

Archaeological Desk-based Assessment  
of land at  
**SOUTH VIEW,  
STIBBS HILL, ST GEORGE, BRISTOL.**  
for  
Land Promotions Limited



Report No. 2087/2009  
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Centred on  
N.G.R. 63406 73327

Client: Land Promotions Limited

## CONTENTS

Summary

List of Illustrations

1.	Introduction .....	1
2.	Methodology.....	2
3.	The Site.....	3
4.	Historical Background .....	4
5.	Archaeological Evidence.....	7
6.	Cartographic Evidence.....	8
7.	Discussion.....	10
8.	Conclusions.....	11
9.	References & Sources Consulted.....	12
10.	Acknowledgements.....	14

Appendix 1: Policy Statement

Illustrations and Plates

### Abbreviations

OS	Ordnance Survey
aOD	above Ordnance Datum
c.	circa
BRO	Bristol Record Office
BHER	Bristol Historic Environment Record
Mss	Manuscript

### NOTE

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## SUMMARY

An archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out on the property known as South View, Stibbs Hill, in the suburb of St George in Bristol. The site is located within the historic area of Kingswood Chase and from at least 1803 was an enclosed parcel of land containing a dwelling. By 1842 it is known that the study area, on Swan Lane (now Hillburn Road), was occupied by a *'House & Garden'* owned by John Stibbs. By the early 1880's the site was partially quarried (clay pits) and a number of buildings, including the house, and a Pug Mill are shown on the site. The quarry was filled in by 1904. By 1944 the dwellings are named as 'Nos. 1-2 South View, Stibbs Hill'. Several outbuildings were also present within the study area. Sometime after 1973 the cottages were severely damaged by fire and became derelict. The ruins were finally demolished in the mid/late 1990's.

A trawl of the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) showed one archaeological entry (excluding the current project) within the study area.

## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

### Figures

- Figure 1 Site location plan showing BHER entries
- Figure 2 Site plan showing plate directions, scale 1:1300
- Figure 3 Draft illustrative form of proposal
- Figure 4 Extract from '*Map of the Country 11 Miles Round the City of Bristol*' of 1769 by B. Donn
- Figure 5 Extract from William Maule's 1803 map of St George
- Figure 6 Extract from the Parish of St George Tithe map, 1842
- Figure 7 Extract from 1st Edition O. S., published 1888 (original scale 1:2500)
- Figure 8 Extract from 2nd Edition O. S., published 1904 (original scale 1:2500)
- Figure 9 Extract from *Edition of 1918* O. S., surveyed 1913 (original scale 1:2500)
- Figure 10 Extract from 1948 O. S. map (original scale 1:1250)
- Figure 11 Extract from 1967 O. S. map (original scale 1:1250)

### Plates

- Cover View of the study area, from the bottom of Stibbs Hill (looking north-east)
- Plate 1 View of the study area, from Stibbs Hill (lane)
- Plate 2 Looking north towards the top of Stibbs Hill. Gable Crest (house) can be seen in the distance. Note concrete bollards blocking lane
- Plate 3 View of the study area from the top of Stibbs Hill, looking south. Note the pair of cast iron gate piers
- Plate 4 View of the west-end of Thatchers Green (footpath) at its junction with Stibbs Hill
- Plate 5 Looking north-west along Thatchers Green (footpath) at an intact length of Pennant sandstone boundary wall
- Plate 6 Another extant section of stone boundary wall, this time at the north-east-end of the study area, next to a public car park
- Plate 7 Looking north-east at the junction of Raglan Lane (footpath) - right, and Stibbs Hill (lane) - left
- Plate 8 View north across private allotments, at the eastern-end of Raglan Lane (footpath), south-east of the study area
- Plate 9 Looking west along Raglan Lane (footpath) towards Stibbs Hill (lane)
- Plate 10 Aerial view of the study area and its locality

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Bristol and Region Archaeological Services was commissioned by Land Promotions Limited to undertake a desk-based assessment for the site known as South View, Stibbs Hill, St George, Bristol BS5 8LJ (centred on NGR ST 63406 73327; **Figs.1 & 2; Cover**). A planning application is to be submitted for the construction of approximately 9 to 14 semi-detached and terraced houses (depending on full survey and master plan formulation), with associated parking, landscaping, and an access road (**Fig. 3**). The intended development will impact on less than 50% of the total site area. The results of the assessment are produced in this report.
- 1.2 The study area, situated in the suburb of St George, is located approximately 4.5km east of Bristol city centre and about 1km south-east of the centre of St George, on the south-facing slopes of Stibbs Hill. The site, which covers some 4,484m<sup>2</sup> (1.1 acres), stands at a height of approximately 79m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) and is bounded to the west by Stibbs Hill (a cul-de-sac), north by Thatchers Green (a footpath) beyond which are municipal allotments, east by a car park for houses on Meg Thatchers Green and private vegetable gardens, and south by Raglan Lane (a footpath). The geology comprises Pennant sandstone of the Lower Coal Series (Middle and Upper Coal Measures) of the Upper Carboniferous period.
- 1.3 Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning, issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990, sets out the requirement for developers to provide sufficient information on the archaeological impact of development to enable a reasonable planning decision to be made.
- 1.4 Local Plan Policy B22, while stating that there should be a presumption in favour of the preservation of nationally important archaeological features and sites, outlines the process to be followed in order that the archaeological importance of a site may be determined and mitigation strategies put in place if necessary (see Appendix 1). A Supplementary Planning Document, SPD7, 'Archaeology and Development' has recently been adopted (March 2006). SPD7 further supplements and adds an additional level of detail to this Planning Policy and will be an important material consideration in the development control process. This desk-based assessment represents the first stage in this process.
- 1.5 The study involved a visit to the property by Timothy Longman of Bristol and Region Archaeological Services on Tuesday 23 December 2008, followed by visits to the Bristol Record Office (BRO) and Bristol Central Library where primary and secondary documentary sources, including photographic, cartographic and other published material was examined.
- 1.6 Copies of the report will be submitted to the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) and a digital copy of the report will be available to the National Monuments Record (NMR) maintained by English Heritage in Swindon. The project has been entered in the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record under reference number BHER 24702, and has also been issued with the OASIS reference bristola1-53095.

## 2. METHODOLOGY

- 2.1 The aim of this desk-based assessment is to inform the planning process in order that a reasoned decision can be taken regarding any archaeological resource.
- 2.2 The principal objectives of the assessment are:
- to locate any archaeological features affected by the proposed development, assessing the potential for survival, likely condition, and significance of any archaeological features, deposits or structures within the study area.
  - to advise on the potential impact of development upon the archaeological resource.
- 2.3 The following key sources have been consulted
- Documentary sources relevant to the study area including maps and surveys, leases etc.
  - Topographical photographs, prints and drawings
  - Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER)
  - Other published sources as a general background
- 2.4 Selected material from the collections of Bristol Record Office (BRO) and Bristol Central Reference Library were consulted. Historical and archaeological information, relevant to the study area, in the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) was also examined.
- 2.5 All information considered appropriate to the study was collated, summarised and presented in the following report. All photocopies, Mss copies and notes, including photographs are preserved in the project archive to be retained at BaRAS's premises at St Nicholas Church, St Nicholas Street, Bristol BS1 1UE.
- 2.6 It is important to note that caution should be exercised when considering information gained from maps, particularly from early examples (Hindle 1998). Consideration should always be given to the 'white spaces on the map' in addition to information possibly added later. Note that the geodetic accuracy of the maps examined is quite poor in some cases.
- 2.7 A visit to the study area was made by Tim Longman of Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) on the 23rd December 2008. Photographs and rough notes were taken during the visit.

### 3. THE SITE

- 3.1 The study area is located on the eastern outskirts of Bristol in the City Council's administrative Ward of St George East and covers an area of approximately 4,484 square metres (**Fig.1**).
- 3.2 The site currently comprises an area of derelict land (**Cover & Plate 1**), heavily overgrown with dense vegetation, including several mature trees, which are protected by a Tree Preservation Order (TPO No. 899). Therefore, while the perimeters of the site were accessible, no examination of the interior of the site could be made during a recent visit by the author.
- 3.3 The boundaries of the study area comprise three principal lengths of stone wall and one major hedge. On the western boundary, alongside Stibbs Lane, an extant Pennant sandstone wall, surviving to heights of between 0.5-1m in places, was recorded. Near the top of Stibbs Hill, a blocked gateway (pedestrian) is apparent in an extant section of wall next to the site of one of the former cottages (No.1 South View). At the north-west corner of the site, at the top of the hill, is the site of the former main entrance. Two cast iron gate piers survive in-situ, though the gate itself has gone. The northern boundary, alongside Thatchers Green (footpath), comprises a largely intact Pennant sandstone wall, one length of which stands some 1.8m high. The north-east site boundary, next to a small car park, also comprises an intact section of Pennant sandstone wall, standing to a height of 1.5m. The southern boundary, alongside Raglan Lane, is formed by a mature hedge at least 4m high, made up of Hawthorn, Hazel, Elder and Blackthorn. The southern section of the eastern boundary, which adjoins a vegetable plot belonging to No. 13 Marion Walk, comprises a thick, regularly maintained Hawthorn and Holly hedge, about 1m high.
- 3.4 The study area lies just below the 80m contour and slopes steeply downhill to the south and west. The underlying geology is the Lower to Upper Coal Series of the Upper Carboniferous period and historically, this position on the Bristol Coalfield, has had a major effect on the area's development, especially in terms of its industrial background (Southway 1971; Green 1992, 48-64).
- 3.5 There are few entries in the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) in the vicinity of the study area and just one within the study area (**Fig.2**) itself. The site is not in a Conservation Area and there are no Listed Buildings or Scheduled Ancient Monuments in the immediate vicinity of the site.

## 4. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Historically, the study area was a part of the county of Gloucestershire until 1897, when the parish of St George was incorporated into the City and County of Bristol (a county corporate). There is no *Victoria County History* volume covering this part of Gloucestershire as yet, but an early account of St George can be found in Rudder (1779, 458-462).

### Prehistoric and Roman

- 4.2 There is no evidence for prehistoric or Romano-British activity in the vicinity of the study area. However the possibility of early activity around this prominent hill cannot be precluded. The Bristol HER includes a reference to an antiquarian account from the late 18th century of a hoard of Roman coins, in a pottery vessel found where Church Road bifurcates into Clouds Hill Road and Summerhill Road, although the actual findspot location is rather vague. Occasional coin finds have turned up in other parts of St George and these are reported in Russell and Williams (1984). The Roman road between Bath (*Aqua Sulis*) and Sea Mills (*Abonae*) has been conjectured to follow the line of the A431 westwards. Reported 'discoveries' in the mid 1930's of sections of Roman roads in St Georges Park and King Dicks Lane are probably erroneous.

### Anglo Saxon

- 4.3 The study area lies some 4.5km (or 2¾ miles) east of the Anglo-Saxon burgh of *Bricgstow*, established by the later 10th century, and no archaeological remains from this period have been found in the vicinity. The burgh was part of the Anglo-Saxon administrative Hundred of Swineshead in the county of Gloucestershire and at the time of the Norman Conquest in 1066 the study area lay within the bounds of the former Royal forest of Kingswood, a part of the extensive Royal manor of Barton (Barton Regis).

### Medieval

- 4.4 The Domesday Survey of 1086 records that Roger de Berkeley had at that time been granted the manor of Barton Regis, referred to as '*Bertune*' (Moore 1982, 163b, Williams & Martin 1992, 448). By 1260 the new Hundred of Barton Regis had been carved out of the old Swineshead Hundred incorporating various members of the manor of Barton such as Bitton, Hanham, and Hambrook, (Smith, 1964, 83). The Barton produced timber and farmed produce for the upkeep of Bristol Castle. The western boundary of Kingswood Forest probably lay at or near the modern junction of Church Road, Summerhill Road and Clouds Hill Road. The out-parish of St Philip and St Jacob, then included the study area. The medieval church of St. Philip and St. Jacob, founded c.1137, located on Tower Hill in the city centre, was a cell of Tewkesbury Abbey and may also have owned land in the demesne pastures of the 'Kings Barton'. Medieval ecclesiastical records and deeds tend to give names of houses, curtilages, land and crofts but rarely specific locations (Walker 1998, 345-48).
- 4.5 Kingswood Forest was disafforested in 1228 and was thus deprived of much of its protected status from the Crown. Forests in the legal sense bore no direct or deliberate relationship with woodland, nonetheless most did contain at least some woodland cover. As an entirely separate and much smaller but related entity, Kingswood Chase covered between about 3,000 to 5,000 acres. Unlike the Forest, land within a legally defined chase was a *private* hunting reserve that actually belonged to its owner. Kingswood's Chase continued as a legal entity into the 18th century, however its nominal owners - successive Earls of Gloucester - gradually lost their autonomy over the land. The study area lay well outside the boundary of the medieval City and County of Bristol, established by King Edward I in 1373.

- 4.6 The very dispersed settlement pattern that characterised the Barton and the Chase was a product of piecemeal, progressive encroachment and small-scale colonisation of the area of the former Royal forest, a process which accelerated following the formal disafforestation; the long series of medieval state records known as the Pipe Rolls make it clear that so-called ‘prepestures’ (illegal clearances and enclosures within the bounds of the legal forest) were being established as early as the 12th century (Moore 1982).

### Post-Medieval and Modern

- 4.7 In the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (1558-1603) there were serious problems with control in the Chase and the Crown struggled to maintain order. A number of local manorial lords had begun to divide up the Chase into ‘liberties’. Merestones were erected in 1599 to mark the boundaries of some of these liberties. The study area lay beyond the extent of the earliest cartographic depictions of Bristol such as those by Smith and Hoefnagle that date from the later 16th-century. By the early 17th century, the former woodland was already suffering the depredations of conflicting claims on the extensive resources and these included coal (Southway 1971, 15).
- 4.8 Following the political disruption of the Civil War (1642-49) Kingswood Chase devolved into the hands of a succession of non-royal owners. In the period to 1700 the exploitation of the Kingswood part of the Bristol coalfield began to have major effects in terms of both landscape and buildings. In common with many former areas of legal forest, chase or common and indeed other areas with a high degree of woodland cover, Kingswood became a focus of early industry and its populace notorious for a spirit of robust and unruly independence (Malcolmson 1982).
- 4.9 The parish of St George was carved out of the out-parish of St Philip and St Jacob by an Act of Parliament of 1751, and was provided with a new parish church, on Summerhill Road, consecrated in 1756.
- 4.10 William Maule’s survey of 1803 (**Fig. 5**; see para. 6.5) is the first to show the study area. Its accompanying terrier (or schedule) records that by that date it was the property of one Mary Sturge.

**Table 1:** Areal units on and around study area at the time of the 1803 Terrier (see **Fig. 5** for location of entries)

No.	Possessors Names	Freehold and Leasehold		
		A.	R.	P.
288	Jas. Batten	5	2	34
314	Thos. Phipps	1	3	14
315	Thos. Milsom	0	2	38
319	Jacob Milsom	3	0	09
320	Saml. Smith	0	0	19
321	-----Do-----	0	0	27
322	-----Do-----	0	1	05
<b>323</b>	<b>Mary Sturge</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>06</b>
326	Holder	2	0	20
327	Geo. Rogers	2	0	09

- 4.11 By 1842 records (Tithe Apportionment BRO EP/A/32/32) show that the land was then owned and occupied by one John Stibbs (see **Table 2**), areal unit ‘1020’ being described as ‘House & Garden’ (**Fig. 6**), although the house isn’t shown as occupying the same position as the building indicated within the study area 39 years earlier.

**Table 2:** Areal units on and around study area at the time of the 1842 Tithe Apportionment (see Fig. 6 for location of entries)

Landowner	Occupier	No.	Name	State of Cultivation	Quantities		
					<i>a</i>	<i>r</i>	<i>p</i>
Hale, Elizabeth	Lacey, Daniel	984	House & Garden	–	0	0	21
	Hale, Elizabeth	987	House & Garden	–	0	1	22
	Hale, Edward	988	House & Garden	–	0	0	32
	Hale, Samuel	989	House & Garden	–	0	2	0
Harris, John Thomas	Cribb, Job	1019	Land	Arable	1	3	38
Nash, Thomas	Nash, Thomas	990	House, Outhouse & Garden	–	0	2	15
Nichols, Henry	Nichols, Henry	1023	Land	–	1	3	26
<b>Stibbs, John</b>	<b>Stibbs, John</b>	<b>1020</b>	<b>House &amp; Garden</b>	–	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30</b>
Thatcher, William	Thatcher, William	980	Land	Arable	0	2	4
	Thatcher, William	981	House & Garden	–	0	0	27
	Thatcher, William	1021	Quarry	–	0	0	18
	Thatcher, William	1022	Land	Pasture	2	1	9

- 4.12 By the early 1920's the southern part of Swan Lane was known as 'Stibbs Lane'. The 1925 edition of the annual Kelly's (formerly Matthews, later Wright's) Bristol Directory, reveals that Thomas Alfred Cole, Edmund Iles and James Sweet were then resident at 'Stibbs Hill, Swan Lane, St George'. Swan Lane was renamed Hillburn Road in 1930. By 1934 Harry Smith had replaced Edmund Iles.
- 4.13 The property is first referred to as 'South View' in Kelly's Bristol Directory in 1936, the entry reading '*STIBBS HILL Cole, Thos. Alfd. & Sons, bldrs. (South View) 2 Smith, Harry 1 Sweet, Jas.*'. This suggests that Thomas Cole had a builders yard at the property, but that the cottages (Nos. 1 & 2 South View) were occupied by Harry Smith and James Sweet. That arrangement remained unchanged until the early 1960's.
- 4.14 The 1962 Kelly's Directory entry reads: '*STIBBS HILL Cole, Fredk. J. (1 South View) Cole, Wm. (2 South View)*', indicating that the Cole family were by then occupying the entire property.

## 5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE

5.1 No previous archaeological work has taken place within the study area. The results of a trawl of the Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) were provided by Peter Insole (Archaeological Officer). One entry (excluding the current project) is recorded in the study area, and is summarized, along with others in the vicinity, in **Table 3** below:

**Table 3:** Summary of Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER) trawl

BHER No.	Description	Comments
20009	Archaeological desk-based assessment at Air Balloon Road	Undertaken in 1997
20058	Archaeological desk-based assessment of Meg Thatcher's Gardens	Undertaken in 1994
20059	Archaeological evaluation of Meg Thatcher's Gardens	Undertaken in 1996; Evidence of 19th-century dwellings
20242	Quarry at Crew's Hole Road	On 1949 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map depicted as an "Old Quarry"
20283	Archaeological watching brief at Air Balloon Road	Undertaken in 1998; negative
21057	Cartographic depiction of Whiteshill Farm	On First Edition OS Sheet surveyed 1881
21058	Whiteshill Farm	On First Edition OS Sheet; now lies beneath No.26-30 Northfield Road
21071	Cartographic depiction of a quarry on the north side of Cassey Bottom Lane	First Edition OS Sheet surveyed 1881 records an "Old Quarry"
21072	Quarry on the north side of Cassey Bottom Lane	Out of use by 1881; now infilled and lies beneath Nos.1-9 Cassey Bottom Lane
21392	Cartographic depiction of St. Aidan's Church, Troopers Hill	On second edition OS plan published in 1903
21393	St. Aidan's Church, Troopers Hill	Constructed at the end of the nineteenth century; now lies beneath the plot of No.10 Cassey Bottom Lane
21556	Cartographic depiction of Troopershill Farm, St. George	First Edition OS Sheet records Troopershill Farm to the south of Summerhill Road
21557	Troopershill Farm, St. George	In existence by time of St. George Tithe survey of 1842; farm house and outbuildings appear to be extant
21959	Cartographic depiction of a chapel at Bell Hill Road	On second edition OS plan published in 1903
21960	Chapel at Bell Hill Road	Late-nineteenth Century; extant in 1916 but was subsequently demolished
22038	Kingsway Cinema, Two Mile Hill Road	Opened in 1928; closed in 1959
22179	Archaeological desk-based assessment of No.139 Nags Head Hill, St. George	Undertaken in 2005
22323	Clowe's Chapel, Summerhill Road, St. George	Recorded on First Edition OS Sheet
22360	Archaeological watching brief at Nos.125-127 Bell Hill Road	Undertaken in 2005; possible backfilled coal shaft
22361	Archaeological desk-based assessment of Nos.55-59 Nags Head Hill, St. George	Undertaken in 2006
22455	Cartographic depiction of Clowe's Chapel, Summerhill Road, St. George	Recorded on First Edition OS Sheet
22456	Summerhill Methodist Church, Summerhill Road, St. George	Built in the mid-20th century.
22580	Archaeological watching brief at Nos.20-32 Air Balloon Road, St. George	Undertaken in 2007; negative
24600	Archaeological desk-based assessment of Gable Crest, Stibbs Hill, St. George	Undertaken in 2008
24702	Archaeological desk-based assessment of South View, Stibbs Hill, St. George	Undertaken in 2008
3215M	Cartographic depiction of Pug Mill, Stibbs Hill	On First Edition OS sheet surveyed 1881

## 6. CARTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

- 6.1 The earliest map to give any impression of the general area was prepared for Thomas Chester of Knolle Park and is dated 1610. The map was reproduced by Braine (1891) in his book on the history of Kingswood Forest. This document is not really a map in the accepted, modern sense, but rather an impressionistic sketch with little detail, but nonetheless useful in that it shows the (approximate) positions of landmarks and features which are known from later evidence but many of which have now gone. The relative positions of features also appear for the most part to be pretty accurately portrayed. Thus Don John's Cross is shown marking the western boundary of the Forest, exactly at the point where the main road eastwards out of Bristol divides into the '*London waye*' (now Clouds Hill Road) and the '*Bathe waye*' (now Summerhill Road).
- 6.2 The map also gives a very striking impression of the general extent of the woodland cover, increasing somewhat from west to east within the Forest; although some caution needs to be exercised in deciding what element of this should be attributed merely to the artistic conventions of the time in depicting forest landscapes. The map is also useful (with the usual caveats), in that there is very little indication at this date of the industry that was later so characteristic of both St George and the surrounding area, and specifically of coal extraction; the only evidence of industry is a set of quarry workings shown at the northern edge of the Forest. There is no key attached to Braine's reproduction of the map so it is impossible to know whether or not the original carried one, but the study area is located at the western end of open, scrubby land rather than woods, no settlement was represented in that location.
- 6.3 A map of the Chase dated 1673 gives no further detail of the study area apart from it being described as part of '*Mr Chesters Liberty*'. The study area was beyond the eastern extent of Jacobus Millerd's maps of the later 17th and early 18th centuries.
- 6.4 Benjamin's Donn's '*Map of the Country 11 Miles Round the City of Bristol*' (**Fig. 4**), of 1769, shows no great detail precisely because of its small scale, but it does indicate that this part of St George was already attracting development by this date and it is probably no coincidence that coal mines and at least one fire engine (engine house) are shown not far away. At least some of the dwellings that Donn depicts, although by definition impressionistic, may well be cottages belonging to miners or quarrymen engaged locally in those industries. Donn also shows the lead works and cupolas at Crew's Hole, south-west of the study site, which preceded the tar distillery, and which was a further element of St George's burgeoning industrial base at this time.
- 6.5 The first cartographic source that shows the study area in any useful detail is a map and accompanying terrier, dated 1803, of the parish of St George, with parts of Stapleton, surveyed by William Maule (BRO AC/PL/60a-b; **Fig. 5**). On this map the study area occupies part of an areal unit labelled 323, which is a large enclosed field including a dwelling. It adjoined the lane (later Thatchers Green) that formed the southern edge of the neighbouring land unit 288. The western boundary of the field followed the line of Swan Lane, the southern end of which would later be called Stibbs Hill, although the surveying is not such as it can be tied directly to later map sources. The terrier describes the possessor of plot no. 323 as *Mary Sturge*.
- 6.6 The next usable plan is the St George Tithe map of 1842, together with its apportionment BRO EP/A/32/32 (**Fig. 6**). The quality of the surveying is generally rather better than some forty odd years previously. On the tithe map the study area is numbered plot 1020. Plot 1020, described as '*House & Garden*', was then owned and occupied by one John Stibbs.

- 6.7 There is no cartographic evidence covering the period between the Tithe map of 1842, and the Ordnance Survey (1:2500 plan) of 1888, surveyed in 1880-81 (**Fig.7**). In the intervening forty odd years a quarry (clay pit) had been dug across part of the study area (areal unit 561), similar quarries were present both on the opposite side of Swan Lane and on land immediately north (both labelled as '*Old Quarry*') of Thatchers Green. The location of a '*Pug Mill*' is also indicated within the site, '*Pug*' meaning '*to temper (clay) for brickmaking, by kneading and working it into a soft and plastic condition, as in a pug-mill*'. A cluster of buildings, including a house, occupied the north-western corner of the study area.
- 6.8 By the time of the 1904 edition O.S. plan the quarry had been filled in (**Fig.8**), as had the one north of the study area. The quarry to the west of Swan Lane had however continued in existence to this date (although it was in-filled by 1918). There were no other cartographic changes to the study area indicated on either the 1904 edition or the 1918 (**Fig. 9**) edition O.S. plans, other than that by the latter date the site had been subdivided into two plots (areal units 2893 and 2894), the northern one containing the house and outbuildings.
- 6.9 The only changes apparent, by the time of the 1948 O. S. plan (**Fig. 10**), were that a detached house (known as '*Gable Crest*') had been built in 1938-9 on land just north of Thatchers Green (lane), while the houses within the study area are named as '*1 & 2 South View*'. In addition, the site is no longer subdivided into two areal units.
- 6.10 By 1967 (**Fig. 11**) two small housing developments had been built in the immediate vicinity of the study area, firstly, the construction of several two-storey terraced houses on land (former allotments) on the west side of Stibbs Hill (Nos. 1-25), partly opposite the study area and secondly, a number of houses on Marion Walk immediately to the south. Several of these latter properties, specifically Nos. 4-14, back onto Raglan Lane. Within the study area itself, a number of small outbuildings had been built, three alongside Thatchers Green (footpath) and one at the junction with Stibbs Hill (lane), north of the cottages, next to the main entrance.

## 7. DISCUSSION

- 7.1 To date, no previous archaeological work has taken place within the study area.
- 7.2 The results of the BHER trawl and documentary research reflect St George's growth from a dispersed rural settlement in the early 19th century to a major suburb of the city of Bristol by the mid-20th century.
- 7.3 The study area is described in 1842 as '*House & Garden*' and much of the land is likely to have been in use for pasture and domestic agricultural purposes until being partially quarried by the second half of the 19th century. A group of small buildings, including a house (later Nos. 1 & 2 South View) stood near the north-western corner of the study area and dated from sometime after 1803, while a '*Pug Mill*' (BHER 3215M) is shown on the site in the early 1880's in the vicinity of the quarry.
- 7.4 The '*Pug Mill*' would have been used to process the clay being extracted from the neighbouring clay pits, prior to the clay or 'pug' being delivered to a brick works somewhere in the east Bristol area and is of at least local archaeological importance. It is not known if a 'pug mill' has ever previously been excavated in the Bristol region.
- 7.5 The quarry or clay pits, which were filled in by 1904, are likely to have destroyed much of any archaeological deposits or features that may have existed on that part of the study area. The site of the houses (*Nos. 1-2 South View*) and associated outbuildings, which were present on site until the 1990's, will remain unaffected by the proposed development.
- 7.6 At the time of writing no formal Planning Application has been submitted for the study area. In respect of paragraphs 6.5 and 6.6 above, much of the south-west and central parts of the site lie over backfill material of a former quarry (clay pit), however it is possible that occupational deposits or features associated with structures (such as the house and the '*Pug Mill*' [BHER 3215M]) shown on the 1888 O.S. will survive within the study area. The proposed development is likely to have some negative impact on the soil strata and possible archaeological remains that may be preserved below the surface as subterranean features or deposits (Davis *et al.* 2004).

## 8. CONCLUSIONS

- 8.1 The proposed development is largely restricted to the southern half of the study area, much of which was excavated as clay pits in the 19th century, so is unlikely to impact greatly on any archaeological features and deposits (other than the known site of the ‘pug mill’) that may once have been present. The clay pits had been in-filled and the ‘pug mill’ removed by 1904.
- 8.2 The northern portion of the study area, which contains the sites of the 19th century cottages known by the 1930’s as ‘Nos. 1 & 2 South View’, lies outside the proposed development and its’ current character is to be retained for nature conservation.
- 8.3 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning* (PPG16, 1990) highlights the fragility and finite nature of England’s archaeological resource. It is stressed that, depending on the particular circumstances involved, significant archaeological remains should be preserved, whether physically or ‘by record’ (Breeze 1993; Cullingworth and Nadin 1994).
- 8.4 The exact nature of any further archaeological requirement for the recording of (prior to any development) or monitoring of (during any development) any archaeological features and deposits, in relation to this site, will be the decision of the City Archaeologist at Bristol City Council.

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- 1803 'Map of St George Parish and Part of Stapleton', by William Maule, BRO AC/PL/60a; with book of reference (terrier), BRO AC/PL/60b.
- 1842 Tithe map for parish of St George; with apportionment, BRO EP/A/32/32.
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- 1918 Ordnance Survey third edition 1:2500, Surveyed 1880-82; Levelling Revised 1902; Revised 1913; Published 1918; Gloucestershire sheet LXX.14
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- 1967 Ordnance Survey 1:1250 edition; Sheet 6373 SW

Bristol City Council Historic Environment Record (BHER)

The Collections of Bristol Reference Library

The Collections of Bristol Record Office (BRO)

## **10. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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## **APPENDIX 1: Policy Statement**

This report is the result of work carried out in the light of national and local authority policies.

### **NATIONAL POLICIES**

Statutory protection for archaeology is enshrined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), amended by the National Heritage Act, 1983. Nationally important sites are listed in the Schedule of Ancient Monuments (SAM). Scheduled Monument consent is required for any work which would affect a SAM.

### **ODPM PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE**

The Planning Policy Guidance of Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) consolidates advice to planning authorities. The Guidance stresses the non-renewable nature of the archaeological resource, details the role of the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), encourages early consultation with county and district archaeological officers and sets out the requirement for developers to provide sufficient information on the archaeological impact of development to enable a reasonable planning decision to be made.

PPG 16 also indicates the circumstances where further work would be necessary and outlines the use of agreements and conditions to protect the archaeological resource.

### **DISTRICT POLICY**

Bristol City Council Supplementary Planning Document (2006) states (policy SPD No.7, p4):

- (i) There will be a presumption in favour of preserving any archaeological features or sites of national importance, whether scheduled or not.
- (ii) Development which could adversely affect sites, structures, landscapes or buildings of archaeological interest and their settings will require an assessment of the archaeological resource through a desktop study, and where appropriate a field evaluation. Where there is evidence of archaeological remains, development will not be permitted except where it can be demonstrated that the archaeological features of the site will be satisfactorily preserved in situ, or a suitable strategy has been put forward to mitigate the impact of development proposals upon important archaeological remains and their settings; or, if this is not possible and the sites are not scheduled or of national importance, provision for adequately recording the site prior to destruction is made, preferably by negotiating a planning agreement to ensure that access, time and financial resources are available to allow essential recording and publication to take place.



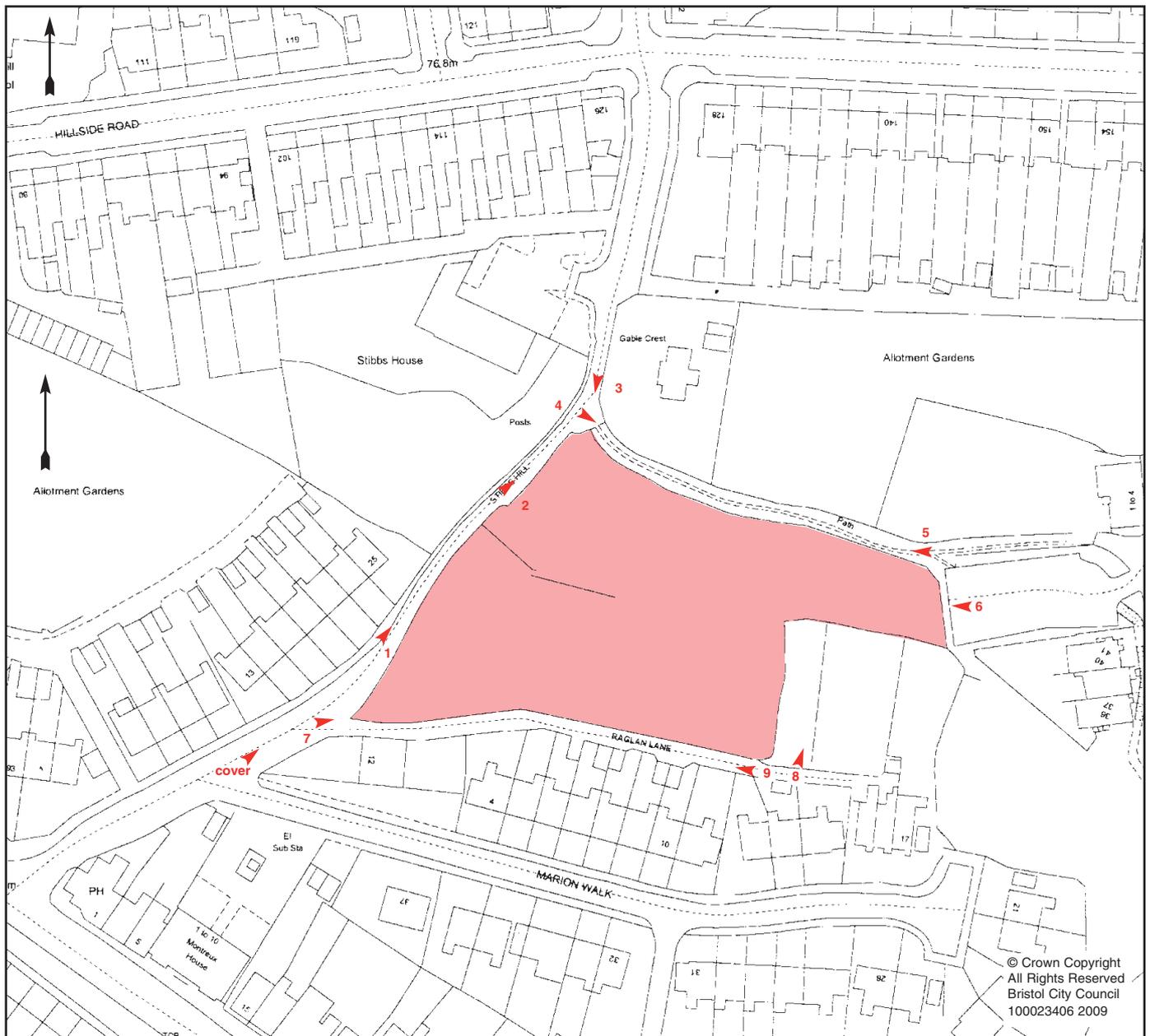


Fig.2 Plan showing plate directions, scale 1:1300



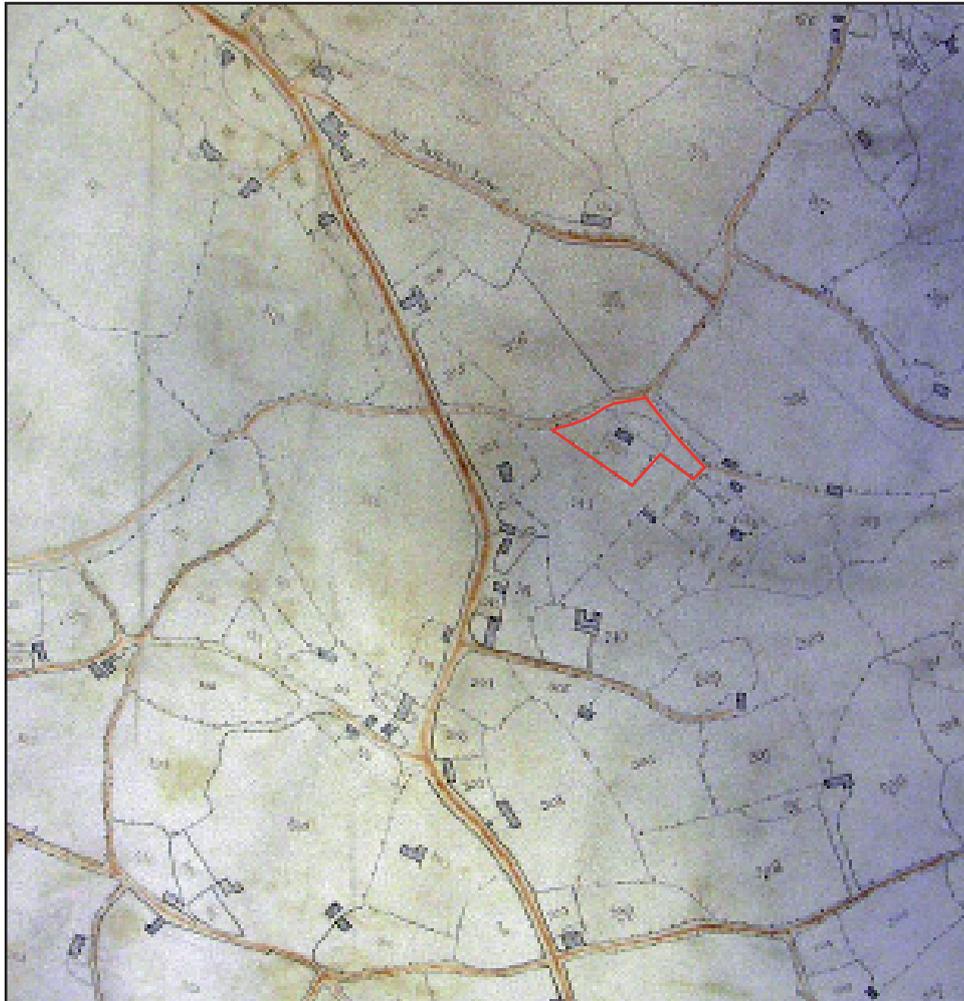


Fig.5 Extract from William Maule's 1803 map of St George (BRO AC/PL/60a)

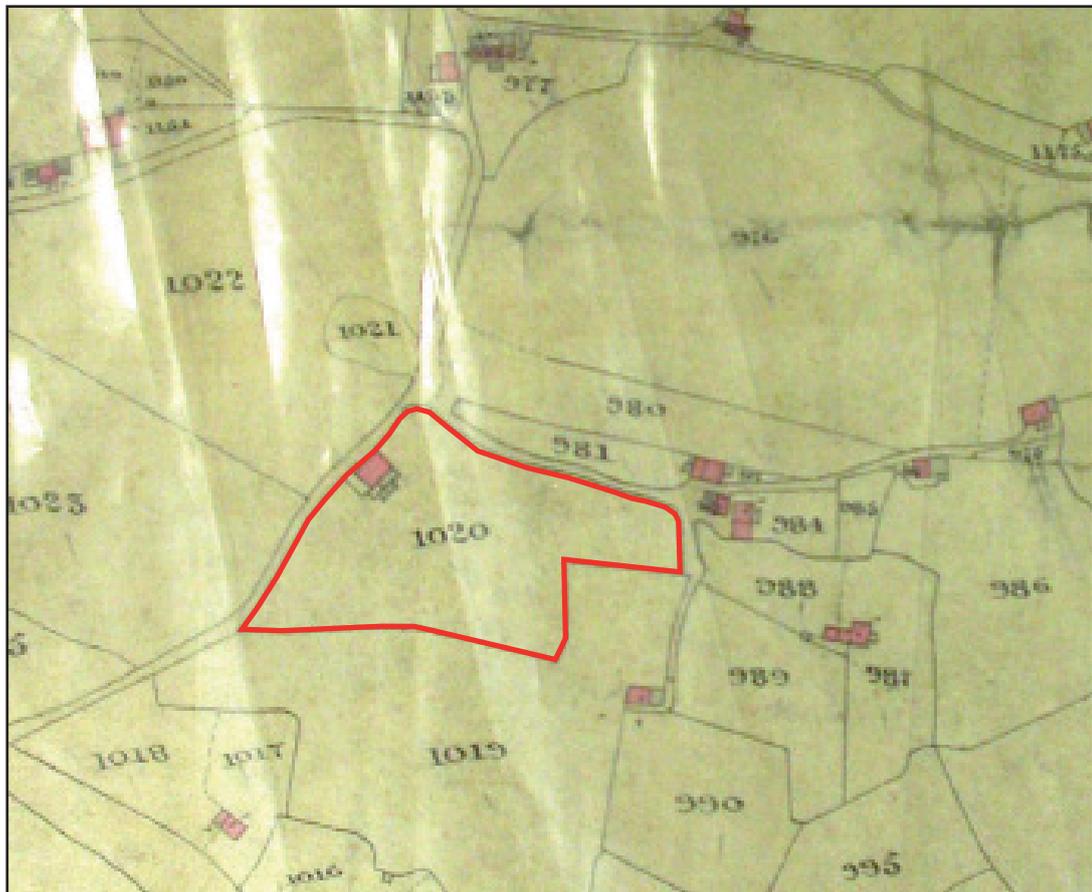


Fig.6 Extract from the parish of St George Tithe map for 1842 (BRO unnumbered)

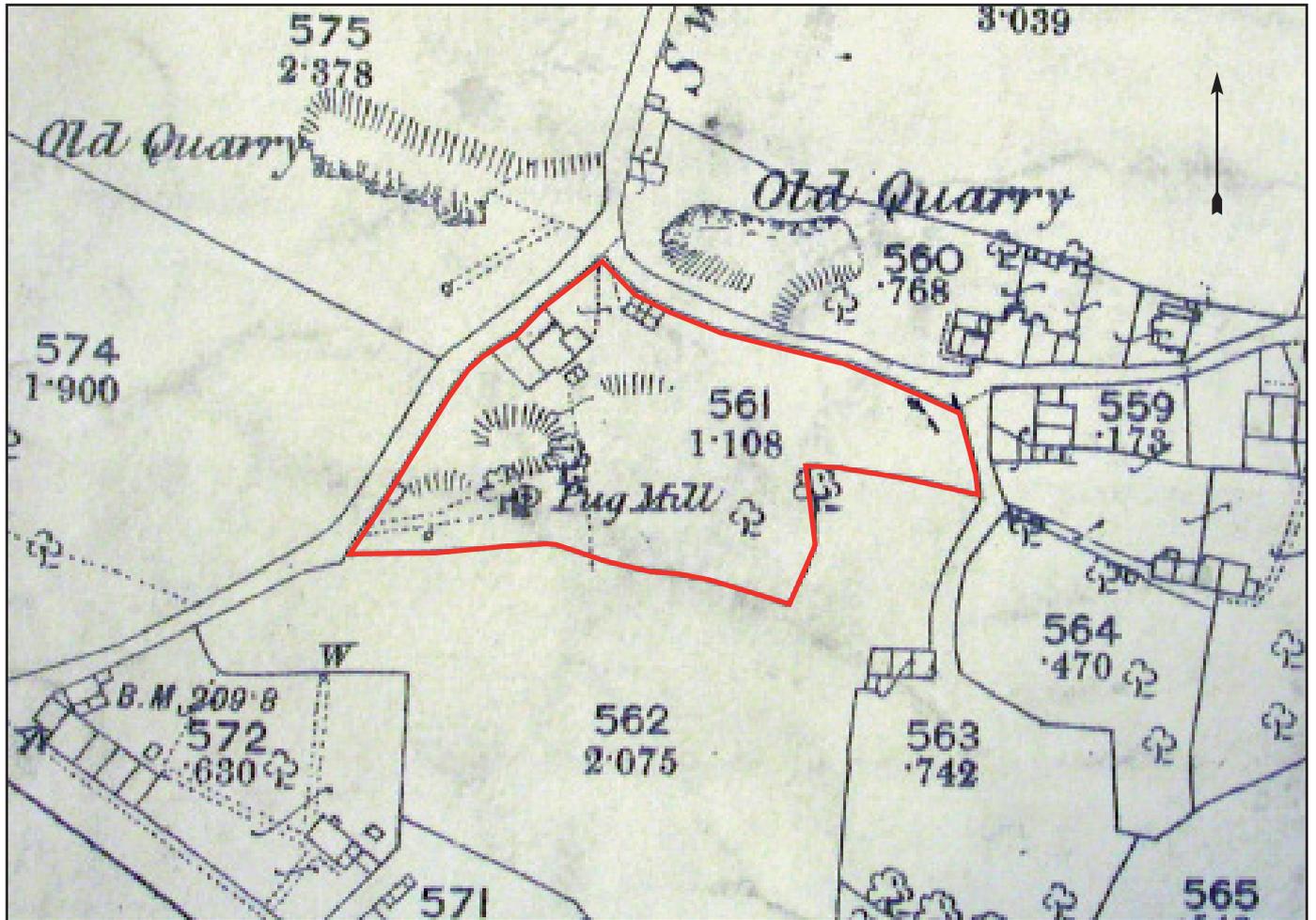


Fig.7 Extract from 1st Edition Ordnance Survey, published 1888 (original scale 1:2500)

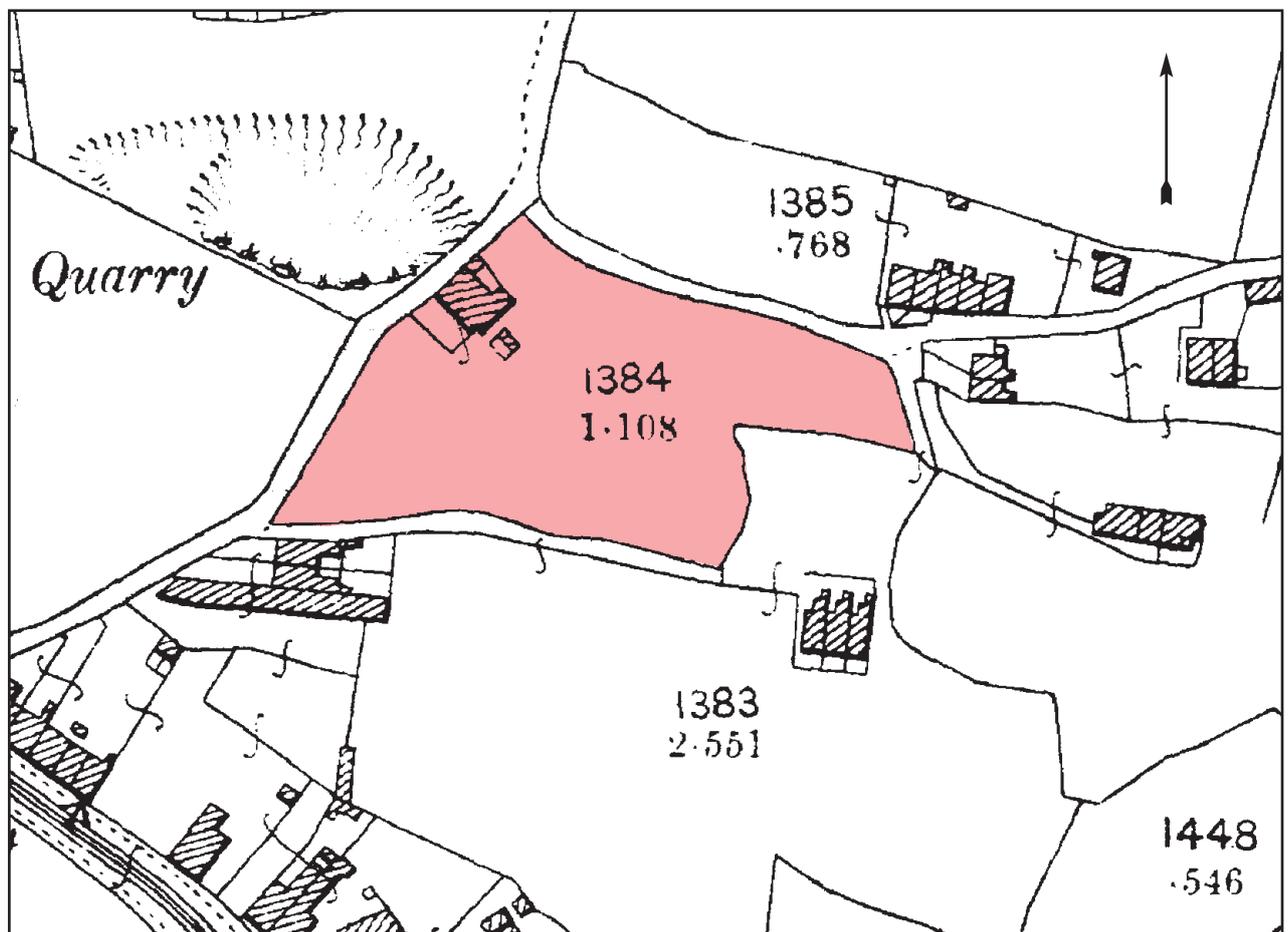


Fig.8 Extract from 2nd Edition Ordnance Survey, published 1904 (original scale 1:2500)

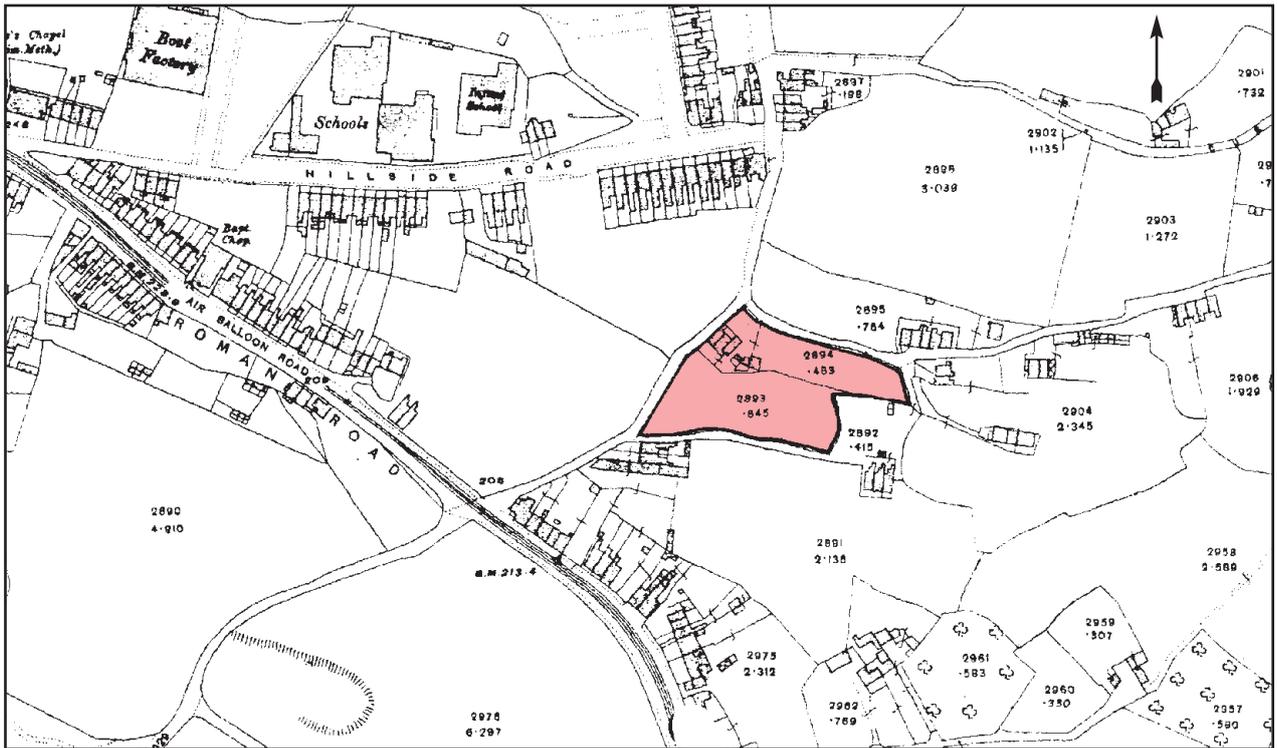


Fig.9 Extract from *Edition of 1918* Ordnance Survey, surveyed 1913 (original scale 1:2500)

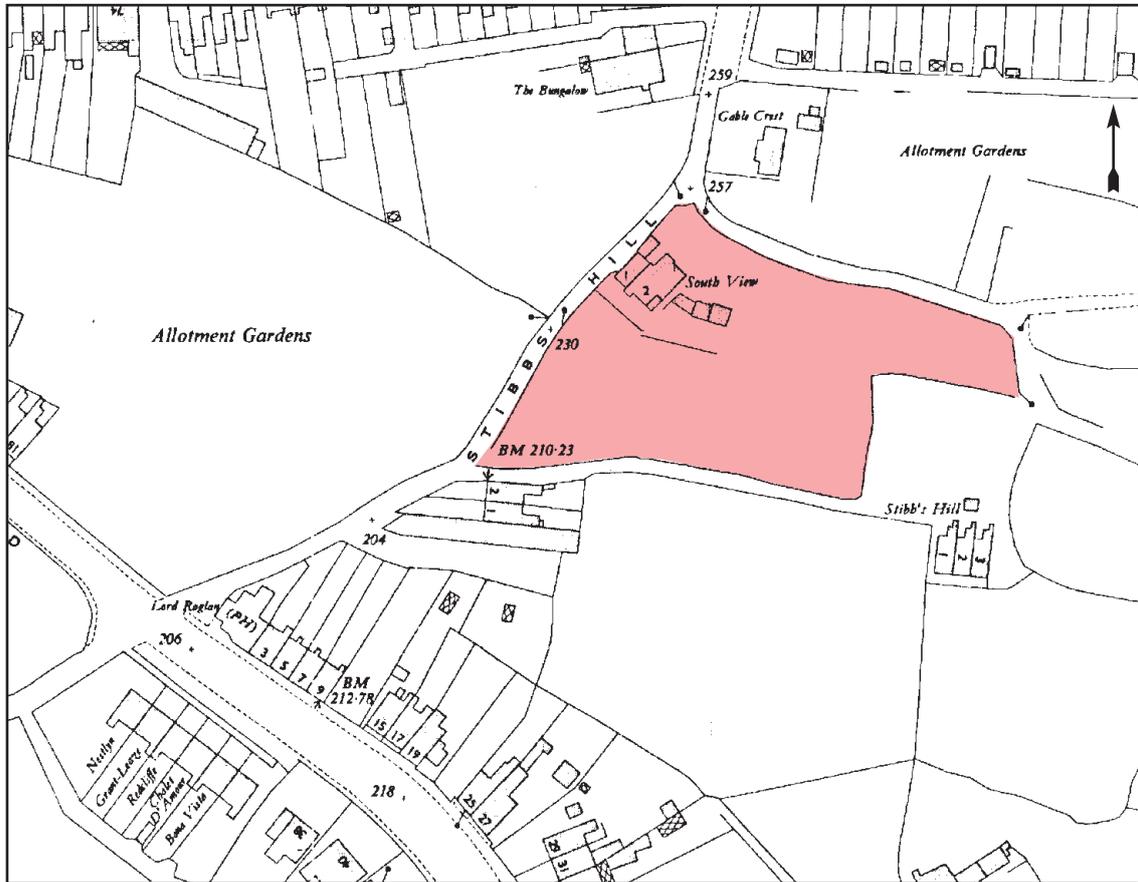


Fig.10 Extract from 1948 Ordnance Survey map (original scale 1:1250)

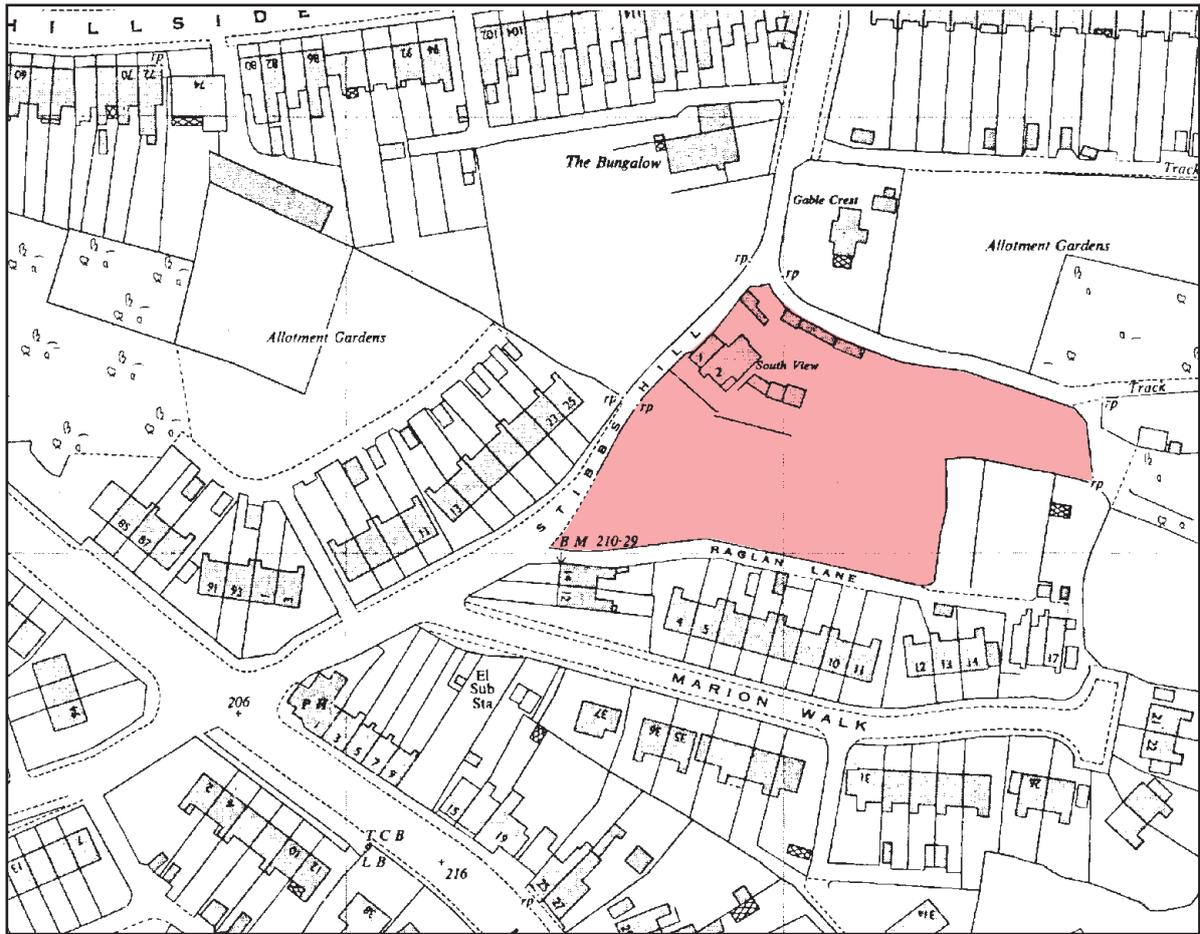


Fig.11 Extract from 1967 Ordnance Survey map (original scale 1:1250)



Plate 1  
View of the study area,  
from Stibbs Hill (lane)



Plate 2  
Looking north towards  
the top of Stibbs Hill.  
Gable Crest (house) can  
be seen in the distance.  
Note concrete bollards  
blocking lane



Plate 3  
View of the study area  
from the top of Stibbs  
Hill, looking south. Note  
the pair of cast iron gate  
piers



Plate 4  
View of the west-end of  
Thatchers Green (foot-  
path) at its junction with  
Stibbs Hill



Plate 5  
Looking north-west along  
Thatchers Green (foot-  
path) at an intact length  
of Pennant sandstone  
boundary wall



Plate 6  
Another extant section of  
stone boundary wall, this  
time at the north-east-  
end of the study area,  
next to a public car park



Plate 7  
Looking north-east at the  
junction of Raglan Lane  
(footpath) - right, and  
Stibbs Hill (lane) - left



Plate 8  
View north across private  
allotments, at the east-  
ern-end of Raglan Lane  
(footpath), south-east of  
the study area



Plate 9  
Looking west along  
Raglan Lane (footpath)  
towards Stibbs Hill (lane)



Plate 10 Aerial view of the study area and its locality