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Land at Nile Street, Rochdale.
November 2015
V 1.0

Archaeological Watching Brief

Project Code: A0062.2

Report no. 0072

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Archaeological Watching Brief

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Project Code: A0062.2
Date: 25/11/2015
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REGISTERED ORGANISATION CIfA

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1.0 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

Aeon Archaeology in partnership with Nexus Heritage was commissioned by Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological watching brief of a proposed residential development located on approximately c1.97 ha of land situated in the eastern part of Rochdale, within the north-eastern part of Greater Manchester.

The archaeological watching brief was maintained within an area measuring 29.5m by 18.3m located towards the north-western end of the site, immediately to the southwest of the junction between Nile Street and Entwisle Road during the excavation of a foundation trench. The aim of the archaeological watching brief was primarily to recover artefacts dating to the late Victorian period, of which several well preserved ceramic bottles had been recovered during the excavation of an archaeological trial trench at this location, as part of a previous phase of work by Aeon Archaeology.

During the watching brief a total of 122 ceramic bottles, pots and glass vessels were recovered, most of which were complete in their entirety. The collection dated from 1865-1895 and appeared to represent an inclusion of artefacts within a general tip deposit, made up from ash, cinder and night-soil. It is probable that this deposit filled a former quarry running along the southern side of Entwisle Road, the base of which was not encountered despite a working depth of 4.0m beneath current ground level.

Acknowledgement and thanks is given to local historian Mr. Mike Riley who provided invaluable information and specialist analysis about the recovered artefacts.

2.0 INTRODUCTION

Aeon Archaeology in partnership with Nexus Heritage was commissioned by Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd to carry out a programme of archaeological watching brief of a proposed residential development located on approximately c1.97 ha of land situated in the eastern part of Rochdale, within the north-eastern part of Greater Manchester (**NGR: SD 90395 13527**) (figure 1). The archaeological watching brief was undertaken as a condition of full planning permission (**15/00113/FUL**) for the construction of low-rise dwellings and associated works including gardens, driveways, access roads, and adoptable infrastructure.

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, as advised by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), considers the site of potential archaeological interest and wishes to secure satisfactory treatment of the archaeological remains, as required by the National Planning Policy Framework and Policy BE/10 *Development Affecting Archaeological Sites and Ancient Monuments of the Rochdale Unitary Development Plan.* Accordingly, a condition relevant to archaeology has therefore, been applied to the permission for the development by the Council:

Condition 13.
No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

A programme of archaeological work commencing with a trial trench evaluation has been undertaken (Aeon Archaeology 2015). The evaluation demonstrated a modest archaeological potential and accordingly the Council, as advised by GMAAS required Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd. to arrange for a targeted archaeological watching brief to take place during ground works for the development. This document reports on the programme of archaeological work (an archaeological watching brief) at the Site in response to the spirit and intent of Condition No. 13.

A written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (ref: 3261.RO1a) (appendix II) was undertaken by Nexus Heritage in August 2015 which outlined the principle aims of the watching brief and the methods by which they would be met. This formed the basis of a method statement submitted for the work. The archaeological work was undertaken in accordance with this document and focused on the area in proximity of evaluation trial trench 1, as reproduced in figure 2.

An archaeological assessment (ref: 3224/RO1a) was undertaken by Nexus Heritage in March 2015 and provided to Aeon Archaeology. The assessment collated valuable data on remains dating from the early land-use history of the site from the medieval period until the present day with agricultural use to the east of the historic core of Rochdale until the mid-19th century when the first of a succession of industrial developments spread across the site, which also included residential thoroughfares.

It was agreed with CAPAS that the watching brief would be carried out on an **intensive** basis during the excavation of groundworks at the north-western part of the site, within an area measuring 29.5m in length by 18.3m in width orientated east to west, and situated at the south-western junction of Nile Street and Entwisle Road.

The work undertaken adhered to the guidelines specified in Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014).

3.0 PROJECT AIMS

The watching brief was maintained on site during the ground works which focused on a defined zone extending 29.30m x 18.50m, (Fig. 2), with the intention of identifying, investigating, recording and recovering an appropriate sample from a large assemblage of post-medieval pottery and any other archaeological remains encountered during the works, so far as is reasonably practicable given the conditions on site and health and safety considerations.

The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014a). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works. It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief at Nile Street were:

- To allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks for the development, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.

- To provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief were:

- To observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance.

- To record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance.

- To recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.

- Where the raw data allows, to construct a model of the depositional processes and stratigraphic sequence for the relevant parts of the site.

The management of this project has followed the procedures laid out in the standard professional guidance *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage, 1991), *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006), and in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Archaeological Watching Brief* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014). Five stages are specified:

Phase 1: project planning
Phase 2: fieldwork
Phase 3: assessment of potential for analysis and revised project design
Phase 4: analysis and report preparation
Phase 5: dissemination

The current document reports on the phase 4 analysis and states the means to be used to disseminate the results. The purpose of this phase is to carry out the analysis identified in phase 3 (the assessment of potential phase), to amalgamate the results of the specialist studies, if required, with the detailed site narrative and provide both specific and overall interpretations. The site is to be set in its landscape context so that its full character and importance can be understood. All the information is to be presented in a report that will be held by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record and the OASIS database so that it can be accessible to the public and future researchers. This phase of work also includes archiving the material and documentary records from the project.

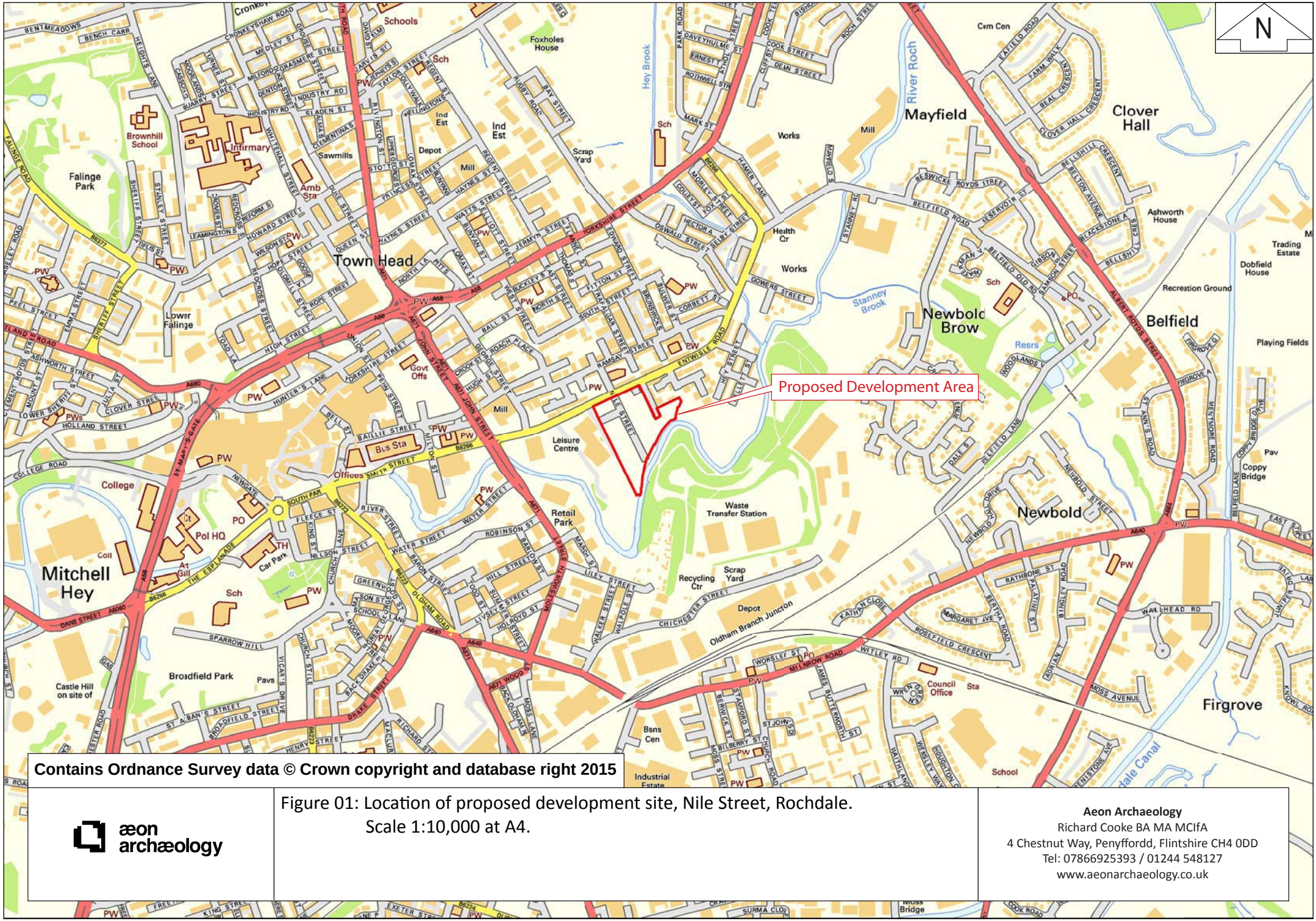

Figure 01: Location of proposed development site, Nile Street, Rochdale.
Scale 1:10,000 at A4.

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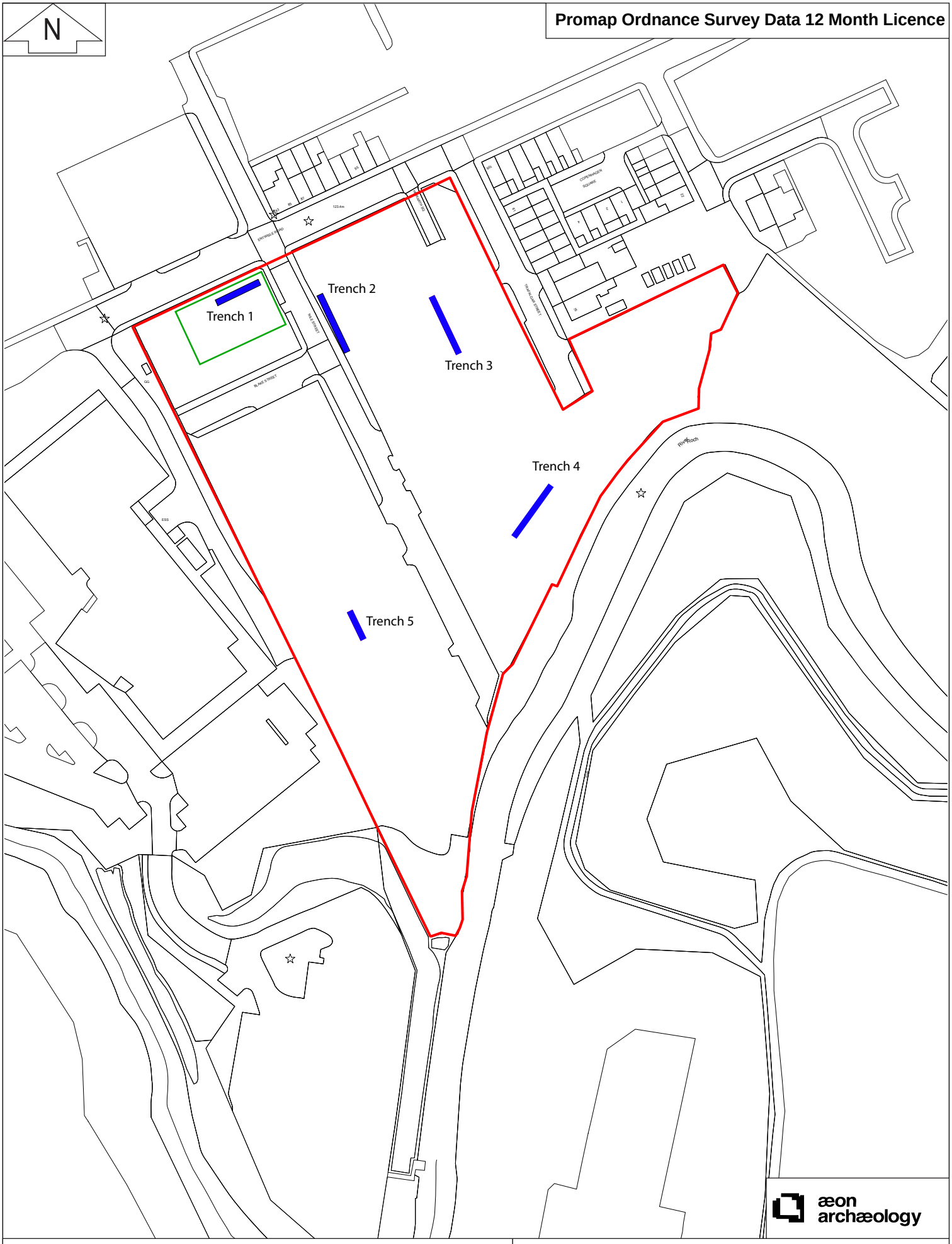

Figure 02: Location of archaeological evaluation trenches (shaded blue) and location of area monitored by archaeological watching brief (outlined green) at Nile Street, Rochdale. Scale 1:1,500 at A4.

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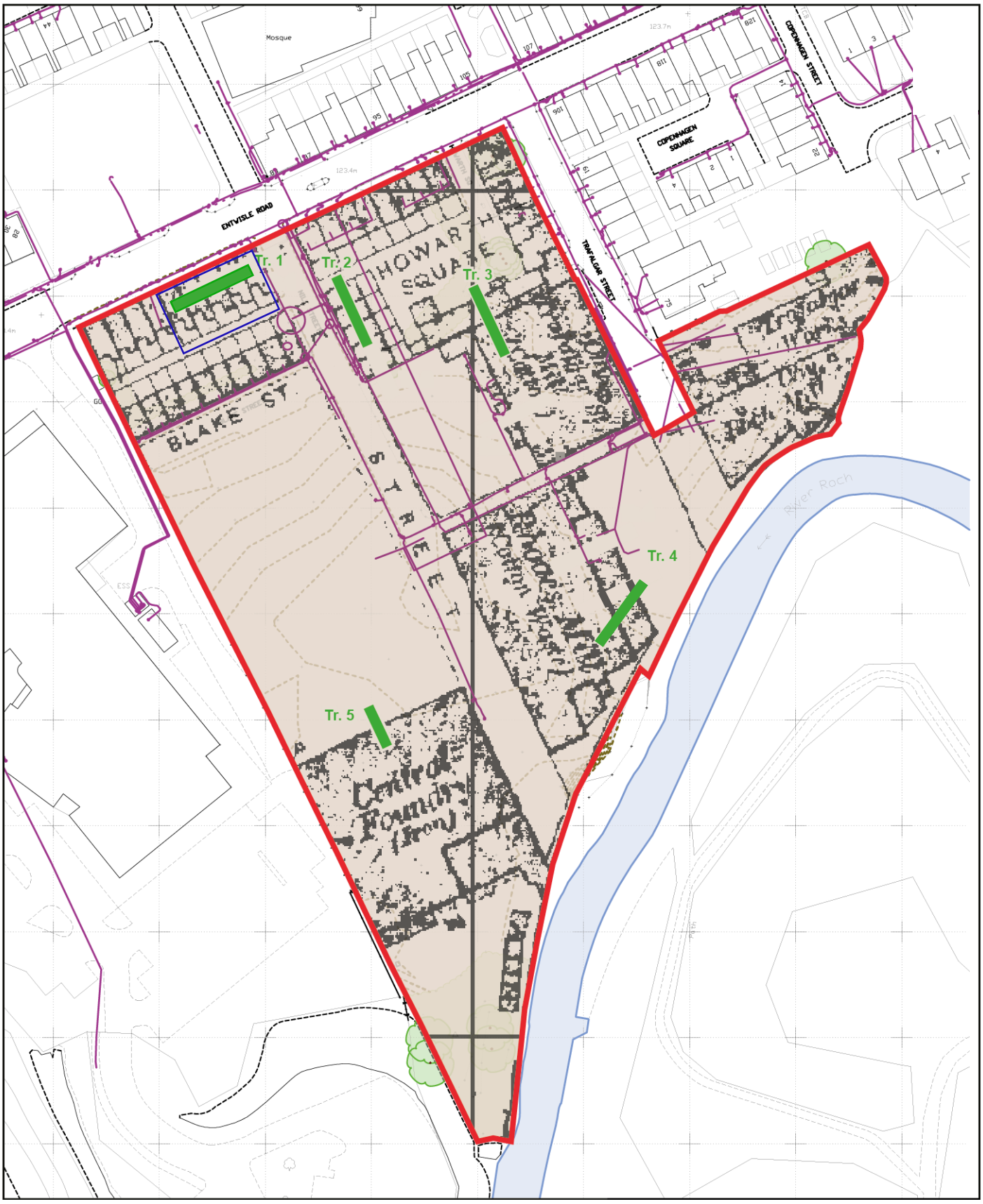

Figure 03: Location of archaeological evaluation trenches and watching brief overlain on the historic ordnance survey map of 1910 at Nile Street, Rochdale (Unscaled)(known utilities shown in purple).

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4.0 METHODOLOGY – ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

4.1 Watching Brief

All soil removal was undertaken using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. A photographic record was maintained throughout, using a digital SLR camera (Canon 550D) set to maximum resolution and any subsurface remains were to be recorded photographically, with detailed notations and measured drawings being undertaken if required.

In the event of archaeological discovery features were to be excavated by hand and fully recorded using Aeon Archaeology pro-formas, digital photographs, and plan and section drawings taken at a suitable scale (usually 1:20 for plan drawings and 1:10 for section drawings).

The archive produced is held at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0062.2**.

4.2 Data Collection from Site Records

A database of the site photographs was produced to enable active long-term curation of the photographs and easy searching. The site records were checked and cross-referenced and photographs were cross-referenced to contexts. These records were used to write the site narrative and the field drawings and survey data were used to produce an outline plan of the site.

All paper field records were scanned to provide a backup digital copy. The photographs were organised and precisely cross-referenced to the digital photographic record so that the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) can curate them in their active digital storage facility.

4.3 Artefact Methodology

All artefacts were to be collected and processed including those found within spoil tips. They would be bagged and labelled as well any preliminary identification taking place on site. After processing, all artefacts would be cleaned and examined in-house at Aeon Archaeology. If required artefacts would be sent to a relevant specialist for conservation and analysis.

The recovery policy for archaeological finds was kept under review throughout the archaeological watching brief. Any changes in recovery priorities would be made under guidance from an appropriate specialist and agreed with the Client and the GMAAS. There was a presumption against the disposal of archaeological finds regardless of their apparent age or condition.

4.4 Environmental Samples Methodology

The sampling strategy and requirement for bulk soil samples was related to the perceived character, interpretational importance and chronological significance of the strata under investigation. This ensured that only significant features would be sampled. The aim of the sampling strategy was to recover carbonised macroscopic plant remains, small artefacts particularly knapping debris and evidence for metalworking.

Advice and guidance regarding environmental samples and their suitability for radiocarbon dating, as well as the analysis of macrofossils (charcoal and wood), pollen, animal bones and molluscs would be obtained from Oxford Archaeology if required.

4.5 Report and dissemination

A full archive including photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project was prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions were labelled, and cross-referenced, and will be lodged within a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator within six months of the completion of the project.

A draft copy of the report has been sent to the client and upon written approval from them paper and digital copies of the report will be sent to the regional HER, the GMAAS, and will be logged with the online OASIS database. Copies of all notes, plans, and photographs arising from the watching brief will be stored at Aeon Archaeology under the project code **A0062.2** with the originals being lodged in a suitable repository to be agreed with the archaeological curator.

5.0 SITE LOCATION

The site is located to the south of Entwisle Road at grid reference SD 90395 13527. It is irregular in plan form, but relatively level, with an elevation of *c.*123.5m AOD at Entwisle Road, sloping to 121.5m AOD adjacent to the river, a slope of *c.* 2.0m across the site. At the time of reporting the site was unoccupied by buildings or any traces of its industrial / commercial past (other than some boundary walls). It is understood that the site had recently undergone a programme of demolition to remove all above ground structures and concrete slabs. The northern boundary is provided by Entwisle Road. The southern boundary is provided by the banks of the River Roch towards which the site slopes gently towards 2.0m high embankment incorporating a stone-built wall. To the west is a leisure centre separated from the site by a brick wall in poor state of repair. To the east the site is bounded by Trafalgar Street. The Site surface is laid to rough grass.

The British Geological Survey (BGS) characterises the bedrock at the site as Old Lawrence Rock of the Lower Coal Measures which is anticipated to comprise sandstone. The drift geology beneath the site comprises alluvium, which is anticipated to mainly comprise silty clay, sands and gravels. The BGS database of boreholes scans records no available borehole data for the site.

A geotechnical ground investigation was undertaken in January/February 2015 (e3p 2015) and comprised x20 machine excavated test pits to a maximum depth of 4.0m and x9 window samples to a maximum depth of 5.45m.

In summary the ground investigation confirmed the predicted geological profile and also allowed identification of the surface and near surface deposits. Made ground of mixed composition was found across the entire site and had a minimum recorded thickness of 1.0m and a maximum thickness of 4.0m. The made ground typically comprised a dark brown grey sandy ashy gravel with fragments of brick and concrete and frequent inclusions of plastic, wood, pottery, fuel ash slag and clinker. It should be noted that a previous ground investigation at the site (LK Consult Ltd. 2010) identified made ground to thickness of up to 4.7m, but that between 2010 and the most recent ground investigation in 2015 it is understood that the structures which once occupied the site were demolished, hardstanding surfaces removed and the resultant surface re-graded with imported soil and seeded.

The ground investigation also encountered numerous obstructions which were likely to be associated with brick and concrete foundations and brick and concrete floor surfaces associated with factory buildings and yards and residential dwellings and yards. Isolated horizons of soft clay with localised lenses of sand were identified across the site between 1.5m and 3.0m below ground level and this material corresponded with the anticipated superficial geological deposits. No bedrock was identified during the ground identification which corresponded with the recorded depth of sandstone in the vicinity of *c.* 65.0m below ground level.

The archaeological evaluation at Nile Street (Aeon Archaeology, 2015) showed that the majority of the site had poor potential for the preservation of archaeological remains.

Trenches 1 and 2 produced cellar walls constructed from unfrogged red-brick that corresponded with the terraced houses depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910. Trench 2 also produced a red-brick drain. The preservation of some sub-surface remains in Trenches 1 and 2 however, appeared to be isolated occurrences with considerable disturbance evident through the successive phases of demolition, later construction and re-grading at the site from 2006 onwards. These activities appeared to have removed all but a minority of the buried foundation remains of both groups of housing and it was not considered that any further investigation was merited.

Trenches 3, 4 and 5 also showed that although isolated remains persisted at foundation level from the Trafalgar Street Mill, Rhodes Mill, and Central Foundry, more recent activity at the Site had all but removed trace of these once substantial structures. With the exception of Trench 5, all of the trenches

corresponded with the historical cartographic evidence and all features could be identified as forming part of their respective structures.

The archaeological remains were found to be of isolated fragments and there was no reason to suppose that the results of the evaluation were not indicative of the overall degree of survival across the site. In every trench the foundation structures were found to be discontinuous and had for the most part been demolished in their entirety.

A possible dump of Victorian/Edwardian artefact fragments along the south side of Entwisle Road was observed in Trench 1. The large quantity of well preserved ceramics and glass were considered of importance both in contributing to the local historical narrative as well as the social and cultural development of later 19th century Rochdale.

In the light of these discoveries it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be maintained during groundworks in the vicinity of Trench 1 and along the southern side of Entwistle Road and that recovered ceramics were submitted to a specialist in post-medieval pottery for further analysis.

The archaeological evaluation fulfilled the expectations of the archaeological condition through confirmation of the presence, character, nature and degree of survival of archaeological remains across the site. The overall potential for the preservation of remains likely to yield useful information and knowledge was considered low and the recommendation for a watching brief was considered proportional to the importance of the archaeological remains as identified and in line with the condition.

6.0 HISTORY OF THE SITE

There are no records of finds or archaeological sites from the prehistoric era within the Site or in the locale and it is considered that the Site has a very low potential to contain archaeological remains dated to the prehistoric era.

There are no records of finds or archaeological sites from the Roman period within the Site or in the vicinity and in the wider Rochdale area there are few known remains of Roman date. The potential for remains of this date to exist in the Site is considered to be very low.

There are no confirmed archaeological remains from the Saxon/early medieval period recorded in the Site or in the local environment. .However, whilst there are no recorded Saxon/early medieval archaeological remains within the Site the historic and place-name evidence confirms the likelihood of some activity at Rochdale in the second half of the first millennium. The archaeological potential of the Site for this period can, however, be considered to be very low.

There are no confirmed archaeological remains from the medieval period recorded in the Site or in the general area. However, there are several known medieval sites in Rochdale and Rochdale is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The historic and archaeological evidence for settlement activity and landscape exploitation/modification at and around Rochdale in the period suggests that the archaeological potential of the Site for this period is low.

Rochdale was established as a notable market town by the mid 16th century and throughout the 17th century manufacturing and mining began to develop and the town began to grow. However, archaeological evidence for this period is sparse –but by the end of the 18th century Rochdale was renowned for its production of woollen cloth. Towards the late 18th century the Site remained as undeveloped land to the east of the town. As the century turned Rochdale began to expand rapidly, but there were no buildings on the Site in 1831. A land division, however, extended north-south across the Site – presumably a hedge.

By 1850 the Rhodes Mill has been built on the Site along with a thoroughfare that corresponds with Nile Street. The eastern boundary of the Site has been established and the mill appears to be in an enclosure, presumably defined by a wall the east-west length of which is likely to have formed the alignment for the later laying out of Entwisle Road.

The landscape in and around the Site was subjected to significant change during the second half of the 19th century – starting with the renaming of the Rhodes Mill as Nile Mill (Woollen) in about 1851. By 1893 Nile Mill is now returned to its original name of Rhodes Mill (Cotton Waste). Roch Mill has been built in the eastern portion of the Site and a Cotton Mill has been erected in the north east of the Site, with associated chimney and a well. A suite of terraced housing is present along the north eastern boundary of the site fronting onto Entwisle Road, and both Trafalgar Street and Nile Street have been laid out, extending as far south as the river.

By 1910 an Iron Foundry has been constructed in the southwest of the site, and Machinery Works has been constructed in the very east of the site. Further residential dwellings have been constructed in the north of the site along Blake Street and Howarth Square. By 1930 further industrial development has been undertaken with a Machinery Works constructed toward the northwest of the Site. A Chimney has been constructed in the eastern boundary and on the southern boundary, south of the mill building, Roch Mill is now labelled as disused.

7.0 QUANTIFICATION OF RESULTS

7.1 The Documentary Archive

The following documentary records were created during the archaeological watching brief:

Watching brief day record sheets	2
Digital photographs	40

7.2 Environmental Samples

No environmental samples were taken as part of the archaeological watching brief as no suitable deposits or fills were encountered.

7.3 Artefacts

A large quantity of Victorian and early 20th Century pottery and glass were recovered from a single deposit within the area monitored by archaeological watching brief. These were sent to a ceramics specialist for further analysis, the results of which are presented in section 8.0.

8.0 SPECIALIST ANALYSIS – CERAMICS AND GLASS

By Mr. Mike Riley

Summary

The Nile Street finds assemblage comprised the following range of artefacts: 70 ceramic ginger beer bottles dating from 1865-1895; 3 ceramic pots and preserves jars dating from c.1890; 16 glass bottles dating from 1890-1895; and 33 ceramic blacking and ink pots dating to c.1890.

The finds span approximately a 30 year period between 1865 and 1895.

Ginger Beer Bottles

Table 1. Ginger beer bottles

Type	No.
G.T. Chadwick c.1880-1895	18
Plain/unmarked c.1865-1880	12
William Noble (Heywood)	10
S. Casson c.1870-1890	9
J. R. Williams c.1880 to 1890	6
Isaac Standring c.1880 to 1890	5
Swindleys (Swinton) c.1890	4
Castleton Mineral Water Co c.1890 to 1895	3
Thomas Walmsley c.1890	1
Rochdale and Oldham Mineral Water co c.1890	1
Alfred Mathews (Middleton) c.1890	1
TOTAL	70

Plain unmarked stone ginger beer and porter bottles were used by underfunded or less well established manufacturers, and had simple decorative printed paper labels glued on them. Better funded and established manufacturers would order in quantity their bottles from the bottle makers with their names and trade mark stamped/impressed into them. The proportion of plain bottles retrieved also gives indication that many Rochdale mineral water manufacturers were small and underfunded.

From about 1895 the method of `underglaze transfer printing` had been invented and was commonly in use. Underglazed transfer printed bottles had permanent designs that did not wash off and were considered more hygienic.

None of the recovered bottles had underglaze prints, confirming that the area in proximity to Entwistle Road was an older part of the tip and pre dates 1895.

Jam Pots & Preserves

Table 2. Jam pots, preserves and glass bottles

Type	No.
Wine bottles (broken)	6
Unmarked champagne bottle c.1890	1
Beer bottles (broken) c.1890-1895	4
Chemist bottles Niall (Milnrow) c.1890 and unmarked blue c.1890	2
Potted meat bases c.1890	2
Cures c.1890	1
Mineral water codd bottles c.1890	3
TOTAL	19

Blacking Pots and Ink pots.

These necessaries were cheaply made utility containers that are commonly found on every Victorian town and village tip.

Table 3. Blacking pots and ink pots.

Type	No.
Large blacking pot c.1890	4
Medium size blacking pot c.1890	2
Small size blacking pot c.1890	2
Medium sized pouring inks c.1890	8
Small sized white bulk ink c.1890	11
Small sized brown ink c.1890	4
Glass ink	1
Glass gum bottle	1
TOTAL	19

8.0 RESULTS OF THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

The archaeological watching was maintained between 2nd and 3rd September 2015. Archaeological contexts have been assigned where relevant and are shown in brackets. Details of contexts are presented in appendix I.

Area to the immediate southwest of the junction of Nile Street and Entwisle Road

(Plates 1 to 9)

Discussion

The archaeological watching brief was maintained within an area measuring 29.5m in length by 18.3m in width orientated east to west. This area was located at the north-western end of the proposed development site to the immediate southwest of the junction between Nile Street and Entwisle Road, centred on NGR SD 90339 13578.

The excavated area cut through a 0.5m deep soft, light yellow sand deposit (1007) which is likely to have been deposited across the site during the removal of upstanding remains and regarding at the site between 2010 and 2015. Beneath this deposit lay a 1.0m deep loose, mixed light grey and dark black-grey silt-clay deposit (1008) with frequent inclusions of red-brick fragments as well as modern plastic. This deposit almost certainly represented a demolition phase, most likely dating to when the terraced housing stock was demolished between 1982 and 2006.

The demolition deposit lay above a soft, organic-rich, dark grey-black slightly clayey-silt deposit (1009) that measured >2.0m in depth and produced many sherds of Victorian ceramic and glass including several well-preserved earthen-ware bottles, as detailed in section 8.0. It is probable that this deposit filled a former quarry running along the southern side of Entwisle Road.

The natural glacial substrata was not encountered anywhere within the area monitored by the archaeological watching brief despite the maximum safe limit of the mechanical excavator reaching to 4.0m beneath current ground level. The limit of deposit (1009) was also not encountered.

9.0 CONCLUSION

Rochdale`s population was rapidly increasing from the 1850s, and the town was becoming a diseased and filthy place. There was no arrangement for the removal and disposal of the towns refuse and night soil from the midden-steads that were badly neglected. The streets were full of refuse matter, sewerage and large amounts of horse dung that posed serious health risk, and spread of disease throughout the town.

In 1864 the chemist Alderman Taylor initiated the town`s health committee to finally do something about this, and in 1867 a trial twelve-month plan was underway for organised collection of Rochdale`s refuse and disposal.

Entwistle Road/Smith Street and the surrounding area (Nile Street) was the original tipping site for Rochdale`s industrial mill ash and household refuse. The `Rochdale System` was a pioneer system, and later copied throughout the land as an early initial way of recycling, that additionally generated revenue for the council. The Rochdale System involved weekly collections of ash from the cotton mills, and also household refuse that included excreta (night soil) from midden-steads, domestic fire ash, cinders, glass, pottery, shoes, (anything that would not burn) in wooden tubs supplied by the council.

The finer ash was sifted and mixed with excreta to manufacture into manure by a special method, and was sold to farmers in large quantities at good profit. In the week October 21st 1874 there were 84 Tons of excreta and 143 Tons of refuse removed from 4,434 closets and ash places. The quantity of manure made was 74 Tons. The number of houses relieved from refuse was 7,995 as well as 116 mills. The work was accomplished by 12 horses, 8 carts and 24 men, and an additional 16 men employed in the manufacture of manure.

In general glass items were melted down to make new glass bottles and jars, and pottery containers were simply discarded into the tip.

The archaeological watching brief recovered an eclectic collection of utility containers that Rochdale`s general public discarded as rubbish about 130 years ago. Brewed Ginger Beer at that time was a popular cheap health drink enjoyed by all as tap water was still considered unsafe to drink, so it`s unsurprising that the largest quantity of bottles were ginger beers. Ginger Beer, Soda (fizzy drink made from water charged with carbon dioxide) and Mineral Water (water containing dissolved mineral salts or gases) manufacturers, was Rochdale`s subsidiary industry, and refreshed workers engaged in steel making, stone quarrying and cotton textiles.

The average manufacture dates of the ginger beer bottles were c.1880-1885 and confirm that G. T. Chadwick and Samuel Casson were the principle mineral water manufacturers in Rochdale at that time. William Noble of neighbouring Heywood was established during the 1860`s and an equally active mineral water manufacturer in the 1880`s.

Chemist`s bottles, including pots for hair restoration, creams & salves are sometimes found on Victorian tip sites. These were expensive items and none were recovered during the archaeological watching brief suggesting a low income status of Rochdale’s local residents.

Upper class mill owners and gentry were generally living outside the town in the larger houses and halls with grounds that were usually tipped on site with higher quality glass, wine & champagne bottles, and quality pots for hair pomades, face creams, & tooth paste etc.

Due to health and safety confines, the three strip excavations monitored by archaeological watching brief were carried out to a maximum depth of 4.0m. This was unfortunate for the archaeology as the ash and deposits run much deeper, probably to 7.0-8.0m to the origin of tipping. The earliest tipped items still in situ at original ground level, would have been far more interesting, and could have

revealed information on Rochdale`s early landlords, beer brewers and mineral water manufacturers that are currently unknown.

The collection in its entirety has little historical value, as no rare or important piece of the town`s history was recovered. Similar digs on city, town and village tips have revealed almost identical items.

Plate 01: Area to be monitored by archaeological watching brief, from the east.

Plate 02: Area to be monitored by archaeological watching brief, from the west.

Plate 03: Excavation of foundation trench first strip, from the north.

Plate 04: Excavation of foundation trench first strip, from the south.

Plate 05: Excavation of foundation trench second strip, from the north.

Plate 06: Excavation of foundation trench second strip, from the south.

Plate 07: East facing section of foundation trench second strip, from the northeast.

Plate 08: Excavation of foundation trench third strip, from the west.

Plate 09: South facing section of foundation trench third strip, from the south.

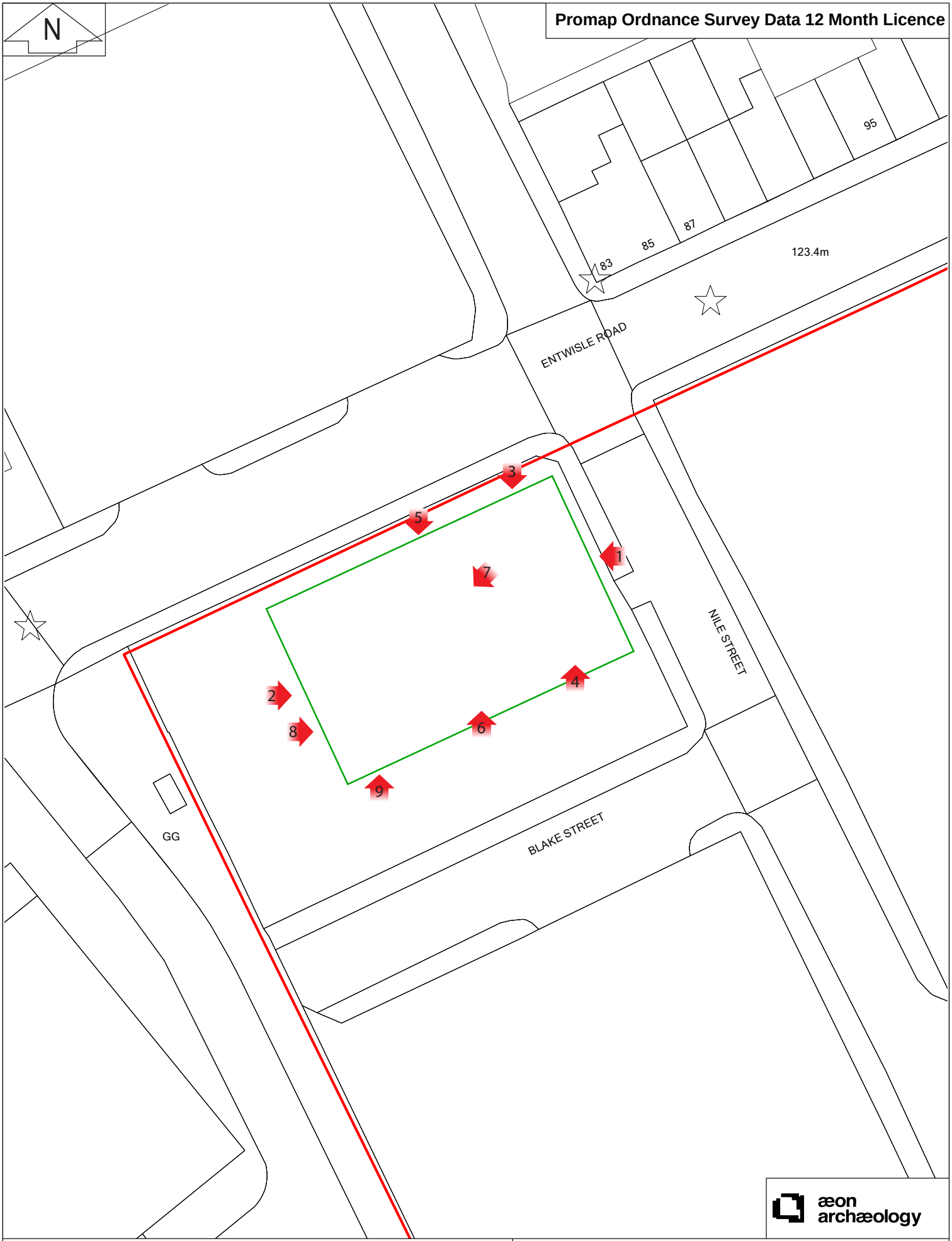

Figure 04: Location and orientation of photographs at Nile Street, Rochdale (numbered arrows refer to report plate numbers). Scale 1:500 at A4.

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10.0 SOURCES

OS Maps

OS 1:10 000 Series sheet SD 91 NE, SD 91 SE, SD 91 SW and SD 91 NW.

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APPENDIX I – DETAILS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXTS

Context	Description
1007	Yellow sand deposit.
1008	Demolition deposit.
1009	Dark black clay-silt deposit containing frequent Victorian ceramics.

APPENDIX II – WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

NEXUS HERITAGE

Land at Nile Street, Rochdale (15/00113/FUL)

Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief

Document No: 3261.R01a

August 2015

Nexus Heritage Controlled Document – Commercial-in-Confidence

Document Number	3261.R01a	
Document Status	**FINAL**	
Prepared by:	Anthony Martin	Date: 20.08.15
Checked by:	Gerry Wait	Date: 21.08.15
Approved by:	Gerry Wait	Date: 21.08.15

Revision Record		
Revision No.	Date	Details
a	26.08.15	Confirmation (page 1) that document has been reviewed by the Council's archaeological advisor (Mr. N. Redhead) and verified on behalf of the Council.

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CONTENTS:

INTRODUCTION

Planning permission has been secured by Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd. for a residential development on land at Nile Street, Rochdale (15/00113/FUL) – hereafter the Site. The Site extends over *c.* 1.97ha and consists of a partially fenced, open area of land with no standing buildings. The Site has recently undergone a phase of demolition works to remove all above ground structures and some hardstanding surfaces.

Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (hereafter the Council), as advised by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (hereafter GMAAS), considers the site is of potential archaeological interest and wishes to secure satisfactory treatment of the archaeological remains, as required by the *National Planning Policy Framework* (hereafter NPPF) and Policy BE/10 *Development Affecting Archaeological Sites and Ancient Monuments* of the Rochdale Unitary Development Plan. Accordingly, a condition relevant to archaeology has therefore, been applied to the permission for the development by the Council.

Condition 13. No development shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

A programme of archaeological work commencing with a trial trench evaluation has been undertaken (Aeon Archaeology 2015). The evaluation demonstrated a modest archaeological potential and accordingly the Council, as advised by GMAAS has required Countryside Properties (UK) Ltd. to arrange for a targeted archaeological watching brief to take-lace during ground works for the development. This document provides details of a programme of archaeological work (an archaeological watching brief) proposed for the Site in response to the spirit and intent of Condition No. 13.

Discussions have been held with the Heritage Management Director –Archaeology- (Mr. N Redhead) and the Senior Planning Archaeologist at GMAAS (Dr. A. Myers), to discuss the aims of the archaeological works and the methods to be employed, in order to ensure that the archaeological works meet the expectations of the Council.

Nexus Heritage is appointed as the Archaeological Consultant for this project and has prepared this document, which acts as a Written Scheme of Investigation (hereafter WSI) for an archaeological watching brief. This WSI is designed to comply with the spirit and intent of the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*, 2012 and Policy BE/10 of the Rochdale Unitary Development Plan to achieve an investigation of archaeological remains, and to record and advance understanding of their significance before they are irreversibly impacted upon by construction works. The results of the investigative works will be reported and submitted to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GMHER). If merited the results of the archaeological works would be published in a local or national journal, as appropriate and/or disseminated via an information panel at a suitable location. The records generated during the fieldwork (paper, photographic and digital) will be offered to a local museum or other public depository willing to receive them.

This document has been reviewed by the Council's archaeological advisor (Mr. N. Redhead) and verified (e-mail form N. redhead to A. Martin dated 26 August 2015) with reference to the Condition applied to the planning consent and the relevant provisions in *NPPF* and the locally applicable policy.

SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

Rochdale is situated within the north-eastern part of Greater Manchester and the Site lies in the eastern part of Rochdale.

The Site is located to the south of Entwisle Road at grid reference SD 90395 13527. It is irregular in plan form, but relatively level, with an elevation of *c.* 123.5m AOD at Entwisle Road, sloping to 121.5m AOD adjacent the River, a slope of *c.* 2m across the site. At the time of reporting the Site is unoccupied by buildings or any traces of its industrial / commercial past (other than some boundary walls). It is understood that the Site has recently undergone a programme of demolition to remove all above ground structures and concrete slabs. The northern boundary is provided by Entwisle Road. The southern boundary is provided by the banks of the River Roch towards which the Site slopes gently towards 2.0m high embankment incorporating a stone-built wall. To the west is a leisure centre separated from the Site by a brick wall in poor state of repair. To the east the site is bounded by Trafalgar Street.

The Site surface is laid to rough grass.

The British Geological Survey (BGS) http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html characterises the bedrock at the Site as Old Lawrence Rock of the Lower Coal Measures which is anticipated to comprise sandstone. The drift geology beneath the site comprises Alluvium, which is anticipated to mainly comprise silty clay, sands and gravels. The BGS database of boreholes scans records no available borehole data for the Site.

A geotechnical ground investigation was undertaken in January/February 2015 (e3p 2015) and comprised x20 machine excavated test pits to a maximum depth of 4m and x9 window samples to a maximum depth of 5.45m. The locations of the trial pits and borehole are provided in Fig. 3.

In summary the ground investigation has confirmed the predicted geological profile and has also allowed identification of the surface and near surface deposits. Made ground of mixed composition exists across the entire Site and has a minimum recorded thickness of 1.00 and a maximum thickness of 4.00m. the made ground typically comprises a dark brown grey sandy ashy gravel with fragments of brick and concrete and frequent inclusions of plastic, wood, pottery, fuel ash slag and clinker. It should be noted that a previous ground investigation at the Site (LK Consult Ltd. 2010) identified made ground to thickness of up to 4.70m, but that between 2010 and the most recent ground investigation in 2015 it is understood that the structures which once occupied the site were demolished, hardstanding surfaces removed and the resultant surface re-graded with imported soil and seeded. Therefore, the made ground at the Site is likely to contain some infiltrated items.

The ground investigation also encountered numerous obstructions which are likely to be associated with brick and concrete foundations and brick and concrete floor surfaces associated with factory buildings and yards and residential dwellings and yards.

Isolated horizons of soft clay with localised lenses of sand were identified across the Site between 1.50m and 3.00m below ground level and this material corresponds to the anticipated superficial geological deposits. No bedrock was identified during the ground identification which corresponds with the recorded depth of sandstone in the vicinity of *c.* 65m below ground level.

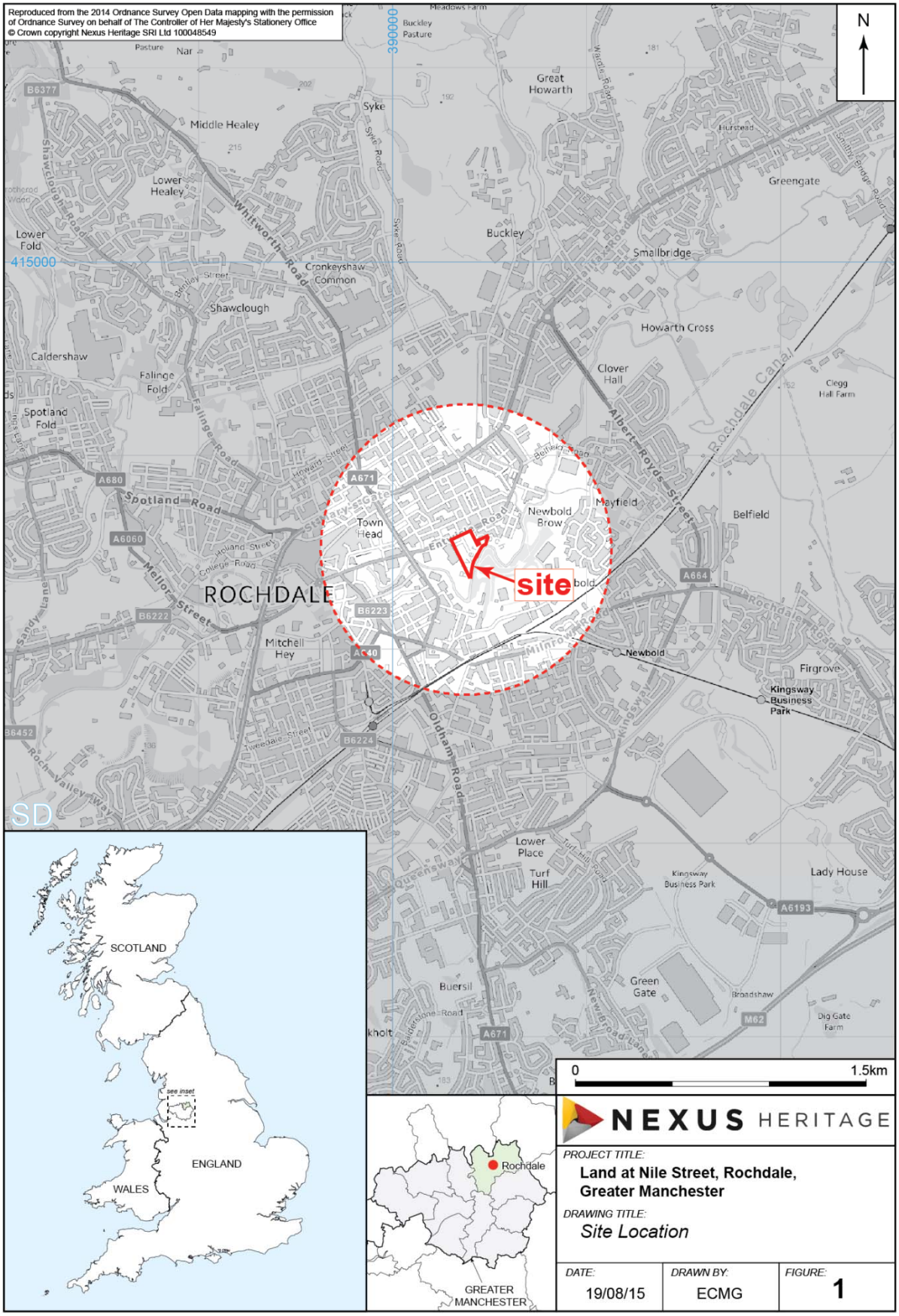

Figure 1: Location Plan (reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO ©Crown Copyright Nexus Heritage-SRI Licence No. 100048549)

ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The planning application was accompanied by an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (Nexus Heritage, 2015) and the details of the assessment need not be rehearsed here. However, the following summary provides a concise outline of the broad archaeological and historic context.

There are no records of finds or archaeological sites from the prehistoric era within the Site or in the locale and it is considered that the Site has a very low potential to contain archaeological remains dated to the prehistoric era.

There are no records of finds or archaeological sites from the Roman period within the Site or in the vicinity and in the wider Rochdale area there are few known remains of Roman date. The potential for remains of this date to exist in the Site is considered to be very low.

There are no confirmed archaeological remains from the Saxon/early medieval period recorded in the Site or in the local environment. .However, whilst there are no recorded Saxon/early medieval archaeological remains within the Site the historic and place-name evidence confirms the likelihood of some activity at Rochdale in the second half of the first millennium. The archaeological potential of the Site for this period can, however, be considered to be very low.

There are no confirmed archaeological remains from the medieval period recorded in the Site or in the general area. However, there are several known medieval sites in Rochdale and Rochdale is mentioned in the Domesday Survey of 1086. The historic and archaeological evidence for settlement activity and landscape exploitation/modification at and around Rochdale in the period suggests that the archaeological potential of the Site for this period is low.

Rochdale was established as a notable market town by the mid 16th century and throughout the 17th century manufacturing and mining began to develop and the town began to grow. However, archaeological evidence for this period is sparse –but by the end of the 18th century Rochdale was renowned for its production of woollen cloth. Towards the late 18th century the Site remained as undeveloped land to the east of the town. As the century turned Rochdale began to expand rapidly, but there were no buildings on the Site in 1831. A land division, however, extended north-south across the Site – presumably a hedge. By 1850 the Rhodes Mill has been built on the Site along with a thoroughfare that corresponds with Nile Street. The eastern boundary of the Site has been established and the mill appears to be in an enclosure, presumably defined by a wall the east-west length of which is likely to have formed the alignment for the later laying out of Entwisle Road.

The landscape in and around the Site was subjected to significant change during the second half of the 19th century – starting with the renaming of the Rhodes Mill as Nile Mill (Woollen) in about 1851. By 1893 Nile Mill is now returned to its original name of Rhodes Mill (Cotton Waste). Roch Mill has been built in the eastern portion of the Site and a Cotton Mill has been erected in the north east of the Site, with associated chimney and a well. A suite of terraced housing is present along the north eastern boundary of the site fronting onto Entwisle Road and both Trafalgar Street and Nile Street have been laid out, extending as far south as the river.

By 1910 an Iron Foundry has been constructed in the south-west of the site, and Machinery Works has been constructed in the very east of the site. Further residential dwellings have been constructed in the north of the site along Blake Street and Howarth Square. . By 1930 further industrial development has been undertaken with a Machinery Works constructed toward the north west of the Site. A Chimney has been constructed in the eastern boundary and on the southern boundary, south of the mill building, Roch Mill is now labelled as disused.

By 1958 Roch Mill and Rhodes Mill have been demolished. By 1975 the Iron Foundry in the south west of the site has extended to the north and east, with Tanks now located on the northern edge of the structure. A Builder's Yard is present in the western part of the Site. A Chimney has been constructed in the Site and a Concrete Works with associated tanks is now present in the location of the former Rhodes Mill, and a garage has been constructed to the east of this with associated tanks. The Cotton Mill towards the north east of the Site is recorded as a Motor Body Repair Works and Warehouse. The Chimney associated with the Cotton Mill has been demolished.

By 1992 the Builders Yard is no longer present and by 2015 all structures and buildings on the Site had been demolished (with the exception of some boundary walls) and the Site has been re-graded and most of it laid to grass.

In the light of the archaeological potential high-lighted by the archaeological assessment a trial trench evaluation was undertaken in July 2015 (Aeon Archaeology 2015)

The archaeological evaluation at Nile Street shows that the majority of the site has a poor potential for the preservation of archaeological remains.

Trenches 1 and 2 produced cellar walls constructed from unfrogged red-brick that correspond with the terraced houses depicted on the Ordnance Survey map of 1910. Trench 2 also produced a red-brick drain. The preservation of some sub-surface remains in Trenches 1 and 2 however, appears to be an isolated occurrence with considerable disturbance evident through the successive phases of demolition, later construction and re-grading at the site from 2006 onwards. These activities appear to have removed all but a minority of the buried foundation remains of both groups of housing and it is not considered that any further investigation is merited.

Trenches 3, 4 and 5 also showed that although isolated remains persist at foundation level from the Trafalgar Street Mill, Rhodes Mill, and Central Foundry, more recent activity at the Site has all but removed trace of these once substantial structures. With the exception of Trench 5, all of the trenches corresponded with the historical cartographic evidence and all features could be identified as forming part of their respective structures. However, the archaeological remains exist as isolated fragments and there is no reason to suppose that the results of the evaluation cannot be extrapolated to be indicative of the overall degree of survival across the site. In every trench the foundation structures were discontinuous and had for the most part been demolished in their entirety.

A possible dump of Victorian/Edwardian artefact fragments along the south side of Entwisle Road was observed in Trench 1. The large quantity of well preserved ceramics and glass should be considered of importance both in contributing to the local historical narrative as well as the social and cultural development of later 19th century Rochdale.

In the light of the discoveries it was recommended that an archaeological watching brief be maintained during groundworks in the vicinity of Trench 1 and along the southern side of Entwistle Road and that recovered ceramics are submitted to a specialist in post-medieval pottery for further analysis.

The archaeological evaluation fulfilled the expectations of the archaeological condition through confirmation of the presence, character, nature and degree of survival of archaeological remains across the Site. The overall potential for the preservation of remains likely to yield useful information and knowledge was considered low and the recommendation for a watching brief was proportional to the importance of the archaeological remains as identified and in line with the condition..

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The watching brief entails a presence on site during the ground works which take place in a defined zone extending 29.30m x 18.50m, (Fig. 2), with the intention of identifying, investigating, recording and recovering an appropriate sample from a large assemblage of post-medieval pottery and any other archaeological remains encountered during the works so far as is reasonably practicable given the conditions on site and health and safety considerations. The CIfA maintains a standard for archaeological watching brief which states that:

An archaeological watching brief will record the archaeological resource during development within a specified area using appropriate methods and practices. These will satisfy the stated aims of the project, and comply with the Code of conduct and other relevant by-laws of CIfA.

An archaeological watching brief is defined by the CIfA as a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons (CIfA 2014a). The watching brief will take place within a specified area within the Site where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed.

The CIfA further identifies the purpose of a watching brief as allowing, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works. It is also important to note that a watching brief provides an opportunity, if needed, for a signal to be made to all interested parties, before the destruction of the archaeological materials, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

A watching brief is, therefore, not intended to reduce the requirement for excavation or preservation of known or inferred deposits, and it is intended to guide, not replace, any requirement for contingent excavation or preservation of possible deposits.

The aims of the watching brief at Nile Street are:

- to allow, within the resources available, the opportunity to gain information about and record the presence/absence, nature and date of archaeological remains on the Site affected by excavations and groundworks for the development, the presence and nature of which could not be established with sufficient confidence in advance of works which may disturb them.

- to provide the facility to signal to the relevant authorities, before irreversible impact to remains that an archaeological and/or historic find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are inadequate to support their treatment to an adequate and satisfactory standard.

The specific objectives of the watching brief are:

- to observe and recover any artefacts of archaeological significance

- to record the location, dimensions and nature of any deposits, features, structures or artefacts of archaeological significance

- to recover samples of any deposits considered to have potential for analysis for palaeoenvironmental data should the opportunity arise.

- where the raw data allows, to construct a model of the depositional processes and stratigraphic sequence for the relevant parts of the site.

Figure 2: Site Plan Showing Area for Archaeological Watching Brief (reproduced from Ordnance Survey mapping with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO ©Crown Copyright Nexus Heritage-SRI Licence No. 100048549)

METHODOLOGY

The methodology for the watching brief has been prepared with reference to the CIfA's document *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014a) and will be kept under constant review during the project, in order to see how far it is meeting the terms of the aims and objectives, and in order to adopt any new questions which may arise.

Curatorial monitoring of the archaeological work on behalf of the Council will be carried out by an officer(s) of GMAAS. To facilitate the curatorial monitoring, the officer shall be provided with a minimum of two weeks' notice of the start of the archaeological work. Mr. N. Redhead (Heritage Management Director –Archaeology- of GMAAS) has been informed of the intention to undertake the ground works on site which require the archaeological watching brief to be maintained during September 2015.

A suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist(s) will be commissioned for the maintenance of the watching brief. On arrival on site, the archaeologist(s) will report to the site manager and conform to the arrangements for notification of entering and leaving site. The archaeologist(s) will keep a record of the date, time and duration of all attendances at site, the names and numbers of archaeologists deployed and any actions taken. The archaeologist will be provided with a Health & Safety Induction by the construction contractor and wear a safety helmet, safety footwear and high visibility jacket/vest at all times.

If deposits and or artefacts are exposed during excavations for the development which require recording and recovery, it may be necessary to delay works whilst the proper investigation and recording takes place. Watching brief recording can often be undertaken without delay to groundworks, depending upon the specific circumstances and flexibility of all the staff on site. Within the constraints of the terms of the watching brief work, the archaeologist will not cause unreasonable disruption to the maintenance of the work schedules of other contractors on site.

In the event of archaeological discoveries the treatment of which (either arising from the volume/quantity of material and/or the complexity/importance of the material) is beyond the resources deployed Countryside Properties will be notified and a site meeting/telephone consultation arranged with representatives of the Council and GMAAS. The aim of the meeting will be to confirm that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard and identify measures which would be sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard prior to destruction of the material in question..

Any archaeological deposits, features and structures identified which can be investigated and recorded under the terms of the watching brief will be excavated manually in a controlled and stratigraphic manner sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project – subject to the limitations on site access.

It may not be necessary to excavate the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits but the inter-relationships between archaeological deposits, features and structures will be investigated sufficient to address the aims and objectives of the project and the complete stratigraphic sequence to geologically lain deposits will be investigated where practicable. The method of recording will follow the normal principles of stratigraphic excavation and the stratigraphy will be recorded in written descriptions even where no archaeological deposits have been identified. The archaeologist will record archaeological deposits using *proformae* recording forms and locate them on a large-scale site plan related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and Datum references. The drawn record will comprise plans at scale 1:20 and sections at scale 1:10; propriety electronic hardware and software to prepare site drawings may be used as appropriate.

All artefact identification, assessment/analysis will be carried out in accordance with the CIfA's publication *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014b). All artefacts discovered will be retained for processing and analysis except for unstratified items dating to the twentieth or twenty-first centuries AD which will be recorded by material type, form, identification and weight, and discarded. All finds will be assessed in order to recover information that will contribute to an understanding of their date and function and identification, assessment and analysis will be undertaken by appropriately qualified and experienced practitioners with a working knowledge of the ceramic vessel tradition of north-west England. Certain artefacts pre-dating the 21th century may be discarded and a project specific discard policy will be agreed with the landowner, the Council and the recipient archive repository. .All retained finds will be stabilised and packaged in accordance with best practice and the requirements of the organisation nominated to receive the archive. The terms of the *Treasure Act* (1996) will be followed with regard to any items discovered to which the Act would apply. Such items will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local coroner as required. Where removal cannot be effected on the day of discovery the archaeological contractor will deploy suitable security measures to protect the items from unlawful removal.

Samples for scientific dating will be taken if suitable material is encountered during the watching brief.

The retention of artefacts and samples will only take place where appropriate measures are in place to mitigate the risks and hazards associated with toxic, chemical or biohazard contamination.

Recommendations for discard/further analysis will be made in the report in accordance with the English Heritage guidance documents *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-Excavation* (2002) and *Geoarchaeology – Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record* (2007). A sampling strategy will be agreed with a suitably qualified and experienced bio-archaeologist and any deviation from the sampling procedures outlined in the above guidance documents will be discussed and agreed with the Council in advance of implementation.

Any human remains discovered will be left *in situ* and protected. The police, Countryside Properties and the Council will be notified of the presence of human remains at the earliest opportunity. If removal is necessary, mandated by the relevant regulatory authorities and appropriate funding is provided the remains will be excavated archaeologically in accordance with the English Heritage document *Guidance for Best Practice for the Treatment of Human Remains Excavated from Christian Burial Grounds in England* (2005) and any conditions imposed by the Ministry of Justice and/or the Local Planning Authority Environmental Heath Directorate. Any assessment and reporting work on recovered human remains will be undertaken in accordance with the English Heritage document *Human Bones from Archaeological Sites: Guidelines for Producing Assessment Documents and Analytical Reports* (2004).

The watching brief works will be surveyed with respect to the nearest Ordnance Survey datum point and with reference to the Ordnance Survey National Grid. The observed areas, trenches, works, deposits, features and structures within them will be accurately located on a site plan prepared at most appropriate and largest scale. The photographic record will be secured by black and white film, colour slide film and will be supplemented by photographs taken using a digital camera of minimum 12mb resolution.

At the conclusion of the fieldwork, a brief summary of the results will be prepared for the Countryside Properties. The report will be prepared after the retained artefacts have been cleaned, identified (if possible), labelled, assessed and dated (if possible). The artefacts will be packed and stored in appropriate materials and conditions to ensure that no deterioration occurs. All artefact/ecofact processing/storage will be carried out in accordance with UKIC (United Kingdom Institute for Conservation) guidelines and should accord with the CIfA document *Standards and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014b). Soil or other samples recovered will be processed as appropriate by a qualified and experienced bio-archaeological scientist. Where the need for dating of individual contexts/features arises, material suitable for scientific dating will be identified and Countryside Properties advised.

ASSESSMENT, ANALYSIS AND REPORTING

After the completion of the fieldwork a report will be prepared which encompasses the results of the archaeological watching brief. The report would normally contain the following, but the contents may be adapted to take account of project specific circumstances:

- A non-technical summary
- A table of contents
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the site
- A statement of the project aims
- An account of the project methodology undertaken, with an assessment of the same to include a statement on preservation bias and the means of data collection and sampling strategies
- A factual summary of the history, development and use of the site
- A statement setting out the nature, quantity and condition of the material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) including commentary on any bias observed due to collection and sampling strategies and commentary on long-term storage requirements
- A statement setting out the nature and quantity of the documentary archive (notes, photographs, drawings, digital data)
- A general site plan indicating the position and size of the areas subject to watching brief and the locations of archaeological deposits identified and recorded during the works
- Plans and sections at appropriate scales, augmented with appropriate photographs. All plans and sections will be related to the Ordnance Survey datum levels and to the National Grid
- Other maps, plans, drawings, stratigraphic matrices and photographs as appropriate
- Summary assessment reports on the artefact, bio-archaeological, dating and other assessments/analyses
- A discussion of the location, extent, date, nature, condition, quality and significance of any archaeological deposits and finds identified during the project.
- A discussion of any research implications arising from the archaeological work.
- Notes on consultations with conservators and the nominated archive repository related the immediate and long-term conservation and storage requirements for the data held in the site archive and recommendations of retention/discard of artefacts and ecofacts.
- A bibliography sources consulted.
- Appendices to the report will include artefact catalogues, reports on assessments/analyses and an index to the project archive and a statement on its location/proposed repository

One digital .PDF copy of a draft version of the report will be made available for comment within four weeks of the completion of the fieldwork.

Should the delivery of the report depend on the incorporation of reports arising from specialist and/or laboratory work then a revised timetable for delivery of the draft report may be agreed upon conclusion of the fieldwork stage. Any observations on the content of the draft report made by Countryside Properties, GMAAS and the Council will be taken into account during preparation of the final report.

A digital .pdf copy of the final report will be submitted to Countryside Properties (1) and onward submission to the Council (1 copy) and the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (1 copy). A copy of the final report will also be submitted to the National Monument Record in appropriate hard and digital formats.

A summary report on the archaeological works will be provided to a suitable local journal if this is appropriate to the significance of the results, with a record note presented to the appropriate national period journal(s). These reports/notes will include the collaborative role of Countryside Properties, the Council and GMAAS in the completion of the archaeological works. An OASIS report will also be submitted, where appropriate.

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CONFIDENTIALITY

The archaeologist will treat as confidential all information obtained directly or indirectly from Countryside Properties in connection with these archaeological investigations and will not, without the prior consent of Countryside Properties, disclose any information relating to the project or publicise the project in any way.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

All relevant certification will be obtained from Countryside Properties and/or its agents and contractors regarding Health and Safety prior to any site works and will conform to arrangements for notification of entering and leaving the site.

The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will be guided by the *Health and Safety at Work Act* (1974), the *Standing Conference of Archaeology Unit Managers Health and Safety Manual* (1991), *Control of Substances Hazardous to Health (COSHH) Regulations* (2002), *Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations* (2007), *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations* (1999), the *Work at Height Regulations* (2005), the *Confined Spaces Regulations* (1997), the *Personal Protective Equipment at Work Regulations* (2002) and the Council for British Archaeology Handbook No. 6, *Safety in Archaeological Fieldwork* (1989).

While carrying out the archaeological investigations the archaeologist will operate in accordance with all applicable Health and Safety Legislation.

The archaeologist will provide himself or herself with all necessary protective clothing and equipment. The archaeologist will wear a safety helmet and reflective jacket/waistcoat at all times on site. Ear defenders and eye goggles would be used as required when machinery is in operation

Countryside Properties will supply any information regarding hazardous contaminants present in surface materials and sub-surface strata at the site. Where contaminated material is present in the surface or sub-surface deposits at the site appropriate measures will be taken to ensure the health and safety of archaeologists which may come into contact with contaminants. In case of encountering contaminated soil, Countryside Properties will be informed immediately.

In the event of encountering contaminated soil, it may be necessary for a revised method statement to be produced for approval by Countryside Properties. Once approved, the revised method statement will be forwarded to the Council for reference.

A First-Aid Kit and Accident Book will be kept on site at all times for the duration of the archaeological works

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ARCHIVE

The arrangements for archive preparation and submission will be complied with prior to commencing fieldwork and the archaeologist will be responsible for requests to transfer the legal title to the artefact archive from the landowner to a repository approved by the Council.

The archive generated during the project will be offered to a suitable local museum with Museum and Galleries Commission approved storage facilities. Every effort would be made to deposit the archive in an appropriate location with the agreement of Countryside Properties and to secure an agreement with the relevant repository to accept the archive prior to the commencement of the fieldwork. The archaeologist will maintain the archive until the period of report preparation is complete and will be responsible for necessary conservation work on the artefact archive to be undertaken to ensure the long-term stability of the artefacts and their availability for future study.

The archive is to be prepared, compiled and presented for long term storage according to the requirements of the receiving institution and as set out in the CIfA document *Standards and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (2014c).

The archaeologist will be responsible for the security of any excavated materials/records relating to the archaeological investigations prior to the submission of the archive. An indexed project archive will be prepared for inclusion as an appendix to the report. The project archive will comprise all primary written, documents, drawn plans and sections, photographic negatives and a set of labelled photographic prints.

The archive will comprise the stratigraphical/structural, artefact, environmental and other catalogues and all other records as well as details of the methods employed. Each separate data group should be cross-referenced to related data groups, to the final publication, and if necessary to a general context index to allow users maximum accessibility to the contents. The archive will contain some or all of the following elements:

- context information: recording (on duplicate copies) any amendments to original field records resulting from analysis
- photographic catalogue: listing all photographs taken during fieldwork, assessment and analysis
- digital photographs
- drawing index
- drawings, sketches, plans, sections, artefact drawings
- artefact catalogue and x-ray catalogue and x-rays
- conservation records: details of conservation undertaken during analysis, cross-referred to objects conserved
- soil sample catalogues: details of samples selected for analysis
- human bone catalogues: details recorded for analysis
- animal bone catalogues: details recorded for analysis
- a copy of the site narrative and copies of artefact, ecofact and scientific dating reports
- hard and digital copies of the final report

A synopsis of the archive would be lodged with GMAAS.

RESOURCES AND PROGRAMMING

The timing of the archaeological presence on site will depend on the nature, extent and timing of groundworks. It is anticipated that the ground works requirement the watching brief will be completed in one to three days.

The archaeological work will be undertaken by a team of demonstrable competence provided by Nexus Heritage. Archaeological staff engaged on the project will have appropriate and relevant experience.

MONITORING

GMAAS will monitor the archaeological works on behalf of the Council. Nexus Heritage will monitor the works on behalf of Countryside Properties.

Reasonable access to the site works will be provided by Countryside Properties to representatives of GMAAS and the Council in order to monitor the works. A site tour and opportunity to scrutinise artefacts and site records will be provided to the monitors as appropriate.

The archaeologist(s) on site will advise Nexus Heritage immediately of any significant discoveries and provide regular reports of site works. Nexus Heritage will ensure that any significant results recovered during the archaeological investigations are brought to the attention of Countryside Properties and GMAAS and will notify the relevant organisations as soon as is practicably possible, and certainly within 24 hours.

A consultation between the Nexus Heritage, Countryside Properties, GMAAS and the Council will be convened towards or at the conclusion of the ground works requiring the archaeological watching brief. The purpose of the consultation is to advise all parties on the manner in which the objectives of the project have been addressed and secure agreement that the fieldwork element of the watching brief has been concluded to the satisfaction of the Council.

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