



University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

Archaeological Evaluation Report

George Street,
Heywood, Manchester

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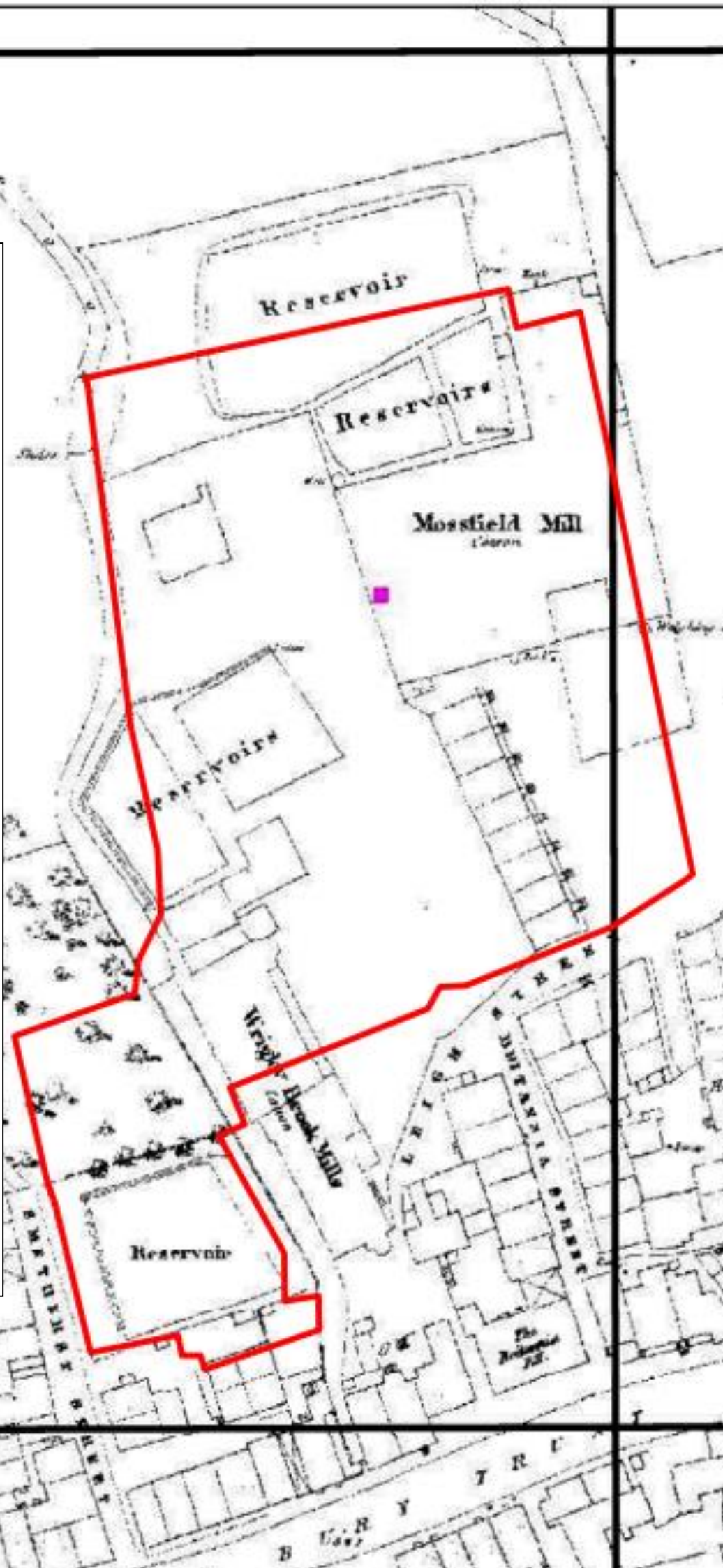
Emm-Bee Motorhomes

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SUMMARY

This report details the results of an archaeological evaluation on land at George Street, Heywood, Manchester (NGR 384952, 410963; Figure 1). The work was undertaken by Salford Archaeology and was commissioned by RPS Consulting Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation.

Planning consent was granted for the development of land off George Street, Heywood, also referred to as the 'development site' (planning ref. 18/00971/FUL). A condition has been placed on that consent, requiring a phased programme of archaeological work to be undertaken prior to the commencement of development.

Six trenches were agreed on in consultation with GMAAS: trenches 1, 2 and 3 to investigate the potential survival of Wrigley Brook Mill and its possible 18th-century beginnings; trench 4 to look at 19th-century housing at Moss Terrace; and trenches 5 and 6 located on the possible remains of Mossbrook Mill dating from the mid-19th century.

The work was undertaken between 7th and 11th November 2022.

Three archaeological phases were determined. Phase 1 a made ground of boiler waste, smashed brick and clay dumps to raise the ground level. Phase 2 was associated with the remains of 19th century activity – trench 1 contained a surface made of early to late 19th century brick, trench 4 had some heavily truncated remains of 19th century terraced houses. Finally phase 3 comprised 20th century truncation and buildings – a modern 20th century concrete surface present in trenches 2, 3 and 4. Trench 6 contained a modern engineering brick wall and rubble from the demolition of the former mill. In light of the limited remains it is recommended that no further archaeological works are required.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1.1 Salford Archaeology were commissioned by RPS Consulting Services Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation at George Street, Heywood, Manchester (centred on NGR 384952, 410963; Figure 1). The Site was bounded by Bank Top Street to the north, George Street to the east, the A58 to the south, and Sunset Hill to the west.

1.1.2 Planning consent was granted for the development of land off George Street, Heywood, also referred to as the 'development site' (planning ref. 18/00971/FUL). A condition has been placed on that consent, requiring a phased programme of archaeological work to be undertaken prior to the commencement of development. The condition states that:

8 'No development groundworks shall take place until the applicant or their agents or successors in title have secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works.

The works are to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by Manchester Planning Authority. The WSI shall cover the following:

1) A phased programme and methodology of fieldwork investigation and recording to include:

- a desk-based study*
- targeted evaluation trenching*
- targeted open area excavation*

2) A programme for post fieldwork investigation assessment to include:

- analysis of the site investigation records and finds*
- production of a final report on the significance of the archaeological and historical interest represented.*

3) Dissemination of the results commensurate with their significance. This might include a popular publication in the Greater Manchester Past Revealed series, and an academic article dependent on the significance of the results.

4) Provision for archive deposition of the report and records of the site investigation.

5) Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the approved WSI.'

- 1.1.3 In consultation with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS), a strategy for archaeological evaluation was formulated by Salford Archaeology in a written scheme of investigation (WSI); (Mottershead 2022).
- 1.1.4 The WSI proposed the excavation of six trenches (Figure 2) to confirm the existence of any archaeological remains present on the site. The evaluation took place between the 7th to the 11th of November 2022. The archaeological works were supervised and undertaken by Julian Thorley and the project was managed by Graham Mottershead.

2. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 2.1.1 The main aims of the investigation were to establish the presence or absence of buried archaeological remains on the site and, if present, characterise the level of preservation and significance, and provide a good understanding of their potential.
- 2.1.2 Following consultation with GMAAS, it was been recommended that the evaluation comprise the excavation of 6 trial trenches (Figure 2). This approach to devising proposals to mitigate the impact of development on the archaeological resource of the development area is in accordance with national guidelines set out in the National Planning Policy Framework: Section 16.
- 2.1.3 The principal objectives of the archaeological investigation were:
- to record, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, condition, significance and quality of any surviving archaeological remains observed;
 - to provide sufficient information to enable an informed decision to be made about the need for any additional archaeological mitigation;
 - to make available the results of the work.
- 2.1.4 Further, more detailed research aims may be generated and developed from the results of the archaeological evaluation, with specific reference to the North West Regional Research Framework (NWRRF). It is envisaged that the evaluation may potentially improve our understanding of the following research guidelines:

Ind22: How can we take forward our understanding of the impact of industrialisation on the working class and their living conditions?

Ind39: What do we know about pre-By Law workers housing and where are significant examples?

Ind58: How have industrial buildings adapted to new technology and processes?

3. GEOLOGY & TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1.1 The underlying bedrock geology consists of Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation - Mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 319 and 318 million years ago during the Carboniferous period. Superficial deposits were Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk>).
- 3.1.2 The site lies at an elevation of c 114m above Ordnance Datum.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1.1 The following information derives from the WSI of the site produced by RPS.

4.2 Prehistory

4.2.1 There have been no finds or features dated to the prehistoric period within the study area and relatively little is known regarding the archaeological background of the area of the site prior to the medieval period.

4.2.2 Archaeological evidence for Prehistoric and Roman activity within the general area of Rochdale is limited, with Prehistoric and Roman activity predominantly represented by sporadic, chance finds including Bronze Age artefacts recovered near Ashford Reservoir.

4.3 Roman

4.3.1 The Roman military landed in England in AD 43, and moved into the North West region in AD 69-70. During the governorship of Agricola (AD 77-84), the first military occupation of Manchester was established and commenced with a five-acre wooden fort, known as Mamucium. The most important centre in the region was the legionary fortress at Chester, although small towns also evolved around other Roman forts, such as those at Northwich, Ribchester and Lancaster.

4.3.2 A Roman urn and coins found in the river bank at Plumpton Woods 500m away from the site. The limited amount of surviving archaeological activity for the Prehistoric and Roman periods in modern Rochdale is most likely a result of intensive, 19th/20th century developments. The site is thought to be of low potential for Roman activity.

4.4 Medieval

4.4.1 Rochdale was recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey under 'Recedham Manor' and is one of only four places mentioned by name in the Hundred of Salford. The historic core of the settlement of Heywood, located c.580m to the east of the site, is recorded on the HER as possibly originating in the Medieval period. However, this is based on the potential that Heywood Hall, located c.1km north-east, represents an earlier settlement site

4.5 Post-medieval and Industrial

4.5.1 The site used to be occupied by the northern extent of Wrigley Brook Mill, which is postulated to have been constructed in the late 18th-century, and the mid-19th-century Mossfield Mill, in addition to mid-19th-century terraced housing. Provided below is a

detailed description of each mill, including the evolution of their form from the mid-19th to late 20th-century, as well as the terraced housing. The earliest map that is used for the cartographic regression is the 1851 Ordnance Survey (OS) town plan.

WRIGLEY BROOK MILL

- 4.5.2 The earliest cotton spinner/manufacture recorded in Heywood is James Kershaw, who was listed in the area in 1777, and reputedly set up the first cotton mill in the village. Wrigley Brook Mill itself is postulated to have been established by James Kershaw and could date to the late 18th-century, however the origins of the mill are uncertain.
- 4.5.3 Analysis of trade directories shows the Wrigley Brook Mill under the ownership of John Bentley in 1829. James Kershaw, who is recorded in the 1794 trade directory as a cotton manufacturer at Angel Yard, is listed in the 1829 directory but is not recorded against a specific mill. The subsequent 1841 directory again lists James Kershaw, however, this records him as located at Peel Street, to the west of the mill. Two entries are possibly associated with Wrigley Brook Mill in this directory, Samuel Chadwick & Sons and Hamer & Lund, both listed at Britannia Street. The 1853 directory records the mill as owned by Thomas Ashworth, who was recorded as residing at Mossfield Cottage. This directory lists James Kershaw & Sons as owning Peel Street Warehouse. From 1853, the ownership of the mill is unclear as it is not directly referenced in trade directories, however the 1876 and '78 directories list James Kershaw & Sons as owning 'mills' in Heywood. It is difficult to ascertain but it is possible they took over control of Wrigley Brook Mill at some point after 1853.
- 4.5.4 The 1851 OS (Plate 1) depicts the Wrigley Brook Mill as a long, narrow structure, comprising of two internal divisions, that is bounded by Leigh Street and an open yard to its east and the Wrigley Brook to its west. A reservoir is located to the west of the mill, across Wrigley Brook. To the north of the mill, four structures are illustrated, which abut the northern elevation of the mill. The form of these buildings does not merge smoothly with the remainder of the mill, suggesting these could be a later addition. Two more reservoirs are located just north of these buildings.

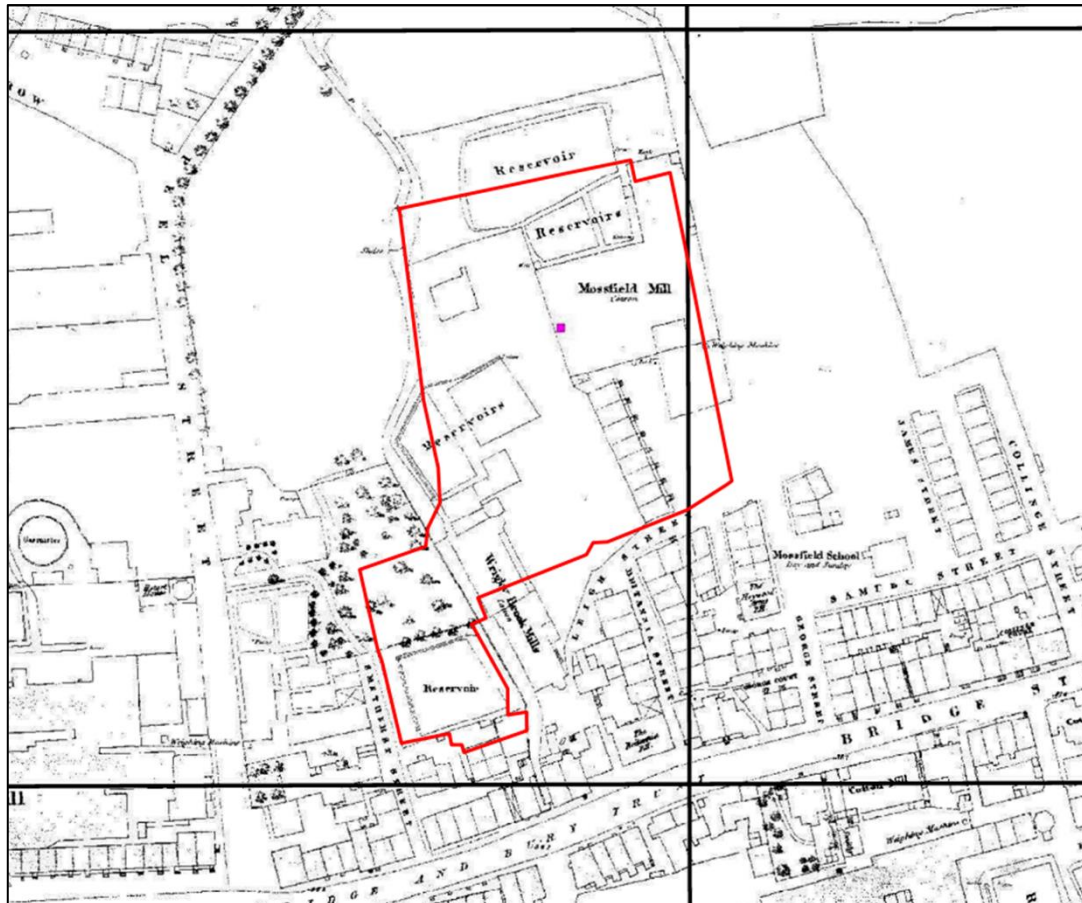


Plate 1: OS Map 1851

- 4.5.5 The long, narrow structure comprises two internal divisions, which could suggest the northern, slightly wider end of this building may be a later extension, however this is impossible to ascertain with the available documentary evidence. The size of the narrow long building, measuring approximately 9.5m wide at its narrowest and 46m long (not including the four northern buildings), roughly fits the description of mills that may have been an Arkwright-type factory which supported a water frame and would have originally been three or four storeys. If water powered, these types of mills featured a waterwheel installed either at the gable end of the mill or in the central area. The latter would require a reservoir and leat system to power it. However, this is just a presumption based on the limited available cartographic evidence, and Wrigley Brook Mill could equally have supported a manual spinning jenny and been in use as a jenny shop.
- 4.5.6 A building is located just to the north of the mill, which is depicted a singular structure on the 1851 OS (Plate 2). It is possible that this is the Mossfield Cottage occupied by Thomas Ashworth as referenced in the 1853 trade directory, however, this is uncertain as the building is not labelled. It could be an industrial building; however, the subsequent 1891 OS shows it divided into three separate units, with southern yards,

and possible greenhouses. Therefore, it may have originally been a singular cottage building, which was later internally divided to create a row of three houses; however, the building has no associated street and so census records could not be found.

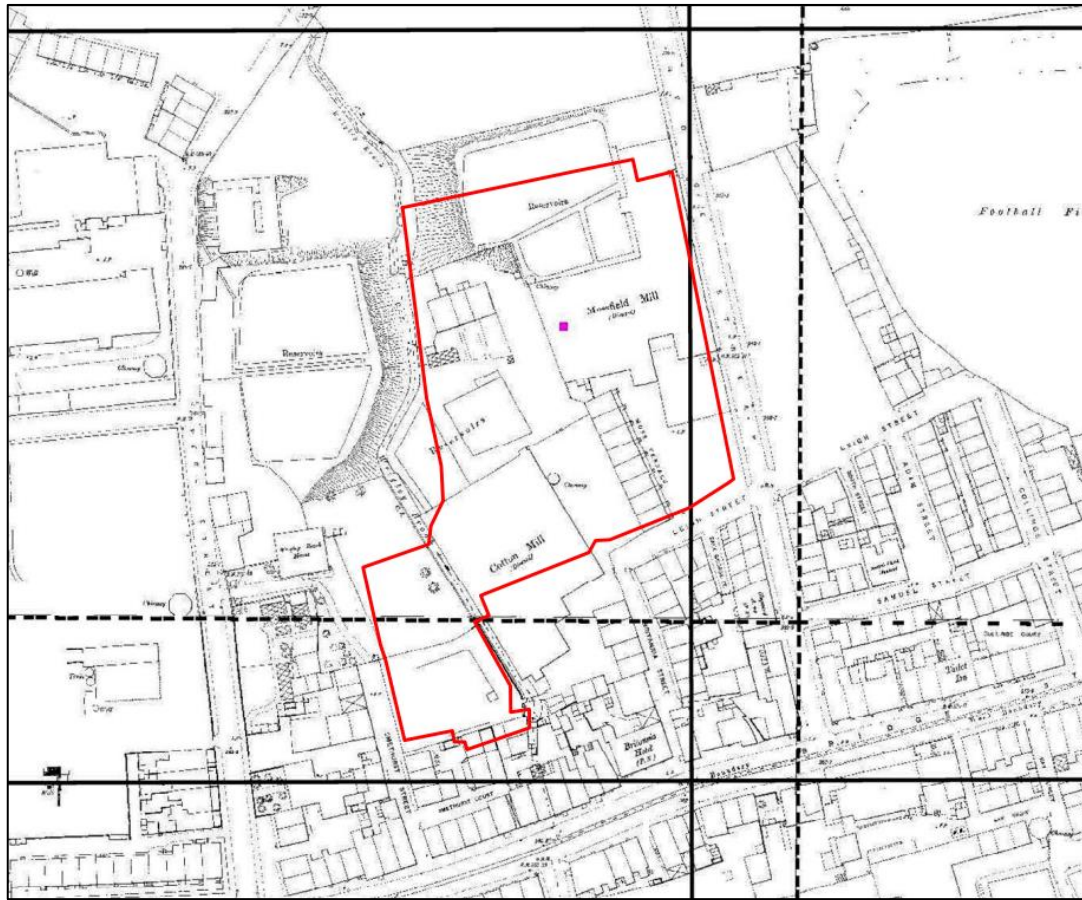


Plate 2: OS Map 1891

- 4.5.7 The 1891 town plan shows the mill (now marked as disused) had been greatly modified and extended since 1851 to form a roughly square shaped structure, with an extension protruding south-east from the southern elevation. The reservoir west of the mill is now infilled and out of use, whilst those to the north have been retained. A chimney is illustrated at the northern end of the eastern elevation of the mill.
- 4.5.8 With the advent of the steam powered engine in the late 18th-century, Wrigley Brook Mill would have abandoned the now defunct waterpower method if it was used and therefore, would not have needed to rely on the flowing river. Instead, a steam engine could rely on a water supply from a reservoir. It may be significant that once Wrigley Brook Mill expanded in the late 19th-century, the reservoir west of the mill was infilled and no longer in use, whilst those to the north were retained. This could suggest the engine house was located in the northern area of the mill, which would require constant water from the reservoirs to the north, whilst the southern reservoir was no longer

needed by the mill. This is further attested by the presence of two reservoirs to the north, which could suggest one reservoir was receiving the hot condensate from the boiler, however this is normally attributed to the end of the 19th-century. Furthermore, the four structures that appear to have been added on to the northern elevation, may have been a result of the transition of the mill to steam power, with one of these buildings positioned close to the reservoirs potentially supporting the steam engine.

4.5.9 The late 19th-century did see a complete remodelling of Wrigley Brook Mill, most likely as it shifted to factory style production, and incorporated a boiler house. As noted above, a circular chimney is depicted on the northern end of the eastern elevation on 1891 OS. No other chimney is depicted on this map, which may suggest the location of the engine is in the north-east area of the mill, close to the circular chimney.

4.5.10 Wrigley Brook Mill was demolished by 1910 and the site remained unused during the early 20th-century, however, Britannia Street was extended northwards to link to Mossfield Mill. By 1981, a scrap yard had been built on the site of the Mill, which was demolished sometime after 2006. Since then, the site of Wrigley Brook Mill has remained abandoned.

MOSSFIELD MILL

4.5.11 Mossfield Mill is a non-designed heritage asset recorded on the Greater Manchester HER, which was demolished post-1988. When inspected in the 1980s as part of the Greater Manchester Textile Mill Survey, Mossfield Mill was described as follows:

'Unusual site. Spinning mill No.1: late C19/early C20, of 2 storeys, brick built, 8x2, 7x2 and 11x2 bays. Gable slate roof. Timber internal structure. No.2: late C19, brick built, of 2 storeys and 11x2 bays. M-style roof. Timber internal structure. Office building of 2 storeys and 2x2 bays (late C19) included in No.1 spinning mill. Some embellished windows to the N end of No.1 mill. In use by a manufacturer of metal consumer goods.'

4.5.12 The 1851 OS is the earliest map to show the mill in detail, but it is referenced in Pigot and Co.'s directory of 1841. However, the HER description of a late 19th to early 20th-century mill, suggests it is likely that the mill was rebuilt, or re-modelled, at some point after its construction in the early to mid-19th-century. The 1851 OS shows the mill as roughly L-shaped in form, with three reservoirs located immediately north-west of the mill. A circular chimney is located on the northwest corner of the mill and although not labelled, three possible square chimneys are depicted on the north-eastern extension. Two of these chimneys are depicted as internal, one on the northern elevation and the second on the eastern elevation, whilst the other possible chimney is depicted outside of the western elevation, adjacent to the reservoir. A weighing machine is labelled to

the south-east of the mill, within what is presumably the loading yard of the mill, which is accessed from George Street. A circular feature is depicted on the southern elevation, west of the yard, which could be a possible chimney. However, this feature is not depicted on later mapping and the associated label is not legible to confirm.

- 4.5.13 By 1891, the north-eastern part of the mill has expanded northwards, whilst a small extension had built from the southern elevation – just west of the loading yard and north of Mossfield terrace.
- 4.5.14 The early 20th-century saw the greatest alteration to Mossfield Mill, as the majority of the western area of the mill had been demolished and the eastern wing of the mill was extended southwards along George Street. Four possible chimneys are depicted on the 1910 OS, one to the north-west adjacent to the reservoir, one in the central area of the building, one to the south adjacent to the yard and the last in the north-eastern area of the mill.
- 4.5.15 The footprint of the mill remained unchanged until at some point between 1937 and 1957, where a separate building had been constructed immediately south of the mill and a small extension was built, from the north-western corner of the main structure.
- 4.5.16 The late 20th-century saw the mill extend further to the north and north-west, and both of the southern reservoirs located north of the mill, have been infilled. The last of these reservoirs was filled in by 1992 and the Mill was demolished in the late 1990s.

MOSS TERRACE

- 4.5.17 The 1851 OS shows a row of 8 terraced houses (Moss Terrace) located within the south-eastern end of the site, immediately south of Mossfield Mill, with access to these houses gained from Leigh Street. Despite existing since 1851, Moss Terrace cannot be located in the 1851 and 1861 census records. The 1871 – 1891 census records show the majority of those who occupied these houses worked in the cotton industry, in roles including weavers, power loom operators, piercers, spinners and stokers. The occupations of the inhabitants do become more varied by the late 19th-century, with the 1891 census recording a brick setter, coal miner and nurse.
- 4.5.18 The subsequent 1910 OS map no longer illustrates these houses, and they are not present in the 1901 or 1911 census records, indicating they were demolished at some point between 1891 and 1901. Research into these houses is limited by the information available, however, their location close to Mossfield Mill implies those that worked in the textile industry were employed by this mill, albeit it is uncertain if the buildings themselves were owned by Mossfield Mill.

5. METHODOLOGY

- 5.1 Six trenches were proposed by GMAAS on areas of archaeological interest present on historic mapping. All six trenches were excavated. Trench 1 was foreshortened by 5m due to the presence of Japanese Knotweed.
- 5.2 Each trench was targeted over areas of potential archaeology:
- Trench 1 (20m x 1.8m) to target the earlier phases of Wrigley Brook Mill.
 - Trench 2 (20m x 1.8m) to target the chimney and possible engine house location for the later phase of Wrigley Brook Mill.
 - Trench 3 (20m x 1.8m) to target the possible engine house of the earlier phases of Wrigley Brook Mill
 - Trench 4 (20m x 1.8m) located over 19th-century terraced housing.
 - Trench 5 (20m x 1.8m) located over a chimney of the late 19th-century phase of Mossfield Mill.
 - Trench 6 (15m x 1.8m) orientated north-east/south-west to target a possible chimney of the late 19th-century phase of Mossfield Mill.
- 5.3 All archaeological work was conducted following the ClfA Standards and Guidance for archaeological field evaluation (ClfA 2020). Prior to the commencement of any excavation works, the location of the area targeted for archaeological investigation was laid out accurately with respect to the Ordnance Survey national grid. The position of the trenches was then scanned for live services using a cable avoidance tool. The excavations were regularly scanned as work progressed.
- 5.4 Machine excavation was used to carefully define the extent of any surviving structures, features, and other remains. This was carried out using a mechanical excavator of appropriate size and power under the supervision of an experienced archaeologist. Thereafter, remains were cleaned manually to define their extent, nature, form and, where possible, date.
- 5.5 Once the extent of buried archaeological remains was established they were then subject to detailed archaeological excavation and recording by trained professional archaeologists.
- 5.6 All contexts were recorded using *pro-forma* sheets, and details were incorporated into a Harris matrix. All written recording of survey data, contexts, photographs, artefacts and ecofacts was cross-referenced from record sheets using sequential numbering.

- 5.7 A full and detailed photographic record of individual contexts was maintained and similarly general views from standard view points of the overall site at all stages of the excavation was generated. Photography was undertaken in accordance with Historic England guidance, *Digital Image Capture and File Storage Guidelines for Best Practice* (Historic England, 2015). All frames will include a visible, graduated metric scale. Photographs records will be maintained on photographic *pro-forma* sheets.
- 5.8 The precise location of all archaeological remains encountered was surveyed using GPS survey. This process generated scaled plans within AutoCAD, which were then subjected to manual survey enhancement. The drawings were generated at an accuracy appropriate for 1:20 scale, but can be output at any scale required. All information was geo-rectified to the Ordnance Survey National Grid and all levels were tied into Ordnance Datum.
- 5.9 The finds recovery and sampling methodologies were undertaken in accordance with current Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidelines and were subjected to expert advice in order to minimise deterioration (CIfA, 2020). Finds storage during fieldwork and any site archive preparation followed professional guidelines.
- 5.10 Following the completion of the evaluation, each trench was backfilled with arisings and compacted with the machine bucket.

6. EVALUATION RESULTS

6.1.1 The archaeological sequence recorded on the site is described below on a trench-by-trench basis.

6.2 Trench 1 (Plates 3 and 4, Figures 2 and 3)

6.2.1 Trench 1 was orientated north to south and was excavated to a length of 15m by 1.8m wide and was c. 3m deep at its maximum depth. It was shortened slightly due to the presence of Japanese Knotweed.

6.2.2 The earliest deposit found was the natural [104] a mid yellowish grey silty clay at a depth of 3m from ground level.

6.2.3 Sealing this was [103] a mixed black clinker boiler waste and horizons of mid brown clay with an approximate thickness of 1.90m.

6.2.4 Overlying this was [102] a surface constructed of re-used handmade brick, frogged brick and sandstone. This was 8.62m long by 1.8m wide and was one course high with a thickness of 0.08m.

6.2.5 This was sealed by a mixed limestone aggregate layer [101] with a thickness of 0.50m. This was covered by the topsoil [100] and was 0.50m thick, and which formed the current ground surface.



Plate 3: Trench 1, surface [102], looking south east, scale: 3m and 1m



Plate 4: Trench 1, natural [104] below made ground [103], looking west: scale 2m

6.3 Trench 2 (Plate 5 and ; Figures 2 and 3)

- 6.3.1 Trench 2 was orientated east to west it was opened to a length of 19m by 1.8m wide and was 2m deep at its maximum extent. It was targeted on the possible remains of Wrigley Brook Mill.
- 6.3.2 The earliest deposit observed in Trench 2 was [204] a mixed deposit of black clinker and mid brown clay layers and was excavated to a depth of 2.5m.
- 6.3.3 This was overlain by [203] and [202]. 203 was a layer of crushed house red house brick approximately 0.30m thick, and was abutted by [202] a concrete surface 0.30m thick and stanchion base [205] with an exposed thickness of 2m.
- 6.3.4 Sealing this was 201 a firm mid grey clay made ground deposit 0.50m thick.
- 6.3.5 The latest deposit covering the trench was topsoil layer [200] with a thickness of 0.40m forming the current ground surface.



Plate 5: Trench 2, looking north east, scale: 2m scale

6.4 Trench 3 (Plate 6; Figures 2 and 3)

- 6.4.1 Trench 3 was orientated east to west 20m long and 1.8m wide with a maximum depth of 3m.
- 6.4.2 The earliest deposit recorded was the natural [310] a mid yellow grey silty clay found at a depth of 3m from the ground surface.
- 6.4.3 Sealing this was [309] a crushed house brick layer 0.40m thick. Overlying this was [308] a whitish grey clay layer 0.30m thick. Covering this was [307] a black clinker layer 0.80m thick. This was sealed by another whitish grey clay layer [306] and was 0.20m thick.
- 6.4.4 These were sealed by [304] a firm mixed black clinker boiler waste and mid brown clay deposit that was 0.70m thick.
- 6.4.5 This was covered by [305] and [303]. [305] was a made ground horizon with a thickness of 0.30m. This abutted [303] a concrete surface 0.30m thick.
- 6.4.6 These were overlain by [302] a limestone aggregate horizon 0.40m thick and [301] a made ground deposit, both 0.50m thick
- 6.4.7 These were covered by [300] a topsoil deposit 0.40m thick and which formed the current ground surface.



Plate 6: Trench 3, representative section to natural [310], looking north east, scale: 1m and 1m

6.5 Trench 4 (Plates 7 and 8; Figures 2 and 4)

- 6.5.1 Trench 4 was orientated north west to south east and was 20m long by 1.8m wide with a maximum depth of 0.70m. This was a targeted trench on 19th-century terraced housing visible on historic OS mapping.

- 6.5.2 The earliest deposits recorded in trench 4 were the remains of 19th-century houses. Wall [407] was a north west to south east orientated external wall constructed of red handmade brick (brick sizes 230mm by 110mm by 80mm). It was 8.10m long with a width of 0.38m wide (Plate 7). To the north of this was attached to iron bar fitting 413, measuring 0.80 long by 0.10m wide. Wall [407] was abutted by internal walls [408] and [409]. Both were constructed of red handmade bricks and measured 0.48 long by 0.42m wide. Abutting all these deposits were post destruction levelling deposit 411 a black clinker deposit that measure 17.72m by 1.60m wide.
- 6.5.3 Also at this level were walls [406] and [405], part of the same structure but truncated by later intervention [404]. [406] was an L- shaped external wall constructed from red handmade brick with lime mortar and had a length of 1.40m by 1m and a width of 0.38m. Wall [405] was a continuation of this structure and measured 2.70m long by 0.38m wide. These were abutted to the east by [410] a post destruction layer of crushed and smashed red handmade bricks and mid brownish orange silt measuring 3.26m by 0.60m wide.
- 6.5.4 These deposits were all truncated by a series later 20th-century interventions. A linear cut [412] truncated [408], [409], [411], [406] and [410]. It measured 17.70m by 0.40m and contained fill [401] a firm yellow clay redeposited natural with a thickness of 0.40m. Cut from the same level were walls [404] and [403]. Wall [404] was an east to west orientated wall constructed from modern machine made brick measuring 1.90m long, 0.38m wide and 0.40m thick. This truncated [410], [411] and walls [405] and [406]. Wall [403] ran parallel to this and was constructed from the same materials with the same dimensions and truncated [410] and [405]. It was abutted by concrete surface [402] measuring 2m long by 1.9m wide.
- 6.5.5 Sealing all the deposits and forming the current ground surface was made ground deposit [400] and was recorded with to a maximum thickness of 0.30m.



Plate 7: Trench 4, walls [407], [406] and [404], looking north, scale: 1m and 1m



Trench 8, wall [407] looking north west, scale: 1m and 1m

6.6 Trench 5 (Plate 9 and 10; Figures 2 and 5)

- 6.6.1 Trench 5 was orientated north west to south east and was excavated to a length of 20m with a width of 1.8m and a maximum depth of 2.5m and was a targeted trench to find Mossfield Mill.
- 6.6.2 The earliest deposit recorded was the natural [503] a firm mid grey clay. Heavy rain and a high water table meant deeper parts of the trench immediately flooded on excavation.
- 6.6.3 Sealing the made ground was a 1.98m thick layer of made ground [502] a loose black ash and clinker levelling deposit with horizons of grey clay and frequent inclusions of fine crushed red house brick fragments.

- 6.6.4 Overlying this was [501] a mixed destruction rubble layer contained frequent inclusions of red handmade bricks, frogged brick, smashed house brick debris, iron fragments and smashed York stone debris. It was 0.23m to 0.60m thick.
- 6.6.5 Covering this and forming the current ground surface was modern ground levelling deposit [500], a mid grey silty clay with frequent modern rubbish inclusions i.e. rubber, plastic and crisp packets etc.



Plate 9: Trench 5, general shot, looking south east: scale 1m and 1m



Plate 10: Trench 5, representative section, facing north east: scale 1m

6.7 Trench 6 (Plate 11 and 12; Figures 2 and 5)

- 6.7.1 Trench 6, located in the central part of the site. It was orientated east to west was 15m long by 1.8m wide with a maximum depth of 1.20m BGL. It was targeted to uncover potential remains of a chimney associated with Mossfield Mill.

- 6.7.2 The earliest deposit identified was the natural [604] a yellow clay natural with mudstone and sandstone inclusions.
- 6.7.3 This was cut by [601] a north to south orientated wall constructed from modern engineering bricks (brick sizes 230mm by 110mm by 80mm) with a black mortar bond. It was 1.8m wide with a width of 0.52m and an excavated to a height of 0.80m. No cut was visible.
- 6.7.4 To the west of this wall and was destruction rubble level [603] a mid grey silty deposit with frequent inclusions of mixed destruction rubble. This was sealed by another rubble deposit [602] a dark grey silt with frequent inclusions of plastic, modern rubbish, metal and smashed house bricks.
- 6.7.5 To the east of wall [601] was layer [600] a firm mid grey silty clay levelling deposit with frequent inclusions of brick and occasional small subrounded pebbles. [601] and [602] formed the current ground surface.



Plate 11: Trench 6 showing [604] facing east, scale 1m and 1m



Plate 12: Trench 6 section facing south showing wall [601], and deposits [600] and [602], scales 1m

7. DISCUSSION

7.1 Natural geology

- 7.1.1 The earliest deposits recorded on site were exposures of superficial till, with a band of clay till as described by the British Geological Survey (2019). No bedrock geology was exposed.

7.2 Phase 1: 19th-Century Ground Levelling

- 7.2.1 Trenches 1, 2, 3, and 5 contained substantial layers of dark grey silty black clinker that appeared to be derived from boiler waste, industrial waste and crushed house brick. These deposits all had the same character – layers of black silty clinker boiler waste, mid brown clay and smashed or finely crushed house brick. These appeared to be deliberately laid down to raise the ground level and likely dated to the 19th-century. In trench 1 these were overlain by surviving 19th-century archaeological deposits

7.3 Phase 2: 19th-Century Structures (Figures 6 and 7)

- 7.3.1 Trench 1 contained a surface of re-used handmade bricks, later frogged bricks and stone. This was on the site of the former Wrigley Brook Mill. Following recording the surface was removed and excavation continued. No evidence of earlier structures was encountered below this indicating that the surface represents the 1891 modification of the factory. Trenches 2 and 3 this did not find any evidence of surviving structures from Wrigley Brook Mill. Trench 4 contained some external and internal walls of the former Moss Terrace houses but these had been badly truncated by later 20th-century structures related to the late 20th-century scrapyard. Trench 5 uncovered nothing but a demolition layer on the site of Mossfield Mill with no signs of any surviving structures associated with this Mill. Trench 6 showed no signs of the chimney or mill – the brick wall uncovered in the centre of the trench was constructed from mid-20th-century engineering bricks.

7.4 Phase 4: Modern (Figure 8)

- 7.4.1 Trenches 2, 3, and 4 had a concrete surface and a stanchion base associated with the 20th-century scrapyard. Trench 6 had a 20th-century wall constructed from modern engineering bricks with no sign of factory or chimney.

8. CONCLUSION

8.1 Impact

- 8.1.1 The archaeological evaluation has demonstrated that buried remains of archaeological significance are not present on the site. No evidence of the 18th-century mill was uncovered in the trenches located on the site of Wrigley Brook Mill, with Mossfield Mill being completely destroyed when it was demolished in the late 1980's. Some housing remains relating to Moss Terrace were uncovered but had been badly truncated by the late 20th-century scrapyard, which had also apparently truncated Wrigley Brook Mill.

8.2 Mitigation

- 8.2.1 In the light of the results obtained from the archaeological evaluation, and following consultation with GMAAS, it is recommended that no further investigation is required.

9. ARCHIVE

- 9.1.1 An integrated project archive (including both artefacts/ecofacts and project documentation) will be prepared upon completion of the project. The integrated archive will be offered for deposition with Touchstones Rochdale. Until such time as the archive is accepted for deposition it will be stored with Salford Archaeology.
- 9.1.2 The archive of finds and records generated during the project will be kept secure at all stages of the project. All records and materials produced will be archived in accordance with industry best practice (Brown 2011; ClfA 2020b; 2020c; and SMA 1993). Condition and arrangements of the deposition of the archive will be obtained by the archaeological contractor from the nominated repository on the completion of the project.
- 9.1.3 The transfer of the ownership of collected finds will be made to the nominated repository, assuming the landowner gives their approval.
- 9.1.4 An online OASIS form at <http://www.oasis.ac.uk/> will also be completed as part of the project. This will be on the understanding that this information will be made available through the above website, unless otherwise agreed.

10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1.1 Salford Archaeology would like to thank RPS Consulting Services Ltd for commissioning the evaluation, and Ian Miller of GMAAS for onsite monitoring and advice. The evaluation was carried out by Julian Thorley, who also authored the report. The illustrations were produced by Sarah Mottershead. The project was managed by Graham Mottershead, who also edited the report.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX

Trench	Context	Description
1	100	Mid grey silty loam topsoil, 0.50m thick.
1	101	Firm which grey aggregate and gravel deposit, frequent irregular sized and shaped limestone and crushed limestone, 0.50m thick, same as 302, 502.
1	102	Red handmade brick surface with some frogged brick inclusions and sub-rectangular York stone flags. Brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, one course, 0.08m thick.
1	103	Firm, mixed lenses of black clinker and bands of mid brown silty clay, 1.90m thick. Same as 204.
1	104	Firm yellow grey clay natural with moderate inclusions of irregular shaped small to medium sized sandstone.
2	200	Topsoil, 0.40m thick.
2	201	Firm mid grey clay made ground, frequent inclusions of small irregular sub rounded stone, 0.50m thick.
2	202	Concrete surface, 0.30m thick
2	203	Smashed red handmade brick layer, 0.30m thick
2	204	Firm mixed lenses of black clinker and bands of mid brown silty clay, 2.50m thickness. Same as 103, 502.
2	205	Concrete stanchion base, approx. 2m thickness exposed.
2	300	Topsoil, 0.40m thickness
3	301	Firm grey silty clay made ground, 0.50m thickness
3	302	Firm which grey aggregate and gravel deposit, frequent irregular sized and shaped limestone and crushed limestone, 0.50m thick. Same as 101.
3	303	Concrete surface, 0.30m thick.
3	304	Firm mixed lenses of black clinker and bands of mid brown silty clay, 0.70m thickness
3	305	Firm mid grey made ground, with frequent inclusions of 20 th century smashed pottery and small subrounded pebbles, 0.30m thick.
3	306	Whitish grey silty clay, 0.20m thick.
3	307	Black clinker layer, 0.80m thick
3	308	Whitish grey silty clay, 0.20m thick
3	309	Crushed red handmade brick, 0.40m thick
3	310	Firm yellow grey clay natural with moderate inclusions of irregular shaped small to medium sized sandstone.
4	400	Firm grey silty clay made ground layer, 0.30m thick.
4	401	Firm yellow clay redeposited natural fill of cut 412, 0.40m thick.
4	402	Concrete surface, 2m long, 1.8m wide.

4	403	East to west orientated modern brick wall, three courses wide, brick size 230mm by 110mm by 80mm, black mortar bond, 1.90m long by 0.36m wide.
4	404	East to west orientated modern brick wall, three courses wide, brick size 230mm by 110mm by 80mm, black mortar bond, 1.90m long by 0.36m wide.
4	405	North west to south east orientated wall, red handmade brick, brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, lime mortar, 2.70m long by 0.38m wide.
4	406	L-shaped external wall, red handmade brick, brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, lime mortar, 1.40m by 1m long by 0.38m wide.
4	407	North west to south east orientated external wall, red handmade brick, brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, lime mortar, 8.10m long by 0.38m wide.
4	408	Sub rectangular internal wall, red handmade brick, brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, lime mortar, 0.48m long by 0.42m wide.
4	409	Sub rectangular internal wall, red handmade brick, brick sizes 220mm by 110mm by 80mm, lime mortar, 0.48m long by 0.42m wide.
4	410	Red crushed and smashed house brick destruction deposit, 3.26m long by 0.60m wide.
4	411	Black clinker and crushed house brick deposit, 17.72m long by 1.20m wide.
4	412	Linear cut for yellow redeposited clay 401, 17.70m long by 0.40m wide.
4	413	Iron bar, 0.80m long by 0.10m wide
5	500	Firm grey silty clay with frequent inclusions of modern rubbish and plastic, 0.29m thick.
5	501	Mixed destruction rubble, frequent inclusions of red handmade brick, frogged brick and York stone debris, 0.23m to 0.60m thick.
5	502	Loose black ash, clinker and horizons of mid brown silty clay, 1.98m thick. Same as 103, 204.
5	503	Firm yellow grey clay natural with moderate inclusions of irregular shaped small to medium sized sandstone.
6	600	Firm grey silty clay levelling deposit, 0.80m thick.
6	601	North to south orientated engineering brick wall, brick size 240mm by 110mm by 80mm, black mortar bond, 1.8 long, 0.52m wide and 0.80m thick.
6	602	Firm dark grey silt mixed destruction rubble, frequent inclusions of mixed red handmade and factory made brick rubble, plastic and iron debris, 0.50m thick.
6	603	Firm grey sandy silt rubble and stone destruction rubble, 0.70m thick.
6	604	Firm yellow grey clay natural with moderate inclusions of irregular shaped small to medium sized sandstone.

APPENDIX 2: FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Location of archaeological evaluation trenches
- Figure 3: Plan of trenches 1, 2 and 3
- Figure 4: Plan of trench 4
- Figure 5: Plan of trenches 5 and 6
- Figure 6: Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 60" to 1 mile Town Plan 1851
- Figure 7: Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 1:500 Town Plan 1891
- Figure 8: Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 1:2500 National Grid Series map 1957

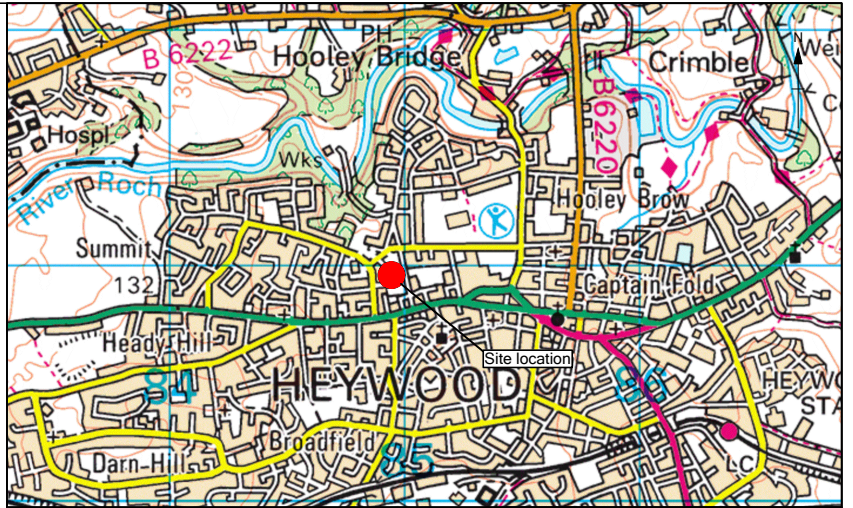


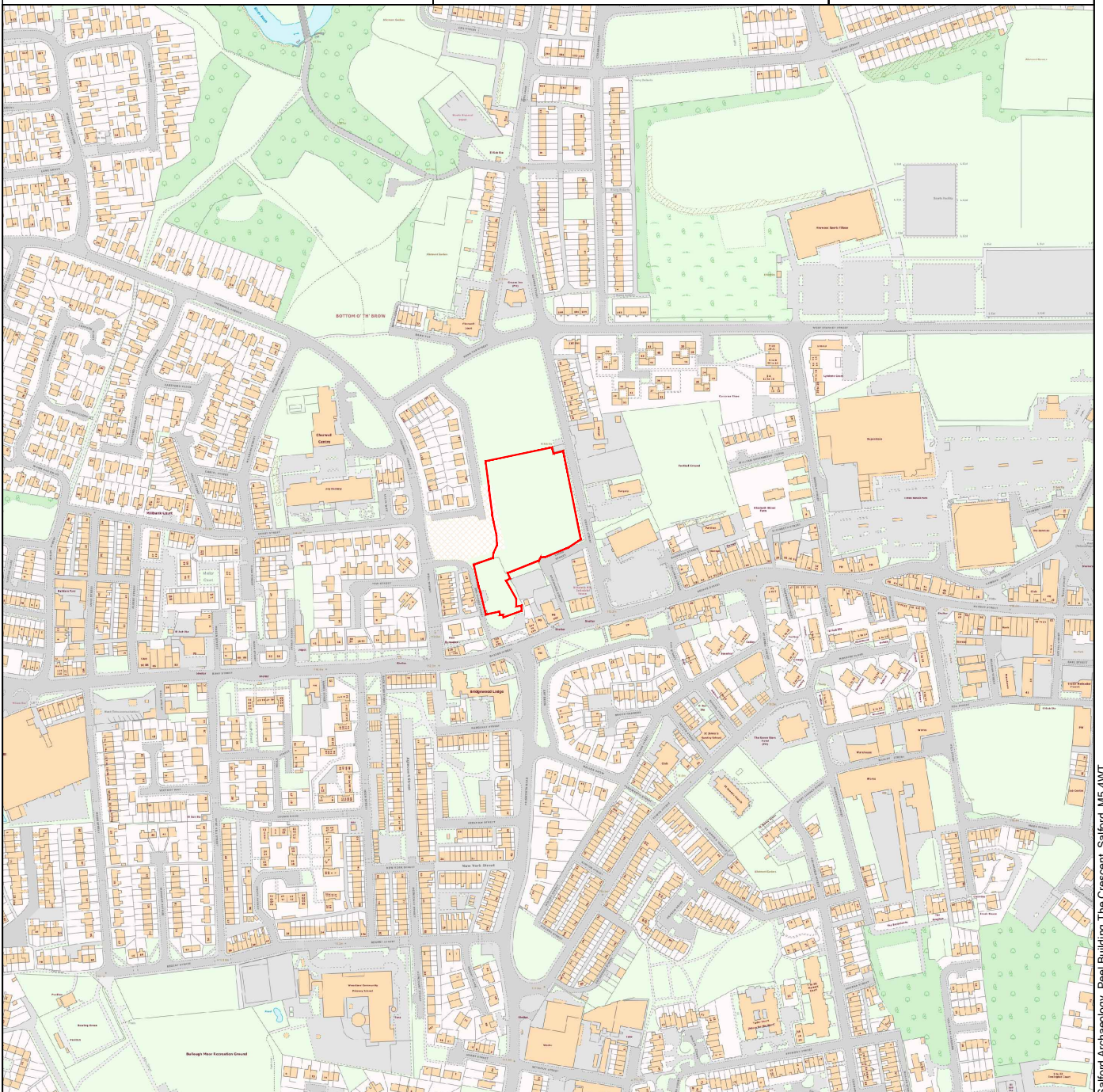
Figure 1:

Site location

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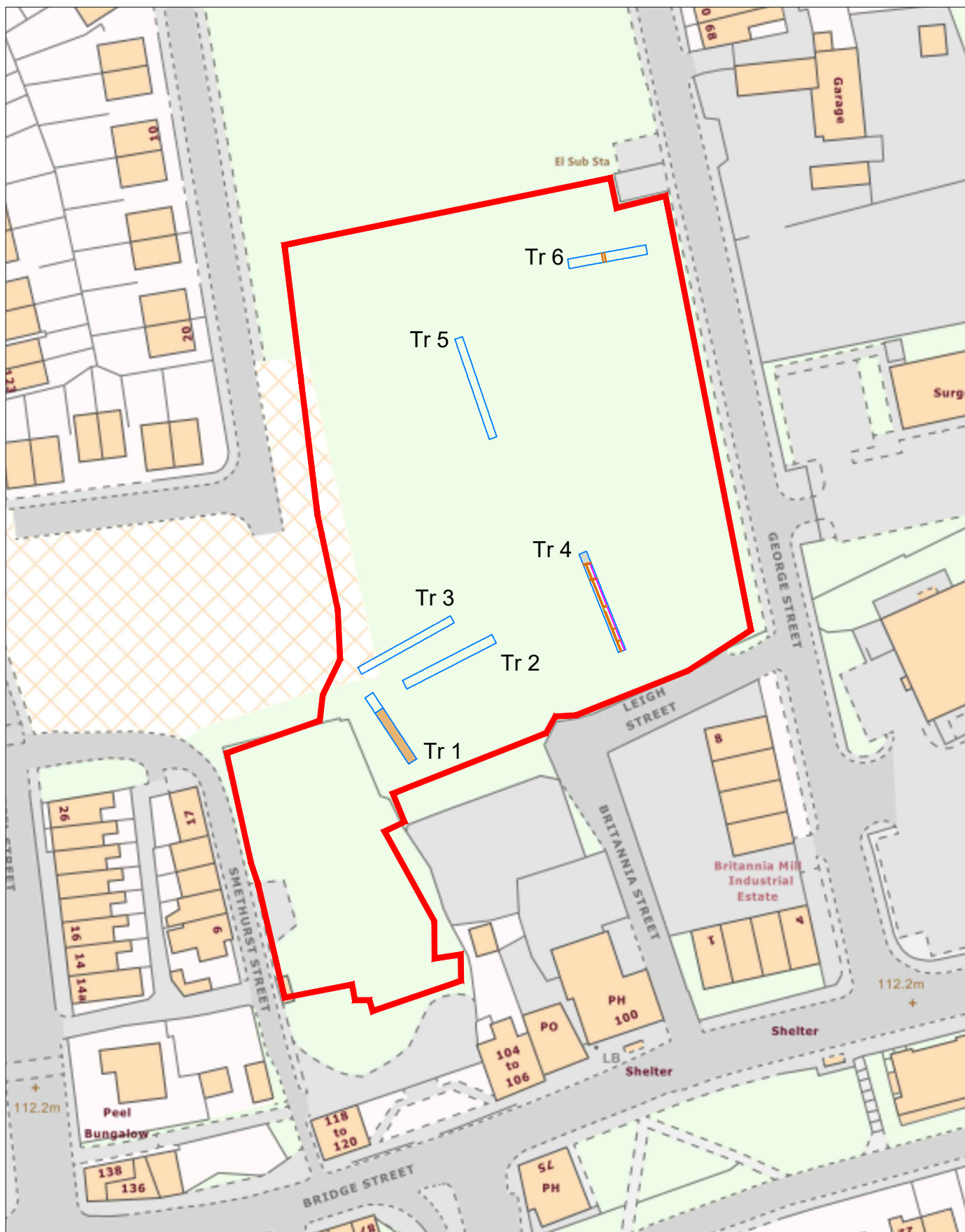


Figure 2:

Location of archaeological evaluation trenches

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Key:

- Site boundary
- Trench
- Brick
- Concrete
- Iron
- Truncation



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Scale at A4 1:1000



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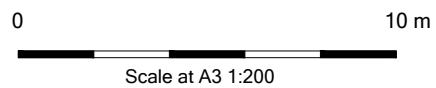


Figure 3:

Plan of trenches 1, 2 and 3

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Key:

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- Trench
- Brick

- Concrete
- Iron
- Truncation

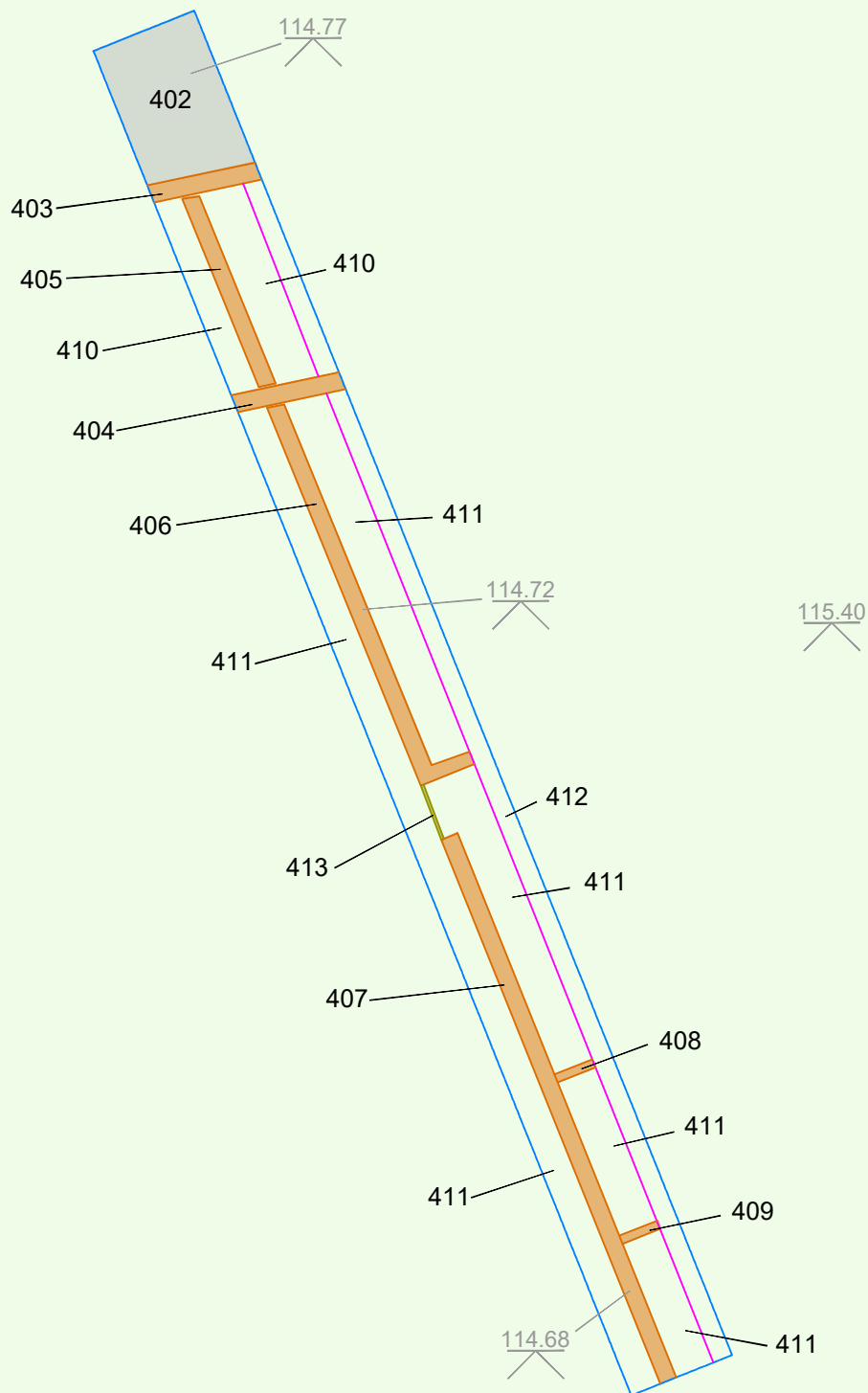


Figure 4:

Plan of trench 4

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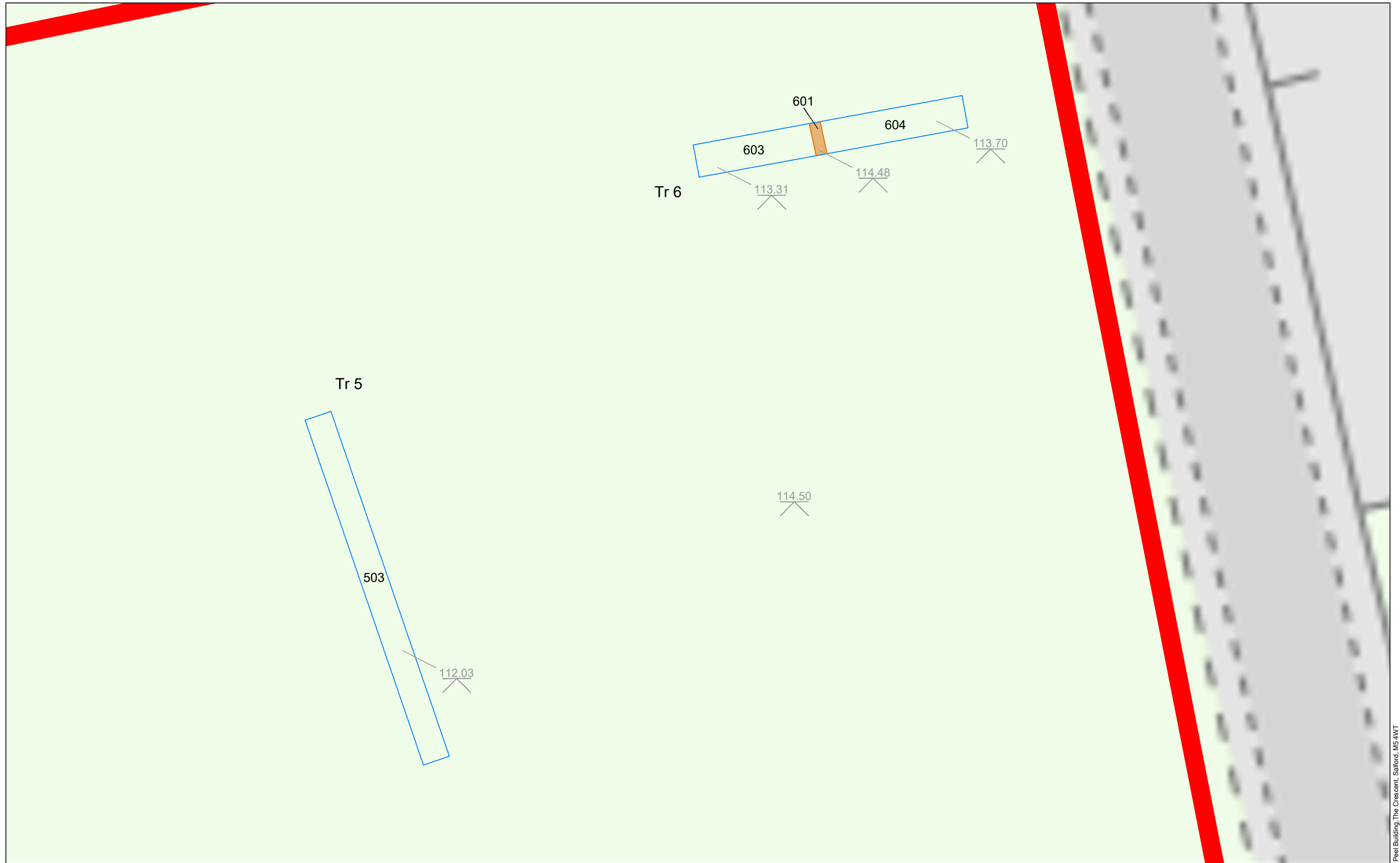
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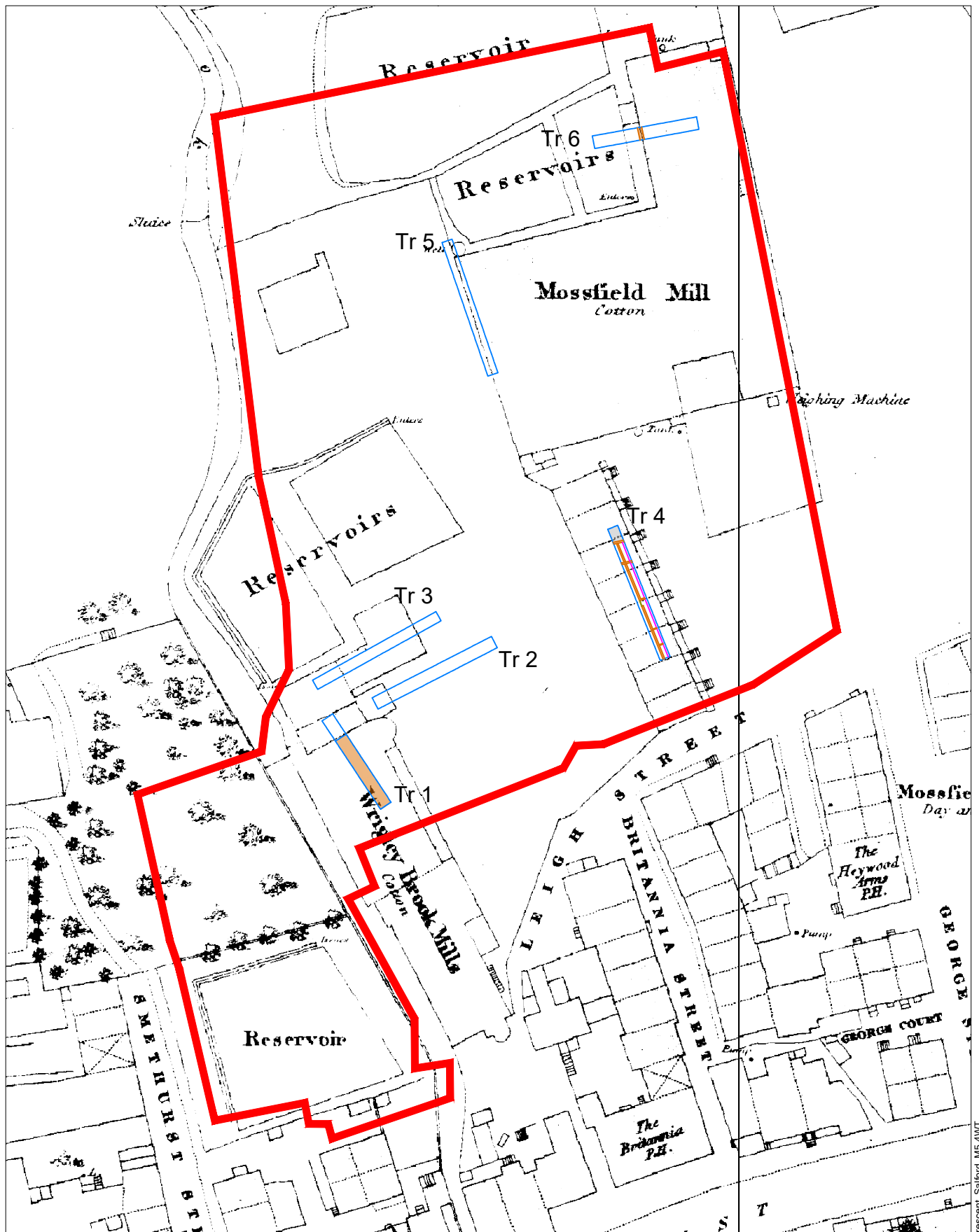
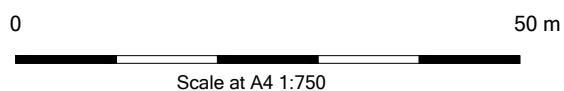


Figure 6:
Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 60" to 1 mile Town Plan 1851



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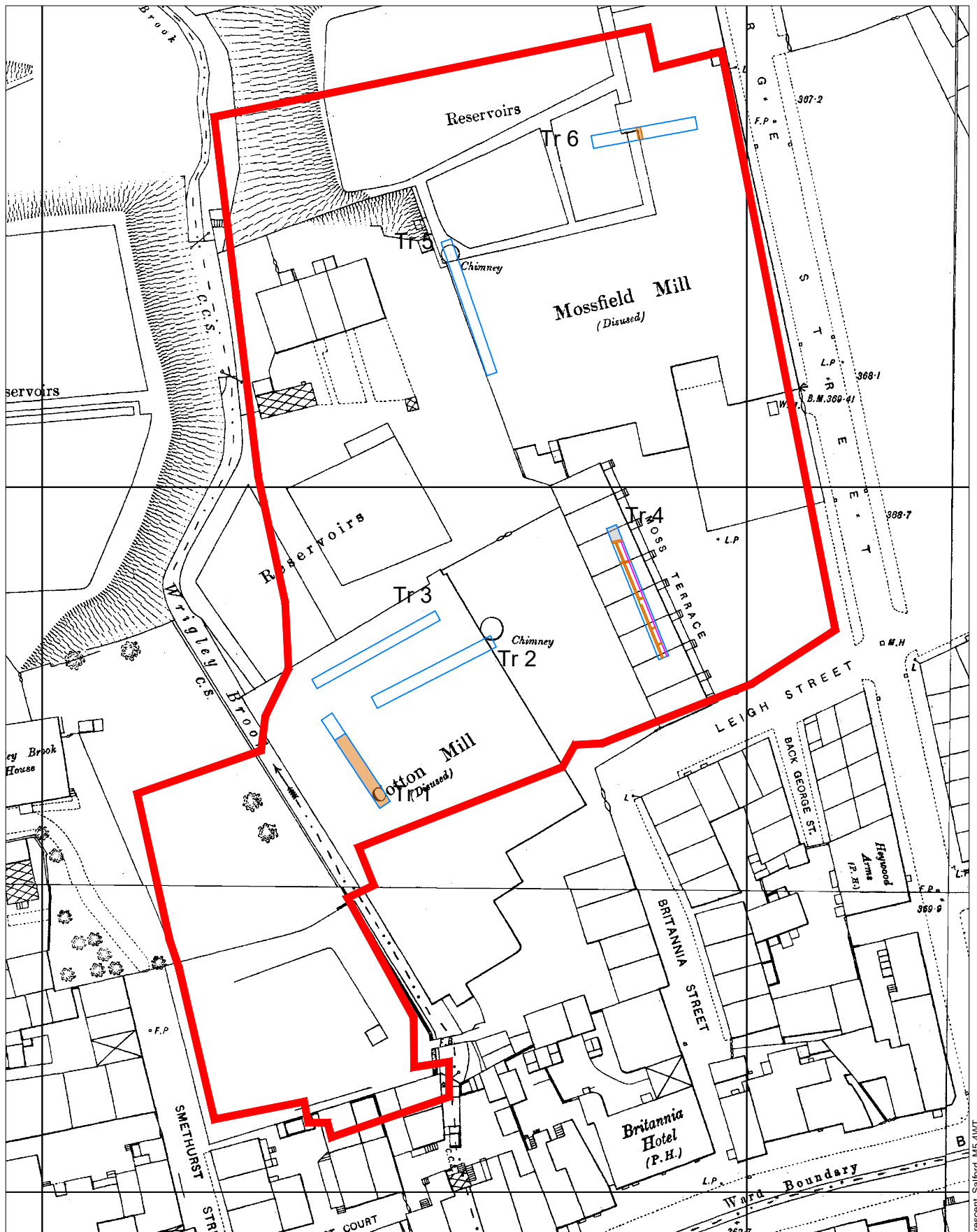
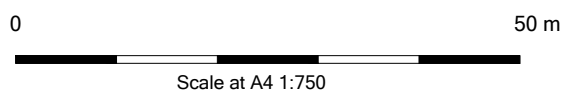


Figure 7:
Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 1:500 Town Plan 1891



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- Key:
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 - Trench
 - Brick
 - Concrete
 - Iron
 - Truncation

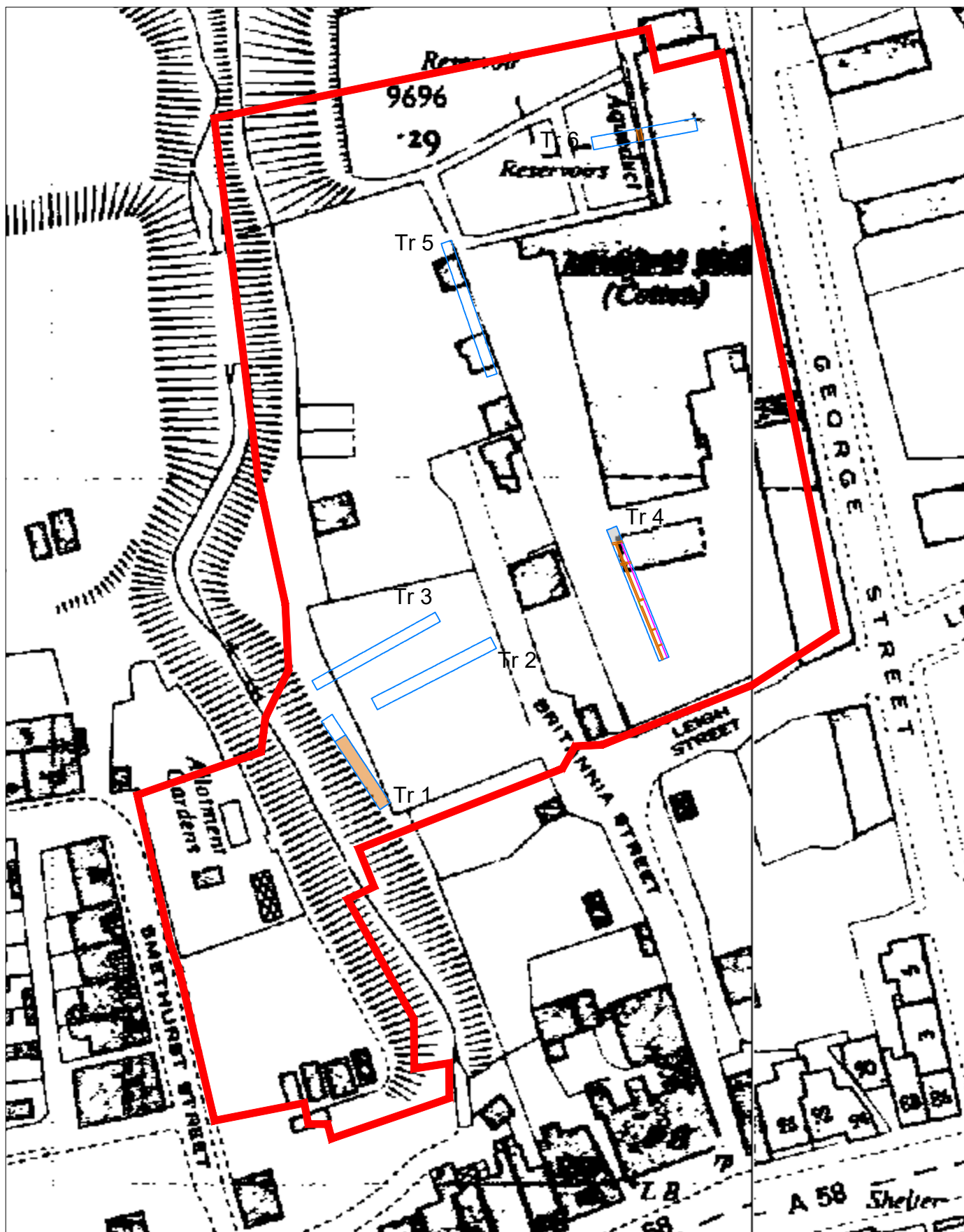


Figure 8:
Evaluation trenches superimposed onto OS 1:2500 National Grid Series map 1957



Key:

- Site boundary
- Trench
- Brick
- Concrete
- Iron
- Truncation



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Scale at A4 1:750