



Trent & Peak
ARCHAEOLOGY

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT OF
THE BULL'S HEAD INN SITE
AT HANFORD, STOKE-ON-TRENT,
STAFFORDSHIRE**



The University of
Nottingham

**An Archaeological
Desk-based Assessment of
the Bull's Head Inn site at
Hanford, Stoke-on-Trent,
Staffordshire**

A report for Avery Healthcare Ltd

*by
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SUMMARY

- Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA), University of Nottingham, was commissioned in July 2010 by Avery Healthcare Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site of the Bull's Head Inn, situated at the junction of New Inn Lane and Bankhouse Road at Hanford, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. It is centred at Ordnance Survey Grid Reference SJ 8680 4201.
- The site is a crossroads position on the original road between Stone to Newcastle-under-Lyme. A former public house and adjoining buildings once occupied part of the site and these were replaced in 1938 by the present building, an inter-war roadhouse. It is now proposed to demolish the existing building for a new development. As well as the architectural and social interest of the existing building there is potential below-ground archaeology relating to possible earlier use of the overall site. A separate Level 1 record of the existing building is also being made.
- The site lies about 250m east of the River Trent on a raised area above its floodplain. The site is just down-slope from the 125m O.D. contour line. The underlying geology consists of mudstones, siltstones and sandstone that weathers to clay towards the surface. Tiles and firebricks were previously made in the area. The geology includes coal that has been mined at depths of 430-1050m.
- Few prehistoric spot finds are known from the area, suggesting a negligible potential for evidence of prehistoric activity being encountered on the site.
- Although there are few Roman finds from the area, the original road from Stone to Newcastle-under-Lyme may be of Roman origin and there is a low-moderate chance that traces of this road may survive within the eastern margins of the site.
- Hanford is mentioned in Domesday Book in 1086 but the actual position of the early village of Hanford is not clear as no trace of it has been identified. It is assumed to have been on high ground south of the river crossing but 18th century maps suggest that Hanford was situated south-east of the bridge, and probably closer to where a cluster of medieval finds have been recovered, well to the north-east of the study area.
- The road Stone to Newcastle road is thought to have been part of the medieval route from London to Carlisle and to have passed through Hanford (and by the site), crossing the Trent at Hanford Bridge. Field pattern evidence suggests that the road may have once run in a more southerly direction from the study area, and was diverted eastwards when Trentham Park was laid out. This earlier route may have passed through the east part of the site. Part of the route from Stone was diverted westwards in c.1600 but it continued past the study area until the 1830s, when a more direct route to Hanford Bridge was opened. Made a turnpike in 1714, this will have eventually provided a good reason for the founding of a public house to cater for passing traffic on an important routeway.

- Deeds for the site exist going back to 1738 when it was owned by the Corbett family. The site was probably occupied by a farm for much of the 18th century and the farmhouse converted into the Bull's Head Inn, possibly in the 1790s. Other buildings were used for stabling for a possible coaching inn. The site was sold to the Marquis of Stafford in c.1811, and again to Samuel Allsopp & Sons Ltd in 1914.
- After the demolition of the old public house, a new building was opened on the 2nd September 1938, to the south of the earlier building, whose former position now lies beneath the widened crossroad. Designed in Tudor style by Ind Coupe and Allsopp's architect W. Blair, the *Newcastle Times* described the new building as being 'the most remarkable hotel for miles around.' Locals apparently referred to it as 'Ye Old Coaching House No. 3.' It has since been extended to the rear and original leaded windows only survive in the east gable end. The rest of the exterior and most of the ground floor area are as originally built and decorated. Although not listed it is sufficiently intact to warrant a status of being a building of local interest.
- Regarding the archaeological potential of the site, a sizeable part of the study area was affected by the construction of the new building in 1938. In addition to site clearance, the digging of wall foundations and services, a large part of its footprint is underlain by cellarage. Plans of the earlier Bull's Head also show cellarage existed then. Although the footprint of the earlier public house now lies outside the study area, other buildings and yards associated with the public house (and former farm) lay within the north and east parts of the site, where traces of post-medieval archaeology probably still remain, although there is also likely to be much demolition material present.

The Bull's Head Inn site at Hanford, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire

An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment

R. Sheppard

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 In July 2010 Trent & Peak Archaeology (TPA), University of Nottingham, was commissioned by Avery Healthcare Ltd to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment of the site of the Bull's Head Inn, situated at the junction of New Inn Lane and Bankhouse Road at Hanford, to the south of Stoke-on-Trent in Staffordshire (Figure 1). The site is a crossroads position on the original road between Stone to Newcastle-under-Lyme. A public house and adjoining farm buildings are known to have occupied parts of the site since at least the 18th century. They were replaced in 1938 by the present building which is described as an inter-war roadhouse. It is now proposed to demolish the existing building for a new development. As well as the architectural and social interest of the existing building there is potential below-ground archaeology relating to possible earlier use of the overall site. This report is made in conjunction with a separate Level 1 record of the existing building. The site is centred at Ordnance Survey Grid reference SJ 8680 4201.
- 1.1.2 This desk-based assessment considers the potential cultural heritage of the site, hereafter referred to as 'the study area'. In this assessment cultural heritage comprises archaeological remains and standing historic buildings set within the historic landscape.
- 1.1.3 The aims of this assessment are:
- To identify and assess the known cultural heritage
 - To determine the potential for previously unknown remains
- 1.1.4 This assessment was undertaken following the best practice and guidance contained in:
- Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (1994, revised September 2001 and October 2008).

1.2 Policy Context

- 1.2.1 As recommended by the IfA *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment* (1994, revised September 2001 and October 2008), the policy context of the desktop assessment is highlighted below.

National Policy

- 1.2.2 At a national level planning policies on the conservation of the historic environment (including all Heritage Assets) are set out the recently published PPS 5 (March 2010) which replaces PPG15 & 16. Relevant policies in regard to the provision of a desk based assessment include:

HE6: Information Requirements for Applications for Consent Affecting Heritage Assets.

HE6.1 Local planning authorities should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the heritage asset and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the significance of the heritage asset. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets themselves should have been assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary given the application's impact. Where an application site includes, or is considered to have the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation.

HE6.2 This information together with an assessment of the impact of the proposal should be set out in the application (within the design and access statement when this is required) as part of the explanation of the design concept. It should detail the sources that have been considered and the expertise that has been consulted. **HE6.3** Local planning authorities should not validate applications where the extent of the impact of the proposal on the significance of any heritage assets affected cannot adequately be understood from the application and supporting documents.

Local Policy

- 1.2.3 The following extracts outline the relevant local policy from the adopted Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Structure Plan 1996-2011. Explanatory Memorandum. Saved Policies.

Sites of Archaeological Importance

NC14: Proposals for development or land use change affecting sites of known or potential archaeological importance, and their settings, will be considered in the light of information held by the County or City Councils. Where necessary, developers will be required to supplement this information with the results of desk-based assessments and field evaluations before any decision on the planning application is taken. Where the planning authority decides on the basis of professional advice that archaeological remains are not sufficiently important to warrant physical preservation in situ, developers will be required to make appropriate and satisfactory provision for the excavation and recording of the remains prior to development, and for the publication of the results.

9.37: *Given the nature of archaeological remains, sufficient information is required to enable a thorough evaluation to be made of the value of any remains, and to inform the planning authority in the determination of the planning application. Information on sites of archaeological interest is held in the County and City Sites and Monuments Records, which are continuously updated to record new information as it becomes available. Desk-based assessments and field evaluations must take place before any decision is taken on an application, and it is therefore essential that the possibility of the presence of*

archaeological constraints be considered at an early stage. Monitoring of the site should continue throughout the implementation period. In determining the importance of any individual site, there may be instances where its value is greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments or with sites of a different period. The above policy applies to all sites of known or potential importance, whether of national importance or not.

9.38: When considering the impact of development upon any of these sites, it will be necessary to take into account the impact on the site and its setting which may occur from development nearby.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Site Background

2.1.1 The study area is situated at the south corner of the junction of New Inn Lane and Bankhouse Road at Hanford, south of Stoke-on-Trent in Staffordshire (Figure 1). The site is roughly triangular in shape and is occupied by a public house, a small outlying garage and former WC, a raised garden area and tarmac-covered car parking areas (Figure 13). The site lies on high ground to the east of the River Trent.

2.1.2 It is currently proposed to demolish the existing structures and use the site for redevelopment. This work will entail intrusive ground-works which will impact upon any surface and below ground archaeology that may exist on the site.

2.2 Topography/Geology

2.2.1 The site lies about 250m east of the River Trent on a raised area above its floodplain, where the river runs roughly north to south. The site is just down-slope from the 125m O.D. contour line, with the highest local point of 129m O.D. on a school playing field about 300m to the south.

2.2.2 The underlying geology is Upper Carboniferous rock (British Geological Survey Stoke-on-Trent. England and Wales Sheet 123. Solid Edition. 1:50,000 Series. 1994). This consists of mudstones, siltstones and Hanchurch sandstone, together with seams of coal of the Westphalian and Stephanian Coalfield that have been mined at depths of 430-1050m up until c.1977. The geology weathers to clay towards the surface and has been exploited nearby in the last two centuries for the making of tiles and firebricks.

3. METHODOLOGY

3.1 Assessment Methodology

The archaeological potential of the study area was assessed using the following methods:

Documentary & Cartographic Sources

A rapid search was made for relevant published works, maps and documents held at Hallward Library, University of Nottingham and at the Access to Archives website. This gave access to Gateway to the Past, the online catalogue of the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Archive Service, the William Salt Library and the Staffordshire Arts and Museum Service. Following this, published works, maps and documents (mostly from the Sutherland-Leveson-Gower estate collection) were consulted at the Staffordshire Record Office, and other printed sources consulted at the William Salt Library in Stafford (see Appendix A for results of search).

Stoke-on-Trent Sites and Monuments Record

The Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) / Historic Environment Record (HER) held by Stoke-on-Trent City Council was consulted for any relevant data for the surrounding area around the study area. This resulted in the listing of 15 sites where archaeological finds have either been made, where there are known historic structures, sites known from documentary evidence or where archaeological watching briefs or evaluations have occurred (Appendix B). The only known listed buildings within the vicinity is the Church of St. Matthias, the structure of which mostly dates from a rebuild in the 1860s.

National Monument Record On-line Database

The English Heritage online database of archaeological sites (Pastscape, comprising over 400,000 records) was consulted but all references to Hanford were found to relate to Hanford in Dorset.

Aerial Photographs

Indexes of aerial photographs held in the collections of the National Monument Record (NMR) at Swindon were consulted by requesting a priority search for entries within a 500 metre radius of the centre of the study area. The NMR cover search contained reference to 27 vertical photographs which were potentially relevant. Copies of five of these were obtained for detailed study; a sixth one ordered was unavailable. See Appendix C for the full listing. The cover search indicated that no military obliques of this area are held by the NMR.

Walkover survey

The site was visited as a separate building record is also a requirement of planning permission and both the building and its surroundings were examined and photographed.

Geotechnical Data

A phase 1 desk-based study of the geology and ground conditions of the site carried out by Analytical Geotechnics Ltd was provided by the client. This recommended the carrying out of a second phase intrusive investigation of the site but no information about this or whether it has occurred has been provided.

3.2 Report Structure

Section 1. Introduces the study area and the policy context of the assessment.

Section 2. Outlines the site background and geology.

Section 3. Outlines the assessment methodology and report structure.

Section 4. Reviews the geotechnical data of the study area.

Section 5. Reviews the archaeological / cultural potential of the study area.

Section 6. Summarises and highlights the findings of the survey.

Section 7. Lists the references cited in the main body of the report.

Illustrations: Figures

Illustrations: Plates

Appendix A: Results of Documentary Search.

Appendix B: List of SMR / HER entries.

Appendix C: Results of Aerial Photograph search at NMR Swindon.

4. GEOTECHNICAL DATA

- 4.1** The results of any intrusive investigation of the site to provide detailed geotechnical data were not available for this assessment. A non-intrusive desk-based study of the site by Analytical Geotechnics (see reference section) concluded that the site had no evidence of site contamination or movement due to underlying coal exploitation. Some build-up of demolition material could be expected in the north-east part of the site.

5. ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

5.1 Prehistoric period

- 5.1.1 There is little recorded evidence for probable Prehistoric activity in the general area, despite the proximity of the River Trent, which elsewhere along its valley often acted as a focus for prehistoric land use.
- 5.1.2 No cropmarks appear on aerial photographs that show that part of the floodplain closest to the study area (e.g. Plate 1). A curious semi-circular pattern showing on aerial photographs in an area south of the study area may be indicative of a prehistoric boundary, or may be a geological feature (Plate 1). No positive conclusions can be made about this without further investigation or analysis.
- 5.1.3 A stone macehead (now lost) of general prehistoric origin is recorded from close to the west bank of the River Trent, at a point north-west of the study area (SMR 10783-MSR51; 7 on Figure 2). Some distance to the east of this a fragment of a Bronze Age sword of Ewart Park type was found by a metal detector user in 1996 (SMR 30109-MSR291; 8 on Figure 2). It was found to conjoin with a sword tip found previously 3 miles away in Trentham Park. In both cases the pieces were found on hill tops, suggesting some ritual purpose to their deposition.
- 5.1.4 The number of finds and lack of known features of this period in the area suggests that there is a negligible potential that evidence of Prehistoric activity will be encountered on the site.

5.2 Later Iron Age / Romano-British period

- 5.2.1 There is some recorded evidence for possible Romano-British activity in the general area. A Roman coin was found to the south near Trentham, close to New Inn Lane (SMR 02195-MSR71; 10 on Figure 2) and a possible roman bracelet was found to the north close to the River Trent (SMR 30055-MSR248; 9 on Figure 2). It is also reported that a Roman lamp dish was found somewhere in Hanford in 1957 (Cockin 2000, 232), but its present whereabouts is unknown.
- 5.2.2 It has been suggested that the old road from Stone to Newcastle, that passes through Hanford (and of which New Inn Lane may be part of) may date from Roman times (Cockin 2000, quoting Margery Vol 2, 27-28). Some evidence for this was reputedly found in the 19th century at Trentham Ley (Cockin 2000 quoting Steed 1994, 15). Although the general course of this road is variable it does include some straight stretches, such as the length from Hanford Bridge towards Newcastle under Lyme.
- 5.2.3 The small number of finds, the lack of known features of this period and the still unknown origin of the road through Hanford that passes the site (or possibly passes through the eastern side of the site – see below) suggests that there is still

only a low potential that evidence of Romano-British activity will be encountered on the site.

5.3 Anglo-Saxon / Medieval Period

- 5.3.1 No finds of Anglo-Saxon date are recorded in proximity to the study area.
- 5.3.2 A small cluster of Medieval finds is known from the far end of Wilson Road, to the north-east of the site (SMR 30049-MSR231, 30050-MSR232, 30052-MSR234; 11, 12 on Figure 2, and just east of 12 respectively). Medieval features, probably field ditches, have also been found during excavations in this same area (SMR 30046-MSR229; 13 on Figure 2).
- 5.3.3 No ridge and furrow, a relict feature of medieval farm practice common in the Midlands, is known from the area and none show in aerial photographs of the area around the study area.
- 5.3.4 The existence of Hanford in the 11th century is recorded in the Domesday Book of 1086. The entry states: *The same Richard holds Heneford and Nigel holds from him. There is 1 virgate of land. There is land for 1 plough. It is waste. Toulf held it. There is wood of medium timber 20 perches in length and breadth. It is worth 2 shillings* (Moxon 1972 Vol. 2, 521). Hanford was part of Richard Forester's Domesday estate held under him by Nigel de Stafford. Previous to that it belonged to Toulf, a Saxon. In 1086 it was largely waste, with woodland covering only one eighth of an acre (WSAS 1909, Vol. 12, 71). There is nothing in Domesday Book to suggest a flourishing settlement at Hanford and no mention of a church.
- 5.3.5 Hanford is mentioned again in 1212 and 1234 as Honeford, in 1250 as Hanneford and in 1299 as Honfort; the latter is the only instance of a variation from the 'ford' element within its name. In the Subsidy Roll of 1327 it was called Handford, a spelling that persisted until quite late (Horovitz 2005, 297).
- 5.3.6 The original meaning of the place name is unclear. The place stands on a hill, near foot of which the Trent is crossed by what is said to be an ancient road. One authority has suggested that the name means 'Hana's ford', but that the ancient road association may possibly make it a derivation from the Welsh of 'henffordd,' meaning old road, replaced road (Horovitz 2005, 297). Other versions are that it comes from the Anglo-Saxon 'heanford,' meaning high ford (Cockin 2000 quoting Duignan), or that the first element may mean 'hana,' cock of wild birds, or 'han,' stone or hone, thus making it cock's or stone ford (Cockin 2000, quoting Mills).
- 5.3.7 Hanford eventually passed into Delves family and in the 1460s John de Delves owned it. The Hunts family was also connected to it between 1299-1621, according to documents known as Fines. In the early 16th century the manor was associated with one Thomas Entwissell and Katherine his wife, a kinswoman (WSAS 1909, Vol. 12, 71). It was later subsumed within the parish of Trentham

- as one of six townships. It became an ecclesiastical parish much later in 1832, following the opening of the church of St Matthias five years earlier.
- 5.3.8 The actual position of the early village of Hanford is not clear as no trace of it has been identified. It is assumed to have been alongside what is now called Mayne Street, on high ground south of the river crossing. The SMR suggests it was relatively close to the river (1 on Figure 2). This is some distance from the study area. However, 18th century maps indicate that Hanford was separate from and situated south or south-east of the bridge, and probably closer to where medieval finds have been recovered. This is still some distance from the study area.
- 5.3.9 Although a relatively small scale map Gough's Map of c.1360 shows that the medieval highway from London to Carlisle followed the old Holyhead Road into north Staffordshire. The course ran through Canwell, Lichfield, Rugeley, Wolseley Bridge, then followed the Trent up its east bank through Barlaston to Hanford, then on to Newcastle (Greenslade and Stuart 1984, 91). The course of this road from Stone northwards to Hanford and beyond to Newcastle shows clearly on maps from the 18th century onwards and still exists today. The name 'Old Road' is frequently mentioned in Barlaston parish registers from at least 1724 with reference to the same road about one mile north-east of Barlaston at SJ8839 (Horovitz 2005, 297). The name Barlaston Old Road is still in use today, continuing northwards as New Inn Lane and Mayne Street. As mentioned above, a Roman origin to this road has been surmised.
- 5.3.10 There is some reason though to suspect that the original course of the road has been altered as it approaches the study area. The former field pattern to the south of it, as seen on aerial photographs, follows a straightish line, with a possible double line showing in one field - see Plates 1, 2, where it is highlighted by dotted lines. This could be the original line of the road, preserved as field boundaries, and shown as a footway on a plan of 1838 (Fig. 10). This diversion may have been made when Trentham Park was originally laid out, as it extended east of the River Trent into what was called Trentham Ley. When this occurred is uncertain, but it probably followed the acquisition of the Trentham Priory lands by the Leveson family in the 16th century. The original course of the road would have taken it closer to the river and possibly the suggested site of Trentham Castle (*Castello de Trentham*) an alleged site recorded in the Pipe Rolls of 1168, whose position near the east bank of the River Trent at SJ 8673 4115 is suggested by the name Castle Field that appears on an estate map of 1714 (Burne 1912-13 quoted on Pastscape). The site is now under the A34 road.
- 5.3.11 If this is the original course of the old road, part of it may have run through the east side of the study area (Fig. 17). There is a moderate chance that traces of it may survive under a raised garden area.

5.4. Post Medieval Period

- 5.4.1 Hanford was significant enough a settlement in the 16th century to appear on early maps, such as Saxton's map of 1577 (Fig. 3) and Kip's map of 1607-10 (Fig. 4), where it appears along with Stoke, Fenton, Knutton and Trentham. Such early maps show rivers but not roads, so the supposed early road through Hanford does not appear.
- 5.4.2 According to Erdeswicke's Survey of 1593 (quoted in Broughton 1827, 79) 'Thomas Corbett, a gentleman, hath now (1593) seated himself in Handford.' The Corbett family was to remain in control of most of the Hanford area until the early 19th century.
- 5.4.3 The course of the London to Carlisle (and Scotland) road between Stone and Hanford changed in c.1600, moving from the low-lying east bank of Trent at Barlaston to higher ground on the west by Tittensor (Greenslade and Jenkins, 1967, 278). This new line followed the west side of the River Trent for some distance, with additional crossings at Darlaston and Strongford. North of Trentham village it continued up Bankhouse Road, past the study area and down Mayne Street to Hanford Bridge.
- 5.4.4 The new stretch of the road crossed the Trent in three places within a distance of 6 miles. Until 1663 the Darlaston bridge was only a horse bridge, the Strongford Bridge only 6 feet wide (until converted into a 'cart bridge' in 1709 and Hanford Bridge was probably similar (ditto, 279). The Hanford Bridge had at least three arches by late 17th century, with the Stoke parish boundary said to run through the middle one (ditto, 178).
- 5.4.5 The road was made into a turnpike in 1714. Its route shows on 18th century maps (Figs 5, 6), and on Yates's maps of 1775/1798 it is shown passing the Bull's Head Inn site, where buildings occupying the study area are shown for the first time (Fig. 7). Documents in the Sutherland-Leveson-Gower estate collection include indentures (deeds of conveyance) relating to the site and land immediately to the south that date from 1738 (SRO refs D593/B/1/10/1/2 and D593/B/1/10/2). In that year the landowner Mr John Corbett made Mr Townsend a tenant to the premises. Other agreements based on the lease and release practice common up until 1841 (where a freeholder could lease land, usually for short periods, to an occupier who had entered it by a deed of grant - a Release - holding for himself or herself a future interest through a Reversion) date from 1762, 1763, 1765 and 1767.
- 5.4.6 In 1767 John Corbett of Handford Bank, yeoman, sold a Dwelling House or tenement pieces or parcels of land to Thomas Corbett, Gent. This is the first precise mention of buildings on the site, although buildings are indirectly implied in previous papers. In 1793 a lease of possession was made by owner William Corbett to Mrs Hannah Beeston (widow). It is possible that at this point an existing farmhouse was adapted into a public house, exploiting its position adjacent to the turnpike road.

- 5.4.7 In 1799 a lease of possession was made by Mrs Beeston and Mr Thomas Corbett, Gent. to Mr John Emery, Gent. This referred to a *Messuage Dwelling House or Tenement situate standing and being in Handford aforesaid in the parish of Trentham which is now used as a Public House and commonly known as the Sign of the Bull's Head. And also all the Close piece of parcels of Land ...* Said premises were also stated to be late in possession of John Corbett and were now in the possession of Edward Taylor.
- 5.4.8 In 1804 the title to two closes of land at Handford were purchased from Mr Thomas Corbett by the Marquis of Stafford. This included one messuage, two stables, two barns, two gardens, 5 acres of land, 5 acres of meadow, 5 acres of pasture and Common of Pastures. At the same time the Bull's Head, now an established public house, was put up for sale separately by auction (Plate 3). Although the Marquis of Stafford tried to buy the Bull's Head, it appears that a certain John Wainwright of Burslem, victualler, took out a £400 mortgage to purchase the Bull's Head, with stable yard and garden. Put up for sale again in 1810 (and advertised in the *Staffordshire Advertiser*) it was sold a year later to the Marquis of Stafford for £900. However, as late as 1820, Ann Corbett finally released any final interest in the site in a separate agreement.
- 5.4.9 The course of the turnpike road along Bank House Road and Mayne Street was finally altered in the 1830s, with a new stretch of road built to allow a more direct route along the river valley to Hanford Bridge. This can be seen on the left side of Figure 10, part of a township plan of 1838. Alternative routes had been proposed in 1836, including a new turnpike running east of Hanford, but this was never built (Fig. 9). With this development the Bull's Head Inn no longer benefited from direct passing trade.
- 5.4.10 Figure 10 shows the Bull's Head Inn and two detached buildings to the south. The Sutherland-Leveson-Gower estate collection includes undated plans which show the public house actually attached to a complex of buildings extending to the south-east. The public house may have started as a farmhouse and one plan may show the proposed changes to this function (Fig. 11). Other plans show now attached buildings extending south-eastwards from the inn (Fig. 12). Three more plans may date from the 1880-90s as the name Bate is mentioned, and this may be Mrs Elizabeth Ann Bate (or her late husband), who is listed in Kelly's Directory of 1896 at the Bull's Head and who was a farmer as well as a landlord. The buildings clearly housed animals that included pigs (Fig. 13).
- 5.4.11 Much of this complex of buildings, including the inn itself, lay just north of the study area where the crossroad has since been widened (Fig. 16). Parts of the complex, possibly including several phases of farm or stable buildings, does lie within the study area, just north of the present building (Fig. 17). Some wall foundations, trenches, disposal pits etc may be expected to survive beneath parts of the site. There is thus a moderate-high potential for post-medieval archaeological evidence still being present on the site.

5.5. Modern Period

- 5.5.1 Following the death of the then Marquis of Stafford died in 1913, most of the Sutherland estate was sold off or disposed of. Trentham Hall itself was largely demolished. In 1914 the freehold of the public house known as the Bull's Head, Hanford was sold to Samuel Allsopp & Sons Ltd (SRO ref. D5569/1/47). The freehold of a field and garden adjoining the Bull's Head, Hanford, was sold to Robert John Furber of High Street, Hanford, licenced victualler (SRO ref. D5569/1/48).
- 5.5.2 Although a website about the site states that the public house was rebuilt in 1909 no corroborating evidence could be found for this. Ordnance Survey plans from 1890 onwards show that plan of the buildings did not change much between then and 1925 (Fig. 11). However, the site was completely altered by 1938 when the present building was opened by brewers Ind Coupe and Allsopp (Plate 5). The old public house was demolished and some of the former stables retained up until perhaps the 1950s. This new building is now referred to as an interwar roadhouse. It was both a public house and a hotel.
- 5.5.3 The opening of the new public house on the 2nd September 1938 was mentioned in the *Newcastle Times*, which described it as being 'the most remarkable hotel for miles around.' It was rebuilt in Tudor style 'half-timbered with characteristic ornamental gables and steep sloping roofs and tastefully tiled.' It was designed by Ind Coupe and Allsopp's own architect W. Blair. The company considered it to be 'one of their most magnificent buildings.' Locals apparently referred to it as 'Ye Old Coaching House No. 3' (Bebbington 2005, 49). This might suggest that the Bull's Head may have been rebuilt or significantly altered at some point in the past (No. 2).
- 5.5.4 The Bull's Head has been extended to the rear on at least two occasions with what may be deemed architecturally unsympathetic single-storey extensions, for an enlarged function room and modern kitchen and storage facilities. Only a single original leaded window now survive in the east gable end of the 1938 part of the building. Nevertheless, the rest of the exterior and most of the ground floor area are as originally built and decorated. Although not listed it is sufficiently intact to warrant a status of being a building of local interest.
- 5.5.5 A Level 1 record of the present building has been requested, following the principle of *preservation by record*. All parts of the building are accessible and thus can be recorded through photography. An existing ground plan also exists.

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1.1 Of the undisturbed part of the site there is a relatively low potential for encountering prehistoric, Roman, Anglo-Saxon or medieval remains on the site. Of these the most likely finds may relate to the suspected Roman or early road having once passed through the east of the site, or to a possible medieval occupation of the site, although the local evidence suggests otherwise. The site was probably first occupied as a farm in the post-medieval period.
- 6.1.2 Regarding the archaeological potential of the site, a sizeable part of the study area was affected by the construction of the new building in 1938. In addition to site clearance, the digging of wall foundations and services, a large part of its footprint is underlain by cellarage (Figure 17). Plans of the earlier Bull's Head also show cellarage existed then (Fig. 11). Nevertheless, the north and east parts of the site probably still retain traces of post-medieval archaeology, although there is also likely to be much demolition material overlaying this.

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ILLUSTRATIONS



Figure 1: Location of the Bull's Head Public House site in Hanford, south of Stoke-on-Trent in Staffordshire. Scale 1:25,000. (Ordnance Survey map reproduced with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Licence No. AL 100020618).

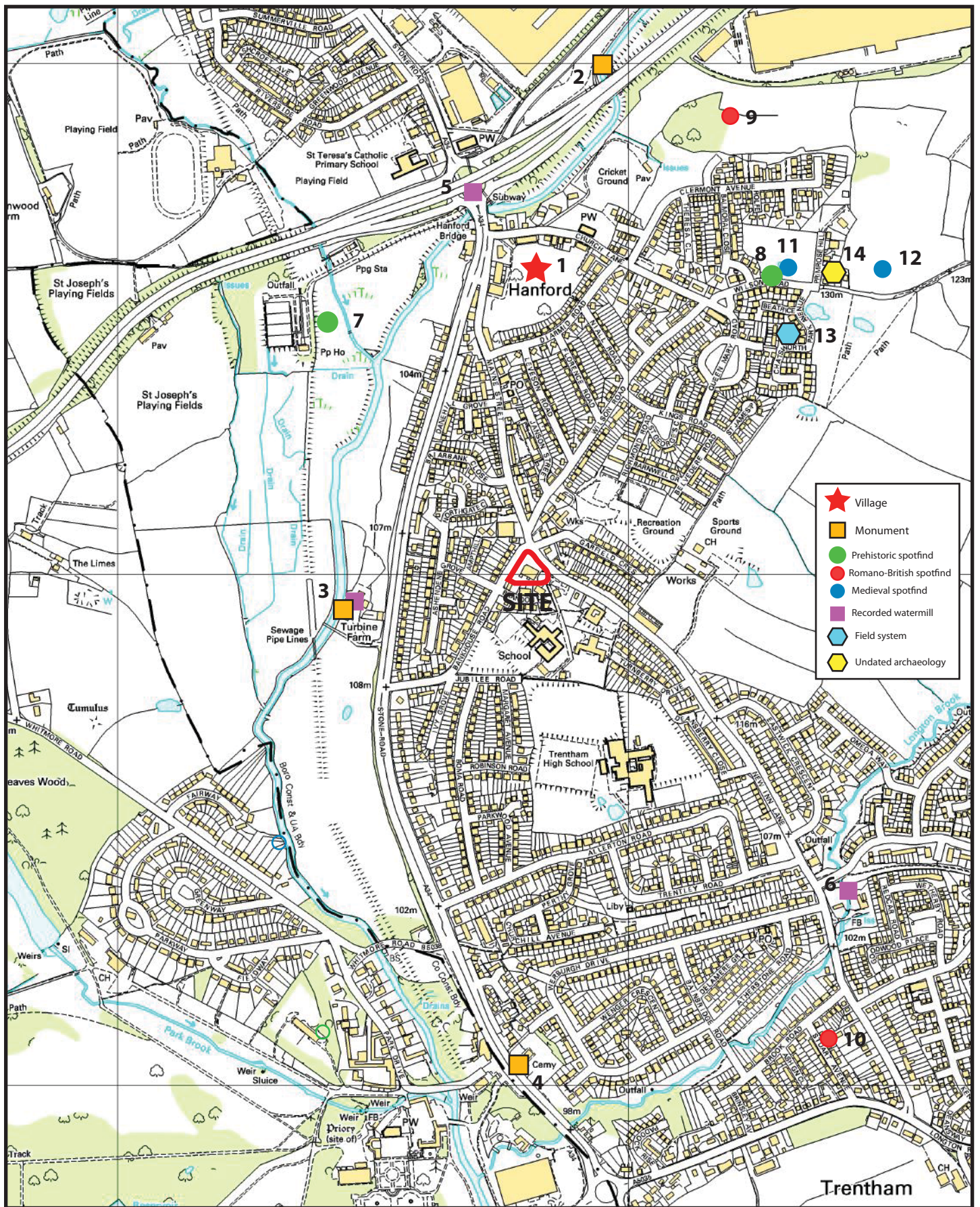


Figure 2: Entries in the Stoke-on-Trent Sites and Monuments Record within a 1 kilometre radius of the Bull's Head Public House site in Hanford, Staffordshire. Scale 1:10,000. (Ordnance Survey map reproduced with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Licence No. AL 100020618).



Figure 3: Hanford highlighted on part of Saxton's Map of Staffordshire, 1577.

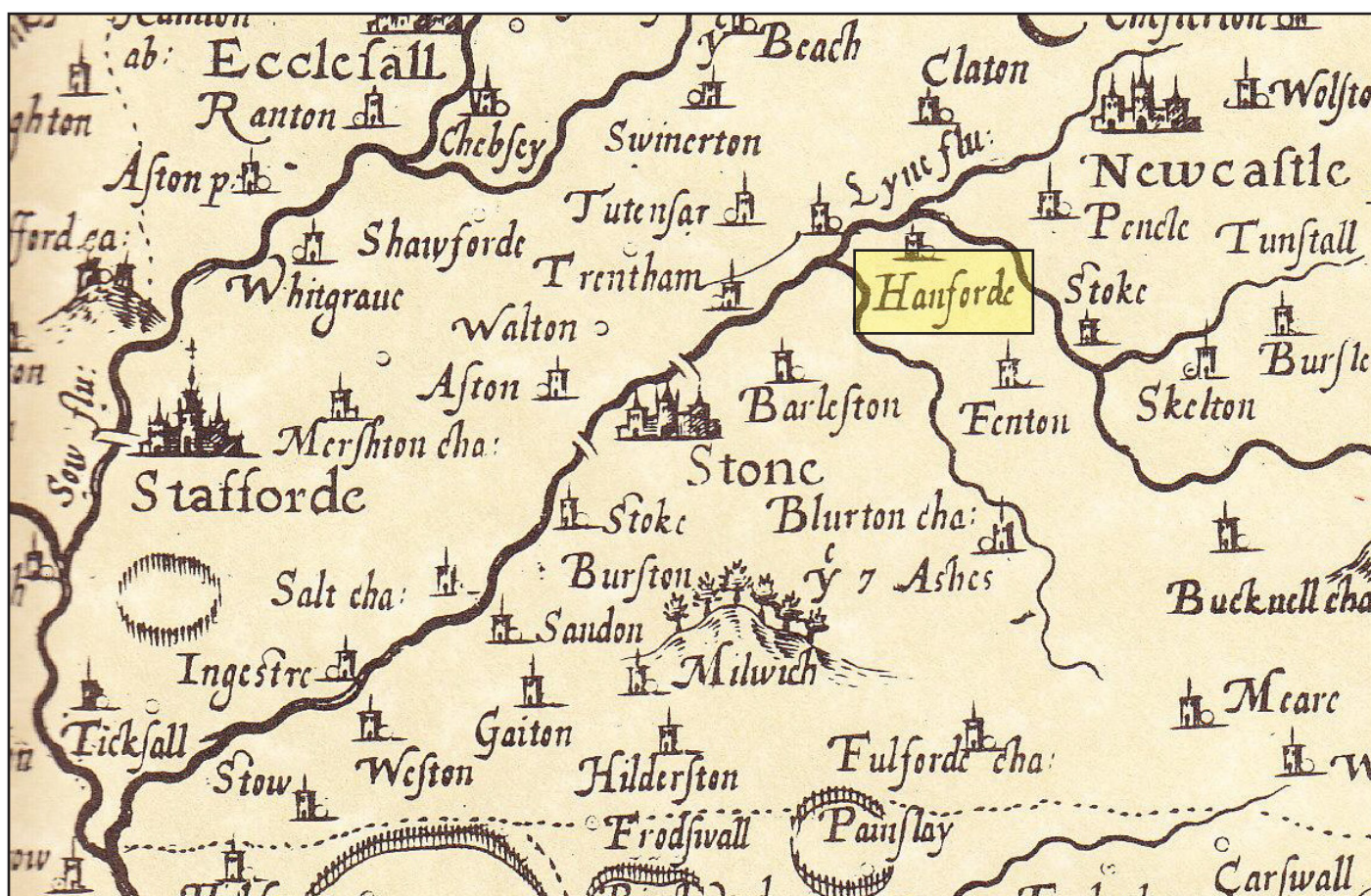


Figure 4: Hanford highlighted on part of Kip's map of Staffordshire, 1607-10. Reproduced by Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Archive Service.

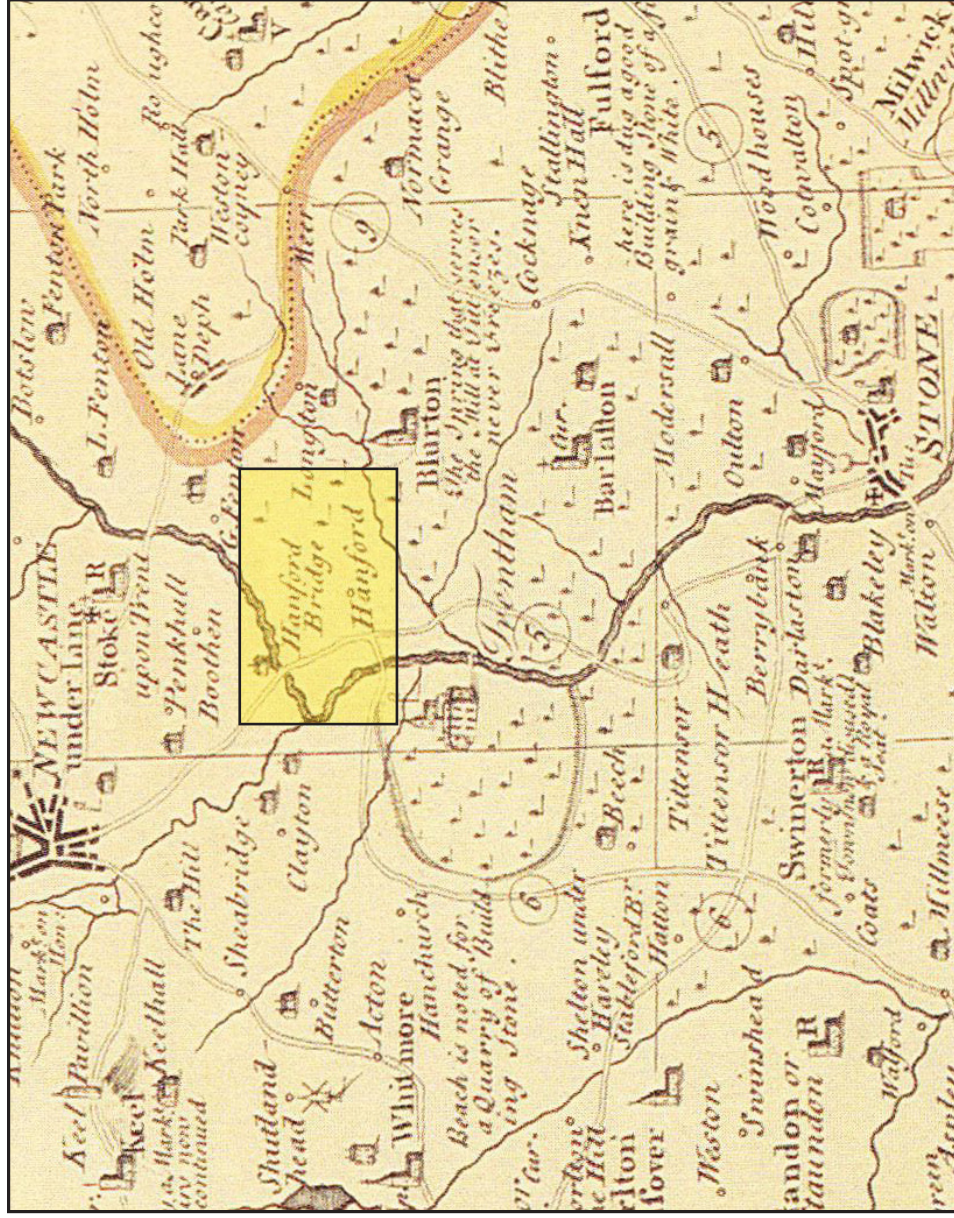


Figure 5: The Hanford area highlighted on part of E. Bowen's Map of Staffordshire c.1749. Reproduced by Staffordshire County Council Libraries, Arts & Archives.

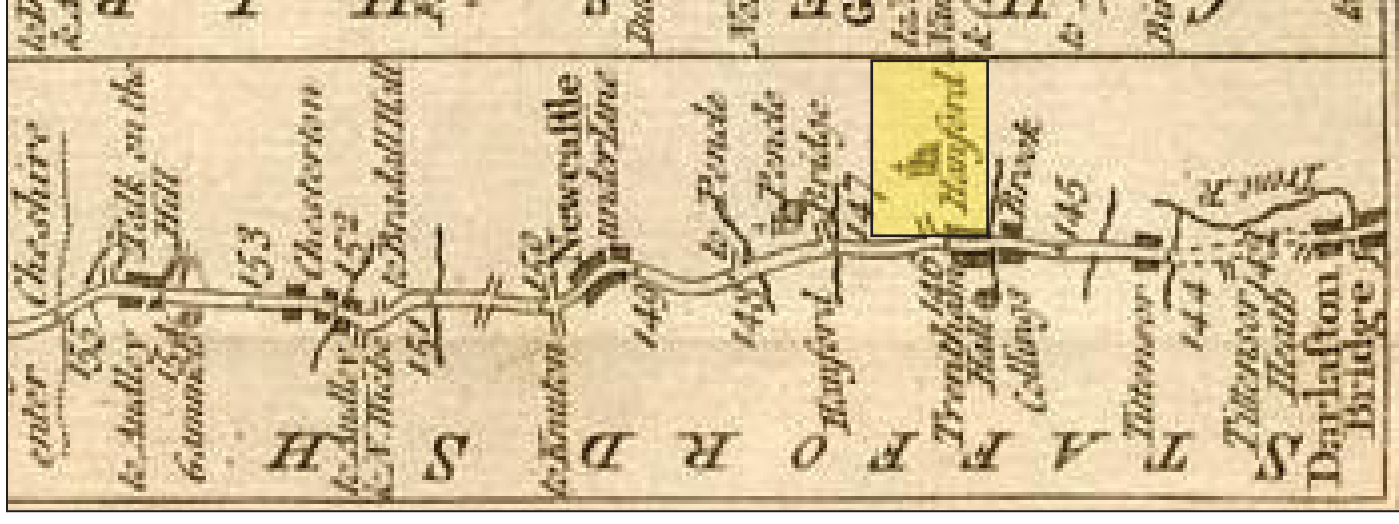


Figure 6: Hanford shown on part of J. Gibson's A Correct Map of the Road from London to Carlisle, commencing at Darlaston Bridge in the Chester Road, dated to 1766.

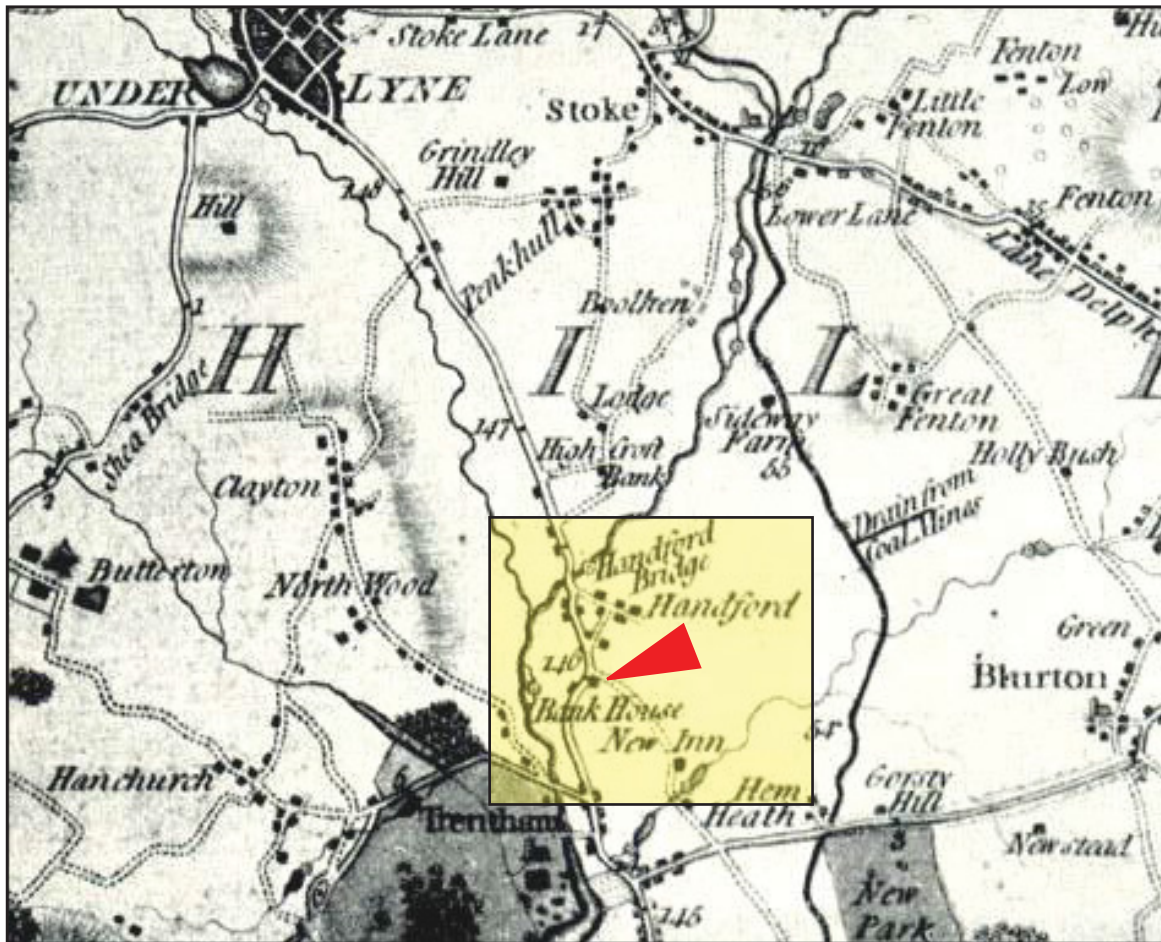


Figure 7: The Hanford area with buildings shown on the Bull's Head Inn site here highlighted on part of W. Yates's map *The County of Stafford*, from the *Improved Map in Six Sheets*, 1798.

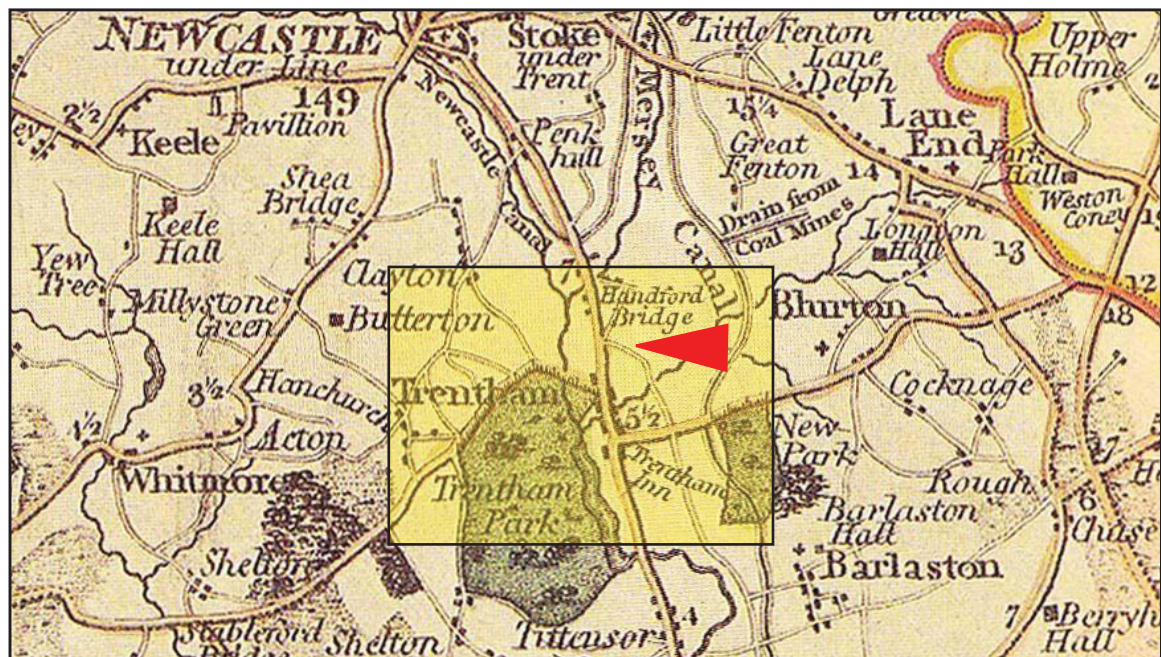


Figure 8: The Hanford area highlighted on part of C. Smith's *A New Map of the County of Stafford*, 1801. The Bull's Head Inn site is indicated by the arrow.

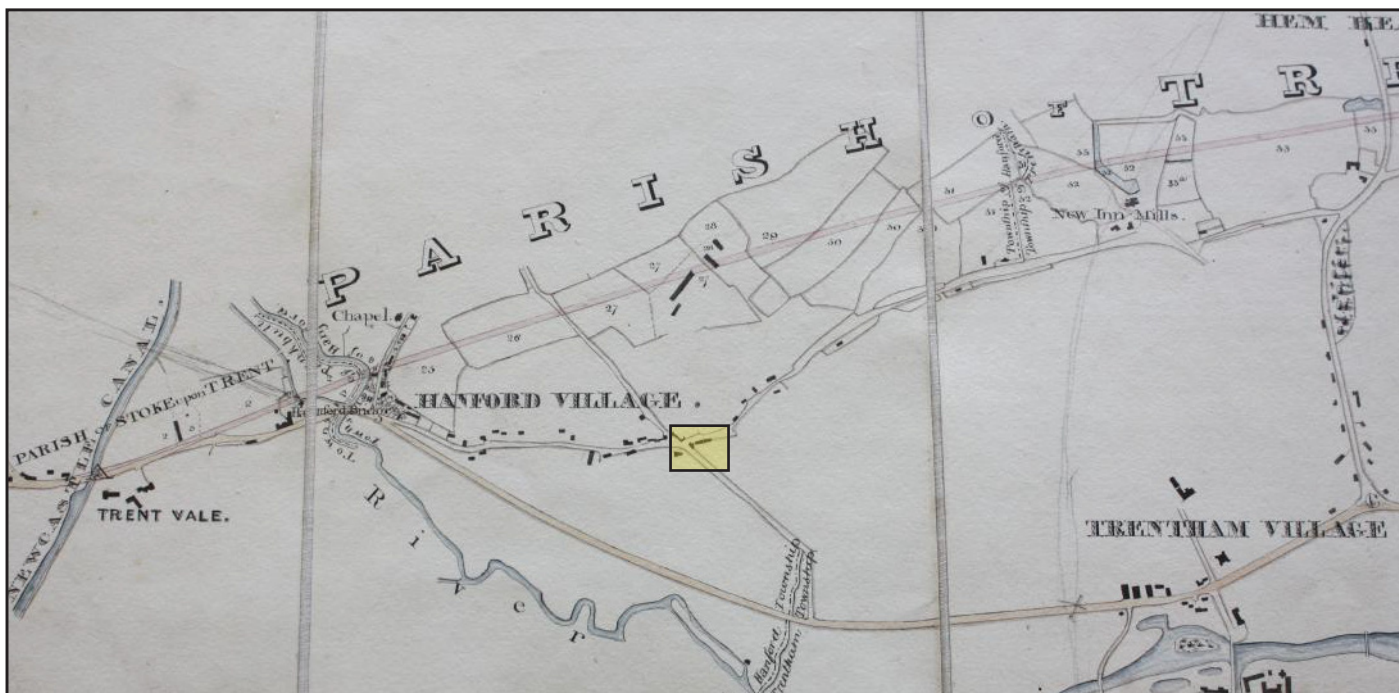


Figure 9: The Bull's Head Inn site at Hanford highlighted on part of a *Plan of Proposed Turnpike Road between Trent Vale and Berry Bank in the County of Stafford*, by Liddle Elliot, 1836. The site lies between the proposed new road (shown in pink) and the existing one (shown below in brown). © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/H/9/35.

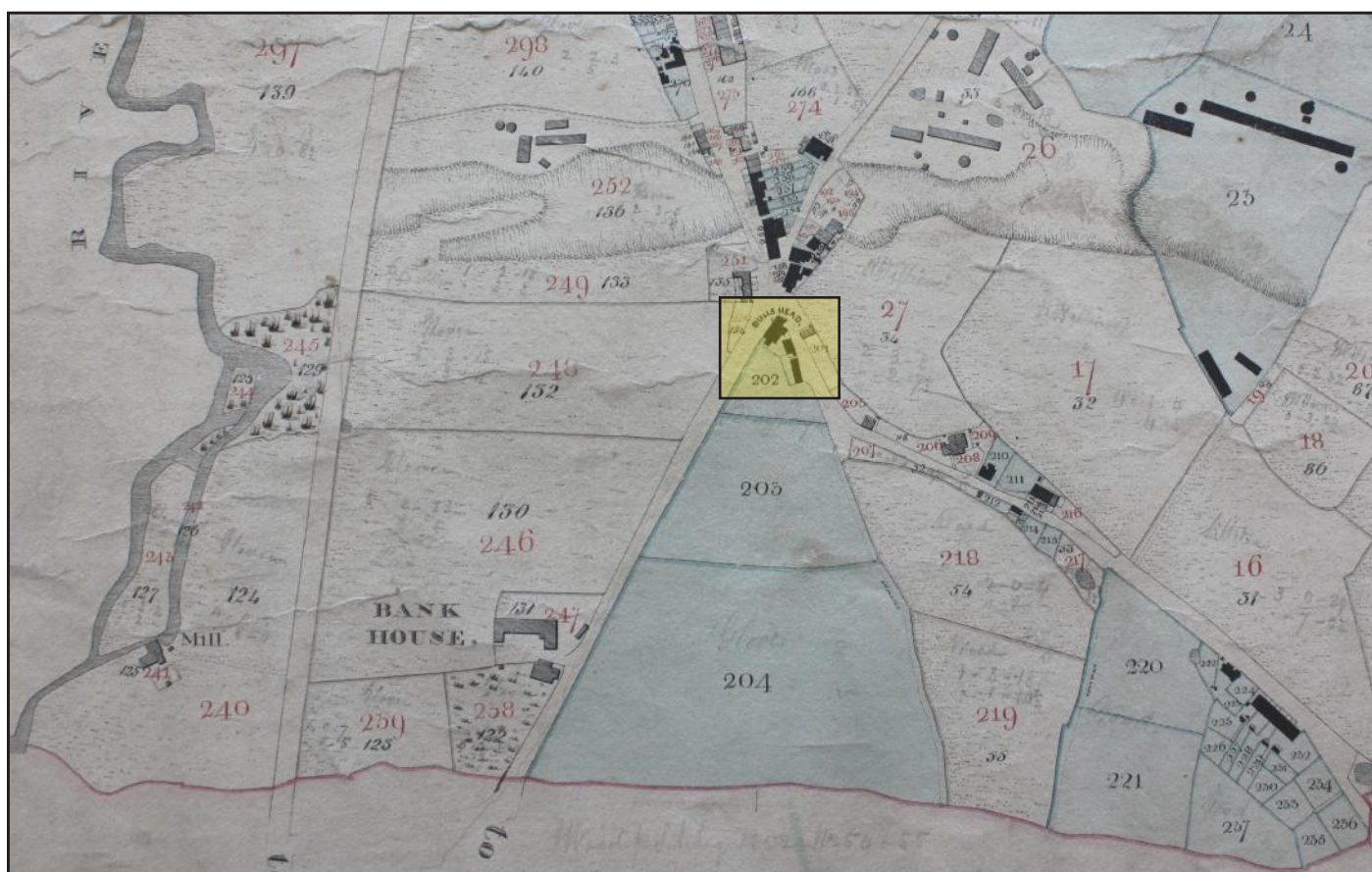


Figure 10: The Bull's Head Inn site at Hanford highlighted on a *Plan of the Township of Hanford in the Parish of Trentham in the County of Stafford*. Surveyed by Liddle Elliot in 1838. © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/H/3/101.

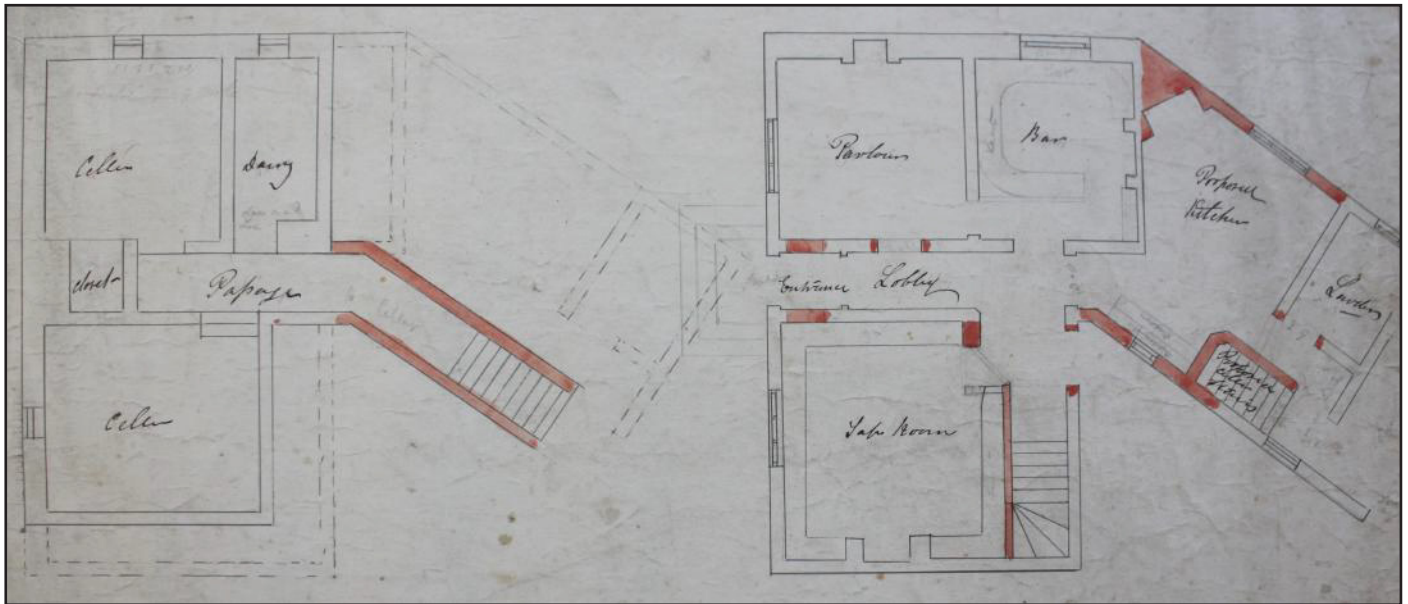


Figure 11: Undated drawing of the Bull's Head Inn, showing the cellar / basement level and the ground floor plan respectively. © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/H/12/2/46a.

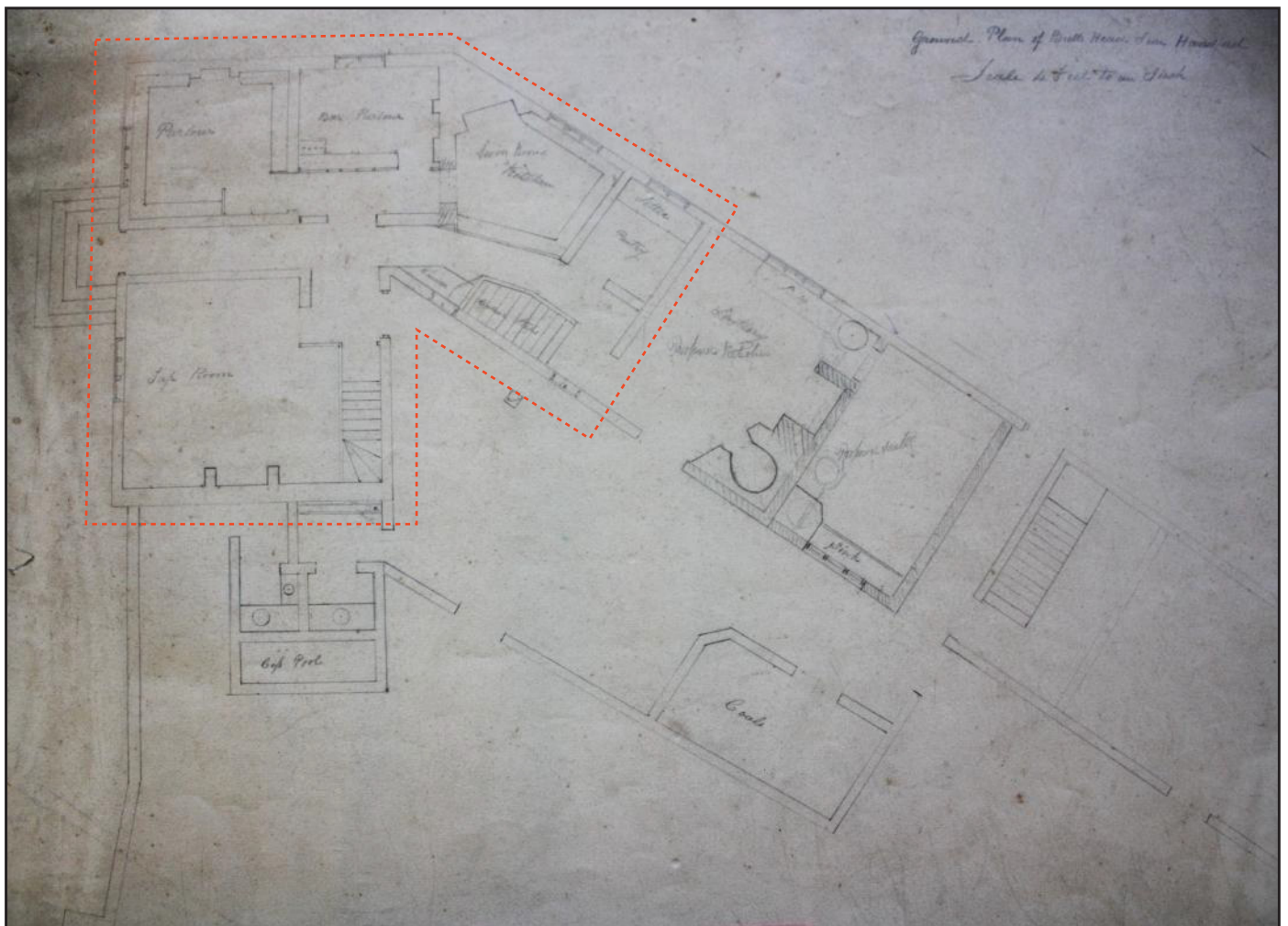


Figure 12: Undated ground plan of the Bull's Head Inn (its area highlighted by the red dashed line) with attached buildings that include a proposed kitchen (moved from the Inn itself) and an enclosed yard. © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/H/12/2/46c.

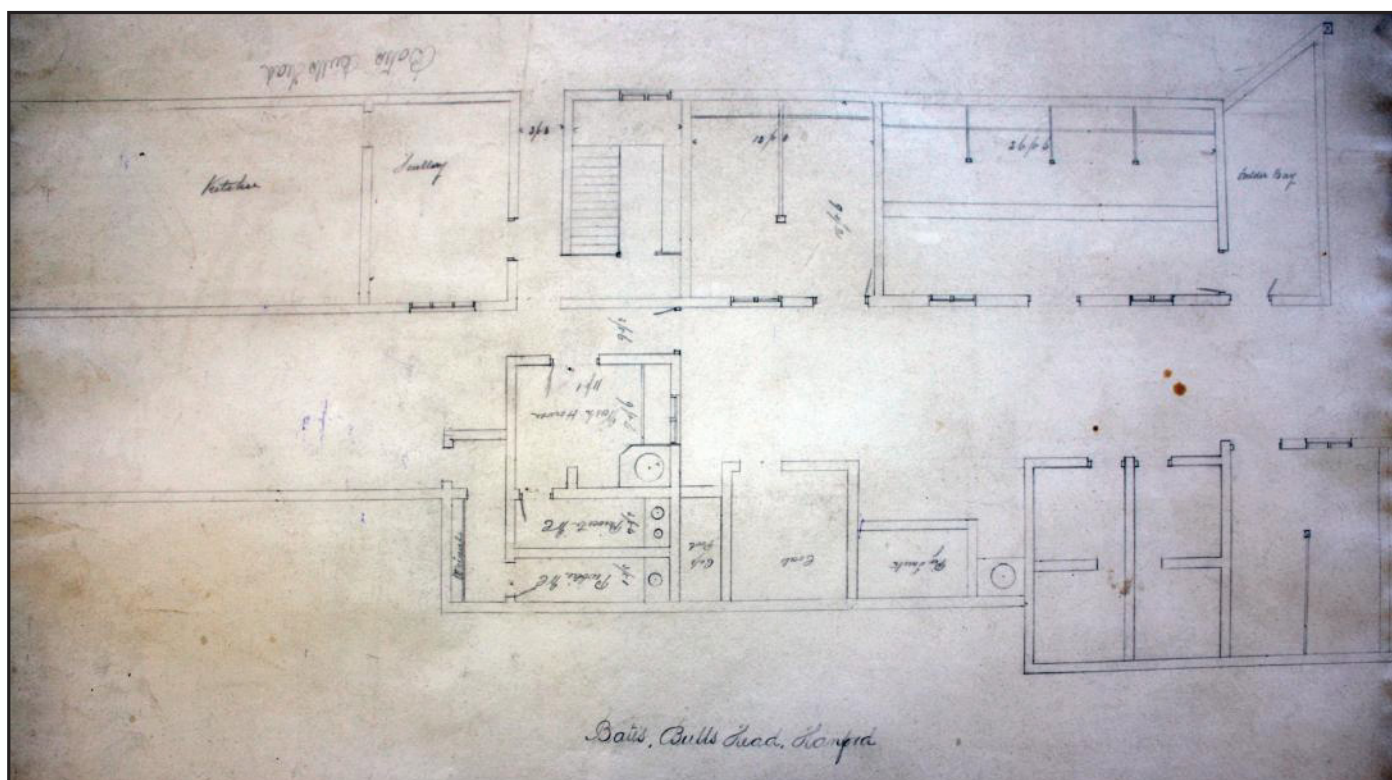


Figure 13: Undated plan of the structures extending from the south-east part of the Bull's Head Inn, Hanford. Possibly dating from the 1880-90s, the plan indicates areas used for accommodating animals. © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/H/12/2/167/2.

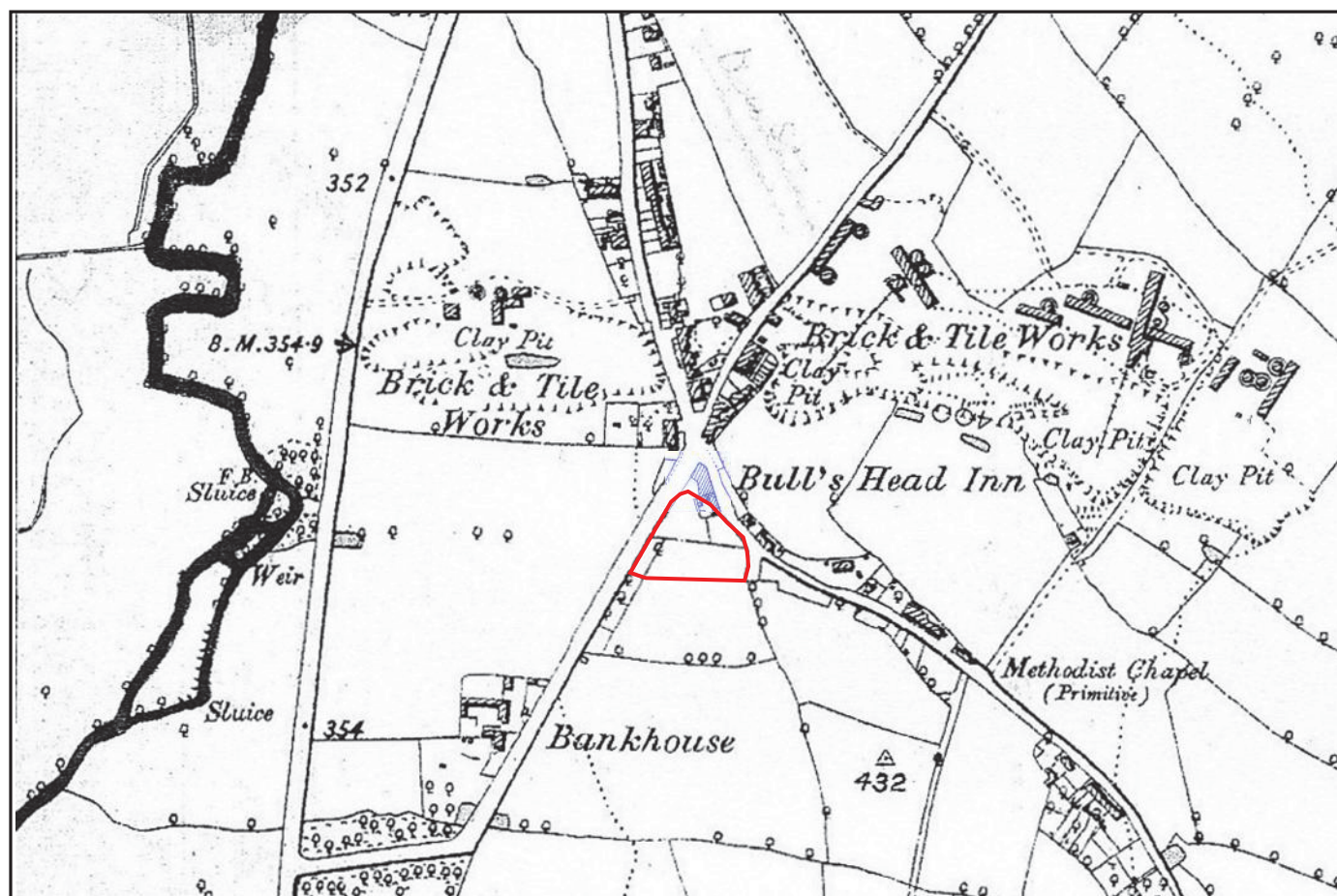


Figure 14: The extent of the study area (red boundary) in relation to the Bull's Head public house, as shown on a 6 inch scale Ordnance Survey map of 1890, with the former inn shown in finer detail from the 25 inch scale map of 1900 (in blue). Scale 1:5,000.

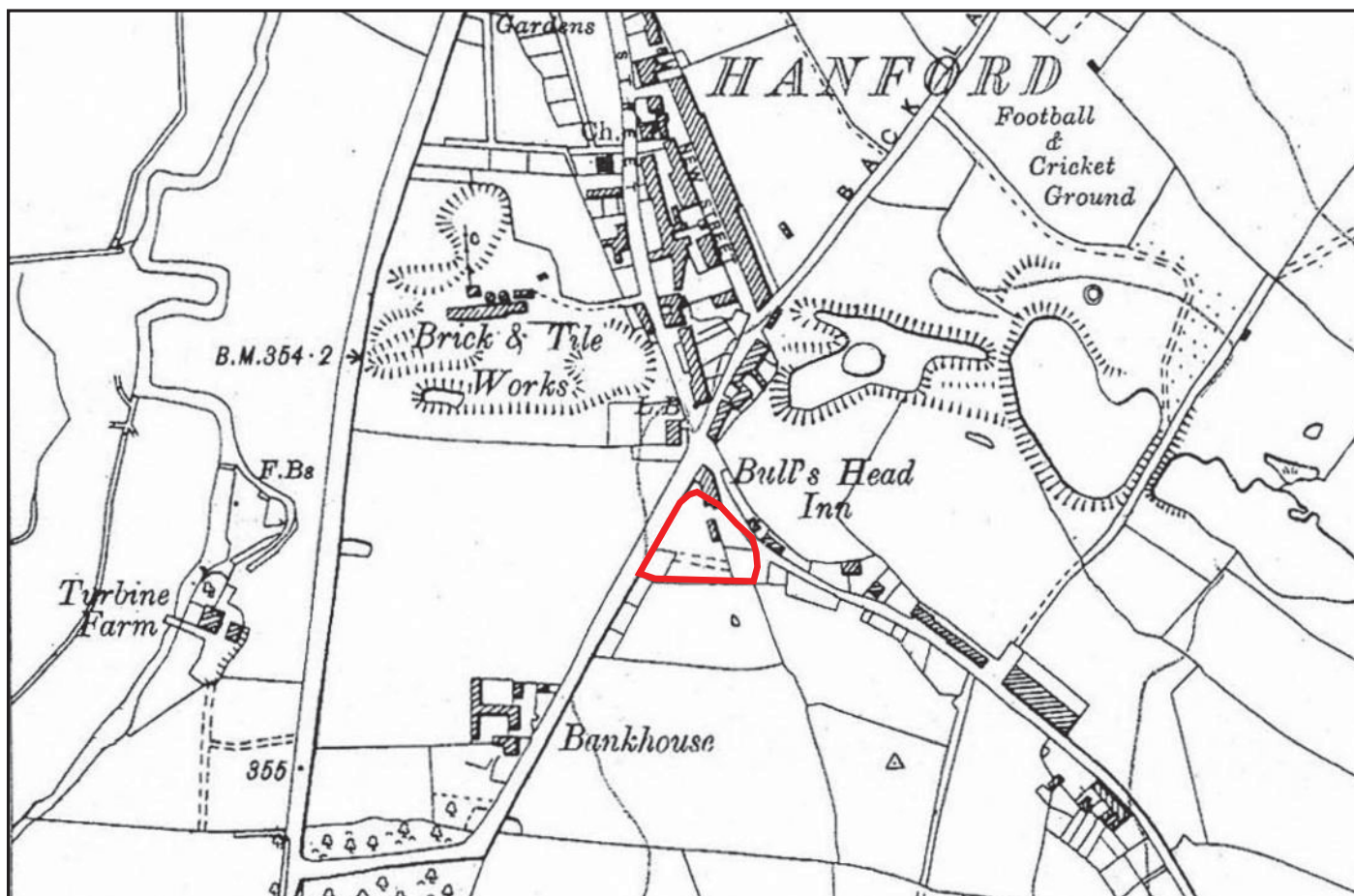


Figure 15: The Bull's Head public house site on an Ordnance Survey map of 1925. Scale 1:5,000.

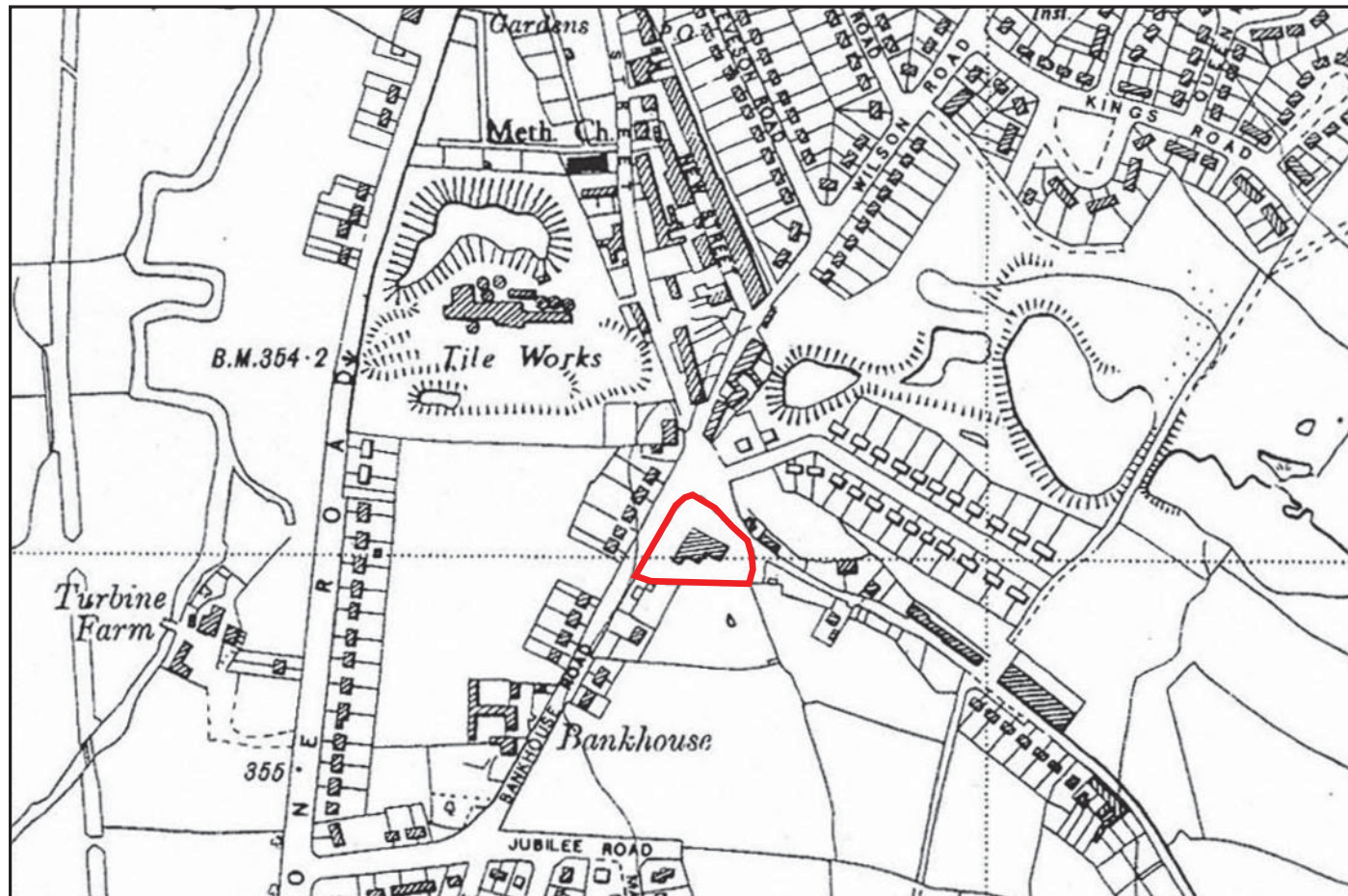


Figure 16: The Bull's Head public house site on an Ordnance Survey map of 1950. Scale 1:5,000.

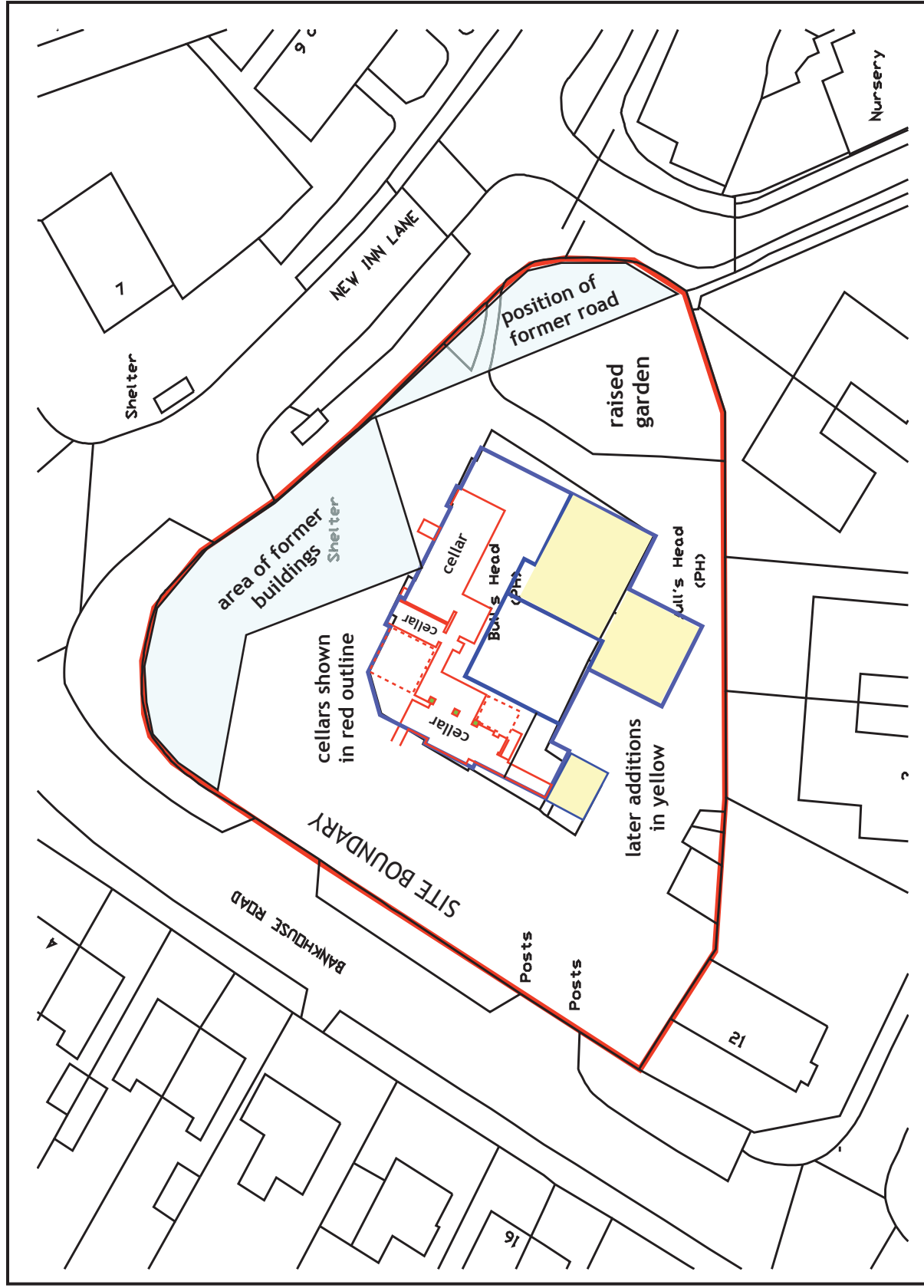


Figure 17: Present-day plan of the Bull's Head Inn site at Hanford, Staffordshire, showing the extent of the present building and its known cellars, and known areas of archaeological potential (light blue tone). Base plan supplied by client's agent. (Ordnance Survey map reproduced with the permission of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Licence No. AL 100020618).



Plate 1: The Bull's Head public house site at Hanford, Staffordshire (highlighted) in relation to still open fields down to the River Trent, as shown on an aerial photograph of 1945. Longitudinal features of interest are shown with dotted red lines.
© National Monuments Record; ref. RAF/106G/UK/646, frame 4117, date 11/8/1945.

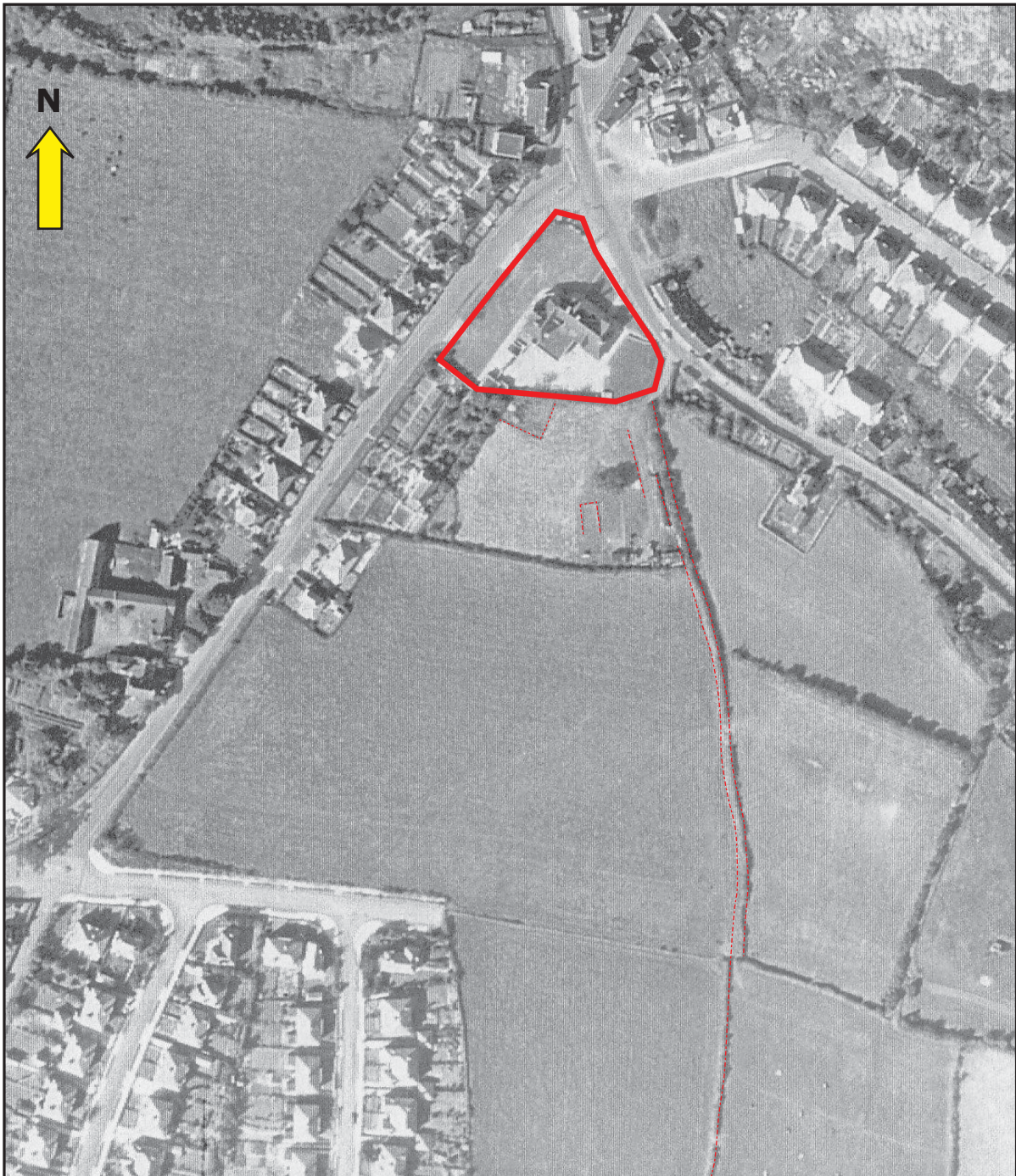


Plate 2: The Bull's Head public house site at Hanford, Staffordshire (highlighted) and still open fields to the south, as shown on an aerial photograph of 1953. Longitudinal features of interest are shown with dotted red lines.
© National Monuments Record; ref. RAF/58/2166, frame F21 0059, date 8/9/1953.

To be Sold by Auction,

BY

T. Shorthose,

OF HANLEY,

At the House of *E. Taylor*, the Sign of the *Bull's Head*, *Handford-Bank*,

On WEDNESDAY the 9th MAY, 1804,

The Sale to begin at FOUR o'Clock in the Afternoon,

Subject to such Conditions as shall be then produced, and either in the following or such other Lots as may be then settled;

LOT I. **T**HAT well-known and good accustomed PUBLIC-HOUSE, the sign of the BULL'S HEAD afore-mentioned, at Handford-Bank, now in the possession of Edw. Taylor, with the Stable, Pig Sties, and Out-Buildings, belonging to the same, together with the Garden behind the said Messuage.

HANDFORD-BANK is three Miles from *Newcastle*, half a Mile from *Trentham*, and six Miles from *Stone*; and the Premises adjoin the Turnpike-Road.—Possession may be had at Michaelmas next.

LOT II. A Piece of LAND, called the Near Broom, adjacent to the last Lot, and adjoining the Turnpike Road, containing 2A. 0R. 0P. or thereabouts.

LOT III. A Piece of LAND, called the Far Broom Close, adjoins Lot 2, lies also to the Turnpike-Road, and contains 6A. 0R. 0P. or thereabouts.

This Field is a most delightful Situation to build upon: it commands a rich View of Trentham-Park, Newcastle, into Cheshire, Part of the Potteries, Wolfstanton, Barlaston-Hall, Longton-Hall, and Park-Hall, besides other beautiful Prospects.

LOT IV. Two small TENEMENTS, situate at Handford-Bank, with a Garden behind the same.

LOT V. A good brick and tiled TENEMENT, adjoining Lot 4.

LOT VI. A very capital MALT-HOUSE, situate at Handford-Bank aforefaid, adjoining the Turnpike-Road, containing three Floors and two Kilns, and Water upon the spot, capable of making several thousand bushels of malt.

The Malt-House is near to good Markets, and well calculated to carry on Business to a great extent.

LOT VII. A Stack of old sweet upland HAY, containing about ten tons.

For further Particulars apply to Mr. THOMAS CORBETT, of *Handford-Bank*; Mr. HOLLAND, Solicitor, *Newcastle*; or to THOMAS SHORTHOSE.

Plate 3: Description of the Bull's Head Public House and other lots put up for sale in 1804 by Thomas Corbett of Hanford Bank. © Staffordshire Record Office; ref. D593/B/1/10/2.



Plate 4: View looking north-eastwards of the crossroads in front of the Bull's Head public house at Hanford, Staffordshire.



Plate 5: View of the Bull's Head public house at Hanford, Staffordshire.

APPENDICES

Appendix A: Results of Documentary Search

A search was made for relevant maps and printed sources online, at the University of Nottingham Hallward Library, and at Staffordshire Record Office and the William Salt Library in Stafford.

Maps and associated material seen and relevant to study area:

1577	Saxton's map of Staffordshire (sourced at www.thepotteries.org ; original in British Museum)
1607-10	Kip's map of Staffordshire (reprint by Staffordshire & Stoke on Trent Archive Service)
c.1749	<i>Map of Staffordshire</i> , by Emanuel Bowen (reprint by Staffordshire County Council Libraries, Arts & Archives)
1775	A Map of the County of Stafford, by W. Yates
1798	<i>The County of Stafford, from the Improved Map in Six Sheets</i> , by W. Yates
1801	<i>A New Map of the County of Stafford</i> , by C. Smith
1836	Plan of proposed turnpike road 1836 (Staffordshire Record Office: D593/H/9/35)
1838	Plan of Hanford township (Staffordshire Record Office: D593/H/3/101)

Ordnance Survey:

1890	Ordnance Survey 6 inch (1: 10,560) scale Staffordshire Sheet 18SW
1900	Godfrey Edition of Old Ordnance Survey Maps: Trent Vale & Hanford 1898 (Ordnance Survey Second Edition 25 inch, 1: 2,500 scale map, reproduced at approx. 1:4,340)
1901	Ordnance Survey 6 inch (1: 10,560) scale Staffordshire Sheet 18SW (Second Edition)
1925	Ordnance Survey 6 inch (1: 10,560) scale Staffordshire Sheet 18SW
1951	Ordnance Survey 6 inch (1: 10,560) scale Staffordshire Sheet 18SW (Provisional Edition)

Maps seen and not found relevant to study area:

- 18th C? Map of roads from Hanford and Newcastle to Darlaston (Staffordshire Record Office: D593/H/9/29)
- 1847 Tithe Award Map of Hanford in the Parish of Trentham (copy at Staffordshire Record Office: D593/H/3/102)

Other archive documents consulted at Staffordshire Record Office:

SRO references:

- D593/B/1/10/1/2 Deeds to messuage of land at Hanford, 1738. Various documents relating to Bull's Head Inn and adjoining land, mostly from 1804 (including sale by auction) and 1820
- D593/B/1/10/2 Deeds to Bull's Head Inn, Hanford, 1811. Large collection of documents (indentures, deeds etc) dating between 1738-1811
- D593/H/12/2/46 Plans of Bull's Head Inn (3 sheets); not dated
- D593/H/12/2/167 Plans of outbuildings and club room at Bull's Head Inn (3 sheets); not dated
- D5569/1/47 Conveyance of freehold of Bull's Head Inn, Hanford, 1914
- D5569/1/48 Conveyance of freehold of field and gardens adjoining Bull's Head Inn, Hanford, 1914

Appendix B: Synthesis of SMR / HER data

SMR Number	Number on Fig. 2	Name	Easting	Northing	Source	Date ranges				Description
						Early Neolithic	Late Bronze Age	4000 BC	701 BC	
01783-MSR51	7	Stone Macehead, Hanford	86400	42500	Find					STONE MACEHEAD
02195-MSR71	10	Roman Coin, Trentham	87400	41000	Find	Roman	Roman	AD 101	AD 200	COIN
02216-MSR73	2	Newcastle Canal (from Newcastle to Trent & Mersey Canal)	86940	43000	Sub-surface Deposit	Modern	Modern	1795	1921 (filled in)	CANAL
02473-MSR78	1	Hanford (Heneford)	86800	42600	Documentary Evidence	Medieval	Medieval	1000	1100	SETTLEMENT
03704-MSR147	5	Hanford Mill	86688	42796	Documentary Evidence	Post-Med	Post-Med	1540	1900	MILL
03705-MSR148	3	Watermill, Turbine Farm	86476	41946	Structure	Post-Med	Post-Med	1540	1900	MILL
03706-MSR149	6	New Inn Mill	87430	41370	Documentary Evidence	Post-Med	Post-Med	1540	1900	MILL
30046-MSR229	13	South Hanford Farm	87320	42470	Sub-surface Deposits	Medieval	Post-Med	1066	1900	DITCH FIELD SYSTEM
30049-MSR231	11	Finds, Hanford	87300	42600	Find	Medieval	Medieval	1066	1539	METAL FINDS

Trent & Peak Archaeology – Desk-based Assessment of Bull's Head Inn site, Hanford, Staffordshire

30050-MSR232	12	Finds, Brown's Farm, Hanford	87500	42600	Find		Medieval	Medieval	1066	1539	METAL FINDS
30052-MSR234	east of plan	Finds, Lower Fields, Hanford	87800	42600	Find		Medieval	Medieval	1066	1539	? PENDANT
30055-MSR237	9	Finds, Hanford	87200	42900	Find		Roman	Roman	AD 43	AD 400	? BRACELET
30066-MSR248	14	Primrose Hill, Hanford (Watching Brief)	87400	42590	Sub-surface Deposit		Undated	Undated			NO ARCHAEOLOGY FOUND
30109-MSR291	8	Bronze Age sword, Hanford	87300	42600	Find		Late Bronze Age	Late Bronze Age	1000 BC	701 BC	BRONZE SWORD PIECE
30762-MSR960	4	War Memorial, Trentham	86784	41042	Extant Structure		Modern	Modern	1921	2050	CENOTAPH

