

PLOT F2 GREAT JACKSON STREET – INTERIM REPORT

1 Evaluation Results

- 1.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was conducted over 4 days between 4th and 7th July 2023 and comprised the excavation of six evaluation trenches of varying sizes (Plate 1).
- 1.1.2 The geological natural substrate observed throughout the site comprised a light-to-mid- yellowish brown sandy gravel with patches of sandy clay.
- 1.1.3 Unless otherwise stated, all walls were constructed of handmade, unfrogged red brick, yellow fire brick, or a mix of both. Each brick measured an average of 230mm long x 111mm wide x 80mm thick and was bonded with a sandy lime mortar.
- 1.1.4 No Roman archaeological remains were observed in any of the trenches. All structural remains were associated with double depth housing built in the mid 19th-century.

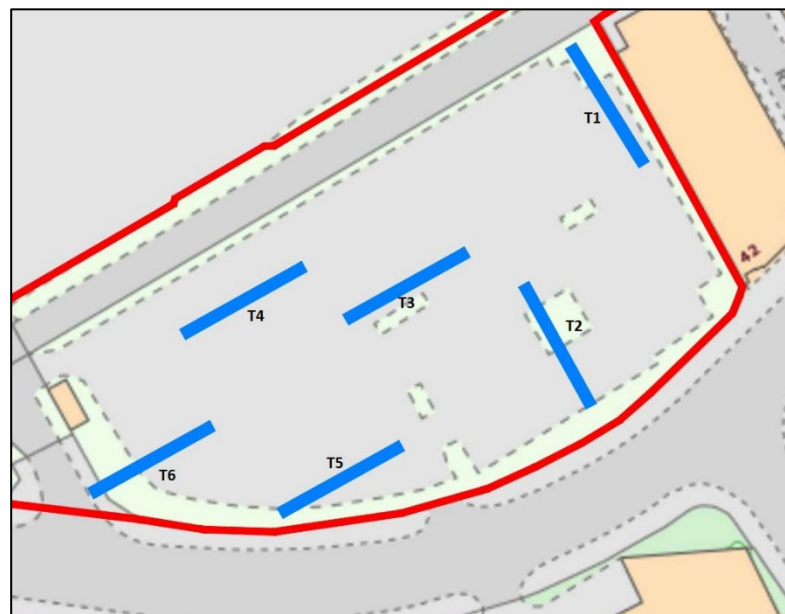


Plate 1: Trench locations.

Trench 1

- 1.1.5 Trench 1 was located in the far northern corner of Plot F2 and had to be moved slightly due to its proximity to an existing building (Plate 1). The trench was

aligned north-west to south-east and measured a maximum of 13m long x 2.8m wide x 2.8m deep.

- 1.1.6 The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (106) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural alluvial river deposits (106) (Plate 2). This in turn was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of re-deposited natural substrate (104). Two 19th century north-west to south-east aligned red brick walls {102} and {103} were observed to be constructed on re-deposited natural (104) at the north-western end of the trench (Plate 3).



Plate 2: General shot of Trench 1, looking south-east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

- 1.1.7 Wall {102} measured a maximum of 1.43m long x 0.24m wide x 0.07m tall. Wall {103} measured a maximum of 1.51m long x 0.11m wide x 0.7m tall. However, both walls did seem to continue north-west past the limit of excavation.

These walls were then overlaid by a 0.82m-2m thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (102). The entire trench was then sealed by a

0.16m-1.1m thick deposit of modern concrete (100) which created the modern ground surface.



Plate 3: General shot of Walls {102} and {103} in Trench 1, looking north-east. Scales = 2 x 1m.

Trench 2

1.1.8 Trench 2 was located south-west of Trench 1, was aligned north-west to south-east, and measured a maximum of 13m long x 2.38m wide x 1.64m deep. The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (218) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural alluvial river deposits (217) (Plate 4). A series of 19th century remains were observed to be constructed on the alluvial deposits (217).

1.1.9 Two York Stone flagged floor surfaces {208} and {214} were observed throughout the trench (Plate 5). Floor surface {208} measured 4.41m long x 2.38m wide x 0.05m thick, whilst floor surface {214} measured 3.4m long x 1.8m wide x 0.05m thick. However, both surfaces did continue past the limit of excavation.

1.1.10 Two north-east to south-west aligned partition walls, {209} and {213}, separated the two flooring areas and created a north-east to south-west aligned corridor in the centre of the trench. This corridor was also paved with York Stone flagstones {211} and measured 1.9m long x 0.72m wide x 0.05m thick. In the south-western end of the corridor a possible sandstone step was observed {210}, under which a single large hollow moulded glazed brick {212} was placed. It is unsure if brick {212} was *in situ*.



Plate 4: General shot of Trench 2 after the 19th century remains had been removed, looking north-west. Scale = 1 x 2m.



Plate 5: General shot of Trench 2 showing the 19th century remains, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.11 At the south-eastern end of the trench were the remains of a red brick, and yellow fire brick constructed hearth, which comprised walls {203}, {204}, {206} and {207} with brick capping {205} (Plate 6). The hearth measured a maximum of 1.1m long x 1.39m wide x 0.88m tall.



Plate 6: General shot showing the brick-built hearth in Trench 2, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.12 A large north-west to south-east aligned red brick wall {202} ran along the south-eastern edge of the trench which measured a maximum of 13m long x 1.5m tall.

1.1.13 In the north-western end of the trench were the remains of a north-west to south-east aligned wall {215} and three rectangular brick-built depressions {216} (Plate 7). Wall {215} measured a maximum of 1.12m long x 0.24m wide x 1.16m tall; whilst the rectangular depressions {216} measured an area of 1.12m long x 0.78m wide x 0.08m tall.



Plate 7: General shot showing wall {215} and rectangular brick-built depressions {216} in Trench 2, looking south-west. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.14 All of the remains outlined above were then overlaid by a 1.52m maximum thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (201). The entire trench was then sealed by a 0.14m thick deposit of modern concrete (200) which created the modern ground surface.

Trench 3

1.1.15 Trench 3 was located north-east of Trench 2, was aligned north-east to south-west, and measured a maximum of 18m long x 2.3m wide x 2.2m deep. The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (315) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural alluvial river deposits (314) (Plate 8). A series of 19th century remains were observed to be constructed on the alluvial deposits (314) (Plate 9).

1.1.16 Five north-west to south-east aligned red brick partition walls {303}, {305}, {308}, {310}, and {312}, were observed throughout the trench (see Plate 9).

These walls measured between 2.15m-3m long x 0.22m-0.25m wide x 1m-1.32m tall.

1.1.17 A small north-east to south-west aligned red brick wall {302} was observed to abut wall {303}. Wall {302} measured a maximum of 0.53m long x 0.23m wide x 0.05m tall. A larger north-east to south-west aligned red brick wall {307} was observed running along the northern edge of the trench. Wall {307} measured a maximum of 4.4m long x 1.2m tall, its width could not be ascertained.



Plate 8: General shot of Trench 3 after the 19th century remains were removed, looking north-east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.18 Three areas of York Stone flagged flooring {304}, {306}, and {311} along with an area of red brick-built flooring {309} were observed throughout the trench (see Plate 9). Floor surface {304} measured 3.4m long x 2.3m wide x 0.05m

thick. Floor surface {306} measured 3.8m long x 2.3m wide x 0.05m thick. Floor surface {309} measured 2.6m long x 2.3m wide x 0.08m thick. Floor surface {311} measured 3m long x 2.3m wide x 0.05m thick. All floor surface did seem to continue past the limit of excavation.



Plate 9: General shot of Trench 3 showing 19th century remains, looking north-east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.19 At the north-eastern end of the trench were the remains of a cobbled floor surface {313} that was at a higher level to the rest of the floor surfaces outlined above, suggesting that this may have been the original street level (Plate 10). Cobbled surface {313} measured a maximum of 2.19m long x 1.62m wide x 0.08m thick, however, it did seem to continue past the limit of excavation.



Plate 10: General shot of cobbled surface {313} in Trench 3, looking north-west. Scale = 2 x 1m.

1.1.20 All of the remains outlined above were then overlaid by a 2.17m maximum thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (301). The entire trench was then sealed by a 0.2m thick deposit of modern concrete (300) which created the modern ground surface.

Trench 4

1.1.21 Trench 4 was located north-east of Trench 3, was aligned north-east to south-west, and measured a maximum of 21m long x 1.9m wide x 3.3m deep. The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (412) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural alluvial river deposits (411) (Plate 11). A series of 19th century remains were observed to be constructed on the alluvial deposits (411).

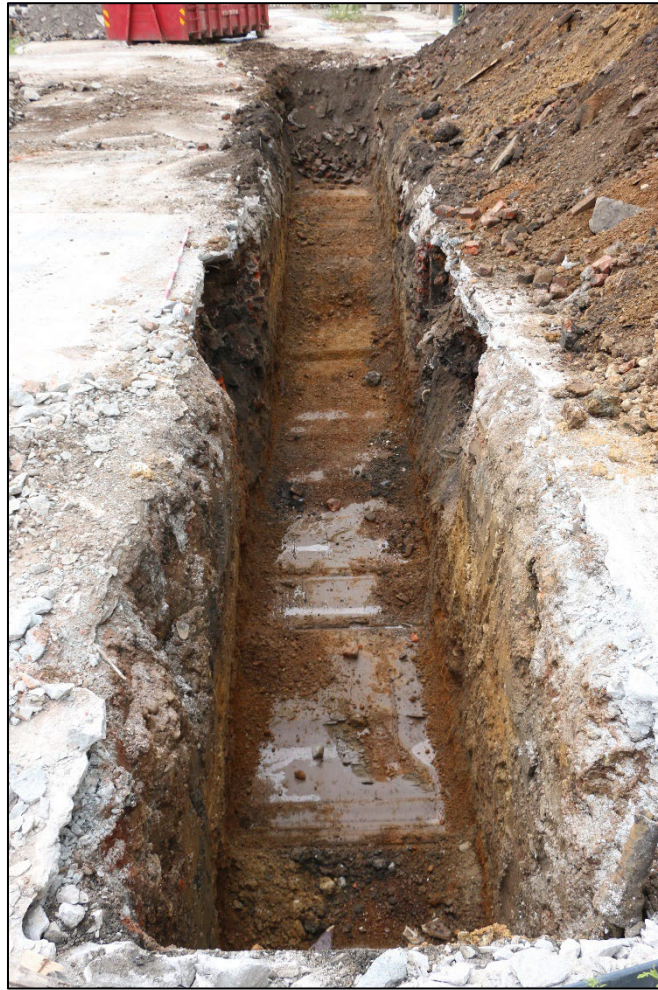


Plate 11: General shot of Trench 4 showing geological natural substrate (412), looking south-west. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.22 Four north-west to south-east red brick walls {402}, {403}, {406}, and {408} were observed throughout the trench. Wall {402} measured 1.9m long x 0.36m wide x 0.07m tall and was likely an external wall. Wall {403} measured 1.9m long x 0.26m wide x 1.08m tall. Wall {406} measured 1.5m long x 0.25m wide x 0.87m tall. Wall {408} measured 1.9m long x 0.23m wide x 0.24m tall. All walls continued past the limit of excavation.



Plate 12: General shot showing brick surface {409} and York Stone flagged surface {410} in Trench 4, looking north-east. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.23 Two areas of York Stone flagged surface {404} and {410}, along with an area of red brick-built floor surface {409} were observed in Trench 4. York Stone flagged surface {404} measured 3.5m long x 1.9m wide x 0.05m thick. Brick-built floor surface {409} measured 3.3m long x 1.9m wide x 0.08m thick (Plate 12). York Stone flagged surface {410} measured 2.3m long x 1.9m wide x 0.05m thick (Plate 12). All floor surfaces continued past the limit of excavation.

1.1.24 A north-north-east to south-south-west aligned red brick wall {407} was observed above walls {406} and {408}. Wall {407} measured 2.5m long x 0.5m wide x 0.08m tall.

1.1.25 Finally, another north-east to south-west aligned brick-built hearth {405} was observed within the south-eastern edge of trench abutting wall {403} (Pate 13). Brick-built hearth {405} measured 0.86m long x 0.37m wide x 0.81m tall.



Plate 13: Showing brick-built hearth {405}, floor surface {404}, and brick walls {403} and {406} in Trench 4, looking north-west. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.26 All of the remains outlined above were then overlaid by a 1.14m maximum thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (401). The entire trench was then sealed by a 0.3m thick deposit of modern concrete (400) which created the modern ground surface.

Trench 5

1.1.27 Trench 5 was located south-east of Trench 3 and had to be moved south-west and shortened due to its proximity to an active sub-station. Trench 5 was aligned east to west and measured a maximum of 15.8m long x 1.8m wide x 2.65m deep. The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (510) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural

alluvial river deposits (509) (Plate 14). A series of 19th century remains were observed to be constructed on the alluvial deposits (509) (Plate 15).



Plate 14: General shot of Trench 5 excavated to geological natural substrate (510), looking east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.28 Three north-north-east to south-south-west aligned walls {502}, {503}, and {505}, and one north-east to south-west aligned wall {508} were observed in Trench 5. Wall {502} measured 1.51m long x 0.46m wide x 0.07m tall. Walls {503} and {505} both measured 1.8m long x 0.23m wide x 0.07m tall. Wall {508} measured 1.9m long x 0.11m wide x 1.3m tall (Plate 15).

1.1.29 Two areas of York Stone flagged flooring {504} and {507} were also observed in Trench 5 (see Plate 15). Floor surface {504} was observed in the eastern end of the trench and measured 2.35m long x 1.8m wide x 0.05m thick. Floor surface {507} was located towards the western end of the trench at a much higher level to floor surface {504} and measured 1.9m long x 1.9m wide x 0.05m thick. Floor surface {507} likely represented the remains of the

pavement next to a cobbled street {506}. All surfaces continued past the limit of excavation.



Plate 15: General shot of Trench 5 showing 19th century remains, looking east. Scale = 2 x 1m.

- 1.1.30 Cobbled surface {506} was located in the centre of the trench abutting York Stone flagged surface {507} suggesting that it was the remains of a cobbled road surface. Cobbled surface was aligned north-west to south-east and measured 1.52m long x 3.31m wide x 0.41m thick. However, the surface did continue past the limit of excavation.
- 1.1.31 All of the remains outlined above were then overlaid by a 1.57m maximum thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (501). The entire trench

was then sealed by a 0.62m thick deposit of modern concrete (500) which created the modern ground surface.

Trench 6

1.1.32 Trench 6 was located north-west of Trench 5 and south-west of Trench 4, was aligned east to west and measured a maximum of 20m long x 1.8m wide x 2.44m deep. The stratigraphy comprised the geological natural substrate (608) at the base of the trench which was overlaid by a 0.5m thick deposit of natural alluvial river deposits (607) (Plate 16). A series of 19th century remains were observed to be constructed on the alluvial deposits (607) (Plate 17).



Plate 16: General shot of Trench 6 excavated to geological natural substrate (608), looking east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.33 In the western end of the trench a series of two red brick walls and York Stone flags, along with a York Stone central gully were grouped together as {606} (Plate 17). These remains likely represent the remains of an entry or rear walkway between the workers' housing. Entry {606} measured 2m long x 1.3m wide x 0.07m thick/tall.



Plate 17: General shot of Trench 6 showing 19th century remains, looking east. Scale = 1 x 2m.

1.1.34 East of entry remains {606} were the remains of a south-west to north-east aligned Z-shaped red brick wall with an area of York Stone flag {605} (Plate 18). It was unclear as to what these remains represented as they seemed to be on a different angle to the rest of the remains in the trench. The entire area of remains {605} measured 4m long x 1.3m wide x 0.07m thick. However, they did appear to continue past the limit of excavation.



Plate 18: General shot of remains {605} in Trench 6, looking south. Scales = 2 x 1m.

1.1.35 Towards the eastern end of the trench were the remains of a cobbled surface with a section of York Stone paving alongside {604}, and another section of York Stone paving {603} to the east (Plate 19). These remains likely represent a cobbled road surface and paved pavement either side and likely are continuations of similar remains observed in Trench 5. Cobbled road and pavement {604} was aligned north-north-west to south-south-east and measured 2.9m long x 1.3m wide x 0.41m thick. Whilst flagged pavement {603} was also aligned north-north-west to south-south-east and measured 1.73m long x 1.57m wide x 0.1m thick. All of these remains also continued passed the limit of excavation.



Plate 19: Shot of cobbled road surface and pavement {604} and pavement {603} in Trench 6, looking south-east. Scales = 2 x 1m.

- 1.1.36 To the east of pavement {603} were the remains of a north-north-west to south-south-east aligned L-shaped red brick wall {602}. Wall {602} measured 1.12m long x 0.23m wide x 0.22m tall. However, it did continue passed the limit of excavation.
- 1.1.37 All of the remains outlined above were then overlaid by a 0.54m maximum thick deposit of demolition debris/ silt mix made ground (601). The entire trench was then sealed by a 0.13m thick deposit of modern concrete (600) which created the modern ground surface.

2 Conclusion

- 2.1 No remains of a pre-19th century were encountered within any of the trenches. This section of the overall Great Jackson Street/Crown Street/Owen Street development area is the furthest from the Roman fort and vicus, and additionally does not along the course of the river, and is therefore the least likely to contain remains of a Romano-British date.

- 2.2 The 19th-century remains all relate to double depth houses visible on the 1851 OS Town Plan. The houses remain in the same form throughout the sequence of mapping until their demolition between 1948 and 1962. The buildings were not present Bancks & Co's map of 1831, suggesting that they were built during the late 1830s or the 1840s.
- 2.3 The 19th-century housing represents a relatively form of building that has been recorded quite extensively in the past. Due to this, and combined with the fact that no earlier remains were encountered, it is suggested that no further archaeological works are required within the Plot F2 area. A further six trenches will be required, as detailed in the WSI, in the Plot F1 area. This lies closer to known Romano-British remains and also contained a pre-Victorian farm and therefore has a higher potential for the survival of earlier remains.