernae served several different functions in Ancient Rome. They served as hostels for travelers, occasionally operated as brothels, and offered a place for people to congregate and enjoy food and wine.

Tablinum—A form of study or office for the head of a household. This is where he would generally greet his clients at his morning levy.

Tata—Roman term for father, closer to the modern “daddy”.

Tecombre—The military order to break from the testudo formation and revert to their previous formation.

Tesserae—a common game of dice. Rolling three sixes was called a “Venus” and this was considered the highest score one could achieve.

Testudo—The “tortoise” formation. The command was used to provide additional protection by linking their scuta together.

Teutones—a tribe of northern invaders with uncertain origins which fought Rome for over a decade. Along with the Cimbri, they nearly defeated Rome. Sertorius began his career by fighting these tribes.

Toga virilis—Literally “toga of manhood.” It was a plain white toga worn by adult male citizens who were not magistrates. The donning of the toga virilis represented the coming of age of a young Roman male.

Torna Mina—lit. “Turn and charge!”

Tribe—Political grouping of Roman citizens. By Sertorius’s time, there were thirty-six tribes, thirty-two of which were rural, four of which were urban. This term is also used to describe the various Italian tribes, some of which were Roman citizens, others were allied with Rome but not citizens, and others still were hostile toward Rome.

Triclinium—The dining room, which often had three couches set up in the shape of a U.

Triumph—A parade and festival given to celebrate a victorious general and his accomplishments. He must first be hailed as imperator by his legions and then petition the Senate to grant him the Triumph.

Vale—Latin for farewell, or “be well.”

Valetudinarium(a)—a hospital, typically present in Roman military camps.

Via(e)—“Road,” typically a major path large enough to travel on horseback or by carriage.

Zeno—The founder of Stoic philosophy. Sertorius was a devoted reader of Zeno’s works.

Deities

Apollo—Roman god adopted from Greek mythology. He has been connected with archery, music and dance, and the sun.

Asclepius—The Greek god of medicine. There was a temple to Asclepius overlooking the Tiber River, and this is where Rabirius and many other wounded veterans congregate.

Bacchus—The Roman god of wine, orchards, and fruit. Sometimes connected with madness, ecstasy, and fertility. His Greek equivalent is Dionysus.

Bellona—The Roman goddess of war and the consort of Mars (see also **Mars**). She was also a favored patron goddess of the Roman legion.

Castor—Twin-half-brothers in both Greek and Roman mythology. Sometimes both are referred to as mortal, other times they are both considered divine. Most often, one is considered to be born mortal and the other divine, with the latter asking Jupiter to make them both divine so they could stay together forever. They were eventually transformed into the constellation Gemini (meaning “twins”). Their temple in Rome’s forum was extremely important, and sometimes facilitated meetings of the senate and elections.

Cybele—see **Magna Mater**

Bona Dea—the “Good Goddess”, she was connected with the chastity and fertility among married women. The term was occasionally used as an exclamation.

Diana—The Roman goddess of hunters, the forest, and the moon. Quintus Sertorius gives her credit for saving him in a previous battle, and therefore he considers her his patron goddess. Her Greek equivalents are Artemis and Hecate.

Dis Pater—The Roman god of death. He was often associated with fertility, wealth, and prosperity. His name was often shortened to Dis. He was nearly synonymous with the Roman god Pluto or the Greek god Hades.

Fortuna—Roman goddess considered to be the personification of luck, chance, and fate. Lucius Cornelius Sulla believes he is beloved by Fortuna.

Gaia—Roman Goddess considered to be the personification of the earth.

Hermes—The Greek god of messengers, travelers, orators, and occasionally thieves. His Roman equivalent would be Mercury.

Janus—the Roman god of beginnings, gates, duality. He is depicted with two faces, one looking back and the other forward. The month of January was named after him, which represented an opportunity to reflect on the previous year and look forward to the next.

Jupiter—The Roman king of the gods. He was the god of the sky and thunder. All political and military activity was sanctioned by Jupiter. He was often referred to as Jupiter Capitolinus for his role in leading the Roman state, or Jupiter Optimus Maximus (literally, “the best and greatest”). His “black stone” was something to be sworn on.

Magna Mater—“Great Mother”, she was adopted by the Romans in the late third century BC from the Anatolians. She was connected with an sometimes assimilated with aspects of Gaia and Ceres.

Mars—The Roman god of war. He was the favored patron of many legionaries and commanders. Unlike his Greek equivalent, Ares, he was respected and considered a “pater” of all Romans.

Mercury—see **Hermes**

Pollux—see **Castor**

Saturn—God of the Roman Capitol, time, wealth, and agriculture. He was the father of many Roman gods, including Jupiter. His Greek equivalent was Cronus. His temple in Rome’s forum at the base of the Capitoline Hill was extremely important throughout Roman history.

Somnus—Roman god who was the personification of sleep. His Greek counterpart would be Hypnos.

Tiberinus—the god of the Tiber river.

Venus—The Roman goddess of love, beauty, desire, sex, and fertility. Her Greek equivalent was Aphrodite.

Vulcan—The Roman god of fire, metalworking, and the forge. He was often depicted with a blacksmith's hammer and a lame leg due to a childhood injury. He was considered to be the ugliest of the gods, but was at times a consort of **Venus**, the goddess of beauty.

Zephyr—Greek god of the West Wind. He was associated with flowers, springtime, favorable winds, and speed. His Roman equivalent was Favonius.

Buildings, Roads, and Landmarks

Appian Way (via Appia)—the oldest and most important of Rome's roads, linking Italy with farther areas of Italy.

Aqua Marcia—the most important of Rome's aqueducts at this time. Built in 144-140 B.C.

Argiletum—a route leading direction to the Roman forum.

Basilica Aemilia—located at the juncture of the via sacra and the Argiletum, this was one of the most celebrated buildings in Rome.

Basilica Porcia—the first named basilica in Rome, built by Cato the Censor in 184 B.C., it was the home of the ten tribunes of the plebs.

Basilica Sempronia—built in 170 B.C. by the father of Tiberius and Gaius Gracchus. It was a place often used for commerce.

Circus Maximus—a massive public stadium which hosted chariot races and other forms of entertainment. It's speculated that the stadium could have held as many as 150,000 spectators.

Cloaca Maxima—the massive sewer system beneath Rome.

Comitium—a meeting area outside of the Curia Hostilia. The rostra speaking platform stood at its helm.

Curia—The Senate House. The Curia Hostilia was built in the 7th century B.C. and held most of the senatorial meetings throughout the Republic, even in Sertorius' day.

Forum—The teeming heart of Ancient Rome. There were many different forums, in various cities, but most commonly the Forum refers to the center of the city itself, where most political, public, and religious dealings took place.

Field of Mars—“Campus martius” in Latin. This was where armies trained and waited to deploy or to enter the city limits for a Triumph.

Fucine Lake—known as Fucinus Lacus to the Romans, this was a large lake in central Italy.

Mare Nostrum—the Roman name for the Mediterranean Sea. This means “our sea” in Latin.

Nursia—Sertorius’ home, located in the Apennines mountains, and within the Sabine Tribes. It was famous for their turnips and little else until Sertorius came along.

Ostia—Rome’s port city, it lay at the mouth of the river Tiber.

Porta Triumphalis—the triumphal gate. Triumphant armies would ceremoniously enter here.

Regia—a building just off the Via Sacra, the Regia was originally the main headquarters for the kings of Rome. By the late Republic, the Regia was used as the residence for the Pontifex Maximus, the highest religious official in Rome.

River Reno—a river in northern Italy, near Mutina.

Rostra—A speaking platform in the Forum made of the ships of conquered foes.

Senaculum—a meeting area for senators outside of the senate house, where they would gather before a meeting began.

Subura—a rough neighborhood near the Viminal and Quirinal hills. It was known for violence and thievery, as well as for the fires that spread because of the close proximity of its insulae.

Tarpeian Rock—a place where executions were held. Criminals of the highest degree and political threats were thrown from this cliff to their inevitable deaths.

Temple of Asclepius—located on the Tiber island, it was a temple of healing. The sick and ailing made pilgrimages here in hope of healing.

Temple of Bellona—dedicated to the consort of Mars and goddess of war, this was a temple often used for meetings of the Senate when they needed to host foreign

emmissaries or meet with returning generals awaiting a triumph. It lay outside the city limits, but close to the Servian wall.

Temple of Castor and Pollux—often times referred simply to “Temple of Castor”, it remained at the entrance of the Forum by the via sacra. It was often used for meetings of the senate, as it was actually larger than the Curia. Speeches were often given from the temple steps as well.

Temple of Concordia (Concord)—a temple devoted to peace and reunification in the Roman Forum. It often held meetings of the senate.

Temple of Jupiter Capitolinus (Optimus Maximus)—a temple devoted to Rome’s patron God, which resided on the Capitoline hill. It was sometimes referred to as the “Capitol”.

Temple of Saturn—a temple of deep religious significance which lay at the foot of the Capitoline hill in the Roman Forum. Sacrifices were often held here following a triumph, if the generals didn’t surpass it to sacrifice at the aforementioned Temple of Jupiter.

Tiber River—a body of water which connected to the Tyrrhenian sea and flowed along the western boarder of Rome. The victims of political assassinations were unceremoniously dumped here rather than receive proper burial.

Tullianum—a prison for captives awaiting death. See **Carcer**.

Via Appia—(see **Appian Way**).

Via Cassia—the northern road from Rome, this road passed through Etruria and was one of the main routes for travelers heading north.

Via Latina—“Latin road”, led from Rome southeast.

Via Sacra—the main road within in the city of Rome, leading from the Capitoline hill through the forum, with all of the major religious and political buildings on either side.

Via Salaria—“Salt Road” led northeast from Rome. This was the path Sertorius would have taken to and from his home in Nursia.

Via Triumphalis—the “triumphal way” leading from the Field of Mars to the Capitoline hill. Roman generals awarded a triumph would take this road during their triumphal ceremony.

Ranks and Positions

Aedile—Magistrates who were tasked with maintaining and improving the city’s infrastructure. There were four, elected annually: two plebeian aediles and two curule aediles.

Aquilifer—the eagle bearer of each Roman legion.

Augur—A priest and official who interpreted the will of the gods by studying the flight of birds.

Auxiliary—Legionaries without citizenship. At this time, most auxiliaries were of Italian origin, but later encompassed many different cultures.

Centurion—An officer in the Roman legion. By the time Marius’s reforms were ushered in, there were six in every cohort, one for every century. They typically led eighty to one hundred men. The most senior centurion in the legion was the “primus pilus,” or first-spear centurion.

Consul—The highest magistrate in the Roman Republic. Two were elected annually to a one-year term. The required age for entry was forty, although exceptions were occasionally (and hesitantly) made.

Decanus(i)—“Chief of ten,” he was in a position of authority over his contubernium, a group of eight to ten men who shared his tent.

Evocati—An honorary term given to soldiers who served out their terms and volunteered to serve again. Evocati were generally spared a large portion of common military duties.

Flamen Dialis—Priest of Jupiter Optimus Maximus.

Hastati—Common front line soldiers in the Roman legion. As a result of the Marian Reforms, by Sertorius’s times, the term hastati was being phased out and would soon be obsolete.

Imperator—A Roman commander with imperium (see also **imperium**). Typically, the commander would have to be given imperium by his men.

Immunes—those who were exempt from physical labor within the Roman legion.

Legatus(i)—The senior-most officer in the Roman legion. A legatus generally was in command of one legion and answered only to the general. The vocative form would be legate.

Medici Optimi—the senior most medicus.

Medicus(i)—The field doctor for injured legionaries.

Military Tribune—officer of the Roman legions. They were, in theory, elected by the popular assembly, and there were six assigned to every legion. By late second century BC, however, it was not uncommon to see military tribunes appointed directly by the commander.

Optio—second in command of a legionary century, they served directly under a centurion and were generally considered next in line if the centurion was to fall.

Pontifex Maximus—The highest priest in the College of Pontiffs. By Sertorius's time, the position had been highly politicized.

Pontiff—A priest and member of the College of Pontiffs.

Praetor—The second-most senior magistrate in the Roman Republic. There were typically six elected annually, but some have speculated that there were eight elected annually by this time.

Prefect—A high ranking military official in the Roman legion.

Princeps Senatus—“Father of the Senate,” or the first among fellow senators. It was an informal position, but came with immense respect and prestige.

Proconsul—A Roman magistrate who had previously been a consul. Often, when a consul was in the midst of a military campaign at the end of his term, the Senate would appoint him as proconsul for the remainder of the war.

Publicani—Those responsible for collective public revenue. They made their fortunes through this process. By Sertorius's time, the Senate and censors carefully scrutinized their activities, making it difficult for them to amass the wealth they intended.

Quaestor—An elected public official and the junior-most member of the political course of offices. They served various purposes but often supervised the state treasury and performed audits. Quaestors were also used in the military and managed the finances of the legions on campaign.

Rex Sacrorum—A senatorial priesthood, the “king of the sacred.” Unlike the Pontifex Maximus, the rex sacrorum was barred from military and political life. In theory, he held the religious responsibility that was once reserved for the kings, while the consuls performed the military and political functions.

Tribune of Plebs—Elected magistrates who were designed to represent the interests of the people. Sometimes called the Plebeian Tribune or People’s Tribune.

Tribunus Laticlavus—lit. “the broad-stripped tribune” the senior of the six tribunes assigned to each legion.

Cities and Nations

Acerrae—A Roman colony in Campania. Acerrae would serve as a base of operations for the Romans throughout the war. Samnite general Papius Mutilus besieged the city early in the war.

Aesernia—An important Roman colony in Samnite territory, it remained loyal to Rome despite being surrounded by rebels. It was quickly besieged by Samnite armies, and those within were faced with starvation and disease.

Alba Fucensis—sometimes called Alba Fucens and othertimes referred to simply as Alba, this city was located near the Fucine Lake and Marsi territory. The city remained loyal to Rome, but was swiftly attacked by the rebels.

Appian Way (via Appia)—the oldest and most important of Rome’s roads, linking Italy with farther areas of Italy.

Aqua Marcia—the most important of Rome’s aqueducts at this time. Built in 144-140 B.C.

Asculum—The city situated in Picenum was the first to rebel against Rome. They rounded and butchered all Roman citizens, which sparked the Social War. This city was a target for both sides throughout the duration of the war.

Argiletum—a route leading direction to the Roman forum.

Capua—the primary city of the Campania region, and therefore an important stronghold for Rome during the war. The city was specifically known for its gladiator spectacles.

Cisalpine Gaul—The portion of Gaul on the Italian side of the Alps. Sometimes referred to as “Nearer Gaul”. It was conquered in the 3rd Century BC. Although it comprised much of what is today northern Italy, it continued to be administered as its own province.

Corduba—A city in Hispania, it was originally conquered by the Romans in 206 BC. A Roman colony was established there roughly fifty years later.

Corfinium—A city situated within the tribal territory of the Paeligni (and close to the Marsi), it was chosen as the new “capital” for the Italic League when they rebelled against Rome. It’s military positioning was the cause of this distinction. It was renamed **Italica** at the onset of the war.

Firmum—An important city within Picenum. It was sometimes called “Firmum by the sea” as it was a coastal city. Several battles took place near Firmum during the Social War.

Genua—The capital city of Roman Liguria. It was originally destroyed by the Carthaginians during the Second Punic War, but was rebuilt and received municipal rights from the Romans following the destruction of Carthage.

Herculaneum—a city in Campania, near Pompeii. It was either taken quickly by the rebels, or joined willingly, after the onset of the war.

Italic League—The name for the fledgling nation of Italian tribes who were united against Rome. Their aims were likely on achieving the citizenship, at least originally, but after the onset of the war, the Italic League likely sought to destroy Rome and replace her entirely.

Italica—see **Corfinium**

Lusitani—The Lusitanians were a collection of tribes native to Hispania which fought many wars against Rome. Although the most notable Lusitanian general, Viriathus, was betrayed and assassinated in the mid-second century BC, the Lusitani continued to oppose Rome.

Numidia—An ancient kingdom comprising much of northern Africa. Gaius Marius and Lucius Cornelius Sulla both earned a great deal of prestige for their parts in defeating the Numidian king Jugurtha. The notorious cavalry of Numidia thereafter served Rome in battle.

Nursia— Sertorius' home, located in the Apennines mountains, and within the Sabine Tribes. It was famous for their turnips and little else until Sertorius came along.

Pompeii—A city located in Campania, Pompeii joined the rebellion soon after the Social War began. Pompeii had a large port that was very important during the war.

Salernum—A city located in Campania, Salernum fell to the Samnite armies under the command of Papius Mutilus soon after the onset of the Social War.

Stabiae—A city located in Campania, Stabiae was quickly captured by the Samnite armies under the command of Papius Mutilus soon after the onset of the Social War. Like Pompeii, it was a port city and therefore of strategic value to both the Romans and the Italic League throughout the war.