

APPENDIX 8.1

STAKEHILL ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

P22-228



LAND AT STAKEHILL, MIDDLETON

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

for Redrow Homes

17/03/2023

LAND AT STAKEHILL, MIDDLETON

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

for Redrow Homes

March 2023

Ver 1.6

PROJECT INFORMATION:

HA JOB NO.	P22-228
NGR	389181, 409427
PARISH	Thornham
COUNCIL	Rochdale Borough Council

PROJECT TEAM:

PROJECT MANAGER, AUTHOR, SITE VISIT & GRAPHICS	Sarah – Jayne Harris
APPROVED BY	Andy Towle
VERSION COMMENTS	Draft for client review



TABLE OF CONTENTS

TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	3
LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.....	4
1. INTRODUCTION.....	7
1.2. CONSULTATION.....	7
1.3. SITE DESCRIPTION	7
1.4. SITE VISIT	10
1.5. GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY	31
2. LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE	32
2.1. STATUTORY PROTECTION.....	32
2.2. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK	34
2.3. LOCAL PLANNING POLICY	35
2.4. GUIDANCE.....	36
2.5. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	36
3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	37
4. METHODOLOGY	38
4.1. TERMINOLOGY – ‘SIGNIFICANCE’ AND ‘IMPORTANCE’	38
4.2. IDENTIFICATION OF HERITAGE ASSETS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED	38
4.3. LIMITATIONS OF BASELINE DATA	40
4.4. SCREENING ASSESSMENT	42
5. RESULTS.....	43
5.1. OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	43
5.2. HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (HLC)	43
5.3. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS	43
5.4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL NARRATIVE	47
5.5. IMPORTANT HEDGEROWS	58
5.6. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL.....	58
6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE	59
6.1. KNOWN AND POTENTIAL HERITAGE ASSETS WITHIN THE PDA	59
6.2. SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE	59
6.3. SETTING OF HERITAGE ASSETS IN THE STUDY AREA	60
7. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT	63
8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS	65
GLOSSARY.....	66
REFERENCES.....	72
LIST ENTRY SUMMARY	76
LEGACY SYSTEM INFORMATION.....	76

ASSET GROUPINGS	76
LIST ENTRY DESCRIPTION	77
SELECTED SOURCES	77
LIST ENTRY SUMMARY	79
ASSET GROUPINGS	79
LIST ENTRY DESCRIPTION	79
SELECTED SOURCES	80

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Illus 1. Site Location and Proposed Development Area (PDA)	9
Illus 2.. Modern Aerial Image Depicting the PDA	10
Illus 3. Stood at Rochdale Canal, looking east towards Hopwood Arms Farm on right of the picture, the proposed development area being behind these houses.	11
Illus 4. Rochdale Canal looking south. Stood in same location as Illus 3.u	12
Illus 5. Thornham Lane, viewed from Rochdale Road, looking east.	12
Illus 6. Looking north towards the cricket ground	13
Illus 7. Looking north east. Vegetation is low here which does not provide any screening of the potential development even during the months when there is foliage.	13
Illus 8. Looking east. There is better screening of the PDA here although this is seasonal.	14
Illus 9. Looking north west from entrance into churchyard. War Memorial and Church of St John.	14
Illus 10. Looking east towards development area from the War Memorial.	15
Illus 11. Looking north west from gate at corner of Thornham Lane and Lane to Church of St John.	15
Illus 12. Toll Bar Cottage located at the corner of Thornham Lane and Stakehill Lane. Looking south east.	16
Illus 13. St Johns CE Thornham Primary School. Originally constructed in 1845, it was both a Church and a school prior to the building of St John's Church in 1907. Looking north.	16
Illus 14. Thornham Lane Parsonage. Dates from c.1870. looking north.	17
Illus 15. Looking north west from stile next to school.	17
Illus 16. Looking east towards St John's Primary school from public footpath.	18
Illus 17. Looking west towards Church of St John, from foot path.	18
Illus 18 Looking east, Thornfields Farm visible in middle distance.	19
Illus 19. Hedgerow identified on Tithe mapping.	19
Illus 20. New Hey Farm, the original farm buildings such as farmhouse and barns remain but are surrounded by modern agricultural shed. Looking north.	20
Illus 21, Looking south towards Hedgerow identified on Tithe map	20
Illus 22 Looking south west at the southern area of PDA	21
Illus 23. Looking north west over the PDA, Church of St John is still visible above the white house (Vicarage) on left of picture.	21
Illus 24. Looking west down Thornham Lane towards Rochdale Road, the development to be located to the right of the picture, green space to the left.	22
Illus 25 Looking north onto area of land on the northern side of Thornham New Road	22
Illus 26. Looking south over the PDA, towards the Church of St John which is visible just above the tree line in the background.	23
Illus 27. Looking south east towards Tandle Hill.	23
Illus 28. Looking south east	24
Illus 29. Looking north east	24
Illus 30. Looking east.	25
Illus 31. Looking south east, Church of St John still visible, highlighted by orange circle	25
Illus 32. Looking south west.	26
Illus 33. Looking south.	26

Illus 34. Looking east. Stone and metal marker. – Rochdale Borough Boundary. Not recorded on HER.	27
Illus 35. Looking south west towards the Church of St John which is still visible	27
Illus 36. Looking north. On top of stile at highest AOD which was accessible.....	28
Illus 37. Looking south towards Thornham Lane. Blue Bridge which passes over the A627(M) is visible in distance. Blue square to show bridge.	28
Illus 38. Looking south west. Church of St John still visible.....	29
Illus 39. Looking west from Thornham Fold towards the proposed development. Blue bridge crosses the M66 and connects the farms and public house to Thornham Lane.	29
Illus 40. Location and direction of site visit photographs	30
Illus 41. British Geological Survey Data within the PDA	31
Illus 42. Location of designated heritage assets within the PDA and study area.....	44
Illus 43. Location of non-designated heritage assets within the PDA and study area.....	45
Illus 44. Location of previous events within the PDA and study area.	46
Illus 45 1786 Yates map extract	51
Illus 46. 1829 Hennet map extract site boundary approximate	52
Illus 47. 1839 Tithe map extract	53
Illus 48. 1851 first edition OS map extract.....	53
Illus 49. 1894 OS map extract.....	54
Illus 50. 1910 OS map extract.....	56
Illus 51. 1947 OS map extract.....	57
Illus 52. Processed LIDAR data for the PDA and surrounding area	57
Illus 53. Proposed Development as provided by the Client.....	64

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This report is an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) for a proposed development site at Stakehill, Middleton (NGR 389181, 409427), M24 2SH. It has been prepared by Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd on behalf of Redrow Homes in support of a planning application to develop the site. It serves as a baseline data report to support the cultural heritage chapter of an Environmental Impact Assessment and should be read in conjunction with the ES.

The DBA Study Area includes a 1 km study area beyond the proposed development area (PDA) boundary, within which the archaeological and historical development of the site and surrounding area is discussed. In accordance with national and local planning policy and guidance, the possible impacts that the proposed development could have on known and potential below-ground archaeological remains within the PDA, and the setting of heritage assets is considered.

There are two designated heritage assets surrounded by the PDA (but outside the site) comprising two grade II listed buildings. There are a further seven designated heritage assets within the Study Area, comprising grade II listed buildings and one conservation area.

There is one known heritage asset recorded by the Greater Manchester HER within the PDA (5085.1.0 Slattocks Peat, a naturally formed deposit of peat which may hold archaeological interest), and one non-designated heritage asset not noted on the HER (HA5) Saplin Farm (site of) and a further 35 within the Study Area.

The information presented in this report demonstrates that there is a low potential for remains of Palaeolithic (in the north of the PDA) to Early Medieval periods and a medium potential for Palaeolithic (in the southern part of the PDA), and Medieval to Modern periods likely to be preserved within the PDA. The site has not been subject to previous development and therefore there remains a potential for previously unknown archaeological remains to be present.

In light of the archaeological potential of the proposed development site, the local planning authority has stated in their pre-app response that the areas in which development is likely to take place, should be evaluated by a scheme of archaeological works, in the form of geophysical survey followed by targeted archaeological trial trenching.

The proposed development's impact on the settings of designated heritage assets is considered in the accompanying ES chapter and are not considered to represent a significant impact.

It is not anticipated that any proposals to develop the site should represent a conflict with legislation or national or local planning policies. The likely development impacts are not considered sufficiently significant to warrant refusal of a planning application to develop the site.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1. This report was commissioned by Barton Willmore, now Stantec on behalf of Redrow Homes and presents the results of an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) to support a planning application to construct a residential-led mixed use development at Land at Stakehill, Thornham Lane, Middleton, Rochdale, M24 2SH (NGR 389181, 409427) (Illus 1).
- 1.1.2. This report describes and assesses the significance of known heritage assets and potential archaeological remains within the proposed development area (PDA) in order to identify potential historic environment planning constraints.
- 1.1.3. This approach is consistent with the requirements of national and local planning policies on the historic environment in the planning process (see Part 3).

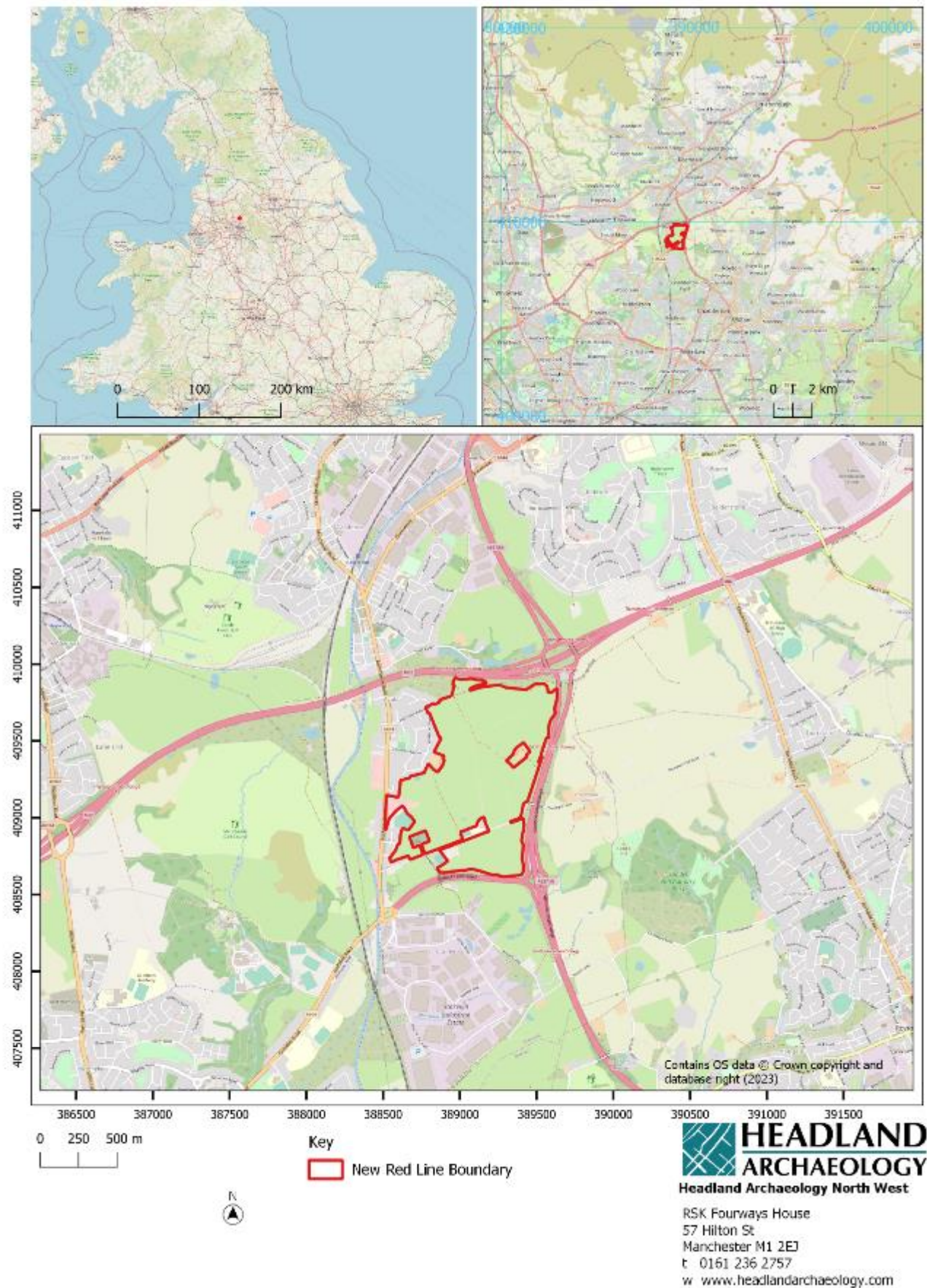
1.2. CONSULTATION

- 1.2.1. Pre-app consultation (**PREAPP/00091/22**) was undertaken with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), a response was received on 31st October 2022 from Ben Dyson, Senior Planning Archaeologist.
- 1.2.2. This states that, the presence or absence of archaeological remains has not been defined, and the potential for prehistoric archaeological remains on the higher free-draining ground based on the landscape setting and geology of the site, have the potential to be regionally important. The masterplan has identified areas where development is likely to take place, and these areas should be evaluated by a scheme of archaeological works, in the form of geophysical survey followed by targeted archaeological trenching. Ideally this evaluation work would be completed pre-application, undertake at an early enough stage that the results can feed into the developing masterplan.
- 1.2.3. In addition, the area known as Slattocks Peat, and two former farmsteads with the potential for below ground remains are located within the portion of the site south of Thornham Lane, recommending that a programme of archaeological works could be secured by a planning condition to appropriately assess their extents, survival and significance. If this area is not to be developed, then a scheme of works will not be necessary, however if the area will form a later phase of development, it will be important that a requirement for archaeological works is referenced in future development briefs.

1.3. SITE DESCRIPTION

- 1.3.1. The 89 ha PDA is located 3.35 km to the south of Rochdale Town Centre, 4.25 km north-east of Middleton Town Centre and 8.5 km east of Bury Town Centre (NGR 389181, 409427), post code M24 2SH (Illus 1).
- 1.3.2. There are two access points for vehicles to the PDA, to the north it is accessible via Thornham New Road, which also leads to Thornfields Farm, and to the south via Thornham Lane. There is also a number of public footpaths through the PDA, which can be accessed via gates and/or stiles.
- 1.3.3. The PDA comprises agricultural land enclosed by existing urban development to the west and road infrastructure to the north (M62), east (A627(M)) and south (Thornham Lane and Slattocks Link Road). Boundaries within the PDA consist of mainly hedgerows and some modern fencing; there are ponds and small natural channels where water has run off the high ground. The nearest watercourse is Rochdale Canal which is located to the west of the PDA and within the wider study area.

- 1.3.4. There are four structures that although not contained within the PDA red line boundary they are enveloped by it and will become part of the wider residential development. Accessed from the north is Thornfields Farm via Thornham New Road; the Church of St John and the War Memorial in its grounds, St John's Primary School and the adjacent residential dwelling (Vicarage) accessed from Thornham Lane and are located on the northern side of the Lane. This road also provides access to New Hey Farm. Outside of the PDA but located at the crossroad of Thornham Lane and Stakehill Lane, opposite the Church is a small residential dwelling, identified on early mapping as Toll Bar.
- 1.3.5. The site is located entirely within the modern Metropolitan Borough of Rochdale, although the historic boundary between Rochdale and Middleton parishes ran through the site.
- 1.3.6. The PDA is undulating in height ranging from 173 m above Ordnance datum (AOD) in the north-east corner, south-east corner 169 m AOD, 159 m AOD in the north-west corner and 142 m AOD adjacent to the Church of St John; on the southern side of Thornham Lane the PDA in the north-east corner sits at 163 m AOD, north-west corner 146 m and the southern tip 154 m AOD.



Illus 1. Site Location and Proposed Development Area (PDA)



Illus 2.. Modern Aerial Image Depicting the PDA

1.4. SITE VISIT

- 1.4.1. A site walkover was carried out on 12 October 2022 and again on 7th March 2023 (Illus 6 - Illus 38). Visibility was good and weather conditions were bright but cloudy. The ground was waterlogged during the first visit in areas due to recent heavy rains. The site overall is undulating which provides varying views of the surrounds. The locations of site photos are shown on Illus 40.
- 1.4.2. The Church of St John is visible across the site, especially the tower which protrudes above the tree line (Illus 9, Illus 17, Illus 23, Illus 26, Illus 35 & Illus 38). Views towards the PDA from this asset are only minimally screened by vegetation due to the short height of the hedge encircling the church yard, and widely

spaced trees (Illus 7, Illus 8, Illus 10 & Illus 11). Although these trees provide some screening throughout the summer season, throughout winter the loss of foliage will result in lower amounts of screening.

- 1.4.3. The PDA is also visible from the war memorial located within the church yard, and also has only partial screening from the short hedgerow.
- 1.4.4. There is a low level of screening around the boundary of the PDA from further short hedgerows and some trees (Illus 6, Illus 9, Illus 11, Illus 15, Illus 16 & Illus 22). Housing is visible to the far north west of the site (Illus 11).
- 1.4.5. Looking towards St Johns Primary School there is denser tree cover providing greater screening of the site (Illus 16). Thornfields Farm is visible to the east of the PDA (Illus 18). St Johns Primary School (Illus 13)
- 1.4.6. A hedgerow that is recorded on tithe mapping for the site was visible during the walkover (Illus 19 & Illus 21).
- 1.4.7. Facing towards the south west across the PDA visibility is extremely good with very long ranging views and minimal screening from vegetation (Illus 22).
- 1.4.8. Rochdale Borough Boundary markers were also noted to be in moderate condition during the walkover (Illus 34).
- 1.4.9. Facing south towards Thornham Lane the A627(M) is visible as a large blue bridge (Illus 37).



Illus 3. Stood at Rochdale Canal, looking east towards Hopwood Arms Farm on right of the picture, the proposed development area being behind these houses.



Illus 4. Rochdale Canal looking south. Stood in same location as Illus 3.u



Illus 5. Thornham Lane, viewed from Rochdale Road, looking east.



Illus 6. Looking north towards the cricket ground



Illus 7. Looking north east. Vegetation is low here which does not provide any screening of the potential development even during the months when there is foliage.



Illus 8. Looking east. There is better screening of the PDA here although this is seasonal.



Illus 9. Looking north west from entrance into churchyard. War Memorial and Church of St John.



Illus 10. Looking east towards development area from the War Memorial.



Illus 11. Looking north west from gate at corner of Thornham Lane and Lane to Church of St John.



Illus 12. Toll Bar Cottage located at the corner of Thornham Lane and Stakehill Lane. Looking south east.



Illus 13. St Johns CE Thornham Primary School. Originally constructed in 1845, it was both a Church and a school prior to the building of St John's Church in 1907. Looking north.



Illus 14. Thornham Lane Parsonage. Dates from c.1870. looking north.



Illus 15. Looking north west from stile next to school.



Illus 16. Looking east towards St John's Primary school from public footpath.



Illus 17. Looking west towards Church of St John, from foot path.



Illus 18 Looking east, Thornfields Farm visible in middle distance.



Illus 19. Hedgerow identified on Tithe mapping



Illus 20. New Hey Farm, the original farm buildings such as farmhouse and barns remain but are surrounded by modern agricultural shed. Looking north.



Illus 21, Looking south towards Hedgerow identified on Tithe map



Illus 22 Looking south west at the southern area of PDA



Illus 23. Looking north west over the PDA, Church of St John is still visible above the white house (Vicarage) on left of picture.



Illus 24. Looking west down Thornham Lane towards Rochdale Road, the development to be located to the right of the picture, green space to the left.



Illus 25 Looking north onto area of land on the northern side of Thornham New Road



Illus 26. Looking south over the PDA, towards the Church of St John which is visible just above the tree line in the background.



Illus 27. Looking south east towards Tandle Hill



Illus 28. Looking south east.



Illus 29. Looking north east



Illus 30. Looking east



Illus 31. Looking south east, Church of St John still visible, highlighted by orange circle



Illus 32. Looking south west



Illus 33. Looking south



Illus 34. Looking east. Stone and metal marker. – Rochdale Borough Boundary. Not recorded on HER.



Illus 35. Looking south west towards the Church of St John which is still visible



Illus 36. Looking north. On top of stile at highest AOD which was accessible.



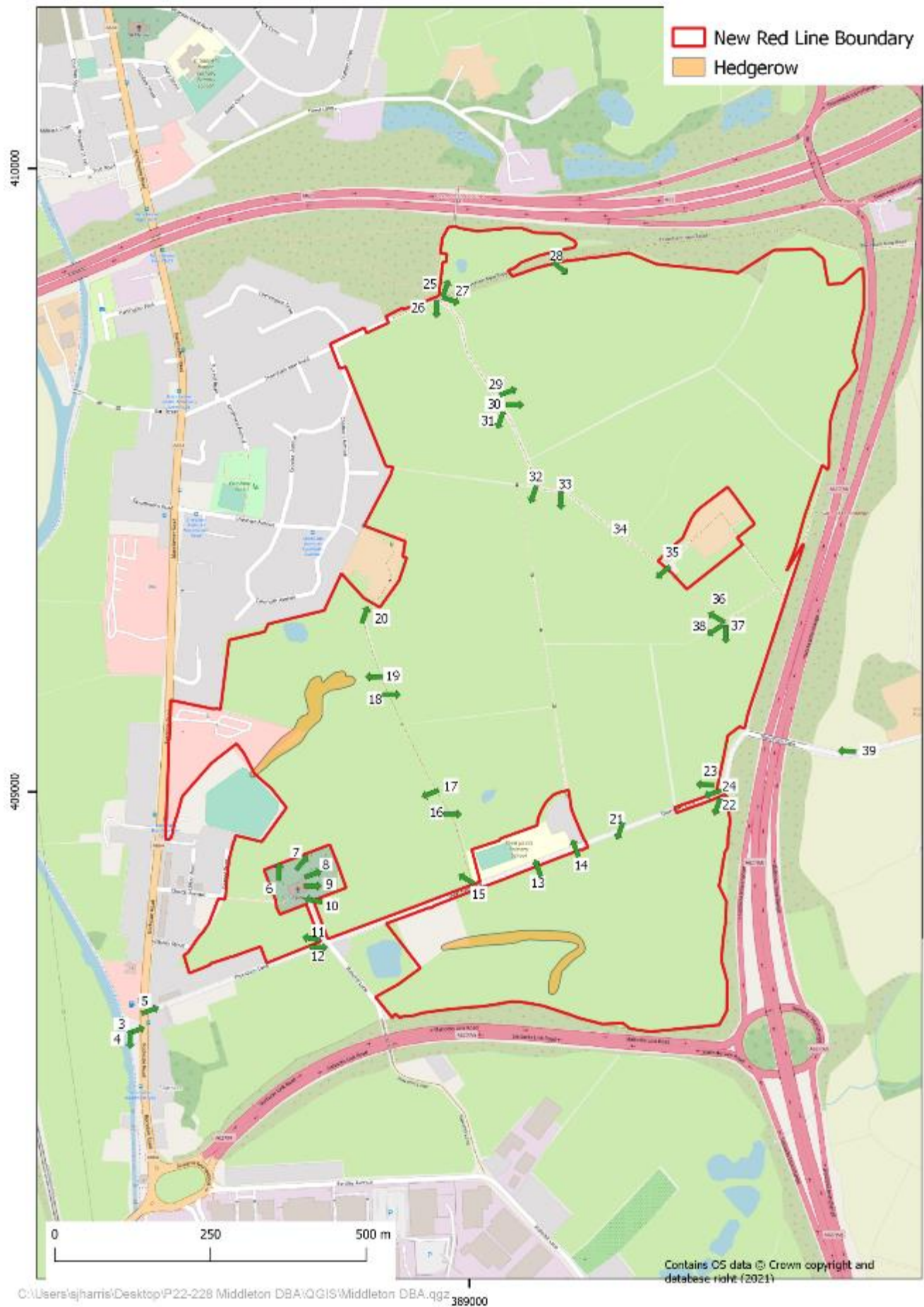
Illus 37. Looking south towards Thornham Lane. Blue Bridge which passes over the A627(M) is visible in distance. Blue square to show bridge.



Illus 38. Looking south west. Church of St John still visible



Illus 39. Looking west from Thornham Fold towards the proposed development. Blue bridge crosses the M66 and connects the farms and public house to Thornham Lane.



Illus 40. Location and direction of site visit photographs

1.5. GEOLOGY AND GEOMORPHOLOGY

- 1.5.1. The underlying solid geology is recorded by BGS as Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation, which consists of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone¹. This sedimentary bedrock was formed between 319 and 318 million years ago during the Carboniferous period.
- 1.5.2. Superficial deposits vary across the PDA, these are recorded as either Glaciofluvial deposits consisting of sand and gravel (shown as brown) and Till, Devensian consisting of Diamicton (shown in green) (Illus 41).
- 1.5.3. The PDA includes an area known to contain peat deposits.



Illus 41. British Geological Survey Data within the PDA

¹ BGS, <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> viewed 12.10.2022

2. LEGISLATION, POLICY AND GUIDANCE

2.1. STATUTORY PROTECTION

2.1.1. The relevant heritage legislation in the context of the present site is described in the table below.

Table 1. Historic Environment Statutory Legislation

Legislation	Key Issues
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	It is a criminal offence to carry out any works on or near to a Scheduled Monument without Scheduled Monument Consent. Development must preserve in-situ protected archaeological remains and landscapes of acknowledged significance and protect their settings.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)	The 1990 Act is amended by the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013 to introduce additional controls for works to listed buildings. Section 1 of the Act requires the Secretary of State to compile and maintain lists of buildings of special architectural or historic interest. The principal statutory duty under the Act is to preserve the special character of these heritage assets, including their setting. Buildings on the list are assessed and graded against the criteria of architectural and historic interest. Buildings listed at Grade I are defined as those considered to be of exceptional interest. Grade II* listed buildings are particularly important buildings of more than special interest, while Grade II listed buildings are of special interest.² This may include the extent to which the exterior of a building contributes to the interest of a group of buildings, i.e. 'group value'. Relevant Statutory Tests of the Act are as follows: Section 66: General duty as respects listed buildings in exercise of planning functions. <i>(1) In considering whether to grant planning permission [or permission in principle] for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.</i> <i>(2) Without prejudice to section 72, in the exercise of the powers of appropriation, disposal and development (including redevelopment) conferred by the provisions of sections 232, 233 and 235(1) of the principal Act, a local authority shall have regard to the desirability of preserving features of special architectural or historic interest, and in particular, listed buildings.</i> Section 72: General duty as respects conservation areas in exercise of planning functions. <i>(1) In the exercise, with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, of any [functions under or by virtue of] any of the provisions mentioned in subsection (2), special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.</i>

² <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/listed-buildings/>

Legislation	Key Issues
Treasure Act (1996)	The 1996 Act defines 'Treasure' as any object that is at least 10% gold or silver, associated with coins or groups of coins which are over 300 years old, objects formerly classed as 'treasure trove' (i.e. deliberately deposited items with a high content of gold or silver) and any objects found in association with the above. Any find of 'Treasure' must be reported to the local Coroner.
Burial Act (1857)	Under Section 25 of the 1857 Act, it is generally a criminal offence to remove human remains from any place of burial without an appropriate licence issued by the Ministry of Justice (MoJ), although recent legislative changes indicate that some cases are exempt from this requirement.
Hedgerow Regulations (1997)	A local authority can prohibit the removal of an 'important' hedgerow. Hedgerows can be considered important on grounds of historical or archaeological value or association in line with following criteria: ○ Marks a pre-1850 parish boundary (Criterion 1) ○ Physically incorporates or is part of a known and listed heritage asset; where the hedgerow is a contemporaneous or related to part of that heritage asset (Criterion 2 & 3) ○ Marks the boundary of, or is associated with, a pre-1600 estate or manor (Criterion 4) Is part of a pre-Parliamentary Inclosure field system (i.e. pre-dates the Inclosure Act 1796 – it may be recorded as "old enclosure" on the tithe/enclosure map or may be recorded on an earlier estate map) (Criterion 5)
National Heritage Act (1980, amended 1983 & 1997)	The 1983 Act created the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission (HBMC) – now Historic England, a non-departmental public body, given the broad remit of managing the historic built environment of England.
Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act (1953)	The Historic Buildings and Ancient Monuments Act 1953 authorises Historic England to compile a register of "gardens and other land" situated in England that appear to be of special historic interest.

2.2. NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

2.2.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, 2021³) confirms that the historic environment, including archaeological remains, constitutes a material consideration in planning decisions, requiring applicants to describe the significance of heritage assets potentially affected by the development, including any contribution made by their setting.

2.2.2. Heritage and conservation forms one of the core planning principles of NPPF:

(189) "[Planning should conserve heritage assets] in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life for this and future generations."

2.2.3. This report contributes to meeting the following Policies on the historic environment contained in the document (paragraph numbers in bold text)⁴.

(194) "In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes, or has the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation."

(200) Any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a designated heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting), should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of:

a) grade II listed buildings, or grade II registered parks or gardens, should be exceptional;

b) assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.*

(footnote 68) [Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest, which are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.]

(202) Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm should be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal including, where appropriate, securing its optimum viable use.

(203) The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

(206) Local planning authorities should require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible.

³

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1004408/NPPF_JUL_Y_2021.pdf

⁴ Government guidance on the application of the policies contained within the NPPF is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

2.3. LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

2.3.1. Rochdale Core Strategy, Adopted October 2016 contains policy P2 – Protecting and enhancing character, landscape and heritage, which states:

1. *We will protect and enhance the borough's character, the distinctiveness of its town centres, housing areas and countryside, and the qualities of its landscapes, utilising the considerable potential of these assets in development and regeneration schemes. We will do this by:*
 - a. *Requiring new development to integrate successfully with the key natural features of the borough, e.g. river valleys and the Pennine landscape;*
 - b. *Requiring new development to take opportunities to protect and open up important views of hills and valleys which are part of the borough's unique character;*
 - c. *Restoring the River Roch and other water bodies to their place as key and attractive features of the borough, including opening up waterways where they have been covered, and enhancing their setting, heritage assets and biodiversity potential;*
 - d. *Protecting, enhancing and utilising outstanding cultural landscapes, such as the Cheesden Valley area and around Littleborough and Hollingworth Lake; and*
 - e. *Conserving and enhancing townscape character.*
2. *We will protect the borough's heritage by:*
 - a. *conserving, enhancing and promoting key heritage assets, both statutory and non-statutory, including consideration of their wider settings. Key heritage assets of the borough include:*
 - o *Four outstanding conservation areas: Central Rochdale, Middleton and Littleborough town centres and Rock Nook / Summit;*
 - o *Other designated assets such as listed buildings, conservation areas, registered parks and scheduled ancient monuments;*
 - o *The heritage of the Co-operative movement, the Rochdale Pioneers and the Labour movements;*
 - o *The Edgar Wood and J. H. Sellers cultural heritage;*
 - o *The heritage of the seventeenth- and eighteenth-century vernacular tradition; and*
 - o *The engineering heritage, including mills, canals and railways.*
 - b. *Conserving, enhancing and utilising other non-statutory heritage assets of local interest, be they buildings, parks, garden or archaeological sites, including promoting their sensitive restoration;*
 - c. *Using heritage assets positively and intelligently to strengthen identity and image and support the visitor economy, particularly in development and regeneration schemes; and*
 - d. *Prioritising the conservation of heritage assets at risk from decay, giving special attention to designated heritage assets in this regard.*

2.4. GUIDANCE

- 2.4.1. This DBA has been prepared with reference to the ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (2014, revised 2017 and 2020⁵) and *Code of Conduct* (2014, revised 2019⁶), in addition to *The Setting of Heritage Assets* (Historic England's Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning GPA3, 2017⁷).
- 2.4.2. *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets* (Historic England Advice Note 12, 2019⁸) contains guidance on the assessment of heritage significance through consideration of the component heritage values of an asset, and further guidance on the assessment of significance as part of the planning application process is contained in *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment* (Historic England's Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning GPA2, 2015⁹).

2.5. PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 2.5.1. Headland Archaeology (UK) is a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA), an audited status which confirms that all work is carried out in accordance with the highest standards of the profession.
- 2.5.2. Headland Archaeology (UK), as part of the RSK Group, is recognised by the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) under their 'Historic Environment Service Provider Recognition' scheme. This quality assurance standard acknowledges that RSK works to the conservation standards of the IHBC, the UK's lead body for built and historic environment practitioners and specialists.
- 2.5.3. Headland Archaeology (UK) operates a quality management system to help ensure all projects are managed in a professional and transparent manner, which enables it to qualify for ISO 9001 (Quality Management), ISO 45001 (health and safety management) and ISO 14001 (environmental management).
- 2.5.4. Ordnance Survey data is produced under © Crown copyright and database rights Licence 100065113.
- 2.5.5. LiDAR data is reproduced © Environment Agency copyright and/or database rights 2022. All rights reserved.

⁵ https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf

⁶ https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Code%20of%20conduct%20revOct2019_0.pdf

⁷ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/heag180-gpa3-setting-heritage-assets/>

⁸ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/statements-heritage-significance-advice-note-12/heag279-statements-heritage-significance/>

⁹ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

3. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 3.1.1. The aim of this DBA is to inform determination of a planning application for redevelopment of the PDA in relation to its likely impact on the historic environment. The assessment aims to identify all known heritage assets potentially affected by the proposed development, and the potential for currently unknown heritage assets in order to gain an understanding of the historic environment resource and formulate an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the PDA, their significance, and strategies for further evaluation, mitigation or management as appropriate.
- 3.1.2. The ClfA's *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (2017¹⁰) defines a DBA as '*...a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely heritage assets, their interests and significance and the character of the Study Area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of heritage assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.*'
- 3.1.3. GPA2¹¹, para 12.3 requires that a DBA will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area, and the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment, or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so.
- 3.1.4. The objectives are therefore to:
- Collate all available written, graphic, photographic and electronic information relevant to the PDA;
 - Describe the nature, extent and significance and importance of the historic environment within the area potentially affected by the development, identifying any uncertainties in existing knowledge;
 - Determine the potential for previously unknown archaeological remains;
 - Determine the likely impact of the proposed development (the impact assessment is located within the accompanying cultural heritage EIA chapter);
 - Identify any requirements for further investigation that may be necessary to understand the impacts of the proposed development on the historic environment.

¹⁰ https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf

¹¹ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1. TERMINOLOGY – ‘SIGNIFICANCE’ AND ‘IMPORTANCE’

- 4.1.1. Heritage assets are assessed in this report in terms of their significance and importance, following the requirement in NPPF paragraph 194 and HEAN12, and taking account of Historic England’s guidance in *Managing Significance in Decision-Taking in the Historic Environment* (GPA2¹²).
- 4.1.2. Impact assessment is concerned with effects on significance, the value or interest that applies to all heritage assets and relating to the ways in which the historic environment is valued both by specialists and the public.
- 4.1.3. The significance of a heritage asset will derive from factors including fabric, setting, rarity, completeness, historic and cultural associations, community, research and place-making potential. Significance is assessed in relation to the criteria in HEAN12¹³ (i.e. in *archaeological, architectural, artistic, or historic* terms), which are intended primarily to inform decisions regarding heritage designations, but may also be applied more generally in identifying the ‘special characteristics’ of a heritage asset, which contribute to its significance and should be protected, conserved and enhanced according to the NPPF.
- 4.1.4. This use of the word ‘significance’, referring to the range of values or interest attached to an asset, should not be confused with the unrelated usage in EIA where the ‘significance of an effect’ reflects the weight that should be attached to it in a planning decision.
- 4.1.5. Relative importance of each identified heritage asset potentially affected by the proposed development has been determined to provide a framework for comparison between different heritage assets and to inform subsequent stages of archaeological assessment and the development of any appropriate mitigation which may be required (See Table 2 below).
- 4.1.6. For further terminology and definitions, see Glossary.

4.2. IDENTIFICATION OF HERITAGE ASSETS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED

STUDY AREA

- 4.2.1. The Study Area for this assessment comprises a 1km buffer surrounding the PDA, within which the archaeological and historical development of the site and surrounding area has been considered.

DATA SOURCES

- 4.2.2. The assessment has been based on a study of all readily available documentary sources, following the ClfA Standards and Guidance. The following sources of information were referred to:
- Designation data from the National Heritage List for England, downloaded from the Historic England website¹⁴ on 5th October 2022 and descriptions of designated heritage assets viewed on the Historic England website;
 - Archaeological and architectural records from the National Record of the Historic Environment, viewed through the Heritage Gateway website¹⁵;

¹² <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

¹³ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/statements-heritage-significance-advice-note-12/heag279-statements-heritage-significance/>

¹⁴ <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/data-downloads/>

¹⁵ www.heritagegateway.org.uk

- Archaeological records and aerial photographs held by Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GMHER) (23/08/2022)
- Historic Landscape Characterisation (GMHER)
- Historic maps and plans held in the Rochdale Borough Council archive;
- Environment Agency Lidar data¹⁶;
- Geological data available online from the British Geological Survey¹⁷;
- Portable Antiquities Scheme data;
- Readily available published sources and unpublished archaeological reports.

4.2.3. Heritage assets within the Proposed Development Area are shown in Illus 42 & Illus 43, with detailed descriptions compiled in a gazetteer (Appendix 1).

4.2.4. Designated heritage assets are referenced in this report by National Heritage List for England list entry number. Undesignated assets are referenced by HER Preferred Reference or the National Record of the Historic Environment reference. Any newly discovered assets are assigned a number prefixed HA for Heritage Asset. A single asset number can refer to a group of related features, which may be recorded separately in the HER and other data sources.

SITE VISIT

4.2.5. A site visit was undertaken on 12th October 2022, and 7th March 2023 during which notes were made regarding site characteristics, any visible archaeology and geographical/geological features which may have a bearing on previous land use and archaeological survival, as well as those which may constrain subsequent archaeological investigation.

4.2.6. Records were made regarding extant archaeological features, such as earthworks or structural remains, any negative features, local topography and aspect, exposed geology, soils, watercourses, health and safety considerations, surface finds, and any other relevant information.

HISTORIC MAP REGRESSION

4.2.7. The historic Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping sequence corresponding with the PDA was consulted to collect information on former land use and development throughout the later historic periods.

4.2.8. Parish tithe mapping and associated apportionment documents were consulted to identify annotated structures and record any field name evidence indicative of archaeological potential.

LIDAR

4.2.9. Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) is an airborne mapping technique, which uses a laser to measure the distance between the aircraft and the ground. Up to 500,000 measurements per second are made of the ground, allowing highly detailed terrain models to be generated in which it is possible to identify shallow or otherwise imperceptible topographic features.

4.2.10. A Composite Digital Terrain Model (DTM) has been produced by removing objects from the Digital Surface Model (DSM) which is available at 1m resolution for the Site. Composite data breaks down by spatial resolution i.e. 2m, 1m, 50cm and 25cm and is made up from a combination of the full EA dataset which has been merged and re-sampled to give the best possible coverage. This means that a 1m resolution tile may contain decimated 50cm data as well as native captured 1m data. It is not possible using only the composite to know which part of a given tile was surveyed at which resolution.

¹⁶ <https://environment.data.gov.uk/>

¹⁷ <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

- 4.2.11. Analysis was undertaken by a professional archaeologist using QGIS imaging and geo-referencing/mapping software.

4.3. LIMITATIONS OF BASELINE DATA

DATA SOURCES

- 4.3.1. Information held by public data sources is generally considered to be reliable; however, the following general points are noted:
- Documentary sources are rare before the medieval period;
 - Whilst it is accepted that historic documents may be biased depending on the author, with content seen through the lens of context, wherever such documentary sources are used in assessing archaeological potential professional judgment is used in their interpretation in that the functionality of the document is considered;
 - HER records can be limited because opportunities for research, fieldwork and discovery depend on the situation of commercial development and occasional research projects, rather than the result of a more structured research framework. A lack of data within the HER records does not necessarily equal an absence of archaeology;
 - Where archaeological sites have been identified solely from aerial imagery without confirmation from archaeological excavation or supporting evidence in the form of find-spots for example, it is possible the interpretation may be revised in the light of further investigation.
 - The significance of sites can be difficult to identify from HER records, depending on the accuracy and reliability of the original source; and
 - There can often be a lack of dating evidence for archaeological sites.

SITE VISIT

- 4.3.2. Any archaeological site visit has inherent limitations, primarily because archaeological remains below ground level may have no surface indicators.

ASSESSMENT OF IMPORTANCE

- 4.3.3. The importance of a heritage asset is the overall value assigned to it reflecting its statutory designation or, in the case of undesignated assets, the professional judgement of the assessor (Table 2). Historic England guidance also refers to an asset's 'level of significance' (GPA2¹⁸, paragraph 10), which in this usage has the same meaning as importance.
- 4.3.4. Any feature which does not merit consideration in planning decisions due to its significance may be said to have negligible importance. It is the role of the professional judgements made by the assessor to identify any historic remains within the PDA that are considered to be of negligible importance, to justify no further works.

Table 2. Criteria for Assessing the Importance of Heritage Assets

¹⁸ <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa2-managing-significance-in-decision-taking/gpa2/>

Importance of the asset	Criteria
Very High (International)	World Heritage Sites and other assets of equal international importance, that contribute to international research objectives
High (National)	Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Battlefields, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, and undesignated heritage assets of equivalent importance that contribute to national research objectives. Also Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens and Grade II Listed Buildings which have particular characteristics that merit a high level of importance.
Medium (National or Regional)	Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens, Grade II Listed Buildings except where their particular characteristics merit a higher level of importance, heritage assets on local lists and undesignated assets that contribute to Regional research objectives
Low (Local)	Locally listed heritage assets, except where their particular characteristics merit a higher level of importance, undesignated heritage assets of Local importance, including assets that may already be partially damaged
Negligible	Identified historic remains of no importance in planning considerations, or heritage assets and findspots that have already been removed or destroyed (i.e. 'site of')
Unknown / Uncertain	Heritage assets for which a level of importance cannot be defined on current information

- 4.3.5. The importance of heritage assets that may be affected by the proposed development is identified in the impact assessment and summarised in the Gazetteer (Appendix A).

POTENTIAL FOR UNKNOWN HERITAGE ASSETS

- 4.3.6. Archaeological features are often impossible to identify through desk-based assessment. The likelihood that significant undiscovered heritage assets may be present within the Proposed Development Area is referred to as *archaeological potential*. Overall levels of potential can be assigned to different landscape zones, following the criteria in Table 3, while recognising that the archaeological potential of any zone will relate to particular historical periods and types of evidence. The following factors are considered in assessing archaeological potential:

- The distribution and character of known archaeological remains in the vicinity, based principally on an appraisal of data in the Greater Manchester HER;
- The history of archaeological fieldwork and research in the surrounding area, which may give an indication of the reliability and completeness of existing records;
- Environmental factors such as geology, topography and soil quality, which would have influenced land-use in the past and can therefore be used to predict the distribution of archaeological remains;
- Land-use factors affecting the survival of archaeological remains, such as ploughing or quarrying; and

- Factors affecting the visibility of archaeological remains, which may relate to both environment and land-use, such as soils and geology (which may be more or less conducive to formation of cropmarks), arable cultivation (which has potential to show cropmarks and create surface artefact scatters), vegetation, which can conceal upstanding features, and superficial deposits such as peat and alluvium which can mask archaeological features.

Table 3. Archaeological potential

Potential	Definition
High	Undiscovered heritage assets of high or medium importance are likely to be present.
Medium	Undiscovered heritage assets of low importance are likely to be present; and it is possible, though unlikely, that assets of high or medium importance may also be present.
Low	The study area may contain undiscovered heritage assets, but these are unlikely to be numerous and are highly unlikely to include assets of high or medium importance.
Negligible	The study area is highly unlikely to contain undiscovered heritage assets of any level of importance.
Nil	There is no possibility of undiscovered heritage assets existing within the study area.

4.4. SCREENING ASSESSMENT

- 4.4.1. In the gazetteer (Appendix 1) the results of a screening exercise are presented to consider whether further detailed assessment in the EIA chapter is required for heritage assets within the PDA, based on whether it is likely that their cultural significance could be harmed through development within their setting. Summary results are present in Part 6.2.
- 4.4.2. The Stage 1 screening assessment methodology considers each heritage asset in the Study Area in turn to identify those assets which have a wider landscape setting that contributes to their cultural significance and whether it is likely that cultural significance would be harmed by the Proposed Development. Where heritage assets are located which may provide a significant view towards the heritage asset and the Proposed Development are considered.
- 4.4.3. The screening assessment methodology considers all heritage assets in the Study Area to identify any assets of particular importance and/or sensitivity to visual change, based on the approach set out in the scoping report. This is a rapid screening exercise, supplemented through scoping, and only those monuments identified beyond the proposed development requiring detailed assessment are added to the Gazetteer.
- 4.4.4. In the case of this Proposed Development, there are two monuments identified in the Stage 1 assessment requiring detailed consideration in the EIA, Grade II Listed buildings – Church of St John and Thornham Parish War Memorial.

5. RESULTS

5.1. OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

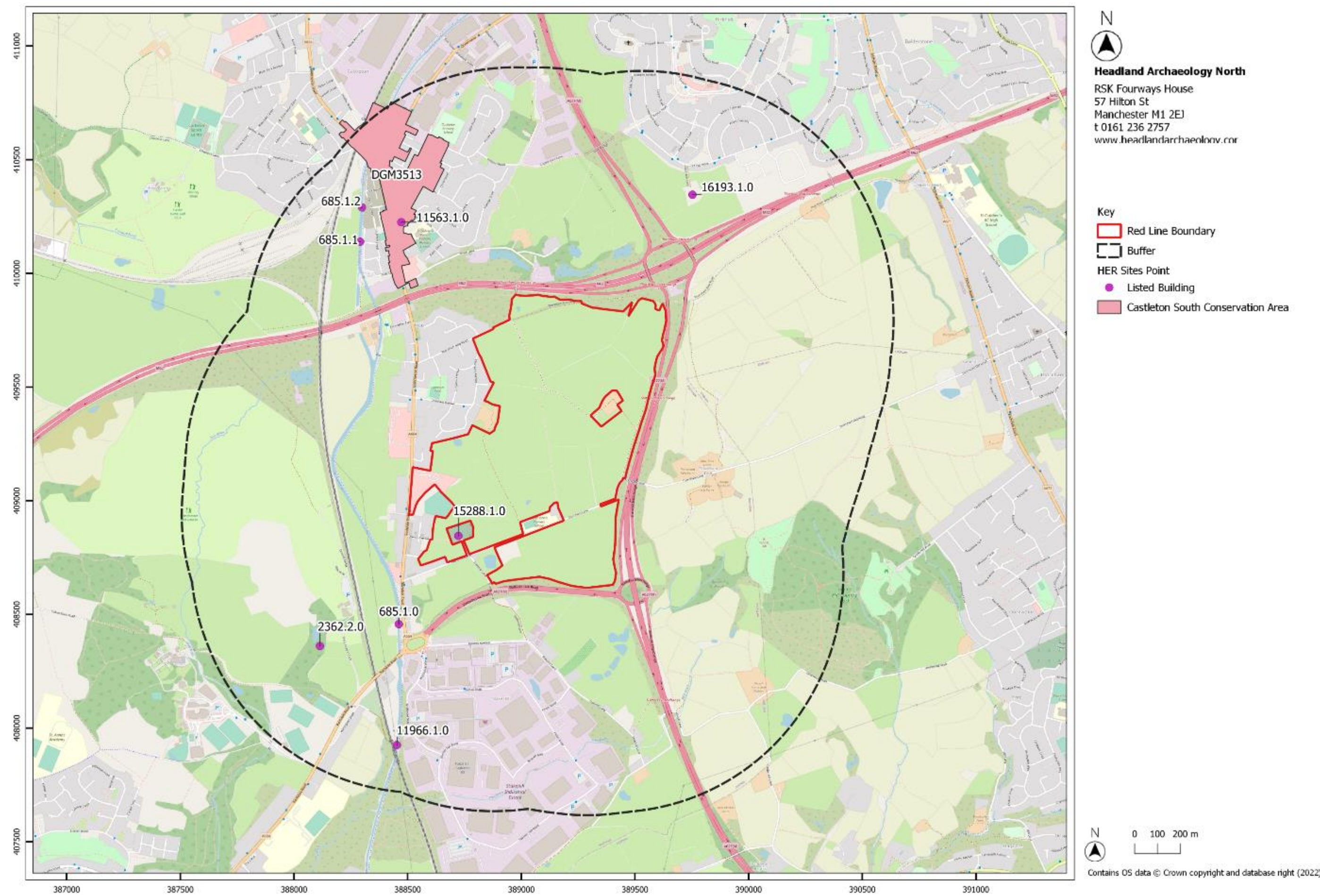
- 5.1.1. The full list of known heritage assets is presented in the gazetteer (Appendix 1), and the location of each is shown on Illus 42, Illus 43 and Illus 44.
- 5.1.2. The significance of these assets is discussed by period in the Assessment of Heritage Significance section below.
- 5.1.3. There are two designated assets within the PDA:
- 15288.1.0 – Church of St John (St John’s Church) – Grade II
 - 15288.2.0 – Thornham Parish War Memorial – Grade II
- 5.1.4. There are seven designated assets within the wider study area, including one conservation area:
- 685.1.2 – Lock No. 52 and Towpath Bridge, Rochdale Canal – Grade II
 - 685.1.0 – Slattocks Top Lock (No. 54) and Adjoining Bridge - Grade II
 - 685.1.1 – Lock No. 53, Rochdale Canal – Grade II
 - 2362.2.0 – Hopwood Hall Icehouse – Grade II
 - 11563.1.0 – Church of St Martin (St Martin’s Church) – Grade II
 - 11966.1.0 – Rochdale Canal Lock No.58 and Adjoining Bridge – Grade II
 - 16193.1.0 – Sand Hole Farmhouse – Grade II
 - DGM3513 – Castleton (South) – Conservation Area
- 5.1.5. There are two non-designated assets located within the PDA: 5085.1.0 – Slattocks Peat, a naturally-formed deposit of peat which may hold archaeological interest; and HA5 (site of) Saplin Farm.
- 5.1.6. There are 35 non-designated heritage assets in the study area comprising three Prehistoric assets, four assets dating to the Medieval period, and 28 assets dating to the Post-medieval period.

5.2. HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER (HLC)

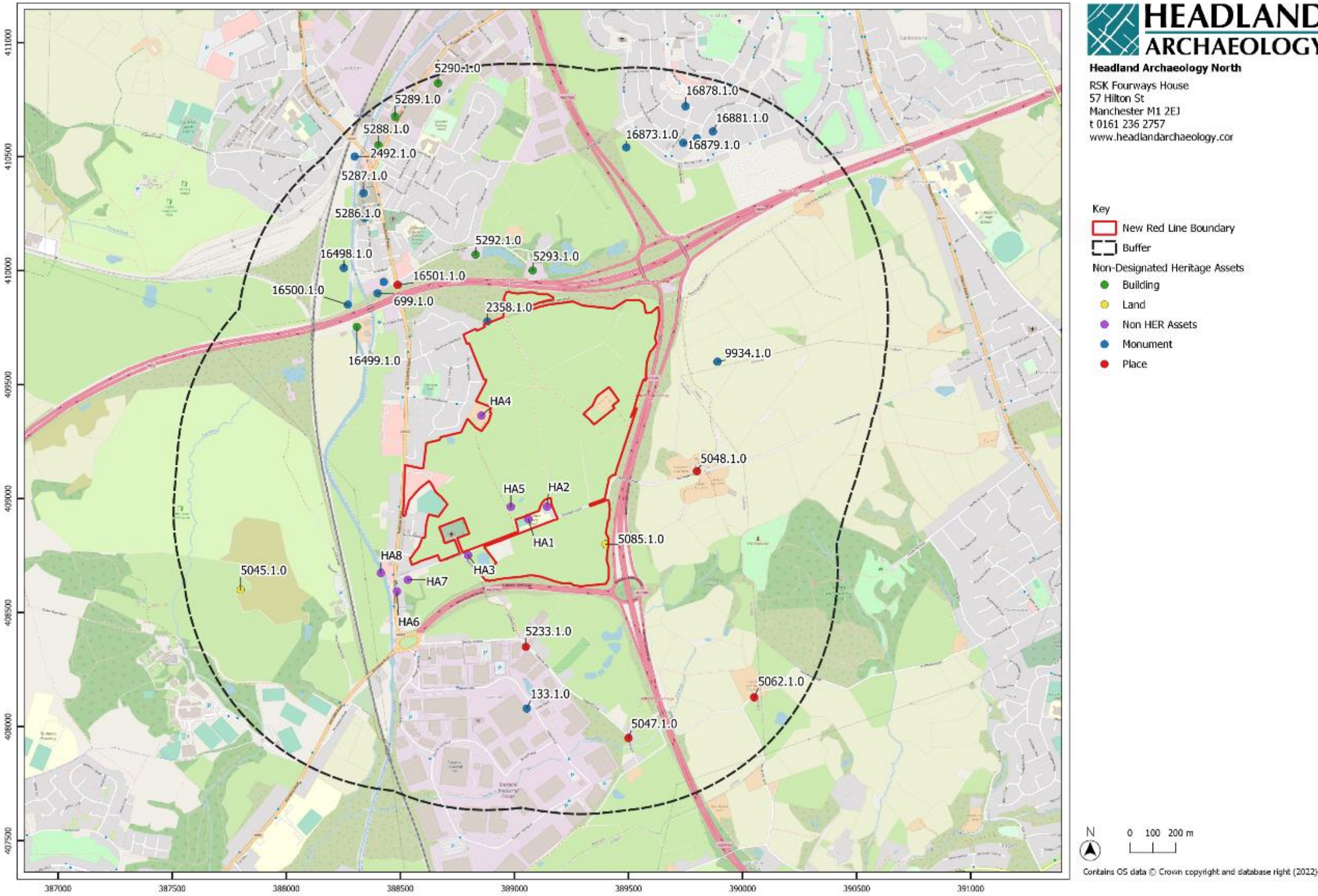
- 5.2.1. Historic Landscape Characterisation of the study area, there are four areas defined within the PDA:
- To the north of Thornham Lane are agglomerated fields (HGM25939);
 - Thornfields is a farm complex (HGM25938);
 - In the east is a garden centre (HGM25922); and
 - To the south of Thornham Lane is an area of piecemeal enclosure (HGM25934).

5.3. PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

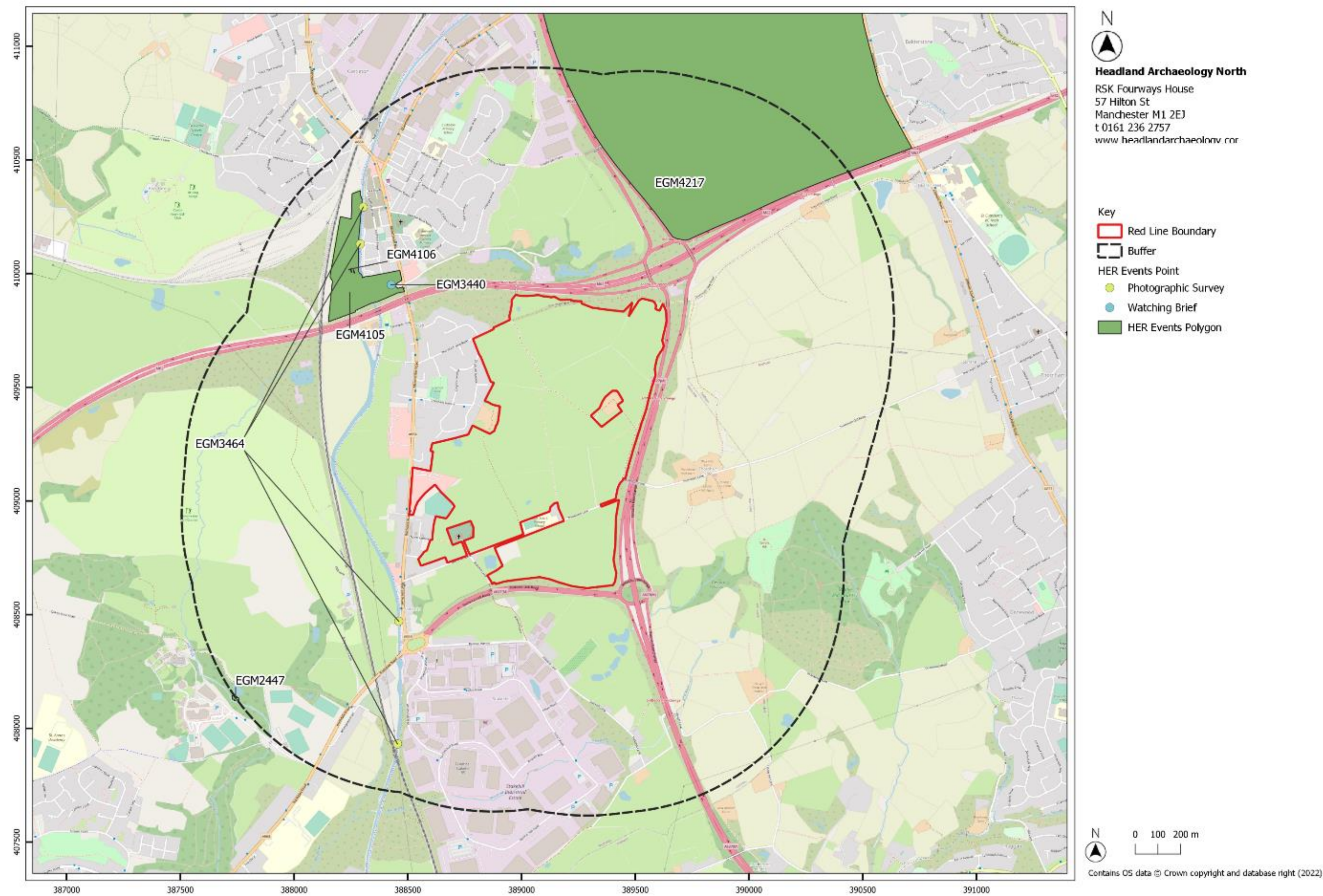
- 5.3.1. There is one previous investigation recorded within the PDA, however it is not listed within the HER data. Stakehill Historic Environment Assessment (2019, CfAA), this concluded that *‘there is potential for prehistoric remains.....in particular, on the sands and gravels (Geology is shown on Illus 41). A number of possible Post-medieval/later farmsteads may survive as archaeological remains as well. There is also potential for historic hedgerows... it should also be noted that the Church of St John has a graveyard and any direct impact should be avoided.’*
- 5.3.2. There are a further six previous investigations which have occurred within the wider study area, two desk-based assessments, one photographic record, one watching brief, one evaluation and one excavation.



Illus 42. Location of designated heritage assets within the PDA and study area.



Illus 43. Location of non-designated heritage assets within the PDA and study area.



Illus 44. Location of previous events within the PDA and study area.

5.4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

PREHISTORIC PERIODS

PALAEOLITHIC (800,000 – 8500 BCE)

- 5.4.1. Archaeology from this period is normally represented by chance findspots rather than more substantial remains of in-situ activity such as settlements or burials. Material from the Lower and Middle Palaeolithic is rare on a national scale.
- 5.4.2. The north west has produced late Upper Palaeolithic lithic material mainly from excavations in caves and rock shelters. Fieldwork across the region throughout the last decade has produced no new discoveries of Upper Palaeolithic cultural evidence *in situ*. Evidence from High Furlong in the Fylde demonstrates that we should anticipate finding late Upper Palaeolithic evidence from open air locations¹⁹.
- 5.4.3. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA.
- 5.4.4. There is evidence dating to this period within the wider study area: a natural feature of peat, Slattocks Peat (5085.1.0) located on the south side of Thornham Lane. It was a small parcel of undated peat at about 150m OD, shown on the 1947 Ordnance Survey Geological Survey, overlying glacial sand and gravel with beds of clay, on Lower Coal Measures and sandstone. Some Rochdale peats may have developed from recent waterlogging. There are however no known associated archaeological remains. Its heritage interest lies in its potential to contain evidence for the environmental conditions during the period in which it formed and would therefore define the context within which contemporary humans lived.
- 5.4.5. There is assessed to be a low potential overall for the PDA to contain previously unknown archaeological remains dating to this period to the north of Thornham Lane, however, the area where there is a known peat deposit in the southern area there is assessed to be a medium potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are most likely to be palaeoenvironmental evidence captured in the organic material constituting the peat deposit.

MESOLITHIC (8500-4000 BCE)

- 5.4.6. Evidence of Mesolithic activity tends to be represented by lithic findspots, small flakes of flints known as microliths typified this period.
- 5.4.7. In Cheshire, major excavations of an Iron Age settlement at Poulton have also recovered evidence for earlier phases of activity from residual contexts. A significant Mesolithic site was found at Stainton West in association with the Carlisle Northern Development Route (CNDR). At a point where the River Eden bisected the proposed road corridor with a large meander, the site for the northern landing of a new bridge was subject to open area excavation between October 2008 and December 2009. This followed an evaluation phase that had revealed a dense and extensive lithic scatter on the low-lying floodplain spatially associated with two relict river channels. Over 300,000 artefacts were recovered, making Stainton West one of the most prolific Mesolithic sites in Britain ²⁰.
- 5.4.8. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA.
- 5.4.9. There is a single entry on the HER for this time period within the wider study area, (5045.1) Hopwood Hall Moss, a natural feature within the landscape which is noted as beginning to form during this period. Peat cutting had taken place, but it has now reverted to its natural state, they are adequately preserved.

¹⁹ Myers & Stallibrass 2022

²⁰ Myers & Stallibrass 2022

- 5.4.10. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

NEOLITHIC (4000-2200 BCE)

- 5.4.11. The Neolithic period was a gradual transition towards settlement which facilitated a shift towards agriculture.
- 5.4.12. In the Mersey basin sites on a low ridge of Bunter Sandstone were found ahead of quarrying at Southworth Hall Farm, near Winwick. Adjacent to a Romano-British enclosure on the top of the ridge was an area containing several small pits dating to the early Neolithic. Although activities at the site appear to have been relatively short-lived, it is clear that the same ridge was repeatedly visited throughout prehistory. Another early Neolithic occupation site has been investigated at Holbeck Park Avenue, Barrow in Furness. A tree throw hollow contained a significant assemblage of early Neolithic pottery, lithics (including a rod microlith), and cereal grain. Radiocarbon dating indicates a single phase of activity. Neolithic features and finds at Mark Rake include postholes and shallow pits. Artefacts include Grimston Ware pottery, a leaf-shaped arrowhead, a possible saddle quern, a rubbing stone, and concentrations of fire-cracked stones and sandstone pebbles²¹.
- 5.4.13. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA or study area.
- 5.4.14. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

BRONZE AGE (2200-700 BCE)

- 5.4.15. During this period people had started to establish permanent settlements.
- 5.4.16. The only known Middle Bronze Age roundhouse in Greater Manchester was excavated at Cutacre open cast coal mine in 2006. This was a single roundhouse that lay on gravel close to a palaeo-channel in an area dominated by boulder clay. Nearby were two sequential four-post structures thought to be malting floors. A small assemblage of Middle Bronze Age pottery was recovered. The Carlisle Northern Development Route investigations found evidence for a settled landscape in the Bronze Age, with a small hilltop settlement comprising three roundhouses²².
- 5.4.17. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA.
- 5.4.18. To the east of the PDA within the study area (9934.1.0) are field boundaries and a possible mound; a circular platform c. 20-30 metres in diameter is visible on aerial photographs, it is situated on a large natural mound, it is possible that this may be due to earth movement or the flattening of a mound. There are a number of ploughed out and destroyed field boundaries to the west and north of the feature also visible; these are assumed to be dated from the Early Bronze to the Late Iron Age.
- 5.4.19. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

IRON AGE (700 BCE- 43 CE)

- 5.4.20. Across the north west archaeological settlement evidence from the Bronze Age remains elusive. In the northern part of the region fragmentary evidence has been noted at several sites. Pits excavated at Old

²¹ Myers & Stallibrass 2022

²² Myers & Stallibrass 2022

Church Lane, Brampton contained pottery of Late Bronze Age or Iron Age date. Similarly, the ring gully of a roundhouse excavated at Micklam Farm, Lowca contained hand-made later prehistoric pottery. At New Cowper Quarry a group of postholes post-dating Neolithic features are presumed to date from this period. At Crooklands a relatively small sub-circular enclosure that was not detected through geophysical survey was revealed during a watching brief. The enclosure had an entrance to the east and contained several groups of pits and postholes representing internal structures²³.

- 5.4.21. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA or study area.
- 5.4.22. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

HISTORIC PERIODS

ROMAN/ROMANO-BRITISH PERIOD (43CE- 410CE)

- 5.4.23. There are a number of Roman roads which lead to forts and fortlets such as at Castleshaw in Oldham and in Ilkley, Yorkshire. As much of the north Manchester area has been heavily developed during later periods the exact line of this road is uncertain. There are, however, a number of potential lines, such as one which passes close to Middleton, and potentially the PDA.
- 5.4.24. Excavations on five areas within the Roman vicus at Manchester (*Mamucium*) during 2001-2005 revealed a ditch, possibly of military origin and defining an irregular military annexe, with an early vicus protected by a palisade and ditch further to the north, flanking either side of the Ribchester Road. The ditches of both the annexe and vicus were infilled in the early 2nd century and the vicus expanded over the area. The road was then lined with a series of timber strip buildings. There was a building which may have served as a *mansio*, and a hybrid classical/Romano-Celtic temple. Industrial activities included smithing and tanning. There were also a series of field and allotment boundaries, with possible evidence of vegetable cultivation (Carrington 2011, 107). The vicus appears to have been abandoned in the mid-3rd century, although the fort may have remained in occupation later²⁴.
- 5.4.25. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA or study area.
- 5.4.26. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD (410-1066 CE)

- 5.4.27. There are two place names relevant to the area, firstly there is Thornham, which comes from the Old English *thorn* 'thornbush' and *hām* 'enclosure'; secondly Stakehill, it is located on a hill, the first part of the name is likely to be derived from Old English, *staca* 'a stake' perhaps as a boundary marker.
- 5.4.28. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA or study area.
- 5.4.29. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

²³ Nevell 2022

²⁴ Philpott 2022

MEDIEVAL PERIOD (1066CE- 1500CE)

- 5.4.30. The township boundaries of the modern Rochdale were likely formalised during this period, with land ownership moving from feudal tenure to copyhold ownership or copyhold tenants; where it was possible to negotiate better deals with their Lords and in some instances actually buy their freedom from Serfdom.
- 5.4.31. The Manor passed into the hands of the Earls of Lancaster in 1311 and remained part of their estates until the end of the 15th century; in 1462 Sir Nicholas Byron became lord of the manor. Land use became mainly pastoral during this period and shifted from cattle to sheep rearing. The area being well known for producing wool.
- 5.4.32. There is no evidence of known heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA.
- 5.4.33. There are four known heritage non-designated assets dating to this period within the wider study area. **(5047.1.0)** Higher Stake Hill Village Core located to the south of the PDA – on Yates 1786 map the area is identified as ‘Stake Hill’ showing buildings either side of Stakehill Lane and around Whit Brook, the buildings are clearly separate from those buildings of Lower Stake Hill; **(5233.1.0)** Lower Stake Hill Settlement to the south of the PDA showed a few buildings along the present Stakehill Lane likely to be a farmstead.
- 5.4.34. Thornham Fold Settlement **(5048.1.0)**, located to the east of the PDA along Thornham Lane on Yates 1786 map, consisting of a number of farms, these are still named on the modern OS map, as Thornham Fold Farm, Blue Pitts Farm, to the north of the Lane and Cinder Hill Farm and Tandle Hill Farm on the southern side of the Lane.
- 5.4.35. Tandle Hill/ Hough Settlement **(5062.1.0)** to the south east of the PDA also identified on Yates 1786 map showing a group of buildings to the south of the hill at the north end of Hough Lane, shown as Hough Farm and Stables on the modern OS.
- 5.4.36. There is assessed to be a low potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be isolated features and stray artefacts associated with nearby Medieval settlement or agriculture which may have been disturbed through later agricultural activity.

POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD (1500-1900CE)

- 5.4.37. By this time Rochdale was an established market town, with Middleton the other main centre in this period. Many of the families who owned large estates during the medieval period carried on -such the Byron family for example continued to hold power until 1823 when Lord George Gordon Byron (the poet), the 6th Baron Byron of Rochdale sold the Byron estate to James Dearden of ‘The Orchard’.
- 5.4.38. Wool continued to play an important part in the areas’ daily life, this can be seen in the number of mills which were built along the River Roch and its tributaries, located to the north west of the PDA. Notable residencies were built or rebuilt during the 17th century, the closest to the PDA being Hopwood Hall, although the building itself lies outside of the study area.
- 5.4.39. The history of the PDA throughout the Post-medieval period can be traced using historic mapping.



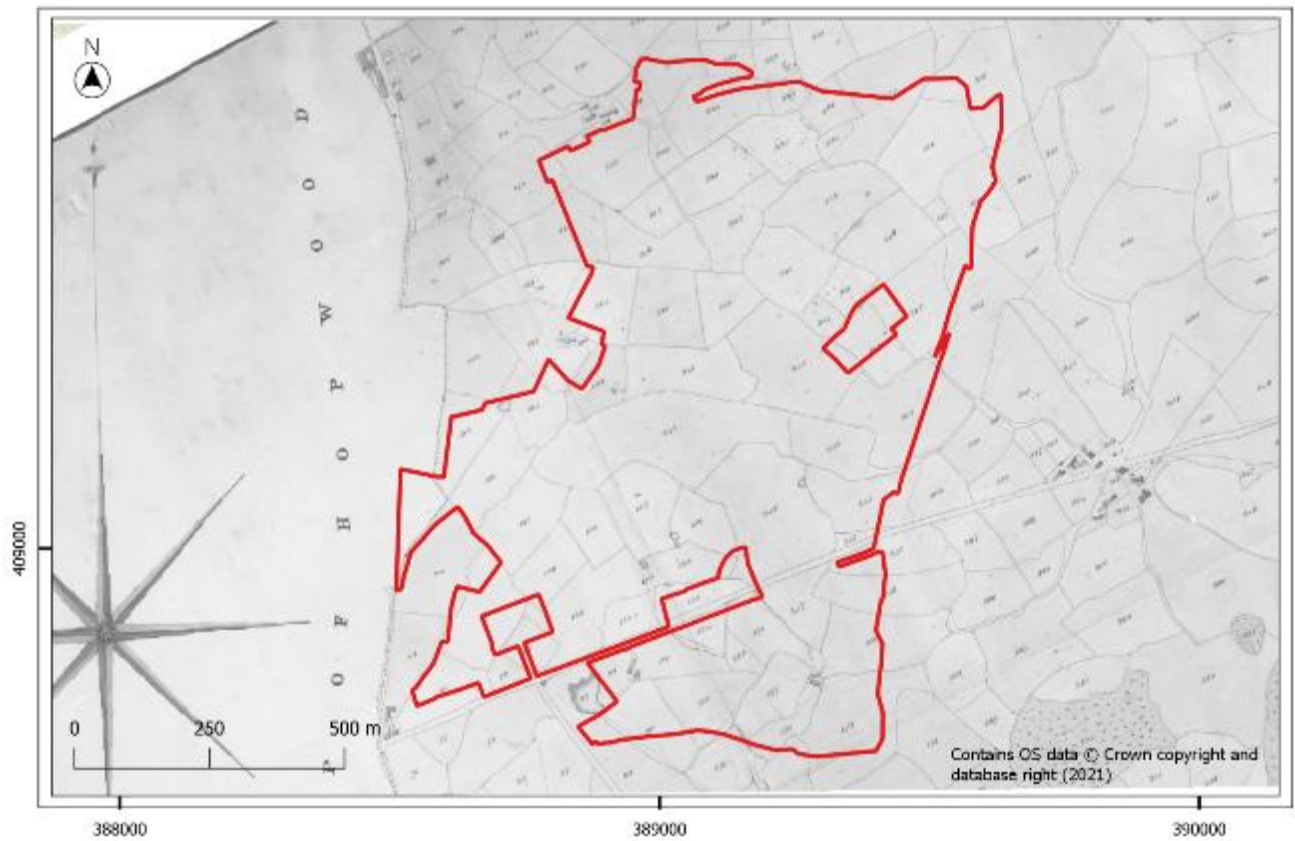
Illus 45 1786 Yates map extract

- 5.4.40. The 1786 Yates map (Illus 45) showed the possibility that there may be structures within the PDA, however, these were identified as Thornham Fold (5048.1.0), which can be seen on later mapping, located outside of the PDA on the eastern side of the modern A627(M), there are three farms, Cinder Hill, Tandle Hill, and Thornham Fold and a public house, Tandle Hill Tavern which constitutes Thornham Fold. In the wider study area, there was very little else visible on the map. The area of Tandle Hill was noted to the south east, and to the west of the PDA was the road from Middleton to Rochdale. Work on the Rochdale Canal (HA8) had not yet begun.
- 5.4.41. The next map available which shows the PDA is the 1829 Hennet map (Illus 46). This showed the area around the PDA had more residential dwellings established and/or identified on the mapping, such as Trub Smithy and Maiden Fold to the north, and Slattocks and Stake Hill to the south.
- 5.4.42. Within the PDA, Thornfields was labelled but is difficult to make out with the lettering present. There were also a number of other possible unlabelled dwellings or structures.

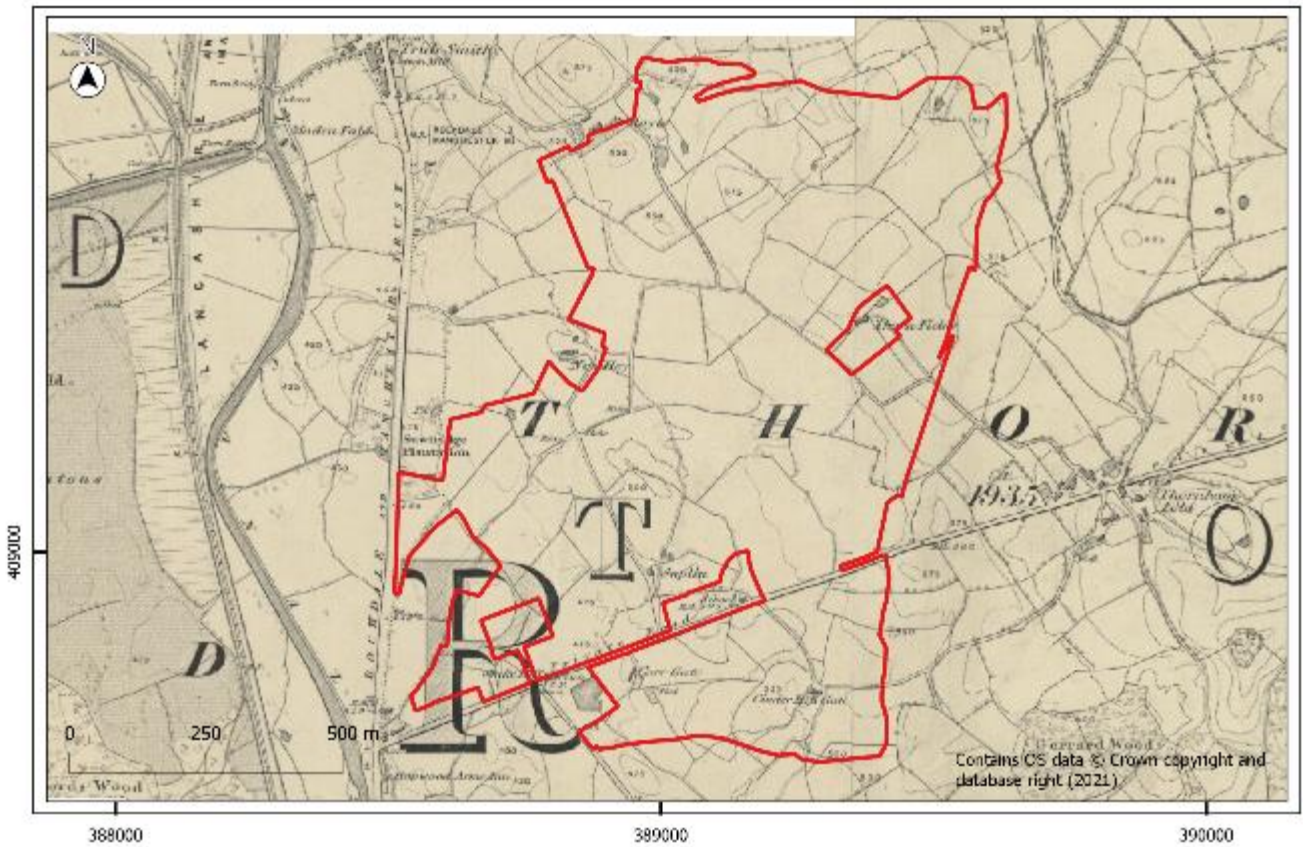


Illus 46. 1829 Hennet map extract site boundary approximate

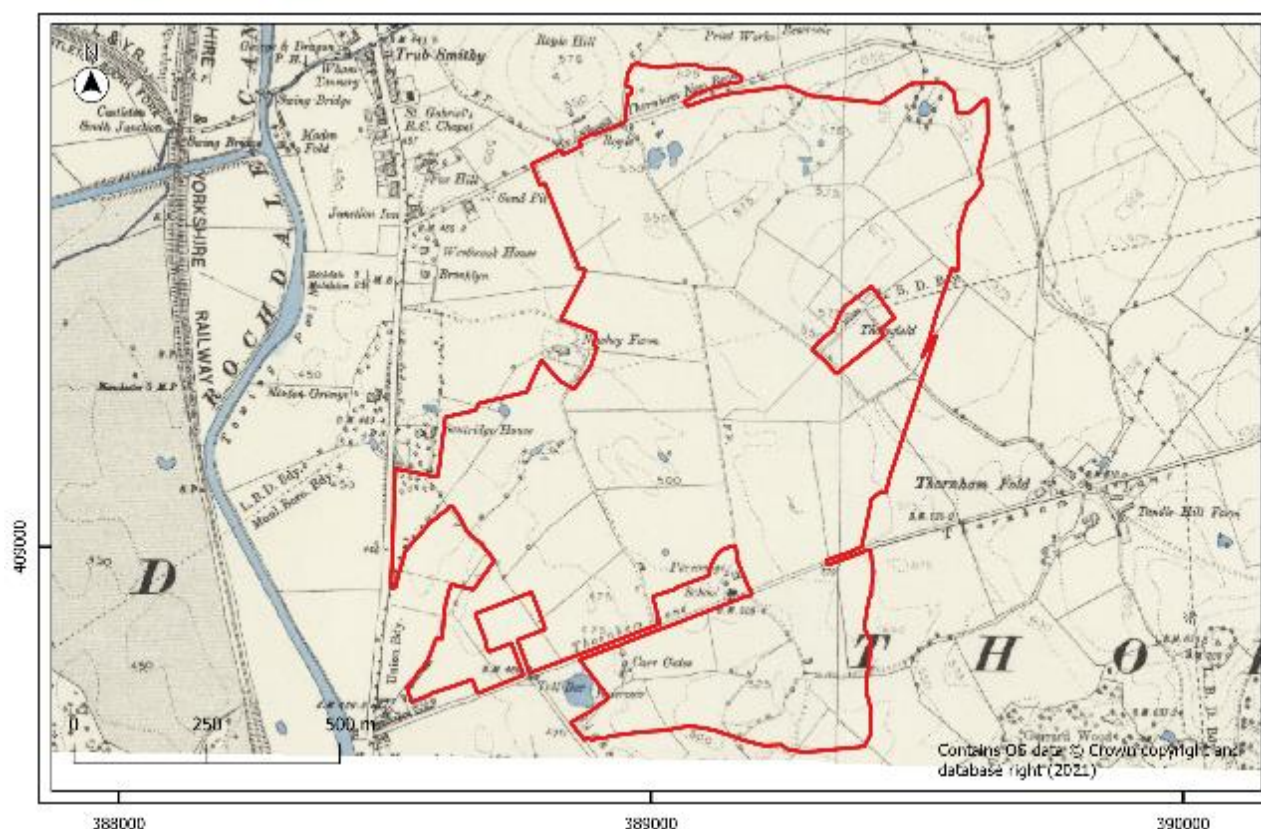
- 5.4.43. To the north east of the PDA was the site of **(16873.1.0)** Top o'th' Hill (farm) which was recorded as early as the 1780s. **(16878.1.0)** Early deeds for the site of Bradshaw Edge date to 1766. **(16879.1.0)** The site of a row of cottages named Daub Hole, has early references dating to the late 17th century. **(16880.1.0)** The site of Brickbank is not shown on mapping but was identified on the 1831 Castleton Household Survey when weaving was taking place there. Kirkholt **(16881.1.0)** was a farm in the same area, documented in the mid-16th century as a landholding in the possession of the Talbots of Salesbury. Along the northern border, where modern houses finish on Thornham New Road, stood Toll Bars **(2358.1.0)**, with datestones of 1630 and 1670 which later became a farmhouse.
- 5.4.44. The next available mapping was the 1839 Tithe map (Illus 47), which showed that the major land owner within the PDA was Lord Suffield. There were four areas of either residential dwellings or agricultural structures within the PDA. Thornfields (plot 315) was listed as house and barn and with the occupier being Edward Tetlow. Further to the south, accessible via Thornham Lane, (just to the north of where St Johns School is at present) was plot 184: a barn and drift which was occupied by James Haslam, who also occupied what was to become known as New Hey Farm **(HA4)**, the farmhouse and barn are still present today but are surrounded on the eastern side by modern agricultural buildings. On the southern side of Thornham Lane, was plot 89, a house, garden and drift occupied by Robert Matthews and plot 251, a house, garden, yards etc occupied by Thomas Henry.
- 5.4.45. The first ordnance survey mapping dates to 1851 (Illus 48), within the PDA there were the four previously mentioned farms or farm buildings, however, they had now been named. Plot 315 was now identified as Thornfields. Plot 184 was labelled as Saplin **(HA5)**. To the south plot 89 was identified as Carr Gate and plot 251 as Cinder Hill Gate. St Johns CE Thornham Primary School **(HA1)** was originally the local Parish church which doubled as a school, until the current St John Church was built in 1907. Located just outside of the PDA to the south west is Hopwood Arms Farm **(HA6)** this was most likely a public house originally.



Illus 47. 1839 Tithe map extract



Illus 48. 1851 first edition OS map extract

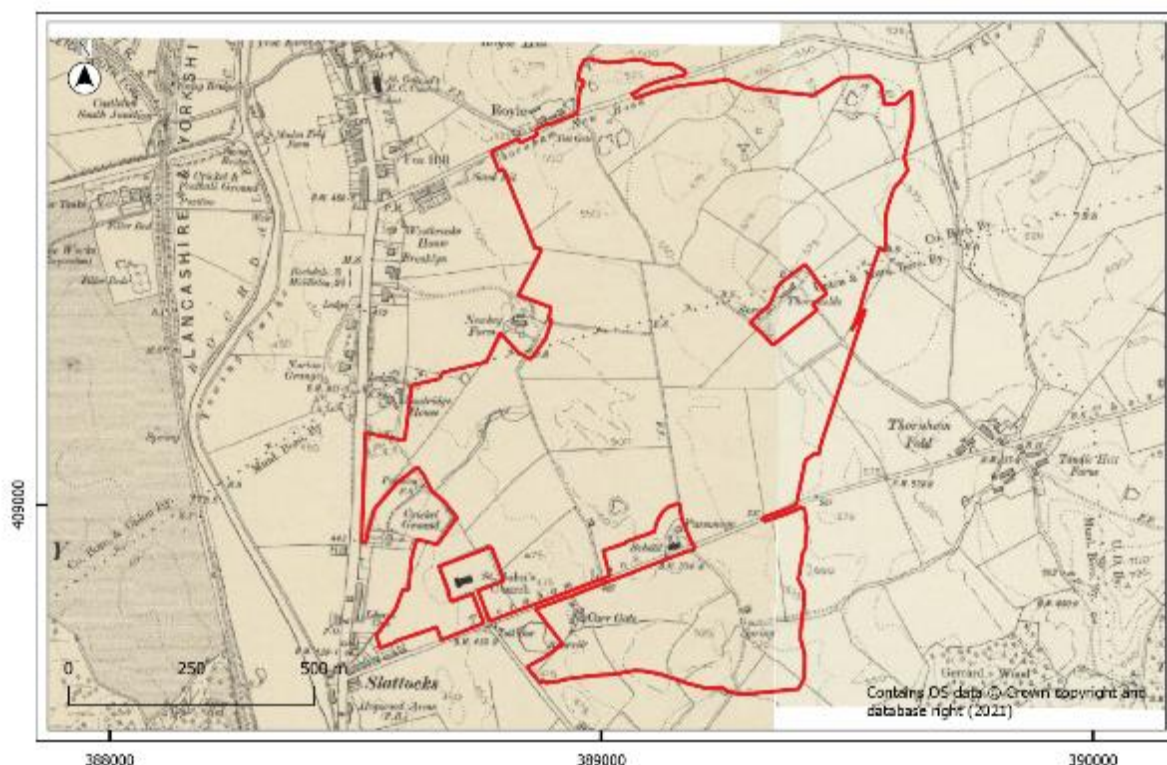


Illus 49. 1894 OS map extract

- 5.4.46. The 1894 OS map (Illus 49) showed minor changes within the PDA. To the north Thornham New Road had been established. The structure identified previously as Saplin (HA5), appeared to still be present, however it was no longer labelled as such. Cinder Hill Gate was possibly still present but appeared to be somewhat reduced in size which could reflect a possible change in use. Adjacent to the school (HA1) there was now a Parsonage (HA2) Thornham Lane Parsonage dates to c. 1870. The Borough District Boundary is first identified on this map and bisected the PDA. The boundary stone is still present today (Illus 34).
- 5.4.47. There are no designated heritage assets recorded in the HER relating to this period within the PDA. There is one non-designated heritage asset located within the PDA, the site of Saplin Farm (HA5). Visible on the 1851 OS map (Illus 48) to the immediate north west of the school, it is an 'L'-shaped building. Although not labelled on any further mapping there appears to still be a structure present.
- 5.4.48. There are five listed buildings within the study area which date from this period and 27 other assets noted on the HER.
- 5.4.49. Work began on the Rochdale Canal (HA8) in 1794 with the route being laid out by John Rennie. On completion it was 33 miles long and had 92 locks, four of which are located within the study area: (685.10/1068507) Slattocks Top Lock (No. 54) and adjoining bridge, (685.11/1346237) Lock No. 53, (685.12/1038295) Lock No. 52 and towpath bridge and (11966.10/1356233) Lock No. 58 and adjoining bridge. Each of these assets were constructed between 1794 and 1804 by William Jessop (engineer).
- 5.4.50. Sand Hole Farmhouse (1396460/16193.1.0) is a grade II listed building to the north east of the PDA. It is a Yeomans house from the 17th century with the earliest references found in the Rochdale parish registers of 1642-1700. To the north and within the Castleton (South) Conservation Area (DGM3513) is the Church of St Martin (1203230/11563.1.0) constructed in 1860-62 by Earnest Bates in a late 13th century style. To the south east of the PDA is the grade II listed Hopwood Hall Icehouse (1356255/2362.2.0) built in c. 1830 as a circular brick-built chamber four metres in diameter.

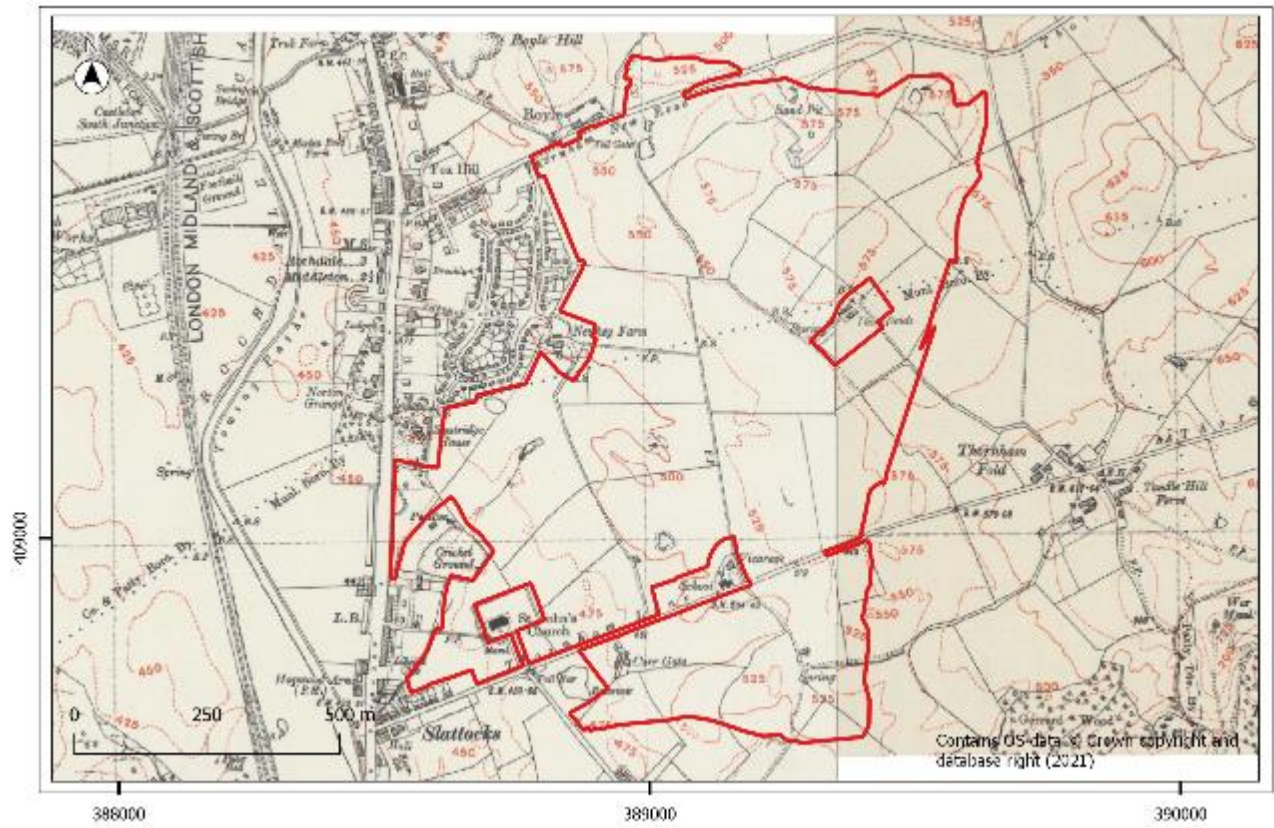
- 5.4.51. To the west of the PDA is Maden Fold Farm (16499.1.0), which was noted to have stone-mullioned windows which could suggest a 17th century date. A 1791 William Crosley map 'Plan shewing the Line of the Proposed Rochdale Canal' showed a building labelled as Maiden Fold which may be the same building or an associated structure. To the north west is (5288.1.0) Linden Mill, a former cotton mill which is now used to manufacture industrial packaging products. (5289.1.0) Bluepits or Blue Pit Mill is another a former cotton mill. (5290.1.0) Harp Mill (Castle Mill) also a former cotton mill.
- 5.4.52. To the north of the PDA (5292.1.0) Castleton Works (Trows Fulling Mill) a fulling mill, it is disused and heavily modified; (5293.1.0) Trows Upper Works (Grange Mill Printworks) little remains of the original buildings, this is visible through the trees from the walking trail in the northern area of site.
- 5.4.53. During archaeological works remains of an earlier building were located at Trub farm (12475.1.0), this took the form of shallow stone footings assumed to be the remains of a gable wall from a structure shown on the pre-1830 map. It is in this area that Trub Smithy (settlement) (16501.1.0) was established, a 1610 map of the Parish of Rochdale marks this site as 'Smithy Ford', a potential early name; (although this could also refer to Smithiford; Trub is shown as a small settlement on the main route from Rochdale to Middleton
- 5.4.54. To the south of the PDA within what is now Stakehill Industrial Estate is the site of Stake Hill Bleachworks (133.1.0), which was one in a line of textile finishing woks on Whit Brook. To the south of St Johns Church at the crossroads of Thornham Lane and Stake Hill Lane is Toll Bar Cottage (HA3), the exact date of the current building is unclear, it does appear on the earlier pre-1900s OS maps, it is known that there was a toll at this location, but there is evidence that the cottage was damaged by fire in the 1960s therefore how much of the original building is left is unknown, it is also covered in render (Illus 12).
- 5.4.55. To the north west of the PDA, on the northern side of the M62, there are a number of HER entries that no longer have above ground remains: the site of Thrub or Trub Hall (699.1.0) dated from the mid to late 17th century but was demolished in the first half of the 20th century. (2492.1.0) The site of Smithiford, a Ford or Road was mentioned by Ogilvy in 1675 and visible on a 1780 map. (5286.1.0) Westbrook or Westbrooke Mill was once a cotton mill, as was (5287.1.0) Albion Mill. Within this area is the site of Wham Farm (16498.1.0), an abandoned arm of the Rochdale canal, which was diverted to the east and had a swing bridge (16500.1.0) located in the area adjacent to the northern side of the M62. It is possible that this bridge was removed during the construction of the motorway.
- 5.4.56. There is assessed to be a medium potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site. Any remains of this period are likely to be evidence of agricultural buildings and farmhouses visible on historic mapping.

MODERN (1900CE - PRESENT)



Illus 50. 1910 OS map extract

- 5.4.57. There had been very little change on the 1910 OS map in the 15-20 years since the preparation of the map of 1894, although St John's Church had now been established. In the north of the PDA on the lane leading south from Thornham New Road a Toll Gate was labelled, although there did not appear to be a structure associated with this and it was therefore likely not to be a permanent (i.e. brick built) feature. The Borough border, shown as a dotted line, notes where Boundary Stones (B.S) were on the public footpaths (Illus 34). Outside of the PDA, St John's church was built, and the school appeared to have been extended.
- 5.4.58. The last available mapping before the present is the 1947 OS map (Illus 51). There was little change within the PDA. Outside of the PDA the war memorial had been erected in St John's Churchyard, the school had been slightly extended and the Parsonage (a house provided by the church for a parson, vicar or rector) was now labelled as a Vicarage. At the western end of Thornham Lane the Richard Bentley Smalley Memorial Hall (**HA7**) was constructed in 1930 providing a community facility in the local area, which is still well used, a donation was made by Richards widow both of whom were local residents.



Illus 51. 1947 OS map extract



Illus 52. Processed LIDAR data for the PDA and surrounding area

- 5.4.59. There are two known designated heritage assets recorded relating to this period adjacent to the PDA. The grade II listed Church of St John (15288.1.0/1390504) was constructed in 1907 by RB Preston is enveloped within the south-west area of site, which is accessed by vehicle via Thornham Lane, there is also a public footpath from the west; there is a graveyard which extends on three sides, east, north and west. As you approach from the south within the church yard is the grade II listed Thornham Parish War Memorial (15288.2.0/1452837), which was erected in 1921 to the men from the parish who fell during the First World War. This was added to as the Second World War; it does not contain the names of the Fallen, this is recorded on a timber Roll of Honour within the church itself.
- 5.4.60. There are no known entries noted on the HER which date to this period within the study area.
- 5.4.61. There is assessed to be a medium potential for previously unknown remains of this period to be encountered at the site due to the presence of two designated assets dating to this period within the PDA.

5.5. IMPORTANT HEDGEROWS

- 5.5.1. There are two areas of hedgerow within the PDA that are likely to be classed as important in accordance with 1997 Hedgerows Regulations. Within the northern area close to the cricket ground, and within the southern area, which is described within the HLC as '*to the south of Thornham Lane, (HGM25934) Piecemeal Enclosure*'.
- 5.5.2. It is understood that the hedgerow in the southern area of the PDA is to be kept as it is currently; the hedgerow to the north appears to be being partially kept. If this is to be partially removed advice from the LPA will need to be sort.
- 5.5.3. These two areas of hedgerow are to be retained and incorporated into the Development.

PRE-INCLOSURE FIELD BOUNDARIES

- 5.5.4. Two field boundaries within or bounding the PDA are shown on the 1839 tithe map. It is considered likely that these represent remnant pre-parliamentary enclosure field systems and would therefore qualify for protection under Criterion 5 of the 1997 Hedgerow Regulations.

5.6. PALAEOENVIRONMENTAL POTENTIAL

- 5.6.1. Peat began forming within the PDA in the Palaeolithic period. Peat, which survives under waterlogged conditions and therefore has excellent preservation potential for organic remains, also potentially seals an undisturbed ground surface. Study of the organic remains preserved within stratified peat deposits enables the construction of a narrative of changes to the surrounding environment brought about by human activities and natural events in the prehistoric and historic periods.

6. STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE

6.1. KNOWN AND POTENTIAL HERITAGE ASSETS WITHIN THE PDA

- 6.1.1. There are no designated heritage assets within the development area.
- 6.1.2. There are two documented non-designated heritage assets within the site boundary: a deposit of peat with potential archaeological interest (5058.1.0) Slattocks Peat. While not noted on the HER there is a further asset the site of Saplin Farm (HA5) which may have below-ground archaeological remains.
- 6.1.3. There are two designated heritage assets in close proximity to the site: the grade II listed Church of St John (15288.1.0/13905074) and grade II listed Thornham War Memorial (15288.2.0/1452837) which stands in the churchyard.
- 6.1.4. Activity within the PDA has, as far as can be assessed through historic map regression, been confined to agricultural use during the post-Medieval period.
- 6.1.5. There is no evidence for ridge and furrow in the LiDAR data. This may suggest the site has been used for pasture over a long period (or underwent intensive ploughing during the 20th Century before returning to pasture).
- 6.1.6. There are also two areas within the PDA that have remnants of historic hedgerows.
- 6.1.7. As noted in the historic environment assessment (2019, CfAA) the sands and gravels of the higher areas of the site have the potential for prehistoric remains.
- 6.1.8. There is assessed to be a low potential for below-ground archaeological remains to be present within the PDA from the medieval and earlier periods.
- 6.1.9. There is assessed to be a low-medium potential for below-ground archaeological remains dating to the post-medieval period and a medium-high potential for modern period to be present within the PDA, with remains likely to be associated with the PDAs agricultural use, which would be of negligible archaeological significance and importance.

6.2. SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE

- 6.2.1. The peat deposit within the PDA has archaeological interest: it derives its heritage significance from its capacity to contain evidence for past environments and contemporary human activities. It is considered to be of local (Low) importance.
- 6.2.2. The Church of St John is a 1907 building by RB Preston in sandstone with ashlar dressings and slate roofs with stone-coped gables and finials in Perpendicular style. It has a good degree of survival with a chancel, south vestry, chancel transepts, nave with aisles, west baptistery projection and south west tower. Chancel has finely carved alabaster reredos and carved wooden choir stalls, communion rails and other fittings with a mosaic floor. There is a fine set of stained glass to the east and west ends and aisles. The nave roof has wall posts rising from stone shafts to moulded wall plates and tie-beam trusses with king and queen posts and curved braces. The warmth of the sandstone interior together with the rich colour of the roofs and high-quality fittings in wood, stone and glass produce a very harmonious ensemble. This asset is of architectural interest deriving heritage significance from its form, materials, presence in the landscape and evocation of the history of the local community during the 20th century. It is of national (Medium) importance.
- 6.2.3. The Thornham Parish War Memorial was built in 1921 by Grundy of Middleton, with Second World War additions. It is a granite cross on a raised paved podium within the churchyard of the Church of St John the Evangelist. The sides of the pedestal are slightly canted, and it is mounted on a three-stepped base and the top step has plain chamfered upper edges. The granite memorial stands on a slightly raised rectangular paved and clad podium. This asset is of architectural and historic interest deriving heritage

significance from its form, materials, presence in the landscape and evocation of the history of the local community during the 20th century. It is of national (Medium) importance.

- 6.2.4. The development area envelops the grade II listed Church of St John and Thornham Parish War Memorial. The areas to the east, south and west of the church and war memorial will remain undeveloped. This means that the existing key views towards and approaching the church from the access road will be unimpeded. The local commonality's ability to see, understand and experience the church and memorial will remain largely intact. The foreground in these views will remain rural in nature.
- 6.2.5. The housing proposed to the north of the church will appear in views of the church forming part of the background. These will be partially screened by vegetation between the church and the developed area, but nonetheless represents a change to the setting.

6.3. SETTING OF HERITAGE ASSETS IN THE STUDY AREA

- 6.3.1. Table 4 presents the results of a screening exercise to identify baseline heritage assets with the potential for adverse impacts as a result of development within their setting.
- 6.3.2. Detailed assessment of significance and the contribution of setting to significance (such as sightlines and vistas, notable open spaces and prominent landmarks) is presented for the following heritage assets in the Study Area:
- Church of St John - grade II listed building envelope by the southwestern area of the PDA
 - Thornham Parish Memorial – contained within the church yard of Church of St John
 - Rochdale Canal Slattocks top lock (number 54) and adjoining bridge – grade II
 - Castleton South Conservation Area
 - Sand Hole Farmhouse – grade II
 - St Johns CE Thornham Primary School
 - Thornham Lane Parsonage
 - Toll Bar Cottage
 - New Hey Farm
 - Hopwood Arms Farm
 - Richard Bentley Smalley Memorial Hall
 - Thornham Fold
 - Rochdale Canal

Table 4. Setting of Heritage Assets: Screening

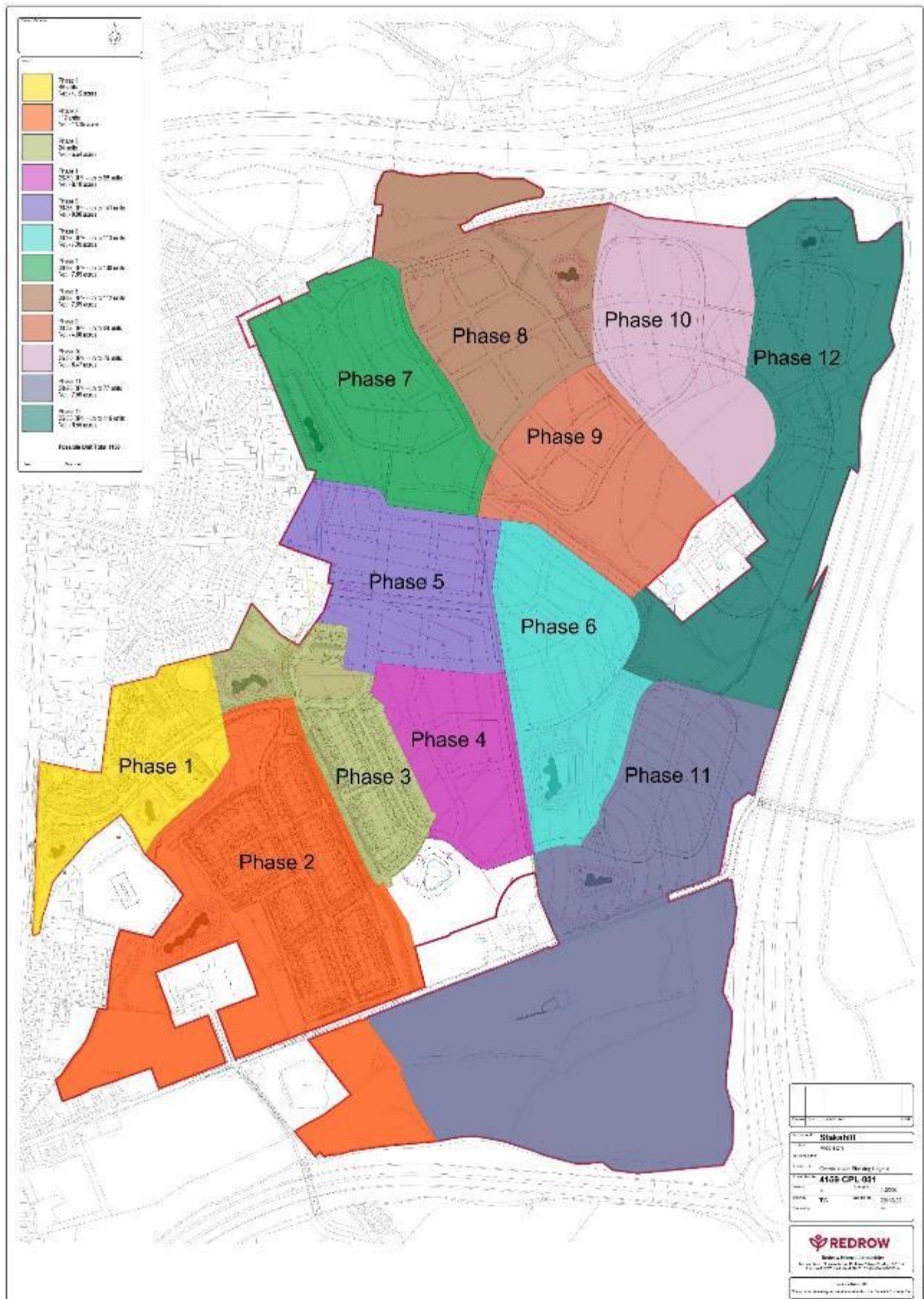
HER ID/Headland ID	NHLE	NAME	STATUS	IMPORTANCE	SCREENING SETTING ASSESSMENT
15288.1.0	1390504	Church of St John	Grade Listed II	Medium	The church is currently set within its' own small churchyard and graveyard, outside of this, the wider setting of the church is within a largely green open space of agricultural land with some partial views of residence dwellings to the north. There is existing screening from areas beyond the boundary in the

					form of trees and hedges, although this is only partial during months where there is foliage. During the winter months this would be patchy. The potential impact on the setting of this asset should be considered further.
15288.2.0	1452837	Thornham Parish War Memorial	Grade Listed II	Medium	The War Memorial sits on the southern side of the church and therefore would be screened by the church itself from any settings impact from the north. The memorial's setting might be affected by the development to the east. It should be considered in further detail.
DGM3513		Castleton South Conservation Area	Designated	Medium	Located to the north of the PDA. It is possible to see the spire of the Church of St Martin from the high points of the PDA. The character of the conservation area is from the industrial development of Castleton throughout the 19 th century. The conservation areas setting might be affected by the development on the higher ground.
16193.1.0		Sand Hole Farmhouse	Grade Listed II	Medium	Located on Sand Hole Lane, to the north-east of the PDA. to the north of the farmhouse, there is a modern residential development, to the south the M62 and west the A627(M). However, even though the farmhouse is within close proximity to these major roadways it enjoys a largely green open space views to the south-east, south and west. The potential impact on the setting of the asset should be considered further.
685.1.0		Rochdale Canal Slattocks top lock (number 54) and adjoining bridge	Grade Listed II	Medium	Located to the west of Rochdale Road, the canal lock and bridge is bordered on its western side by open farmland within the local area.
HA1		St Johns CE Thornham Primary School	Non-Designated	Low	Located along Thornham Lane the school will be enveloped by the development. The wider setting of the school is within a largely green open space of agricultural land with some partial views of residential dwellings to the north. There is existing screening from areas beyond the boundary in the form of trees and hedges, although this is only partial during months where there is foliage. The potential impact on the setting of the asset should be considered further.

HA2		Thornham Lane Parsonage	Non-Designated	Low	As above.
HA3		Toll Bar Cottage	Non-Designated	Low	Located at the crossroad of Thornham Lane and Stake Hill Lane. The residential property is currently surrounded by largely open green space and the country lane on which it sits. The setting will be altered by the development and the potential impact on its setting should be considered further.
HA4		New Hey Farm	Non-Designated	Low	Accessed via Chesham Avenue, New Hey farm is surrounded by modern agricultural buildings and within close proximity to the houses on the Avenue. However, it benefits from the open rural back drop to the north, east and south, which provides a modest contribution to its significance.
HA6		Hopwood Arms Farm	Non-Designated	Low	Located on Rochdale Road the former public house benefits from the semi-rural nature of the surrounding area which adds to its setting.
HA7		Richard Bentley Smalley Memorial Hall	Non-Designated	Low	Located on Thornham Lane, close to Rochdale Road. The Hall benefits from the semi-rural nature of the surrounding area which adds to its setting.
5048.1.0		Thornham Fold	Non-Designated	Low	Located to the east of the PDA it consists of three farms and public house. All depicted on the 1851 OS map, they are accessed via Thornham Lane. The wider setting is of a largely green open space of agricultural land with some partial views of residential dwellings to the east. There is existing screening from areas beyond the boundary in the form of trees and hedges, although this is only partial during months where there is foliage. During the winter months this would be patchy. The potential impact on its setting should be considered further
HA8		Rochdale Canal	Non-Designated	Low	Located to the west of Rochdale Road, the canal is bordered on its western side by open farmland within the local area.

7. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 7.1.1. The Development will consist of up to 1,500 new homes across the site (between 30-35 dwellings per hectare), of which approximately 400 dwellings will form part of Phase 1 (the detailed elements), and the remaining up to 1,100 units will be in outline. The development will also comprise a new local centre, Green Infrastructure comprising planting, ecological enhancements, SuDS and play areas, new pedestrian and cycle routes and associated access.



Illus 53. Proposed Development as provided by the Client.

8. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1.1. This report sets out the baseline data for the historic environment for the site and immediate area. It identifies the known and potential archaeological remains within the PDA and adjacent heritage assets whose settings may be impacted by the proposed scheme.
- 8.1.2. The heritage significance and importance of the known heritage assets are considered.
- 8.1.3. The report considers the PDA's land use during recent centuries: the site is currently in pasture and the available evidence suggests that this is likely to have been the case across the Medieval and post-Medieval periods. This means that the site has not been subject to development or intensive ploughing which would have disturbed archaeological remains from earlier periods. There is therefore a potential for the survival of archaeological remains from prehistoric through to early medieval periods if they were ever present.
- 8.1.4. There is currently no evidence for the presence of archaeological remains at the site with the exception of a peat deposit located close to the eastern limit of the site. This is in an area of the proposed development which will be retained as green open space.
- 8.1.5. The assessment of development impacts on the known and potential heritage assets is considered in the accompanying cultural heritage chapter of the EIA.
- 8.1.6. It is intended that this report (and ES chapter) contains sufficient objective data on the historic environment to inform determination of the application with respect to the planning application. It will enable an informed and reasonable decision to be made regarding whether further investigation and mitigation might be required at the proposed site.
- 8.1.7. It is not anticipated that proposals to develop the site should represent a conflict with legislation or national or local planning policies. The likely development impacts are considered to be of a level of significance that they could be adequately mitigated through a staged programme of archaeological recording.
- 8.1.8. Whilst the impact assessment is set out more fully elsewhere it can be noted that the area of the peat deposits within the PDA will not be impacted by the scheme since this will be green open space. The adjacent designated heritage assets are partially screened from the development by vegetation, and the settings will not be compromised by the scheme. The fragments of surviving historic hedgerows will be preserved within the scheme.
- 8.1.9. In light of the potential for the survival of archaeological remains at the site and based on feedback from the pre-app response the local planning authority has requested that a programme of archaeological investigation should take place in areas of development, this would take the form of geophysical survey followed by targeted archaeological trenching. Ideally this work would be completed pre-application, undertaken at an early enough stage that the results can feed into the developing masterplan.
- 8.1.10. Any such works should be conducted by a suitably qualified archaeological organisation in accordance with a written specification agreed in advance with the Local Planning Authority.

GLOSSARY

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Designated Heritage Asset	Assets registered on the National Heritage List for England. These may be protected by primary legislation (e.g. listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments) or have a non-statutory designation (e.g. World Heritage Sites, registered battlefields, registered parks and gardens, designated wrecks)
Heritage Asset NPPF (Annex 2)	"A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest." Some heritage assets are designated as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, World Heritage Sites, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields, or locally designated through policies in the Local Plan. Undesignated assets may be recorded in Historic Environment Records, while many other assets are currently unrecorded. Information contained in HERs and SMRs is not definitive, since they may include features which, for instance, have been entirely removed, or are of uncertain location, dubious identification, or negligible importance. The identification of undesignated heritage assets is therefore to some extent a matter of professional judgement. Both discrete features, and extensive landscapes defined by a specific historic event, process or theme, can be defined as heritage assets; and assets may overlap or be nested within one another.
Listed Building	A building or structure which is considered to be of 'special architectural or historic interest'
Non-Designated Heritage Asset	Assets identified by the local planning authority or national registers for the historic environment which have no formal designation but are considered to have a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. These can include locally listed buildings, information on sites held by the relevant Historic Environment Record and National Record of the Historic Environment
Archaeological Site (also 'Monuments')	Heritage assets which may consist of surface and/or sub-surface remains, features, deposits and/or material relating to past human activity with a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions.
Significance: NPPF	"the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting"

Term	Definition
Significance: GAPN 2	"The significance of a heritage asset is the sum of its archaeological, architectural, historic, and artistic interest. A variety of terms are used in designation criteria (for example, outstanding universal value for World Heritage Sites, national importance for scheduled monuments and special interest for listed buildings and conservation areas), but all of these refer to a heritage asset's significance."
Significance: NPPF (PPG para 6) and Historic England guidance Statement of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets (2019, HEAN 12)	Cultural values in the historic environment that people want to enjoy and sustain for the benefit of present and future generations. Archaeological - There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point; Architectural - These are interests in the design and general aesthetics of a place. They can arise from conscious design or fortuitously from the way the heritage asset has evolved. More specifically, architectural interest is an interest in the art or science of the design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures of all types; Artistic - Artistic interest is an interest in other human creative skills, like sculpture; Historic - An interest in past lives and events (including pre-historic). Heritage assets can illustrate or be associated with them. Heritage assets with historic interest not only provide a material record of our nation's history, but can also provide meaning for communities derived from their collective experience of a place and can symbolise wider values such as faith and cultural identity.
Setting: NPPF	"The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate the significance or may be neutral" (an extended consideration of Setting is contained in GAPN 3)

TERMS

Term	Definition
Artefact	An item of archaeological interest
Baseline	'Baseline conditions' are the environmental conditions in existence just before the occurrence of an impact – i.e. they are the conditions that would be affected.
Bronze Age	The period of human activity between 2,500 BCE and 700 BCE

Term	Definition
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	A plan prepared by a contractor before the start of construction work, detailing 'environmental aspects' that may be affected by the construction work and management methods to prevent any such effects. The CEMP would include methods and site management practices to be applied to prevent generation of nuisance dust, accidental pollution events and a range of other potential sources of accidental damage to the environment, and response and reporting procedures to minimise the damage in the event of a pollution incident.
Construction activity	Vegetation removal, topsoil stripping, temporary storage of materials, ground excavation and remodelling, bare earth, movement of construction vehicles and tall features such as cranes and other construction plant.
Desk study	A collation and review of relevant existing information available from published, archival or online sources, including for instance geological and hydrogeological mapping, historical maps, environmental records etc., allowing an assessment of risks to the human and environmental receptors to be undertaken.
Earthworks	The moving of soil or rock to reconfigure the topography of a site.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	An assessment of certain types of major project of the significant effects that the project could have on the environment. The applicant is required to carry out the assessment by law, in this case under the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations, 2017.
Environmental Statement (ES)	The report on the results of the EIA.
Fieldwalking survey	Method of systematic non-intrusive survey involving walking across a plough field along transects to collect archaeological artefacts.
Geology	Geology is the study of solid earth, the material of which it is composed (principally rocks) and the processes by which they evolve.
Geophysical survey	Method of non-intrusive investigation involving the use of magnetometers to identify fluctuations in the earth's magnetic field which might indicate the presence of archaeological remains. Burnt remains and metals are best identified through this method of survey.
Heritage asset	An item of heritage interest, for example an historic building or an archaeological find.
Historic Environment Records (HER)	A database maintained by individual counties or local authorities, containing records of archaeological sites, historic buildings and other aspects.

Term	Definition
Historic landscape character types (HLCT)	Historic landscape character types are distinctive and repeated combinations of components defining generic historic landscapes such as 'ancient woodland' or 'parliamentary enclosure'. The types used in this study were defined based on evidence from historic maps and other sources.
Iron Age	The period of human activity between 700 BCE and 43 CE
Made Ground	Ground created by infilling an area with material taken from elsewhere; typically, reworked soils, rubble, gravel, sand or former waste material e.g. ash.
Medieval	The period of human activity between 1066 CE and 1550 CE
Mesolithic	Middle Stone Age. The period of human activity between 10,000 BCE and 4,500 BCE.
Metal detector survey	Method of intrusive investigation involving the use of metal detectors to locate buried metal objects.
Mitigation	Measures which have the purpose of avoiding, reducing or compensating for adverse environmental impacts. It may also include measures to create environmental benefits.
Modern	The period of human activity from 1900 to the present day
National Mapping Programme (NMP)	A project funded by Historic England and local councils involving assessment and interpretation of aerial photographs and other remote sensing data, such as LiDAR.
Neolithic	New Stone Age. The period of human activity between 4,500 BCE and 2,500 BCE
Ordnance Datum	The standard measure of sea level in the UK, from which all heights are measured for mapping purposes.
Palaeolithic	Old Stone Age. The period of human and pre-human activity before around 10,000 BCE
Photomontage	A photorealistic image of the scheme, based on a 3D computer model of the scheme, overlaid onto a base photograph to visually represent the scheme. Features that would be removed as part of the scheme are removed from the base photograph.
Post-medieval	The period of human activity between 1550 CE and 1900 CE
Prehistoric	The period before the year 43 CE
Receptor	The existing environmental feature that would be affected by an impact – for instance a specific archaeological site

Term	Definition
Requirement	A requirement listed as a condition of planning permission
Roman	The period of human activity between 43 CE and 410 CE
Saxon	The period of human activity between 410 CE and 1066 CE
Statutory Consultation	Community and stakeholder consultation carried out in line with the statutory requirements set out in s42, s47 and s48 of the Planning Act 2008
Statutory consultees	Organisations that the Client is required to consult under s42 of the Planning Act 2008. Statutory consultees are listed in Schedule 1 of the APFP 2009
Zone of Theoretical Influence (ZVI)	The zone from which the scheme could theoretically impart an impact based partly on visibility and professional judgement
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	The zone from which the scheme is theoretically visible over 'bare earth'

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AOD	Above Ordnance Datum (above sea-level)
AP	Aerial Photograph
ASA	Archaeologically Sensitive Area
BCE	Before Common Era
BGS	British Geological Survey
BH	Borehole
C	Century
c.	Circa
CA	Conservation Area
CBM	Ceramic building material
CE	Common Era
CEMP	Construction Environment Management Plan
ClfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
DBA	Desk-based Assessment
DCO	Development Consent Order
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DMV/SMV	Deserted/Shrunken Medieval Village
EMS	Environmental Management System certified to ISO 14001: 2004
ES	Environmental Statement

Eval.	Evaluation Trial Trenching
Geophys.	Geophysical Survey
HA	Headland Archaeology
HE	Historic England
HER	Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Character(isation)
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
LB	Listed Building
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LiDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
MLWS	Mean low water springs
NGR	National Grid Reference
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
NRHE	National Record of the Historic Environment
OS	Ordnance Survey
R&F	Ridge and Furrow (earthwork cultivation)
RO	Registered Organisation (with ClfA)
RPG	Registered Park & Garden
SM	Scheduled Monument
SMP	Soil Management Plan
SMS	'Strip, Map and Sample'
WB	Watching Brief
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation (project design or method statement)
ZTV	Zone of Theoretical Visibility

REFERENCES

BIBLIOGRAPHIC REFERENCES

British Geological Survey (2022) BGS Geology Viewer [online] Available at: <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk> (Accessed 26.10.2022)

CIfA (2020) *Standards and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*.

CIfA (2019) *Code of Conduct*

Myers, A. & Stalibrass, S. *Early Prehistory*. In: Resource Frameworks (2022) *North West Research Framework Resource Assessments* [online] Available at: <https://resourceframeworks.org> (Accessed 26.10.2022)

Nevell, M. *Later Prehistory*. In: Resource Frameworks (2022) *North West Research Framework Resource Assessments* [online] Available at: <https://resourceframeworks.org> (Accessed 26.10.2022)

Philpot, R. *Roman*. In: Resource Frameworks (2022) *North West Research Framework Resource Assessments* [online] Available at: <https://resourceframeworks.org> (Accessed 26.10.2022)

Reader, R. (2019), *Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. Historic Environment Assessment. Screening Exercise: GMA2 Stakehill*. Report Number - 2019/CfAA/2

Rochdale Borough Council. 2016 (October). *Rochdale Adopted Core Strategy*.

Wyld, H.C. & Hirst, T.O. (1911) *The Places Names of Lancashire: Their Origin and History*. London: Constable and Company Ltd.

HISTORIC MAPS

1786 - Yates - *County Palatine of Lancaster Map*

1829 – Hennet – *A Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster. Divided into Hundreds and Parishes*

1839 – *Tithe Map – Scale 1:5280*

1851 – *First Edition Ordnance Survey Map – Lancs Sheets LXXXVIII SW SE*

1894 – *Ordnance Survey Map - Lancs Sheets LXXXVIII SW SE*

1910 - *Ordnance Survey Map - Lancs Sheets LXXXVIII SW SE*

1947 - *Ordnance Survey Map - Lancs Sheets LXXXVIII SW SE*

Appendix 1: Known heritage assets within the study area

HER / Designation Ref	Name	Description	Period	Status	Importance
NHLE1038295 685.1.2	Lock No. 52 and Towpath Bridge, Rochdale Canal	Canal Bridge, Canal Lock	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1346237 685.1.1	Lock No. 53, Rochdale Canal	Canal Bridge, Canal Lock	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1068507 685.1.0	Slattocks Top Lock (No. 54) and Adjoining Bridge, Rochdale Canal	Canal Bridge, Canal Lock	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1356233 11966.1.0	Rochdale Canal Lock No. 58 and Adjoining Bridge	Canal Bridge, Canal Lock	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1396460 16193.1.0	Sand Hole Farmhouse	Farm, Farmstead, Farmhouse	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1390504 15288.1.0	Church of St John (St John's Church)	Church	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1356255 2362.2.0	Hopwood Hall Icehouse	Icehouse	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1452837 15288.2.0	Thornham Parish War Memorial	War Memorial	Modern	Grade II	Medium
NHLE1203230 11563.1.0	Church of St Martin (St Martin's Church)	Church	Post-Medieval	Grade II	Medium
5292.1.0	Castleton Works (Trows Fulling Mill)	Works, Industrial Site, Textile Mill, Watermill, Fulling Mill	Post-Medieval		Low
5290.1.0	Harp Mill (Castle Mill)	Cotton Mill, Weaving Mill. Weaving Shed, Chimney, Engine House	Post-Medieval		Low
5289.1.0	Bluepits Mill (or Blue Pit Mill)	Warehouse, Cotton Mill, Spinning Mill, Engine House	Post-Medieval		Low

HER / Designation Ref	Name	Description	Period	Status	Importance
5288.1.0	Linden Mill	Textile Mill, Cotton Mill, Spinning Mill, Weaving Shed, Engine House	Post-Medieval		Low
16499.1.0	Maden Fold Farm	Farm, Farmstead, Farmhouse	Post-Medieval		Low
5293.1.0	Trows Upper Works (Grange Mill Printworks)	Printing Works, Reservoir, Industrial Site, Engineering Works, Watermill, Boiler House	Post-Medieval		Low
5085.1.0	Slattocks Peat	Natural Feature	Prehistoric		Low
5045.1.0	Hopwood Hall Moss	Natural Feature	Prehistoric		Low
16500.1.0	Swing Bridge over Rochdale Canal (site of)	Swing Bridge	Post-Medieval		Negligible
12475.1.0	Trub Farm (remains of wall at)	Wall	Post-Medieval		Low
16498.1.0	Wham Farm (site of)	Farm	Post-Medieval		Negligible
9934.1.0	Field Boundaries and possible mound near Thornham Fold	Field System, Mound	Post-Medieval		Low
699.1.0	Thrub Hall (Trub Hall) (site of)	House, Great House	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16873.1.0	Top o'th' Hill (farm) (site of)	Farm, Farmstead, Date Stone, Farmhouse	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16878.1.0	Bradshaw Edge (site of)	Farm	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16879.1.0	Daub Hole (houses) (site of)	Row	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16881.1.0	Kikholt (site of)	Farm	Post-Medieval		Negligible
133.1.0	Stake Hill Bleachworks (site of)	Bleachworks	Post-Medieval		Negligible
2358.1.0	Toll Bars (site of)	Toll House, Date Stone	Post-Medieval		Negligible
2492.1.0	Smithiford (site of)	Ford, Road	Post-Medieval		Negligible
5286.1.0	Westbrook or Westbrooke Mill (site of)	Office, Warehouse, Cotton Mill, Spinning Mill, Weaving Mill, Weaving Shed	Post-Medieval		Negligible

HER / Designation Ref	Name	Description	Period	Status	Importance
5287.1.0	Albion Mill (site of)	Tower, Dye Works, Industrial Site, Office, Textile Mill, Cotton Mill, Spinning Mill	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16880.1.0	Brickbank (site of)	House	Post-Medieval		Negligible
16501.1.0	Trub Smithy (settlement)	Settlement	Post-Medieval		Low
5047.1.0	Higher Stake Hill Village Core	Settlement	Medieval		Low
5048.1.0	Thornham Fold Settlement	Settlement	Medieval		Low
5062.1.0	Tandle Hill/ Hough Settlement	Settlement	Medieval		Low
5233.1.0	Lower Stake Hill Settlement	Settlement	Medieval		Low
HA1	St Johns CE Thornham Primary School	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA2	Thornham Lane Parsonage	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA3	Toll Bar Cottage	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA4	New Hey Farm	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA5	Sapling or Saplin Farm (site of)	Building	Post-Medieval		Negligible
HA6	Hopwood Arms Farm	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA7	Richard Bentley Smalley Memorial Hall	Building	Post-Medieval		Low
HA8	Rochdale Canal	Canal	Post-Medieval		Low
DGM3513	Castleton South Conservation Area				Medium

Appendix 2: Listing Description for designated assets adjacent to PDA.

LIST ENTRY SUMMARY

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: CHURCH OF ST JOHN

List Entry Number: 1390504

Location

CHURCH OF ST JOHN, CHURCH AVENUE

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County:

District: Rochdale

District Type: Metropolitan Authority

Parish: Non Civil Parish

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 09-May-2003

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

LEGACY SYSTEM INFORMATION

The contents of this record have been generated from a legacy data system.

Legacy System: LBS

UID: 490404

ASSET GROUPINGS

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

LIST ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Summary of Building

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Reasons for Designation

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

History

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details.

Details

335/0/10045 CHURCH AVENUE 09-MAY-03 Slattocks/Thornham Church of St John

II Church. 1907. By RB Preston. Rock-faced snecked sandstone with ashlar dressings and slate roofs with stone-coped gables and finials. Perpendicular style with buttresses and diagonal buttresses with set-offs. Chancel, south vestry, chancel transepts, nave with aisles, west baptistery projection and south west tower. East end has 5-light window with a 2-light window to the chancel sides on south over the vestry which has door to south and 3-light window to east. 3-light windows to transepts with 3-light dormers over in the chancel roof. 3-light windows to the aisle and flat-arched 3-light windows to the nave clerestory. 4-light window to west end over the canted baptistery projection which has small single- and 2-light windows. South west tower of 3 stages with battlemented top. Door to south, small windows and clockfaces to stage above and then 2-light louvred windows to the bell-chamber. INTERIOR. Chancel has finely carved alabaster reredos and carved wooden choir stalls, communion rails and other fittings. Mosaic floor. Carved stone pulpit and low screen. Carved wooden screen to south transept, organ to north transept. Carved eagle lectern. Chancel roof of arched braces rising from stone corbels to collars. Fine set of stained glass to east and west ends and aisles. West end has churchwardens' pews, stalls to baptistery, and plain font with elaborately carved wooden font cover. Commandments boards above. Nave roof of wall posts rising from stone shafts to moulded wall plates and tie-beam trusses with king and queen posts and curved braces. The warmth of the sandstone interior together with the rich colour of the roofs and high quality fittings in wood, stone and glass produce a very harmonious ensemble. SD8872308844

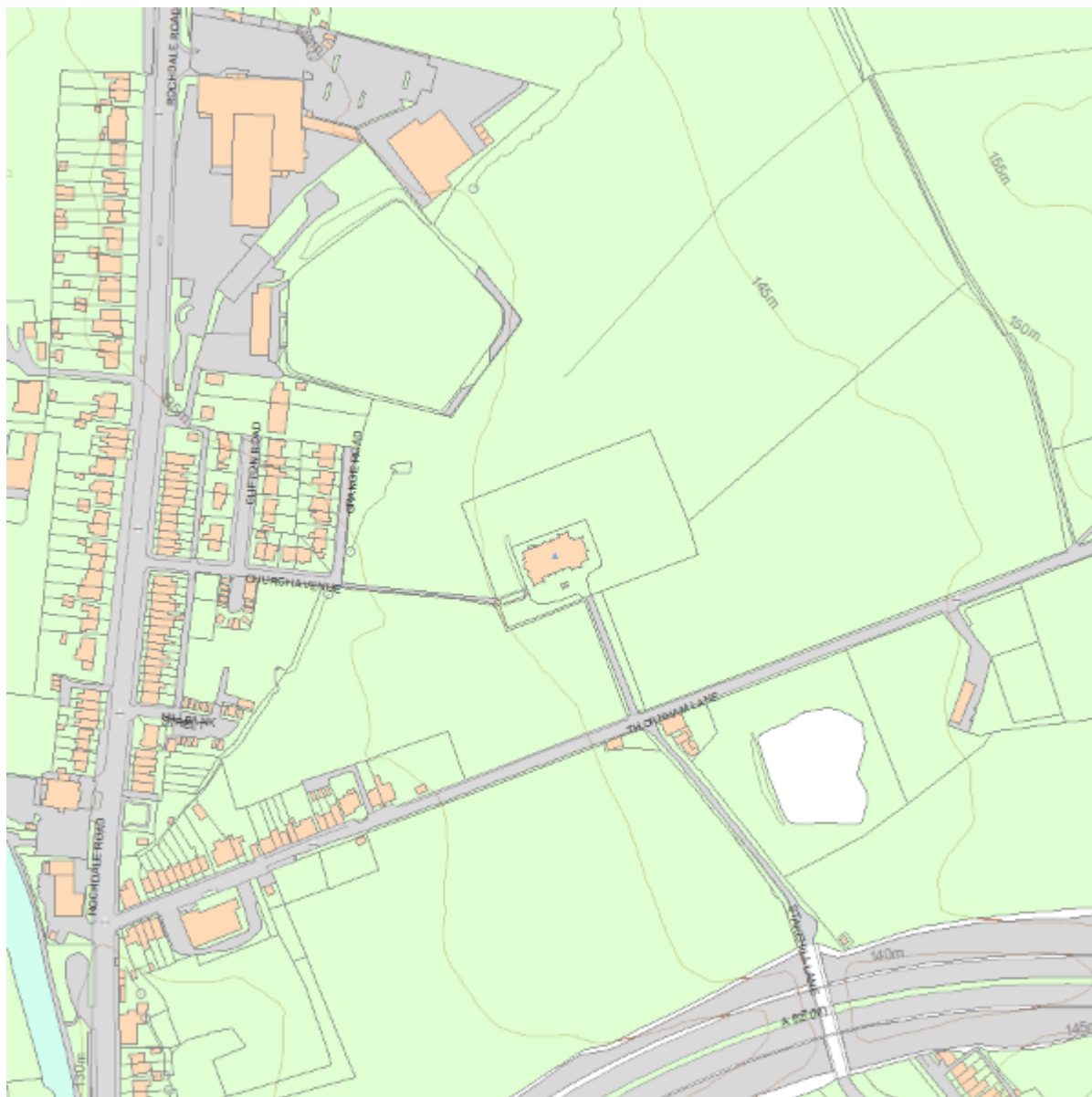
SELECTED SOURCES

Legacy Record - This information may be included in the List Entry Details

MAP

National Grid Reference: SD 88723 08845

The below map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - [1390504.pdf](#) - Please be aware that it may take a few minutes for the download to complete.



© Crown Copyright and database right 2018. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100024900.
© British Crown and SeaZone Solutions Limited 2018. All rights reserved. Licence number 102006.006.

This copy shows the entry on 28-Oct-2022 at 10:19:32.

LIST ENTRY SUMMARY

This building is listed under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended for its special architectural or historic interest.

Name: Thornham Parish War Memorial

List Entry Number: 1452837

Location

Thornham Parish War Memorial, St John the Evangelist Churchyard, Church Avenue, Slattocks, Rochdale, M24 2UD

The building may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.

County:

District: Rochdale

District Type: Metropolitan Authority

Parish: Non Civil Parish

National Park: Not applicable to this List entry.

Grade: II

Date first listed: 05-Feb-2018

Date of most recent amendment: Not applicable to this List entry.

ASSET GROUPINGS

This List entry does not comprise part of an Asset Grouping. Asset Groupings are not part of the official record but are added later for information.

LIST ENTRY DESCRIPTION

Summary of Building

First World War memorial, 1921, by Grundy of Middleton, with Second World War additions.

Reasons for Designation

Thornham Parish War Memorial of 1921, is listed at Grade II for the following principal reasons:

Historic interest:

* as an eloquent witness to the tragic impacts of world events on Thornham Parish, and the sacrifices it made in the conflicts of the C20; * for the unusual approach taken to the re-dedication of the memorial following the Second World War.

Architectural interest:

* it is a dignified monument executed in good quality materials, which provides an elegant and fitting tribute to the Fallen of the

district from both World Wars.

Group value:

* with the Church of St John the Evangelist (Grade II-listed).

History

Thornham Parish war memorial was erected in 1921 to the men from the Parish who fell during the First World War. The memorial was paid for by subscription and was erected within the churchyard of the Church of St John the Evangelist (Grade II). Archive photographs show that the dedication ceremony and service was attended by large crowds, and that the mason's name, believed to be Grundy of Middleton, was inscribed into the right-hand corner of a granite curb that retained a gravel bed around the memorial. Following the Second World War, the date 1939–1945 was added to the base of the pedestal and an 'S' was added to the word 'War' to become 'Wars' in the inscription. The memorial does not record the names of the Fallen, these are recorded on a separate timber Roll of Honour within the church. Sometime during the late C20, the granite curbs and the gravel bed were removed and replaced by a paved podium with block edging.

Details

First World War memorial, 1921, by Grundy of Middleton, with Second World War additions.

MATERIALS: granite cross on a raised paved podium

DESCRIPTION: the war memorial stands within the churchyard of the Church of St John the Evangelist and is situated centrally in relationship to the south elevation of the church. The memorial comprises a plain granite crucifix, surmounted by a wheel cross, with a central laurel wreath carved in relief. The shaft has a stepped base and is mounted on a pedestal with a plain cornice. Metal lettering on the front panel of the pedestal reads: TO THE GLORY OF GOD / AND IN MEMORY OF / THE MEN OF THIS PARISH / WHO DIED FOR THEIR COUNTRY / IN THE GREAT WARS / 1914 – 1919; the remaining panels are plain. The sides of the pedestal are slightly canted and it is mounted on a three-stepped base, the top step has plain chamfered upper edges and the front panel reads: 1939–1945. The granite memorial stands on a slightly raised rectangular paved and clad podium.

SELECTED SOURCES

Websites

Imperial War Museums - Thornham Parish - WW1 and WW2 Cross, accessed 13 December 2017 from <http://www.iwm.org.uk/memorials/item/memorial/45073>

Middleton, Slattocks, St. John the Evangelist Church, Thornham Lane, Memorial Cross, WW1 & WW2, accessed 13 December 2017 from http://www.mlfhs.org.uk/data/war_memorials_images.php?memorial=954

Traces of War - War Memorial St John the Evangelist Church, accessed 13 December 2017 from <https://www.tracesofwar.com/sights/18336/War-Memorial-St-John-the-Evangelist-Church.htm>

War Memorials on Line - St John the Evangelist Church, accessed 13 December 2017 from <https://www.warmemorialsonline.org.uk/memorial/227825>

MAP

National Grid Reference: SD8872808829

The below map is for quick reference purposes only and may not be to scale. For a copy of the full scale map, please see the attached PDF - [1452837.pdf](#) - Please be aware that it may take a few minutes for the download to complete.



© Crown Copyright and database right 2018. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100024900.

© British Crown and SeaZone Solutions Limited 2018. All rights reserved. Licence number 102006.006.

This copy shows the entry on 28-Oct-2022 at 10:22:52.



part of the **RSK** Group

© 2021 by **RSK** Headland Archaeology (UK) Ltd

Headland Archaeology Scotland
13 Jane Street
Edinburgh EH6 5HE
t 0131 467 7705
e scotland@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology Yorkshire & North
Units 23-25 & 15 | Acorn Business Centre | Balme
Road Cleckheaton BD19 4EZ
t 0127 493 8019
e
yorkshireandnorth@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology South & East
Building 68C | Wrest Park | Silsoe
Bedfordshire MK45 4HS
t 01525 861 578
e
southandeast@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology Midlands & West
Unit 1 | Clearview Court | Twyford Rd
Hereford HR2 6JR
t 01432 364 901
e
midlandsandwest@headlandarchaeology.com

Headland Archaeology North West
Fourways House | 57 Hilton Street
Manchester M1 2EJ
t 0161 236 2757
e northwest@headlandarchaeology.com

www.headlandarchaeology.com