

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester



The excavated cellar of Bleaklow Hall, looking south-west.

ARS Ltd Report No. 2019/146

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Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester**

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Archaeological Research Services Ltd

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Executive Summary

Project Name: Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Site Codes: BHH19 (SMR)

Planning Authority: Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

Planning Reference: 63388

NGR: SJ 76375 15026

Date of Works: 24th June to 5th July 2019

Date of Report: July 2019

Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Jeremy Buckley Properties to undertake an archaeological strip, map and record excavation on land at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester. Substantial surviving remains of 19th century surfaces were identified in the northern part of the site during evaluation trenching undertaken by ARS Ltd in April 2019. Subsequent demolition of a mid-20th century bungalow on the site meant that the area originally occupied by Bleaklow Hall, not assessed by the evaluation, became available for further investigation. The excavation was carried out so that any surviving structural elements of the hall could be recorded in relation to a wider area around the surfaces already encountered during the evaluation. An area measuring c.20x56m was excavated; encompassing the potential footprints of buildings identified on 19th century maps of the site.

A number of structures were identified during the excavation that belong to the original Bleaklow Hall and an associated complex of agricultural farm buildings that grew up alongside the hall. A well preserved stone-walled and staircase accessed cellar with a mostly intact stone floor, five storage alcoves, springers for an arched ceiling and the truncated remains of partition walls and internal buttresses represented the best preserved features of the hall. Further north the foundation brick courses of part of the ground floor were also identified, with an entrance feature aligning with a kerb which separated the house from a cobbled access road that ran east-west along the back of the site.

The agricultural building to the east aligns well with the footprint of a structure depicted on 19th century maps of the site, and whilst only the foundation stone courses of the building have survived it is possible to trace usage of the structure through to its demolition in the mid-20th century. Drainage features that run between the agricultural remains and the road to the north suggest that the majority of the structures and surfaces are contemporary, and along with the Hall represent a site that was both residential and industrial in nature, i.e. a working home and farmstead.

Two stone structures identified on the western side of the site represent a storage outbuilding and drainage chamber associated with the farm, whilst two pits containing material culture from the late 17th century possibly represent the earliest features of the site. The pits might be associated with buildings that occupied the site prior to the hall, but no physical remains of these have survived due to their complete removal when the hall and farm were constructed. Later truncation associated with the 1960s bungalow and its grounds have also contributed to the loss of any remains that predate the hall and farm.

1 Introduction

1.1 Circumstances of the Project

1.1.1 Conditioned planning permission (63388) was granted by Bury Metropolitan Borough Council for a development comprising the demolition of an existing bungalow and the erection of 4 dwellings with associated parking and access on land at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Bury. The following planning condition was recommended:

‘Condition: No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or their successors in title have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The programme is to be undertaken in accordance with Written Schemes of Investigation (WSIs) submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The WSIs shall cover the following:

1. A phased programme of archaeological fieldwork to include:

- A survey record of visible 19th century and earlier remains*
- A programme of archaeological evaluation trenching*
- Informed by the above, targeted open area excavation (subject to a separate WSI).*

2. A programme for post investigation assessment to include:

- Analysis of the site investigation records and finds*
- Production of a final report.*

3. Provision for dissemination of the results of the investigations.

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

5. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the programme set-out within the approved WSIs.’

1.1.2 Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) was commissioned by Jeremy Buckley Properties to undertake a strip, map and record excavation as advised by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS).

1.1.3 This report details the results of the archaeological works. The fieldwork project officer was Ben Dyson, Senior Project Officer at ARS Ltd and the project was managed by Zoë Cavendish, Project Manager at ARS Ltd. The works took place between the 24th June and 5th July 2019.

1.2 Site Location, Land-use and Geology

1.2.1 The development area (hereafter DA), as depicted by a red polygon on Figure 1 (see Appendix I), is c.0.83ha in area, and is located at NGR SJ 76377 15020. It is bounded to the north, north-west and north-east by open fields, to the south-east and south-west by residential dwellings, and to the south by Bolton Road (A676). The site is bounded on all sides by a mixture of drystone walls, brick walls and wooden fencing, and is accessed from Bolton Road via a gated drive from the south-east corner of the DA. The site has a slope from north to south towards Bolton Road, with levels from 199m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) along the northern boundary to 193m aOD along the southern boundary.

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology of the DA comprises sandstone of the Brooksbottoms Grit Formation; sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 320 to 322 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period when the local environment was dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Till, Devensian – Diamicton, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period when the local environment was dominated by ice age conditions (BGS 2019).

1.3 Archaeological and Historical Background

1.3.1 The site has been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment (Burpoe 2018), which provides a detailed archaeological and historical background. A brief overview is provided below.

Prehistory

1.3.2 There is a paucity of information for prehistoric activity within the Hawkshaw area though the DBA demonstrates that Bronze Age barrows and a scheduled Iron Age promontory fort can be found in the wider area ranging from 300m to 3.7km away from the DA.

Roman period

1.3.3 The Roman road between Manchester and Ribchester survived into the early medieval period, becoming the boundary between Tottington Lower End and Bradshaw manors. However there is little evidence of Romano-British activity and secure find-spots within the study area and its immediate environs.

Medieval period

1.3.4 Early medieval remains are also lacking across the area with the majority of information gleaned from place-name and documentary records. The Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) notes that a *Blacklow* is recorded as a ‘messuage and 20 acres of land’ in a land surrender in the 1527 Halmot Court Rolls, whilst a 1662 rental records the heirs of ‘John Brooke of Blackowe’ (Farrer and Brownbill 1913). Hawkshaw is also first recorded in the Halmot Court Rolls as an area of common land (HER 8716.1.0).

Post-medieval period

1.3.5 Map and census data for the site and wider area was consulted as part of the DBA. It was possible to trace part of the history of Bleaklow from 1841-1881 from census records. It is suggested that up until 1841 Bleaklow Hall was occupied by farmers who worked the surrounding lands, however, by 1851, part of the property came under the ownership of the Fletcher family, who had constructed the adjacent Bleaklow Mill (HER 3937.1.0) in 1850, and rented out the outbuildings on the property to various workers in the factory. It is likely that the Fletcher family demolished all the buildings depicted on the tithe map within the Bleaklow property and rebuilt Bleaklow Hall as it is depicted on the 1850 Ordnance Survey (OS) map and in greater detail on the 1893 OS map.

1.3.6 The Fletcher family remained on the property until the late 19th century, when the Rigg’s family moved to Bleaklow Hall. Following the death of Lawrence Fletcher in 1875 the Bleaklow Mill complex was purchased by the Rigg’s family, although the 1881 census return indicated that Margaret Fletcher was still resident at Bleaklow Hall as a widow farmer of 12 acres. The DA remained largely unchanged until the 1929 OS map, on which a small

glasshouse is depicted within the north-western part of the site and a small outbuilding is also shown within the western part of the DA.

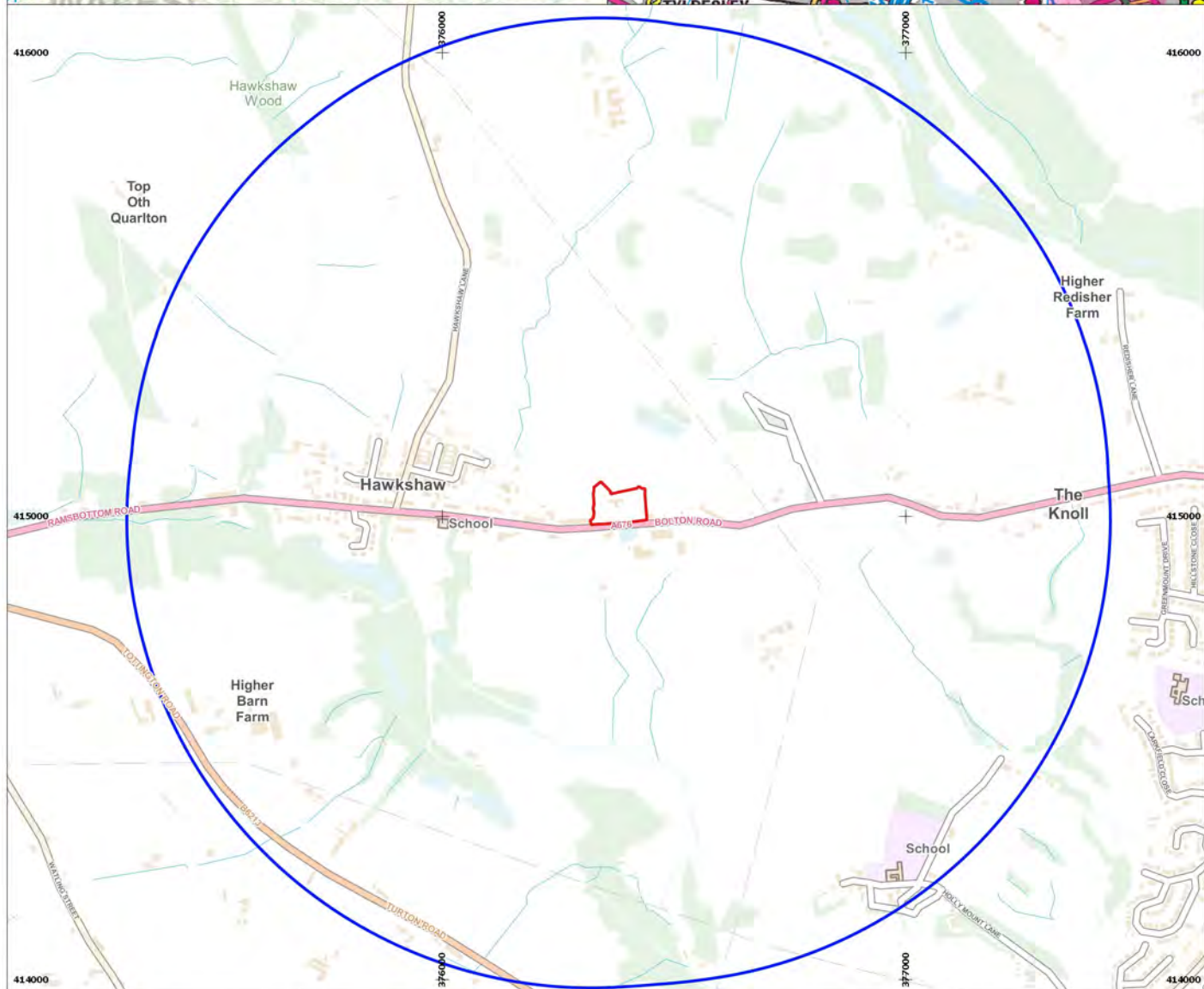
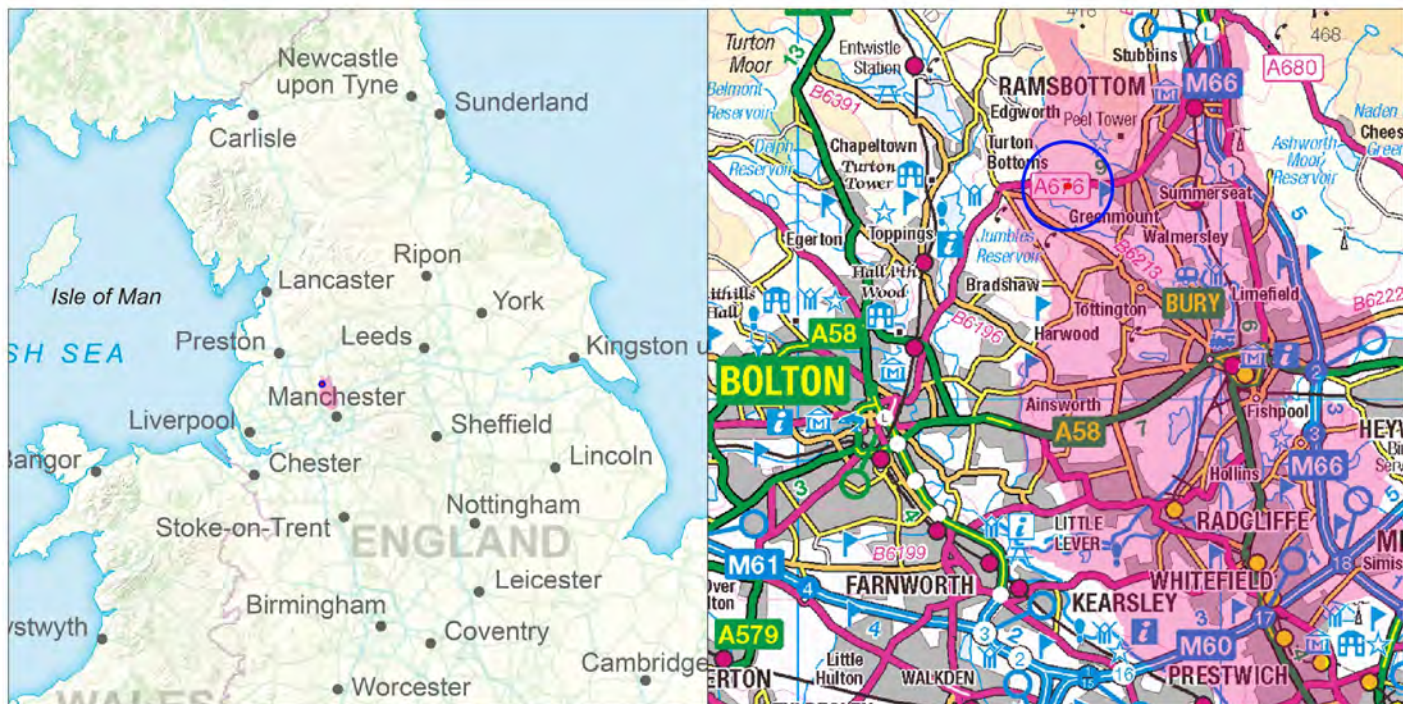
1.3.7 It was not until the 1976 OS map that the 19th century Bleaklow Hall structure was demolished and a new T-shaped building was constructed across the footprint of the earlier structure. The outbuildings to the east of the main building appear to remain untouched along with the glasshouse in the north-western part of the site. By the 1992 OS map the glasshouse had been demolished, with the outbuildings to the east being demolished by the early 21st century.

Archaeological evaluation, April 2019

1.3.8 Ten trenches were excavated in accordance with a pre-agreed trench plan and Written Scheme of Investigation. The majority of the trenches were located to target structures identified from mapping data assessed as part of the Desk Based Assessment compiled by ARS Ltd (Burpoe 2018).

1.3.9 On the rough-surfaced slope on the western side of the site a number of drainage features and a wide shallow ditch leading from a possible well were identified along with the foundation courses of a modern, brick-built outbuilding. A 1960s/70s era bungalow occupied a level scarp in a central position in the northern part of the site. The bungalow was demolished in May/June 2019 following completion of the evaluation. Mapping suggests that the bungalow overlies the footprint of Bleaklow Hall. Trench 6 (immediately to the north of the bungalow) revealed a cobbled surface that might represent a road/driveway associated with the hall or a yard surface belonging to an earlier building.

1.3.10 On the eastern side of the bungalow a number of truncated wall lines were identified in Trenches 7 and 10 that might represent former buildings on the site, whilst the well preserved floor of a stable block was identified at the south-west end of Trench 9 that is likely to be contemporary with Bleaklow Hall. An imported levelling deposit of demolition material and refuse, probably originating from a nearby mill, was found in the north-eastern part of the site (NE end of Trench 9) and within a natural, marshy depression that ran downslope to the south and was crossed by Trench 8 (Dyson 2019).



Site name: Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw
 Date: January 2018
 Drawn by: MB
 Scale: Varies

**Figure 1:
Site location**



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Site Boundary 1km Study Area Bury District

2 Aims and Objectives

2.1 Regional Research Framework Aims and Objectives

2.1.1 Research initiatives identified in the *Research and Archaeology of North West England. An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England* (Brennand 2007) for the medieval period include:

“5.8 - study of how dispersed settlement evolved across a township/manor, related to other settlements and accessed the exploitable resources of their environs. A range of techniques, particularly palaeoenvironmental sampling of landscapes and selective excavation, should be encouraged” (Newman and Newman 2007, 101).

2.1.2 For the post-medieval period research initiatives include:

“6.15 - excavations of abandoned farms and cottages should be a high priority in order to study the material culture of individual households” (Newman and McNeil 2007, 121-2).

2.2 Strip, Map and Record Aims and Objectives

2.2.1 The aim of the archaeological strip, map and record excavation is to gather sufficient information to establish the presence/ absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological remains within the footprint of buildings located on the 1842 tithe and 1850 OS maps and during the evaluation trenching. The excavation is targeted to look for the remains of the earlier Bleaklow Hall Structure that is believed to lie beneath the most recent ‘T’ shaped structure. The proposed areas of investigation are shown in Figure 2.

2.2.2 The specific aims are to:

- ◆ Locate, sample excavate, record and characterise any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains within the site.
- ◆ Provide an assessment of the potential significance of any identified archaeological remains in a local, regional and (if relevant) national context.
- ◆ Produce a comprehensive site archive and report.

2.2.3 The specific objectives of the strip, map and record excavation are to:

- ◆ Determine what survives of the structures shown on the historic mapping of 1842 and 1850.
- ◆ Determine if the remains identified are indeed the original Bleaklow Hall structure.

3 Methodology

3.1 Upon first attendance the excavation area was demarcated with road-irons adorned with blue paint and red/white ticker-tape flags. Corners of the excavation area were ranged in with a survey grade Leica GPS Smart-rover programmed with pre-agreed co-ordinates.

3.2 Excavation began in the north-west corner of the site, working from north to south in wide strips that progressed eastwards across the site. The excavation area was reduced in plan using a 360° tracked excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. Turf, topsoil or

recent demolition-related overburden was removed down to the start of the archaeological horizon or the underlying substrate, whichever was encountered first.

3.3 All work was undertaken in accordance with the WSI which is reproduced in Appendix II (ARS 2019). A risk assessment was undertaken before work commenced and all site operations were conducted in accordance with the ARS Ltd Health and Safety Policy and current Health and Safety Legislation. All exposed archaeological remains were cleaned by hand and a full photographic and written record was kept.

3.4 All phases of the project were managed on behalf of ARS Ltd by Zoë Cavendish, Project Manager. The excavation commenced on 24th June 2019 and was undertaken by Ben Dyson (Senior Project Officer) with assistance from Faye Corbett (Archaeological Officer) and Melody Gosling (Archaeological Officer) of Archaeological Research Services Ltd. The site was signed off and released for development in an email to ARS Ltd and the client written by Norman Redhead, Heritage Management Director (Archaeology) of GMAAS on the 5th July 2019.

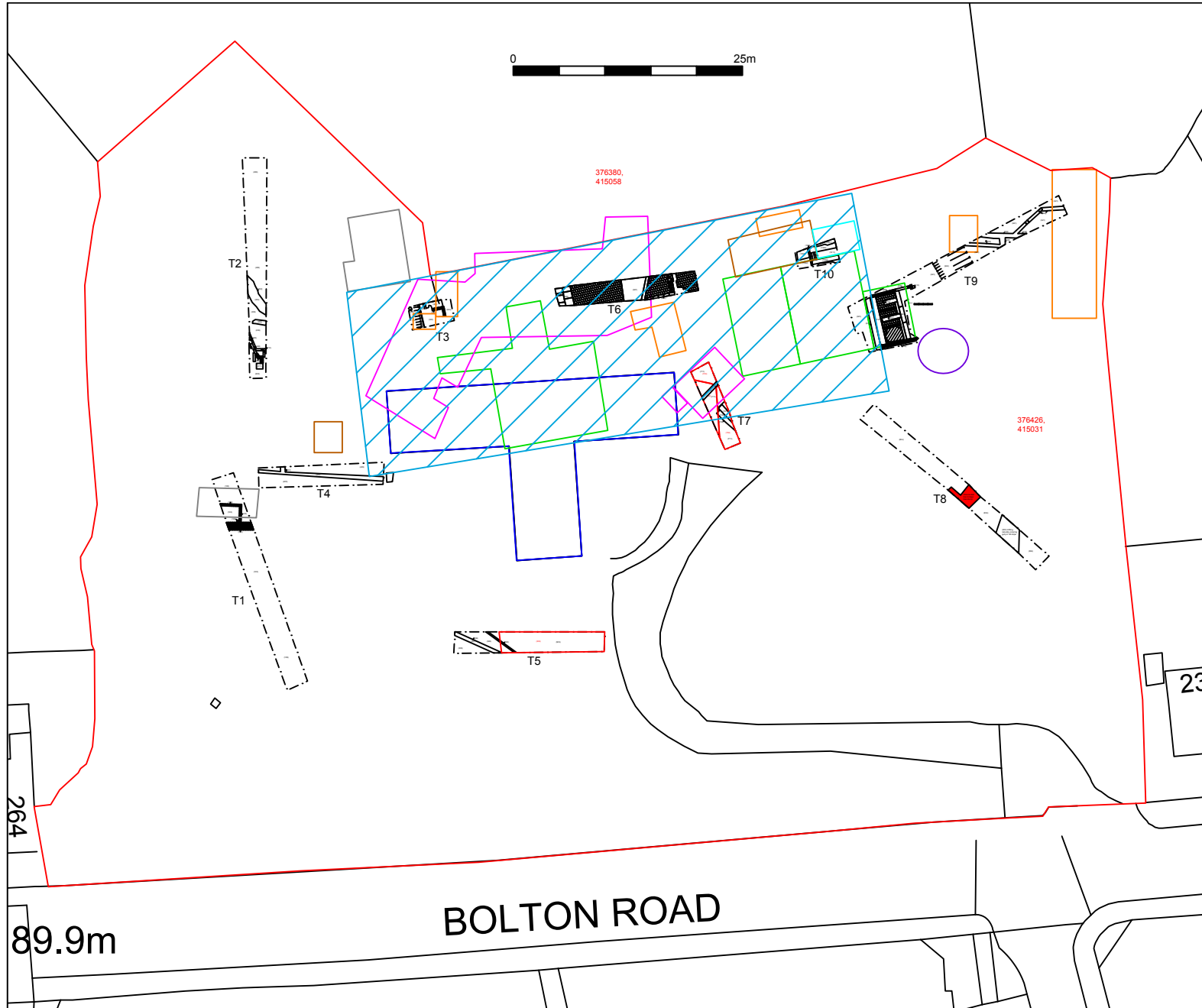


Figure 2.

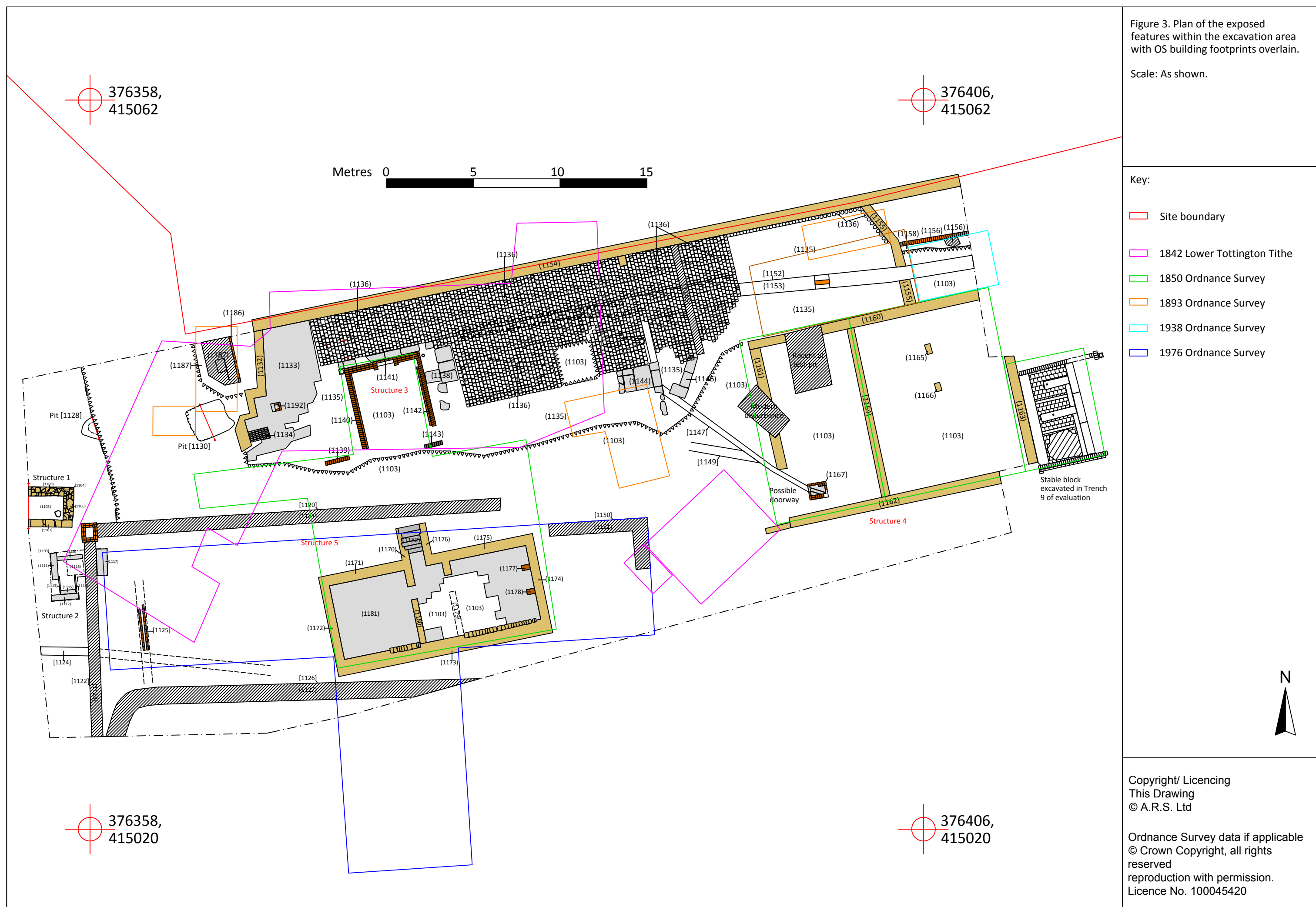
Proposed excavation area

Key:

- Proposed excavation area
- Site boundary
- Surveyed features
- 1842 Lower Tottington Tithe
- 1850 Ordnance Survey
- 1893 Ordnance Survey
- 1910 Ordnance Survey
- 1929 Ordnance Survey
- 1938 Ordnance Survey
- 1976 Ordnance Survey
- 21st century

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4 Excavation Results

All excavated contexts are summarised in the table in Appendix I. The proposed excavation area is shown in Figure 2 (above), overlain with the evaluation results and colour-coded footprints of buildings taken from various Ordnance Survey (OS) maps of the site. A plan of the excavation is presented in Figure 3 with the same OS map building footprints overlain to show which buildings were encountered by the works.

All contexts were prefixed with the number 11 to represent Trench 11 of archaeological investigations at Bleaklow Hall. The prefix ensured that no duplication of numbers was possible between the evaluation and excavation phases of the work.

4.1 Structures 1 and 2

4.1.1 Structures 1 and 2 were encountered on the western side of the excavation area after removal of up to 0.3m of topsoil (1101) overburden. Both of these structures were constructed of stone and sat within construction cuts that were cut into the natural substrate (1103). Neither of these structures appeared on any historic mapping reviewed as part of the Desk Based Assessment for the project (Burpoe 2018) or on any other plans of the site that were viewed as part of the background research for this report.

Structure 1

4.1.2 This was a rectangular structure on an east/west alignment that extended into the site for c.2.6m from the western limit of excavation. The maximum length of the northern and southern walls was not revealed, although the entire eastern wall was uncovered, enabling the maximum width of the structure to be measured at 2.26m. The walls ((1005) (1006) and (1107)) were all constructed in dry-stone fashion with no bonding material. Each wall was well constructed with flat-faced stones on the internal and external faces, with smaller stones and chink-stones forming the core and providing support. Each wall was just over 0.5m thick and survived to a maximum height of 0.34m on the southern side (wall 1107). The northern wall (1105) had a maximum height of just 0.18m (Figure 4).

4.1.3 An internal area measuring 2.01m in length and 1.35m in width was filled with an ash-rich, dark black/brown silty demolition deposit with frequent angular stone and brick fragment inclusions (1108). Removal of the deposit revealed a hard clay base and a possible post-hole (Figure 4). A number of thin strips of metal were recovered from the deposit which are likely to be remnants of internal fixtures or fittings. A small number of pot and glass fragments were also recovered that date from the mid-19th to early 20th centuries. It is likely that the structure represents a relatively short-lived outhouse with a storage function associated with the use of Bleaklow Hall.

Structure 2

4.1.4 Structure 2 was located just over 1.7m to the south of Structure 1 and was heavily truncated due to later disturbance caused by the insertion of a brick-built manhole (1118) and associated pipe-trenches that served the bungalow from the mid-20th century (Figure 5). It is likely that the structure was L-shaped, consisting of outer stone walls (1110) (1111) (1112) and (1117). The internal area was filled with loosely compacted silty clay (1116) with numerous broken stone slab inclusions. Removal of a portion of the fill from against walls (1110) (1111) and (1112) revealed two upright slabs (1113) (1114) that were capped with a flat stone (1115) that spanned a waterlogged base (not bottomed-out).

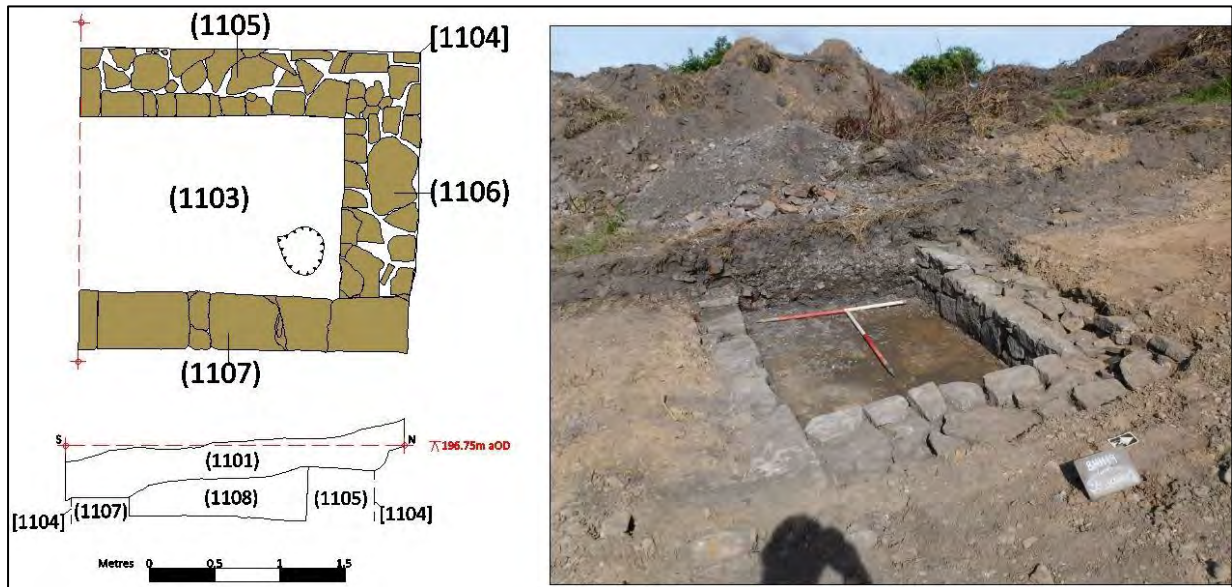


Figure 4. Plan, east facing section and photograph of Structure 1. Photo scale: 2x1m.

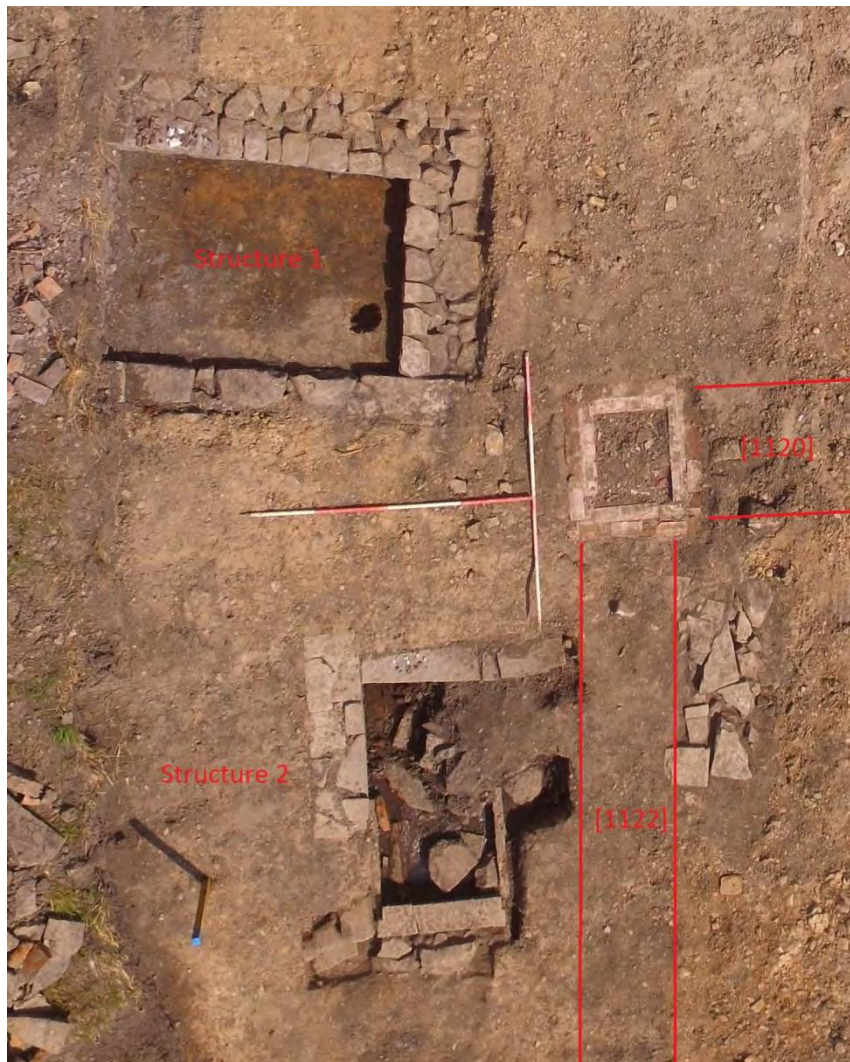


Figure 5. Structures 1 and 2. Structure 2 clearly truncated by disturbance associated with a 20th century manhole and associated drainage trenches. Scale: 2x2m.

4.1.5 Structure 2 was very similar to a drainage feature identified in Trench 2 of the preceding evaluation phase of archaeological works. The broken slabs within the fill of the structure are likely to have once formed a capping surface that rested on upright slabs, forming an upper and lower chamber within the drainage structure. The location of Structure 2 was also very similar to the drain encountered in Trench 2 in that it was located at the foot of the slope that forms the northern portion of the western side of the site. The overall function of the structure and any direct relationships with other features of the site have been lost to later truncation, however, the fact the drain was still holding water suggests that any lining material in the lower reaches of the submerged drain was still intact.

4.2 Features along the northern edge of the site

4.2.1 To the east of Structures 1 and 2, at a distance of c.4.5m from the western edge of the excavation area, a loosely compacted and severely disturbed deposit (1184) was encountered that extended eastwards for up to 33m and was spread across the width of the site. The deposit consisted of stone, brick and other debris derived from the recent demolition of the mid-20th century bungalow on the site and its associated garden walls and shed/outbuilding to the north and north-west. The depth of the deposit varied from 0.66m deep in the north-west (the area of a former stepped/terraced garden area leading to the former shed), to 0.25m over the footprint of the former bungalow. In most areas where the demolition deposit was encountered, its removal revealed underlying natural clay substrate (1103), though a number of drainage features and a pit were also revealed that will be discussed later in this report.

4.2.2 Along the northern edge of the site, removal of a levelling deposit (1190) from the area of the former raised garden revealed a number of *in-situ* features (Figure 6). A zig-zag off-shoot (1132) of the northern boundary wall (1154) acted as a retaining feature for a stone-paved surface (1133) (6.53m wide and extending for 3.62m) at the western extent of the features along the northern edge of the site. The pavers (1133) clearly post-dated the wall (1132) as they had been cut to fit flush against its various angles. The paved surface had an integrated drainage system consisting of a small soakaway area of rounded cobbles (1134) (1.17m x 0.63m) and an adjacent flagstone with two holes cut into it, positioned directly over a brick-built culvert (1191) (identified after lifting the flagstone) (Figure 7). The eastern edge of the paved surface (1133) lined up against the western edge of an extensive area of granite cobble setts (1136). These extended c.24.5m to the east and had a variable width (2.67m to 6.72m) as it respected various other features and surfaces including the brick walls of Structure 3 (see section 4.4) and two further paved areas ((1138) and (1144)) (Figures 8 and 9). A continuation of the cobble sett surface was identified as a single skin of setts abutting the northern boundary wall (1154) and against the south-west facing elevation of an angled off-shoot of the boundary wall (1155) that extended into the site to the north of Structure 4. It is likely that the setts in this area once extended right up to the northern edge of Structure 4 along with other surfaces identified during the walkover survey detailed in the evaluation report (Dyson 2019), but these had been removed during demolition activities that followed the evaluation.

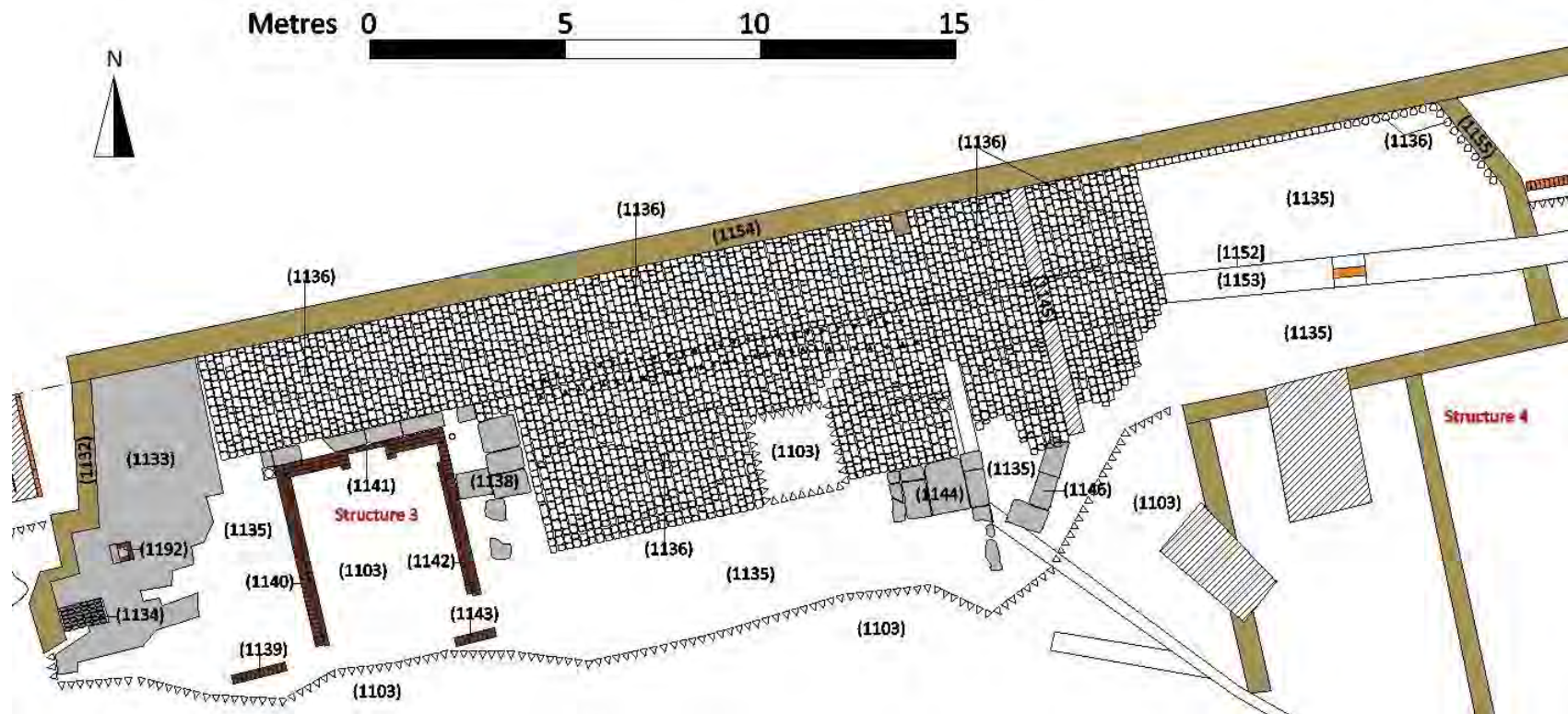


Figure 6. Excavation plan of *in-situ* features along the northern edge of the site after removal of levelling deposit (1190) from the former raised garden.

4.2.3 All features and surfaces, other than the walls of Structures 3 and 4 which cut into natural clay (1003), were bedded onto shallow levelling deposit (1135) which was contained at either end by off-shoot boundary walls (1132) and (1155). A sharp step along the southern extent of these features marked the northern extent of demolition activities associated with the bungalow, whilst the former bungalow garden wall was observed as a cut [1145] through the cobble setts (1136) towards their eastern extent. A drainage trench [1152] containing a salt-glazed ceramic pipe was encountered to the east of the cobble setts that cut through wall (1155). A linear depression through the setts (shown by a narrow east/west alignment of hachures) suggests that the cobbles were laid after the pipe trench was backfilled and subsequently suffered with subsidence. A square area of missing setts measuring c.2x2m was removed as part of the evaluation phase of works (Dyson 2019).



Figure 7. (Top left) Looking west across of flagged area (1133), bound by wall (1132) to the west (scale: 0.5m graduations); (top right) detail of a small area of rounded cobbles, potentially being used as a soakaway against wall (1132) within paved surface (1133) (scale: 0.5m graduations); (bottom left) one of the flagstones within surface (1133) with a shallow carved channel and two holes (scale: 0.5m graduations); (bottom right) culvert (1192) identified beneath the slab with the holes (scale: 0.1m graduations).



Figure 8. Overview of the cobbled road, looking west. Sunken alignment of setts visible running east/west through the surface. Scale: 0.5m graduations.



Figure 9. Overview of the cobbled road, looking east. Setts in the foreground respect the eastern edge of paving (1133) as well as the kerbstones (1137) that are laid alongside the northern brick foundation of Structure 3. Scale: 0.5m graduations.

4.3 Structure 4

4.3.1 A rectangular structure measuring 14.73m x 11.18m was identified on the eastern side of the excavation area after removal of between 0.1m - 0.3m of imported material derived of probable mill-waste. This deposit was identified during the evaluation phase of archaeological investigations on the site and is known to have been used as a levelling deposit over the north-eastern portion of the development area.

4.3.2 Structure 4 consisted of the foundation courses of four outer stone walls ((1160), (1161), (1162) and (1163)) and an internal dividing stone wall (1164) that created two rectangular rooms (Figures 10 and 11). The walls of the structure were constructed in a similar fashion to the walls of Structure 1, with flat facing stones on the interior and exterior faces, smaller packing stones within the core of each wall and occasional chink stones used to support the interior and exterior faces. All walls sat within broad cuts with near vertical sides and flat bases. The north (1160), west (1161) and east (1163) walls had average widths between 0.55-0.58m whilst the southern wall was slightly thicker at 0.66m. The internal partition wall (1164) was the thinnest at 0.46m in width and was the only wall to exhibit any remains of mortar (lime based with flecks of charcoal).

4.3.3 The internal dimensions of the western room measured 9.89m x 5.01m, whilst the eastern room was slightly larger at 9.89m x 8.14m. The only visible gap through any exterior wall that might represent an access or doorway was found at the south-western corner of the structure where there was an opening of 2.83m between western wall (1161) and southern wall (1162). The only internal features of Structure 4 were two rectangular blocks ((1165) and (1166)) that were bedded into the natural clay (1003) within the eastern room, and a stone-lined, rectangular drain with surrounding brick walls (1167) in the western room. Each of the stone blocks in the eastern room measured c.0.6m x 0.3m and it is

possible that they served as pad-stones for the vertical supports of a roof structure or a raised floor. The drainage chamber (1.08m x 0.92m) within the western room was located at the south-eastern extent of a drainage trench [1147] that extended from beneath the cobbled road to the north-west and into the structure through the possible doorway (Figure 12). No further internal doorways or structural elements were observed due to the fact that only the lowest portions of the wall foundations had survived. The maximum height of any of the surviving walls was 0.3m (north facing elevation of wall (1160)).

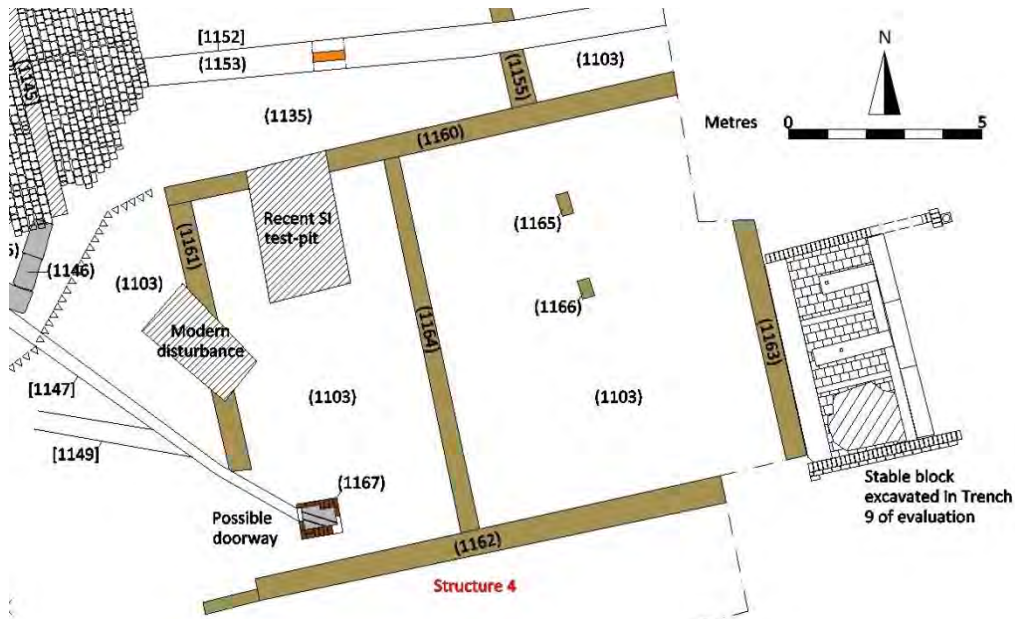


Figure 10. Excavation plan showing Structure 4 and its relationship with the stable block identified during the previous evaluation.



Figure 11. Overview of Structure 4, looking south-west. Scales: 0.5m graduations.



Figure 12. Brick-built and stone lined drainage chamber cut into the natural clay within the western room of Structure 4. Drainage trench [1147] is visible to the north-west running through the possible entrance through wall line (1161). Scale: 2x1m.

4.3.4 The remains of Structure 4 correspond with the footprint of the building depicted on OS maps from the 1850s (Figure 3) and represent the farm buildings associated with the occupation of the Bleaklow Hall estate. Material culture recovered from pockets of the overlying levelling deposit (1189) that had filled voids between wall stones included broken pottery, glass and clay pipe dating to the 18th and 19th centuries. A plastic toy rabbit recovered from the fill (1168) of the drainage chamber suggests that at least some of the drainage systems remained in use on the site up to the mid-20th century.

4.4 Bleaklow Hall (Structures 3 and 5)

Structure 3

4.4.1 As mentioned previously, Structure 3 was identified as a number of brick walls enclosing a rectangular area (c. 3.73m x 4.56m) of undisturbed natural clay (1003) along the northern edge of the site. Walls (1139), (1140), (1141), (1142) and (1143) were all constructed of hand-made red bricks (9¼" x 4½" x 3") bonded with soft, white lime mortar with charcoal flecks. A maximum of two courses of bricks had survived in the majority of the walls and the structure is likely to represent the ground-floor foundation of the northern entrance to Bleaklow Hall (see the 1850s OS footprint outlined on Figure 3). The main walls ((1140), (1141) and (1142)) were constructed of 3-skins of bricks; although two portions of brickwork in wall (1141) projected into the structure with a fourth skin on either side of a 0.97m wide area that only had a single skin of bricks aligned up against an external stone kerb (1137). This is likely to represent the entrance into the hall from the cobbled road (1136) (Figures 3, 6, 13 and 14).

4.4.2 Two short lengths of east/west wall ((1139) and (1143)) were identified right on the edge of the area that was truncated by bungalow demolition activities and no further ground-floor remains of the hall were identified.



Figure 13. Overview of Structure 3 showing the brick walls enclosing an area of natural clay. Cobbles (1136), kerbstones (1137) and flagstones (1138) around the outside are bedded onto a shallow levelling deposit (1135) that abuts the exterior faces of the structure but was not observed inside. Scale: 2x2m.



Figure 14. Detail of northern wall (1141). A probable entrance is represented by a single skin of bricks flanked by two interior pillars/butresses that were keyed-in to the main wall line. Scale: 2x2m.

Structure 5

4.4.3 Structure 5 was identified beneath the former footprint of the recently demolished bungalow. During machine-stripping of the site a variable depth (0.2m – 0.35m) of demolition material (1184) was removed from the southern portion of the excavation area which revealed the rectangular footprint of a stone-built cellar that was cut [1169] into the natural clay substrate (1003). The structure was filled with loosely compacted stone and brick rubble (1185) that had a maximum depth of 1.73m overlying a stone flagged floor (1181) (194.15m aOD).

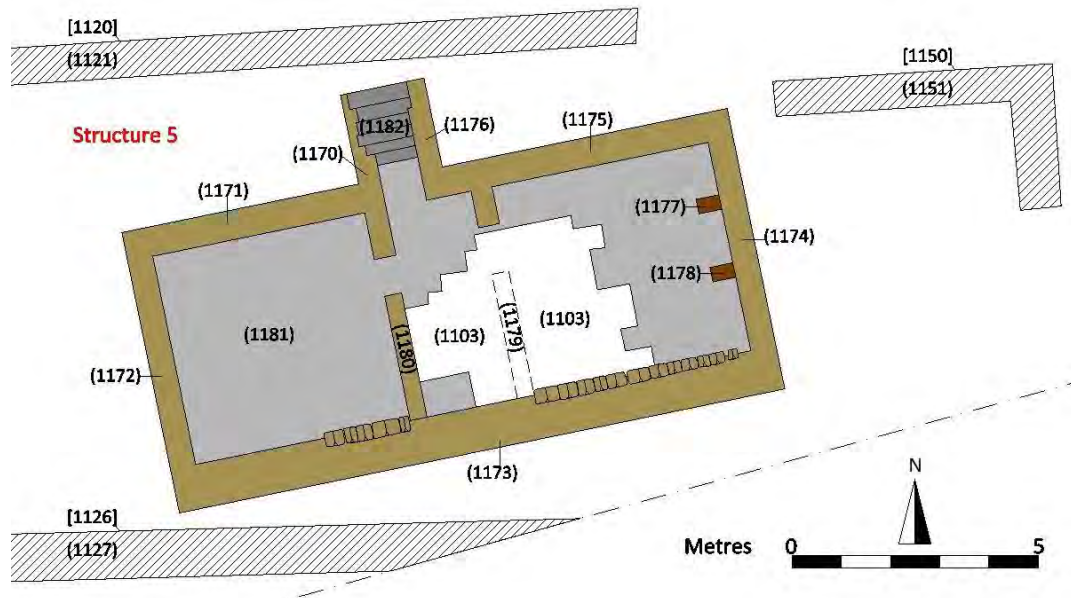


Figure 15. Excavation plan of the cellar of Bleaklow Hall. Drainage and foundation cuts associated with the bungalow are depicted as hatched areas.

4.4.4 The northern ((1171) and (1175)), western (1172) and eastern (1174) walls of the cellar all had thicknesses between 0.52m and 0.6m, whilst the southern wall (1173) was thicker at 0.9m. The internal partition walls ((1179) and (1180)) and staircase walls ((1170) and (1176)) were all slightly thinner at 0.35m and 0.44m respectively. Walls (1171) and (1172) had only survived as a single course of foundation stones whereas the remaining outer walls all had heights of 1.5m or more (Figure 16). The walls were constructed of large, flat-sided and whitewashed facing stones on the interior elevations, with rubble cores and rough-finished exterior faces that were built up against the vertical construction cut [1169] within the natural clay (Figure 17).

4.4.5 An interior partition wall (1180) was revealed that was keyed-in to southern wall (1173) at its southern extent and had a 0.77m wide gap along its length that formed a doorway between the central and western rooms of the cellar. A scar (1179) in the north facing elevation of the southern wall (1173) was found at a distance of 1.88m to the east of partition wall (1180) that was likely to represent a second partition wall between the central and eastern rooms of the cellar, but no trace of the wall itself was revealed other than a stub keyed-in to northern wall (1175). It is probable that the partition walls were mirror images of each other, each with doorways enabling movement between the rooms. The eastern and western rooms each measured 4.33m x 4.5m, whilst a central room that was aligned with a northern staircase had dimensions of 4.33m x 1.87m.

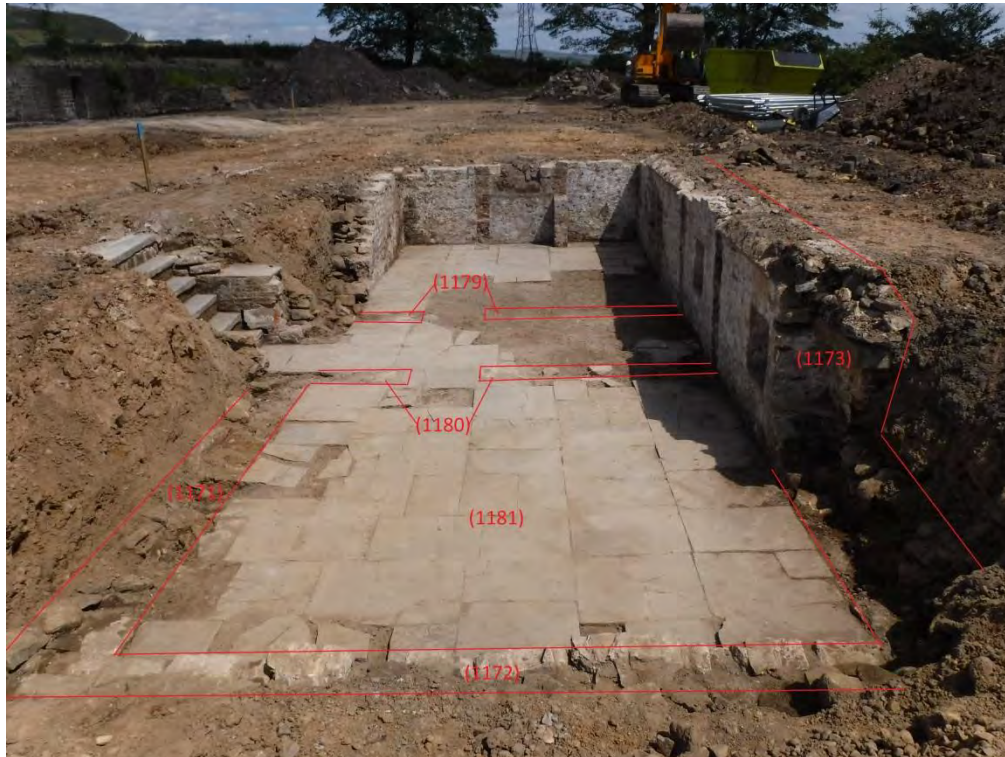


Figure 16. Looking east into the cellar with annotations denoting truncated wall lines.



Figure 17. View through truncated wall (1175). Section shows the construction of the wall with a finished internal face and a rougher finish against the construction cut. Scale: 2m.

4.4.6 Two brick-built pillars/buttrresses ((1177) and (1178)) were identified against the west facing elevation of eastern wall (1174). These were constructed of hand-made red bricks ($9\frac{1}{4}'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 3''$) bonded with soft, white lime mortar with charcoal flecks. The northern buttress (1177) collapsed during machine removal of the rubble fill of the cellar although a scar of un-whitewashed stone became visible where it was formerly positioned. The southern buttress (1178) survived to a height of ten courses (0.85m) laid in alternating header and stretcher bond. The buttresses were clearly a later addition to the original construction of the cellar as they were not keyed-in to the stone wall and were laid onto the stone floor (1181). The buttresses flanked a 0.72m wide hole in the wall that had a stone sill and was probably a cellar light with an open aspect to the east. There was no suggestion in the backfill between the buttresses, or in the colouration of the stone (no soot or heat-affected areas) to suggest that the buttresses flanked a fireplace (Figure 18).

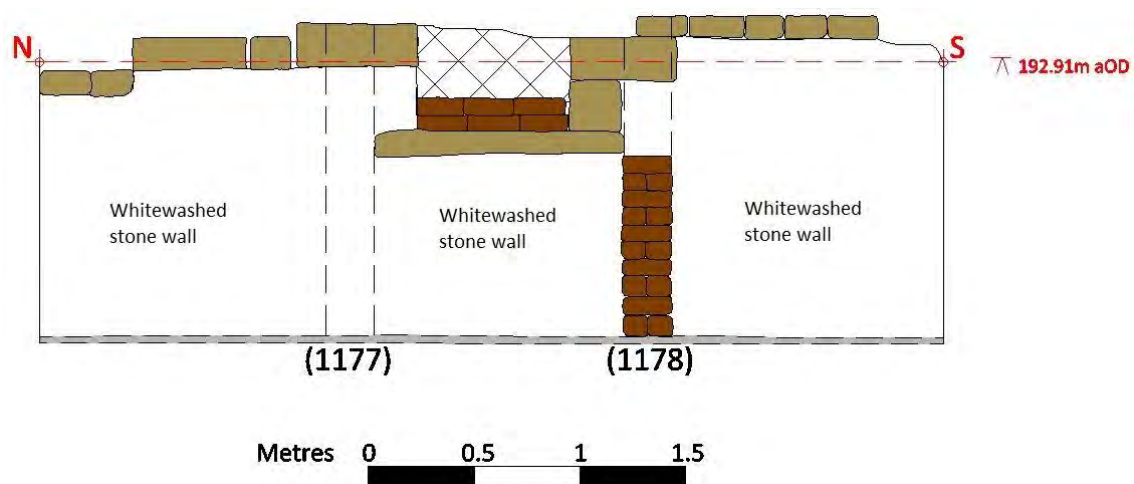


Figure 18. West facing section of wall (1174) showing the position of brick-built buttresses (1177) and (1178) either side of a probable cellar light.

4.4.7 The southern wall (1173) of the cellar incorporated five storage alcoves within its construction (two pairs separated by brick partitions and a single central alcove) that each had stone sills and lintels. The two pairs of alcoves each had a height of c.0.6m, a width of c.0.55m and a depth of 0.45m, whilst the single central alcove was slightly narrower with a width of 0.46m. The thickness of the southern wall (0.9m) means that the depth of the alcoves could be accommodated comfortably. Furthermore, the long lintels over the tops of the alcoves and the keyed-in nature of two internal stone buttresses (1179) and (1180) meant the wall had ample structural support (Figure 19). Three glass jars containing water and sealed with screw-top metal lids were recovered from Alcove 2 along with the plastic cap from a Martini bottle. All of these items date from the early to mid-20th century and suggest that the cellar was in use right up until its demolition in the 1960s.

4.4.8 Along the top of the southern wall (1173), a number of flat stones were bedded onto a wedge-shaped deposit of mortar so that the stones lay at an angle. It is probable that these stones acted as a foundation 'springer' course for a barrel-vaulted or arched ceiling (Figure 20). It is possible that some of the stone observed within the rubble fill (1185) of the cellar derived from the collapse of such a structure. No corresponding springers were observed on the northern side of the cellar as the walls had not survived to the same height.

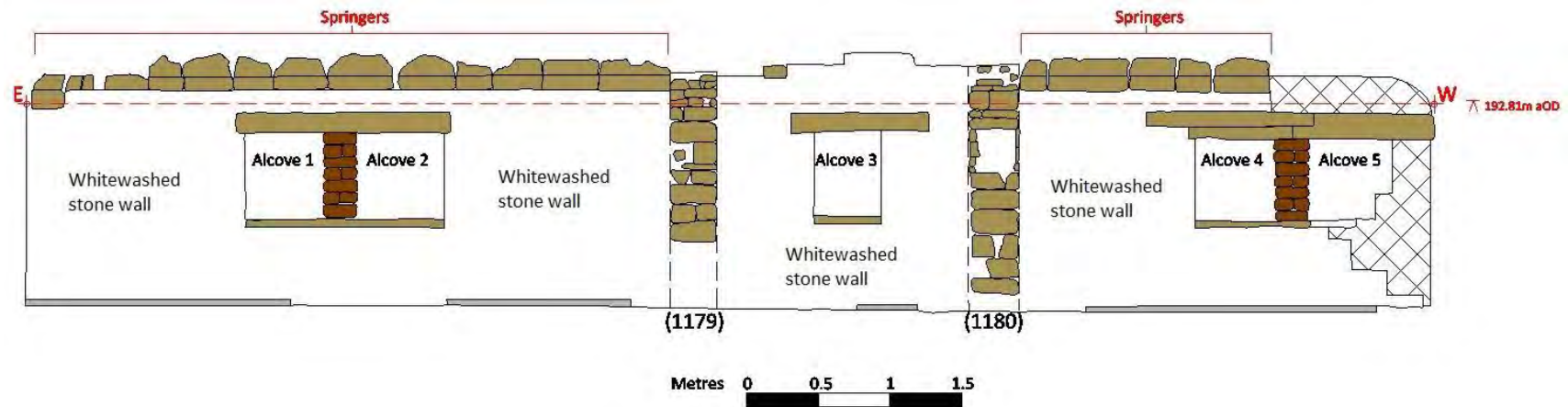


Figure 19. North facing elevation of wall (1173) showing storage alcoves, supporting partition walls and a partial course of angled stones (springers) along the upper length of the wall that might once have supported a barrel-vaulted ceiling.



Figure 20. Oblique view along the southern wall of the cellar, looking south-west. Scale: 2m.

4.4.9 On the northern side of the cellar, a staircase formed of six brick risers (1182) and six stone treads (1183) enabled access into the cellar from the ground floor. It is possible that there were once more stairs but these would have been removed during demolition of the hall in the 1960s to make way for the construction of the bungalow. The stone treads had a maximum width of 1.24m but their ends sat upon stonework of the staircase side walls ((1170) and (1176)). This suggests that the treads were once keyed-in to the walls and that the staircase was constructed as part of the single-episode construction of the cellar. The brick risers were formed of rows of rowlock headers bound with lime mortar. The bottom step was still keyed-in to both side walls of the staircase creating an access that was 0.83m wide (Figure 21). Each step (riser + tread) had a maximum height of 0.2m.



Figure 21. Brick risers (1182) and stone treads (1183) of the cellar staircase. Scale: 2x2m.

4.5 Pits

4.5.1 Pit [1128] was cut into a stony and gravelly area of the natural substrate on the slope of the field to the west of the former raised garden of the bungalow. The eastern portion of the pit had been lost to demolition activities on the site although it was possible to plan what was left and record a section through it (Figure 22). Red colouration across the surface of the pit suggested that the silty clay fill had been heat affected. Pottery recovered from within the fill (1129) provided a consistent mid-18th century date and represents the earliest material recovered from the site. The pit was 0.41m deep; it had gently sloping sides and a curved base.

4.5.2 Pit [1130] was identified just over 5m east of pit [1128] after removal of up to 0.4m of recently disturbed material derived from demolition activities. The pit was cut into the natural clay substrate of the site (1003) and was roughly square-shaped in plan. Excavation of the black ash and charcoal-rich fill (1131) revealed steep sides, an uneven sloping base and a maximum depth of 0.43m (Figure 23). A large quantity of pottery and clay pipe fragments dating between the mid-18th and late 19th centuries was recovered from the pit along with a possible ivory page turner (see Section 5).

4.5.3 The locations of these two pits are interesting in that when overlaid with the footprints of structures identified from various historic maps they appear to be within or adjacent to the footprint of a large irregularly shaped building/area that first appears on the Lower Tottington Tithe map of 1842. No structural remains of this building were identified during the works but it is possible that some of the material culture discarded within these pits dates to the period when this building or area was in use.



Figure 22. Plan, east facing section and photo showing the truncated remains of pit [1128]. Scale: 2x1m.

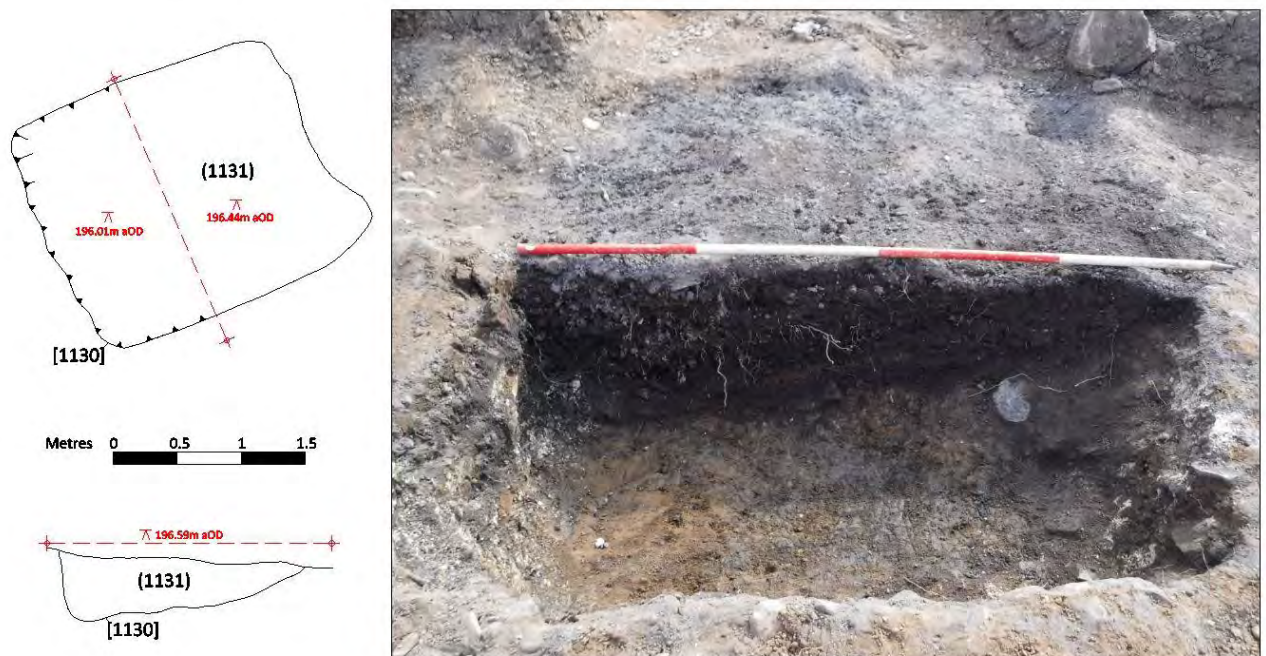


Figure 23. Plan, west facing section and photo of pit [1130]. Scale: 2m.

4.6 20th century features

4.6.1 The remains of two structures dating to the 20th century were identified along the northern edge of the excavation area.

4.6.2 One was found immediately adjacent to and 0.5m higher up in the site stratigraphy than the northern edge of pit [1130] (visible in the background of Figure 24). Structural remains consisted of a concrete surface (1187) with a single-skin wall (1186) formed of machine-made, frogged bricks along its eastern edge. Part of this structure was observed in Trench 3 of the evaluation phase of the archaeological works, but subsequently the area had been badly truncated by demolition activities associated with a shed that once stood nearby. The wall and the concrete were both laid onto a 0.5m deep deposit (1188) of made ground that had not been affected by the demolition. When overlaid with the footprints of buildings from historic mapping (Figure 3), the structural remains in this area are on a different alignment and are of a much later date than the footprint of a small rectangular building depicted on the 1893 OS map. The concrete and brick structure is more likely a remnant of a short-lived outhouse associated with the 1960s bungalow.



Figure 24. Concrete (1187) and brick (1186) remains of a 20th century outhouse, bedded onto a levelling deposit that is likely to be derived from the demolition of earlier buildings in the same area. Scale: 2x1m.

4.6.3 The second structure was found on the eastern side of the excavation area to the north of Structure 4 in an area formerly investigated by Trench 10 of the archaeological evaluation. During the evaluation two areas of concrete ((1003) and (1007)) were observed either side of a 20th century deposit of ash/clinker-rich waste material (1009). The southernmost piece of concrete overlay a stone wall (1004) whilst investigations into the waste material revealed what appeared to be stone steps (1005) leading into a structure of unknown function (Dyson 2019).

4.6.4 The excavation of a wider area during the latest phase of works established that stone wall (1004) was actually the northern wall (1160) of Structure 4, whilst the stone steps (1005) were actually a collapsed section of a spur (1155) of the northern boundary retaining

wall (1154). When viewed in relation to the footprints of buildings from historic maps (Figure 3), it is clear that the northern wall of Structure 4 and the spur of the retaining wall actually form the southern and western sides of a building first depicted on the 1938 OS map. The northern wall of this building was revealed by the excavations as the foundation course of a 2-skin wall formed of machine-made, frogged, red bricks (1156) bonded with cementitious mortar (Figure 25). A small area of concrete flooring (1157) butted up against the south face of the wall and was bedded onto the ash-rich deposit previously recorded in the evaluation (relabelled as context (1158)). The function of the building still remains unknown, but its location and shared use of walls associated with the farm suggests that it had an agricultural function during the early to mid-20th century life of the farmstead.



Figure 25. Exposed footprint of a building depicted on the 1938 OS map, which made use of existing stone walls (foreground and right hand side), but also with the addition of a northern brick wall and concrete floor. Disturbance alongside wall (1160) (right hand side of photo) represents the investigation sondage dug through made-ground deposit (1158) during the evaluation. Scale: 2x2m.

5 Finds Assessment

Dr Rebecca L. Trow ACIfA

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 A number of finds were recovered from the site during the open area excavation. The majority of the finds came from imported levelling deposits or demolition deposits with the exception of a large number of sherds which came from the fill (1131) of a waste pit [1130]. The material was examined by the author on 11th July 2019.

5.2 Pottery

5.2.1 A total of 290 sherds were recovered from the site weighing 12683 grams and representing an estimated 170 vessels. All of the material examined by the author is summarised in Table I.

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1108	Bone China	1	1	1	Rm	Saucer	moulded pattern around rim	C19th	
1108	Creamware	1	35	1	Rm	Jug	Moulded pattern, gold line around rim	E-MC19th	
1108	Mocha Ware	1	33	1	Bs	Mug	Blue bands	C19th	
1108	Whiteware	1	8	1	Bd	Hollow ware	Dark blue hand painted interior	LC19th-EC20th	Fluted exterior
1116	Slip coated ware	1	1	1	Bd	Flatware	Black slip int & ext under glaze	LC18th-MC19th	
1116	TP Whiteware	1	1	1	Flake	Flatware	UID floral TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1116	Whiteware	2	7	2	Bd	Flatware		C19th-C20th	
1116	Whiteware	2	2	2	Rm	Flatware		C19th-C20th	
1116	Whiteware	1	3	1	Bs	Hollow ware		C19th-C20th	
1129	Creamware	5	123	1	Rm, Bd	Dish	Relief border around rim	MC18th-EC19th	
1129	Pearlware	10	39	1	Rm, Bd, Bs	Cup	TP oriental landscape design with willows and figures in black, yellow, pink (ext), frieze of same style around interior rim. Top of rim painted blue	MC18th-EC19th	
1129	Pearlware	2	13	2	Bd	Bowl		MC18th-EC19th	
1131	Ball	1	4	1	Complete	UID		C19th-C20th	Moulded ball of fired clay, possibly part of a toy?
1131	Black Glazed Coarseware	12	4361	1	Complete	Pancheon	Black glaze int	C18th-C19th	

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1131	Black Glazed Coarseware	7	2712	1	Rm, Bd, Hdl	Pancheon	Black glaze int	C18th-C19th	2x Ledge handles under rim
1131	Bone China	2	46	1	Rm, Bd, Hdl	Mug	Hand painted blue pattern around rim and handle	E-MC19th	
1131	Bone China	2	25	2	Rm	Mug	Blue slipped band under glaze around rim	C19th	
1131	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	385	1	Profile	Bowl	Impressed pattern ext	LC18th-MC19th	
1131	Creamware	2	26	2	Rm	Dish		LC18th-EC19th	Everted rim
1131	Creamware	1	4	1	Bd	Flatware		LC18th-EC19th	
1131	Creamware	1	4	1	Bs	Plate		LC18th-EC19th	
1131	Mocha Ware	1	3	1	Bd	Mug	Black bands	C19th	
1131	Stoneware	1	73	1	Bd	Jar		C19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	5	335	1	Profile	Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	7	291	2	Profile	Side Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	8	312	1	Profile	Server	Willow	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	10	254	1	Profile	Bowl	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	5	173	1	Rm, Bd, Hdl	Mug	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	5	51	4	Rm, Bd, Bs	Saucer	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	1	9	1	Bd	Flatware	Willow	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	1	20	1	Bd	Bowl	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	1	17	1	Hdl	Jug?	TP geometric pattern	M-LC19th	
1131	TP Whiteware	2	27	2	Bd	Hollow ware	European landscape design int & ext	M-LC19th	

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1131	Whiteware	1	66	1	Profile	Feeder		M-LC19th	Baby feeding bottle
1131	Whiteware	3	16	2	Bs	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Ointment pot
1131	Whiteware	3	11	3	Rm	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Ointment pot
1131	Whiteware	4	22	4	Bd	Hollow ware		MC19th-EC20th	
1131	Whiteware	2	18	1	Rm, Hdl	Mug	Blue rilled pattern underglaze	M-LC19th	
1185	Salt glazed coarseware	1	30	1	Bd	Drain		C19th	Part of salt glazed drain cover
1185	TP Whiteware	11	400	1	Profile	Dish	pink blossoms with gold detail and blue spotted border around rim	LC19th-EC20th	
1185	TP Whiteware	3	54	1	Rm, Bd	Tray	Willow	M-LC19th	
1185	TP Whiteware	3	82	1	Bs, Bd	Server	Willow	M-LC19th	
1185	TP Whiteware	2	18	1	Bd	Flatware	Willow	M-LC19th	
1185	TP Whiteware	1	9	1	Rm	Plate	UID floral TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1185	TP Whiteware	2	3	2	Bd	Hollow ware	UID TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1185	Whiteware	4	53	1	Profile	Pie funnel		MC19th-EC20th	Pie funnel
1185	Whiteware	1	11	1	Bs	Flatware	Hand paint in gold "310" underneath-makers mark?	C19th-C20th	
1185	Yellow Glazed Coarseware	1	148	1	Rm	Pancheon	Yellow glaze int	C18th-C19th	
1187	Black Glazed Coarseware	3	71	3	Bd	Pancheon	Black glaze int & ext	C18th-C19t	

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1187	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	25	2	Bd	Bowl	Impressed pattern ext	E-MC19th	
1187	Creamware	1	41	1	Rm	Dish		EC19th	
1187	Mocha Ware	4	27	3	Bd	Bowl	Blue panels & black bands	C19th	
1187	Mocha Ware	4	18	4	Bd	Bowl	Black bands	C19th	
1187	Mocha Ware	1	11	1	Bd	Bowl	Grey panel & black bands	C19th	
1187	Stoneware	2	108	2	Bs, Bd	Bottle		C19th	Ginger beer bottle
1187	TP Bone China	1	6	1	Rm	Cup	TP figure in black	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Porcelain	1	2	1	Rm	Cup	Pink floral design around rim int	M-LC19th	Fluted ext
1187	TP Whiteware	8	69	3	Rm, Bd	Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	2	22	1	Bd	Bowl	Willow	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	1	13	1	Bd	Hollow ware	UID Chinoiserie	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	3	40	1	Profile	Cup	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	3	24	1	Rm	Saucer	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	4	66	1	Rm	Saucer	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	2	27	2	Bs	Plate	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	3	14	2	Rm	Plate	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	1	9	1	Bd	Hollow ware	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	3	17	3	Bd	Hollow ware	UID TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	2	15	1	Bd	Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	
1187	TP Whiteware	1	12	1	Rm	Plate	Moulded flowers around rim, traces of grey TP pattern	M-LC19th	

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1187	Whiteware	1	9	1	Bd	Hollow ware	Grey band with red line either side, hand painted underglaze	LC19th-EC20th	
1187	Whiteware	1	10	1	Profile	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Ointment pot
1187	Whiteware	5	45	2	Bs	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Prob. ointment pot
1187	Whiteware	5	33	3	Rm	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Prob. ointment pot
1187	Whiteware	3	13	3	Bs	Plate		MC19th-EC20th	
1187	Whiteware	1	2	1	Rm	Saucer		MC19th-EC20th	
1187	Whiteware	8	20	8	Bd	Flatware		MC19th-EC20th	
1189	Bone China	4	7	1	Rm, Bd	Cup	Gold lines around rim	LC19th-EC20th	
1189	Salt glazed coarseware	3	283	1	Rm, Bd	Sink/Basin		C19th	Possibly rim of brown Belfast sink
1189	TP Porcelain	5	22	1	Rm, Bd	Cup	Floral blue TP design ext	MC19th-EC20th	
1189	TP Whiteware	4	77	1	Rm, Bd	Bowl	Country scene ext, geometric design around rim int	M-LC19th	
1189	TP Whiteware	2	28	1	Bd	Hollow ware	UID blue pattern ext	M-LC19th	
1189	Unglazed Coarseware	2	28	2	Bd	Bowl?		C18th-C19th	
1189	White Stoneware	1	75	1	Bs	Marmalade Jar	Frank Cooper's Oxford Seville Marmalade	LC19th-EC20th	
1189	White Stoneware	2	21	2	Bd	Jar		LC19th-EC20th	Possibly marmalade jars
1189	Whiteware	4	26	4	Bd	Hollow ware		C19th-EC20th	

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1189	Whiteware	1	3	1	Bd	Hollow ware	Traces of hand painted silver and red pattern over glaze	M-LC19th	
1190	Black Glazed Coarseware	1	176	1	Rm	Pancheon	Black glaze int	C18th-C19th	
1190	Black Glazed Coarseware	1	68	1	Bd	Pancheon	Black glaze int	C18th-C19th	
1190	Black Glazed Coarseware	1	212	1	Rm, Hdl	Pancheon	Black glaze int & ext	C18th-C19th	Ledge handle near rim
1190	Black Glazed Coarseware	3	118	3	Bd	Pancheon		C18th-C19th	
1190	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	107	1	Bs	Bowl		E-MC19th	
1190	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	2	38	2	Bd	Hollow ware		E-MC19th	
1190	Brown Salt Glazed Stoneware	1	13	1	Bd	Bowl	Impressed pattern ext	LC18th-MC19th	
1190	Creamware	1	1	1	Rm	Saucer		MC18th-EC19th	
1190	Mocha Ware	1	12	1	Bd	Jug	Blue & grey panels, brown bands	C19th	
1190	Mocha Ware	1	3	1	Bd	Bowl	Blue & grey panels, black bands	C19th	
1190	Mocha Ware	1	10	1	Bd	Jug	Orange and black bands	C19th	
1190	Slip coated ware	6	12	6	Bd	Hollow ware	Blue slip ext	C19th	Probably Mocha Ware
1190	TP Whiteware	1	11	1	Profile	Saucer	Two temples	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	1	2	1	Bd	Saucer	Willow	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	2	14	1	Bd, Bs	Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	2	16	1	Rm	Plate	Willow	M-LC19th	

Cxt	Type	No.	Wt (g)	ENV	Part	Form	Decoration	Date	Notes
1190	TP Whiteware	2	62	1	Rm, Bd	Server	Willow	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	2	8	2	Bd	Hollow ware	UID TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	2	24	1	Rm, Bd	Bowl	Blue TP roses int & ext	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	1	15	1	Bs	Plate	UID TP pattern	M-LC19th	
1190	TP Whiteware	1	8	1	Bs	Hollow ware	UID TP pattern	M-LC19th	Gravy boat?
1190	Whiteware	1	56	1	Bs	Dish		C19th-EC20th	
1190	Whiteware	1	6	1	Bs	Pot		LC19th-EC20th	Prob. ointment pot
1190	Whiteware	3	13	3	Bd	Hollow ware		C19th-C20th	

Table I. Pottery summary table.

5.2.2 The pottery is consistently post medieval in date, ranging from the 18th to the 20th centuries. The pottery represented a range of domestic types including utilitarian wares (i.e. coarsewares and stonewares) and refined wares (i.e. bone china, whitewares, Mocha Wares).

5.2.3 The earliest types were glazed coarseware pancheons and bowls which ranged in date from the 18th to the 19th centuries. These types are difficult to date with accuracy as they have such a long lifespan. Pancheon fragments from pit [1130] represented $\frac{3}{4}$ of a large handled rim as well as a complete vessel (reconstructed in Figure 26). This pit also produced several partially reconstructed transfer-printed whiteware vessels in 'Willow and Two Temples' design of a mid-19th century date (Figure 27).



Figure 26. Reconstructed pancheons from fragments recovered in pit [1130].



Figure 27. Partially reconstructed vessels from pit [1130].

5.2.4 Also dating to the 18th or early 19th centuries were some examples of brown salt-glazed stoneware with impressed decoration, a small number of pearlware fragments and some creamware sherds. Pit [1128] produced a small quantity of pearlware and creamware sherds that were consistently mid-18th to early 19th century in date. Other pieces of pearlware and creamware appeared to have been residual and were found alongside later sherds.

5.2.5 The pottery assemblage represents utilitarian wares associated with food preparation as well as refined tablewares. Such vessel types are typical of domestic assemblages of late post-medieval date.

5.3 Clay tobacco pipe

5.3.1 A total of 53 pieces of clay tobacco pipe were recovered from the site as summarised in Table II. The majority of the material came from the fill of pit [1130]. Six bowls or bowl fragments were recovered. These were undecorated save for fluting along the seams. The bowls all had spurs and were of a form dating from the mid-18th to the mid-19th centuries. The remainder of the pipe fragments were stems including five cut mouthpieces coated in a pale green glaze. Based on the stem bore sizes, these date from the late 17th to late 19th century, but given the date of other finds from the same context it is likely that they are of late 18th - late 19th century date. Dates derived from stem bore sizes have a considerable margin for error and should therefore be used as a guideline only (Higgins 2017; Oswald 1975).

Cxt	Stem		Bowl					Mouthpiece		Bore size	Date range
	N o.	Burnish	N o.	Burnish	Dec.	Shape	Finish	N o.	Finish		
11 31	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/64"	L18th- LC19th
11 31	3 3	Poor	-	-	-	-	-	4	Green glaze, cut	5/64"	LC17th- LC19th

11 31	-	-	6	None/ Poor	Fluting along seam	Chester 103	Cut	-	-	5/64"	c.1750- c.1840
11 87	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/64"	L18th- LC19th
11 89	1	Avera ge	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4/64"	L18th- LC19th
11 89	1	Poor	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5/64"	LC17th- LC19th
11 90	5	Poor	-	-	-	-	-	1	Green glaze, cut	5/64"	LC17th- LC19th

Table II. Clay tobacco pipe summary table.

5.4 Glass

5.4.1 A total of 110 pieces of glass were recovered from the site as summarised in Table III. The majority of the pieces were pieces of shattered window glass from the late 19th or early 20th centuries. There were also a number of bottle fragments and several intact jars that were found in the cellar (Structure 5). In addition a modest selection of tableware such as a salt cellar, a dish, and a sherry glass were recovered. All of the glass was of a mid-19th to mid-20th century date.

Cxt	Type	No.	ENV	Colour	Part	Decoration	Date	Notes
1108	Ornamental	1	1	Blue	-		M- LC19th	Cylindrical piece of solid glass, possible part of candlestick stem?
1108	Soda Bottle	3	1	Aqua	Bs	Moulded "TRADEMARK. RAMSBOTTOM"	LC19th- EC20th	Poss. Codd bottle
1108	Window	1	1	Clear	-	Muranese	LC19th- EC20th	Muranese obscure door window glass
1108	Window	3	3	Clear	-		LC19th- EC20th	
1116	Bottle	1	1	Aqua	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	
1116	Window	3	3	Clear	-		LC19th- EC20th	
1131	Bottle	1	1	Clear	Bd		E- MC20th	
1131	Bottle	2	2	Aqua	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	
1131	Medicine bottle	2	1	Aqua	Rm		M- LC19th	Small square medicine bottle
1131	Sherry glass	1	1	Clear	Stem		MC19th- EC20th	Fluted base of bowl and stem

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Cxt	Type	No.	ENV	Colour	Part	Decoration	Date	Notes
1131	Window	1	1	Clear	-		LC19th- EC20th	
1131	Wine Bottle	5	1	Green	Rm, Bd		M- LC19th	Broken upper part of wine bottle
1185	Beer Bottle	1	1	Brown	Complete	Embossed "GUERNSEY BREWERY" front	LC19th	Mould made bottle
1185	Beer Bottle	1	1	Brown	Complete		EC20th	Mould made bottle
1185	Beer Bottle	1	1	Brown	Neck missing		EC20th	Mould made bottle
1185	Beer Bottle	1	1	Green	Bs		EC20th	Mould made bottle
1185	Bottle	1	1	Brown	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	
1185	Bottle	1	1	Aqua	Bs		M- LC19th	poss. Medicine bottle, rectangular bottom
1185	Bottle	2	2	Clear	Bd		E- MC20th	
1185	Jar	1	1	Clear	Rm		E- MC20th	Kilner jar
1185	Jar	3	3	clear	Complete		E- MC20th	Kilner jars intact, with clear liquid inside
1185	Jar?	1	1	Clear	Rm		LC19th- EC20th	Small jar?
1185	Salt Cellar	1	1	Clear	Profile	Cut glass salt cellar	LC19th- EC20th	
1185	Window	5	5	Clear	-	-	LC19th- EC20th	
1185	Window	1	1	Clear	-		LC19th- EC20th	
1187	Window	2	2	Clear	-	Bubble	LC19th- EC20th	"bubbled" obscure glass
1187	Window	1	1	Clear	-		LC19th- EC20th	
1189	Bottle	1	1	Clear	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	Front of angular small glass bottle
1189	Bottle	1	1	Brown	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	
1189	Bottle	4	4	Clear	Bd		E- MC20th	
1189	Bottle	1	1	Green	Bd		LC19th- EC20th	
1189	Dish	5	1	Clear	Rm, Bd	Cut glass band along rim	LC19th- EC20th	

Cxt	Type	No.	ENV	Colour	Part	Decoration	Date	Notes
1189	Drinking vessel	3	1	Clear	Rm, Bd		MC19th-EC20th	Top of tumbler
1189	Drinking vessel	1	1	Clear	Bd	Embossed leaves	E-MC20th	Tumbler
1189	Ink Bottle	1	1	Clear	Complete		E-MC20th	Red paint or ink residue inside. Metal dipper sealed inside.
1189	Jar	2	2	Clear	Complete		E-MC20th	Kilner screw top jar
1189	Medicine bottle	1	1	Clear	Complete		LC19th-EC20th	
1189	Mirror	1	1	Clear	-		E-MC20th	Small piece of mirror glass
1189	Spirit Bottle	1	1	Clear	Complete		MC20th	Small bottle with gold screw cap, contains yellowish brown liquid-brandy or whiskey bottle
1189	UID	2	2	Clear	-	Cut glass	LC19th-EC20th	Tiny pieces of cut glass with white painted back
1189	Window	1	1	Clear	-	Bubble	LC19th-EC20th	"bubbled" obscure glass
1189	Window	22	22	Clear	-		LC19th-EC20th	
1189	Window	1	1	Clear	-		MC20th	Security glass with internal wire
1189	Window	5	5	Clear	-		LC19th-EC20th	
1189	Window	10	10	Clear	-		LC19th-EC20th	

Table III. Glass summary table.

5.5 Other finds

5.5.1 A number of other objects were also recovered from the site as summarised in Table IV. This material was largely of 19th to mid-20th century date and included 20th century plastic, a number of nails and 2 animal bones from small and medium sized mammals. In addition a paper knife, possibly made from ivory, was recovered from pit [1130].

Cxt	Type	Material	Description	Date
1108	Brackets	Iron	4x metal strips bent at both ends to fit around shaft	C19th-C20th
1108	"Olive"	Brass	Circular "olive" plumbing fitting	C20th
1116	Peach Stones	-	6x peach stones	Unknown
1131	Animal Bone	-	Bone from small mammal	-
1131	Page Turner	Ivory	Long piece of carved ivory, possible paper-knife	C19th

Cxt	Type	Material	Description	Date
1131	Worked bone	Animal bone	Burnt piece of worked bone, unknown function	-
1168	Toy	Plastic	Pink plastic rabbit	1960s/1970s
1180	Nails	Iron	6x flat headed nails	C19th
1185	Animal Bone	-	Bone from medium mammal	-
1185	Bottle cap	Plastic	Plastic lid from martini bottle	1960s/1970s
1185	Fence/Gate	Wrought Iron	Decorative part of fence or gate	MC19th-EC20th
1189	Nails	Iron	2x flat headed nails	C19th
1190	Fruit can	Steel?	Lid from can of Princes fruit	E-MC20th

Table IV. Other finds summary table.

5.6 Discussion and archive recommendations

5.6.1 The post medieval finds recovered from the site were all found in secondary contexts or within the waste pit [1130]. The finds recovered are typical of the domestic and industrial contexts from which they derive. The large, partially re-constructible pieces from pit [1130] are unusual due to their high level of preservation although the finds types themselves are very common. The finds are not unusual for a site of this period and parallels may be found at other sites across Greater Manchester. The finds have a limited potential for further research although the reconstructed pancheon and ivory paper-knife may be of some local interest. The finds could thus be archived, retained in a teaching collection or returned to the landowner.

6 Discussion

Introduction

6.1 Archaeological works at Bleaklow Hall have revealed the truncated remains of structures and surfaces dating from the mid-19th century as well as material culture from at least the late 17th century that attests to earlier activity on the site. With regard to remains of the Hall itself, the well preserved remains of a stone constructed cellar and the truncated brick foundations of the ground floor to the north of the building were identified during the excavation. When georeferenced against the footprints of structures depicted within the site boundary on historic maps, the surveyed remains of the hall align well with the layouts on the 1850 and 1893 OS maps, as do the remains of the associated agricultural buildings that were excavated to the east.

6.2 During the excavation it was clear that much of the site had been affected by later development. Multiple drainage trenches dating to the construction of the bungalow in the late 1960s were observed cutting across the site. Disturbance caused by demolition of the same bungalow, drainage infrastructure and the raised rear garden just prior to the excavation was also evident.

The site prior to construction of the farmstead

6.3 The only features that had the potential of pre-dating the farmstead consisted of two pits and a number of stone-capped culverts that were identified within the natural clay substrate of the site. Culvert (1124) was observed in the south-west corner of the excavation area on an east/west orientation. Almost 3m of the culvert had survived the influences of later disturbances, although it was possible to trace the line of the culvert in a

badly truncated state for a further 10m up to the edge of the cellar of Bleaklow Hall. A similar culvert (1146) was observed emerging from beneath the cobbled road at its eastern extent which extended c.2.5m to the south-west before being truncated by the trench for a later salt-glazed drainage pipe that ran south-eastwards from beneath paved area (1144) (Figure 6). It is possible that these culverts were constructed for the purpose of land drainage during the time that buildings depicted on the 1842 Lower Tottington Tithe map were standing; however, no structural remains of these buildings were identified.

6.4 Two pits ([1128] and [1130]) on the western side of the site produced material culture dating between the early 18th and 19th centuries, although residual pieces of clay tobacco pipe dating to the late 17th century were also identified which represent the earliest material recovered from the site. These pits appear to be within or adjacent to the footprint of a large building that first appeared on the Lower Tottington Tithe map of 1842 (Figure 6), but it is not possible to state with any certainty that they are related.

The farmstead

6.5 Structures 3, 4 and 5, along with the extensive yard area formed of cobble setts (1136) and paved areas ((1133), (1138) and (1144)), are likely to all be contemporary and date to the early 19th century when the Fletcher family (who built the nearby Bleaklow Mill) moved to the site and built the hall and farm in the configuration observed on the 1850s OS map. A date-stone inscribed with “1843”, observed within the wall around the raised garden of the bungalow during the initial site walkover for the DBA (Burpoe 2018), might provide a date for this phase of occupation.

6.6 Similar farmsteads with stone built agricultural buildings and associated farmhouses have been found close-by, such as at Quarlton Farm Barn (a short distance to the north-west within Hawkshaw). Historic building recording at Quarlton Farm Barn recorded two adjoining, rectangular, coursed sandstone constructed barns with an adjoining cow house (shippon) located across a lane from an associated farmhouse (Trippier 2008). The similarity in form between this example and the buildings excavated at Bleaklow Hall (two rectangular barns with an adjoining stable a short distance from a farmhouse) might suggest that 19th century farms in the local area conformed to a common plan. However, farms with formal and spatial similarities can be found in a much wider area, with recent excavated examples including Clarksville Farm in the Lower Crumpsall area of Greater Manchester, which consisted of a 19th century cellared farmhouse with a separate stabling block to the east (Davey 2018); and Newall Green Farm in Wythenshawe, where the farmhouse and its associated barns and shippons were segregated by expansive cobbled yards rather than being conjoined (Trow and Dyson 2017).

6.7 Elsewhere in Greater Manchester, such as at Cherry Tree Farm, Lower Moss Side Farm, Castle Farm and Near Moor Bank Farm (investigated during the development of the Kingsway Business Park south-east of Rochdale), farmsteads had a more conjoined form with the agricultural buildings appended directly onto the dwelling (OAN 2019). The date ranges of these linear forms tend to have a start date extending to the mid-17th century, so it is possible that the large footprint of the building depicted on the Tithe map at Bleaklow Hall represent a similar, earlier form of a farmstead on the site.

6.8 The presence of re-used stones within the walls of the barn at Bleaklow Hall suggests that materials from previous structures on the site were recycled to form the new

farmstead. This was a common occurrence in the examples excavated on the numerous farm sites of the Kingsway development at Rochdale (Clark 2006), where use of the sites often spanned a number of centuries. A large stone with a long carved notch and numerous circular rebates was found within the foundation courses of stone at the north-west corner of Structure 4. The notch is likely to represent a groove that housed a sliding door or partition surface whilst the rebates represent the recesses for drop-bolts that held the sliding material in place, either open or shut. The stone was found in a location that would not lend itself to the positioning of an entrance or gatepost in the new building (Figure 28).



Figure 28. Re-used stone potentially from the entrance of a former building on the site. Scale: 1m.

6.9 With regard to the superstructure of the farm buildings at Bleaklow Hall, the survival of only the lower portion of the foundations precluded the identification of the above-ground design of the building. A very similar site was excavated at Hill Top Farm, Pilsworth, Bury, where the 18th century remains of an agricultural building foundation were limited to a single course of roughly-faced sandstone blocks within a shallow construction cut (Gregory 2006). At Bleaklow Hall the pad-stones in the eastern room of Structure 4 suggest that it had at least a ground floor, but no further physical remains had survived; neither were any features identified internally or externally to suggest the arrangement of any structural predecessor. Documentary references to the building contained within the deeds of the Bleaklow estate (viewed by the author thanks to Jeremy Buckley), are limited to an undated, hand-written note on the back of a map of the site that depicts the same footprint as shown on the 1850s OS map. The map is annotated with the word 'Barn' and an arrow pointing to the structure, whilst the note states: "BARN. Front elevation collapsed. Roof collapsed". All this can tell us is that the barn existed in a partially collapsed state at the time that the legal conveyance was being undertaken when ownership of the site was being transferred, likely between the Rigg's and the Krkoska's in the early 1960s.

Bleaklow Hall

6.10 As described previously, only the cellar of the main house and the foundation courses of part of the ground floor were encountered during the excavation. One of the regional research objectives of this phase of work stated that *'excavations of abandoned farms and cottages should be a high priority in order to study the material culture of individual households'* (Newman and McNeil 2007, 121-2). The rubble fill (1185) of the cellar is likely to have derived from demolition of the hall prior to the building of the bungalow in the 1960s, which was also named Bleaklow Hall in reference to its predecessor. It has been acknowledged elsewhere that the dating of sites with a long life-span suffers due to a lack of artefacts from secure contexts (Nevell 2008), and indeed this site was no exception. The recovery of *in-situ* 20th century glass jars and a plastic bottle cap from a storage alcove in the cellar attests to the fact that the hall was in use right up to its demolition. The paucity of earlier finds from within the cellar supports the suggestion that the redesign and extended use of earlier structures removes the majority of earlier finds (Redhead 2010).

6.11 Features including the 'springers' for a vaulted ceiling within the cellar; the stone floors and yard areas inside and outside of the former hall, and finds including the ivory paper knife from pit [1130] suggest that the occupants of the Bleaklow Hall estate and farm were affluent; likely as a result of the Fletcher family's involvement with local industry and their associated influence within the community. Again, formal similarities can be drawn between the cellar at Bleaklow Hall and the cellars of numerous houses recorded during archaeological works in the wider area. These include cellars found at Higher Moss Side Farm (alcoves with stone lintels and shelves used for cold storage) (Clark 2006, 24); Lower Lane Farm (stone and brick staircase from the ground floor into a cellar with walls constructed of irregularly-sized stone blocks that were irregularly coursed without bonding material, and a floor composed of irregularly-sized flagstones) (Clark 2006, 30); Mayfields Farm (cellar with storage alcoves and springers for a vaulted ceiling) (Clark 2006, 35), Near Moor Bank Farm (cellar-light at one end of the cellar, again with a vaulted ceiling) (Clark 2006, 43) and Worsley New Hall (a range of built-in storage bays within a cellar) (Thompson 2013).

6.12 The excavation has been successful in that the construction methods and phasing of the buildings on site has been able to be examined, even though much of the surviving fabric had been truncated by later disturbance and demolition activities. The arrangement of the farmstead broadly corresponds with the historic OS mapping data (1850s onwards), though two additional structures have been recorded that did not appear on any maps. Structure 1 was likely to be an outhouse associated with storage needs of those occupying Bleaklow Hall, whilst Structure 2 attests to the long-standing necessity for drainage regimes on the site.

7 Archive Deposition

7.1 One bound copy of the final report with an attached PDF/A copy on disc will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER). The disc will also include a digital archive consisting of relevant shapefiles to facilitate the updating of the HER database.

7.2 The digital archive for the archaeological investigations will be prepared in line with the current best practice outlined in Archaeology Data Service/Digital Antiquity *Guides to Good Practice* (2011). The archive will be deposited in line with the CIfA (2014) *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer, and deposition of archaeological archives*, and the Society of Museum Archaeologists (1993) *Selection, Retention and Dispersal of Archaeological Collections. Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*.

7.3 All retained artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive along with any digital or paper documentation. If possible, this archive will be deposited with a suitable repository museum such as the Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester.

7.4 An OASIS online record (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/>) was created for this project for submission to the Greater Manchester HER. This will include an uploaded PDF/A version of the complete report that will be publicly accessible.

8 Publicity, Confidentiality, and Copyright

8.1 Any publicity will be handled by the client.

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

9 Statement of Indemnity

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 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.

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Appendix I. Context Summary Table

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Context	Type	Description	Levels at top of context or centre of feature in m (aOD)	Max. exposed dimensions (D) depth, (W) width, (L) length, (H) height, (Diam.) diameter
1101	Topsoil	Dark brown sandy silty clay confined to the west areas of the excavation. Formerly part of the bungalow gardens and the adjacent field to the west. Rubble debris contained with the soil could have been brought to the site during landscaping of the grounds of the bungalow.	NW corner - 197.75m SW corner - 196.02m	(L)20 x (W)10m x (D)0.2-0.4m
1102	Gravelly clay, NW corner	Exposed by machine in the north-west part of the excavation area, directly under the topsoil but also severely truncated by demolition activities within the site. The amount of stone of a sorted size (20mm diam.) might suggest that it is partially composed of imported quarry gravels.	NW corner - 197.35m	(L)20 x (W)10m x (D)0.6m
1103	Natural clay substrate	Orange/ brown, poorly drained thick clay. Slippery and very soft when wet, hard and dusty when dry. Represents the natural substrate, into which structures are directly cut.	NW corner - 196.6m SW corner - 195.53m Central - 195.82m E side - 195.8m	Site wide
1104	Cut for structure 1	Rectangular shape, made up of three stone walls.	NW Point - 196.75m SE Point - 296.21m	(L)3 x (W)2.3m x (D)0.36m
1105	E/W wall, N edge of structure	The wall is made up of medium sized worked stones with smaller stones in the middle for construction purposes. The stones are flat and smooth creating an even finish.	196.58m	(L)2.6 x (W)0.51m x (D)0.34m
1106	N/S wall, E edge of structure 1	The wall is made up of small misshapen stones. The smaller stones are used to support the larger stones. They are all flat to help create an even finish to the wall.	196.17m	(L)1.88m x (W)0.58m x (D)0.23m
1107	E/W wall, S edge of structure 1	The wall is made up of rectangular stone slabs with smaller stones to help with construction. The wall is well built and is made up of larger flat slab stones with some smaller stones, unlike (1106) and (1105).	196.26m	(L)2.52m x (W)0.42m x (D)0.18m
1108	Fill of structure 1	The fill of structure 1 was ash based and was also silty. It was dark blackish/ brown in colour with hints of grey (possible mortar?).	196.04m	(L)2.51m x (W)2.4m x (D)0.36m
1109	Cut for structure 2	Probably L-shaped, truncated by modern drainage [1122].	NW point - 195.45m SE point - 195.46m	(L)3.25m x (W)2.74m x (D)0.48m
1110	E/W wall, north edge of structure 2	The wall is made up of long flat worked stones: on top and underneath are neatly stacked rectangular, brick like stones, approx. 2.5cm thick.	195.93m	(L)1.47m x (W)0.24m x (D)0.45m
1111	N/S wall, west edge of structure 2	The wall has a rectangular shape topped with multiple flat stones. Like wall (1110) has 6 courses of neatly stacked brick like stones.	195.95m	(L)1.52m x (W)0.35m x (D)0.48m
1112	E/W wall, south edge of	Made up of broken and/or misshapen flat stones; irregular in shape.	195.64m	(L)1.55m x (W)0.33m x (D)0.3m

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Context	Type	Description	Levels at top of context or centre of feature in m (aOD)	Max. exposed dimensions (D) depth, (W) width, (L) length, (H) height, (Diam.) diameter
	structure 2			
1113	Upright slab in west side of structure 2	Long worked piece of stone, laid upright with two protruding knobs at either end. Rectangular in shape running parallel to (1114). 14cm in depth.	195.71m	(L)0.96m x (W)0.06m x (D)0.14m
1114	Upright slab in east side of structure 2	Long worked piece of stone, laid upright with two protruding knobs at either end. Rectangular in shape running parallel to (1113). 14cm in depth.	195.63m	(L)0.96m x (W)0.06m x (D)0.14m
1115	Capping stone resting on (1113) and (1114)	Flat worked stone slab resting on (1113) and (1114).	195.70m	(L)0.93m x (W)0.22m x (D)0.23m
1116	Fill of structure 2	Fill of structure 2 has a medium to coarse texture; it contains angular stones, has a silty clay composition and is a dark blackish brown. Large, angular flat stones were present.	195.87m	Filled internal area of structure 2, up to 0.5m deep
1117	N/S wall, possibly part of structure 2	Possible east wall of structure 2, truncated by manhole drain [1122]. Stones rough but faced on outer faces, no apparent bond. Two courses set into clay.	195.80m	1.5m x 0.7m x D-80mm (L)1.5m x (W)0.7m x (D)0.08m
1118	Redbrick Manhole	Rectangular manhole access chamber. 2 skins of machine made red brick, frogged, cement mortar. 20 th C.	196.13m	(L)1.17m x (W)0.9m x (D)unk.
1119	Fill of manhole	Coarse rubble fill of manhole, derived of recent demolition activity material. Poorly compacted.	196.10m	(L)0.61m x (W)0.44m x (D)unk.
1120	Cut of E/W drain associated with the manhole	Cut of E-W drainage trench leading directly to manhole (1118).	E point - 195.82m W point - 196.18m	(L)24.7m x (W)0.7m x (D)unk.
1121	Fill of [1120]	Clay, disturbed and mottled fill with darker redeposited topsoil. Various stone and brick inclusions.	195.96m	(L)24.7m x (W)0.7m x (D)unk.
1122	Cut of N/S drain associated with the manhole	N-S cut of drainage trench leading directly to manhole (1118).	195.53m	(L)11.24m x (W)0.64m x (D)unk.
1123	Fill of [1122]	Clay, disturbed and mottled fill with darker redeposited topsoil. Various stone and brick inclusions.	196.09m	(L)11.24m x (W)0.64m x (D)unk.
1124	Stone capped culvert	Roughly E-W aligned culvert with rough flat stones capping a channel formed of 2 rows of hand-made red brick, 0.25m apart. 2 courses of brick in a single skin. Culvert heavily truncated by modern drainage cuts and demolition activity.	195.55m	(L)13m x (W)0.4m x (D)0.2m

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1125	Brick channel of N/S culvert	No capping stones have survived the demolition activity. Occasional traces of parallel hand-made red brick channel survive over a length of 6m.	N point - 195.65m S point - 195.57m	(L)6m x (W)0.4m x (D)0.07m
1126	Cut of modern drain	Cut that enters excavation area on NE-SW alignment before turning E-W to run towards the former bungalow. Cut is straight sided, base not observed. Modern drainage trench associated with bungalow.	W point - 195.54m E point - 195.64m	(L)20.39m x (W)0.97m x (D)unk.
1127	Fill of [1126]	Disturbed and poorly compacted clay backfill of modern drainage pipe trench.	W point - 195.54m E point - 195.64m	(L)20.39m x (W)0.97m x (D)unk.
1128	Cut of possible pit, burnt and truncated	Sub-circular, shallow with concave sides and curving base.	Top-197.11m Bottom-196.71m	(L)1.35m x (W)0.8m x (D)0.4m
1129	Fill of [1128]	Fine, greyish-brown ashy soil with lots of stones/pebbles. Lighter brownish orange layer on top.	Top -197.11m Base - 196.71m	(L)1.35m x (W)0.8m x (D)0.4m
1130	Cut of ashy pit	Sub-rectangular cut with curved corners, sharp vertical sides and a flat sloping base.	Top - 196.44m Base - 196.02m	(L)1.85m x (W)2.4m x (D)0.43m
1131	Fill of [1180]	Fine, dark grey-brown ashy fill with some stone inclusions. Some pockets of mortar.	Top - 196.44m Base - 196.01m	(L)1.85m x (W)2.4m x (D)0.43m
1132	Angular wall at western end of retaining wall	N-S aligned wall made up of flat stones which have been worked. Lime based mortar with bits of charcoal present. Small/tiny stones inclusions. 3 skins wide: Northern section has 16 courses but gradually decreases further south due to demolition. Paving slabs (1133) are fitted flush to the wall meaning the latter is more recent.	N point - 197.51m S point - 196.34m	(L)7m x (W)0.55m x (H)0.9m
1133	Paved area at western end of cobble setts	Flat, worked paving slabs. Different sizes but all rectangular in shape. No obvious mortar or bonding. Dark brown-black soil is present which could have acted as a bonding agent that has since degraded. Flag stones fit flush against the wall (1132). Single course of likely Yorkshire paving stones, 4-5 stones across.	196.72m	(L)7m x (W)4.03m x (D)0.03m
1134	Rounded cobble soak away within (1133)	Rounded pebbles used as cobbles. Single layer. Clay and smaller stones used to compact the cobbles together. Stones are smooth and rounded and have not been worked. Forms part of (1133) which is a flag stone surface.	196.74m	(L)1.17m x (W)0.64m x (D)0.06m
1135	Black levelling deposit beneath surfaces along northern edge of site	Coarse ash/grit rich sandy deposit found beneath all surfaces along the northern edge of the site. However not beneath the ground floor foundations of Structure 3, or within the internal area of it.	196.69m	(L)39.5m x (W)10m x (D)0.35-0.4m
1136	Cobble setts	Cobble stone floor/road. Setts measure 9x7x6 inches and are sub rectangular	196.69m	(L)26.7m x (W)5m x (D)0.15m

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	/road	and slightly curved. One course with no apparent bonding; some cement present however seems to be a modern addition added later. 29 skins wide at the widest, 11 at the narrowest.		
1137	Kerb stone between setts and wall (1141)	Line of stone kerbs between cobbled road and wall (1141) measuring 5.65m x 0.4m x 90mm. smooth finished blocks up to 1m in length.	196.67m	(L)5.65m x (W)0.4m x (D)0.09m
1138	Flagstones alongside wall (1142)	Yorkshire paving stones each measuring approx. 0.9m x 0.7m. No bonding material, laid in a single course and 6 flags wide.	N point - 196.70m S point - 196.66m	(L)3.5m x (W)1.7m x (D)0.03m
1139	Short E/W wall stub of Structure 3	Single foundation course of hand-made red brick each measuring 9.25" x 4.5" x 3". Laid in header bond with lime mortar, soft whitish grey with charcoal.	E point - 196.48m W point - 196.54m	(L)2.5m x (W)0.23m x (D)0.07m
1140	Western N/S wall of Structure 3	2 courses in 3 skins of hand-made red brick each measuring 9.25" x 4.5" x 3". Outer face laid in headers, inner face laid in stretchers with lime mortar. Foundation course extends outwards by 50mm creating the toe of the wall.	N point - 196.54m S point - 196.48m	(L)4.85m x (W)0.35m x (D)0.15m
1141	Northern E/W wall of structure 3	2 courses in 3 skins though reduced to one skin in central position (possible entrance). Flanked by buttress features 4 skins thick. Hand-made red bricks 9.25" x 4.5" x 3". Soft lime mortar, outer face all of stretchers.	E point - 196.70m W point - 196.66m	(L)4.47m x (W)0.37m x (D)0.15m
1142	Eastern N/S wall of structure 3	2 courses in 3 skins of hand-made red bricks each measuring 9.25" x 4.5" x 3". Outer face of headers, inner face of stretchers. Lime mortar. Foundation course protrudes by 50mm to create a toe of the wall.	N point - 196.70m S point - 196.68m	(L)4.85m x (W)0.35m x (D)0.15m
1143	Short E/W wall stub of structure 3	Hand-made red brick in a single course of 2 skins. Bad state of preservation.	E point - 196.49m W point - 196.52m	(L)1.5m x (W)0.23m x (D)0.07m
1144	Paved area of south edge of structure 3	Worked flag stones, likely Yorkshire paving stones alongside the cobbled surface (1136). No bonding and laid in a single course, 3 flag stones across. Laid onto dark black-grey material (1135).	196.39m	(L)2.03m x (W)1.39m x (D)0.03m
1145	Cut for bungalow garden wall	Concrete foundation of former bungalow wall, appears as a N/S scar through cobbled road (1136).	N point - 196.23m S point - 196.07m	(L)6.47m x (W)0.42m
1146	Slab covered culvert	Slab surface that covers a culvert. No obvious bonding but dark black material surrounds the slabs which could possibly be bonding material.	N point - 196.03m S point - 196.15m	(L)2.44m x (W)0.95m x (D)0.05m
1147	Cut of drain trench	Cut of pipe trench running NW-SE emerges from beneath cobbles (1136).	NW point - 196.05m SE point - 195.83m	(L)11.07m x (W)0.27m x (D)unk.
1148	Fill of cut [1147]	Mottled clay fill of cut [1147]. Aligned NW-SE.	NW point - 196.05m	(L)11.07m x (W)0.27m x (D)unk.

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			SE point - 195.83m	
1149	Stone capped culvert	Single course of irregularly shaped capping stones. Runs SW-NE.	195.94m	(L)3.71m x (W)0.51m x (D)unk.
1150	Cut associated with former bungalow foundation	L-shaped linear cut in plan with right angled corners. Foundation trench for bungalow garage. Runs E-W from corner of hall cellar then turns N-S. Does not truncate any earlier features/deposits.	195.73m	(L)7.84m x (W)0.71m x (D)unk.
1151	Fill of [1150]	Coarse mottled orange/brown clay with stone, brick fragments and concrete inclusions. Loosely compacted material left over from removal of foundations. Not excavated as clearly the fill of a modern construction cut. Does not truncate any earlier feature or deposit.	195.73m	(L)7.84m x (W)0.71m x (D)unk.
1152	Cut of E/W pipe or pipe trench	Cut of drainage trench running E-W through natural and visible as a depressed linear area of the cobbles (1136).	E point - 195.88m W point - 196.03	(L)29.93m x (W)0.81m x (D)0.3m
1153	Fill of [1152]	Clay backfill containing a salt-glazed pipe within cut [1152].	195.65m	(L)29.93m x (W)0.81m x (D)0.3m
1154	Retaining wall along north edge of site	Likely the earliest feature on the site, constructed after the hill slope was scarped to create a flat area for development. Built in phases, construction changes along its length and outside the excavation area incorporates former gate posts and other re-used stone.	198.02m	(L)41.55m x (W)0.7m x (H)2m (extends much further across northern edge of site, but the length was taken between wall spurs (1132) and (1155))
1155	Spur of retaining wall, rendered on S/W facing elevation	Worked stones (brick sized) laid in 13 courses, outer skins faced, inner core of rubble. Likely originally coated in cement material (plaster) though most seems to have crumbled away. SE section of the wall has been largely destroyed by demolition works. Stones measure approx. 0.27m x 0.16m x 0.1m. Bookends all northern surfaces along with wall (1132).	N point - 197.34m S point - 195.91m	(L)5.8m x (W)0.8m x (H)1.1m
1156	E/W wall of severely truncated structure	Hand-made red bricks aligned E-W in 2 courses of 2 skins. Each brick is approx. 0.24mx 0.08mx 0.11m. Dark black cementitious mortar present, bonded in alternate headers and stretchers.	196.42m	(L)4.47m x (W)0.24m x (D)0.15m
1157	Concrete slab surface alongside wall (1156)	Truncated concrete slab. Surface butts up against wall (1156), overlying levelling deposit/made ground (1158).	196.31m	(L)0.45m x (W)0.32m x (D)0.04m
1158	Made ground, ashy deposit beneath (1157)	Medium compacted dark black-grey silty ashy clay. Material sat beneath (1157) and about 10cm thick above the natural clay. Possible foundation material for above structures.	196.37m	(L)3.96m x (W)0.31m x (D)0.1m
1159	Cut for	Construction cut found alongside all walls of Structure 4. Cut in one event and	NE point - 195.94m	All wall lines within construction cuts that

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	agricultural building Structure 4	all walls keyed-in to form one coherent shell.	SW point - 195.85m	are 0.65m wide, though footprint of building covers an area measuring (L)14.73m x (W)11.16m
1160	E/W northern wall of Structure 4	Rough-hewn stones with flat surfaces on interior and exterior faces, stones vary in size, no regular shape or bond. Approximately 3 courses in 2 skins though reduces to a single course to the west. Aligned E-W.	195.94m	(L)13.55m x (W)0.6m
1161	N/S western wall of Structure 4	Rough-hewn stones with flat surfaces on interior and exterior faces, stones vary in size, no regular shape or bond. Approximately 3 courses in 2 skins aligned N-S. Truncated by a rectangular area of modern disturbance. A gap towards the southern extent creates a doorway with wall (1162).	N point - 195.74m S point - 195.78m	(L)7.6m x (W)0.57m
1162	E/W southern wall of Structure 4	Rough-hewn stones with flat surfaces on interior and exterior faces, stones vary in size, no regular shape or bond. Approximately 3 courses in 2 skins, aligned E-W. Small extension on W end is probably a small wind-break structure against the doorway formed with wall (1161).	E point - 195.74m W point - 195.80m	(L)13.84m x (W)0.64m
1163	N/S eastern wall of Structure 4	Rough-hewn stones with flat surfaces on interior and exterior faces, stones vary in size, no regular shape or bond. Approximately 3 courses in 2 skins, aligned E-W. Forms party wall with adjacent stable block that was excavated in T9 of evaluation.	N point - 195.92m S point - 195.79m	(L)6.32m x (W)0.57m
1164	N/S central wall in Structure 4	Worked stone mostly squared and flat with a white/grey lime mortar. Aligned N-S. 2 courses present in 3 skins. Forms partition between two rooms within Structure 4.	N point - 196.00m S point - 195.85m	(L)9.89m x (W)0.42m
1165	N padstone in Structure 4	Flat stone slab present in E room of Structure 4, sits within natural clay. Possibly acted as a stanchion pad.	195.93m	(L)0.57m x (W)0.31m
1166	S padstone in Structure 4	Flat stone slab present in E room of Structure 4, sits within natural clay. Possibly acted as a stanchion pad.	195.94m	(L)0.48m x (W)0.32m
1167	Brick-built drain in Structure 4	Brick-built drainage chamber within W room of Structure 4. Stone base incorporating ceramic pipe which is mortared into position in base. Found at the SE extent of pipe trench [1147], thus connecting drainage under cobble setts (1136) to Structure 4. 2 courses of brick and 2 skins on N and S sides, single skins, 2 courses on E and W sides. Some bricks missing. Alternating header and stretcher courses on N and S sides. E and W all stretchers.	195.84m	(L)1.06m x (W)0.92m x (D)0.15m
1168	Fill of drain (1167)	Silty clay fill of drain, some brick fragments and small stones present. Likely to have derived from standing water and settled sediment that leaked from the pipe.	195.84m	(L)0.86m x (W)0.46m x (D)0.15m
1169	Cut of cellar,	Vertical sided construction cut for the cellar of Bleaklow Hall. Observed around	NW point - 194.43m	(L)12.58m x (W)5.8m x (D)unk.

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	Structure 5	the circumference of the walls with a protruding cut on the northern side for the staircase.	SE point - 195.77m	Stairs cut: (L)1.8m x (W)1.7m
1170	West wall of staircase in Structure 5	Worked stone wall, aligned N-S: facing stones on interior face, unworked stones on outer face against construction cut, rubble core. 11 courses of stone, 3 skins. Steps of staircase keyed into the wall.	N point - 195.57m S point - 194.18m	(L)2.45m x (W)0.45m x (H)1.2m
1171	NW E/W wall of Structure 5	Foundation course of a badly truncated E-W aligned wall forming the western half of the northern cellar wall. Some remnants of white/grey lime mortar.	E Point - 194.14m W point - 194.43m	(L)4.92m x (W)0.6m x (H)0.2m
1172	Western wall of Structure 5	Foundation course of a badly truncated N-S aligned wall forming the western wall of the cellar. Some remnants of white/grey lime mortar.	N point - 194.41m S point - 194.43m	(L)4.94m x (W)0.52m x (H)0.2m
1173	Southern wall of Structure 5	Worked stone wall, aligned E-W: facing stones on interior face, unworked stones on outer face against construction cut, rubble core. Up to 14 courses of stone, 3 skins. 4 square alcoves constructed into the wall with stone lintels and sills, two pairs separated by brick mullions and a single central alcove. Western end is truncated down to foundation level, part of alcove 5 is missing. Whitewashed. Wall also has two keyed-in partition walls (1179) and (1180). Angled springers for a vaulted/arched ceiling form the topmost course.	W point - 194.89m E point - 194.77m	(L)12.58m x (W)0.9m x (H)1.73m
1174	Eastern wall of Structure 5	Worked stone wall, aligned N-S: facing stones on interior face, unworked stones on outer face against construction cut, rubble core, whitewashed. 14 courses of stone, 3 skins. Two buttresses abut the interior face (1177) and (1178).	N point - 195.68m S point - 195.69m	(L)4.94m x (W)0.52m x (H)1.5m
1175	NE E/W wall of Structure 5	Worked stone wall, aligned E-W: facing stones on interior face, unworked stones on outer face against construction cut, rubble core, whitewashed. 14 courses of stone at E end, truncated to foundation course at W end.	E point - 195.51m W point - 194.41m	(L)6.37m x (W)0.6m x (H)1.5m
1176	East staircase wall in Structure 5	Worked stone wall, aligned N-S: facing stones on interior face, unworked stones on outer face against construction cut, rubble core. 10 courses of stone, 3 skins. Steps of staircase keyed into the wall.	N point - 195.59m S point - 194.27m	(L)2.45m x (W)0.45m x (H)1.2m
1177	North buttress against wall (1174)	Northernmost of 2 brick buttresses against E wall (1174). Destroyed during machining of cellar fill. Only foundation course survived. Hand-made red bricks 9.25" x 4.5" x 3".	194.21m	(L)0.47m x (W)0.3m
1178	South buttress against wall (1174)	Southernmost of 2 brick buttresses against E wall (1174). Upper courses destroyed during machining of cellar fill but surviving to a height of 10 courses. Hand-made red bricks 9.25" x 4.5" x 3".	195.06m	(L)0.47m x (W)0.3m x (H)0.85m
1179	East Buttress against wall (1173)	Scar of a partition wall identified on the north facing elevation of S cellar wall (1173). Likely to mirror the length of partition wall (1180). Short stud of the wall on the north side of a probable doorway is keyed-in to the south facing	194.06m	Surviving stud: (L)0.76m x (W)0.44m Missing portion: (L)2.59m x (W)0.44m

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		elevation of N wall (1175), though only the foundation course has survived.		
1180	West buttress against wall (1173)	Scar of a partition wall identified on the north facing elevation of S cellar wall (1173), 1.88m to the west of scar (1179). Survives as a foundation course of stone with floor slabs abutting all sides, with a narrow gap of 0.78m width which serves as a doorway. Short stud of the wall on the north side the probable doorway is keyed-in to the south facing elevation of N wall (1171), though again only the foundation course has survived.	194.19m	Surviving stud: (L)0.97m x (W)0.44m Portion of wall foundation south of doorway: (L)2.59m x (W)0.44m
1181	Flagged floor of cellar	Flat stone slabs. No bonding material though small quantities of white/grey lime mortar are present. All slabs rectangular and a large area missing, possibly due to removal of some slabs for use elsewhere prior to demolition of Bleaklow Hall.	E point - 194.20m W point - 194.15m	W room: (L)4.46m x (W)4.43m Central room: (L)5.23m x (W)1.76m E room: (L)4.49m x (W)4.43m
1182	Brick risers of staircase	Hand-made red bricks laid in rowlock header bond. Single course, 15 skins. 6 risers in total capped with stone treads. White lime mortar present.	N/A	(L)0.83m x (H)0.11m
1183	Stone treads of stairs	Flat rectangular stones keyed-in to staircase side walls (1170) and (1176). Laid over brick risers. 6 treads in total.	Top step - 195.59m Bottom step -194.41m	(L)1.24m x (W)0.32m x (H)0.09m
1184	Recent Demolition/ disturbed overburdens	Coarse deposit of disturbed clay, churned topsoil and ubiquitous fragments of demolition debris associated with demolition of bungalow and its garden areas. Identified from S edge to N edge of excavation area between the modern manhole (1118) and the foundation cut [1150] of the former bungalow. Concentrated to the S of the former raised garden.	N/A	(L)28.8m x (W)22.7m x (D)varies between 0.2m-0.5m.
1185	Demolition fill of cellar	Coarse deposit of brick and stone rubble, some looking like it had been partially crushed before being used as backfill for the cellar. Lots of lime mortar present and many voids identified during machine removal.	Top – 195.5m Base – 194.15m	(L)11.54m x (W)5.23 x (D)1.35m
1186	Brick alongside Concrete (1187)	Single skin of machine made frogged bricks bonded with hard grey cement and laid in stretcher bond. Bricks measure 8.75" x 4.5" x 2.25". Found against east edge of concrete slab (1187). Extends beyond LOE to the North.	197.55m	(L)2.69m x (W)0.11m x (D)0.07m
1187	Concrete surface (seen in 73)	Concrete slab. Narrow groove in upper surface and rough square shape of mortar suggests that a superstructure once adorned the slab.	197.49m	(L)2.5m x (W)1.65m x (D)0.12m
1188	Made ground beneath (1187) and (1186)	Coarse dark grey/black stony clay. Made ground deposit identified beneath wall (1186) and concrete slab (1187) of a C.20 th building in the area NW of former bungalow. Contains ubiquitous demolition debris including hand-made red brick fragments, slate, asbestos (corrugated frags) and frequent coal chunks.	197.38m	(L)6m x (W)2.5m x (D)0.7m
1189	Made ground	Levelling deposit – imported demolition material, mainly black in colour.	N/A	(L)17.51 x (W)14.66 x (D)0.3m

Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester

Context	Type	Description	Levels at top of context or centre of feature in m (aOD)	Max. exposed dimensions (D) depth, (W) width, (L) length, (H) height, (Diam.) diameter
	(mill waste) over Structure 4	Contains full and fragmented 20 th century bricks, modern tile, hand-made brick fragments, mortar, glass, rags, cotton waste and clothes fittings (plastic and elastic), all mixed up in a clinker and ash-rich matrix or very small grains and occasional chunks of redeposited natural clay.		
1190	Demolition/levelling over cobbles and north surface	Coarse, levelled demolition deposit derived from demolition of 19 th century Bleaklow Hall and surrounding farm buildings, capped with (601) to form raised garden north of 1970s bungalow.	N/A	(L)36.95m x (W)9.45m x (D)0.2m
1191	Cut of brick and stone culvert under slab with holes in surface (1133)	Square cut housing the down-shaft/chamber of a stone and brick-built culvert.	196.60m	(L)0.55m x (W)0.47m x (D)0.25m
1192	Culvert	Square chamber for a culvert that at its base was lined with flat stones. 3 sides of the chamber formed of handmade red bricks, maximum of 3 courses, single skins. W side of chamber formed by a single piece of stone acting as a supporting lintel.	196.35m	(L)0.55m x (W)0.47m x (D)0.25m

Appendix II. Written Scheme of Investigation (Excavation)

Archaeological Works at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Bury

Written Scheme of Investigation

June 2019



**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
RESEARCH SERVICES LTD**

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Suite 1, First Floor, Dunham House, Cross Street, Sale, M33 7HH

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

Prepared for: Jeremy Buckley Properties

Planning Reference: 63388

Local Authority: Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

Site central NGR: SJ 76375 15026



1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Archaeological Research Services Ltd (ARS Ltd) for Jeremy Buckley Properties (the Client). It details a scheme of works relating to a proposed residential development on land at Bleaklow Hall, Bolton Road, Hawkshaw, Bury, BL8 4JF. The development comprises the demolition of an existing bungalow and the erection of 4 dwellings with associated parking and access.

1.1.2 Conditioned planning permission has been granted for the proposed development (Planning Ref: 63388) by Bury Metropolitan Borough Council. Condition 17 of the planning permission requires the following.

'No development shall take place until the applicant or their agents or their successors in title have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works. The programme is to be undertaken in accordance with Written Schemes of Investigation (WSIs) submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The WSIs shall cover the following:

1. *A phased programme of archaeological fieldwork to include:*
 - ◆ *A survey record of visible 19th century and earlier remains*
 - ◆ *A programme of archaeological evaluation trenching*
 - ◆ *Informed by the above, targeted open area excavation (subject to a separate WSI).*
2. *A programme for post investigation assessment to include:*
 - ◆ *Analysis of the site investigation records and finds*
 - ◆ *Production of a final report.*
3. *Provision for dissemination of the results of the investigations.*
4. *Provision for archive deposition of the report, finds and records of the site investigation.*
5. *Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the programme set-out within the approved WSIs.'*

1.1.3 The first two phases of work, survey and archaeological evaluation trenching (see 1.1.2 above), were carried out by ARS Ltd. between 10/04/19 and 17/04/19, the results of which have informed this phase of the archaeological works. This WSI has been prepared in accordance with guidance provided by the Heritage Management Director (Archaeology) for the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) for an open area investigation targeting specific areas of interest identified in the evaluation.

1.1.4 Archaeology is a material consideration in the planning process. The aim of this programme of works is, in line with the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)* paragraph 199 (MHCLG, revised 2019), to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner



proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publically accessible.

1.2 Site Location and Geology

1.2.1 The 'red line boundary' of the proposed development area (hereafter 'PDA'), as depicted by a red polygon on Figure 1, is c.0.83ha in area, and is located at NGR SJ 76377 15020. It is bounded to the north, north-west and north-east by open fields, to the south-east and south-west by residential dwellings, and to the south by Bolton Road (A676). The site is bounded on all sides by a mixture of drystone walls, brick walls and wooden fencing, and is accessed from Bolton Road via a gated drive from the south-east corner of the PDA. The site has a slope from north to south towards Bolton Road, with levels from 199m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) along the northern boundary to 193m aOD along the southern boundary.

1.2.2 The underlying solid geology of the PDA comprises sandstone of the Brooksbottoms Grit Formation, formed during the Carboniferous Period. This is overlain by superficial deposits of Devensian – Diamicton Till and Glaciofluvial sands and gravels formed in the Quaternary Period (BGS 2019).

2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

2.1 A detailed archaeological and historical background is presented in an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) carried out for the site by ARS Ltd (Burpoe 2018). A brief overview is provided below.

2.2 There is a paucity of information for prehistoric activity within the Hawkshaw area although the DBA demonstrates that Bronze Age barrows and a scheduled Iron Age promontory fort can be found in the wider area ranging from 300m to 3.7km away from the PDA.

2.3 The Roman road between Manchester and Ribchester survived into the early medieval period, becoming the boundary between Tottington Lower End and Bradshaw manors, although there is very little evidence of Romano-British activity and secure find-spots within the study area and its immediate environs.

2.4 Early medieval remains are also lacking across the area with the majority of information gleaned from place-name and documentary records. The Greater Manchester HER notes that a *Blacklow* is recorded as a 'messuage and 20 acres of land' in a land surrender in the 1527 Halmot Court Rolls, while a 1662 rental records the heirs of 'John Brooke of Blackowe' (Farrer and Brownbill 1913). Hawkshaw is also first recorded in the Halmot Court Rolls as an area of common land (HER 8716.1.0).

2.5 Map and census data for the site and wider area was consulted as part of the DBA. It was possible to trace part of the history of Bleaklow from 1841-1881 from census records. It is suggested that up until 1841, Bleaklow Hall was occupied by farmers, who worked the surrounding lands. However, by 1851, part of the property came under the ownership of the Fletcher family, who constructed the adjacent Bleaklow Mill (HER 3937.1.0) in 1850, and rented the outbuildings on the property to various workers in the factory. It is likely that the Fletcher family demolished all the buildings depicted on the tithe map within the Bleaklow property, and rebuilt



Bleaklow Hall as it is depicted on the 1850 Ordnance Survey Map and in greater detail on the 1893 OS Map.

2.6 The Fletcher family remained on the property until the late 19th century, when the Rigg's family moved into the Bleaklow property. The Rigg's family had purchased the Bleaklow Mill complex in 1875, after the death of Lawrence Fletcher, with the 1881 census return indicating that widow Margaret Fletcher still resided at Bleaklow Hall as a widow farmer of 12 acres. The PDA largely remained unchanged until the 1929 OS Map, on which a small glasshouse is depicted within the north-western part of the site, and a small outbuilding is also shown within the western part of the PDA.

2.7 The PDA remains largely unchanged until the 1976 Ordnance Survey Map when the 19th century Bleaklow Hall was demolished, and a new T-shaped building was constructed across the footprint of the earlier structure. The outbuildings to the east of the main building appear to remain untouched, as well as the glasshouse in the north-western part of the site. By the 1992 OS Map, the glasshouse had been demolished, with the outbuildings to the east being demolished by the early 21st century.

3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

3.1 Regional Research Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 Research initiatives identified in the *Research and Archaeology of North West England. An Archaeological Research Framework for North West England* (Brennand 2007) for the medieval period include:

"5.8 - study of how dispersed settlement evolved across a township/manor, related to other settlements and accessed the exploitable resources of their environs. A range of techniques, particularly palaeoenvironmental sampling of landscapes and selective excavation, should be encouraged" (Newman and Newman 2007, 101) and for the post-medieval period include "6.15 - excavations of abandoned farms and cottages should be a high priority in order to study the material culture of individual households" (Newman and McNeil 2007, 121-2).

3.2 Strip, Map and Record Aims and Objectives

3.2.1 The aim of the archaeological Strip, map and record excavation is to gather sufficient information to establish the presence/ absence, character, extent, state of preservation and date of any archaeological remains within the footprint of buildings located on the 1842 tithe and 1850 OS maps and during the evaluation trenching. The excavation is targeted to look for the remains of the earlier Bleaklow Hall Structure that is believed to lie beneath the most recent 'T' shaped structure. The proposed areas of investigation are shown in figure 2.

3.2.2 The specific aims are to:

- ♦ Locate, sample excavate, record and characterise any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains within the site.



- ♦ Provide an assessment of the potential significance of any identified archaeological remains in a local, regional and (if relevant) national context.
- ♦ Produce a comprehensive site archive and report.

3.2.3 The specific objectives of the strip, map and record are to:

- ♦ Determine what survives of the structures shown on the historic mapping of 1842 and 1850.
- ♦ Determine if the remains identified are indeed the original Bleaklow Hall structure.

4 STRIP, MAP AND RECORD METHODOLOGY

4.1 Coverage

4.1.1 The strip, map and record excavation will cover an area of approximately 1200m² to the north of the proposed development area. The targeted area covers the northern part of the site where structural remains of 19th century date have been identified and is illustrated in figure 2.

4.1.3 Any proposed changes to the location of the strip, map and record excavation previously agreed upon will be discussed with GMAAS's Heritage Management Director (Archaeology) prior to implementation.

4.1.4 Should GMAAS require additional archaeological works beyond the scope of this WSI, including the extension of the excavation area, the extent and locations of these additional works will be agreed in advance with Jeremy Buckley Properties and will be detailed in a separately costed addendum to this WSI.

4.2 Staffing and timetable

4.2.1 The Project Manager for the archaeological works will be Zoë Cavendish, Projects Manager at ARS Ltd. The strip, map and record excavation will be undertaken by Ben Dyson ACIfA, Senior Project Officer at ARS Ltd and Becky Trow ACIfA, Assistant Projects Officer.

4.2.2 The strip, map and record excavation is due to start in early July 2019. The outline timetable for the proposed archaeological works is as follows.

Proposed Commencement Date	Task
W/c 8 th July 2019	Strip, map and record excavation
W/c 22 nd July 2019	Reporting and archive

4.2.3 Specialist analyses will be carried out by appropriately qualified specialists as detailed, subject to availability.

- ♦ Flint and prehistoric pottery: Dr Robin Holgate MCIfA
- ♦ Romano-British pottery: Dr Phil Mills MCIfA



♦ Samian ware:	Dr Gwladys Monteil
♦ Romano-British small finds:	Alex Croom
♦ Medieval and post-medieval pottery:	Dr Chris Cumberpatch
♦ Medieval and post-medieval CBM:	Dr Phil Mills MCIfA
♦ Medieval and post-medieval metalwork, glass and clay pipes:	Gary Taylor MCIfA
♦ Plant macrofossils and charcoals:	Luke Parker
♦ Human and animal bone:	Milena Grzybowska
♦ Radiocarbon dating:	Professor Gordon Cook (SUERC)
♦ Finds conservation:	Vicky Garlick (Durham University)

4.3 Methodology

4.3.1 The strip, map and record excavation will be carried out in accordance with the guidance laid out in ClfA's *Code of Conduct* (2014a), *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (2014c). The site will be recorded in accordance with ARS Ltd's field recording manual and single context recording system, and will include as a minimum context record sheets, an accurate site plan and digital photography even where no archaeological features are present.

4.3.2 Hardstanding, unstratified modern material and topsoil will be removed mechanically by a machine using a wide toothless ditching bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision. The topsoil or recent overburden will be removed down to the first significant archaeological horizon in successive level spits. No machinery will track over areas that have previously been stripped until the area has been signed off by ARS Ltd.

4.3.3 The areas will be appropriately cleaned using hand tools in order to expose the full nature and extent of archaeological features and deposits

4.3.4 All spoil removed during groundworks will be scanned visually to recover small finds. Any finds so recovered will be recorded and their location noted on a site plan at a relevant scale. The finds will be retained and recorded.

4.3.5 Once the area has been stripped, cleaned and recorded as outlined in section 4.3.2-4.3.3 above, a meeting will take place with GMAAS's Heritage Management Director (Archaeology) to determine an appropriate excavation strategy.

4.3.5 All archaeological features will be planned and sectioned as a minimum objective.

4.3.6 Isolated, discrete features such as pits and postholes not belonging to structures or industrial activities will be 50% sampled, although if they produce artefacts then provision is made for full excavation.

4.3.7 Sampling of linear features such as ditches or gullies will be sufficient to determine the character, stratigraphy and relationship to other features and attempts made to obtain dating evidence.



4.3.8 Any deposits relating to funerary/ritual activities, such as burials and cremation deposits will be 100% excavated. Domestic/industrial activity (such as walls, postholes, floors, hearths) will be sufficiently excavated to understand their form and function and to recover potential dating evidence and artefact and ecofact assemblages.

4.3.9 Area deposits, such as buried soils, or middens, will be hand excavated at a minimum 10%. Subsequent excavation by machine will be considered. Large intrusions, such as reservoirs, will be sufficiently excavated by machine, within safe limits, to provide information on their character.

4.3.10 Limited representative samples of bricks from brick-built structures, and selective products of the brick working process will be retained for specialist analysis where appropriate.

4.3.11 Any human remains discovered will initially be left *in-situ* and, if removal is deemed necessary, this will be undertaken in accordance with the relevant Ministry of Justice regulations and in discussion with GMAAS.

4.3.12 Finds of "treasure" will be reported to the Coroner in accordance with the Treasure Act procedures (DCMS 2008).

4.3.13 For deposits that have potential for providing environmental or dating evidence, a minimum of 40 litres of sample will be taken, or 100% if the sample is smaller. This material will be floated and passed through graduated sieves, the smallest being a 500µ mesh. Should other types of environmental deposits be encountered, appropriate specialist advice will be sought and an appropriate sampling strategy devised. Samples will be assessed by a suitable specialist with provision for further analysis as required and in accordance with *Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory and Practice Methods, from sampling and recovery to post excavation* (Campbell *et al.* 2011). Advice from the Historic England Regional Science Adviser will be taken as appropriate.

4.3.14 All staff employed on the project will be suitably qualified and experienced for their respective project roles and have practical experience of archaeological excavation and recording. All staff will be made aware of the archaeological importance of the area surrounding the site and will be fully briefed on the work required by this specification. Each member of staff will be fully conversant with the aims and methodologies of the evaluation and will be given a copy of this WSI to read.

4.3.15 All site operations will be carried out in a safe manner in accordance with ARS Ltd's health and safety policy. Deep sections, such as those across ditches or pits, will be shored as necessary. A risk assessment will be prepared before commencement of works on site.

4.4 Recording

5.4.1 The site will be accurately tied into the National Grid and located on a 1:2500 or 1:1250 map of the area. The site will be recorded in accordance with the ARS Ltd's field recording manual and single context recording system, and will include as a



minimum context record sheets, an accurate site plan and record photography where no archaeological features are present.

5.4.2 A full and proper record (written, graphic and photographic as appropriate) will be made for all work, using pro-forma record sheets and text descriptions appropriate to the work. Accurate scale plans and section drawings will be drawn where required at 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 scales, as appropriate. In addition to relevant illustrations, provision for rectified photographic recording shall be made, if deemed necessary.

5.4.3 The stratigraphy of the site will be recorded even where no archaeological deposits have been identified.

5.4.4 All archaeological deposits and features will be recorded with above ordnance datum (AOD) levels.

5.4.5 A photographic record of all contexts will be taken using a digital camera, and will include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale. A register of all photographs will be kept. A selection of working shots will be taken to demonstrate how the site was investigated and what the prevailing conditions were like during excavation.

4.5 Finds Processing and Storage

5.5.1 All finds processing, conservation work and storage of finds will be carried out in accordance with the ClfA (2014d) *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* and the UKIC (1990) *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archives for Long-Term Storage*.

5.5.2 Artefact collection and discard policies will be appropriate for the defined purpose.

5.5.3 Bulk finds which are not discarded will be washed and, with the exception of animal bone, marked. Marking and labelling will be indelible and irremovable by abrasion. Bulk finds will be appropriately bagged, boxed and recorded. This process will be carried out no later than two months after the end of the excavation.

5.5.4 All small finds will be recorded as individual items and appropriately packaged (e.g. lithics in self-sealing plastic bags and ceramic in acid-free tissue paper). Vulnerable objects will be specially packaged and textile, painted glass and coins stored in appropriate specialist systems. This process will be carried out within two days of the small find being excavated.

5.5.5 During and after the excavation all objects will be stored in appropriate materials and storage conditions to ensure minimal deterioration and loss of information (including controlled storage, correct packaging, and regular monitoring, immediate selection for conservation of vulnerable material). All storage will have appropriate security provision.

5.5.6 The deposition and disposal of artefacts will be agreed with the legal owner and the recipient museum prior to the work taking place. All finds except treasure trove are the property of the landowner.



5.5.7 All retained artefacts and ecofacts will be cleaned and packaged in accordance with the requirements of the recipient museum, potentially the Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester.

4.6 Report

5.6.1 A report shall be produced to include background information, a summary of the works carried out and a description and interpretation of the findings. The report will also include the following.

- ◆ A non-technical summary
- ◆ Introduction
- ◆ Geological and topographical setting
- ◆ Methodology
- ◆ Discussion of archaeological and historical background
- ◆ Discussion on the results of the evaluation
- ◆ Specialist descriptions of artefacts or ecofacts
- ◆ An indication of potential archaeological deposits not disturbed by the present development
- ◆ Conclusions and recommendations
- ◆ Sources
- ◆ Copy of brief
- ◆ A location plan showing all excavated areas with respect to nearby fixed structures and roads
- ◆ Illustrations of all archaeological features with appropriately scaled hachured plans and sections.

5.6.2 One bound copy of the final report with a digital copy of the report in PDF/A format on disk will be deposited with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER). A copy of the report will be uploaded as part of the OASIS record (see below) for online access via the Archaeological Data Service.

5 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

6.1 At least two weeks prior notice of the commencement of the archaeological works will be given to GMAAS:

Norman Redhead
Heritage Management Director
Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service
School of Environment & Life Sciences
Room LG20
University of Salford
The Crescent



Salford
M5 4WX
Tel: 0161 295 5522

6.2 The client will afford reasonable access to GMAAS's Heritage Management Director (Archaeology), or their representative, for the purpose of monitoring the archaeological works. ARS Ltd will liaise with GMAAS at regular intervals throughout the course of the work.

6 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION

6.1 Deposition Guidelines

7.1.1 The archive will, if possible, be prepared and deposited with a suitable repository museum, potentially the Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester. The archive will be deposited in line with the ClfA (2014e) *Standard and Guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* and Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA) (1993) *Selection, Retention, and Dispersal of Archaeological collections: Guidelines for use in England, Wales and Northern Ireland*. A digital and paper archive will be prepared by ARS Ltd, consisting of all primary written documents, plans, sections, photographs and electronic data. The archive will be deposited within two months of the completion of the report. GMAAS will be notified and Museum Curator will be notified in writing on completion of the fieldwork with projected dates for the completion of the report and deposition of the archive. The date of the deposition of the archive will be confirmed in the report and GMAAS informed in writing on final deposition of the archive.

7.1.2 All artefacts and associated material will be cleaned, recorded, properly stored and deposited in the archive (see above).

7.1.3 A full set of annotated, illustrative pictures of the site will be supplied to the Greater Manchester HER and deposited with the archive as digital images on a CD ROM.

6.2 OASIS

7.2.1 At the start of work an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> will be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms. All parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission to the Greater Manchester HER. This will include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy will also be included in the archive).

7 GENERAL ITEMS

7.1 Health and Safety

8.1.1 All work will be carried out in accordance with The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974. Specific health and safety policies exist for all our workplaces and all staff employed will be made aware of the policy and any relevant issues. The particular risks involved with this project will be assessed, recorded and relevant mitigation



measures put in place as part of a full risk assessment, which will be compiled in advance of fieldwork and will be read and signed by all on-site operatives. ARS Ltd retains Citation as its expert health and safety consultants and the appointed Health and Safety Officer for the company is Tony Brennan.

7.2 Insurance Cover

8.2.1 ARS Ltd has full insurance cover for employee liability (£10 million) public liability (£5 million), professional indemnity (£5 million) and all-risks cover.

7.3 Community Engagement and Outreach

8.3.1 Any opportunities will be sought for engaging the local community in any archaeological findings, for example a guided site tour and/or dissemination of information via ARS Ltd's website and local media.

7.4 Publication

8.4.1 If significant architectural, historical and/or archaeological findings are made during the course of the building recording exercise, a summary of the project with, if appropriate, selected drawings, illustrations and photographs will be prepared for publication. The requirement for, and the final form of, any publication arising from the project will be agreed with the GMAAS Heritage Management Director and the client dependent on the results of the fieldwork.

7.5 Changes to the Written Scheme of Investigation

8.5.1 Changes to the approved Written Scheme of Investigation or programme of works will only be made with prior written approval of GMAAS.

8 REFERENCES

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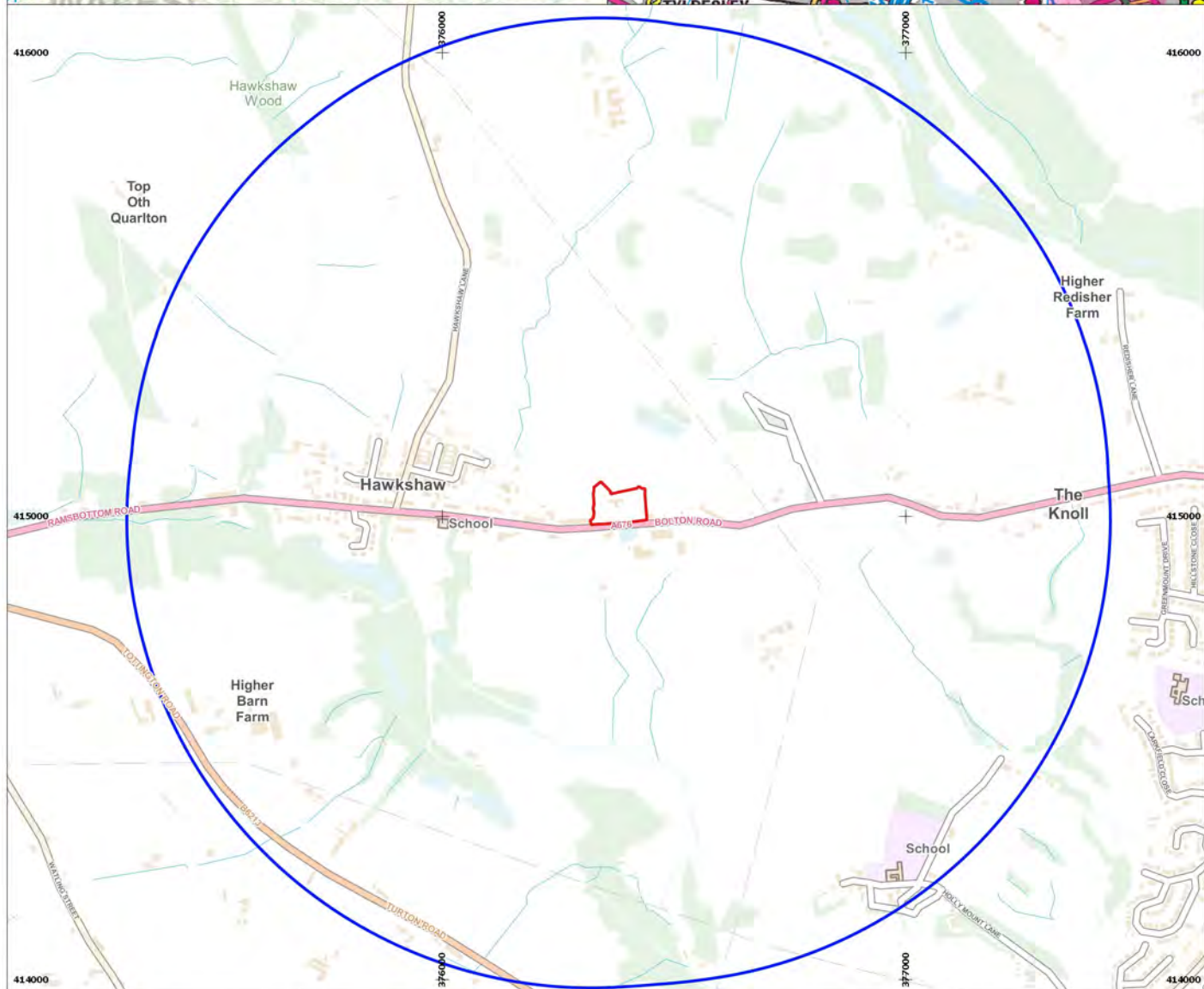
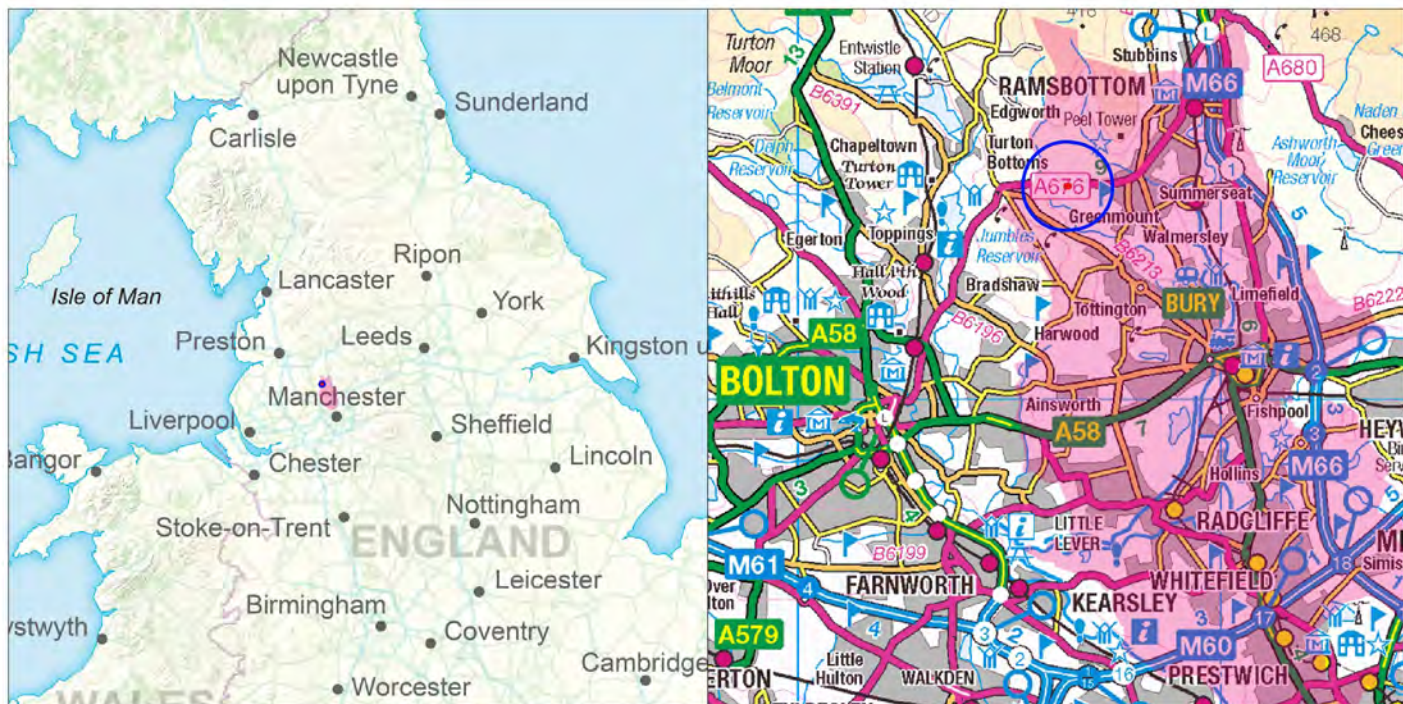


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FIGURES





Site name: Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw
 Date: January 2018
 Drawn by: MB
 Scale: Varies

**Figure 1:
Site location**



Archaeological Research Services Ltd

Angel House
 Portland Square
 Bakewell
 Derbyshire
 DE45 1HB



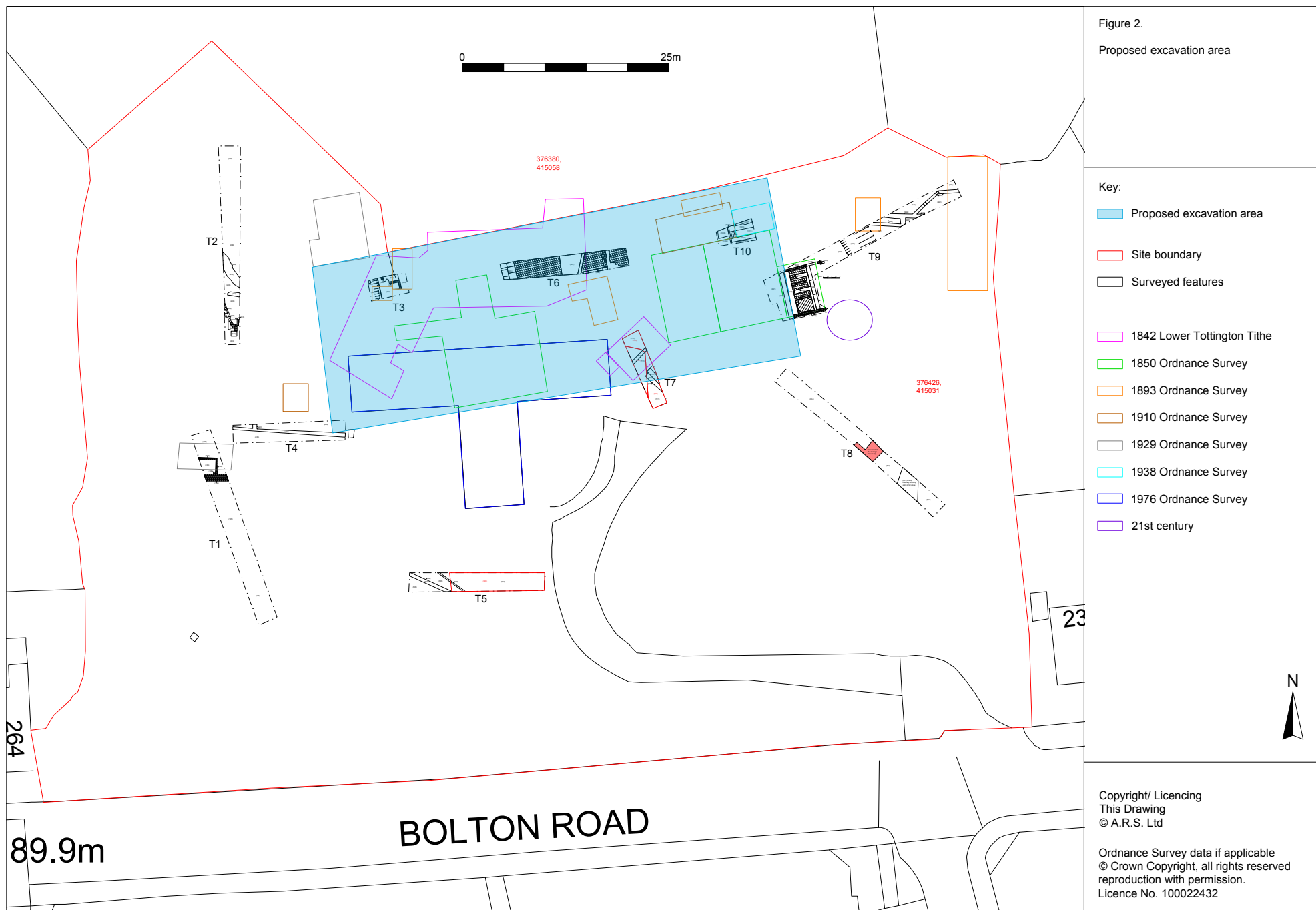
Tel: 01629 814540

www.archaeologicalresearchservices.com

This drawing: © ARS Ltd

Contains Ordnance Survey data.
 © Crown copyright and database right 2015

Site Boundary 1km Study Area Bury District



Appendix III. Metadata Statement

This report has been compiled in Microsoft Word® 2010 on a 64-bit PC running Windows 10®. All illustrations have been digitally drawn in DraftSight®. All original site drawings were scanned at a scale of 1:1 and converted into JPEG format before being imported into DraftSight® and digitised in two dimensions (X and Y).

The accompanying table (below) provides a metadata statement and details the location of the digital archive at ARS Ltd. Arrangements will be made for this digital archive to be uploaded to and deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (see Section 7 above).

Record Type	Quantification	Location
Digital Photograph Register	78 records, 3 pages of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Site_Records
Context Register	92 records, 4 pages of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Site_Records
Context Sheets	92 records, 54 pages of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Site_Records
Drawings Register	9 records, 1 page of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Site_Records
Scanned Drawings	9 records, 6 pages of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Site_Records
Digitised Drawings	9 drawings in 6 dwg files	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Draftsight\Digitised Sheets
Written Report	1 file, 82 pages of a single PDF	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Report\Draft
Digital Photograps	78 digital images saved as JPEG files	Z:\Contract Projects New\Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw\Strip_map_record 24.6.19 - 5.7.19\Photographs\Site_Photographs

Appendix IV. OASIS Form

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: archaeol5-360106

Project details

Project name	Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester
Short description of the project	A number of structures were identified during the excavation that belong to the original Bleaklow Hall and an associated complex of agricultural farm buildings that grew up alongside the hall. A well preserved stone-walled and staircase-accessed cellar with a mostly intact stone floor, five storage alcoves, springers for an arched ceiling and the truncated remains of partition walls and internal buttresses represented the best preserved features of the hall. Further north the foundation brick courses of part of the ground floor were also identified, with an entrance feature aligning with a kerb which separated the house from a cobbled access road that ran east-west along the back of the site. The agricultural building to the east aligns well with the footprint of a structure depicted on 19th century maps of the site, and whilst only the foundation stone courses of the building have survived it is possible to trace usage of the structure through to its demolition in the mid-20th century. Drainage features that run between the agricultural remains and the road to the north suggest that the majority of the structures and surfaces are contemporary, and along with the Hall represent a site that was both residential and industrial in nature.
Project dates	Start: 24-06-2019 End: 05-07-2019
Previous/future work	Yes / No
Type of project	Recording project
Monument type	WALLS Post Medieval
Monument type	FLOOR Post Medieval
Monument type	DRAINS Post Medieval
Monument type	COBBLED ROAD Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CLAY PIPE Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Open-area excavation"
Prompt	Planning condition

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER MANCHESTER BURY BURY Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw
Study area	1222.8 Square metres
Site coordinates	SJ 76377 15020 52.731961920127 -2.349873797941 52 43 55 N 002 20 59 W Point

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	Zoe Cavendish
Project supervisor	Ben Dyson

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	to be agreed later
Physical Contents	"Animal Bones", "Ceramics", "Glass", "Metal"
Digital Archive recipient	Archaeological Data Services
Digital Contents	"none"
Digital Media available	"Survey", "Images raster / digital photography"
Paper Archive recipient	to be agreed
Paper Contents	"none"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Drawing", "Report"

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	Archaeological Excavations at Bleaklow Hall, Hawkshaw, Greater Manchester
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Dyson, B.
Date	2019
Issuer or publisher	Archaeological Research Services Ltd
Place of issue or publication	SALE
Entered by	Ben Dyson (ben.dyson@archaeologicalresearchservices.com)
Entered on	18 July 2019

OASIS:

Please e-mail [Historic England](#) for OASIS help and advice

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