



LAND AT ST PAUL'S SQUARE, Liverpool

Archaeological Evaluation



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SUMMARY

As part of the Liverpool New Central Business District, English Cities Fund have proposed a development on a site at St Paul's Square, Liverpool (SJ 3390 9066). The site is located 750m to the north of the centre of Liverpool, within the commercial district and occupies the site of the demolished St Paul's Church; it is therefore deemed to be of archaeological significance. Accordingly, Merseyside Archaeological Service (MAS) issued a brief outlining a programme of archaeological work to be undertaken in advance of any further development on the site. John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC), on behalf of AMEC Developments, produced a specification and commissioned Oxford Archaeology North to undertake an archaeological evaluation in March 2005, comprising the excavation of six trial trenches.

Within the six trial trenches, archaeological stratigraphy was encountered to a maximum depth of 3m when the natural subsoil was revealed. Structural remains, including both sandstone and brick structures, were revealed across the site. The evidence from this trenching has also shown that extensive episodes of disturbance have occurred across the site, with robbing out of foundations and the deposition of thick layers of demolition debris; this has had a significant impact on the surviving archaeology.

A series of yellow and white sandstone ashlar walls revealed towards the north-east of the site are thought to be the remains of the foundations of St Paul's Church, which was completed in 1769, and was described as a replica of St Paul's Cathedral, London. Following consultation with JSAC and MAS, the trial trenches at the north-east of the site were expanded in order to locate the extent of these remains. Six separate sections of wall were revealed, mostly aligned north-west/south-east, and the rest north-east/south-west. Small pockets of grey mortar could be seen within the walls, but the majority appeared to have a dry-stone construction. These correspond to the position of the north-east wall of the church, as shown in the cartographic sources.

No burials were found in the church or churchyard areas, and a redeposited natural clay overlay the foundation walls. This suggests that there was a systematic clearance of the site when the church was demolished in 1931, with the removal of any burials that had been present. The clay was probably introduced at this time to level the area for future construction.

Substantial concrete footings were found across the site, and are possibly part of the foundations of a boxing arena which was located on the site in the twentieth century. Brick-built structures were also revealed towards the south-west of the site, probably also associated with this arena. The concrete structures in the north-east of the site are cut through the redeposited clay layer, and therefore post-date the church demolition and clearance phase of the site.

Very few finds were recovered, and all were found in Trench 1, near the north of the site. These included a painted sandstone tile which is likely to have come from the church, five fragments of bone, including one juvenile human femur, one fragment of undiagnostic sheep bone, and three fragments of undiagnostic bone, and a sherd of

earthenware pottery with a blue transfer, dated to the late eighteenth to twentieth century.

It is likely, depending on the nature of the groundworks that will be undertaken as part of the redevelopment of the site, that there will be significant damage to the surviving foundation walls of the church. The full extent of the walls was not revealed during the evaluation and, considering that the remains of the north-east wall are still preserved, there is potential for the survival of the remainder of the wall and internal structure foundations. More information about these remains would contribute to a fuller understanding of the importance of this church to the area, as well as its size, construction, modifications and diversions from the original architectural plan. It is therefore recommended that further archaeological work be carried out within the foot print of the building, in order to mitigate the impact of any groundworks in advance of development.

The potential for further surviving archaeology across the rest of the site must be regarded as low, given the amount of disturbance within the area.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North would like to thank Forbes Marsden of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants for commissioning the work and Sarah-Jane Farr of Merseyside Archaeology Service for her useful advice. Thanks are also expressed to Alan O'Brien of Shepherd Construction for his help on-site.

The evaluation was undertaken by Hannah Gajos, who was assisted on site by Jim O'Brien, Ralph Brown and Andy Lane. The report was written by Hannah Gajos, with the drawings created by Emma Carter. Tim Carew undertook the project management while Stephen Rowland and Alan Lupton edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 As part of the Liverpool New Central Business District, English Cities Fund proposes to redevelop an area of land at St Paul's Square, Liverpool (centred SJ 3390 9066). Following a desk-based assessment on the site by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (JSAC), Merseyside Archaeological Service (MAS) decided that the site lay within an area of archaeological interest and, to further inform the planning process, issued a brief detailing work required prior to the development. JSAC, acting on behalf of AMEC Developments, issued a specification (*Appendix 1*) and commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to produce a project design for, and to undertake, an archaeological evaluation to meet the requirements of the MAS brief.
- 1.1.2 The project design (*Appendix 2*) specified an archaeological evaluation comprising excavation of six trial trenches, in areas to be impacted upon by development. This report details the results of this fieldwork in the form of a short document, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential of the area.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 2*) was submitted by OA North in response to a request from JSAC and a brief from MAS (*Appendix 1*). for an archaeological evaluation at St Paul's Square, Liverpool (Fig 1). Following acceptance of this project design, OA North was commissioned to carry out the work, which was undertaken in March 2005. The project design was adhered to in full with regard to the evaluation trenching. However, after on-site consultation with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer and the Archaeologist for JSAC, it was agreed to excavate a larger trench at the north-east of the site through the expansion of the trial trenches in that area, with the purpose of revealing and mapping the extent of identified archaeological features. The work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 EVALUATION

- 2.2.1 A programme of trial trenching was implemented to establish the presence or absence of any archaeological deposits. The project specification (*Appendix 1*) required the evaluation of six trenches as shown in a plan provided JSAC. This utilised four 10m long trenches (Trenches 2-5) located around the south-west end of St Paul's Church, another at the north corner (Trench 1), and a single trench measuring 25m in length running centrally down the long axis of the church (Trench 6). The trenches were located in order to give a comprehensive coverage of the site, and, in particular, focussing on the remains of St Paul's Church, and the associated churchyard, the position of which has been determined from historical maps. The OA North project design differed only slightly by pulling the positions of Trenches 1 and 6 southwards, as it was felt in doing so there was greater chance of encountering structural remains (Fig 2).
- 2.2.2 The trenches were excavated in a stratigraphical manner to the first significant archaeology by a mechanical excavator under the supervision of an OA North archaeologist. The spoil heaps were scanned for artefacts. The maximum depth of excavation varied, but where it exceeded 1.2m, the sides of the trenches were stepped to meet health and safety requirements.
- 2.2.3 The recording, on OA North *pro-forma* sheets, comprised a full description and preliminary classification of the features and materials revealed. A plan was produced showing the location of all the trenches and features, with representative sections being drawn at a scale of 1:10. A photographic record, using monochrome and colour slide and digital formats, was maintained.
- 2.2.4 The precise location of the evaluation trenches, and the position of all archaeological structures encountered, were surveyed using a total station. This data was then used to generate scaled plans within AutoCAD 14. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. Sections were manually drafted as appropriate at a scale of 1:10. All information has been tied in to Ordnance Datum.

2.3 EXCAVATION

- 2.3.1 After consultation with MAS, Trench 7 was excavated to the north of the site, in order to locate and record the extent of archaeological remains that had been discovered during the evaluation phase. This expanded Trial Trench 1 to cover an irregularly-shaped trench within an area measuring 26m by 10m on a north-east/south-west alignment. Excavation was conducted, under archaeological supervision, by a machine fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, down to the level of the first significant archaeological horizon. Further excavation was by hand. The results of the excavation were recorded on standard OA North *pro-forma* recording sheets, and photographically by monochrome print, colour slide and digitally. Plans and sections were drawn at an appropriate scale through the use of a total station theodolite.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 The results of the fieldwork will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*The Management of Archaeological Projects, 2nd edition, 1991*) and the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.
- 2.4.2 The archive for the archaeological work undertaken at the site will be deposited with the Merseyside museum, which is the nearest museum which meets Museums' and Galleries' Commission criteria for the long-term storage of archaeological material (MGC 1992). This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format, both as a printed document and on computer disks as ASCII files (as appropriate).
- 2.4.3 A synthesis (in the form of the index to the archive and a copy of the publication report) will be deposited with the Merseyside Sites and Monuments Record. A copy of the index to the archive will also be available for deposition in the National Archaeological Record in London.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 SITE LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 The site, centred on SJ 3390 9066, is located 750m to the north of the centre of Liverpool, within the commercial district. The land is bounded by Rigby Street to the north-west; East Street to the north-east; Prussia Street to the south-east and the back of buildings that front onto Old Hall Street to the south-west. The site occupies an area of 1.3 ha and was used until recently as a municipal park and car parking area.
- 3.1.2 The topography of the area slopes gently to the west, with land directly to the west of site dropping down sharply towards the Mersey. The site itself lies at c 21m AOD, and has been levelled prior to any archaeological works.
- 3.1.3 The solid geology of Liverpool consists of drift deposits of Boulder Clay overlying Pebble Beds and Upper Mottled Sandstone (Philpott 1999). The area to the west of the site contains the remains of garden soils from the municipal park.

3.2 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 The establishment of the town of Liverpool is well-documented. The name '*Liuerpol*' is first mentioned in a charter of 1190-4, the town forming a part of the hundred of West Derby (Nicholson 1981). In 1207, a further charter was granted by King John, which effectively elevated the settlement from a fishing and farming village to a royal borough. Between the granting of this charter and 1296, the population of the town had increased, and the settlement consisted of seven streets, the names of which are mentioned in documents from about 1300 (*op cit*, 7). Old Hall Street, to the south-west of the site, is the oldest within the study area, and is one of the seven original medieval streets (JSAC, 2001). These streets survive in the modern plan of the town, though they have been much widened. Important buildings were constructed throughout this period, including the castle, the Chapel of St Mary del Key and St Nicholas, and the Tower (Nicholson 1981).
- 3.2.2 The town was positioned next to, and derives its name from, the Pool, a prominent topographical feature and natural inlet. The Pool comprises part of a ridge of sandstone covered with boulder clay, with the ancient shore-line lying where the Strand is now. It was a natural tidal inlet or creek fed by streams arising further north, and was nearly 1.5km long at high tide (Stewart-Brown 1932, 88). The Pool formed an important part in the town's life and in its maritime trade, acting as an area where cargoes were unloaded, and ships built and repaired (*op cit*, 89).
- 3.2.3 With the demise of Chester's trade through the silting of the Dee by the late 1600s, Liverpool's trade began to rise in prominence (MacLeod 1982, 4). Using the proceeds from the wealth produced by this trade, affluent residential areas began to emerge within the city centre. St Paul's Square is believed to be

within one such area. Cartographic evidence shows the area to be undeveloped marshland until the mid-eighteenth century, with St Paul's Square, St Paul's church, and the surrounding streets being shown on J Eyes map of 1765 (JSAC 2001). Records show that in 1761 an act was obtained for the building of the church, with the first stone being laid in 1763.

- 3.2.4 Liverpool already had five churches in 1763 when King George III ordered that two more should be built. These two churches were to be dedicated to St Paul and St John respectively and both were designed by Mr T Lightfole. On 4th April 1763 the Mayor of Liverpool, William Gregson esq., laid the foundation stone of St Paul's Church, which was built along the lines of St Paul's Cathedral, London. The church was completed in 1769 with a capacity of 1800 worshippers and at a cost of £13,139, of which the Liverpool Corporation contributed £4,000 (Plevin and Sharp 2001; Williams 2001).
- 3.2.5 A graveyard is shown surrounding the church, although it is not thought that any burials took place within the churchyard (JSAC 2001). Up until 1845, the Church of St Paul enjoyed the status of being a Corporation Church, in that the rates then helped to pay the incumbent's salaries, of which two, one each for high and low church services, were appointed (Plevin and Sharp 2001).
- 3.2.6 By the late nineteenth century, the church had begun to fall into decline. A correspondent to the Church Times on 9th May 1884 complained that only about 22 adults and the same number of children attended Mattins there. By the turn of the twentieth century, the building and its churchyard had fallen into such disrepair that the Corporation of Liverpool ordered its closure as a dangerous building unsafe for public use. The church was closed c1901 when the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Company bought it for £15,000 with the unfulfilled intention of building an extension to the Exchange Station. The church remained abandoned and increasingly derelict until it was demolished in 1931, at a time when the surrounding area was being regenerated through widespread slum clearance. A boxing arena was built in its place, but this in turn had been demolished by 1953 (JSAC 2001).

4. RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 Six trenches were excavated across the site (Fig 2), with archaeological stratigraphy being encountered at a maximum depth of 3m. Structural remains, including both sandstone and brick structures, were revealed across the site. Deposits on site consisted of various backfill materials overlying mid-greyish-brown silty-clay natural subsoil. A description of each context revealed in the trenches has been provided in *Appendix 3*.

4.2 TRENCH DESCRIPTIONS

4.2.1 **Trench 1:** Trench 1 was aligned east/west and measured 12.5m by 2m. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. A sondage excavated at the east end of the trench encountered the natural subsoil at a depth of 3m (18.2m AOD). The excavation of the trench revealed sandstone walls **110**, **112** (Fig 3, Plate 2), both aligned north-west/south-east beneath **100**, a 0.7m thick deposit of demolition rubble. These walls were overlain by redeposited natural backfill **101**. Both walls, and backfill **101** have also been truncated by concrete and brick footings **105-106** and brick wall **107**, which survived to three courses. Backfill **101** overlies further layers of backfilled material **102-104** consisting of demolition rubble within redeposited natural.

4.2.2 **Trench 2:** Trench 2 measured 10.5m by 3.5m and was aligned east/west, turning south-west along brick cellar wall **204**. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m, with a sondage excavated to a depth of 3m along wall **204** at the west end of the trench. The trench revealed brick wall **204**, which was bonded using a yellow sandy mortar. The base of the wall was revealed at 3m, and was cut into natural subsoil **205**. Backfill **202** butted up against the wall, and was overlain by further deposits, comprising garden soil **200** and backfill **201**. These deposits contained asbestos, meaning that further investigations were halted.

4.2.3 **Trench 3:** Trench 3 was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 10m by 2m. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m, with a sondage excavated to 2.9m at its northern end to reveal natural subsoil **303**. The trench revealed a square, brick-built stanchion block, **304**, measuring 0.56m by 0.48m, surrounded by backfill materials **300-302**. A small structure was revealed at the south-east end of the trench, which housed two lavatories.

4.2.4 **Trench 4:** Trench 4 was aligned north-west/south-east and measured 10m by 2m. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m, with a sondage excavated to a depth of 2.4m at its north-western end to reveal natural subsoil **402**. The trench revealed backfill layers **400** and **401** overlying **402**.

4.2.5 **Trench 5:** Trench 5 was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 10m by 2m. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m, with a sondage excavated to 2.4m at the northern end to reveal natural subsoil **502**. The trench revealed a series of

backfills, comprising brick rubble layer **500** and silty-clay layer **501** overlying **502**, the natural subsoil.

- 4.2.6 **Trench 6:** Trench 6 was aligned north-east/south-west and measured 24m by 2m. It was excavated to a depth of 1.2m. The trench revealed sandstone wall **603** aligned north-west/south-east near the north-east end of the trench. This wall was overlain by redeposited natural **601**, which appears to be the same deposit as **101** seen in Trench 1. The rest of the stratigraphy encountered in the trench consisted of backfills **600** to **602**, with no further structural features revealed. The redeposited natural layer **601** became progressively deeper towards the south-west, from a depth of 0.7m at the north-east end of the trench, to 1.1m deep at the south-west end.
- 4.2.7 **Trench 7 - Excavation Area:** The area excavated towards the north-east of the site revealed a series of sandstone wall foundations, numbered **701-706** (Fig 4, Plates 3-6). These walls were aligned north-west/south-east, with small extensions aligned north-east/south-west, and were constructed from yellow and white sandstone ashlar blocks. Small pockets of grey mortar could be seen within the walls, but the majority appeared to be of a dry-stone construction. Tooled dressing marks could clearly be seen on the surface of the blocks. All these walls were overlain with a redeposited clay natural, identical to contexts **101** and **601** in Trenches 1 and 6.

4.3 FINDS

- 4.3.1 Very few finds were retrieved from the site, and all were recovered from Trench 1, near the north of the site. Overburden **100** produced a broken sandstone tile, with red, yellow and white paint visible on its surface. Five fragments of bone were recovered from redeposited clay natural **101**, including one juvenile human femur, one fragment of undiagnostic sheep bone, and three fragments of undiagnostic bone. A sherd of earthenware pottery with a blue transfer, dated to the late eighteenth to early twentieth century, was recovered from **109**, the backfill of the construction cut for brick wall **107**.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 STRUCTURAL REMAINS

- 5.1.1 The series of sandstone walls discovered in Trial Trenches 1 and 6 and fully revealed within the excavation Trench 7 are interpreted as the foundations of St Paul's Church (Fig 4). Their location, dimensions, arrangement and alignment are consistent with sections of the north-east wall of the church as it is shown in the cartographic sources. The results indicate that, although some of the large sandstone blocks have been completely robbed-out, the basic plan of the church is in a good state of preservation. The symmetrical plan of the building means that it is possible to interpolate the original arrangement of walls in the more heavily truncated areas of the site on the basis of better preserved sections. For example, section **701** (the same as Wall **112** identified in Trench 1), rather than a pillar base, as the initial plan may suggest, is probably the surviving section of a wall that is likely to include wall section **702** and would, therefore, mirror section **706**. The fact that parts of these foundations can be seen to extend within the internal area of the building, would indicate that they also formed the foundations of internal pillars or structural supports, perhaps for large arches. Other clues to the architecture of the building can be seen in the case of the large, square foundations at the north-western and south-eastern extents of the north-east wall, as seen at the north end of Wall **703**, and at the south with Wall **705**.
- 5.1.2 The actual extent of the surviving foundations for the other church walls is not clear. Trenches 2-5 were not placed in such a way as to correlate with the footprint of the church and, therefore, can not be used to monitor the presence or state of preservation of the structure. On the evidence of the north-east wall, it seems likely that the preservation of the remains of the other walls will be sufficient to provide further insights into the nature of the building structure. While limited truncation is likely to have occurred, complete removal of the foundations seems unlikely as, following the demolition of the church in 1931, an effort seems to have been made to level the area. Completely robbing-out the foundations would only have extended this levelling process, which is unlikely to have been desirable. This is most apparent in the introduction of redeposited natural clay over the walls observed in Trenches 1, 6 and 7.
- 5.1.3 The lack of evidence for internal features within Trench 6 could relate to a number of factors. It is possible that structural features, such as column bases and internal divisions, lay outside of the area examined by the trench. Similarly, Trenches 2-5 were placed within an area depicted on old maps, initially as the churchyard, and then later as the graveyard (JSAC 2001), but failed to locate any evidence of burials. It is possible that when the church became de-consecrated, as now, any human remains were moved to another consecrated site, but certain sources suggest that there was no actual burial at St Paul's, rather, that the graveyard at St. Nicholas's Church was used (*ibid*). If burials had been made within the areas evaluated by Trenches 2-5, then it might be expected that grave cuts might be encountered, unless the entire area had been comprehensively cleared of six feet of soil. Either way, one might

expect to recover chance finds of coffin furniture. The disarticulated child femur from redeposited subsoil **101** would indicate that inhumation had taken place locally, but it is not certain, however, whether many, if any, burials were made within the church itself. The 1853 Burial Act banned interment within churches, and in any case, it is likely that people would have been encouraged to use Liverpool's municipal cemeteries, the Necropolis and St James', which had opened by 1830. Although it cannot be proved, the origin of the human remains within Trench 1 is most likely to be an inhumation positioned on the slightly higher ground to the east of the church. After the demolition of the building, material from this area could have been redeposited to create a level surface across the wider area in preparation for future construction.

- 5.1.4 Within Trench 1, concrete structures **105** and **106** are cut through the redeposited clay subsoil levelling layer **101** and, therefore, post-date the demolition phase of the church. Substantial concrete footings such as **105** and **106** were identified across the site and, along with the brick-built stanchion blocks, **304**, in Trench 3, probably represent the foundations of the boxing arena, which was located on the site in the twentieth century. The extent of these features, spanning a distance of over 50m between Trenches 1 and 3 would suggest that the boxing arena covered a larger area than the church that preceded it. Brick-built cellar wall **204** in Trench 2 may also be associated with the arena. Much of the building debris observed within the demolition deposits recorded in each of the trenches seems likely to have come from the arena, or possibly from smaller buildings demolished during the slum clearance of the early 1930s, as it consists mainly of brick. The church itself was described as being constructed of stone (although it is possible that brick walls were only clad with this material), and it seems likely that following demolition, this material was salvaged.

5.2 FINDS

- 5.2.1 Very few finds were recovered from the site, despite its urban context and the post-medieval date of the remains, which is likely to be due to the land being used for a church. The floor tile can be attributed to St Paul's Church, but the lack of other examples suggests that the majority of the internal structure of the church was comprehensively cleared from site during demolition. Likewise, the recovery of just one human bone across the site suggests a thorough clearance of any possible graves on the site.
- 5.2.2 The sherd of pottery has a wide date range, and cannot therefore be attributed to any particular phase on the site, although it is more likely to be related to the demolition of the church or the construction of the boxing arena.

6. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 IMPACT

- 6.1.1 The current proposals for the development of St Paul's Square involve a large carpark area over much of the site, and also for retail units. The evidence from the evaluation trenching has shown that, although truncated by later development and frequently blanketed by thick deposits of demolition debris, significant archaeology survives towards the north-east of the site, consisting of the foundations of the walls of St Paul's Church located between 0.3m and 0.8m below the ground surface (20.37m to 20.88m AOD). It therefore seems likely that the foundations of the church will survive in other, as yet uninvestigated, parts of the site. Although such remains are unlikely to be affected by the laying of a carpark, any groundworks penetrating deeper than 0.3m below the current ground surface are likely to have a negative impact on the archaeological resource.
- 6.1.2 Although the presence of disarticulated human remains would indicate that interments had been made within the area at some point during the use St Paul's Church, it would appear that any burials associated with the church have been comprehensively cleared from the site. The planned development of the site is highly unlikely to impact upon any intact burials, but the chance of encountering disarticulated human remains during the course of groundworks remains a possibility.

6.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.2.1 Because of the possibility of damage to surviving church foundations and of the discovery of human remains, it is recommended that a watching brief be maintained during the course of any groundworks associated with the proposed development.

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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT SPECIFICATION

**A Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief
at
St Paul's Square, Liverpool.**

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Summary

English Cities Fund are proposing to redevelop land at St Paul's Square, Liverpool. The redevelopment site is within an area bounded by Rigby Street to the north; East Street to the east; St Paul's Square (south side) and Prussia Street to the south and Old Hall Street to the west centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SJ 3390 9066. The redevelopment area and is level at an AOD height of 20 metres. The site occupies an area of c. 1.3 ha. The area of the proposed redevelopment site lies c 0.75 kms. to the north of Liverpool's early town core.

The area proposed for re development is currently used as surface car parks, offices and retail premises.

AMEC Developments commissioned John Samuels Archaeological Consultants to carry out a Desk Based Assessment (JSAC 1089/03/01). Following discussions with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer it was agreed that archaeological field evaluation of the area of the now demolished St Paul's Church should be undertaken, prior to construction. In addition to the field evaluation the remainder of the site would be the subject of a watching brief during below ground works.

This document has been written by John Samuels Archaeological Consultants, detailing the proposed methodology for undertaking the archaeological fieldwork. It is subject to the approval of the Merseyside Archaeological Officer.

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Site Location and Description

1.1.1 English Cities Fund are proposing to redevelop land at St Paul's Square, Liverpool. The redevelopment site is within an area bounded by Rigby Street to the north; East Street to the east; St Paul's Square (south side) and Prussia Street to the south and Old Hall Street to the west centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SJ 3390 9066 (see fig 1). The redevelopment area and is level at an AOD height of 20 metres. The site occupies an area of c. 1.3 ha. The area of the proposed redevelopment site lies c 0.75 kms. to the north of Liverpool's early town core and is currently used as surface car parks, offices and retail premises.

1.2 AMEC Developments commissioned John Samuels Archaeological Consultants to carry out a Desk Based Assessment (JSAC 1089/03/01). Following discussions with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer it was agreed that field evaluation of the area of the now demolished St Paul's Church Archaeological should be undertaken, prior to construction. In addition to the field evaluation the remainder of the site would be the subject of a watching brief during below ground works (see Fig 2).

Planning permission has been applied for and granted, (application reference 040/00130, and contain the following condition, which deals with archaeology. The condition reads:
Condition 22 : The development hereby approved shall not commence until the applicant has implemented a programme of archeological investigation which has been agreed by the local planning authority, in consultation with the Merseyside Archeological Service, and for the avoidance of doubt, the programme of archeological works shall initially consist of a phase of archeological evaluation (archeological trial trenching) and then (if appropriate) open area investigation to be completed in advance of any development or a watching brief during development.

1.2 Archaeological and Historical background

- 1.2.1 The City of Liverpool has been the subject of much historical research and more recently archaeological investigation. However, although a broad outline of the City's development can be drawn, detail is lacking and any new research can make a considerable contribution to understanding better its rich heritage.
- 1.2.2 Permanent settlement in Liverpool Township began when; in 1207 King John created Liverpool as a small coastal borough. Whilst there is no reference to Liverpool in the Domesday Book in 1086, the area lay within the Darbei Hundred (West Derby).
- 1.2.3 The redevelopment area lies c0.75 kms to the north of the site of the castle (Derby Square) which is taken as the medieval core of Liverpool (see figure 1).
- 1.2.4 The Liverpool Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) does not identify any archaeological features within the proposed redevelopment site and of the seven records within the vicinity, five refer to buildings which are now demolished.
- 1.2.5 The redevelopment area lies to the east of Old Hall Street, and is bounded by Rigby Street to the north; East Street to the east; St Paul's Square (south side) and Prussia Street to the south. Within the site are Earle Street, Virginia Street and Lad Lane. The area was, until after 1725, open land owned by the Moore family.
- 1.2.6 Of the streets within the redevelopment area Old Hall Street is the oldest, being one of the seven medieval streets of Liverpool. It is recorded in the Liverpool Town Books in 1550 as Whiteacre Street, by 1569 it had been absorbed into Mill Street and re-named as Hall Street by 1629, later to be called Old Hall Street, which was a private road until 1712. To the west of the street in the 13th the Moore built More Hall (now demolished), this was later to be called the Old Hall.

- 1.2.7 From documentary and cartographic evidence the development of the infrastructure of the redevelopment area begins after 1725. By 1765 a Plan of Liverpool produced by J Eyes identifies Old Hall Street, Earle Street (Earle Street), St Paul's Square, St Paul's Church, Prussia Street and Virginia Street.
- 1.2.8 On land that they had bought around Old Hall Street from Cleave Moore in the 18th century the Earle family laid out Earle Street.
- 1.2.9 Prussia Street was named to commemorate the British alliance with Prussia during the Seven Years war 1756-63. This street had previously run from Old Hall Street to Pall Mall and beyond, but was bisected when the Exchange Station was constructed in 1850. In 1888 the station was re built and named Liverpool Exchange and was closed in 1977.
- 1.2.10 St Paul's Square, named after the Church of St Paul's, which was built after 1769; although the Church is shown on a map dated 1765 by Eyes. The Church was been described as a combination of St Paul's Cathedral and St Stephen's, Walbrook in London (Wilkinson C, 1999). A construction of such apparent magnificence would indicate a residential area of some status at that time. On later maps a graveyard is noted around the church, however it is understood that no burials took place, internments were at St Nicholas's Church (comment by the Clark to the Diocesan Registrar). The church was closed c 1901 and the site was sold to the railway company for an extension to the Exchange Station, this proposed extension never took place. The Clerk to the Diocesan Registrar is of the opinion that the site was not deconsecrated prior to its sale. Although much admired, the church was cleared along with slum housing in the area in c1932, after this date it is believed that the area was used as a boxing stadium. This area is now a car park and a landscaped garden.
- 1.2.11 Building over parts of the redevelopment area would seem to have been undertaken piecemeal until the end of the middle of the 19th century, when map evidence indicates clearance and rebuilding, this was followed by major clearance and re building

throughout the 20th century.

1.3 Aims

1.3.1 The aims of this evaluation and watching brief are:

- i. to determine the presence or otherwise of remains of archaeological interest; and to assess the site's archaeological potential in order to allow the Merseyside Archaeological Officer to make an informed decision regarding a suitable mitigation of the impact of development upon any archaeological remains existing on the site.
- ii. To record above below ground features which may be removed during construction.

1.3.2 Should any significant remains be identified, an additional set of aims are in place to allow the planning decision to be made. These are:

- i. to assess the nature, date, density, extent, function and state of preservation of archaeological remains;
- ii. to assess their potential for answering questions about the development of land use in the region; and
- iii. where remains of are of sufficient importance, in liaison with the planning archaeologist, to formulate a strategy designed to determine the best method for mitigation.

1.3.3 This specification conforms to the requirements of *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE 1990) (PPG16). It has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and the appropriate national standards and guidelines including :

Management of Archaeological Projects (English Heritage, 1991);

Model Briefs and Specifications for Archaeological Assessments and Field Evaluations

(Association of County Archaeological Officers, 1994);
Code of Conduct (Institute of Field Archaeologists, 2000); and
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (Institute of Field
Archaeologists, 1999, revised 2001);
Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs (Institute of Field
Archaeologists, 1999; rev. 2001).

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Excavation

2.1.1 It is intended that 5 trenches be excavated, within the area of the former St Paul's Church Yard (now demolished) each trench will be 10 metres by 2 metres, see figure 3. The locations will be finalized on site. The trenches will be excavated with a JCB, or 360⁰ mechanical excavators fitted with a toothless ditching bucket, under continuous archaeological supervision. Every effort will be made to excavate the trenches to size, but the discovery of services and other substantial immovable features may require some flexibility on the ground.

2.1.2 Each of the trenches will be excavated to the top of the natural geology, or to the top of the first significant archaeological horizon, whichever is encountered first. Should there be deeply stratified natural deposits it may be necessary to step or batter the sides of the trenches in order to reach the natural geology. The spoil generated during the evaluation will be mounded at a safe distance from the edges of each trench. Excavation of archaeological features exposed will be undertaken as far as is required to determine their date, sequence, density and nature.

2.1.3 The base and sides of the trench will be cleaned to a level to show the soil profile and to define any archaeological features present. A strategy will then be resolved to deal appropriately with any features exposed. This will in general involve half-sectioning discrete features, such as pits and postholes and excavating sufficient of linear features to characterise their profiles and where possible to resolve their date and function. Variations from this scheme will only occur where remains are thought to be of national importance, or where they are of no or negligible importance, or where further excavation is thought to be a likely planning decision and where trench excavation would prejudice the results of a later excavation.

2.1.4 The exposed areas will be recorded at an appropriate scale by measured drawing and photography and the deposits encountered described fully on pro-forma individual context recording sheets. Trenches will normally be planned at 1:50 unless they contain

significant or complex archaeology, where a larger scale might be more appropriate (1:10 or 1:20). The sections of excavated archaeological features will also be recorded by measured drawing at an appropriate scale (normally 1:20). The recording system is based on the Museum of London's '*Archaeological Site Manual*' (1994). All site drawings will be referenced to Ordnance Datum and the National Grid.

2.1.5 A photographic record will be maintained during the course of the excavation and will include:

- i. the site prior to commencement of fieldwork;
- ii. the site during work, showing specific stages of fieldwork;
- iii. the layout of archaeological features within each trench;
- iv. individual features and, where appropriate, their sections;
- v. groups of features where their relationship is important;

2.1.6 A strategy to assess the palaeoenvironmental character and development of the site will be developed on site. Until the trenches have been excavated the potential of the site is unknown and an appropriate response is difficult to gauge. This strategy will be developed in consultation with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer and an environmental specialist, if appropriate. Samples would usually be taken from:-

i. Any securely dated deposits containing the following will be sampled at a minimum of 20 litres where possible.

- X charred plant remains;
- X large quantities of molluscs;
- X large quantities of bone;
- X hearths and other burnt features;
- X other domestic features, e.g. house gullies, potentially containing the above

- ii. Charred plant samples will be wet sieved with flotation using a 0.5mm mesh. All residues will be checked.
- iii. Should waterlogged deposits be encountered, further consultation with an appropriate specialist will determine methods for recovery.

2.1.7

2.1.8 The material excavated from the trenches will be used to backfill them following the completion of work. No specialist reinstatement will be undertaken.

2.2 *Watching Brief*

2.2.1 In addition to the foregoing it is propose to undertake an intermittent watching brief in the areas of the site as shown in Figure 2.

2.2.2 An archaeological watching brief has been defined as *a programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons within a specified area or site...where there is the possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive* (IFA, 2001)

2.2.3 The overall objective of the watching brief will be to monitor ground disturbance during the course of below ground excavation, in order to establish whether any archaeological deposits survive within the site; and to ensure their complete understanding through excavation, recording and sampling of material of any exposed sensitive areas. This may require limited excavation in order to define the date, extent and importance of any such remains.

2.3 *Watching brief methodology*

- 2.3.1 The watching brief will take the form of supervision by a suitably qualified professional archaeologist to monitor groundwork's as they commence and proceed on an intermittent basis. It includes the provision for the pausing of groundwork's in order to allow for full investigation of any significant archaeological remains. In practice, this will involve:
- a Inspection of subsoil for archaeological features
 - b Recording of archaeological features in plan
 - c Full excavation of features
 - d Inspection of natural for archaeological features
 - e Cleaning/recording/excavation of features
 - f Sampling of deposits which warrant further investigation
- 2.3.2 Adequate facilities shall be provided by the developer or agent for archaeological staff to observe earth-moving operations in progress and to facilitate the recording of features as detailed in 2.1.1 above.
- 2.3.3 Where identified, excavated archaeological features will be recorded by measured drawing at appropriate scales (normally 1:20).
- 2.3.4 Excavated archaeological features will be recorded by single context on standard forms; the system is based upon the Museum of London's *Archaeological Site Manual* (1994).
- 2.3.5 A photographic record, primarily in colour print but supplemented by colour slide and black and white print where appropriate, will be maintained during the course of the Watching Brief and will include:
- i. the site during work, showing specific stages of fieldwork.
 - ii. individual features and, where appropriate, their sections.
 - iii. groups of features, where their relationship is important.

- 2.3.6 Any material considered suitable for environmental analysis will be sampled in 20-30 litre quantities, where possible.
- 2.3.7 Every effort will be made to implement the watching brief without affecting the construction timetable.
- 2.3.8 If extensive archaeological remains, which are potentially of regional or national significance, be identified, it may be necessary to pause groundwork's until a strategy designed to fully establish their character, distribution, extent, condition, dating and further treatment has been agreed with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer. If such remains are discovered, the developer, if deemed necessary, will make reasonable contingency arrangements.
- 2.3.9 The Merseyside Archaeological Officer will be given notice of when work is due to commence and will be free to visit the site by prior arrangement. Should any significant remains be found it might be necessary, in liaison with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer, to formulate a strategy designed to fully establish their character, distribution, extent, condition, dating and further treatment
- 2.3.10 Any human remains encountered will be cleaned and recorded with minimal disturbance and left *in situ* and covered over. Such remains will only be removed if necessary and only once the Archaeological Advisor has been informed. The contractor will comply with all statutory consents and licences under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act, 1981 or other Burial Acts regarding the exhumation and interment of human remains. The archaeological contractor will comply with all reasonable requests of interested parties as to the method of removal, re-interment or disposal of the remains or associated items. Every effort will be made, at all times, not to cause offence to any interested parties.

- 2.3.11 Archaeological staff and visitors will respect Health and Safety provisions and site safety regulations (see section 5.0).
- 2.3.12 All artefacts will be treated in accordance with UKIC guidelines, *>First Aid for Finds=* (Watkinson & Neale 1998). All finds will be bagged and labelled according to the individual deposit from which they were recovered, ready for later cleaning, marking and analysis.
- 2.3.13 The project archive will follow the guidelines contained in *AGuidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage@* (UKIC 1990) and *AStandards in the Museum Care of Archaeological CollectionsA* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992) and in consultation with Liverpool Museum, National Museums & Galleries on Merseyside ('Resource' registered repository).

2.4 *Post-excavation- Evaluation and Watching brief.*

- 2.4.1 Post excavation work will comprise the following:
- i. checking of drawn and written records during and on completion of fieldwork;
 - ii. production of a stratigraphic matrix of the archaeological deposits and features present on the site, if appropriate;
 - iii. cataloguing of photographic material and labelling of slides which will be mounted on appropriate hangers;
 - iii. cleaning, marking, bagging and labelling of finds according to the individual deposits from which they were recovered. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and conservation will be sent to an appropriate Conservation Laboratory. Finds will be identified and dated by appropriate specialists.
- 2.4.2 Following completion of fieldwork a report detailing the project will be produced within one month. The reports final format will depend upon the nature and significance of any archaeology recorded within the site. As a minimum, however, it will contain:

- i. a title page detailing site address, site code and accession number, NGR, author/originating body, client's name and address;
- ii. full contents listing;
- iii. a non-technical summary of the findings of the evaluation;
- iv. a description of the archaeological background;
- v. a description of the topography and geology of the evaluation area;
- vi. a description of the methodologies used during the evaluation;
- vii. a description of the findings of the evaluation;
- viii. plans of each of the trenches/areas showing the archaeological features exposed;
- ix. sections of the excavated archaeological features;
- x. interpretation of the archaeological features exposed and their context within the surrounding landscape;
- xi. specialist reports on the artefactual/ecofactual remains from the site;
- xii. appropriate photographs of specific archaeological features;
- xiii. a consideration of the importance of the archaeological remains present on the site in local, regional and national terms

2.4.3 The report shall also contain a suitable list of contents and a cover page detailing:

- a Site Address
- b Site Code and Accession No.
- c National Grid Reference
- d Author/originating body

e Report date

2.4.4 The report will be submitted in both paper copy and digital form with Auto Cad plans and Cad drawings I DXF format; databases in ASCII delimited text or MS Access and Text in ASCII text.

2.5 *Publication and dissemination*

2.5.1 Deposition of the developer report with the Mersyside Sites and Monuments Record will be taken as placing the information within the public domain.

2.5.2 Notes or articles describing the results of the evaluation will be submitted for publication in an appropriate local journal. A copy of any such works will be sent to the Merseyside Archaeological Officer and to the County SMR. A summary of findings will provided for the regional Council for British Archaeology group, CBA North West (c/o Dr M Nevell, UMAU, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL who will provide a pro-forma sheet).

2.6 *Copyright*

2.6.1 *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants* shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the *copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved, excepting that it hereby provide exclusive licence to the client for use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the project design.

2.7 *Archive*

2.7.1 Following the completion of fieldwork and acceptance of the report by the Local Planning Authority, an ordered archive of both object and paper elements will be prepared. This will conform to >Site Archive= level as defined in *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and guidelines contained in *AGuidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for long term storage@* (UKIC 1990) and *AStandards in the Museum Care of Archaeological CollectionsA* (Museums and Galleries Commission 1992) and in consultation Liverpool Museum, National Museums & Galleries on Merseyside ('Resource' registered repository).and will be deposited with the Liverpool Museum, National Museums & Galleries on Merseyside ('Resource' registered repository). This excludes items of gold and silver which by law must be reported to Her Majesty=s Coroner and any finds that individual landowners may wish to retain.

- 2.7.2 Should significant remains be discovered during the course of the brief, and post-excavation assessment identifies the need for fuller publication, then a secondary research archive will also be prepared.
- 2.7.3 Copies of the report will be sent to the client for approval and then to the Merseyside Archaeological Officer, the Local Planning Authority and to the SMR.
- 2.7.4 Notes or articles describing the results of the evaluation will be submitted for publication in an appropriate local journal. A copy of any such works will be sent to the Merseyside Archaeological Officer and to the County SMR. A summary of findings will be provided for the regional Council for British Archaeology group, CBA North West (c/o Dr M Nevell, UMAU, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M13 9PL who will provide a pro-forma sheet).
- 2.7.5 A copy of the final report/s will be deposited in the National Monuments Record, English Heritage, Swindon.

3.0 *Timetable and Personnel*

- 3.1 CVs of key personnel will be supplied to the Merseyside Archaeological Officer on request.
- 3.2 It is expected that the evaluation will commence in January 2005 with the watching brief commencing in February 2005. Confirmation of the start date will be provided to the Merseyside Archaeological Officer.
- 3.3 Specialist assistance where required will be provided by appropriate persons.

Details to be provided on appointment of a fieldwork contactor.

4.0 Insurance

- 4.1 The archaeological contractor will produce evidence of Public Liability Insurance to the minimum value of £5 m and Professional Indemnity Insurance to the minimum of £2m.

5.0 Health and Safety

- 5.1 It is the policy of John Samuels Archaeological Consultants ('the Employer') to conform fully with the requirements of the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act (1974).
- 5.2 It is accepted that it is the duty of the Employer to ensure, so far as is reasonably practical, the health and safety of all his employees at work.
- 5.3 The employer also has a duty to ensure that his employees are aware of their responsibility for their own health and safety, and for the health and safety of others, including the general public, who might be affected by their work.
- 5.4 Where employees are temporarily engaged at other workplaces, they are to respect relevant local regulations, both statutory and as imposed by other employers within the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act (1974).
- 5.5 In furtherance of the duty of care imposed by the Health & Safety at Work etc. Act (1974), the Employer shall make available to his employees whatever reasonable facilities are required by particular circumstances, eg. appropriate protective clothing, safety equipment, rest breaks for specialised tasks, etc.
- 5.6 Attention is paid to the requirements of more recent legislation including the provision and use of *Work Equipment Regulations 1992*, the *Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1992* and the *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations*

1994. A risk assessment will be undertaken by the contractor, with copies to *John Samuels Archaeological Consultants*, a safety officer appointed and all aspects of health and safety nominated during work. It may be necessary for the archaeological contractor to liaise with the main contractor over aspects of health and safety, depending on start dates of contracts etc.

6.0 Figures

Figure 1: Site Location

Figure 2: Site Location area of watching brief

Figure 3: Trench location plan, final locations will be agreed on site.

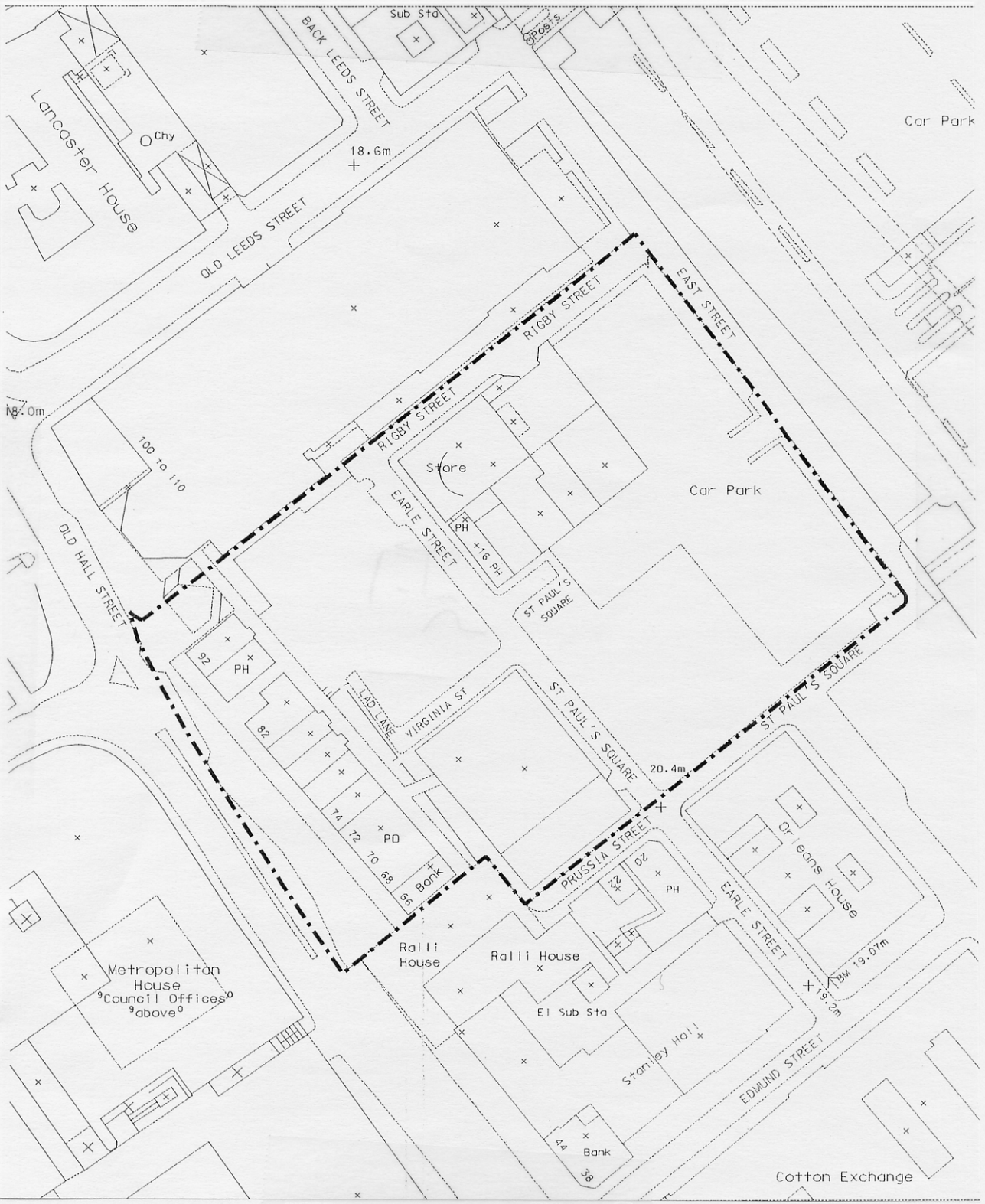


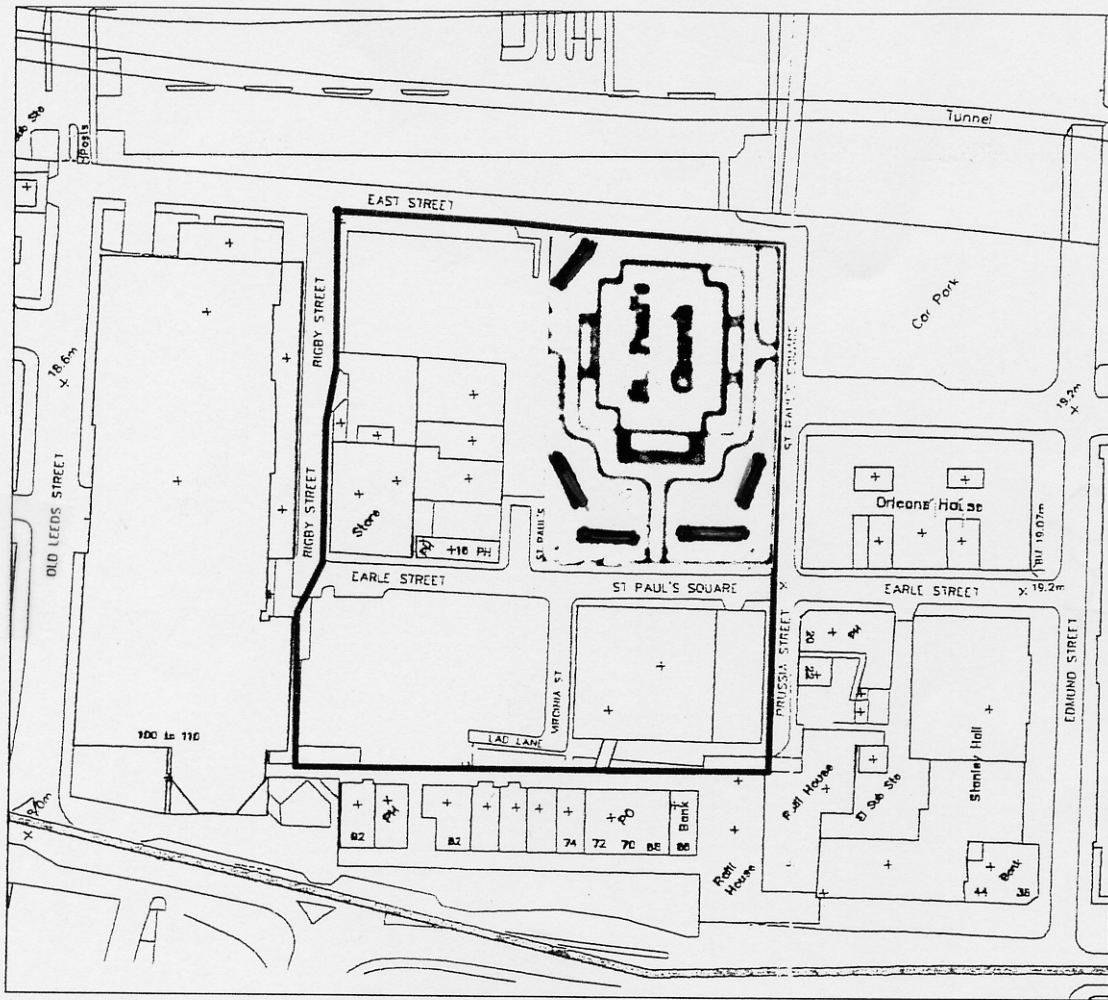
Figure 1: Site Location



Note: Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationary Office, Crown Copyright Reserved.

Licence No: AL 100020447

Figure 2: Site Location area of watching brief



Note: Map based upon Ordnance Survey with the sanction of the Controller of H.M. Stationary Office, Crown Copyright Reserved.

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Figure 3: Trench location plan, final locations will be agreed on site.

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

LAND AT ST PAUL'S SQUARE, LIVERPOOL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AND WATCHING BRIEF PROJECT DESIGN



Oxford Archaeology North

March 2005

**John Samuels Archaeological
Consultants**

OA North Project No: L9489
NGR: SJ 3390 9066 (centred)

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 John Samuels Archaeological Consultants (hereafter the 'client'), acting on behalf of AMEC Developments, has commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake an archaeological investigation at land at St Paul's Square, Liverpool (centred SJ 3390 9066). English Cities Fund proposes to redevelop the site. The client carried out a desk based assessment on the site, and consulted the Merseyside Archaeological Officer as to further work required prior to the development, due to the site being in an area of archaeological interest, to further inform the planning process. It was agreed that evaluation fieldwork would be undertaken prior to the construction, and that the remainder of the site would be subject to a watching brief during below ground works. The following document represents a project design to carry out the evaluation and watching brief.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 The archaeological and historical background are given in the Specification for an Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief at St Paul's Square, Liverpool.

1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.3.1 OA North has considerable experience of excavation of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 24 years. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables. OA North is an **Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17**, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

2. OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to evaluate the archaeological deposits affected by the proposed development of the site, in order to determine their extent, nature and significance. The results will provide information as to whether further investigation is required prior to the development taking place. The required stages to achieve these ends are as follows:

2.2 *Archaeological Evaluation*

To undertake evaluation trenching of the proposal area to determine the quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site.

2.3 *Watching Brief*

To carry out a watching brief during ground disturbance, to determine the quality, extent and importance of any archaeological remains on the site.

2.4 *Report and Archive*

An evaluation report will be produced for the client within eight weeks of completion of the fieldwork. A site archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (1991) and in accordance with the *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC 1990).

3. METHODS STATEMENT

3.1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

3.1.1 The programme of archaeological evaluation will involve trial trenching to determine the presence or absence of any previously unsuspected archaeological deposits and, if established, will then test their date, nature, depth and quality of preservation.

3.1.2 The evaluation is required to examine trenches as shown in a plan provided by the client. This shows five 10m long trenches located around St Paul's Church, and a single one down

the long axis of the church. The position of St Paul's Church has been determined from historical maps.

- 3.1.3 Any concrete slab or other surface will be penetrated with a breaker. The topsoil, subsoil, and recent overburden deposits will be subject to careful mechanical excavation, with a toothless ditching bucket, down to the depth of the first significant archaeological deposits under constant archaeological supervision. The deposits will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and inspected for archaeological features. Thereafter, all excavation will proceed by hand in a stratigraphic manner. The trenches will not be excavated deeper than c1.2m, or less if the deposits are soft or unstable, to accommodate health and safety constraints, without stepping out the trench.
- 3.1.4 Trenches will be located by use of GPS equipment, which is accurate to +/- 0.25m, or using a TST (Total Station Theodolite). Altitude information will be established with respect to Ordnance Survey Datum, using a known Bench Mark or spot height.
- 3.1.5 Any investigation of intact archaeological deposits will be exclusively manual. Burials will be exposed and recorded, but not excavated. Selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal. It is hoped that in terms of the vertical stratigraphy, maximum information retrieval will be achieved through the examination of sections of cut features. All excavation, whether by machine or by hand, will be undertaken with a view to avoiding damage to any archaeological features, which appear worthy of preservation *in situ*.
- 3.1.6 All information identified in the course of the site works will be recorded stratigraphically, using a system adapted from that used by Centre for Archaeology Service of English Heritage, with sufficient pictorial record (plans, sections, monochrome contacts and colour photographs) to identify and illustrate individual features. Primary records will be available for inspection at all times.
- 3.1.7 Results of all field investigations will be recorded on *pro forma* context sheets. The site archive will include both a photographic record and accurate large scale plans and sections at an appropriate scale (1:50, 1:20 and 1:10). All artefacts and ecofacts will be recorded using the same system, and will be handled and stored according to standard practice (following current Institute of Field Archaeologists guidelines) in order to minimise deterioration.
- 3.1.8 **Environmental Sampling:** environmental samples (bulk samples of 30 litres volume, to be sub-sampled at a later stage) will be collected from stratified undisturbed deposits and will particularly target negative features (gullies, pits and ditches). An assessment of the environmental potential of the site will be undertaken through the examination of suitable deposits by the in-house palaeoecological specialist, who will examine the potential for further analysis. The assessment would include soil pollen analysis and the retrieval of charred plant macrofossils and land molluscs from former dry-land palaeosols and cut features. In addition, the samples would be assessed for plant macrofossils, insects, molluscs and pollen from waterlogged deposits. The costs for the palaeoecological assessment are defined as a contingency and will only be called into effect if good deposits are identified, and will be subject to the agreement of the Merseyside Archaeological Officer and the client.
- 3.1.9 Advice will also be sought as to whether a soil micromorphological study, or any other analytical techniques, will enhance the understanding of the site formation processes, including the amount of truncation to buried deposits and the preservation of deposits within negative features. Should this be required the costs for analysis have been provided as a contingency.
- 3.1.10 **Faunal remains:** if there is found to be the potential for discovery of bones of fish and small mammals a sieving programme will be carried out. These will be assessed as appropriate by OA North's specialist in faunal remains, and subject to the results, there may be a requirement for more detailed analysis. A contingency has been included for the assessment of such faunal remains for analysis.
- 3.1.11 **Human Remains:** any human remains uncovered will be left *in situ*, covered and protected. No further investigation will continue beyond that required to establish the date and

character of the burial. The Merseyside Archaeological Officer and the local Coroner will be informed immediately. If removal is essential the exhumation of any funerary remains will require the provision of a Home Office license, under section 25 of the Burial Act of 1857. An application will be made by OA North for the study area on discovery of any such remains and the removal will be carried out with due care and sensitivity under the environmental health regulations.

- 3.1.12 **Treatment of finds:** all finds will be exposed, lifted, cleaned, conserved, marked, bagged and boxed in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC) *First Aid For Finds*, 1998 (new edition) and the recipient museum's guidelines.
- 3.1.13 **Treasure:** any gold and silver artefacts recovered during the course of the excavation will be removed to a safe place and reported to the local Coroner according to the procedures relating to the Treasure Act, 1996. Where removal cannot take place on the same working day as discovery, suitable security will be employed to protect the finds from theft.
- 3.1.14 All identified finds and artefacts will be retained, although certain classes of building material can sometimes be discarded after recording, if an appropriate sample is retained on advice from the recipient museum's archive curator.
- 3.1.15 **Reinstatement:** it is understood that there will be no requirement for reinstatement of the ground beyond backfilling. Following completion of the evaluation, the trench will be backfilled with the material removed in its excavation. Any other form of land reinstatement will be the responsibility of the client, unless otherwise instructed, which will be costed as a variation.
- 3.1.16 **Contingency plan:** a contingency costing may also be employed for unseen delays caused by prolonged periods of bad weather, vandalism, discovery of unforeseen complex deposits and/or artefacts which require specialist removal, use of shoring to excavate important features close to the excavation sections etc. This has been included in the Costings document and would be in agreement with the client.
- 3.1.17 The evaluation will provide a predictive model of surviving archaeological remains detailing zones of relative importance against known development proposals. In this way, an impact assessment will also be provided.

3.2 WATCHING BRIEF

- 3.2.1 **Methodology:** a programme of field observation of groundworks will accurately record the location, extent, and character of any surviving archaeological features and/or deposits within the areas of the disturbance. This work will comprise observation during the excavation for these works, including building foundations and service trenches, the systematic examination of any subsoil horizons exposed during the course of the groundworks, and the accurate recording of all archaeological features and horizons, and any artefacts, identified during observation.
- 3.2.2 The watching brief will cover areas to be disturbed by the development as instructed by the client.
- 3.2.3 Putative archaeological features and/or deposits identified by the machining process, together with the immediate vicinity of any such features, will be cleaned by hand, using either hoes, shovel scraping, and/or trowels depending on the subsoil conditions, and where appropriate sections will be studied and drawn. Any such features will be sample excavated (ie selected pits and postholes will normally only be half-sectioned, linear features will be subject to no more than a 10% sample, and extensive layers will, where possible, be sampled by partial rather than complete removal).
- 3.2.4 During this phase of work, recording will comprise a full description and preliminary classification of features or materials revealed, and their accurate location (either on plan and/or section, and as grid co-ordinates where appropriate). Features will be planned accurately at appropriate scales and annotated on to a large-scale plan provided by the client. A photographic record will be undertaken simultaneously.
- 3.2.5 A plan will be produced of the areas of groundworks showing the location and extent of the ground disturbance and one or more dimensioned sections will be produced.

- 3.2.6 **Contingency plan:** in the event of significant archaeological features being encountered during the watching brief, discussions will take place with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer, as to the extent of further works to be carried out. All further works would be subject to a variation to this project design. In the event of environmental/organic deposits being present on site, it would be necessary to discuss and agree a programme of palaeoenvironmental sampling and or dating with the Planning Archaeologist.
- 3.3 **REPORT AND ARCHIVE**
- 3.3.1 **Report:** one bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the client, and a further three copies submitted to the Merseyside SMR within eight weeks of completion. The report will include:
- a front cover to include the planning application number and the NGR
 - a site location plan related to the national grid
 - the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
 - a concise, non-technical summary of the results
 - a description of the methodology employed, work undertaken and results obtained
 - illustrations as appropriate
 - the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived.
 - a copy of this project design in the appendices, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
- 3.3.2 This report will be in the same basic format as this project design; a copy of the report can be provided on CD, if required.
- 3.3.3 **Archive:** the results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. It will include summary processing and analysis of all features, finds, or palaeoenvironmental data recovered during fieldwork, which will be catalogued by context. All artefacts will be processed to MAP2 standards and will be assessed by our in-house finds specialists.
- 3.3.4 The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct. OA North conforms to best practice in the preparation of project archives for long-term storage. This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the Merseyside SMR (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects with the Merseyside Record Office. The material archive (artefacts and ecofacts) will be deposited with an appropriate museum following agreement with the client.
- 3.3.5 **Collation of data:** the data generated will be collated and analysed in order to provide an assessment of the nature and significance of the known surface and subsurface remains within the designated area. It will also serve as a guide to the archaeological potential of the area to be investigated, and the basis for the formulation of any detailed field programme and associated sampling strategy, should these be required in the future.
- 3.3.6 The Arts and Humanities Data Service (AHDS) online database project *Online Access to index of Archaeological Investigations* (OASIS) will be completed as part of the archiving phase of the project.
- 3.3.7 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision. Any requirement to revise or reorder the

material for submission or presentation to third parties beyond the project brief and project design, or for any other explicit purpose, can be fulfilled, but will require separate discussion and funding.

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 4.1 OA North provides a Health and Safety Statement for all projects and maintains a Unit Safety policy. All site procedures are in accordance with the guidance set out in the Health and Safety Manual compiled by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers (1997). A risk assessment will be completed in advance of any on-site works and copies will be made available on request to all interested parties.
- 4.2 **Fencing/hoarding requirements:** the client will arrange for the site to be protected from public access.
- 4.3 Any known **contamination** issues or any **specific health and safety requirements** on site must be made known to OA North by the client or main contractor on site to ensure all procedures can be met.
- 4.4 Similarly, any drawings or knowledge of **live cables or services** that may pose a risk to OA North staff during evaluation must be made known to the project manager of OA North before site work. This will ensure the risk is dealt with appropriately. The site will be scanned using a Cable Avoidance Tool (CAT scanner) in advance of the commencement of the site works.
- 4.5 Should areas of previously unknown contamination be encountered on site the works will be halted and a revision of the risk assessment carried out. Should it be necessary to supply additional PPE or other contamination avoidance equipment this will be costed as a variation.

5. WORK TIMETABLE

- 5.1 **Archaeological Evaluation;** it is anticipated that this element will require approximately four to five days to complete.
- 5.2 **Watching Brief;** the timescale for this will be dictated by the schedule of works.
- 5.3 **Report and Archive;** an evaluation report will be submitted within eight weeks of the completion of the fieldwork. However, should an interim statement be required this can be issued within two weeks but instruction must be received from the client prior to completion of the fieldwork.

6. PROJECT MONITORING

- 6.1 **Access:** liaison for site access during the evaluation will be arranged with the client unless otherwise instructed prior to commencement of the archaeological investigation.
- 6.2 Whilst the work is undertaken for the client, the Merseyside Archaeological Officer will be kept fully informed of the work and its results, and will be notified a week in advance of the commencement of the fieldwork. Any proposed changes to the project design will be agreed with the Merseyside Archaeological Officer in consultation with the client.

7. STAFFING PROPOSALS

- 7.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Tim Carew** (OA North project manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.
- 7.2 All elements of the archaeological investigation will be supervised by **Hannah Gajos** (OA North supervisor).

- 7.3 Assessment of the finds from the evaluation will be undertaken under the auspices of OA North's in-house finds specialist **Christine Howard-Davis BA MIFA** (OA North project officer). Christine has extensive knowledge of all finds of all periods from archaeological sites in northern England. However, she has specialist knowledge regarding glass, metalwork, and leather, the recording and management of waterlogged wood, and most aspects of wetland and environmental archaeology.
- 7.4 Assessment of any palaeoenvironmental samples which may be taken will be undertaken by **Elizabeth Huckerby MSc** (OA North project officer). Elizabeth has extensive knowledge of the palaeoecology of the North West through her work on the English Heritage-funded North West Wetlands Survey. Assessment of any faunal material will be undertaken by **Andrew Bates MSc** (OA North Supervisor).

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- English Heritage, 1991, *The Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edn, London
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA), 1992, *Guidelines for data collection and compilation*
- Museums' and Galleries' Commission, 1992, *Standards in the museum care of archaeological collections*
- SCAUM (Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers), 1997, *Health and Safety Manual*, Poole
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 1990, *Guidelines for the preparation of archives for long-term storage*, London
- United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC), 1998, *First Aid for Finds*, London

APPENDIX 3: CONTEXT LIST

| Context | Description | Thickness (max) |
|----------------|--|------------------------|
| 100 | Modern overburden with 80% brick rubble and mortar and 20% sandy gravel, loose demolition material | 0.70m |
| 101 | Mid-brown silty-clay redeposited natural with occasional brick fragments | 0.85m |
| 102 | Yellow crushed sandstone | 0.20m |
| 103 | Mid-greyish-brown silty-clay redeposited natural with frequent brick rubble inclusions | 0.20m |
| 104 | Dark grey silty-clay with fairly frequent brick rubble inclusions - dumped demolition rubble | 0.38m |
| 105 | Concrete/brick foundations | - |
| 106 | Concrete/brick foundations | - |
| 107 | Brick wall - possibly part of boxing arena, excavated to three courses, bonded with a yellow sand mortar | - |
| 108 | Construction cut for 107 | - |
| 109 | Dark greyish-brown loose silty-sand with very frequent brick rubble inclusions - backfill of construction cut 108 | - |
| 110 | Yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar | - |
| 111 | Mid-greyish-brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions - natural subsoil | - |
| 112 | Yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar | - |
| 200 | Dark brown silty-loam with frequent brick rubble inclusions - garden soil | 0.30m |
| 201 | Loose mixed concrete, mortar and brick rubble | 0.40m |
| 202 | Mid-brown sandy-clay with occasional brick rubble inclusions | 1.32m |
| 203 | Dark reddish-brown silty-clay with occasional brick rubble inclusions | 0.54m |
| 204 | Brick wall, bonded with light yellowish-brown mortar - probable cellar wall | 2m |
| 205 | Mid-greyish-brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions - natural subsoil | - |
| 300 | Dark greyish-brown loose silt with occasional brick rubble | 0.30m |
| 301 | Loose mixed brick, mortar and concrete | 0.20m |
| 302 | Dark brown silty-sand with frequent rubble inclusions | 1.70m |
| 303 | Mid-greyish-brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions - natural subsoil | - |
| 304 | Brick-built stanchion blocks | - |
| 400 | Dark grey loose silt with frequent brick rubble and crushed hardcore | 0.70m |
| 401 | Dark greyish-brown silty-clay with frequent brick rubble | 1.70m |

| | | |
|------------|---|-------|
| | and gravel inclusions which are less frequent towards the base of the deposit | |
| 402 | Mid greyish-brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions - natural subsoil | - |
| 500 | Brick rubble layer | 0.40m |
| 501 | Dark greyish-brown silty clay with occasional brick rubble | 1.66m |
| 502 | Mid-dark greyish-brown clay with occasional gravel inclusions - natural subsoil | - |
| 600 | Light grey loose silt with frequent brick rubble and gravel | 0.30m |
| 601 | Mid brownish-yellow sand, friable with 2% gravel inclusions - natural | 1.60m |
| 602 | Crushed yellow sandstone | - |
| 603 | Yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar, aligned east/west | - |
| 701 | Short section of truncated yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar, aligned north-west/south-east. Same as 112 | |
| 702 | Short section of truncated yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar; aligned north-west/south-east | |
| 703 | Section of yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar; c3m long and aligned north-west/south-east | |
| 704 | Section of Yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar; c8m long and aligned north-west/south-east. Contiguous with 703 ; same as 110 | |
| 705 | Short 2.5m square section of yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar; aligned north-west/south-east | |
| 706 | c6m section of yellow sandstone wall, rectangular blocks bonded with light grey mortar; aligned north-west/south-east | |

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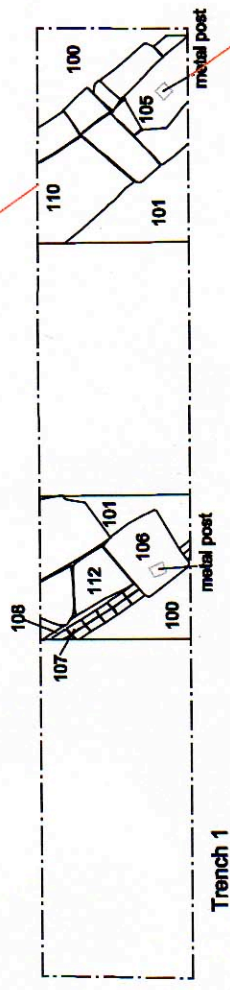
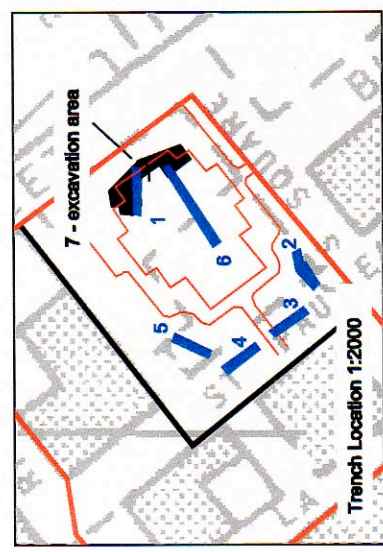
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Figure 1: Location Map



Scale 1:100 at A4



Footprint of St Paul's church

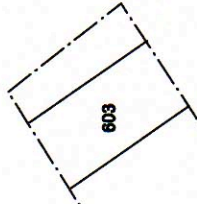
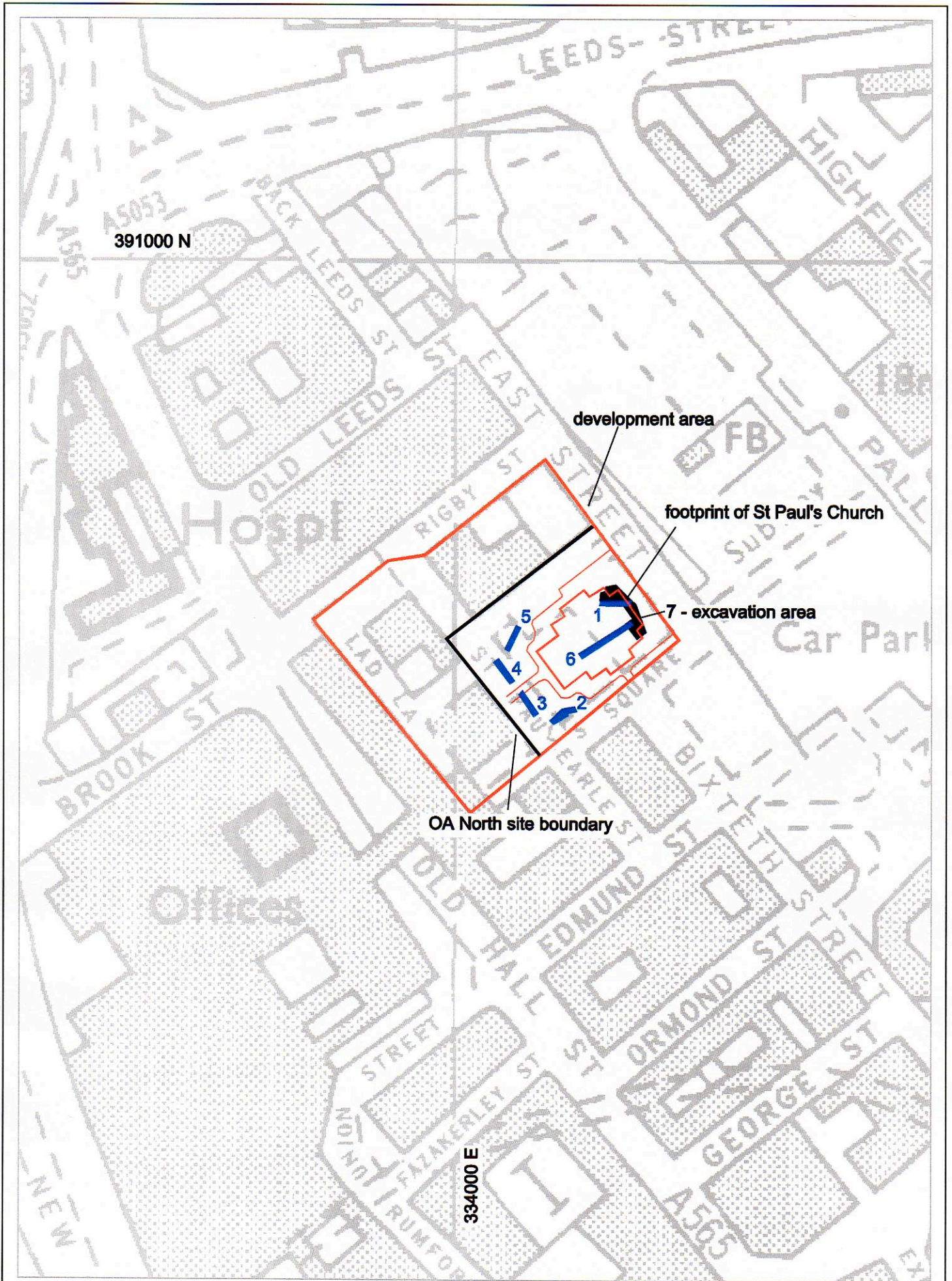


Figure 3: Evaluation results in Trenches 1 and 6

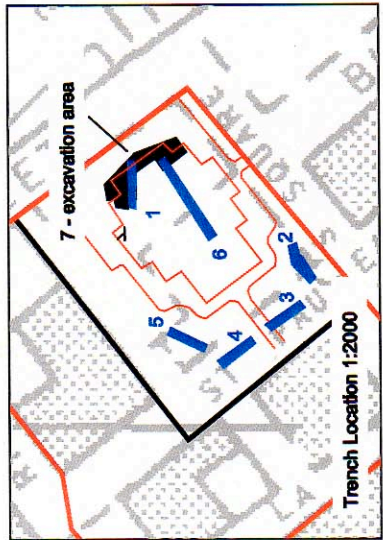
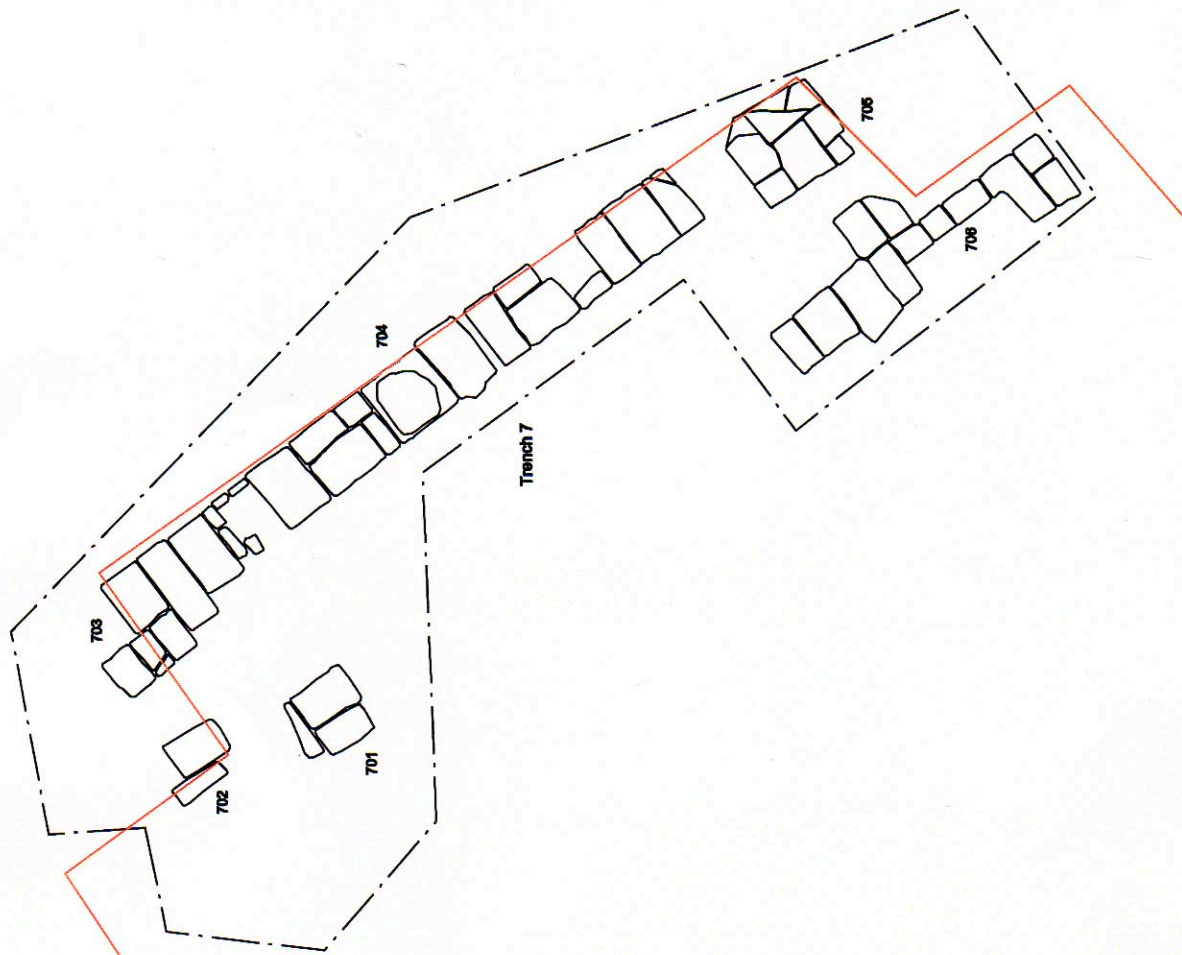


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 Scale 1:2000



Figure 2: Trench Location Plan showing existing plan of St Paul's Church



Footprint of St Paul's church

Trench 7

Figure 4: Excavation results in Trench 7



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Plate 2: Walls *110* and *112* within Trench 1



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