



Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council

---

# **Halewood LUF RIBA Stage 3: Halewood Leisure Centre**

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment





## **Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (v.1) Confidential**

**Project no. 70119719**

**Our Ref. No. 70119719-HA1**

**Date: MAY 2025**

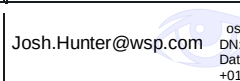
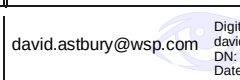
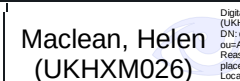
WSP

First Floor  
3 Wellington Place  
Leeds  
LS1 4AP

Phone: +44 113 395 6200

WSP.com

# Quality control

| Issue/revision | First issue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Revision 1 | Revision 2 | Revision 3 |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Remarks        | First issue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |            |            |            |
| Date           | 28/04/2025                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |            |            |
| Prepared by    | Josh Hunter                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |            |            |            |
| Signature      | <br>Josh.Hunter@wsp.com<br><small>Digitally signed by Josh.Hunter@wsp.com<br/>DN: cn=Josh.Hunter@wsp.com<br/>Date: 2025.05.15 17:00:41 +01'00'</small>                                                                                                                                                                             |            |            |            |
| Checked by     | Dave Astbury                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |            |            |            |
| Signature      | <br>david.astbury@wsp.com<br><small>Digitally signed by david.astbury@wsp.com<br/>DN: cn=david.astbury@wsp.com<br/>Date: 2025.05.15 17:00:41 +01'00'</small>                                                                                                                                                                       |            |            |            |
| Authorised by  | Helen Maclean                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |            |            |            |
| Signature      | <br>Maclean, Helen (UKHXM026)<br><small>Digitally signed by Maclean, Helen (UKHXM026)<br/>DN: cn=Maclean, Helen (UKHXM026), ou=Archive, email=Helen.Maclean@wsp.com<br/>Reason: I agree to the terms defined by the placement of my signature on this document<br/>Location: Leeds<br/>Date: 2025.05.15 17:00:41 +01'00'</small> |            |            |            |
| Project number | 70119719                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |            |            |            |
| Report number  | 1                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |            |            |            |
| File reference | \\uk.wspgroup.com\central data\Projects\70119xxx\70119719 KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3\03 WIP\Archaeology and Heritage\01 ADBA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |            |            |            |

Statement of liability. This document is for the exclusive benefit of the Client. It may not be assigned to or relied upon by a third party without the agreement of WSP UK Limited ("WSP") in writing. WSP retains all copyright and other intellectual property rights in the document and its contents unless transferred by written agreement between WSP and the Client. The findings and opinions expressed are based on the conditions encountered and/or the information reasonably available at the date of issue of this document (or other date e.g. date of inspection) and shall be applicable only to the circumstances envisaged herein. No person except the Client shall have the benefit of this document by virtue of the Contracts (Rights of Third Parties) Act 1999.

# Contents

---

## Executive summary

|          |                                                |           |
|----------|------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                            | <b>2</b>  |
| <hr/>    |                                                |           |
| 1.1      | Project background                             | 2         |
| 1.2      | Scheme Description                             | 2         |
| 1.3      | Scope                                          | 3         |
| 1.4      | Aims and objectives                            | 3         |
| 1.5      | Key heritage constraints                       | 4         |
| <b>2</b> | <b>Planning framework</b>                      | <b>5</b>  |
| <hr/>    |                                                |           |
| 2.1      | Planning policy                                | 5         |
| 2.2      | Heritage sector guidance                       | 6         |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Sources and methodology</b>                 | <b>8</b>  |
| <hr/>    |                                                |           |
| 3.1      | Data sources                                   | 8         |
| 3.2      | Consultation                                   | 9         |
| 3.3      | Assessing archaeological potential             | 9         |
| 3.4      | Assessing heritage significance                | 9         |
| 3.5      | Assessing harm                                 | 11        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Historic Environment baseline</b>           | <b>12</b> |
| <hr/>    |                                                |           |
| 4.1      | Introduction                                   | 12        |
| 4.2      | Physical Site Conditions                       | 12        |
| 4.3      | Overview of past archaeological investigations | 13        |
| 4.4      | Archaeological and historical background       | 13        |
| 4.5      | Factors affecting archaeological survival      | 19        |
| 4.6      | Archaeological Potential                       | 19        |

---

|            |                                                                   |           |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>5</b>   | <b>Statement of significance</b>                                  | <b>21</b> |
| <b>6</b>   | <b>Impact on heritage significance</b>                            | <b>22</b> |
| <hr/>      |                                                                   |           |
| <b>6.1</b> | <b>Introduction</b>                                               | <b>22</b> |
| <b>6.2</b> | <b>Physical impact heritage assets</b>                            | <b>22</b> |
| <b>6.3</b> | <b>Impact caused by changes in the setting of heritage assets</b> | <b>22</b> |
| <b>6.4</b> | <b>Recommendations</b>                                            | <b>22</b> |
| <b>7</b>   | <b>Conclusion</b>                                                 | <b>23</b> |
| <hr/>      |                                                                   |           |
| <b>7.1</b> | <b>Conclusion</b>                                                 | <b>23</b> |

---

## Appendices

Appendix A

Historic Environment gazetteer

Appendix B

References

Appendix C

Figures

Appendix D

Plates

---

## ***Figures***

Figure 1 – Site location

Figure 2 – Historic environment features map

Figure 3a – Geology map – superficial deposits

Figure 3b – Geology map – bedrock geology

Figure 4 – Ordnance Survey 6" map 1849: Lancashire Sheet CXIV (not to scale)

Figure 5 – Ordnance Survey 6" map 1894: Lancashire Sheet CXIV.10 (not to scale)

Figure 6 – Ordnance Survey 6" map of 1966-1967 (not to scale)

Figure 7 – Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map of 1974-1977 (not to scale)

Figure 8 – Ordnance Survey 1:10000 map of 1989-1991 (not to scale)

## Executive summary

WSP has been commissioned by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ADBA) in advance of proposed development at Halewood Leisure Centre in Halewood, Merseyside (hereafter the 'Site'). The scheme comprises a new car park replacing the existing one, three new multi-use 3G pitches, a boardwalk, and outdoor gym equipment. This desk-based study assesses the potential physical impacts on buried archaeological remains resulting from the proposed development.

There are no designated heritage assets within the Site, and the archaeological potential is low for all periods of occupation. There is one asset that could be affected, a post-medieval boundary ditch found during cartographic research by WSP. There are two post-medieval non-designated assets on the northern boundary of the Site that will not be affected by the proposed development due to the location of the proposed development in relation to the assets. There are a further 72 non-designated assets in the 1km study area, the vast majority of which are from the post-medieval period.

Finds from the prehistoric to medieval period are limited to a very small number of casual loss finds from each period, making the potential for archaeology low. The recommendation of this report is that no further mitigation is required beyond this report and will be confirmed in consultation with the LPA.

# 1 Introduction

---

## 1.1 Project background

- 1.1.1. WSP has been commissioned by Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ADBA) in advance of proposed development at Halewood, Merseyside in Knowsley Metropolitan Borough (the Site). The Site is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) SJ 45268 85169 (see **Figure 1**). The scheme comprises a proposed redevelopment of existing sports provision close to Halewood town centre.
- 1.1.2. The purpose of the assessment is to identify the recorded heritage assets with 1km of the Site, to assess the Site's archaeological potential and to identify key heritage constraints. It places the application Site within its wider heritage context to inform the assessment of significance of the heritage resource.

### Site Location

- 1.1.3. The Site is located at Halewood Leisure Centre, Baileys Lane, Halewood, Liverpool, L26 0TY. The Site consists of an area of sports facilities and fields. The Site is bounded by Baileys Lane to the east, private residential housing to the north, Barn Croft Road to the west and further private residential housing to the south.

## 1.2 Scheme Description

- 1.2.1. This Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (ADBA) has been produced by WSP on behalf of Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (herein referred to as KMBC in support of the following full planning application:
- 1.2.2. *“Full planning permission for external landscape and public realm works to the existing Halewood Leisure Centre, including shared use pedestrian/cycle route, reconfiguration and improvement to existing car/coach parking, floodlighting/general lighting, CCTV, sustainable drainage works, the creation of 3 mini pitches and further circulation routes in addition to the shared route.”*
- 1.2.3. Full details of the application proposals are included in the submitted Planning Statement and Design and Access Statement, but in summary, the proposals for Halewood Leisure Centre include:
- 1.2.4. The introduction of future sports facilities to the west of the leisure centre;
- 1.2.5. Reconfiguration and improvements to the on-site car parking facilities;
- 1.2.6. Installation of floodlights to mini MUGA;
- 1.2.7. Installation of CCTV and general lighting;
- 1.2.8. Additional buffer planting throughout the site, as well as natural biodiverse areas and meadow landforms throughout the Leisure Centre site;

- 1.2.9. A shared-use pedestrian and cycle route, accentuated by an avenue of trees as well as new cycle storage space and a 'learn to cycle loop' to encourage active travel usage throughout the site and the wider Halewood area;
- 1.2.10. Potential future provision of a temporary pop-up area to the south of the existing leisure centre site for village market days;
- 1.2.11. Improvements to the existing coach drop-off area to the east of the site, allowing direct access to the site which can be used by community and educational groups when visiting the site;
- 1.2.12. Separate areas of SuDS have been identified to improve the site's existing drainage.

## **1.3 Scope**

- 1.3.1. This ADBA provides a baseline of known or potential heritage assets within the proposed development and the study area. These are identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions and includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing), and non-designated assets.
- 1.3.2. Professional expert opinion has been used to assess heritage significance, based on historical, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest, and through consideration of past ground disturbance which may have compromised survival.
- 1.3.3. This report assesses the impact of the scheme on the heritage significance of the assets, whether affected physically or through changes within their setting. The report includes recommendations to mitigate any adverse effects where appropriate.
- 1.3.4. The ADBA forms an initial stage of investigation and is required in relation to the planning process in order that the local planning authority (LPA) can formulate an appropriate response in the light of the impact upon any known or possible heritage assets.

## **1.4 Aims and objectives**

- 1.4.1. The aim of this report is to assess the impact of the proposed development and to provide a suitable strategy to mitigate any adverse effects, if required, as part of a planning application to develop the Site. The aim is achieved through five objectives:
  - identify the presence of any known or potential heritage assets that may be affected by the proposals;
  - to place the application Site within its full historical/archaeological context through the collection of baseline information;
  - describe the significance of potentially affected heritage assets, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), considering factors which may have compromised asset survival;
  - assess the likely impacts upon the significance of the assets arising from the proposals; and

- provide recommendations for further investigation and/or mitigation where required, aimed at reducing or removing completely any adverse effects.

## **1.5 Key heritage constraints**

- 1.5.1. The Site does not contain any nationally designated (protected) heritage assets, such as scheduled monuments, listed buildings or registered parks and gardens.

## 2 Planning framework

---

### 2.1 Planning policy

#### National Planning Policy Framework

- 2.1.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, revised December 2024) 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 historic environment is specifically dealt with in section 16 of the NPPF. The policies set out in the NPPF should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local objectives. The NPPF is designed to provide a clear framework to make sure that heritage assets are conserved or enhanced in a manner that is proportionate with their significance.
- 2.1.3. The NPPF sets out the importance of assessing the significance of heritage assets that may be affected by a proposal. Paragraph 207 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities, when determining applications, should require the applicant to *"describe the significance of any heritage assets affected, including any contribution made by their setting"*. Paragraph 207 goes on to state that *"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"*.
- 2.1.4. Heritage assets are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as *"a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)." Annex 2 also defines significance as "the value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting". Setting is defined as "the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve"*.
- 2.1.5. Paragraph 203 of the NPPF states that local planning authorities should consider the following when determining planning applications:
- *"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"*.

- 2.1.6. Paragraphs 212 to 216 detail the notion that heritage assets can be harmed or lost through alterations, destruction, or from development within their setting. These paragraphs identify that this harm ranges from less than substantial to substantial. The emphasis should be on the conservation of designated heritage assets, regardless of whether any potential harm is considered to be substantial or less than substantial (paragraph 212). As a rule, the more important the heritage asset is, the greater the weight should be on its conservation. Assets of the highest significance are scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, Grade I and II\* listed buildings, Grade I and II\* registered parks and gardens, and World Heritage sites (paragraph 213).
- 2.1.7. Paragraph 214 of the NPPF goes on to state that development consent should be refused where a proposed development will lead to substantial harm to (or total loss of significance of) a designated heritage asset, unless the application demonstrates that the proposed development will result in substantial public benefits that outweigh the harm or loss to the heritage asset. Where less than substantial harm is caused, this should also be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.
- 2.1.8. With regard to applications concerning 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*' (paragraph 216).

### **Local planning policy**

- 2.1.9. The Knowsley Local Plan Core Strategy, January 2016 (Knowsley Council 2016) details the Council's policies on how the Historic Environment is managed in Policy CS20. In summary, the council requires the protection of historic environment assets through sensitive design, retainment and reuse of historic assets and their settings, and for proposals causing less than substantial harm, the Council will assess the harm against the benefits. A heritage impact assessment should be undertaken where there is potential to impact known heritage assets or where there is potential for archaeological remains.

## **2.2 Heritage sector guidance**

- 2.2.1. The assessment has been carried out in accordance with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework/NPPF (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2024) and to standards specified by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA Dec 2020a, 2020b) and Historic England (Historic England 2015, 2017).

### **Historic England Guidance**

- 2.2.2. Historic England has published a series of Good Practice Advice (GPA). Those of most relevance are GPA2 - Managing Significance in Decision-taking (March 2015) and GPA3 - The Setting of Heritage Assets (2nd Edition) (December 2017).
- 2.2.3. GPA2 emphasises the requirement to having a knowledge and understanding of the significance of heritage assets likely to be affected by the development and that the "first step for all applicants is to understand the significance of any affected heritage asset and, if

relevant the contribution of its setting to its significance” (paragraph 4). This information is also useful to the local planning authority in pre-application engagement with an applicant and ultimately in decision making (paragraph 7) (Historic England, 2015).

- 2.2.4. GPA3 provides advice on the setting of heritage assets. Setting is as defined in the NPPF and forms the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Components of a setting can make positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset and affect the ways in which it is experienced. GPA3 and the NPPF state that setting is not fixed and that it may change as the asset and its surrounding evolve. Setting can be extensive and can overlap with the setting of other heritage assets, particularly in urban areas or historic landscapes. While not limited to views, the contribution of setting to the significance of an asset is often expressed in this way, and paragraph 11 of GPA3 identifies those views that contribute to understanding the significance of assets, such as designed views those that were designed or where there are associations with other heritage assets (Historic England, 2017).
- 2.2.5. Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets, or Historic England Advice Note 12 covers the NPPF requirement for applications involving heritage to describe heritage significance to help LPAs in decision making regarding the impact of proposals on heritage assets. The advice note emphasises that the level of detail in support of applications should be no more than necessary to reach an informed decision, and that activities to conserve an asset need to be proportionate to its significance and the impact on its significance.

### **Chartered Institute of Archaeologists**

- 2.2.6. The baseline study has been undertaken in accordance with guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), specifically the standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (CIfA, 2020).

## 3 Sources and methodology

---

### 3.1 Data sources

- 3.1.1. In order to determine the full historic environment potential of the Site, a broad range of standard documentary and cartographic sources were examined to determine the likely nature, extent, preservation and significance of any known or possible heritage assets that may be present within or adjacent to the Site.
- 3.1.2. The study area for the collation of information on heritage assets was defined as 1km from the Site boundary. This distance has been judged as appropriate to provide the context of, and potential for, surviving archaeological remains on the Site given the nature of the Proposed Development and its location.
- 3.1.3. The following sources of information that define the Proposed Development have been reviewed and form the basis of the assessment of likely significant effects on the historic environment:
- Merseyside Historic Environment Record (HER);
  - National Heritage List for England (NHLE);
  - Ordnance Survey historic mapping data from National Library of Scotland and Groundsure;
  - Historic England web viewers for aerial photographs (<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/>) and the aerial photography aerial explorer (<https://historicengland.org.uk/research/results/aerial-archaeology-mapping-explorer/>), no valuable data was gathered from this source;
  - LiDAR data obtained from the DEFRA Survey Data Download, containing publicly accessible Environmental Agency (EA) LiDAR and other data predominately pertaining to the natural environment, no data was gathered from this source;
  - Knowsley Record Office/Archives for further historic mapping and documentary sources;
  - The solid and drift geology for the Site based on that recorded by the British Geological Survey/Geological Survey of Great Britain maps;
  - Soilscales for details of soil types;
  - Knowsley Local Authority data for details of any conservation areas, locally listed buildings or archaeological priority areas; and
  - Archaeology Data Service.
- 3.1.4. The assessment included a site walkover carried out on the 7 April 2025 in order to visually inspect known archaeological sites within the Site, as well as identify designated and on-designated heritage assets within the application Site and its surrounding study area; identify areas with the potential to contain any previously unidentified archaeological or historical remains; determine the topography of the Site and existing land use and the nature of any existing buildings; identify and assess the setting of heritage assets within the study area; and assess factors which may have affected the survival or condition of any

known or potential assets. The site visit also extended beyond the Site for the purposes of scoping heritage assets and their intervisibility with the proposed development, as required by Historic England guidance, and for the settings assessment itself.

- 3.1.5. **Figure 2** shows 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. These have been allocated a unique 'assessment' reference number (A1, A2, etc.), which is listed in a gazetteer in Appendix A and is referred to in the text. All distances quoted in the text are approximate (normally within 5m).

## 3.2 Consultation

- 3.2.1. The scope for the DBA was decided in pre-application discussions with KMBC's conservation officer on the 31 October 2024, where it was agreed that it was only necessary to focus on archaeological assets and not built heritage. Further consultation was undertaken with Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) on 17 of March 2025.
- 3.2.2. Further comments were received on the 25 April 2025 from KMBC with the recommendation detailed below:
- 3.2.3. *"Therefore, I advise rather than a heritage statement as suggested by WSP, an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) which determines the significance of any archaeology present and assesses the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological potential of the site would be required in support of the full planning application. The scope of the DBA should be agreed with the MEAS Planning Archaeologist."*

## 3.3 Assessing archaeological potential

- 3.3.1. Section 4.6 presents an assessment of archaeological potential 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. Section 5 also includes professional opinion on likely heritage significance, where there is moderate or higher, potential for remains to be present. Where potential is low, heritage significance is not assessed, as this implies that remains from the period are not present.

## 3.4 Assessing heritage significance

- 3.4.1. The NPPF defines significance as 'The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic.' The determination of the significance is based on statutory designation and/or professional judgement against these values (they are also identified in Historic England *Statements of Heritage Significance* (2019)).

- 3.4.2. Each asset is 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.
- 3.4.3. In relation to significant heritage assets, the assessment considers the contribution which the historic character and setting makes to the overall significance of the asset.
- 3.4.4. The table below gives examples of the significance of designated and non-designated heritage assets. Professional judgment is used to determine the value of the potentially affected asset.

**Table 3-1 – Value of heritage assets**

| Heritage asset description                                                                                                                                       | Value     |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| World Heritage Sites                                                                                                                                             | Very High |
| Scheduled Monuments                                                                                                                                              | High      |
| Grade I Listed Buildings                                                                                                                                         |           |
| Grade II* Listed Buildings                                                                                                                                       |           |
| Grade II Listed Buildings with exceptional qualities in fabric, historical association, and/or association/group value with heritage assets of high significance |           |
| Protected Wrecks                                                                                                                                                 |           |
| Registered Battlefield                                                                                                                                           |           |
| Conservation Areas containing very important (Grade I / II*) listed buildings                                                                                    |           |
| Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens                                                                                                                     |           |
| Protected heritage landscapes (e.g. ancient woodland or historic hedgerows, heritage Sites of Special Scientific Interest)                                       |           |
| Burial grounds                                                                                                                                                   |           |
| Non-designated heritage assets (above ground structures, landscape, townscape, buried remains) of national importance.                                           |           |
| Grade II Listed Buildings which can be shown to have qualities in their fabric or historical association of regional importance only                             | Medium    |

| Heritage asset description                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Value      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| Conservation Areas containing primarily Grade II listed or Locally Listed Buildings<br>Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens<br>Locally Listed Buildings<br>Non-designated heritage assets (above ground structures, landscape, townscape, buried remains) of regional importance. |            |
| Non-designated heritage assets (above ground structures, landscape, townscape, buried remains) of local importance.                                                                                                                                                                | Low        |
| Item with no significant heritage 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 Assessing harm

- 3.5.1. Professional judgement is used to consider the impact of future development on the significance known heritage assets. This is assessed in NPPF terms as 'no harm', 'less than substantial harm', or 'substantial harm or total loss of significance'. However, harm is not normally assessed on non-designated assets, and only summary information is provided for those sites.

## 4 Historic Environment baseline

---

### 4.1 Historic Environment

- 4.1.1. Fifty-seven sites are recorded on the HER. Three additional sites were recorded from analysis of historic mapping and aerial photographs.

#### **Designated**

- 4.1.2. There are no designated assets within the study area.

#### **Assets in Site boundary**

- 4.1.3. There are no archaeological assets within the Site boundary according to the HER. One asset has been identified through historic mapping, a post medieval boundary ditch running north west to south east through the southern half of the Site (A75)

### 4.2 Physical Site Conditions

#### **Topography**

- 4.2.1. The Site topography is generally flat, rising from a low point of 18.0m to a high point of 24.0m OD. Modern landscaping is present across Site through the construction of a football pitch and car park, and the levelling of land associated with this is why there is little undulation in the topography.

#### **Geology and soils**

- 4.2.2. The geology comprises the Kinnerton Sandstone Formation, comprised of sedimentary bedrock formed between 247 and 252 million years ago during the Triassic period (British Geographical Survey, 2025).
- 4.2.3. The soil recorded on Site is comprised of loamy and clayey soils which are slow draining, seasonally wet, and slightly acidic (Soilscapes, 2025).
- 4.2.4. There is no borehole data within the Site or in the vicinity.

#### **Site walkover**

- 4.2.5. A Site walkover was conducted on the 7 April 2025 with clear skies and dry ground conditions. On the eastern half of Site, land use from south to north comprises a car park, leisure centre and large football pitch. On the western side of the Site, land use is primarily a landscaped grass field with the exception of two smaller football pitches in the south western portion adjacent to the car park. There is a footpath running north west to south east through the middle of the Site. There were no identifiable heritage assets in the landscape. The recorded features on the northern boundary of the Site were not visible and are most likely removed by the housing development on the northern boundary of Site.

- 4.2.6. Plates are in Appendix D, along with descriptions. These show general views of site including the car park and leisure centre, and the large astroturf pitch.

### 4.3 Overview of past archaeological investigations

- 4.3.1. There have been no past archaeological investigations within the Site and the current understanding of any below ground archaeology is limited. There has been one archaeological investigation in the study area, at Finch Farm in 2006 conducted by Oxford Archaeology North.
- 4.3.2. The results of this investigation, along with other known assets and finds within the study area, are discussed by period, below.

## 4.4 Archaeological and historical background

### Prehistoric (800,000 BC–AD 43)

- 4.4.1. Although the north of England was covered by glacial ice sheets until the Holocene, there is archaeological evidence for human activity in the north west region during the Palaeolithic period (c. 900,000 BC – 10,000 BC), finds are limited to caves, notably around Morecambe Bay, these finds are limited to lithic material. There are no open air Palaeolithic sites in the north west of England. Making the discovery of early prehistoric remains unlikely (North West Regional Research Framework, 2023). However, there is no evidence of occupation in the study area during the Palaeolithic. The earliest evidence for human occupation of Merseyside originates in the Mesolithic period (c. 10,000 BC – c.4,000 BC). The site is expected to be covered by ice during this period.
- 4.4.2. The Mesolithic hunter-gatherer communities of the post-glacial period inhabited a largely wooded environment. In the Merseyside region research has shown that the Mesolithic environment in this area were peaty wetlands along the Mersey estuary (North West Regional Research Framework, 2023). The river valleys and coast would have been favoured in providing a predictable source of food (from hunting and fishing) and water, as well as a means of transport and communication. There are no known Sites or finds dated to this period within the study area. However, the earliest known evidence for activity within the wider area originates from this period. The closest Mesolithic site is at Lunt Meadows near Sefton, approximately 20km north west of site, featuring two large dwelling structures and a number of raw material depositions across the site. There are indications from the excavations of the site that there are multiple phases of occupation (North West Regional Research Framework, 2023). It is expected that the study area would have been a wooded environment and any activity is likely to have been related to hunting and gathering.
- 4.4.3. The Neolithic (4000–2200 BC) is usually seen as the time when hunter-gathering gave way to farming and settled communities, and forest clearance occurred for the cultivation of crops and the construction of communal monuments. Pollen records indicate forest clearance over large areas of the British Isles during this period. A single find possibly originates from this period, a late Neolithic or early Bronze Age axe flint (A17) found at

Court Lane, approximately 970m to the north of the Site. The presence of a single possible find indicates that there is sparse activity in this area, however there is a human presence. Due to sparse activity it is most likely that the study area will have continued to be dense woodland during the Neolithic period.

- 4.4.4. The Bronze Age (2200–600 BC) is characterised by technological change, when copper and then bronze eventually replaced flint and stone as the main material for everyday tools. It is seen as a period of increasing social complexity and organised landscapes, probably due to increasing pressure on available resources. The axe flint found at Court Avenue (A17), discussed above, may date to the early Bronze Age and is the only find from this period within the study area. Similar to the Neolithic period, the presence of a single possible find indicates a low level of activity within the study area, and the landscape will have continued to be dense woodland throughout this period with sparse human activity.
- 4.4.5. During the Iron Age (800 BC–AD 43), the climate deteriorated with colder weather and more rainfall. The period is characterised by an expanding population, which caused the intensification of agricultural practices and the utilisation of marginal land. Hillforts were established in lowland Britain, linked to tribal land ownership. There is no evidence for Iron Age activity within the study area, the closest is 1.5km to the east at Brook House Farm, where evidence of a small Iron Age settlement is present. A lack of finds is likely due to the low density of population in the area, which is a characteristic shared with the Bronze Age and Roman period. Within the wider area there is evidence of permanent agricultural settlements indicating there could be more human activity in the wider area than previous periods, however a lack of archaeological finds in the study area means it is likely that the study area continued to be dense woodland with no farming or settlement.
- 4.4.6. There is little direct evidence of the prehistoric period within the study area. The only archaeological evidence of human occupation within the study area is the late Neolithic/early Bronze Age axe flint 970m north of site. The closest evidence of settlement is 1.5km to the east of the Site at Brook House Farm found during the construction of the A5300 junction in 1991. The settlement dates to the Iron Age and consists of two ditches with a large inner ditch and smaller outer ditch. The Site was occupied from c.1000 BC through to the Roman period and features evidence of smelting on Site (Cowell, 2000).

### **Roman (AD 43–410)**

- 4.4.7. There is residual evidence of Roman occupation within the study area: one find spot is recorded at Finch Farm 700m south east of Site. The find spot is a coin dating from the reign of Vespasian and was minted in 71AD (A15). The artefact was found by a metal detectorist and does not come from any associated archaeological feature.
- 4.4.8. Beyond the study area there is further evidence of limited Roman activity. The Iron Age settlement at Brook House Farm 1.5km east of the Site, was occupied in the Roman period as evidenced by the presence of Samian pottery. There is another Roman settlement 150m north of the study area at Court Farm Woods. This is an unenclosed and rural Roman settlement occupied between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> centuries. The scarcity of known evidence of

Roman activity in the study area suggests a sparsely populated landscape during this period.

- 4.4.9. The nearest Roman road is the Wilderspool to Wigan Road (Margary 70b) with the closest point 16km to the east of the Site. There is very little evidence of activity during the Roman period within the study area, with one findspot indicating a sparse density of human occupation. Within the wider area there are small farmsteads including one that was occupied in the Iron Age (Cowell, 2000). While there is evidence of small scale agricultural activity in the wider area, the study area most likely continued to consist of dense woodland, with the findspot (A17) indicating limited activity and a sparse human presence in the area.

### **Early medieval (AD 410–1066)**

- 4.4.10. The Merseyside region was a key boundary region between Northumbria north of the Mersey and Mercia to the south (North West Regional Research Framework, 2025). There is evidence of trade and activity in the Wirral indicating that there was continuing human occupation in the nearby area following Roman withdrawal from the region. In the context of the study area, there is no evidence for the immediate continuation of human occupation following Roman withdrawal.
- 4.4.11. There is limited archaeological evidence for early medieval occupation within the study area and within the wider area. There are no HER entries dating from the early medieval period within the study area. There is evidence for some early medieval occupation, a 9<sup>th</sup> century Anglo-Saxon ditch was identified during a watching brief alongside Roman occupation at Court Farm, 150m north of the study area (Museum of Liverpool Archaeology, 2012). This is the only Anglo-Saxon feature to have been excavated in Merseyside north of the river Mersey (Museum of Liverpool Archaeology, 2012). Beyond this the scope of early medieval occupation of the area is limited to place-names.
- 4.4.12. Place-names suggest Anglo-Saxon and Viking occupation of the region. Places such as Knowsley and Huyton, both first recorded in 1086 for the Domesday book (Mills 2003) suggest Anglo-Saxon activity within the area. Viking activity can be seen in names such as Ormskirk, first recorded in 1190 and Kirkby first recorded in 1086 in the Domesday Book. Additionally, the River Mersey is thought to be name of Anglo-Saxon origin, roughly translating to ‘river on the boundary’ (Mills 1998).
- 4.4.13. = Halewood was part of the Manor of Hale and was owned by King Edward in 1066 (Victoria County Histories, 1907). Halewood is mentioned as the ‘wood of Hale’ in charters from the post-Norman conquest; the main usage of land in this area was for firewood and pannage as evident in these early charters (VCH, 1907). The usage of the study area during the early medieval period was most likely dense woodland with very little evidence for human activity.

### **Medieval (AD 1066–1540)**

- 4.4.14. Halewood continued to be part of the manor of Hale throughout the medieval period. The history of Halewood is tied to the history of Hale, and while Hale is not in the study area, nor

in the modern borough of Knowsley, understanding the history of Hale allows an understanding of Halewood's history during this period.

- 4.4.15. Neither Halewood nor Hale is mentioned in the Domesday Book, with the closest named settlements being Speke 3km to the south east, Woolton 3.4km the north east and Tarbock 4km to the north. The nearest large settlement is West Derby, 10km north east of Halewood with 128 households. The areas around Halewood are recorded as being within the 'Hundred' of West Derby and in the County of Cheshire.
- 4.4.16. The distribution of moated Sites and dispersed farmsteads in the area suggests that Halewood was wooded during the medieval period. Several references to grants of lands with rights to graze domestic livestock indicates that some deforestation is likely to have occurred between the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, the western part of Halewood formed part of the Royal Forest so these grants likely were granted in the eastern part of Halewood including the study area (Museum of Liverpool, 2011). There was no nucleus of a settlement until the post-medieval period and the area was likely sparsely populated throughout the medieval period. It is possible that this could be attributed to a long running dispute over the land between the Ireland family based at Old Hutt, a moated manor house within Halewood and the Holland family based at a hall in Halebank (ARK, 2015).
- 4.4.17. There are two find spots associated with the medieval period and one that is potentially dated to this period. All were found through metal detecting at Finch Farm located 750m south east of the Site to the east of Site and were discovered in isolation from any documented medieval activity. Two coins of Edward I were found 700m east of Site (A14) and 800m south east of Site (A13). A lead apostle spoon (A12) was also found on this site through metal detecting. However, this is only tentatively dated to this period. During excavations at this site (Oxford Archaeology North, 2006) a sherd of late medieval pottery was found amongst 19<sup>th</sup> century dumped layers (A7). This site also contained field boundaries of potentially medieval date.
- 4.4.18. Beyond the study area there is further evidence of medieval activity, including several moated sites. Approximately 1km west of the Site, just beyond the study area a moated site was discovered at Yew Tree Farm during a watching brief (MME5720). Other moated Sites include scheduled examples at Lovel's Hall and fishpond in Widnes (NHLE 1014390), 2.5km east of the Site, and Speke Hall (NHLE 1011887), 4.2km south west of the Site. There is more activity happening in areas around the study area during this period, however there is still very little evidence for human activity in the study area during the medieval period. It was most likely still dense woodland, or at most land cleared for grazing, the lack of activity suggests even marginal farming is unlikely.

## Post-medieval (AD 1540–1900)

- 4.4.19. 63 of the 75 archaeological assets within the study area are post-medieval in origin. This is the first time period where there is evidence of widespread human activity within the study area. The main clusters of activity are a group of cottages on Baileys Lane 750m to the north of the Site (A26, A30, A42, A48, A59 and A60), a smaller cluster to the immediate north of the site boundary (A18, A20, A28 and A74) and high concentrations agricultural post medieval activity on Finch Lane 600m south east of site (A6, A23, A24 and A58). There is little evidence for industrial expansion in the area during this period, with the most notable example being the Railway station (A37) and its associated railway lines Cheshire Lines Railway (MME18163) and Hunt's Cross to Aintree railway (MME18101). There are also smithies in the study area that could be classed as industrial (A38, A67 and A72) however due to the low density of them and vicinity to farms it could be concluded that they can be placed within the context of an agricultural landscape. In total only six assets from this period are not explicitly linked to agriculture (A8, A22, A37, A59, A67, A72).
- 4.4.20. In the post-medieval period, Halewood evolved into a township independent of Hale and became largely agricultural for a majority of this period. There is a significant shift away from Halewood's former character as dense woodland and the area is transformed into a landscape of irregular fields for used for farming and grazing, which can be seen in the 1849 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (Figure 4), which shows a landscape of irregular field patterns and a number of cottages and farm buildings dispersed throughout the study area and are identified in the HER record. Significant development is not seen in the area until the late 19<sup>th</sup> century with the introduction of railways coinciding with the expansion of industry in the surrounding context, including the growth of Liverpool and Merseyside. Identified in the HER is Halewood Railway Station (A37) opened in 1874 and seen in the 1891 Ordnance Survey six inch map (Figure 5), located 510m to the north of the Site.
- 4.4.21. Within the Site itself, the 1849 Ordnance Survey Map shows irregular fields demarcated by hedgerows, and can be identified as being used for farming. There is a farmstead on the northern boundary of site that can be identified as a cottage on Baileys Lane in the HER (A18). In 1891 the usage is still clearly identified as agricultural, the main differences are a field boundary line that has been identified in the southern portion of the site on the 1891 Ordnance Survey six-inch map (Figure 5) that runs north west to south east through the Site (A75). By 1891 the cottage on the northern border of the site has been demolished and replaced by Roseheath (A20), Roseheath forms the northern boundary of site which has been in place since this map.
- 4.4.22. Excavations at Finch Farm (A19) 750m south east of the Site in 2005 revealed an extensive network of post-medieval field systems, including finds of post-medieval pottery (Oxford Archaeology North, 2006). The archaeological record shows evidence of a higher degree of human activity in the area during this period. Since Halewood had become a township independent of Hale, it had transitioned from woodland to an area of agricultural activity by the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century. The excavations here also discovered three assets identified as pits

and ditches that are undated due to lack of data gathered from them (A1, A2, A3). However within the wider context of the Finch Farm site it can be inferred that these features are most likely post-medieval.

- 4.4.23. During the post-medieval period the Site and study area saw a much higher concentration of human activity and land usage compared to previous time periods. The entire study area evolved from an area of dense woodland with sparse archaeological data into an area of farming with human habitation. In the latter post-medieval period the land use remained agricultural with the inclusion of railway lines and a wider connection to the developing industrial towns and cities in the region, the station did not impact the land use in the study area beyond the construction of the railway.

### **Modern (1901–present)**

- 4.4.24. There is no change from the post-medieval period within the Site until the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. The farmstead named Roseheath (A20) has survived and is recorded on the northern boundary of the Site. It is shown on historic mapping until the 1966 OS 6 inch map (Figure 6), but is not depicted on the 1977 OS 1:10000 map (figure 7), and is no longer extant.
- 4.4.25. There is potentially a World War II anti-aircraft battery located approximately 900m to the north east of the site (A40). However, it is not shown on aerial photography data from 1945 and the coordinates given for the battery correspond with a known anti-aircraft site 1.25km to the north east. There are two circular emplacements to the east of this that appear to be a gun placement or searchlight battery. Regardless there is activity in relation to World War II in the study area.
- 4.4.26. The 1966 OS 1:25000 map (Figure 6) shows the Site and immediate surroundings have not been developed and remain agricultural in land use. Development has taken place to the south west of the site and north of the railway. The study area in general is becoming more residential.
- 4.4.27. On the 1974 1:10000 OS map (Figure 7), Halewood is shown to have undergone considerable development, transforming from a rural, agricultural area into a suburban landscape. The boundaries to the Site were in place by this date and have remained unchanged. However, there was no development shown on Site at this point.
- 4.4.28. The 1991 1:10000 OS map shows the leisure centre in place on Site. The area to the east of the Site had only very limited development, with the only notable development being the Everton FC academy on the site of Finch Farm, with construction of the football academy taking place in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century after the excavations by Oxford Archaeology North had been completed in 2005.
- 4.4.29. While the area has a suburban character, east of the development area has maintained a more rural character, aside from major A roads and the training centre between the development area and Widnes.

## 4.5 Factors affecting archaeological survival

- 4.5.1. Archaeological survival across the Site is anticipated to be poor. The main factor affecting archaeological survival is the construction of the leisure centre and its foundations, which will have had a significant impact on any previously unrecorded archaeological remains. Other parts of the leisure centre complex, such as the car park and pitch, may also have impacted any subsurface archaeological remains, as the site is likely to have been stripped and levelled to create them.
- 4.5.2. Post-medieval agricultural activity such as ploughing could have impacted earlier shallow deposits and surface material, including finds.
- 4.5.3. Previous use of the site as woodland and then for agricultural purposes may also have had a limited impact on any subsurface remains but are unlikely to have totally removed any such remains.

## 4.6 Archaeological Potential

### Prehistoric

- 4.6.1. Land use during this period can be categorised as dense woodland with very sparse human activity. Throughout the prehistoric period one find has been identified within the study area. The potential for archaeological remains from this period is low and is likely to represent casual loss finds related to hunting activities.

### Roman

- 4.6.2. A singular find spot in the study area points indicates a lack of activity in the area during this period, land use within the study area was most likely dense woodland during this period and the only findspot is a coin (A17) making the potential for Roman archaeology low and any finds will most likely represent casual loss finds

### Early medieval

- 4.6.3. The potential for early medieval archaeology is negligible. There is no evidence of early medieval activity within the study area or the wider area. Land use would have been dense woodland and any finds would most likely represent casual loss finds

### Medieval

- 4.6.4. The Site has low potential for archaeological assets. There is an increase in activity during the medieval period and a few moated Sites beyond the study area, there are however none within the study area. The find spots featuring a coin of Edward I (A14) and late medieval pottery sherd (A7) at Finch Farm indicate activity in the area, but there is a lack of recorded archaeological remains dating to the medieval period in the study area. While there are moated Sites surrounding the study area there is no known evidence pointing to further activity such as agricultural remains, paired with the indication that this area was

likely primarily woodland throughout this period, any finds associated with this period would most likely represent casual loss finds.

## **Post-medieval**

- 4.6.5. While there is an increase in activity in the area, the archaeological potential for this period is low. There is a record of the field boundaries present in the development area from historic OS maps (A75) so there is already an awareness of what is expected to be on Site in this regard. There is also the presence of the cottage on Baileys Lane (A18) and Roseheath (A20) located on the northern boundary of site. These two features have been heavily truncated by modern housing and do not enhance archaeological potential due to prior knowledge of their existence and location. Historic maps (Figures 4 and 5) also show that there are no other cottages or building foundations on site that could be disturbed by development. The pattern of usage on this Site seems relatively stable throughout this period and what is present on historic maps is likely to be what remains below the surface. Any finds from this period would most likely be associated with agricultural activity associated with the Site.

## **Modern**

- 4.6.6. The archaeological potential from this period is low. Historic OS maps show the Site was used for agriculture in the first half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century and field boundaries are clearly visible and stable. In the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> century the Site remained undisturbed until the construction of the leisure centre. Nearby archaeological assets such as the Second World War anti-aircraft battery (A40) and the pet cemetery (A73) are isolated examples of 20<sup>th</sup> century activity in the area and do not add to archaeological potential. Through historic maps it is clear what archaeology to expect on Site and it is unlikely that there will be unknown modern archaeology, putting the potential as low.

## 5 Statement of significance

---

- 5.1.1. Baileys cottage possibly extends into the northern extremity of the Site. The asset a non-designated heritage asset included on the local HER and is of local importance. Additionally, due to the limited archaeological and historic interest it provides about post-medieval architecture and building practices. There is also possible truncation of the remains of this former building by the remains of Roseheath limiting its archaeological value, making the significance of the value low.
- 5.1.2. Roseheath also possibly extends into the northern extremity of the Site truncating Bailey's Cottage. Roseheath is a non-designated heritage asset of local importance and due to the limited archaeological and historical interest it provides on the architecture and building practices of the late post-medieval to early modern period, its overall significance is low.
- 5.1.3. The possible post-medieval field boundary (A75) in the southern portion of Site is an item with no significant heritage value and not of local importance and due to the limited archaeological value it carries in expanding knowledge on post-medieval field systems is of negligible significance.

## 6 Impact on heritage significance

---

### 6.1 Introduction

- 6.1.1. This section assesses the likelihood for the proposed development to have an impact on the significance of heritage assets. Below ground impacts include anything that would cause ground disturbance, such as preliminary ground works, site strip, topsoil removal, landscaping, planting, and lighting.

### 6.2 Physical impacts on heritage assets

- 6.2.1. The potential remains on the Site include the foundations of Baileys Cottage (A18) and Roseheath (A20) both dating to the post-medieval period on the same Site that abuts the northern boundary of the Site and could potentially extend into the Site. Due to where the development will be focussed, there will be no impact on the building foundations associated with these former structures.
- 6.2.2. There is also the possibility of a post medieval boundary ditch (A75) that runs north to south through the centre of Site, as identified on early OS maps. Ground works on the Site could have a impact on potential buried archaeological remains associated with the ditch. There are no new buildings and foundations, the work is installing new sports pitches and a car park.
- 6.2.3. The proposed development will have impact on any unrecorded remains on Site. Archaeological potential across Site is low and there is unlikely to be any assets beyond those known to be impacted.

### 6.3 Recommendations

- 6.3.1. There is low potential for archaeological remains on the Site, and the only feature identified that will be affected by the work is of negligible value (boundary ditch; A75). Therefore, the recommendation of this report is that there is no further need for mitigation beyond this ADBA. There is not sufficient evidence for archaeological potential nor harm arising from the development proposed to justify further archaeological investigations for the Site.

## 7 Conclusion

---

### 7.1 Conclusion

- 7.1.1. There are no designated assets within the Site, there are two non-designated assets on the northern boundary of the Site, and one non-designated asset identified by WSP within the Site boundary. There is one designated asset within the study area, not included within the scope of this ADBA. There are 75 non-designated assets within the study area, one of which is the asset identified by WSP.
- 7.1.2. The archaeological potential for the site is low for all periods. Any surviving remains will most likely represent casual loss finds until the post-medieval period; from the post-medieval period, finds will be most likely associated with agricultural activity.
- 7.1.3. It is recommended that no further mitigation is carried out, due to the low potential for archaeology and the low impact the scheme will have on assets of negligible significance. This conclusion will be confirmed in consultation with the Local Planning Authority.

# Appendix A

## Historic Environment gazetteer





The table below represents a gazetteer of known historic environment Sites and finds within the study area. Each entry has an assessment (A) reference number. The gazetteer should be read in conjunction with the historic environment features map.

Abbreviations:

HER - Historic Environment Record

NHL - National Heritage List

NRHE - National Record for the Historic Environment

**Table A-1 - Historic Environment Gazetteer**

| Asset.<br>ref. | NGR                    | Description                                                             | Period        | HER /<br>NHL ref. |
|----------------|------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-------------------|
| A1             | E:345945<br>N:385200   | Undated ditch, Finch Lane, Halewood                                     | Unknown       | MME15653          |
| A2             | E:345969<br>N:385148   | Undated pit, Finch Lane, Halewood                                       | Unknown       | MME15654          |
| A3             | E: 345821<br>N: 384946 | Undated pit and ditch, Finch Lane, Halewood                             | Unknown       | MME15655          |
| A4             | E: 346026<br>N: 384900 | Possible post-medieval midden, Finch Lane, Halewood                     | Post-medieval | MME15658          |
| A5             | E: 346019<br>N: 384889 | Post-holes, a ditch and a cow burial, Finch Lane, Halewood              | Post-medieval | MME15659          |
| A6             | E: 345794<br>N: 384926 | Late 17th century stake-holes and cobbled surface, Finch Lane, Halewood | Post-medieval | MME15660          |
| A7             | E:345801<br>N:384968   | Medieval pottery, Finch Lane, Halewood                                  | Medieval      | MME15661          |

| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                                                               | Period                | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| A8         | E:346005<br>N:384892 | 17th or 18th century pond, Finch Lane, Halewood                           | Post-medieval         | MME15662       |
| A9         | E:345983<br>N:384895 | 17th or 18th century ditch and post built structure, Finch Lane, Halewood | Post-medieval         | MME15663       |
| A10        | E:346022<br>N:384913 | 17th or 18th century pond, pits and ditches, Finch Lane, Halewood         | Post-medieval         | MME15664       |
| A11        | E:345594<br>N:384823 | 19th century ditch, Lodge Farm, Higher Road, Halewood                     | Post-medieval         | MME20643       |
| A12        | E:345680<br>N:384840 | Apostle spoon fragment, Finch Lane, Halewood                              | Medieval              | MME5983        |
| A13        | E:345880<br>N:384620 | Silver penny of Edward I, Finch Farm, Halewood                            | Medieval              | MME5984        |
| A14        | E:345910<br>N:384980 | Silver penny of Edward I, Finch Farm, Halewood                            | Medieval              | MME5986        |
| A15        | E:346020<br>N:384820 | Roman coin, Finch Farm, Finch Lane, Halewood                              | Roman                 | MME6184        |
| A16        | E:345930<br>N:386020 | Possible coin, Lower Road, Halewood                                       | Unknown               | MME6015        |
| A17        | E:345299<br>N:386153 | Late Neolithic or Early Bronze Age flint, Court Avenue, Halewood          | Neolithic/ Bronze Age | MME15631       |
| A18        | E:345372<br>N:385324 | Site of a cottage, Bailey's Lane                                          | Post-medieval         | MME5998        |
| A19        | E:346007<br>N:384861 | Site of Finch Farm, Finch Lane                                            | Post-medieval         | MME5972        |

| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                                             | Period               | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| A20        | E:345316<br>N:385351 | Site of Roseheath, Baileys Lane                         | Post-medieval/Modern | MME5997        |
| A21        | E:344731<br>N:384986 | Site of Tinsley's House, Leather's Lane                 | Post-medieval        | MME5717        |
| A22        | E:344836<br>N:385892 | Site of Old Workhouse, Hollies Road                     | Post-medieval        | MME5722        |
| A23        | E:345797<br>N:384931 | Site of Finch House, Finch Lane                         | Post-medieval        | MME5974        |
| A24        | E:345800<br>N:384950 | Site of Barn at Finch House, Finch Lane                 | Post-medieval        | MME5975        |
| A25        | E:345664<br>N:384618 | Site of cottage, Higher Road                            | Post-medieval        | MME5977        |
| A26        | E:345328<br>N:385906 | Site of a row of cottages, Baileys Lane                 | Post-medieval        | MME6000        |
| A27        | E:345655<br>N:385865 | Site of the first farmhouse, The Hayes, Lower Road      | Post-medieval        | MME6001        |
| A28        | E:345343<br>N:385376 | Site of farm buildings at Roseheath, Baileys Lane       | Post-medieval        | MME11806       |
| A29        | E:345403<br>N:384654 | Site of a cottage, Higher Road                          | Post-medieval        | MME5978        |
| A30        | E:345350<br>N:385850 | Site of a barn, Baileys Lane                            | Post-medieval        | MME5995        |
| A31        | E:344429<br>N:385464 | Site of an outbuilding at Halewood House, Wenlock Court | Post-medieval        | MME11754       |

| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                                                                          | Period               | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| A32        | E:345984<br>N:384887 | Site of a barn at Finch Farm. Finch Lane                                             | Post-medieval        | MME15657       |
| A33        | E:346006<br>N:384889 | 18 <sup>th</sup> century building, Finch Lane                                        | Post-medieval        | MME15951       |
| A34        | E:344599<br>N:385633 | Site of a cottage, Hollies Road, Halewood                                            | Post-medieval        | MME21303       |
| A35        | E:346155<br>N:385364 | Site of a house, Lower Lane                                                          | Post-medieval        | MME19607       |
| A36        | E:346020<br>N:384895 | Site of Platt's House, Finch Lane                                                    | Post-medieval        | MME15656       |
| A37        | E:345244<br>N:385708 | Site of Halewood Railway, Baileys Lane                                               | Post-medieval/Modern | MME18164       |
| A38        | E:345043<br>N:384699 | Site of a cottage and smithy, Higher Road                                            | Post-medieval        | MME21314       |
| A39        | E:345361<br>N:385626 | Site of a cottage, Baileys Lane                                                      | Post-medieval        | MME21316       |
| A40        | E:346020<br>N:385777 | Supposed site of a Second World War anti-aircraft battery, Mersey H14, Yew Tree Farm | Modern               | MME19561       |
| A41        | E:344438<br>N:385554 | Site of a house, Fenwood Drive                                                       | Post-medieval        | MME5728        |
| A42        | E:345341<br>N:385833 | Site of a cottage, Baileys Lane                                                      | Post-medieval        | MME5994        |
| A43        | E:345367<br>N:385018 | Site of a cottage, Baileys Lane                                                      | Post-medieval        | MME21315       |

| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                                   | Period        | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| A44        | E:345301<br>N:385734 | Site of a cottage, Baileys Lane               | Post-medieval | MME21319       |
| A45        | E:345694<br>N:384590 | Site of a house, Higher Road                  | Post-medieval | MME21321       |
| A46        | E:344691<br>N:385758 | Possible location of a windmill, Hollies Road | Post-medieval | MME21328       |
| A47        | E:344844<br>N:385220 | Site of a cottage, Leather's Lane             | Post-medieval | MME19604       |
| A48        | E:345371<br>N:385930 | Site of cottages, Baileys Lane                | Post-medieval | MME10193       |
| A49        | E:345586<br>N:384815 | Site of Lodge Farm, Higher Road               | Post-medieval | MME5976        |
| A50        | E:345174<br>N:384599 | Site of a cottage, Old Hutte Lane             | Post-medieval | MME5980        |
| A51        | E:345594<br>N:384717 | Site of Lodge Farm, Higher Road               | Post-medieval | MME5985        |
| A52        | E:345346<br>N:385625 | Site of a cottage, Baileys Lane               | Post-medieval | MME21318       |
| A53        | E:344506<br>N:384875 | Site of a house and barn, Higher Road         | Post-medieval | MME19603       |
| A54        | E:344566<br>N:385606 | Site of a cottage, Hollies Road               | Post-medieval | MME5729        |
| A55        | E:344882<br>N:385838 | Site of a house, Hollies Road                 | Post-medieval | MME5731        |

| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                                               | Period                 | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| A56        | E:345596<br>N:384732 | Site of a barn at Lodge Farm, Higher Road                 | Post-medieval          | MME5973        |
| A57        | E:345118<br>N:384463 | Site of a house, Old Hutte Lane                           | Post-medieval          | MME5982        |
| A58        | E:345770<br>N:384940 | Site of a building, Finch Lane                            | Post-medieval          | MME5987        |
| A59        | E:345312<br>N:385916 | Site of Derby Arms Inn, Church Road                       | Post-medieval          | MME5989        |
| A60        | E:345360<br>N:385878 | Site of a house, Baileys Lane                             | Post-medieval          | MME5996        |
| A61        | E:345686<br>N:385882 | Site of a shippon or outbuilding at The Hayes, Lower Road | Post-medieval          | MME11809       |
| A62        | E:345837<br>N:385720 | Site of a building, Yew Tree Farm, Lower Road             | Post-medieval          | MME21308       |
| A63        | E:345071<br>N:385421 | Site of a house, Leathers Lane                            | Post-medieval          | MME19605       |
| A64        | E:345365<br>N:384962 | Site of a house and barn, Baileys Lane                    | Post-medieval          | MME19606       |
| A65        | E:344610<br>N:385650 | Site of Wood Cottage, Hollies Road                        | Post-medieval          | MME5730        |
| A66        | E:345092<br>N:384386 | Site of a tithe barn, North Road                          | Medieval/Post-medieval | MME5981        |
| A67        | E:345047<br>N:386055 | Site of a smithy, Hollies Road                            | Post-medieval          | MME6016        |



| Asset ref. | NGR                  | Description                           | Period        | HER / NHL ref. |
|------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|----------------|
| A68        | E:344541<br>N:385513 | Site of two cottages, Wensley Avenue  | Post-medieval | MME15265       |
| A69        | E:344862<br>N:385883 | Site of cottages, Hollies Road        | Post-medieval | MME21301       |
| A70        | E:344538<br>N:384903 | Site of No.185 Higher Road            | Post-medieval | MME19602       |
| A71        | E:345236<br>N:384624 | Site of a cottage, Old Hutte Lane     | Post-medieval | MME5979        |
| A72        | E:345108<br>N:386088 | Site of a smithy, Church Road         | Post-medieval | MME6013        |
| A73        | E:345513<br>N:384747 | Site of a pet cemetery, Higher Road   | Modern        | MME16940       |
| A74        | E:345396<br>N:385393 | Site of a house, Baileys Lane         | Post-medieval | MME21309       |
| A75        | E:345200<br>N:385107 | Possible post medieval boundary ditch | Post-medieval | WSP001         |

# Appendix B

## References



## Published and documentary sources

ARK [Archive Research for Knowsley], 2015 *History of Halewood*, accessed History – Halewood – Knowsley Local History, 07/04/2025

ClfA [Chartered Institute for Archaeologists] Dec 2020a, *Standards and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment*, Reading.

ClfA [Chartered Institute for Archaeologists] Dec 2020b, *Standards and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*, Reading

ClfA [Chartered Institute for Archaeologists] Dec 2020c, *Standards and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*, Reading

Cowell, R.W, 2000 Brook House Farm: Halewood, *Prehistoric, Romano-British and medieval settlement in lowland North West England*, pp. 27-66

Historic England, 2017 *Managing Significance in Decision Taking in the Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 2*

Historic England, 2017 *The setting of heritage assets. Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3*.

Historic England, 2008 *Conservation principles, policies and guidance*. Swindon

Historic England, 2017 *Conservation principles, policies and guidance. Consultation Draft*. Swindon

Historic England, 2019 *Statements of Heritage Significance: Historic England Advice Note 12*

Humphery-Smith C, 1984 *The Phillimore Atlas and Index of Parish Registers*.

Knowsley Council, 2005 *Conservation Area Appraisal: Halewood*

Knowsley Council, 2016 *Local Plan Core Strategy*

Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (2013) *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd Edition* (GLVIA3)

Margary ID 1973 *Roman Roads In Britain*, 3<sup>rd</sup> revised edition, London.

MHCLG 2018 [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government], July 2018 *Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment: Planning Practice Guide*

MHCLG 2021 [Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government], July 2021 *National Planning Policy Framework*

Museum of Liverpool, December 2011 *Knowsley Historic Settlement Study*.

Museum of Liverpool Archaeology, 2012, *An Archaeological Watching Brief at Court Farm Woods, Halewood, Knowsley*.

Oxford Archaeology North, January 2006, *Everton Academy Training Ground, Finch Farm, Halewood, Merseyside. Archaeological Evaluation.*

Powell-Smith A [Online], 2025 Open Domesday. Available at: [Home | Domesday Book](#). Accessed March 2025

VCH [Victoria County History], 1907 *A History of the County of Lancaster: Volume 3*. London

WSP, 2023 *KMBC Halewood LUF – HE – Constraints and Opportunities* [WSP Report]

## **Other sources**

Archaeology Data Service, Available at: [Archaeology Data Service](#). Accessed March 2025

British Geological Survey, Available at: [Welcome to BGS - British Geological Survey](#). Accessed March 2025

Merseyside Historic Environment Record, Available at: <https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/default.aspx>. Accessed March 2025

Historic England designation data, Available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/>. Accessed March 2025

Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council Archives

North West Regional Research Framework, Available at: <https://researchframeworks.org/nwrf/>. Accessed April 2025

Soilscapes, Available at: <https://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>. Accessed March 2025

## **CARTOGRAPHIC SOURCES**

OS six inch map 1849: Lancashire Sheet CXIV, acquired from Groundsure

OS six inch map 1894: Lancashire Sheet CXIV.10, acquired from Groundsure

OS six inch map 1966-67: Plan SJ4485-4585, acquired from Groundsure

OS 1:10000 map of 1974-77, acquired from Groundsure

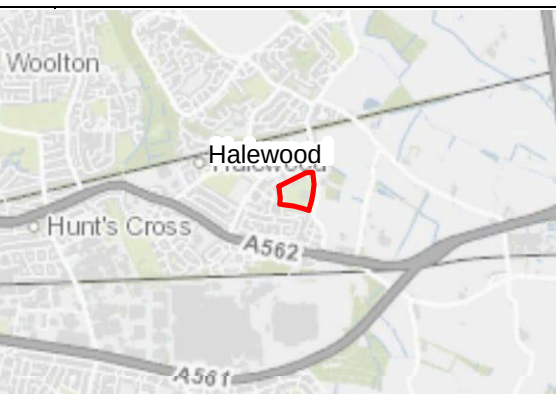
OS 1:10000 map of 1989-91, acquired from Groundsure

# Appendix C

## Figures



384960  
385040  
385120  
385200  
385280  
385360  
Date Saved: 30/04/2025  
Document Path: \\uk.vspgroup.com\central\data\Projects\70119xxx\70119719 KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3\03 WIP\Archaeology and Heritage\02 GIS\Mxd\ss\Figure 1.mxd



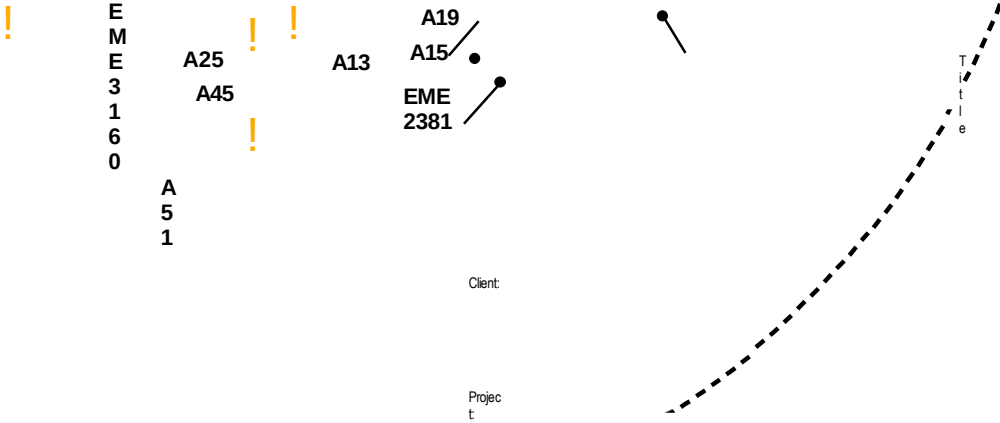
**Key**

Site Boundary

0 20 40 60 80 100  
Metres

|          |                                       |                               |
|----------|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
|          |                                       |                               |
| Client:  | Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council |                               |
| Project: | KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3              |                               |
| Title:   | Figure 1 -<br>Site Location Plan      |                               |
| Date:    | 30/04/2025                            | Scale: 1,500 @ A3             |
| Drawn:   | UT                                    | Checked: JH      Approved: HM |



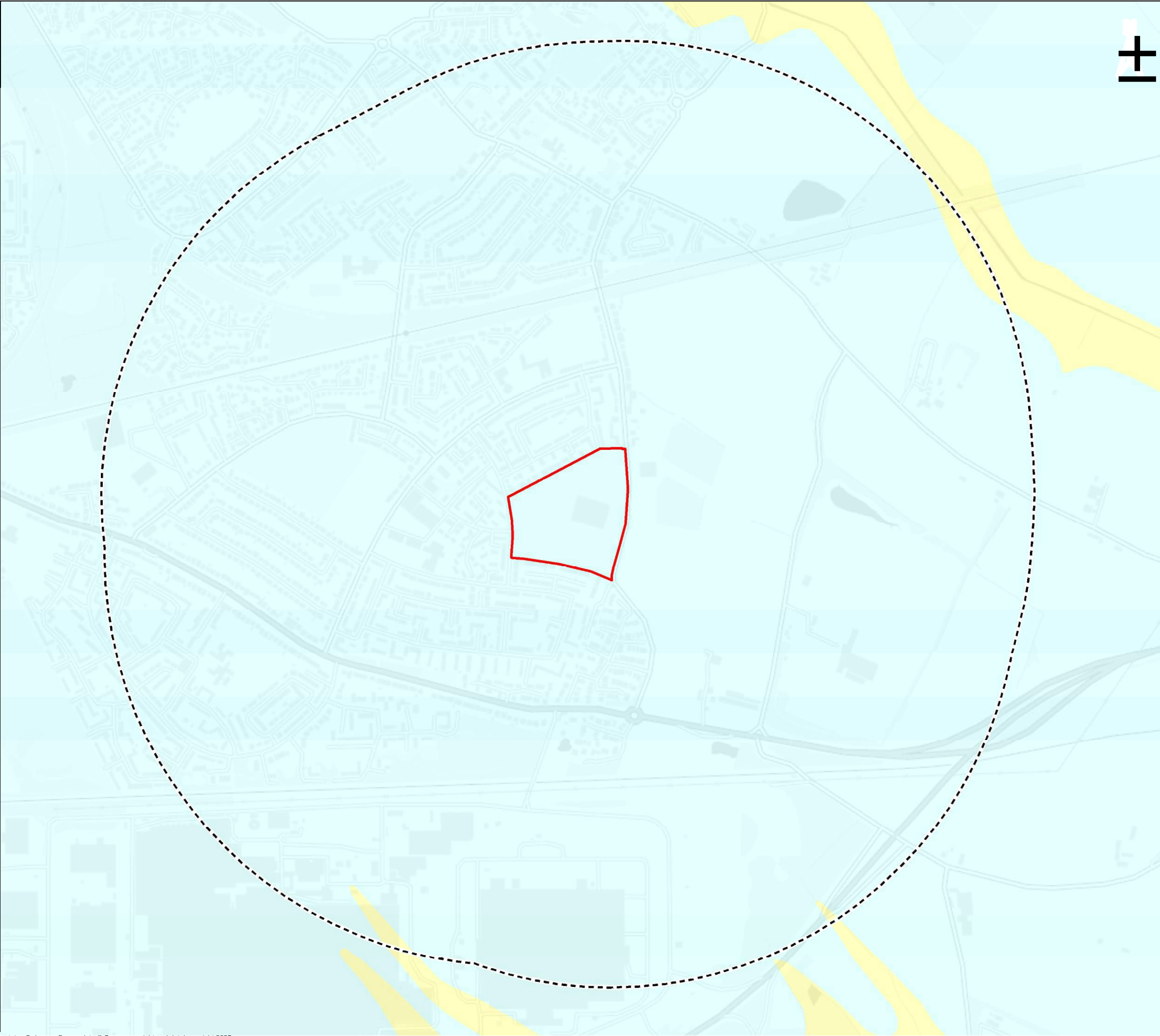


Client:

Proje  
ct

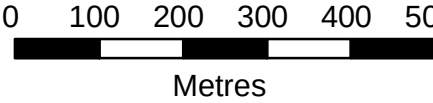
|  |
|--|
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |
|  |





Key

- Site Boundary
- Study Area (1km)
- Superficial deposits
  - Till, Devensian - Diamicton
  - Alluvium - Clay, silt, sand and gravel

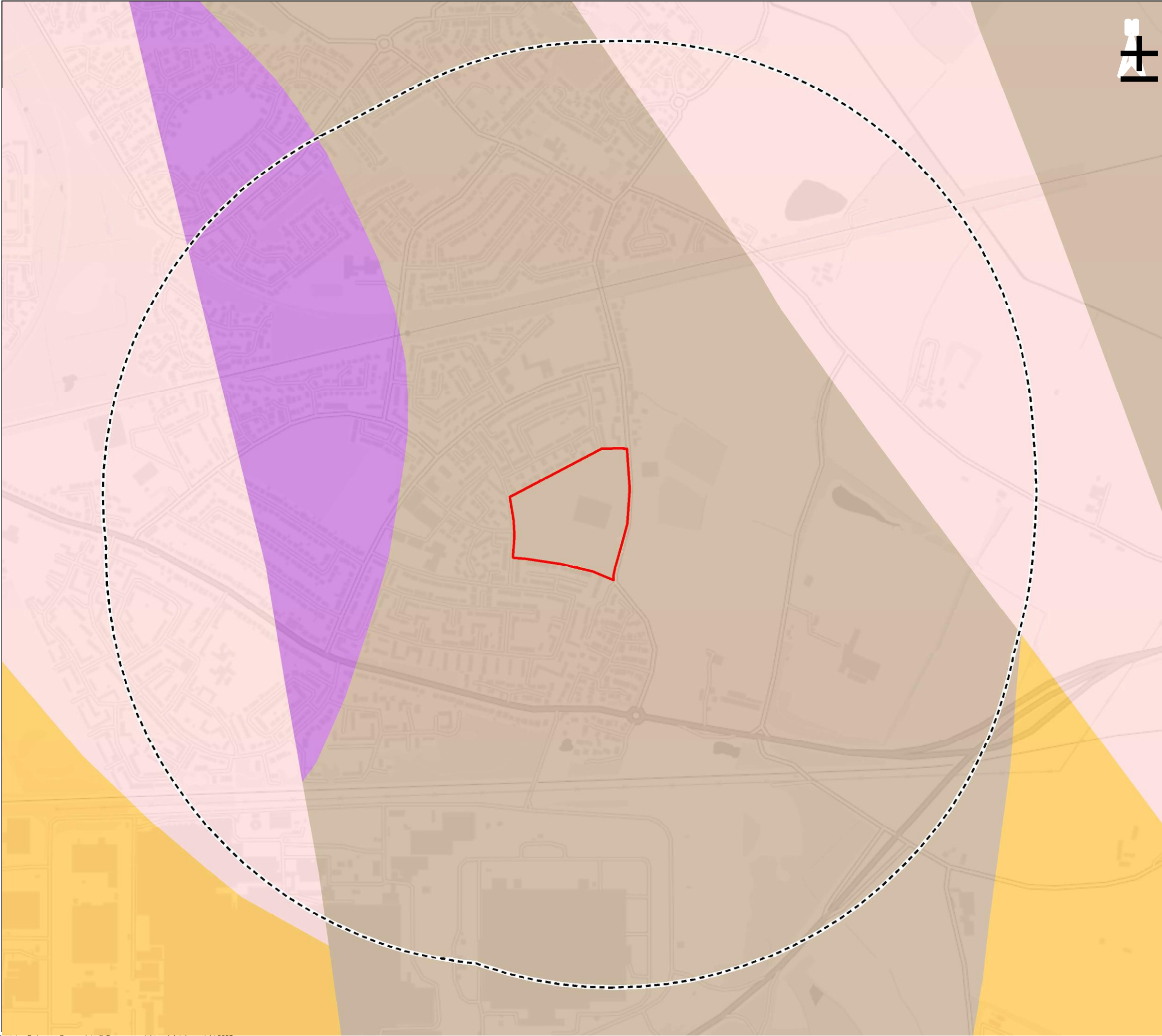


Client:  
Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

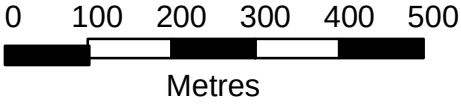
Project:  
KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3

Title  
Figure 3a -  
Geology map - Superficial Deposits  
(British Geological Survey)

|        |          |           |            |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Date:  | 5/7/2025 | Scale:    | 9,000 @ A3 |
| Drawn: | UT       | Checked:  | JH         |
|        |          | Approved: | HM         |



- Key**
- Site Boundary
  - Study Area (1km)
  - Bedrock Geology**
    - Kinnerton Sandstone Formation - Sandstone
    - Wilmslow Sandstone Formation - Sandstone
    - Chester Formation - Sandstone, pebbly (gravelly)
    - Etruria Formation - Mudstone, sandstone and conglomerate

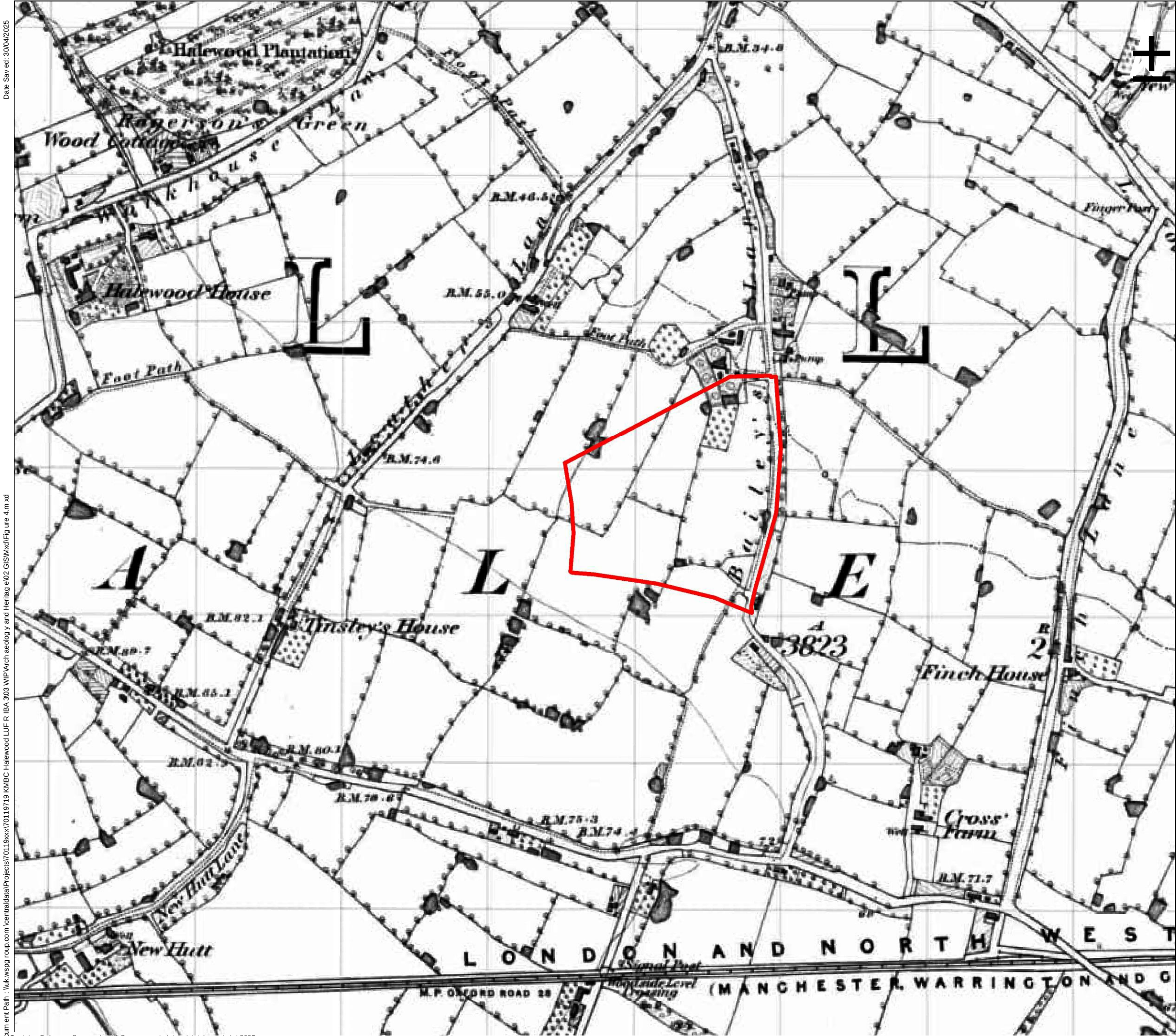


Client:  
Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

Project:  
KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3

Title  
Figure 3b -  
Geology map - Bedrock Geology  
(British Geological Survey)

|        |          |           |            |
|--------|----------|-----------|------------|
| Date:  | 5/7/2025 | Scale:    | 9,000 @ A3 |
| Drawn: | UT       | Checked:  | JH         |
|        |          | Approved: | HM         |



Key  
Site Boundary

0 100 200 300  
Metres

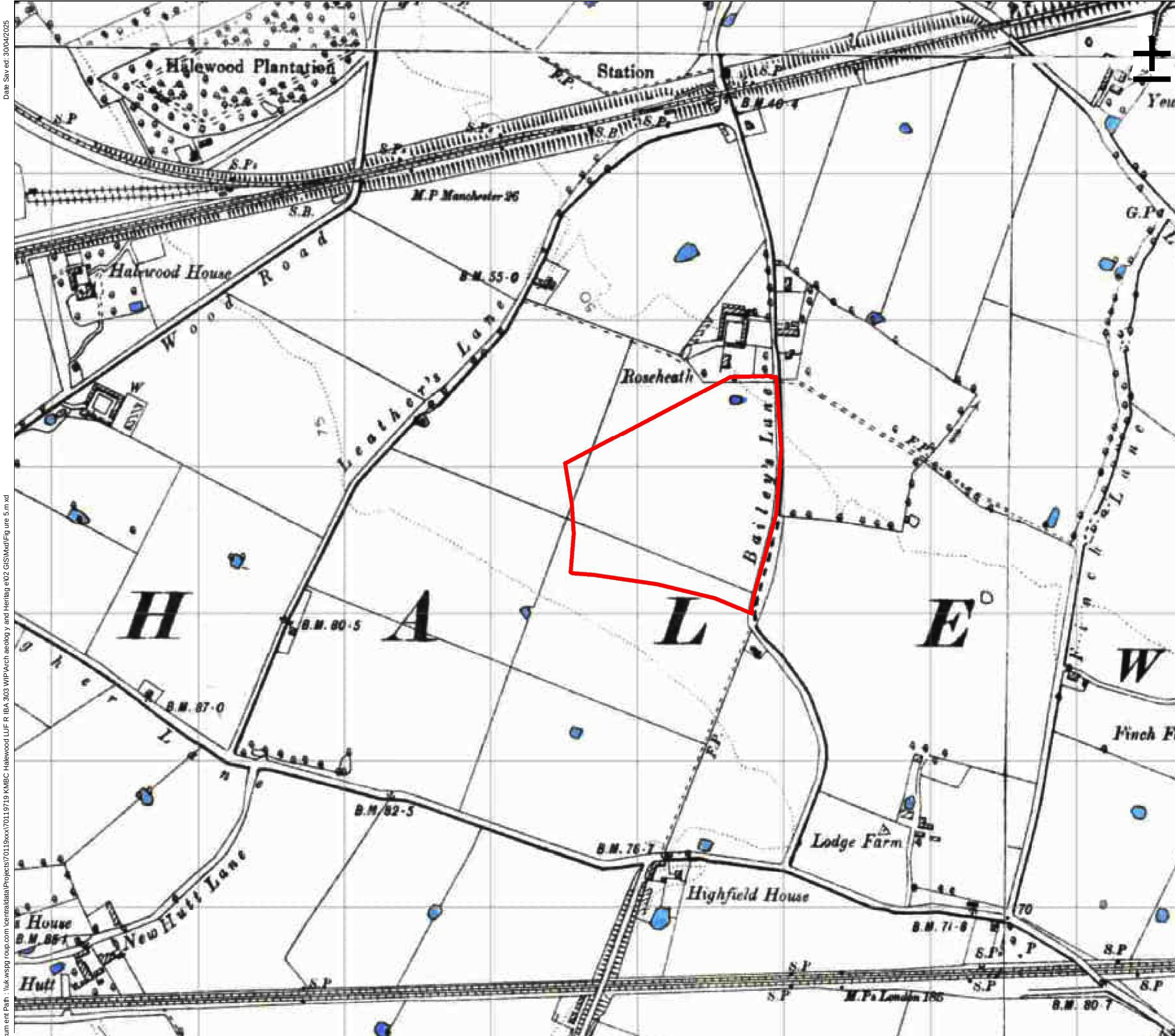


Client:  
Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

Project:  
KMBC Halewood LUF R IBA 3

Title:  
Figure 4 - Ordnance Survey 1st  
edition 6": mile map of 1849

Date: 30/04/2025 Scale: 5,000 @ A3  
Drawn: UT Checked: JH Approved: HM



Key  
Site Boundary

0 100 200 300  
Metres

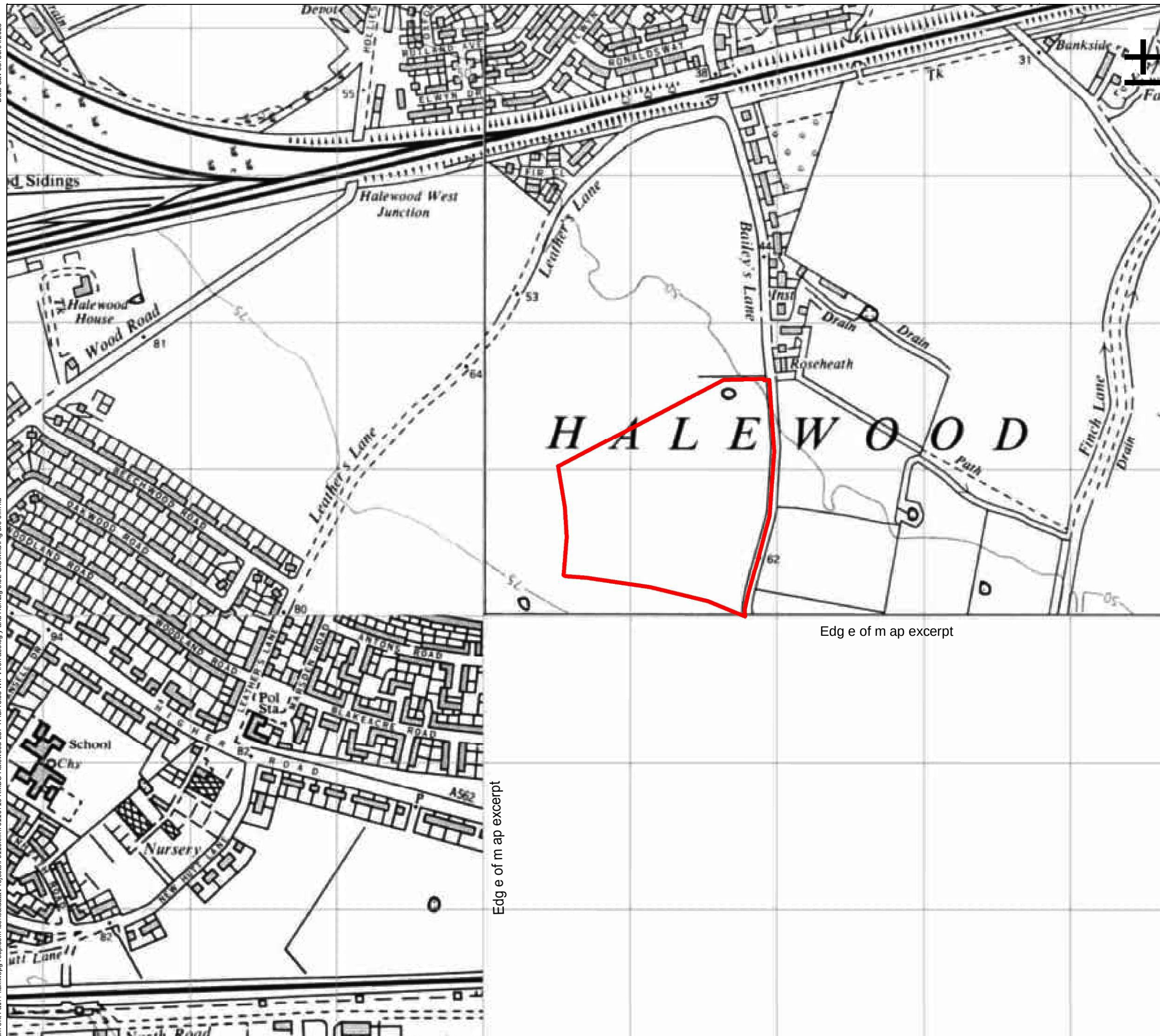
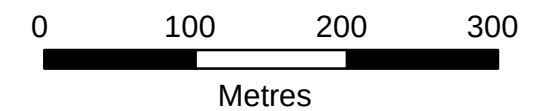


Client:  
Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

Project:  
KMBC Halewood LUF R IBA 3

Title:  
Figure 5 - Ordnance Survey 2nd  
edition 6" scale map of 1891-1894

Date: 30/04/2025 Scale: 5,000 @ A3  
Drawn: UT Checked: JH Approved: HM

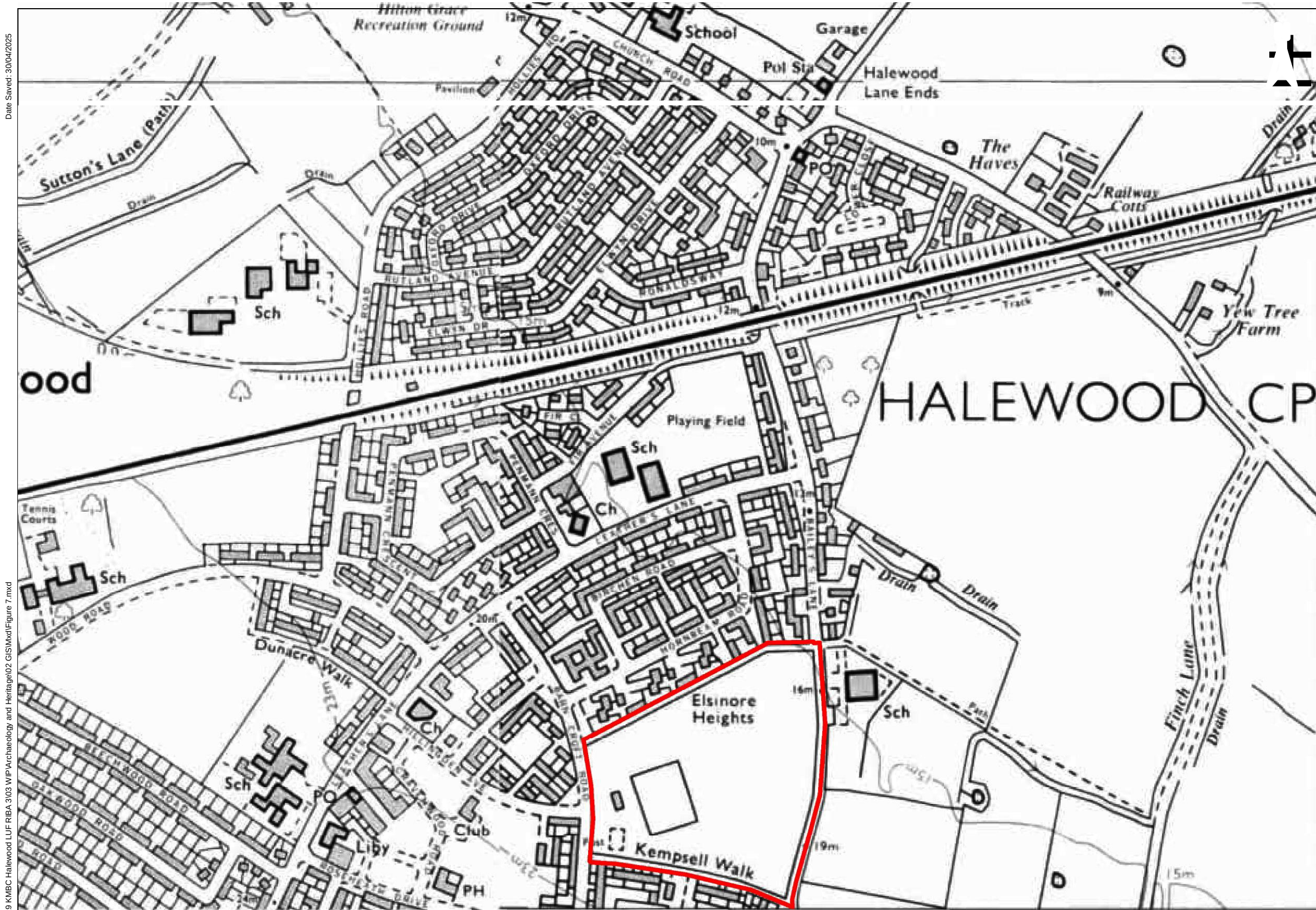
 Site Boundary

Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

KMBC Halewood LUF R IBA 3

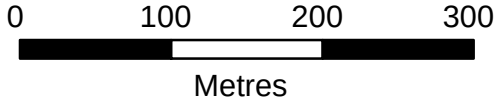
Figure 6 - Ordnance Survey  
6": mile map of 1966-1967

Approved: HM

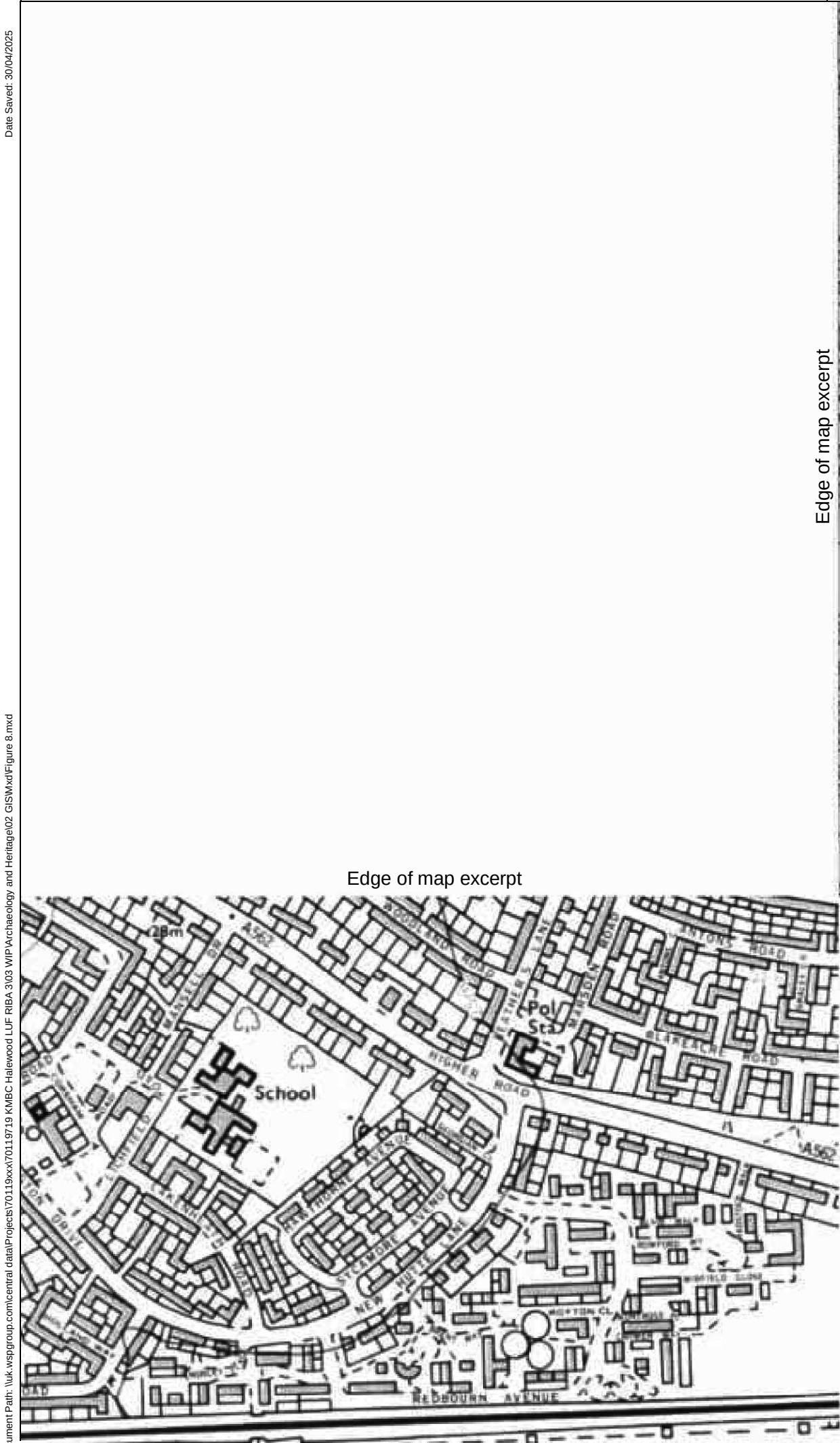


Edge of map excerpt

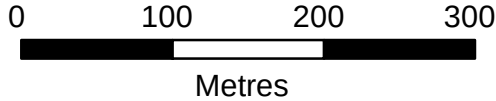
Key  
Site Boundary



|          |                                                           |           |            |
|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|------------|
| Client:  | Knowlsey Metropolitan Borough Council                     |           |            |
| Project: | KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3                                  |           |            |
| Title:   | Figure 7 - Ordnance Survey 1:10000 scale map of 1974-1977 |           |            |
| Date:    | 30/04/2025                                                | Scale:    | 5,000 @ A3 |
| Drawn:   | UT                                                        | Checked:  | JH         |
|          |                                                           | Approved: | HM         |



Key  
Site Boundary



Client:  
Knowlsey Metropolitan  
Borough Council

Project:  
KMBC Halewood LUF RIBA 3

Title  
Figure 8 - Ordnance Survey  
1: 10000 scale map of 1989-91

Date: 30/04/2025 Scale: 5,000 @ A3  
Drawn: UT Checked: JH Approved: HM

# Appendix D

## Plates









First Floor  
3 Wellington Place  
Leeds  
LS1 4AP

**wsp.com**

WSP UK Limited makes no warranties or guarantees, actual or implied, in relation to this report, or the ultimate commercial, technical, economic, or financial effect on the project to which it relates, and bears no responsibility or liability related to its use other than as set out in the contract under which it was supplied.