

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

ANNUAL SUMMARY REPORT FOR PERIOD

1ST APRIL 2017 – 31ST MARCH 2018

1.0 Introduction

The following report is for the sixth 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.

Contact details:

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service
School of Environment & Life Sciences
Room LG20, Peel Building
University of Salford
Salford, M5 4WX

gmaas@salford.ac.uk

<http://www.salford.ac.uk/cst/research/applied-archaeology/greater-manchester-archaeological-advisory-service>

Tel: 0161 295 5522

3.0 Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GM HER)

3.1 The database now has **18,975** 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 **91,770** images and a substantial paper archive and library.

3.2 Over the past year **71** grey literature reports have been entered onto the database, **151** new Monument records created and **5370** existing Monument records updated. **70** new event records have been added, **19** new listed buildings entered, and GMAAS have responded to **44** 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 **121** 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 may involve a visit to GMAAS to seek information in the HER library of archaeology reports and publications which supplement the HER database. There were **33** visits to the GMAAS office to consult the HER library.

3.4 In addition to development-related enquiries, information from the HER is also used to provide input into individual Historic Environment Farm Environment Records

(HEFERs) for Countryside Stewardship scheme applications. In the last year the HER Officer has responded to **38** HEFER consultations. This compares with 29 during the same period in the previous financial year. The HER has also been consulted **10** times by students/researchers and **12** times by members of the public.

3.5 HER Backlog

A number of grey literature reports have been entered onto 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 and that reports are correctly logged onto the HER.

3.6 Greater Manchester Textile Mill Survey

GMAAS completed Stage 2 of this Historic England-funded project in the summer of 2017. District reports were provided to authorities together with a Greater Manchester-wide overview report. A comprehensive Buildings at Risk database was prepared for the 9 districts containing surviving mills. Designated mill entries were updated online and the GM Historic Environment Record was enhanced for development management and research purposes. An Executive Summary leaflet was published for Historic England's official launch of their commissioned study *'Engines of Prosperity: new uses for old mills'* at an event on 22nd November in Manchester. The results of the survey were also presented as a PowerPoint presentation to: Historic England North West Regional team, GM Planning Officers Group, GM Conservation Officers Group, the Princes Regeneration Trust BRICK Catalyst Workshop on textile mills, and the GM Archaeology Day.

The survey found that a total of 540 historic textile mills survive across Greater Manchester, a 45% reduction in numbers since the previous survey of the late 1980s. 20% of the mills were found to be 'at risk' of complete loss (108 mills), 28% vulnerable and 52% at 'low risk', with many of the latter being well maintained and in sustainable use. The total floor space in the surviving mills is approximately 40.5 million square feet,

with around 31% (12.5 million square feet) vacant or under-used. The report was partnered by a study by Cushman & Wakefield into economic models for new uses.

3.7 Salford Local Plan land allocations

GMAAS have been working with Salford City Council to identify historic environment interests in relation to 21 proposed land allocations for housing and employment. This work focuses on the archaeological interest and significance, and involves a screening exercise with more detailed desk-based assessment and site walkover survey for those allocations deemed to have potential significance. This project is ongoing.

3.8 North West Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment

GMAAS are helping the Centre for Applied Archaeology manage and deliver this project to update the Framework to reflect the last 11 years of archaeological investigations in the North West. There have been nine research workshops over the last year: six period ones, and one each on built heritage, strategy and community. These sessions have taken place across the North West and engaged a wide section of the historic environment community. The previous research framework has been reviewed and updated, and set out in a new format of questions, supporting statements and strategies. These will complement the updated resource assessments and bibliographies prepared in 2017. A final conference will be held on Saturday 28th April to present case studies for each period, highlighting some of the updated research questions. There will be a point-in-time publication later this year, but the updated NW Research Framework will go onto an interactive wiki platform being prepared by Historic England. Research frameworks in the North East of England, East of England, South Yorkshire and the Yorkshire Wolds are also underway, although the North West study is at a more advanced stage.

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 developer

agents pre-application but also from students, members of the public and local authority officers. GMAAS, in partnership with Historic England, have delivered two Archaeology & Planning workshops to Salford and Trafford Planners.

DISTRICT	Meetings	Lectures & Presentations	HER consults – Data provided
Bolton	1	1	2
Bury	2	–	7
Manchester	42	5	41
Oldham	5	2	5
Rochdale	4	1	9
Salford	33	4	15
Stockport	20	2	11
Tameside	4	–	3
Trafford	3	1	17
Wigan	3	–	9
Multi-district/general	32	13	2
TOTAL	149	29	121

Table showing meetings, talks and consultations

5.0 Planning Work

5.1 GMAAS were consulted on **73** 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 formally identifies each stage of the archaeological process to be implemented 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 **52** 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 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 made sure that professional standards were being adhered to.

5.3 The HER now has **2,876** 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). There is currently a backlog of around 900 reports waiting to be entered onto the HER database.

5.4 Over the last year GMAAS have received **182** reports to place in the HER (26 fewer than last year). These are 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	–	2	5	1	–	1	1	12
BU	–	1	1	–	2	–	1	1	6
MA	1	12	28	3	11	8	1	4	68
OL	–	–	2	1	1	1	–	–	5
RO	–	1	3	1	1	–	1	1	8
SA	–	3	18	1	3	1	1	1	28
ST	–	3	2	6	3	4	1	3	22
TA	–	–	3	1	5	1	2	–	12
TR	–	–	3	–	–	–	1	–	4
WI	1	1	5	1	4	2	3	–	17
TOTAL	4	21	67	19	31	17	12	11	182

Breakdown of report types by district

5.5 The archaeological work was undertaken by **43** separate organisations, reflecting the wide range of archaeological contractors and consultants operating in Greater Manchester.

5.6 GMAAS received **85** formal consultations from planning officers on requests to discharge archaeological planning conditions, nearly double last year's figure. There were **56** recommendations for partial discharge and **29** for complete discharge. Usually, discharge is only recommended when all the archaeological works have been implemented, although partial discharge can be agreed when, for instance, the WSI is approved or the site work is completed. The final stages of the process require GMAAS to be in receipt of a satisfactory report of the investigation results, demonstrating 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 simply 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 2018 the LPAs in Greater Manchester received **20,362** planning applications. This is an increase of **586** on the previous year, or a c **2.9%** rise. This increase in the overall number of planning applications being received by the LPAs is reflected in the number and rate of consultations received by GMAAS, which has also risen. In the same period GMAAS was consulted by the LPAs on **318** planning applications, an increase of 25 on the previous year (293), or 8.5%. However, 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 **26.5** per calendar month.

District	Planning applications received by LPAs	Consultations received by GMAAS	Consultations with no archaeological interest	Consultations with an archaeological implication
Bolton	2246	21	15	6
Bury	1242	13	4	9
Manchester	4024	108	46	62
Oldham	1427	13	11	2
Rochdale	1331	25	18	7
Salford	1652	39	15	24
Stockport	3282	36	18	18
Tameside	1023	19	9	10
Trafford	2654	27	15	12
Wigan	1481	17	9	8
TOTALS	20362	318	160	158

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 **318** consultations received by GMAAS, **160 (50.5%)** were judged to have no impact upon the archaeological interest. For the remaining **158 (49.5%)** GMAAS recommended that some form of further archaeological work (assessment, evaluation, excavation, watching brief, building recording) should be undertaken. This compares with 150 in the previous year.

6.3 It should be noted that during the year no planning consultations received by GMAAS led to a recommendation for outright refusal; however, in several instances deferment was advised pending the submission of appropriate information in line with NPPF policies.

6.4 For most of the consultations requiring an archaeological input, 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 Historic England’s *Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning: Note 2: Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment*.

No Impact	160
Predetermination Assessment/ Evaluation	25
Conditioned Programme of Archaeological Work	133
TOTAL	318

Table showing consultation recommendations

6.5 In addition to the planning application consultations, in 2017–18 GMAAS responded to some **25** pre-application consultations, all of which had a recommendation for an archaeological desk-based assessment.

6.6 The trend noted in the last year or so for previously dormant, large development schemes to become active continued into 2017–18. 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 last year has continue the trend of Manchester dominating planning consultations and archaeological work. However, of particular note has been a marked increase in large-scale developments in Salford’s historic core. The largest and most intensive archaeological investigations have been along the Chapel Street corridor and in the Greengate area. Elsewhere large housing developments have continued to come forward in Wigan and now in Rochdale district, whilst Stockport continues to be busy with a range of development types. 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.

7.2 Bolton

7.2.1 Hulton Park

This grade 2 listed park has been subject to a complex planning application by Peel to create a golf course, hotel complex and major housing scheme. The park once belonged to the Hulton family, who had considerable status and wealth in the medieval period. A range of archaeological investigations, including desk-based and historic building assessments together with targeted geophysical survey, have been undertaken to identify archaeological sites and provide an understanding of their relative significance; these will also inform an appropriate scheme of further mitigation should the development go ahead. This large-scale landscape is a 'blank canvas' as no previous archaeological work has been undertaken here. Key sites include three former hall sites, the walled garden, ruined farm outbuildings, miners' cottages and colliery sites, landscape features, medieval and possible prehistoric features within the former parkland, as well as historic parkland features. Archaeological reports formed part of a package of over 600 supporting documents submitted with the planning application. Permission has recently been granted and GMAAS recommended a scheme of archaeological works to secure archaeological interests. The first stage is to undertake an extensive evaluation through targeted trial trenching to better define the archaeological resource.



Entrance to the walled garden showing the Hulton family stag head crest above the doorway with two rampant Hulton lions either side. This decorative stonework was taken from the Hulton chapel at Deane Church.



Earthworks representing the site of a former farm within the parkland

7.3 Bury

7.3.1 East Lancashire Papermill site

GMAAS responded to several pre-application consultations including the former paper mill site. We were able to inform Bury LPA that an archaeological desk-based assessment and evaluation trenching had been carried out several years ago for a

previous scheme which never went forward. The evaluation demonstrated that a putative Roman road did not exist but that there were extensive and well-preserved remains of an early 19th century bleach works. This previous work allows GMAAS to give clear direction on the archaeological interest and further mitigation, providing certainty and managing risk for the applicant. Other pre-application enquiries included Bleaklow Hall, a former 13th century hall site, and Mountheath Industrial Estate, an early 19th century former bleachworks, both of which require an archaeological desk-based assessment to inform the need for and nature of further mitigation.



Well-preserved remains of the former bleach works at the East Lancashire Papermill site

7.4 Manchester

7.4.1 2–4 Chester Road

A large-scale apartment development next to the Bridgewater Canal Basin terminus saw a programme of archaeological works ahead of groundworks. Salford Archaeology excavated the remains of the former canal basin manager's house, terraced cottages, brick arched stabling, a former riverside wall, and Roman deposits that had accumulated on the old River Medlock river bank. A final phase of excavation will focus on a former river channel that contains Roman rubbish.



Samian ware (terra sigillata) from Gaul

Looking at the excavated terraced cottages beside the canal basin, with the Beetham Tower in the background. Several sherds of high-quality Roman Samian ware were found, including one depicting a bear.

7.4.2 Circle Square Plot 14

The final excavation at the former BBC North by Pre-Construct Archaeology involved recording the site of back-to-back workers' housing next to Armstrong House. Adjacent to the housing was a 19th century print works site which produced some printing blocks including a fine bee motif.



Overhead view of excavated workers' housing and, on the right, archaeological recording



Bee motif on 19th century printing block

7.4.3 Mabel Tylecote Building

The Mabel Tylecote Building was erected in the 1960s on the site of the early 19th century Chorlton Town Hall, although the colonnaded façade of the Hall was retained as a listed building. As part of the demolition of the 1960s structure ahead of redevelopment for Manchester Metropolitan University, it was necessary to support the listed façade. During this process several voids were discovered under the pavement immediately in front of the façade which required stabilisation works. Research showed that these were the remains of six police cells which formed part of the town hall and dated to the 1830s. A condition was attached to make a laser scan survey of the cells, which are Manchester's oldest surviving police cells, and an archaeological watching brief recorded further details during stabilisation works. In one of the cells were parts of a decorative fireplace which were also recorded, and are thought to have come from the original Town Hall. It is intended to display these with a commemorative plaque to explain this fascinating element of Manchester's history.



One of the police cells with the remnants of the fire surround, with detailed photos of the decorative panel below



7.5 Oldham

7.5.1 Hollinwood DBA

An application for an employment-led mixed-use large-scale scheme at Hollinwood was submitted with neither a heritage statement nor an archaeological desk-based assessment, contrary to NPPF policy 128. The Historic Environment Record showed several sites of potential archaeological interest, including a Roman road on the southern site boundary, the site of a hat manufactory and later mills, early coal mining and a 16th century coin find. A condition was attached to planning consent requiring a programme of archaeological works. CFA Archaeology have carried out the initial phase,

a desk-based assessment, with a follow-up scheme of trenching to test for identified potential archaeological features recently approved by GMAAS.

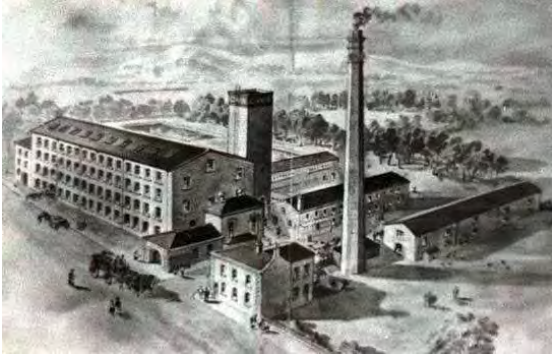


1848 OS map, showing the Hollinwood development site boundary overlaid

7.6 Rochdale

7.6.1 Hare Hill Mill, Littleborough

Hare Hill Mill, more recently named Proofings Technology Ltd, originated in the first half of the 19th century as a weaving mill before being reconfigured as a blanket mill in the early 20th century. Set within a Conservation Area, permission was granted for a housing scheme which involves demolition of most of the mill but retaining historic structures fronting the road. GMAAS requested a historic building survey to record the mill for research and archive interests. This was undertaken by The Jessop Consultancy. Further archaeological work has concentrated on understand the origins of the mill, especially the potential for water power and steam power. Several phases of construction have been found in evaluation trenches and this will now lead on to a targeted open-area excavation.



1900 illustration of Hare Hill Mill showing the original spinning block on the left, which was demolished by 1950 and formed the focus of evaluation trenching (right). A recent major fire (below) destroyed the 1920 three-storey blanket mill.



7.6.2 Rochdale Riverside

A major development in Rochdale town centre saw an archaeological desk-based assessment followed by a programme of targeted trial trenches to examine the level of survival and relative significance of potential archaeological remains; these included textile mills, chapels and workers' housing. The trenches established that most of the archaeological interest had been removed by 20th century development, including the former bus station. However, the eastern side of the proposal area had better survival and a final phase of archaeological excavation saw significant remains of mid-19th century workers' housing and a 19th century chapel exposed and recorded. It is intended to commemorate the site's history and archaeology through on-site interpretation including use of decorative stonework from the chapel within the public realm, together with a Greater Manchester's Past Revealed booklet.

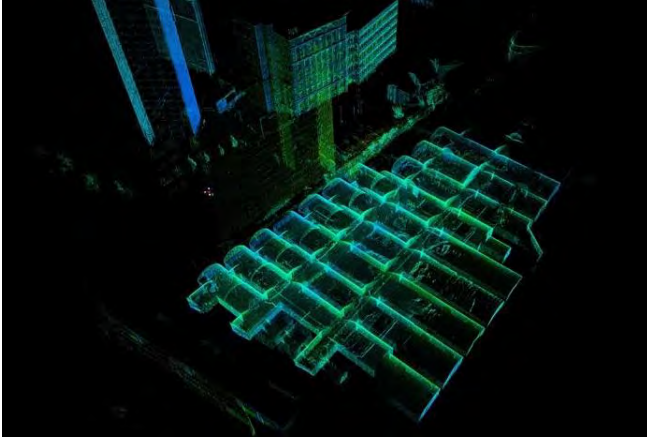


Rochdale Riverside: excavation of mid-19th century workers' housing

7.7 Salford

7.7.1 Embankment West

Ahead of demolition of the former brick railway arches that once formed the approach to Exchange Station, GMAAS required a survey record to be made of the late 19th century arches together with excavation of the ground between the Victorian piers. This work was undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology prior to demolition. The latter revealed remains within the former historic core of Salford, alongside Greengate. Features ranged from a medieval stone building to 18th century fireplaces.



Laser scan survey of the brick railway arches and, right, remains of a medieval sandstone building

7.7.2 The Crescent

A large-scale apartment development on the historic Crescent routeway allowed archaeologists from Salford Archaeology to explore the site of White Bank, a small hamlet lying just to the west of the city's historic core. The locally listed Black Horse Hotel was in too poor a condition to save and was recorded through a historic building survey prior to demolition. The site was assessed for archaeological remains through an extensive programme of trial trenching, targeting four key areas. These revealed an interesting range of former building types: high-quality townhouses of the wealthy fronting onto The Crescent, small-scale back-to-backs for the urban poor, and the basement of a substantial stone-founded building of possible 17th century date that had been converted to cellars for use as workers' housing.



The former, locally listed, Black Horse Hotel (left); view looking down across one of the excavation areas (right)

7.7.3 Blackfriars

Redevelopment of the land behind Blackfriars pub and alteration of the pub for residential use led to Salford Archaeology undertaking a scheme of works, including a historic building survey of the Grade 2 listed pub. Excavation of a rubbish pit behind the pub, along with some fine examples of cellar dwellings, yielded an excellent range of domestic pottery, clay pipes and bottles. The pottery included 18th century pearl ware and a complete 19th century stoneware jar.



Survey drawing of pub façade and some of the finds (right)

7.7.4 Charlestown Riverside

The final stage of the Keepmoat housing development at Pendleton saw Salford Archaeology reveal and record the extensive remains of the 19th century Douglas Green Bleachworks which replaced the late medieval corn mill attached to the manorial hall at Pendleton. The site of the hall and its farm complex had been excavated in the previous year by LP Archaeology. The bleachworks contained a series of stone bleaching tanks, a series of engine houses and remains of cast-iron line shafting boxes, along with an impressive water channel which might have been adapted from the original water-powered corn mill. A Greater Manchester's Past Revealed publication will be produced to disseminate the development site's remarkable archaeology and history to the local and wider population.



Aerial view of the extensive excavations of the Douglas Green Bleach Works

7.8 Stockport

7.8.1 Newbridge Lane Mill

One of Stockport's oldest surviving mill complexes, at Newbridge Lane, had fallen into disrepair, and its dangerous condition led to an application for a demolition notice. This was granted on condition that an archaeological survey be undertaken first. This was carried out by Matrix Archaeology, with historical research undertaken by Dr Pete Arrowsmith. The building was found to be late 18th century in origin and contained some of the earliest surviving cast-iron framing in the region.



The former late 18th century spinning block at Newbridge Lane Mill

7.8.2 Covent Garden

GMAAS recommended a planning condition to secure archaeological investigations at this large-scale housing scheme located beside Middle Hillgate just south of Stockport's historic centre. Remains of a mid-18th century silk mill, early cellar dwellings, and the site of the world's largest Sunday School were uncovered and recorded. The site was at the top of Crowther's Steps, made famous by Lowry's painting. At GMAAS's request there were guided tours for the public one lunchtime and these were very well attended. There will be a Greater Manchester's Past Revealed booklet on this fascinating site.



Excavating the brick foundation of the Sunday school site, which is depicted on the right in a centennial medal of 1884; at one time the school had 2000 pupils enrolled.



Early 19th century back-to-back workers' dwellings being excavated alongside Crowther's Steps with, right, a 1919 'peace' button recovered from a backfilled cellar.

7.9 Tameside

7.9.1 Denton Hall

The site of Denton Hall had previously been excavated by Denton Local History Society in 1980 and then by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit ahead of development of the site in 1997. However, a small part of the possible moat area lay outside the previous development so when a new scheme came forward, GMAAS recommended a final excavation of the site. This produced some remarkable archaeology. In one small area there survived a part of the original timber bridge across the moat, dated by dendrochronology to the early 16th century.



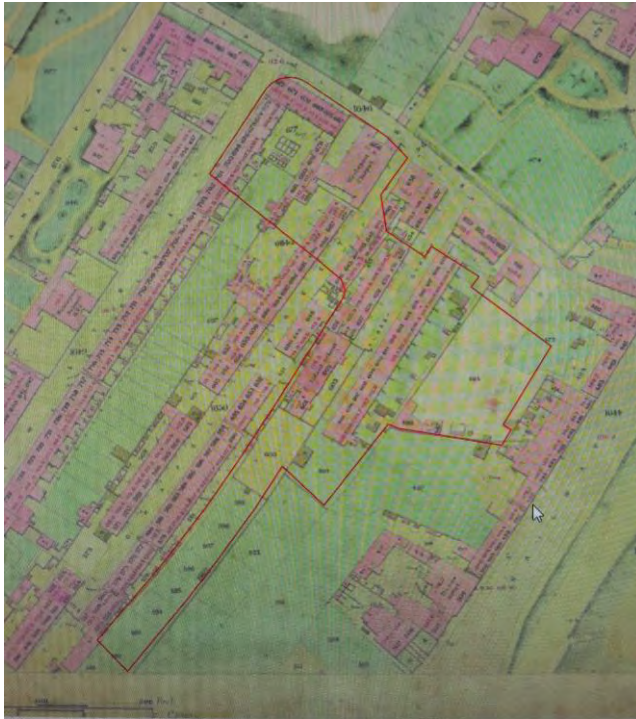
Matrix Archaeology recording the remains of the sole plate, with tie beams to the left and slots for uprights

7.10 Trafford

7.10.1 Regent Road, Altrincham

A desk-based assessment was submitted with an application for a large-scale residential scheme. This identified the archaeological interest as relating to remains from the industrial period, in particular potential buried remains of early to late 19th century housing and industrial structures along Hope Square, Albert Street and parts of Chapel Street, plus a late 18th century Wesleyan Chapel site. The study concluded that the

archaeology is not of national significance and can therefore be removed by development as long as an appropriate archaeological record is made. The area was once densely packed with housing and became noted in World War 1 for the large number of men, 161 from just 60 houses, that volunteered – gaining recognition and praise from King George V. GMAAS recommended that a scheme of archaeological trenching, more detailed excavation and appropriate dissemination and commemoration are undertaken.



Altrincham Health Board plan from 1852 showing the character of the housing (left), and the blue plaque commemorating the volunteers from Chapel Street

7.11 Wigan

7.11.1 Coldalhurst Lane

At Astley, Redrow Homes funded a programme of archaeological investigation as part of the development of 4ha of land. The main archaeological interest came from the historic building survey undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North of Coldalhurst Farm, which turned out to be a 17th century timber-framed building hidden by later extensions and alterations. A range of farm outbuildings, some of probable 18th century origin, were also of note.



Coldahurst Farm with, right, an interior view showing a 17th century chamfered beam

8.0 Community Engagement

8.1 GMAAS and the Centre for Applied Archaeology organised a **Greater Manchester Archaeology Day** at Peel Hall on 25th November 2017, supported by the Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation. The event was attended by **160** people who saw presentations by ten speakers on a range of archaeological projects carried out over the previous year. The Mayor of Salford, Paul Dennet, gave the keynote address (the Brian Grimsditch Memorial Lecture) following a welcome by Professor Sheila Pankhurst, Dean of the School of Environment and Life Sciences. There were also displays from local societies and the Centre, as well as book sales and refreshments.

8.2 Greater Manchester Archaeology Festival

The first ever **Greater Manchester Archaeology Festival** was held from the 22nd to the 25th June. It had 17 free events to choose from across Greater Manchester and nearly every member of the Federation took part. Organised by the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the University of Salford in conjunction with the Greater Manchester Archaeology Federation, the festival aimed to increase access, encourage the exploration, and celebrate the archaeology of Greater Manchester. Just over **300** members of the public took part with activities ranging from walks and talks to surveys and excavations on sites dating from the Roman period to the 20th century. The Greater Manchester Federation Newsletter for October 2017 described the activities put on by societies at the Festival. Two of the Festival events are shown below.



The Bolton Archaeology and Egyptology Society ran guided tours of the Tudor period Hall i' th' Wood north of Bolton. The Society were able to show examples of ancient graffiti, including protective markings, as they have recently undertaken a graffiti survey of the hall. This forms part of the wider Greater Manchester Graffiti Survey (set up and run by Federation members).



Tameside Archaeology Society's display at Portland Basin Museum included the opportunity to handle finds.

8.3 Marple Lime Kilns

GMAAS have provided advice on the community excavation and future management of the lime kilns that were built 1797–1802 and form a Scheduled Monument, which is currently on the Historic England 'At Risk' register. The Oldknow's Legacy project saw a final community archaeology dig on the site of the weigh houses. A Friends of Marple Lime Kilns group has been formed to take forward future management and funding applications to protect and restore the site.

8.4 Castleshaw Hinterland Survey

Each year the Friends of Castleshaw Roman Forts undertake geophysical survey and evaluation trenching to provide an understanding of the archaeological potential and significance of land around the Scheduled Roman Forts site, but also further afield in other parts of Castleshaw Valley. Recent work by the volunteers has characterised the nature of Roman deposits and features on the north side of the fort defences. Additionally, investigations on the floor of the valley alongside the Roman road have come across a large medieval building, probably part of the 13th century Cistercian grange that once belonged to Roche Abbey.



Archaeological recording of remains of the grange building in the Castleshaw Valley in Saddleworth

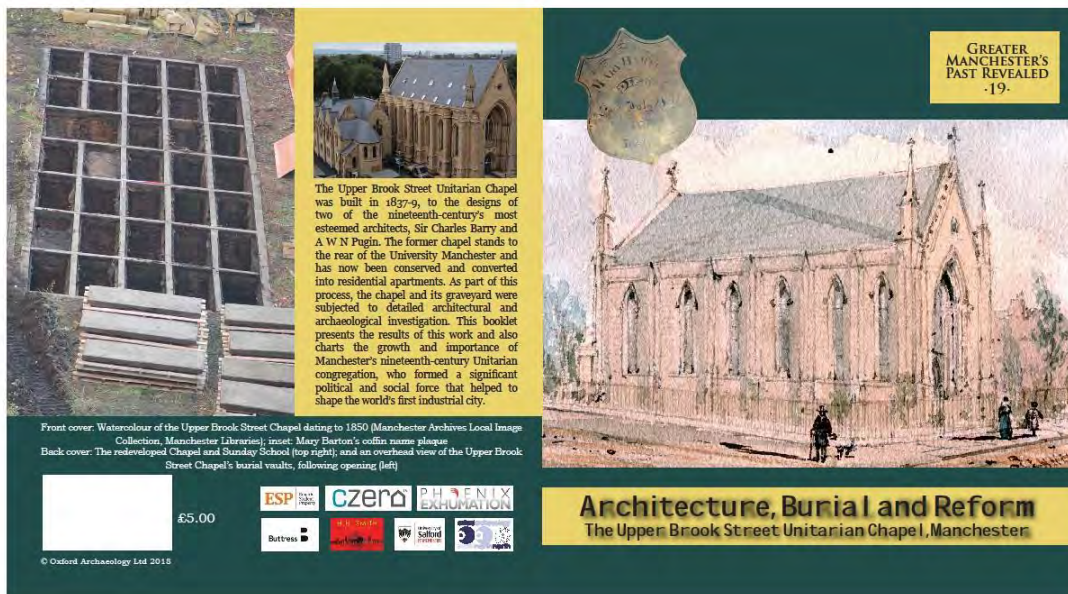
9.0 Publications

9.1 The Greater Manchester's Past Revealed Series

There are a number of these in the pipeline. Four are close to publication, these being:

- 1) *Architecture, Burial and Reform: the Upper Brook Street Unitarian Chapel, Manchester* (Oxford Archaeology North). This will be volume 19 in the series.
- 2) *Stayley Hall, Stalybridge: the history and archaeology of a medieval manor house* (York Archaeological Trust). 90% complete and publication expected in September.
- 3) *Castle Irwell: a meander through time* (Salford Archaeology). 90% complete

- 4) *Salford's Early Past* (Centre for Applied Archaeology). In preparation by Mike Nevell, based on an exhibition on Salford's Archaeology which was shown at Ordsall Hall and is currently being reconfigured for Salford Central railway station foyer.



Front and back cover of GM Past Revealed Volume 19 – now at the printers.

9.2 A number of other Greater Manchester's Past Revealed booklets have been secured through developer and community funding:

- Kingsway Business Park, Rochdale (OAN)
- Cutacre Opencast, Bolton/Salford/Wigan (OAN)
- Cross Street Chapel and Graveyard – Metrolink Second city crossing (CfA Leeds)
- Swinton Unitarian Church graveyard (OAN)
- Dig Greater Manchester (CFAA) x 2
- Ordsall Chord, Salford and Manchester railway heritage (Salford Archaeology)
- Woodford Aerodrome, Stockport (CgMs Consulting)
- Bridgefield Street, Stockport (OAN/Salford Archaeology)
- Owen Street, Castlefield (Salford Archaeology)
- Pendleton Hall and Douglas Green (LP Archaeology and Salford Archaeology)
- Chapel Wharf (Salford Archaeology)
- Gore Street and The Crescent (Salford Archaeology)
- Covent Garden, Stockport (Salford Archaeology)
- Rochdale Riverside (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 (following on from the next phase of excavation in June/July)
- 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 – this is nearly complete
- Arkwright's Mill, Manchester (part of the NOMA regeneration project)

11.0 Conclusion

It can be seen that 2017–18 has been an extremely busy year for GMAAS, with an increase across the spectrum of development control activities. Added to this has been the successful input by GMAAS staff to several special projects, as well as an increase in public dissemination.

Norman Redhead

Heritage Management Director (Archaeology)

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