



Archaeological Strip, Map and Sample

Written Scheme of Investigation

23 Wood Street

Hinckley

July 2026

Heritage Consultancy and Planning Services Ltd T/A Groundworks Archaeology.
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S. Non-technical summary

- S1 A hybrid planning application (22/00695/HYB) for the “demolition of existing factory building and erection of a residential building comprising up to 12 residential” units at 23 Wood Street Hinckley has been approved by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. Condition 30 required the implementation of a phase 1 archaeological evaluation. This was undertaken in May and June 2026 and identified evidence for Prehistoric activity and a Medieval ditch.*
- S2 Consultee comments from Mr William Kelly in his capacity of advisor to the local planning authority recommended a further phase of archaeological mitigation comprising of a strip map and sample (SMS) targeted on the impact footprint for the proposed new build structure and attenuation tank. Additionally, a watching brief has been recommended for the groundworks that fall outside the SMS area.*
- S3 On the completion of the investigation, a report will be produced.*

1. Site location and description

- 1.1 The site is located on the south side of Wood Street, Hinckley at the junction with Priory Walk, within the Hinckley town centre conservation area. The site comprises a 19th century former hosiery factory with a 1930's extension fronting onto Wood Street. A derelict building is located on the western boundary of the site with open car parking to the east and west side of the original factory building. The site is centred on NGR SP 43019 94033 at an approximate height of 135m AOD (see figure 1).

Geology

- 1.2 The British Geological Survey website identifies the bedrock geology as the Mercia Mudstone Group, a mudstone sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic period.
- 1.3 Superficial deposits are recorded as the Dunsmore Gravel, a sand and gravel sedimentary superficial formed between 480 and 423 thousand years ago during the Quaternary period.

2. Planning background

- 2.1 A hybrid planning application (22/00695/HYB) comprising of: "Outline application (access, appearance and scale to be considered) for the demolition of existing factory building and erection of a residential building comprising up to 12 residential units; a Full application comprising the change of use of the existing factory building to residential including the addition of an extra storey and comprising 14 residential units" at 23 Wood Street, Hinckley" has been approved by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council.

- 2.2 Condition 30 states that:

"No demolition/development shall take place/commence until a written scheme of investigation (WSI) has been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing for the first phase of archaeological works. Further WSI/s would be needed for Mitigation stage/s. For land that is included within the WSIs, no demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the agreed WSI, which shall include the statement of significance and research objectives, and

- The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording and the nomination of a competent person(s) or organisation to undertake the agreed works
- The programme for post-investigation assessment and subsequent analysis, publication & dissemination and deposition of resulting material. This part of the condition shall not be discharged until

these elements have been fulfilled in accordance with the programme as set out in the WSI.

Reason: To ensure satisfactory archaeological investigation, recording, dissemination and archiving in accordance with the requirements of Policies DM11, DM12 and DM13 of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (2016)."

- 2.3 Groundworks Archaeology undertook an evaluation in response to condition 30 which identified a probable Medieval ditch and evidence of Prehistoric activity. Consultee comments from Mr William Kelly in his capacity of advisor to the local planning authority recommended a further phase of archaeological mitigation comprising of a strip map and sample (SMS) targeted on the impact footprint for the proposed new build structure and attenuation tank. Additionally, a watching brief has been recommended for the groundworks that fall outside the SMS area.

3. Historical and Archaeological Background

- 3.1 A search of the Leicestershire Historic Environment Record (HER) with a 1km radius has identified 130 monuments (of which 84 comprise extant buildings) and 49 events. There is one 1 scheduled monument in the study area but no registered parks and gardens or registered battlefields.

Prehistoric

- 3.2 The Palaeolithic period was characterised by hunter gatherers using relatively simple stone tools. At this time the area was part of the Great Forest of Arden and numerous flint implements particularly hand axes have been found in the county (although none within the study area) suggesting repeated visits. It appears from the evidence that this activity was much reduced by the onset of the Ice Age.
- 3.3 As the climate became warmer and the ice sheets retreated, the forest was re-established. Scatters of flint are the most common evidence of Mesolithic and Neolithic activity and it is likely that these scatters represent camps, either temporary or permanent in forest clearings. Although no finds of this era have been made within the study area, numerous sites are known in the wider area of which the most important is Blacklow Hill, near Warwick. Excavations here have revealed a substantial tool-making site. Towards the end of the Neolithic period the hunter-gatherer way of life was gradually being replaced by a simple farming economy. As farming developed, clearings were made in the forest.
- 3.4 The Bronze Age saw further development of farming communities with the establishment of field systems and more organised communities. Leicestershire being a rich agricultural area, farming continued to expand

and by 1500 BC much of the woodland had been cleared and settled. Only one find of Bronze Age date has been identified within the study area, a site at 'The Vicarage', St Mary's Road.

- 3.5 During the Iron Age, the population continued to expand and was divided into clearly demarcated tribal zones. This changing society is reflected in the ever-increasing number of settlements found across the county. There was a wider move to more defensive settlements witnessed in the later Iron Age with the construction of hillforts such as those at Burrough Hill, Breedon Hill and Beacon Hill. The closest hill fort to the site is that of Oldbury near Nuneaton. Only one find of Iron Age date has been made within the study area, a brooch (MLE6500) reputedly found on Castle Hill 165m south-west of the site. However, the HER description records the location as "suggestably false".

Roman

- 3.6 For the first few decades following the Roman invasion of Britain in AD 43, the Leicestershire area found itself at the frontier of Roman rule. Major roads such the Fosse Way were established which ran through Leicester and went north to Lincoln (Lindum) and south-west towards Cirencester (Corinium) and Bath (Aquae Sulis) marking the western frontier of Roman rule in Britain for several decades. Watling Street passed close to Hinckley linking London with Chester. The area was heavily fortified during this period and several military settlements were founded to defend the roads. The Roman period also saw the establishment of towns and an urban economy supported by villa estates in the hinterland. Leicester itself was the important site of the Roman city of Ratae Conftanorum, the centre of the Coritani tribal territory. Roman Leicester as a tribal capital or civitas had its origins as a military fort, certainly before 80 A.D. and eventually grew to a walled city of just over one hundred acres.
- 3.7 Within the study area itself a potential Roman site (MLE2895) has been identified near Priory Cottage 475m north-east of the site. In c.1905 a glass tear bottle, fragments of pottery and portions of a tessellated pavement were said to have been found on allotments at the site. In 1930 a Roman portrait bust was found on a rubbish heap nearby. This may suggest the presence of a high-status site although to date no further evidence has been found. An archaeological investigation (ELE7298 and ELE9927) at the Priory site adjacent to St Mary's Church 344m west-south-west of the site identified numerous sherds of Roman greyware with fragments of brick and tile.

Early-medieval and Medieval

- 3.8 Hinckley originated as a Saxon settlement the name deriving from the Old English *leah* for clearing in a wood and a personal name '*Hinca*' meaning Hinca's clearing. Domesday (1086) records Hinckley as a fairly sizable

settlement with a population nearing 300. The Earl of Leicester built a motte and bailey castle (MLE2980, scheduled monument 1010299) 161m south- west of the site. A Benedictine priory (MLE2878) was founded 344m south-west of the site. It was an early foundation of probable 11th century date. Investigations in 2004 (ELE7298) identified masonry remains, a cobbled surface and a cobbled 'amphitheatre' shaped feature that could relate to the Priory. Medieval fishponds (MLE2880) are also present adjacent to the Priory which were still shown on maps in 1782.

- 3.9 The 13th century saw the village of Hinckley develop into a small market town. The market (MLE2884) was first recorded in 1311 although it almost certainly existed before then. There are numerous findspots of Medieval material across the study area including a coin hoard (MLE6792) of Edward III found 288m east of the site, and pottery (MLE16343) 250m south-west of the site.

Post-medieval

- 3.10 The Post-medieval period witnessed the continued growth of Hinckley, despite major outbreaks of plague in 1626 and again in 1666. By the early 17th century Hinckley's population had grown to 1000, the next 100 years saw this population double to 2000 by 1700.
- 3.11 The industry of Hinckley was transformed in 1640 with the introduction of the stocking frame; stocking manufacture came to dominate Hinckley for the next 250 years. By 1801 the population had expanded to 5158, mainly thanks to the success of the hand weavers.
- 3.12 The first turnpike road connecting Leicester to Nuneaton (MLE20657) was opened in 1755 passing to the north-east of the site later becoming the A47. A second turnpike road connecting Hinckley to Lutterworth (MLE20924) was opened in 1761 and ran just south of the site along what is now London Road.
- 3.13 In the first half of the 19th century Hinckley grew little. The population rose only slightly to 6,177. Industry was still dominated by hand weavers and in the early 19th century there was a great deal of poverty and hardship. However, in the later 19th century the hand frames were replaced by steam powered frames in factories and Hinckley boomed. The population grew to over 11,000 by 1900. The first steam powered factory (MLE17921) was built by Thomas Payne in 1853, located on Wood Street only 95m west of the site. During the mid-1890s Ginns Son and Moore took occupancy of these premises and subsequently traded as 'Castle Street Works'. The factory buildings also included Ebenezer Chapel built in 1802 by William Gadsby (a stockinger, hosier and preacher) and his congregation. The site was subsequently demolished and is now a B & Q. The site at 23 Wood Street represents one of these earlier factories

(MLE17922) and is thought to have been built in the later 19th century. The last manufacturing occupant of the factory was Capital Leisurewear, founded by Mr David Moore and Mr Brian Taylor in 1972. Of the many factories built in this period, the example represented by the site at Wood Street is one of the few survivors.

- 3.14 The 19th century saw further development in Hinckley including the opening of the Ashby canal in 1804 and the connection to Nuneaton via the railways in 1862 followed a year later by a connection to Leicester.

Recent work

- 3.15 In 2019 Groundworks Archaeology undertook a level 2/3 historic building survey on the site. The research undertaken for this project provided an in depth history of the factory development which is summarised below.
- 3.16 In 1894 Arthur Davenport dissolved a partnership with Joseph Ginns to establish a new partnership with an Atherstone hosier. For unknown reasons this partnership also failed and in 1898 Arthur Davenport set up in business independently as Arthur Davenport and Sons based at 126a Castle Street (listed in Kelly's directory up to 1900), a site directly behind Wood Street. At some point between 1900 and 1904 the Castle Street business was expanded, and the extant T-shaped factory was built fronting onto Wood Street.
- 3.17 Kelly's directory of 1904 lists Arthur Davenport and Sons at 126a Castle Street and Wood Street demonstrating that is operational by this date. The business continued to grow and by 1937 plans had been laid to build a further extension to the east of the T shaped factory. This extension was built by a local builder named Jephcotte (Ian Davenport via Rhianyyd Murray pers com). A further extension of four bays was subsequently added in the same style, but identifiable by being built in a brighter orange brick. The date of this further extension is uncertain as the plans do not survive; however, it is likely to be no later than the late 1940's and it is possibly a wartime extension associated with the need to provide uniforms in ever greater number.
- 3.18 The factory remained in the hands of Arthur Davenport and Sons until 1972 when the business was dissolved and sold to the three brothers, Fred, Ronald and Arthur Davenport. In 1973 the three brothers sold the factory to a Mr Stanley Lockley, who in 1980 leased the entire premises to Christian Dior Couture Marketing for a period of two years. In 1984 Tritex Engineering (a manufacturer of machinery for textile, apparel and leather production) leased 50% of the site, while John Martin Hosiery and S Lockley Hosiery each leased 25%. In September 1984 Pilgrims Webster leased 7000 square feet, presumably the premises of Tritex engineering which was dissolved as a company in 1958. At some point in the late

1980's or early 1990's the premises were again split between two hosiery companies, Barry Lager Fabrics (a wholesale material supplier) and Country Knit (a small-scale hosiery manufacturer). In 1994 the owner Stan Lockley gifted the premises in trust to his wife.

- 3.19 In 2004 the present owners purchased 23 Wood Street, letting the ground floor of the 1930's extension to Business Print. By 2006 Colour Flex Labels had taken the lease of this area and were still in operation in 2019. Other businesses who have leased space within the earlier structure include a car mechanic and dance studio, although dates are uncertain.
- 3.20 Groundworks undertook a phase 1 archaeological evaluation in May and June 2026 comprising of three trenches. The evaluation identified a number of features with the earliest chronologically represented by a possible tree throw or heavily truncated layer in trench 3 containing two pieces of late Mesolithic flint.
- 3.21 A linear, or possibly curvilinear, feature crossed trenches 2 and 3 which was interpreted as the heavily truncated base of what is likely to have been a large ditch given the surviving dimensions at its base. The pottery is closely dated to the 13th century, and likely the first half of the century given the presence of Brill Ware which is unusual in this area beyond the first 50 years before the production of Chilvers Coton ceramics (Paul Blinkhorn pers. comm). This suggests a relatively short period of use.

4. Aims and objectives of the project

- 4.1 The primary aim of the project is to mitigate the impact of the development on any archaeological features present within the investigation area via excavation and preservation by record. A programme of archaeological excavation will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of Conduct, Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology, and other relevant by-laws of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). The programme will result in the production of an ordered, accessible archive and a report.
- 4.2 The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) defines excavation as “a programme of intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, in an inter-tidal zone or under water.” (CIfA 2023).

4.3 Specific objectives of the project are:

- To establish the extent of the deposits identified in the phase 1 evaluation;
- To mitigate the impact of the development on the identified archaeological remains via excavation;
- To record stratigraphic information (as detailed in the methodology);
- To retrieve finds including artefacts and ecofacts from stratigraphic contexts (as detailed in the methodology);
- To produce a photographic archive detailing archaeological features encountered;
- To produce a fully illustrated report drawing together the results and conclusions of the programme; and
- To consider the evidence within local and regional contexts, where appropriate.

4.4 For the purposes of this project, archaeologically significant remains and contexts are defined as relating to pre 19th century human use of the area.

5. Methodology

- 5.1 It is proposed to excavate an area of approximately 310m² focussed on the footprint of the proposed new build and associated attenuation tank (as shown on figure 2).
- 5.2 All work will be carried out according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) standards and will comply with CIfA (2023) *Standards and Guidance for Excavation*. The investigation will be undertaken by James Roberts and Michael Blake; other staff may be appointed as necessary. It is anticipated that the investigation will take approximately 7 working days.
- 5.3 A risk assessment will be prepared for the site and all work will be undertaken in line with the HSE Construction (Design and Management) legislation (2015). The client will provide all available information on contamination and the location of any live services within the site prior to commencement.
- 5.4 An OASIS online record has been initiated with key fields completed on details, location and creators forms (groundwo2-544408). At the end of the project all parts of the OASIS online form will be completed for submission

to the Leicestershire HER. This will include an uploaded .PDF version of the entire report.

- 5.5 All excavation will be undertaken with a 360 excavator equipped with a toothless grading bucket in 10cm level spits under continuous archaeological supervision. Excavation will continue through modern and homogenous deposits until either the archaeological horizon or natural geology is reached. All archaeological deposits will be hand cleaned for assessment and recording. All spoil heaps will be scanned by metal detector to aid recovery of finds.
- 5.6 Archaeological excavation may sometimes require the use of manual work by mattock and shovel. The use of a mechanical excavator for further excavation will be discussed with the LCCSPA prior to use and will only be employed to remove homogeneous and/or non-archaeological layers.
- 5.7 All structural features or those relating to a specialised activity will be subject to a 100% sample. All post and stake holes that relate to specialised activities will be subject to a 100% sample. Others will be subject to a 50% sample. A 50% sample of all pits will be undertaken. A minimum 10% of all linear features will be sampled. Any kilns and hearths etc. will be fully sampled.
- 5.8 All archaeological features and/or deposits will be recorded on pro-forma context recording sheets using a single context recording system.
- 5.9 Site survey will be undertaken via real time kinematic DGPS supplemented by detail feature plans. All archaeological features and/or deposits will be drawn at an appropriate scale, generally 1:20, and sections at a scale of 1:10.
- 5.10 A high quality un-interpolated digital photographic record will be maintained throughout the project. This will include all features along with working shots to represent more generally the nature of the fieldwork. Scale bars and a north arrow will be used in all photographs as appropriate (with vertical scales against deep sections in combination with horizontal scales). A high resolution digital SLR of not less than 12 megapixels with an APS-C or larger sensor will be utilised set to the highest quality setting. The images will be saved as Tiffs for archive purposes. Site photography will follow the Historic England guidance document 'Digital Image Capture and File Storage' (2015). All digital data will be downloaded to secure servers on a daily basis with appropriate backups.
- 5.11 Any and all artefacts found during the monitoring and thought to come under the provisions of the *Treasure Act* (1996), will be removed from the

site to a secure location, and will be promptly reported to the appropriate coroner's office.

- 5.12 Should human remains be discovered the coroner will be informed and a licence from the Ministry of Justice sought immediately; both the client and the monitoring officer will also be informed prior to excavation.
- 5.13 Any finds recovered will be bagged and labelled according to the individual context from which they were recovered for later washing and further analysis. All relevant finds will be ordered into an archive with appropriate conservation and analysis e.g. X radiography for appropriate items. Most modern material will not be retained, although notes will be made of the appropriate context. An appropriate sample of materials such as ceramic building materials will be made. Appropriate provision will be made for the application of scientific dating techniques such as radiocarbon dating, dendrochronology, OSL and thermoluminescence. The advice of the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor will be sought in advance of the application of these techniques.
- 5.14 Environmental sampling will be undertaken (where appropriate) of the fills of relevant archaeological features and/or significant archaeological deposits as well as to allow the characterisation of soil profiles, plant remains, molluscs, faunal remains and pollen sequences. Where deposits are dry, bulk samples for the recovery of charred plant remains, small bones and finds, will be taken from sealed and datable features such as pits, ditches, hearths and floors. Each context will normally be sampled. The size of the sample is expected to be in the range of 40 litres per context or 100% of smaller contexts. Samples will not be taken from the intersection of features. Where deposits are wet, waterlogged or peaty, monoliths will be taken along cleaned vertical surfaces for the retrieval of pollen, diatoms, ostracods and foraminifera. For wet, waterlogged or peaty deposits, bulk samples of 20 litres will be taken from visible layers or spits for the retrieval of plant macro-remains and insects. Environmental samples from dry deposits will normally be processed by flotation following the excavation fieldwork and the residues will be sorted to retrieve small bones, small finds and charcoal that have not floated. The samples will be extracted and recorded in accordance with Environmental Archaeology (Historic England) and in consultation with the appointed specialist and Historic England.

Watching Brief

- 5.15 A watching brief will be maintained on the groundworks phase of the development for all areas that fall outside of the SMS footprint.

6. Monitoring arrangements

- 6.1 The planning archaeologist will be kept regularly informed of the project progress and provision will be made for monitoring of the works during the fieldwork stage and any other aspect of the archaeological project as required including the post fieldwork analysis and report preparation stages of the project.
- 6.2 The contractor will give the planning archaeologist a minimum of one week's notice prior to the commencement of fieldwork and notification when it has been completed.

7. Post-fieldwork methodology

- 7.1 On the completion of the fieldwork, all of the written, drawn and photographic records produced by the archaeological investigation will be checked, ordered, labelled (where appropriate) and catalogued to compile a distinctive site archive. A stratagraphical matrix of the archaeological features and/or deposits present on the site will be compiled.
- 7.2 All finds recovered during the fieldwork will be washed, and packaged according to the individual context from which they were recovered. They will also be ordered into (and form part of) the site archive. An assessment of significant finds will be made in light of general site information. Any finds requiring specialist treatment and/or conservation will be sent to the Conservation and Museums Advisory Service (CMAS). and treated in consultation with the relevant curator.
- 7.3 Provision will be made for the post-excavation processing and analysis of the environmental samples taken (if any) during the course of the on-site fieldwork.
- 7.4 The site archive will be examined to enable the determination of various phases of activity on the site (if appropriate).
- 7.5 Relevant finds will be sent to specialists for identification and dating.
- 7.6 Based upon the relatively small scale of the investigation, it is intended that all material will be collected, and a discard policy agreed with the specialists and other stakeholders in line with the ClfA toolkit for Recording Archaeological Materials. The ClfA toolkit for selecting archaeological archives will be applied to the physical and digital records generated by the project and agreement sought for discard at the archive stage (see 9.3 below).

8. Public Engagement

- 8.1 Elements of public engagement, benefit and dissemination will be dependent on whether significant archaeological remains are found. Where remains of substantial interest have been found, there may be a need to formulate a project design which includes further engagement, publicity and publication. This would be agreed with the archaeological contractor, applicant and the county archaeology service.

9. Reporting procedures

- 9.1 A report detailing the findings of the archaeological investigation will be completed immediately following the on-site work. This will include a detailed description of the stratigraphy and any archaeological features identified.

- 9.2 The report will consist of:

- A title page, with project name and location, National Grid reference, planning reference, site code, accession number, client name, author and date;
- A contents page listing report sections, illustrations and appendices;
- A non-technical summary of the results of the investigation;
- An introduction, site description and location;
- Planning background to the project;
- A section on the archaeological and historical background to the project;
- A description of the methodology used in the project;
- A section describing the results of the investigation;
- A consideration of the effectiveness of the project methodology and a confidence rating of the results;
- A consideration of how the project results contribute to the regional research agenda *East Midlands Historic Environment Research Framework* (EMHERF).
- Location plan of excavated areas and/or other fieldwork in relation to the proposed development. At least two corners of the site shall be given 10 figure grid references;

- Illustrations including plans and sections of all archaeological features;
 - Appendices comprising appropriate photographs of the site and of specific and significant archaeological features and representative sections, a list of contexts, any specialist reports on finds from the site and a photographic register.
- 9.3 The draft report will be submitted to the Planning archaeologist for approval. Following acceptance of the draft report a PDF/A digital copy will be submitted to the Leicestershire and Rutland HER. The contractor will also deposit a full-colour paper copy of the report as part of the archive.
- 9.4 If required, at the appropriate time the contractor will send a short report of the evidence for inclusion in the summaries of the County Journal and other relevant journals (these are defined as any or all of: "Past", "Britannia", "Medieval Archaeology", "Post-medieval Archaeology"). If full journal publication is required, the developer will be responsible for the costs involved. As a minimum a summary of the findings will be provided to the "*Transactions of the Leicestershire Archaeological and Historical Society*".

10. Archive and Deposition

- 10.1 The archive will consist of the full written, drawn and photographic records (including working drawings, notes, digital records, etc). It will be quantified, ordered, indexed and internally consistent. The site Accession Number will be appropriately marked on all elements forming part of the site/project archive.
- 10.2 The documentation and records generated by the archaeological investigation will be sorted and ordered in line with *The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections* (Leicestershire County Council, 2024). The process will also conform to MoRPHE (HE 2015) and the ClfA document "Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives" (2014b).
- 10.3 Groundworks Archaeology follows national guidelines on selection and retention (SMA 1993; Brown 2011, section 4). In accordance with these, and any specific guidance prepared by the Leicestershire Museums Service, a process of selection and retention will be followed so that only those artefacts or ecofacts that are considered to have potential for future study will be retained. The selection policy will be agreed with the museum, and fully documented in the project archive. Material not

selected for retention may be used for teaching or reference collections by the museum, or by Groundworks Archaeology.

- 10.4 Groundworks Archaeology will endeavour to secure transfer of title for the archive at the beginning of the project. Should the legal owner(s) decide to retain any of the finds they will be made aware of their responsibility for their future preservation and maintenance. The finds will only be transferred to the legal owner following the completion of analysis, conservation, publication and provision for long term storage and accessibility has been established. If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full paper copy of the archive shall be housed with the receiving museum. The report will include details of the title to the finds.
- 10.5 The archive will be deposited with the Leicestershire County Council Museums Service under the accession number X.A84.2026. A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the Leicestershire and Rutland Historic Environment Team at the time of deposition.
- 10.6 The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service (ADS).
- 10.6 Should the investigation prove negative then the archive will comprise of a digital archive as specified in the ClfA toolkit "Archaeological archives from sterile projects" which will be uploaded as a single document via OASIS for curation via ADS.

11. Data Management Plan

- 11.1 The digital data management plan (DMP) is presented in Appendix 1.

12. Variations to the proposed scheme

- 12.1 Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation with the planning archaeologist in advance.

13. Resources

- 13.1 Post-excavation analysis will be undertaken by James Roberts and where necessary specialist analysis from MOLA (Northampton) and the named individuals below.

Paul Blinkhorn	Medieval and Post-medieval Ceramics
Dr Adam Sutton	Roman ceramics and CBM
Alex Beaby	Prehistoric ceramics
Dr Lynne Bevan	Flint and small finds
Wendy Rogers	Environmental

Malin Holst	Osteoarchaeology
Dr Tom Hoyle	Geoarchaeology
Dr Sheila Hamilton-Dyer	Zooarchaeology
James Wright	Stone
Leigh Allen	Metalwork

13.2 Small finds requiring conservation will be conserved by the Conservation and Museums Advisory Service (CMAS).

13.3 Recognised specialists will be sought in the event that other data are retrieved in the course of the monitoring.

14. Copyright

14.1 Copyright will remain that of the author. Licence will be given to the client to present any reports, copyright of the author, to the planning authority in good faith of satisfactory settlement of account.

15. Insurance

15.1 Public indemnity of £2,000,000 with Towergate Insurance.

15.2 Groundworks Archaeology will not be liable to indemnify the applicant/owner/developer against any compensation or damages for or with respect to:

- damage to crops /plants being on the Area or Areas of Work (save in so far as possession has not been given to the Archaeological Contractor).
- the use or occupation of land (which has been provided by the owner/applicant) by the project or for the purposes of completing the project or interference whether temporary or permanent with any right of way light air or other easement or quasi easement which are the unavoidable result of the project in accordance with the Agreement
- any other damage which is the unavoidable result of the project in accordance with the Agreement.
- damage to buried services or utilities being on the Area or Areas of Work.
- injuries or damage to persons or property resulting from any act or neglect or breach of statutory duty done or committed by the applicant or his agents, servants or their contractors (not being employed by Groundworks Archaeology) or in respect of any claims, demands proceedings, damages, costs, charges and expenses in respect thereof or in relation thereto.

16. General

- 16.1 The requirements of the WSI will be met in full where reasonably practicable. The scope of fieldwork detailed in the main part of the WSI is aimed at meeting the objectives of the project in a cost effective manner.
- 16.2 Any significant variations to the proposed methodology will be discussed and agreed with the planning archaeologist in advance of implementation.
- 16.3 Groundworks Archaeology attempts to foresee all possible site-specific problems and make allowances for these. However, there may on occasions be unusual circumstances which have not been included in the programme and costing, which will entail additional costs for the Planning Applicant/Developer. These can include unavoidable delays due to bad weather, vandalism etc; ground contamination; unknown services; poor ground conditions; complex structures or objects, including those in waterlogged conditions, requiring specialist removal.

17. Bibliography

British Geological Survey online viewer (accessed 30/05/2025)

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

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English Heritage 2011 Environmental Archaeology: A Guide to the Theory, Practice of Methods, from Sampling and Recovery to Post-excavation (second edition). Portsmouth, English

Historic England 2015 Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: the MoRPHE project managers' guide. Swindon, Historic England

Historic England 2015 Geoarchaeology: Using Earth Sciences to Understand the Archaeological Record. Swindon, Historic England

LCC 2024 The Transfer of Archaeological Archives to Leicestershire County Council Museum Collections, Leicestershire County Council

Appendix 1

Project Data Management Plan

Project Code: **WSH26**
Project Name: **23 Wood Street, Hinckley, Leicestershire**
Project Manager: **James Roberts**
Client: **Stronghold Homes**

Date Created	Revisions	Document Ref:
16/07/2026	-	V1

Overview

This Data Management Plan (DMP) is intended to cover the digital data created during the SMS at 23 Wood Street, Hinckley

Data Collection

The born digital and derived digital data that is expected to be generated during the lifetime of the project will include:

Format	Volume	Description
.Doc		Text Reports
.XLS		Project data including registers, artefact list etc
.JPEG		Image including site photography
.SHP		GPS data
.CDR		Drawing files including site plans, section and layout
.PDF		PX Assessment, UPD and Final Report
.SHP		GIS data
.DBF		GIS data
.SBN		GIS data
.SBX		GIS data
.PRJ		GIS data
.MDX		GIS data

Standard methods of data collection will be applied throughout the project, working to best practice guidance where applicable / available. In general, data acquisition standards are defined against *ADS Guides to Good Practice*. Specific or additional guidance relevant to this project are listed below, and will be updated as the project progresses.

Methods of collection are specified within the WSI and will meet the requirements set out in the Project Brief. The data collection will also conform to ADS guidance.

Where appropriate, project contributors external to the organisation will be required to include data standards, collection methodology and metadata with individual reports and data.

- Specific guidance:
 - HE *Digital Image Capture and File Storage: Guidelines for Best Practice* 2015
 - HES *Applied Digital Documentation in the Historic Environment* 2018

Data Storage and File Naming

The working project archive will be stored in a project specific folder or data specific folder on the Groundworks Archaeology data server which is backed up daily to maintain a security copy of the data. The project folders are named following established organisational procedures based upon site code and location. The standard procedures followed are laid out below:

- Data collected will be downloaded and raw data will be stored in the appropriate folder.
- File naming conventions following established organisational procedures, based on ADS file naming guidance, and include version control management.
- All files included as part of this project archive will include an organisational identifier, the Site ID (BSH22), the file descriptor (eg Project Design) and Version number (eg V2-0).
- Final versions of files will include 'FINAL' within the filename.

Quality Assurance

- Instruments used in the collection of data are calibrated prior to use and checked to ensure they are in full working order.
- All site records and data collected will be reviewed during project delivery to ensure data is accurate and secure.
- Data collection and management are reviewed regularly including a quarterly review of internal project folders to ensure our organisational data management standards are being met.

Metadata

For images technical metadata is generated by the camera at the time of photography. Additional descriptive and administrative metadata will include project code, site code, photograph number, and description.

GPS metadata is generated at time of survey, with additional descriptive and administrative metadata created during the post-excavation assessment phase. As standard this will include the GWA project code and Museum Accession Reference (where possible).

Collection Level Metadata is created as part of the standard ADS submission process. This data contains information pertaining to the project in question and the individual files submitted as such.

Metadata tables for each data type submitted to the ADS will be populated as the project progresses and will use the standard format for each data type as recommended by ADS, who are the intended repository for the digital data archive.

An archive catalogue documenting both physical and digital archive products will be maintained and submitted with both the Museum and ADS deposition.

Ethics and Compliance

The project archive will include the names and contact details of individuals involved in the excavation and post excavation stages. We have a GDPR compliant Privacy Policy which underpins the management of personal data; any personal data is managed through a secure cloud-based database and not retained on the project specific folders.

Personal data will be removed from the archaeological project archive and permission to include individual's names in any reporting is gained prior to use. Copyright for all data collected by the project team belongs to the organisation, and formal permission to include data from external specialists and contractors is secured on the engagement of the specialist or contractor. Where formal permissions and/or license agreements are linked to data sharing, they will be included in the project documentation folders and will accompany the archaeological project archive.

Storage and Backup

The Groundworks Archaeology server data is backed up daily with sufficient data storage space including two-factor authentication and permissions-based access. The server is accessible by staff on and offsite through a secure log-in. Off-site access to the project files on the Groundworks Archaeology server is provided to support back-up of raw data while fieldwork is ongoing. Where internet access for data back up is not possible, the raw data will be backed up to a separate media device (such as laptop and portable external hard drive).

Project files will be shared with external specialists and contractors directly using the same system, with the wider project team gaining access to only the files needed using permissions-based access.

Selection and Preservation

The Selection Strategy and DMP will be reviewed and updated as part of the Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design, and following full analysis. Updated documentation will be included in all reporting stages.

Prior to deposition, the Selection Strategy and DMP will be updated and finalised. Selection will be informed by the Project Design, defined against the research aims,

regional and national research frameworks, specialist advice and the significance of the project results.

The data archive will be ordered, with files named and structured in a logical manner, and accompanied by relevant documentation and metadata, as outlined above.

The minimum digital data archive will comprise of the following (other data sets may be included as appropriate).

Format	Volume	Description
.JPEG		Image including site photography
.SHP		GIS data comprising site boundary

Data Sharing

A summary of the project will be included on the OASIS Index of Archaeological Investigation and the museum and digital archive repository, and will be updated as the project progresses. The investigations are likely to result in a number of documents: Project Design, Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design, Final Report, Journal submission.

The final report is expected to be completed within 2 years of the completion of fieldwork. As the project progresses reports will be attached to the project OASIS record. A final version of the project report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record via OASIS, and any data which they request can also be provided directly.

The location (s) of the final Archaeological Archive will be added to OASIS when appropriate. The ADS will disseminate the digital elements of the Archaeological Archive online under a creative commons licence and the dataset will receive a unique identifier (DOI).

Costing

A costing estimate has been produced using the ADS Costing Calculator and sufficient resources to cover these costs, and to allow for the preparation of the archive, have been included in the project budget.

Responsibilities

The Project Manager will be responsible for implementing the DMP, and ensuring it is reviewed and revised at each stage of the project. Data capture, metadata production and data quality is the responsibility of the Project Team, assured by the Project Manager.

Storage and backup of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team. Once data is incorporated into the Groundworks Archaeology project server, storage and backup is managed internally.

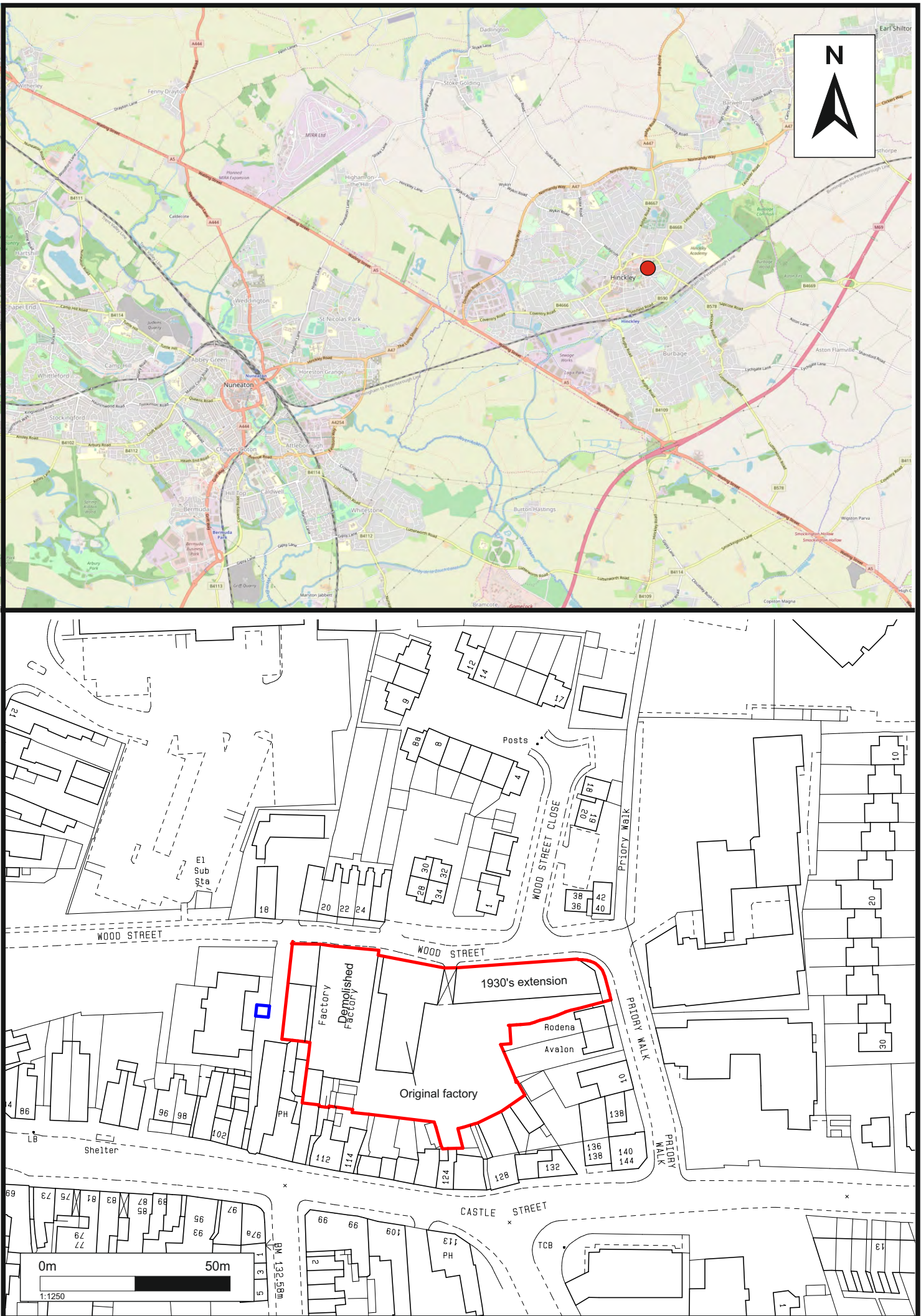
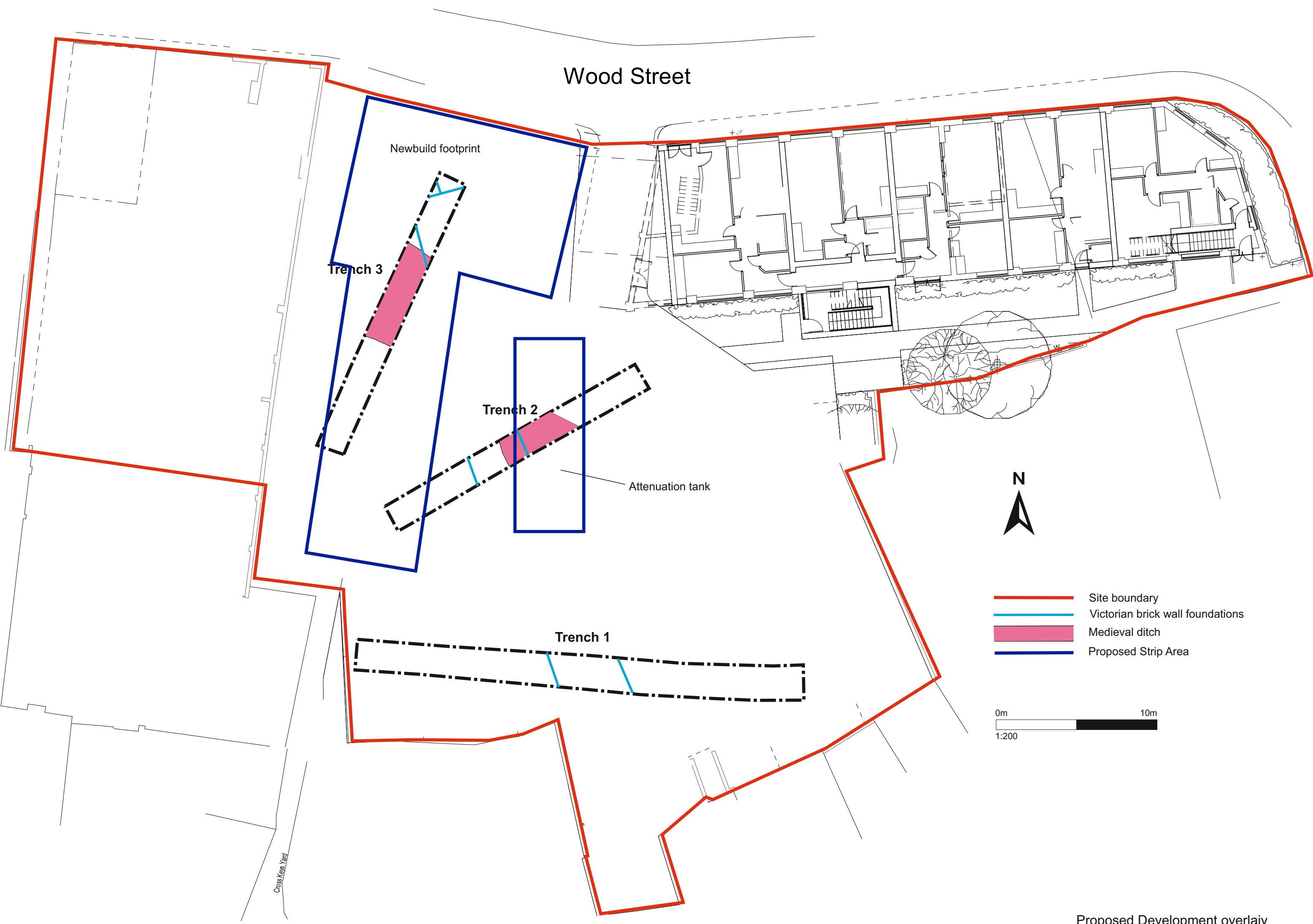


Figure 1: Site location



Wood Street

Newbuild footprint

Trench 3

Trench 2

Attenuation tank

Trench 1

Cross Keys Yard



- Site boundary
- Victorian brick wall foundations
- Medieval ditch
- Proposed Strip Area

0m 10m
1:200