

TRINITY STREET, STALYBRIDGE, TAMESIDE



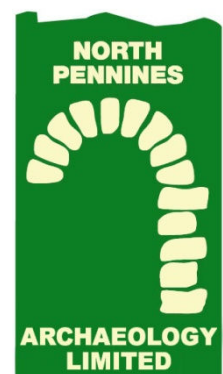
RAPID DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT AND WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

CP. No: 1161/10

11/03/2011

NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD
NENTHEAD MINES HERITAGE CENTRE,
NENTHEAD,
ALSTON,
CUMBRIA,
CA9 3PD

TEL/FAX: (01434) 382045/043
WWW.NPARCHAEOLOGY.CO.UK



NORTH PENNINES ARCHAEOLOGY LTD

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Quality Assurance

This report covers works as outlined in the brief for the above-named project as issued by the relevant authority, and as outlined in the agreed programme of works. Any deviation to the programme of works has been agreed by all parties. The works have been carried out according to the guidelines set out in the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) Standards, Policy Statements and Codes of Conduct. The report has been prepared in keeping with the guidance set out by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd on the preparation of reports.

REVISION SCHEDULE			
	01	02	03
PREPARED BY:	Jocelyn Strickland and Helen Noakes		
POSITION:	Project Supervisors		
DATE:	11/03/2011		
EDITED BY:	Martin Railton		
POSITION:	Project Manager		
DATE:	11/03/2011		
APPROVED BY:	Frank Giocco		
POSITION:	Technical Director		
DATE:	11/03/2011		

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SUMMARY

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd were commissioned by Katherine Stott, on behalf of United Utilities, to undertake a rapid desk-based assessment and archaeological watching brief at Trinity Street, Stalybridge, Tameside (NGR SJ 9636 9848). The work follows consultation between United Utilities and Norman Redhead, County Archaeologist at Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit (GMAU) regarding the proposed groundwork associated with a water main renewal scheme on Dean Street and Trinity Street. The work is required as the site lies within the vicinity of the former Castle Hall House in Stalybridge. This house was shown in the Cheshire Tithe Map of 1850 and was demolished in 1861, which identified the site to be of archaeological interest.

The rapid desk-based assessment involved the examination of all pertinent documents and cartographic sources held in the Tameside Local Studies and Archive, and the consultation of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) for Stalybridge, held at the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit. The HER includes the locations and settings of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and other, non-designated heritage assets including archaeological remains, historic landscapes and buildings of local historic interest. The HER also contains significant archives in relation to previous archaeological investigations in the Stalybridge area, including aerial photographs. In addition, records at the Stalybridge Local Studies section of the library and the Greater Manchester Record Office were also consulted.

The research showed that Castle Hall House was built in the early 18th century by William Dukenfield. The house was then sold to a Mr. Kenworthy who in turn sold it to a Mr. Lees. Castle Hall House was demolished in 1861. Little is known regarding the house. However, a 1794 inked drawing of the octagonal church at Cocker Hill was said to show Castle Hall House. Sales Particulars from 1806 state that the house consisted of a kitchen, pantry, sitting room, dining room, warehouse, four bedrooms, a passage, yard, coal house and a press shop. The gardens and orchards were said to stretch from the house itself to the edge of the river and were so beautiful that they were referred to as *Paradise*. In 1866 the Corporation acquired the former land that belonged to Castle Hall House in order to construct the Victoria Market, there was no mention of the house within the deeds at this time.

The archaeological watching brief was undertaken over 12 days between January 11th 2011 and March 1st, 2011. The watching brief monitored the excavation of four square trenches which were located above the route of mains sewer pipes in order to upgrade and renew the existing network and to provide further protection against future flooding within this area.

The watching brief found no evidence for the remains of the 18th century housing noted to be existent within this area. In all trenches, the deposits encountered had been severely truncated by the existent mains water route, as well as by pipes carrying modern utilities.

As this archaeological watching brief was conducted as part of a recommendation to observe groundworks in association with a water main renewal scheme, no further work is deemed necessary. However, given the high archaeological potential of the area, it is recommended that any future work be subject to a programme of archaeological investigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Katherine Stott of United Utilities, for commissioning the project, and for all assistance throughout the work. NPA Ltd would also like to thank Peter Leeming, Archaeological Assistant with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, Lynn Wild, Property Information Officer at Tameside Council and the staff at the Tameside Local Studies and Archive, for all their assistance throughout the project.

North Pennines Archaeology Ltd would also like to extend their thanks to Colin Duffy and Richard Mayor of GCA, and to all staff at the site, for their help during this project.

The rapid desk-based assessment and visual survey was undertaken by Jocelyn Strickland. The archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Jocelyn Strickland, Helen Noakes and Mike McElligott. The report was written and illustrated by Jocelyn Strickland and Helen Noakes. The project was managed by Frank Giocco, Technical Director for NPA Ltd. The report was edited by Martin Railton, Project Manager for NPA Ltd.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In September 2010, North Pennines Archaeology were invited by Katherine Stott, on behalf of their client, United Utilities, to maintain an archaeological watching brief at Dean Street and Trinity Street, Stalybridge, Tameside (NGR SJ 9636 9848; Figures 1 and 2), during groundworks associated with a water main renewal scheme. The proposed works lie in the centre of the Stalybridge within the immediate vicinity of the former Castle Hall House. As a result, Norman Redhead, County Archaeologist with the Great Manchester Historic Archaeological Unit requested that all ground reduction be subject to a programme of archaeological observation and investigation. This archaeological programme forms part of a condition on planning consent and is in accordance with guidance given in Planning Policy Statement 5 (Planning for the Historic Environment).
- 1.1.2 All groundworks associated with the water main renewal scheme had to be excavated under full archaeological supervision and all stages of the archaeological work were undertaken following approved statutory guidelines (IfA 2008), and were consistent with the specification provided by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Service (Myers 2010) and generally accepted best practice.
- 1.1.3 This report outlines the monitoring works undertaken on-site, the subsequent programme of post-fieldwork analysis, and the results of this scheme of archaeological works.

2 METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design was submitted by North Pennines Archaeology Ltd in response to a request by Katherine Stott of United Utilities, for an archaeological watching brief of the study area. Following acceptance of the project design by Norman Redhead of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, North Pennines Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by the client to undertake the work. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA), and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 RAPID DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

2.2.1 The rapid desk-based assessment involved the consultation of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record with regard to Castle Hall House, in the first instance. This included the collection of all available information held within the HER database, in order to achieve a full understanding of the nature of the existing resource regarding the geographical, topographical, archaeological and historical context of the site.

2.2.2 Following this the archive and local studies collection at Tameside Library were consulted in order to study maps and documents relevant to the study area. This included the collection of historic maps and early Ordnance Survey maps. Early cartographic evidence, such as surveys and terriers, were consulted in order to achieve an understanding of the medieval and early post medieval landscape. 18th and 19th century mapping were also consulted. Collections also consulted for pertinent references included Directories, Business Records, Miscellaneous Records and Diocesan Records.

2.2.3 The desk-based assessment was undertaken in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments* (IfA 1994).

2.3 THE WATCHING BRIEF

2.3.1 The works involved a structured watching brief to observe, record and excavate any archaeological deposits from the development site. A watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons, on a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed (IfA 2002).

2.3.2 The aims and principal methodology of the watching brief can be summarised as follows:

- to establish the presence/absence, nature, extent and state of preservation of archaeological remains and to record them;
- to carry out further excavation and recording work in adequate time, if intact archaeological remains are uncovered during the project;
- to accurately tie the area watched by the archaeologist into the National Grid at an appropriate scale, with any archaeological deposits and features adequately levelled;
- to sample environmental deposits encountered as required, in line with English Heritage (2002) guidelines;
- to produce a photographic record of all contexts using colour digital, and monochrome formats as applicable, each photograph including a graduated metric scale;
- to produce a drawn record of any archaeological/structural remains encountered, comprising plans at a scale of 1:10, and sections at a scale of 1:20
- to recover artefactual material, especially that useful of dating purposes;
- to produce a site archive in accordance with MAP2 (English Heritage 1991) and MoRPHE standards (English Heritage 2006).

2.3.3 An area of approximately 890m² was observed during the watching brief. The upper road surface at the junction of Dean and Trinity Street, which was composed of concrete blocks, set into a herringbone pattern, were removed prior to the excavation of four trenches. The trenches were excavated in isolation and were located to target specific points along the route of the mains supply.

2.3.4 Trenches 1-4 were roughly square in plan and measured a maximum of 3.0m in width and 2.0m in length. In Trenches 1, 2 and 4, a trench box, 1m in width and 2m in length, was inserted into the centre of the trench, to allow for further excavation to the required depth of approximately 4m below the current road level. In Trench 3, shoring was inserted into the trench to allow for excavation to 4m below the current ground level.

2.3.5 Archaeological monitoring and supervision of groundworks associated with the stripping commenced on Tuesday 11th January 2011 and concluded on March 1st, 2011. A summary of the findings of the watching brief is included within this report.

2.4 THE ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the specification, and in line with current UKIC (1990) and English Heritage Guidelines (1991) and according to the Archaeological Archives Forum recommendations (Brown 2007). The archive will be deposited within the Greater Manchester Archaeology Unit, with copies of the report sent to the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, available upon request. The archive can be accessed under the unique project identifier NPA11, TSS-A, CP 1161/10.
- 2.4.2 North Pennines Archaeology, and the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record, supports the **Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS)** project. This project aims to provide an on-line index and access to the extensive and expanding body of grey literature, created as a result of developer-funded archaeological work. As a result, details of the results of this project will be made available by North Pennines Archaeology, as a part of this national project.

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION AND GEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

- 3.1.1 Stalybridge lies within the industrial landscape of the Manchester Pennine Fringe approximately 139 kilometres west of Manchester. The Manchester Pennine Fringe is located within the transitional zone between the open moorland of the Dark Peak and Southern Pennines and the urban conurbation of Manchester (Countryside Commission 1998). The site is positioned to the south of the River Tame. Dean Street and Trinity Street are situated in the centre of the former village and are bounded to the north and east by Stalybridge Library, to the south and east by the Victoria Market, to the north and west by the former Independent Church, now converted into flats and to the south and west by the former Fish Market, now shopfronts. The area is shown in Figure 2.
- 3.1.2 The Manchester Pennine Fringe is located along the edges of the Millstone Grit uplands of the Southern Pennines and the Dark Peak. The underlying geology of the area is of Millstone Grit and partly of the overlying Coal Measures (*ibid*).

3.2 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

- 3.2.1 *Introduction:* this historical background is compiled mostly from secondary sources, and is intended only as a brief summary of historical developments specific to the study area.
- 3.2.2 *Placename Evidence:* a bridge crossed the Tame connecting the parish of Ashton-under-Lyne to the parish of Mottram in Longendale and was known as Staley Bridge. A bridge existed here as early as 1621. Staley Bridge was listed in the Macclesfield Hundred in 1621 as being in a state of decay. In 1707 a new bridge was constructed (Rose 1985).
- 3.2.3 The ending *-leah* such as that noted in Staley was an Anglo-Saxon woodland related place name sometimes used in a semi-habitative sense referring to settlements established in woodland clearings or landscapes, indicating possible Anglo-Saxon settlement activity (March no date).
- 3.2.4 *Prehistoric (up to 43 AD):* there were a number of earthworks in the Tameside area during the Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age, most of which were thought to be ritualistic in function. In Stalybridge a stone axe and pebble hammer have been found, indicative of Late Neolithic/early Bronze Age activity in the area. There was a well-preserved small cairn known as Stalybridge I located on the summit of Hollingworth Moor. To the east of

- this by 140 miles, is the less well-preserved cairn of Stalybridge II (Nevell 1992).
- 3.2.5 An Iron Age fort was located in Micklehurst, outside of Stalybridge, known as Bucton Castle (March no date).
- 3.2.6 *Medieval (410AD-1485)*: entries within the Domesday Book of 1086 indicates that Tameside was divided into four manors: Tintwhistle, Hollingworth, Werneth and Mottram and one church at Ashton in Tameside. Stayley was not mentioned within the Domesday Survey but may have been part of Mottram manor (Nevell 1991).
- 3.2.7 Stalybridge first appears within the historical record during the 14th century with the Stayley family. Robert de Staveleigh and his wife Dionisia held the vill of Stavelegh from the Lord of Mottram in 1343. The place name of Stalybridge is thought to refer to this family. Stayley Hall is Elizabethan in date (1580) and stands on the site of the original 1343 hall (Stalybridge Borough Council 1969).
- 3.2.8 Robert de Staveleigh's successor, Oliver de Staveleigh married Joan, the daughter of Hamond Fitton. The male line continued until Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Staveleigh married Thomas, the son and heir of John de Assheton, also the last male heir of the ancient family of Assheton of Ashton-under-Lyne. Elizabeth Assheton is listed in the Inquisition Post-mortem of Elizabeth, that lands were held in Staveley, Matteley and Godeley at 11d. rent in soccage from the Queen (Butterworth 1823).
- 3.2.9 *Post-medieval and Modern (1485-present)*: prior to the last quarter of the 18th century *Staley Bridge* was shown on maps as the bridge that crossed the Tame River linking Lancashire with Cheshire. There were a few cottages scattered around the bridge. During this time the area that would become Stalybridge was located in two counties and three parishes. One such parish, Mottram, was described in 1717 as wild country that consisted of hills and moors (Lock 1989).
- 3.2.10 Forest clearings in the 18th century for sheep grazing helped pave the way for a vigorous wool trade in the area (Stalybridge Borough Council 1969). This was soon displaced by cotton manufacture.
- 3.2.11 In 1776 cotton and the harnessing of water power for its manufacture were invented that promoted Stalybridge to an extensive village that grew steadily from the mid-1770s until 1794 when it contained 220 houses and a population of over 1,000 (Lock 1989). The earliest description of Stalybridge is by Dr. Aiken in 1795, where he described Stalybridge as an extensive village with well-built houses some of which were built of stone but the

- majority of brick. The principal part of the village was built around 1777 (Butterworth 1823).
- 3.2.12 The continued success of the area was due to the good communications provided by the opening of the Huddersfield Canal in 1797 and by local coal from Ashton and Stalybridge (Nevill 1993).
- 3.2.13 The growth of the cotton industry was rapid in the area, by 1814 there were 11 cotton mills, by 1818 there were 16 and by 1823 there were 26 cotton mills as well as around 900 houses and 5,500 individuals. The 1831 census calculated that there were 14,216 people living in 2,357 houses in the town (Lock 1989). The cotton famine of 1861-1865 was disastrous for the population of Stalybridge. Around this time about 42% of the inhabitants were directly dependent on the cotton industry (Nevill 1993).
- 3.2.14 Castle Hall House was built in the early 18th century by William Dukenfield, possibly on the site of an even earlier residence. The house was originally known as Castle Hill and was described as being located on a steep rock, impending over the River Tame. In 1823 Castle Hall House was described by Butterworth as *'a building which stood close to the river's edge, on a site near the present Market hall. It was a castellated mansion, and its turrets will always have an abiding recollection for me. The style of architecture was Elizabethan, although not quite correct in all its details. It had a comfortable and handsome appearance, and standing as it did in a comparatively secluded spot, it gave one the impression of a substantial and at the same time cosy home'* (Hill 1907).
- 3.2.15 An inked drawing within Dr. Aiken's *A Description of the County from Thirty to Forty miles round Manchester* showed Castle Hall House in the annexed view taken from below the bridge (Plate 1).

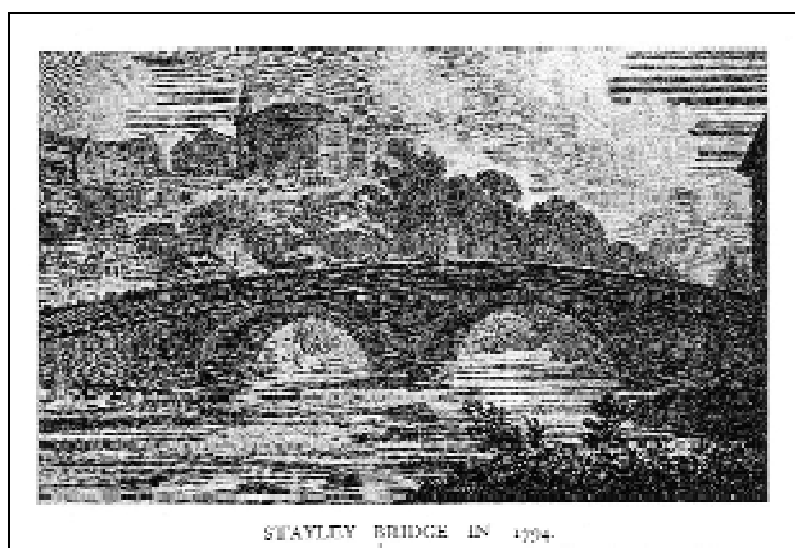


Plate 1: Annexed view of Castle Hall House, 1794

3.2.16 Dukenfield sold Castle Hall House to a Mr. James Kenworthy (Rose 1985). The Kenworthy family were involved in the clothing business (Aiken 1795). In 1806 Kenworthy's assets were to be sold on auction. The sales particulars gives an insight as to what the layout of the house consisted of: kitchen, pantry, sitting room, passage, dining room, warehouse, four bedrooms, a yard, press shop and coal house. All of the possessions within these rooms were also sold at auction on September 15th, 1806 (Rose 1985) (Plate 2).

TO BE SOLD,

BY AUCTION,

BY JAMES SMITH,

On MONDAY the fifteenth DAY of SEPTEMBER, 1806.
AT THE HOUSE OF THE LATE

MR. JAMES KENWORTHY,

CASTLE HALL,

NEAR STAYLEYBRIDGE.

<p>IN THE HOUSE. Mahogany snap Table Oak dining Table Four oak Chairs One two armed Chair Oven and Grate Tongs, Poker and Shovel Gate and Fender Jack and Spit Handboard Knifebox Four iron Candlesticks Threelegs Lantern, Breadiron Sugar Tongs Large mahogany dining Table Dining Table Knifebox Cupboard</p> <p>KITCHEN. Copper Pan Shelf and Pan Cupboard Copper Pan Fish do. Small do. Copper do. Do. do. Tin Piggins Four spotting Boxes Brass Mortar Four Candlesticks Churn and butter Bason Iron Boiler</p> <p>PANTRY. Butter Weighs Hop Sieve Weighbeam, Scales and Weights Copper Bowl Towel Frame Large Stone</p> <p>SITTING ROOM. Mahogany card Table Four mahogany Chairs Mahogany Desk and Bookcase with glass Doors Four Pictures</p>	<p>Mahogany dining Table Window Curtains Tongs, Poker, and Shovel Fender A quantity of Books, in Lots Handboards</p> <p>PASSAGE. One Solid Cow Chains Iron Crow Gridiron Clothes Maiden One Chair Eight days Clock, in oak Case</p> <p>DINING ROOM. Six mahogany Chairs Large mahogany dining Table Mahogany card Table Do. snap Table Mahogany sewing Stand Grate and Fender Window Curtains Looking Glass Small mahogany Chair Do. Cardavine</p> <p>WAREHOUSE. Oak Counter Oak Dresser with Drawers Large Desk Small do. Quantity of Bottles Draft Board Pictures and Handboard Mahogany Cradle Side Saddle Sundries &c. Cloth Frame</p> <p>BED CHAMBER, No. 1. Mahogany snap Table Bedstead, with Hangings Feather Beds, Bolsters Do. do. Pillows Mattress Three Blankets Coverlid Looking Glass</p>	<p>BED ROOM, No. 2. Mahogany snap Table Mahogany Desk and Bookcase, so- lid Oak set of Drawers Do. small do. Do. two Chairs Four post Bed with Hangings Feather Bed, Bolsters and Pillows Three Blankets One Coverlid Grate</p> <p>BED ROOM, No. 3. Oak Press Five oak Chairs One arm do. Dressing Table do. Looking Glass Firegrate, brass Bottom</p> <p>PASSAGE. Oak Chest</p> <p>BED ROOM, No. 4. Four post Bedstead with Hang- ings Feather Bed, Bolsters and Pillows Coverlid</p> <p>YARD. Wheelbarrow Ladder Sundry other Articles Bottle Rack</p> <p>COAL HOUSE. Spade and Fork Tress, large Stone Fork, and iron Boiler Sundry other Articles Firegrate</p> <p>PRESS SHOP. Large iron Skreen Firegrate, Reel</p> <p>CHAMBER OVER. Oak Table Firegrate</p>
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The Sale to begin at ten o'Clock in the Forenoon.

T. Ashworth, Printer, Oldham.

Plate 2: 1806 Sales Particulars of the interior of Castle Hall House

- 3.2.17 Kenworthy, in turn, sold the house to John Lees, one of the founders of the firm John Lees and Sons. Lees died at Castle Hall House in 1824 where the property presumably passed to his sons and was demolished in 1861 (Heap 2007).
- 3.2.18 The gardens and orchards that belonged to the hall spread from the building to the river's edge. The gardens were so beautiful that they were referred to as Paradise (*ibid*).
- 3.2.19 With the industrialization of the area the physical environment changed dramatically. What were once green rolling hills and valleys gave way to factories, workshops and row after row of badly constructed terraced housing. These houses were built in the 1820s on a grid system, south of Grosvenor Street. This area came to be known as Castle Hall after the old hall that once stood by the River Tame (*ibid*).
- 3.2.20 A market place has been in existence at Stalybridge since 1831. In 1864/1865 it was proposed that an additional market was needed. In 1865 a resolution was passed for the erection of a new building on the plantation grounds of the former Castle Hall House that was sold to the Corporation by J.W. Lees (Heap 2008b). The Tameside Terrier Room was contacted in order to find information pertaining to the former house based on the Title Deeds when the land was sold for the construction of the market. No mention of the house was in the deeds. It was noted that the land was originally owned by a mill owner who went bankrupt. The land was acquired on October 26, 1866 (Wild *pers comm.*). Victoria Market was opened to the public two years later (Heap 2008b).
- 3.2.21 The Victoria Market had a tower that displayed an illuminated four dial clock. To the rear of the building was a large fairground that housed monthly cattle fairs as well as circuses and shows. Across from the market hall was the Fish Market that opened in 1881 and consisted of 12 lock-up shops. In 1883 a drinking fountain was built in front of the market hall. This was a gift to the town from Mrs. Robert Platt as a memorial to her late husband. The fountain was removed in 1927 (*ibid*).
- 3.2.22 Separate men and women's public toilets were built under the ground in front of the market. These were accessed down steps that were surrounded by iron railings. The public toilets closed in 1976. The Victoria Market closed at the beginning of the new millennium. After a complete refurbishment, it re-opened in 2005 as the Stalybridge Civic Hall where it housed the Stalybridge District Assembly (*ibid*).
- 3.2.23 The Congregationalists came to Stalybridge around 1823-1824. The Reverend Jonathan Sutcliffe preached in private houses in 1826-1827. The congregation began to increase in 1831 and a church was formed. For four years the

congregation worshipped in a King Street chapel until 1834 when a site was secured on the Cheshire side of the river. The original Independent Chapel opened in 1835 measuring 13.7 metres by 15.2 metres, at a cost of £1,500. The present church was erected on the same site and opened in 1861 at a cost of £5,000 (Hill 1907).

3.2.24 The Sunday School at the Congregationalist Church was built in 1851 and was later replaced by a larger school. Over the years the school and the Independent Chapel were victims of fire and vandalism, but both of these buildings stood until the late 1990s, when they were demolished and rebuilt as a housing complex for the elderly and disabled that opened in 2001. The remains of the buried in the graveyard were exhumed and interred at Southern Cemetery, Manchester (Heap 2008a).

3.3 CARTOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS

3.3.1 *Map of the Stamford Estate, 1837-1846 (Figure 3)*: this estate map has the Castle Hall House positioned between Melbourne and Trinity Streets. It appears as if this area is divided into three plots of land. A small building was located within the southernmost plot; with a larger L-shaped building in between two rectangular shaped buildings to the north and further north were three larger buildings. It is not known if this three block area was all part of the Castle Hall House estate, or indeed which of these buildings would have been the house. It is possible that the date on this map is incorrect as on the 1850 Tithe Map, Trinity Street was not yet in existence whereas on this map it was.

3.3.2 *Cheshire Tithe Map, 1850 (Figure 4)*: at the time of the Tithe Map, the Castle Hall House area had extensive gardens to the south and east of the house. The house itself had a path leading to it from a bridge, to the south, that crossed the Huddersfield Canal. The estate consisted of a large building with a smaller building to the north and three attached buildings west of this. To the north of Castle Hall House were a chapel and two rectangular buildings on an adjacent plot of land. None of the streets in the immediate area were named on the map.

3.3.3 *First Edition Ordnance Survey Map, 1852 (Figure 5)*: this mapping showed the Castle Hall House and grounds as well as the adjacent Independent Chapel in more detail. The bridge that lead to the house was the Castle Hall Bridge. Gardens were laid out to the south of the house with open land further south and east of this. The layout of the buildings retained the same shape as on the Tithe Map. A path lead from the grounds to the north of the house to a square plot of land abutting the Independent Chapel's property, possibly an ornamental garden. Further north of this was a saw mill. To the west of

Castle Hall House was the Manchester and Liverpool District Bank. The Independent Chapel was located to the north of the house with burial grounds to the north and south. In the southeastern aspect of the plot was another building. This map shows the interior detail of the church. A Sunday School was located on the basement level. Dean Street was not a through road at this time, stopping where it met the Castle Hall House grounds.

- 3.3.4 *Ordnance Survey Map, 1874 (Figure 6)*: by the time of the 1874 mapping Castle Hall House had been demolished, with none of the outlying buildings being kept. Trinity Street and Dean Street were now both developed and have retained the same shape seen in present day. The Independent Chapel was still present, and could be considered the most prominent nonconformist chapel shown on the 1874 mapping. The chapel backed into Trinity Street with the entrance on Dearden Street. The burial ground was located to the south and east of the chapel. The burial ground to the north of the chapel had been replaced with a School building used as a day school and Sunday School. The saw mill noted on the 1852 mapping was still present and now had a wood yard to the south of this, on the former Castle Hall House grounds. Victoria Market took up the southeastern aspect of the former grounds and Holy Trinity Church had been constructed to the south of Victoria Market. A few buildings with some undeveloped plots were located to the south of Dean Street, west of Trinity Street.
- 3.3.5 *Ordnance Survey Map, 1894 (Figure 7)*: one of the larger undeveloped plots of land, across from the Victoria Market had now been established as the Fish Market. A garden was located to the rear of this. A drinking fountain had been erected in front of the Victoria Market; the Market itself retained the same shape as on the earlier mapping. The saw mill to the north of the market was now annotated as the *Castle Hall Saw Mill* and had a traveling crane in the wood yard. The Independent Chapel and School retained the same shape as on the 1874 mapping.
- 3.3.6 *Ordnance Survey Map, 1918 (Figure 8)*: in 1918 the areas to the south of Dean Street and west of Trinity Street had retained the same shape. The Castle Hall Saw Mill was no longer present and had been replaced with a post office and a free library.

3.4 PREVIOUS WORK

- 3.4.1 In 1999 an archaeological assessment was undertaken to the west of the present site boundary at the Longlands Mill site on Castle Street. This area was considered to be of archaeological importance as it consisted of an iron and brass foundry established by, at least, 1848 that was shown on the 1850

Ordnance Survey mapping to the east of Castle Street Mills. Castle Mill was the site of a steam-powered cotton spinning mill originally built in 1815 and a Methodist Chapel located on Caroline Street, the first purpose built Wesleyan Chapel in Stalybridge that opened in 1815 (University of Manchester Archaeology Unit 1999).

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The watching brief monitoring was undertaken over 12 days, starting on January 11th, 2011 and ending on March 1st, 2011. The archaeological monitoring occurred during the excavation of a series of trenches to relocated the mains pipes for renewal.
- 4.1.2 The Watching Brief covered the controlled stripping of deposits around the site prior to the main excavation of a series of trenches located along the route of the existing sewer pipeline, within the juncture of Dean and Trinity Street (Figure 9).
- 4.1.3 Concrete paving blocks, which were arranged in a herringbone design and which made up the upper road surface for Dean and Trinity Street were manually removed prior to excavation. These measured a maximum of 0.20m length, 0.10m width and 0.05m depth.

4.2 TRENCH 1

- 4.2.1 Trench 1 (see Figure 9) which measured 2.50m in width and 2.50m in length, was excavated to a maximum depth of 5.10m and was located at the west of the site, on Dean Street. A trench box was inserted into the centre of Trench 1 when the depth of the Trench exceeded 1.5m, at which point, deposits were removed from the centre of this construction (Plate 3).
- 4.2.2 Several deposits were noted within this trench, although none appeared to be archaeological in nature. At the base of the trench, the targeted east-west aligned mains pipe (**111**) was observed and measured 0.20m in diameter.
- 4.2.3 The natural substrate was not encountered within this trench. However, backfill deposits were observed to a depth of 4.40m and comprised loose orange-red sand which had frequent inclusions of red brick and river cobbles (**109**).
- 4.2.4 This deposit (**109**) was truncated by the cut for a later sewage pipe [**110**], which had a U shaped profile, with gently sloping sides and a concave base. This measured 1.0m in width and was observed at 2m from the street level.
- 4.2.5 Above deposit (**109**), a 0.15m deep deposit composed of moderately compacted black silty sand (**108**) contained inclusions of crushed red brick and ceramic pipe.



Plate 3: East facing section through deposits in Trench 1.

- 4.2.6 A layer of compacted white dolomite was present to a depth of 0.39m above deposit **(108)**, which in turn was overlain by orange-yellow sand **(106)** to a depth of 0.05m. These layers comprised the leveling and bedding layers respectively, which make up modern day Dean Street. Above these deposits **(108)** and **(106)**, concrete paving slabs created the road surface of Dean Street.
- 4.2.7 On February 18th, 2011 Trench 1 was extended eastward. At a depth of 2.0m a yellow sandstone covered culvert was uncovered, aligned east/west (Plate 4). The exposed aspect of the culvert was *c.* 1m in length and had a depth of 0.5m. The culvert did not appear to extend any further east. The deposits on either side of the culvert consisted of red and black sand intermixed with red brick, river cobbles and segments of metal pipe **(109)**. Due to health and safety issues the culvert was only recorded photographically before it was removed



Plate 4: Sandstone culvert located within Trench 1

4.3 TRENCH 2

- 4.3.1 Trench 2 (see Figure 9), which measured 3.10m in length and 3.0m in width, was excavated to a depth of 4.20m and was located to the northwest of the site on Trinity Street. This was positioned opposite the library and was 1.5m from the kerb of the pedestrian footpath. Two trench boxes were inserted into this trench due to the close proximity of the pathway. A brick culvert was identified at the base of the eastern extent of the trench. No archaeological features were identified.
- 4.3.2 The natural substrate (205), which was composed of reddish-brown silty gravels was encountered at a depth of 0.85m below street level. This was truncated at the eastern extent by a service cut [207] which was observed for a width of 1.20m, and filled to a depth of 3.3m with loosely compacted black silty clays (206) which contained red brick fragments (Plate 5).
- 4.3.3 This service cut [207] had sharp sloping sides and appeared to be V-shaped in profile, but with a flattened base. At the base of the trench, and at 4.20m below the street level, a red brick culvert [209] aligned north-south was observed within this cut [207], thought to be post-medieval in date.
- 4.3.4 Within the western extents of the trench, and over deposit (205), a deposit composed of moderately compacted greenish-grey silty clay (204), which had frequent red brick inclusions, was observed to a depth of 0.2m.
- 4.3.5 Observed to a depth of 0.15m, a thin band of black sandy silt (203) overlay this deposit (204). Above this deposit (203), a 0.15m deep layer of crushed and compacted dolomite (202) was observed. Potentially these layers represent the leveling of the site prior to the current road surface being laid.

- 4.3.6 Above this was a 0.10m thick layer of concrete (201), above which was a yellow-orange sand (200), the bedding layer for the concrete blocks making up the modern day Trinity Street.



Plate 5: South facing section of deposits within upper strata of Trench 2, showing service cut [207].

4.4 TRENCH 3

- 4.4.1 Trench 3 (see Figure 9), which measured 3.5m in width and 4.0m in length, was excavated to a depth of c. 5m and was located at the juncture of Dean and Trinity Street, to the west of the site. No archaeological features were identified during the excavation of this trench.
- 4.4.2 The natural substrate was encountered at a depth of 0.45m below the current road level, and was composed of moderately compacted orange-red sands (305).
- 4.4.3 Truncating the natural substrate, a large service cut [303] was observed aligned in an east-west direction (Plates 6 and 7). This measured 2m in width and was filled to a depth of at least 0.50m by loosely compacted brownish-grey silty clay (304). This service cut [303] appeared to have steeply sloping sides, as observed within section (Plate 7). It is probable that this feature represents another red brick constructed culvert.
- 4.4.4 This service cut [303] was truncated by a later service trench [306]. This was a shallow feature, 0.30m in width and filled to a depth of 0.25m by moderately compacted greyish-brown silty clays (307) which contained a yellow plastic gas pipe within its deposit. This service trench [306] truncated the earlier feature [303] for the full extent of the trench.

- 4.4.5 A 0.2m deep layer composed of crushed dolomite (302) was observed above these deposits, within which a number of modern services were observed. To the west, electric, water and gas pipes were all observed, aligned in a north-south orientation, and measured a maximum of 0.10m in diameter. Within the central area of the trench a north-south aligned active water pipe was also observed, measuring 0.12m in diameter.
- 4.4.6 A thick layer of concrete (301) 0.2m in depth was observed to seal all the above deposits. Above this was loose orange-red bedding sand (300) into which the concrete paving of the modern road was set.



Plate 6: East facing section of deposits within Trench 3.



Plate 7: West facing section within Trench 3, showing cut for service trench [303]

4.5 TRENCH 4

- 4.5.1 Trench 4 (see Figure 9) which measured 3.50m in width and 3.50m in length, was excavated to a maximum depth of 3.0m and was located at the south of the site, on Dean Street. A trench box was inserted into the centre of Trench 4 when the depth of the Trench exceeded 1.5m, at which point, deposits were removed from the centre of this construction. No archaeological features were identified during the excavation of this trench.
- 4.5.2 Observed to a depth of 0.15m was a layer of crushed dolomite (401). Beneath this was a deposit of brown/black sand with infrequent inclusions of red brick, river cobbles, timber fragments, sandstone blocks and ceramic pipe (402).
- 4.5.3 The south facing section of the trench revealed a coursed brick feature (403) that was part of the wall for the manhole located directly north of the Trench (Plate 8). The inclusions located within this trench may have been from the earlier construction of this manhole with subsequent backfilling of the area.



Plate 8: South facing section of Trench 4, showing coursed brick from manhole (403)

4.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDS AND ENVIRONMENTAL SAMPLING

4.6.1 No archaeological finds were recovered, and no environmental samples were retained during the groundworks.

5 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

- 5.1.1 The desk-based assessment has shown that Castle Hall House and grounds were present in this location from at least the 18th century. The house was demolished in 1861 and the grounds were bought by the Stalybridge Corporation in order to build the Victoria Market. Also abutting the present site boundary was the Independent Chapel with its associated burial ground. A chapel was in existence on this site in 1835 but was replaced by a later church in 1861. The chapel and associated school remained extant until the 1990s when they were demolished and rebuilt as a housing complex. The interred remains to the south and east of the chapel were exhumed and re-interred at Southern Cemetery, Manchester.
- 5.1.2 The watching brief monitored the excavation of all trench cuts. No archaeological remains were noted. It was apparent however, that within the areas being monitored, the original construction of a mains water and sewage line had severely truncated deposits within the area. It is suggested therefore that any archaeological remains which were present, are likely to have been removed during this first phase of work. The potential for archaeological remains is likely to therefore be minimal, and it is probable that the location of the Castle Hall House itself lies outside the watching brief perimeter.
- 5.1.4 As this watching brief was conducted as a condition of groundworks associated with the renewal of a utilities pipeline, no further archaeological work is deemed necessary.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT TABLE

Context No.	Context Type	Description
Trench 1: 101	Deposit	Kerb stone
102	Deposit	Yellow and brown mixed sand
103	Deposit	Mixture of yellow/brown sand and clay
104	Deposit	Three courses of red brick- not uniform
105	Deposit	Paving stones
106	Deposit	Yellow sandstone
107	Deposit	Crushed dolomite
108	Deposit	Black sand with infrequent inclusions of red brick, river cobbles and ceramic pipe
109	Deposit	Red sand intermixed with red brick, river cobbles, broken ceramic pipe.
110	Deposit	Cut for earlier sewage pipe
111	Deposit	Sewage pipe
112	Deposit	Natural
113	Deposit	Sandstone culvert
Trench 2: 200	Deposit	Sand bedding layer for road setts
201	Deposit	Compacted white-grey concrete
202	Deposit	Crushed dolomite
203	Deposit	Moderately compacted black sandy silt- buried topsoil
204	Deposit	Compacted green/blue-grey silty clay with some inclusions of red brick
205	Deposit	Natural
206	Fill	Loosely compacted black silty -sand with frequent inclusions of sub-angular stones and some fragmented red brick
207	Deposit	Linear cut for service trench
208	Deposit	Possible masonry

Context No.	Context Type	Description
209	Deposit	Red brick culvert
Trench 3: 300	Deposit	Modern levelling/bedding sand- orangey yellow sand
301	Deposit	Concrete bedding layer
302	Deposit	Crushed dolomite
303	Deposit	Cut for service trench
304	Fill	Loosely compacted brown-black silty clay
305	Deposit	Natural
306	Deposit	Cut for gas pipe/service
Trench 4: 401	Deposit	Brown sand intermixed with red brick, sandstone blocks, ceramic pipe, river cobbles, metal pipe
402	Deposit	Crushed dolomite
403	Deposit	Coursed brick wall from adjacent manhole

Table 1: List of Contexts issued during Watching Brief

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES
