

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

An archaeological building survey was required prior to alterations on the lower ground and upper ground floors at Victoria Mill, Miles Platting, Manchester. The work was carried out by Paul Butler Associates. The building was found to be a cotton mill dating from 1869 up until it went out of use in 1960. The building has been substantially altered, although retains several original features.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Paul Butler Associates have been commissioned to undertake an historic building survey of Victoria Mill, Lower Vickers St, Manchester M40 7EL. It is a condition of planning permission consent that:

No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The works are to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by Manchester Planning Authority. The WSI shall cover the following:

1. A phased programme and methodology of investigation and recording to include:

- a Historic England Level 3 historic building survey*

2. A programme for post investigation assessment to include:

- analysis of the site investigation records and finds*
- production of a final report on the significance of the archaeological and historical interest represented.*

3. Dissemination of the results commensurate with their significance.

4. Provision for archive deposition of the report and records of the site investigation.

5. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the approved WSI.

Reason: In accordance with NPPF Section 12, Paragraph 141 - To record and advance understanding of heritage assets impacted on by the development and to make information about the archaeological heritage interest publicly accessible. This document forms the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which outlines the programme of work required to undertake this survey.

1.2 This procedure followed the advice previously given by central government as set out in Planning Policy Guidance: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance on Archaeology and Planning (PPG16)

which has now been superseded by Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework. This came into effect in March 2012 and requires that “Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of plan-making or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible” (NPPF 2012, 141).

- 1.3 Mr. Steven Price BA (Hons), MA, MPhil, PCIfA of Paul Butler Associates carried out the historic building recording. Steven Price is a Practitioner of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists with over 15 years’ experience of surveying and recording buildings of many types. He has carried out numerous Level 3 surveys.

2. SITE LOCATION

2.1 The building is situated on the southeast side of Lower Vickers Street, Miles Platting M40 7LH and directly adjacent to the Rochdale canal. Victoria Mill park lies directly to the south west. The National Grid Reference of the property is SJ 85888 99243.

2.2 The building is Grade II* listed and the Listing Text reads as follows:

Cotton spinning mill, now disused; a double mill built in 2 phases in 1869 and 1873. George Woodhouse, architect, for William Holland. Red brick with yellow brick dressings; roof not visible but probably slate. Fire-proof internal structure. U-plan formed by 2 large rectangular spinning mills, joined by a central engine house. Symmetrically planned about a central stair turret wrapped around the chimney with engine house (rebuilt in 1902 on conversion to rope drive) and boiler house to the rear, in the centre of a narrow courtyard formed by the 2 mill ranges to either side of the stair tower, a 3-window range, that to left with former internal engine house marked by partially blocked round-arched window; the right hand range obscured by a brick shaft of 1920. This central block is flanked by the 2 spinning mills, each a 6-storey, 11x10 bay block, with stressed angle pilasters (extended as privy towers to N elevation). Italianate detail of spinning mills, which have segmentally headed windows to 5 storeys, and coupled round-headed windows to the upper storey, arcaded with shafts and continuous sill band. 2-window towers towards centre of each mill appear to be later additions. Interior not inspected, but constructional system almost certainly transverse brick arches carried on cast iron columns. Ancillary buildings survive to NW of site, but former blowing rooms and offices, which were built parallel to the front of the mill across a narrow yard, and a range of ancillary buildings to the SE are no longer extant. A very large double mill for its date, which makes striking use of a distinctive industrial architectural vocabulary (especially in the economical design of combined stair tower and chimney). An excellent example of the development of a specifically industrial architecture, and of the work of George Woodhouse.

2.3 Not all of the building falls within this survey. The survey comprises the lower ground floor of the western end of the mill and a part of the central area, as well as a single room on the upper ground floor.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1 Buildings are an important part of the historic environment as they provide information on historical technology, social structure and lifestyles. The alteration of such buildings may remove evidence of their past uses and occupation and make it more difficult for future historians to understand and interpret them. The aim of the survey was to preserve 'by record' the information that may be lost as a result of demolition or alteration. This was achieved by recording and analysing the plan form, function, age and development of the building and by the provision of a written, drawn and photographic archive for future reference.
- 3.2 The purpose of an Historic Building Recording, according to the ClfA (2014) is to "examine a specified building, structure or complex, and its setting, in order to inform a) the formulation of a strategy for the conservation, alteration, demolition, repair or management of a building, or structure, or complex and its setting or b) to seek a better understanding, compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record, and then disseminate the results".
- 3.3 The objective for this project was to seek a better understanding, compile a lasting record, analyse the findings/record, and then disseminate the results.

4. METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 An appropriate record has been made of the building. Floor plans, elevations and a section are required. The floor plans have been modified from those supplied by the architect after being checked and rectified on site. The section was drawn on site using permatrace. The drawn record shows all features of interest that have been recorded photographically, as well as showing other features of historical significance that may not be directly affected by the proposal but which are necessary to put those features in context.
- 4.2 Construction techniques and sequences were appropriately illustrated or described, if visible.
- 4.3 The archaeologist on site identified and noted:
- Truss positions and form;
 - Any significant changes in construction material – this is intended to include significant changes in stone/brick type and size, coursing, etc.
 - All blocked, altered or introduced openings;
 - Evidence for phasing, and for historical additions or alterations to the building.
- 4.4 Drawing conventions conform to Historic England guidelines as laid out in Understanding Historic Buildings – A guide to good recording practice, Historic England 2016.
- 4.5 Photographs were taken with a 35mm camera. All record photographs are black and white, using conventional silver-based film only. All detailed photographs and general shots contain a 2-metre ranging-rod, discretely positioned, sufficient to independently establish the scale of all elements of the building and its structure.
- 4.6 The photographic coverage includes:
- General photographs of the interior and exterior of the building/complex, along with photographs of the site/setting of the building.

- The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas.
- Detailed coverage of the building's external appearance. In the case of a building designed by an architect, or intended to be seen from a certain point of view, it is important to have regard to the builder's intentions and to record the effect of the design or of the building's placing.
- Any external detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs.
- The building's relationship to its setting, and to significant viewpoints.
- Internal detail, structural and decorative which is relevant to the building's design, development and use and which does not show adequately on general photographs. Elements for which multiple examples exist (e.g. each type of roof truss, column or window frame) have been recorded by means of a single representative illustration.

4.7 For the purposes of the report only, high quality digital images have been produced using an Olympus E-600 DSLR (12.3 megapixels).

4.8 Record photographs have been printed at a minimum of 5" x 7".

4.9 A plan showing the location from which the photographs have been taken has been produced.

4.10 A photographic register listing all photographs taken has been produced. For ease of use each set of photographs have been numbered sequentially 1, 2, 3, etc.

4.11 A site visit was made on 18th December 2017 when detailed notes were made of the structural details of the buildings and photographs taken. Measurements were taken with hand held and electronic 'tapes' which enabled the floor plans and elevations to be altered and section to be produced.

4.12 Historical research, including a full map regression, was carried at Manchester Central Library.

4.13 The project was carried out in accordance with the recommendations of The Management of Archaeological Projects 2nd ed. 1991 and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings and Structures 2014.

5. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 5.1 The current understanding of any activity in Manchester during the prehistoric period is very poor, and evidence for Greater Manchester is sparse and based on chance finds. This perhaps reflects the unfavourable geological conditions, as boulder clay predominates in the area, whereas evidence suggests that prehistoric communities preferred well drained sands. However, it is reasonable to suggest that the Castlefield area may have been beneficial for late prehistoric settlement on account of the natural topography and its riverside location. However, physical evidence is fragmentary and the best evidence was yielded from an archaeological excavation that was targeted on a plot of land at 73 - 83 Liverpool Road (OAN 2005). An assemblage consisting of 2 Mesolithic flints, 1 Neolithic/Bronze Age waste flake and 1 fragment of Late Bronze Age / Iron Age pottery was found (Gifford 2005). To the south of the Victoria Mill site a bronze socketed axe was discovered, decorated with ribs (HER No. 1397.1.0) as well as a Bronze Age palastave (HER No. 2005.1.0). An Iron Age bronze ox head ornament was also located close by (HER No. 2008.1.0). This indicates a background level of prehistoric activity for the area which has yet to have any defined foci (Gifford 2005). No prehistoric finds have been found on the site itself.
- 5.2 A Roman fort was established in the Castlefield area in 79AD (Fletcher 1989, 3). The original fort comprised a turf rampart with timber gates, and covered an area of c1.2ha. A fort of this size could hold a 480 man infantry unit. The fort was rebuilt in stone around AD 200 (Bryant *et al* 1986) and was supported by a substantial settlement, or vicus. This settlement originated largely during the early 2nd century and incorporated numerous buildings and a concentration of iron-working hearths or furnaces. Much of the current understanding of the Roman vicus in Manchester is derived from the analysed results obtained from three major excavations, which have all focused on the area to the north of the fort (OAN 2005). These excavations revealed extensive evidence for several successive phases of occupation commencing during the late 1st century and continuing into the 3rd century. Less is known of the settlement to the south of the fort. However, it is believed to have incorporated a bath

house on the north bank of the river Medlock, which was discovered during the 1770s and a temple of Mithras (OAN 2005). Closer to the site is the line of a major Roman road from Manchester to Castleshaw (HER No. 24.1.0), constructed c. AD 79-84, possibly by elements of the 20th Legion. Excavations in 1856 found it to be 24 feet wide and had a gravel surface on a log base, designed to carry the road over boggy areas (GMAAS HER No. 24.1.0).

- 5.3 There is very little archaeological evidence in the region as a whole that denotes the period between the end of the Roman occupation and the Norman Conquest. However, the supposed remains of four sunken-floored buildings of Anglo-Saxon type were discovered beyond the north gate of the Roman fort, although their date and interpretation was not conclusive (OAN 2005). The Anglo-Saxons did however, built a settlement to the north of the fort, founding the beginning of the medieval town of Manchester, around the manor house and parish church of St Mary. In 1223, the right to hold an annual fair was obtained, and the town was important enough to be granted a charter in 1301 (Kidd 1993, 14).
- 5.4 Miles Platting lies within the historic township of Newton, which was part of the endowment of the parish church of Manchester, being the plough land recorded in the Domesday book as belonging to the churches of St. Mary and St. Michael. The manor was taken by the Crown on the confiscation of the church estates in 1548 although was restored 8 years later. However, during this time it appears that some of the lands were granted out by the crown, as some of the lords of Manchester held land here (Farrer and Brownbill 1911). A Medieval copper harness pendant (MGM No. 17928) was discovered to the south the site.
- 5.5 During the 18th century the surrounding area was still predominantly agricultural consisting of isolated settlements and market towns with Manchester at the centre. By the middle of the century, Manchester was expanding at a considerable rate, and it was during this period that Deansgate, Market Street and Shude Hill developed commercially (Farrer and Brownbill 1911, 180). Casson and Berrys map of Manchester from 1741 shows

this development and although the site lies off the scope of the map, it shows that the surrounding area was agricultural land.

- 5.6 The River Irwell was made navigable in the 1720s, allowing access to Liverpool via the River Mersey. The first canal in Britain was constructed from 1758 to 1761 by James Brindley, to transport coal from Worsley to Manchester (GMAAS 2014). As early as 1808, 10 of the town's eventual 23 private canal branches had been constructed, the remaining 13 branches being added in the trading booms of 1815–16, the mid-1820s, the early 1830s, and the mid-1840s. 25 Landowners perceived two potential uses for canalside land: as factory sites and as coal, stone, and timber wharfs (Maw et.al 2011, 5). Rochdale canal was originally conceived in 1776, and opened officially in 1804, although construction work continued for another few years. The width of the canal made it more successful than the Huddersfield Narrow Canal and it became the main highway of commerce between Lancashire and Yorkshire (Hadfield and Biddle 1970).
- 5.7 Greens map of the late 18th century shows that the canal had not yet been constructed and that, the site of the eastern extent of the map, showing the surrounding agricultural land as belonging to the church. Swire's map of 1824 again shows the nearby land as being agricultural, although the canal is shown. The first mapping to show the site fully is the 1845 OS map. By this time a series of houses called Newton Cottages had been erected between the Rochdale Canal and Newton Brook, with Newton Village core to the northwest of the site (HER No. 2064.1.0). A chemical works lay to the east of these and much of the land remained agricultural. The footprint of the later mill lies over the eastern end of the Newton Cottages, but stop short of overlaying the former Chemical Works. The site again lies off the scope of Adsheads 1849 mapping, although it shown in detail on the 1850 OS plan 1:500 scale. Here the cottages are shown in more detail as well as the chemical works. Little appears to have altered significantly since the 1845 map.
- 5.8 Prior to the erection of Victoria Mill, another of the same name is listed in Miles Platting in the 1860's, as recorded by the "Patent Law Amendment Act". It is recorded that "Notice is hereby given, that provisional protection has been allowed..... To Edward Williams and Thomas Williams, of the Victoria Mills, Miles-

Platting, near Manchester, in the county of Lancaster, Cotton Spinners, for the invention of "improvements applicable to spinning mules and throstles.... On thier [sic] petition, recorded in the Office of the Commissioners on the 6th day of February, 1865" (The London Gazette 1865). It is unknown where this mill was located. However, trade directories from this year (Slater 1865) show that Edward Williams was a cotton spinner at Victoria Mills, Garret Street, Oldham. This may suggest that the address given in the patent act is a mistake. Thomas Williams was not listed.

- 5.9 By this time Miles platting was already beginning to see several mills being erected in the area. Victoria Mill was erected in 1869 in two stages, with the second half opened in 1873. The greater and more creative use of embellishments was a hallmark of the late-19th century cotton mill, indicative of the increasing influence of specialist architects on the growth of the industry (Williams and Farnie 1992). Victoria Mill was no exception. It was designed by the Bolton architect George Woodhouse and built for William Holland, who moved his textile business to the property from Adelphi Mill in Salford. George Woodhouse was a successful architect whose commissions included two large and architecturally distinctive mills at Gidlow Works, and the 1865 Wigan mill of John Rylands. The most prosperous firms, including William Holland, showed a more lavish use of new materials, such as polychromatic brick, and the impression of the building was one in which architectural quality was a major concern. Here a distinctive chimney was erected, with the central stack protruding from the main stair tower which was octagonal in plan (Williams and Farnie 1992). This mill exemplified the new construction techniques and improvements in late 19th century mills (McNeil and Nevell 2000).
- 5.10 Prior to the construction of Victoria Mills, other mills were in the area, such as Lloydsfield Mill (HER No. 2063.1.0) Victoria Mill appears on the 1893 OS mapping. The basic plan as it stands today is still the same, although a large building (the boiler house) is located in the rear central courtyard area. Furthermore in front of the mill a series of smaller building are shown. In addition to this, the building extended much further to the west. This became known as Albert Mill. Finally, to the northeast side of Victoria Mill a small chemical works was built against it. William Holland is listed as a cotton spinner at the mill in 1871, and in 1872 his sons became part of the business, listed

afterwards as William Holland and Sons Ltd. The trade directory for 1891 lists it as having “170,000 spindles, combed yarns, 401/200” (Slater 1891).

- 5.11 Nevell (2008) has noted that the central engine house was replaced in 1902 with an external engine house for a horizontal steam engine that ran a rope drive in a rope race. This replacement is confirmed by Graham’s (2009) steam engine research, although he suggests it was a vertical engine. He writes “William Holland, Victoria Mill. Manchester. Two 1000hp vertical compound non dead centre engines by J. Musgrave, 1902. 24 1/2”HP, 50”LP, X 4ft stroke. 95-160psi, 78rpm. 20 ft flywheel, 26 13/4” rope”. John Musgrave & Sons was a mill engine builder operating from the Globe Ironworks, Bolton. Musgrave’s non-dead-centre engine was a stationary steam engine designed in 1892 and was developed from Fleming and Ferguson’s design for a marine engine 5 years previous, in 1887 (Hills 1993). The non-dead-centre engine was intended to solve the problem of stopping on dead centre by using a pair of linked cylinders to prevent the engine from stopping in a position where no turning force could be applied.
- 5.12 By the time of the 1908 mapping Victoria Mill is shown as a solid block, the former boiler house being shown as a part of the whole building. The neighbouring Albert Mill is shown as such, although still joined to Victoria Mill via a thin building. Victoria is still shown as a cotton mill, whereas Albert Mill is labelled as woollen. The trade directory of 1911 lists it as “Holland, William and Sons Ltd., cotton spinners and doublers, and sewing cotton manufacturers and merchants. Victoria Mills, Miles Platting” (Slater 1911). The adjacent Albert Mills is listed under the same name, but were making “fine Botany worsted, cashmere and merino, mixed cotton and wool yarns for hosiery, underwear, and dress goods” (ibid.).
- 5.13 By the time of the 1920’s mapping very little had changed on the site although by 1926, William Holland and Sons had formed a new company to run Albert Mill, Hollands Ltd. Again by the time of the 1930’s mapping little had changed on the site, however, the adjoining chemical factory had become a tar distillery. The 1930’s saw the collapse of the Lancashire cotton industry, which led to the decline of a lot of the mills in Manchester (Nevell 2008). The rest of the 20th century saw little change over the site again, with William Holland and

Sons Ltd operating at the mill through the 1950's before the mill finally closed in the 1960's.

6. PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION

General Description

- 6.1 The building is U-shaped and aligned roughly east – west, with the projecting wings to the south (rear) lying close to the adjacent canal. The building is constructed in red brick in English Garden Wall bond (3:1) with sandstone fittings in the Italianate style.

Exterior

- 6.2 West elevation (Plates 1 - 3). This elevation is 11 bays long and 7 stories high. Both the first and last bays of the elevation are blank and project slightly from the main face. Each of the other bays contains a large arched opening which rises to upper ground floor level. These have a depressed arched lintel of brick and contain a large timber framed window at each floor, separated by a decorative timber section. This decorative timber is repeated at the base of the lower ground floor windows. Bays 7 – 9 differ in that they have timber framed personnel doorways inserted (bays 7 and 9) and a double doorway in bay 8. Bay 10 also has a personnel doorway although this bay is also slightly taller than the others, having been extended and a flat iron lintel inserted. At the northern end, bay 1 shows possible signs of the blocking of a former doorway.
- 6.3 North elevation (Plates 4 - 10). This elevation forms the main frontage of the building. The western wing is 12 bays wide, to the central section. At lower ground floor level bays 1 and 2 have been altered, with two windows removed and a timber framed square window inserted, with a long thin iron lintel above. To the west in bays 3 and 4 are squat 6 light timber framed windows with depressed arch lintels of brick and sandstone cills. Bay 5 contains a timber framed double doorway with matching lintel. To the west the face of the building protrudes for bays 6 and 7 as a shaft, added in 1920. This is featureless at lower ground floor level, although it has clearly been rebuilt in a cleaner red brick, the rough joints visible on the sides. Continuing west bays 8, 10 and 11 each contain the squat 6 light windows found in bays 3 and 4. Bay 9 contains a doorway, although is covered with ply. Bay 12 projects slightly from the building. It is featureless although perhaps shows the faint evidence of a former doorway.

At upper ground floor level each bay contains a large 8 light timber framed window. The lintels of each form a sandstone string course across the face.

- 6.4 South elevation (Plates 11 - 14). This forms the rear of the building and faces onto the canal. The lower ground floor level lies below ground level here. The wing is 9 Bays long, with an additional angled 2 bays at the western end. The ground slopes down here, showing the tops of a pair of blocked windows, the arch visible on the first, but rebuilt on the second. The bays at upper ground floor level each contains an 8 light timber framed window with depressed arch lintel. The final bay does not have a window, but shows a blocked personnel doorway with iron lintel over.
- 6.5 Courtyard south facing elevation (Plates 15 - 17). This elevation is a continuation of the previous, set back and within the rear courtyard. It is 5 bays wide, with narrow timber framed 8 light portrait windows in bays 1, 3 and 5 at upper ground floor level. Bays 2 and 4 are featureless at both levels and a sandstone string course separates the floors. At lower ground floor level bay 1 contains a large loading doorway with depressed arch lintel of bricks. Bay 3 contains a 6 light timber framed window with depressed arch lintel and bay 5 contains a smaller 4 light window. All the windows have a sandstone cill. Between bays 2 and 3 the wall is slightly projected on the west side and slightly east of this a straight joint rises, marking the end of the first stage of building.
- 6.6 Courtyard east facing elevation (Plates 18 - 21). This elevation is 7 bays wide, with the first bay featureless and slightly projecting from the building. At upper ground floor level bays 2 – 5 have the large 8 light timber framed windows, whereas bays 6 and 7 these have been removed. In their place, set between them is a large transmission window, fitted with glass blacks set within an area of rebuilding. Oil staining is clearly visible below and above is a large RSJ lintel. The cills of the windows form a sandstone string course. At lower ground floor level bay 2 contains a large loading doorway, blocked with timber whereas bays 3 and 4 have large 6 light timber framed windows with depressed arch lintels. Bay 5 is overgrown, although a blocked loading doorway is barely visible beneath. Bays 6 and 7 are featureless with the exception of a personnel doorway at the northern end of bay 7.

Interior

Lower Ground floor

6.7 Plates 22 – 64. The building is accessed via the doorways in the western elevation. A series of concrete block walls have been erected throughout the floor, creating smaller rooms. The ceiling is composed of flat arches supported by cast iron stanchions and the floor is a patchwork of concrete. The external walls are all brick with the southern wall showing a row of seven blocked recessed windows (plate 24), with a larger opening to the eastern end forming a rounded alcove (plate 25). To the eastern end, where the wall is angled is a further recessed blocked window with a fully blocked window next to it (plate 26). The western wall contains the windows and doors visible from the exterior, although the northern bay shows a blocked doorway (plate 31). Likewise, the northern wall shows the same features as the exterior, although the blocked doorway in bay 5 is shown to be a timber panelled double door in a timber frame (plate 36). In the location of bays 6 and 7 are a pair of blocked windows, although with personnel doorways set within them (plate 37). These are raised and the (presumably) timber steps up have been removed. They both lead into a small room, which has a raised concrete floor and a flat concrete ceiling. A blocked doorway lies in the west wall, not visible from the exterior. A series of iron rails are set within the concrete floor in the northeast end of the mill (plates 42 & 43). They consist of a shorter, outer pair and a longer inner pair, the latter of which extend beyond the inserted wall to the south.

6.8 The eastern wall is an external wall to the southern end but internal to the north, leading into the central area. The six bays of the southern end (plates 44 - 47) show the blocked doorways and window as seen from the exterior. The exception to this is a possible blocked doorway in the northernmost bay (plate 46). The southernmost bay is separated from the rest of the room, by a brick wall running east – west and with a pair of small blocked openings in the east wall and oil staining around the area (plate 47). The concrete floor is also raised slightly higher than the rest of the floor. The northern end of the eastern wall has several features within it (plates 48 – 51). At the southern end is a blocked personnel doorway and adjacent to this to the north is a blocked transmission window, high in the face (plate 50). A blocked hatch in the ceiling lies next to it.

A pair of cut off metal brackets lie to either side of the window and below it is a highly decayed sandstone block. The area below this has been rebuilt with modern brickwork. To the north of this is a wide opening with a depressed arch of bricks (plate 51). The jambs have been rebuilt. To the south of this doorway is a tall narrow blocked opening. To the north of the doorway is a blocked personnel doorway, the northern wall forming the northern jamb.

- 6.9 The doorway noted above leads through to the central area of the mill. Within this area the ceiling is concrete as is the floor, where present. At the northern end is the entrance to the hoist (plate 52), which has chamfered jambs and shows evidence of rebuilding. The opening itself has been boarded off. South of this is a small area, with a wide opening in the northern wall (for access to the hoist area above). The opening has an RSJ lintel above and the iron jambs with pronounced capitals (plate 53). This area was once open to the east, although a wall has been inserted, blocking access (plate 54). To the south the area opens up into a larger room (plates 55 – 62). The southern wall is the external wall of the courtyard and shows the features visible externally. However, the internal detail shows that the western doorway in bay 1 and the window in bay 3 have been inserted, the surrounding areas showing modern brick rebuilding (plate 57). Bay two also shows a small blocked window with arched lintel at a high level (plate 58). At the far eastern end the wall contains a sandstone block with fixing holes butted by the rebuilt brick wall around the window (plate 59). The western wall contains a large loading doorway, blocked and with an RSJ lintel above. To the south of this is a brick projection, at the top of which is a transmission window with openings in the western and northern faces (plates 57 & 60). The northern wall has an opening to the western end, noted above and to the east is a low (c. 1.1m high) blocked opening with RSJ lintel (plate 61). The eastern wall (plate 62) has a large blocked opening at the northern end, blocking access to the room beyond. South of this the wall contains several large sandstone blocks, decayed, and has been rebuilt in brick in several places. In the centre of the face is a recessed area, much like a fireplace, and rendered in cement. To the south of this the wall is brick and a circular opening runs into the thick wall for c. 2.6m.

6.12 Plates 65 – 70. Only a single room falls within the scope of the building survey for this floor. The room is composed of modern stud walls with the exception of the eastern. This external wall contains the large transmission window visible on the east facing wall of the courtyard. The surrounding wall has been plastered and painted, but the window itself is open, with glazed blocks at the back. The remainder of the room is fitted out as modern laundry room and the two stanchions are encased in plasterboard. The floor is covered with linoleum and a false ceiling has been inserted. The area also encompasses a corridor to the south and a small store room to the west. These are similar, with false ceilings plastered walls, linoleum flooring. The stanchion is likewise encased.

7. ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The textile industry has a long history in the northwest, initially founded on wool, but later branching out into silk and cotton. By the beginning of the 18th century British colonies had already been established in North America and India, in the form of the East India Company. It was from here that cotton began to be traded and used in textiles in Britain. The first cotton garments were not considered to be very grand and were mainly used as linings for other garments, seen as an unwelcome rival to the well-established woollen industry. The flying shuttles invented by John Kay in Bury, receiving his patent in 1733, although it was not initially welcomed by weavers and was copied by clothiers. The invention allowed for greater productivity, at a time when the demand for textiles, including cotton was on the rise. However, the spinners struggled to keep up with demand until Richard Arkwright invented the water frame. This allowed cotton yarn to be spun much faster than the spinning jenny and was first used in 1768. In 1771 Arkwright established Cromford mill in Derbyshire, where it was the first factory to use a continuous process from raw material to finished product. Ten years later Arkwright went on to open the world's first steam-driven textile mill on Miller Street in Manchester (Burton 1984, 9-45).
- 7.2 The arrival of steam power signified the beginning of the mechanisation that enhanced the expanding textile industry in Manchester into the world's first centre of mass production. Manchester and towns across Lancashire became the largest and most productive cotton spinning centre in the world. The number of cotton mills in Manchester peaked in 1853 at 108 and by 1871 Manchester was using 32% of the global cotton production (Williams & Farnie 1992). By the mid 19th century mills were being designed by specialist mill architects. George Woodhouse was one of the most successful.
- 7.3 Victoria Mill was erected in 1869 and expanded in 1873, at the height of the cotton industry. It is likely that the eastern end was erected first, with the western end erected afterwards. The southwestern corner of the mill is angled to fit with the pre-existing canal. As such Victoria Mill is the result of 100 years of manufacturing improvement and mill design in the world's largest textile industry centre,

exemplifying the new construction techniques and improvements over the earlier mills (McNeil & Nevell). Over the same period Miles Platting further developed, with homes built in order to house the growing number of workers needed to run the mills and factories in the area.

7.4 Internally, both the upper and lower ground floors have been altered, with the insertion of walls. The lower ground floor shows more original features however, with the external walls still visible. The transmission window from the engine house to the western side of the mill is still visible, in the remains of the engine house. Here, on the west wall the transmission window is projected from the wall. This allowed power to be transmitted both through the wall to the west side of the mill, as well as through the opening in the north. The western side of the transmission window also shows a hatch in the ceiling, suggesting that this is where the power was driven upwards to the floors above.

7.5 The mill has seen a lot of rebuilding to the engine house, with much of the southern wall having been rebuilt. A blocked window in the southern wall may have been a tall window, given the rounded arched lintel and the high in the wall. Unfortunately both this area and that to the north have had walls inserted, allowing only a partial analysis of the area. The engine house became obsolete in 1902 when an external engine house was erected. This has also now gone, although the large transmission window in the east facing courtyard wall at upper ground floor level, relates to this. Another lies opposite it, showing how the new transmission drive entered each side of the mill. The courtyard itself has been landscaped showing no evidence of any structures.

8. ARCHIVE

- 8.1 The archive resulting from the building recording will be deposited with Manchester Archives in a format to be agreed with the Archives Officer and within a timescale to be agreed with the Specialist Archaeological Advisor or the Planning Officer.
- 8.2 The site archive shall be prepared and stored according to the UKIC Guidelines for the preparation of excavation archives for long term- storage (1990) and the Museum and Galleries Commission Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological collections (1992) 'Standards for the preparation and transfer of archaeological archives'.
- 8.3 A copy of this report will be supplied to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record in Adobe Acrobat 'pdf.' format on the understanding that it will become a public document after an appropriate period (six months after completion of the field work unless another date is agreed). A copy of the report will also be supplied to the Local Planning Authority responsible for the planning decision.

9. COPYRIGHT

- 9.1 Full copyright of this commissioned report and other project documents shall be retained by the author of the report under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Abbreviations

CIfA - Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

DCMS – Department for Culture, Media and Sport

GMAU - Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit

GMAAS – Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

NPPF – National Planning Policy Framework

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Slater's Directory of Manchester 1871

Slater's Directory of Manchester 1891

Slater's Directory of Manchester 1899

Slater's Directory of Manchester 1911

Kelly's Directory of Manchester 1926

Kelly's Directory of Manchester 1936

Kelly's Directory of Manchester 1945

Kelly's Directory of Manchester 1957

Maps

1794 Green's map of Manchester and Salford

1824 Swire's map of Manchester

1849 Adshead's map of Manchester Sheet 7

1850 OS 1:500 town plan Sheet 34

1896 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7

1908 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7

1922 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7

1932 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7

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Figure 7: 1908 OS map Lancashire Sheet CIV.7 1:2

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Figure 20: Courtyard east facing elevation elevation

Figure 21: Section

Figure 22: Lower ground floor photo location plan

Figure 23: Upper ground floor photo location plan

Figure 24: Photo register

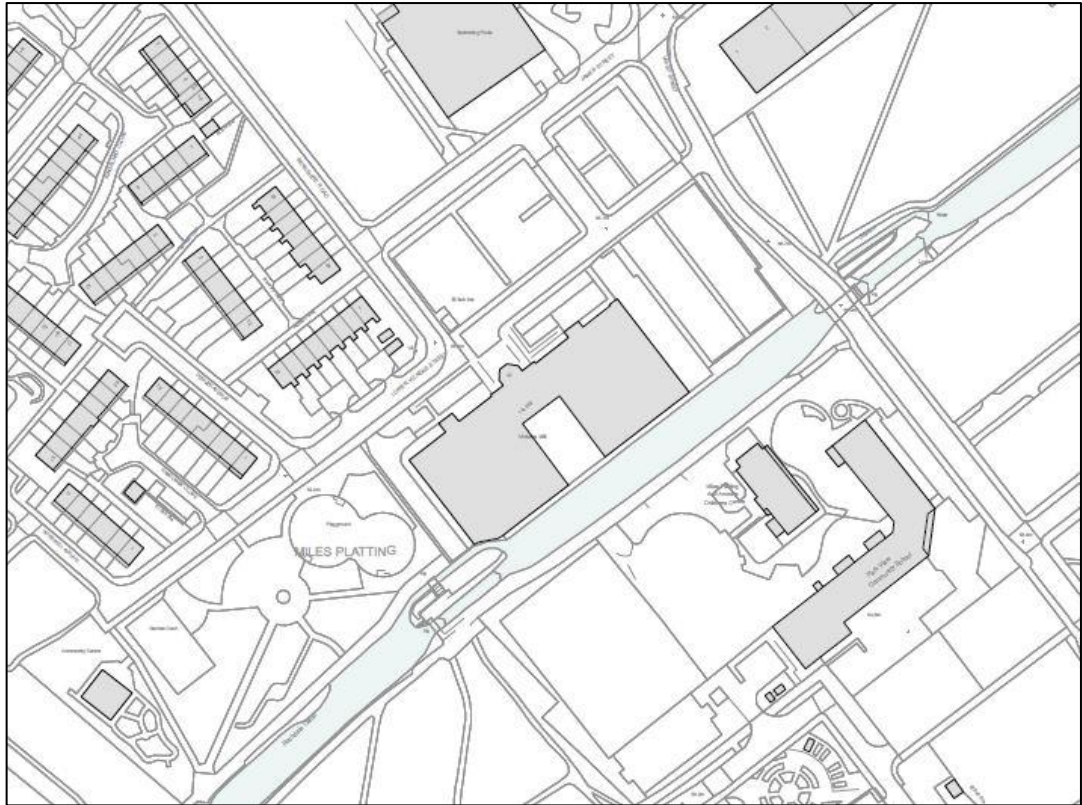


Figure 1: Location plan



Figure 2: 1794 Green's map of Manchester and Salford showing approximate location of site



Figure 3: 1824 Swire's map of Manchester showing approximate location of site



Figure 4: 1845 OS map Lancashire Sheet 34 1:10,000



Figure 5: 1850 OS 1:500 town plan

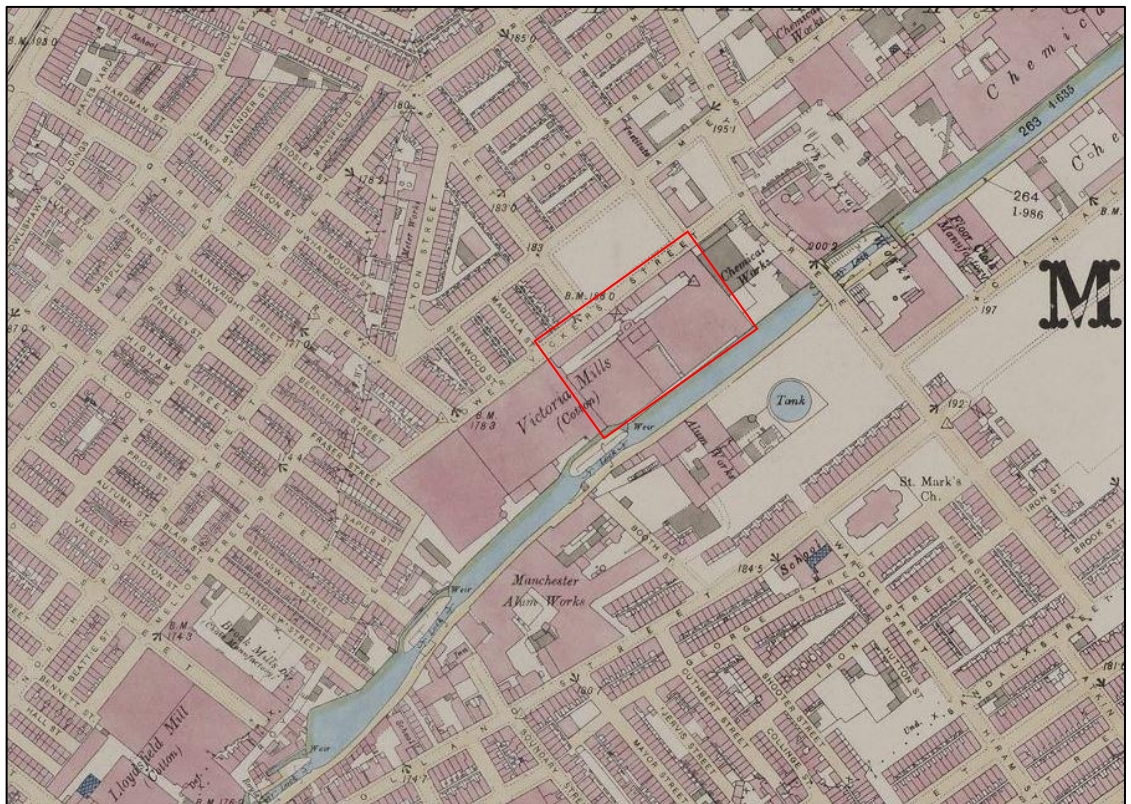


Figure 6: 1893 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7



Figure 7: 1908 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7

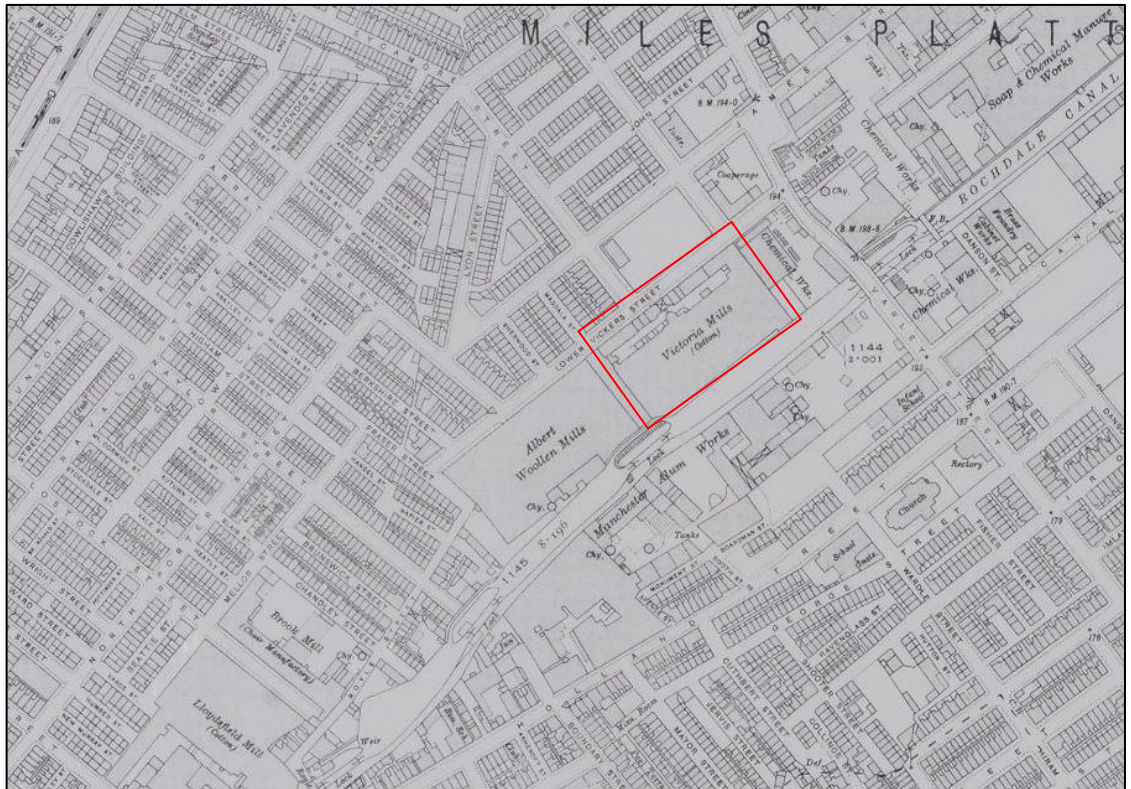


Figure 8: 1922 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7



Figure 9: 1932 OS map Lancashire sheet CIV.7



Figure 10: Photograph from 1971 showing Albert Mill (left) with Victoria Mill.



Figure 11: North and west elevations from c. 1983. Note the 2 story building on the western elevation, joining it to the former Albert Mill (Courtesy of GMAAS)













Figure 12: Detail of protruding bays showing windows at lower ground floor level. (Courtesy of GMAAS)

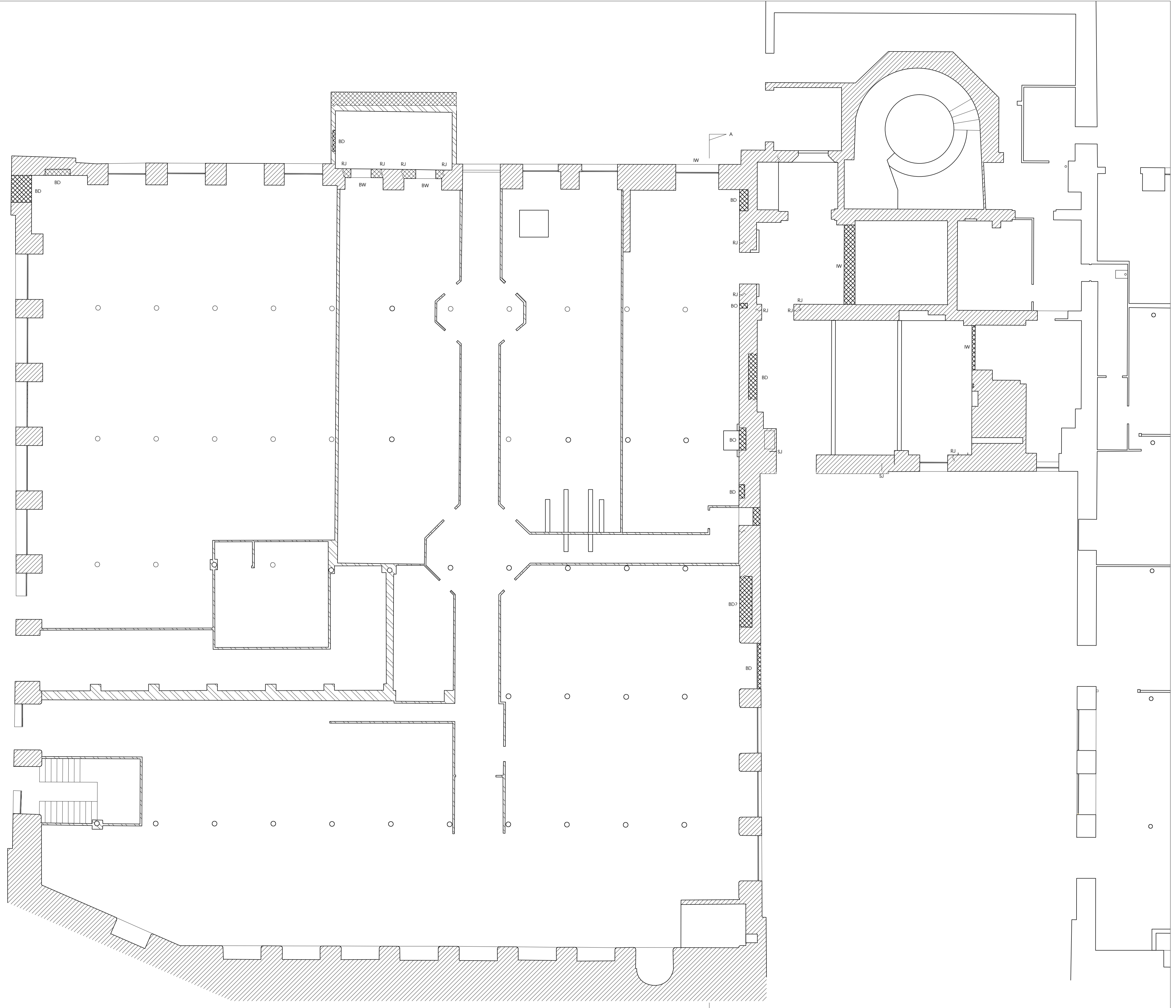


Figure 13: North elevation showing lower ground floor inserted windows, doorways and stair cases (Courtesy of GMAAS)

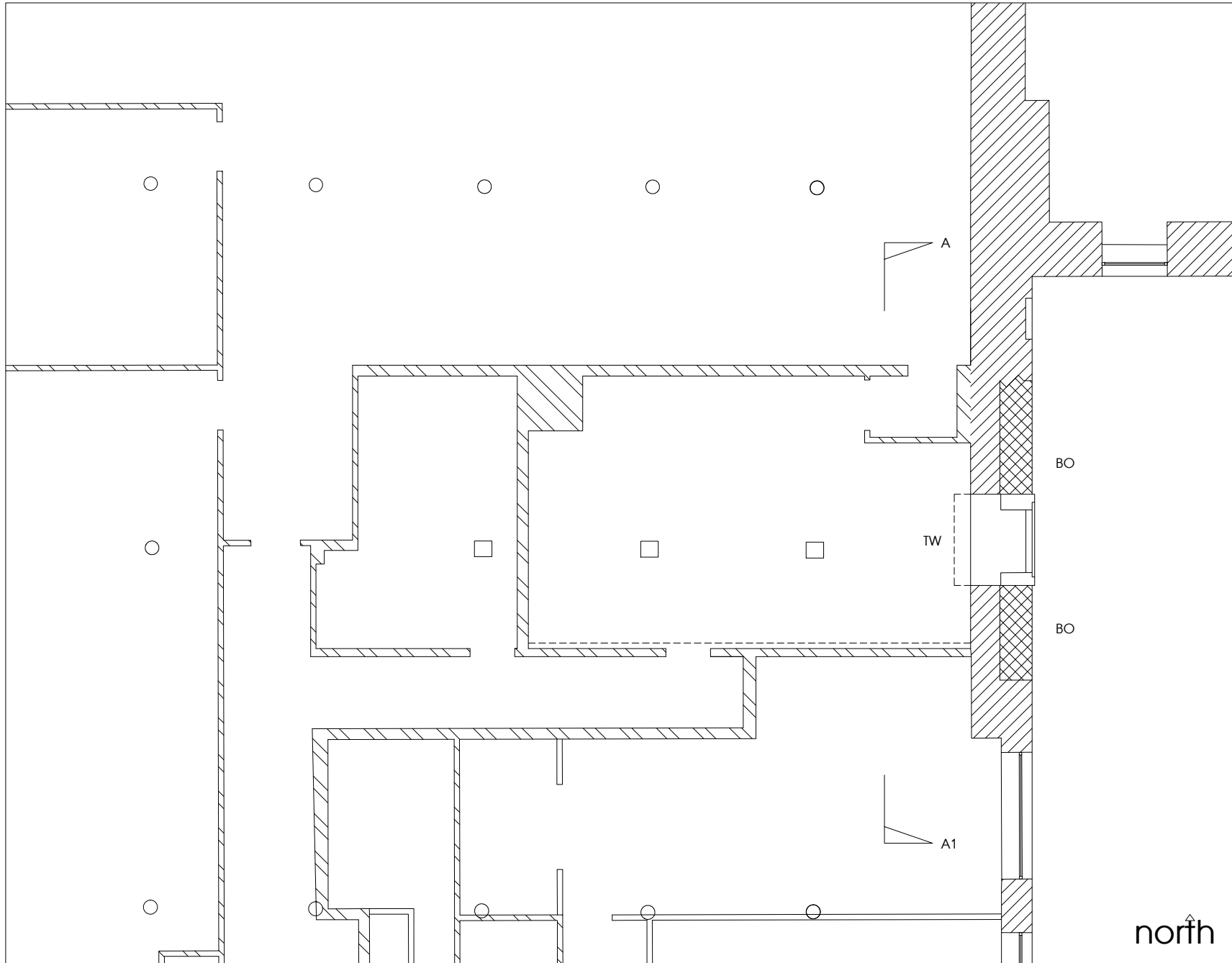


Figure 14: Rear elevation (Courtesy of GMAAS)

- Key**
-  Original brickwork
 -  Modern addition
 -  Transmission Window
 -  Blocked Opening
 -  Blocked Door
 -  Blocked Window
 -  Rough Joint
 -  Straight Joint
 -  Inserted Wall/Window
 -  Inserted Door







Upper ground floor plan



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Key

-  Original brickwork
-  Modern addition
-  Transmission Window
-  Blocked Opening

client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
job no.: 14.949
fig no.: 16
scale: 1:100 @ A4
date issued: January 2018

north ↑

West elevation



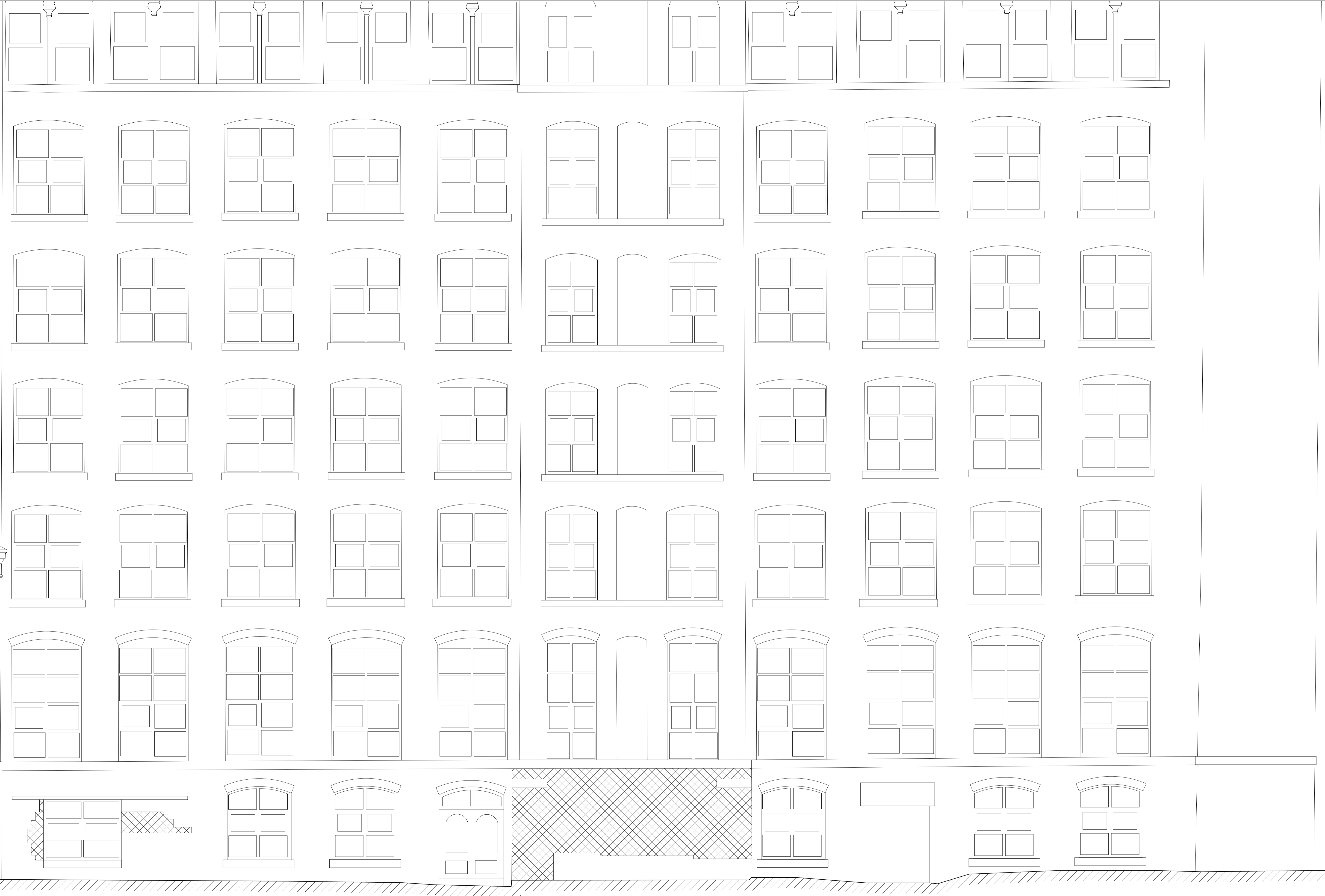
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Key
BD Blocked Door
RJ Rough Joint


client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
job no.: 14.949
fig no.: 17
scale: 1:100 @ A2
date issued: January 2018

north

North elevation



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Key
 Blocking

client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
 job no.: 14,949
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 scale: 1:50 @ A1
 date issued: January 2018

north

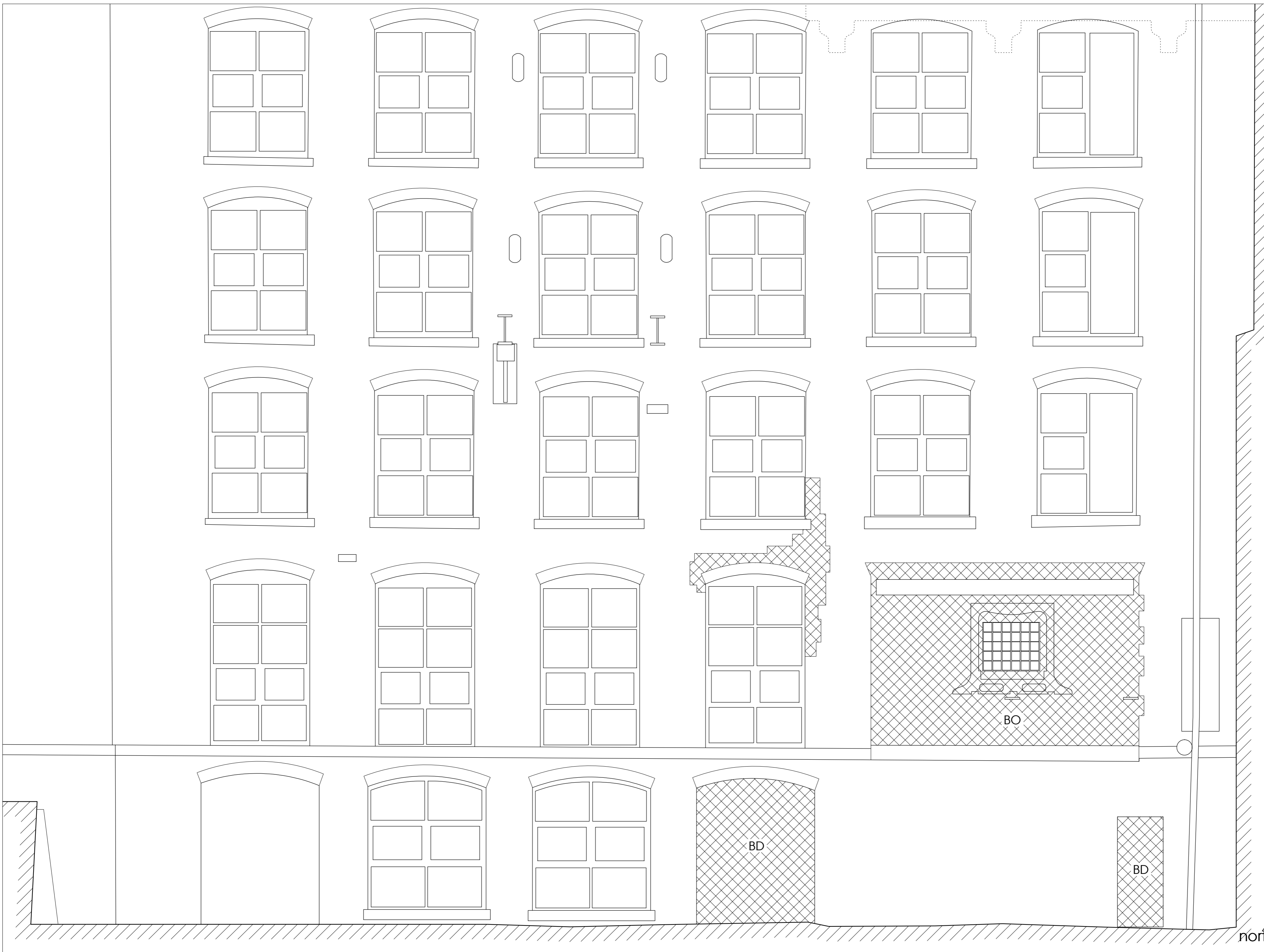
South courtyard elevation



Key

north

East facing courtyard elevation



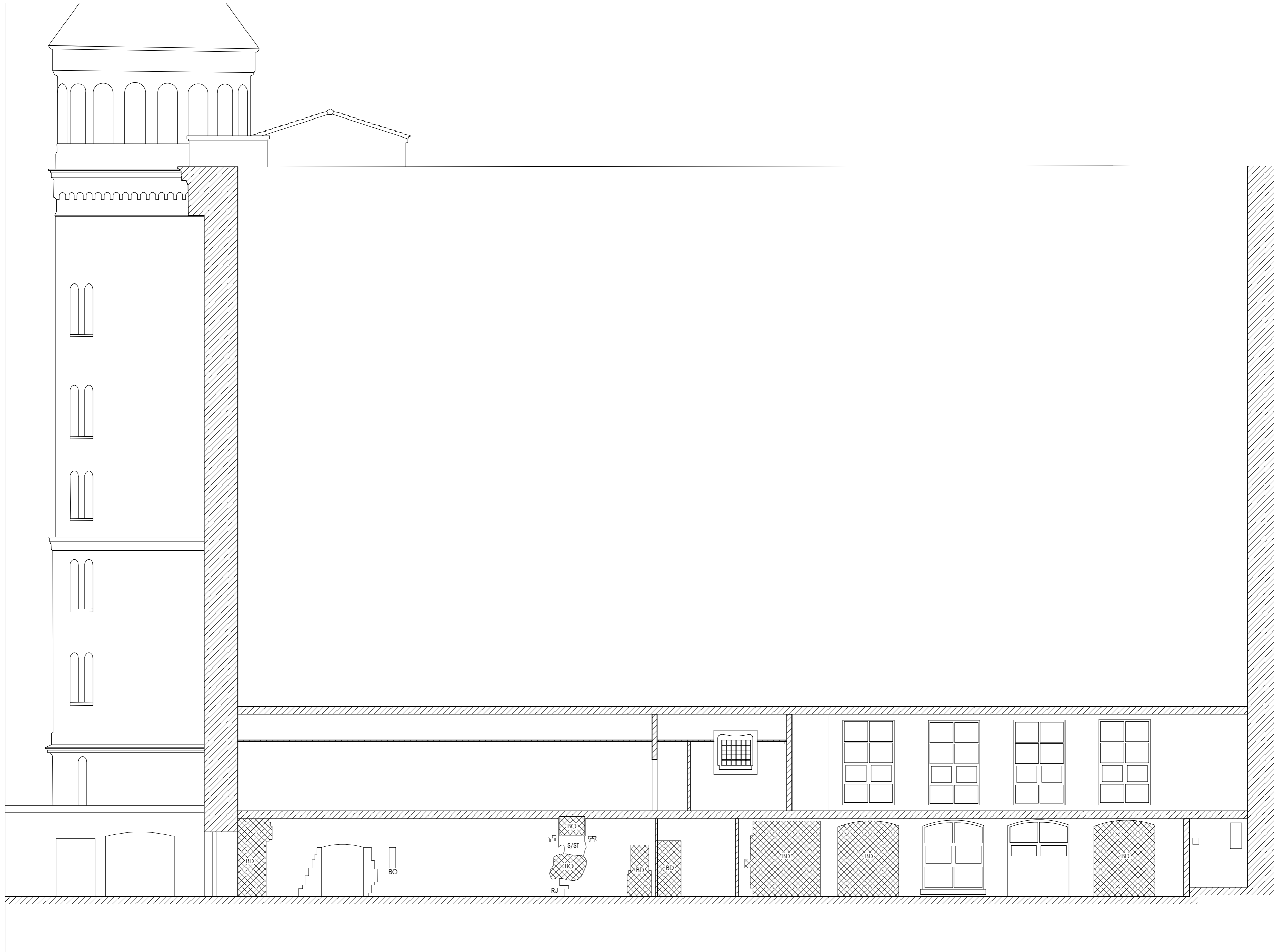
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Key
 BD Blocked Door
 BO Blocked Opening

client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
 job no.: 14.949
 fig no.: 20
 scale: 1:50 @ A2
 date issued: January 2018

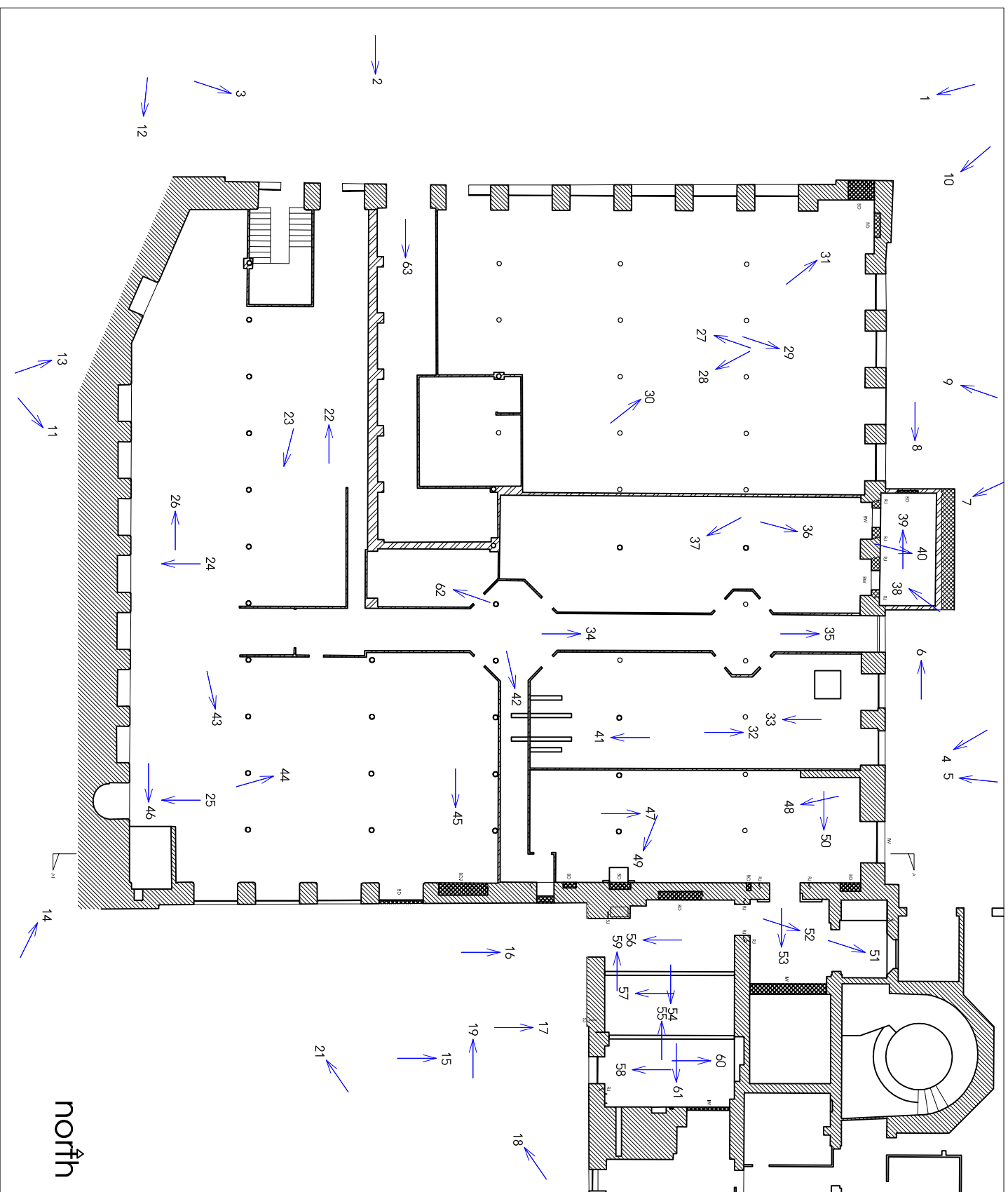
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Key
BD Blocked Door
BO Blocked Opening




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fig no.: 21
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date issued: January 2018

Lower ground floor photo location plan



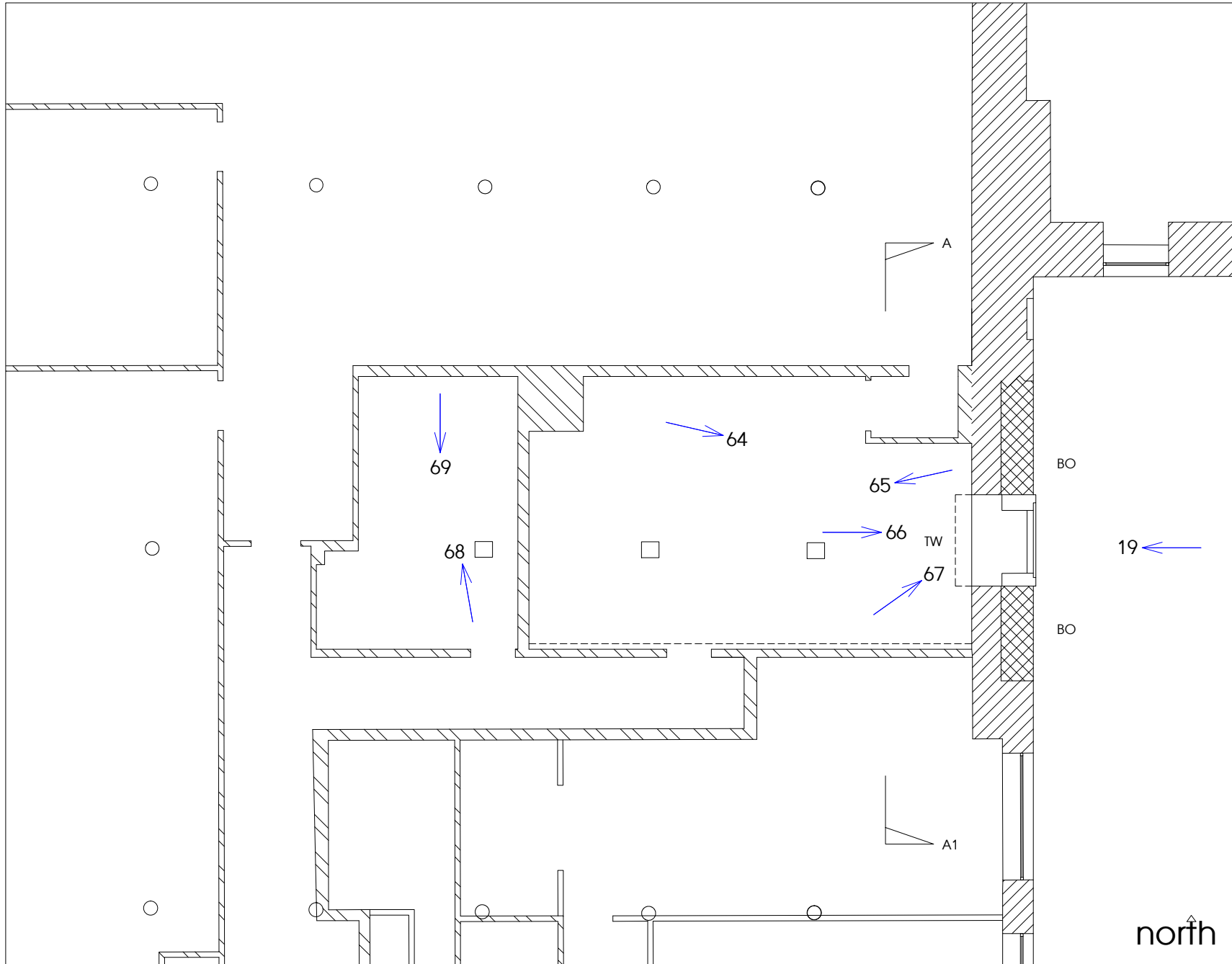

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Key

 44 Plate Number

client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
job no.: 14,949
fig no.: 22
scale: Not to scale
date issued: January 2018

Upper ground floor photo location plan



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Key

19 Plate number

client: Victoria Mill Eastlands Ltd
job no.: 14.949
fig no.: 23
scale: Not to scale
date issued: January 2018

Figure 24: Photograph Register

Plate No.	Digital No.	Film/Frame	Description	View to
1	PC182129	3/11	West elevation general shot	SE
2	PC182127	3/9	Southern end of west elevation	E
3	PC182128	3/10	Northern end of west elevation	NE
4	PC182136	3/18	Eastern end of north elevation	SE
5	PC182135	3/17	Eastern end of north elevation	S
6	PC182134	3/16	East elevation of shaft	W
7	PC182133	3/15	North elevation of shaft	S
8	PC182132	3/14	West elevation of shaft	E
9	PC182131	3/13	West end of north elevation	S
10	PC182130	3/12	General shot of west end of north elevation	SE
11	PC182138	3/20	South elevation showing upper ground floor windows with arched lintels of lower ground floor blocked windows just visible	NE
12	PC182137	3/19	Angled southwest corner of mill	E
13	PC182139	3/21	Angled southwest corner of mill	NW
14	PC182140	3/22	South elevation of mill	NW
15	PC182124	3/6	South facing courtyard wall	N
16	PC182125	3/7	Western end of above	N
17	PC182126	3/8	Central area of above	N
18	PC182123	3/5	East facing courtyard wall	SW
19	PC182120	3/2	Northern end of east facing courtyard wall	W
20	PC182121	3/3	Detail of transmission window and surrounding rebuilding	E
21	PC182122	3/4	Southern end of east facing courtyard wall	SW
22	PC182063	1/27	General shot of southwest end of mill showing current entrance	W
23	PC182065	1/28	As above looking east	E
24	PC182113	2/24	Southern wall of mill showing blocked windows	S
25	PC182068	1/31	East end of south wall showing wide, rounded alcove	S
26	PC182061	1/26	Southwest corner of mill showing angled wall with blocked windows	W
27	PC182117	2/27	Northwest corner of mill looking southwest	SW
28	PC182118	2/28	As above looking southeast	SE
29	PC182119	3/1	As above looking northeast	NE
30	PC182115	2/26	As above looking northwest	NW
31	PC182114	2/25	Northwest corner of mill showing blocked doorways	NW
32	PC182076	1/36	Northeast side of mill showing windows in north wall	N
33	PC182077	1/37	Northeast side of mill looking south	S
34	PC182073	1/34	Corridor running to north end of mill	N
35	PC182074	1/35	Detail of doorway in bay 5 of north wall	N

36	PC182106	2/19	Northern wall of mill showing doorways leading through to small northern tower	N
37	PC182109	2/20	View of room above looking south	S
38	PC182111	2/22	As above looking south, showing inserted doorways into blocked windows	S
39	PC182110	2/21	West wall of northern projection showing blocked doorway	W
40	PC182112	2/23	North wall of above	N
41	PC182078	2/1	Iron rails set in concrete floor at southern end of room above	S
42	PC182079	2/2	Rails as above as seen from other side of modern wall	NE
43	PC182066	1/29	Southeast side of mill showing windows and doorways to courtyard	E
44	PC182069	1/32	Southeast corner of mill looking northwest	NW
45	PC182070	1/33	Blocked doorway in east wall	E
46	PC182067	1/30	Southeast corner of mill showing small 'room' in south end of east wall	E
47	PC182082	2/3	Northeast corner of Mill showing brick eastern wall	N
48	PC182083	2/4	As above looking south	S
49	PC182084	2/5	Transmission window in east wall of room above with hatch above and blocked door to the south (right)	E
50	PC182086	2/6	Northern end of east wall showing wide opening and blocked doorway to the north (left)	E
51	PC182087	2/7	Blocked entrance to the hoist	N
52	PC182088	2/8	Area to the south of the hoist showing iron jambs and capitals	N
53	PC182094	2/9	Inserted wall to east of room above	E
54	PC182095	2/10	General shot of engine house	E
55	PC182097	2/11	As above looking west	W
56	PC182102	2/16	Inserted doorway at western end of southern wall and both windows of the protruding transmission window (right)	S
57	PC182104	2/17	Blocked window with rounded arch high in southern wall	S
58	PC182101	2/15	Detail of east end of south wall showing extensive rebuilding and sandstone block with fixing holes	S
59	PC182098	2/12	Detail of protruding transmission window	W
60	PC182099	2/13	Blocked low opening in north wall	N
61	PC182100	2/14	Detail of east wall showing blocked opening to the north (left) with adjacent sandstone blocks, rendered recess and brickwork (right)	E
62	PC182105	2/18	General shot of small room within mill	S
63	PC182146	3/23	Corridor of bin store	E

64	PC182148	3/25	General shot of room upper ground floor room	E
65	PC182149	3/26	General shot of room above	W
66	PC182147	3/24	Transmission window detail	E
67	PC182154	3/29	Transmission window detail	NE
68	PC182152	3/27	Store room to the west	N
69	PC182153	3/28	Store room to the west	S

Appendix 2: Plates



Plate 1: West elevation general shot



Plate 2: Southern end of west elevation



Plate 3: Northern end of west elevation



Plate 4: Eastern end of north elevation



Plate 5: Eastern end of north elevation



Plate 6: East elevation of shaft



Plate 7: North elevation of shaft



Plate 8: West elevation of shaft



Plate 9: West end of north elevation

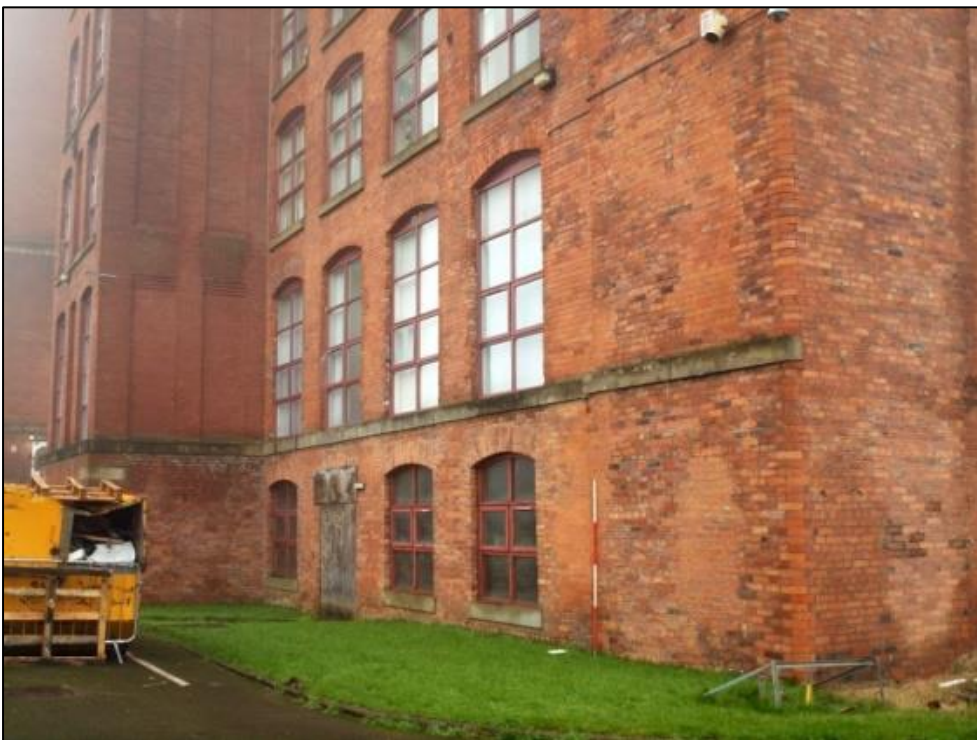


Plate 10: General shot of west end of north elevation



Plate 11: South elevation showing upper ground floor windows with arched lintels of lower ground floor blocked windows just visible



Plate 12: Angled southwest corner of mill



Plate 13: Angled southwest corner of mill



Plate 14: South elevation of mill



Plate 15: South facing courtyard wall



Plate 16: Western end of above



Plate 17: Central area of above



Plate 18: East facing courtyard wall



Plate 19: Northern end of east facing courtyard wall



Plate 20: Detail of transmission window and surrounding rebuilding



Plate 21: Southern end of east facing courtyard wall



Plate 22: General shot of southwest end of mill showing current entrance



Plate 23: As above looking east



Plate 24: Southern wall of mill showing blocked windows



Plate 25: East end of south wall showing wide, rounded alcove



Plate 26: Southwest corner of mill showing angled wall with blocked windows



Plate 27: Northwest corner of mill looking southwest



Plate 28: As above looking southeast



Plate 29: As above looking northeast



Plate 30: Northeast room of mill looking northwest



Plate 31: Northwest corner of mill showing blocked doorways



Plate 32: Northeast side of mill showing windows in north wall



Plate 33: Northeast side of mill looking south



Plate 34: Corridor running to north end of mill



Plate 35: Detail of doorway in bay 5 of north wall



Plate 36: Northern wall of mill showing doorways leading through to small northern tower



Plate 37: View of room above looking south



Plate 38: As above looking south, showing inserted doorways into blocked windows



Plate 39: West wall of northern projection showing blocked doorway



Plate 40: North wall of above



Plate 41: Iron rails set in concrete floor at southern end of room above



Plate 42: Rails as above as seen from other side of modern wall



Plate 43: Southeast side of mill showing windows and doorways to courtyard



Plate 44: Southeast corner of mill looking northwest



Plate 45: Blocked doorway in east wall



Plate 46: Southeast corner of mill showing small 'room' in south end of east wall



Plate 47: Northeast corner of Mill showing brick eastern wall



Plate 48: As above looking south



Plate 49: Transmission window in east wall of room above with hatch above and blocked door to the south (right)



Plate 50: Northern end of east wall showing wide opening and blocked doorway to the north (left)



Plate 51: Blocked entrance to the hoist



Plate 52: Area to the south of the hoist showing iron jambs and capitals



Plate 53: Inserted wall to east of room above



Plate 54: General shot of engine house



Plate 55: As above looking west



Plate 56: Inserted doorway at western end of southern wall and both windows of the protruding transmission window (right)



Plate 57: Blocked window with rounded arch high in southern wall



Plate 58: Detail of east end of south wall showing extensive rebuilding and sandstone block with fixing holes



Plate 59: Detail of protruding transmission window



Plate 60: Blocked low opening in north wall



Plate 61: Detail of east wall showing blocked opening to the north (left) with adjacent sandstone blocks, rendered recess and brickwork (right)



Plate 62: General shot of small room within mill



Plate 63: Corridor of bin store



Plate 64: General shot of room upper ground floor room



Plate 65: General shot of room above



Plate 66: Transmission window detail



Plate 67: Transmission window detail

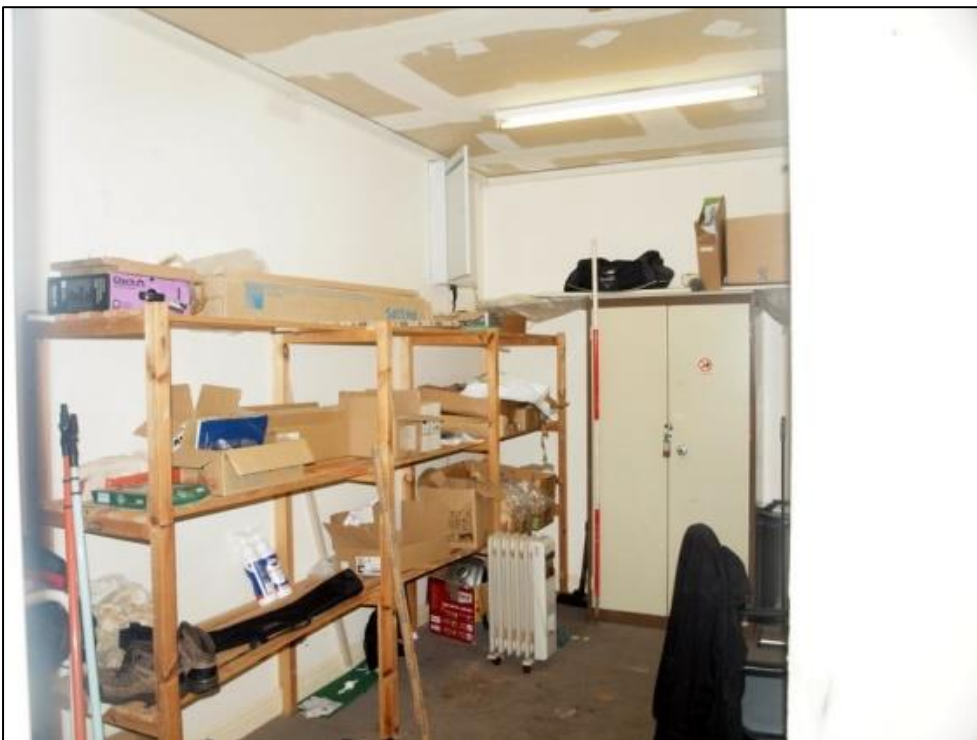


Plate 68: Store room to the west



Plate 69: Store room to the west