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**Greater Manchester  
Spatial Framework and  
Salford Local Plan**

**Archaeological  
Assessment:**

**EC4/1 Port Salford  
Expansion**

**Client:** Salford City Council

**Desk based Assessment:**

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**Site Location:** The EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion employment area Site Allocation is located between the M62 and the A57/Liverpool Road, to the west of Barton-upon-Irwell and to the north of the Manchester Ship Canal

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## *Summary*

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The Site Allocation EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion does not contain any known archaeological remains of national importance that would merit preservation in-situ, although there is considerable potential for the survival of physical evidence of remains of at least high local/borough importance across the area. In particular the potential for the survival of physical evidence of prehistoric activity along the fringes of the moss on the eastern side of the allocation which has been shown to have little or no peat cover, merits further investigation. Dependant on depth and quality, the deposits of peat may retain important palaeo-environmental evidence in the form of pollen and macro-fossils, whilst the possibility for ‘bog bodies’ to exist in the mosses cannot be discounted.

Further investigation could be achieved appropriately in the first instance via archaeological trenching on the fringe of the mosses and specialist sampling of the peat. This should be carried out prior to the submission of a planning application and, for immediate purposes, it would be appropriate to reference the archaeological potential of the site in the emerging Local Plan Policy documentation.

# 1. Introduction

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In preparing land allocations Greater Manchester Spatial Framework and Salford Local Plan, Salford City Council commissioned Salford Archaeology to provide an understanding of the Historic Environment, specifically the potential for each site to contain buried remains of archaeological interest, to comply with the National Planning Policy Framework (July 2018). The National Planning Policy Framework stipulates:

- That the allocations have been informed by the proper assessment of the significance of the designated and non-designated heritage asset in the area including their setting where appropriate (NPPF paragraphs 189, 193-96, 199);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify the potential for finding new site of archaeological or historic interest (NPPF paragraph 189);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify land where development would be inappropriate because of historic significance (NPPF paragraphs 189).

Following an initial screening exercise, 12 of the site allocations were subject to further archaeological assessment. The following provides an interim report on the assessment carried out at Site Allocation EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion (Fig 1), referred to herein as ‘the Site’.



## 2. *Methodology*

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A screening exercise was applied to the 21 potential land allocation sites throughout Salford to identify which of the sites had potential archaeological significance that might be impacted on by the development proposals. As a result, nine of these sites were assessed to have no or very low archaeological interest, and have therefore been screened out from further assessment.

The remaining 12 site allocations were subject to further assessment, which incorporated and built on the previous screening exercise. Further assessment comprised:

- a review of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) and local archives to identify and map non-designated and designated heritage assets;
- an historic map regression exercise to identify previously unrecognised heritage assets with archaeological interest;
- a review of the findings of previous archaeological investigations carried out on or near the sites along with any relevant published and secondary sources;
- analysis of historic and current aerial photography and available lidar data;
- collation of all non-designated and designated heritage assets as identified by the above research within each Site into a Gazetteer accompanied by a map showing their positions;
- site visits and walkover surveys to identify any further potential heritage assets, and assess the potential for the survival of below-ground archaeological remains as identified from the desk-based research. The sites were visited in January 2018, following a period of notification to the relevant tenants and landowners by Salford City Council.

## 3. *The Setting*

### 3.1 *Location and Setting*

The EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion employment area Site Allocation is located between the M62 and the A57/Liverpool Road, to the west of Barton-upon-Irwell and to the north of the Manchester Ship Canal. The Site Allocation encompasses part of Barton Moss which itself is part of the wider Chat Moss peat complex, the largest of the mosses of Greater Manchester (Figure 1).

The area within the Site Allocation is currently divided into field plots for agricultural use. The Boysnope Golf Course occupying the south-east section of the site adjacent to Liverpool Road.



*Plate 1: Satellite imagery taken in 1997 of the EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion Site Allocation*

## 3.2 *Geology and known depth of peat*

### 3.2.1 *Geology*

The area of the Site Allocation is located within Barton Moss which comprises superficial deposits of peat overlying alluvial sands and gravels on glacial clays. This in turn sits on a solid geology of red sandstone of the Wilmslow Sandstone Formation at the south end and sandstone of the Chester Formation at the north end (BGS, 2018). Barton Moss is located at the eastern extent Chat Moss and as such has a varying depth of peat as it reaches the fringe of the moss.

### 3.2.2 *Sources of peat data*

To ascertain the known depth of the peat across the Port Salford Expansion Site Allocation three main sources of data were consulted:

- Core samples taken by H.J.B Birks (1965) across Chat Moss. Birks drilled a number of cores along a south-west to north-east transect from Little Woolden Moss to the edge to Worsley Moss across Chat Moss and produced a profile of the general peat depths along with a detailed pollen diagram. The samples taken at the north-east end of the transect fall within the north of the Site Allocation.
- The North West Wetlands Survey (NWWS, 1995) carried out in the early 1990's took a total of 68 cores along 5 transects spanning Chat Moss. The easternmost of these transects provides sample data along a north-south alongside Barton Moss Road in the centre of the Site Allocation.
- In addition to these studies isolated peat profile data covering the area has been drawn from borehole data held by the British Geological Survey (BGS). Of particular relevance within the archive are the borehole logs from cores taken prior to the construction of the M62 motorway in 1968 and details of a number of independently commissioned wells and boreholes carried out within the development area during the past 50 years.

### 3.2.3 Peat depth conclusions

Figure 2 compiles all the available data relating to the known depth of peat from across the Allocation Site from sampling and boreholes. The previous sample locations provide fairly good coverage of the area although there have been relatively few samples taken in the north-east area of the Site, in the field north of Barton Aerodrome.

From the data it would appear the peat can be found at its thickest on the western side of the area where the peat has been recorded at a fairly uniform depth of 2.43m to 3m deep (Plate 2). The peat then can be seen to become shallower to the north-east and to the east, with little or no peat present in the south-east section of the Site between Park Hall Farm and Barton Moss Road.

This would largely be expected as the Site Allocation is known to be located on the south-eastern fringe of the moss where the landscape rises slightly on a sandy ridge of higher ground alongside the former meandering course of the River Mersey.



*Plate 2: Facing north-west from Barton Moss Road towards the M62 across ploughed peat fields on the western side of the Site Allocation.*

## 4. Historical Background

The following section provides a framework to the present study, working chronologically through the periods listed below. Key sites are summarised in the Gazetteer of Sites and are mapped on Figure 9 (*Appendix 1*).

Period		Date Range
Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	Pre-10,000 BC
	Mesolithic	10,000 – 3500 BC
	Neolithic	3500 – 2200 BC
	Bronze Age	2300 BC – 700 BC
	Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British		AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval		AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval		AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-medieval		AD 1540 – c 1750
Industrial Period		c AD1750 – 1914
Modern		Post-1914

*Table: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges*

### 4.1 Prehistoric and Romano- British Period

The warming of the climate following the end of periglacial conditions around 10,000 BC saw the spread of vegetation across the lowlands and hollows that would form the moss lands of Barton Moss and the wider Chat Moss by the end of the Mesolithic period (10000 BC – 3500 BC). Macrofossil analysis carried out on sample cores taken as part of the North West Wetlands Survey (1995) suggests many episodes of *in situ* burning and clearance from the Mesolithic onwards, which may reflect evidence of domestic activity or even a wider manipulation of the landscape by humans. Burnt wood and associated burnt peats were particularly noticeable in samples taken from the vicinity of Barton Moss in the survey.

In particular evidence of human activity has commonly been recorded around the dryer fringes of the moss or on sandy raised ‘islands’ within the peat. In the early 1990’s large scale commercial peat extraction in the north of Chat Moss revealed a buried ground surface a small on a raised sandy knoll. The subsequent excavations at the site of Nook Farm (SJ 7107 9797), revealed worked flint scatters dating from the Mesolithic to the early Neolithic, along with burnt stones suggesting domestic activity (Hall, 1995). Small amounts of burnt stone were also recorded at three other sites on the north and north-eastern fringes of Chat Moss during fieldwork surveys carried out as part the North West Wetlands Survey in 1992/3. Two sand patches located in the vicinity of Grange Farm, near Worsley (SJ 7495 9875), yielded burnt stones representing prehistoric activity. A third site located on a low sandy patch of ground south of Astley produced a piece of Mesolithic worked flint alongside more burnt stones. The

survey concluded that these smaller sites may have represented some form of short lived temporary encampments, possibly related to the larger site at Nook Farm.

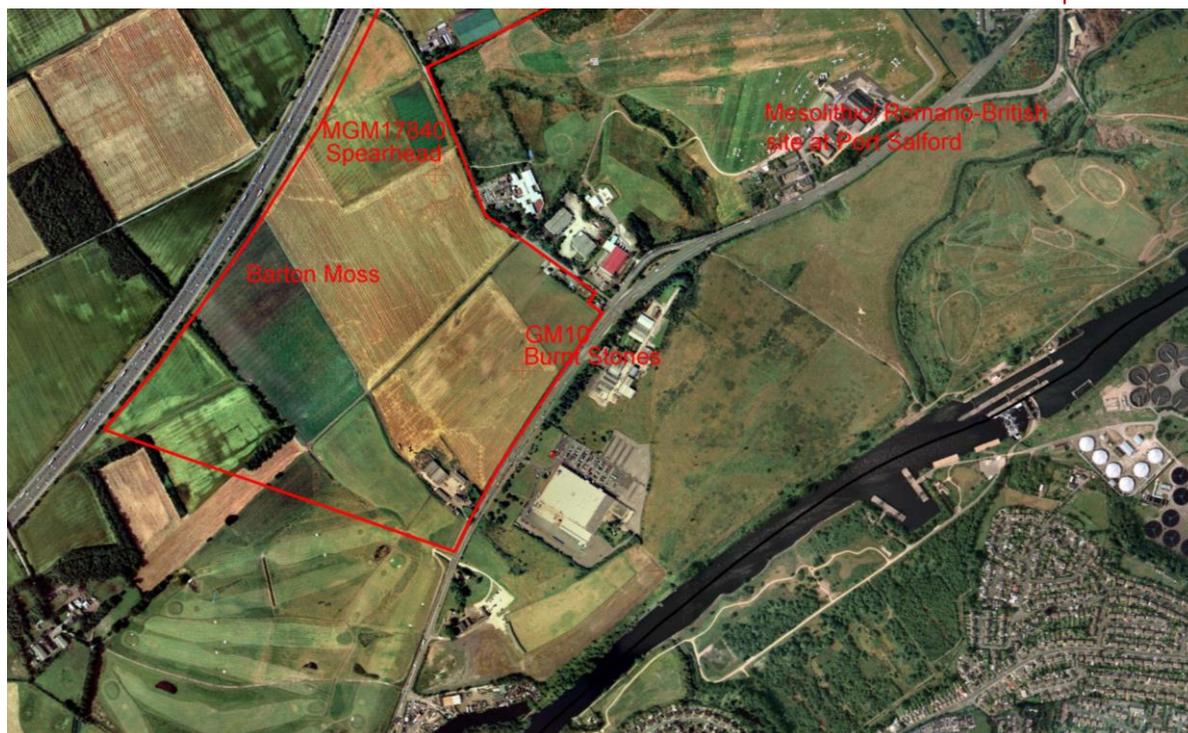
An assemblage of flint dating to the late Neolithic was also recovered from fieldwalking and excavation work undertaken at the site of the Great Woolden Hall Farm Iron Age defended settlement, located on a promontory of higher ground overlooking Glaze Brook on the western side of Chat Moss (See Interim Report: H3/4 Western Cadishead and Irlam).

Within the Site Allocation similar signs of activity have been suggested by the discovery of an isolated patch of burnt stones in a field located to the north of Liverpool Road, between Park Hall Farm and Marriott's Farm, near Boysnope (GM10). Although no other instances of burnt stones were found in the field it was concluded that the find was likely to represent evidence of archaeological activity in the area (Plate 3).

The burnt stones were found in an area considered to be on the eastern fringe of Barton Moss where a previous archaeological excavation has found evidence of early settlement on the higher ground between the wetlands and the meandering course of the River Irwell. Excavation work carried out in advance of the A57 realignment at the Port Salford / AJ Bell Stadium site immediately to the east of the Site Allocation identified Mesolithic microliths, flint wasters and burnt stones indicting prehistoric activity from the Mesolithic and Neolithic/Early Bronze Age on the promontory ridge on the northern banks of the River Irwell. However, the most substantial evidence for settlement at the site came from the Romano-British Period. The promontory was found to be covered by a network of gullies and ditches forming a rectilinear field pattern. Other features suggested a possibly trackway and the remains of two round huts on the western side of the site. A glass bead, a shale knife handle and a significant quantity of Romano-British pottery suggested a particular focus of occupation on the site from the late 1<sup>st</sup> century to the 3<sup>rd</sup> century (Thompson, 2014).

The outstanding find from the early phases of the site was an extremely rare Early Bronze Age (c.2500 BC -1500 BC) open stone mould used for making solid metal objects (Plate 4). This form of mould, which would have produced non-socketed bronze objects, is unique within the North-West and an object of regional importance.

A further example of Bronze Age metallurgy in the Port Salford area was provided by the discovery of a copper alloy spearhead in 2001 by a metal detectorist (MGM17840). The spearhead was found within the peat in fields to the south of Tunnel Farm, in the centre of the current Site Allocation. The leaf shaped socketed spearhead with a pronounced midrib measured 130mm long and was dated around 1300 BC in the Middle Bronze Age (Plate 7). The spearhead was found in good condition, although missing its tip perhaps suggesting that the spearhead was damaged in antiquity and deliberately deposited into the bog.



*Plate 3: Aerial imagery taken in 1997 of the southern half of the Site Allocation with the locations of the spearhead, burnt stones and the nearby Mesolithic/Romano-British settlement at Port Salford.*



*Plate 4: Early Bronze Age open stone mould from the nearby Port Salford site*



The act of depositing items and bodies into the peat bog in the Prehistoric and Romano-British Period has been documented a number of times within the mosses of Greater Manchester. A partially preserved human head, dated to around 100-200 AD, was found during peat cutting on Worsley Moss in 1958. The discovery near Astley Green Village was dubbed ‘Worsley Man’. Further analysis of the head was carried out in the 1980s following the discovery of Lindow Man in similar circumstances on Lindow Moss near Wilmslow, Cheshire. The analysis revealed that ‘Worsley Man’ would have been around 20-30 years old, and showed signs of suffering a violent death with a fracture to the skull, a wound behind his right ear, a garrotte around his neck and a sliced vertebrae, suggesting decapitation before being deposited into the bog.

#### 4.2 *Medieval and post Medieval Period*

The first written reference to Chat Moss is recorded in 1277 as ‘Catemoss’. The name may derive from *ceat*, meaning a wet piece of ground (Mills 1976), although local tradition also suggests it may be derived from an association with St Chad or Cheadda, who was Bishop of Mercia at Chester in AD 669. The earliest accounts of the mosses around Manchester follows soon after when the Crown commissioned a survey in 1322. Chat Moss is described in the survey as ‘*the soil of the lords of Barton, Worsley, Astley, Workedley and Bedford*’ (Hall, 1995).

The constituent parts of Chat Moss were often named after the surrounding townships and manorial halls such as Worsley Moss and Astley Moss to the north, and Cadishead and Great Woollen to the east. As such Barton Moss within the Site Allocation lay to the east of the township of Barton-upon-Irwell and Barton Old Hall; the seat of the Bartons, Booths and Leighs. The first reference to Barton is in 1196 and is itself a fairly common placename, either referring to a settlement connected with corn production or a detached portion of a manor (Ekwell, 1922). The hamlet of Boysnope on the edge of Barton Moss to the immediate south of the Site Allocation as can be seen on Yates’ map of 1786 (Fig. 3). Boysnope is first mentioned in 1277 as *Boylsnape* which is thought to derive from ‘bull pasture’ (Mills, 1976).

A survey of the manor of Manchester carried out in 1322 refers to the land held by the Lords of Barton Hall and to various location on Barton Moss. Many of the descriptions are in relation to *turbary* which can either refer to ‘a place where turf or peat is cut or the legal right of a tenant to cut peat on another person’s land’. One of the entries relating to the land in the vicinity of Barton Hall records ‘*12 acres of turbary on which the tenants of the lord of Barton have common (right) of turbary.*’ (Hall, 1995).

In the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries some indication is given as to organisation of moss by entries recorded in the official Court Rolls. In 1624 an agreement is recorded between George Leigh of Barton Hall and Cecil Trafford that tenants should be allowed leasehold on Barton Moss in proportion to their holdings in the township. The Court Rolls also listed the names of the moss reeves who were responsible for maintaining the drainage streams and ditches across the moss.



### 4.3 *Industrial and Modern Period*

Coordinated efforts to cultivate Chat Moss were made by William Roscoe in 1805, utilising his previous experience of reclaiming land at Trafford Moss. In order to make the waterlogged moss fit for agriculture, Roscoe laid a network of below-ground and open drains across the 2000 acres of Chat Moss. The initial results of this can clearly be seen on Greenwood's map of 1818 (Fig 4), particularly in the area of Barton Moss. On the early 19<sup>th</sup> century map the area north of Boysnope is specifically labelled 'Roscoe's Improvement' and 'Improved Moss' and is depicted as now being outside the extent of the peat of Chat Moss. Similarly Hennem's map of 1830 (Fig 5) suggests that the organised drainage of Chat Moss had the effect of making the southern fringe of the Chat Moss much more accessible, with the extension of roads and buildings into the previous area of the bog, particularly across the southern half of the Site Allocation, south of Barton Moss Road.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1848 (Fig 6) confirms that by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century almost the entire area of the Site Allocation on Barton Moss had been reclaimed from the moss for agriculture by a network of drainage channels, with the exception of the far northern end which was left as open moss. Also depicted on the map are the established locations Park Hall Farm (EC4/1SA2) at the south end of Barton Moss and Tunnel Farm (EC4/1SA3) at the centre, which were spaced across the moss and occupied by tenant farmers whose responsibility it would be to manage and cultivate the land.

In 1895 the Cleansing Committee of the Manchester Corporation purchased around 1000 hectares of land on Chat Moss from Sir Humphrey de Trafford with the principal aims of using the land to dispose of the growing quantity of waste being produced by the burgeoning population of Manchester along whilst creating more viable arable land to grow food.

The waste was brought in by barge from Manchester to Boysnope Wharf and from there transferred onto a light railway network that allowed the material to be distributed to the tenant farmer for disposal across the moss. The path of the tramway onto Barton Moss can still be seen passing below the A57 from Boysnope Wharf near to Boysnope Park Golf Course (Plate 5). From here the tramway proceeded north-west across the southern section of the Site Allocation to join Twelve Yards Road, which formed the main east-west artery across Barton Moss until it was eventually curtailed by the construction of the M62 in the 1960's (Plate 6 and Figure 8).

The practice of the disposal of sewage across Chat Moss ended in the 1920s following the growing use of water closets and improved sanitation in the city, although some disposal of general refuse continued on the moss until the 1960s. The majority of the tramways were sold off and dismantled in 1940s, although the drainage channels have been maintained to the present today to manage the landscape.



Plate 5: Former route of the Manchester Corporation tramway from Boysnope Wharf below Liverpool Road and onto Barton Moss

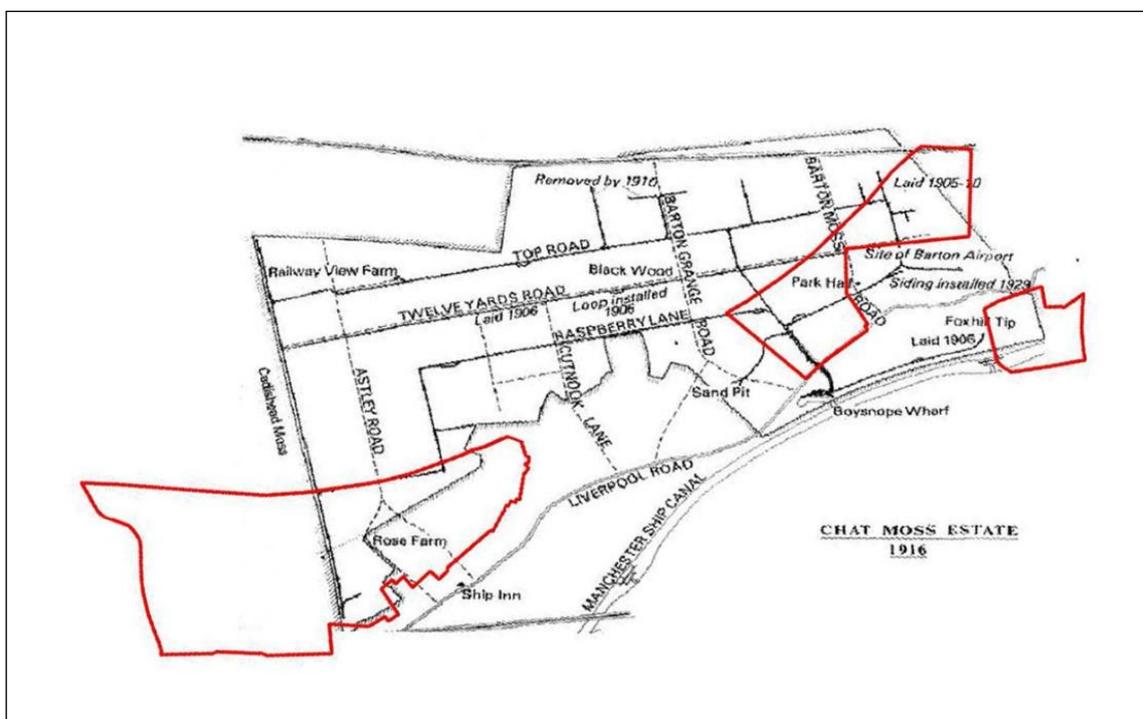


Plate 6: Plan of the extents of the Chat Moss Estate in 1916 with the tramway network, superimposed with the H3/4 Cadishead and Irlam, EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion and CT3/1 AJ Bell Stadium allocation site boundaries

## 5. Gazetteer of Sites

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The following gazetteer entries summarise the sites of potential archaeological interest within the Site Allocation. These include previously identified designated heritage assets gathered from the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (GMHER) and non-designated heritage assets drawn from the map regression analysis, aerial photography and site visits. The locations of these entries are shown in *Figure 9 (Appendix 1)*.

**Site Number** GMHER MGM17840

**Site Name** Spearhead

**Site Type** Find spot

**Designation** Portable Antiquities Scheme

**Period** Middle Bronze Age (1300BC to 1001 BC)

**NGR** SJ 73 97

**Source:** GMHER, Portable Antiquities Scheme Unique ID LVPL1743  
<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/6295>

**Description** The Spearhead was found in the vicinity of Tunnel Farm on Barton Moss by a metal detectorist in February 2001 and subsequently reported to the Portable Antiquity Scheme. The incomplete artefact measured 130mm long by 27mm wide and had been cast from a copper alloy. It is technically described as a leaf shaped basal looped socketed spearhead with a pronounced midrib as an extension of the socket (Plate 7). Although the preservation of the artefact was good the spearhead was missing the tip when found. It is possible that the spearhead was damaged in antiquity and deliberately deposited. The spearhead was dated to c1300 BC in the Middle Bronze Age.

**Assessment** The spearhead was found within an area of peat on Barton Moss by means of a metal detector. There is some potential that other artefacts or human remains may survive within the peat.



*Plate 7: Bronze Age Spearhead found by a metal detectorist south of Tunnel Farm in 2001*



**Site Number** GMHER 3033.1.1

**Site Name** Barton Moss

**Site Type** Moss

**Period** Natural Feature - Prehistoric

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**NGR** Centred SJ 730 970 (100m by 100m)

**Source** North West Wetlands Survey

**Description** Barton Moss lies at south east end of Chat Moss, largely drained by early reclamation and motorway construction. On alluvial sands & gravels and glacial clays overlying sandstone. Barton Old Hall south of the moss was the seat of the Bartons, Booths & Leighs. A medieval cross, now at Eccles Church, was rescued from one of the external hall elevations when demolished in 1897. The Manchester–Liverpool railway line transects Chat Moss east-west, on the Barton side of the township boundary. By 1894 a cemetery had been laid out on the southern fringes of the moss.

**Assessment** The Site Allocation is located on the south-east fringe of Barton Moss. Previous archaeological surveys and excavation has identified the area between the wetlands of Barton Moss and the meandering course of the River Irwell to the south as a particular focus for early settlement activity on the edge of the dryer fringe of the moss. This has included the discovery of burnt stones (GM10) within the Site Allocation and evidence of Mesolithic activity and Romano-British settlement at the nearby Port Salford site. Therefore there is a high potential for the survival of evidence of prehistoric activity on the fringe areas of the moss. Dependant on depth and quality, the deposits of peat may retain important palaeo-environmental evidence in the form of pollen and macro-fossils, whilst the possibility for ‘bog bodies’ to exist in the mosses cannot be discounted

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**Site Number** GM10

**Site Name** Burnt stone area near Boysnope

**Site Type** Monument

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**Period** Undated

**NGR** SJ 7376 9659

**Source:** North West Wetlands Survey



**Description** Burnt pebbles found in fields to the north of the A57/Liverpool between Park Hall Farm and Marriott's Farm, currently the site of Boysnope Golf Course. The isolated patch of burnt stone was identified during fieldwork for the North West Wetlands Survey in 1992/3. The burnt stones were located within an area of previously thought to be sandhills on the fringes of the moss. No other burnt stones were found anywhere else in the fields however it was assessed that the stones were likely to represent prehistoric archaeological activity rather than being derived from imported material waste material.

**Assessment** The burnt pebbles were located within the fringes of Barton Moss in areas that were once sandhills and ridges at the limit of the moss. As such the setting is seen to have a high potential for further evidence of prehistoric activity in the vicinity

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**Site Number** H3/4 SA1

**Site Name** Soldier's Retreat Farm

**Site Type** Farmhouse and outbuildings

**Period** 20<sup>th</sup> century

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**NGR** SJ 70763 94064

**Description** Position of Soldier's Retreat Farm following its relocation in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century from the north-west corner of the field plot. The house was one of many farms built and maintained by the Manchester Corporation to manage the spread of imported waste on the moss and to farm the cultivated land. A member of the last family to live in the farm (now resident of Park Hall Farm) informed that around 1970 the Manchester Corporation decided it was not worthwhile maintaining the farm and demolished it. After the Ordnance Survey map of 1971 the farm is no longer depicted on any mapping and currently the location is occupied by rectangular plot of trees and foliage alongside the former Twelve Yards Road trackway on the upper eastern edge of the Site Allocation.

**Assessment:** The former location of Soldier's Retreat Farm has potential for the survival of archaeological buried remains, however these are thought to be of low local significance

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**Site Number** H3/4 SA2

**Site Name** Park Hall Farm

**Site Type** Farmhouse and outbuildings

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**Period** 18<sup>th</sup> Century- present

**NGR** SJ 73641 96369

**Source** Yates 1786, Greenwood 1818, and Hennets 1830 Ordnance Survey 1848 – present

**Description** Buildings around the current location of Park Hall Farm can be discerned from detailed mapping from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Yates map of 1786 depicts a building in the approximate location of the farm to the north-west of the labelled Boysnope Farm, on the north side of the course of the thoroughfare from Irlam to Patricroft now known as Liverpool road. Although similarly unlabeled, buildings are also depicted at the location on Greenwood's map of 1818 and Hennes's map of 1830,

A site visit to the location in February 2018 confirmed that of the building depicted on the Ordnance Survey of 1893 only a barn on the south side of the entrance, however this has been recently converted into a cottage. A narrow building orientated east-west across the entrance during the 19<sup>th</sup> century is now longer present at the entrance to the farm, however the present owner confirms the presence of buried masonry at the location. The main present farmhouse appears to have been built by the Manchester Corporation in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century along with the neighbouring barn (Plate 8).

**Assessment:** There is potential for the survival of the original 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse at the entrance to Park Hall Farm, however this is considered to be of low local importance.



*Plate 8: 20<sup>th</sup> Century Manchester Corporation farm buildings at Park Hall Farm*

**Site Number** H3/4 SA3

**Site Name** Tunnel farm

**Site Type** Farmhouse and outbuildings

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**Period** 18<sup>th</sup> Century- present

**NGR** SJ 73641 96369

**Source** Greenwood 1818, Hennem's 1830, Ordnance Survey 1848 –present

**Description** Buildings around the current location of Tunnel Farm can be discerned from detailed mapping from the late 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards. Greenwood's map of 1818 depicts a building in the approximate location of the farm at the end a track corresponding to Barton Moss Road at the centre of the Site Area, in an area labelled 'Roscoe's Improvement' at a time when parts of the moss were being drained to create viable agricultural land.

Comparison between the current locations of the buildings at Tunnel Farm and those depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping from the 19<sup>th</sup> century suggests that the current buildings and layout may have been the result of a complete rebuilding of the farm at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century (between the Ordnance Survey maps of 1893 and 1908).

**Assessment:** There is potential for the survival of the original 19<sup>th</sup> century farmhouse in the vicinity of the present Tunnel Farm however this is considered to be of low local importance.

**Site Number** H3/4 SA4

**Site Name** Twelve Yards Road

**Designation** Non-designated heritage asset

**Site Type** Road

**Period** 19<sup>th</sup> century – present

**NGR** SJ 73464 97167

**Source** Hennets 1830 Ordnance Survey 1848 –present

**Description** Former course of road and tramway which originally ran south-west/north-east through the centre of the Site Area, to the south of Tunnel Farm (EC4/1SA4) and the relocated Soldiers Retreat (EC4/1SA2). The road now runs alongside the M62 to the north to meet Barton Moss Road, but the previous course can still be seen on aerial photograph and cropmarks. The road is first plotted on detailed mapping of the area in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century including on Greenwoods map of 1818 following the draining and improvement of the moss. The Ordnance Survey map of 1848 shows it as the main east-west route linking a grid of tracks and drains across Barton Moss. The Ordnance Survey map of 1909 also shows the course of a tramway across the Site Area along Twelve Yards Road, terminating at Tunnel Farm. The tramway appears to have gone out of use by the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century and the road downgraded to a track by the 1970's prior to the construction of the M62

**Assessment:** The former course of Twelve Yards Road and tramway are indicated by cropmarks visible on satellite imagery across the centre of the Site Allocation. There is potential for some survival of the former route however it would be considered of low local importance



*Plate 9: Tunnel Farm at the junction of Barton Moss Road and the former Twelve Yards Road*



Plate 10: Former course of Twelve Yards Road facing north-west towards the former site of Soldier's Retreat Farm



## 6. Conclusion

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The Site Allocation EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion does not contain any known archaeological remains of national importance that would merit preservation *in-situ*, however there is potential for physical evidence of prehistoric activity to survive on the fringes of the mosses and for the areas of deeper peat to retain important palaeo-environmental evidence.

Where there is little or no peat present in the north-east and south-east area the Site Allocation there is potential for physical evidence of prehistoric activity to survive on the fringes of the mosses which merits further investigation.

The south-eastern area of the Site Allocation between Park Hall Farm and Barton Moss Road has been identified as having a high potential for physical evidence of prehistoric activity. This is an area where some previous evidence of human activity has been recorded by way of a small patch of burnt stones, indicating prehistoric domestic activity on the fringe of the moss where previous borehole cores have shown there to be little or no peat cover. Likewise, there is potential for physical evidence of prehistoric activity in fringe areas of the Barton Moss that fall within the northern half of the Site Allocation, in fields north of Barton aerodrome.

In the first instance, this could be achieved via a programme of trial trenching, which would aim to establish the presence or absence of any buried archaeological remains and, if present, their extent, condition and date.

Areas of deeper peat are likely to retain important palaeo-environmental evidence in the form of pollen and macro-fossils that can yield significant information on prehistoric environments. Previous surveys and boreholes have provided a good indication as to the approximate depth of the peat across the Site, however to retrieve palaeo-environmental evidence further sampling and assessment of the material is likely to be an appropriate strategy. Analysis of the material may include Carbon-14, macro-fossil and pollen analysis to establish dating and environmental information.

This further investigation of archaeological remains should be carried out prior to the submission of any future planning application, in line with the guidance provided by the National Planning Policy Framework. For immediate purposes, however, it would be appropriate to reference the archaeological potential of the Site in the emerging Local Plan Policy documentation to enable a developer's brief to be drawn up in advance of development.

If significant remains are found which will be impacted on by development ground works then these should be either preserved through sympathetic planning or, where deemed acceptable, fully excavated and recorded (preservation by record). Consideration should also be given to commemorating and disseminating the information on the Site's heritage. Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) would be able to advise further on this.



## 7. Sources

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## *Appendix 1: Figures*

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Figure 1: Site location

Figure 2: Peat depths and location of cores and boreholes.

Figure 3: Site boundary superimposed on Yates' map of 1786

Figure 4: Site boundary superimposed on Greenwood's map of 1818

Figure 5: Site boundary superimposed on Hennets' map of 1830

Figure 6: Site boundary superimposed on the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey of 1848

Figure 7: Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1893

Figure 8: Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1929

Figure 9: Designated and non-designated heritage assets within the Site boundary

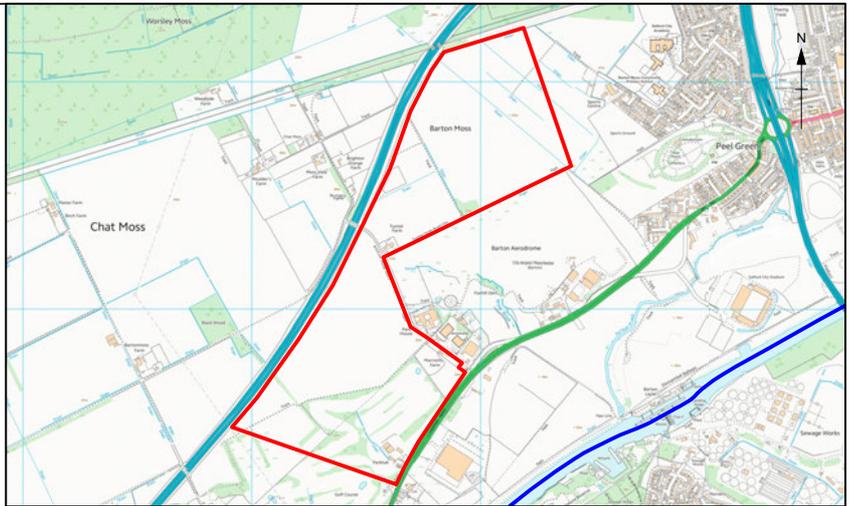
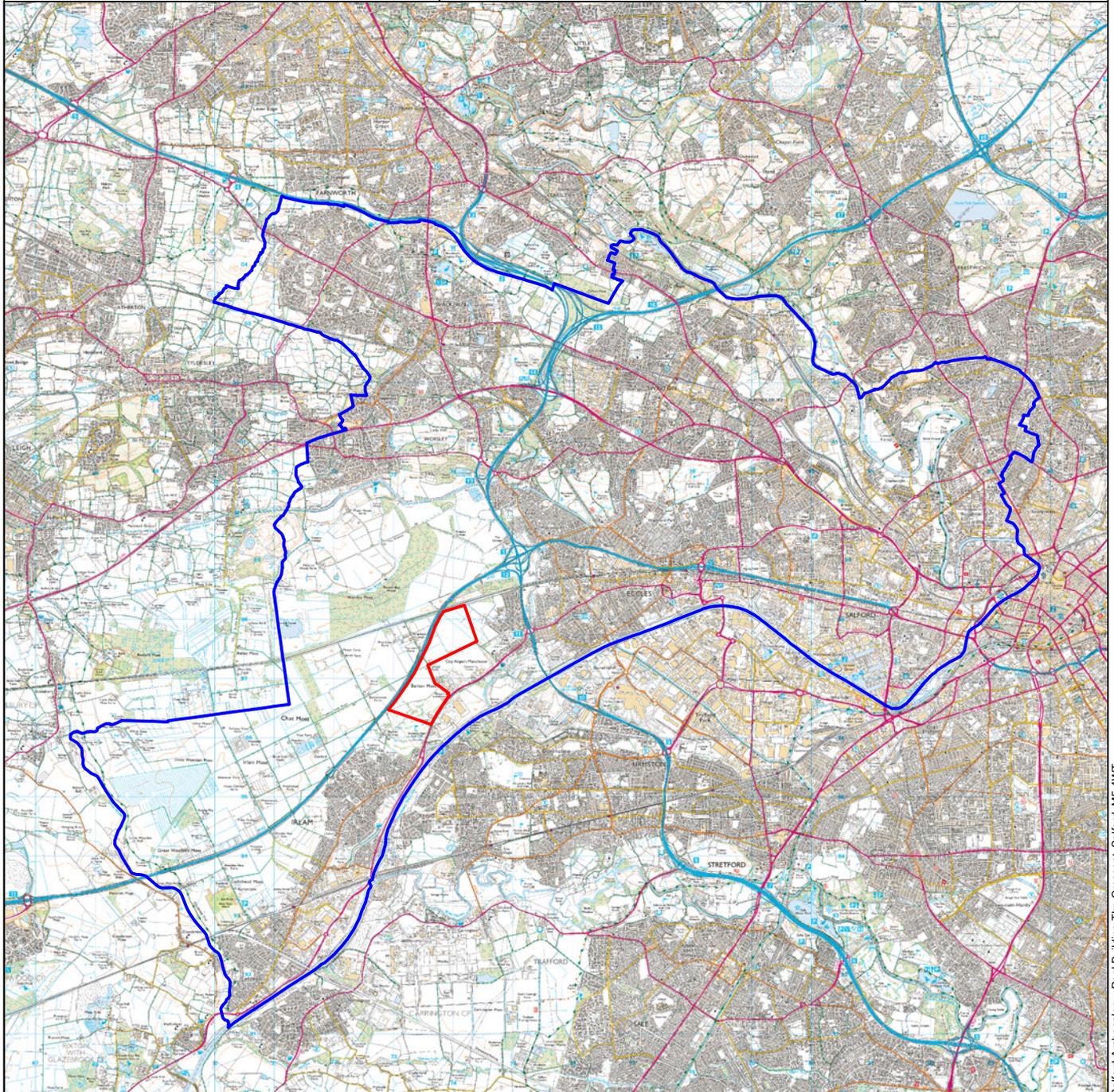


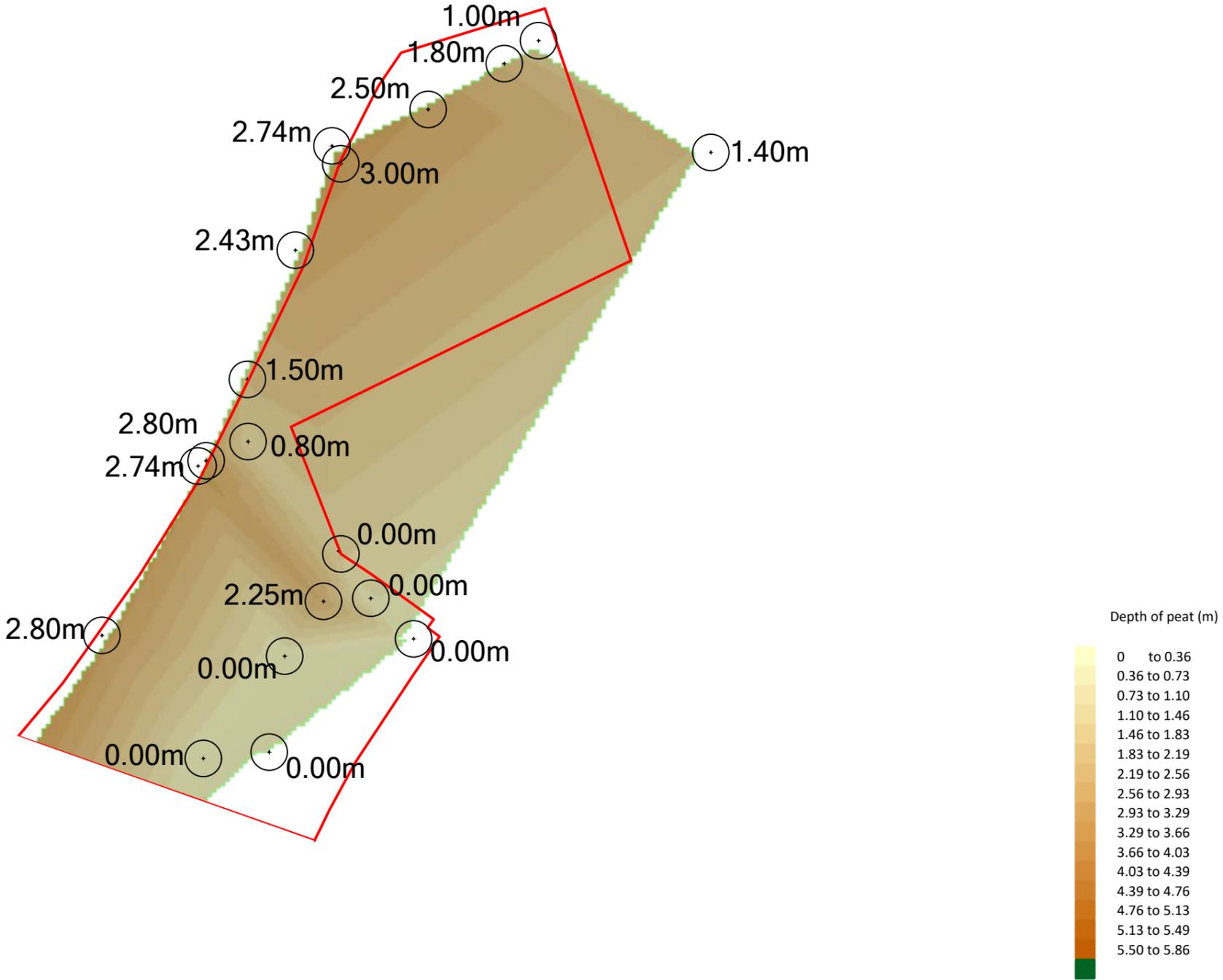
Figure 1: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion Site location



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# EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion



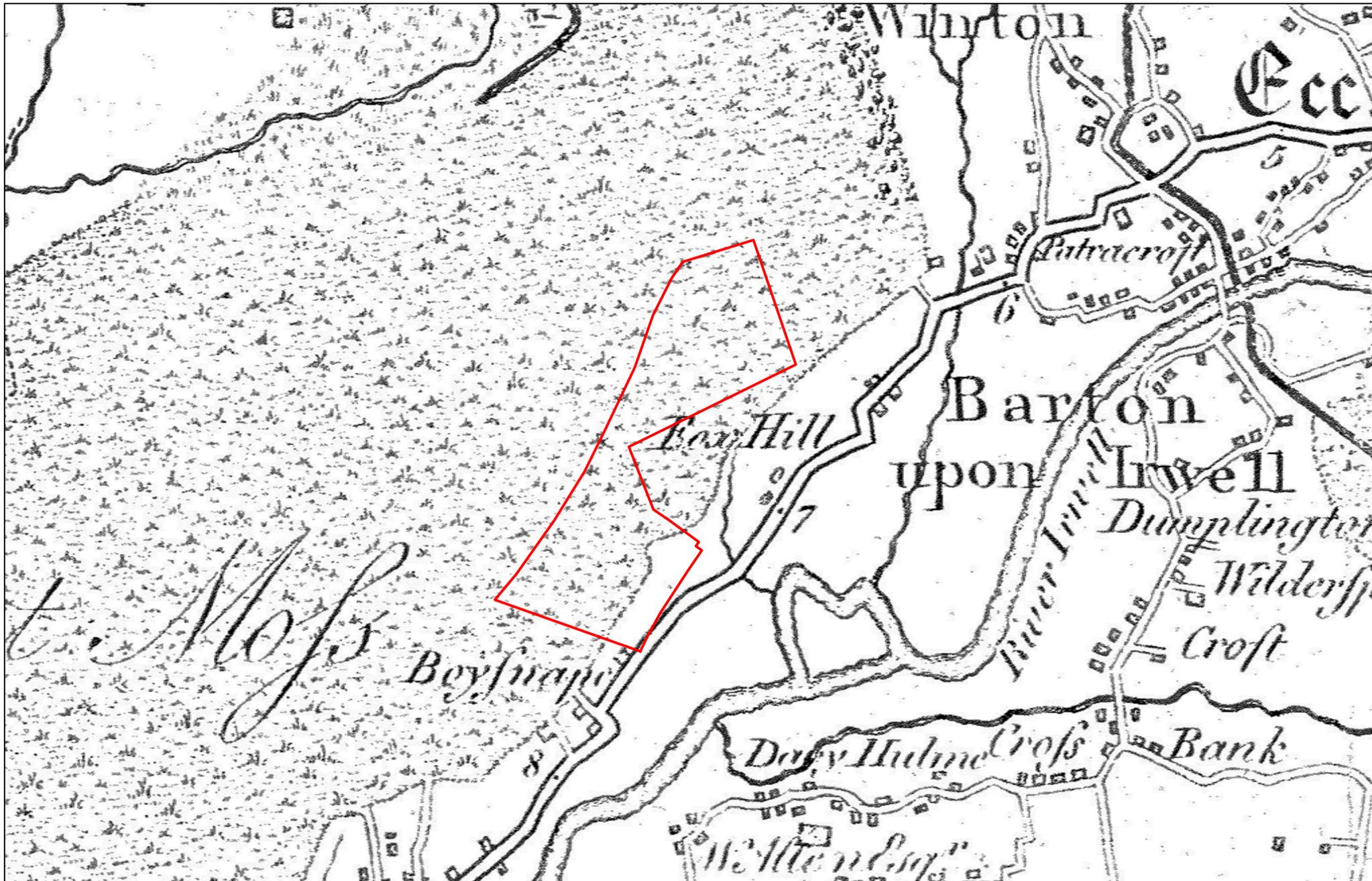
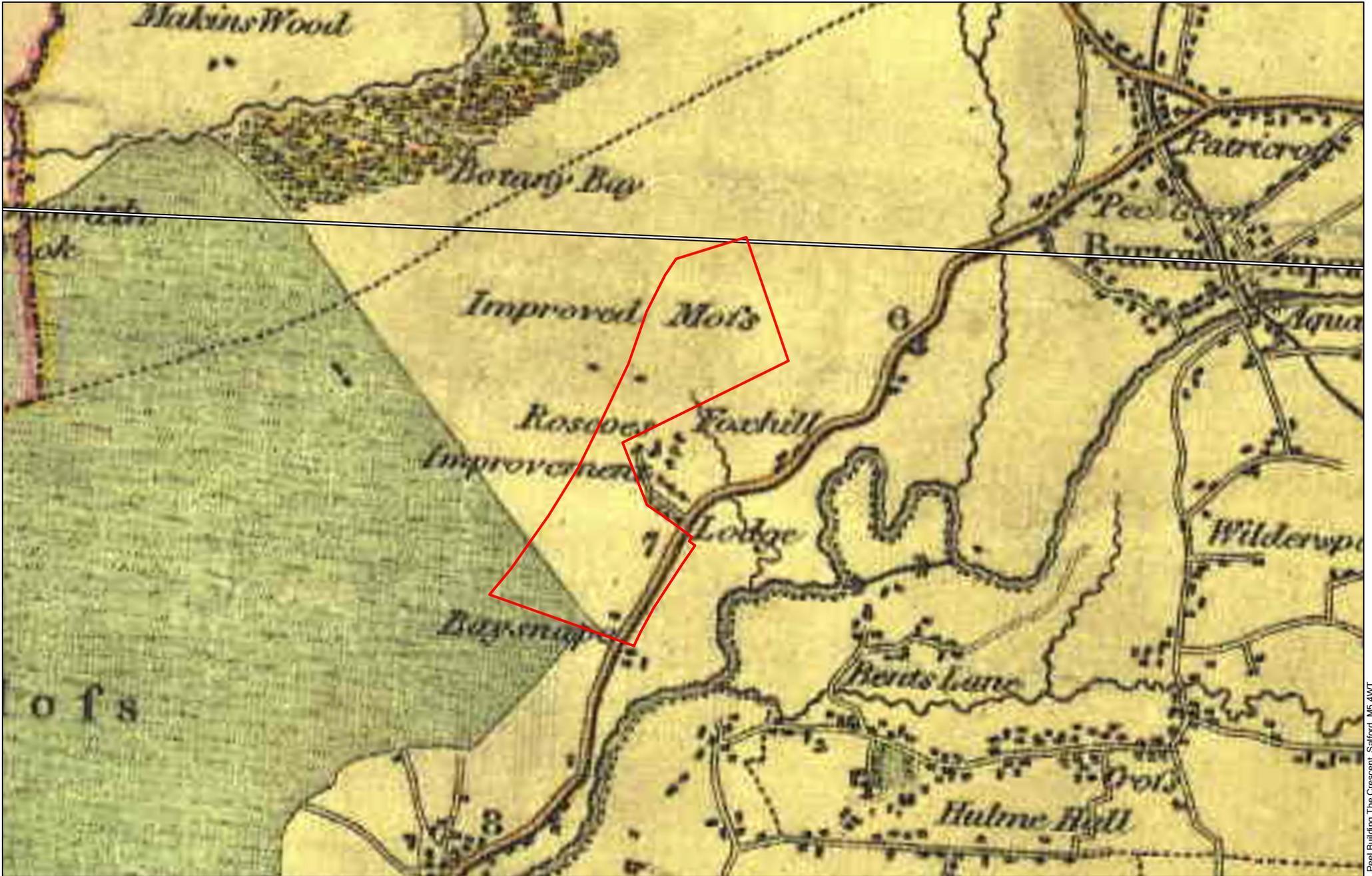


Figure 3: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion  
 Site boundary superimposed on Yates' map of 1786



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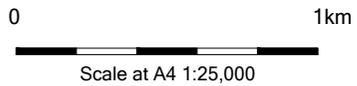


Figure 4: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion

Site boundary superimposed on Greenwood's map of 1818



Key:

Site boundary



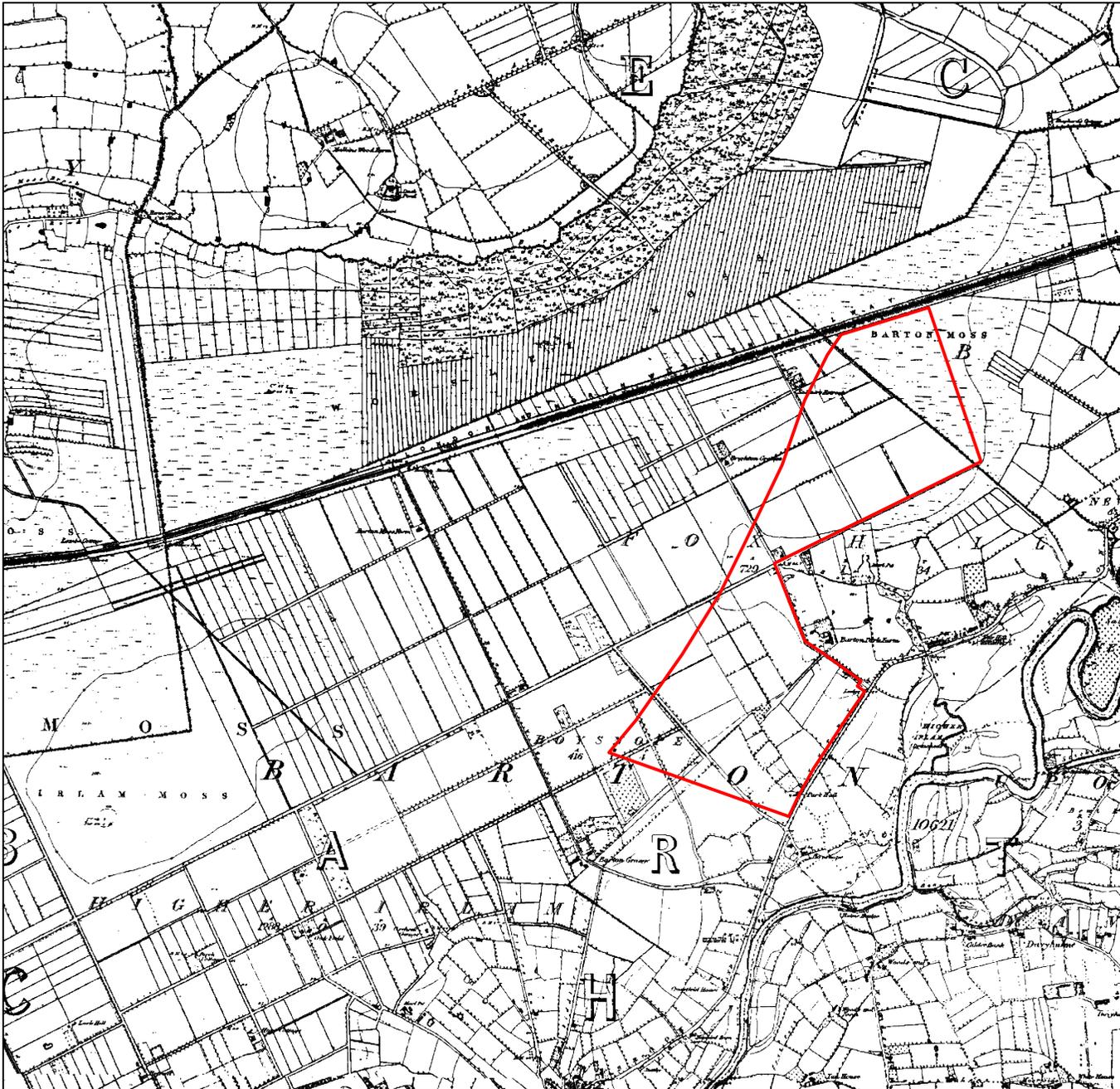


Figure 6: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion

Site boundary superimposed on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey of 1848



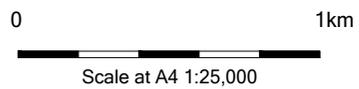
Key:

Site boundary



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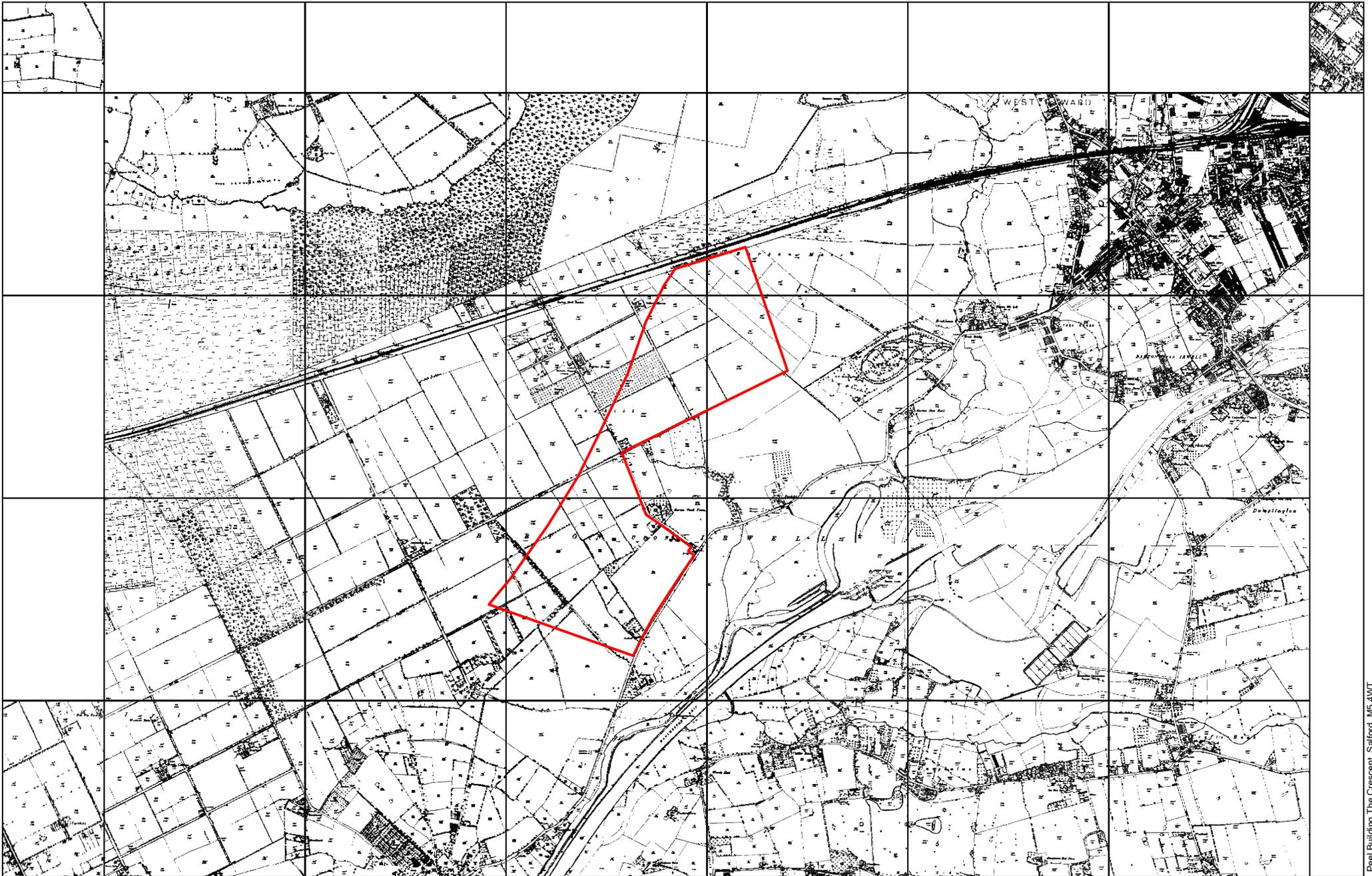


Figure 7: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion  
 Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1893

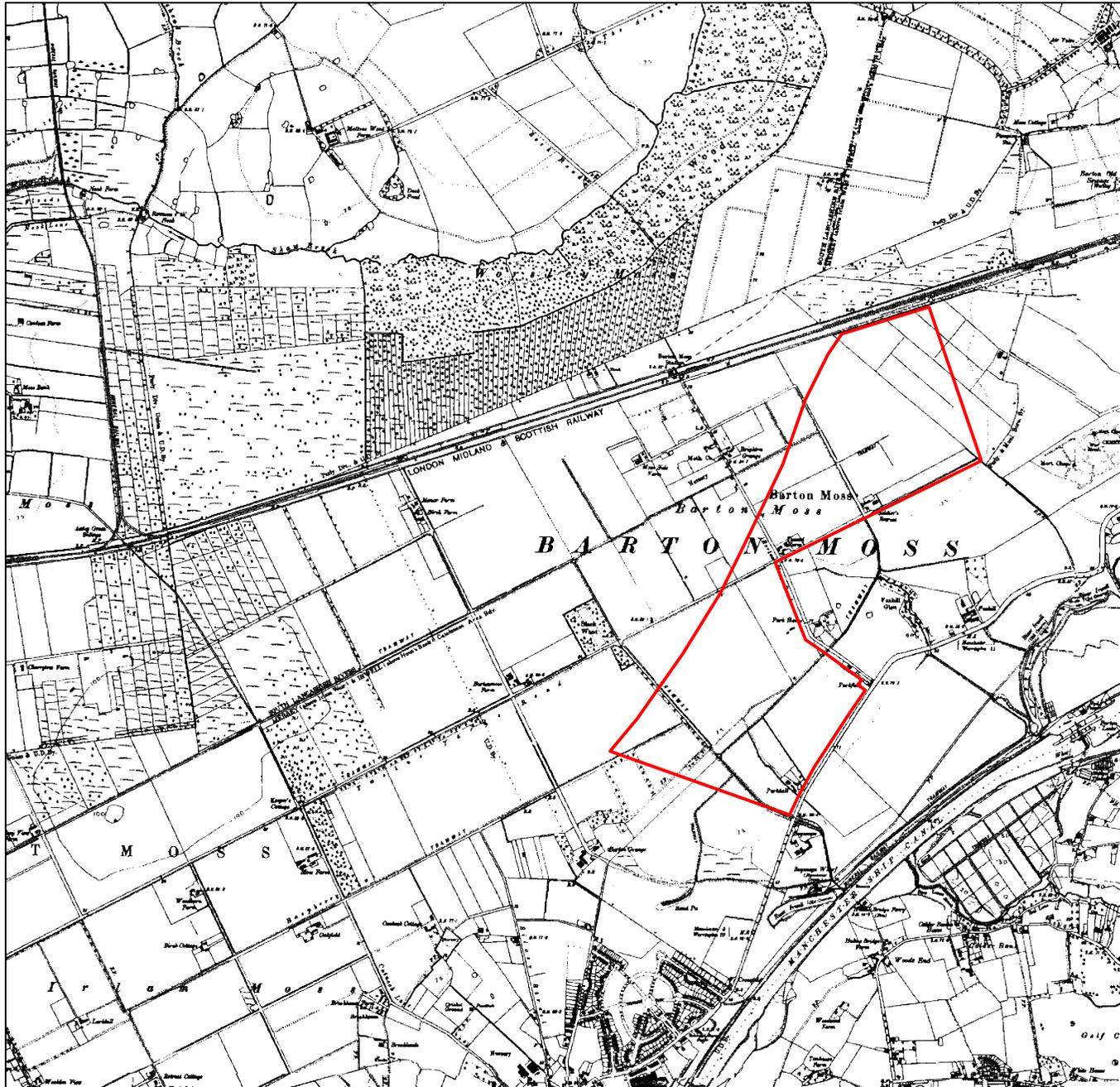
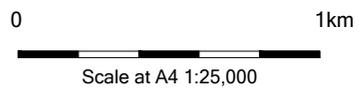


Figure 8: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion  
 Site boundary superimposed on the Ordnance Survey of 1929



Key:  
 Site boundary



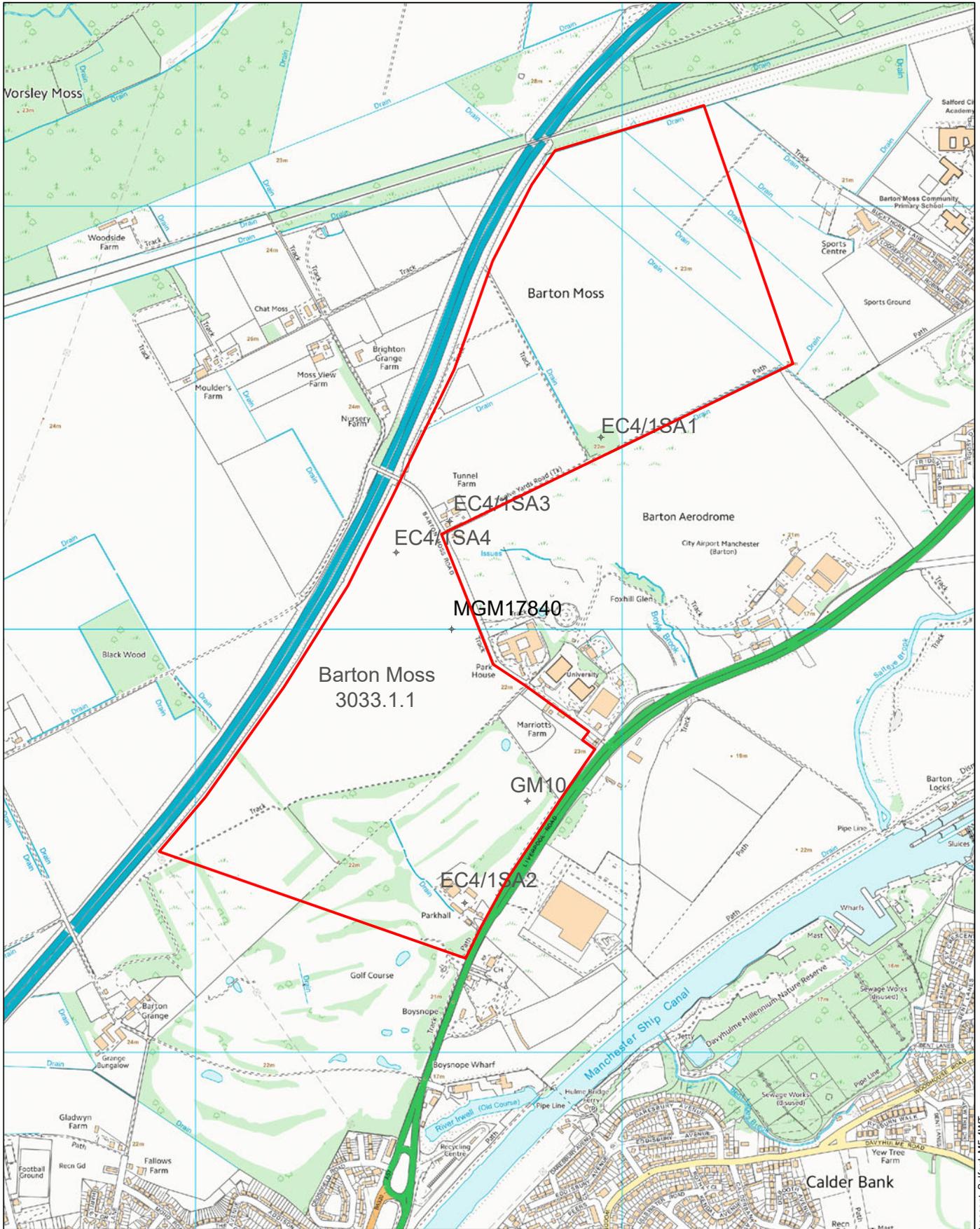


Figure 8: EC4/1 Port Salford Expansion

Identified heritage assets within the Site boundary (See Section 5 -Gazetteer)



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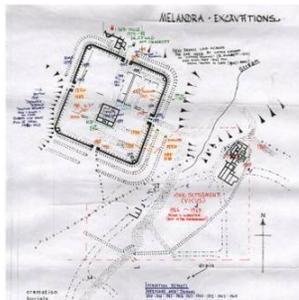
Site Boundary



**CONSULTANCY**



**DESK BASED ASSESMENTS**



**WATCHING BRIEF & EVALUATION**



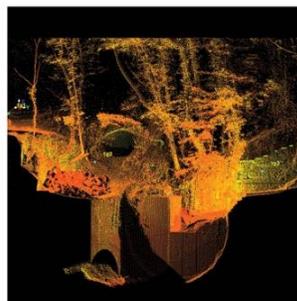
**EXCAVATION**



**BUILDING SURVEY**



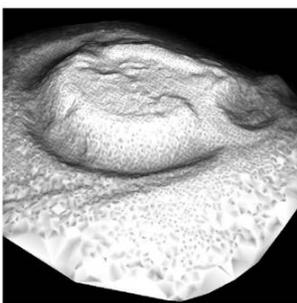
**3D LASER SCANNING**



**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**



**LANDSCAPE SURVEYS**



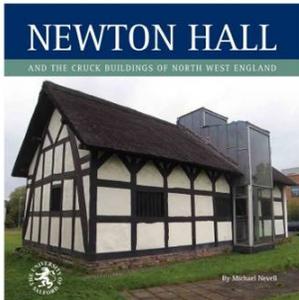
**GEOPHYSICAL SURVEYS**



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