



WORSLEY METHODIST CHAPEL AND SCHOOL, BARTON ROAD, WORSLEY

GREATER MANCHESTER

Historic Assessment Report



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The desk-based research was undertaken by Helen Quartermaine and the building survey was undertaken by Andy Phelps. The drawings were produced by Andy Phelps and Anne Stewardson. The project was managed by Jamie Quartermaine, who also edited the report.

SUMMARY

An historic assessment was required to inform a planning application for the conversion of a Methodist church at Barton Road, Worsley, Manchester, to a residential dwelling. The church is on a Local List of Heritage Assets for Salford, and lies within the Worsley Village conservation area, but is not a designated heritage asset of national significance in its own right according to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS 2010). The Historic Assessment has been undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) at the request of RA Fisk and Associates.

In 1801 John Burgess leased a small plot of land (44 x 35 feet and 39 x 39 feet, totalling 171 sq yds) which was large enough for a chapel and for some additional cottages to accommodate preachers. The original chapel of 1801 was provided with a Sunday school to the east in 1814 and then a long school room to the south before 1876 (perhaps 1855). The school room did not last for long, however, being removed in 1878 to make space for the extension of the chapel and the erection of a new large school building. The chapel may have been given a new façade in 1865, but it was certainly in place by 1889. The roof of the Sunday school, which originally had been gabled at the northern end, was modified at some point between 1889 and 1961 and converted to a mansard roof with a central dormer window.

From both documentary and archaeological evidence it is evident that a substantial portion of the pre-1878 chapel survives to the present day. In addition, parts of the 1855 school building may also survive, although it has been substantially altered. The chapel's extension and the new school room of 1878 are also clearly evident in the surviving structure, with the interior of the chapel probably being attributable to this date. Of note is the survival of the pipe organ at the southern end of the chapel, parts of which may date to as early as 1830. Worsley Methodist Chapel lies within the Worsley Village Conservation Area, an area formally protected through the planning system for its special architectural and historic interest. Its immediate surroundings include a number of late eighteenth and nineteenth century houses, which line the south-western side of Barton Road. The wider industrial context of the village is revealed by the remains of an eighteenth century lime kiln that is located opposite the church, on the northern side of the Worsley Brook, and the Bridgewater Canal beyond. Generally, the building is in reasonable condition and exhibits no signs of water damage or ingress associated with poor maintenance, however, the flooring in the school room has buckled and is in need of attention.

The church has been assessed for its importance as a heritage asset. It has been locally listed for its social and communal value, along side its Aesthetic and Group values. Although the church itself may be assessed to be of Local/Borough significance, its inclusion within the Worsley Village Conservation Area means that it must be attributed a Regional/County significance for its contribution to the areas distinctive character.

While the interiors of the Sunday school, school room and the ancillary structures retain limited heritage significance, there should be a presumption to retain as much of the chapel's historic interior as possible. In the event of the removal of part or all of the chapel's interior, an historic building survey is recommended prior to the commencement of such works. In addition, there is a high potential within the original structure that the removal of internal plaster will reveal details relating to the form and layout of the pre-

1878 chapel. If such works are required, then a watching brief maybe appropriate to record any detail uncovered.

Additionally, the provenance of the organ may contribute considerably to the heritage value of the building and its inspection by an appropriate specialist could help determine its significance. Any proposal to demolish any of the structures should be accompanied by an historic building survey as mitigation against the loss of historic fabric.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 An historic assessment is required to inform a planning application for the conversion of a Methodist church at Barton Road, Worsley, Manchester, to a residential dwelling. The church is on a Local List of Heritage Assets for Salford, and lies within the Worsley Village Conservation Area, but is not a designated heritage asset of national significance in its own right according to the Department of Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS 2010). The historic assessment has been undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) at the request of RA Fisk and Associates.
- 1.1.2 This report sets out the results of the work in the form of a short document outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential and significance, and an assessment of the impact of the proposed redevelopment. The scheduling criteria employed by the Secretary of State (Annex 1; DCMS 2010) to understand the importance of a site has been used during this assessment to determine the significance of the archaeological resource and any impact upon it. The site was visited on 22nd January 2015.

1.2 LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 1.2.1 The Methodist church is located on the southern side of Barton Road, in the town of Worsley, within the metropolitan borough of the City of Salford in Greater Manchester (NGR SD 75021 00148; Fig 1). It lies upon broadly level ground within an area of mixed modern and historic residential properties, 60m to the south of the Bridgewater Canal and within a short distance of several nationally listed buildings. Barton Road follows the alignment of Worsley Brook, a water course, lying less than 20m to the north of the church. The church is within the Worsley Village Conservation Area.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 This historic assessment was carried out in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and English Heritage guidelines (IfA 2012a, *Code of Conduct*; IfA 2012b, *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments*; English Heritage 2006a, *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment* (MoRPHE); IfA 2008, *Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing structures* and English Heritage 2006b, *Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice*) and generally-accepted best practice.

2.2 HISTORIC ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 **Desk-based Research:** current policy and guidance relating to proposed development and the historic environment (National Policy Planning Framework (NPPF), DCLG 2012) refers to sites of archaeological or cultural heritage significance as ‘heritage assets’ (*ibid*). These are viewed as being an ‘irreplaceable resource’, and their conservation can bring ‘wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits...’ (*op cit*, Section 12.126). The policy framework states that the ‘significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting’, should be understood in order to assess the potential impact of a proposed development (*op cit*, Section 12.128), and in line with this a ‘desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation’ should be undertaken to inform the planning process (*ibid*).
- 2.2.2 The aim of the desk-based research is not only to give consideration to the heritage assets in and around the redevelopment site, but also to put the site into its archaeological and historical context. The desk-based research comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER), the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Services Office (GMALS), the National Monuments Record, Swindon, several on-line resources, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a building assessment was carried out on the church, in order to relate the results of the desk-based research to the building.
- 2.2.3 The principal sources of information consulted were historical and modern maps of the study area, although published and unpublished secondary sources were also reviewed. The results of the assessment were analysed using the set of criteria used to assess the national importance of an ancient monument (DCMS 2010).
- 2.2.4 **Manchester HER:** the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) for Manchester is maintained by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, at Salford University. It is a Geographical Information System (GIS) and has a linked database of records relating to known heritage assets; it is supported by an extensive archive, including reports, site records and publications.
- 2.2.5 **Greater Manchester Archives and Local Services (Central Library), Manchester:** a search was undertaken of the Greater Manchester Archives and Local Services for

information relating to the study area, from which historic mapping was obtained, and a number of primary and secondary sources were consulted.

- 2.2.6 **Oxford Archaeology North:** OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.

2.3 SITE INVESTIGATION

- 2.3.1 The site was visited on 22nd of January 2015 to undertake an investigation of the standing structure and implement a rapid fabric survey. Access to all parts of the building was generally good, although the western external elevation faced onto the rear garden of an adjacent property and was not available for inspection. The investigation entailed the compilation of a basic descriptive record, the production of site drawings and the generation of a photographic record.
- 2.3.2 **Descriptive Record:** written records to English Heritage Level 2 (2006b), using OA North *pro forma* record sheets, were made of the principal building elements, both internal and external, as well as any features of historical or architectural significance.
- 2.3.3 **Site Drawings:** the drawings produced were, for the most part, based upon existing architects' survey data supplied by the client. A plan of the ground floor, showing the form and location of any structural features of historic significance was created by manual survey. The drawings were created within an industry-standard CAD package (Autocad 2004) which were then enhanced and annotated to show the form and location of all structural features of historic significance.
- 2.3.4 **Photographic Record:** a Canon EOS 5D digital SLR (12.8 megapixels) camera with a selection of lenses, was used for the photographic record. Images were captured and saved as JPGs and as 8 bit TIFFs for archive purposes. The data are stored on two separate servers, each on different sites and with appropriate back-up and disaster plans in place. In addition, hard copies of the images were created on paper of appropriate archival quality and will be deposited as part of the paper archive.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 Copies of this desk-based assessment will be deposited with the Greater Manchester HER for reference purposes.

3. HISTORIC BACKGROUND

3.1 EARLY HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF WORSLEY

- 3.1.1 During the medieval period Worsley began as a township in the parish of Eccles, this being within the large manor of Barton. A corn mill, which served the village, lay close to where Worsley Road Bridge is now located (Salford City Council 2007, 11). In the fourteenth century coal mining operations were undertaken in the area, initially from bell pits, and later, in the seventeenth century, from deeper shafts (Pratt 1977, 47; Cooper 2005, 50).
- 3.1.2 ***Eighteenth and Nineteenth Century Industries in Worsley:*** during the eighteenth century the mining of the coal seams in Salford enabled its development as an industrial town. Francis Egerton, the third Duke of Bridgewater, invested large resources into coal mining at the Delph in Worsley and, advised by his land agent John Gilbert, built a canal in order to ease the costs of transporting the coal to Salford and Manchester. The canal was begun in 1759 and completed by 1765 (Salford City Council 2007, 11-2). Parts of the canal system were underground and both transported the coal and drained the coal mines, incorporating innovative mining technology. By the 1840s there were some 43 miles of canals, at a number of different underground levels as well as above-ground (*op cit*, 12).
- 3.1.3 Centred on the area known as Worsley Yard, associated buildings such as the dry dock, a warehouse, and boat building works were also constructed, including premises for sail makers, blacksmiths, hostlers and carters. A nearby lime quarry provided lime for the making of mortar and for agricultural use and a limekiln was built on the south bank of the Bridgewater Canal (Salford City Council 2007, 12-3), located immediately adjacent to the canal for ease of transportation of the lime.
- 3.1.4 The limekiln on the north side of Barton Road (and opposite Worsley Methodist Church in Barton Road) (proposed for scheduling (Salford City Council 2007, 15 and 20; GMAU, MGM 12145 SMR 11223.1.0)), was probably a significant part of the eighteenth century industrial activities adjacent to the Bridgewater Canal and the Delph Mines. The limekiln has been dated to perhaps as early as the 1760s, and was contemporary with the Bridgewater Canal and the Delph Mines, and functioned as a massive large-scale producer of lime (Salford City Council 2007, 17; GMAU 2015, MGM 12145 SMR 11223.1.0). The base of this large kiln survives with probably the buried remains of foundations of the chimney, kiln pots, arches, kilns and tunnels.
- 3.1.5 The population of Worsley was likely to have increased significantly, with housing provided for mine managers and initially less permanent housing for the labourers, and significantly reflects a planned growth (Salford City Council 2007). In 1773, Josiah Wedgewood wrote that ‘Worsley...has the appearance of a considerable seaport town. His grace has built some hundreds of houses, and is every year adding considerably to their number’ (Salford City Council 2007, 13). Available early nineteenth century population statistics for Salford show that the sharpest increase in the rate of population change was during the 1820s and 1830s and by the 1840s the vast majority of the population of Salford were working in industry (Salford through Time 2014).

- 3.1.6 By the 1870s when John Marius Wilson wrote his *Imperial Gazetteer*, Worsley township was still mining coal and also manufacturing cotton, with premises for iron-working and brick making. Its population was now more than 14,000 people with 2,597 houses (Wilson 1876).
- 3.1.7 **Barton Road, Worsley:** evidence from the buildings on the south side of Barton Road demonstrate the linear ribbon development of the town, with buildings being constructed eastwards and southwards on the road towards Barton-upon-Irwell as the population expanded in the nineteenth century. To the west of the Worsley Methodist Chapel and School in Barton Road, was a row of late eighteenth century cottages, 43-53 Barton Road, which are now designated as Grade C on the Locally Listed Heritage Assets (GMAU 2015, MGM 8005 6919.1.0; Salford City Council 2007, 21). These six cottages were well built and still retain their three-mullioned windows and doors; the first floor windows are directly under the eaves.
- 3.1.8 Immediately to the west of the chapel and school was Platt Lodge (GMAU MGM 8003 6917.1.0), which was an early to mid-nineteenth century three-storey building with the main door currently occupying an adjoining building (set back from the road). This adjoining building may originally have been a small one-up/one-down cottage that was later attached to the main part of Platt Lodge; both parts seem to have been marked on the OS 1:10,560 map of 1848 and may already have been built when the Worsley Methodist Chapel was founded in 1801. The next building to the west (GMAU MGM 8004 6918.1.0) was 59 Barton Road, which was a small late Georgian house of two storeys, and again this building may have been contemporary with the building of the chapel in 1801. Further east, and built at a slightly later period in the early to mid-nineteenth century, was a group of buildings standing alongside the Worsley Methodist Chapel and School. East and south of the chapel and school were the buildings at 63-5 Barton Road (GMAU MGM 8001 6915.1.0), which were originally two small nineteenth century cottages, but now have extensions at the back of the houses.
- 3.1.9 As a group, these buildings, being within the Conservation Area, are considered as having architectural merit creating the character and ambience of this particular location (Salford City Council 2007, 9, 19, 31).

3.2 WORSLEY METHODIST CHAPEL

- 3.2.1 **Early history of Worsley Methodist Chapel in Barton Road:** Methodist doctrine appealed to the growing population of urban industrial workers that emerged in the eighteenth century, typified by the growth of settlements like Worsley which operated at the forefront of the coal mining industry from the early 1760s. Originally preaching to small numbers in the open air or in *ad hoc* accommodation, as congregations increased purpose-built chapels were erected in both rural and urban settings. The Wesleyan Methodist Church in Worsley originated as the Worsley Society founded in 1784. The congregation originally met in the old corn mill (now demolished) near the Delph, which was owned by the Duke of Bridgewater, until the chapel on Barton Road was built in 1801 (Hassall 2000, 8-11 and 43). This was one of four Methodist chapels in the area (Worsley, Walkden, Barton and Great Bridgewater Street) envisaged by John Burgess and Christopher Walton, who were local prominent Wesleyans (*op cit*, 11), and was part of the

initial impetus of building between the 1780s and 1820s of early Wesleyan chapels in Salford and Manchester (Manchester Methodists 2014).

- 3.2.2 The land on which the chapel was built was owned by a Mr Bagot according to maps of 1764 and 1799 (although the writing on the 1799 map is unclear) (Salford City Council 2007, Maps 3 and 4; Hassall 2000, 11). In 1801 John Burgess leased a small plot of this land (44 x 35 feet and 39 x 39 feet, totalling 171 sq yds) which was large enough for a chapel and for some additional cottages to accommodate preachers; John Burgess lived in a small cottage on the west side of the church (perhaps in the position of the set back cottage that was later attached to Platt Lodge) (*op cit*, 11). The position of the chapel in Barton Road is probably significant as it was immediately accessible from the working hub at Worsley Yard by the Bridgewater Canal, the dry dock and the limekiln and thus at the centre of the main area of residence and population growth (Plate 1). It is interesting to note that the nineteenth century Wesleyan Methodist tradition was in favour of ‘pre-occupying a particular neighbourhood where the population was seen to be collecting and increasing, by the erection of a chapel and location of a Minister in it’ (Jobson 1850, 103). The maps and the aerial photographs, in particular, demonstrate the pivotal position of the building of the chapel for the Worsley Methodists and of the stature of the present building amongst the surrounding development.



Plate 1: Aerial view of Worsley showing Worsley Green and Yard in relation to the chapel

- 3.2.3 **Worsley Methodist Chapel:** one of the trustees, Mr Walton, considered that the beauty of the architecture of the Worsley Chapel was such that the building of the chapel at Walkden Moor, in 1811, should be to the same plan (Hassall 2000, 12). It seems that the present church at Walkden Moor on Manchester Road, Little Hulton was constructed in 1863-4 and, unfortunately, no images of the early 1811 church have yet been located, or have any for the early Worsley Methodist Chapel. The

Sunday School for the Worsley Methodist Church was established in 1814 (*op cit*, 19), and a gallery for the Worsley Methodist Chapel is believed to have been built in 1821 (*op cit*, 22).

- 3.2.4 The seats in the pews were rented and this income provides an indication of the numbers of people attending the chapel. In 1849, 79 seats were rented, and in 1851 it was recorded that 174 seats could be rented and that 100 free sittings were available (*op cit*, 22-3), implying large changes in the congregation between 1849 and 1851. Actual attendance recorded on March 30th 1851 was between 100 and 150 people with an additional 60 Sunday scholars. Population statistics for Salford show that Wesleyan Methodism in Salford was, after the Church of England, the most popular of all christian denominations in 1851 forming *c* 15% - 20% of the total attendances in Salford. The Sunday Schools attached to churches and chapels were also very popular in Salford, with *c* 75% of five to 14 year olds attending Sunday school (Salford through Time 2014).

3.3 MAP REGRESSION - DEVELOPMENT OF THE BUILDING OF WORSLEY METHODIST CHAPEL AND SCHOOL

- 3.3.1 **1848 1:10,560 OS map:** the first edition OS map of 1848 (Plate 2) showed a development of buildings on the south side of Barton Road on, what was seen in an earlier 1799 map (Salford City Council 2007, Map 4) as, Mr Bagot's Land (the writing for Bagot is unclear (Hassall 2000, 25, 11). This development appeared to have been a row of cottages fronting Barton Road with extensions or porches to the rear, and gardens, and the old chapel occupying a plot here (*ibid*). Antecedents of Methodist chapels were often found in cottages or reading rooms and as congregations increased and funds were raised purpose-built chapels could then be constructed (Jobson 1850). The present-day Worsley Methodist Church is on a plot east of Granary Lane and was probably on the site of the 1801 chapel. On this map was marked the Bridgewater Canal, and the Building Yard, Dock and Boat House, which are all north of Barton Road.

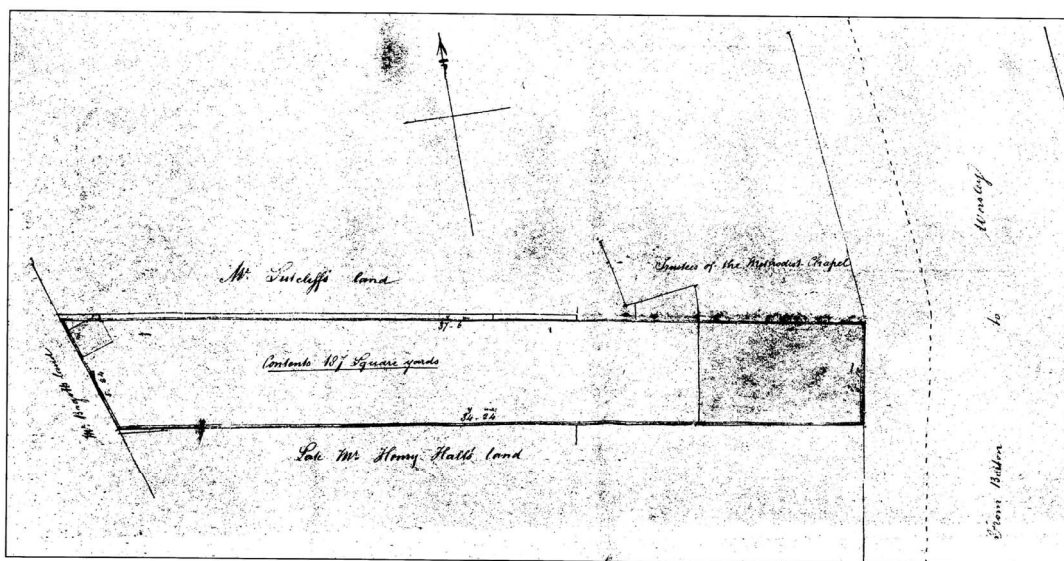


Plate 2: OS first edition 1:10,560 map (1848)

- 3.3.2 **1854-5 - acquisition of adjoining cottage and garden:** the purchase of the cottage and garden east of the chapel in 1854-5 was to enable a new 'Schoolroom for the

Sabbath School' to be built (ML GB127.167/2). A ground plan of 1855 (Plate 3) showed that the cottage had been acquired, along with its land, and also the corner of the chapel building, which the Trustees already held; however, the Trustees did not have the land or garden to the rear of the chapel (Hassall 2000, 25).

- 3.3.3 The cottage was a small square building with a very narrow strip of land behind. The Trustees' Minutes for 1855 stated that Mr Penkeyman was instructed to 'prepare a plan of a school room to be constructed out of the cottage, chapel vestry, and a portion of the back premises' (but not in the cottage grounds as previously submitted) (ML GB127.167/2). The new school was constructed by 1857 but it is not known how large it was (Hassall 2000, 25).



Ground Plan, 1855

Plate 3: The ground plan of the chapel in 1855 (after Hassall 2000)

- 3.3.4 **1865 refurbishments to the Chapel:** the *Trustees' Minutes* of 1864 (to celebrate the Jubilee of the Sunday School) stated that 'Plans and specifications were laid before the meeting embracing the boarding of the school walls, the raising of the school roof to the same height as the Chapel, in order to construct two class rooms over the school, an organ loft to be erected over the school and sundry alterations to the school and chapel front'. In the same meeting, the Trustees went on to discuss the 'desirability of having the school and chapel windows uniform, and it was resolved that Mr Penkeyman be requested to alter the plans and specifications so as to make new windows to the chapel front, a new cornice, also doors and stone at entrance' (ML GB127.167/2). Thus by 1865 'the front of the chapel was modernised' (Hassall 2000, 31). In 1865 it was also 'resolved that two new windows, each 16 feet by 2' 6 1/2", be put into the chapel wall behind the pulpit' (ML GB127.167/2), and four cottage windows were removed in order to accommodate these new long windows (Hassall 2000, 31).
- 3.3.5 It is not clear from the written archive, if the 'modernised front chapel' (alongside the requested uniformity of the adjacent school building) referred to the present-day front elevation of the Church and School, but it seems possible. Evidence from the Minutes of 1865 citing the request that the roof of the school be raised, perhaps relates to an opportunity for refurbishing the front elevations of both chapel and

school. By 1866 it was reported ‘that the chapel [was] new fronted, the body of the chapel re-pewed and the whole beautified...’ (ML GB127.167/2).

- 3.3.6 There seem to be no references to the re-design or remodelling of the front elevations in any later phase of alterations (for instance in 1878) either in the *Trustees' Minutes* or in the *History*. The earliest found image of the chapel was a photograph of 1889 (Plate 6), however, it appeared that the present chapel building was also extended or rebuilt in 1878 (*Section 3.3.9*) and it is not known if the front elevation dates to that refurbishment.
- 3.3.7 **1874 and 1876 ground plans of the Chapel and School:** the ground plans for the chapel and school in this period may be inferred from the two plans dated 1874 and 1876. The scaled plan of 1874 (Plate 4) (drawn to depict arrangements for diversion of sewage to Worsley Brook) showed a long narrow building behind the original frontage, perhaps the 1855 cottage/school east of the chapel, and this was separate from the small square chapel building to the west and its smaller squared outbuilding on the south side. This long narrow building may have been built for the 1857 school (*Section 3.3.2*). In the plot of land south of the chapel was marked a very small outbuilding and closer to the proposed drain were smaller blocks which were probably privies. The two buildings (school and chapel) were both denoted as belong to the Wesleyan Chapel Worsley (Hassall 2000, 33).
- 3.3.8 In 1876 the chapel acquired the lease for land south of the chapel building: a ground plan of 1876 (Plate 5) showed that the whole street frontage (including that acquired in 1855) seemed to have been dedicated to the chapel. The separately denoted long narrow building at the rear and east of the chapel, on the east side, was perhaps that of the school (Hassall 2000, 32-3). This long narrow building may have been that referred to in a speech of 1878 as the ‘long narrow room as a school’ (*ibid*).

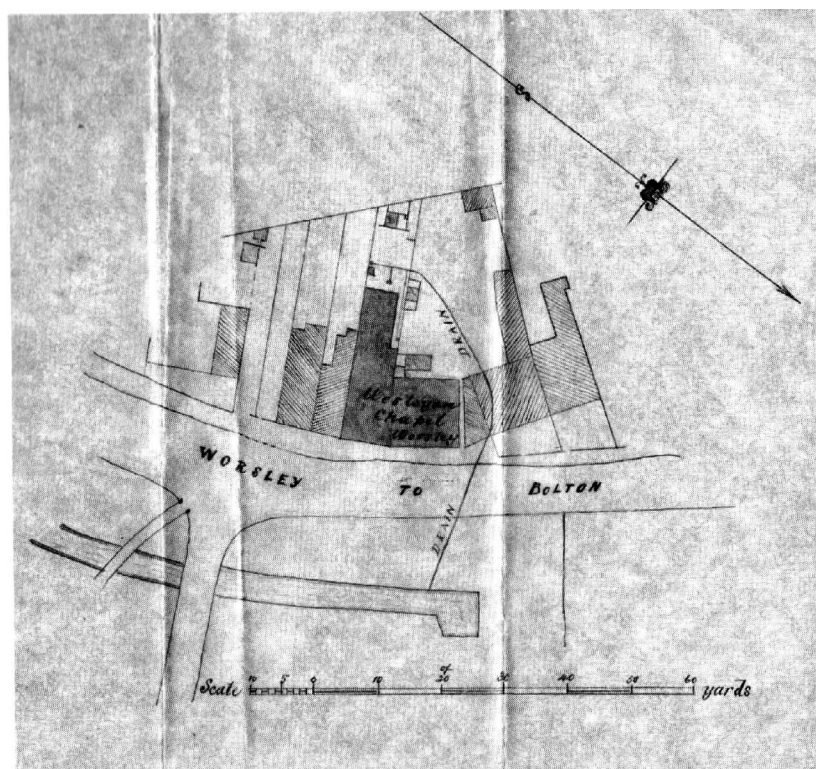


Plate 4: Plan of the chapel from 1874 (after Hassall 2000)

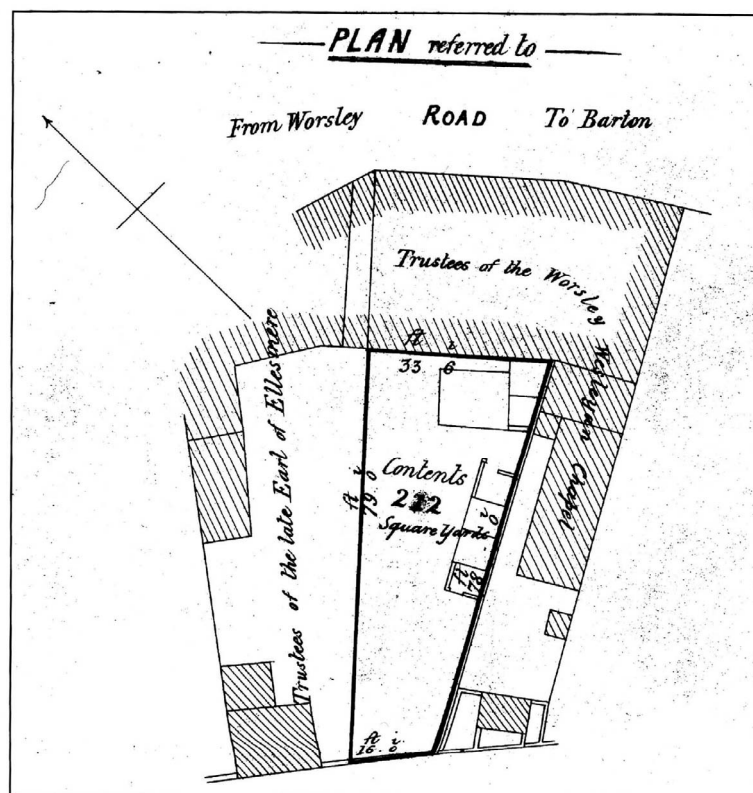


Plate 5: Plan of the chapel from 1876 (after Hassall 2000)

- 3.3.9 **Rebuilding work in 1878:** the lease of the land south of the chapel in 1876 allowed substantial additions to the chapel building with a large extension being built in 1878, to provide an extra '5 or 6 yards' in length to the chapel and a new school 36 feet by 30 feet with three new classrooms (Hassall 2000, 33). The lease required that the new building works should be 'of good brick or stone, set in lime mortar and covered in good slates. The wood and timbers, beams, bands, joists and bearer of the roofs, wall and floors thereof (except the ground floors thereof which shall be flagged) to be of good red oak or red deal'. Three windows on the north-east wall were to be 'placed by the Bridgewater Trustees' (ML GB127.167/2).
- 3.3.10 It was also specified in the lease agreement that all the buildings already standing in the plot should be demolished; it is possible that the long narrow school room was removed as part of this re-development to allow for access from the rear or south side. This was certainly done by 1893 as indicated by the 1:2,500 OS map (Plate 7). It should be noted that the later ground plan of 1911 may reflect the building works that were carried out in 1878. There is no mention of the front elevations for either the chapel or the school having been re-designed.
- 3.3.11 However, it is also possible that the Trustees were required to have demolished more of the chapel according to how the specifications of the indenture of 1876 are interpreted (*Section 3.3.7*; Hassall 2000, 33). Minutes of the Trustees of 1877 had discussed whether to build a whole new chapel or 'to improve the present premises'. In the following year, 'plans and specifications of the proposed enlargement of the chapel and new school were laid before the meeting' (ML GB127.167/2). At the meeting for laying the memorial stones reference was made to the enlarging of the chapel by 'five or six yards' (Hassall 2000, 33). It would

therefore appear that the initial option to rebuild the chapel was perhaps not pursued and instead the chapel was enlarged and improved (Hassall 2000, 33).

- 3.3.12 **Photograph of 1889:** a photograph of 1889 is the earliest photograph found to date (Hassall 2000, 40) and clearly shows the front elevations of the chapel and its adjoining domestic building. The front elevation of the main chapel had pointed arch windows and a central main door with a drop arch and cornice, all of the gothic style; two windows were on either side of the door on the ground floor, three on the upper floors for an internal gallery. The upper storey also had four half-pilasters flanking each of the upper windows from the roof line. Three louvered windows were in the apex of the monitor straddling the roof line (and in the same plane as the main front elevation) which was probably to accommodate the bell-cot; the main roof line was gabled but with a shallow pitch. The adjoining building to the east had windows and doors of a different gothic shape, the door being narrower with a lancet arch and the ground floor windows being rounded; the window and door surrounds were of polychrome brickwork. Truncated pilasters with similar detailing from the roof line framed the pitch of the roof line. The gabled roof was steeply pitched for its inner portion; the outer bases being horizontal. Its difference of style and approach also implies a different function, perhaps as meeting rooms or vestries for the chapel, which it was in 1876 or for its previous use as a school as it was in 1857.

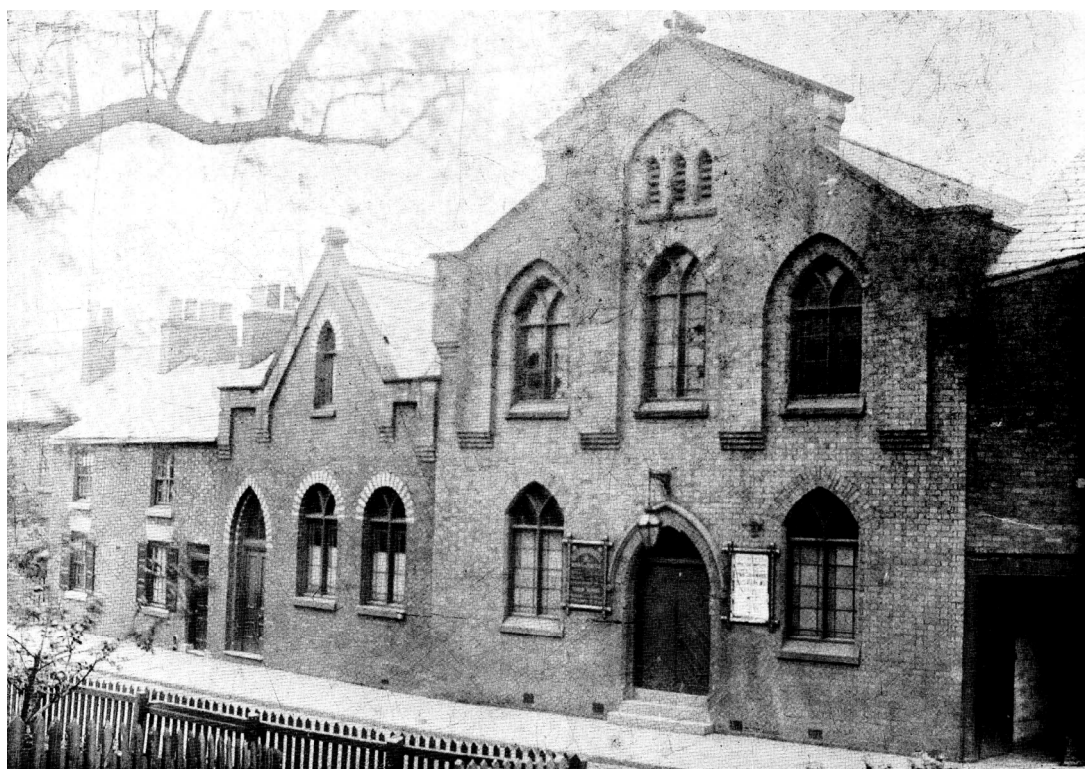


Plate 6: Early photograph of the church from 1889 (after Hassall 2000)

- 3.3.13 **1893 1:2,500 OS map:** the OS map of 1893 (Plate 7) depicts and labels the Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan). It seemed as though there may have been a division in the building between the north and south ends as denoted by possibly an inset entrance half way along the eastern length of the building. This division was very apparent on the plans of 1911 (*Section 3.3.14*) which referred to the chapel at the north and the school to the south. To the south of the old school / cottage of 1857, and east of the 1878 school building, there was still space for a yard and for access

to the southern boundary of the plot. On the southern boundary were four very small blocks which were presumably privies. A later OS 1:2,500 map of 1908 (not illustrated) showed that the chapel had the same shape and size as on the previous OS map.

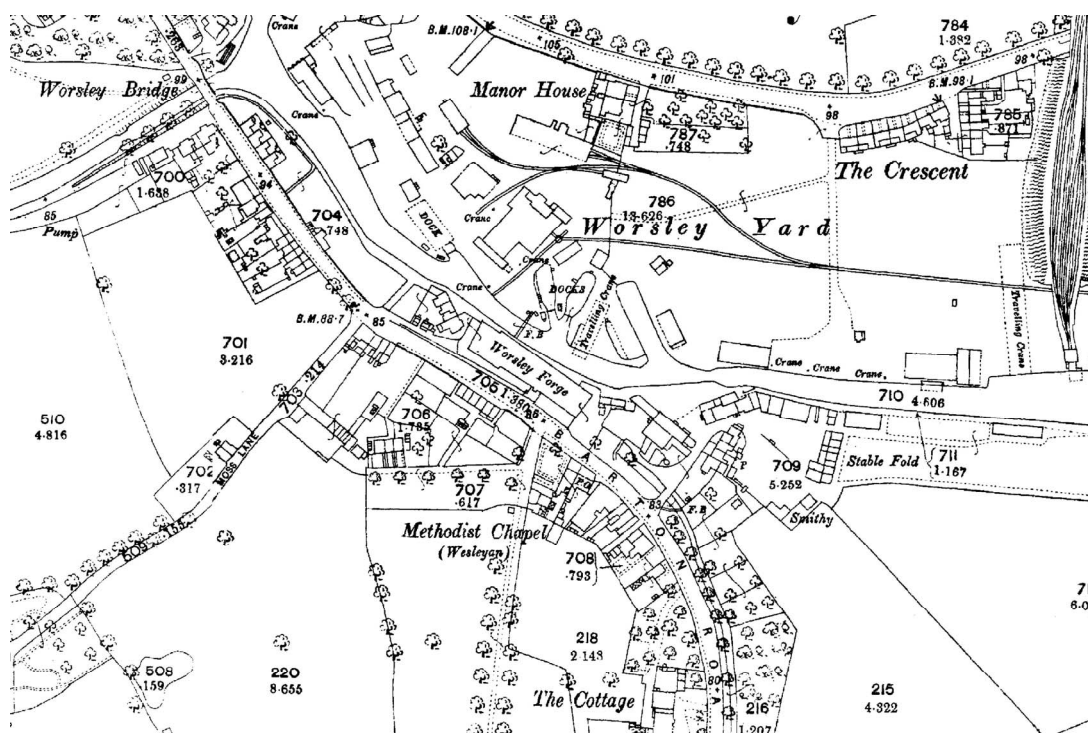


Plate 7: OS first edition 1: 2,500 map (1893)

3.3.14 **Plan of the building in 1911:** the scaled plan of 1911 (Plate 8), drawn up to show proposed alterations, may reflect the buildings after they were remodelled in 1878 (Hassall 2000, 45). The plan seemed to show the main area of worship for the chapel as being to the west with the adjoining building to the east housing the 'Existing vestry' and 'Passageway' from the door further east. How this worked can be clearly seen in the 1889 photograph of the front elevation of the chapel and adjoining building, where the doorway of the adjoining building corresponds to the 'Passageway' and the two round-headed gothic style windows would have lit the 'Existing Vestry'. Behind the 'Existing Vestry' were the 'Existing Kitchens'. The plan shows how the school to the rear of the chapel took advantage of the full width of the plot, with the area between the chapel and the school having an inset entrance to the school and an 'Existing Vestry': this being shown on the earlier OS map of 1893 (*Section 3.3.13*). The proposals were for new kitchens and conveniences on the south wall of the school and for new conveniences south of the Chapel's 'Existing Kitchens'. It seemed that a new doorway and two small windows were to be put on the south end of the 'Passageway' to access the small yard outside the School. It is also apparent that the small extension south of the cottage/school of 1857, which was standing in 1874 and 1876, was by this date no longer there.

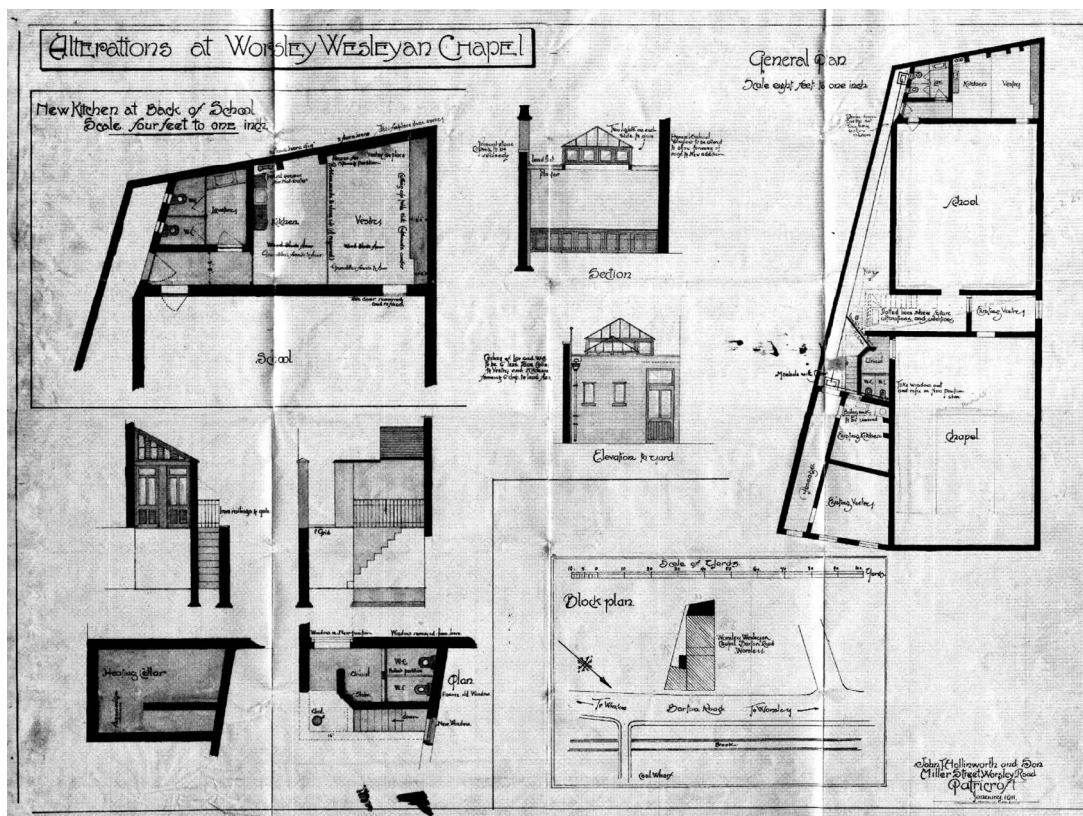


Plate 8: Plan of the chapel from 1911 (after Hassall 2000)

3.3.15 **Undated photograph:** an undated photograph (Plate 9), which was perhaps dated to pre-World War I or the turn of the century, showed the facade of the chapel and adjoining building. There had been changes to the building to the west of the chapel: the open alley or passageway seen on the photograph of 1889 has now been replaced by a new window (Mark Flynn Collection).



Plate 9: undated photograph (perhaps early twentieth century) from Mark Flynn Collection (www.manchesterpostcards.com)

3.3.16 **1928-9 1:2,500 OS map:** the only changes to the denoted Wesleyan Methodist church and school on the 1928-9 OS map (Plate 10) (now labelled as a Church) were that the additions to the south side of the school building, proposed in 1911, were evidently carried out, as the school building was by this date shown as extending to the southernmost boundary. The same mapping was delineated in the 1937 1:2,500 OS map (not illustrated).

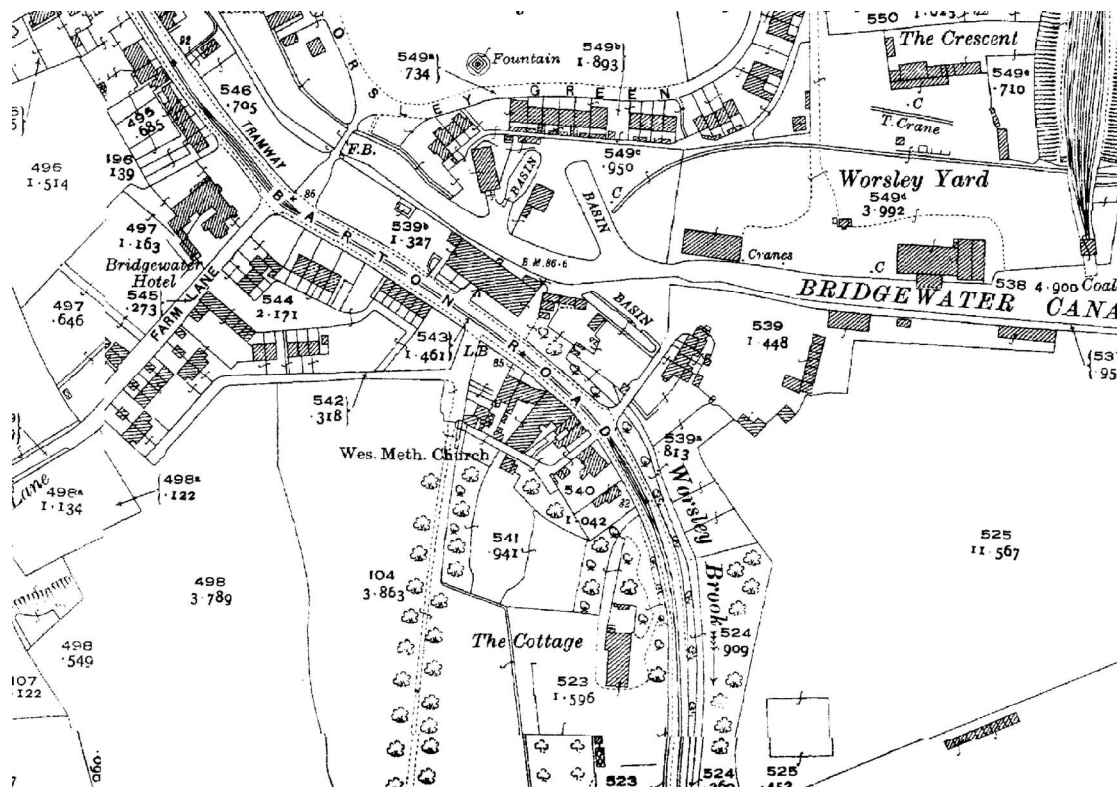


Plate 10: OS 1: 2,500 1928-9 map

3.3.17 **1952-3 1:2,500 OS map:** the 1952-3 OS map (Plate 11) showed no changes to the shape or size of the building of the church and school which was marked as occupying the same footprint. The 1964-1986 1:1,250 OS maps (not illustrated) also showed that there had been no changes.



Plate 11: OS 1: 2,500 1952-3 map

- 3.3.18 **Photograph of 1961:** a photograph (held by Manchester Libraries (GB127.m68677) but not reproduced here) showed changes to the roof for the adjoining building to the church, which had been lowered allowing a single dormer window on the front elevation for the upper height.
- 3.3.19 **Refurbishment of the 1980s:** in 1982 further alterations to the school and church were undertaken. Two small primary Sunday school rooms were turned into one room, and were also used as a meeting room. A new Minister's Vestry was constructed in the old entrance hall to the school room and a new porch entrance was built. Again, in 1988 improvements were carried out this time to the school and kitchens. Further refurbishments were undertaken in 1994 and 1998 to 'the two school rooms at the side of the church' and the kitchens (Hassall 2000, 64 and 67).
- 3.3.20 **Photograph of 2015:** a present day photograph (Plate 12) shows that the roof of the adjoining building to the church (referred to as a Sunday school in the Locally Listed Heritage Assets), had been rebuilt again as a Mansard roof. The front elevation of the church seems to have been unaltered.



Plate 12: General view of the chapel taken during the present survey

- 3.3.21 **Conclusion:** Worsley Methodist Church and School on Barton Road in Worsley was included in the Salford Locally Listed Heritage Assets for the aesthetic value of the building and reflecting its role in the community. It is considered an integral part of the group of buildings on the south side of Barton Road (HE LLW005, *Salford's Local List of Heritage Assets*; Salford City Council 2007, 31). The church, and particularly the school, comprised a significant part of the early nineteenth development of the area and its community, within the cluster of early to mid-nineteenth century buildings (Platt Lodge, 59 Barton Road and 63-5 Barton Road), in addition to the earlier row of eighteenth century cottages further north (43-53 Barton Road) (*Section 3.1.8*; Salford City Council 2007, Appendix B). The chapel and school may, therefore, have served a considerable working population centred on the works at Worsley Yard, the Limekiln and Bridgewater Canal.
- 3.3.22 This area on the south side of Barton Road was specifically added to the southern part of the Worsley Village Conservation Area as the buildings there, 'most notably the Methodist Church', have architectural merit as a group and play a role in the character of the area' (Salford City Council 2007, 31).

4. BUILDING SURVEY

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 The buildings are broadly aligned north-east to south-west but for the purposes of description this has been simplified to north/south, with the primary elevation to the north.
- 4.1.2 The complex consisted of a main chapel with its primary gable elevation facing north onto Barton road, adjoined to the east by a smaller rectangular building aligned perpendicular to the street frontage. An enclosed side passage at the eastern end of the latter building provided access to a narrow open yard in the south-eastern corner of the site and external access, via a smaller porch, to a large rectangular gabled hall to the south of the main chapel building. At the southern end of the plot a small, broadly rectangular, building adjoined the southern wall of the hall beneath a hipped roof. All of the buildings were constructed in red brick with grey slate roofs.

4.2 CHURCH BUILDING

- 4.2.1 **Exterior Appearance:** the primary elevation of the church lay to the north and comprised three bays (Plate 13) (Figs 2 and 3). At ground floor level there was a central double doorway beneath a pointed arch formed in red brick with a moulded stone hood mould above. To the east was a rectangular window with a heavy projecting stone sill and a pointed brick arch over. The two lights were set within a simple intersecting tracery design formed in timber and a window of identical form lay within the western bay. At first floor level each bay had a window of similar form, although the central opening was slightly taller than those to the east and west (Plate 14). In the upper gable three small openings, each with a gothic arch and sharing a single piece projecting stone sill, were fitted with louvre vents. The windows of the first floor were set within blind arcades, open at the base, and were formed by projecting a course of brick forward of the face of the lower wall. The arcades were supported at first floor height by three courses of corbelled brick and the central arcade was taller than those to the east and west, incorporating the louvred vents (Plate 14). A parapet at the head of the façade included a raised upper gable in the style of a basilica. The façade was finished with a course of flat coping-stones, had kneelers at each corner and was surmounted by a stone fleur de lis at the apex.
- 4.2.2 The western elevation was partly enclosed by the adjacent house, and the exposed southern portion was not available for inspection. Similarly, the eastern elevation was largely hidden by the adjacent building, with only the extreme upper portion of the northern end, and the southern end, visible externally. The northern end contained no openings but the southern end had a ground floor window similar to those described on the northern elevation and another at first floor level slightly further to the north (Plate 15). Immediately to the north of the latter, a slight change in the character of the brickwork may have indicated a possible construction joint (Plate 16).
- 4.2.3 At first floor level the northern gable elevation had a window at the eastern end and western end, both of two lights, with pointed arches and intersecting timber tracery

(Plate 17). A square two-storey cell projected south from the centre of the elevation under the same gable roof and a modern vestry extension had been erected in the south-eastern angle between the main chapel and the projection (Plate 18). A similar single-storey structure lay to the west of the projection and housed toilet facilities but the lack of access to this side of the building prevented its identification as a later extension or otherwise. Despite its relatively modern date, the eastern extension included a foundation stone at the foot of its eastern elevation, inscribed with the name and date of a foundation ceremony (Plate 19).



Plates 13 and 14: Northern elevation of chapel, with a detail shot of the central first floor bay to the right



Plates 15 and 16: Eastern elevation of chapel, with Sunday school to the right of frame. The probable construction joint to the right of the window is visible in the photo to right; the joint coincides with a slight change in the character of the brickwork



Plates 17 and 18: The first floor window on the eastern elevation of the square cell at the southern end of the chapel. The window to the right lights the gallery of the chapel. The photograph to the right shows the modern vestry extension



Plate 19: The repositioned foundation stone on the eastern wall of the single-storey vestry extension

- 4.2.4 **Internal Appearance:** internally, the chapel walls and ceiling were painted white, with a narrow mid height cream border painted along the eastern and western walls (Plate 20). Three sets of south-facing wooden pews, with aisles between, divided the building into thirds across its width. The pulpit lay at the southern end of the floor, accessed via a set of timber stairs and a doorway in the southern wall behind and to the west of the pulpit led into the projecting square cell (Plate 21). At the northern end of the building a flight of stairs in the eastern corner was mirrored by another in the western corner, both rising through a quarter turn to the four-sided first floor gallery (Plate 22). A timber partition to the north of the central doorway in the southern wall created a vestibule area, with access to the main room through doorways at the eastern and western ends of the partition.
- 4.2.5 A doorway toward the northern end of the eastern wall gave access between the chapel and the Sunday school building, while at the southern end the ground floor window, described externally, lit the pulpit area. Another window towards the southern end of the opposing western elevation had not been observed externally due to access restrictions but was of a similar form (Plates 23 and 24).
- 4.2.6 The first floor gallery surrounded all four sides of the building and was supported at regular intervals upon slender cast iron columns, each with a fillet and roll mould at the base of the capital and quarter roll mould at the head where it adjoined the head plate (Fig 3; Plates 25 and 26). The sides of the gallery were clad in large rectangular timber panelling and painted in light colours with blue surrounds.
- 4.2.7 In addition to the access provided by the staircases in the north-eastern and north-western corners, there was a doorway in the centre of the eastern wall at first floor level, connecting the gallery to the first floor of the Sunday school. The window at the southern end of this wall has already been described externally, but another of

identical form and directly opposite on the western wall has not been recorded externally.

- 4.2.8 Timber pews lay along the northern, eastern and western sides of the gallery and were ramped up to allow better view of the pulpit for those sitting on the rear benches (Plate 26).
- 4.2.9 The southern end of the gallery housed a pipe organ within the small square projection, with a bench in front hidden from the congregation by a curtain (Plate 27). A small bronze plaque screwed to the front was inscribed with the manufacturer's name and location 'Jardine and Co Manchester' (Plate 28).
- 4.2.10 The timber roof was of king-post design with raking struts extending from the base of the king-post to the underside of the rafters (Plate 29). The ends of the tie beams were sunk into the heads of the lateral walls, with a diagonal strut beneath resting upon a timber corbel which served no structural purpose (Plate 30). There may have been a mid-height collar towards the apex but a ceiling had been installed above the height of the northern windows, obscuring any other details.
- 4.2.11 At the southern end of the chapel, the doorway behind the pulpit led into the ground floor of the square cell below the organ and from here a doorway to the south led into the school room. Another doorway to the east led into a modern toilet while a doorway in the opposite wall led into the modern vestry room. The only features of note were a blocked doorway in the southern wall of the vestry and a date stone in the same room, on what had previously been the eastern elevation of the two-storey square cell (Plates 31 and 32).



Plate 20: The interior of the chapel facing south



Plates 21 and 22: The pulpit at the southern end of the chapel with stairs to the right of frame. The right hand photograph shows the northern vestibule with the eastern staircase upto the gallery. The main entrance into the building can be seen to the left of frame



Plates 23 and 24: The chapel window at the southern end of the western wall, facing west (0.5m scale). The right hand image shows the chapel from the first floor gallery, looking north



Plates 25 and 26: The capital of a cast iron column supporting the gallery above. The right hand image shows the ramped pews along the eastern gallery looking north



Plate 27: The southern end of the chapel at gallery level, showing the pipe organ to the centre



Plate 28: A name plate screwed to the front of the organ: 'Jardine and Co Manchester'



Plate 29: The king-post roof in the chapel, facing north



Plate 30: A decorative wooden corbel



Plate 31: The modern vestry, facing west with a blocked doorway to the left



Plate 32: A date stone in the modern vestry

4.3 SCHOOL ROOM

- 4.3.1 **External Appearance:** the school room abutted the southern elevation of the chapel's two-storey projection and the later vestry and toilet block extensions (Figs 2 and 3; Plate 33). Its width was identical to that of the chapel but was slightly shorter in length and height. The only exposed portions of the northern elevation lay above the vestry and toilet block extensions and neither had any openings. The eastern elevation faced on to the narrow open yard and included a series of three large rectangular windows, each with a segmental brick arch over and flush, single-piece stone sill (Plate 34). Two courses of blue engineering brick formed a decorative string-course across the bottom third of the elevation, linking each of the windows at sill height. The northernmost window had been converted into a doorway and was enclosed by a small rectangular porch extension (Plate 35). The extension was constructed in modern brick under a hipped lean-to roof with a doorway on the eastern wall. A brick dog-tooth cornice ran along the head of the school room wall (Plate 34).
- 4.3.2 The lower half of the southern wall was hidden by the hipped extension to the south but three lancet-style windows were just visible to the centre of the upper gable above the line of the later building's roof (Plate 33). The western external elevation was again inaccessible for inspection but, internally, it revealed no openings of any kind.



Plate 33: School room, facing north-west, with the chapel visible to the right of frame and an ancillary building to the left. Two of the three lancet-style windows can just be seen on the southern gable elevation



Plate 34: The southern window on the eastern elevation of school room, facing south-west. Note the dog tooth cornice and decorative use of engineering brick at sill height



Plate 35: The modern porch extension with school room behind, facing south-west

- 4.3.3 **Interior Appearance:** the hall was simply decorated with walls and ceiling coated in white paint and the floor was laid in narrow polished timber boards (Plate 36). The lower portions of the northern wall were clad in timber boards, but this was not repeated on the remaining walls (Plate 37). There were few additional features of historic significance, but a shallow rectangular box with a centrally placed brass knob towards the southern end of the eastern wall may have originally operated as a vent (Plate 38).
- 4.3.4 The king-post roof was also probably original and of similar construction to that described in the chapel, with its upper third hidden above the ceiling (Plate 36). Its tie beam, however, was raised above the height of the wall plates and the mid-height corbels carried wall piece posts up to the base of the rafters. A decorative brace with cusping along its underside was bolted to the underside of the rafter between the wall piece and tie beam. Doorways at the eastern and western ends of the southern wall led south into the ancillary structure at the rear of the building (Plate 36).



Plate 36: The interior of the school room, facing south; note the poor condition of the floor. The doorways at either end of the wall lead into the ancillary building



Plate 37: The interior of school room, facing north-east. The timber boarding of the northern wall can just be seen to the left of the doorway and behind the chairs



Plate 38: A vent on the eastern wall of the school room

4.4 SUNDAY SCHOOL

- 4.4.1 **External Appearance:** the Sunday school building lay to the east of the chapel, to which it was abutted, and had its long northern elevation facing Barton Road (Fig 2; Plate 39). The northern elevation was divided into three bays, with a doorway to the east and windows to the centre and west. The doorway used a pointed gothic arch with a triple pane over-light to illuminate the passage behind, while the windows had semicircular arches over two-light intersecting timber tracery and simple projecting stone sills. All three arches used alternating red and white bricks to create a simple polychromatic pattern, clearly distinguishing it from the main façade of the chapel and a brick dentil course ran across the head of the wall, just beneath the eaves (Plate 40). Generally, the brickwork was of an even machine-made quality, however, the brickwork to the east of the doorways eastern jamb was of poorer standard and appeared to belong to an earlier date (Plate 41).
- 4.4.2 The majority of the eastern wall was hidden by the adjacent house but the upper gable was exposed above its roof line, revealing a change in the character of the brickwork which appeared to show evidence for the rebuilding or modification of the northern pitch (Plate 42). Although nothing of the western elevation was exposed, a brick chimney stack was recorded projecting from the roof line of this end of the building (Plate 42)
- 4.4.3 The original southern elevation had also been modified with the addition of a modern lean-to structure at the western end, with a triple-light modern rectangular window, incorporated beneath a cat-slide roof (Plate 43). Only the very eastern end of the original elevation remained, allowing just enough space for a doorway at south end of the enclosed side passage. Like the windows on the northern elevation the doorway had a semicircular arch above but it lacked the polychromatic brickwork. A single pane semicircular over-light lay above the doorway.



Plate 39: The northern elevation of the Sunday school



Plate 40: Polychrome window arches on the northern elevation, with dentil cornice visible at the head of the wall



Plate 41: The variable character of brick work on the eastern jamb of the doorway on the northern elevation



Plate 42: The eastern gable of the Sunday school visible above the roof of the attached cottage. A change in the character of the brickwork demonstrates that alterations have been carried out. Note the chimney stack on the opposing gable end



Plate 43: The southern elevation of the Sunday school with a modern extension lying beneath the cat slide roof. The original doorway with semicircular headed arch lies to the right of frame

- 4.4.4 **Interior Appearance:** internally, the building had been decorated throughout with modern finishes and few features of historic significance were noted. Nevertheless, the building's original layout, although modified, was evident. The enclosed passage to the east connected the front of the building to the narrow yard at the rear with a doorway at the northern and southern ends of the adjoining western wall giving access to the buildings interior (Plate 44). The southernmost of these doorways led into an irregular-shaped cell, which had been extended to the south by a modern extension (Plate 45). The only feature of note was a subtle crack in the western wall, which appeared to align with the possible construction joint observed externally on the wall above (Plate 46). A doorway at the eastern end of the rooms northern partition wall divided it from the northern cell.
- 4.4.5 In addition to this doorway, and that from the enclosed passage on the eastern wall, the northern cell was connected to the chapel by a doorway at the centre of its western wall. A modern toilet had been partitioned off in the south-western corner of the room and a modern staircase had been installed against the room's northern wall, rising from east to west up to the first-floor (Plate 47). The staircase cut across the line of the westernmost window of the northern elevation, suggesting that this was not the original arrangement.
- 4.4.6 At the top of the stairs, the landing was partitioned off from main room with a connecting doorway to the east. As with the ground floor, the first floor finishes

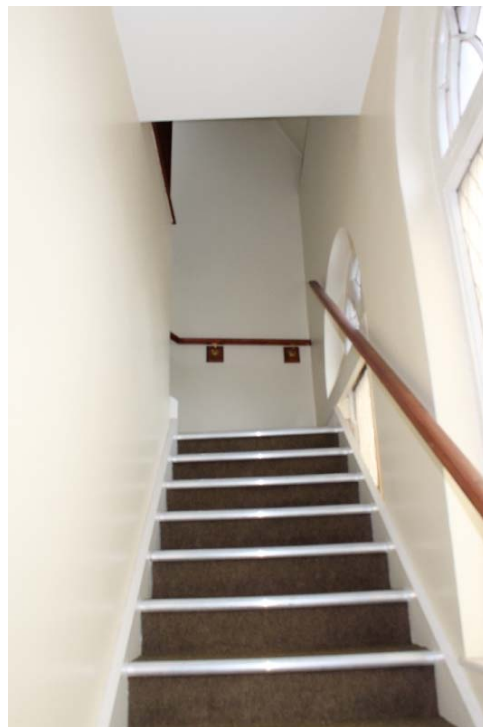
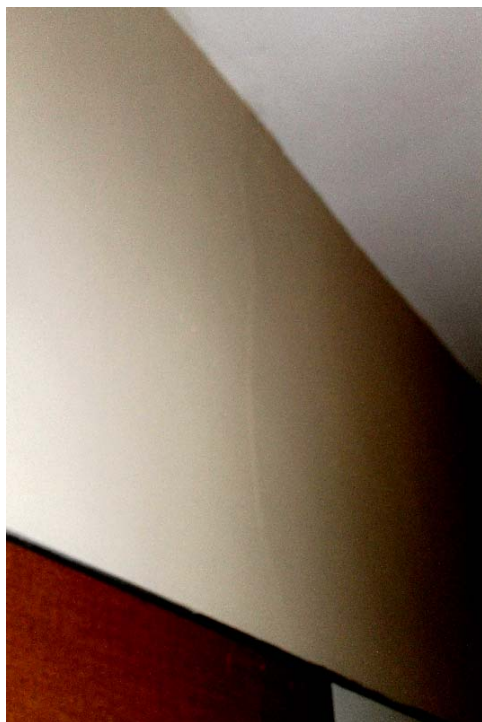
were all modern but it was apparent that the artificial ceiling hid, what appeared to be, a timber 'A' frame truss (Plate 48). The alignment of the truss placed it perpendicular to what might have been expected of the present mansard roof, perhaps suggesting that the modification of an earlier gable roof was at right angles to the current one.



Plate 44: The enclosed passage, facing south with yard beyond



Plate 45: The interior of the southern cell, facing south into the extension



Plates 46 and 47: A crack on the western wall of the southern cell, which appears to line up with the construction joint observed externally (see Plate 16). The right image shows the staircase at the northern end of the northern cell. The windows on the northern elevation have been partially obscured by its insertion



Plate 48: The first-floor of the Sunday school, facing south. Note the feet of the earlier 'A' frame truss just visible beneath the artificial ceiling

4.5 SOUTHERN ANCILLARY BUILDING

- 4.5.1 **External Appearance:** at the southern end of the plot was a single-storey structure on an east/west alignment, with an irregular rectangular plan, which abutted the southern wall of the school room. Its southern elevation formed the southern boundary of the complex and included a narrow, horizontally-arranged fixed-light window at the western end (Plate 49). The surrounding brickwork suggested that this window had probably been inserted at a later date, along with a plastic square vent at the centre of the elevation.
- 4.5.2 The western elevation was not observed, but internally gave no indication of any openings blocked or otherwise, while that to the east could be viewed from the southern end of the narrow yard (Plate 50). It had a simple doorway at the northern end with a blocked rectangular over-light above and a large rectangular two-light fixed timber frame window to the south.
- 4.5.3 **Interior Appearance:** the interior had been subdivided into two cells, with a toilet block to the west and a kitchen to the east (Plate 51). Both could be accessed from the hall by one of the two doorways in the eastern and western ends of the adjoining wall. The kitchen could also be accessed from the narrow, external yard by the doorway at the northern end of its eastern wall. The finishes were wholly modern throughout with no surviving features of historic note.



Plate 49: The southern elevation of the ancillary building, facing north-east



Plate 50: The eastern elevation of the ancillary building, facing south along a narrow yard



Plate 51: The interior of the ancillary building facing south-west. The eastern cell was been converted into a modern kitchen

5. ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 In the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG 2012) sets out the Government's planning policy and framework for England, and how these are expected to be implemented. NPPF places particular emphasis on assessing the development proposals in line with an up-to-date local plan (*op cit*, Section 3.28). In determining applications, local planning authorities must be able to understand the significance of any heritage assets affected by the proposed development in order to assess its impact. This would enable the conservation of '*heritage assets in a manner suitable to their significance so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations*' (*op cit*, para 17), or else they can be recorded in order to '*advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible*' (*op cit*, Section 12.141).
- 5.1.2 Therefore, the following section will determine the nature and level of the significance of the heritage asset, as detailed in *Sections 3 and 4*. This is an iterative process, beginning with the guideline criteria outlined in Table 1, below. In general terms, the recording of a heritage asset, such as a listed building, and any subsequent grading thereafter, by its nature, determines its importance. However, this is further quantified by factors such as the existence of surviving remains or otherwise, its rarity, or whether it forms part of a group. There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of heritage assets, but that employed here is the 'Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments' (Annex 1; DCMS 2010).

Importance	Examples of Heritage Asset
National	Scheduled monuments (SMs), Grade I, II* and II listed buildings
Regional/County	Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens (Designated Heritage Assets) Sites and Monuments Record/Historic Environment Record
Local/Borough	Assets with a local or borough value or interest for cultural appreciation Assets that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion in grade
Low Local	Assets with a low local value or interest for cultural appreciation Assets that are so badly damaged that too little remains to justify inclusion in grade
Negligible	Assets or features with no significant value or interest

Table 1: Guideline criteria used to determine Importance of Heritage Assets

5.2 QUANTIFICATION OF IMPORTANCE

- 5.2.1 The documentary research and the architectural elements of the church were considered using the criteria for scheduling monuments with the results outlined below. This information will contribute to the overall assessment of the importance of the heritage asset. The church must already be deemed to be of at least *Regional /County* importance, given its location within the Worsley Village Conservation Area and its inclusion on the Local List of Heritage Assets for Salford on the basis of its Social, Communal, Aesthetic and Group value. The Local List allows for the local community to decide what makes a contribution to the character and historical legacy of the local area. Monuments on the Local List do not enjoy the protection of statutory listing, which is the responsibility of English Heritage, but are afforded some degree of protection through the planning system.
- 5.2.2 **Period:** it appears from both the documentary and archaeological evidence that a substantial portion of the structure of the pre-1878 chapel survives to the present day (Fig 4). In addition, parts of the 1855 school building may also survive, although it has been substantially altered. The chapel's extension and the new school room of 1878 are also clearly evident in the surviving structure, with the interior of the chapel probably being attributable to this date. The use of Gothic architectural detailing in non-conformist churches gained acceptance from the middle of the nineteenth century (Jobson 1850) and on the basis of the documentary sources, the façades of both the chapel and Sunday school can probably be dated to between 1865 and 1889.
- 5.2.3 **Rarity:** there are approximately 541 listed Methodist Chapels in England, representing 10 percent of the total surviving (English Heritage 2011, 10). The earliest of these date to the mid-eighteenth century and the early development of Wesleyan Methodism. Chapel building experienced its most active period in the first half the nineteenth century and, typically, chapels dating to before 1860 that retain their original interiors are recognised as rare. Much of the Worsley chapel's interior can probably be dated to the extension works of 1878, although it is possible parts of it may also pre-date this. Nevertheless, the increasing pace of redundancy, alteration and reuse of these structures means such internal fittings will become increasingly rare.
- 5.2.4 Perhaps rarer is the pipe organ at the southern end of the chapel, parts of which may date to as early as 1830, although it is likely to have seen extensive alterations in the early twentieth century and its provenance is debated. If it can be attributed to the first half of the nineteenth century, it would potentially be of high significance (www.bios.org.uk/guidance/guidance3.php). A photograph of the organ taken in 1938 shows it to be the same organ from this date (Hassall 2000).
- 5.2.5 **Documentation:** there is a wealth of historic information available for the building, principally contained within the churches minutes. A comprehensive history of the church has also been prepared, giving details as to the development of the buildings and the people who used them (Hassall 2000). This very detailed information provides an exceptional insight into the history of the church and, as such, the documentation for the church is very good.
- 5.2.6 **Group Value:** Worsley Methodist Chapel lies within the Worsley Village Conservation Area, an area formally protected through the planning system for its special architectural and historic interest. Its immediate surroundings include a

number of late eighteenth and nineteenth century houses, which line the south-western side of Barton Road. The wider industrial context of the village is revealed by the remains of an eighteenth century lime kiln that is located opposite the church, on the northern side of the Worsley Brook, and the Bridgewater Canal beyond. The church makes an important contribution to the heritage value of both the village as a whole and that of the immediate surroundings. Despite its internal modifications, the church also retains a full range of ancillary buildings associated with Methodist religious practice. The complex as a whole contributes to our understanding of the use of the building.

- 5.2.7 **Survival/Condition:** although much of the structure of the original 1801 chapel appears to remain, it is probable that no architectural features survive from this date; the chapel's present interior may well be attributed to the extension work carried out in 1878 with the buildings of this date still substantially complete. The pipe organ, although likely to be extensively altered, probably dates from between 1830 and 1871. If it belongs to the first half of the nineteenth century it would represent an important survival (www.bios.org.uk/guidance/guidance3.php).
- 5.2.8 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** generally, the building is in reasonable condition and exhibits no signs of water damage or ingress associated with poor maintenance, however, the flooring in the school room has buckled and is in need of attention. Several cracks were also observed within the eastern and western walls of the chapel, although these appeared to be of minor concern. The building is currently disused and therefore inevitably at greater risk from vandalism and neglect.
- 5.2.9 **Diversity:** the complex as a whole represents the development and changing needs of the church from its early nineteenth century origins. In particular, the expansion of the building reflects increasing congregations and the changing role played by the church in the local community.
- 5.2.10 **Potential:** it is possible that a more detailed and intrusive investigation might shed further light upon the level of preservation of the original chapel. In particular, the removal of plaster and closer inspection of the presently inaccessible brickwork to the south of the 1878 extension work may reveal evidence for earlier openings which may inform our understanding of the form and use of the original chapel. The potential for further details relating to the original interior finishes of the present church is limited to any traces of earlier paint-work preserved beneath the current paint scheme.
- 5.2.11 There is some limited potential for surviving below ground remains beneath the yard relating to the narrow school building which was demolished in 1878 to make way for the extension works. In the event of demolition of the Sunday school there is potential for the survival of archaeological deposits relating to the cottage that occupied the site before 1855.

5.3 CONCLUSIONS OF IMPORTANCE

- 5.3.1 Using the guideline criteria outlined in Table 1, together with further quantification (*Section 5.2*), and informed professional judgement; the church has been assessed for importance as a heritage asset. The church has been locally listed for its social and communal value, along side its Aesthetic and Group values. The building's social and communal values are well demonstrated through its varied use by the community throughout its two centuries of use. Its aesthetic value comes from the

architectural merit of its mature gothic revival northern elevation, which although not outstanding in itself, contributes significantly to the setting of the surrounding historic buildings. The local listing reflects that over the 214 years since it was constructed the church has played an important role within the burgeoning and developing community of Worsley. Although a substantial portion of the fabric of the pre-1878 chapel probably survives, the absence of features and fittings relating to this building means that its primary significance lies with the survival of the 1878 chapel and its interior. The school room and Sunday school contribute to the buildings significance, but the loss of their historic interiors reduces their individual significance.

- 5.3.2 Although the church itself may be assessed to be of Local/Borough significance, its inclusion within the Worsley Village Conservation Area means that it must be attributed a Regional/County significance for its contribution to the areas distinctive character.

6. CONCLUSION

6.1 WORSLEY METHODIST CHAPEL SUMMARY

- 6.1.1 Methodist doctrine appealed to the growing population of urban industrial workers that emerged in the eighteenth century, typified by the growth of settlements like Worsley which operated at the forefront of the coal mining industry from the early 1760s. Originally, this entailed preaching to small numbers in the open air or in *ad hoc* accommodation, but as congregations increased purpose-built chapels were erected in both rural and urban settings. In Worsley the first meetings based on the teachings of John Wesley took place at the Delph and it was not until 1801 that a purpose-built chapel was erected at Barton Road in the heart of the village. In a rapidly changing society the emphasis on spiritual life during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries meant that the chapel on Barton Road was an important focus for the social and religious life of the population of Worsley.
- 6.1.2 Although few features of the original building of 1801 remain (Fig 4), the alterations in themselves inform our understanding of the growth of the settlement and changing religious and social practices of the population of Worsley.
- 6.1.3 The original chapel of 1801 was given a Sunday school to the east and then a long school room before 1876 (perhaps 1855). The school room did not last for long, however, being removed in 1878 to make space for the extension of the chapel and the erection of a new large school building. The chapel may have been given a new façade in 1865, but it was certainly in place by 1889. The roof of the Sunday school, which originally had been gabled at the northern end, was modified at some point between 1889 and 1961 and converted to a mansard roof with a central dormer window. The dormer window has been subsequently removed, leaving no trace of the opening.

6.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 6.2.1 Heritage assets are considered to be ‘*a finite, irreplaceable and fragile resource*’ (DCMS 2010). Therefore, it has been the intention of this assessment to identify the significance and potential of Worsley Methodist Church, and assess the impact of the proposals, thus allowing the advice of National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012) to be enacted upon. Assessment of impact has been achieved by the following method:
- assessing any potential impact and the significance of the effects arising from the proposals;
 - reviewing the evidence for past impacts that may have affected the building or features;
 - outlining suitable mitigation measures, where possible at this stage to ‘*avoid, or minimise conflict between the heritage asset’s conservation and any aspect of the proposal*’ (*op cit*, Section 12, 129).
- 6.2.2 The impact is assessed in terms of the importance, or sensitivity, of the site to the magnitude of change or potential scale of impact during the proposed redevelopment. The magnitude, or scale, of an impact is often difficult to define,

but will be termed substantial, moderate, slight, or negligible, as shown in Table 2, below.

Scale of Impact	Description
Substantial	Significant change in environmental factors; Complete destruction of the site or feature; Change to the heritage asset resulting in a fundamental change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical setting.
Moderate	Significant change in environmental factors; Change to the heritage asset resulting in an appreciable change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical setting.
Slight	Change to the heritage asset resulting in a small change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical setting.
Negligible	Negligible change or no material changes to the heritage asset. No real change in ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting.

Table 2: Criteria used to determine Scale of Impact

6.2.3 The current proposal is to find an alternative use for the chapel and its associated buildings. Inevitably, this will require alteration to the existing structure but the full scale of the impact will not be apparent without further details. The interior of the chapel forms one of the most important aspects of its significance and any alterations involving the full or partial removal of this interior would represent a substantial impact to the buildings significance.

6.3 RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3.1 This heritage assessment has identified the church to be a heritage asset of Regional significance that maybe subject to a substantial adverse impact if conversion is carried out without due care to the identified heritage values of the building.

6.3.2 While the interiors of the Sunday school, school room and the ancillary structures retain limited heritage significance there should be a presumption to retain as much of the chapel's historic interior as possible. In the event of the removal of part or all of the chapel's interior, an historic building survey is recommended prior to the commencement of such works. In addition, there is a high potential within the original structure that the removal of internal plasters will reveal details relating to the form and layout of the pre-1878 chapel. If such works are required, then a watching brief maybe appropriate to record any detail uncovered.

6.3.3 Additionally, the provenance of the organ may contribute considerably to the heritage value of the building and its inspection by an appropriate specialist could help determine its significance.

6.3.4 Any proposal to demolish any of the structures should be accompanied by an historic building survey as mitigation against the loss of historic fabric.

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APPENDIX 1: METHODIST CHURCH AND SUNDAY SCHOOL, BARTON ROAD - ENTRY FOR THE SALFORD LOCAL LIST OF HERITAGE ASSETS

Methodist Church and Sunday School, Barton Road

Reference: HE_LLWO05

Description: Methodist chapel and Sunday school (mid C19th). Chapel plan at back of pavement. Red clay bricks in English Garden Wall Bond with stone sills and a Welsh slate roof over. Likely built in two phases, the chapel comprises generic gothic window openings on two floors, reflecting a galleried interior, with staged blind relief surrounds extending up into the staged gable where there are three small louvered attic windows (likely housing a bell-cot). The Sunday school continues the use of gothic architecture, but with some polychrome work with yellow bricks to the arches. The Sunday school has a Mansard roof.

Significance: The chapel has excellent group value with other locally listed buildings and listed buildings along Barton Road and is an unusual example of non-conformist architecture.

Number of buildings: 2

Criteria: Aesthetic value (4), group value (6), social or communal value (8)

ILLUSTRATIONS

FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Ground Floor Plan

Figure 3: First Floor Plan

Figure 4: Phase Plan

PLATES

Plate 1: Aerial view of Worsley showing Worsley Green and Yard in relation to the chapel

Plate 2: OS first edition 1:10,560 map (1848)

Plate 3: The ground plan of the chapel in 1855 (after Hassall 2000)

Plate 4: Plan of the chapel from 1874 (after Hassall 2000)

Plate 5: Plan of the chapel from 1876 (after Hassall 2000)

Plate 6: Early photograph of the church from 1889 (after Hassall 2000)

Plate 7: OS first edition 1: 2,500 map (1893)

Plate 8: Plan of the chapel from 1911 (after Hassall 2000)

Plate 9: undated photograph (perhaps early twentieth century) from Mark Flynn Collection (www.manchesterpostcards.com)

Plate 10: OS 1: 2,500 1928-9 map

Plate 11: OS 1: 2,500 1952-3 map

Plate 12: General view of the chapel taken during the present survey

Plates 13 and 14: Northern elevation of chapel, with a detail shot of the central first floor bay to the right

Plates 15 and 16: Eastern elevation of chapel, with Sunday school to the right of frame. The probable construction joint to the right of the window is visible in the photo to right; the joint coincides with a slight change in the character of the brickwork

Plates 17 and 18: The first floor window on the eastern elevation of the square cell at the southern end of the chapel. The window to the right lights the gallery of the chapel. The photograph to the right shows the modern vestry extension

Plate 19: The repositioned foundation stone on the eastern wall of the single-storey vestry extension

Plate 20: The interior of the chapel facing south

Plates 21 and 22: The pulpit at the southern end of the chapel with stairs to the right of frame. The right hand photograph shows the northern vestibule with the eastern staircase upto the gallery. The main entrance into the building can be seen to the left of frame

- Plates 23 and 24: The chapel window at the southern end of the western wall, facing west (0.5m scale). The right hand image shows the chapel from the first floor gallery, looking north
- Plates 25 and 26: The capital of a cast iron column supporting the gallery above. The right hand image shows the ramped pews along the eastern gallery looking north
- Plate 27: The southern end of the chapel at gallery level, showing the pipe organ to the centre
- Plate 28: A name plate screwed to the front of the organ: 'Jardine and Co Manchester'
- Plate 29: The king-post roof in the chapel, facing north
- Plate 30: A decorative wooden corbel
- Plate 31: The modern vestry, facing west with a blocked doorway to the left
- Plate 32: A date stone in the modern vestry
- Plate 33: School room, facing north-west, with the chapel visible to the right of frame and an ancillary building to the left. Two of the three lancet-style windows can just be seen on the southern gable elevation
- Plate 34: The southern window on the eastern elevation of school room, facing south-west. Note the dog tooth cornice and decorative use of engineering brick at sill height
- Plate 35: The modern porch extension with school room behind, facing south-west
- Plate 36: The interior of the school room, facing south; note the poor condition of the floor. The doorways at either end of the wall lead into the ancillary building
- Plate 37: The interior of school room, facing north-east. The timber boarding of the northern wall can just be seen to the left of the doorway and behind the chairs
- Plate 38: A vent on the eastern wall of the school room
- Plate 39: The northern elevation of the Sunday school
- Plate 40: Polychrome window arches on the northern elevation, with dentil cornice visible at the head of the wall
- Plate 41: The variable character of brick work on the eastern jamb of the doorway on the northern elevation
- Plate 42: The eastern gable of the Sunday school visible above the roof of the attached cottage. A change in the character of the brickwork demonstrates that alterations have been carried out. Note the chimney stack on the opposing gable end
- Plate 43: The southern elevation of the Sunday school with a modern extension lying beneath the cat slide roof. The original doorway with semicircular headed arch lies to the right of frame
- Plate 44: The enclosed passage, facing south with yard beyond
- Plate 45: The interior of the southern cell, facing south into the extension
- Plates 46 and 47: A crack on the western wall of the southern cell, which appears to line up with the construction joint observed externally (see Plate 16). The right image

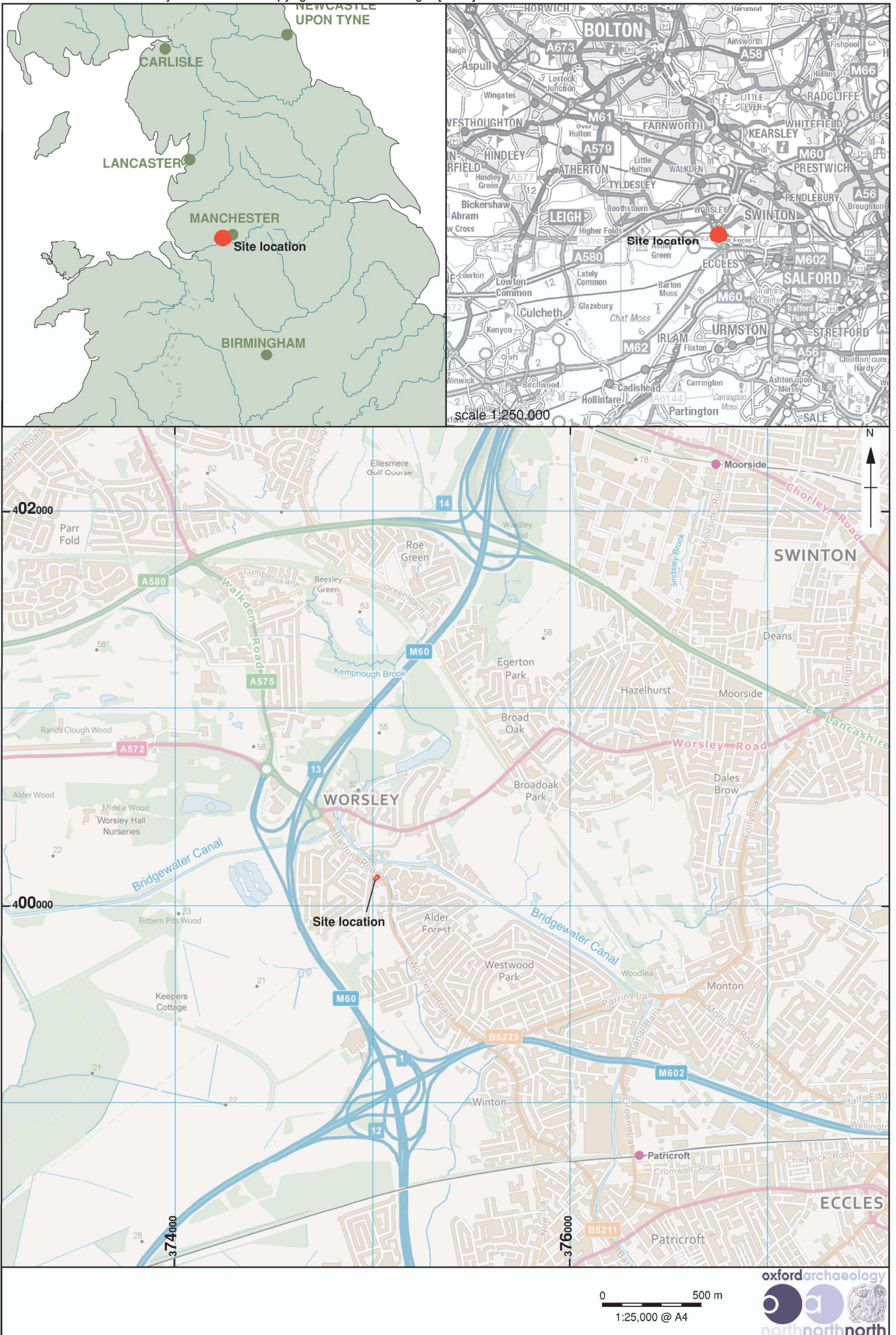
shows the staircase at the northern end of the northern cell. The windows on the northern elevation have been partially obscured by its insertion

Plate 48: The first-floor of the Sunday school, facing south. Note the feet of the earlier 'A' frame truss just visible beneath the artificial ceiling

Plate 49: The southern elevation of the ancillary building, facing north-east

Plate 50: The eastern elevation of the ancillary building, facing south along a narrow yard

Plate 51: The interior of the ancillary building facing south-west. The eastern cell was been converted into a modern kitchen



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Figure 1: Site location

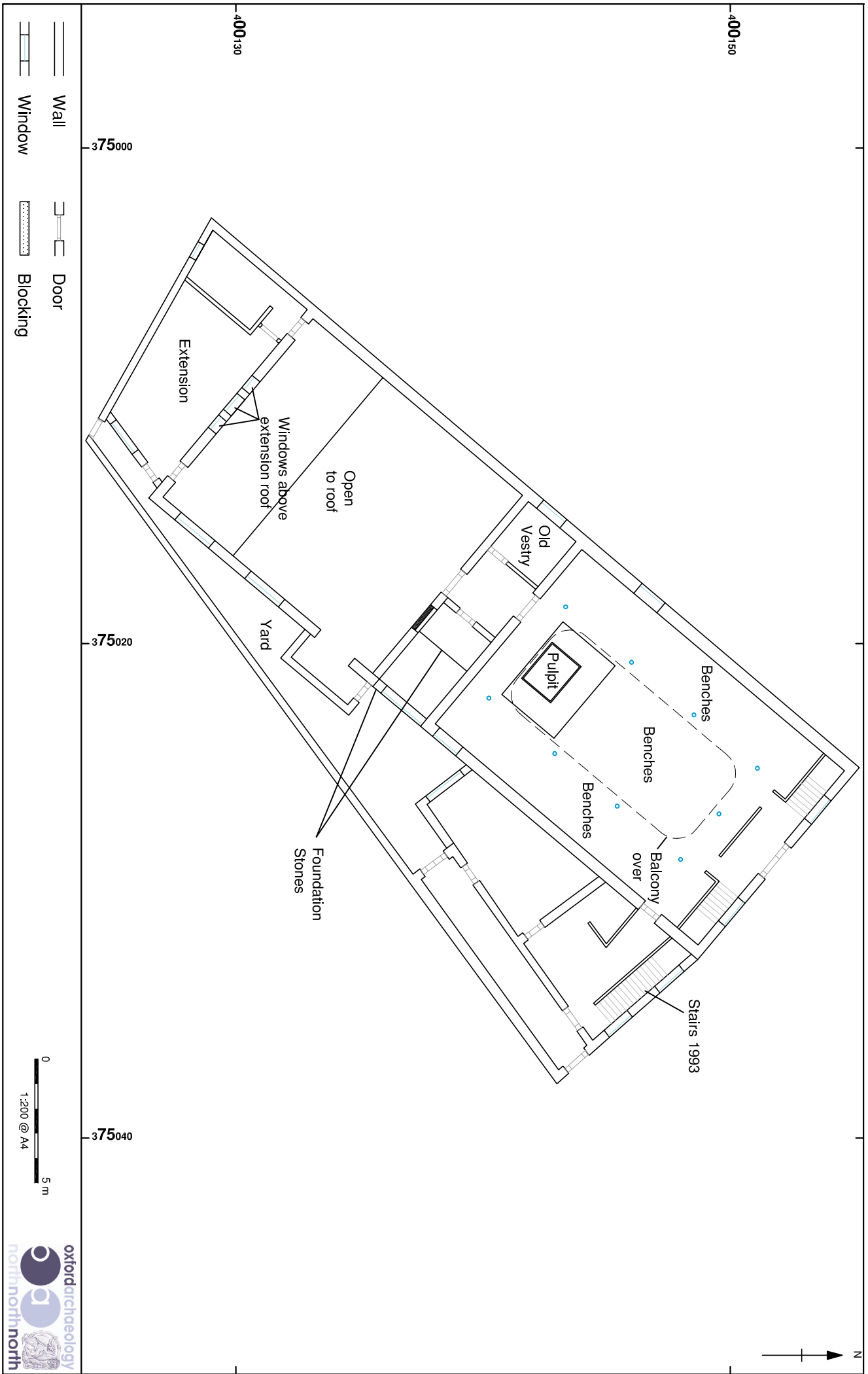


Figure 2: Worsely Methodist Chapel and School, Ground floor plan

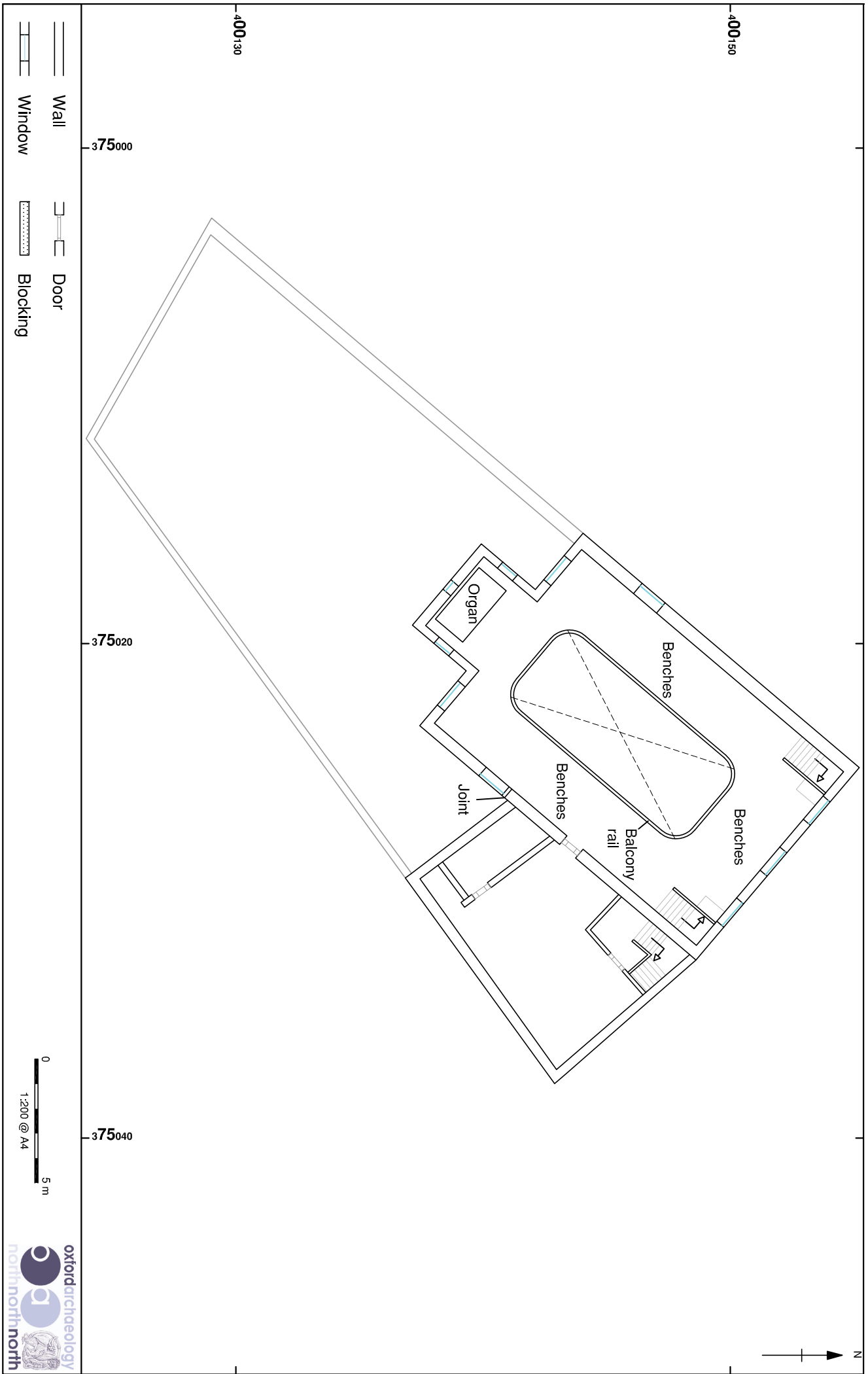


Figure 3: Worsely Methodist Chapel and School, First floor plan

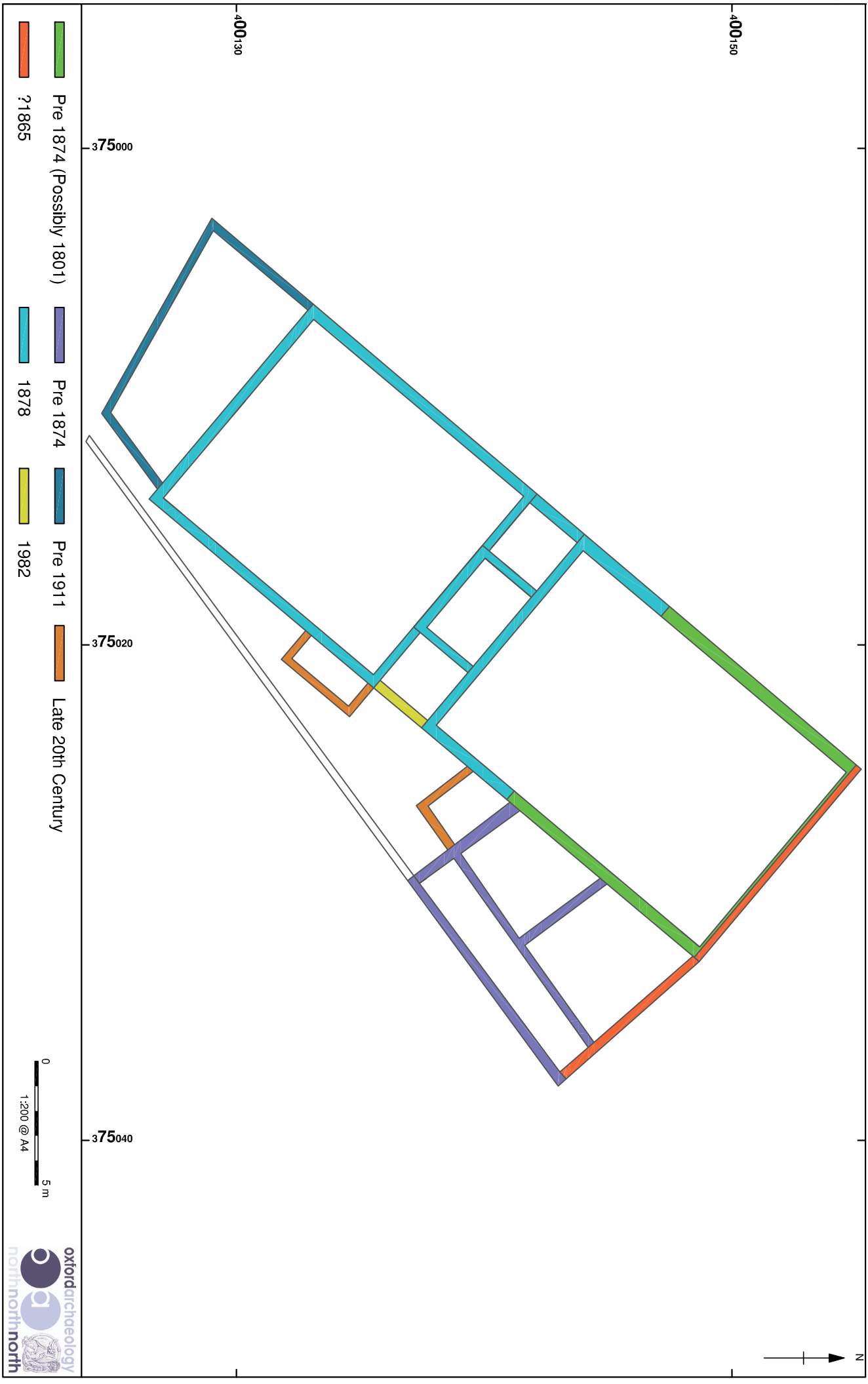


Figure 4: Worsely Methodist Chapel and School, Phase plan