

**47-49 Barton Road, St Philips
Bristol**

Archaeological Watching Brief

Ref: 10/04347/R
HER 25264
(NGR ST 59972 72825)



By Rachel Heaton

On behalf of Philip Thorpe
of
Thorpe and Hunter Ltd

Avon Archaeology Limited

February 2014



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SUMMARY

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Mr Philip Thorpe, of Thorpe and Hunter, Chartered Architects, to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (Archaeological Watching Brief) during groundworks related to the redevelopment of land at nos.47-49, Barton Road, St Philips, Bristol

Archaeological monitoring during initial groundworks, prior to the development of the site and the construction of a new apartment block. The monitoring offered a limited window from which to draw information.

The remains of a wall, built on the existing northern plot boundary, represents the earliest recorded phase of activity on the site, and probably dates to between 1828 and 1849, when the land (which had previously been farm land) was developed. A second wall remaining along the south east boundary of the site was almost certainly built in the late 1800's. No other archaeological features or deposits predating the 19th century were recorded during the watching brief.

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Acknowledgements

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Note:

Whereas Avon Archaeology Limited have taken all care to produce a comprehensive summary of the known archaeological evidence, no responsibility can be accepted for any omissions of fact or opinion, however caused.

1 INTRODUCTION

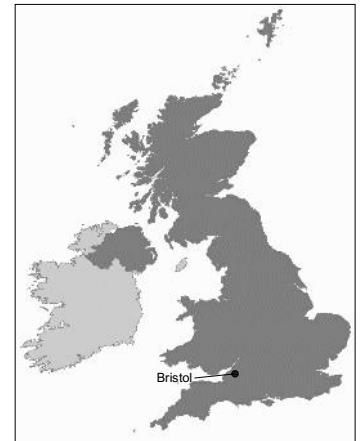
Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by Mr Philip Thorpe, of Thorpe and Hunter, Chartered Architects, to undertake a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (Archaeological Watching Brief) during groundworks related to the redevelopment of land at nos.47-49, Barton Road, St Philips, Bristol BS2 0LF. The project was commissioned to satisfy a condition of planning consent, imposed by the City Archaeologist for Bristol City Council, which required that the groundworks on the property should be recorded in accordance with guidelines for Watching Brief projects issued by The Institute for Archaeology (IfA), the guidelines for archaeological projects set out in MoRPHE (*Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment*) and the standard procedures of Avon Archaeology Limited. The Watching Brief forms part of a planning application, under the City of Bristol Planning Department reference number: 10/04347/R.

Groundworks related to the proposed development were contained within an area of approximately 260m² (**Figure 2**) centred on NGR ST 59973 72823.

2 THE SITE

The site comprises an almost triangular parcel of land within the St Philips area of Bristol. Barton Road forms the north west side and site frontage, with a former railway line (now cycle path) to the south east, and modern apartment buildings on the north east side. The area has been subject to considerable redevelopment in the last ten years, and modern apartment and office blocks surround the site on adjoining streets. Until recently the site was occupied by a red brick-built industrial unit of 20th century date (**Cover photo and Figure 9**).

Figure 1



Location of the Study Area



Grid lines at 1 km intervals (extract from OS 1:25 000)

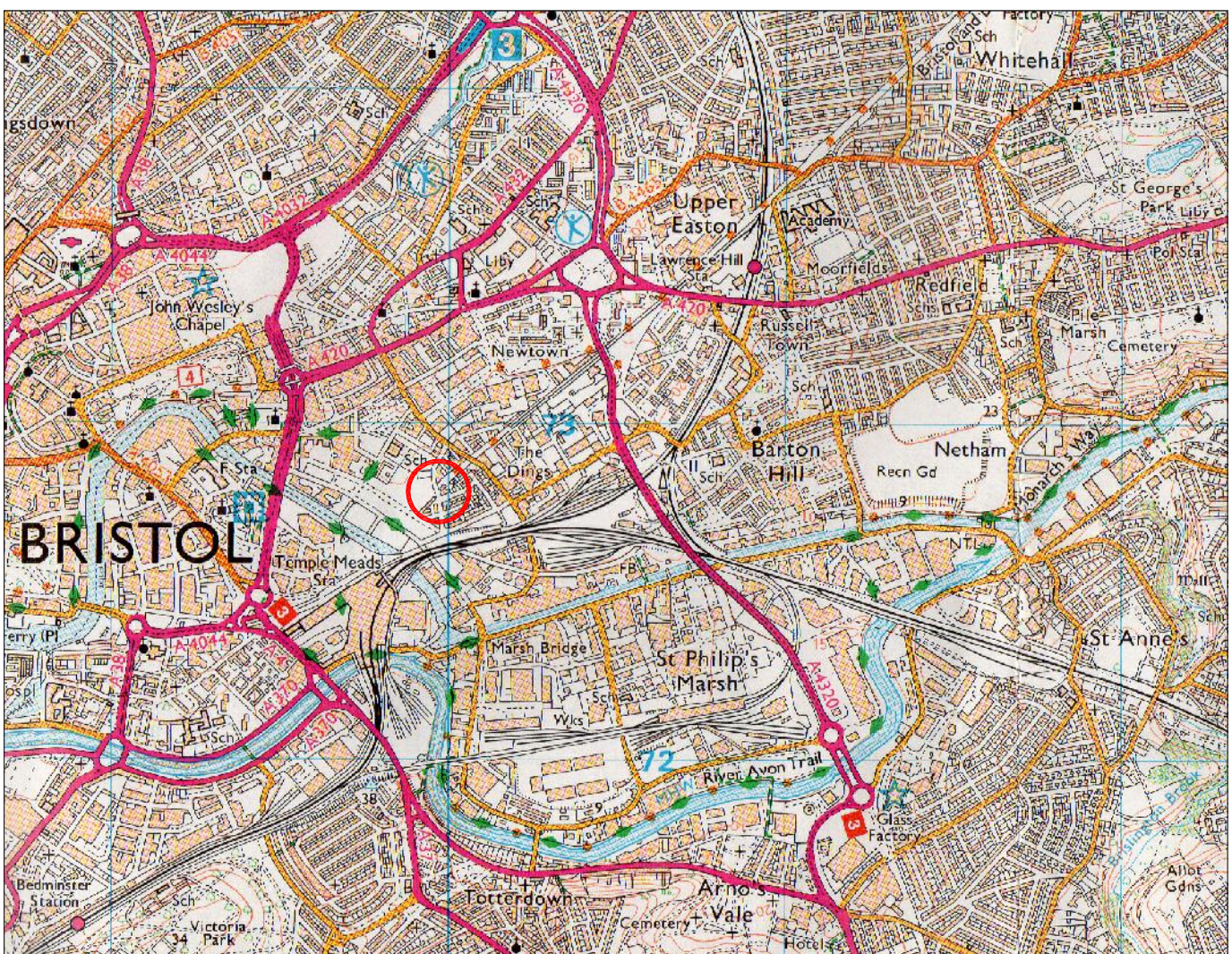


Figure 2



Location of study site outlined in red.



3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

As may be imagined, the sheer quantity of both primary and secondary material which is available for historical studies of the City of Bristol, is vast, and a review such as this can do no more than summarize the most salient points in the briefest terms. There are few references to Bristol before the Norman Conquest, although it is significant that one of the earliest occurrences of the place-name appears on a late Anglo-Saxon coin. Unusually for a place that had not been a Roman town, nor seems to have had any notable importance before the 10th century at the earliest, Bristol's rise to prominence was both late and relatively rapid. The site is a superb defensive position, on a slight bluff at the confluence of the Rivers Avon and Frome, and at a convenient crossing point of the former; indeed the crossing point probably represents the site's fundamental *raison d'être*, and explains the place-name of 'the place at the bridge' (Smith 1964, 83-85). Evidence even of late Anglo-Saxon activity or occupation in the central part of the city, around the northern bridgehead, is extremely scarce, although given the intensity of subsequent occupation and development, this is hardly to be wondered at. Sivier, however, makes the important point that

Bristol is not mentioned in the *Burghal Hidage* of c.919, listing the *burhs* then extant in England.....and the earliest dating evidence for the city is a coin of Aethelred II issued sometime between 1009-1016. Despite this the city was almost certainly in existence long before then. Its status as a *burh* is incontrovertible, however, given the strong similarities between the City and other late Saxon burhs mentioned in the *Burghal Hidage* (Sivier 2002, 17).

Indeed slightly later on, Sivier also remarks that the very existence of Bristol-minted coins by the early 11th century, is testimony itself to its importance as a centre of trade and commerce half a century before the Norman Conquest (*ibid*, 36).

Bristol emerges in the pages of the Domesday survey for Gloucestershire as a relatively modest holding of only 6 hides, and even then is noted only, as it were, in passing, as part of the then royal manor of Barton Regis. The owner before 1066, is not specified but if the usual practice was followed, then it is probable that what had been a royal manor

in the late Anglo-Saxon period passed without a break of ownership straight to King William, and indeed the royal credentials are reinforced by the manorial suffix 'Regis' (Moore 1982). Although archaeological evidence is extremely scanty, it is an accepted orthodoxy that the late Anglo-Saxon and early post-Conquest settlement was centred just north of the Avon bridgehead, at the meeting point of the later High Street, Wine Street, Broad Street and Corn Street. This location lay towards the western end of the river bluff defined by the Avon and Frome, and is enclosed by a closed contour at 15m aOD. Bristol's urban affinities by the late 11th century seem very clear, attested, apart from anything else, by the record of houses in Domesday Book, attached to rural manors: the Gloucestershire folios note two houses belonging to the manor of Westbury (on Trym), and the Somerset DB lists no fewer than ten houses attached to the manor of Bishopsworth, which lies about 3.5km SSW of the Bristol Avon on its course through the city centre (Thorn and Thorn 1980). Domesday Book also explicitly uses the term 'burgesses' in relation to the inhabitants of Bristol, a fact usually ascribed to borough status by the late 11th century (Moore 1982).

The construction of Bristol castle, probably from the late 11th century onwards, and then through successive rebuilding and expansions well into the 14th century, had a major impact on the topography at the eastern end of the main river bluff. Some houses were certainly swept away during the earliest phases of fortification, which initially may have comprised only of a ringwork, a circular bank and ditch, which only slightly later was reworked into the more 'usual' Norman motte and bailey. Also beginning in the late 11th century, and completed around the mid-13th century, with the inclusion of the Marsh, Temple Fee, and Redcliffe suburbs within the circuit, Bristol was provided with a full circuit of stone walls, complete with projecting bastions, and the line of which has been proven by numerous archaeological interventions, and chance observations, over many years (Sivier 2002, 82-99).

To pass now from the general to the particular, the study area itself was historically located in the parish of St Philip and St Jacob, Bristol, and it lies less than 500m to the south of the Old Market part of the city (**Figures 1 and 2**). Part of this area has also traditionally been popularly referred to as 'The Dings', although contrary to some claims the derivation of this word is presently unknown – its earliest documented appearance in any source held at the Bristol Record Office seems to be in a lease dated 1739 (BRO

37941/4). A fully authoritative account of the history of the name remains to be written. The civil parish of St Philip and Jacob Without (outside Bristol), was created in 1720 and abolished in 1896, although the church itself was founded before the late 12th century and had been serving a large parish community in this area since that time (Foyle 2004, 107-108). In 1899 the relatively recent civil parish was transferred to the City and County of Bristol.

When John Wesley came to Bristol to preach in 1739, one of the first places he visited was St Philips. As there were no buildings large enough to hold a congregation in this area, Wesley preached in the open air near the local brickyards. During the early part of the eighteenth century, the area consisted largely of barley fields, orchards and pastureland. By the end of the century, many of these fields had become market gardens. Writing in 1779, Rudder describes the district as having several large industrial works, such as iron foundries, glass-houses for the production of crown glass (window glass) and glass bottles, a white lead works, a lead ore smelting works and, at Baptist Mills, a very large brass works (Rudder 1779, 601-602). Glass and pottery cones are known to have existed in Avon Street, the district also had soap boilers and hoopers.

In 1789, The Phoenix Glassworks, the largest flint-glass works in the city, founded by Benjamin Lund, was taken over by Messrs Wadham, Ricketts & Co. It later became Powell, Ricketts and Co. and was converted into a glass bottle manufactory. The factory eventually closed in July 1923. Later industrial establishments included iron works and paint works, and in 1819 a coal-gas plant was opened.

Between 1804 and 1809 the Feeder Canal was cut, dividing the area in two and separating it from the marsh. In 1835, the railway came to St Philips. Initially it was horse drawn and ran from St Philips to the Coalpit Heath coalmines. It was later amalgamated into the Midland line, and during the 1840s, Stothert's were manufacturing locomotives in the district. They later became known as the Avonside Works and moved to Fishponds in 1905. In 1865 Derham's built a seven-storey boot and shoe factory in Barton Street which was subsequently destroyed by fire in 1905.

Lysaght's steelworks and Butler's ironworks had premises in Silverthorne Lane, and the famous Bristol company 'Gardiner', which is still in evidence today, started in Nelson Street. By 1897, Gardiner had opened the Midland Road Ironworks and in 1953 they took over the old soap factory premises to expand the business. The soap factory later became a warehouse for the Dunlop Tyre Company. In the 1970s Gardiner Sons & Co.

joined forces with the Shepton Mallet-based furniture store, 'Haskins', to create one of Bristol's largest department stores in New Thomas Street.

The area acquired an unenviable reputation which may have been largely attributable to the presence of a pub on almost every corner. Disturbances of one sort or another were common and the police only walked the streets in pairs. Many of the most enthusiastic rioters involved in the 1831 Bristol riots are thought to have hailed from the Dings area. It was religion which sought to amend the situation, and by the latter part of the nineteenth century there were numerous churches, chapels and mission halls of various denominations co-existing with the local pubs. The Salvation Army attempted to lure inebriated customers from the pubs by preaching outside, and it later had premises in Unity Street.

The Shaftsbury Crusade Christian Mission was founded in the late nineteenth century, and it eventually became the heart of the community. The Mission encouraged sporting activities and in 1897, H W Rudge founded and established the Dings Crusaders RFC, who still play today. The tightly packed tenements constructed in the area during the early 19th century were replaced by modern dwellings in the early 1930s. Following a period of neglect, the area is currently the subject of a major redevelopment plan.

Of the historic maps which explicitly depict the area now occupied by the study site, the earliest easily-available example is the general survey of Bristol by John Rocque, originally produced in 1742, with a revision of 1750. The site was at that time part of the undeveloped 'Marsh Grounds' on the eastern side of the city, although the course of a lane shows that at least the line of the later Barton Road was already partially established by this date. By 1828 the site itself remained undeveloped, despite a clearly increased level of building in the area south of Old Market, and Barton Road was then known as Cooks Lane (**Figure 3**); but buildings had appeared on the site by 1847, as shown on the tithe map for St Philip and St Jacob dated that year, and its southern boundary had become defined by the Midland Railway line (**Figure 4**; BRO EP/A/32/10). The former Cooks Lane had become Barton Road by 1855 (**Figure 5**), but it is clear that the site has been occupied by buildings continuously since some point between 1828 and 1847.

4 SITE GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

Geologically, the site straddles an interface between two different types of deposit, although one of these relates only to superficial 'drift'. The extreme southern end of Barton Road is 'clipped' by the northern edge of alluvial deposits associated with the course of the River Avon, and which the BGS describes as

Tidal Flat Deposits - Clay And Silt. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by shorelines (BGS)

The alluvium is, however, underlain by a hard rock geology consisting of deposits of the Mercia Mudstone Group, which present complex and often very thick beds of highly variable calcareous clays, mudstones and siltstones, which were laid down intermittently throughout the entire duration of the Triassic period, amounting roughly to some 50 million years. The site itself, however, occupying a plot towards the northern end of Barton Road, sits on deposits of the well-known Redcliffe Sandstone Series, exactly contemporary in terms of age and duration of deposition with the Mercia Mudstone, but representing quite different depositional environments. The BGS comments that

These rocks were formed from rivers depositing mainly sand and gravel detrital material in channels to form river terrace deposits, with fine silt and clay from overbank floods forming floodplain alluvium, and some bogs depositing peat; includes estuarine and coastal plain deposits mapped as alluvium (BGS).

All this said, over such a relatively short distance, it would be unwise to place too much reliance on the exact position of the lithological boundary as mapped by the BGS, which should be taken as no more than indicative.

Topographically the site lies on relatively flat land of approximately 11m aOD, probably the floodplain of the River Avon which lies less than half a mile south of the site.

5 METHODOLOGY

The work was carried out in full compliance with the Written Scheme of Investigation (Corcos, 2013) previously agreed with the Bristol City Council Archaeological Officer.

Excavation and ground clearance had begun prior to notification and attendance on site, which limited the archaeological recording to small, open areas around the north, east and south edges of the site. Monitoring was also undertaken during the removal and clearance of a wall, along the south eastern boundary of the site.

During the period of the Watching Brief, excavation was carried out by the contractor, Adrian Bartlett, using a 360° tracked mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket.

All the information regarding archaeological features was recorded on field documents, produced and compiled by Avon Archaeology Limited, in addition to a detailed photographic survey, and technical drawings at scales of 1:10 and 1:20. The contexts were characterised individually and numbered in sequential order.

6 THE WATCHING BRIEF

Work on site, to remove the footings of the recently demolished building and associated ground levelling, had commenced before Avon Archaeology were notified to attend site. By that time, there was no trace of the newly demolished building and obstructions had been removed from all but the south east side of the site. The front had already been back-filled to allow vehicle movement on and off the site.

On arrival trenches, where old footings had been removed, remained open towards the north of the site and along the site boundary with adjoining buildings to the east. There were also open areas in both the south east and south west corners of the site where recording of stratigraphic sequences was possible. The remains of a Wall [130] connected the two open corners, and its demolition and removal was monitored (**Figure 6**).

Pile foundations with shallow connecting beams will form the footings of the proposed new building and the related excavations will not extend any deeper than the newly levelled made ground and do not therefore require archaeological monitoring.

The north end of the site

Along the northern boundary of the site, which measures 3.4m in length, a trench of approximately 1.5m wide was excavated to roughly and 1.48m below current ground level, to remove old footings. A natural deposit (129) consisting of mottled, bright orange-brown sandy silt, was exposed in a small area of the trench. Upon cleaning, there were no obvious archaeological features to note. Approximately 0.05m of the natural, 129, could be seen in section (Figure 8). Wall [128], of which only the south face was visible, was built directly on top of Deposit (129), with no visible construction cut. The wall measured 3.4m long by 0.8m high, its width was not fully exposed. The masonry consisted of randomly coursed, roughly hewn Pennant Sandstone, bonded with

a soft yellow-brown silty sand mortar. There was evidence of foundation courses at the base, forming a protruding step. It was in poor condition, but there was some indication that it had previously been rendered (**Plates 1 and 4**).

Sealing Wall [128], was a sequence of modern backfilled rubble deposits, scalplings and a brick surface (contexts 123 to 127, described in **Table of Contexts** below). A modern fence, in direct alignment with the course of the buried wall, continues still follows this earlier boundary.

The north east side of the site

A trench, measuring approximately 1m wide and dug to a depth of 1.2m below the current ground level, was excavated along the entire north east boundary of the site, adjacent to the existing apartment blocks. The bottom of this trench was waterlogged in places, even so it was clear that the ground beyond the depth of the trench had been disturbed in recent years. There were no features of note visible in the south west facing section, as it consisted of the lower courses of one of the walls of the adjacent apartment block. The north west facing section of this trench showed only made ground, context (121), which consisted of a grey-brown deposit, containing a mixture of rubble (brick, stone, tile) charcoal, etc (**Plates 3 and 5**). Modern pottery, ranging in date from mid-19th to late 20th century, was noted within this deposit.

Wall [130]

A section of Wall [130], was exposed along the south eastern boundary of the site, measuring approximately 6.5m long by 0.7m wide, aligned north east by south west. The uppermost surviving courses were recorded at approximately 0.5m below current ground level and were constructed of roughly squared Pennant Sandstone blocks, of maximum dimensions 0.3m by 0.3m, bonded with a fine, hard dark grey mortar. Both ends of the wall had been truncated, and no returns were visible. It was unclear whether this wall represented the foundations of the recently demolished building and whether the truncations were the result of recent demolition.

A sequence of deposits was recorded against the north west, or internal face of Wall [130], towards its south west end (see **Figure 8, Section D**).

The earliest deposit (120) was at approximately 1m below the current ground surface. It was an orange-brown clay, containing occasional large flecks of charcoal and small pieces of Pennant sandstone, with rare flecks of light pink-coloured mortar, and was identified as re-deposited natural. It was sealed by, a light brown compact silty sand, 0.23m thick, containing frequent fragments of cream-coloured lime mortar and occasional small pebbles, (119). Overlying deposit 119 was a brownish black deposit containing frequent charcoal/cinders, approximately 0.29m thick (118). This deposit was very similar to deposit (103), recorded in Section A. The uppermost deposit, context (117) consisted of a friable, mid-brown sandy silt with rubble, containing small fragments of stone, brick, tile etc., with occasional flecks of charcoal and lime, measuring 0.15m thick.

The four deposits (117, 118, 119 and 120) were cut by [116] the construction cut for Wall [130]. Cut 116 was visible as a vertical edge, with the wall built up against it. It was back-filled with mortar similar to that within Wall 130. The above four deposits clearly predated the wall and represented earlier activity on the site.

Wall 130, which measured a maximum height of 0.85m, was removed during the monitoring and was found to have been built directly onto a natural deposit (142) of bright orange-brown mottled sandy silt devoid of inclusions. Deposit 142 was reached at approximately 1.3m below the current ground level.

The South East Boundary

A section along the south east boundary of the site was exposed on removal of wall [130]. Two areas were along the boundary were cleaned and sample sections recorded (see **Figure 6** and **Figure 7 Sections B and C**).

In the south corner of the site, the section revealed a sequence of modern deposits and features (contexts (109), (110), (112), (113), (114) and (115)) to a depth of 1.2m, consisting of made-up ground and the cut and fill of a concrete post (**Figure 7, Section B**; context descriptions **Table 1**). Similar modern disturbance was visible at the opposite end of the trench, associated with the construction of the neighbouring modern apartment block.

There was less modern disturbance towards the centre of the south east boundary of the site, where cleaning revealed the stratigraphic sequence illustrated in **Figure 7, Section C**.

The natural substrate 142, measuring over 0.05m thick, was recorded at the base of the section. It was sealed by a compact orange-brown sandy clay, deposit (141) which contained fragments of pale pink-coloured lime mortar, slate, stone, charcoal, and pan-tile. Deposit (141) also contained frequent pottery sherds of late 19th century date.

Deposit 141 was overlain by a soft deposit with a predominance of ash and frequent lumps of mortar (140), which varied greatly in thickness. It was sealed by a black, cinder-rich deposit (context 139). A dark orange-brown friable sandy clay, (138), 0.09m to 0.2m thick, sealed deposit 139, and was in turn sealed by (137) a light coloured, ashy layer, 0.18m thick.

Deposit 137 was sealed by (136), up to 0.4m of a friable grey-brown silty sand, which was in turn overlain by a narrow band of soft black ashy material, (135). Sealing Deposit 135 was a sequence, 0.4m thick, of modern make-up layers to the level of the current ground surface, represented by deposits (134), (133), (132) and (131) (see **Table of Contexts** below for descriptions).

South West, Barton Rd Side of the Site

There was nothing to view along this side of the site, as it had been cleared and backfilled prior to our involvement. Only a small area towards the southernmost corner of the site was opened and a section recorded (**Figure 7, Section A**) to a depth of approximately 1.4m below the road level.

At the base of the section, (108) was a deposit consisting a dark brown friable sandy silt, 0.2m thick, containing frequent flecks of charcoal, occasional small angular stones and patches of light pink-coloured mortar. Above Deposit (108) was a layer, 0.3m thick, of orange-brown clay, containing occasional large flecks of charcoal and small pieces of Pennant sandstone, with rare flecks of light pink-coloured mortar, (107). This deposit was sealed by a thin lens, (106), of light cream-grey mortar, which may represent an

episode of construction/deconstruction on site. Overlying this lens was (105), a dark brown friable silty sand containing occasional but evenly distributed flecks of charcoal, lime and small stones, which almost certainly represents a buried garden soil. Deposit 105 was sealed by (104) a re-deposited natural orange-brown clay (context 104), and then by an almost black, cinder deposit context (103), which had characteristics of industrial waste. Deposit 103 was overlain by contexts (101) and (100), which make up the current road surface (descriptions in **Table of Contexts** below)

TABLE OF CONTEXTS

Context Number	Description	Location
(100)	Yellow brick paving, forms the edge of the road surface for Barton Rd., 0.1m thick	Section A
(101)	Sand and scalplings, forming base for 100, 0.1m thick	Section A
(102)	Dark brown friable silty sand, containing frequent flecks of charcoal, small pieces of red brick and grey mortar, 0.2m thick.	Section A
(103)	Very dark brown soft deposit of sandy silt containing a high proportion of cinders. Approx. 0.15m thick.	Section A
(104)	Re-deposited natural orange brown, firm, silty clay, contains moderate amount of charcoal flecks and sporadic small pieces of tiny pieces of light coloured stone. Approx. 0.16m thick	Section A
(105)	Dark brown friable silty sand, contains occasional but evenly distributed flecks of charcoal, lime and small stones, probably a buried garden soil. Approx. 0.15 thick.	Section A
(106)	Lens of light cream grey mortar, no more than 0.05m thick, could represent a collapse or construction event on site.	Section A
(107)	Thick layer of orange brown clay containing occasional large flecks of charcoal and small pieces of Pennant sandstone with rare flecks of light pink-coloured mortar. Re-deposited natural. Approx. 0.3m thick.	Section A
(108)	Dark brown friable sandy silt, containing frequent flecks of charcoal, occasional small angular stones and patches of light pink-coloured mortar. 0.2m thick as recorded.	Section A
(109)	Modern made ground consisting of soft, light brown silty sand, with turf, forming grass verge. Approx. 0.3m thick.	Section B
(110)	Modern made ground consisting of yellow-pink scalplings, ground built up against post 114. Approx 0.22m thick.	Section B
(111)	Mid brown silty sand and mixed rubble deposit	Section B
(112)	Dark brown friable sandy silt containing frequent flecks of charcoal and occasional small angular stones. Similar to 108. 0.2m as recorded, lower levels covered with (121)	Section B
(113)	Consists of light coloured scapings, filling cut for post. Modern.	Section B
(114)	Concrete post, set at the corner of the former building.	Section B
[115]	Cut for post 'pit' forms the post foundation for the corner post of the newly demolished building. Filled with 113.	Section B
[116]	Cut for wall (130). Linear cut aligned north east by south west, with vertical face, filled by the wall which is built up against it and a small amount of rubble and dark coloured mortar, similar to that found in the wall.	Section D

(117)	Friable, mid brown sandy silt and rubble; contains small pieces of stone, brick, tile etc., occasional flecks of charcoal and lime. 0.15m thick.	Section D
(118)	Brown-black deposit containing frequent charcoal/cinders, as deposit 103. Approximately 0.29m thick.	Section D
(119)	Light brown compact silty sand, frequent pieces of cream-coloured mortar which contains frequent tiny flecks of lime and charcoal, pieces of pan-tile and brick. The deposit also contains occasional small pebbles, and is 0.23m thick.	Section D
(120)	Orange-brown clay containing occasional large flecks of charcoal and small pieces of Pennant sandstone, with rare flecks of light pink-coloured mortar. Re-deposited natural. 0.2m thick, as recorded at base of section.	Section D
(121)	Rubble over-burden found across site, formed from demolition rubble from the demolished building.	
(122)	Modern brick surface/driveway to adjoining building, 0.1m thick	Section E
(123)	Sand and scalpings, modern make-up layer for modern brick surface/driveway, 122. It includes concrete post base for wooden fence post.	Section E
(124)	Black gritty modern make-up layer, 0.06m thick.	Section E
(125)	Light brown loose silty sand, containing general rubble inclusions, up to 0.25m thick.	Section E
(126)	Dark brown silty sand containing general rubble inclusions, up to 0.15m thick.	Section E
(127)	Compact layer, mid-brown deposit, containing frequent but relatively small pieces of building rubble 0.08m thick	Section E
(128)	Wall at north end of site, on same alignment as the current plot boundary. It measures 3.4m in length by 0.8m in height, thickness not known. It is randomly coursed with roughly hewn Pennant sandstone bonded with a soft yellowy brown silty sand mortar. There was evidence of stepped foundation courses at the west end. There was some evidence of a render adhering to some of the stones. The wall is in poor condition.	Section E
(129)	Mottled sandy silt, bright orange brown, clear of inclusions. Same as 142.	Section E
(130)	Section of wall measuring 6.5m in length by 0.7m in width, standing 0.8m high, found approximately 0.5m below current ground level. It is constructed of roughly squared Pennant Sandstone blocks, up to 0.3m high x 0.3m long, and is bonded with a fine, hard dark grey mortar. Wall fills cut [116].	Section D
(131)	Dark brown silty sand. Modern topsoil, part of grass verge, 0.1m thick	Section C
(132)	Light brown friable clay sand. Made ground, used as levelling material. 0.2m thick.	Section C
(133)	Grey scalpings, 0.05m thick. Modern make-up layer.	Section C
(134)	Pink/orange scalpings, 0.04m thick. Modern make-up layer.	Section C
(135)	Soft black ashy grainy deposit, full of charcoal. Approx 0.05m to 0.18m thick.	Section C
(136)	Friable grey brown silty sand, contains frequent small pieces of stone, tile, pot, glass etc. 0.2m to 0.4m thick	Section C
(137)	Light coloured, predominantly ash layer, contains frequent flecks of charcoal, 0.18m thick.	Section C
(138)	Dark orange-brown friable sandy clay, probably re-deposited material, contains frequent flecks of charcoal and small pieces of lime, 0.09m to 0.2m thick.	Section C
(139)	Almost black deposit full of cinders, grainy in texture, probably represents industrial waste, up to 0.1m thick	Section C
(140)	Soft deposit containing ash, and frequent lumps of mortar; pale pink-coloured mortar (containing flecks of lime and charcoal) and pale grey coloured mortar (containing flecks of charcoal)	Section C

(141)	Compact orange-brown sandy clay containing pieces of pale pink-coloured mortar (containing flecks of lime and charcoal), slate, stone, charcoal, and pan-tile. There were also frequent pottery sherds which could be dated to the late 19th century.	Section C
(142)	Mottled sandy silt, bright orange-brown, clear of inclusions. Same as 129. It is cut by 116. 0.06m thick, as recorded in section. Interpreted as natural.	Section C

8 CONCLUSIONS

The main aim of the project was to record any evidence of archaeological features and structures which predated the buildings currently standing on the site at the time of the commencement of the groundworks.

Only a limited area of the site was exposed by excavation for archaeological monitoring, from which little information could be drawn.

Documentary evidence shows that the site was previously occupied by open farmland up until 1828 (Ashmead, **Figure 3**), although areas around the site were being developed at that time. By the 1840's, several adjoining properties occupied the current site footprint.

The boundary between the project site and the neighbouring site to the north was in existence at this time and can clearly be seen on the 1846 Tithe Map (**Figure 4**). Wall [128] was located along the course of this early boundary and is likely to represent the remains of a boundary wall, probably constituting one of the earliest structures to occupy the site, and dated to between 1828 and 1846.

Map evidence shows a number of alterations to the buildings within the site from 1849 onwards, with the separate properties stepped back from the road frontage. By 1900, a single structure occupies the entire plot, with the front of the building constructed along the street frontage (**Figure 5**). It is probable that this is the building which was demolished in the first phase of development works on the site.

It is possible that the wall recorded along the south east side of the site, Wall [130], which appeared to be of 19th/early 20th century date, may well have formed part of the footings of the above building.

The foundation trench for these footings cut through a number of deposits and into the natural ground, which was reached at approximately 1.3m below current ground level. Dating evidence from the deepest of these, Deposit (120), in the form of ceramic pan-tile (roofing tile) suggests that they were not significantly old deposits.

Further stratigraphic sequences were recorded along the south side of the site. Section C shows a number of deposits overlying the natural ground. The primary deposit, (141), contained a number of finds including pan-tile and pottery, and was dated to no earlier than the 19th century.

To conclude, no archaeological structures or deposits predating the 19th century were recorded during the monitoring.

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Figure 3



Extract from Ashmead's map of Bristol, 1828. Study Area outlined in red

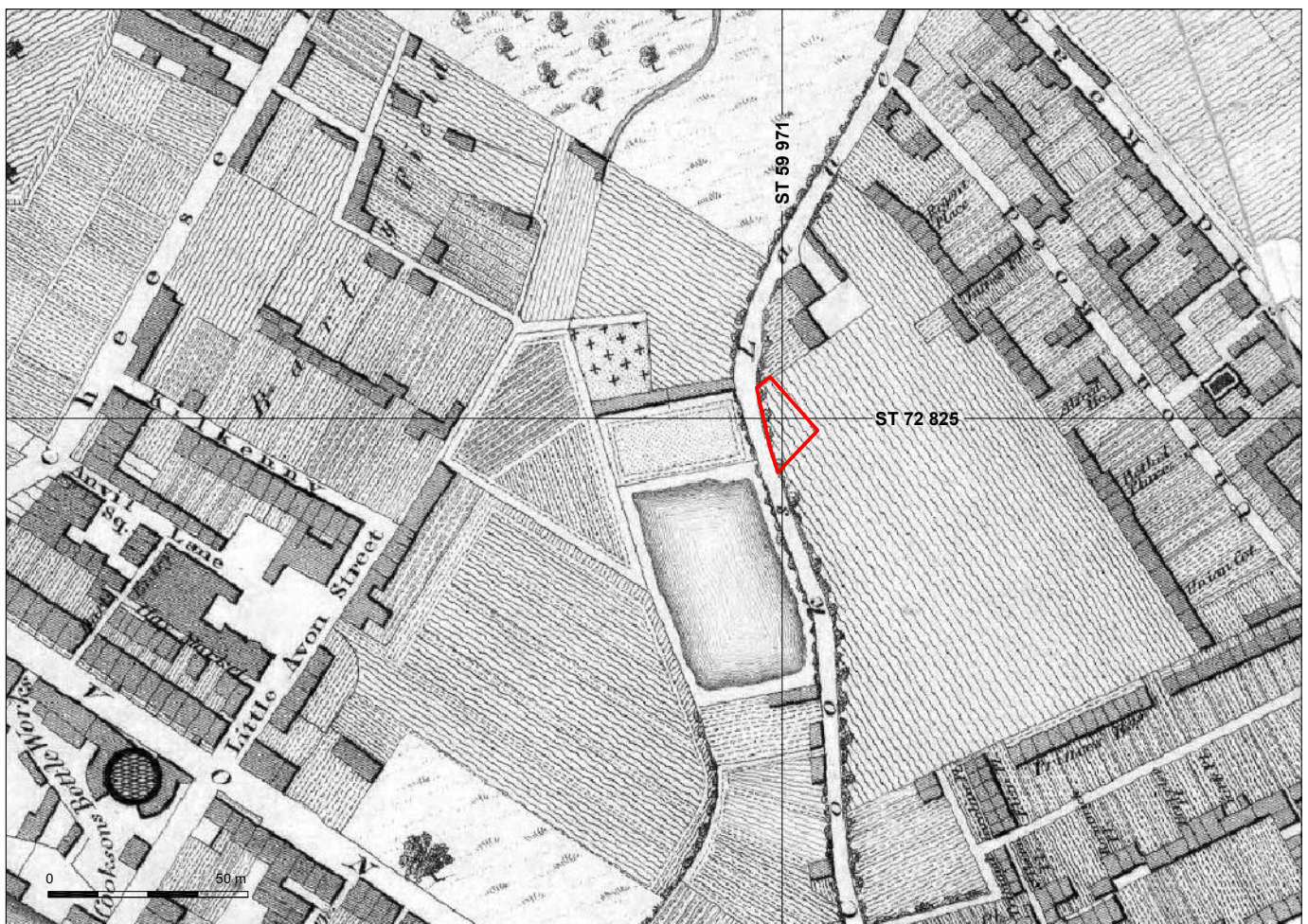


Figure 5



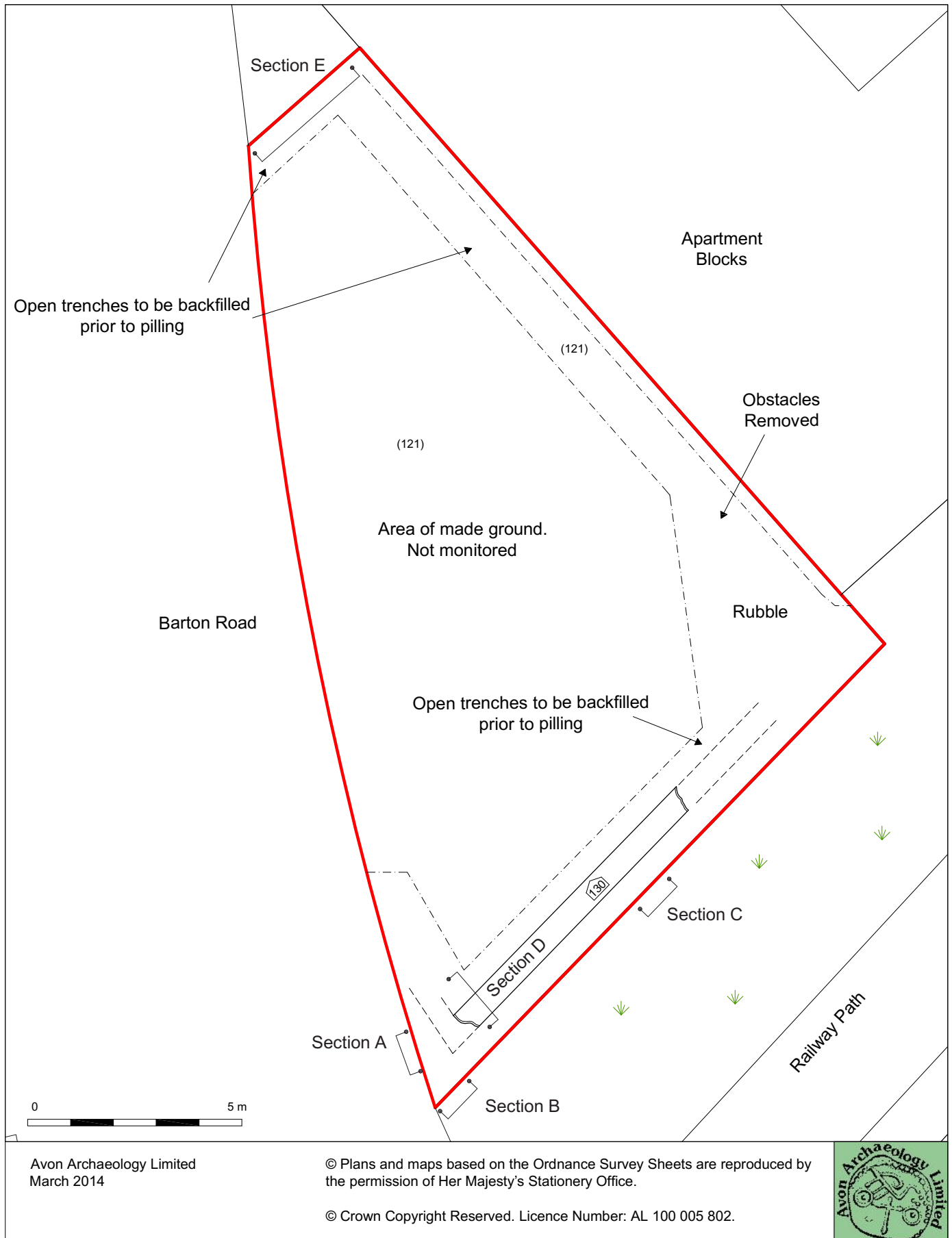
Extract from the OS 25" map, Second Edition Map of early 20th century.



Figure 6

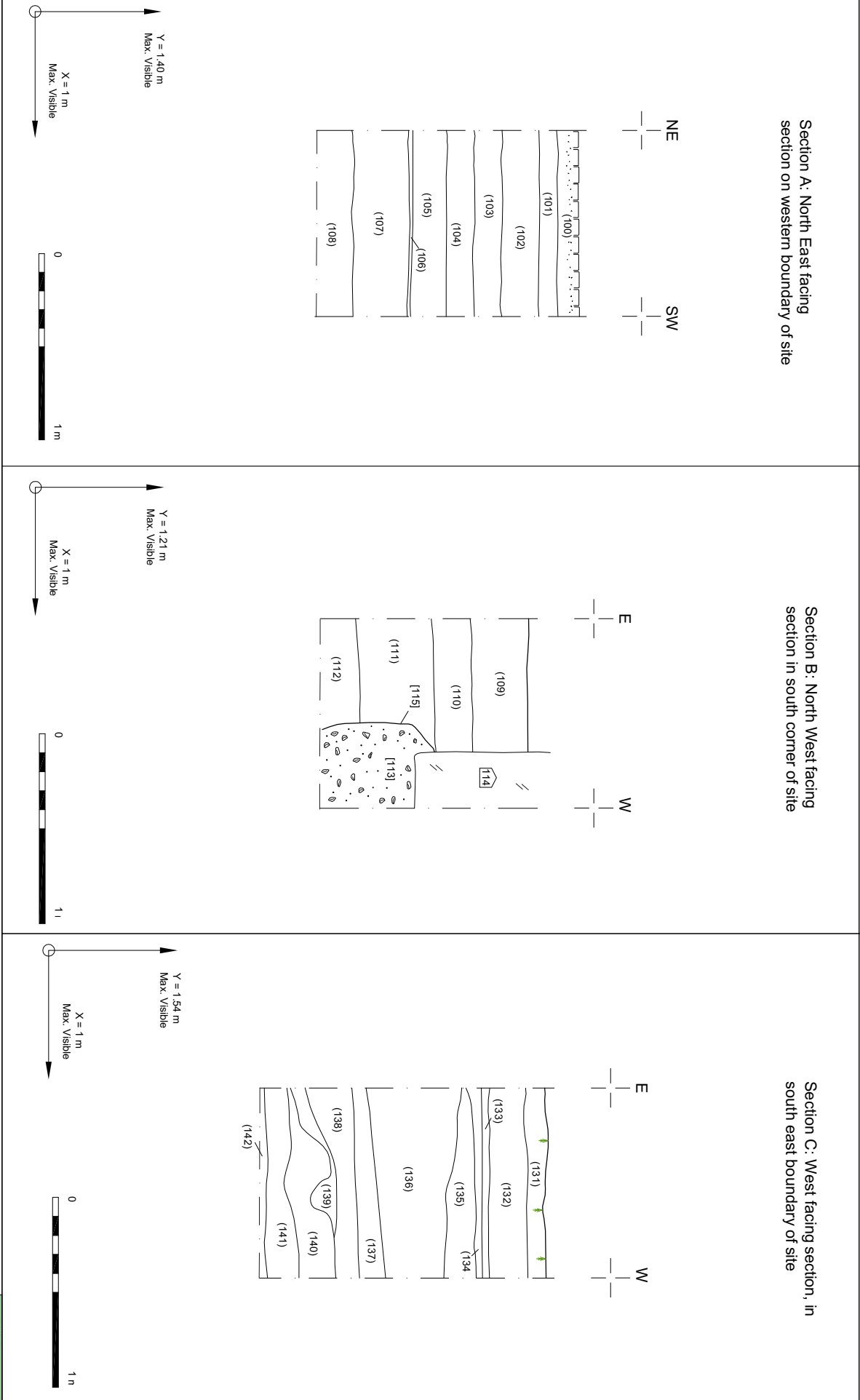


Detailed plan of site outlined in red showing location of Sections A to E



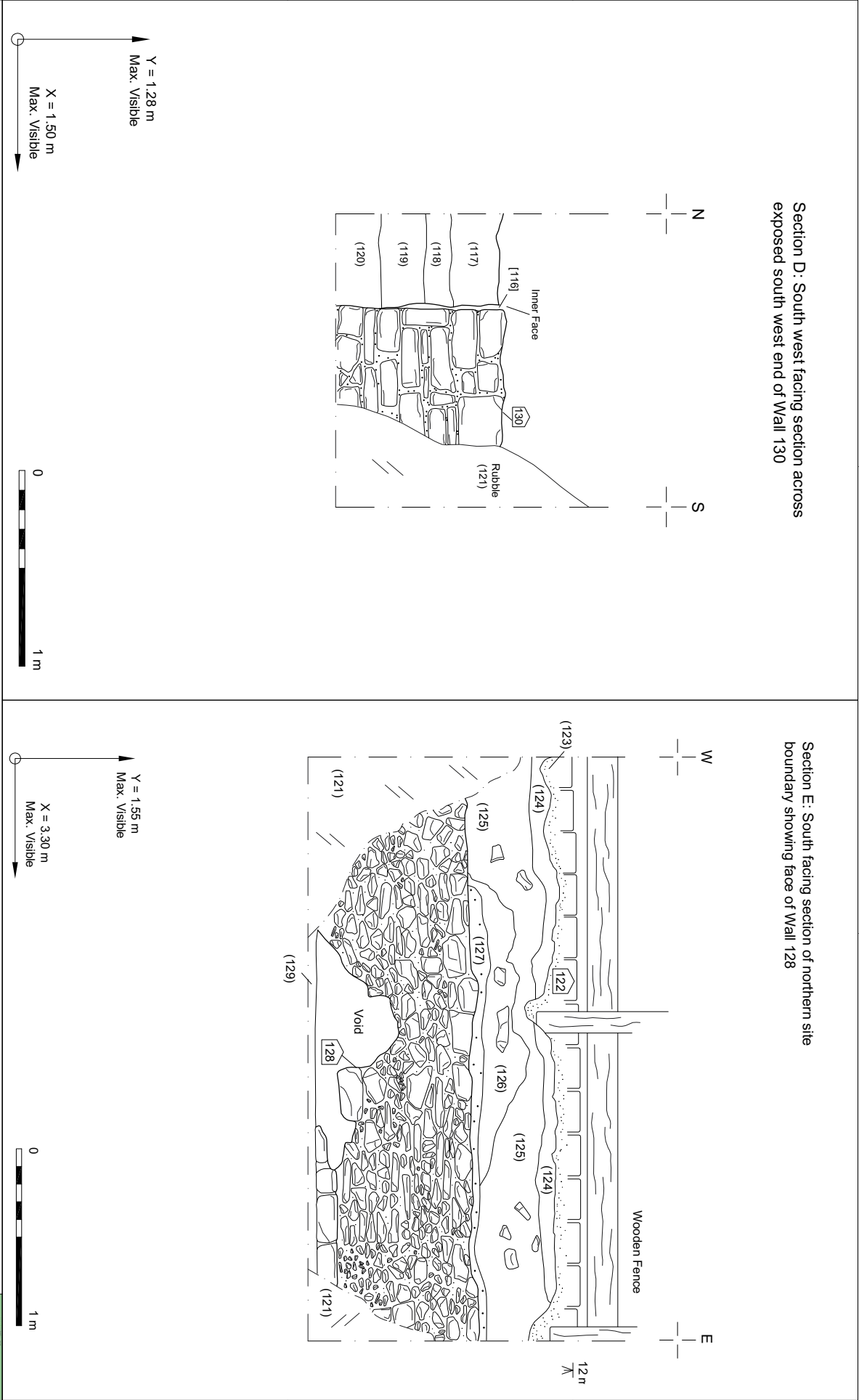
Sections A, B and C.

Figure 7



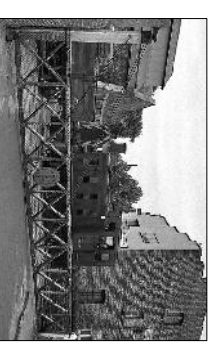
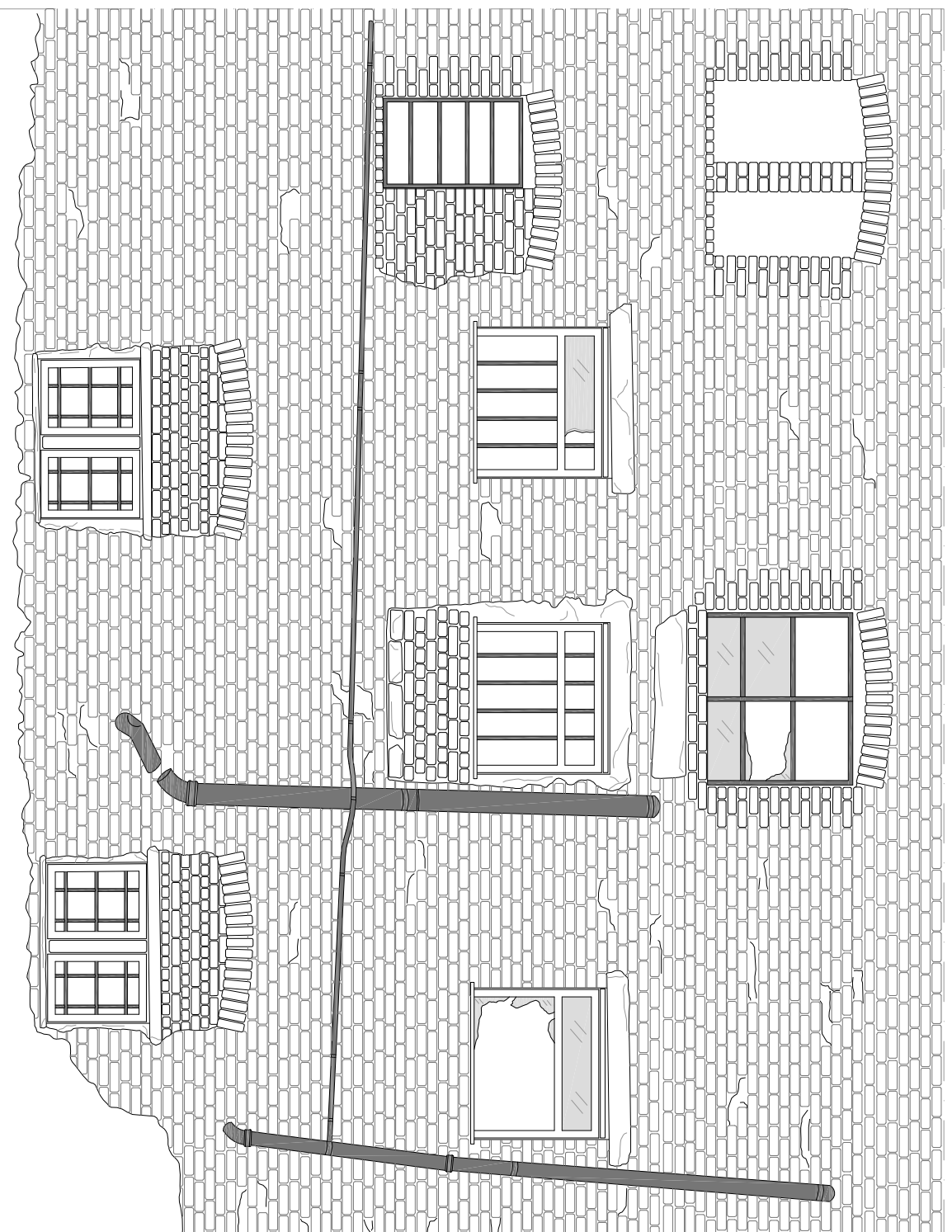
Sections D and E.

Figure 8



Detail of part of the demolished building, south facing wall at Nº 47- 49 Barton Road.

Figure 9



Barton Road building before demolition.
Railroad crossing in the 1970's and 1990's





Plate 1 View of the north end of the site, looking north west.

Plate 2 General view of the site, looking north.

Plate 3 Trench to rear of site alongside existing building, looking north west.

Plate 4 Wall 128 at north end of site



Plate 5 Trench at rear of site, against adjoining building, looking south east.

Plate 6 Southern most corner of site showing post 114, looking south.

Plate 7 South west end of wall 130 and associated deposits, looking east.

Plate 8 Wall 130 looking approximately east.



Plate 9 Southern most corner of site, shows hole where obstructions have been removed and also the top of wall 130, looking south

Plate 10 North east facing section close to southern most corner of site, the street frontage, looking south west.

Plate 11 Section at south east side of site once wall 130 had been removed, looking south east.

Plate 12 General view of south east side of site once wall 130 had been removed, looking south.