

Land at Harthill Road, Liverpool Archaeological Assessment



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1. INTRODUCTION

Redrow Homes Ltd. (hereafter the 'Applicant') has commissioned Nexus Heritage to prepare an Archaeological Assessment for areas of land at Harthill Road, Liverpool (hereafter the 'Site') for which planning permission is being sought for a low-density, mixed residential development with associated access, parking and landscaping.

The Site, which extends to an area of c. 5.25ha, is irregular in shape, and is situated to the east of Harthill Road and to the north of Allerton Road. The site is centred, approximately, at National Grid Reference SJ 40215 876740 is within a suburban, residential area. The Site includes the buildings and grounds of Beechley Stables

In archaeological terms the principal interest at the Site relates to the suspected existence of a number of sites, no longer-extant, dating the late Neolithic and early Bronze Age. These are the Roger Stone and Pyckello Hill. Should prehistoric archaeological remains be present within the Site, they may be of considerable significance, depending on extent, condition and state of preservation. In addition there are a further nine sites of archaeological interest within the Site - the site of Hart Hill, the site of Stanley Percival's Nineteenth Century Residence and Garden, the "Jesse Hartley Stone", the site of an earthwork (possibly a ha ha) associated with Hart Hill, the site of three now demolished buildings associated with Beechley and the site of two now demolished buildings in the location of Beechley and within the Beechley grounds.

The aim of this Assessment is to determine, in so far as is reasonable by desk based research and a site visit, the presence or absence of archaeological assets and the character, survival and state of preservation of such assets on the Site.

The assessment comprises an examination of evidence secured from the Liverpool Archives (LA) and the Merseyside Historic Environment Record (MHER), and incorporates other available published and unpublished data discernible from web-based sources such as the MAGIC, Heritage Gateway, and PastScape databases and the National Heritage List. A site visit was conducted on the 26th January 2016 in over-cast conditions with poor light quality.

This document highlights any potential impacts to any archaeological assets arising from development on the Site and outlines appropriate measures for the treatment of the archaeological assets within the framework of the planning process. This assessment has been undertaken in compliance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists document, *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* (2014).

There are no registered World Heritage Sites, Archaeological Areas, or Registered Battlefields wholly or partly within in the Assessment Area. There are no township or parish boundaries within the Site. There is a Scheduled Ancient Monument adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site – the Calderstones, a collection of six decorated sandstone monoliths considered to derive from a Neolithic chambered tomb or passage grave, originally located to the north-east of the Calderstones current location. These stones have been removed from their original location and are now arranged in a circle and located in a standing portion of the now demolished Harthill Greenhouses in Calderstones Park.

The proposed development on the Site takes the form of a residential development including,

landscaping, access and associated infrastructure. There are a number of archaeological assets recorded within the Site, but the actual presence/absence of archaeological remains associated with these assets remains untested and unproven and on the basis of the information secured for this assessment the Site does not contain any designated archaeological assets for which there would be a presumption in favour of preservation *in situ* and against development.

Due to the nature of the proposed development, the separation distances, and the character of the intervening landform none of the settings of the identified archaeological assets outside the Site would be adversely affected by development on the Site and therefore the heritage significance of such assets would not be harmed. The proposed development would not impact the historic, aesthetic, architectural, evidential or communal values ascribed to the designated asset of the Calderstones.

2. PLANNING POLICY BACKGROUND

At the national level, the principal legislation governing the protection and enhancement of archaeological monuments of national importance is the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. The 1979 Act provides protection to Scheduled Ancient Monuments. The consent of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport is required for works of demolition, destruction to or damage to a Scheduled Ancient Monument. However, there is no provision within the Act covering the setting of Ancient Monuments. There is one Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the vicinity of the Site.

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*.

The place of historic environment assets (such as non-designated archaeological sites and) within the planning system is governed by the *National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)*.

Various principles and policies related to archaeology (identified as heritage assets) are set out in the NPPF which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from NPPF are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

"In determining applications, local planning authorities should require an applicant to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting. The level of detail should be proportionate to the assets' importance and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on their significance. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary. Where a site on which development is proposed includes or has the potential to include heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where necessary, a field evaluation." Para 128

"Local planning authorities should identify and assess the particular significance of any heritage asset that may be affected by a proposal (including by development affecting the setting of a heritage asset) taking account of the available evidence and any necessary expertise. They should take this assessment into account when considering the impact of a proposal on a heritage asset, to avoid or minimise conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the proposal." Para. 129

"In determining planning applications, local planning authorities should take account of:
the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
the positive contribution that conservation of heritage assets can make to sustainable communities including their economic vitality; and
the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness." Para. 131

"When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset's conservation. The more important

the asset, the greater the weight should be. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. As heritage assets are irreplaceable, any harm or loss should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, notably scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I and II listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.*"Para. 132

"The effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset." Para. 135

In considering any planning application for development, the local planning authority must have regard to the national policy framework detailed in NPPF and other material considerations.

With respect to local policy the City of Liverpool Unitary Development Plan (UDP), adopted in 2002, is the statutory document that, until it is replaced by the new Local Plan, comprises the adopted statutory document for making planning decisions in Liverpool.

The policies related to archaeology and relevant to the application at the Site are reproduced below and the policy tests are emboldened as they represent the tests against which the proposals will be assessed.

POLICY HD 16: PROTECTION OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS

There will be a presumption in favour of the preservation of scheduled ancient monuments and other nationally important monuments and their settings. Planning permission for development which would have an adverse effect on their site or setting will not be granted.

POLICY HD 17: PROTECTION OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS HD17 1.

1. The Council will seek to protect other sites of archaeological importance. Where development is proposed in areas of known or suspected archaeological importance the City Council will require that:

i. developers have the archaeological implications of their proposals assessed by a recognised archaeological body at an early stage and the results submitted as part of the planning application;

ii. important archaeological remains and their settings are permanently preserved in situ;

iii. where in situ preservation is not justified and disturbance by development is acceptable in principle, the applicants undertake an agreed programme of mitigation including investigation, excavation and recording before development begins, or as specified in the agreed programme;

and iv. conflicts regarding archaeological issues and development pressures are resolved by means of management agreements.

2. The City Council will continue to support the Merseyside Sites and Monuments Record held by the National Museum and Galleries on Merseyside, to ensure that archaeological evidence, both above and below ground is properly identified, recorded and protected.

3. GEOLOGICAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL BACKGROUND

The Site is situated in suburban Liverpool (Fig. 1).

The Site can be divided into two distinct zones (Fig. 2). Firstly there is a southern zone corresponding with the Beechley Stables. The second zone extends over the area previously occupied by the residence known as Hart Hill and its grounds. Hart Hill appears to have been built sometime between 1818 and 1829 and was demolished between 1927 and 1937. The site of Hart Hill became the venue for Liverpool's third Botanic Garden, construction of which began in 1951, but was not completed until 1964. The gardens were closed and demolished in 1984. This zone is now an unmanaged scrub area used for storage and dumping of leaves etc.

The superficial geological deposits in this location are incompletely mapped but in the southern corner of Calderstones Park deposits of Devensian Glacial Till (Boulder Clay) are recorded. However, these are not shown as extending into the Site (<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>).

The solid geology underlying the Site comprises the Chester Pebble Beds Formation which is characterised as Early Triassic fine- to coarse-grained sandstone, commonly pebbly, with conglomerates and cross-stratified with sporadic siltstones (<http://www.bgs.ac.uk/lexicon/lexicon.cfm?pub=CPB>).

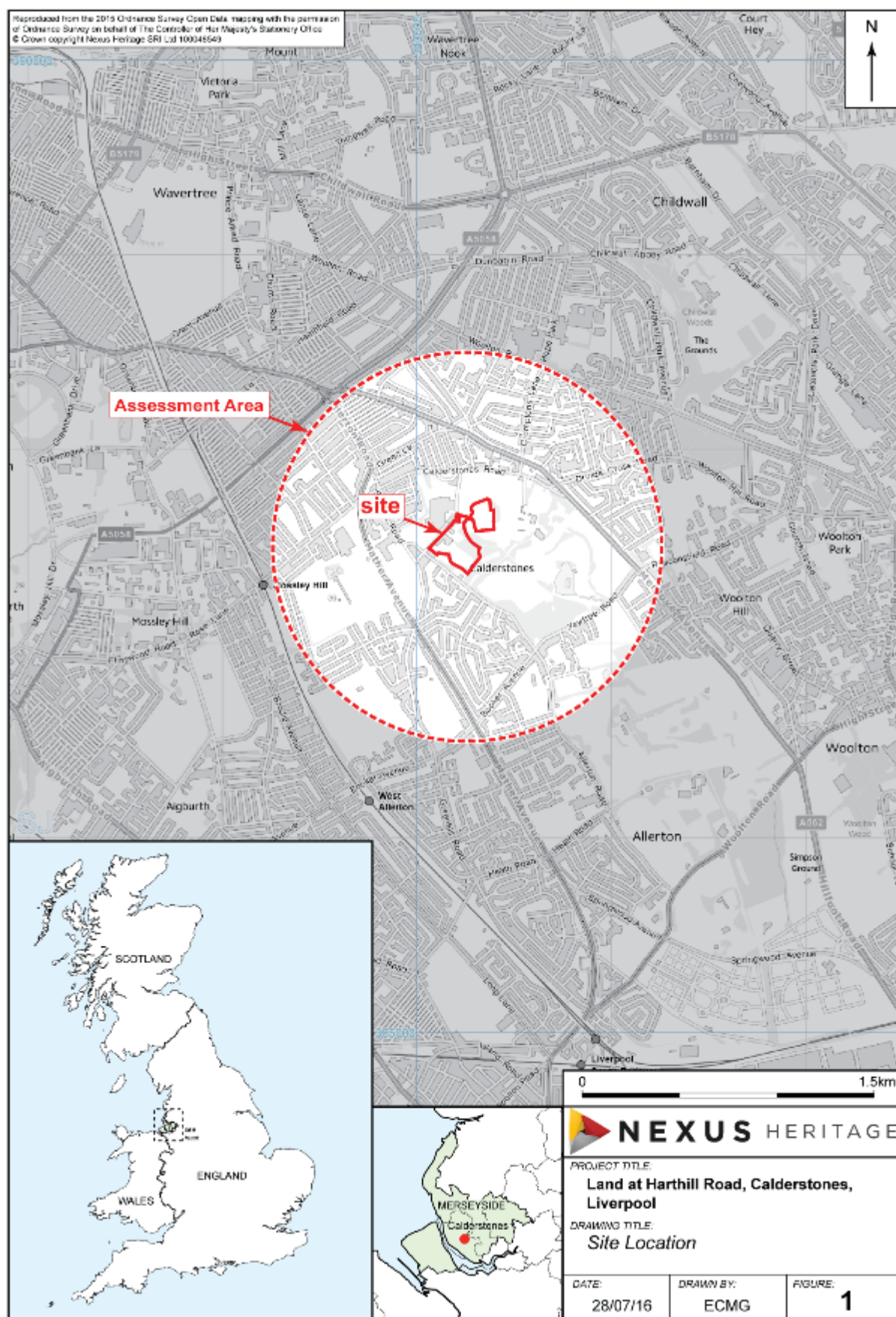


Figure 1: Site Location Plan

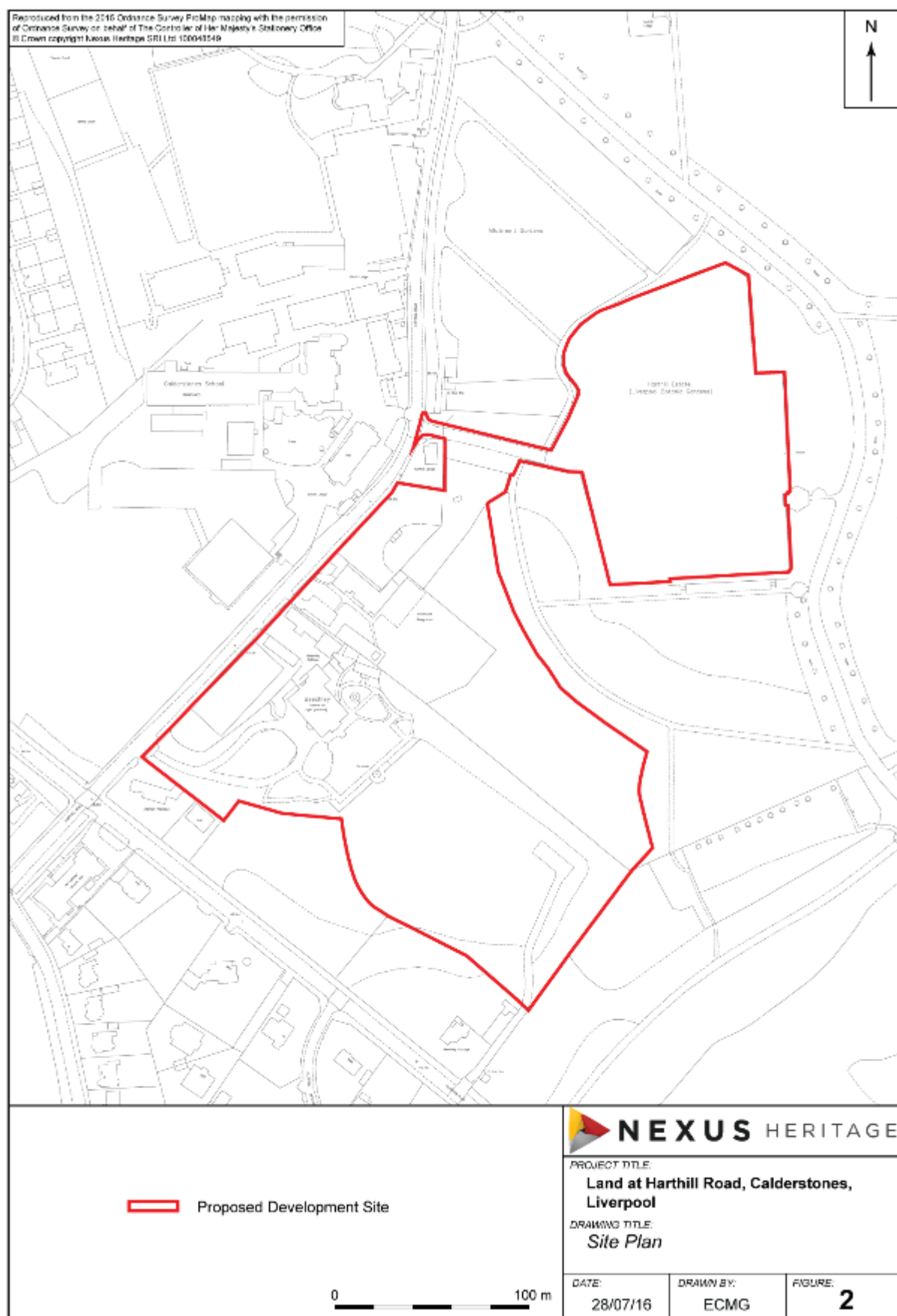


Figure 2: Site Plan

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Introduction

The following section is a summary of the archaeological and historical evidence found within a 1,000m radius of the approximate centre of the Site; this wider area is referred to as the 'Assessment Area'. The evidence has been compiled from MHER, LA and other documentary and cartographic sources. The data collected is considered to provide a good indication of the character, distribution and survival of any potential archaeology on the site and helps define its importance within the area. The locations of the archaeological assets identified by the MHER within the Assessment Area are shown in Figure 3 below and are also detailed in a gazetteer embedded within the figure.

In summary there are 29 archaeological sites within the Assessment Area recorded on MHER. The archaeological sites have been assembled into a gazetteer, provided on Fig. 3 and three of these sites are located within the Site.

Gaz. 4	Site of the Roger Stone
Gaz. 6	Site of Pyckeloo (or Pykelao, Pykloohill, Pykelaw) Hill
Gaz. 24	Site of Hart Hill

In addition to the above the assessment process has identified a number of other potential archaeological assets within the Site (see Fig. 23 below):

Stanley Percival's Nineteenth Century Residence and Garden

The "Jesse Hartley Stone"

An earthwork (possibly a ha ha) associated with Hart Hill

Now demolished buildings associated with Beechley

Two now demolished buildings on the Bennison map (see below) in the location of Beechley and within the Beechley grounds

There are no World Heritage Sites or Registered Battlefields wholly or partly within in the Assessment Area. There are no township or parish boundaries within the Site or along its boundaries. A Scheduled Ancient Monument, the Calderstones, is adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Site.

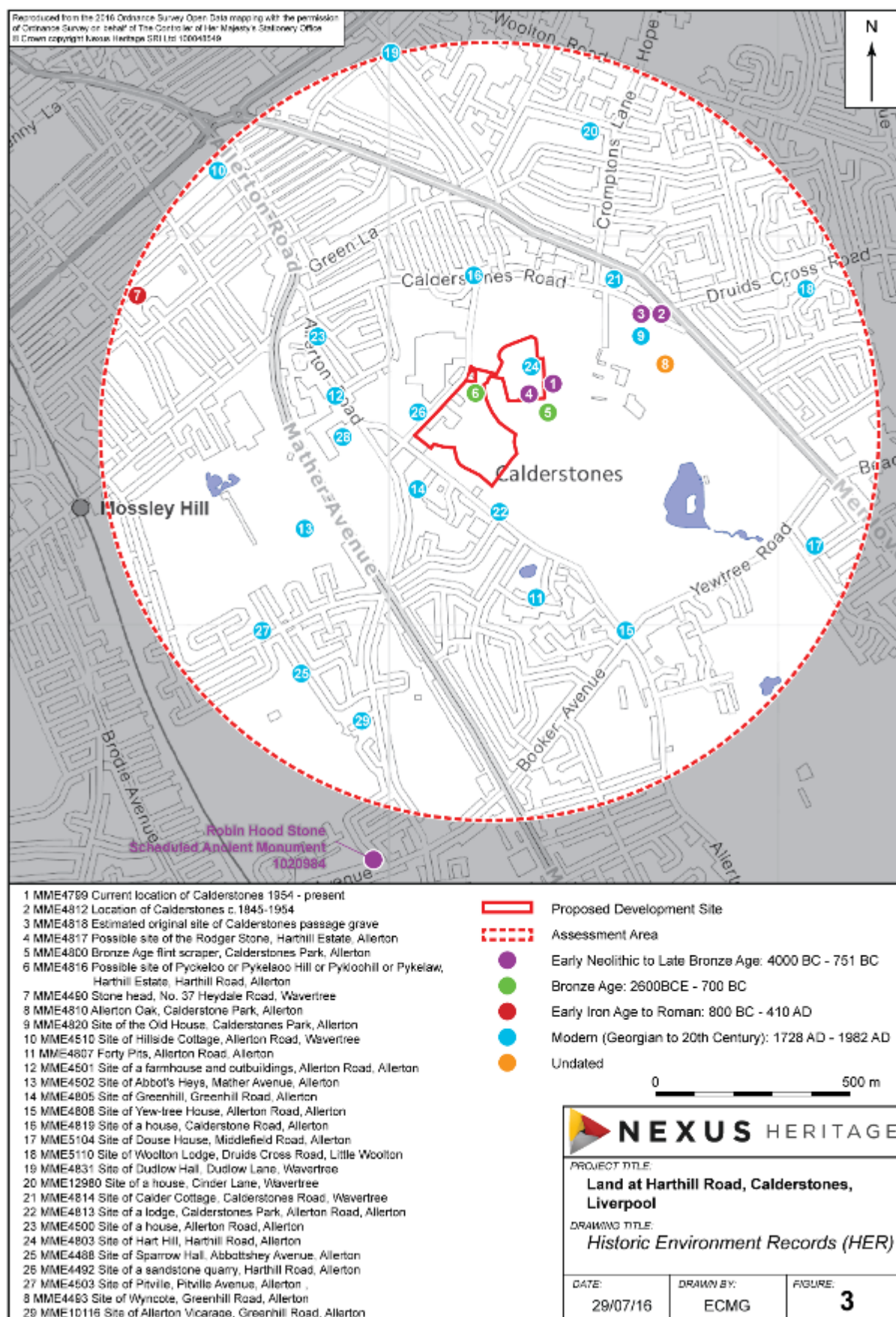


Figure 3: Location of Historic Environment Records

Prehistoric Period: Palaeolithic (500,000 - 12,000 BC), Mesolithic (12,000 – 4,000 BC) and Neolithic (4,000 – 1,800 BC), Bronze Age (1,800 - 600 BC), Iron Age (600 - 43 AD)

The Prehistoric era is generally rare in Merseyside with many of the known archaeological sites represented by isolated episodes of artefact recovery. However, the Site is located in an area rich in archaeological discoveries dating to the Prehistoric Period. Within the central zone of the Site is the possible location of the Roger Stone (Gaz. 4) which is considered to be prehistoric standing stone, dating to the Neolithic period. A map of 1568 (Fig. **) identified a stone in this approximate location, but searches for the stone in the general area have never located it. The Roger stone appears to be one element in a long-lived, multi-complex funerary/spiritual precinct which also included the monument from which the Calderstones (Gaz. 1, 2 and 3) in their original location, were derived. The Calderstones have been the subject of considerable antiquarian and more recent enquiry (Ecroyd Smith 1868, Simpson 1886, Stewart-Brown 1911, Cowell 2008, Falkner 2010, Roberts 2010, Nash & Stanford 2010) the details of which will not be rehearsed here. However, the Calderstones represent a nationally important archaeological monument, as recognised in their status as a Scheduled Ancient Monument (NHL ref. 1008531). The Calderstones are currently housed in what was a vestibule to the now demolished Harthill Greenhouses (Liverpool Botanic Garden) immediately adjacent to the eastern boundary of the Site's central zone.

In addition to the Calderstones the site of Pyckeloo (or Pykelao, Pykloohill, Pykelaw) Hill (Gaz. 6) a possible Bronze Age Barrow, must also be mentioned. No surface traces of this feature have ever been found but it is mapped by MHER within the southern zone of the Site. The suspected location is based on efforts by the Merseyside Archaeological Society, in 1985, to pace out the measurements as shown on the 1568 map and identify the location of Pyckeloo Hill. Just beyond the Assessment Area is the location of Robin Hood's Stone (NHL ref. 1020984), a Scheduled Ancient Monument in the form of a decorated standing monolith thought to have been erected during the Bronze Age and was originally part of the complex of which Calderstones (in their original location) formed the principal element. The stone was moved from what is presumably its original location, in a field called The Stone Hey, 60m to the north east of its present location, in 1928. The use of the area by prehistoric communities is also attested by the recovery of artefacts in the vicinity. A Bronze Age flint scraper (Gas. 5) was found in Calderstones Park c. 1951 and a stone head (Gaz. 7) was found in the garden of No. 37 Heydale Road, to the west of the Site c. 1968, which is dated to the period from the early Iron Age to the Roman era.

Given the archaeological sites and find spots within and in the vicinity of the Site there is a high probability that further prehistoric artefacts or archaeological deposits will be present within the Site.

Romano-British Period (43- 410 AD).

The Romano-British period (c. AD 43 – AD 410) is very well represented in the archaeological record of North-West England and many industrial and military sites, linked by a road network, have been intensively investigated. However, the part of the region in which the Site is located does not appear to have been particularly important to the Roman administration and it far from the principal routes of the road network. There are no known Roman period artefacts or

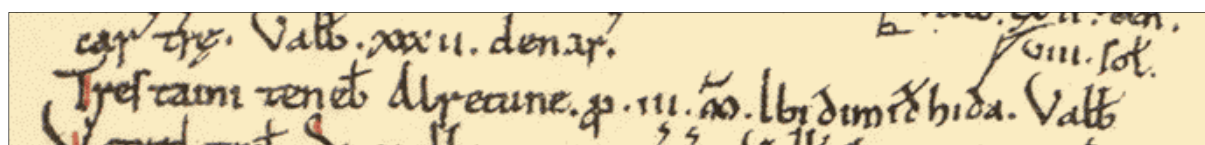
sites recorded within the Assessment Area. However, there was probably a local population exploiting the environment at this time, suggested by the discovery of a stone head (Gaz. 7) at Heydale Road, to the west of the Site c. 1968, which is dated to the period from the early Iron Age to the Roman era. Such populations have been identified at Irby on the Wirral (Philpott and Adams 2010) and at towards St Helens to the east (Cowell and Philpott 2000).

Whilst there are no known archaeological sites or finds dating from the Romano-British period within the Assessment Site there is nevertheless a low probability that artefacts or archaeological deposits dating to this period could be present within the Site.

Saxon/Early Medieval Period (410 - 1066 AD)

There are no confirmed archaeological remains from the Saxon/early medieval period recorded in the Site or within the wider Assessment Area. The Site lies within the historic Township of Allerton and it is presumed by most documentary sources that the place name of Allerton derives from the linguistic traditions of the period and has been rendered as *Alretune* – meaning the village with alder trees. The place name evidence suggests that during this period the area was inhabited, but the extent of the settlement and the layout and use of fields, woodland and, waste is uncertain.

One of the first recorded references to Allerton as a distinct place dates to 1086, when it is mentioned in the Domes day Book (Morgan 1978).



Roger of Poitou held Allerton, as part of his holdings between the Ribble and Mersey, and at the time *Three thegns held Allerton as 3 manors, ½ hide. The value was 8s.*

The Saxon period can be poorly represented through artefactual evidence, so the lack of recorded entries in the sources for the Assessment Area should not necessarily be taken as an indication of a lack of activity. It is likely the origins of Allerton as a distinct physical and administrative unit lie in the Saxon - early medieval period, if not earlier, and the Assessment Site was, in all probability, agricultural land or woodland at this time. The historic and archaeological evidence for the Assessment Area for this period suggests, however, that the archaeological potential for the Assessment Site for the Saxon/Early Medieval Period is low.

Medieval Period (1066 - 1485 AD)

During this period the Site may have been agricultural land and woodland associated with the manor of Allerton and was adjacent to the Royal Park of Toxteth established by King John in the thirteenth century

Archaeological remains associated with agricultural activity could include ridge and furrow, ditches, scatters of medieval artefacts, ponds, track ways, in-filled and extant boundary ditches and small outbuildings. However, it may have instead been woodland. Archaeological remains associated with woodland areas may include tree pits, trackways and remains of temporary shelters or charcoal burning platforms. However, the potential for buried archaeological remains associated with the medieval period to be present on the Site is considered to be low.

Post Medieval Period (1486 – Present)

The landscape of the Assessment Area witnessed multiple, significant changes to the topography during the post-medieval period, as a result of influences such as population growth and changes in land-ownership and tenancy. Some of these changes can be traced through cartographic representations.

The earliest known large-scale map of the Site dates to 1568 (Fig. 4), drawn up to assist in a boundary dispute, it shows the area in which the Site is located, and although there is no scale, annotation with respect to distances determined via perambulation provides some spatial reference (Stuart-Brown 1911, 103). The centre of the map concerns the disputed land and this would appear to encompass the Site and include the Roger Stone and Pykeloo Hill. The thoroughfare which was to become Allerton Road is also depicted

The small scale efforts of Bowen, 1752 (Fig. 5), and Yates, 1786 (Fig 7) provide little meaningful information, but the Yates and Perry map of 1768 (Fig. 6) is produced at a large scale and shows, possibly, the thoroughfares which were to become Harthill Road, Allerton Road and Calderstones Road. The land within the Site is characterised, perhaps stylistically, as pasture and tilled fields – presumably laid to arable crop. Along the Site's southern boundary with the thoroughfare which was to become Allerton Road, two structures are shown. These may be the structures which are later mapped in 1835 (see below)

A large –scale plan from the early years of the 19th century (Fig. 8) shows the Site in some detail. The Site appears to extend over an irregular plot of land identified as Mercers. However, no features are shown within the area occupied by the Site.

The Greenwood Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1818 (Fig. 9) and Hennessey's Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1829 (Fig. 10) show little detail associated with the Site. However, the Hennessey map does identify Hart Hill (Gaz. 24) a substantial residence last recorded as a standing building in 1927.

The Bennison Map of the Town and Port of Liverpool, 1835 (Fig. 11) is a fine effort, at a large scale and shows a residence and its landscaped grounds, occupied by S. (Stanley) Percival depicted in fine detail. To the south is another residential complex in generous, landscaped grounds, again un-named, but occupied by John Marriott. The site of one of the buildings of this residential complex is within the Site. This residence appears to have a main complex of two buildings accessed via a driveway of the thoroughfare which was to become Allerton Road. These structures may be identical to those mapped on the Yates and Perry map of 1768. A third building is also mapped within the Site on the Bennison map, in the location of what was to become Beechley – a still standing building in the style of a villa, built for John Marriott in 1835-6.



Figure 4: Map of Allerton and Wavertree Manors, Lancashire, 1568



Figure 5: Bowen's Map of 1752

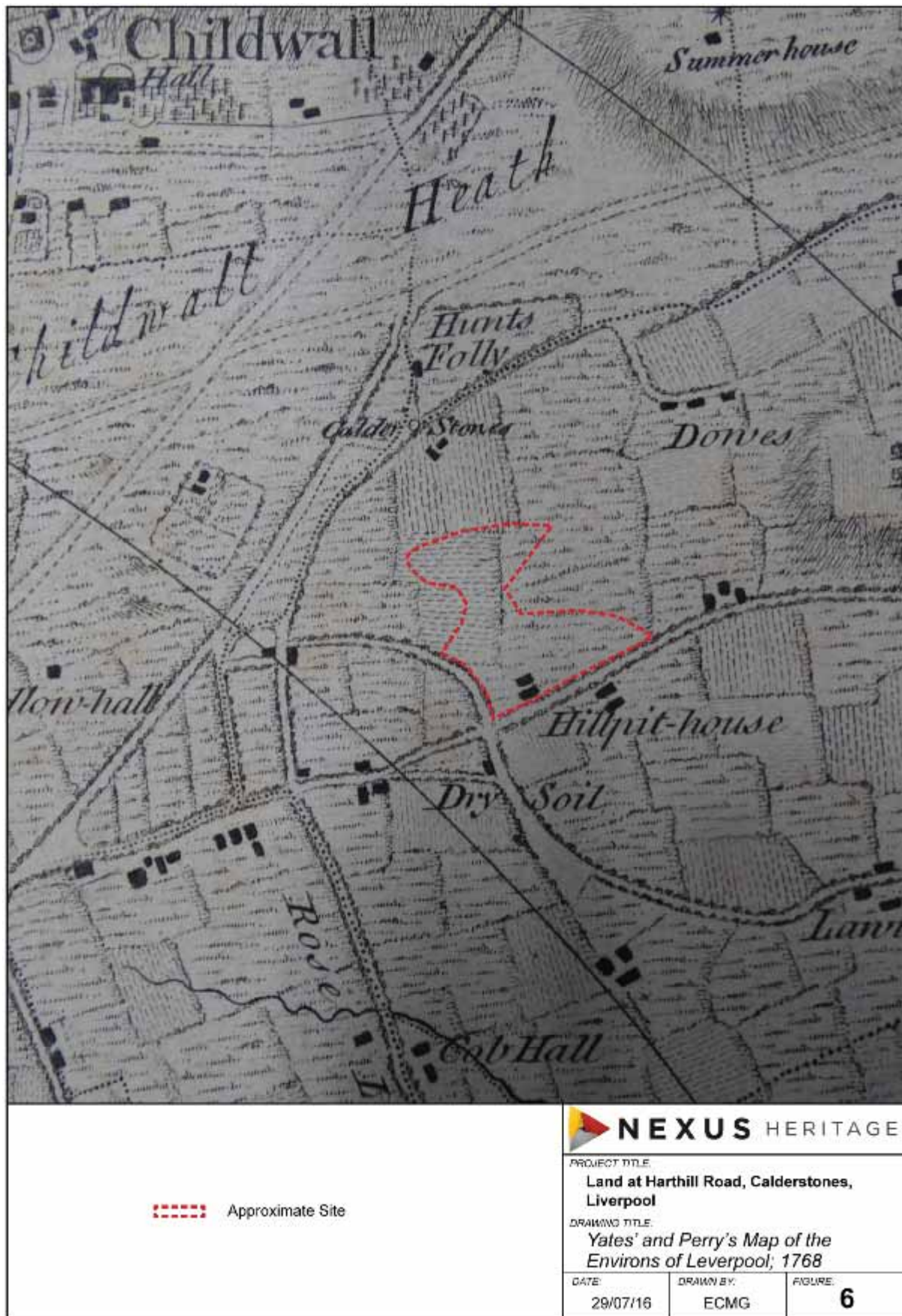


Fig. 6: Yates' and Perry's Map of the Environs of Liverpool, 1768



Fig. 7: Yates' Map of Lancashire, 1786

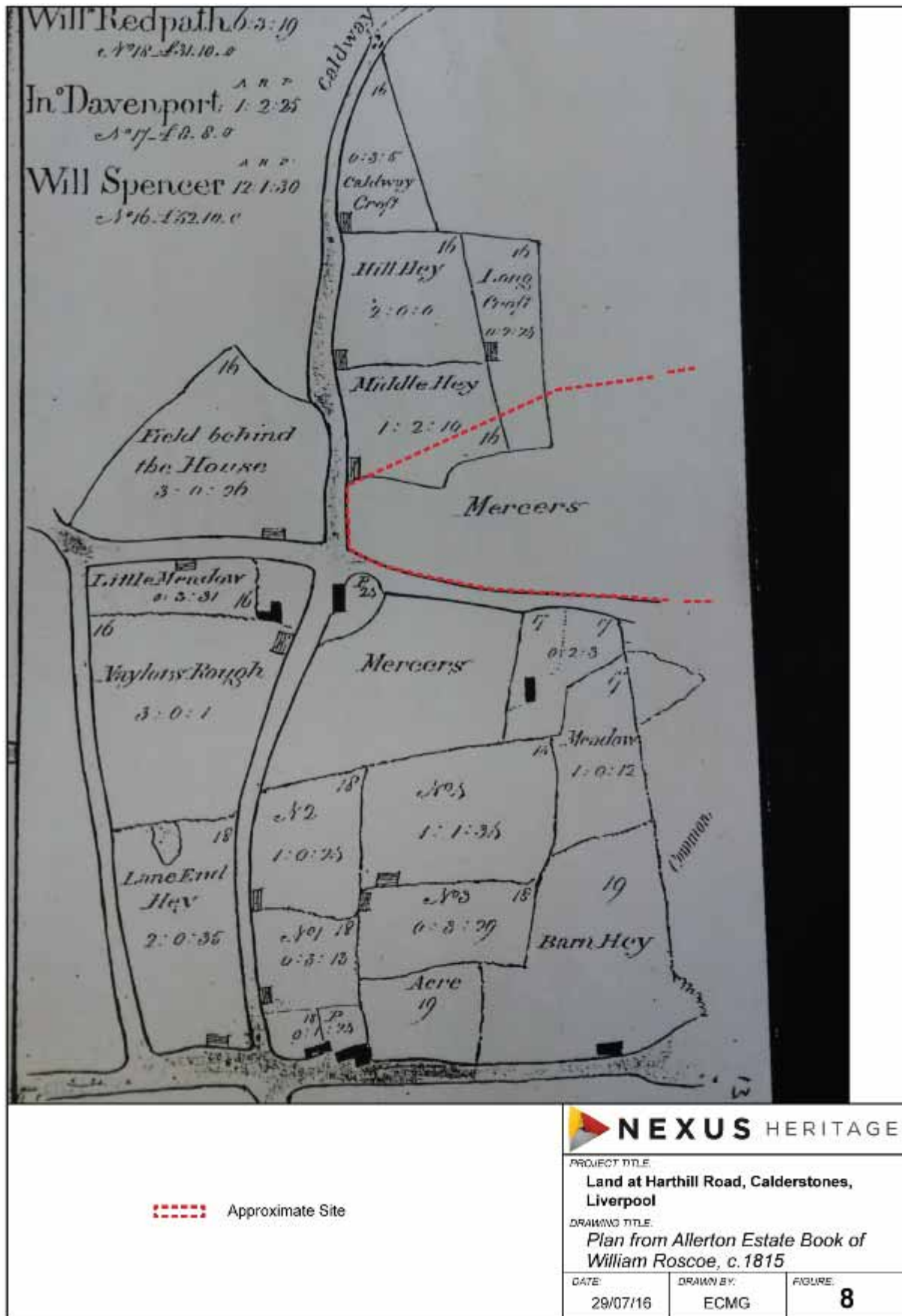


Figure 8: Plan from Allerton Estate Book of William Roscoe, c.1815



Fig. 9: Greenwood's Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1818



Fig. 10: Hennet's Map of the County Palatine of Lancaster, 1829



Fig. 11: Bennison's Map of the Town and Port of Liverpool, 1835

The Tithe Map of the Township of Allerton, 1839 (Fig. 12) shows the Site extending over multiple land parcels of various shapes and sizes. The key portions of the Site for the purposes of this assessment are concerned with Plot Nos. 156, 157, 158 and 159. The Hart Hill and Beechley residences, their gardens and grounds are accurately mapped as are the woodland swathes that acted as shelter belts and provided visual and physical separation between the two houses. The Beechley complex appears to be located on the land formerly attributed to Mercers.

The 1840 Ordnance Survey (OS) map (Fig. 13) was published a relatively small scale and is of little assistance for assessment purposes. However the Hart Hill and Beechley residences are shown and the *Calder Stones* are identified.

The Ordnance Survey 6 Inch map (1:10,560) of 1850 (Fig. 14) is of much greater utility, but adds little to that of the Tithe map from 11 years earlier. The Plan of Proposed Sewers, Allerton, 1879 (Fig. 15) is little more than a historic curio, but it does show what appears to be a path, or perhaps even a sewer/drain extending north from just to the north-west of the Hart Hill complex. Hart Hill was built for John Bibby II (1810-1883), a merchant and second son of John Bibby I (1775-1840), shipping magnate and founder of the Bibby Line 1805. The house was probably constructed between c. 1840 and 1850 on the site of the previous Percival residence. John Bibby II married Fanny Hartley, daughter of Jesse Hartley (1780-1860), renowned for his work constructing the Albert Dock and other landmark structures along the Liverpool waterfront. Hart Hill was taken over by John Bibby III (1839-1898) in 1883.

The publication of the OS 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1893 (Fig. 16) allows a very detailed picture of the general disposition of the Site in the last decade of the 19th century to be appreciated. The individual buildings within the Hart Hill and Beechley complexes can be discerned and the layout of the gardens – with their paths, glasshouses and plantations – clearly presented. It is interesting to note that a linear earthwork is present to the south of Hart Hill. This is possibly a ha-ha, the location of which places it towards the southern edge of the Site's central zone. There is also apparently a ha-ha at Beechley, which is a Listed Building – it is c. 55m long, bounding the south-east side of the garden on a line parallel to the house, and the sandstone random rubble wall about 0.5m high is within a partly filled in ditch.

The OS 25 Inch map (1:2,500), 1908 (Fig. 17) shows little change in what is, to all intents and purposes a relatively static landscape. Liverpool Corporation had bought the area now known as Calderstones Park in 1902 from Henry & Charles MacIver, who had owned it since 1875. It is identified as a park on the 1908 map, and the Allerton Oak is shown within its boundaries. In the first decade of the 20th century, Hart Hill was sold to St. Helens glass manufacturer Charles Joseph Bishop (1852-1923). He sold most of the grounds to Liverpool Corporation in 1913 to form the Harthill Estate extension to Calderstones Park. Two fountains are mapped within the grounds of Beechley and some garden walks at Beechley and Hart Hill are no longer depicted. The OS 25 Inch edition (1:2,500), 1927 (Fig. 18) again shows little change. A square enclosure has been carved out toward the eastern boundary of the Beechley grounds – possibly demarcated by a wall and a small, square building towards the southern boundary of Beechley, present on the 1893 and 1908 OS maps, is no longer mapped. Some of the glasshouses at Hart Hill are no longer shown. The OS 25 Inch sheet, (1:2,500), 1937 (Fig. 19) no longer maps the enclosure in the grounds of Beechley but the most significant landscape change is that the principal portion of the house at Hart Hill is mapped – but not using the

convention indicating a roofed building. The outline of the building footprint remains and either the whole structure had been demolished sometime between 1927 and 1937, or at the time of the survey for the 1937 edition the building was in the process of being demolished. The northern wings of the house, forming a courtyard appear to remain extant at this time. Interestingly a single, isolated *Stone* is marked to the south-east of Hart Hill. This corresponds to the approximate location of Jesse Hartley's Stone which is a notched shaft of granite, a sample provided for Jesse Hartley's Dock Engineer. The present location was originally within the grounds of Harthill House and the pillar was erected by Hartley's daughter, Fanny, wife of John Bibby, as a monument to her father. It is in the hedgerow to the right of the structure that houses the Calderstones. Further still to the south-east is a second stone, monolithic in appearance but on the basis of chisel marks upon its surface, likely to be a cattle rubbing stone of the historic era (outside the Site).

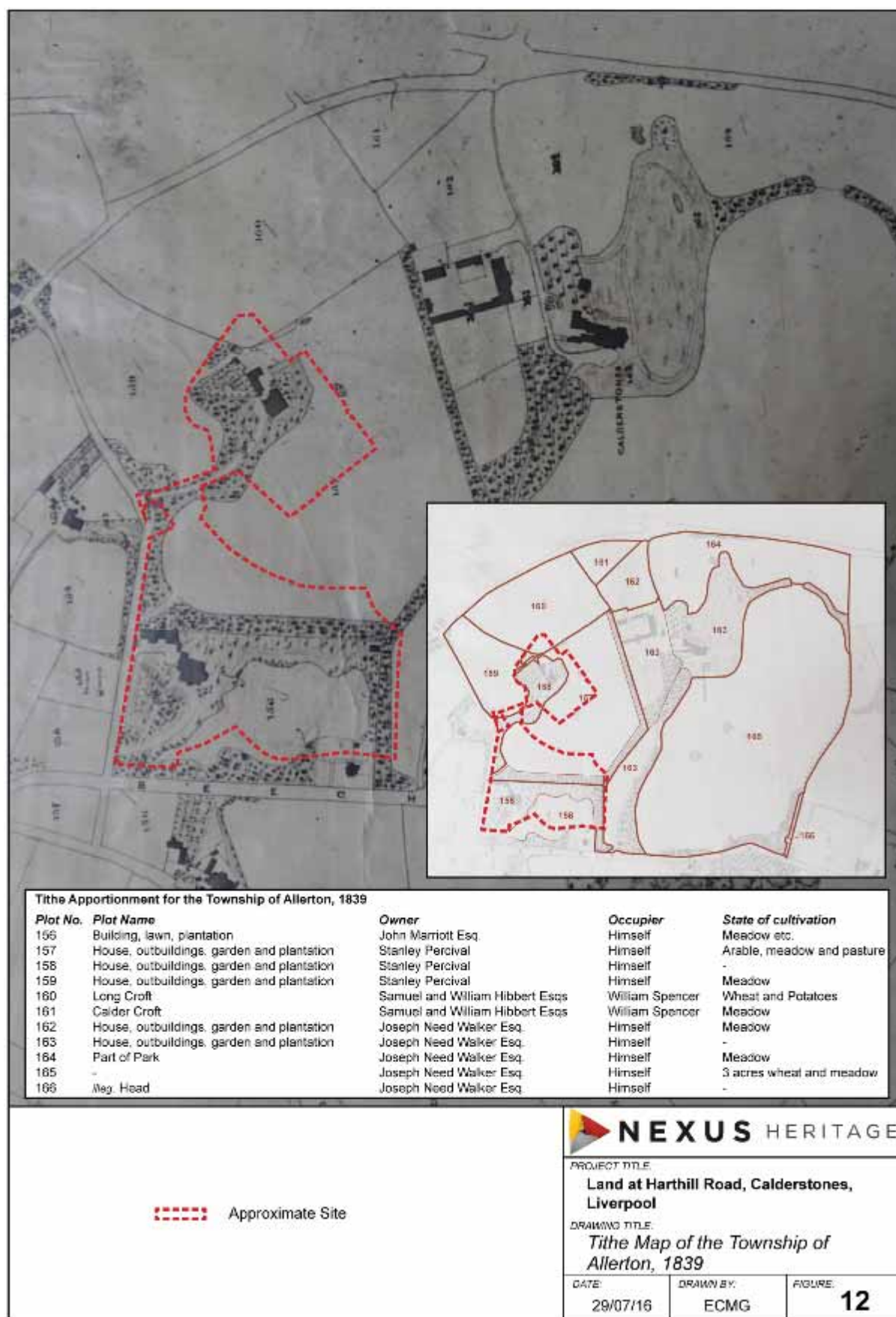


Figure 12: Tithe Map of the Township of Allerton, 1839



Fig. 13: Ordnance Survey 6 Inch map (1:10,560) of 1840

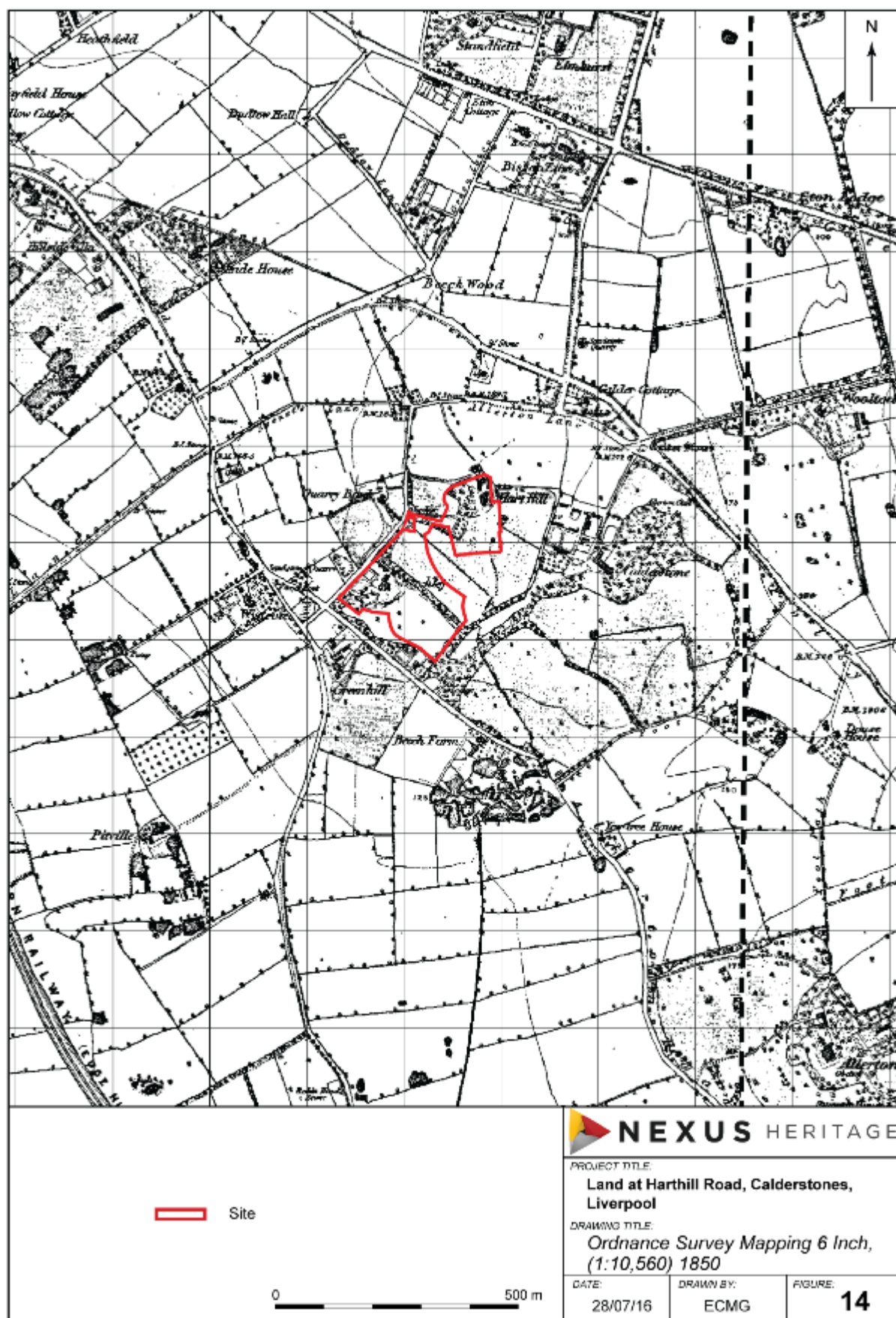


Fig. 14: Ordnance Survey 6 Inch map (1:10,560) of 1850

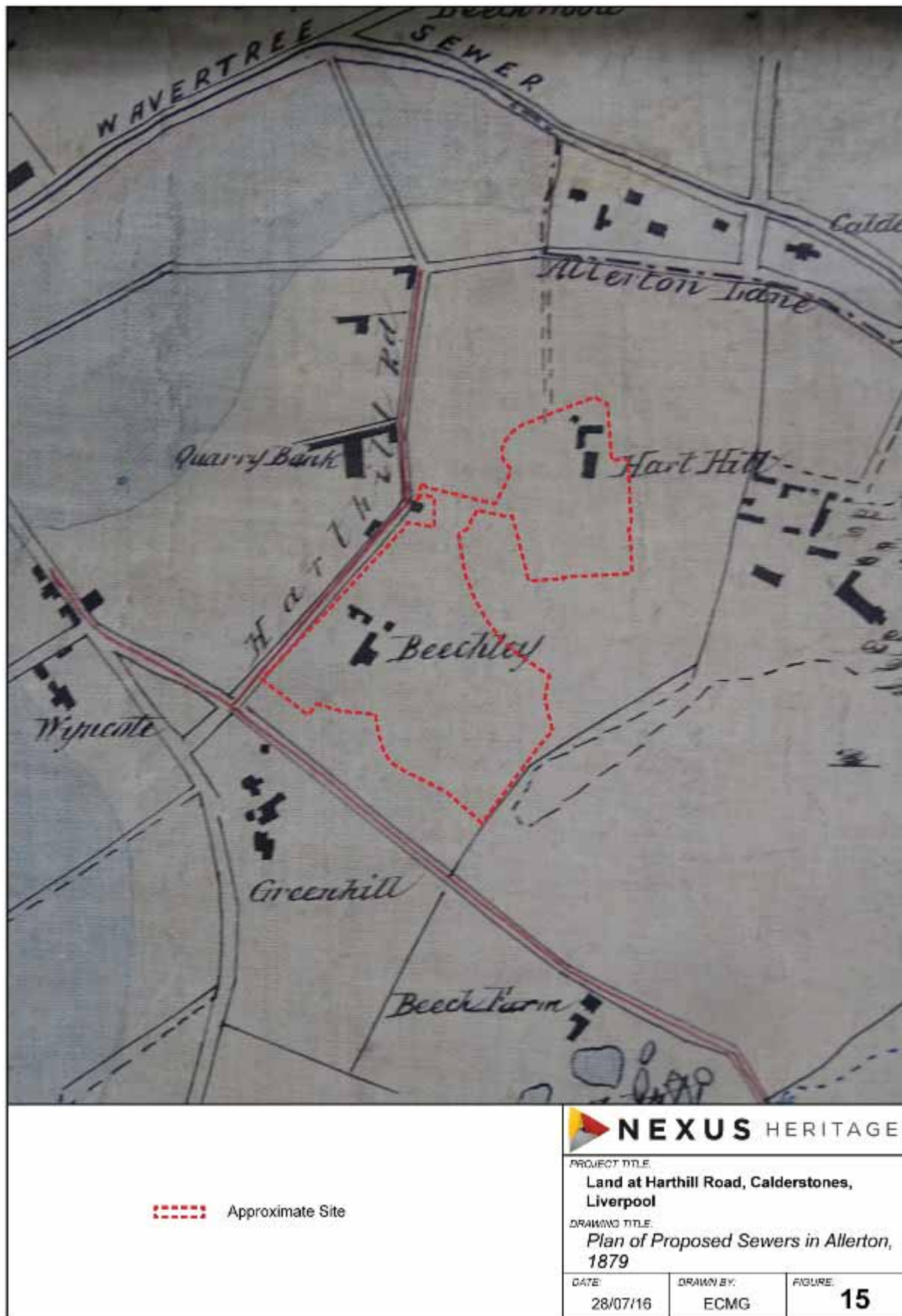


Fig. 15: Plan of Proposed Sewers, Allerton, 1879

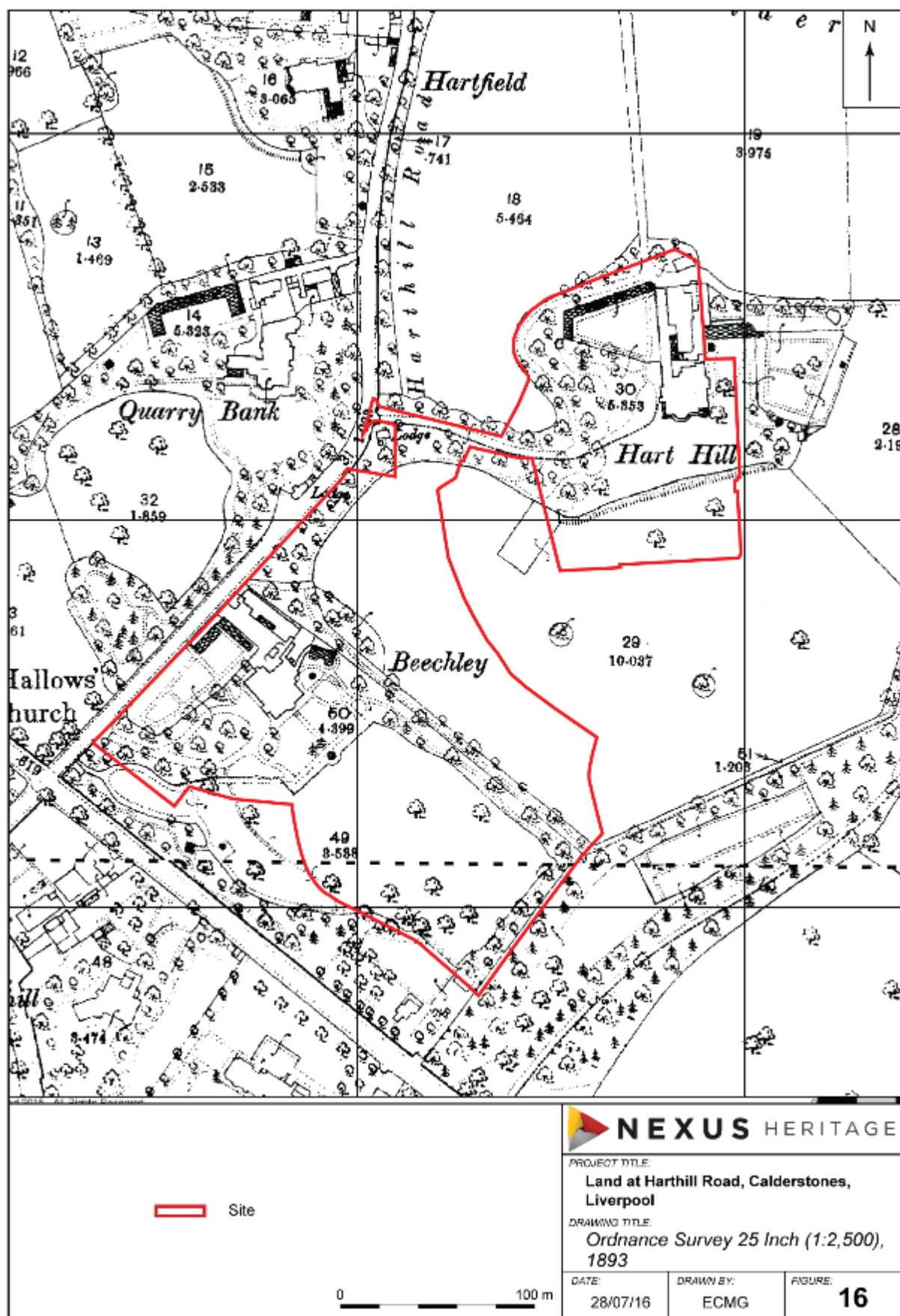


Fig. 16: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1893

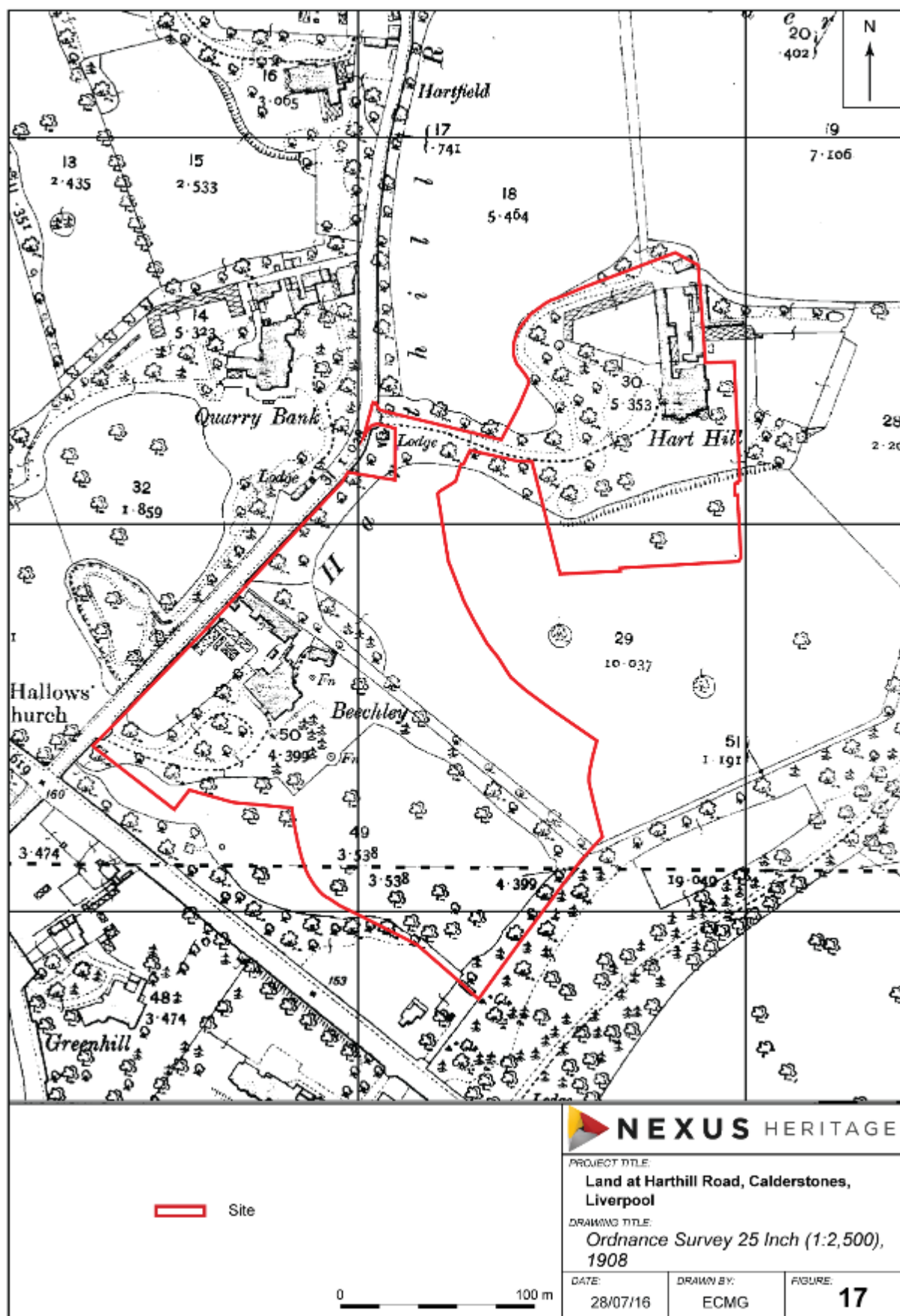


Fig. 17: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1908

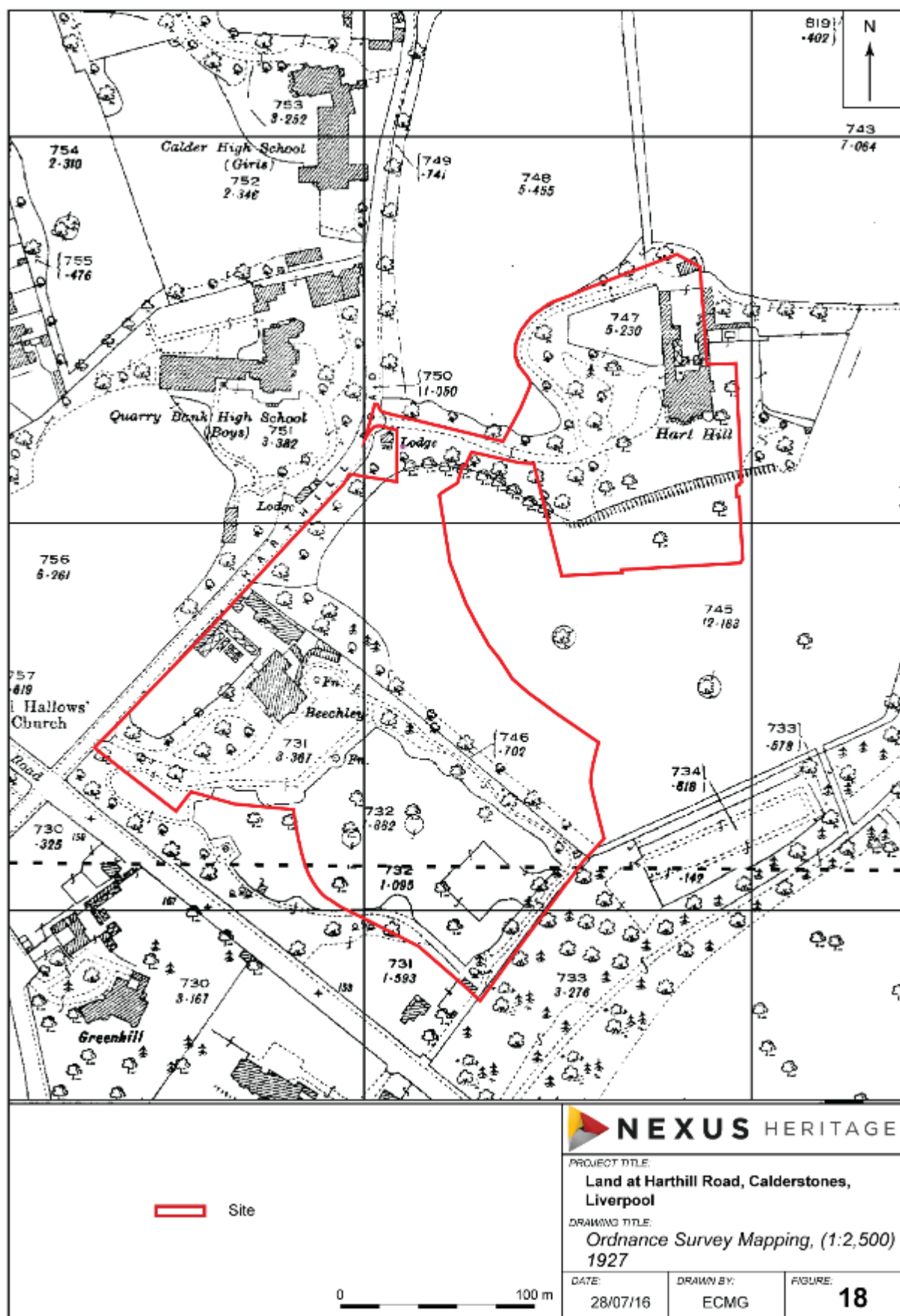


Fig. 18: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1927

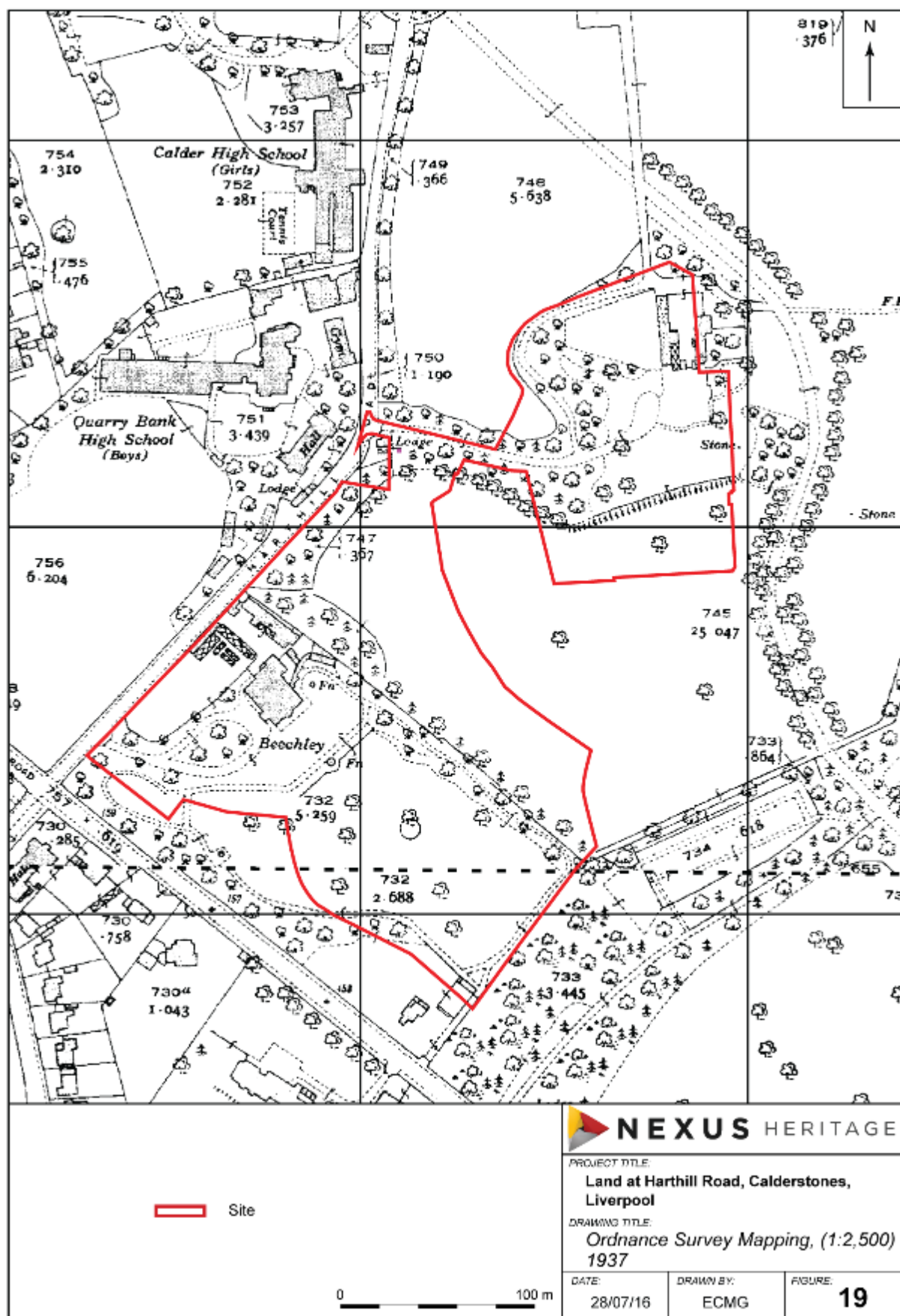


Fig. 19: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1937

The OS 25 Inch map (1:2,500), 1954 (Fig. 20) highlights the fact that the grounds to the east of Beechley have been laid out as a recreation ground, complete with running tracks and a pavilion. There is annotation to the north of the Beechley complex stating ***Ruins***, this may mean some of the outbuildings associated with Beechley had been left to fall into disrepair. The OS 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1954 along with the OS map from 1971 (Fig. 21) covers the period when Percy Conn was Superintendent of all Liverpool Parks. Under Mr. Conn's stewardship a third Botanic Garden for Liverpool was created on the Harthill estate portion of Calderstones Park.

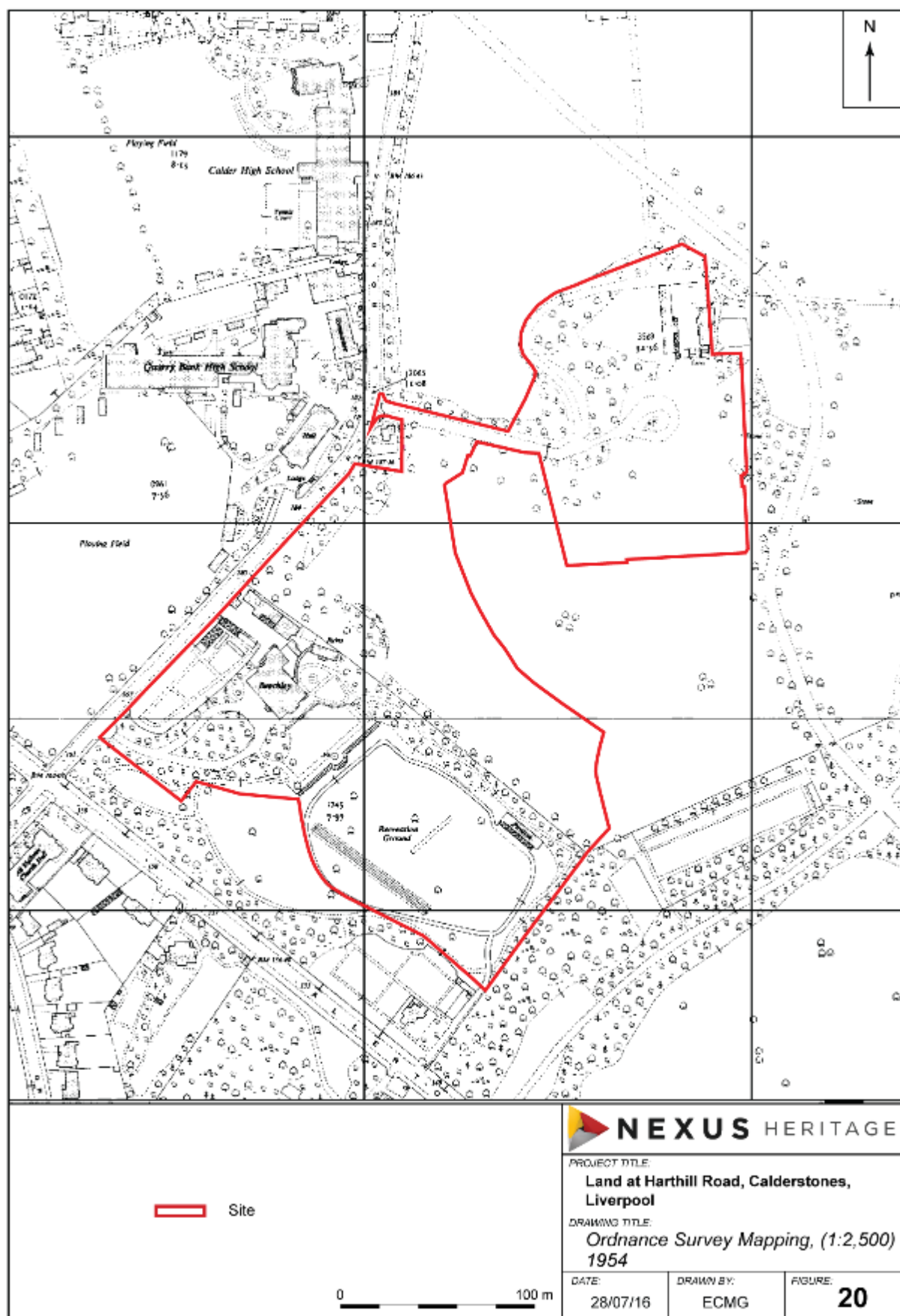
In 1950 the orchid grower Blackwood Dalgliesh was commissioned to develop the City's orchid collection further in purpose-built glasshouses to be located at Harthill. The Botanic Garden, comprising a complex of 16 glasshouses and a Camellia Terrace, was finally completed in 1964 (Plate 1) and opened by Sir George Taylor, Director of Kew. Due to budget restrictions, the glasshouses were built of low grade spruce (softwood), rather than teak (hardwood) and by 1979 the spruce used in the construction of the glasshouses began to rot. The glasshouses were closed in 1984 and demolished sometime thereafter.



Plate 1: Liverpool Botanic Garden Glasshouses, Calderstones Park, c. 1964

The OS 1:2,500 scale map of 1971 (Fig. 21) records the Harthill Estate (Liverpool Botanic gardens) and depicts the glasshouses as shown in Plate 1. The buildings beyond the glasshouses in the photograph may include survivors of the Hart Hill complex built for Bibby between 1840 and 1850.

The OS 1:2,500 scale edition of 1993 (Fig. 22) shows that the glasshouses have been demolished, although some other structures appear to remain towards the northern part of the Site's central zone. At Beechley some structures towards Harthill Road have been demolished and what was previously recorded as a pavilion is now identified as Beechley Day Centre.



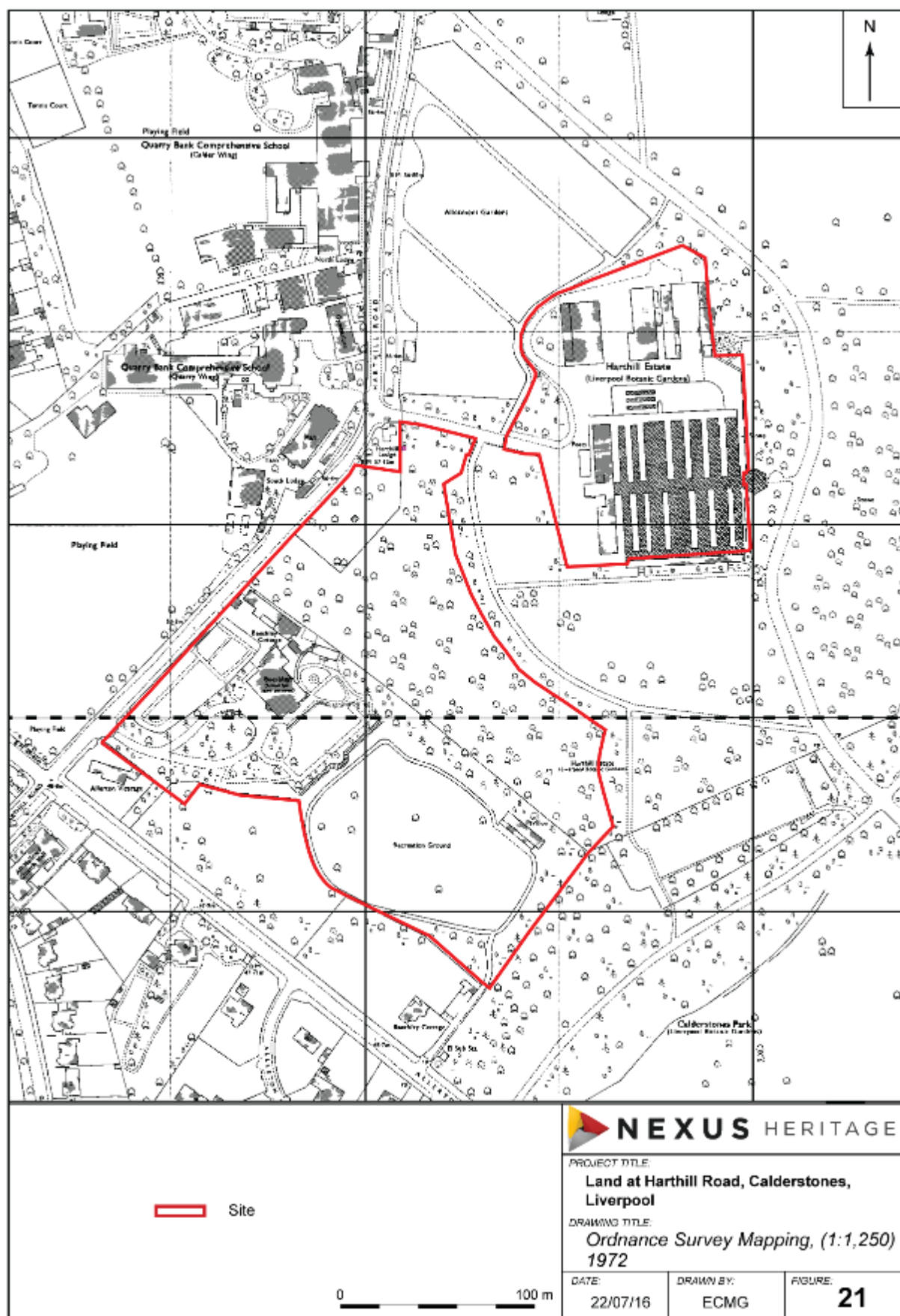


Fig. 21: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1971

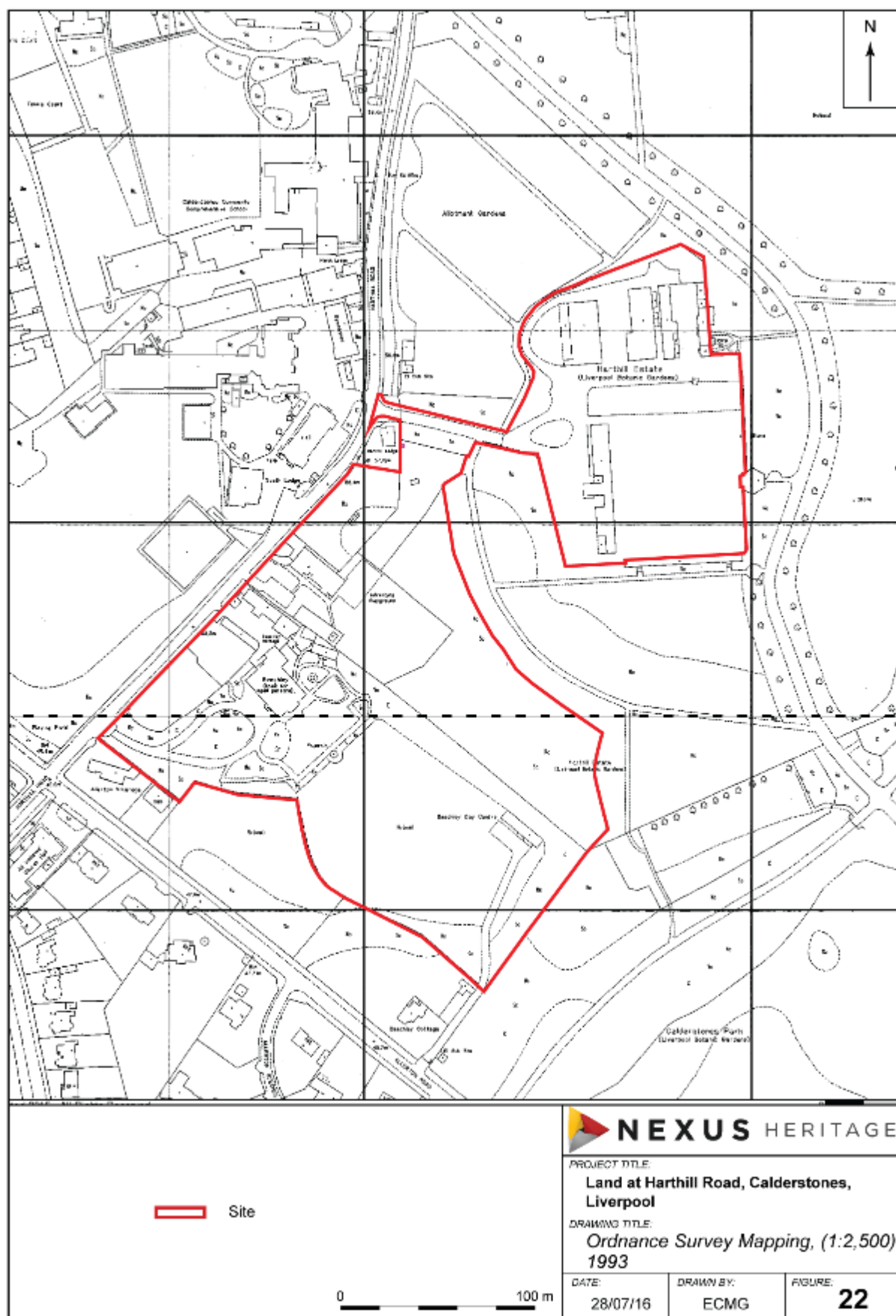
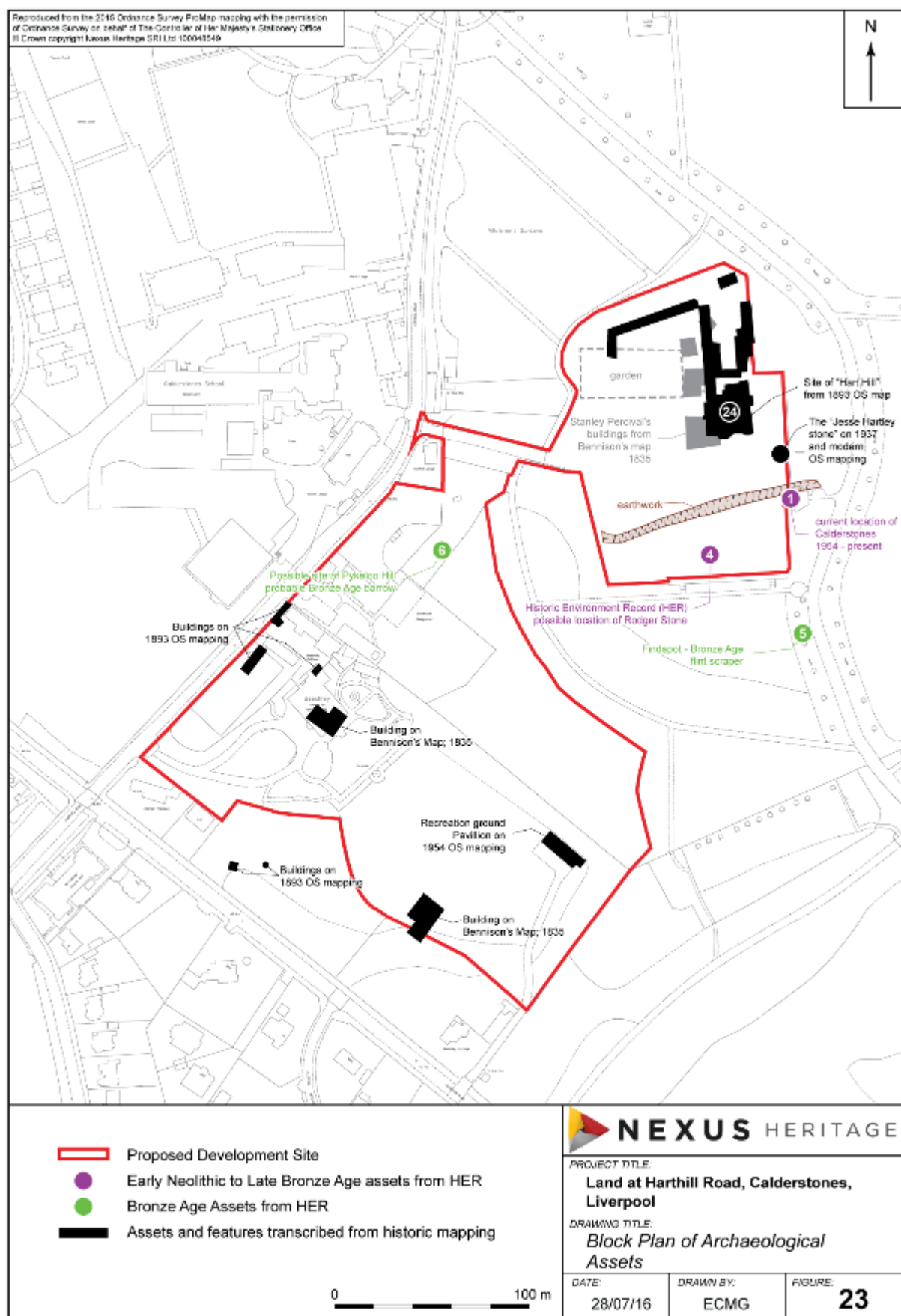


Fig. 22: Ordnance Survey 25 Inch (1:2,500), 1993

In summary the archaeological interest at the Site can be depicted visually as shown on Fig 23 which draws together the data provided by MHER and includes information determined during research for the assessment and the walk-over survey.



5. SITE CONDITIONS

A site visit was undertaken on the 27th January 2016 in overcast conditions with variable light quality. The following photographs provide an indication of the Site's characteristics. .



Plate 2: Site's western boundary looking north-east along Harthill Road



Plate 3: The depot portion of the Site, currently used for storage, looking west, formerly the site of the Hart Hill Estate Botanic Garden



Plate 4: The depot portion of the Site, currently used for storage, looking west, formerly the site of the Hart Hill Estate Botanic Garden



Plate 5: Sightline into the depot portion of the Site towards the approximate location of the Rodger Stone as mapped by MHER



Plate 6: Sightline looking west along the southern boundary of the depot, approximate location of the camellia terrace of the Hart Hill Estate Botanic Garden



Plate 7: The vestibule glasshouse (once part of the Hart Hill Estate Botanic garden) which contains the Calderstones. Outside the eastern boundary of the depot.



Plate 8: Sightline looking west out of the depot towards Harthill Road

6. PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPACTS

The Applicant wishes to obtain planning permission for a residential development on the Site. The proposed development on the Site takes the form of a residential development

Direct Impacts

The assessment of the archaeology of the Site has been undertaken in the knowledge of the uncertainties that arise when trying to assess a resource that is not wholly known and is often poorly understood. It should be noted that the Assessment is based on information held in source repositories and published data. Neither of these represents exhaustive and comprehensive sources of information on the presence/absence of archaeological features. However, from the data available it is possible to quantify and qualify the known archaeological resource, to determine the potential for as yet unknown or unrecorded archaeological sites and historic landscape features to be present and identify areas within the Site where activities are likely to have compromised archaeological survival. These factors have been taken into consideration during this preparation of this Assessment. This information has in turn been considered against the pre-existing impacts to the Site which may have compromised the survival of any archaeological remains.

There are no confirmed archaeological remains on the Site. However, the Site corresponds to a number of historic and prehistoric archaeological features which may survive as elements within the archaeological record. The potential for archaeological remains to be present within the Site is, therefore considered to be high.

The development would potentially lead to disturbance of some archaeological remains spanning a wide period.

With respect to pre-existing impacts which may have disturbed or destroyed hitherto unknown or unrecorded archaeological remains at the Site, there are indicators that impacts have taken place during the 20th century. However, these impacts are considered to be broadly light in character.

The impact on any archaeological remains would arise from pre-construction activities – such as ground preparation/improvement. Construction activities with the potential to impact upon archaeological remains include excavations for the foundations of buildings, excavations for services such as drains and sewers and excavations in order to lay the sub-grade as a base for roads, paths and circulation areas.

Indirect Impacts on Settings of Archaeological Assets

The effect of development on the significance of the setting of heritage assets (including archaeological assets) is a material consideration in determining a planning application and

NPPF advises Local Planning Authorities that they should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of archaeological assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance.

For the purpose of the document the definition of setting will follow Historic England's advice and guidance (2015) which in turn relies on the description of setting provided by NPPF –namely the surroundings in which an archaeological asset is experienced. However, Historic England also notes that setting cannot be definitively and permanently described. In this instance the assessment is, by its nature, advanced on a landscape scale and includes multiple archaeological assets with shared, nested and overlapping settings as well as individual settings. The photographs above provide an indication of the Site's setting and the visual relationship between the Site and the relevant archaeological assets.

The Site contains suspected archaeological assets and, taking the definition of setting within NPPF literally, is also within the settings of other archaeological assets into, out of and across which there are sightlines of various depth, breadth and duration. However, as with many landscape locations there is a degree of occasional incoherence within the landscape arising from less appealing visual stimuli.

There are no formal views created to provide a manufactured visual experience from, towards, into, out of or across setting of the identified archaeological assets. A view is the consequence of a formally constructed landscape in which vantage points and observable features have been created or modified in order to engender a visual response. There is no evidence of any such view in the immediate or wider environment of the Site. However, the landscape of Calderstones Park does contain feature the location and character of which confirms some consideration of visual composition and deliberate landscape modification. However, this composition does not relate to the archaeological interest. The landscape of the Site is, therefore, the product of a mixture of planned and fortuitous land use which continues to have an influence upon the land use in the immediate and wider setting. The identified archaeological assets have a number of interwoven functional and visual relationships with multiple other historic assets, place and landscape features and this has been taken into account.

Setting is defined as the surroundings in which an archaeological asset is experienced and all archaeological assets have a setting, irrespective of the form in which they survive and whether they are designated or not. Therefore all the archaeological assets identified during this assessment have settings and it is right and proper for this assessment to identify the key attributes of the archaeological assets and their settings and the potential impact upon the settings occasioned by proposed development within the Site. In order to identify these key attributes it is necessary to consider the physical surroundings of the assets, including relationships with other heritage assets, the way the assets are appreciated and the assets' associations and patterns of use.

A consideration of these attributes allows an estimation to be made of whether, how and to what degree setting makes a contribution to the archaeological assets.

Development is capable of affecting the settings of archaeological assets and the ability to understand experience and appreciate them. While heritage assets such as archaeological sites which consist solely of buried remains may not be readily understood by a casual observer, they nonetheless retain a presence in the landscape (in terms of their location, topographical position, and spatial relationship with other heritage assets) and so, like all heritage assets, have a setting. While the form of survival of an asset may influence the contribution its setting makes to its significance, it does not follow that the invisibility of the asset necessarily reduces that contribution.

The value of an archaeological asset can be harmed or lost through alteration within or destruction of its setting. Current policy states that the extent of a setting is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. It is acknowledged that a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the value of an archaeological asset, it may affect the ability to appreciate that value or it may be neutral.

Setting is most commonly framed with reference to visual considerations and so lines of sight to or from an archaeological asset will play an important part in considerations of setting. However, non-visual considerations also apply, such as spatial associations and an understanding of the historic relationship between places. In order to undertake an assessment of significance of the settings to a level of thoroughness proportionate to the relative importance of the assets, the settings of which may be affected by development on the Site, this assessment has sought to describe the setting for each archaeological asset and provide a measure of the contribution that the setting plays in the value of the asset.

The sites of many archaeological assets within any given landscape may be visible from a number of locations – publically accessible areas such as footpaths, streets and the open countryside and also private spaces such as dwellings and private land. The majority of sightlines from to, into and across archaeological assets are, therefore, incidental and are not intrinsically or intimately associated with the significances assigned to any given archaeological asset. However, there are instances where the characteristics of sightlines may be have been intentionally designed and as part of the setting are integral to the significance. Taking into account these considerations all but one of the archaeological assets identified in this assessment do not require a detailed setting assessment and it is concluded that the proposed development would have no adverse effect on the settings of these archaeological assets or archaeological sites in the immediate or wider vicinity. The site of the Calderstones, a designated heritage asset, however, does merit closer consideration and the assessment of the potential impact on the setting of the Calderstones and therefore on the significance of the Calderstones is provided in the table below.

Identifier	Name	Status	Setting Description	The Contribution of Setting to the Significance of the Asset	Effects of the proposed development, on significance	Maximising enhancement and minimising harm	Residual Effects
STEP 1				STEP 2	STEP 3	Step 4	Step 5
Gaz. 001	Site of the Calderstones	Designated – Scheduled Ancient Monument	<p>The immediate setting is the interior of a locked, timber and glass building in the style of a hexagonal conservatory. The wider setting is the municipal recreation facility of Calderstones Park, a landscape formed from the estates of Calderstones and Hart Hill. To the west the landscape setting is that of a manicured and managed public park. To the east the setting is less salubrious, taking the form of a less visually appealing area within the park used for storage of waste vegetation cuttings and leaves, separated from the conservatory by a low brick-built wall and a straggly hedge.</p>	<p>The setting is pleasant wooded environment with the south-eastern suburbs of a large City in north-western England. The immediate and wider setting provides a secure and agreeable environment in which to appreciate the Calderstones.</p> <p>The evidential value of the Calderstones is high as their potential to contribute to society's understanding of its past is considerable. However, the setting has little input other than in its publically accessible location which facilitates access and amenity promoting on-going understanding and interpretation. There is little chance of the intrinsic evidential value of the Calderstones being further diminished by attrition or loss and this value has little to do with setting, other than providing a landscape essay on the lessons to be learned from the successes and failures of various private and civic approaches to the conservation and preservation of archaeological assets.</p> <p>The aesthetic value of the setting from which sensory and intellectual stimulation is generated is, by and large, positive, but it has no functional connection to the original setting of the features from which the Calderstones were derived. Therefore the aesthetics of the setting make no real contribution to the significance of the Calderstones</p> <p>The historic value of the setting is moderate as the setting provides some opportunity for the ways in which past communities, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present. However, the Calderstones are not located within a landscape in which any contemporary features have survived from the prehistoric past, other than the broad landform characteristics, which are effectively masked by the built environment</p> <p>The illustrative facets of the historic value for prehistory and the meta-history of heritage conservation are profound and depend on visibility. The visibility of the monument in its setting is, however, restricted to a very small envelope, to all intents and purposes within a building, rather than outside in the landscape. Therefore the setting has almost no contribution to make to the historic value as the insights into, past communities and their activities reside exclusively in direct experience of the fabric of the Calderstones. The setting does, however have associative value with the Joseph Need Walker and several of the region's most significant antiquarians.</p> <p>Communal value derives from the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. In commemorative and symbolic terms the Calderstones can be said to contribute to Liverpool's identity although the degree to which Liverpool's current communities identify with the Neolithic and Bronze Age communities of the area is debatable. The Calderstones do evoke past lives and events, but the character of the setting has no role to play in telling the story of the prehistoric function of Calderstones.</p>	<p>The proposed development would lead to a residential scheme in a currently open, albeit visually unappealing, environment. However landscaping would provide effective physical and visual separation between the development and the Calderstones and in terms of setting, the visual context to the west of the Calderstones would remain unaltered, if not somewhat improved by a more focussed and sympathetic boundary treatment. The setting of the Calderstones would be changed, and the development would lead to the frustration of historic land-use, but preservation of the setting (in the sense of doing no harm) and the maintenance of access would be achieved and no adverse effect or harm would be caused to the setting or the significance of the Calderstones</p>	<p>A review of the location of the Calderstones would provide opportunities to secure its long-term conservation in a more suitable setting and the application provides the Council with the chance to open a dialogue with the applicant and other stakeholders to explore ways in which the proposed development can act as a catalyst for the enhancement and presentation of the Calderstones for public benefit.</p>	<p>The long-term future of the Calderstones and much of its setting is beyond the control of the Applicant and external initiatives may affect the local landscape within the period of the application and its determination. With respect to the proposed development and, <i>ceteris paribus</i> the residual effects of the proposed development upon the significance of the Calderstones would be neutral/slight positive.</p>

7. CONCLUSIONS

The proposed development on the Site takes the form of a residential development including landscaping, access and associated infrastructure.

There are no registered World Heritage Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, or Registered Battlefields wholly or partly within in the Site or the wider Assessment Area. The Scheduled Ancient Monument of the Calderstones is adjacent to the Site's eastern boundary. Therefore, this assessment confirms that the Site does not contain any designated archaeological assets for which there would be a presumption in favour of preservation *in situ* and against development.

The suspected locations of a number of archaeological assets are recorded within the Site, but the actual presence/absence of archaeological remains remains untested and unproven. The potential for as yet unknown archaeological remains to be present at the Site has been estimated as high.

Due to the nature of the proposed development, separation distances, and the character of the intervening landform none of the settings of the identified archaeological assets outside the Site would be adversely affected by development on the Site and therefore the heritage significance of such assets would not be harmed. The proposed development would not impact on the historic, aesthetic, architectural, evidential or communal values ascribed to the designated asset of the Calderstones and therefore, the proposed development is accordance with local policy HD16.

This Assessment enables an informed, sustainable and responsible approach to the promotion of development of land at Harthill Road. The information provided meets the expectations of NPPF in that the applicant has described the significance of archaeological assets that may be affected by the proposed development and has also assessed any contribution made by the settings of the identified archaeological assets. It is considered that the level of detail provided is proportionate to the assets' importance and is sufficient to allow the Local Planning Authority to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the significance of the assets. With respect to local policy HD17 the Applicant has arranged for assessment of the archaeological implications of the proposals by a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, employed by a Registered Organisation of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists at an early stage and the results of the assessment are submitted as part of the planning application.

The proposal would cause no harm to any known designated archaeological assets nor harm the settings of any designated archaeological assets. The proposal would lead to an impact on a number of suspected sites of archaeological remains. With respect to local and national policy considerations relevant to non-designated cultural heritage assets the LPA is directed to make '*a balanced judgement having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset*'. The scale of loss/harm to suspected undesignated archaeological assets is unknown, but may be substantial in that any such remains could be extirpated. However, it is concluded that there are no reasons arising from archaeological considerations to refuse planning permission as mitigation measures could be deployed to ameliorate the potential adverse effects of the proposed development.

In order that the archaeological potential of the Site can be adequately treated the option is available to the LPA, should it be mindful to grant consent, to apply a condition to the consent condition which requires the applicant or the successor(s) in title to secure the implementation of a programme of archaeological work. The intent of the condition would be to require the applicant, or the successor(s) in title, to identify, record and advance understanding of the significance of any archaeological assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. This mitigatory option is in line with the relevant provisions in NPPF and the local policy (HD17).

8. SOURCES

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