Falinge Park High School, Rochdale,

Greater Manchester



Archaeological Deskbased Assessment



Oxford Archaeology North

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Capita Symonds, on behalf of Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

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SUMMARY

As part of the 'Building Schools for the Future' (BSF) project, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC) proposes to partially demolish and refurbish Falinge Park High School, Rochdale (NGR SD 88893 14269). Consequently, Capita Symonds, on behalf of Rochdale MBC, commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake a desk-based assessment of the site to assess the potential impact of the proposed redevelopment on heritage assets, to inform the planning process and consider whether there is a requirement for any further archaeological work. This was carried out in May 2012.

The study area for the desk-based assessment comprises a radius of 250m centred on the proposed redevelopment. The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER), English Heritage's *Heritage Gateway* and National Monuments Record, Swindon, the local studies centre at Touchstones, Rochdale, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a walkover survey was carried out within the boundary of the proposed redevelopment, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment, and identify any additional features that would not be procured solely from documentary sources.

The earliest archaeological evidence within the study area is represented by a medieval settlement at Falinge, to the north of the proposed development area (Site 06). Site 10, Foot Mill, was believed to have been in existence during the very earlypost-medieval period, in the reign of Elizabeth I. Significant changes took place in the surrounding area during the late eighteenth and nineteenth century, and cartographic evidence shows an increase in both industry and housing around Falinge. This was in part due to the Royds family, a prominent and wealthy family influential in the growth and development of Rochdale; John Royds urged on the construction of the Rochdale canal in the closing years of the eighteenth century, facilitating the movement of woollen goods across the Pennines to Halifax and on to Leeds, and eventually to Hull for export. The Royds were major landowners in the Falinge area, and constructed or inhabited a number of houses, one of which was Greenhill house (Site 12) in 1764, beneath the site of the current school. The family was also responsible for the construction of Mount Falinge (Site 02-03) to the east of the school site, and Brownhill to the east of Falinge Park (Site 01). Surrounding the school to the south and west, and within the boundary of the former Greenhill estate, is Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Site 14), donated by a local benefactor and donated to the town for use as a recreation ground in the 1920s.

Greenhill house (Site 12) was demolished in the early 1930s, to make way for the construction of the Rochdale Municipal School For Girls, founded in 1935 (Site 11). The school was built by prominent local building contractors R & T Howarth who were responsible for numerous public works in Rochdale. In 1956 it was renamed Greenhill Grammar School for Girls and in the 1970s it became a 13 to 18 year old co-educational school called Greenhill Upper School. On the 31st August 1988 it was renamed Falinge Park Upper School following an amalgamation with nearby Broadfield School. The school became Falinge Park High School on the 31st August 1990 following further reorganisation.

In total, 15 heritage assets have been identified in the study area, three of which are within the proposed development area and may be directly impacted (Sites 11, 12 and 14). Sites 11 and 14, the school and recreation ground, are of local/borough importance, whilst the anticipated lack of surviving below ground remains of Site 12, Greenhill house, reduces its importance to low/local. A programme of appropriate archaeological work is recommended for Sites 11 and 12: preserving by record the extant remains of the 1930s school; and a programme of trial trenching or test-pitting to investigate the potential for surviving remains of the Greenhill estate. This should be devised in consultation with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS).

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

OA North would like to thank Andrew Conroy of Capita Symonds for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Lesley Dunkley at the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER), and the staff at the local studies centre at Touchstones, Rochdale, for their assistance with this project.

The desk-based assessment and site visit were undertaken by Vicki Bullock, and the drawings were produced by Mark Tidmarsh. The project was managed by Emily Mercer, who also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 As part of the 'Building Schools for the Future' (BSF) project, Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council (MBC) propose to partially demolish and refurbish Falinge Park High School, Rochdale. Consequently, Capita Symonds, on behalf of Rochdale MBC, commissioned Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) to undertake a desk-based assessment of the site to assess the potential impact of the proposed redevelopment on heritage assets, to inform the planning process, and establish whether there is a requirement for any further archaeological work. This was carried out in May 2012.
- 1.1.2 The study area for the desk-based assessment comprises a radius of 250m centred on the proposed redevelopment. The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER), English Heritage's *Heritage Gateway* and National Monuments Record, Swindon, the local studies centre at Touchstones, Rochdale, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a walkover survey was carried out within the boundary of the proposed redevelopment, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment, and identify any additional features that would not be procured solely from documentary sources.
- 1.1.3 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.

1.2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 Rochdale lies in the north-eastern part of the modern county of Greater Manchester, some 12km from the border with Yorkshire, on the southern side of the Rossendale uplands, and dominates the River Roch valley. The surrounding area includes the industrial towns of Heywood, Littleborough, Middleton, Milnrow and Wardle.
- 1.2.2 The study area (centred on NGR SD 88893 14269) lies in a heavily developed residential area, approximately 1.5km north-west of the centre of Rochdale. The school is situated at approximately 168 aOD. The school is bounded on the east by Falinge Road, to the north by the residential area of Falinge Fold, beyond which, to the north-west of the school, is an open area with woodland and allotment gardens, and to the south and east the school is bounded by a large, open area of playing fields. The school property is bounded by railings, and slopes from east to west, from Falinge Road towards the playing fields to the west.

1.2.3 The underlying solid geology consists of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures (Westphalian A) and millstone grit of the Carboniferous period. The predominant drift geology comprises glacial sands and gravels, with some alluvium (bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/beta.html).

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

2.1.1 This desk-based assessment was carried out in accordance with the relevant Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) and English Heritage guidelines (IfA 2010, Code of Conduct; IfA 2011, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments; English Heritage 2006, Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)) and generally-accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 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 assessment 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. All statutory and non-statutory sites within a 250m radius of the redevelopment site were identified and collated into a gazetteer (*Section 4*), and their location plotted on Figure 2. 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). Sources consulted include;
- 2.2.3 *Heritage Gateway:* the Heritage Gateway and National Monuments Record (NMR) are maintained by English Heritage in Swindon. The archive can be consulted to access local and national records on the historic environment, including the following resources:
 - Historic Environment Records (HERs);
 - National Records from the National Heritage List for England, including listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
 - The National Record of the Historic Environment (Pastscape);
 - Photographs of listed buildings (Images of England);
 - Historic photographs of England (Viewfinder);
 - The NMR Excavation Index;

- Information of historic parks, gardens and historic landscapes (Parks & Gardens UK).
- 2.2.4 *Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS):* maintains the Historic Environment Record (HER), which is a Geographical Information System (GIS) and linked database of more than 18,000 records relating to known heritage assets. It also includes the recently completed Greater Manchester Historic Landscape Characterisation survey (of *c* 54,000 records) and is supported by an extensive paper archive, including reports, site records and publications and was consulted to establish heritage assets already known within the study area;
- 2.2.5 **Local Studies Centre, Touchstones, Rochdale:** a search was undertaken of the local studies centre catalogue for information relating to the study area, from which historic mapping was obtained, and a number of primary and secondary sources were consulted. The assessment also made use of the local studies centre's website (www.link4life.org);
- 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 VISIT

2.3.1 The site was visited on Tuesday 15th May 2012 to relate the existing topography and land use with the results of the desk-based assessment, as well as to check for any additional sites of archaeological potential that would not be identified through documentary sources (Plates 19-29). The site visit also allowed for an understanding of areas of impact by the proposed redevelopment, as well as areas of more recent disturbance that may affect the potential for the survival of archaeological deposits.

2.4 ARCHIVE

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

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 The following section presents a summary of the historical and archaeological background of the general area. This is presented generally by historical period, and has been compiled in order to place the study area into a wider archaeological context. This is then followed by an assessment of the redevelopment site in more specific terms.

| Period | Date Range |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| Palaeolithic | 30,000 – 10,000 BC |
| Mesolithic | 10,000 – 4,000 BC |
| Neolithic | 4,000 – 2,500 BC |
| Bronze Age | 2,500 – 700 BC |
| Iron Age | 700 BC – AD 43 |
| Romano-British | AD 43 – AD 410 |
| Early Medieval | AD 410 – AD 1066 |
| Medieval | AD 1066 – AD 1540 |
| Post-medieval | AD 1540 – c1750 |
| Industrial Period | cAD1750 – 1901 |
| Modern | Post-1901 |

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

3.2 GENERAL HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 *Prehistoric and Roman periods:* various remains of prehistoric date have been identified in the general area, particularly in the upland areas (Fishwick 1899). The discovery of remains from these periods within Rochdale, however, is severely limited, although several Roman coins have been found on the periphery of the urban area (Lewis 1848). The scarcity of archaeological evidence predating the medieval period in Rochdale is likely to be due to the level of redevelopment of the town during the nineteenth and twentieth centuries (Pearson *et al* 1985).
- 3.2.2 There are no known heritage assets for these periods within the study area.
- 3.2.3 *Medieval period:* evidence for early medieval activity in the region as a whole is drawn largely from place-names (Newman 1996), although there is little firm evidence for activity in and around Rochdale during this period. In the Domesday Survey of 1086 Rochdale was recorded under Recedham Manor, (Morgan 1978), with the Holts of Stubley as the principal resident family. This manor is believed to have been co-extensive with the parish of Rochdale at this time (Lewis 1848). By the fourteenth century, most of the land, however,

- was held by the Abbey of Whalley, and other ecclesiastical bodies, with Rochdale being one of the largest ecclesiastical parishes in England, comprising several townships (Farrer and Brownbill 1911).
- 3.2.4 By 1212, the whole manor had been assigned to the Lord of Clitheroe, and was held by Roger de Lacy, and several under tenants. By 1251, Rochdale had become important enough to have been granted a charter for a weekly market, which was held on Wednesdays, and an annual fair on the feast of St Simon and St Jude in October. It was probably during this period that a borough was also created (*ibid*), although the town continued to be governed through the manor court until 1825, when a Police Act was finally obtained (Fishwick 1889, 12).
- 3.2.5 A settlement at Falinge (Site **06**), immediately to the north of the proposed development was established during the medieval period, and became Falinge Fold in the nineteenth century (Yates 1786; Ordnance Survey (OS) 1851).
- 3.2.6 **Post-medieval and Industrial periods:** in 1582, Camden described Rochdale as 'a market town well frequented' (Fishwick 1913, 1). Manufacturing and mining industries became of increasing importance to the local economy during this period. The confiscation of the lands that had belonged to Whalley Abbey, and the general suppression of religious houses following the Dissolution of the Monasteries, produced a new race of landlords (*ibid*).
- 3.2.7 Celia Fiennes, writing in *c* 1700, described Rochdale as 'a pretty neat town, built all of stone', whilst some 25 years later Defoe considered it 'a good market town, and of late much improved in the woollen manufacture, as are also the villages in its neighbourhood' (Furbank *et al* 1991). By the end of the eighteenth century, Rochdale had developed a formidable reputation as a centre for the production of woollen cloth, and the town benefited from a lucrative export trade in woollen goods to Holland, Portugal, Spain, Italy, Russia and Germany (Aiken 1795, 248). Rochdale also became an important centre for the cross-Pennine trade in woollen cloth, represented by the numerous merchant's houses, warehouses and inns that were established in the town during the late 1700s to service this trade (*ibid*).
- 3.2.8 Rochdale rapidly became a boomtown of the Industrial Revolution, and amongst the first ever industrialised towns. The Rochdale Canal, one of the major navigable broad canals of Great Britain, was a highway of commerce during this time used for the haulage of cotton, wool, and coal to and from the area. The canal was opened between Rochdale and Sowerby Bridge by 1799, and was completed as the first trans-Pennine route in 1804 (Hadfield 1994).
- 3.2.9 Rochdale rose to prominence during the nineteenth century as an important centre for the production of cotton goods, whilst maintaining a strong woollen industry, focusing in particular on the manufacture of flannel and baize. New cotton mills were initially established along the river Roch and later, with the advent of steam power, throughout the town along the river valleys and canal banks. However, the town enjoyed a 'golden age' during the Cotton Famine of the 1860s, when woollens once more became price-competitive with cotton goods; the population of the town increased by over 60% during this period (Williams with Farnie 1992, 43; Pigot 1822). The socio-economic change brought by the success of Rochdale's textile industry in the nineteenth century

led to its rise to borough status and it remained a dominant settlement in its region; a charter granted to the town in 1856 made Rochdale a Municipal Borough (Williams with Farnie 1992).



Plate 1: 32-36 Falinge Fold (Site 05)



Plate 2: Old Falinge (Site 04), Falinge Fold

3.2.10 There are several post-medieval sites in the study area. Numbers 32-36 Falinge Fold (Site **05**, Plate 1), formerly a house and byre, now two cottages, were constructed in the mid seventeenth-century, with a brick addition of *c* 1800. Old Falinge (Site **04**, Plate 2), immediately to the north of the proposed

redevelopment area, was built by James Haslem between 1721 and 1724 according to a datestone which reads "IIH 1721" and a rainwater head which reads "IIH 1724". The Haslem family had been fullers at the nearby Foot Mill (Site 10), which is thought to have existed during the reign of Elizabeth I (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html). In 1755 bankruptcy led to the Haslems selling their estate, which included Old Falinge (Site 04) and Foot Mill (Site 10), to John Royds, and it has been suggested that Old Falinge may have been the previous original Falinge Hall. It was sold from the Royds' estate in 1921 (Walker and Tindall 1985, 136).

- 3.2.11 *The Royds Family:* the Royds family grew from a succession of clothiers and cloth makers from Soyland, a bleak hillside community on the western edge of Halifax Parish near Ripponden in the fifteenth century, to become one of Rochdales's most prominent and wealthiest families. In the late sixteenth century Robert Royds, husbandman and father of the aforementioned John Royds (3.2.10, above), bought or leased land on high moorland four or five miles north-west of Rochdale, in Little Wardle (*op cit*, 36). The district's ancient woollen industry had economic ties, not with cotton Manchester, but with Halifax and its Piece Hall, with Leeds, once the centre for cloth finishing, and with Hull for export to London or the continent (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html). This connection between Rochdale and Halifax was, facilitated by the construction of the Rochdale Canal that was urged on by John Royds in the late eighteenth century.
- 3.2.12 By the end of the eighteenth century, Rochdale had developed a formidable reputation as a centre for the production of woollen cloth, much of which was through the Royds' family (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html). John Royds' Foot Mill (Site 10), to the north-west of the proposed redevelopment site, was a water-powered fulling mill originally, served by a leat leading eastwards fed from a weir on the river Spodden. By 1847, it is listed as a cotton mill owned by Clement Royds Esq, who was resident at Greenhill house (Site 12) during the first half of the nineteenth century (see 3.2.14, below), and operated by Messrs Turner & Leach (Whitworth 2011, 62).
- 3.2.13 The Royds eventually owned most of the land from Cronkeyshaw, west of the river Spodden, and north from Spotland Road to the borough boundary in Shawclough (Whitworth 2011, 155). John Royds of Old Falinge (Site **04**), had three sons, John, James and Thomas, who all married daughters of Charles Smith of Summercastle. By the nineteenth-century the land owned by the Royds had been divided into two large estates either side of Falinge Road. On the east side was Mount Falinge (Site **02**; Plate 3), built by James, John Royds' second son, in the late eighteenth century. On the west side was Greenhill (sometimes referred to as Green Hill) (Site **12**; Plate 4), which was built by John Royds' youngest son, Thomas (Plate 5), in 1764 (*op cit*, 37).

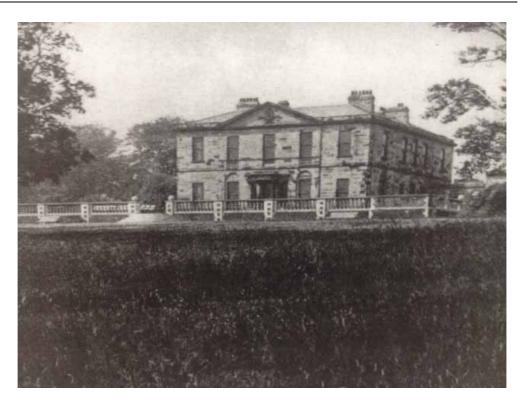


Plate 3: Mount Falinge (Site **02**)

- 3.2.14 James had twelve children, and his eldest son, Clement, established Clement Royds & Co bank, from the take over of a firm in Halifax in 1827. Clement acted as the Rochdale Canal's banker and was a prominent citizen in many ways, as the Chairman of the local magistrates and in 1850, High Sheriff of Lancashire (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html). He was married to Jane Hudson of Halifax, and had two sons, Albert and William, who followed Clement's success, inheriting their father's bank when he died in 1854, as well as being turnpike road builders, canal and railway shareholders and civic dignitaries.
- 3.2.15 After James Royds died in 1842 Mount Falinge (Site **02**) was inherited by Clement's son, Albert Hudson Royds (Whitworth 2011, 37). In 1866 the house was leased to John Robinson for 14 years at £400 per annum. After the lease expired in 1880 the house appears to have remained empty (*op cit*, 62). In 1894 the estate, together with a donation of £3628 towards the laying out of the grounds (Site **01**), was given to the Corporation for use as a public park (Walker and Tindall 1985). Sometime later the house was demolished, leaving only the façade, which is now listed (Site **03**). In 1897, to the north-west of Falinge Hall, a house and later nursing home was constructed (Site **07**).
- 3.2.16 Falinge Park (Site **01**) was designed by Thomas Mawson and opened to the public in 1906. Samuel Turner, Mayor of Rochdale expanded the park in 1911 on the Coronation of George V and in 1912, which allowed the park to extend to the north and east and reach its present boundaries (HER 2369.1.0).



Plate 4: Front elevation of Greenhill (Site 12), constructed 1764



Plate 5: Thomas Royds, who built Greenhill (Site 12)

- 3.2.17 Greenhill house (Site **13**; Plate 6), situated beneath the current school proposed for redevelopment, was lived in successively by Clement Royds following his uncle's death, Thomas Royd in 1819 (Plate 5; Whitworth 2011, 37), then his son William Edward and, ultimately, by his grandson, Clement Molyneux Royds (see *Table 2*; Rochdale Trade Directory extracts 1814-38; Pigot 1822; Slater 1832-71; Turner 1858; MacDonald 1879; Kelly 1900-18).
- 3.2.18 Clement Molyneux Royds was one of the most illustrious of the Royds progeny. Besides his banking interests he was also chairman of the Rochdale Canal company, a director of the Great Central Railway and was Hon Colonel of the 2nd Volunteer Battalion Lancashire Fusilliers and the Duke of Lancaster's Regiment (Marsden, cited in Whitworth 2011, 155-6). Like his

grandfather he was a magistrate and High Sheriff of Lancashire (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html), and was elected as Conservative MP for Rochdale in 1895 and again in 1900, and knighted in 1906. He died on 26th January 1916 and was buried in Healey Churchyard (Marsden, cited in Whitworth 2011, 155-6).



Plate 6: Greenhill (Site 12), with Albert Hudson Royds of Mount Falinge (Site 02) in the foreground

3.2.19 In 1862, the effects of the American civil war were felt in Lancashire, with the advent of a cotton famine, which obviously caused lasting problems with the cotton industry. This led to the Royds suffering financial difficulties as a result, combined with the decline of the profits of the Rochdale Canal following the opening of the Manchester to Leeds Railway in 1841 (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html); William Edward Royds mortgaged the entire Greenhill estate in 1865 for the sum of £12,000, which comprised "the mansion house known as "Greenhill" with its brewhouse, coachhouses, barn, stables, shippons, hothouses, hotwalls, gardens and plantations, the house known as "Old Falinge", all the cottages and houses, warehouses and parcels of land in and around Falinge Fold, "Leony or Lenny" barn and several ground rents from leasehold properties and land around Falinge" (ibid).



Plate 7: Grounds in front of Greenhill (Site 12)

3.2.20 Some years later Lady Royds, residing in London, sold the entire estate (Plate 7), by auction held in the Wellington Hotel, Rochdale on the 26th October 1921. There were eight lots; Lots 1 and 2 comprised "Greenhill" and the surrounding fields of "Lenny Barn", and the remaining lots were the private houses and parcels of land in and around Falinge Fold. The sale marked the end of the Royds family's Rochdale estates. Frederick Lye, a local businessman and benefactor, purchased Lenny Barn Farm from Lady Royds, comprising twenty-six acres, and presented it to the town to be used as a playing field for school children (www.link4life.org.uk).

| Year | Greenhill residents |
|------|---|
| 1764 | Thomas Royds |
| 1825 | Royds, Clement, Merchant |
| 1832 | Royds, Clement Esq. Magistrate |
| 1843 | Royds, Mr William |
| 1848 | Royds, William Edward Esq. |
| 1851 | Royds, William Edward Esq |
| 1871 | Royds, William H Esq. |
| 1901 | Royds, Col. Clement Molyneux, M.P., D.L., J.P |
| 1918 | Lady Royds |

Table 2: List of owners of Greenhill listed in various trade directories

3.2.21 *Falinge Park High School:* in the 1930s the house at Greenhill (Site **13**) was demolished to make way for a new school on the site, Municipal High School for Girls (Site **11**; Plates 8 and 9). The school was built by R & T Howorth, Building and Public Works Contractors, a prominent local firm. As far back as 1750, a Samuel Howarth was head of a building firm in the Rochdale area. His son and grandson, both named Thomas Howarth, followed in the family tradition, the latter of whom also had two sons in the family business. In 1900

the firm became known as R & T Howarth. The first building erected by the firm was a cotton mill in Rochdale, and for many years the construction of the factories formed a substantial part of their business activities. These included Dunlop Mill, Castleton, which was at the time estimated to be the largest site area of any factory in the country. The firm then branched out into public works. After the death of Robert Howarth in 1911, his son Fred joined the firm and this partnership continued until 1936, when it was formed into a Limited Company (C/IND/HOW/Box 1). Rochdale Local Studies holds the R & T Howarth Collection, which contains plans, records and photographs of a number of their projects, including Greenhill School (Site 12; *ibid*).



Plate 8: Rochdale Municipal School for Girls (Site 11) under construction in the early 1930s



Plate 9: Rochdale Municipal School for Girls (Site 11) under construction

3.2.22 The school was opened on the Friday 27th September 1935 with 310 pupils, of whom 66 were drawn from the surrounding area, and a staff of 15. The building was then full, and ground space had been retained for later planned extensions, which was curbed by the onset of World War II (Rochdale Observer 1956; Plates 10 and 11).

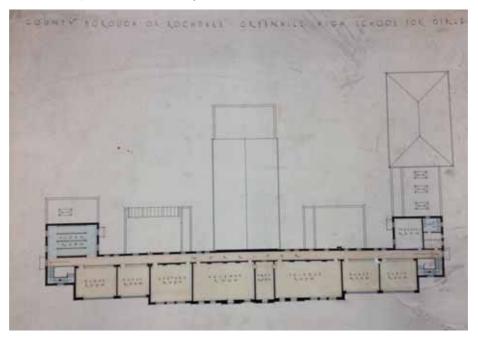


Plate 10: Plan of the Municipal High School for Girls (Site 11), nd

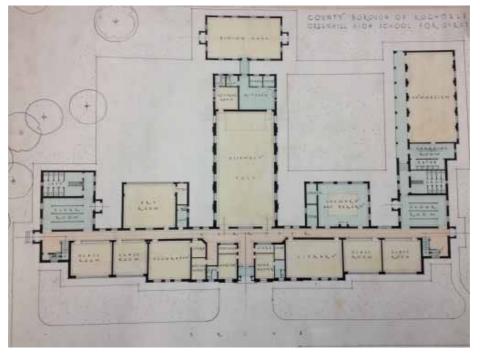


Plate 11: Plan of Municipal High School for Girls (Site 11), nd

3.2.23 In 1956, the school was designated as a grammar school in the year the school celebrated its 21st birthday, changing its name to Greenhill Grammar School for Girls. An article in the Rochdale Observer records that the school, when opened in 1935, was not an original creation, but that the girls had been 'hived

- off' from the mixed secondary school, which had already been in existence for some thirty years, to create two single sex secondary schools (*ibid*). Two prefabricated buildings were added to provide four new form rooms, a third laboratory, a second art room and cloakrooms. A prefabricated kitchen was also added to cope with the extra demand for school dinners that increased rations for school children had encouraged (*ibid*). Tennis courts had been provided at the back of the building, and an additional four courts were added at the front.
- 3.2.24 Implementation of the Secondary Education Rochdale Plan in 1964 (Rochdale Local Studies; Education File) meant that children would attend primary schools up to the age of 11, and then transfer to a High School from ages 11 to 15. Following this, they could either leave school or, from the ages of 14 to 19, they would transfer to a Grammar School. This led to changes in the provision of secondary education in Rochdale in 1967 with the school accepting now boys and girls, thus expanded with new buildings, and became Greenhill Senior High (*ibid*)



Plate 12: Three-storey school building constructed between 1960 and 1977 in north-west section of school site

3.2.25 In the 1970s the school changed again to become a 13 to 18 year old coeducational school called Greenhill Upper School. On the 31st August 1988, Greenhill Upper School was amalgamated with nearby Broadfield School, and was renamed Falinge Park Upper School. The school was renamed again to its current guise as Falinge Park High School, on 31st August 1990, due to a borough reorganisation and became an 11 to 16 school.



Plate 13: School extension showing position in relation to original school building on left

3.3 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.3.1 *Introduction:* a number of cartographic sources were examined at Touchstones, Rochdale, together with some held at OA North's offices.
- 3.3.2 Yates' map, 1786 (Plate 14): the extent of Rochdale at this time is depicted on Yates' map of Lancashire, and it is likely that the layout of the town reflects the medieval street pattern. The study area is located to the north-west of the town centre, with the land annotated as belonging to 'Royds Esq'. Falinge is marked and there are two large houses shown one of which (the western-most) is Greenhill (Site 13). To the left, on the Spodden, a series of watermills are marked.
- 3.3.3 Wood's 'Plan of Rochdale', 1831 (Plate 15): Greenhill (Site 13) and Mount Falinge (Site 02) are shown on the map of 1831 as properties of the Royds. Greenhill comprised a large, irregular-shaped building with open parkland to the south, driveways, footpaths and gardens to the west and east side of the house, and ancillary buildings and the buildings of Falinge Fold (Sites 04-06) to the north. Meanwood Mill (Site 08) and Lenny Barn (Site 14) are also marked. A road leads from the west of Falinge Fold to Lenny Barn (Site 14) to the south.

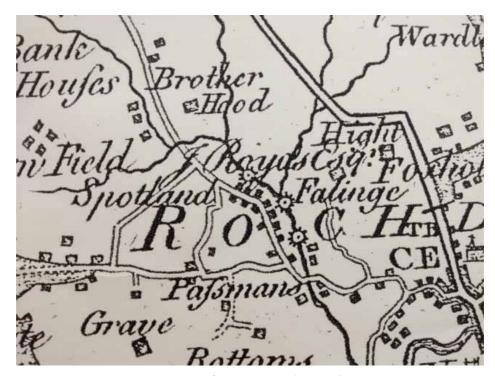


Plate 14: Extract of Yates' Map of Lancashire, 1786

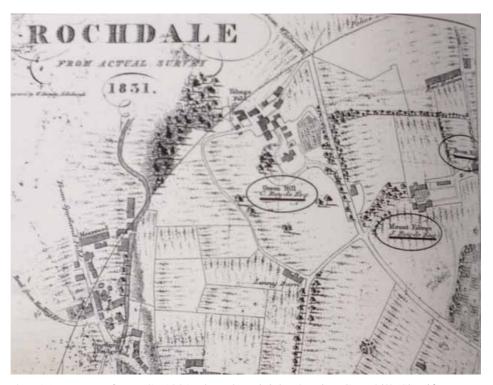


Plate 15: Extract of Wood's 1831 *Plan of Rochdale*, showing Greenhill (Site **12**), Mount Falinge (Site **02**) and Lenny Barn (Site **14**)

3.3.4 Ordnance Survey, First Edition 6" to 1 mile map, 1848 (Fig 3): the map shows 'Green Hill' (Site 12) surrounded by gardens criss-crossed with footpaths. There are three buildings to the rear of the main house, and a complex of larger outbuildings around a courtyard adjacent to a northern entrance which leads into Falinge Fold (Sites 04-06).

- 3.3.5 Ordnance Survey, First Edition 5': 1 mile, 1851 (Fig 4): the map shows Green Hill (Site 13) in detail with 'Failinge Fold' (Sites 04-06), and the industrial sites along the banks of the river Spodden (Sites 08-10) in clear detail. Green Hill is irregular in plan; the façade is south-east-facing and had, between 1831 and 1851, an addition on the west side. There are steps at the rear of the building leading to a courtyard area and Y-shaped drive. To the west side an area is marked with 'posts'. The east wing of the house projects northwards, with a number of smaller additions. There is an aviary and formal gardens to the east. To the front of the house a sundial is marked, with statues. A number of troughs and cisterns are marked, and also footpaths within the gardens which surround the house. To the south of the house is the open ground of the estate with a 'covered drain' marked running south-west/northeast presumably leading out to the river Spodden.
- 3.3.6 *Ordnance Survey, 25":1 mile, 1873:* an addition on the west side of the south-facing façade of Green Hill (Site 12) is depicted as an orangery/conservatory in Plate 4. Greenhouses/hothouses are shown in the gardens to the east of house. The Y-shaped drive is still illustrated to the rear of the house leading to Falinge Fold (Site 04-06). There are additional buildings in the courtyard area to the rear of the house, where the layout appears to have altered.
- 3.3.7 *Ordnance Survey*, 25":1 mile, 1890 (Fig 5): there has been little change within the proposed development area or its immediate surroundings. Green Hill (Site 12) is little altered from the previous map. In the wider area Meanwood Dye Works (Site 08) is shown as 'disused' and the gap between the two ranges infilled. Foot Mill (Cotton) is also depicted.



Plate 16: Extract of Ordnance Survey map, 1910

3.3.8 *Ordnance Survey*, 25": 1 mile, 1910 (Plate 16): Meanwood Dye Works (Site 08) is no longer marked, whilst Foot Mill (Site 10) is still present. The

- buildings at Falinge Fold (Sites **04-06**) and Greenhill (Site **12**) are shaded, and they show little change from the previous map. The most striking change within the study area is across Falinge Road from Greenhill, to the east of proposed redevelopment site; in 1906 the estate had become a public park and is marked as 'Falinge Park' (Site **01**).
- 3.3.9 *Ordnance Survey*, 25": 1 mile, 1930 (Plate 17): in 1924 Mr Frederick Lye, a local businessman and benefactor (www.link4life.org.uk) purchased Lenny Barn Farm from Lady Royds, comprising twenty-six acres, and presented it to the town to be used as a playing field for school children. It is marked on the map, to the south of the proposed redevelopment site, as 'Recreation Ground'. The former works at Meanwood (Site 08) are represented by earthworks and Foot Mill (Site 10) is shown (as disused) The site at Greenhill remains unchanged.

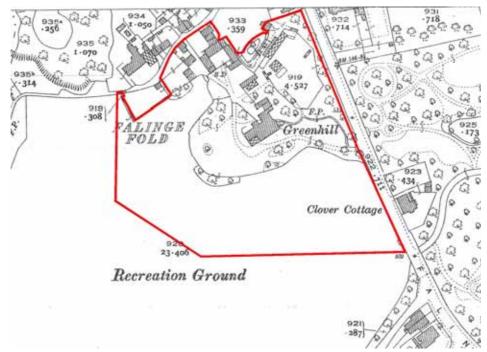


Plate 17: Extract of Ordnance Survey map, 1930

- 3.3.10 *Ordnance Survey, 1: 2500, 1960 (Fig 6):* the most significant change shown on this map is the construction of 'Greenhill Grammar School (for girls)', Site 11, on the site of the former Greenhill house (Site 12). The school façade is also south-facing, with a driveway leading to the front entrance from Falinge Road. There are tennis courts to the front and to the rear on the east side, in the former garden area. Another tennis court is situated in the area of the former ancillary buildings and rear driveway leading to Falinge Fold (Sites 04-06). Two additional, narrow buildings are situated to the rear and to the west of the main building. These may be the prefabricated buildings provided in the 1950s (Section 3.2.23).
- 3.3.11 *Ordnance Survey, 1: 1250, 1977 (Plate 18):* the school had recently been renamed (*Section 3.2.24*) and is annotated as 'Greenhill Upper School'. The school has also been extended and modified. The two narrow buildings to the rear of the school and the rear tennis courts have been removed and replaced by a large, building aligned west-east and several other additions attached to the main school. However, the tennis courts to the front remained. Another

entrance to the school has been created adjacent to 127 Falinge Road, in the north-east corner of the site, which also serves 125 Falinge Road. The site also has an electricity substation, marked on the eastern side of the site.

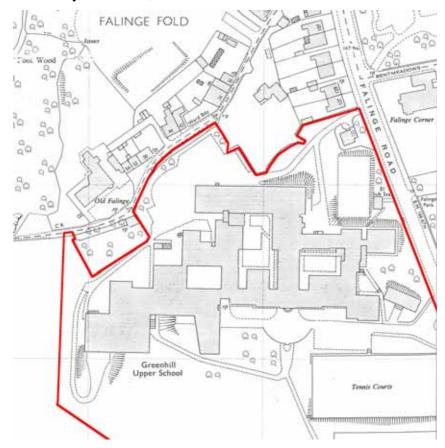


Plate 18: Extract of Ordnance Survey map, 1977

3.4 Previous Archaeological Work

3.4.1 No previous archaeological work is known to have taken place in, or in the immediate environs, of the proposed development site. However, in the HER records identified for the study area a number of investigations have been undertaken in recent years in the wider area, including a desk-based assessment at Healey Dell in (UMAU 2004), and a desk-based assessment at Brownhill (OA North 2011). A subsequent programme of trial trenching was also undertaken at Brownhill School (OA North 2012).

3.5 SITE VISIT

3.5.1 The site was visited on Tuesday 15th May 2012 (Plates 19-28). The school is located in the Shawclough area of Rochdale, bordering Falinge. It is named after Falinge Park, situated across the road. The main entrance to the school is off Falinge Road (Fig 1). A circular route was taken round the school from the front entrance to the eastern, northern and western sections of the school.



Plate 19: Falinge Park High School, main entrance and reception



Plate 20: Front of school looking south towards Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Site 14)

3.5.2 The main entrance into the school grounds is off Falinge Road leading to the front of the school, with a second entrance off Falinge Road on the north side of the school. Immediately on the left, through the main entrance, are tennis courts, and to the south of the main school building is a grassed area with railings separating the school from Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Plate 20). Car parking is provided both in front, and to the rear, of the school buildings (Plate 19). The car park in front of the school is bounded on the south side by a low stone wall (Plate 21), which is overlooked by the façade of the 1935 school building that is still extant (Plate 21). The main reception and entrance has been relocated from that of the 1930s, and is now situated at the west end of the original school build in an extension that projects southwards. This

extension is two storeys on the north side and a single storey on the south side (Plate 19).



Plate 21: Front elevation and original school entrance

3.5.3 A path runs round the main school buildings on the east side, where the ground is higher and has been landscaped with a grassed area and mature trees (Plate 22).



Plate 22: East side of the school site looking north



Plate 23: Rear of the school building, with original structure and more recent single-storey addition

3.5.4 A two-storey extension and a, more recent, large ICT Learning Centre have been added, with additional parking to the rear of the original building. Another large three-storey extension on the north-west side of the site was seen, constructed during the 1960s (Plate 25).



Plate 24: The ICT Learning Centre in the north-east corner of the site



Plate 25: Three-storey extension on the north side of the school site (see *Plates 12-13*)

3.5.5 The properties of Falinge Fold, including Old Falinge (Sites 04-06) are visible beyond the railings that bound the north side of the school site (Plate 26). The path follows the buildings round to the west side of the site. Beyond the railings an undeveloped area of marshy ground with a pond can be seen (Plate 26). On the west side of the school is Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Plate 27). A sports hall occupies the western extent of the school complex (Plate 28).



Plate 26: Outside the north-west perimeter of the site with Old Falinge and Falinge Fold (Sites **04-06**) in the background, marshy overgrown area in foreground



Plate 27: Lenny Barn Recreation Ground beyond the western perimeter of the school site, looking towards the former sites of Foot Mill and Meanwood Mill (Sites **08** and **10**)



Plate 28: Sports Hall and western extent of school complex

4. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number 01

Site name Falinge Park NGR SD 8918 1408 (point)

HER no. 2369.1.0

Designation Registered Park or Garden (II), 4775

Site type House, Stable, Bandstand, Bowling Green, Formal Garden, Garden Parks and

Urban Spaces

Period Industrial/Modern

Sources HER

Description Grounds to the hall (Site **02**) formerly known as Mount Falinge. Site **02** was in

a dilapidated condition in 1902, and has since been partly demolished. Park designed by Thomas Mawson, opened to the public in 1906. Further extended by a gift of land made by Alderman Turner in 1911, to mark the Coronation of King George V, and in 1912, which allowed the park to extend to the north and east, and reach its present boundaries. Main entrance to the south of the hall at the corner of Falinge Road and Sheriff Street. Includes cast-iron double gates between sandstone piers (LB II no 6/62) and have decorative scrollwork and heraldic cartouches. Boundary marked by low stone wall. Original railings lost, replaced in 2000. Park divided into northern and southern halves. Present metal bandstand on site of an earlier stand, which stood near the small lake to the north-west of the stable court. Western boundary lined with trees. Hall dominates the park. Immediately to the east of the hall steps is an elaborate sunken Sun Garden, principle feature of Mawson's design. North of hall is a

stable court. Bowling green in the north-east corner of the park.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 02

 Site name
 Falinge Hall

 NGR
 SD 8924 1419

 HER no.
 2369.2.0

Designation Listed Building (II), 6/61 **Site type** Hall (partly demolished)

Period Industrial Sources HER

Description House with garden and small park (Site **01**) or lawn to the east of Falinge

Road, also known as Mount Falinge. Entrance from Falinge Road across lawn to area of trees and shrubs around the hall. Hall built by James Royds in the late eighteenth century, originally of five bays, the centre one being slightly advanced with a three bay pediment. Central Ionic porch. Paved area to the south of facade, pavilion with stone steps and balustrade. In 1894 the estate, together with a donation of £3628 towards the laying out of the grounds (Site 01), was given to the Corporation for use as a public park. Hall was in a dilapidated condition at that time and has since been partly demolished. The

hall facade and pavilions are listed (Site 03).

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 03

Site name Falinge Park Hall Façade and Pavilions

NGR SD 8918 1413 HER no. 2369.3.0

Designation Registered Park and Garden, 4775, and Listed Building (II), 6/61

Site type Façade and Pavilion

Period Industrial

Sources Description HER

Facade, side walls and pavilions only of a mansion (Site **02**), now forming a pleasance and store rooms in a public park. Late eighteenth century. Ashlar. Facade, one bay of each side wall, and square pavilions to each side connected to the rear of the former side walls by linking passages. The facade consists of five bays, the central three being slightly advanced and with a pediment. Central Ionic porch with two detached columns, four pilasters, entablature, overlight and tall side lights. Ground floor openings to bays two and four are in arched recesses. First floor windows are all now blind, the central three having a moulded sill band and panels below. Plinth, bands, modillion cornice, parapet and pediment with central floral cartouche in relief. Linking passages are each three bays with central architraved door and openings to either side in arched recess. Pavilions each have tripartite windows with Doric pilasters and elliptical tympana, tripartite cornice, parapet and hipped roof.

Assessment

The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 04

Site name Old Falinge NGR SD 8880 1430 HER no. 2384.1.0

DesignationListed Building (II), 6/60**Site type**House/Great House/Settlement

Period Post-medieval

Sources HER

Description Built between 1721 and 1724 according to datestone and rainwater head

respectively. Date stone reads "IIH 1721" and rainwater head "IIH 1724". A bay was added in the eighteenth century in a similar style. Originally owned by Haslem's until 1755 when, because of bankrutcy, John Royds bought it from James Haslem. It was sold from the estate in 1921 William and Mary

style: wooden mullion and transom windows.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area but, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, may be indirectly impacted by noise, vibration, construction of access routes or compound areas and

impacted visually.

Site number 05

 Site name
 32-36 Falinge Fold

 NGR
 SD 8888 1436

 HER no.
 5323.1.0

DesignationListed Building (II), 6/59 **Site type**House/Settlement
Period
Post-medieval

Sources HER

Description House and byre, now two cottages. Mid seventeenth-century, brick addition c

1800. Coursed watershot rubble, stone dressings, stone slate roof, brick stack and addition. Four-bays, two storeys, two unit house with byre to right. Twentieth century outshot to rear of byre, brick addition to left with lean-to at rear. Doorway has chamfered jambs to parlour and house part three-light byre window. Upper floor has four-light chamfered flush mullions except for byre which has two-lights. Some windows have early cast iron small pane glazing. Three-light chamfered mullioned window to house otherwise twentieth century. Formerly part of the Royds estate and may have been the previous

Falinge Hall.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area but, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, may be indirectly impacted by noise, vibration, construction of access routes or compound areas and

impacted visually

Site number 06

Site name Falinge Settlement
NGR SD 8890 1440
HER no. 5211.1.0
Designation None

Site type Settlement/Building Period Medieval/Post-medieval

Sources HER

Description Yates names the settlement, showing it adjacent to the river Spodden and near

two mills (Plate 14). On the 1851 OS map (Fig 4) it is named "Falinge Fold" and shown as a group of buildings along the present Falinge Fold Road (Fig

2).

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area but, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, may be indirectly impacted by noise, vibration, construction of access routes or compound areas and

impacted visually.

Site number 07

Site name Falinge Corner NGR SD 88995 14348 (point)

HER no. 15292.1.0

Designation Listed Building (N/G) Revoked (DGM 1664)

Site type House

Period Industrial/Modern

Sources HER

Description A house and later nursing home. Built in 1897, architect not at present known,

in a Vernacular Revival style. Small early twentieth century extension to the east and minor late twentieth century additions to the rear. Built of stone rubble with ashlar dressings and slate roof with tall brick chimney stacks. Two storeys, attics and a basement. The original building has four bays and four gables. Three-light mullioned windows to the attic. Mullioned windows and transomed windows. A further bay with gable and oriel window was added after 1909. The west elevation is the entrance front and is gabled with irregularly spaced mullioned windows and a projecting porch with gable. Two-centred arched doorcase and plank door. North elevation has a staircase window with stained glass. Lower attached service winds in matching style. Owner was a Mrs Jessie Turner in 1935. The Turners may have been the

original owners. Removed from the statutory list in 2005.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 08

Site name Meanwood Mill, site of NGR SD 88588 14023 (point)

HER no. 12605.1.0 **Designation** None

Site type Dye Works/Fulling Mill

Period Industrial Sources HER

Description Water-powered site shown on Yates' map (Plate 14) of 1786 (surveyed

1770s). Possibly two water-powered sites alongside river shown on Greenwood's map of 1818. Two buildings shown here on the 1851 OS map (Fig 4), both L-shaped, the northern smaller building being named as a fulling mill, the southern larger building as a dye works. A gasometer is indicated at the southern end of the site. The 1831 town plan also shows the southern L-shaped range, but indicates the northern range as two adjoining buildings. This last depiction may be erroneous since, on an early nineteenth century illustration, the fulling mill is shown as a single L-shaped block. This

illustration does not show the dye works, suggesting that they were a secondary addition to the site. By 1890 the gap between the two main ranges had been infilled and the site named as Meanwood Dye Works (disused). By 1908 the site was a shell, apart from a building still intact at the south-west corner. Some limited demolition or collapse had occurred by this date, with more extensive loss by 1928. By 1960 the site was vacant apart from the building still remaining on the south-west. All buildings have now been demolished but evidence for the site is still extant.

Assessment

The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 09

Site name Stables/Cottages?
NGR SD 88598 14091
HER no. 12604.1.0
Designation None

Site type Building/Stable
Period Industrial
Sources HER

Description Range shown on the 1831 town map and 1848 OS map. Shown on the 1890

map as divided into four units. Central units removed by 1908 and southern unit by 1928. Northern units demolished between 1928 and 1960. Outline of the building still evident. On the south side is a depression with a bank to the east, while on the north are a low stone arch and a further smaller depression, the whole arrangement suggesting vaulted cellarage, now infilled. On the west, against the hill slope, are surviving courses of stone walling. To the east are remains of kerbing. An early nineteenth century illustration of Meanwood Mill shows the building as three storeys, the southern end having a large doorway on the ground floor with windows on each of the floors above; much of the remainder is shown with what seems to have been the northernmost part of the building with windows on two floors and was possibly domestic

accommodation.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 10

Site name Foot Mill

NGR SD 88659 14344 (point)

HER no. 12625.1.0

Designation None
Site type Cotton Mill
Period Post-medieval

Sources HER

Description Water-powered site shown on Yates' map of 1786 (surveyed 1770s),

Greenwood's map of 1818 and Hennet's map of 1828-9. Believed to have been in existence during the reign of Elizabeth I (banking-history.co.uk/royds.html). Named as Foot Mill (Cotton) on the 1848 OS map. Listed in 1847 as a cotton mill owned by Clement Royds Esq, and occupied by Messrs Turner & Leach, and powered by a 16hp steam engine and a 7hp waterwheel. The mill was enlarged by 1890. The OS map of 1977 shows the

site as vacant.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and, given the nature of the

proposals to redevelop the existing school, will not be impacted by it.

Site number 11

Site name **Rochdale Grammar School for Girls**

NGR SD 88907 14240

HER no.

Designation None Site type School Period Modern **Sources**

Map Regression

Rochdale Municipal School for Girls was founded in 1935 and built by R & T **Description** Howarth Building Contractors. In the 1950s, it was renamed Greenhill

Grammar School, and in the 1970s as Greenhill Upper School. On the 31st August 1988 it was renamed to Falinge Park Upper School as a result of an amalgamation with Broadfield School. The school was renamed again to

Falinge Park High School 31st August 1990 due to a borough reorganisation.

The site comprises the original school buildings which now make up part of the present Falinge Park High School and, given the nature of the proposals to

redevelop the existing school, will be directly impacted.

Site number 12

Assessment

Site name **Green Hill House NGR** SD 88913 14233

HER no. **Designation** None Site type Hall/House Period Post medieval **Sources** Map Regression

Description Green Hill was built in 1764 by Thomas Royds. William Edward Royds

mortgaged the entire Greenhill estate in 1865 for the sum of £12,000. The mortgage covered the entire estate which comprised "the mansion house known as "Greenhill" with its brewhouse, coachhouses, barn, stables, shippons, hothouses, hotwalls, gardens and plantations, the house known as "Old Falinge", all the cottages and houses, warehouses and parcels of land in and around Falinge Fold, "Leony or Lenny" barn and several ground rents from leasehold properties and land around Falinge". The house was

demolished in the early 1930s and a school constructed on the site.

The site comprises the former Greenhill house demolished in the early 1930s Assessment

> ahead of the construction of Municipal School for Girls. The site of the house is within the current redevelopment proposals and, although it is unlikely that there are any below ground remains surviving, they may be impacted by it.

Site number 13

Site name Greenland **NGR** SD 88626 14283

HER no. **Designation** None

Site type

Period Industrial **Sources** Map Regression

Description Site of possible allotment gardens associated with Foot Mill (Site 10).

The site is outside the proposed development area and will not be impacted by Assessment

Site number

Site name **Lenny Barn NGR** SD 88942 13985

HER no. **Designation** None Site type

Period Industrial
Sources Map Regression

Description Buildings named Lenny Barn first appear on Wood's Plan of Rochdale dated

1831. The site was part of the Greenhill (Site 12) estate and was sold at auction in 1921 to Mr Frederick Lye, who subsequently donated the land and buildings to the town of Rochdale for use as a community recreation ground.

Assessment The school boundary abuts the recreation ground and given the nature of the

current proposals may be directly impacted.

Site number 15

Site name Silver Street Chapel NGR SD 88626 14283 HER no. 15287.1.0

Designation Listed Building (II), 335/0/10061

Site type Non-conformist Chapel

Period Industrial Sources HER

Description A non-conformist chapel dated 1893, with additions of 1902, and later

twentieth century alterations and additions. Designed by Edgar Wood, architect, of Middleton, for the Wesleyan Methodists, with additions of 1902 by T Butterworth, architect of Dearnley. A restrained Arts and Crafts style with an original T-shaped plan modified by additions to north and south elevations. The Silver Street Chapel is amongst Wood's earliest ecclesiastical commissions. The first, the Unitarian Chapel in Middleton, was demolished in

1965.

Assessment The site is outside the proposed development area and will not be impacted by

it.

5. ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

5.1 Introduction

5.1.1 In total, 15 gazetteer sites, or heritage assets, have been identified within the study area. Sites **01-10** and **15** were identified from the HER, six of which are statutorily protected (Sites **02-05**, **07** and **15**). The remaining four sites (Sites **11-14**) were identified through map regression analysis. Three of the sites are within, or partially within, the proposed redevelopment area (Sites **11**, **12** and **14**).

| Period | No of Sites | Site Type |
|----------------|-------------|--|
| Prehistoric | 0 | - |
| Romano-British | 0 | - |
| Early Medieval | 0 | - |
| Medieval | 1 | Settlement (Site 06) |
| Post-medieval | 3 | House (Site 04), House and Barn (Site 05), Farm (Site 14)* |
| Industrial | 10 | House (Site 07), Park (Site 01), Hall (Site 02), Hall façade and pavilion (Site 03), Mills (Sites 08 , 10 , 13), stables (Site 09), Hall (Site 12), Chapel (Site 15) |
| Modern | 2 | School (Site 11), Recreation Ground (Site 14)* |

*Table 3: Number of sites by period (*same site, different phases/periods)*

- 5.1.2 In the 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). Consequently, the Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Unitary Development Plan (2006) was consulted with particular reference to policies G/BE/9, BE/10-19. 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 'and 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).
- 5.1.3 Therefore, the following section will determine the nature and level of the significance of the archaeological resource, as detailed in *Sections 3* and 4. This is an iterative process, beginning with the guideline criteria outlined in Table 4, below. In general terms, the recording of a heritage asset, e.g. HER, scheduled monuments (SM) or 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 (*Section 5.2*) 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 into a higher 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 into a higher grade | |
| Negligible | Assets or features with no significant value or interest | |

Table 4: Guideline criteria used to determine Importance of Heritage Assets

5.2 QUANTIFICATION OF IMPORTANCE

- 5.2.1 The gazetteer sites previously listed as being within the proposed development area (Sites 11, 12 and 14) were considered using the criteria for scheduling ancient monuments, with the results below. This information will contribute to the overall assessment of the importance of each heritage asset.
- 5.2.2 **Period:** Falinge settlement (Site **06**) is considered significant, as it represents a little altered remnant of medieval or late medieval origin within a heavily developed area, but lies outside the proposed development boundary. Foot Mill (Site **10**) may have originated in the very early post-medieval period, although the form and extent is unknown. Greenhill (Site **12**), constructed in 1764, was one of several similar houses in the area, which date from this period.
- 5.2.3 *Rarity:* none of the sites are considered to be significant due to rarity and reflect a general pattern of settlement and industrial activity in the wider area.
- 5.2.4 **Documentation:** this report includes a search of documentation with particular reference to Greenhill and Falinge Park High School (Site 12 and 11). It appears that there is a considerable amount of information on the house itself. The house was constructed, and occupied by, the Royds of Rochdale for over a century. The Royds were a prominent, influential and one of the wealthiest families in Rochdale whose vision, influence and business interests made a significant contribution to the town's growth and prosperity. The site of the former house lies within the proposed development boundary. Therefore, the site is considered significant due to documentation. The original 1935 Municipal School for Girls was constructed by R & T Howarth, building

- contractors in Rochdale responsible for many prominent municipal and public buildings in Rochdale. Rochdale Local Studies Centre holds an archive collection of R & T Howarth, including records, plans and historic photographs. Therefore, the original school site is also considered significant due to documentation.
- 5.2.5 *Group Value:* Site 12, Greenhill has a group value with Falinge Park (Site 01) and Mount Falinge, façade and pavilion (Sites 02 and 03) which is immediately to the east of the proposed development area. The 1851 5' to 1 mile map shows the extent of the two estates, both built by the Royds family, from the late eighteenth century. The two estates also have a group value with Brownhill house, immediately to the east of Falinge Park, also owned by the Royds from the late eighteenth century. Falinge settlement, Old Falinge and 32-36 Falinge have a group value (Sites 04-06) as they represent a little altered remnant of medieval and post-medieval settlement within a heavily developed area, but lie outside the current proposed development boundary.
- 5.2.6 *Survival/Condition:* Greenhill (Site 12) was demolished by 1935 ahead of the construction of the Rochdale Municipal School for Girls. It is unlikely, given the later extensions to the school and the fact that the school is a cellared building, that there are any below ground remains of the former house. However, a section of the former grounds is now covered by a landscaped area on the eastern side of the school building, and the most southerly portion of the former grounds remains a landscaped area with mature trees, tennis courts and a car park. The presence of any below ground remains is not known, but is a possibility. It is feasible that remains of ancillary buildings to the north of the house may still exist below the car park and former tennis courts area. The original 1935 school (Site 11), constructed by R & T Howarth, is extant and the exterior is in a good condition, and is considered significant due to both its survival and condition.
- 5.2.7 To the south of the school is Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Site 14). This area remains an open, grassed play area, which has been protected from development since 1921, and map regression analysis would suggest that there had been no development previous to that, when the area was part of the Greenhill estate (Section 3). Falinge settlement and buildings (Sites 04-06) are considered significant due to their survival and good condition, but they are outside the proposed development site. The remaining sites within the study area, Falinge Park, Mount Falinge and Falinge façade and pavilion (Sites 01-03) are considered significant due to their survival and condition and are statutorily protected, but lie outside the proposed redevelopment boundary. The remaining sites (Sites 07-10, 13 and 15) are not considered significant due to their survival or condition.
- 5.2.8 *Fragility/Vulnerability:* current proposals (Fig 2) indicate that there are three sites within the proposed redevelopment boundary. The former Greenhill house (Site 12) was demolished in the early 1930s. The original school building constructed by R & T Howarth in 1935 is extant and will be affected by the current proposals and is therefore considered significant due to its vulnerability. Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Site 14) is partially within the proposed redevelopment site and is also considered vulnerable under the current proposals.

- 5.2.9 **Diversity:** the sites are not considered to be significant due to diversity.
- 5.2.10 *Potential:* there are no prehistoric, Roman or early medieval sites within the study area and the potential for the discovery of archaeological remains from these periods is thought to be low. However, there is some evidence for medieval settlement in the area (Site 06) and the school was constructed on the site of a demolished hall (Site 12). It should also be noted, however, that much of the proposed redevelopment site has been developed with school buildings and extensions to school buildings (Fig 2). The original school building also appears to be cellared (Plate 29), implying that there is probably little potential for the survival of below ground remains of the house that had stood on the site until the early 1930s.



Plate 29: Front of school building with blocked cellar windows

5.3 CONCLUSIONS OF IMPORTANCE

5.3.1 Using the guideline criteria outlined in Table 4, together with further quantification (*Section 5.2*), and informed professional judgement; each of the sites listed in the gazetteer has been assessed for importance as a heritage asset (Table 5). Following discussion of their importance in *Section 5.2* Greenhill house (Site 12) would have been rated as being of *regional/county importance* given its associations with the Royds and their involvement in and contribution to the growth of Rochdale, a town of some significance during the Industrial Revolution. However, due to it being unlikely that there are any substantial surviving remains, this site is presently rated as being of *low/local importance*. Falinge Park, Mount Falinge, and Falinge façade and pavilion (Sites 01-03) are considered of *national importance* as a result of their inclusion in the HER, location within a registered park and garden and statutory protection as listed buildings. Silver Street Chapel (Site 15), and the buildings at Falinge Fold, including Old Falinge (Site 04) and 32-36 Falinge

Fold (Site **05**), are also rated as being of <u>national importance</u> due to their listed building status. Falinge Corner (Site **07**) is rated as <u>regional/county importance</u> due to it once having been listed before being revoked, along with the HER site of Falinge settlement (Site **06**), which is significant due to its period. Sites **08-10** are also rated as of <u>local/borough importance</u> as, despite being the remaining sites listed on the HER, they consist of remains of an unknown quality and quantity, although this could perhaps alter if the sites were better understood. The Municipal School (Site **11**) is also of <u>local/borough importance</u>. The remaining sites identified from the map regression analysis, Greenland and Lenny Barn and recreation ground (Sites **13-14**), have been rated as of <u>low/local importance</u>

| No | Site name | Importance | |
|----|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|--|
| 01 | Falinge Park | National importance | |
| 02 | Falinge Hall | National importance | |
| 03 | Falinge Park Hall Façade and Pavilion | National importance | |
| 04 | Old Falinge | National importance | |
| 05 | 32-36 Falinge Fold | National importance | |
| 06 | Falinge Settlement | Regional/County importance | |
| 07 | Falinge Corner | Regional/County importance | |
| 08 | Meanwood Mill, Site of | Local/Borough importance | |
| 09 | Stables/Cottages | Local/Borough importance | |
| 10 | Foot Mill | Local/Borough importance | |
| 11 | Rochdale Grammar School for Girls | Local/Borough importance | |
| 12 | Greenhill House | Low/Local importance | |
| 13 | Greenland | Low/Local importance | |
| 14 | Lenny Barn and Recreation Ground | Local/Borough importance | |
| 15 | Silver Chapel | National importance | |

Table 5: Importance of each gazetteer site

6. IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 IMPACT

- 6.1.1 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 their significance and potential of the proposed development area, and assess the impact of the proposals, thus allowing the advice of 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 archaeological sites;
 - outlining suitable mitigation measures, where possible at this stage, to "avoid, or minimise conflict between the heritage assets' conservation and any aspect of the proposal" (op cit, Section 12.129).
- 6.1.2 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 6, 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 context and 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 context and 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 context and setting. | | |
| Negligible | Negligible change or no material changes to the heritage asset. No real change in our ability to understand and appreciate the resource and its cultural heritage or archaeological value/historical context and setting. | | |

Table 6: Criteria used to determine Scale of Impact

6.1.3 The scale of impact, when weighted against the importance of the archaeological site, produces the impact significance. This may be calculated by using the matrix shown in Table 7, below.

| Resource Value | Scale of Impact Upon Heritage Asset | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| (Importance) | Substantial | Moderate | Slight | Negligible |
| National | Major | Major | Intermediate/ Minor | Neutral |
| Regional/County | Major | Major/ Intermediate | Minor | Neutral |
| Local/Borough | Intermediate | Intermediate | Minor | Neutral |
| Local (low) | Intermediate / Minor | Minor | Minor/ Neutral | Neutral |
| Negligible | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral | Neutral |

Table 7: Impact Significance Matrix

The extent of any previous disturbance to buried archaeological levels is an important factor in assessing the potential impact of the redevelopment scheme. The original school was built in 1935 and is now occupied by Falinge Park High School. The school building is large and has been extended at various times, particularly from the 1960s to the present day. The original school stands on the site of the former Greenhill House constructed in 1764. The school buildings are surrounded by car parks, playgrounds, sports fields, and numerous ancillary buildings. It seems unlikely that there will be any surviving below ground remains associated with the areas of the main school buildings. The east side of the main school buildings, alongside Falinge Road, has remained a narrow, landscaped area, and there is a possibility that some below ground remains associated with the house may exist, although the map regression analysis would suggest that this was an area of gardens. It is possible that some below ground remains of former ancillary buildings associated with Greenhill in the northern section of the proposed development site may exist as this area has been utilised for tennis courts and, more recently, car parking.

6.2 SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT

6.2.1 Following on from the above considerations, the significance of effects has been determined based on an assumption that there will be earth-moving and other modification/additional works associated with the redevelopment, and that the present condition of the heritage assets/gazetteer sites is known or assumed. The results are summarised in Table 8, below, in the absence of mitigation. *The following may require review once detailed design/construction proposals are known*.

| Site No. | Site name | Nature of Impact | Scale of Impact | Impact Significance |
|-------------|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| 01 | Falinge Park | None | Negligible | Neutral |
| 02 | Falinge Hall | None | Negligible | Neutral |
| 03 | Falinge Park Hall Façade and Pavilion | None | Negligible | Neutral |

| Site No. | Site name | Nature of Impact | Scale of Impact | Impact Significance | |
|-------------|---|---|--------------------------|------------------------|--|
| 04 | Old Falinge | Indirect impact from access routes, noise and vibration, or compound construction | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 05 | 32-36 Falinge Fold | Indirect impact from access routes, noise and vibration, or compound construction Negligib | | Neutral | |
| 06 | Falinge Settlement | Indirect impact from access routes, noise and vibration, or compound construction | | Neutral | |
| 07 | Falinge Corner | None | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 08 | Meanwood Mill | None | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 09 | Stables/Cottage | None | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 10 | Foot Mill | None | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 11 | Municipal School / Falinge Park School | Demolition of standing building and disturbance of below-ground remains | Substantial | Intermediate | |
| 12 | Greenhill House | Possible destruction or disturbance of below-ground remains | Substantial to slight | Intermediate to minor | |
| 13 | Greenland | None | Negligible | Neutral | |
| 14 | Lenny Barn and Recreation Ground | Possible encroachment of proposed extents of development onto recreation ground | Minor | Neutral | |
| 15 | Silver Street Chapel | None | Negligible | Neutral | |

Table 8: Assessment of the impact significance on each site during development

6.2.2 Table 8 indicates that there are three sites which are likely to be impacted by the proposed redevelopment (Sites 11, 12 and 14). The most significant impact of the proposed redevelopment would be on the site of the school (Site 11) due to its value as a standing building of local historical importance. It is difficult to define the impact on Greenhill house (Site 12), given the uncertainty of the survival of any below ground remains, but the fact that the house was demolished in the early 1930s and replaced by a large school building with cellars suggests that the likelihood of discovering buried remains is slight. The direct impact of the proposed scheme has therefore been rated as substantial, and the significance of this as intermediate. The indirect impact of the proposed scheme on Sites 04-06 has therefore been rated as slight and the significance of this as millioner.

7. RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 Introduction

- 7.1.1 A desk-based assessment is usually the first stage of an iterative process of investigating the significance and presence of heritage assets within or surrounding a proposed development area. Having identified the potential for such assets, and the significance of the impact by the development, further investigation is required to determine the exact nature, survival, extent, and date of the remains. However, in terms of the requirement for further archaeological investigation, it is necessary to consider only those heritage assets identified in the desk-based assessment that will be affected by the proposed redevelopment. Such further investigation would strive to reach a stage wherein a mitigation strategy can be agreed for affected assets: current legislation draws a distinction between designated heritage assets and other remains considered to be of lesser significance; "when considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important the asset the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset, or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notable scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I or II* listed buildings, grade I or II* listed parks or gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional" (NPPF 2012, Section 12.132).
- 7.1.2 It is normally accepted that non-designated sites will be preserved by record, in accordance with their significance and the magnitude of the harm to or loss of the site as a result of the proposals, "the effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset" (op cit, Section 12.135)

7.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR FURTHER ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

- 7.2.1 There are three heritage assets identified in the assessment gazetteer that are positioned within the proposed development area (Sites 11, 12 and 14) and may be impacted by the proposed development.
- 7.2.2 **Standing Buildings:** the extant elements of the original Municipal School for Girls is a building of historical interest, built by prominent local building contractors, R & T Howarth. It is not a listed building and is not within a registered park or garden or conservation area and is not, therefore, statutorily protected. However, the original fabric of the building, both internally and externally, does add value to the character of the surrounding area. The

proposals are to demolish this building, with the resultant significance of this impact rated as <u>intermediate</u>. To mitigate this impact, it is recommended that the original extant fabric or elements of the 1930s school are preserved by record. In accordance with current planning policy guidelines, recording of a heritage asset is undertaken 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); it is therefore recommended that a drawn and photographic record is made to elucidate the historical development and significance of the school and to provide a permanent archive of the building.

- 7.2.3 **Buried Remains:** it is unlikely that below ground remains of the former Greenhill house (Site 12) exist, given the nature of the construction of school on the site in the 1930s. Nevertheless, there is potential for revealing remains of the house, former ancillary buildings or garden features across the site in areas not subsequently built upon, although the landscaping for the school may still have removed such remains Consequently, a programme of targeted evaluation trenching or test-pitting in advance of the development is recommended. Dependent on the results, further work may be forthcoming.
- 7.2.4 Recommendations are outlined in Table 10, below, after consideration of the current development proposals. However, should these proposals alter the recommendations should be reviewed accordingly.

| Gaz no | Description | Importance | Impact Significance | Recommendations |
|-----------|---|---------------|------------------------|--|
| 11 | Elements of the Municipal School | Local/Borough | Intermediate | Drawn and photographic record of the standing building |
| 12 | Elements of the Greenhill house and grounds | Low/local | Minor | Targeted evaluation trenching/test-pitting |

Table 10: Summary of site-specific recommendations for further archaeological investigation

8. CONCLUSIONS

8.1 DISCUSSION

- 8.1.1 In total, 15 heritage assets have been identified in a gazetteer compiled for the study area, three of which are within the proposed development area (Sites 11, 12 and 14). Site 11 is the site of the school, which was established in the 1930s as the Rochdale Municipal School for Girls, and considered to be of local/borough importance. Site 12 is the former Greenhill house and its grounds, considered to be of local/borough importance. Sites 14 is the site of Lenny Barn recreation ground donated to the town in 1921, also considered to be of local/borough importance.
- The earliest archaeological evidence within the study area is represented by a 8.1.2 medieval settlement at Falinge, to the north of the proposed development area (Site **06**). Foot Mill, Site **10**, to the west of the settlement is believed to originated during the very early post-medieval period. Significant changes take place in the surrounding area during the late eighteenth and nineteenth century, and cartographic evidence shows an increase in both industry and housing around Falinge. This is in part due to the Royds family, a prominent and wealthy family influential in the growth and development of Rochdale; John Royds urged on the construction of the Rochdale canal in the closing years of the eighteenth century, facilitating the movement of woollen goods across the Pennines to Halifax and on to Leeds, and eventually to Hull for export. The Royds were major landowners in the Falinge area, and constructed or inhabited a number of houses, one of which was Greenhill house (Site 12) in 1764. The family was also responsible for the construction of Mount Falinge (Site 02-03) to the east of the school site, and Brownhill to the east of Falinge Park (Site 01). Surrounding the school to the south and west and within the boundary of the former Greenhill estate is Lenny Barn Recreation Ground (Site 14). This site was bought at the auction of the Greenhill estate in 1921 by a local benefactor and donated to the town for use as a recreation ground.
- 8.1.3 Greenhill house (Site 12) was demolished in the early 1930s, to make way for the construction of the Rochdale Municipal School For Girls in 1935 (Site 11), built by prominent local building contractors R & T Howarth who were responsible for numerous public works in Rochdale. In 1956 it was renamed Greenhill Grammar School for Girls and in the 1970s it became a 13 to 18 year old co-educational school called Greenhill Upper School. On the 31st August 1988 it was renamed Falinge Park Upper School following an amalgamation with nearby Broadfield School. The school became Falinge Park High School on the 31st August 1990 following further reorganisation.
- 8.1.4 Under the current proposals Sites 11 and 12 will be directly impacted and require further archaeological work. It is recommended that the extant elements of the original 1930s school are preserved by record, together with further investigation to establish the presence or absence of below ground

remains. The level of such work needs to be agreed in consultation with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS).

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10.ILLUSTRATIONS

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- Plate 29: Front of school building with blocked cellar windows

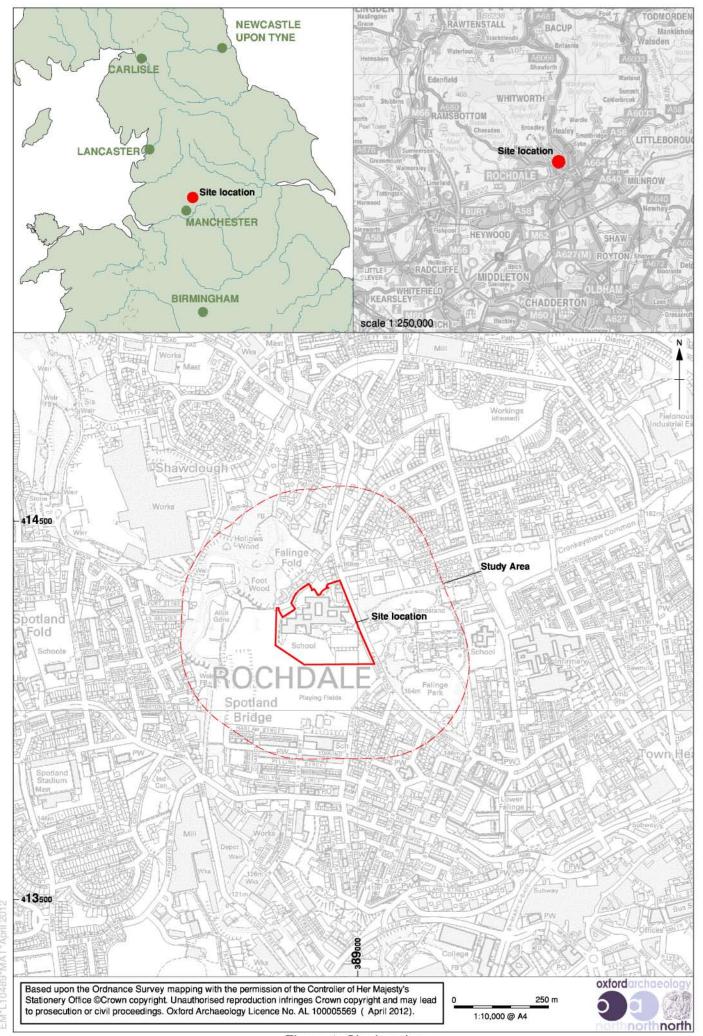


Figure 1: Site location

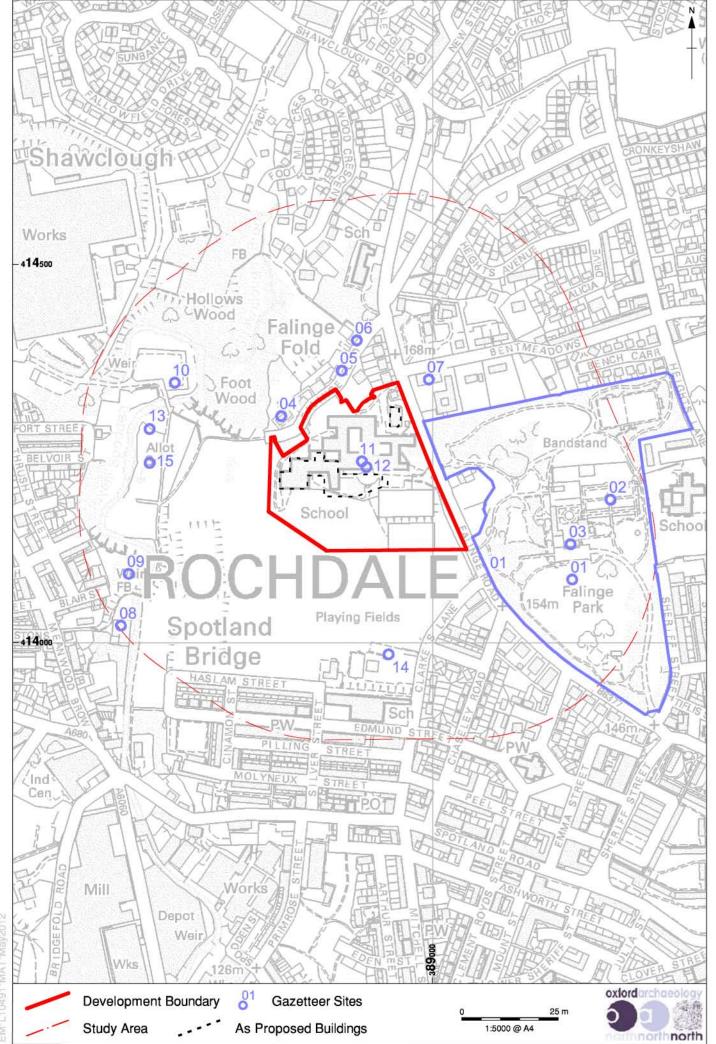


Figure 2: Gazetteer sites plan

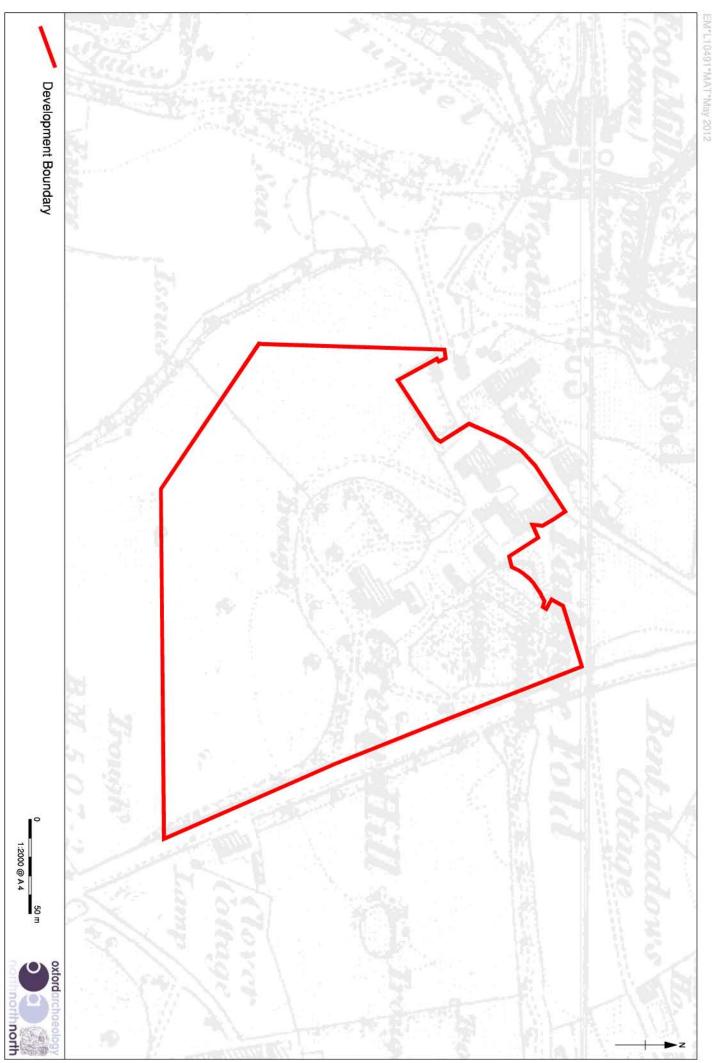


Figure 3: Development boundary superimposed on Ordnance Survey First Edition 6":1 mile map, 1848

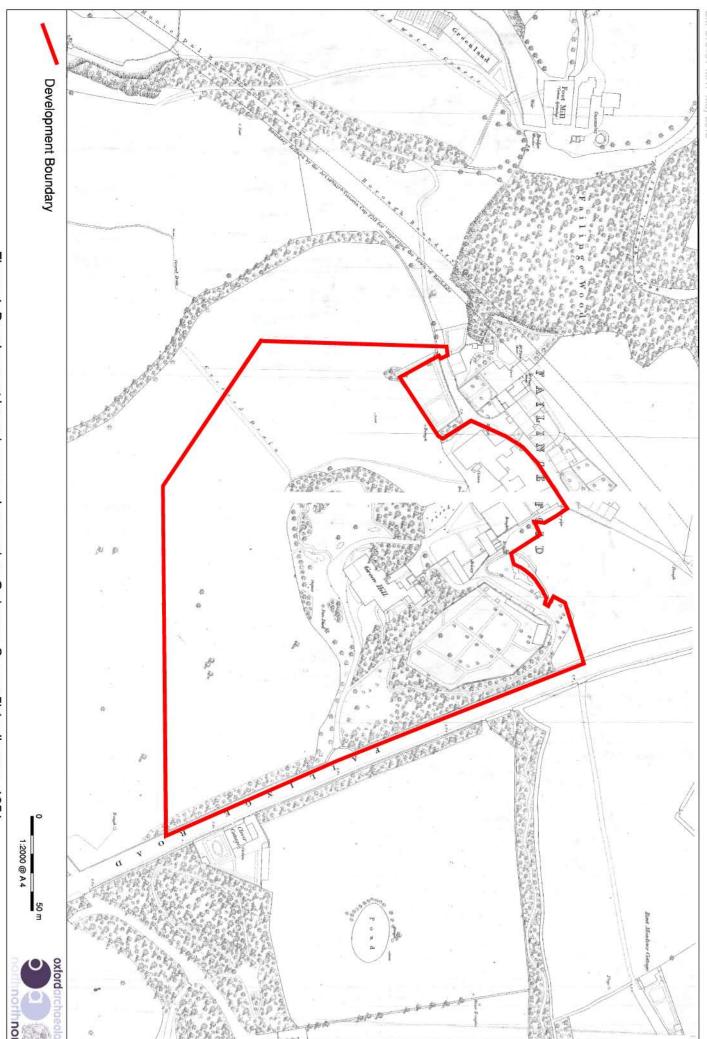


Figure 4: Development boundary superimposed on Ordnance Survey 5':1 mile map, 1851

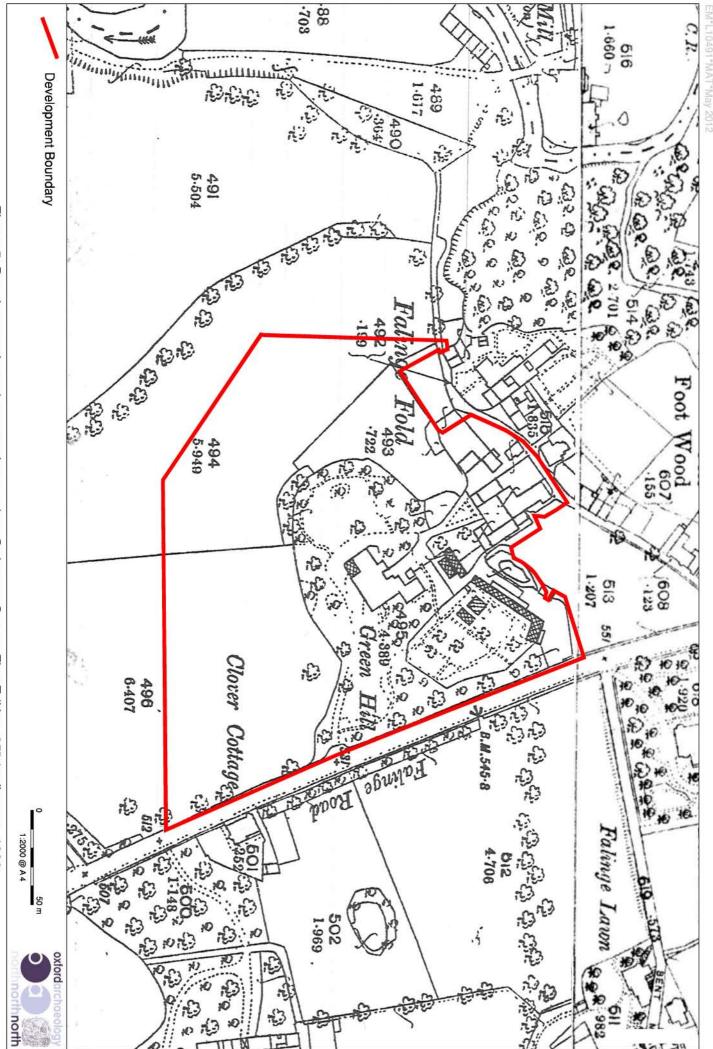


Figure 5: Development boundary superimposed on Ordnance Survey First Edition 25":1 mile map, 1890

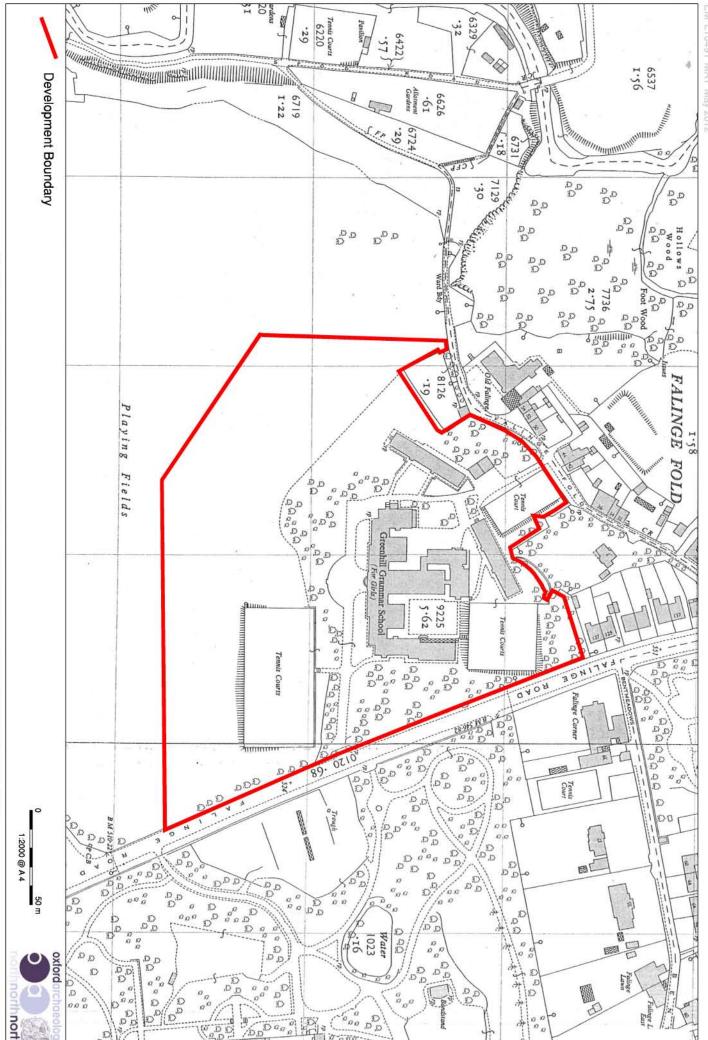


Figure 6: Development boundary superimposed on Ordnance Survey 1: 2500 map, 1960