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CONTENTS

SUMMARY 4

1 INTRODUCTION 6

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES 9

3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY 11

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND 12

5 METHODOLOGY 28

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE 30

7 DISCUSSION 60

8 CONCLUSIONS 69

9 ARCHIVE 72

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 72

BIBLIOGRAPHY 73

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX 75

APPENDIX 2: FINDS REPORT 84

APPENDIX 3 : CENSUS RETURNS 93

APPENDIX 4 : FIGURES 97

SUMMARY

This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation and excavation at land at NWCH Ancoats Mobility Hub (centred on NGR: SJ 85120 98896). The work was undertaken by Salford Archaeology and was commissioned by Bowmer and Kirkland Ltd who have gained planning consent (130627/FO/2021) for the development of a new mobility hub following demolition of existing structures. As such, the construction works will necessitate the removal of all buried archaeological remains existing within the proposed development area.

An archaeological desk-based assessment (Cole 2021) suggested potential for buried archaeological remains to survive of both 18th and 19th-century workers' housing, and the Rochdale Canal and a glass works. Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) in their role as advisors to the Local Planning Authority recommended an initial programme of archaeological investigation via evaluation trenching, and then a strip, map and plan excavation.

The earliest deposits recorded on the site represented natural Devensian till. No layers of sub-soil which might pertain to pre-industrial activity were recorded during the investigation. Evidence of the site's earliest development was represented by a block of 18th-century workers' housing fronting Poland Street. The next phase of development represented the construction of early to mid-19th-century dwellings with cellars. The cellar of 137 George Leigh Street was exposed along with external access steps suggesting that it was originally inhabited. A range of outshuts probably containing privies was revealed in the yard area to the rear of the properties. Around 1900 the workers' housing across the site was demolished and replaced with buildings owned by the 'Street Mains Department' including a store-keeper's house, stable and mess hall. The remains of drainage infrastructure and a yard associated with the 'Street Mains Department' was also revealed. During the late 20th century or early 21st century the whole site was cleared. The resultant demolition debris and local re-deposited clays were used to level the ground on which an industrial park was constructed.

A trench targeted on a glassworks had to be abandoned due to the continual collapse of the trench's edge which made it unsafe. No remains associated with the Rochdale Canal were exposed during the investigation.

The archaeological fieldwork demonstrated that buried remains representing development on the site spanning the late 18th century to 20th century survived below ground level. These remains were deemed to have local significance. No further on-site work is merited. This report will be submitted to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record. A short summary note describing the results of the investigation will be sent for inclusion within *Post-medieval Archaeology*.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Circumstances of the project

1.1.1 Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Bowmer and Kirkland Ltd to undertake an Archaeological Evaluation land at NWCH Ancoats Mobility Hub (centred on NGR: SJ 85120 98896; Figures 1 and 2), herein referred to as 'the site'.

1.1.2 The site is situated in the Ancoats area of Manchester and is bounded by Poland Street to the west, the City Court Trading Estate to the south, Crown Industrial Estate to the north and Ancoats Green to the east. Security fencing runs along the eastern boundary where the site meets Ancoats Green. Modern industrial units lie to the north and south of the site with the residential neighbourhood of Miles Platting further beyond to the east. The Rochdale Canal is located 0.2km south of the site. The site lies at a height of approximately 50m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and covers an area of approximately 0.33 ha.



Plate 1: Recent aerial view looking north across the site, with approximate site boundary indicated in red

1.1.3 Full planning permission (130627/FO/2021) was granted by Manchester City Council on 30th July 2021 for the erection of an 8-storey building to form

Mobility Hub including ground floor commercial unit (Use Class E(b)) (221 sqm), delivery hub, 150 cycle spaces and 408 car parking spaces with associated landscaping, access and other associated works following demolition of existing structures. The construction works necessitated considerable earth-moving works, which would impact any buried archaeological remains.

1.1.4 Therefore, following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), which provides planning advice to Manchester City Council, the development was subjected to a planning condition which required the submission of a written scheme of investigation, and subsequent implementation of a programme of archaeological works prior to the commencement of any demolition, development or development related groundworks. The programme of archaeological works comprised an initial programme of archaeological investigation via evaluation trenching, followed by the production of an evaluation report and archive. The condition attached to planning reference 130627/FO/2021stated:

> *5) No demolition or development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The works are to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted for approval in writing by the City Council, as Local Planning Authority. The WSI shall cover the following:*
>
> *1. A phased programme and methodology of investigation and recording to include: - archaeological evaluation trenching; - pending the results of the above, a targeted open-area excavation.*
>
> *2. A programme for post-investigation assessment to include: - production of a final report on the results of the investigations and their significance.*
>
> *3. Deposition of the final report with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record.*
>
> *4. Dissemination of the results of the archaeological investigations commensurate with their significance.*

5. Provision for archive deposition of the report and records of the site investigation.

6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the approved WSI.

Reason: To record and advance understanding of heritage assets impacted on by the development and to make information about the heritage interest publicly accessible pursuant to policies EN3 of the Manchester Core Strategy (2012) and saved policy DC20 of the Unitary Development Plan for the City of Manchester (1995).

1.1.5 Thus, in April 2021, Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Manchester Life Strategic Development Company Limited to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) (Cole 2021).

1.1.6 This document identified that the site had the potential to contain the archaeological remains of both 18th-century and 19th-century workers' housing. Archaeological research pertaining to the cellar dwellings and workers' housing during the industrial period has been identified as a legitimate avenue of research within the northwest of England's archaeological framework. Other archaeological remains of interest relating to the Rochdale Canal and a glass works potentially survived at the eastern and southern edges of the proposed development site.

1.1.7 In July 2022, Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Bowmer and Kirkland Ltd to undertake a written scheme of investigation (WSI) (Mottershead 2022) for the evaluation of the site by trial trenching. On the 23rd January 2023 the excavation of three evaluation trenches of various length was commenced by Salford Archaeology (Figure 3). This programme of archaeological excavation recorded archaeological remains representing 18th- and 19th-century workers' housing, and fragmentary remains relating to the glass works surviving below ground.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

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

2.1.2 Following the results of the DBA (Cole 2021), and in consultation with GMAAS, it was recommended that the evaluation comprised the excavation of three evaluation trenches as indicated in Figure 3. The evaluation trenches were targeted on the location of 18th- and 19th-century workers' houses observed on historic mapping, the Rochdale Canal, and the remains of a glass works. This approach to devising proposals to mitigate the impact of development on the archaeological resource of the development area is in accordance with national guidelines set out in the National Planning Policy Framework: Section 16.

2.2 Objectives

2.2.1 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 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

2.3 Research potential

2.3.1 Further, more detailed research aims may be generated and developed from the results of the archaeological evaluation, with specific reference to the North-West Regional Research Framework (NWRRF). It is envisaged that the evaluation may potentially improve our understanding of the following research questions:

2.3.2 Ind21: How did industrial period towns affect the pre-existing historic landscape?

2.3.3 Ind24: When and where did landless urban development replace burgage plots of the Medieval and Post-Medieval towns?

2.3.4 Ind30: How have buildings changed in response to planning regulations?

2.3.5 Ind33: How well studied and understood are the back yards of workers housing and what is their significance?

3 LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Location

3.1.1 The site (centred on NGR SJ 85120 98896) is situated in the Ancoats area of Manchester and is bounded by Poland Street to the west, the City Court Trading Estate to the south, Crown Industrial Estate to the north and Ancoats Green to the east (Figures 1 and 2). Security fencing runs along the eastern boundary where the site meets Ancoats Green. Modern industrial units lie to the north and south of the site with the residential neighbourhood of Miles Platting further beyond to the east. The Rochdale Canal is located 0.2km south of the site.

3.2 Geology

3.2.1 The underlying solid geology of the site is comprised of Mudstone of the Manchester Marls Formation formed between 272.3 and 252.2 million years ago during the Permian period (BGS 2023). The superficial deposits are composed of till of the Devensian period, which formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period (*ibid*).

3.3 Topography

3.3.1 The site lies at a height of approximately 50m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), is roughly rectangular in shape, and covers an area of approximately 0.33 ha. The site was until recently occupied by low-rise, multi-tenanted industrial units, which have since been demolished, and hardstanding now covers the site along with three large stockpiles of demolition debris along the north-west and south-east sides of site.

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1.1 The following is based on information provided in a desk-based assessment produced by Salford Archaeology (Cole 2021), along with other sources listed in the bibliography.

4.2 Prehistory (Pre-43 AD)

4.2.1 Although little is known about prehistoric human activity in the Manchester area, it is conceivable that some areas within the city centre, such as Castlefield and Ardwick, may have been suitable for late prehistoric settlement due to their topography and abundance of natural water sources (such as rivers) (Gregory 2007).

4.2.2 A small number of residual findings offer tangible proof of human activity (Cole 2021). It was reported in the Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society in 1892 that a Neolithic flint flake had been discovered at Spinning Field, near to Deansgate (HER 414.1.0; Sutton 1892). Furthermore, in 1845, a Neolithic stone hammer and arrowhead were discovered in Manchester's Castlefield area (HER 119.1.0), and in the same year, excavations at 77-83 Liverpool Road (HER 13944.1.0) recovered two Mesolithic flints, a Neolithic/ Bronze Age waste flake, and a single sherd of late Bronze Age/Iron Age pottery. These discoveries add to a growing body of evidence for prehistoric activity in the area, which is known to be focused on well-drained sand and gravel sites near watercourses and moss lands (Cole 2021).

4.3 Romano-British period (43 AD-410 AD)

4.3.1 The first military occupation of Manchester commenced with a five-acre wooden fort named *Mamucium*, which was located approximately two kilometres southwest of the site (Bruton 1909). It was established during the governorship of Agricola (AD 77–84) (*ibid*). The original defences were rebuilt and improved during the fort's successive building phases (*ibid*). As a result of the ongoing military campaigns, the military complex developed from a primarily defensive location to a well-established supply depot that was crucial to the growth and consolidation of control in the area (Cole 2021). The expanding body of evidence supporting a military annex, located to the north

and east of the fort, demonstrates the development of the military complex (Arrowsmith 2016).

4.3.2 A network of roadways was constructed as this military complex grew, and a sizable extramural settlement, or vicus, developed (Cole 2021). The security and economic advantages of the neighbouring fort attracted civilians to this town (*ibid*). The limits of this civilian settlement appear to have extended south-eastward along Chester Road, terminating somewhere near Great Jackson Street; northward from the fort to roughly Quay Street; westward along Liverpool Road for *c.*100m from the north-west corner of the fort; and eastward across Deansgate to the area now occupied by Beetham Tower (*ibid*).

4.3.3 This network of roads connected the fort at Manchester to Buxton in the southeast, Chester in the south, Wigan in the north-west, Ribchester in the north, Castleshaw in the north-east, and York in the south (*ibid*). The modern Old Mill Street, which is located approximately 390m south of the site, likely followed the route of the Roman Road from Manchester to Castleshaw (*ibid*). Because of its strong trading connections, the community remained in place far into the third century AD (*ibid)*.

4.4 Early medieval period (410-1066)

4.4.1 Between the end of Roman occupation and the Norman Conquest of 1066, there is relatively little archaeological evidence in the area as a whole (*ibid*). During this time, several kingdoms had power over the region around Manchester (*ibid*). It is possible that during Edwin's occupation of Manchester in AD 620, the area around the cathedral in the town was first settled (Farrer and Brownbill 1908).

4.4.2 Manchester, which was a part of Viking Northumbria, became a fortified base, or burh, in AD 919 under the rule of the Anglo-Saxon king Edward the Elder (Cole 2021). It has been suggested that the burh was located near the cathedral, which by the late 11th century had become a focus for settlement (*ibid*). Furthermore, it is believed that Manchester's Norman nobles built a castle on the land now occupied by Chetham's School (*ibid)*.

4.5 Late medieval period (1066-1540)

4.5.1 Roger of Poitou received most of the area between the Ribble and Mersey rivers from William I after the Norman Conquest in 1066 (*ibid*). He retained the manor of Salford demesne but divided the rest of his newly acquired land into several fiefdoms (Tupling 1962; and Kidd 1996). The largest of these was the landholding centred on Manchester that was established when Albert Grelley was granted vast tracts of land in Salford, Leyland, and West Derby (Tupling 1962).

4.5.2 The Grelley family established a manor house near the meeting point of the Irwell and Irk rivers by the 13th century, and the medieval town grew up around it (Hartwell *et al.* 2004). They controlled both the vast barony as well as the manor from this hall (*ibid*). Manchester gained an annual fair in 1222, and Edward I granted Thomas Grelley the Great Charter of Manchester in 1301, establishing the city as a free borough (*ibid)*.

4.6 Post-medieval (1540-1750) and Industrial period (1750-1930)

4.6.1 South-east Lancashire as a whole was primarily an agricultural region comprising outlying communities and market towns up until the 18th century, with the expanding town of Manchester at its centre (Williams and Farnie 1992). Manchester became a hub of the factory-based cotton manufacturing industry by the 1780s as a result of the increased demand for textiles in the country and the resulting construction of mill buildings (Baines 1835). The advent of the canal network and the extension of the area's waterways, which provided a reliable method of moving massive amounts of cargo, significantly aided Manchester's industrialization (*ibid*). The Mersey and Irwell rivers were also made navigable from Warrington to Manchester by an Act of Parliament, facilitating trade from Liverpool's developing port with Manchester and Salford (*ibid)*.

4.6.2 Furthermore, the Duke of Bridgewater constructed the country's first true industrial canal, which ran from his mines in Worsley to Manchester and terminated at Castlefield (Hadfield and Biddle 1970). Numerous other inland canals began to develop in the late 18th century as a result of the success of this canal (*ibid*).

4.7 Development of the site

4.7.1 The site is located in New Islington, a neighbourhood in Manchester's Ancoats district (Cole 2021). '*Elnecot*' is derived from the Old English '*ana cots*', which means "*lonely cottage*," and was the name of the region by the beginning of the 13th century (Cooper 2002). Ancoats is listed as one of eight hamlets in the township of Manchester, which is a component of the Hundred of Salford, in a 14th century document (Tait 1904). Up until the late 18th century, Ancoats was still semi-rural, but by 1800 it had become an industrial district (Miller and Wild 2007).

4.7.2 This transformation began when the Leigh family sold land in the 1770s to builder Thomas Bound, who then sold it to others for construction (Little 2002). The primary components of the current street plan are shown to have been laid out on former fields at the corner of Great Ancoats Street and Oldham Road on William Green's map of Manchester and Salford (Plate 2), which was surveyed between 1787 and 1794 (*ibid*). Then, as a result of building speculation, land parcels surrounded by a grid-iron system of streets were auctioned for development (*ibid*). The introduction of steam-powered spinning mills and the national need for textiles, particularly cotton, served as the primary forces behind this development (Williams and Farnie 1992).

4.7.3 Some of the larger streets were named after the original landowning families (George and Henry Cornwall Legh) (Rose *et al* 2011, 8). Poland Street was also established. Green's survey indicates the site was occupied in one corner by what appear to be a small row of houses fronting Poland Street. The 1795 Manchester Rate Book lists 16 occupants of Poland Street (Manchester Rate Books 1706-1900 M 9/40/2/52), which may include some of the occupants of the houses depicted on Green's map. By 1806, the number of occupants had risen to 21 (Manchester Rate Books 1706-1900 M9/40/2/68).

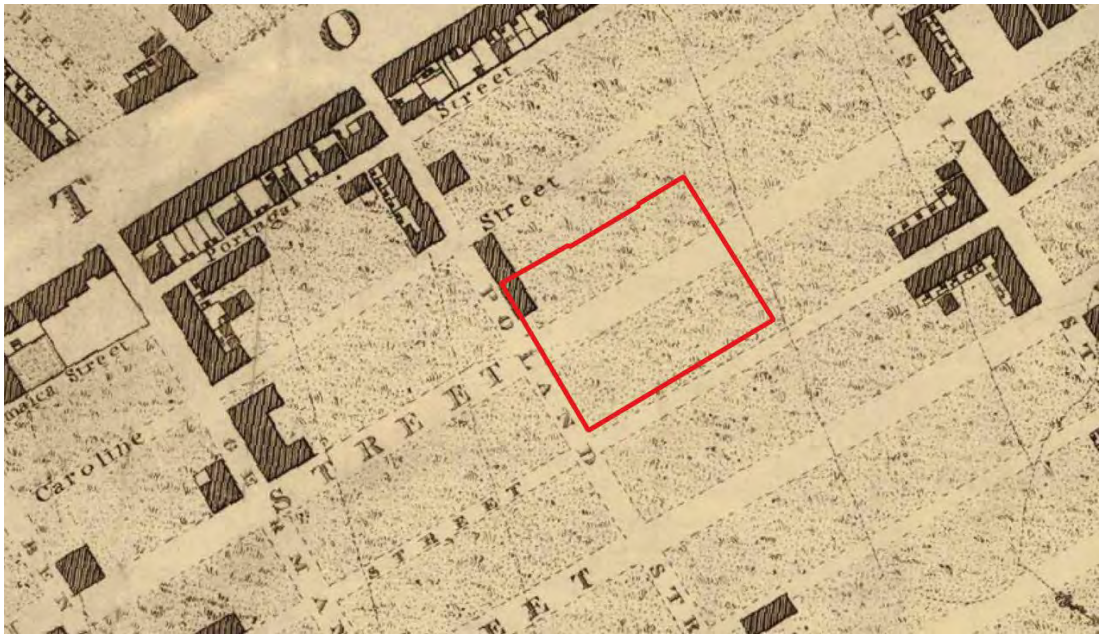


Plate 2: Site boundary superimposed onto Green's map of 1787-1794

4.7.4 By 1824, the Bengal Arm of the Rochdale Canal had been constructed along the eastern boundaries of the site. Bridges over the arms of the canal were constructed on Poland Street and Jersey Street. The houses shown on Green's map remained extant during the 1820s and 1830s, as evidenced by their appearance on Swire's map of 1824 (Plate 3) and Bancks & Co.'s map of 1831 (Plate 4).

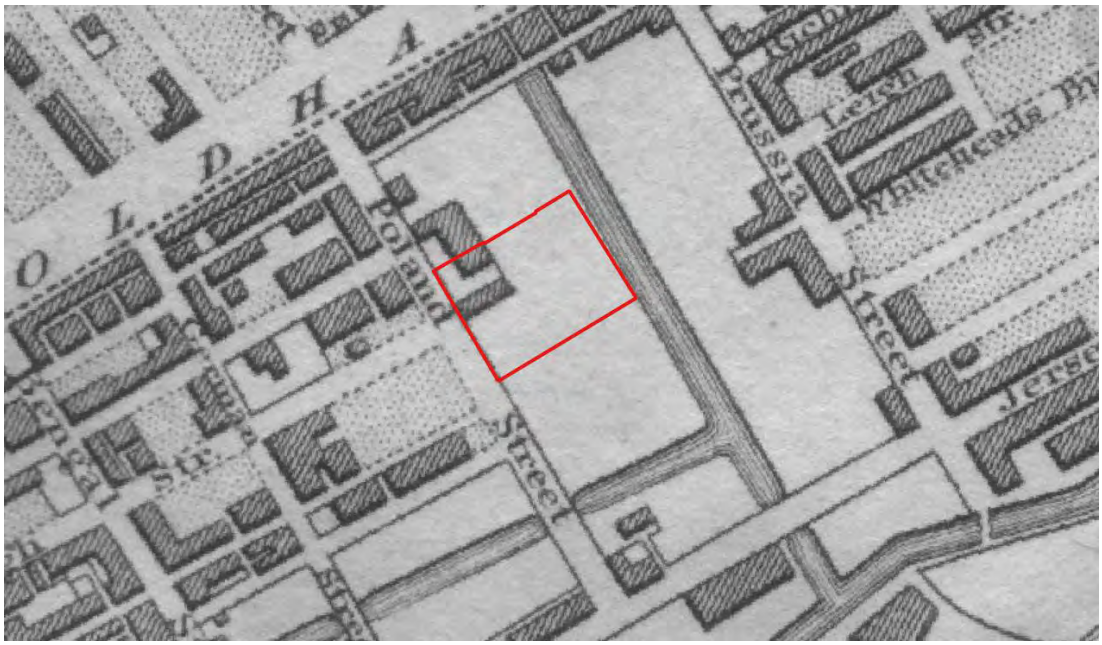


Plate 3: Site boundary superimposed onto Swire's map of 1824



Plate 4: Site boundary superimposed onto Bancks & Co.'s map of 1831

4.7.5 The documentary evidence provides an astonishing insight into the changing demographic composition of the district's inhabitants, during the process of industrialisation. In the late eighteenth century, the area remained semi-rural and sparsely populated with its residents being a mixture of businessmen, trades people and even gentlemen. By the 1820s there had been a huge demographic shift. This can even be traced in the rate books for the area, such as Bengal Street and Gerrard's Court, which show a rise in the number of Irish surnames by the 1820s. This trend is corroborated by contemporary articles. The reporter of an article published in *The Times* in 1819, stated that Ancoats had been 'created by the success of the cotton trade, and swarms with inhabitants, who all share its vicissitudes. It is occupied chiefly by spinners, weavers, and Irish of the lowest description, and may be called the St Giles' of Manchester' (*The Times* 24 August 1819).

4.7.6 Another article titled 'Accident and Offences", published in the *Manchester Mercury* in 1830, reported the violent behaviour of the Irish. The story of an English cart driver who was attacked by a group of Irishmen on Poland Street following a dispute about the donkey. The report stated that the attack "serves to show the almost murderous spirit of violence that exists in the breast of some of the lower order of Irish". The Irishman with whom the driver had had the dispute had summoned a "posse of Irishmen, some of them armed with sticks"

from the Death of Nelson public house, who then struck the driver several times (*Manchester Mercury* 05 January 1830).

4.7.7 The Irish migration to Britain increased yet further during the 1830s and '40s, accelerated by those fleeing the potato famine between 1845-9. This trend was particularly evident in the census returns for 1851, which lists an Irish family living in the house at 22 Poland Street. The census return listed three members of the Murphy family and a further six occupants, the majority of whom were working as labourers or within the textile industry (Table 1).

Forename(s)	Surname	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Mary	Murphy	Head	Widow	45	1806	Seamstress	Ireland
Peter	Murphy	Son	Unmarried	20	1831	Piecer	Ireland
John	Murphy	Son	Unmarried	11	1840	Errand Boy	Ireland
John	Demy	-	Married	55	1796	Cabinet Maker	Ireland
Martha	Demy	-	Married	50	1801	Seamstress	Ireland
Joseph	Demy	-	Unmarried	18	1833	Apprentice	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Charles	Hughes	-	Married	40	1811	Boiler Maker	Oswestry, Lancashire, England
Ann	Hughes	-	Married	29	1822	-	Cheshire, England
Elizabeth	Jepson	-	Unmarried	16	1835	Servant	Liverpool, Lancashire, England

Table 1: The Murphy household recorded as living in the cellar of 22 Poland Street on the 1851 census return

4.7.8 Nearly all the Irish families in Ancoats engaged in work within the textile industry, a large number listing their occupation as labourers, weavers or tailors; younger members of the households frequently worked as piecers.

4.7.9 Banck's & Co.'s map of 1831 (Plate 4) shows for the first time all of the houses contained within the western corner of the site. These include half of 24 Poland Street, 26 Poland Street, 28 Poland Street, the extension of George Leigh Street into the currently empty block at right angles to Poland Street, including numbers 131, 133, 135 and 137. The map of 1831 indicates that the houses on the George Leigh Street extension are back to back premises.

4.7.10 By the time the 1851 OS map (Plate 5) was drawn a further household located in the courtyard created at the rear of Poland and George Leigh Street exists.

Swire's map of 1824 shows the canal for the first time, the Prussia Street Arm of the Rochdale Canal runs to the rear of the properties at the northern boundary of the site.

4.7.11 Later census returns reveal that the properties continued to be occupied by first or second-generation Irish families. The 1861 census return lists a multiple occupancy household at 26 Poland Street, 13 people were living in the one property. The Jones family had six members, and the Moran household had six lodgers, all of whom were Irish, five working in the textile industry, the fifth lodger being only five years old.

4.7.12 As can be expected, the majority were employed in low-paid positions as labourers or unskilled workers in the textile industry. However, over time, a wider range of job opportunities was made available, fewer and fewer pertaining to cotton manufacturing.



Plate 5: Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851

4.7.13 For the first time in the 1871 census the extension of George Leigh Street into the site is listed with a total of 18 people occupying numbers 131 to 137. Occupations listed included calico weaver and painter. The 1871 census return also lists McIntyre's Court for the first time, at number two, the Howard household contained six individuals, four of whom were Irish, two were factory

operatives, In the 1881 census, 2 Macintyre court was occupied by the Collins household, containing five individuals, the head of the household John Collins is listed as unemployed. On the George Leigh Street extension, a divergence in occupations away from the textile industry can be seen. At 131 George Leigh street there is still multiple occupancy. Two households, the Crawford and McGee families occupying the site, however the numbers are reduced to just five people. Two individuals were employed in the textile industry as dyer and calico weaver, other occupations included a sand dealer, laundress, and nurse.

4.7.14 At 133 George Leigh Street the Laight household had only three occupants, the head of the household John Laight is listed on the census as a stableman. At 135 George Leigh Street the Reeson household also had only three occupants. Anne Reeson the head of the household was Irish and at 84 years old is by far the eldest person listed on the census's listed for this site. Her household is all female, her granddaughter Emma and the lodger, Mary Tetlock are both fancy box makers. A first, and third generation Irish household, whose younger generation has moved away from the textile industry for work.

4.7.15 At 137 George Leigh Street the Ward household has three occupants. Its head John Ward is listed as the storekeeper for the corporation pipe yard, which the rest of the site consisted of at this time. Although not shown on the 1851 Ordnance Survey Town Plan (Plate 5) it is clearly marked on the 1891 Ordnance survey town plan, (Plate 6), shown as 'Street Mains Department (Gas)'.

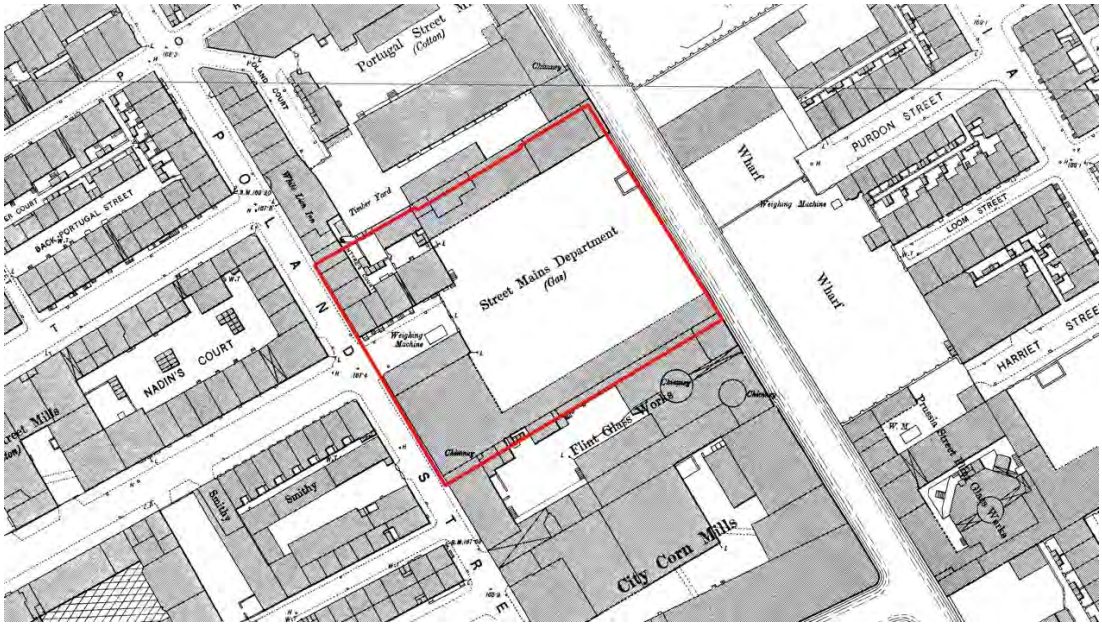


Plate 6: Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1891

4.7.16 Overall, the collated data for Poland Street, George Leigh Street, and McIntyre's Court shows it remained strongly embedded in the Anglo-Irish community. Such enclaves of low-quality housing, with long-established Irish residents, were probably the first port of call for migrants arriving with little-to-no money. This contributed to what can only be described as 'ghettoisation'. This phenomenon has been explored in some depth in a study by Lee Gregory, who analysed "the heads of households, the occupational structure and occupancy rates" within across a central swathe of Ancoats (Rose *et al*, 2011, 33). Its findings revealed that initially, high numbers of Irish-born inhabitants were living within closed, "ghetto-like" communities, chiefly in back-to-back houses and cellar dwellings (*ibid*).

4.7.17 The Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1891 shows, the unusual layout of the houses located within the corner of the current site, 24, 26, 28 Poland Street, 131, 133, 135, 137 George Leigh Street, and 2 McIntyre's Court, and how they have been incorporated in the industrial site, marked as the Gas Street Mains Department. This typifies the development of the Ancoats area at this period as industry and residential properties were built close together for easy access to a cheap and plentiful work force.

4.7.18 The site was developed into the Street Mains Department (Gas) at some point between 1851 when the site only shows the houses located in the corner of

the site and 1881 when the census return shows John Ward living at 137 George Leigh Street as occupied at the Street Mains Department (Gas).

4.7.19 The Ordnance Survey map of 1908 (Plate 7) shows the canal as shown on the 1891 OS map, however it is now named as the Prussia Street Arm. The corporation yard has expanded and the houses that could be seen on the Ordnance Survey Town Plan 1891 (Plate 6) have now been demolished and replaced by buildings of a significantly different footprint.

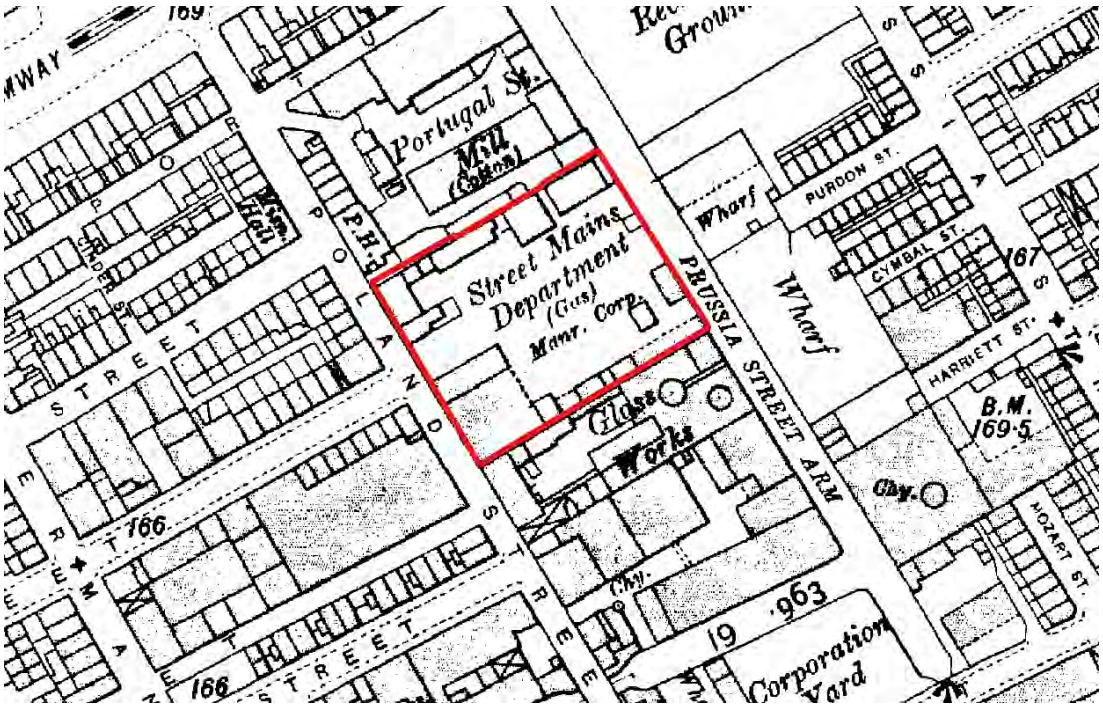


Plate 7: Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey of 1908



Plate 8: Poland Street and 131 and 133 George Leigh Street, Ancoats, 1897

4.7.20 A photograph from 1897 (Plate 8) shows the houses located within the corner of the site, the photograph label in the bottom left hand corner of the picture says, 'Property on Poland Street on site of new stables of the Gas Committee – Sept 1897.' Note the steps up to the two buildings in the foreground of the photograph (131 & 133 George Leigh Street) indicating cellars, the corner building also has a small black door at street level again indicating the presence of cellars. Many cellars in the Ancoats area were often sublet to boost the meagre income of textile workers, often whole families would occupy the two room, badly lit and ventilated basements (Nevell 2008, 152; Marr 1904, 34 and 60). Towards the end of the 19th-century laws were slowly introduced to firstly limit the number housed in such conditions and eventually to stop this practice altogether. The Torrens Act of 1868 (Roberts 1993, 22-3), which required landlords to bring properties up to a minimum standard seems to have directly influenced the properties in the corner of the site as by 1891 the back-to-back properties on the George Leigh extension have been knocked through and are shown as five individual properties. All the houses shown in the

photograph after the White Lion public house, fronting onto Poland Street, those fronting onto George Leigh Street, and McIntyre's Court were demolished by 1908. The street Mains department then took up the whole of the site.

4.7.21 The Street Mains Department (Gas) was part of Manchester Corporations huge undertaking to supply gas to the people of Manchester. It was responsible for the supply and laying of many miles of street mains within the city. As it was located next to the canal, raw materials and goods must have come to the yard before leaving the Poland Street entrance. The *Manchester Evening News* (1897) in an article about the operation of the corporation tells us that there are seven hundred and fifty miles of street mains and three hundred miles of service pipes that the Street Mains Department was responsible for. The gas business within Manchester Corporation had a turnover of over a million pounds that year (*ibid*), an incredible amount equivalent today to approximately 120 million pounds.

4.7.22 In a further article from 1899, an incident concerning the collapse of a wall resulting in a death while laying a gas main allows us an insight into the operation of the street mains department. William Bolton was employed as a under foreman pipe layer, a John Schofield as an inspector and a Mr Waddington is the superintendent. The excavation of over 750 miles of mains it seems was not without incident, the department employed up to fifty men at any one time in the laying and maintenance of the gas pipes. In 1899 Manchester Corporation published the salaries of its senior employees and the assistant superintendent of the Street Mains Department earnt £250 per year. This salary is in stark contrast to those living in the properties located in the corner of the site at this time. A calico weaver could expect to earn fifty-five pence a week, maybe £26 per year, (Lee 1972, 174). The gap between rich and poor during this period of mass industrialisation of Ancoats could hardly be starker.

4.7.23 In 1900, new buildings were constructed in the corporation yard to provide more accommodation for carrying on the work of the department. The buildings replaced earlier buildings, which had been erected on the site at various periods over the previous forty years. The new offices were built in two sections: blocks to the right of the entrance and blocks to the left. The plans

for the new buildings stated that *"The blocks on the right hand side of the entrance will have on the ground floor a general office, store-room and testing shed, while the first and second floors will be used as a workshop for lamp repairs and a general storage warehouse. On the left of the entrance gateway will be situated the store-keeper's house, a mess room for the workmen, and stabling for the horses*". The new buildings cost approximately £13,000 to construct and the project was carried out under the direction of architect Joseph Swarbrick (https://manchestervictorianarchitects.org.uk/buildings/new-offices-andstores-poland-street-oldham-road).

4.7.24 The Ordnance Survey map of 1922 (not included in report) shows no change on the site from the 1908 Ordnance Survey map. Slater's directory of 1911 states that the Street Mains Department at Poland Street was used to store gas pipes and that, at the time, the yard was managed by William Payne (Slater 1911).

4.7.25 In 1948 Manchester Corporation handed the running of its gas business over to the North West Gas board. This is reflected in the OS map of 1948 (Plate 9), with the 'Street Mains Department' renamed 'Corporation Yard'.

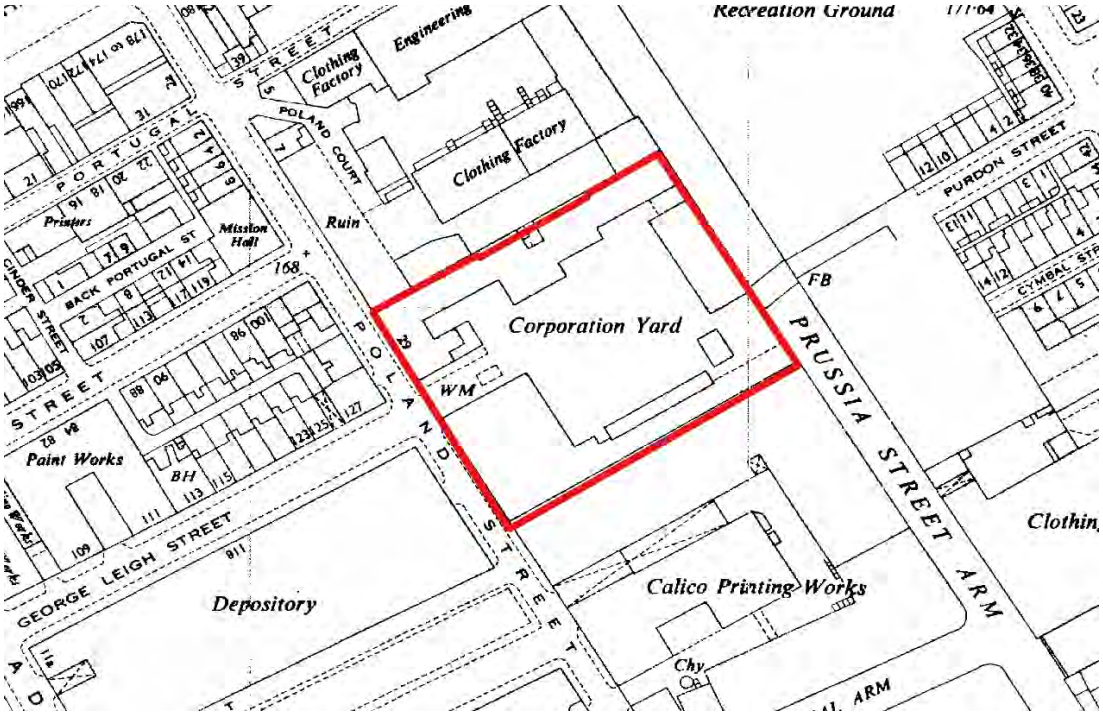


Plate 9: Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1948



Plate 10: Poland Street facing southeast, 1962

4.7.26 A photograph of Poland street facing southeast (Plate 10) shows the Corporation Yard in 1962, seen on the left hand side of the photograph; the buildings following the chain link fence up to a yard entrance and then the following building are all part of the yard. The building nearest the chain link fence up to the entrance to the yard replaced the nineteenth century housing. The first building on the left and the building to the rear of it are single storey.

4.7.27 Another image from 1962 (Plate 11) shows the end of George Leigh Street looking into the Corporation Yard. It indicates that buildings at the rear of the yard are single storey. It appears to be a vehicle storage yard, the purpose of the decorative iron work on top of the entrance pillars presumably relates to a logo associated with the gas works.

4.7.28 The 1989 map of the site (Plate 12) indicates that the layout of the site seen in the 1960s photographs was still extant with very little change to the footprint of the buildings. The canal to the rear of the site had been filled in by this time.

4.7.29 At some point since 1989, the Corporation Yard and associated buildings were cleared, and the site is now occupied by several modern buildings and is known as Poland Street Industrial Estate.



Plate 11: Poland Street from George Leigh Street, 1962

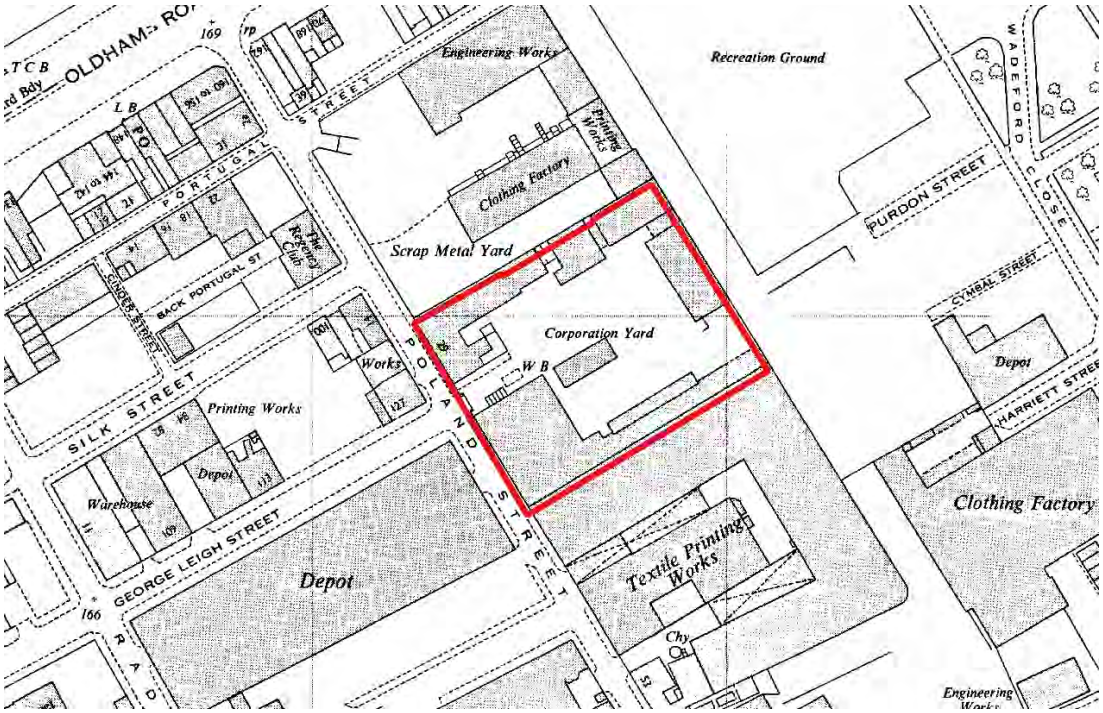


Plate 12: Site boundary superimposed onto the Ordnance Survey map of 1989

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1.1 The archaeological works was undertaken according to the written scheme of investigation (Mottershead 2022) and involved the excavation of three evaluation trenches. Trench 1 targeted 18th- and 19th-century workers' houses observed on historic mapping. Trench 2 was intended to establish the presence of remains pertaining to a glass works. Trench 3 was situated to expose any potential remains surviving associated with the Rochdale Canal.

5.1.2 Trench 1 was located in the western part of the site. As extensive archaeological remains were recorded within Trench 1 it was expanded. Trenches 2 and 3 were located in the eastern part of the site. The excavation and recording of Trench 2 could not be completed because it was deemed unsafe to enter due to collapsing sides.

5.1.3 The dimensions of the trenches are described in the table below:

Trench	Length (m)	Width (m)	Maximum Depth (m)	Highest Level (m AOD)	Lowest Level (m AOD)
1	22	22	2.1	53.02	51.10
2	7.1	5.6	2.1	-	-
3	10	1.8	2.2	-	-

5.1.4 All archaeological work was conducted following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *'Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation'* (CIfA 2020 [a]). Prior to the commencement of any excavation works, the location of the area targeted for archaeological investigation was laid out accurately with respect to the Ordnance Survey national grid. The position of the areas was then scanned for any live services using a cable avoidance tool. The excavations were regularly scanned as work progressed.

5.1.5 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 excavation was generated. Photography was undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidance, *Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England 2015). All frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records will be maintained on photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

5.1.6 The precise location of all archaeological remains encountered was surveyed using a Total Station. This process generated scaled plans within AutoCAD, which were then subjected to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale but can be output at any scale required. All information was geo-rectified to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and all levels were tied into Ordnance Datum.

5.1.7 All archaeological work was conducted following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *'Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation'* (CIfA 2020 [a]). Prior to the commencement of any excavation works, the location of the area targeted for archaeological investigation was laid out accurately with respect to the Ordnance Survey national grid. The position of the areas was then scanned for any live services using a cable avoidance tool. The excavations were regularly scanned as work progressed.

5.1.8 Any finds recovery and sampling methodologies were undertaken in accordance with current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials'* (CIfA 2020 [b]) and were subjected to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. Any finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive also followed the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *'Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives'* (CIfA 2020 [c]).

5.2 Machine Excavation

5.2.1 Under the supervision of a suitably experience archaeologist, a 13-tonne, 360º, tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket was used to remove the overburden sealing the structural remains. 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 then 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.

6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

6.1 Introduction

6.1.1 The archaeological evaluation comprised the excavation of three trial trenches of varying sizes (Figure 2).

6.1.2 The deposits and features recorded in the trenches were attributed to one geological phase and four archaeological phases which are described by phase below:

6.2 Geology

6.2.1 The geological natural substrate was observed in Trenches 1 and 2 and comprised a light orangey-yellow-brown clay [165]/[204] which contained frequent light greyish-blue mottling throughout. This turned to a light blueish-grey clay [204] towards the south-eastern end of site.

6.2.2 This deposit was interpreted to represent Devensian till.

6.3 Phase 1: Late 18th century (Figure 4)

6.3.1 In the western corner of Trench 1 walls [105], [106], [110], and [111] along with the remains of a brick floor surface [108] were interpreted to represent the remains of part of a row of late 18th-century houses (Plate 1Plate 13). This structure has been designated Building 1.

6.4 Building 1

6.4.1 The natural deposits [165] were truncated by the construction cut for a wall [105] which likely represented the eastern external wall of the house. It was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 7.1m long x 0.23m wide x 0.57m tall. It was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red bricks with an average size of 220mm long x 111mm wide x 70mm thick laid stretcher bond, two bricks thick which were bonded with sandy-lime mortar.

6.4.2 A square brick-built drain [107] was located on the north-east face of the wall, which measured a maximum of 0.27m long x 0.33m wide x 0.07m tall. This was of the same construction as wall [105].



Plate 13: General working shot of Building 1



Plate 14: South-west facing section of floor surface [108] in Trench 1. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.4.3 The area south-west of wall [105] was separated into four separate rooms by north-east to south-west aligned wall [106], and north-west to south-east aligned walls [110] and [111] (Plate 13). All of these walls were of the same construction as wall [105]. Wall [106] measured a maximum of 5.5m long x

0.28m wide x 0.39m tall. Wall [110] measured a maximum of 3.2m long x 0.22m wide x 0.71m tall. Wall [111] measured a maximum of 3.9m long x 0.12m wide x 0.4m tall.

6.4.4 The internal wall [106] was sealed by a 0.54m thick deposit of light yellowish-brown re-deposited geological natural substrate [164] (Plate 14; Figure 5).

6.4.5 The light yellowish-brown re-deposited geological natural substrate [164] was overlaid by a 0.08m thick spread of sandy lime mortar [186]. The sandy lime mortar [186] was sealed by a 0.25m thick deposit of mid-brown clayey-silt [182]. To the north-west the mid-brown clayey silt was overlain by a 0.15m thick deposit of brown silty-clay [185]. This was sealed by a 0.22m thick deposit of yellowish-brown clay [184].

6.4.6 To the south-east the mid-brown clayey-silt [182] was sealed by a deposit of firm yellowish-brown silty clay [183]. The firm yellowish-brown silty clay [183] was truncated to the north-west by a shallow flat-bottomed cut [188] containing a 0.2m thick deposit of dark grey silty-clay [181].

6.4.7 To the south-east the firm yellowish-brown silty clay [183] was truncated by a shallow cut [191] with a flat bottom that was filled with a deposit of greyish-brown clayey silt [192]. The fill [192] was truncated by another pit [189] which was also filled by greyish-brown clay [190].

6.4.8 These made ground deposits were then sealed by an area of red brick flooring [108] which abutted the south-western face of wall [105], was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 3.6m long x 1.5m wide x 0.1m thick (Plate 14; Figure 3). The floor surface was constructed of the same handmade bricks previously discussed, with no visible bonding pattern, and was bonded with a sandy lime mortar.

6.5 Phase 2: Early-mid-19th century (Figure 4)

6.5.1 A number of structures recorded in the central part of Trench 1 were interpreted to represent the walls of an outshut first shown on the 1851 Town Plan. This structure has been designated Building 2.

6.6 Building 2 (outshut)

6.6.1 An L-shaped wall [156] measuring a maximum of 2.1m long x 0.23m wide x 0.33m tall (Plate 15) was recorded in the centre of Trench 1. It was constructed

of handmade, unfrogged red bricks each measuring an average of 230mm long x 105mm wide x 70mm thick, it was not laid in any discernible bonding pattern and was bonded with a light brown sandy lime mortar.

6.6.2 Wall [156] was surrounding the south-western and north-western sides of an area of red brick flooring [157] which measured a maximum of 1.65m long x 1.65m wide x 0.07m thick (Plate 15). This was constructed using the same bricks as wall [156] laid in mainly stretcher bonding. No visible bonding material survived. A small rectangular opening was observed in the southern corner of the floor surface, perhaps suggesting that this may have been a privy. The south-eastern side of the floor surface was bounded by wall [155] (Plate 15).

6.6.3 Wall [155] was aligned north-east to south-west and measured a maximum of 3.85m long x 0.3m wide x 0.7m tall. It was again constructed using the same bricks as wall [156] and floor surface [157] laid with no discernible bonding pattern and bonded with a light brown sandy lime mortar. Wall [155] was truncated by a modern drainpipe at its north-eastern end.



Plate 15: General shot of walls [155], [156], [173], and [158] with brick floor surface [157], looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.6.4 The L-shaped wall [173] abutted wall [155] along its south-eastern face and measured a maximum of 0.93m long x 0.11m wide x 0.07m tall (Plate 15). It was located at a slightly higher level than wall [155] but was of the same

construction with bricks laid in stretcher bond. The north-west to south-east aligned run of L-shaped wall [173] also butted north-east to south-west aligned wall [158] (Plate 15), suggesting that as it respects the wall it is contemporary to it. Wall [158] measured a maximum of 3.1m long x 0.23m wide x 0.23m tall, was of the same construction as other remains outlined above with the bricks laid in English garden wall bonding pattern. Wall [158] was truncated by a modern drainpipe at its north-eastern end.



Plate 16: General shot of walls [155], [156], [158], [161], [172] and [174] with brick floor surface [157], looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.6.5 Abutting the north-western face of wall [155] was a north-west to south-east aligned wall [174] (Plate 16). This wall measured a maximum of 1.31m long x 0.25m wide x 0.07m tall and was of the same construction as those above with bricks bonded in a stretcher bond pattern. The gap created between wall [174] and brick floor surface [157] measured a maximum of 1.55m long x 0.72m wide and was filled with a deposit of mid-greyish-brown silty-clay (180); while the gap to the north-west of wall [174] measured 1.35m long x 0.8m wide and was filled with a deposit of dark grey cinder/clinker material [175]. At its north-western end, wall [174] butted north-east to south-west aligned L-shaped wall [161] (Plate 16).

6.6.6 Wall [161] measured a maximum of 0.94m long x 0.28m wide x 0.12m tall. It was again of the same construction as the remains discussed above with bricks laid in no discernible bonding pattern. Wall [161] was truncated by a modern drainpipe at its north-eastern end.

6.6.7 Another L-shaped wall [172] was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 1.4m long x 0.23m wide x 0.34m tall, and was of the same construction as those outlined above, with bricks laid in a mix of stretcher and header bond. The wall was truncated at its south-western end by a modern drainpipe. However, it is likely that the wall [172] was originally connected to wall [158].

6.6.8 The gap between walls [172] and [173] measured 1.3m long x 0.8m wide and was also filled with a deposit of dark grey cinder/ clinker material [176] very similar to deposit [175]. Deposit [176] was also truncated by a modern drainpipe.

6.6.9 Wall [161] was truncated at its north-eastern end, and wall [172] was truncated at its north-western end by a modern brick-built central drain/sump [154].

6.6.10 Just north-east of wall [172] was a mainly north-east to south-west aligned L-shaped brick wall [171] (Plate 17). This measured a maximum of 1.3m long x 0.11m wide x 0.07m tall, was of the same construction as those outlined above with bricks laid in a stretcher bond. This was heavily truncated and was abutted on its north-eastern face by wall [162] (Plate 17).



Plate 17: General shot of walls [171] and [162], looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.6.11 Wall [101] was aligned north-east to south-west and contained a brick-built archway. The wall measured a maximum of 1.51m long x 0.25m wide x 0.52m tall (Plate 18). Wall [101] was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red bricks each measuring an average of 220mm long x 111mm wide x 70mm thick, bonded with a sandy lime mortar.

6.6.12 Wall [103] abutted wall [101] on its south-eastern face, was of the same construction as wall [101], though with bricks laid in stretcher bond, and measured a maximum of 1.15m long x 0.28m wide x 0.58m tall (Plate 18).



Plate 18: General shot of walls [101] and [103], looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.6.13 Wall [102] was observed abutting the north-western face of wall [101], partially blocking the built-in archway (Plate 19). Wall [102] was aligned north-east to south-west and measured a maximum of 0.76m long x 0.23m wide x 0.26m tall. The wall was very heavily truncated and so a proper bonding pattern could not be ascertained. The wall was abutted on its north-western face by an L-shaped wall [163] (Plate 19).



Plate 19: General shot of walls [102], [163] and [101], looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.6.14 The L-shaped wall [163] was again heavily truncated, was mainly aligned north-west to south-east, and measured a maximum of 1.2m long x 0.23m wide x 0.15m tall. It was of the same construction as structures already discussed with bricks laid in English garden wall bonding pattern.

6.6.15 Just north of wall [163] was the very heavily truncated remains of a north-east to south-west aligned red brick wall [145]. The wall was sat in a construction cut [168] which cut the geological natural substrate [165]. Wall [145] measured a maximum of 0.5m long x 0.22m wide x 0.32m tall, with bricks laid in no discernible bonding pattern. This wall was heavily truncated by later structures and so its original purpose could not be ascertained. Once wall [145] was constructed in construction cut [168], it was filled by a mid-grey silty-clay fill [169].

6.7 Building 3 (137 George Leigh Street)

6.7.1 Wall [162] was aligned north-east to south-west, was extremely truncated, and measured a maximum of 3.1m long x 0.22m wide x 0.14m tall. It was of the same construction as those outlined above with bricks laid in mainly stretcher bond. There were three offshoots of wall keyed into the north-western face of

wall [162]. However, these were very small and heavily truncated by later drains.

6.7.2 The possible remains of a third cellar were observed north-east of brick floor [129], with walls [152] and [153] (Plate 20). However, these were heavily truncated and so their original use could not be ascertained. Wall [152] was aligned north-east to south-west, abutted wall [153] at its south-western end and was truncated by a later wall at its north-eastern end. Wall [152] was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red brick each measuring an average of 230mm long x 111mm wide x 70mm thick, laid stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy lime mortar. The wall measured a maximum of 1.86m long x 0.11m wide x 0.27m tall.



Plate 20: General shot of walls [152] and [153], looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.7.3 Wall [153] was aligned north-west to south-east and was of the same construction as wall [152]. Wall [153] measured a maximum of 4.98m long x 0.11m wide x 1.09m tall and was truncated at both ends by a later wall.

6.8 Building 8 (steps of 131-135 George Leigh Street)

6.8.1 Just north-east of York Stone flagged surface [147], on a slightly higher level were north-east to south-west aligned walls [148] and [149] which flanked a heavily truncated area of red brick floor surface [150] (Plate 21). Wall [148] was

likely originally the same wall as [144] as its placement, alignment and construction were all identical. Wall [148] measured a maximum of 1.69m long x 0.35m wide (Plate 21).

6.8.2 Wall [149] likewise was probably originally the same as wall [170], however this section of the wall was a T-shape which measured a maximum of 2.35m long x 0.23m wide x 0.53m tall (Plate 21). Between these two walls was located an area of heavily truncated red brick flooring [150] which survived in an H-shape and measured a maximum of 1.07m long x 0.88m wide, with no discernible bonding pattern or bonding material surviving (Plate 21).



Plate 21: General shot of walls [148] and [149] with H-shaped brick floor surface [150], looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.8.3 Wall [142] was a north-east to south-west aligned L-shaped brick wall (Figure 3). This was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red brick laid in stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy lime mortar, and measured a maximum of 4.9m long x 0.24m wide x 0.56m tall. It was abutted at its north-eastern end by another red brick wall [144] which was on the same alignment and of the same construction as wall [142] and measured a maximum of 0.93m long x 0.33m wide x 0.45m tall where it was truncated before continuing in a T-shape for a maximum length of 1.85m.

6.8.4 Wall [143] measured a maximum of 2.51m long x 0.31m wide x 0.22m tall and was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red bricks each measuring an average of 240mm long x 111mm wide x 90mm thick, laid a mix of header and stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy black mortar. Wall [143] abutted wall [142] all along its north-western face, possibly to strengthen it.

6.8.5 An area of north-west to south-east aligned red brick floor surface [134] was located on the far southern corner of Trench 1 (Plate 22). This measured a maximum of 1.3m long x 0.36m wide x 0.07m thick. Floor surface [134] was flanked on its south-eastern edge by T-shaped wall [135] (Plate 22). Wall [135] was aligned north-west to south-east and was of the same construction as floor surface [134]. Wall [135] measured a maximum of 1.5m long x 0.24m wide x 0.44m tall. Both floor surface [134] and wall [135] were very heavily truncated and so their original use could not be ascertained but when superimposed.



Plate 22: General shot of floor [134] and wall [135], looking south-west. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.8.6 South-west of floor surface [134] was another north-west to south-east aligned external brick wall [136] which was truncated at its south-eastern end and keyed into wall [122] at its north-western end. Wall [136] was of the same construction as wall [122] suggesting that it was originally the same wall. Wall [136] measured a maximum of 3.27m long x 0.25m wide x 1.94m tall.

6.8.7 Possible brick floor [138] was located in the south-western corner of the trench, was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 1.37m long x 0.71m wide x 0.09m tall (Plate 23). The surface was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red brick laid in stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy lime mortar. The surface was heavily truncated and surrounded on its north-eastern and south-eastern sides by brick wall [139] which was of the same construction as surface [138] and measured a maximum of 1.9m long x 0.13m wide x 0.46m tall (Plate 23).



Plate 23:General shot of possible floor surface [138] and wall [139], looking north-east. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.8.8 Abutting the north-western face of wall [144] was a small area of York Stone flagged surface [147] which was aligned north-east to south-west and measured a maximum of 2.2m long x 0.93m wide and was bonded with a black ashy mortar (Plate 24). The north-western edge of this surface was flanked by another north-east to south-west aligned section of red brick wall [170] which was of the same construction as wall [144] and measured a maximum of 1.1m long x 0.23m wide x 0.48m tall (Plate 24).



Plate 24: General shot of walls [144] and [170] along with York Stone flagged surface [147], looking south-west. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.8.9 The north-west to south-east aligned leg of the T-shaped wall [142] seemed to be keyed into a possible brick-built arched hearth [146] at its south-eastern end (Plate 25). Unfortunately, the brick-built arch collapsed during excavation, was aligned north-east to south-west and measured a maximum of 1.3m long x 0.42m wide x 0.2m thick. The void beneath the archway was filled with an ashy/ clinker mixed deposit.



Plate 25: General shot of wall [144] and possible arched hearth [146], looking south-east.

6.8.10 The structures observed within Trench 2 (Plate 26) also likely date to this phase of activity, however due to the depth of trench, its proximity to two very large demolition debris stockpiles on site, and the constantly collapsing trench walls, it was deemed unsafe to enter and so these remains could not be recorded.



Plate 26: General shot of structures in Trench 2, looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.9 Phase 3: *c.* 1900 (Figure 4)

6.10 Building 4

6.10.1 Remains attributed to Phase 3 include a rectangular structure consisting of two cellars and a coal store recorded in the southern half of Trench 1 which has been designated Building 4.

6.10.2 Cellar 1, the smaller of the two cellars within Building 4, was sub-rectangular in shape (Figure 3). It was bounded on its north-western edge by wall [116] (which was also the north-western boundary wall of Cellar 2; by wall [122] on its south-western edge; by wall [141] on its south-eastern edge; and by wall [112] along its north-eastern edge.

6.10.3 Wall [116] was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 9.3m long x 0.11m wide x 1.08m tall (Plate 27). It was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red bricks each measuring an average of 220mm long x 110mm wide x 70mm thick, laid in English garden wall bond and bonded with a sandy black mortar. The interior face of the wall was whitewashed, and a small north-west to south-east aligned offshoot was observed where a doorway leading between the two cellars would have been.



Plate 27: General shot of wall [116], looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.4 Wall [122] was aligned north-west to south-east, at its north-western end it was keyed into wall [116], and at its south-eastern end it was keyed into wall [141] (Figure 3). Wall [122] (Plate 28) measured a maximum of 5.1m long x 0.25m wide x 1.94m tall and was of the exact same construction as wall [116].



Plate 28: General shot of wall [122], looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.5 Wall [141] was a dog legged wall aligned mainly north-east to south-west and was keyed into wall [112] at its north-eastern end (see Figure 3). Wall [141] measured a maximum of 3.7m long x 0.43m wide x 1.8m tall and was of the exact same construction as wall [122] (Plate 29). A small buttress was observed keyed into the internal face of the wall.

6.10.6 Wall [112] was aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 5m long x 0.24m wide x 1.06m tall and was of the exact same construction as wall [141] (Plate 30). The internal face of the wall was whitewashed, and it lined up with the small offshoot in wall [116] discussed above creating a doorway in order to access Cellar 2 at its north-western end (Figure 3).



Plate 29: General shot of wall [141], looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m



Plate 30: General shot of wall [112], looking north-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.7 Cellar 2 was located just north-east of Cellar 1. It was sub-square in shape and was the larger of the two cellars. Cellar 2 was bounded on its north-western edge by wall [116] (previously discussed), on its south-western edge by wall

[114], and on its south-eastern, and partially north-eastern edges by wall [124] (Figure 3).

6.10.8 Wall [114] was aligned north-west to south-east, abutted wall [112] all along its north-eastern face and measured a maximum of 4.8m long x 0.23m wide x 0.82m tall (Plate 13). The wall was constructed of the same handmade bricks as those used in Cellar 1, laid in a mix of header and stretcher bond, and bonded with a sandy black mortar (Plate 31).



Plate 31: General shot of wall [114] in Cellar 2, looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.9 Wall [124] was aligned north-east to south-west, abutted wall [114] at its south-eastern end, and had two square alcoves and a square flue built into it (see Figure 3). Wall [124] measured a maximum of 5.64m long x 0.36m wide x 1.74m tall (Plate 14). The wall was of the exact same construction as wall [141] and had a rectangular support built-in on its external face (Plate 32).



Plate 32: General shot of wall [124] in Cellar 2, looking north-west. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.10.10 The concrete floor surface [121] in Cellar 2 measured a maximum of 5.87m long x 4.6m wide evidencing the size of the room, and was the same concrete floor surface as [115] in Cellar 1 (Plate 33).

6.10.11 Cellar 2 contained a set of red brick and sandstone slab-built steps [119] aligned north-east to south-west and located along wall [116] (see Figure 6 and Plate 33). Steps [119] were constructed of the same handmade bricks outlined above laid stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy black mortar, and grey sandstone slabs that each measured 1.04m long x 0.36m wide x 0.05m thick (Plate 34).



Plate 33:General shot of wall [118] and steps [119] in Cellar 2, looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m



Plate 34:General shot of steps [119] in Cellar 2, looking north-east. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.10.12A small L-shaped north-east to south-west aligned wall [118] was added along the south-eastern face of steps [119], presumably to strengthen them (Plate 33). Wall [118] measured a maximum of 1.55m long x 0.25m wide x 0.25m tall

and was constructed of the same handmade bricks outlined above laid a mix of header and stretcher bond and bonded with a sandy lime mortar.

6.10.13 The internal, or north-west facing face of wall [124] was occupied by a brick-built, arched fireplace [130] which had at some point been blocked with wall [125] (Figure 7; Plate 35). The fireplace itself measured 1.34m tall x 0.94m wide, and after partially removing the blocking wall [125] which was of the same construction as wall [114], it was realised that the range had been removed at the time of blocking up. Also, the fireplace originally connected to the brick-built square flue to the south-west built into wall [124].



Plate 35: General shot of fireplace [130] and blocking wall [125] in Cellar 2, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.14 To the north-east of fireplace [130], within one of the alcoves of wall [124] previously mentioned, a single skinned sub-U-shaped wall [126] lined the interior face of wall [124] (Plate 36). Wall [126] was of the same construction as wall [124] but was likely a later addition, with bricks laid a mix of stretcher and header bond. The wall measured a maximum of 3.22m long x 0.1m thick x 1.73m tall.



Plate 36: General shot of walls [124] and [126] in Cellar 2, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.15 Within the southernmost alcove of wall [124] and to the south-west of wall [125] was a stove and housing (Plate 37). This was constructed of three components including a brick-built surround with internal built-in oven [117] measuring a maximum of 1.06m long x 1.04m wide x 0.87m tall. A cut limestone worktop [120] with a circular void at its centre was then bonded to the top of brick structure [117] using a sandy black mortar. Worktop [120] measured a maximum of 1.06m long x 1.04m wide x 0.07m thick. A cast iron circular bowl [127] with a diameter of 0.67m and a depth of 0.41m was then placed within the void of limestone worktop [120] so that its base could be heated by the fire in the built-in oven of brick surround [117]. Interestingly, the oven in brick surround [117] also linked into the square-shaped flue within wall [124].



Plate 37: General shot of stove in Cellar 2, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.16 Immediately behind the stove, built into wall [124] was a north-east to south-west aligned concrete block [140]. The concrete block [140] measured a maximum of 1.01m long x 0.19m wide x 0.86m thick.

6.10.17 To the north-east of Cellar 2 was a large coal store that was irregular in shape and had a red brick floor [129] that measured a maximum of 3.7m long x 3.4m wide (Plate 38). A large sandstone slab mounted in a wall acted as a coal chute [128], which measured a maximum of 1.18m long x 0.48m wide x 0.06m thick.



Plate 38: General shot of coal chute [128] and brick floor surface [129], looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.10.18 Wall [131] of the coal store truncated walls [152] and [153]. Wall [131] was of the same construction as wall [109] and was keyed into wall [151] at its south-eastern end.

6.10.19 Wall [151] was aligned north-east to south-west and measured a maximum of 7.02m long x 0.23m wide x 1.53m tall. It was of the same construction as wall [131]

A concrete floor surface [115]/[121] was recorded throughout Cellar 1 and 2 (Plate 39), which measured 6.1m long x 3.47m wide, therefore evidencing the room size. The concrete floor surface [115] in Cellar 1 was the same surface as concrete floor surface [121] in Cellar 2, with no separation or joins between them at all. This suggests that they were laid as one single floor surface at the same time spreading between the two cellars via the doorway located at the north-western end of wall [112].



Plate 39: General shot of walls [122], [116] and [112], and concrete floor surface [115] in Cellar 1, looking north-east. Scales = 2 x 1m

6.11 Building 5

6.11.1 A north-west to south-east aligned construction cut [178] was observed to cut the geological natural substrate [165], just north-west of 18th century wall [105]. This measured 9.15m long x 0.45m wide. A wall [127] was constructed within this construction cut [178] which measured a maximum of 9.15m long x 0.35m wide x 0.69m tall. The wall [127] was constructed of handmade, unfrogged red bricks each measuring an average of 220mm long x 111mm wide x 70mm thick, laid in English garden wall bond and bonded with a hard black mortar. The wall was keyed into wall [109] at its south-eastern end and abutted wall [159] on its north-eastern face. Construction cut [178] was then filled by a firm, mid-grey silty-clay fill [179].

6.11.2 Wall [109] was aligned north-east to south-west, was of the same construction as wall [127] and measured a maximum of 9.3m long x 0.24m wide x 0.73m tall. Wall [109] had two north-west to south-east aligned keyed in brick buttresses on its north-western face (Plate 40), and also seemed to respect coal chute [128]. Wall [109] was also keyed into wall [131] at its north-eastern end.



Plate 40: General shot of wall [109] including buttress, looking south-east. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.12 Building 6

6.12.1 Wall [159] was aligned north-east to south-west and abutted wall [127] at its south-western end and was truncated by a later wall at its north-eastern end. Wall [159] measured a maximum of 7.75m long x 0.35m wide x 1.69m tall. It was constructed of red machine-made brick each measuring 230mm long x 111mm wide x 70mm thick, laid a mix of header and stretcher bond and bonded with a black cement mortar.

6.13 Building 7

6.13.1 In the far northern corner of Trench 1, an L-shaped wall construction cut [166] was observed to truncate wall [159] at its north-eastern end. The construction cut [166] measured 3.3m along it's north-west to south-east alignment, before returning north-east to south-west for 3.3m. It was 0.44m wide (Figure 3). Wall [160] was constructed within construction cut [166] which measured 0.34m wide x 1.27m tall. The wall was constructed of modern machine-made bricks laid in English garden wall bonding and was bonded with a modern cement mortar. The construction cut [166] was then filled by a firm, mid-brown clayey-silt fill [167].

6.14 Drainage structures

6.14.1 Just south of wall [160] was a north-east to south-west sub-rectangular modern central drain terminus/sump [154] (Plate 41). This sump [154] measured a maximum of 1.9m long x 0.65m wide x 0.32m tall and was constructed of modern frogged cream-coloured bricks that each measured 225m long x 115m wide x 70mm thick, had '*cliff & sons wortley*' embossed on them and had a white glazing on their internal face. The bricks were laid stretcher bond and bonded with a modern cement mortar. At the base of the structure were four openings for modern drainpipes. This structure truncated 19th-century walls [155], [161], and [172] with the drain coming from the structure seemingly truncating all earlier remains in this part of the site.



Plate 41: General shot of central drain terminus/ sump [154], looking south-west. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.14.2 A similar, though L-shaped construction [132] was located in the southernmost corner of Trench 1 (Plate 42). This was of the exact same construction as central drain terminus/ sump [154] and measured a maximum of 2.16m long x 1.36m wide x 1.2m tall (observed). Unfortunately, the structure could not be properly excavated due to its close proximity to a powered streetlight, and so this corner of the trench had to be backfilled immediately.



Plate 42: General shot brick sump [132], internal wall [137] and concrete block capping [133], looking south-east. Scale = 1 x 1m

6.14.3 A small north-east to south-west aligned wall [137] was located in the north-western end of brick sump [132] (Plate 30). This was of the same construction as brick sump [132] and measured a maximum of 0.71m long x 0.21m wide x 1.13m tall. The wall also had a square shaped iron fixing set into its south-eastern face, possibly for another drain.

6.14.4 Brick sump [132] was then capped by a large sandstone block [133] which measured a maximum of 1.03m long x 0.9m wide x 0.1m thick (Plate 42).

6.14.5 A small section of north-east to south-west aligned red brick-built drain [104] truncated 18th-century wall [103] in the northern corner of Trench 1 (see Figure 3). This measured a maximum of 0.84m long x 0.85m wide x 0.19m tall and

was constructed of modern frogged machine-made bricks laid header and bonded with a modern cement mortar.

6.15 Phase 4: 20th century

6.15.1 In the late 20th century or early 21st century, sometime after 1989, the buildings associated with the Corporation yard were demolished and the site was redeveloped as an industrial park (Cole 2021, 28).

6.16 Made ground

6.16.1 The rest of the remains relating to this phase of activity were represented by deposits. Deposit [187] was located between late 19th-20th century wall [127], and 18th-century brick-built drain [105] in Trench 1. Deposit [187] comprised a black ashy deposit that measured a maximum of 9.15m long x 1m wide.

6.16.2 Deposit [187], along with all of the above archaeological remains was then overlaid by a 0.3m-0.8m thick deposit of dark grey clayey-silt [203]/[303]. This was then overlaid by a 0.5m-0.7m thick deposit of re-deposited geological natural clay [202]/[302]. In Trench 3, this was then overlaid by a 4m long x 1m wide x 0.4m thick pocket of mid-brown silty-clay [304] in the south-western end of the trench, and a 4m long x 1m wide x 0.6m thick pocket of light brown clayey-silt [305] in the north-eastern end of the trench. These deposits were then overlaid by a 0.6m-1m thick deposit of dark grey silty-clay [201]/[301]. The area was then sealed by a 0.2m-1m thick deposit of demolition debris/silt mix made ground [113]/[200].

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 The earliest deposits recorded on the site were the geological natural substrate which comprised a light yellowish-brown clay [165]/[204]. No remains predating the 18th century were identified during the investigation. Archaeological features pertaining to the 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries were recorded. The findings of the investigation were attributed to four phases of activity which are discussed below.

7.2 Phase 1: Late 18th century

7.3 Building 1 (27 and 29 Poland Street)

7.3.1 The remains of Building 1 were attributed to Phase 1 and represented the earliest detected development of the site during the late 18th century. Building 1 could be seen to correspond with a block of houses depicted on the map fronting Poland Street when superimposed onto Green's map of 1787-94 (Figure 9), the earliest map to show development on the site. The remains of Building 1 discovered in Trench 1 likely represent nos. 27 and 29 Poland Street.

7.3.2 The Ancoats area began to be developed after the 1770s following the sale of the land which was owned by the Leigh family. The previously open agricultural land was divided up into regular quadrilateral plots which were sold on to builders. It is not known who constructed the block of houses designated as Building 1.

7.3.3 The recorded remains representing Building 1 appear to be the eastern external wall and internal walls of nos. 27 and 29 Poland Street. All the walls forming Building 1 were found to be two bricks laid in stretcher bond thick. It could be seen that internally each house was two rooms deep with each room measuring *c.* 2.5m x 4.5m equating to each room possessing a floor area of *c.* 11.25 square metres. A section of the internal brick-built floor of the easternmost room remained *in situ*.

7.3.4 When compared with the floor surface areas of other late 18th-century and early 19th-century domestic cellars recently excavated across Greater Manchester it

is apparent that the floor areas of the rooms in the houses on Poland Street were of roughly average size (Table 2). Table 2 suggests that room sizes in houses of this date varied quite considerably across Greater Manchester, the consequence of house building by multiple speculators in unregulated property development conditions.

Location	Dimensions of room (m)	Area of floor surface (m^2)
Shillings Place	2.00 x 2.40	4.80
Boond Street	2.50 x 3.18	7.95
Rowell's Square (Building 3)	3.20 x 3.50	11.20
Bradley Street	3.50 x 3.20	11.20
Bengal Street	3.70 x 3.20	11.20
Poland Street	2.5 x 4.5	11.25
Marshall Street	4.38 x 2.81	12.31
Caygill Street	3.32 x 3.80	12.62
Jersey Street	4.90 x 3.20	15.68
Islington Street (Building 1)	4.00 x 4.00	16.00
Rowell's Square (Building 4)	4.00 x 4.00	16.00
Gerrard's Court	4.27 x 3.81	16.26
Syer's Court	4.27 x 4.57	19.51

Table 2: Table showing room sizes of late 18th-century and early 19th-century houses excavated across Greater Manchester (Wild, 2007); (Miller, Wild & Little 2007, 58-60); (Brooks, 2022)

7.3.5 It was not clear from the recorded archaeological remains how the houses were configured in terms of living arrangements. The 1861 census return suggests that at that time no. 27 was occupied by 3 households while no. 29 housed 2. With this in mind, it is likely that cellars of nos. 27 and 29 functioned as cellar dwellings. The 1871, 1881 and 1891 censuses only list 1 household per family in both properties. This perhaps reflects a response to the local bye law of 1853 which prevented the inhabitation of cellars (Nevell 2017, 4). A report by Dr John Leigh, Manchester's first Medical Officer stated that the bye law had not been enforced with many cellars still inhabited into the 1860s (Hayton 1995, 178). However, Leigh's report apparently brought attention to the problem, and it was reported that the Building and Sanitary Committee had closed 2,400 cellars by 1872 (*ibid*).

7.3.6 A brick-built drain was identified as forming part of the building's original construction. The provision of a drain is untypical of a late 18th-century workers' house.

7.4 Phase 2: Early-mid-19th century

7.4.1 Comparisons between Green's map (Figure 9) and Bancks & Co.'s map (Figure 10) suggests that between 1794 and 1831 two buildings fronting the short eastwards extension of George Leigh Street were constructed adjoining the southern extent of Building 1 (nos. 29 Poland Street). Another building, which appears to represent a block of four back-to-back houses (Building 3), is marked as fronting the short length of George Leigh Street encompassed by the boundary of the site. Additionally, a series of outhouses (Building 2) are depicted behind the L-shaped range of buildings fronting George Leigh Street and Poland Street.

7.4.2 When the surveyed remains were superimposed on Bancks & Co.'s map of 1831 (Figure 10) it could be seen that many of the recorded walls attributed to Phase 2 correspond with structures depicted on this map but not on Green's map (Figure 9). Structures representing Phase 2 development were designated as Building 2, Building 3 and Building 4.

7.5 The residents of Building 1 (nos. 27 and 29 Poland Street) between 1851 and 1891 (Appendix 3)

7.5.1 The occupants of nos. 27 and 29 Poland Street (Building 1) were registered by census returns from 1851 until 1891. The residents at these addresses supports the notion that in the mid-19th century, Ancoats was populated by working-class residents who had migrated from other parts of the British Isles to seek work in Manchester. The census data suggests that migrants from Ireland and Scotland continued to settle in Ancoats throughout the second half of the 19th century.

7.5.2 George and Jane, the elder members of the Clarke family, who lived at 27 Poland Street in 1851 (Table 3), were born in Macclesfield and Wales respectively. George and his two adolescent children all worked in the furniture manufacturing industry as a wood turner, a sawyer and a French polisher. Nos. 29 is not listed on the 1851 census perhaps due to a clerical error.

7.5.3 While only one household is registered as occupying no. 27 Poland Street in 1851, the 1861 census lists three household inhabiting the property.

7.5.4 This included the Rigby household (Table 4) which was headed by William, a publican who lived with his wife Cicely and their 4 children. All members of the Rigby household were born in Manchester.

7.5.5 The Dugan household (Table 5) only consisted of two members: Mary, a dressmaker born in Ireland and her infant son born in Manchester.

7.5.6 The Housel household, consisting of three adults and three children, are listed as occupying no. 27 Poland Street in 1861 (Table 6). The elder members of this family were all born in Ireland while their children were born in Manchester. Two of the adults, Samuel and Mary who were the parents of the three young children, were employed in the book making business. Ann Dwyer who was a 50 year old widow and nurse, was presumably the mother of Mary.

7.5.7 The Rothwell household (Table 7) – a family of four all born in Manchester – are recorded living at no. 29 Poland Street in 1861. Mary, the head of the household was a housekeeper whilst her children, who were aged between 21 and 18, worked in the cotton industry.

7.5.8 The households listed as living in nos. 27 (Table 9 and Table 11) and 29 (Table 10 and Table 12) in 1871 and 1881 all consist of people who were born in Lancashire or Manchester and who were employed in occupations such as shoemaking, greengrocery, fish selling and book keeping.

7.5.9 The Doyle household lived at 27 Poland Street when the 1891 census (Table 13) was taken. John Doyle, a nightwatchman, and his wife Ann who was a tailoress, were both born in Ireland in the 1840s. They lived with their daughter Sarah, a 17 year old net maker, and 2 boarders who are both recorded as general labourers. The fact that boarders were present in the household indicates a need to augment family finances where possible in this case by sub-letting spare rooms.

7.5.10 At no. 29 the house was occupied by three members of the Jones family: Ellen, a 52 year old widow who worked as a charwoman; Robert a 29 year old cloth warehouseman, and his younger brother James who was a signalman. While Robert and James were both born in Manchester, Ellen came from Scotland.

7.6 Building 2 (outshut)

7.6.1 Building 2 was located in a yard located to the rear of the street-fronting buildings. It was formed by a series of small, approximately square-shaped

rooms arranged in a north-east by south-west aligned range. Building 2 was interpreted as a block of outshuts probably containing privies which likely served the domestic buildings surrounding it.

7.6.2 External shared privies are a common feature of early to mid- 19th century workers' housing sites in the centre of Manchester (Nevell 2017, 9).

7.7 Building 3 (137 George Leigh Street)

7.7.1 An L-shaped wall represented the western and part of the southern external wall of a structure assigned Building 3 which, when superimposed on Bancks & Co.'s map, corresponds with what appears to be a block of back-to-back houses. As well as its external walls a north-east by south-west aligned internal wall was exposed. The dimensions of Building 3's rooms could not be confirmed because all four walls did not survive. No evidence of access to Building 3, or internal features were discovered. However, the 1851 Town Plan depicts external stairs leading to each property suggesting that the cellars may have been inhabited.

7.8 The residents of Building 3 (137 George Leigh Street) between 1871 and 1891

7.8.1 It is known from the 1871 census returns that John and Jane Ward, a husband and wife who were born in Lancashire in 1815 and 1842 respectfully lived at 137 George Leigh Street. The 1881 census shows that Jane Ward had died by this time and that the head of house John Ward, who was originally born in Hollinwood, Lancashire, and worked as a Storekeeper in the Corporation Pipe Yard still lived at this address. Furthermore, he was now joined by his son John, who was born in 1848 in Manchester, and worked as a Tailor; and his daughter-in-law Mary, who was born in Wales in 1849, and who formally worked as a General Servant.

7.8.2 By 1891, the tenancy had been taken over by Samuel Warrington, who was born in Urmston, Lancashire in 1830, and worked as a Foreman at the Street Mains Department, and his wife Mary, who was born in Millbrook, Cheshire in 1830. The census returns do not detail what Mary Warrington did as an occupation, if indeed she had one.

7.9 **Building 8 (steps to 131-135 George Leigh Street)**

7.9.1 A series of heavily truncated walls recorded in the southern part of Trench 1 were interpreted as the remains of steps leading into the cellars of 131 to 133 George Leigh Street. This was all that remained of these buildings.

7.10 **The residents of Building 8 (steps to 131-135 George Leigh Street) between 1871 and 1891**

7.11 **131 George Leigh Street**

7.11.1 It is known from the 1871 census returns that Simon (a Painter) and Jane Yates, a husband and wife who were born in Lancashire in 1836 and 1837 respectfully, lived at 131 George Leigh Street, along with their son William, who was born in 1859, and daughter Fanny who was born in 1861, both in Lancashire. The 1871 census does not list any occupations for Jane, William, and Fanny.

7.11.2 The 1881 census shows that 131 George Leigh Street was occupied by Eliza Crawford, the head of the household who was a widow born in Eccles, Lancashire in 1817, and was working as a Sand Dealer; along with two boarders: Fanny Fordsman, a single Calico Weaver born in Manchester in 1827; and Mary Gibbons, a widowed Nurse born in Wigan, Lancashire in 1820. Again, the presence of boarders could indicate a need to augment Eliza's finances by sub-letting two rooms.

7.11.3 Furthermore, the 1881 census lists a second family living at 131 George Leigh Street; John McGee, the head of the household and a Dyer originally born in Ireland in 1850; and his wife Mary McGee, a Launderess originally born in Wrexham, North Wales in 1852.

7.11.4 By the time of the 1891 census, another change in residency is evidenced. Now 131 George Leigh Street was occupied by Winifred Degman, the widowed head of the household who was born in Ireland in 1823 and was working as a Hawker; and her daughter Mary Degman, a single, Cotton Mill Hand born in Manchester in 1864.

7.12 133 George Leigh Street

7.12.1 The 1871 census returns show that 133 George Leigh Street was occupied by John Strand, the head of the household who was born in Lancashire in 1839, along with his wife Rebecca Strand, a Calico weaver who was originally born in Ireland in 1840; and their four children all born in Lancashire: George Strand, born in 1858; Mary Ann Strand, a scholar born in 1864; William Henry Strand, born in 1867; and Rebecca Strand born in 1871. No occupation is listed in the census for John Strand.

7.12.2 The 1881 census lists that 133 George Leigh Street was occupied by Richard Laight, the head of the household and a Stable Man, born in Withington, Gloucestershire in 1852; along with his wife Louisa Laight, born in Gloucestershire in 1857; and their daughter Louisa Laight, born in Manchester in 1881.

7.12.3 The 1891 census shows another change of residency, with Thomas Morras, the head of the household and a General Labourer born in Manchester in 1862; along with his wife Elizabeth Morras, born in Bowdon, Cheshire in 1866; their son James Morras, born in Manchester in 1891; his father Patrick Morras, also a General Labourer born in Ireland in 1826; and his sister Ellan Morras, a Corset Maker, born in Manchester in 1859.

7.13 135 George Leigh Street

7.13.1 The 1871 census shows that 135 George Leigh Street was occupied by the Philbin family who were all from Ireland and were headed by Bridget Philbin, born in 1811 and her children: Patrick Philbin born in 1836; John Philbin born in 1841; and Bridget Philbin born in 1849. Although all members of this family were well within working age, the census returns does not list occupations for any of them.

7.13.2 By the time of the 1881 census, 135 George Leigh Street was occupied by Ann Reeson, a widower and housekeeper born in Ireland in 1797; and her granddaughter Emma Lofthouse, a Fancy Box Maker born in Manchester in 1860. The census also lists a lodger, Mary Tetlock, another Fancy Box Maker born in Manchester in 1856. This again suggests a need to augment the finances of Ann Reeson by sub-letting a room.

7.13.3 By 1891, the Collins family were occupants at 135 George Leigh Street. This family was headed by John Collins, a warehouse porter born in Manchester in 1849. John was joined by his wife Mary Collins, a charwoman born in Manchester in 1851, and their five children: John Collins Junior, a club porter born in Manchester in 1871; Robert Collins, an umbrella fitter born in Manchester in 1875; Edward Collins, a stick burner born in Manchester in 1877; David Collins, a scholar born in Manchester in 1882; and Mary Collins, a scholar born in Manchester in 1885.

7.14 Phase 3: *c.* 1900

7.14.1 Phase 3 witnessed the construction of Building 4 in the southern part of the site, Building 5 in the western part of Trench 1, Building 6 in the northern part. The 1891 Town Plan (Figure 12) registers only minor variations in the structural layout of the site compared to the preceding Ordnance Survey of 1851 (Figure 11) therefore the changes appear to have taken place between 1891 and 1908.

7.14.2 The new buildings constructed in this phase relate to the Manchester Corporation acquiring the entire site and redeveloping it to provide space for facilities to carryon on the work of the department.

7.15 Building 4 (store-keeper's house)

7.15.1 A structure recorded in the southern part of Trench 1 has been designated Building 4. It was interpreted as representing part of the 'Street Mains Department (Gas)' building complex. A note made on the plans for these buildings stated that the buildings to the left of the corporation yard entrance – the location of Building 4 – were 'the store-keeper's house, a mess room for the workmen, and stabling for the horses' (*Manchester Guardian* 24 July 1900). The scale of Building 4, which is equivalent to an average late-Victorian house, and its appearance (Plate 11), suggest that Building 4 was the store-keeper's house.

7.15.2 Building 4 consisted of a rectangular-shaped external wall enclosing four internal rooms which were assigned Cellar 1, Cellar 2, coal store and Room 1. The function of Cellar 1 could not be determined as no diagnostic features were identified. It is possible that it served as a storeroom. In Cellar 2 the provision of a fireplace, stove and associated worktop indicates that it may

have functioned as a utility room which was accessed by an internal set of stairs positioned within Cellar 2. An adjoining coal store, identified by a coal chute, was located to the north-east of Cellar 2.

7.16 Building 5 (mess hall)

7.16.1 An L-shaped wall represented the external wall of a building constructed over the top of the demolished remains of Building 1. Building 5 was rectangular shaped and fronted Poland Street. When it can be seen in a photograph from 1962 (Plate 10). The photograph shows what appears to be a single storey structure with large windows which was likely the 'mess hall' described on the building plan (*Manchester Guardian* 24 July 1900). This is further evidenced when the recorded remains are superimposed over the 1:2500 County Series Map of 1908 (Figure 13), which shows how the remains align to the external walls of shown on map.

7.17 Building 6 (stable)

7.17.1 The large north-east to south-west aligned wall which abutted Building 5 at its south-western end likely represented the remains of the stables (Building 6) shown on the 1:2500 County Series Map of 1908 (Figure 13). The stables (Building 6) appeared to have been constructed over the McIntyre's Court courtyard.

7.18 Drainage structures

7.18.1 A series of drainage structures were observed in the southern part of Trench 1. They were constructed of cream-coloured bricks with '*cliff & sons wortley*' embossed on top and had a white glazing on their internal face. These structures could be seen to be located in the Street Mains Department (Gas) Corporation Yard when superimposed on the 1:2500 County Series Map of 1908 (Figure 13).

7.19 Phase 4: late 20th century to early 21st century

7.19.1 In the late 20th century or early 21st century, sometime after 1989, the buildings associated with the Corporation Yard were demolished and the site was redeveloped as an industrial park (Cole 2021, 28).

8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Key Results

8.1.1 The earliest deposits recorded on the site represented natural Devensian till. No layers of sub-soil which might pertain to pre-industrial activity were recorded during the investigation.

8.1.2 Evidence of the earliest development on the site were represented by a block of 18th-century workers' housing fronting Poland Street. Four cellar rooms of this building were exposed which formed part of 27 and 29 Poland Street.

8.1.3 The next phase of development represented the construction of early to mid-19th-century dwellings with cellars. These were constructed to the east and south-east of the 18th-century dwellings. The cellar of 137 George Leigh Street was identified and it was suggested that it was inhabited as evidenced by the presence of external access steps. The remains of steps providing access to the cellars of 131-135 George Leigh Street were also discovered although the remains of the cellars themselves had been destroyed by later development. A range of outshuts probably containing privies was revealed in the yard area to the rear of the properties fronting George Leigh Street and Poland Street.

8.1.4 Around 1900 the workers' housing across the site were demolished. They were replaced with buildings associated with the 'Street Mains Department' including a store-keeper's house, stable and mess hall. The remains of drainage infrastructure and a yard associated with the 'Street Mains Department' was also revealed.

8.1.5 During the late 20th century or early 21st century the whole site was cleared. The resultant demolition debris and local re-deposited clays were used to level the ground on which an industrial park was constructed.

8.1.6 The remains of the glass works could not be investigated as the trench in this area was deemed unsafe to enter due to collapsing sides. No remains relating to the Rochdale Canal were exposed during the investigation.

8.2 Significance

8.2.1 The archaeological fieldwork has demonstrated that buried remains of 19th-century date survived below ground level. These results are of local significance.

8.3 Key Initiatives

8.3.1 Several of the key initiatives from the current North-West Archaeological Research Framework (NWERRF 2021) were outlined in the aims and objectives. They are addressed below:

8.4 Ind21: How did industrial period towns affect the pre-existing historic landscape?

8.4.1 No evidence of the pre-existing historic landscape was discovered during the investigation. Historic maps suggest that the site occupied an area of open fields until the late 18th century when the area began to be urbanised. Initially a single terrace of workers' houses stood within the site which remained open until the early to mid- 19th century when the available space was infilled with either further rows of terraced houses or infrastructure such as outshuts and yard areas.

8.5 Ind30: How have buildings changed in response to planning regulations?

8.5.1 The heavily disturbed remains exposed on the site resulted in difficulty identifying structural alterations which may have reflected physical responses to planning regulations.

8.6 Ind33: How well studied and understood are the back yards of workers' housing and what is their significance?

8.6.1 A back yard area was identified during the investigation. This area was found to contain a complex of outshuts which likely housed privies. The fragmentary remains recorded meant that the total number of privies present in the yard could not be determined. Historic maps suggest that at least five outshuts were situated in McIntyre's Court. It was not possible to establish how many properties the privies served.

8.7 Dissemination

8.7.1 The project archive comprises site drawings, context sheets, matrix, digital scans and surveys and photographs. A copy of this report will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record held by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service. All drawn records will be

transferred to a digital format and then a copy will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).

8.7.2 A short summary note of the results obtained from the fieldwork will be sent to *Post-medieval Archaeology* for inclusion in the annual roundup of archaeological fieldwork.

8.7.3 Salford Archaeology will register the report with OASIS (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) within 6 months of production.

9 ARCHIVE

9.1.1 The results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards and in line with current CIfA guidelines updated 2020. 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. As part of the archiving process, the on-line OASIS (On-line Access to Index of Archaeological Investigations) form will be completed.

9.1.2 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in Greater Manchester. All drawn records will be transferred to and stored in digital format and deposited with the ADS (Archaeological Data Service). The integrity of the site archive will be maintained upon completion of the archaeological works with the archive ultimately being offered for deposition with the Manchester Museum of Science and Industry (subject to their approval).

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
101	1	Wall with archway	NE-SW aligned red brick wall with archway	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
102	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
103	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
104	1	Drain	NE-SW aligned red brick lined drain	4	-	20th century
105	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned external red brick wall	1	-	18th century
106	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned internal red brick wall	1	-	18th century
107	1	Drain	NE-SW aligned external red brick square drain	1	-	18th century
108	1	Floor surface	NW-SE aligned internal red brick floor surface	1	-	18th century
109	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned external red brick wall	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
110	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned internal red brick wall	1	-	18th century
111	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned internal red brick wall	1	-	18th century
112	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned internal red brick wall in Cellar 1	2		Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
113	1	Deposit	Demolition debris backfill	4		20th century
114	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned internal red brick wall in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
115	1	Floor surface	Concrete floor surface in Cellar 1	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
116	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned internal red brick wall of Cellars 1 and 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
117	1	Brick-built base	Red brick structure for stove in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
118	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned small red brick wall along steps in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
119	1	Steps	NE-SW aligned red brick and sandstone steps in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
120	1	Worktop	Limestone worktop of stove in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
121	1	Floor surface	Concrete floor surface in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
122	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned external wall of Cellar 1	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
123	1	Bowl	Cast iron bowl of stove	2	-	Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
124	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned external red brick wall behind possible fireplace	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
125	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall blocking possible fireplace opening	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
126	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned internal skin wall of possible window box in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
127	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned external red brick wall	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
128	1	Coal chute	Sandstone slab coal chute	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
129	1	Floor surface	Brick floor surface in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
130	1	Fireplace	Fireplace with range removed in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
131	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned external red brick wall of Cellar 2 around brick floor	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
132	1	Brick-built sump	L-shaped white glazed brick sump	4	-	20th century
133	1	Capping slab	Large sandstone capping of sump 132	4	-	20th century
134	1	Floor surface	NW-SE aligned red brick floor surface in SW corner of site	2	-	Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
135	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
136	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned external red brick wall connecting to 122	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
137	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned internal wall blocking sump 132	4	-	20th century
138	1	Footing/ floor surface	NW-SE aligned red brick footing/ floor surface for cellar access	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
139	1	Wall	L-shaped red brick wall around 138	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
140	1	Concrete block	NE-SW aligned concrete block behind stove in Cellar 2	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
141	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned dog legged external wall of Cellar 1	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
142	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned L-shaped red brick wall along cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
143	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick later addition wall to 142	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
144	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned T-shaped red brick wall along cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
145	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned small section of red brick wall near drain 104	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
146	1	Brick-built arch	NE-SW aligned brick made collapsed arched possible hearth	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
147	1	Floor surface	York Stone flagged floor surface of cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
148	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall along cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
149	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall along cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
150	1	Floor surface	H-shaped red brick floor surface in cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
151	1	Wall	L-shaped external wall of possible third cellar, connecting to 131	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
152	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall truncated by 151	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
153	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned red brick wall abutted by wall 152	2	-	Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
154	1	Brick-built sump/ central drain	NE-SW aligned rectangular sump/ central drain with white glazed bricks	4	-	20th century
155	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned external wall of possible privy	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
156	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned external wall of possible privy	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
157	1	Floor surface	NE-SW aligned brick floor surface of possible privy	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
158	1	Floor surface	NE-SW aligned brick floor surface of possible second outbuilding	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
159	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick external wall of possible gas works	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
160	1	Wall	L-shaped red brick external wall of municipal depot building	4	-	20th century
161	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned L-shaped red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
162	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned heavily truncated red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
163	1	Wall	NW-SE aligned L-shaped red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
164	1	Deposit	Re-deposited natural clay	1	-	18th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
165	1	Deposit	Geological natural substrate	-	-	-
166	1	Cut	Construction cut for wall 160	4	-	20th century
167	1	Fill	Fill of construction cut 166	4	-	20th century
168	1	Cut	Construction cut for wall 145	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
169	1	Fill	Fill of construction cut 145	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
170	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall along cellar entrance way	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
171	1	Wall	L-shaped red brick wall abutted by wall 162	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
172	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned heavily truncated red brick wall	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
173	1	Wall	L-shaped red brick wall abutting walls 152 and 155	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
174	1	Wall	NE-SW aligned red brick wall abutting walls 155 and 161	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
175	1	Deposit	Deposit of cinder/ clinker material bounded by walls 155, 161 and 174	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
176	1	Deposit	Deposit of cinder/ clinker material bounded by walls 158 and 173	2	-	Early – mid-19th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
177	1	Deposit	Deposit of cinder/ clinker material bounded by walls 171, 172 and 154	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
178	1	Cut	Construction cut for wall 127	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
179	1	Fill	Fill of construction cut 178	3	-	Late 19th – early 20th century
180	1	Deposit	Deposit of silty-clay SW of wall 174	2	-	Early – mid-19th century
181	1	Deposit	Levelling deposit under brick floor surface 108	1	-	18th century
182	1	Deposit	Deposit of clayey-silt above re-deposited natural 164	1	-	18th century
183	1	Deposit	Deposit of silty-clay above re-deposited natural 164	1	-	18th century
184	1	Deposit	Re-deposited natural clay below 181	1	-	18th century
185	1	Deposit	Deposit of mid-brown clayey-silt below 184	1	-	18th century
186	1	Deposit	Spread of lime mortar below 185	1	-	18th century
187	1	Deposit	Black ashy deposit located between wall 127 and brick drain 107	4	-	20th century

Context Number	Trench	Type	Description	Phase	Finds	Spot Date
188	1	Cut	Shallow pit	1	-	-
189	1	Cut	Shallow pit	1	-	-
190	1	Deposit	Fill	1	-	-
191	1	Cut	Pit	1	-	-
192	1	Deposit	Fill	1	-	-
200	2	Deposit	Light grey demolition debris/ silt mix	4	-	20th century
201	2	Deposit	Deposit of dark grey silty-clay	4	-	20th century
202	2	Deposit	Re-deposited natural substrate	4	-	20th century
203	2	Deposit	Dark grey demolition debris/ clayey-silt mix	4	-	20th century
204	2	Deposit	Geological natural substrate	-	-	-
301	3	Deposit	Deposit of dark grey silty-clay	4	-	20th century
302	3	Deposit	Re-deposited natural substrate	4	-	20th century
303	3	Deposit	Dark grey demolition debris/ clayey-silt mix	4	-	20th century
304	3	Deposit	Small deposit of mid-brown silty-clay	4	-	20th century
305	3	Deposit	Deposit of light brown clayey-silt	4	-	20th century

APPENDIX 2: FINDS REPORT

Introduction

A small artefactual assemblage was recovered from the excavations at Ancoats Mobility Hub, comprising 128 artefacts, weighing 3335.5g. The assemblage comprises finds from various material categories and is dominated by 18th to 19th/20th century ceramics, glass and metalwork. The material may be described as being a typical urban assemblage from Greater Manchester. That is, one comprising the usual mixture of factory produced finewares and coarsewares. The coarsewares, pottery vessels commonly used in food preparation and storage were more likely to have been produced in small scale potteries specialising in coarseware and located close to the growing industrialised population centres (Brears 1971, 56).

The aim of the finds report is to describe and quantify the material evidence recovered, along with some chronological interpretation, relating it as far as possible to other known finds from the same site or area, in line with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidelines (2022).

Methodology

The examination of the artefactual assemblage was carried out in accordance with the guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014). The pottery was examined with reference to A Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (Barclay *et al* 2016).

The finds recovered from the excavation comprised various categories of material including Post-medieval and Industrial period pottery, clay tobacco pipes, glass and metalwork. For quantification and full contents of the assemblage, see Table A1. All categories of finds were examined in full, with observations supplemented by the finds records generated during the course of the fieldwork. The finds were categorised according to type and class and have been entered onto a database in order to prepare a preliminary catalogue. Full details of all recovered material reside within the project archive held at Salford Archaeology.

Overview

Materal	Object count	Weight (g)	No. of ctx	% by object count	% by weight (g)
Pottery	76	2693.3	7	59%	80.7%
Clay tobacco pipes	38	117.8	4	30%	3.5%
Glass	8	464.2	3	6%	13.9%
Non-ferrous (copper alloy)	3	54.8	1	2%	1.6%
Animal bones	3	5.4	2	2%	0.2%
Totals	128	3335.5		100%	100.0%

Table A1: all material recovered

Main contexts with finds

Phase 1: Late 18th century

[164] Re-deposited natural clay in Building 1. The earliest pottery form this deposit comprised a possible sherd of Midlands purple ware, generally dating to the 16th-17th century and therefore residual in this context. Fragments of decorated slip ware which date to the late 17th to early 18th century, whilst a single sherd of agate ware has a broad 18th century date, although larger-scale commercial production of agateware started in the second quarter of the 18th century (Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab, 2002 and 2015a). Two body sherd fragments of Dark glazed coarse ware are broadly datable to the 18th or 19th century, although the presence of the other ceramics within this contexts suggest an 18th century date. A single clay tobacco pipe (CTP) with a stem bore of 7/64th inches possibly dates to the 17th - early 18th century.

[182] Deposit of clayey-silt above re-deposited natural [164] in Building 1. Two body sherds of dark glazed coarse ware can only be broadly dated to 18th or 19th century, whilst three CTP stems one of which displays a heel are likely to date from the 17th to late 18th century.

[183] Deposit of silty-clay above re-deposited natural [164] in Building 1. three pieces of Pearl ware, one displaying sponge decoration and another with painted leaf decoration, in chrome colours probably date to after 1830. A sherd of Industrial slipware with banded decoration can be broadly dated from the late 18th and throughout the 19th century. Four CTP stem with bores of 4/64th and 5/64 of an inch are likely to date to the late 18th or later.

Phase 2: Early-mid-19th century

[180] Deposit of silty-clay SW of wall [174]. This deposit contained Creamware, Brown stoneware and dark glazed wares, all of which are likely to date to the first half of the 19th century.

[175] Deposit of cinder/ clinker material bounded by walls [155], [161] and [174] in Building 2. This deposit produced 35 fragments of pottery (43% of the total pottery assemblage). This included 15 fragments of Self coloured earthenware, which are residual in this context. The remainder comprises transfer printed white wares which date to 19th century or later, a single undecorated cup handle and a Dark glazed coarse ware body sherd are less certain in terms of dating.

[176] Deposit of cinder/ clinker material bounded by walls [158] and [173] in Building 2. An undiagnostic vessel glass fragment displaying press moulded decoration probably dares to 1820 and later. An undecorated white earthenware base sherd was also recovered from this deposit, to which a 19th century date would be applicable.

Phase 3: *c.* 1900

There were no finds from this phase.

Phase 4: 20th century

[187] Made ground deposit located between wall [127] and brick drain [107]. As part of the final phase of the archaeological sequence, the finds from this deposit, some 62 in total (representing 48% of the total assemblage), were a mixture of typical coarse and fine ware pottery types of the 19th and 20th centuries as well as fragments of glass, bone and three copper alloy spoons. The pottery comprises white wares, dark glazed coarse wares, Brown stoneware, industrial slipware. The spoons, one of which is electroplated are likely to be after 1840 and may well be early 20th century.

The pottery

Some 76 fragments of pottery, weighing 2693.3g was recovered from seven stratified contexts in Phases 1, 2 and 4. The majority of the material is in good condition with little signs of abrasion. Diagnostic sherds, principally rims and bases comprised 45%, or 42 fragments of the pottery assemblage, allowing in some instances the vessel types to be identified.

The earliest pottery types consisted of a possible fragment of 16th/17th century Midlands purple type ware, decorated slipwares and a single fragment of Agate ware.

These ware types, with the exception of the Agate ware, typically date from the 17th to mid-18th century would suggest that they were residual in this context. Glazed red earthenware, was widely used from 17th century and was still be produced in the 19th century (Barker 2008). Rim sherd from two or more pantheons were identified.

Decorated slipwares comprised a body sherd with slip trailed and combed decoration, whilst a second fragment was an everted rim with zig-zag slip yellow trailing on an range body. The type decoration exhibited on both fragments was characteristic of the late 17th to early 18th century. Large-scale commercial production of agateware started in the second quarter of the eighteenth century (Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab, 2002 and 2015a).

Dark glazed wares, which are one of the commonest pottery types identified on archaeological sites up until the end of the 18th century formed only 14% by object count (11 fragments) and 8% by weight (219.9g). A rim sherd was the only diagnostic fragment, although not enough of the vessel form was present to identify its form.

Ware types dating to the later 18th and early 19th century comprise creamware and Pearlware. The former type was fashionable from c 1760-80s and still present in the 1820s (Barker 2008). Plates and a bowl were the only identifiable forms.

Pearlware was the increasingly dominant type of whiteware during the period 1800-1830. Types identified on the site comprise a painted example in chrome colours common after 1830 and another displaying sponge decoration common from *c.* 1840s (Barker 2008).

Later whitewares are characterised by transfer printed decoration, 17 fragments in total, all of which were retrieved from Phase 2, with exception of a Pearlware fragment decorated with willow pattern. Until *c.* 1830 blue was the main colour used, although new colours were introduced from the *c.* 1820s, for example green pink, purple and black. (Barker 2008). Some of the fragments, which include a bowl and a saucer display of the geometric and floral borders which first become common in the early 19th century and are a long lived decorative motif.

Thirteen fragments of industrial slipware were recovered from mainly from Phase 4, although a single specimen was retrieved from Phase 1. From Phase 1 rim of cup/bowl form exhibited banded decoration a design motif that was present throughout on this very long-lived type of pottery. Ten sherds from a cylindrical jug in a creamware fabric

were decorated with blue, brown and black bands, a green-glazed rouletted border above a herring bone type pattern. A late 18th or early 19th century date may be applicable for this vessel (Maryland Archaeological Conservation Lab 2002 and 2015b).

Clay tobacco pipes

Some 38 clay tobacco pipes (CTP) fragments weighing 117.8g were recovered from four stratified contexts in phases 1 and 4. This comprised 34 stem fragments and four bowls, the latter were all from Phase 4 deposit [187]. The bowls comprise a plain bowl with heel (1720-40), a complete bowl with wheat sheath, fluting and floral decoration and a fleur-de-lis motif around rim (c 1810-50), a half bowl fragment with serrated leaves, fluting, and a milled rim and fleur-de-lis motif below, 'W' and 'H' are visible on each face facing smoker (c 1810-50; Davey 1985). A bowl fragment with no decoration visible was not closely database.

In broad terms the majority of the stem bore dimensions are between 4/64th and 5/64th of an inch suggesting that most date from the late 18th century and later. Large bore of between 8/64th and 6/64th of an inch recovered from Phases 1 and 4 (contexts [164], [182] and [187]) suggest that a few were 17th-18th century in date (Higgins 2017)

Glass

The site produced eight glass fragments weighing 464.2g from three stratified contexts in Phases 2 and 4. That from Phase 2 context [175] was a large bottle base of colourless glass displaying a distinct pontil mark. From the same phase, context [176] was fragment of press moulded glass. The remaining shards were all from Phase 4, context [187] and were black glass fragments. This type of glass of in use from the 18th until late 19th century (Lindsey 2012).

Non-ferrous (copper alloy)

Three copper alloy spoons were all recovered from phase 4 deposit [187]. All were composed of copper alloy and all were in the fiddle pattern, common from c 1780 (Moore 2005, 40). The largest, a dessert spoon, measured 182mm long and had originally been electro plated, the EPNS (electroplated nickel silver) mark being visible on the underside of the handle. The electro plating process was effected by 1840 (Sate Library Victoria 2019). Also recovered was a near complete fiddle pattern teaspoon,

with part of bowl missing (length 106.9mm), and a bowl and stem fiddle pattern teaspoon (surviving length 84.4mm).

Animal bones

Three small fragments of animal bone, all weighing less than 2.2g were retrieved from Phase 2 deposit [175] and Phase 4 deposit [187]. From the latter was the right part of a lower rodent mandible.

Potential of assemblage and recommendations

The finds recovered during the excavations at Ancoats Mobility Hub, dominated as it was by pottery may be described as being a typical urban assemblage from Greater Manchester. That is one comprising a mixture of fine and coarsewares. Finewares, or alternatively tableware are those vessels used to eat out of, or drink from. Coarsewares, on the other hand, are those pottery vessels commonly used in food preparation, food storage and were also used in the dairy. The ways in which these types of pottery were manufactured were the result of the increasing urbanisation found in Northern England. Finewares, recovered on the present site, to some extent encapsulate the changing tastes in pottery used at the table from the later 18th century to the middle of the 19th century. A class of related pottery sometimes called white earthenware that has become associated with the 18th century potteries located in Staffordshire (Barker 2008).

Thus, there are small amounts of Creamware which is often seen as one of the first mass produced table wares, which gave way to Pearlware at the end of the 18th century, before being eclipsed by the rapid take up of other whitewares manufactures by individual potteries, who used related raw materials but with slightly different ingredients to obtain a similar type pot. These manufactures were located in the Midlands and North of England (Barker 2008**)**, but seemingly with the exception of Manchester.

Coarsewares, were more likely to have been produced on a much smaller scale at potteries specialising in cheaply produced varieties of coarse pottery. The market being for the labouring classes whose subsistence level poor wages meant that factory produced wares were out of theirreach. These potteries were themselves located close to the growing industrialised population centres (Brears 1971, 56).

Phase 1 deposit [164] in Building 1 illustrates this with the absence of factory produced wares. These, however, are present in very small amounts in context [182]. The change can be seen most markedly in Phase 2, where factory produced transfer printed wares are much more plentiful. Along side the factory produced wares in Phase 2 deposit [175], are parts of two flared bowls, also known as pancheons, which have a variety of uses from breadmaking, dairying to washing. These are in Glazed red earthenware fabric with a translucent brownish red glaze. These were manufactured from c 1650 to well into the 19th century, although in the Midlands their origin can be traced back to 'late medieval orange ware' of the late 15th or 16th century (Barker 2008), whilst similar ware types on the east coast of England may have been influenced by imported Low countries red wares (Didsbury 2011).

The presence or earlier slipwares and a possible fragment of Midlands purple-type ware might from Phase 1 might indicate that residual material being reworked into later 18th deposits from the former hamlet of Ancoats. The area of the present site was until the late 18th century still semi-rural, but by 1800 it had become an industrial district (Miller and Wild 2007).

Clay tobacco pipe fragments from the site comprise four bowls dating to between (1720-40 and 1810-50 (Davey 1985). The stems appear to be similarly dated with a few that date from the 17th-18th century, although most date from the time of the urbanisation of the site in the later 18th century and after (Higgins 2017). The presence of earlier stems may, again, suggest earlier pre-urban activity.

The three-copper alloy fiddle pattern spoons from Phase 4 deposit [187] are likely to date to the middle of the 19th century or later. That they are mass produced, but reflect styles first manufactured in silver in the late 18th century is an example of the industrialisation and mass production of what was once a relatively high status culinary accoutrement.

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APPENDIX 3 : CENSUS RETURNS

1851

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
George	Clarke	Head	Married	57	1794	Wood Turner	Macclesfield
Jane	Clarke	Wife	Married	38	1813	-	Wales
George	Clarke	Son	Unmarried	18	1833	Sawyer	Salford
Emma	Clarke	Daughter	Unmarried	20	1831	French Polisher	Salford

Table 3: The Clarke household registered at 27 Poland Street on the 1851 census

1861

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
William	Rigby	Head	Married	57	1804	Publican	Manchester
Cicely	Rigby	Wife	Married	52	1809	House Keeper	Manchester
Maria	Rigby	Daughter	Unmarried	26	1835	Assistant To...	Manchester
William	Rigby	Son	Unmarried	28	1833	Iron Moulder	Manchester
Sarah H	Rigby	Daughter	Unmarried	17	1844	House Servant	Manchester
Thomas	Rigby	Son	-	14	1847	Scholar	Manchester

Table 4: The Rigby household registered at 27 Poland Street on the 1861 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Mary	Dugan	Head	Married	40	1821	Dressmaker	Ireland
James	Dugan	Son	-	1	1860	-	Manchester, Lancashire, England

Table 5: The Dugan household registered at 27 Poland Street on the 1861 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Sex	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Samuel	Housel	Head	Married	Male	23	1838	Book Maker	Ireland
Mary A	Housel	Wife	Married	Female	23	1838	Book Maker	Ireland
Ann J	Housel	Daughter	-	Female	6	1855	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire, England
William	Housel	Son	-	Male	5	1856	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Sarah A	Housel	Daughter	-	Female	0	1861	-	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Ann	Dwyer	Mother	Widow	Female	50	1811	Nurse	Ireland

Table 6: The Housel household registered as living at 27 Poland Street on the 1861 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Mary A	Rothwell	Head	Married	55	1806	House Keeper	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Elizabeth	Rothwell	Daughter	Unmarried	21	1840	Power Loom Cotton Weaver	Manchester, Lancashire, England
John	Rothwell	Son	Unmarried	18	1843	Power Loom Cotton Weaver	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Ann	Rothwell	Daughter	Unmarried	16	1845	Doubler Cotton Mill	Manchester, Lancashire, England

Table 7: The Rothwell household registered living at 29 Poland Street in 1861

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Thomas	Roster	Head	Married	46	1815	Cordwainer	Manchester
Elizabeth	Roster	Wife	Married	46	1815	-	Manchester
James	Roster	Son	-	3	1858	-	Manchester

Table 8: The Roster household registered as living at 29 Poland Street in 1861

1871

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Thomas	Foster	Head	55	1816	shoemaker	Lancashire, England
Elizabeth	Foster	Wife	55	1816	greengrocer	Lancashire, England
James	Foster	Son	13	1858	Errand boy	Lancashire, England

Table 9: The Foster household registered at 27 Poland Street on the 1871 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
William	Lee	Head	-	35	1836	Minder	Lancashire, England
Hannah	Lee	Wife	-	32	1839	Weaver	Lancashire, England
Alice	Lee	Daughter	-	5	1866	-	Lancashire, England

Table 10: The Lee household registered at 29 Poland Street on the 1871 census

1881

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Elizabeth	Carding	Head	30	1851	Fish Hawker	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Emma	Carding	Daughter	12	1869	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Mary J	Carding	Daughter	4	1877	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Sarah	Carding	Daughter	1	1880	-	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Mary	Dunkerley	Mother	55	1826	Housekeeper	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Mary	Jackson	Lodger	62	1819	Calico Weaver	Manchester, Lancashire, England

Table 11: The Carding household registered at 27 Poland Street on the 1881 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
William	Jones	Head	Married	48	1833	Book Keeper (Clerk)	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Ellen	Jones	Wife	Married	42	1839	-	Manchester, Lancashire, England
Robert	Jones	Son	Single	19	1862	Hooker Packing W House (Cotton Manuf)	Manchester, Lancashire, England
John	Jones	Son	Single	16	1865	Fruit Salesman	Manchester, Lancashire, England
James	Jones	Son	Single	10	1871	Scholar	Manchester, Lancashire, England

Table 12: The Jones household registered at 29 Poland Street on the 1881 census

1891

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
John	Doyle	Head	Married	50	1841	Night Watchman	Ireland
Ann	Doyle	Wife	Married	48	1843	Tailoress	Ireland
Sarah	Doyle	Daughter	Single	17	1874	Net Maker	Manchester, Lancashire, England
James	Williams	Boarder	Single	25	1866	General Labourer	Manchester, Lancashire, England
James	McEwen	Boarder	Single	20	1871	General Labourer	Manchester, Lancashire, England

Table 13: The Doyle household registered living at 27 Poland Street on the 1891 census

First name(s)	Last name	Relationship	Marital status	Age	Birth year	Occupation	Birthplace
Ellen	Jones	Head	Widow	52	1839	Charwoman	Scotland
Robert	Jones	Son	Single	29	1862	Cloth Warehouseman	Manchester
James	Jones	Son	Single	20	1871	Signalman	Manchester

Table 14: The Jones household registered at 29 Poland Street on the 1891 census

APPENDIX 4 : FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench locations superimposed onto modern mapping

Figure 3: Plan of Trench 1 showing excavated remains

Figure 4: trench 1 phased plan

Figure 5: Southwest facing section of floor surface [108] in Trench 1

Figure 6: Southeast facing elevation of steps [119] and wall [118] in cellar 2

Figure 7: Northwest facing elevation of blocked up fireplace [130] in cellar 2

Figure 8: Southwest facing section of Trench 3

Figure 9: Excavated remains superimposed onto Green's map of Manchester and Salford 1787-94

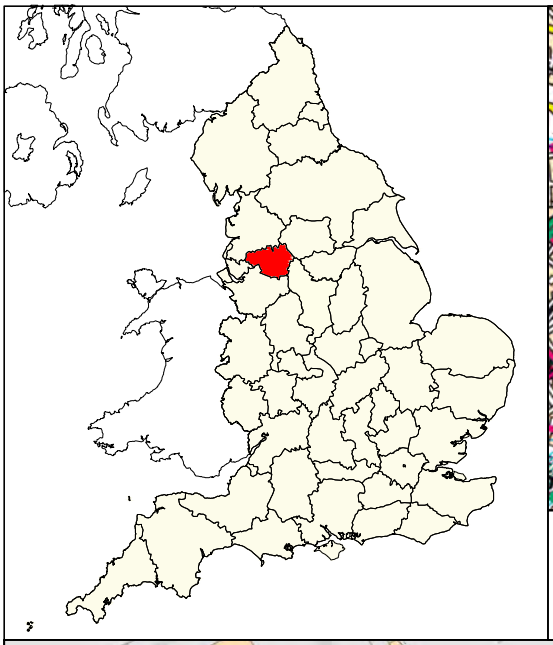
Figure 10: Excavated remains superimposed onto Bancks & Co.'s map of Manchester & Salford 1831

Figure 11: Excavated remains superimposed onto the 1:1056 Town Plan of 1851

Figure 12: Excavated remains superimposed onto the 1:500 Town Plan of 1891

Figure 13: Excavated remains superimposed onto the 1:2500 County Series map of 1908

Figure 14: Trench 1 showing the locations of the buildings identified



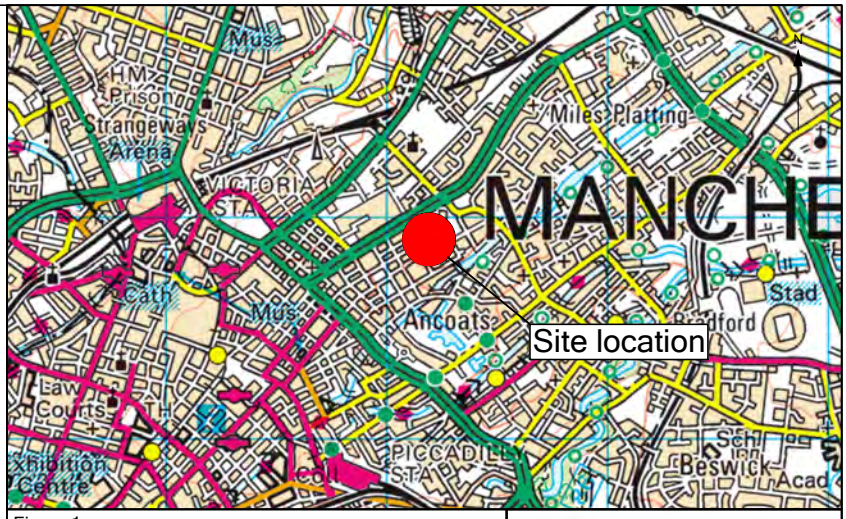


Figure 1:

Site Location

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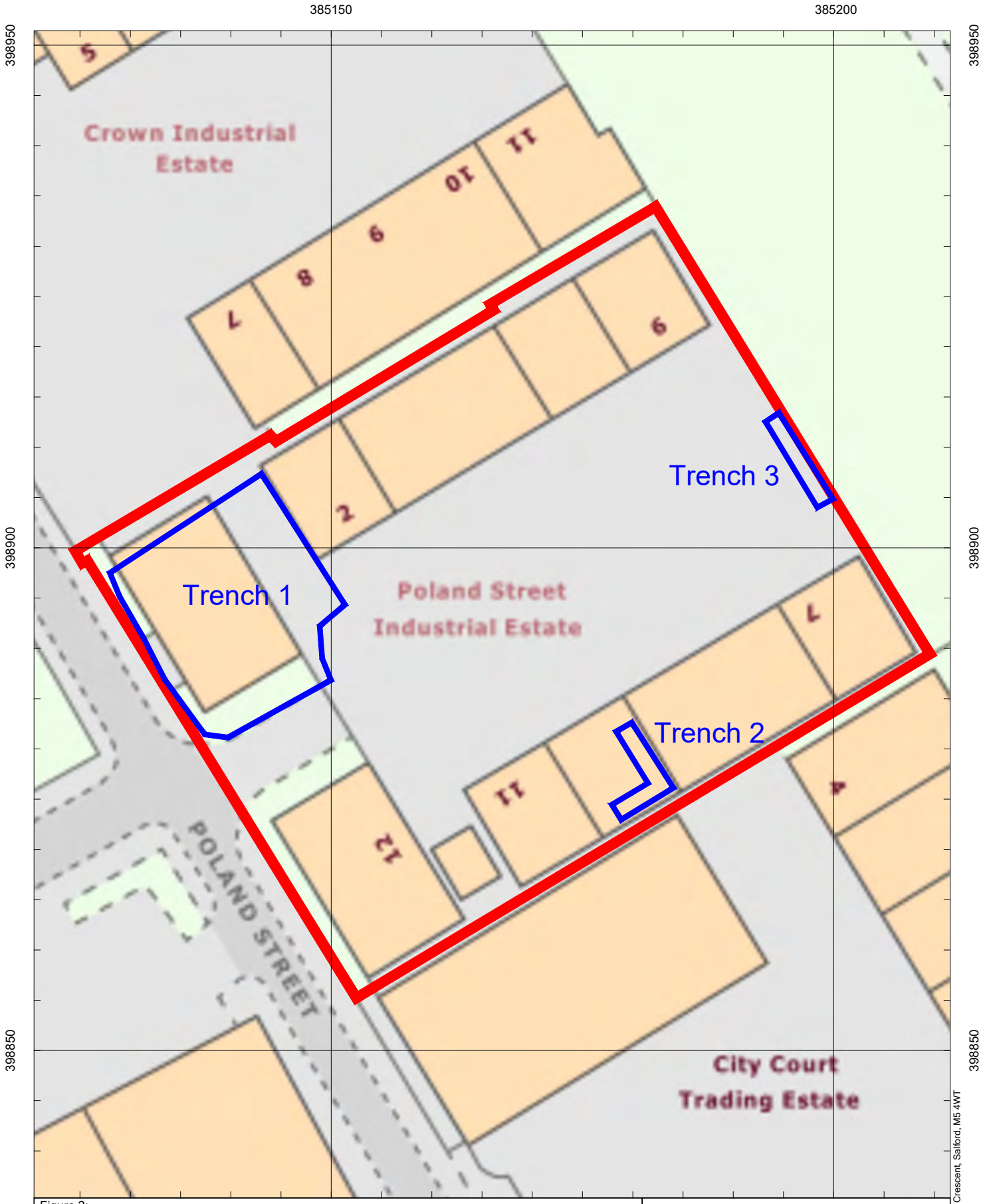


Figure 2:

Trench Locations Superimposed onto Modern Mapping

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N

Key:

- Site Boundary
- Trench Locations

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 20 m

Scale at A4 1:500

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Figure 3:

Plan of Trench 1 Showing Excavated Remains

N

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:100

Key:

- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Steps
- Stone
- Concrete
- Brick Blocking
- Brick Drain
- Metal
- Manhole
- Dwarf Retaining Wall
- Limit of Excavation

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Figure 4:

Trench 1 Phased Plan

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

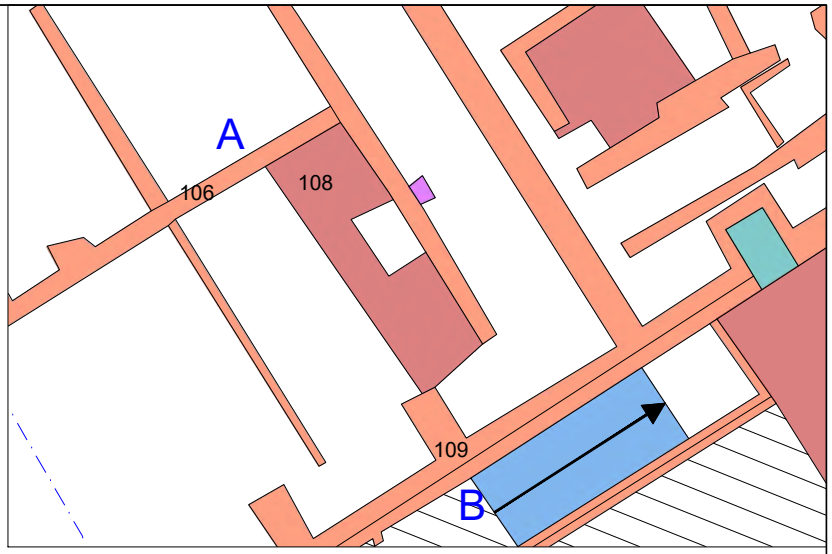
Scale at A3 1:100

Key:

- Phase 1 - 18th Century
- Phase 2 - early-mid 19th Century
- Phase 3- late 19th-early 20th Century
- Phase 4 - 20th Century
- Limit of Excavation

N

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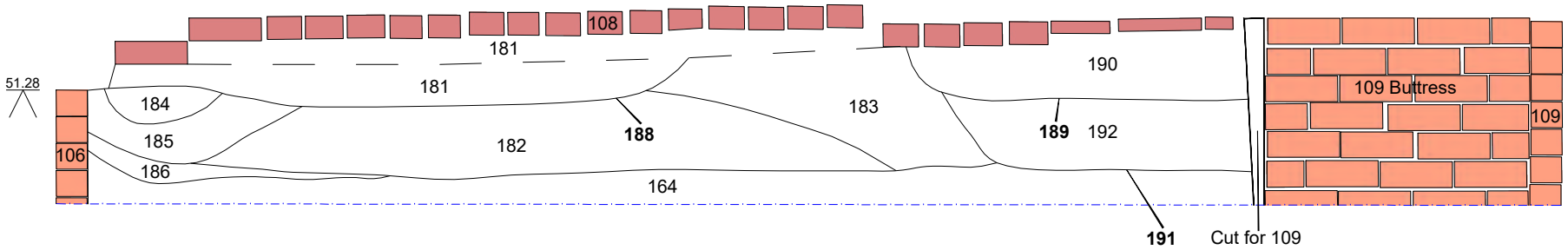


A

B

NW

SE



SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 1 m

Scale at A4 1:20

Figure 5:

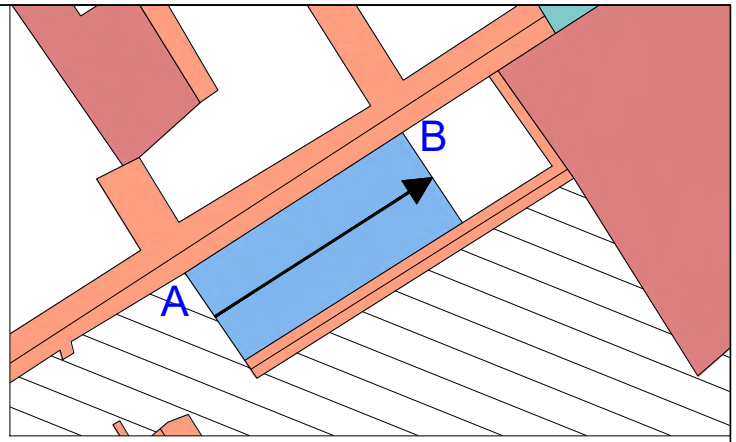
South-west Facing Section of Floor Surface 108 in Trench 1

N

Key:

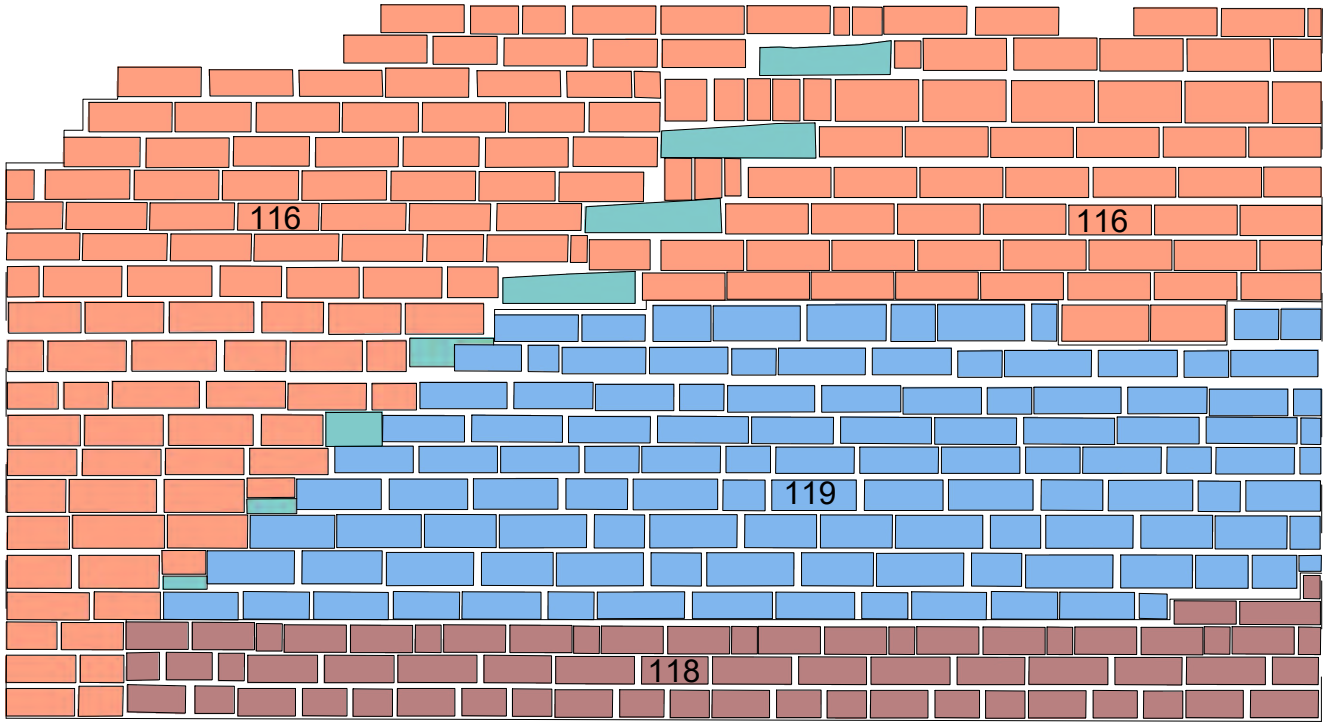
- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Limit of Excavation

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



A

SW



B

NW

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 1 m

Scale at A4 1:20

Figure 6:

South-east Facing Elevation of Steps 119 and Wall 118 in Cellar 2

N

Key:

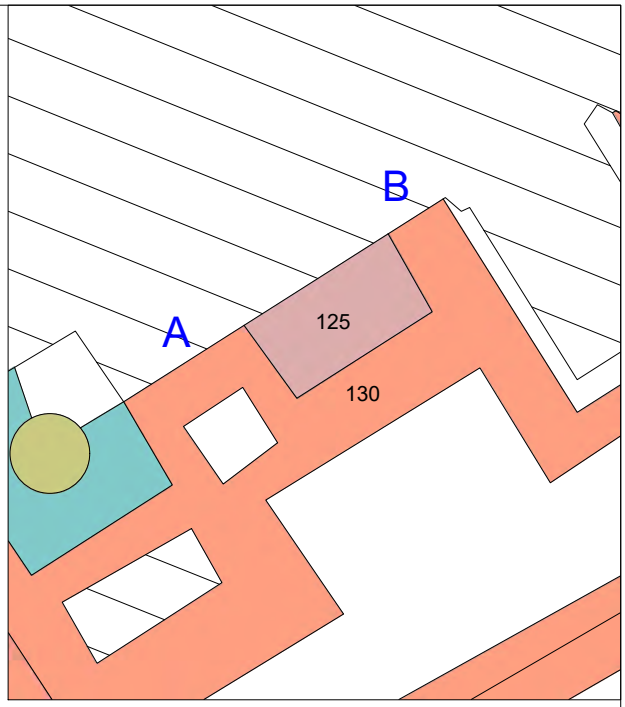
Brick Wall

Staircase

Stone Steps

Dwarf Retaining Wall

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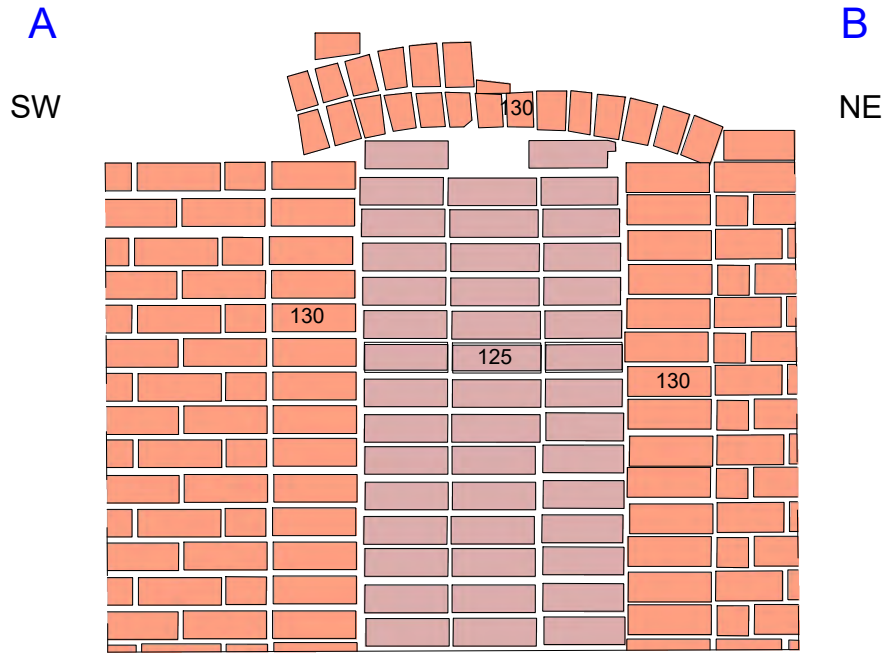


Figure 7:

North-west Facing Elevation of Blocked Up Fireplace 130 in Cellar 2

N

Key:

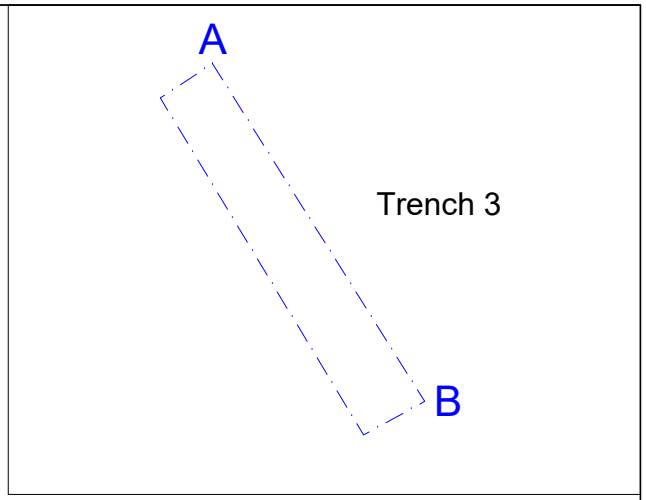
- Brick Wall
- Brick Blocking

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 1 m

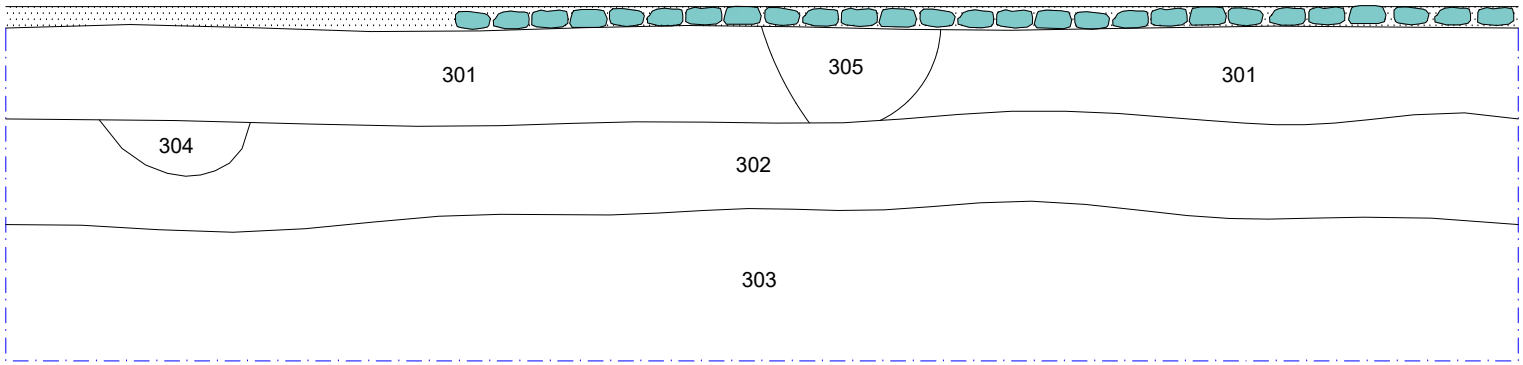
Scale at A4 1:20

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A

NW



B

SE

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 2 m

Scale at A4 1:50

Figure 8:

South-west Facing Section of Trench 3

N

Key:

Stone Blocks

Tarmac

Limit of Excavation

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Figure 9:

Excavated Remains Superimposed onto Green's Map of Manchester & Salford 1787-94

N

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:125

Key:

- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Steps
- Stone
- Concrete
- Brick Blocking
- Brick Drain
- Metal
- Manhole
- Dwarf Retaining Wall
- Limit of Excavation

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

Figure 10:

Excavated Remains Superimposed onto Bancks & Co's Map of Manchester & Salford 1831

N

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:125

Key:

- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Steps
- Stone
- Concrete
- Brick Blocking
- Brick Drain
- Metal
- Manhole
- Dwarf Retaining Wall
- Limit of Excavation

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Figure 11:

Excavated Remains Superimposed onto the 1:1056 Town Plan of 1851

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SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:125

Key:

- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Steps
- Stone
- Concrete
- Brick Blocking
- Brick Drain
- Metal
- Manhole
- Dwarf Retaining Wall
- Limit of Excavation

N

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

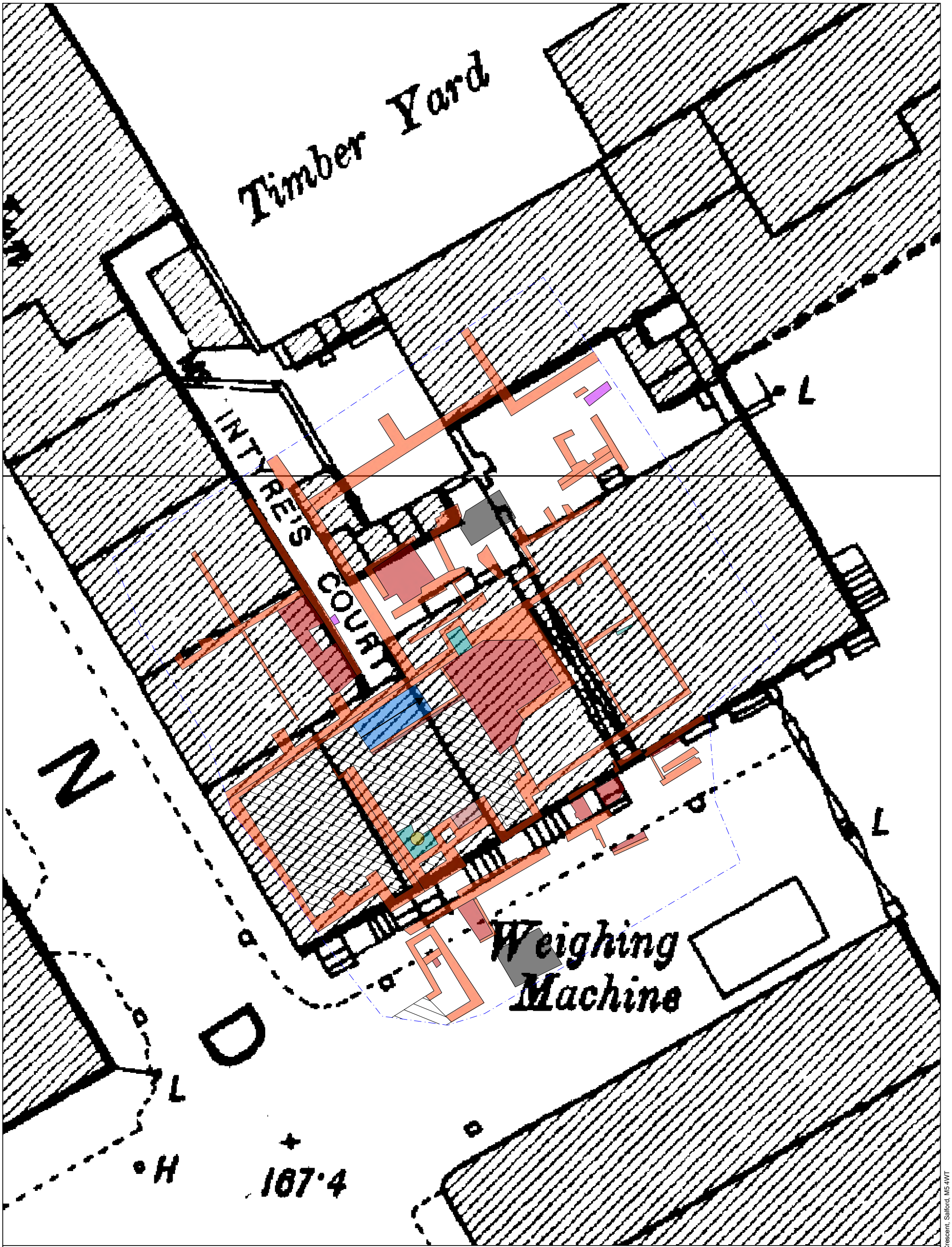


Figure 12:

Excavated Remains Superimposed onto the 1:500 Town Plan of 1891

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SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:125

Key:

- Brick Wall
- Brick Floor
- Steps
- Stone
- Concrete
- Brick Blocking
- Brick Drain
- Metal
- Manhole
- Dwarf Retaining Wall
- Limit of Excavation

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

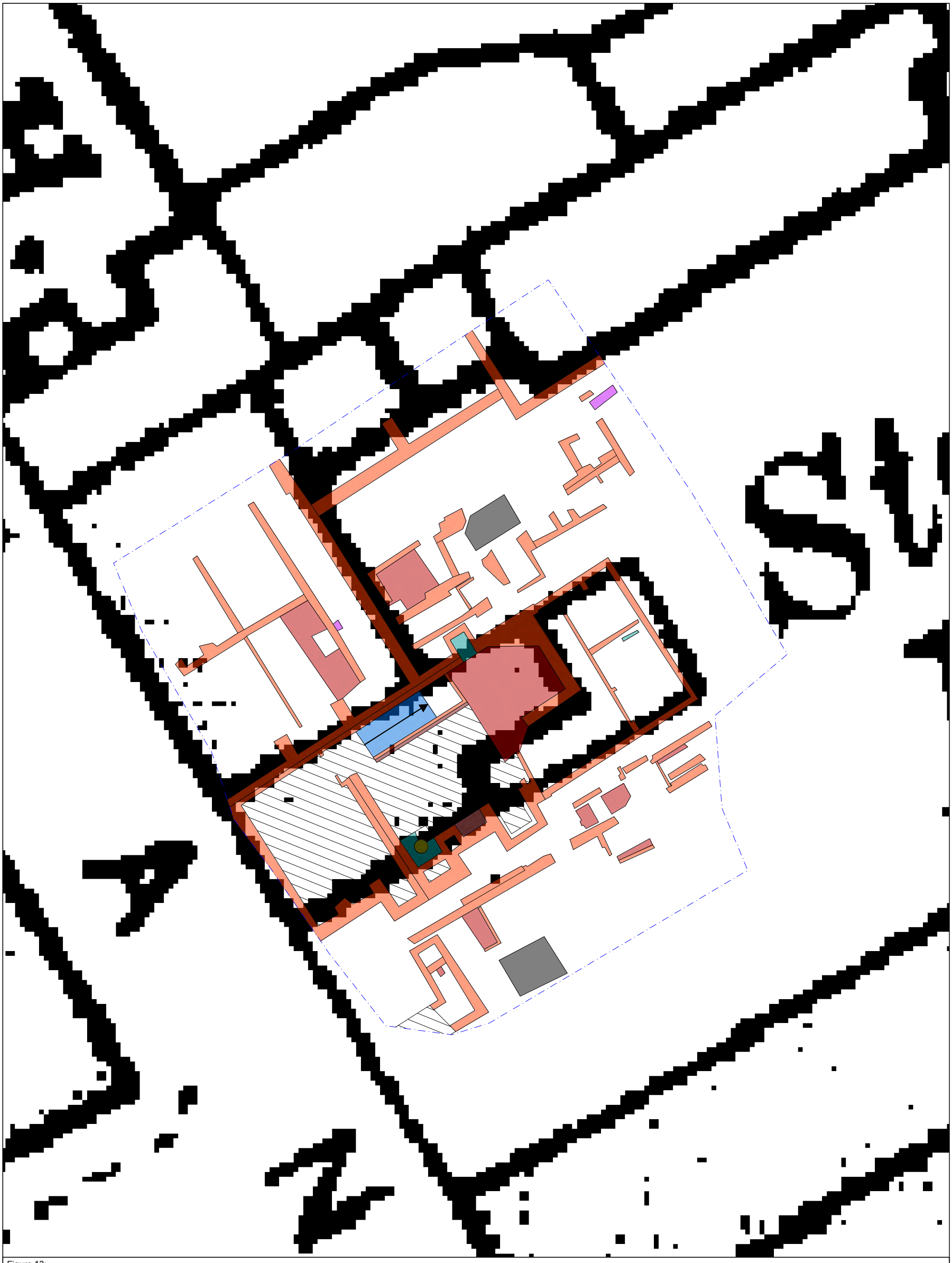


Figure 13:

Excavated Remains Superimposed onto the 1:2500 County Series Map of 1908

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SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

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Figure 14:

Trench 1 Showing the Locations of the Buildings

N

SALFORD ARCHAEOLOGY

0 5 m

Scale at A3 1:100

Key:

- Building 1
- Building 2
- Building 3
- Building 4
- Building 5
- Building 6
- Building 7
- Drainage Featues

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