

**Land Adjacent to 15  
Caroline Street, Dudley,  
West Midlands**

**An Archaeological Desk-  
based Assessment 2006**

**Project No. 1405**  
February 2006

**Land Adjacent to 15 Caroline Street, Dudley, West Midlands**

**An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment. 2006**

By Eleanor Ramsey

*For further information please contact:*  
Birmingham Archaeology  
The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston  
Birmingham B15 2TT  
Tel: 0121 414 5513  
Fax: 0121 414 5516  
E-Mail: [bham-arch@bham.ac.uk](mailto:bham-arch@bham.ac.uk)  
Web Address: <http://www.barch.bham.ac.uk>

**15 CAROLINE STREET, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS:  
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT, 2006**

**CONTENTS**

<i>SUMMARY</i> .....	1
1 INTRODUCTION .....	2
2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY .....	2
3 OBJECTIVES .....	2
4 METHODOLOGY.....	3
5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT .....	3
5.1 Prehistoric .....	3
5.2 Anglo-Saxon .....	3
5.3 Medieval.....	3
5.4 Post-medieval .....	4
6 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE .....	7
7 WALKOVER SURVEY.....	9
8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.....	10
9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS .....	11
10 SOURCES .....	11
10.1 Primary Sources .....	11
10.2 Cartographic Sources .....	11
11 REFERENCES .....	12
11.1 Electronic sources .....	13

## FIGURES

- Figure 1: Site location
- Figure 2: Site boundaries with superimposed 1887 malthouse
- Figure 3: Court's map of Dudley 1785
- Figure 4: Map of the mines of Lord Dudley 1812
- Figure 5: Treasure's map of Dudley 1835
- Figure 6: Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1882-7 (x2)
- Figure 7: Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 1882-7
- Figure 8: Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 1903-1912
- Figure 9: Ordnance Survey 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition 1916-24
- Figure 10: Ordnance Survey 4<sup>th</sup> Edition 1937-48
- Figure 11: Ordnance Survey Edition of 1964
- Figure 12: Ordnance Survey Edition of 1971-73
- Figure 13: Plan for Planning Application No. DY/63/224
- Figure 14: Plan for Planning Application No. DY/65/407

## PLATES

- Plate 1: View of Dudley Castle from Caroline Street (the site is immediately to the right)
- Plate 2: 15 Caroline Street
- Plate 3: General shot of site
- Plate 4: Man-made platform on steep hill
- Plate 5: Western façade of malthouse
- Plate 6: Ground floor of western façade
- Plate 7: Windows within western façade
- Plate 8: Derelict standing building to the south of the site

## APPENDIX 1 (Removed)

*Brief for Archaeological Desktop Assessment: Land adjacent to  
15 Caroline Street, Dudley, West Midlands*

*Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment on  
land adjacent to 15 Caroline Street, Dudley, West Midlands. Birmingham Archaeology*

## APPENDIX 2 (Removed)

*Table of Previous Planning Applications*



## **15 CAROLINE STREET, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT, 2006**

### **SUMMARY**

*An archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out in February 2006 on land adjacent to 15 Caroline Street, Dudley (NGR SO 950901) to accompany a resubmission of refused planning application. The site is located within the Kate's Hill suburb of Dudley, to the south-east of the town centre. Dudley has origins that date back at least to the medieval period, and probably earlier. The assessment concluded that the site was not developed until the middle of the nineteenth century, and that development of the site was part of the massive urban expansion of Kate's Hill, which until this point was likely to have been little more than a small hamlet. The malthouse and the adjacent residential property of 15 Caroline Street are likely to have been built sometime between 1850 and 1864. The walkover survey confirmed that the building was constructed in two phases, which may be indicative that it did not originally serve as a malthouse. Both were constructed on a high platform of made-ground to compensate for the steep incline of the hill towards Dudley. The residential property of 15 Caroline Street is an example of a high status building with good views towards the rest of the town, and Caroline Street appears from the records to have been predominantly residential in character. The life of the malthouse seems to have been relatively short lived. It is depicted on the Ordnance Survey Edition of 1887, but has been altered by 1937-48 at which time it is no longer described as a malthouse. Part of the building (corresponding roughly with the site boundaries), is no longer standing by 1974. It is likely that changes in brewing techniques, and the centralisation of the malting and brewing industries led to the collapse of industry, and the subsequent abandonment and dereliction of the property. The walkover survey, however, identified that while not on the modern maps of the area, parts of the malthouse building survive as ruined standing walls within the site boundaries, and much of the building to the south of the site that is depicted on the maps is the original build with additions tacked on to the sides. There is high potential for wall foundations and below-ground archaeological structures and deposits to survive within the site boundaries, which could relate to the kiln drying or other processes used in the malting process. The identification of these features, and the component parts of the malthouse overall could help to provide a typology for the malthouse. Further investigations may also help to date the original structure, and to identify any earlier uses.*

## **15 CAROLINE STREET, DUDLEY, WEST MIDLANDS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT, 2006**

### **1 INTRODUCTION**

In February 2006 Birmingham Archaeology carried out an archaeological desk-based assessment of land adjacent to 15 Caroline Street (hereafter referred to as the site). The work was commissioned by Mr Khan to accompany a resubmission of refused planning application (PO5/0727) for residential development.

This report outlines the results of the assessment, which was carried out in February 2006 and which was prepared in accordance with the Institute of Field Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (IFA 2001).

The assessment conformed to a brief produced by Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council and a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2006), which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation (see Appendix), in accordance with guidelines laid down in Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 (DoE 1990).

### **2 LOCATION AND GEOLOGY**

The site is located adjacent to 15 Caroline Street in the suburb of Kate's Hill, which in turn is located just to the south of the Dudley Southern Bypass and about 1km to the east of Dudley town centre at NGR SO 950901 (Fig. 1 and 2).

The site is situated on a man-made platform of flat ground with sheer drops to the north and east. The present character of the site comprises flattish demolition rubble, though some of the malthouse survives within the site boundaries as standing walls. Immediately to the south of the site are further standing remains of the malthouse with subsequent additions and alterations, and 15 Caroline Street is also located to the south.

### **3 OBJECTIVES**

The principle aim of the project was to assess the survival and potential significance of any archaeology within the study area by collating existing archaeological and historical information for the site and its immediate environs and placing it in its local, regional and national context.

More specific aims were to:

- Define the likely extent, survival and significance of archaeological remains in the area of proposed development.
- To contribute factual data to the knowledge of the history and development of Dudley.
- To determine the need for further archaeological assessment by field evaluation in advance of consideration of development proposals.
- To assist the client in advancing towards having enough information that a planning application for the site can be registered/determined.

## **4 METHODOLOGY**

A search of all relevant and readily available published and non-published documentary sources, including historic maps and photographs, was carried out in Birmingham Central Library and the Library of the University of Birmingham. The Dudley Sites and Monuments Record, the main source of archaeological information for the area was also consulted.

In addition, a walkover of the study area was undertaken in order to assess the topography and any above-ground archaeology, including standing buildings.

## **5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT**

### **5.1 Prehistoric**

Up until recently there was little archaeological evidence to indicate prehistoric occupation within the area now encompassed by Dudley Town Centre. However, in 2003, during an archaeological watching brief (SMR 12097 not illustrated) one sherd of Bronze Age pottery was recovered at the southern extent of the Inhedge (Boland *et al*, 2004). In the 1980s, the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments put forward the idea that the morphology of Castle Hill was suggestive of a former Iron Age hill-fort although no artefacts dating to the Iron Age have yet been recovered to confirm this (*ibid.*). Also of note, the ridge, along which Hall Street is situated to the south of the site, no doubt provided an important route of prehistoric use (Collins 1992, 9).

### **5.2 Anglo-Saxon**

Although not reflected in the built form of the modern town there was certainly an Anglo-Saxon settlement at Dudley before the Norman conquest, since it was recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086 and it is indicated by the evidence of its place-name. The name 'Dudley' is thought to be derived from a personal name Dudda and the Old English term for a woodland estate leah; hence 'Dudda's Leah' (Boland *et al*, 2004). Evidence for Anglo-Saxon occupation in Dudley is possibly suggested by the dedication of St. Edmund's Church, Edmund being a King of the East Angles, executed by Danes in 870AD.

During the Castle Hill excavations in the 1980s, archaeological evidence of timber structures revealed that the site of Castle Hill might have been occupied and defended as early as the 8<sup>th</sup> century. This conclusion was based also on the evidence of an Anglo-Saxon brooch and a radiocarbon date from a piece of charcoal (Boland *et al*, 2004).

### **5.3 Medieval**

Also recorded in the Domesday Book in 1086, was the new Norman Castle, which by now dominated the area from the hilltop. At this time William Fitz Ansculf was the Baron of Dudley (Boland *et al*, 2004).

The Domesday Book records a relatively small population including three tenant farmers, ten smallholders, a smith and two slaves. The inhabitants had ten ploughs,

which is indicative of access to a substantial area of arable land, although the vast majority of the land across the parish/estate was woodland.

The town of Dudley today, however, owes its origins to a conscious act of town planning undertaken by the 12<sup>th</sup> century Lord of Dudley Castle, Gervase Paganel. Dudley's medieval layout can still clearly be discerned in the street patterns and plot boundaries of the modern townscape. The sinuously curving boundaries and regular block pattern formed by the building plots of the new town clearly indicate that they respected the pattern of strips and furlongs in a pre-existing arable field system. It is highly likely that these were the fields of the Anglo-Saxon settlement recorded in Domesday (Boland *et al* 2004).

In confirming his endowments to Dudley Priory in the 1180s, Gervase Paganel granted the monks rights in relation to both St. Edmund's and St. Thomas's churches, clear evidence that both co-existed at that time. The new town was laid out between the two churches along a spine of higher ground from Castle Street through Market Place and along High Street. Narrow building plots ran back from the street frontages to 'back lanes' that serviced the rear of the plots represented by Tower Street, Birmingham Street and King Street. Wolverhampton Street and Hall Street also formed part of the town but probably pre-dated the new layout. There are few documents which relate to the 12<sup>th</sup> century town or that relate to its later medieval evolution. The gleaning of information in these respects is, therefore, likely to be heavily dependent upon the results of archaeological research (Boland *et al* 2004).

By the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century the castle still dominated the whole town. By this period Fisher Street, Hall Street and Wolverhampton Street were almost certainly being developed as part of the seigniorial borough, the sites of the burghage houses being granted in return for a fixed annual rent to the lord of the borough (Roper 1968, 11).

Extending on three or perhaps even four sides of the town were the great common fields of Dudley, Greystone field, Church field and Peacocks field (borough (Roper 1968).

#### **5.4 Post-medieval**

"A good and handsome town" was the opinion of Sampson Erdeswick, Staffordshire's first historian after his visit to Dudley at the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century (Roper 1963, 9). In the first half of the century there were probably few changes in the occupations of the people with farming and nailmaking predominating, though with some lingering reminders of Dudley's association with the English wool trade. The Lay Subsidy returns show a very slowly increasing wealth, with little emphasis on the ownership of land until quite late in reign of Elizabeth I (Roper 1963).

From the 16<sup>th</sup> century onwards both the documentary and archaeological records paint a picture of rapidly increasing industrialisation in the immediate environs of the town centre core. There are clear hints that by the 16<sup>th</sup> century the whole area north of Tower Street across to Priory Street and between Stone Street and New Street was developing as a recognisably industrial 'suburb' of the town centre. Also, judging by the archaeological evidence, during the 17<sup>th</sup> century occupation increased and the industrial characteristics of the area were consolidated. Excavations have revealed a series of rectangular buildings of this date with foundations constructed from the

local Dudley sandstone. All were associated with metalworking debris and even the bases for the floors were made up of dumps of iron slag (Boland *et al*, 2004). At this time nailmaking still remained an important constituent part of Dudley's economy.

Stone structures must have formed a very notable component in Dudley's character before the 18<sup>th</sup> century, although from that time onwards the Town increasingly rapidly took on the brick built appearance that conveys today's predominant character. The ready availability of limestone must have made its use as a building material a very cost effective option, particularly in the context of replacing the essentially everyday buildings that had been lost during the Civil War (Boland *et al*, 2004). The Castle remained strong for much of the Civil War and it had few problems from surrounding Parliamentarians, some of whom had been based at Kate's Hill. The Royalists ultimately surrendered on 13<sup>th</sup> May 1646 and handed over control of the Castle, and a town, which had clearly suffered major war damage was left to the task of reconstruction (*ibid.*).

With a few notable exceptions, the 18<sup>th</sup> century was to prove a long, untroubled period in Dudley's history as a town. So far as its industrial history is concerned, the changes came slowly, and for a long while the chief trends were towards intensification of the existing trades associated with coal and iron workings. By the time Pearson and Rollason's Trade Directory appeared in 1781, Dudley had grown into an important commercial centre (Roper 1968, 5).

The dwelling houses of Dudley's increasing number of industrial entrepreneurs were being built in brick at the very outset of the 18<sup>th</sup> century. However, space suitable for the building of what were essentially great mansion houses for 'the new rich' was not at all readily available within either the confines of the medieval town, its industrial suburb around Stone Street or even in the common fields. The latter were largely still in multiple ownership and although increasingly being enclosed were still being cultivated (Boland *et al*, 2004)

Court's Map of Dudley c.1785 (Fig. 3) clearly shows the open fields still creating a tight 'necklace' around the urban core. South of the town the individually owned strips and furlongs of 'Church Field' stand out quite clearly, although there has been some amalgamation into larger more rectangular land parcels (Boland *et al*, 2004). The shape of the fields within which the site is situated are indicative of pastoral land, and were possibly owned by the landowners at Kate's Hill (Hemingway pers. comm.).

Typical in the later 18<sup>th</sup> century and onwards was an exponential increase in the urban population, which led to the cramming of housing firstly onto every feasible sub-division of town centre plots and later into speculative terraces on the town's periphery. This was directly linked to the final breakdown of the old medieval system of land tenure, through enclosure and the amalgamation of landholdings. When Pensnett Chase was enclosed in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century this opened the door to the wholesale exploitation of its vast mineral reserves, the old open field system around Dudley similarly became redundant and began to be colonised by industry and worker housing (Boland *et al*, 2004).

Growth in Dudley rapidly occurred to the south and west, filling up the valley site between Hall Street and Back Lane (renamed King Street) and High Street and Smith Lane (renamed Wolverhampton Street). These areas continued to expand but were soon joined by the creation of the Birmingham Road and development of land to the

north-east and Queens Cross to the south-west. By this time the suburbs were growing as well; Dixons Green, Cawney Hill, and Kates Hill had grown together by the 1860s and were joined to Dudley by the 1880s.

The Oxford, Worcester and Wolverhampton Railway (not illustrated) was cut through to the north of the site in 1850 (SMR 5886). Other historic sites dating to this period, which survive in the vicinity of the site include Dixon's Green Methodist Chapel (SMR 4934 not illustrated), built in 1869 and Oakeywell Street Industrial Works (SMR 4981 not illustrated), which was annotated 'Waddam's Pool Iron and Brassworks' on the 1884 Ordnance Survey Edition.

Dudley Town's industrial past from the 18<sup>th</sup> century onwards became dominated by seven main industries. Though malting was not one of them, it was in itself an important industry present in every town of this period. In 1830 Parliament passed the Beer Act, as part of a wider trend towards freeing the economy from tariffs, duties and quotas. After the end of the Napoleonic wars in 1815, Britain experienced a deep economic depression, accompanied by serious social unrest, and many believed the way out was unfettered economic competition. In addition, some saw the tight regulation of public houses since the 1780s as an unnecessary assault on liberty. They were joined by those deploring the growth of gin shops who believed that beer was wholesome, whereas spirits were addictive and damaging to health (Brandwood *et al* 2004, 27).

This act allowed anyone who paid an initial deposit to sell beer, and until the middle of the nineteenth century, beer was the staple household drink, with a gallon a day being a typical intake.  
(<http://www.guildford.gov.uk/GuildfordWeb/Leisure/Guildford+House/History/Brew+House>. Feb 2006).

Initially malting could be accommodated within burgage plots and the number of beer houses and maltsters boomed (Trinder 2002). From 1830 onwards, the only tax associated with beer was the tax on the malt, which became more and more complicated as the century passed until it was repealed in 1880 and replaced by a different system (Corran 1975, 252).

Recognisable examples of specialised malthouses survive from the sixteenth century, but early examples are few in number. Survivals of late eighteenth and nineteenth century dates outnumber examples from all other periods, including the twentieth century, when very few floor maltings were built (Patrick 1996, 180).

Specialised malthouse buildings are essentially long and rectangular with many small windows, and comprised separate components for each stage of the malting process. Large storage areas were needed, for both the unmalted and malted grain. Initially the grain was steeped (soaked) in order to begin the germination process, and then spread out on the floor as the sprouted barley grew. Heating in a kiln then halted the germination of the grain (Patrick 1996). Sometimes the kiln would be situated in a separate building, as would storage areas.

The kilns associated with these places tended to be buildings with very few windows, designed this way to keep the heat in. The furnaces would have been at ground level or just below, and evidence of these can often survive below ground. Above the kilns, the floors were commonly made of bricks or tiles perforated with small holes

upon which the malt would have been laid out to dry (Trinder 2002 and Litherland pers comm.).

As the brewing industry developed in the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries, they became larger and larger concerns, and began to serve wider areas rather than just the local markets. They incorporated malting into the overall process, and evolved into the regional breweries that serve our public houses today.

## **6 HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SITE**

The earliest map consulted was Henry Court's Map of 1785 (Fig. 3), which depicts the site within open fields to the north of Hall Street. Court's map clearly shows the open fields as still creating a tight 'necklace' around the urban core (Boland et al, 2004), and the shapes of the fields where the site is located are indicative of pasture land (Hemingway pers. comm.). The map of the mines of Lord Dudley (Fig. 4) also does not show the site near the settled area of Dudley. Dudley's population had tripled from 10,000 people in 1800 to 30,000 people in 1838 and this population increase was reflected in burgeoning industry and residential development in Dudley and suburbs such as Kate's Hill (Boland *et al*, 2004). Although the site still lay within open fields at the time of Treasures Map of 1835 (Fig. 5), the division of plot boundaries around the core of Dudley in advance of development is clear, such as those along Oakey Well Street to the west of the site. The site, though situated between the historic core of Dudley and the centre of the Kate's Hill suburb, was originally part of the Kate's Hill suburb expansion, rather than that of Dudley itself and the growth of Kate's Hill is reflected in the trade directories.

St John's Church (SMR 4942), to the south of the site at Kate's Hill, was erected in 1840, as a chapel-of-ease to St Edmunds, Dudley, suggesting that the population of Kate's Hill and the surrounding area was already growing by this date. The church is located to the north of the centre of the Kate's Hill suburb, and had an associated school (SMR 4942). St John's parish was formed four years later (SMR 4929).

There are 26 maltsters listed within the Dudley area in the History, Gazetteer and Directory of Staffordshire 1851, though none in the Kate's Hill area. Several trades and industries are listed at Kate's Hill including a baker, an iron founder, a cooper and a boot and shoemaker, with a total of 13 entries. Caroline Street (or Caroline Terrace) is not listed. It is interesting to note, that John Darby is listed as a beer retailer in Burnt Hill (another of Dudley's suburbs) and Daniel Hampton is listed at the 'Old Pack Horse' public house on Birmingham Street in the Post Office Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire and Worcestershire 1850.

By 1864, the Post Office Directory of Worcestershire lists eight private residents at Kate's Hill, and records A. B. Dennistoun Sword esq at Caroline Terrace. It is quite possible that Caroline Terrace was one of the speculative property developments conducted in the area, and that Mr Sword was one of the first residents. In this directory approximately 95 people are listed in the commercial index at Kate's Hill, possibly reflecting the massive increase in population and growth of the suburb. However, the area was not always known as Kate's Hill, which is a relatively recent name (Hemingway pers. comm.), and the increase may instead reflect this change in address. By this time two maltsters are listed in this area, John and Thomas Smith, and Mssrs. Darby and Hampton. It is possible that Mssrs. Darby and Hampton are the maltsters at the malthouse within the site, as J. Darby is listed in the 1876 Post

Office Directory as being a maltster at Caroline Terrace, Kate's Hill, with S. Hampton recorded as a maltster at Bourne Street. In fact, in this directory (1876), J. Darby is the only maltster listed at Kate's Hill, and the number of people engaged in this industry within Dudley as a whole has fallen to 7, reflecting the major changes in the industry which were occurring during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This directory also lists several other people as private residents at Caroline Terrace, and does not list any other industries, suggesting that Caroline Terrace was purely residential and perhaps of a higher status than other areas of Kate's Hill and Dudley.

The name of the road itself, Caroline Terrace and later Caroline Road, may originate from royalty (Hemingway pers. comm.) and as such may be named after Caroline of Brunswick, who married George IV and became Queen of England on his accession in 1820. She had a shocking (and well deserved) reputation as an exhibitionist, and was the only English Queen to be tried for adultery. She was refused entrance to George IV's coronation in April 1821, and died 19 days after. She was buried in Brunswick, and on her coffin was inscribed '*CAROLINE THE INJURED QUEEN OF ENGLAND*'

(<http://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/England-History/CarolineofBrunswick.htm>).  
Feb 2006.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1882-7 (Figs. 6 and 7) clearly illustrates the growth and merging of the Dudley and Kate's Hill conurbations. Caroline Street is aligned directly from Kate's Hill towards Dudley town centre and has a view from the hill of the castle (Plate 1). This map also shows the building and grounds of 15 Caroline Street (SMR 12359), and the malthouse itself. 15 Caroline Street (Plate 2) is described on the Sites and Monuments Record as 'A very interesting 19<sup>th</sup> century house, originally based in its own grounds with an associate malthouse, and for the last 50 years the outbuildings (one of which has a Belfast roof) have been used as a 'Straw Rope' manufactory, called Gwyne Straw Rope Company'.

A tree-lined entrance to 15 Caroline Street is also shown on the same map (Fig. 7), and shows that the house faced towards the town. At the time of construction, the house would have been at the end of the street, with no development to the north, and affording spectacular views of the town and the castle similar to that from the road, again indicative of the high status of this particular development. Due to the location of the entrance to the property, it is likely that the entrance to the malthouse was through the alley to the rear, which suggests further that the kiln of the malthouse was located at the southern end of this building since this would be where the fuel was deposited. The map also illustrates the platform on which the residential property was situated, and also the extensive man-made platform created to site both the house and the malthouse. It was not possible from the trade directories to ascertain whether the house or the malthouse was constructed first, or indeed if both were contemporary.

The Ordnance Survey map of 1882-7 also shows that the malthouse complex comprised a long rectangular building, with additional structures attached to the north-east and south-east.

J. Darby is listed as a maltster at Caroline Terrace in subsequent trade directories, though is not listed in Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1896. J Foley is listed at Kate's Hill Brewery, though it is unclear whether this refers to the malthouse on Caroline Street or another building.



The malthouse building itself appears relatively unaltered through subsequent editions of the Ordnance Survey maps (Figs. 8 and 9). However, there is no mention of any trade or industry listed at the property in Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1921, or in Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1936. There are additions and alterations illustrated on the fourth edition of 1937-48 (Fig. 10), including buildings between the malthouse and the property at 15 Caroline Street. On this map, it is no longer described as a malthouse. By the Ordnance Survey edition of 1971-3 (Fig. 12), at least part of the malthouse building was no longer standing.

During the last forty years several planning applications concerning the property have been submitted to the council (Table 1, Figs. 13 and 14).

As the malthouse is situated between a large residential building and a very steep slope on a man-made platform, it would not have been possible to significantly expand or modify the building. As the trend towards centralised brewing occurred, the malthouse at Caroline Street is unlikely to have been able to compete. Also, as the buildings themselves were quite specialised, they were difficult to convert to other types of industrial buildings (Litherland pers. comm.), which together with the relatively inaccessible location of the building as a whole is possibly why the building was abandoned.

## **7 WALKOVER SURVEY**

The walkover survey identified that the man-made platform that the malthouse and 15 Caroline Street is built on is very steep on the north-east and north-west sides, and indeed has a spectacular view of Dudley Castle and the town to the north-west. The cartographic evidence suggests that the hill also slopes down to the west, and as such the site might also have had a good view of Hall Street and Waddams Pool, though due to the buildup of houses, this was not confirmed.

The walkover survey also identified that at least some of the malthouse survives as a standing structure within the site boundaries (Plate 3), on a man-made platform (Plate 4). It is represented by the shell of a two-storey building, constructed in two phases (Plate 5). The earlier phase, constructed from stone, may pre-date the buildings function as a malthouse, and is on the First Edition Ordnance Survey plan as the long rectangular building (Fig. 7). Survival is limited to the western and southern façades with minimal survival of the eastern façade at the southern end. The northern façade survived only as the footprint of the building. The first floor had largely collapsed and the interior was in-filled with the subsequent debris. The ground floor was constructed in ashlar stone blocks of even proportions. The first-floor was carried up at a later phase, in hand-made bricks in the English garden wall bond in pier and panel construction.

Seven to eight bays survive on the western façade (Plate 5). The ground floor had three openings, one door and two windows with plain stone lintels (Plate 6). Four first-floor windows also survive, with two original segmental-arched windows with 20-pane iron casement frames now filled in, and two slightly later segmental-arched windows with bull-nosed bricks on the under-side of the arch (Plate 7). The southern part of the building (to the south of the site) has survived intact and was largely of brick construction in two phases (Plate 8). Survival of the eastern façade is minimal

with only slight survival to the south but included remnants of the earlier sandstone structure.

The first floor of the interior (of the surviving structure to the south) had been replaced by a concrete box-girder construction floor (Plate 8).

Extension of the building had occurred to the south-east and between the Malthouse and 15 Caroline Street to the south-west. These were roughly contemporaneous extensions that dated to the early-20<sup>th</sup> century in machine-cut red brick (Plate 8).

## **8 CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The site is situated on a man-made platform on a steep sloping hill, which faces Dudley Town and Dudley Castle, with a good view of the town and potentially (though unconfirmed by the walkover survey), a good view of Hall Street, one of the major routes in and out of Dudley. It is approximately 1.5km from the Castle. As it is known that the Parliamentary forces had been present at Kate's Hill, to the south of the site, it should be highlighted that it is possible that the platform itself pre-dates the construction of the buildings, and may in fact be an earthwork dating to the Civil War. Its strategic location both as a look out post, and as a defensive position should be noted, as should the substantial effort required to create it.

The walkover survey identified that the previous building on the site was constructed in two phases, and suggests possibly that the first building constructed in stone may have had an alternate function than that of a malthouse. Given the location of the building, and its association with the high status property of 15 Caroline Street, it is possible that this represents an outbuilding or farm building, which was converted into a malthouse later.

The significance of malting for the industrial archaeologist who is concerned to characterise towns is not that malting was an industry with national markets, but that it was to be found in every town. The remains can be identified, and they need to be assessed in local contexts as characteristic activities of market towns as well as in a national hierarchy of monuments of particular industries (Trinder 2002).

The archaeological remains of malthouses are distinctive, rather than being just another 'industrial building', and can be assessed and understood by means of typology. It has been said of Birmingham that the importance of the industrial archaeology in the late post-medieval period is widely appreciated, but tended to be seen in terms of better documented sites and those associated with well-known individuals (Hodder 2004), and it is perhaps a similar situation in Dudley.

Although the life of the malthouse appears relatively short-lived, the building is representative of an important local industry, which changed dramatically throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. A measured record of the surviving standing walls, and the assessment of how these walls relate to the standing building at the southern end of the site would increase our understanding of the building. As the building appears to have been abandoned and become derelict rather than demolished and redeveloped, there is also a high potential for floor surfaces and archaeological features and deposits to survive beneath the current ground level, which would further increase our understanding of the component parts of the malthouse building. Further

archaeological work also has the potential to provide information concerning the original function of the building, its date, and its relationship with 15 Caroline Street.

## **9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

The project was commissioned by Mr Khan, to whom thanks are due to for his co-operation and assistance throughout the project. Sincere thanks are also due to John Hemingway for his help and advice, and the supply of SMR information, and to Chris Hewitson, Steve Litherland, Michael Lobb and Kirsty Nichol of Birmingham Archaeology for information and advice on Malhouses, brewing and the standing remains of the building. Thanks also go to Pete Boland, the Principal Conservation Officer/ Borough Archaeologist, who monitored the project on behalf of Dudley MBC. The assessment was undertaken by Eleanor Ramsey who also produced the written report. The report was illustrated by Bryony Ryder, and edited by Mark Hewson who also monitored the project for Birmingham Archaeology.

## **10 SOURCES**

### **10.1 Primary Sources**

Post Office Directory of Birmingham, Staffordshire and Worcestershire 1850  
History, Gazetteer and Directory of Staffordshire 1851  
Post Office Directory of Worcestershire 1864  
Post Office Directory 1876  
Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1878  
Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1896  
Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1921  
Kelly's Directory of Worcestershire 1936

### **10.2 Cartographic Sources**

c.1785 Harry Court's Plan of Dudley  
1812 Plan of the mines of Lord Dudley  
1835 J. Treasure's Plan of Dudley  
1882-7 Ordnance Survey First Edition  
1903-12 Ordnance Survey Second Edition  
1916-1924 Ordnance Survey Third Edition  
1937-1948 Ordnance Survey Fourth Edition  
1964 Ordnance Survey Edition  
1971-3 Ordnance Survey Edition

## 11 REFERENCES

- Birmingham Archaeology 2006 *Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment on land adjacent to 15 Caroline Street, Dudley, West Midlands*
- Boland, P., Hemingway, J., King, P., Ochi, S., Kirkham, J. and Pilkington, J. 2004 *Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Dudley Town Centre Supplementary Planning Guidance*
- Boland, P. 2006 *Brief for Archaeological Desktop Assessment: Land adjacent to 15 Caroline Street, Dudley, West Midlands*
- Brandwood G., Davison, A. and Slaughter, M. 2004 *Licensed to Sell: The History and Heritage of the Public House*
- Collins, P. 1992 *A Survey of Surviving Buildings and Remains from the Industrial Period in Dudley Town Centre*, Ironbridge Institute Research Paper No. 71
- Corran, H. S. 1975 *A History of Brewing* Newton Abbot: David & Charles
- Department of the Environment (DoE) 1990 *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning*
- Hodder, M. 2004 *Birmingham in the late post-medieval period, c.1750 onwards* West Midlands Regional Research Framework for Archaeology Seminar 7
- Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) 1999 *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*, rev. edn.
- Patrick, A. 1996 *Establishing a Typology for the Buildings of the Floor Malting Industry* Industrial Archaeology Review, Vol XVIII, 2
- Roper, J. S. 1963 *Dudley: The town in the sixteenth century*. Dudley Public Libraries Transcript No. 4
- Roper, J. S. 1965 *Dudley: The seventeenth century town*. Dudley Public Libraries Transcript No. 5
- Roper, J. S. 1968 *Dudley: The medieval town*. Dudley Public Libraries Transcript No. 3
- Roper, J. S. 1968 *Dudley: The town in the eighteenth century*. Dudley Public Libraries Transcript No. 12
- Trinder, B. 2002. *18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> century Market Town Industry: An Analytical Model*. Industrial Archaeology Review, Vol XXIV, 2.

### **11.1 Electronic sources**

<http://www.historic-uk.com/HistoryUK/England-History/CarolineofBrunswick.htm>  
(last accessed 27/2/06)

<http://www.historicaldirectories.org> (last accessed 27/2/06)

<http://www.guildford.gov.uk/GuildfordWeb/Leisure/Guildford+House/History/Brew+House>

## Appendix 2

Table 1 Previous Planning Applications

No.	PROPOSAL	DECISION	DATE
DY/63/224	Alterations to convert existing premises into licensed club with living accommodation	Refused	01/05/63
DY/64/109	Use of Premises for pattern making and light engineering	Refused	18/03/64
DY/65/407	Change of use from manufacture of mineral waters to storage of woollen and other scrap fabrics	Approved	09/09/65
81/52457	Erection of industrial building for dealing in rags	Approved	11/01/82
P05/0727	Outline application for erection of 6 one bedroom apartments	Refused	09/08/05





Fig.1





Fig.2







1812



Fig.4







Tannery

314  
8805

315  
3011

317  
1341

Malthouse

318  
1231

323  
3157

320  
Vicarage

School

322

St. John's  
Church

Grave Yard

316  
8836

The Pirs

343  
1576

344

355  
277

Touse



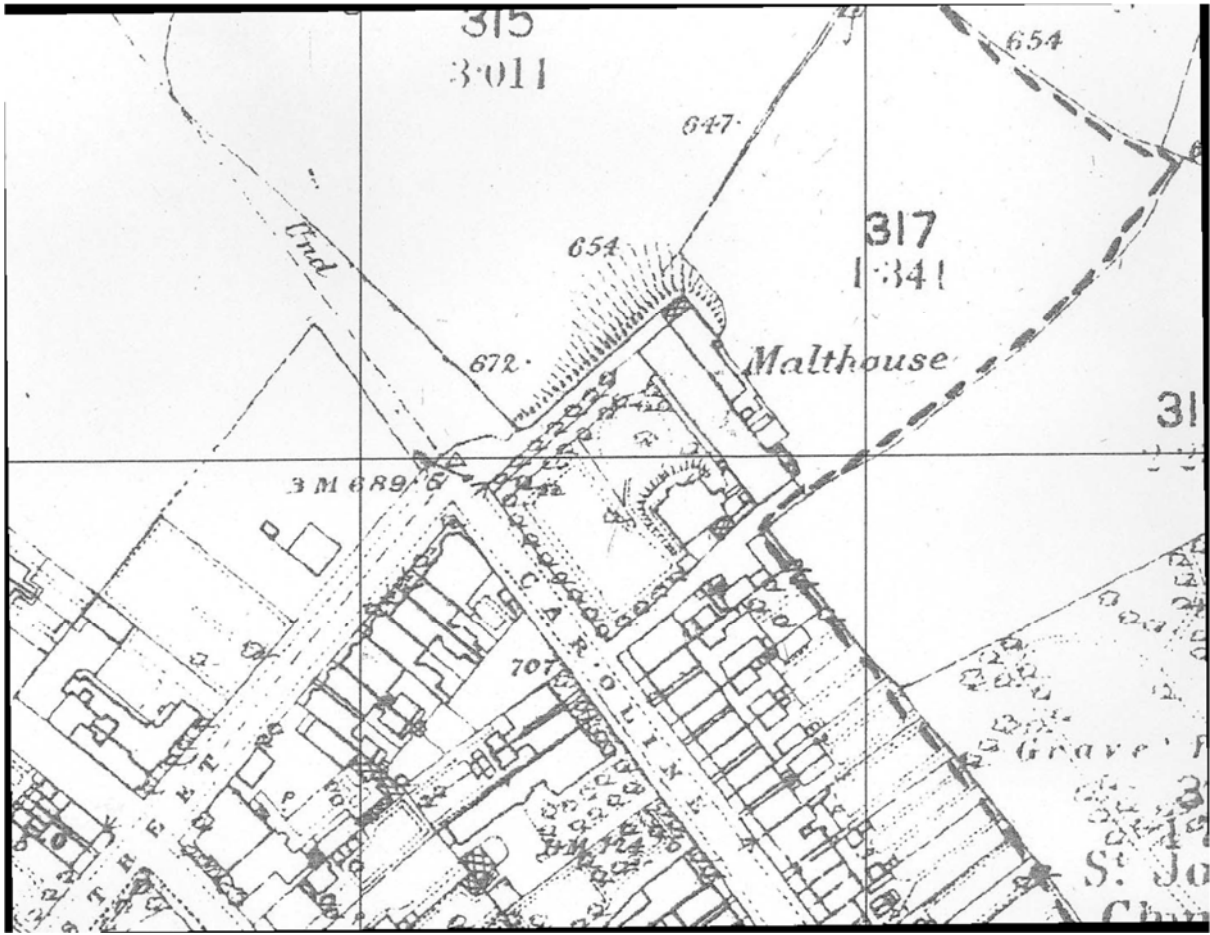


Figure 7



Figure 8



Figure 9

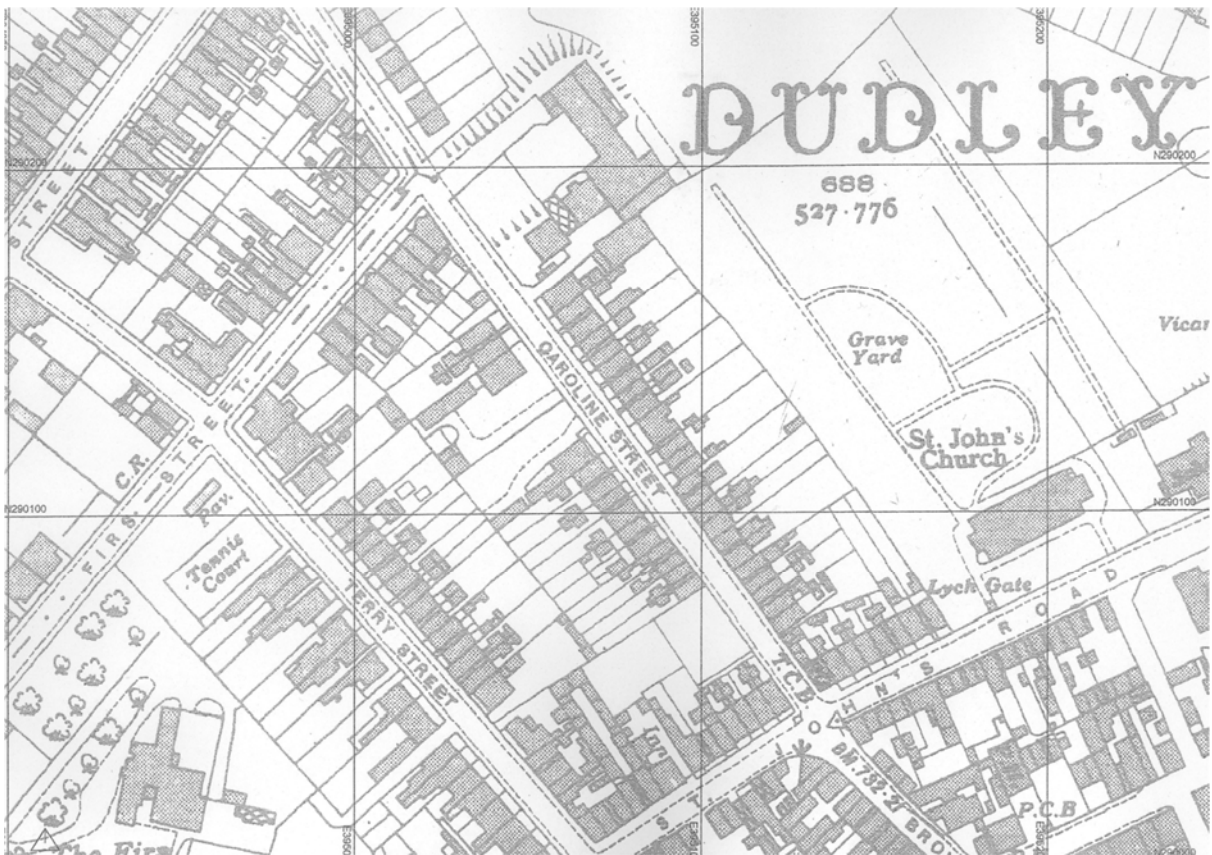


Figure 10

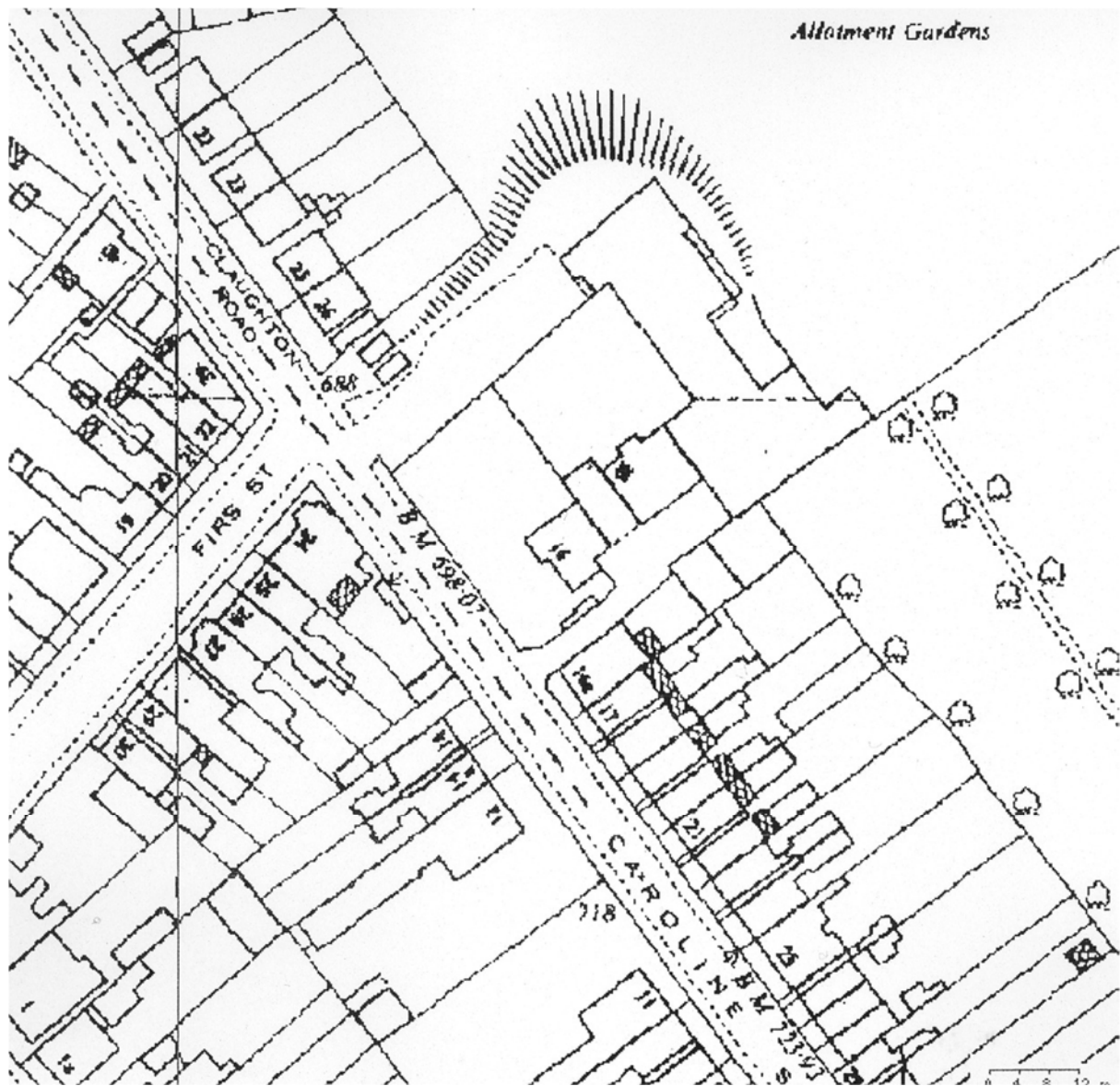


Figure 11

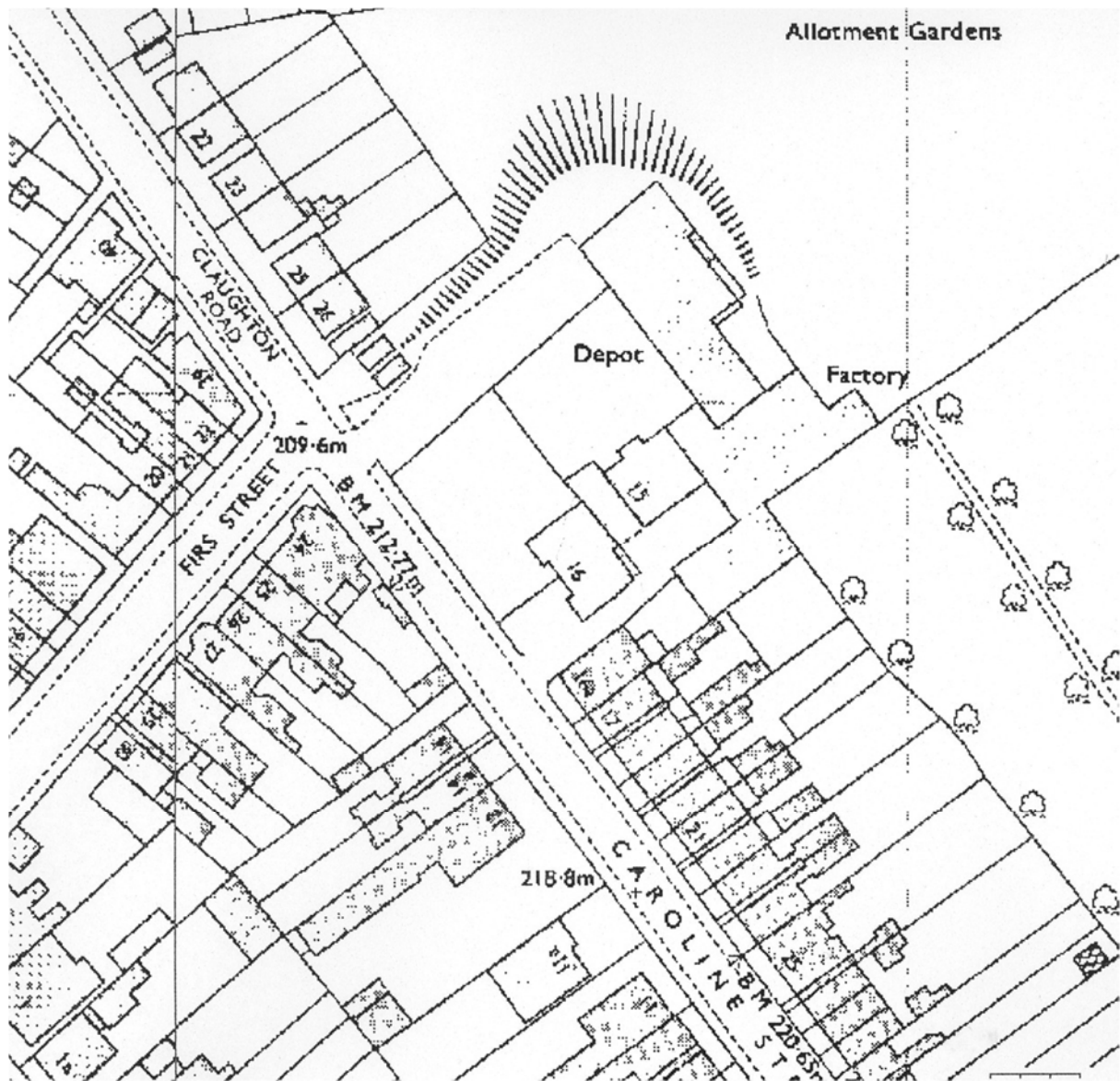


Figure 12



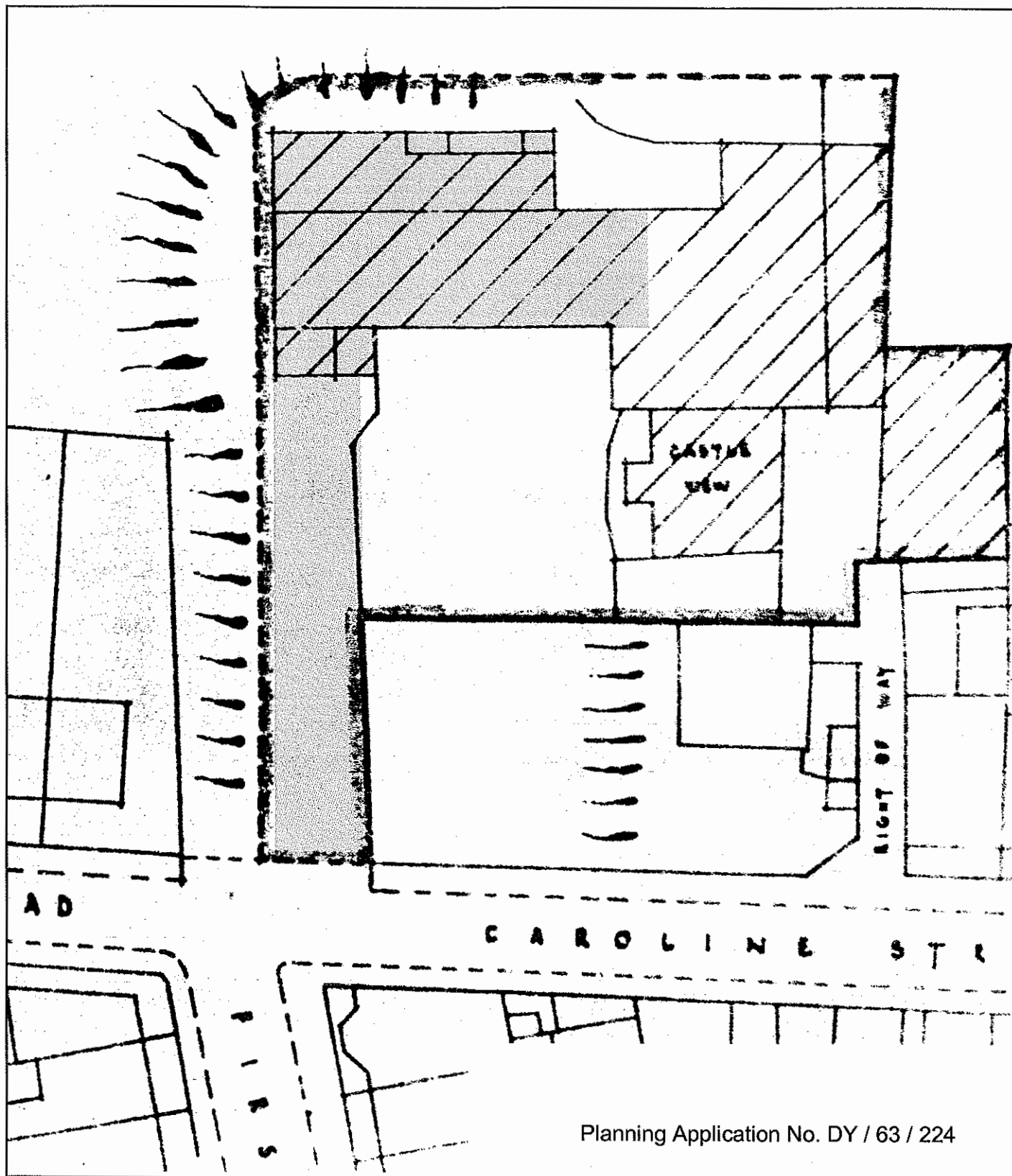
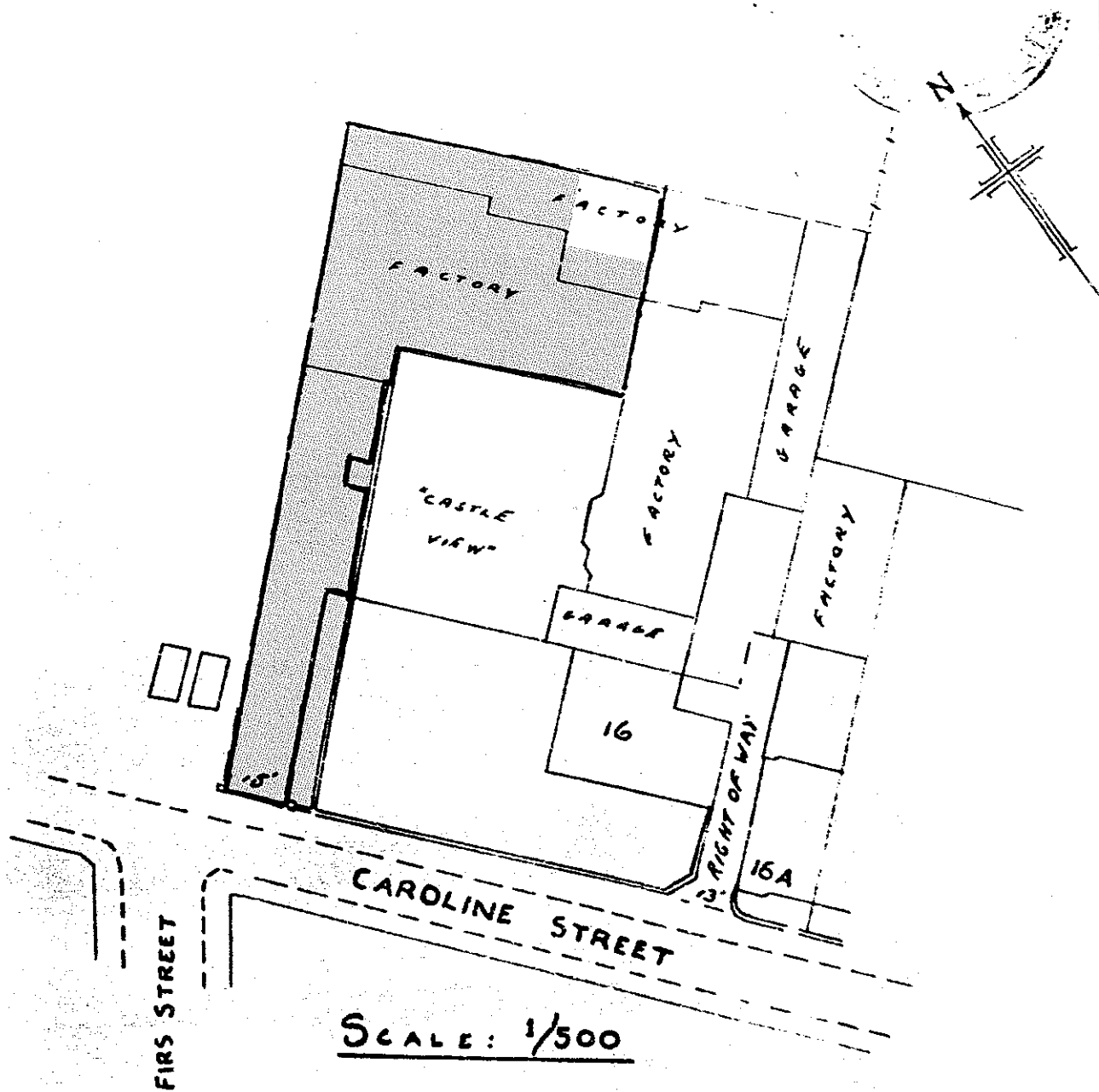


Fig.13

Plan referred to.



THIS PLAN IS REPRODUCED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES ONLY.

Planning Application No.  
DY / 65 / 407

Fig.14



Plate 1



Plate 2





Plate 3



Plate 4





Plate 5



Plate 6





Plate 7



Plate 8