



GREENGATE TOWERS, SALFORD, GREATER MANCHESTER

Archaeological Investigation



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SUMMARY

BS Construction Ltd has submitted a proposal to redevelop land at Greengate, Salford, Greater Manchester (centred on SJ 8365 9895). The site lies within the historic core of the city, and is therefore of considerable archaeological interest. In order to establish the archaeological potential of the site, MAP Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was commissioned to undertake a desk-based assessment in 2004. This confirmed that the study area lies within an area of known medieval activity, with a potential for buried remains of archaeological significance to survive *in situ*. Following on from the results of the desk-based study, the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist recommended that a programme of archaeological evaluation was undertaken in advance of construction work. The scope of the evaluation was detailed in a project brief, devised by the Assistant County Archaeologist. This allowed for the excavation of 13 trenches with a total combined length of some 320m, which were intended to confirm the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains within the study area, and assess their significance. In addition, further documentary study was required, which was to focus on the sequence of available historic mapping.

In October 2005, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) was commissioned to undertake the evaluation, which commenced in December 2005. A phased approach to the programme of works was taken for logistical considerations, and the area was divided into four areas. The trenches placed across the southern part of the site (Area A) exposed a series of buried remains, seemingly representing a continuity of activity from the 12th or 13th centuries. Following on from the results obtained from the evaluation trenches in Area A, the Assistant County Archaeologist recommended that the southern part of the study area was subjected to a programme of more detailed excavation. In the first instance, the modern overburden across the entire southern part of the site was stripped, and the exposed remains cleaned and recorded. This confirmed the presence of significant archaeological deposits, and led to more detailed excavation. This yielded significant archaeological information, including a considerable quantity of post-medieval pottery, representing an assemblage of regional significance. It is recommended that the dataset from this part of the site is subject to detailed analysis that will culminate in the publication of the results in an appropriate manner.

Archaeological evaluation of the remaining parts of the site demonstrated that few archaeological remains of significance survived *in-situ*. It is therefore considered unlikely that any additional archaeological investigation will be required within these parts of the site in advance of the proposed redevelopment.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) is grateful to Bashar Issa and Reni D'Cruz of BS Construction Ltd for commissioning and funding the project, and for providing considerable moral and logistical support throughout the course of the fieldwork. Thanks are also due to Norman Redhead, the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, for his invaluable advice and support, and to Joe Martin, the Salford Conservation Officer, for his support and encouragement.

The programme of archaeological investigation was directed by Vix Hughes, assisted by Andy Lane, Caroline Raynor, Alastair Vannan, Caroline Bulcock, Jay Clarke, Christina Clarke, Kathryn Levey, Ged Callaghan and Pip Haworth. The report was written by Ian Miller and Vix Hughes, and the illustrations were prepared by Mark Tidmarsh. The report was edited by Ian Miller, who was also responsible for project management.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 In response to a request from John Lee of Arca, acting on behalf of BS Construction Ltd, Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submitted a project design to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation of land on Greengate, Salford, in advance of a major programme of redevelopment, known as Greengate Towers. The project design was devised in accordance with a project brief (*Appendix 1*), formulated by the Assistant County Archaeologist for Greater Manchester, which specified the scope of the archaeological evaluation. Following the acceptance of the project design, OA North was commissioned to undertake the work, which commenced in December 2005.
- 1.1.2 At the time of the archaeological evaluation, the site was in use as a car park. A phased approach to the programme of evaluation was therefore taken, and the site was divided into four areas (Areas A – D). The trenches placed across one of these areas (Area A) contained significant archaeological deposits. In order to establish the full extent of these remains, a decision was taken to strip the entire southern part of the study area of modern overburden. This confirmed that significant archaeological deposits existed throughout the area, leading to a programme of detailed excavation. Presentation of the results obtained from this work are beyond the scope of the present report, although a summary has been included.

1.2 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 1.2.1 The study area lies within the historic core of Salford, Greater Manchester (centred on SJ 8365 9895). The city of Salford occupies a site on the right bank of the river Irwell, immediately below its confluence with the river Irk, and is encompassed by a wide meander of the Irwell on all sides but the south-west. The study area occupies an area of land bounded by New Bridge Street, Greengate, the Irwell and Gorton Street, and lies at a height of between 28.66m and 30.65m above Ordnance Datum (aOD), which is approximately 7m higher than the level of the Irwell (Fig 1).
- 1.2.2 The geology of the area consists of Permo-Triassic red mudstones, siltstones and sandstones (Bunter and New Red Sandstones), which date to between 280 and 195 million years ago (Countryside Commission 1998). The overlying drift geology incorporates glacial and post-glacially derived boulder clays and sands, gravels, and clays of fluvial origin (Hall *et al* 1995, 8).
- 1.2.3 The natural topography of the area has been heavily masked by modern development, although archive sources and cartographic evidence allow some reconstruction of the natural landscape to be made. A detailed map of the area by William Green that was published in 1794, for instance, shows a broad plateau of elevated land extending from the river Irwell towards Blackfriars Road, which represents a high river terrace.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 The fieldwork programme was undertaken in stages between December 2005 and January 2007, and comprised the excavation of 13 targeted evaluation trenches. This was coupled with an archaeological watching brief, which monitored earth-moving works across parts of the site. All archaeological work undertaken was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures provided by the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- 2.1.2 The results obtained from the evaluation trenches placed across the southern part of the study area (Area A) revealed significant and well-preserved archaeological remains. This led to a programme of more detailed excavation, which effectively sterilised the archaeological deposits in that part of the site.

2.2 EVALUATION TRENCHING

- 2.2.1 The uppermost levels of each trench were excavated by a machine fitted with either a toothed bucket for the removal of compact rubble, or a toothless ditching bucket for lightly-compacted overburden. The machining carefully defined the extent of any surviving walls, foundations and other remains, after which all excavation was undertaken manually. The floor and sides of each trench was cleaned and recorded in an appropriate manner.
- 2.2.2 All information was recorded stratigraphically with accompanying documentation (plans, sections and both colour slide and black-and-white print photographs, both of individual contexts and overall site shots from standard view points). Photography was undertaken with 35mm cameras on archivable black-and-white print film as well as colour transparency, all frames included a visible, graduated metric scale. In addition, digital images were taken for immediate illustrative use.
- 2.2.3 The precise location of the trenches, and the position of all archaeological structures encountered, was surveyed by EDM tacheometry using a total station linked to a pen computer data logger. This process generated scaled plans and sections within AutoCAD, which were then subject to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, and all information was tied in to Ordnance Datum.

2.3 WATCHING BRIEF

- 2.3.1 This comprised a full description and preliminary classification of the features and materials revealed on OA North *pro-forma* sheets. A plan was produced showing the location of all the trenches and features located by the watching brief. A photographic record, using black and white, colour slide and digital formats, was also maintained.

2.4 FINDS

- 2.4.1 **Artefacts:** all finds recovered were bagged and recorded by context number, processed and stored according to current standard practice based on guidelines set by the Institute of Field Archaeologists. The finds have been analysed by OA North in-house specialists, and will be incorporated with the assemblage recovered from the entire programme of archaeological work for assessment purposes.
- 2.4.2 **Environmental Samples:** no palaeo-environmental samples were taken from the evaluation as none of the deposits encountered were deemed appropriate. Samples were, however, taken from the detailed excavation, and will be analysed as part of the assessment programme.

2.5 ARCHIVE

- 2.5.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design, and in accordance with the current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with Salford City Archive Service, Salford Museum and Art Gallery, on completion of the project.

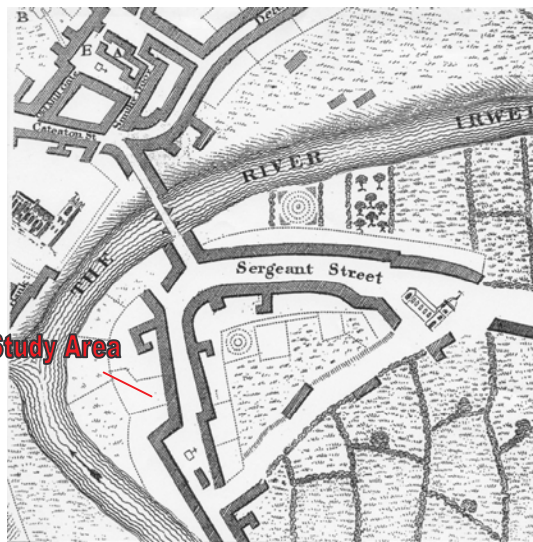
3. BACKGROUND

3.1 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1.1 A summary historical and archaeological overview of Salford has been compiled from primary and secondary sources in order to place the results obtained from the archaeological evaluation into a wider context. This is of particular importance as historically Salford has been seen largely as ‘Manchester’s Cinderella’ (Brighouse and Forrest 1917, 4), and has suffered from the submergence of its history within that of its larger neighbour, despite having been the predominant settlement throughout the medieval period.
- 3.1.2 **Prehistoric Period:** firm archaeological evidence for activity in Salford during the prehistoric period is lacking, although worked flints have been discovered on the gravel terraces in the vicinity of Ordsall Lane and Albert Park. However, the Salford floodplain would probably have comprised a broad expanse of marshland, which may not have been particularly attractive for prehistoric settlement.
- 3.1.3 **Roman Period:** archaeological evidence for Roman activity is similarly lacking, despite the considerable Roman remains excavated in Manchester, on the opposite side of the river Irwell. These were focused on the Roman fort that was established in Castlefield during the late 1st century. The original fort comprised a turf rampart and timber gates, and, covering an area of c1.2ha, was of a size compatible with holding a 480 man infantry unit. The fort was rebuilt to similar dimensions in stone cAD 200 (Bryant *et al* 1986).
- 3.1.4 The fort was supported by a substantial extramural settlement, or *vicus*, that developed in both a northerly direction and along the line of Chester Road to the south (Grealey 1974, 11). It seems that this settlement originated largely during the early 2nd century, and incorporated numerous buildings and a concentration of iron-working hearths or furnaces. Much of the current understanding of the Roman *vicus* in Manchester is derived from three major excavations, which have all focused on the area to the north of the fort: excavations on the southern side of Liverpool Road, centred on the former White Lion Street in 1972 (*ibid*), excavations on Tonman Street (Jones and Reynolds 1978), and an excavation between Liverpool Road and Rice Street (UMAU 2002).
- 3.1.5 The Roman road between the forts at Manchester and Ribchester is known to cross the river Irk and continue northwards through Broughton, approximately along the line of Bury New Road. Whilst some Roman finds have been discovered along the route of the road, this lies some distance from the present study area. It is feasible that another Roman road, perhaps linking Manchester with the settlement at Wigan, forded the river Irwell at a point close to the modern Princes Bridge, although this awaits confirmation.

- 3.1.6 ***The Medieval Town:*** whilst the origins of the manor of Salford are uncertain, it is known to have been in existence by the time of the Domesday Survey of 1086, when it formed the principal centre of administration for the region, referred to as the Hundred of Salford (Tupling 1962, 115). In 1399, Salford came to the Crown as part of the Duchy of Lancaster, and the Queen today retains the distinction of being the Lady of the Royal Manor of Salford (Kidd 1996, 13). The manor was extensive, with estimates putting it at over 360 acres, although exactly what the manor consisted of remains largely unknown, including the precise location of the manorial hall, although this is thought to have been situated towards Victoria Bridge and Gravel Lane. Within the manor, the town of Salford became established and was granted market status by Henry III in 1228, and became a free borough by 1231 (Frangopulo 1962). The free borough status, granted by Ranulph de Blundeville, Earl of Chester, listed all the right and privileges awarded to the burgesses and to the land they owned, known as burgage plots. These were often delimited by boundary ditches or other features, and were probably formally laid out. The nature of a free borough encouraged population migration and a good level of prosperity for Salford. This is reflected in the number of burgages in the town, which was estimated by a survey of 1346 to be in excess of 129 (Higham 2004).
- 3.1.7 The town plan was an irregular triangle, comprising Greengate (known as Back Salford), Sergeant Street (known subsequently as Chapel Lane), and Gravel Lane. The interior of the triangle is likely to have been occupied by garden plots, orchards or crofts, whilst the frontages of the main streets would have been clustered with buildings. The market was held on a rectangular green on Greengate, near its junction with Gravel Lane, immediately to the north-west of the present study area. This provided the site for the market cross, the stocks and the town pump, together with the exchange building or courthouse. This street plan persisted into the post-medieval period, and is depicted on the earliest detailed maps of the area (Fig 2). During this period, Salford was connected to Manchester via a wooden bridge across the river Irwell, which was extant by 1226 (Thomson 1966, 37). This was replaced by a stone bridge, the presence of which is mentioned in the will of Thomas del Bothe of Barton in 1368, who bequeathed £30 for the erection of a chantry chapel on it (*op cit*, 52). The bridge lay at the eastern edge of the town, close to the point where Greengate and Chapel Lane converged.
- 3.1.8 Recent archaeological work centred at the junction of Greengate and Gravel Lane uncovered evidence for continuous occupation of the site from the 13th century (UMAU 2005). The medieval activity appeared to be associated with plots to the rear of buildings that had fronted onto Greengate, and the excavated features included two rubbish pits, one of which yielded a leather archer's bracer. Evidence for medieval property boundaries in the form of burgage ditches was also recovered, and a deep layer of garden soil may have represented intense garden activity associated with a building that had fronted onto Gravel Lane (*ibid*).

- 3.1.9 **Post-medieval Salford:** according to Aston, who was writing in the early 19th century, it was during the reign of James I that Salford became ‘a populous place; Sergeant Street and Greengate being nearly in the state they are now’ (Aston 1816, 15). It was not until after the Reformation, in 1635, that the medieval parish church (Holy Trinity) in Salford was founded (Pevsner 1993, 389). The market area continued to provide a focus for the town, and the market cross is annotated upon the earliest known map of the area, which has been dated to c1650. This shows the main streets in Salford, including Greengate (although unmarked), and appears to show some development around Dawson’s Croft. The area between Greengate and the river Irwell is shown as open land, although the detail of the map is insufficient to give a firm idea as to any activity in this area. Similarly, it is not possible to discern the outline of individual buildings within the study area.



A plan of Salford in c1650

- 3.1.10 In the early 18th century, the market was described as ‘taking up two streets’ length usually occupied by textile production’ (Fiennes 1995). The limits of the town during this period are shown on two surviving maps. The earliest of these, produced by Hill in 1740 at a scale of c1:2000, replicates the detail of the c1650 map, and annotates a series of buildings fronting onto Greengate with open land to the rear. However, the detail provided is insufficient to elucidate information pertaining to individual buildings within the present study area. A more detailed map of the area was published by Casson and Berry in 1741 (Fig 2). This shows the main streets in Salford, clustered with buildings. Those towards the northern end of Greengate, in the vicinity of the market place and partially within the present study area, appear to be larger properties than those to the south, hinting that these may have been occupied by the wealthier sector of the townsfolk. Dawson’s Croft is shown as an area of open land.



Extract from Casson and Berry's plan of 1741

- 3.1.11 Name evidence would suggest that bleachers had used this area, croft meaning literally ‘to bleach’, highlighting the close association of 18th-century Salford

and the textile-finishing trade. The land to the south of Dawson's Croft, and lying partially within the present study area, is shown on Casson and Berry's map to have been in use, and whilst the precise function is not specified, it appears to depict horticultural activity. This appears to have been undertaken within delineated plots, perhaps denoting burgage boundaries, which stretched down to the banks of the river.

- 3.1.12 The river Irwell became a major transport route after 1734, when the Mersey Irwell Navigation was completed. This new navigation formed an efficient link to the expanding port of Liverpool and enabled sea-going vessels to sail up the Irwell into Manchester and Salford. Wharfage facilities for boats of up to 50 tons were provided by a quay established on the Manchester side of the river by Edward Byrom, a wealthy fustian dealer and one of the proprietors of the Mersey Irwell Navigation Company. The quay was built in 1735 at the bottom of what in that year became Quay Street, strategically located to carry much of the town's trade, with a river frontage of 136 yards (George and Brumhead 2002, 22). In 1755, the Navigation Company opened a quay on the opposite side of the Irwell, with the intention of securing the Salford trade (Nevell 2004, 31).
- 3.1.13 A survey by Tinker, published in 1772, annotates Quay Street leading from Salford down to the river, and presumably to the quay on the Mersey Irwell Navigation. Tinker's map also depicts the three main streets in Salford, again marking Greengate as 'Back Salford', but provides little detail of individual buildings within the study area. However, some development of the land between Greengate and the river Irwell is shown to have occurred relative to the earlier maps, and notably the apparent erection of a large L-shaped structure on the bank of the river Irwell; this lies in the approximate position of a brewery shown on subsequent maps, immediately to the south-east of the present study area.
- 3.1.14 The prosperity of Salford during the post-medieval period was given a significant boost by the development of the textile industries, both woollen and later cotton. The town's textile tradition was based upon weaving and finishing, using the relatively pure water of the river Irwell for bleaching (Williams with Farnie 1992, 22). The river Irwell also had considerable potential to power waterwheels, offering a distinct advantage over Manchester to pioneering factory masters prior to the advent of steam engines. Hence, in 1782, James Ackers, Jonathan Beever and Joseph Ramsbottom established Bank Mill, and William Douglas built a mill beside the Irwell at Pendleton in Salford, representing two of the earliest water-powered mills in Lancashire. (Aspin 2003, 453). By 1795, the latter concern was the largest firm in the Manchester district (Greenwood 1951, 143-6). Salford was also notable in cotton-spinning history as it became the site of the seven-storey Salford Twist Mill, built in 1799-1802 as one of the first buildings with a fireproof iron frame (Williams with Farnie 1992, 23).
- 3.1.15 An impression of the local importance of the textile and related industries to Salford may be gained by examining the occupations listed in contemporary trade directories. Scholes' *Directory of Manchester and Salford* for 1797, for instance, identifies a cloth hall to have been on Greengate, together with a

linen and woollen hall (Scholes 1797). The directory also lists the residences of several cotton-manufacturers on Greengate, together with a silk-thrower, a wool dealer, a print-cutter, and a hat manufacturer. Other occupations listed in Scholes' directory for Greengate include an umbrella-maker, a nailor, a brush-maker, a shoe-maker, an attorney, several flour dealers, merchants, and 'gentlemen'. Indeed, writing in the early 1820s, Butterworth noted that the buildings on Greengate were inhabited by '*persons of utmost respectability*'.

- 3.1.16 A summarised description of the town at the end of the 18th century is provided by Aikin, who commented that '*Salford is to Manchester what Southwark is to London*' (1795, 202). Aikin also highlighted the significance of Salford as a market centre, and noted the importance of the newly-developed canal network in delivering produce to the town from across the country.
- 3.1.17 Several of the premises along Greengate, such as those referred to as the Bull's Head (SMR 874.1.0) and The Shearers (SMR 6682.1.0), located on the opposite side of the road to the present study area, are known to have existed until they were demolished in c1938. Two other historic structures were known to have occupied part of the study area: Town House and the Edinburgh Castle. Town House (SMR 1942.1.0) had originally been a single-storey town house, complete with a burgage plot and orchard to the rear, which was converted into three tenements in the early 1800s, and refurbished at various times subsequently until 1901, when the structure was demolished. The Edinburgh Castle (SMR 1943.1.0) was a 16th-century timber-framed building, which may also have originated as a town house, but was later in use as a beerhouse/pub; it was demolished in 1872.
- 3.1.18 Cartographic sources imply that the area between Greengate and the river Irwell was probably used as an orchard or for horticulture. This is illustrated on an artist's impression of the area in c1761, which was published in the *British Architect* in January 1893. The exact date at which the engraving was produced is uncertain, and the sources used in its compilation are unknown, although the detail provided is consistent with the available 18th-century maps of the area. The engraving depicts a range of buildings fronting onto Greengate, with much of the study area seemingly being dedicated to market gardening, and an orchard.



An engraving published in 1891, depicting Salford in c1761

3.2 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE STUDY AREA FROM CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES

- 3.2.1 A series of detailed maps of the study area for the late 18th and 19th centuries provide a good indication of how the site developed during this period. William Green's map, published in 1794, provides the best detail of the available 18th-century mapping, and essentially represents the first accurate survey of the study area (Fig 3). This shows considerable development relative to the earlier maps, with a dense concentration of buildings fronting onto Greengate. Those fronting onto the south-eastern corner of the market square are not of a uniform size or shape, and may represent the survival of buildings shown on Casson and Berry's plan of 1741. The size and shape of the buildings further south, in the southern corner of the study area, however, are consistent with terraced housing that characterised 19th-century domestic properties. Dawson's Croft is clearly marked to the east of Greengate, with buildings fronting its western side. The eastern side of Dawson's Croft, and extending down to the river, remained open and may have been used as a bleaching area or, more likely, horticulture purposes. The precise nature of the depicted buildings cannot be elucidated from the map, although the large size of those within the northern part of the study area, fronting onto the river Irwell, may have been of an industrial nature.
- 3.2.2 Whilst several maps of the area were published during the early 19th century, Bancks' survey, published in 1831, is the first subsequent to that of Green's to provide reasonable detail (Fig 4). The major change within the study area during the early 19th century appears to have been the development of the open land to the east of Dawson's Croft, with the erection of a Unitarian Chapel along the south-eastern edge of the study area. The thoroughfare is now referred to as Dawson Street, perhaps reflecting the factorisation of the bleaching industry. Some of the buildings on this street were used for the brewing and retailing of beer, as evidenced by entries in 19th-century trade directories (Table 1), forming elements of what appears to have been a locally-significant trade; other 19th-century breweries in the area included John Johnson's on Greengate, and James Wilkinson's on Paradise Street (Butterworth 1823, 288-9).

Source	Address	Name	Description
Pigot 1813	Dawson's Croft	Hindley & Johnson	Porter merchants
Pigot 1828-9	Dawson's Croft	John Harman & Co	Ale and porter brewers
Pigot 1828-9	Dawson's Croft	Robert Hindley	Brewer
Pigot 1828-9	Dawson's Croft	Johnathan McCandlish	Ale and porter brewers
Pigot 1841	2 Gorton Street	Robert Martin	Beer retailer

Table 1: Early 19th-century brewers and beer retailers in the study area

- 3.2.3 Bancks' map also shows the buildings fronting Greengate within the study area to have retained the same layout shown on Green's map, and may have been unchanged, although some small areas may have been subjected to in-filling with new buildings. The north-eastern edge of the study area, along the bank of the river Irwell, is clearly shown to have been developed with the erection of new buildings, the sizes of which suggest that they may have had

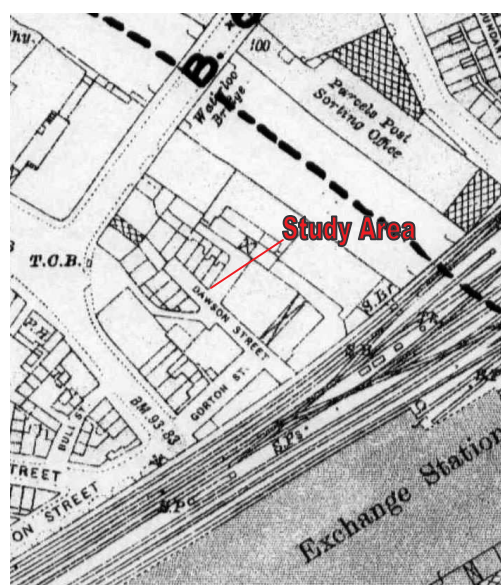
an industrial function. Significantly, Salford was connected with Manchester via a new bridge across the river. This was accessed via a new thoroughfare, appropriately named New Bridge Street, which crosses the northern boundary of the present study area, and necessitated the demolition of some properties on the eastern side of Greengate. This appears to have been coupled with the erection of new buildings along the northern edge of the study area, fronting onto New Bridge Street. The market cross is also absent from Bancks' survey as it was taken down in 1824, implying a change in the status of this part of the town. However, the area evidently retained its market, which is annotated on the Ordnance Survey 60": 1 mile map, published in 1850 (Fig 5), although this was apparently restricted to a small triangular area at the junction of Greengate and New Bridge Street.

- 3.2.4 The Ordnance Survey map of 1850 identifies the function of several of the large buildings along the northern and eastern boundary of the study area. The northern boundary, fronting onto New Bridge Street, was occupied by an iron and brass foundry and a size works, with a large brewery to the rear, and a tannery fronting onto the river Irwell. The buildings shown in the southern corner of the study area are clearly domestic properties, as are those immediately to the north-west, which appear to represent court dwellings. A major development immediately to the south of the study area was the construction of the Manchester and Liverpool section of the North Western Railway line and its associated viaduct. The area between the railway viaduct and the study area, immediately to the south of Gorton Street, is shown to have been redeveloped as an engineering works. This replaced what appears to have been domestic properties fronting onto the west side of Dawson Street.
- 3.2.5 The area occupied by the railway to the south of the study area is shown on the 10": 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1891 to have expanded, to allow for the construction of Exchange Station. The buildings within the study area that fronted onto Greengate appear to have been unchanged relative to the Ordnance Survey map of 1850, and are shown as domestic properties with cellars. Some of these are evidently back-to-back housing, focused on Mallet's Court and Preston's Court. The size works in the northern corner of the site is shown to have been converted to a rubber works, and the tannery and other industrial buildings fronting onto the river Irwell have been subsumed by Dawson's Croft Cotton Mill. The small market area on the corner of New Bridge Street and Greengate is not labelled as such, but is shown as open and undeveloped land. This layout is reproduced on the 25": 1 mile Ordnance Survey map of 1892 (Fig 6).
- 3.2.6 The Ordnance Survey map of 1908 shows some clearance of structures within the study area (Fig 7). In particular, the houses fronting Greengate adjacent to the market area, formerly constituting Mallet's Court and Preston's Court, have been demolished, leaving a large area of open space. The three domestic properties further south, however, remained extant. An additional row of four domestic houses are shown on the eastern side of Dawson Street, occupying part of the site of the former brewery. Significantly, whilst the market place is not annotated, the site remained undeveloped. The railway lines immediately to the south of the study area are also shown to have expanded, encroaching

upon the former engineering works on the south side of Gorton Street, which appears to have closed by this date.

3.2.7 A detailed survey of the study area was undertaken in 1913 by Charles Goad for insurance purposes, and shows some changes to the site. The houses fronting onto Greengate at its junction with Gorton Street are annotated as three-storey properties, although the cellars had seemingly been out of use by this date. The site of the demolished houses to the north is shown to have been re-used as a two-storey garage; this building was noted by Pevsner (1993, 392) to have been ‘*a handsome building of c1900...it has a round corner turret and is of brick with much stone*’. The plot to the rear of the Greengate frontage, on the corner of Gorton Street and Dawson Street, is occupied by a two-storey rag warehouse, seemingly without a basement. Further north, Dawson Street is flanked on both sides by two blocks of four dwellings, mainly of two-storeys, although two are of four-storey. The large building to the south, occupying the site of the former Unitarian Chapel, is annotated as a two-storey starch factory with a basement. Dawson’s Croft Mills, situated on the bank of the river Irwell, is used as a rag warehouse and by a firm of cotton-spinners and doublers. This was evidently a steam-powered mill, with the engine house situated against the north-west corner of the building, with an adjacent 80ft high chimney. The northern corner of the study area is occupied by Weiner’s rubber garment factory, which incorporated a 90ft high chimney in the centre of the building complex. Situated to the west of the rubber factory, and fronting onto New Bridge Street, is a small engineering works, brass foundry, and, in the north-western corner of the study area, a two-storey stereo-typer factory, which incorporated a basement.

3.2.8 The layout of the buildings within the study area shown on Goad’s map is replicated on the Ordnance Survey map of 1933. This map provides little additional detail, but shows that the small market area remained undeveloped. The subsequent edition of Ordnance Survey mapping, published in 1949, shows some of the buildings in the study area to have been cleared. The three domestic properties fronting onto Greengate in the southern corner of the study area are still extant, although those fronting the south side of Dawson Street have been demolished, and the land undeveloped. The four domestic properties fronting the north side of Dawson Street (N^{os} 18-24), however, are still extant. The garage annotated on Goad’s map fronting onto Greengate is marked on the 1949 map as ‘Greengate Rubber Works’, and was probably used as ancillary premises associated with the firm’s manufactory on the opposite side of Greengate and on the western side of Gravel Lane.



Extract from the 1933 Ordnance Survey map

- 3.2.9 The industrial buildings fronting onto the river Irwell, known formerly as Dawson's Croft Mills, also appear to have undergone some alteration. The north-western of the mill buildings, which incorporates a chimney in its western corner, appears to have been abandoned. This is reinforced by the detail on the subsequent edition of Ordnance Survey mapping, published in 1955, which shows the building to have been remodelled slightly, with the apparent removal of the chimney. The most significant difference between the 1949 and 1955 maps, however, is the removal of the three domestic properties fronting onto Greengate within the southern part of the site; that part of the site is shown as open land on the 1955 map.
- 3.2.10 The Ordnance Survey map of 1970 shows a few changes to the site. The domestic properties on the eastern side of Dawson Street (N^{os} 18-24) have been demolished, and replaced by a single large structure, seemingly of an industrial function. The properties fronting onto New Bridge Street all appear to have been amalgamated into a single structure, which is marked as a warehouse. The only surviving building fronting onto Greengate seems to have been relinquished by the Greengate Robber Works, and is marked simply as a depot, whilst the small square building attached to its south-eastern corner has been demolished. The areas of cleared land in the southern part of the study area and on the former market area remain undeveloped. Immediately to the south of the study area, Exchange Station is marked as disused.

4. EVALUATION RESULTS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

- 4.1.1 This section presents the results obtained from the programme of archaeological investigation. The precise location and size of the trenches was determined prior to the on-site works, as specified in the project brief (*Appendix 1*). A phased approach to the programme of evaluation trenching was undertaken, as part of the site remained in use as a car park. Consequently, the site was divided into four areas (Areas A – D). The results obtained from each area, which are summarised below, have provided a clear indication of their archaeological potential. The location of the evaluation trenches is shown in Figure 8, with the excavation Area A shown on Figure 9.
- 4.1.2 Trenches 3-6 (Area A) revealed the survival of significant archaeological deposits. This included a series of buried remains, seemingly representing activity from the 12th or 13th centuries, with later occupation seen from the pottery assemblage in the 17th century, and the main period of activity visible from the 18th century onwards. The large assemblage of post-medieval pottery recovered from the trenches is of significance in its own right. There were numerous remains of walls forming buildings and associated with flagged and brick floors. There was evidence of modifications and alterations to the buildings in terms of form, fabric and function. Around the building perimeters there was clear evidence of surviving soil deposits, that contained excellent sequential pottery and clay tobacco pipe assemblages, which had built up over the 17th to 19th centuries.
- 4.1.3 Along the Greengate edge of the excavated area a small number of features of medieval date were uncovered. These included a linear ditch, aligned at approximate right angles to Greengate and some scattered small possible pits. The ditch was probably the remains of a boundary plot ditch, indicating the land divisions in the area.
- 4.1.4 Trenches 7 and 8 (Area B) demonstrated that buried archaeological remains had been destroyed by the basement of a 19th-century building. This basement, moreover, did not contain any internal features of archaeological interest; this was confirmed by an archaeological watching brief that monitored the removal of demolition rubble from that part of the site. Similarly, the trenches placed across the northern part of the site (Trenches 10, 11, 12 and 14; Area C) revealed that all earlier archaeological remains had been truncated by the construction of late 18th- to 19th-century brick buildings.
- 4.1.5 Trenches 1 and 2 were combined into a single trench, due to logistical considerations. This was situated nearest the site of the medieval market place (Area D) revealed that, although there were several surviving deposits, these were all of later date and of little archaeological interest.

4.2 AREA A (TRENCHES 3-6)

- 4.2.1 Area A incorporated the southern quadrant of the study area, and was investigated initially via four evaluation trenches (Trenches 3 – 6, Fig 8). These revealed a suite of deposits and structural remains of archaeological significance, representing continuity of activity from the medieval period to the 20th century. Following consultation with the Assistant County Archaeologist and the Client, a decision was made to strip the entirety of Area A of modern overburden.
- 4.2.2 The natural geology of the area consisted of red sandstone (**131**) and overlying drift gravels (**130**), which sloped downwards from west to east across Area A, towards the bend in the river Irwell. Thus, a greater depth of soils survived to the east, and surviving deposits of medieval origin were closer to the surface along the western side.
- 4.2.3 The only part of Area A which produced firmly identified medieval features and deposits during the ‘strip and record’ element of the investigation was in a narrow linear area west of the modern wall **127** and east of building **200** along the western edge of the site (Plate 1). The earliest of these features was a shallow ditch (**236/556**) that measured 0.6m wide, and was exposed initially in Trench 3, and was excavated for a distance of 2.5m (Fig 9). It was aligned north-north-west/south-south-east, and may have delineated a property boundary, such as a medieval burgage plot. The ditch contained a homogeneous fill (**555**), which comprised a dark brownish-grey clay-silt.
- 4.2.4 Boundary ditch **236/556** was sealed by a dark blackish-grey layer (**548**) of clay-silt, which was up to 0.12m thick and contained *c*10% charcoal flecking; a palaeo-environmental sample of this layer was taken, and will be studied as part of the assessment process. This layer was overlain stratigraphically by a stony deposit (**547**), which lay close to the western edge of the site, and had overall dimensions of 1.5m by 0.75m. It incorporated *c*45% stones of varying sizes and configurations, and had clearly been deliberately dumped. Layer **547** was in turn sealed by layer **129/272**, which was exposed initially in Trench 3 and resolved subsequently to extend between wall **127** and structure **166**. This layer comprised a mid-brown silty-clay, with 10-15% charcoal flecking, occasional fragments of iron-working debris, and fragments of medieval pottery. It seemed likely that layer **129/272** testified to occupation of the site during the late medieval period/early post-medieval period, and perhaps represented a garden soil mixed with craft-working and domestic detritus. A palaeo-environmental sample of this layer was taken, and will be studied as part of the post-excavation assessment.
- 4.2.5 The medieval stratigraphy was truncated by a significant level of later activity, including walls and drains (Plate 2). It would appear that this area of survival may be the result of the underlying topography, as the geology drops away to the east at this point, coinciding with the location of boundary ditch **236/556**. Layer **129/272**, seemingly representing occupation during the later medieval/early post-medieval period, was cut by a series of discrete features (**518**, **519**, **520**, **541**, **543**, and **549**).

- 4.2.6 Feature **518** measured 0.65m by 0.56m, and survived to a depth of 0.43m. The fill (**440**) comprised a homogeneous brownish-grey clay-silt, which yielded fragments of post-medieval pottery. This feature lay in the position of an orchard, depicted in an historic engraving (3.1.18 above), and the possibility that **518** represented a tree bole should not be discounted. Similarly, features **520**, **541** and **549** were of comparable shape and dimensions, and their fills (**562**, **540** and **563**) yielded few artefacts or organic material indicative of them having been used for the disposal of domestic waste; the rationale for these features remains unclear, although an interpretation of being tree boles is tempting. Circular feature **519** appeared more likely to represent a human intervention. This had a diameter of 0.18m, and a depth of 0.05m, and may have been the remains of a post-hole. Feature **543** may similarly have represented a post-hole. This had a diameter of 0.33m, and survived to a depth of 0.18m.
- 4.2.7 These features were overlain by an homogeneous soil horizon (**158/281/345/440**), which yielded a large and significant assemblage of pottery, dating broadly to the 17th and 18th centuries. The depth of the soil layer and the relatively fine texture indicated that it had accumulated gradually, adding weight to the cartographic and documentary evidence that illustrated the area as comprising essentially open space.
- 4.2.8 The post-medieval soil horizon was cut in the north and eastern parts of Area A by a series of building remains; those along the eastern side fronted on to Gorton Street and to the west of those were three visible rooms, **264-265**, one of which was a later addition. At the rear of these was a north/south-aligned flagged pedestrian lane, **267**, lying east of a wider, sett road surface, **285**, with a distinct camber, which was probably used for goods traffic (Plate 3). Below the eastern structures were several subterranean brick-lined ‘tanks’ which truncated the underlying deposits and natural geology. There was also a set of steps, **337**, in the north-eastern corner of the stripped area that had interestingly been backfilled with hundreds of complete glass bottles of various makes, and from as far away as Belfast and London.
- 4.2.9 Beneath a series of make-up and hardcore layer forming the present car park surface across much of the south part of this area was a layer of concrete, **107** which had been laid in the mid-20th century and effectively sealed the earlier remains on the site (Plate 4). The remains of several structures of a 20th-century date were also exposed, including building **200**, a parallel north/south-aligned wall (**127**), which lay to the east, an east/west-aligned wall (**120**) along the southern limit of the excavated area, and a diesel tank (**190** and **191**), all of which had a significant negative impact upon the earlier remains.
- 4.2.10 Directly beneath the concrete were the remains of numerous brick walls and associated flagstone and brick floors. There were two main phases of walls, comprising later walls, which had a mid-grey ash-rich mortar, and earlier walls with their characteristic buff coloured, lime-rich mortar. The walls all comprised orangey-red bricks, most of which were hand-made, and therefore slightly irregular, and mostly laid in English Garden Wall bond. The earlier walls probably dated from the mid- to late 18th century, although later sub-phases of walling were identified, relating to alterations and additions to the

structures. Many of these subtle changes are not clearly visible on cartographic sources. The excavation revealed the outline of six deep cellars along the southern limit of the site, **246-249**, **254** **557**, all excavated in to the natural geology. Two of the cellars had fireplaces, **461** and **528**, implying that they had been domestic properties. Immediately north of these were four rear garden areas, **250-253**, which were delimited initially by sandstone walls, later surmounted with brick walls, within the confines of which soil deposits accumulated gradually over a period of time. Along the western side of the row of properties was what had been an open access or lane, which at some point was flagged over, **255**. A rear wall, again of sandstone blocks was identified, **479**, forming the northern limit of this defined area.

4.3 AREA B (TRENCHES 7 – 9)

- 4.3.1 Area B was located to the north-east of Area A, and investigated the eastern part of the study area. Three trenches were placed across this area (Trenches 7 – 9; Fig 8), which revealed that all archaeological deposits had been destroyed by 19th-century activity. Moreover, the surviving remains pertaining to the 19th and 20th centuries were of little archaeological interest. The results obtained from the evaluation trenching were confirmed during the course of an archaeological watching brief, which monitored ground-reduction works in this area.
- 4.3.2 **Trench 7:** this trench was aligned approximately north/south, and was targeted to investigate the northern part of the site, shown on the 1850 Ordnance Survey map to have been occupied by a large structure, identified by historical research to have been a print works that was converted subsequently to a textile warehouse. The trench measured 35m by 9m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 3.75m (Plate 5). The large width of the trench was to allow for safe access to the base of the trench, which was approximately 1.9m wide. Essentially Trench 7 uncovered three interior rooms with associated walls and floors, which were cut directly into the surrounding drift and solid geology. These had been demolished, and the resulting rubble used to backfill the basement areas (Plate 6).
- 4.3.3 The earliest features exposed within the trench comprised two walls at the northern end of the trench, **211** and **243**, and one at the southern end, **228**. Wall **211** was orientated east/west, and was exposed for a distance of over 1.5m, although it continued beyond the limits of the trench (Plate 5). This wall comprised mid-orange to red hand-made bricks that had average dimensions of 0.24m x 0.12m x 0.07m. They were laid in an English Garden bond, using a pale grey lime-based mortar, forming a wall 0.35m wide. The upper surviving course of the wall was uncovered at a height of 28.17m aOD.
- 4.3.4 Parallel to wall **211**, but situated 0.4m further south, was wall **243** which appeared to be stratigraphically contemporary with wall **211**. It also comprised mid-orange to red hand-made bricks that had average dimensions of 0.23m x 0.11m x 0.07m. The two walls probably represented a subdivision within the larger building. In-filling the area between the two walls was a rubble fill (**244**), over which lay a short stretch of wall **242** that ran north/south and

overlay both walls **211** and **243**. Wall **242** appeared to be providing a bonding course between the two, but post-dated their initial construction.

- 4.3.5 Structure **228** was encountered at the southern end of Trench 7 (Plate 6). It consisted of an east/west-aligned wall, with a return to the south and an associated length of rendered wall, exposed in the east-facing section of the trench. The walls were constructed of mid-orange to red bricks that were hand-made, built in an English Garden Wall coursing with a mid-buff coloured lime-based mortar. The east-facing section incorporated three recesses, set back 0.26m from the face of the wall, representing cellar light apertures. The bricks at the corners of the recesses had rounded corners and the recesses themselves had later blocking consisting of cinder blocks. The basement was backfilled with a deposit of loose brick rubble (**230**), which also contained inclusions of timber, stone, some concrete and textile waste. This structure probably represented the remains of the 19th-century print works depicted on the 1850 Ordnance Survey map. The exposed elements of the basement did not retain any evidence for internal fixtures or fittings.
- 4.3.6 Abutting structure **228**, immediately to the north was a short stretch of wall (**229**). This wall was aligned east/west, and was again constructed of hand-made bricks. However, these were a darker hue, and were bonded using a mid-grey mortar, typical of the later 19th century, and may have represented the conversion of the building after 1850. This wall, and structure **228**, was sealed beneath a thick deposit of brick rubble, which seemingly represented the demolition of the building and associated levelling of the site during the late 20th century.
- 4.3.7 The walls and demolition rubble **244** were buried beneath layer **245**, which formed a bedding for concrete surface **212**. This extended southwards from wall **243**, whilst a second concrete surface, **210**, extended northwards from wall **211**. Overlying concrete surfaces **210** and **212** was another deposit of brick rubble, **209**, containing inclusions of concrete, iron and tyres, and was approximately 1.4m thick. This was sealed by a layer of dark brownish-grey sandy-clay, **208**, which contained 40% brick rubble and debris, about 1.2m thick. The uppermost deposit comprised a dark grey, firm gritty-sand, **207**, which contained 15% brick fragments and 5% small stones. Deposits **209** and **208** were clearly the result of demolition, and almost certainly derived from the on-site destruction of the upstanding buildings. Deposit **207** was probably derived from the same source, but was a make-up layer rather than pure backfill.
- 4.3.8 **Trench 8:** was aligned approximately east/west, and was positioned in order to investigate the area north of Dawson Street, including a row of mid-19th-century domestic properties. The trench measured 25m by 3m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 4m (Plate 7). The majority of the trench was filled with rubble, and the depth of this unstable material did not permit physical access to the trench itself. The area around the trench was expanded subsequently, resulting in a trench with overall dimensions of 14.5m by 11m, with an excavated depth of approximately 5m (Fig 8).

- 4.3.9 The earliest deposit revealed in Trench 8 was a mid-brown silty-clay material, **574**, with 5% charcoal fleck inclusions, lying immediately above the natural drift geology. This deposit was comparable with the early post-medieval soil horizon (**158/281/345/440**) identified in Area A (Trenches 3-6), south of Dawson Street. However, layer **574** had been severely truncated by three north/south-aligned services, **571**, and by two manhole structures inserted just north and west of Dawson Street. Consequently, layer **574** survived as several small isolated 'islands'.
- 4.3.10 A concrete floor, **569**, was exposed at the eastern end of the trench, at a height of 25.66m aOD, which was approximately 2m lower than the concrete floor **210**, and 2.7m lower than floor **212** (Trench 7). The position of this floor coincided with the location of a textile warehouse on the eastern side of Dawson Street. Below the concrete floor was an impermeable membrane of modern origin that had been laid directly onto the underlying drift geology. The presumably represented the internal remodelling of the building during the second half of the 20th century. The natural geology in this location comprised a pale brownish-yellow silty-clay with visible laminations, which was seen to extend to a depth in excess of 1.5m; no archaeological features were identified cutting into the natural drift geology.
- 4.3.11 Concrete floor **569** respected a north/south-aligned brick wall, which was almost certainly of earlier (probably 19th century) origins. This was constructed of mid-orange to red bricks that were hand-made, built in an English Garden Wall coursing with a mid-buff coloured lime-based mortar, and survived to a height of ten courses (Plate 7). This wall was a continuation of the wall **228** exposed in Trench 7, and probably represented an element of the former print works. Approximately 6.3m further west of the wall was a second brick wall (**572**), which was 0.35m wide, nine courses high and constructed of mid-orange hand-made bricks with a pale grey mortar. It was only seen in the north section of the trench, and did not extend all the way across.
- 4.3.12 Overlying the concrete floor was a series of backfill deposits. The lowest deposit was 1.75m thick, and consisted of a mid-brown loose rubble backfill, containing 85% bricks and items of metal, timber, tyres and textile waste; this deposit was equivalent to **230** in Trench 7. When the area around Trench 8 was expanded several square sandstone blocks were also found within this deposit, none *in situ*. The blocks were 0.76m square and 0.52m thick. They had clear tool marks on all four faces, and had the vestiges of metal plates at the top and bottom. These almost certainly represented the foundation blocks for iron columns, which will have supported the floor in a multi-storey building. The absence of any columns within deposit **230** suggested that the building had been thoroughly dismantled during demolition.
- 4.3.13 Overlying backfill **230** was a 0.5m thick layer of dark grey gravel (**568**) containing blackish clay patches. Above this was a mid-brown sandy layer (**567**), which contained 30% brick inclusions and textile waste, and was 0.55m thick. This was overlain successively by a 0.4m thick layer (**566**) of dark grey to black textile waste with 10% brick inclusions, and a 0.25m thick mid-

greyish-brown silty-clay, **565**. The uppermost deposit comprised a mid-yellowish-brown sand (**564**), which was 25m thick.

- 4.3.14 Along the south section of Trench 8 near Dawson Street the sett surface was more distinct and consisted of regular mid-yellowish grey sandstone setts, **573**, each measuring approximately 0.16m x 0.10m x 0.09m (Plate 8). The surface was revealed at a height of 28.69m aOD. Below the surface was a 0.4m thick make-up and levelling deposit of dark grey gritty-sand with clinker inclusions, equivalent to **565**.

4.4 AREA C (TRENCHES 10, 11, 12 AND 14)

- 4.4.1 Area C was located within the northern quadrant of the study area, and was investigated via four trenches (Trenches 10, 11, 12 and 14). These were targeted across structures shown on historic mapping, and also in areas that had seemingly avoided development. Trench 13 was not excavated since Trench 14 effectively examined the same area and potential structures.

- 4.4.2 **Trench 10:** the trench was excavated along the north-western edge of the site, bordering the perimeter of the site (Plate 9). Its location close to the junction of Greengate and New Bridge Street suggested the possibility of undisturbed archaeological remains pertaining to medieval and post-medieval Salford, although a large part of the trench was dominated by sub-surface structures such as a basement and a cellar, whose construction were broadly dated between the 18th and 20th centuries. The trench was excavated in 4m-long sections due to restricted space for the spoil, although the total area excavated equated to 15.5m by 5m. The trench was excavated by machine to a maximum depth of 2m.

- 4.4.3 The southern part of the trench was dominated by a 4m² concrete-floored basement/cellar, which had been cut into the solid geology. The floor of the basement was exposed at 2m below the modern ground surface, and abutted a 0.35m wide east/west-aligned brick wall, representing the north wall of the demolished building. The position of the wall corresponded with an iron foundry shown on historical mapping, whilst the use of frogged bricks set in an ash-rich mortar indicated a late 19th- or 20th-century date for construction. The basement was backfilled with large amounts of 20th- and 21st-century material, demonstrating the room was used until relatively recently.

- 4.4.4 The northern face of the basement wall was butted by a 7m wide cobble surface, representing an alley extending east from New Bridge Street. The cobbles were exposed directly below the modern concrete ground surface, and comprised rectangular cut granite setts, measuring between 0.30m by 0.14m, 0.20m by 0.15m, and 0.49m by 0.15m. The setts were laid above thin bedding layers of powdered shingle and pale brown/orange sand, which in turn sealed compacted mixed clay and sand containing flat and rounded stones, representing redeposited natural measuring up to 0.6m in thickness. A single sherd of 20th-century pottery, a doorbell, and a fragment of window glass was recovered from this deposit. The deposit sealed a north/south-aligned ceramic sewer pipe, which doglegged to the east beneath the cobbles, and truncated the natural deposits below.

- 4.4.5 The northern edge of the surface was bordered by another east/west-aligned wall, which was seemingly of a contemporary build to the basement wall; 12 thin brick courses of the same wall were observed in section along the eastern edge of the trench. It is possible the wall was latterly used as an internal partition within the foundry.
- 4.4.6 The eastern and southern wall of a small brick floor-lined cellar was observed along the western edge of the trench (Plate 11). The lengths of the cellar walls were exposed for 2.85m along the east line, and 1.30m along the southern border. The floor was encountered at a depth of 1.65m below the upper surviving course of the cellar walls, and comprised half-edge laid thin orange bricks sealing compacted natural sandy gravel. The cellar was filled subsequently with demolition debris, comprising roofing slate and window glass, along with large amounts of domestic early 19th-century pottery, which suggested the cellar related to a property prior to the construction of the foundry of 1850. The upper courses of both walls were of poor quality degraded brick, several showing wear from water intrusion, demonstrating localised damp conditions. Most of the bricks were re-pointed with black mortar, although traces of a lime mortar was retained along the bottom two courses of the southern wall. Interestingly the bottom two courses (0.60m long by 0.20m deep) of the eastern cellar wall sealing the floor were constructed from large stone blocks, that may have been re-used from earlier buildings on the site.
- 4.4.7 A stone flagged floor was exposed over a distance of 4m across the northern edge of the trench. The upper surface was sealed by 0.50m thick mixed brick and sand layer below the concrete. They comprised 0.70m x 0.39m by 0.05m rectangular, thin yellow stones, laid in an irregular pattern and bedded with dark brown ash and sand layers. It was thought that the flags were laid sometime during the later 19th century. This was demonstrated by the presence of pottery dating earlier than the mid-19th century recovered from the bedding layers.
- 4.4.8 A sondage measuring 3m x 2m was excavated beneath the floor to investigate the underlying deposits, and to ascertain the depth of the natural geology. Bedrock was encountered at a depth of 1.6m below the floor, and was sealed by a 1.20m thick deposit of fuel waste material derived from the foundry, (Plate 10). This was compounded by the range of pottery recovered from the deposit ranging from mid- to late 19th century.
- 4.4.9 The waste sealed a north/south-aligned sewer pipe along the western edge of the trench that was possibly contemporary with the early 19th-century pipe exposed at the southern end of the trench. The pipe cut through a dark brown silt layer, possibly representing a buried soil horizon. The layer was exposed throughout the base of the sondage and measured 0.10m in thickness above natural sandy gravel. Upon investigation the deposit contained wire, lead and lead-glazed pottery of possible early 18th-century date.
- 4.4.10 No remains pertaining to the medieval period were encountered within Trench 10 during the evaluation, although the pottery suggests activity along the street frontage from at least the early 18th century. It would appear that the

construction of the foundry and the cellars had destroyed any evidence of earlier activity

- 4.4.11 **Trench 11:** the trench was aligned approximately north/south across the site of a brewery shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1850 (Fig 8). The excavated trench measured 12m x 2.1m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 0.75m. The majority of the trench was filled with rubble, which directly overlay the natural red sandstone geology. No archaeological features or deposits were present within the entire length of the excavated trench.
- 4.4.12 **Trench 12:** this trench was aligned approximately south-east/north-west, and was targeted on the site of a 19th-century size works, shown on the 1850 Ordnance Survey map (Fig 8). The trench was excavated for a distance of 18.30m, and to a depth of 1.5m.
- 4.4.13 The solid geology comprised red sandstone, **610**, which was exposed at the western end of the trench, at a height of 28.59m aOD. Overlying the bedrock was a short alignment of bricks (**621**) orientated east/west, laid as a single line of stretchers and bonded with a mid-yellowish-brown mortar with white flecking.
- 4.4.14 Two walls were also cut into the bedrock, one (**604**) at the western end of the trench, and one located approximately 4m to the east (**609**) (Plate 12). Both were aligned north/south, and were of similar construction. They comprised mid-orange to red hand-made bricks, laid in an English Garden Wall bond using a mid-cream lime-based mortar. The walls were both 0.23m wide, exposed at a height of 30.07m aOD, and survived at least nine courses in height. The position of these walls corresponded with the size works shown on historic mapping, although no internal features, including floors, survived *in situ*.
- 4.4.15 Backfilling the area between walls **604** and **609** was a mid-brownish-grey silty-sand, **608**, which had 50% inclusions of bricks and brick fragments. Stratigraphically above **608** was structure **605**, which was at the western end of a brick-lined, sandstone-capped drain (**620**). Structure **605** was visible as two sides of built of yellow bricks, which was probably the 'downpipe' for the drain, and a later modification. Drain **620** was orientated north-east/south-west and was bonded with a dark grey ashy mortar, indicative of late 19th-century construction. It cut bricks **621** and bedrock **610**. Post-dating structure **605** was a loose mid-grey rubble layer, **607**, 1.2m thick, containing 80% bricks and 5% textile debris. This deposit was essentially rubble backfill, which probably derived from the demolition of the previous standing structure on site.
- 4.4.16 Overlying layer **607** was a small wall (**606**), only visible in the northern section of the trench, which did not extend across the width of the trench. It was 0.25m wide and three courses high, and appeared to be made of wire-cut bricks. The wall was much less substantial than either **604** or **609**, and was probably a small boundary-type wall. Respecting wall **606**, and therefore post-dating it, was deposit **603**, which was composed of loose black gravelly-sand with 90% clinker inclusions. Overlying this was a layer of pinkish-red sand, **602**, 0.12m thick and acting as a bedding layer for surface **601**. This surface

comprised deliberately-laid regular mid-grey setts, which again, respected wall **606**, forming the eastern extent of the surface.

- 4.4.17 To the east of wall **609** were three sides of a structure (**617**), built of mid-pinkish-red hand-made bricks, built in English Garden Wall coursing with a pale grey mortar containing lime and charcoal inclusions. The structure continued beyond the limits of the trench, but was visible within the trench as an east/west wall with two walls returning southwards from either end. The walls were 0.36m wide, and over 15 courses high, and the east and west walls were set 2.44m apart. Abutting the western wall was a short section of bonded brickwork, **616**, which was positioned immediately east of the wall, but was only six courses high and 0.45m wide. Also later than the construction of **617** were two surfaces **612** and **618** (Plate 13), uncovered at a height of 28.95m aOD, at the base of **617**. Surface **612** lay immediately west of **617**, and was composed of regularly-laid mid-greyish-yellow sandstone setts, with their long axis orientated east/west. To the immediate north of surface **612** was surface **618**, which consisted of whole bricks with their long axis orientated north/south.
- 4.4.18 Structure **617** was backfilled with a loose rubble material **622**, probably demolition debris. Outside structure **617**, and overlying the two surfaces, were deposits **611** and **623**. Deposit **611** was a pale grey sandy deposit containing 85% bricks. Deposit **623** was a darker rubble deposit containing brick inclusions that was overlain by **624**, a mid-grey sandy deposit, containing 85% bricks. There was an almost vertical boundary between **611** and **623** / **624**, suggesting that there may have been some disturbance resulting in the differences.
- 4.4.19 Deposits **611** and **623** both post-dated another wall, **613**, which lay parallel to walls **604** and **609** but was located further east. The wall was constructed of hand-made bricks, built in an English Garden Wall bond with a pale cream lime-rich mortar. Wall **613** was orientated north/south, and ran the width of the trench. It was 0.25m wide and over 2m high, surviving from a height of 30.35m aOD. Immediately to the east was a second wall (**614**), abutting it and apparently later. Wall **614** was 0.35m wide and of a similar depth, and comprised hand-made bricks, again laid in an English Garden Wall bond with a mid-grey mortar. Post-dating this wall, was rubble backfill **615**, which was a mid-grey sandy deposit, containing 90% brick inclusions that had probably resulted from on-site demolition of a previously standing structure.
- 4.4.20 **Trench 14:** this trench was excavated under watching brief circumstances in Area C in order to proof dig a section of ground prior to the installation of security fencing. The trench was orientated approximately north/south along the northern boundary of the study area. It measured 8.5m by 1.8m, and was excavated to a maximum depth of 2m below the present ground surface. Since the trench was excavated under watching brief conditions, access to it was not possible due to health and safety constraints.
- 4.4.21 The earliest visible deposit was a 0.6m thick layer of mid-greyish-brown gritty sand. Above this was a series of thinner layers, including a 0.2m thick red sand layer (equivalent to **602** in Trench 12), a 0.3m thick mid-brown silty-sand

layer, and a 0.2m thick mid-yellow sand layer (Plate 14). These were all essentially make-up deposits, and appeared to correspond to those exposed in Trench 12. The three make-up layers had been disturbed by several modern services trenches, which had cut through the deposits along the southern part of the trench. Overlying the services and the make-up layers was a layer of black clinker, and a continuation of the sett surface identified in Trench 12 as **601**, below the car park level.

4.5 AREA D (TRENCHES 1 AND 2)

- 4.5.1 Area D was located in the western part of the study area, occupying land immediately to the south of the historic market place. Map regression analysis (*Section 1.3* above) has indicated this area to have considerable archaeological potential, as it has not seemingly been subjected to any major development since it was abandoned as a market place. The area was occupied by a series of portacabins associated with the present development, and was finally made available for archaeological evaluation in January 2007. It was intended to be examined via two trenches, although logistical considerations resulted in a single trench being excavated, although this covered the same volume of area as the two proposed trenches.
- 4.5.2 **Trench 1:** given the constraints of the area within which to work a single trench was excavated (Fig 8). The trench was constrained on the northern side by the sheer drop of a large extraction hole and on the south by a still extant electric service. Trench 1 was approximately 22m in length, 1.6m wide and dug to a maximum depth of 1.1m. The trench was curved in plan due to the site constraints and attempted to evaluate the area as originally proposed for Trenches 1 and 2.
- 4.5.3 The remains of a mid-20th-century brick wall, **631**, was exposed at the eastern end of the trench. This wall was probably a continuation of one of the large structures excavated within Area A, (**128**, **127** or **200**). The wall truncated several horizontal deposits of make-up material, **636** and **637**, of which **637**, contained numerous sherds of 19th-century ceramics and clay pipes (Plate 15). These deposits overlay a gravel layer, **638**, which formed an interface between the make-up layers and the sterile natural gravel, **634**.
- 4.5.4 Numerous service trenches truncated the deposits and were later than a sett surface, **651**, visible along the southern side of the trench. Beneath the sett surfaces were additional makeup layers, **652-656**.
- 4.5.5 At the western end of the trench there was evidence of a narrow, deep discrete cut feature of unknown purpose, **640**. It contained highly disturbed material, **641**, derived from the sediments through which it had been dug, including the red sandstone bedrock, **635**. This feature truncated several layers of finely textured but mixed mid-brownish-grey to greyish-brown clayey-silt layers, **642-650**. Each layer was approximately 0.25m thick and the boundaries between each deposit were somewhat diffuse (Plate 16). These layers were clearly not characteristic of occupation surfaces or gradual build up through use, and are most likely to have been formed by large-scale redeposition of material. At least one layer at the base contained brick fragments.

- 4.5.6 At the base of the trench was a single 0.08m thick horizontal layer of dark silt, **639**, but it was somewhat brittle and not consistent with previously identified medieval horizons seen within the excavated area in 2005-6. This layer directly overlay the natural bedrock, **635**, at a depth of 1.1m.

4.6 OVERVIEW OF THE FINDS

- 4.6.1 **Introduction:** the overall finds assemblage from Greengate Towers was surprising in both terms of quantity and quality of the material. The main classes of material were all present, including pottery, clay tobacco pipes, glass, ceramic building material, metalwork and bone. The material is outlined below:

Item	Date / Description	Totals
Ceramic	Roman	1
	Medieval pottery up to 1540	16
	Post-medieval	8260
Clay tobacco pipe		268
CBM		20
Glass		605
Metalwork	Iron	40
	Cu Alloy	11
	Coins / tokens	4
	Lead	2
	Other	17
	<i>Total</i>	<i>74</i>
Misc.	Mixed materials	18
Organics	Shell	23
	Animal bone	225
	Leather	2
	Wood	1
	Environmental samples *	5
	Soil Monoliths	5

Table 1: Summary of the finds assemblage

- 4.6.2 **Roman pottery:** a single fragment of Nene Valley colour coated or Nene Valley type colour coated ware was found in the context of a pit fill (**493**) was recovered from the evaluation. This is likely to have been residual, reflecting Roman activity in the wider area, rather than within the study area.
- 4.6.3 **Medieval pottery:** in total, 16 sherds of pottery were identified as being of certain medieval date. These derived mostly from the south-western part of Area A. The small assemblage included two sherds of Northern Gritty ware from deposit **403**, which can be dated to the 12th or early 13th century. Another Sherds of a similar fabric and date were recovered from deposits **129** and **345**, although the largest group of Gritty wares (nine sherds, possibly derived from a single vessel) was recovered from deposit **272**. Later medieval activity was possibly represented by a single sherd of a grey, gritty and quartz-tempered fabric, although this fragment could not be dated with precision.
- 4.6.4 **Post-medieval pottery:** in total, 8260 sherds of post-medieval pottery were recovered from the site, many forming near-complete vessels. The pottery assemblage has a date range spanning the post-medieval period. Some of the pottery is probably of local origin, and a piece of kiln furniture from deposit

292 suggests that a kiln may have been nearby. Almost all of the material was in good condition with little sign of abrasion. This suggests that, for the most part, the sherds derive from occupation close to the deposits and fills in which they were recovered. Most of the vessels represented are jugs and other table-wares suggesting a fairly high status in terms of occupation or traders of quality goods.

- 4.6.5 The earlier post-medieval period of the site is perhaps one of the most intriguing, despite there being a relatively lesser amount of pottery. Of the transitional pieces, perhaps one of the most startling is a near complete two-handled mug of London or London-type, recovered from deposit **440**. Within the same context is a probable late Cistercian ware mug base, probably dating to the 16th century. There are also several sherds of Midlands yellow-ware, probably also of local origin and dating from the latter quarter of the 16th century into the 17th century and perhaps beyond. Good examples are provided by the 16 sherds recovered from deposit **413**. Also present are several sherds of Midlands or Midlands-type purple ware, all of them dating from the 15th to 17th centuries. The Midlands purple ware recovered from deposit **429** is partially-reduced, and probably dates to the 15th century.
- 4.6.6 In addition, an enigmatic handle (**334/1082**) of a pinkish buff fabric with a brownish green glaze, is possibly Tudor green glazed pottery, and may date from the 15th or 16th century.
- 4.6.7 The 17th and 18th centuries are best represented by the slipware collection, the majority of it being of the metropolitan-type, with some exceptional examples. Four sherds of metropolitan slipware from deposit **455** are especially fine examples, decorated with swirls, triangles and circles and slip trail. A fragment shown with part of date -‘**19 or 79**’ from deposit **250** is similarly a good example. Other examples include unstratified plate fragments with a honey glaze and dots trailed in yellow slip.
- 4.6.8 The 17th-century Staffordshire pottery is also of good quality. Five fragments of a slip-trailed and press-moulded plate are exemplary within this period, as is a fragment of press-moulded and applied slipware with the letter ‘**T**’. Fragments of a picture plate from deposit **339** with applied and slip-trailed area again of Staffordshire origin and could possibly be attributed to Thomas Toft. Also from Staffordshire and of this period are the mottled wares, manganese mottled wares and vessels with a brown streaky glaze. Of excellent quality is a press-moulded plate with a manganese mottled or brown streaky glaze. There are also one fine sherd of manganese mottled ware, probably from a mug, and five very fine sherds of mottled ware, which may have derived from a cup or porringer.
- 4.6.9 A fragment of Bellarmine stoneware with rouletting and a press moulded *fleur de lys* design, recovered from deposit **275**, is of a 17th-century date and represented a significant find, reinforcing the idea of trade links in this period. Another sherd of stoneware with a yellowish green glaze from deposit **456** is probably of a 17th-to 18th-century date, and similarly of German origin.
- 4.6.10 The 18th- and 19th-century transitional period has the largest quantity of the pottery in the assemblage, and includes of the finest types of the period. This assemblage also contained large quantities of coarsewares, mainly of the

blackware types, but also mottled wares and various glazed and unglazed red earthen wares.

- 4.6.11 Of the coarsewares, many are pancheon fragments or large storage and cooking vessels; for example four mottled ware sherds with a coarse/gritty fabric recovered from deposit **334**, show signs of burning, and are most likely part of a cooking pot dating largely to the 18th century. Also included amongst the many coarsewares, are 21 sherds of a Blackware pancheon. Of the other coarse and gritty types, there are some sherds of orange glazed red earthenware, and some press moulded examples.
- 4.6.12 The stoneware within the assemblage is varied, with a significant element imported from various areas. One fragment of black basalt or black basalt type (**347/1089**) dates to 1750-1810, and is likely to be a Staffordshire export. There is what appears to be a teapot lid of refined red stoneware (**439/1333**), possibly from Devon. There are plenty English white or cream salt-glazed stoneware of the fine tableware types including; a press moulded jar (**360/1166**), a cream glazed press moulded stoneware handle, part of a white salt-glazed press moulded slipware plate (**439/1333**), and another cream glazed from the same context. Much of this finer tableware is likely to be from Staffordshire. The 'scratch blue' stoneware (c1774-1775), is another of the fine tableware types and similar to the fine stoneware types, but with *sgraffito* type incising and filled with cobalt blue pigment. Eleven fragments from deposit **345** are a good sample of this type. Another source for a large proportion of the pottery is Nottingham Stoneware, much of it with stamped or press moulded decoration, is a good example with stamped, rouletted and moulded decoration. Notable, within the assemblage, is a possible Westerwald white salt-glazed stoneware jar or pot base of German origin, of a date range of 1650-1800.
- 4.6.13 Of the more unusual types, there is a large sherd of tortoiseshell or tortoiseshell type with a pinkish red fabric dating to the 18th century. A very attractive agate ware cup base (**475/1556**) in brown and cream colours is an obviously fine Staffordshire import. Also interesting is the 18th- to 19th-century marbled ware of which (**273/1065**) is a fine example. There is a large percentage of the Jackfield or Jackfield-type wares originating around Staffordshire, although probably much of it in this case is probably of local origin. A type of Blackware, of a much finer kind, the Jackfield ware is present in many of the excavated deposits, including **250** and **342**.
- 4.6.14 Sherds of an early transfer-printed plate detailing Oriental scenes may be imported Chinese pottery and date to the latter half of the 18th century. A fine fragment of porcelain with a Chinese or Japanese figure in cobalt is seemingly transfer printed and hand painted, and probably again an 18th- to early 19th-century import.
- 4.6.15 The tin-glazed and delft wares discovered during the excavation are notable. A total of 25 sherds of a complete and very fine delft ware teapot were recovered from deposit **535**, hand painted in a leaf design.
- 4.6.16 The slipware assemblage recovered from the site is undoubtedly some of the most spectacular pottery in the collection with a date range spanning over three hundred to four hundred years. An unusual fragment within the 18th-century slipware assemblage is a *sgraffito* partial body and base sherd (**367/1256**),

showing a what may be floral or leafy decoration, probably dating from the 18th to 19th century. Another, perhaps more exciting, example of *sgraffito* is from deposit **366/1327**, which constitutes a sherd which may be handle with yellow and green slips and black/brown *sgraffito* writing with the letters ‘**U L**’ inscribed. A fragment of a feather trailed and slip trailed plate of Staffordshire origin (**373/1191**) is particularly interesting, as are three sherds of feather trailed slipware plate with a press moulded edge (**342/1083**).

- 4.6.17 A large fragment of marbled slipware with a press moulded edge (**289/1084**), again is probably is of Staffordshire origin, although similar examples are found in Buckley, North Wales. An intriguing piece of Staffordshire slipware could be marbled and combed, or inlaid.
- 4.6.18 The 19th-century is well represented within the assemblage. Much of the pottery may be attributed to a particular factory, and in some circumstances can be dated with a given period. An example of this are the three body/base fragments of a pearl glazed ironstone china (**338/1076**), which state on the base ‘*IRONSTONE CHINA, POWELL & BISHOP, MONI SOIT MAL Y PENSE*’. The Hanley factory; which traded only two years, before changing the name again to Powell Bishop and Stonier, dates the pottery 1876-8. Another fine example is two sherds of a pearlware jar (**338/1076**) stating ‘*H.W. & Co. Paris*’ on the base, which gives a date of 1872-9. Another fragment of transfer-printed pearlware may possibly the design ‘Asiatic pheasants’ (**353/1086**) that dates to the latter half of the 19th century. Three very large sherds of a very fine transfer-printed pearlware vase which is near complete, detailing Chinese houses and trees may be imported or could be either ‘Chinese bird catchers’ or ‘Chinese temple’, which would date it to the first half of the 19th century. A pearlware plate fragment with the letters ‘*L, M, N*’ is rather charming, and probably an early christening plate and probably a late Victorian to Edwardian Spode example.
- 4.6.19 There are several sponged or spatter ware fragments dating from the early to mid-19th century, including some from deposits **261**. Other finewares of this period, from within the assemblage include creamwares; for example a fragment of brown striped creamware and six fragments of a creamware bowl or dish (**161/1003**), a creamware vessel rim (**352/1910**), probably a chamber pot, and interestingly two fragments of mocha ware (**161/1003**). Of the 19th-to 20th-century white types there are several fragments of Cornishware (**338/1076** for example), and also a willow pattern fragment of a 20th-century date (**253/1002**).
- 4.6.20 The 19th-century assemblage is also well represented by the percentage of stoneware of this period. One example of a local stoneware is doubtless (**256/1077**), which contains four fragments of a jar or bottle with writing remains of ‘*WINE AND SPIRITS, MANCHESTER*’. A similar example is a nineteenth century brown glazed stoneware bottle stamped, ‘*TOWNSENDS SUPERIOR GINGER BEER. SALFORD, 1874*’. A white salt-glazed stoneware storage jar (**607/1622**), and three fragments of Nottingham stoneware (**338/1076**) are also of a 19th-century date.
- 4.6.21 From Buckley, there is a significant portion of a 19th-century pancheon (**484/1567**) with a bright yellow inner glaze. Also present is a sizeable amount of 19th-century slipwares, particularly Yorkshire or Yorkshire type slipwares,

characterised by a brown glazed earthenware with a yellow/white slip; for example (**488/1619**) which details a trailed slip.

- 4.6.22 It is interesting to reflect that the pottery of 19th century, in contrast with that of the 18th and earlier centuries, is far less fine and perhaps reflects the fall of Salford and the rise of Manchester in this period. However, and perhaps more significantly, a very large proportion of the pottery is made outside the area, reflecting the trade links with Salford. Much of the imported pottery is from the Staffordshire area and therefore varies in date from the 19th to the 17th centuries; other manufacturing areas appear to be from Yorkshire, Liverpool, Essex, Westerwald and conceivably Derbyshire, China and Holland.
- 4.6.23 **Clay tobacco pipes:** the excavations produced a total of 268 fragments of clay tobacco pipe from the main areas of excavation and evaluation. Almost all of these pieces were recovered from stratified archaeological deposits and the fragments range in date from early 17th century to the early 20th century, thus covering almost the entire range of pipe use in Salford. There are a significant number of early to mid-17th-century bowls with rouletted rims. In general the smaller the bowl the earlier the production date. There are numerous decorated bowls, mostly of later dates in the 19th century but there are also stamped pedestal feet both on the base and the sides, for example **345/1157**, **480/1489**, **535/1483** and **433/1340**.
- 4.6.24 **Iron objects:** in total, 40 iron objects were recovered from the archaeological investigation: 11 copper alloy objects, four copper alloy coins/ tokens, two lead objects and 17 other miscellaneous or mixed metal objects including one silver. The bulk of the iron or ferrous objects were either structural objects, including nails, or tools and household objects.
- 4.6.25 There were a few coins recovered from the excavations, which included a 1912 George V penny; a possible 1806 George III penny from context 253; as well as two copper alloy discs which require further cleaning before identification can be made. There were also two copper alloy buttons one each from 344 and 356. As well as the coins and buttons there were other copper alloy objects such as a small pin, from **401** and a possible nail or tack from **342**, amongst others.

5. DISCUSSION

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The archaeological investigation of the site on Greengate, Salford, has been completed, and the entire proposed development area has been effectively sterilised of archaeological deposits. These were of variable quality across the site, which was divided into four areas for the purposes of archaeological investigation; the programme of evaluation trenching demonstrated that the principal area of archaeological interest lay between Dawson's Croft and Greengate (Area A), and that all other parts of the site had been heavily disturbed by development in the 19th and 20th centuries.

5.2 AREA A

- 5.2.1 Area A was investigated initially via four trenches, which exposed archaeological remains of high local or regional significance. This led to a programme of further works, which comprised a 'strip and record' exercise, followed by full excavation of all surviving archaeological stratigraphy. The results obtained from this work are undoubtedly of archaeological importance, and merit a programme of detailed analysis leading to final publication. In particular, the assemblage of post-medieval pottery recovered from the site forms what is probably the largest such collection of ceramics ever recovered from an urban context in Manchester and Salford, and is clearly of regional significance.
- 5.2.2 The archaeological works have investigated or removed all of the archaeological deposits within Area A, effectively sterilising this part of the study area of archaeological remains. It is not therefore envisaged that any further archaeological work will be required in this part if the study area in advance of development.
- 5.2.3 The archaeological investigation identified a series of phases of activity, which may be summarised:
- *Phase 0* consists of two main elements; the layers of drift deposits such as the gravel and the colluvium and secondly, below those was the solid geology that consisted of the pinkish red sandstone. This phase accounts for only a few contexts, approximately eight in total.
 - *Phase 1* relates to indications of Roman activity. A single sherd of mid-2nd-century pottery was recovered from a fill of a pit, which maybe residual but does attest to Roman activity in the wider area.
 - *Phase 2* represents any activity that could clearly be identified as medieval in date. The features which could be confidently placed in this phase include the boundary ditch **556**, pit **541**, posthole **543** and deposits **129** and **272**.

- *Phase 3* consists of the early post-medieval period between 1540 and 1700, and is likely to comprise the soils in open areas. These were known from cartographic sources to still be open at about 1760, and the excavated soil deposits probably accumulating during this period.
- *Phase 4* represents the post-medieval period from 1700 to 1837, and would appear to be when most of the brick structures were constructed. This would include replacing any buildings built along Greengate itself, which had already been established as a medieval street front, although the areas behind remained open. The area along what is now New Bridge Street seems to be one of the areas where construction during this phase took place, although confirmed remains were scarce. The origin of the structures immediately at the rear of the street front buildings would also be assigned to this phase. In particular, this would include the garden walls seen, such as **157**, **262** and **462**, and ancillary structures.
- *Phase 5* relates to Victorian activity between 1837 and 1901 and incorporates the demonstrable changes in properties and function between 1850 and 1892. This phase includes many of the alterations to structural elements of the cellars in the northern part of the site. These changes include the subsuming of the tannery and the size works by the rubber works and the enlargement of Dawson's Croft Mills. There are also the contexts relating to the installation of public and private services, in the form of water pipes and brick culverts for both water and sewage, which are scattered across the site.
- *Phase 6* consists of all modern activity since 1901. This group incorporates a multitude of recent services inserted into the ground throughout the area and foundations of modern structures evident by the different brick productions and bonding materials. The main elements of this phase include the large brick structure **200** and the walls **127** and **128**, as well as the large diesel tank and surrounding brick structure **190 / 191**.

5.3 AREA B

- 5.3.1 Area B was investigated initially via three trenches, which demonstrated the area to have little, or no, archaeological potential. This was confirmed during the course of an archaeological watching brief, which closely monitored the removal of demolition rubble from across the area.
- 5.3.2 It is not envisaged that any further archaeological work will be required within this part of the study area.

5.4 AREA C

- 5.4.1 Area C was been via four trenches, which similarly demonstrated that much of the area is devoid of *in situ* archaeological deposits.
- 5.4.2 It is not envisaged that any further archaeological work will be required within this part of the study area.

5.5 AREA D

- 5.5.1 Area D, adjacent to the historic market place on Greengate, was the final element of the study area to be investigated archaeologically. Documentary research indicated a high potential for significant archaeological remains to survive *in situ* within this part of the site. although evaluation has demonstrated that any surviving deposits in this area have been completely destroyed.
- 5.5.2 It is not envisaged that any further archaeological work will be required within this part of the study area.

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APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION AT GREENGATE TOWERS DEVELOPMENT SITE, SALFORDBackground

This proposal site has considerable archaeological interest. It lies within the medieval core of Salford which was granted Borough status through a Charter in 1230 AD, with the town being granted a right to hold a weekly market by Henry III two years earlier. Remarkably, the rectangular shaped medieval market place still survives in the modern street pattern where Gravel Lane meets Greengate. Once this thriving market area contained a court house, cross, stocks and conduit (or pump). The Court House was the administrative centre of medieval Salford Hundred as well as the Borough. The 6ft to 1 inch Ordnance Survey map of 1848 shows the site of the Court House and Market Cross, with a Fruit and Vegetable Market in the eastern corner of the market rectangle, on land which now forms part of the development site but which is owned by Salford City Council.

The first half of the 19th century saw a remarkable transformation of the area, and the Ordnance Survey 6ft to 1 mile map of 1848 shows dense concentrations of worker's housing, including many terraces of back-to-back dwellings, chapels, public houses, and a variety of industrial works. The proposal area, bounded by New Bridge, the old Market Place and the river, demonstrates the domestic scale and diverse nature of industry here, with a size works, foundry, brewery, tannery and print works. It is possible that some of these industries such as the tannery may have medieval antecedents. Exchange Station, which opened in 1884, occupied a substantial part of the medieval heart of Salford, and its associated railway viaducts sliced through the historic core of the town. The 20th century saw the closure of the railway station, industrial decline and slum clearance. This decay resulted in an area dominated by car parks and dereliction.

Beneath the car park surface, probably at very shallow depths, there will be significant archaeological deposits relating to over 800 years of occupation at this site. As an initial stage, the archaeological potential of the area needs to be defined by an evaluation through targeted trial trenching, which is likely to lead to more extensive and detailed archaeological excavation of significant remains that will be destroyed by development. Following excavation there will need to be post-excavation report writing, finds analysis and conservation, the deposition of an ordered site archive with Salford Museum, and an appropriate level of publication.

All buildings have been cleared from the site in recent years, although their lay-out is shown on the attached trench location plan. Today the site is a car park. Map Archaeology have produced a desk based assessment and this is included for information. However, more detailed historical analysis needs to be undertaken alongside the evaluation to inform the results of trial trenching and the next stage of archaeological mitigation. It is proposed to create deep basements across the development site, with the possible exception of the western corner of the site which was formerly part of the medieval market place.

Brief for Archaeological Works

1) **Methodology:** Thirteen trenches 1.6m wide will be excavated by machine using a toothless ditching bucket, followed by hand cleaning and recording. The trench locations are shown on the accompanying plan. In all there will be 355 metres length of trenching, with a further 20 metres to be used at the discretion of the site supervisor to maximise archaeological information. The trench locations are designed to examine former industrial buildings, the medieval street frontage, road and yards, and other buildings that do not appear to have cellars (based on the OS 6ft to 1 mile map of 1848).

2) During the course of the evaluation, or leading up to it, further historical analysis will be undertaken to supplement the desk based assessment, up to a maximum of 5 days. This will include large scale, scaled-up historic mapping (key maps only), historic research of readily available documentation in

Salford Local Studies Library and Manchester Central Reference Library, historic photographs of buildings within the area, and analysis of the history and archaeology of the medieval borough and market place (consulting the GMAU and SMR archive).

3) A programme of post excavation will be undertaken in accordance with IFA standards, including assessment of finds and palaeo-environmental sampling (as appropriate).

4) A report on the evaluation and historical analysis will be produced which will include the following:

- a non-technical summary
- the site's historical and archaeological background, illustrated by scaled up historical mapping and old photographs as appropriate
- an outline of the methodology of the evaluation
- summary of results, to include: the location, extent, nature and date of any archaeological features or deposits (to include reduced plans, sections and photographs where appropriate)
- assessment of the finds with dating evidence
- an assessment of the significance of the remains and finds
- a plan showing areas of archaeological sensitivity as defined by the evaluation.

5) A site archive will be completed in accordance with the specifications given in MAP 2, Appendix 3. Arrangements should be made for depositing the archive with an appropriate museum, which meets the MGC criteria for the storage of archaeological archive. A copy of the list of archive items should be sent to GMAU.

6) A summary of the excavation results will be published in the CBA North West magazine and relevant period journals. It should be noted that if the results are significant then a more detailed publication article will be required.

Other Considerations

Arrangements will be made by the contractor for the archaeological curator (GMAU) to make monitoring visits to the site during excavation. There will be a site meeting between all interested parties to review the archaeological work.

- ☐ The curator will be consulted on the interim and final evaluation report before it is sent out to the client.
- ☐ The archaeological contractor will abide by the Institute of Field Archaeologists Bye-Laws of Approved Practice.
- ☐ Contractors shall comply with the requirements of all relevant Health & Safety legislation and adopt procedures according to guidance set out in the Health & Safety Manual of the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers.
- ☐ The practical requirements of the evaluation, including access arrangements, the safety and security requirements of the site, the presence of services, on-site facilities, and the re-instatement of the site, should be discussed in advance with the client.

- ☐ The level of publicity/confidentiality and relevant contacts should be agreed between the archaeological contractor and developer prior to commencement of the excavation.
- ☐ Copies of the evaluation report will be sent to: the client (x2), Salford Planning Dept, Salford Conservation Officer, Salford Local Studies Library, Salford Museums Service, The Assistant County Archaeologist, GMAU (to enter on to the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record), the National Monuments Record.

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31 January 2005

Copies to:

Tim Hartley, Salford Planning
Peter Baker, Project Manager Chapel Street Regeneration Strategy
Joe Martin, Salford Conservation Officer

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- Figure 6: The study area superimposed on the Ordnance Survey 25": 1 mile map published in 1892
- Figure 7: The study area superimposed on the Ordnance Survey 25": 1 mile map published in 1908
- Figure 8: Location of excavated trenches, superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey map of 1850
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- Plate 5: Trench 7, concrete floor **210** and wall **211**, looking south
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- Plate 8: Trench 8 / 15, showing sett surface **573** and soil layer **574**, looking south-east
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Plate 12: Trench 12, showing walls **604**, **609** and **617**, looking east

Plate 13: Trench 12, showing wall **617** and surfaces **612** and **618**, looking west

Plate 14: Trench 14, showing makeup layers and services, looking north

Plate 15: Trench 1, deposits **634-638** and wall cut **632**, looking north-east

Plate 16: Trench 1, makeup deposits, **642-656**, looking south-west



Figure 2: The study area superimposed on Casson and Berry's map of 1741

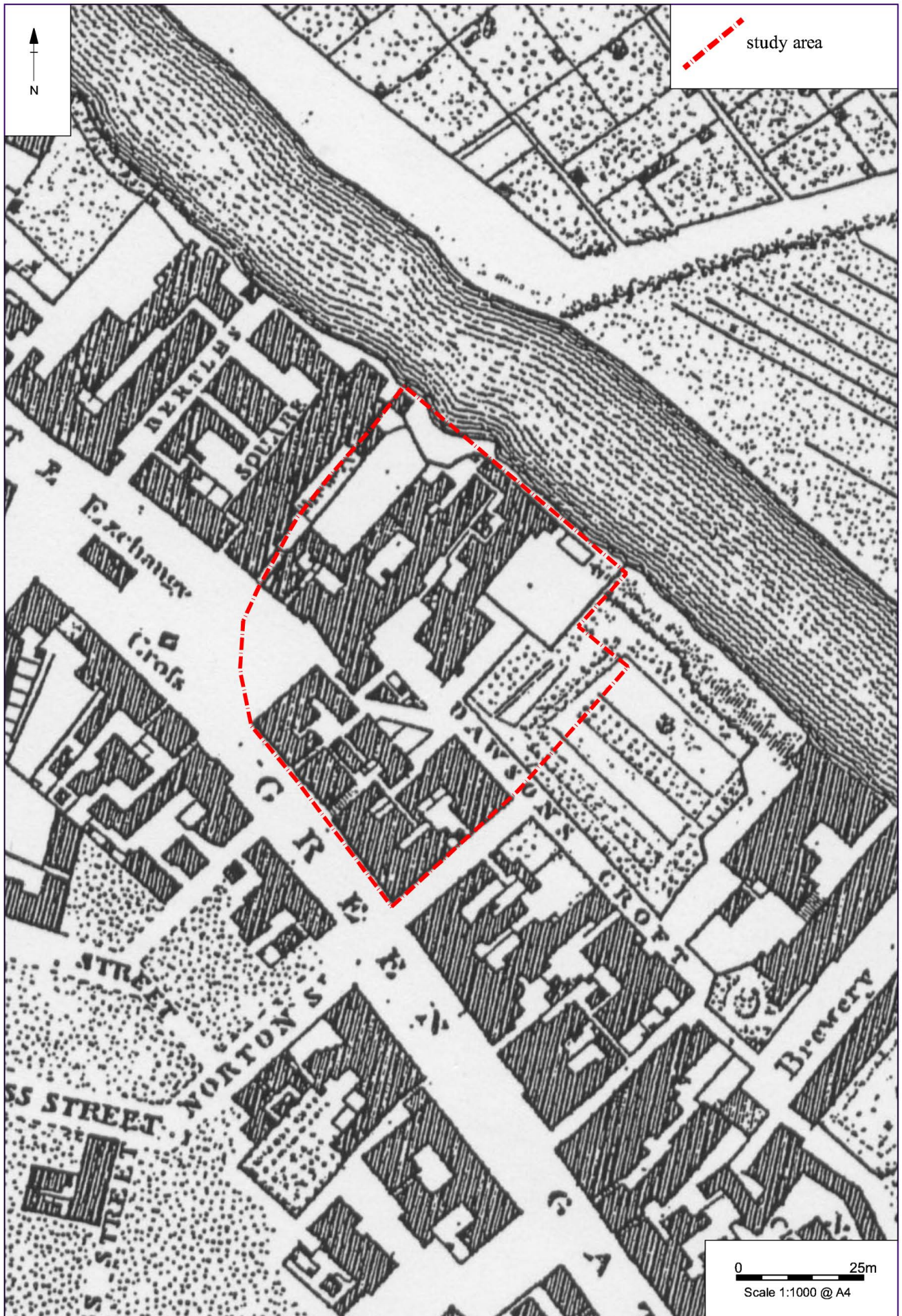


Figure 3: The study area superimposed on the Willian Green's map of 1794

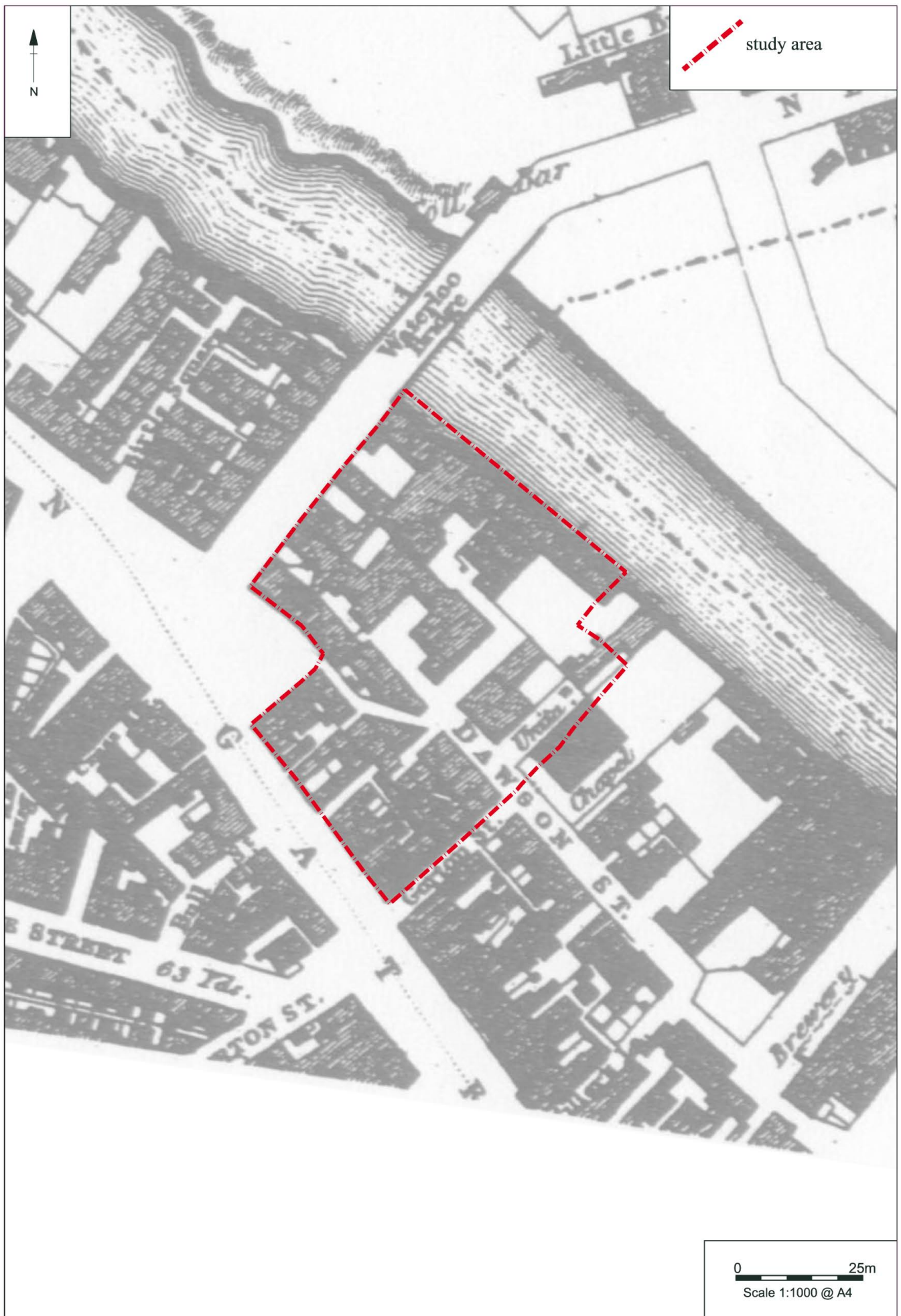


Figure 4: The study area superimposed on Banck's survey of 1831

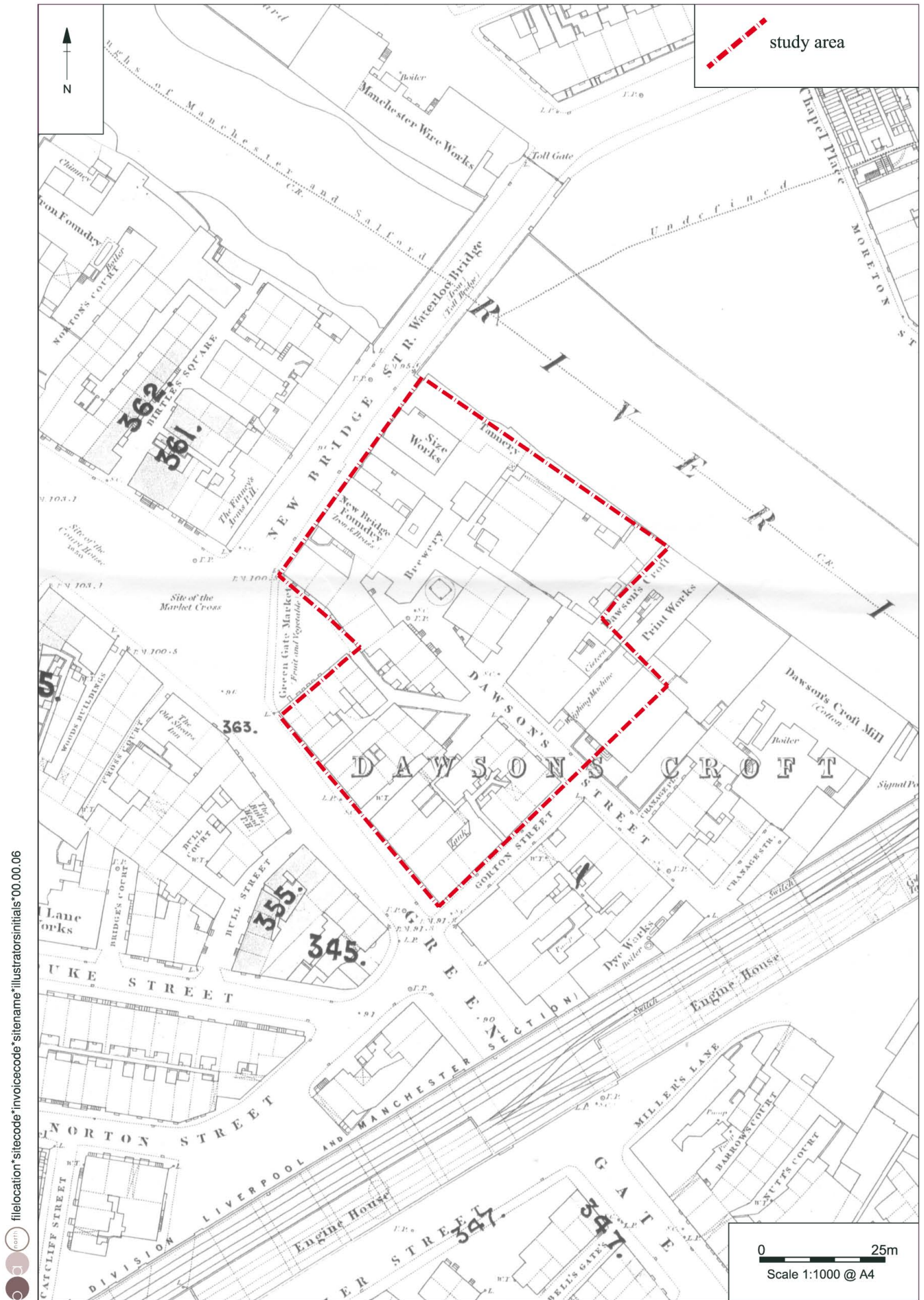


Figure 5: The study area superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1850



Figure 6: The study area superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1892

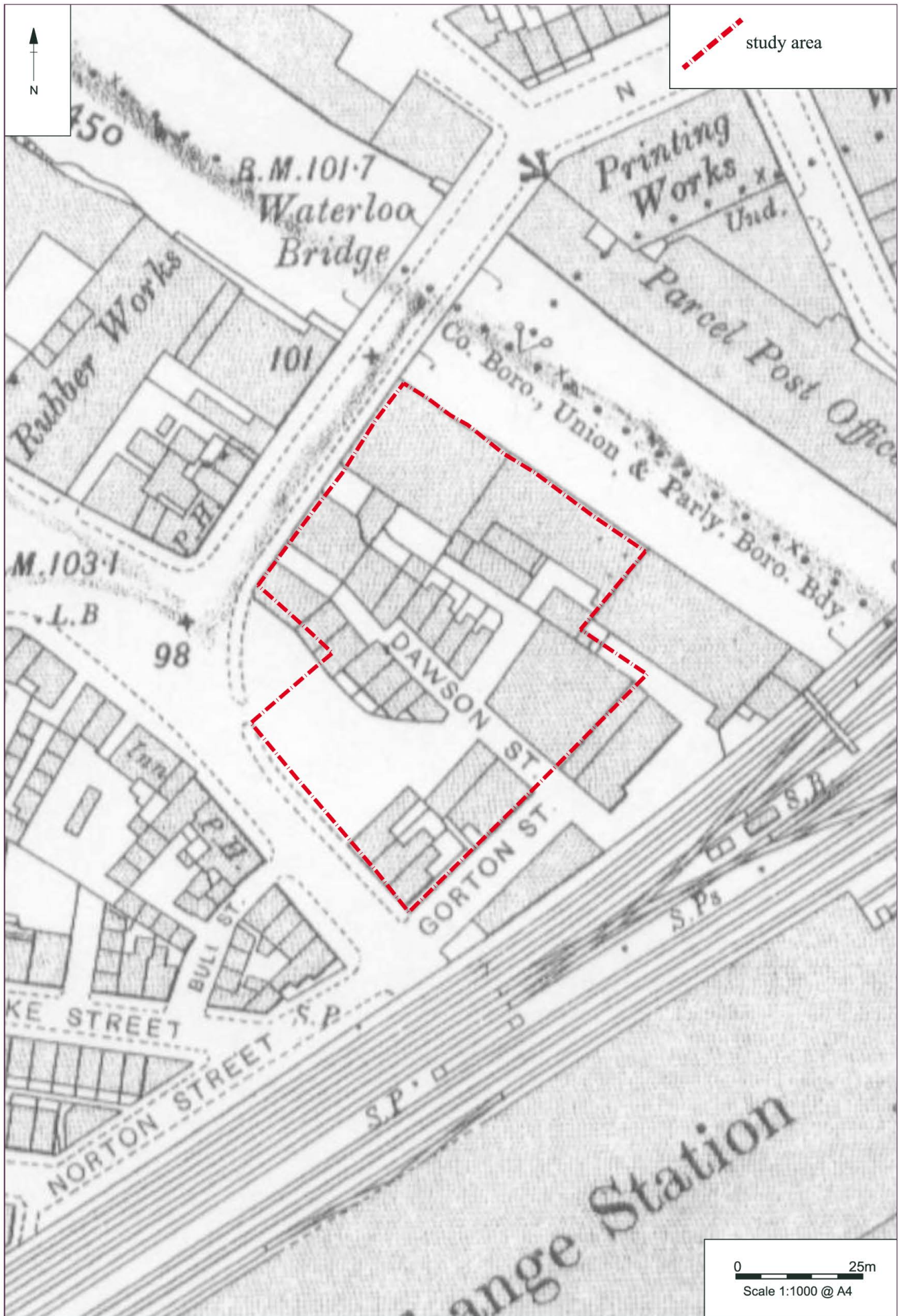


Figure 7: The study area superimposed on the Ordnance Survey map of 1908

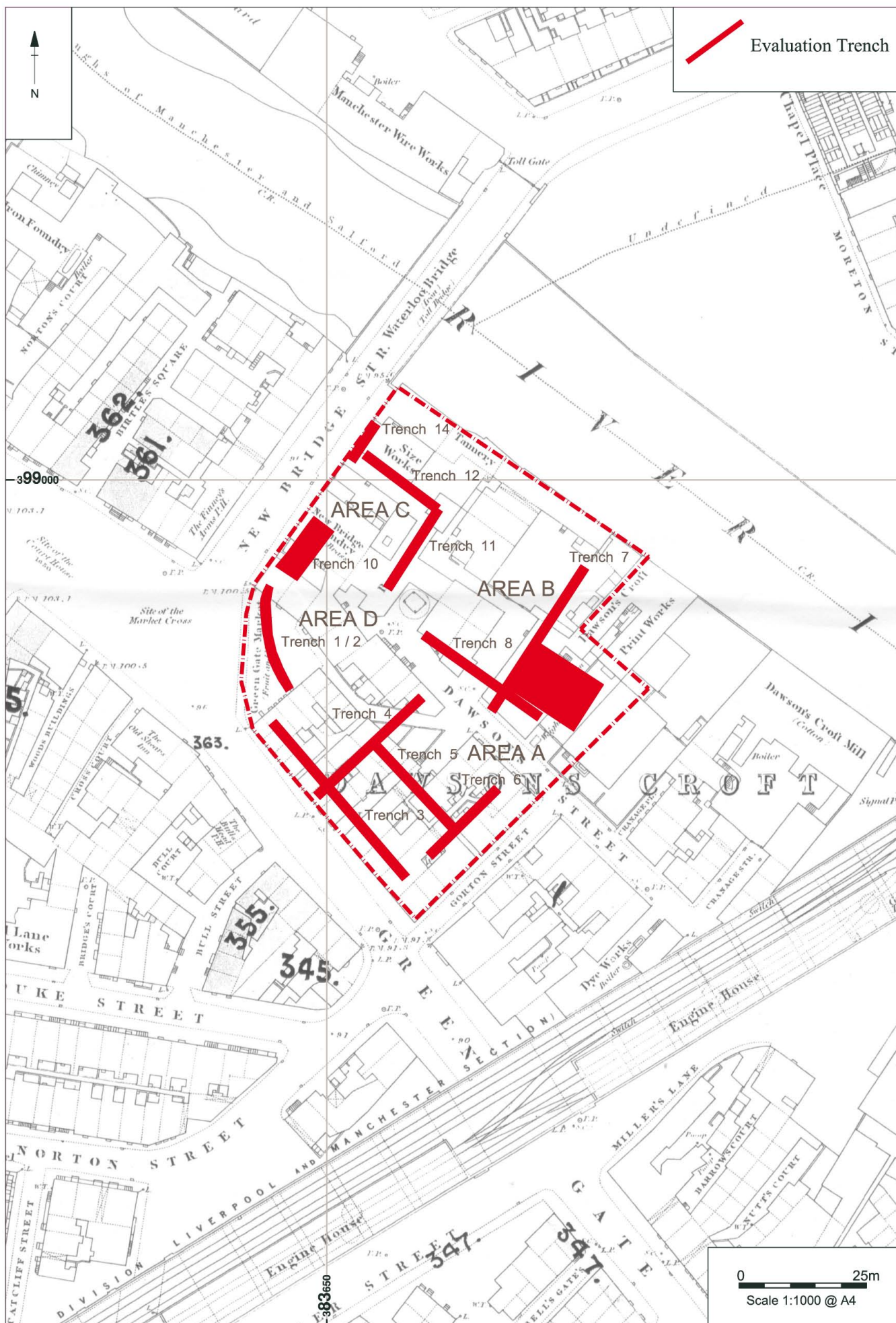


Figure 8: Location of excavated trenches, superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey map of 1850



Figure 9: Trenches requiring excavation and archaeological hazard area, superimposed upon the Ordnance Survey map of 1850



Plate 1: General view across Area A looking south-east, showing deposit 547, the natural bedrock, and medieval ditch 236/556 in the foreground



Plate 2: General view across Area A, looking north-west



Plate 3: Area A, showing flagged floors, sett surface **285** and gardens, looking north



Plate 4: Area A, showing concrete layer **107**, looking west



Plate 5: Trench 7, concrete floor **210** and wall **211**, looking south



Plate 6: Trench 7, basement **228**, concrete **212**, looking north

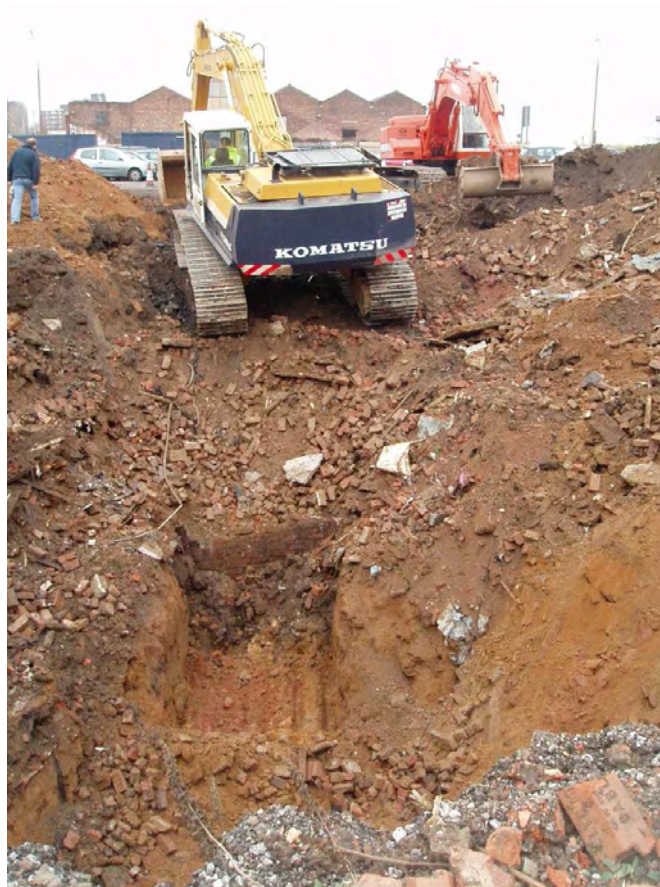


Plate 7: Trench 8 continuation of wall 228, looking west



Plate 8: Trench 8 /15, showing sett surface 573 and soil layer 574, looking south-east



Plate 9: Trench 10, general view, looking south-east



Plate 10: Trench 10, showing makeup layers, looking south-east



Plate 11: Trench 10, showing cellars in section, looking south



Plate 12: Trench 12, showing walls **604**, **609** and **617**, looking east



Plate 13: Trench 12, showing wall **617** and surfaces **612** and **618**, looking west



Plate 14: Trench 14, showing makeup layers and services, looking north



Plate 15: Trench 1, deposits **634-638** and wall cut **632**, looking north-east



Plate 16: Trench 1, makeup deposits, **642-656**, looking south-west