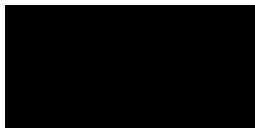


35 LIVERPOOL ROAD, CASTLEFIELD, MANCHESTER

Written Scheme of Investigation for a Historic Building Investigation and Archaeological Watching Brief

Project Name:	35 Liverpool Road
Site Location:	35 Liverpool Road, Castlefield, Manchester
National Grid Reference:	NGR SJ 8333 9771
Planning Refs:	131047/FO/2021 and 131048/LO/2021
Document Title:	35 Liverpool Road, Castlefield, Manchester: Historic Building Investigation and Archaeological Watching Brief
Document Type:	Written Scheme of Investigation
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1. Introduction

1.1 Background to the Project

- 1.1.1 Mr Calum McGowan has obtained planning and listed building consent (Planning Refs: 131047/FO/2021 and 131048/LO/2021) for a proposed refurbishment of 35 Liverpool Road in the Castlefield area of Manchester city centre (centred on NGR SJ 8333 9771). 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.
- 1.1.2 The consented scheme allows for the restoration and conversion of a Grade II listed weavers cottage for use as a dwelling, which includes the demolition of a rear single-storey lean-to to make space for a two-storey extension with a basement. The proposals have been 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 building.
- 1.1.3 In addition, 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 archaeological resource of the area has been amply demonstrated from several excavations in the vicinity of Liverpool Road.
- 1.1.4 In order to secure heritage and archaeological interests, Manchester City Council attached a condition to planning and listed building consents. Following consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Manchester City Council, it has been agreed that the scheme of archaeological works will comprise an historic building survey, coupled with a targeted archaeological watching brief during any intrusive site works. The survey will be consistent with an Historic England Level 2/3-type building investigation, and will provide a detailed record of the workshop dwellings. This is articulated in Condition 14 attached to planning consent, and replicated in Condition 5 attached to listed building consent, which state:
- 'No development apart from a 'soft strip', details of which must be submitted to and approved in writing by the City Council as Local Planning Authority, 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 2/3 historic building survey following any stripping-out works;



- an archaeological watching brief to record below-ground remains affected by development groundworks.
 - 2. A programme for post-investigation assessment to include:
 - analysis of the site investigation records and finds;
 - 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.'
- 1.1.5 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the recommended programme of historic building survey and watching brief has been prepared by Chris Wild, Historic Building Consultant, on behalf of Mr Calum McGowan. The document has been prepared in consultation with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) in their capacity as archaeological advisors to Manchester City Council. Any change to the proposed WSI will be agreed between the Client, GMAAS and Chris Wild.

1.2 Purpose of the Document

- 1.2.1 An Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is a comprehensive document detailing the requirements and methodological approaches of a programme of archaeological works. It is defined by Historic England as:
- 'Where development will lead to the loss of a material part of the significance of a heritage asset, policy HE12.3 requires local planning authorities to ensure that developers take advantage of the opportunity to advance our understanding of the past before the asset or the relevant part is irretrievably lost. As this is the only opportunity to do this it is important that:
- 1: Any investigation is carried out to professional standards and to an appropriate level of detail proportionate to the assets likely significance, by an organisation or individual with appropriate expertise;
 - 2. The resultant records, artefacts and samples are analysed and, where necessary, conserved;
 - 3: The understanding gained is made publically available;
 - 4: An archive is created, and deposited for future research.'

2. Aims and Objectives

2.1 Academic Aims

- 2.1.1 The main aims of the historic building investigation and watching brief will be to provide a detailed archaeological record of 35 Liverpool Road, and either record any below-ground remains that are exposed during ground-breaking works required to deliver the consented scheme, or otherwise enable a decision to be reached regarding an appropriate scheme for more detailed archaeological investigation to be carried out.

2.2 Objectives

- 2.2.1 The principal objectives of the archaeological investigation are:
- to carry out an archaeological survey commensurate with an Historic England Level 2/3-type historic building investigation;
 - to maintain an archaeological watching brief during stripping-out works, and any ground-breaking works inside the building and / or the yard to the rear;
 - to establish whether the cellar of the building was intended as a dwelling;
 - to establish the existence of any features or fittings related to the late 18th-century handloom weaving;
 - to present the results of the historic building investigation and watching brief in a fully illustrated report;
 - to produce an archive for the project;
 - to make the results of the work publicly available.

3. Method Statement

3.1 Historic Building Investigation

3.1.1 The Historic Building Investigation will be conducted following the ClfA Standards and guidance for archaeological building surveys, and will be commensurate with a Historic England Level 2/3-type survey (Historic England 2016).

3.1.2 *Photographic Archive:* a comprehensive photographic archive of the building will be produced utilising a high-resolution digital camera. All frames, excluding general contextual views, will incorporate a graduated metric scale. A plan showing the view point directions will be produced, together with a full photographic index. The archive will comprise the following:

- the external appearance and setting of 35 Liverpool Road, including a mixture of general shots and detailed views taken from perpendicular and oblique angles;
- general shots of the surrounding landscape;
- the general appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas;
- any external or internal detail, structural or architectural, which is relevant to the design, development and use of the building, and which does not show adequately on general photographs;
- any internal detailed views of features of especial architectural interest, fixtures and fittings, or fabric detail relevant to phasing the building.

3.1.3 *Site Drawings:* a set of measured survey floor plans and elevations of the building will be provided by the Client, and will be checked for accuracy as an initial part of the archaeological survey. Any requirement for additional survey will be carried out utilising a combination of rectified photography, laser scan survey, and manual survey techniques. The resultant data will then be used as the basis of CAD drawings, which will be included within the final report as figures.

3.1.4 *Written Description:* a description of the building will be maintained Historic England Level 2/3 standard, as appropriate. The records will be essentially descriptive and provide a systematic account of the origin, development and use of the building, which will include a description of the plan, form, fabric, function, age and development sequence. The written description will comprise:

- an account of the building's past and present use;
- an account of the key architectural features, fixtures and fittings;
- a discussion of the significance of the building;
- identify any inaccessible areas where there is a requirement to undertake a second phase survey (via a watching brief) once those areas are opened out.

3.2 Watching Brief

- 3.2.1 **General Methodology:** all archaeological work shall be conducted following the ClfA Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief. All ground-breaking works within the areas of archaeological interest will be supervised by a suitably experienced archaeologist, and any structural remains will be cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.
- 3.2.2 The areas subject to ground disturbance, and any features of archaeological interest, will be located accurately on a site plan, and recorded by photography, scale drawings, and written descriptions. In the event of significant archaeological remains being encountered during the watching brief, construction works will be halted temporarily to enable an appropriate level of archaeological recording to be carried out.
- 3.2.3 All information identified during the site works will be recorded stratigraphically. Results of the watching brief will be recorded on *pro-forma* context sheets and will be accompanied with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections and high-resolution digital photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features.
- 3.2.4 **Context Recording:** all contexts will be recorded using *pro-forma* sheets, and details will be incorporated into a Harris matrix. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts will be cross-referenced from record sheets using sequential numbering.
- 3.2.5 **Photography:** a full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts will be maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the watching brief will be generated. Photography will be undertaken using high-resolution digital cameras, and in accordance with current Historic England guidance embodied in *Digital Image capture and File Storage Guideline for Best Practice* (Historic England 2015). All frames will include a graduated metric scale.
- 3.2.6 **Planning:** the precise location of all archaeological structures encountered will be surveyed using the survey methodology outlined above. This process will generate scaled plans within AutoCAD, which will then be subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings will be generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required.
- 3.2.7 In the event of more detailed archaeological investigation being required, all excavation will be undertaken in successive, level spits by a suitably experienced archaeologist. The area will then be cleaned to define the extent of any archaeological features, and a base plan produced. All features identified will then be manually excavated down to the required level.

3.3 Health and Safety

- 3.3.1 Full regard will be given to all constraints during the course of the project, and all relevant Health and Safety legislation, CDM, COSHH regulations and codes of practice will be respected. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the



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Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Federation of Archaeological Employers and Managers (FAME), and in accordance with current legislation, including:

- The Health and Safety at Work Act (1974);
- Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1999);
- The Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (2015);
- The Control of Asbestos Regulations (2006);
- Construction (Health, Safety and Welfare) Regulations (1996);
- The Health and Safety (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (2002);
- The Control of Substances Hazardous to Health Regulations (2002);
- The Health and Safety (First-Aid) Regulations (1981);
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order (2005);
- The Provision and Use of Work Equipment Regulations (1998);
- Lifting Operations and Lifting Equipment Regulations (1998).

3.3.2 A risk assessment and will be produced prior to the commencement of any on-site works. Once approved this WSI will be used for the purposes of a method statement.

4. Other Matters

- 4.1 **Project Monitoring:** the aims of monitoring are to ensure that the archaeological works are undertaken within the limits set by the Written Scheme of Investigation, and to the satisfaction of the local planning authority. Monitoring will be carried out by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) on behalf of Manchester City Council.
- 4.2 As a minimum requirement, the local planning authority and GMAAS will be given a minimum of one week's notice of work commencing on site.
- 4.3 GMAAS will be notified of any discoveries of archaeological significance so that site visits can be made, as necessary. Any changes to this agreed WSI will only be made in consultation with the Client and the local planning authority.



5. Report and Archive

5.1 **Report:** a draft copy of a final report will be submitted for comment to the client and GMAAS within eight working weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. This will present the results obtained from the historic building investigation and watching brief, and will include:

- a title page detailing site address, NGR, author/originating body, client's name and address;
- full content's listing;
- a non-technical summary of the findings of the building survey;
- a description of the methodologies used during the fieldwork;
- a description of the findings of the fieldwork;
- detailed plans and elevation drawings of the buildings;
- detailed plan of the ledger stones;
- appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features;
- interpretation of the features, fixtures and fittings identified;
- a consideration of the importance of the buildings in local, regional and national terms;
- recommendations for any further archaeological investigation that is considered merited to mitigate the impact of the development works;
- a catalogue of archive items, including a list of photographs, and details of the final deposition of the project archive.

5.2 **Archive:** the results of the archaeological investigation will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current ClfA guidelines. 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.

5.3 The site archive will be so organised as to be compatible with the other archaeological archives produced in the Manchester area. 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 deposited with the Manchester Local Studies and Archives (subject to their approval).

5.4 The archaeological archive will consist of the following:

- Digital material created from written, drawn or photographed original records;
- Indexes to the drawings;
- Indexes to the photographic archive;
- All born digital material;
- The final project report;
- A list of contents of the archive.

5.5 It is likely that a large element of the project archive will be in digital format. It would thus be appropriate to deposit a copy of the archive generated from the archaeological investigation with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS), through ADS-Easy. Any records that are created in hard copy during the course of the project will be scanned and added to this digital archive.

5.6 **Dissemination:** as a minimum, the information will be finally disseminated through the deposition of the final report with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record; an Adobe Acrobat pdf copy of the report will also be supplied. A hard copy of the report will also be forwarded to the Manchester Local Studies Centre in Manchester Central Library. In the event of any significant discoveries, a higher level of dissemination may be required.

6. Timetable

- 6.1 The historic building investigation will take a two-day period to complete on site.
- 6.2 The duration of the watching brief will be dependant on the contractor's timetable for the stripping out and any subsequent ground works.
- 6.3 A draft report will be submitted to the Client for comment within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork.
- 6.4 The project archive will be deposited with the receiving museum (where applicable) within six months of completion of the final report.



7. Staffing Proposals

- 7.1 The project will be under the overall charge of **Chris Wild BSc** (Built Heritage Consultant). Chris has more than 30 years' continuous experience as a professional archaeologist working across Great Britain, and with projects undertaken in Turkey, France, and Ireland. His major role has been specialised in the recording and analysis of historic buildings of a wide range of types and periods, including medieval castles, manor houses, and farm complexes, early-post medieval housing, and vernacular, industrial, domestic and military structures from the 16th century to the present date.

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