

**PLOT 9 FIRST STREET,
MEDLOCK STREET, MANCHESTER**

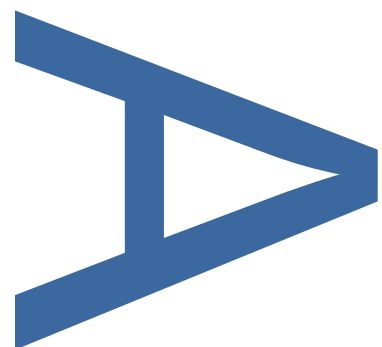
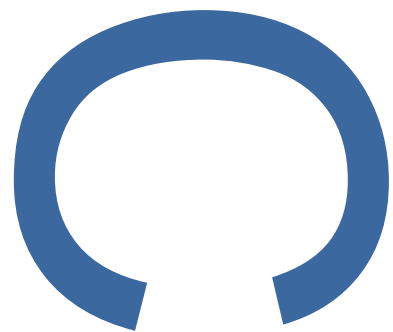
**WRITTEN SCHEME OF
INVESTIGATION FOR
ARCHAEOLOGICAL MITIGATION**

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
CITY OF MANCHESTER**

**PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER:
*TO BE ADVISED***

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE CODE: FMS20

MAY 2020, UPDATED DECEMBER 2021



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

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SITE CODE: FMS20

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY: Manchester City Council

PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER: to be received

CENTRAL NGR: 383727,397251

COMMISSIONING CLIENT: First Street Developments Ltd

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15 May 2020

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15 December 2021

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1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological mitigation is prepared for a proposed scheme of works at Plot 9, First Street South, Manchester (Figure 1). The proposed works will see the execution of an archaeological strip, map and record (SMR) investigation targeted at two areas of the site which have been agreed with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS).
- 1.2 Planning permission for the development of the site was previously granted by the City of Manchester under application number 125833/FO/2019. That planning consent included a condition (number 3) which stipulated that an archaeological evaluation would be followed, if warranted, by further archaeological mitigation work and then an off-site suite of post-excavation reporting as normal.
- 1.3 In March 2020 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited completed the trial trench evaluation (Banens 2020) which saw the execution of five linear trenches spread around the site. The evaluation demonstrated the presence of intact natural strata beneath some of the 19th and 20th century structural remains beneath possible agricultural layers pre-dating the mid-19th century in Trenches 1 and 3, while brickwork in Trenches 2 and 3 may be associated with the early 19th century structures depicted on Bancks' map of 1831. Intact masonry relating to the structures illustrated on the 1844-49 OS Map was also recorded, including external walls fronting Davies Street and Newcastle Street, as well as internal divisions and outbuildings. These properties were demolished in the early 20th century and backfilled with demolition rubble. The construction of buildings associated with the Rubber Works in the mid-20th century partially truncated the earlier features, with the large building built across the north-west of the site appearing to have completely or significantly impacted archaeological remains within its footprint. The survival of possible pre-industrial horizons and the presence of structural remains relating to the 19th century structures on site would suggest a good archaeological potential for the site beyond the footprint of the large 20th century building associated with the nearby Rubber Works.
- 1.4 As a result of this a, Strip, Map and Record (SMR) investigation was agreed as a suitable mitigation strategy. One SMR trench was to target the southern area of the site where features from the Bancks' map and OS Maps of 1844-49 show remains of interest (Figure 3), while to the east of the footprint of the large 20th century building PCA would attempt to investigate the channel shown on Bancks' map by means of a machine dug trench (Figure 2).
- 1.5 The aforementioned scheme of works was designed within a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by PCA (Mayo 2020) and approved by GMAAS. Subsequent to that agreement the proposed development has been amended, and a new planning application is to made.
- 1.6 PCA have discussed the new application with GMAAS and have confirmed that the scheme of works previously agreed and designed within Mayo 2020 remains fit for purpose. This revised WSI is updated to reflect the new scheme, and presents the previously agreed SMR

investigation as already agreed with GMAAS.

- 1.7 PCA are commissioned for the work by First Street Developments Ltd.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Site

- 2.1.1 The Site is located approximately 1.3km to the southeast of Manchester city centre, and approximately 1.1km from the centre of Hulme (Figure 1). It measures 0.48ha in area and is formed of vacant land bound by Hulme Street to the south and Medlock Street to the west. The eastern boundary of the site is formed by an adjacent piece of vacant land, and the easterly continuation of River Street forms the northern boundary.

- 2.1.2 The Site is centred at NGR 383727,397251.

2.2 Geology and Topography

- 2.2.1 According to the British Geological Survey, the eastern part of the site is underlain by drift deposits of Glacial Till, comprised of 'clay and silty clay, pebbly, reddish-brown, stiff and sandy'; the western part of the site is underlain by Glaciofluvial Sheet Deposits of 'sand and gravel' (Mayo 2020).

- 2.2.2 Work by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited in 2016 at the adjacent Plot 11 site, immediately to the south, found that natural deposits on site comprised a sand/sandy gravel. This was encountered between 34.09m OD in the south-eastern corner of the site, sloping down to 33.52m OD in the north, indicating that the natural topography slopes down from the south to the north into the River Medlock valley. There was no evidence of any subsoil horizon, which is likely to have been stripped from much of the area prior to or as part of the extensive building development during the early 19th century (Banens 2017).

- 2.2.3 Although the ground surface is broadly flat, the site appears to have been partially terraced at some point in time, with the southern part of the site at approximately 33.50m OD, reducing to 31m OD in the north.

- 2.2.4 The natural underlying sand was recorded in two trenches during the recent evaluation, at a maximum height of 32.89m OD in Trench 2, horizontally truncated by the construction of 19th century structures, and a height of 32.58m in Trench 3. Given the presence of possible agricultural soil layers sealing natural in Trench 3, it is likely that the natural was not horizontally truncated in this trench. The change in height of the natural sand from Trench 2 to Trench 3 indicates that, like on the Plot 11 site, the natural topography slopes down from the south to the north into the River Medlock valley.

2.3 Archaeological and Historical Background, Potential and Significance

- 2.3.1 The Site has been the subject of an Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (Buczac 2016) from which the following is drawn.

Prehistoric

2.3.2 The site lies close to the southern edge of the River Tib and the River Medlock on drift geology of sands and gravels, conditions considered ideal for prehistoric activity. However, the HER search contains no records of evidence for prehistoric activity from within the study area (possibly due to any the impact of industrial development), and even within the wider Manchester region prehistoric evidence is typically sporadic and constituting only isolated find spots.

2.3.3 The potential for prehistoric activity on the site is thus considered to be low. If prehistoric remains were found on the site they may be of local significance.

Roman

2.3.4 Substantial Roman settlement activity is well documented to the northwest of the site in the form of the 1st to 4th century Roman fort 'Mamucium,' its civilian settlement and associated roads. The HER search also contains a number of records of evidence for Roman activity from within the study area, including a number of roads. Most of these records, however, are concentrated on the edge of the Roman settlement nearly 500m to the north-west of the development site, and those that lie nearer the site all derive from find spots within secondary contexts rather than from in situ archaeological contexts.

2.3.5 The potential for Roman activity on the site is thus considered low. If Roman remains were found at the site they may be of local significance.

Anglo-Saxon / Medieval

2.3.6 It is likely that the site was removed from areas of settlement and land usage in the Saxon period, only a single piece of evidence from the Saxon period having been recorded within the study area.

2.3.7 Later cartographic evidence indicates that the site did not lie within the townships of Manchester or Chorlton on Medlock during the Medieval period, but rather within open land, possibly used for agricultural purposes. This is reflected in the HER, with no evidence from the medieval period being recorded within the study area.

2.3.8 The potential for Saxon / Medieval activity on the site is thus considered low. If such remains were found at the site they are likely to be purely agricultural in nature and probably of local significance.

Post Medieval

2.3.9 Evidence suggests a substantial amount of activity occurred on the site during the post-medieval period, although the site is likely to have remained within open and potentially agricultural land until the late 18th century when the Industrial Revolution saw Manchester enter a new and dramatic phase of development.

2.3.10 The earliest cartographic evidence depicts the site still relatively undeveloped in the late 18th century, although it was by this time already crossed by a road and a water channel - a man-made channel fed from the River Medlock - which, across the turn of the century, would see some relatively minor changes and developments. The site had begun to change more rapidly

by the 1820s when the first substantial industrial works were constructed in the immediate vicinity; with the establishment of the nearby portable gas works, the site becomes covered by smallholdings and orchard plots (Figure 3) which are replaced various times over the early 19th century by other smallholdings and, eventually, dense rows of workers' housing (Figure 4).

- 2.3.11 This housing remained on the site, with only minor changes, until the early 20th century when one begins to witness the (gradual but becoming rapid) clearance of this housing and replacement by industrial/warehouse buildings. By 1932, this process was complete with the housing completely replaced by a complex of yards and structures of an industrial nature. This complex underwent various changes and developments until at least 1965 (Figure 5), at some point after which the entire area was cleared to become the car parking area which exists today.
- 2.3.12 The site clearly has a high potential for post-medieval remains, with a survival bias favouring evidence from the later centuries of this period as activity from this time is both more prolific and likely to have had a substantial impact upon remains from the preceding centuries buried below.
- 2.3.13 Post-medieval remains encountered on site will most likely take the form of foundations and basements belonging to the large industrial/warehouse structures constructed in the 20th century and - in-between these areas of deeper impact - basements, cellars and foundations of the earlier 19th century terraced workers' housing. Thick layers of made ground relating to the 19th and 20th century demolition of these structures should also be expected.
- 2.3.14 If post-medieval remains are found at the site they are likely to be of only local significance.

2.4 Archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the Site

Plot 11

- 2.4.1 At the Plot 11 site immediately to the south of Plot 9, an archaeological evaluation and subsequent excavation was conducted in 2016 by PCA (Banens 2017). This revealed a series of cellars and other building remains which dated from the early to mid-19th century, as well as a series of air raid shelters and associated entrances from WWII. The 19th-century buildings were primarily residential in nature; commercial/industrial buildings replaced the terraced housing after slum clearance of the early 20th century.
- 2.4.2 The earliest buildings on site consisted of a row of terraced houses fronting Mount Street, which were constructed in the early-mid 19th century. It is possible that these houses belong to a row of buildings shown on the Bancks' Map of 1831. These were altered throughout the course of the 19th century.
- 2.4.3 In the mid-19th century, industrial development along the Medlock resulted in the construction of workers' housing across the site, as well as in neighbouring areas. Streets with rows of terraced back-to-backs and terraced through-houses, two to three storeys tall were built. In addition to the cellars fronting Mount Street, the fragmentary truncated remains of structures fronting onto Mouncey's Court, Cream Court, Parker Street, Jones Street, Galloway Street, and George Street were recorded. The houses fronting Mount Street and Parker Street had cellars, while there was no evidence of the houses on other streets having cellars.
- 2.4.4 At some point, the walls of the cellars of the terrace fronting Mount Street were knocked down

- to form one large cellar and the staircases providing access to the cellars were blocked up.
- 2.4.5 Between 1922 and 1937, all the housing on site was demolished, and the school building was rebuilt for use as a 'works'. The land between Ebenezer Street and George Street was turned into a coal yard, in which a series of air raid shelters in two rows was built for the Second World War. Eight brick entrances and eight shelters were recorded. Modern commercial/industrial buildings were constructed on the site during the 1930s, however, these were later demolished and the site was primarily used as a car park.

Plot 9

- 2.4.6 The evaluation to Plot 9 as required by the planning condition was completed by PCA in March 2020 (Banens). Natural sand was observed at the base of Trenches 2 and 3, between 32.89m and 32.58m OD. It had been horizontally truncated by the construction of 19th century buildings in Trench 2, though it may have survived to its original height in Trench 3, where it was sealed by a possible agricultural layer. These were observed in two trenches; however, no finds were recovered from these layers, so they cannot presently be dated.
- 2.4.7 The earliest brick walls recorded may be associated with the buildings shown on Bancks' map of 1831 (Figure 2). Walls seemingly forming the rear yards of the properties fronting Easton Street were recorded in Trench 2. Outbuildings associated with the rear yards were also recorded; these appear to have later been filled in and paved over with flagstones. Two north-west to south-east running walls in Trench 3 may also relate to the early 19th century buildings on site, forming the internal walls of properties on the eastern side of Easton Street.
- 2.4.8 Walls belonging to structures observed on the 1844-49 OS Map (Figure 3) were recorded in Trenches 1, 4A, and 4B. These included external walls fronting Davies Street and Newcastle Street, as well as some internal divisions and outbuildings. The property along the western side of Davies Street and the back-to-backs fronting Newcastle Street were both cellared, while the property on the eastern side of Davies Street does not appear to have had a cellar. A segment of brickwork in Trench 4 appears to align with the steps leading up to a terraced house visible on the 1844-49 OS Map.
- 2.4.9 The 19th century buildings on site were demolished in the late 1920s and early 1930s as part of the slum clearance of Hulme. This involved the infilling of cellars with demolition rubble and the horizontal truncation of buildings. Two brick surfaces and a cobbled surface recorded in Trench 3, as well as a brick and flagstone surface in Trench 4A, are thought to date to the 20th century, following the demolition of the terraces, although they do not correspond with any of the historic maps consulted. By the mid-20th century, dispersed buildings associated with the nearby Rubber Works had been constructed on the site. The larger building to the north/north-west of site (Figure 4) removed any earlier features during its construction. This building was, with others, subsequently demolished and the site was used as a car park.

2.5 Mitigation Fieldwork: Agreed Strategy

- 2.5.1 With regards to the previously consented scheme (permission for which was granted under application 125833/FO/2019), PCA liaised GMAAS in 2020 to agree a mitigation strategy which

would see a strip, map and record investigation across a defined area of the site, with a machine dug trench to the east of the modern building to access deeper deposits if present (Figures 2-5).

2.5.2 The SMR area would be subject to archaeological mitigation wherein the modern ground surface and overburden will be carefully machined to reveal buried cellars, walls and stratigraphy. These would then be cleaned by hand and recorded using digital and drawn methods. Targeted excavation by hand through soft strata will be undertaken to retrieve finds and understand the deposition sequences.

2.5.3 The trench targeting the channel shown on Bancks' map (Figure 2) would be machine excavated with upper remains of more recent / later date rapidly investigated and recorded, to allow the team to reach and investigate the lower channel feature shown to be present on the historic map (if it survives).

2.5.4 A planning application is shortly to be made to the local planning authority for an amended scheme (application ref not yet known), summarised as follows:

- Erection of a 9-storey building with basement comprising office accommodation (Use Class E(c)), car parking, cycle parking and associated facilities, landscaping and associated works

2.5.5 PCA has discussed previous amendments to the original scheme with GMAAS and agreed (Appendix 1) that the scope of works previously agreed, and as presented hereafter, remain appropriate and acceptable for the site.

2.6 PCA Background

2.6.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited is a Registered Archaeological Organisation (number 23) with the Institute for Archaeologists and will operate within the Institute's 'Code of Practice'. The company has been in operation since 1993.

2.6.2 PCA has the following accreditations:

- ISO9001 registration
- SMAS registration
- ConstructionLine registration

2.6.3 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited carries the following insurance policies:

Policy	Limit of Indemnity	Insurer	Policy Number
Public Liability	£10,000,000 any one event	Aviva Insurance Ltd & AIG Europe Ltd	24765101CHC/000133 & 25035008
Employers Liability	£10,000,000 any one occurrence	Aviva Insurance Ltd	24765101CHC/000133
Hired in Plant & Equipment	£250,000 any one claim	Aviva Insurance Ltd	24765101CHC/000133
Professional Indemnity	£5,000,000 in respect of any one claim	Hiscox Insurance Company Limited	9446188

2.7 Relevant Guidance

2.7.1 All works will be undertaken in accordance with the following documents:

- This Written Scheme of Investigation (pending approval from GMAAS)
- Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service: *Standards for Archaeological Work* (EH 2015 on-line)
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Codes, Standards and Guidelines Papers (CIfA, various dates)
- MoRPHE (English Heritage, 2006).

3 UPDATED RESEARCH DESIGN

3.1 The research objectives contained within the previous evaluation WSI (Mayo 2020) are now updated as follows:

- i. To further determine the natural topography of the site within the areas of investigation.
- ii. To confirm an absence of prehistoric, Roman, early medieval and medieval activity, as suggested by the evaluation.
- iii. To establish the presence or absence of post-medieval deposits / activity. Desk-based research suggests an absence of development at the site until the late 18th century, can this be confirmed?
- iv. If possible, to date the possible agricultural soils identified within the evaluation.
- v. To investigate the possible presence of a channel from the Medlock which is suggested to cross the site on Banck's 1831 map (Figure 2).
- vi. To further investigate whether early 19th century properties, shown by Banck's in the SW quarter of the site and thought to be present within Trenches 2 and 3, survive in the archaeological record. Are they domestic properties?
- vii. To ascertain the presence of workers terraces as shown on the OS Map of 1844-49 (Figure 3). Have these survived later developments? Did they incorporate the earlier structures illustrated by Banck's, or replace them entirely?
- viii. To ascertain the state of preservation of 19th and early 20th century domestic dwellings and associated structures which are known to have stood at the Site.
- ix. Is it possible to chart the development of these 19th century structures into the 20th century? If so, how have they been altered, for example with the addition / insertion of drainage and water systems?
- x. To establish the extent of past impacts on archaeological survival.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Strip, Map and Record Investigation

- 4.1.1 Within the areas shown at Figures 2-5 an archaeological Strip, Map and Record (SMR) will be undertaken.
- 4.1.2 The PCA archaeological supervisor will monitor ground reduction by machine across the SMR area to reach the level of significant archaeological remains, expected at approximately 0.5m. The machining will be undertaken in a controlled fashion by a 360° tracked excavator which will be fitted with a toothless grading bucket for excavation through overburden, in steady passes up to 100mm thick, until archaeological remains or deposits which warrant hand-investigation are found. The exposed surfaces will be constantly checked for finds and features by the attendant archaeologist.
- 4.1.3 The trench proposed to target the channel will also be excavated by machine, allowing for rapid investigation and recording of the upper 20th and 19th century layers, to ultimately reach the early 19th / later 18th century horizons (if they survive) and allow the channel illustrated by Banck's to be investigated via a machine dug trench, which ideally will reveal the feature in profile.
- 4.1.4 The arisings from the excavation work will either (or in combination) be stored within the footprint of the large 20th century building in the northern half of the site, or within the adjacent vacant plot to the east of Plot 9. The machining of the archaeological trenches will be controlled by PCA.
- 4.1.5 Following machine excavation, relevant faces of the trench that require examination or recording will be cleaned using appropriate hand tools. The majority of the investigation of archaeological levels will be by hand, with cleaning, examination and recording both in plan and in section. The archaeological remains which are expected largely comprise post-medieval walls and surfaces; these will be rapidly cleaned to allow photography and recording in plan (either drawn or digital), section and elevation as appropriate.
- 4.1.6 Other more significant deposits or structures may require work by 'pick and shovel' or refined cleaning and excavation with a trowel and smaller tools, prior to recording using standard 'single context' recording methods. Photographs will also be taken as appropriate. All finds will be recovered from excavated deposits so as to aid the identification and date of later archaeological horizons and areas of modern truncation.
- 4.1.7 Once archaeological horizons have been recorded the machine may be brought back to the area to continue stripping to lower levels, if it can do so without damaging areas yet to be recorded. Based upon the results of the evaluation it is expected that the removal of the post-medieval sequence will expose natural across the SMR area, at which point the fieldwork can be considered complete. If deeper survival is found it will be rapidly investigated, sampled and recorded.
- 4.1.8 It is known from the evaluation that localised cellars are present within the site. It is a requirement of the archaeological project that these are emptied of their backfill in order to investigate and record their construction and use. Due care will be taken during this work to

avoid undermining the boundaries to the site. Once such work is completed the cellars will immediately be backfilled to a safe level.

4.1.9 If encountered, the removal of human remains will and can only take place with the consent of the Ministry of Justice and local environmental health regulations. Prior written notice will also be given to GMAAS.

4.1.10 All gold and silver will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act 1996. Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.

5 ACCESS, HEALTH AND SAFETY

5.1 It is currently unknown when the fieldwork will take place. However, regardless, the project will be run with due respect to government guidelines on coronavirus / COVID-19 including hygiene and social distancing measures.

5.2 All relevant health and safety legislation, CDM, COSHH regulations and codes of practice will be respected. This requirement constitutes one of the non-archaeological requirements of the project design.

5.3 Prior to the commencement of fieldwork PCA will prepare a H&S Method Statement including a site-specific Risk Assessment for the works. PCA's Health and Safety Policy will be followed at all times.

5.4 PCA has been supplied with a contamination report (Cundall 2016); this has been reviewed by PCA and its findings will be incorporated into a site-specific RAMS.

5.5 PCA has also received the results of a sub-surface GPR service scan for Plot 9, and these results are illustrated at Figure 5. The SMR trench locations will be surveyed by a suitably qualified person using a Cable Avoidance Tool prior to excavation. As services be encountered during excavation, it will be the assumption of PCA that they are live and will be avoided at all costs. This may require the local abandonment of excavation so as not to disturb the services.

5.6 Reasonable access to the site will be granted to the Client, representatives of the Local Planning Authority, GMAAS and the Client's agents who wish to be satisfied, through site inspections, that the archaeological works are being conducted to proper professional standards and in accordance with the agreements made.

5.7 All relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice will be respected. This requirement constitutes one of the non-archaeological requirements on the trial investigation layout.

5.8 No unsupported trench edges will exceed 1.0m depth; if excavation continues below this depth then trench edges will be stepped. Any excavations >0.3m deep will be locally secured using appropriate fencing (i.e. block and mesh type).

- 5.9 It is currently unknown whether attendances will be provided by PCA or another provider. Such attendances include plant, spoil management, UXO attendance to the excavations, site welfare for the archaeological team.
- 5.10 The site will be secured by the client or their agent for the duration of the works.
- 5.11 PCA have not been informed that there are any listed buildings or areas of ecological importance public rights of way, or trees protected by TPOs in the area of the proposed trenches.

6 RECORDING SYSTEMS

6.1 Site Code

- 6.1.1 The unique-number site code (**FMS20**) used by PCA during the site evaluation work will be retained for the mitigation fieldwork.

6.2 Site Records

- 6.2.1 The recording systems adopted during the investigations will be those developed out of the Department of Urban Archaeology Site Manual, and presented in PCA's *Operations Manual 1* (Taylor and Brown 2009). No alternative recording system will be adopted without the prior agreement of GMAAS. This system works on the concept of single-context recording.
- 6.2.2 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in the Local Authority area. Individual descriptions of all archaeological strata and features excavated and exposed will be entered onto prepared pro-forma recording sheets which include the same fields of entry as are found on the recording sheets of the Museum of London. Sample recording sheets, sample registers, finds recording sheets, accession catalogues, and the photography record cards will follow the Museum of London equivalents. This requirement for archival compatibility extends to the use of computerised databases.
- 6.2.3 A 'site location plan' indicating the site north and based on the current Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO) will be prepared. This will be supplemented by a trench plan at 1:200 (or 1:100), which will show the location of the areas investigated in relation to the investigation area and National Grid Reference. All sections should be located on plan with OS co-ordinates. The location of the OS bench marks used and the site TBM will also be indicated.
- 6.2.4 A record of the full extent in plan of all archaeological deposits as revealed in the investigation will be made; these plans will be on polyester based drawing film, will be related to the site grid and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20. 'Single context planning' will be used on site, and the information will be digitised for eventual CAD application.
- 6.2.5 At least one long section will be drawn or a representative part including a profile of the top of the natural deposits (extrapolated from cut features etc., if the trench has not been fully excavated). Other sections, including the half-sections of individual layers or features may be drawn as appropriate to 1:10 or 1:20.

- 6.2.6 The OD height of all principal strata and features will be calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

6.3 Stratigraphic Matrix

- 6.3.1 A 'Harris Matrix' stratification diagram will be used to record stratigraphic relationships. This record will be compiled and fully checked during the course of the excavations. Spot dating should be incorporated where applicable during the course of the excavation.

6.4 Photographic Record

- 6.4.1 A full photographic record of the investigations will be prepared. This will comprise digital photography; shots will be taken as high- and medium-quality jpegs and tiffs, and will be downloaded at regular intervals to PCA's computer database. The photographic record will also include 'working shots' to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological investigation.

6.5 Site Survey

- 6.5.1 Trench positions and OS datums will be established on site by PCA using a GPS-system.

7 TREATMENT OF FINDS AND SAMPLES

7.1 General

- 7.1.1 Finds and environmental processing will take place at one of PCA's offices nationwide, for example in London or Durham, or, if appropriate, those of our environmental consultants.

7.2 Environmental

- 7.2.1 Different sampling strategies may be employed according to the perceived importance of the deposit or feature under investigation. Close attention will be given to sampling for date, structure and environment. Sample size should be take into account the frequency with which material is likely to occur. Bulk sieving should be employed both for recovery of environmental evidence to ensure that complete samples of artefactual evidence are collected for significant deposits.
- 7.2.2 The strategy for sampling archaeological and environmental deposits and structures (which can include soils, timbers, pollen, diatoms, animal bone and human burials) will be developed in consultation with GMAAS and, if necessary, the Historic England Regional Archaeological Science Advisor. Subsequent on site work and analysis of the processed samples and remains will be undertaken by our own consultants and specialist sub-contractors.
- 7.2.3 A high priority will be given to sampling river and other anaerobic deposits, such as peat, where organic materials may be preserved. Organic samples will be subject to appropriate specialist analysis.

7.3 Artefactual

- 7.3.1 All finds and artefacts will be retained according to the selection retention and retrieval policy appropriate to the material type and date. No finds will be discarded without the prior approval

of GMAAS.

- 7.3.2 All finds will be treated in a proper manner and to standards agreed in advance with the recipient museum. They will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the guidelines set out in the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation's 'Conservation Guidelines No.2'. All metal objects will be x-rayed and then selected for conservation (except in those cases where GMAAS agrees that this will not be necessary).
- 7.3.3 Relevant ceramic (pottery, clay tobacco, building material fabric and brick form) reference collections will be referred to for descriptive and analytical purposes in order to ensure that terminology is consistent.

8 ARCHIVES AND REPORTS

8.1 Archive and Deposition

- 8.1.1 The integrity of the site archive will be maintained. The finds and records will be available for public consultation. Appropriate guidance is set out in the Museum and Galleries Commission's *Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections* (1992) and *Towards an Accessible Archaeological Archive. The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Museums: Guidelines for Use in England, Northern Ireland Scotland and Wales* (SMA 1995).
- 8.1.2 The client agrees, by approval of this document, to donate all finds and archives to an appropriate local museum. The museum of Science & Industry in Manchester (SIM) will be offered the archive in the first instance; their Curator of Industrial Heritage and Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service endorse this approach¹. They will be offered the opportunity to visit the site work as it proceeds to advise on selection / retention procedures, and will be consulted about the suitability of the retained archive for deposition with the museum once the post-excavation assessments are complete. Recommendations for discard / retention of archive material will be made by PCAs specialists during the assessment process.
- 8.1.3 For deposition with SIM, the 'Guidelines for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives 2017 v2' will be followed.
- 8.1.4 Upon completion of the fieldwork project, when GMAAS confirms that no further work is required and when all post-excavation reports have been approved by all relevant parties, the archival process will be begun by PCA.
- 8.1.5 The minimum acceptable standard for the site archive is defined in the Management of Archaeological Projects 5.4 and Appendix 3. It will include most materials recovered, (or the comprehensive records of such materials as referred to above) and all written, drawn, and photographic records, including a copy of all reports relating to the investigations undertaken. It will be quantified, ordered, indexed, and internally consistent before transfer. It will also contain a site matrix, a site summary and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental

¹ Emails between C Mayo, PCA, and K. Belshaw, SIM, and N Redhead, GMAAS, May 2020

data.

8.1.6 Examples of material which may not be retained as part of the site archive are detailed within the aforementioned Guidelines (Manchester Museum et al, undated).

8.1.7 The United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term storage (1990) will be followed.

8.1.8 If finds are not to be transferred to the above museum, arrangements will be made for a comprehensive record of all relevant materials (including detailed drawings, photographs and descriptions of individual finds), which can instead constitute the archaeological archive. If SIM do not wish to take custody of the archive, then PCA may approach the client / landowner to discuss whether it is feasible to store / rebury the archive on site in perpetuity. This option will be explored with the agreement of GMAAS.

8.2 Assessment Report

8.2.1 Notwithstanding details included above all fieldwork and results will be fully recorded and an Assessment Report prepared. Copies of the report will be forwarded to the commissioning Client and GMAAS.

8.2.2 The Assessment Report will include:

- Non-technical summary;
- Introduction;
- Planning Background;
- Previous archaeological work relevant to the project;
- Topography of the site;
- Research objectives;
- Methodology;
- A factual summary characterising the quantity and perceived quality of the data for each component of the site (e.g. stratigraphic/structural, artefactual, environmental);
- A review of the data in the context of the questions posed in the WSI;
- New research questions arising from the data collection;
- The value of the data to local, regional and national research priorities;
- Details of the archive and its proposed location; and
- Publication Synopsis.
- An assessment of the results against original expectations and a review of the effectiveness of the fieldwork strategy;
- Conclusions;
- Bibliography;
- Acknowledgements;
- OASIS form.

8.2.3 The assessment report will include recommendations for the appropriate analysis and publication of the archaeology.

8.3 Dissemination

- 8.3.1 A short summary of the results of the work, even if negative, will be bound into the client report for submission to the LPA and the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GMHER) as soon as possible after the completion of archaeological works.
- 8.3.2 Minimum requirements for public dissemination is for OASIS report forms to be submitted to the OASIS Project as soon as possible of within 6 months of completion of fieldwork. Such publications will meet the minimum requirements set out in Appendix 7, Management of Archaeological Projects (1991), and derive from a 'phase 2 review' as defined in the same document. There is a need to format reports so that the details of the proposed development impact can be separated from the information and enable all archaeological information to be made available to the GMHER within 6 months of the completion of fieldwork. A copy of the client report will be sent to the Local Studies Library.
- 8.3.3 Where the mentioned 'phase 2' review indicates the need for further assessment and analysis the recommendations set out in the Management of Archaeological Projects 1991 will be followed.
- 8.3.4 The analysis of the site archive will be undertaken following the approval by GMAAS of the assessment report, to allow its dissemination in an appropriate manner². It is suggested that for Plot 9, this may be the installation at the site within public realm areas of public display boards which could illustrate the historical / archaeological background of the site and immediate area.

9 PROGRAMMING

9.1 Strip, Map and Record

- 9.1.1 A start date for the work is unknown but is subject to the granting of planning consent, and will be advised to GMAAS at least 2 weeks in advance of start.

9.2 Post-Excavation Reporting

- 9.2.1 Upon completion of the SMR the post-excavation assessment will commence. This is expected for issue within approximately 6 months of the completion of site work.
- 9.2.2 Upon approval of the assessment report the dissemination work can commence. The delivery of this will depend upon the nature of the work, but will be achieved within a timely manner.

² PCA has recently completed a paper further to works at the adjacent Plot 8 (11) site which has been submitted for publication in *Industrial Archaeology Review* (Banens et al, forthcoming)

10 BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Banens, R. 2017. 'First Street Plot 11 (8), Manchester M15 4FN: Assessment Report of an Archaeological Excavation', Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited.
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- Banens, R with Gaimster, M, Hayward, K and Jarrett, C, forthcoming, "Workers Housing in Hulme, Manchester" in *Industrial Archaeology Review*
- Buczac, M. 2016. 'Plots 6 & 7, First Street South, Manchester, M15 4FN: An Environment Desk-Based Assessment', Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited.
- Mayo, C. 2020. 'First Street South, Manchester: Plot 9: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation', Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
- Cundall 2016. 'Plot 8 First Street, Manchester: Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Assessment', unpublished report
- Manchester Museum, Museum of Science & Industry in consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit (GMAU), undated. *Guidelines for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to The Manchester Museum and the Museum of Science & Industry*
- Taylor, J with Brown, G 2009, Fieldwork Induction Manual: Operations Manual 1, PCA



Figures 2-5: Proposed Mitigation Areas For Archaeological Strip, Map and Record (SMR)

 Proposed SMR Trench A

Proposed SMR Trench B 

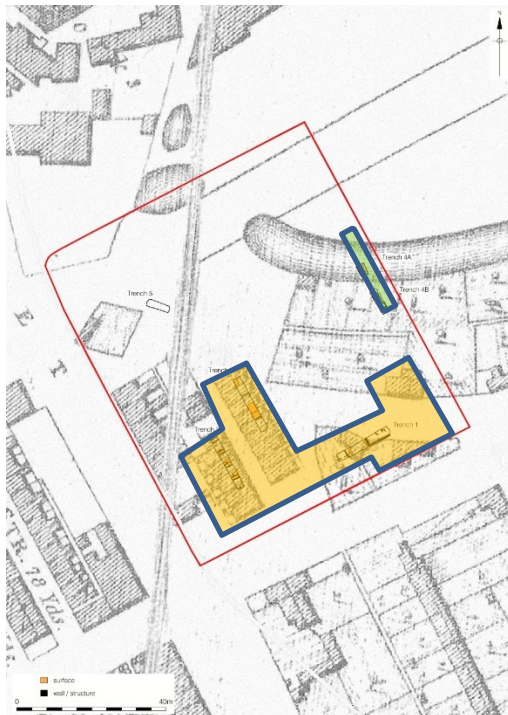


Figure 2: Bancks' Map 1831

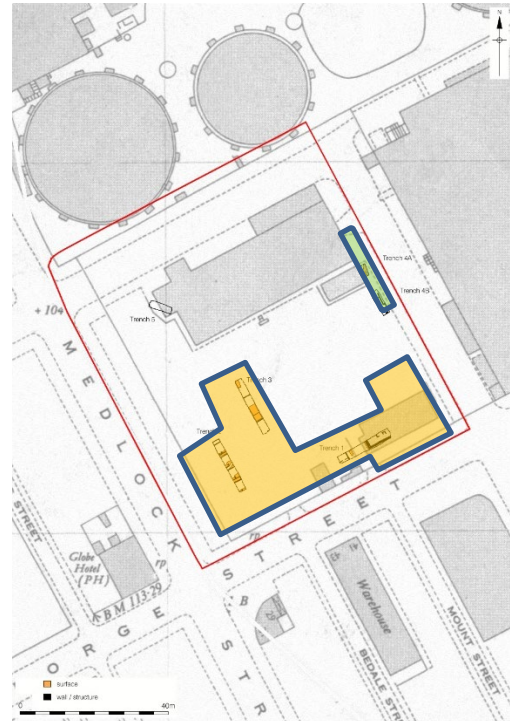


Figure 4: OS 1965



Figure 3: OS 1844-49

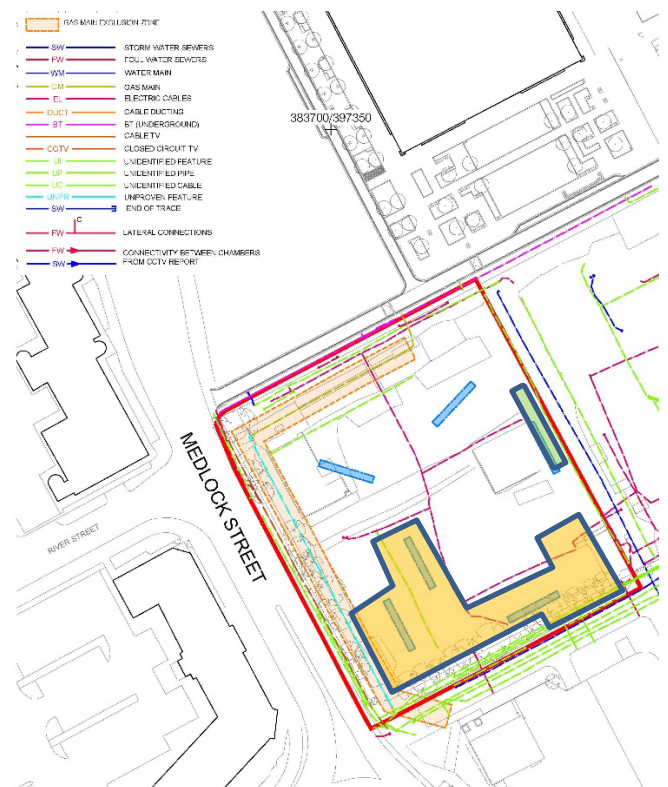


Figure 5: Modern services

11 APPENDIX 1: E-MAIL CORRESPONDENCE WITH GMAAS RE NEW APPLICATION

From: Benjamin Dyson < >

Sent: 03 August 2021 15:18

To: Chris Mayo < >

Subject: RE: Plot 9, First Street South

Hi Chris,

Good to speak with you just a few moments ago.

To confirm what we spoke about, the documents previously submitted with regards to archaeology remain acceptable, and the WSI for the strip, map and record (SMR) excavation remains appropriate as mitigation to follow on from the evaluation which identified well preserved archaeological remains.

If your client are minded to submit an amended application, given that the building will still be on the same footprint and regardless of it having a basement or not there will be below-ground-impact, and the presence of archaeology at evaluation stage will still need to be further elucidated through the SMR process. As and when GMAAS are consulted on any new or amended application by Manchester City Council, we will advise that the original condition is carried across, or slightly amended to recommend that the SMR is undertaken according to the approved WSI.

I hope this is clear, and if there is anything else you need please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Ben



Ben Dyson BA MLitt ACIfA

Senior Planning Archaeologist

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

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