



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

Archaeological Excavation

37 Liverpool Road,
Castlefield, Manchester

Client:

Dr J. Charro

Planning Ref:

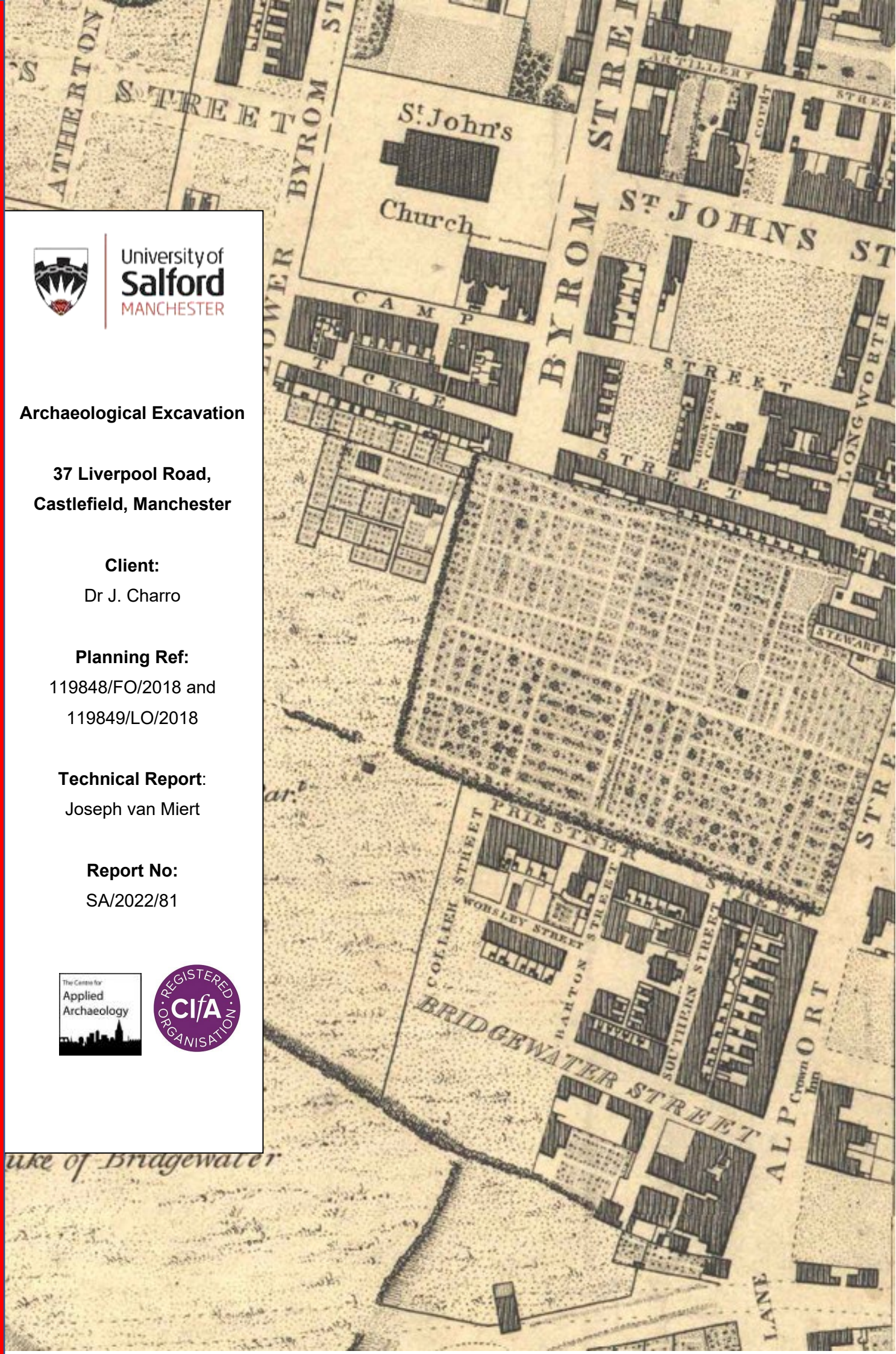
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Technical Report:

Joseph van Miert

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SUMMARY

This report details the results of an archaeological excavation at 37 Liverpool Road, Castlefield, Manchester (centred on NGR SJ 83327 397720). The work was undertaken by Salford Archaeology and was commissioned by Dr J Charro who have secured planning consent (119849/LO/2018) to redevelop a café into a 3-bedroom residence. In order to secure heritage and archaeological interests at the site Manchester City Council attached a condition to planning consent. Following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), in their capacity of archaeological advisors to Manchester City Council, it was agreed that the scheme of archaeological works would comprise an historic building survey, coupled with a targeted archaeological watching brief during any intrusive site works.

During the watching brief in January 2022, when deposits beneath the cellar floor began to be reduced, archaeological remains thought to pertain to the Roman period were discovered. Consequently – between 21st January and 25th of January 2022 – reduction of the deposits were continued under the conditions of an archaeological excavation. This investigation revealed two archaeological phases. The earliest phase represented the natural deposition of till during the Devensian. The second phase represented the construction and occupation of the cellar from the 1790s. The base of the construction cut, in which the cellar had been built, truncated natural deposits down to a level of 30.60m AOD. Documentary, cartographic and archaeological evidence demonstrated that the cellar was inhabited until c. 1851. A levelling layer recorded within the cellar – probably functioning as the bedding deposit for a mid-19th century floor surface – contained an assemblage of redeposited Roman and Industrial artefacts including pottery, ceramic building material and clay tobacco pipe.

Activity in the 20th century was represented by a further levelling layer associated with the construction of a later floor surface. Evidence for of a 20th-century extension was revealed during a watching brief undertaken in the back yard of the property. No earlier deposits were encountered in this area.

The archaeological remains recorded were deemed to be of local importance. No further work is merited to fulfil the demands of the planning condition. The report suggests that a short summary of the results obtained from the fieldwork will be sent for inclusion in the annual roundup of archaeology fieldwork published in *Post-medieval Archaeology*. Additionally, a note describing the Roman pottery assemblage from the site will be prepared for *Britannia*. The results of the investigation will be mentioned in a forthcoming publication on the Roman excavations at Viadux.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1 Salford Archaeology were commissioned by Dr J. Charro to undertake an archaeological excavation of the sub-floor deposits at 37 Liverpool Road, Castlefield, Manchester, (centred on NGR: SJ 83327 397720) referred to herein as the site (Figure 1). The site is bounded to the north by Liverpool Road, by Barton Street to the east, an alleyway to the south and Collier Street and the Roman fort to the west. (Figure 2).
- 1.1.2 The three-storey property forms part of a terrace of seven artisans' workshop dwellings that were afforded statutory protection as a Grade II listed building in 1994 on account of their historical interest as well-preserved examples of Georgian industrial housing (List Entry 1219402). The list entry description states that these workshop dwellings were erected in c. 1820-30, although it is clear from the sequence of historical mapping for the area that they had been constructed by the late 18th-century.
- 1.1.3 The consented scheme allows for the change of use of the building from a cafe (A3) to a three-bedroom house (C3), including the demolition of a single-storey element to the rear and construction of a single-storey extension with roof terrace (Planning Refs: 119848/FO/2018 and 119849/LO/2018). The proposals have been very carefully designed to minimise impact on historic fabric, and it is intended to expose considerable elements of original brickwork that is currently hidden behind modern wall finishes, providing an opportunity to better understand the historical development of the buildings.
- 1.1.4 The terrace lies on the south side of Liverpool Road, forming part of the Castlefield Conservation Area and lying within the area of the former settlement associated with the Roman fort in Castlefield. The importance of the sub-surface archaeology of the area has been amply demonstrated from several excavations in the vicinity of Liverpool Road. In 2006, for instance, an archaeological excavation at the site of the Barton Place development (adjacent to the rear boundary of the present study area) revealed significant physical evidence for a Roman temple complex, with a precinct ditch and wall dating from the late 1st to early 3rd centuries AD.
- 1.1.5 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 Standing Building Survey and a programme of archaeological works prior to the commencement of any demolition, development or development-related groundworks. The programme of archaeological

works comprised an open-area excavation and recording. The condition attached to planning reference 119849/LO/2018 stated:

- 1.1.6 'No 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 to and approved in writing by Manchester Planning Authority. The WSI shall cover the following:
1. A phased programme and methodology of investigation and recording to include:
 - a Historic England Level 3 historic building survey;
 - a watching brief during stripping out work to record historic fabric;
 - an archaeological excavation or watching brief to record below-ground remains affected by development ground works.
 2. A programme for post investigation assessment to include:
 - an analysis of the site investigation records and finds;
 - the production of a final report on the significance of the archaeological and historical interest represented;
 3. Dissemination of the results commensurate with their significance;
 4. Provision for archive deposition of the report and records of the site investigation;
 5. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the approved WSI.
- 1.1.7 Reason: In accordance with NPPF Section 12, Paragraph 141 - To record and advance understanding of heritage assets impacted on by the development and to make information about the archaeological heritage interest publicly accessible, pursuant to NPPF Section 12, Paragraph 141 and policy DM1 of the Core Strategy.'
- 1.1.8 Thus, in March 2021, Salford Archaeology was commissioned by Dr J Charro to undertake a written scheme of investigation (Miller, 2019), which gives a brief historical background to the site. This document identified that the site was a workshop dwelling had the potential for 19th-century industrial remains, associated cellar, back yard as well as Roman remains due to proximity to the Castlefield Roman fort (ibid).

- 1.1.9 On the 21st of January 2022, a watching brief commenced during ground reduction in the basement of 37 Liverpool Road (Figure 2). During the watching brief the remains of a possible Roman kiln along with several sherds of pottery dating to the Roman period, were discovered. Consequently, it was recommended by GMAAS that the surviving deposits in the basement should be reduced to the construction formation level by means of archaeological excavation.
- 1.1.10 The archaeological excavation took place over five days between 21st February and 25th February 2022. It was conducted by Joseph van Miert and Evon Kirby. A watching brief was also carried out in the rear yard of the property following the demolition of a non-historic extension. However, the watching brief only recorded modern deposits down to the construction formation level. The project was managed by Graham Mottershead.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Academic Aims

- 2.1.1 The main aims of the excavation, given the commercial nature of the project, were to fully expose and record the buried archaeological remains surviving within site and in particular any Roman features or material culture as well as structural remains consistent with the building's development in the 18th and 19th centuries.

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.

3. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY & GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 37 Liverpool Road is situated in the Castlefield area of Manchester (centred on NGR SJ 83327 397720), on the south-western fringe of the city centre. The property forms part of a Grade II listed terrace of weavers' cottages from 29-41 Liverpool Road (List entry number 1219402). 37 Liverpool Road is a mid-terrace property in the row which is bounded to the north by Liverpool Road, by Barton Street to the east, an alleyway to the south and Collier Street and Castlefield Urban Heritage Park to the west.
- 3.1.2 According to the British Geological Survey (BGS 2022) the underlying solid geology of the site is comprised of Sandstone of the Chester Formation formed approximately 247 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period (*ibid*). Within a local environment previously dominated by rivers (*ibid*). The superficial deposits are composed of Devensian till formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period within a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions (*ibid*). The current topography of the site was flat.

4. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1.1 The following information is derived from a standing building report (Tamburello 2022) and an excavation report (Cook 2020), both produced by Salford Archaeology, along with other sources listed in the bibliography.

4.2 Prehistory

- 4.2.1 The current understanding of any human activity in the Manchester region during the prehistoric period is poor, although it is reasonable to suggest that several areas in the centre of the city, such as Castlefield and Ardwick, may have been conducive for late prehistoric settlement on account of the natural topography and the abundance of natural water sources (i.e., rivers) (Gregory 2007).
- 4.2.2 Physical indications of human activity are provided by a small number of residual finds. A Neolithic flint flake was found at Spinning Field, near Deansgate, and reported in the *Transactions of the Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society* in 1892 (Sutton, 1892). A Neolithic stone hammer and arrowhead were also unearthed in the Castlefield area of Manchester in 1845, whilst excavations at 77-83 Liverpool Road produced two Mesolithic flints, one Neolithic / Bronze Age waste flake and a single sherd of late Bronze Age / Iron Age pottery. A late Neolithic-early Bronze Age flint side scraper was recovered from the construction cut of a Roman building at the Barton Street excavation in 2003/2004 (Gregory 2007, 181).
- 4.2.3 These finds complement a growing regional body of finds representing prehistoric activity, known to be concentrated on well-drained sand and gravel sites in proximity to watercourses and moss lands

4.3 Romano-British Period

- 4.3.1 The first military occupation of Manchester was established during the governorship of Agricola (AD 77-84), and commenced with a five-acre wooden fort, known as *Mamucium* (Bruton 1909). The site of this encampment is marked today by the reconstructed elements of the fort and its ditches in Castlefield Urban Heritage Park, situated a short distance to the west of the development area.
- 4.3.2 The maturation of the military complex can be seen in the growing body of evidence for a military annexe, occupying an area to the north and east of the fort. Evidence pertaining to this annexe is relatively scant and thus the exact nature of early settlement is unclear. The limits of the annexe, however, have been defined by a wide, defensive ditch and palisade, identified in various excavations in Castlefield, with the eastern limit found at 340 Deansgate. A ditch thought to demarcate the annexe was

also found at Barton Street, located immediately to the south of 37 Liverpool Road (Gregory 2007, 181).

- 4.3.3 Roads from the fort linked Manchester with Ribchester to the north, Castleshaw, and York to the north-east, Wigan to the north-west, Chester to the south, and Buxton to the south-east. Approximately c. 20m to the west of 37 Liverpool Road, in the 1970s, excavations revealed parts of the Roman road, which extended on a north-eastern alignment from the northern side of the fort (Gregory 2007).
- 4.3.4 During the 2nd century, a substantial extramural settlement, or *vicus*, was developed. Based on recent archaeological excavation and the distribution of Roman finds, the limits of the *vicus* appears to have extended northwards from the fort to approximately Quay Street, westwards along Liverpool Road for c. 100m from the north-west corner of the fort, eastwards across Deansgate to the area now occupied by the Beetham Tower, and south-eastwards along Chester Road, terminating somewhere in the vicinity of Great Jackson Street. Therefore, 37 Liverpool Road is situated well within the postulated footprint of the *vicus*.
- 4.3.5 An open-area excavation at Barton Street, located immediately to the south of 37 Liverpool Road, was conducted by University of Manchester Archaeological Unit in 2003/2004 (Gregory 2007). The excavation was completed ahead of the redevelopment of a site bounded to the east by Barton Street, to the south by Bridgewater Street, to the west by Castlefield Urban Heritage Park and to the north by an alleyway backed on to by 37 Liverpool Road.
- 4.3.6 The investigation revealed a large ditch and evidence of a rampart that probably defined the boundary of a military annexe associated with the late 1st century iteration of the Roman fort (Gregory 2007, 181). By the early years of the 2nd century this ditch was backfilled and a succession of large quarry pits were excavated across the site. This phase of development represented the expansion of the *vicus* into the area formerly occupied by the military annexe.
- 4.3.7 A series of three successive 'strip' buildings, the earliest of which dated to the early 2nd century, were recorded. On other sites, strip buildings have been found to consist of a street fronting shop, with domestic dwellings behind and, to the rear of that, a yard or workshop area. At Barton Street only the rear portion of the building and the yard area survived, but a finds assemblage recovered from a nearby refuse pit confirmed the building functioned as a domestic, commercial and artisanal space (Gregory 2007, 184).

- 4.3.8 Industrial occupation, concentrated in the southern part of the site from the early 2nd century, was represented by a timber building containing a smithing hearth which was associated with burnt clay, stone and slag (*ibid*, 185). As other industrial buildings were found on the western side of the north gate Roman road, during an excavation in the early 1970s (Jones and Grealey 1974), along with features thought to represent tanning pits at Barton Street (Gregory 2007, 186), it is postulated that the central part of the *vicus* was predominantly industrial in character.
- 4.3.9 In the northern part of the Barton Street excavation – in the area closest to 37 Liverpool Road – evidence for two phases of ritual activity was revealed. Levels taken on natural deposits suggested that this part of the site was situated on a low knoll with Roman ground surface levels recorded between approximately 32.95m AOD and 33.30m AOD. Revealed in this area was a three-sided enclosure ditch and, next to the unenclosed western side of the enclosure, a hearth. It was inferred from the accompanying finds – which included a lead figurine – that ritual activity associated with feasting, drinking and possible lascivious behaviour, took place within the enclosure (Gregory 2007, 189).
- 4.3.10 The enclosure was superseded by a rectangular building consisting of an inner timber-walled room surrounded by an outer structure defined by a sandstone wall with a timber colonnade at the western side (*ibid*, 187). The morphology of the building's ground plan shared certain characteristics with Romano-Celtic temples found elsewhere. The interpretation that the building represented a temple, perhaps formalising the ritual behaviour that had taken place on this part of the site, was bolstered by the discovery of an urned cremated adult burial just beyond the temple's northern wall.
- 4.3.11 Another archaeological sequence was recorded in 2001 immediately west of the site, at 78-83 Liverpool Road. Although formerly occupied by 19th-century buildings, portions of the site contained evidence relating to the *vicus*. The earliest phase of Roman activity was characterised by a ditch, likely to have been associated with the military annexe (Gregory 2007, 4). This was later back filled, capped with clay and subject to settlement activity, including the laying out of boundary ditches and digging of pits. The final phase of activity relates to the construction of a building in the southern part of the site.
- 4.3.12 Approximately 100m south-east of 37 Liverpool Road, an archaeological excavation was undertaken in advance of a 47-storey tower development at the junction of Deansgate, Great Bridgewater Street and Trafford Street. This site was occupied

formerly by Great Northern Railway viaduct, and it was considered likely that the construction of this viaduct would have resulted in the destruction of buried archaeological remains. However, important archaeological remains dating from the Roman period were identified in three evaluation trenches that were placed across the site, leading to a programme of further excavation.

- 4.3.13 The remains were interpreted as being associated with the *vicus*. The earliest phase of Roman activity was characterised by a group of substantial gravel pits, likely to have been associated with construction of roads in the settlement, with some evidence for tree clearance, the laying out of boundary ditches, and timber-framed buildings. The area appeared to have been abandoned in c. AD 120-60, although a subsequent phase of activity saw the most intense occupation in the Roman period with structures built on a grid-like layout fronting onto a road or street, with commercial premises, possibly roadside shops. The final phase of activity comprised a single substantial pit from which pottery dating to AD 200-50 was recovered (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005).
- 4.3.14 Pre-Construct Archaeology carried out another excavation on the junction of Chester Road and Great Jackson Street in 2008. This provided important new information on the character development of Roman Manchester and indicated that temples and mausolea probably lined the Roman road from Chester as it dropped down to the ford across the River Medlock. Significantly, a Roman altar was recovered from this excavation. This had been dumped into a pit away from the road, suggesting that the area was reused for other purposes. Physical evidence for a sequence of intercutting pits, agricultural ditches and an enclosure ditch were also identified. Further evidence for Roman activity in the area was recovered from excavations on Owen Street (Salford Archaeology 2018) and Crown Street (Salford Archaeology 2019), which similarly provided physical evidence for several Roman boundary ditches.

4.4 Early Medieval Period

- 4.4.1 There is very little archaeological evidence in the region as a whole, that represents the period between the end of the Roman occupation and the Norman Conquest of 1066. The area around Manchester came under the control of several kingdoms during this period. In 620, Edwin occupied Manchester, and it may have been at this time that settlement in the town was established around the cathedral (Farrer and Brownbill 1908).
- 4.4.2 In 919, the Anglo-Saxon king, Edward the Elder, established a fortified base, or burh, at Manchester, which was then part of Viking Northumbria (*ibid*). It has been

suggested that the burh lay within the area around the cathedral, which had become a focus for settlement by the late 11th century. The present site of Chetham's School is thought to have been the original location of a castle founded by Manchester's Norman barons (*ibid*).

4.5 Medieval

- 4.5.1 Following the Norman Conquest, William I assigned most of the land between the Ribble and Mersey rivers to Roger of Poitou, who retained the manor of Salford demesne (Tupling 1962, 116), but divided his other newly acquired land into several fiefdoms (Kidd 1996, 13). The largest of these was the landholding centred on Manchester, created by the grant of extensive lands in the hundreds of Salford, Leyland and West Derby to Albert Grelley (Tupling 1962, 116). By the 13th century, the Grelley family had established a manor house at the confluence of the rivers Irwell and Irk and the medieval town grew up around it (Hartwell *et al.* 2004, 256). It was from this hall that they governed both the manor and the extensive barony. In 1222 Manchester was granted an annual fair, and in 1301 Thomas Grelley was granted the Great Charter of Manchester by Edward I, and thus it became a free borough (*ibid*).

4.6 Post-medieval and Industrial Periods

- 4.6.1 For the majority of the 18th century, the site of 37 Liverpool Road lay within agricultural land beyond the southern limit of the town of Manchester. Tinker's plan of Manchester of 1772 (Plate 2) depicts the location of the site to the south of Tickle Street and opposite the area known as Alport Town. Further expansion in the immediate area was absent until at least 1780 when the survey was completed for Yates' map of Lancashire (published in 1786).



Plate 1: Tinker's plan of Manchester 1772

- 4.6.2 Development on the site is first depicted on Lewis' Trade Directory map of 1788 (although this was produced retrospectively in the 19th century and should not be relied upon as an accurate account of the late 18th-century townscape) and again, in greater detail on Green's plan of Manchester of 1794 (Plate 2). The site is shown in the middle of a row corresponding with the 35-41 Liverpool Road accompanied by the site of the White Lion Public House at the corner of Collier Street and no 29 at the junction of Barton Street.
- 4.6.3 Prior to becoming Liverpool Road in 1812, the road was originally named Priestner Street. The property now known as 37 Liverpool Road, originally called 17 Priestner Street, is depicted on Green's plan as a rectangular building between two others (39 and 35 Liverpool Road) with the same dimensions. All three buildings, including 37 Liverpool Road, have demarcated yards at the rear incorporating a small, square outbuilding, perhaps representing a privy. The full terrace was completed with the construction of 31 and 33 Liverpool Road in the gap between 29 and 35 Liverpool Road by around 1800.
- 4.6.4 The terrace looks to have been constructed as a row of self-contained workshop dwellings, each with an attic which incorporated long multi-light windows to maximise natural light to workshops on the upper floor. This would aid skilled workers in the operation of hand-powered looms for the production of heavy-duty cotton fabric, known as fustian, for which Manchester was known for at the end of the 18th century.

Fustian cutter and weavers are recorded as living on Liverpool Road in 1800 and as late as 1820 (Nevell 2018).



Plate 2: Extract from Green's plan of Manchester, published 1794, with the site indicated

- 4.6.5 Poor Rate Assessment Books for Manchester record the name of the head for properties along Priestner Street beginning in 1795. The site is recorded as 17 Priestner Street until 1812 when it became 17 Liverpool Road and was finally renumbered as 37 Liverpool Road in 1831. The available records for the property come to an end in 1900. The first recorded occupant entered into the books in 1795 was Matthew Lofthouse, who lived at the house until 1797. The property had numerous residents in the first half of the 19th century, with most only featuring in the records for two or three years at the most. From 1806 onwards separate entries are recorded for people dwelling in the cellar, a feature common to the whole row until the early 1850s.
- 4.6.6 Banks & Co's map of 1831 shows some alteration, particularly to the rear of the buildings of the row by the early 19th century (Plate 3). A narrow rectangular extension is depicted along the eastern edge of the back yard, with an additional open square at the end. It is unknown whether these were connected to the building or represent a series of outbuildings.

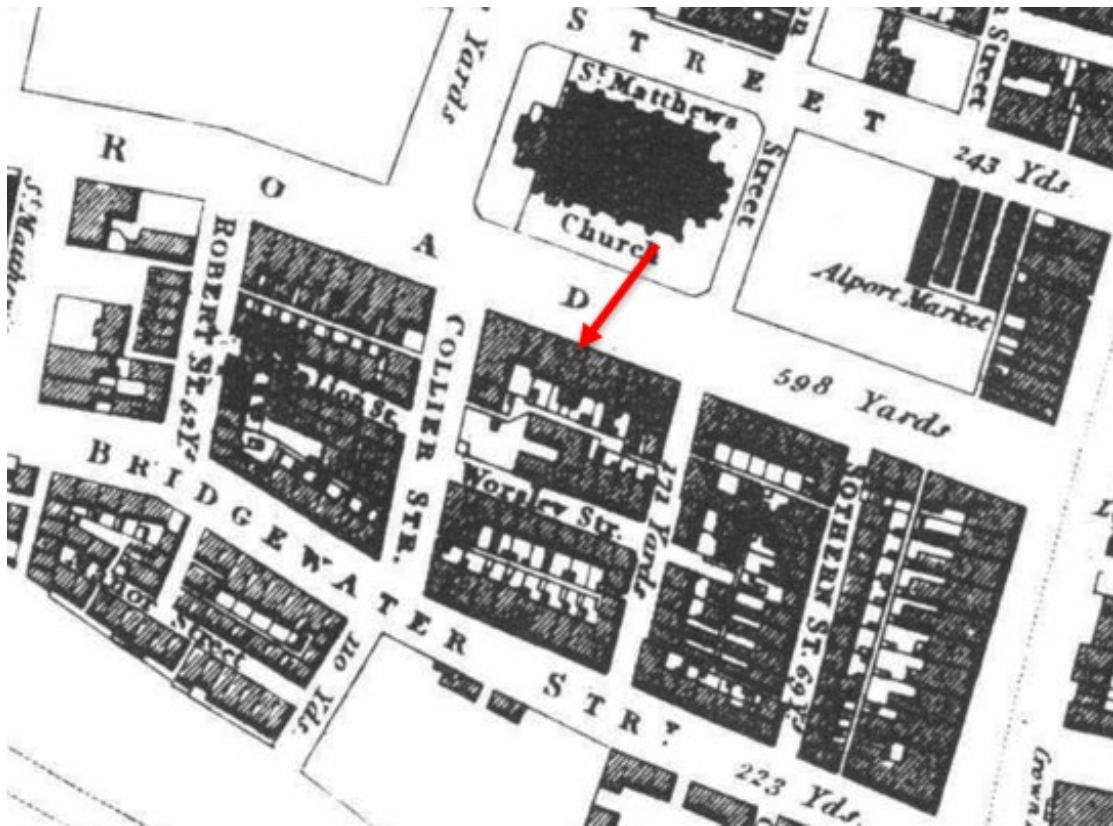


Plate 3: Bancks & Co's map of 1831 with red arrow showing position of 37 Liverpool Road

- 4.6.7 The first nationwide census records a total of eleven people living at 37 Liverpool Road in 1841, including two families with children. Robert and Elizabeth Hardisty and their young child are recorded at the house along with Thomas Hulme, his two sons, and a 14-year-old daughter, who was a spinner. All the male occupants were listed as joiners including another resident, John Bradley. The corresponding entries in the Poor Rate Assessment books for 1841 confirm that the remaining three residents lived in the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road, including William Twigger, a labourer aged 60. The census reveals a wide range of occupations represented by occupants of the row from 29-41 Liverpool Road including a book-binder, a tailor, a butcher, a brick layer and a cotton baller.
- 4.6.8 A significant change in the function of the building occurred in 1843 when the Poor Rate Assessment books list of 37 Liverpool Road as a beerhouse for the first time, under the license of Catherine Ralphs. The Beerhouse Act of Parliament of 1830 had liberalised regulations relating to the brewing and sale of beer in an attempt to curb the consumption of spirits, particularly gin, due to widespread intoxication. The Act enabled any ratepayer to brew and sell beer, subject a license costing two guineas, whilst a further act of 1840 made it necessary that the person continued to live within

the building they were selling the beer from. Beer could be consumed on the premises of a beerhouse, and they were able to open between 4am and 10pm.

- 4.6.9 Despite Catherine Ralphs moving on from Liverpool Road in 1846, according to the Poor Rate assessment records the building remained in use as a beerhouse under the license of a succession of occupants, with accommodation above. The cellar continued for a time to be used as separate living accommodation following the establishment of the beerhouse above. The census of 1851 specifically records George Blaiza, a labourer, his wife Elisabeth and his three children as residing in the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road. The construction of new cellar dwellings became illegal following the Manchester New Streets Act of 1853, which sought to improve substandard living conditions in the town, although it was a number of decades before existing cellar dwelling went of use completely. Whether or not related to the new regulations, the Blaizas were the last recorded occupants of the cellar at number 37.
- 4.6.10 The Ordnance Survey Town plan of 1851 depicts external access to cellar via steps along the front of the building (Plate 4). Square delineations against the rear of the building may represent steps or a cellar-light opening to the back room of the cellar. An extension or outbuilding structures are again depicted along the east side of the yard, narrowing at the southern end.
- 4.6.11 The row is depicted on Adhead's plan of the St John Ward of Manchester of 1851 with a small extension to the rear (Plate 5). The whole row is shaded to signify a place of business, further confirming the commercial function of 37 Liverpool Road. The beerhouse is named as the "Black Horse" in a letting advert featured in *The Manchester Guardian* edition of 12th March 1853, which stated that the beerhouse was "doing a good business". After this date the beerhouse was taken on by George Styles and his wife who ran the Black Horse from 1855 until 1865. In 1865 ownership of the building passed to a Mr Barrow and a new occupant, John Randall took over the running of the beerhouse.



Plate 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1851, with 37 Liverpool Road indicated

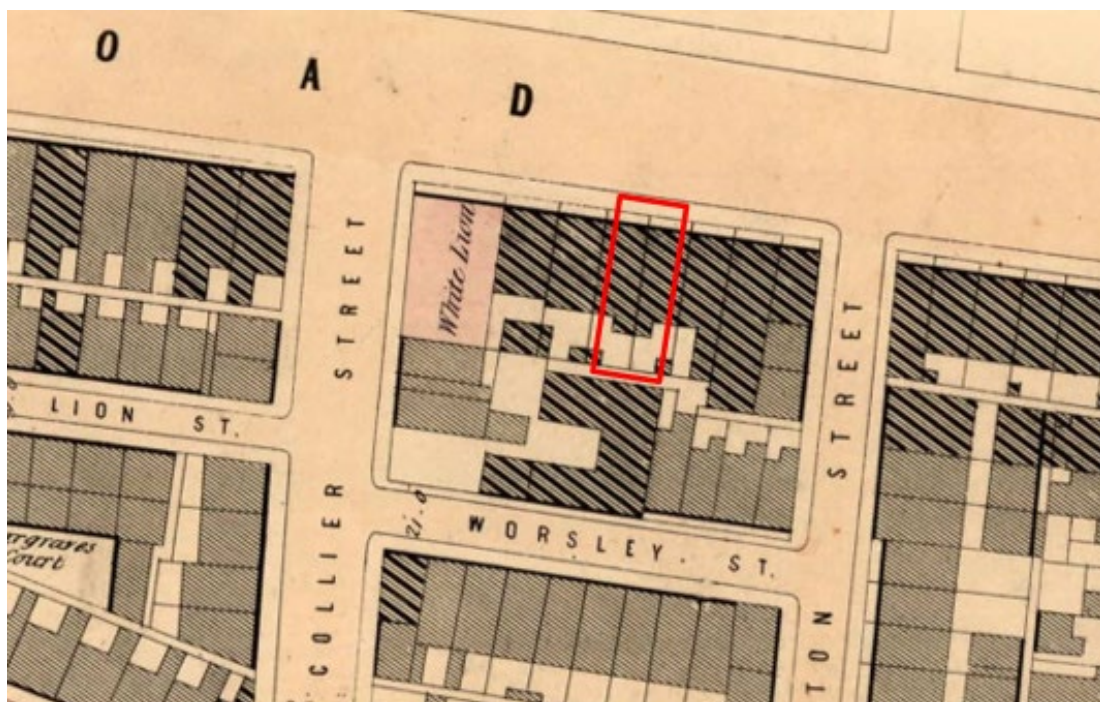


Plate 5: Extract from Adshead's map of 1851, with 37 Liverpool Road indicated

4.6.12 Trade directories and entries in the Poor Rate Assessment books name John Rostron as the occupant of the Black Horse beerhouse at 37 Liverpool Road from 1867 until 1879. The census of 1871 documents John Rostron at the address along with his wife three young children, a 13-year-old domestic servant and six boarders. Contemporary newspapers reports suggest that John Rostron may have run into difficulty in the final

years of his occupancy at the Black Horse in the late 1870s. In August 1876 the *Manchester Courier* records that John Rostron of 37 Liverpool Road had been reported to the licensing committee for misconduct and shortly after leaving the Black Horse to take on the St David's Tavern on Quay Street in 1880 he filed for liquidation with a liability of £550.

- 4.6.13 The building arrangement remained largely unchanged on the Ordnance Survey Town plan of 1891, with the outline of the external cellar steps still demarcated at the front of the building, though possibly no longer in use as the actual steps are not demarcated in the same way as on the neighbouring building (Plate 6). No steps or light wells are shown at the rear of the property.



Plate 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Town Plan of 1891, with 37 Liverpool Road indicated

- 4.6.14 It is possible that the ground floor frontage may have been converted from a house to some type of shopfront in at least the late 19th century. An article in the *Manchester Evening News* in November 1894 recounts the apprehension of two soldiers who were trying to avoid being sent for service in India and were who were charged after they “kicked to pieces two large panes of plate glass in the front window of the Black Horse Beerhouse, Liverpool Road”
- 4.6.15 The Black Horse was again listed “to let” in the *Manchester Evening News* in October 1899, described as “a good beerhouse”. After this date the last recorded licensee, Samuel Kent took over. He is recorded on the 1901 census, specifically at 37

Liverpool Road - “Black Horse Inn”, as a beer retailer, with his wife and two daughters, both cotton weavers and young son who was an errand boy.

- 4.6.16 Slater’s Trade Directory of 1903 records the last entry for the property as a beer retailer, only appearing again in the 1909 edition as part of Knott Mill Ladder and Barrow Works, owned by Richard Neild, who had operated from next-door at 35 Liverpool Road from 1875. By 1909 his business had expanded significantly to encompass the row from 33 to 39 Liverpool Road, along with further premises on Chester Road in the Knott Mill neighbourhood. The trade directory lists his services as *“all descriptions of painters’ and builders’ scaffolding always in stock, telescope and step ladders, painters’ trestles, hand carts etc established 1844”*.
- 4.6.17 A contemporary advertisement shows the premises of Richard Neild’s Knott Mill Ladder and Barrow Works in the early 20th century. The photograph shows the business spread across 33, 35 and 37 Liverpool Road, as specified on the signage, but also appears to extend to 39 Liverpool Road, which has a number of wheelbarrows outside. The front façade of 37 Liverpool Road is almost entirely obscured by an array of telescopic ladders. However, the photograph does provide an indication as to the original form of multi-light windows on the top floor and the sash window on the first floor from those seen on the neighbouring properties.
- 4.6.18 A later business listing in the *Edinburgh Gazette* records that the ladder making business continued at 35, 37 and 39 Liverpool Road, managed by Richard’s son Alfred Neild until at least 1925.
- 4.6.19 The only significant change displayed on mapping in the 20th century appears between the Ordnance Survey maps of 1948 and 1955 (Plate 7), during which period the building is extended to encompass the full rear yard area to the line of the alley.



Plate 7: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1955, with 37 Liverpool Road indicated

- 4.6.20 A photograph of the row taken in 1972 suggests that 37 Liverpool Road had become a café at some time in the mid-20th century. The front façade of the premises is pictured with painted lettering across the upper floors offering “QUICK SERVICE” and “TEAS AND SNACKS”, although the signage above the shopfront appears to read Bennett’s, similar to the shop at number 41. By 1980 the building was again a café, named “Jean’s Café” and continued in this function as a “Sandwich Bar” until the current renovation.

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1.1 **General Methodology:** all archaeological work was conducted following the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation*' (CIfA 2020 [a]), and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' '*Standards and Guidance for archaeological Excavation*' (CIfA 2020 [b]). 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.
- 5.1.2 *Archaeological Excavation:* Under the supervision of a suitably experienced archaeologist all deposits were hand excavated, due to site limitations, in a confined space below ground. Excavation did not proceed below a construction formation level of 30.75m AOD, as deposits beyond this level would not be impacted by the development. However, in order to determine the presence of a potential Roman kiln, excavation continued lower than 30.75m AOD in the central and northern parts of Room One.
- 5.1.3 The remains were cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date. Once the extent of the 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.
- 5.1.4 Results of the excavation were recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets and details were incorporated into a Harris matrix. These records were accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and high-resolution digital photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records were available for inspection at all times. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts was cross-referenced from record sheets using sequential numbering.
- 5.1.5 *Photography:* a full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts was maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the excavation was generated. Photography was undertaken in accordance with HE guidance, *Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for*

Best Practice (July 2015). All frames included a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records were maintained on photographic *pro-forma* sheets.

- 5.1.6 *Planning*: the precise location of all archaeological remains encountered was planned on permatrace sheets.
- 5.1.7 *Finds policy*: finds recovery and sampling programmes was in accordance with best practice (following current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidelines, *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (CIfA 2020) and subject to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration. Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation followed professional guidelines (UKIC).

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

6.1 Phase 1: Natural Geology (Devensian)

- 6.1.1 The earliest deposit recorded on the site was loose mid-yellowish-brown coarse sand [100]/[200] representing Devensian till (Plate 8). The natural deposits were encountered at a maximum level of 30.6m AOD in Room One. In Room Two the construction formation level was set at 30.75m AOD, therefore the natural deposits were not reached during the excavation of this area.

6.2 Phase 2: Industrial (Figure 3)

- 6.2.1 Phase 2 has been divided into three sub-phases. Sub-phase 2a represents the construction of the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road. Sub-phase 2b represents 19th century additions to the cellar, such as raising the floor level and the creation of a post hole. Activity relating to the 20th-21st century is attributed to Sub-phase 2c and is represented by a levelling layer plus several pits that indicate foundation investigation works.

6.3 Sub-phase 2a: Initial construction of 37 Liverpool Road (c. 1794)

- 6.3.1 The natural deposits [100]/[200] were truncated by the construction cut [103]/[204] for the walls [105] of the cellar which, according to Green's map (Plate 2), had been constructed by 1794. The construction cut [103]/[204] extended to a depth of 30.60m AOD in Room One. Only the relatively flat base of the construction cut [103]/[204] was observed during the investigation (Plate 8). This was due to the walls of the cellar [105] – which were still extant – obscuring the sides of the construction cut [103]/[204].
- 6.3.1 The walls [105] forming the cellar were built directly onto the flat base of the construction cut [103]/[204]. The walling [105] was formed from handmade bricks bonded with sandy mortar. The entire cellar measured c. 7.60 m northeast by southwest and c. 3.70m northwest by southeast. Room One measured c. 4.10m northeast by southwest and c. 3.70m northwest by southeast. Room Two measured c. 3.50m northeast by southwest and c. 3.70m northwest by southeast.
- 6.3.2 Fireplaces had been built against the western elevations of both rooms. Running across the centre of the cellar, forming the division between Room One and Room Two, was a partition wall. Only the bottom of the partition wall was visible (Plate 9), however towards the eastern and western walls, the partition wall extended all the way up to the ceiling.

6.4 Sub-phase 2b: Alterations to the cellar (early-mid 19th century)

- 6.4.1 In Room One (the northern room) a levelling layer formed of dark greyish-brown firm silty sand [102] was recorded across the entire extent of the cellar floor, abutting the cellar's walls [105]. The layer [102] contained frequent inclusions of firebrick, Roman and post-medieval ceramics, slag and clay tobacco pipes (Plate 8; Appendix 2).
- 6.4.2 Due to an abundance of redeposited Roman pottery apparent within layer [102], the associated firebricks were initially interpreted as forming part of a Roman kiln. Fragments of furnace lining, pertaining to the Roman period, were found in features during the Barton Street excavation, located immediately to the south of 37 Liverpool Road. However, once fully exposed it was evident that not only was the potential furnace lining actually a spread of firebricks, but also that – due to the lack of a construction cut or coherent structural morphology – the firebricks were not part of a structure. In fact, once the associated layer [102] had been removed, it was apparent that the firebricks were in fact arbitrarily deposited within the levelling layer [102] (Plate 8). The firebricks were handmade and had a hard fine fabric. They were partially vitrified and deformed, likely the result of exposure to extreme heat. However, one of the bricks was not deformed and retained its original dimensions of 230mm x 103mm x 69mm. This size of brick usually indicates a 19th-century date (Appendix 2, p. 41).
- 6.4.3 A small patch of the levelling layer [102], measuring c. 1m by c. 1m, was left *in situ* in the southern half of Room One (Figure 3; Plate 8), where it extended to a greater depth than 30.60m AOD. Potentially, the layer filled a small irregular-shaped depression of unknown depth in the base of the cellar's construction cut. It is possible that the layer caps the fill and cut of an earlier feature truncated by the construction cut of the cellar, although this is purely speculative as no cut was identified during the excavation. A spread of the levelling layer [102] was also left *in situ* in the southwest corner of Room One where it extended lower than the construction formation level of 30.75m AOD.
- 6.4.4 In Room Two, the construction cut was sealed by a levelling layer [201] which was identical to deposit [102] in consistency and colour (Figure 3). The levelling layer [201] abutted the walls of the cellar, measuring 3.71m wide 3.53m long and had an unknown thickness due to inability to exceed the construction level of 30.75m AOD. The higher lying part of the layer, that could be excavated as it lay above the formation level, contained a similar finds assemblage – consisting Roman and post-medieval pottery, and clay tobacco pipe (Appendix 2) – to the levelling layer [102] in Room One. Notably the layer [201] contained a fragment of *mortarium* and a cheese press.



Plate 8: Room One with natural deposits [100] exposed in the vicinity of the scales. The firebricks, which were inclusions within the levelling layer [102], have been left in situ. The dark patches in the centre of the shot and in top right corner, are remnants of the levelling layer [102] that was left in situ. Photograph looking southwest, scale: horizontal and vertical 1m



Plate 9: Room Two, looking east, scale: 2 x 1m. The untruncated base of the partition wall is visible in the top left-hand corner.

6.4.5 The levelling layer [201] was cut by a circular pit [202] with a diameter of c. 0.30m and depth of c. 0.25m (Figure 3; Plate 9). The pit [202] was filled with greyish-brown sandy silt [203] containing 19th-century pottery and glass, and also two pieces of slag (Appendix 2).

6.5 Sub-phase 2c: 20th-21st-century occupation

6.5.1 The backfill [203] of the pit [202] in Room Two and the levelling layer [102] in Room One was sealed by a layer of dark blackish-brown, firm silty sand [101] with occasional stone inclusions. The levelling layer [101] extended across the entire expanse of the cellar and was roughly 0.15m thick.

6.5.2 In Room Two the levelling layer [101] was cut by three pits, which may represent foundation investigation pits due to their positioning near to the cellar's walls.



Plate 10: Room two, cut [202] to left of scale, looking south, scale: 2 x 1m

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 Phase 1: Natural Geology (Devensian)

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposits [100]/[200] encountered on site were layers of natural gravely sand recorded at a maximum level of 30.60m AOD. These deposits represented Devensian till formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2022). Natural deposits were only encountered in Room One in areas where the construction formation level had been slightly exceeded.
- 7.1.2 As the natural deposits had been truncated by the construction cut for the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road, the natural topography of the site could not be determined during the investigation. This was because the cellar construction cut likely truncated through around 2.4m of naturally deposited till. This premise is based on the comparison between the level of the natural, recorded at 30.60m AOD in Cellar One, and the level of the Roman ground surface, recorded at c. 33m AOD in the northern part of the Barton Street site, only meters to the south of the rear of 37 Liverpool Road (Gregory 2007, 47).
- 7.1.3 In the northern part of the Barton Street site, the natural topography was characterised by a low knoll (*ibid*, 22). It is unlikely that the level of the natural deposits would vary greatly over the space of roughly 10 meters – the distance between the northern part of the Barton Street Site and Cellar One. Therefore, it is reasonable to suppose that the natural level of the Devensian till in the proximity of 37 Liverpool Road was c. 33m AOD.

7.2 Phase 2: Industrial Period

7.3 Sub-phase 2a: Initial construction of 37 Liverpool Road (c. 1794)

- 7.3.1 As discussed above, the natural deposits had been truncated by a construction cut in which the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road had been built. The construction cut, which had a generally flat base and encompassed the entire extent of the cellar, was recorded at a greatest level of 30.60m AOD. According to a standing building survey (Tamburello 2022) 37 Liverpool Road may have been built between 1780 and 1788. However, this inference was based on 37 Liverpool Road's inclusion on Lewis' Trade Directory map, which was produced in the 19th century and is not a reliable source. Despite this, it is likely the property was built by c. 1794 as it is depicted on Green's 1794 map (Plate 2) and a resident is recorded living there in the 1795 edition of the Manchester Poor Rate Assessment Book (See paragraph 4.6.5).

- 7.3.2 the walls of the cellar, which were formed of handmade bricks bonded with sandy mortar, also suggested a construction date in the late 18th century. When superimposed on the 1851 Town Plan, the earliest geo-rectifiable depiction of the site, it is apparent that the walls of the cellar correspond with walls depicted on the map (Figure 4).
- 7.3.3 Two adjacent stub walls extended from the western and eastern elevations of the cellar walls, denoting the division between Room One and Room Two. The exposure of a low wall (Plate 9), that was keyed into the stub walls, indicated that originally there had been a partition between the two rooms. It could not be discerned if the partition had featured a door.
- 7.3.4 Fireplaces were recorded within each of the rooms and this may indicate that each cellar room once formed an individual dwelling. This is potentially supported by the depiction of staircases, on the 1851 Town Plan (Plate 4), certainly at the front and possibly at the rear of the property providing each cellar street level access. Although an entry in the 1841 Poor Rate Assessment book records that three people lived in the cellar, it is not clear whether this constituted two individual households. No evidence for any sanitary utilities were recorded within the cellar.
- 7.3.5 When compared with the floor surface areas of other cellars excavated across Greater Manchester, the floor areas of the cellar rooms at 37 Liverpool Road were of median size. The table below describes the sizes of cellars recorded during other excavations in Manchester and Salford. The table suggests that room sizes varied quite considerably across Greater Manchester, the consequence of house building by multiple speculators operating 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	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
Marshall Street	4.38 x 2.81	12.31
Caygill Street	3.32 x 3.80	12.62
37 Liverpool Road (Room 2)	3.50 x 3.70	12.95
37 Liverpool Road (Room 1)	4.10 x 3.70	15.17
Jersey Street	4.90 x 3.20	15.68
Islington Street	4.00 x 4.00	16.00
Rowell's Square	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 showing room sizes of early 19th-century houses excavated across Greater Manchester (Wild 2007); (Miller, Wild & Little 2007); (Brooks 2022)

7.4 Sub-phase 2b: Alterations to the cellar (early-mid 19th century)

- 7.4.1 In both rooms, the base of the construction cut and the lower two or three courses of the cellar walls were sealed by a levelling layer, possibly to provide a bedding on which a floor surface was laid. The levelling layer contained both Roman and post-medieval pot, firebrick and clay tobacco pipe stems. As the layer abutted the walls of the cellar and covered the base of the construction cut, the levelling layer without a doubt post-dated the construction of the cellar.
- 7.4.2 Therefore, Roman pottery associated with the layer, although unabraded, must be residual because the layer's stratigraphic position is after the walls of the cellar. As to dating when the levelling layer was deposited, the post-medieval pottery suggested a range spanning the late 17th to early 19th century, whilst the clay tobacco pipe stems indicated a late 18th century date (Appendix 2). Several firebricks were also recovered from the levelling layer; although only one example was diagnostic, this specimen likely pertained to the 19th century, leading to the inference that the levelling layer was deposited in the early 19th century. As the cellar is known to have been constructed by 1794, the levelling layer can be considered a later addition to the cellar.
- 7.5 It is possible that the levelling layer provided bedding for a floor that replaced the original floor surface of the cellar, which lay at a lower level. There is a precedent for the relaying of floors on other sites. For example, in the cellar of a late 18th-century house at Greengate 2 (Plot C) in Salford, a layer supporting a brick floor was found to be deposited over the partial remains of the original 18th-century brick floor (Brooks 2022). In this instance artefactual evidence indicated that the floor had been raised in the mid-19th century, and it was thought that the new floor was laid during the conversion of the cellar from a dwelling into a storage space. It is possible that the floor level in the cellar of 37 Liverpool Road was raised for similar reasons, although no direct evidence exists to support this interpretation. Documentary sources state that the cellar was inhabited until c. 1851. Beyond that date the cellar appears to have served a different function, possibly as a storage area for the 'Black Horse' beerhouse that had been established in the rooms above the cellar from the 1840s (see paragraph 4.6.8).
- 7.5.1 As well as late post-medieval and early industrial period pottery, the levelling layer contained sherds of unabraded Roman ceramics (Appendix 2). The inclusion of Roman pottery within the levelling layer likely indicates that it was sourced locally. A layer of pre-industrial plough-soil containing sherds of Roman pottery was recorded in the back yard of a property on Southern Street, 70m to the south-east (Gregory

2007, 152). Therefore, it is possible the material derived from the back yard of 37 Liverpool Road. This is not inconceivable because historic mapping shows that the south-western part of the yard was left undisturbed by post-medieval development and remained open until an extension was built over it in the 20th century.

- 7.5.2 The unabraded condition of the pottery is less easy to explain as ceramics associated with plough-soils are often left abraded after subjection to frequent disturbance by ploughing. However, the levelling layer material may have been extracted from a deeper pit in the back yard, which truncated a Roman refuse pit containing unabraded pottery.
- 7.5.3 In Room One, an irregular-shaped patch of the levelling layer was left *in situ* in the southern part of the room where it was found to extend lower than the site construction formation level. It is possible, although impossible to prove, that the bottom of the levelling layer dipped to a lower level here because there was a depression in the top of the natural deposits, which if the case, was likely created by the existence of a pit. On sites close by, such as at Barton Street, pits up to a depth of 1.7m below the Roman ground level were recorded (Gregory 2007, 49). However, as stated earlier in this report, if this depression does represent the base of a Roman pit, the pit would have needed to have been over 2.4m in order for it to extend below the base of the late 18th-century construction cut.
- 7.5.4 A circular pit recorded near to the southern wall of Room Two may represent a posthole. It is not known why a post was required in this location, but it may be associated with a light well or possible staircase in the rear wall of the property depicted on the 1851 Ordnance Survey map (Plate 4). The pit was closed in the later 19th or early 20th century as attested by the inclusion of blue and white print China pot in the backfill. The pit also contained two pieces of slag (Appendix 2).

7.6 Sub-phase 2c: 20th-21st-century occupation

- 7.6.1 The posthole and levelling layers were sealed by a levelling layer which extended across the entire floor of the cellar. This layer probably acted as a bedding layer for a concrete floor slab laid in the cellar during the 20th century. In Room Two, three sub-circular cuts – recorded against the western, southern and eastern walls of the cellar – suggest that foundation inspection pits, extending to the base of the cellar's walls, were recently excavated.

8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Key Results

- 8.1.1 The excavation revealed two archaeological phases. The earliest phase represented natural deposition of till in the Devensian. Natural deposits were recorded at a maximum level of 30.60m AOD in Room One, located in the northern part of the site. In this location, the natural till had been truncated by the construction for the cellar and so the levels taken on the natural deposits do not reflect the true level of the natural topography.
- 8.1.2 The second phase represented the construction and occupation of the cellar at 37 Liverpool Road, which was built by 1794. The construction cut, in which the cellar had been made, was found to extend down to a level of 30.60m AOD. The cellar contained two rooms which were originally separated by a partition wall. This wall, alongside the existence of a fireplace in each room may suggest that both cellar rooms were originally designed as individual dwellings. Additionally in support of this interpretation, the 1851 Ordnance Survey map potentially shows a staircase or lightwell against the rear wall of the property. The 1841 Poor Rate Assessment book confirms that the cellar was inhabited, but it does not state whether each room constituted an individual dwelling. Documentary sources indicate that the cellar was inhabited until c. 1851 after which it served a different function, possibly as a storage room for the 'Black Horse' beerhouse which had been established in the rooms above from the 1840s.
- 8.1.3 Abutting the walls of the cellar and covering the base of the construction cut was a levelling deposit containing large quantities of residual Roman material alongside late post-medieval and early 19th-century artefacts. The inclusion of firebricks, one of which was identified as 19th-century, and ceramics dating to the late 18th century, suggested that this levelling layer had been deposited in the early-mid-19th century. At some point the partition wall between the cellar rooms had been partially demolished converting the cellar into a single space. It is possible that these alterations were made in when the cellar was converted from a dwelling to a different function.
- 8.1.4 Although certainly residual, the assemblage of mid-2nd to mid-3rd-century Roman pottery recovered from the site is significant because it can be compared to assemblages found on nearby sites in the Roman *vicus*. Notably, a sherd of Huntcliffe ware was unearthed during the investigation. The inclusion of Huntcliffe ware in the assemblage is unusual as there is no precedent from either the *vicus* or the fort for

this type of pottery (Gregory 2007). It is thought that the *vicus* was abandoned c. 250 (Redhead 2011, 28-30) and Huntcliffe Ware is considered to date to the later 4th century. However, the layer from which the Huntcliffe Ware derived also contained post-medieval and industrial period ceramics, and was likely formed in part from redeposited plough-soil. Inclusions within the plough-soil may have been introduced from slightly further afield and, as demonstrated by the incorporation of post-medieval and later artefacts within the deposit, from later time periods. Therefore, the presence of Huntcliffe Ware within the assemblage can not be taken to demonstrate occupation of the *vicus* in the 4th century.

8.2 Significance

- 8.2.1 The archaeological investigation has provided a record of late 18th century buried archaeological remains of local significance. More importantly, an assemblage of residual Roman material was recovered which, although redeposited, has regional significance in phasing Roman occupation and activity in Castlefield.

8.3 Key initiatives

- 8.3.1 Several key initiatives in the current North West Archaeological Research Framework have been addressed in the course of the archaeological investigation (<https://researchframeworks.org/nwrf/> 2021):
- 8.3.2 **R14: What were the date, extent, function and changes over time of extra-mural settlement (*vici*) in the region?**
- 8.3.3 The Roman pottery recovered from the site dated to the mid-2nd – mid-3rd century and represented a similar assemblage to those recovered from other sites known to be located within the *vicus* of *Mamucium*. The recovery of a sherd of Huntcliffe ware suggests that the *vicus* was not completely abandoned in the mid-3rd century, and occupation may have continued into the 4th century.
- 8.3.4 **RS3.31 - Undertake systematic publication of excavated assemblages from the region and of chance finds.**
- 8.3.5 A summary of the Roman pottery will be published in the round-up notes of *Britannia*.
- 8.3.6 **Ind22: How can we take forward our understanding of the impact of industrialisation on the working class and their living conditions?**
- 8.3.7 Fireplaces were recorded within each of the cellar rooms of 37 Liverpool Road. This may indicate that each cellar room once formed an individual dwelling. The Poor Rate Assessment books of 1841 and 1851 state that people resided in the cellar. Staircases

are depicted on the 1851 Town Plan (Plate 4) at the front and possibly at the rear of the property, which may indicate that each cellar room could be accessed individually from street level. Additionally, the base of a partially demolished partition wall suggested that the cellar may have originally consisted of two unconnected rooms. No evidence for any sanitary utilities were recorded during the investigation.

8.3.8 Ind39: What do we know about pre-By Law workers' housing and where are significant examples?

8.3.9 Based upon the standing building survey, it is evident that 37 Liverpool Road was a workshop as well as a domestic dwelling (Tamburello 2022). The structure is consistent with other known workshop housing, the upper floors were designed for manufacture of fustian cloth and the lower floors, including the cellar, were utilised as living spaces (*ibid*). The rooms in the cellar can be considered to be of median size when compared with other cellars excavated in Greater Manchester.

8.4 Dissemination

- 8.4.1 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).
- 8.4.2 A summary of the results of the archaeological investigation will be published in the round-up section of the journal *Post-medieval Archaeology*. Additionally, the finds report states that the assemblage of Roman pottery is of 'regional importance', therefore a note will be prepared for the annual round-up published in *Britannia*. The results of the excavation will also be included in the forthcoming publication on the Roman excavations at Viadux.

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 ClfA guidelines updated 2014. The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the ClfA 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. The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in the North West. All drawn records will be transferred to and stored in digital format, in systems which are easily accessible. The integrity of the site archive will be maintained upon completion of the archaeological works with the archive ultimately being offered for deposition with Manchester Museum.

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Archaeological Research Framework for North West England, 2021: <https://researchframeworks.org/nwrf/>

Census returns 1841-1901 www.findmypast.co.uk

APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Area	Type	Description
100	Room One	Layer	Natural – Mid-yellow brown sand
101	Room One & Two	Layer	Capping fill – Dark blackish-brown silty sand
102	Room One	Layer	Levelling layer – Dark greyish-brown firm silty sand
103	Room One	Cut	Construction cut of cellar; same as [204]
104	Void	-	-
105	Room One	Masonry	Cellar walls
200	Room Two	Layer	Mid-yellowish-brown sand
201	Room Two	Layer	Levelling layer – Dark greyish-brown silty sand
202	Room Two	Cut	Cut of circular pit
203	Room Two	Fill	Fill of pit [202] – Greyish-brown sandy silt
204	Room Two	Cut	Construction cut of cellar; same as [103]
205	Void	-	-

APPENDIX 2: FINDS REPORT

Introduction

Some 270 artefacts, weighing 31090g were recovered from the excavation and comprise a range of materials including pottery, glass, clay tobacco pipes, ceramic building material and animal bone. The artefactual assemblage is dominated by pottery ranging from the 2nd century AD to modern in date. Within in the latter material category Roman period pottery is the most profuse with large and unabraded fragments suggesting little post-depositional disturbance. This is all the more remarkable given that the three Roman pottery bearing contexts have been disturbed by post-medieval and more recent activity.

Methodology

Pottery and other materials were collected from stratified contexts and features using a 100% sampling policy. All finds were returned to the Salford Archaeology finds laboratory in sealed and labelled polyethylene bags. All finds were washed, except metal and organic material, which were dry brushed, and grouped by material for assessment. The finds were catalogued by material, counted and weighed before being assessed in-house (Table A1).

The finds were assessed in accordance with Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials (2014, updated 2020), whilst the pottery was assessed in accordance with the Standard for Pottery Studies in Archaeology (Barclay et al 2016).

Overview

The assemblage is dominated by pottery (62% by count and 10% by weight) and Ceramic Building Material (13% by count and 83% by weight). The bulk of the pottery assemblage comprises Roman period fabrics, accounting for 86% by count (92% by weight), however, it should be noted that all three pottery producing contexts [101], [201] and [203] both contained Post-medieval and Industrial period fabrics. Not unsurprisingly the material is similar to that recovered from the 2001 excavations at nearby 73/83 Liverpool Road (Connelly 2007), as well as at 2-4 Chester Road excavations (Cook 2020) and the 2004 excavations at Beetham tower (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005), all of which recovered material associated with the Roman vicus settlement of *Mamucium*. The main anomaly, is, however, the small amount of Black Burnished ware from Liverpool Road as compared to other excavation in the vicinity. No medieval pottery was identified.

The range of Roman pottery recovered from features on the site include 2nd-3rd-century wares including Samian ware, Reduced wares including Cheshire Plains ware, whiteware, oxidised ware including Cheshire Plains ware, mortaria, and Amphora. A single sherd of late 4th-century Huntcliff type ware recovered from levelling layer [201] is of note. The limited range and quantity of pottery previously recovered from Roman Manchester makes this site of regional significance.

Material	Contexts	Count	Weight (g)
Pottery	3 and unstratified	167	3253
Ceramic bead	1	4	1
Clay tobacco pipe	2	7	22
Metal work	3	7	81
Glass	3 and unstratified	16	68
Ceramic Building Material	3 and unstratified	34	25899
Industrial, stone and building material	2	25	1657
Animal bone	2	10	109
Total		270	31090

Table _A1: All materials recovered from Liverpool Road, Manchester

The Pottery

A total of 167 sherds of pottery were recovered from the site, consisting primarily of Roman period wares, with post-medieval and industrial period ceramics comprising 14% of the assemblage (Table A2). Although the bulk of the pottery comprised Roman sherds, which were collected from three sealed contexts on the site consisting of sub floor deposits [102] and [201], and pit fill [203], all three contexts contained Post-medieval and Industrial period fabrics, indicating some degree post depositional disturbance.

Range and condition

The condition of the Roman pottery is relatively good, suggesting little post depositional disturbance. Large fragments are still intact, particularly of Samian, Reduced, White and Oxidised wares, suggesting, despite Post-medieval disturbance, that the assemblage is close to a focus of activity in the Roman *vicus* of Manchester. Forms include mortaria, amphora, bowls, jars and storage vessels. The Post-medieval and Industrial period pottery in comparison was much more fragmented suggesting that it had been reworked prior to its final deposition.

The site also lies in close proximity to previous sites that have produced Roman period remains, in particular Barton Street (Gregory 2007), 73/83 Liverpool Road (Connelly 2007), Beetham Tower (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005) and 2-4 Chester Road, Manchester (Cook 2020).

Roman pottery

Ware type	Contexts	Count	Weight (g)	Percentage of assemblage by count and weight (g)
Samian ware	102, 201, 202, US	30	418	21% / 14%
Amphora	102, 201	3	344	2% / 11%
Mortarium	201	3	76	2% / 3%
Oxidised ware	102, 201, 202, US	34	609	21% / 20%
Roman White ware	102, 201, US	32	620	22% / 21%
Roman reduced ware	102, 201, US	36	798	25% / 27%
Black Burnished ware	102, US	2	25	1% / 1%
Roman Miscellaneous	102, 201	7	103	5% / 3%
Totals		147	2993	

*US = unstratified

Table_A2: Roman wares recovered from Liverpool Road, Manchester by count weight, and percentage

The most prolific pottery type by count amongst the assemblage were Reduced wares, followed by White wares, Samian and Oxidised wares (See Table A2). Black burnished wares were notable by their near absence. Also, within the assemblage were fragments of mortaria in a cream fabric, Amphora and small quantities of Colour coated, Rusticated and a Huntcliff type ware rim sherd.

Thirty sherds of Samian ware were recovered during the excavations. Unusually for Manchester these were in good condition and do not suffer from the surface abrasion usually associated with Samian found on excavations in the City (Gregory 2007a). Four decorated fragments were recovered from deposit [102], the small size of the fragments precluded identification of the motifs other than a rim sherd with ovolo. Of the 16 sherds of Samian found in deposit [201], six displayed decorative motifs (Plate A1). One of which was a bowl fragment with panel decoration featuring a standing human figure and two animals, whilst a second sherd is decorated with a basal wreath. The remaining sherds, including that from deposit [203] were plain. Decorated bowls and probable plain cup forms were identified within the assemblage.



Plate A1: Samian ware from sub-floor layer [102]

A quarter of the roman pottery assemblage was composed of Reduced wares. These were likely to comprise Cheshire plains and Severn Valley wares with the forms comprising a rounded jar with upright rims and flared bowls with everted rims and a rounded bowl with everted rim (Plate A2). A 2nd-century date may be applicable to the Grey wares recovered from the site (Leary 2020).



Plate A2: Examples of reduced ware jars and bowls from sub-floor layers [102] and [201]

White wares were also notable amongst the assemblage forming 22% by count and 21% by weight. Although the majority of the fragments were body sherds, some forms were recognisable, such as flagon rims, one with part of handle, from levelling layers [102] and [201] (Plate A3) and a foot ring from [102] in a fine smooth fabric. Like the white ware from 2-4 Chester Road, these may also be from the Mancetter-Hartshill kilns (Leary 2020, 43). Again, a 2nd century date may be appropriate for this material.



Plate A3: White ware flagon rim from sub-floor layer [201]

Some 28 sherds of Oxidised wares were recovered contexts [102], [201] and [203]. These were composed of fine and coarser sandy wares, including a micaceous sherd. There also four sherds of white slipped oxidised ware. Few forms were evident, of note however, was a

cheese press, similar to that recovered from 2-4 Chester Road, in Manchester (Plate A4). Other diagnostic sherds included two bases with footrings and a handle from a flagon. The Oxidised wares are likely to be Cheshire plains products, which is a common and widespread fabric in the region, dating to the 2nd to 3rd centuries (Leary 2020; Webster 2011). A single unstratified sherd in harder reddish-brown fabric (other fragments of oxidised ware in the assemblage are softer and orange), with ill-sorted and coarse inclusions including iron-rich grains is likely to be Roman as it is within the range of fabrics found at Wilderspool, for example. However, given the that the Roman finds bearing contexts have some level of post-medieval disturbance, this could be a later fabric.



Plate A4: Cheese press from sub-floor layer [102]

A single fragment in a coarse, partially reduced fabric was retrieved from layer [102] (Plate A5). The fabric was rough with pink exterior surfaces and grey core. Inclusions comprised poorly-sorted, sub-rounded medium quartz grains with rare coarser quartz and red iron oxide (c. 1mm). The vessel is probably a shallow flaring bowl with an everted squared rim.



Plate A5: Coarse partially reduced fabric from sub-floor layer [102]

Small amounts of Mortaria and Amphora were also found, along with single sherd of Rusticated ware. This is a distinctive ware, emerging by the later 2nd century, with characteristic irregular finger indentations around the lower body. Although abundant close to its proposed kiln site in Lincolnshire, its distribution across northern England is considered sparse (Tyers 1996). There were also a small number later fabrics represented by single sherds. These comprised two sherds of colour coated ware, and a sherd of Huntcliff ware. Both examples of colour coated ware were from the levelling layers (Plate A6). From layer [102] was an everted rim fragment from a flaring vessel in a hard, fine dull red to grey fabric. The slip is black with traces of possible barbotine decoration on the rim. The second sherd from [201], also part of an everted rim with an external flange is decorated with irregular rows of stamped triangles. It has a hard reddish-brown fine fabric, with a smooth dark grey/black slip. These are potentially 2nd- to 4th-century Nene valley wares.



Plate A6: Colour coated ware, from [102] (left) and from [201] (right)

A single rim sherd of later 4th-century Huntcliff type ware cooking pot was also recovered (Plate A7). Huntcliff ware, which is thought to have been produced in east Yorkshire, although as yet no kilns have been identified (Study Group for Roman Pottery 2019), appeared when Black burnished ware largely disappeared from the area north of the line of the Rivers Humber and Mersey. No Huntcliff has been recorded from *vicus* in Manchester (Gregory 2007a; Leary 2020; Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005), although small quantities of this type of pottery have been recorded in the southern Pennines (Webster 2011, 65-66). Huntcliff ware has been recorded at Mellor, which may have been tapping into different markets to those available in Roman Manchester (Gregory 2007a). Although it should be noted that it was also recovered in small quantities from Dinorben, a hill fort in Clwyd, north Wales which lies to the east of Chester (Webster 2011, 68-70).



Plate A7: Huntcliff type cooking pot rim from sub-floor layer [201]

Post-medieval and Industrial period wares

Ware Type	Contexts	Count	Weight (g)
Creamware	201	1	13
Whitewares (undecorated)	102, 201	3	14
Transfer printed ware	202	1	17
Dark-glazed coarseware	102, 201	6	133
Industrial slipware	201, 202	2	13
Mottled Ware	102, 201	2	11
Pearlware	201	3	18
Decorated slipware	102, 201	2	18
Stoneware	102, 201	2	5
Tin glazed earthenware	201	1	1
Totals		13	190

Table A3: Post-medieval and industrial period wares recovered from Liverpool Road, Manchester by count and weight

A total of 23 sherds, weighing 243g, of late 17th-20th century pottery was also retrieved from the Roman pot bearing deposits [102], [201] and [203]. This includes dark-glazed coarseware in red and buff fabrics, Mottled ware, White salt glazed stoneware, decorated slip ware, Tin glazed earthenware, creamware and a small fragment of Westerwald German stoneware. There were also seven sherds of decorated and undecorated whitewares. The bulk of the Post-medieval and industrial period pottery was derived from deposits [102] and [201] and date to the late 17th – early 19th century. Deposit [203] probably dates to the later 19th or early 20th century.

Ceramic bead

A single complete, but fragmentary ceramic bead was retrieved from sub-floor layer [201] (Plate A8). Measuring 9.5mm in diameter and in soft grey fabric, the bead was distinguished by it being partially covered by a pale pinkish coloured substance. A Roman date is possible for this object given the rarity of beads from archaeological sites in the Post-medieval period, notwithstanding the glass beads that were produced in vast quantities in Europe from around the 16th century–19th centuries. Many were traded to non-European peoples around the world (Blackwell and Kirk 2015).



Plate A8: bead found in sub-floor layer [201]

The Clay Tobacco Pipes

Seven clay tobacco pipe stem fragments were retrieved from layers [102] and [201]. Measurements of stem widths and bores can provide broad date ranges, particularly when associated with bowls and makers marks (Higgins 2017). However, there are arguments to be made that stem bore dating is only appropriate when there is a large sample available, often producing only a single date (*ibid*). In this instance, therefore, where no bowls have been recorded, only very broad-brush attempt at dating has been assigned to this small assemblage. Deposit [102] produced stems bores of between 2.4mm and 2.6mm that might indicate a late 17th- to late 18th-century date. Stem bores from deposit were noticeably narrower which likely suggests date from the late 18th century onwards (*ibid*). These dates are, however, consistent with those of the Post-medieval and Industrial period pottery.

Metalwork

A total of seven metal objects, weighing 81g, were recovered from three separate contexts on the site. These comprised a coin with the remainder being heavily corroded iron nails. Although the coin was in a very worn condition, with very little distinguishable surface detail

discernible, the well-formed circular disc, 16.2mm in diameter, did exhibit traces of milling around the edge. The size and the milling possibly suggest a silver three pence, colloquially known as a thruppenny bit, produced between 1838 and 1937. It was then replaced by brass nickel dodecagonal (12-sided) coin.

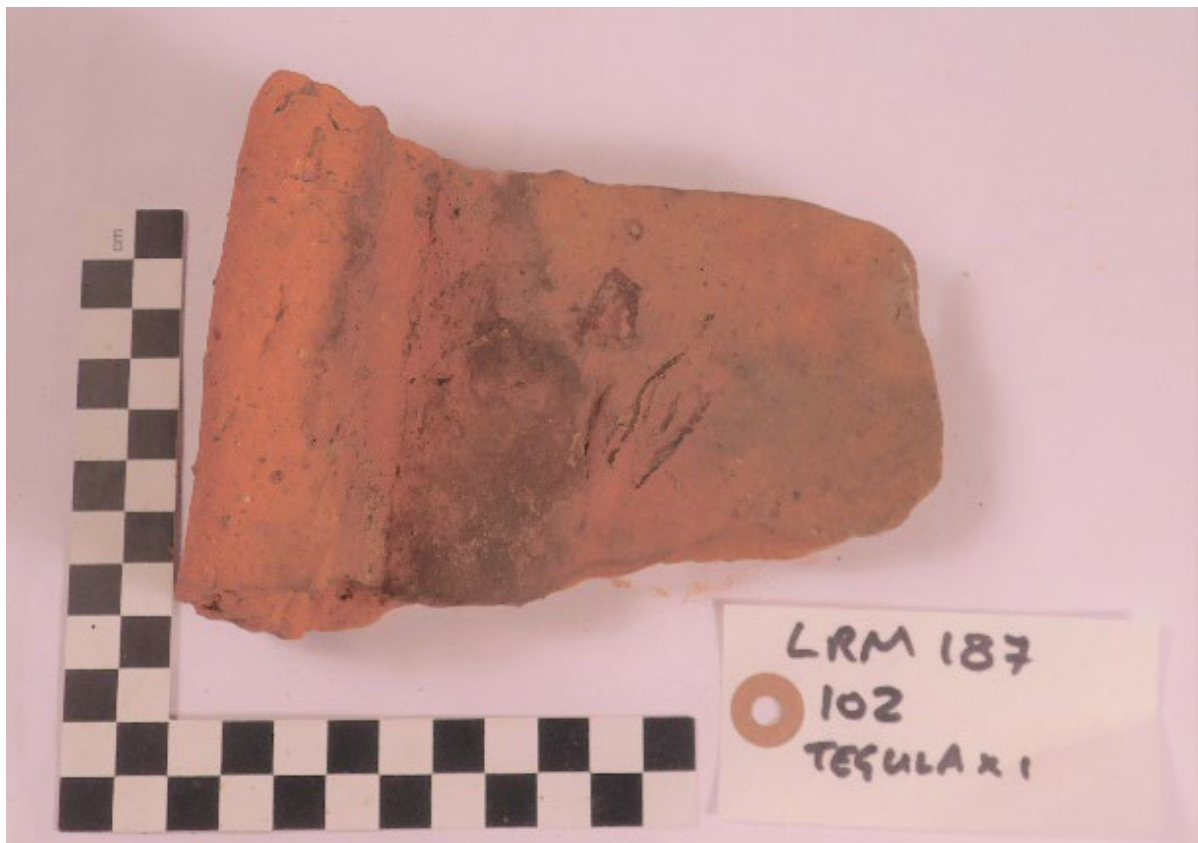
Due to the level of corrosion and the similarity of nail technology during Roman and later periods, as well as later disturbance the nails could be of Roman or later date. All the metal work is of little analytical value.

Ceramic Building Material

A total of 34 fragments of CBM, weighing 25899g, were recovered from the site. This includes 12 Roman tile fragments, amongst which is a fragment of tegula. The bulk of material comprises Post-medieval and Industrial period bricks, with 10 fire bricks from Cellar 1, which have a distorted appearance caused by exposure to extreme heat. The remainder are common brick or undiagnostic fragments.

The Roman period material comprises nine tile fragments, which are fragmentary and abraded. Of these fragments only two diagnostic pieces of tile were identified. These comprised part of a tegula (Plate A8) and a possible imbrex fragment. Tegulae are roof tiles, rectangular in shape, with flanges and were used in conjunction with the half-cylinder shaped imbrices. A second piece, which has a curved profile, maybe a fragment of imbrex (McComish 2015). The remaining fragments comprise tile fragments which cannot be attributed to a particular form of Roman building material and three undiagnostic pieces, the fabrics of which resemble those noted for the more diagnostic Roman period CBM.

Four fragments of heat affected daub from layer [101] were not closely datable to any particular period. The fragments were in a light grey to pink soft fabric with moderate charcoal fragments (<0.5mm) and occasional large, rounded pebbles (10-35mm). All four fragments displayed some form of diagnostic characteristic including flat surfaces, possible plant impressions and in one case a finger impression. It was not clear what the daub had originally been used for.



Plate_A8: Tegula fragment from sub-floor layer deposit [102]

Later CBM is divided between hand-made common bricks and firebricks. The common bricks were hand made in sandy fabrics ranging from orange to red with sanded bases. No complete bricks were found with surviving depths and heights ranging between 113mm x 83mm to 142mm x 61mm (approximately 5" x 3 ¼" and 5 ½" x 2 ½").

Ten fire bricks were all recovered from within the levelling layer [102] Room One, which do not appear to have been part a structure. All appeared to be handmade made in a hard fine fabric ranging from buff to dull orange and reddish purple (Plate A9). Each of the bricks had been subject to extreme heat rendering them partially vitrified and deformed. Only a single example retained its original shape from which dimensions could be taken, this measured 230mm x 103mm x 69mm (approximately 9" x 4" x 2 ¾"). Such dimensions would indicate a 19th-century date for the bricks. Firebricks are bricks designed to withstand intense heat, with such bricks, which contain a high percentage of silica, having fire resisting properties. They owe their existence to the work of a Bristol Quaker Entrepreneur, William Weston Young (1776–1847; Jenkins, 1941).



Plate_A9: Heat distorted firebrick from Cellar 1

Glass

A small amount of glass was retrieved during the excavation comprising ten fragments of vessel glass and six fragments of window glass. A single fragment of what might be strongly coloured Roman glass was recovered unstratified. This was a base fragment in dark blue glass, possibly from a chalice. The remainder of the vessel glass was fragmentary and was likely to derive from bottles dating to the 18th to 19th century.

The window glass comprises pale green glass, measuring between 1.8mm and 2.1mm thick, with no evidence of grozing. The glass is likely to be crown glass typical of the period c. 1440-

1850, although in this instance, given the date of the post-medieval pottery, an 18th or 19th century date would be applicable.

Animal bone

Ten animal bone fragments weighing 109g were collected from levelling layer deposits [102] and [201]. Apart from part of sheep/goat skull and upper jaw from sub-floor layer [201], the small size of the assemblage and post-medieval disturbance of the deposits, the animal bone has no further analytical value.

Industrial, stone and building material

Twenty-five fragments, weighing 1657g, were recovered in this category. All, with exception of two fragments of slag from deposit [203], were found in deposit [102]. The category comprised, slag, coal, charcoal and stone.

Three fragments of slag were from deposits [101] and [102], which comprised a vitrified fragment, possibly representing either tap slag or vitrified fuel ash, a second appeared to be a fragment of undiagnostic slag with no surface morphology. The largest fragment, which weighed 819g, and comprised a conglomerate of clay, sand and pebbles within which could be observed metallic, slag-like inclusions, but with no surface morphology. Of note, however was a possible comparator recovered from 73/83 Liverpool Road, which was described as a 'curious' object appearing to be a lump of clay enclosed in a mixed deposit of soil, small stones and charcoal fragments (Connelly 2007). It is recommended that further analysis be carried out to determine what process produced the industrial residue.

A small piece of worked red sandstone, possibly derived from Wilmslow Sandstone used in the construction of Chetham's College in Manchester (Historic England 2017, 12), which measures 111mm long by 56mm wide and 43mm in height. It is triangular in section with a rounded notch having been worn on one of the ridges. Possibly used as sharpening or hone stone.

Discussion

The Roman pottery from the site is significant due to the sparse known evidence for the *vicus* in this area of Manchester (Leary 2020). The small assemblage collected during this excavation adds to the growing corpus of Roman ceramics excavated in the area of vicus, including sites at 73/83 Liverpool Road, Barton Street, Southern Street, 340 Deansgate, all published in *Roman Manchester* (Gregory 2007). Subsequent excavations at Beetham Tower on Deansgate in 2004, which produced over 2000 sherds of Roman pottery dating from the late 1st to mid-3rd century (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005), the excavation at 2-4 Chester

Road (Cook 2020) and the recent excavations at Viadux, (Salford Archaeology in prep) have allowed further insights into the area of the *vicus*.

Ware type	LRM		73/83 Liverpool Road		Viadux		2-4 Chester Road		Beetham Tower	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Samian ware	30	20	11	6	11	12	29	18	432	19
Amphora	3	2	5	3	0	0	9	6	439	20
Mortarium	3	2	6	3	4	4	17	11	27	1
Oxidised ware	34	23	77	44	41	46	59	37	523	24
Roman White ware	32	22	7	4	9	10	6	4	0	0
Roman reduced ware	36	24	38	22	9	10	6	4	293	13
Black Burnished ware	2	1	28	16	22	25	20	13	407	18
Roman Miscellaneous	7	5	3	2	0	0	0	0	96	4
Totals	147		175		89		158		2217	

Table A4: LRM Roman pottery in comparison with Viadux*, 2-4 Chester Road and Beetham Tower, Deansgate by count and percentage (*Incomplete sample)

The mid- 2nd-century to the mid-3rd-century pottery assemblage from Liverpool Road, though relatively small, can be directly compared to that recovered from 73/83 Liverpool Road (Connelly 2007), its near neighbour (See Table A4). At this site, which was similar in size and composition, was also dominated by oxidised Cheshire plains, with reduced forms also being common, although Black burnished ware was found in larger quantities.

Higher proportions of oxidised wares were, however, recovered from 73/83 Liverpool Road, 2-4 Chester Road, as compared to the present site. Oxidised wares from Beetham Tower were more in line in terms of proportion with those from the present site. A higher percentage of White wares from the present site would appear to anomalous, as does the aforementioned lack of Black burnished ware. It was also noticeable that only Chester Road produced similar quantities and proportions of Samian ware, such discrepancies may be due the different functionality of the sites.

The much larger dataset from the adjacent Barton Street site, for Periods 2 and 3, which date to late 1st to the end of the 2nd century and approximately correspond to the pottery dates from the present site, tell a similar tale. Reduced and Oxidised wares being abundant, Black burnished ware being more frequent, and White wares, never reaching the proportions found during the present works (Gregory 2007a). This would suggest, along with the near absence

of Black burnished ware, that these results are anomalous, possibly a consequence of the later disturbance/truncation of Roman features and the effect this had on the site taphonomy.

The presence of a single sherd of Huntcliff type ware is unusual in Manchester, perhaps the disturbance noted above giving a reason for a 4th century sherd being found amongst a largely 2nd century assemblage. There are no known examples of Huntcliff ware having been found at either the fort or the *vicus*. It is also notable that those sites included in the *Roman Manchester* volume (Gregory 2007b), which are all located in the area of the *vicus* and also in close proximity to the present site, all draw attention to the absence of later Roman pottery. Although it is known from coin evidence that the fort continued in use until the late 4th century, it is thought that the *vicus* was totally abandoned by c. 250 (Redhead 2011, 28-30).

Many of the sherds from the Liverpool Road site are well preserved and fragments are relatively large suggesting the excavation is close to a focus of activity. It is desirable that the 37 Liverpool Road group also be published. Post-medieval and Industrial period pottery, comprising only 13 sherds is very fragmentary and was perhaps the result of post-medieval disturbance to Roman layers, as was seen at the neighbouring site at 73/83 Liverpool Road, where the Roman archaeology had been heavily truncated by more recent activity (Connelly 2007). Other than providing broad dates for when that intrusion took place, that derived from sub-floor layers [102] and [201] date to the late 17th – early 19th century, whilst deposit [203] probably dates to the later 19th or early 20th century, this material provides little interpretive evidence.

Ceramic building material from the site comprises two very different types, differing functions, and above all is derived from two periods separated by nearly two millennia. Although the small size of the Roman period CBM offers little potential for analysis. It is of note that fragments of both imbrex and tegula were present. Meagre, though this is, as compared to the 20kg of mostly stratified Roman CBM found at Beetham Tower, it alongside the much more moderate haul at 2-4 Cheshire Road indicates buildings, often of wooden construction in the Manchester *vicus*, were roofed with tile (Pre-Construct Archaeology 2005, 74; Cook 2018, 53 and Redhead 2011, 30-31). The fire bricks recovered from Room One, which appear to be 19th, had all been subject to extreme heat and were likely associated with an unidentified industrial process.

Given the level of 18th and 19th century disturbance on the site, the small amount of slag also recovered is difficult to date. Smithing slag, recovered from 73/83 Liverpool Road, hinted at metal working having taken place outside of the excavation area. Much more extensive areas of Roman industrial activity was revealed immediately to the south of the present site at Barton Street, and to the north-west on Byrom Street which both produced evidence of metal working

(Gregory 2007b, 185-6). Given the level of industrial activity found on sites in close proximity to the present excavation, and the level of recent disturbance, it would not be surprising if metal working debris were recovered.

Conclusion

The finds' assemblage recovered from Liverpool Road is relatively small in quantity, though provides a useful example of a group of Roman ceramics being utilised in the vicinity of the *vicus*. The date and pottery types present in the assemblage are similar to material recovered from nearby sites at 2-4 Chester Road and Beetham Tower and are of regional significance. The Roman material should be retained as part of the archive and kept for future research purpose. The post-medieval and modern material is of limited research potential, and may be discarded after discussions with the recipient museum.

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APPENDIX 3: FIGURES

Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Trench location

Figure 3: Plan of excavated remains

Figure 4: Excavated remains superimposed onto the 1:1056 Town Plan of 1851

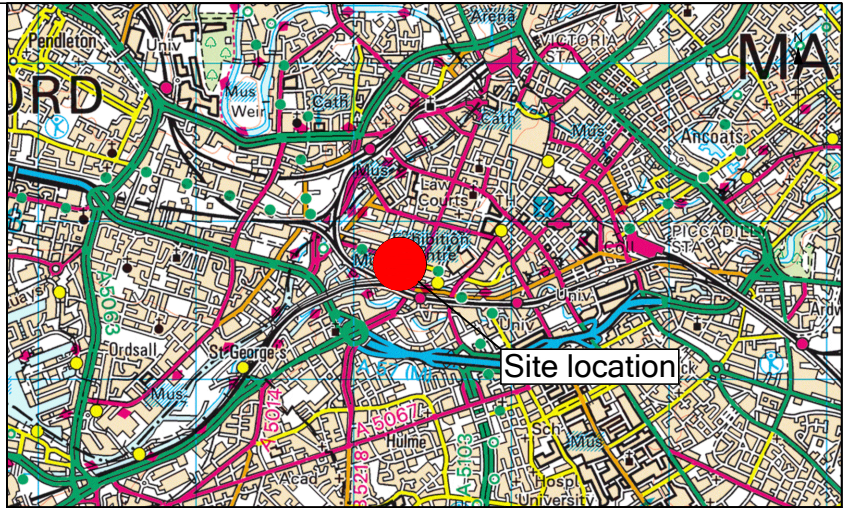


Figure 1:

Site Location

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**SALFORD
ARCHAEOLOGY**



Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2019)

397720

397720

397712

397712

Figure 2:

Trench Location and Watching Brief Area Superimposed onto Modern Mapping

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2022



Key:

- Site Boundary
- Watching Brief Area


**SALFORD
ARCHAEOLOGY**

0

5 m



Scale at A4 1:75

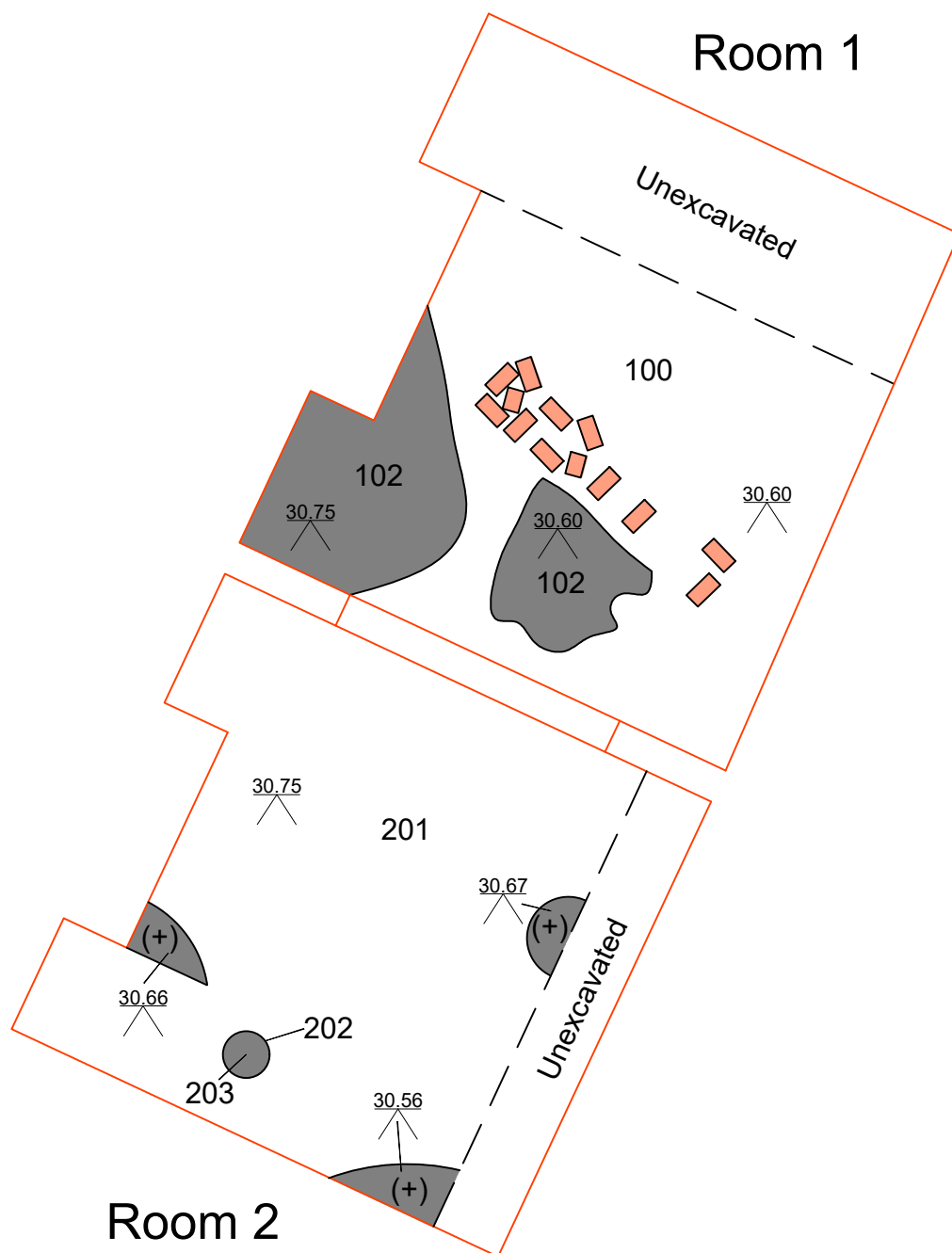


Figure 3:
Plan of Excavated Remains



Key:
 Feature/Deposit
 Brick



**SALFORD
ARCHAEOLOGY**

0 2 m
 Scale at A4 1:50

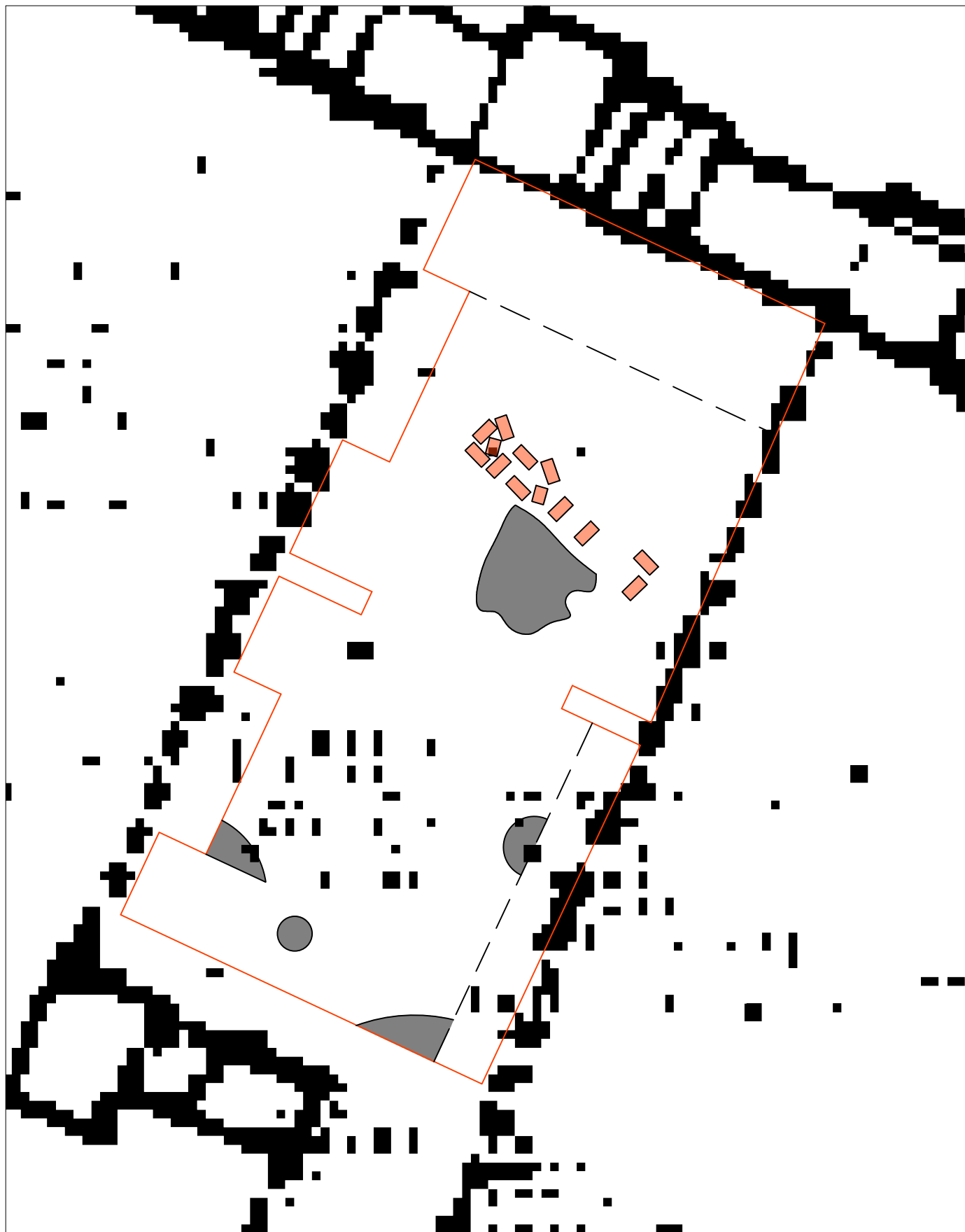


Figure 4:

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

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Key:

- Feature/Deposit
- Brick



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0 2 m
Scale at A4 1:50