



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

Archaeological Evaluation

Toad Lane, Lower
Falinge, Rochdale.

Planning Ref:
16/01007/FUL

Client:
Seddon Construction Ltd

Technical Report:
Sarah Cattell

Report No: SA/2017/53

The Centre for
Applied
Archaeology



Site Location: The site comprises part of the Lower Falinge housing estate, and is bounded by Howard Street to the north, Red Cross Street to the east, Waterhouse Street to the south and John Road to the west.

NGR: Centred at NGR 389485 413830

Internal Ref: SA/2017/53

Proposal: Archaeological Evaluation

Planning Ref: 16/01007/FUL

Prepared for: Seddon Construction Ltd

Document Title: Archaeological Evaluation: Toad Lane, Lower Falinge, Rochdale

Document Type: Archaeological Evaluation Report.

Version: Version 1.0

Author: Sarah Cattell
Position: Project Officer
Date: July 2017

Signed: 

Approved by: Ian Miller BA FSA
Position: Assistant Director
Date: July 2017

Signed: 

Copyright: Copyright for this document remains with Salford Archaeology, University of Salford.

Contact: Salford Archaeology, Centre for Applied Archaeology, University of Salford, Peel Building, Salford, M5 4WU
Telephone: 0161 295 2545 Email: s.j.cattell1@salford.ac.uk

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared by the Centre for Applied Archaeology, University of Salford for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be used or relied upon for any other project without an independent check being undertaken to assess its suitability and the prior written consent and authority obtained from the Centre for Applied Archaeology. The University of Salford accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than those for which it was commissioned. Other persons/parties using or relying on this document for other such purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify the University of Salford for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. The University of Salford accepts no liability or responsibility for this document to any other party/persons than by whom it was commissioned.

Contents

Summary	4
Introduction	5
Historical Background	7
Methodology	10
Trench Description	12
Archaeological Results	20
Discussion	21
Recommendations	24
Archive	25
Acknowledgements	26
Sources	27
Appendix 1: Figures	28
Appendix 2: Context List	34

Summary

In June 2017, Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Seddon Construction, acting on behalf of Rochdale Boroughwide Housing Ltd, to undertake an archaeological evaluation on land located off Toad Lane in the Lower Falinge area of Rochdale, Greater Manchester (centred on NGR 389485 413830). The Site Area comprises a former car park and the site of a block of freestanding garages (now demolished). The development proposals allow for the construction of six new dwellings with enclosed private gardens to the rear, the delivery of which will cumulatively necessitate considerable earth-moving works with a potential damage or destroy buried archaeological remains.

The area surrounding Toad Lane to the north-west of Rochdale town centre was predominantly rural throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods with a thriving cottage industry producing woollen cloth. By the early 19th century the town had grown considerably due to the success of both the woollen and cotton trades and areas of workers housing had been constructed to the south and west as well as a small block on the site. The continued growth of industry lead to the incorporation of the site into the urban sprawl of the town and the early 19th century housing block was extended as part of a wider programme of construction. The area retained the 19th century housing until the widespread clearance of the 1960s to make way for the construction of the current social housing blocks.

In order to secure archaeological interests, Rochdale Council attached a condition to planning consent for the development (Planning Ref: 16/01007/FUL), which required an appropriate scheme of archaeological investigation to be undertaken in advance of construction work. Following consultation with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, it was recommended that in the first instance the site should be investigated via a programme of trial trenching. This comprised the excavation of a single large trench across the footprint of early 19th- century workers' housing.

The trench was located to investigate the remains of the early 19th-century block of workers' housing, first identified on the 1851 mapping of the area. The block was later extended to the north with a further four houses and an alley to the rear. No cellar lights were observed in relation to these houses on the historic mapping suggesting that they were not cellared. This was, however, contradicted by the results of the excavation which uncovered the remains of four cellars, all with stone-built access stairs leading down from the ground floor.

The evaluation was able to confirm that evidence of 19th century structures remains within the site boundary and represent moderately well preserved evidence of earlier occupation.

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

Rochdale Boroughwide Housing Ltd has obtained planning consent (Planning Ref: 16/01007/FUL) for the regeneration of the Lower Falinge Estate in Rochdale. The redevelopment proposals allow for the construction of six new dwellings with enclosed private gardens to the rear.

Salford Archaeology was commissioned to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the proposed development site (referred to hereafter as the Site Area) in order to satisfy a condition to the planning consent. The aim of the archaeological work was to identify, as far as possible, the nature, extent and significance of the archaeological resource.

1.2 Location, Topography & Current Land Use

The Site Area (centred on NGR 389485 413830) lies on the northern fringe of the town centre (Fig 1). It is bounded by Howard Street to the north, Red Cross Street to the east, Waterhouse Street to the south and John Road to the west (Plate 1). The site comprises part of the modern Lower Falinge housing estate.



Plate 1: Recent aerial view across the Lower Falinge Estate, showing the development area boundary

1.3 Geology

The underlying solid geology consists of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures (Westphalian A) and millstone grit of the Carboniferous period. The predominant drift geology comprises glacial sands and gravels, with some alluvium (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/beta.html>).

1.4 Personnel

The project was conducted by professional archaeologists from Salford Archaeology (SA). On-site excavations were conducted by Sarah Cattell. The report was compiled, written and illustrated by Sarah Cattell and Richard Ker. The project was managed by Ian Miller.

1.5 Monitoring

Charles Welsby (Seddon Ltd), Andrew Myers (Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service) and Ian Miller (SA) monitored the archaeological works.

2. *Historical Background*

2.1 Prehistoric

The distribution of prehistoric finds and sites in the area indicates that prehistoric settlement and activity was concentrated close to the River Roch, and its tributaries, with known Bronze Age burial mounds being located in the upland areas. It is thus possible that the Site Area lay within a locality that was favourable for prehistoric activity, although any firm evidence is significantly lacking.

2.2 Roman

The study area lies within less than 500m of the possible line of the Roman road to Buxton. The study area has had relatively little development over the last 250 years, chance finds relating to this period should not be ruled out, although this potential for Roman remains is considered to be low.

2.3 Medieval

Evidence for early medieval activity in the region as a whole is drawn largely from place-names and the Domesday Survey of 1086 (Newman 1996). The Site Area lay within the parish of Rochdale during the medieval period. This parish formed the most extensive of the parishes contained within the Hundred of Salford, which formed a large Anglo-Saxon territorial unit situated immediately north of the River Mersey and encompassing the Irwell Valley (Fishwick 1889, 1). Although the origins of the parish of Rochdale are unclear, it is possible that it was created in the middle Anglo-Saxon period, when the wider area was incorporated into the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria (Pounds 2000, 3; Newman 2006, 91).

The major Anglo-Saxon settlement within the Rochdale parish was probably located in the area now covered by the modern town. Rochdale is mentioned by name as 'Recedham' in the Domesday Survey, and the 'ham' element of the place-name is Old English in origin referring to a settlement, which was perhaps a product of Anglo-Saxon colonisation dating to the 7th or 8th century (Ekwall 1922, 55). Similarly, although the element 'Reced' might have been the Celtic name for the River Roch, it is also possible that it has an Old English origin meaning 'hall' (*ibid*). The presence of an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Rochdale also tallies well with the dedication of its parish church to St Chad, the late 7th-century Anglo-Saxon bishop of Lichfield (Fishwick 1889, 127).

By 1212, the whole manor had been assigned to the Lord of Clitheroe, and was held by Roger de Lacy, and several under tenants. By 1251, Rochdale had become important enough to have been granted a charter for a weekly market, which was held on Wednesday, and an annual fair on the feast of St Simon and St Jude in October. It was probably during this period that a borough was also created (Farrer and Brownbill 1911), although the town continued to be governed through the manor court until 1825, when a Police Act was finally obtained (Fishwick 1889).

2.4 Post Medieval

In 1582, Camden described Rochdale as ‘a market town well frequented’. The regional importance of the town at this time is implicit from the detail provided by Saxton’s map of Lancashire, which was published in 1577, and marks the town in bold letters. Manufacturing and mining industries became of increasing importance to the local economy during this period; the confiscation of the lands that had belonged to Whalley Abbey, and the general suppression of religious houses following the Dissolution of the Monasteries, produced a new race of landlords, whose number was increased by the sale of Byron estates in the early part of the 17th century (Fishwick 1913). The town certainly began to expand significantly during the 1600s, indicated to some degree by the Hearth Tax Returns; in 1666, 228 hearths were recorded for Rochdale (*ibid*).

Celia Fiennes, writing in c 1700, described Rochdale as ‘a pretty neat town, built all of stone’, whilst some 25 years later Defoe considered it ‘a good market town, and of late much improved in the woollen manufacture, as are also the villages in its neighbourhood’ (Furbank *et al* 1991). The market had been held on the north bank of the river from at least the 16th century, and there were also water-powered corn mills and fulling mills in the area; it is possible, although unconfirmed, that both occupied the sites of medieval predecessors (Tindall *nd*, 13). By the end of the 18th century, Rochdale had developed a formidable reputation as a centre for the production of woollen cloth (Aiken 1795, 248). Rochdale also became an important centre for the cross-Pennine trade in woollen cloth, represented by the numerous merchant’s houses, warehouses and inns that were established in the town during the late 1700s to service this trade. One of the main roads leading northwards from Rochdale was Toad Lane, the original course of which crosses the Site Area. The road also formed the boundary between Spotland and Wardleworth.

2.5 Industrial

In 1771, Samuel Curwen visited Rochdale, and noted that it was ‘remarkable for (its) many wool merchants; it has a large woollen market, the merchants from Halifax etc, repairing hither weekly’. He also noted that ‘every considerable

house is a manufactory, and is supplied with a rivulet or little stream, without which the business cannot be carried on' (Fishwick 1889, 57-8). The River Roch was also exploited as a source of power during this period, although it was subject to sudden flooding (Robertson 1875, 265-6).

Rochdale rapidly became a boomtown of the Industrial Revolution, and amongst the first-ever industrialised towns. The Rochdale Canal, one of the major navigable broad canals of Great Britain, was a highway of commerce during this time, used for the haulage of cotton, wool, and coal to and from the area. The canal was opened between Rochdale and Manchester by 1799, and was completed as the first trans-Pennine route in 1804 (Hadfield 1994). The growth of the population as Rochdale became a manufacturing centre led to the enlargement of the parish church, and the building of new ones: St Mary's, Wardleworth, was consecrated in 1744; St James's, Wardleworth, in 1821; St Clement's, Spotland, in 1835; and Christ Church, Healey, in 1850 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911).

Rochdale rose to prominence during the 19th century as an important centre for the production of cotton goods, whilst maintaining a strong woollen industry, focusing in particular on the manufacture of flannel and baize. New cotton mills were established along the River Roch and, with the advent of steam power, throughout the town along the river valleys and canal banks.

From the earliest detailed surveys of Rochdale in 1824, Toad Lane and Falinge Road are shown to have been established, flanked by agricultural land and enclosed plots that may have been in use for horticulture. Several buildings are also shown within the boundary of the Site Area, which are likely to represent a range of houses, some of which may have been used jointly for domestic and commercial purposes. By 1851 blocks of workers' housing had been erected along Falinge Road. These included blocks of back-to-back houses and a short row of single-roomed dwellings, together with a group of buildings at the junction of Falinge Road with Toad Lane.

Rochdale enjoyed a 'golden age' during the Cotton Famine of the 1860s, when woollens became once more price-competitive with cotton goods; the population of the town increased by over 60% during this period (Williams with Farnie 1992, 43; Pigot 1822). An inevitable consequence of Rochdale's population growth during this period was an increase of the town's housing stock, and the eastern part of the Site Area had been almost entirely developed for residential purposes by the end of the 19th century as part of Rochdale's expansion northwards. the footprint of most of the buildings in the Site Area remained largely unchanged until the 1960s, when the area was cleared to enable the current Lower Falinge housing estate to be created.

3. Methodology

3.1 Excavation Strategy

The aim of the archaeological evaluation was to progress an understanding of the origins, form and character of the buried remains associated with workers' housing along Toad Lane. This information was required to satisfy planning conditions in relation to the proposed development of the site.

Discussions with Andrew Myers of Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) originally led to the design of five trenches across the site to investigate the potential for archaeological remains. However, in the light of on-site constraints and logistical considerations, this was revised to a single trench at the location of the proposed development. The trench was intended to assess the nature and extent of the remains of a row of four early 19th-century, single-depth houses along the eastern side of Toad Lane.

3.2 Excavation Methodology

All archaeological features selected (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) to be evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods with photographs to be taken as appropriate.

Removal of modern overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was undertaken using a mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of a professional archaeologist acting as a banksman. Removed overburden was stored on a single mounded spoil heap located at an appropriate distance away from the main open area excavation or the fenced edges of the compound.

Machine excavation continued in 100mm spits until significant archaeological deposits were identified. Machine excavation remained cautious, with preference for surviving information and hand excavation once interfaces were encountered.

Following machine excavation all archaeological remains were cleaned using appropriate hand tools and archaeological features recorded by photography and scaled plan.

3.3 Recording Methodology

A unique text-number site code was created prior to the commencement of the programme of works.

Separate contexts were recorded individually on pro-forma context sheets. Plans and sections were recorded on drawing sheets at an appropriate scale of 1:10, 1:20, or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data and features encountered. All drawings were individually identified and cross referenced, contexts enumerated and principal layers and features annotated with OD level information.

A 'site location plan' indicating the site north and based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) was prepared. This was supplemented by a trench plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which shows the location of the areas excavated in relation to the investigation area and National Grid Reference. The location of the OS bench marks used and the site TBM were also indicated.

The OD height of all principal strata and features was calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

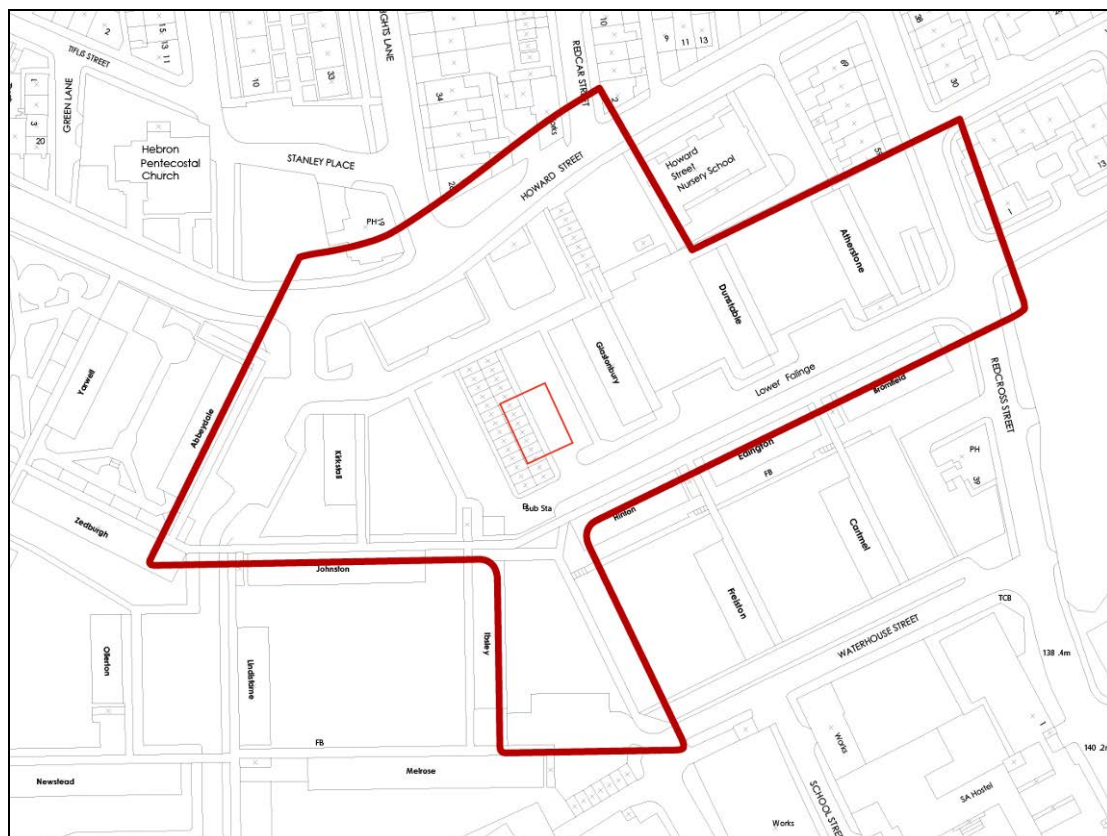


Plate 2: Trench location plan. Reproduced by permission

Photography of all relevant phases and features was undertaken with digital formats. General working photographs were taken during the duration of the archaeological works, to provide illustrative material covering the wider aspects of the archaeological work undertaken. A copy of the digital photographs will be made available to the curatorial body, with the production of the technical archaeological report.

4. Trench Description

The trench was excavated to assess the nature and extent of archaeological remains associated with the early 19th-century workers' housing occupying the central part of the study area. The trench measured 12.00m wide x 14.50m and was orientated north-south. Following the removal of the 20th-century garage structures and contemporary road surfaces, a layer of stone chippings (001) was revealed which overlay a black gritty layer of clinker and ash (002) to the east and a compacted demolition layer (025) to the west. These layers covered all the features identified on site and contained very occasional fragments of 19th- and 20th- century ceramic and glass.



Figure 2. General view of the site during excavation. Looking north.

On the eastern side of the site layer (002) was found to exist to a depth of 0.25m where it overlay a natural layer of grey clay with moderate inclusions of sub-rounded pebbles (003). A north-south aligned linear feature (021) was found to cut this deposit in the centre of the area between the trench edge and wall (005) (**Fig. 3**). This linear comprised two ephemeral 0.20m wide bands of yellow clay rich in yellow sandstone fragments with a much darker blackish-grey silty clay (022) containing coal and clinker with occasional fragments of brick between.

Three north-south orientated walls were identified across the excavation area at a depth of 0.25m and continued beyond both the north and south excavation edges. The easternmost of these was wall (005), was constructed from mixed courses of handmade brick and sandstone blocks bonded with white lime mortar between the bricks and a dark yellow sandy mortar between the stone blocks. The wall measured 0.35m x 14.50m and was excavated to a depth of 0.35m on eastern side and 1.30m on



Figure 3. Linear (021). Looking north.

Figure 4. Cellar Rooms 1 and 2 showing side walls (005) and (006) and dividing walls (007), (008) and (009). Looking north.



western side. The central wall, (006), lay 1.90m to the west of (005) and was constructed almost identically to (005). This wall measured 0.35m x 14.50m and was excavated to a depth of 0.35m on western side and 1.30m on eastern side. The westernmost wall (016), was constructed from partially degraded, handmade brick bonded with white lime mortar with occasional inserted stone blocks consistent with an early 19th-century construction date. It measured 0.24m x 14.50m standing to a maximum of 3 courses (0.25m) high with a projecting foundation course 0.48m wide. The wall was constructed directly onto (004), a dark reddish-yellow natural clay with moderate inclusions of sub-rounded sandstone pebbles.



Figure 5. Cellar Room 1, showing walls (005), (007) and (006) surrounding floor (019). Looking south-east.

Walls (005) and (006) enclosed three cellar rooms measuring 1.90m x 4.25m, one of which was not fully excavated, which were divided by single course handmade brick walls (007) – (010). All four walls abutted the western and eastern faces of (005) and (006) respectively and stood to a height of 1.30m (c.13 courses). The treads for winding stone stairs were found to be set within the southern face of each of these walls, projecting southwards into the rooms. The stairs, (011) in Room 1 and (012) in Room 2, measuring 0.71m x 1.00m, were constructed from dressed stone flags, 0.08m thick x 0.36m wide x 0.71m long supported by handmade brick risers. The string of each staircase was enclosed by a small handmade brick wall (023) in Room 1 and (026) in Room 2 which measured 1.20m wide x 1.30m high. Both cellar rooms had stone flagged floors, (019) in Room 1 and (020) in Room 2, composed of black

stained yellow sandstone flags between 0.40m- 0.80m in size. Black staining was also identified on the whitewashed cellar walls to a height of c.0.60m.



Figure 6. Staircase (011). Looking north.



Figure 7. Staircase (011). Looking west.

The western side of wall (006) was found to have been cut into the natural clay deposits (004), although no cut feature was identified. Three square brick features were revealed to lie directly onto the clay in the centre of the area enclosed by walls (006) and (016). These features, (013)-(015), were constructed from a single course of handmade brick, laid two courses high and bonded with white lime mortar. Each measured 0.63m x 0.63m with an internal opening of 0.40m x 0.40m which was filled by (024), a black gritty deposit comprised of coal and charcoal fragments with occasional inclusions of clinker. All three of these features were badly degraded with (013) and (015) truncated to the west and east respectively.



Figure 8. Area of clay between (006) and (016), showing features (013), (014) and (015).



Figure 9. Detail of (014). Looking east.

Figure 10. Detail of (015). Looking east.



Figure 11. Wall (016) with surface (017) to west



The only feature identified to the west of wall (016) was the fragmentary remains of a flagged surface (017), represented by a complete flag stone measuring 0.57m x 0.94m abutting the southern end of the wall and several smaller stones along the central section of the wall. The only deposit identified in this area was a dark brown silt (027) which had a large proportion of brick and stone rubble, mortar and coal and charcoal fragments within. This deposit could not be fully excavated due to the proximity of live service cabling.



Figure 12. Wall (016) and fragmentary remains of (017). Looking west.

The Written Scheme of Investigation highlighted a second area of archaeological potential for early 19th-century workers' housing on the southern side of the site area, bordering the western side of Toad Lane. Although no trenching was carried out due to minimal development in this area, photos were taken following the mechanical stripping of the 20th-century landscaping. These photographs revealed that no archaeological features were encountered during this work.



Figure 13. Western side of Toad Lane following removal of 20th-century landscaping. Looking south.



Figure 14. Western side of Toad Lane following removal of 20th-century landscaping. Looking south-west.

With the exception of very occasional fragments of 19th- and 20th-century ceramics and glass within layers (002) and (025), no other artefacts were uncovered during the excavation. It is likely that this is due to the extensive clearance of the site and subsequent construction of the garage structures that occupied the area in the later 20th century.

5. *Archaeological Results*

Trench 1

The excavation was able to produce significant evidence of structures associated with early 19th century workers housing on Toad Lane. The trench was targeted to assess the potential for remains associated with a block of four houses, first identified on the 1851 OS mapping and was able to uncover structures relating to three of the houses.

Two of the large north-south walls uncovered correspond with the front and rear ((016) and (005) respectively) walls of the housing block as seen on historic mapping. Wall (006) formed the western wall of the cellars and its thickness and comparable construction with the main walls suggests it is likely to have continued upwards to divide the upper floors of the houses. The nature of the cellar rooms uncovered, especially their small size, lack of internal features such as cellar lights and fireplaces, and internal stair, suggests that these rooms were used only for storage. In particular the black staining seen on both the walls and floor of Room 1 indicate that coal was one of the main things to be stored here. The location and direction of the stair cases indicates that they were accessed from within the houses rather than via an external doorway.

The larger front rooms of the houses to the west of the cellars were found to have been constructed directly onto the natural clay deposits, with only minimal foundations observed on wall (016). The only internal features of these front rooms were the three brick squares (013)-(015), which appear to correspond with the location of the dividing walls between the houses, as seen on the 1892 mapping, all lying broadly to the north of each wall. It is likely that these features represent the lowest foundations of small fireplaces flues owing to their positions against the side walls and the burnt/ashy nature of the filling material (024). The lack of evidence for the dividing walls seen on the historic mapping suggests that they were either constructed on top of the flooring material with the main load bearing support given by wall (006), or these walls were removed prior to the demolition of the block.

Much of the area to the west of the excavation had been disturbed by the laying of modern services. However the remaining fragments of stone flags (017) are probably the last surviving pieces of the pavement of the original alignment of Toad Lane which crossed the site before continuing northwards.

6. Discussion

Throughout much of its history the Toad Lane site has remained relatively constant, amid the gradual expansion of Rochdale town centre, firstly as part of the semi-rural belt surrounding the town and later as part of a steadily expanding area of workers' housing necessitated by the growth of the town's cotton industry.

When the houses were built in the early 19th century, they were located on the north-western fringe of the urbanised town within an area still dominated by agriculture. Like those uncovered, the only other buildings in the area fronted onto the main thoroughfares of Toad Lane and Falinge Road with agricultural land behind. These dwellings represented the further expansion of workers housing into the agricultural surroundings of Rochdale. This expansion is likely to have been driven by the diversification of the town's industrial activities from woollen manufacture to cotton in the early 19th century, which caused considerable growth in both the output of the town and its population.

The fact that the area was still semi-rural when the houses were built goes some way to explain their size and layout. Although the houses were small, they were marginally better proportioned than the nearby back-to-backs to the south and west and possessed two rooms on each floor as well as the half cellars below. The fact that the cellars were at the rear of the houses and accessed from within also indicates that they were not used for anything other than private storage, suggesting that overcrowding was not a problem in the area at this time, in stark contrast to the densely populated districts of the regions burgeoning urban centres of Manchester and Salford.

The cellars themselves are of a type more frequently seen in rural settings, with the inclusion of smaller, below-ground chambers often constructed as cold stores. This layout was discovered in a similar row of workers' housing at Trafalgar Street, Burnley, where four houses were constructed on a mirrored plan form with small cellars to the rear (OAN, 2014). Like Toad Lane, these houses were semi-rural at the time of construction and the cellar rooms were small with low ceilings and shelves set within the walls as part of their function as storage spaces. Each of these cellars contained brick piers to support the floor above, the absence of which at Toad Lane suggests that the floors here were of timber construction.

In both examples, the cellars were constructed as an original part of the houses, rather than a later addition. This is clear at Toad Lane from the nature of the central north-south wall, that it was built to support more than just the western side of the cellar rooms, but was substantial enough to be a main structural part of the block. All four houses followed the same symmetrical plan with the cellar access on the northern dividing wall and the fireplace abutting the southern wall of the front room. This arrangement was not uncommon in terraced houses of this date and together with the

evidence of the half cellars, points to a fairly typical row of early 19th-century semi-rural workers cottages.

One unusual feature of the houses at Toad Lane, however, was that the cellar dividing walls appeared to have been inserted rather than keyed into the main rear and central walls. This implies that the main structure of the block was constructed as a shell which was then divided into the individual houses by less substantial walls within. This is a very unusual building technique which suggests that the houses were possibly built by a small scale landowner rather than an experienced property speculator.

The housing on Toad Lane was built on land formerly used as an orchard within the grounds of a large manor house to the north of the site, Quarry Hill. This was recorded as being owned during the early 19th century by Jonathan Fildes Esq. although it is unclear whether the houses were built by him (Miller, 2016). As the houses do not conform to the style of dwellings more commonly built for industrial workers and were more rural in character, it is possible they were built to house workers employed by the Quarry Hill estate. During the 19th century Rochdale appeared to conform to the archetype set out by Friedrich Engels for Manchester, describing a commercial centre surrounded by concentric circles of industry and workers housing with an outer residential ring of middle-class housing (Mitchell & Redhead, 2012). The examples excavated would have been part of this outer residential area.

Despite the industrial growth of Rochdale, the OS mapping of the town shows that the site area was not incorporated into the urban sprawl of industrial housing until the later part of the century. This coincided with the extension of the housing block to the north, with larger, more industrial style workers' houses, although there is nothing to suggest from either the recent excavations or the documentary evidence that the change in the character of the surrounding housing had any impact on the Toad Lane houses. Although the exact construction date for the houses is unknown, the lack of evidence for associated privies, either on site or in documentary form, may suggest they were built prior to regional sanitation improvements in the early-mid 19th century which saw them provided in many new homes and retrospectively installed in existing houses (Miller, Wild & Gregory, 2010). The historic mapping from 1892 shows two narrow structures to the rear of the original houses and those added later, indicating that privies may have been installed sometime in the later 19th century, probably during the extension of the block and the construction of the surrounding housing. Despite evidence of these structures being absent during the excavation, it is possible that the linear feature observed to the rear of the houses may have been associated with the drainage/sewerage of these buildings.

The houses remained in constant use until the 1960s, when the Falinge area was cleared to make way for the social housing blocks which now occupy the site. There was little evidence during the excavation for the remodelling of the houses in this period. The absence of the dividing walls of the houses may represent 20th century

alterations to enlarge the houses by joining two together, however it is more likely that the insubstantial nature of the cellar dividing walls also applied to the ground floor walls, resulting in their complete removal during demolition.

The results obtained from the archaeological investigation have enabled a record to be compiled of early 19th-century workers' housing, which has been recognised as a legitimate avenue of research. This is articulated in the current *Archaeological Research Framework for North West England*, which identifies several initiatives that should be prioritised for archaeological research of the industrial and modern periods, including *Initiative 7.6*: 'A study of the development of workers' housing in Greater Manchester should be undertaken to examine the development of different housing types...' (McNeil and Newman 2007, 139).

Since the publication of the Research Framework, a considerable body of significant data has been generated from the archaeological investigation of workers' housing, particularly in Manchester and Salford, enabling a variety of plan forms and construction details to be identified. The remains of double-depth houses dating to the first half of the 19th century, in particular, have been recorded in detail, although some plan forms certainly merit further investigation, such as back-to-back houses and smaller cottages. In addition, there is as yet comparatively little data for this monument type beyond the urban centres of Manchester and Salford, and the data generated from Toad Lane has provided valuable comparative data from the Rochdale area.

7. Recommendations

7.1 Recommendations

The programme of evaluation trenching has enabled a complete and detailed record to be compiled of the buried archaeological remains that survive within the development area. The mechanical removal of the modern ground surface from other parts of the site undertaken by the construction works contractor has demonstrated that areas beyond that part of the site that were subject to archaeological investigation do not contain any further remains of archaeological interest. It is thus concluded that there is no merit in carrying out any further archaeological investigation of the site in advance of development.

8. *Archive*

The archive comprises site drawings and photographs and on-site notes. This archive is currently held by Salford Archaeology and a copy of this report will be forwarded to the client following the publication of the site report.

A copy of this report will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record held by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service.

9. Acknowledgements

Salford Archaeology would like to thank Sam Charlesworth of Seddon Construction Ltd for commissioning the archaeological works, and Andrew Myers for providing support and advice through Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service.

The on-site excavations were conducted by Sarah Cattell. This report was written and illustrated by Sarah Cattell, Richard Ker and Elizabeth Statham. The project was managed by Ian Miller.

10. Sources

Cartographic Sources

Swire, W, 1824 *Plan of Rochdale*

Murphy, W, 1831 *Plan of Rochdale from an Actual Survey* (scale approx. 1":6 chains)

Saxton, 1577 *Map of the County of Lancashire*

Yates, 1786 *Survey of the County Palatine of Lancaster*

Ordnance Survey, 1851, 1:10560, Lancashire Map, First Edition Series, Sheet 89

Ordnance Survey, 1892, 1: 500, Lancashire Sheets 89.1.11, 89.1.12, 89.1.17

Ordnance Survey, 1893, 1:2500, Lancashire Map, Second Edition, Sheet 89.1

Ordnance Survey, 1910, 1:2500, Lancashire Map, Third Edition, Sheet 89.1

Ordnance Survey, 1930, 1:2500, Lancashire Map, Fourth Edition, Sheet 89.1

Secondary Sources

Brennand, M. (eds). 2006, *The Archaeology of North-West England: An Archaeological Research Framework for North-West England: Volume I – Resource Assessment*. CBA North-West (Council for British Archaeology).

Department for Communities & Local Government, March 2012. *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*.

Miller, I, Wild, C & Gregory, R. 2010. *Piccadilly Place, Uncovering Manchester's Industrial Origins*. Greater Manchester's Past Revealed, **1**, Lancaster.

Miller, I. 2013. *Coal, Cotton and Chemicals: The Industrial Archaeology of Clayton*. Greater Manchester's Past Revealed, **9**, Lancaster.

Miller, I. 2016. *Archaeological Desk Based Assessment Report, Toad Lane, Lower Falinge, Rochdale*. Salford Archaeology.

Mitchell, L & Redhead, N, eds. 2012. *Slices Through Time, Greater Manchester's Historic Character Revealed*. Greater Manchester's Past Revealed, **51**, Lancaster.

Mottershead, G & Wild, C. 2014. *29-35 Trafalgar Street, Burnley: Archaeological Building Investigation*. Oxford Archaeology North.

Nevell, M. 2011. *Living in the Industrial City: Housing Quality, Land Ownership and the Archaeological Evidence from Industrial Manchester, 1740-1850*. International Journal for Historical Archaeology, Volume 15, Issue 4, pages 594-606.

Wild, C. 2009. *Cross Keys Inn, Whitechapel, Lancashire. Archaeological Building Investigation*. Oxford Archaeology North.

Appendix 1: Figures

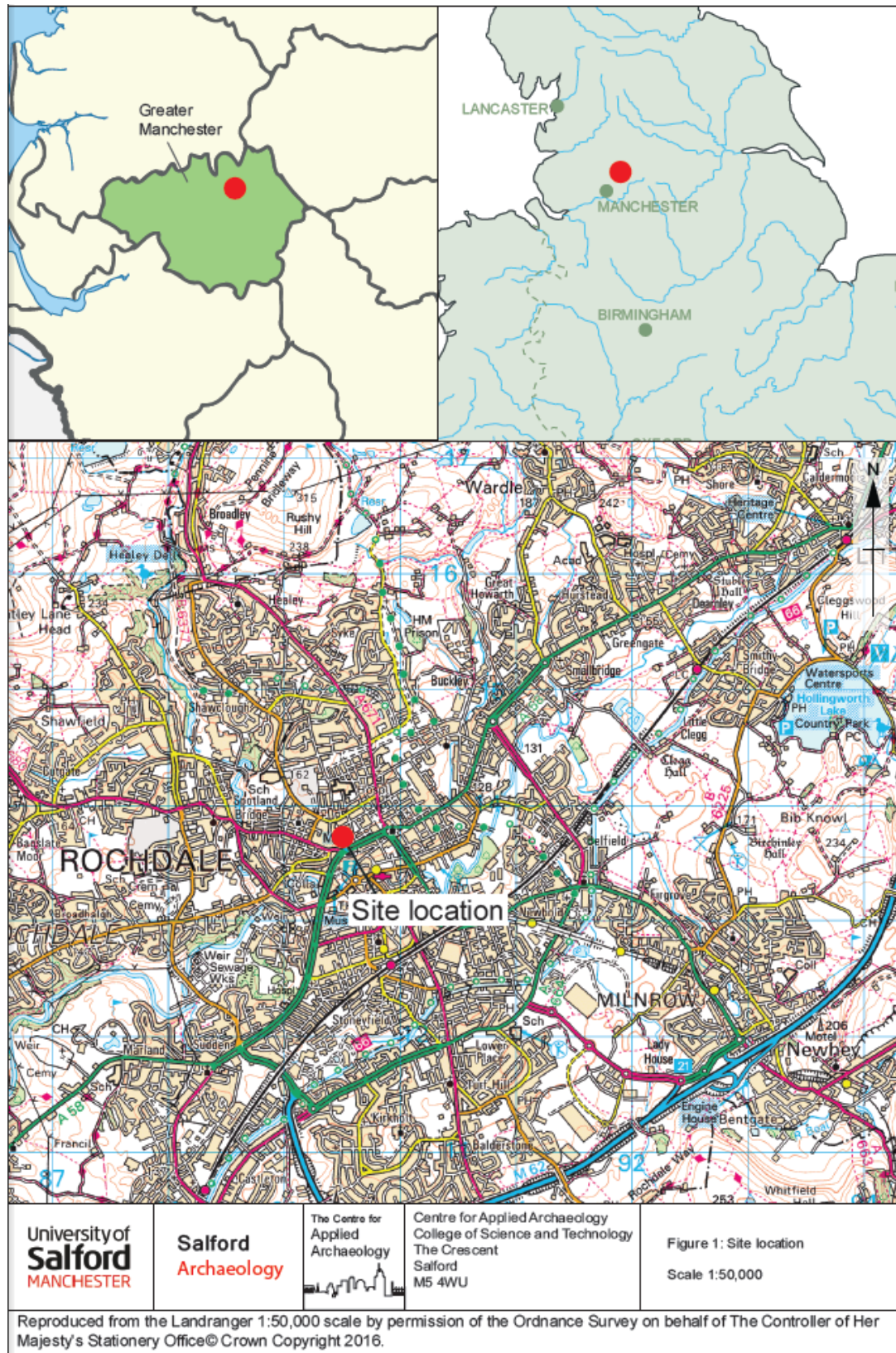


Figure 15: Site location map

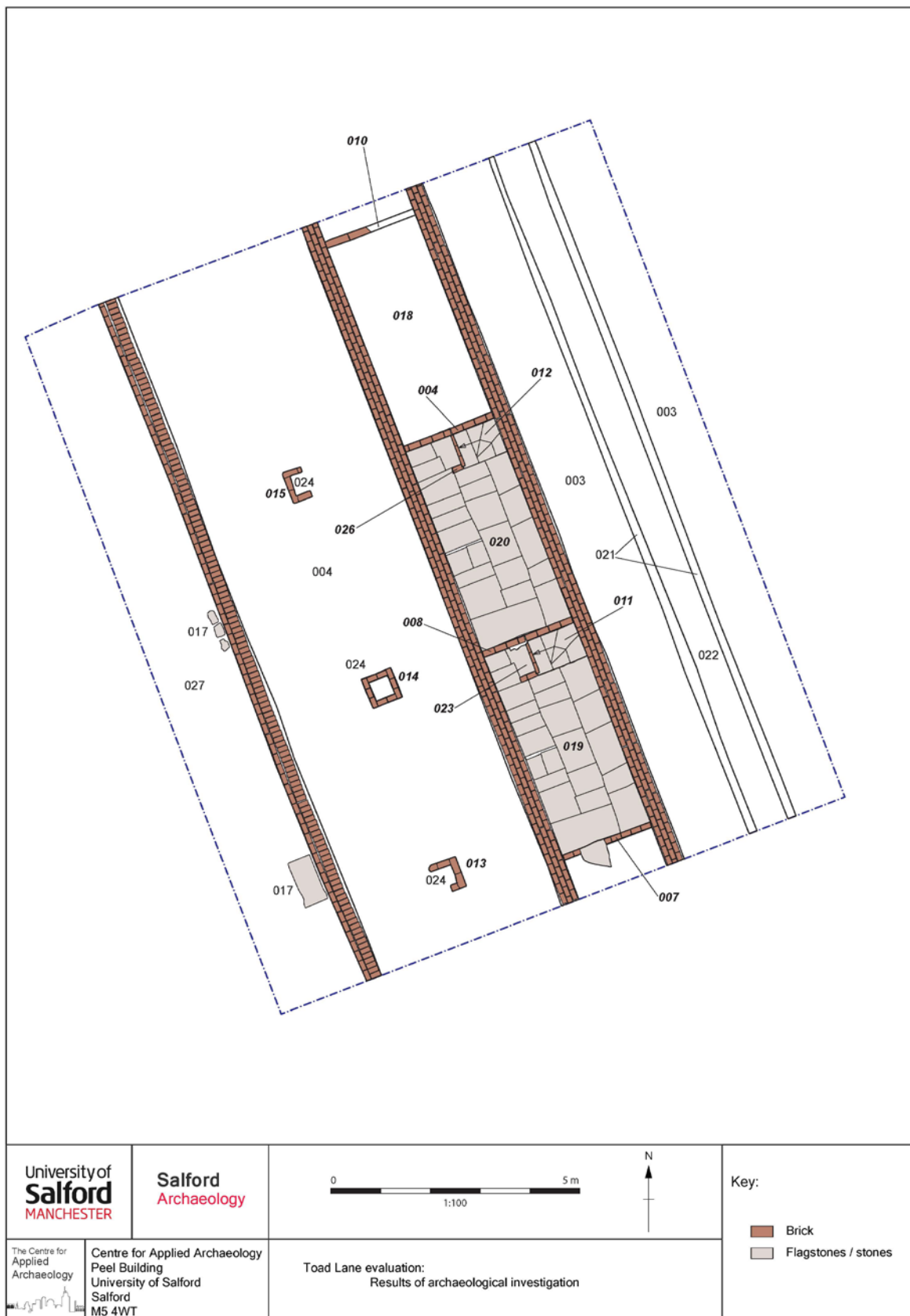


Figure 16: Trench Plan.

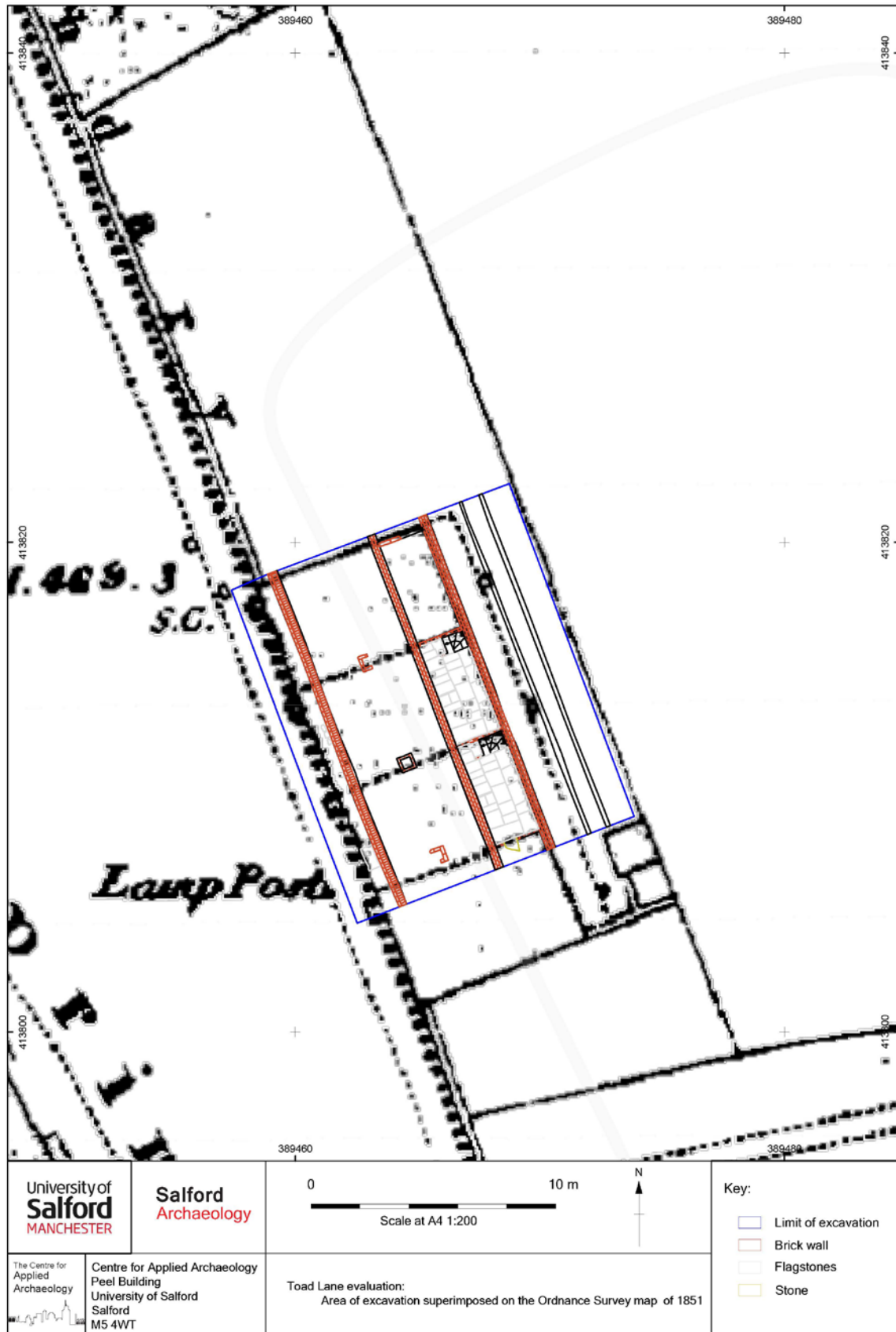


Figure 17: 1851 Trench overlay

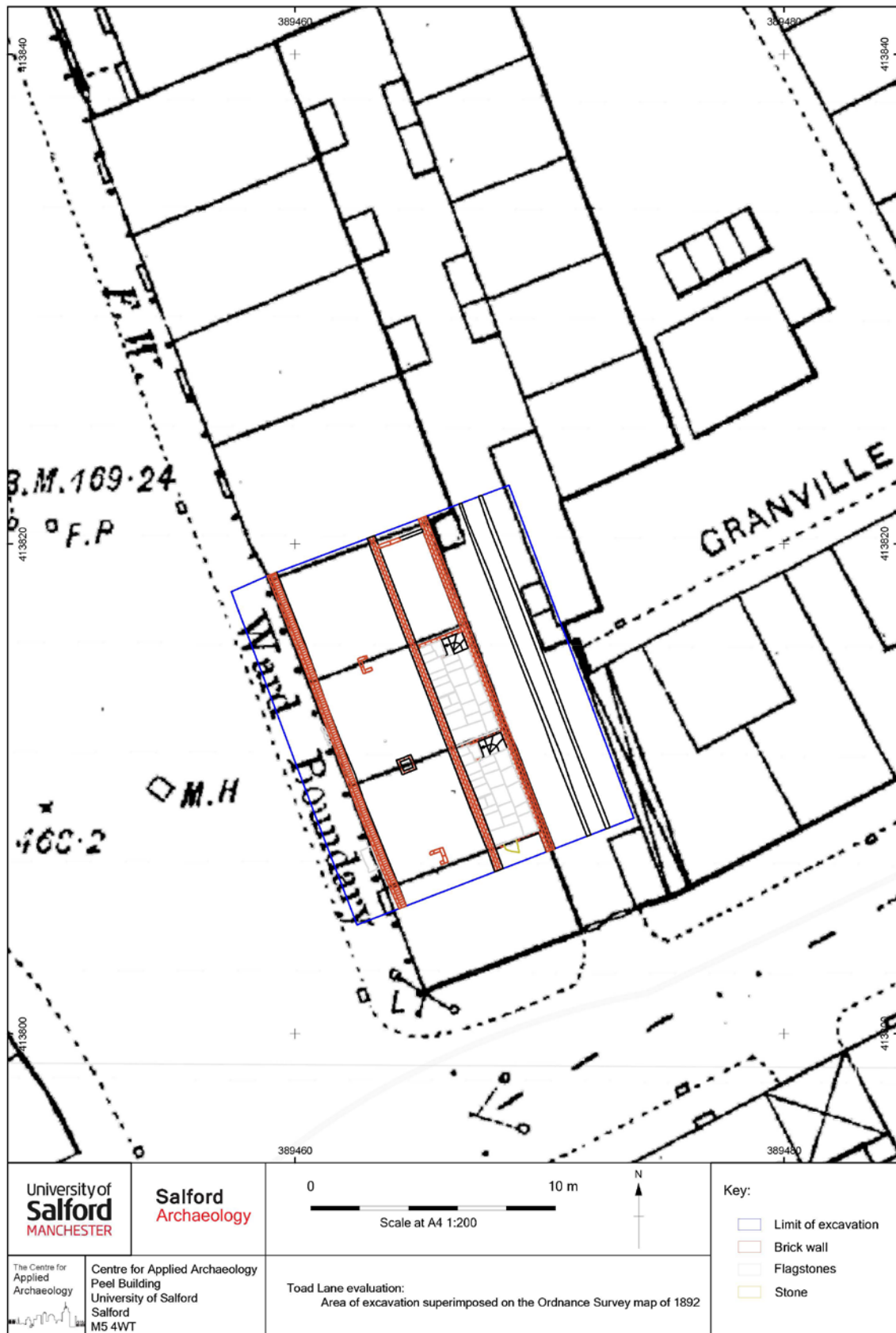


Figure 18: 1892 Trench overlay.



Figure 19: 1959 Trench overlay



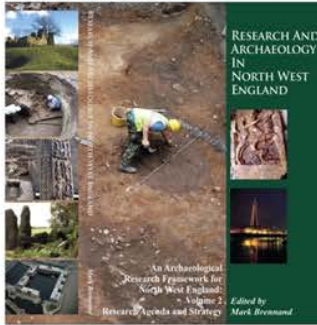
Figure 20: Modern mapping overlay.

Appendix 2: Context List

Context No.	Description
(001)	20 th century stone chippings. Levelling for 1960s road surface.
(002)	Very dark black gritty layer of clinker and ash directly below (001) and overlying (003).
(003)	Mid grey-brown clay lying against wall (005) and below (002). Frequent inclusions of sub-rounded stones, bricks and coal fragments. Cut by (021) and (022). Possibly natural.
(004)	Dark reddish-yellow clay with moderate inclusions of sub-rounded sandstone pebbles > 0.15m.
(005)	N-S orientated wall on eastern side of site. Constructed from mixed courses of handmade brick (0.12m x 0.07 x 0.24m) and sandstone blocks (0.30m-0.60m) bonded with white lime mortar. Measures 0.35m x 14.50m and excavated to a depth of 0.35m on eastern side and 1.30m on western side. Abutted by (007)-(010) and (019) & (020).
(006)	N-S orientated wall in centre of site. Constructed from mixed courses of handmade brick and sandstone blocks bonded with white lime mortar. Measures 0.35m x 14.50m and excavated to a depth of 0.35m on western side and 1.30m on eastern side. Abutted by (007)-(010) and (019) & (020).
(007)	Southernmost E-W orientated single course handmade brick wall between (005) and (006). Wall had stone step set within upper course which projected southwards. Southern face not excavated.
(008)	E-W orientated single course handmade brick wall to north of (007) between (005) and (006). Wall had stone steps (011) set within which projected southwards. Formed northern boundary of cellar Room 1.
(009)	Central E-W orientated single course handmade brick wall between (005) and (006). Wall had stone steps (012) set within which projected southwards. Formed northern boundary of cellar Room 2.
(010)	Northernmost E-W orientated single course handmade brick wall between (005) and (006). Wall had stones step set within upper course which projected southwards. Northern face not excavated.
(011)	4 dressed gritstone slabs forming treads of winding steps down into cellar Room 1. Supported by risers of 3½ handmade bricks.
(012)	4 dressed gritstone slabs forming treads of winding steps down into cellar Room 2. Supported by risers of 3½ handmade bricks.
(013)	Southernmost of 3 square handmade brick structures measuring 0.63m x 0.63m x 0.48m lying directly on (004) and filled by (024).
(014)	Central square handmade brick structure measuring 0.63m x 0.63m x 0.48m lying directly on (004) and filled by (024).
(015)	Northernmost of 3 square handmade brick structures measuring 0.63m x 0.63m x 0.48m lying directly on (004) and filled by (024).
(016)	N-S orientated partially degraded, handmade brick wall bonded with white lime mortar with occasional inserted stone blocks. Measures 0.24m x 14.50m standing to a max. of 3 courses (0.25m) high with projecting foundation course 0.48m wide. Constructed directly onto (004).

Context No.	Description
(017)	Fragmentary remains of stone flagged pavement abutting the western side of (016). Comprises a single large slab 0.57m x 0.94m to the south and smaller fragments 0.20m-0.40m to the north.
(018)	Fill of cellar rooms 1, 2 & 3. Light brown sandy silt with 90% inclusions of mortar, brick and stone fragments.
(019)	Stone flagged floor at base of Room 1. Composed of stained yellow sandstone flags between 0.40m- 0.80m in size.
(020)	Stone flagged floor at base of Room 2. Composed of stained yellow sandstone flags between 0.40m- 0.80m in size.
(021)	Two N-S ephemeral bands of yellow clay within (003) to the east of (005). Rich in sandstone fragments. Lies against (022) and continues beyond trench edges to north and south.
(022)	Very dark blackish grey silty clay lying between (021). Rich in coal and clinker with occasional fragments of brick.
(023)	Single course handmade brick wall in Room 1 supporting (011). Laid in stretcher bond with white lime mortar.
(024)	Fill of (013)-(015). Loose black gritty deposit comprised of coal and charcoal fragments with occasional inclusions of clinker. More compacted in the centre of each feature.
(025)	Compacted demolition layer covering all features on the western side of the site. Frequent inclusions of stone, brick, concrete, metal and mortar. Overlay (004).
(026)	Single course handmade brick wall in Room 2 supporting (011). Laid in stretcher bond with white lime mortar.
(027)	Dark brown silty sand with high proportion of brick, stone, mortar and coal inclusions to west of (016).

CONSULTANCY



DESK BASED ASSESMENTS



WATCHING BRIEF & EVALUATION



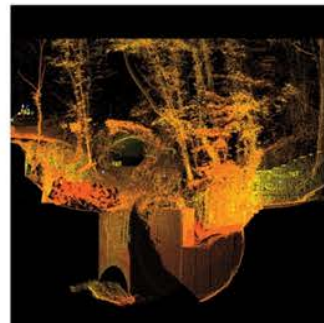
EXCAVATION



BUILDING SURVEY



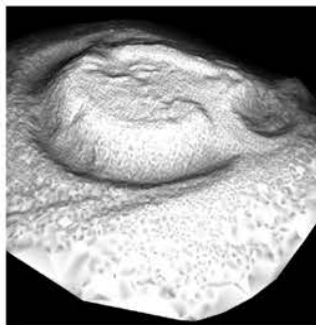
3D LASER SCANNING



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



LANDSCAPE SURVEYS



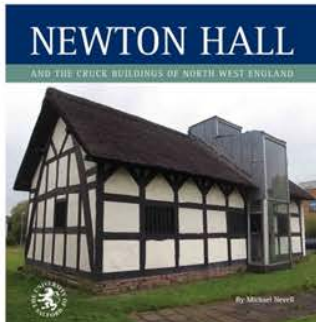
GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS



WORKSHOPS & VOCATIONAL TRAINING



RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS



SEMINARS, DAYSCHOOLS CPD EVENTS

