

From archaeological statements to scientific illustrations – the city of Cologne from Roman times until today

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Like many other cities, the city of Cologne is a former Roman garrison. Densely populated without interruption, Cologne was one of the largest cities in northern Europe in the Middle Ages. Its location on the Rhine as a Hanseatic city and its strategic position on the border of the two empires as a result of the division of Charlemagne's inheritance have shaped Cologne's importance to this day. Despite a chequered history and much destruction, the *Cardo* and *Decumanus* have been preserved to this day, even though their function and shape have been subject to constant change. Their appearance, especially during the Migration Period, is largely unknown. Sparse finds nevertheless allow archaeology to make a statement about the structure of the roads that gives an approximate idea. The authors have developed a method to translate such statements into a spatial model, from which an actual picture can then be generated. This makes it possible to compare states of varying degrees of certainty.

Palavras-chave / Keywords:

Archaeology; knowledge; certainty; hypotheses; translation.

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