

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD

1ST APRIL 2016 – 31ST MARCH 2017

1.0 Introduction

The following report is for the fifth year of the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, which is based at the University of Salford. GMAAS undertakes the following planning work on behalf of the ten Greater Manchester Local Planning Authorities:

- Advising on identifying Heritage Assets with an archaeological interest and understanding their significance
- Assessing the likely archaeological implications of development proposals
- Recommending any necessary archaeological work as a planning condition
- Liaising with planners and developers to mitigate impacts on significant archaeology
- Preparing briefs and advising on written schemes of investigation
- Monitoring archaeological works
- Providing lists of archaeological consultants, contractors and specialists
- Mediating between clients and archaeological contractors
- Preparing research agendas within the planning process
- Maintaining and enhancing the Historic Environment Record as a planning tool and public record
- Promoting dissemination of results from archaeological investigations.

2.0 Staffing and Website

2.1 GMAAS is staffed by:

Norman Redhead – Heritage Management Director (Archaeology)

Andrew Myers – Senior Planning Archaeologist

Lesley Dunkley – Historic Environment Record Officer

2.2 The team are based in the Peel Building at the University of Salford, and form part of the Centre for Applied Archaeology within the School of Environment and Life Sciences.

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3.0 Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GM HER)

3.1 The database now has **18,824** individual entries comprising: monuments, find spots, listed buildings, local historic interest buildings, historic places and ancient landscapes. There are also **54,000** records for the Historic Landscape Characterisation dataset. These are supported by over **87,000** images and a substantial paper archive and library.

3.2 Over the past year **104** grey literature reports have been entered onto the database, **353** new Monument records created and **5,421** existing Monument records updated. **95** new event records have been created, **30** new listed buildings entered, and GMAAS have responded to **48** consultations from Historic England on proposals for listing or amendments to existing designations.

3.3 A key role of the HER, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, is to advise applicants and their agents on the location and character of known heritage assets within a proposal area. GMAAS have provided HER data to **92** development enquirers; additionally advice has been provided on appropriate archaeological mitigation. Where there is an archaeological interest, the developer will often appoint an archaeological consultant to compile a report; this usually involves a visit to GMAAS to seek information in the HER library of archaeology reports and publications which supplement the HER database. There were **16** visits to the GMAAS office to consult the HER library.

3.4 HER Backlog project

A number of grey literature reports have been entered on to the HER, but the quantity of new reports means that it is impossible to tackle the backlog. The HER Officer updates records when consultants request HER data for a particular proposal site and a certain radius search around it. Some volunteer time has been spent on entering old reports and work is nearly complete on checking records to make sure we have an up-to-date understanding of the scale of the backlog.

3.5 Greater Manchester Textile Mill Survey

GMAAS has been commissioned by Historic England to carry out the second stage of the heritage audit of surviving textile mills. This is based on reviewing the mills identified in the original 1980s survey undertaken by GMAU and the RCHME. At that time just under 1000 survived and these were entered on to the GM HER, which makes them a material consideration in the planning process. However, 95 mills were also afforded listed status. The new study aims to report on how many are extant, what condition they are in, and how much floor space is used/empty. The first stage comprised a desk based survey but also included a more detailed, pilot study of Oldham borough which included site visits and preparation of individual survey sheets together with a summary report. The second stage includes site visits to the eight other authorities in Greater Manchester which have surviving textile mills (not Trafford). Stage two will complete in May 2017 and will include an overview report for the whole of Greater Manchester. Site visits have been completed and it has been established that, of the 972 mills identified in the late 1980s survey, 537 survive with 435 having been demolished. Full details will be reported on in May.

4.0 Advice and Dissemination

4.1 GMAAS have attended a large number of meetings over the year, mainly in relation to development sites but also connected to working with regional and national peer and policy groups. A wide range of presentations have been given to help disseminate the story of the remarkable archaeological investigations that have taken place in Greater Manchester. A growing number of enquiries have been dealt with, mainly from archaeological consultants acting on behalf of developers but also there have been 29

Farm Environment Plan consultations, 12 consultations from local planning authorities and 13 enquiries from researchers and members of the public.

DISTRICT	Meetings	Lectures & Presentations	HER consults – Data provided
Bolton	6	0	5
Bury	5	1	6
Manchester	51	4	31
Oldham	13	2	5
Rochdale	1	1	8
Salford	24	2	7
Stockport	15	8	7
Tameside	6	0	4
Trafford	0	0	6
Wigan	9	0	9
Multi-district/general	46	7	4
TOTAL	176	25	94

Table showing meetings, talks, and consultations

5.0 Planning Work

5.1 GMAAS were consulted on **39** Written Schemes of Investigation (WSI) supplied in accordance with archaeology planning conditions. These set out an agreed programme and methodology of archaeological works for the investigation process and post-investigation analysis, dissemination of results and archive deposition. An agreed WSI does not in itself satisfy a planning condition but does formally identify each stage of the archaeological process to be implemented in order to meet the requirements of the condition. Progress towards fulfilment can then be monitored against the WSI.

5.2 During the last year, GMAAS undertook **44** monitoring visits to archaeological investigations being undertaken on development sites. The purpose of these visits was to check that archaeological work was being undertaken in accordance with the agreed

WSIs in order to comply with planning conditions. The visits also allowed discussion of further mitigation requirements or adjustments to the agreed methodologies based on the nature of the evidence being revealed, and to make sure professional standards were being adhered to.

5.3 The HER now has **2,694** grey literature reports in its library. These mostly report on the results of archaeological investigations undertaken as part of the planning system. They include Environmental Statements (ES), Heritage Statements (HS), Desk Based Assessments (DBA), Building Surveys (BS), Evaluations such as geophysical survey and trial trenching (EVAL), Excavations (EXC), Surveys (SURV) and Watching Briefs (WB). It is estimated that there is a backlog of around 850 reports waiting to be entered onto the HER database.

5.4 Over the last year GMAAS have received **125** reports to place in the HER (26 less than last year). These have to be checked by GMAAS staff to make sure they properly represent the heritage interest of the study area and conform to professional standards. As might be expected, by far the largest contribution is for Manchester which reflects the high level of development in the city centre. The breakdown of report types by district is set out in the following table:

	ES	HS	DBA	BS	EVAL	EXC	SURV	WB	TOTAL
BO	-	2	3	2	1	-	1	-	9
BU	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	3
MA	-	5	33	3	8	6	2	4	61
OL	-	-	1	1	4	1	2	-	9
RO	-	-	5	1	-	1	-	1	8
SA	-	2	6	-	3	1	-	-	12
ST	-	4	-	1	-	1	-	1	7
TA	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-	4
TR	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-	4
WI	-	2	1	1	2	1	1	-	8
TOTAL	0	15	53	13	18	12	8	6	125

Breakdown of report types by district

5.5 The archaeological work was undertaken by **33** separate organisations, which reflects the wide range of archaeological contractors and consultants operating in Greater Manchester.

5.6 GMAAS received **45** formal consultations from planning officers on requests to discharge archaeological planning conditions. Usually, discharge is only recommended when all the archaeological works have been implemented, although partial discharge can be agreed. At the end of the process this will involve GMAAS being in receipt of a satisfactory report of the investigation results. It will also be necessary to demonstrate that the archive of the investigation has been or will be deposited with an appropriate record centre or museum, and that the results have been disseminated in a manner commensurate with their significance. The latter can range from just depositing the report with the HER to producing information boards, a popular booklet or even a more academic monograph.

6.0 Planning Consultations

6.1 In the year to March 31st 2017 the LPAs in Greater Manchester received **19,776** planning applications. This is an increase of **1038** on the previous year, or a c **5.5%** increase. Despite this increase in the overall number of planning applications being received by the LPAs, the number and rate of consultations received by GMAAS has only risen slightly. In the same period GMAAS was consulted by the LPAs on some **293** planning applications, a very slight increase in number on the previous year (291). This represents only c **1.5%** of all planning applications received by the LPAs. Over the past 12 months the rate of planning application consultation has, on average, been just over **24** per calendar month.

	Total Planning Applications	Consultations from LPAs with no archaeological interest	Consultations with an archaeological implication	TOTAL
Bolton	2,226	12	12	24
Bury	1,266	4	8	12
Manchester	3,254	56	55	111
Oldham	1,457	8	5	13
Rochdale	1,391	26	29	55
Salford	1,582	8	10	18
Stockport	3,246	8	18	26
Tameside	1,185	1	1	2
Trafford	2,603	6	5	11
Wigan	1,566	14	7	21
TOTAL	19,776	143	150	293

Table showing planning consultation statistics for the year

6.2 Arising out of the LPA planning consultations, GMAAS have offered a range of recommendations in respect of the need or otherwise for further information or work. Of the **293** consultations received by GMAAS **143 (49%)** were judged to have no impact upon the archaeological interest. For the remaining **150 (51%)** GMAAS recommended that some form of further archaeological work (assessment, evaluation, excavation, watching brief, building recording) should be undertaken. This compares with 129 in the previous year.

6.3 It should be noted that during the year no planning consultation received by GMAAS led to a recommendation for outright refusal.

6.4 In a number (**26**) of consultations GMAAS recommended that a planning application should not be determined by the LPA until an archaeological assessment and/ or evaluation had been completed and submitted. This is just under 9% of the consultations received by GMAAS. For the remaining 91% GMAAS recommended that the

archaeological interest could be dealt with as part of a conditioned programme. In all such cases GMAAS provided suggested wording for the necessary condition based upon the model condition which is now set out in paragraph 37 of English Heritage's (now Historic England) *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: Note 2: Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment*.

No Impact	143
Predetermination Assessment/ Evaluation	26
Conditioned Programme of Archaeological Work	124
TOTAL	293

Table showing consultation recommendations

6.5 In addition to the planning application consultations, in 2016-17 GMAAS responded to some 20 pre-application consultations. Of these 4 resulted in recommendations that there was no impact, and that no further archaeological work was necessary. Of the remaining 20, some 13 resulted in recommendations for pre-submission desk-based or building assessment and 3 in a recommendation for a conditioned programme of works.

6.6 The trend noted in the last year or so for previously dormant, large development schemes to become active continued into 2016-17. This has had consequences for the workload of GMAAS staff. Site meetings, briefs, site visits and reading the resulting assessments and fieldwork reports for these sites have taken up a significant amount of staff time.

7.0 Planning Case Studies

7.1 The following section briefly describes a selection of case studies of archaeological projects from last year that have come out of the planning process. These are selected to illustrate the diversity of project types and outcomes. The bulk of the work has taken place in the historic core of Manchester, but it is worth noting that there are a number of schemes coming forward soon in Salford and Rochdale.

7.2 Bolton

7.2.1 Lostock Hall Farm

The site formed part of the medieval manorial complex of Lostock, which originated as a moated site but saw significant expansion and rebuilding in the Tudor period. The Grade 2* listed 16th century gatehouse lies just outside the proposal site, but the proposed scheme would impact on a 19th century farmhouse and associated outbuildings together with the sites of the 1563 Tudor hall and 16th century farm buildings. GMAAS recommended that an archaeological assessment and historic building survey were undertaken, followed by targeted evaluation trenching. This work was secured by planning condition and undertaken by Wardell Armstrong Archaeology. The evaluation found the platform of the hall but no foundation remains, and the farm building remains were very fragmentary. GMAAS advised that no further archaeological excavation is required and a watching brief during development ground works will suffice. Information panels will be prepared to commemorate this important historical site.



Lostock Hall early 19th century farmhouse and evaluation trench over Tudor Hall site

7.2.2 Beehive Mill

This Grade 2 listed late 19th century mill is subject to a planning proposal to demolish and re-use the site for housing. The application included a heritage statement and an archaeological desk based assessment, which made use of information held in the Textile Mills Survey archive within the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record. GMAAS recommended that a detailed historic building survey is undertaken, together

with below-ground archaeological investigations to record remains of earlier power systems including former engine houses.

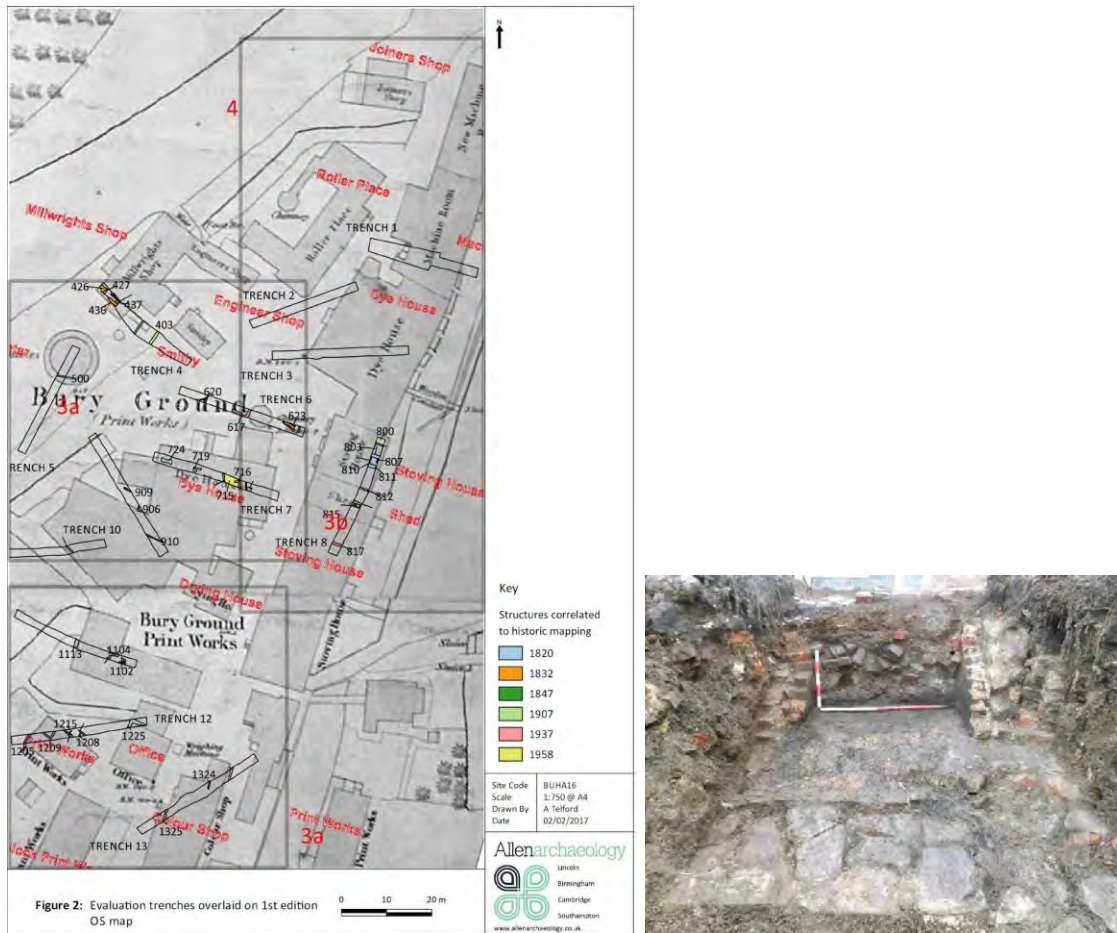


Beehive Mill in Little Lever

7.3 Bury

7.3.1 Chamberhall Business Park, Bury

The latest phase of Business Park development at Bury Ground, north-west of the town centre, would impact on the significant historic industrial site of Peel and Yates Calico Print Works which was founded in 1773 and included innovative printing processes. GMAAS requested a planning condition to secure archaeological interests, which in the first instance required evaluation trenching to provide an understanding of the level of survival, extent, function, date, and relative significance of buried remains. Allen Archaeology undertook the large-scale evaluation exercise and established good survival of archaeology across much of the site. This will now lead on to targeted excavation where significant remains will be disturbed by development ground works.



Chamber Hall development: plan of evaluation trenches overlaid onto a historic map and, right, one of the evaluation trenches showing good archaeological survival (source: Allen Archaeology)

7.4 Manchester

7.4.1 Owen Street

Renaker are building four high residential towers at the former Owen Street car park in Castlefield. The site had high archaeological potential, being close to the known Roman fort and settlement as well as having late 18th century and early 19th century dyeing and iron works. Salford Archaeology were contracted to deliver a scheme of archaeological site excavation ahead of planning consent. The Written Scheme of Investigation was agreed with GMAAS, who monitored the implementation of the works. Much of the site had been disturbed by a 20th century automobile works, but the western part yielded important remains. These included Roman ditches, pits and post holes, together with a possible cremation burial and an assemblage of pottery and glass. Industrial

archaeology included dye vats, casting pits for the iron works, and remains of engine beds for the power system. The process of post-excavation analysis, reporting on the results and a popular publication in the Greater Manchester Past Revealed series have been secured through a planning condition.



Excavating Roman and industrial remains at Owen Street, Castlefield



Late 18th century dye vat, reused in the mid-19th century as a casting pit for an iron works

7.4.2 Wythenshawe Hall

This Grade 2* listed building in south Manchester suffered a devastating fire in March 2016. Salford Archaeology were brought in by Manchester City Council to record fire-damaged rooms and roof timbers. They also undertook a laser scan survey and worked closely with the conservation architect and other specialists to provide an understanding of the historic development of the hall and the relevant significance of affected timbers and other historic fabric. GMAAS have advised throughout this programme of work, which has informed a listed building application to carry out sympathetic repairs.



Archaeologists discussing a multi-phased fireplace revealed by the fire (left). Cataloguing and sorting fire damaged wood (right)

7.4.3 Ordsall Chord

The new rail crossing at Ordsall Chord will link Victoria and Piccadilly Stations and impacts on Grade 1 listed structures relating to the world's first intercity railway. GMAAS have worked with Network Rail engineers, Salford Archaeology and the conservation architect for the project to implement a complex scheme of archaeological recording of three rail bridges that have been dismantled, together with Stephenson's 1830 rail bridge and arrival station, and below-ground archaeological remains of workers' housing, textile finishing works and warehousing that pre-dated the railway. As the project enters its final stages, GMAAS are being consulted on presentation of the site's heritage and publication of the results.



Ordsall Chord: the 1830 Stephenson Railway Bridge after removal of the Girder Bridge

7.4.4 Chethams Library

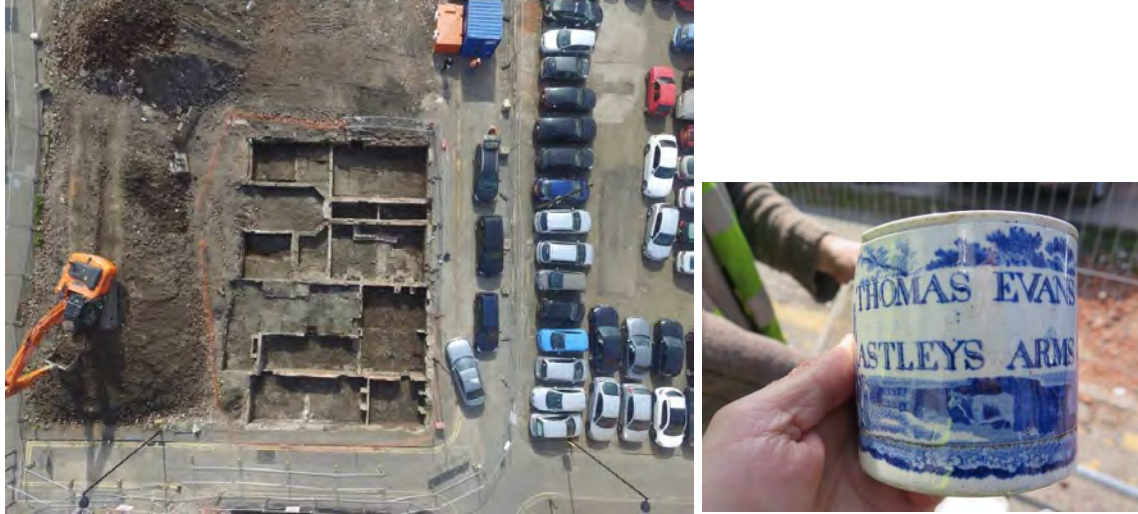
GMAAS recommended a planning condition to record the former Palatine Building which stood directly in front of the historic Chethams Library on Victoria Street. An archaeological watching brief was maintained during demolition and a detailed record made of historic fabric exposed. This related to the medieval precinct wall erected in 1421 for the College of Priests founded at Chethams. At the base of the wall is an arch spanning a deep ditch which may relate to the site of Manchester Castle, which is recorded in the late 12th century. The newly exposed precinct wall will be consolidated and panels erected to explain the site's history for the benefit of the many people who pass by the site. GMAAS have monitored and provided advice throughout this process, as well as for a follow-on proposal to create a medieval visitor centre and expose the castle ditch, which is subject to a Heritage Lottery Fund application.



Removal of the Palatine Building has revealed the late medieval precinct wall and bedrock beneath Chetham's College. The rocky outcrop was the site of Manchester Castle.

7.4.4 74-88 Great Ancoats Street

Excavation by Pre-Construct Archaeology ahead of an apartment block development revealed a well-preserved set of early to mid-19th century cellar dwellings along with the back yard of a former pub site. The Astleys Arms pub was opened in 1821 and owned by Thomas Evans whose name appears on personalised pottery found at the site. There was also a large quantity of bottles buried in the pub yard. Manchester Evening News ran a story on the site and a public open day was held for people to view the excavations. The quality of the buried remains was surprising given the erection of a 20th century building on the site. A row of blind-back workers' housing on Dean Street was recorded in the 1980s prior to demolition. One of these buildings was dismantled and stored at the Museum of Science and Industry on Liverpool Road, so the excavation of the cellars under these buildings on Dean Street has especial value.



Aerial view of completed excavation showing extent of cellars and the Astleys Arms mug

7.5 Oldham

7.5.1 Rose Mill

Countryside Properties are redeveloping the Rose Mill site in Chadderton for housing. The scheme was informed by an archaeological desk based assessment which identified three non-designated heritage assets with an archaeological interest. These were the late 19th century mill site, and the sites of the early 19th century Coalshaw Farm and Cottages. Investigation of potential below-ground remains was secured through a planning condition. Evaluation found that below-ground remains of the mill engine house had not survived but that the farm and cottages warranted further excavation ahead of development ground works. Well-preserved foundations were recorded and included several phases of historic development for the farmhouse.

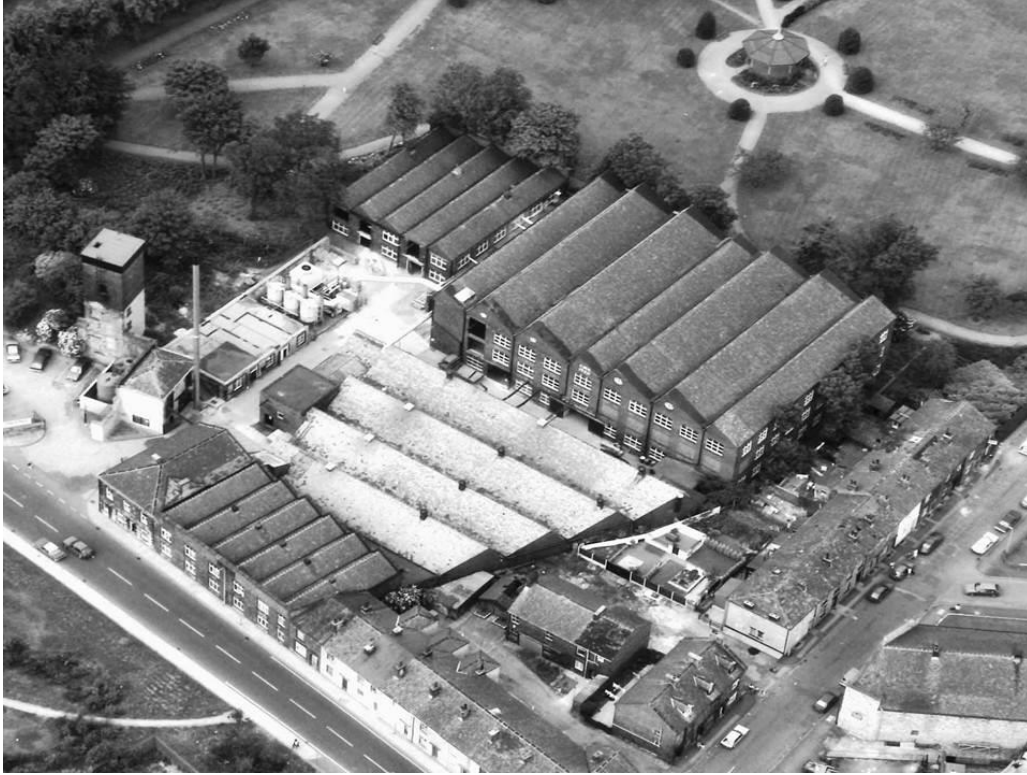


Coalshaw Farm site under excavation at the Rose Mill development site

7.6 Rochdale

7.6.1 Hare Hill Mill

Hare Hill Mill lies within a Conservation Area in Littleborough. It started in the 1840s as a woollen mill and was operated by the Littleborough Cooperative Society by 1860. A housing application was submitted which involved demolishing 20th century additions at the rear of the complex but retaining more significant structures on and close to the main road frontage. GMAAS recommended a scheme of archaeological works including a historic building survey to supplement the heritage statement submitted with the application, and investigation of the site of the original mill. A condition has been attached to secure these works.



Hare Hill Mill, Littleborough. This will be the subject of a detailed historic building survey and evaluation of the former mill site prior to redevelopment for housing

7.7 Salford

7.7.1 Chapel Wharf Phase 3

Between Chapel Street and the Lowry Hotel, Dandara are constructing a large-scale apartment complex. Previous archaeological investigations on earlier phases of this scheme (not built) were undertaken in 2005 and 2007. These discovered remains relating to the edge of the medieval borough, including burgage plot boundary ditches and a sequence of dwellings built within the burgage plot beside Clowes Street. Phase 3 of the Dandara development allowed Salford Archaeology to complete the site investigations, secured by an archaeology planning condition. These revealed a 17th century town boundary ditch together with significant remains of Salford Twist Mill No. 3 built around 1800. This mill was innovative, being one of the world's first fire-proofed and gas-lit mills, as well as having one of world's largest steam engines (60hp) and earliest use of steam heating within hollow cast iron columns. The gas retorts also supplied gas to Clowes Street lamps – the world's first gas-lit street in 1806. The basement of the mill survived as the mill had been destroyed in the 1940 Blitz and rubble filled the basement.

Intact cast iron columns and evidence for the innovative cast iron framework were found, along with remains of gas supply. GMAAS are working with Dandara on a heritage presentation scheme for landscaping along Clowes Street. There will also be a GM Past Revealed popular publication and more academic articles.



Chapel Wharf Phase 3 development site, viewed from the Lowry Hotel, showing the basement of Salford Twist Mill which retained archaeological evidence for world leading textile mill technology

7.7.2 Charlestown Riverside

A large-scale housing regeneration scheme, being delivered by Keep Moat, affects the site of Douglas Green in Pendleton. This area has significant historical remains relating to the late medieval Pendleton Hall and corn mill, one of the country's earliest steam powered cotton mills, and an extensive bleach works. In the first phase of development, secured by an archaeology condition, LP Archaeology undertook an open area excavation of the hall and associated farm range. This was carried out in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by GMAAS. Impressive remains of the multi-phase cellar complex for the hall, along with the farmhouse and cobbled yard, were recovered. Finds went back to the late medieval period. There was a strong focus on community engagement with presentations to the community including schools, an opportunity for participation in the excavation, and site tours.



Charlestown Riverside housing development, with the excavated remains of Pendleton Old Hall (left) and its farm complex (right) in the foreground. The site of Douglas Green Cotton Mill and Irwell Bleach Works are in the trees to the right and will be excavated in development Phases 2/3

7.8 Stockport

7.8.1 A6 MARR

The Manchester Airport to the A6 relief road has seen an extensive programme of archaeological investigation and recording by Wessex Archaeology in line with a Written Scheme of Investigation approved by GMAAS and our counterparts in Cheshire East. A range of archaeological features have been recorded, one of the highlights being an unexpected ring ditch which may relate to a late prehistoric roundhouse. Fieldwork is now complete and analysis is being undertaken leading to a report on the results.



Possible Iron Age roundhouse near Bramhall Oil Terminal

7.8.2 Springmount Mill

This started off in the early 19th century as Brinksway Bank Bleach and Printing Works, before becoming a cotton mill in the late 19th century. The building has been empty for some while and a housing scheme is now being brought forward which will involve a mixture of demolition and refurbishment. GMAAS were consulted pre-application and consultation with the GM Historic Environment Record showed that the site had the additional interest of a former Swedenborgian Chapel established in 1823. A site visit showed that the chapel still existed and had been incorporated into the mill complex when it went out of use in the mid-19th century. An understanding of the historic fabric and its construction sequence and relative significance of the various buildings was required, so GMAAS prepared a brief for a specialist historic building recording contractor to undertake a survey. This work is ongoing and will inform development design.



Springmount Mill. Looking from Brinksway with the chapel on the left and mill to the right

7.9 Tameside

7.9.1 Castle Street Mills

Much of this important Grade 2 listed textile mill complex was recorded archaeologically during previous phases of development by Urban Splash in the early 2000s. The final phase of apartment development has now been brought forward. This includes a listed, freestanding engine house dating to the 1840s together with the site of a former wing of the mill and a separate iron foundry. A condition was attached to secure archaeological evaluation trenching, undertaken by Salford Archaeology. This work found that remains were very fragmentary and affected by 20th century redevelopment. Parts of an early 19th century marine steam engine base were recorded but there was no further requirement for additional excavation. GMAAS have advised that the refurbished engine house incorporate a heritage display on the site's important industrial history.



Castle Street Mill, Stalybridge. Remains of the detached (listed) engine house with archaeological evaluation trenching taking place

7.10 Trafford

7.10.1 Latham Hall Farm

This farm in Hale was built in the late 19th century and replaced Bentley Hall, which had origins in the late medieval period. GMAAS recommended a scheme of archaeological investigation through a planning condition for the proposed housing development, the works being undertaken by Archaeological Research Services. A historic building survey recorded the surviving outbuilding, which had late 18th century roof timbers with some interesting carpenter and apotropaic markings. Evaluation trenching found no evidence for the earlier hall other than an unstratified sherd of medieval pottery. Reports on the results have been lodged with the GM Historic Environment Record and no further work is required.



The 18th century timber roof structure

7.11 Wigan

7.11.1 Gibfield Park

This large-scale housing scheme by Keep Moat saw an open-area excavation by Oxford Archaeology North of mid-19th century workers' housing and back yards. The archaeological potential had been identified by an earlier phase of evaluation trenching. This final phase of site work was undertaken to an agreed Written Scheme of

Investigation. Well-preserved house footings and yard areas were exposed and recorded, this being a rare opportunity to investigate early workers' housing at an urban fringe site.



Workers' housing and back yards exposed at North Road, Atherton

8.0 Community Engagement

8.1 GMAAS and the Centre for Applied Archaeology organised a **Greater Manchester Archaeology Day** at Peel Hall on 26th November 2016, supported by the Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation. The event was attended by **155** people who saw presentations by eight speakers on a range of archaeological projects carried out over the previous year. There were also a number of displays from local societies and the Centre, as well as book sales and refreshments.

8.2 Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation

A new archaeology society has been launched with support from Salford University Centre for Applied Archaeology. It is called Salford Archaeology and History Society and has been formed by participants of the successful Dig Greater Manchester community archaeology projects at Buille Hill Park, Worsley New Hall and elsewhere. This brings to 17 the number of local societies in the Federation. Plans are in place to celebrate the vibrancy of community archaeology in the area through a Greater Manchester Archaeology Festival, to be held in late June. The local archaeology societies continue to undertake significant archaeological

investigations on sites that would not normally be examined in the commercial environment, providing a balance to research. Two examples are illustrated below:



Holcombe Moor Heritage Group's excavation of the Bottoms site on Ministry of Defence land north of Bury. This 19th century cottage site turned out to have an earlier wheel pit associated with textile production, and overlay medieval iron smelting deposits.



Volunteers from The Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts carrying out excavation of the road leaving the Roman Fort north gate, as part of the Roman Fort Hinterland Survey

8.3 Revealing Oldknow's Legacy

Following on from last year's work at Mellor Mill and the Marple Lime Kilns tramway, further community excavations took place at the 1797 weigh house site near the Lime Kiln. This involved local schools and adult volunteers. The Lime Kilns Scheduled Monument is on Historic England's At Risk Register. Various surveys and community events have informed our understanding of the monument and raised awareness of its significance and vulnerability. GMAAS have provided advice through this process and are aiding development of a management plan to protect and present the monument in the future.



Remains of the late 18th century weigh house at Marple Lime Kilns being revealed at the recent community dig

9.0 Publications

9.1 The Greater Manchester's Past Revealed Series has seen four more publications produced over the last year. The Gin Pit Colliery, Booth Hall, and Exchange Station booklets were produced by Oxford Archaeology North, Wardell Armstrong, and Pre-Construct Archaeology in that order, and were funded by developers through planning conditions. The Radcliffe Tower booklet was prepared by Salford University Centre for Applied Archaeology,

Radcliffe Heritage Group and Bury Council as part of the Heritage Lottery Funded Radcliffe Tower community archaeology project.

Gin Pit Colliery: The Archaeology of a Historic Coal Mining Settlement – No. 15

Radcliffe Manor: A Medieval Tower in Context – No. 16

Booth Hall and Boggart Hole Clough: from Medieval Private Park to Urban Public Park – No. 17

Exchange Station, Greengate, Salford: the History and Archaeology of a transformed urban landscape – No. 18



9.2 A number of other GM Past Revealed booklets have been secured through developer and community funding:

- Kingsway Business Park, Rochdale (by OAN)
- Cutacre Opencast, Bolton/Salford/Wigan (by OAN)
- Cross Street Chapel and Graveyard – Metrolink Second city crossing (by CfA Leeds)
- Swinton Unitarian Church graveyard (by OAN)
- The archaeology of early Salford
- Dig Greater Manchester (CFAA) x 2
- Stayley Hall, Tameside (by YAT)
- Castle Irwell, Salford (Salford Archaeology)
- Woodford Aerodrome, Stockport (by CgMs Consulting)
- Bridgefield Street, Stockport (by OAN/Salford Archaeology)
- Owen Street, Castlefield (Salford Archaeology)
- Pendleton Hall and Douglas Green (LP Archaeology)
- Chapel Wharf (Salford Archaeology)

GMAAS provide quality control and write a foreword for each booklet. The series provides a format for publishing significant archaeology from developer-funded, research or community projects in an attractive, easy to read, well-illustrated style. As well as describing the archaeology of the particular site in question, the booklets provide a historical framework for the wider area.

9.3 Monographs are being prepared on some of the most significant archaeological work in Greater Manchester. These are larger format and more academic books which provide detailed accounts and target a much wider audience. Currently in preparation are:

- New Bailey Prison, Salford
- A combined publication on the former 17th century farming landscapes at Cutacre former opencast mine site (straddling Wigan, Bolton and Salford) and Kingsway business park development in Rochdale
- Arkwright's Mill, Manchester

10.0 North West Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment

The Salford University Centre for Applied Archaeology is leading on a Historic England funded project to update the previous regional research framework, which was published in 2006. This framework is used by contracting and local government archaeologists to provide research questions for commercial and grant aided archaeology projects. A great deal of archaeology has been undertaken across the region over the last 11 years and it is felt that now is a good time to update the resource assessment and review the research agenda to see if it is still fit for purpose. GMAAS are helping the Centre manage the project and have been working with other local government archaeology colleagues in the North West to provide overviews of recent archaeological work, sorted by period. A blog site has been set up to keep the Historic Environment community informed, with the project launching at a conference in Lancaster on 5th May 2017, at which period specialists will present their summaries of how our knowledge has increased over the last 11 years. This will then inform research agenda update workshops, with a final conference in April 2018 and all the information being put on a dedicated and updatable web-based platform.

11.0 Conclusion

It can be seen from the figures in this summary report that GMAAS have maintained a high level of planning input. It is worth noting that the development boom in Manchester is reflected in the high volume of consultations and archaeological work in the city centre.

The Centre for Applied Archaeology, which GMAAS forms part of, has cemented its place in the School of Environment and Life Sciences at the University of Salford, and has been encouraged to draw up a degree course in archaeology which is expected to commence in September 2017.

Norman Redhead

Heritage Management Director (Archaeology)

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