Public Abstract
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The Military Vici of Noricum
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This work examines the civilian settlements, called vici, that developed next to the military installations on the frontier of the Roman province of Noricum, present day Austria. In past research on the provinces of the Roman Empire these settlements often have been overlooked in favor of the forts and fortresses and the narration of a military history for the frontier. However, in more recent years, scholars of the Roman world have realized that an examination of these vici can provide an important and interesting look at life on the frontier and the interaction between soldiers and civilians. Few studies concentrating solely on the character and development of the vici have been done, and none exists for Noricum. Therefore this work seeks to provide a description and analysis of the military vici of Noricum. Results of archaeological excavations conducted for over a century in Austria form the main material for study. The archaeological remains allow a picture to emerge of the physical characteristics of these civilian settlements and form the basis for a discussion of the activities that went on in the vici and the role that they played on the frontier. This work provides a characterization of the Norican vici that will be useful in comparisons both with other types of settlements that existed during the Roman period in Austria and with the vici of other provinces throughout the Roman Empire.