



University of  
**Salford**  
MANCHESTER

**Greater  
Manchester  
Spatial Framework**

**Historic  
Environment  
Assessment**

**Screening  
Exercise**

Bolton District

**Client:**  
Greater Manchester  
Combined Authority

**Technical Report:**  
Rachael Reader

**Report No:**  
2019/CfAA/4



Document Title: Greater Manchester Spatial Framework: Historic Environment Assessment Screening Exercise (Bolton District)

Document Type: Historic Environment Assessment

Prepared for: Greater Manchester Combined Authority

Report No: 2019/CfAA/4

Version: Version 1.1

Author: Rachael Reader  
Position: Heritage Consultant  
Date: June 2019

Approved By: Norman Redhead  
Position: Heritage Management Director

Date: 26/06/19

Signed: 

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Contact: Centre for Applied Archaeology, LG 19 – 25 Peel Building, University of Salford, the Crescent, Salford, M5 4WU.

Telephone: 0161 295 0145/0161 295 5522  
Email: r.reader@salford.ac.uk/n.redhead@salford.ac.uk

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## ***i. Summary***

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In February 2019, GMAAS and the Centre for Applied Archaeology was commissioned by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority to undertake a screening exercise of the historic environment interest on the Sites allocated within the Greater Manchester Spatial Framework. This work is in the form of an assessment to understand the nature of the archaeology, built heritage, historic landscape, and setting for each land allocation. Each Site is placed within one of six categories, according to the nature of the heritage assets contained within and located further afield. These are colour coded according to whether sites have been screened in with archaeological and designated heritage asset considerations as well (red, categories 1 and 2), screened in but with archaeological or designated heritage asset considerations only (amber, categories 3-5) or screened out (green, category 6).

The report on the Bolton District consists of three individual allocations. The table below summarises the Bolton screening exercise and is colour-coded according to whether sites have been screened in with archaeological and designated heritage asset considerations as well (red, categories 1 and 2), screened in but with archaeological or designated heritage asset considerations only (amber, categories 3-5) or screened out (green, category 6). See section iii.ii for an explanation of the different categories.

<b>Land Allocation Code</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>	<b>Category</b>
GMA4	Bewshill Farm	Bolton	Category 5
GMA5	Chequerbent North	Bolton	Category 3
GMA6	West of Wingates/M61 Junction 6	Bolton	Category 5

***Table 1 Screening Exercise summary table for the Bolton District.***

A number of recommendations have been made and the accompanying Summary Report provides further information regarding the next steps.

## ***ii. Introduction***

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In preparing the revised Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) land allocations, the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) commissioned GMAAS (Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service), with the Centre for Applied Archaeology at the University of Salford to provide a screening exercise of the historic environment interest. This work is in the form of an assessment to understand the nature of the archaeology, built heritage, historic landscape, and setting for each land allocation. It provides specific recommendations for more detailed assessment to help meet the requirements of NPPF.

The National Planning Policy Framework (published 2018, revised February 2019) stipulates that:

- The allocations have been informed by a proper assessment of the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets in the area, including their settings where appropriate (NPPF paragraphs 184, 185, 189, 190 and 194);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify new sites of archaeological or historic interest (NPPF paragraph 187);
- There has been a proper assessment to identify land where development would be inappropriate because of its archaeological and/or historic significance (NPPF paragraphs 190, 193-197)

In 2018, a pilot exercise was undertaken for the Salford City Council area. This comprised separate archaeological and designated heritage asset (including local listings) analyses which were then combined to form the final, published reports on 4 Spatial Framework allocations. The methodology adopted for the remaining 47 allocation sites across the other 9 districts of Greater Manchester is based on the Salford study. However, the following screening exercise is a more rapid assessment of the historic environment, therefore is less detailed than the Salford assessments but does combine designated, and non- designated heritage asset considerations.

### ***iii. Method Statement***

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#### *iii.i Introduction*

A screening exercise was applied to the three land allocation sites (referred to as 'Sites') across the Bolton District). This aimed to identify which of the Sites may impact directly, affect the setting or have a visual impact, on designated and non-designated heritage assets.

The site allocations were subject to further assessment and comprised:

- A review and enhancement of the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record (HER) to identify and map non-designated and designated heritage assets (this also included any other relevant databases, such as the National Heritage List);
- An historic map regression exercise to identify previously unrecognised heritage assets with archaeological and/or built heritage interest;
- A review of the findings of previous archaeological investigations carried out on or near the sites, along with any relevant published or secondary sources. This includes grey literature, local publications, thematic surveys and also incorporated the North West Regional Research Framework for the Historic Environment (NWRRF);
- Analysis of available historic and current aerial photography and 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. A buffer zone of 250m was applied to each land allocation to identify heritage assets 'further afield' (i.e. not within the land allocation);
- 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 over a period of 3 months between March and June 2019 and were limited to publicly accessible land and footpaths. Designated heritage assets which were visible from the Site and located further afield (beyond 250m), were also flagged up in the assessments.

The above was applied to the land allocation and a 250m buffer zone. The accompanying archaeological and historical background is informed by the following period allocations:

Period		Date Range
Prehistoric	Palaeolithic	Pre-10000 BC
	Mesolithic	10000 – 3500 BC
	Neolithic	3500 – 2200 BC
	Bronze Age	2300 – 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 – AD 1750
Industrial Period		AD 1750 – 1914
Modern		Post - 1914

*Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges*

### *iii.ii Screening Categories*

Following an assessment of the available sources as detailed above, the Sites were screened in or out, according to a ‘traffic light’ system and are listed below in descending order of priority for further work on assessing the significance of the heritage assets identified:

- **Red:** Sites recommended for screening in. This has been split into two different categories.
  - **Category 1** The Sites that both have concerns over the impact on designated heritage assets within the boundary and also non-designated heritage assets which have the potential to be of high significance. These should be dealt with pre-planning and treated as the highest priority.
  - **Category 2** The second category outline the Sites that have concerns over the impact on designated heritage assets within the boundary, however the non-designated heritage assets can be dealt with through the planning process.
- **Amber:** Site is recommended for screening in. Designated heritage assets identified further afield may be impacted upon visually or through their setting and/or non-designated heritage assets may be impacted on directly. It is suggested that much of this work can be carried out as part of the planning process, or with further assessment be screened out altogether. This has been split into three categories:
  - **Category 3** Sites where the development could affect the setting of, or have a visual impact on, designated heritage assets and there is the potential for a direct impact upon non-designated heritage assets. 18 sites have been identified within this category
  - **Category 4** Sites where the development could affect the setting of, or have a visual impact on, designated heritage assets. 5 sites have been identified within this category
  - **Category 5** Sites where only non-designated heritage assets are likely to be impacted. 7 sites have been identified within this category

- **Green: Category 6** (Chapter 8) Sites recommended for screening out. Sites where there is thought to be no impact on designated heritage assets and with no or very low archaeological potential.

### *iii.iii Structure of the Report*

This document is concerned with providing an understanding of the historic environment, which is defined as consisting of the archaeology, built heritage, historic landscape, and setting of the individual land allocations within the GMSF.

A report has been produced for each district, as well as for each cross-boundary land allocation. Each report contains a separate chapter on the land allocations identified according to their district, within the GMSF. Although the cross-boundary land allocations have been allocated their own report, they are referred to within the individual district sections, if they fall within the relevant area.

At the start of each chapter, a statement (in italics) summarises the reasons for screening out or in. Each land allocation has a section on the site location, topography and land use, including information on the geology as well. This can be useful in locating favourable areas for past settlement, in the absence of data on the historic environment. The historical background sets out the relevant historical, as well as archaeological information derived from previous work done within or adjacent to the land allocation. This is enhanced by historic map regression as well as the relevant HER data. Based on this information, the potential for the survival of archaeological remains is then assessed. An outline of previous archaeological work that has taken place within, or near the Site, is also provided, as well as any relevant planning applications.

A gazetteer details the designated and non-designated heritage assets that have been identified through the assessment. Each gazetteer entry (abbreviated to **HA**) has a summary description and a map is provided for each land allocation showing the location of heritage assets. A historic map extract is also provided, taken from the first edition Ordnance Survey, published between 1848 and 1882.

The conclusion summarises the outcome of the screening exercise and whether the Site is screened in for a more detailed heritage impact assessment. It outlines whether there are designated and non-designated heritage assets and whether they may be impacted directly, have their setting affected or be impacted upon visually, and outlines the possible work which may be required in order to satisfy the requirements of NPPF. In the case of designated heritage assets, the need for further assessment, which could include significance statements and setting assessments is flagged up. For non-designated heritage assets, further archaeological mitigation is outlined, although this is Site dependent; some assets may require more detailed desk-based studies and there may be a need to consider a landscape as a whole, even if no heritage assets have been identified. Further investigation, in the form of non-intrusive (e.g. fieldwalking, walkover surveys and geophysics) and intrusive (e.g. evaluation and excavation) methods, is outlined. For those sites that are screened in, the more

detailed assessment will determine at which point in the planning process identified archaeological sites can be dealt with.

There is also an accompanying Summary Document, which outlines the key conclusions from the screening exercise as well as recommendations for further work.

## **GMA4 Bewshill Farm (BO) – Screened In**

*It is recommended that this Site is screened in; there are no designated sites within the land allocation and none that have been identified nearby. There is potential for archaeological remains therefore further archaeological work is recommended*

### **4.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use**

The Bewshill Farm land allocation (centred at NGR 370194, 405033) lies between Walkden and Over Hulton and c.4km south-west of Bolton town centre. The Site is 5.6ha in size and is bounded by Salford Road to the north and an Industrial Estate on its other sides.

The site lies at around 120m aOD, on relatively flat ground. The site is predominantly under pasture with Bewshill Farm complex within.

The geology consists of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation to the west and Trencherbone Rock (sandstone) to the east. The superficial geology consists of till over to the west, however it has not been recorded on the western side of the Site (British Geological Survey 2017).



## 4.2 Historical Background

### 4.2.1 Overview

There is no evidence for prehistoric activity within the Site or from the immediate vicinity, however fieldwork at Cinder Hill, 1.3km south-west of the Site, revealed evidence for activity spanning the Mesolithic through to the Iron Age. This included rare evidence for a roundhouse as well as other structures and was associated with a nearby palaeochannel (Arrowsmith 2013, 5; OA North 2016, 15).

There is evidence to suggest that a Roman road leading between Manchester and Blackrod followed the line of the modern A6, immediately north of the Site. The road was uncovered during the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in Little Hulton to the east however associated finds and sites are limited to one sherd of pottery recovered in the 1930s, also from Little Hulton (Arrowsmith 2013, 5). No Roman finds are known from the Site itself.

Early Medieval activity is very limited across Greater Manchester, however palaeoenvironmental evidence recovered from the archaeological work at Cutacre shows that the landscape was settled and farmed during this period (OA North 2016, 28)

During the Medieval period, the Site fell within the township of Middle Hulton, which was originally part of a single post-Conquest manor of Hulton. Archaeological evidence for Medieval activity is limited, however evidence for ironworking was found at Cinder Hill and dating to 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> centuries. Medieval pottery was also recovered from excavation at Wharton Hall (Arrowsmith 2013, 6).

There is evidence that the Site was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion during the Post-Medieval period and Bewshill Farm (**HA1**) may date to this period, although it appears to be 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards. A number of sites in the wider vicinity were established during this period, including Wharton Hall, 1.4km to the south-east, which was excavated as part of the Cutacre scheme and dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, with evidence for earlier origins. Ashes Farm was also excavated, which dated from the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. There is also evidence for coal mining as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> century (OA North 2016) within the wider vicinity of the Site although there is little to suggest any happened within the Site itself.

There is little evidence for development within the Site itself, although a number of possible marl pits can be seen on historic mapping. Study at the Cutacre site shows that further farmsteads were established in the Industrial period. A number of collieries were also established and those at Bank House and Wharton developed into larger operations (*ibid* 59). The Site remains rural presently, however the wider area has been developed for industrial use with new warehouses and logistics established particularly to the south.

### 4.2.2 Archaeological Potential

There is some potential for Prehistoric and Roman remains, as a watercourse runs through the Site and there is a potential Roman road to the immediate north. There is potential for Medieval remains although it is probably agricultural in nature. Bewshill

Fold may be 18<sup>th</sup> century in origin however there are buildings still surviving which may date from this period. There is little potential for Industrial remains.

#### 4.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the land allocation, nor any that have been identified further afield where they may be impacted upon visually and/or have their setting affected

#### 4.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

There has been no previous archaeological work within the land allocations however there has been a number of investigations nearby. This includes a long programme of desk-based assessments, evaluation and excavations at Cutacre to the immediate south and south-west of the Site (summarised in OA North 2016; see also GMAU 1991; Arrowsmith 2013).

### 4.3 Gazetteer

The Gazetteer primarily references sites that are within, or immediately adjacent, to the land allocation boundary and are listed with designated heritage assets first, then non-designated heritage assets. A table at the end of the gazetteer outlines additional non-designated heritage assets from the HER which are either outside the land allocation or are of negligible importance (such as former extraction pits, or ponds).

**HA Number:** 1

**Site Name:** Bewshill Farm

**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Residential/Agricultural

**Period:** 18<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 370287, 405042

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Farmstead, possibly depicted on Yates 1786 map. Expanded during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Some of the original buildings appear to still survive

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**HA Number:** 2

**Site Name:** Cat Row (site of)

**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Residential

**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 370419, 404995

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Probable workers' housing, early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Demolished mid-20<sup>th</sup> century and site remains undeveloped. Appears to fall just outside the land allocation

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**HA Number:** 3

**Site Name:** Thirlmere Aqueduct

**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Water Infrastructure

**Period:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 370163, 404896

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Water supply system built by the Manchester Corporation Water Works between 1890 and 1925 to carry water from Thirlmere Reservoir to Heaton Park Reservoir over 95.9 miles. Consists of cut and cover concrete channel and appears to run east-west just south of the land allocation

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<b>HER Number</b>	<b>Record Type</b>	<b>Site Name</b>	<b>Period/Date</b>	<b>Grid Reference</b>
4326.1.0	Monument	Pound/Pinfold (site of)	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 7023 0535
7958.1.0	Monument	Back Lane	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 7002 0514
7959.1.0	Monument	Routeway (site of)	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 7012 0516
7961.1.0	Monument	Brick Field	Post-Medieval	SD 6989 0510

***Table 4.3.1 Non-designated Heritage Assets within 250m of the land allocation***

#### **4.4 Site Visit**

The site visit was conducted over the course of one day on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. There was no access into the Site itself however views generally appear to be fairly restricted across the land allocation. The topography also appears to be relatively flat.



*Plate 4.4.1: Looking north-east across the northern part of GMA4*

#### **4.5 Conclusion**

It is suggested that Site Allocation GMA4: Bewshill Farm is screened in and has been palced within Amber, Category 5. There are no designated heritage assets contained within the Sites and none have been identified within the immediate vicinity. There is potential for archaeological remains relating to the Prehistoric period. There appears to be little potential for historic hedgerows.

Further work is recommended, including:

- Geophysical survey and targeted intrusive work to assess the potential for prehistoric remains
- Historic building assessment of the Bewshill Farm complex (**HA1**)

This work has the potential to answer a number of questions from the updated regional research framework, particularly relating to Prehistoric period

## 4.6 Figures

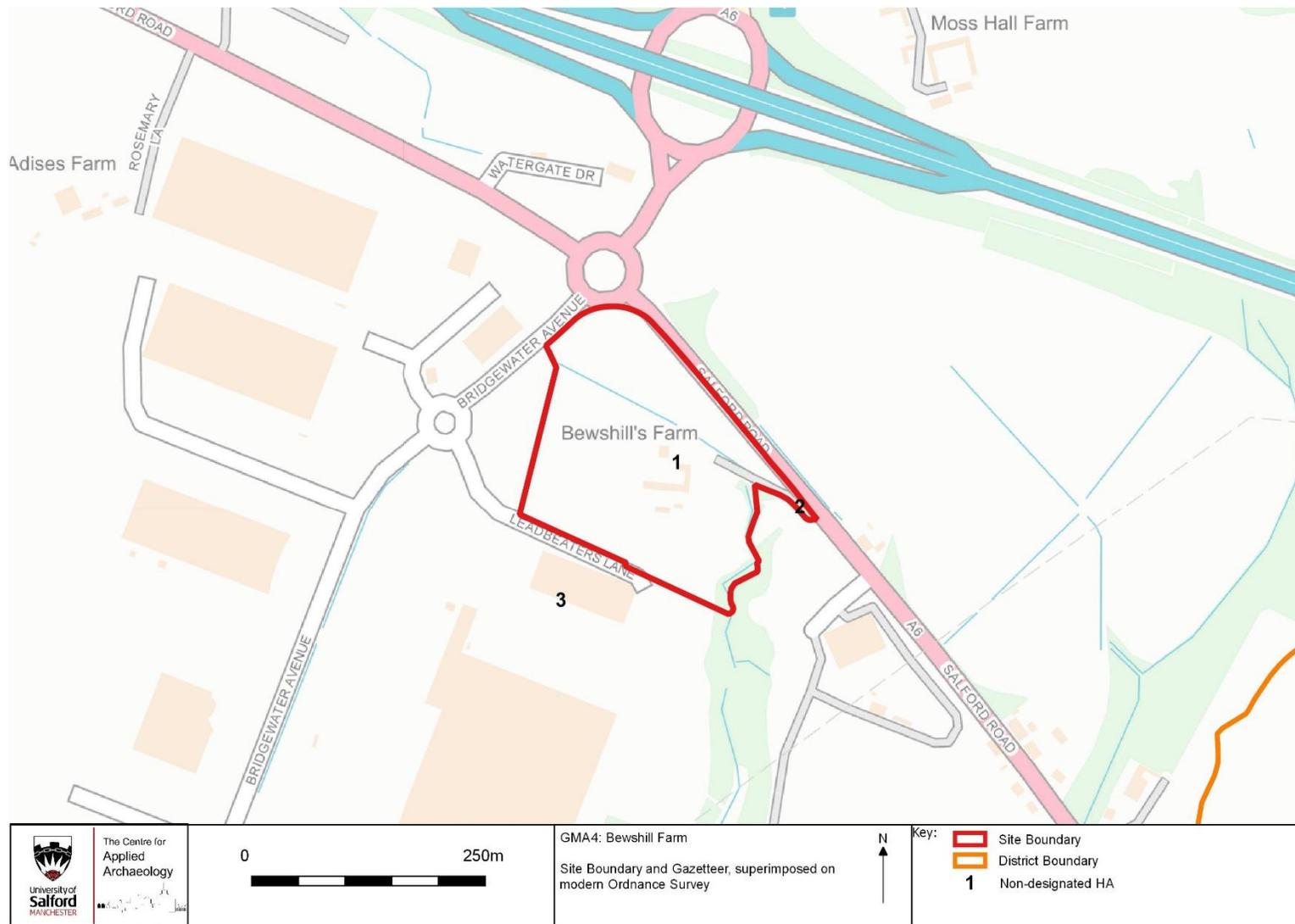


Figure 4.6.1

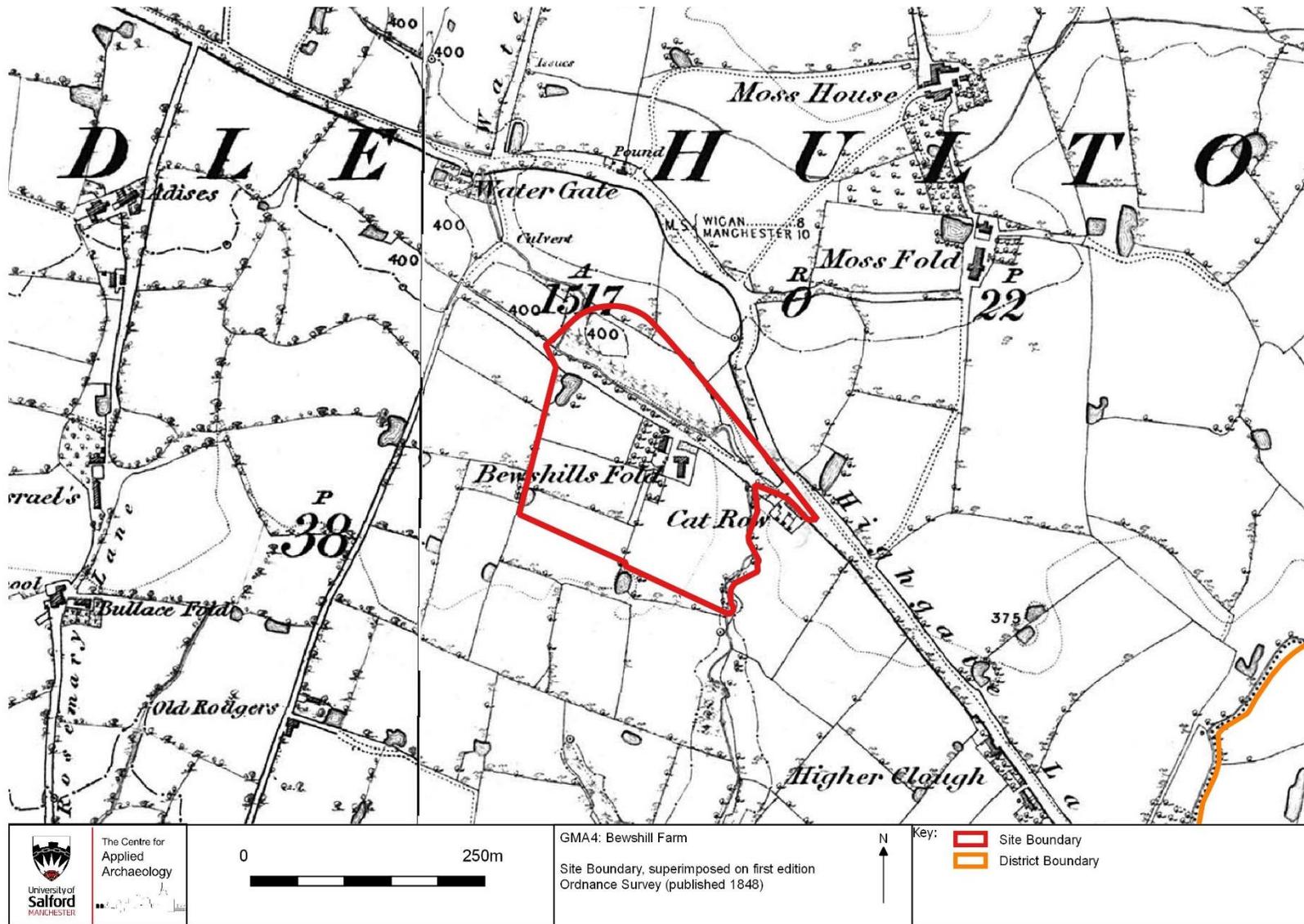


Figure 4.6.2

## **GMA5 Chequerbent North (BO) – Screened In**

*It is recommended that this Site is screened in; there are no designated sites within the land allocation, however a number have been identified nearby which will require further assessment. There is high potential for archaeological remains from the Industrial period, therefore further archaeological work is recommended*

### **5.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use**

The Chequerbent North allocation (centred at NGR 367479, 406362) lies north-east of Chequerbent and c.5km south-west of Bolton town centre. The site is 15.8ha in size and bounded by Syndale Way to the west, M61 to the north, the former Bolton and Leigh railway to the east and Manchester road to the south.

The Site is relatively flat and lies at around 120m aOD. The northern part of the Site is under pasture and to the south the land is in use for Industrial purposes.

The geology across the Site consist of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures formation, interspersed with bands of sandstone. The superficial geology consists of Till (British Geological Survey 2017).



## 5.2 Historical Background

### 5.2.1 Overview

No sites from the Prehistoric period have been identified within the Site or immediate vicinity and the superficial geology of till does not provide ideal conditions for settlement during this period. Potential cropmark sites have been identified further afield however their dates have not been confirmed.

A possible Roman road between Manchester and Blackrod is thought to follow the line of the A6 to the south though its exact course has not been confirmed through recent excavation.

During the Medieval period, the Site lay within the township of Westhoughton and adjacent to Snydale Hall, which is first recorded in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Hulton Park to the south-east is also Medieval in origins and the park is recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. The Site appears to have been enclosed in a piecemeal fashion during the Post-Medieval period.

During the Industrial period, the eastern boundary of the Site formed part of the Bolton and Leigh Railway (**HA3**), which opened in 1828 and a passenger station was in existence by 1846. Subsequently the southern part of the Site was developed for a goods yard as well as a Rope and Twine works (**HA9**). The railway was realigned during the later 19<sup>th</sup> century and a number of collieries in the area, particularly around Hulton Park, were connected to this main line. The southern part of the Site still retains its Industrial usage, although the goods yard and rope and twine works closed in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century. The northern part remains predominantly rural.

### 5.2.2 Archaeological Potential

There is potential for archaeological remains, although due to the unfavourable geological conditions, it is unlikely that prehistoric remains will be encountered. There is some potential for Roman activity although the Manchester-Blackrod road is presumed to follow the line of the modern road. It appears unlikely that Medieval and Post-Medieval remains will be encountered and the Industrial potential lies in the remains of the railway.

### 5.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the land allocation, however one has been identified close to the boundary as well as further afield which may be impacted upon visually and/or have their setting affected

Asset Name	HER Number	Designation	NHLE Number
Hulton Park	DGM10	Grade II RPG	1001581

**Table 5.2.1 Designated Heritage Assets identified outside the land allocation**

### 5.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

Archaeological work within the Site, consists of desk-based assessments from the early 1990s for a proposed bypass between the M6 and M61, connecting Wigan, Hindley and Westhoughton (GMAU 1991; 1993; 1994). A desk-based assessment was carried out for the Lostock to Heaton aqueduct which ran along the northern edge of the Site (GMAC 1994). A desk-based assessment was also carried out on land at Lee Hall to the south of GMA5 in the late 1990s (Wessex Archaeology 1997). A DBA

and evaluation was carried out at Hulton Park and surrounding sites, which evaluated the former Bolton and Leigh railway (Salford Archaeology 2016; 2018).

### 5.3 Gazetteer

The Gazetteer primarily references sites that are within, or immediately adjacent, to the land allocation boundary and are listed with designated heritage assets first, then non-designated heritage assets. A table at the end of the gazetteer outlines additional non-designated heritage assets from the HER which are either outside the land allocation or are of negligible importance (such as former extraction pits, or ponds).

**HA Number:** 1  
**Site Name:** Hulton Park  
**Designation:** Grade II RPG (1001581)  
**HER No:** DGM10  
**Site Type:** Parkland  
**Period:** Medieval  
**NGR:** 367955, 405181  
**Sources:** National Heritage List; OS Mapping  
**Description:** Park, owned by the Hulton family since at least 1335. Landscaped early 19<sup>th</sup> century and has the remains of plantations, pleasure ground and a kitchen garden. 200ha in size.

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**HA Number:** 2  
**Site Name:** Old Taylor's  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:** 4566.1.0  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** 18<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367380, 406084  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; GMAU 1991 (107); GMAU 1994 (19)  
**Description:** House, possibly 18<sup>th</sup> century. Twin gabled house with sash windows and slate roof. Mostly handmade brick however part of the frontage and side is constructed in stone. An inscription reads 'A E H' but is badly worn. House is still standing.

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**HA Number:** 3  
**Site Name:** Bolton and Leigh Railway (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:** 496.1.0  
**Site Type:** Communications  
**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367624, 406296  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; GMAU 1991 (104); 1993 (94); 1994 (26); <http://disused-stations.org.uk/c/chequerbent/index.shtml>

**Description:** Part of the former Bolton and Leigh railway, completed 1828 to designs by George Stephenson and the first public railway in Lancashire. Opened to passengers in 1831. Line was realigned in the 1880s and the old line served the Chequerbent pits to the south. Line was closed gradually during 1950s and 1960s. The embankment still survives and many of the stone blocks and sleepers were visible in the early 1990s.

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**HA Number:** 4  
**Site Name:** Hope Cottage  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> century  
**NGR:** 367414, 406078  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; GMAU 1994 (20)  
**Description:** Possible station house, datestone of 1828 which corresponds with the foundation date of the Bolton and Leigh railway. House still stands although rendered. Just outside the land allocation

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**HA Number:** 5  
**Site Name:** Chequerbent Station  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Industrial  
**Period:** 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367358, 406115  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; <http://disused-stations.org.uk/c/chequerbent/index.shtml>  
**Description:** Chequerbent station originally opened in 1846 although the location of the original station is unclear. A new station opened in 1885. The line closed completely in the late 1960s and the station was demolished shortly after. Site remains undeveloped

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**HA Number:** 6  
**Site Name:** Chequerbent Goods Yard (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Industrial  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367452, 406212  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; <http://www.disused-stations.org.uk/c/chequerbent/index1.shtml>  
**Description:** Goods Yard, opened around the same time as the second passenger station (1885). Appears to have been fairly modest in size and included a goods shed, loading platform, weighing machine and three sidings. Closed late 1960s. Buildings cleared and remains undeveloped.

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**HA Number:** 7  
**Site Name:** 899 Manchester Road  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367366, 406085  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Two houses, although one is now demolished; possible workers' housing. The original one appears to have been early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Present structure is two storeys with handmade brick, with bandings of machine made brick. Identical construction to the properties across the road to the south.

---

**HA Number:** 8  
**Site Name:** Hilton's Terrace  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367289, 406102  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Terraced housing, eastern part dates to 1889; further terraces added to the west in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Still survives although some have more modern modifications.

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**HA Number:** 9  
**Site Name:** Rope and Twine Works (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:** 4906.1.0  
**Site Type:** Industrial  
**Period:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 367430, 406248  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; GMAU 1993 (93); 1994 (27)  
**Description:** Rope and Twine Works with associated ropewalk, early 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. Closed and demolished late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Site remains undeveloped

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**HA Number:** 10  
**Site Name:** Thirlmere Aqueduct  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Water Infrastructure  
**Period:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 367565, 406541  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Water supply system built by the Manchester Corporation Water Works between 1890 and 1925 to carry water from Thirlmere Reservoir to Heaton Park Reservoir over 95.9 miles. Consists of cut and cover concrete channel and appears to run north-south through the land allocation. Access chambers still exist close to Snyderdale Way

**HA Number:** 11  
**Site Name:** Engineering Works (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Industrial  
**Period:** Early 20<sup>th</sup> century  
**NGR:** 367339, 406172  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Engineering works, specialising in steel construction, early 20<sup>th</sup> century in date. Modified and expanded during later 20<sup>th</sup> century. None of the original buildings appear to survive; now a recycling plant

HER Number	Record Type	Site Name	Period/Date	Grid Reference
496.1.1	Monument	Chequerbent Incline	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6734 0600
499.1.0	Building	Rose Cottage	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6695 0616
3627.1.0	Monument	Roman road (line of)	Roman	SD 6722 0610
4369.1.0	Monument	Colliery and Colliery Railway (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6806 0634
4562.1.0	Building	Beech Hall Farm	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6727 0607
4563.1.0	Monument	Structure (site of)	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6723 0606
4564.1.0	Monument	Engine House (site of)	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6730 0596
4565.1.0	Monument	Chequerbent Pits (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6733 0585
4567.1.0	Monument	Linear Hollow	Undated	SD 6765 0620
8029.1.0	Monument	Snyderdale Hall (site of)	Medieval	SD 6731 0664
8030.1.0	Monument	Linear Mound	?Prehistoric	SD 6750 0660
16634.1.0	Monument	Cottages and Gardens (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6700 0604
16680.1.0	Monument	Higher Folly (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6696 0602
16681.1.0	Building	Maypole Terrace	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6700 0612
16682.1.0	Monument	Chadwicks (site of)	18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6698 0623
16683.1.0	Building	School (former)	20 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6710 0610
16684.1.0	Building	Knowles Bridge Farm	Post-Medieval	SD 6760 0609
16685.1.0	Monument	Coke Ovens (site of)	Early 19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6807 0654

**Table 5.3.1 Non-designated Heritage Assets within 250m of the land allocation**

#### 5.4 Site Visit

The site visit was conducted over the course on one day on the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. The site visit confirmed the desk-based findings; the topography is relatively flat and the views within the Site are fairly closed due to the presence of the Industrial Estate and areas of woodland fringing the Site.



***Plate 5.4.1: Looking north-east across GMA5***

In addition, a previously unrecorded bridge carrying the railway was also noted. It is not clear if it is original to the railway although there is evidence for later modification.



*Plate 5.4.2: 19th century bridge, possibly modified to allow the Thirlmere Aqueduct to pass beneath the railway embankment*

## 5.5 Conclusion

It is suggested that Site Allocation GMA5: Chequerbent North is screened in and has been placed within Amber, Category 3. There are no designated heritage assets within the Site, however there is the RPG of Hulton Park to the immediate south-east which may be impacted upon visually and/or have their setting affected. There appears to be low potential for archaeological remains pre-dating the Industrial period. There is also low potential for historic hedgerows.

Further work is recommended, including:

- Further assessment of the potential impact on Hulton Park (**HA1**)
- Historic building assessment of Old Taylor's (**HA2**)
- Detailed research and walkover survey of the former Bolton and Leigh railway line (**HA3**), including the bridge and associated station and goods yard at Chequerbent followed by targeted intrusive work

This work has the potential to answer a number of questions from the updated regional research framework, particularly relating to the Industrial period

## 5.6 Figures

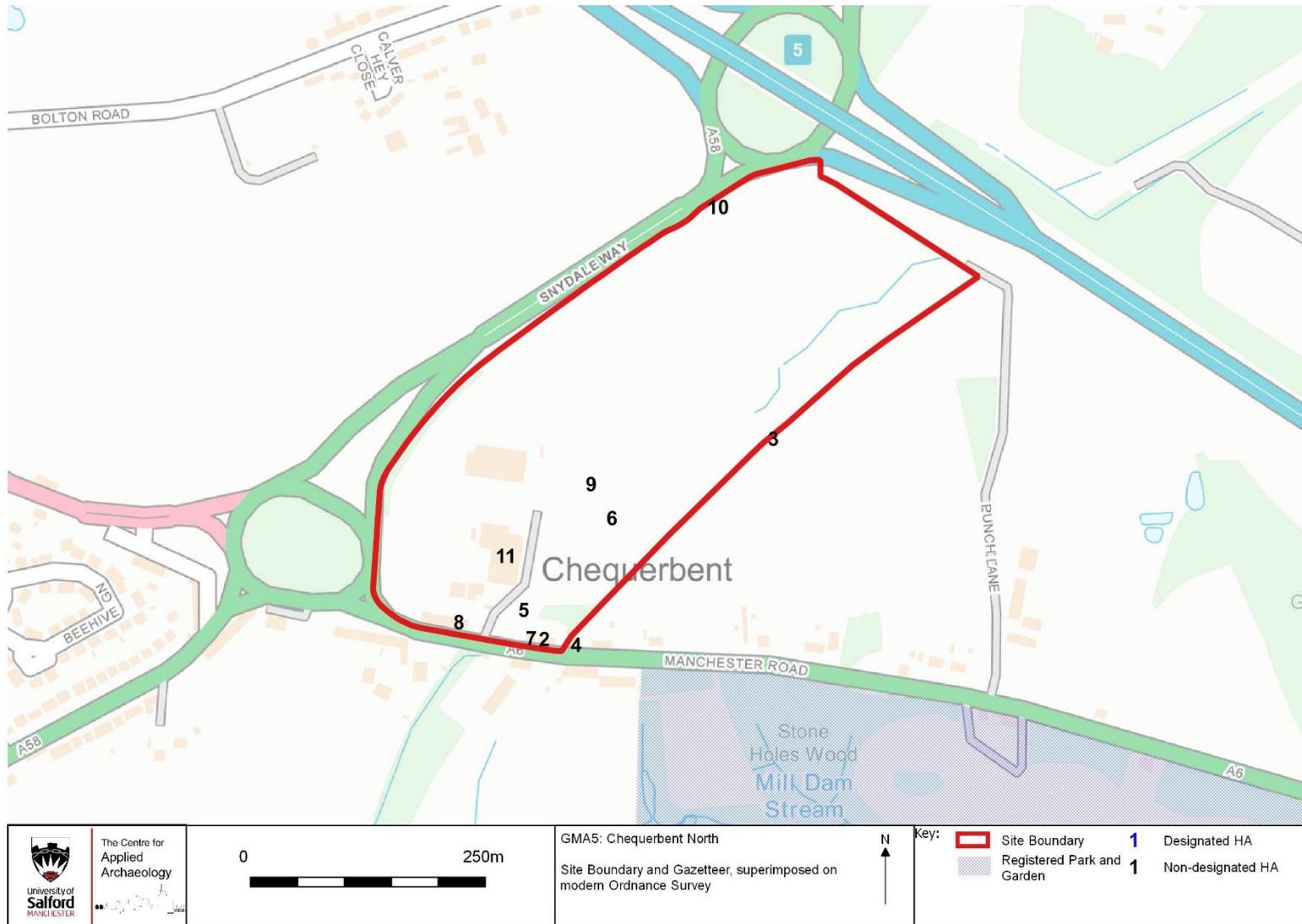


Figure 5.6.1

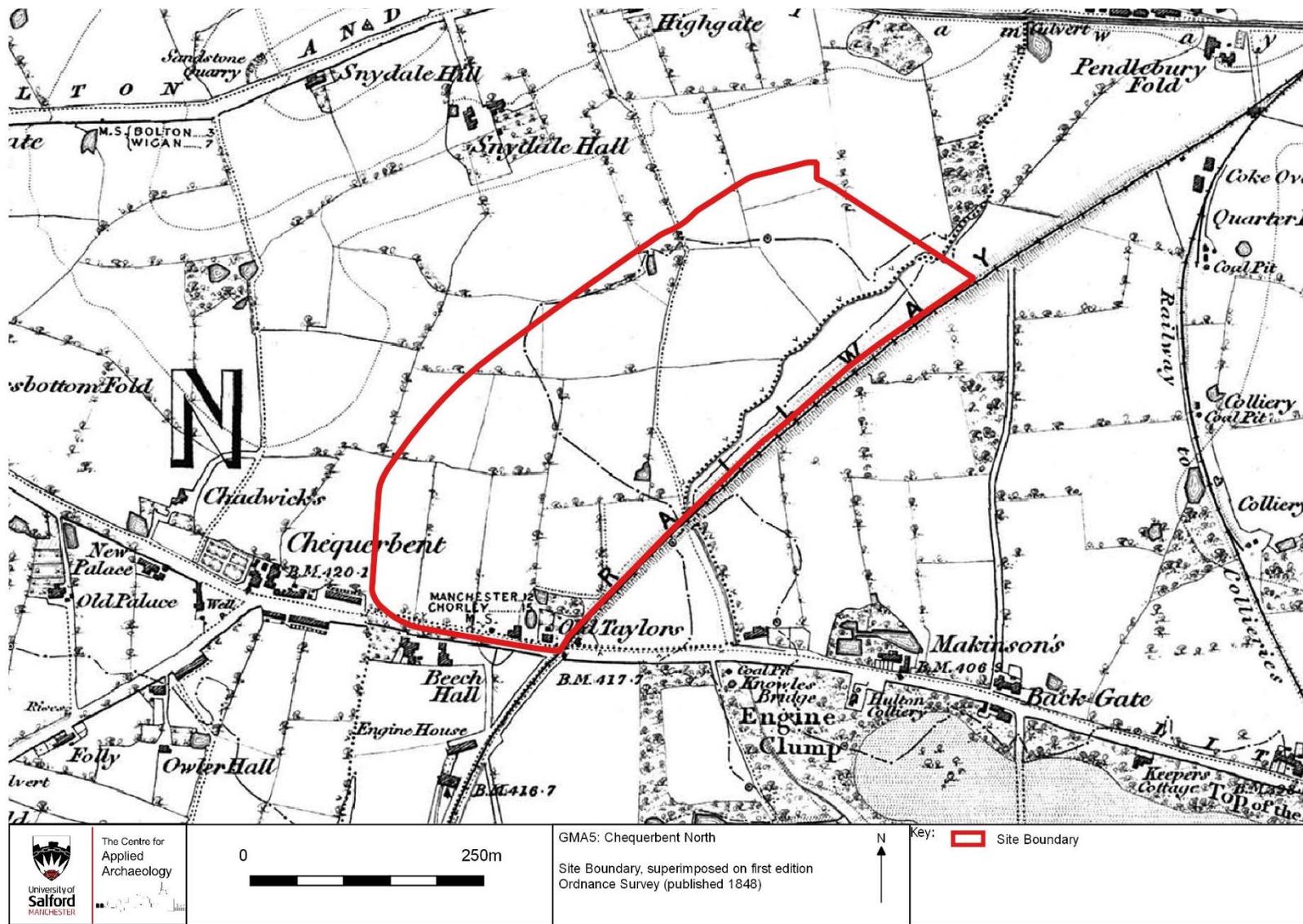


Figure 5.6.2

## ***GMA6 West of Wingates/M61 Junction 6 (BO) – Screened In***

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*It is recommended that this Site is screened in; there are no designated sites within the land allocation, and none have been identified nearby. There is potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence to survive as well as Post-Medieval and Industrial remains therefore further archaeological work is recommended*

### **6.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use**

The West of Wingates land allocation (centred at NGR 364089, 407028) lies to the west of Westhoughton and c.8km south-west of Bolton town centre. The site is 183.7ha in size and is bounded by Dicconson Lane to the north, Chorley road and Wingates to the east, Westhoughton Golf Club to the south and the former Hilton House branch line to the west.

The Site gently slopes from north-east to south-west, reaching around 135m aOD at Chorley road and sloping to around 95m aOD at the south-west end. The Site is predominantly rural with a number of farms scattered across the land allocation.

The geology across the Site consists of the Pennine Lower Coal Measures Formation, interspersed with bands of Cannel Rock sandstone. The superficial geology consists of Till (British Geological Survey 2017).



## 6.2 Historical Background

### 6.2.1 Overview

There is no evidence for Prehistoric activity within the Site and it is limited from nearby which may be due to the unfavourable, wet and heavy soil conditions, although a Neolithic axehead was recovered from near Westhoughton to the south of the Site. Palaeoenvironmental work to the south of the Site has revealed a disturbed sequence of peat, which had accumulated from the Mesolithic onwards (OA North 2018).

Roman activity is limited to the presumed line of the road between Manchester and Blackrod, which is thought to follow the line of A6 and Watkin (1883, 47) suggested that it ran along the north-eastern edge of the A6 past Wingates (GMAU 1991, 3).

During the Medieval period, the Site lay within the township of Westhoughton and the settlement at Wingates is recorded in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. However there is very little evidence for activity until the Post-Medieval period, when much of the area was subject to piecemeal enclosure. Carlies (**HA1**) and Taylor's Farm (**HA2**) may have originated in the 18<sup>th</sup> century though most of the activity recorded within the Site is 19<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

As well as a number of farmsteads being established, there is tentative evidence for early coal mining. A number of possible bell pits (**HA6**) have been recorded and these may be those recorded by Greenwood's map of 1818, east of Reeve's Farm. Scot Lane Colliery (**HA7**) was sunk in 1861 and the Hilton House branch railway (**HA8**) along the western part of the Site opened in 1868.

The colliery closed 1908 and the branch line closed in 1968. A number of the farmsteads have been modified over the 20<sup>th</sup> century and a number of fields have been agglomerated as well.

### 6.2.2 Archaeological Potential

Due to the unfavourable soil conditions, it is unlikely that archaeological remains from the Prehistoric period will be encountered. However there is potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence from the wetter areas. It is also unlikely that Roman or Medieval remains survive. There is some potential for Post-Medieval and Industrial remains, relating to the farmsteads and former coal mining.

### 6.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the land allocation, and none within 250m of the boundary.

### 6.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

Archaeological work that has taken place within the Site include a DBA in advance of work on for an access road and soil disposal point at Aldreds Farm (GMAU 1991). A planning application is currently active on land within the Site to the west of the Industrial Estate, which has had a DBA carried out (TEP 2018). Outside the land allocation, a programme of assessment, survey, evaluation and palaeoenvironmental work took place to the south of the land allocation at Fairways/Bowlands Hey (TEP 2017; 2018; OAN 2017; 2018; Magnitude Surveys 2018). A programme of building survey and excavation took place at the site of Dicconson Mill, west of the Site (UMAU

2006; 2008). Work has taken place at Gidlow Hall to the west of the Site also (UMAU 1995; 1996; LP Archaeology 2003

### 6.3 Gazetteer

The Gazetteer primarily references sites that are within, or immediately adjacent, to the land allocation boundary and are listed with designated heritage assets first, then non-designated heritage assets. A table at the end of the gazetteer outlines additional non-designated heritage assets from the HER which are either outside the land allocation or are of negligible importance (such as former extraction pits, or ponds).

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**HA Number:** 1

**Site Name:** Carlies Farm

**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Agricultural

**Period:** 18<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 364413, 406996

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Farm complex, possibly 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. Expanded and modified over the 20<sup>th</sup> century. The original farmhouse appears to have been demolished but a number of ancillary buildings remain

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**HA Number:** 2

**Site Name:** Taylor Farm

**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Agricultural

**Period:** 18<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 363359, 407003

**Sources:** Yates 1786; OS Mapping

**Description:** Farmstead, possibly 18<sup>th</sup> century or earlier. Farmhouse was originally 3-4 cottages converted into one house. Planning recently granted to demolish the farmhouse and convert the stables but unclear if carried out.

---

**HA Number:** 3

**Site Name:** Leech's Farm

**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Agricultural

**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 363571, 407634

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Farmstead, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Split into two during the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century (known as Higher and Lower Leeches Farm). All the original buildings appear to still survive

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**HA Number:** 4

**Site Name:** Radcliffe House Farm (site of)

**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Agricultural

**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> century

**NGR:** 363380, 407286

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** Farmstead, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Expanded mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Most of the original buildings appear to have been demolished and the focus of the modern farm is now to the south-east. Site remains undeveloped.

---

**HA Number:** 5

**Site Name:** Holden Woods Gate (site of)

**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

**HER No:**

**Site Type:** Residential

**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 364315, 406762

**Sources:** OS Mapping

**Description:** House, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Demolished by the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Site remains undeveloped.

---

**HA Number:** 6

**Site Name:** Possible Bell Pits (site of)

**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

**HER No:** 7954.1.0

**Site Type:** Residential

**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century

**NGR:** 364200, 407500

**Sources:** HER; GMAU 1991

**Description:** A number of depressions identified during previous survey work have been interpreted as possible bell pits.

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**HA Number:** 7

**Site Name:** Scot Lane Colliery (site of)

**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

**HER No:** 1447.1.0

**Site Type:** Industrial  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 364041, 407747  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** The main Scot Lane Colliery was located north-west towards Blackrod and commenced operations in 1857. Scot Lane was slightly later. A railway connected the mine to the Hilton House branch line to the north. The mine closed by 1929 and the main colliery at Blackrod closed in 1932. A number of spoil heaps and the reservoir mark the former site, and falls partly within the Site

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**HA Number:** 8  
**Site Name:** Hilton House Branch Line (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:** 7953.1.0  
**Site Type:** Communications  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 363307, 406923  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Branch line linking Blackrod to the Crow Nest Junction at Hindley which opened in 1868. It closed in 1968. Still survives as a wooded embankment in the landscape.

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**HA Number:** 9  
**Site Name:** Willow Bank  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 364508, 406624  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Housing, originally two cottages and late 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Still standing

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**HA Number:** 10  
**Site Name:** Reeves Farm (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Agricultural  
**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 363975, 407369  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Farmstead, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Most of the original buildings appear to have been demolished in the later 20<sup>th</sup> century and replaced with modern structures

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**HA Number:** 11  
**Site Name:** Corges Cottages (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated Heritage Asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Residential  
**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 363880, 407467  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Cottages, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century. Demolished fairly recently and since redeveloped for housing

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**HA Number:** 12  
**Site Name:** Holden Wood  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Woodland  
**Period:** ?Medieval  
**NGR:** 363973, 406768  
**Sources:** OS Mapping; Farrer and Brownbill 1911  
**Description:** Small areas of woodland, shown on first edition Ordnance Survey. May have been part of a larger, more ancient woodland that was enclosed during the Post-Medieval period. Small patches of woodland remain dotted across a wide area. May have been named after the Holden family who were documented at *Winyates* (Wingates) in the 15<sup>th</sup> century.

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**HA Number:** 13  
**Site Name:** Radical Nursery (site of)  
**Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset  
**HER No:**  
**Site Type:** Agricultural  
**Period:** Early 19<sup>th</sup> Century  
**NGR:** 364384, 407546  
**Sources:** OS Mapping  
**Description:** Garden nursery, probably early 19<sup>th</sup> century in date. Shown as a wooded area on the maps. Disappears in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Site remains undeveloped.

HER Number	Record Type	Site Name	Period/Date	Grid Reference
4572.1.0	Monument	Long Island Farm (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6454 0625
4573.1.0	Monument	Hindleys (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6479 0666
4575.1.0	Monument	Ainscough Cottages (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6480 0659
4810.1.0	Monument	Dicconson Mills (site of)	Late 18 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6295 0735
4810.1.10	Monument	Dicconson Mills: Stable Block (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 62985 07362
4810.1.11	Monument	Dicconson Mills: Manager's House (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 63010 07338
4810.1.12	Monument	Dicconson Mills: Gasometers (site of)	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 62963 07377
10406.1.0	Building	Independent Methodist Chapel	19 <sup>th</sup> Century	SD 6308 0762
MGM17801	Findspot	Neolithic Axehead	Prehistoric	SD 6400 0600

**Table 6.3.1 Non-designated Heritage Assets within 250m of the land allocation**

#### 6.4 Site Visit

The site visit was conducted over the course of one day on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2019. It was noted that the Site has long reaching views from certain areas, particularly across to the west and south.



**Plate 6.4.1: Looking south across the southern part of GMA6; there were long reaching views from this particular area**

The site visit also confirmed the survival of parts of Holden Wood and in particular, sycamore and oak trees were noted which suggests that elements of ancient woodland survive.



*Plate 6.4.2: Holden Wood, looking west, which may be undesignated ancient woodland*

## 6.5 Conclusion

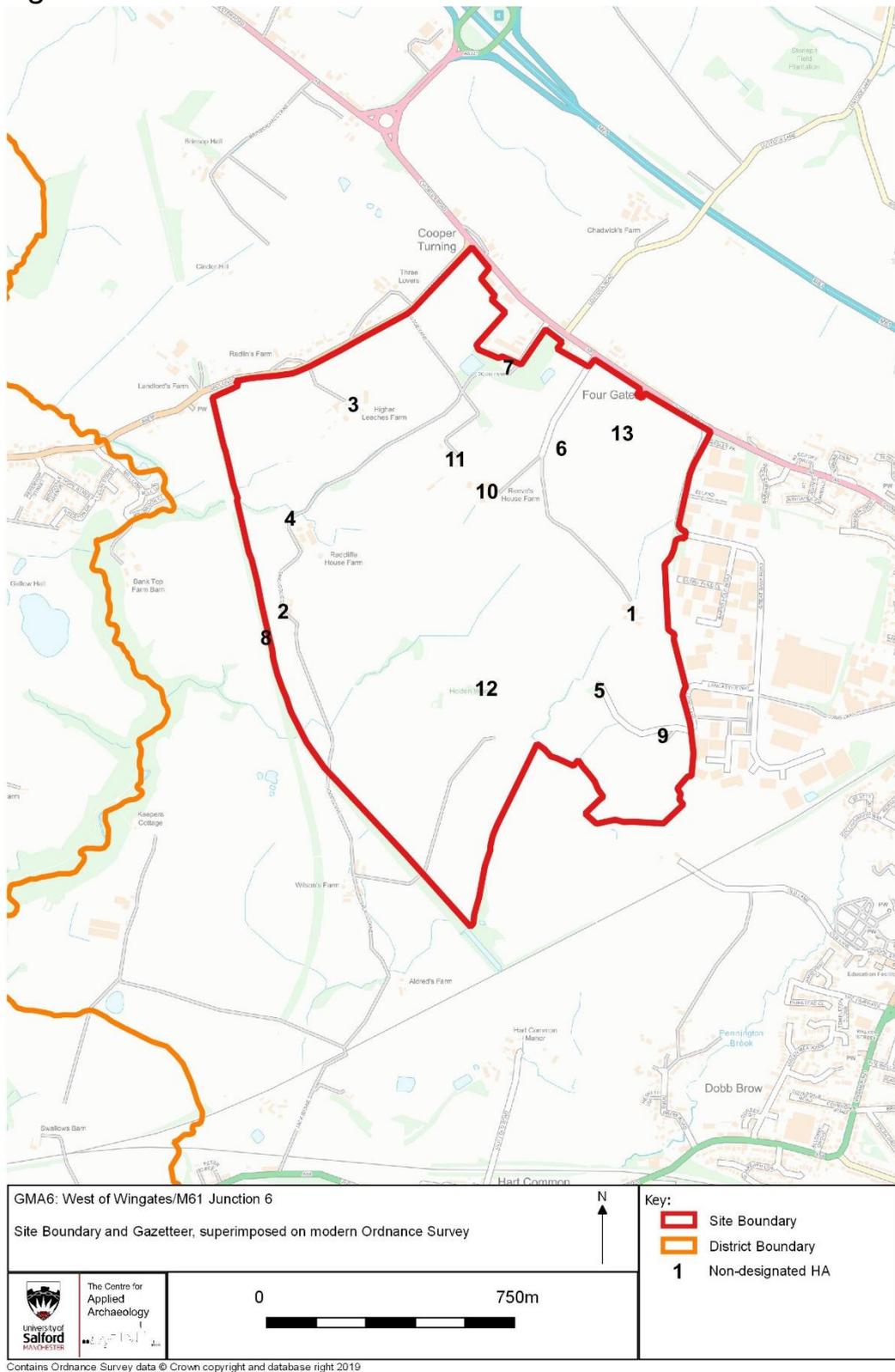
It is suggested that Site Allocation GMA6: West of Wingates/M61 Junction 6 is screened in and has been placed within Amber, Category 5. There are no designated heritage assets within the Site and boundary. There is potential for palaeoenvironmental evidence to be recovered from the Site relating to past landscape use. There is potential for Post-Medieval and Industrial archaeological remains. There is also potential for historic hedgerows.

Further work is recommended, including:

- Walkover survey and assessment of potential paleoenvironmental deposits
- Further assessment for historic hedgerows
- Historic building assessments of the farmsteads
- Targeted intrusive work on the possible bell pits (**HA6**) and surrounding areas
- Further assessment on whether Holden Wood (**HA12**) can be designated as ancient woodland

This work has the potential to answer a number of questions from the updated regional research framework, particularly relating to the Post-Medieval and Industrial periods.

## 6.6 Figures



**Figure 6.6.1**

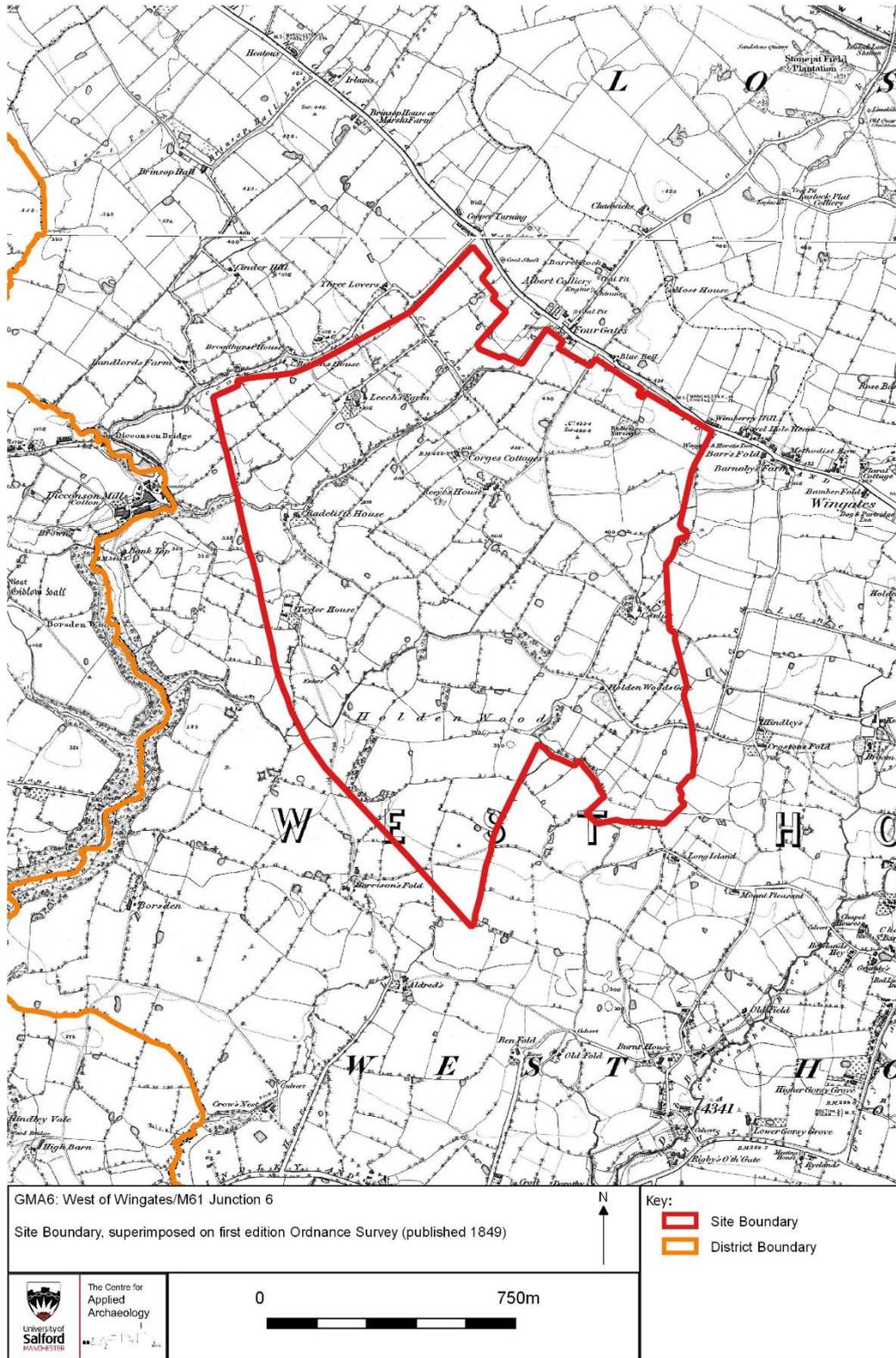


Figure 6.6.2

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