

University of Salford MANCHESTER

Archaeological Evaluation Report

Crown Street, Phase 2, Castlefield, Manchester

Client:
Renaker Built Ltd

Technical Report:
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Report No:
SA/2020/65

The Centre for Applied Archaeology

REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

Location:	The study area is bounded by Crown Street, Mancunian Way, and Crown Street Phase 1 site
NGR:	Centred at NGR 383165 397235
Project:	Crown Street, Phase 2, Castlefield, Manchester
Internal Ref:	SECL0197
Report No:	SA/2020/65
Prepared for:	Renaker Built Ltd
Document:	Archaeological Evaluation Report
Version:	Version 1
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Date:	July 2020
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Date:	September 2020

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Summary

Renaker Build Ltd is finalising proposals for the second phase of redevelopment of land that straddles Crown Street in the Castlefield area of Manchester city centre (centred on NGR 383165 397235). Forming a key element of the Great Jackson Street Framework Area, the consented scheme allows for the erection of two 52-storey residential buildings, each incorporating a podium accommodating residential amenity facilities and ground-floor and first-floor commercial units, private and public basement car parking, landscaping and a public park, servicing and access arrangements, highways improvements, and associated works (Planning Ref: 126668/FO/2020). The delivery of the scheme will necessitate earth-moving works that have potential to impact on any surviving buried remains of archaeological interest.

An archaeological desk-based assessment that was carried out to support the planning application for the development concluded that the site had potential to contain below-ground remains of archaeological interest. In particular, it was concluded that the site had potential to contain the foundations of 19th-century industrial works and 18th- and 19th-century workers' housing of archaeological interest. In addition, the assessment highlighted some potential to contain archaeological remains deriving from Romano-British activity.

In the light of the conclusions drawn from the desk-based study, and following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, Manchester City Council recommended that a condition be attached to planning consent that allowed for an appropriate scheme of archaeological investigation to be carried out in advance of development. Following further consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, it was recommended, in the first instance, that the nature, condition, extent and date of any archaeological remains should be investigated via the excavation of nine trial trenches, targeted on the footprint of former buildings of potential archaeological interest, together with a few small parts of the site that do not appear to have been developed in the 18th and 19th centuries to establish the potential for Romano-British remains.

The trial trenches were excavated by Salford Archaeology in August 2020. The results obtained from the trenches demonstrated that some remains of late 18th- and early 19th-century workers' houses survived within the site boundary; there was no evidence for any archaeological remains pre-dating the late 18th century. However, most of the late 18th- and 19th-century buildings that did not contain basements did not survive, and even those that did contain a cellar had been subject to some later disturbance. The most archaeologically interesting remains within the site were undoubtedly the foundations of the back-to-back dwellings at Paradise Court that were uncovered primarily in Trench 5, with some further foundations encountered in Trench 2, in the north-western part of the site.

Delivery of the consented scheme will necessitate a ground reduction across the site, and it may be concluded that construction work will have an impact on the archaeological resource. However, this impact will be limited to the north-western part of the site, where remains of archaeological interest have been found to survive *in-situ*.

The requirement for any additional archaeological investigation in advance of development will be decided by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, although it may be anticipated that further investigation of the former Paradise Court may be merited.

1. Introduction

1.1 Planning Background

In July 2020, Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Renaker Build Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation as part of a development at Crown Street (Planning Ref: 126668/FO/2020). Forming a key element of the Great Jackson Street Framework Area, delivery of the Crown Street Phase 2 development will necessitate earth-moving works that have potential to impact on any surviving buried remains of archaeological interest.

At an early stage in the design process, Renaker Build Ltd commissioned an archaeological desk-based assessment of the study area (Miller 2020). This concluded that the proposed development area had been developed initially between the late 18th century and the early 19th century, with most of site covered by a range of different forms of workers' housing by the mid-19th century, together with a public house and associated brewery. In the early 20th century a gym and wash-house was constructed within the site boundary, replacing most of the back-to-back houses, while those remaining houses were progressively cleared through the mid-20th century.

Following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), in their role as advisors to Manchester City Council, it was recommended that it would be appropriate to undertake a programme of intrusive archaeological investigation in advance of development. It was further recommended that the investigation should comprise the excavation of nine evaluation trenches, targeted on the footprint of former buildings of potential interest, to establish the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains. In addition, areas that did not appear to have been subject to intensive development in the 19th and 20th centuries was also targeted to establish the potential for any below-ground remains deriving from Romano-British activity.

1.2 Academic Aims

The main aim of the evaluation trenching was to establish the presence or absence of any buried remains of archaeological interest within the development area and, if present, characterise the level of preservation and significance, and provide a good understanding of their potential.

1.3 Objectives

The principal objectives of the archaeological investigation were:

- to record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;
- to establish the presence or absence of any buried remains dating to the Romano-British period, and particularly any evidence for activity extending back from the Roman road between Manchester and Chester;
- to establish whether there is any surviving remains of a post-medieval boundary ditch that cross the centre of the development area;

- to establish whether any physical remains of the late 18th- and early 19th-century workers' housing survive *in-situ*;
- to establish whether any physical remains of the later 19th-century industrial building survive *in-situ*;
- to establish whether any physical remains of the early 19th-century brewery / early 20th-century public baths survive *in-situ*;
- to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made about the need for any additional archaeological mitigation; and
- to make available the results of the work.

It was anticipated that the archaeological investigation would address several of the initiatives for archaeological research of the industrial and modern periods stated in the current *Archaeological Research Framework for North West England*. In particular, it is suggested that there are many aspects of 19th-century urban life which are insufficiently covered within the documentary record, and archaeological research is needed to shed light on the urban working classes in general within the region (Newman and McNeil 2007):

- *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).

1.3 Location

The study area is bounded by Crown Street, Mancunian Way, and Crown Street Phase 1 site (centred at NGR 383165 397235). The site is broadly triangular in shape, and comprises approximately 1.1ha (Plate 1).

The underlying solid geology of the site, as mapped by the British Geological Survey at 1:50000, is comprised of the Chester Formation - Sandstone. This sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 247 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period.

The overlying drift geology is comprised of Devensian sand and gravel. These superficial deposits were formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period.

The study area occupies flat land standing at 33m above Ordnance Datum (aOD).

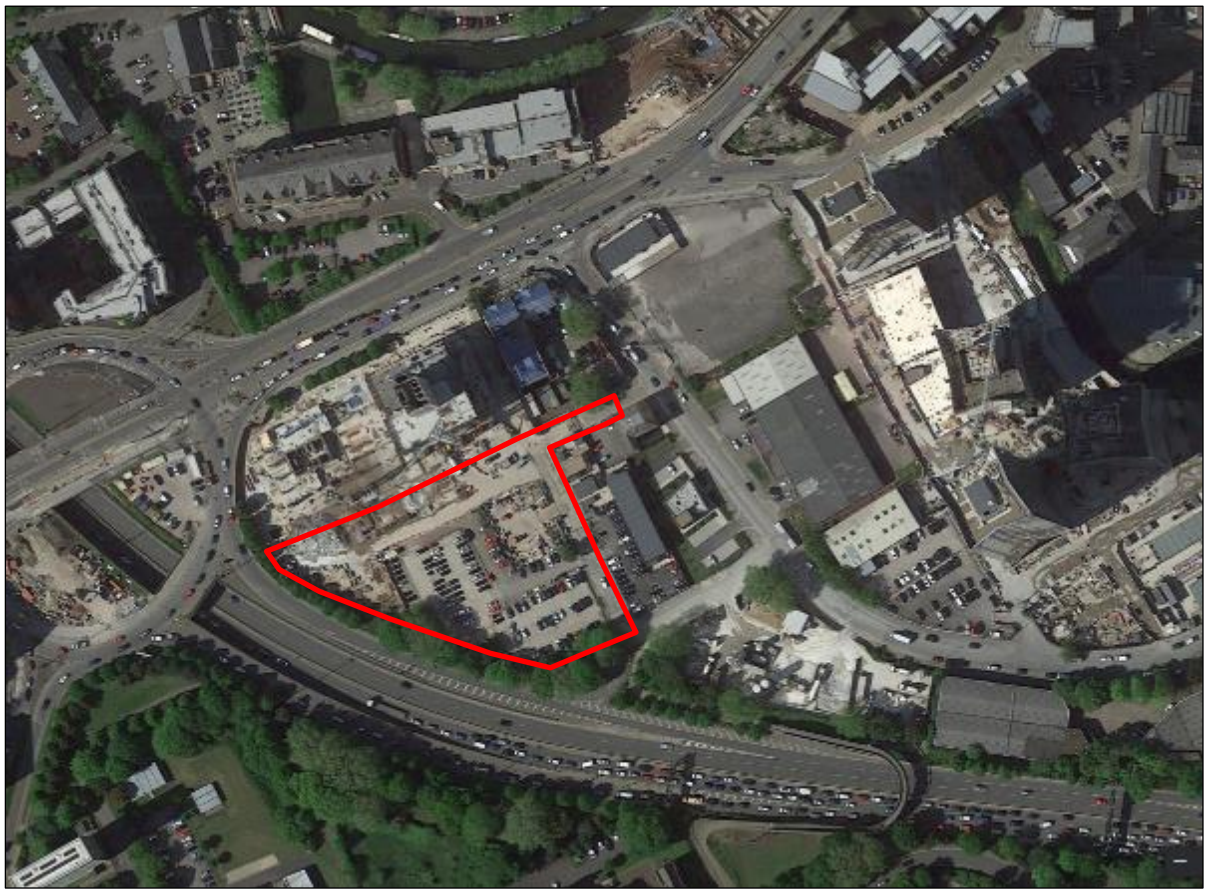


Plate 1: Site boundary superimposed onto recent aerial imagery (Google Earth)

2. Historical Background

The following section summarises the historical background to the site, and is intended to provide a context in which to consider the results obtained from the evaluation trenches.

2.1 Prehistoric Periods

The current understanding of any human activity in the Greater Manchester area during the prehistoric period is poor, although it is reasonable to suggest that the Castlefield area may have been conducive for late prehistoric settlement on account of the natural topography and its location close to the confluence of the rivers Medlock and Irwell (UMAU, 2002). However, physical evidence is lacking, and there are no known prehistoric remains within 250m of the site, and arguably the best evidence for prehistoric activity in the vicinity was yielded from an archaeological excavation that was targeted on a plot of land adjacent to Liverpool Road in Castlefield (Gregory 2007, 181). During the course of this work, two Mesolithic flints, one Neolithic/Bronze Age waste flake, and a single fragment of late Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery were recovered, although none was found in securely stratified deposits.

2.2 Romano-British Period

The first military occupation of Manchester was established during the governorship of Agricola (AD 77-84), and commenced with a five-acre wooden fort, known as *Mamucium* (Bruton 1909), situated a short distance to the west of the site. The fort underwent several phases of development subsequently, the earlier defences being deconstructed and improved. The military complex evolved in response to the on-going military campaigns, from a purely defensive site to an established supply depot, essential to the expansion and consolidation of control in the north (Gregory 2007).

The maturation of the military complex can be seen in the growing body of evidence for a military annexe, occupying an area to the north and east of the fort (Arrowsmith 2016, 9-12). Evidence pertaining to this annexe is relatively scant and thus the exact nature of early settlement is unclear. Whilst the present development site lies on the opposite side of the River Medlock to the Roman fort and the northern *vicus*, there is some evidence for Roman activity in this locality. Three Roman coins were found a short distance east of the site, all of which dated to the 3rd century AD: Gallienus 253-68 AD; Claudius Gothicus 268-70 AD; Aurelianus 270-5 AD.

Roads from the fort linked Manchester with Ribchester to the north, Castleshaw, and York to the north-east, Wigan to the north-west, Chester to the south, and Buxton to the south-east. The present development site lies a short distance to the east of the projected course of the Roman road leading south-westwards towards Chester, across the River Medlock. The precise course of this road across the river, however, is uncertain. One possibility is that it followed the line of Knott Mill Bridge and Chester Road.

An alternative route of the Roman road is suggested by one of the earliest known plans of the Castlefield area, dated 1765, which shows routeway curving from the north side of the road to the bridge (then known as Knot Mill or Aldport Lane) and terminating on the east bank of the Medlock. The key to this map describes this route as a ‘hollow way to the ford’, implying that this was a crossing point of some antiquity (Miller and Cook 2019).

Several Roman finds discovered on the south side of the Medlock have been reported by antiquarians since the 17th century, including fragments of pottery recorded in the 1770s by Whitaker, and a tomb, comprising a wooden coffin in a grave lined with tiles, found in 1832 at a location which Charles Roeder described subsequently as 'evidently near Great Jackson Street' (Miller and Cook 2019).

Perhaps the best-known Roman finds from the south side of the River Medlock, however, are three sculptured stones found at a depth of *c.* 2m by workmen sinking a drain in 1821. One of has been identified as *Cautopates*, a figure associated with the worship of the Mithras, from which it is inferred that a *Mithraeum*, or building used for the worship of the god, stood within the locality. The precise spot at which the three stones were found is not certain, but they are described as having been discovered 'in the line of the Roman road from Manchester to Chester' (Bruton 1909, 35).

Other finds are described as having been discovered in the vicinity of Knott Mill, including an altar to the goddess *Fortuna Conservatris*, found in 1612 'under the roote of an oak in Medlock neere Knott Mill' (Bruton 1909, 20). In 1760, a centurial stone recording the building of a length of wall (presumably of the fort), was found 'on the south bank of the Medlock near Knott Mill, on the left of the road from Manchester to Stretford' (Bruton 1909, 32).

An archaeological investigation undertaken at the junction of Deansgate and Great Bridgewater Street in 2005 revealed important remains dating from the Roman period. These remains were interpreted as being associated with the civilian settlement attached to the Roman fort. The earliest phase of Roman activity was characterised by a group of substantial gravel pits, likely to have been associated with construction of roads in the settlement, with some evidence for tree clearance, the laying out of boundary ditches, and timber-framed buildings. The area appeared to have been abandoned in *c.* AD 120-60, although a later phase of Roman activity saw the most intense occupation with structures built on a grid-like layout fronting onto a street, with commercial premises, possibly roadside shops.

Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out another excavation on the junction of Chester Road and Great Jackson Street in 2008. This provided important new information on the character development of Roman Manchester, and indicated that temples and mausolea probably lined the Roman road from Chester as it dropped down to the ford across the River Medlock. Significantly, a Roman altar was recovered from this excavation. This had been dumped into a pit away from the road, suggesting that the area was re-used for other purposes. Physical evidence for a sequence of inter-cutting pits and an enclosure ditch were also identified.

Excavations at Owen Street in 2016 identified a spread of relict plough soil, containing Roman pottery and a series of ditches, the longest with a total recorded length of 36.8m was lined on one side by a row of post holes, cut into the bedrock (Salford Archaeology 2016). The remains of another ditch was encountered during excavations on the Crown Street Phase 1 site. These features may have formed part of a field system, delineating a plot of agricultural land. Further evidence for Roman activity in the area was recovered from an archaeological excavation on the south bank of the River Medlock at 2-4 Chester Road, where an assemblage of Roman pottery was recovered, together with some evidence for stone-quarrying activity (Miller and Cook 2019).

2.3 Medieval Period

There is scant archaeological evidence in the region as a whole that represents the period between the end of the Roman occupation and the Norman Conquest, although the area around Manchester is known to have come under the control of several kingdoms during this period. In AD 620, Edwin of Northumbria conquered and occupied Manchester, and it may have been at this time that settlement in the town was established around the cathedral (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). A gold finger ring, discovered in antiquity, has been traced to the Castlefield area, providing rare physical evidence for human activity in Manchester during this period.

In AD 919, the Anglo-Saxon king Edward the Elder established a fortified base, or *burh*, at Manchester, which was then part of Viking Northumbria. It has been suggested that the burh lay within the area around the cathedral, on the northern edge of the modern city centre. The area of the cathedral had certainly become a new focus for settlement by the late 11th century, and the site occupied presently by Chetham's School is thought to have been the site of a castle founded by Manchester's Norman barons. This early settlement at the confluence of the Irwell and Irk seems to have been bounded on the landward side by Hanging Ditch, whose curving line ran between the two rivers, taking a line that was followed subsequently by Toad Lane, the forerunner of Todd Street and Corporation Street. Post-Conquest Manchester was established around the manor house and parish church of St Mary, located over 1km to the north-east of the proposed development area. In 1223, the right to hold an annual fair was obtained, and the town was important enough to be granted a charter in 1301 (Kidd 1993, 14). A deer park, named Aldport Park was located towards the south end of Deansgate, bordered to the north by modern day Peter Street and Quay Street, and to the south by the River Medlock. The park is documented from the late 13th century and is thought to have still been existence in the 16th century (UMAU 2001).

The vicinity of Castlefield remained almost wholly undeveloped until the 18th century; the only known activity in the area during the late medieval period was focused upon a mill at Knott Mill to the north-east of the present Site (GMAU 1993). The earliest reference to this mill dates from 1509, when a licence was given for the mill dam. It has been suggested that the mill, and subsequently this part of Manchester, derived its name from the miller (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 178). The site of the mill is thought to have been incorporated into, or built upon, by the Duke's Warehouse.

2.4 Post-medieval and Industrial Periods

The vicinity of Castlefield remained almost wholly undeveloped until the 18th century; the only known activity in the area during the late medieval period was focused upon a mill at Knott Mill to the north-east of the present Site (GMAU 1993). The earliest reference to this mill dates from 1509, when a licence was given for the mill dam. It has been suggested that the mill, and subsequently this part of Manchester, derived its name from the miller (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 178). The site of the mill is thought to have been incorporated into, or built upon, by the Duke's Warehouse.

The onset of the rapid industrialisation centred on Manchester from the 18th century resulted in a massive expansion of the town's population. It was during this period that some of the principal streets, including Deansgate, Market Street and Shude Hill, developed commercially (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 180).

By the 1780s, the national demand for textiles, particularly cotton, began to rise, resulting in a dramatic increase in mill building that transformed Manchester into a centre of the factory-based cotton manufacturing industry of international repute (Baines 1835). This process of industrial development was facilitated greatly by the introduction of canals, which provided the first efficient means of transporting bulk loads of goods. The first true industrial canal in Britain was that built by the Duke of Bridgewater, which was completed from his mines at Worsley to Manchester in 1764 (Hadfield and Biddle 1970).

An important feature of the canal terminus was the distinctive canal warehouse, where perishable goods were stored between being delivered to the town and distributed locally. The first major warehouse to be erected in association with the canal was the Duke's Warehouse, which was built soon after 1765 (Taylor *et al* 2002, 10). This was soon complemented by Hensall, Gilbert and Company's Warehouse (known latterly as the Grocers' Warehouse in *c.* 1776, the Merchants' Warehouse in 1825, and Middle Warehouse in 1828-31 (Greene 2002). The surviving warehouses are a distinct element of the streetscape in Castlefield and add an important characteristic to the area. In addition, the Bridgewater Canal Company also had offices in the Castlefield area, including the extant building situated a short distance to the north of the site. This building is presently afforded statutory protection as a Grade II listed building.



Plate 2: Extract from Laurent's Plan of Manchester and Salford, 1793, showing the approximate site location

2.5 Development of the Site

The earliest published maps that show the site at a meaningful scale are Charles Laurent's Map of Manchester & Salford, published in 1793 (Plate 2), and William Green's survey of 1787-94 (Figure 2). These capture the site in its early stages of development and depict a grid-iron of streets laid out in anticipation of development. Green's map also shows 'Mr Jackson's' Farm just beyond the south-eastern boundary of the site, reflecting the previously rural character of the location. The rural landscape is also reflected by a series of field boundaries that cross the area, including one aligned north-east/south-west across the centre of the site. Jackson's Farm appears to have straddled a track that was formalised subsequently as Jackson's Lane and comprised buildings on both sides of the thoroughfare.

The only street crossing the site named on Green's map is Hulme Place, known subsequently as Silver Street, as show on Swire's map of 1824 (Plate 3). Several buildings are shown on the map, including a large brewery at the north-eastern end of Hulme Place, occupying the location identified by the Historic Environment Record as the site of the putative Roman Mithraeum; both of these sites of potential archaeological interest lie beyond the site boundary. The brewery may be that listed in a trade directory for 1797 as belonging to Beswick & Wild (Scholes 1797, 14), whilst the residence of James Wild, steward to Sir John Parker Mosley (Lord of the Manor), is given as Hulme Place (*op cit*, 136). This raises the possibility that James Wild lived at the brewery.

The buildings within the site shown on Green's map comprise two blocks of workers' housing to the north of the field boundary and a pond that presumably derived from agricultural activity rather than being constructed for industrial purposes (Figure 2). In addition, a rectangular range with a narrow range and formal gardens to the rear situated beyond the north-eastern corner of the site can be identified as the Officers' Mess of the Manchester Regiment. Several maps of the area were produced during the first decade of the 19th century, such as Dean and Pigot's map of 1809, although all these maps were published at a small scale, thus precluding any meaningful analysis of individual buildings. The next available maps of the study area include those produced by Johnson in 1819 and Swire in 1824 (Plate 3).

These maps show that the area had been subject to further development in the early 19th century, which seemingly included straightening and formalising Jackson's Lane as a thoroughfare, and additional buildings across the site. These included two additional double-depth houses that were built immediately to the west of the 18th-century housing fronting Silver Street, and a public house occupying the junction of Pryme Street and Silver Street that documentary evidence indicates to have been licensed in 1801 (Potts 1983, 23). A probable coal yard lay to the south of the public house, with a range of double-depth housing with outshoots extending beyond the southern edge of the Site. A row of workers' houses was also built parallel to the rear of the properties between Pryme Street and Southern Street. Workers' housing was also erected between Crown Street and Southam Street.

The next available detailed map of the site is that produced by Bancks & Co in 1831 (Figure 4). This shows that some further development had occurred in the area during the second half of the 1820s, including the erection of a smithy that fronted onto the eastern side of Southam Street, beyond the site boundary. A small block of probable industrial buildings is also shown to have been erected opposite the cotton mill on Southam Street, immediately to the north of the site. The block of houses between Crown Street and Southam Street are shown to have been expanded to create a dense block of workers' houses with various plan forms.



Plate 3: Extract from Swire's map of 1824, showing the approximate site boundary

The site had been developed almost entirely by the mid-1840s, as shown on the Ordnance Survey 6": 1 mile that was published in 1845 and at a larger scale of 60": 1 mile in 1851 (Plate 4). These maps, and particularly the 1851 edition, provide considerable detail of the various buildings within the site. The Swan Brewery and an associated public house had been built to the north of Melbourne Street along the southern edge of the site (Plate 5).

Further areas of blind-back and back-to-back housing were also constructed between Southam Street and Swan Street and either side of James' Place, together with a row of double-depth properties along the north side of Melbourne Street along the southern edge of the site. The coal yard on the west side of Pryme Street is annotated as such and is listed in a trade directory for 1850 as being occupied by William Proudman (Slater 1850, 83). Another coal dealer, Charles Roberts, is listed at 17 Pryme Street in the same directory. Roberts' premises are not marked on the Ordnance Survey map, although it is possible that it was the plot of land situated immediately to the north of the Swan Inn and Brewery on Pryme Street.



Plate 4: Site boundary superimposed on an extract from the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851



Plate 5: Photograph of Melbourne Street, taken from Pryme Street, 1890s

The next available edition of Ordnance Survey mapping was surveyed in the late 1880s and published at a scale of 1:500 in 1891 and at 25":1 mile in 1896. This shows the Crown Street Works to have been erected on the west side of Crown Street, abutting workers' houses on the north side of James' Place; the works is annotated on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 as a spring mattress works. Another three double-depth houses had also been built by 1891, placed immediately to the south of the Crown Street Works on Crown Street, together with a large, rectangular building between Swan Street and Pryme Street, seemingly replacing part of the Swan Brewery.

The early 20th century witnessed some alteration to the pattern of housing throughout the site, which included the replacement of the back-to-back workers' housing around Paradise Court and the industrial building to the south with Proctor Gym, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1908. A public baths had also been constructed immediately to the south of Proctor Gym on Pryme Street and opened in December 1904 in accordance with a building control plan that is dated October 1903 (Plate 6).

The next editions of Ordnance Survey mapping, published in 1922 and 1932, similarly shows little change. By 1950-51, however, the many of the houses in the area had begun to be cleared. Those along the western side of Crown Street to the north of the Site had been demolished and replaced by a starch works, whilst some of the workers' houses on Silver Street had been cleared and remained vacant. Most of the remaining buildings in the site were cleared during the second half of the 20th and early 21st centuries, and the area used subsequently for car-parking purposes.



Plate 6: Photograph showing the Pryme Street Baths, 1906

2.6 Previous Archaeological Work

The survival of below-ground remains of archaeological interest in the immediate vicinity was demonstrated during intrusive investigations that were carried out by Salford Archaeology in June and July 2018 on the Crown Street Phase 1 development area. Following an initial scheme of evaluation trenching, two areas situated to the north of Silvercroft Street were targeted for excavation and exposed a suite of archaeological remains. The earliest of these was part of a substantial linear feature of Roman date, that probably functioned as a boundary or enclosure ditch. This Roman ditch lay beneath the foundations of an early 19th-century textile mill that became known as Pryme Street Mill.

The remains of an early 19th-century brewery were also exposed, the largest room of which was a basement that contained a well uncovered in the corner that will have supplied an ample amount of water for the brewing process. Three large grindstones recovered from the excavation may have derived from the brewery, having been employed to grind the malt to a 'grist'. The results obtained from the excavation were published in November 2019 as a volume of the *Greater Manchester's Past Revealed* series (Miller and Cook 2019).

3. Methodology

3.1 Archaeological Evaluation

The principal aim of the archaeological evaluation was to establish the presence or absence of any buried remains of archaeological interest within the proposed development area and, if present, characterise the level of preservation and significance, and provide a good understanding of their potential. This was achieved by the excavation of nine evaluation trenches that were placed across the footprint of the buildings depicted on the sequence of historical maps considered in the desk-based assessment to be of potential archaeological interest (Figures 2 and 3). It was anticipated that this approach would represent an appropriate sample of the archaeological resource and totalled approximately 250m².

All archaeological work was conducted following the CIfA Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (CIfA 2014). Prior to the commencement of any excavation works, the location of the trenches targeted for archaeological investigation was laid out accurately with respect to the Ordnance Survey national grid. The position of this area was then scanned for any live services using a cable avoidance tool.

Machine excavation was used to define carefully the extent of any structural remains. This was carried out using a mechanical excavator of appropriate power under close archaeological supervision. Thereafter, remains were cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. Once the extent of buried archaeological remains was established, they were subject to detailed archaeological excavation and recording. Hand excavation was undertaken by trained professional archaeologists. All information identified in the course of the site works was recorded stratigraphically, utilising *pro-forma* context sheets, and was accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.

A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts was maintained and similarly general views from standard viewpoints of the overall site at all stages of the archaeological investigation was generated. Photography was undertaken in accordance with HE guidance, Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for Best Practice (July 2015). All frames included a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records were maintained on photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

The precise location of all archaeological structures encountered was surveyed using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process generated scaled plans within AutoCAD, which were then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, and all information was tied in to Ordnance Datum.

4. Evaluation Results

4.1 Introduction

In total, nine trenches were excavated across the site. For the most part, these were targeted across the footprint of the 18th- and early 19th-century buildings identified to be of potentially archaeological interest in the desk-based assessment (Miller 2020).

4.2 Results

4.2.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was located at the west-centre of the site, close to the modern alignment of Silvercroft Street. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 25m x 2.2m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m. The uppermost layer consisted of the overburden, ***02***, which consisted of the concrete surface and underlying levelling, with a maximum thickness of 0.7m.

At the eastern end of the trench were two brick structures, ***103*** and ***104*** (Figure 11). Structure ***104*** consisted of a somewhat disturbed, crudely built, double-course brick wall that was aligned north-west/south-east. It was bonded with a soft, yellow, sandy, lime mortar and constructed of hand-made bricks. It had a maximum length of 2.2m and survived to a height of 0.55m. Structure ***103*** was located to the west of wall ***104***, and consisted of a small rectangular brick structure that continued beyond the limit of excavation towards the north. It measured 1.2m x 1.1m and had a maximum height of 0.5m. It consisted of a square brick floor that was partially enclosed by an L-shaped brick wall (Plate 7). The wall was a single-skin wide, 0.11m. It was constructed of hand-made bricks and bonded with same mortar as wall ***104***. It was filled by ***105***, a loose clinker-ash fill that had a maximum thickness of 0.5m.



*Plate 8: Brick structure **103**, looking south-west*

Most of the trench, however, contained a large 20th-century basement, which was formed by two parallel brick walls, ***100*** and ***101***, which were aligned north-west/south-east across the trench. The walls had a width of four brick courses, equating to 0.48m, and a minimum depth of 1m. The walls were bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar. The internal width of the cellar itself was 15.2m. The western edge of cellar, represented by wall ***100***, was located at the western edge of the trench and had been truncated by a live water service which ran through the basement. The basement was filled by ***102***, a relatively loose, demolition layer which contained brick, concrete, stone, plastic, etc (Plate 8). Due to the service and the trench location, the basement was not fully excavated.



Plate 8: Trench 1, looking north-east, showing the backfilled 20th-century basement

4.2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 aligned north-west/south-east was located in the centre of the site, along the south-western edge of Southam Street, targeting the footprint of early 19th-century buildings forming the south-eastern corner of Paradise Court (Figures 4 and 5). It measured 2.2m x 21.5m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.75m (Plate 9). The overburden layer, ***02***, consisted of concrete, setts and a rubble layer with a maximum thickness of 0.6m.



*Plate 9: Trench 2, looking north-west, with wall **200** in the foreground, followed by the drain cut **201***

At the southern end of the trench was a four-course wide brick wall, ***200***, which was aligned north-east/south-west across the trench (Figure 12). It was exposed at a depth of 0.4m and measured 2.2m in length with a maximum width of 0.48m. It continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was constructed of hand-made bricks. Only a small amount of mortar was present, which was a gritty, mid-grey, soft, lime mortar, consistent with an early 19th-century construction date. The position of this wall corresponded broadly with the southern wall of Paradise Court, as shown on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1850 (Figure 5).

Situated 2.5m to the north of wall ***200*** was a linear feature ***201***, likely a drain cut. It was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 2.2m in length and 1.55m in width. It continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was filled by a mid-brown clay, ***201***, with inclusions of stone and brick fragments.

Immediately to the north of feature ***201*** was a further cut feature, ***203***, also for a drain and or the nearby brick walls ***205*** and ***206***. It had a length of 2.2m though it continued beyond the limit of excavation. It had a width of 2.1m where it met the brick wall ***205***. It was filled by ***204***, a mid-brown clay similar to ***201***. It also contained a ceramic drain which was likely associated.

Set within the cut feature, ***203***, were a group of three closely aligned brick walls, ***205***, ***206*** and ***207***. All were aligned north-east/south-west and were double-coursed with a width of 0.25m (Plate 10). The location of these walls seemed to lie within the footprint of the workers' housing forming Paradise Court, as shown on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851 (Figure 5).



*Plate 10: Brick walls **205**, **206** and **207**, looking south*

The southern of the walls, ***205***, was bonded with a sandy yellow lime-based mortar. Situated 0.25m to the north was wall ***206***, which was bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar. Wall ***206*** formed an L-shape and abutted the northern wall (***207***). Enclosed within the L-shape was a partial flagstone surface, likely a window light. The window light measured 0.3m x 0.65m. Wall ***207*** was double-coursed and bonded with a yellow sandy lime-based mortar. It was abutted by the central wall and window light ***206***, and formed the southern edge of a cellar.



*Plate 11: Walls **208** and **209**, looking north-west*

Situated 3.75m to the north of wall ***207*** were walls ***208*** and ***209*** (Figure 12). Both were single skin and were laid parallel to the southern wall (***207***), aligned north-east/south-west. These walls formed the northern boundary of the cellar, which had an internal width of 3.75m (Plate 11). The original cellar wall was the northernmost of the two, wall ***209***. It was a single-skin thick and survived to a height of 0.6m. It was clearly rendered on the inside with a sandy mortar and lime wash. The wall was abutted on its inside by the wall ***208***. Wall ***208*** was a crudely constructed single-skin wall that survived to a height of 0.6m and was bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar that is likely to have represented a later 19th-century modification.

The entire cellar was filled by ***210***, a typical cellar fill which consisted of somewhat loose bricks, stone, and mortar. The cellar had clearly been disturbed and little of the floor surface survived. A small area of flagstone floor survived adjacent to wall ***208***, at a depth of 1.75m, in addition to a probable later brick stanchion.

Adjacent to the cellar on the northern side was a further large cut feature (***211***), which was similar to ***203***. It had a length of 6m where it met the brick wall ***209***. It continued beyond the limit of excavation (Plate 12). It was machine excavated to a depth of 1.5m at which point the natural superficial geology (***01***) was encountered. The feature was filled solely by a sandy-clay (***212***), which contained occasional 19th-century building material debris.

A small brick drain structure (***213***) was located at the west of feature ***211***. It consisted of a double-coursed brick square structure bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar, indicative of a late 19th-century construction date. It contained a cylindrical ceramic drain in the centre. The drain measured 1.1m x 0.52m and was exposed at a depth of 0.4m below the modern ground surface.

No finds were recovered from the trench.



*Plate 12: Cut feature **211** and the drainage structure **213**, looking west*

4.2.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was across the footprint of a short row of double-depth houses shown on Green's map of 1787-94 in the north-eastern part of the site (Figure 2); the row was extended to the north-east, as shown on Bancks & Co's map of 1831 (Figure 4). The trench was aligned north-east/south-west but, due to logistical constraints, was excavated in two halves: Trench 3a to the south-west, and Trench 3b, to the north-east. Trench 3a measured 9.5m x 2.2m and Trench 3b measured 8m x 2.2m. The overburden (***02***) consisted of the modern concrete surface and associated hardcore levelling, which had a maximum thickness of 0.5m. The trench was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.5m (Plate 13).

A single-skin brick wall (***300***) extended across both trenches and was aligned north-east/south-west, parallel to the trench (Figure 13). The length of wall ***300*** measured 7.5m in Trench 3a and 1.8m in Trench 3b, and the top of the wall was exposed at a depth of around 0.6m below the modern ground surface. It was constructed of hand-made bricks and bonded with a soft, yellow, sandy lime-based mortar, consistent with a late 18th- / early 19th-century construction date. The wall was particularly fragile and was covered with a white lime wash. A 0.9m wide doorway was located in the centre of wall ***300*** in Trench 3a between walls ***301*** and ***302***.

Once overlain onto the sequence of historical maps, the position of this wall seemed to represent an internal partition between the front and rear rooms of the houses (Figures 2-4). The level at which the wall was uncovered, coupled with the detail shown on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851, which shows pavement lights against the northern wall of the houses, indicated that wall ***300*** formed part of a cellar.

Two further single-course brick walls (***301*** and ***302***) in Trench 3a were keyed into wall ***300***, and set 4m apart. Walls ***301*** and ***302*** were also bonded with sandy mortar and whitewashed. Wall ***302*** may have formed the party wall between adjacent houses, whilst wall ***301*** appeared to represent an internal partition. Most of the trench was filled by a somewhat loose cellar fill, ***303***, which contained a high frequency of complete hand-made bricks.

Little of the cellar related to wall ***300*** was uncovered in Trench 3b due to large concrete stanchions which had truncated most of the archaeological remains at the southern end (Plate 14).

No finds were recovered from either of the trenches.



*Plate 13: Trench 3a looking south-west showing wall **300** – the truncation for the service can be seen along the right side of the trench*



Plate 14: Trench 3b looking south-west

4.2.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located in the centre of site, parallel to Trench 3 along what had been Southam Street. It measured 17m x 2.2m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 4.5m (Figure 12). The overburden (***02***) consisted of concrete, setts, and rubble material with a maximum thickness of 0.45m.

No archaeological features were uncovered within Trench 4, and no finds were recovered. The entire trench was taken up by a linear feature, which was on the same alignment as the trench. It had a depth of 4m and contained a large ceramic sewer pipe at its base (Plate 15). Several other ceramic sewer pipes led into it, possibly including linear feature ***201***.



Plate 15: The excavation of Trench 4. Note the ceramic sewer pipe at the base, and one of the pipes which fed into on the left hand side.

4.2.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was placed across the footprint of a building shown on Green's map of 1787-94, which is shown on subsequent mapping to have formed the south-eastern part of Paradise Court (Figures 2-5). It was located in the western part of the site, immediately to the south of Trench 1 (Plate 16). It was aligned north-east/south-west, and measured 20m x 2.2m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.65m. The overburden (***02***) consisted of the concrete surface and associated levelling material, which had a maximum thickness of 0.45m.



Plate 16: Trench 5, looking south-west

At the northern end of the trench was a double-coursed brick wall (***500***), which was aligned north-east/south-west (Figure 14). It measured 1.9m x 0.28m, and was found at a depth of 0.45m. It had a depth of only one brick course, and was bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar. This wall is likely to date to the early 20th century, and represent part of the former Proctor Gym, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1908 (Figure 7).

Immediately to the south-east of wall ***500*** was a further brick wall (***503***), and two other brick structures (***501*** and ***502***). Wall ***502*** was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 2.3m x 0.28m and survived to a height of 0.96m. It was bonded with a soft, white-yellow, sandy, lime-based mortar and constructed of hand-made bricks, consistent with a late 18th- / early 19th-century construction date. Some whitewashing survived on its south-facing side, where it formed the northern limit of a cellar.

Brick structure ***501*** consisted of a curvilinear brick wall and brick floor which abutted wall ***503.*** The structure measured 0.62 x 1.2m. It was bonded with a soft, yellow, sandy, lime mortar. The small area of brick floor was located between the two walls of ***503*** and ***501***. It continued beyond the limit of excavation (Plate 17). The second brick structure (***502***) was rectangular and abutted both wall ***503*** and structure ***501***. It measured 1m x 0.72m and was aligned north-west/south-east. It also comprised hand-made bricks, and it likely to have been of a similar construction date to wall ***503*** and structure ***501***.



*Plate 17: Wall **303** prior to the excavation of the cellar, showing brick features **301** and **302**, looking north-east*

A second single-skin brick wall (***504***) protruded from wall ***503*** and was aligned south-east/north-west (Plate 18). It was keyed into wall ***503*** and was constructed of the same materials. It survived to a maximum height of 0.95m and had a length of 1.4m, though it continued beyond the limit of excavation. It was disturbed by the later brick wall (***513***), which was crudely constructed and bonded with a dark greyish-black mortar.

The flagstone floor of the cellar (***505***) was exposed at a depth of 1.65m, and measured 1.8m x 3.3m (Plate 18). The southern edge of the cellar floor abutted a double-coursed wall (***507***), which was aligned north-east/south-west, survived to a minimum height of 0.9m and had a length of 2.2m (Figure 14).



*Plate 18: The flagstone floor **505** of the cellar, looking north-east*

Wall ***508*** was aligned north-west/south-east and was a single-skin wide. It survived to a height of 0.2m. Wall ***510*** was laid parallel to wall ***508*** and was double coursed. It was aligned north-west/south-east and was keyed into the southern wall of the cellar (***512***). It was bonded with a yellow, sandy, lime-based mortar, and was abutted by a later brick wall (***511***).

A second flagstone surface (***509***) was exposed to the south of wall ***507***. This measured 2.1m x 0.85m and was exposed at a depth of 1.65m below the modern ground surface (Plate 19). It was enclosed by the brick walls ***508*** and ***510***.

Wall ***512*** formed the southern limit of the cellars. It was keyed into wall ***510*** and was aligned north-east/south-west. It was double-coursed, survived to a height of 0.8m and had a length of 2.25m. It was bonded with a yellow, sandy, lime mortar and was rendered and white-washed on its north-facing side, showing that it had been the original limit of the cellar.

Wall ***511*** was a crudely constructed, double-coursed brick wall, which was aligned north-east/south-west and abutted wall ***510***. It measured 1.7m in length and survived to a height of 0.8m. It was bonded with a hard, dark greyish-black mortar.

The cellar fill (***506***) had a maximum thickness of 1.2m and consisted of a loose demolition material which contained, bricks, stone and mortar.



*Plate 19: Cellared area showing surface **509** and walls **510** and **511***

4.2.6 Trench 6

Trench 6 was placed across the south-western part of the site, close to what had previously been Back Silver Street. It was aligned north-east/south-west, measured 25m x 2.2 and was excavated to a maximum depth of 1.45m (Plate 20). The trench was placed across an area that didn't appear on the sequence of historical mapping to have been subject to intensive development during the 18th and 19th centuries, and was thus considered to have potential to retain any earlier archaeological remains.

The natural drift geology (***01***) was exposed at a depth of 0.5m at the northern end of the trench (Figure 16). No evidence for pre-19th-century archaeological remains was identified, and most of the trench was dominated by a brick and concrete structure.



Plate 20: Trench 6, showing the natural drift geology exposed at the northern end

At the south-western end of the trench was a concrete surface (***600***), which measured 11m x 1.8. It was exposed at a depth of 0.9m, and continued beyond the limit of excavation towards the east. All the component bricks walls were bonded with a hard, dark grey, cement-like mortar, indicative of a 20th-century construction date.

Concrete surface ***600*** was enclosed by two brick walls (***601*** and ***602***). Wall ***601*** was aligned north-west/south-east and was double-coursed (Plate 21). It had a length of 2.2m and survived to a maximum height of 0.7m. It formed the southern limit of the concrete basement (Figure 15). Wall ***601*** was keyed into wall ***602***, which was 0.45m wide and had a total length of 11.5m.

Adjacent to wall ***602*** was a second brick wall (***603***), which abutted and was on the same alignment as wall ***602***. It measured 7.3m x 0.45m. A final brick wall (***604***) extended from wall ***603*** towards the north-west beyond the limit of excavation. It had a width of 0.45m and an exposed length of 0.65m.



*Plate 21: Concrete basement **600**, looking south-west*

4.2.7 Trench 7

Trench 7 was placed across the footprint of the mid-19th-century Swan Brewery, close to the southern boundary of the site. It was aligned north/south, measured 19m x 2.2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.95m. The modern overburden (***02***) comprised the concrete surface and measured 0.35m in thickness. Below concrete surface ***02*** was a layer of made-ground (***03***), which consisted of mid-brown silty clay which contained occasional brick fragments. Across the centre of the trench was a modern concrete stanchion.

Immediately below made-ground layer ***03*** was the natural drift geology ***01***. No archaeological features were found (Plate 22).



Plate 22: Trench 7, looking north, showing the natural ground and the later concrete stanchion

4.2.8 Trench 8

Trench 8 was located close to the southern boundary of the site, close to the line of Southam Street. It measured 28m x 2.2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.8m (Figure 16). Several modern concrete walls crossed the centre of the trench, although no archaeological features of interest were present.

The natural drift geology (***01***) was exposed at a depth of 0.7m below the modern ground surface (Plate 23). The modern concrete surface (***02***) had a maximum thickness of 0.35m. Below this was the made-ground silty-clay, which had a maximum thickness of 0.4m.



Plate 23: Trench 8, looking south-east

4.2.9 Trench 9

Trench 9 was located in the south-eastern part of the site, close to the alignment of Southam Street. It measured 24m x 2.2m and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m (Figure 16). The modern concrete surface (***02***) had a thickness of 0.35m and the underlying associated levelling, where present, had a maximum thickness of 0.4m. Most of the trench was excavated to the natural ground (***01***), where no archaeological features were identified.

Two small sections of disturbed brick wall were uncovered at the south of the trench. Wall ***900*** was aligned north-east/south-west and was double coursed. It was found at a depth of 0.4m and survived to a depth of only a single course. It was bonded with a sandy, yellow, lime mortar. It had a length of 1.5m and continued beyond the limit of excavation towards the north-east (Figure 16).

Laid perpendicular to wall ***900*** was a second brick wall, ***901***. Wall ***901*** was of the same form as wall ***900*** and survived to a depth of only one course. It had been disturbed and had a total length of 1.88m. It was aligned north-west/south-east.



Plate 24: Trench 9, looking north-west

4.3 Finds Evidence

No finds were recovered from any of the evaluation trenches.

5. Discussion

5.1 Evaluation Trenches

5.1.1 Introduction

The evaluation uncovered some remains of archaeological interest, comprising the foundations and cellars of 18th- and 19th-century workers' housing. Various structural remains related to the 20th-century occupation of the site, which included both public and industrial structures, were also uncovered across the site, although these were of little archaeological interest. No remains pre-dating the 18th century were found during the evaluation trenching.

5.1.2 The 18th- and 19th-20th Century Remains

The earliest remains found across the site dated to the late 18th century, and were found in trenches 2, 3 and 5. The remains found across Trench 3, such as wall ***300***, most likely related to the cellars of dwellings on Silver Street and backed onto Smith's Court, as shown on Green's map of 1787-94 and 19th-century mapping (Figures 2-5). However, there remains exposed in Trench 3 were rather fragmentary, having been subject to 20th-century development, represented by the concrete stanchions that were exposed in the southern part of Trench 3b.

The structural remains of workers' housing encountered in Trench 5 were more substantial, and clearly related to the cellars of back-to-back houses of Paradise Court. The earliest component of this block of workers' housing is shown on Green's map of 1787-94 (Figure 2), and represented the most interesting structures archaeologically within the site boundary as slum housing. Wall ***512*** was most likely the southernmost wall of one of the central houses which fronted Back Silver Street, whilst wall ***503*** was the northernmost wall of one of those dwellings which faced into the central Paradise Court. Small brick structure ***502*** was almost certainly the base of a staircase to the ground floor of one of the Paradise Court-facing dwellings. It was unclear what curvilinear structure ***501*** represented, although it may have been some form of sill for a cellar light to the next dwellings over to the east of wall ***505***. Wall ***505*** was certainly a dividing wall between two of the dwellings, and the flagstone floor was part of the floor surface. Wall ***510*** was likely also a dividing wall between two of the Back Silver Street-facing dwellings, though it was somewhat unusual that it was double-coursed.

Some of the structural remains of Paradise Court had been disturbed by the later 20th-century activity, which had removed some of the walls and floor surface. These later walls, such as ***506***, were most likely related to the later 'Procter Gymnasium' which replaced the Paradise Court dwellings in the early 20th century. As early as 1890, plans were drawn up for the demolition of Paradise Court under the auspices of AW Smith, chairman of the 'Unhealthy Dwellings Committee' and for its replacement with the Procter Gymnasium. In at least one case, wall ***311***, it appeared as though the gym foundations had made direct use of the remains of the earlier houses as foundations.

The large brick basement represented by walls ***100*** and ***101*** (Trench 1) were also likely related to the 20th-century gymnasium. This structure had removed almost all physical remains of the back-to-back houses along the northern side of Paradise Court and Silver Street, largely because only the southern block of houses at Paradise Court were cellared.

The cellar exposed in Trench 2, which included walls ***207*** and ***209***, was a structure at the east of Paradise Court along Southam Street and most likely represented the remains of the most south-easterly back-to-back house shown on 19th-century Ordnance Survey mapping. The structure had clearly undergone modification at a later date, likely in the late 19th century, before the demolition of the court buildings around the turn of the century. The other buildings in the vicinity were not shown to be cellared and historic mapping and no structural remains related to them were uncovered. Wall ***200*** (Trench 2) almost certainly corresponded to the structure to the south of Paradise Court on the corner of Southam Street and Back Silver Street. That structure was first clearly visible on the Ordnance Survey Town plan of 1891, and may have been a commercial property, based upon the size. Large linear feature ***201*** was most likely a sewer that was laid beneath Back Silver Street and appeared to feed into the main sewer along Southam Street.

The excavation of trenches 7, 8, and 9 uncovered very few archaeological remains. These trenches confirmed that the 19th-century cartographic sources were accurate in that those structures were not cellared. These trenches followed the general pattern across the site; if structures were not cellared, they did not survive to any meaningful degree. Two small fragments of brick wall, ***900*** and ***901*** in Trench 9, were most likely related to those dwellings at James' Place, along Southam Street.

Various historical sources, and in particular the census records, help to shed further light on the dwellings at Paradise Court. An 1845 sanitation report indicated that Hulme contained 2,345 houses and 97 cellar dwellings, which housed close to 4,000 inhabitants at that time (*Manchester Times*, 30th August 1845). Those inhabitants shared only 127 privies; one privy per nearly 20 homes. The report specifically examined the dwellings within the site boundary as a poor example of sanitation. It stated that Paradise Court, Silver Street, Pryme Street, Back Silver Street, and Southam Street contained 44 houses, ten cellars, 212 inhabitants, and only four privies. In 1853 Paradise Court was described as containing 'deposits of refuse, very dirty, and abounds with unpleasant odours' (*Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser*, 24th September 1853).

At least two of the properties at Paradise Court were listed simply as 'uninhabited' in the 1851 Census. As might be expected with the known historical circumstances of Irish immigration, which increased rapidly in the 1840s particularly to northern England, more than one in three of the residents at Paradise Court were born in Ireland. The number of Irish people was even higher if the English-born children of immigrants were considered.

In several of the dwellings (Nos 3, 5, and 9), the cellars were identified in the 1851 Census as separate dwellings. Most occupants, male and female, as young as 12, worked in the cotton industry. Thomas Kean, a 15-year old from Longford in Ireland, who lived at No. 3 Paradise Court, had his occupation listed as a 'scavenger'. The high frequency of relatively young heads of households listed as 'widow' gave some indication of life expectancy. A note in the *Manchester Courier and Lancashire General Advertiser,* 29th October 1842, stated that a resident of No. 7 Paradise Court, Mary Ann, a widow and an alcoholic, had committed suicide via opium overdose after pawning all her possessions to pay for her drink habit.

By the Census of 1881, it appears that more of the Paradise Court dwellings were uninhabited and that the total number of residents had fallen considerably. Many of the residents were still Irish immigrants, such as Dennis Sweeney, a boarder and farm labourer at No. 2 Paradise Court. Various other residents had moved to Paradise Court from around Britain. A further noticeable change was that by the 1880s the employment of the residents had begun to be much more varied. While in the 1840-50s many residents had been employed in the cotton industry, by the 1880s occupations included van drivers, iron workers, painters, etc., a development which likely reflected the move away from cotton towards the end of the 19th century across Manchester.

A special article in the *Manchester Times,* 3rd October 1890, titled 'The State of Hulme' described Paradise Court as having: 'the reputation of being as offensive a place as could be found in the whole city of Manchester. It was doubtful if there was a worse place in England – although in saying this I am assuming that Manchester can be beaten in slums, which I am perhaps not justified in doing.'

Noticeably, the last census record for Paradise Court was 1881 while the last poor rate assessment was dated to 1888. No census records for Paradise Court were undertaken in 1891, and it seemed likely that as early as 1888-9 the Paradise Court dwellings were – officially – unoccupied. Based upon the historical and cartographic sources available, the structures were likely cleared sometime in the 1890s.

No evidence of the Swan Inn and brewery were found in trenches 6 and 7. A concrete basement and several large brick walls were found across Trench 6, including ***601***. These certainly dated to the 20th century, and were likely part of the Public Baths and Washhouse extension to the Procter Gymnasium.

A considerable amount of natural ground, ***02***, was uncovered at a relatively shallow depth across the south of the site, around 0.65m. Though the site falls outside the main area of settlement of the *vicus*, it was possible that remains related to Romano-British farming, cemeteries, or possibly even religion or ritual would be located within the site boundary. The lack of any Romano-British features or residual artefacts likely indicate that the remains had been destroyed by intensive development from the late 18th century onwards, and that any occupation had been sparse.

6. Conclusion

6.1 Impact

The results obtained from the archaeological evaluation have demonstrated that some remains of late 18th- and early 19th-century workers' houses survived within the site boundary. However, most of those buildings that did not contain basements did not survive, and even those that did contain a cellar had been subject to some later disturbance. The most archaeologically interesting remains within the site, and those that survived in the best condition, were undoubtedly the foundations of the back-to-back dwellings at Paradise Court that were uncovered primarily in Trench 5, with some further foundations encountered in Trench 2; the foundations of the buildings forming the northern side of Paradise Court, excavated in Trench 1, had been largely removed during the construction of an early 20th-century gymnasium.

Delivery of the consented scheme will necessitate considerable ground-reduction works across the site, and it may be concluded that construction work will have an impact on the archaeological resource by removing any remains that survive *in-situ*. However, the evaluation has demonstrated that no remains predating the 18th century were uncovered, many of the buildings of archaeological interest do not contain cellars, and that the cellared remains of some of the excavated dwellings had been disturbed by later activity. The area where archaeological remains of interest appear to survive *in-situ* appear to be limited to the north-western part of the site, in the vicinity of Trench 5 and, to a lesser extent, Trench 2. The extent of the area of archaeological interest is shown on Figure 17.

6.2 Mitigation

The requirement for any additional archaeological investigation in advance of development will be decided by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, although it may be anticipated that further investigation of Paradise Court may be merited. Any such further investigation should be focused on the southern part of the former Paradise Court, as the northern part did not contain cellars originally, and the foundations were removed during the redevelopment of the site in the late 19th / early 20th century.

7. Archive

7.1 Archive

The results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards and in line with current guidelines (CIfA 2014). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the CIfA in that organisation's code of conduct.

The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in north-west England. All drawn records will be transferred to and stored in digital format, in systems which are easily accessible. The project archive will ultimately be offered to the Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester for long-term deposition. A copy of this report will be lodged with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, and the on-line OASIS (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed. In addition, a copy of the report will be publicly available for downloading via the University of Salford's Figshare website, a data repository designed to manage and share research data outputs:

https://salford.figshare.com/

Acknowledgments

Salford Archaeology would like to thank Renaker Build Ltd for commissioning the archaeological works, and for facilitating the on-site works. Thanks are also expressed to Norman Redhead for providing monitoring support and advice on behalf of GMAAS.

The excavation fieldwork was undertaken by Andrew Radford and Richard Carter. The report was written by Andrew Radford, and the illustrations were compiled by Richard Ker and Sarah Mottershead. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

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Appendix 1: Context List

Context Number	Trench	Description
01		Natural ground
02		Overburden
03		Made-ground
100	1	Brick wall – cellar
101	1	Brick wall – cellar
102	1	Cellar fill
103	1	Brick structure – toilet
104	1	Brick wall
105	1	Clinker fill of ***103***
200	2	Brick wall
201	2	Cut for linear – drain
202	2	Fill of ***201***
203	2	Cut for feature – drain
204	2	Fill of ***203***
205	2	Brick wall
206	2	Brick wall and cellar light
207	2	Brick wall – cellar
208	2	Brick wall
209	2	Brick wall – cellar
210	2	Cellar fill
211	2	Cut for feature
212	2	Fill of ***211***
213	2	Brick structure – drain
300	3	Brick wall – cellar
301	3	Brick wall – cellar
302	3	Brick wall – cellar
303	3	Cellar fill
500	5	Brick wall
501	5	Brick structure
502	5	Brick structure – toilet block (?)
503	5	Brick wall – cellar
504	5	Brick wall – cellar
505	5	Flagstone surface
506	5	Cellar fill
507	5	Brick wall

Context Number	Trench	Description
508	5	Brick wall
509	5	Flagstone surface
510	5	Brick wall – cellar (?)
511	5	Brick wall
512	5	Brick wall – cellar
513	5	Brick wall
600	6	Concrete surface
601	6	Brick wall – cellar
602	6	Brick wall – cellar
603	6	Brick wall
604	6	Brick wall
900	9	Brick wall
901	9	Brick wall

Appendix 2: Census Records

1851 Census for England and Wales

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Ann Johns	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 9	Head	60	Laundress	Mayo, Ireland
Catherine Cotton	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 5	Head	50	Charwoman	Seaford, Ireland
Michael Cotton	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 5	Son	15	Fustian Cutter	Hulme, Lancashire
Martin Tracy	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 3	Head	26	Fustian Cutter	Roscommon, Ireland
Sarah Tracy	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 3	Wife	21		Longford, Ireland
Mary Tracy	Paradise Court – cellar under No. 3	Daughter	1		Hulme, Lancashire
Betty Moores	11 Paradise Court	Head	45	Washwoman	Withington, Lancashire
Mary Moores	11 Paradise Court	Daughter	17	Silk Picker	Manchester, Lancashire
Maria Moores	11 Paradise Court	Daughter	13	Cotton Cander	Manchester Lancashire
Jane Cramston	15 Paradise Court	Head	30	Shoe Binder	Longford, Ireland
Mary Cramston	15 Paradise Court	Daughter	11		Dublin, Ireland
Theresa Cramston	15 Paradise Court	Daughter	11		Hulme, Lancashire
Eliza Cramston	15 Paradise Court	Daughter	1		Bootle, Lancashire
Ann Rylands	15 Paradise Court	Lodger	32	Domestic Servant	Birkenhead, Cheshire
Mary Farr	13 Paradise Court	Head	38	Winder in smallwares	Westmeath, Ireland
Patrick Farr	13 Paradise Court	Son	13	Learner in cotton factory	Longford, Ireland
Thomas Farr	13 Paradise Court	Son	8		Longford, Ireland
James Farr	13 Paradise Court	Son	3	Winder in smallwares	Longford, Ireland
Ellen Barnan	13 Paradise Court	Sister	36	Winder in smallwares	Longford, Ireland
Bridget Carly	13 Paradise Court	Lodger	19	Winder in smallwares	Longford, Ireland
Ann Carly	13 Paradise Court	Lodger	16	Winder in smallwares	Longford, Ireland

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Margaret Hutton	9 Paradise Court	Head	60	Cotton waste picker	Longford Ireland
Ann Healey	9 Paradise Court	Lodger	36	Cotton winder	Ireland
Mary Cook	9 Paradise Court	Lodger	18	Cotton spinner	Westmeath, Ireland
Joseph Ward	9 Paradise Court	Lodger	21	Brick layer labourer	Longford, Ireland
Ann Ward	9 Paradise Court	Lodger	20	Domestic Servant	Longford, Ireland
Mary Eagin	7 Paradise Court	Head	39	Waste picker	Ireland
Edward Eagin	7 Paradise Court	Son	12	Waste picker	Hulme, Lancashire
Ellen Quin	7 Paradise Court	Visitor	22	Cotton winder	Ireland
Ann Burns	7 Paradise Court	Servant	29	Domestic Servant	Armagh, Ireland
Marcelle Kean	3 Paradise Court	Head	54	Cotton winder	Longford, Ireland
Catherine Kean	3 Paradise Court	Daughter	21	Cotton winder	Longford, Ireland
Bridget Kean	3 Paradise Court	Daughter	19	Cotton winder	Longford, Ireland
Thomas Kean	3 Paradise Court	Son	15	Scavenger	Longford, Ireland
Eliza Kean	3 Paradise Court	Daughter	12	Scholar	Longford, Ireland
Ellen Kean	3 Paradise Court	Daughter	5	Scholar	Longford, Ireland
Joseph Oliver	1 Paradise Court	Head	50	Day gardener	Lancashire
Robert Oliver	1 Paradise Court	Son	16	Stone Mason	Liverpool, Lancashire
Samuel Oliver	1 Paradise Court	Son	15	General porter	Rusholme, Lancashire
Mary Oliver	1 Paradise Court	Daughter	12	Scholar	Rusholme, Lancashire
Ellen Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Head	39	Charwoman	Wem, Shropshire
Fletcher Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Son	21	Cotton weaver	Oldham, Lancashire
William Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Son	15	General labourer	Oldham, Lancashire
Mary Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Daughter	12	Scholar	Derby, Derbyshire
Joseph Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Son	9	Scholar	Derby, Derbyshire
Thomas Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Son	6	Scholar	Derby, Derbyshire

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Sarah Goulding	16 Paradise Court	Daughter	3		Hulme, Lancashire
Henry Hayes	16 Paradise Court	Lodger	46	Cotton weaver	Rochdale, Lancashire
Patrick Burns	20 Paradise Court	Head	58	Excavators labourer	Roscommon, Ireland
Elizabeth Burns	20 Paradise Court	Wife	40	Cotton frame tentor	Manchester, Lancashire
John Burns	20 Paradise Court	Brother	46	Excavators labourer	Roscommon, Ireland
Mary Burns	20 Paradise Court	Sister-in-law	40	Cotton frame tentor	Galway, Ireland
Thomas Burns	20 Paradise Court	Nephew	8	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Ellen Burns	20 Paradise Court	Niece	6		Manchester, Lancashire
John Burns	20 Paradise Court	Niece	1		Manchester, Lancashire
'Uninhabited'	14 Paradise Court				
'Uninhabited'	19 Paradise Court				

1881 Census for England and Wales

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Charles Lloyd	1 Paradise Court	Head	30	Cabinet Maker	Manchester, Lancashire
Mary Lloyd	1 Paradise Court	Wife	26	Doubler miller	Salford, Lancashire
John Lloyd	1 Paradise Court	Son	8	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Elizabeth Lloyd	1 Paradise Court	Daughter	5	Scholar	Salford, Lancashire
Emma Lloyd	1 Paradise Court	Daughter	2		Salford, Lancashire
Ann Bate	2 Paradise Court	Head	38		County Leitrim, Ireland
John Campbell	2 Paradise Court	Boarder	37	Stricker iron works	Glasgow, Lanarkshire
Robert Miller	2 Paradise Court	Boarder	20	Dyers labourer	Manchester, Lancashire
Dennis Sweeney	2 Paradise Court	Boarder	45	Farm labourer	County Leitrim, Ireland
Alexander McEwan	3 Paradise Court	Head	24	Engine Fitter	Manchester, Lancashire
Margaret McEwan	3 Paradise Court	Sister	22	Winder	Seacombe, Cheshire

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
George Walker	4 Paradise Court	Head	42	Iron Foundry labourer	Manchester, Lancashire
Elizabeth Walker	4 Paradise Court	Wife	42	Silk winder	Manchester, Lancashire
George Walker	4 Paradise Court	Son	16	Skewer maker	Manchester, Lancashire
Elizabeth Walker	4 Paradise Court	Daughter	9	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
William E Walker	4 Paradise Court	Son	6	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Mary Walker	4 Paradise Court	Daughter	6	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Joseph Heald	5 Paradise Court	Head	46	Van driver	Manchester, Lancashire
Mary Heald	5 Paradise Court	Wife	41	Smallware weaver	Manchester, Lancashire
James H Heald	5 Paradise Court	Son	19	Carter	Manchester, Lancashire
Sarah A Heald	5 Paradise Court	Daughter	9	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Mary A Heald	5 Paradise Court	Daughter	6	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire
Abraham Sutcliffe	6 Paradise Court	Head	24	House painter	Heckmondwike, Yorkshire
Alice Sutcliffe,	6 Paradise Court	Wife	23		Runcorn, Cheshire
Phillip Lowe	6 Paradise Court	Father-in-law	57	Railway labourer	Runcorn, Cheshire
Martha Lower	6 Paradise Court	Wife	55		Liverpool, Lancashire
Sarah A Smedley	6 Paradise Court	Daughter	34		Runcorn, Cheshire
Edward Hannigan	7 Paradise Court	Head	46	Scavenger	Ireland
Winifred Hannigan	7 Paradise Court	Wife	43		Galway, Ireland
Catherine Hannigan	7 Paradise Court	Daughter	13	Silk winder	Manchester, Lancashire
John Seddon	9 Paradise Court	Head	60	Licensed hawker	Chorley, Lancashire
James Richardson	11 Paradise Court	Head	45	French polisher	Liverpool, Lancashire
Elizabeth Richardson	11 Paradise Court	Wife	42		Liverpool, Lancashire
Isabella Richardson	11 Paradise Court	Daughter	19	Cotton Spinner	Liverpool, Lancashire

Name	Address	Relationship	Age	Occupation	Birthplace
Jane Richardson	11 Paradise Court	Daughter	17	Ticket printer	Liverpool, Lancashire
Lucy Richardson	11 Paradise Court	Daughter	13	Cotton spinner	Manchester, Lancashire
Margaret Hornsby	13 Paradise Court	Head	53	Charwoman	Bangor, Caernarvonshire

Appendix 3: Figures

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Evaluation trenches superimposed on Green's map of 1787 - 94

Figure 3: Evaluation trenches superimposed on Swire's map of 1824

Figure 4: Evaluation trenches superimposed on Bancks & Co.'s map of 1831

Figure 5: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851

Figure 6: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1891

Figure 7: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1908

Figure 8: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1922

Figure 9: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1965

Figure 10: Evaluation trenches superimposed on the modern Ordnance Survey map

Figure 11: Evaluation Trench 1

Figure 12: Evaluation Trenches 2 and 4

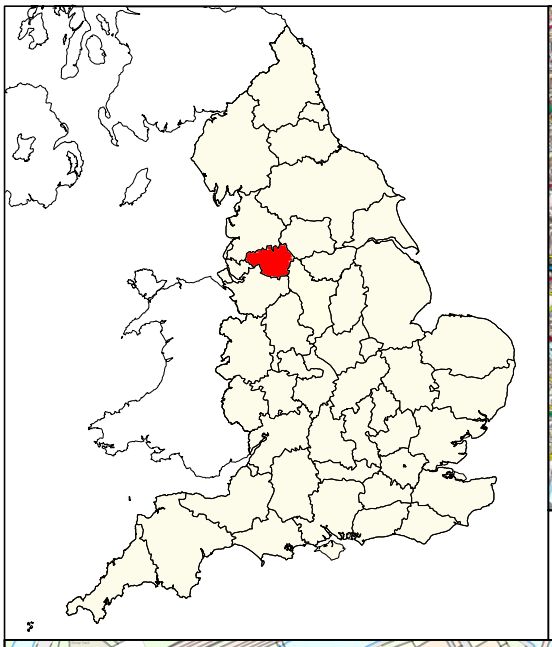
Figure 13: Evaluation Trench 3

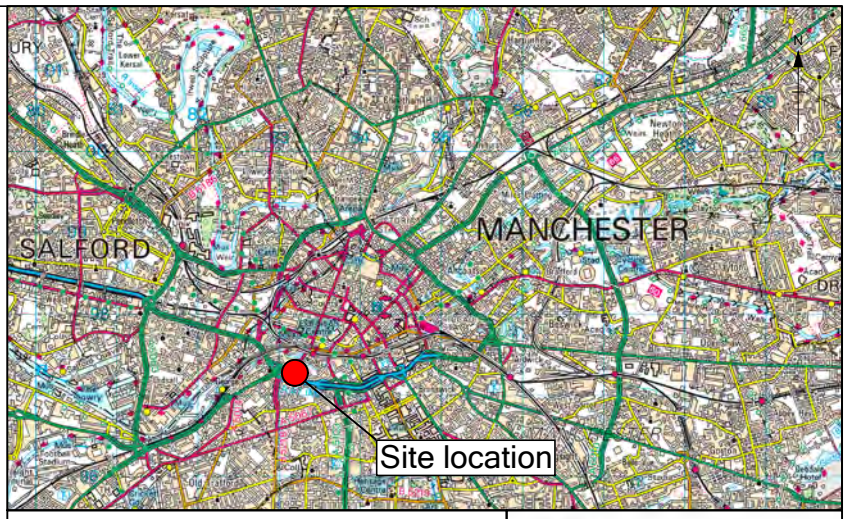
Figure 14: Evaluation Trench 5

Figure 15: Evaluation Trench 6

Figure 16: Evaluation Trenches 8 and 9

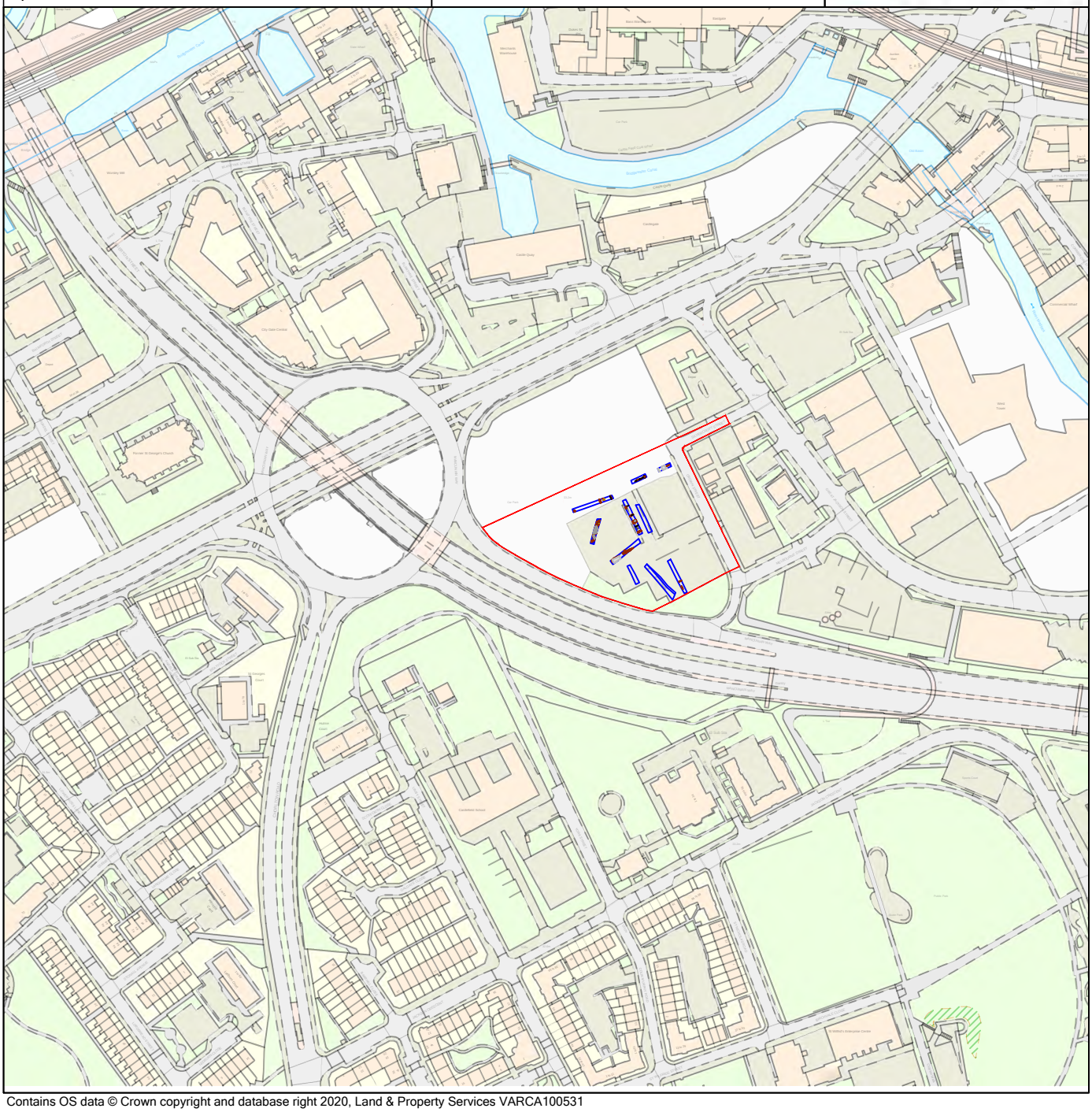
Figure 17: Area of archaeological potential





Crown Street Phase II
Site location

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY



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Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

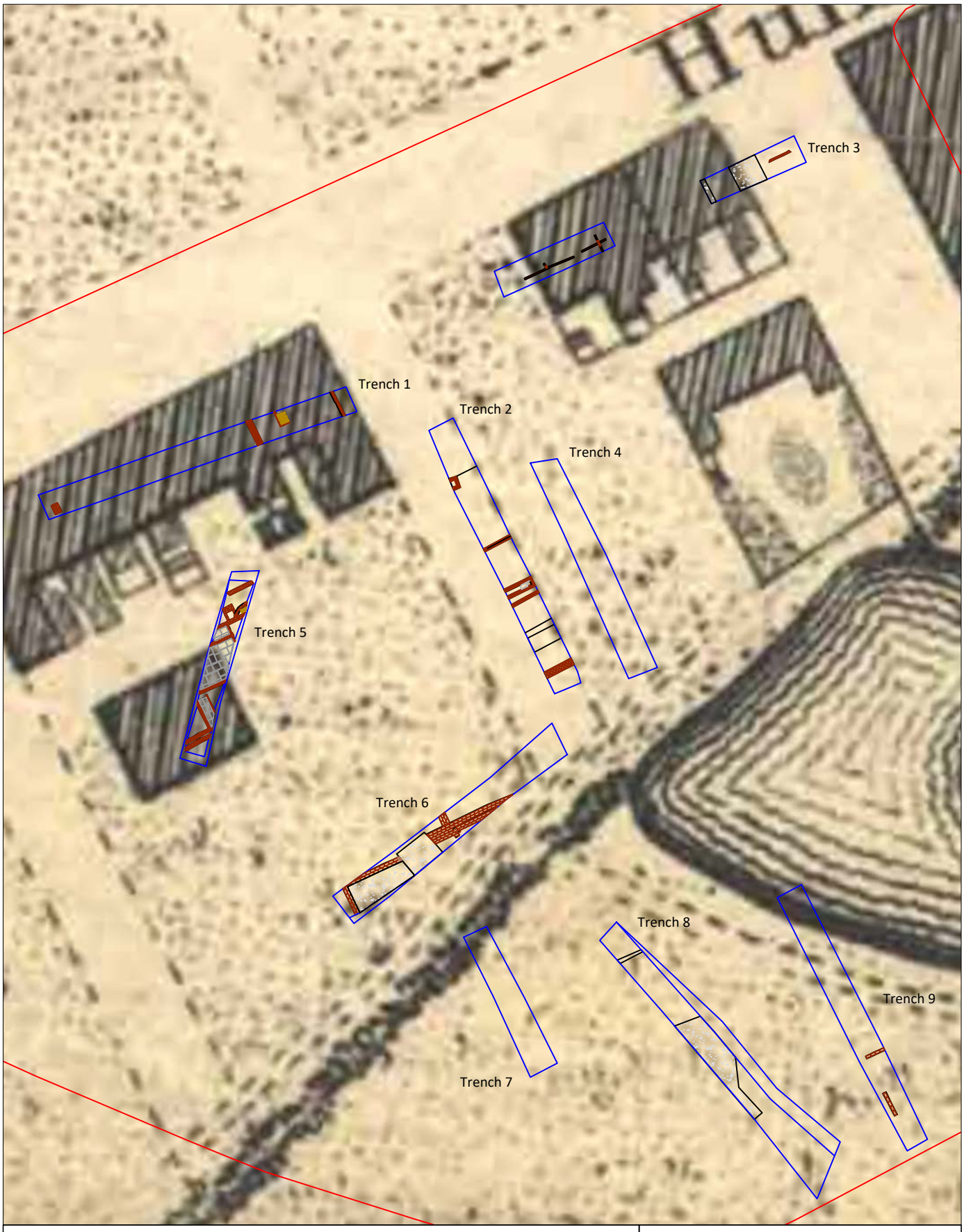


Figure 2:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on Green's map of 1787 - 94

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

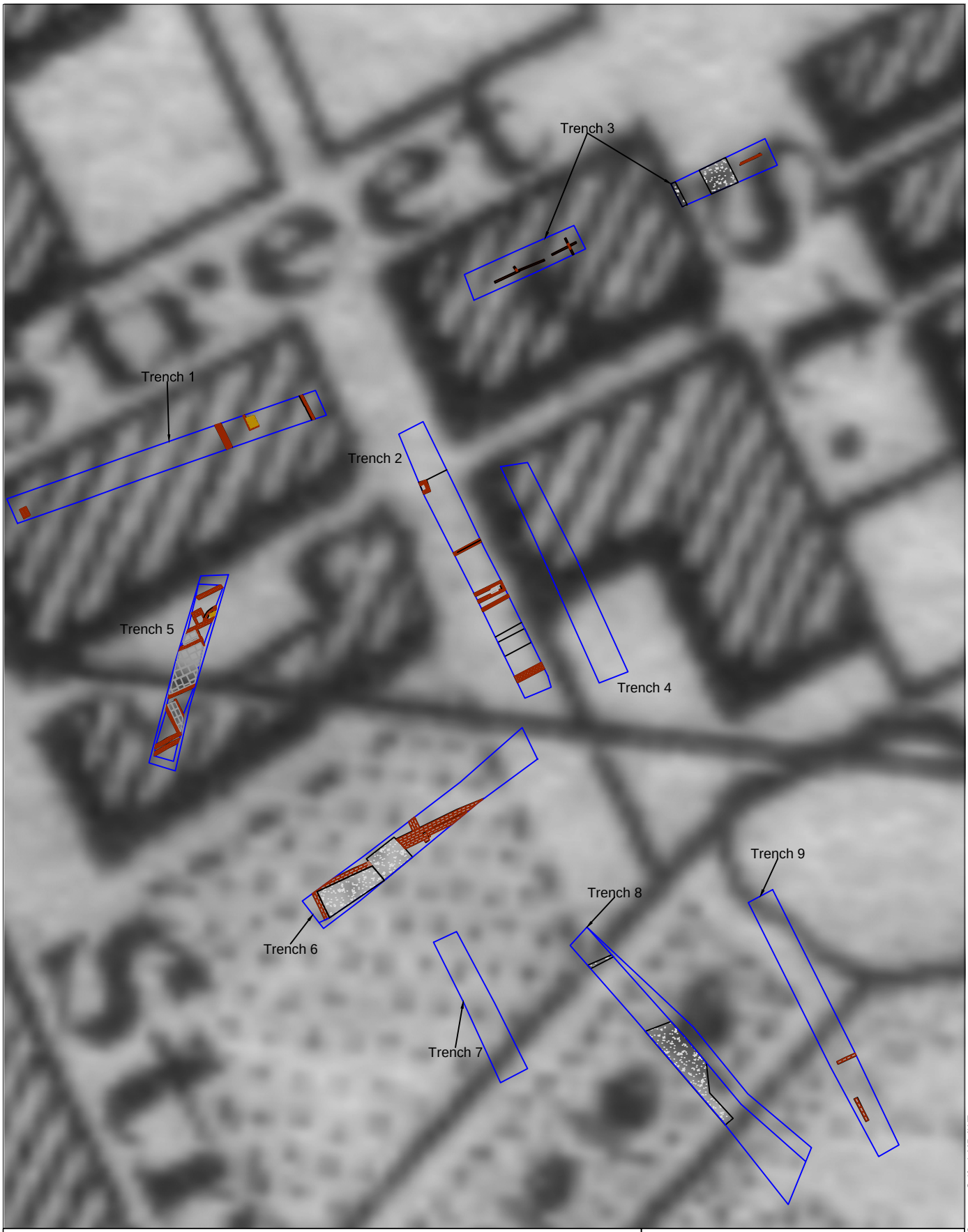


Figure 3:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on Swire's map of 1824

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Figure 4:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on Bancks & Co.'s map of 1831

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Figure 5:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Figure 6:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1891

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Figure 7:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1908

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Figure 8:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1922

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

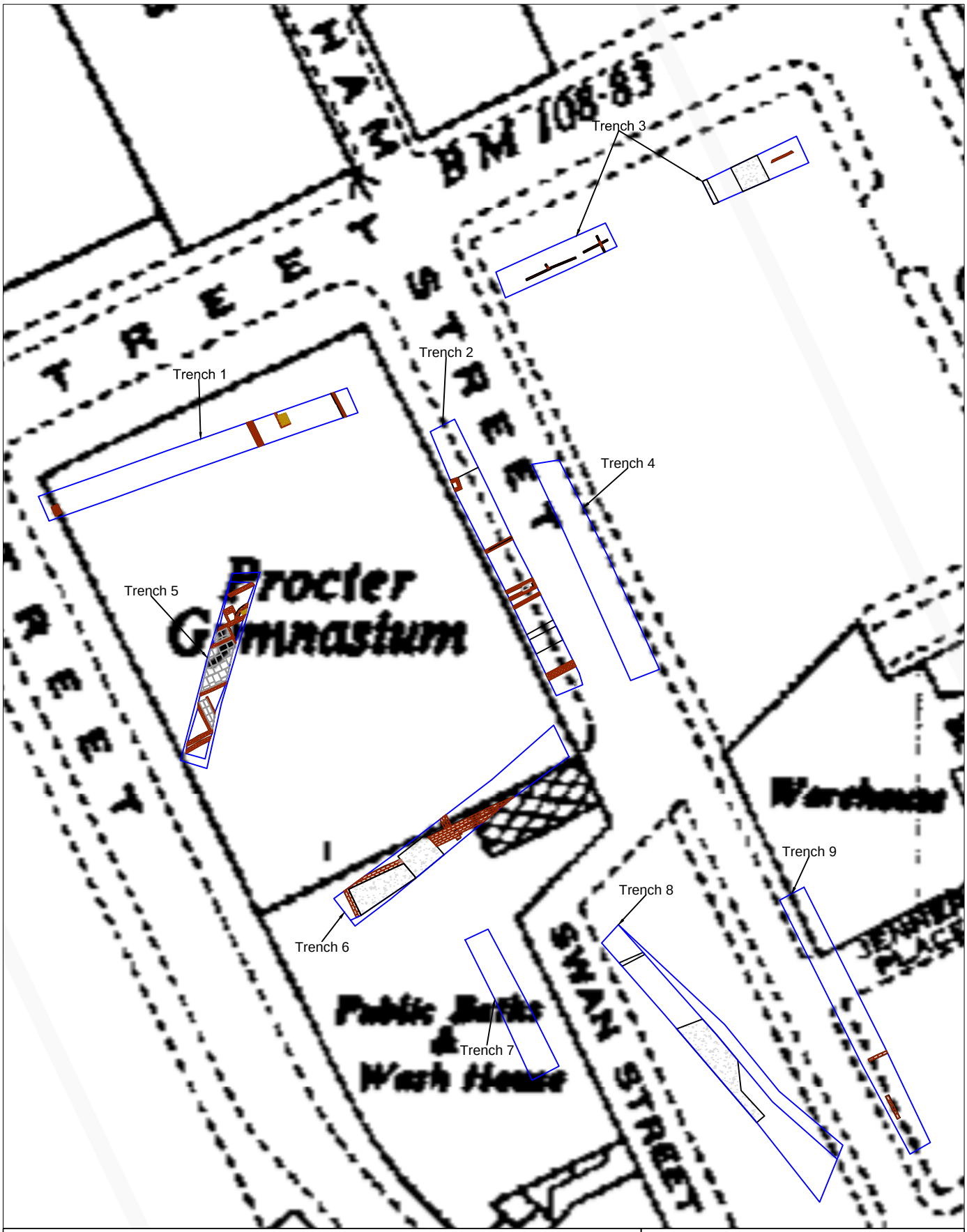


Figure 9:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1965

N

Key:

- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

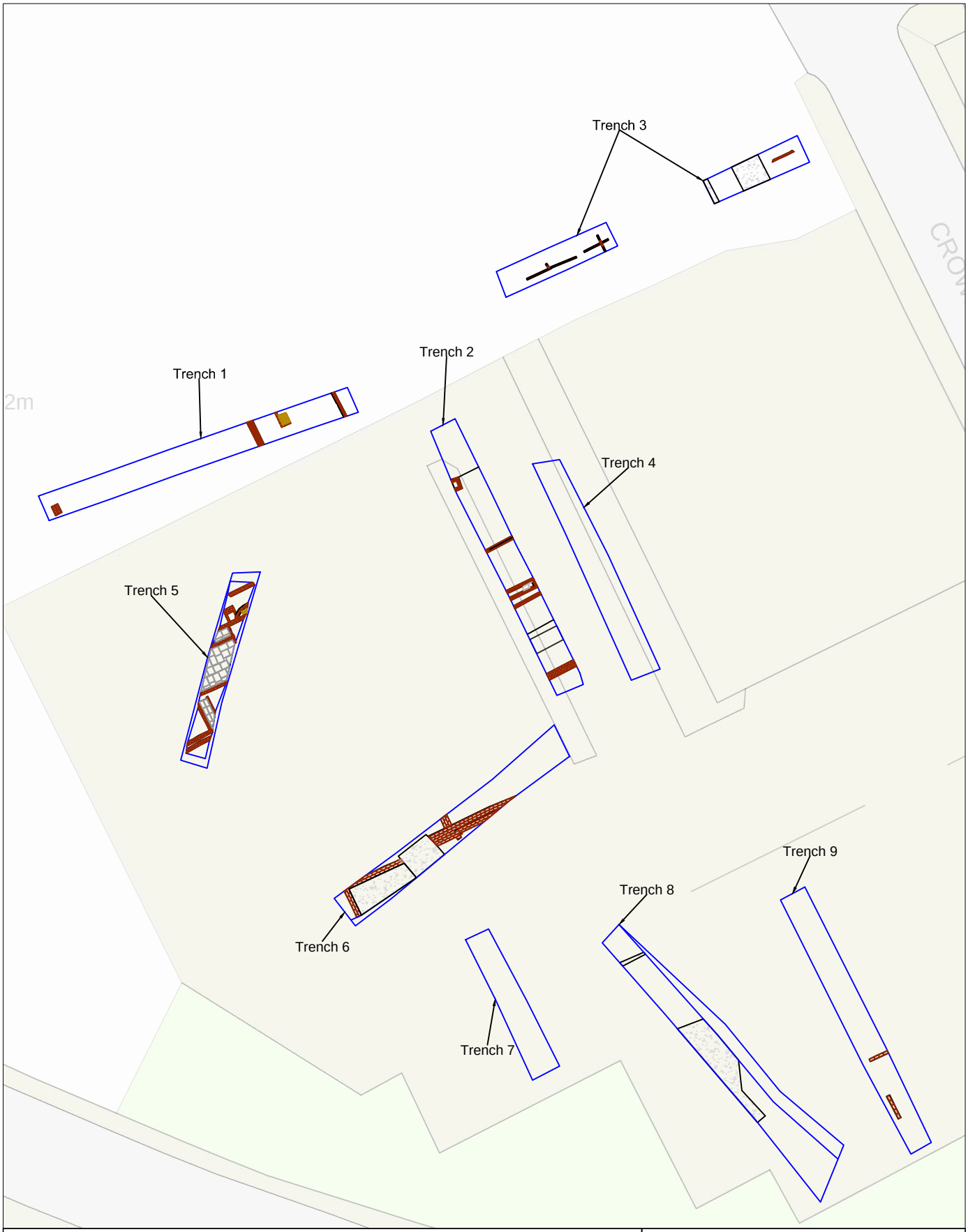


Figure 10:

Evaluation trenches superimposed on the modern Ordnance Survey map

N

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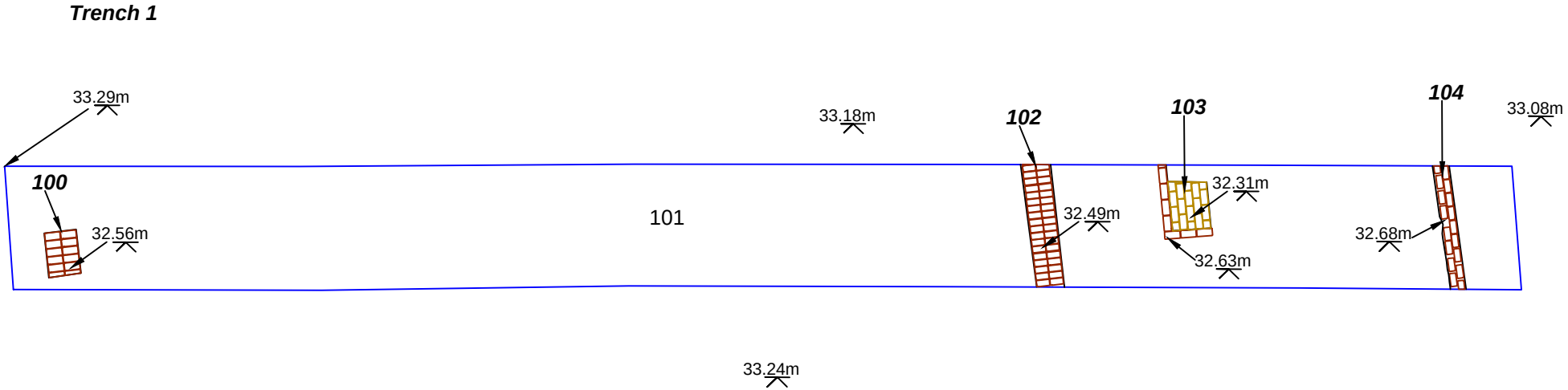
- Brick
- Brick floor
- Concrete
- Flag
- Trench

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

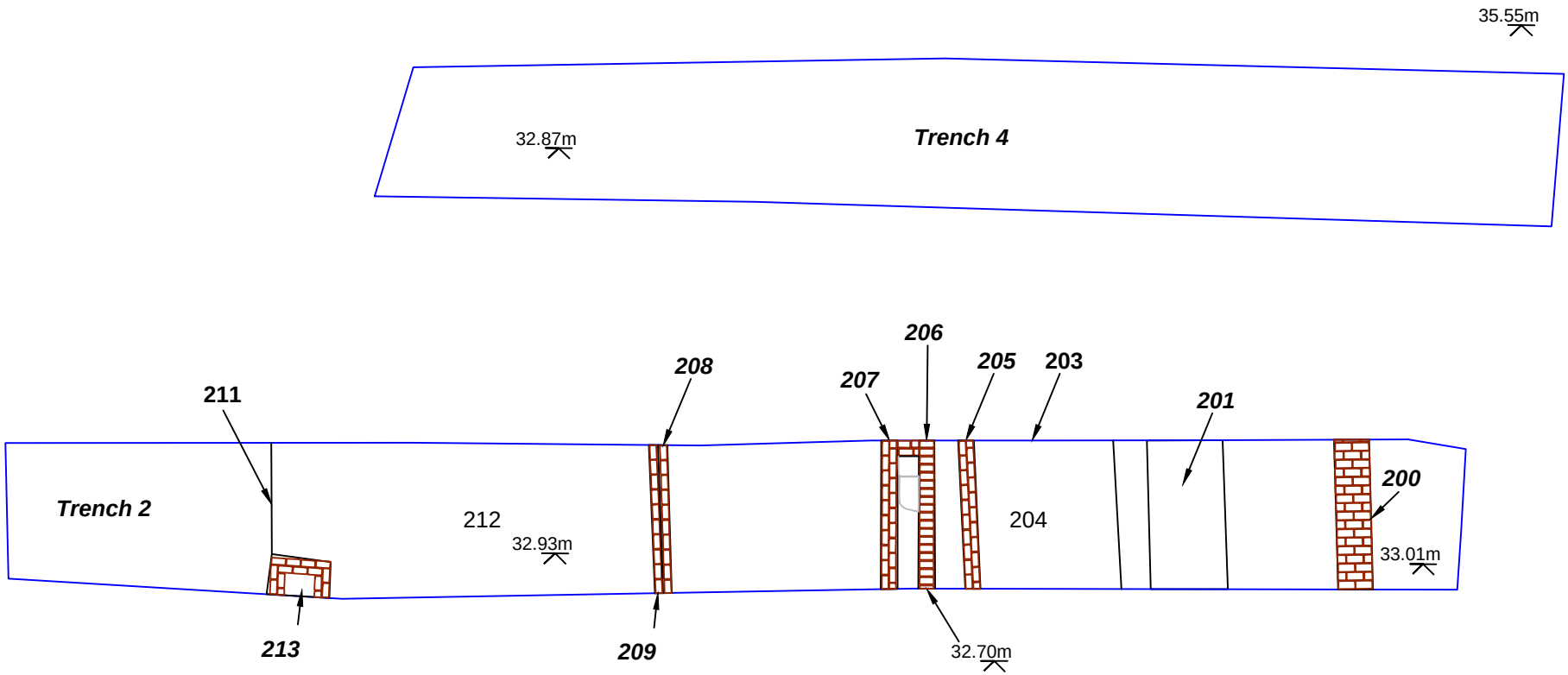
Figure 11:

Evaluation Trench 1

Key:

- Brick floor
- Brick wall
- Trench

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

Figure 12:

Evaluation Trenches 2 and 4

N

Key:

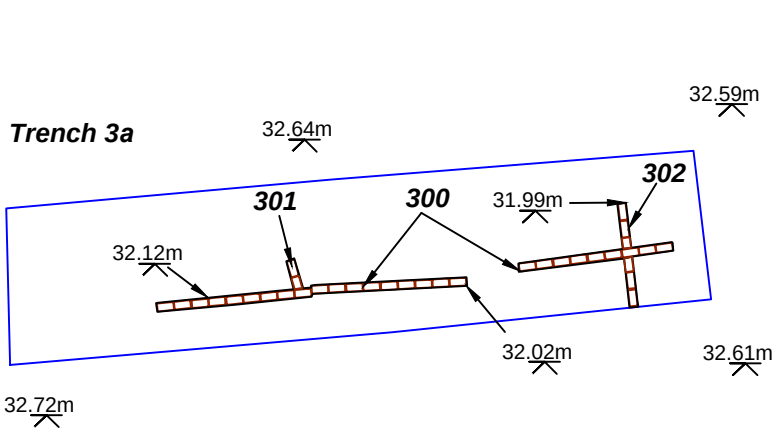
Brick floor

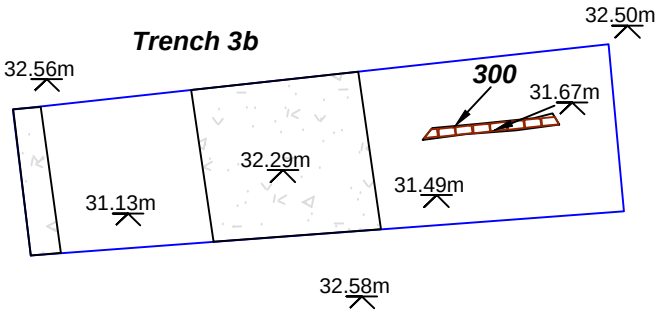
Brick wall

Trench

Flag

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT





SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

Figure 13:

Evaluation Trench 3

Key:

Brick floor

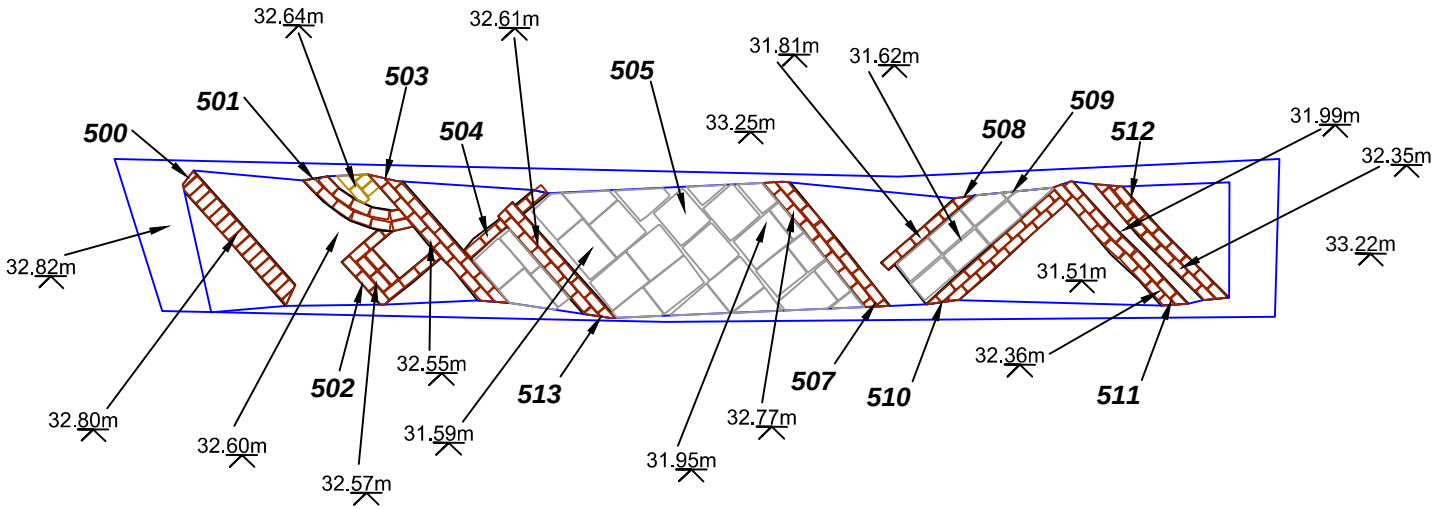
Brick wall

Trench

Concrete

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

Trench 5



SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

Figure 14:

Evaluation Trench 5

Key:

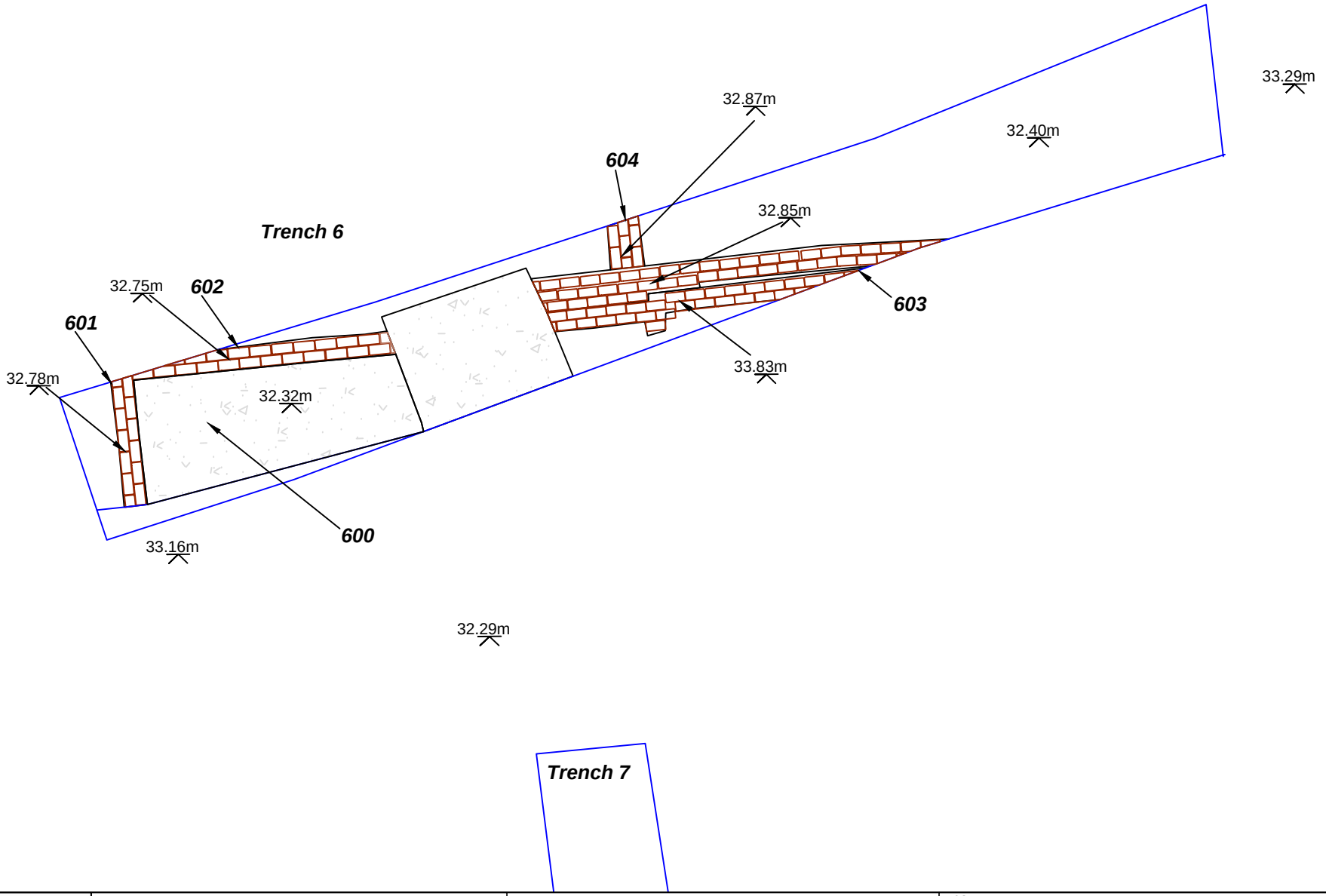
Brick floor

Brick wall

Trench

Concrete

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

Figure 15:

Evaluation Trench 6

Key:

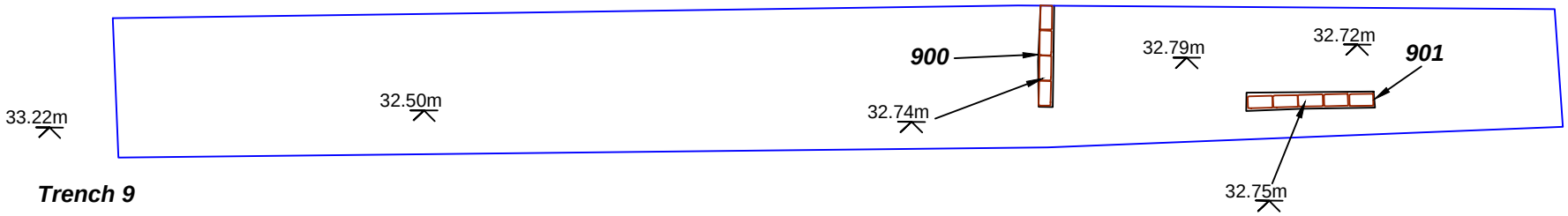
Brick floor

Brick wall

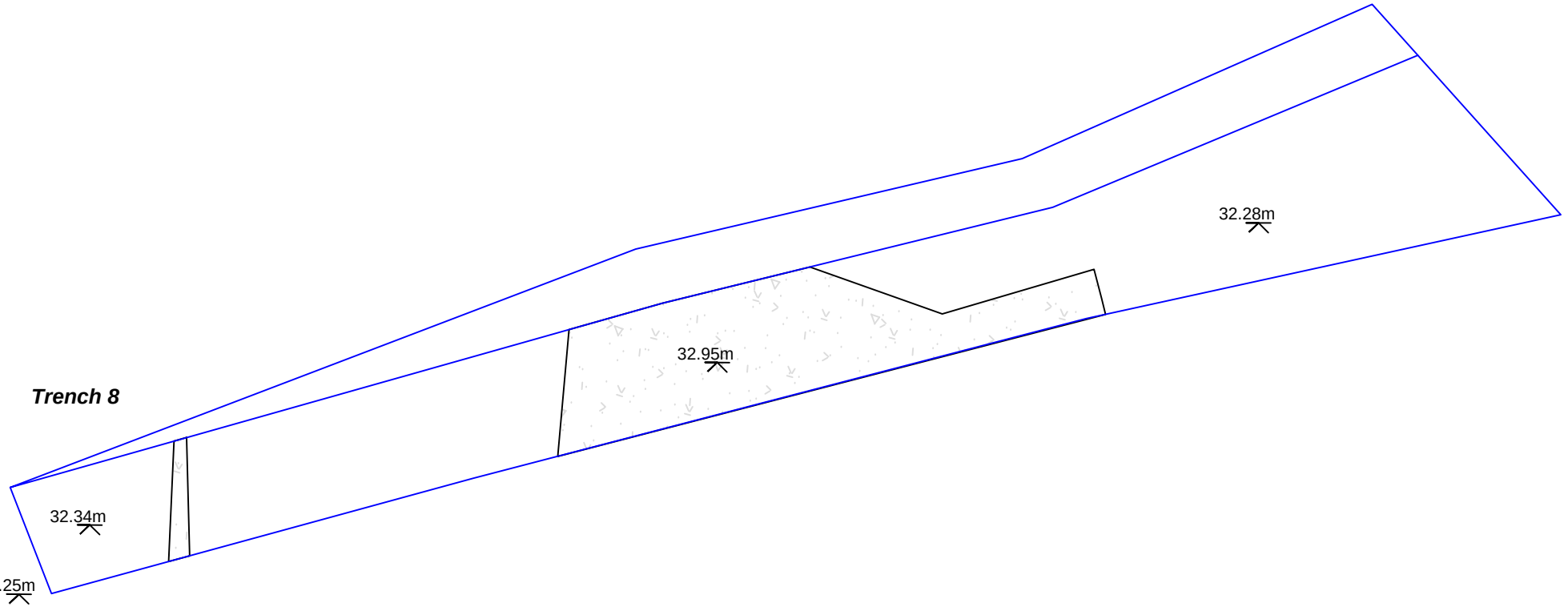
Trench

Concrete

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT



Trench 9



Trench 8

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A4 1:100

Figure 16:

Evaluation Trenches 8 and 9

N

Key:

Brick floor

Brick wall

Trench

Flag

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building, The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

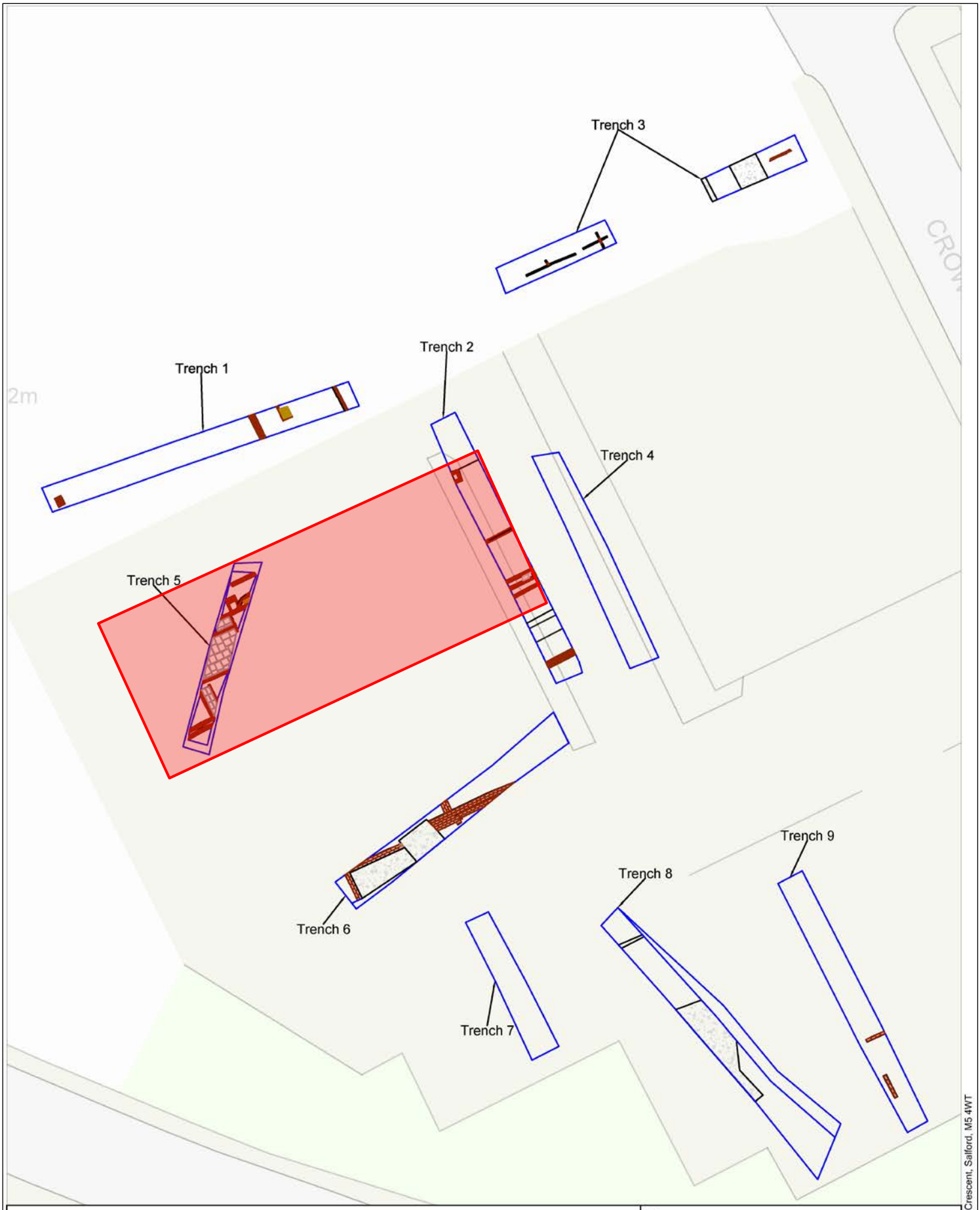


Figure 17:

Area of archaeological potential

N

Key:

Archaeological Potential

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

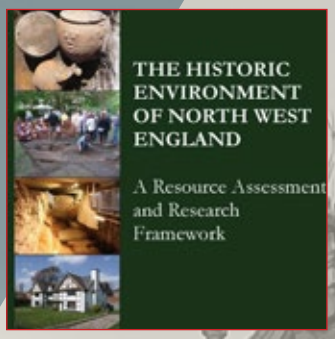
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Scale at A4 1:400

Salford Archaeology, Peel Building,The Crescent, Salford, M5 4WT

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

CONSULTANCY



DESK-BASED ASSESSMENTS



WATCHING BRIEF & EVALUATION



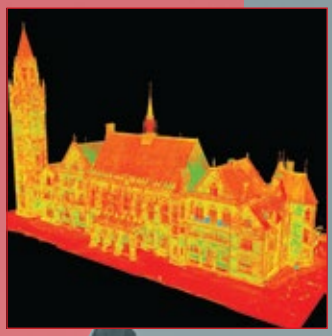
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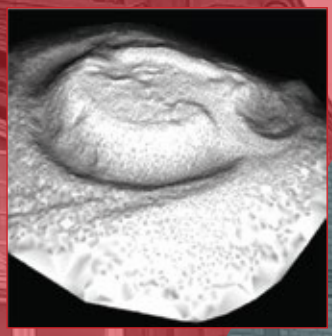
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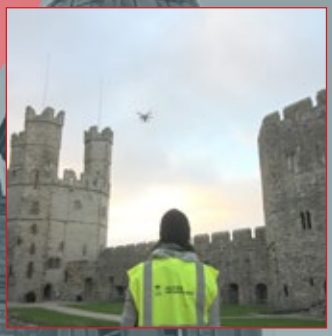
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LANDSCAPE SURVEYS



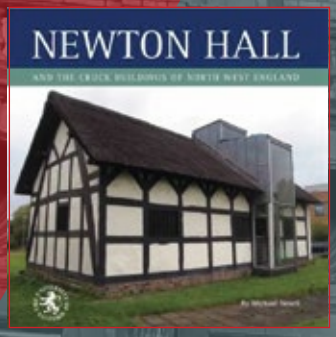
DRONE SURVEYS



WORKSHOPS & VOCATIONAL TRAINING



RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS



SEMINARS, DAYSCHOOLS CPD EVENTS



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The Centre for Applied Archaeology
REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

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