



Network Space

FARADAY ROAD, KNOWSLEY, MERSEYSIDE

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment





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TYPE OF DOCUMENT (VERSION) CONFIDENTIAL

PROJECT NO. 70073657

OUR REF. NO. 70073657-ARC

DATE: JANUARY 2023

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QUALITY CONTROL

Issue/revision	First issue	Revision 1	Revision 2	Revision 3
Remarks	First draft for comment	Revised with updated HER data		
Date	17/07/2020	27/01/2023		
Prepared by	Matthew Jackson	Phillipa Haworth		
Signature		Haworth, Phillipa (UKPJH005) Digitally signed by Haworth, Phillipa (UKPJH005) DN: cn=Haworth, Phillipa (UKPJH005), ou=Active, email=Phillipa.Haworth@wsp.com Date: 2023.02.03 13:57:32		
Checked by	Elizabeth Murray	Liz Murray		
Signature		Murray, Elizabeth (elizabeth.murray) Digitally signed by Murray, Elizabeth (elizabeth.murray) DN: cn=Murray, Elizabeth (elizabeth.murray), ou=Active, email=elizabeth.murray@wsp.com Reason: I have reviewed this document Date: 2023.02.03 14:02:52		
Authorised by	Natasha Powers			
Signature				
Project number	70073657			
Report number	70073657-ARC			
File reference				

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

WSP UK Ltd (WSP) was commissioned on 8th June 2020, by Network Space, to provide an archaeological desk-based assessment (ADBA) to inform a joint Planning Application for the development of a site for the storage of operational vehicles at Faraday Road, Knowsley. The site is 3.5 hectares in size and located at central OS Grid Reference: SJ 42904 97169 (hereby referred to as 'the Proposed Development').

This desk-based study assesses the impact on buried heritage assets (archaeological remains). Although above ground heritage assets (historic structures) are not discussed in detail, they have been noted where they assist in the archaeological interpretation of the site.

The site and wider 1km study area does not contain any nationally designated heritage assets, such as Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings. Previous industrial expansion in the area has removed several non-designated assets originally located in the inner 500m study area: These post-medieval buildings were demolished in the 20th century during the construction and subsequent expansion of Kirkby Industrial Estate.

A modern railway embankment (WSP001), identified from historical mapping, was noted within the Proposed Development site. However, evidence of this embankment was not identified during walkover survey. Most of the site appears to have undergone extensive disturbance over the last decade, with evidence of spoil heaps and levelled areas, visible both during the site visit and from satellite imagery.

This assessment suggests there is low potential for Prehistoric to Post-Medieval remains on the site and a high potential for Modern remains. Any construction impacts would be direct and permanent resulting in up to a minor adverse effect. Previous construction activity within the Proposed Development area has lowered the potential for the survival of below ground heritage assets. There would be no impact on below ground heritage assets during the operation phase as all groundworks will have been completed.

Due to the relatively low potential for archaeological survival, and following consultation with the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, no further mitigation measures are recommended for below ground assets.

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

- 1.1.1. WSP UK Ltd (WSP) was commissioned on 8th June 2020, by Network Space, to provide an archaeological desk-based assessment (ADBA) to inform a joint Planning Application for the development of a site at Faraday Road, Knowsley for the storage of operational vehicles, including resurfacing, ancillary parking, and ancillary infrastructure. The Proposed Development is 3.48 hectares in size and located at central OS Grid Reference: SJ 42904 97169, Figure 1.
- 1.1.2. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas within the boundary of the Proposed Development or the outer 1km study area surrounding the Proposed Development.

1.2 SCOPE

- 1.2.1. The report provides a baseline of known or potential buried heritage assets (archaeological remains) within or immediately around the Proposed Development. Professional expert opinion has been used to assess heritage significance, based on archaeological and historical values, considering past ground disturbance which may have compromised survival. The report includes recommendations to mitigate any adverse effects (e.g. site-based investigation and/or design changes), where appropriate.
- 1.2.2. The Proposed Development will comprise construction of a van storage area, including resurfacing, amendments to access and ancillary infrastructure.

1.3 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- 1.3.1. Archaeology is a material consideration in the planning process and its value is recognised in national and local planning policy. The aim of this report is to assess the impact of the Proposed Development works and to provide a suitable strategy to mitigate any adverse effects, if required, as part of a planning application for the works. The aim is achieved through five objectives, which are to:
- Identify the presence of any known or potential heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals;
 - Describe the significance of such assets, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), taking into account factors which may have compromised asset survival;
 - Assess the likely impacts upon the significance of the assets arising from the proposals,
 - Assess the impact of the Proposed Development on how designated heritage assets are understood and experienced through changes to their setting, and;
 - Provide recommendations for further investigation and/or mitigation where required, aimed at reducing or removing completely any adverse effects.

1.4 KEY HERITAGE CONSTRAINTS

- 1.4.1. There are no Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas within the boundary of the Proposed Development.

Key heritage constraints comprise:

- Unknown below ground heritage assets within the footprint of the Proposed Development possibly relating to agricultural practices within the area. There is also potential for remains associated with the modern railway (WSP001).

1.5 CONSULTATION

- 1.5.1. Consultation with the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service was undertaken on 15th July 2020. Following this consultation, it was agreed that no further investigation or mitigation measures will be required at the site of the Proposed Development. This assessment will be forwarded by the client to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for comment.
- 1.5.2. An updated Historic Environment Record (HER) search was undertaken in 2023. The revised gazetteer entries create material change on the archaeological potential of the site or the outcome of the previous assessment.

2 PLANNING FRAMEWORK

2.1 NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY FRAMEWORK

- 2.1.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, revised July 2021) sets out the Government's planning policies for England and provides guidance for planning authorities and developers on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. The primary objective of the NPPF is to foster the delivery of sustainable development, not to prevent it.
- 2.1.2. The National Planning Policy for "Conserving and enhancing the historic environment" is found in section 16, paragraphs 184-202. The section is split into two main considerations "Proposals affecting heritage assets" and "Considering potential impacts".
- 2.1.3. The web-based National Planning Policy Guidance can be found online: (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/national-planning-policy-framework>).

2.2 LOCAL POLICY

- 2.2.1. The Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy was adopted in January 2016¹. Policy CS20 Managing the Borough's Historic Environment
- Development proposals in Knowsley should preserve or enhance the borough's historic and architectural assets, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Historic Parks and Gardens and archaeological remains, together with other local areas, buildings and structures of historic importance. The Council will:
 - Require preservation of the local distinctiveness and character of historic assets through sensitive design of new development, including appropriate integration with their setting and immediate landscape;
 - Prevent demolition and/or development which would result in substantial harm or the loss of a designated historic asset or its setting, unless the proposal would result in substantial public benefits which clearly outweigh the harm or loss;
 - Where a development proposal will result in less than substantial harm to a designated heritage asset or its setting, assess such harm against the benefits of the proposal;
 - Facilitate long term conservation and enhancement of local assets and areas of historic importance, including through the preparation of Conservation Area Management Plans.
 - Development proposals on sites which include, or are considered to have the potential to include, heritage assets or comprising archaeological interest, should be accompanied by a heritage impact statement.

¹ Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy (2016) <https://localplanmaps.knowsley.gov.uk/documents/knowsley-local-plan-adopted-core-strategy.pdf>

- Locally important historic assets which are not subject to statutory designation will be identified in a local list and will be afforded consideration in the decision-making process.
- Other important areas and historic buildings and structures in Knowsley are also valuable to local distinctiveness and character, despite falling outside of national statutory designations, and therefore the policy ensures an appropriate approach with an expectation that their character will be integrated with new development. The Council will support this approach by producing a local list of buildings which are important in a local context because of their contribution to the area's character, with supplementary policy guidance provided via the Design Quality and New Development SPD.
- Knowsley contains a number of important archaeological remains which are important historical assets. New development should take into account the need to preserve or record archaeological remains. Where evidence suggests that development could affect archaeological remains, the developer will be required to arrange investigations to assess their character, condition and extent. In the event, that remains are identified as of specific importance, the developer may be required to design the development to enable preservation in-situ, or if appropriate arrange for the excavation, recording, analysis and reporting of the remains.

3 METHODOLOGY AND SOURCES

3.1 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 3.1.1. The assessment has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and to standards specified by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists² and Historic England³.
- 3.1.2. In order to determine the full historic environment potential of the site, a broad range of standard documentary and cartographic sources, including results from any archaeological investigations within the site, and for a 1km radius study area for designated assets and inner 500m study area for non-designated assets, were examined in order to determine the likely nature, extent, preservation and significance of any known or possible buried heritage assets that may be present within or adjacent to the site.

Table 1 below provides a summary of the key data sources.

Table 1 - Summary of Data Sources

Source	Data	Comment
Historic England	National Heritage List for England (NHLE) with information on statutorily designated heritage assets	Statutory designations (scheduled monuments; statutorily listed buildings; registered parks and gardens; historic battlefields) can provide a significant constraint to development.
Merseyside County Council	Historic Environment Record (HER) Conservation Area Grey Literature	Primary repository of archaeological information. Includes information from past investigations, local knowledge, find spots, and documentary and cartographic sources
British Geological Survey (BGS)	Solid and drift geology digital map; online BGS geological borehole record data.	Subsurface deposition, including buried geology and topography, can provide an indication of potential for early human settlement, and potential depth of archaeological remains.

² ClfA 2014: Standards and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment and 2017: Standards and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment

³ Historic England 2017: The setting of heritage assets

- 3.1.3. Figure 2 show the location of known historic environment features within the study area, as identified by the sources above, the site visit, or during the course of research for this assessment.

3.2 STUDY AREA

- 3.2.1. There are no designated heritage assets within a 1km study area around the Proposed Development. A 500m inner study area has been applied for non-designated heritage assets. A gazetteer of all heritage assets in the study areas is presented in Appendix A and shown on Figure 2 in Appendix C.

3.3 CONSULTATIONS

- 3.3.1. Consultation with the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, in regard to the necessity for any further work was undertaken on 15th July 2020. Following this consultation, it was agreed that no further mitigation measures will be required at the site of the Proposed Development. This assessment will be forwarded by the client to the LPA for comment.

3.4 SITE VISIT

- 3.4.1. The site was visited by a member of the WSP Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Team on 13th of July 2020. The walkover comprised a visual inspection of the area of the Proposed Development. No additional heritage assets were identified.
- 3.4.2. The site was overgrown with weeds and foliage, with trees lining the boundaries. Large areas of modern disturbance were identified such as landscaped, flattened areas, spoil heaps and ditches (Figures 3-1 to 3-3). There were no obvious signs of the railway embankment (WSP001) identified from OS mapping (See 4.6.22). The site was extensively disturbed, and it appears that several areas of the site have been used to dispose of rubble and waste.



Figure 3-1: Levelled areas within the site, looking east (WSP, 2020)



Figure 3-2: Areas of rubble within the site, looking west (WSP, 2020)



Figure 3-3: Modern ditch in the east of the site, looking south-west (WSP, 2020)

3.5 ASSESSING HERITAGE SIGNIFICANCE

- 3.5.1. 'Significance' lies in the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest, which may be historic, archaeological, architectural, or artistic. Known and potential heritage assets within the site and its vicinity have been identified from national and local designations, HER data and expert opinion. The determination of the significance of these assets follows Historic England guidance⁴ and is based on statutory designation and/or professional judgement against the following values referred to in the NPPF:
- **Historic Interest:** the ways in which the asset can illustrate the story of past events, people, and aspects of life (illustrative value or interest). This can hold communal value when associated with the identity of the current community. Historical interest considers whether the asset is the first, only, or best surviving example of an innovation of consequence, whether related to design, artistry, technology, or social organisation. It also considers an asset's integrity (completeness), current use/original purpose, significance in place making, associative value with a notable person, event, or movement.
 - **Archaeological Interest:** the potential of the physical remains to yield evidence of past human activity and the interest in carrying out an expert investigation at some point in the future and may apply to standing buildings or structures as well as buried remains. This includes above-ground structures and landscapes, earthworks and buried or submerged remains, palaeoenvironmental deposits, and takes into account date; rarity; state of preservation; diversity/complexity; contribution to published priorities (research value); supporting documentation; collective value and comparative potential, and sensitivity to change.
 - **Architectural and Artistic Interest:** derive from a contemporary appreciation of an asset's aesthetics. The former is associated with the art or science of design, construction, craftsmanship and decoration of buildings and structures. The latter is derived from creative expression which might use, represent or influence historic places or buildings through art (contributing to their significance through their association with art), as well as the meaning, skill and emotional impact of works of art that are either part of heritage assets or assets in their own right.
- 3.5.2. These values encompass the criteria that Historic England are obliged to consider when statutorily designating heritage assets. There is no single defining criterion that dictates the overall asset significance; each asset must be evaluated against the range of criteria listed above on a case-by-case basis. Unless the nature and exact extent of buried archaeological remains within any given area has been determined through prior investigation, significance is often uncertain.
- Table 2 below gives examples of the significance of designated and non-designated heritage asset; it should be used alongside professional judgement when determining significance.

Table 2: Criteria to Assess the Value of Heritage Assets (adapted from the DMRB guidance)

ance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets, Historic England Advice Note 12 nce in Heritage Assets, Historic England Advice Note 12

Heritage asset description	Significance
World heritage sites Undesignated sites of very high international value	Very High
Scheduled monuments Grade I and II* listed buildings Grade II listed buildings of high national value Conservation Areas of high national value Grade I and II* registered parks and gardens Designated historic battlefields Protected Wrecks Undesignated heritage assets of high national importance	High
Grade II listed buildings of lower national, regional or county importance Grade II registered parks and gardens Conservation areas of lower national, regional or county importance Protected heritage landscapes (e.g. ancient woodland or historic hedgerows) Undesignated heritage assets of lower national, regional or county importance	Medium
Heritage assets with a local (ie parish) value or interest for education or cultural appreciation	Low
Heritage asset with no significant value or interest	Negligible
Heritage assets that have a clear potential, but for which current knowledge is insufficient to allow significance to be determined	Uncertain

- 3.5.3. The assessment of the magnitude of impact (ie change) is the identification of the degree of the effect of the Proposed Development on the heritage assets. There is no standard scale of comparison against which the severity of effects on heritage assets may be judged, because of the great variety of resources and assets. The assignment of a magnitude of impact is a matter of professional judgement (Table 3).

Table 3: Magnitude of Impact Criteria

Impact	Description
Major	Change to most or all key archaeological materials or key historic building elements, such that the resource is totally altered Comprehensive changes to setting
Moderate	Changes to many key archaeological materials or key historic building elements, such that the resource is clearly modified Considerable changes to setting that affect the character of the asset
Minor	Changes to key archaeological materials or key historic building elements, such that the asset is slightly altered

	Slight changes to setting
Negligible	Very minor changes to archaeological materials or historic building elements, or setting
No Change	No change

- 3.5.4. The significance of effect on designated and non-designated heritage assets has been derived from a consideration of the value of the receptor and the magnitude of the impact upon it, as illustrated by the matrix presented in Table 4.

Table 4 - Impact Significance

		Magnitude of Impact				
		Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	No Change
Value	Very High	Very Large	Large/Very Large	Moderate/Large	Slight	Neutral
	High	Large/Very Large	Moderate/Large	Moderate/Slight	Slight	Neutral
	Medium	Moderate/Large	Moderate	Slight	Neutral/Slight	Neutral
	Low	Slight/Moderate	Slight	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Neutral
	Negligible	Slight	Neutral/Slight	Neutral/Slight	Neutral	Neutral
	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown

3.6 ASSUMPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS

- 3.6.1. The Proposed Development will not impact the setting of any built heritage or earthworks; therefore, this report is an assessment of the impact on below ground archaeological remains only.
- 3.6.2. The information presented in this report has been drawn from data obtained from a variety of sources and includes secondary information. It is assumed that this information is accurate.
- 3.6.3. The data provided by Historic Environment Records is not a record of all surviving heritage assets, but a record of the discovery of wide range of archaeological and historical components of the historic environment. There is a potential for the presence of further, unrecorded, heritage assets and components of the historic environment.
- 3.6.4. Due to the Government restrictions relating to COVID-19 the heritage team were unable to carry out a visit to the Merseyside Archive and Records Office and the assessment relied on digital HER information from the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, and available online resources.

3.7 COPYRIGHT

- 3.7.1. This report may contain material to which WSP does not hold the copyright or the intellectual property of third parties and cannot be transferred to other parties.

4 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT BASELINE

4.1 SITE LOCATION

- 4.1.1. The Proposed Development is situated south of Faraday Road, Knowsley, Liverpool (NGR 342913, 397180; Appendix C, Figure 1). The site comprises of overgrown scrubland, woodland and industrial wasteland. The site is bounded by industrial buildings to the north, east and south and by overgrown scrubland to the west.

4.2 TOPOGRAPHY

- 4.2.1. The Proposed Development lies on a relatively flat area, gently sloping from 35m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) in the east to 30m AOD in the west. There is a small pond in the north-west corner of the site.

4.3 GEOLOGY

- 4.3.1. The geology of the area comprises of Chester Formation, which is a sedimentary sandstone bedrock and is overlaid by a superficial geology of Till Devansian, Diamicton. The Chester Formation is a sedimentary bedrock formed 247 to 250 million years ago in the Triassic Period and demonstrates a local environment previously dominated by rivers. The Till is a superficial deposit formed up to two million years ago in the quaternary period and is indicative of a local environment previously dominated by Ice Age conditions.⁵

4.4 OVERVIEW OF HERITAGE ASSETS

- 4.4.1. There are no designated heritage assets within the 1km study area. There are four non-designated heritage assets within the 500m study area (Appendix C, Figure 2). A single asset, identified from historic mapping, was noted within the Proposed Development area; this comprises the site of a previous railway embankment (WSP001). However, no remains were identified during the walkover of the site.
- 4.4.2. Three assets were noted from the HER outside of the Proposed Development Area but within the 500m study area: the former sites of Little Horn House (MME5651), Great Horn House (MME5655), and Great Briton Farm (MME12027) all dating from between the 18th and the mid to late 20th century.

4.5 OVERVIEW OF PAST INVESTIGATIONS

- 4.5.1. There have been no previous archaeological investigations within the Proposed Development. Within the wider 1km study area a programme of fieldwalking, undertaken near Knowsley Lane and Canrow Lane in 1982, (990m to the south-east of the Proposed Development) discovered Post-Medieval pottery. Fieldwalking in the early 1990s to the north of Molly's Lane (860m to the north-east of the Proposed Development) produced a burnt flint of unknown date.

⁵ British Geological Survey 2020. <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringGeology/geologyOfBritain/viewer.html>

4.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

PREHISTORIC PERIOD (800,000 BC–AD 43)

- 4.6.1. The current understanding of Palaeolithic and Mesolithic activity in north-west England is limited, but there is archaeological evidence of Palaeolithic activity in the region, with the nearest site to the Proposed Development located at Carden Park Cheshire, c 44km to the south.⁶ However, archaeological remains from the Mesolithic period have been recovered in Merseyside. This includes evidence of the exploitation of resources and the movement of people between coastal and inland environments.⁷ The most dramatic evidence of Mesolithic activity consists of human footprints preserved within salt marshes at Formby⁸, approximately 17km north-west of the Proposed Development. Important Mesolithic remains have also come to light at Lunt Meadows (9km to the north-west), which included two substantial dwelling structures dating to between 5900BC and 5800BC.⁹ Further afield 33km to the east, prehistoric flints were revealed at Port Salford, Greater Manchester.
- 4.6.2. A few Neolithic sites have been identified in Merseyside; lithic material has been recovered from the area to the south of the estuary of the River Alt (5.7km to the north-west of the Proposed Development). Generally, in lowland Merseyside the lithic distribution pattern is biased towards single or near-single findspots.¹⁰ A Neolithic stone axe was recovered in Ashton in Makerfield¹¹ (c. 14km north-east of the Proposed Development), while cereal pollen from a pollen core was recovered in Prescot (c. 6km south-east from the Proposed Development) dating to 2600-2500 BC.¹² Pollen analysis of samples derived from Parr Moss (c 10km east of the Proposed Development) suggests only partial clearance in the area during the Prehistoric period¹³.
- 4.6.3. There is no evidence of Prehistoric activity within the inner and wider study areas, nor within the Proposed Development boundary. Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of prehistoric date within the Proposed Development site is judged to be low.

ROMAN PERIOD (AD 43–410)

- 4.6.4. The Roman conquest of Britain in AD 43 spread from the south of England to the north-west. The Roman military encountered various tribes inhabiting the Mersey valley, as described in Ptolemy's Geography c. 2nd century AD. By AD 77 to 79, Roman occupation in northern England was established. This led to the establishment of a network of forts and roads, including a strong military presence. Pollen evidence from Parr Moss (3.5km to the north of the Proposed Development) during

⁶ Hodgeson and Brennand, 2006 Prehistoric Period Resource Assessment, in An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region, 25

⁷ Cowell 1983

⁸ Hodgeson and Brennand Prehistoric Period Resource Assessment, 25

⁹ Myers, A, 2017 North West Regional Research Framework Prehistory Resource Assessment Update, 4

¹⁰ Hodgeson and Brennand, 2006 Prehistoric Period Resource Assessment, in An Archaeological Research Framework for the North West Region, 35

¹¹ Cowell and Innes 1991

¹² Cowell 1991, 37.; Innes and Tomlinson 1991

¹³ Merseyside County Council 1982, 'Knowsley Rural Fringes Survey Report' in Archaeological Survey of Merseyside

the Romano-British period suggests clearance was intensified during Roman occupation¹⁴. Evidence of Roman settlement in Knowsley is limited to a series of find spots of single coins in Kirkby, Knowsley, Huyton and Tarbock, with three being discovered in Simonswood.¹⁵

- 4.6.5. There is no evidence of Romano-British activity within the inner and wider study areas, nor within the Proposed Development boundary. Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of Romano-British date within the Proposed Development is judged to be low.

EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD (AD 410–1066)

- 4.6.6. In comparison to other periods the Early Medieval era has been under-studied in the North-West. In recent years this has been readdressed in both terms of historical sources and with a growing number of archaeological investigations. Sites such as the multiperiod (Prehistoric to Medieval) settlement site at Irby, The Wirral, have contributed significantly to our understanding of settlement and economy in the Lancashire region during this period.¹⁶
- 4.6.7. By the mid-8th century the area of Lancashire between the Ribble and the Mersey formed part of the kingdom of Northumbria, becoming part of England in the 10th century.¹⁷ In the mid-9th and early 10th century England was subjected to further influxes of population, with the Norse settling in the north and west.¹⁸
- 4.6.8. The only known likely pre-Conquest settlement sites in the area are located at Kirkby and Huyton. The dedication of the chapel at Kirkby to St Chad, a mid-7th century saint and Bishop of Lichfield (in Mercia) implies an early settlement. By the early 10th century there was a village with the Norse name Kirby, which translates to ‘church-village’.¹⁹
- 4.6.9. There is no evidence of Early Medieval activity within the Proposed Development boundary. Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of Early Medieval date within the Proposed Development is judged to be low.

LATE MEDIEVAL PERIOD (AD 1066–1540)

- 4.6.10. The North-West in the Late Medieval period was generally sparsely populated, with dispersed and isolated farms and small hamlets, and with poor quality agricultural land. The towns were smaller than average, and there is likely to have been less incentive to establish the kinds of manufacturing, businesses and trade that brought in the goods that provide the evidence for material culture on most excavations of medieval settlements.²⁰

¹⁴ Museum of Liverpool and English Heritage 2011, ‘St Helens Historic Settlement Study’ in Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project.

¹⁵ Cowell, R. (1982). Knowsley Rural Fringes Survey Report. Merseyside County Museums. Liverpool.

¹⁶ Philpott, R. A., & Adams, M. H. (2010). Irby, Wirral Excavations on a Late Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval Site, 1987-96. National Museums Liverpool.

¹⁷ Newman, R, 1996 The Dark Ages in Newman, R, *The Archaeology of Lancashire*, Lancaster

¹⁸ Cowell, R. (1982). Knowsley Rural Fringes Survey Report. Merseyside County Museums. Liverpool.

¹⁹ Ibid

²⁰ Newman, C. & Newman, R. (2006) The Medieval Period Research Agenda. Archaeology North West Vol 9

- 4.6.11. In Knowsley, the parishes are divided into several townships with the Proposed Development lying on the border of the Kirkby and Knowsley townships.
- 4.6.12. In the Domesday Book of 1086, Knowsley was known as Chenulveslei, from the Old English personal name Cenulfes and Leah meaning meadow field.²¹ It is also referred to as Knuvesle in 1199; Knouselegh in 1258; Knouleslee in 1261; Knusele in 1262; and Knouslegh in 1346.²² The development of the village of Knowsley can be tied to the Earls of Derby with their vast estate and residence at Knowsley Hall, situated c.3.7km to the south-east of the Proposed Development. The manors of Knowsley, Roby, Huyton and Tarbock were all held by the Earls of Derby before the year 1200.²³
- 4.6.13. There is no evidence of Late Medieval activity within the Proposed Development boundary. Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of Late Medieval date within the Proposed Development is judged to be low.

POST-MEDIEVAL PERIOD (AD 1540 – 1901)

- 4.6.14. In Knowsley, the landscape has been dominated by Knowsley Hall and its 1011ha park since the early Post-Medieval period. The earliest section of the current hall building may date to the early 16th century but much of it is comprised of 17th to 19th century additions²⁴.
- 4.6.15. Until the later 18th century, direct involvement in agriculture formed at least part of the employment of the majority of working people, with most of England's population living in a predominantly rural environment until the middle of the 19th century.²⁵ The dispersed nature of settlement and the agricultural economy is indicated by the number of Post-Medieval and modern farms across both the townships of Knowsley (62 farms; 46 cottages) and Kirkby (36 farms; 19 cottages).²⁶
- 4.6.16. Knowsley's urban development occurred in tandem with the development of turnpike roads in the early 18th century and with the later 19th century growth of the railways. During the 19th century there was a rapid increase in residential development, with the construction of terraced workers' housing and suburban dwellings. During the Inter War and post-war eras corporations replaced the industrialist, building society or private investor as the principal organisation building houses.²⁷

²¹ Eckwall, E. (1960) The Concise Oxford Dictionary of English Place-Names. Oxford University Press. 4th ed.

²² Knowsley Archive Service. 'History – Knowsley Village' available at: <http://archives.knowsley.gov.uk/knowsley-village/history-of-knowsley-village/>

²³ Ibid

²⁴ Pevsner, N. 1969. The Buildings of South Lancashire. Penguin. Harmondsworth

²⁵ McNeil, R. & Newman, R. (2006). The Post-Medieval Period Resource Assessment. Archaeology North West Vol 9

²⁶ Museum of Liverpool. (2011). 'Knowsley Historic Settlement Study' as part of The Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project.

²⁷ Ibid

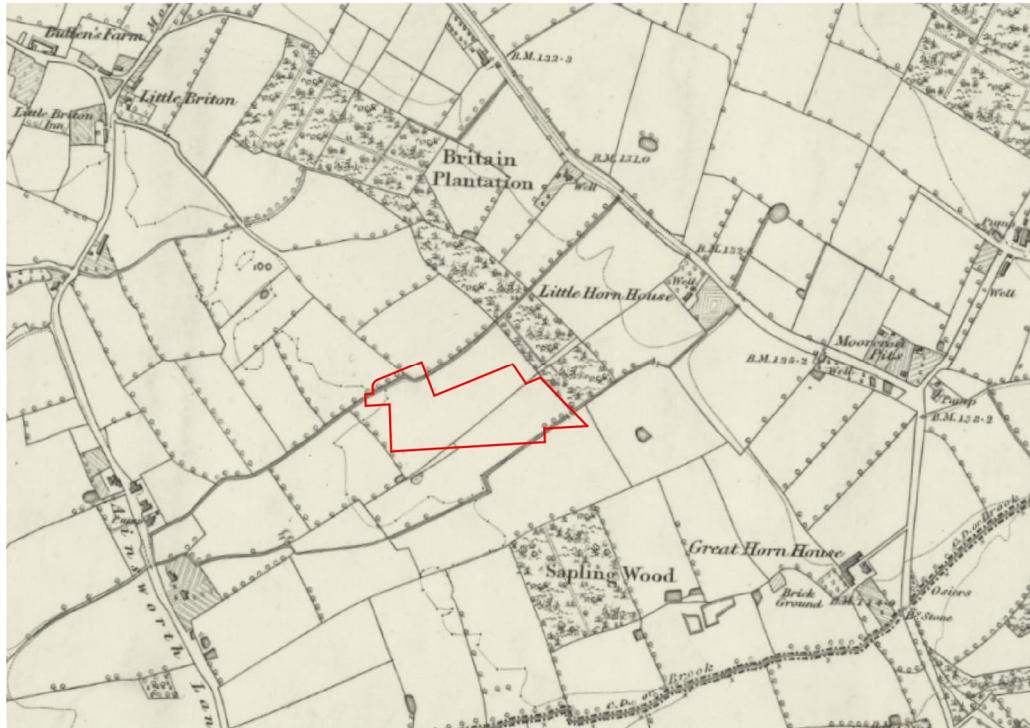


Figure 4-1: Extract from 1850 Ordnance Survey Map

- 4.6.17. The extract from the 1850 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 4-1) shows the Proposed Development footprint as fields, with isolated plantations such as Britain Plantation depicted in the north and Sapling Wood in the south. There are dispersed farmhouses such as Great Horn House (MME5655) to the south-east, Ainsworth House (MME20720) to the south-west, the hamlet of Little Briton and Little Briton Farm (MME12027) which is depicted, but not labelled, in the north-west and Little Horn House (MME5651) to the north-east. These farms predominantly comprise a cluster of buildings arranged around a yard.

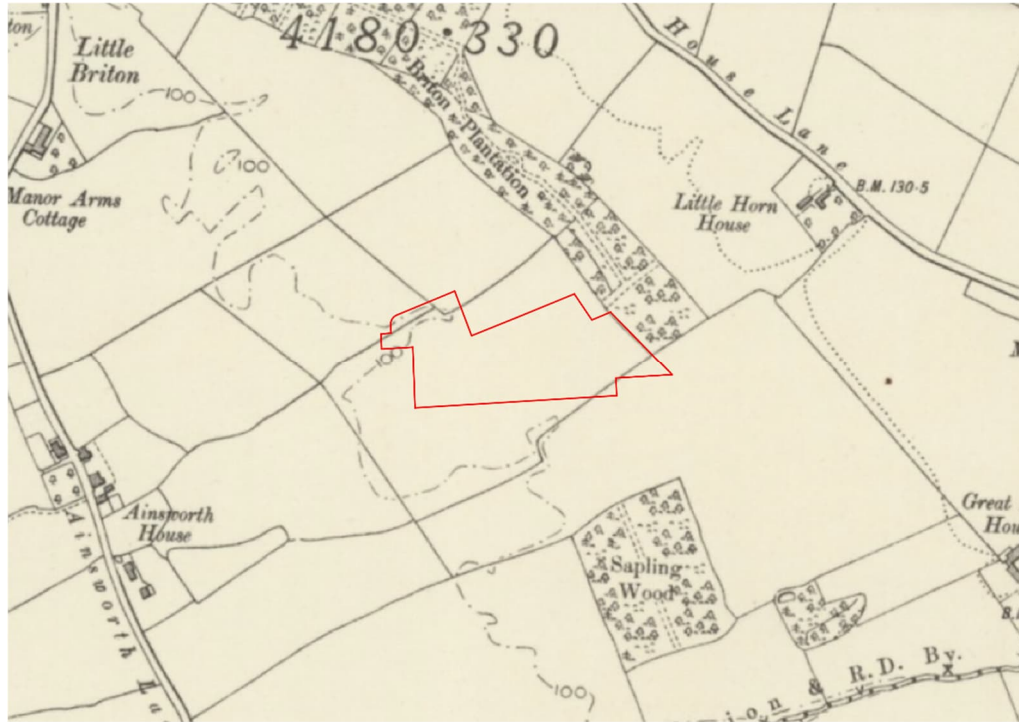


Figure 4-2: Extract from 1894 Ordnance Survey Map

- 4.6.18. The extract from the 1894 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 4-2) shows that many of the fields in the Proposed Development footprint have, by this time, merged to form larger land parcels. This also reflects changes in the wider landscape.
- 4.6.19. The fields within the Proposed Development area will probably have belonged to the farms noted in the HER. These buildings were demolished in the 20th century with the construction and expansion of Kirkby Industrial Estate. It is possible that within the Proposed Development there are agricultural remains relating to these assets, including former field boundaries (Figure 4-1). Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of Post-Medieval date within the Proposed Development is judged to be low/medium.

MODERN PERIOD (AD 1901 - PRESENT)

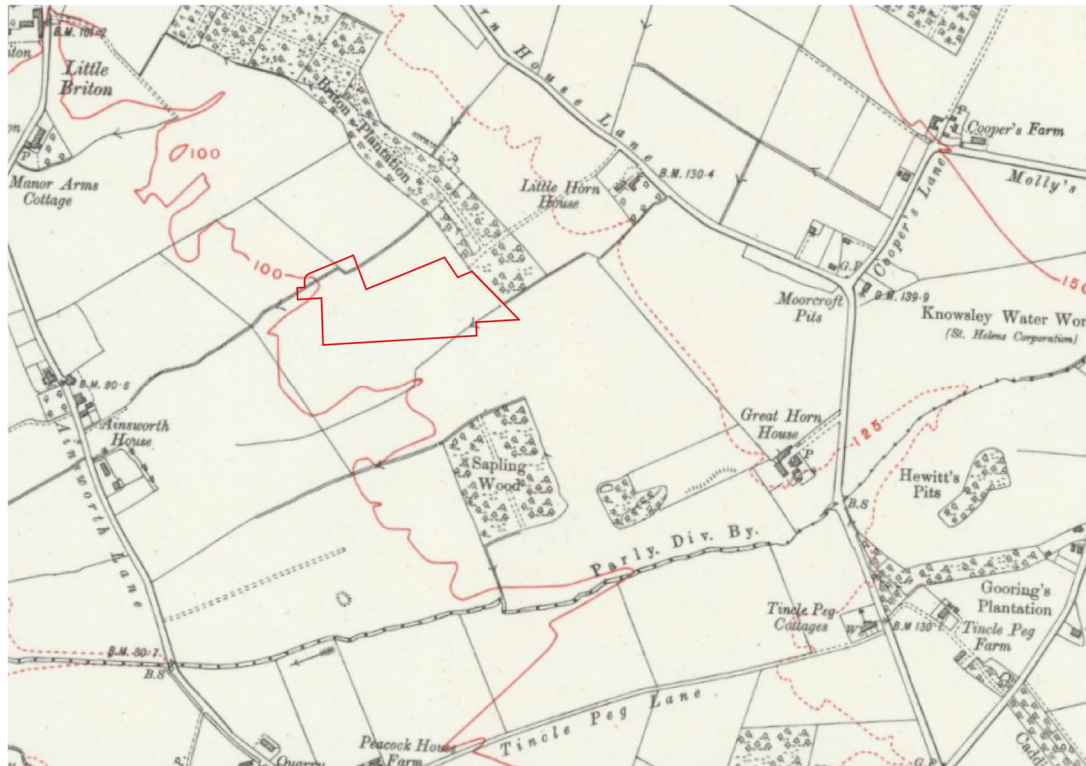


Figure 4-3 - Extract from 1938 Ordnance Survey Map

- 4.6.20. The extract from the 1939 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 4-3) shows no change in the Proposed Development footprint. The main change in the wider area is the presence of the Liverpool to East Lancashire Road (A580) to the south and the Knowsley Water Works to the east.
- 4.6.21. The second half of the 20th century produced the greatest change in the Proposed Development footprint and wider study area, with industrial development removing the majority of the pre-1940s landscape. The Royal Ordnance Filling Factory at Knowsley, located c.550m north of the Proposed Development, was established in 1939. At its peak the factory employed 23,000 people and supplied 10% of all national ammunition. Following the end of the war, in 1946, the factory was closed, however, many of the 1000 buildings on the 300ha site were converted and formed the new Kirkby industrial estate. There was also expansion of the residential area of Kirkby to the north-west.
- 4.6.22. Cartographic evidence shows three factories to the north-east of the Proposed Development were present by 1966 as well as an engineering works factory to the south. OS maps from 1959 show a railway and embankment (WSP001) bisecting the Proposed Development site from the engineering works in the south, to the factories in the north. This appears as dismantled on 1975 OS mapping with the embankment still shown and can be seen on satellite imagery from 2005 (Figure 4-4), however can no longer be seen on imagery from 2020 (Figure 4-5).



Figure 4-4 - Satellite Imagery from 2005 (Google Earth)

- 4.6.23. By the 1970s most of buildings that now surround the Proposed Development site had been built. There is evidence of Modern industrial activity within the Proposed Development boundary, such as the railway route (Figure 4-4). Therefore, the potential for currently unknown remains of Modern/Industrial date within the Proposed Development is judged to be medium.



Figure 4-5 - Satellite Imagery from 2020 (Google Earth)

HISTORIC LANDSCAPE CHARACTER

- 4.6.24. The historic character of Knowsley is described within the Knowsley Historic Settlement Study as part of the Merseyside Historic Characterisation Project (2011) outlined below.
- 4.6.25. About 30% (2592 ha) of the area of Knowsley has been classified as Field System. Much of this is concentrated in the northern and southern parts of the district. Considerable amounts of this land were made up of surveyed enclosure and agglomerated fields formed in the mid-19th and 20th centuries, although there are some areas where earlier enclosure patterns are still visible within the landscape, including pockets of piecemeal enclosure and small but significant areas of former small/semi-regular open fields.
- 4.6.26. Currently the site of the Proposed Development falls inside an industrial area. Prior to this development the character of the wider study area comprised of small regular fields, a small village hamlet (Litton Briton), isolated farms, and a scatter of small plantations. The site of the Proposed Development was recorded as a field system of semi-regular/small size in 1850 and 1893. During the construction of the Industrial estate to the north all this was cleared, resulting in the industrial character present today.

5 FACTORS AFFECTING SURVIVAL

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1. Ground disturbance can impact archaeological remains, this disturbance can include construction, plant roots, quarrying, agricultural activity etc. Through identifying areas of known disturbance predictions can be made on the potential for archaeological remains surviving.

5.2 PREDICTED LEVEL OF ARCHAEOLOGY

- 5.2.1. The predicted level of archaeology is considered to be low for the Prehistoric to Late Medieval periods, low to moderate for the Post-Medieval period, and medium for the Modern period. In areas within no prior development there is also potential for unknown-below ground archaeological remains.

5.3 PAST IMPACTS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVIVAL

- 5.3.1. The development of the area in the second half of the 20th century may affect the survival of below ground heritage assets. This includes the construction of the railway and embankment bisecting the Proposed Development site from the Engineering works in the south to the factories in the north. It is likely that any archaeological remains will have been adversely impacted on through construction; there is a negligible potential for archaeological survival in this area. There is evidence on satellite imagery (Figure 4-4) of topsoil stripping in the east of the site and this is likely to have adversely impacted upon any archaeology in this area.
- 5.3.2. The Proposed Development site appears to have undergone extensive disturbance over the last decade, with evidence of spoil heaps and levelled areas, visible both during the site visit and from Google earth imagery (Figure 4-4 & 4-3).

6 BELOW GROUND HERITAGE ASSETS: STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPACT ASSESSMENT

6.1 INTRODUCTION

- 6.1.1. This section discusses the potential of the site for each chronological period, based on the archaeological and historical background of the area, its geology, topography and hydrology, the likelihood for evidence of past activity, and considering past disturbance which may have affected survival. The likely heritage significance of such remains, where there is potential for such to be present, is also presented.
- 6.1.2. The section also considers the potential impact and effects on below ground archaeological remains. The impacts would, in the main, be due to construction activity.

6.2 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 6.2.1. During construction, anything that would cause ground disturbance, such as preliminary ground works, site strip/topsoil removal, remediation, landscaping, planting, excavation drainage could potentially have an impact on known or possible buried heritage assets. Any impacts would be permanent and irreversible.
- 6.2.2. During the operational phase, effects on buried heritage assets are typically scoped out on the basis that once the Proposed Development has been completed, no further ground disturbance would occur and consequently there would be no additional impact.

6.3 KNOWN BELOW GROUND HERITAGE ASSETS IN THE SITE

- 6.3.1. A modern railway embankment (WSP001) bisected the Proposed Development site from north to west (Appendix C, Figure 2). The remains of the embankment can still be made out in satellite imagery from 2005 (Figure 4-4), however no evidence for it was identified in the site walkover or from imagery from 2020. This asset is of low significance.

6.4 POTENTIAL FOR UNKNOWN BELOW GROUND HERITAGE ASSETS IN THE SITE

- 6.4.1. The following section assesses the general potential for unknown below ground heritage assets across the Proposed Development.
- 6.4.2. There is a negligible potential for Prehistoric remains to be located within the boundary of the Proposed Development. Should, however, evidence of in-situ Prehistoric settlement activity be revealed, it would be of medium value based on its regional archaeological and historical interest. The impact on any Prehistoric assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major and would result in a moderate to large adverse effect on the value of the asset
- 6.4.3. There is a negligible potential for Roman remains to be located within the boundary of the Proposed Development. There is no recorded Roman activity in the development footprint and the 500m study area. If present below ground heritage assets of the Roman period would be of medium value depending on preservation, extent and archaeological and historical value. The impact on any Roman assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major and would result in a moderate to major adverse effect on the value of the asset.

- 6.4.4. There is a negligible potential for Early Medieval remains to be located within the boundary of the Proposed Development. There are no records from this period in the Proposed Development footprint or the wider study area. If present, below ground heritage assets of the Early Medieval period would be of medium value depending on preservation, extent and archaeological and historical value. The impact on any Early Medieval assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major and would result in a moderate to major adverse effect on the value of the asset.
- 6.4.5. There is a low potential for Late Medieval remains to be located within the boundary of the proposed development. If present, below ground heritage assets of the Late Medieval period would be of medium value depending on preservation, extent and archaeological and historical value. The impact on any Late Medieval assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major and would result in a moderate to major adverse effect on the value of the asset.
- 6.4.6. There is a low/medium potential for Post-Medieval remains to be located within the boundary of the Proposed Development. Cartographic evidence suggests that the Proposed Development site has remained largely unchanged in this period (Figure 4-1 & 4-2) and was in agricultural use. Where present, below ground heritage assets of the Post-Medieval period would be of medium value depending on preservation and extent and archaeological and historical value. The impact on any Late-Medieval assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major and would result in a moderate to major adverse effect on the value of the asset.
- 6.4.7. There is a moderate to high potential for below ground remains from the Modern period within the boundary of the Proposed Development. It is possible construction will disturb any previous unknown remains related to the railway (WSP001). Any below ground heritage assets of the Modern period would be of low to negligible value based on their local historical and archaeological interest. The impact on any Modern assets within the boundary of the Proposed Development would be major however due to their low value it would result in a minor adverse effect on the value of the asset.

7 CONCLUSION AND RECOMENDATIONS

- 7.1.1. There is limited potential for direct impacts with significant effects on below ground heritage assets. The construction phase would have permanent impacts on any below ground heritage assets located within the boundary of the Proposed Development.
- 7.1.2. Previous construction activity on the site of the Proposed Development has lowered the potential for the survival of below ground heritage assets. Previous industrial expansion in the area has removed several non-designated assets originally located in the inner 500m study area. These Post-Medieval buildings were demolished in the 20th century during the construction and subsequent expansion of Kirkby Industrial Estate.
- 7.1.3. A modern railway embankment (WSP001) was identified from historical mapping. However, evidence of this embankment was not identified during the walkover survey as the site appears to have undergone extensive disturbance over the last decade, with evidence of spoil heaps and levelled areas, visible both during the site visit and from Google earth imagery.
- 7.1.4. This assessment suggests there is low potential for Prehistoric to Post-Medieval remains on the site and a high potential for Modern remains. Any construction impacts would be direct and permanent resulting in up to a minor adverse effect. Previous construction activity within the Proposed Development area has lowered the potential for the survival of below ground heritage assets. There would be no impact on below ground heritage assets during the operation phase as all groundworks will have been completed. Due to the relatively low potential for archaeological survival, and following consultation with the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service, no further mitigation measures are recommended for below ground assets.

Appendix A

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
GAZETTEER



The table below represents a gazetteer of known historic environment sites and finds within the study area. The gazetteer should be read in conjunction with the historic environment features map.

The Historic Environment Record (HER) data contained within this gazetteer is the copyright of the HER.

Table A-1: Non-Designated assets within the 500m study area

Ref Number	Name	Archaeological/ Historical Period	Value
MME12027	Site of Great Briton Farm, Moorgate Road, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME5651	Site of Little Horn House, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME5655	Site of Great Horn House, Cooper's Lane and East Lancashire Road, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
WSP001	Route of Railway and Embankment	Modern	Low
MME20688	Site of a house, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20695	Site of The Cottage, Moorgate Road, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20708	Site of Wood End Farm, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20714	Site of a house, Moorgate Road, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20715	Location of a kiln, Moorgate Road, Kirkby	18 th Century	Low
MME20716	Site of a house, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20716	Site of a house, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20717	Site of 'Barrows', Ainsworth Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20718	Site of a house, Ainsworth Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20719	Site of a house, Ainsworth Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20720	Site of Ainsworth House, Ainsworth Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 20 th Century	Low
MME20721	Site of a house, Ainsworth Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20738	Site of a cottage, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	18 th to 19 th Century	Low
MME20764	Site of The Cottage, Hornhouse Lane, Kirkby	19 th to 20 th Century	Low



Appendix B

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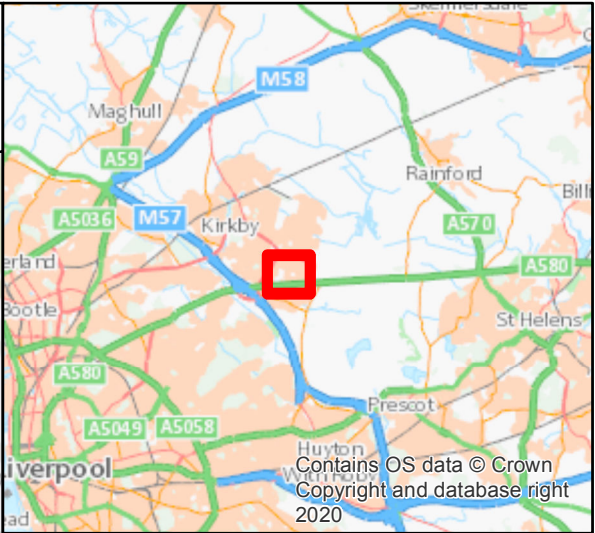
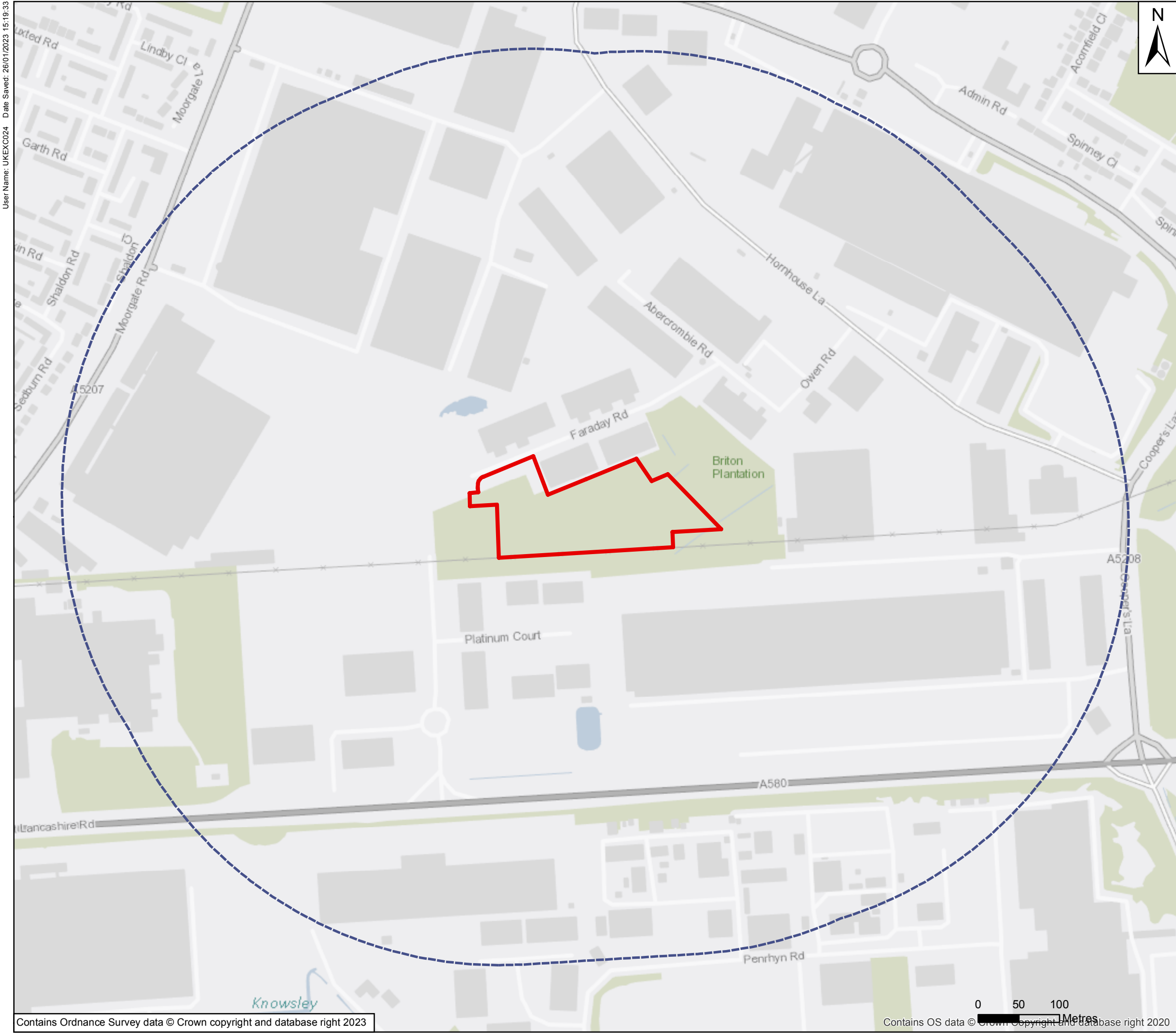
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Appendix C

FIGURES





Legend

- Proposed Development
- - - 500m Buffer



Client:

Network Space

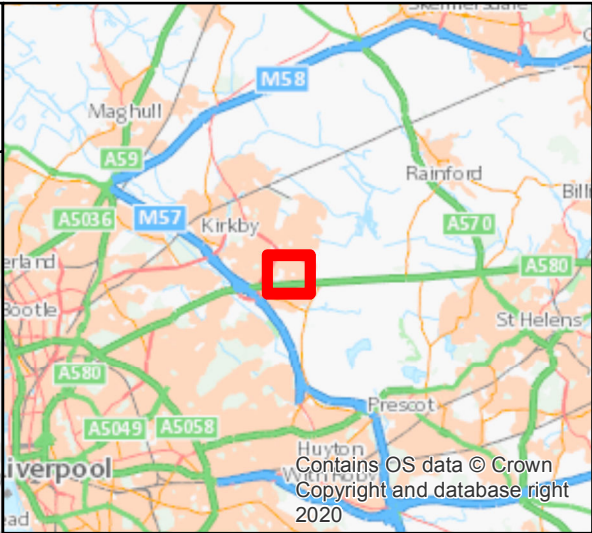
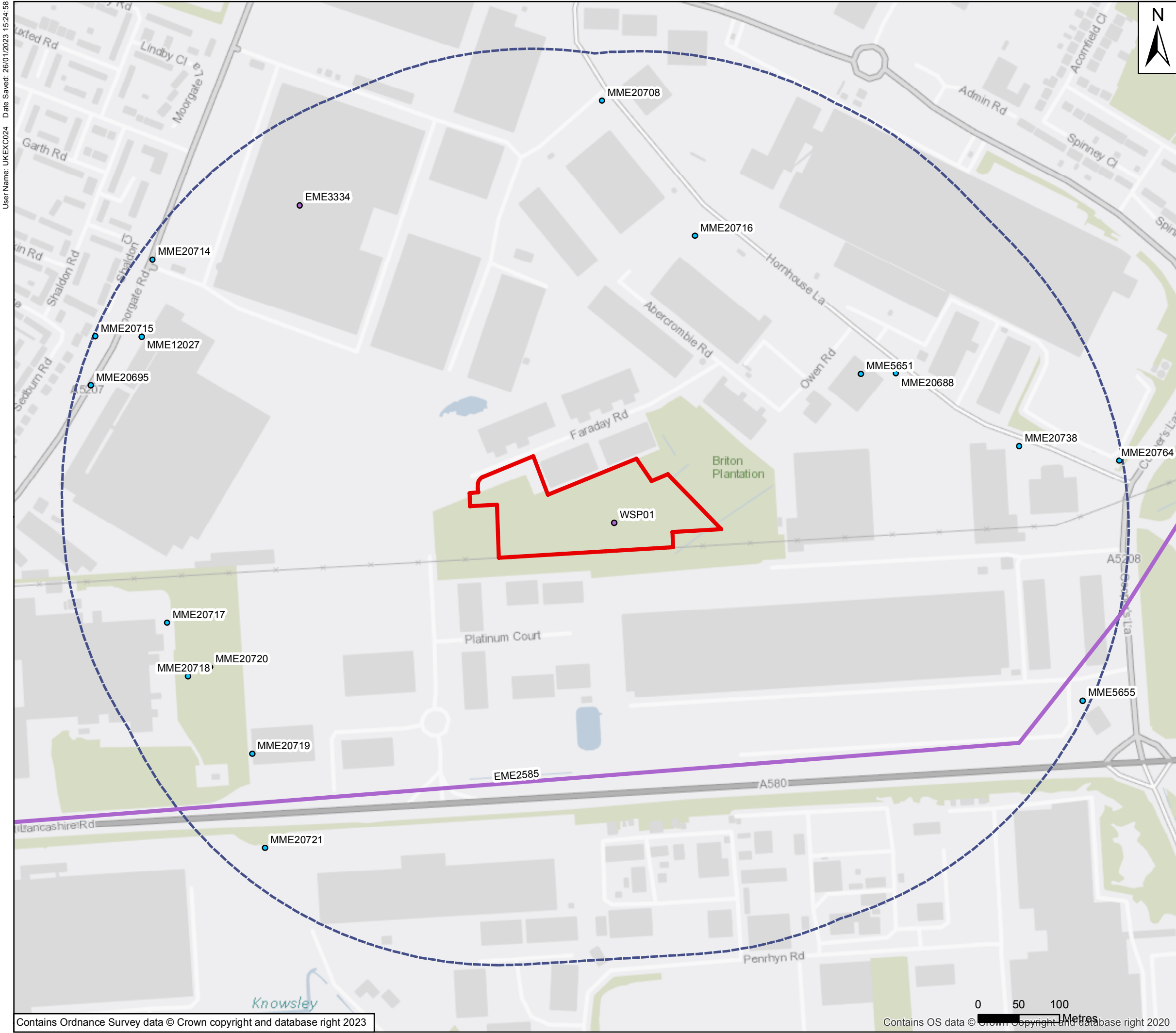
Project:

Land Off Faraday Road, Knowsley

Title:

Figure 1 - Site Location Plan

Drawing No:	Figure 1	Drawn:	EC
Date:	26/01/2023	Checked:	PH
Scale:	4,500 @ A3	Approved:	PH



Legend

- Proposed Development
- 500m Buffer
- Non-Designated Heritage Asset
- Event (Point)
- Event (Line)



Client:	Network Space		
Project:	Land Off Faraday Road, Knowsley		
Title:	Figure 2 - Heritage Assets		
Drawing No:	Figure 2	Drawn:	EC
Date:	26/01/2023	Checked:	PH
Scale:	4,500 @ A3	Approved:	PH





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