

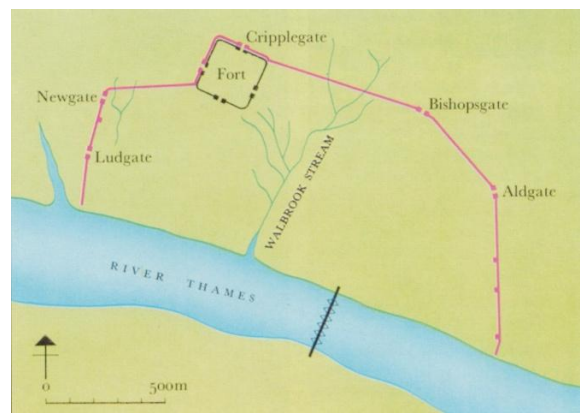
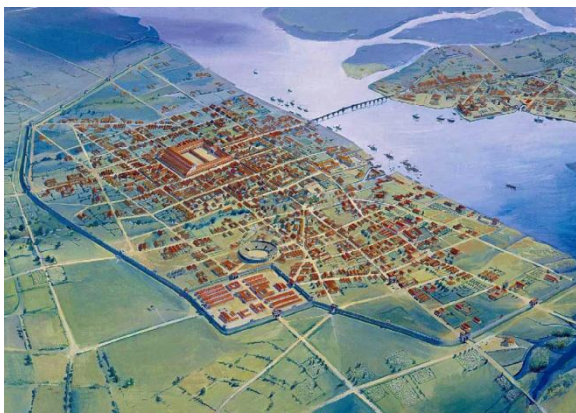
ROMAN MILITARY FORT IN LONDON

INVESTIGATING THE POSITION OF THE ORIGINAL ROMAN FORT

Introduction activity

Watch the first video clip in the Army section on the Romans in London site which plots out the fort and its location in modern-day London.

Look at the two images that depict Roman London and the position of the fort.



Discuss with the class where this actually is located in London.

To reinforce the idea that we still have these locations in London, use Google maps located at <http://maps.google.co.uk/> and demonstrate to the class where to type in an address to search a map.

With the class search for:

- Cripplegate
- Bishopsgate
- Aldgate
- Ludgate (adding 'Hill' to the address will narrow the search away from business addresses with the word Ludgate in it)

(NB these names are not Roman names but come from the medieval names for the gates but are good indicators where the city wall and city gates were located)

Use the 'Map of Location resource' to reinforce the location of the Roman fort and city wall.

Main part of the lesson

Watch the video clip that shows us entering the modern-day building with the remains of the west gate of the fort beneath it.

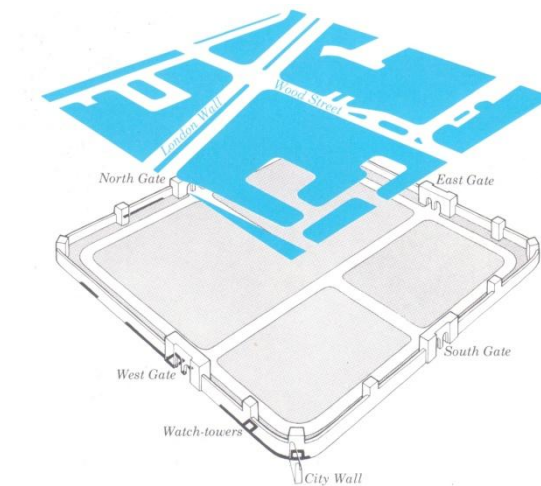
Discuss how nowadays the site of the fort now lies under a built-up modern area and the footage shows us going into a modern building.

Discuss why the modern builders decided to preserve the remains of the fort.

Explain that the soldiers who were posted here were rather like the modern-day army, in that they were sent here from elsewhere in the Roman Empire, or from Hadrian's Wall for their 'tour of duty'. (NB Hadrian's Wall was a Roman frontier in Britain built between the years AD 122-30. For information about Hadrian's Wall click [here](#).)

Explain why the soldiers may have liked being sent to London.

Look at the image of the plan of the Roman fort and discuss where the modern roads now cross the original building.



Explain to the class that in this lesson you would like them to imagine that they are entering the modern building today and they are discovering the Roman fort remains in the basement for the first time. Ask them to produce a descriptive piece of writing using descriptions of what they see, feel, and hear and their emotions at this discovery. They could imagine that they are the first people to ever view these Roman remains to enhance the emotional feeling.

Plenary

Share the descriptive writings and discuss how they would feel if they were the first person ever to find something that was so important in discovering about the past.