

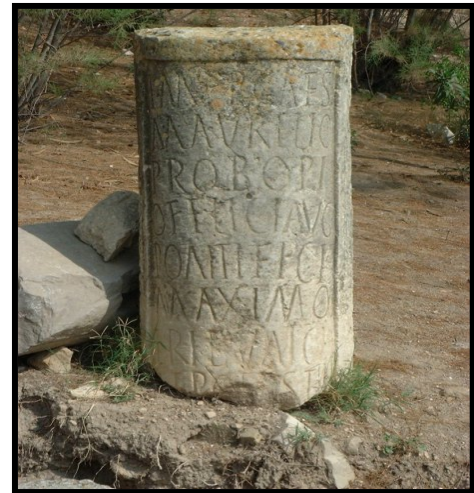


*The John W. Kluge Center and the Law Library of Congress Present:*

## **Written in Stone: Roman Land law, Legal Epigraphy and the Search for the Origins of Roman Cartography, 100-350 AD**

A lecture by  
**John Hessler**

*Kluge Staff Fellow, from the Geography and Map Division*



The middle of the Bagradas valley is located southwest of Carthage, between roughly 60 and 80 km from the northern Mediterranean coast, in the region of northern Tunisia known as the *Tell interieur*. Within the region are found many of the most important legal inscriptions relating to the practice of agriculture, land surveying and tenant farming, all of which provide a window into the how land and estates were managed and how tenant farmers made a living during this time of rapid growth in the Roman population. The area was also one of the most heavily mapped and surveyed by the Romans with many of the original boundary stones still extant. In this talk will Hessler will discuss his travels in Tunisia and Algeria in search of these and other legal inscriptions, and also talk about what these seemingly dry fragments can tell us about the origins of Roman cartography and land ownership law.

**Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 12:00 Noon**  
**Library of Congress, Jefferson Building, LJ-WH, Whittall Pavilion**  
**101 Independence Ave, SE, Washington, DC 20540**

For more information, contact the Kluge Center at (202) 707-3302.  
Request ASL and ADA accommodations five days in advance at 202-707-6362 or [ADA@loc.gov](mailto:ADA@loc.gov).