

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT CHESTER ROAD/GREAT JACKSON STREET, MANCHESTER, GREATER MANCHESTER



PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

An Archaeological Evaluation at Chester Road/Great Jackson Street, Manchester, Greater Manchester

Central National Grid Reference: SJ 8327 9736

Site Code: CRM 07

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CONTENTS

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List of Figures and Plates

		page
1.	NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY	1
2.	INTRODUCTION	4
3.	PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES	7
4.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND	10
5.	GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY	15
6.	ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY	16
7.	THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE	20
8.	CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	40
9.	REFERENCES	44
10.	ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND CREDITS	45

APPENDICES

Appendix A	Stratigraphic Matrices
Appendix B	Context Index
Appendix C	Roman Pottery and Ceramic Building Material
Appendix D	Samian Ware
Appendix E	Post-Medieval Pottery
Appendix F	Plates

LIST OF FIGURES AND PLATES

	page
Site location	5
Trench location	6
Trench 1, plan and section	31
Trench 2, plan	32
Trench 3, plan and section	33
Trench 4, plan	34
Trench 5, plan and section	35
Trench 6, plan and section	36
Trench 7, plan and section	37
Trench 8, plan	38
Trench 9, plan and section	39
Roman features, with conjectured edges	44
	Trench location Trench 1, plan and section Trench 2, plan Trench 3, plan and section Trench 4, plan Trench 5, plan and section Trench 6, plan and section Trench 7, plan and section Trench 8, plan Trench 9, plan and section

Plates comprise Appendix F

Plate 1	Trench 3. Working shot, showing feature [24], looking south-west
Plate 2	Trench 5. Excavated portion of ditch [74], looking north-west
Plate 3	Trench 6. View along eastern part of trench, showing structure [102], looking east
Plate 4	Trench 7. View along whole trench, looking north-east
Plate 5	Trench 8. View along whole trench, showing surface [50], looking north-west
Plate 6	Trench 9. Excavated portion of ditch [48], looking south

1. NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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- 1.1 An archaeological field evaluation was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited on land bounded by Chester Road, Great Jackson Street and Owen Street, Manchester. The work was commissioned by Scottish Widows Unit Funds Limited, ahead of a proposal to re-develop the site, the central National Grid Reference of which is SJ 8327 9736.
- 1.2 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined in the Unitary Development Plan of Manchester City Council, and is located to the south of the area occupied by the Roman fort and associated settlement, adjacent to the line of the Roman road to Chester. In addition, the site had previously been occupied by 18th and 19th century buildings, constructed during the rapid expansion of Manchester during the Industrial Revolution, and thus offered potential for the presence of archaeological remains relating to post-medieval development of the city.
- 1.3 The archaeological evaluation was required in order to assess the extent and nature of any archaeological remains at the site and to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. The archaeological evaluation comprised the investigation of nine trial trenches (Trenches 1-9) and the work was undertaken January-February 2007.
- 1.4 At the time of the work, the site was occupied by the disused showroom and associated workshops of Tom Gamer Motors and can be divided into several distinct portions. The current standing building occupies the central and eastern portion of the site, comprising a disused car showroom and large garage/workshop, all of 20th century origin. Trenches 2, 3 and 9 were located within the former workshop and Trench 8 was located below a canopy adjacent to the disused showroom. To the north of the standing building is the former forecourt, fronting Chester Road and occupying ground that slopes down to the north-east. Trenches 1, 6 and 7 were located within this area. Trenches 4 and 5 were sited to the west of the standing building, in a former car park fronting Great Jackson Street. To the south of the standing building is an access road.
- 1.5 Trench 1, located in the north-eastern corner of the site, was positioned to investigate any potential Roman roadside activity and to determine the survival of post-medieval street frontage properties. No evidence of Roman activity was recorded and survival of post-medieval structures was limited. A poorly built wall, possibly part of a basement, was recorded at the east end of the trench and fragments of three other post-medieval brick structures were also exposed. A possible post-medieval yard surface was recorded in the western half of the trench, overlying natural deposits. It is probable that this area of the site had been subject to modern landscaping activity, which may have removed archaeological levels.
- 1.6 Trench 2, located within the current standing building, was sited to investigate Arthur (formerly Henson) Street, an 18th-19th century road that previously traversed the site from SE to NW, and to examine potential remains of post-medieval street frontage properties. The remains of an extensive basement were exposed in the western half of the trench, its eastern limit corresponding closely to the former frontage on Arthur Street and it is likely that this structure once formed part of a public house the Van Tavern shown on the 1st edition of the Ordnance Survey map. Numerous modern intrusions were recorded in the eastern part of the trench, although part of a Roman feature, possibly a pit, survived immediately to the east of the basement wall.

- 1.7 Trench 3, located adjacent to the eastern limit of the standing building, was sited to investigate 18th and 19th century buildings on Bank Court, a former cul-de-sac off Bank Street, a SW-NE aligned road that previously crossed the site. The northern half of the trench comprised building rubble that probably marked modern demolition and infilling of a basement. The southern half of the trench contained a stepped foundation, dating to c. 1830, and some smaller associated brick structures. Immediately to the north of the foundation, and continuing below it, was part of a cut feature, probably a ditch. Very little of this feature could be exposed within the confines of the trench, although the excavated portion did produce Roman pottery.
- 1.8 Trench 4 was sited adjacent and parallel to Great Jackson Street to investigate the development of 19th century properties fronting that road. No evidence of post-medieval structures was encountered, or indeed any features of earlier archaeological periods. Natural sand and gravel was exposed along the entire length of the trench immediately below the modern surface and its associated make-up material.
- 1.9 Trench 5, running parallel and to the east of Trench 4, was sited to examine 19th century buildings that formerly had frontages on Great Jackson Street to the west or Bank Street to the south. Of note was a substantial NW-SE aligned ditch of Roman date recorded in the central part of the trench. This may have been a boundary ditch, possibly part of a field system. Part of a post-medieval brick structure, possibly a cesspit, was exposed in the southern part of the trench.
- 1.10 Trench 6 was sited centrally on the Chester Road frontage to examine the potential for survival of Roman roadside activity, or possibly the road itself, and associated boundary features. Evidence of post-medieval development of this part of the site was also anticipated. No evidence of Roman activity was recorded, but it was clear that extensive modern landscaping had occurred, which had probably impacted upon any potential remains. Four brick structures of post-medieval date were recorded; two narrow walls to the west and a brick-lined well and a fragment of a brick-lined pit to the east.
- 1.11 Trench 7 was sited to examine a former yard area in the north-western corner of the site, as well as to test for any potential Roman roadside activity. Investigation of the trench demonstrated that modern landscaping had also severely disturbed this area. Some evidence of post-medieval occupation was recorded, for example, a substantial basement in the northern part of the trench and a brick-lined drain running through the centre of the trench. None of the ground levels associated with these structures had survived modern landscaping activity.
- 1.12 Trench 8 had been intended to investigate an area to the north of the former Van Tavern, shown as a 'Ruin' on the Ordnance Survey map of 1948. Its position was varied for logistical reasons and the trench actually revealed the remains of the former Arthur Street. The road survived, in what must have been its latest incarnation, in the form of a cambered surface of rectangular setts, laid against a stone slab kerb with a tarmac pavement. There was no evidence of any Roman activity within the investigated area, but the setts had been laid above undisturbed natural sands and gravels, indicating that the modern landscaping seen elsewhere in the northern forecourt may not have affected this area.

- 1.13 Trench 9 was located within the central part of the standing building and was sited to investigate the remains of 18th or 19th century buildings that formerly fronted the north side of Bank Street. Significant evidence of multi-phase Roman activity was recorded in Trench 9, the earliest feature comprising a substantial north-south aligned ditch from which a large fragment of Roman building material was recovered. This was overlain by a developed soil horizon from which several sherds of Roman pottery were recovered; this deposit was recorded throughout the trench, overlying natural deposits. The soil horizon had been truncated by another feature of Roman origin. Two other features of Roman date, both of which may have had structural functions, were also recorded in this trench; a narrow linear feature, possibly the remnants of a sill beam foundation, truncated by a small rectangular pit. In addition, two post-medieval brick structures were exposed in this trench, these being the base of a rectangular brick cesspit, not closely dated, and a shallow brick wall or foundation, to the west. The latter had been built above a trench that contained a salt-glazed waste pipe, indicating that it did not pre-date the mid-19th century.
- In summary, the archaeological evaluation demonstrated that archaeological remains of significance survive within the central portion of the site. The forecourt area to the north of the standing building appears to have been landscaped in the recent past, possibly when the car showroom and garage/workshop were erected. No evidence for Roman roadside activity was found in this area and structures representing post-medieval development of the area survived in only fragmentary form. Significant Roman remains were evident within and to the west of the standing building. Deeply cut features, some characterised as pits and ditches, were recorded in Trenches 2, 3, 5 and 9, and horizontal stratigraphy survived in Trench 9. The size of the fragments of Roman pottery sherds recovered suggests that the site was directly occupied in the Roman period, rather than simply lying on the periphery of a settlement area. Two features that might represent Roman buildings were recorded in Trench 9. Although some post-medieval structural remains were also preserved below the standing building, this period was not as well represented as might have been anticipated.

2. INTRODUCTION

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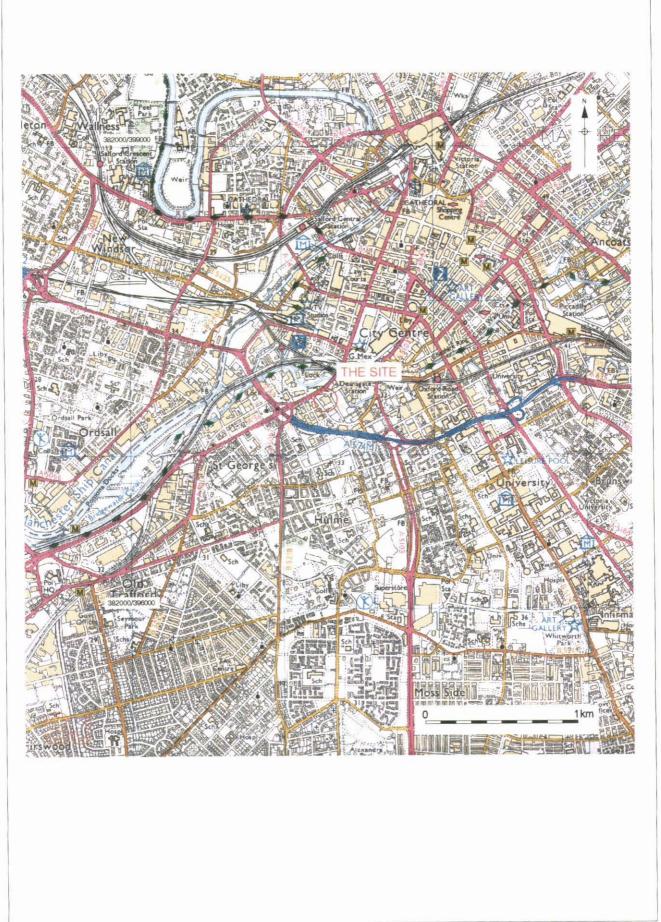
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- 2.1 This report describes the findings of an archaeological field evaluation undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA) in advance of a proposed residential development on land bounded by Great Jackson Street, Chester Road and Owen Street, Manchester. The work was commissioned by Scottish Widows Unit Funds Limited.
- 2.2 The site comprises a roughly rectangular block of land measuring up to c. 80m x c. 75m, covering c. 5,400m². The site, centred at SJ 8327 9736, is bounded by Chester Road to the north, Great Jackson Street to the west, Owen Street to the east and commercial properties to the south (Figures 1 and 2). At the time of the evaluation, the site was occupied by the disused premises of Tom Garner Motors.
- 2.3 The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone, as defined in the Unitary Development Plan of Manchester City Council, and is located to the south of the Roman fort, Mamucium, and settlement at Castlefield, adjacent to the line of the Roman road to Chester. In addition, the site had previously been occupied by 18th and 19th century buildings, constructed during the rapid expansion of Manchester in the Industrial era, and thus also offered potential for the presence of archaeological remains relating to the post-medieval development of the city.
- 2.3 The evaluation comprised nine machine-excavated trenches (Trenches 1-9). The work was undertaken between January 29th and February 13th 2007 under the supervision of Douglas Killock and the project management of Robin Taylor-Wilson.
- 2.4 The evaluation was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI),¹ prepared by PCA and approved by the Assistant County Archaeologist of Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU), ahead of the work. The WSI set out the justification for the project, its objectives and the strategy and procedures to be employed during the fieldwork and post-excavation phases of the project.
- 2.5 The main aim of the evaluation was to inform all relevant parties of the archaeological and historical importance of the proposed development site. This would allow the impact of the development proposals upon the archaeological resource to be assessed, so that an appropriate mitigation strategy could be formulated, as required, by Manchester City Council.
- At the time of writing, the site archive from the evaluation, comprising written, drawn, and photographic records and a small assemblage of artefactual material, is housed at the Northern Office of PCA, Unit N19a Tursdale Business Park, Durham, DH6 5PG. When complete, the project archive will be deposited at The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, under the site code CRM 07.
- 2.7 The Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) reference number is: preconst1-24384.

¹ PCA 2006b.



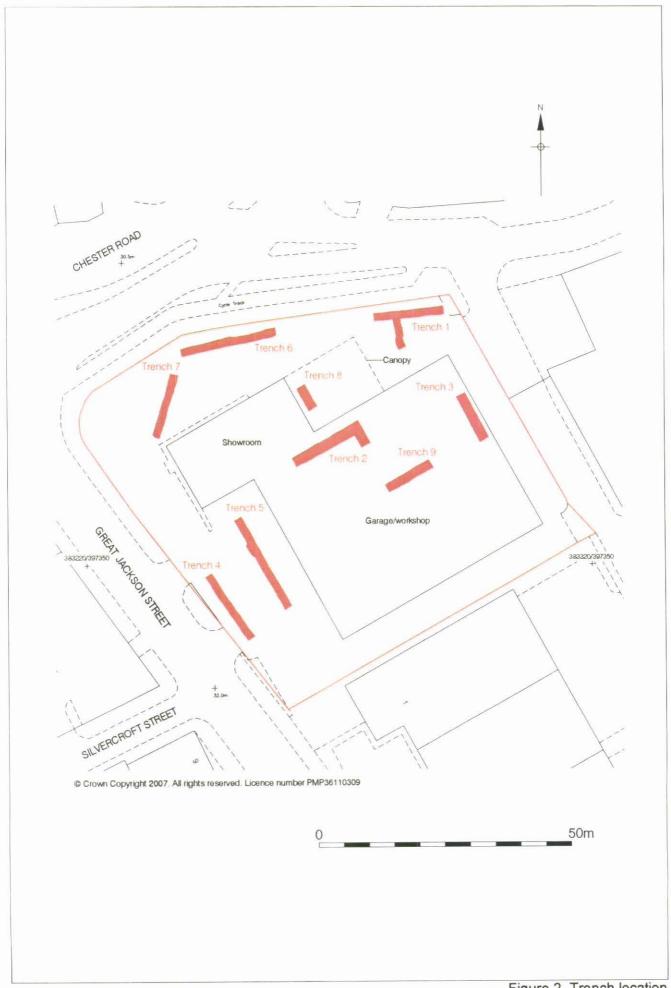


Figure 2. Trench location Scale 1:750

3. PLANNING BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

3.1 Planning Background

- 3.1.1 The archaeological evaluation herein described was undertaken as a planning requirement ahead of a proposed residential development on land bounded by Great Jackson Street, Chester Road and Owen Street, Manchester. A planning application (reference number 077114/FO/2005/C3) was submitted to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), Manchester City Council, for mixed-use development proposal involving construction of multi-storey residential units, the installation of associated underground services and landscaping.
- 3.1.2 The need for early consultation in the planning process in order to determine the impact of development schemes upon the archaeological resource is identified in the document 'Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16).². The site lies within an Archaeological Priority Zone as defined in the Unitary Development Plan of Manchester City Council, therefore the re-development proposals came under the scrutiny of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU), the body responsible for archaeological development control in the city.
- 3.1.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) of the site was undertaken in 2006 by PCA.³

 The DBA formulated a baseline consideration of the archaeological potential of the site. It lies adjacent to the line of the Roman road to Chester and just to the south of the site of the Roman fort and the associated civilian settlement (*vicus*), within the Castlefield part of the city centre. As well as the potential for Roman period activity, the site had previously been occupied by 18th and 19th century buildings, the result of the expansion of the city following the Industrial Revolution, and thus had potential for important post-medieval remains.
- 3.1.4 GMAU, in its capacity as archaeological advisor to the LPA, advised that archaeological interests associated with the re-development should be secured through two planning conditions:
 - The first condition required investigation and recording of archaeological remains prior to re-development. No development should take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works in accordance with a written scheme of investigation (WSI) that has been approved by the LPA.
 - The second condition requires that provision should be made for the commemoration of any archaeological remains that might be recorded prior to re-development.
- 3.1.5 In April 2006, PCA was commissioned to prepare the WSI for an archaeological trial trenching evaluation at the site. The WSI was submitted to the GMAU and, following discussions with PCA, a scheme of work was agreed.⁴ The WSI set out the justification for the project, its objectives and the strategy and procedures to be employed during the fieldwork and post-excavation phases of the project.

² Department of the Environment 1990.

³ PCA 2006a.

3.2 Research Objectives

- 3.2.1 The overall aim of the evaluation was to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. The aim was to gather information to allow an informed decision to be made regarding the future treatment of any remains and any mitigatory measures, such as sympathetic foundation design, and/or further archaeological work, as appropriate in advance of, or during, development.
- 3.2.2 The overall objectives of the evaluation were:
 - · to determine or confirm the general nature of any archaeological remains present;
 - to determine or confirm the approximate date or date range of any remains by means of artefactual or other evidence;
 - · to determine or confirm the approximate extent of any remains;
 - · to determine the condition and state of preservation of any remains;
 - to determine the degree of complexity of the horizontal and/or vertical stratigraphy present;
 - to determine or confirm the likely range, quality and quantity of any artefactual evidence present;
 - to determine the potential of the site to provide palaeoenvironmental and/or economic evidence and the forms in which such evidence may be present.
- 3.2.3 More specifically, archaeological remains from the Roman, post-medieval and modern periods were anticipated at the site, given its location. Archaeological evidence from the site, therefore, had the potential to illuminate the Roman and post-medieval history of Manchester, which would be of, at least, local importance.
 - In terms of the Roman period, the extent of the civilian settlement associated with the fort is not well defined and the evaluation offered an opportunity to examine the nature of any Roman landuse of the area. Human burial was forbidden within Roman towns and cemeteries tend to cluster along the main arterial routes leading into them. The location of the site adjacent to the road to Chester made it particularly likely that roadside burials would be encountered, if the site lay beyond the southern limit of Roman settlement. There was also the possibility of unearthing the remains of the Roman road itself, the line of which is not clearly established.
 - In terms of the post-medieval period, the map regression exercise undertaken for the DBA demonstrated that the site was representative of many modern cities in its rapid development in the Industrial era from open ground to densely occupied small streets surrounded by terraced housing with associated shops and businesses. It is also a good example of the consolidation of urban plots into larger units when smaller roads ceased to exist.

3.2.4 Additional objectives of the evaluation were:

- to compile a site archive consisting of all site and project documentary and photographic records, as well as artefactual and palaeoenvironmental material recovered;
- to compile a report that contains an assessment of the nature and significance of the stratigraphic, artefactual, and palaeoenvironmental data.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

This archaeological and historical background to the site was extensively researched for the aforementioned DBA and much of the detail contained below has been extracted from that document.

The prehistoric eras

4.1 There is no known prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site.

The Roman period

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- 4.2 The site lies on the south side of the River Medlock, now for the most part covered over, but formerly a meandering east-west tributary of the River Irwell. On the north side of the Medlock, overlooking the confluence with the Irwell, a Roman fort was founded in the last quarter of the 1st century AD in the area now known as Castlefield. The site is thought to lie within, or on the southern boundary of, the ancillary settlement, *vicus*, that developed on the periphery of the fort. With this in mind, the development of the military garrison could be crucial to understanding Roman period occupation at the current site.
- 4.3 The present understanding of the fort and *vicus* at Manchester (*Mamucium*) identifies four main phases of development.
 - Period 1: c. AD 79 c. AD 90
 The first fort was probably square, with a turf rampart and timber north gate. It was c.1.2 ha in size, thus being capable of holding a 480-man infantry unit. Foundation is believed to have been associated with the campaigning of Agricola in AD 79.
 - Period 2: c. AD 90 c. AD 160
 The ramparts were strengthened, the north gate replaced and the defensive ditch system altered, whilst buildings and industrial areas were constructed within the northern vicus. The period appears to have ended with the demolition of the existing fort and possibly the abandonment of the northern vicus.
 - Period 3: c. AD 160 c. AD 200
 The fort was rebuilt in timber and extended further to the west, increasing its size to c.
 2 ha. Excavations at Duke Street in the 1980s suggest that the expansion in size was to accommodate additional granaries, with the fort possibly serving as a supply depot.
 - Period 4: c. AD 200 c. AD 400

 The fort was rebuilt in stone in the early 3rd century and the excavated evidence indicates that it remained occupied to the end of Roman rule in the early 5th century. Archaeological evidence also suggests that the vicus contracted in size during this period with the construction of outer defensive ditches that encroached on the preexisting settlement.
- The site lay close to, if not on, the line of the Roman road to Chester, which ran from the Roman settlement area to the south-west. Recent research suggests that the southern *vicus* may have extended onto the south side of the Medlock, towards modern Chester Road, and possibly a short distance beyond. Archaeological investigations at Castlefield Quay, to the north of the current site, perhaps give the strongest support for this hypothesis.

- Whilst there are also numerous antiquarian and later findspots in the vicinity of the site, the provenance of artefacts retrieved during 17th-19th centuries has been acknowledged as being generally poor. An 18th century antiquarian, John Whitaker, observed the sluice of a water mill exposed by floodwater, comprising a long rock-cut tunnel 25 yards long (c. 23m), but evidently continuing, and 1 yard wide and deep (c. 1m). This was interpreted as being of probable Roman origin and a map by the 19th century antiquarian Charles Roeder illustrated this as lying only a short distance to the east of the current site.
- Roeder also described the discovery, in the vicinity of Chester Road, of inscribed building stone and tile, such material implying the presence of well-appointed buildings in the vicinity of the site. Roeder concluded that the discovered evidence of Roman activity on the south side of the River Medlock was sufficient, at the time, to indicate Roman occupation in this area.
- 4.7 Roeder also suggested that the areas of Gaythorne and Hulme, on the two banks of the Medlock, may have been populated by the higher ranks of Roman society as these locations were situated on rising ground with better drainage, with ready access to the river. In summary, therefore, antiquarian accounts indicate that there is a good possibility that the Roman vicus extended as far south as the site.

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- 4.8 Of perhaps the greatest significance, in terms of the location of the current site, was the discovery during the 19th century, close to Chester Road, of three sculptures attributed to the worship of the god Mithras, a god closely associated with the military. The presence of Mithraic sculptures close to Chester Road could suggest that a dedicated temple stood in the vicinity of the current site. Roeder also noted the discovery of a fragmentary centurial stone, bearing an inscription naming the Frisian cohort, which was in Britain in the early 2nd century AD. Three altars, two bearing dedications related to the military, were also found during the 19th century re-development of the area.
- A number of Roman roads pass through Castlefield area. Of most relevance to the current site is the road that ran between *Mamucium* and *Condate* (Northwich). The alignment of modern Chester Road is such that it probably represents, or respects, the original line of this Roman road. However, an archaeological evaluation south of Chester Road, to the west of the current site, found no evidence for the Roman road. Nevertheless, it remains a possibility that peripheral elements of the road corridor could lie within the site. Charles Roeder reported that 18th century investigations by John Whitaker described the road to *Condate* as '....issuing from the eastern fort gate then winding along at the less precipitous bank higher up at the old ford of the Medlock, having Great Jackson Street on the left..'. The road was said to be 14 yards (12.80m) wide and 1½ yards (1.37m) deep where it exited from the east side of the fort. Roeder noted that, even by Whitaker's time, all traces of the Roman road in the immediate neighbourhood of Hulme were already obliterated. Roeder also reported that a drawing of a section of the road showed that it was between 3 to 4 feet thick (0.91-1.21m) and was formed of a layer of gravel boulders, a layer of red gravel, a thick bed of gorse and brushwood.

- As recently highlighted in the 'North West Regional Archaeological Framework Romano-British Research Agenda', the outskirts ofproto-urban settlements and vici are likely to produce evidence of cemeteries'. Indeed cemetery areas, containing both burials and cremations, have previously been found a short distance to the north-east of the current site. It is entirely possible that Roman period cemetery activity could be present at the site, possibly lying, as suggested above, on the periphery of the Roman road corridor.
- 4.11 Charles Roeder noted, in 1832, the discovery of a tile tomb on the south side of the River Medlock evidently near Great Jackson Street, close by the Roman road to Chester. The coffin was of oak and enclosed in a casing of flanged tiles. Roeder noted that several other Roman sepulchral stones had been found in this area. Roeder's map of Roman Manchester shows the south side of Chester Road annotated with 'Tombs', only a short distance to the west of the current site.

The Saxon and medieval periods

4.12 There is no evidence that the site was occupied in the Saxon or medieval periods. The focus of Manchester moved northward towards the cathedral area following the abandonment of the Roman fort in the early 5th century and there is nothing to suggest that the settlement extended as far south as the study site.

The post-medieval period

- 4.13 Modern development of Castlefield began in the 1760s with the construction of the Bridgewater Canal which terminated as Castlefield Basin to the north of the current site. Later in the 18th century, the role of Castlefield as an industrial transportation centre was secured by the construction of the Rochdale Canal to adjoin the earlier Bridgewater Canal.
- 4.14 Buildings in the vicinity of the site attest to this phase of development with the offices of the Manchester Ship Canal Company sited immediately to the west of the site. Map regression demonstrates that the site was developed during the 19th century and a number of listed townhouses standing on the opposite side of Chester Road may provide parallels for the type of building techniques employed during this period. The remains of occupation levels, terraced dwellings and industrial structures have been encountered during archaeological investigations to the west and north-east of the site and demonstrate that structural remains of buildings, both domestic and industrial, associated with the Industrial Revolution in Manchester form an important part of the archaeological record.
- 4.15 In the early 19th century, large quantities of gravel were excavated from within and around the fort and transported by barge along the Bridgewater Canal. Whilst it is not known if 19th century gravel extraction was undertaken at the current site, should any such activity have occurred, previously existing archaeological remains will have been impacted upon.

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⁵Philpott and Brennand 2005.

- 4.16 Green's map dating to 1787-94 shows the site to be occupied by agricultural land. A distinct NE-SW field boundary crosses the southern portion of the site and a series of parallel NW-SE boundaries appear to delineate narrow plots fronting Chester Road. A small building is shown towards the north-eastern corner of the site and this may have been the dwelling probably a farmhouse of the occupier 'John Entinslo(?) Esq.'
- 4.17 Lewis's map of 1788 may depict a landscape of greater antiquity than its date of issue suggests. Again this indicates that, prior to the 19th century, the site was in use as agricultural land, with two buildings in the north-eastern corner, one of these being that shown on Green's map. NW-SE plot boundaries suggested on Green's map in the north-eastern part of the site are more clearly evident on Lewis's map. However, to the west the land is sub-divided by a series of NE-SW boundaries into plots fronting Jackson's Lane, which bounds the site to the west.
- 4.18 By Pigot's map of 1819, the essentially agricultural character of the site had evidently been all but lost. A NW-SE road, Arthur Street, divided the site into two portions and buildings had been erected along the Chester Road frontage and the northern parts of Jackson's Lane and Arthur Street. Owen Street bounded the site to the east.

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- 4.19 Banck's map of 1831 indicates extensive development of the site occurred during the 1820s. Much of the site had been infilled with housing, including along the Jackson's Lane frontage to the west, along both sides of the central Arthur Street and along the Owen Street frontage to the east. A broad, additional road, shown as Bank Street on later maps, crossed the southern portion of site, running from the south-western corner on a SW-NE alignment. The map does not name/number individual properties within the site but it is probable that the buildings represent dwellings associated with early 19th century urbanisation, required by rapid industrialisation. Of note, however, is an open area presumably a yard off Chester Road in the north-western corner of the site.
- The Ordnance Survey 1st edition map of 1844-49 shows much the same layout as the Banck's map, but with greater detail of the buildings and associated open areas. The open yard in the north-western corner of the site is annotated 'Timber Yard', with a cistern shown on its eastern side. To the rear of the buildings on the (renamed) Great Jackson Street frontage were smaller structures, accessed through narrow alleys and similar in size to the back-to-back buildings in the 'Little Ireland' area, to the east of the site. To the rear of the buildings fronting Arthur Street were further small structures around two courts, Arthur Court No.1 and Arthur Court No.2, both accessed by alleyways. One of the larger buildings on the west side of Arthur Street is annotated 'The Van Tavern'. To the rear of buildings fronting Owen Street is Bank Court.

- Slater's Directory of Manchester 1848, lists a variety of artisans and professionals occupying the buildings at the site. An earthenware dealer, school teachers, provision dealers, butcher, cashier, surveyor, professor of music, surveyor and silk merchant lived on the east side of Great Jackson Street. Fronting Chester Road were shopkeepers, such as a drapers, butchers, a watchmaker, a milliner, a newsvendor, a beer retailer, and other occupations, such as a blacksmith, a cooper, a wheelwright and a picture frame maker. Similar residents were living along Owen Street, including an engineer, an artist, an agent, a dressmaker, a joiner, two smiths, a bricklayer and an organ builder. Evidently the more prosperous shopkeepers and tradespeople lived in street frontage properties, whilst the poorer members of society, including lesser tradespeople, occupied smaller cottages to the rear, arranged around small courtyards. Each cottage was probably occupied by more than one family, with some families possibly occupying only a single room. Cellar rooms, with no natural light and dampness, formed wretched living spaces for some of the poorest members of early-mid 19th century Manchester.
- 4.22 Slater's Directory of Manchester for the years 1863 and 1877-78, records similar businesses along Chester Road and Great Jackson Street, a variety of tradespeople and lesser professions. The Ordnance Survey 2nd edition of 1893 shows that there had been further infilling of open areas in the north-western and south-eastern parts of the site. The premises formerly known as The Van Tavern, had evidently expanded, but was annotated simply as an unnamed inn.

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- 4.23 The Ordnance Survey map sequence shows that there was relatively little alteration in the layout of the site until after the Second World War. The 1948 edition shows there had been clearance of many buildings at the site. The southern part of the Great Jackson Street frontage, both sides of Bank Street, the Owen Street/Chester Road corner and the western portion of the Chester Road frontage had all been cleared of buildings. The inn is no longer named and a 'Ruin' occupies the plot immediately to its north. A 'Boatman's Home' occupies a building at the Chester Road/Great Jackson corner, and an 'Engineering Works' and a 'Plastic Moulding Works' are shown in the south-western quarter and central eastern portion of the site, respectively. The Ordnance Survey map edition of 1953 shows little change to the site other then the addition of a number of small buildings in its north-western portion, the removal of the ruin and the change of Arthur Street to Henson Street as a place name.
- 4.24 The 1959 Ordnance Survey map shows that most of the buildings at the corner of Chester Road and Henson Street had been demolished, probably during the issue of the map. By this time, Bank Street had been renamed Banforth Street. The 1968 edition of the Ordnance Survey map suggests that the site was largely unoccupied by this date with the only remaining buildings being those associated with a 'Depot' in the eastern half of the site. It is likely that Banforth Street, Henson Street and Owen Street had effectively ceased to exist by this date. By 1985 all evidence of the roads that once divided the site had disappeared and the site was occupied by one large building. The most recent Ordnance Survey mapping show the site occupied by the premises of Tom Garner Motors.

5. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

5.1 Geology

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- 5.1.1 Geologically, the Manchester and Salford region straddles the southern part of the Carboniferous South Lancashire Coaffield and the northern part of the Permo-Triassic Cheshire basin. To the south and west, the Carbioniferous Coal Measures are overlain by Permo-Triassic rocks of the Sherwood Sandstone Group.
- 5.1.2 Quaternary superficial deposits laid down during the Devensian glaciation cover most of the area, reaching thicknesses of more than 40m. These include glacial till (pebbly and sandy clay), glaciolacustrine deposits (laminated clays and sands) and glaciological outwash (sands and gravels). Post-glacial deposits include alluvium, river terrace gravels and peat. The site lies on the south side of the valley of River Medlock, towards its confluence with the River Irwell and river terrace deposits, mostly sandy gravel, have been identified along parts of the valley of the Medlock, towards Manchester city centre.
- 5.1.3 Extensive areas of made ground are known in the area, with many rivers of the area having been culverted and their valleys infilled during and since the Industrial Revolution. This is a fate suffered by the Medlock along much of its course, as well as its various tributaries. Where the Medlock joins the Irwell, to the west of the site, it then enters the Manchester Ship Canal.

5.2 Topography

- 5.2.1 To the south-west of the site, street level on the junction of Great Jackson Street and Silvercroft Street, is at c. 32.0m OD. There is some variation in ground level across the site. The central area covered by the present standing building has a concrete slab which stands fairly uniformly at c. 31.80m OD, while ground level on the access route to the south of the standing building is only slightly higher. The surface of the former car park to the west of the former workshop/garage slopes down generally to the north, standing at c. 31.65m OD in the south-western corner of the site and at c. 31.20m OD to the north of Trench 5. In the north-western corner of the site, the forecourt surface lies at c. 31.20m OD, falling significantly to c. 30.0m OD towards the north-eastern corner of the site, this being the lowest lying part of the site.
- 5.2.2 In sum, the current ground surface at the site evidently reflects both the true topography of the site, occupying relatively high ground above the southern valley side of River Medlock, and the effects of modern landscaping prior to insertion of the floor slab of the standing building. Off the site, the ground surface falls away generally to the east and to the north, towards Chester Road.

6. ARCHAEOLOGICAL METHODOLOGY

6.1 Fieldwork

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- 6.1.1 The archaeological evaluation was undertaken in accordance with the relevant standard and guidance document of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).⁶ PCA is an IFA 'Registered Archaeological Organisation'. A WSI for the evaluation was submitted to GMAU and, following discussions with the Assistant County Archaeologist and minor modifications to the scope of work, the document was approved by the LPA.
- 6.1.2 The evaluation was designed to ascertain whether there were any archaeological constraints that could affect the proposed development. The evaluation comprised a sample of c. 5% of the proposed development site, taking the form of series of trenches covering a total area of c. 270 square metres.
- 6.1.3 Nine trial trenches (Trenches 1-9) were investigated, their locations are shown on Figure 2.

 Details of the trenches investigated are as follows:
 - Trench 1 14m x 2m with a 5m southerly extension towards the centre of the trench.
 Orientated approximately east-west and located in the north-eastern corner of the site, on the former forecourt area. Sited to investigate any potential Roman roadside activity and to determine the survival of post-medieval street frontage properties.
 - Trench 2 15m x 2m, with a 2m southerly extension on its eastern end. Orientated ENE-WSW, located in the large workshop/garage part of the standing building. Sited to investigate the location of Arthur (formerly Henson) Street and to examine the remains of post-medieval properties that had fronted the road.
 - Trench 3 10m x 2m. Orientated NNW-SSE and located within the same
 workshop/garage as Trench 2, towards the eastern limit of the site. Sited to investigate
 18th and 19th century buildings that formerly fronted onto Bank Court, a narrow culde-sac that had once run north to south from the former Bank Street.
 - Trench 4 15m x 2m. Orientated NNW-SSE and located in the open area to the west of the standing building. The location of this trench was altered from that proposed due to the presence of live services. The new position was, however, still adjacent and parallel to Great Jackson Street and maintained the original purpose of investigating the development of properties fronting the road in the 19th century.
 - Trench 5 20m x 2m. Orientated NNW-SSE and, like Trench 4, located in the open area to the west of the standing building, but closer to the west wall of the workshop/garage. This location was intended to examine the potential remains of 19th century buildings that had frontages on Great Jackson Street to the west or Bank Street to the south.

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1999.

- Trench 6 19.20m x 2m. Orientated roughly east-west and located in the open area to
 the north of the standing building, in a central position adjacent to Chester Road. Sited
 to examine any potential survival of Roman roadside activity, or possibly the road itself
 and associated boundary features. Also sited to investigate post-medieval
 development of this part of the site, part of which is known to have been utilised as a
 vard.
- Trench 7 12.90m x 2m. Orientated NNE-SSW and located in the western part of the
 forecourt area to the north of the standing building. This trench was moved slightly to
 the north from its intended position and the length of the trench shortened in order to
 avoid a live service. Sited to examine the aforementioned yard area and to investigate
 any potential Roman roadside activity.
- Trench 8 5m x 2m. Orientated NNW-SSE and located to the east of the former car showroom and below a forecourt canopy. This trench had to be moved to the east of its intended location due to the presence of an unmapped extension at the east end of the car showroom, which precluded machine access. The trench could not, therefore, examine the ruined building shown on the 1948 Ordnance Survey map.
- Trench 9 10m x 2m. Orientated ENE-WSW and located internally in the same workshop/garage as Trenches 2 and 3. Sited to examine the remains of 18th or 19th century buildings that had once had a frontage on the north side of Bank Street.
- 6.1.4 All trenches were opened using a 180° back-acting mechanical excavator. Hard surfaces were broken out with a hydraulic breaker fitted to the machine. At all locations, a non-toothed 'ditching' bucket was utilised and the work took place under the direct guidance of the supervising archaeologist. The modern overburden in each trench was stripped down in spits to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon or natural deposits. Spoil was mounded beside each trench. The archaeological team undertook all further excavation using appropriate hand tools.
- 6.1.5 Subsequent excavation and recording was undertaken in accordance with recognised archaeological practice and following the methodology set out in PCA's 'Field Recording Manual'.⁷ Following machine clearance, the sections and the base of each trench were carefully examined. Excavated features and stratigraphic deposits were recorded in both section and plan, drawn at an appropriate scale. Each trench was planned relative to a survey baseline established along its main axis. Each baseline was located relative to the Ordnance Survey National Grid as part of associated geotechnical investigations.
- 6.1.6 Archaeological remains were recorded using a 'single context' recording system. Features, deposits and structures were recorded on *pro forma* context record sheets.
- 6.1.7 Within appropriate archaeological horizons, partial excavation, half-sectioning, the recovery of dating evidence, or cleaning and recording of deposits was preferred to full excavation, and was practiced wherever possible. Where necessary, intrusive modern features were removed completely by hand prior to the investigation of earlier strata in order to remove the risk of contaminating archaeological deposits.

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⁷ PCA 1999.

- 6.1.8 Photographic recording employed colour transparency and black and white print formats. The photographic record forms part of the project archive.
- 6.1.9 Three Temporary Bench Marks (TBMs) were established on the site using an Ordnance Survey Bench Mark, value 32.21m above Ordnance Datum (OD), located on the street frontage of 378 to 380 Deansgate. The TBMs had values of 31.13m OD, 31.37m OD and 30.51m OD.

6.2 Post-excavation

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- 6.2.1 The site data is represented by written, drawn and photographic records. Post-excavation work involved checking and collating site records, grouping contexts, enhancing matrices and phasing the stratigraphic data (Appendix A). A written summary of the archaeological sequence was then compiled, as described below in Section 7.
- 6.2.2 The contents of the written, graphic and photographic archive are quantified below:

Item	No.	Sheets
Context register	3	3
Context sheets	121	121
Section register	1	1
Section drawings	7	14
Plans	16	32

Table 1. Quantification of paper archive

ltem .	No.	Sheets
Colour slide register	2	2
Colour slides	30	2
Monochrome print register	1	1
Monochrome prints	30	4
Monochrome negatives	30	1

Table 2. Quantification of photographic archive

- 6.2.3 The artefactual material from the evaluation comprised an assemblage of Roman and post-medieval pottery and a single large fragment of Roman building material. No specialist stabilization of any recovered material was required. All material was washed, dried, marked, conserved and packaged, as appropriate, and according to relevant guidelines. Specialist assessment of the material was undertaken as part of the post-excavation phase of work (Appendices C, D and E). No other categories of inorganic artefactual material were represented.
- 6.2.4 The palaeoenvironmental sampling strategy for the project was to recover bulk samples where appropriate, from well-dated (where possible), stratified deposits covering the main periods or phases of occupation and the range of feature types represented, with specific reference to the objectives of the evaluation. In the event, no suitable deposits were identified for sampling but any further work should seek to fulfil these conditions taking into account the extremely acidic nature of the local soils, which results in very poor preservation of biological remains.

⁸ Watkinson and Neal 1998; UKIC 1983.

- 6.2.5 The project archive to date, comprising written, graphic and photographic records (including all material generated electronically during post-excavation) and all recovered artefacts from the evaluation has been packaged for long-term curation according to relevant guidelines. When complete the project archive will be deposited at The Manchester Museum, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL, under the site code CRM 07. The depositional requirements of the receiving body will be met in full.
- 6.2.6 Data will be prepared for accession to the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record.
- 6.2.7 The Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) reference number for the evaluation is: preconst1-24384.

⁹ UKIC 1990.

7. THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SEQUENCE

Discrete stratigraphic entities (e.g. a cut, a fill, a deposit) were assigned unique and individual 'context' numbers, and these are indicated in the following text as [*]. The archaeological sequence has been described by broad stratigraphic phases.

7.1 Phase 1 - Natural Deposits

- 7.1.1 One or more deposits representing natural sub-strata were exposed in the base of each of Trenches 1-9. These varied considerably across the site, generally comprising weakly cemented sand and gravel in the southern portion of the site through to looser sands and silts with stiff clays to the north. Such deposits are broadly consistent with the underlying glacial and post-glacial geology of the area, as outlined in Section 5.
- 7.1.2 The earliest exposed material in Trench 1, comprised a loose red sand, [86], recorded across the western portion of the trench sloping down from a level of 29.82m OD in the west to 29.64m OD in the east. This was overlain by stiff reddish brown clay, [85], up to 0.30m thick, recorded at a highest surviving level of 30.16m OD in the east, but almost certainly truncated horizontally by landscaping activity (Figure 3).
- 7.1.3 Similar sand and clay deposits were encountered in Trench 6, to the west of Trench 1. Loose red sand, recorded as deposit [100], was exposed in the east end of the trench at a maximum height of 29.67m OD. Stiff clay, recorded as layer [99], survived to a height of 30.45m OD in the west and 30.32m OD in the east (Figure 8). The clay extended across the entire trench and formed a substantial deposit, up to 0.80 thick, in this area.
- 7.1.4 A similar sequence of natural deposition was evident in Trench 7, located in the western portion of the forecourt (Figure 9). The earliest exposed natural deposit, [78], comprised a small patch of cemented sand and gravel, recorded at a height of 30.06m OD in the southern part of the trench. This was overlain by loose red sand, recorded as deposit [77], exposed only in a small area in the southern part of the trench and recorded at a maximum height of 30.06m OD. The stiff reddish brown clay, recorded as layer [76], spread across the full extent of the trench, surviving to a height of 30.41m OD in the south and 30.29m OD in the north.
- 7.1.5 The earliest exposed deposit within Trench 8, layer [121], comprised cemented sand and gravel, recorded at a maximum height of 30.89m OD across the eastern part of the trench (Figure 10). This material was exposed below the surface of a former road, Arthur Street, and has been interpreted as being compacted natural sand and gravel.
- 7.1.6 Similar, if not identical, natural deposits were recorded in Trenches 2, 4, and 5. In Trench 2, located within the standing building, the sub-stratum, [113], comprised loose sandy silt with cemented sand and gravel, throughout the eastern part of the trench (Figure 4). This deposit survived at a maximum height of 31.02m OD. Generally looser sand and gravel deposits were recorded externally, in Trenches 4 and 5. In Trench 5, layer [89] extended across the trench and survived to a maximum height of 31.33m OD, lying immediately below the make-up layer for the existing surface (Figure 7). In Trench 4, layer [117] was also recorded across the extent of the trench, again lying immediately below the modern surface and its make-up (Figure 6). This deposit sloped down from 31.28m OD in the south to 31.03m OD in the north, probably reflecting both the natural topography and subsequent landscaping.

- 7.1.7 Notably diverse natural deposits were evident in Trenches 9 and 3, both of which were located within the standing building. In Trench 9, the earliest exposed deposit, [54], comprised a cemented layer of sand and gravel, evident in the sides of a Phase 2 ditch, [48]. This gravel can be reasonably equated to that found in Trenches 2, 4, 5, and 8. It was overlain by a deposit, [122], comprising firm, almost white fine sandy silt, recorded throughout the trench with the exception of the western end, which was not reduced to this level (Figure 11). The highest and lowest recorded heights of layer [122] were 31.15m OD and 31.09m OD, respectively.
- 7.1.8 Three distinct natural deposits were recorded in Trench 3. A stiff grey clay deposit, [116], was recorded in the base of the northern end of the trench (Figure 5). It had been heavily truncated by modern activity, destroying any relationship with other layers, natural or otherwise, and was recorded at a maximum height of 30.53m OD. A layer, [115], comprising loose yellowish red sand was recorded in the central western part of the trench. The latest natural deposit, [9], was a sandy clay in composition, recorded in section at a maximum height of 30.95m OD (Figure 5). This deposit equates to layer [114], recorded in plan immediately adjacent to the section.

Trench	Context	Туре	Maximum
1	[85]	Stiff, mid reddish brown, clay	30.16m OD
2	[113]	Loose, light yellowish red, sandy silt with weakly cemented, mid orange, sand & gravel	31.02m OD
3	[9]	Firm, light greyish brown, sandy clay	30.95m OD
4	[117]	Variously compacted, light brown, sand & gravel	31.28m OD
5	[89]	Loose, light brownish yellow, silty sand with weakly cemented, mid brownish yellow, sand & gravel	31.33m OD
6	[99]	Stiff, dark reddish brown, clay	30.45m OD
7	[76]	Stiff, mid reddish brown, clay	30.41m OD
8	[121]	Weakly cemented, mid yellowish red, sand & gravel	30.89m OD
9	[122]	Firm, light brownish white, fine sandy silt	31.15m OD

Table 3. Natural deposits, highest recorded levels

7.2 Phase 2 - Roman

7.2.1 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

7.2.1.1 In Trench 2, a small part of a Roman feature, [37], was recorded in the central part of the trench, truncated to the west and extending beyond the limit of excavation to the south. The extant part was irregularly shaped and measured 0.50m east-west x > 0.50m north-south x 0.35m deep and may represent part of a pit. Its single fill, [36], comprised sandy clay, from which Roman pottery dated to the mid-late 2nd century was recovered.

7.2.2 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

- 7.2.2.1 Part of the eastern side of a NW-SE aligned feature, [24], measuring >0.75m x >0.40m x >0.40m deep was recorded in the central part of Trench 3, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the west and running below more recent deposits to the south (Plate 1). Pottery dated to the mid-late 2nd century was recovered from its sandy clay fill, [23]. The feature was steep-sided and the base could not be exposed within the limits of excavation. Although very little of this feature was exposed within the trench, making definite interpretation problematic, the preferred interpretation is that this formed part of a linear feature, possibly a ditch, of Roman origin.
- 7.2.2.2 To the north of ditch [24] was a fragment of a feature, [26], truncated to the north by a modern intrusion and extending beyond the limit of excavation to the west. Its maximum recorded dimensions were 0.29m north-south x 0.30m east-west x 0.19m deep. Although only a small fragment of this feature was exposed, it may have been part of a circular pit. Its fill, [25], comprised dark brownish grey sandy clay which produced no dateable artefactual material. However, the absence of post-medieval or modern material is suggestive of an early origin for the feature.

7.2.3 Trench 5 (Figure 7)

7.2.3.1 A NW-SE aligned ditch, [74], traversed the central part of Trench 5 and its maximum recorded dimensions in plan were >5.92m x 0.91m wide x 0.36m deep, extending beyond the limits of excavation to both east and west. In profile, the ditch had steeply sloping concave sides and a slightly concave base (Plate 2). In section, the ditch survived to a maximum level of c. 31.20m OD with a maximum depth of c. 0.65m, and proportionately wider dimensions than the portion excavated in plan. The fill of the ditch, [73], comprised grey clayey silty sand from which pottery dated to the mid 3rd century was recovered. Of particular note was a piece of Nene Valley Colour-Coated Ware, a high status tableware produced in the Peterborough region, and an amphora sherd from southern Spain.

7.2.4 Trench 9 (Figure 11)

7.2.4.1 A sequence of deposits dating to the Roman period was recorded in Trench 9. The earliest Roman feature comprised a substantial, roughly north-south aligned, ditch, [48], 2.20m wide x 0.90m deep and extending beyond the limits of excavation to the north and south. The ditch may also have turned to the east at the right angles, possibly representing a bifurcation of the feature, although it was not possible to prove this within the limits of excavation. A sondage was excavated through the ditch to record its profile and recover dating evidence (Plate 6). The ditch was broadly U-shaped in profile, with the eastern side of more irregular profile. Three distinct fills were revealed and the primary fill, [53], comprised dark greyish brown sandy silt, overlain by light greyish brown sandy silt, fill [52]. No artefactual material was recovered from either of these deposits.

- 7.2.4.2 The upper fill, [51], was very similar in composition to an overlying developed soil horizon, so much so that no distinct boundary could be discerned between them. No pottery was recovered from fill [51], but it did produce a large fragment of a thick Roman tile. The tile is not closely dateable, but is a well-recognised Roman form. The paucity of finds within this ditch suggests that it did not stand open for any length of time as, had it done so, it would almost certainly have been used for the disposal of domestic waste. The ditch could represent a short-lived period of Roman activity on the site before the 2nd century, it could, for example, have been deliberately backfilled when this period of activity was over and the site temporarily abandoned.
- 7.2.4.3 A homogeneous greyish brown sandy silt was exposed throughout most of Trench 9, this layer being divided into three parts by modern intrusions and recorded as layers [13], [14] and [18]. In addition, the deposit was also recorded as layer [31] in section, overlying ditch [48]. Roman pottery dated to the mid-late 2nd century was recovered from this deposit and particular notable were large fragments of samian ware, high status tableware, produced in central Gaul in the 2nd century AD. The size of these fragments suggests that they are probably unlikely to have been moved far from the point at which they were discarded, indicating that the site was almost certainly occupied for settlement during the 2nd century. A fragment of post-medieval pottery was also recovered from deposit [14], and this is considered to be intrusive.

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- 7.2.4.4 Layer [14] was truncated by a feature, [22], located in the north-eastern corner of Trench 9. This extended beyond the limits of the trench to both the north and east, and its maximum recorded dimensions were 2.16m NE-SW x 0.46m x 0.27m deep. A sample area excavated through its fill, [21], produced a large fragment of a Roman food preparation vessel or mortanium manufactured in the Wroxeter region. These vessels are characterised by having a heavily gritted internal surface to aid in the preparation of sauces and grinding of foodstuffs. The pottery from fill [21] dates to the early-mid 2nd century. Interpretation of this feature cannot be certain as only a fragment was exposed within the limits of excavation, however, it may represent part of a linear feature such as a ditch or gully, with a terminal in the south-west, or alternatively may have been part of substantial discrete feature such as a pit.
- 7.2.4.5 Two less substantial Roman features were also recorded in the centre of Trench 9. A narrow linear feature, [81], which was not excavated, measured 0.20m east-west x > 0.60m north-south and may represent a beamslot, a trench that once contained a foundation beam that would have supported timber uprights. Although too narrow to have supported an external wall, an internal partition wall could have been sprung from a narrow earth-fast beam of similar dimensions. This feature was truncated to the west by a sub-rectangular 'pit', [19], which measured 1.08m east-west x 0.48m north-south x 0.15m deep. This was regular in shape and had near vertical sides and a flat base, and could represent a decayed or robbed out structural feature. Its fill, [20], comprised firm mid brown sandy clay from which a single sherd of pottery was recovered, although this could not be dated.

7.3 Phase 3 - Post-medieval

7.3.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

- 7.3.1.1 An irregular and poorly constructed wall, [56], was recorded towards the eastern end of Trench 1. It was constructed from randomly coursed whole bricks, half bats and smaller brick fragments. Extending beyond the limits of the trench to both north and south, the exposed portion measured >1.80m NW-SE x 0.23m wide. The height of the wall was not seen as demolition rubble, [55], which abutted wall [56] was not excavated. Interpretation of this feature is uncertain, however it may have been part of a basement wall, albeit of limited load bearing capacity, as there was no sign of a return to suggest that it formed part of a smaller feature such as a brick-lined pit. No dateable artefacts were recovered during cleaning of this feature or the demolition debris [55]. Wall [56] had been built in a construction cut, [110], with no discernible backfill.
- 7.3.1.2 A small rectangular brick structure, [57], was recorded to the west of wall [56]. It consisted of an outer wall two bricks wide, laid as stretchers. This structure had a SW-NE aligned element that measured 0.85m in length before returning through 90° and continuing to and beyond the southern limit of the trench. The NW-SE element measured 0.65m in length. An inner brick element, displaced from the outer wall, was exposed close to and extending beyond the southern limit of excavation. Both the outer and inner parts of the brick structure were contained within a construction cut, [111]. The bricks forming the structure butted tightly against the cut and no discernible backfill was evident within the cut, which was not excavated. The function of this feature was unclear.
- 7.3.1.3 A third brick structure, [60], was recorded in the southern extension to Trench 1. It consisted of a NE-SW aligned brick foundation just one brick wide, laid as headers. The wall terminated within the trench to the west, evidently not truncated, and extended beyond the limit of excavation to the east. The extant fragment measured >1.60m x 0.17m, but its full height was not seen as the structure was not excavated. The size of the structure suggests that it was not a major structural element, but was possibly an internal partition wall.
- 7.3.1.4 None of the brick features found in Trench 1 was closely dated but the style of building and materials utilised suggest that all three are likely to date to the 19th or even 20th centuries. Although the evidence recovered was limited, the alignments of the walls were consistent with those of buildings that formerly occupied this part of the site, probably Nos. 33-37 Chester Road.

7.3.2 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

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7.3.2.1 Post-medieval structures were represented in Trench 2 by an extensive basement bounded to the east by a wall, [33]. The full depth of the basement was not established as its loose backfill, [32], extended below a depth of 1.20m below the existing floor surface - further excavation was not possible due to Health and Safety considerations. The backfill of the basement extended >6.60m east-west x >1.90m north-south and extended beyond the limits of excavation to the north, south and west.

- 7.3.2.2 The eastern basement wall, [33], extended beyond the limits of excavation to both north and south, as recorded it measured >1.75m NNW-SSE x 0.36m thick x >0.25m high. The full height of the wall was not seen, three courses were exposed during partial excavation of the backfill, [34,] of its construction cut, [35]. The wall was built from unfrogged red bricks, laid regularly. The full width of the wall was seen only to the south of the feature where an extra skin of bricks, laid as stretchers, was evident on the western side of the wall. To the north of this, the wall consisted of a narrower section one brick wide, all the bricks laid as headers on bed. This narrowing might represent an access point such as a doorway or hatch into the basement.
- 7.3.2.3 The basement exposed in Trench 2 was of large dimensions and probably corresponds to the cellar of a public house, shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map as The Van Tavern. The location of the basement wall corresponds closely with a building that would have fronted onto the former Arthur Street, which was identified in Trench 8, to the north of Trench 2. Remnants of this thoroughfare were encountered in Trench 2, but only in the form of loose setts within modern overburden removed to the east of the basement wall.
- 7.3.2.4 The Van Tavern building continued in use as a public house throughout the later 19th and early 20th centuries, an inn being shown on both the 1893 and 1908 editions of the Ordnance Survey map. By 1948, however, the building is simply indicated as '10 Arthur Street', with the building to the north annotated as a 'Ruin'.

7.3.3 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

- 7.3.3.1 Post-medieval remains were recorded in the southern part of Trench 3. The natural substratum was overlain by a layer, [8], comprising greyish brown silty clay with moderate inclusions of brick and stone fragments. This was only exposed in section, with maximum recorded dimensions of >1.25m east-west x 0.28m thick. It was overlain by a layer, [7], comprising yellowish brown clay with frequent inclusions of brick and stone fragments, extending beyond the limits of excavation to both the east and south and with maximum recorded dimensions of >2.90m x 0.45m x 0.19m thick.
- 7.3.3.2 No closely datable artefacts were recovered from these layers, but the brick fragments within both demonstrated that they were of post-medieval date. It is likely that these layers represent levelling deposits that preceded the laying out of streets and construction work in this part of the site in the 19th century. The eastern periphery of the site may have been slightly lower than the areas to the south and west and importation of consolidation material may have been needed in order to produce a flat ground surface prior to construction.

- 7.3.3.3 The levelling deposits were truncated by a NNW-SSE aligned wall, [1], which formed part of a modern basement, continuing beyond the southern limit of excavation, and measuring >2.92m x 0.40m x 0.46m high. The wall took the form of a stepped foundation, maximum width 0.70m, three courses high supporting a wall 0.40m, or 1½ bricks wide. The coursing evident on the uppermost surviving part of the wall consisted of a fair face both east and west, laid as stretchers around a central rubble core formed mainly from half-bats and smaller fragments. An area of brickwork laid as headers, bricks on edge, adjacent to the southern limit of excavation might represent a doorway. Wall [1] had been built within a construction cut, [2], recorded in section. The cut was visible only on the east side of the wall, modern material abutting the wall to the west, and probably within a deep cut which continued below the base of the foundation. This is interpreted as a modern intrusion that had removed all post-medieval deposits and features to the west of the wall.
- 7.3.3.4 A short length of wall, [27], was recorded to the east of wall [1], extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east, measuring 0.23m wide x > 0.38m. The full height was not seen, but the width of the wall corresponded to that of one brick laid as a header. This smaller wall was probably associated with wall [1], since its orientation was at 90° to the larger structure. The style of the brickwork exposed and the materials incorporated into the build suggested that these walls are likely to date to c. 1830-1840.
- 7.3.3.5 Layer [6] was located to the east of wall [1] and sealed the backfill, [3], of construction cut [2]. This deposit was excavated in order to order to expose the top of the construction cut in plan and recover dating evidence. However it contained fragments of plastic and any artefacts should therefore be regarded as residual, although they are probably indicative of the period in which the buildings were in use. Layer [6] also sealed wall [27].
- 7.3.3.6 Wall [1] was evidently designed to be load-bearing, and could have supported a superstructure of more than one storey. The position of the wall suggested that it might be a party wall that served former properties with frontages on either Owen Street to the east or Bank Court to the west.

7.3.4 Trench 5 (Figure 7)

7.3.4.1 Only one post-medieval feature was evident in Trench 5, but little investigation was possible as only a small fragment extended into the area of investigation. This comprised a brick wall, [93], surviving to a height of three courses which were laid as stretchers bonded with light grey lime mortar. As seen, it measured >1.80m NW-SE x >0.20m wide x >0.20m high, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east. Interpretation of this feature is problematic as so little of it was visible; it could represent part of a subterranean brick-lined feature such as a cesspit.

7.3.5 Trench 6 (Figure 8)

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- 7.3.5.1 Two parallel, NW-SE orientated, brick walls were recorded in the western part of Trench 6. The more substantial of these structures, [107], extended beyond the limits of excavation to both north and south. As found, it measured >1.64m x 0.23m wide, but its full height was not determined as it was not fully excavated. The wall or foundation consisted of bricks laid as headers on edge, no bonding material was apparent. The method of construction and materials used was similar to wall [60] in Trench 1. Wall [106], which abutted wall [107] and was located immediately to the west of it, extended beyond the limit of excavation to the south. As seen, it measured >1.04m x 0.24m wide, and again the surviving height was not determined as it was not excavated. The coursing of wall [106] was not apparent as it was largely covered in sandy lime mortar. Both walls were recorded as being within a construction cut, [108], however, it is more likely that they represent differing episodes of construction and that the fills of two construction cuts had become amalgamated.
- 7.3.5.2 A brick-lined well or soakaway, [102], was recorded in the eastern portion of Trench 6 (Plate 3). Only the base of this structure was extant and although it had evidently been cut from a considerably higher ground surface, none of the upper part survived, even in section to the north. A modern pipe trench may account for demolition of the upper part of the structure. The brick lining was constructed from near whole bricks and smaller fragments, laid as a single skin of stretchers. The feature measured 0.90m in diameter and the brick skin was 0.12m wide. The surviving height of the brickwork was not seen as the feature was not excavated. No datable artefacts were recovered from the backfill, [101], of the structure during cleaning.
- 7.3.5.3 The heavily truncated remains of a brick structure, [96], were exposed in the eastern end of Trench 6. The aforementioned pipe trench had also affected this feature, which survived as a small area of brick floor with part of a brick wall surviving to a height of three courses, as seen in section to the north. The overall dimensions of the extant brickwork were 1.45m east-west x 0.42m north-south x 0.33m high. Although disturbed by the modern pipe trench, there was no evidence to suggest that the feature had ever extended much further south than the area in which it was recorded. Although it had a floor, the feature is probably too small to represent either a basement or a brick-lined pit, and was most probably part of a brick drain, built within a construction cut, [98].

7.3.6 Trench 7 (Figure 9)

7.3.6.1 Part of a basement was recorded in the northern part of Trench 7. This was defined to the south by a red brick wall, [62], which extended WSW-ENE across the trench and beyond the limits of excavation to both east and west. As seen it measured >1.85m x 0.25m x >0.35m high; its full height was not seen as demolition rubble to the north was not fully excavated. The wall survived at least three courses high, on the surface the bricks were laid as headers bonded by red sandy mortar, apart from the corner where a stretcher bond was evident, although this was the part of the next course down. The bond, therefore, presumably consisted of alternate courses of headers and stretchers.

- 7.3.6.2 Two smaller walls, [65] and [66], were associated with wall [62]. Wall [65], built from whole bricks and half-bats laid as stretchers, on bed, bonded by red sandy lime mortar, abutted wall [62] on the south side and was within the same construction cut, [64]. It measured 0.42m x 0.25m wide, but its full height was not seen. Wall [66] was located to the east of and parallel to wall [65]; although it did not abut wall [62]. Wall [66] was formed from bricks laid as stretchers bonded by red sandy lime mortar, and measured >0.36m x 0.25m, although both its full height and length were not seen.
- 7.3.6.3 Although probably associated with wall [62], the precise function of these two smaller structural elements was not clear. The position of the basement wall suggested that it would once have formed part of a building that had a frontage on Chester Road and stood to the north, or possibly north-east, of the open area annotated as 'Timber Yard' on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition map. The basement probably dates to the second half of the 19th century when this part of the Chester Road frontage was re-developed and larger buildings encroached on the north side of the open area. Later Ordnance Survey maps of 1893 and 1908 show the entire Chester Road frontage as developed, although the maps indicate that access to the open area was maintained. Whatever the later function of the open area was, it appears that access to the street was essential, suggesting that the open area retained a commercial function.
- 7.3.6.4 A brick-lined drain ran NE-SW through the central part of Trench 7 (Plate 4). It comprised low brick walls, [67] and [69], capped with stone slabs, [70], the latter only visible close to the eastern section of the trench. The maximum extent of the drain was >5m NE-SW, extending beyond the limits of excavation to both east and west, and the walls were 0.12m wide x 0.28m high, formed from a single skin of unfrogged red bricks laid as stretchers bonded by whitish grey lime mortar. No artefacts were recovered from the fill of the drain, but it probably dates to the first half of the 19th century as its alignment took it to directly toward the basement described above. The drain could not have continued in use once its path toward the street had been blocked by the construction of the basemented building to the north.

7.3.7 Trench 8 (Figure 10)

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7.3.7.1 A metalled road surface, [50], was recorded directly below the make-up for the existing surface in Trench 8 (Plate 5). The surface, constructed with rectangular setts (100mm x 100-260mm x 100mm) had been heavily truncated by modern intrusions and survived as two distinct areas with combined dimensions of 3.50m north-south x > 0.76m east-west x 0.10m high, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the east. To the west, the road surface abutted a NNW-SSE aligned kerb, [49], formed from stone slabs laid on edge. The date of this road surface is not known, but it undoubtedly once formed part of Arthur Street, which traversed the site. The materials used in the road surface, and the style in which they were laid, are identical to many of the road surfaces still in use today in the vicinity of the site.

7.3.8 Trench 9 (Figure 11)

- 7.3.8.1 A rectangular brick-lined feature, [16], was recorded in the eastern part of Trench 9, extending beyond the limit of excavation to the north. The exposed portion measured >1.46m north-south x 1.26m east-west. Its form and dimensions indicate that it was probably a cesspit. The brick lining consisted of a single skin of bricks laid as stretchers, with the exception of the west side where an extra line of half-bats and smaller fragments had been laid, although this did not appear to be tied in to the rest of the brickwork. No dateable artefacts were recovered from the backfill, [15], of the structure or the backfill, [79], of the construction cut, [80]. The cesspit would have served either a building with a frontage on the east side of Arthur Street or the north side of Bank Street.
- 7.3.8.2 A NW-SE aligned brick wall, or foundation, [11], was recorded at the western end of Trench 9. This consisted of a single course of brick, apparently laid randomly, although little of the build was visible as much of the structure was covered in mortar. The wall extended beyond the limits of the trench to both north and south, as exposed it measured >1.84m x 0.45m x 0.10m high. The wall was positioned above a salt-glazed drainpipe, which demonstrates that it did not pre-date the second half of the 19th century.

7.4 Phase 4 – Modern Activity

7.4.1 Trench 1 (Figure 3)

7.4.1.1 A modern pipe trench, [59], extended on a NW-SE orientation through the centre of Trench 1. Modern levelling deposits associated with landscaping and the laying of hard-standing were not individually recorded in this trench. The level of the modern tarmac surface through which the trench had been excavated varied from 30.35m OD in the west to 30.17m OD in the east and 30.88m OD in the south.

7.4.2 Trench 2 (Figure 4)

- 7.4.2.1 Trench 2 contained a variety of modern features. In the central part of the trench, a WSW-ENE aligned feature, [41], joined a more substantial feature, [43], aligned at right angles, which was 1.30m wide and extended beyond the limits of excavation to both north and south. The position and alignment of feature [43] would almost certainly place it below the line of Arthur Street. Given the width of the feature and its position, it could represent a sewer or substantial pipe trench running below Arthur Street toward Chester Road, with feature [43] perhaps representing a smaller feeder pipe.
- 7.4.2.2 Feature [41] was truncated by a roughly NW-SE orientated feature, [39], and its fill, [38], contained a salt-glazed drainpipe which dates this feature to the second half of the 19th century or later.
- 7.4.2.3 Two intercutting linear features, [45] and [47], were exposed in the eastern part of Trench 2.

 Both contained metal pipes, probably for the supply of water. The concrete slab through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at a maximum height of 31.91m OD.

7.4.3 Trench 3 (Figure 5)

7.4.3.1 The entire north portion of Trench 3 was filled by modern demolition debris. This feature could well be associated with demolition of the 'Plastic Moulding Works' shown on the Ordnance Survey 1948 edition. A brick modern brick wall, [28], within a construction cut, [29], was recorded in the central part of the trench, immediately below the concrete slab and its make-up, again this probably derived from the former plastic works. The top of the concrete slab through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at a maximum height of 31.92m OD.

7.4.4 Trench 4 (Figure 6)

7.4.4.1 No modern features were recorded in Trench 4. The tarmac through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at 31.92m OD in the south, this being the highest existing ground surface recorded during the investigations, and 31.68 m OD in the north.

7.4.5 Trench 5 (Figure 7)

7.4.5.1 A modern WSW-ENE aligned pipe trench, [90], traversed the southern part of Trench 5, extending beyond the limits of excavation to both east and west. The surface of the concrete slab through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at 31.60m OD in the south and 31.44m OD in the north.

7.4.6 Trench 6 (Figure 8)

7.4.6.1 No modern features or deposits were individually recorded in Trench 6. The tarmac through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at 31.19m OD in the west to 30.57m OD in the east.

7.4.7 Trench 7 (Figure 9)

7.4.7.1 No modern features or deposits were individually recorded in Trench 7. The tarmac through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at 31.28m OD in the south and to 31.13m OD in the north.

7.4.8 Trench 8 (Figure 10)

7.4.8.1 No modern features or deposits were individually recorded in Trench 8. The tarmac through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at a maximum height of 31.44m OD.

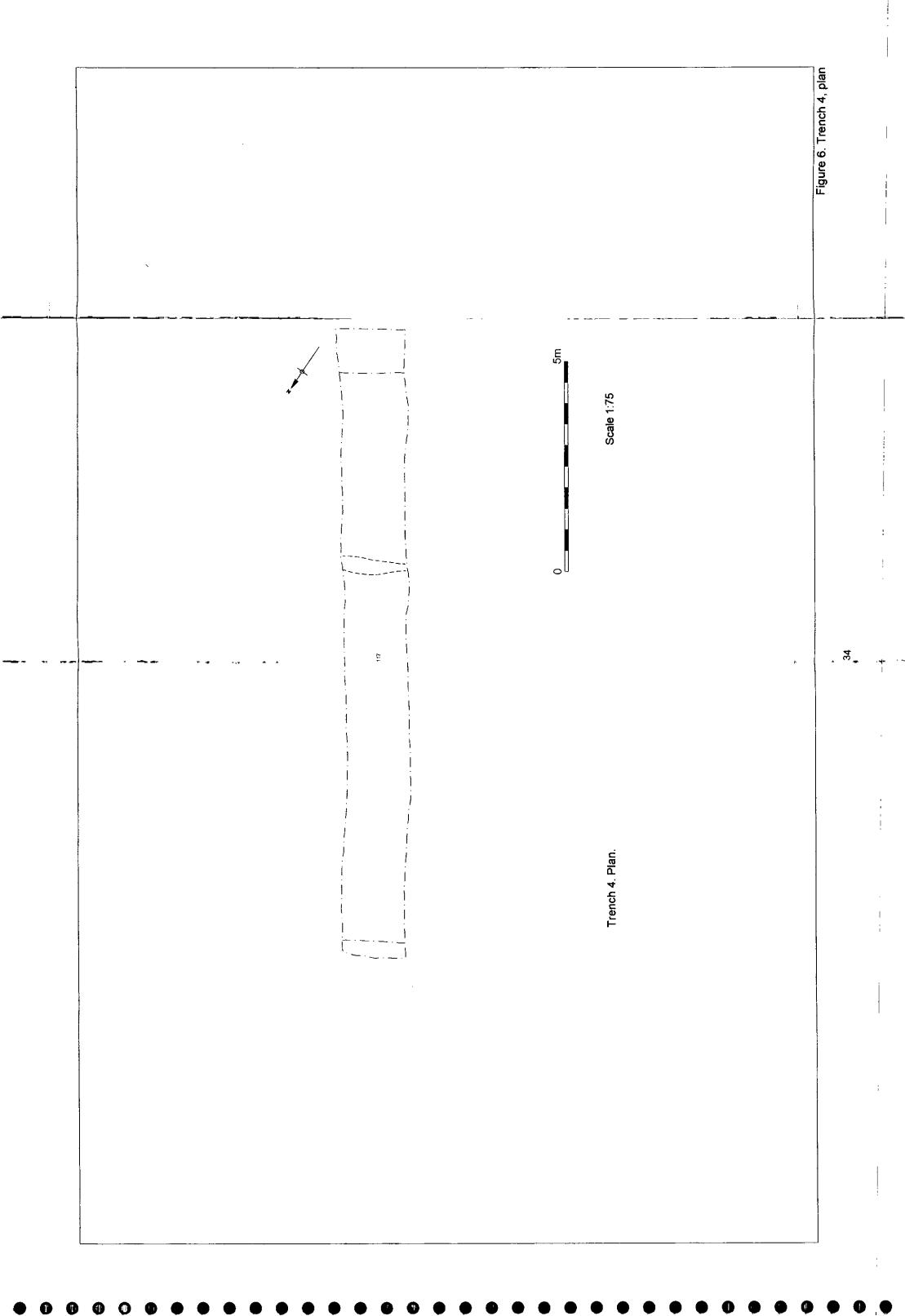
7.4.9 Trench 9 (Figure 11)

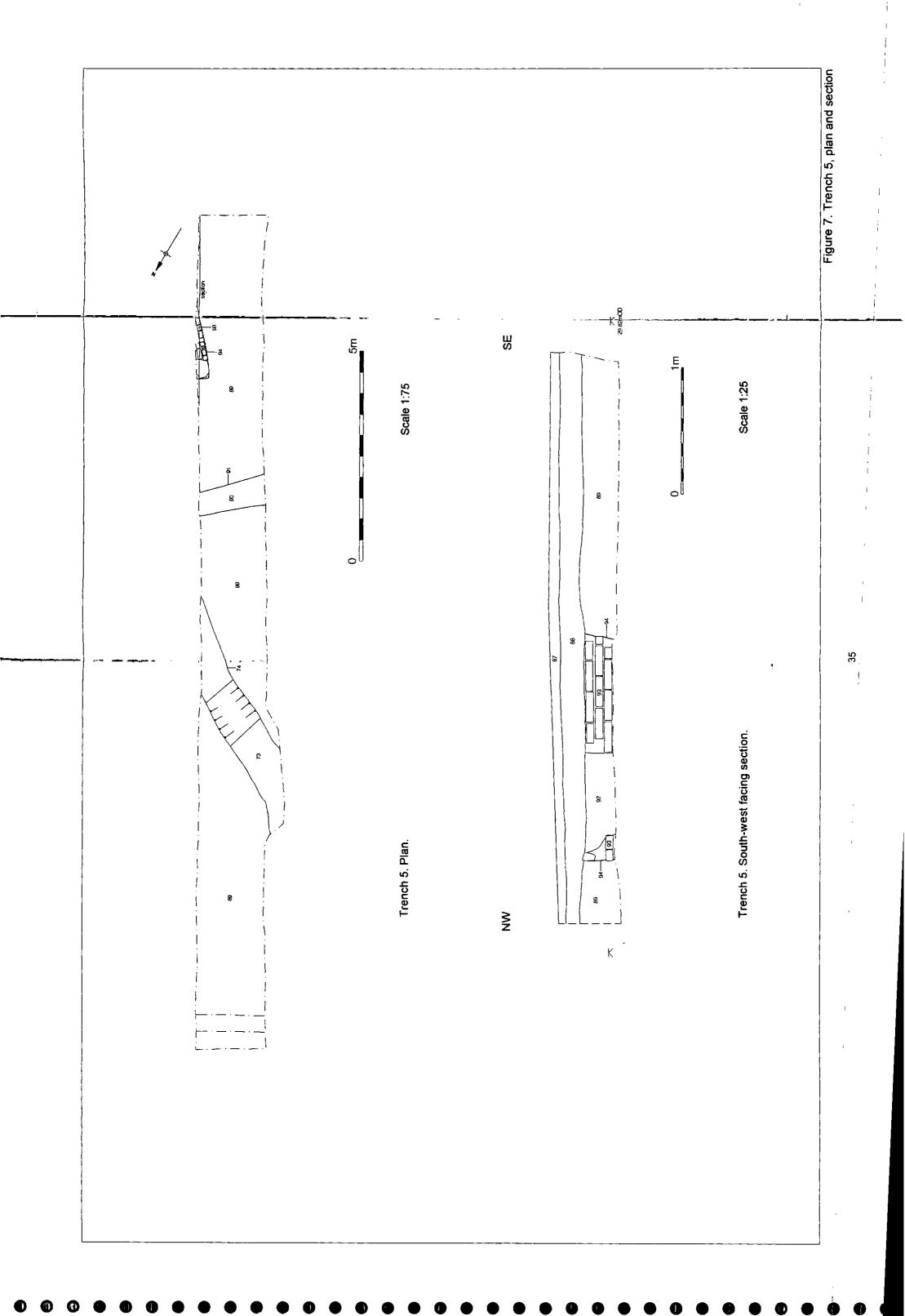
7.4.9.1 No modern features or deposits were individually recorded in Trench 9. The surface of the concrete slab through which the trench had been excavated was recorded at a maximum height of 31.90m OD.



Trench 2. Plan. **3** Scale 1:75 Figure 4. Trench 2, plan

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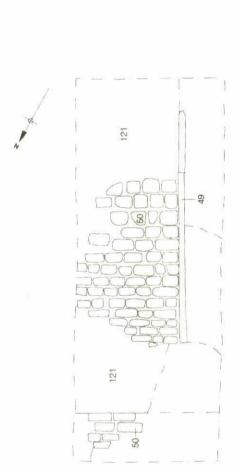






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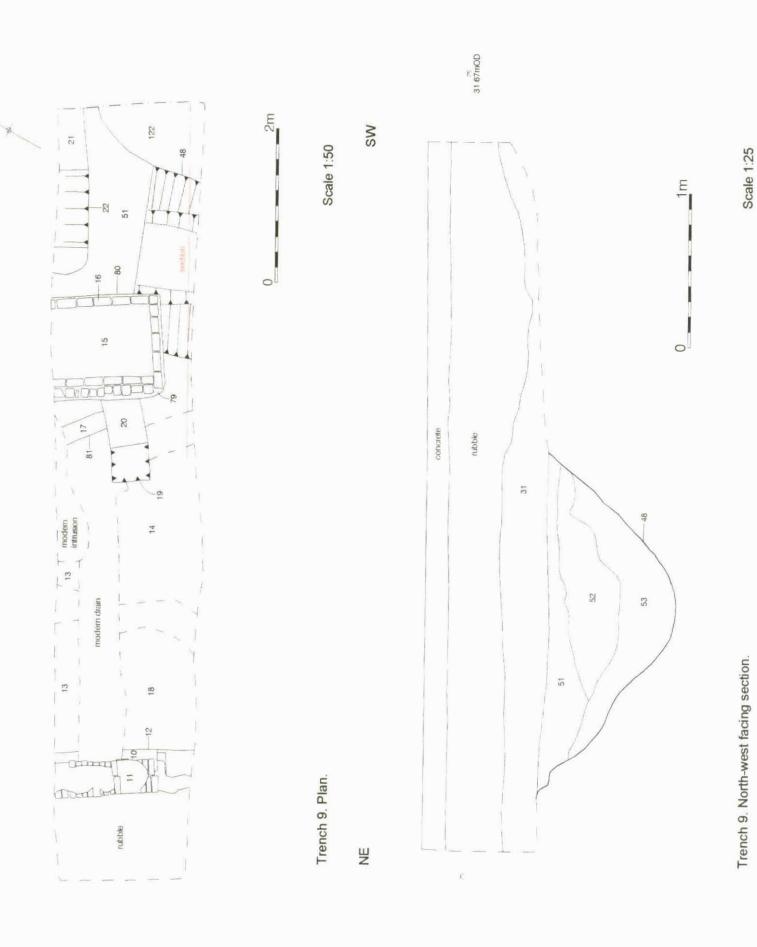
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Trench 8. Plan.

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8. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Conclusions

- 8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation at the former Tom Garner Motors site on Chester Road/Great Jackson Street identified the presence of archaeological remains dating from the Roman and post-medieval periods within the area of the proposed development. The most significant remains are those dating to the Roman period, with the excavated evidence suggesting that the site was occupied during the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD. The precise character of Roman period occupation is uncertain, but because this area, beyond the fort and known extent of the civilian settlement (vicus), south of the River Medlock, is relatively poorly understood, it remains a possibility that the site lay within the southern portion of the vicus, adjacent to the road to Chester. Post-medieval structural remains encountered were less extensive than might have been anticipated and, though no less important than the Roman remains, would provide a lesser focus for any further archaeological investigation of the site.
- 8.1.2 Each of Trenches 2, 3 and 9, located within the northern half of the former garage/workshop, encountered remains of Roman date. In Trench 2, despite modern disturbance down to c. 0.90m below the existing concrete floor slab, part of a feature, possibly a Roman pit, survived, this cut into natural sand and gravel. In Trench 3, close to the eastern limit of the site, a possible Roman ditch and part of another possible Roman feature were recorded c. 1.0m below the concrete floor slab, cutting into a distinctive sandy clay natural sub-stratum. Trench 9 contained a sequence of archaeological deposits dating to the Roman period, with archaeologically sensitive strata surviving only c. 0.50m below the concrete floor slab in the eastern half of the trench and with the earliest feature cutting into a distinctive sandy silt natural sub-stratum.
- 8.1.3 The earliest feature in Trench 9, a substantial ditch more than 2.0 wide, is indicative by its stratigraphic position of a relatively early Roman presence on the site. Of note is the fact that it followed a different alignment to a similar linear feature of Roman date recorded in Trench 5, to the west (Figure 12). A feature of this size might have delineated or enclosed an area on the relatively high ground overlooking a crossing of the Medlock. Trench 9 also revealed potential Roman structural remains and indicated the potential for horizontal stratigraphy of Roman date in this part of the site. Relatively large sherds of pottery recovered from Trench 9, particularly a sherd of Gaulish samian ware and a very large mortanum rim, are strong indicators that the site lay within a Roman settlement area, rather than on its periphery.
- 8.1.4 Trenches 4 and 5 were located in the open area to the west of the standing building. No archaeological remains were uncovered in Trench 4, with natural sand and gravel being exposed immediately below make-up material for the existing hard surface. Trench 5 revealed the remains of another substantial ditch of Roman date, lying less than 0.50m below the existing ground surface and again cut into natural sand and gravel. Aligned NW-SE, in contrast to the ditch in Trench 9, this feature was more than 1m wide and at least 0.65m deep. Its fill was particularly productive in terms of cultural material, 37 sherds of Roman pottery being collected from a 1m wide investigative sondage. The ditch continued beyond the trench towards the western limit of the site and possibly ran below the south-western portion of the standing building.

- Across the site in general, structural remains of post-medieval date were less in evidence than might have been anticipated. This was particularly the case to the west of the standing building, where Trenches 4 and 5 had been expected to reveal the remains of buildings that formerly fronted onto Great Jackson Street, or associated features, such as cesspits, that would have lain to the rear of the buildings. Virtually no horizontal strata survived in these trenches, suggesting that this part of the site has been landscaped in the modern era, thereby removing earlier archaeological strata, particularly remains of the post-medieval period.
- 8.1.6 Trenches 6 and 7, in the north-western portion of the site, external to the standing building, indicate that this area has suffered extensive disturbance in the recent past. In Trench 7, post-medieval brick structures survived in fragmentary form c. 0.80m below the modern ground surface. Although some post-medieval brick structures survived in Trench 6, these were mostly subterranean brick-lined features, with no associated ground surfaces, at minimum depths of c. 0.50m below the modern ground surface.
 - 8.1.7 Trench 1, in the north-eastern corner of the site, produced broadly similar results to Trenches 6 and 7, although the extent of modern truncation was generally less extensive at this location. In part, this reflected the natural topography of the site, with the ground sloping away fairly steeply from west to east. The uppermost natural deposits survived only c. 0.30m below the modern ground surface in Trench 1.
 - 8.1.8 Trench 8, sited below a canopy on the north side of the standing building, revealed very little evidence of modern truncation, with the well-preserved remains of a former road surface. Arthur Street, lying immediately below make-up for the existing tarmac surface. While the remains of the road are of only intrinsic interest, the presence of apparently undisturbed natural sand and gravel almost directly below this structure indicates the potential for survival of earlier archaeological remains in this area, which has evidently not been subject to landscaping to the same extent seen in Trenches 6 and 7.
 - 8.1.9 Each of Trenches 2, 3 and 9, within the standing building, recorded remains of post-medieval structures in varying degrees of preservation. In addition, evidence for significant modern disturbance was recorded in parts of Trenches 2 and 3.

8.2 Recommendations

8.2.1 The results of the archaeological evaluation suggest that the site can effectively be divided into three SW-NE aligned areas. The northernmost area, comprising the former forecourt areas and the showroom portion of the standing building, appears to be of relatively limited archaeological interest. This area had good potential for evidence of Roman activity, due to its proximity to the Roman road to Chester. However, no features or deposits of Roman date were recorded in the four northernmost trenches (Trenches 1, 6, 7 and 8), all lying external to the standing building. Although some post-medieval structures were recorded in these trenches, the remains were generally in fragmentary form and the north-western portion of the site in particular has evidently seen significant truncation of archaeological levels.

8.2.2 The central area, a strip of land in which (from west to east) Trenches 5, 2, 9 and 3 were situated, contains archaeological remains of significance, dating to the Roman period. To the west of the standing building there appears to have been significant truncation of archaeological levels, with little or no survival of post-medieval structural remains. However, a probable boundary ditch of Roman date, cut into natural sand and gravel, was recorded in this area, in Trench 5 (Figure 12). Within the standing building, Trenches 2, 3 and 9 each encountered features of Roman date, the activity in Trench 9 being multi-phase in nature (Figure 12). The remains in Trenches 5 and 9 survive at relatively shallow depths (c. 0.50m or less), while those in Trenches 2 and 3 lie at greater depths (c. 1.0m) below modern overburden. The evaluation indicates that there has been modern disturbance to varying degrees below the standing building.

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- 8.2.3 The southernmost area, comprising the southernmost portion of the standing building and adjacent open areas to the west and south is, at present, of uncertain archaeological significance. Linear features of Roman date recorded in Trenches 5 and 9 could continue into this part of the site, but this is not certain. Likewise, the extent of modern truncation is uncertain in this area.
- 8.2.4 The archaeological mitigation strategy recommended for the site is the implementation of a programme of open area archaeological excavation and recording, with subsequent reporting and publication of results, thereby effectively preserving the remains by record. The evaluation indicates that there is little justification for further archaeological work in the northernmost area. In contrast, the evaluation indicates that the central area should be subject to a programme of open area archaeological excavation, prior to the onset of the main elements of the construction programme. Exposure of archaeological remains should be undertaken under archaeological supervision at the initial stage of the excavation, Further archaeological work in the southernmost area should be contingent upon the findings within the central area.

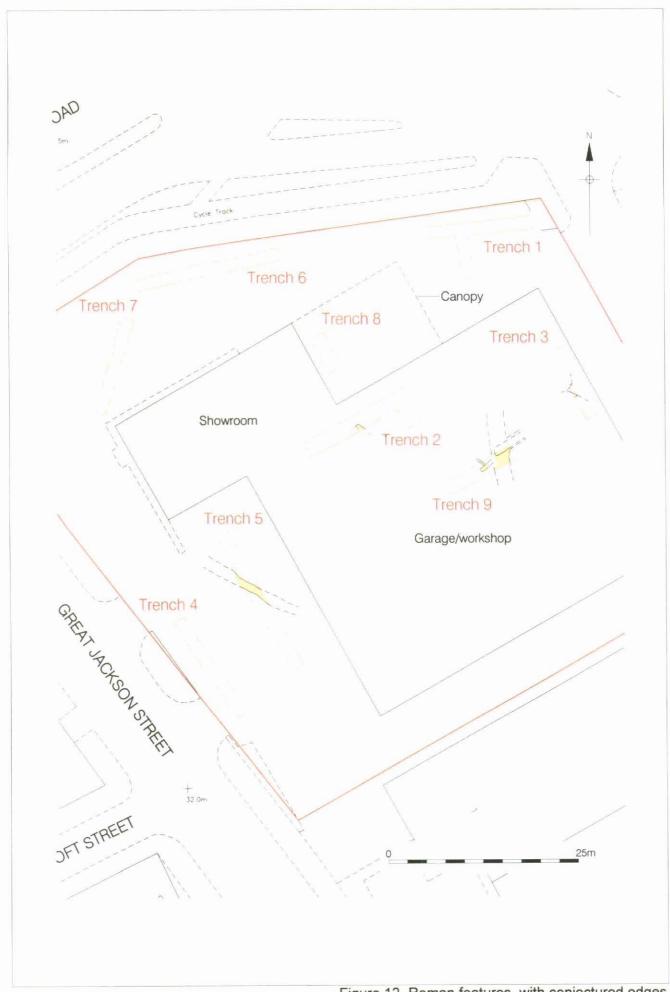


Figure 12. Roman features, with conjectured edges Scale 1:500

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APPENDIX A STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES

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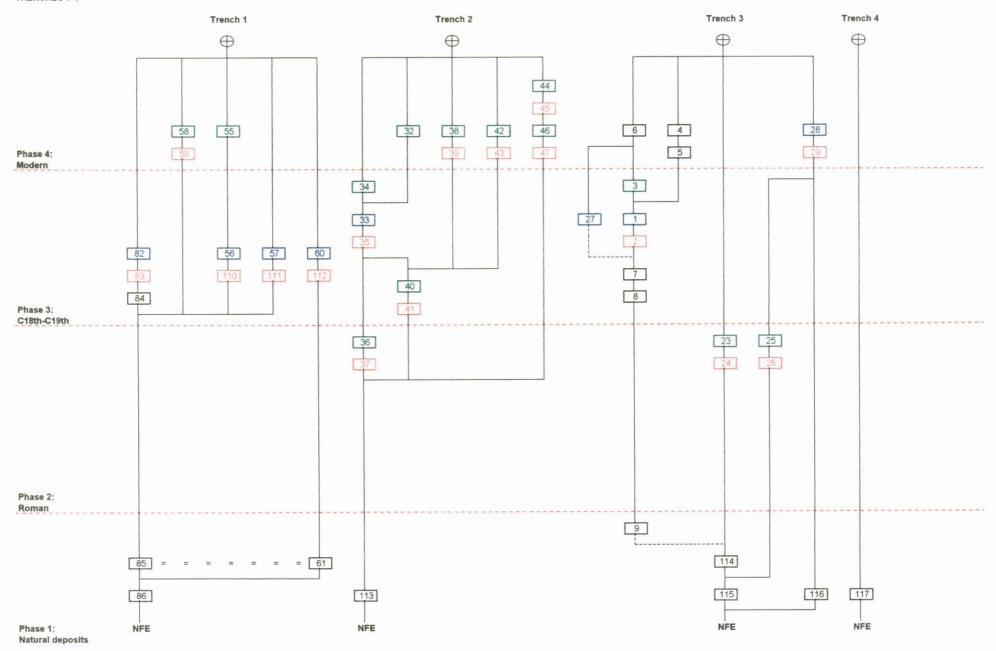
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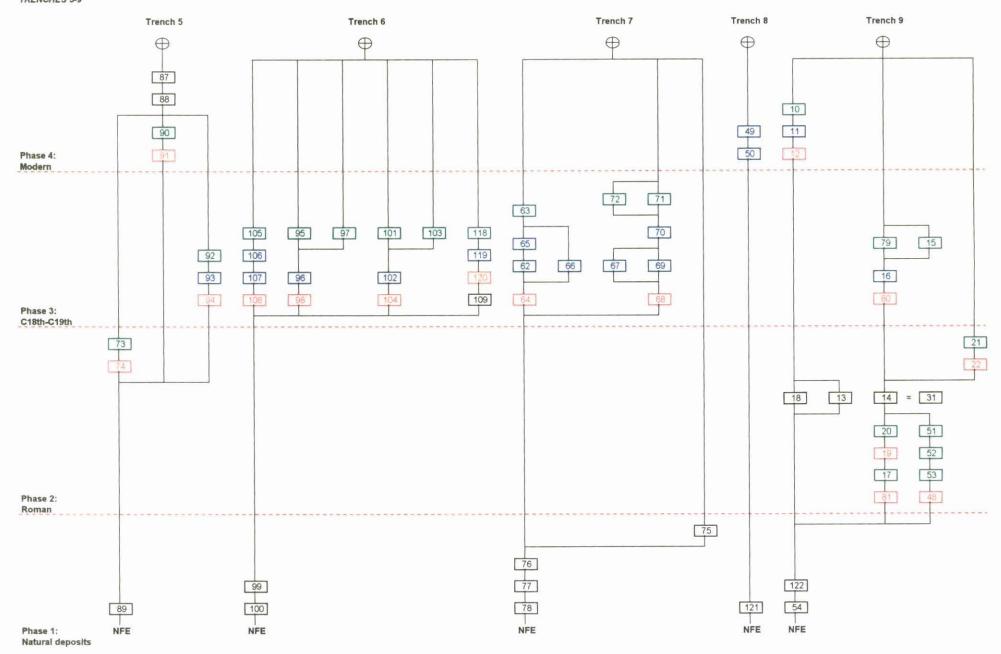
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CRM 07: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES TRENCHES 1-4



CRM 07: STRATIGRAPHIC MATRICES TRENCHES 5-9



APPENDIX B CONTEXT INDEX

Context	Trench	Phase	Type 1	Type 2	Description The Property of th	Interpretation
1	3	3	Masonry	Wall	above a stepped foundation; >2.92m N-S x 0.40m E-W x 0.42m high	Brick wall
2		3	Cut	Construction	Linear, vertical sides; flat base; >2.90m N-S x 0.40m E-W x 0.46m deep	Construction cut for wall [1]
3		3		Fill	Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; frequent brick and mortar fragments, moderate charcoal and coal fragments, occasional patches of clean reddish brown clay; >2.90m N-S x 0.40m E-W x 0.46m	Backfill of construction cut [2]
		4		Layer	1 Stiff: dork browniah blask starrer its f	Demolition debris
		4	Deposit	Layer	Strongly cemented; mid pinkish brown; concrete or mortar; seen only in section; 0.60 E-W x 0.50m thick	Demolition debris
		!		Layer	Hard; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; frequent brick and concrete fragments, moderate sub-angular pebbles and mortar fragments, occasional pottery, clay pipe and plastic; >3.10m x 0.82m x 0.10m thick	Demolition debris/levelling layer
		-	Deposit	Layer	Stiff; dark yellowish brown clay; frequent brick and stone fragments, moderate charcoal, coal and mortar flecks; >2.90m N-S x 0.45m E-W x 0.19m thick	Levelling dump
		3		Layer	Firm; greyish brown; silty clay; moderate brick and stone fragments, occasional charcoal flecking; unknown N-S (seen only in section) x 1.25m E-W x 0.28m thick	Levelling dump
				Layer	Firm; light-mid greyish brown; sandy clay; occasional charcoal flecks; unknown N-S (seen only in section) x 0.66m E-W x 0.04m thick	Natural, same as layer [114]
10	9	4	Deposit	Fill	Firm; dark greyish brown; silty clay; frequent fine pebbles and brick fragments, frequent mortar flecks and fragments; >1.84m N-S x 0.12m E-W x unknown thickness (not excavated)	Backfill of construction cut [12]
_				Wall	Red brick; 220mm x 100mm x 70mm; single course laid randomly, probably a foundation rather than a wall; >1.84m N-S x 0.45m E-W x 0.10m high	Brick wall
			Cut	Construction	Lingar medical sides at 11 11 11 12 12 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13 13	Construction cut for wall [11]
			Deposit	Layer	Firm; light greyish brown; clayey silt; occasional fine pebbles; 2.45m E-W x 0.30m N-S x 0.12 thick; same as [14], [18], [31]	Developed soil or levelling layer
					Firm; greyish brown; sandy silt; moderate charcoal flecks and fragments, moderate pot, occasional fine and medium pebbles; >6.60m E-W x >1.90m N-S x 0.15m thick; same as [13], [18], [31]	Developed soil or levelling layer
				- 11[Loose; reddish brown; ash and cinder; frequent charcoal flecks; >1.32m N-S x 0.92m E-W x unknown (unexcavated)	Infill of cesspit [16]
					Red bricks (240mm x 110mm x 70mm); brick lining to construction cut [80]; mostly single skin of brick laid as stretchers; extra line of half-bats—on west side; >1.46m N-S x 1.26m E-W x unknown (unexcavated).	Brick cesspit
7 9		\longrightarrow		ill l	Firm; mid brown; fine sandy silt; >0.60m N-S x 0.20m E-W x unknown (unexcavated)	Fill of beam slot [81]
	2			.ayer	irm; greyish brown; sandy silt; occasional fine pebbles; 1.60m E-W x >1.00m N-S x 0.12m thick; same as [13], [14], [31]	Developed soil or levelling layer
	2			Pit S	Sub-rectangular; sharp break of slope at top and at base; flat base; 1.08m E-W x 0.48m N-S x 0.15m deep	
:0 9	2		Peposit F	Till F	irm; mid brown; sandy clay; moderate flecks of manganese and degraded sandstone; 1.08m E-W x 0.48m N-S x 0.15m thick	Fill of pit [19]

Context:	Trench	Phase #	Type 1 - 7	Type 2		Interpretation
	7			Wali	Red bricks (235mm x 120mm x 60mm); at least three courses high; mostly laid as headers; WSW-ENE aligned; fair face on north side; bonded with red sandy mortar; >1.85m x 0.25m x >0.35m high (not fully excavated); associated with walls (or ?steps) [65] and [66]	Basement wall
63	7	3	Deposit	Fill	unknown thickness (unexcavated)	Backfill of construction cut [64]
64	7	3	Cut	Construction	unknown depth (unexcavated)	Construction cut for walls [62], [65], [66]
65	7	3	Masonry	Wall	bonded by red sandy lime mortar. 0.42m x 0.25m x height unknown (not excavated)	Fragment of ?wall adjacent to wall [62]
66	7	3	Masonry	Wall	Red bricks (230mm x 115mm x 60mm); wall the width of two bricks, laid as stretchers; bonded by red sandy lime mortar; >0.36m x 0.25m x height unknown (not excavated)	Fragment of ?wall adjacent to wall [62]
67	7	3	Masonry	Wall	Red bricks (90mm x 120-230mm x 80mm); up to three courses high; bricks mainly laid as stretchers; bonded by whitish grey lime mortar; >5m NE-SW x 0.12m wide x 0.28m high; , associated with [69] and [70]	North wall of brick drain
68	7	3	Cut		Linear; sharp break of slope at top; vertical sides; base not seen; >5.00m SW-NE x 0.45 NW-SE x 0.25m deep (not excavated)	Construction cut for brick drain, formed by walls [67] and [69],
69	7	3	Masonry	Wall	Red bricks (80-230mm x 90-120mm x 80mm); up to three courses high; bricks mainly laid as stretchers; bonded by whitish grey lime mortar; >4.80m SW-NE x 0.12m wide x 0.28m high; associated with [67] and [70]	South wall of brick drain
70	7	3	Masonry	Drain cap	Sandstone slabs; 45mm thick; dimensions unknown (seen only in section); laid as capping above walls [67] and [69]	Stone capping of brick drain formed by walls [67] and [69]
71	7	3	Deposit	Fill	Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy silty clay; occasional fine and medium sub-angular pebbles; >5m SW-NE x 0.04m NW-SE x >0.28m thick (unexcavated)	Backfill of construction cut [68]
72	7	3	Deposit	Fill	Soft; black; silty clay; >5m SW-NE x 0.17m NW-SE x >0.28m thick (unexcavated)	Fill of drain formed by walls [67]
73	5		 _	Fill	Firm; light grey; clayey silty sand; frequent fine rounded and sub-rounded pebbles, occasional small charcoal and coal flecks; >5.92m NW-SE x 0.91m NE-SW X 0.36m thick	Fill of ditch [74]
74	5	2	Cut	Ditch	Linear; sharp break of slope at top; steeply sloping concave sides; break of slope with base gradual to imperceptible; base concave; >5.92m NW-SE x 0.91m NE-SW x 0.36m deep	Ditch
75	7	1	Deposit	Layer	Firm; mid greenish yellow; fine and medium gravel and sand; N-S >1.55m x E-W unknown (seen only in section) x 0.07m thick	Natural
76	7	1	Deposit	Layer	Stiff; mid reddish brown clay; >9.40m N-S x 1.60m E-W x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	Natural
77	7			Layer	Weekly cemented; red sand; >1.30m N-S x 0.90m E-W x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	Natural
78	7	1	Deposit	Layer	Strongly cemented; mid brown sand and gravel; >1.32m E-W x 0.38m N-S x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	Natural
79	9	3	Deposit	Fill	Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy silty clay; occasional fine sub-angular pebbles; >1.48m N-S x 1.34m E-W x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	
80	9	3	Cut	i	Sub-rectangular; sharp break of slope at top; vertical sides; base not seen; >1.48m N-S x 1.34m E-W x depth unknown (unexcavated)	
81	9	2	Cut	?Beam slot	Linear; sides and base not seen (unexcavated); 0.20m E-W x > 0.60m N-S	?Beam slot

Context	Trench	Phase	Type 1	Type 2	Description 1997	Interpretation
82	1	3	Masonry	Watl	I TOO DITONG (E TO ECOTIVITY TO THE TOTAL TOTAL TO THE TOTAL TOTAL TO THE TOTAL	?Fragment of wall
83	1	3	Cut		Linear; sharp break of slope at top; vertical sides; sharp break of slope at base; base flat; 0.40m E-W x 0.25m deep	
84	1	3	Deposit	Layer	Compact; fine and medium sub-angular and sub-rounded pebbles and purple stones in a clay matrix; >3.20m E-W x 0.10m thick	
85	1	1	Deposit	Layer	Cuit, this tead on brown bid;	Natural
86	1	1	Deposit	Layer	Loose; mid-dark red sand; >4.20m N-S x >8.40m E-W x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	Natural
87	5	4	Masonry	Surface	Concrete slab; extends length and breadth of trench; up to 0.12m thick	Concrete surface
88	5	4	Deposit	Layer	angular pebbles; up to 0.25m thick	Make-up for slab [87]
89	5	1	Deposit	Layer	Varies from loose-compact; light brownish yellow to mid yellowish brown; silty sand to well sorted small cobbles in gritty sand matrix; >19.90m x 1.90m E-W, thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural, mostly sand and gravel
90	5	4	Deposit	Fili	Firm; dark brownish grey; sandy silt; occasional brick fragments, occasional fine sub-angular pebbles; 0.70m N-S x >1.60m E-W x 0.20m thick	Fill of pipe trench [91]
91	5	4	Cut	Service trench	Linear; sharp break of slope at top; sides and base not seen; 0.70m N-S x >1.60m E-W x 0.20m deep	Pipe trench
92	5	3	Deposit	Fill	Loose; dark purplish red; gritty sandy silt; occasional CBM flecks, frequent small and medium slag fragments; >0.60m N-S x >0.27m thick (seen only in section)	Deposit associated with wall [93]
93	5	3	Masonry	Wall	mortar; >1.80m N-S x >0.20m EW x >0.20m high	Wall
94	5	3	Cut	Construction	?Linear; sharp break of slope at top; near vertical sides; base not seen; >1.80m N-S x >0.20m E-W x >0.20m high	<u> </u>
95	6	3	Deposit	Fin	Firm; dark brown; sandy clay, frequent brick fragments; 0.63m E-W x 0.43m N-S (not excavated); possibly associated with masonry [96]	?Demolition backfill
96	6	3	Masonry	Surface	Red bricks (90-230mm x 120mm x 70mm); mostly laid as stretchers; heavily truncated with only three courses visible in section; 1.45m E-W x 0.42m N-S x 0.33m high	
97	6	3	Deposit	Fill	Firm; greyish brown; sandy clay; occasional fine sub-angular pebbles; as seen 1.45m E-W \times 0.42m N S \times 0.07m thick	<u> </u>
98	6	3	Cut	Construction Sub-rectangular; sharp break of slope at top; steep sides; sharp break of slope at base; base flat;		Construction cut for structure [96]
99	6	1	Deposit Layer Stiff; dark reddish brown clay; occasional small fragments and flecks of coal; > 18.00m E-W x 1.60m N-S x 0.80m thick		i	
100	6	1	Deposit	Layer	Loose; red sand; >2.30m E-W x >1.60m N-S x thickness unknown (unexcavated); runs below layer [99]	Natural
101	6	3	Deposit	Fill	Firm; dark greyish brown; sandy clay; frequent fine sub-rounded pebbles and small charcoal fragments, moderate large stones; 0.75m (diameter) x thickness unknown (not excavated)	Fill of well [102]
102	6	3	Masonry	Well	Red bricks (110-180mm x 120mm x 70mm); near whole bricks and smaller fragments laid as a single skin of stretchers; diameter 0.90m; brick skin 0.12m wide; height unknown (not excavated)	
103	6	3	Deposit	Fill	Firm; reddish brown; sandy clay; occasional fine sub-angular pebbles, occasional medium and large stones; diameter 1.20m, thickness >0.15m (not excavated)	Backfill of construction cut [104]

Context	Trench	Phase	Type 1	Type 2	WELL ART YES THE COMPLETE THE TOTAL PROPERTY OF THE TOTAL PROPERTY	Interpretation
		3	Cut	Construction	Circular; vertical sides; base not seen (unexcavated); diameter 1.20m x >0.15m deep	Construction cut for well [102]
105	6	3	Deposit		stone; N-S >1.64m x 1.20m E-W x thickness unknown (unexcavated)	Backfill of construction cut [108]
106	6	3	Masonry		Red bricks (80-220mm x 110mm x 70mm); coursing not seen, due to cover of red sandy lime mortar; >1.04m NS x 0.24m E-W x unknown height (unexcavated); runs parallel and adjacent to wall [107]	
107	6	3	Masonry		>1.64m NS x 0.23m E-W x unknown height (unexcavated); adjacent to wall [106]	Brick wall, ?foundation
108	6	3	Cut	Construction	Linear; sides and base not seen; N-S >1.64m x 1.20m E-W x thickness unknown (not excavated)	Construction cut for walls [106] &
	6	3	Deposit	Layer	Soft; mid brownish yellow sand; frequent fine and medium rounded and sub-rounded pebbles; >12.80m E-W x >1.60m N-S x 0.32m thick	?Natural, possibly re-deposited
110	1	3	Cut		Linear; sides and base not seen (not excavated); >1.80m N-S	Construction cut for wall [56]
111	1	3	Cut		Rectangular; sides and base not seen (not excavated); 0.64m N-S x 0.86m E-W	Construction cut for brick
112	1	3	Cut	Construction	Linear, sides and base not seen (not excavated); >1.60m E-W	Construction Cut for wall [60]
113	2	1	Deposit	Layer	Loose; light yellowish red; fine sandy silt; frequent concentrated patches of weakly cemented mid brownish orange coarse sand and gravel; 7.30m N-S x 3.90m E-W, thickness unknown (not excavated).	Natural
114	3	1	Deposit	Í	Friable; light brownish grey; fine sandy silty clay; very occasional coal or charcoal flecks; >1.80m E-W x >1.85m N-S x thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural, same as layer [9]
115	3	1	Deposit	Layer	Loose; light yellowish red; fine sand; 1.04m N-S x 0.44m E-W, thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural
116	3	1	Deposit	Layer	Stiff; light yellowish grey; silty clay; >1.72m E-W x 0.74m N-S x thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural
117	4	1	Deposit	Layer	Varies from loose to weakly cemented; light-mid brown; sand and gravel; >13.70m N-S x >1.60m E-W x thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural
118	6	3	Deposit	Fill	Soft; dark grey; sandy silt; frequent fine angular pebbles; 0.60m E-W x N-S extent not seen (recorded only in section) x thickness 0.34m	Fill of drain [119]
119	6	3	Masonry		Red bricks (240mm x 160mm x thickness not seen); laid as stretchers; single skin of bricks laid within construction cut [120]; bonded with black mortar; length not seen (recorded only in section) x 0.84m E-W x 0.34m high	
120	6	3	Cut		Shape not seen (recorded in section only); vertical sides; 90° break of slope at base; base flat; aligned roughly N-S	Construction cut for wall [119], also filled by [118]
121	8	1	Deposit	•	Weakly cemented; mid yellowish red to reddish brown; sand and gravel; moderate pockets of clay; Natural >4.36m x >1.34m x thickness unknown (not excavated)	
122	9	1	Deposit		Firm; light brownish white; fine sandy silt, occasional coal flecks; >8.40m E-W x >1.90m N-S, thickness unknown (not excavated)	Natural

APPENDIX C ROMAN POTTERY AND CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

ROMAN COARSE POTTERY

By: T.S. Martin

Introduction

The excavation produced a total of 62 sherds weighing 745g. This material was recovered from seven contexts and was primarily analysed to provide dating evidence for feature-fills. The pottery was classified using a fabric series devised for the Beetham Hilton Hotel site (Martin 2004). All but one badly burnt and abraded base sherd could be assigned to a specific fabric. Forms were classified using Gillam's (1968) northern form typology and his BB1 synthesis (Gillam 1976). The pottery recording was carried out with reference to the Guidelines issued by the Study Group for Roman Pottery (Darling 1994). Quantification was by sherd count and weight.

Results

Although producing a very small assemblage, date-ranges can be provided for all but two contexts (Table C). Taken as a group, the bulk of the pottery would fit into a 2nd century date-range, with a single Nene Valley colour-coat sherd extending the chronology into the mid-3rd century and later. The absence of any diagnostic late BB1 suggests that the chronology of the site does not extend beyond the mid-3rd century, however.

Using sherd count as a rough index of dating reliability, there was only one medium-sized group. The largest group of sherds, 35 in all, came from context [73], the fill of a ditch. This material can be dated to the mid-3rd century. The next largest group amounted to just twelve sherds. This came from layer [13/14/18/31] and dated the mid-to late 2nd century. Context [36] the fill of a pit, produced nine sherds that also fall within a mid-to late 2nd century date-range.

In terms of the range of fabrics and forms present, there were no surprises and the range of material compares well with that examined by the author from the Beetham Hilton Hotel site, for example. The range of identifiable sources comprised mainly reduced and oxidised Cheshire Plain products along with significant amounts of Dorset BB1 and a Wroxeter white ware mortarium comparable to Gillam type 245. Also notable is the presence of a sherd of Nene Valley colour-coat in context [73], which seems to have arrived in the region from the mid-3rd century onwards (Webster 1991, 14). The only imported pottery comprised a single sherd from a Dressel 20 amphora (Peacock and William 1986, class 25) from Southern Spain. This also came from context [73].

Recommendations

As it stands, little further work is required on this assemblage. The Wroxeter white ware mortarium in context [21] might be usefully drawn for inclusion in the site archive. Only a brief summary would be required for publication.

Context	Sherd Count	Wt. (gms)	Ceramic phase	Dating
14	6	41	3	Mid-to late 2nd century
20	1	36	-	Undated
21	1	166	2	Early to mid-2nd century
23	4	25	3	Mid-to late 2nd century
31	6	18	-	Roman
36	9	178	3	Mid-to late 2nd century
73	35	281	4	Mid-3rd century+

Table C: List of spot-dates in context number order (n.b. all dates are AD)

Works cited

- Darling, M.J. (ed.), 1994. Guidelines for the Archiving of Roman Pottery, Study Group for Roman Pottery Guidelines Advisory Document 1.
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- Peacock D.P.S and Williams, D.F., 1986. Amphorae and the Roman Economy: An Introductory Guide, Longman, London.
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CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL

By: T.S. Martin

A large fragment from a thick flat tile was recovered from context [51], the fill of a ditch in Trench 9. Unfortunately no pottery was recovered from the feature, so the piece is undated. The fragment weighed 1.6kg and was 75mm thick. No distinguishing features were present apart from traces of fingerprints on the upper surface. The thickness of this tile falls well within the range recorded by Brodribb (1987, 43) for the *tegula bipedalis*. This brick type seems to have had a variety of uses included that of bonding course brick and in arches.

Work cited

Brodribb, G., 1987. Roman Brick and Tile, Sutton, Gloucester.

APPENDIX D SAMIAN WARE

SAMIAN WARE

By: James Gerrard

The samian ware represents a very small assemblage. As might be expected, it is all Central Gaulish in origin, with most sherds probably sourced from Lezoux and a single sherd possibly originating at Les-Martres-de-Veyre. This material is of 2nd century date, although one should be aware that samian had a long use life and could be deposited many years after its date of manufacture or importation.

Trench 9 [14]

20 Sherds, 127g. Central Gaulish samian (?Lezoux), fresh, joining frags of a decorated Dr37. Second century. The decoration should enable this date to be refined. Heavily abraded by soil conditions.

2 sherds 5g, from ?another vessel. Second century.

Trench 9 [31]

2 sherds, 6g Central Gaulish (?Lezoux) samian, Abraded, Second century.

Trench 5 [73]

1 sherd, 3g. Central Gaulish (?Les-Martres-de-Veyre). Abraded. Earlier 2nd century.

APPENDIX E POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY

POST-MEDIEVAL POTTERY

By: C.G. Cumberpatch BA PhD

Introduction

The pottery assemblage consisted of twenty-six sherds of pottery weighing 623 grams and represented a maximum of twenty-five vessels. The details of the assemblage are summarised in Table E.

Discussion

The pottery assemblage is of later 18th and 19th century date. Context 6 (Trench 3) appears to be the earliest group in terms of its composition (with the sherds of Pearlware the most reliable indicators of a date range), but evidence from Sheffield has suggested that the composition of ceramic assemblages can be severely affected by the practice of using domestic refuse as a building material, specifically for building up ground levels and levelling sites prior to building. This appears to have been the case with this deposit as plastic cups were also recovered, indicating the recent date of deposition.

The unstratified pottery from Trench 8 is generally later in date than the assemblage from Trench 3 but contains a similar mix of utilitarian and tableware. Brown Glazed Coarseware pancheons are ubiquitous on urban sites dating to the 18th and 19th centuries and appear to have fulfilled a wide variety of domestic functions.

The single sherd from context 14 (Trench 9) is of 19th century date but given its small size and the fact that bone china was in regular use from the beginning of the 19th century, it is not possible to be more precise than this.

Conclusion

Although small in size, the assemblage is not without interest. Its small size means that it lacks the detail which is visible in larger assemblages, but it is to be hoped that further work on the site will allow the recovery of a larger and more informative assemblage in the future.

Tr.	Context	Туре	No	Wt	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date range	Notes
3	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware	2	31	2	BS	Pancheon	One sherd has a rilled body	C18th - C19th	
3	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware		239	1	Base	Pancheon	Rilled externally, brown glaze internally	C18th - C19th	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
3	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	99	1	Base	Jar/pancheon	Brown glazed internally	C18th - C19th	
3	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	62	1	BS	Jar	Brown glaze int & ext	C18th - C19th	
3	6	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	97	1	Rim	Jar	Brown glaze int & ext, collared rim with flat top	C18th - C19th	Unusual rim shape
3	6	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	3	10	3	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	LC18th - C19th	
3	6	Edged ware	1	12	1	Rim	Plate	Moulded wavy edge with blue paint	c.1810 - c.1830	
3	6	Mocha ware	1	3	1	Rim	Bowl	Brown mocha trees on a white slip band; cane coloured ware body	C19th	
3	6	Pearlware	1	7	1	Footed base	Bowl	Rilled band above footed base	c.1780 - c.1840	į.
3	6	Pearlware	1	5	1	Base	?Flatware	U/Dec	c.1780 - c.1840	
3	6	Transfer Printed Pearlware	2	8	1	Flat base	Saucer	Unidentified transfer printed design internally	c.1780 - c.1840	
3	6	Transfer Printed Pearlware	1	15	1	Footring base	Plate	Irregular cellular pattern int; similar to 'Vermicelli'	c.1780 - c.1840	
8	U/S	Blue Banded ware	1	1	1	Rim	Bowl	Thin blue slip lines ext	C19th	
8	U/S	Blue Banded ware	1	1	1	BS	Bowl	Thin blue slip lines ext	C19th	
8	U/S	Brown Glazed Coarseware	1	3	1	BS	Bowl/pancheon	Brown glaze int	C18th - C19th	
8	U/S	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	3	1	Rim	Bottle	U/Dec	C19th	
8	U/S	Cane Coloured ware	2	22	2	BS	Kitchen bowl	Relief moulded curvilinear design ext	LC19th - EC20th	
8	U/S	Porcelain	1	1	1	BS	Hollow ware	U/Dec	C19th	Appears to be Porcelain rather than Bone China
8	U/S	Transfer Printed Whiteware	1	1	1	BS	U/ID	Unidentified transfer printed design internally	M - LC19th	
8	U/S	Yellow Glazed Coarseware	1	1	1	BS	Dish/bowl	White slip int. clear glaze ext	LC18th - C19th	Possibly finer than normal YGCW
9	14	Bone China	1	2	1	Handle	Cup	Moulded handle	C19th	i i
		Total	26	623	25					

Table E. Post-medieval pottery

APPENDIX F



Plate 1. Trench 3. Working shot, showing feature [24], looking south-west.



Plate 2. Trench 5. Excavated portion of ditch [74], looking north-west.



Plate 4. Trench 7. View along whole trench, looking north-east.



Plate 3. Trench 6. View along eastern part of trench, showing structure [102], looking east.



Plate 5. Trench 8. View along whole trench, showing surface [50], looking north-west.



Plate 6. Trench 9. Excavated portion of ditch [48], looking south.