

Greater
Manchester
Spatial Framework

Historic Environment Assessment

Screening Exercise

Tameside District

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i. Summary

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 Tameside District consists of three individual allocations. The table below summarises the Tameside 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.

Land Allocation Code	Name	Local Authority	Category
GMA42	Ashton Moss West	Tameside	Category 3
GMA43	Godley Green Garden Village	Tameside	Category 3
GMA44	South of Hyde	Tameside	Category 2

Table 1 Screening Exercise summary table for the Tameside District.

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

ii. Introduction

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

iii.i Introduction

A screening exercise was applied to the three land allocation sites (referred to as 'Sites') across the Tameside 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 accessibly 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 were 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 Report, which outlines the key conclusions from the screening exercise as well as recommendations for further work.

GMA42 Ashton Moss West (TA) - 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 some potential for archaeological remains, particularly prehistoric, therefore further archaeological work is recommended

42.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use

The Ashton Moss West Land Allocation (centred at NGR 391972, 399022) lies at the eastern side of the Tameside Local Authority area, 1km west of Ashton-Under-Lyne town centre and measures at 58.23ha. It is bounded by the Manchester-Ashton tram line to the south, M60 to the east, Ashton Branch railway line to the north and Droylsden to the west.

The topography of the Ashton Moss West area is raised compared to the surrounding landscape. Ashton Moss has a peak of 102m aOD, from which the land gradually slopes away to 97m AOD on Manchester Outer Ring Road. The area north of the Site, known as Littlemoss, undulates around the 100m contour. Much of the land is scrub grassland although some south-western parts have been developed recently; there is evidence to suggest that it was used for tipping during the construction of the M60.

The geology consists of the Pennine Upper Coal Measures forming the bedrock of the Site, with peat forming the superficial geology of the area. The surrounding setting is composed of swamps, estuaries and deltas (British Geological Survey 2017). The peat at the Site survives to a depth of >4m, with some organic deposits reaching >6m. The peat around the margins of the Site survive to a depth of around 1.5m (Hall *et al* 1995, 65).



42.2 Historical Background

42.2.1 Overview

Ashton Moss (**HA4**) has produced the largest collection of Neolithic material in the borough. This collection consists of nine flints which were identified during field walking across the Site in 1992 (**HA7**). The assemblage includes a notched scraper and a borer, three cores and four waste flakes. The flakes concentrated around the eastern fringes of the Site, where the peat measures >4m in depth (Nevell 1992, 30-13). During the nineteenth century, a Middle to Late Bronze Age socketed axe and a human head, possibly dating to the Iron Age, were found here as well (Higson 1859, 29-30; Howard-Davis *et al* 1988, 43; Stead *et al* 1986, 184; GMAU 1991, 4). The head was the skull of a male and was recovered from the Droylsden section of Ashton Moss (Nevell 1992, 96). Roman activity in the vicinity of the Site is sparse, however, coins and coin hoards have been from the area of the Site may indicate a nearby farmstead or settlement (Nevell 92, 60).

There is potential Early Medieval evidence within the SIte in the form of Nico Ditch, which is thought to terminate within Ashton Moss (GMAU 1991, 6-7). Nico Ditch (**HA4**) is a linear earthwork to the south and east of Manchester and it is considered to be Anglo-Saxon in date. The ditch comprises of a single bank with a ditch to the southern side. It is possible that Nico Ditch and Carr Ditch, which is located over in Urmston, are part of the same monument, which would make the length of the ditch extend over 18km (Nevell 1992, 79-81).

During the Medieval period, the Site fell within the Ashton-Under-Lyne parish and township and is first recorded during the 12th century, eventually being granted a

market and two fairs by 1414 (Hall *et al* 1995,63; Morris 1983, 27), which gave the settlement some importance. The southern part of Ashton Moss was dominated by woodland, field, meadow and pasture by the late 12th/early 13th century, which was being exploited. Turbary rights are also recorded during the 15th century. (Hall *et al* 1995, 63). The earliest evidence for enclosure of the moss is during the 15th century when a dispute is recorded between the Assheton and Byrom families (Hall *et al* 1995, 63; Bowman 1960, 43-46; GMAU 1991, 6-7). During this conflict, and throughout the medieval period, the land seemed to be used largely for agricultural purposes and may have included field boundaries between these estates. During the 16th and 17th centuries, Ashton Moss was divided into 'rooms', which were strips of land managed by moss reeves, bailiffs and 'moss lookers' (Hall *et al* 1995, 64).

During the nineteenth century, Ashton Moss was drained and cultivated for wheat, oats, potatoes and vetches. By 1848, the whole moss had been drained and transformed into allotments. This use of the moss continued until as recently as 1990 (GMAU 1991, 11) however the Site has remained vacant although there is evidence for significant earth moving and landscaping in recent years which will have impacted upon any archaeological remains.

42.2.2 Archaeological Potential

Much of the Site is undeveloped and therefore there is potential for pre-Post-Medieval and Industrial archaeological remains. The low number of finds from the Site from the prehistoric to the post-medieval period suggest that there was little human activity at the Site itself throughout this time. There is no evidence of any changes to the site during the Post-medieval period and therefore the potential of recovering any archaeological remains dating to this period is considered low. The mosses surrounding Manchester did not see much human activity before the medieval period and Ashton Moss appears to be no exception (Hall *et al* 1995,63). The survival of remains may have been affected by recent earth moving and landscaping which will have affected the survival of archaeological remains.

42.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the land allocation, however a number have been identified close to the boundary as well as further afield where the setting may be affected, or be impacted visually

Asset Name	HER Number	Designation	NHLE Number
Buckley Hill Farmhouse	627.1.0	Grade II*	1163826
Barn to west of Buckley Hill	627.1.1	Grade II	1067945
Farmhouse			
Milestone, Manchester Road	7119.1.0	Grade II	1268427

Table 42.2.1 Designated Heritage Assets identified outside the land allocation boundary

42.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

After an initial assessment in 1991 (GMAU 1991), excavations were undertaken by UMAU in 1996 within the northern section of the Site. These excavations found no archaeological remains, prehistoric or otherwise. Cropmarks thought to be Bronze Age in date were suggested to be caused by a tractor. The excavation also attempted to locate the whereabouts of Nico Ditch, which has been suggested as passing through

Ashton Moss, however, the excavations found no evidence of the ditch (UMAU 1996). The report went on to suggest that no further archaeological work was needed in the area of the Site, however, there were only a few trenches dug within the excavation, all focusing on the northern part of the Site. Therefore, it is possible that buried archaeological remains could still be located across the rest of the Site.

42.3 Gazetteer

The Gazetteer primarily references sites that are within, or immediately adjacent, to the land allocation boundary. A table at the end of the gazetteer outlines nondesignated 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: Buckley Hill Farmhouse **Designation:** Grade II* (1163826)

HER No: 627.1.0
Site Type: Agricultural
Period: Post-Medieval
NGR: 391807, 399676

Sources: OS Mapping; National Heritage List

Description: House, 17th century in date. English garden wall bond brick with 20th

century tile roof. 3-unit plan with 2 storeys (plus attic storey). Bay 1

was rebuilt in the late 19th century. Outside the land allocation.

HA Number: 2

Site Name: Barn to west of Buckley Hill Farmhouse

Designation: Grade II (1067945)

HER No: 627.1.1
Site Type: Agricultural
Period: Post-Medieval
NGR: 391781, 399659

Sources: OS Mapping; National Heritage List

Description: Barn, 17th and late 18th/19th century in date. English garden wall bond

brick with graduated stone slate, corrugated asbestos and slate roofs.

Originally 2 barns. Outside the land allocation.

HA Number: 3

Site Name: Milestone, Manchester Road

Designation: Grade II (1268427)

HER No: 7119.1.0 Site Type: Milestone

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 391870, 398078

Sources: OS Mapping; National Heritage List

Description: Milestone, early 19th century in date. Removed from its original site and

placed on the A635 road nearby in 2000, which was turnpiked in 1824.

The milestone is a rectangular sandstone pillar and stands at approximately 1.5m tall. There are two inscriptions on the milestone, the first reads "5 miles to Manchester" and the other "1 mile to Ashton". Outside the land allocation.

HA Number: 4

Site Name: Nico Ditch

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 1404.1.1 & 1404.1.4

Site Type: Earthwork
Period: Early medieval

NGR: 391470, 398710 & 391800, 398940

Sources: OS Mapping, UMAU 1996, GMAU 1991, Middleton 1991

Description: Nico Ditch is an earthwork encircling Manchester to the south and east.

It has been suggested that the earthwork dates to the Anglo-Saxon period, however, little is known of its origin. The east terminus of the ditch is thought to be the end of Lumb Lane. A 250-300m stretch of the ditch at Moorside is still well preserved, measuring at 0.4m wide and

1.9m deep.

HA Number: 5

Site Name: Ashton Moss

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 7472.1.1 & 7472.1.0

Site Type: Landscape
Period: ?Prehistoric
NGR: 391951, 398920
Sources: OS Mapping

Description: Ashton Moss is a basin moss with a long history. In places the moss

measures at 8m deep. The moss appears on all maps of the area from 1765 onwards and is referred to in documentary evidence as early as *c*. 1200. Some enclosures may have been arranged on the site during the 15th century. The Asshetons and the Byrons has disputes over the land of the moss during the 15th century (Bowman 1960: 43-46). The moss was drained in the 1830s, however, it is likely that parts of the moss were drained as early as the 15th century. Finds recovered from

the moss date from the Neolithic period onwards.

HA Number: 6

Site Name: Ashton Moss - skull and birch wood dating

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 7472.2.1

Site Type: Find spot, human remains

Period: Prehistoric NGR: 392000, 398500

Sources: Robinson & Shimwell 1996

Description: A human skull of a male was recovered from Ashton Moss during the

19th century. Analysis revealed that the man was younger than 50 years old at the time of his death. Two maxillary molars were extracted from the skull for radio carbon dating. The teeth revealed that the skull dated to approximately 1135 BC. A Betula (birch) sample was also taken from underlying basal peat deposits which dated to approximately 5215 BC.

HA Number: 7

Site Name: Flints at Ashton Moss

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 8219.1.0
Site Type: Findspot
Period: Prehistoric
NGR: 392500, 399300
Sources: Nevell 1992

Description: Nine flints were found whilst fieldwalking across Ashton Moss. These

included 2 tools, a notched scraper and a borer, 3 cores and 4 waste flakes. All except one were of locally occurring glacial erratic chert, the

exception being of dark grey Lincolnshire/Yorkshire Wolds flint.

HA Number: 8

Site Name: Oak Fold / Moss Side Farm **Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: N/A

Site Type: Residential
Period: 19^h Century
NGR: 391997, 399313
Sources: OS Mapping

Description: Oak Fold appears to be a farm located in the north east section of the

Site. Shown on first edition OS mapping and by the 1900 OS map the farm had changed its name to Moss Side Farm. Appears to still survive

HA Number: 9

Site Name: Rayner Lane

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 7432.1.0
Site Type: Causeway
Period: Industrial

NGR: 392000, 398700 **Sources:** OS Mapping

Description: A causewayed trackway running roughly west to east across Ashton

Moss. The trackway was probably laid out across the moss during the 1830s when the moss was drained. The track is first recorded on the 1848 OS map. The lane gets its name from Rayner Farm, located at

the eastern end of road.

HA Number: 10

Site Name: Moss Lane

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 7433.1.0

Site Type: Causeway, road Period: Post-Medieval 391930, 399400 OS mapping

Description: A causewayed track running approximately north-south across Ashton

Moss, from Buckley Hill Farm in Little Moss to Moss Side Farm, Ashton. The track is considered ancient and appears on all maps of the area.

The track is now constructed of gravel and tarmac.

HA Number: 11

Site Name: Market Gardens

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: N/A

Site Type: Horticulture
Period: 19th Century
NGR: 391862, 398802
Sources: OS Mapping

Description: By 1848, the whole moss had been drained and transformed into

allotments that are later referred to on the 1920 OS map as Market Gardens. The OS maps show a series of greenhouses across the area of the Site, which are still present on the 1960 and 1970 OS maps.

HA Number: 12

Site Name: Unidentified buildings

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: N/A
Site Type: Unknown
Period: 19th Century
NGR: 392020, 398924
Sources: OS Mapping

Description: A series of unidentified buildings appear on the 1900s OS map. They

are not present on the 1890s or the 1920s OS maps and therefore were

likely to be short-lived.

HA Number: 13

Site Name: Circular Cropmarks

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 7434.1.0
Site Type: Linear system ?Bronze Age

NGR: 391820, 399010 **Sources:** OS Mapping

Description: The cropmark measures at 10-15m in diameter with a smaller circular

cropmark inside. It lies at the edge of the surviving peat bog. It was considered to be a Bronze Age barrow and fieldwalking nearby revealed two unworked flints. In 1996, the site was investigated by UMAU, concluding that the cropmarks were likely to be the result of a

tractor spinning around on the land.

HER Number	Record Type	Site Name	Period/Date	NGR
3518.1.0	Settlement,	Moorside	17 th -18 th century	391530, 399040
	Building	Settlement		
	Road	Manchester/Ashton	19 th Century	392000, 398160
		Old Road Turnpike	-	
8150.1.0	Farmstead	Moorside Farm	Pre-1700	391510, 398970

Table 42.3.1 Non-designated Heritage Assets identified within 250m of the land allocation boundary

42.4 Site Visit

The site visit was conducted over the course of one day on 20th May 2019. Most of the site was inaccessible although a public right of way has been maintained across it. The area is relatively flat and currently consists of grass and scrubland. Views to the west were fairly closed although they opened up towards the east.



Plate 42.4.1Looking south-east across GMA42

42.5 Conclusion

It is suggested that Site Allocation GMA42: Ashton Moss West is screened in and is placed within Amber, Category 3. There are no designated heritage assets contained within the Site, however a number have been identified where a visual impact or effect on the setting is a concern. There is also potential for buried archaeological remains. The Site has produced the largest number of Neolithic flints in the borough and may therefore prove important for further understanding the prehistoric activity in Tameside (Nevell 1992, 30-13). The Oak Fold farm, now the Moss Side Farm, may have undergone renovations and developments and therefore buried remains from earlier buildings and phases may be present. However this potential is limited by the later earth moving and the truncated areas are shown on Figure 42.6.1. There appears to be little potential for historic hedgerows.

Further work is recommended for the Site, including:

- Further assessment of the designated heritage assets identified outside the land allocation.
- An assessment of the surviving peat at the moss (**HA5**) to determine any changes and loss since the previous survey.
- A programme of non-intrusive work involving walkover survey targeting local prehistoric findspots.
- For the Moss Side/Oak Fold farm (HA8), a historic building assessment is recommended.
- Further intrusive work is recommended to obtain a representative sample across the Site; this should target the fringes of the Site which do not appear to have been subject to recent disturbance.
- A programme of archaeological evaluation on the undisturbed areas.

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

42.6 Figures

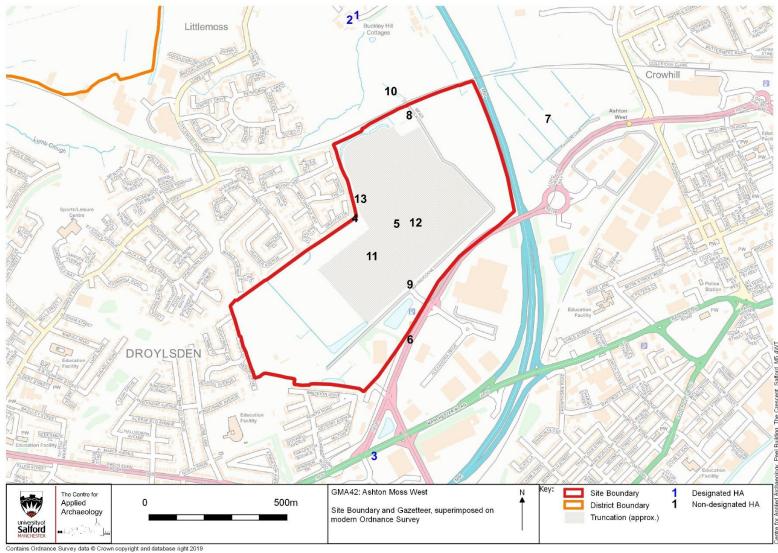


Figure 42.6.1

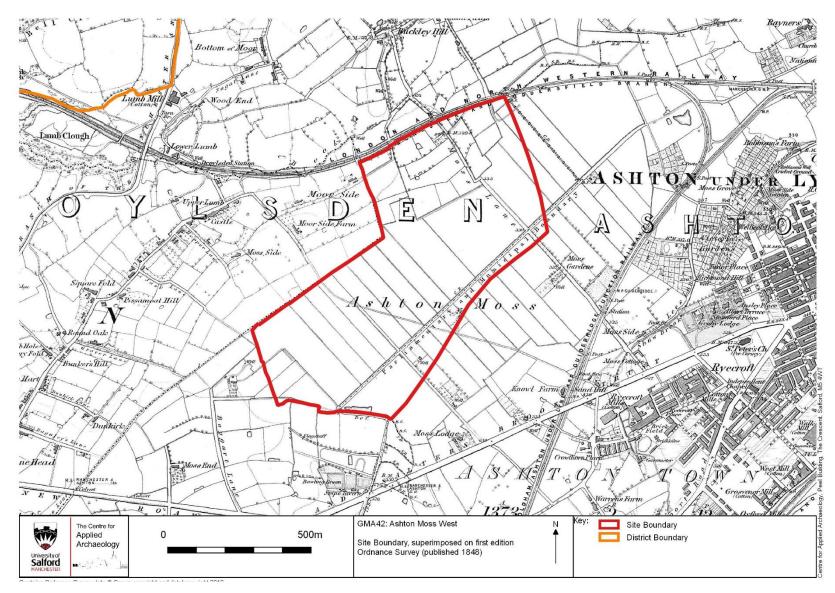


Figure 42.6.2

GMA43 Godley Green Garden Village (TA) – Screened In

It is recommended that this Site is screened in; there are no designated sites within the land allocation, however one has been identified nearby which will require further assessment. There is some potential for archaeological remains, particularly prehistoric, therefore further archaeological work is recommended

43.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use

The Godley Green Garden Village Land Allocation (centred at NGR 396714, 394193) lies at the south western side of the Tameside Local Authority area, approximately 6km south-east of Ashton-Under-Lyne town centre and measures 124ha. The site is bounded by the railway line to the east, Mottram Old Road to the south, Werneth Brook to the west and a cycling track to the north which was once part of the Cheshire Lines Railway.

The Site area occupies undulating ground of approximately 150m above Ordnance Datum. The land is generally lower towards the northern end of the Site, with lows of 120m above Ordnance Datum, whereas the southern end of the Site is generally higher ranging from 155m to 190m above Ordnance Datum. Most of the land is under pasture

The underlying geology consists of the Marden Formation (mudstone and siltstone) to the west and the Rossendale Formation (mudstone and siltstone) to the east, interspersed with a band of Fletcher Bank Grit (sandstone) in between. Most of the area has overlying geology consisting of till however there are small areas especially to the south-east with glaciofluvial ice contact deposits of sand and gravel overlying (British Geological Survey 2017).



43.2 Historical Background

43.2.1 Overview

Little is known about the prehistory of Tameside, particularly regarding the area of Godley Green. There have been no finds recovered from the area of the Site that date to the prehistoric period with evidence mostly derived from the uplands to the east. An area of peat was encountered over at Godley Hill, to the north of Godley Brook which may have been a former meander. There is a possible prehistoric settlement at Werneth Low to the south although this has not been confirmed. There are favourable areas of geology which would have been conducive to prehistoric settlement within the land allocation.

Although there are no recorded Roman sites or artefacts from within or near to the Site, it is possible that the line of a Roman road may run through the Site (**HA3**). The Roman military site of Melandra Castle is located on the eastern bank of the River Etherow, approximately three miles to the east of the site. The fort and vicus of Melandra Castle cover an area of approximately 1.5ha (Dearne 1991, 71) and was occupied for just 60 years, from *c* A.D. 80 to *c* AD 140 (Conway 1906,1-2; Webster 1971, 58; Nevell 1992, 70). A Roman road would have been built to connect Melandra Castle to the Roman fort in Manchester, however, the line of the road has yet to be confirmed (Margary 1957, 91, 96) The OS maps shows the Roman road as being the modern day A57, which bounds the Site to the north (Mottram Road), however it has been argued that it may have run through the Site (Nevell 1992, 63).

Little is known of the Site during the Medieval period, however the Site covered the townships of Godley and Hattersley within the historic county of Cheshire. The area

appears to have been subject to piecemeal enclosure, with common land centred around Green Lane (**HA15**). Some of the farms may have medieval or post-medieval origins; Greenside Farm (**HA4**) has a date stone of 1648 for example. Other farms in the surrounding landscape may have began exploiting the surrounding landscape during the same period, if not earlier. Burdett's map however dated to 1777 shows very little development prior to this and it appears that most of the farmsteads date to the late 18th/early 19th century.

Godley Green was one of the last pieces of land in the area to be enclosed in 1846 (UMAU 1997). A number of private homes were constructed in the later 19th century, a number on the former common land at Godley Green. Otherwise most of the Site has remained rural although some fields have been agglomerated and a number of field boundaries have been straightened or lost.

43.2.2 Archaeological Potential

The nature of the landscape, both geologically and with the lack of development, gives potential for the recovery of prehistoric remains. The location of the Roman road from Manchester to Melandra within this region is unclear and there is potential for its course to cross the Site.

There is some potential for Medieval activity, given sites like Greenside may have earlier origins that those documented. There is potential as well for Post-Medieval remains, especially at Greenside and there is potential for 19th century remains relating to farmsteads, such as Dove House.

43.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the Site, however a number have been identified outside the Site where a visual impact or effect on the setting is a concern.

Asset Name	HER Number	Designation	NHLE Number
Hyde War Memorial Obelisk	974.1.0	Grade II	1068049

43.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

There is no record of any previous archaeological work on the Site, however a DBA was carried out at Godley Hill to the east (UMAU 1997).

43.3 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: Hyde War Memorial Obelisk

Designation: Grade II (1068049)

HER No: 974.1.0

Site Type: War Memorial Period: 20th Century NGR: 396436, 393504

Sources: OS mapping, UMAU 1997; National Heritage List

Description: War Memorial dedicated 25th June 1921. Granite with iron railings.

Obelisk. Banded rustication and inscription on base which reads "They willingly left the unachieved purpose of their lives in order that all life should not be wrenched from its purpose". Plaque to rear commemorates the 1939-45 war. Bronze coat of arms. Plain railings with corner wreaths. The memorial is set on a hill overlooking Hyde.

HA Number: 2

Site Name: Hedgerow, south of Hattersley Station

Designation: Historic Hedgerow

HER No: 13647.1.0 Site Type: Field boundary Period: 16th century NGR: 397447, 394127

Sources: OS mapping, UMAU 1997

Description: The hedgerow marks an old field boundary which is believed to be part

of a pre-1600 field system. In 1997, an inquiry concluded that the hedgerow and associated features (a ditch and pond) met the

requirements to be given the status of an important hedgerow.

HA Number: 3

Site Name: Projected Melandra to Stockport/Cheadle Roman Road

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 4.1.1 Site Type: Road Period: Roman

NGR: 397607, 393843

Sources: 1920 OS map, Nevell 1992, Arrowsmith 1997

Description: The possible line of the Roman road from Cheadle to the Roman fort of

Melandra is thought to pass near to, or through, the Site.

HA Number: 4

Site Name: Greenside

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 8166.1.0
Site Type: Settlement
Period: Post-Medieval
NGR: 397207, 393792

Sources: OS mapping; Burdett 1777; Tithe Mapping

Description: Settlement, late 16th century in origin and datestone outside what is now

Greenside Farm has the date 1648. A number of buildings shown on OS mapping, which later split into separate complexes. Owned by the Earl of Stamford and Warrington and at least 3 occupants are recorded in 1840 (Tithe mapping). Many of the buildings still exist today although

there has been demolition and later 20th century buildings added.

HA Number: 5

Site Name: Chadwick/Godley Green Farm **Designation:** Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396436, 394218

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date. Many of the buildings

still survive.

HA Number: 6

Site Name: Green Farm

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396627, 393998

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date. Expanded in late 19th

century. Many of the buildings still survive.

HA Number: 7

Site Name: Albert Farm

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396556, 394281

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date. Expanded in late 19th

century. Some demolition in the later 20th century and new buildings

but some still survive

HA Number: 8

Site Name: Brook Fold

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396685, 394562

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date. Most buildings appear

to still survive

HA Number: 9

Site Name: Iddesleigh

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396554, 393758

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date, stone built. Appears to

have been partly replaced in the late 19th century. Most buildings

appear to still survive

HA Number: 10

Site Name: Dove House (site of)

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 396173, 394434

Sources: OS mapping; Tithe Map 1846

Description: Farmstead, probably early 19th century in date. Demolished mid-20th

century and site remains undeveloped

HA Number: 11

Site Name: Greenbank

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential
Period: Late 19th Century
NGR: 396658, 393760
Sources: OS mapping

Description: House, late 19th century in date. 2-storey, red brick with slate roof. Still

standing although original outbuildings since demolished.

HA Number: 12

Site Name: Beechwood

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential Late 19th Century NGR: 396484, 394252 Sources: OS mapping

Description: House, late 19th century in date. 2-storey, red brick with slate roof. Still

standing

HA Number: 13

Site Name: Glendarach

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential

Period: Late 19th Century NGR: 396396, 394330 OS mapping

Description: House, late 19th century in date. 2-storey, red brick with slate roof. Still

standing

HA Number: 14

Site Name: Abbotsfold House

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential Late 19th Century NGR: 396616, 393908

Sources: OS mapping

Description: House, late 19th century in date built on the former Godley Green

common land. 2-storey, stone with slate roof. Still standing

HA Number: 15

Site Name: Godley Green

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 6298.1.0
Site Type: Common land
Period: ?Medieval
NGR: 396546, 394071

Sources: OS mapping, diary of George Shaw

Description: 21 acres of common land, divided between 12 farmers in 1846.

Originally a thin strip of land either side of Green Lane. A farmer named George Shaw rented part of Godley Green Common between 1795-1800 and kept 55 sheep on his land. Difficult to trace in the landscape

today due to later 20th century housing.

HA Number: 16

Site Name: Godley Green Junction Sidings (site of)

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Communications
Period: Late 19th Century
NGR: 396902, 394555
Sources: OS mapping

Description: Set of sidings added in the late 19th century to the Manchester, Sheffield

and Lincolnshire railway. Removed in the late 20th century and now

woodland.

HA Number: 17

Site Name: Oliverfield Farm (site of)

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 8128.1.0
Site Type: Farmstead
Period: Post-Medieval
NGR: 396410, 394334

Sources: OS mapping; Burdett 1777

Description: Farmstead, dated to 1660. Shown on first edition Ordnance Survey but

demolished and replaced with a late 19th century house named

Glendarach, which is still standing.

HER Number	Record Type	Site Name	Period/Date	NGR
620.1.0	Findspot	Roman Coin, Hyde	Roman	SJ 960 940
8240.1.0	Monument	Werneth Low Settlement	Prehistoric/Roman	SJ 965 935

Table -: HER Entries within 250m of GMA43

43.4 Site Visit

The site visit was conducted over the course of one day on 20th May 2019. Most of the Site is under pasture although there are some areas of scrub; the topography also varies across the land allocation. The highest areas appear to be around Green Lane and this is where there are long reaching views from, particularly northwards although there is dense vegetation cover in places. The Grade II listed War Memorial was clearly visible from some areas of the Site.



Plate 43.4.1: Looking north from Albert Farm across the Site

43.5 Conclusion

It is suggested that GMA43: Godley Green is screened in and is placed within Amber, Category 3. There are no designated heritage assets contained within the Site, however one has been identified where a visual impact or effect on the setting is a concern. Although little is known about the prehistory, the geology is conducive to settlement. There is also the potential for the Roman road to Melandra to cross the Site. There is some potential for Medieval and Post-Medieval remains, especially around the site of Greenside. Historic hedgerows have already been identified within the Site and there is potential for further ones to survive. There is also an area of Ancient Woodland at Brookfold Wood.

Further work is recommended, including:

- Further assessment of the designated heritage asset identified outside the land allocation.
- A programme of non-intrusive work including walkover survey and geophysical survey, especially on areas of sands and gravels and at Greenside (**HA4**).
- An assessment of the hedgerows for their potential historic value.
- An assessment of Brookfold Wood, an area of Ancient/Semi-Natural Woodland.
- A programme of historic building assessments.

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

43.6 Figures

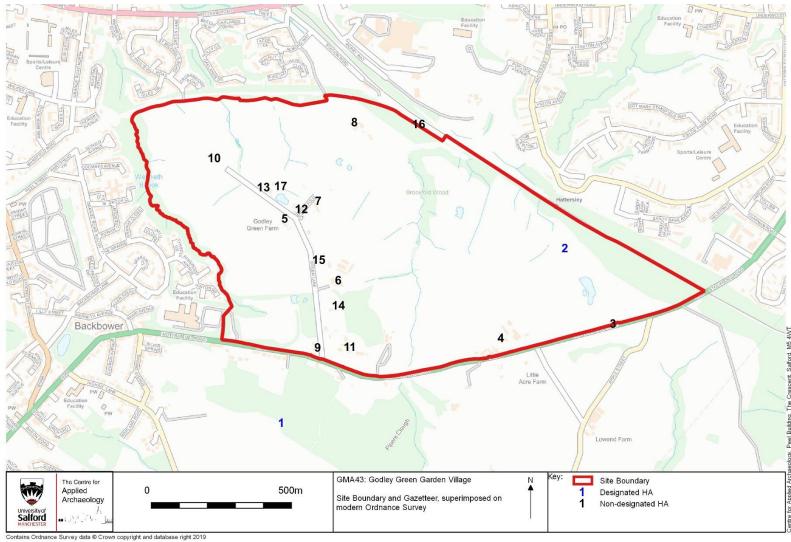


Figure 43.6.1

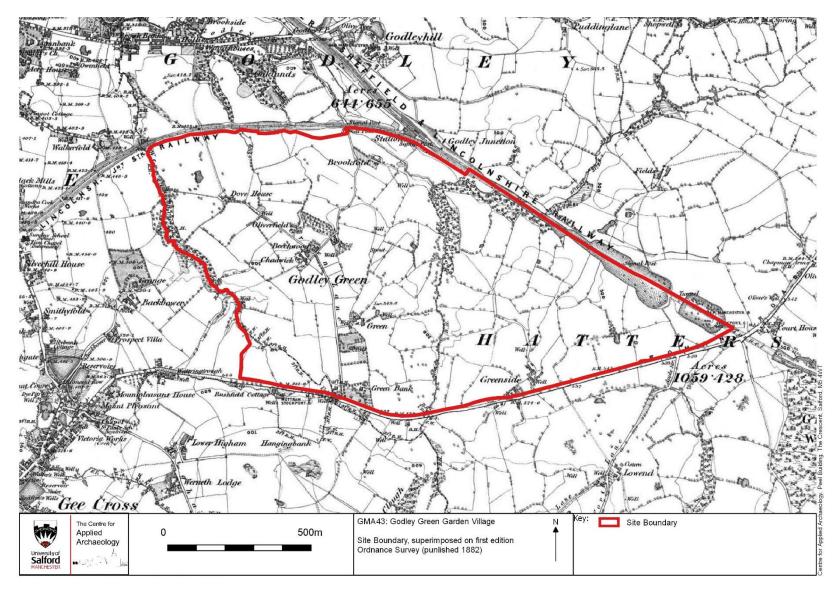


Figure 43.6.2

GMA44 South of Hyde (TA)

44.1 Site Location, Topography and Land Use

The South of Hyde Land Allocation (centred at NGR 396714, 394193) lies at the south of the south Tameside Local Authority area, approximately 6km south of Ashton-Under-Lyne and measures at 32.36ha in total. The Site is split into two separate allocations, which are separated by the A560 Stockport Road.

- GMA44: South of Hyde (Apethorn Lane): measures 13.39ha and is bounded by Apethorn Lane to the north, Stockport Road to the east, Pole Bank Hall to the south and the railway to the west
- GMA44: South of Hyde (Bowlacre Farm): measures 18.97ha and is bounded by Elson Drive, Bowlacre Road, The Dingle and West Park to the north, Lord Derby Road trackway to the east, The Bluebell Centre to the south and Stockport Road to the west.

The Sites occupy an area of land of undulating ground, which gradually slopes upwards towards the east. The Apethorn Site measures at approximately 105m above Ordinance Datam to the west and gradually slopes upwards to almost 140m aOD to the east. The Bowlacre Site measures at 130m aOD towards the west and similarly slopes upwards to the east, reaching approximately 190m aOD. The underlying geology consists Lower Coal Measures of mudstone, sandstone and siltstone formed during the Carboniferous Period, with the overlying geology consisting of till.



44.2 Historical Background

44.2.1 Overview

No prehistoric sites are known within the area of the Site, with evidence mostly confined to the uplands to the east. However a number of cropmarks have been identified at Apethorn Junction, immediately south-west of the Apethorn site, which could be prehistoric in date. It is possible that the Roman road (**HA5**) connecting the Roman fort of Melandra to Manchester would have passed through the Site (see GMA43 Historical Background for more information).

During the Medieval period, the Site fell within the Werneth township and it remained rural. The HLC shows that much of the area was enclosed in a piecemeal fashion, from the Medieval period onwards however there is little evidence for settlement. Apethorn Fold (**HA1**) appears to be the earliest known building within the area and dates to the early 16th century. Settlement at Gerrard's Wood and Gerrard's Fold is Post-Medieval, if not earlier in origins. There is very little development within the Site with the exception of isolated cottages and farmsteads. According to the Tithe Mapping in the 19th century, the Ashton family owned most of the land across the Apethorn Lane allocation, whereas the Tatton family owned the land covered by the Bowlacre allocation.

During the 20th century, many of the fields have been agglomerated across the Site, although there appears to be some fields preserved within the Bowlacre land allocation.

44.2.2 Archaeological Potential

Overall there is good potential for surviving archaeological remains as most of the Site is undeveloped. Little is known of the prehistoric and Roman periods within the Site and the overlying geology is not conducive to prehistoric settlement. Cropmarks nearby may indicate some form of prehistoric enclosure and settlement evidence within the area. The Roman road may cross the Site, however, there is no lidar data available to analyse.

44.2.3 Designated Heritage Assets

There are no designated heritage assets within the Site, however a number have been identified outside the Site where a visual impact or effect on the setting is a concern.

Asset Name	HER Number	Designation	NHLE Number
Apethorn Fold Farmhouse	1070.2.0	Grade II*	1068079
Pole Bank Hall	940.1.0	Grade II	1356445
Boundary Stone, Stockport	11348.1.0	Grade II	1319492
Road			
Peak Forest Canal	CA24	Conservation area	-

Table 44.2.1 Designated Heritage Assets identified outside the land allocation boundary

44.2.4 Previous Archaeological Work

As part of the Tameside Archaeological Survey in the 1990s, the farm at Apethorn Fold was surveyed and subject to dendrochronological dating (Hradil 1997; Nevell and Hradil 1998).

44.3 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: Apethorn Fold Farmhouse

Designation: Grade II* (1068079)

HER No: 1070.1.0 Site Type: Farmstead Period: 16th century NGR: 394473, 393470

Sources: Burke & Nevell 1996; UMAU 1998; English Heritage 1999; PERU 1997;

National Heritage List

Description: Farmhouse and shippon, 16th century in date. External walls and other

features 17th-19th centuries. Cruck-framed with brick and squared rubble walls and a graduated stone slate roof. Originally a 4-bay cruck-framed open-hall house. Floor inserted 17th century after converstion to four cottages. Another farm building, heavily altered, lies to the north of Apethorn Lane. Currently on the Buildings at Risk register and within

the land allocation (Apethorn Lane)

HA Number: 2

Site Name: Pole Bank Hall

Designation: Grade II (1356445)

HER No: 940.1.0 & 940.2.0

Site Type: Hall; park

Period: Early 19th century **NGR:** 394584, 393180

Sources: OS mapping; National Heritage List

Description: House, now residential home. Early C19. Flemish bond brick with

ashlar dressings and slate roof. Double-depth central- staircase plan with 2 storeys, a C19 addition to rear and a single-storey C20 wing to left. The hall was built for the Ashton family. Situated within 4 hectares

of parkland. Outside the land allocation

HA Number: 3

Site Name: Boundary Stone, Stockport Rd

Designation: Grade II (1319492)

HER No: 11348.1.0

Site Type: Boundary marker Period: Early 19th century NGR: 394473, 392988

Sources: OS mapping; National Heritage List

Description: Boundary stone, probably early 19th century. Stone slab with a shaped

head, built into a wall. The stone is inscribed with the words "Township

of Werneth/Bredbury. Outside the land allocation.

HA Number: 4

Site Name: Peak Forest Canal **Designation:** Conservation area

HER No: CA24

Site Type: Communications Period: 18th-19th century NGR: 394106, 393369 Sources: OS mapping

Description: Canal, opened in 1796 and completed in 1805. Principal engineer was

Benjamin Outram. Starts at Dukinfield and runs for 14.8 miles to

Buxworth in Derbyshire.

HA Number: 5

Site Name: Projected Melandra to Stockport/Cheadle Roman Road

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 4.1.1 Site Type: Road Period: Roman

NGR: 394954, 392752

Sources: OS Mapping, Nevell 1992, Arrowsmith 1997

Description: The possible line of the Roman road from Cheadle to the Roman fort of

Melandra is thought to pass near to, or through, the Site.

HA Number: 6

Site Name: Jasmine Cottages

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 394553, 393427

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Two cottages, probably early 19th century in date. Shown on Tithe

Mapping but only named on first edition Ordnance Survey. Still

standing.

HA Number: 7

Site Name: Kiln Field Meadow and Nearer Kiln Field

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: ?Industrial; Agricultural

Period: ?Post-Medieval

NGR: 394700, 393341

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Field names on the Tithe mapping which suggest the presence of

Industrial activity

HA Number: 8

Site Name: Gerrard's Fold (site of)

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No: 8112.1.0
Site Type: Residential
Period: Post-Medieval
NGR: 394783, 393262

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Settlement, possibly Post-Medieval. Cluster of buildings straddling

both sides of Stockport road. According to the Tithe Map, the buildings consisted of 6 cottages, a hatshop and a garden. Buildings now demolished and mostly replaced with late 20th century farm though

some parts remain undeveloped

HA Number: 9

Site Name: Bowlacre Farm

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Agricultural

Period: ?Late 18th century **NGR:** 394912, 392835

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Farm complex, late 18th/early 19th century. Most of the buildings appear

to still survive

HA Number: 10

Site Name: 2-8 Apethorn Lane

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 394629, 393433

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Four cottages, probably early 19th century. Still standing. Two cottages

are now rendered.

HA Number: 11

Site Name: Parsonage (site of)

Designation: Non-designated heritage asset

HER No:

Site Type: Residential

Period: Early 19th Century **NGR:** 394822, 393320

Sources: Tithe Map 1841; OS Mapping

Description: Parsonage for Hyde Chapel, which was originally built in 1708 and

replaced in 1846. Date of parsonage is unknown but it is shown on the Tithe Map. Extended in the early 20th century. Demolished in later 20th

century when road widened. Site now a garage

HER Number	Record Type	Site Name	Period/Date	NGR
5840.1.0	Monument	Doctor's Factory (site	18 th century	394650, 393460
		of)		
5841.1.0	Monument	Gerrad's Mill	18 th century	394770, 393430
8115.1.0	Building	Gerrad's Wood Farm	Pre-1700	394770, 393440
13518.1.0	Monument	Geometric Cropmarks at Apethorn Junction	Pre-1700	394214, 393000
13519.1.0	Monument	Ridge and Furrow	Medieval-post-	394608, 392759
		between Hyde and	medieval	
		Bowlacre Farm		
13523.1.0	Monument	Cropmark in College	Pre-industrial	394827. 393030
		Grounds, Stockport Rd		
13652.1.0	Building	Birches Farm	19th century	395271, 392541
14266.1.0	Monument	Buildings, Stockport	18 th century	394440, 392994
		Road, (site of)		

Table 44.3.1 Non-designated Heritage Assets identified within 250m of the land allocation boundary

44.4 Site Visit

The site visit was conducted over the course of one day on 20th May 2019. The land allocation at Apethorn Lane was not publicly accessible although the area appeared to be relatively flat and under pasture. The listed Apethorn Farm complex is currently in a ruinous condition.



Plate 44.4.1: Grade II* Listed Apethorn Fold Farmhouse, looking south-east

The Bowlacre Farm land allocation is also mostly under pasture although there is a small area of woodland at the north-west part of the Site. The northern part is gently undulating, however the southern part climbs towards Werneth Low, offering long reaching views northwards.



Plate 44.4.2: Looking north-eastwards across the Bowlacre Farm allocation of GMA44

44.5 Conclusion

It is suggested that GMA44: South of Hyde is screened in and is placed within Red, Category 2. There is a designated site within the land allocation, as well as two others that have been identified where a visual impact or effect on the setting is a concern. There appears to be little potential for prehistoric activity due to the geological conditions, however it is possible that the Roman road to Melandra crosses the Site. There is some potential for Medieval/Post-Medieval remains especially relating to the possible kiln site, as evidence by later field names. There is potential for historic hedgerows to survive. There is also semi-natural/Ancient Woodland along the southern border of the Apethorn Lane allocation.

Further work is recommended, including:

- Further assessment of the designated heritage assets identified within and outside the land allocation.
- Non-intrusive work including walkover survey and targeted geophysical survey, particularly over the possible kiln site (HA7) and to confirm if the Roman road (HA5) is present.
- A programme of historic building assessments.
- Targeted evaluation trenching, based on the results of the non-intrusive work.
- Further assessment for historic hedgerows and ancient woodland.

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

44.6 Figures

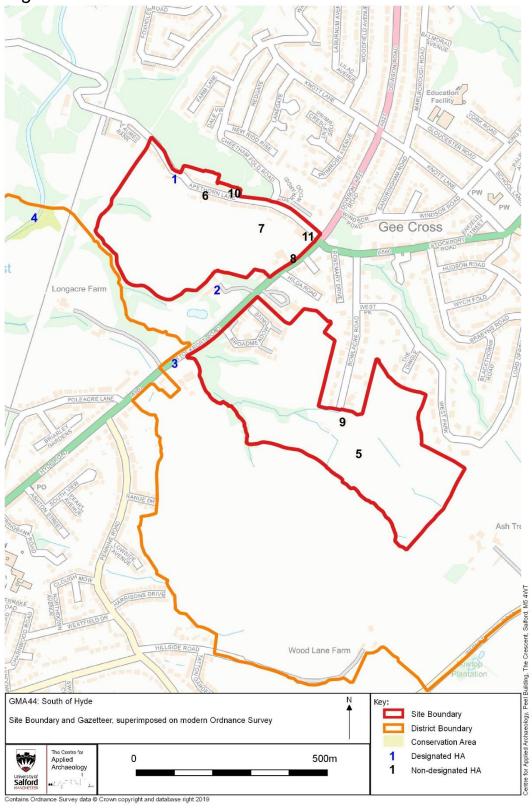


Figure 44.6.1

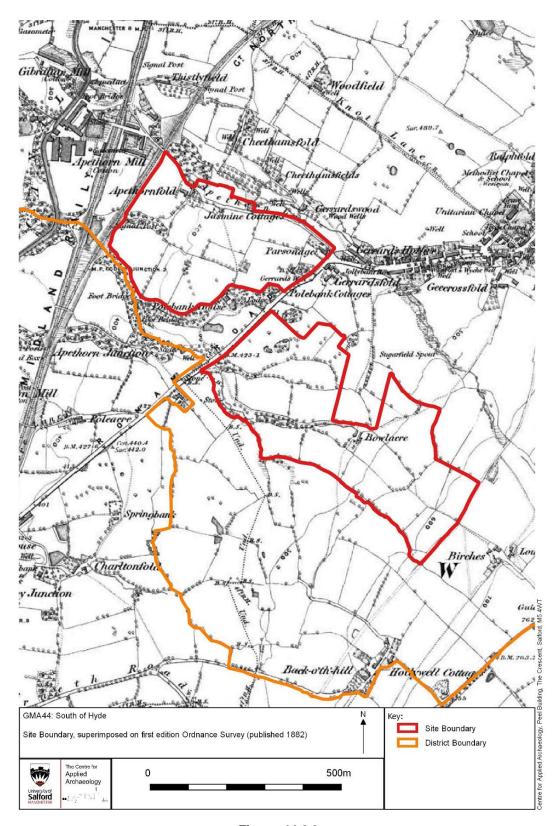


Figure 44.6.2

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