

Thomas William Lench Ltd,  
Carnegie Road, Blackheath,  
West Midlands

**Historic Building Recording and  
Archaeological Evaluation, 2004**

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**Thomas William Lench Ltd, Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands (BHT WL04)**

**Historic Building Recording and Archaeological Evaluation, 2004**

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**Thomas William Lench Ltd, Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands: Historic Building Record and Archaeological Evaluation (BHT WL204)**

**Planning Application No. DC/03/40519**

**Summary**

*Building recording, an archaeological evaluation, and watching brief were carried out at the former premises of Thomas William Lench, a nuts and bolts factory at Blackheath, West Midlands (NGR SO968867), which covered an area of approximately 2ha. The buildings ranged in date from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. RCHME Level 3 records were made of the two main frontages and of the buildings forming the early core of the factory. Evaluation trenches were excavated in two areas. One of these, which was on the site of the earliest buildings, encountered an oil-contaminated landscape and was abandoned. The other targeted area had been identified as a potential moated site through historic map evidence, and the evaluation uncovered a substantial ditch of unknown purpose containing 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery in its lower fill and 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century pottery in its upper fill. This was truncated by a large feature, possibly a pond or quarry containing 19<sup>th</sup>-century pottery.*

**1.0 Introduction**

In August and September 2004 Birmingham Archaeology carried out building recording and an archaeological evaluation at the former premises of Thomas William Lench Limited, a nuts and bolts factory in Blackheath, West Midlands. An archaeological watching brief was subsequently conducted during November 2004. The work was commissioned by David Wilson Homes and was required in order to fulfil conditions placed on the approval of Planning Applications DC/03/40519 and DC/03/41350 for demolition of the buildings and redevelopment of the site. In determining the scope of the work the Borough Archaeologist was informed by *An Historic Environment Impact Assessment*, carried out by Birmingham Archaeology in June 2004 (Hislop and Krawiec 2004). This report concluded that although none of the standing buildings affected by the proposed development warranted statutory protection many were worthy of preservation by record. In addition, the location of a potential moated site was identified, as was that of the site of the earliest factory buildings. Both sites were investigated by trial trenching, and the groundworks in the area around the potential moat monitored by watching brief.

**2.0 Site Location (Figs. 1 and 2)**

The study area is situated on the outskirts of Blackheath, West Midlands between Carnegie Road and Ross Road at NGR SO968867. It was occupied mainly by inter-war brick-built industrial buildings.

### **3.0 Objectives**

- To make a record of the factory to complement the written record, in particular its historical development, typology, spatial layout, technology, process flow and working conditions.
- To provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival or archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site and to assess their importance.
- To assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.
- To provide information that will allow a local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on a planning application.
- To provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigation strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.
- To produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum.
- To provide information for accession to the Sandwell Sites and Monuments Record.
- To add to the corpus of information from this area.

### **4.0 Methods**

#### Building Recording

Elevations were recorded by use of a Reflectorless EDM. Plans of individual buildings were drawn by hand, typically at a scale of 1:50.

Individual buildings were described in terms of their date, function, methods of construction, architecture, internal spatial configuration, architectural/ technological furniture, decoration, phasing, circulation and/or process flow.

The photographic record consisted of black and white prints and colour slides and included include both general shots and details of individual features. The two main elevations were recorded with a large format camera, other areas by 35mm camera.

## Evaluation

The trial trenches were excavated by machine using a toothless bucket, under the direction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon was hand-cleaned and any archaeological features or deposits recorded.

Recording of archaeological features and contexts was by pro-forma sheets supplemented by scaled drawings and 35mm photography using black and white and colour slide film. Plans were drawn at a scale of 1:20, and sections at a scale of 1:10, unless other scales should be deemed more appropriate in particular circumstances.

## Watching Brief

After the demolition of Building D, the removal of the concrete floor and subsequent ground turnover to remove the old walls in this area was monitored by an archaeological watching brief. The *modus operandi* was not conducive to the identification of archaeological features or deposits, but the upturned ground was scanned for artefacts that may have indicated the presence of below ground archaeological activity, and the approximate depth of the natural subsoil below the current ground level was noted.

The recording was in the form of written notes, sketch plans and colour print photography.

## **5.0 The Building Record**

### **5.1 Summary**

The construction sequence of the factory buildings was described as part of the Historic Environment Impact Assessment carried in July 2004 (Hislop and Krawiec). Five principal phases were identified on the basis of historic map analysis (Phases 0-4), of which only Phases 1-4 survived above ground level (Fig. 3). These buildings ranged in date from the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to c.1970. The archaeological building recording carried out since then has modified those findings only inasmuch as a structural sequence has been identified between Buildings A and B. The phasing can therefore be summarised thus:-

- Phase 0 (Pre 1885)
- Phase 1 (1886-1904)
- Phase 2 (1905-1918)
- Phases 3 (1919-1937)
- Phase 4 (Post-1937)

Much of the factory's interior had undergone considerable alteration and was of a plain and undiagnostic character. The archaeological recording concentrated on the most architecturally significant elements, namely the two main elevations that extended along Carnegie Street to the west (Fig. 4 and 5, Plate 1) and Ross to the east (Fig. 6 and 7, Plate

2), and the only three buildings (Buildings I, P and Q) to have survived from Phase 1 (Figs 8 to 13).

Many of the factory buildings from Phases 1 to 3 had certain characteristics in common, which gave the complex, and in particular the two main elevations, a degree of architectural unity, despite being the product of an evolutionary development. All the buildings were constructed in red brick and many were large single-storey workshops with pitched roofs, segmental-arched windows, and circular oculi in the gables. The fairly minimal detailing tended towards the Baroque.

A summary of the main phases follows below. The individual structures are discussed in more detail in Appendix 1.

#### Phase 1 (1886-1904)

The Phase-1 buildings, namely buildings I, P and Q, comprised the surviving elements of those structures depicted on the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1904, and therefore represented the earliest of the standing buildings within the factory complex. The buildings of 1904 were grouped around two courtyards, a small one at the northeast corner, the north and east sides of which were bounded by the earliest factory buildings dating from c.1884, and a larger one to the south. The surviving buildings were related to this larger courtyard, with Building P defining its eastern extent, Building Q ranged along its southern boundary, and Building I forming part of a large block that defined the western end of the yard. Building I was probably one unit within a block of single-storey workshops. Building P, a two-storey structure that incorporated a carriage entrance, was probably a despatch warehouse. Building Q had undergone considerable alteration, having been converted to support oil tanks on its roof, and its original purpose can not be ascertained with certainty. All the Phase-1 buildings were built in red brick and mostly laid in English garden wall bond. Building P, which retained its original roof, was covered in plain tiles.

#### Phase 2 (1905-1918)

Phase 2 involved expansion to the south of the Phase 1 factory with the construction of a series of large single-storey workshops (Buildings C, G, L and M), extending eastwards as far as Carnegie Street, where a new two-storey office block, works entrance and gate keeper's lodge (Building D) was raised. Constructional detailing differed from Phase 1 in that the bricks were laid in the stronger and more extravagant English bond rather of English garden wall bond, and because the Phase 2 builders introduced the ornamental use of terracotta.

#### Phase 3 (1919-1937)

Phase 3 demolition of the Phase 0 involved buildings a large-scale expansion of the factory with the erection of a whole series of substantial workshop buildings situated to the north (Buildings S and R), south (Buildings A, B, and N) and within the existing



complex (Building K). In Phase 3, both stretcher bond (Buildings A and B) and English garden wall bond (Building G) were used. Terracotta continued in use as architectural embellishment.

#### Phase 4 (Post-1937)

Subsequent developments included the infilling of a courtyard between Buildings A and N to create more workshop space, the construction of still more workshops in the northern sector (Buildings H, J and T), the erection of another office building adjacent to the gatekeeper's lodge (Building F).

## **5.2 Building Descriptions**

### *Building A* (Phase 3b: 1919-37) (Fig. 5, Plate 1)

This large single-storey workshop was built of red brick laid in stretcher bond with terracotta banding and had a slate roof with bracketed eaves, a continuous skylight and crested ridge tiles. The building was a double pile construction aligned northwest-southeast facing southwest towards Carnegie Street. There were sixteen bays of windows with terracotta sills and ovolo-moulded concrete lintels. Inside, the floor was of concrete, and there was a central row of steel columns by Dorman Long & Co. Ltd of Middlesborough supporting the ends of the double-span steel roof trusses. No other features of interest were recorded.

### *Building B* (Phase 3a: 1919-37) (Fig. 4, Plate 1)

Building B was a workshop built of red brick laid in stretcher bond with terracotta dressings. It was aligned east-west and recessed between Buildings A and C with its gable end towards the street recessed between two plain piers. This single-building had a terracotta corbel course supporting the projecting upper part of the central recess, and an oversailing roof on two pairs of purlins and ridge piece with barge boards. A wide central entrance with a terracotta lintel band joggled over the opening was furnished with a later roller shutter at time of survey. Above was a terracotta panel flanked by drapes and bearing the embossed legend 'GIRL'S HALL'. The panel was crowned by a keyed roundel, with a crossed bolts motif in the centre and the circumference embossed with the words 'THOMAS WILLIAM LENCH LIMITED'. There were vertical joints between Building B and the two adjoining structures (Buildings A & C). The fact that the terracotta banding of Building B was abutted by Building A shows that the latter, although part of the same historical phase was slightly later in date.

### *Building C* (Phase 2: 1905-1918) (Fig. 4, Plate 1)

Building C was a single-storey workshop built of red brick laid in English bond, the building being aligned east west with its gable end towards the street breaking forward from Building B to the right (south). The elevation was blind except for a keyed oculus in the gable with raised terracotta surround. The gable had a raised coped verge and was

flanked by ball finials on short pedestals. The right-hand (southern) elevation next to Building B had been rebuilt in stretcher bond.

*Building D* (Phase 2: 1905–1918) (Fig. 4, Plate 1)

This building housed the main offices, and was built of red brick laid in English bond with terracotta dressings. It was a two-storey structure with a plain, terracotta-coped parapet. Each end bay of the eight-bay front was articulated with pilaster strips rising from a corbel course half way up the windows. These two end bays contained four-light bay windows at both ground and first-floor levels, but otherwise the windows were mullioned and transomed with terracotta sills and joggled lintels; there were two terracotta bands at sill and mid-height of ground-floor lights.

Attached to the left-hand end of the building was a screen wall and gateway forming the main public entrance into the works. It too was built in red brick laid in English bond with chamfered blue bricks to the gate jambs supporting a terracotta three-centred arch springing from egg and dart-moulded imposts, with a roll-moulded dripstone with raised key. The gateway gave access to a courtyard. On the right (north) immediately inside the entrance was a partially rebuilt gatekeeper's lodge built in red brick with blue brick quoins and slate roof (Plate 3).

The entrance to Building D was from the south side of the courtyard (Plate 4). The door gave access to an entrance lobby with small receptionist's lodge on the left-hand (east) side, and a waiting area on the right-hand side. Beyond the lobby to the south was a corridor communicating with ground-floor offices and a staircase leading to the first floor. At first floor level was another corridor extending north-south through the length of the building and giving access to offices on both sides.

*Building E* (Phase 3: 1918-1937)

Building E formed a link between the gatekeeper's lodge on the north side of the main courtyard, to the south, and Building G to the north. Aligned north-south. Red brick (English bond), slate roof with crested ridge tiles. Blind towards the west, but the eastern side had a carriage entrance and had been used as a fire station. The single-storey building was open the roof and had wooden roof trusses.

*Building F* (Phase 4: Post-1937) (Plate 6)

Building F was a mid to late 20<sup>th</sup>-century red brick office building attached to the northern end of the gatekeeper's lodge. It was a two-storey, six-bay structure, with a plain coped parapet to a flat roof.

*Building G* (Phase 2: 1905-1918) (Fig. 4, Plate 1)

Building G was another workshop built of red brick laid in English bond, and aligned east west with its gable end towards Carnegie Street. There was a blocked window at ground

level and a keyed oculus in the gable with raised terracotta surround. The gable had a raised coped verge but had suffered the loss of its apex. Like Building C it was probably flanked by ball finials originally, but these had gone. The interior retained nothing of interest; it had concrete floors and steel roof trusses, and the former north wall had gone so that there was no internal division between this building and the later Building H.

*Building H* (Phase 4: Post-1937) (Not illustrated)

Building H was a very late addition to the complex dating from the mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. It had concrete floors and steel roof trusses, and was of minimal interest.

*Building I* (Phase 1: 1886-1904) (Fig. 13)

Building I was aligned north-south, and was probably one of a block of parallel ranges. Virtually the only original element to survive was the roof. The roof trusses consisted of a timber tie beam with the feet of the rafters set in from the ends of the beam and two pairs of raking struts providing support to the two pairs of purlins. The other main feature of the truss was an iron rod placed centrally instead of a timber king post, a development that seems to have taken place in neighbouring Staffordshire c.1865 (Peters 1988, 29). It is not known what function Building I fulfilled but it was probably a workshop of some kind.

*Buildings J* (Phase 4: Post-1937) (Not illustrated)

Building J was a mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century workshop, and of minimal interest.

*Building K* (Phase 3: 1919-1937) (Plate 7)

This substantial workshop was built of red brick, had a slate roof with crested ridge tiles and continuous skylights. To the north was a series of inserted mid-20<sup>th</sup> century windows to the north. Inside were concrete floors and steel roof trusses.

*Buildings L* (Phase 2: 1905-1918) (Fig. 7, Plate 2)

Building L was a double pile workshop range aligned east-west with the gable ends towards Ross. It was built of red brick laid in English bond up to mid-height, then Flemish stretcher bond above. The two single-storey three-bay gabled ranges were articulated by pilaster buttresses surmounted by ball finials on squat pedestals, and had high-set segmental-arched windows with blue brick surrounds.

The interior was floored in concrete, and had steel roof trusses with asbestos board lining behind which were timber rafters. The roof contained continuous strip skylights. The building was extended towards the west between 1918 and 1937 as Building K.

*Building M* (Phase 2: 1905-1918) (Fig. 6, Plate 2)

Building M was constructed in red brick laid in English bond, and was aligned east-west with a blind gable end towards Ross. There were straight joints in the brickwork between Buildings L and N. The interior was floored in concrete and had tie-beam roof trusses with raking struts.

*Building N* (Phase 3: 1919-1937) (Fig. 6, Plate 2)

Building N comprised a block of workshops aligned east-west facing east towards Ross. Built in red brick laid in English garden wall bond. It had blue brick and terracotta dressings and was roofed in a mixture of slate and corrugated asbestos, with raised tile-coped verges. The Ross front of this single-storey building presented a series of eight gables graduated in height, with blocked segmental-arched windows, cast iron drainpipes at the junctions, and, at eaves level, pedestals carrying cornice caps and ball finials. There was a gateway beneath the second gable from the left (south) with chamfered blue brick jambs and terracotta four-centred arch springing from imposts. Interior Concrete floors throughout. The southernmost bay retains timber king-post roof trusses with raking struts, plank ridge and two pairs of purlins. Otherwise, steel roof trusses prevail.

*Buildings O* (Phase 4: Post-1937) (Not illustrated)

Workshops. Mid to late 20<sup>th</sup> century. Represent the roofing over of a yard between Buildings A and N. Concrete floors and steel roof trusses. Not of special interest.

*Building P* (Phase 1: 1886-1904) by *Leonie Driver* (Figs 7 and 8, Plates 2 and 8)

Judging from the position of Building P, adjacent to the main gateway to the factory, it probably functioned as a despatch warehouse. It was constructed from red brick laid in English garden wall bond at ground floor level, changing to Flemish stretcher bond at first floor level, and had a hipped plain tile roof. It was rectangular in plan, aligned north-south facing east and fronting Ross, with a wide carriage entrance providing access to the nut and bolt works from Ross.

The front (east) elevation of this two-storey building was dominated at ground level by a large wooden sliding door, with large metal runners and plates, covering the carriage entrance into the works. Above the carriageway was a metal girder providing support to the first floor. To the right (north) of the wooden door were three segmental-headed windows with cast-iron frames, and one further blocked window. Each window had twenty-five panes, a hinged opening section at the top, and (including the blocked window) an arched brick lintel, composed of a course of stretchers and a course of headers.

The first floor had six, unevenly spaced, segmental-headed windows with cast-iron frames. Smaller than those at ground floor level, these six windows had thirty panes each and incorporated a small hinged section. Above each window was a decorative arched

brick lintel composed of two courses of headers. The ends of the metal beams, which supported the first floor, could be seen within the brick work.

The west elevation (Plate 8) could be seen from within the works. The southern carriageway had no door on this side, but again had a metal girder above, to support the first floor of the building. Above this girder was a course of headers. To the north of the carriageway were four unevenly spaced windows, a small door, and a further window beyond this. The windows were of the same type as those at ground-floor level on the east elevation, and had similar arches. A small wooden door with blue brick lintel provided access to the south end of the building.

The first floor had five windows, and a further blocked window at the north end of the building. The windows were of the same type as those at first-floor level on the east elevation, and each one, (including the blocked window) had the brick lintel. A course of headers marked the level of the first floor and a further course of headers formed a band below the upper windows.

With primary access from the door in the west elevation, the ground floor was originally one large open space. Access to the carriageway was provided through a door in the south wall of the building. This door opened onto the carriageway, and was probably used to load and/or unload goods from vehicles, or perhaps to control the flow of traffic entering and leaving the works.

A small room within the building had been inserted at a later date, causing one of the windows on the east elevation to be blocked. The room had a large wooden door with a four-pane overlight, and may have been used as an office.

Constructed between this office and the north internal wall of the building was a substantial wooden staircase, which provided access to the first floor of the building. Further inspection of the staircase showed it to have been a later addition to the building. The position of the staircase meant that it blocked a window and door in the north wall at both ground and first floor-levels.

The upper floor was constructed from wooden floorboards, supported by wooden joists, which in turn were supported by metal beams. The ends of these beams could be seen on both the west and east elevations. At the south end of the first floor was a large hatch, which opened directly onto the carriageway below, it was probably used to load goods into vehicles below. There were six windows either side of the first floor, articulated by brick columns, which provided support to the exposed wooden roof trusses.

*Building Q (Phase 1: 1886-1904) by Leonie Driver (Figs 11 and 12, Plates 9 and 10)*

The eastern end of Building Q was latterly used as a workshop, though it is possible that its function changed since it was first built. It was constructed of red brick laid in English garden wall bond. The building was aligned east-west and was rectangular in plan with a

small flat-roofed extension at the front (north). Later factory buildings had been constructed against the south wall.

The east end of the north elevation comprised a two-storey structure supporting large metal tanks on its roof. Access to this part of the building was via a small wooden sliding door at the northern end. This part of the building had three windows. Two were large segmental-arched, cast-iron framed windows, one located above the door and the second to the side of this. The third was smaller and positioned further to the south, above a later (mid-20<sup>th</sup>-century) extension to the front of the building.

The large tank on the roof was supported by a metal frame, which in turn was supported by the front (north) wall of the building. Around the tank was a metal walkway and ladder. Two smaller tanks were located above and supported by the small extension to the front of the building.

The extension at the front of the building was constructed to house two large machines. The machines were still *in situ* before the demolition of the building and were likely to have been pumping machines associated with the fuel tanks on top of the building. The machines were driven by electricity and were manufactured by Joseph Evans & Sons of Wolverhampton. A large opening at the front provided access to the machinery and the room was ventilated by two windows in the north and south external walls. There was no internal access between this extension and the east and west rooms of the building.

The west end of the building was single-storey with a pitched slate roof. There were no windows in this part of the building. Access to the room could be gained through the west end wall only, there was no internal access between the east and west rooms.

The sliding door at the east end of the building provided access into a large open room, one of two rooms into which the interior was divided. The ceiling was at two levels, the eastern end (which supported the large tank) being high and flat, and the western end being lower, the timber trusses of the hipped roof were exposed. The north wall of the room was strengthened by metal columns and a girder embedded in the wall. The south wall had two large brick columns providing further support for the tank above. Access to the western room was through a door in its west wall. A modern doorway with concrete lintel had been inserted. This room had provided space for the lavatories of the works.

#### *Building R & S (Phase 3: 1919-1937) (Fig. 7, Plate 2)*

This group of three single-storey workshop ranges with gable ends towards the road, was built in red brick laid in English garden wall bond with terracotta and blue brick dressings. Building S to the north, which was lower than Building R, retained a slate roof, but Building R had been reroofed in corrugated plastic. All three gables were raised above the roofline and coped with blue tiles. There was an oculus in each gable, those to Building R keyed with terracotta surrounds.

## *Buildings T and Oil Tanks (Phase 4: Post-1937) (Plate 10)*

Situated in the northeast corner of the site, Building T was a mid-20<sup>th</sup> century structure built in red brick laid in stretcher bond, with a corrugated iron roof. The greater part of the building was given over to a high-roofed single-storey workshop, access to which was from the yard to the west. The east end, however, was of two storeys, and the upper level, which corresponded with the ground level on the Ross frontage, housed a number of oil tanks. There were several other oil tanks immediately to the north of the building.

### **6.0 The Evaluation**

#### **6.1 Trench 1 (Figs 14 and 15)**

Trench 1 was aligned approximately east-west and located in the main entrance yard of Lenches works between building D and E (Fig. 2). This trench was positioned in order to evaluate a potential moated site identified by cartographic evidence in the course of the desk-based assessment (Hislop and Krawiec 2004). The trench was 18m long and 4.2m wide and was excavated to a maximum depth of 3m below the present ground surface. Owing to the depth and nature of the stratigraphy the trench had to be stepped in for safety's sake.

The natural subsoil, which was partially exposed within the area of this excavation, consisted of an orange clay marl overlying a calcaceous bedrock. The earliest feature cut into the natural was a linear ditch aligned approximately northeast-southwest close to the east end of Trench 1 (F105). This feature had been substantially truncated by later activity so that its full extent was unclear, but it had a maximum width of 4m, and the base was 3m below the modern ground surface. It was apparent that this feature was U-shaped in profile with steep sides and a rounded bottom; a shallow lip was apparent on the southeast side of the ditch. The fill (1012) consisted of orange-yellow clay with dark grey silt lenses in pockets throughout. Finds retrieved from 1012 included a sherd of 17<sup>th</sup>-early 18<sup>th</sup> century pottery from the top and two abraded pieces of pottery dating from the 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century from the lower fills.

Cutting F105 was a large negative feature (F100) the extent of which could not be determined owing to its great size and to later truncation. It was 13m wide and the base was encountered 3m below the modern ground surface. The evaluation trench revealed only the eastern edge of F100, which had a shallow slope and a flat base. Owing to the substantial depth of this feature, the lower fills could only be sampled by mechanical excavator. The cut was filled by a series of deposits of dark grey coal rich silt and mixed clay and silt. The earlier fill of this feature towards the western extent of excavation was rich in brick and stone rubble. The lower fills were also very wet. Pottery recovered from F100 dated from the 18<sup>th</sup> century.

A low wall (F104) was located along the eastern edge of F100. This consisted of a shallow foundation cut 0.4m wide and 0.25m deep, into which roughly cut stone blocks were set, these were mortared together and survived to a height of 0.5m.

To the east of this wall the natural subsoil was apparent 0.5m below the modern ground surface and was sealed by a layer (1010) of light brown silt mixed with black clinker and some rubble, and was very different in character to the stratigraphy to the west of the wall

Cutting the eastern edge of F100 were two parallel linear cuts (F101 and F102) these were aligned north-south. The more easterly of this was 1.1m wide and 0.48m deep with a generally U-shaped profile with steep sides and a flat base, although with a lip on the eastern side. Directly to the west of this was F102, which was 0.8m wide and 0.46m deep with vertical sides and a flat bottom. Both of these cuts were filled with loose sand and pea gravel.

Sealing these features and the majority of the trench were two layers. The earliest of these (1006) consisted of a dark grey silt with a large amount of coal residue throughout, especially on the northern side of the trench. Above this was a layer of compact clay with silt and sand lenses throughout.

Cutting these layers at the western end of the trench was a foundation or cellar wall. This consisted of a north-south aligned brick wall with a capping of several well-shaped sandstone blocks. Abutting this wall was a brick build wall aligned east-west creating a corner of a structure.

Rubble and stone levelling layers (1001, 1002, 1003, 1004 and 1005) overlay the majority of the trench. The cellar was back-filled with broken concrete rubble and the area of the trench was sealed with a layer of concrete with a capping of bitmac.

## **6.2 Trench 2**

Trench 2 was located on the east side of the site within Building R in order to investigate the earliest origins of the nut and bolt works (Fig. 2). It was 10m long and 1.7m wide and excavated to a depth of 0.15m through a concrete surface. This revealed an underground fuel storage tank over the area of the trench. This was considered to be contaminated ground. The excavation of the trench ceased at this point.

## **6.3 Trench 3 (Figs 14 and 16)**

Trench 3 was aligned approximately east-west and located in order to investigate the putative medieval feature discovered in Trench 1 (Fig. 2). The trench was 23m long and 1.7m wide and excavated to maximum depth of 3.6m below the modern surface. The natural subsoil consisted of orange clay with white calceous seams overlying bedrock.

Overlying this was a layer of wet soft yellow orange clay (3001). Cutting through this and the natural subsoil was a large negative feature (F300) the full extent of which was not realised owing to the confines of the evaluation trench. A width of 6.4m was excavated which had a maximum depth of 3.6m below the modern ground surface. It was apparent that the feature had a gently sloping east edge and a flat base. This was



filled by 3002, 3003, 3004, 3005, 3006 and 3007 a series of bands of dark grey coal-rich silt and mixed orange-yellow clay with some silt and rubble. Overlying this were several levelling layers (3008, 3009, 3010 and 3011).

Cutting this feature were the brick foundation to a cellar like structure under building E. To the east of Building E the trench was excavated through a layer of brown organic silt with rubble throughout to a maximum depth of 0.6m onto the natural clay subsoil.

#### **6.4 Conclusions**

The earliest archaeological evidence appears to be from a single truncated ditch containing pottery from the medieval period in its lower fill. However, the low volume of finds in general means that it cannot be proved conclusively that the feature itself was medieval, and the presence of 17<sup>th</sup>-early 18<sup>th</sup>-century sherds in the upper fill may suggest that the medieval pottery was residual. Nevertheless, if we take the evidence at face value, then it may support a medieval date for the ditch, and that it was infilled over several hundred years.

It is probable that the large feature partially excavated in Trenches 1 and 3 (F100 and F300) is the sub-circular feature present on the 1807 and the 1841 maps and which had disappeared by 1885 (Hislop and Krawiec 2004). This could have either been a pond or a quarry pit or perhaps both. Although the presence of a wall seeming to surround this feature would suggest that this at least in later use was a pond.

The cellar structures encountered at the western end of Trench 1 and in Trench 3 are probably the remains of a weighing station relating to the Excelsior works as illustrated on the 1918 and 1937 maps (Hislop and Krawiec 2004).

#### **7.0 The Watching Brief**

No archaeological features or deposits were identified and no artefacts were recovered during the monitoring of the ground works in the area of Building D. The natural subsoil was identified at approximately 0.6m below the current ground level at the north of the area monitored, suggesting the large pond or quarry pit identified during the evaluation did not extend into this area. The natural subsoil was not identified at the southern end of Building D except where deep concrete foundations were present to approximately 2m below the current ground level, suggesting the ground had been levelled up. Comparisons with the ground level of the road outside the works corroborate this.

The made up ground identified was mainly a mixture of black silt sand with much brick rubble, some large sandstone blocks and ash and crushed sandstone levelling deposits. As far as it could be ascertained, these deposits directly overlay the natural subsoil.

## 8.0 Acknowledgements

The building recording was supervised by Christopher Hewitson and the evaluations by Mary Duncan and Eleanor Ramsey. Eleanor Ramsey conducted the watching brief. Leonie Driver assisted in both the building recording and the evaluations, and Richard Bacon in the evaluations. The project was managed for Birmingham Archaeology by Malcolm Hislop in concert with Kirsty Nichol. The project was monitored for Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council by the Borough Archaeologist, Graham Eyre-Morgan. Chris Hewitson and Nigel Dodds prepared the drawings.

## 9.0 References

Hislop, M. and Krawiec, K. 2004, *Thomas William Lench Ltd, Land off Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands: An Historic Environment Impact Assessment* (Birmingham Archaeology Report No. 1204).

Peters, J.E.C. 1988, 'Post-Medieval Roof Trusses in some Staffordshire Farm Buildings', *Vernacular Architecture* 19, 24-31.

RCHME 1996, *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn.

## **APPENDIX 1**

## Pottery Report

1006 (19<sup>th</sup> century or later)

- 1 x medieval bowl sherd with thin internal olive glaze (13<sup>th</sup> – 15<sup>th</sup>c)
- 2 x slip-coated ware
- 1 x brown salt-glazed stoneware
- 1 x modern yellow ware
- 1 x blue transfer-printed ware
- 2 x bone china
- 5 x flower pot

1009 F102 (19<sup>th</sup> century or later)

- 1 x flower pot

1011 F100 (18<sup>th</sup> century)

- 1 x clay pipe bowl, with spur and stamp EI on bowl

1012 (machining) (17<sup>th</sup> century)

- 1 x glazed jug sherd with trace of roller-stamped decoration and olive glaze with copper speckles (13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century)
- 1 x blackware sherd (17<sup>th</sup> century)

1012 F105 (Mid 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century)

- 1 x glazed sandy whiteware sherd

1024 (Late 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century)

- 1 x coarseware

Cleaning over F104 (19<sup>th</sup> century)

- 2 x flower pot
- 1 x roof tile
- 1 x unglazed floor tile

F104 (19<sup>th</sup> century)

- 1 x bone china
- 9 x ceramic building material
- 4 x animal bone
- [4 x stone fragments all sandstone, I think]

3001 F300 (Post-medieval)

1 x roof tile

3002 F300 (?first half of 19<sup>th</sup> century)

1 x ?blackware (18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x slip-coated ware base (Late 17<sup>th</sup>-mid 18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x creamware (c 1760-1800)  
2 x pearlware (Late 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x blue transfer-printed pearlware (19<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x utilitarian whiteware (19<sup>th</sup> century)  
2 x clay pipe stems  
2 x ceramic building material

3003 F300 (18<sup>th</sup> century)

1 x slip-coated ware (Late 17<sup>th</sup> to mid-18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x coarseware (18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x weathered green vessel glass

3008 F300 (?18<sup>th</sup> or 19<sup>th</sup> century)

1 x slag  
1 x green vessel glass

3013 F302 (19<sup>th</sup> century)

1 x blackware sherd (17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x utilitarian whiteware sherd (19<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x clay pipe bowl fragment, trace of stamped flat heel (late 17<sup>th</sup>-early 18<sup>th</sup> century)  
1 x clay pipe stem  
10 x small bone fragments  
1 x slag

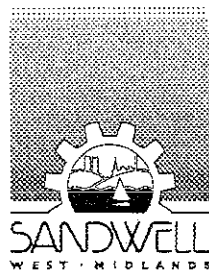
## **APPENDIX 2**

**HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD, ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION  
AND WATCHING BRIEF**

**THOMAS WILLIAM LENCH LTD, LAND OFF CARNIGIE ROAD,  
BLACKHEATH, WEST MIDLANDS**

July 2004

**PHASE II**



**SANDWELL MBC**

**Planning Application No.** DC/03/40519

**Site:** Land off Carnegie Road, Blackheath

**Developer:** David Wilson Homes (01902 780013)

**Planning Officer:** Mike Nicholls (0121 569 4043)

**Borough Archaeologist:** Graham Eyre-Morgan (0121 569 4025)

**Assistant Archaeologist :** Charlotte Lewis (0121 568 4217)

*This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Borough Archaeologist should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period.*

*The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their written scheme of investigation as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.*

## **1.0 Introduction**

1.1 This brief for an archaeological evaluation, watching brief and historic building record has been prepared by the Borough Archaeologist for Sandwell MBC. Proposals have been submitted for the redevelopment of the site and the local authority has advised the applicant that the results of the archaeological evaluation could possibly affect the development proposals with a requirement for further work. This brief is based on the results of an earlier *Historic Environment Impact Assessment* undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology (2004).

## **2.0 Site Location and Description**

The site is an early 19<sup>th</sup> Century Nuts and Bolts factory: Thomas William Lench Limited, and lies on the outskirts of Blackheath between Carnegie Road and Ross Road. The site dates from 1884 to 1937 and mainly consists of inter-war brick built industrial buildings. The buildings retain much of its original fenestration including the decorative terracotta detailing around the windows. Thomas William Lench Limited has provided the context for the surrounding urban developments which would have been worker's housing, situated on the corner of Carnegie Road is a library, the date stone 1909 and founder is Andrew Carnegie.

The oldest building on the site appears to be a large farm building, which is apparent on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition historic OS maps; it is 2-storey range with cast iron window frames. Along Ross Road there are a series of twelve warehouses that are brick built with terracotta detailing dated 1920's. Next to these warehouses are four late 19<sup>th</sup> century



Lancashire boilers with riveted wrought iron detailing this suggests that there could have been steam production on the site, they are currently being used as oil storage tanks.

Along the Carnegie Road perimeter are inter-war brick buildings with blue brick, terracotta detailing around the windows, an inscribed stone with "Workers Entrance", and decorative ridge tiles on the roof and a clear storey. Further along this road there is another inscription and decorative tile with "Girls Hall" and above the name of the manufacture "Thomas William Lench Limited" and two nuts and bolts crossed carved on the tile. Situated next to this second inscription are brick buildings with decoration and mock Tudor canted bays, these are currently being used as offices. There is also a 1950's/ 1960's good bay to the rear of the offices, also apparent are sheds that are brick built with steel frames and dated to about 1940.

### **3.0 Planning Background**

3.1 Planning Applications DC/03/40519 and DC/03/ 41350 have conditional approval, based on Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (DoE and DNH 1990) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) together with the Councils UDP policies, the following condition has been attached to the planning permission of this site:

*" No development, demolition or preliminary groundworks of any kind shall take place until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to, and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority."*

3.2 The Assessment phase has been completed and the results used to prepare this Brief for the detailed recording of the upstanding fabric together with the evaluation of any buried archaeological deposits where appropriate compounded with an archaeological watching brief to be undertaken during the clearance and ground breaking activities.

3.3 The Phase I *Historic Environment Impact Assessment* undertaken by Birmingham Archaeology (2004) concluded that although none of the standing buildings affected by the proposed redevelopment warranted statutory protection many were worthy of preservation by record. There are buildings on the site of sufficient interest and character to require building recording, this will be undertaken at varying levels according to their significance in accordance with the RCHME levels of record. In addition, it is required that archaeological evaluation (trial trenching) is undertaken at the location of a potential moated site. In addition, an archaeological watching brief is also needed during of clearance and ground breaking activities on the site of the adjacent office buildings, where it is possible that below ground remains may still exist.

3.3 The mitigation strategy as outlined in Chapter ten of the *Historic Environment Impact Assessment* is fully supported and forms the basis of this additional programme of work.

#### **4.0 Historical Overview**

4.1 The following summary is derived from the *Historic Environment Impact Assessment of Thomas William Lench Ltd, Land Off Carnegie Road, Blackheath* produced by Birmingham Archaeology (2004). Potential contractors are strongly advised to consult this document before submitting their written scheme of investigation.

4.2. The Lench factory evolved in the 19<sup>th</sup> century to initially produce chains and nails (for which Blackheath was famous for) and tramway ironwork and railway fastenings. These products eventually gave way to the production of nuts and bolts. The Lench factory expanded during the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century in the large-scale production of nuts and bolts (indeed by the 1950's had become the largest producer of nuts and bolts in the country) and continued to produce them up until the present day.

4.3. The 1807 map depicts a building in the south-west corner of the study area and another, of T-shaped plan, on the east side of and approximately mid-way along Carnegie Road at the junction with Yew Tree Lane. It was adjacent to a large pool, which lay immediately to the north of the property. On the 1842 map a public house described on later maps as the Yew Tree is shown on the west side of Carnegie Road in what is now the car park

4.4 All three buildings appear on the later 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map in slightly altered forms. The structure at the southwest corner of the study area appears as a row of five cottages, whereas the structure on the east side of Carnegie Road has the appearance of a large house divided into two. The pond which lay just to the north on the 1807 map has now disappeared but a different pool is shown to the south of the house, a curving boundary is revealed to the southeast of the building and marshy ground to the northwest giving the site a moated appearance.

4.5 The 1885 OS map reveal the beginnings of Thomas William Lench factory with an L-shaped complex to the west of Ross Road barely indistinguishable from a small farmstead. By 1904 as the OS map reflects the factory had grown with many additional buildings and the site was now known as the Excelsior Works. Within the next nineteen years the works had expanded across the entire width of the study area and by the Second World War the factory had reached its zenith with most of its present buildings erected.

#### **5.0 Areas of Archaeological Potential**

5.1 Within the study area there is little evidence for any occupation before the 18<sup>th</sup> century. With the exception of the possible moated site on the western side of the site to the east of Carnegie Road but still with half the moated site outside the study area and the half within the study area is largely built over. However, some of the moated area lies within the open yard of the main entrance. The area will provide the greatest potential for early archaeology on the site. There is also the potential for the survival

of archaeology at the site of the earliest factory buildings on the east side of the study area. It is recommended that evaluation by trial trenching takes place in these areas.

5.2 In addition, it is recommended that archaeological monitoring of ground breaking and clearance activities be undertaken on the site of the adjacent office buildings to the main entrance.

## **6.0 Research Strategy**

Within the limits of the proposed investigation procedures the objectives of the phase II building survey, archaeological evaluation and watching brief are as follows:

6.1 To establish the origins, chronology, technical history and significance of the Thomas William Lench Limited site off Carnegie Road, Blackheath.

6.2 To make a detailed record of the factory in accordance with current best practice. The industry has been poorly studied nationally and the survey should seek to complement the written record and in particular, its historical development, typology, spatial layout, technology, process flow and working conditions

6.3 Provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival of archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site and assess their importance.

6.4 Assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.

6.5 Provide information that will allow a local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on a planning application.

6.6 Provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigating strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.

6.7 Produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum.

6.8 Provide information for accession to the Sandwell Sites and Monuments Record(SMR).

6.9 Add to the corpus of information from this area

## **7.0 General Methodology**

6.1 The evaluation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation

7.2 A professional Contractor with proven expertise in archaeological evaluation and recording shall be contracted to undertake this work. Details including the name, qualifications and experience of all key personnel (the project manager, site supervisor, any proposed specialists) shall be included within the WSI. CV's, previous examples of work and references from heritage curators may be requested prior to approving any resulting WSI.

7.2 The Contractor will operate with due regard for Health and Safety regulations. The work may require the preparation of a Risk Assessment of the site, in accordance with the Health and Safety at work regulations (1992). Those who wish to undertake the work should ensure they are adequately insured, to cover all eventualities, including risks to third parties. Sandwell MBC and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents which may occur to contractors engaged to undertake this work while attempting to conform to this Brief.

7.3 The Contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

7.4 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Evaluations, Watching Briefs and Building Investigation and Recording* should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report, and the general execution of the project.

7.5 A site code must be obtained from the Borough Archaeologist.

7.6 Should the client wish to curtail the investigation for any reason at any point in advance of its completion the contractor will still be expected to produce a full report including specialist finds assessments within the timetable set out below.

## **8.0 Evaluation Methodology**

8.1 The contractor shall ensure detailed study of all mains service locations and avoid damage to these.

8.2 Prior to the commencement of on-site works the contractor must consult the Sandwell Sites and Monuments Record (Fay de Souza 0121 568 4216) and undertake a rapid map regression exercise based on the sources held at the Local Studies Section of Smethwick Library. This information will assist in on-site interpretation.

8.3 The appointed archaeological contractor must provide a trenching strategy to the Borough Archaeologist at least two weeks prior to starting the project. The trial trenches will be machine excavated using a toothless ditching bucket, and under the supervision and to the satisfaction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be hand cleaned in all trenches and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

8.4 At least 50% of all contained features shall be excavated. A stated percentage of structural and linear features to be excavated shall be provided in the WSI. For those trenches where substantial nineteenth and twentieth century masonry remains are

encountered hand dug test pits will be excavated within the trench in order to examine the presence/absence of earlier remains. NOTE: In some circumstances it may be necessary to use shoring to support the sides of the trench, but advice must be sought from the Borough Archaeologist before employing this methodology.

8.5 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site grid will be tied to the national grid.

8.6 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the WSI. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

8.7 The photographic record shall consist of photographs in both monochrome and colour mediums with negatives if 35mm or medium format cameras are used in preference to digital cameras. This shall include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs. A photographic register and supporting plan detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot shall accompany the photographic record.

8.8 The contractor must arrange, through a suitably qualified specialist, the assessment of the palaeoenvironmental and metallurgical potential of the site (especially the potential moat) through the examination of suitable deposits. Guidance should be sought from the appropriate English Heritage Regional Advisor in Archaeological Science and details of the methodology included within the WSI.

## **9.0 Watching Brief Methodology**

9.1 A professional archaeologist will monitor all the groundworks listed above. The main aim being to identify and record any archaeological deposits revealed, to inform all interested parties of any significant archaeological remains, and ensure these are not damaged or destroyed, and to formulate an appropriate mitigation strategy.

9.2 It is anticipated that as works progress the intensity of the watching brief is likely to diminish especially if only modern overburden is revealed.

9.3 The archaeological horizon will be hand cleaned and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

9.4 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site grid will be tied to the national grid.

9.5 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the Written Scheme of Investigation. The normal preferred policy for archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

9.6 At least 50% of all contained features shall be excavated. A stated percentage of linear/structural features to be excavated shall be provided in the Written Scheme of Investigation. In the absence of dateable finds the area of the feature to be excavated must be increased in order to provide a date.

9.7 The photographic record shall consist of black and white photographs, negatives and colour slides. This shall include both general and feature specific photographs; a photographic scale (including north arrow) shall be included in the case of detailed photographs.

9.8 A photographic register and supporting plan detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot shall accompany the photographic record.

## **10.0 Finds**

10.1 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed and marked with both the site code and context number.

10.2 The WSI shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the investigation.

10.3 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*. Details of the finds retrieval policy must be included within the WSI.

## **11.0 Building Recording**

11.1 It is required that the following buildings are surveyed according to RCHME standards as recommended in the *Historic Environment Impact Assessment*, produced by Birmingham Archaeology (2004).

### **Level 3 Record – further assessment and detailed record**

Carnegie Street front (Buildings A –G)

### **Level 1 Record - low level (essentially visual) record**

The remainder of the buildings

## **12 0 Methodology**

12.1 All survey works shall be undertaken by a professional contractor with proven expertise and qualifications in the analysis and recording of built structures dating to

the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Details including the name, qualifications and experience of all key personnel including the project manager, site supervisor and any proposed specialists must be included within the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). CV's, previous examples of work and references from heritage curators may be requested prior to approving any WSI.

12.2 The Contractor will operate with due regard for health and safety regulations. The work may require the preparation of a risk assessment of the site in accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Regulations (1992) prior to the submission of a quotation. Any such risk assessment should take particular note of the need to work in semi-derelict buildings. Those who wish to undertake the work should ensure they are adequately insured to cover all eventualities including risks to third parties. Sandwell MBC and its officers cannot be held responsible for any accidents that may occur to contractors engaged to undertake this survey whilst attempting to conform to the Brief.

12.3 Prior to the commencement of on-site work the Contractor should identify all accumulations of loose modern debris and/or vegetation which may mask material that needs to be recorded and make arrangements with the developer for its removal (if necessary under archaeological supervision). Similarly, the Contractor should identify any contaminants (e.g. pigeon guano, asbestos) and/or potential health and safety hazards and make arrangements with the developer for decontamination/remediation as necessary.

12.4 The Contractor is expected to follow the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).

12.5 The IFA's *Standards and Guidance for Building Investigation and Recording* should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.

12.6 A site code must be obtained from the Borough Archaeologist

### **13.0 Guiding Principles for the Historic Building Analysis & Record**

13.2 The research strategy for the built heritage should accord with the Research Framework set out in 5.0 above together with the perceived significance of each structure and its component parts.

13.3 Individual buildings will be described in terms of their date, function, methods of construction, architecture, internal spatial configuration, architectural/technological furniture, decoration, phasing, circulation and/or process flow.

13.4 An inventory will be produced of architectural features that could be incorporated within the development as 'public art'. These are likely to include named plaques, date stones, commemorative inscriptions and architectural/technological furniture that reflects the history of the town.

13.5 Depending on the level of recording required for the individual sites, as expressed above. The survey's will be based on the RCHME conventions (1996) the metric survey should incorporate all structural elements, truss positions, doors, windows and stairs, original and subsequent historical partitions, any significant changes in constructional material, changes in floor material, architectural/technological furniture and evidence of phasing. Architects plans can be used where they exist, but it is the responsibility of the Contractor to check the accuracy of these drawings and to make any necessary adjustments or corrections. Dimensional accuracy should accord with the normal requirements of the English Heritage Architecture and Survey Branch (at 1:20, measurements should be accurate to at least 10mm; at 1:50, to at least 20mm; at 1:100, to at least 50mm).

13.6 Where specified sketch plans will simply show external/internal walls, doors, windows, staircases, fireplaces and evidence of phasing. Although these will not be dimensionally accurate, an indicative scale must be provided.

13.7 The photographic record will consist of black and white prints, negatives and colour slide. This should include both general shots and details of individual features (external and internal). The former will be taken using a medium format camera with perspective control, whereas a 35mm camera can be used for all other photographs; all detailed shots shall include a photographic scale. A photographic register detailing as a minimum the location and direction of each shot must accompany the record. Where possible, the position and direction of each photograph should be tied to the drawn record.

#### **14.0 Results**

14.1 Given the nature of the project the contractor is advised to produce separate reports, the archaeological evaluation and standing building record can be combined if undertaken at the same time, followed by the watching brief during the clearance and ground breaking phase of development. Alternatively three independent reports will be acceptable. Six copies of the final report (combining all three elements of the work) and a Cd-Rom shall be submitted to the Borough Archaeologist within 8 weeks of completion of site work. A copy of a basic draft report should be issued within 2 weeks of each the fieldwork elements being completed for approval by the Borough Archaeologist.

#### **14.2 The Evaluation Report**

The aims and methods adopted during the course of the evaluation.

Detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion.

An assessment of the local, regional national importance of the site. The latter should be based on the criteria for scheduling as set out in Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990)

Impact Assessment and recommended mitigation strategy will be used to assess the impact of the proposal on the surviving archaeological resource.



The contractor is also expected to formulate a mitigation strategy and future research programme. The latter should be based on national/regional/local research frameworks and identify the aims/objectives of any future excavation.

Although the emphasis should be on those deposits that are likely to be destroyed, the wider potential the site must also be considered

A concise non-technical summary of the project results

All specialist reports and assessments

Site location plan, copies of any historical maps and a representative sample of the photographs including colour prints

Location plan of trenches in relation to the proposed development. All corners of each trench shall be given a 10 figure grid reference

A section/s within each trench showing the depth of deposits including the present ground level with Ordnance Datum, vertical and horizontal scale

Sufficient plans by period and area to aid interpretation

Artefact illustrations that would be submitted in any future publication

The following appendices should also be included:

Location and summary of the archive contents

Completed summary sheet (copy attached to brief)

Photographic register

Archaeological brief, the approved contractors' written scheme of investigation together with the completed pro-forma and site location plan which were submitted as part of the planning application

The proposed format of the report will be described within the WSI.

### **14.3 The Archaeological Watching Brief**

The report must contain:

A concise non-technical summary of the project results

The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation

A discussion of the development of the site based on the map regression analysis and/or other sources of historical information

The findings of the watching brief

Interpretation of the results in accordance with the research objectives outlined above  
(5.0)

Detailed results including a suitable conclusion and discussion.

Location plans of all fieldwork in relation to the proposed works. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.

The following appendices:

All specialist reports or assessments

Context register with brief descriptions

Photographic register

Completed summary sheet (copy attached to brief)

Summary of archive contents, location and date of deposition

Archaeological brief

The proposed format of the report will be described within the WSI.

### **14.3 The Historic Building Record**

The WSI will provide detailed information on the format of the report and chapter headings, but as a minimum it must contain:

A concise non-technical summary of the results

Aims and methods in accordance with the Research Strategy (5.0) and Site Specific Methodology (13.0)

A brief overview of the historical development of the factory based on the *Historic environment Impact Assessment* (Birmingham Archaeology 2004)

Detailed results of the building analysis and record

An assessment of the origins and development of the study area on the Research Strategy (5.0) and the findings of the building analysis and record.

This should address:

Similarities and contradictions with the documentary record

The architectural development of the site through time and space

Conclusion

The following illustrations should be included:

Site location plan

Site plan showing the location of all buildings

Copies of any historical maps/drawings/lithographs

The measured survey and sketches

A representative sample of the photographs including colour prints

Sufficient plans by period and area to aid interpretation

The following appendices shall be included in the following order:

- Copies of both planning applications
- Recording Brief
- Approved Contractors' WSI
- Photographic register
- Location and summary of the archive contents
- Completed summary sheets

## **15.0 ARCHIVE**

### **15.1 Paper Archive**

Before commencing any fieldwork, the Contractor must contact the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library (High Street, Smethwick, West Midlands B661AB. Tel. 0121 5582561), to determine the requirements for the deposition of the archive.

The archive should include the record photographs, negatives, colour slides, film register, digital information together with a copy of the Report.

Photographic prints should be re-produced at a minimum of five by four inches and labelled on the back using indelible ink with the film and frame number, date, photographers name together with the site code, name and grid reference; the photographs being mounted in archival quality sleeves.

It is the responsibility of the Contractor to meet the Community History and Archives Service requirements with regard to the preparation of material for deposition.

Written notification of the commencement of fieldwork shall be given to Community History and Archives Service at the same time as the Borough Archaeologist.

A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to Borough Archaeologist at the time of deposition.

### **15.2 The Archaeological Archive**

N.B. The finds together with a copy of the report are to be deposited at Wednesbury Museum, whereas the paper record, photographs and a second copy of the report should be archived at the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library. There is currently a storage problem at Wednesbury Museum and in the short-term the archaeological finds will have to be held by the contractor pending further notice from the Borough Archaeologist

The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with Wednesbury Museum (Tel 0121 5560683).

If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the paper archive shall be housed at the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library (0121 558 2561).

Photographic prints should be re-produced at a minimum of five by four inches and labelled on the back using indelible ink with the film and frame number, date, photographers name together with the site code, name and grid reference; the photographs being mounted in archival sleeves.

A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to Borough Archaeologist at the time of deposition.

### **15.3 The Historic Building Archive**

A copy of the archive which should include photographs, negatives, the film register, field notes together with a copy of the report should be submitted to the Borough Archaeologist for deposition at the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library (0121 5582561), within six months of completing the fieldwork.

Photographic prints should be re-produced at a minimum of five by four inches and labelled on the back using indelible ink with the film and frame number, date, photographers name together with the site code, name and grid reference; the photographs being mounted in archival sleeves.

A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to Borough Archaeologist at the time of deposition.

### **16.0 Publicity and Promotion**

An allowance shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. The Borough Archaeologist will notify the contractor of such a need within eight weeks of receipt of the report.

### **17.0 Monitoring**

17.1 The Borough Archaeologist will be responsible for monitoring progress and standards throughout the project and should be kept regularly informed during fieldwork, interpretation and reporting stages.

17.2 Written Notification of the start date will be given to the Borough Archaeologist at least one week before the commencement of work and once the fieldwork stage of the investigation has been completed. The latter should be accompanied by a timetable with fixed dates for report completion and archive deposition.

### **18.0 Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation**

18.1 It is advisable that the contractor forwards a copy of the WSI to the Borough Archaeologist for validation before submitting costed proposals to the agency commissioning the work.

18.2 The WSI will need to be approved by the Borough Archaeologist, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, before the commencement of any survey work.

18.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the Borough Archaeologist before being implemented.

18.4 This brief has been written following a cursory examination of the site and potential contractors are therefore strongly advised to carry out their own inspection before submitting a costed tender. If on first visiting the site or at any time during the recording exercise, it appears that:

a part or the whole of the site is not amenable to the recording programme outlined above, and/or

an alternative approach may be more appropriate or likely to produce more informative results, and/or

any features that should be recorded as having a bearing on the interpretation of the site have been omitted,

then it is expected that the contractor will contact the Borough Archaeologist as a matter of urgency.

#### **19.0 Disclaimer**

19.1 It is the responsibility of the applicant, or agents acting on their behalf, to choose a suitable contractor to conduct the project. The Borough Archaeologist can give guidance and addresses of qualified contractors can also be found in the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Yearbook and Directory of Members*.

#### References:

Hislop, M. and Krawiec, K. Birmingham Archaeology 2004, *Thomas William Lench Limited, Land off Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands, An Historic Environment Assessment*.

For further information regarding the content of this brief please contact the author at the address below. As part of our desire to provide a quality service, we would welcome any comments you may have on the content and presentation of this archaeological brief.

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## **APPENDIX 3**

**Thomas William Lench Limited, Land off Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands**

**Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic Building Record, Archaeological Evaluation and Watching Brief**

*Birmingham Archaeology*

**1.0 Introduction**

This written scheme of investigation describes an historic building record, archaeological evaluation and watching brief to be undertaken at the Thomas William Lench Limited nuts and bolts factory in Blackheath, West Midlands. The work has been commissioned by David Wilson Homes and is required in order to fulfil conditions placed on the approval of Planning Applications DC/03/40519 and DC/03/41350 for demolition of the buildings and redevelopment of the site. This is in line with government advice in Planning Policy Guidance Notes 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (DoE 1990) and 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990) as well as the Council's UDP policies.

An *Historic Environment Impact Assessment* carried out by Birmingham Archaeology concluded that although none of the standing buildings affected by the proposed development warranted statutory protection many were worthy of preservation by record (Hislop and Krawiec 2004). Building recording is to be undertaken at various levels according to their significance. In addition, a potential moated site was identified, and trial trenching is required in the entrance courtyard, which is situated on the site, together with a subsequent watching brief on the site of the adjacent office buildings. Trial trenching is also required on the site of the earliest factory buildings on the east side of the factory complex.

**2.0 Site Location**

The study area is situated on the outskirts of Blackheath, West Midlands between Carnegie Road and Ross Road at NGR SO968867. It is occupied mainly by inter-war brick-built industrial buildings.

**3.0 Scope of Work**

Building Recording

The buildings listed below are to be recorded according to RCHME standards (RCHME 1996).

*Level 3*

Documentary research, a full external architectural description, floor plans at all levels at a scale of 1:100, east/west section at 1:50, and comprehensive photographic external and internal coverage.



- Carnegie Street front (Buildings A-G\*)
- Ross front (Buildings N-S\*)
- Buildings I, P & Q\*

\*See Hislop and Krawiec 2004 for building designations and locations.

### *Level 1*

Documentary research, a brief written description and analysis supplemented by monochrome and colour photography.

- The remainder of the industrial complex

### Evaluation

Trial trenching will take place within the main entrance courtyard on the west (Carnegie Street) side of the complex on the site of a putative moat, and on the east (Ross) side on the site of the earliest factory buildings.

### Watching Brief

Archaeological monitoring of ground-breaking activities will be undertaken on the site of the office building adjacent to the main entrance courtyard with the intention of uncovering remains of the putative moat.

## **4.0 Objectives**

- To establish the origins, chronology, technical history and significance of the Thomas William Lench Ltd site
- To make a detailed record of the factory to complement the written record, in particular its historical development, typology, spatial layout, technology, process flow and working conditions.
- To provide information on the presence/absence, nature, date and quality of survival or archaeological deposits and remains which might be contained within the site and to assess their importance.
- To assess the possible scale of development impact on any remains and provide information which might influence development design so that impact on any remains can be avoided or minimised.
- To provide information that will allow a local planning authority to reconcile development proposals with their policy for preserving archaeological remains and make an informed and reasoned decision on a planning application.

- To provide site specific archaeological information which (if necessary) would allow for the design and integration of timing and funding of any further archaeological work (or other mitigation strategy) which might be required in advance of or during any subsequent development programme.
- To produce a project archive for deposition with the appropriate museum.
- To provide information for accession to the Sandwell Sites and Monuments Record.
- To add to the corpus of information from this area.

## **5.0 Methods**

### Building Recording

The survey will be based on RCHME standards (RCHME 1996).

Elevations will be recorded by use of a Reflectorless EDM. Plans of individual buildings will be drawn by hand, typically be at a scale of 1:50.

Individual buildings will be described in terms of their date, function, methods of construction, architecture, internal spatial configuration, architectural/ technological furniture, decoration, phasing, circulation and/or process flow.

The photographic record will consist of black and white prints and negatives and colour slides and will include both general shots (medium format) and details of individual features (35mm). The latter will include a photographic scale. A register of photographs will accompany the record.

### Evaluation

The trial trenches will be excavated by machine using a toothless bucket, under the direction of a professional archaeologist. The exposed sub-soil or archaeological horizon will be hand-cleaned and any archaeological features or deposits planned.

All contained features will be sectioned and 50% excavated by hand. Linear features will be subjected to 20% excavation, or to the degree that is required to understand their character.

Recording of archaeological features and contexts will be by pro-forma sheets supplemented by scaled drawings and 35mm photography. Plans will typically be at a scale of 1:20, and sections at a scale of 1:10, unless other scales should be deemed more appropriate in particular circumstances. Both monochrome and colour slide photographic film will be used, and the record will include both general and feature specific

photographs. Each photograph will include a scale, north sign, site code and feature/context details, and will be listed in a photographic register.

Finds shall be collected by context, cleaned, identified, marked with the site code and context number, packed and stored in accordance with national guidelines, and remedial conservation work undertaken where necessary. As a general rule only artefacts of 'displayable' quality shall undergo full conservation, but metalwork shall be X-rayed where the results are likely to be of value to the research objectives.

Environmental samples will be taken from datable contexts, typically in 20 litre bulk samples from dry contexts and, in the case of waterlogged contexts, from sections using metal boxes. Details of the samples and the results of their subsequent processing will be entered on *pro forma* record sheets.

During excavation an on-site reference collection of the metallurgical deposits will be assembled, quantities recorded by context, and a representative sample kept. A more detailed assessment and subsequent analysis, where appropriate, will be made by a specialist.

### Watching Brief

Groundworks will be carried out under archaeological supervision, down to the natural subsoil or the first significant archaeological context. The archaeological horizon will be hand cleaned and any archaeological deposits or negative features planned.

All contained features will be sectioned and 50% excavated by hand. Linear features will be subjected to 20% excavation, or to the degree that is required to understand their character.

Recording of archaeological features and contexts will be by pro-forma sheets supplemented by scaled drawings and 35mm photography. Plans will typically be at a scale of 1:20, and sections at a scale of 1:10, unless other scales should be deemed more appropriate in particular circumstances. Both monochrome and colour slide photographic film will be used, and each photograph will include a scale, north sign, site code and feature/context details, and will be listed in a photographic register.

Finds shall be collected by context, cleaned, identified, marked with the site code and context number, packed and stored in accordance with national guidelines, and remedial conservation work undertaken where necessary. As a general rule only artefacts of 'displayable' quality shall undergo full conservation, but metalwork shall be X-rayed where the results are likely to be of value to the research objectives.

## **6.0 Reporting**

The results of the archaeological programme will be presented in a series of two or three reports containing the following information as applicable:

- Summary
- Introduction
- Site location
- Objectives
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion/conclusion
- Assessment of local, regional and national importance of site.
- Impact assessment and recommended mitigation strategy.
- Specialist reports where appropriate
- Appropriate illustrations
- Sources
- Appendices

In addition a summary of the results will be submitted for publication in *West Midlands Archaeology*.

## **7.0 Staffing**

The project will be managed by Malcolm Hislop (BA, PhD, MIFA), a specialist in buildings archaeology. The building recording will be supervised by Chris Hewitson (BA, MA), who has considerable experience in the archaeology of buildings. The evaluation will be supervised by Kevin Cole (BA, AIFA). All staff will be suitably qualified for their roles in the project.

Specialist staff would be:

Dr. Wendy Smith, waterlogged and charred plant remains

Jane Evans, Roman pottery

Stephanie Ratkai, post-Roman pottery

Erica Macey, small finds

Dr. James Greig, pollen

Dr Gerry McDonnell, metallurgical finds

## **8.0 General**

- All project staff will adhere to the Code of Conduct of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- The project will follow the requirements set down in the appropriate Standard and Guidance notes prepared by the Institute of Field Archaeologists.

## **9.0 References**

Hislop, M. and Krawiec, K. 2004, *Thomas William Lench Ltd, Land off Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands: An Historic Environment Impact Assessment* (Birmingham

Archaeology Report No. 1204).

RCHME 1996, *Recording Historic Buildings: A Descriptive Specification*, 3<sup>rd</sup> edn.

Malcolm Hislop  
Birmingham Archaeology  
2 August 2004

## **APPENDIX 4**

**Thomas William Lench Ltd  
Photographic Register**

**Film 1: Colour Transparency**

1. Building Q: exterior from the north-east
2. Building Q: exterior from the north-east
3. Building Q: exterior from the north-east
4. Building Q: exterior from the north-west
5. Building Q: interior
6. Building Q: exterior from the north
7. Building Q: interior from the east
8. Building Q: interior
9. Building Q: interior
10. Building Q: interior from the south-west
11. Building Q: interior from the south-west
12. Building Q: interior from the west
13. Building Q: interior from the east
14. Building P: exterior from the west
15. Building P: exterior from the south-west
16. Building P: exterior from the west
17. Building P: exterior from the south
18. Building P: exterior
19. Building P: interior from the south-west
20. Building P: interior from the north
21. Building P: interior from the north-east
22. Building P: interior from the north-east
23. Building P: interior from the east
24. Building P: interior from the north
25. Building P: interior
26. Building P: interior from the south-west
27. Building P: interior from the south-west
28. Building P: interior from the south-west
29. Building I: interior from the south
30. Building I: interior from the south-east
31. Building I: interior from the south
32. Building I: interior from the south
33. Building I: interior from the south-west
34. General from the north-west
35. General from the north-west
36. Building P: exterior from the west
37. Building P: exterior from the north-west

**Film 2: Colour Transparency**

1. Building B: detail of exterior from the west
2. Building C: detail of the exterior from the south
3. Buildings C & D junction from the south
4. Building C: exterior from south-west
5. Building A: exterior from south-west

6. Building L: exterior from north-east
7. Building P: exterior from south-east
8. Building M: exterior from north-east
9. Building N: exterior from north-east
10. Building N: exterior from north-east
11. Building N: exterior from north-east
12. Building P: exterior from north-east
13. Buildings S & R: exterior from north-east
14. North of Building T: exterior from east
15. Building T: interior from south-west
16. Building T: interior from north-west
17. Building T: interior from north-west
18. Oil tank north of Building T: from west
19. Oil tank north of Building T: from north-west
20. Building T: exterior from east
- 21.
- 22.
- 23.
- 24.
- 25.
- 26.
27. Building K: interior from west
28. General shot taken from south-east
29. Building R: exterior from west
30. Building Q: exterior from north-west
31. Building Q: exterior from north
32. Building F: exterior from south-east

### **Film 3: Black & White**

1. Building N: exterior from south-east
2. Building N: exterior from east
3. Building N: exterior from east
4. Building N: exterior from east
5. Building N: exterior from east
6. Building N: exterior from east
7. Building N: exterior from east
8. Building N: exterior from east
9. Building N: exterior from east
10. Building N: exterior from east
11. Building M: exterior from east
12. Building L: exterior from south-east
13. Building P: exterior from south-east
14. Building R: exterior from south-east
15. Building S: exterior from east
16. Building L: exterior from north-east
17. Rear of Building T: exterior from east
18. Building A: exterior from south-west
19. Building A: exterior from south-west
20. Building B: exterior from west



21. Building A: exterior from north-west
22. Building C: exterior from south
23. Building C: exterior from south-west
24. Building C: exterior from north-west
25. Building D: exterior from north-west
26. Main Gateway: from south-west
27. Main Gateway: from south-west
28. Main gateway buildings E & G: from south-west
29. Building G: exterior from north-west
30. Gatekeeper's Lodge: exterior from south-east
31. Building N: exterior from south-west
32. Building O: exterior from south
33. Building A: exterior from south-east
34. Building N: interior from west
35. Building P: exterior from west
36. Building P: exterior from west
37. Building N: exterior from south-west

**Film 4: Black and White**

1. Building F: exterior from south-west
2. Building D: exterior from north-east
3. Building C: exterior from north-west

**Film 5: Colour Negative**

1. Building N: exterior from east
2. Building N: exterior from south-east

**Film 6: Black and White**

1. Building I: interior from the north
2. Building I: interior from the north
3. Building I: interior from the north
4. Building I: interior from the south
5. Building I: interior from the south
6. Building I: interior from the south
7. Building I: interior from the south
8. Building I: interior from the south
9. Building I: interior from the north
10. Building I: interior from the north
11. Building Q: exterior from the east
12. Building Q: exterior from the north
13. Building Q: exterior from the west
14. Building Q: interior from the south-east
15. Building Q: interior from the east
16. Building Q: interior from the south-west
17. Building Q: interior of single storey extension from the east
18. Building Q: interior of west section of building from the west
19. Building Q: exterior from the north-east

20. Building P: exterior from the west
21. Building P: interior of roof from the north
22. Building P: interior of roof from the north-east
23. Building P: interior of roof from the north
24. Building P: interior looking towards building Q from the east
25. Building P: interior of first floor from the north-west
26. Building P: staircase from first floor
27. Building P: interior of ground floor from south
28. Building P: interior of ground floor from south-east
29. Building P: interior of ground floor from north-west
30. Building P: exterior from the north-west
31. Building P: exterior from the south-west
32. Building P: exterior from the west
33. Building P: hatch above carriageway
34. Building P: door from carriageway
35. Building P: interior of ground floor from the south
36. Building Q: exterior from the east
37. Building P: exterior from the west

#### **Film 7**

1. Ross elevation, Building N
2. Ross elevation, Building N
3. Ross elevation, Building N
4. Ross elevation, Building N
5. Ross elevation, Building N
6. Ross elevation, Building N
7. Ross elevation, Building N
8. Ross elevation, Building N
9. Ross elevation, Building N
10. Ross elevation, Building N
11. Ross elevation, Building N
12. Ross elevation, Building N
13. Ross elevation, Building N
14. Ross elevation, Building N
15. Ross elevation, Building N
16. Ross elevation, Building N
17. Ross elevation, Building N
18. Ross elevation, Building N
19. Ross elevation, Building M
20. Ross elevation, Building L
21. Ross elevation, Building L
22. Ross elevation, Building L
23. Ross elevation, Building L
24. Ross elevation, Building L
25. Ross elevation, Building L
26. Ross elevation, Building L
27. Ross elevation, Building P
28. Ross elevation, Building P
29. Ross elevation, Building P

30. Ross elevation, Building P
31. Ross elevation, Building P
32. Ross elevation, Buildings P & R
33. Ross elevation, Buildings R
34. Ross elevation, Buildings R
35. Ross elevation, Buildings R
36. Ross elevation, Buildings R
37. Ross elevation, Buildings R
38. Ross elevation, Buildings R & S
39. Ross elevation, Buildings S
40. Ross elevation, Buildings S

**Film 8: Black and White**

1. Carnegie Street elevation, Building H
2. Carnegie Street elevation, Building H
3. Carnegie Street elevation, Building H
4. Carnegie Street elevation, Building H
5. Carnegie Street elevation, Building G
6. Carnegie Street elevation, Buildings G & E
7. Carnegie Street elevation, Building E
8. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
9. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
10. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
11. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
12. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
13. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
14. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
15. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
16. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
17. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
18. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
19. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
20. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
21. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
22. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
23. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
24. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
25. Carnegie Street elevation, Building D
26. Carnegie Street elevation, Building C
27. Carnegie Street elevation, Building C
28. Carnegie Street elevation, Building C
29. Carnegie Street elevation, Buildings C & B
30. Carnegie Street elevation, Building B
31. Carnegie Street elevation, Building B
32. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
33. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
34. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
35. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
36. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A

37. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
38. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
39. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
40. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
41. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
42. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
43. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
44. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
45. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
46. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
47. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A

### **Film 9: Black and White**

1. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
2. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
3. Carnegie Street elevation, Building A
4. Carnegie Street elevation, Building C

### **Digital Photographs**

1. Trench 1: west end of trench taken from the north
2. Trench 1: west end of trench taken from the north
3. Trench 1: west end of trench the south-west
4. Building Q: exterior from the north-west
5. Building Q: exterior from the north
6. Building Q: exterior from the north
7. Building Q: exterior from the north-east
8. Building Q: exterior from the north-east
9. Building Q: exterior, detail of tank, from the north-east
10. Building Q: exterior from the east
11. Building P: exterior taken from the west
12. Building P: exterior taken from the west
13. Building P: exterior taken from the west
14. Building P: interior taken from the north-west
15. Building P: staircase taken from the south-west
16. Building Q: exterior from the north
17. Building Q: detail of tanks over extension from the north
18. Building Q: detail of tanks over main building from the north
19. Trench 1: east end of trench from the west
20. Trench 1: west end of trench from the north-west
21. Trench 1: South section taken from north-east
22. Trench 1: South section taken from north-east
23. Trench 1: South section taken from north
24. Trench 1: South section taken from north-west
25. Trench 1: South section taken from north-west
26. Trench 1: South section taken from north-west
27. Trench 1: South section taken from north-west
28. Trench 1: South section taken from north-west
29. Trench 1: east end of trench taken from the north-west

## APPENDIX 5

## **Location and Summary of Archive**

### **Location**

The archive is being stored temporarily at the Birmingham Archaeology offices, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, Birmingham B15 2TT pending transfer to the Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick Library.

### **Summary**

- The drawing register
- One CD-ROM containing AutoCAD elevation drawings and plans
- The photographic register
- One CD-ROM containing digitised rectified photographs of the main elevations
- One CD-ROM containing digital photographs
- Three sets of black and white negatives
- Two sets of black and white prints
- One set of black and white contact prints
- One set of colour negatives
- One set of colour prints
- Two sets of colour slides

## **APPENDIX 6**

**SANDWELL MBC/ SMR  
SUMMARY SHEET**

**Site name/Address:** T.W.Lench Ltd

**Borough:** Sandwell MBC

**NGR:** SO 968867

**Type of Work:** Historic building record & archaeological evaluation

**Site Code:** BHT WL204

**Contractor:** Birmingham Archaeology

**Date of Work:** August-September 2004

**Location of Finds/Curating Museum:** Birmingham  
Archaeology/Wednesbury Museum

**Title of Report:** Thomas William Lench Ltd, Carnegie Road, Blackheath, West Midlands: Historic Building Record and Archaeological Evaluation (BHT WL204)

***SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:***

Historic Building Recording

Five principal phases of construction were identified on the basis of historic map analysis (Phases 0-4), of which only Phases 1-4 survived above ground level. These buildings ranged in date from the last decade of the 19<sup>th</sup> century to c.1970. The archaeological building recording carried out since then has modified those findings only inasmuch as a structural sequence has been identified between Buildings A and B. The phasing can therefore be summarised thus:-

- Phase 0 (Pre 1885)
- Phase 1 (1886-1904)
- Phase 2 (1905-1918)
- Phases 3 (1919-1937)
- Phase 4 (Post-1937)

Much of the factory's interior had undergone considerable alteration and was of a plain and undiagnostic character. The archaeological recording concentrated on the most architecturally significant elements, namely the two main elevations that extended along Carnegie Street to the west and Ross to the east and the only three buildings (Buildings I, P and Q) to have survived from Phase 1.

Many of the factory buildings from Phases 1 to 3 had certain characteristics in common, which gave the complex, and in particular the two main elevations, a degree of architectural unity, despite being the product of an evolutionary development. All the buildings were constructed in red brick and many were large single-storey workshops with pitched roofs, segmental-arched windows, and circular oculi in the gables. The fairly minimal detailing tended towards the Baroque.

Archaeological Evaluation

Evaluation trenches were excavated in two areas. One of these, which was on the site of the earliest buildings, encountered an oil-contaminated landscape and was abandoned. The other targeted area had been identified as a potential moated site through historic map evidence, and the evaluation uncovered a substantial ditch of unknown purpose containing 13<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> century pottery in its lower fill and 17<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> century pottery in its upper fill. This was truncated by a large feature, possibly a pond or quarry containing 19<sup>th</sup>-century pottery.

**Author of Summary:** Malcolm Hislop

**Date of Summary:** 3 November 2004





Fig.1

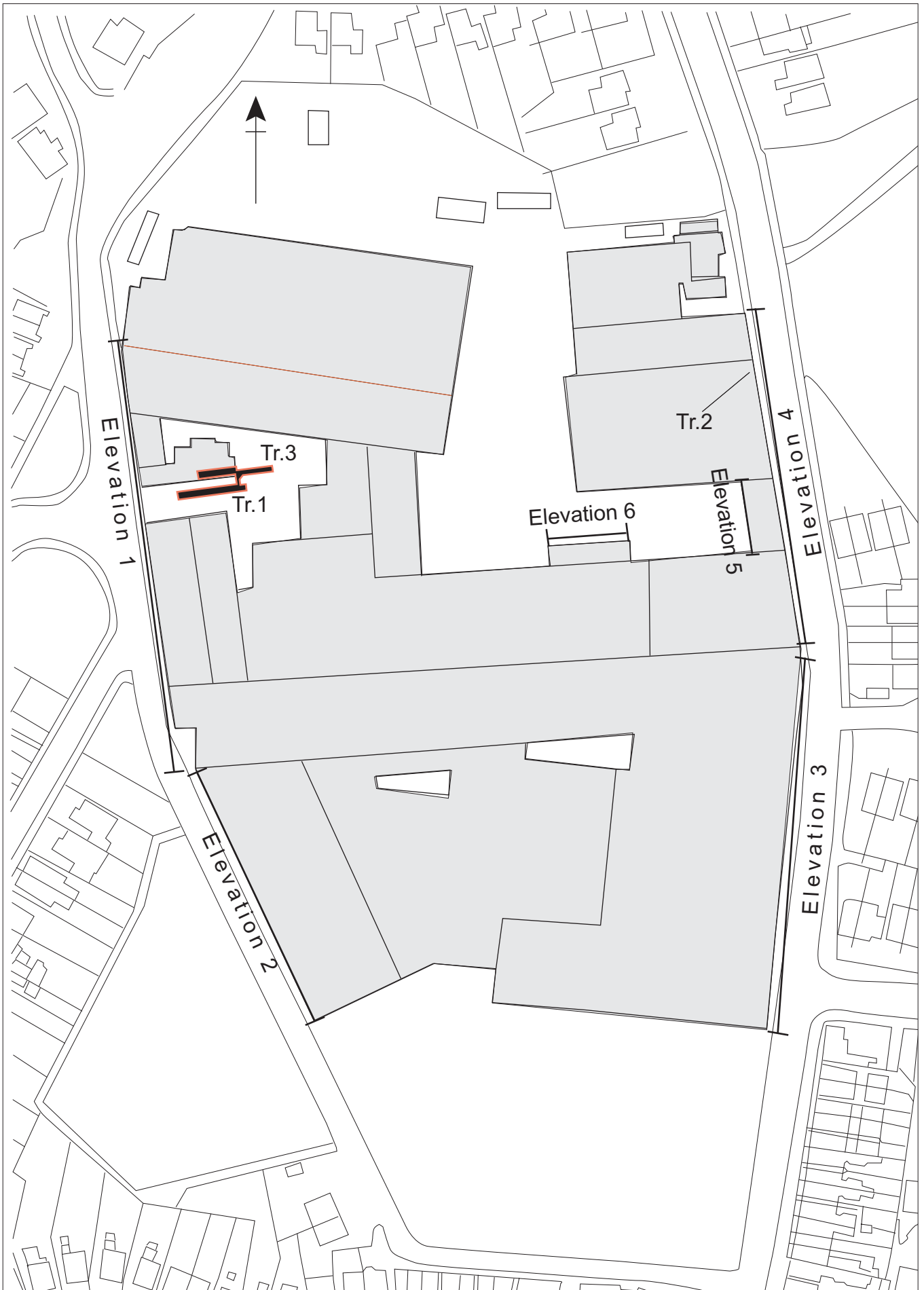


Fig.2 Key to elevations and evaluation trenches



Fig.3

N



Elevation continues below

Fig.4 Elevation 1 (north)



S

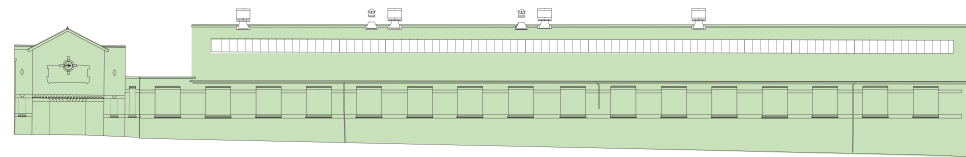


Fig.5 Elevation 2 (south)



Carnegie Street Elevation

Sandwell MBC BHT WL04

NGR SO 9685 8670

Pn 1224

Birmingham Archaeology

Elevation continued below

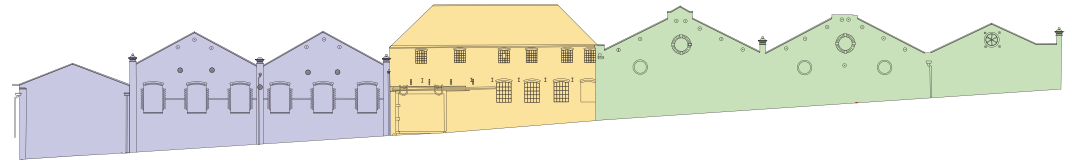


Fig.6 Elevation 3 (north)

S

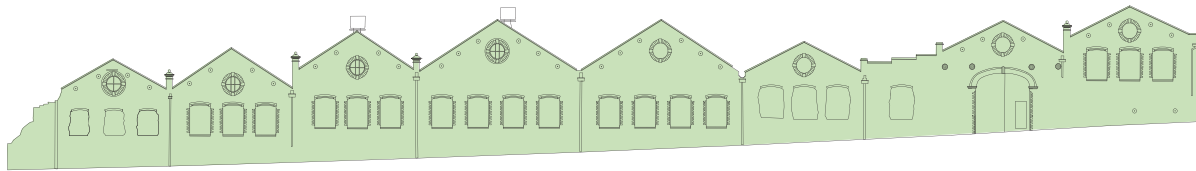


Fig.7 Elevation 2 (south)

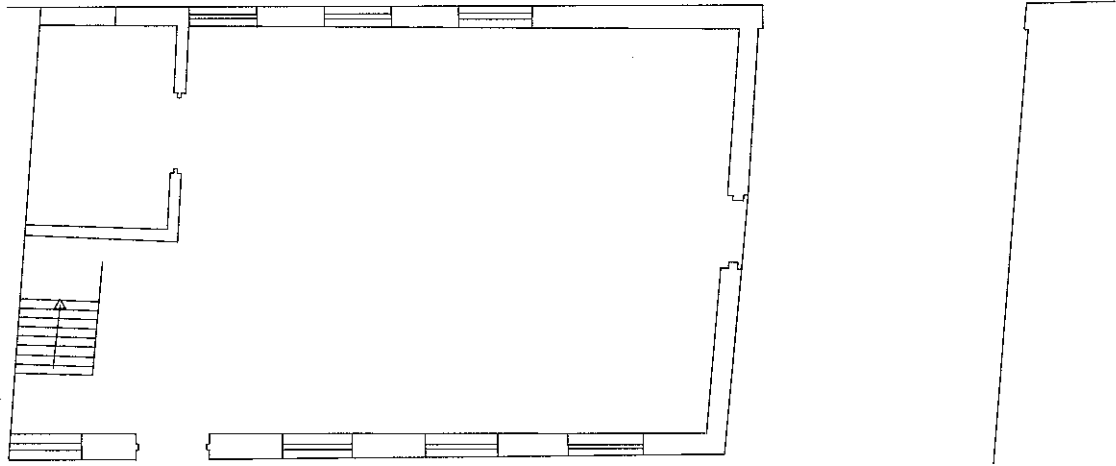


Ross Elevation

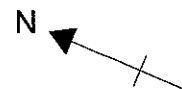
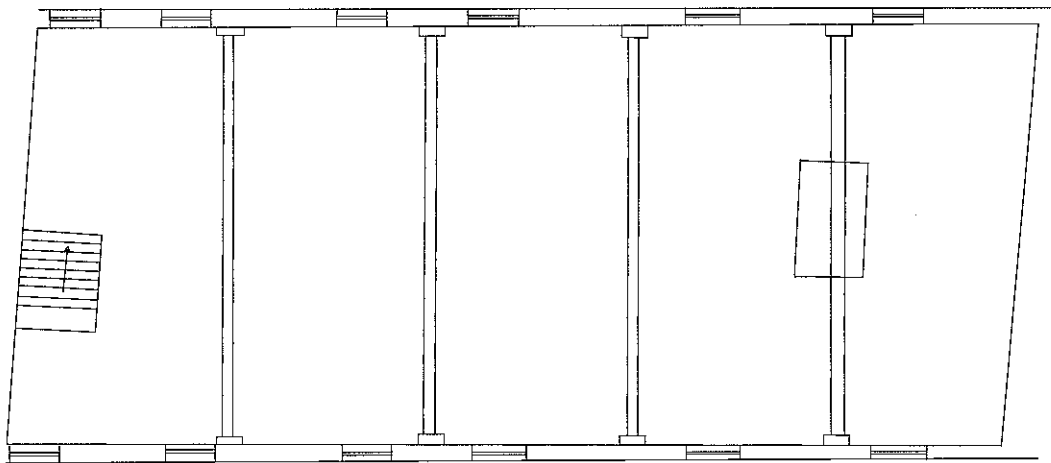
Sandwell MBC BHT WL04  
Pn 1224

NGR SO 9685 8670  
Birmingham Archaeology

Ground Floor



First Floor



Building P Ground & First Floor

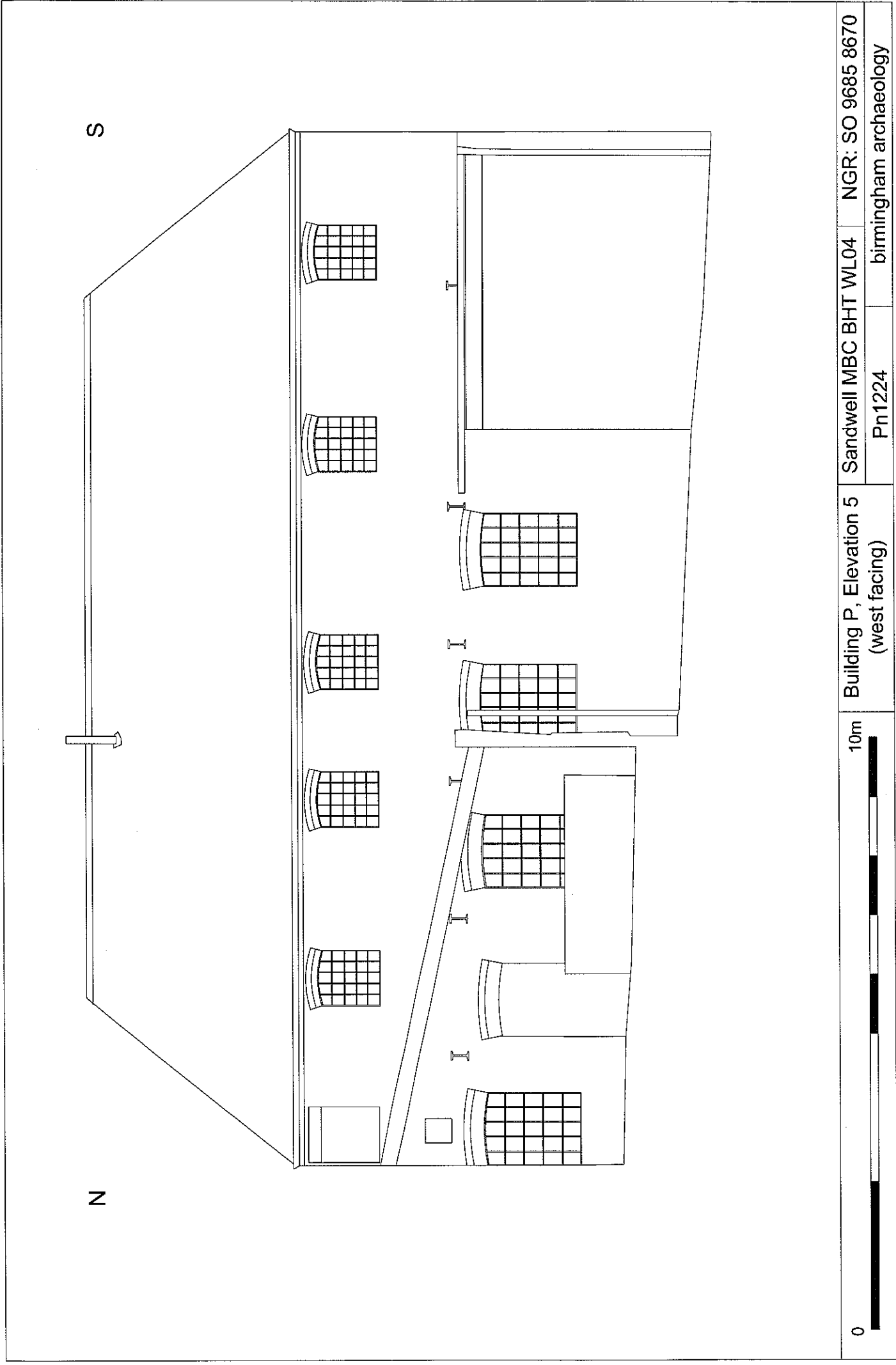
Sandwell MBC BHT WL04

NGR: SO 9685 8670

Pn1224

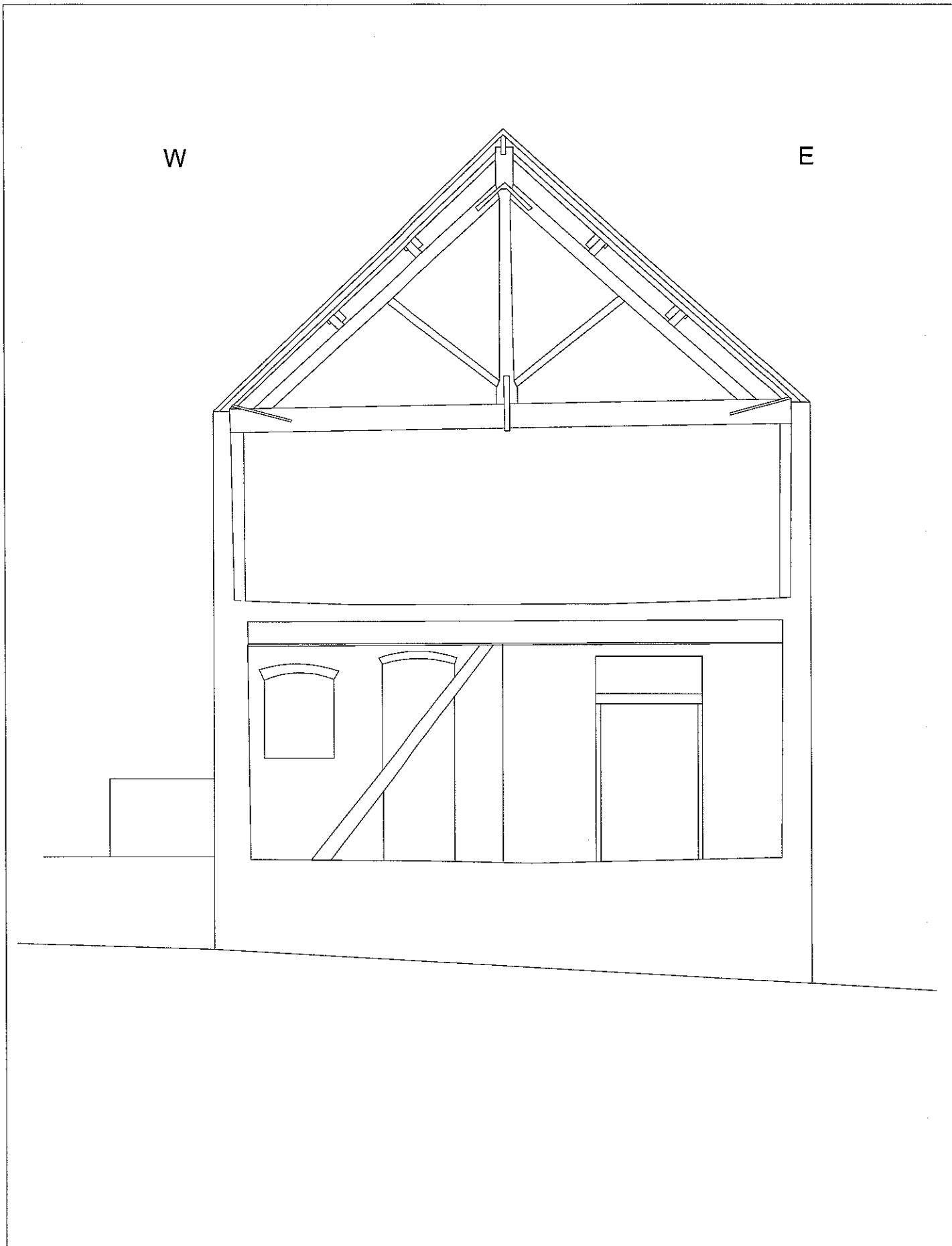
birmingham archaeology

Fig. 8



0	10m	Building P, Elevation 5 (west facing)	Sandwell MBC BHT WL04 Pn1224	NGR: SO 9685 8670 birmingham archaeology
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Fig. 9




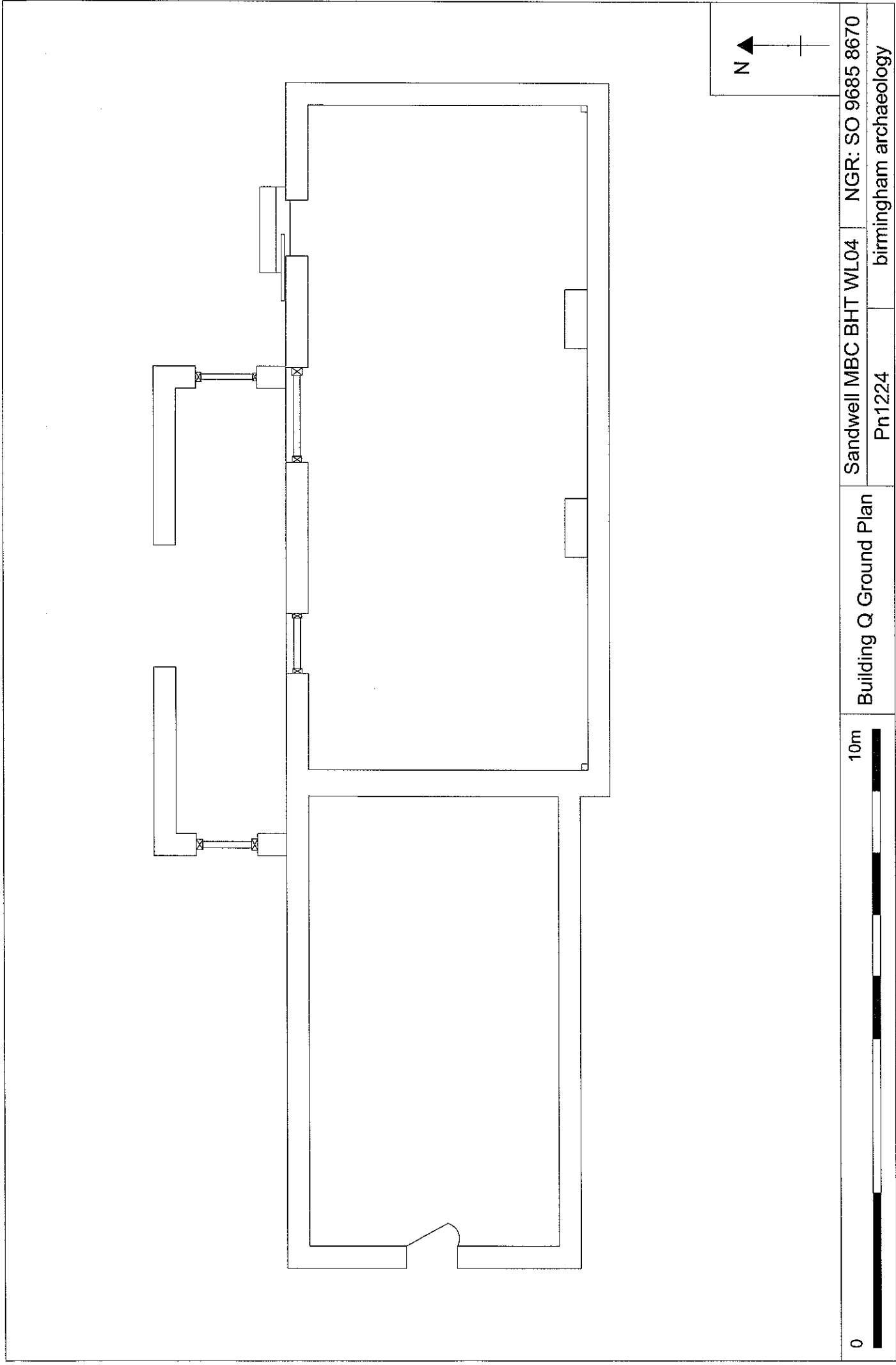
0  10m	Sandwell MBC BHT WL04	NGR: SO 9685 8670
Building P, Cross-Section 1	Pn1224	birmingham archaeology

Fig. 10





0

10m

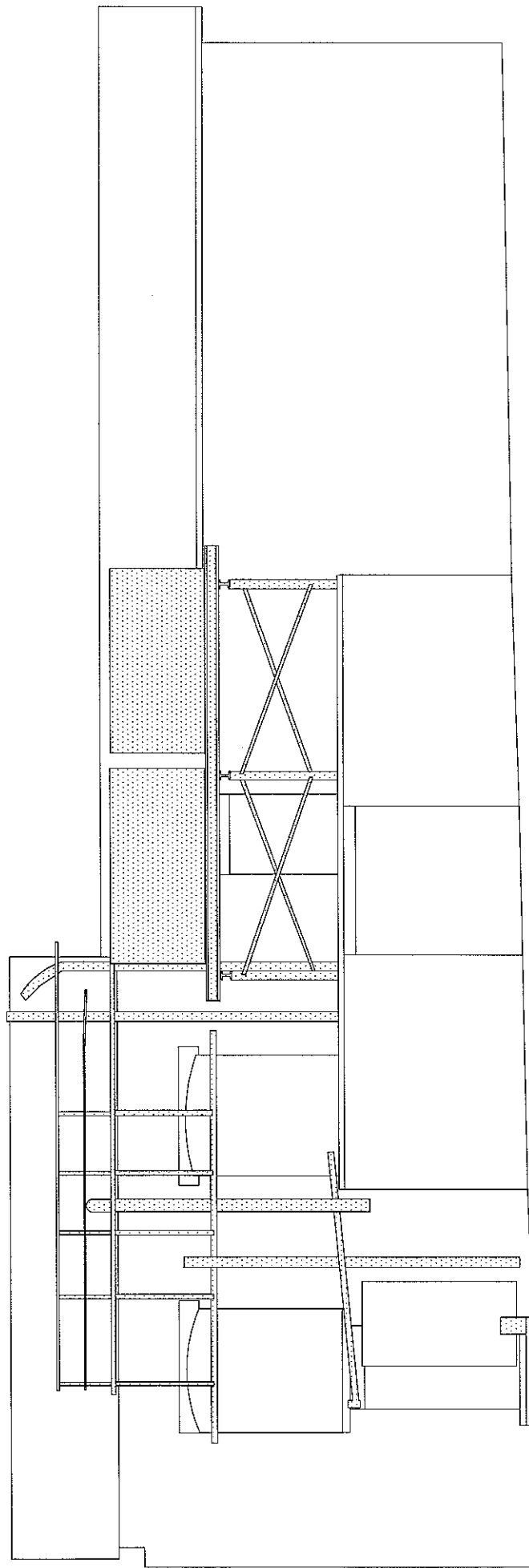
Building Q Ground Plan

Sandwell MBC BHT WL04 | NGR: SO 9685 8670  
 Pn1224 | birringham archaeology

Fig. 11

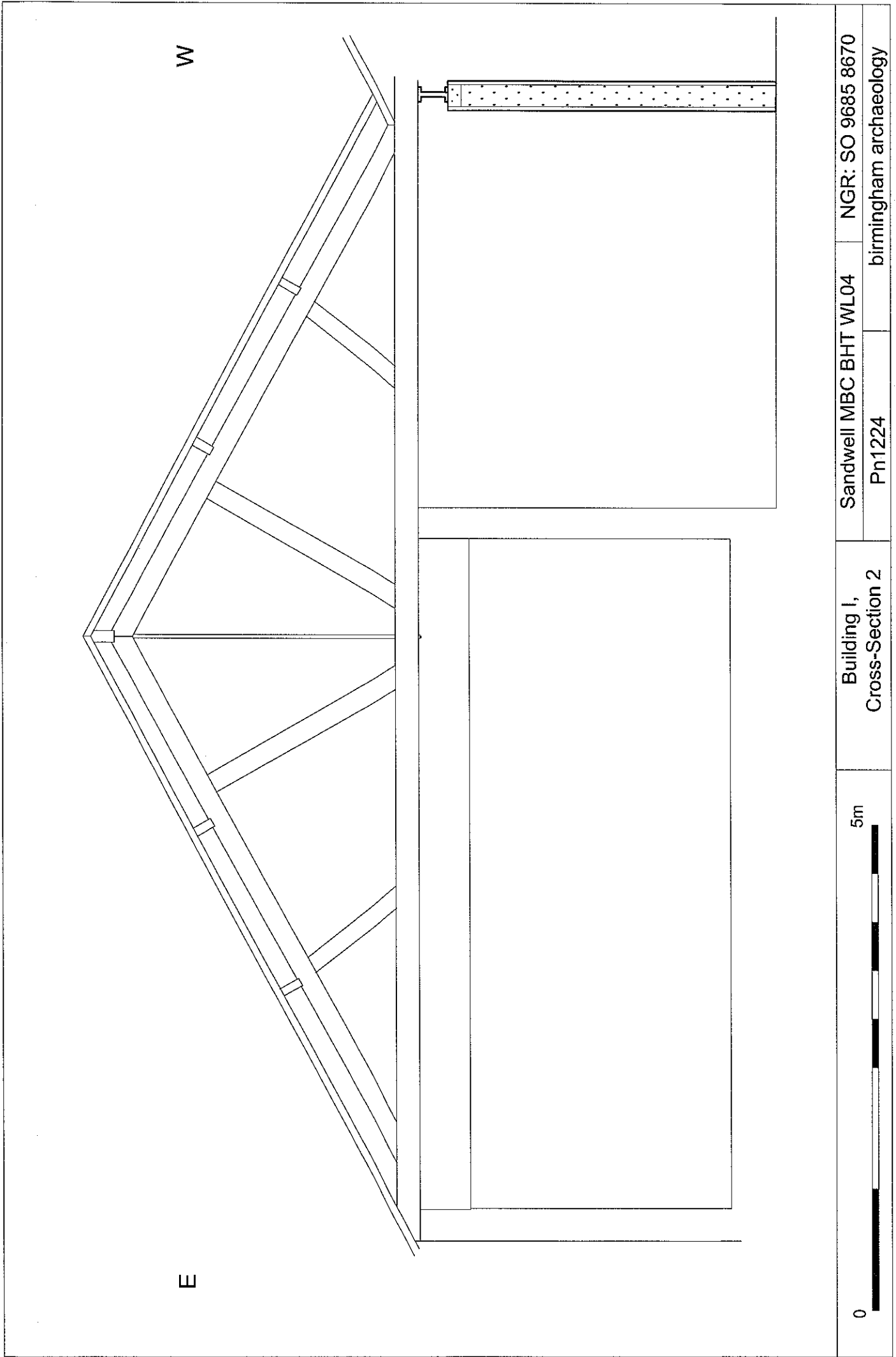
E


W



0	10m	Building Q, Elevation 6 (north facing)	Sandwell MBC BHT WL04 Pn1224	NGR: SO 9685 8670 birmingham archaeology
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Fig. 12



0  5m

Building I,  
Cross-Section 2

Sandwell MBC BHT WL04  
Pn1224

NGR: SO 9685 8670  
birmingham archaeology

Fig. 13

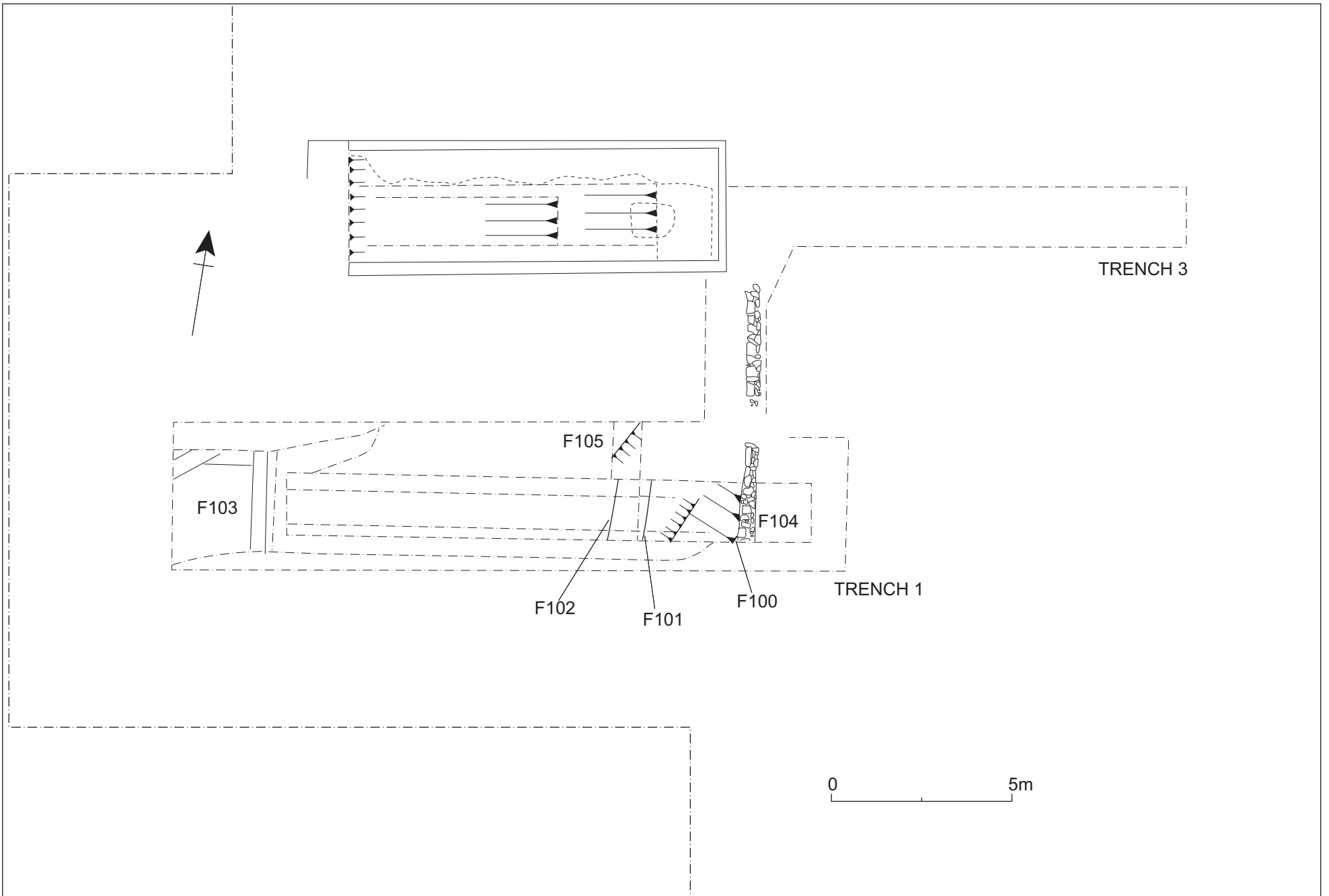


Fig.14 Trenches 1 & 3 plan

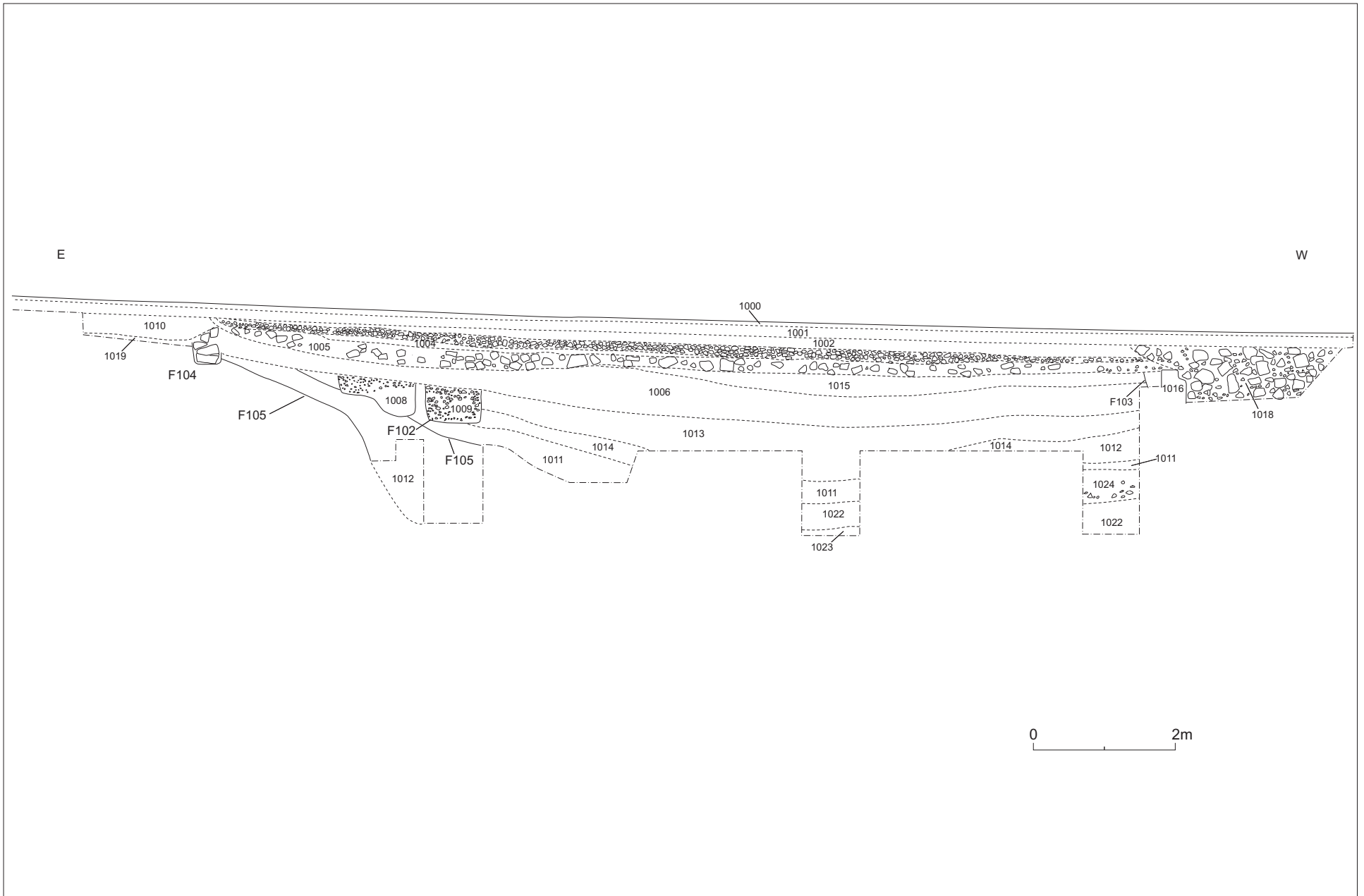


Fig.15 Trench 1, north facing section

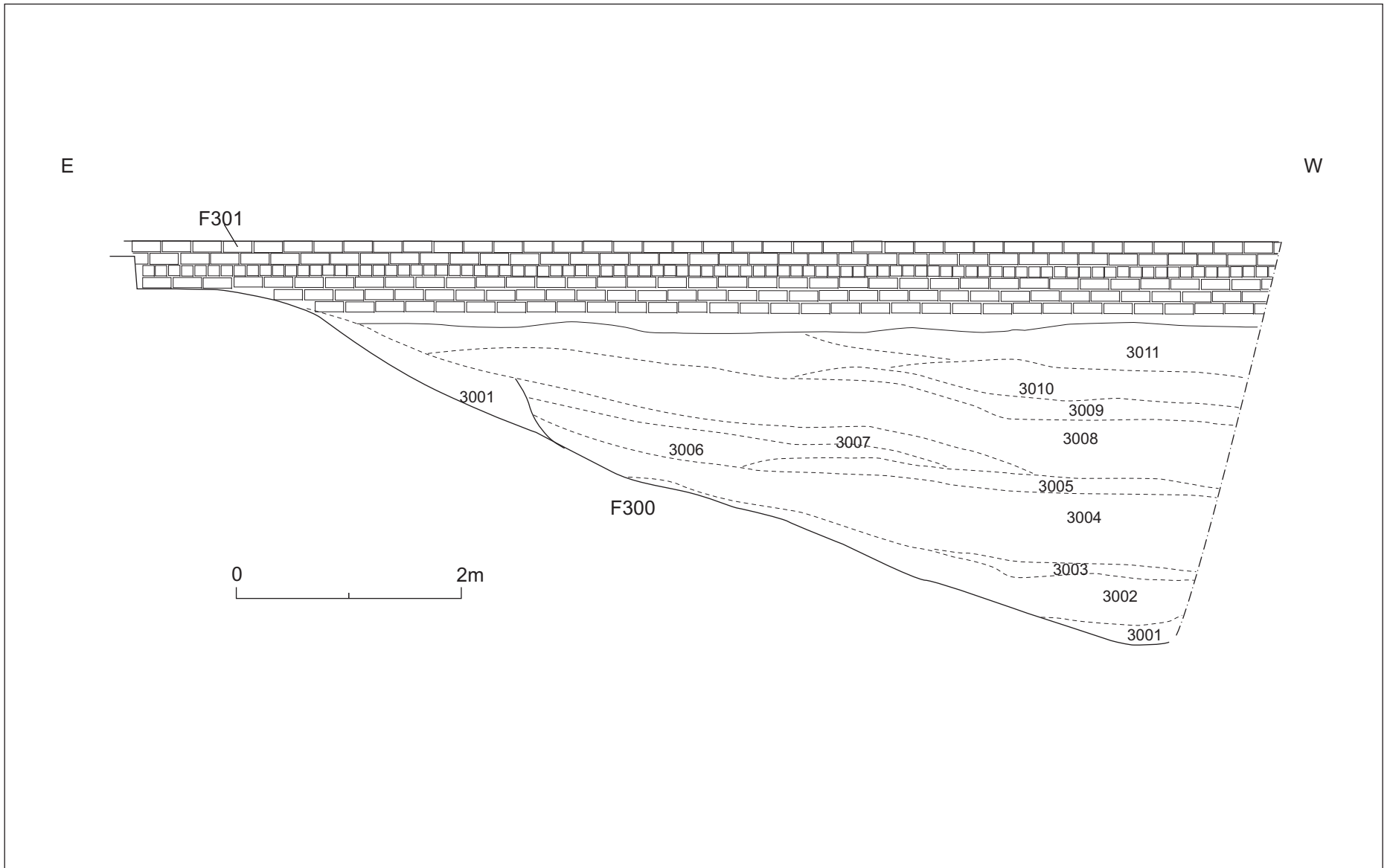


Fig.16 Trench 2, north facing section



Plate 1

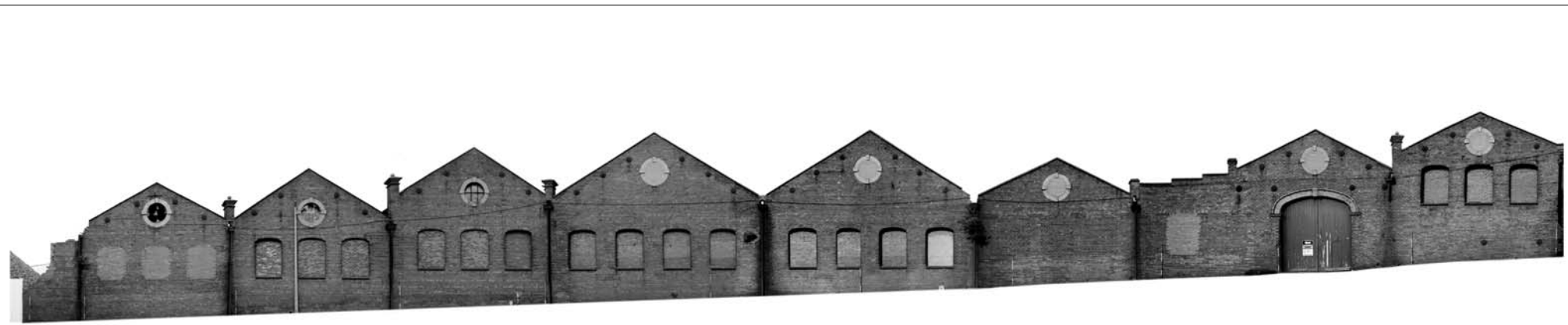


Plate 2





Plate 3



Plate 4



Plate 5



Plate 6



Plate 7



Plate 8

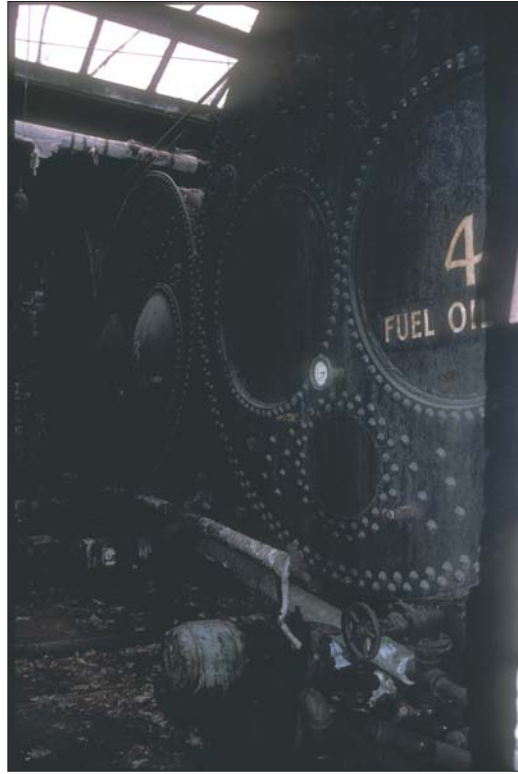


Plate 9