

Coal Mining Archive, confirmed in conversation that it was believed that mines had existed in those approximate positions. He cautioned about the difficulties in locating mineshafts accurately, and commented on the probable presence of medieval and possibly earlier “bell-pits” following the course of coal seams across the glassworks site. These are in addition to the one whose engine house survives on the southern edge of the site, and the one sited in the northern holding, some little way to the west of “French Row”³. He also observed that there would have been a huge trade in low quality coal for lime-burning. A significant number of ruined lime-kilns are situated just to the north of Nailsea on the limestone ridge.

5.29 SRO Q/Rup/10: “A Plan for a Navigable Canal from the River Avon (near Bristol) to Bridgwater and Taunton together with collateral branches to the extensive collieries at Nailsea.” by W^m White, Surveyor, Sep. 29th 1795, shows a single smoking cone with the legend “Glass Works” around it. The canal route appears to terminate at Jacklands Farm to the north of Nailsea on the road to Tickenham, having followed the line of the Parish Brook past [Moorend] Spout, to swing round the north-west quadrant of Nailsea. [See Fig 1.1] The plan appears to show tramways to the various locations in Nailsea, rather than waterways.

5.30 Donne’s *Map of the Country 20 miles round the City of Bristol* of 1801, has a scale of 3.2 inches to 10 miles which is too small to be useful, although it does show the principal roads.

5.31 In 1802, Smith and Cruve, Land Surveyors from Bath, carried out a valuation survey⁴, and describe the site as “Glassworks with a vast Range of Outbuildings yards &c. / A row of Dwellinghouses 20 Tenements / Another tenement.”

5.32 An Inclosure map dated May 1813, at the SRO (Q/Rde/129) by Sturge and Brown shows only part of the “Old Cone” and some housing, and the north-eastern corner of the main part of the Study Area has “Lucas, Chance & C^o.” printed across it. The accompanying Schedule of Allotments with Map B shows only John Robert Lucas as holding the glassworks site under leasehold. The south-west parcel, 152, which would in due course hold ‘The Royal Oak’ public house and the New House Cone, appears to be under the ownership of Lucas. Parcel 174, which will not be completely occupied by the northern part of the study area, is owned by “John Robert Lucas & others (Sale of Allotment)”. This is determined as follows:

“Unto John Robert Lucas, William Chance, Edward Homer and William Coathupe Esquire one piece of land part of Nailsea Heath containing by admeasurement four acres numbered 174 on the said map B bounded south eastwards by the said public Road No. 28 leading from Wraxall to Nailsea northward by the said Road No. 43 and on the other parts by gardens by the said Road No. 40 and by the allotments No, 170 and 175.

Subject to the public footway No. 41 leading through and over the same.

The fences on all sides of the said allotment /excepting against the said gardens/ to be made and kept in repair by the said John Robert Lucas and others and the future owners and occupiers for the time being of the said allotment.”

5.33 Another version of the same Inclosure map, again by Sturge and Brown, but dated 10th November 1814 is held by BRO, 37959 (46) (c) and (g), being the Plan and Scheme respectively. From this document, which form the Wraxall and Nailsea Inclosure Plans it appears that the landlord is Sir H. Smyth, but that other holdings may be leased from Sir H

³ BRO AC/PL 144

⁴ BRO AC/E14

Smyth and others (Young and Alvis). This plan does not have parcel numbers but has the name and tenure written in the parcel, and it is clear that Lucas was a considerable freeholder in Nailsea parish, quite apart from the glassworks. Part of the Old Cone is shown, to represent the Glassworks. Both these maps show that a branch of the Bristol and Taunton Canal was proposed to run in to the glassworks, having paralleled the main road for some way from the west, and that the land was at least reserved and owned by the Canal Company (See 5.8 et seq. above). There are no buildings in the northern part of the Study Area.

5.34 Greenwood's *Map of Somerset* (BCL) dates from 1822, and at a scale of 1 inch to 1 mile gives better detail than Day & Masters. It indicates "Glass" against the eastern end of Nailsea, but the scale is too small to determine anything other than that substantial buildings are there, and that the houses at the south end of the northern part of the study area are appearing.

5.35 The 1829 map drawn to accompany Rutter's *Delineation etc.* shows increasing development at the east end of Nailsea, but is not suitably scaled for the present purpose. Another map of 1829 from the BRO (AC/PL 111) being a *Map of the boundaries of the Parishes of Tickenham, Nailsea Wraxall and Flax Bourton in the County of Somerset* clearly shows the glassworks with the "New Cone" in place. The housing to the north of the works is clearly shown, as is the rank immediately to the north across the road to Wraxall, but not all the ancillary buildings along the boundaries (which appear on later maps and plans, especially around the New House Cone) are in place. As far as can be determined at the small scale (one inch = 24 chains) it contains all the elements of the 1830s plan, see below.

5.36 A facsimile edition [David & Charles] based on the 1830 one inch to one mile Ordnance Survey map shows much the same information as Greenwood.

5.37 There is an annotated large-scale plan (undated, apart from a manuscript note in the margin, "NAILSEA GLASSWORKS 1830s", with no authority) of the glassworks, BRO 32395 (25), labelled externally "Lucas & Co.", but which is inscribed as belonging to "MESS^{RS}. LUCAS CO^ATHUPE & C^O." This is usually dated to the "1830s", and a manuscript note on the copy at Nailsea Library states that it is almost certainly pre-tithe, i.e., before 1844.⁵ It is shown below as Figure 1.7. What is now known as "Wood View Terrace", the rank of cottages most immediately associated with the glassworks, appears on this plan as merely "Back Road". It should be noted that the north point on this plan is drawn about 45° west of grid north.

5.38 BRO AC/PL 121(1-2), undated, is labelled as "Nailsea – Somerset 3 ch. working map. The writing thereon is that of John Brown, Brislington". The scale is 3 chains to an inch, a chain being 22 yards (equivalent to 20.12m.) Figure 1.6 below. The layout is very similar to the tithe map, but the parcel numbers are lower. Initially it was thought that it was possibly a preliminary survey of the tithe lands held by the Smyths of Ashton Court, therefore predating 1840, but later than 1826, because it shows the New House Cone. John Brown of Brislington is named in SRO DD/SB 11/3, together with Young, Sturge of Bristol as surveyors for the Inclosure Act – 53 George 3 Cap 60. In the same bundle is a document dated 28th January 1814 which states that "by Deed Poll ... the lands are surveyed and passed to the proprietors." However, on balance it is thought that this plan must be later than 1844, and before 1870, because there is a break in the boundary buildings (mentioned in 5.43 below), but as the outline of the New House Cone has not changed significantly it would appear that although the break had been made, the extension to the cone buildings to accommodate the southern 10-stage blowing holes had not been started. There are also significant differences between the size and

⁵ Dommett, 1986, makes a very good case for it in fact dating from 1825, when there was a partnership change. As it is elsewhere referred to as the 1830s plan, this description will continue to be used in this report.

disposition of the buildings to the west and south-west of the New House Cone on this plan, and those shown in 1870. It is thought that this might represent the ‘Alcali works’. [Of course a lot depends on how thorough the Inclosure and Tithe Map surveyors were.]

5.39 The Tithe Maps for Nailsea: the Nailsea Library 1844 copy has subtle differences from that at the SRO dated 1840 but both show the row of cottages on the opposite side of the High Street from the works, and virtually the same configuration for the works. There is a continuous run of buildings running along the boundary to the south of the New House Cone. There is a difference at the north-eastern end of that run, in that there is no “step” in the northernmost corner on the later map, and also the overall depth at that end seems less. [For comparisons see Figure 1.11 below.]



Figure 1.6: Brown's plan (courtesy BRO)

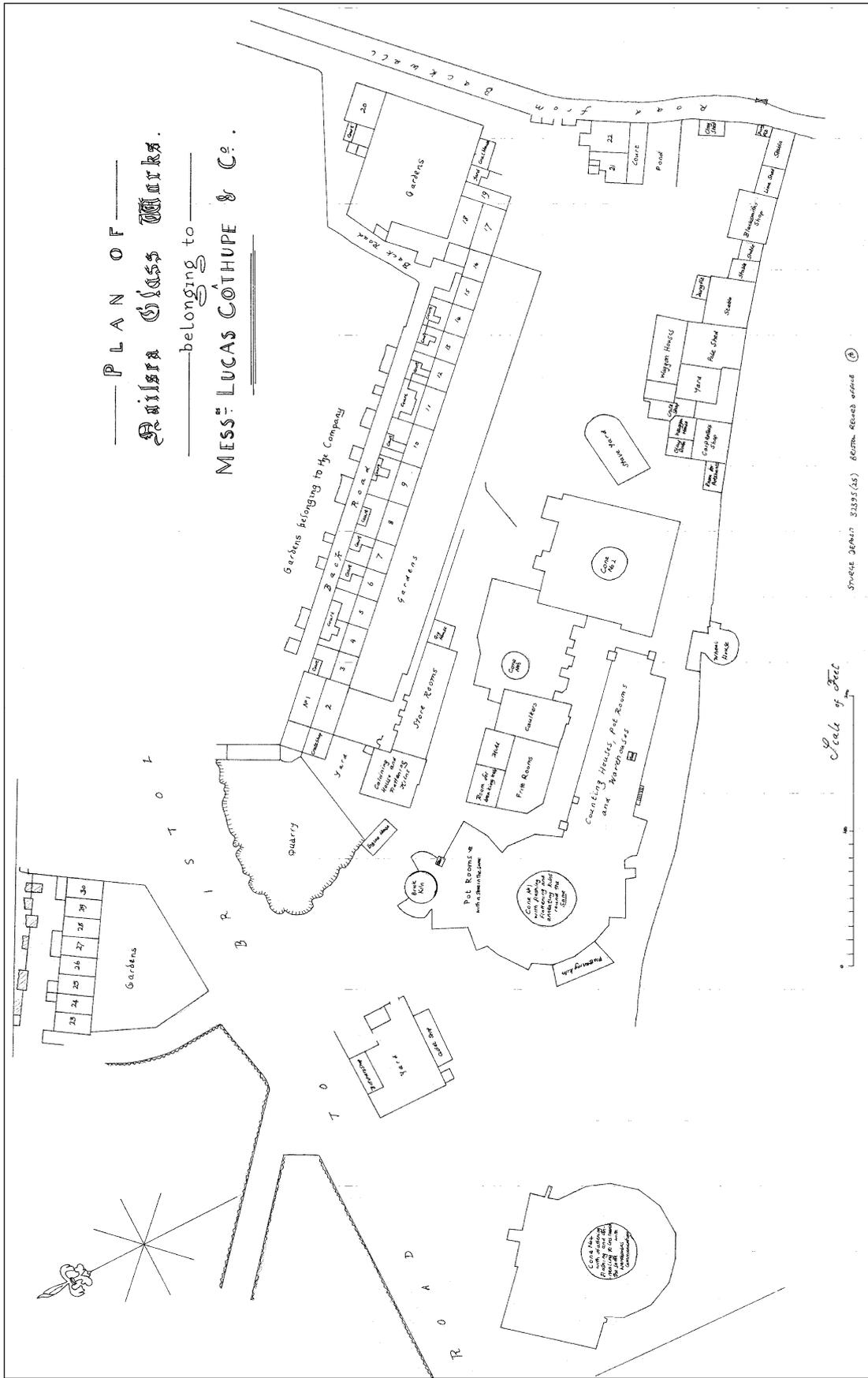


Figure 1.7: 1830s Plan [BRO Sturge Deposit 32395(25)]
 1-14

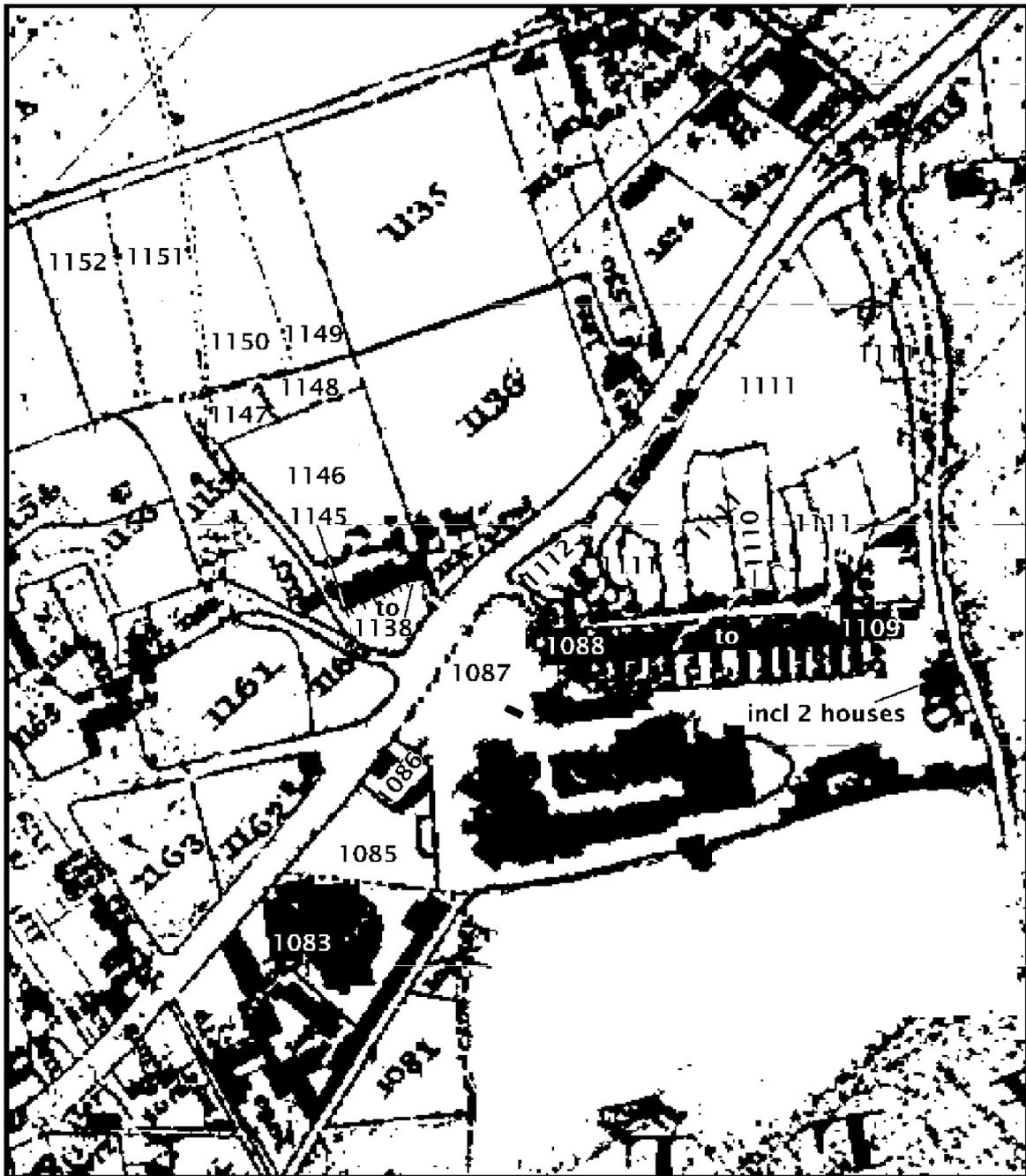


Figure 1.8: Extract from 1840 Tithe Map (courtesy SRO)

5.40 An abstract for the relevant part of the 1840 Tithe Map and Apportionment for Nailsea is summarised in the table below. (Also see Figure 1.8 above - the quality is not good despite some “cleaning up” because the maps are now on microfiche to eliminate any further wear on the originals; some numbers have been replaced for clarity.) The walls between 1085, 1086 and 1087, and to the south-west of the New House Cone only appear on the tithe maps. The open rectangle on the west side of the first-mentioned wall, while on exactly the same alignment as {17} and {18} on the 1870 plan, is slightly further north than the later building, although they do overlap. An extract from the 1844 version is shown as Figure 1.9, below.