



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

**Archaeological
Excavation**

Site of Collyhurst Old
Hall

Client: Manchester
Communications
Academy

Technical Report:
Kirsty Whittall

Report No: SA/2017/13



Site location: Collyhurst Nursery School, Teignmouth St, Collyhurst Manchester, M40 7QD

NGR: (Centred at SJ 85426 99923)

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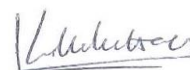
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Summary

Salford Archaeology (SA) was commissioned by the Manchester Communications academy to undertake a community archaeological excavation on Collyhurst playing fields, Collyhurst, Manchester. The purpose of the excavation was to uncover, record and interpret the possibility of remains of Collyhurst Old Hall. This work included mapping and assessing the extent, function, phasing and relative significance of the buried remains. The aim of the works was to raise awareness of and engage the community in the discovery and preservation of their local heritage.

The Collyhurst Old Hall study area is located on the corner of Rochdale Road and Collyhurst Street. The history of Collyhurst Old Hall is remarkably sporadic, however, there was a hall recorded on the site from at least 1649 along with several outbuildings, extensive gardens and a watercourse. The Ryder Estate Map of 1830 suggests a later Georgian-style Hall was built over Collyhurst Old Hall. By the first edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848 this building had been demolished and by the end of the 19th century the site was occupied by several rows of back to back houses which included Collyhurst Street, Laverack Street and Ryder Street along with St James C of E Primary School on Teignmouth Street. These structures were demolished before 1970 and the site has remained vacant since, serving as playing fields for the Collyhurst Nursery School and Children's Centre adjacent to the site.

The community excavation took place in July 2015 and involved the opening of four evaluation trenches within the south east part of the playing fields at Collyhurst. The trench location was informed by a test pit evaluation which had occurred during March 2015. The trenches revealed the remains of the later phases of occupation of the site, particularly the remains of St James C of E Primary School, and back to back housing of Collyhurst Street, Ryder Street and Laverick Street. The excavation provided an opportunity to compare the physical remains of St James Primary School, Collyhurst St, Laverick St and Ryder St, with the 1966 mapping. Furthermore, the excavation gave a clear indication of the use of this land since the demolition of these features.

All works on site were carried out by local volunteers under the supervision of Salford Archaeology staff with over 30 adults and 200 school children taking part during the excavation and a further 200 visitors to the open day.

1. Introduction

Background

Salford Archaeology (SA) was commissioned by Manchester Communications Academy to undertake a community archaeological excavation on the site of Collyhurst Old hall, Collyhurst, Manchester. (SJ85426 99923)

The purpose of the excavation was to uncover, record and interpret remains of Collyhurst Old Hall and evaluate the depth of the structural remains of St James C of E Primary School and the back to back housing of Collyhurst St, Ryder St and Laverack St. This work includes mapping and understanding the extent, function, phasing and relative significance of the buried remains. The aim of the works was to raise awareness of and engage the community in the discovery and preservation of their local heritage.

Location, topography & current land use

The site lies across Collyhurst Recreation Ground, Collyhurst, Manchester, M40 8HL (SJ 85426 99923). It is located on the junction of the A664 (Rochdale Road) and Collyhurst Street. The site is bounded on north by Collyhurst Street, to the West by Rochdale Road, to the east by Teignmouth Street and to the South by Collyhurst Nursery and Children's Centre. (*Fig 1*)

The geological bedrock for the site of Collyhurst Old Hall is described by the British geological survey on-line search facility as; Pennine Upper Coal Measures Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone. (<https://www.bgs.ac.uk>).

Personnel

The project was conducted by professional archaeologists from SA. On-site excavations were conducted by Vicky Nash and Kirsty Whittall. The report was compiled, written and illustrated by Kirsty Whittall and Liz Statham. The project was managed by Adam Thompson.

Monitoring

Norman Redhead, the Heritage Management Director (Archaeology) for Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Service, (GMAAS) monitored the archaeological works throughout.

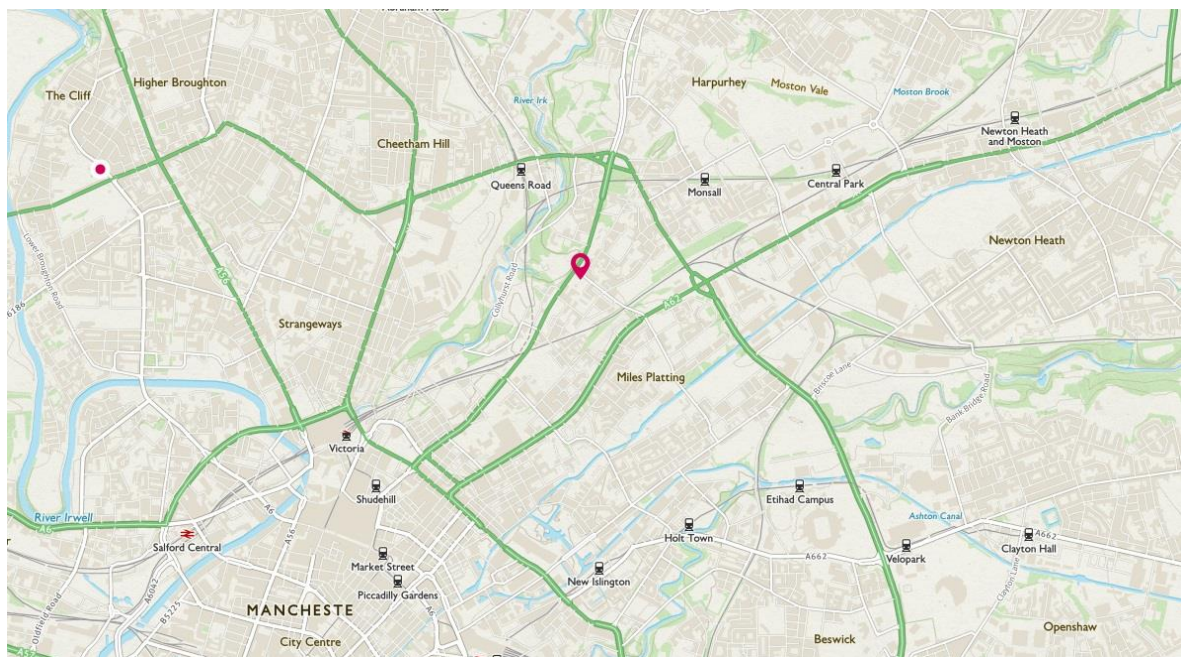


Figure 1: Location map of the Collyhurst Old hall (indicated) (Reproduced by permission, OS Licence Number 100050261).

2. Historical Background

Historical Background

The hall

Collyhurst hall lay c.2.5K northwest of the collegiate church of St Mary, between the main A62 Oldham road and the A664 Rochdale Road, in the parish and Manor of Manchester (NGR SJ 853 998 NW) in the area designated as the Salford Hundreds. No concise history of the hall exists, many details are distributed through many sources, but it is certain that a large proportion of the period of occupation was undertaken by members of the Mosely family between the early seventeenth and late nineteenth century.

The enclosed estate, which was surrounded by outlining field systems and forestry, consisted of large ornate gardens, various outbuildings, a large subsidiary field system and coach house. There is a reasonable possibility that the hall may have been situated over the location of an earlier medieval moated dwelling, a suggestion taken from the cartographic evidence of regularly water filled depressions and earthworks, which at the type of writing, eluded any firm interpretations.

A possibility of a medieval moated dwelling, would under normal circumstances, have more documentary evidence than that of Collyhurst Hall, however, as the site lays within an overbuilt area any previous evidence which may have been uncovered during the construction of back to back housing on the site may have been discarded. As such archaeological excavation may now prove to be the best way to uncover the character of these water filled earth works and the old and new Collyhurst Halls associated with them.

One hall at Collyhurst is presumed to have been built between 1649-81 as a feoffment (a deed where by ownership of land was given in exchange for a pledge of service) made in 1681 states that Robert Leaver, owned several lands and three halls in Gorton, Heaton Old Hall and Collyhurst. This suggests that a house may have been extant at the time and that the site had been used previously. Although this may have possibly

been a moated dwelling, no documentary evidence is available other than the maps of Green and Banck's.

Greens Map of 1787-94 depicts Collyhurst Old Hall with reasonably sized formal gardens to the south west of the Hall. There is also a Coach house and L-shaped building which is within close proximity to the Coach house. (*Fig 2*)

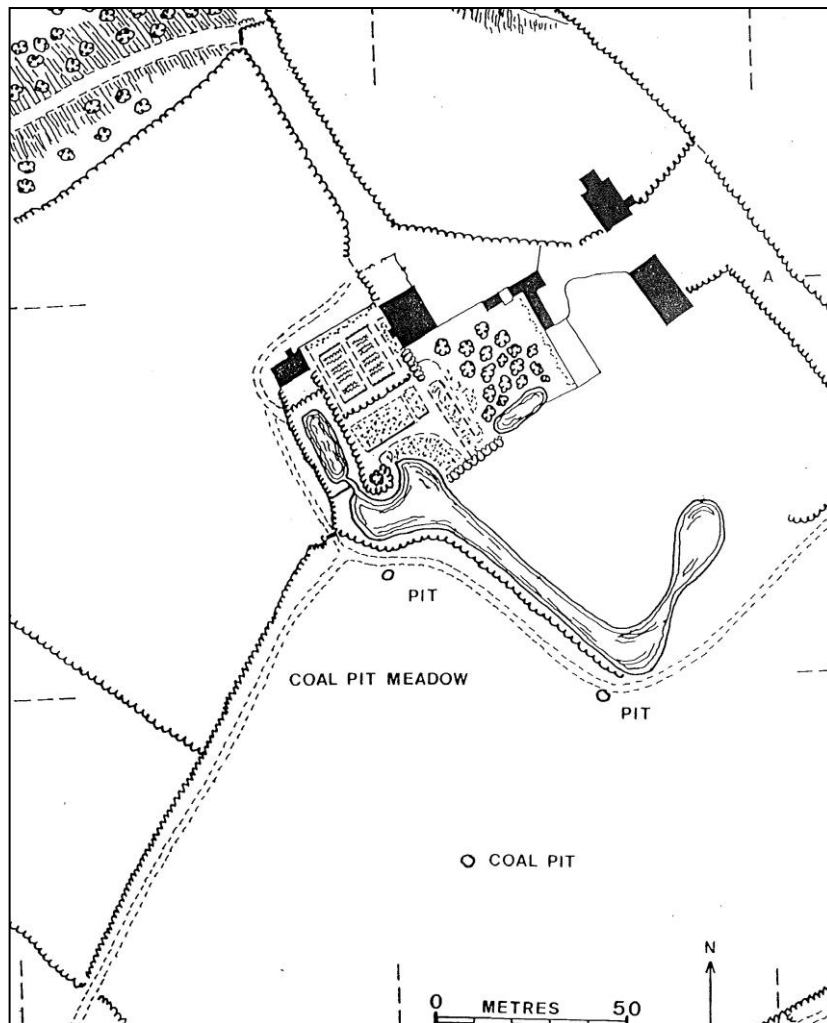


Fig 2: Greens map of 1787 as represented in [Lloyd:1994]

Banks Map of 1831 depicts the area in a triangular shape; there were noticeably fewer elaborate garden features around the hall. It is possible at this time that the gardens were falling to neglect at the time of drawing, suggesting that the house was not tenanted at the time. (*Fig 3*)

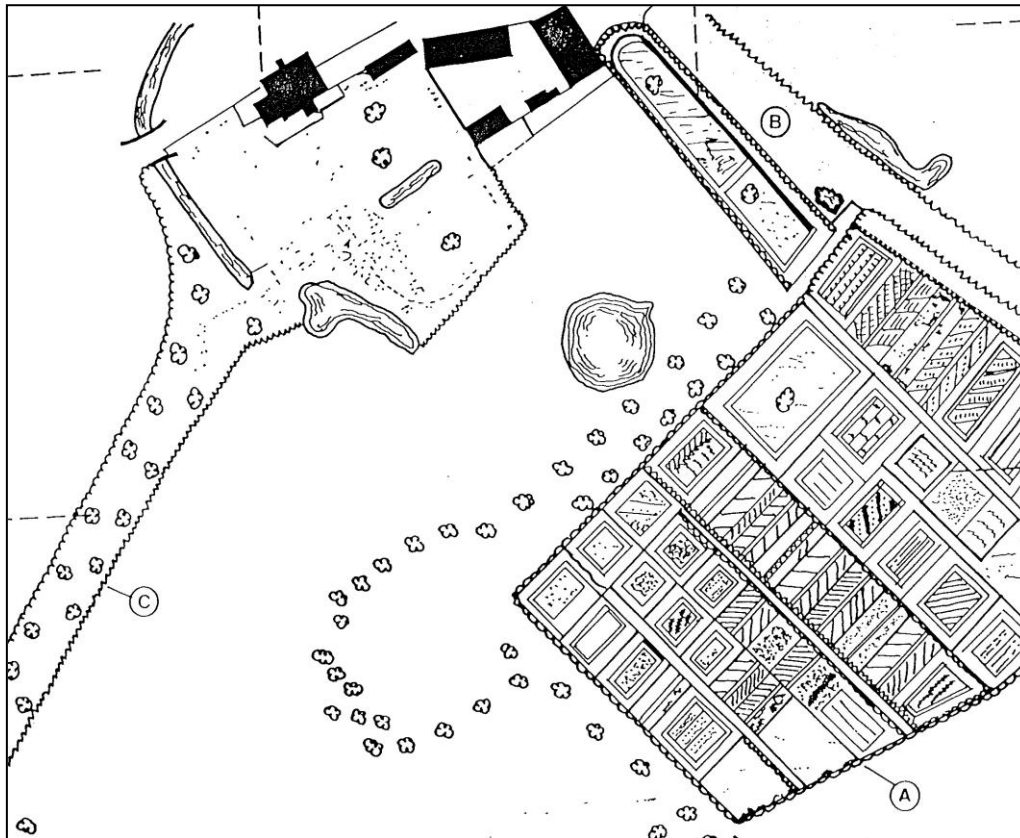


Fig 3: Banks map of 1831 as presented in [Lloyd: 1994]

By this time the hall building had been altered and enlarged, with appendages to its northwest, southeast and southwest walls, and buildings formerly located to the southwest of the hall had disappeared.

Collyhurst Hall was neither a noted, nor a particularly remarkable architectural structure, but it did retain a certain amount of character, taken in part, from the occupants residing within its walls, it will remain one of the most valuable and largely forgotten halls in Manchester. [Lloyd:1994]

The hall embraced many facets throughout its history, and the evolution of the site throughout the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries adequately displays the importance

of this building as an administrative centre for the town during its development. It shows documentary evidence of a long period of occupation by the same family.

There are some similarities between the design of the coach house and the Jacobean façade of the buildings at Turton Tower. As for the gardens, some parallels can be drawn from the gardens portrayed on the 1801 map of Timperley which shows the site of Timperley Old Hall. There are quite remarkable similarities with Collyhurst Old Hall in the layout of these landscape gardens of the late eighteenth century.

Post Industrial

The back to back housing associated with the study area first appear on the 1892 OS mapping, showing four blocks of houses bounding the study area to the north and west, while St James C of E Primary School covers the site to the south and east.

The back to back housing appears as a standard design for this period of time, with each unit extended to a rear ginnel, with a courtyard and toilet block. The houses extend from Hannah Street up Collyhurst Street, Ryder Street and creating Laverack Street.

St James C of E Primary School is depicted as a large building with two wings, one to the north and one to the south with a main central building and school yard area.

The study area retained as this layout until the late 1960's when the back to back houses and St James School were demolished leaving the site as recreational ground, which remains its current function.

Archaeological Background

No previous archaeological works have been undertaken on the site.

3. Methodology

Excavation Strategy

The aim of the archaeological excavation was to expose record and interpret the remains of Collyhurst Old Hall and later structures on the site. This work was required in order to raise awareness in the local community of the presence of Collyhurst Old Hall and its associated archaeological remains and to promote the investigation and preservation of those remains by local people.

Excavations proceeded using a mechanical excavator to remove topsoil and overburden with all archaeological features below excavated by hand.

Excavation methodology

All archaeological features (stratigraphical layers, cuts, fills, structures) were evaluated by hand tools and recorded in plan at 1:20 or in section at 1:10 using standard single context recording methods with photographs taken as appropriate.

Removal of modern overburden (topsoil and subsoil) was conducted using a mechanical excavator with a toothless ditching bucket under the supervision of a professional archaeologist acting as a banksman. Removed overburden was stored on a mounded spoil heaps located at an appropriate distance away from the main open areas of excavation within the fenced edges of the site.

Machine excavation remained cautious, with preference for surviving information and hand excavation where possible once interfaces were encountered.

During the machine excavation and until the programme of archaeological works were complete, the open area excavation and spoil heaps were surrounded by Herras fencing, located not less than two metres away from the edges of either.

Following machine excavation all areas were cleaned using appropriate hand tools and archaeological features recorded by photography and scaled plan.

During the machine excavation and planning phase Mr Norman Redhead of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) was consulted at regular intervals.

Recording methodology

A unique text-number site code was created prior to the commencement of the programme of works.

Separate contexts were recorded individually on pro-forma context sheets. Plans and sections were recorded on drawing sheets at an appropriate scale of 1:10, 1:20, or 1:50, depending on the complexity of the data and features encountered. All drawings were individually identified and cross referenced, contexts enumerated and principal layers and features annotated with OD level information.

A ‘site location plan’ indicating the site north and based on the current ordnance survey 1:1250 map (reproduced with the permission of the controller of HMSO) was prepared. The location of the OS bench marks used and the site TBM will also be indicated. The OD height of all principal strata and features was calculated and indicated on the appropriate plans and sections.

Photography of all relevant phases and features was undertaken with digital formats. General working photographs were taken during the duration of the archaeological works, to provide illustrative material covering the wider aspects of the archaeological work undertaken and to contribute to the creation of the heritage park. A copy of the digital photographs will be made available to the curatorial body, GMAAS with the production of the technical archaeological report.

All finds were recorded by context. Significant “small finds” located within three dimensions to the nearest 10mm and bagged and labelled separately, numbered and a simple description made so that they can be identified within the assemblage.

4. Archaeological Descriptions

Contexts (001) and (002) were identified in all trenches and represented the turf/topsoil and a mixed gravel levelling layer with frequent modern stone fragments of mixed size to a depth of 0.20m. (004) was also identified as being present in all trenches and was a light yellowish brown clay layer, possibly reflecting the natural. This lay below (003) and had inclusions of broken brick, 19th century remains appear to truncate this layer within all the trenches. (028) was also identified as being present in all trenches and was a clean light greyish brown clay with an unknown depth. It sat below (004) and had inclusions of yellow sandstone flags indicating that it was possibly a levelling layer.



Fig 4: Overview of Trench 1 looking East.

Trench 1

This was the most south westerly of the trenches excavated and measured 10m x 5.50m orientated northwest / southeast. Following the removal of the turf and topsoil, a loose gravel based levelling layer (002) was revealed which had frequent inclusions

of modern stone and gravel. This in turn overlay **(003)** which was mid-greyish brown clayey silt below **(002)** in T1, which contained broken brick and stone, with inclusions of 19th and 20th century ceramics, metal, glass and wood. This demolition layer had a maximum depth 0.35m. Below this was **(004)** which was light yellowish brown clay layer which was possibly the natural. This layer was cut by linear **[008]** which was aligned northwest/southeast filled by **(009)**, **(012)**, **(013)**, **(026)** and **(027)**. The cut was 0.60m wide, 0.27m deep and 3.80m long. It continued through the baulk and ran into drain **(014)**. **(009)** was the upper fill of **[008]** and **[025]**. It was a dark blackish brown gritty clinker layer with burnt material and frequent inclusions of broken brick and stone. The layer had a depth of 0.05m and sat above **(012)** which was the lower fill of both **[008]** and **[025]**. It was a mid-orange brown sandy deposit that had no inclusions and a varying depth of 0.03m and 0.10m. Below this was **(013)** which was the fill of both **[008]** and **[025]**. This was a dark black compacted gritty coal tip burnt material which had an oily consistency. It contained frequent inclusions of mortar, charcoal, glass, animal bone and 19th and 20th century ceramics.

(026) was the upper fill of drain cut **[008]**. It was a mid-greyish brown gritty sand/silt that had frequent inclusions of small stones/slag, mortar and brick. This layer sat directly above **(027)**. **(027)** was the bottom fill of **[008]** and was made up of dark blackish brown clinker material which had frequent inclusions of 19th and 20th century pottery, glass and bone. **[025]** was a linear cut aligned northeast/southwest that was filled by **(009)**, **(012)** and **(013)**. It truncated **[008]** and also cut into **(004)** and **(024)**. It had an excavated length of 3.00m and an excavated width of c0.30m, continuing beyond both the southern and western baulks. The cut had a depth of 0.45m with steep sides and a flat base and was probably a drain cut.

At the northern end of **[008]** was **(014)** a brick lined drain/sump. Composed of machine made brick measuring 22x11x7 cm some of which were frogged. It measured 1.02m by 1.20m being 2 bricks wide on the northern and southern sides and 3 bricks wide on the eastern and western sides. In the centre there was a void which measured 0.65m by 0.48m. The drain was excavated to a depth of 1.00m but continued beyond this. **(015)** was a brick feature at the southern end of the trench and to the north of **(014)**. The feature was constructed from handmade bricks and measured 0.59m by 0.59m. There was a void in the centre of the feature, measuring 0.24m by 0.24m, in

which sat a ceramic drain down pipe which had a diameter of 0.15m and was 0.02m thick. The feature was excavated to 0.11m. **(016)** was a ceramic drain which was aligned north/south and had an excavated length of 3.40m, continuing beyond the eastern baulk, and a diameter of 0.07m. **(017)** was a handmade brick wall aligned northeast/southwest, abutting the southern extent of **(018)**. It measured 2.09m in length, continuing beyond the western baulk, and was 0.43m wide. It had a return to the north that had a length of 0.60m. The wall was excavated to 1 brick high. **(017)** was the school yard wall.

(018) was a York stone flag floor/pavement which made up the east side of Laverack Street. It was located in the northwest area of the trench, was truncated in places and had kerb stones along the western edge. The flags were sat on top of **(003)**. The flags varied in size, the smallest being 0.46m by 0.72m and the largest being 0.90m x 0.90m. The flags continued beyond both the northern and western trench edges and had a total excavated length of 9.26m and an excavated width of 2.50m. The kerb was 0.29m wide. North of **(018)** was **(019)** which were stone setts, measuring 0.30m by 0.10m, making up the road of Laverack Street. The setts were covered by both **(003)** and **(021)**. They had an excavated length of 8.34m and an excavated width of 1.24m, continuing beyond the northern baulk. Overlying part of **(019)** was **(020)** which was layer of concrete which had bitumen in some places and was 0.03m thick. **(021)** was light grey/yellowish gravel which was the infill of a modern service trench cut that truncated **(003)**. It was visible in the northern baulk and had a maximum depth of 0.55m. Within the eastern half of the trench was **(022)** which was another handmade brick wall that was aligned northeast/southwest and truncated **(004)**. The wall was 0.52m wide and had an excavated length of 3.21m which continued beyond the eastern baulk and had an excavated depth of 0.30m. To the east of **(018)** was **(023)** which was a handmade brick wall aligned northwest/southeast which is probably part of the school yard wall. It had a total excavated length of 11.15m and continued beyond the northern baulk. In the south west corner of the trench was **(024)**, an amorphous spread of brick rubble which say within **(004)**, was truncated by **[008]** and **[025]** and was below **(002)**. It has a depth of 0.08m and a width of 1.04m. It continued beyond the southern, eastern and western trench edges.



Fig 5: Trench 2 Overview looking North

Trench 2

This was the most easterly of the four trenches and measured 4.0m X 5.0m. Following the removal of the turf and topsoil, a loose gravel based levelling layer (002) was revealed which had frequent inclusions of modern stone and gravel. Underneath (002) was a band of mid greyish brown sandy silt (007) that was found along Ryder Street. The layer had a minimum depth of 0.10m and a maximum depth of 0.20m. Also below (002) was dark blackish brown silt (005) that contained infrequent inclusions of broken bricks and 19th century ceramics and glass. It was possibly a demolition layer with an average depth of 0.15m. Below (005) was a gravel/coal tip deposit (006) that had inclusions of small stones and slag. The layer appears to cap the remains of the 19th century School and houses. (029) was a handmade brick wall that was aligned northwest/southeast. The wall was 0.51m wide and was excavated to a depth of 4 bricks. It continued beyond both the northern and southern trench edges. Between (029) and (031) was a brick tie (030) that measured 0.58m by 0.80m by 0.14m. To the east of (029) was a handmade brick wall (031) 0.23m wide and 9 courses deep.



Fig 6: Trench 2 showing (031)

Trench 3

This was the most northeasterly of the four trenches and measured 10m x 5.0m. No significant archaeological remains were found in this trench. Following the removal of the turf and topsoil, loose gravel based levelling layer (002) was revealed which had frequent inclusions of modern stone and gravel. Below (002) was dark blackish brown silt (005) that contained infrequent inclusions of broken bricks and 19th century ceramics and glass. It was possibly a demolition layer with an average depth of 0.15m. Underneath (005) was a gravel/coal tip deposit (006) that had inclusions of small stones and slag. The layer appears to cap the remains of the 19th century school and houses. At the northern end of the trench there was a brick privy (052) which appeared to continue beyond the western trench edge.



Fig 7: Trench 4 showing houses 16 +18 Collyhurst St

Trench 4

This was the most northwesterly of the four trenches and measured 8.0m x 5.0m. Following the removal of the turf and topsoil, loose gravel based levelling layer (002) was revealed which had frequent inclusions of modern stone and gravel. In the north corner of the trench there was a layer of light yellow grey sand (032) which overlied (033). It contained frequent inclusions of slate, mortar and broken brick. (033) was a York stone flag surface which probably made up the rear yard of Collyhurst Street and measured 3.22m by 2.95m. The flags were of varying size and some of them were broken. They lay beneath (006). Running through (033) was a ceramic drain (034). The diameter of the drain was 0.20m and the drain grate measured 0.30m by 0.30m. Abutting the eastern end of (033) was a handmade brick wall (035) aligned northwest/southeast. It survived to 4 courses in height and has an excavated length of 5.50m, continuing beyond both the northern and southern baulks. It sits within the eastern baulk of the trench and has a possible doorway at its southern end with a stone door jamb. Abutting both (033) and (037) was handmade brick wall (036) which was aligned northeast/southwest, located in the south east corner of the trench. The wall was 2 courses wide and 0.80m long. (037) was a brick lined coal store that had an

internal flag floor surface which was badly broken. The brick surround survived to 4 courses in height and was 2 bricks wide at its foundations. The overall length was 1.30m and the overall width was 0.75m. Within **(028)** was a privy **(038)** for Collyhurst Street. It was a ceramic glazed drain that had a diameter of 0.13m and was 0.02m thick.

(039) was a handmade brick wall that was aligned northwest/southeast abutting **(040)**. It was 0.23m wide and had an excavated length of 5.55m, continuing beyond the northern and southern baulks. It survived to 2 courses in height, constructed from handmade bricks measuring 0.23m x 0.10m by 0.07m. There was also a possible doorway which had a width of 0.80m. It was probably the rear yard wall of Collyhurst Street houses.

Between **(039)** and **(041)** was a stone flag alley **(040)** which was between the Collyhurst Street houses and the Ryder Street houses. The alley was 1.17m wide and had an excavated length of 5.55m, continuing beyond the northern and southern baulks. There was a central drainage channel that was 0.18m wide. **(041)** was the same as **(039)**.

Between **(033)** and **(043)** was handmade brick wall **(042)** which was aligned northeast/southwest. It was 3 courses high and ran between **(035)** and **(039)**. To the north of **(042)** was a stone flagged floor **(043)** which belonged to yard 2 of Collyhurst Street. It had a width of 1.80m and a length of 3.30m and was truncated in the bottom corner. **(044)** was another York stone flag floor which belonged to yard 3 of Ryder Street. The floor was badly broken and sat between walls **(049)** and **(054)**. The width of the floor was 0.80m and the length was 2.50m, continuing beyond the northern baulk. It overlay **(051)** which was a mixed sand, mortar and clay deposit that was located between **(049)** and **(050)**. Abutting **(041)** was the Ryder Street privy **(045)**, consisting of brick walls and a ceramic drain. The walls were 2 brick courses wide with the northern wall being damaged. The length of the privy was 2.00m and the width was 1.06m. Abutting **(045)** was handmade brick wall **(046)** which had a 1.80m excavated length, continuing beyond the western baulk. It was 1 brick width wide. Abutting the south side of **(046)** was the remains of a truncated yellow sandstone flagged surface **(047)**. It was 0.38m wide and had an excavated length of 1.30m,

continuing beyond the southern trench edge. **(048)** was the remains of a truncated stone flag floor surface that measured 0.48m by 0.44m and abutted the east face of **(050)**.

South of **(044)** was a handmade brick wall **(049)** that was aligned northeast/southwest and was a single brick width its length was 3.76m. The western extent of the wall to the north of **(050)** was clad with timber. **(050)** crossed **(049)** and had the same construction. It had an excavated length of 2.90m, continuing beyond the northern baulk. The west face of the wall was clad with wood and the east face was abutted by **(048)**. **(053)** was a handmade brick wall that abutted **(049)**.

5. Archaeological Results

The excavation of all trenches was designed to investigate to what extent the remains of Collyhurst Old Hall could be found by way of mechanical and manual excavation at the site of the recreational ground located at Collyhurst Road and Rochdale Road.

Trench 1

The aim of this trench was to locate any and all remaining archaeological evidence of Collyhurst Old Hall; the trench was located over an area considered to hold the most potential for any archaeological remains. The trench was excavated by machine to remove the turf and top soil; once this had been completed the remaining excavations took place by hand.

The archaeological remains which were uncovered in trench one, appear to be consistent with the cartographic evidence of St James Primary School, particularly brick feature (015) at southern extent of Trench 1 (016) the red ceramic drain aligned north/south and (017) Handmade brick wall, aligned northeast/southwest. Abuts southern extent of the flag surface (018), which all appear to represent the school yard area. (018) and (019) to the northwest of trench one, appear to be consistent with the remains of Laverack Street, particularly the curve where Laverack Street terminates at St James Primary School.

The artefacts recovered from trench one, had a date range of 1800-1900 and were consistent with this later phase of occupation also, the abundance of blue and white transfer wares along with stone wares and youths tooth brushes seems to reflect the depth of the schools deposit.

There was no singular piece of archaeological evidence to confirm the presence of Collyhurst Old Hall in trench one.



Fig 8: Trench 1 Showing Laverack St to the right and St James School wall to the left at the Western end.

Trench 2

Trench two was located slightly further the southeast of the study area, the aim of this trench was to locate any archaeological remains of the ornate gardens associated with Collyhurst Old hall.

Upon excavation Trench 2 held further evidence of the later phase of occupation by way of (029) a handmade brick wall and (031) brick wall (outer) to the east of (029) which gave the rest of St James School exterior wall.

As with trench one, trench two failed to provide significant archaeological evidence of any remains of Collyhurst Old Hall, however, both trenches provided substantial evidence for St James School.

Trench 3

Although this trench provided some information for the stratigraphy of the site, it failed to offer any archaeological remains with the exception of a singular feature, (052) was the remnants of a brick privy.

Trench three does however, give strong support to the interpretation that during the demolition of St James School and the houses associated with Collyhurst St, Ryder St and Laverack St, the study area was somewhat raised and levelled to produce a recreational green space.

Trench 4

Trench four was located to the Northwest of the study area and was positioned over the back to back terrace houses on Collyhurst St and Ryder Street. The trench was located over numbers 16 and 18 Collyhurst St and 13 and 15 Ryder St.

Trench four held substantial archaeological remains of these houses, including (033), (040), (043), (044), (047) and (048) all of which consisted of York stone flag floors consistent with the rear yards of these houses.

Along with the stone flag floors there were also privy toilets (038) and (045) and handmade brick walls (029),(035),(036),(039),(046),(049),(053) with trench four, which further supported the evidence of the back to back houses at Collyhurst St and Ryder St. Trench four, however, did not provide any evidence of Collyhurst Old Hall.



Fig 9: Trench 4 showing the ear yards of 21+23 Ryder St (left) and the alley between Ryder St and Collyhurst St (right)

6. Discussion

This community excavation focussed on the excavation of Collyhurst Recreational ground which is on the site of Collyhurst Old hall, with an aim to excavate and evaluate any and all remaining archaeological features associated with Collyhurst Old Hall for the purpose of locating the hall archaeologically.

The study area itself is a playing ground close to Collyhurst Nursery School and has, since the demolition of St James Primary school and associated back to back house, remained vacant for the last 40 years.

As the documentary evidence for Collyhurst old hall is poor, David Lloyd wrote in his desk based assessment, that archaeological excavation may be the only way to solidify the evidence of the Old Halls existence. However, the industrialisation of Manchester and its surrounding areas saw much of the old estates levelled and rebuilt to house the thousands of workers flocking to Manchester during the Industrial Revolution.

Collyhurst Old Hall has been suggested via cartographic evidence as being a potential medieval moated dwelling, an interpretation supported by subsequent cartographic and archival investigation, however, as a result of the redevelopment of the study area during the 19th century no physical remains of this were uncovered.

It is arguable that some of the stone material recovered from trench one may have been stones used within Collyhurst Old Hall, although none of the stone work recovered showed evidence of dressing, which would be expected from a hall of this type.

Furthermore, throughout the excavation there were no archaeological features or artefacts that would suggest that Collyhurst Old Hall survives within the study area. However there was substantial evidence for St James Primary School and the back to back house of Collyhurst St, Laverack St and Ryder St

7. Archive

The archive comprises archaeological photographs, drawings and research notes as well as a large collection of ceramic, metal and glass finds. This archive is currently held by Salford Archaeology and a copy of this report will be forwarded to the client following the publication of the site report.

A copy of this report will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record held by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service.

8. Acknowledgements

Salford archaeology would like to thank Keiran Power of Manchester Communications Academy for commissioning the archaeological works and Norman Redhead for providing monitoring support and advice through GMAAS.

The on-site excavations were conducted by Vicky Nash and Kirsty Whittall. This report was written and illustrated by Kirsty Whittall and Richard Ker.

9. Sources

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Maps

Yates Map of Lancashire 1786

William Green Map of Manchester 1794

Banck and Co Map of Manchester, 1831

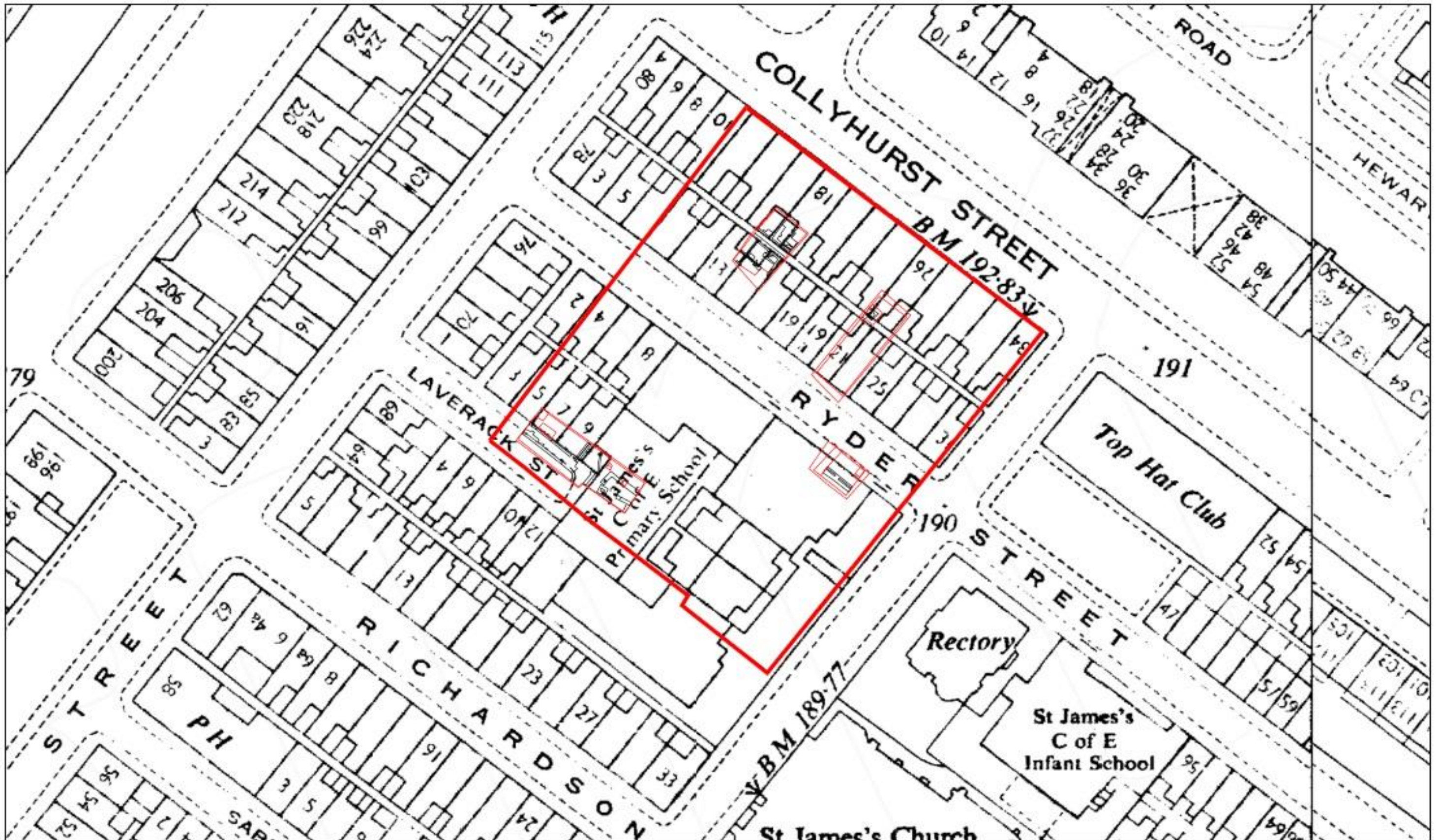
OS 6in to 1 mile, First Edition Map of Lancashire, 1841-1853

OS 60in to 1 mile, town plan of Manchester & Salford, 1844-1849

OS License no. 100050261

Appendix 1: Figures

<i>Figure</i>	<i>Description</i>
1	Study Area Location Map
2	Greens Map 1787
3	Bancks Map 1831
4	Overall shot of Trench One
5	Overall shot of Trench Two
6	Trench Two showing St James Primary School Wall
7	Trench Four showing Nos 16+18 Collyhurst St
8	Trench One showing Laverack St and St James Primary School
9	Trench four showing Nos 21+23 Ryder St.
10	Trench location plan overlaid on the 1966 OS Map
11	Trench location plan



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Appendix 2: Context List

Context Number	Trench	Description
(001)	All	Dark, blackish brown loamy topsoil c. 0.20m in depth sits on (002)
(002)	All	Mixed grey layer below (001) c. 0.20M in depth. Varying size of >0.05m modern levelling material.
(003)	1	Mid greyish brown clayey silt below (002) in T1. Contains broken brick and stone, inclusions of 19 th and 20 th century ceramics, metal, glass and wood. Demolition layer, maximum depth 0.35m.
(004)	All	Light yellowish brown clay layer, possibly natural, found in all trenches. Sits below (003), inclusions of broken brick, 19 th century remains appear to truncate this layer.
(005)	2+3	Dark blackish brown silt deposit below (002). Contains infrequent inclusions of broken brick plus 19 th century ceramics and glass. Possible Demolition layer. Depth varies max depth 0.15m
(006)	2+3	Gravel/coal tip deposit, small stones and slag lies beneath (005). Appears to cap the remains of the 19 th century school and houses.
(007)	2	Street brick and stone rubble mixed with yellow brown clay
[008]	1	Linear cut aligned Nw/Se. cuts clay (004) 0.60m wide, 3.80m long, continues through baulk, runs into drain (014). Depth 0.27m and filled by (009), (012), (013), (026) and (027).
(009)	1	Dark blackish brown, gritty, burnt material, clinker. Contains frequent inclusions of broken brick and stone 0.05, depth. Sits above (012)
[010]	1	Linear cut to the e of [008]. Truncates clay 9004). Aligned Nw/Se. C 0.62m wide, 0.18m deep. Excavated length 4.95m continues beyond baulk and contains fill (011)
(011)	1	Only fill of [010]. Mid greyish brown sandy silt c 0.18m deep. Compacted with frequent inclusions of broken brick, stone and charcoal.
(012)	1	Fill of [025] sits below (009) mid orange brown sand deposit. Depth varies 0.03m – 0.10m. No inclusions.

(013)	1	Dark black gritty, coal tip burnt material below (012) compacted, contains frequent inclusions of mortar, charcoal, plus 20 th century ceramics, glass and bone, oily consistency.
(014)	1	Brick lined drain/sump at n end of cut [008]. S extent of Tr1 constructed from Machine made orange brick, some frogged, bricks measure 022. X 0.11m x 0.07m. Drain measures 1.02m x 1.20m, 2 bricks wide N+S 3 wide E+W excavated to 1m in depth – but continues into a void 0.65m x 0.48m.
(015)	1	Brick feature at S. extent of T1 to N of (014) 0.59m x 0.59m constructed from handmade brick 0.23 x 0.11 x 0.08m. Contains ceramic drain (down pipe) at centre 0.15m diameter, 0.02m thick, and Drain sits within void. 0.24m x 0.24m excavated to 1 brick depth.
(016)	1	Red ceramic drain aligned N/S. excavated length 3.40m continues beyond E baulk. Each section measures 0.33m in length and a diameter of 0.07m.
(017)	2	Handmade brick wall, aligned Ne/Sw. Abuts S extent of the flag surface (018). Measures 2.09m in length continue beyond the W baulk. 0.43m wide (4 brick headers) bricks are 0.23mx0.11m x0.08m. (017) returns N and is 0.60m in length. Excavated to 1 brick high = school yard wall.
(018)	1	York flag floor/ pavement within NW extent of T1. Truncated in places. Contains kerb stones along W edge sits on clay (003). Flags vary in size 0.46m x 0.72m – 0.90m x 0.90m. 0.08m in depth. Continues beyond W baulk. Kerb stones are 0.29m wide.
(019)	1	Remains of stone set road to N of (018). Remains of Laverack St. Setts 0.30m x 0.10m excavated length 8.34m continues beyond W baulk covered by (003) and (021)
(020)	1	Layer of concrete overlaying n extent of 9019), bitumen in some places 0.03m thick.
(021)	1	Light grey/yellowish gravel truncating 9003) modern infill of service cut. Visible in W baulk of T1, Max depth 0.55m.
(022)	1	Handmade brick wall aligned Ne/Sw. within Eastern half of T1. Truncates clay (004) 4 bricks wide – 0.52m. Excavated depth 0.30m, excavated length 3.21m continues beyond e baulk. Yard wall of the school.

(023)	1	Handmade brick wall aligned Nw/Se 11.15m excavated length. Continues beyond N baulk, East of pavement, School yard wall.
(024)	1	Amorphous spread of brick rubble within SW corner of trench. Sits within clay (004) and truncated by [008] and [025]. Continues beyond S baulk Max depth 1.04m. Runs beyond E+W baulk.
[025]	1	Linear cut aligned Ne/Sw. excavated length c.3.00m, continues beyond S and W Baulks. Excavated width c0.30m. Truncates [008] filled by (013), (012) and 9009). Also cuts clay (004) and brick rubble (024). Steep sides, flat base = drain cut.
(026)	1	Upper fill of drain cut [008] mid greyish brown gritty sand/silt. Depth 0.12m, frequent inclusions of small stones/slag, mortar and brick. Sits above (027)
(027)	1	Lower fill of [008] sits below (026) dark blackish/brown clinker material, frequent inclusions of 19 th + 20 th century pottery, glass and bone, brownish clay.
(028)	ALL	Clean bright greyish/brown clay, below mixed clay 9004) Depth unknown. Some inclusions of yellow sandstone flag. Poss. Levelling layer
(029)	2	Handmade brick wall 0.51m wide aligned Nw/Se. excavated to 4 bricks depth, wall for school. Continues beyond N+S baulk.
(030)	2	Brick between (029) +(031) 0.58m x 0.80m x 0.14m
(031)	2	Brick Wall 9(outer) of E of 9029) 2 headers wide, 9 deep handmade brick. St James exterior Wall.
(032)	4	Layer of Light yellow/grey sand within N corner of T4. Overlaying flags (033) contains frequent inclusions of slate, mortar and broken brick. Demolition layer
(033)	4	Rear yard of Collyhurst St Terrace, York flag surface 3.22m x 2.95m, various flag sizes some broken. Sits below (006).
(034)	4	Ceramic drain trough within 9033) 0.30 x 0.30m drain grate 0.20m in diameter
(035)	4	Brick wall aligned Nw/Se. Handmade brick, survives 4 courses in height, abuts E extent of (033) sits within the E baulk, continues beyond N+S baulk, forms back wall of Collyhurst St houses. Poss doorway at S extent excavated length .5.50m with stone door jam.
(036)	4	Handmade brick wall, 2 courses wide aligned Ne/Sw 0.80m long, abuts (037) and 9033) within Se corner.

(037)	4	Brick lined coal store with internal flag floor surface, badly broken 0.75m x 1.30m. Brick surround. 1 brick wide 2 at foundation, survives to 4 courses in height.
(038)	4	Privy for Collyhurst st houses, glazed drain within clay (028) Diameter 0.134m 0.02m thick.
(039)	4	Handmade brick wall aligned Nw/Se rear yard wall of Colyhurst St housing. Abuts Guinnle (040) 2 bricks wide, 0.23m continues beyond N+S baulk (excavated length 5.50m) handmade brick survives 2 course in height, bricks 0.23m x 0.10m x 0.07m. Poss doorway c.0.80m wide.
(040)	4	Stone flag alley between Collyhurst St houses and Ryder St houses sits between (039) and (041) 1.17m wide 5.55m excavated length and continues beyond N+S baulk central drainage channel 0.18m wide.
(041)	4	Same as (039) rear yard wall for Ryder St.
(042)	4	Handmade brick wall, same as (039) and (041) aligned Ne/Sw sits between flag surfaces of Yard 1 (033), Yard 2 (043). 3 bricks high abuts or runs between walls (035)+(039)
(043)	4	Stone flag floor to the N of 9042) yard 2 of Collyhurst St, contains grid 9053) same as 9036) 1.80 x 3.30m truncated at bottom corner.
(044)	4	Stone flag floor, broken in places, sits on (051) sits within walls (049) + (054) belongs to Yard 3 in Ryder St. Continues beyond N baulk. 2.50m x 0.80m.
(045)	4	Ryder St Privy abutting (041) walls are 2 bricks wide, 2.00m x 1.60m contains ceramic drain North wall damaged.
(046)	4	Handmade brick wall, 1 brick wide in stretcher bond. 1.80m excavated length, abuts (045) continues through w baulk.
(047)	4	Remains of Truncated flag surface, (yellow sandstone) abuts S side of (046) continues beyond S baulk excavated length 1.30m x 0.38m.
(048)	4	Remains of truncated flag floor surface, 0.48m x 0.44m, abuts the E face of wall (050) external yard surface.
(049)	4	Handmade brick wall aligned ne/Se single brick wide, 3.76m in length. Runs to 9041) Ryder St yard. Sits to the S of flag floor (044) W extent to the n of (050) clad with timber.
(050)	4	Same as (049) in construction crosses (049).

		Excavated length 2.90m continues beyond n baulk, w face is clag in timber; E face is abutted by (048).
(051)	4	Mixed mortar, sand and clay deposit between (050) and (049)
(052)	3	Brick Privy
(053)	4	Handmade brick wall at W end of T4, abuts (049)