

## Chester Archaeological Society excursion to the “Hidden Holt” exhibition at the Wrexham Museum on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 6pm

In Holt near Wrexham on the banks of the River Dee marking the border between Wales and England, a Roman legionary tile and pottery works was discovered in the late 19<sup>th</sup>C and excavated by Arthur Acton from 1907-15. Initially, the site was thought to be a series of tile and pottery workshops for the 20<sup>th</sup> Legion but subsequent discovery of a bank of eight kilns, a separate double flue kiln, workshops, drying shed, bath house and a small villa revealed the true national importance of the site. It is now a scheduled monument and has lain undisturbed for almost 100 years. In 2018, the Holt Local History Society sponsored a geophysical survey by Archaeological Survey West showing that the Tile and Pottery works remains substantially in place along with some intriguing anomalies that are still to be excavated. The most significant finds from the excavations were sold by Acton to the National Museum in Cardiff where sadly most have languished in the archives ever since. Now for the first time since 1925, these finds form the centrepiece of an important new Exhibition on Holt’s Roman Pottery and Tile Works at the Wrexham Museum entitled “Hidden Holt”.

The Chester Archaeological Society is organising an excursion to the “Hidden Holt” exhibition at the Wrexham Museum on Thursday December 2<sup>nd</sup> starting at 6pm.

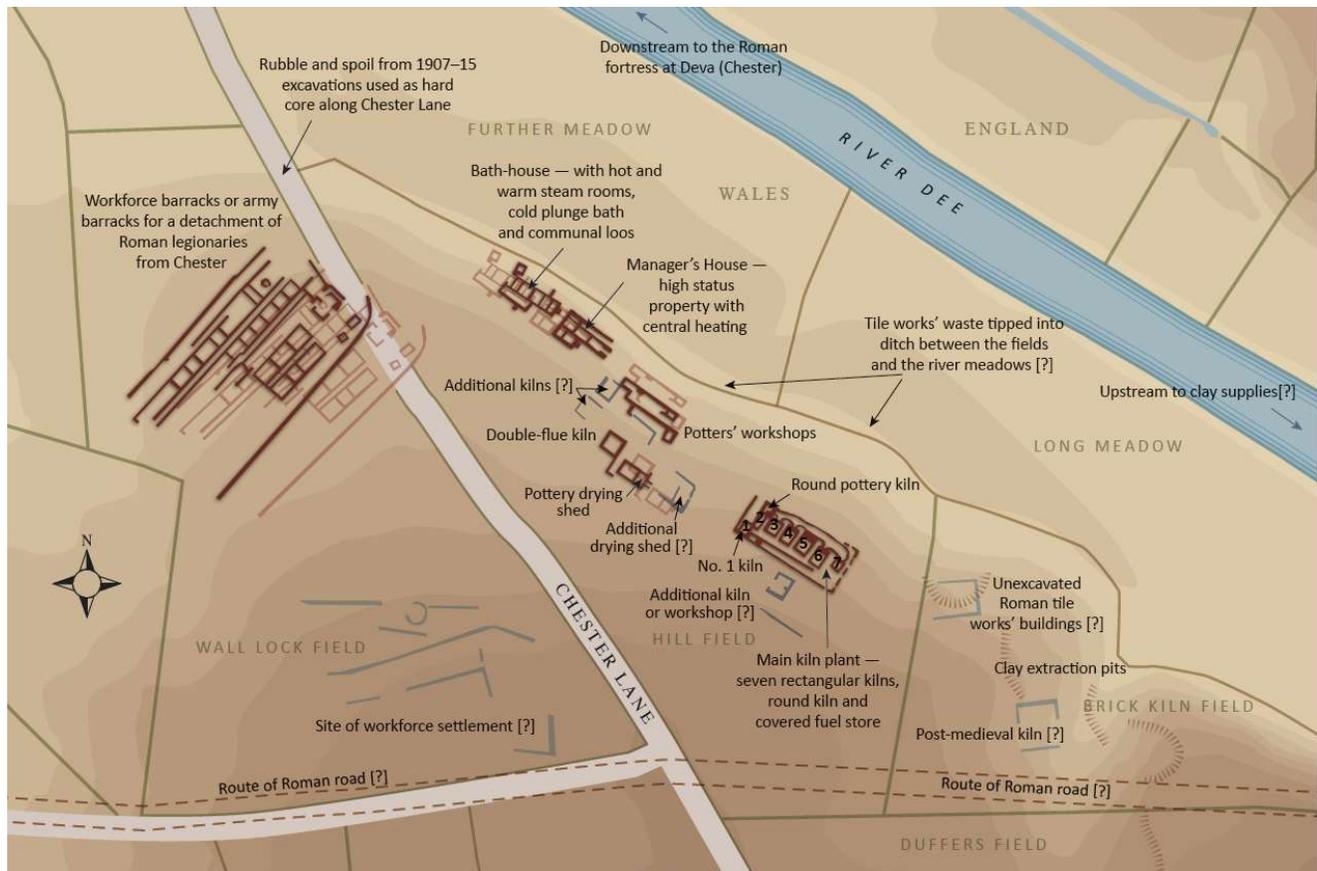
Jonathon Gammond of Wrexham Museum, and one of the organisers of the exhibition alongside the Holt Local History Society, will take us on a short tour (20 to 30 minutes) of the exhibition.

Following this we will have an opportunity to view a video of the recent Rossett Roman villa excavation.

After which members will be free to view the “Hidden Holt” presentation on their own or visit other galleries if they so wish. We plan the complete the visit between 7.15-7.30pm.

Afterwards, refreshments and snacks will be available for purchase.

Those CAS members interested in attending should register by e-mailing [excursions@chesterarchaeolsoc.org.uk](mailto:excursions@chesterarchaeolsoc.org.uk) A maximum of 30 places will be available on a first come basis. Members will be expected to make their own way to the Wrexham Museum.



Site Plan

