

The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester

Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation



Trench 4

ARS Ltd Report 2013/103

November 2013

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Executive Summary

Archaeological Research Services Ltd. was commissioned by Development Securities (Hale Barns) Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 1.3 hectare parcel of land at The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester. An archaeological desk-based assessment completed in 2011 established that there was potential for archaeological remains at the site, particularly relating to the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. As a result, the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service advised that an archaeological evaluation be carried out in advance of the proposed redevelopment of The Square shopping centre.

The evaluation was carried out in intermittent stages. Trench one was excavated on the 25th July 2013 and was originally planned to measure 15m in length by 1.6m in width. Due to the presence of services at several locations throughout the trench, the original location was moved to the north-west by 2m, and a 3m baulk was left in the trench due to the location of services cables, effectively breaking the trench up into two. No features or finds of archaeological significance were observed in Trench 1.

The remaining 4 trenches were opened on the 12th and 13th November 2013. Trenches 2 and 3 contained no features or finds of archaeological significance. Trench 4 contained structural remains comprising one north-east to south-west aligned red-brick wall, and one square red-brick feature, both likely to relate to late nineteenth and early twentieth century dwellings that are known to have been located at the site. Trench 5 contained a demolition deposit in a possible construction cut, again likely to be the remnants of nineteenth and twentieth century structures known to have existed on the site.

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 In advance of a proposed mixed-use redevelopment (residential and commercial/retail) at The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester, Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Development Securities (Hale Barns) Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation of the site.

1.1.2 A 2010 planning application for the mixed-use redevelopment (residential and commercial/retail) has been approved by Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council subject to a condition that archaeological trial trenching would be completed at the site in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (DCLG 2012).

1.2 Location, Land Use and Geology

1.2.1 The proposed redevelopment site comprises an irregularly shaped five-sided area approximately 1.3 hectares in size on the south west side of Hale Road, Hale Barns. This is part of the historic core of Hale Barns and is located c.3.2km south east of Altrincham, centred at NGR: 379170 385820 (Davies 2011).

1.2.2 Until July 2013 the site existed as 'The Square' shopping centre comprising a number of commercial/retail units of different sizes, together with areas of hard standing for servicing, access and parking. In July 2013 demolition work began on The Square, which was on-going during both phases of archaeological trenching. The site is bounded by the Hale Road to the north-east, a church; church hall and therapy centre adjoining Hale Road to the north-west, a bowling green to the west and residential properties to the south-west, south and south-east.

1.2.3 The site is roughly flat at a height of c.65.1m aOD towards its northern half, fronting Hale Road, but slopes gradually downwards towards the southern end (62.8 m aOD) with a low point in the south-west. This southern slope probably reflects the natural topography (Davies 2011).

1.2.4 An extensive geo-environmental report has recently been undertaken for the proposed redevelopment site (Sibley 2010) and this geological summary follows that report, which itself draws on the British Geological Survey Sheets 98 (Solid and Drift Edition, 1:50,000) and Sheet SJ 78 NE (BGS 1:10,560 scale geological plan). The part of Hale Barns incorporating the proposed redevelopment site is underlain by thin natural drift deposits of glacial sand and gravel which in turn are underlain by interbedded cohesive glacial till (boulder clay) which is closer to the surface beyond the southern extent of the site. The glacial drift deposits are underlain by Triassic Mercian Mudstone, known as the Bollin Mudstone Member, comprising red-brown and grey mudstones interleaving with subordinate siltstone and sandstone horizons (British Geological Survey 2013).

1.2.5 The geo-environmental report (Sibley 2010, 1-4) has also noted that substantial deposits of made-ground, levelling the original sloping ground in places, may be present. In addition, despite the existence of coal seams at a depth of 1200m it is considered very unlikely that coal mining occurred beneath the site (Davies 2011).

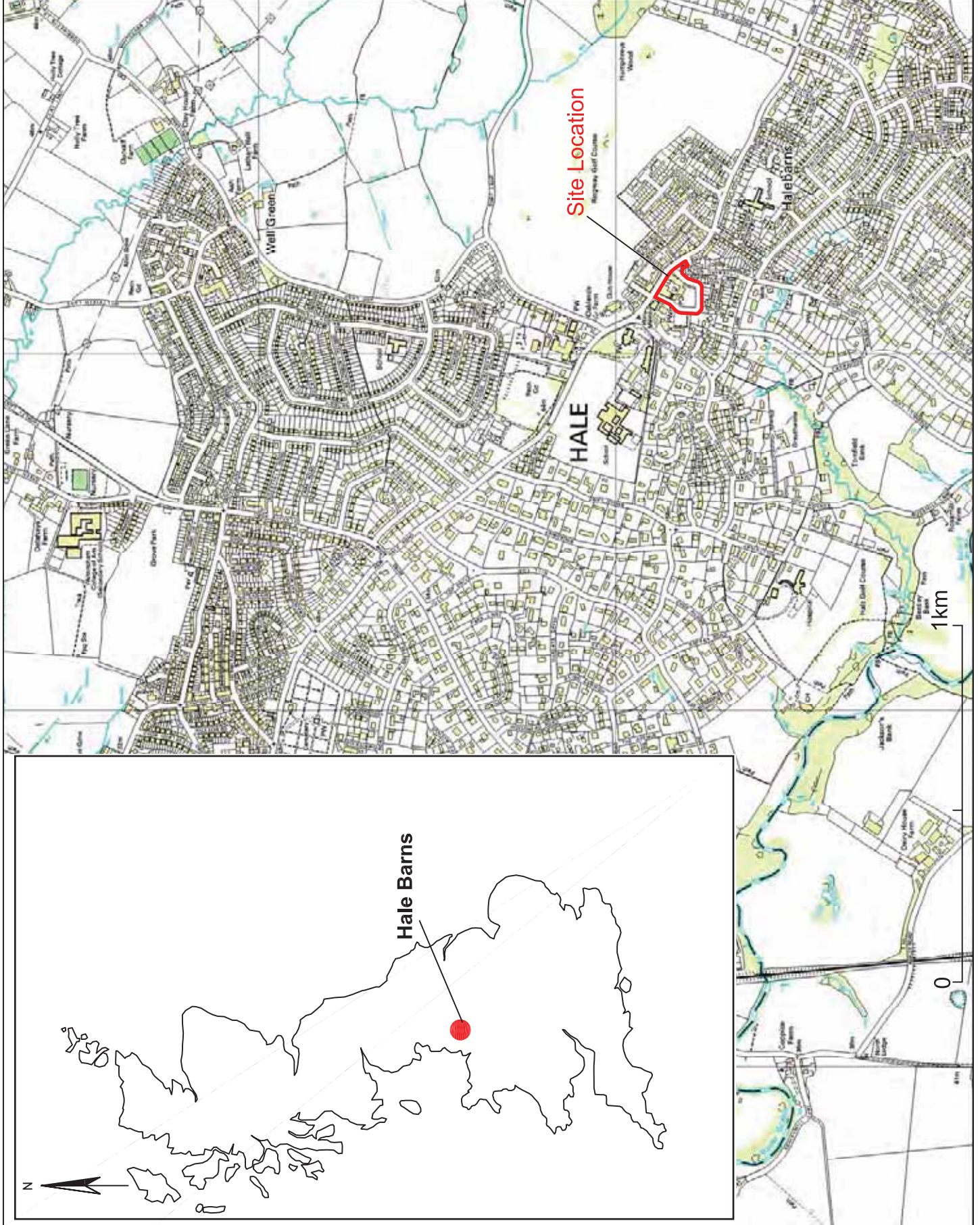
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Hale Barns

Figure 1. Site location

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2 Background

2.1 No designated heritage assets, such as Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings, will be directly impacted upon by the proposed redevelopment area. No non-designated heritage assets, such as NMR or HER sites are located within the proposed redevelopment area. The nearest HER sites are Hale Chapel Sunday School and Masters House, a mid-18th century building (HER 7301.1.2) on the other side of Hale Road, c.30m north of the site, and a number of sites up to 100m to the west around Hale Green (Davies 2011).

2.2 The South Hale Conservation Area is located 100m west and south of the proposed redevelopment area. A conservation area is an area designated for its special architectural and historic interest. Most conservation areas are designated by the Council as the local planning authority and planning applications within conservation areas may require additional measures in order to be granted. These measures do not affect the proposed redevelopment area, but they are a useful indicator of the general regard for Hale/Hale Barns area as an historic asset.

2.3 The HER records a total of 21 non-designated heritage assets within a 1km radius of the site, ranging from prehistoric to 19th century features. An overview of the history of Hale Barns and its hinterland is given below (after Davies 2011).

2.4 Prehistoric

2.4.1 The Borough of Trafford, as with so much of the North West of Britain, suffers from a relative paucity of archaeological evidence in comparison to southern Britain. The earliest evidence for human land-use in the region dates to the 4000 years between c.8000 and 4000 BC, a period of time known as the Mesolithic. This period is characterised by the colonisation of the British Isles by bands of hunter gatherers.

2.4.2 Although no Mesolithic artefacts have been recovered from the present study area, a concentration of flint tools from Timperley Old Hall indicates a hunter-gatherer presence along the elevated northern side of Hale Moss. Because of these finds, it has been suggested that the sand and gravel ridge running from Warburton to Bowdon and Hale Barns was attractive to human occupation at this time (Nevell 1997: 12). This is an impression reinforced in the ensuing Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.

2.4.3 During the Neolithic period, people start to farm the land and live in permanent settlements and there was certainly some settlement in the region, as indicated by the presence of cereal pollen within cores taken from Warburton Moss which date to the later third or early second millennium BC (Nevell 1997: 13). There is no evidence dating to this period from the site.

2.4.4 The late third millennium BC marks the start of the Bronze Age where metal is used for the first time. People now move away from communal burial to individual burial under cairns or mounds signalling the increasing importance of land ownership and territory. Barrows are located in the lower Bollin valley around Dunham (Nevell 1997:14). Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age flint tools have also been recovered on the northern side of Hale Moss at Timperley Hall, again suggesting that human settlement and land use favoured light soils on elevated land (Nevell 1997: 14). There is no evidence dating to this period from the site.

2.4.5 There is very little evidence dating to the Iron Age (700BC – AD 43) in the Trafford area (Nevell 1997: 16). During the later Iron Age the typical site in the area is the ditched enclosure containing a farmstead. These sites have been recognised from the air, but seldom investigated. When there has been an opportunity to conduct fieldwalking at such sites, for example those in the Warburton/Bowdon Hill area, they tend to produce little datable information but invariably a small amount of Romano-British pottery indicating that sites occupied in the 1st century BC often continued into the 1st century AD (Nevell 1997: 16.). There is no evidence dating to this period from the site.

2.5 **Romano-British** (AD43-410)

2.5.1 It has been suggested that the Roman Army entering the Borough of Trafford would have encountered a largely open and cultivated landscape dotted with farmsteads along river valleys and terraces (Nevell 1997: 14). During the Roman period, settlement evidence in the area generally comprises surface finds, mostly along the line of the known Roman roads, our knowledge of which remains incomplete. However, it is certain that the Hale area lies only a few miles away from the road linking the fort of *Mamucium*, modern Manchester, to the legionary base at Chester: the present Chester-Manchester road. According to Dore (1972: 11) this certainly increases the possibility of Roman occupation.

2.5.2 There is archaeological evidence for Roman presence around Hale Barns, in the form of coin finds, a field name possibly alluding to a settlement and possible Roman finds from Manor House. However, the 'Roman' finds from Manor House are somewhat contentious as 'tiles and Samian ware' originally located in the 1880s were then re-identified as 'modern' in the early 1900s (Dore 1972: 144-145).

2.5.3 Following a systematic survey of Romano-British evidence in the Trafford area, Nevell (1997) concluded that field-names, earthworks and finds evidence suggests that a secondary road (off the main Chester to Manchester road) may have run along the Bowdon to Hale Barns ridge. The Hale Barns coins and possible pot sherds lie on the line of this possible road. Interestingly, earthworks on the site of St Ambrose School in Hale Barns, now destroyed, were thought to be associated with a road feature. In this area there are two fields known as nearer and further *Stratton* Fields; these field names may refer to the road itself (Nevell 1997: 16).

2.5.4 Although there may have been a routeway in the Hale Barns environs during the Roman period, evidence for settlement in the area at this time is presently poorly understood.

2.6 **Early Medieval** (AD410-1066)

2.6.1 Following the collapse of the Roman Empire, there is a distinct paucity of evidence throughout the Greater Manchester area and there is no material evidence for Anglo-Saxon activity within the study area. There was, however, a settlement in the 'Hale' area by the Late Anglo-Saxon period, as indicated by the pre-conquest estate mentioned in Domesday Book (1086). In addition, the place-name *Hale* is an Old English attribution meaning 'nook of land' (Mills 2003: 222). However, it is uncertain whether the Late Anglo-Saxon settlement location/s would have developed into the later settlements of Hale and Hale Barns. The fact that the name Hale means nook of land has been taken by Dore (1972: 12) to mean that it was not an initially settled area (such as Altrincham), and might instead be seen as an area into which pre-existing settlement might expand. Dore (1972: 12) considers the Queens Road/Hermitage Road area as the likeliest spot for the shelter (nook) which provided the place name.

2.7 **Medieval** (AD1066-1540)

2.7.1 With the exception of the historic core of Hale, there are no identified medieval sites in the area. However, Dore (1972) provides a useful historical and topographical analysis of medieval Hale which is summarised below.

2.8 **Early Post-Medieval** (AD1540-1765)

2.8.1 The only non-vernacular building in the area surviving from this time is Hale Chapel (GMAU 7301.1.0), built in 1723. Hale Chapel was built by the land owning Stanley family for the use of their tenants, this land then passed to the Crewe family who were puritans (Dore 1972: 41).

2.9 **Late Post-Medieval** (AD1765-1900)

2.9.1 The rapid development of Hale can largely be traced to the need for more houses for the businessmen and professionals working in Manchester during the 19th century. Of particular note is Halecroft, which is a fine example of an Edgar Wood's designed building in the Arts and Crafts style (HER 7379.1.0).

2.9.2 In addition, the building of the railways encouraged the growth of Hale from a small village set in farming country to a small town. Hale Station was significantly enlarged in the 1880s and entitled 'Hale' in 1902 to better identify the town.

2.9.3 From 1813, Hale Parish Council meetings were held in the schoolroom at Hale Barns. In 1897 Hale Parish Council made an application to become an urban district, this application was granted in 1900. The population of Hale in 1851 was 995. In 1881 the population was 2,222, and in 1901 the population was 8,351.

2.10 **Modern** (Post AD1901)

2.10.1 By the time of the production of the first Ordnance Survey maps in 1898 it is clear that Hale Barns was taking on its present-day form, with a number of structures already built. Of particular note is the fact that a post office and inns are depicted in 1898 around Hale Road, north of the proposed redevelopment area. These are indicative features required by a suburban or urban core as defined by the Trafford Historic landscape Characterisation exercise (GMAU 2008, 116). Other buildings such as the 1966-7 All Saints Church (Laver and Rendell 1987, 126, Figure 17) and the hotel/public house beyond the bowling green adjacent to the site (Figure 19) also add to the evident social dynamism with Hale/Hale Barns. Figures 20-24 plot the development of the area with the 1876, 1898, 1909, 1935 and 1968 edition Ordnance Survey maps.

2.10.2 By 1964, the former residential developments at the north and north-east of the site had been demolished and the site was being redeveloped into a shopping centre (Sibley 2010, 3). By 1968, the OS mapping is of interest as it shows the re-development for the first time. The configuration of buildings is similar to that which currently exists, although some of the ornamental brick work, such as the raised central area within the courtyard of The Square was altered as late as 1996 and a number of fixtures and fittings have also been altered since 1979, such as windows in the western range of buildings.

3 **Aim and Objectives**

3.1. The programme of targeted evaluation trenching aimed to identify the archaeological significance of any buried archaeological remains as required by NPPF (Department for Communities and Local Government 2012).

3.2 The archaeological work targeted priority areas where deposit survival was considered likely to be good, in the form of five trenches (Figure 2). The evaluation trenches were positioned to target likely features at the northern site boundary, but also to test the potential for evidence of past human activity to be preserved in the remainder of the site.

4 **Methodology**

4.1 A detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by ARS Ltd and agreed with the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (Appendix III). In total five evaluation trenches were agreed to be opened in the development area, each measuring 15 metres in length by 1.6 metres in width (Figure 2). This report summarises the finding of trenches two to five.

4.2 Tarmac was removed mechanically from Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 4 by a machine using a toothed ditching bucket, with the underlying deposits stripped using a toothless ditching bucket, under

continuous archaeological supervision. Topsoil was removed from Trench 5 with a toothless ditching bucket before the underlying deposits were stripped under constant archaeological supervision. The location of the trench was recorded accurately in relation to the Ordnance Survey National Grid.

4.3 Any features identified during the stripping process were subject to hand cleaning and sample excavation and recording. This involved the cleaning of features to determine their form and dimensions, and the collection of artefacts. All features were photographed using 35mm b/w SLR print film, 35mm colour slides and a digital SLR. All plans and sections were drawn at an appropriate scale: 1:20 where complex deposits are present or 1:50 in areas of lesser complexity

4.3 All the deposits and structures were described in the field on pro-forma context sheets. The sheets contain prompts for the recording of sediment composition, compaction and colour, the dimensions of the deposit, its relationship to other deposits and features, artefact content, environmental samples, drawing and photographic records and an interpretative discussion to ensure consistency across all records. All features were described in accordance with MoLAS conventions. Drawings were produced and registers of all contexts, samples, finds, levels, and drawings were also made.

4.4 A risk assessment was undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations were adhered to at all times.

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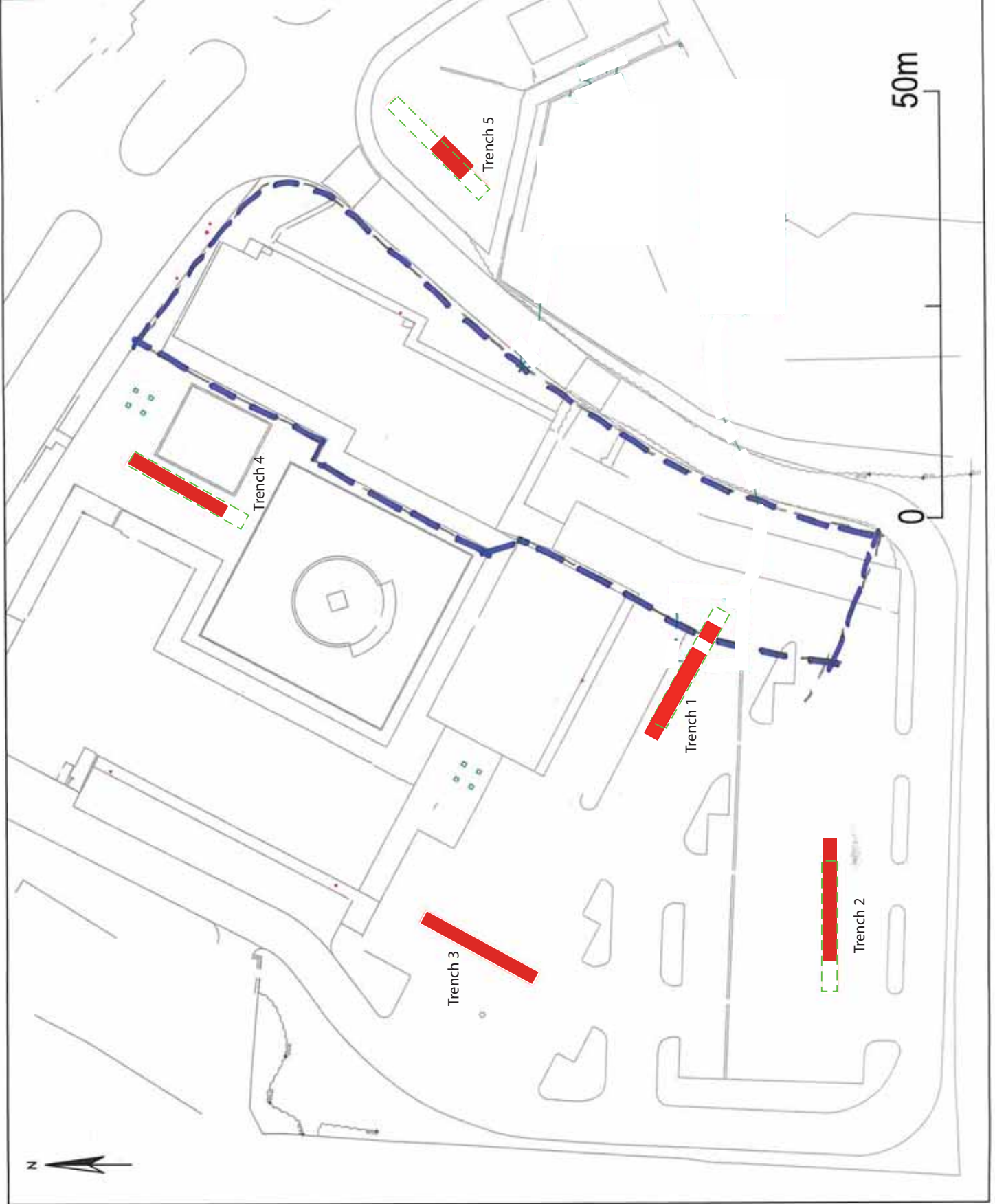
Hale Barns
Figure 2: Trench Locations

- Key:
- Actual trench locations
 - Original intended trench locations
 - Phase 1 building demolition

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5 Results

5.1 Trench 1

5.1.1 Trench 1 was placed in the southern area of the site and encompassed the footprint of a recently demolished building and the existing shopping centre car park. The intended location of the trench had to be amended slightly due to the presence of services; hence, the trench was moved approximately 3m to the north-west, and contained a baulk of approximately 3m in order to safeguard identified service cables. This baulk effectively split the trench into two, the north-western end measuring 7.75m in length and 1.6m in width, and the south-eastern end measuring 4m in length and 1.6m in width.

5.1.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of an upper layer of tarmac and associated chalk and gravel bedding (101) c.0.45 metres thick, over a clean sandy deposit (102) comprising fine pale orange sand. Two modern service pipes were observed cut into the sand, one containing a water pipe which is still in use, the other containing unknown services capped with concrete. The trench was originally excavated to a depth of 1.75m (Figure 3) but, after consultation with the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service, it was excavated further to a maximum depth of 2.25m in order to determine the extent of the sandy deposit. The excavation could not continue beyond 2.25m due to fears of undermining the existing service pipes, and at this depth the sand continued beyond the base of the trench.

5.1.3 The depth of the sand suggests that it is unlikely to be backfill and the fact that no debris was encountered within it, apart from a few modern machine made bricks over the area of concrete capping the modern service drain, suggests that it is likely to be natural in nature.

5.1.4 No finds or features of archaeological significance were encountered in Trench 1.



Figure 3. Original excavation depth of trench 1. Note the cut for a water pipe on the left, and the smaller cut for an unknown service trench on the right. Scale 2m.



Figure 4 Final excavation depth of trench 1. Scale 2m.

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Site Code: HBS 13
Date: 14 November 2013
Drawn: VP
Scale: 1:50 @A3

Figure 5: Trench 1 plan and section

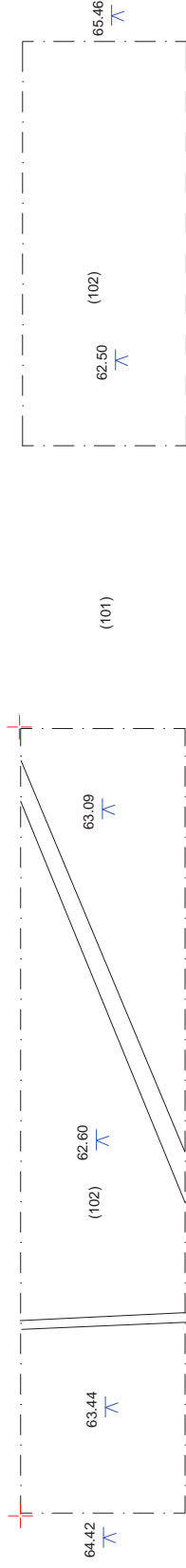
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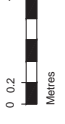
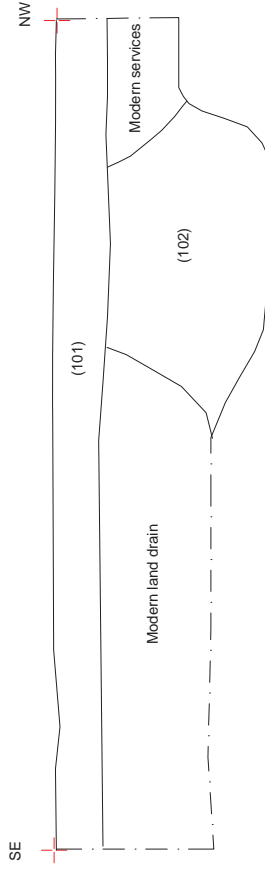
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Trench 1: Plan



Trench 1: North east facing section



5.2 Trench 2

5.2.1 Trench 2 was located in the southern area of the site, in the current car-park of The Square shopping complex. The intended location of the trench had to be amended slightly due to the presence of service cables; hence, the trench was moved approximately 4m to the east. The trench ultimately measured 14.5m in length, 1.6m in width and reached a maximum depth of 2.55m.

5.2.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of an upper layer of tarmac (201) and associated chalk (202) and gravel (203) bedding ≈ 0.45 metres thick in total, over a clean sandy deposit (204) comprising fine pale orange sand. Following pre-commencement consultation with the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service, the trench was excavated deep into the sandy deposit in order to establish its character and extent. The sand reached a maximum thickness of 2.1m, and continued beyond the base of the trench. It was determined that at such a depth the deposit is likely to be natural rather than made ground, also supported by the clean and sterile nature of the deposit.

5.2.3 No finds or features of archaeological significance were encountered in Trench 2.



Figure 6. Trench 2. Scale 2m.



Figure 7. Example section of Trench 2. Scale 2m.

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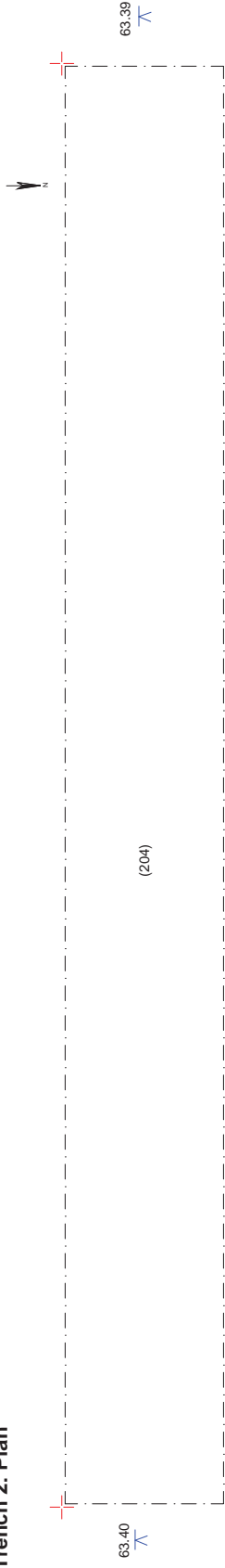
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Figure 8: Trench 2 plan and
section

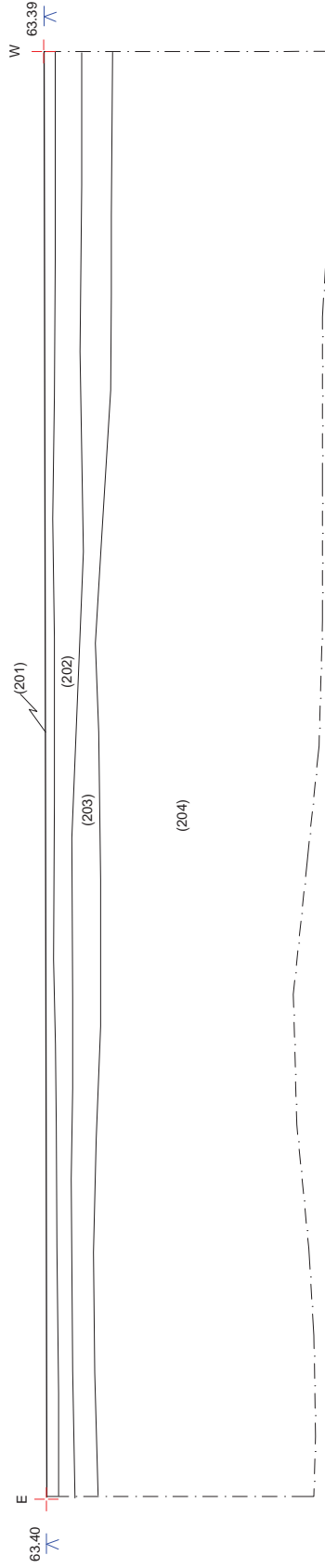
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Trench 2: Plan



Trench 2: North facing section



5.3 Trench 3

5.3.1 Trench 3 was located in the western area of the site, in the current car-park of The Square shopping complex. The trench measured 15m in length, 1.6m in width and reached a maximum depth of 2.40m.

5.3.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of an upper layer of tarmac (301), upper made ground (302), concrete levelling layer (303) and lower made ground deposit (304) overlying the natural fine pale orange sand deposit (305). An electric cable associated with the electrical lighting for the car-park of the shopping complex was observed aligned south-east to north-west in the southern end of the trench.

5.3.3 The nature of the made-ground/bedding deposits were noticeably different to those in Trenches 1 and 2, containing a higher proportion of rubble and building debris and being slightly thicker, measuring in total c.0.95m from the ground surface to the top of the natural sand, in contrast to Trenches 1 and 2 where the distance from the top of the tarmac to the top of the natural sand was approximately 0.45m in each trench. As the north-eastern end of Trench 3 was located within 5 metres of the main Square shopping centre building, the thicker made-ground/bedding ((302) and (304)) and presence of concrete (303) in this trench is likely to represent the intent of compacting and stabilising the natural underlying sand (305) before the construction of the building.

5.3.4 Following pre-commencement consultation with the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service, the trench was excavated well into the sandy deposit in order to establish its character and extent. The sand reached a maximum thickness of 1.45m, and continued beyond the base of the trench. It was determined that at such a depth the deposit is likely to be natural rather than made ground, also supported by the clean and sterile nature of the deposit.

5.3.5 No finds or features of archaeological significance were encountered in Trench 3.



Figure 9. Trench 3. Scale 2x2m.



Figure 10. Section of the northern end of Trench 3, displaying enhanced levelling and compacting material associated with the construction of The Square shopping complex. The dark made-ground deposit (304) directly overlying the natural sand (305) was present across the entire length of the trench, although is obscured somewhat to the right of this photo by natural sand transferred by the machine bucket. Scale 1m.

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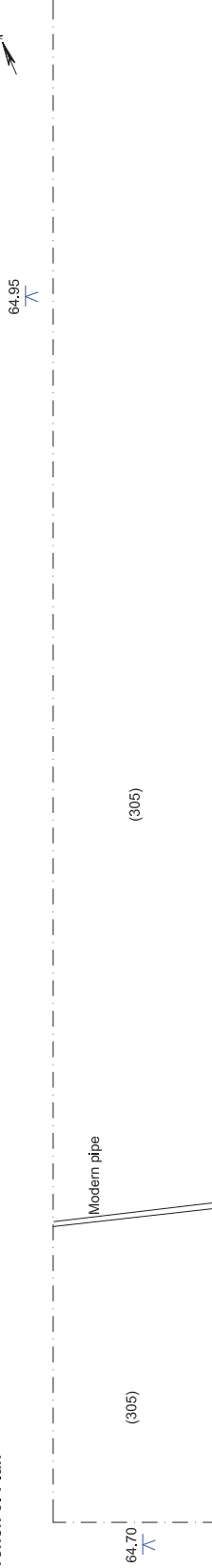
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Scale: 1:50 @A3

Figure 11: Trench 3 plan and section

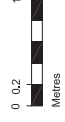
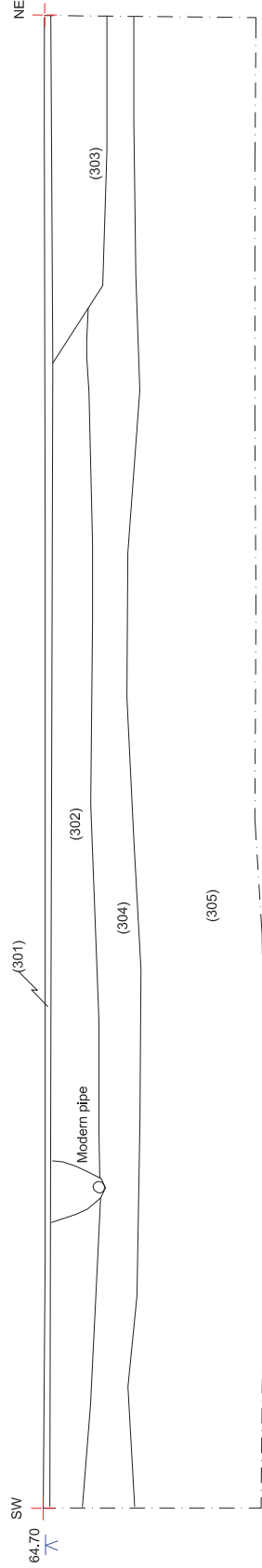
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Trench 3: Plan



Trench 3: East facing section



5.4 Trench 4

5.4.1 Trench 4 was located in the northern area of the site, in the current pedestrian entranceway to The Square shopping centre. Due to the presence of live gas pipes in close proximity to the trench, and the current demolition works restricting the possibility of re-locating the trench away from the gas pipes, the trench had to be shortened slightly to safeguard the pipes. Ultimately, the trench measured 12.8m in length and 1.6m in width.

5.4.2 The stratigraphic sequence consisted of a brick surface (401) arranged in a herringbone pattern, making up the upper surface of the pedestrian paved area, overlying a pale yellow gravel bedding (402). Directly beneath this was demolition deposit (403) comprising very dark grey-brown clay with frequent rubble and wood debris, likely to have been created as a result of the demolition of the terraced housing fronting onto Hale Road that is known to have existed in the area. Finds of glass, clay pipe bowl fragments and glazed nineteenth and twentieth century pottery were recovered from this deposit.

5.4.3 Directly underlying (403) was mid-grey brown sandy clay with frequent charcoal and clinker flecks (404) which directly overlay the natural sand (407). Deposit (404) is likely to have been deposited as a compacting and stabilising layer before the construction of the terraced houses that are known to have existed fronting onto Hale Street (Figures 21-24). This displayed a fairly uniform thickness of approximately 0.62m throughout the trench. A disused lead water pipe was present in this deposit as well as a disused ceramic drain/sewer pipe.

5.4.4 Within deposit (404) two red-brick structures were present. Wall (405) was aligned roughly north-east to south-west and comprised plain, unfrosted wire-cut bricks, a maximum of four courses thick with cement mortar. The edge of the wall was situated in the section of the eastern side of the trench; due to the proximity of this side of the trench to known live gas pipes, it was not possible to extend the excavation in order to determine how thick the wall was. An electrical pipe was situated on the upper surface of the wall and is thought to be related to the car park lighting of the shopping centre. The wall ran for approximately 3.04m, although at both ends appeared to be truncated rather than terminating. Structure (406) was located to the south of wall (405), and although the two were not connected the brick type and cement mortar of (405) and (406) are identical; hence they are likely to be contemporary. Structure (406) was a square-built structure with a central hollow, 3 sides of which were 3 courses thick with the northern end being only a single course thick. The structure measured 1.52m in length (north-east to south-west) by 1.25m in width (south-east to north-west), although it should be noted that the full width is unknown as the feature continued into the trench section edge. The inner square hollow measured 0.80m by 0.42m. The width of each side of the structure varied, however it did appear somewhat disturbed, with substantial cement mortar over the upper surface of the structure suggesting further upper courses have been removed. Both (405) and (406) were situated within deposit (404), although no clear cut was apparent.

5.4.5 It seems likely that structures (405) and (406) are associated with the terraced houses that are known to have been situated fronting onto Hale Street. The 1876 edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 20) shows no terraced housing on Hale Street within the site boundary; terraced houses first appear on the 1898 edition (Figure 21) of the Ordnance Survey map in a discontinuous row, with the 1909 edition (Figure 22) displaying a completed row of housing. The 1935 edition (Figure 23) shows the houses still present; however the 1968 edition (Figure 24) displays the houses demolished and The Square shopping centre constructed. Certainly the cement mortar present in both structures would indicate that they are no earlier than the late nineteenth century. Due to the alignment of wall (405), it is likely that this formed a front-to-back aligned wall of a house, or, due to its relative distance from the pavement, perhaps a yard wall. Square structure (406) is likely to have been located outside the back of the house, and may represent the remains of an outbuilding or storage facility. The location of a sewer/drainage pipe within close proximity to this structure may suggest it was a brick-built drain or man-hole.



Figure 12. Trench 4. Scale 2m.



Figure 13 Wall (405), trench 4. Scale 1m.



Figure 14. Structure (406), Trench 4, with levelling deposit (404) and natural sand (407). Scale 2x1m.



Figure 15. Structure (406), trench 4. Scale 2x1m.

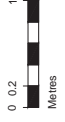
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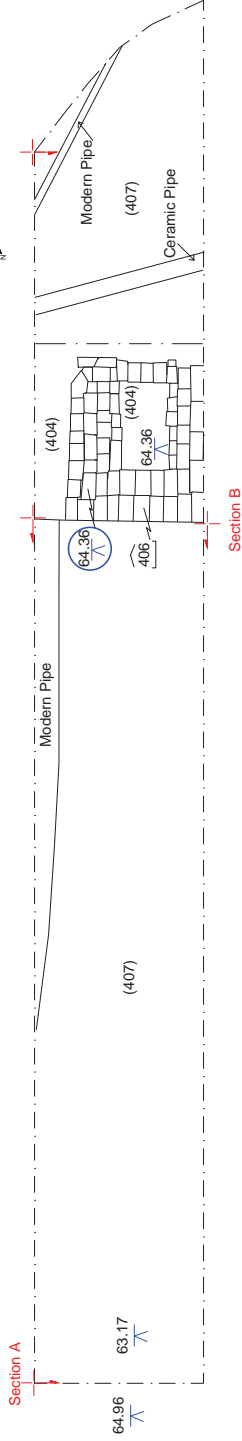
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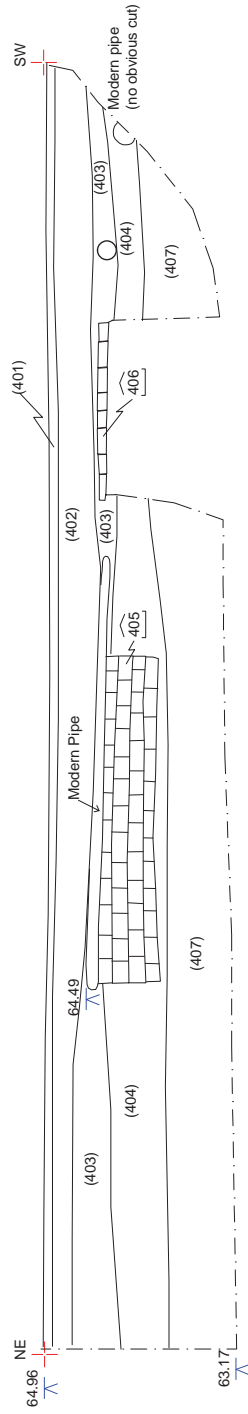
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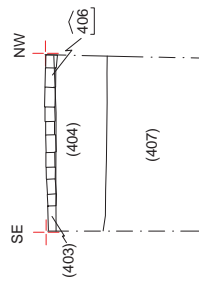
Trench 4: Plan



Trench 4: Section A (north west facing)



Trench 4: Section B (north east facing)



5.5 Trench 5

5.5.1 Trench 5 was located towards the eastern area of the site, just outside the boundary of The Square complex, on what is currently a grass verge. A number of trees were present on the grass verge which were protected by a Tree Protection Order (TPO); as such, it was not possible to open the trench to the original dimensions as it would have impacted on these trees. The trench was placed along the original intended alignment but was much shorter than originally planned, ultimately measuring 4.70m in length. To compensate for this, the trench was made as wide as possible, measuring 1.9m with a maximum depth of 1.45m.

5.5.2 The stratigraphic sequence comprised dark brown silty-clay topsoil (501) with an upper surface of grass, measuring 0.65m thick. Directly beneath this was the natural sand (504).

5.5.3 Cut [502] was observed within the natural sand (504), filled with mid brown-grey sandy clay with frequent building debris and cultural material (503). The cut was visible in both trench section edges, suggesting it may be a linear aligned roughly east-west. The cut measured 1.8m wide by 0.80m deep and displayed a shallow U-shaped profile. Nineteenth and twentieth century pottery, clay pipe stems, and glass fragments were recovered from this layer. The 1876 Ordnance Survey map (Figure 20) shows this area as blank, but a building is present in the area on the 1898 edition (Figure 21), which had then been demolished by the 1968 edition (Figure 24). The function of the building is unclear however it is aligned roughly north-south. As cut [502] was visible in both trench section edges the implication is therefore that it may represent the short axis of the known building. It seems likely that after the building was demolished the foundations were backfilled with the demolition material which now comprise demolition deposit (503) within the original foundation cut [502].

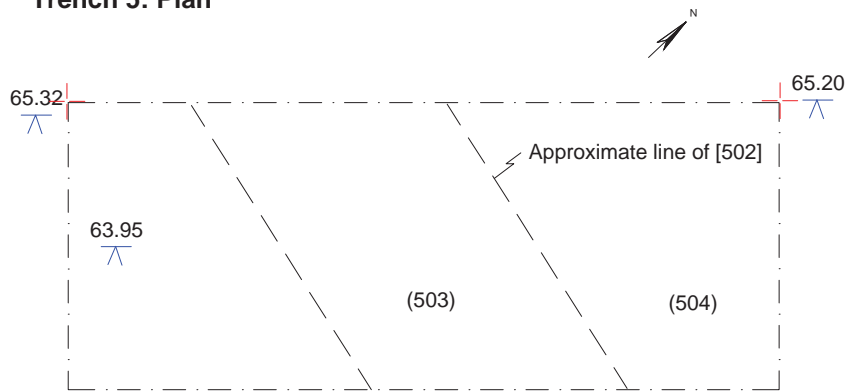


Figure 17. Trench 5. Vertical scale 2m, horizontal scale 1m

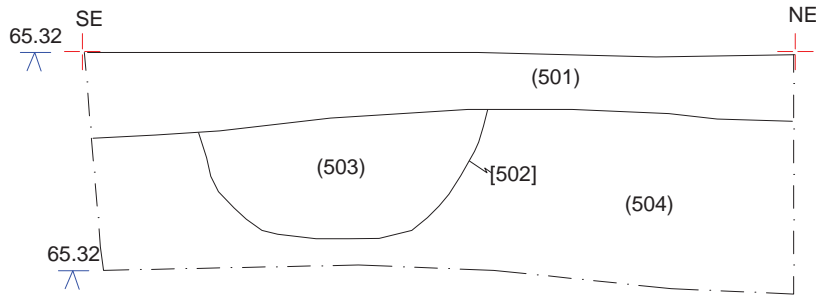


Figure 18 Cut [502] with demolition backfill (503), Trench 5. Scale 1m.

Trench 5: Plan



Trench 5: East facing section



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Figure 19: Trench 5 plan and section

Key:

Site Code: HBS 13
 Date: 14 November 2013
 Drawn: VP
 Scale: 1:50 @A4

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6 Finds Assessment

Mike Wood BA (hons) MLitt MIFA

6.1 Pottery and Clay Pipe

6.2 Introduction

6.2.1 Twenty sherds of pottery weighing 1,121g and ten fragments of clay tobacco pipes weighing 23g were recovered during archaeological work at The Square, Hale Barns. All of the finds are of relatively recent date and would fit a broad 19th to early 20th century date range.

6.3 Methodology

6.3.1 The material was counted and weighed in grams, then examined visually to identify any diagnostic pieces and the overall condition of the assemblage. Reference was made to published guidelines (Higgins and Davey 2004, MPRG 1998, MPRG 2001).

6.3.2 All sherds and clay pipes fragments have been counted, classified and weighed by context. Where no other identification has been possible, clay pipe stems have been dated by established stem bore guidelines (Oswald 1975). It should be noted that dates provided by stem bore size can have an appreciable margin for error and are intended only as a general guide. A summary of the material is recorded in Tables 1 and 2.

6.4 Assemblage

Context	Deposit	Date range	Form	Fabric	Sherds	Weight (g)	Comments
403	Demolition backfill	18 th -19 th	Bowl	Black-glazed ware	3	33	Conjoining sherds from a corrugated bowl
403	Demolition backfill	19 th	Bowl	English Stoneware	1	3	Small bowl with a thick black glaze internally and partial external glaze
503	Demolition backfill	18 th -19 th	Jar	Black-glazed ware	7	1017	Very large blackware jar with lug handle
503	Demolition backfill	19 th to 20 th	Plate	Whiteware	3	11	Very abraded fragments
503	Demolition backfill	19 th to early 20 th	Bottle	White stoneware	1	19	Mould formed food bottle/jar
503	Demolition backfill	19 th to 20 th	Milk jug	Transfer printed white ware	3	26	'willow pattern' decorated milk jug. Conjoining sherds.
503	Demolition backfill	19 th to 20 th	Jar	Whiteware	2	12	Conjoining sherds. Internal clear glaze, black external glaze with a grooved linear band inlaid in green.

Table 1. Pottery

Context	Deposit	Date range	Stems	Bowls	Weight (g)	Stem bore	Comments
403	Demolition backfill	19 th to early 20 th	-	2	3	-	Two fractured bowls, both are rilled and heavily abraded. One bowl fragment has a partial impressed stamp '..BLIN' Probably meant to be Dublin. Possibly a Pollack?

503	Demolition backfill	Late 18 th -19 th	8	-	20	4/64"	One stem retains a simple 19 th century foot. Another stem has a corroded nail head attached.
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Table 2. Clay tobacco pipe

6.5 Discussion

6.5.1 The assemblage contained a mix of 19th to 20th century material including a large utilitarian storage jar in a black-glazed fabric, tablewares representing part of a whiteware tea set (a milk or cream jug), a fragmented plate and a food jar. All are typical of household ceramics in the 19th or early 20th century and would fit the earliest known occupation of the demolished buildings c.1898-1968. There is no material from the mid twentieth century suggesting the houses were probably cleared of anything of value before demolition.

6.5.2 There are also several undiagnostic clay pipe stems and a bowl fragment probably representing one of the popular Irish themed plain pipes made in the 19th or early 20th century. Many of the 'Irish' pipes of this period were actually made in Scotland or Northern England (including by Pollack's of Manchester) to provide pipes for the Irish who had emigrated for work in the 19th century and then settled.

6.6 Recommendations for further work

6.6.1 No further work is recommended. All of the artefacts could be returned to the landowner, retained in a teaching collection or be discarded. The finds are of little value, and offer limited opportunity for further research.

7 Discussion and Conclusion

7.1 Trenches 1, 2 and 3 revealed no features or finds of archaeological significance. The trenches were excavated to considerable depth to ensure that the sandy deposit encountered immediately underlying the tarmac and associated bedding was natural sand rather than made-ground associated with the construction of The Square shopping centre, and to establish that there was no chance of archaeology underlying potential made-ground deposits. In all three trenches, the sand was very clean and over 1.5m in depth, continuing beyond the base of the trenches. In consultation with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service it was considered that this depth of sand indicates a natural deposit rather than man-made; in addition, the cleanliness of the sand, the uniformity of the particles and the lack of other building debris that may be expected in backfill deposits is also indicative of this being a natural deposit. No structures are apparent in the area of these three trenches on Ordnance Survey maps until the construction of The Square shopping complex.

7.2 Trench 4 contained one north-east to south-west aligned red-brick wall, and one square red-brick structure with a central hollow. The bricks used for the construction of these structures were identical, being wire-cut with a cement bond, hence the structures are considered to be contemporary and are likely to be associated with the terraced houses that fronted onto Hale Road, first apparent on the Ordnance Survey map of 1898 (Figure 21) and demolished by the Ordnance Survey map of 1968 (Figure 24). Certainly the north-east to south-west aligned walls fits the alignment of the terraced houses and the bricks and cultural material retrieved from the deposits associated with the structures also suggest a late nineteenth century or early twentieth century date. The distance of the red-brick square structure from the pavement suggests that it was located beyond the back of the house, and possibly represents an outbuilding, drain or man-hole. A large ceramic drain/sewer pipe was observed in close proximity to this structure, with a broken offshoot aligned towards the square structure, hence the interpretation of a drain or man-hole seems plausible.

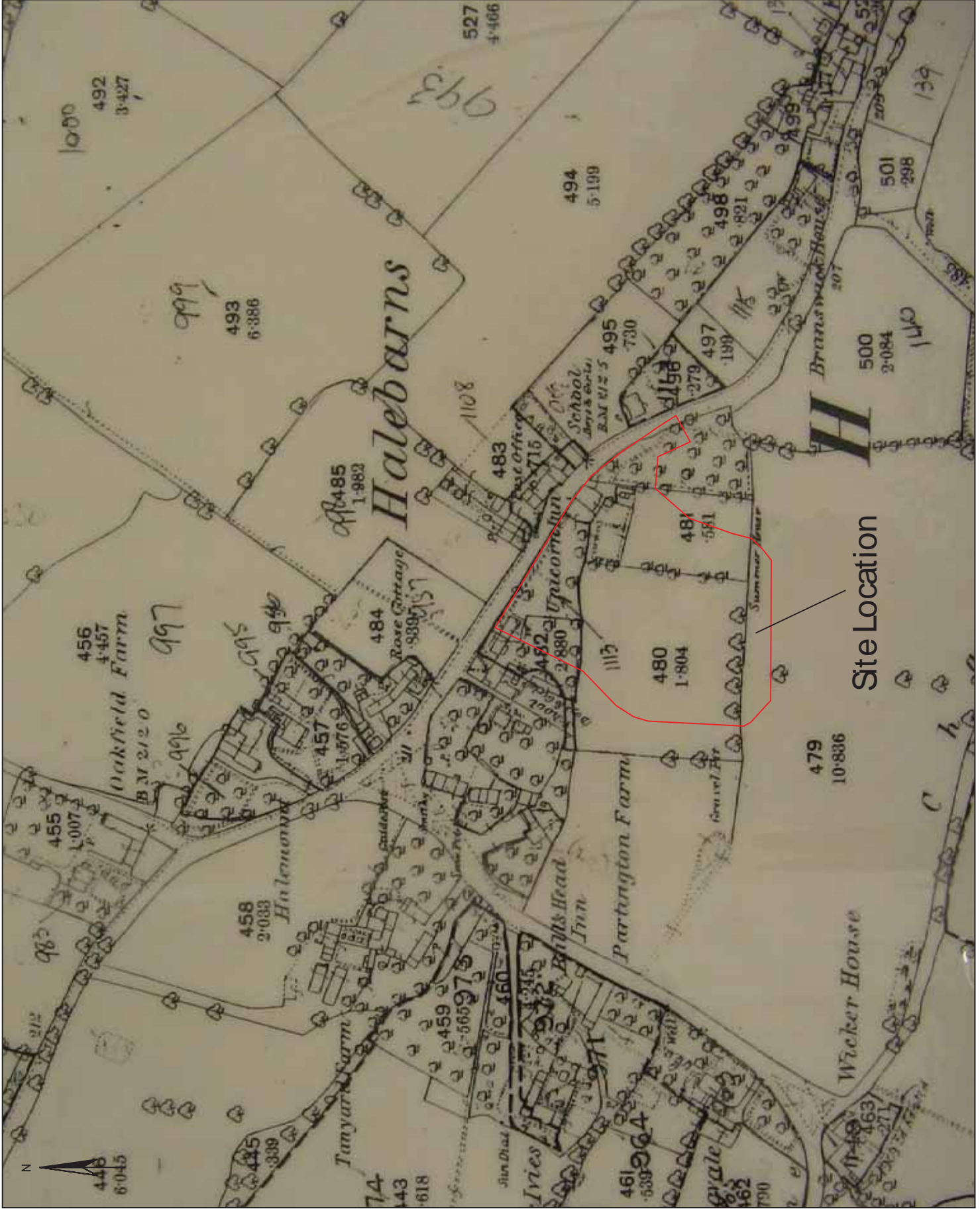
7.3 The linear cut backfilled with demolition rubble observed in Trench 5 is on the same alignment as a building known to have existed in the area between 1898 and 1968 (Figure 21 and 24). As with Trench 4, the cultural material recovered from the demolition backfill is indicative of an early twentieth century date and it seems likely that the cut observed represents the original foundation of the building, which was backfilled after demolition with the demolition rubble. The original purpose of the building is unknown but the presence of pottery, glass and clay pipe stems suggest it may have been a domestic building.

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Figure 20. OSmap 1876.

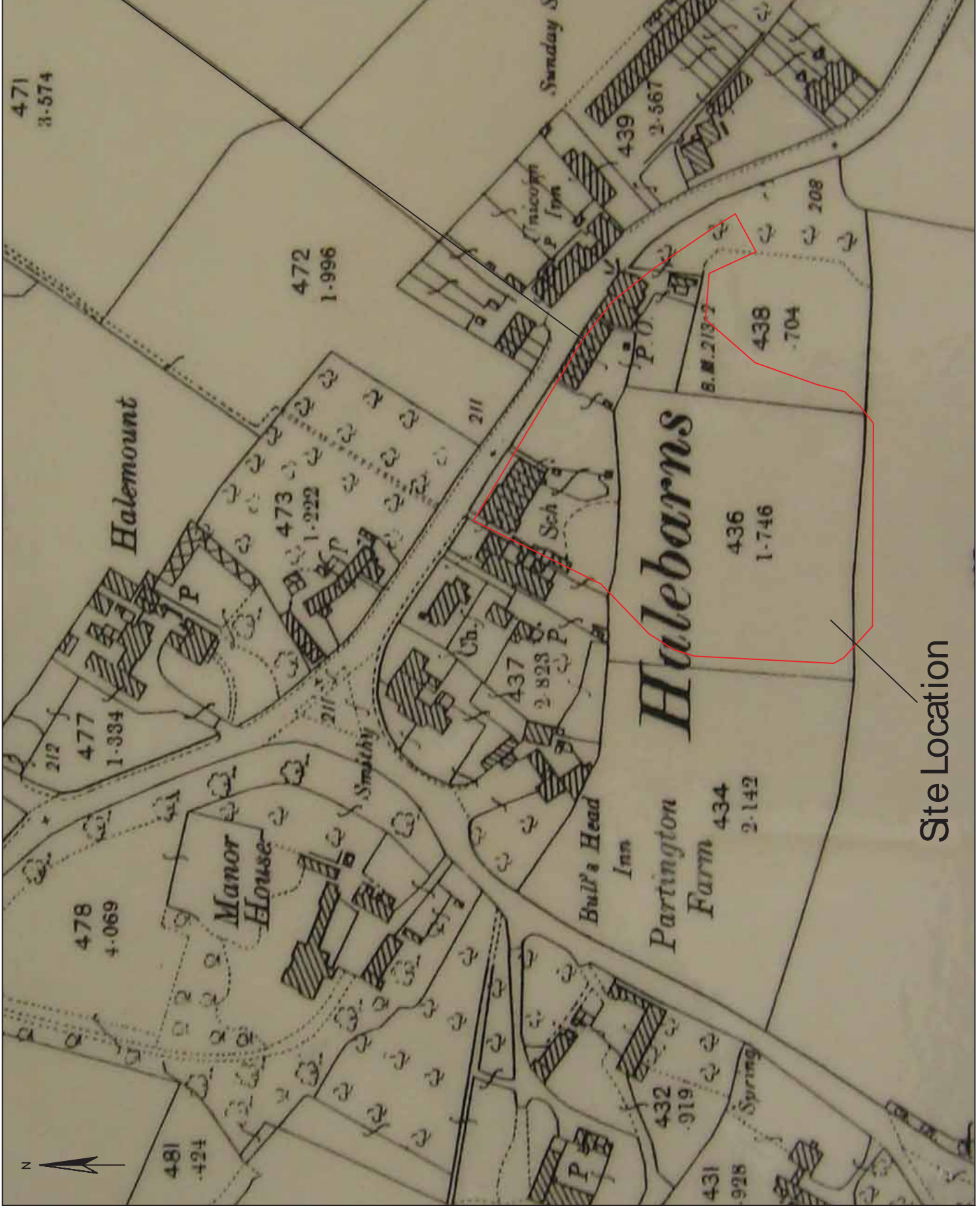
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Site Location

Figure 21: OSmap1898

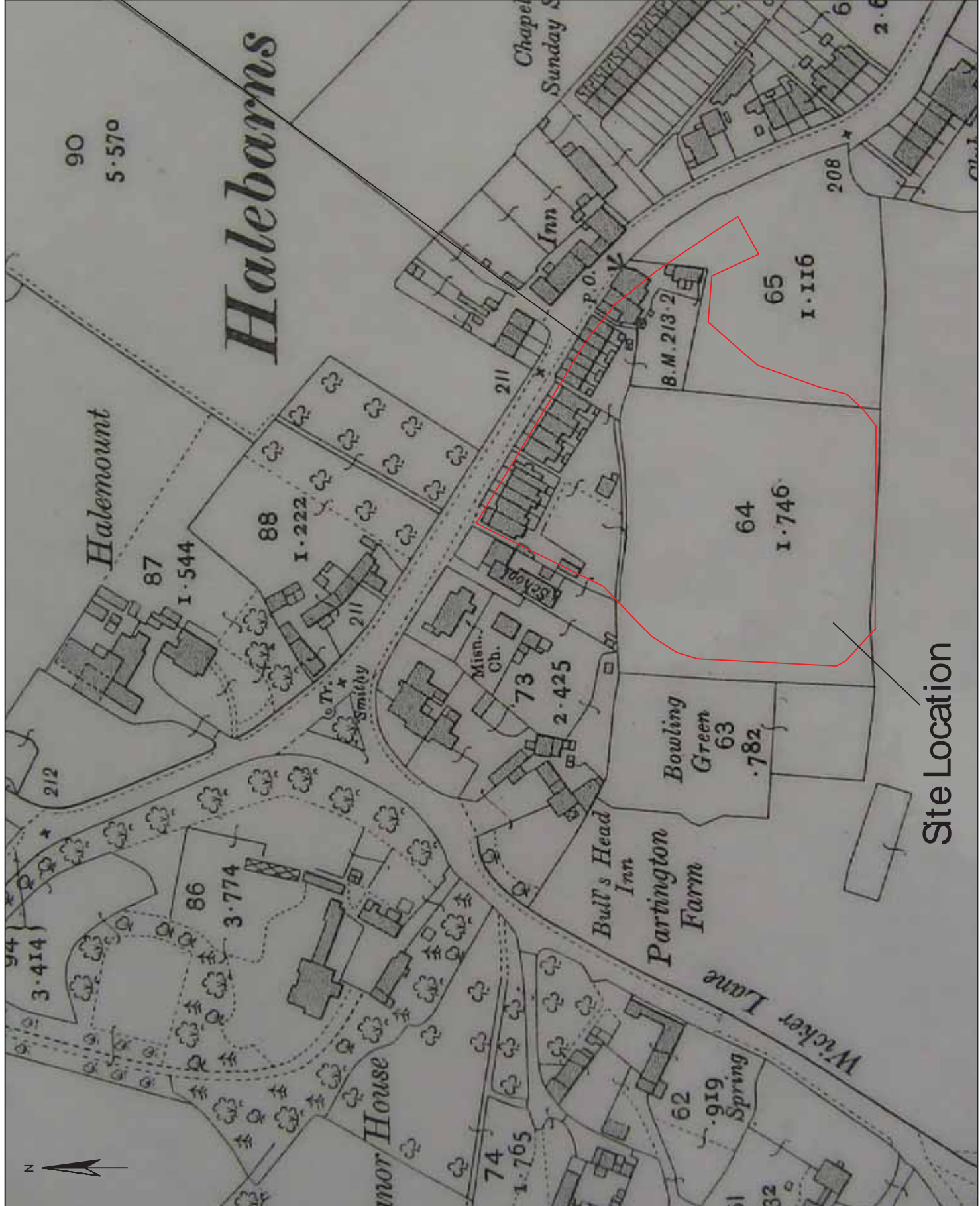


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Figure 22: OSmap 1909

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Figure 2 : OSmap 19 5

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Figure 24: OSmap 19 8

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8 Recommendations

8.1 In consideration of the small amount of *in situ* remains recovered at the site, and in consultation with the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service, it is recommended that no further archaeological work be carried out on the site.

9 Archives

9.1 A digital, paper and physical archive has been prepared and will be deposited with the Greater Manchester HER. This consists of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data associated with the project.

10 Publicity, Confidentiality and Copyright

10.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

10.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd will retain the copyright of all documentary and photographic material under the Copyright, Designs and Patent Act (1988).

11 Statement of Indemnity

11.1 All statements and opinions contained within this report arising from the works undertaken are offered in good faith and compiled according to professional standards. No responsibility can be accepted by the author/s of the report for any errors of fact or opinion resulting from data supplied by any third party, or for loss or other consequence arising from decisions or actions made upon the basis of facts or opinions expressed in any such report(s), howsoever such facts and opinions may have been derived.

12 Acknowledgements

12.1 Archaeological Research Services Ltd would like to thank those involved in the project for their help and advice, especially Gemma Parry and David Bolton of Baker Hollingworth Associates Ltd; Norman Redhead, Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service who provided advice throughout the project; the site-based staff of Eric Wright Construction Ltd and the ground workers of M. J. Finnigan Demolition Ltd.

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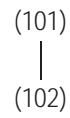
Appendix I – Site Records

Context register

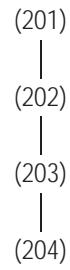
Context Number	Description	Dimensions
101	Trench 1. Tarmac and bedding	Trench-wide. 0.45m thick
102	Trench 1. Natural sand	Trench-wide. Exceeds 1.75m thick
201	Trench 2. Tarmac	Trench-wide. 0.09m thick
202	Trench 2. Made ground -bedding	Trench-wide. 0.20m thick
203	Trench 2. Made ground -bedding	Trench wide. 0.25m thick
204	Trench 2. Natural sand	Trench-wide. Exceeds 2.25m thick
301	Trench 3. Tarmac	Trench-wide. 0.11m thick
302	Trench 3. Made ground -bedding	Trench-wide. 0.42m thick.
303	Trench 3. Concrete	2.90m in length, 0.14m thick
304	Trench 3. Made ground -bedding	Trench-wide. 0.30m thick
305	Trench 3. Natural sand	Trench-wide. Exceeds 1.60m thick
401	Trench 4. Brick surface	Trench-wide. 0.10m thick
402	Trench 4. Made ground	Trench-wide. 0.20m thick
403	Trench 4. Black clay demolition deposit	Trench-wide. 0.46m thick
404	Trench 4. Brown sandy clay with clinker/charcoal. Levelling deposit	Trench-wide. 0.62m thick
405	Trench 4. Brick wall NE/SW aligned	Max. length 3.04m. 0.60m thick
406	Trench 4. Brick structure	1.52m in length (north-east to south-west) by 1.25m in width (south-east to north-west). The inner square measured 0.80m by 0.42m. Max. thickness 0.28m
407	Trench 4. Natural sand	Trench-wide. Exceeds 1m
501	Trench 5. Topsoil	Trench-wide. 0.65m thick
502	Trench 5. Construction cut	1.8m wide, 0.8m thick
503	Trench 5. Demolition deposit	1.8m wide, 0.8m thick
504	Trench 5. Natural sand	Trench-wide. Exceeds 1.15m

Appendix II – Harris Matrices

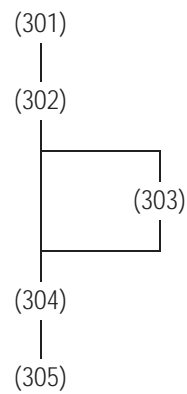
Trench 1



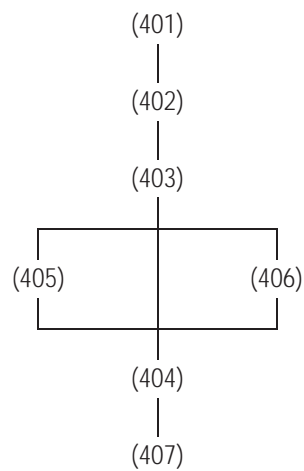
Trench 2



Trench 3



Trench 4



Trench 5

(501)

|

(503)

|

[502]

|

(504)

Land at The Square, Hale Barns, Manchester.

Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Evaluation Trenching



1. Introduction

- 1.1. This scheme of works relates to the site known as 'The Square' (centered on 379170E, 385820N), presently a retail complex (shopping centre), which is under consideration for mixed use (residential and commercial/retail) redevelopment. The area consists of an irregularly shaped five-sided area approximately 1.3 hectares in size on the south west side of Hale Road, Hale Barns. This is part of the historic core of Hale Barns and is located c.3.2km south east of Altrincham, centred at 379170 E, 385820 N. The site currently comprises a number of commercial/retail units of different sizes, together with areas of hard standing for servicing, access and parking. There are also small landscape areas to the north-east and south. The site is bounded by the Hale Road to the north-east, a church, church hall and therapy centre adjoining Hale Road to the north-west, a bowling green to the west and residential properties to the south-west, south and south-east.
- 1.2. A planning application 76125/FULL/2010 has been approved, but Trafford Council have attached a condition to the planning application which states that:

“17: No development shall commence until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a scheme of investigation which has been submitted for the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.”
- 1.3. Dr Andrew Myers of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit, the key advisors to Trafford Council on this matter has advised that condition 17 of 76125/FULL/2010 needs to be satisfied by a programme of archaeological works comprising in the first instance a Desk Based Assessment followed by Archaeological Evaluation (trial trenching) and, if necessary, targeted open-area excavation.
- 1.4. This document is a written scheme of investigation (WSI) confirming the nature of the archaeological trenching to be undertaken by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd).

2. Objectives

- 2.1. An assessment of the baseline data demonstrates that no designated or non-designated heritage assets are located within the proposed redevelopment area. Within the wider study area (up to 1km from the site) ten listed buildings (Grade II and Grade II*) and 21 undesignated heritage assets are recorded by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record and the National Monuments Record. The undesignated heritage assets indicate that, although Hale has early medieval origins, the late post-medieval period (AD1765-1900, 10 sites) is a key period of development for the study area, although the early post-medieval period (AD1540-1765, 5 sites) and the Roman period (AD43-410, 3 sites) are also represented. The South Hale Conservation Area is also located 100m west of the site.

- 2.2. Due to the lack of known heritage assets within the proposed development area, it is considered unlikely that it hosts archaeological remains of high or national significance. During the post-medieval, medieval and Roman periods it is most likely that the proposed re-development area may well have been marginal to habitation areas and it is more likely that it was exploited as agricultural land (arable and pasture). Possible remains dating to this time, for which there is a low potential, would be of local significance only. However, there is also a known potential, dependant on the degree of truncation associated with the construction of the 1960's shopping centre, for 19th to 20th century structural remains, comprising mostly terraced residential buildings, to be located within the northern part of the proposed re-development area. Although these buildings are not categorised heritage assets, it seems most probable that the GMAU will recognise this archaeological resource as a feature of local significance.
- 2.3. As the condition of heritage assets within the northern extent of the proposed development area is unknown, and as there is no information pertaining to the southern half of the site. It is recommended that a programme of targeted evaluation trenching be undertaken at the site (geophysical survey would not be suitable in these site conditions). This is in line with PPS5 Policy HE 6.1 which states that 'where desk-based assessment is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation' is required (CLG 2010, 6) and would represent a 'proportionate' response as required by PPS5 Policy HE 6.1 (CLG 2010, 6). An evaluation trenching exercise would provide the necessary information to assess any impact from the proposed re-development.
- 2.4. The objective of the evaluation trenching is to provide sufficient information for informed decisions to be made regarding:
 - i) the presence or absence of archaeological features
 - ii) an assessment of their significance and importance in line with the NPPF (CLG 2012)
 - iii) the likely impact of the development upon any such features
 - iv) the appropriate mitigation of the development's impact upon those remains
- 2.5. The research aims for any further work required following the evaluation will be developed in an additional WSI.
- 2.6. If significant archaeological remains are identified during the evaluation that require further examination, a site meeting will be arranged with the client, ARS Ltd and the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service in order to agree the requirement and timetable for further work. This is in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 5 (PPS5) (CLG 2010), now superseded by NPPF.
- 2.7. Any changes to the agreed WSI will be discussed with, and agreed with, the Development Control Archaeologist before implementation.

3. Evaluation and Fieldwork Methodology

- 3.1. The archaeological work will comprise a total of 120m² of evaluation trenching (a 1% sample of the 1.3 hectares) targeting priority areas where deposit survival may be good in the form of five 15 x 1.6m trenches (Figure 20). A further 15 m² of evaluation trenching will be kept in reserve to allow for expansion of any trenches to expose significant remains. The evaluation trenches are positioned to target likely features at the northern site boundary, but also to test the potential for evidence of past human activity to be preserved in the remainder of the site.

- 3.2. Any changes to the agreed WSI will be discussed with, and agreed by, GMAU before implementation.
- 3.3. The proposed archaeological works at The Square will involve the excavation of 120m² of evaluation trenching to evaluate the below ground survival of archaeological remains.
- 3.4. All elements of the archaeological evaluation shall be carried out in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standards and Guidelines for Archaeological Evaluation*. (2008a) and with the IFA Code of Conduct (IFA, 2008b).
- 3.5. Each trench will be machine stripped under continuous archaeological supervision to the first archaeological horizon in successive level spits, or to a level where it is possible to assess the presence or absence of archaeological features. A toothless bucket will be used. The location of the trench will be accurately recorded in relation to the Ordnance Survey national grid.
- 3.6. Each trench will be cleaned by hand to allow the identification and planning of archaeological features. Where archaeological features appear to be absent, sufficient work will be done to demonstrate this. Each trench will be planned at an appropriate scale: 1:20 where complex deposits are present or 1:50 in areas of lesser complexity (to be omitted if the trench is completely blank). One representative long section of each trench will be produced, at an appropriate scale, if necessary. Sections and profiles of each feature sampled will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20, depending on the size of the feature. Spot levels relative to Ordnance datum in metres will be taken as appropriate. All features need to be investigated - discrete features will be half-sectioned in the first instance; linear features will be sampled a minimum of 20% along their length (each sample section to be not less than 1m), or a minimum of a 1m sample section, if the feature is less than 10m long. In addition, we expect the deposits at junctions or interruptions in linear features to be sufficiently excavated for the relationship between components to be established.
- 3.7. Identified archaeological features will be sampled by manual excavation to allow their date, nature and degree of survival to be ascertained. The sampling strategy to be used will be discussed and agreed with the GMAU. Provision will be allowed to establish whether earlier features/surfaces are sealed beneath later levelling layers. All features investigated will be recorded in plan and section and all finds recovered retained for analysis.
- 3.8. For brick structures, the record will include details of brick dimensions and type (handmade/machine-made, plain/frogged), mortar (colour, composition, hardness) and the extent of structures (number of courses, thickness in skins).
- 3.9. All identified archaeological features will be accurately fixed using an EDM/Total Station, surveying in either the planning baselines or the features themselves.
- 3.10. The site archive will include plans and sections at an appropriate scale, a photographic record, and full stratigraphic records on recording forms/context sheets. Each context will be recorded on pro-forma records which will include the following: character and contextual relationships; detailed description (dimensions and shape; soil components, colour, texture and consistency); associated finds; interpretation and phasing as well as cross-references to the drawn, photographic and finds registers. Each context will be recorded on an individual record.
- 3.11. A photographic record will be maintained including photographs of all significant features and overall photographs of each area or trench. All images will be taken in black and white print,

colour slide and digital format, and will contain a graduated photographic scale. The main photographic archive will comprise 35mm b/w SLR print film and 35mm colour slides, supplemented by digital SLR (minimum 7 megapixels).

- 3.12. All stratified finds will be collected by context or, where appropriate, individually recorded in 3 dimensions. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. As this is a site of industrial date, all finds and pottery will be retained other than material which is demonstrably modern.
- 3.13. Where features have the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental or datable remains, a sampling strategy will be adopted in order to extract necessary samples to answer key research questions about the deposits. Where deposits have the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental remains or datable material, the entire fill, or a representative sample of larger deposits, will be floated. Flotation of all feature fills with organic content will be undertaken on site employing graduated brass sieves, with 500 μ as the smallest fraction. This strategy and approach will be refined dependent on on-site conditions. Provision will be made available for recovery, processing and suitable assessment/analysis. The above strategy will be sufficient to identify botanical macrofossils and charred remains in order to inform on both human activity and the palaeoenvironment.
- 3.14. Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist with provision for further analysis as required. Specialist advice on the collection of industrial residues will be sought and their strategies implemented. The advice of the English Heritage Scientific Adviser will be followed in relation to all scientific sampling strategies.
- 3.15. All retained finds and palaeoenvironmental samples will be treated in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document *A Strategy for Care and Investigation of Finds (1995)* and the UKIC's document *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage*. Ironwork and a selection of other metalwork, including all coins, from stratified contexts will be X-rayed for identification (which material warrants this approach will be discussed and agreed with SYAS) and stored in a stable environment along with other fragile and delicate material.
- 3.16. Provision will be made for additional specialist advice, e.g. for finds analysis, conservation and scientific dating.
- 3.17. Finds of "treasure" will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act procedures.
- 3.18. If grave cuts are discovered on site, then they will be sampled through hand excavation to determine the presence/absence, depth and preservation of the uppermost burials, before being initially left in situ. Where excavation of human remains is necessary, a license will be obtained from the Ministry of Justice and work will be carried out under appropriate environmental health regulations and, if appropriate, in compliance with the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendments) Act 1981.
- 3.19. Disarticulated human bone will be quantified, characterised and retained for assessment.
- 3.20. The record of the extent and vulnerability of features will be sufficiently detailed to facilitate discussions regarding the need for preservation beneath any future potential development, or any other mitigation measures including further excavation or recording.

- 3.21. A risk assessment will be undertaken before commencement of the work and health and safety regulations will be adhered to at all times.
- 3.22. During fieldwork, signage will be displayed on the exterior of site hoardings/fencing, giving details of the archaeological work in progress in order to keep the public informed. Given that the site is presently in use, the provision of site security/fencing will be discussed in detail with the client in advance of the evaluation. In addition, certain parts of the evaluation may need to be undertaken after the site is closed to retail customers.
- 3.23. The presence of unrecorded live services is anticipated. The proposed trench layout takes into account the plot provided by Sibley (2010, Appendix B). However, there may be unrecorded services and this will require strong liaison with the client at all times and the use of a CAT-scan on site in the first instance.

4. Monitoring Arrangements

- 4.1. ARS Ltd will liaise with the GMAU at regular intervals throughout the course of the work so that appropriate monitoring visits can be arranged. As a minimum, arrangements will be made with GMAU for a monitoring visit before the trench is backfilled.

5. Report

- 5.1. Following completion of the evaluation ARS Ltd will produce a report which will include:
 - A non-technical summary.
 - Introduction and objectives of the evaluation.
 - Methodology of the evaluation.
 - An objective summary statement of results.
 - A phased stratigraphic discussion of the archaeological features.
 - An interpretive discussion of the results, placing them in a local and regional framework and an assessment of the importance of the remains in relation to the criteria in PPS 5.
 - Appropriate supporting illustrations, including a site plan, trench and section plans, feature sections and plans and a phased site plan.
 - A site location plan at 1:2500 or 1:10000 as appropriate and a phased interpretation of the site as appropriate.
 - The results of an assessment of artefacts, ecofacts and industrial residues carried out by suitable specialists, who will be furnished with relevant contextual and stratigraphic information.
 - If sufficiently significant remains are recovered then an analysis of the above based upon the specialist assessment recommendations.
 - In the event that significant remains are encountered, then a timetable for wider dissemination will be included in the report.
 - A detailed context index and supporting data in tabulated form or in appendices.
 - An index to and the proposed location of the archive.
 - The proposed date of deposition of the archive
 - References.
 - A copy of the brief and OASIS form
 - Photographs of work in progress on the site.

5.2 Within the report:

- All plans will be clearly related to the national grid.
- All levels will be quoted relative to ordnance datum.

5.3 Copies of the final report will be deposited with the HER, and will be submitted to as a paper copy and a digital copy.

5.4 Additional project dissemination will be undertaken as required by the significance of the archaeological finds and deposits encountered. Additional dissemination may include: an article for the GMAU Annual Review or more formal dissemination such as a journal article.

6. Archive Deposition

- 6.1. A digital, paper and artefactual archive, which will consist of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data will be submitted to Manchester Museums Service in their standard form when possible. Advice on the retention and discard of finds and samples will have been provided by specialists during the assessment and/or analysis phases and this information will be discussed with the museum when preparing the site archive. As the SMS is not currently accepting archives, they will be notified using the standard accession request form and the physical archive will be temporarily retained by ARS Ltd. The digital archive will be deposited with the ADS. ARS Ltd will either arrange for copyright on the deposited material to be assigned to the archive, or will licence the archive to use the material, in perpetuity; this licence would allow the archive to reproduce material, including for use by third parties, with the copyright owner suitably acknowledged.
- 6.2. All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, marked, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).
- 6.3. A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site, excavation, features, layers and selected artefacts will be supplied to the HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM along that will be attached with the report.
- 6.4. The GMAU will be notified on completion of fieldwork, with a timetable for reporting and archive deposition.
- 6.5. Written confirmation of the archive transfer arrangements, including a date (confirmed or projected) for the transfer, will be included as part of the final report.
- 6.6. An OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> has been initiated for the project. Key fields will be completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included within the archive).
- 6.7. The GMAU will be notified of the final deposition of the archive.

7. Changes to Methodology or Work Programme

- 7.1. Changes to the approved methodology or programme of works will only be made with the prior written approval of the GMAU.

8. Publication

- 8.1. Following the completion of all the work including any further works, a suitable programme and timetable for publication and dissemination will be discussed and agreed upon by all stakeholders. Dissemination may include: an article for the GMAU Annual Review or more formal dissemination such as a journal article.

9. References

Department for Communities and Local Government (CLG). 2012. *The National Planning Policy Framework* London, The Stationery Office.

Institute for Archaeologists. revised 2010a. *Code of Conduct*. Reading, Institute for Archaeologists

Institute for Archaeologists. 2008. *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations*. Reading, Institute for Archaeologists.

Museum of London Archaeological Services (MoLAS). 2002. *Site Manual*. London, Museum of London.

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OASIS ID: archaeo15-155790

Project details

Project name	The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester
Short description of the project	Archaeological Research Services Ltd was commissioned by Development Securities (Hale barns) Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation on a 1.3 hectare parcel of land at The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester. An archaeological desk-based assessment completed in 2011 established that there was potential for archaeological remains at the site, particularly relating to the 19th and 20th centuries. As a result, the Heritage Management Director for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advice Service advised that an archaeological evaluation be carried out in advance of the proposed redevelopment of The Square shopping centre. The evaluation was carried out in intermittent stages. Trench one was excavated on the 25th July 2013 and was originally planned to measure 15m in length by 1.6m in width. Due to the presence of services at several locations throughout the trench, the original trench location was moved to the north-west by 2m, and a 3m baulk was left in the trench, effectively breaking it up into two, due to the location of services cables. No features or finds of archaeological significance were observed in trench 1. The remaining 4 trenches were opened on the 12th and 13th November 2013. Trenches 2 and 3 contained no features or finds of archaeological significance. Trench 4 contained structural remains comprising one north-east to south-west aligned red-brick wall, and one square red-brick feature, both likely to relate to late 19th and early 20th century dwellings that are known to have been located at the site. Trench 5 contained a demolition deposit in a possible construction cut, again likely to be the remnants of structures known to have existed on the site.
Project dates	Start: 26-07-2013 End: 13-11-2013
Previous/future work	No / No
Type of project	Field evaluation
Current Land use	Industry and Commerce 3 - Retailing
Methods & techniques	"Targeted Trenches"
Development type	Building refurbishment/repairs/restoration
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER MANCHESTER TRAFFORD ALTRINCHAM The Square, Hale Barns
Postcode	WA15 8SP

Study area 1.30 Hectares
 Lat/Long Datum (other) SJ791858

Project creators

Name of Organisation Archaeological Research Services Ltd
 Project brief originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd
 Project design originator Archaeological Research Services Ltd
 Project director/manager Robin Holgate
 Project supervisor Laura Strafford
 Type of sponsor/funding body Developer

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Strafford, L
 Other bibliographic details ARS Report Number 2013/62
 Date 2013
 Issuer or publisher ARS Ltd
 Place of issue or publication Bakewell
 Description A4 colour spiral bound

Project bibliography 2

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
 Title The Square, Hale Barns, Greater Manchester. Phase 2 Archaeological Evaluation
 Author(s)/Editor(s) Strafford, L
 Other bibliographic details ARS Report Number 2013/103
 Date 2013
 Issuer or publisher ARS Ltd
 Place of issue or publication Bakewell
 Description A4 colour spiral bound

Entered by Laura Strafford (laura@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)

Entered on 14 November 2013

OASIS:

Please e-mail [English Heritage](#) for OASIS help and advice

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