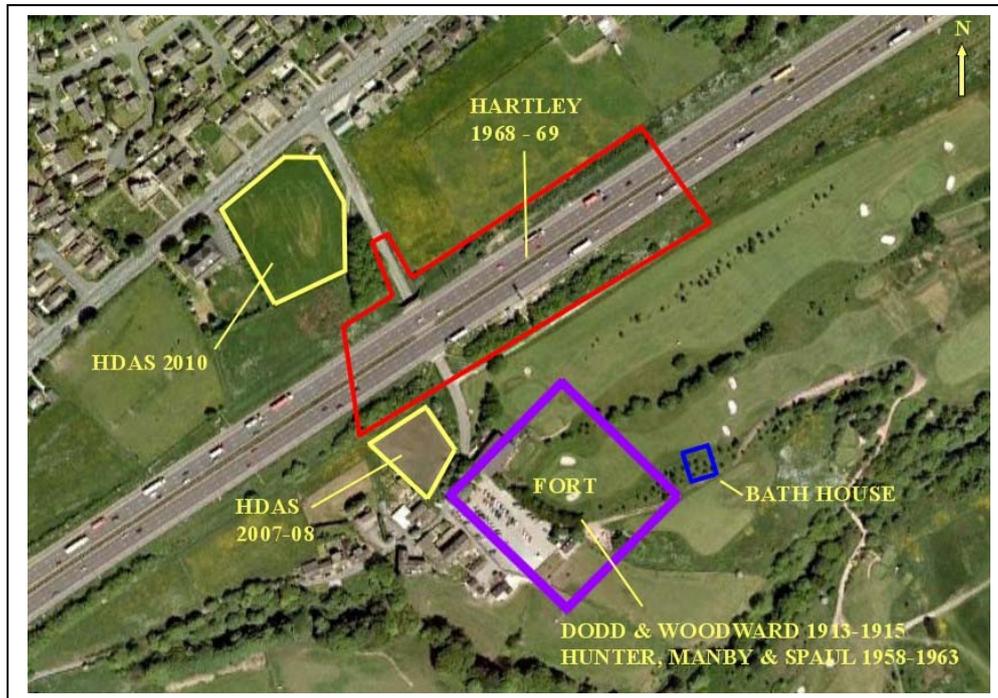
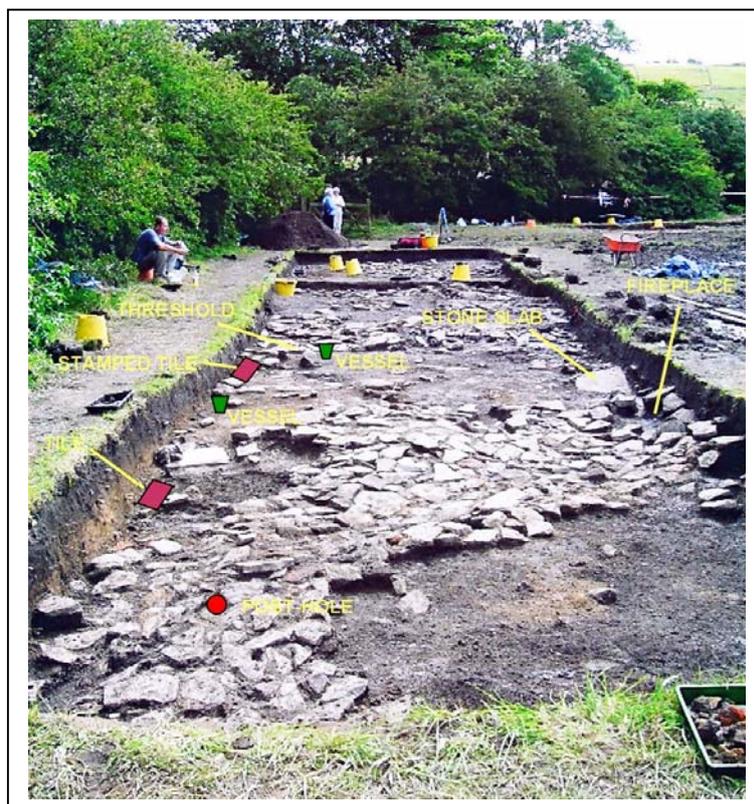


Is there any evidence for 'Camelot' being located at Slack?

The Roman site at Slack, Outlane, near Huddersfield has been examined archaeologically several times from the 19th century onwards. The Huddersfield and District Archaeological Society (HDAS) gave outline information on all the excavations in their recent publication 'The Romans in Huddersfield – A New Assessment'. The most recent excavations are illustrated below.



Not only the fort but extensive areas outside the fort have been excavated and recorded. HDAS concentrated on the *vicus*, or civilian areas, during digs in 2007, 2008 and 2010. The shallow depth of the floors of Roman buildings, below the present day surface, can be seen from this photograph. Any building or occupation evidence from later centuries should be readily identifiable, none was found.



Were any objects found that could be connected to 'Camelot'?

Of all the thousands of artefacts discovered in this whole area including pottery, glass, metal, wood and stone, nothing could be classified as other than Roman apart from some 13th/14th century cooking pot sherds that probably came from a farmhouse that was later built on the site of the fort itself. Below is a small fraction of the artefacts found on the Slack site.



What happened to the site after the Romans left?

The fort was demilitarised in about AD140 and, following usual practice, the earth ramparts would be flattened and most of the buildings demolished. HDAS has suggested, based on reliable dating evidence, that some buildings were preserved or rebuilt to house a small group of Romano/British civilians (e.g. retired soldiers with their families) whose descendants continued servicing the nearby Roman road and its travellers for perhaps another 200 years.

When the Roman army left northern Britain in the late 4th century, the military road across the Pennines would quickly fall into disrepair and become lost in the heather and undergrowth. Travellers and traders would continue to follow the route of the Roman road but it would soon become no more than a narrow trackway.

The fort site itself would soon become featureless, pretty much as it is today.