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ARCHIBALD KENRICK
BUILDING
UNION STREET
WEST BROMWICH
WEST MIDLANDS
Historic Building Record
2008

UNIVERSITY OF
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Project No. 1813

June 2008

The Archibald Kenrick Building, Union Street, West Bromwich

Link Building

Historic Building Record

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for

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Link Structure; Historic Building Record, June 2008

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SUMMARY

Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned by Spire Homewares (T/A Archibald Kenrick and Sons Ltd.) in June 2008 to undertake an historic building record at the premises of Archibald Kenrick and Sons, Union Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands. The programme of work involved a rapid review of historical sources held by the Smethwick Community Archives and Local Studies centre and a site assessment.

Archibald Kenrick established a foundry at the Spon Lane site on the north bank of the Old Main Line canal in 1791, expanding through out the 19th century and becoming one of the most important metal manufacturers in the Black Country in the final quarter of the 19th century.

Expansion of the site in the latter years of the 19th century included the construction of a fine office block in the Gothic style at the corner of Hall Street South and Houghton Street in 1878, the main office range and warehouse building being a Grade II Listed Building. The current study was undertaken in regard of a two storey link building connecting the office range with warehouse structures to the east.

The link structure represents an interesting though unremarkable construction and has been shown to be partly contemporary with the Grade II Listed office range. It is, however, of no intrinsic architectural merit or special archaeological significance and the current study has allowed for an adequate record to be made of the link structure prior to demolition. The record will form part of a more detailed site archive to be generated ahead of and during further proposed works at the site.

The Archibald Kenrick Building, Union Street, West Bromwich

Link Structure; Historic Building Record, June 2008

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background to the Project

- 1.1.1 Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in June 2008 by Spire Homewares, T/A Archibald Kenrick and Sons Ltd., to undertake an historic building record at the Archibald Kenrick Building, Union Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands (NGR: SP 00830 89890; Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The record conformed to a Project Brief produced by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC February 2008, Appendix A) and with a Written Scheme of Investigation (Birmingham Archaeology 2008; Appendix B) which was approved by the Local Planning Authority prior to implementation (though see §.2.2.1 below).

1.2 Planning Background

- 1.2.1 Listed Building Consent (ref. DC/07/48738) was granted by Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council (SMBC) on 18th January 2008 for the demolition of a derelict warehouse building adjacent to the Grade II Listed main office range of the Archibald Kenrick Building, Union Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands together with a series of a related link structures.
- 1.2.2 Condition 2 of the Listed Building Consent, in accordance with *Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment* together with the Policies set out in the Council's Unitary Development plan, stipulates that:

'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 by the local planning authority. The results of the investigation shall be deposited at a location to be approved by the local planning authority.'

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1.1 The objectives of the Historic Building Record, as specified in the project brief (SMBC 2008, §.4) were as follows:
- To establish the origins, chronology, technical history and significance of the building.
 - To make a detailed record (RCHME 'Level 3') of the site in accordance with current best practice, to consider its historical development, typology, spatial layout, technology and function.
 - To create a detailed site archive that is to be deposited with the Community History and Archives Service Smethwick Library.
 - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

2.2 Extent of Survey

- 2.2.1 The current recording action has been undertaken as an interim measure in relation to a single linking range only, in response to concerns regarding the safety and stability of the structure. It constitutes a basic survey, comprising basic visual description and archive assessment with an emphasis on the links to the buildings to either side (the Grade II Listed office range and the eastern warehouse building, scheduled for demolition), together with a general photographic record of the exterior and interior of the building.¹ Access to the interior of the building, and thus the level of recording possible, was limited at the time of survey due to Health and Safety concerns, with the floor structures of the northern part of the structure being in particularly poor condition. No detailed study of the main office range or eastern warehouse has been undertaken as part of the current project.

3 SITE LOCATION AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 West Bromwich is located on the Coal Measures and straddles the exposed sections of the South Staffordshire coalfield. The northern and western parts of the ancient parish comprise shales and marls of the Carboniferous period, the south-eastern part of the parish lying beyond the coalfields Eastern Boundary Fault. The northern part of the parish consists of Carboniferous shales, and the western part of marls. In the south-eastern part, Carboniferous red sandstone overlies the Coal Measures while over the central high ground the drift consists of boulder clay.
- 3.2 Kenrick and Sons manufactory is located in the south of the former parish, c.7km NW of Birmingham City centre, on the northern bank of Brindley's Old Main Line canal (Wolverhampton Level) to the east of Spon Lane and is bounded by Union Street to the north, Hall Street South to the east and by the elevated M5 motorway to the south.
- 3.3 The building currently under consideration forms a small link range at first and second floor level, connecting the main office range at the south-east corner of the site with two warehouse structures to the east. The main office range, built in the Gothic style, dates to 1878 (Church 1969, 54), and is included on the Statutory List of Buildings of Architectural and Historic Interest (see Appendix B) and on the Sandwell MBC Sites and Monuments Record (PRN 1483).

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Documentary Research

- 4.1.1 A search was made of the readily available primary and secondary historical sources held at Smethwick Community Archives and Local Studies centre, Coseley, at Smethwick Local Library and the libraries of the University of Birmingham. The on-line resource of the National Archives (www.a2a.org.uk) was also consulted. The documentary research undertaken for the current study does not, however, constitute a full archival search as outlined in the original project brief.

¹ E-mail correspondence dated 30.04.08 between Graham Eyre-Morgan (SMBC) and Steve Jones (Kenricks).

4.2 Photographic Survey

- 4.2.1 A full photographic survey was undertaken comprising both 35mm monochrome print and high resolution digital photography. The survey extended to include both general and detail shots; contextual views, exterior elevations and interior spaces / details. Where possible, photographs included graded photographic scales. All photographs were recorded on *pro-forma* recording sheets detailing subject, orientation, scales included, photographer and date.

4.3 Written Record

- 4.3.1 To accompany the photographic record, a summary written record of the buildings under consideration was compiled in the field, noting details of building type, date(s), materials, plan form and elevation, so far as was possible from a rapid inspection. This record has served as the basis for the following description.

4.4 Drawn Record

- 4.4.1 A limited amount of drawn recording was undertaken, comprising the annotation of existing architect's drawings to show archaeological detail and the generation of sketch floor plans and a cross-section of the building under consideration.

5 GENERAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT

5.1 The Medieval Period

- 5.1.1 West Bromwich is included in the Domesday survey of 1086 (where it is listed under Northamptonshire) as follows:

[In Offlow Hundred]

*Ralph holds 3 hides from William in (West) Bromwich.
Land for 3 ploughs. In Lordship;
10 villagers and 3 smallholders have 3 ploughs.
Woodland 1 league long and ½ league wide.
The value is and was 40s
Brictwin held it.
(Morris 1976, E; 226b)*

- 5.1.2 The parish formed part of the extensive post-Conquest holdings of William fitz Anculf, Baron of Dudley. Originally called '*Bromwic*', the name suggests a 'village where broom, shrub or furze grew' or a 'village on the edge of a heath' (Horovitz 2005, 153). The parish was known as West Bromwich by the early 14th century (c.1322), presumably to distinguish it from nearby Castle Bromwich and Little Bromwich, both in Aston (*ibid.*). Prior to the 18th century, the parish was sparsely populated and predominantly rural though, from the 16th century on, the iron industry developed and domestic nailing in particular was being undertaken.
- 5.1.3 The Parish evolved as a series of dispersed hamlets and settlements around West Bromwich Heath, including Hateley Heath (by 1485), Greets Green (by 1556) and Mayer's Green (by 1660). There was also a hamlet at Finchpath. The main settlement centre prior to the 19th century was on the northern edge of West Bromwich Heath at Lyndon, to the south of the Parish church of All Saints, the structure of which incorporates several Norman fragments (Pevsner 1974, 302),

recovered during the reconstruction of the church in 1871 (Aston undated, 42). Several ancient roads crossed the Parish, including roads from Lyndon and the area around the All Saint's Church. The road from Lyndon to Birmingham ran south to Mayer's Green, though later in the 18th century traffic was more commonly using a shorter route along Reform Street (VCH XVII, 11-14), joining up with the recently turnpiked Birmingham Road.

- 5.1.4 During the medieval period the farming pattern was a mixture of open-field husbandry and farming in severalty, and assarting gradually increased the area of enclosed land. The iron industry also has early origins within the parish. By the early 16th century, the iron-using and finished-metal trades were established, though dependent upon imported raw materials at that time. At the beginning of this century, John Repton was supplying buckles, rings and bridle bits to the Crown, and John Wilkes was trading as far as Uttoxeter, evidence that the local manufacture of goods was serving more than a local market (VCH XVII, 20-27). The primary iron industry, the extraction and processing of the raw metals, also began to flourish later in the 16th century (*ibid.*), and the first recorded blast furnace in the Black Country was built c. 1590 in West Bromwich near the boundary with Handsworth (*ibid.*).

5.2 The Post-medieval Period

- 5.2.1 The Post-medieval period and the Industrial Revolution wrought enormous changes on the landscape and population of West Bromwich and the Black Country as a whole. The natural resources of the area, such as coal and iron ore which abounded in the region, were utilised on an ever increasing scale as technology and demand increased.
- 5.2.2 The Post-medieval prosperity of the West Midlands in general was based on the coal industry, with its five main coal-fields, the biggest being the South Staffordshire-North Worcestershire field, including the Ten Yard coal seam. Coal had long been utilised in industry and by the 17th century it was used increasingly in the iron trades (Brook 1977, 18). With the cutting of the canals, the raw materials and the finished products could be transported throughout Britain, and also throughout the world.
- 5.2.3 The Birmingham to Wolverhampton Road, which crossed the Heath, was turnpiked in 1727, and the Birmingham Canal was authorised in 1768. In 1804, the Heath was enclosed under an Act of Parliament and was partially brought into cultivation while some of the land within the heath was subsequently sold for building around 1818 and eventually the centre of West Bromwich moved southwest from Lyndon to the present High Street. The old centre around Lyndon also expanded during the 19th century, including the development of a residential area south of Mayer's Green in the southwest part of Sandwell Park (VCH XVII, 4-11). During the course of the 19th century, more new streets were built and the parish gradually became much more industrialised and, although significant areas were still farmed, agriculture was now of secondary importance to the manufacturing industry.
- 5.2.4 Since the 16th century, the iron industry has been the main industrial activity of West Bromwich though it was with the development of the local mining industry in the mid-19th century that the iron industry was at its most prosperous. By the mid 1850s there were about 60 collieries, mostly in the western part of the parish, on the exposed coal or close to the canals. By the 1860s the industrial prosperity of West Bromwich relied heavily on the few large ironworks in the town which mined the coal and ironstone as well as producing the finished iron products. However, by the end of the 1860s, the mines of the South Staffordshire Coalfield were exhausted and this

particular part of the industry could not be sustained, although the manufacture of iron articles, as opposed to the getting and smelting of the ore, continued to thrive.

- 5.2.5 By the end of the 18th century, the foundry industry was also well established, with concerns in West Bromwich amongst the first in the region to establish their own foundries (Court 1938, 182), rather than relying on imported pig iron. A local iron-smelting industry was developed in the 1820s and, by 1834, there were 14 iron-founding firms, which had risen to 20 in 1851. Izon's, Kenrick's and Bullock's were dominant in the cast iron hollow-ware industry during the mid-19th century.

5.3 Archibald Kenrick and Sons²

- 5.3.1 The company was founded by Archibald Kenrick I (b.1760 - d.1835) and, until the latter years of the 20th century, was one of the largest family firms operating in the West Midlands. The Kenrick family represents one of three Unitarian dynasties (along with the Martineaus and the Chamberlains) which had great influence over Birmingham affairs into the twentieth century.³ Archibald Kenrick, the fourth and youngest son of a prominent Denbighshire family, moved to Birmingham from the family seat at Wynn Hall, Ruabon around 1780 and, after serving an apprenticeship in the iron trade, set up as a manufacturer of buckles (Church 1969, 20-21). When the buckle trade was wiped out by the introduction of the shoelace in the 1790s, Kenrick began manufacturing cast iron products at West Bromwich (*ibid.*, 25). He built a foundry to the east of Spon Lane Bridge in 1791,⁴ on the north bank of Brindley's Old Main Line (OML) canal of 1768-9. The land, totalling 4,356 sq. yards, was leased from John Houghton, clerk to the Birmingham Canal Company, who was building Houghton Street and a canal wharf, at a cost of £10 10s per annum (*ibid.*, 28). An engraving of c.1800 (Figure 10) gives a rough indication of the appearance of the early factory buildings, though it is difficult to correlate this image with any surviving remains. Initially making cast iron-mongery, Kenrick had established a hollow-ware manufactory by 1805 (Timmins 1866, 103), going on to specialise in cast iron kitchenware, which became its mainstay for the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The firm became known as Archibald Kenrick and Company after Archibald's nephew, Samuel, joined the firm as a partner in 1812 (Samuel was to leave the firm in 1827 and set up the nearby Summit Foundry in direct competition with his uncle). In 1827, Kenrick's son, also named Archibald, joined the company which became Archibald Kenrick and Son. Improvements to the original factory were made as and when necessary, and significant additions were made during boom years of 1836 and throughout the 1850s (*ibid.*, 50-53). The value of stock (including buildings, machinery and tools) increased from £9,810 in 1837 to £86,734 in 1878, the latter year marking the construction of the new offices and warehouse ranges at the south-east corner of the site (*ibid.*, 54).
- 5.3.2 The company went on to become one of the most important metal manufacturers in the Black Country in the final quarter of the 19th century, being incorporated in 1883.⁵ Its prosperity was helped by a series of patented technical improvements, and the organisation of a cartel among the UK's hardware manufacturers, which set prices and protected market share. Additions to the original works were piecemeal. By the First World War the company became one of the Black Country's leading metal

² The history of the company of Archibald Kenrick and Sons has been previously reported (Church 1969) and will not be repeated in detail here.

³ <http://www.a2a.org.uk>. Accessed 12.06.08.

⁴ The arrangement was officially concluded in 1793, though made retrospective to March 1791 (Church 1969, 28). A centenary celebration was reported in the West Bromwich Free Press on July 3rd 1891, 3.

⁵ The firm is first listed as a Limited Company in Kelly's Directory of Birmingham of 1892 (p.418).

manufacturers. The interwar years were difficult, but in the 1950s, Kenricks acquired the manufacturing rights to the Shepherd castor for furniture, the market leader. This was to be crucial to the firm's prosperity in the 1960s and 70s.⁶

6 MAP REGRESSION

6.1 Early Maps

6.1.1 The available early maps are of limited use in tracing the development of the manufactory buildings. John Wood's map of 1837 (Figure 2), is fairly schematic and though it does indicate 'Kenrick's Village' on the land to the north of the OML canal, east of Spon Lane, it shows no building outlines to indicate the extent of the works at that date. The 1849 parish map (Figure 3) is of more use as it clearly shows the manufactory buildings concentrated towards the eastern end of the plot, fronting onto Union Street to the north and the canal to the south, with no apparent development at the Hall Street South end of the site.

6.2 Ordnance Survey Maps

6.2.1 The first map to illustrate the layout of the manufactory buildings in any detail is the Ordnance Survey County Series 1:2500 1st edition map of 1886-91 (Figure 4). It is clear that, by this time, considerable development had occurred and the site is fully occupied up to the western site boundary formed by Hall Street South, including the construction of the office range and warehousing currently under consideration (see also Figure 10b and 11). The linking block is clearly shown on this map, though it is apparent that it originally occupied a narrower plan area than the surviving structure.⁷

6.2.2 By the time of the Ordnance Survey 1st Revision map of 1904 (Figure 5), the link range had clearly been widened to its current width. The Ordnance Survey edition of 1916 (Figure 6) shows an essentially similar plan, though it appears that, by this date, the northern part of the link building had been extended eastwards to serve the next adjacent warehouse building. No change is seen in the 1937-8 (Figure 7) while, by the time of the 1st edition National Grid Series 1:1250 map of 1958, the plan of the link building had been established in its surviving form. The latter edition is also the first to clearly indicate the lift shaft structure projecting from the northern end of the west wall of the eastern warehouse building. No significant change to the main manufactory buildings is indicated on the Ordnance Survey edition of 1971-2, though the construction of the M5 motorway to the south evidently necessitated the removal of a number of subsidiary structures fronting onto the canal, evident in earlier editions and on historic photographs (eg. Figure 11).

7 BUILDING DESCRIPTION

7.1 General Arrangements

7.1.1 The building currently under consideration forms a raised link between the main office building fronting onto Hall Street South to the west and the two parallel warehouse ranges to the east. Links are provided at first and second floor level, the ground floor level being open (Plates 1 and 2). In plan, the building comprises three narrow, parallel ranges, the southern two extending between the office range and the adjacent warehouse block to the east, the northern range extending further to the east, passing

⁶ <http://www.a2a.org.uk>. Accessed 12.06.08.

⁷ This interpretation is supported by the evidence of the surviving fabric.

to the north of the first warehouse block to serve the next adjacent building (Figure 14), formerly of three storeys, evidenced by the lower jambs of a doorway at the upper level (Plate 24).

7.2 The Exterior

The North Elevation (Plates 1 and 3)

- 7.2.1 The north elevation of the link building rises through two storeys (1F and 2F) over an open passageway at ground floor level. The elevation is formed of seven surviving bays (the eastern section was dismantled in 2001, B Faulkner *pers. comm.*) defined by principal timber posts and is clad in vertically set tongue and groove planking with narrow glazed panels (seven per bay) to both floor levels. The northern part of the link can be seen to wrap around the north end of the warehouse block (formerly of three storeys) adjacent to the office range (Plate 1), also serving the next adjacent warehouse block to the east (Figure 14). Immediately west of the warehouse block, the upper level of an inserted lift shaft can be seen extending above the roofline of the link building.

The South Elevation (Plate 2)

- 7.2.2 The south elevation of the link building rises through two storeys (1F and 2F) over an open passageway at ground floor level. The elevation is formed of three bays defined by principal timber posts, extending between the main office block and the adjacent warehouse range (the latter structure was originally of three storeys, see Figure 11, though the top level has subsequently been removed). The roof is pitched and slated with a louvred skylight to the ridge (Plate 4). The second floor is framed in timber forming small square panels (Plate 4), with four open central bays formerly housing 3/3 top-hinged casement windows (currently stacked at second floor level). Principal and intermediary posts display moulded timber brackets to the eaves (Plate 14). The rail at second floor level, which displays empty mortices at bay and mid bay divisions (Plate 5), indicates that these arrangements were formerly repeated at first floor level. The current treatment of the first floor level, however, reflects the north elevation, with vertically set tongue and groove planking below tall narrow glazed panels, seven per bay (Plates 2 and 21).

7.3 The Interior (Figure 14)

Second Floor Level

- 7.3.1 The southern range extends between the three storey main office range to the west and the adjacent warehouse block (formerly of three storeys) to the east. The range is of three bays defined by simple paired rafter trusses with angled iron tie bars and central, vertical tension bar (Figure 13; Plate 6). The central section of the roof includes a ridge skylight with opening timber louvres to north and south (Plates 8 and 10). Access to adjoining ranges at each end of the link is via wide doorways with plain chamfered jambs and segmental arched head (Plates 8 and 9). Exterior wall treatments are described in §.7.2 above. An iron pump (Plate 12) survives at the south-east corner of the range, adjacent to the eastern doorway. The range is substantially floored in cast metal plates supported on three longitudinal RSJs set into the brickwork of the adjacent structures, observed at first floor level (Plate 18).
- 7.3.2 The northern two ranges of the link are structurally distinct from the southern bay. The flooring is of softwood boards aligned east-west laid upon transverse timber joists

with herringbone strutting, observed at first floor level (Plates 19 and 20). Against the western wall, the floor of the northern ranges can be seen to cut across the apex of two lancet windows of the office block elevation (Plates 7 and 20), while the roofline likewise cuts across primary features of the office range (Figure 13). The eastern part of the central range is occupied by a brick built lift shaft (Plate 11), square in plan and obviously a secondary insertion evidenced by a clear straight joint at the junction with the eastern warehouse range and by the fact that the brickwork of the shaft (blue-grey engineering brick laid to stretcher bond) blocks a former exterior window at second floor level of the warehouse range (Plate 15). The northernmost range extends across the north elevation of the warehouse range to serve the next adjacent building to the east; it retains a weighing mechanism and iron plate at its north-east corner (Plate 13). Exterior wall treatments are described in §.7.2 above.

First Floor Level

- 7.3.3 The southern range, again of three bays, extends between the three storey main office range to the west and the adjacent warehouse block (formerly of three storeys) to the east. Access to adjoining ranges at each end of the link is via wide doorways with two centred, pointed arches with plain chamfered jambs and heads (Plates 16 and 17). The southern, exterior wall treatment matches that of the north elevation and is presumably secondary, dating to the extension of the link in the early years of the 20th century (see §.6.2.2). The range is again substantially floored in cast metal plates supported on three longitudinal RSJs set into the brickwork of the adjacent structures.
- 7.3.4 As at second floor level, the northern two ranges of the link are structurally distinct from the southern bay. The flooring is of softwood boards aligned east-west laid upon transverse timber joists, with additional support from longitudinal RSJs (Plate 25). Against the western wall, the floor of the northern ranges can be seen to cut across the two lancet windows of the office block elevation (Plate 20) while, to the north, a former tall lancet window has been widened to form a doorway (jambs rebuilt in engineering brick) and subsequently partially blocked to re-form a window opening (Plate 22). The eastern part of the central range is occupied by the inserted brick-built lift shaft (Plate 17), described above. The northernmost range extends across the north elevation of the warehouse range to serve the next adjacent building to the east (Plate 23); only the floor of the link range survives here (Plate 24), the superstructure having been dismantled in 2001 due to safety considerations resultant from the instability of the structure (B Faulkner, *pers. comm.*). Exterior wall treatments are described in §.7.2 above.

8 DISCUSSION

- 8.1 It is apparent from cartographic sources and from the surviving fabric that the link building does not constitute a single-phase structure. The earliest part of the building is represented by the southern pitch-roofed range at first and second floor levels; this structure would appear to be primary as its arrangements respect features within the exterior elevations of the adjacent office and warehouse ranges (see Figure 13). The original appearance of the link is represented by the framed section of the south elevation surviving at second floor level, a pattern that would appear to have originally been repeated at first floor. It is assumed that this exterior treatment would originally have been reflected in the north elevation.
- 8.2 The northern two ranges of the link building are structurally distinct from the southern range and are evidently a secondary addition as related floor levels block, obscure or cut across primary features of the office block to the west. Reference to historic maps

indicates that the addition occurred before the 1st Revision Ordnance Survey map in 1904. The extension of the link structure would have involved the removal of the original north wall, and it is apparent that the first floor southern wall was reclad at this time, reflecting the treatment of the new north elevation.

- 8.3 The lift shaft structure adjacent to the warehouse block is clearly secondary and is first evident as a separate structure on the Ordnance Survey map of 1958 (Figure 8).

9 CONCLUSION

- 9.1 The link structure is an interesting though unremarkable construction and is partly contemporary with the Grade II Listed office range located to the west. It is, however, of no intrinsic architectural merit or special archaeological significance and the current study has allowed for an adequate record to be made of the link structure prior to demolition. The record will form part of a more detailed site archive to be generated ahead of and during further proposed works at the site.

10 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 10.1 The project was commissioned by Spire Homewares (Archibald Kenrick and Son) of West Bromwich, West Midlands. Thanks are extended to Mr. Steven Jones of Spire Homewares and to Mr. Barry Faulkner (maintenance manager) for their help and assistance during the project. Thanks are also due to Ms. Mikki Karekar of Brownhill Hayward Brown (Architects), to Ms. Fay de Souza of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Historic Environment team and to the staff at the Smethwick Community History and Archives Service.
- 10.2 Documentary research and site recording were undertaken by Ric Tyler of Birmingham Archaeology who also prepared and illustrated the present report. The project was managed by Dr. Malcolm Hislop of Birmingham Archaeology.

11 SOURCES

(a) Cartographic Sources (in chronological order)

- Plan of West Bromwich from an Actual Survey by John Wood, 1837.
- A Map of the Parish of West Bromwich in the County of Stafford, 1849.
- Ordnance Survey County Series 1st Edition 1:2500 map, 1886-91.
- Ordnance Survey County Series 1st Revision 1:2500 map, 1904.
- Ordnance Survey County Series 2nd Revision 1:2500 map, 1916-19.
- Ordnance Survey County Series 3rd revision 1:2500 map, 1937-8.
- Ordnance Survey National Grid Series 1st Edition 1:1250 map, 1958-9.
- Ordnance Survey National Grid Series 1st Revision 1:1250 map, 1971-4.

(b) Published Sources

Aston JWA undated. *The Story of West Bromwich*. J Aston, West Bromwich.

Church RA, 1969. *Kenricks in Hardware: A Family Business 1791-1966*. David and Charles. Newton Abbot.

Court, W.B.H., 1938. *The Rise of the West Midlands Industries 1600-1838*.

Horovitz D, 2005. *The Place-names of Staffordshire*. David Horovitz, Brewood.

Morris J (ed.), 1976. *Domesday Book; 24 Staffordshire*. Phillimore, Chichester.

Pevsner N, 1974. *The Buildings of England: Staffordshire*. Penguin, Harmondsworth.

Timmins S (ed.), 1866. *Birmingham and the Midland hardware district: a series of reports collected by the Local Industries Committee of the British Association*. Frank Cass and Co. Ltd. Facsimile published 1967, Routledge.

VCH, 1976. *Victoria County History of Staffordshire, Volume XVII*

(c) Other Sources

a2a: Access to Archives - on-line resource of the National Archives:
<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/records.aspx?cat=1430-1990-134&cid=0>

English Heritage 'Images of England' on-line catalogue of listed buildings:
<http://gouk.about.com/gi/dynamic/offsite.htm?site=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.imagesofengland.org.uk%2F>

APPENDIX C: Statutory List Entry for Office Range

SANDWELL MB

HALL STREET SOUTH
West Bromwich

SP 08 NW

9/91

30.3.87

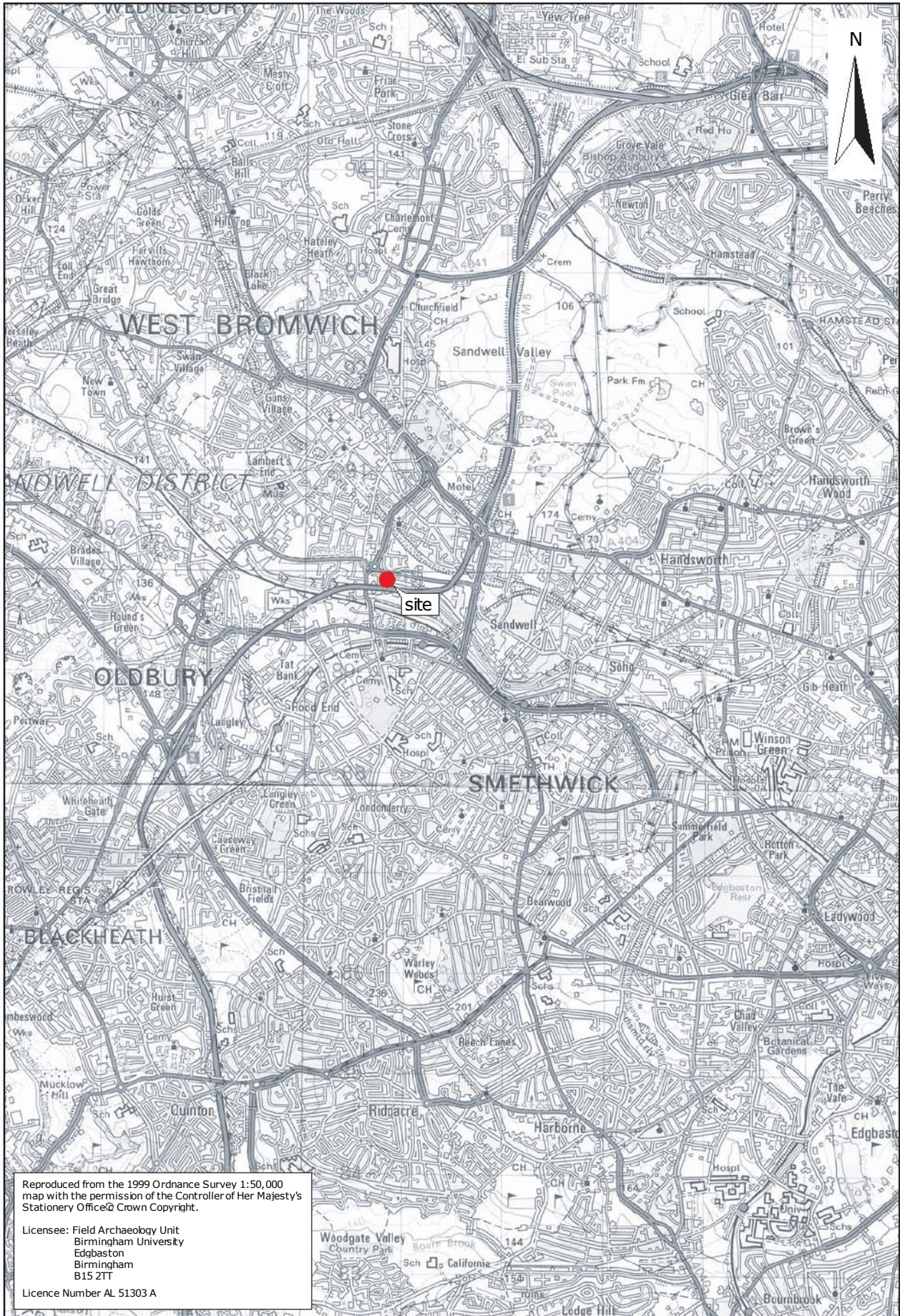
II

Premises occupied by Archibald Kenrick & Sons (excluding works to east)

Offices and stores for engineering works. 1880s. Brick with some dressings of stone and terra cotta. Tile roofs. Gothic style. Three storeys. Seven gables face Hall Street. On the ground floor is an arcade of 14 pointed arches, chamfered in three orders. All contain windows except for the 12th, which contains a door. Each of the two central gabled sections is of three bays. The central bays contain paired windows separated by shafts set within a two-storey recess with a cusped round opening under its pointed head. Under the second and fifth gables are two bays, but the fifth has three windows on the first floor. The left hand gable is of one bay. The two right hand gables have paired windows separated by shafts, the upper ones with pointed heads, within pointed recesses. The sixth is of two bays. The seventh is of one bay, its right hand side being cut into by a clock tower. This has paired lancet openings under a pointed stone head with quatrefoil. Above are clock faces within stone gables with tracery decoration. Above is a short spire now covered by felt, with timber lucarnes.

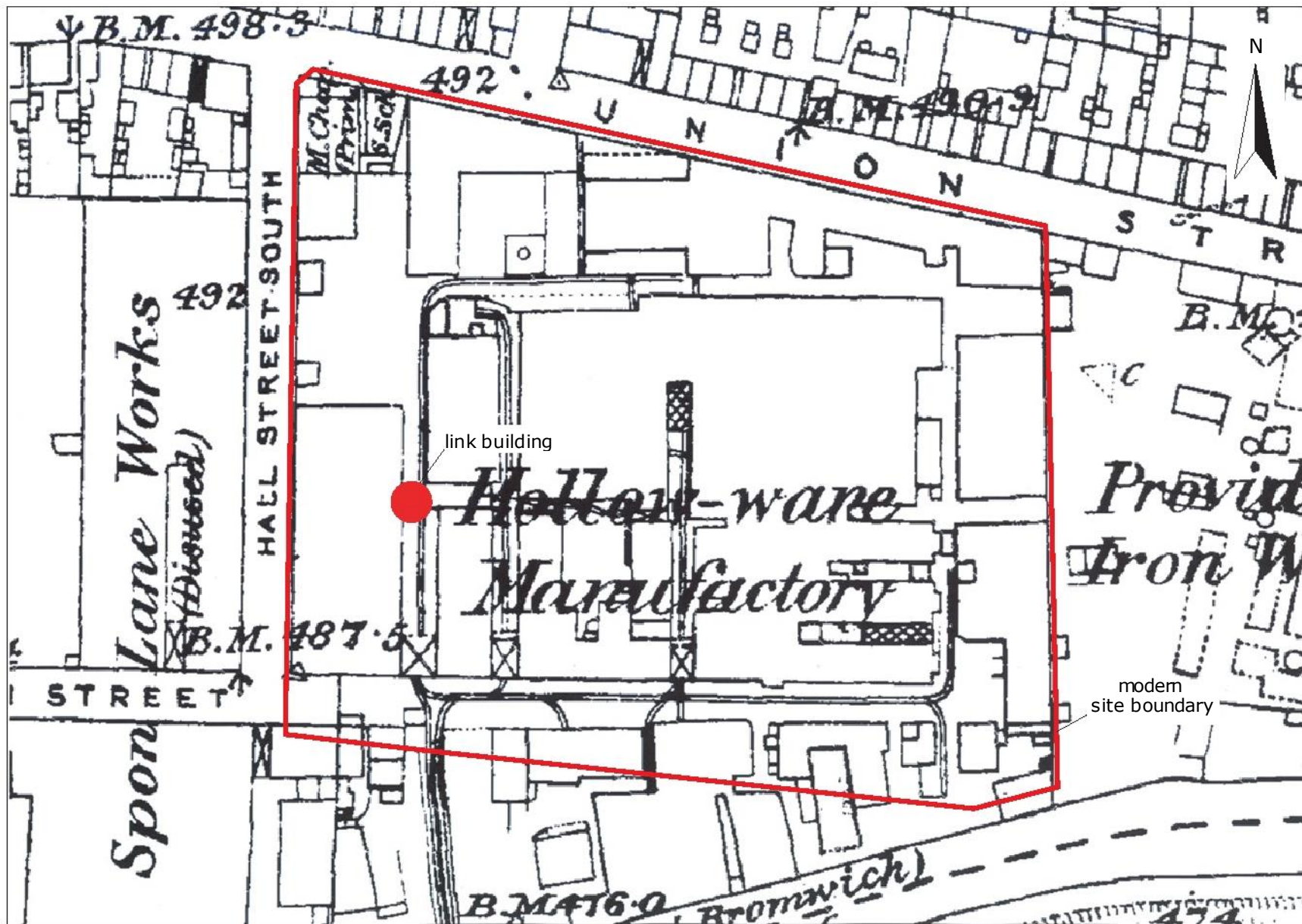
APPENDIX D: Sandwell MBC SMR Summary Sheet

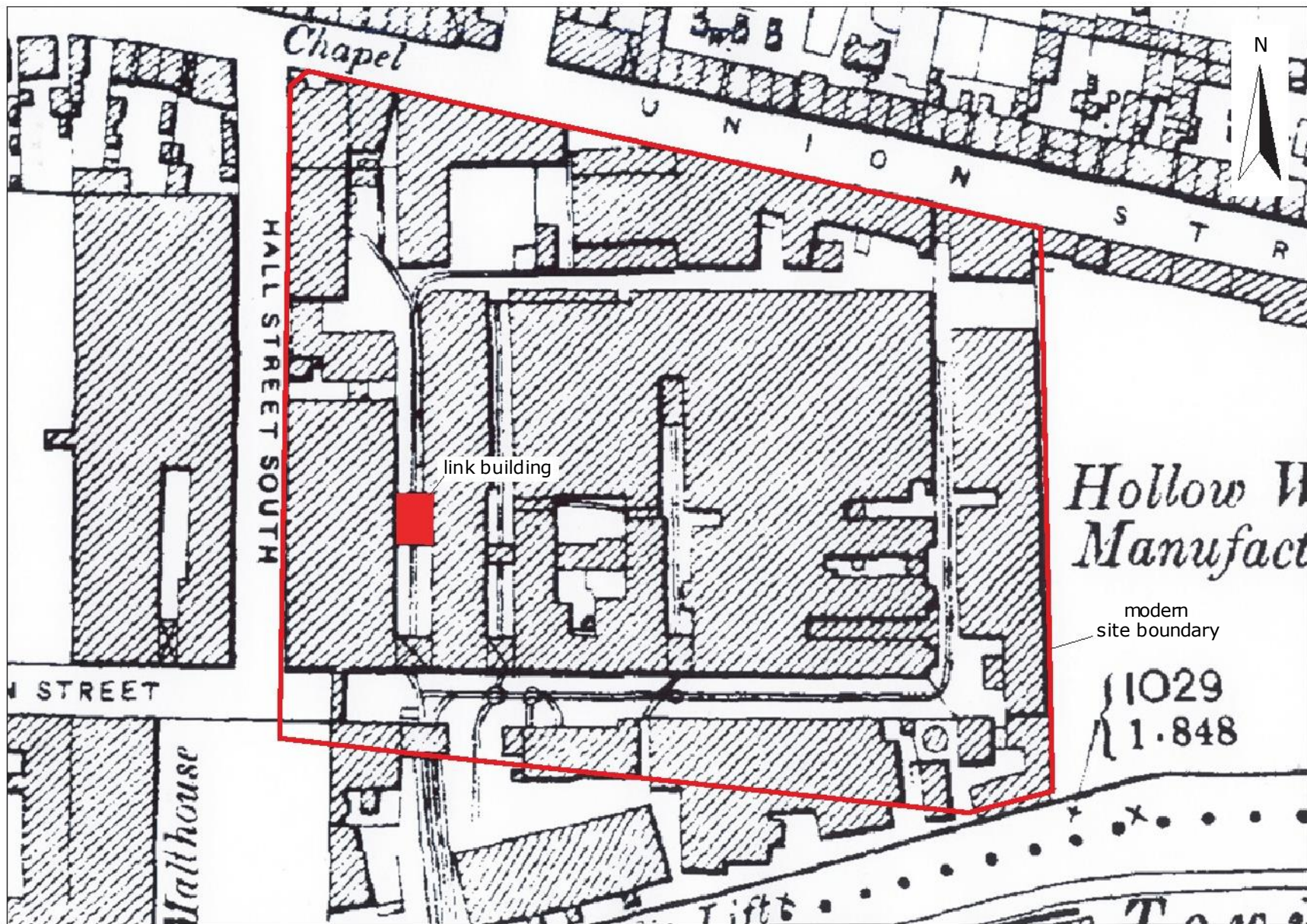
Site name/Address: The Archibald Kenrick Building, Union Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands	
Borough: Sandwell MBC <i>Type of Work: Historic Building Record</i>	NGR: SP 00830 89890 Site Code:
Archaeological Contractor: Birmingham Archaeology	Date of Work: June 2008
Location of Finds/ Curating Museum: NA/ Sandwell Community History and Archives Service, Smethwick	
Title of Report: THE ARCHIBALD KENRICK BUILDING, WEST BROMWICH, WEST MIDLANDS: Link Structure; Historic Building Record, June 2008	
SUMMARY OF FIELDWORK RESULTS:	
<p><i>Birmingham Archaeology was commissioned in June 2008 of to undertake an historic building record at the premises of Archibald Kenrick and Sons, Union Street, West Bromwich, West Midlands. The programme of work involved a rapid review of historical sources held by the Smethwick Community Archives and Local Studies centre and a site assessment.</i></p> <p><i>Archibald Kenrick established a foundry at the Spon Lane site on the north bank of the Old Main Line canal in 1791, expanding through out the 19th century and becoming one of the most important metal manufacturers in the Black Country in the final quarter of the 19th century.</i></p> <p><i>Expansion of the site in the latter years of the 19th century included the construction of a fine office block in the Gothic style at the corner of Hall Street South and Houghton Street in 1878, the main office range and warehouse building being a Grade II Listed Building. The current study was undertaken in regard of a two storey link building connecting the office range with warehouse structures to the east.</i></p> <p><i>The link structure represents an interesting though unremarkable construction and has been shown to be partly contemporary with the Grade II Listed office range. It is, however, of no intrinsic architectural merit or special archaeological significance and the current study has allowed for an adequate record to be made of the link structure prior to demolition. The record will form part of a more detailed site archive to be generated ahead of and during further proposed works at the site.</i></p>	
Author of Summary: R. Tyler	Date of Summary: June 2008

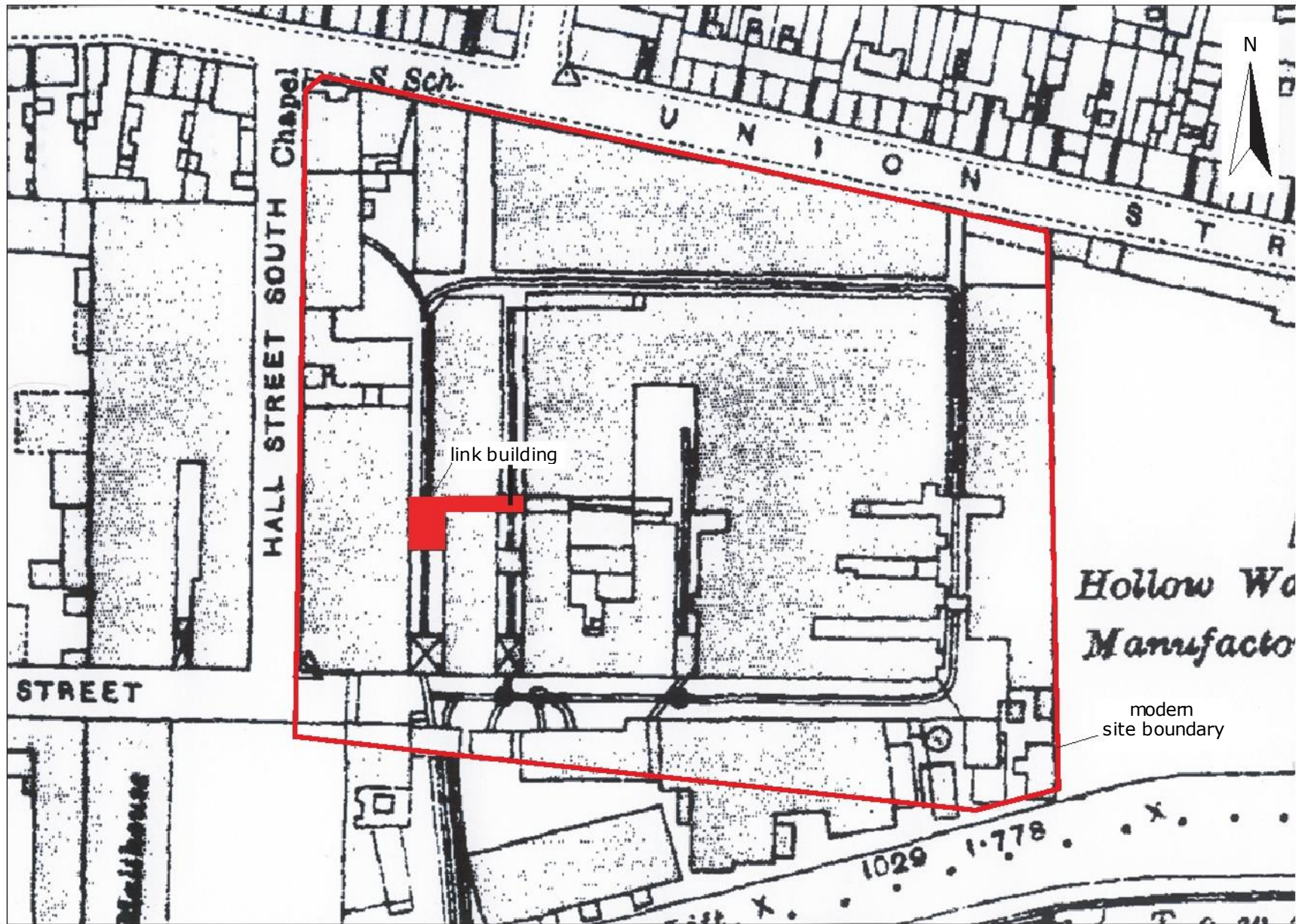


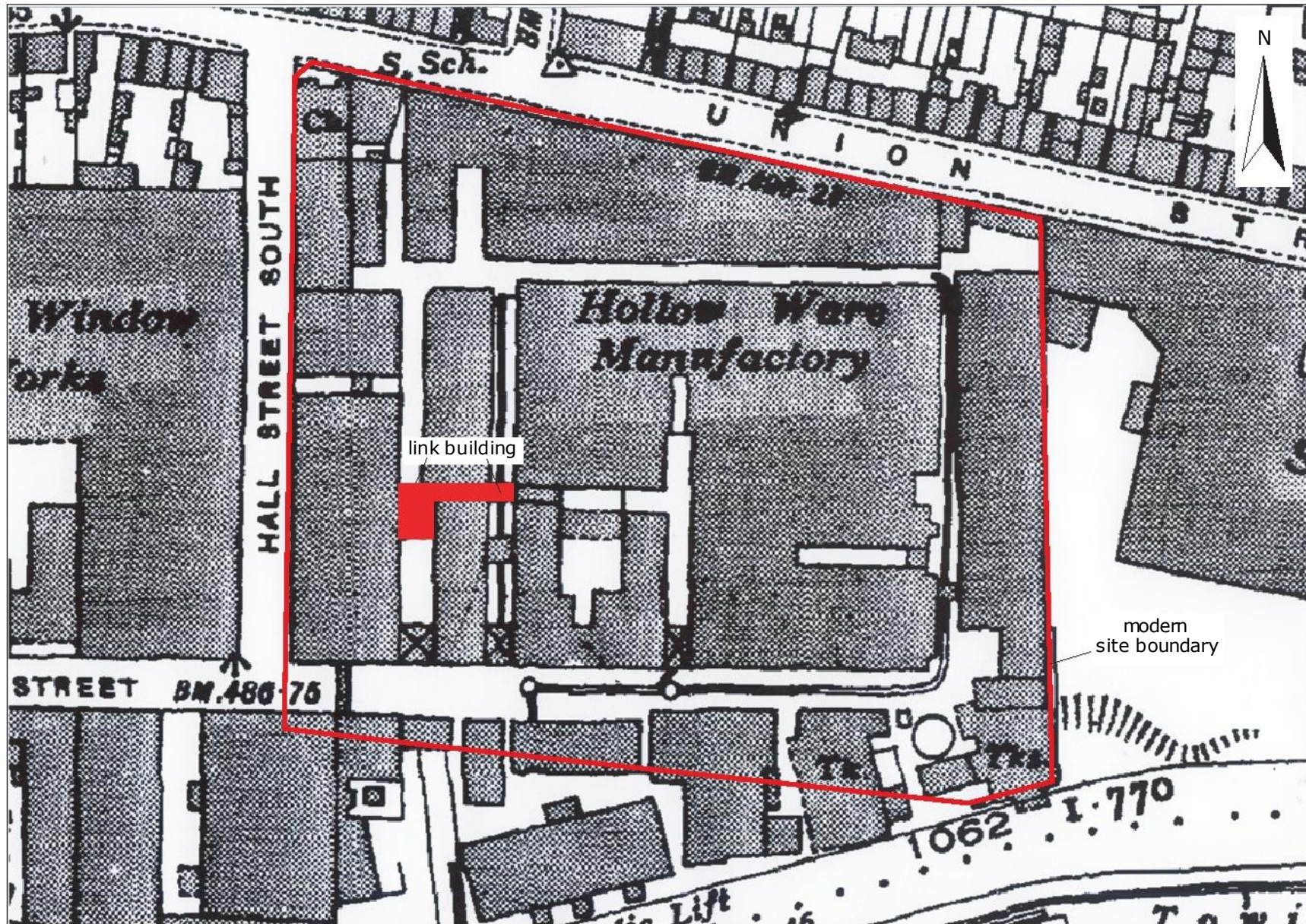


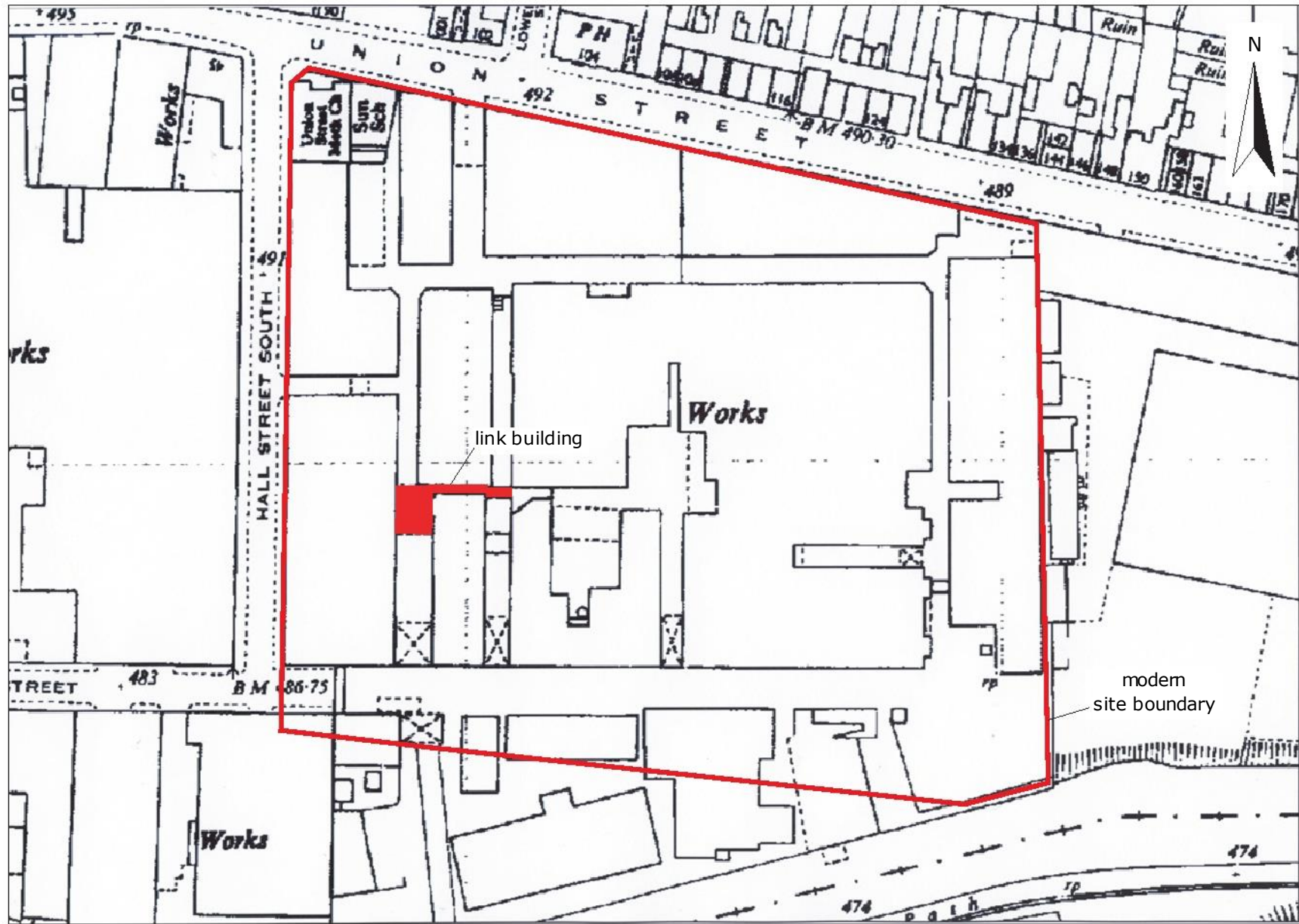


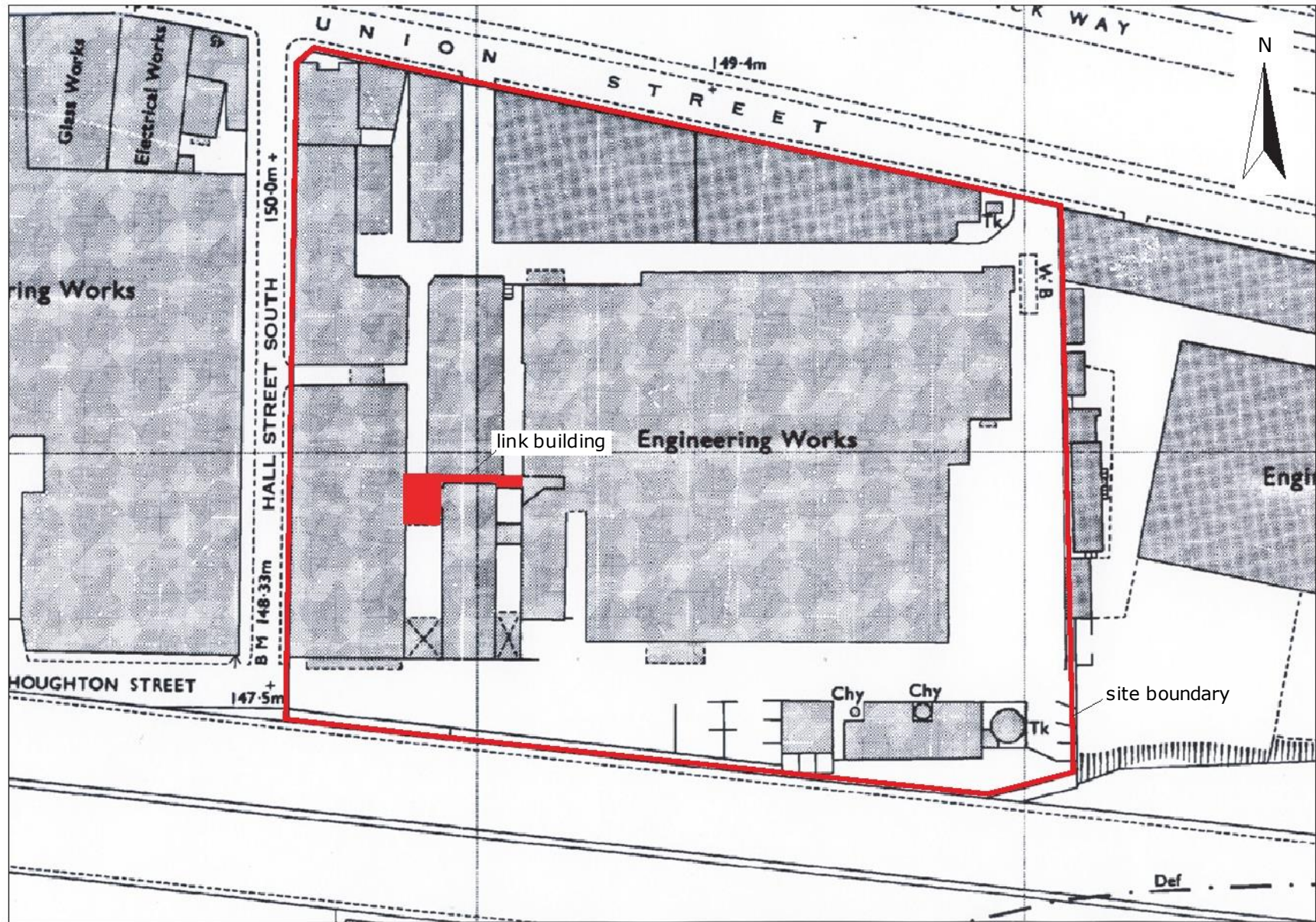






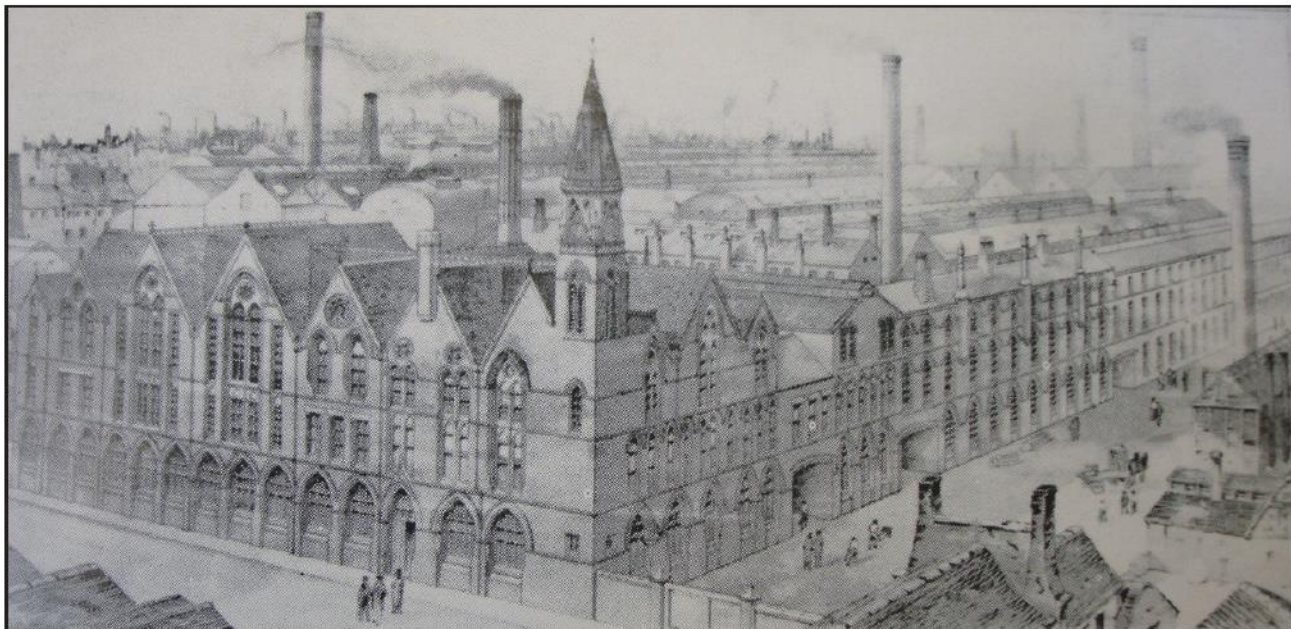








(a) engraving of works c.1800



(b) engraving of works c.1886-91



SOUTH

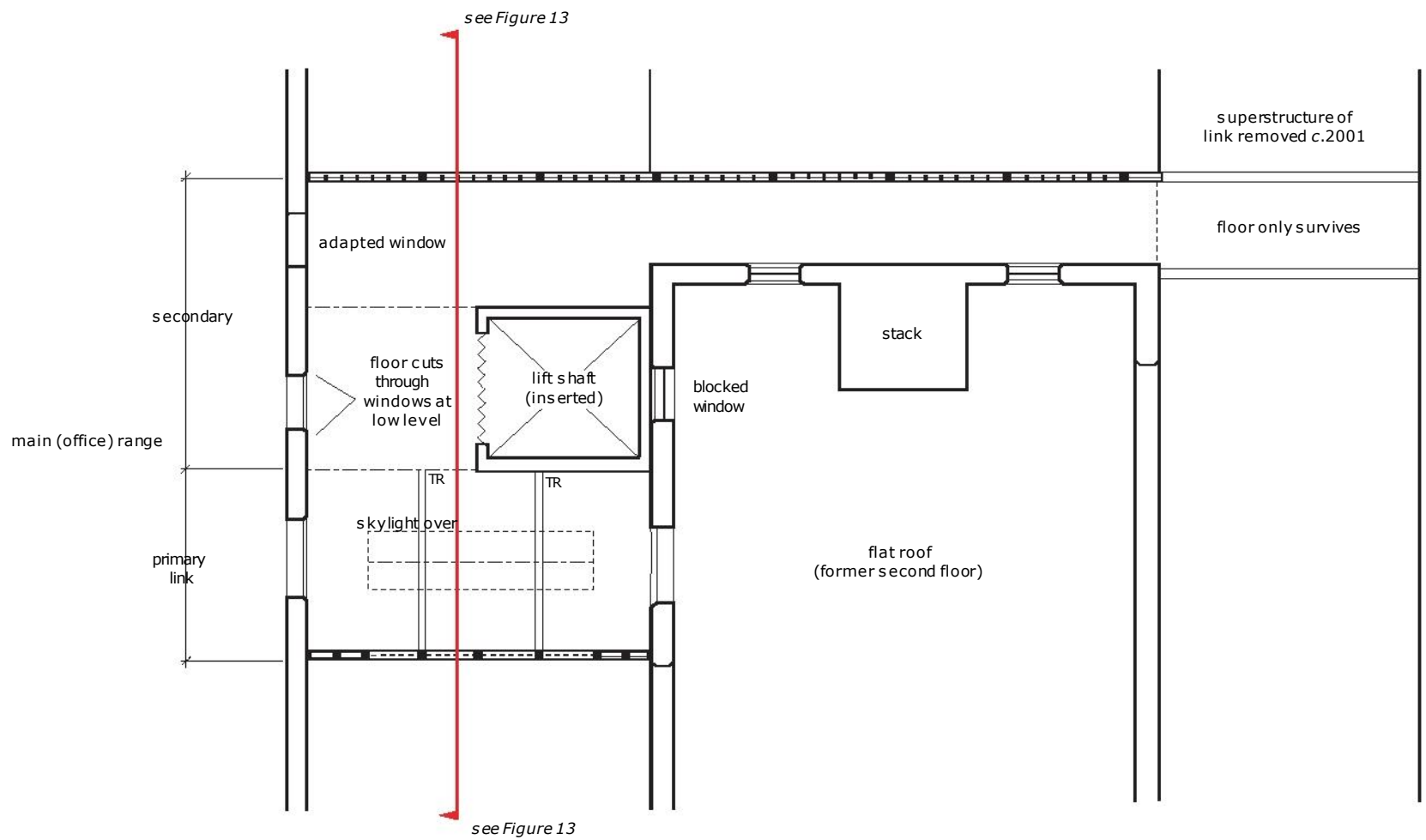
NORTH



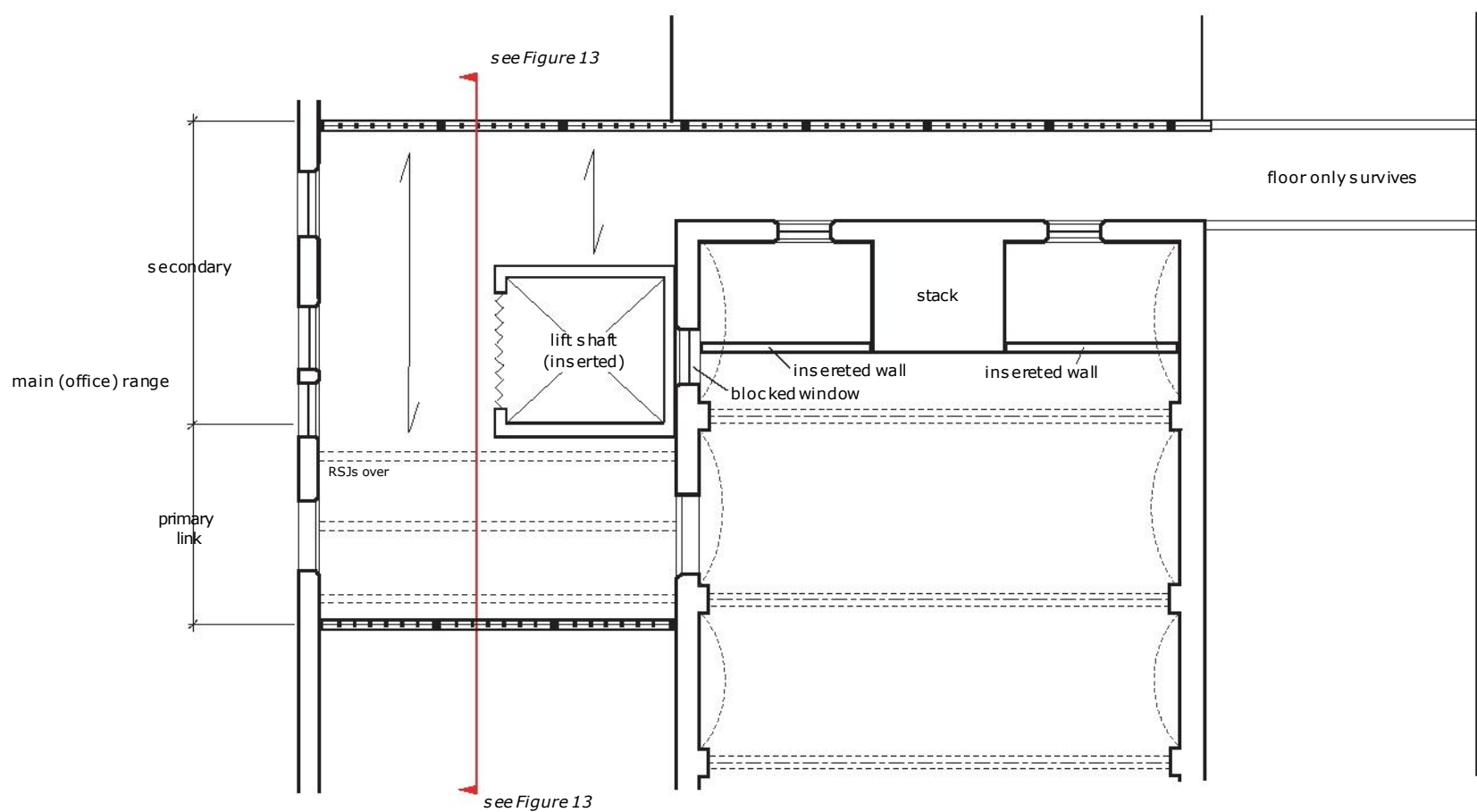
SOUTH

NORTH





(a) Second Floor Plan



(b) First Floor Plan

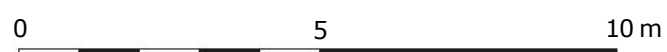




Plate 1: Link building from the north, note lift shaft projection.



Plate 2: Link building from the south.



Plate 3: North elevation.



Plate 4: Link building from the south, 2F level.



Plate 5: 2F level, south; evidence for former 1F arrangements.



Plate 6: 2F level, looking west.



Plate 7: 2F level, truncated lancet windows in west wall (see Plate 20).



Plate 8: 2F, door to west (office) block.



Plate 9: 2F, door formerly serving 2F of east range.



Plate 10: 2F level, timber roof louvres.



Plate 11: 2F level, inserted lift shaft.



Plate 12: 2F, pump in SE corner.



Plate 13: 2F, scales(?) in NW corner.



Plate 14: 2F, south wall structure.



Plate 15: 2F, lift shaft blocking window.



Plate 16: 1F level, west wall.



Plate 17: 1F level, east wall and inserted lift shaft.



Plate 18: 2F floor structure, southern section.



Plate 19: 2F floor structure, northern section.



Plate 20: 1F, truncated windows in west wall (see also Plate 7).



Plate 21: 1F, south wall.



Plate 22: 1F, adapted window in west wall.



Plate 23: 1F, northern link to east range.



Plate 24: 1F, doorways to eastern range.



Plate 25: GF level, openings in east (office) range wall.