



RADCLIFFE RIVERSIDE SCHOOLS EAST AND WEST CAMPUSES, RADCLIFFE, GREATER MANCHESTER

Archaeological Desk- Based Assessment



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SUMMARY

Oxford Archaeology North was commissioned by King Sturge, acting on behalf of Bury Local Education Authority, to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the sites of Radcliffe Riverside School East and West Campuses in advance of proposed residential development (areas centred SD 7796 0716 and SD 7870 0765). The archaeological work, which was undertaken in July and August 2005, was requested to inform development proposals and associated future planning applications.

The desk-based assessment demonstrated that both sites had been agricultural land until at least the mid-nineteenth century. The eastern part of the site of the East Campus was developed when railways became established in the area during the mid-to late nineteenth century, whilst the West Campus remained devoid of significant development until 1932 when Radcliffe Central Senior School was constructed. This was the first comprehensive senior school to be built in Radcliffe. The second, Coney Green High School, was not built until around 1975 on the East Campus site, replacing the Goods Yard and other railway development.

The assessed significance of the sites identified within the two campus areas, and the likely impact of any future development will have upon them, has contributed to recommendations for archaeological mitigation. These include a programme of archaeological evaluation trenching and limited geo-physical survey that should be targeted on five sites of potential significance. The objective of any such work would be to establish the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains, which would further inform future planning applications for the redevelopment of the sites. In addition, the extant school building occupying the West Campus is of local significance, and is worthy of some archaeological record. A rapid photographic survey may be an appropriate course of mitigation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank Simon Turner of King Sturge for commissioning the project. Thanks are also due to Norman Redhead, the Greater Manchester Assistant County Archaeologist, and Elizabeth Rowe, SMR Officer at Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit. Thanks are also expressed to the staff of the Lancashire and Greater Manchester Record Offices in Preston and Manchester respectively, and Bury Central Library, for their assistance with this project. Particular thanks are also due to Jean Simmons, Technical Support Officer at Radcliffe Riverside School, for her time given during the site visit to the West Campus, and for information imparted regarding the history of the former Radcliffe High School.

The desk-based assessment was undertaken by Jo Dawson, with the drawings produced by Mark Tidmarsh and Christina Clarke. The project was managed by Ian Miller, who also edited the report.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology North was commissioned by King Sturge, acting on behalf of Bury Local Education Authority, to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the sites of two schools in Radcliffe, Greater Manchester. It is envisaged that the sites of Radcliffe High School (area centred SD 7796 0716) and Coney High Green School (area centred SD 7870 0765) be redeveloped to create a new model school on the East Lancashire Paper Mill Site, also in Radcliffe (URBED *et al* 2005, 7). As an initial stage in this programme of modernisation, the schools have already merged to form Radcliffe Riverside School (*ibid*), and Radcliffe High School has become the West Campus, and Coney Green High School has become the East Campus. It is anticipated that the results of this desk-based assessment will be used to inform any future planning applications for the redevelopment of the sites associated with the wider scheme of regeneration in Radcliffe.
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment comprised a search of records held by the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) in Manchester, the Lancashire County Record Office in Preston, the Greater Manchester Record Office in Manchester, the Local Studies section of Bury Central Library, and the archives and library held at OA North. In addition to this, a site visit was carried out for both of the school sites, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment. This report sets out the results of the desk-based assessment in the form of a short document, outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential and significance, and an assessment of the impact of the proposed development. The significance criteria detailed in PPG 16 (DoE 1990) was employed during the assessment.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 A project design (*Appendix 1*) was submitted by OA North in response to a request from King Sturge for a desk-based assessment of two school sites in Radcliffe. The project design was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 The principal sources of information consulted were historical and modern maps of the Radcliffe area, although published and unpublished secondary sources were also reviewed. The study area focused on the two school sites, although information from the wider area has been summarised in order to place the results of the assessment into context. All archaeological sites within the study area and its environs have been included in the Site Gazetteer (*Section 6, below*). The results were analysed using the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments, outlined in Annex 4 of *Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE 1990).
- 2.2.2 ***Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (SMR):*** the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) held in Manchester was consulted to establish the sites of archaeological interest already known within the two study areas, and information from up to 0.5km around was obtained as a background. The SMR is a Geographic Information System (GIS) linked to a database of all known archaeological sites in Greater Manchester, and is maintained by the Greater Manchester Archaeological Unit. For each SMR site within the study areas, an entry was added to the site gazetteer (*Section 6*) and each was marked on location plans (Figs 2 and 7).
- 2.2.3 ***Lancashire County Record Office, Preston (LRO(P)):*** before the county boundaries were changed during the mid-1970s, Radcliffe lay within the county of Lancashire, and therefore most of the published maps of the area are held in Lancashire County Record Office in Preston. All available Ordnance Survey maps for the study area were examined, covering the period from 1850 to 1992. In addition, the tithe map and apportionment for the parish of Radcliffe was consulted (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a and b).
- 2.2.4 ***Greater Manchester Record Office, Manchester (GMRO(M)):*** the Greater Manchester Record Office in Manchester was visited to examine an eighteenth century estate map of the study areas with a corresponding schedule (GMRO(M) E7/18/1/2 1767; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767).
- 2.2.5 ***Local Studies, Bury Central Library (BCL):*** the Local Studies library at Bury Central Library was consulted for information relevant to the study areas. School prospectuses for Coney Green and Radcliffe High Schools were examined, as were newspaper articles, and published secondary sources.

- 2.2.6 **Bury Archive Service, Bury:** unfortunately, it was not possible to visit Bury Archives, since there is currently no archivist in the post, and the archives are therefore not open to the public.
- 2.2.7 **Oxford Archaeology North:** OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.

2.3 SITE VISITS

- 2.3.1 Both school sites were visited on 29th July 2005, and those parts of the grounds that were publicly accessible were walked and the exterior and parts of the interior of the buildings examined. Colour digital photographs were taken during the visit (Plates 4, 6-8), and notes were made on maps and *pro-forma* record sheets.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix I*), and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited with Bury Archive Service on completion of the project.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 Radcliffe Riverside School East and West Campuses (centred SD 7870 0765 and SD 7796 0716, respectively) are situated in the town of Radcliffe, which is located some 4km to the south of Bury, and 10km north-north-west of Manchester (Fig 1). Radcliffe lies within the Manchester Pennine fringe, a transitional zone between the open moorlands of the Dark Peak and the Millstone Grit uplands of the Southern Pennines and the densely populated urban conurbation of Manchester (Countryside Commission 1998, 121). The area owes much of its landscape character to the pronounced landform with deeply incised steep valley sides and localised woodlands (*op cit*, 122).
- 3.1.2 The East Campus is situated towards the north-eastern edge of modern-day Radcliffe, and west of the town's historic core, which is represented by Radcliffe Tower and the church of St Mary and St Bartholomew. The school grounds are bounded to the north-west by the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal, to the south by Spring Lane, to the east by the Metrolink Line, and to the west by a built-up area. Dismantled railway lines lie to the north.
- 3.1.3 The West Campus is situated at the southern edge of modern-day Radcliffe, to the west of the historic settlement of Radcliffe Bridge, which spans both sides of the River Irwell. The school grounds are bounded to the north by a builder's yard, to the south by School Street, to the east by terraced housing, and to the west by the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal.
- 3.1.4 The underlying drift geology of the area comprises sands and gravels overlying Carboniferous Coal Measures (Ordnance Survey 1951). The solid geology consists of weak sandstones and mudstones (Clinton and Higgs 1997).

3.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.2.1 **Introduction:** a summary historical and archaeological background of Radcliffe has been compiled in order to place the study area into a wider context.
- 3.2.2 **Prehistoric Period:** Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity in the area is recorded mainly from the uplands above the Irwell valley (Neveall and Redhead 1999). Upland areas in the region tended to be occupied in the summer months by hunter-gatherers, and more sheltered lowland areas in the winter. This pattern is reflected by evidence for camps which may have been used on a seasonal basis. One such camp has been found on the E's in Radcliffe, where artefacts of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic date have been recovered (*ibid*).
- 3.2.3 The E's is a level plain of mud flats overlying sand and gravels situated north of the river Irwell and to the west of the confluence between the rivers Roch and Irwell. The commercial extraction of aggregates from the area in 1945 revealed wooden structures and flint artefacts of a prehistoric date. Eight

circles of posts in a double row were found overlain by organic material such as brushwood, hazelnuts and pinecones, and sealed by clay. Unfortunately, all but one of the circles were removed by machine before they were subject to archaeological recording, and the artefacts have since been largely lost.

- 3.2.4 Archaeological excavations at the site began in 1949, when further evidence for wooden structures was obtained. A large and significant assemblage of flint implements and a cast-flanged bronze axe was also recovered (Spencer 1951, 197 *et seq*). Excavation work took place on the site periodically until 1961, and finds dating to the Mesolithic, Neolithic, Bronze Age and Roman periods were all recovered (*ibid*). Timbers found during the 1950 excavation were interpreted as a possible Bronze Age platform and causeway of stakes, wattling and brushwood (*ibid*). In addition, excavations behind the cemetery in Radcliffe in 1951 uncovered a disk Barrow, although there were no associated inhumations (Sunderland 1995).
- 3.2.5 The continuity of occupation on the site through these early periods, which is suggested by the artefact assemblage, is rarely found in the North West. It is also recorded that on Radcliffe Moor, situated on the west bank of the Irwell, the remains of very large trees have been found underneath the moor and at the river's edge (Butterworth 1969, 32). They were described as being sound and of a black colour (*ibid*), and indicate the potential for peat and waterlogged deposits in the area. It should be noted, however, that extensive draining may have affected some of these remains, since as early as 1833 there are records stating that an improved method of draining has been adopted (*op cit*, 33).
- 3.2.6 **Roman Period:** the main Roman road between the forts at Manchester and Ribchester crossed through Radcliffe (Nicholls 1910, 107; Site **10**). The line of the road to the south of Radcliffe is thought to be represented in the modern landscape by Bury New Road (Margary 1957, 102). This was a turnpike road dating from 1755 when an Act of Parliament was passed to allow the improvement of the Manchester to Bury road. Margary argued that the Roman Road crossed the Irwell in Radcliffe at a point some 150 yards to the west of the ruined Radcliffe Tower (*ibid*), which places it approximately in the area of the former East Lancashire Paper Mill. This is supported by Sunderland in his history of Radcliffe: '*The route (of the Roman road) was by way of (approximately) Higher Lane in Whitefield, by Dales Lane, plunging down to and crossing the Irwell and the E's through what is now the East Lancashire Paper Mill, up Croft Lane, crossing Cross Lane and to cross the later-built Manchester-Bolton-Bury canal*' (Sunderland 1995, 11). However, evaluation trenches targeted specifically to identify any buried remains of the road within the site of the paper mill revealed no trace of it, suggesting the road to have deviated from its projected line (OA North 2005, 2).
- 3.2.7 An alternative route of the Roman road, however, has been postulated by both Barton (1973) and Farrer and Brownbill (1908), who claim that it was on the line of the present day Blackburn Street, and crossed the river Irwell at what is now Radcliffe Bridge (see Figs 2 and 7, Site **10** west).
- 3.2.8 The remains of the Roman road in the wider area have been excavated by the Radcliffe Archaeological and Historical Society (RAHS) and Bury

Archaeology Group (BAG). At Starling, to the north of Radcliffe, the road was found to be approximately 7m wide plus drainage ditches, and consisted of ‘pebbles laid on split flagstones’ (Sunderland 1995, 11). Unfortunately, Starling is sufficiently far to the north of Radcliffe (approximately 3.5km north of Radcliffe Bridge where the latter crosses the River Irwell) that the existence of a stretch of the road at this location does not necessarily favour either one of the two postulated routes.

3.2.9 Additionally, Taylor (1904, 138-39) argued that ‘*the Romans had a camp or small station*’ on the line of the road at Radcliffe. The recovery of several sherds of Roman pottery from the E’s adds weight to this postulation (Spencer 1951, 197), although firm evidence is lacking.

3.2.10 **Medieval Period:** Radcliffe is listed in the Domesday Book as ‘*Radeclive*’, a manor held by Edward the Confessor. It was part of the Salford Hundred, and was one of only four places from the Hundred to be mentioned in the Domesday Book, suggesting a settlement to have been established at Radcliffe by the eleventh century. The main landholder at this time was Roger de Poitou (Farrer and Brownbill 1908). Radcliffe remained part of the crown until it was given to Ranulf, Earl of Chester, during the reign of Stephen (1135-1154), when it became part of the Mersey Fee. According to Barton (1973, 225-27), the de Radcliffe family has been associated with the town since the mid-twelfth century.

3.2.11 During this period, Radcliffe was probably a small hamlet. The church of St. Mary and St Bartholomew (SMR 9450.1.0 – GM10590) is listed as one of the earliest buildings in Radcliffe by Farrer and Brownbill (1908, 63): ‘*The oldest details of the building are the piers supporting the chancel arch, which are of 13th century date, but it is possible that the four angles of the nave may belong to an older church dating from the 12th century.*’

3.2.12 The original date of the Radcliffe Tower (SMR 354.1.0 – GM520), which lies to the west of the church, is uncertain. It is mentioned in 1358 through Richard Radcliffe of Radcliffe Tower (SMR), and was rebuilt in 1403 when James de Radcliffe received the King’s permission to rebuild the manor house (Barton 1973, 226). Limited archaeological excavation of the site in 1979-80 demonstrated the hall and tower to be contained within a ditched enclosure (Tyson 1980).

3.2.13 In 1561 Radcliffe was purchased by Richard Assheton, Lord of Middleton. It was of sufficient significance to be depicted upon the earliest map of the area, surveyed by Christopher Saxton and published in 1577. Radcliffe remained in the ownership of the Assheton’s until 1765, when the estate was divided between the two daughters of Sir Ralph Assheton. One of the daughters, Eleanor, married Sir Thomas Egerton of Heaton, Lord Grey de Wilton. The town then became part of the Lord of Wilton’s estates (Farrer and Brownbill 1908).

3.2.14 **Post-medieval Period:** the region emerged as a centre of the woollen industry during the later Middle Ages, but many firms converted to cotton manufacture during the later eighteenth century. In 1773, Bury was ‘*endowed with a new*

staple trade’ in the form of a calico printing works that was established by Robert Peel (Williams and Farnie 1992, 42-43). Radcliffe similarly developed as an industrial centre; during the early nineteenth century Baines noted the parish of Radcliffe to comprise 589 families, of which 403 were engaged in ‘*trade, manufactures or handicraft*’ (1825, 688). Another contemporary description of Radcliffe, compiled in 1833 (Butterworth 1969), claimed that the area was a ‘*highly fit station for bleaching works and cotton mills, and extensive manufactories were erected in the last century which still continue to flourish with redoubled activity employing nearly all the population*’. This was due partly to its proximity to Bury and to Manchester, and the transport link provided by the Manchester to Bolton Canal, which was extended to Bury in 1797 (McNeil and Nevell 2000). The transport links increased in 1844, when an act sanctioning the construction of the Manchester, Bury and Rossendale Railway received royal assent (Anon 1897, 53). The line through Radcliffe formed part of the East Lancashire Railway, which was later merged with the larger Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (*ibid*).

3.2.15 A slightly later description of Radcliffe (Butterworth 1841, 115-16) highlighted the town’s association with the cotton industry, with reference to cotton bleaching, calico printing, weaving and spinning. However, Radcliffe did not attain its peak capacity in cotton spinning until 1914, although it grew faster in spindleage between 1884 and 1917 than any other cotton-spinning town except for Farnworth (Williams and Farnie 1992, 42-43).

3.2.16 Map evidence clearly shows many collieries close to the two school sites, and although these would have been useful employers at the time, there were sometimes problems after they had ceased to operate. An example of these is the mineshaft at Allens Green Colliery, to the south-east and east of the West Campus near Green Street and Sion Street, which collapsed in the 1950s (Hudson 1994, 96-7).

3.3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

3.3.1 The most recent archaeological work undertaken within the area comprised a desk-based assessment followed by an initial evaluation that was carried out on the former East Lancashire Paper Mill site (OA North 2004; OA North 2005). The desk-based assessment identified four sites of archaeological potential, comprising the projected route of a Roman road (Site **10**), a calico-printing works, bleach works, and a cotton-spinning mill (OA North 2005, 2). So far, trenches have been positioned in an attempt to locate the Roman road, but no trace of this has been discovered (*ibid*). The well-preserved remains of the bleach works were identified immediately below the modern ground surface adjacent to Croft Lane (*ibid*). However, there is no record of any archaeological work having been undertaken on the present study area.

4. WEST CAMPUS SITE RESULTS

4.1 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 4.1.1 ***Assheton estate map of the Manor of Radcliffe, 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/1/2 1767; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767; Fig 3):*** this is the earliest detailed cartographic source to show the study area, and indicates it to have included parts of eight fields (Site 07). Of these, three are tenanted by John Rylance of Scholfields farmstead (Briary Field (see Fig 3, B21), Hey (B17), and Great Moss Pitts (B23; Site 06)), and the remainder are tenanted by James Walker (Rushy Field (A11), Birch Hollen Field (A12), Stone Field (A13), Middle Moss Pits (A18; Site 06), and Little Moss Pitts (A19; Site 06)). The main road leading west from the settlement of Radcliffe Bridge is shown to have passed through the centre of the site at this time. Although the 'Pits' field names indicate some current or past extraction, none of the numerous pits, indicated by black hatched areas, are shown within or close to the site boundary.
- 4.1.2 ***Yates' map of Lancashire, 1787:*** this is far less detailed than the previous map, but it does show the major roads and settlements. Although there are signs of significant population growth or influx in the vicinity of the site, no change can be discerned within the study area.
- 4.1.3 ***Hennet's map of Lancashire, 1830:*** this shows slightly more detail than Yates' map, but there is once again no indication of fields. The Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal is shown, however, marking the site's western boundary.
- 4.1.4 ***Radcliffe Parish tithe map, 1841 (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a and b; Fig 4):*** this map shows a similar level of detail to the estate map of 1767, with field boundaries marked, and the names given in the corresponding apportionment. The site includes parts of eight fields, which bear a somewhat complex relationship to the fields of 74 years previously. Starting with the fields formerly belonging to the Scholfields farmstead, Briary Field (see Fig 3, B21) has been cut by the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal, and the remainder of the field to the east has been divided into two, namely Moss Pitts (see Fig 4, 471; Site 06) and Rye Field (470), the former also incorporating the south-east of Great Moss Pitts (B23; Site 06), which has also been cut by the canal. Hey (B17) has been divided into two fields, named Briery Field (469) and Hey (467), the latter having also absorbed Calf Croft (B16). The remaining fields comprise Rushy Field (A11), which has been divided into two fields both of the same name (463 and 464), Birch Hollen Field (A12), which is now named Brick Kiln Field (466; Site 08), Stone Field (A13), now named Stonefield (465), and Little and Middle Moss Pitts (A19 and A18; Site Site 06), which have joined together with Great Moss Pitts (A17; Site 06), to become one larger field named Great Moss Pitts (472; Site 06).
- 4.1.5 The construction of the canal has clearly been responsible for some of the reorganisation of the landscape, but there has also been a mixture of division and combination of the fields that appears to be unrelated to the canal.

Although the line of the road leading west from Radcliffe Bridge has been preserved in the field boundaries, the road itself has shifted one field to the south, and connects to the canal towpath. There is no indication, other than from the field names themselves, of any pits, or any structures such as kilns. A former workhouse lies to the east of the site, on the road leading north from Radcliffe Bridge.

- 4.1.6 **Ordnance Survey, 1850:** the site is shown divided into fields, with a very similar layout to that shown nine years earlier. The road to the south is named Green Lane, and a Coal Pit is shown to the east of the site, there are many collieries to the west, and Green Lane Colliery lies to the south.
- 4.1.7 **Ordnance Survey, 1893 (Fig 5):** the fields which formerly surrounded the site have almost all disappeared, reflecting the urbanisation of the area during the second half of the nineteenth century. Terraced housing lies to the north and east, and textile mills to the north-west. Green Lane Colliery has been joined by Allen's Green Colliery, and there are mineral lines connecting these collieries to the railway line to the east. The study area itself is something of an oasis of green in amongst all this industry and housing. It is named Peel Park Grounds, presumably in honour of Sir Robert Peel, who died in 1850 whilst he was Prime Minister, and who came from Bury, and was therefore one of the area's famous sons (Anon 2002). Some of the old field boundaries have survived, although they appear straightened, and the site is now divided into four different fields. One of these is a cricket ground, and includes a pavilion (this field was formerly Rye Field, see Fig 4, 470). Another sports pavilion lies to the south-east of the site, and a bowling green to the south, contributing to the concentration of sports facilities in the area.
- 4.1.8 **Ordnance Survey, 1909:** the collieries to the south are now disused, but little has changed within the study area itself. It is named Peel Park Ground, with the singular rather than the plural possibly attributable to the fact that most of the field boundary divisions have now gone. Even part of the boundary around the cricket ground is shown as a dashed rather than a solid line. The original pavilion is no longer shown, and a new, larger pavilion is shown in its place, with a smaller building to the north-east. Terraced housing has now advanced as far as the north-eastern site boundary, and within the study area to the south the land is divided into five smallish plots. An enclosure is also shown in the north of the site.
- 4.1.9 **Ordnance Survey, 1929:** the site is still named Peel Park Ground, but its character is now completely different. Much of the area is now divided into smallish plots, with some, such as those in the north, having structures within them. There is no indication that the area is still being used for sports activities. There is rough ground shown to the north of the site, apparently being an area of raised ground created by dumped spoil of some description.
- 4.1.10 **Ordnance Survey, 1937 (Fig 6):** a school has now been built on the site, with four quadrangles and formal grounds laid out to north and south (Site 09). Playing fields are shown to the west. The area of dumped spoil to the north of the site shown in the previous map has now been extended to the south-west, and a drop is clearly marked along the east side of the canal tow path. The

spoil has presumably been graded to the east, however, so it is not clear what proportion of the site has been covered over.

- 4.1.11 **Ordnance Survey, 1955:** there has been little change on the site since 1937. Two small enclosures are shown in the west of the playing fields, and another enclosure is shown to the east of the main school building. The playing fields are not named, but it is assumed that this was still their function.
- 4.1.12 **Ordnance Survey, 1965:** four small structures are shown along the eastern end of the northern boundary, and trees are shown along that part of the site boundary that adjoins the tow path. The small enclosures shown on the previous map no longer appear, but two boundaries are shown to the east of the main school building, in line with the inner boundaries of the south-east quadrangle. An L-shaped building is shown at the western corner of the main school building.
- 4.1.13 **Ordnance Survey, 1980:** the four buildings previously shown along the eastern end of the northern boundary are no longer shown. Two new buildings are shown parallel to where the four had been, slightly further south. The boundaries on the east of the main school building are no longer shown, but a building is shown in their place, and also extending further south-east.
- 4.1.14 **Ordnance Survey, 1989:** a new building is shown to the north-east of and in line with the two buildings close to the eastern end of the northern site boundary. A large building is shown to the south-west of the main school building, and the structure to the east of the south-east quadrangle is no longer present. A new building is shown close to it, however, on the southern corner of Ulundi Street and Chard Street.
- 4.1.16 **Ordnance Survey, 1992:** the westernmost of the three buildings close to the eastern end of the northern boundary is no longer present, otherwise little has changed since the previous map.

4.2 SITE VISIT

- 4.2.1 **Introduction:** the information that follows is compiled from visual observations made during the site visit, and from conversations with Jean Simmons, Technical Support Officer at Radcliffe Riverside School
- 4.2.2 **Railings, grounds, and minor buildings:** the school grounds are surrounded by green-painted decorative iron railings, and by plainer spiked green-painted railings around the playing fields to the west, which are covered in grass. At their south-east edge is a brick sports hall, and east of this, in front of the south entrance, is the tarmac-surfaced playground. At the south-east corner of the grounds is an area of grass with two single-storey brick buildings. On the east side is tarmac, with a small sub-station near the north-east corner. The formal gardens in the north include four rectangular lawns and a cast iron lamp in the centre. Along the north boundary to the north of the formal gardens is an area of tarmac in the west, a 1960s single storey brick building in the centre, and a single-storey timber building in the east.

- 4.2.3 **North approach:** the north approach and entrance has historically been for staff and visitors, and this is still the case today. The formal gardens in front of this entrance used to have their own greenkeeper(?) and be pristine, always with full borders. The 'roundabout' within the formal gardens has a cast iron lamp post on it, with four attachments. Each used to have a globe light on the end, and this lamp was lit whenever there was an evening function at the school.
- 4.2.4 **South approach:** the south approach and entrance has historically been for pupils, and this is still the case today. It is presumed that the girls and boys originally entered their halves of the building by separate doorways, although no stone carving to that effect, as was frequently the case, was observed above the side doors. The boys used the west half of the building, and the girls used the east half, and this continued until 1967 or 1968, when the first mixed lessons were held. There was an imaginary line down the centre of the playground to the south of the building, and girls played on one side and boys on the other, and the line was not crossed.
- 4.2.5 **Foyer:** the north entrance leads into an oak-panelled foyer with decorative columns and leaded stained glass above. There is also a decorative bronze plaque commemorating the opening of Radcliffe Central Senior School on 17th December 1932 by Edward George Villiers Stanley, the Right Honorable Earl of Derby. The trophy cabinet show evidence of the former division in the school between the two sexes, with trophies for Radcliffe Central Senior Girls School and Radcliffe Central Senior Boys School dated 1933. Originally the headmistress's room led off one side of the foyer, and the headmaster's room led off the other, and pupils only went into the foyer if they were told to see their headmaster or headmistress.
- 4.2.6 **Main building:** many of the walls of the building are painted brick. The sides of the stairways are tiled, and have ornamental banisters. There are parquet floors in many of the ground floor rooms, and most of the original building fabric and fittings are present, including some original toilets with high level cisterns and chains, and most of the original doors and door handles. It was observed that the building has cellars beneath all of it, apparently some 1.5m deep. Some of the roofs of the passages let in rain, as the building is in need of some general repairs. The west half of the school was for boys, and the east half for girls.
- 4.2.7 **Alterations:** there has recently been a programme of work carried out in the school, mostly during 2000 and 2001, which involved some new double-glazed UPVC windows in the east and west wings, the creation of a new drama studio, and some general interior decoration. Some of the internal walls were moved during this work, and others had been moved previously. The passages along some sides of the quadrangles used to be open to the elements at the sides (?), but are now enclosed. The classrooms are relatively unchanged, although the specific uses to which they are put have inevitably changed.

- 4.2.8 **Overcrowding:** there was formerly a two-storey ROSLA (Raising of School Leaving Age) building, made of timber or timber-clad, when the school leaving age was raised. The school is reported to have been overcrowded at this time, and lessons were taught in the dining room/canteen, as well as across the road in Allens Green (J Simmons, pers comm). Overcrowding at the school led to the construction of Coney Green High School in around 1975.
- 4.2.9 **Historical records:** old admission books, headteachers' books, and photographs have been found in the school, and have been retained in the building.

4.3 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES

- 4.3.1 **School:** in December 1932, the Earl of Derby opened the newly-built Central Senior School, later known as Radcliffe High School (Sunderland 1995, 110), although a prospectus from the school maintains it was founded in 1933 (BCL R25.21(P) RAD 1992, 4). It was designed to take mixed 11+ pupils from the town's existing schools, which were renamed Junior Schools (Sunderland 1995, 110). In addition to the photographs held at the school (*see 4.2.9 above*) one published photograph was identified relating to Radcliffe Central Senior School, taken in the mid 1930s (Plate 5). It shows the class of second year boys positioned outside the north entrance to the building, emphasising the formality of the photograph.

5. EAST CAMPUS SITE RESULTS

5.1 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 5.1.1 ***Assheton estate map of the Manor of Radcliffe, 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/1/2 1767; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767; Fig 8)***: this map depicts the study area to have encompassed much of the northern Glebe Lands, and no field boundaries are shown within this area. This is presumably because the glebe lands were controlled by the church, and since the map in question is of the lands held by the Assheton family, the surveyor would not have surveyed land held by other land owners. The southern site boundary is formed by a section of the road running west from Radcliffe, which goes on to join the main road running north through Radcliffe Bridge; this road is later known as Spring Lane (see Fig 10). To the north-west of this section of road, the site also appears to include the corner of Barn Field (see Fig 8, S7), whose meandering north-eastern boundary was probably formed at some stage by a watercourse (Site 02). To the north, the farmstead of Coney Green is surrounded by an oval boundary, with other fields radiating from it, or in a random patchwork around it. It would appear to be a settlement of some antiquity. Between it and the study area is a field named Great Hall Heys (F2 3), with large pits indicated by black hatching, possibly for coal extraction (?), in the corner between it and Pit Field (F2 2).
- 5.1.2 ***Yates' map of Lancashire, 1787***: this is far less detailed than the previous map, but it does show the major roads and settlements. The course of the stream (Site 02) running along the boundary of Barn Field (see Fig 8, S7) is shown, and after joining another stream, which joins yet another, it eventually flows into the River Irwell, to the east of the bridge at Radcliffe Bridge.
- 5.1.3 ***Hennet's map of Lancashire, 1830***: this shows slightly more detail than Yates' map, but there is once again no indication of fields. The Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal is shown, however, marking the site's north-western boundary. Several buildings are shown close to the southern and eastern boundaries of the site, one of which may be Ousel Fold (see Fig 9; Site 03), lying within the site boundary.
- 5.1.4 ***Radcliffe Parish tithe map, 1841 (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a and b; Fig 9)***: this map shows a similar level of detail to the estate map of 1767, with field boundaries marked, and the names given in the corresponding apportionment. The site includes parts of six fields and four gardens and crofts (Site 01), all of which lie within the Glebe Lands shown on the 1767 map. The fields are Briage Field (see Fig 9, 772), Marled earth (773), Hearningfield (?) (774), Rushey Field (775), Park Meadow (776), and Lower Gorsey Field (777), and the gardens and crofts are Garden Waste and Site (778), Free Gardens (779), Melling Croft (780), which surrounds the farmstead of Ousel Fold (Site 03), and Two Crofts and Site (780a).
- 5.1.5 Also within the boundary are various roads, paths, and watercourses. There is a short section of road leading north-west from Ousel Fold, and a path leading

west from the end of it to the bridge across the Manchester, Bolton and Bury Canal north of Whittakers. Another path leads north from near Ousel Fold between the boundaries of Rushey Field (775) and Hearningfield (?) (774), exiting the site boundary in the north and continuing through a group of ponds situated in the same position as the pits shown on the 1767 map between Great Hall Heys (now cut by the canal, but called Great Hall Field (747)) and Pit Field (now combined with Cote Field (F2 4) and called Hall Field (748)) (see Fig 8, F2 3 and F2 2, respectively). A small watercourse runs along the southern boundary of the site (Site 02), with part of it running between approximately Radcliffe House and Lower Water Lane. As previously, the road later known as Spring Lane forms the southern site boundary.

- 5.1.6 **Ordnance Survey, 1850:** the site is shown divided into fields, with a very similar layout to that shown nine years earlier. Park Meadow, Rushey Field, Hearningfield (?), and Briage Field appear unchanged, at least the parts of them that lie within the site boundary. Lower Gorsey Field seems to be divided in two with a continuation of the boundary that separates Park Meadow and Rushey Field, and the southern part of Marled Earth appears to be detached from the rest of it. The Free Gardens have a slightly different boundary, and appear wooded. The bridge across the canal north of Whittakers is named Whittaker Bridge. One of the biggest changes since the previous map, however, is the introduction of the East Lancashire Railway (Site 04), which divides the site in half, cutting through Hearningfield (?), Rushey Field, and Lower Gorsey Field. This presumably occurred not long before the map was surveyed, since the small cut off portions of these fields remain, and the boundaries have not been rationalised. The layout of Ousel Fold (Site 03) remains unchanged.
- 5.1.7 **Ordnance Survey, 1893 (Fig 10):** as with the West Campus site, this map shows a dramatic change from a largely rural landscape in 1850 to a built-up and industrial landscape by 1893. The Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway (L & YR) Clifton, Accrington and Colne Line cuts through the middle of the site, as shown on the previous map, and it is in a cutting for at least part of its length (Site 04). The south-eastern half of the site is wholly taken up with a Goods Station, Goods Yard, and Goods Shed (Site 04), and to the east the site is bounded by the L & YR Radcliffe East Fork, which is also embanked. As on all the previous maps, the southern boundary of the study area is formed by Spring Lane. The south-western site boundary runs close to another railway line, which is widely embanked, and crosses the canal at Whittaker's Bridge. The north-western site boundary runs along the canal tow path, and the northern boundary runs next to the L & YR Radcliffe West Fork, which is also embanked.
- 5.1.8 The north-western half of the site includes a straightened form of the boundary between Park Meadow and Rushey Field, and the continuation of that boundary within Lower Gorsey Field. The road shown on the tithe map leading north-west from Ousel Fold, and its continuation as a path to Whittaker's Bridge, is also shown, and it is embanked in the south-east before crossing over the L & YR Clifton, Accrington and Colne Line.

- 5.1.9 **Ordnance Survey, 1909:** the landuse within the site boundary has not changed significantly in character since the previous map. There have, however, been some changes near the south-western boundary, where several plots have been laid out, and buildings constructed. Within the Goods Yard a new larger Goods Shed has been constructed, and some new lines of track are in place in the east (Site **04**). Small numbers of buildings in the south of the Yard have changed, with some demolished, and new ones constructed.
- 5.1.10 **Ordnance Survey, 1929:** similar small-scale changes have occurred since 1909 as occurred between the 1893 and 1909 maps. The Goods Shed and Goods Station have been extended, new lines of track have been laid, and there have been changes to some of the buildings in the south (Site **04**). Two weighing machines are also now marked, although at least one of them may be shown unlabeled on the previous map. The plots along the south-western boundary have changed, with fewer separate units of land in evidence, but more buildings within them, including two greenhouses. The L & YR had been amalgamated with the London, Midland, and Scottish Railway (LMSR) by this date.
- 5.1.11 **Ordnance Survey, 1937 (Fig 11):** little has changed within the Goods Yard, other than the demolition of the original Goods Shed in the west, and the demolition of a small building in the south-east (Site **04**). Many of the plots and buildings along the south-western site boundary have gone, including the greenhouses, and a cricket ground has been established to the north. A footpath has been constructed along the central boundary of the west half of the site, crossing the railway line to the north with no provision of a bridge or underpass. A new boundary runs south-east from the footpath, enclosing a sub-rectangular piece of ground.
- 5.1.12 **Ordnance Survey, 1955:** there has been little change on the site since 1937. The cricket ground is not named and two small buildings close to the northern site boundary have been demolished. One small building has been constructed in the south-east of the Goods Yard (Site **04**).
- 5.1.13 **Ordnance Survey, 1965:** the style of mapping is now less detailed. Allotment gardens are marked for a single piece of land (see Fig 11, numbered 264 and 272, with the boundary shown on this map no longer present). The cricket ground is named in the same area as on the 1937 map, but the group of buildings and the adjacent enclosure south-west of the allotments are no longer present.
- 5.1.14 **Ordnance Survey, 1980:** the railway has now been dismantled along the south-western site boundary. In the north, the former Radcliffe West Fork has been reduced to a single track that runs south-west from the Clifton, Accrington and Colne Line, and stops just short of the former bridge over the canal, which is now no longer present. The site is surrounded by a single boundary, and the Goods Yard (Site **04**), cricket ground, and allotments are no longer present. A school has been constructed (Site **05**), and is shown with its sports ground to the north.

5.1.15 **Ordnance Survey, 1989:** there has been no change since the previous mapping.

5.1.16 **Ordnance Survey, 1992:** there has been no change since the previous mapping.

5.2 SITE VISIT

5.2.1 **Introduction:** the following information is compiled from visual observations recorded during the site visit.

5.2.2 **Buildings:** the buildings are almost all concrete block-built single-storey structures with flat roofs. The sports hall is approximately double the height of the other buildings, but still appears to be of a single-storey. The tallest structure on site is a concrete tower or chimney in the south-east. Temporary buildings exist to the north of the main building complex, to the north-west, and to the south.

5.2.3 **Grounds:** the playing fields in the north of the site form a high flat area, with a rough ground embankment to the north, and an area of lower rough ground to the south-west. To the east of, and at a lower level than, the playing fields are tarmac-surfaced sports pitches. The south half of the site lies on the same level as the sports pitches. The sports centre is situated on the east side of the main buildings, and to the south is an area of tarmac and a car park. West of the car park, in front of the main school buildings, are three areas of grass and trees.

5.3 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SOURCES

5.3.1 **Goods Yard:** in addition to the information recorded on the Ordnance Survey maps, three photographs were identified showing Radcliffe Central Goods Yard (Plates 1-3). These show many of the goods sheds and wagons, as well as signals and tracks.

5.3.2 **School:** Coney Green High School was purpose-built in 1975-6 (BCL R25.3(P) CON 1992), and was only the second secondary comprehensive school to be built in Radcliffe, the first being Radcliffe Central Senior School (Site 09; Sunderland 1995, 110). It was apparently opened in 1977 (*ibid*), although one of the school prospectuses claims it was opened in 1975 (BCL R.25.21(P) CON 1996, 2). In 1988 a school-based public sports centre was opened in Coney Green High School, and it became the first of three schools in the borough of Bury to double up as a sports and recreation centre in the evenings and at weekends, dramatically boosting the town's sports facilities (BCL R25.21 Coney Green High School, Radcliffe 1988). It was immediately very popular, and has remained so to the present day (*ibid*).

5.3.3 In 1998 there was an arson attack on the school, leading to two thirds of the buildings being out of action, and 15 temporary classrooms being sited in the playground (BCL R25.21 Coney Green School 1998). Most of these temporary classrooms have since been removed (Site Visit 29/07/05).

6. GAZETTEER OF SITES

Site number 01
Site name Field system with paths and roads, north of Spring Lane, Radcliffe
NGR Area centred SD 7868 0765
Site type Site of field system with paths and roads
Period Post-medieval and earlier
SMR No -
Statutory Designation -
Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a
Description
A field system with paths and roads is shown on the tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a).
Assessment
The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus development area, and any surviving remains are likely to be directly affected.

Site number 02
Site name Watercourse, north of Spring Lane, Radcliffe
NGR SD 7879 0750 - SD 7867 0751
Site type Site of watercourse
Period
SMR No -
Statutory Designation -
Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767; Ordnance Survey 1893
Description
A watercourse is shown on the tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a), and also appears to determine the boundary between the adjacent fields as early as 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767). It is not shown from 1893 onwards (Ordnance Survey 1893).
Assessment
Part of the site appears to lie within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus development area, and may be affected.

Site number 03
Site name Ousel Fold, Radcliffe
NGR SD 7874 0748
Site type Site of farmstead
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Statutory Designation -
Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; Ordnance Survey 1893
Description
Ousel Fold is a farmstead shown on the tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a). It was destroyed when the Goods Yard was built some time before 1893 (Ordnance Survey 1893).
Assessment
The site appears to lie within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus development area, and any surviving remains are likely to be directly affected.

Site number 04
Site name Railway and Goods Yard, north of Radcliffe Station, Radcliffe
NGR Site centred SD 7873 0761
Site type Site of railway and goods yard
Period Post-medieval
SMR No Part of 675.1.0 - MGM1023
Statutory Designation -

Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; Ordnance Survey 1850; Ordnance Survey 1893; Ordnance Survey 1929; Ordnance Survey 1965; BCL R25.3(P) CON 1992

Description

The Leeds and Yorkshire Railway Clifton, Accrington and Colne Line was constructed between 1841 and 1850 (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; Ordnance Survey 1850). Radcliffe Central Goods Yard was added before 1893 (Ordnance Survey 1893), and included a Goods Station, Goods Shed, cranes, and sidings (*ibid*). By 1929 it also had a weighing machine (Ordnance Survey 1929), and the railway line and goods yard were dismantled between 1965 and 1975 (Ordnance Survey 1965; BCL R25.3(P) CON 1992).

Assessment

The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus development area, and any surviving remains are likely to be directly affected.

Site number 05

Site name Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus

NGR Site centred SD 7872 0755

Site type School

Period Post-medieval

SMR No -

Statutory Designation -

Sources BCL R25.3(P) CON 1992; Site Visit 29/07/05

Description

Formerly Coney Green High School, a secondary comprehensive school, purpose-built in 1975-6 (BCL R25.3(P) CON 1992). The buildings are single-storey, mostly with flat roofs, and built of concrete blocks (Site Visit). Recently merged with the former Radcliffe High School (Site 09) to form Radcliffe Riverside School, becoming the East Campus (Site Visit).

Assessment

The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus development area, and will be directly affected.

Site number 06

Site name Moss Pits, north of Allen's Green, Radcliffe

NGR Area centred SD 7795 0724

Site type Site of extraction pits?

Period Post-medieval

SMR No -

Statutory Designation -

Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767

Description

Field names refer to Moss Pits on maps dating to 1767 and 1841, probably indicating extraction pits (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767; LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a).

Assessment

The edge of the site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus development area, and any surviving remains may be directly affected.

Site number 07

Site name Field system with paths and roads, north of School Street, Radcliffe

NGR Area centred SD 7795 0715

Site type Site of field system with paths and roads

Period Post-medieval and earlier

SMR No -

Statutory Designation -

Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767

Description

A field system with paths and roads is shown on the 1767 estate map and the tithe map (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767; LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a).

Assessment

The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus development area, and any surviving remains are likely to be directly affected.

Site number 08
Site name Brick Kiln Field, north of School Street, Radcliffe
NGR Area centred SD 7804 0719
Site type Site of possible brick kiln or brick clamp
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Statutory Designation -
Sources LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767

Description

A field is named Brick Kiln Field on the tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a), possibly indicating the site of a brick kiln or clamp dating to between 1767 (when the field is named Birch Hollen Field; GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767) and 1841.

Assessment

The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus development area, and any surviving remains are likely to be directly affected.

Site number 09
Site name Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus
NGR Site centred SD 7803 0717
Site type School and formal gardens
Period Post-medieval
SMR No -
Statutory Designation -
Sources Site Visit 29/07/05; J Simmons pers comm

Description

Formerly Radcliffe Central Senior School, later known as Radcliffe High School, a purpose-built secondary comprehensive school opened in 1932 (Site Visit). The main school building is built of red brick, and is square in plan with four quadrangles within it (*ibid*). The entrance for staff and visitors is on the north side, with a formal garden in front of it, and the entrance for pupils is on the south side, with a tarmac-surfaced playground in front (*ibid*; J Simmons pers comm.). Until 1967 or 1968, when the first mixed lessons were held, boys were confined to the west half of the building and playground, and girls to the east (J Simmons pers comm.). Recently merged with the former Coney Green High School (Site 05) to form Radcliffe Riverside School, becoming the West Campus (Site Visit).

Assessment

The site lies within the proposed Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus development area, and will be directly affected.

Site number 10
Site name Manchester to Ribchester Roman Road
NGR Western route: SD 7850 0699 - SD 7815 0783, Eastern route: SD 7934 0727 - SD 7900 0790
Site type Site of road
Period Roman
SMR No 14.1.0 GM19
Statutory Designation -
Sources Margary 1957; OA North 2004; LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a; Ordnance Survey 1850

Description

This forms part of the Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester (Margary 1957, 102-3). The road leaves the fort in Manchester heading north (*ibid*). It passes Strangeways prison and continues toward Radcliffe following the Bury New Road (*ibid*). Two possible routes are suggested for this road as it passes through Radcliffe, both of which are shown on the gazetteer maps (Figs 2 and 7).

Assessment

According to the tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a) and the Ordnance Survey (1850), which favour the easterly of the two suggested routes through Radcliffe, the Roman road runs to the east of both Radcliffe Riverside School Campuses. The westerly course passes along Blackburn Street, between the two campuses. The existence of these two postulated routes emphasises the fact that the course of this road through Radcliffe has yet to be definitely located, and it may therefore pass through either one of the two campuses, and any remains could potentially be affected by the proposed development.

7. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

7.1 INTRODUCTION

7.1.1 The buildings occupying the study area are not designated as being of architectural or historical significance, and are not afforded any statutory status. There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of non-statutory sites; that to be used here is the ‘Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments’, which is included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990). The sites listed previously (*Section 6, above*) were each considered using the criteria, with the results below. In addition, the priorities for archaeological research within the North West region as set out by the recently-published Research Agenda (<http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk>) have been taken into account.

7.1.2 In total, 10 sites of archaeological potential were identified within the two study areas. Of these, two were recorded previously by the SMR (Sites **04** and **10**), and the remaining sites (Sites **01-03** and **05-09**) were identified from cartographic sources. None of the sites identified had statutory designations. The detailed results of the assessment are shown in the Site Gazetteer (*Section 6 above*), and an outline is presented in Table 1, below.

Site	Type	Standing/Below-ground	Period	Located within East or West Campus
01	Field system with paths and roads	Below-ground	Post-medieval and earlier	East
02	Watercourse	Below-ground	Natural	East
03	Farmstead	Below-ground	Post-medieval and earlier	East
04	Railway and goods yard	Below-ground	Post-medieval	East
05	School	Standing	Post-medieval	East
06	Extraction pits?	Below-ground	Post-medieval	West
07	Field system with paths and roads	Below-ground	Post-medieval and earlier	West
08	Possible brick kiln or brick clamp	Below-ground	Post-medieval	West
09	School and formal gardens	Standing	Post-medieval	West
10	Road	Below-ground	Roman	East or West? (poorly located)

Table 1: Summary of gazetteer sites

7.2 CRITERIA

- 7.2.1 **Period:** the earliest potential site within the study area is the putative Roman road (Site **10**) between the forts at Manchester and Ribchester. The other known sites within the study area date from the 18th century and later.
- 7.2.2 **Rarity:** the study area contains a number of sites which may be considered to be of regional rarity. These include:
- the Roman road (Site **10**)
 - the post-medieval farmstead (Site **03**)
 - the brick kiln/clamp (Site **08**)
- 7.2.3 **Documentation:** the suggested line of the Roman road is derived from antiquarian and cartographic sources. An outline of the development of the other sites within the study area can be traced from the available cartographic sources. The record of field names on the 1841 tithe map (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a), for instance, suggest the presence of brick manufacture (Site **08**). Additional details could probably be extrapolated from further documentary research, but are unlikely to modify the outline presented within this report.
- 7.2.4 **Group Value:** the farmstead of Ousel Fold (Site **03**) has group value with the surrounding field system (Site **01**). The main school building at the West Campus (Site **09**) has group value with the railings surrounding the site, and with the formal gardens to the north of the building.
- 7.2.5 **Survival/Condition:** the full extent of survival and condition of buried archaeological remains within the study area is unknown, as it is unclear how much landscaping has occurred at the two campuses. It seems that a depth of made-ground has been deposited across the West Campus site, particularly in the vicinity of the canal, and this may have served to protect buried remains. The actual school buildings, however, incorporate cellars, the construction of which will have obliterated any buried archaeological remains within their footprint. On the East Campus site, it is likely that originally shallowly-sloping ground has been landscaped, with soil removed from the lower area of the school buildings and redeposited to create a flat platform for the playing fields.
- 7.2.6 Should the Roman road (Site **10**) have taken a route across the study area, it seems likely that physical evidence for it will survive, particularly beneath the playing fields of both campuses. Similarly, it seems likely that any remains of brick kilns/clamps (Site **08**) may survive beneath the playing fields.
- 7.2.7 The southern part of the East Campus map have been subjected historically to earth-moving works that could have had a negative impact on the buried remains of the farmhouse (Site **03**) and the former watercourse (Site **02**). The extent of this impact, however, can only be established by physical investigation.

- 7.2.8 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** some of the below-ground remains may be close to the surface, and therefore vulnerable to the excavation of new foundation and service trenches.
- 7.2.9 **Diversity:** the railway and goods yard (Site **04**), farmstead and associated field system (Sites **03** and **01**), and the school and formal gardens (Site **09**) are all diverse sites. These relate principally to the transition from an agrarian to an industrialised area.
- 7.2.10 **Potential:** there is a potential for the putative Roman road (Site **10**) to have taken a course across either campuses. It seems possible that the greatest potential for any surviving remains of the road is across the playing fields. The potential for prehistoric remains to survive *in-situ* across both campuses, given the proximity to the E's (see *Section 3.2.3 above*), cannot be discounted. Similarly, palaeo-environmental evidence may be preserved at the site of the buried watercourse (Site **02**).
- 7.2.11 The potential for the study area containing remains other than those identified in this report is considered to be low.

7.3 SIGNIFICANCE

- 7.3.1 On the above criteria, the study area potentially contains buried known remains of a regional or high local importance. These remains include:
- the Roman road from Manchester to Ribchester (Site **10**)
 - Ousel Fold farmstead (Site **03**)
 - field systems associated with post-medieval agricultural landscape (Sites **01** and **07**)
 - brick kiln of clamp (Site **08**)
- 7.3.2 Other sites within the study area are considered to be of lesser, local significance.

8. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 IMPACT

- 8.1.1 Detailed design proposals for any future redevelopment of the site have yet to be devised, and no details beyond a basic site boundary are currently available. Therefore, the impact on the archaeological resource cannot easily be assessed at this stage, although development within the study area may have a direct impact by damaging or destroying buried archaeological remains. However, the results of the assessment suggest that there is likely to be differential survival of buried remains across the site, suggesting that any negative impacts will be variable. This remains to be confirmed by future borehole, test pit, or archaeological evaluation trench data.

8.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.2.1 Current legislation draws a distinction between archaeological remains of national importance and other remains considered to be of lesser significance. The latter may undergo preservation by record, where high local or regional significance can be demonstrated.
- 8.2.2 No sites have been identified within the study area that may be considered as being of national importance and therefore merit preservation *in-situ*. There are, however, potentially remains of regional or high local significance, which would require preservation by record should they be affected directly by any future development of the site. The extent and scope of any such mitigation response would be dependent upon the ground works required for redevelopment, and would be finalised once design proposals are known. However, it is possible at this stage to make some provisional recommendations.
- 8.2.3 A general programme of archaeological evaluation trenching is recommended for both sites. Trenching should be targeted to establish the presence or absence of the Roman road (Site **10**), the Ousel Fold farmstead (Site **03**) and associated historic field system features (Sites **01** and **07**). The most appropriate method of establishing the presence or absence of the brick kilns/clamps (Site **08**) may be a limited programme of geo-physical survey. The precise methodology of geo-physical survey should be determined upon any results obtained from preliminary investigations of the current ground surface, although magnetometry would probably be the most useful technique. It should be noted that in the event of significant remains being encountered during the course of the evaluation and geo-physical survey, further archaeological excavation may be required.
- 8.2.4 Should any proposed development affect the school buildings on the West Campus (Site **09**), it is recommended that the site is subjected to a rapid photographic survey, which should be related to existing plans, where available.

8.2.5 A summary of the site-specific recommendations is presented in Table 2, below.

Site No	Type	Period	Impact	Recommendations
01	Field system with paths and roads	Post-medieval and earlier	May be affected	Evaluation trenching
02	Watercourse	Natural	May be affected	None
03	Farmstead	Post-medieval and earlier	May be affected	Evaluation trenching
04	Railway and goods yard	Post-medieval	May be affected	None
05	School	Post-medieval	Likely to be affected	None
06	Extraction pits?	Post-medieval	May be affected	None
07	Field system with paths and roads	Post-medieval and earlier	May be affected	Evaluation trenching
08	Possible brick kiln or brick clamp	Post-medieval	May be affected	Evaluation trenching
09	School and formal gardens	Post-medieval	Likely to be affected	Photographic survey
10	Road	Roman	May be affected	Evaluation trenching

Table 2: Summary of recommendations

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10. ILLUSTRATIONS

10.1 FIGURES

Figure 1: Location Map showing Radcliffe Riverside School East and West Campuses

Figure 2: Plan of Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus Gazetteer Sites

Figure 3: Extract from Assheton estate map of the Manor of Radcliffe, 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767), showing the Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus site

Figure 4: Extract from Radcliffe Parish tithe map, 1841 (LRO(P) DRM 1/83 1841a), showing the Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus site

Figure 5: Extract from Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map, 1893, showing the Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus site

Figure 6: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1937, showing the Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus site

Figure 7: Plan of Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus Gazetteer Sites

Figure 8: Extract from Assheton estate map of the Manor of Radcliffe, 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767), showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus site

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Figure 10: Extract from Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map, 1893, showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus site

Figure 11: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1937, showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus site

10.2 PLATES

Plate 1: Oblique aerial photograph showing Radcliffe Central Goods Yard (Site **04**) in the foreground (Sunderland 1995, 6)

Plate 2: A boundary fence of railway sleepers at Radcliffe Central Goods Yard (Site **04**); on the skyline, the standby (battery) power station for the electric line (Sunderland 1995, 60)

Plate 3: Radcliffe Central Goods Yard (Site **04**; Sunderland 1995, 60)

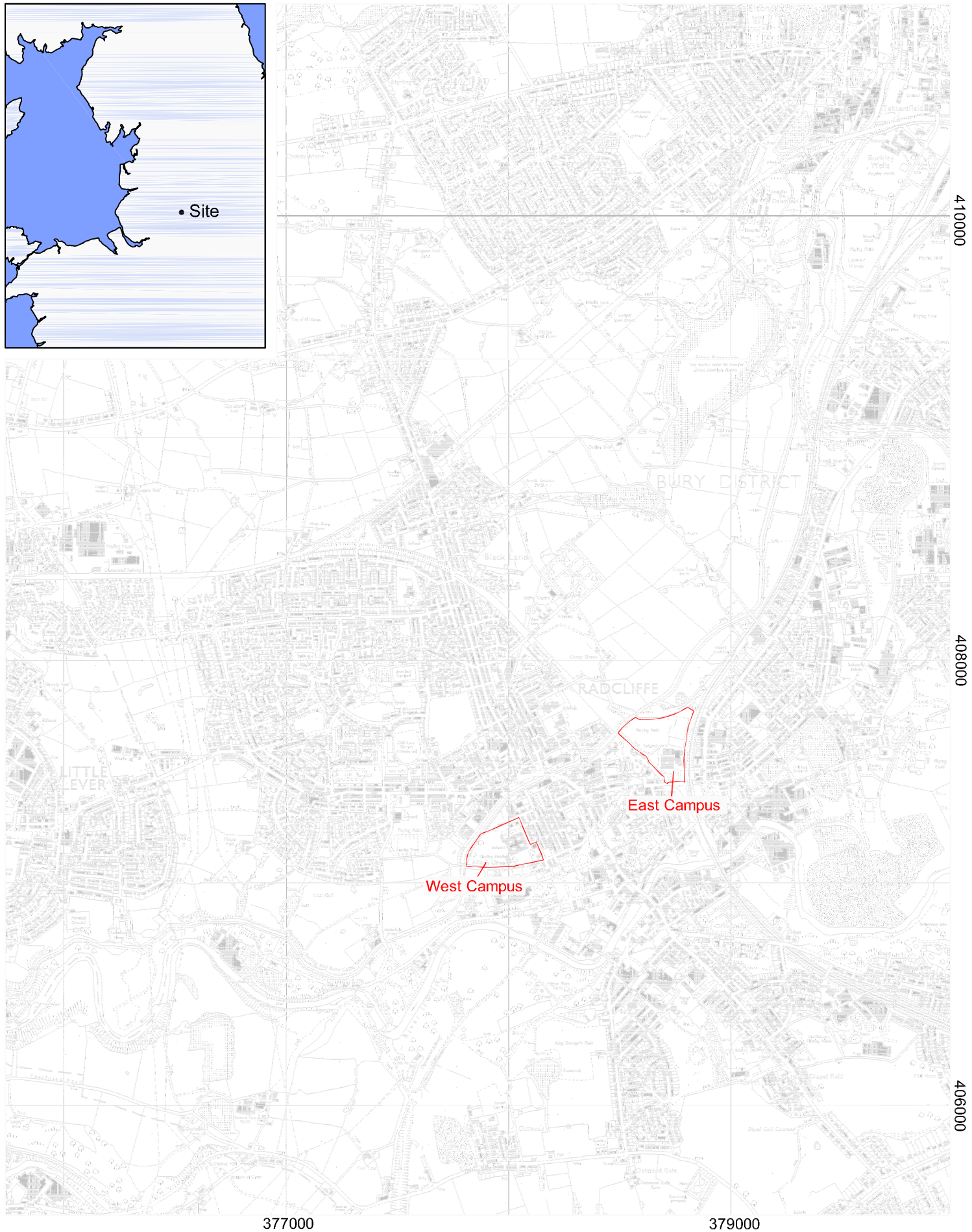
Plate 4: Playing fields and buildings at Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus (Site **05**), facing south-east

Plate 5: Second year boys at Radcliffe Central Senior School (Site **09**), photographed in front of the north entrance, mid 1930s (Hudson 1994, 63)

Plate 6: North entrance to Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site **09**)

Plate 7: Elevation to the west of the north entrance to Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site **09**)

Plate 8: Window with ornate iron guard on one of the staircases in Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site **09**)

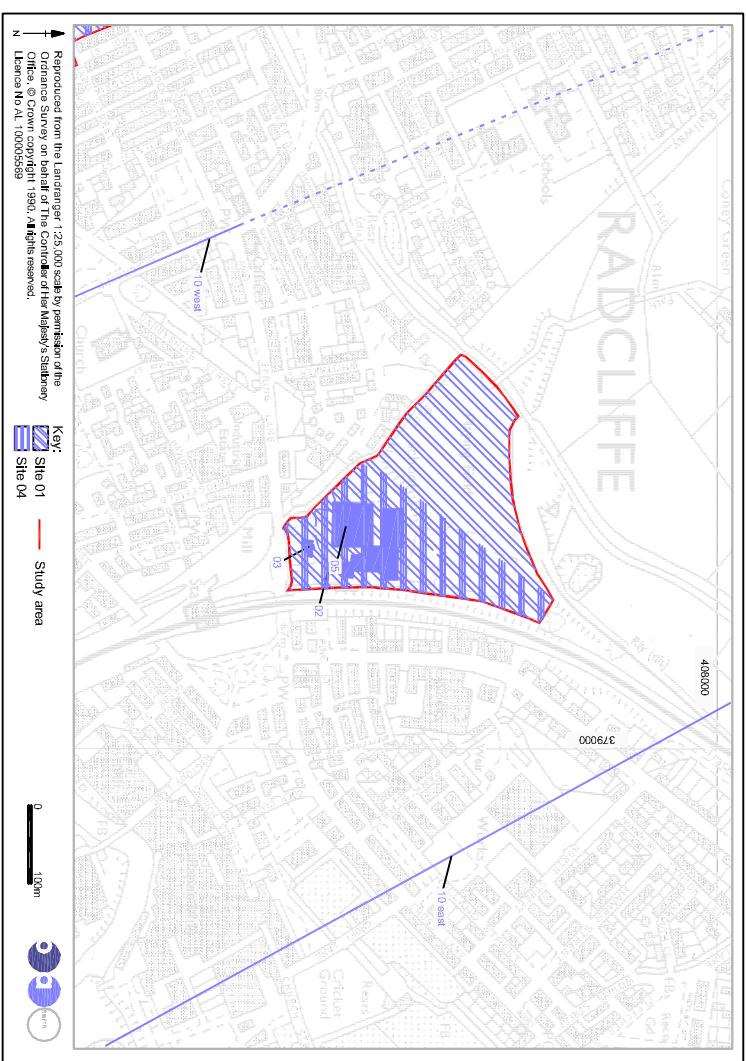
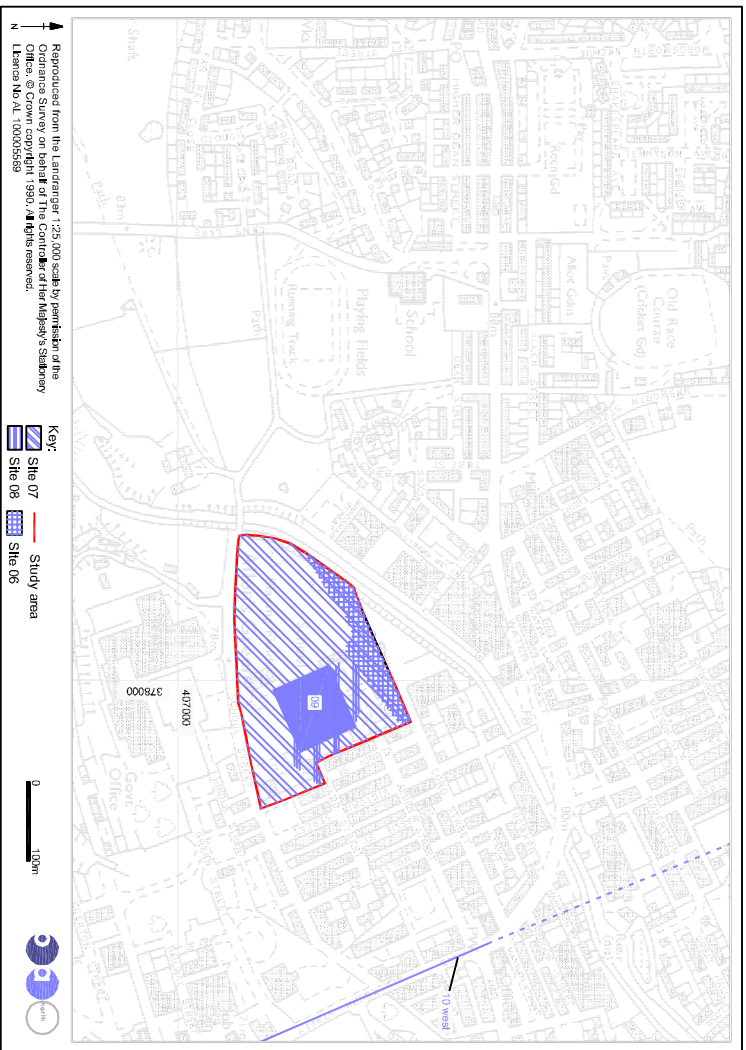


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Figure 1: Location Map showing Radcliffe Riverside School East and West Campuses



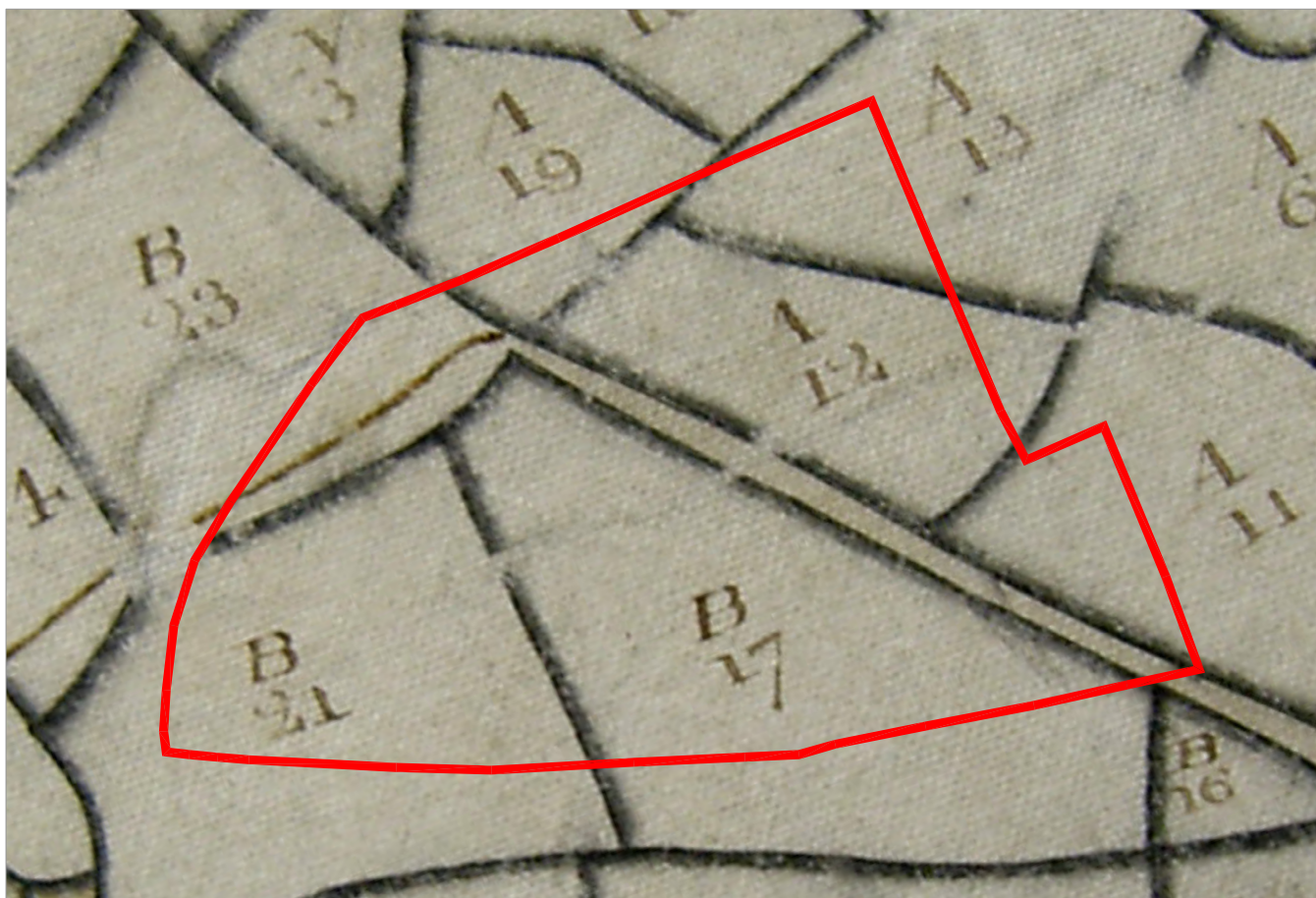


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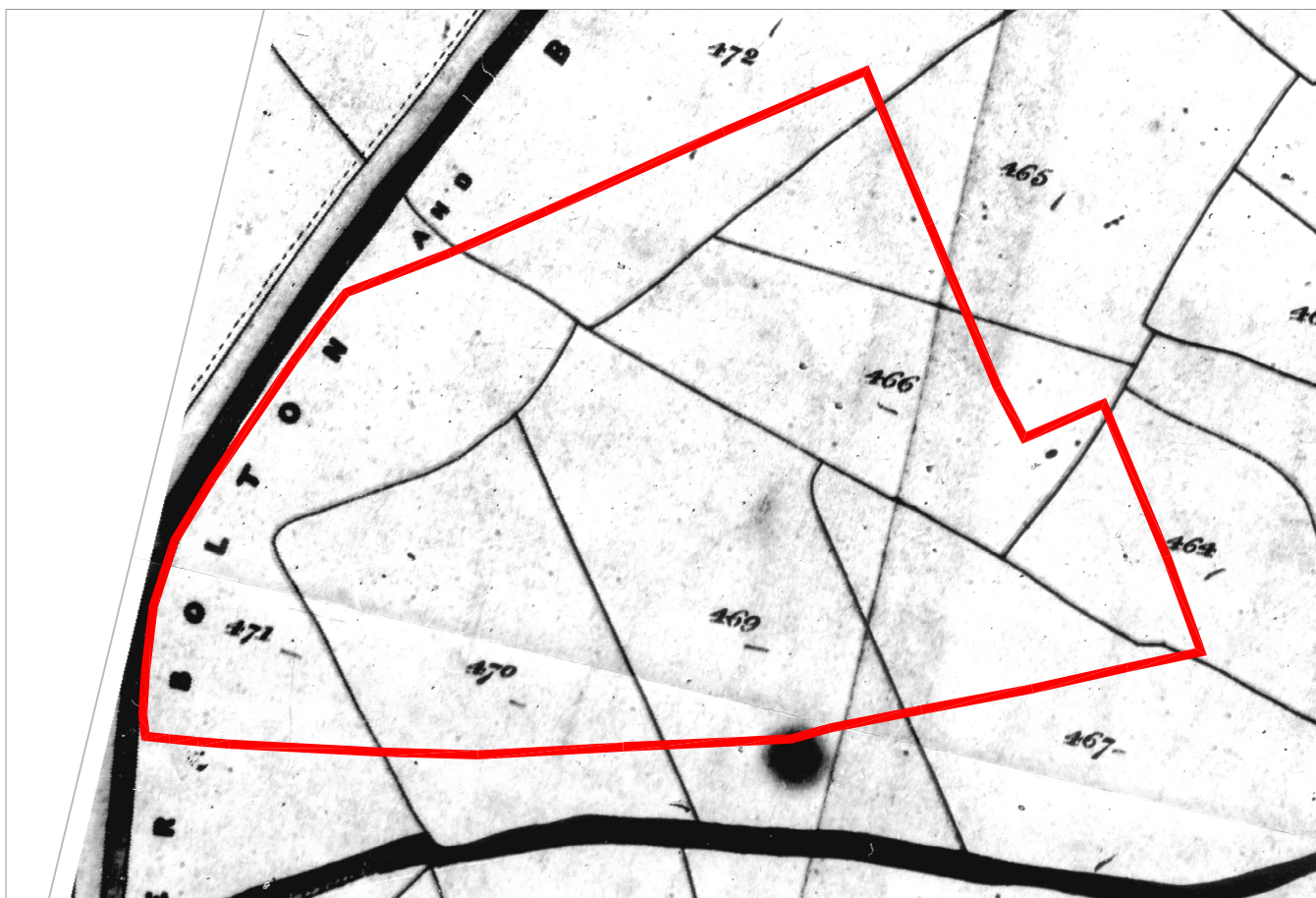


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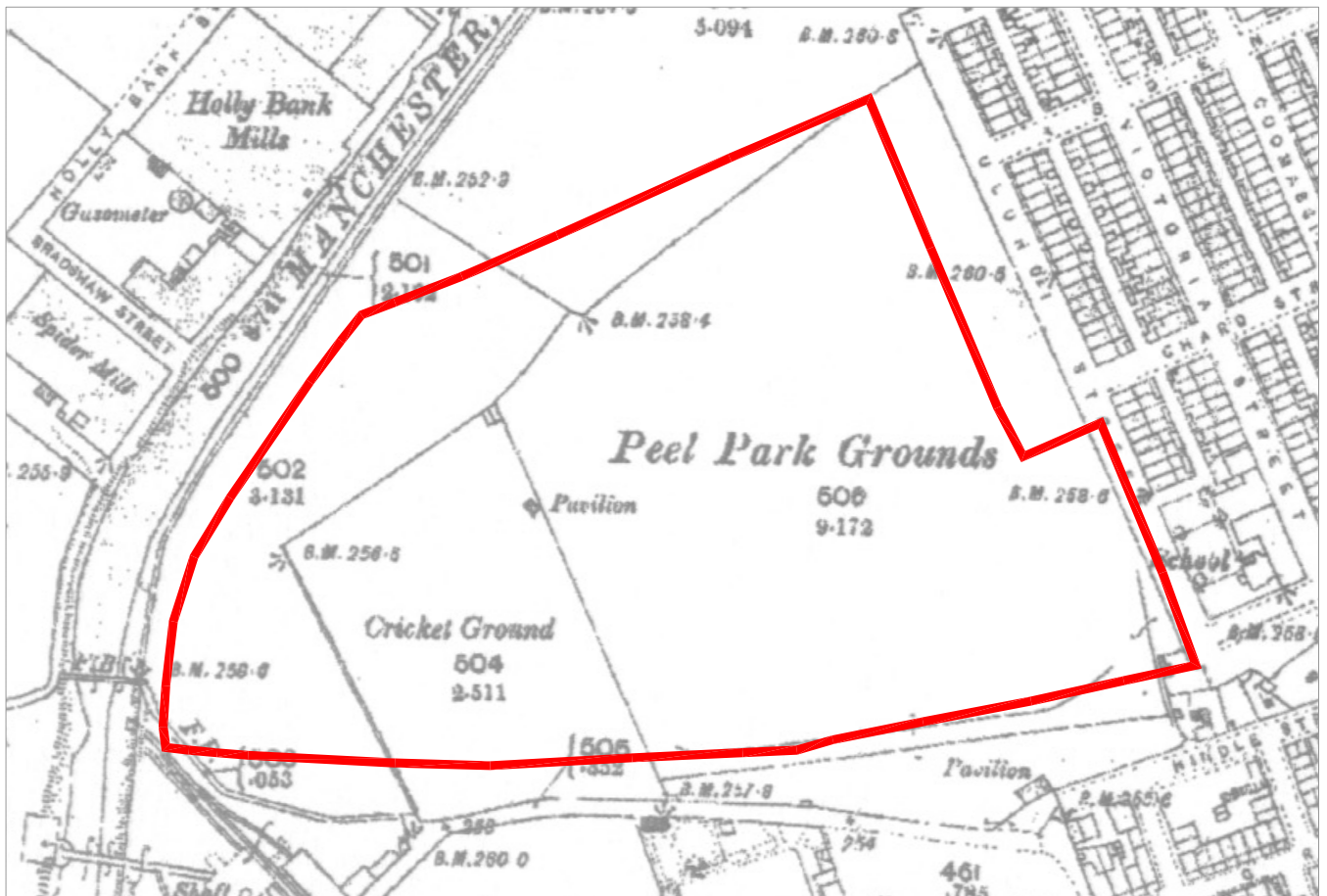




Figure 8: Extract from Assheton estate map of the Manor of Radcliffe, 1767 (GMRO(M) E7/18/5/2 1767), showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East campus site



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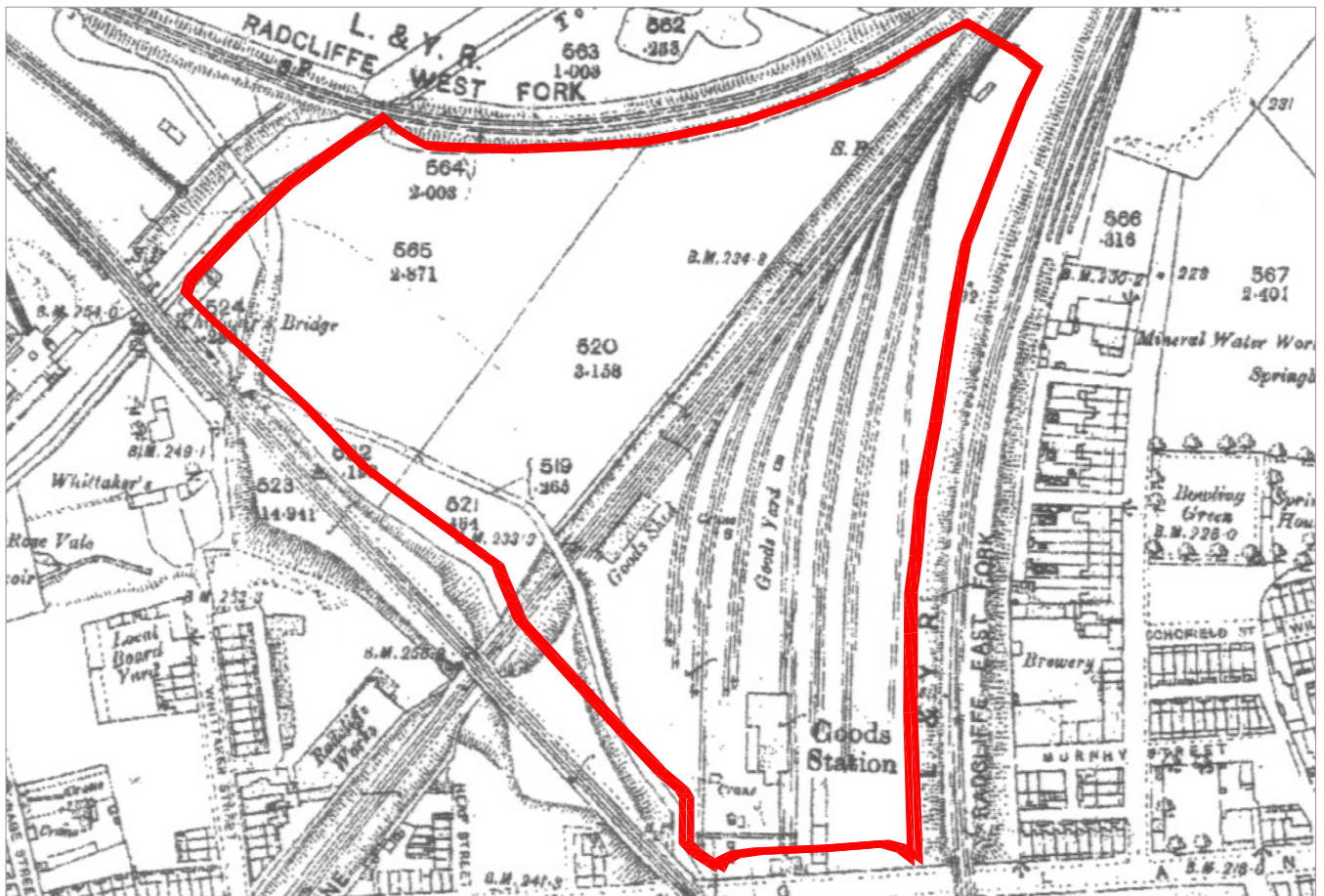


Figure 10: Extract from Ordnance Survey first edition 1:2500 map, 1893, showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus Site

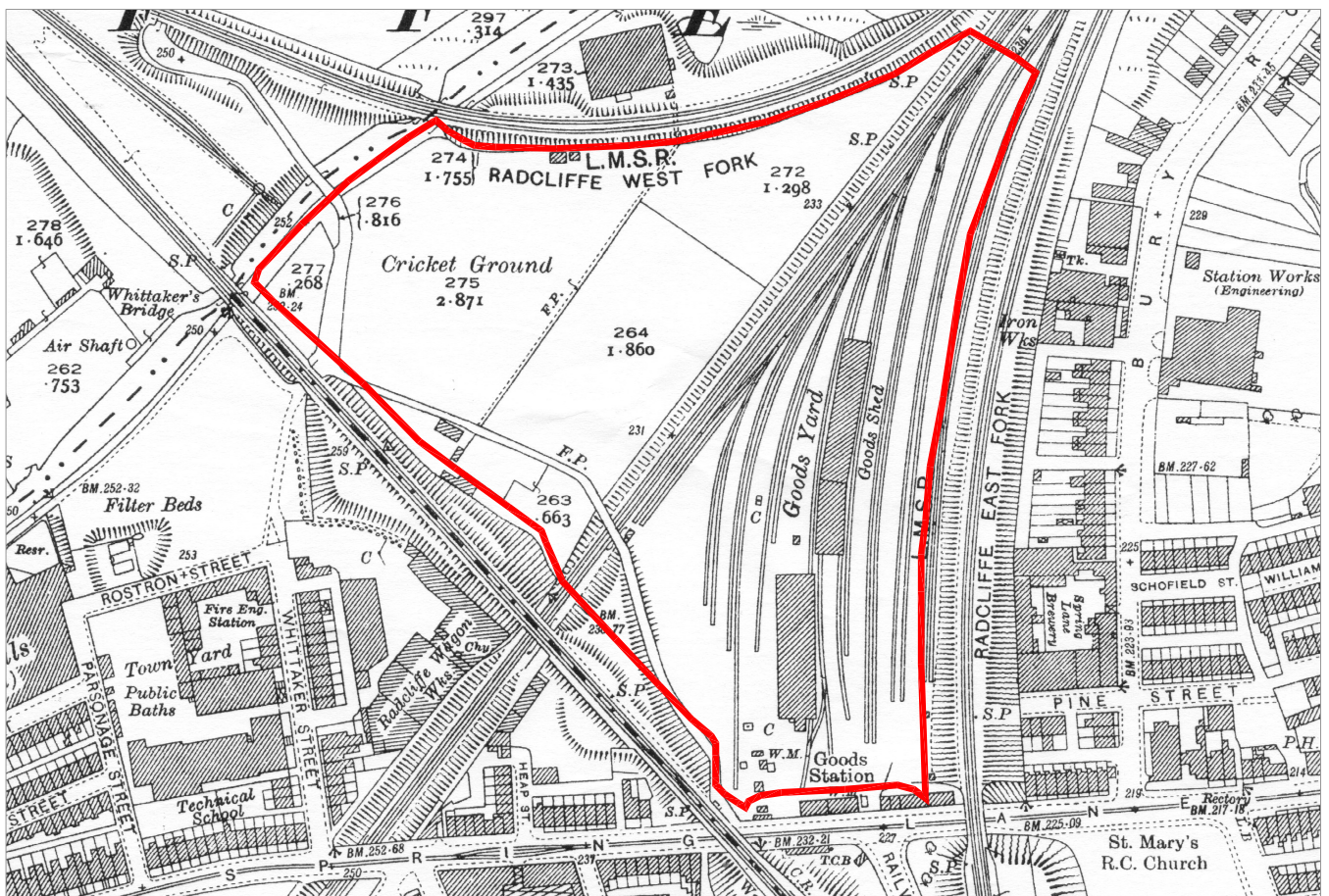


Figure 11: Extract from Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, 1937 showing the Radcliffe Riverside School East Campus site

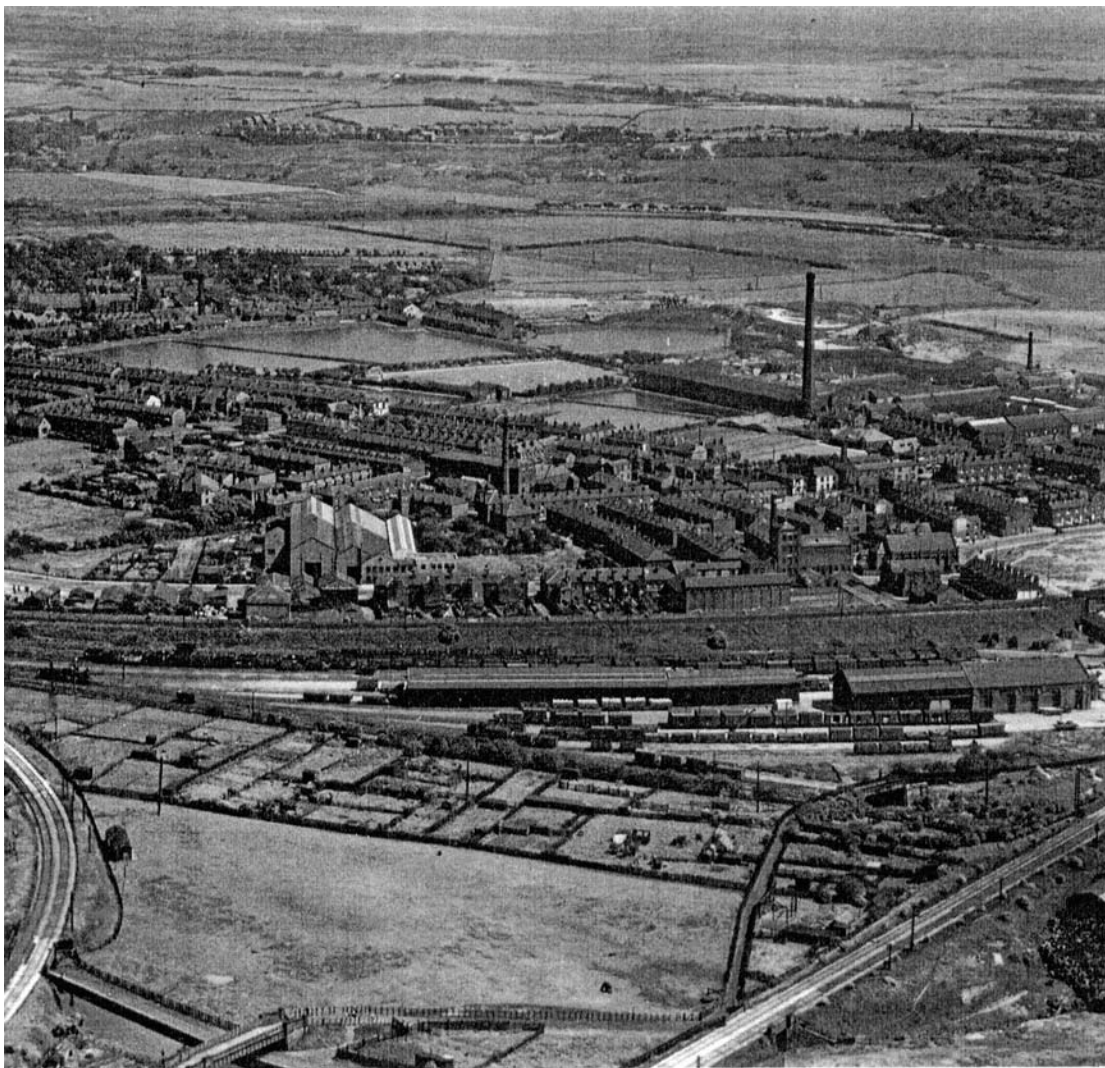


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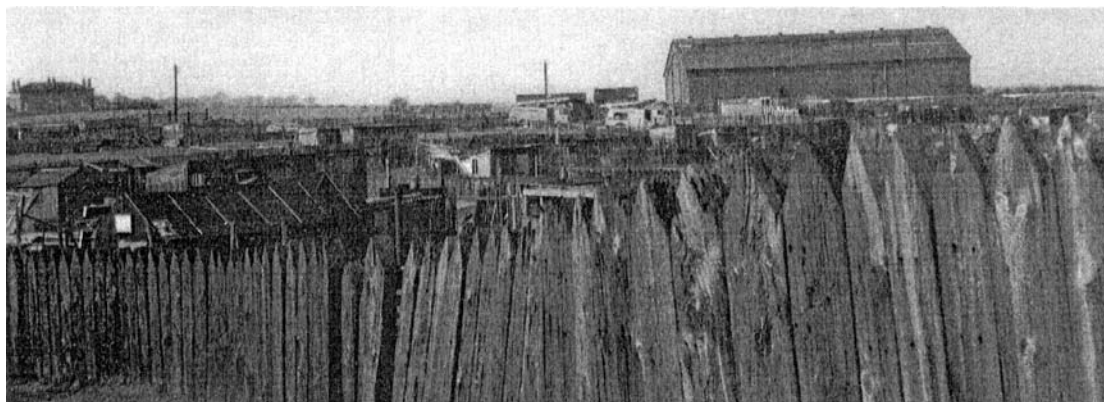


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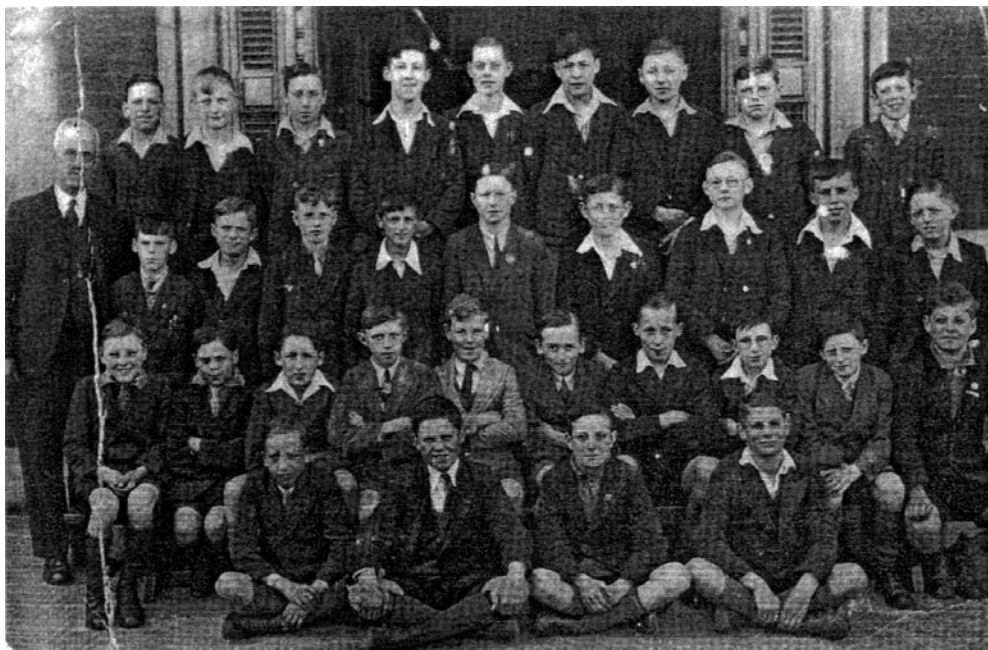


Plate 5: Second year boys at Radcliffe Central Senior School (Site 09), photographed in front of the staff and visitors' entrance, mid 1930s (Hudson 1994, 63)



Plate 6: North entrance to Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site 09)



Plate 7: Elevation to the west of the north entrance to Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site 09)



Plate 8: Window with ornate iron guard on one of the staircases in Radcliffe Riverside School West Campus (Site 09)

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT DESIGN

RADCLIFFE SCHOOLS DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

1. DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

The desk-based assessment will be undertaken to identify potential remains of archaeological interest, assess their significance, and make recommendations for mitigation with regards to future development schemes. The assessment will consist of a desk-based study and a site inspection. The desk-based element will be compiled from a combination of cartographic, photographic, secondary and primary archive sources. Detailed study will be focused upon the sites occupied currently by the Radcliffe High and Coney Green schools, whilst land within c1km will be studied in more general terms. Information relating to the study area will be obtained from:

- the Greater Manchester Sites and Monuments Record (SMR);
- Lancashire County Record Office (Preston);
- Greater Manchester County Record Office (Manchester);
- Bury Archive Service;
- Various libraries including Manchester Central, Bury, Lancaster, Radcliffe, and Oxford Archaeology North's offices.

A gazetteer of sites of archaeological interest that lie within the study area will be presented as an appendix, which will be compiled principally from data within the Greater Manchester SMR database.

2. VISUAL INSPECTION SURVEY

The aim of the site inspection will be to relate the findings of the desk-based study to the existing land-use, and to recover evidence not available from the desk-based sources.

3. ARCHIVE

A full archive will be produced to a professional standard in accordance with current United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (UKIC 1990) and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The project archive represents the collation and indexing of all the data and material gathered during the course of the project. The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the IFA in that organisation's code of conduct.

The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the appropriate Country Record Office on completion of the project, and two copies of the report will be deposited with the Greater Manchester SMR in Manchester.

4. REPORT

A report will be produced presenting the results of the research. This will include the following sections:

- Summary
- Project background
- Methodology
- Archaeological and historical background
- Identification of features or areas of known or potential archaeological interest
- Assessment of the impact of development on the historic built environment and potential below-ground remains
- Recommended archaeological mitigation
- Sources
- Gazetteer of sites

5 TIMETABLE

The assessment could commence within one week of receipt of instruction.

A two week period should be allowed to collate the relevant information and a further one week to compile an illustrated draft report. This should be submitted to the client and the Greater Manchester Planning Archaeologist for comment prior to completion of the final report.