University of Salford MANCHESTER

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Manchester Engineering Campus Development, Grosvenor Street, Manchester

Client: University of Manchester

Technical Report:
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Report No:
2016/27

The Centre for Applied Archaeology

IfA Registered Organisation

Site Location: The study area comprises a brownfield site, bounded on the north by Grosvenor Street, on the east by Upper Brook Street, on the south by Booth Street East and on the west by Oxford Road, the Aquatic Centre and York Street in Manchester

NGR: Centred at NGR SJ 8450 9710

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Summary

In March 2016, Salford Archaeology, within the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the University of Salford, was commissioned by the University of Manchester to carry out an archaeological evaluation of a site situated off Grosvenor Street in the University District of Manchester (centred on NGR SJ 8450 9710). The work was required to inform and support a planning application (Planning Ref 111758/FO/2016/C1) for the proposed Manchester Engineering Campus Development, which will form a key component of the University's campus master plan to create a world-leading teaching, learning and research campus.

The evaluation was carried out in the light of the conclusions drawn from an archaeological assessment of the site produced by Dr Peter Arrowsmith, and comprised the excavation of three trenches, which were placed across the footprint of early nineteenth-century workers' housing. The evaluation was intended to determine the presence, extent, depth, state of preservation and significance of the archaeological resource to enable informed recommendations to be made for the future treatment of any surviving remains, in line with the guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework.

The results obtained from the evaluation trenching has demonstrated that the northern part of the study area has considerable potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains, and specifically those pertaining to early nineteenth-century dwellings. It is not considered that any of these remains are of national importance that would necessitate preservation *in-situ*, although, in archaeological terms, the remains encountered during the evaluation are considered to be of local significance, which merit a strategy for further investigation to be implemented to mitigate their ultimate loss during the proposed construction programme.

Following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Manchester City Council, it is recommended that a programme of detailed archaeological excavation of the northern part of the site would be an appropriate course of action to mitigate the damage or loss of the archaeological remains. This should be targeted on the footprint of the surviving remains of the early nineteenth-century workers' houses, and should be intended to establish the plan form, chronology, and dating for a group of urban workers' houses.

1. Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

The University of Manchester has submitted a planning application (Planning Ref 111758/FO/2016/C1) to construct the proposed Manchester Engineering Campus Development (MECD), which will form a key component of the University's campus master plan to create a world-leading teaching, learning and research campus for student engineers, and will also act as a new gateway between the existing University of Manchester site and the city. The MECD will also be one of the largest, single construction projects ever undertaken by a higher education institution in Britain, and it is envisaged that it will transform the way in which the University educates future engineers in response to the needs of the fast-changing global economy.

The construction of the new building will inevitably require considerable earth-moving works, which have a potential to impact on any below-ground archaeological resource. The archaeological interest in the site was highlighted in a desk-based assessment that was produced by Dr Peter Arrowsmith at an early stage in the development design process (Arrowsmith 2014). This comprehensive study concluded that proposed development area had some potential to retain buried archaeological remains of local significance, which would merit recording should they be damaged or destroyed by the construction works. In particular, it was considered that the site had potential to contain buried remains of early nineteenth-century workers' houses on the former Back Grosvenor Street.

In the light of the conclusions drawn by the desk-based assessment, the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), which provides archaeological advice to Manchester City Council, recommended that an archaeological investigation should be carried out in advance of the construction work for the proposed development. In the first instance, the investigation was intended to determine the presence, extent, depth, state of preservation and significance of the archaeological resource to enable informed recommendations to be made for the future treatment of any surviving remains, in line with the National Planning Policy Framework, Paragraph 128.

In March 2016, Salford Archaeology, within the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the University of Salford, was commissioned by the University of Manchester to carry out the recommended scheme of archaeological investigation, which comprised the excavation of three evaluation trenches. These were placed across the footprint of the early nineteenth-century workers' housing on the former Back Grosvenor Street. The evaluation was carried out in two stages between April and June 2016.

2. The Setting

2.1 Site Location

The site of the MECD (centred on NGR SJ 8450 9710) lies at the south side of Manchester city centre, in the University District (Fig 1). It is bounded on the north by Grosvenor Street, on the east by Upper Brook Street, on the south by Booth Street East and on the west by Oxford Road, the Aquatic Centre and York Street (Plate 1). The area of archaeological interest as identified in the desk-based assessment (Arrowsmith 2014), however, is limited to the northern part of the development site, enclosed by recently demolished modern university buildings at Grosvenor Place.

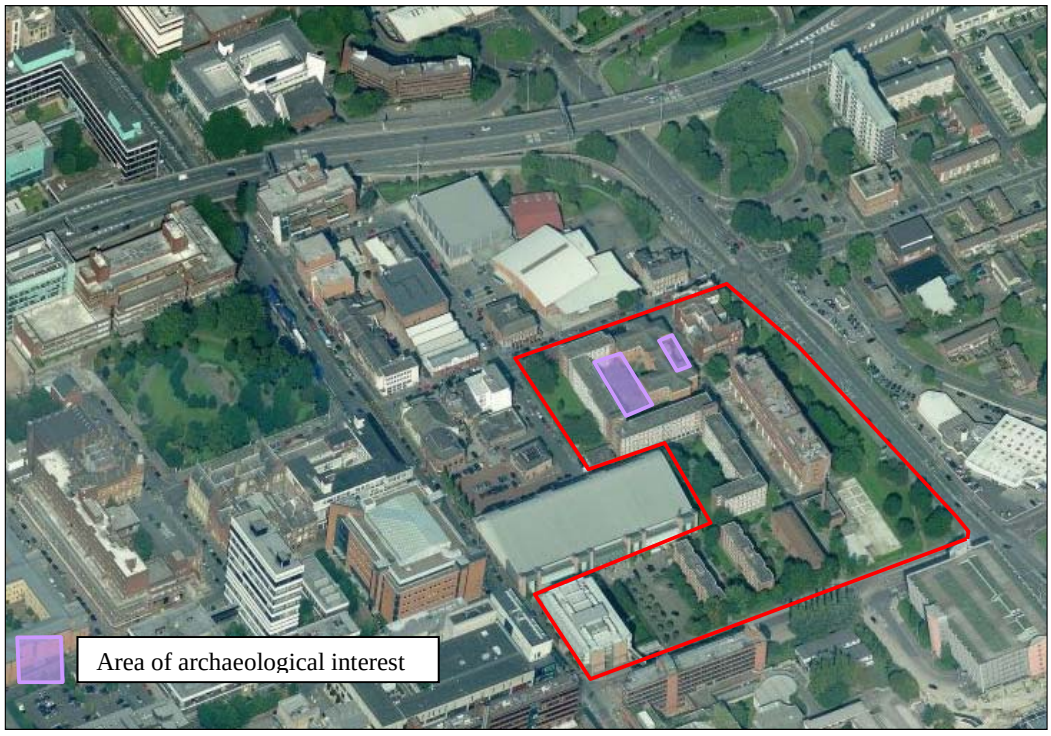

Plate 1: Recent aerial view across the study area prior to demolition works, showing the study area boundary and areas of archaeological interest

Until recently, the study area contained a suite of University building including, on the east, the James Chadwick Building, the Materials Science Centre, and the Oddfellows Hall and, on the south-west, the Manchester Business School East. Between these, extending from Grosvenor Street to Booth Street East, were the Grosvenor Halls of Residence, comprising the Grosvenor Street Building, Grosvenor Place, Ronson Hall and Bowden Court Blocks 2 and 3. An access road divided the Grosvenor Halls of Residence from the buildings to the east. Some of these buildings have been demolished to enable the development of the MECD.

2.2 Geology

Geologically, the area is underlain a series of glaciofluvial sheet deposits of sand and gravel with till at the south-east. Underlying this is strata of the Chester Pebble Beds Formation of the Sherwood Sandstone Group and the Manchester Marls Formation of the Cumbrian Coast Group. The West Manchester Fault runs north-west/south-east across the centre of the study area.

3. Historical Background

3.1 Background

The following section summarises the historical development of the study area, and is intended to place the excavated remains in their wider context. The historical information is drawn largely from the desk-based assessment of the site (Arrowsmith 2014).

Historically, the study area lay within the township of Chorlton-upon-Medlock, known formerly as Chorlton Row, and originally simply as Chorlton. The land-use of the area is captured on late eighteenth-century mapping, such as that produced by Charles Laurent in 1793. This survey shows that the study area was crossed from east to west by Rusholme Road, an early routeway which ran from the Stockport road. On the north-west Boundary Lane, the forerunner of Boundary Street, branched off Rusholme Road before this swung southward to follow the line of Oxford Road. To the north of this point Oxford Road is shown on Laurent's map as a broad thoroughfare, which had opened in 1790 as a link from St Peter's Square (Brumhead and Wyke nd, ii). On the south and east sides of Rusholme Road at this period, the study area lay within a single large field, the southern boundary of which roughly coincided with the later Booth Street East and the eastern boundary with the later Upper Brook Street. To the north of Rusholme Road the study area lay mainly within a group of small fields, bounded on the east by Brook Street, which at this date terminated at the junction with Rusholme Road.

Laurent's map also indicates that the land to the south of Boundary Lane and west of Oxford Road/Rusholme Road were in the ownership of Sir Gore Booth, baronet. The Gore Booth family were heirs to the estate of Humphrey Booth, the seventeenth-century Salford merchant and benefactor who is recorded as holding land in Chorlton in the 1630s (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 208-9). This family connection is presumed to have given rise to the name of Booth Street.

The character of Chorlton-upon-Medlock was transformed after the late eighteenth century by the rapid expansion of Manchester. Shortly after the opening of Oxford Road in the early 1790s, the Chorlton Hall estate on the north side of Boundary Lane was bought by local entrepreneurs with an intention to develop the land as a suburb to Manchester. The centrepiece of this development was to be a new square, originally known as Grosvenor Square and later as All Saints after the church that was built there in 1819-20. Notwithstanding this impressive development, however, the initial growth of Chorlton-upon-Medlock was relatively slow, although the population of the township had reached 8209 by 1821 (Brumhead and Wyke nd, ii-iii). As a consequence of Chorlton's accelerated growth in population during the following decade, the township was included within the boundary of the new municipal borough of Manchester in 1838 (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 252).

Johnson's map of 1818-19 shows that the old course of Rusholme Road had been straightened to run directly to Oxford Road, and that the block between Rusholme Road and Grosvenor Street had been divided by a realignment of Boundary Street. Within these streets, the main development had taken place on Rusholme Road where a row of sizeable houses had been constructed. Later mapping identifies this row as Bloomsbury, presumably after the fashionable London district. Within the block between Boundary Street and Grosvenor Street, the only development at this date was a pair of workers' houses built on the corner of York Street and Boundary Street.

By 1824, much more development had taken place in the block between Grosvenor Street and Boundary Street, including the construction of a row of double-depth workers' houses on Boundary Street, and to the rear of these a row on Back Grosvenor Street comprising single-depth houses with paired outshuts. Rate books show this last row to have been built by John Goadsby, a druggist, and to have originally comprised 12 houses built in 1824 with an additional four being added in 1830-1 (MCL Rate Book Microfilm Rolls 66 & 67). Other, larger houses had also been built by 1824 at the eastern end of Grosvenor Street. Development between 1824 and 1831 appears to have been less extensive, but included additional housing on York Street in the north of the study area, as captured on a map produced by Bancks & Co in 1831 (Plate 2).

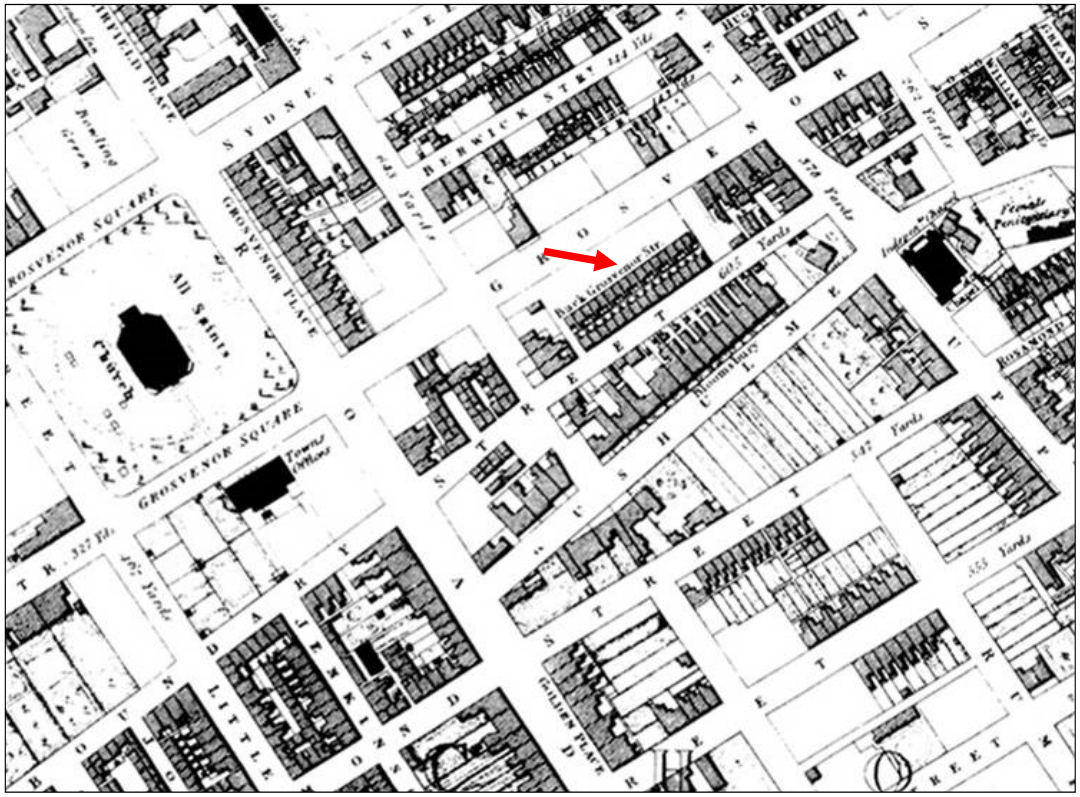

Plate 2: Extract from Bancks & Co's map of 1831, with arrow marking the houses subject to archaeological evaluation

Between 1831 and 1845, new houses were added on Grosvenor Street, together with more houses that infilled vacant plots to the south. The resultant layout is captured on the Ordnance Survey map of 1850 (Plate 3), which shows the houses along Back Grosvenor Street in detail.

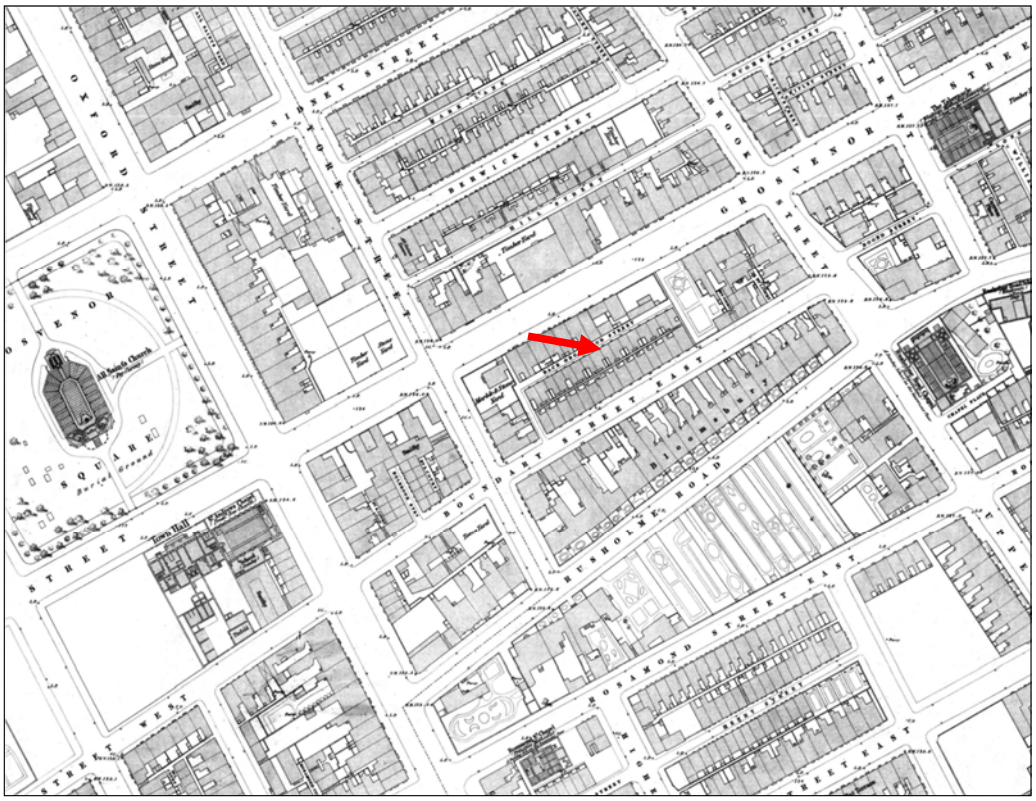

Plate 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1850, with arrow marking the houses subject to archaeological evaluation

The footprint of the houses along Back Grosvenor Street remained largely unaltered on subsequent edition of Ordnance Survey mapping until the mid-twentieth century. The houses forming the northern part of the row were demolished during the late 1950s/early 1960s, and the entire block had been cleared by 1970. The site was developed subsequently by the University of Manchester.

4. Methodology

4.1 Evaluation Methodology

Three evaluation trenches, placed across the footprint of workers' houses on Back Grosvenor Street, were excavated using a mechanical excavator fitted with a 1.8m wide toothless ditching bucket. The machine excavation was supervised by a professional archaeologist at all times.

After machine excavation had taken place, all further excavations proceeded by hand. Excavated spoil was placed at least 1.00m from the edge of each trench and spoiled on one side only. Any archaeological features identified on site were excavated by hand to a depth of 1.2m, after which only machine excavation took place to reach their complete depth, where possible, and recorded using the following methodology. All material removed during the excavation was used to backfill the trenches, then compacted with the machine bucket.

4.2 Recording Methodology

Separate contexts were recorded individually on C*f*AA pro-forma context sheets. Plans and sections were recorded on C*f*AA pro-forma 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.

Photography of all relevant phases and features was undertaken with digital formats. General working photographs were taken throughout the duration of the evaluation to provide illustrative material covering the wider aspects of the archaeological work undertaken.

All fieldwork and recording of archaeological features, deposits and artefacts was carried out to acceptable archaeological standards. All finds were recorded by context.

4.3 Archive

A full archive of the work has been prepared to a professional standard in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (1991) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The archive will be deposited with the Greater Manchester County Record Office on completion of the project. In addition, a copy of the report will be forwarded to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER).

5. Evaluation Results

5.1 Introduction

In total, three evaluation trenches were placed across the proposed development site (Fig 2). These were targeted on the footprint of workers' housing on Back Grosvenor Street that were considered in the desk-based assessment compiled during the design stage of the project to be of potential archaeological interest (Arrowsmith 2014).

5.2 Trench 1

Located towards the north-west corner of the study area, a north-west/south-east-aligned evaluation trench, measuring 20 x 2.75m, was positioned across the centre of the row of former workers' housing on Back Grosvenor Street. The aim of the investigation was to establish the extent of any surviving recordable features.

Investigation determined that yellow sandy clay formed the upper natural deposit of the area covered in the report. This natural geological horizon was reached at various depths within the excavated trench, with the highest encountered at 0.84m below the existing ground surface. Progressing along Trench 1 from its southern extent, limited remains of archaeological interest were encountered within the first 5m. An area of bonded stone setts was revealed in the eastern section of the trench, just below the modern ground surface, extending north-west for a distance of 0.95m (Plate 4). It is likely that these setts formed part of a road surface which can be identified as Boundary Street East.

Plate 4: Stone setts visible in east section of Trench 1

Natural deposits of sandy clay were reached at a depth of 0.76m at the south-east end of Trench 1. Cutting into the natural, a negative feature with a modern fill covered the route of a modern drain, which is thought to lie at a depth of between 7m and 9m. The installation of this utility removed any further features of archaeological interest. A further area of modern intrusion could be seen running north-west for 4m along the trench. This again was filled with modern brick material and flanked on either side by the natural clay. No further investigation of this area was undertaken.

At 6.60m from the southern edge of the trench, a two-course wide (0.24m) wall composed of hand-made bricks, surviving to a height of four courses (0.43m), was aligned east/ west across the trench. The top of this wall was exposed at a depth of 0.67m below the modern ground surface. The lower courses of the wall were identified to a depth of 1.60m, at which depth a brick floor was revealed (Plate 5). The southern face of the brickwork showed signs of white washing, suggesting that it had formed an internal wall.

The cellar floor comprised hand-made bricks, and extended north-west for 3.40m from the wall. However, health & safety considerations precluded further excavation in this area within the narrow confines of the trench. Nevertheless, it seemed most likely that the floor extended beyond the west limit of the evaluation trench.

Plate 5: Exposed cellar floor, the southern external wall of the cellar and an internal single-course wall, looking south

Remains of another single-course width brick wall were seen slightly higher than the cellar floor, extending north-west/south-east and again displayed evidence of lime wash on the western face. Due to the instability of the trench edge and the safe working depth being reached, it was not possible to uncover further the extent of the remains on the other side of this wall. However, two single-course walls could be seen running east into the baulk with metalwork relating to a fireplace and boiler noted in the baulk. It is likely that this north-west/south-east wall was an internal partition between two cellars.

At 10.20m from the southern limit a further two brick course width wall was seen running east /west through the evaluation trench at a depth of 0.82m. The upper courses of this wall have been truncated towards the west side of the trench however it could still be seen that this is the northern external wall of the cellar. With the two walls intact the length of the cellar is known to be 3.84m.

The natural geology was revealed beyond the external wall at a depth of 1m below the ground surface. This had been cut to the west by the foundations for the twentieth-century university buildings.

Along the east side of the trench, 3.6 m beyond the northern wall of the cellar and at a depth of 0.60m, was a series of single-course brick walls (Plate 6). These walls extended west until they are truncated by the later redevelopment of the site. A fill resembling material found in a rubbish pit was seen between the walls. It is likely that this area related to the back alley between the houses and their respective outbuildings. Beyond these walls, no further remains were noted, with natural geology visible at a depth of 0.45m.

Plate 6: Single-course walls at the northern end of Trench 1, looking south-east

5.3 Trench 2

A 20 x 2m evaluation trench, aligned north-west/south-east, was located towards the northern end of the development site in a landscaped area in between the footprint of two of the university buildings. This area was targeted due to the possibility of it retaining remains of nineteenth-century workers' housing.

An area of setts was uncovered just below the modern ground surface at the south-eastern end, together with the remains of flagstone kerbing. These features ran east/ west and could be seen to align with the area of setts uncovered in Trench 1, and are similarly likely to have represented the former Boundary Street East.

The line of the evaluation trench was altered slightly during excavation due to work being carried out on a manhole. However, due to the manhole chamber there were no archaeologically important features surviving, and natural ground was encountered at a depth of 0.75m. A further modern structural feature was seen at a distance of 8.8m from the south-eastern end of the trench. This was a large structural brick wall with metal reinforcing rods. The footing wall ran east/west through the trench.

Structural remains were exposed at a distance of 9.25m from the south-eastern end of the trench. A two-course wide wall composed of hand-made bricks (each measuring 0.23x0.11x0.07m) was revealed at a depth of 0.80m. This continued east/ west for 0.86m before turning north 90 degrees and then back 90 degrees and continuing beyond the western limit of the excavated trench (Plate 7).

Plate 7: East/west-aligned external wall and cellar light, looking north-west

The dimensions and layout of the wall suggested that it had formed the external southern wall of a house, incorporating a cellar light window. Beyond the wall, the cellar had been backfilled with demolition material.

A single-width brick extending from the external wall was exposed at a depth of 0.95m. This wall was aligned north/south, and continued for a distance of 2.74 m, almost certainly representing a partition between two properties. On either side of the brick was evidence of lime wash.

At 13.50m from the south-eastern end of the trench was a second two-course width wall, which was exposed at a depth of 0.65m (Plate 8). This wall followed the same east/west alignment as the southern external wall, and joined with the single-course internal wall.

Plate 8: External structural walls running east/ west, and a single-course wall running north/ south, looking south-east

Beyond the external cellar wall, the single-course wall continued along the trench for a further 4m until it reached a final east/west-aligned two-course width wall at 17.70m from the south-eastern end of the trench. To the east of this wall, the natural geology was identified at a depth of 0.84m. To the west, demolition material including broken stone flags was seen. A further wall could also be seen in the western section of the trench, with a height of 1m.

Any further archaeological remains in the trench beyond the final east/west wall had clearly been destroyed by a modern foundations.

5.4 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located adjacent to the eastern edge of the study area, aligned north/south, and measured 19 x 2m. The trench was targeted on the footprint of a block of former workers' houses on the former Back Grosvenor Street.

Natural geology encountered at the base of the excavated trench comprised mostly soft, yellow, sandy-clay with some areas of yellow/grey river sands and gravels, which were reached at various depths throughout the trench.

The north-east corner of the trench contained a single-course wide brick wall, aligned north-west/south-east, constructed from hand-made bricks (0.23x0.11x0.07m) and bonded with light brown sandy mortar, consistent with an early nineteenth-century construction date. The top course of this wall was encountered at a depth of 1.10m below the modern surface. Five brick courses were uncovered, but the wall appeared to continue deeper and extend beyond the northern and eastern edges of the excavated trench; further excavation was precluded for health & safety considerations. The material on the western side of the wall comprised loose, red sand, likely to be associated with modern services.

A further 1.70m south of this wall was a two-course wide brick wall, aligned east/west, constructed from hand-made bricks (0.23x0.11x0.07m) and bonded with the same light brown sandy mortar. Only one course was visible at a safe excavated depth (1.30m) for hand-excavation to take place, the instability of the trench sides, which were very prone to collapse within the northern end of the trench, made further excavation of this wall unsafe due to health and safety concerns. The wall continued into the western edge of the excavated trench, but had been truncated by a modern service pipe to the east (Plate 9). It remains possible that this wall could have continued significantly deeper. The material to the north of the wall appeared to be demolition rubble, and to the south was natural clay and river gravels (Plate 10).

Natural clay was reached at a depth of 0.70m below the modern ground surface towards the northern end of the trench. At a distance of 5.30m from the northern end, however, were the remains of a wall cut into the natural clay. The upper surface of this wall was revealed at a depth of 0.60m. This wall was only visible in the east-facing section of the excavated trench, and appeared to be only a single-brick course wide, suggesting that it had formed a partition between adjacent houses. The fabric of the wall comprised hand-made bricks (with average dimensions of 0.23x0.11x0.07m) and traces of lime-based mortar, consistent with an early nineteenth-century construction date.

Plate 9: The wall in the north-east corner and the top of a brick wall further south, looking south

Plate 10: The wall in the north-east corner of the trench, looking east

At 6.65m from the northern end of the trench was ceramic drain pipe at a depth of 1m below the modern ground surface. The pipe was 0.25m in diameter with a 0.30m wide cuff. The pipe had a salt-glazed finish to the exterior, consistent with a twentieth-century date.

At 7.30m from the northern end of the trench was a two-brick course wide wall, again constructed from hand-made bricks (0.23x0.11x0.07m), only visible in the east-facing section and surviving to six courses in height. The upper course of the wall was exposed at a depth of 0.20m from the modern ground surface. Another wall of the same construction type was revealed a further 1m south, and similarly lay at a depth of 0.20m. This wall survived to a length of 0.60m, with its eastern end having been removed by the installation of modern services. Situated between these two walls was what appeared to be a rubbish pit containing fragments of glass vessels, pottery and several leather shoes, with a date range spanning the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Similar items were left *in-situ*, as this deposit lay within the western section of the excavated trench.

Situated a further 0.60m to the south was another two-brick course wide wall of the same construction type, which survived to five brick courses in height and 0.80m in length, having been truncated by the same modern service as previously. All three of these walls had been constructed directly on top of natural clay (Plate 11). No obvious floor surfaces were observed.

Plate 11: The three walls protruding from the western section of the trench, with the rubbish pit located between the centre and right walls, looking south-west.

A thick deposit of clay, clearly representing the natural geology, was exposed directly to the south of these walls. The natural clay had been cut by several modern service trenches, including a man-hole and drainpipes, which were aligned east/west across the trench.

The terminus of a single-course wide wall, constructed from hand-made bricks (0.23x0.11x0.07m) and aligned north/south, was encountered in the central part of the trench. The wall measured approximately 1.30m long, with a return to the east at its southern end, which measured 1.10m in length. Because of the possibility of cellars, a portion of the trench was extended to the east to locate the return of this wall, which in this instance was two brick-courses wide. The presence of light-blue lime wash on the face of both walls appeared to confirm the survival of part of a cellar, so a sondage was excavated to determine the depth and construction of the floor, which was found at a depth of approximately 2m from the ground surface and comprised a brick floor. The depth of excavated prevented any hand-cleaning, but the floor appeared to overlie natural sand and river gravels (Plate 12).

The southern 2.20m of the trench contained the concrete footprint of the recently-demolished modern building.

Plate 12: The southern end of the trench, showing the remains of a cellar, looking south-west

5.5 Finds

A small assemblage of artefacts was recovered from the evaluation, with the largest group being recovered from the pit that was excavated in Trench 3. This contained a range of material that was dominated by fragments of ceramic vessels, but also included glass bottles and clay tobacco pipes (Plates 13-15). The ceramic vessels included fragments of under-glaze transfer-printed table wares and brown-glazed tea wares, together with utilitarian dark-glazed earthenwares and stoneware bottles, with a date range spanning the nineteenth century. A fragment of a stoneware Keiller's marmalade pot is similarly likely to date to the late nineteenth century, although this popular form remained in production through the early twentieth century.

Two fragments of clay tobacco pipe recovered from the pit may also be ascribed a nineteenth-century date. These fragments included a pipe bowl and a short fragment of stem that incorporated a depiction of a dog (Plate 14).

Plate 13: A sample of the pottery recovered from the pit revealed in Trench 3

Plate 14: Fragments of clay tobacco pipes recovered from the pit revealed in Trench 3

Plate 15: Glass bottle recovered from the pit revealed in Trench 3

6. Discussion

6.1 Discussion

In total, three evaluation trenches were placed across targeted locations, and were intended to establish the presence or absence of buried remains pertaining to former workers' housing on Back Grosvenor Street. Documentary research has concluded that these houses were built in 1824 (Arrowsmith 1824).

6.2 Trench 1

The identification of the of two-course brick walls, a cellar floor and the internal partition walls in Trench 1 confirm that there are structural remains of archaeological interest surviving on the site.

At the southern end of the trench, the exposed stone setts and the pattern in which they have been laid suggests a surviving area of an east/west-aligned road. Comparing the trench location plans and OS 1850 map (Fig 3), it seems probable that the setts represent the former Boundary Street East. The date at which stone setts were first used for paving streets in the Manchester area is not known, although their use in residential districts has not been identified previously as early as the mid-1820s. Confirmation that the stone setts formed the original surface of Boundary Street East should be an objective for further research, as this would represent an early application.

The double-course wall revealed in the southern part of the trench almost certainly represents the external wall of a workers' house that fronted Boundary Street East. This house evidently incorporated a cellar, the remains of which were exposed in the excavated trench. The north/south-aligned single-course wall revealed in the trench appears to be an internal partition in the cellar. Physical evidence of a boiler and fireplace to the immediate east of this partition suggests that the wall was a partition between the cellars of adjacent houses.

Beyond the cellar and its rear external east/west-aligned wall was an area that contained a series of single-course width walls. It is probable that this area formed part of the small yard to the rear of the houses, and the surviving walls represent the outbuildings depicted on historical mapping.

6.3 Trench 2

The presence of stone setts and kerbing stones at the southern end of Trench 2 confirms that remains of Boundary Street East *in-situ* across the study area. Beyond this, similar structural remains to those recorded in Trench 1 were revealed. This included a double-course wall that represented the southern external wall of a workers' house, which incorporated a probable pavement light that almost certainly represents a cellar light visible on the Ordnance Survey map of 1850 fronting the terraced houses on Boundary Street East (Fig 3).

A second double-course wall revealed in the trench is similarly likely to represent an external wall of another house. This was associated with a single-course wide internal partition, aligned north/south

The proximity of both trenches allowed for a visual confirmation that the cellars seen in both trenches 1 and 2 aligned. The remains uncovered correspond closely with the row of houses seen on the 1850 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 3). This in turn suggests that the unexcavated area between the trenches will yield similar archaeological remains.

Beyond the northern external wall of the workers' houses, structure a north/south-aligned single-course wall was cut into the natural geology. The area to the west of this remained unexcavated due to the instability of the evaluation trench sides, although large fragments of stone flags were visible. The same single-course wall adjoined a further east/west-aligned double course wall 17.70m from the southern limit of the trench. Comparing the position of this wall with the detail shown on nineteenth-century Ordnance Survey mapping, it is probable that this wall represents the row of terraces which fronted Back Grosvenor Street.

6.4 Trench 3

The two walls exposed at the northern end of the trench are likely to have formed part of an early nineteenth-century workers' dwelling situated on the southern side of Back Grosvenor Street, as shown on the Ordnance Survey 60":1 mile map of 1850. The wall crossing the north-east corner of the trench appears to be the partition wall between the second and third houses from the eastern end of the row, whilst the wall crossing the trench at approximately 1.70m from the north, aligned east/west, represents the remains of the rear wall of the cellar.

The three walls revealed in the centre of the trench, where the rubbish pit was exposed, appear to be the rear wall of the house, the alleyway between the houses and the back wall of the row of houses that fronted Boundary Street East.

The cellar walls revealed at the southern end of the trench appear to represent the south-west corner of the fourth house from the east of Boundary Street East. It seems possible that the east/west-aligned wall, which terminated just beyond the eastern edge of the excavated trench, could represent the doorway or entrance to the cellar, which on historic maps shows what appear to be either access from the front of the house or, more likely, a cellar light.

The evidence suggests that both rows of houses comprised cellarage at the front of the house, but not at the rear, where the walls were found much shallower and built directly on top of natural clay. Whilst these building had been truncated by modern services, substantial elements of the foundations survive *in-situ*.

7. Significance and Impact

7.1 Significance

The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated that the northern part of the study area, around the northern end of Grosvenor Place, has considerable potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains, and specifically those pertaining to early nineteenth-century dwellings. It is not considered that any of these remains are of national importance that would necessitate preservation *in-situ*, although, in archaeological terms, the remains encountered during the evaluation are considered to be of local significance, and merit further, more detailed investigation prior to any damage or destruction that will be necessitated by the proposed construction works.

The archaeological evaluation has provided a valuable opportunity to investigate the physical remains of the initial development and urbanisation of part of Manchester during the first half of the nineteenth century. The investigation has revealed remains of building types that were not observed within some larger-scale excavations of other workers' housing in Manchester (*eg* Miller and Wild 2007; Miller and Wild 2015), although have potential to provide a valuable comparison with similar dwellings that were excavated on nearby Booth Street East in 2013 (OA North 2013).

The results obtained from the evaluation indicate that the study area contains buried remains that have potential to inform several of the initiatives for archaeological research of the industrial and modern periods stated in the current *Archaeological Research Framework for North West England* (Newman and McNeil 2007; McNeil and Newman 2007). In particular:

- *Initiative 7.6:* 'A study of the development of workers' housing in Greater Manchester and East Lancashire should be undertaken to examine the development of different housing types…' (McNeil and Newman 2007, 139);
- *Initiative 7.7:* 'Study the material culture of industrial workers' households…' (*ibid*);
- *Initiative 7.25:* 'Where threatened with possible redevelopment excavations are required of now undeveloped and cleared former working class areas regarded as slums' (*op cit*, 147);
- *Initiative 7.41:* 'The retention of later period artefacts and their routine analysis as part of all archaeological excavation projects' (*op cit*, 156).

7.2 Impact

The proposed development will necessitate considerable ground-moving works across the northern part of the site, which will inevitably have a substantial negative impact on the sub-surface archaeological resource. An appropriate scheme of further archaeological investigation in advance of development will therefore be required to mitigate the ultimate loss of the buried remains.

Following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Manchester City Council, it is recommended that a programme of detailed archaeological excavation of the northern part of the site would be an appropriate course of action to mitigate the damage or loss of the archaeological remains. This should be targeted on the footprint of the surviving remains of the early nineteenth-century workers' houses, and should be intended to establish the plan form, chronology, and dating for a group of urban workers' houses.

8. Archive Location

8.1 Archive

The archive comprises annotated field drawings, digital photographs and written records. This archive is currently held by Salford Archaeology, and a copy of this report will be forwarded to the University of Manchester.

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

Acknowledgements

Salford Archaeology would like to thank BuroFour, and particularly Marc McVey, for commissioning and supporting the archaeological evaluation on behalf of the University of Manchester. Thanks are also expressed to Kevin Brooks and mark Riley of Connell Brothers Ltd for considerable logistical support on site. Salford Archaeology would also like to thank Dr Andrew Myers for providing monitoring support and advice through GMAAS. The evaluation trenching was undertaken by Mandy Burns, Simon Hinchliffe and Elizabeth Statham, and Graham Mottershead surveyed the excavated remains. This report was written and compiled by Ian Miller, Mandy Burns and Simon Hinchliffe, and the illustrations were produced by Richard Ker. The project was managed by Ian Miller.

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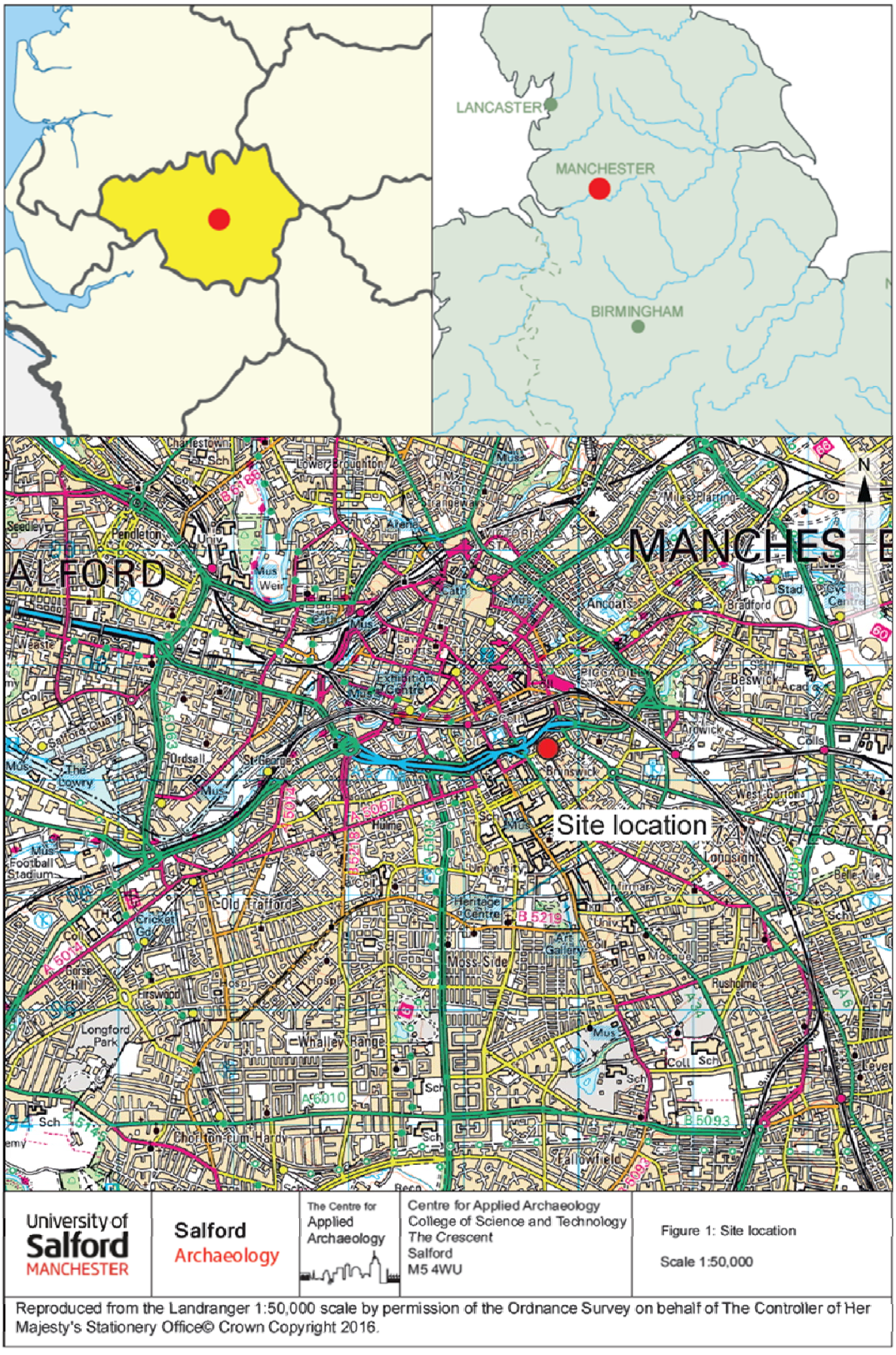
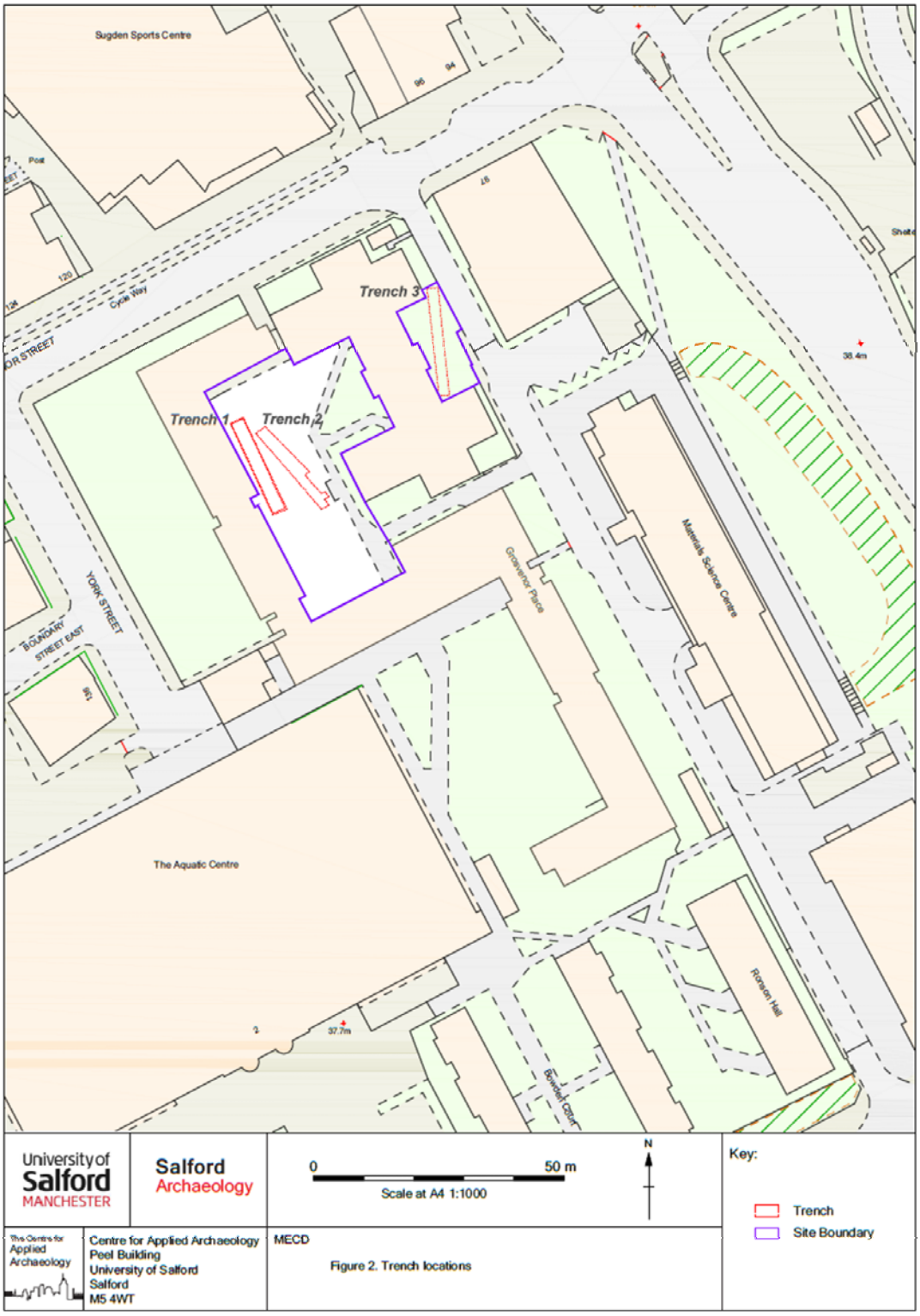
Appendix 1: Figures


LANCASTER
MANCHESTER
BIRMINGHAM
N
Site location
Salford
Archaeology
The Centre for Applied Archaeology
Centre for Applied Archaeology
College of Science and Technology
The Crescent
Salford
M5 4WU
Figure 1: Site location
Scale 1:50,000
Reproduced from the Landranger 1:50,000 scale by permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office© Crown Copyright 2016.


Sugden Sports Centre
Trench 3
Trench 1
Trench 2
YORK STREET
BOUNDARY STREET EAST
Grosvenor Place
Materials Science Centre
The Aquatic Centre
Renold Hall
Bonsall Court
University of Salford MANCHESTER
Salford Archaeology
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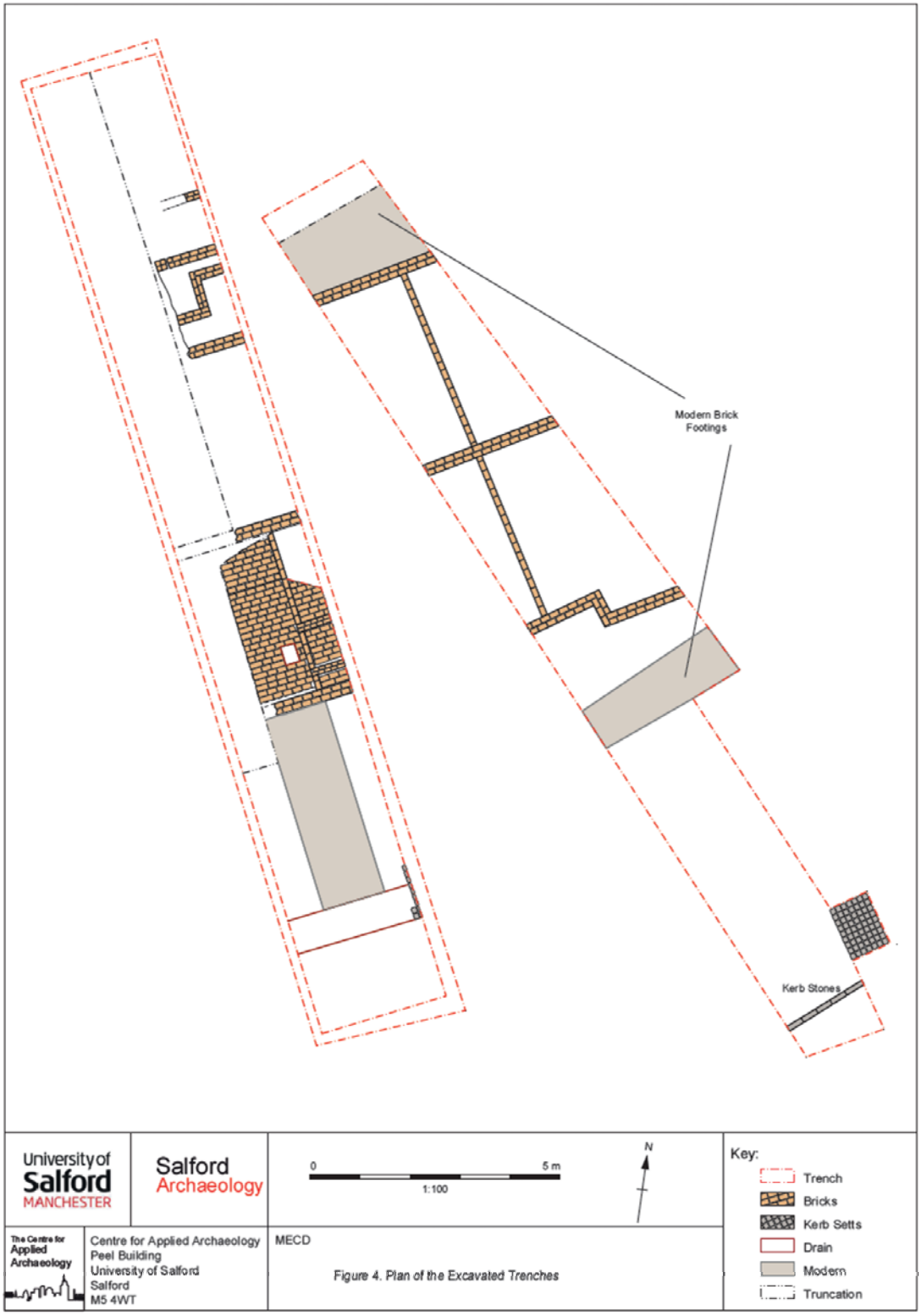
50 m
Scale at A4 1:1000
N
Key:
Trench
Site Boundary
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Peel Building
University of Salford
Salford
M5 4WT
MECD
Figure 2. Trench locations

Figure 3. Trench location superimposed on Ordnance Survey map of 1850


Modern Brick Footings
Kerb Stones
University of Salford MANCHESTER
Salford Archaeology
0
5 m
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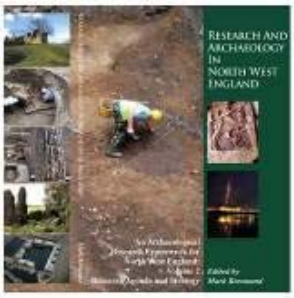
Key:
Trench
Bricks
Kerb Setts
Drain
Modern
Truncation
The Centre for Applied Archaeology
Centre for Applied Archaeology
Peel Building
University of Salford
Salford
M5 4WT
MECD
Figure 4. Plan of the Excavated Trenches

University of Salford MANCHESTER

The Centre for Applied Archaeology

REGISTERED ORGANISATION IfA

CONSULTANCY



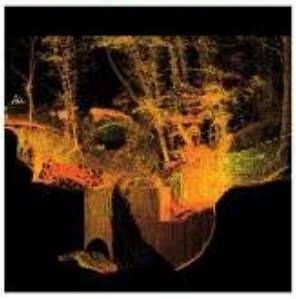
DESK BASED ASSESMENTS

WATCHING BRIEF & EVALUATION

EXCAVATION

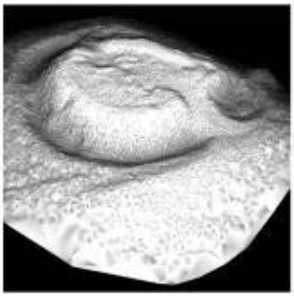
BUILDING SURVEY

3D LASER SCANNING



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

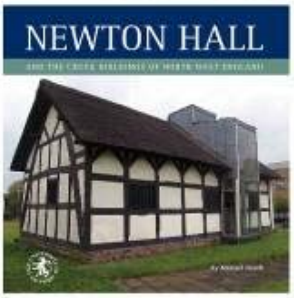
LANDSCAPE SURVEYS



GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS

WORKSHOPS & VOCATIONAL TRAINING

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS



SEMINARS, DAYSCHOOLS CPD EVENTS