

## ***Allen Archaeology Ltd***

### **WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A LEVEL 2 HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY: 180 LIVERPOOL ROAD, NORTH MAGHULL L31 2HP**

<b>Planning Reference:</b>	<b>DC/2023/01142</b>
<b>Client:</b>	<b>DB3 Architecture</b>
<b>National Grid Reference:</b>	<b>SD 37363 03187</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>19<sup>th</sup> September 2023</b>
<b>AAL Site Code:</b>	<b>MALR23</b>

#### **1.0 Summary**

This document is a written scheme of investigation for a programme of historic building recording that has been prepared for DB3 Architecture, as part of the pre application advice given from Merseyside Environmental Advisory Service (MEAS) for development of the historic Wesleyan Chapel (currently the hall), 180 Liverpool Road, North Maghull L31 2HP.

The fieldwork and reporting will conform to current national guidelines, as set out in the Historic England document '*Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*' (HE 2016), and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*' (CIfA 2019). All relevant Historic England guidelines on archaeological best practice will also be followed.

#### **2.0 Site Location and Description**

Maghull is a town and civil parish in Sefton, Merseyside (historically a part of Lancashire). The town is c. 13km north of Liverpool and c. 8km northwest of Kirkby. The historic Wesleyan Chapel is located on the north side of Liverpool Road North on the junction with the B5407 and is centred on NGR SD 37363 03187 (Figure 1).

#### **3.0 Planning Background**

Pre-planning application advice has been given by MEAS prior to a full application for development of the historic Wesleyan Chapel (currently the hall), 180 Liverpool Road, North Maghull and advised '*No development or demolition shall take place until the applicant or their agents, has secured the implementation and submission of a report on a programme of historic building investigation. That programme of historic building investigation works should be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority prior to works taking place.*'

The approach adopted is consistent with the guidelines that are set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government 2021).

#### **4.0 Historical Background**

The historic Wesleyan Chapel (currently the hall) appears on the 1893 1:2,500 Ordnance Survey map and is considered to be a non-designated heritage asset. Historic England suggests that Nonconformist buildings have often been overlooked or poorly understood. There is a need to assess the importance of the interior fittings of such chapels, and to understand the significance of these little studied heritage assets.

The chapel is not situated within a conservation area and the historic landscape character map of Maghull

suggests the site is positioned within ancient and post medieval settlement (MARIO). The earliest recorded chapel in Maghull is the “Old Chapel” adjacent to St Andrew’s church which was built around 1200 (Forby Times 1934). It was once stated to be the “oldest ecclesiastical building on Merseyside” (Liverpool Echo 1997).

In the 17<sup>th</sup> century the Lancashire countryside had the largest Catholic community in England, but Liverpool as well as Manchester were Puritan centres with the first (Presbyterian) dissenting chapel in Toxteth being built between 1604-1618. During the 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century Liverpool is said to have played an important role in the Gothic revival (Historic England 2008). Maghull being situated in close proximity is likely to have followed suite of the larger town.

The extant redbrick Gothic structure was constructed in 1896 which superseded a wooden structure partially made of old shop shutters (Liverpool Mercury 1896). The Wesleyan’s had been established in Maghull since at least the 1860s (Liverpool Mercury 1867). The earlier chapel known as an “old chanty” had been used for about a decade before being replaced. Superintendent minister Reverend A. Elvidge was the one who secured a freehold site adjacent to the wooden chapel. The new Gothic chapel comprised a chapel, schoolroom and a vestry under the same roof and was designed by Mr H. E. Peach of Southport. The intention behind the design was by using a partitioning wall and including the school, the seating could be enlarged from 150 to 250 (ibid). Foundation stones were laid by Mr William Taylor, sen. Aughton, Mr and Mrs T. C. Mather (Lydiate), Mr William Lawson (Lydiate), Mrs Henry Jones (Ormskirk) and Mr Thomas Stoner (Lathom) (ibid.). The article from 1896 makes cordial mentions of the relationship between the established church and the conformism in the area, something that could not be said for all parts of the country (AAL 2023).

The site upon which the Wesleyan chapel was built, originally flanked the south side of Maghull Brook as seen on the Ordnance Survey map published in 1849. The site perhaps deliberately chosen for its location near the water to allow full body baptism.

The chapel was extended in 1965 and 1995 and held its last service September 2021 (Rand 2023).

## **5.0 Aims and Objectives**

The aim of the building survey will be to:

- to document the building prior to refurbishment.
- to provide underpinning data for thematic, topographic or period-specific works of synthesis.
- to inform academic research across a range of disciplines.

More specific questions that need addressing regionally are found in The North West England Regional Research Framework (<https://researchframeworks.org/nwrf/>)

## **6.0 Methodology**

The works will be carried out in accordance with the standards and guidance set out in the Historic England document: *Understanding Historic Buildings, A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (Historic England 2016a) for a Level 2 survey of the Wesleyan Chapel. The building survey will be undertaken by an experienced buildings archaeologist who will record the hall prior to any development using the methods outlined below. The date of the fieldwork is not currently known.

Photographs will be taken, using high resolution digital photography of at least 12 megapixels and saved as TIF files, of the following: -

- All external elevations
- All internal elevations, including internal walls and subdivisions

- The roof structure of the buildings, internally and externally, where visible
- The relationship of the structures to their surroundings
- Internal and external architectural details, i.e. windows, doors, decorative brickwork, and other significant features, fixtures or fittings. Generally a single representative shot will be taken of particular features such as windows or openings of a single type that occur more than once within the structure
- A general internal photographic record. Photographs will be taken of each room/discrete internal space from sufficient points to show the form, general appearance and methods of construction

Metric scales of appropriate length and a tripod will be used when required, with all photos annotated and linked to a floor plan. In addition to the photographic record, a full written description and programme of analysis will be undertaken of the structure. As per Historic England's guidance (2016a) this will summarise the building's form, function, date and sequence of development. The names of architects, builders, patrons and owners will be given if known. Any identified phasing will also be identified on the site plans and included in the written narrative.

Measured plan and elevation drawings at a scale of 1:100, supplied by the architect, will be fully checked on site for accuracy using electronic measuring devices and where necessary annotated to illustrate all relevant features accordingly.

Map regression and the study of readily available documentary sources from AAL reference library and online resources such as [heritagegateway.org.uk](http://heritagegateway.org.uk) and [britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk](http://britishnewspaperarchive.co.uk) will be included to provide a historical context to the site and its development.

## **6.0 Post-Fieldwork Methodology**

On completion of site operations, the records produced during the historic building recording will be checked and ordered. A fully illustrated report text will then be prepared that will contain the following information:

- A non-technical summary of the results
- Description of the site location including site NGR
- Planning background, including details of the proposed development and the planning application number
- Date of commencement and duration of fieldwork, and field staff involved
- Description of the methodologies used during the site investigations, sources consulted and discussion of the methodologies' effectiveness in the light of the results
- A text describing the results of the building recording, to include discussion of the plan form of the building, materials and method of construction, dates of the structures, current and former functions, internal layout, fixtures and fittings, and a discussion of the buildings within the wider landscape.
- Scale plans at an appropriate scale (likely to be 1:20, 1:50 or 1:100) showing the layout, including the internal arrangements, and distribution of the buildings on the development site, with locations and orientations of all photographs taken during the survey, accurately located to the OS grid. 4 co-ordinates will appear on each plan. These will be based on the measured survey provided by the client and will be produced to standard Historic England drawing conventions (Historic England 2016b) and will include full descriptions.
- A phased plan of the site, with phases dated where possible, based on the measured survey plans of the site provided by the client.
- Elevations of the buildings, based on the measured survey provided by the client will be produced to standard Historic England drawing conventions (Historic England 2016b) and will include full descriptions.

- An appendix with a selection of annotated photographs from the building survey, with a full list of all photographs taken as another appendix
- A complete bibliography of all reference materials including those consulted but not referenced in the text

The timescale for completion of the post-excavation works is 3 days. If required, specialists will propose their own timescales during the post-fieldwork stage.

### **7.0 Curatorial Monitoring**

The MEAS Planning Archaeologist will be notified no less than one week of the commencement of the works. They will be kept informed of developments during the scheme by Allen Archaeology. It is recognised that they may visit the site during the fieldwork element to monitor the building survey and confirm that the works are being undertaken in accordance with this WSI and appropriate standards and guidance.

Internal monitoring will be by the author of this specification.

### **8.0 Archive**

The documentation and records generated by the evaluation will be assembled in accordance with the national guidelines in *'Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation'* (AAF 2011). The archive will be collected by the Museum of Liverpool in accordance with *'Guidelines for the Transfer of Archaeological Archives to the Museum of Liverpool'* (National Museums Liverpool 2020).

It is anticipated that the archive for this scheme will be deposited within 12 months of the completion of the project.

The digital photographs will be uploaded to Archaeology Data Service (ADS) for archiving in accordance with their standards and requirements.

### **9.0 Report Dissemination**

A draft copy of the report will be submitted to the MEAS Planning Archaeologist for agreement. Approved copies will then be sent to the client, the Local Planning Authority and MEAS for inclusion in the Historic Environment Record (HER). A copy will also be sent to the museum along with the project archive.

### **10.0 Publication**

A digital copy of the report will be submitted to the OASIS Project held at the Archaeological Data Service at York. A short (c.300 word) summary of the project results will be sent to the editor of *Post Medieval Archaeology* for inclusion in their annual round-up of fieldwork, with a copy forwarded to MEAS.

### **11.0 Variations to the Proposed Scheme**

Variations to the proposed scheme will only be made following written confirmation from MEAS. Should any further investigation be required beyond the scope of the brief for works, or this specification, then the cost and duration of those supplementary examinations will be negotiated between the client and the contractor.

### **12.0 Health and Safety**

All work will be carried out in a way that complies with the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and its related

regulations and codes of practice. Employees of Allen Archaeology Ltd will perform their duties in accordance with company safety policy, with senior staff responsible for monitoring compliance with health and safety requirements and legislation.

A site Risk Assessment will be carried out in advance of any archaeological fieldwork.

### **13.0 Insurances**

AAL maintains Employers Liability Insurance to £10,000,000.00, Public Liability Insurance to £5,000,000.00 and Professional Indemnity Insurance to £2,000,000.00. Copies of insurance documentation can be supplied upon request.

### **14.0 Copyright**

AAL shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* with all rights reserved; excepting that an exclusive license is hereby provided to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project described in this document.

License is also given to the archaeological curator to use the documentary archive for educational, public and research purposes. This license does not cover commercial use of the material by MEAS or any third party.

In the case of non-satisfactory settlement of account then copyright will remain fully and exclusively with AAL. In these circumstances it will be an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* for the client to pass any report, partial report, or copy of same, to any third party. Reports submitted in good faith by AAL to any Planning Authority or archaeological curator will be removed from said Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator. The Planning Authority and/or archaeological curator will be notified by AAL that the use of any such information previously supplied constitutes an infringement under the *Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988* and may result in legal action.

The author of any specialist contribution to a report shall retain intellectual copyright of their work and may make use of their work for educational or research purposes for further publication.

### **15.0 Bibliography**

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