

University of
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MANCHESTER

Archaeological Desk- Based Assessment Report

The Land at Woods Mill
and the Former VC
Works, Glossop,
Derbyshire

Client: Lofthouse
Property Developments
& Glossop Land Ltd

Technical Report:
Rachael Reader

Report No:
52/2014



Site Location: The study area (centred at SK 03879 94006) is located to the east of Glossop Town Centre and is within the Howard Town Mill Conservation area

NGR: Centred at SK 03879 94006

Internal Ref: CfAA/2014/52

Proposal: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

Planning Ref: HPK/2014/0448; HPK/2014/0408

Prepared for: David Fairclough, (on behalf of Lofthouse Property Developments and Glossop Land Ltd) and Kathryn Spencer (Kathryn Sather & Associates)

Document Title: Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment: The Land at Woods Mill and the Former VC Works, Glossop, Derbyshire

Document Type: Desk-Based Assessment

Version: Version 1.1

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Summary

In November 2014 the Centre for Applied Archaeology was commissioned by David Fairclough, on behalf of Lofthouse Property Developments and Glossop Land Ltd and Kathryn Spencer (Kathryn Sathers & Associates) to undertake an archaeological Desk-Based Assessment on land at Woods Mill, Glossop, Derbyshire (centred on SK 03879 94006). The study area encompasses the eastern part of the Howard Town Mill complex, known as Woods Mill and the former VC Works and a small area to the south of Glossop Brook, formerly the site of an Aggregate Business.

The aim of the archaeological assessment was to identify as far as possible the nature, extent and significance of the archaeological resource so as to enable informed recommendations to be made for the future treatment of any surviving remains. This information was required in order to inform and support a planning application to partially demolish and redevelop the Woods Mill complex for residential and retail use.

The site lies within Howard Town Mill conservation area (designated June 2003) which recognises the special architectural and historical interest of the area. The Howard Town Mill complex became the largest textile mill in north-west Derbyshire and one of the largest integrated cotton mills in England by the end of the 19th century (Williams 1997). The complex began when John Wood took over the Bridge End fulling mill, near present day Victoria Street, in 1819. The complex slowly extended eastwards and at its peak, employed 2000 people. After initial success when his sons took over after his death in 1854, the mill slowly declined during the latter part of the 19th and early 20th century, with the mill eventually being sold off by the Wood family in 1921 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 10). The eastern part was taken over by Volcrepe Rubber Ltd in 1932 and continued to operate until 2002. The western part continued in use as a cotton mill but the industry was in terminal decline and the complex finally closed in 1960 (Wild 2007, 8). Parts of the site were developed for other, light industries although around a third of the complex has since been demolished (High Peak Borough Council 2006, 15).

On the available evidence there are no remains within the study area which are considered to be a heritage asset of national significance. The Howard Town/Woods Mill complex is considered to be a non-designated heritage asset of regional importance (HER 6123) and contains standing buildings of local and regional importance. However the study area also contains potential below-ground remains dating to the mid 19th century onwards, also of local and regional significance. These include spinning mills (**e.g. Sites 7 and 24**), warehouses (**e.g. Site 2**), weaving sheds (**e.g. Sites 1 and 15**), power systems including boiler houses (**e.g. Sites 4 and 19**) and engine houses (**e.g. Sites 5 and 9**) as well as a Gas Works (**e.g. Site 32 and 44**) and ancillary buildings such as office blocks (**e.g. Site 10**).

The impact of development ranges from neutral to moderate/large, thus any redevelopment occurring within the study area would involve the loss and disturbance of both standing buildings and below-ground archaeological remains. Mitigation in the form of building surveys and trial trenching is recommended in Chapter 8.

1. Introduction

1.1 Planning Background

In November 2014 the Centre for Applied Archaeology was commissioned by David Fairclough, on behalf of Lofthouse Property Developments and Glossop Land Ltd, to undertake an archaeological Desk-Based Assessment on the land located at Woods Mill, Glossop, Derbyshire (centred on SK 03879 94006). An application has been lodged with High Peak Borough Council to demolish former buildings relating to Woods Mill, convert one of the buildings into apartments and build a series of new residential dwellings (HPK/2014/0448). A further application has been submitted for a proposed retail development to the west (Planning Ref: HPK/2014/0408) (see fig. 2).

The aim of the archaeological assessment was to identify, as far as possible, the nature, extent and significance of the archaeological resource, particularly the below-ground remains, so as to enable informed recommendations to be made for the future treatment of any surviving remains. This information was required in order to inform and support planning applications to demolish part of the mill complex and later developments, convert an existing mill building and construct new dwellings as part of a residential scheme and also develop part of the site for retail use.

1.2 Government and Local Planning Policies

1.2.1 National Planning Policy Framework

The significance of the archaeological resource identified within this report has been assessed as recommended in *National Planning Policy Framework* (Department for Communities and Local Government, March 2012).

NPPF sets out the Government's planning policies and outlines the presumption in favour of sustainable development, which is defined by three dimensions: economic, social and environmental. Of the twelve core planning principles underpinning plan and decision making, conserving "heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations" is one.

Section 12 specifically deals with the historic environment (paragraphs 126-141) and local planning authorities should consider:

- *The desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation*
- *The wider, social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring*

- *The desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and*
- *Opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place*

Paragraph 128 states that local planning authorities, when determining applications, should require the applicant to describe the significance of any affected heritage assets. This should be sufficient so as to understand the potential impact on their significance and this should be done using the appropriate expertise where necessary.

Paragraph 135 indicates that the effect of the proposal on non-designated assets (designated assets are covered in paragraphs 132-134) should be taken into account. Paragraph 141 requires developers to record and advance understanding of heritage assets to be lost, in a manner proportionate to their importance and impact.

Paragraph 137 specifically deals with Conservation Areas and states that local planning authorities should look for opportunities for new development to enhance or better reveal heritage assets' significance. Paragraph 138 states that not all elements of conservation areas contribute to its significance, therefore loss of buildings which make a positive contribution to the significance of the area should be treated as substantial, or less than substantial harm. This also has to be assessed alongside the relative significance of the asset affected as well as the significance of the conservation area as a whole.

1.2.2 Local Development Framework

NPPF outlines the need for local planning authorities to create local plans and frameworks to implement NPPF at a local level. The Local Plan for High Peak Borough Council which covers Glossop, is still under preparation, however policy EQ 6: Built and Historic Environment (High Peak Borough Council 2014, 81-83) is relevant here. Policy DS1 also specifically relates to the former Woods Mill complex (*ibid*, 140-144)

The High Peak Borough Council is advised on archaeological matters by the development control archaeologist at Derbyshire County Council. Conservation Area advice is given by the Council's conservation officers.

2. Methodology Statement

The assessment considers the potential impact of the development upon any potential heritage assets within the study area and comprises of an archaeological desk-based study and site inspection. The works followed the IfA standard and guidance for undertaking archaeological desk-based assessments (Institute for Archaeologists, Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment, 1994, revised 2010).

2.1 Research Sources

The desk-based assessment made use of the following sources:

- Published and unpublished cartographic, documentary and photographic sources.
- The Derbyshire Historic Environment Record, held by Derbyshire County Council and based in Matlock, Derbyshire

Archives consulted were:

- Historical Trade Directories & Census Returns
- Glossop Heritage Centre. This is currently closed so the author could not access original documents, instead utilising information provided in previous archaeological surveys of the site and surrounding area.
- Glossop Local Studies Library

The aim of this was to provide the historical and archaeological background relating to the development of the site. The maps in particular offer evidence for phase of building and expansion relating to the study area over the past two hundred years.

2.2 Site Inspection

The aim of the site inspection was to relate the findings of the desk-based study to the existing land use of the study area in order to identify any evidence of the structures which formally stood on the site along with the sites potential for surviving below ground remains.

A site inspection took place on 03.12.2014 however access was not forthcoming for the retail development area as part of the building was still in use as a business. The warehouse which is earmarked for conversion was inaccessible at this time.

2.3 The Document

The following presents the historical and archaeological evidence for development on the former Woods Mill/VC Works complex (Chapter 4), with a particular emphasis on the later history. A gazetteer (Chapter 5) is presented of known potential heritage assets identified within the study area and this information, along with map regression (**Figs. 3-8**), is used to assess the significance of the remains (Chapter 6) and impact of the development (Chapter 7). A mitigation strategy is presented in Chapter 8 based on the assessment presented in the previous chapters.

3. The Setting

3.1 Location, Topography and Land use

The town of Glossop lies within the Borough of High Peak, in NW Derbyshire and lies 24km east of Manchester and 51km north of Matlock. The study area (centred on SK 03879 94006) is located to the east of Glossop town centre and is located within the Howard Town Mill conservation area (designated 2003). It consists of approximately two hectares of the former Woods/Howard Town Mill complex, as well as a small area to the south of Glossop Brook on the site of a former Gas Works.

The area is located close to the Glossopdale valley bottom, bordering onto Glossop Brook which runs along it. The area is surrounded by high moorland to the north and hills to the east and south. The study area lies on relatively flat ground, which steeply drops c.2.00m to the Brook to the south and lies at approximately 147m AOD. The land then gently rises to High Street East although there are localised changes in the topography. Within the eastern part of the complex (Residential Phase 1), the ground level is relatively flat at c.150m AOD where the buildings (**Sites 1-6; 37; 39**) are located although the land gently rises from SW-NE by around 1m. The mill pond (**Site 27**) is located at 2-3m above the ground surface in the NE corner of the site.

The second area (Residential Phase 2) is flat around where the buildings stand, however to the north of the spinning mill (**Site 8**), the ground rises from W-E by around by around 2m. This appears to be a dump of building rubble, which is currently overgrown with dense vegetation. Although access was not possible, the land appears to drop again down to the site of the former mill pond (**Site 41**), by 2-3m. The land also drops sharply from where the Mill Street houses were (**Site 18**) - now the Glossop Community Transport centre) although this is only around 1m due to the height of the building material. The third area (Retail Phase) appears to be on relatively flat ground although the path between the two areas slopes gently down to the Brook.

The study area appears to have remained undeveloped until the early nineteenth century, lying outside the historical core of Glossop (now Old Glossop), approximately 1km to the NE. Burdett's map of 1763-67 shows that the only development appears to have been a farm building at Bridge End (close to present day Victoria Street crossroads and west of the current study area) and Cross Cliffe to the east. In 1781, land was leased for the construction of the Bridge End fulling mill to a Robert Fielding (west of the current study area). A mill was also established at Mill Town in 1803 by Thomas Shaw, which once stood near the main spinning mill (**Site 8**). After changing hands, a George Burgess sold Bridge End mill to John Wood in 1819 (Hamnett 1913, 14; Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 11), who proceeded to extend the mill complex over the next few decades. The mill eventually extended eastwards into the current study area in the 1840s and Wood also eventually took over Thomas Shaw's Mill Town mill, which had burnt down in

1842 (Hamnett 1913, 19). John Wood's sons continued the steady expansion after he died in 1854, however the mill entered into decline towards the latter part of the 19th century. The Wood family sold the mill in 1921 and the western part of the complex continued as a cotton mill until 1960. The eastern part was taken over by Volcrepe Rubber Ltd in 1932 and operated until 2004. Various light industries operated on the site since it ceased its function as a cotton mill and around one third of the whole complex has since been demolished. The eastern part of the study area, where the former Volcrepe Works were located, is currently derelict. The western part still has a business operating out of the former weaving shed but much of this building is unused.

3.2 Geology

The bedrock within the study area, according to British Geological Society, is the Hebden Formation – Mudstone and Siltstone (Sedimentary Bedrock) (1:50000) and is part of the Millstone Grit Group (1:625000). Most of the study area also has superficial deposits of Alluvium – Clay and Silt (www.bgs.ac.uk).

3.3 Designations

The entire study area, with the exception of the area to the south of Glossop Brook, lies within the Howard Town Mill Conservation Area. This was designated in 2003 and covers an area of 3.8ha. The area forms a large component of Glossop's industrial architecture, dating from the mid 19th century, and the architectural style and character are typical of their period and locality. The area's survival "is a significant contributory factor to the overall architectural quality of the town" and the "proximity and scale of the surrounding countryside... is also a key defining characteristic" (High Peak Borough Council 2006). There are no nationally designated sites (listed buildings or scheduled monuments) within the study area.

The complex is recorded within the Derbyshire HER as Howardtown Mills, High Street East (**HER6123**). Within the complex and west of the study area are two Grade II listed buildings: Howard Town House (**National Heritage List (NHLE) No': 1384268**) and the two lodges, gates and attached wall of Woods Mill (**NHLE 1384302**). Within a 50m radius of the site, there are several sites which are entered onto the HER, including the Elim Church on Ellison Street built in 1888 (**HER6194**), the site of Cross Cliffe cotton mill built in 1783 and demolished in 1902 (**HER33325**), part of the site of Glossop Mill which may have been a medieval corn mill eventually demolished in 1920s (**HER33327**) and Toll Bar cottage located at the junction of Mill Town and the A57, where the turnpike was located (**HER33343**).

There are several listed buildings within a 50m radius, including a drinking trough outside the Norfolk Arms (**NHLE 1384272**), Natwest (**NHLE 1246355**), Norfolk Arms (**NHLE 1384271**), 8-14 High Street East (**NHLE 1384266**), 25 High Street East (**NHLE 1384267**), two telephone kiosks outside the Norfolk Arms (**NHLE 1384273**) and the town hall and market hall (**NHLE 1384269**) (see Appendix 3)

3.4 Previous Archaeological Works

The University of Manchester Archaeological Unit (UMAU) was commissioned to carry out a programme of archaeological work at Howard Town Mill, Victoria Street prior to development (Grimsditch *et al* 2005) (HER Entry EDR1889; 1890). A small scale evaluation was undertaken by CFA Archaeology, also prior to development, to evaluate the survival of former cottages, which formed part of Smithy Fold and date to the 19th century, 'Long Mill' (constructed 1824) and an outbuilding associated with this building. A watching brief was also undertaken during the placement of services which may have had an effect on undisturbed archaeological remains (Moore 2011, 4-5)

A desk-based assessment and building appraisal was carried out by Oxford North Archaeology in 2007 on the current study area (Wild 2007), as part of an outline planning proposal for demolition and redevelopment of the area. A full planning application was submitted to High Peak Borough Council to demolish some of the former mill buildings and redevelop the site. However Derbyshire County Council advised on further work, specifically in relation to the impact the development would have on the below ground remains (Kathryn Sathers & Associates pers. comm). In light of this, in November 2014 CfAA was commissioned by Lofthouse Property Developments and Glossop Land Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment on the former Woods Mill/VC Works complex.

4. Archaeological & Historical Background

This section of the report is based on cartographic (**Figs 3 to 8**) and documentary research in addition to previous historical research undertaken by the University of Manchester Archaeological Unit (Grimsditch *et al* 2005) and Oxford Archaeology North (Wild 2007).

4.1 Prehistoric Period

4.1.1 Archaeological Evidence

The earliest evidence for activity in the Glossop area dates to the Mesolithic as there are no known Palaeolithic sites in the area. The ones known from Derbyshire tend to be cave or rock fissure sites, such as Creswell Crags (McNabb 2006, 11). The area around Glossop has evidence for activity dating back to the Mesolithic period, although is limited to flint scatters and isolated finds. Generally, the known evidence for this period derives from the uplands as at Harry Hut, Chunal Moor (HER 3603) (2.5km S of Glossop) Cock Hill (HER 3666) (3km NE), Smallden Clough (HER 3623; 3624) (4km NE) and Glossop Low (HER 3622) (3.5km NE).

Neolithic and Bronze Age activity is evidenced through isolated finds at Whiteley Nab (HER 3601) (2km SW) and Lordship hill (3km E) (HER 3642) (Stroud 2001, 3; Sathers 2014, 20). There are several burials recorded in the area, including a cremation urn at the base of Shire Hill at the E edge of town (HER 3617) (1km NE) as well as a possible cairn near Coombes Edge (HER 3605; SAM 1009048) (3km SW).

Mouselaw Castle (2km NW of Glossop) is reputed to be the site of an Iron Age hillfort but otherwise evidence for later prehistoric finds and settlement is scarce around the Glossop area. There are a number of stone heads recorded in the area (e.g. HER 6108; HER 6106; HER 6105) which may be ‘Celtic’ in origin but others are attributed with a Medieval date.

4.1.2 Archaeological Potential

The vast majority of Mesolithic - Bronze Age activity is confined to the uplands around Glossop and there is a dearth of later prehistoric activity generally in the area (Willis 2006, 92). However Mesolithic material, for example, comes from varied locations and geologies (Myers 2006, 66) and is known to be found within intensely developed Industrial areas, as at Lordsmill Street, Chesterfield (Myers 2006, 64). The intense development of the area during the 19th century lowers the potential for prehistoric

activity although any evidence recovered from this period could be of regional significance. The potential for prehistoric activity within the study area is considered to be low.

4.2 Roman Period

4.2.1 Archaeological Evidence

There is no evidence for Roman settlement in Glossop, however 3km to the NW lies *Ardotalia* Roman fort, known as Melandra (HER 6102; SAM 1004595). The site is located on elevated ground at the confluence of the river Etherow and the Glossop Brook. Various excavations have revealed that it was first occupied during the Agricolan period, during the 70s AD and was rebuilt early in the second century AD before being abandoned around 140 AD (Hart 1981), although later finds clearly indicate that the site was utilised in some way after its supposed abandonment. An extensive *vicus* settlement was located to the south and east, part of which was discovered during construction works at Gamesley estate. This also appears to have been abandoned around the same time as the fort (Webster 1969).

Two roads are thought to run from Melandra to Buxton and Brough (Webster 1973; Stroud 2001, 4) with the latter route better understood according to distribution maps (e.g. Taylor 2006, 142). The exact courses of these are unknown, however a supposed Roman road runs along the Bank just to the south of the study area (**Site 35**). The course of it is only shown briefly on modern OS mapping following the course of the Glossop Brook before running broadly SW. It is possible the road followed the course of the Brook from Melandra to Brough, possibly linking with the Doctor's Gate trackway (HER 3636) which is postulated to be Roman (Smithard 1911; Cockerton 1933). However it has also been suggested that it is Medieval in origin (Stroud 2001, 5), being first recorded in 1627 as Doctor Talbot's gate (Dodd 2000).

Otherwise Roman period settlements are rare in NW Derbyshire and there are few in number in comparison to neighbouring counties such as Nottinghamshire and Leicestershire (Taylor 2006, 144). However a possible Romano-British settlement has been recorded at Little Padfield (HER 6155) (2km N). A number of Roman finds have been recorded around Melandra however there is limited evidence for Roman activity around other areas of Glossop. A Roman coin hoard has been recorded at Padfield (HER 6114) (3km N of Glossop). A Roman coin derives from the same place as cremation urn at the base of Shire Hill (HER 6104). The stone heads, despite the difficulty in dating them, could suggest the presence of a Romano-British shrine in the area (Stroud 2001, 4).

4.2.2 Archaeological Potential

The main focus of settlement appears to have been at Melandra and its *vicus*. Roadside settlements and other activity cannot be ruled out due to the possible Roman road at the southern edge of the study area, but the evidence for its origin is far from definitive. The intense development during the 19th and 20th centuries however diminishes the potential for archaeological remains from this period. The potential therefore for Roman activity within the study area is considered to be low. Any evidence recovered however could have regional significance.

4.3 Early Medieval/Medieval

4.3.1 Archaeological/Historical Evidence

There is a general lack of excavated material for the early Medieval period (5th – 9th centuries AD) in Derbyshire as a whole (Vince 2006, 161). The High Peak area was recorded as *Aslakestou* wapentake which suggests a Scandinavian incursion into the area. The Domesday Book lists a settlement at Glossop, suggesting it existed prior to the Norman conquest (Stroud 2001, 4). The name itself derives from *Glott's Hop* which could mean 'small valley belonging to Glott' (www.peakdistrictinformation.com).

In the Domesday Book, Glossop was one of the twelve manors listed under Longdendale and belonged to the crown. After briefly being held by William Peverel, it reverted back to the crown before being given to the Abbey of Basingwerk in 1157 (Stroud 2001, 5). Glossop, as part of Longdendale, was part of the Peak Forest and documents dating to 1253 states that an assart of 30 acres was created in Glossop. This indicates that land was being reclaimed, possibly for farming and/or settlement with most of the land best suited to pasture. Some would have been used for arable farming and there is evidence for this fossilised in the landscape with long narrow fields, particularly around Whitfield (Stroud 2001, 5) (e.g. land centred on SK 04110 93337).

The first hint of settlement in Glossop relates to the Church of All Saints, which appears to have been in existence by 1157 (Stroud 2001, 13). A market charter was granted for Glossop in 1290, although this is reputed to have transferred over to Charlesworth in 1328 (Stroud 2001, 6). The Cistercian order was well known for their wool production in Medieval England and the Glossop area would have been suited for this. This may explain the eventual development of the domestic woollen trade in Glossop around the 15th century (Stroud 2001, 6; Hanmer and Winterbottom 1991).

The Medieval centre of Glossop is located approximately 1km NE of the High Street today. The village appears to have focused around the church, which although heavily modified during the 19th and 20th centuries, has parts dating back to the 14th century.

The oldest buildings are also located to the east of the church and some date back to the early 17th century.

4.3.2 Archaeological Potential

The presence of the possible Roman/Medieval routeway to the south of the study area suggests that the area provided links between settlements. The study area was likely to have been farmland during this period so there may be potential for buried ploughsoil to survive. However the intense development of the study area during the 19th and 20th centuries further diminishes the potential for survival. The potential for archaeology dating to this period therefore is considered to be low due to the study area lying outwith the known Medieval centre of Glossop. However remains dating to this period have the potential to have Regional significance.

4.4 Post Medieval

4.4.1. Archaeological/Historical Evidence

After the dissolution of the monasteries in the 16th century, the Cistercians lost Basingwerk and the lands. The manor of Glossop was transferred to the Earl of Shrewsbury before eventually passing to the Howards who eventually became the Dukes of Norfolk. The Hearth Tax assessments in 1670 give an indication of Glossop's size by this stage, with 49 liable for returns. No large houses appear in the returns and the vast majority belonged to poorer families (Edwards 1982) (Stroud 2001, 6-7).

The domestic woollen trade began to expand at the beginning of the 17th century, apparently linked to the growth in Manchester. Locals worked for 'putters-out' in Manchester and by the mid-18th century, Glossop had its own. Stone was also quarried, particularly from Glossop Low Quarry and was exploited from at least the 1760s (HER 3638).

Glossop itself was expanding but remained focused on the Medieval core. This is evidenced through surviving buildings which date to this period near the church (see above).

4.4.2 Archaeological Potential

The Burdett map of 1763-4 shows that the study area was rural and most likely farmland. There is potential for buried ploughsoil however the intense development of the study area during the 19th and 20th centuries diminishes the potential for survival. The potential for archaeology dating to this period is considered to be low as the area was

still outwith the village core of Glossop. Remains dating to this period have the potential to be regionally significant.

4.5 Industrial and into the 20th Century

4.5.1 The Development of Glossop

The domestic woollen trade expanded beyond the house and the cotton industry became firmly established within Glossop by the late 18th century. Initial growth was concentrated around the Medieval village core, with mills established along Shelf Brook and Blackshaw Clough. However the water-powered textile industry flourished with twenty six mills established by 1820. This was aided by improved communications, with the turnpiking of key north-south and east-west routes in 1792 and 1803 respectively. All of this was linked to the population growth Glossop experienced, with an increase noted from 90 houses in 1789 (Pilkington 1789) to 217 by the 1821 census (Stroud 2001, 9-11).

Thanks to successful entrepreneurs (see below), two major textile mill complexes were established in Glossop: Howard Town Mill (Woods Mill) at the eastern end and Wren Nest Mill at the western end. This led to settlement developing along the north side of the Glossop Brook and downslope of the original Medieval centre. It focused around the turnpike roads between Glossop and Chapel en le Frith and Marple Bridge to Sheffield, developing mainly east-west. This growth was actively encouraged by the Duke of Norfolk and in 1838, the Duke built a Town Hall near the main road junction. This effectively ended Old Glossop's administrative function and it also ceased as a market place when that was also transferred to the newly named Howardtown in 1844 (Stroud 2001, 8-10), actively focusing the growth 1km SW of its centre.

The Howard family (Dukes of Norfolk) actively promoted the growth of Howardtown, financing a railway branch line to the town in 1845 and overseeing various public improvements. Various millowners also invested in the town and John Wood and his family were no exceptions (see below). The population increased from 1351 in 1821 to 5943 in 1871 indicating that the area was thriving.

However by the 1890s, the textile industry upon which Glossop had built its fortunes had begun to decline. There was no new mill building boom as experienced in Lancashire and Glossop went through a series of booms and slumps. During the 1920s, 80% of the workforce were employed within the textile industry and the slumps resulted in 55.6% of the workforce being unemployed in 1931. Between 1929 and 1939 around 16% of the population moved away (Stroud 2001, 12). Family firms, including the Woods (see below) began to disappear and the textile industry all but disappeared from Glossop by 1960. Wren's Nest mill closed in 1957, with the Wood's Mill following in 1960 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 8-9). Various light industries have utilised these buildings

although recently, bot complexes have been partly regenerated for retail and residential use.

4.5.2 1820 onwards: John Wood and the Howard Town Mill Complex

Although the early mills were not economically successful (Hanmer and Winterbottom 1991, 97), from around 1815 onwards several mills came into the hands of competent mill owners. One was Francis Sumner, who established the Wren Nest mill in 1829 over on the western side of Glossop. The other was John Wood, who first acquired several mills near Old Glossop before acquiring Bridge End Fulling Mill just to the west of the study area and establishing the Howardtown Mill Complex (Stroud 2001, 11).

John Wood (1785-1854) was born in Marsden, West Yorkshire and rented several mills in Glossop as well as a house in 1815. In 1819 he took over the Bridge End fulling mill located near Victoria Street, having bought it at auction. According to documents, the mill was originally a fulling one and was constructed around 1781-2 by Robert Feilding, John Thornley, Samuel Roberts and Charles Calvert (Hamnett 1913). By 1800, a George Burgess had taken over the site and extended it, although he was not successful as it was sold at auction for £1900 in 1819 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 9).

Between 1823 and 1836, the number of spindles and looms being worked at the mill increased from 5580 spindles and 143 looms to 38500 spindles and 916 looms (Hamnett 1913, 19). John Wood was a successful entrepreneur and consequently he expanded his mill several times, as well as providing housing for his workers. He took out leases in 1822, 1824, 1835, 1840 and 1846, expanding his mill in an easterly direction. Up until 1831, he also owned a farm at Milltown and provided his workers with fresh produce (Hamnett 1913). After John Wood died in 1854, his sons took over the business and wasted no time in expanding the business further, taking out another lease in 1857 and completing the full geographical extent of the complex.

The business continued to be successful, employing 2000 workers at their peak and became a limited company in 1875. Following the death of John Wood's sons, Daniel and Samuel in 1888, the company went into decline due to the lack of enthusiasm from the next generation. This slow decline was coupled with a wider one in the textile industry (see above) and the Woods family eventually sold the company in 1921. In 1932 Volcrepe Rubber Ltd took over the eastern part of the complex however western part appears to have continued as a cotton mill under the Woods family name, according to the 1932 trade directory.

4.5.3 The Wood's Mill Development

Detailed mapping for Glossop is lacking until the 1850s, therefore constructing a detailed chronology of the Howard Town Mill complex is difficult as many of the leases were taken out prior to this. The evidence suggests however that the mill complex began with the takeover of Bridge End fulling mill at what was to become the western extreme of the complex. Over the next forty years, the mill expanded eastwards until it reached its full geographical extent by c.1860.

A 1781 plan shows the proposed fulling mill at Bridge End, indicating it was three storeys high with three bays powered by a waterwheel. It was located north of Glossop Brook and bounded by what was to become the Chapel-en-le-Frith turnpike road (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 11). It is not clear when production shifted from wool to cotton, although Hills implies that this was done by 1811 (2003, 6). A letterhead dating to c.1830 shows how far the mill had been extended whilst in John Wood's ownership. A range of buildings are depicted, including Long mill (**Site 24**), the mill pond (**Site 26**), an engine and boiler houses.

Long mill (**Site 24**) is known to have been constructed around 1824 as it was when he bought the lease for the area which was to occupy the site. This was a five storey mill of thirty five bays with an internal engine house at the eastern end, with a boiler house attached. The area within this lease also included Smithy Fold (outside the study area), which may have been built by Wood (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 11-12). Further leases in 1835, 1840 and 1846 allowed him to expand his complex eastwards and also construct houses for his workers, which included Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**) and Mill Street (**Site 18**).

There is a further lease in 1850 in John Wood's name, although it is suggested he retired in the same year (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 10). This lease was for land where Milltown Mill (**Site 41**) stood, which was constructed in 1803 by a Thomas Shaw who worked it in partnership with John Beeley. A Shaw and Bailey appear in the 1824 and 1828 Trade Directory although it is not clear if it is the same people referred to. The mill itself:

Was situated in the New Croft, bounded on the East by the road from Glossop to Whitfield, 88 yards long; on the West by the Crab Tree Spot, 66 yard; on the North by the New Croft, 39 yards; on the South by the Glossop Brook, 39 yards; total 2925 square yards

Hamnett 1913, 19

The Glossop to Whitfield road appears to be the present one which runs between the spinning mill (**Site 8**) and the warehouse (**Site 2**). Hamnett also suggests that the Narrow Mill (**Sites 7 and 8**) of John Wood, Brothers and Cos. was constructed on the site (1913, 19). The mill appeared to have been run with a fair degree of success, as it was assessed for a value of £74 and 5700 spindles in 1831, although with new owners

Rusby and Linny according to the Trade Directory of the same year. Although this did pale in comparison to the 28933 spindles John Wood was assessed for in the same year. By 1838, the mill had changed hands again and was occupied Daniel Hodgson and Jonathan Wright. However on 27th January 1842, the mill burnt down apparently destroying valuable equipment in the process. The mill was only partially insured (Hamnett 1913, 19-20) and the land appears to have lain derelict until John Wood took out the lease in 1850 to construct his Narrow Mill (**Sites 7/8**).

1857 Poor Law Map (fig. 3)

The 1857 Poor Law map is the first one to depict the mill complex in detail and shows that the only part yet to be constructed was the Great Eastern Shed (**Site 1**) and the ancillary buildings (**Sites 2-6**). A small cottage (**Site 43**) was on this plot prior to the construction of the buildings however. The Gas Works (**Sites 31-32; 44**) were established in 1846 and the Narrow Mill (**Sites 7/8**) was constructed some time between 1850 and 1857. Otherwise the chronological development of the complex is unclear although it post-dates 1830 as the study area was not depicted on the company letterhead. The Gas Works consisted of two gasometers (**Site 44**), with the western one being slightly larger. There are three buildings (**Sites 29, 30, 32**) associated with this complex, although it is not clear what their functions were. **Site 32** may have been an engine house.

1880/1881 Ordnance Survey maps (fig.4)

After the death of John Wood in 1854, his sons took over and the mill continued to be a successful venture. The 1881 Ordnance Survey map shows the mill complex at its full extent, with the Great Eastern Shed (**Site 1**) and warehouse (**Site 2**) as well as Boiler House (**Site 4**), Engine House (**Site 5**) and chimney (**Site 3**). Outside the study area at the west side, much of this complex was rebuilt in 1860 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 12). Shelf Brook also appears to have been straightened, probably in conjunction with the mill expansion to the eastern plot.

Within the study area, the detailed map shows that the eastern Narrow Mill building (**Site 8**) had an internal engine house, with the western part (**Site 7**) having an external one (**Site 9**) to the NW with a detached boiler house also shown (**Site 19**). A mill pond (**Site 41**) lay to the north of the spinning mills (**Site 7/8**) as well as another building (**Site 17**) of unknown function. The range of buildings along Glossop Brook (**Sites 10-14**) was extended by this stage and included an office block (**Site 10**) and possible storage sheds. The weaving shed (**Site 15**) to the west of the Narrow Mill had an internal engine house with a chimney to the north (**Site 20**) as well as a boiler house (**Site 21**) which was extended westwards by this stage also (**Site 21a**). Mill Street (**Site 18**) lay to the north

on higher ground overlooking the Narrow Mill and consisted of a row of seven terraced houses with a communal backyard and a probable block of toilets (**Site 18a**).

To the west of the weaving shed (**Site 15**), were a series of possible small office blocks (**Site 22a**) leading northwards to Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**) which was a row of terraced houses. The eastern ones were slightly larger than the western ones. The mill pond (**Site 26**) with water flow controlled by three sluice gates (**Sites 26a-c**). A possible warehouse, known as Noah's Ark (**Site 25**) was located to the north of the millpond. Part of Long Mill also falls within the study area and had a boiler house (**Site 36**) at its eastern end, with a detached engine house (**Site 33**) lying to the north. This boiler house may have been replaced after 1857 as the structure appears to be slightly different on the 1881 map. An aerial photograph, although dated much later to 1949, shows that it was replaced at some stage as it does not resemble the building depicted on the 1830 letterhead. Another warehouse (**Site 23**) also lay to the west of Yorkshire Street.

The Gas Works appear to have undergone some change, with a range of sheds (**Sites 31a-d**) constructed west of **Site 30**. The Gasometers (**Site 44**) also appear to have been replaced with larger ones.

1898 Ordnance Survey Map (fig. 5)

The complex appears to have undergone a small number of changes, with the boiler house (**Site 19**) to the north of the spinning mills (**Sites 7/8**) being enlarged. The SW part of the mill pond (**Site 17a**), also to the north, was infilled and another building constructed to the south of **Site 17**. More significant changes happened at the Gas Works with both of the gasometers (**Site 44**) removed by this stage. A small building also appears on the eastern side of Shelf Brook.

1921 Ordnance Survey Map (fig. 6)

A number of changes took place during the early years of the twentieth century, the most significant of these was the demolition of Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**) to expand the mill complex into this area. The mapping does not make clear what was constructed in its place however the 1949 aerial photograph indicates that weaving sheds were constructed in its place, around 1 ½ storeys high. The trapezoidal building (**Site 33b**) also appears to have been removed for this expansion, although the engine house (**Site 33a**) appears to have been kept. Long Mill (**Site 24**) also appears to have been extended northwards at the NE corner, possibly where an internal engine was located (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 22). The covered walkway between the weaving sheds (**Site 15**) and the spinning mill (**Site 7**) was also removed. The boiler house (**Site 19**) also appears to have been demolished and replaced with a single storey structure (**Site 38**). Another engine house (**Site 40**) also appears to have been constructed to the north of the previous one (**Site 9**).

A small structure (**Site 37**) to the east of the Eastern weaving shed (**Site 1**) had also been demolished and replaced with a larger one.

The gasometers (**Site 44**) appear to have been rebuilt for a second time, with the eastern one appearing to be slightly larger. Otherwise the Gas Works remains unchanged.

This expansion may have been around 1910 when, according to Hills, a number of new engines were installed at the mill due to Egyptian combed weft needing new machinery. One of the Engine Houses has/had a datestone of 1910 (2003, 14) (although the author has not been able to ascertain which one).

1938 and 1951 Ordnance Survey Map (figs.7 and 8)

Little appears to have changed on these maps however the 1949 aerial photograph tells a slightly different story. Generally little appears to have changed, although the mill pond (**Site 27**) had gone out of use by this point as it has partially dried up on the photograph. By the time the aerial photograph had been taken, the Gas Works had gone out of use. The gasometers (**Site 44**) had been demolished along with the possible engine house (**Site 32**) and a range of sheds (**Sites 31a-c**). Glossop evidently suffered from a number of floods and one in 1930 apparently flooded the lower weaving sheds. Further flooding in 1946 destroyed the south facing wall of the old office block (**Site 10**), which by then was part of Volcrepe Rubber (Bell 2012).

The mill finally ceased producing textiles in 1960 and many of the buildings were cleared over the next few decades. Volcrepe did not cease trading until 2002, therefore much of the later eastern extension (e.g. **Site 1**) remained intact, and does to the present day. The exceptions being the chimney (**Site 3**) and a later extension to the weaving shed (**Site 1a**). Within the phase 2 residential area of development, the only building still standing is the eastern half of the spinning mill (**Site 8**), the office block (**Site 10**) and ancillary sheds (**Sites 11-13**). None of the Gas Works buildings to the south of the Brook survive and only the Western Weaving Sheds and extensions (**Sites 15 and 45**) survive within the retail development phase (see fig. 12). In 2003, the former complex was designated as a conservation area after the closure of Volcrepe.

4.5.4 Archaeological Potential

The potential for buried archaeological remains and the impact of the development are discussed in chapters 6 and 7.

5. Gazetteer of Sites

The following gazetteer provides a summary of the sites identified within the study area. For their location please see (**Figs 9-11**). Many of the sites were also covered in Oxford North's building appraisal in 2007 and where appropriate, the relevant reference numbers are referred to.

Site Number: 1

Site Name: Great Eastern Shed

NGR: SK 03916 94037

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 7

This was a large single storey weaving shed constructed of sandstone and was supported on cast-iron columns, located at the north-eastern edge of the site. It is first shown in detail on the 1880 Glossop Town Plan and was part of John, Daniel and Samuel Wood's expansion in around 1860 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 12). It was built alongside a series of buildings (**Sites 2-6**) which were attached to the SW and E. The land is shown as vacant on the 1857 map but is shown at its full extent by the 1880 Glossop Town Plan, replacing a small building (**Site 36**). The 1919 map shows the complex having expanded slightly south-eastwards (**Site 1a**) to incorporate a chimney (**Site 3**) into the main building. The building appears to be relatively unchanged on subsequent mapping although in 1932, it was incorporated into Volcrepe Rubber Works. The site closed down in 2002 and has lay derelict since although the roof has since been dismantled, with the cast iron columns and internal fixtures and fitting also removed (see fig. 16).

Site Number: 2

Site Name: Woods Mill Warehouse

NGR: SK 03905 93978

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 6

This is a NW-SE aligned 11 x 4 bay, 3 ½ storey warehouse in local dressed sandstone, first shown on the 1880 Glossop Town Plan. It was part of John, Daniel and Samuel Wood's expansion in around 1860 and was incorporated with the weaving shed to the north and east (**Site 1**). The mapping shows it to be incorporated as one unit with the weaving shed, therefore it does not change on the mapping and is depicted on one aerial photograph from 1949. The site was also incorporated into Volcrepe Rubber Works in 1932 and although the site closed in 2002, this building still stands although in a derelict state. The building appraisal suggests that there is evidence for modification and later additions (Wild 2007, 17) and the building is still extant (see fig. 18).

Site Number: 3**Site Name: Eastern Shed Chimney (site of)****NGR: SK 03940 93996****Site Type: Industrial****OAN Ref: Building 8A**

This chimney first appears on the 1880 Town Plan and is part of the later Howard Town Mill development initiated by John Wood's sons. It was located to the SE of the weaving shed (**Site 1**) and south of the boiler house (**Site 4**) and appears to have been connected to this complex via a flue. By 1919, the chimney had been incorporated into the small expansion of the weaving shed (**Site 1**) to the south-east. The chimney is shown on 20th century mapping and was still standing at the time of Oxford North's 2007 survey, although it has since been demolished.

Site Number: 4**Site Name: Eastern Shed Boiler House****NGR: SK 03950 94014****Site Type: Industrial****OAN Ref: Building 10**

This building first appears on the 1880 Town Plan and is part of the later Mill development initiated by John Wood's sons. It was a detached boiler house, located to the east of the weaving shed (**Site 1**) and probably housed two Lancashire boilers (Wild 2007, 18). The building appears unchanged on subsequent mapping although the Buildings Appraisal suggests that it was modified during the 20th century for roller shuttering (Wild 2007, 18), presumably for the Volcrepe Rubber Works which the building became part of when the company took over the site in 1932. The building is still extant (see fig. 19) as was, until recently, a later addition (**Site 4a**) just to the south of the boiler house. It is not depicted on the maps however it appears to be a late addition (Wild 2007).

Site Number: 5**Site Name: Eastern Shed Engine House****NGR: SK 03950 94026****Site Type: Industrial****OAN Ref: Building 11**

This building first appears on the 1880 Town Plan and is part of the later Mill development initiated by John Wood's sons. This was a two storey detached engine house located to the east of the weaving shed (**Site 1**) and north of the boiler house (**Site 4**). It appears unchanged on subsequent mapping although the cartography gives the impression that the building was one and the same as the boiler house (**Site 4**). The building was appraised by Oxford North and suggests that there was a continuous

passage between the engine and boiler house and has been modified following the removal of the engine (Wild 2007, 18) probably for the Volcrepe Rubber Works. The building is still extant (see fig. 19).

Site Number: 6

Site Name: Eastern Shed Unnamed Building

NGR: SK 03952 94047

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 12

This building first appears on the 1880 Town Plan and is part of the later Mill development initiated by John Wood's sons. It is unclear what the building's function was originally although it was suggested it functioned as a storage facility (Wild 2007, 18). It was a single storey shed appended to the eastern side of the weaving shed (**Site 1**) and detached from and to the north of the engine house (**Site 5**). It appears unchanged on subsequent mapping and the buildings appraisal suggests that it was only accessed internally. The building is still extant.

Site Number: 7

Site Name: Narrow Spinning Mill: Western Building

NGR: SK 03854 93978

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 1

This building is first depicted on the 1857 Poor Law Map and was a separate building appended to the western side of **Site 8**. The western building appeared to be the same height and one bay wider as **Site 8**, with an engine house at the NW corner (**Site 9**). This suggests that this building also functioned as a spinning mill. The buildings appear to change little on subsequent mapping, although on the 1880 Town Plan, a covered access appears between this building and the western weaving shed (**Site 15**). However by 1968, this building had been demolished and replaced with a single storey warehouse structure (**Site 7b**) which is currently still standing (see fig. 15).

Site Number: 8

Site Name: Narrow Spinning Mill and Engine House

NGR: SK 03829 93971

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 1

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and is part of John Wood's gradual expansion from around 1824 onwards. It survives as a five storey, east-west aligned spinning mill 20 bays in length and 6 in width with an engine house incorporated (not shown until later detailed maps – **Site 8**). It was originally connected with a gangway to an unnamed building to the north (**Site 17**). Later mapping is not as

detailed, therefore it is not clear for how long the engine house remained operational, although the buildings appraisal suggests that it was remodelled into a lift shaft after the engine's removal (Wild 2007, 14). This building still stands today.

Site Number: 9

Site Name: Narrow Mill Engine House (detached) (site of)

NGR: SK 03763 93986

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map on the NW corner of the western spinning mill building (**Site 7**). It is depicted as a separate yet attached building on subsequent mapping and 1949 aerial photography appears to confirm this. The 1919 map shows that the building has been extended northwards, although the aerial photograph seems to suggest that it was a separate building that was added (**Site 40**). However by the 1960s, this building had been demolished along with the western half of the spinning mill (**Site 7**).

Site Number: 10

Site Name: Woods Mill Office Block

NGR: SK 03890 93957

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 2

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and is shown as conjoined with **Site 11** and **Site 8**. This was a three storey, possible office block and changes little on subsequent mapping. However by the 1880 Town Plan, it is depicted as a separate block from **Site 11** and the join with **Site 8** appears to have been a covered access point running west from the road. The building, at some stage, appears to have been reduced in length from four to three bays and was two bays wide. The building shows signs of alterations, relating to its use when Volcrepe took over the complex and a metal, overhead walkway (Wild 2007, 15) links **Site 10** to **Site 2** (see fig.17). This walkway appears on the 1880 Town Plan although whether the one seen today is the original is unclear. The south elevation was reconstructed in brick after flooding in 1946 (Bell 2012) (see fig. 24). The building is still extant today.

Site Number: 11

Site Name: Woods Mill Shed

NGR: SK SK 03875 93956

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 3

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and is depicted as conjoined with **Site 10**. This was part of a 1 ½ storey shed (Wild 2007, 15) along the southern

boundary by Glossop Brook, westwards from the office block (**Site 10**). By the 1880 Town Plan, the shed had been expanded to the west (**Site 12**) infilling the gap between this building and **Site 13**. The building appears to change little on subsequent mapping and is still extant today (see fig. 20)

Site Number: 12

Site Name: Woods Mill Shed Extension

NGR: SK 03850 93955

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 3

This building is first shown on the 1880 Town Plan and was a 1 ½ storey shed, constructed between **Site 11** and **Site 13** at a slightly later date. The building forms part of a wider complex, bordering the Glossop Brook to the south and a narrow courtyard to the north. A small chimney is shown on the 1949 aerial photograph along the southern elevation of the building and the building is still extant today.

Site Number: 13

Site Name: Woods Mill Shed (Western Block)

NGR: SK 03831 93953

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 4

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was originally a detached building to the west of **Site 11** and south of the engine house (**Site 8**). There is a suggestion that this building predates the spinning mill (**Site 7/8**) to the north (Wild 2007, 16). This appeared to be a 2 storey building, five bays in length and located along the southern boundary of the Glossop Brook. By the 1880 Town Plan, it was no longer a detached building, with shed extensions both east (**Site 12**) and west (**Site 14**) of this block. This building does not appear to change on subsequent mapping, although the eastern extension resulted in the blocking of an archway, possibly part of an original access point (Wild 2007, 16; Plate 20). Its function is also unknown, but its fireproof construction suggests that it was eventually used for either preparatory work or bobbin storage prior to transfer to the weaving sheds (**Site 14**). The building is still extant today.

Site Number: 14

Site Name: Woods Mill Weaving Shed (Western Extension) (site of)

NGR: SK 03832 93953

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building first appears on the 1880 Town Plan and is a western extension to the sheds along the southern boundary of the site, south of the spinning mills (**Site 7/8**).

The building is no longer extant, however an aerial photograph from 1949 shows that the complex consisted of a single storey shed, appended to **Site 13**. This forms part of the later extensions of this southern shed complex and appears to change little on subsequent mapping. However by the late 1960s, the building appears to have been demolished and the area has been undeveloped.

Site Number: 15

Site Name: Woods Mill Western Weaving Shed

NGR: SK 03734 93975

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 17

This building first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and was a large, single storey weaving shed (Wild 2007, 19) located to the west of the main spinning mills (**Site 7/8**). The 1880 Town Plan shows further detail, including an incorporated engine house (**Site 16**) and a passageway from the north of the building leading to this, suggesting that it was not one continuous building. A small block of possible toilets (**Site 15a**) is also depicted. The building appears unchanged on the 1897 map although the small block appears to have gone, however by 1921, the western part of the weaving shed had been modified and extended. The aerial photograph of 1949 suggests that the original buildings were retained and new ones appended onto the existing ones. This complex appears unchanged on subsequent maps, although it was used for various industries once it ceased as part of the cotton mill. It has been heavily fire damaged (Wild 2007, 20) although much of the building still stands with part of it still in use.

Site Number: 16

Site Name: Woods Mill Western Weaving Shed Engine House (site of)

NGR: SK 03707 93980

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 17

The engine house is not labelled as such until the 1880 Town Plan as previously, and subsequently the mapping is not detailed enough to show its positioning. Therefore it is not clear whether it is retained in its original positioning. However it was part of what was the weaving shed (**Site 15**), to the west of the spinning mill (**Site 7**). There is no trace of it on the 1949 aerial photograph, suggesting it was a small, internal engine or it may have been a bigger building, which was subsequently demolished.

Site Number: 17

Site Name: Woods Mill Unnamed Building (west of the mill pond) (site of)

NGR: SK 03838 94013

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and was surrounded by the mill pond (**Site 42**) to the east. It appears to have been connected to the main spinning mill (**Site 8**) via a covered walkway, which still appears to have been extant in 1949. The building appears unchanged on the 1880 Town Plan, although by 1897, part of the mill pond (**Site 42**) had been infilled to the south and another building constructed to the south of this one (**Site 17a**), with a separate walkway also. These buildings are shown unchanged on the 1968 map although the walkways had gone by this point. However by the 1970s mapping, the buildings appear to have been demolished and the land has remained undeveloped since.

Site Number: 18

Site Name: 2-14 Mill Street (site of)

NGR: SK 03805 94038

Site Type: Residential

OAN Ref: N/A

Mill Street is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and the portion that falls within the study area consists of a row of seven terraced houses (part of a total of ten that line the southern end of Mill Street). The houses back onto an open area to the south with a small avenue of blocks, which could be external toilets (**Site 18a**) for this side of Mill Street and part of Milltown. The census returns indicate that the vast majority of the residents were employed at the mill (see Appendix 2). They appear unchanged on subsequent mapping although by the late 1960s, this area of housing has been demolished. By the late 1980s, a single storey structure had been built on the site, which is still standing today.

Site Number: 19

Site Name: Woods Mill Boiler House (site of)

NGR: SK 03776 94010

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was a detached boiler house although it was not labelled as such until the 1880 Town Plan. It was located to the immediate north of the western part of the spinning mill (**Site 7**) and south of Mill Street. This map also shows that two small structures were appended onto its west side and by 1897, a further two small extensions had been added on at the north-east and south-east corners. However by 1921, this building appears to have been demolished and replaced with a larger structure (**Site 38**), appended onto the east side of the Engine House extension (**Site 40**).

Site Number: 20

Site Name: Woods Mill Chimney (site of)

NGR: SK 03732 94005

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This chimney is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was located to the north of the weaving shed (**Site 15**). By the 1880 Town Plan, a small extension appears to the west, connecting the chimney to **Site 21**, which may have been a flue. It was still extant by the late 1960s although demolished a few years later. The area appears to have remained undeveloped.

Site Number: 21

Site Name: Woods Mill Boiler House (site of)

NGR: SK 03714 94002

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and was a detached boiler house, located to the north of the weaving shed (**Site 15**). By 1880, the building had been extended to the west although it is depicted as a separate block (**Site 21a**). Later mapping shows the buildings subsumed into a larger block of buildings so it is not clear if it remained standing. The 1949 aerial photograph indicates that it did and that the later extension was a slightly taller building. This complex however was demolished by 1974 and has not been reconstructed upon.

Site Number: 22

Site Name: Yorkshire Street (site of)

NGR: SK 03670 94019

Site Type: Residential

OAN Ref: N/A

Yorkshire Street is first depicted on the 1857 Poor Law map and consisted of two rows of terraced housing, leading from High Street East and running N-S. The row along the east appear to be slightly larger than the western counterparts and also had small gardens to the rear, with possible toilet blocks. The western row appear to be slightly wider however there were no gardens although there was an open space behind. The census returns however do not indicate a difference in the status or occupation of the residents (see Appendix 2). The toilets may have been located at the south end of the street (**Site 22a**). It appears to have originally been called Yorkshire Row and is listed within the 1851 census. By 1861, the name had changed to Yorkshire Street and appears unchanged on subsequent mapping. However by 1921 the street had been demolished, sometime between 1898 and 1911 as it does not appear in the census records and was subsumed within a large extension to the mill complex (**Site 45**).

Site Number: 23

Site Name: Woods Mill Western Warehouse (site of)

NGR: SK 03616 94036

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was probably a warehouse. The building appears relatively unchanged on subsequent mapping, although a small extension appears along the western elevation by 1880. It is shown on the 1949 aerial photograph and appears to have been around five storeys high. However it is demolished by 1968 and part of the site was replaced by a garage (outside the study area). The northern part of the site is now a petrol station, whilst the southern part (within the study area) is part of a car park.

Site Number: 24

Site Name: Long Mill (site of)

NGR: SK 03627 93987

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

Long Mill was constructed around 1824 and was a long rectangular building, five storeys high, thirty five bays in length and two in width (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 22). It first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map, with a detached boiler house (**Site 36**) on the eastern side. It appears unchanged on subsequent mapping although a small extension to the NE is visible on the 1921 map. The building was demolished by 1974 and most of the site is currently a car park. At the western edge of the former building (outside the study area), a small part is now the site of a retail unit and prior to this, an archaeological evaluation found well preserved remains relating to the mill (Moore 2012).

Site Number: 25

Site Name: Noah's Ark (site of)

NGR: SK 03634 93962

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This E-W orientated rectangular structure lay at the western end of the main complex and at the eastern end of the W mill pond (**Site 26**). It first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map although according to Grimsditch *et al*, does not appear on John Wood's company letterhead of 1830 (2005, 23). It appears unchanged on subsequent mapping although the 1880 Town Plan appears to show an eastern access point through a series of possible office building (**Site 43**). Aerial photography suggests it was a three storey building, with a possible attic with a possible chimney at the SW corner. It was still extant by 1968 but demolished by 1974. Only a portion of this building lies within the study area and is currently part of a car park.

Site Number: 26

Site Name: Mill Pond (west) (site of)

NGR: SK 03649 93941

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

There were three mill ponds serving the Woods Mill site (**Site 42; Site 27**) with this one first appearing on the 1857 Poor Law map. This pond was wider at the western end before narrowing to the east and four sluice gates are shown on later mapping: two on the west side (outside study area) and three to the east (**Site 26a; Site 26b; Site 26c**). By the 1880 Town Plan, small parts appear to have been infilled, particularly along the western side where this part of the complex was rebuilt (outside the study area). The sides also appear to have been straightened. There appears to be little change on the 1897 Ordnance Survey map however by 1921, the northern part of the mill has been infilled and a series of single storey sheds constructed to the west of Noah's Ark (**Site 25**). A footbridge also connected two of the buildings across the pond (outside the study area). The mill pond was still extant in 1968 although appears to have been infilled by 1974. The western part of the mill site has been built upon whereas the eastern part is scrubland.

Site Number: 27

Site Name: Mill Pond (north-east) (site of)

NGR: SK 03944 94114

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This mill pond was located within the NE corner of the site and is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map. A feed via a weir (**Site 34**) can be seen from the Glossop Brook to the east and it also runs SW to feed the other mill pond (**Site 42**). A sluice is also shown in the SE corner (**Site 27a**) Little changes on subsequent mapping although the western side is straightened out by 1880. By 1897 a strange shaped, possible island, appears in the north-eastern part of the pond although this appears to be short lived as it is not shown on the 1921 Ordnance Survey map. A small building appears on the 1921 map (**Site 27b**) although again, this is shortlived as it does not appear on the 1949 aerial photograph. This photograph also shows that the pond was defined by a high wall along the western side, still extant, and artificial raised banks to the east. It also shows that the mill pond was drying up and probably went out of use when Volcrepe Rubber took over the site in 1932. The pond was extant until relatively recently although it has mostly dried up.

Site Number: 28

Site Name: Weir (site of)

NGR: SK 03683 93933

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

The weir is first shown on the 1880 Town Plan and was located to the south of the mill complex along the Glossop Brook. It is still shown on subsequent mapping and is still extant.

Site Number: 29

Site Name: Workshop (site of)

NGR: SK 03775 93934

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 5

This building is located to the south of Glossop Brook, first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was a five bay, two storey shed. It is unclear what the function of the building was although it was suggested that part of it was used for storage (Wild 2007, 16). It appears unchanged on subsequent mapping although by the mid 1970s it was used as a haulage depot. The building has been recently demolished.

Site Number: 30

Site Name: Office Block (site of)

NGR: SK 03757 93924

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was located to the south of Glossop Brook and west of **Site 29**. The building changes little on subsequent mapping, although the Town Plan shows it as split into three units. Two further buildings are added around this time to the western side also (**Site 31**). The building appears on the 1949 aerial photograph although it shows that the front part of the building by this stage was a triangular wedge shape with a flat roof with a two span roofed part to the north. It appears to have been single storey. The building was still standing in 1968, however it was demolished by 1974. The site is currently scrubland

Site Number: 31

Site Name: Gas Works Sheds (site of)

NGR: SK 03747 93921

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

These possible sheds first appear on the 1880 Town Plan, located to the south of Glossop Brook and appended to the west side of **Site 30**. Two buildings are initially shown, with a smaller building (**Site 31c**) on the NW side of **Site 30** and a long

rectangular building (**Site 31d**) orientated NE-SW running along the Bank. The mapping seems to suggest that they were partially open so may have been storage areas. The 1897 map suggests that the long building was split into two units and a third had been added by this stage also (**Site 31b**). A further small building (**Site 31a**) had been added further along the bank and south of the main gas works building (**Site 32**). By 1921, only the long shed (**Site 31d**) remained and this was subsequently demolished by 1949 as it does not appear in the aerial photographs. The site is currently scrubland.

Site Number: 32

Site Name: Gas Works (site of)

NGR: SK 03712 93923

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

The Gas Works were constructed sometime after 1846, when John Wood made the decision to bring gas to his mills. This required him to cross the Glossop Brook and create them on this side of the water (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 9). The Gas Works is shown first on the 1857 Poor Law map and consisted of a rectangular building (**Site 32**), two gasometers (**Site 44**), a small tower (**Site 44a**) linked to a footbridge across the Brook (**Site 45**) and a well (**Site 44b**). The main building had a small ‘porch’ to the south and a probable chimney along the north elevation. Little changes on subsequent mapping although the building appears to have gone by the 1949. The site is currently scrubland (see figs 21; 22).

Site Number: 33

Site Name: Building west of Yorkshire Street (site of)

NGR: SK 03644 94009

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and was located to the west of Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**), although it appears to date back to at least 1830. It was split into two units, the western building being rectangular (**Site 33a**) and the eastern trapezoidal in shape (**Site 33b**). The buildings change little on subsequent mapping, although the 1880 Town Plan indicates that **Site 33a** was an engine house. A letterhead dating to 1830 appears to show the engine house, which was a two storey building. However by 1921, the buildings have been subsumed within the development, with the eastern building (**Site 33b**) demolished. The engine house may have been left as part of the new build although the aerial photography does not make this clear.

Site Number: 34

Site Name: NE Weir (site of)

NGR: SK 03962 94145

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This is first shown on the 1857 Poor Law map and was located along a channel to the east of the mill pond (**Site 27**) linked to the Shelf Brook. It existed until relatively recently, when the mill pond dried up.

Site Number: 35

Site Name: Roman Road (conjectured)

NGR: SK 03738 93915

Site Type: Communications

OAN Ref: N/A

Lower Bank/The Bank meanders south-westwards from Mill Town to meet modern Gladstone Street and beyond, just south of the study area. However it is labelled as a 'Roman road' first on the 1880 Town Plan and again on subsequent maps although by 1968, the line is still there but not labelled as Roman any more. The track still survives today but its origins are still obscure. It could be part of the road that links Melandra to Brough but there is no evidence for it to be Roman in origin.

Site Number: 36

Site Name: Long Mill Boiler House (site of)

NGR: SK 03638 93994

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building appears to date to John Wood's initial expansion in around 1824 (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 9) and is depicted on the company letterhead of 1830. It was a single storey building with a chimney and was appended to the eastern side of Long Mill (**Site 24**). The boiler house is shown on subsequent mapping although it was clearly replaced by a larger structure, possibly on more than one occasion as the mapping depicts slightly different plans, as does the aerial photograph. It was demolished by 1974 and the site is currently used as a car park.

Site Number: 37

Site Name: Building to east of Eastern Weaving Shed

NGR: SK 03956 94071

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 13

This small extension was located towards the NE corner of the eastern shed (**Site 1**) and was located within the narrow space between the shed and Shelf Brook. It is first shown on the 1880 Town Plan and again on the 1897 map, although by 1921 it had been demolished and replaced with a larger, wedge shaped structure which still stands. It was

originally one storey, with a second added at a later stage (Wild 2007, 18). The building is still extant today.

Site Number: 38

Site Name: Woods Mill Boiler House replacement (site of)

NGR: SK 03778 94008

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1921 Ordnance Survey map, constructed on the site of the former boiler house (**Site 19**) for the spinning mills (**Sites 7/8**). It appears on the 1949 aerial photograph and was a single storey building, although its function is unknown. By the late 1960s however, this building appears to have been demolished and the land has remained undeveloped since.

Site Number: 39

Site Name: Eastern Shed Outbuildings

NGR: SK 03949 94039

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: Building 12

This complex of buildings was located between the Engine House (**Site 5**) and storage building (**Site 6**) and is first shown on the 1880 Town Plan. These buildings consist of a long row of thirteen blocks, possibly toilets as well as four other smaller structures of unknown function. They survive into the 1960s although they appear to have been demolished before 1974. There is a small shed (**Site 39a**) on the site, appended to the weaving shed.

Site Number: 40

Site Name: Engine House Extension (site of)

NGR: SK 03762 94009

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This building is first shown on the 1921 Ordnance Survey map and appears to replace the earlier engine house (**Site 9**). The 1949 aerial photograph shows that it was a three storey, flat roofed structure, attached to single storey sheds (**Site 38**). It is not clear what the function was but it seems likely that it was another, larger engine house. The building however had been demolished by 1968 and the site has remained undeveloped.

Site Number 41

Site Name: Mill Town (site of)

NGR: SK 03866 93978 (in the area of)

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

The exact location of this building is unknown, however documentary sources indicate the presence of a mill known as ‘Mill Town’ around where the Great Eastern Shed was constructed (**Site 1**). Mill Town New Mill was constructed in 1803, near to the confluence of the Hurst and Shelf Brooks (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 8) and the lease was granted to a Thomas Shaw and was:

“situated in the New Croft, bounded on the East by the road from Glossop to Whitfield, 88 yards long; on the West by the Crab Tree Spot, 66 yards; on the North by the New Croft, 39 yards; on the South by the Glossop Brook, 39 yards; total 2,925 square yards” (Hamnett 1913, 19)

It was devastated by fire in 1842 and John Wood took a lease on the site in 1850 and it is suggested that he built his ‘narrow mill’ on the site (Hamnett 1913, 19). The likeliest candidate therefore for the site of this mill is where the main spinning mill (**Sites 7/8**) was constructed.

Site Number: 42

Site Name: Mill Pond (north of spinning mill) (site of)

NGR: SK 03861 94010

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This pond first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and was located to the north of the east spinning mill (**Site 8**). It appears to have been fed from the mill pond (**Site 27**) from the NE. By the 1880 Town Plan, the SW spur of the pond had been filled in and constructed upon (**Site 17a**). The pond is shown on subsequent mapping although appears to have been infilled sometime after 1974.

Site Number: 43

Site Name: Unnamed Building (site of)

NGR: SK 03901 93970

Site Type: Unknown

OAN Ref: N/A

This small building only appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and may have been a cottage. It lies to the north of Glossop Brook and was gone by the 1880 Town Plan, having been replaced by the warehouse building (**Site 2**).

Site Number: 44

Site Name: Gas Works Gasometers

NGR: SK 03670 93914

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

Two gasometers were constructed sometime after 1846 to store the gas to help power John Wood's mills. They were located to the south of Glossop Brook and to the west of the main building (**Site 32**). A well (**Site 44b**) was located between the two as well as a possible tower (**Site 44a**). The western one originally appeared to be slightly bigger than the eastern one, however by the 1880 Town Plan the eastern one has been rebuilt to become slightly larger than its western counterpart. They are not depicted on the 1897 Ordnance Survey map, although two are shown again on the 1921 map with the eastern one appearing to be larger than previous incarnations. They appear to have been demolished by the 1949 aerial photograph. The site is currently scrubland.

Site Number: 45

Site Name: Western Weaving Sheds

NGR: SK 03692 94002

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

This complex of buildings first appear on the 1921 map, partially on the site of Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**) and to the west of the original weaving shed (**Site 15**). The 1949 aerial photograph suggests that these buildings were 1 ½ - 2 storeys high. The buildings remain unchanged although they are demolished by 1974. There has been some development for light industry with a probable single storey structure on a small part of it. A small part survives in the SW corner of the site as well, although heavily modified for later 20th century use.

Site Number: 46

Site Name: Western Office Blocks

NGR: SK 03657 93971

Site Type: Industrial

OAN Ref: N/A

The possible block of office first appears on the 1857 Poor Law map and were located at the southern end of Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**). Five blocks appear to have made up this range of buildings and they appear unchanged on subsequent mapping. However by 1921 they have been subsumed into the western expansion of the weaving sheds (**Site 45**) and it is not clear whether these buildings were demolished.

6. Significance of the Remains

6.1 The Policy Context of Heritage Assets

The archaeological resource of an area can encompass a range of assets, including below-ground remains, earthworks, and standing buildings and other structures. Some of these remains may have statutory protection, as Scheduled Ancient Monuments or Listed Buildings. Others do not but may nevertheless be of archaeological significance. Under both national and local planning policy, as outlined below, both statutory and non-statutory remains are to be considered within the planning process.

The *NPPF* (Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, March 2010) sets out the Secretary of State's policy on planning and includes a section on the conservation of the historic environment (including historic, archaeological, architectural and artistic heritage assets, *NPPF* paras 126-141), and its wider economic, environmental and social benefits. *NPPF* emphasises the significance of an individual heritage asset within the historic environment and the value that it holds for this and future generations in order to minimise or avoid conflict between the heritage asset's conservation and any aspect of the planning proposals. *NPPF* draws a distinction between designated heritage assets of national importance and heritage assets that are not designated but which are of heritage interest and are thus of a material planning consideration (paras 134 and 135). In the case of the former, the presumption should be in favour of conservation; in the case of the latter, where this is warranted by its significance, the developer is required to record and understand the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost, in a way that is proportionate to the nature and level of the asset's significance, by the use of survey, photography, excavation or other methods.

NPPF states that non-designated assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments should be considered in the same manner as designated sites (*NPPF* para 139). Regarding this policy a lack of formal designation does not itself indicate a lower level of significance; in this instance the lack of designation reflects that the site was previously unknown and therefore never considered for formal designation. Wherever possible, development should be located and designed so as to avoid damage to archaeological remains, ensuring that they are preserved in situ. Where this is not possible, or appropriate, the developer will be required to make suitable provision to ensure that the archaeological information is not lost, and in many cases to secure the preservation of the remains.

6.2 Assessment Methodology and Significance Criteria

The most commonly accepted methodology for assessing archaeological significance is the Secretary of State's criteria for the scheduling of ancient monuments, outlined in Annex 1 of *Scheduled Monuments: identifying, protecting, conserving and investigating nationally important archaeological sites under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* (DCMS March 2010). These criteria have all been utilised in this assessment and are listed below:

- Period
- Rarity
- Documentation
- Group Value
- Survival/Condition
- Fragility/Vulnerability
- Diversity
- Potential

6.3 Baseline Significance Conditions for the Woods Mill/Former VC Works study area

Period

The study area contains standing and possible archaeological remains dating from the early-mid 19th century through to late twentieth century. These remains belong to two main types of activity: Industrial and Residential. The earlier buildings and archaeological remains are at the western end of the study area and the southern part, across the brook. The Gas Works appear to date to after 1846 but it is not clear when the mill complex at the western end was constructed although it was sometime after 1830. The complex at the eastern end dates to around 1860 onwards.

Rarity

The assessment for archaeological remains of earlier periods has shown that the potential is low however remains discovered also have the potential for regional rarity. The industrial archaeological remains of Woods Mill can be considered to be of low to regional rarity as one of the large mill complexes typical of the Glossopdale area (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 19). Around 46 textile mills are known from the Glossopdale area, dating from 1760 – 1887, with the Bridge End Fulling Mill (1780) (outside the study area) being one of the earliest and Milltown Mill being slightly later (1803). Glossop was characterised by a large number of small mills and a few large mill

complexes, with the Howard Town/Woods Mill complex being the largest complex to survive close to its original state (Grimsditch *et al* 2005, 19). The Woods Mill complex was the largest textile mill in North-West Derbyshire and at its peak was one of the largest integrated cotton mills in the country, covering 3.8 hectares. Arguably, its location and growth helped to determine the current layout of the 'new' town, with this mill complex forming the eastern end and Wren's Nest Mill forming the western end. Although around a third has been demolished, the surviving buildings still form a large part of Glossop's industrial architecture (Williams 1997). The size of the Woods Mill complex and its impact upon the development and landscape of Glossop today contributes to its rarity.

Much of Derbyshire was characterised by the water powered textile industry and it was a significant, and diverse, industry (Campion 2006, 241; 251). It is acknowledged that industrial heritage has been particularly vulnerable to change and obliteration and that there is much still to be discovered regarding industrialisation's impact on society and landscape (English Heritage 2010, 11).

Documentation

The landscape history of the site has been recovered from the historic map base, the use of archival material such as the census returns, local historical sources and previous archaeological study. More detail could undoubtedly be learned about the development and use of the site through the examination of further documentary sources, but these are unlikely to alter significantly the archaeological and historical importance of the sites identified in this report.

Group Value

The below and above ground remains identified within the study area have a group value potential as components of the larger Howard Town mill complex. The standing structures form part of the few standing remains of the wider textile industry of Glossop. The mill complex, gas works and workers' housing represent a group of heritage assets which cumulatively represent the development and urbanisation of the modern town of Glossop through the industrial period.

Survival / Condition

The extent and survival of below ground archaeological remains within the study area is presently unknown. Previous archaeological investigations to the west of the study area suggest that the site may have the potential to yield below ground remains relating to the mill complex and associated housing. A structural survey carried out in 2007 and

updated in 2014 states that the former warehouse (**Site 2**) and spinning mill (**Site 8**) are of solid construction but the wooden floors and roof were deteriorating. The ancillary buildings (**Sites 10-13**) were in a poor state of repair (Clancy Consulting 2014a; b). Only one small portion of the western weaving sheds (**Site 15**) is still occupied although access could not be gained to these buildings. However there is fire damage evident and much of the roof has been lost in recent years (see fig. 25).

Cartographic sources show that by the mid-19th century the western part of the study area contained a range of buildings relating to the former mill complex (see fig. 9). By the late 19th century, the mill had extended further eastwards (**Sites 1-6; 37, 39**) with small extensions to the earlier part of the complex (**Sites 12, 14, 17a, 19, 21a, 36 and 31**) (see fig. 10). Cartographic sources show that during the early twentieth century, the mill went through a major rebuilding phase (**Site 45**) along with minor additions (**Sites 1a, 37, 38, 40**) and several sites were demolished (**Sites 19, 22, 22a, 33b, 46**) whilst the Gasometers were modified (**Site 44**) (see fig. 11).

During the mid to late 20th century, the study area underwent clearance with several mill buildings demolished (**Sites 7a, 9, 14, 17, 17a, 20, 23, 24, 25, 33a, 36, 38, 39, 40, 45** residential (**Site 18**) and gas works (**Sites 30-32; 44, 44a**). At the time of the previous archaeological survey, **Sites 1-6, 37, 39, 7, 10-13, 15, 29** were still standing. As of December 2014, the eastern chimney (**Site 3; OAN Building 8a**), an extension to the weaving shed (**Site 1a; OAN Building 8**), an extension to the boiler house (**Site 4a; OAN Building 9**) and one of the Gas Works buildings (**Site 29; OAN Building 5**) have been demolished. The roof and cast iron columns of the eastern weaving shed (**Site 1**) have also been removed since the previous building assessment. As much of the complex has not been developed since demolition of the former mill buildings, there is the potential for below ground remains to survive. Excavations at the western end of Long Mill (**Site 24**) have shown that where the land has been undeveloped, there is the potential for archaeological deposits to survive at 0.50m below the current ground surface (Moore 2012).

Fragility/Vulnerability

See below section 7.1 Identification and the Evaluation of Key Impacts'

Diversity

The diversity of the below-ground remains within the study area is presently unknown. However cartographic evidence and previous archaeological investigations suggest that any below ground remains would most probably date to 19th century industrial and residential structures. This is due to the intense development that took place on the site during this period.

Potential

Outside of the heritage assets identified within Chapter 5 of this report, the study area is unlikely to yield below ground archaeological remains dating to earlier than the Industrial period. The main reason is due to the intensity of activity during the Industrial period however this is further discussed in Chapter 4.

The study area offers the opportunity to investigate the development and decline of the mill complex, in relation to the wider social and economic conditions of the time. Utilising archaeological investigation techniques will offer the opportunity to record the standing buildings as well as the below ground remains. This could help address some of the chronological issues particularly prior to 1857, which was when the first detailed map was produced. Recording changes to the interior of the standing buildings through archaeological building surveys will also help document chronological changes in relation to space organisation and adaptive reuse, which maps do not show (Campion 2006, 243). Studying the mill complex offers the opportunity to study the impact of industrialisation on the settlement pattern (Knight *et al* 2012, 122). The gas works also offers an opportunity to examine the early development of utilities in relation to private venture, as opposed to the public (*ibid* 125).

6.4 Significance

On the available evidence there are no remains within the study area which are considered to be a heritage asset of national significance.

The study area contains standing buildings of local and regional significance and may contain below-ground remains of local and regional significance. These remains relate to power systems, mill buildings and weaving sheds both standing and demolished, relating to water and steam power. There are potential remains of the Gas Works and its relationship to the mill complex as well as worker's housing. The regional significance is ascribed to the larger buildings and the related power systems, with local significance ascribed to ancillary buildings and the workers housing. However the Howard Town Mill complex as a whole has high group value and is a regionally significant heritage asset, therefore some assets are ascribed significance based on this group association.

7. Impact of Development

7.1 The Identification and Evaluation of the Key Impacts on the Archaeology

There are no nationally recognized standard criteria for assessing the significance of the impact of development on archaeological remains. However, the following criteria have been adopted from *the Highways Agency's Design Manual for Roads and Bridges, Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2, Annex 5, August 2007*. Although designed for use in transport schemes, these criteria are appropriate for use in other environmental impact assessments.

The value of known and potential archaeological remains that may be affected by the proposed development has been ranked using the following scale: Very High, High, Medium, Low, and Negligible:

- **Very High** includes World Heritage Sites and archaeological remains of international importance.
- **High** includes Scheduled Ancient Monuments and undesignated archaeological remains of national importance.
- **Medium** includes undesignated archaeological remains of regional importance.
- **Low** includes undesignated archaeological remains of local importance.
- **Negligible** includes archaeological remains of little or no significance.
- **Unknown** applies to archaeological remains whose importance has not been ascertained.

The Woods Mill/Former VC Works study area contains archaeological remains of potentially Medium and Low significance.

Impacts on archaeological remains can be adverse or beneficial, direct or indirect, temporary or permanent. The magnitude of sensitivity for the study area has been assessed using the following scale:

- **Major** involves change to archaeological remains or their setting such that the resource is totally altered.
- **Moderate** involves change to archaeological remains or their setting such that the resource is significantly modified.

- **Minor** involves change to archaeological remains or their setting such that the resource is slightly altered.
- **Negligible** involves very minor change to archaeological remains or their setting such that the resource is hardly affected.
- **No Change** involves no change to archaeological remains or their setting.

Assessment of the magnitude of the impacts has been ranked using the following scale:

- **Very Large**
- **Large**
- **Moderate**
- **Slight and**
- **Neutral**

This assessment combines the value of the archaeological resource and the magnitude of impact, as shown in the table below:

Table 7.1: Significance of Impact Matrix

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

The assessment of the study area is needed to inform a planning application to convert the old warehouse (**Site 2**) into 18 apartments and construct a total of 89 new dwellings, two retail units and extend a current one. This will involve raising the ground level by 1m on the lower levels and constructing split level units where the topography

dramatically alters, i.e. where the mill ponds are located (**Sites 27 and 42**) and Mill Street (**Site 18**). The depth the foundations will be reaching is not currently known.

In light of the proposed works and associated landscaping, the redevelopment of the Woods Mill complex will result in the removal and destruction of standing buildings relating to the former mill complex. It is likely that the proposed development will also remove below ground archaeological remains discussed within Chapters 5 & 6 (see fig. 13).

The magnitude of impact to these sites ranges from neutral to moderate/large, the latter affecting the archaeological remains directly either through damage or removal – the development fundamentally altering their present character. The significance of the impact is shown in Table 7.2 below.

Table 7.2: Impact Matrix for the archaeological remains at the Woods Mill Complex, Glossop.

Site Number	Value of Remains	Magnitude of Sensitivity	Magnitude of Change
Site 41 Milltown Mill. Industrial. Early 19 th Century. Below Ground Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Site 43 ?Cottage. Residential. Early-Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Remains	Negligible	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Sites 7, 24 Woods Mill Spinning Mills. Industrial. Early-Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Sites 8 Woods Mill Spinning Mill and Power System Building. Industrial. Early-Mid 19 th Century. Standing Buildings	Medium	Major	Moderate/Large
Site 15-16, 45 (partial) Woods Mill Weaving Sheds. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Standing Building	Medium	Major	Moderate/Large
Sites 10, 11, 13 Woods Mill Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Standing Buildings	Low	Major	Moderate/Slight
Sites 9, 19-21, 33a, 36 Woods Mill Power System Buildings. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Below	Medium	Minor	Slight

Ground Archaeological Remains.			
Site 23 Woods Mill Warehouse. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Sites 17, 25, 29, 30, 33b, 46 Woods Mill Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Low	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Sites 32, 44 Woods Mill Gas Works. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Sites 44a, 44b Woods Mill Gas Works Ancillary Structures. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Remains	Negligible	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Sites 18, 18a, 22 and 22a Woods Mill. Residential. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Low	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Sites 26, 26a-d, 27, 27b, 28, 34, 42 Woods Mill Ponds and related structures. Industrial. Mid 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Negligible	No change (Site 28)- moderate	Neutral - Neutral/Slight
Site 45 (partial) Woods Mill Weaving Shed/Ancillary Building. Industrial, Mid 19 th /Early 20 th Century. Standing Building	Medium	Major	Moderate/Large
Site 2. Woods Mill Warehouse. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Standing Building	Medium	Moderate	Moderate
Sites 1 Woods Mill Weaving Sheds. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Standing Buildings	Medium	Major	Moderate/Large
Sites 4 and 5 Woods Mill Power System Buildings. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Standing Buildings	Medium	Major	Moderate/Large
Site 6 Woods Mill Ancillary Building. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Standing Building	Low	Major	Moderate/Slight
Sites 14, 17a, 21a, 31a-d, 39 Woods Mill Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Late 19 th Century.	Low	Minor	Neutral/Slight

Below Ground Archaeological Remains			
Sites 3, 19 (ext.), 36 Woods Mill Power System Buildings. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Site 44 Woods Mill Gas Works. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Sites 14, 17a, 21a, 31a-d, 39 Woods Mill Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Late 19 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Low	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Site 37 Woods Mill Ancillary Building. Industrial. Early 20 th Century. Standing Building	Low	Major	Moderate/Slight
Sites 38, 40 Woods Mill Power System Buildings. Industrial. Early 20 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Medium	Minor	Slight
Sites 1a Woods Mill Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Early 20 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Low	Minor	Neutral/Slight
Sites 7b, 39a. Volcrepe Rubber. Industrial. Late 20 th Century. Standing Building	Negligible	Major	Slight
Site 4a Volcrepe Rubber Ancillary Buildings. Industrial. Late 20 th Century. Below Ground Archaeological Remains	Negligible	Minor	Neutral/Slight

8. Recommendations for Mitigation

8.1 Heritage Assets

Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified by a development, the developer should be required to record that asset and advance understanding of its significance, and to make this evidence publicly accessible (NPPF para 141).

None of the known and possible heritage assets identified within the application site are considered to be of national importance. However, there are known and potential heritage assets of lesser archaeological significance which merit preservation by record, should they be directly affected by development.

8.2 Mitigation Measures

The impact of development ranges from neutral to moderate/large (see Table 7.2) with the largest impacts on the standing buildings as they will be demolished and mitigation measures are recommended based on this (see below). As the ground level is proposed to be raised, the development's impact on below ground remains is perceived to be lower. However any mitigation measures that are carried forward are subject to the Derbyshire County Council Development Control Archaeologist.

8.2.1 Standing Building Recommendations

Any redevelopment occurring within the study area would involve the loss and disturbance of some of the standing buildings. Therefore a series of recommendations are set out below involving building surveys. The level of survey recommended has been carried out in line with the standards set out by English Heritage in their 2006 document *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*. In selecting the level of recording, the nature and purpose of the building needs to be considered:

- Level 1: this is a basic visual record. This normally supplements a wider aim and the objective is to gather minimum information, normally about a large group of buildings
- Level 2: this is a descriptive record. It will have more information than Level 1 but sufficient enough to be judged not to require a fuller record.
- Level 3: this is an analytical record. This will provide a systematic account of the building's origins, development and use and is normally carried out when a

building is under threat. This record clarifies the history and the development of the building, primarily from the structure itself.

- Level 4: this is a comprehensive analytical record, appropriate for buildings of special importance. This level of survey will draw on a full range of available resources to discuss the building's wider significance in relation to architectural, social, regional or economic history.

For the alterations and demolition of the buildings currently standing, the level of survey will vary according to the significance of the building at risk and the current level of knowledge on the buildings. The current scheme proposes to retain only one building: the eastern warehouse (**Site 2; OAN Building 6**) therefore the recommendations made by Oxford North have been modified to reflect this, as well as the demolition of other buildings since the previous survey. Oxford North's assessment was carried out to English Heritage Level 1 (Wild 2007, 31) and the following reassesses the recommendations. Updates where buildings have been demolished since the previous assessment are also provided.

Site 8 (OAN Building 1/1A): the remains of this building are of the greatest significance to the complex and charts the development of the mill and a Level 3 standard survey was recommended prior to conversion (Wild 2007, 31). However this building will be demolished as part of the current scheme therefore it is recommended that the building should be recorded to English Heritage Level 4 standard.

Site 10 (OAN Building 2): this office extension retains valuable phasing information and smaller buildings in particular are rarer than larger warehouses or spinning blocks as many have been demolished. Originally the building was to be retained and a Level 2 standard survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 32). The current scheme proposes the demolition of this building, therefore it is recommended that the building is recorded to a Level 3 standard.

Sites 11-13 (OAN Building 3/4): this range of sheds and power transmission building are of multiple phases and retains detail about the development of the complex. Level 2 surveys were recommended prior to conversion of the buildings (Wild 2007, 32) however the current scheme proposes demolition, therefore it is recommended that these buildings are recorded to a Level 3 standard.

Site 29 (OAN Building 5): although this building was at the south side of the Brook, it is unlikely it was associated with the gasworks. A Level 2 survey was recommended prior to its conversion (Wild 2007, 32) however the building is no longer standing and is therefore considered in the below-ground remains (see below).

Site 2 (OAN Building 6): this small warehouse retains valuable phasing information and *in situ* features and a smaller structure like this one is rare as larger buildings tend to be preserved. A Level 3 survey was recommended as the proposed development would

significantly alter the building fabric (Wild 2007, 32). This building is still part of the current scheme therefore Oxford North's recommendation remains unchanged.

Site 1 (OAN Building 7): the Great Eastern Shed is a rare example of a standing weaving shed and form an integral part of the complex showing that the mill continued the process to produce cloth. The original assessment recommended a Level 3 survey, should the building be demolished (Wild 2007, 32-33). However since the previous survey, the cast iron columns and roof have been entirely removed although the external walls still stand. The current scheme proposes demolition of this building therefore the recommendation remains unchanged.

Site 1a (OAN Building 8): this small shed was a later 19th century extension demonstrating the need to fill available space in a compact area. The original assessment proposed a Level 2 survey as it was not to be retained in the scheme (Wild 2007, 33) however this building has since been demolished and is therefore considered in the below-ground remains (see below).

Site 3 (OAN Building 8A): the chimney was the only surviving chimney within the complex and had increased group value as the engine house (**Site 5**) and boiler house (**Site 4**) survived as well, providing a rare example of a 19th century power generation plant. A Level 2 survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 33) however the chimney has since been demolished and it is considered alongside the below-ground remains (see below).

Site 4a (OAN Building 9): this was a late structure documenting the final changes to the power system and its removal was recommended. A Level 2 building survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 33) however the building has since been demolished and is considered in the below-ground remains section (see below)

Site 4 (OAN Building 10): this boiler house was integral to the mill complex and their survival is rare. They can offer information in relation to types and dates of power transfer systems. It has increased group value alongside the engine house (**Site 5**) and a Level 3 survey was recommended should it be demolished (Wild 2007, 33). The group value has diminished slightly due to the demolition of the chimney (**Site 3**) however its survival alongside the engine house is still rare. Its demolition is proposed in the current scheme therefore the recommendation remains unchanged.

Site 5 (OAN Building 11): this engine house shows signs of modification although retains *in situ* archaeological information. It has increased group value alongside the survival of the boiler house and a Level 3 survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 34). However the group value is slightly diminished as the chimney has been demolished. The current scheme proposes the demolition of this building, therefore the recommendation remains unchanged.

Site 6 (OAN Building 12): this was described as a late structure and was probably a petroleum store. A level 2 survey was originally recommended as it was a late structure and detracted from the visual impact of the weaving shed (Wild 2007, 34). Although there are later additions to this building, the main structure described appears to be part of the original extension into this area in the mid-19th century. Its demolition is proposed therefore a Level 3 survey is recommended.

Site 37 (OAN Building 13): this small shed demonstrates the how compact the complex was and the need to use all available space. A Level 2 survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 34) and as the building will be demolished, this recommendation remains unchanged.

OAN Buildings 14/15: these structures do not lie within the proposed area and therefore are not considered here.

OAN Building 16: this is a late 20th century structure with no archaeological interest, therefore no further work was recommended (Wild 2007, 34). This was constructed on the site of Mill Street housing (**Site 18**) which is considered within the below-ground remains section. The recommendation from the original report remains unchanged.

Site 15 (OAN Building 17): this structure is a rare survival of a large single storey weaving shed. As they do not lend themselves easily to domestic conversion, they are increasingly rare survivals. These sheds form an integral part of the mill complex and a Level 3 survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 35). The current scheme proposes to demolish the sheds, therefore the recommendation remains unchanged.

Site 45 (OAN Building 18): this is a complex small structure and shows several phases of construction. This has the potential to reveal information about the development of the complex and a Level 3 survey was recommended (Wild 2007, 35). The current scheme proposes demolition and therefore the recommendation remains unchanged.

OAN Buildings 19/20: these buildings are late 20th century and bear no relevance to the mill complex. No further work was recommended (Wild 2007, 35) and this recommendation remains unchanged.

OAN Buildings 21-25: these buildings lay outside the current study area, therefore they are not considered here.

The external walling should also be considered, as it is known to survive in several places, notably either side of Milltown and along Mill Street. Much of this is proposed to be retained within the development although some will be demolished to create a new access point over Shelf Brook to the east of the weaving shed (**Site 1**). Part of it will also be removed to widen the Milltown road therefore it should be recorded to Level II standard.

8.2.2 Below Ground Archaeological Potential (see fig. 14)

Any redevelopment occurring within the study area may involve the loss and disturbance of some of the below-ground remains identified within this report. The scheme involves raising the level of the ground by 1m on the lower levels prior to construction. Split level units are proposed for where the ground level changes dramatically, i.e. along Mill Street (**Site 18**) and the two former mill ponds (**Sites 27; 42**). It is not clear what the depth of foundations will be, therefore the assumption for the mitigation is based on potential disturbance of the archaeological resource (see above). Should the impact upon the archaeological resource be greater than assessed for, i.e. due to the depth of foundations, the mitigation strategy will be subject to change. Where appropriate because of their significance, mitigation will need to be undertaken through an archaeological record (NPPF 2012, para 141).

It is recommended that any development affecting the western part of the narrow spinning mill (**Site 7**) and associated power systems including boiler and engine houses (**Sites 9, 18, 38, 40, 17, 17a**) would require further archaeological evaluation through a programme of trial trenching. This has the potential to record the development of power systems and their relationship to the main spinning mill, as well as the development of the main spinning mill complex. There is also the potential to record the power systems relating to Long Mill (**Site 24**) and small portions of the earlier mill complex (**Sites 23, 25, 33a, 33b, 46**) along the western edge of the development. There is also the potential for workers' housing to survive from Yorkshire Street (**Site 22**) and Mill Street (**Site 18**) although both of these sites were redeveloped. However they may not have been totally removed.

It is also recommended that any development affected the Gas Works complex (**Sites 29-32; 44**) would also require trial trenching. This has the potential to record the relationship of gas power to the mill complex and the development and decline of the Gas Works during the latter half of the 19th and early 20th century. An image is provided showing potential areas for archaeological evaluation (see fig. 14).

All archaeological works will require a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) to be produced in consultation with the Derbyshire County Council and should be concluded at the earliest possible opportunity.

8.2 Residual Effects

As a consequence of the proposed mitigation measures, following development, there will be no significant residual impact on the archaeological resource.

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Maps

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10. Acknowledgements

CfAA would like to thank David Fairclough from Urban Concepts, Development Consultants and Kathryn Spencer, Kathryn Sathers & Associates for commissioning the Desk-Based Assessment. Thanks go to Steve Baker, Development Control Archaeologist (Derbyshire County Council) for providing advice and to Nichola Manning, Historic Environment Records Officer (DCC) for providing the HER data for the study area. The archive comprises a historical map regression, photographs and historical research notes. This archive is currently held by the Centre for Applied Archaeology and a copy of this report will be forward to the client and deposited with the Derbyshire Historic Environment Record.