



**University of  
Leicester**

**Archaeological Services**

**A Photographic Survey of the  
Manchester Hosiery Works, Queens  
Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire  
NGR: SP 43356 93575**

Sophie Clarke



ULAS Report No 2014-047.  
©2014

**A Photographic Survey of the  
Manchester Hosiery Works, Queens Road,  
Hinckley, Leicestershire**

**NGR: SP 43356 93575**

**Sophie Clarke**

**For: Haydn Evans**

Checked by:

**Signed:**



**Date:** 14 March 2014

**Name:** Patrick Clav

**University of Leicester**

Archaeological Services

University Rd., Leicester, LE1 7RH

Tel: (0116) 2522848 Fax: (0116) 2522614

**ULAS Report Number 2014-047**

**X.A34.2014 ©2014**

## CONTENTS

Background .....	1
Methods.....	1
Results .....	4
Building Descriptions and Basic Chronology (derived from historic mapping) .....	4
Modern Floor Plans.....	5
Selected photographs from the archive .....	8
Archive.....	18
Publication.....	19
Acknowledgements .....	19
Bibliography.....	19
Appendix 1: Oasis Record .....	20

## FIGURES

Figure 1. Site location, Hinckley, Leicestershire .....	2
Figure 2. Site plan (supplied by Hayward Architects; not to scale).....	3
Figure 3. Block Plan.....	4
Figure 4. 2006 Ground floor plan, supplied by client. ....	6
Figure 5. 2006 First and Second floor plans, supplied by client.....	7
Figure 6. Location of figures 9 to 18 on ground and basement floor plans. ....	8
Figure 7. Location of figures 19 to 22 on first floor plan. ....	9
Figure 8. Location of figures 23 to 25 on second floor and loft plans. ....	10
Figure 9. Building A, principal factory building, looking north-west. ....	10
Figure 10. Building A, looking north-east/ .....	11
Figure 11. Building A, principal entrance, looking west. ....	11
Figure 12. Yard area, with rear of buildings B, C, D and E. Looking west.....	12
Figure 13. Building D, looking south.....	12
Figure 14. Building A, ground floor, looking west.....	13
Figure 15. Building A, ground floor sample room, with hoist over hatch to basement. Looking west.....	13
Figure 16. Knitting machinery in basement, looking south-west. ....	14
Figure 17. Building B, ground floor, looking north-east. ....	14
Figure 18. Building C, ground floor, looking south-east. ....	15
Figure 19. Building A, first floor, with modern office partitions and king-post roof structure. Looking west.....	15
Figure 20. Building A, first floor knitting room. Looking west. ....	16
Figure 21. Building B, first floor, looking north-west. ....	16
Figure 22. Building C, first floor, looking north-west. ....	17
Figure 23. Building B, loft space within roof structure. Looking south. ....	17
Figure 24. Building D, second floor, with hosiery plant. Looking north.....	18
Figure 25. Building D, loft storage, with steel roof trusses. Looking north towards lift shaft. ....	18

## **A Photographic Survey of the Manchester Hosiery Works, Queens Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire SP 43356 93575**

**Sophie Clarke**

### *Summary*

*An English Heritage Level 2 photographic survey was carried out on the 3rd of March 2013 of the former Manchester Hosiery Works, Queens Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire. The factory was constructed between 1889 and 1903 and has been identified as being of historic and architectural significance, from information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER MLE17933). The site is included as part of the 'Hinckley Hosiery Trail'. The archive will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under the accession number X.A34.2014.*

### **Background**

This document presents the results of a photographic survey of the former Manchester Hosiery Manufacturing Company Works located at Queens Road, Hinckley, Leicestershire SP 43356 93575.

The factory was constructed between 1889 and 1903 and has been identified as being of historic and architectural significance, from information held in the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Record (HER MLE17933). The site is included as part of the 'Hinckley Hosiery Trail', for which the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, working in conjunction with North Warwickshire and Hinckley College and the Hinckley Hosiery Trust, have produced a heritage leaflet:

<http://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/200023/conservation/316/heritage/2>

The survey was commissioned by Haydn Evans as part of a pre-planning enquiry for the demolition of the existing buildings, which is to be carried out in advance of the residential redevelopment of the site.

The photographic survey was carried out on the 3rd of March 2014 by Sophie Clarke of University of Leicester Archaeological Services (ULAS), following procedure defined by English Heritage guidelines (2006) 'Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice'.

### **Methods**

The photographic record followed the photographic section of Level 2 of English Heritage's *Understanding Historic Buildings* (2006). It included:

Item 1: General view or views of the exterior of the building.

Item 2: The overall appearance of principal rooms and circulation areas.

Item 3: Detailed coverage of the building's exterior appearance.

Item 4: 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.

Item 5: The building's relationship to its setting, to other buildings, or to a significant viewpoint.

Item 6: 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.

A summary of the building's type or purpose, historically and at present, its materials and possible date (s).



Figure 1. Site location, Hinckley, Leicestershire

Reproduced from Landranger Map 140 (Leicester & Hinckley) by permission of Ordnance Survey® on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown copyright 2014  
All rights reserved. Licence number AL 100029495.



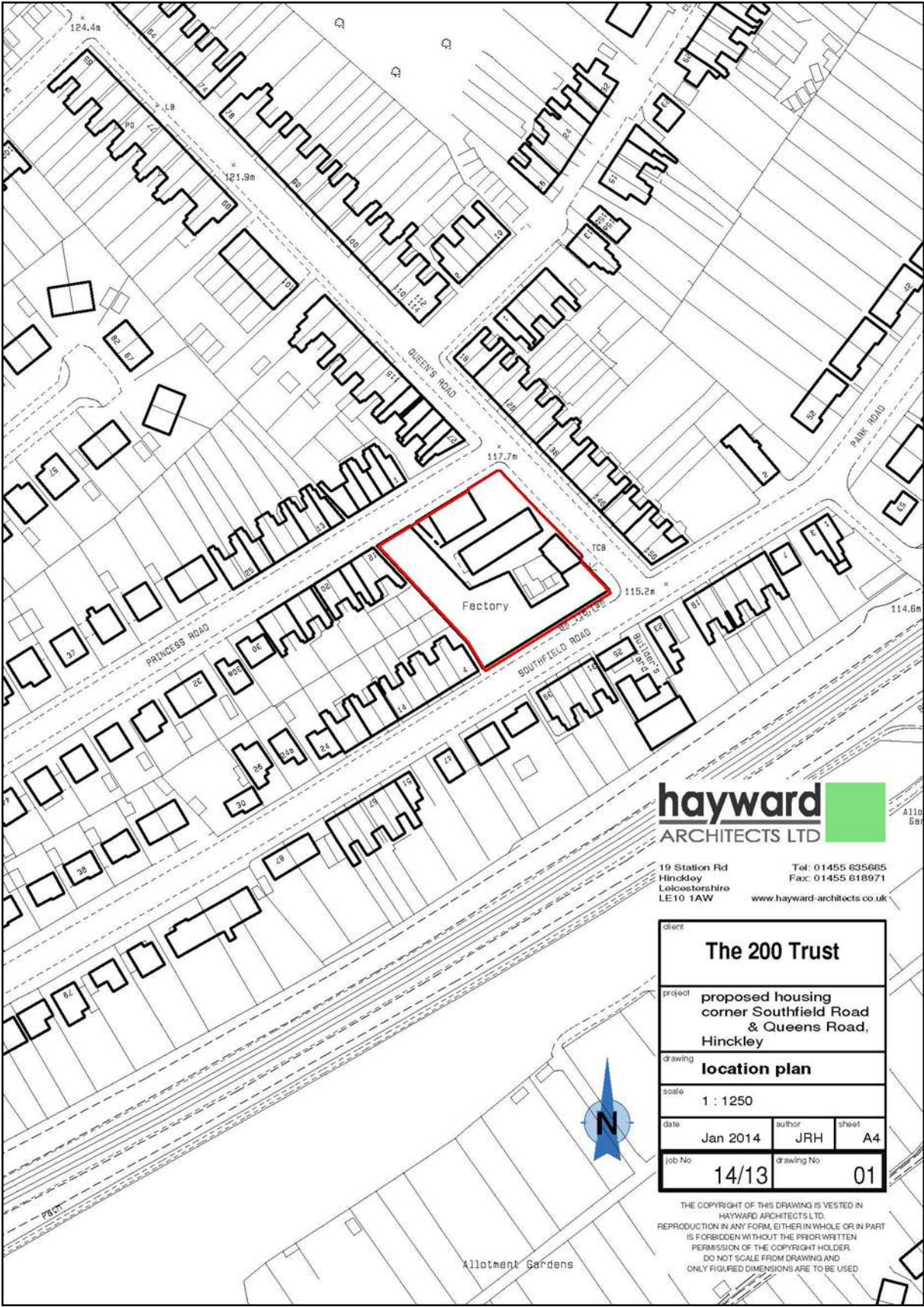


Figure 2. Site plan (supplied by Hayward Architects; not to scale)

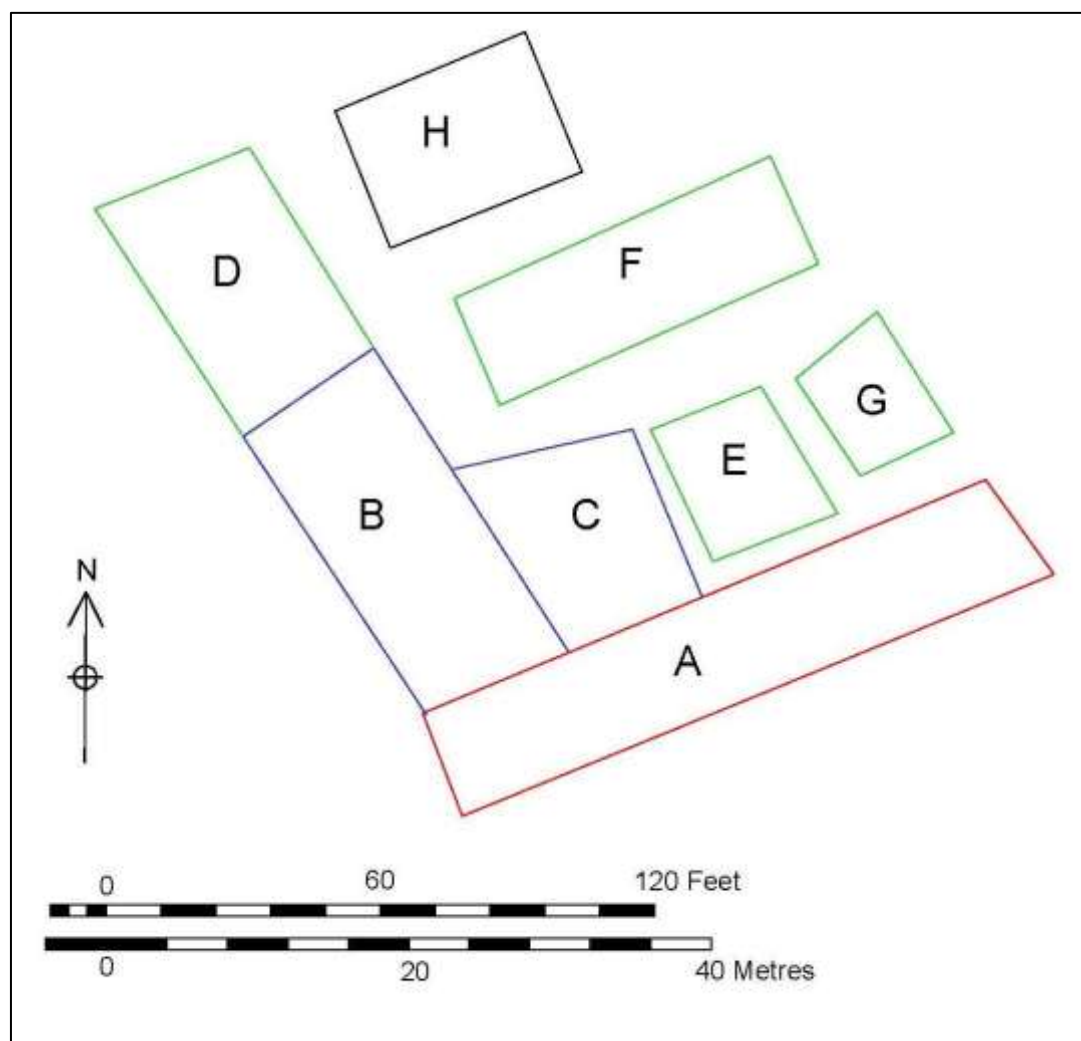


Figure 3. Block Plan

## Results

### *Building Descriptions and Basic Chronology (derived from historic mapping)*

#### *Building A*

The principal factory building located on the corner of Queens Road and Southfield Road is the earliest structure on site, built between 1889 and 1903. This is a two-storey building constructed of red brick and is composed of 15 arch-headed window bays to a height of two storeys, with a short basement located at the eastern end. The roof structure is supported by a series of timber king-post trusses and is capped in Welsh slate.

#### *Building B*

This consists of a two-storey extension projecting from the rear of the principal range, constructed between 1903 and 1924. The structure is seven bays in length and has arch-headed window openings in the same style as the earlier building. The first floor structure is supported by a series of cast-iron columns running along the central

line of the building and the roof is supported by timber queen-post trusses. Timber floorboards are carried over the tie-beams to create loft storage within the roof space, which is accessed via a narrow staircase located at the southern end.

### *Building C*

Building C is a two-storey red brick structure located in the corner formed by the junction of Buildings A and B, and is likely to have been constructed at the same time as Building B. The first floor structure is supported by a series of cast-iron columns running along the central line of the building and the roof is supported by timber queen-post trusses.

### *Building D*

This is a red brick structure of three and a half storeys, built between 1924 and 1961. The building is of five window bays in length; window openings have flat arch-heads at ground and first floor levels. At the northern end of the building there is a lift shaft which projects above the roof line, to allow the passage of people and goods to all floor levels, including loft storage within the roof space. The roof structure is supported by trusses of riveted steel.

### *Building E*

Single storey infill structure of 1924-1961, comprising W.C.s and service buildings.

### *Buildings F and G*

Single storey timber stores constructed between 1924 and 1961.

### *Building H*

This is a modern two-storey warehouse of brick and steel, likely to represent a rebuild of an earlier structure of c.1924-1961, located in the same position, of which only the lower brick courses survive.

## **Modern Floor Plans**

The Manchester Hosiery Manufactory remained in active production until 2012. A set of floor plans produced for the company by Savage Hayward Architects in 2006 show what the various rooms were used for within the manufacturing process.

These plans have been used as a basis to locate the photographs taken during the site survey (see below).



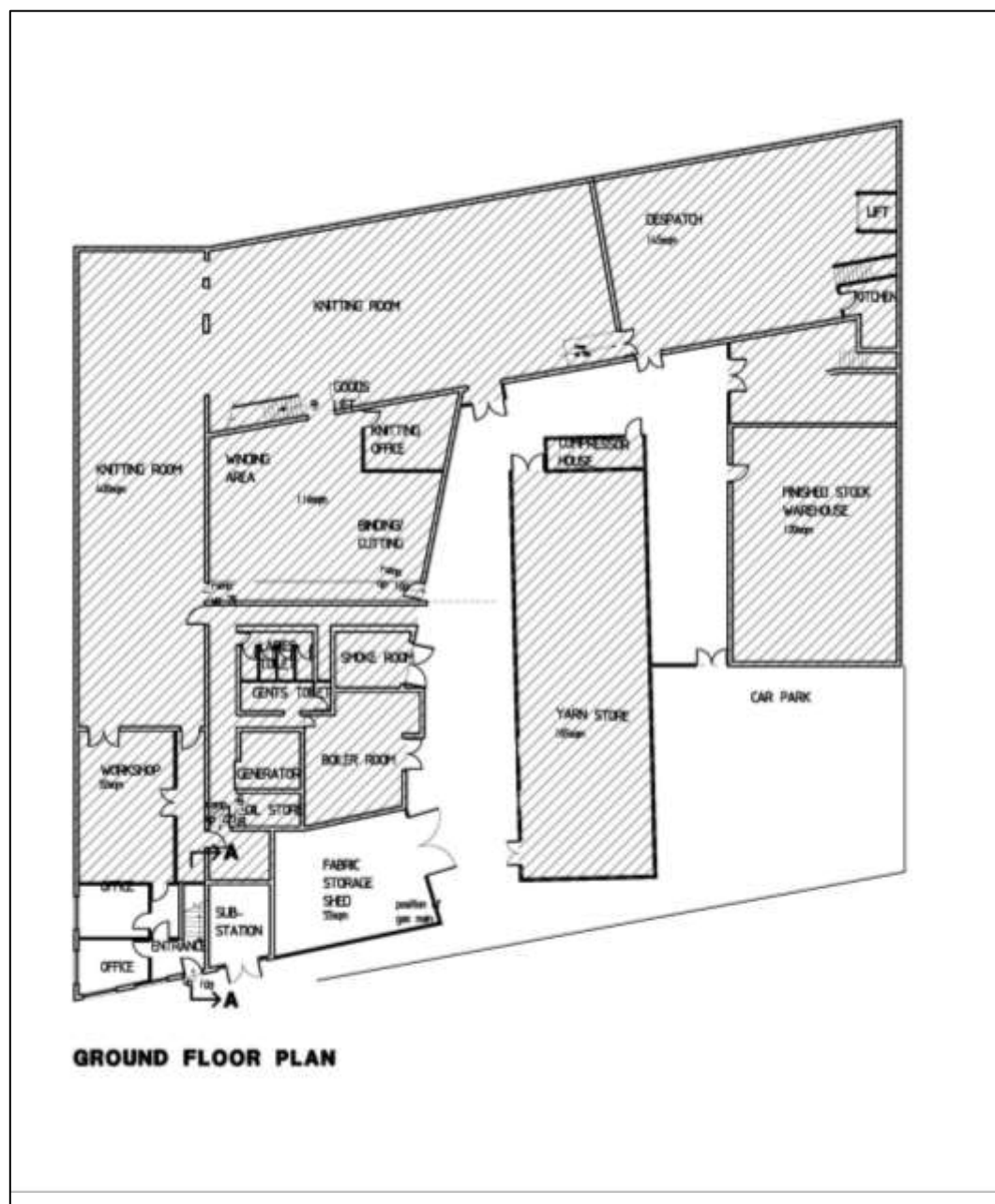


Figure 4. 2006 Ground floor plan, supplied by client.

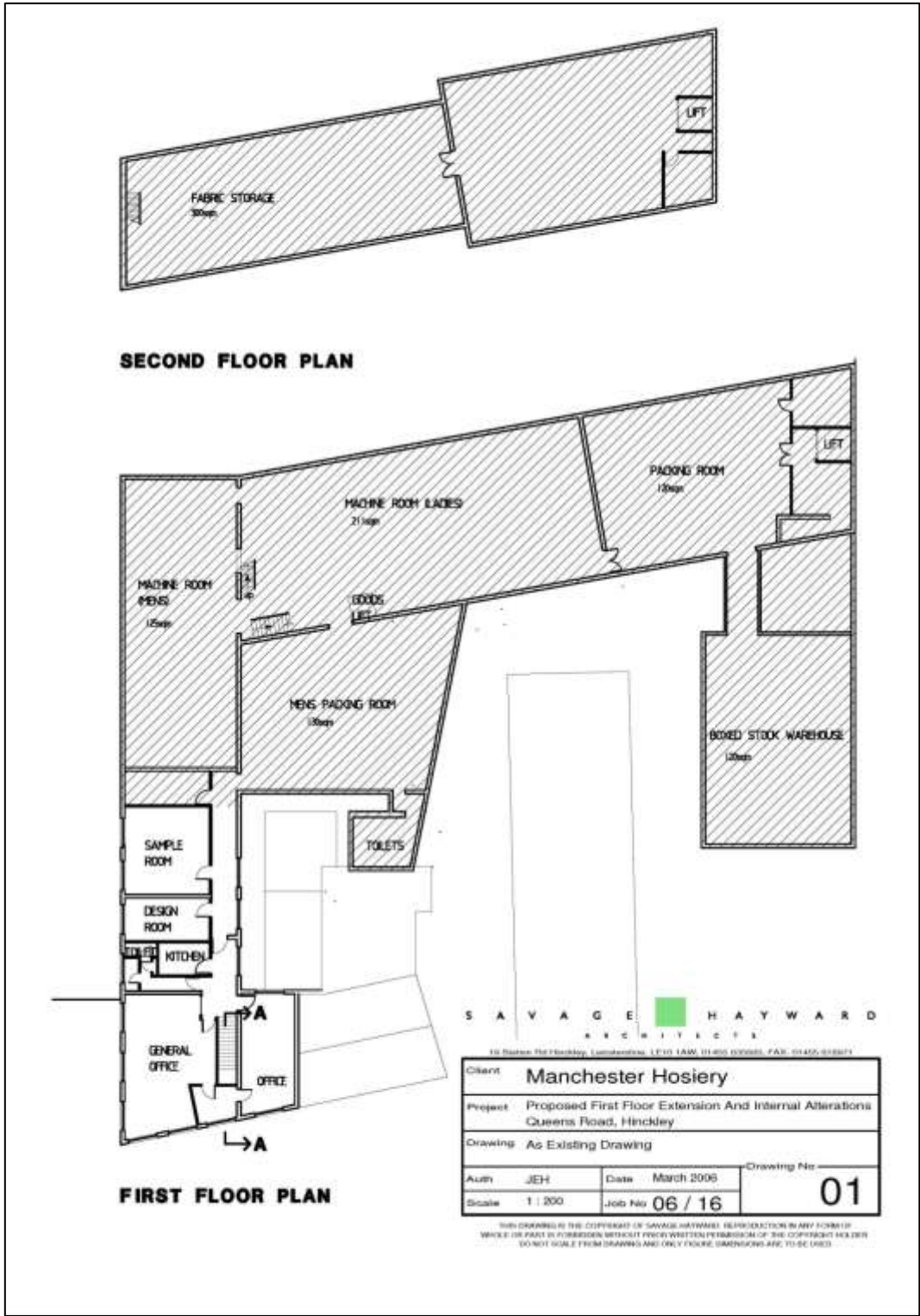


Figure 5. 2006 First and Second floor plans, supplied by client.

### *Selected photographs from the archive*

The following photographs have been selected from the site archive to illustrate the above account and are located on the plans below.

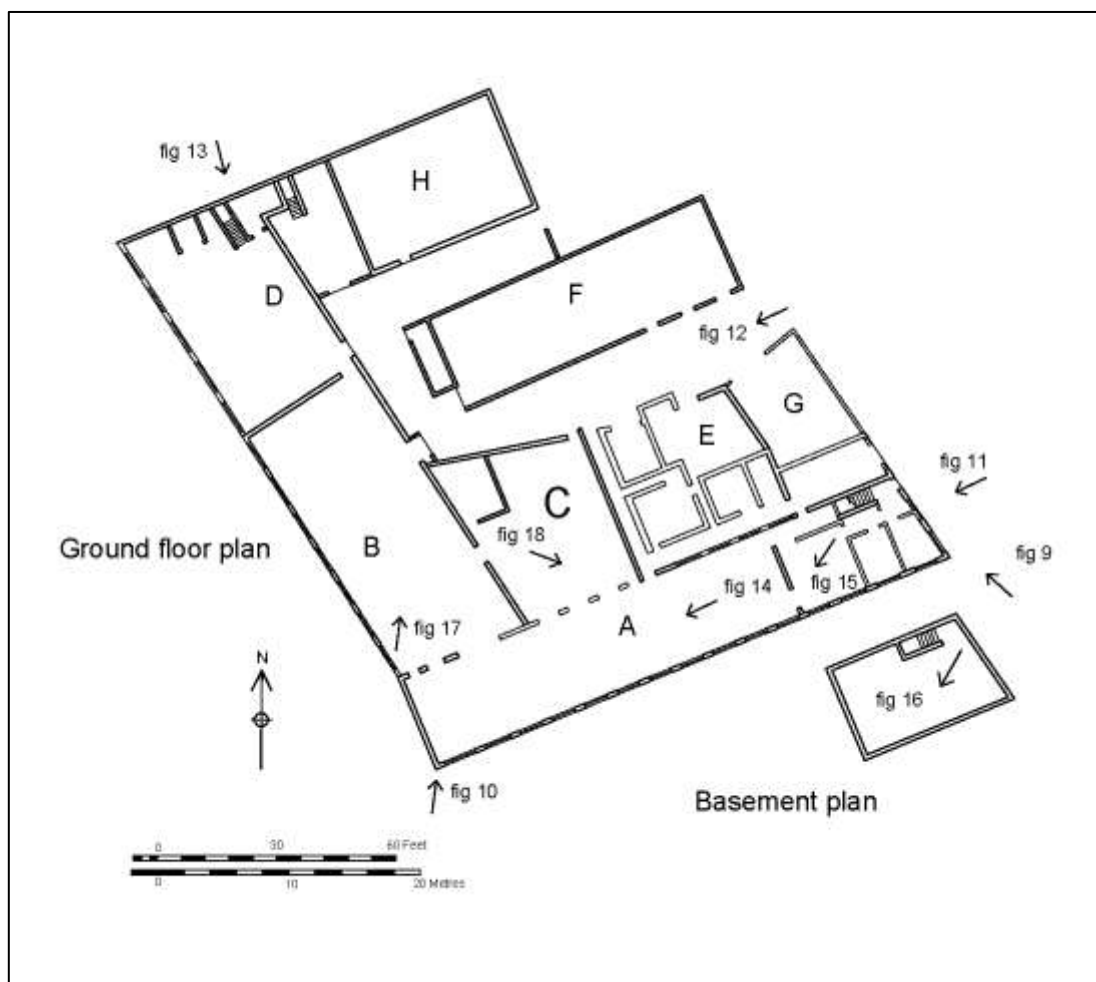


Figure 6. Location of figures 9 to 18 on ground and basement floor plans.

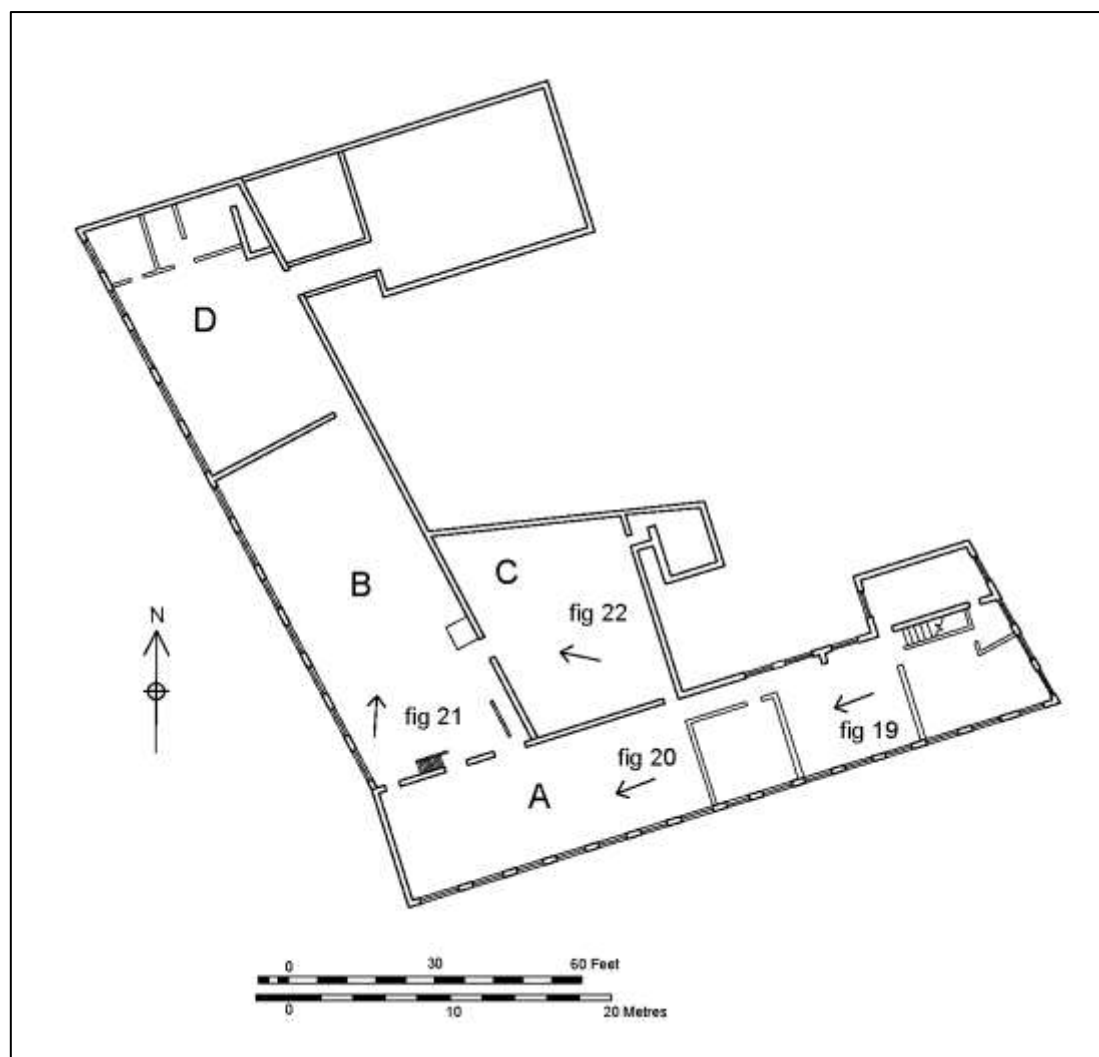


Figure 7. Location of figures 19 to 22 on first floor plan.



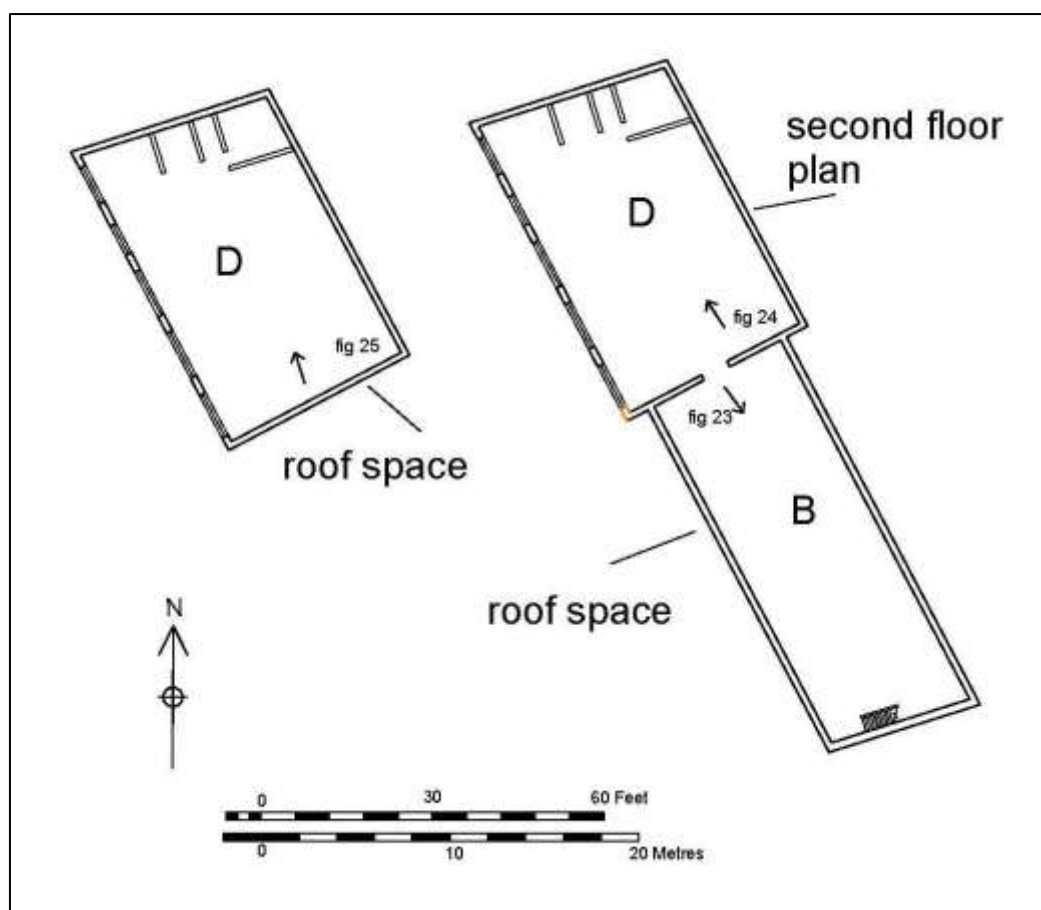


Figure 8. Location of figures 23 to 25 on second floor and loft plans.



Figure 9. Building A, principal factory building, looking north-west.



Figure 10. Building A, looking north-east/



Figure 11. Building A, principal entrance, looking west.



Figure 12. Yard area, with rear of buildings B, C, D and E. Looking west.



Figure 13. Building D, looking south.



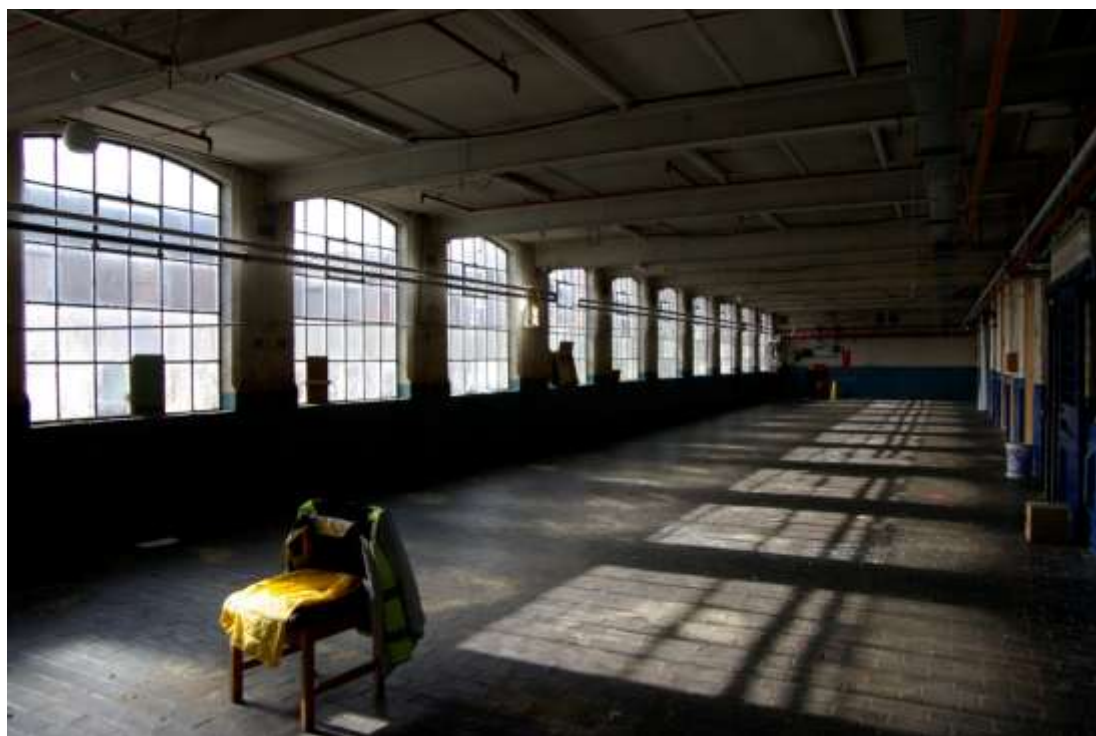


Figure 14. Building A, ground floor, looking west.



Figure 15. Building A, ground floor sample room, with hoist over hatch to basement.  
Looking west.





Figure 16. Knitting machinery in basement, looking south-west.



Figure 17. Building B, ground floor, looking north-east.



Figure 18. Building C, ground floor, looking south-east.



Figure 19. Building A, first floor, with modern office partitions and king-post roof structure. Looking west.





Figure 20. Building A, first floor knitting room. Looking west.



Figure 21. Building B, first floor, looking north-west.



Figure 22. Building C, first floor, looking north-west.



Figure 23. Building B, loft space within roof structure. Looking south.





Figure 24. Building D, second floor, with hosiery plant. Looking north.



Figure 25. Building D, loft storage, with steel roof trusses. Looking north towards lift shaft.

### *Archive*

The archive consists of the digital image files on DVD, digital contact sheets, monochrome film and associated contact prints, a plan of the buildings showing position and direction of all photographs taken and a photographic index. It will be deposited with Leicestershire County Council under the accession number X.A34.2014.

## ***Publication***

A version of the summary will appear in *Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society* in due course. The report will be added to the Archaeology Data Service's (ADS) Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) database.

## ***Acknowledgements***

The project was managed by Richard Buckley and carried out by Sophie Clarke of ULAS.

## ***Bibliography***

English Heritage, 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings*

IfA, 2010 *Code of Conduct*.

IfA, 2008 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing buildings or Structures*.

Leicestershire County Council, 1997 *Guidelines and Procedures for Archaeological Work in Leicestershire*.

Sophie Clarke

ULAS

University of Leicester

University Road

Leicester LE1 7RH

Tel: 0116 252 2848

Fax: 0116 252 2614

Email:

[sjc46@le.ac.uk](mailto:sjc46@le.ac.uk)

06-03-2014

***Appendix 1: Oasis Record***

<b>INFORMATION REQUIRED</b>	<b>EXAMPLE</b>
Project Name	Manchester Hosiery Works
Project Type	Building survey
Project Manager	Richard Buckley
Project Supervisor	Sophie Clarke
Previous/Future work	unknown
Current Land Use	industrial
Development Type	residential
Reason for Investigation	Pre planning enquiry
Position in the Planning Process	Pre-planning
Site Co ordinates	SP 43356 93575
Start/end dates of field work	March 2014
Archive Recipient	LCC
Height min/max	not known
Study Area *	0.5 ha
Finds	None

## Contact Details

Richard Buckley or Patrick Clay  
University of Leicester Archaeological  
Services (ULAS)  
University of Leicester,  
University Road,  
Leicester LE1 7RH

**T:** +44 (0)116 252 2848

**F:** +44 (0)116 252 2614

**E:** [ulas@le.ac.uk](mailto:ulas@le.ac.uk)

**w:** [www.le.ac.uk/ulas](http://www.le.ac.uk/ulas)



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

