



PLOT C: PUBLIC ART STRATEGY

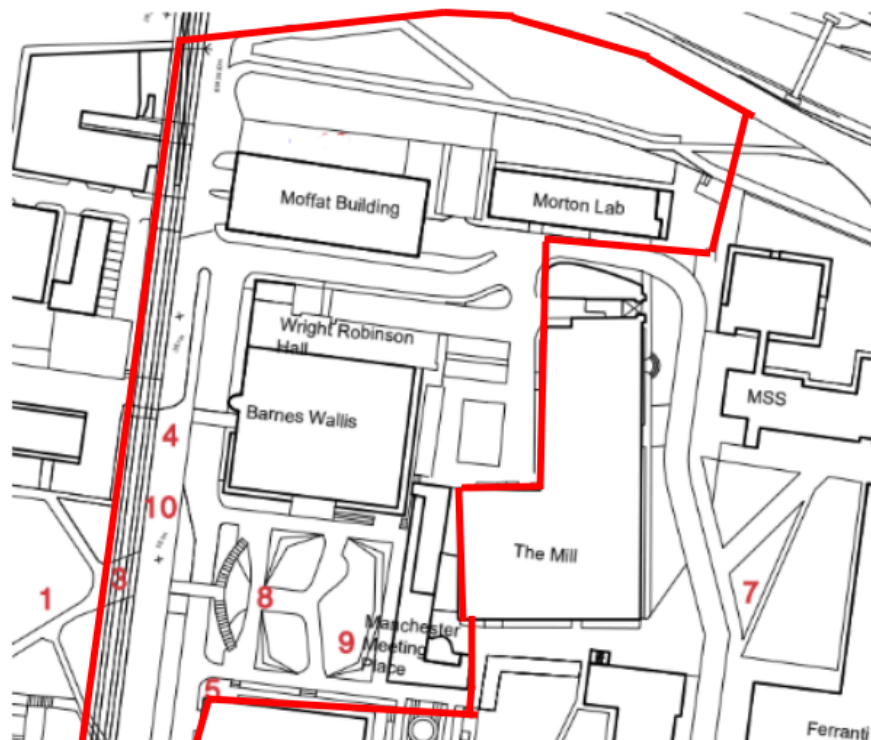
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OVERARCHING STRATEGY FOR EXISTING PUBLIC ART WITHIN PLOT C

Public art plays a vital role in shaping the identity and character of the public realm, and within Plot C, six sculptures contribute to the site's cultural and visual landscape. As part of the long-term development ambitions, it is essential to carefully consider the future of these artworks, ensuring their preservation and integration within the evolving masterplan. This strategy paper outlines the steps taken to assess the current condition of the sculptures, determine whether they require protection or relocation during construction, and identify suitable temporary locations. Furthermore, it sets out recommendations for their reintegration into the long-term landscape design, ensuring they continue to enhance the public experience of the site.

The public art pieces will be removed and relocated into Pariser within Phase A of the construction strategy for Plot C, to ensure protection of the pieces. This is inline with the programme for the full demolition package. The sculptures will then be reintegrated into the landscape post C2 construction, in phase B.



Sister Plot C Public Realm Structures Plan



Public Art Sculptures to be Relocated as Part of Plot C

Location Plan Number	Sculpture
3	Archimedes Sculpture
4	Magnets Sculpture (Generation of Possibilities)
8	Havelock Mill Sculpture
9	Stone Monument
10	Urns x 5

LOCATION PLAN No.3: ARCHIMEDES SCULPTURE



The Archimedes sculpture was unveiled within the UMIST campus in 1990, this sculpture was sculpted in stone by Thompson Dagnall.

The **Archimedes** sculpture is positioned within one of the viaduct arches, offering a degree of shelter from the elements while remaining partially exposed to public interaction. A metal barrier has been installed around the sculpture to provide some level of protection; however, there are evident signs of graffiti and indications that the structure has been climbed on over time.



Despite these challenges, the sculpture remains in **good overall structural condition**, with no immediate concerns regarding its stability. However, some material losses are noticeable, particularly around the **face**, where damage is more apparent. Archimedes will not be relocated during construction, and little intervention is proposed for that particular arch. In order to protect the sculpture during construction, it is proposed that this Arch be hoarded from the South, to protect the sculpture from construction. The hoarding will also be positioned on the North, to maintain clear sightlines and adequate lighting, reducing the risk of creating concealed areas that may compromise personal safety and attract anti-social behaviours.

LOCATION PLAN No. 4: MAGNETS SCULPTURE (GENERATION OF POSSIBILITIES)



In 1999, the 'Generation of Possibilities' sculpture was commissioned by the Campus Appearance Committee to mark UMIST's 175th anniversary. The theme was Science, Technology and Innovation, the sculpture was inspired by electromagnetic experiments of W.Sturgeon.

The **Generation of Possibilities** sculpture is prominently positioned along **Altrincham Street**, set within a paved concrete area that provides a stable foundation. The surrounding environment exposes the sculpture to varying weather conditions and public interaction,



which has contributed to visible signs of wear over time. While the **substrate remains in good condition**, there are **notable areas of exposed corrosion**, particularly on surfaces most susceptible to environmental exposure. These areas require **stabilisation** to prevent further deterioration and ensure the long-term structural integrity of the artwork.

The Plot C proposals include the redevelopment of Altrincham St, meaning that the 'Generation of Possibilities' sculpture must be relocated. It is proposed that the sculpture will be temporarily relocated into Pariser.

LOCATION PLAN No.5:UMIST CUBE



The UMIST Cube, designed by C. Rose Innes in 1991 while studying sculpture at Manchester Metropolitan University, is a significant piece of public art that has undergone notable changes over the years. Originally positioned outside Weston Halls, the sculpture was



relocated during landscape construction, altering its original setting and exposure to environmental elements. The Cube has since experienced visible wear, including algae growth in wetter areas, which has etched parts of its surface, as well as structural deterioration, such as a broken brazed joint and further joint degradation. These issues highlight the impact of weathering and time on the sculpture, emphasising the need for potential conservation efforts to maintain its artistic and structural integrity.

Additionally, there is a broken brazed joint, indicating structural weakness, and further deterioration is evident within the joint itself, likely due to water ingress and repeated thermal expansion and contraction over time. These factors collectively contribute to the Cube's declining condition, necessitating careful assessment and potential intervention to prevent further structural and aesthetic damage.

As part of the Plot C development, the UMIST Cube will remain in-situ and form a retained element within the wider scheme. Its presence is shown on the map above.

LOCATION PLAN No. 8:HAVELOCK MILL STRUCTURE





After the demolition of Havelock Mill in 1992, part of its iron frame was preserved and relocated to the UMIST campus as a historical and architectural feature. This section of the structure was re-erected on-site.

Each stanchion is embedded in 300mm of concrete (likely postcrete) with a 200mm cylindrical base. The stanchions are 150mm in diameter, but embedment depth is unclear. Removal involves dismantling the top structure, excavating each stanchion with concrete attached (to be removed later in storage). Clearing bushes around all six stanchions will take an hour, with an additional hour per stanchion to expose the concrete. The full dismantling process will take ~three days, after which the iron pieces will be stored in Pariser before being used in the Plot C landscape design at Holloway Place.

Conservation measures: Requires partial air abrasion and paint research plan. New more durable paint finish is required. The application will be completed once reinstalled on site.

LOCATION PLAN No. 9: STONE MONUMENT

The stone monument is located in front of the Renold Building and Manchester Meeting Place, the monument was unveiled in 2004 to 'commemorate 180 years of educational excellence at UMIST'.





The stone monument must be temporarily and permanently relocated to allow for the design of the large civic square. It is proposed that the monument will be housed within Pariser during construction.

The stone monument is currently resting on hardcore only, it is proposed that it will be raised and removed by levering, before strapping the monument onto a pallet.

The appointed conservator has advised that the stone monument will require surface cleaning and treatment of the stone where necessary.

LOCATION PLAN No.10: 5 X URNS



Within the Plot C boundary there are 5 urns situated along Altrincham St adjacent to the viaduct between Barnes Wallis and Renold Building. The urns were made by the Hatherware Company who began to make ceramics for the chemical industry in the mid-20th century. It is thought that these urns were donated by the Hatherware Company to the University.

The urns must be relocated during the construction of the Plot C buildings for their protection and because that portion of

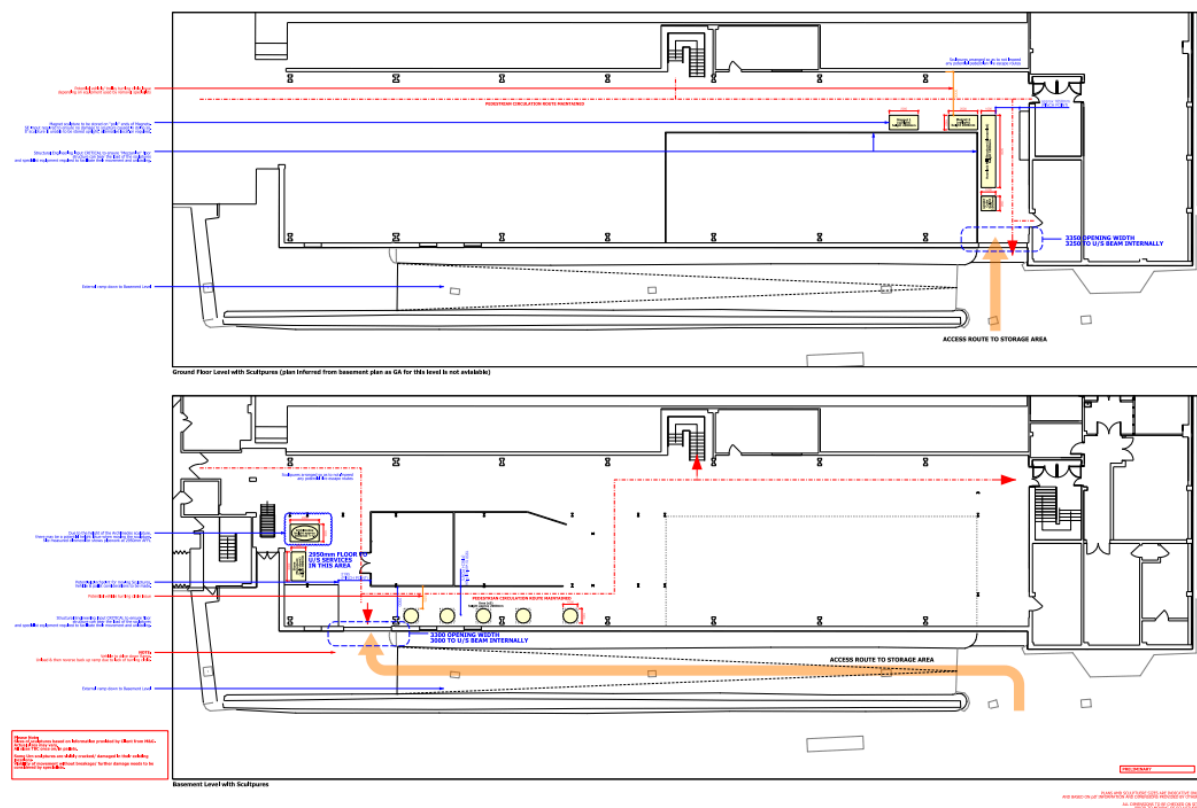


Altrincham St is being redeveloped and landscaped as part of the scheme's ambitions.

TEMPORARY STORAGE

As discussed above, it is proposed that the sculptures are temporarily stored within the Pariser Building and therefore remain on site. Bridge Architects have conducted a space mapping exercise to confirm that the pieces fit within the space. Booth King (structural engineers) have also assessed the load capacity of the Pariser basement level and ground floor level and are comfortable with the proposed space mapping.

The sculptures will remain in Pariser during construction and be removed, and cleaning and any repairs / conservation measures will take place in situ.

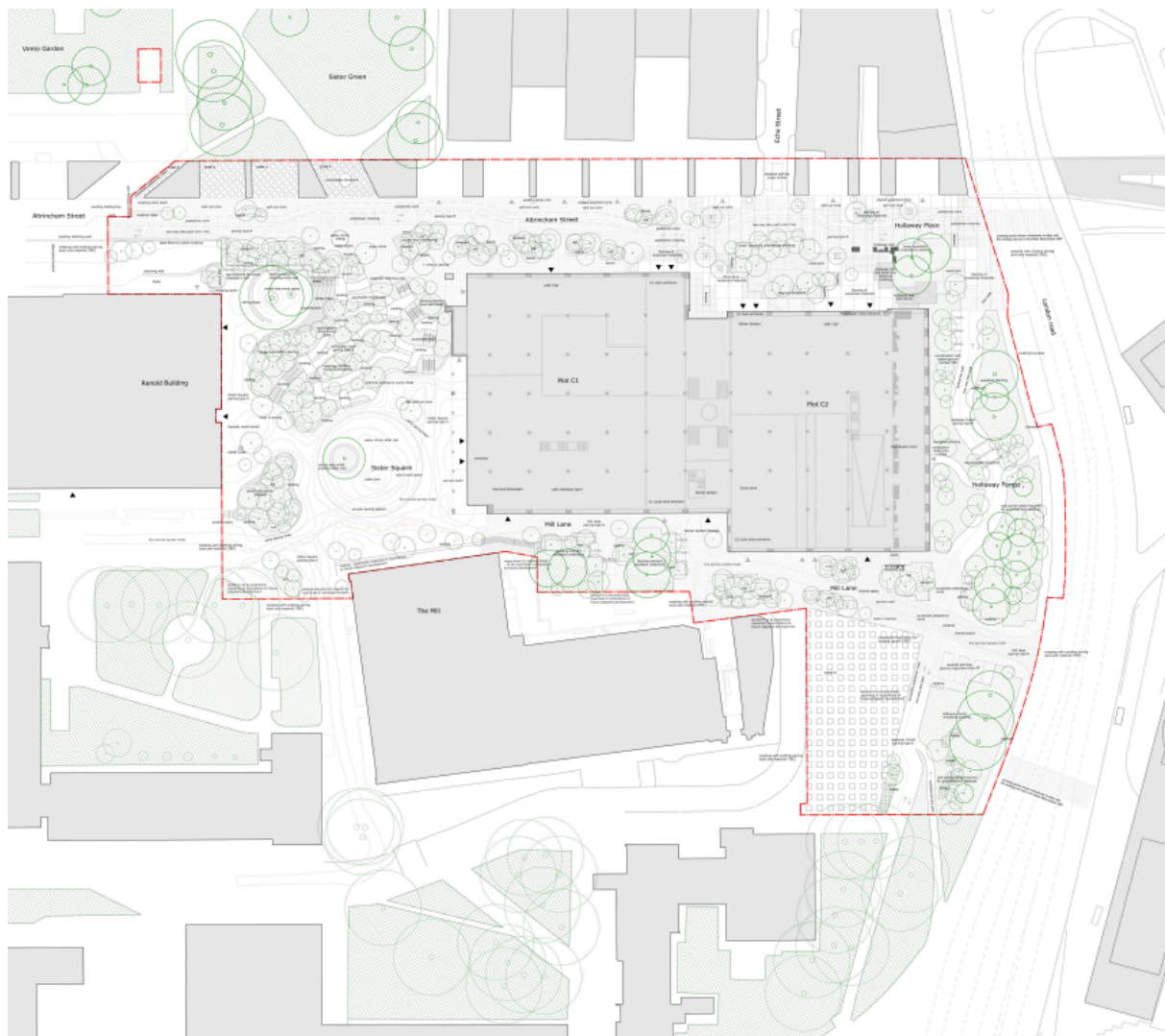


Pariser Space Mapping



PERMANENT LOCATIONS

All of the public art pieces that are being temporarily stored within Pariser will be reintegrated into the Plot C site during Phase B of construction. Once C2 and associated landscaping (remaining portion of Altrincham St and the landscaping around London Road and Mill Lane), the public art will be reinstated into the public realm along with other new features.





Sister Plot C Landscape Design

APPENDICES

- Appendix 1 - Sister Manchester: Public Art Approach (SLA)
- Appendix 2 - Conservation Report (Lowri Morris)
- Appendix 3 - Exploratory Study Report (Museum & Gallery)