

Land at Burwalls, Bridge Road, Abbot's Leigh, North Somerset

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



on behalf of

GVA Commercial Property Consultants

Nick Corcos BA, MA, PhD, AIFA
Avon Archaeology Limited

Bristol: December 2013



Land at Burwalls, Bridge Road, Abbot's Leigh, North Somerset

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



Frontispiece: One of several probably late 19th century rockeries apparently partially cut into one of the surviving banks of the Burwalls enclosure, and probably constructed from stone robbed from the monument. Image taken in the small wood which obscures the earlier banked and ditched remains, in the south-western quarter of the site. View to north-east.

on behalf of

**GVA Commercial Property
Consultants**

Nick Corcos BA, MA, PhD, AIFA
Avon Archaeology Limited

Bristol: December 2013



CONTENTS

ABSTRACT
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
NOTES
COPYRIGHT
ABBREVIATIONS

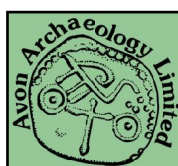
1	INTRODUCTION
2	METHODOLOGY
3	TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY
4	HISTORICAL BACKGROUND
5	ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND
6	HISTORIC MAP EVIDENCE
7	SITE VISITS
8	AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE
9	NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES
10	CONCLUSIONS
11	BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRIMARY HISTORICAL SOURCES

TABLE 1 Extract from Long Ashton Tithe Award, 1845

APPENDIX 1 List of aerial images of Burwalls area arising from
 trawl of NMR archive

FIGURES

1	Location of the Study Area
2	Site Location Plan and Boundary of the Study Area
3	Extract from map of Long Ashton tithe map, late 18th century
4	Engraving of Burwalls, Stoke Leigh, and Clifton Down enclosures, from Samuel Seyer, <i>Memoirs of Bristol</i> 1821
5	Extract from map of Long Ashton, 1826
6	Extract from map showing intended line of new access road to the proposed Clifton Suspension Bridge, 1829
7	Extract from Long Ashton Tithe Map, 1841
8	Extract from map of part of Long Ashton parish, 1862
9	Extract from map of the Leigh Woods area, probably 1872-1875
10	Extract from Second Edition OS 25" map, 1903-04
11	Historic aerial photograph, December 1946



PLATES

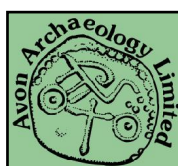
Cover

View of the lodge house at Burwalls, at the southern end of the main drive opening onto Burwalls Road. View to north-east.

Frontispiece

View of one of the probably late 19th century rockeries partially cut into the remains of the banks of the Burwalls enclosure. View to north-east.

- 1 Composite panoramic view taken from the eastern part of the site, in the car park, from south-west to north-east.
- 2 Composite panoramic view taken in the central part of the site, from the main north-south drive leading up to the south-eastern elevation of Burwalls House.
- 3 Composite panoramic view taken at the western part of the site, including boundary wall with Burwalls Road.
- 4 Composite panoramic image taken at the south-western corner of the site, including south-western elevation of the original stable block building.
- 5 The main garden wall marking the north-western boundary of the stable annex site at Burwalls running north-east/south-west.
- 6 Detail of the lower, stone-built courses of the garden wall shown in **Plate 5**.
- 7 Informal 'watching brief' being carried out by members of the University of Bristol Dept. of Archaeology, on a new service trench being excavated in 2007 next to the main north-south drive leading up to the south-eastern side of Burwalls House.



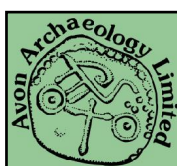
ABSTRACT

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by GVA (Commercial Property Consultants) to undertake an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of a site at Burwalls House, Bridge Road, Abbot's Leigh, North Somerset, centred on NGR ST 56303 72829. The location has, historically, always lain within the ancient parish of Long Ashton, in Somerset, albeit very close to its eastern boundary. The site encompasses a very large, detached late 19th century house, associated landscaped grounds, and other buildings, including a former stable block and a small lodge house, both the latter lying at the southern side of the site, adjacent to Burwalls Road. The main house is listed at Grade II level, with the stable and lodge also listed by virtue of their being considered to lie within the curtilage of the main building. The stable annex is the subject of a separate, but related Level II Historic Building Survey. It was constructed after the main house, in the late 19th or early 20th century, and can be shown from historical records to be of more than one phase, since a garage with an inspection pit was added in or shortly after 1905.

In shape, the site is an elongated, irregular rectangle, with its long axis oriented roughly north-south, and occupying a total area of 1.8ha. With, of course, the exception of the main house itself, and those buildings listed by virtue of curtilage, there are no other statutory designations, of any description, within the bounds of the study area, and most especially there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments. There is, however, a major SAM not far from the study site, in the form of the Leigh Woods Iron Age enclosure, lying on the northern side of the Nightingale Valley, the south-eastern corner of which is only about 335m from the north-western elevation of Burwalls House.

The residential part of Leigh Woods was, in 1977, formally designated as a Conservation Area, and the entire study site falls within its eastern boundary. The grounds attached to Burwalls House are deemed by the local authority to be an Unregistered Historic Garden. The main archaeological interest within the study site centres around the remains of Burwalls Camp, a supposedly Iron Age enclosure which seems to have acted effectively as a promontory 'fort', with termini at the tops of the Avon Gorge and the Nightingale Valley. The subject of much antiquarian speculation, and some early interventions, there is only a single, modern, published archaeological account, which was inconclusive, although a training excavation carried out in 2012, as yet unpublished, has demonstrated Bronze Age antecedents. The enclosure is heavily obscured today by trees and scrub, and it is possible that root activity associated with the modern tree cover may be damaging in situ archaeology, but this remains to be proved. Nonetheless the enclosure is clearly depicted from the very earliest point at which historic cartographic material becomes available, in the late 18th century, and its existence is attested in historical documents from at least the 13th century. The three enclosures together, namely Burwalls and Stokeleigh Camps, and Clifton Down Camp on the eastern side of the gorge, appear to form a coherent group, but only Stokeleigh has been dated with reasonable certainty, and its Iron Age credentials established beyond doubt, by archaeological intervention to modern standards. Other elements of the ramparts formerly occupying the area of the study site, especially to the east of the remaining features, were lost in the course of the landscaping and terracing of the grounds of Burwalls, but it is possible that some sub-surface archaeological vestiges may remain in situ.

Purely on the basis of the documentary and other evidence reviewed for the purposes of this report, the study area is considered to offer a moderate to high potential for the survival of buried archaeologically significant deposits and structures.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Avon Archaeology Limited wishes to acknowledge the assistance given by the following in the production of this report: Rebecca Collins, of GVA (Commercial Property Consultants); Martin Papworth, Archaeological Officer for the National Trust in South-West England; Christopher Heath, Conservation and Heritage Officer for North Somerset Council; and the staffs of, in no special order, the Special Collections Section of the University of Bristol Arts and Humanities Library, of the National Monuments Record in Swindon, of the Bristol Record Office, and of the Somerset Record Office in Taunton.

NOTES

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

COPYRIGHT

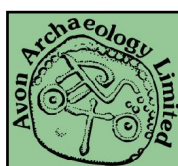
The copyright to the following text, drawings and photographs is, unless otherwise credited, the property of the author and Avon Archaeology Limited. Full joint copyright passes to the commissioners of the project upon the full settlement of the project account.

All enquiries should be addressed to:
Avon Archaeology Limited
Avondale Business Centre
Woodland Way, Kingswood
Bristol BS15 1AW
Telephone and Facsimile 0117 960 8487.
Email: avonarch@yahoo.co.uk.

Plans and maps based on the Ordnance Survey Sheets are reproduced by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Reserved. License number AL 100005802

ABBREVIATIONS

AAL	Avon Archaeology Ltd
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
BRO	Bristol Record Office
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monuments Record
NSHER	North Somerset Historic Environment Record
OS	Ordnance Survey
SRO	Somerset Record Office



1 INTRODUCTION

Avon Archaeology Limited was commissioned by GVA (Commercial Property Consultants) to undertake an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of a site at Burwalls House, Bridge Road, Abbot's Leigh, North Somerset, centred on NGR ST 56303 72829 (**Figures 1 and 2**). The location has, historically, always lain within the ancient parish of Long Ashton, in Somerset, albeit very close to its eastern boundary. The site encompasses a very large, detached late 19th century house, associated landscaped grounds, and other buildings, including a former stable block and a small lodge house, both the latter lying at the southern side of the site, adjacent to Burwalls Road. The main house is listed at Grade II level, with the stable and lodge also listed by virtue of their being considered to lie within the curtilage of the main building. The site is bounded on its southern and south-western sides by Burwalls Road, on its north-western side by Bridge Road, and along its entire eastern side by the very steep, rocky and heavily wooded slopes which form the western side of the Avon Gorge at this location. In shape, the site is an elongated, irregular rectangle, with its long axis oriented roughly north-south, and occupying a total area of 1.8ha. With, of course, the exception of the main house itself, and those buildings listed by virtue of curtilage, there are no other statutory designations, of any description, within the bounds of the study area, and most especially there are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments. There is, however, a major SAM not far from the study site, in the form of the Leigh Woods Iron Age enclosure, lying on the northern side of the Nightingale Valley, the south-eastern corner of which is only about 335m from the north-western elevation of Burwalls House.

Leigh Woods themselves, in total amounting to just under 200ha, are a designated National Nature Reserve in the care of the National Trust, having been acquired by that body in two successive grants, in 1909 and 1949. Burwalls Wood, immediately to the east of Burwalls House and its gardens, represented the second of these acquisitions. In addition, the residential part of Leigh Woods was, in 1977, formally designated as a Conservation Area, and the entire study site falls within its eastern boundary¹. The grounds attached to Burwalls House are deemed by the local authority to be an Unregistered Historic Garden, and in addition, large areas encompassed in the eastern section of Leigh Woods, and *including* the former Burwalls Wood immediately to the east of Burwalls House, are designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest². Further, large elements of Leigh Woods are formally designated as

¹ The local authority is currently in the process of preparing a Conservation Area Character Appraisal for Leigh Woods, the first that has been attempted since its original designation. I am very grateful to Christopher Heath, Conservation and Heritage Officer for North Somerset Council, for giving me sight of a working draft of this document prior to its formal adoption.

² Although it may be rather overstating the case to suggest, as the Draft CACA does (Para. 3, p2) that features interpreted as part of the Burwalls 'Iron Age' enclosure, were deliberately "incorporated" into the overall garden landscaping scheme of the late 19th century house. The First Edition of the OS, from the early 1880s, clearly shows that the features were under woodland by then, and probably had been for many years previously. It is probably more the case that their survival is no more than a happy accident contingent on the deliberate incorporation of existing *woodland* into the Burwalls garden. One would have thought that if the

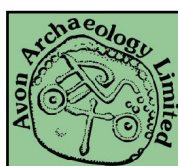
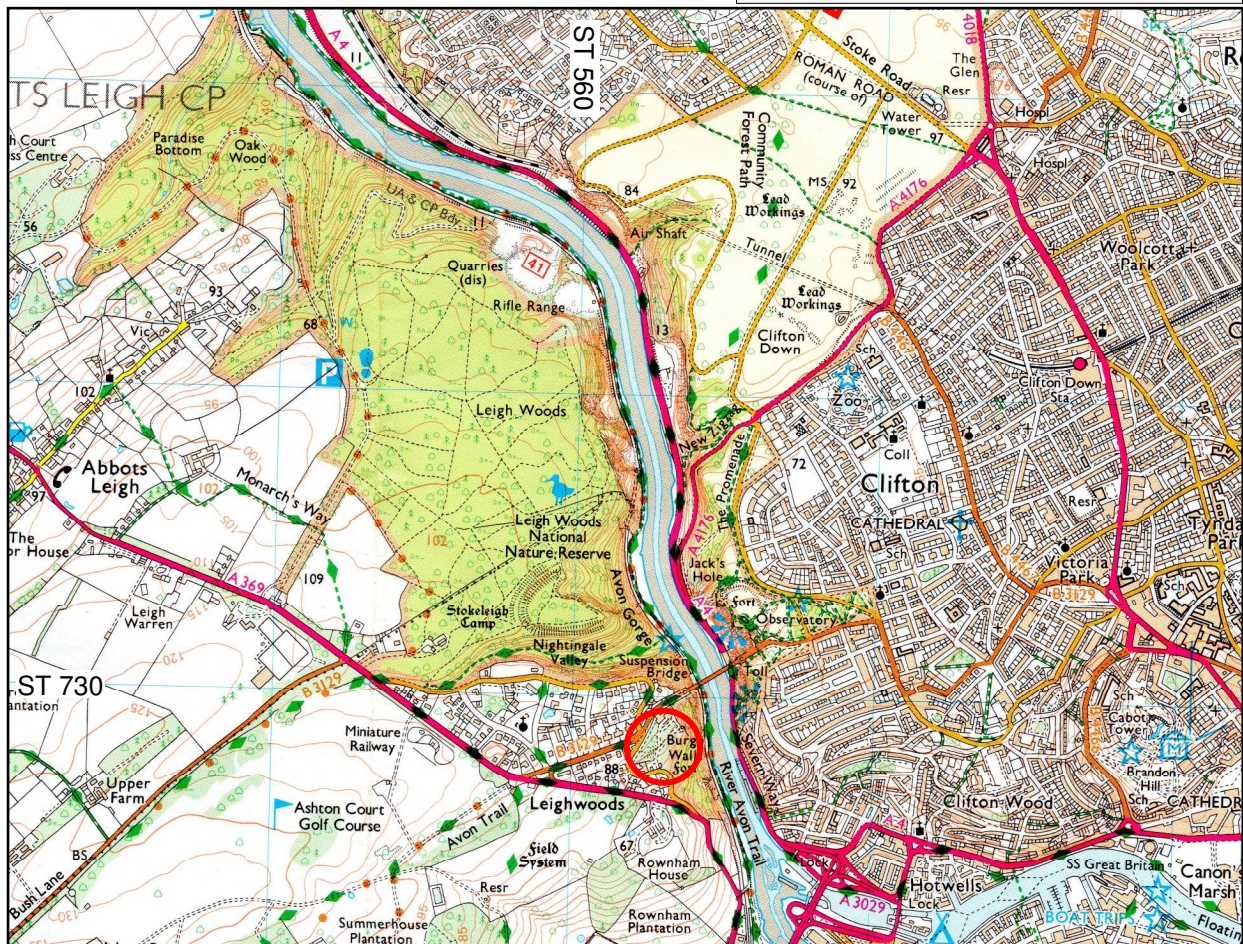
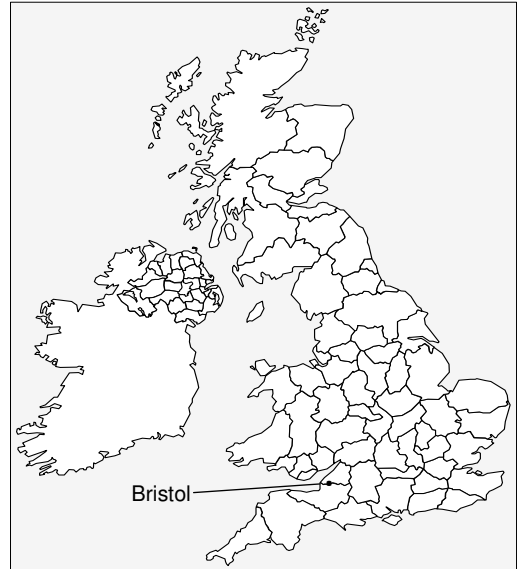
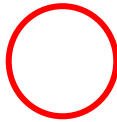


Figure 1

Location of the Study Area

Plans and maps based on the Ordnance Survey Sheets are reproduced by the permission of HM Stationery Office

The Study Area



Scale 1:25000

Ordnance Survey © Crown copyright 2005. All rights reserved. Licence No. AL 10005802

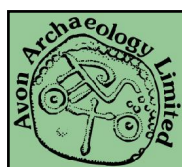
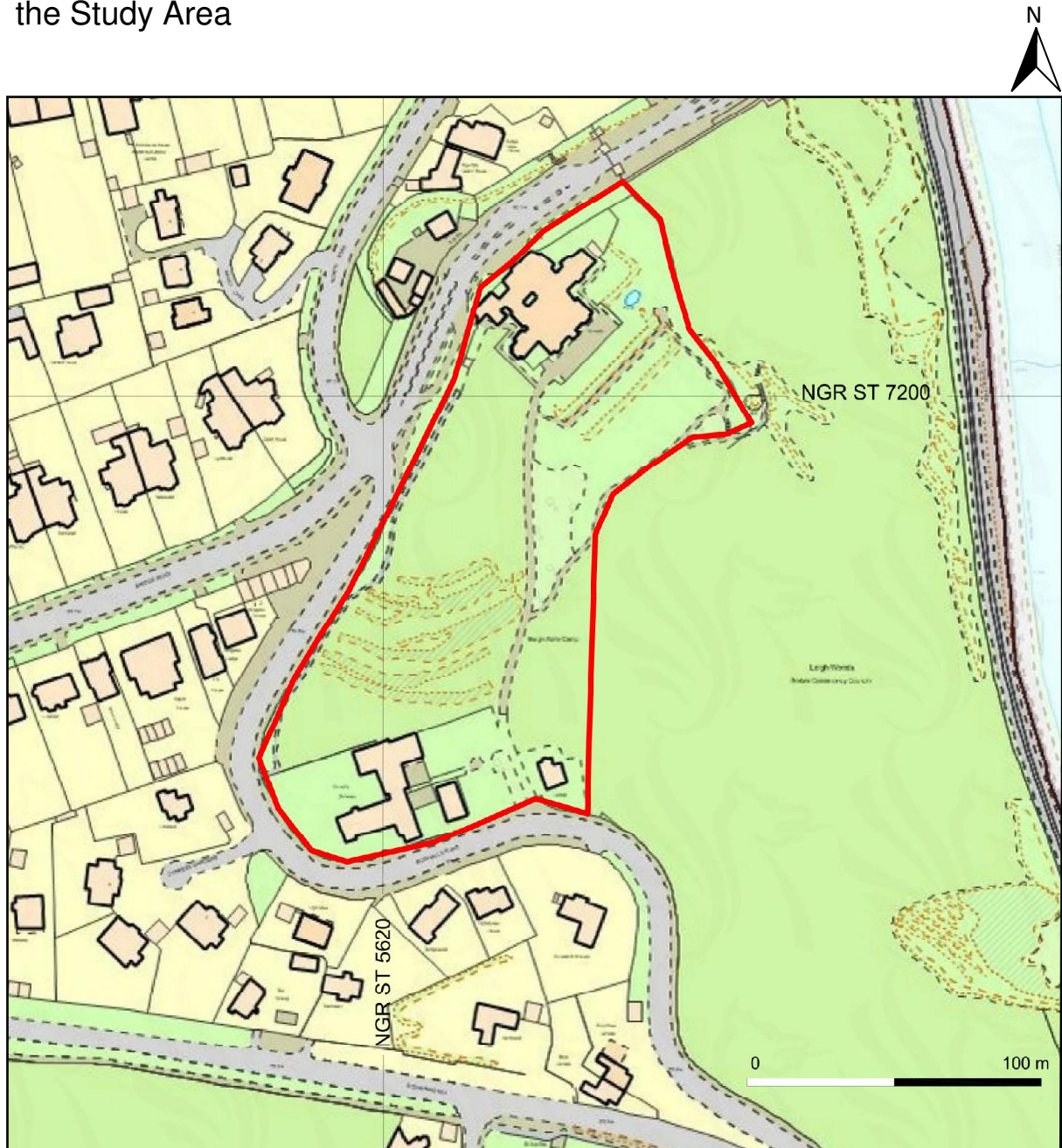


Figure 2

Site Location Plan and Boundary of the Study Area



either Ancient Woodland, or as Ancient Replanted Woodland (NE 2012)³. Significantly in this case, the boundary of the designation, which includes the former Burwalls wood, encompasses an area *within* the study site, in the grounds of Burwalls immediately to the south-west of the main house, and including an area of about 0.44ha⁴.

2 METHODOLOGY

Searches were made of the indices of the collections of the Somerset and Bristol Record Offices, the Somerset Studies Library, and the collections of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society. In addition, a search was conducted on behalf of AAL by staff of the Special Collections Section at the Arts and Humanities Library of the University of Bristol; since it was considered that the University, which had owned the site from 1947 until very recently, may well possess some relevant documentary records. A visit was also made by the author to the National Monuments Record in Swindon, to examine historic aerial photographic material; the results of the initial trawl of relevant material at the NMR is presented as Appendix 1, and an example of a historic aerial image of the site, from that collection, is reproduced here as **Figure 11**.

A variety of online bibliographic resources, most notably COPAC, BIAB, the Archaeology Data Service, and Google Scholar, were used to identify potentially useful sources of information, whether published or otherwise⁵. In addition, a search of the local authority online HER was carried out, and the most salient results of that work have been incorporated into this report. Visits to the site were made by the author on 18th and 26th November, and a digital photographic record was made (**Cover**, **Frontispiece** and **Plates 1 to 7**).

3 TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

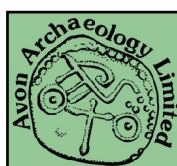
The spectacular setting of the study site, overlooking one of the highest parts of the Avon Gorge and with splendid views to the eastward across the gorge to Clifton, arises in large part as a result of its geological context. Burwalls House, and its associated grounds and gardens, sits directly on Clifton Down Limestone, a sub-division of the main Carboniferous Limestone series which

putative Iron Age survivals were considered of any aesthetic value, the woodland would have been cleared from them so that they could be clearly seen.

³ The formal definition of Ancient Woodland is that which can be proven to have been in continuous existence since *at least* the year 1600. There are now, however, serious questions being asked about whether a proportion of such designations as originally applied were in fact flawed; since pilot studies in Norfolk have demonstrated quite clearly that numerous so-called 'Ancient Woodlands' there can be proven from map evidence to have come into existence only in the last 250 years; see Stone and Williamson 2013. This may, indeed, also be the case with the Burwalls 'Ancient Woodland'; see further below.

⁴ Information from the Government's multi-agency online GIS, known as MAGIC: www.magic.gov.uk

⁵ www.copac.ac.uk; www.biab.ac.uk; <http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>;
www.scholar.google.com



outcrops extensively here and indeed in a wide band running much further to the south-west, and a little to the north-east. The CDL was formed from deposits laid down in the middle part of the Lower Carboniferous, and its nature as a very hard, crystalline rock, although prone to splintering and heavily bedded, makes it extremely resistant to erosion. The River Avon here runs at right angles to the general north-east/south-west trend of the limestone ridge, and has cut down through it, forming the impressive gorge that survives today (BGS). This particular spot, right next to Burwalls House, was chosen for the site of the Clifton Suspension Bridge because it represents pretty much the narrowest practical bridging point at the top of the gorge. Immediately to the south, however, the CDL is overlain by the slightly younger, Carboniferous Oxwich Head Limestone, which being rather less resistant, has given rise to somewhat lower topography, and it is probably this which accounts for the fact that the study site itself slopes markedly to the south, as indeed does the entire southern flank of the outcrop of CDL which to the south-west becomes the Failand Ridge. The highest part of the study site is, therefore, its northernmost part, where Burwalls House itself lies, at a height of about 82 to 83m aOD. Across the north-south length of the site, from the northern elevation of the main house to the entrance beside the lodge house onto the northern side of Burwalls Road, is a distance of some 190m; over which the level drops to about 65m aOD.

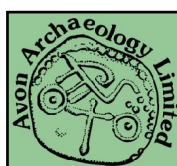
Topographically, however, probably the most remarkable feature in the vicinity of Burwalls House is Nightingale Valley, historically known as Stokeleigh Slade⁶. This is a deep ravine immediately to the north of Burwalls, and running east to west for a distance of about 600m, gradually narrowing from its wide entrance on the western side of the former Portishead Branch of the GWR, as it progresses westwards. It also becomes progressively shallower to the west as it climbs up onto the limestone plateau to the west of Burwalls, its entrance next to the railway line lying at about 25m aOD, increasing to about 105m aOD where it begins to level out at the top of the ravine. The Nightingale Valley almost certainly marks the line of a former tributary stream draining into the Avon at this point, having cut down through the Clifton Down Limestone to form its own 'mini' gorge, and exploiting the line of a local fault⁷. Most significantly however, the valley provides the only 'gateway' through the highest point of the western gorge wall, giving access to the upland plateau to the west. It may well, therefore, be no coincidence that what appear to be two Iron Age promontory forts occupy strategic positions, respectively, immediately to the north (Leigh Woods) and south (Burwalls) of the valley (see further below, **Archaeological Background**).

4 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

As already noted, the site has always, historically, lain in the parish of Long Ashton, and, from before the Norman Conquest, in the Hundred of Hartcliff and

⁶ From Old English *s/læd*, 'a valley'; Mills 1993, 384.

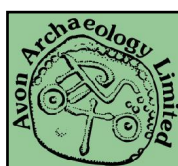
⁷ This is the known as the Avon Fault, and is marked on the relevant one inch to one mile geological map of the area; its line is exactly followed by Nightingale Valley. BGS 1962.



Bedminster. However, bearing in mind its isolated position right at the eastern extremity of the parish, and its particular topographical setting, it is considered rather more important, for present purposes, to concentrate as far as possible on the historical development of the site itself, rather than to dwell at excessive length on the wider history of the parish and of the main settlement within. This being so, only the briefest outline is given here of matters relating to the general history of Long Ashton, to set the background context before we turn to look in more detail at the study site itself. As to sources, there is as yet no volume of the *Victoria County History* for Somerset which covers the Hundred of Hartcliff and Bedminster and therefore, by extension, Long Ashton. We are therefore thrown back upon more general works, and especially upon the Revd. John Collinson's late 18th century account in his survey of the county of Somerset (Collinson 1791)⁸. There is no surviving pre-Conquest record of Long Ashton, but that it was a fully-bounded and very well established estate by the late Anglo-Saxon period, at the very latest, there can be little doubt. So much is clear from the pages of Domesday Book (1086), where the estate, then held by the Bishop of Coutances, is called *Estune*, 'the farmstead/estate/settlement where ash trees grow'. The village had acquired its affix of 'Long', presumably a literal physical description of its straggling nature, by the mid 15th century (Mills 1993, 15). The picture painted by DB itself is of an extremely large and important estate, rated at no fewer than 20 hides for tax purposes, which by Somerset standards was very extensive. Half of this land was divided between two sub-manors, and the fact that a small amount of land (a virgate, notionally a quarter of a hide) was also attached to the church suggests that it had originated as a minster, or mother church, of some importance (Thorn and Thorn 1980; Blair 2005). It may be no coincidence that the estate was recorded as being held jointly by three thanes before 1066, and these may be represented in the three estates recorded here in 1086, and to a certain extent in the four tithings recorded by Collinson in his day (Collinson 1791, II, 289).

The size of the estate as it was recorded in the early post-Conquest period finds direct reflection in its large size at the time of the tithe survey in the mid 19th century, when the parish extended to no fewer than 4,237 acres (1,715ha; SRO D/D/Rt/A/459). Collinson embarks on the usual rather tedious, and largely irrelevant recitation of the descent of the Long Ashton manors through the medieval and early modern periods, although such single-mindedness was perfectly typical for the antiquarian writers of his day (*ibid*, 290-296). The upshot is that after numerous changes of hand throughout this period, a defining moment in the history of Long Ashton came with its sale, in 1545, to John Smyth, scion of an old Gloucestershire family of landed gentry, who founded a resident dynasty, the members of which divided their time between properties in

⁸ Collinson died in 1793 and is actually buried at Long Ashton, where he served as Vicar. His main collaborator on his great project on the Somerset history was Edmund Rack, who produced voluminous research notes on numerous Somerset parishes, which he then passed to Collinson, who edited them, often very robustly, for inclusion in the *History*. Rack's original notes, which have now been published, therefore contain much additional detail that never found its way into the published survey; it is, then, all the more frustrating that, apparently, no account for Long Ashton itself survives among his manuscripts, one possible explanation being that, as Vicar there, Collinson made *himself* entirely, and solely, responsible for that element of the work. See McDermott and Berry 2011.



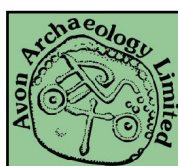
Bristol, and their country mansion of Ashton Court. The Long Ashton lands, which of course included the study site, remained in the hands of the Smyth family until the death, in 1946, of Esme Smyth, who was the last member of the family actually resident at the Court. The property was acquired by the then Bristol Corporation in 1959 (Bettey 1982, ix).

We move now, then, to the study site itself, and its immediate environs, to consider first how the area might actually have appeared, and how, if at all, it was used, within recorded memory⁹. It is quite clear that, on the northern side of the Nightingale Valley, a small estate called Leigh was in existence before the Norman Conquest because it is mentioned in Domesday Book, and from the mid 12th century, it was in the hands of St Augustine's Abbey (Bristol). From this ownership it eventually became known as Abbot's Leigh¹⁰. Of most immediate interest for present purposes, however, is the place-name itself; in 1086 it was *Lege*, a name derived from Old English *leah*, to which modern place-name scholars attribute a specific meaning of 'wood pasture' (see for example Lennon 2009). Clearly then, this area had woodland cover before 1066, but it need not necessarily have been either dense or continuous. The situation around Burwalls by, say the late 11th century, is rather more problematic. We have already noted that a part of the Burwalls grounds themselves are included in a larger area of formally designated Ancient Woodland on the southern side of the Nightingale Valley; and the tithe records of the mid 19th century describe the larger part of this area (Tithe plot 1069) as just over 18 acres (7.28ha) of 'wood and rock'. The site of the Iron Age enclosure itself (T1065), identified as 'Borough Walls Camp', only consisted of just over 6 acres (2.43ha) of ground, and was characterised as 'pasture'. Historic maps dating from the late 18th century also appear to indicate that the area of the Iron Age enclosure itself, both the defences and the internal space, *and* the plateau extending to its west, were essentially treeless; with trees covering only the most precipitous slopes forming the western side of the Avon Gorge, immediately to the east of the Burwalls site. The actual antiquity, or otherwise, of the present woodland on the site, is therefore highly problematic, despite its formal designation as such (see further below, **Historic Map Evidence**).

A key account of the history of the Leigh Woods area was published by Lewis Way in 1913, and his analysis of the medieval documentary record, based on papers from the Ashton Court archive, shows that the name 'Burwall' was current by at least the 14th century, and probably much earlier (Way 1913).

⁹ An extremely thorough, and up to date, general overview of the history of the site specifically as it relates to the construction of Burwalls House, its grounds, and its auxiliary buildings, can be found in AH 2012.

¹⁰ Abbot's Leigh did not become an ecclesiastical parish in its own right until 1852 - until that date it had lain in Bedminster parish, although there had been a chapelry there since at least the late medieval period - Holy Trinity church, although very heavily restored in the 19th century, still contains some fabric of the 15th century. Abbot's Leigh became a civil parish in 1896; Youngs 1979, 430. It seems clear, however, that the inhabitants of Abbot's Leigh regarded it as a full-blown parish at least by the end of the 18th century, when they are recorded as beating the parochial bounds; and in that context, John Hugh Smyth, of Ashton Court, explicitly calls Abbot's Leigh a parish, and indeed refers back from 1799 to earlier perambulations in the middle of the century; Way 1913, 91-92.



There can be little doubt that in this case the origin of the first element of this toponym is to be found in Old English *burh/byrig*, with a meaning of 'a fortified place', and this indeed is the standard appellation for defended Iron Age sites, which has come through to us as *-bury* (Corcos u.d., and see esp. f/n 6).

It is worth noting here that the name Stokeleigh is also itself almost certainly an explicit reference to the defended site on the northern side of the Nightingale Valley. It is likely that the first element is from Old English *stoc*, the meaning of which changed through time. A recent account of this word remarks how

in some ways, the use of English *stoc*, 'standing place', giving names with *stock* and *stoke*, parallels that of *stow*. The use of *stoc* as a formation element in place names had a wide date range, in which 'standing place for cattle/dairy area', seems to have been an early usage, implying perhaps a sense of 'bringing together'. This came to mean 'out-lying or dependent settlement, where presumably the management of most cattle took place in the early large estates. Like *stow* it could be linked with a word implying Christian cult use, perhaps suggesting that originally it too meant simply 'a place where people stood together', and it could occasionally be used as an alternative to *stow* in monastic place-names (Pearce 2012, 88-89).

There is, so far as is known, no evidence that the Stokeleigh enclosure was ever used in any formal sense as a place of assembly in the early medieval period, for example as a hundred moot site, but the use of prehistoric sites, of various kinds, for just this purpose *is* a strong and recurrent theme in the emergence of a systematic framework of folk, and later state governance in the Anglo-Saxon period (Semple 2013).

Way describes how by the early 14th century

The Leigh Woods.....were divided between two owners, St Katherine's Hospital holding Burwalls, while William de Lyons held Stokeleigh and the wood beneath Burwalls (Way 1913, 62).

Not long after this, however, the whole of Leigh Woods, with the exception of the wood below (ie to the east of) Burwalls, came into the hands of St Augustine's Abbey, Bristol, in whose possession it remained until the Dissolution of the mid 16th century; the manor of Abbot's Leigh itself, as we have already seen, had belonged to the Abbey since the mid 12th century. A little later in the same century, Leigh Woods, but *not* the site of Burwalls (see further below) came into the possession of the Smyth family by virtue of their holding Long Ashton, and leases of the early modern period clearly show that the resources there, in the form of wood and stone, were being exploited. Way, for example, quotes an early 17th century lease to John Baylie, 'lymeburner' of Clifton, and involving

one cottage adjoining and one Lime Kill with all the quarres and the stones within the quarres fitt for the making of Lyme situate in the slade under Stokley Wood between the land of John Garland.....below Rownham and the wood called Lye Wood with common of pasture for two pother beasts in the common thereto adjoining saving all manner of trees, woods and underwoods thereupon growing.....(Way 1913, 71).

It seems clear from this that limeburning was taking place either within or close to the Nightingale Valley, and there were certainly quarries situated there; and that at least a part of Leigh Woods was being used as wood pasture for grazing animals. At least three quarries lay in the immediate vicinity of Burwalls at the time of the mid 19th century tithe survey, and quarries are also marked on the late 19th century First Edition OS maps, one of them exactly opposite Burwalls House on the northern side of Bridge Road (see further below, **Historic Map Evidence**). In the middle of the 17th century, leases were granted for the construction of a lead-smelting house at the mouth of Nightingale Valley, on the west bank of the Avon and beneath Leigh Woods, the intention probably being to use timber from the woods for firing (Way 1913, 72-73). For the rest of the 17th century and into the 18th, there are recurrent references in the Ashton Court leases to quarries, timber rights, game rights, and other activities being carried on in and around Leigh Woods, some of which is directly reflected in the modern archaeological inheritance of the area (see further below, **Archaeological Background**).

Burwalls itself did not come into the hands of the Smyth family until 1605, where it then remained for just over 340 years. In 1621, the site was described as

one close of pasture or woodey grounde called Burwalls contayning eight acres more or less situated at the east end of Aishton Doune.....(Way 1913, 78-79).

Clearly the site of the Iron Age enclosure was still being used as wood pasture by this date, although it was also clearly distinguished as a separate and demarcated enclosure; and indeed it is shown as such on the mid 19th century tithe map (**Figure 7**) albeit with a dashed line only, which may indicate that it was not, at least by the latter date, permanently enclosed but only fenced. Its size between these two dates has, though, remained surprisingly stable, having shrunk only slightly in the course of nearly two and a half centuries. By the middle of the 17th century, Burwalls was described as 'meadow or pasture' (Way 1913, 80), and we may therefore wonder at exactly what, if any, the extent of tree cover on the site was at this date – although use of the word meadow here may of course be misplaced.

As the place-names suggest, and as we have already seen, the nature of both Burwalls and Stokeleigh Camp has been well understood since at least the early post-Conquest period, and the name had probably been bestowed by late Anglo-Saxon times. Numerous antiquarian references, surveyed by Morgan (1902), occur in the 19th century, but one of the earliest post-medieval references comes from the pen of the early 18th century writer and antiquarian John Strachey, of Sutton court in Stowey parish (in northern Somerset). The manuscript of Strachey's unfinished and unpublished *History* of the county of Somerset survives in the record office at Taunton, and in the section under Long Ashton, he describes how

on the edge of Leigh Down against the river in the parish of Long Ashton is a deep entrenchment thrown up out of the solid rock. Towards the west are three ditches and four rampires [ramparts] in form of a Roman D. The straight line toward the river being an inaccessible precipice (spelling and punctuation modernised; SRO

DD/SH/2/108, Part 2 of 3, Hundred of Hartcliff and Bedminster, individual folios unnumbered. Exact date unknown, but probably early 1730s).

It is regrettable, then, that this reference is rather ambiguous and could, on the face of it, apply to either Burwalls or Stokeleigh, although on balance, and specifically in view of the mention of *four* ramparts, it is rather more likely to refer to the latter; whether it is actually a first-hand eyewitness narrative is also uncertain.

It looks as though the Burwalls site remained pretty much intact until well into the 19th century, but a defining moment came in the late 1820s with the construction of a new road on the Somerset side of the Avon Gorge to serve the proposed new Clifton bridge – this is now Bridge Road (SRO Q/RUP/103, of 1829; **Figure 6**), and it seems clear that its line cut through a section of the Iron Age defences. The towers for the suspension bridge were completed in the 1830s, but thereafter a succession of delays meant that the bridge itself was not completed and opened for traffic until 1864, five years after Brunel himself had died. The completion of the bridge coincided more or less with the formation of the Leigh Woods Land Company, which had been created explicitly to ensure that development on the highly desirable Somerset side of the bridge, which would inevitably follow hard on the heels of its opening, was conducted in as sympathetic a manner as possible, and should involve only the highest quality of residential architecture (Way 1913, 95-97). Land in Leigh Woods, on both sides of the Nightingale Valley, had been purchased from Sir John Henry Greville Smyth for this purpose. Plots were progressively sold off, three of them to Joseph Leech, a wealthy Bristol newspaper proprietor, between 1871 and 1875 (University of Bristol Library Special Collections, File DM 1911/12). Leech it was who constructed Burwalls House on its present site, and the process of its construction, and most especially the landscaping of its grounds, can be presumed to have wrought serious damage on that part of the Iron Age enclosure within its boundary (**Plate 2**); and indeed, the same must be true of the contemporary construction of Burwalls Road, which was clearly established explicitly to serve the new house, and other elements of the Leigh Woods development. Leech died in 1893, and in 1894, the house and its grounds passed to the Wills tobacco dynasty. It was they who first built (at some unknown date at the end of the 19th and the turn of the 20th century), and then in 1905 modified, to include a garage and car inspection pit, the so-called stable block which stands at the south-western corner of the site, and which is the subject of a separate but related Level II Building Survey (SRO D/R/lo/22/1/1; and Potter and Dias 2013)¹¹.

A sale catalogue for the house and its grounds, published in 1946, gives a detailed verbal description of the stable block as it was at that time, before any of the more modern additions were made. In view of this, it seems worth quoting in full here:

¹¹ A search was conducted for the *original* building plans for both Burwalls House itself, and its slightly later stable block, in the Bristol and Somerset Record Offices, and among the surviving Burwalls papers in the Special Collections section of Bristol University Library; regrettably, however, neither of these records could be traced at any of these repositories, although this is emphatically *not* to suggest that they do not survive elsewhere.



Close by is the well-built brick original coach-house, garage and stable block, comprising:- Open Yard in front and glazed covered washing yard, heated garage for 3 cars with pit, second heated garage for one car with pit, expensively fitted stabling of 3 stalls and 2 Loose Boxes, Harness Room with boiler, Chauffeur's Cottage, containing sitting room, parlour with modern tiled grate, scullery and sink, larder, outside W.C. Upstairs are three bedrooms, bathroom with gas boiler and W.C. Electricity, Gas and Water laid on.

Over these Garages (but approached from the rear) is a bothy or stableman's rooms, being self-contained flat or cottage, containing living room, kitchen, bedroom, bathroom with gas boiler and W.C. Adjoining and communicating are large store-rooms or Lofts, which could readily be added to the living accommodation if required (BRO 39879, unpaginated).

The presence of *two* car servicing pits might not otherwise be suspected, and from the scale on the drawing it is clear that the one shown in the building control plan of 1905, already referred to, is that described here as the 'second heated garage for one car with pit'. The giving over of a part of the stable block to the new-fangled motor car is an extremely interesting example of a building directly reflecting a defining social and economic development within its very fabric, catching as it does the very moment when horse-drawn transport stood on the brink of a rapid decline, especially after the First World War. Doubtless the stables would have continued in use for their originally intended purpose for many years afterwards, as riding remained an extremely popular leisure and sporting pursuit for those who could afford it; but the addition to the stable block after 1905 clearly demonstrate that, as might be expected, the enormously wealthy Wills family would have been amongst the earliest adopters of, and therefore trend-setters for, the new technology in the local area.

The same sale catalogue also, incidentally, explicitly refers to the

remains of an ANCIENT BRITONS' CAMP (known as "Burgh Walls" or "Bower Walls" camp, the mounds of the fortifications being clearly seen)

It is apparent from this that even at this relatively late date, the remains of Burwalls camp were pretty clearly visible in the grounds of the house, and presumably cannot, therefore, have been as overgrown and obscured by small trees, bushes, and general scrub as they are today.

In 1909, a member of the Wills family

purchased the core of the ancient woodland at Leigh Woods and the Hanging Woods and presented them to the National Trust to preserve them for the public (AH 2012, 11).

This refers to that part of the woodland on the northern side of the Nightingale Valley. As already noted, Burwalls Wood, east of Burwalls House, was not separately acquired by the NT until 1949. Two years before this though, the house and its grounds were bought by the University of Bristol, for the total sum of £10,750 (University of Bristol Library Special Collections, File DM 1911/12). In the hands of the University, it functioned as a conference and general education centre, and a series of architecturally ill-conceived additions were



made to the stable block in the 1970s and 80s, mainly to provide additional accommodation. AH 2012 (13) asserts that the University added a large lecture theatre to the rear of Burwalls House itself, *after* the building had been protected by statutory listing, which occurred in January 1992; and as such, Listed Building Consent would presumably have been required for such work. The local authority does indeed hold a historic planning application for the *conversion* of a squash court into a lecture room, but this was undertaken in 1986 (North Somerset Historic Planning File 1312/86).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND¹²

The strict remit of this study is to consider the evidence for archaeological survival in the vicinity of the study site, based on current knowledge as expressed in the North Somerset Council online Historic Environment Record, supplemented from a wide range of other sources, but most notably McDonnell 2001. It should be noted at the outset that the HER revealed no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within the boundary of the study area itself, although as already noted, the Leigh Woods Iron Age enclosure lies only 335m to the north-west of Burwalls House. It need hardly be said that the single most important feature for present purposes, recovered by the trawl of the local authority HER, is the site of what has always been labelled an 'Iron Age hillfort', some clear remains of which, against all the odds, survive actually within the grounds of Burwalls House, immediately to the north of the stable block annexe (NSHER 00860). By far the greater part of the discussion here will therefore, and of necessity, focus very much on this remarkable but surprisingly ill-understood survival.

As well as the HER itself, a key source for this section was an archaeological survey carried out for the National Trust of its lands on both sides (ie north and south) of the Nightingale Valley, and it includes occasional references to Burwalls (McDonnell 2001)¹³.

It should be stated from the outset that up to the present, there is absolutely no firm archaeological evidence whatsoever relating to the date of Burwalls itself. Both it and Stokeleigh Camp, on the northern side of Nightingale Valley, have long been *assumed* to be of Iron Age build, but until relatively recently, this was an inference based primarily on morphology and construction techniques, so far as either of these could be determined. The defences of the Leigh Woods enclosure, the Clifton Down enclosure on the eastern side of the gorge, and to a lesser extent Burwalls, have all been the subject of a succession of antiquarian interventions, the main results of which appear to suggest that they consisted of at least partially revetted and 'calcined' walls of rubble limestone (Atkinson

¹² The stable block and its associated modern annex at the south-west corner of the site are not further dealt with here in any detail, other than in the **Historical Background** section, since as already noted it is the subject of a separate but related Level II Building Recording Survey; Potter and Dias 2013.

¹³ This important piece of work remains unpublished, but I am grateful to Martin Papworth, the Trust's Archaeological Officer for South-West England, for giving me sight of the text.



1870; Morgan 1902). However, Stokeleigh Camp (NSHER 00859 and 43499) has seen only a single *modern* campaign of archaeological excavation, the finds and stratigraphy from which proved its Iron Age origins, probably in the 3rd century BC, pretty much beyond reasonable doubt (Haldane 1975). Stokeleigh takes on an added importance, potentially, in the light of recurring suggestions that it forms the western terminus of the West Wansdyke, most notably in the form of a short stretch of east-west linear earthwork which runs westward from its western side, and which continues around the north-western part of its circuit (Gardner 1998, esp. at 60, and refs there cited).

It is worth adding that the remains of the Burwalls enclosure that *do* survive have at least been subjected to metrical recording to modern standards through earthwork survey, by Dr Peter Fowler in 1978; and the results published as part of Watson 1987. Dr Fowler's survey suggests the existence, or survival, of only two ramparts, but today the site is so overgrown with trees and underbrush that it is difficult to make overall sense of the layout of the surviving features, and it seems that a useful first step to testing the veracity of the existing survey, would be a study of any available LIDAR information, and *especially* of second return data that is capable of penetrating some tree cover (EH 2010) (**Frontispiece** and **Plate 3**; and see further below, **Site Visit**).

Neither Stokeleigh nor Burwalls ever represented complete circuits, but rather they were promontory forts which utilised the steep sides of both the Nightingale Valley, and the western side of the Avon Gorge, to provide effective defences for long stretches, dispensing with the need for ramparts and ditches along those sides. In terms of their location, and of their relationship with Clifton Down Camp on the eastern side of the gorge, McDonnell remarks that

The strategic implications of the location of these sites seem obvious. With Clifton Camp across the Gorge they were placed to oversee both river traffic on the Avon and pedestrian traffic crossing the Avon on what was probably a natural causeway, or ford, said to have existed near Nightingale Valley.....This valley was itself overlooked by both Stokeleigh and Burwalls camps.....The strategic significance of this disposition, however, depends on a contemporaneous use of these enclosures and no doubt other unidentified social and economic determinants. Burrow.....points out other similar groupings in Avon (McDonnell 2001, 12).

As already noted, unlike Stokeleigh Camp, the remains at Burwalls are not formally scheduled, but this may be explicitly because their supposed Iron Age credentials have yet to be proven to acceptably *modern* standards of archaeological investigation. The only *published* work on the site in recent years, involving the excavation in 1980 of four evaluation trenches at various locations to the south and south-east of Burwalls House, were entirely inconclusive, the excavator noting that

the interior of the earthwork has been destroyed by the Victorian landscaping which was also responsible for the "ramparts" to the east. It is not known whether this earthwork has any relationship with the nearby hillfort in Leigh Woods (Watson 1987, 58).

Presuming for present purposes, however, that an Iron Age origin is a given, then they certainly appear to represent the last remaining vestiges of the

promontory fort on the southern side of the Nightingale Valley; as such they are a precious and unlikely survival, and consideration might at least need to be given to the question of what, if any, damage may be being done to their structure and any remaining *in situ* archaeology, by root activity from the pretty dense vegetation with which they are covered. The remains themselves consist of what appears to be a series of closely-related banks (at least two), separated by ditches, into which have been cut, at irregular intervals, what are clearly modern, semi-circular 'rockeries' (**Frontispiece**). There is a great deal of loose stone visible, outcropping on the surface and on the flanks of the banks, and it seems clear, as indeed antiquarian accounts suggest (summarised in Morgan 1902), that the ramparts were at least in part stone-built; and it is not beyond the bound of possibility that apart from a palpable defensive function, they may also have acted as massive field clearance cairns for the known and suspected field systems in the vicinity (see further below).

The woodland here is also extremely unkempt and rubbish-strewn. The banks have occasional gaps in them, most of which are probably post-abandonment. These features are not threatened by the proposed development, which may indeed offer welcome opportunities for their thoughtful and sympathetic enhancement, preservation and understanding. NSHER 43498 is identified as an 'archaeological area', occupying a rectangular space on the heavily terraced lawns immediately to the south-east of the main house, and presumably so characterised because it was thought that the original course of the known ramparts to the west, heading towards the western wall of the Avon gorge, would have taken them pretty much right through this area. However, their actual appearance in this area, although a logical deduction from the known orientation of the surviving remains, is still to be proven.

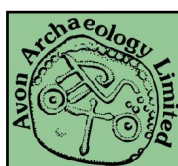
Even the number of 'ramparts' of which the Burwalls enclosure was possessed has given rise to various opinions, although of course it is possible that this varied throughout the circuit. Writing of Burwalls only a few years after the opening of the suspension bridge, Atkinson remarked that

These precipices [ie Nightingale Valley and the Avon Gorge] are connected by three ramparts, enclosing an oval space, now overgrown with forest trees, and containing about seven acres. The highest rampart was about 18 feet above the area inside. It is in the parish of Ashton. The suspension bridge cuts into it at Clifton (Atkinson 1868-69, 28)

Other antiquarian accounts (Morgan 1902, 219-224), make it clear that the general opinion was that Burwalls had three ramparts; and so far as some of it can be relied upon, the historic cartography that is available appears to reinforce this impression.

Before we entirely leave the 'Iron Age' remains at Burwalls to turn our attention to other items of possible interest both within the study site or close by, we may take note of relevant work carried out very recently, but which to date remains unpublished. AH 2012 reports that in 1962

the remains of the camp in the garden of Burwalls were recorded (by a field investigator for the RCHME) at ST 56261 72819 and consisting of two mutilated



banks with a strong stone content, separated by a berm and ditch. No evidence of calcination was seen (AH 2012, Para. 2.3, p6).

Unfortunately this statement is completely unreferenced and I could find no other citation of this work, which we need have no doubt was actually carried out. It is, for example, not listed on the current Archaeology Data Service online archive (<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/>), and neither is it mentioned in McConnell 2001. The latter source further claims that there is a

Very short tail end of rampart on the top of the S side of Nightingale Valley mapped by current OS (*ibid*, 76).

However, this note also makes clear that the writer was unable personally to ground-prove this supposed feature, and it is by no means clearly apparent on the very latest OS large-scale mapping as reflected in the North Somerset online HER; the latter differs markedly in its depiction of these features from that shown as Figure 1 in Watson 1987, and on balance the latter is probably to be preferred, since, as already noted, it was the result of an actual, metrical earthwork survey carried out by Dr Peter Fowler in 1978. A comparison of the two suggests that the OS may be a tad over enthusiastic in its depiction of what actually survives in this respect.

In 2007, the University carried out work at Burwalls which involved the excavation of a new service trench along the eastern side of the main surfaced drive which leads from the front (ie south-eastern side) of the house, southwards to the gate giving access on to the northern side of Burwalls Road (**Plate 7**). The local authority does not appear to have imposed a formal archaeological watching brief as a condition for this work, although it was subject to occasional informal monitoring by members of the University's own Dept of Archaeology. No results have yet been published, and it is not known what, if anything, was discovered during the course of the work¹⁴.

Secondly, and more importantly, in 2012 a student training excavation took place in the grounds of Burwalls House, specifically targeting the surviving 'rampart' features, and once again conducted under the auspices of the University's own Archaeology Department. Unlike the monitoring work in 2007, however, this investigation was fully and properly recorded. A trench 2m x 2m in size was opened up next to the innermost rampart, and additional test pits and linear trenches were also excavated throughout the remaining area of the surviving defences. The work was led by Dr Paul Driscoll, who remarks that

in the trench inside the fortification and next to the rampart we encountered some shallow, heavily truncated circular features which may have been the very bottoms of post-holes but there was no associated dating evidence with them. We also encountered the same description as [Watson 1987], with natural about 0.50m down, but on closer inspection it was redeposited and once we took it out we went down onto Bronze Age pottery at a depth of about 1-1.2m. We could not tell whether or not this was in a feature due to the small area size, but there was certainly activity surviving and it may be pre-Iron Age in date.

¹⁴ I am very grateful to Katharine Walker, formerly of the Dept of Archaeology, University of Bristol, for both advising me of this work, and for supplying the image of it in progress, which is reproduced here.



The small test pits encountered residual Roman and even Mesolithic material along with post-medieval and modern, but these were high up in the stratigraphy and mixed together. The only other thing of note was that we were able to suggest the way in which the ramparts were actually made - we think that the original researcher was right and these are calcined ramparts. Basically prehistoric activity still exists on site, but whether features are associated with this is unclear (*pers comm* Paul Driscoll)¹⁵.

For the first time, therefore, this work suggests that Burwalls may well have had earlier antecedents, and to that extent it fits well into the modern framework of understanding about the development of British hillforts in general (Harding 2012).

Neither of these two modern interventions on the site are listed on the NSHER.

Within the bounds of the strict study site itself, as defined on Figure 2 of this report, there are only two other sites that are noted on the North Somerset HER. These are Burwalls House itself (NSHER 42465), which has already been dealt with in detail elsewhere (AH 2012) and is therefore not within the remit of the present report; and NSHER 04223, which is supposedly the site of a (?19th century) botanic garden – but the ultimate source for this reference is cited in the NSHER bibliography only as a 'garden recording form', and its existence was apparently unknown to the author of AH 2012.

Outside of the strict area of the study site itself, there are several HER items relating to buildings that clearly have no direct archaeological implications for present purposes, most notably a small group pertaining to the suspension bridge. NSHER 42475 is a general reference to the 19th century landscaped gardens surrounding Burwalls House, and 42476 marks the site of a so-called 'Pleistocene cave' immediately outside the extreme north-eastern corner of the study site (McDonnell 2001, 11), but again, there are no archaeological implications for the proposed development work on the Burwalls site. The same is true of a group of records extending through the steep, wooded slopes to the south of the house, among them 5808 (ruins of 19th century cotton mill); 42473 (site of the so-called 'Scarlet Well', apparently noted in documents from at least the mid 17th century); and 05808, the 19th century remains of Rownham Mill, on the western side of the Portishead railway line at the very southern extremity of Burwalls Wood. This is all National Trust land, would not be impacted by the proposed development, and in any case these sites have no implications for or relationship to the most important element of the Burwalls site, which are the ?Iron Age features. There *is*, however, among this same group a single entry which may well bear such a relationship, although again, it is on the National Trust's estate. This is NSHER 42474, which is noted as a possible prehistoric field system. They are described in the National Trust survey as

Short sections of low broad stone banks up to 3m wide and 300mm high located on the upper, crest slopes of Burwalls. These look like field banks but are difficult to trace through the tangled undergrowth (McDonnell 2001, 83).

¹⁵ I am very grateful to Dr Driscoll for information relating to the work which his field team conducted in 2012 at Burwalls, and especially for supplying a plan of the two main trench positions.



Certainly the proximity of these features to the Burwalls enclosure might be thought to provide a perfectly plausible prehistoric context for them, especially in view of the known, extensive and probably late prehistoric field systems which lie a little way to the west and south-west of Burwalls, on the elevated limestone plateau formerly part of the lands attached to Ashton Court House (see for example NSHER 45327, 45347, 45333 and 45332).

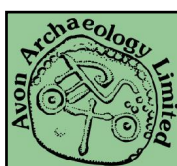
The only other site of any note within the vicinity of the study area lies on the southern side of Burwalls Road, fronting onto Rownham Hill, and is identified by NSHER 41075 as a post-medieval quarry, the site of which is now occupied by a large detached house¹⁶.

6 HISTORIC MAP EVIDENCE

Apart from the usual run of large-scale Ordnance Survey maps, there are a number of historic manuscript maps accessible in both the Bristol and the Somerset Record Offices which depict the area of the study site, and these include, of course, a mid 19th century tithe map for Long Ashton, on which the site appears. The earliest useful map, although undated, was probably produced in the late 18th century, but it highlighted an issue which in fact affected most of the non-printed maps before the advent of the OS sheets in the late 19th century. It had been hoped that it would prove possible to overlay the modern site data on the majority of the pre-OS, manuscript maps. However, because, in the late 18th and throughout most of the 19th century, the hillside on which Leigh Woods and Burwalls stood was rendered by the early surveyors as pretty much featureless, undifferentiated woodland, it has proved impossible for these early maps to find sufficient, or indeed *any* common points with the modern mapping that would allow meaningful placement of the modern site outline in the context of the historic material. The best that can be done, unfortunately, is to show the site outline in a purely indicative way, with the proviso that this gives only the very roughest guide to its location in relation to the early surveys. What much of this material has in common, and indeed its prime interest for present purposes, are the depictions of the Burwalls, Leigh Woods and Clifton Down promontory forts.

The first map reproduced here is undated, but according to the catalogue at the BRO, where it is AC/PL/94, it is of late 18th or early 19th century date – more likely the former. This is because there is a separate reference book in which the plot numbers accord with those shown on the map. The book is dated 1789, and so the map must also be of around that date (BRO AC/E8). The latter is titled *Plan of the Manor of Long Ashton and Estate at Wraxall*, and the study site appears close to the eastern edge of the map (**Figure 3**). The most notable features are the Burwalls and Stokeleigh enclosures, and the Nightingale Valley which separates them. The surveyor has shown Burwalls with three ramparts,

¹⁶ A former quarry which is shown on the early editions of the OS, on the northern side of Bridge Road exactly opposite the north-western elevation of Burwalls House, is not noted on the HER.



and appears to have made an attempt also to give the impression of the banks increasing size towards the interior of the enclosure, with the inner bank being the widest of the three. Shading inside the inner edge of the innermost bank *may* be intended to represent a ditch, but this is problematic. We cannot know what element, if any, of the depiction of the enclosures was the result of careful, metrical survey, and how much is simply impressionistic – the latter is probably far more the case, although the general layout is likely to be pretty much correct, as is the number of ramparts, and the fact that, at Burwalls, the ends terminate at the flanks of the Nightingale Valley and the western wall of the Avon Gorge respectively. The lack of depiction of any entrances whatsoever, in either of the two enclosures, ought, however, to be regarded as deeply suspicious, for they must originally have existed, and at the time the survey was made, the earthworks remained, presumably, relatively well-preserved. In the accompanying reference book, Plot No. 2 is described as

Bowerwalls, half the slade, & the cotton mill, 26 acres, 3 roods, 23 perches

On the other (northern) side of the Nightingale Valley, the reference book notes of Plot No. 1

Stokeleigh & half the slade¹⁷, 51 acres, 2 roods, 9 perches¹⁸

In 1821, Samuel Seyer published an engraving of the Burwalls/Stokeleigh/Clifton Down enclosures, as part of his general, two-volume survey of the history of the city of Bristol (**Figure 4**) (Seyer 1821). This has a scale and so it is, presumably, at least partly based on metrical survey, although again, it is likely that the depictions contain at least some impressionistic elements. It is, nonetheless, an interesting plan, in that it seems to confirm the existence of three ramparts, but also shows no fewer than two entrances. At Stokeleigh camp, an earthwork extending around the northern side of the defences, and projecting out to the west, may, as already noted, mark the western end of Wansdyke (see above, **Archaeological Background**).

In 1826, a small-scale map of the manor of Long Ashton was produced for the Smyth estate, and an extract from it is reproduced here as **Figure 5** (BRO AC/PL/105). There can be little doubt that in its essentials this was a properly

¹⁷ From Old English *slæd*, 'a valley' (Mills 1993, 384); 'the slade' here is clearly a reference to what is now the Nightingale Valley. In terms of the customary measurements used here, there were traditionally 4 roods to the acre, and 40 perches to the rood. An acre is the equivalent of 0.405ha (or just over 4,000m²), and this therefore makes a rood about 1012m², and a perch just over 25m². The cotton mill referred to here is the small, rectangular building shown in black at the foot of the cliff on the western side of the gorge, below Burwalls. Its site is noted on the NSHER as 5808; and see also McDonnell 2001, 83. Contrary to both these sources however, which describe the cotton mill as of 19th century date, it must in fact be no *later* than the late 18th century, since it is mentioned in the Ashton Court survey book of 1789 to which reference has already been made; BRO AC/E8.

¹⁸ It is extremely frustrating that a much earlier survey book, dating to 1730, also survives but the map which was clearly intended to accompany it seems to have been lost (BRO AC/M11/32). In this record, Stokeleigh and Burwalls are listed under the heading of 'Demain': 'Big Stockley, 31 acres, 3 roods, 20 perches; Little Stockley, 4 acres, 3 roods, 39 perches; Burrough Walls, 19 acres, 1 rood, 2 perches'.

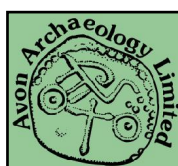
conducted survey, since the plan has a scale attached to it and the plots are numbered; however, it is likely that the depiction of Burwalls camp itself is likely to be impressionistic – apart from, anything else, this map apparently shows four ramparts, as opposed to the three (or two) shown on all the other surveys examined for present purposes. Plot numbers 360 and 361 were at this date held by one Thomas Clark, and were described in the accompanying survey notes as

Hill Ground adj: Stoke Leigh Camp	84 acres, 3 roods
Stoke Leigh Camp & half the combe	37 acres, 2 roods, 9 perches
Bower Walls Camp and half the combe	26 acres, 3 roods, 23 perches
The Wood	11 acres, 2 roods, 10 perches

These are clearly the equivalent of plots 1 and 2 of the earlier survey of 1789, but *without* the cotton mill.

From 1829 there survives a beautiful little map showing the intended line of a new access road designed to service the proposed new bridge across the Avon and into Clifton, and this indeed was the road that was constructed very shortly after the map was made (**Figure 6**; SRO Q/RUP/103). Burwalls camp is not shown and of course, at this date, Burwalls House did not exist, but the map nonetheless gives a useful general impression of the area, and importantly, it shows that a road following roughly the course of the later Burwalls Road was being considered over forty years before it was actually built, probably, as already noted, explicitly to serve Burwalls House. The book of reference which accompanies the map describes Plot 16, which encompasses the study site and indeed the land all around it, simply as 'wood and pasture' in the parish of Long Ashton, in the ownership of Sir John Smyth, and occupied by Philip John Miles. No areas are given, but it is likely that this holding equates exactly to Burwalls and Stokeleigh camps together, and their associated lands as already outlined in the maps and surveys of 1730, 1789, and 1826. Importantly, this is also apparently the first map to depict a house which can later be identified as Keeper's (or more fully Gamekeeper's) Cottage, and its rectangular, and very large and presumably walled, kitchen garden which extended to its east. Its construction can therefore be dated quite closely to between 1826 and 1829. When Burwalls Road itself was constructed probably in the in the early 1870s, its roughly north-south line cut right through the western part of the kitchen garden, leaving Keeper's Cottage isolated on the western side of the new road, and the entire eastern three quarters of its former garden lying in what became the south-west corner of the grounds of Burwalls House. Later OS maps show clearly that this remnant structure was incorporated into the Burwalls kitchen garden to provide a large part of its own boundary wall, although most of it did not survive the depredations of the later 20th century accretions to the stable block annex. However, the base of a long stretch of the northern wall survives intact and it therefore represents the earliest standing, built structure on the entire Burwalls site (**Plates 5 and 6**)¹⁹.

¹⁹ The surviving *visible* stone wall may represent merely the top part of an actually much higher structure, since it is possible that many surviving courses lie buried under later, late Victorian embanking and terracing.



The tithe records for Long Ashton were produced in 1841 (map – BRO AC/PL/119) and 1845 (award – SRO D/D/Rt/A/459). An extract from the map is reproduced here as **Figure 7**. It can be seen immediately that the area of the study site is depicted, still, as an area of undifferentiated woodland and scrub, with the steep, rocky slopes towards the western bank of the Avon on the eastern side of the site. Keeper's Cottage, with its walled kitchen garden extending to its east, is shown, and the road to the suspension bridge, complete with carriage turning circle, is also depicted, as indeed is the completed western abutment and tower. There has been at least an attempt to show the general disposition of the remaining ramparts of the Burwalls enclosure, but we may doubt its absolute accuracy, for two main reasons: firstly, it depicts only two banks; and secondly, the inclusion of these features was completely superfluous to the actual purpose of the map, and so it was probably something of an antiquarian exercise; it is highly unlikely that the surveyor would have devoted much, if any, of his expensive time to a detailed metrical survey of remains that would by then have been of entirely academic interest. That said, this is, though, the first map to show the line of the then relatively new Bridge Road actually cutting through the Burwalls defences.

Table 1 presents basic details of ownership, occupation, plot size and land-use for the study site itself, and for a few of the adjacent properties. It can be seen straight away that all the land in this area, as indeed further afield in Long Ashton parish, was owned by Sir John Smyth, with Peter Maze and William Watkins being the major tenants in the immediate area of Burwalls. Of most relevance, however, is the fact that at this date in the middle of the 19th century, the area of the study site remained, as far as we can discern, a tract of completely undeveloped "wood and rock"; and indeed the area of Stokeleigh Camp is described in exactly the same terms. This is not to say that it was entirely unenclosed however, and use of the term 'paddock' to describe plot 169 may suggest both that it was perhaps at least subject to some kind of fencing, and that it was used as occasional or more regular grazing for stock. This certainly seems to have been the case for the 8 acres of Burrow Walls Camp itself (tithe plot 165), which are described as 'pasture'. The several quarries in the area were clearly being used for road building and maintenance, not only for the Long Ashton turnpike, but also in the city of Bristol itself.

Just under twenty years after the tithe survey, in 1862, the Smyth lands at this eastern side of Long Ashton parish were surveyed again, almost certainly as a result of revived aspirations for the completion of the suspension bridge, and the likely effect on the pace of development on the western side of the gorge that that would entail (**Figure 8**; BRO AC/PL/125/1-2). There are two maps showing very similar areas, and including both of the ancient enclosures. There are differences of detail but the main disparity between the two maps for present purposes involve the depiction of two ramparts at Burwalls on one, and three ramparts on another. The way that Nightingale Valley is shown also differs. That reproduced here is the one which shows Burwalls with three ramparts. Otherwise, the study site remains undeveloped, Burwalls Road is still absent and therefore the kitchen garden attached to Keeper's Cottage, and extending to its east, remained intact at this date.

Table 1: Extract from tithe Award for Long Ashton Parish, 1845. SRO D/D/Rt/A/459.

A – acres; R – roods; P – perches

Landowner	Occupier	No.	Name & Description	Cultivation Code	A	R	P
Sir John Smyth Bart.	William Watkins	1062	Stoke Leigh Camp	Wood & rock	64	3	29
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Pitching & paving Commissioners of Bristol	1062a	Quarry		0	2	12
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Trustees of Turnpike Roads	1061	Quarry		0	0	32
		1060	Road		5	0	21
Sir John Smyth Bart. STUDY SITE	William Watkins	1069	Paddock	Wood & rock etc.	18	1	14
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Thomas Morgan	1057	Quarry		0	1	19
Sir John Smyth Bart. STUDY SITE	William Watkins	1065	Borough Walls Camp	Pasture	6	3	16
Sir John Smyth Bart. PART OF STUDY SITE	William Watkins	1067	House & gdn.		0	3	9
Parish of Long Ashton PART OF STUDY SITE	Turnpike roads	1070	Quarry		0	2	0
Sir John Smyth Bart.	William Watkins	1071	Orchard	Orchard	1	0	24
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1072	Young Orchard	Orchard	1	0	9
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1073	Yard		0	2	38
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1074	Plantation		0	0	6
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1075	Rownham House., pleasure gdns. etc		1	0	36
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1076	Gdn.		1	0	38
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1077	Orchard	Orchard	0	2	28
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1078	House & gdn.		0	1	7
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Peter Maze	1079	Gdn.		0	0	27
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Himself	1177	Twenty Acres	Pasture	28	3	3
Sir John Smyth Bart.	William Watkins	1063	Adjoining Stoke Leigh Camp	Pasture	71	1	26
Sir John Smyth Bart.	Himself	1174	Part of Sheep Sleight	Pasture	28		

The BRO holds another survey which must date from a period not long after the previous example, because it shows the intended line of Burwalls Road now in the course in which it was actually built, but Burwalls House itself had not yet been constructed (**Figure 9**); however, Joseph Leech is shown as the owner of the two main plots upon which the house and its gardens were to be laid out (BRO 31965[STG]/55). We know from the documents at the University of Bristol Library that these were in his hands by 1872, with the plot immediately to the west acquired in 1875, so this map must fit between these two dates (University of Bristol Library, Special Collections File DM 1911/12). Its principle interest is that it shows the line of Burwalls Road actually cutting through the kitchen garden wall of Keeper's Cottage, so that for the first time the outline of the study

site in pretty much its modern form is established; this map is also important in that it seems to provide some support for the suggestion that the Keeper's Cottage garden wall may survive at least in part in the form of the wall which now forms part of the northern boundary to the stable annex. This map is also very interesting in that it shows, albeit very faintly, the surviving ramparts of Burwalls extending into the study site on the southern side of Bridge Road.

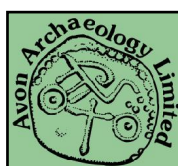
Most of the available historic OS maps have already been reproduced and analysed as part of AH 2012, and for that reason they are therefore not additionally presented here, with the exception of **Figure 10**. This is an extract from the Second Edition 25" map of the very early 20th century, probably around 30 years after the construction of Burwalls itself, but probably only two or three years after the construction of the stable block. It is presented here to show the site in its most stable and extensive 'historic' condition, and also to indicate the position of the surviving fragment of wall from the antecedent kitchen garden belonging to Keeper's Cottage, the position of which is also indicated (**Plates 5 and 6**; see also Potter and Dias 2013).

7 SITE VISITS

The **Cover, Frontispiece** and **Plates 1 to 7** represent part of a photographic record made by the author during site visits conducted on 18th and 26th November, 2013. It is hoped that the captions attached to the Plates should be pretty self-explanatory, but it is worth highlighting the fact that the features of most immediate interest, which are the embanked and ditched remains of the Burwalls enclosure, were extremely difficult to photograph, and the point has already been made that they were very overgrown with small trees and scrub. It was therefore rather difficult to get an overall impression of their layout, but they appear for the most part to run east-south-east to west-north-west. We would reiterate that, in our view, understanding of these features would be greatly assisted by a new, up to date, detailed earthwork survey with modern techniques such as use of a total station, and/or examination of suitable (ie second return) LIDAR data *if* it is available.

8 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHIC EVIDENCE

Appendix 1 lists the historic aerial images which were identified by staff at the NMR, from among their main archive, as covering the area of the study site, and one of which has been selected for reproduction here. **Figure 11** shows an example of the kind of historic aerial images which are available for the site; this particular view was taken in December 1946 (NMR RAF/CPE/UK/1869, Frame 4066). The site itself is clearly visible, but almost by definition, aerial photographs might not be expected to be especially useful in this specific case because of the tree cover which obscures precisely those features of the site that it would be most useful to see, namely the upstanding remains of the Burwalls enclosure. For that purpose, LIDAR data would certainly be of far more interest. Rather, this image has been chosen because it shows very well the



spatial relationship between the site and, close by on the downland to its west, the extremely extensive and well-preserved system of rectilinear, embanked fields occupying the lands of the former Ashton Court estate, and much of which, as already noted, is probably of prehistoric date.

9 NATIONAL AND LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES

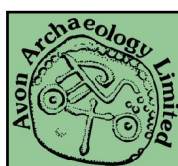
Planning policies both local and national which have direct implications for the site under consideration here, cascade down in the following order of primacy:

- National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012, Dept. for Communities and Local Government. See especially section 12, Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment, 30-32.
- North Somerset unitary authority, Replacement Local Plan Written Statement, adopted March 2007. Matters relating to archaeology are dealt with as part of Chapter 5, *Environment and Cultural Heritage*, Paras. 5.19 to 5.28. The local authority's rationale in regard to the protection of archaeology within the district is outlined in Policy ECH/6, as follows:

Development will not be permitted where it would involve significant alteration or cause damage to nationally-important archaeological remains (whether Scheduled or not), or would have a significant impact on the setting of such remains.

10 CONCLUSIONS

The present review has found that until well into the 19th century, the study site was an undeveloped area of probably largely open, rocky scrubland, although references from the medieval period seem clearly to suggest that for at least a part of the time, fencing was used to delimit specific areas. The existence of the Burwalls prehistoric enclosure was recognised from at least the late Anglo-Saxon period, since it is likely that the distinctive toponym dates from that time, and certainly in the post-Conquest period the allocation of a specific area to Burwalls in medieval documents suggests that it was subject at least to temporary enclosure. The site came into the hands of St Augustine's Abbey in the medieval period, and after the Dissolution in the mid 16th century, fell into the hands of the Smyth family, where it remained, as part of their Long Ashton lands, until the later 19th century. A series of maps depicting the area of the site was produced by the Ashton Court estate throughout the late 18th and 19th centuries, most of which make at least some attempt to show the surviving features of the Burwalls enclosure. In the 1860s, lands on the western side of the Avon Gorge, in Long Ashton and Abbot's Leigh, were sold for potential development in anticipation of the 'opening up' of this area that would result from the completion of the Clifton Suspension Bridge, which opened in 1864. Burwalls House was constructed on the site in the mid 19th century, both it and its heavily landscaped gardens destroying much of what had survived of the



Burwalls Enclosure on the southern side of Bridge Road. A separate stable block was constructed shortly afterwards at the south-west corner of the site, and later extended to include an early motor-car garage. By the early 20th century the property had passed to the Wills family, and it was a member of that line who eventually sold it to the University of Bristol in the late 1940s.

The Burwalls enclosure has been the subject of much antiquarian speculation, and some early interventions, but there is only a single, modern, published archaeological account. This was inconclusive, although a training excavation carried out in 2012, as yet unpublished, has demonstrated Bronze Age antecedents. The enclosure is heavily obscured today by trees and scrub, and it is possible that root activity associated with the modern tree cover may be damaging *in situ* archaeology, but this remains to be proved.

The three enclosures together, namely Burwalls and Stokeleigh Camps, and Clifton Down Camp on the eastern side of the Avon Gorge, appear to form a coherent group, but only Stokeleigh has been dated with reasonable certainty, and its Iron Age credentials established beyond doubt, by archaeological intervention to modern standards. At Burwalls itself, other elements of the ramparts which formerly occupied the area of the study site, especially to the east of the remaining features, were lost in the course of the landscaping and terracing of the grounds of Burwalls House, but it is possible that some sub-surface archaeological vestiges may remain *in situ*.

Purely on the basis of the documentary and other evidence reviewed for the purposes of this report, the study area is considered to offer a moderate to high potential for the survival of buried archaeologically significant deposits and structures.

11 BIBLIOGRAPHY AND PRIMARY HISTORICAL SOURCES

Published Works and Websites

ADS (Archaeology Data Service)

<http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk>

AH, 2012

Heritage Assessment in Respect of Burwalls, Bridge Road, Bristol, on Behalf of The University of Bristol. Unpublished client report by Asset Heritage Consulting.

Atkinson, G. M., 1868-69

"Clifton Camps", *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society* 15 (2), 27-29.

Betty, J. (ed), 1982

Calendar of the Correspondence of the Smyth Family of Ashton Court, 1548-1642. Bristol Record Society Vol. 35.

BGS

Geology of Britain Online Viewer. British Geological Survey
http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html

BGS 1962

Bristol District Map Sheet, Solid and Drift, One Inch to a Mile. Consisting of parts of Sheets 250, 251, 264, 265, 280, 281. British Geological Survey.

BIAB (British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography)

www.biab.ac.uk

Blair, J., 2005

The Church in Anglo-Saxon Society. Oxford.

Collinson, Revd. J., 1791

The History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset, 3 vols.

COPAC (Joint Universities and British Library online bibliography)

www.copac.ac.uk

Corcos, u. d.

Field-Names and Archaeology: a Review and Guide for Archaeologists.
Online resource on the Wikiarc moderated website. www.wikiarc.org/fieldnames

Costen, M. D., 2011

Anglo-Saxon Somerset. Oxbow.



EH, 2010

The Light Fantastic: Using Airborne LIDAR in Archaeological Survey. English Heritage.

Gardner, K., 1998

"The Wansdyke Diktat? A Discussion Paper", *Bristol and Avon Archaeology* 15, 57-65.

Haldane, J. W., 1975

"The Excavations at Stokeleigh Camp, Avon", *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Speleological Society* 14 (1), 29-63.

Harding, D. W., 2012

Iron Age Hillforts in Britain and Beyond. Oxford.

Lennon, B., 2009

"Leah names in the Anglo-Saxon charters of Wiltshire", *Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Magazine* 102, 175-187.

McDermott, M., Berry, S. (eds), 2011

Edmund Rack's Survey of Somerset. Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society.

McDonnell, R., 2001

Leigh Woods National Trust Estate, North Somerset: An Archaeological Survey for Management Purposes. Unpublished report, National Trust South-West.

Mills, A. D., 1993

A Dictionary of English Place-Names. OUP.

Morgan, C. L., 1902

"Burwalls and Stokeleigh Camps", *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society* 47, 217-229.

NE, 2012

Standing Advice for Ancient Woodland. Issued by Natural England, May 2012.

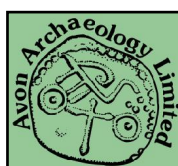
http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/standing-advice-ancient-woodland_tcm6-32633.pdf

Old Maps

www.old-maps.co.uk

Pearce, S., 2012

"Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites in South-Western Britain: Their Dates, Characters and Significance", *Antiquaries Journal* 92, 81-108.



Potter, K., Dias, S., 2013

Standing Building Survey of the Stable Block and Annexe at Burwalls House, Bridge Road, Abbot's Leigh, North Somerset. Unpublished client report, Avon Archaeology Ltd.

Rackham, O., 1988

"Woods, Hedges and Forests", in M. A. Aston (ed), *Aspects of the Medieval Landscape of Somerset*, 12-31. Somerset County Council.

Sawyer, P., 1968

Anglo-Saxon Charters: An Annotated List and Bibliography. Royal Historical Society.

Scarth, Revd. H. M., 1856

"On the traces of camps and ancient earthworks still existing around Bath and in the neighbourhood", *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society* 6, 98-124.

Semple, S., 2013

Perceptions of the Prehistoric in Anglo-Saxon England: Religion, Ritual and Rulership in the Landscape. Oxford.

Seyer, Revd. S., 1821

Memoirs Historical and Topographical of Bristol and its Neighbourhood, 2 vols, privately published.

Stone, A., Williamson, T., 2013

"'Pseudo-Ancient Woodland' and the *Ancient Woodland Inventory*", *Landscapes* 14, No. 2 (November), 141-154.

Tate, W. E., 1948

Somerset Enclosure Acts and Awards. Somerset Archaeological and Natural History Society.

Thorn, F. and C. (eds), 1980

Domesday Book: Somerset. Phillimore.

Watson, N. M., 1987

"Excavations at Burwalls House, Bristol, 1980", *Bristol and Avon Archaeology* 6, 58-60.

Way, L. J. U., 1913

"An Account of the Leigh Woods, in the Parish of Long Ashton, County of Somerset", *Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society* 36, 55-102.

Youngs, F., 1979

Local Administrative Units: Southern England. Royal Historical Society.



Somerset Record Office

1829

Plan of Approach Roads for New Bridge over the River Avon. Q/RUP/103.

1841

Tithe map for Long Ashton. D/D/Rt/M/459

1845

Tithe award for Long Ashton. D/D/Rt/A/459

1905

Plan of Additions to Stable Building, Burwalls House, Leigh Woods. D\R\lo/22/1/1

Bristol Record Office

Late 18th/early 19th century

Plan of the Manor of Long Ashton. AC/PL/94.

c.1800

Plan of the Manor of Long Ashton. AC/PL/106_1 and AC/PL/106_2

1826

Map of the Manor of Long Ashton. AC/PL/105

1862

Plans of lands in the parish of Long Ashton, the property of Sir J.H. Greville Smyth, bart.1) Leigh Woods 2) Stoke Leigh and Barrow [altered in pencil to Bower] Walls Encampments. AC/PL/125 1-2.

1872-1875

Map of Leigh Woods, Somerset. 31965[STG]/55.

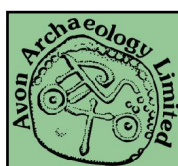
1946

Sale particulars regarding "Burwalls", Leigh Woods, Abbots Leigh, with Avon View Cottage and Rose Cottage, with plan. 39879.

University of Bristol Arts and Humanities Library – Special Collections

Various Dates

File DM/1911/12. Burwalls House, various documents relating to the property, including deeds, plans and sale agreements.



NMR, Swindon

Aerial photograph, RAF/CPE/UK/1869, Frame 4066. December 1946.



APPENDIX 1

ENGLISH HERITAGE Air Photographs

Full single listing - Verticals, Standard order
Customer enquiry reference: 82808

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
RAF/106G/UK/1297	235	V	5044	N	ST 566 729	1	26 MAR 1946	AB	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/106G/UK/1297	235	V	5045	N	ST 563 729	1	26 MAR 1946	AB	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/106G/UK/1297	235	V	5046	N	ST 561 729	1	26 MAR 1946	AB	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/106G/UK/1401	289	Vp3	5344	P	ST 559 730	19	11 APR 1946	A	4800	12	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/106G/UK/1401	289	Vp3	5345	P	ST 563 730	19	11 APR 1946	A	4800	12	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/106G/UK/1401	289	Vp3	5346	P	ST 567 730	19	11 APR 1946	A	4800	12	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/CPE/UK/1869	526	RS	4065	P	ST 567 725	22	04 DEC 1946	AB	9840	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/1869	526	RS	4066	P	ST 559 725	22	04 DEC 1946	AB	9840	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/2026	622	V	5333	P	ST 565 732	8	26 APR 1947	A	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/2026	622	V	5334	P	ST 563 732	8	26 APR 1947	A	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/2026	622	V	5335	P	ST 560 732	8	26 APR 1947	A	4800	14	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/2433	762	RS	4021	P	ST 570 722	8	22 JAN 1948	AC	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/CPE/UK/2472	788	RS	4004	P	ST 558 731	8	09 MAR 1948	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/CPE/UK/2472	788	RS	4005	P	ST 566 731	8	09 MAR 1948	A	10000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NAW
RAF/82/1148	1634	F21	9	P	ST 562 727	1	14 APR 1955	AB	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/82/1148	1634	F21	10	P	ST 564 727	1	14 APR 1955	AB	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1723	1647	F21	397	P	ST 562 731	5	18 APR 1955	A	5000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1723	1647	F21	398	N	ST 563 731	5	18 APR 1955	A	5000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
RAF/540/1711	1705	F22	10	P	ST 562 726	8	20 SEP 1955	AB	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/1711	1705	F22	11	P	ST 565 726	8	20 SEP 1955	AB	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/543/2332	2166	1F21	166	P	ST 567 728	40	26 JUL 1963	AB	10100	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/543/2332	2166	1F21	167	P	ST 561 729	40	26 JUL 1963	AB	10100	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/58/7190	2335	F22	14	P	ST 560 734	4	14 JAN 1966	A	10100	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/7190	2335	F22	15	P	ST 565 734	4	14 JAN 1966	A	10100	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/7185	2339	F21	8	P	ST 561 722	1	13 JAN 1966	A	10000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/7185	2339	F21	9	P	ST 566 722	1	13 JAN 1966	A	10000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/540/347/RX	3239	V	5071	P	ST 565 724	7	01 JUN 1950	A	20000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	MOD
RAF/58/1700	3826	F22	8	P	ST 561 726	3	30 MAR 1955	AB	5000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/58/1700	3826	F22	9	P	ST 564 726	3	30 MAR 1955	AB	5000	36	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	NMR
RAF/82/1127	3937	F21	183	P	ST 562 727	5	24 MAR 1955	AC	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
RAF/82/1127	3937	F21	184	P	ST 566 727	5	24 MAR 1955	AC	5000	20	Black and White 8.25 x 7.5	MOD
OS/70118	10521	V	214	P	ST 560 726	8	18 MAY 1970	A	5000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/70118	10521	V	215	P	ST 564 726	8	18 MAY 1970	A	5000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/70118	10521	V	216	P	ST 568 726	8	18 MAY 1970	A	5000	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/60062	11499	V	91	P	ST 566 731	9	26 JUN 1960	AC	7775	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/60062	11499	V	92	P	ST 564 725	9	26 JUN 1960	AC	7775	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/80011	12423	V	90	P	ST 555 739	3	05 APR 1980	A	24200	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/80155	12470	V	245	P	ST 560 729	2	12 OCT 1980	A	5300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/80155	12470	V	246	N	ST 564 729	2	12 OCT 1980	A	5300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

Sortie number	Library number	Camera position	Frame number	Held	Centre point	Run	Date	Sortie quality	Scale 1:	Focal length (in inches)	Film details (in inches)	Film held by
OS/89298	13555	V	60	P	ST 566 731	2	18 JUN 1989	A	5300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/89298	13555	V	61	P	ST 561 731	2	18 JUN 1989	A	5300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/89299	13556	V	118	P	ST 558 728	5	18 JUN 1989	A	8200	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/89299	13556	V	119	P	ST 565 728	5	18 JUN 1989	A	8200	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/88029	14105	V	31	P	ST 568 727	1	10 APR 1988	A	5400	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/88029	14105	V	32	P	ST 564 726	1	10 APR 1988	A	5400	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/88029	14105	V	33	P	ST 559 727	1	10 APR 1988	A	5400	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01944B	15793	V	7023	P	ST 559 731	1	14 FEB 2001	A	8000	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/01944B	15793	V	7024	P	ST 566 731	1	14 FEB 2001	A	8000	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/65111	20425	V	10	P	ST 569 732	2	14 JUN 1965	A	10000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	NMR
OS/65111	20425	V	11	P	ST 565 737	2	14 JUN 1965	A	10000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	NMR
MAL/62532	21184	V	101375	P	ST 565 729	12	09 JUN 1962	A	2500	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
MAL/62532	21184	V	101376	P	ST 565 731	12	09 JUN 1962	A	2500	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
OS/83144	22189	V	44	N	ST 567 731	2	25 JUL 1983	A	7000	6	Infra Red 9 x 9	NMR
OS/97119	22269	V	68	N	ST 561 730	6	30 APR 1997	A	8300	12	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
ADA/081	26119	V	204	N	ST 570 725	5	25 APR 1982	A	10000	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR
ADA/081	26119	V	205	N	ST 561 725	5	25 APR 1982	A	10000	6	Black and White 9 x 9	NMR

Total Sorties 28

Total Frames 56

Customer oblique listing - Obliques, Standard Order
Customer enquiry reference number: 82808

Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film and frame number	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)	What can you order?			
							Photocopy	Laser copy	Photographic copy	Digital copy
ST 5672 / 29	AFL 60493 / EPW022273		AUG 1928	BW Glass Plate	5"x4"	ST 565729	N	N	Y	U
ST 5672 / 31	AFL 61369 / EAW002263		18 AUG 1946	BW Cut Roll Film	5½ "	ST 564729	N	N	Y	U
ST 5673 / 1	RHW 11521 / H 6746	SEE PRINTS	1930s	Black& white	Unknown	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 12	NMR 3122 / 99		08 AUG 1986	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 13	NMR 3122 / 100		08 AUG 1986	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 14	NMR 3122 / 101		08 AUG 1986	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 15	NMR 3120 / 2112		08 AUG 1986	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 23	NMR 21418 / 07		20 AUG 2001	Colour neg	70mm,120,220	ST 564730	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 25	NMR 21418 / 10		20 AUG 2001	Colour neg	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 27	NMR 21418 / 13		20 AUG 2001	Colour neg	70mm,120,220	ST 564730	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 30	NMR 21418 / 16		20 AUG 2001	Colour neg	70mm,120,220	ST 564730	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 43	NMR 21413 / 14		20 AUG 2001	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 45	NMR 21413 / 17		20 AUG 2001	Black& white	70mm,120,220	ST 564730	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 47	AFL 60015 / EPW001274		MAY 1920	B&W copy b&w	5"x4"	ST 564731	N	N	Y	U
ST 5673 / 50	AFL 60493 / EPW022272		AUG 1928	BW Glass Plate	5"x4"	ST 564730	N	N	Y	U
ST 5673 / 53	AFL 60709 / EPW032539		JUN 1930	BW Glass Plate	5"x4"	ST 563730	N	N	Y	U

Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Film and frame number	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)	What can you order?			
							Photocopy	Laser copy	Photographic copy	Digital copy
ST 5673 / 54	AFL 60776 / EPW037150		OCT 1931	BW Glass Plate	5"x4"	ST 565731	N	N	Y	U
ST 5673 / 58	NMR 26804 / 48		21 APR 2010	Digital colour	35 mm	ST 563731	Y	Y	Y	U
ST 5673 / 60	AFL 60836 / EPW041480		JUN 1933	BW Glass Plate	5"x4"	ST 566731	N	N	Y	U
ST 5673 / 79	AFL 61659 / EAW016132		21 MAY 1948	BW Cut Roll Film	5½ "	ST 564730	N	N	Y	U

Total 20 records

Oblique listing - Military obliques, Standard order
Customer enquiry reference: 82808

Library and frame number	Photo reference (NGR and Index number)	Original number	Date	Film type		Map Reference (6 figure grid ref)	What can you order?			
							Photocopy	Laser copy	Photographic copy	Digital copy
RAF 30170 / PSFO-0013	ST 5672 / 6	58/7190	14 JAN 1966	Black& white	8X7"	ST 562729	Y	Y	Y	U
RAF 30170 / PSFO-0014	ST 5673 / 16	58/7190	14 JAN 1966	Black& white	8X7"	ST 564731	Y	Y	Y	U
RAF 30170 / PSFO-0015	ST 5673 / 17	58/7190	14 JAN 1966	Black& white	8X7"	ST 565731	Y	Y	Y	U

Total 3 records

Figures

Figure 3

Extract from undated, late 18th century map of Long Ashton manor, BRO AC/PL/94, and showing the enclosures at both Burwalls and Stokeleigh. Not to scale, outline of study site in red shown for indicative purposes *only* and *not* to be taken as a reliable representation of its position in relation to this survey.

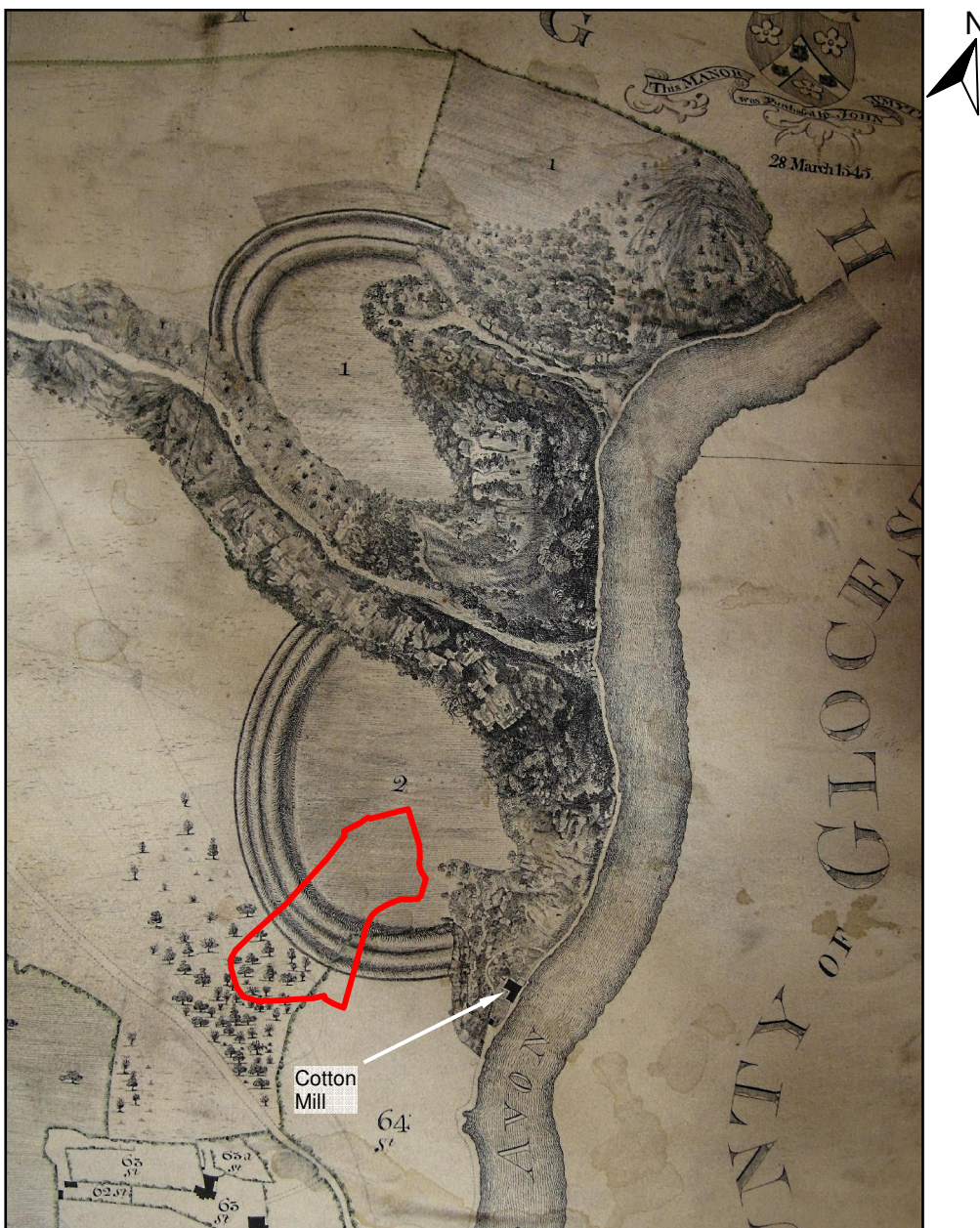


Figure 4

Engraving from Samuel Seyer, *Memoirs of Bristol* 1821. Not to scale, outline of study site in red shown for indicative purposes *only* and *not* to be taken as a reliable representation of its position in relation to this survey. North as indicated on plan.

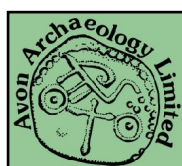
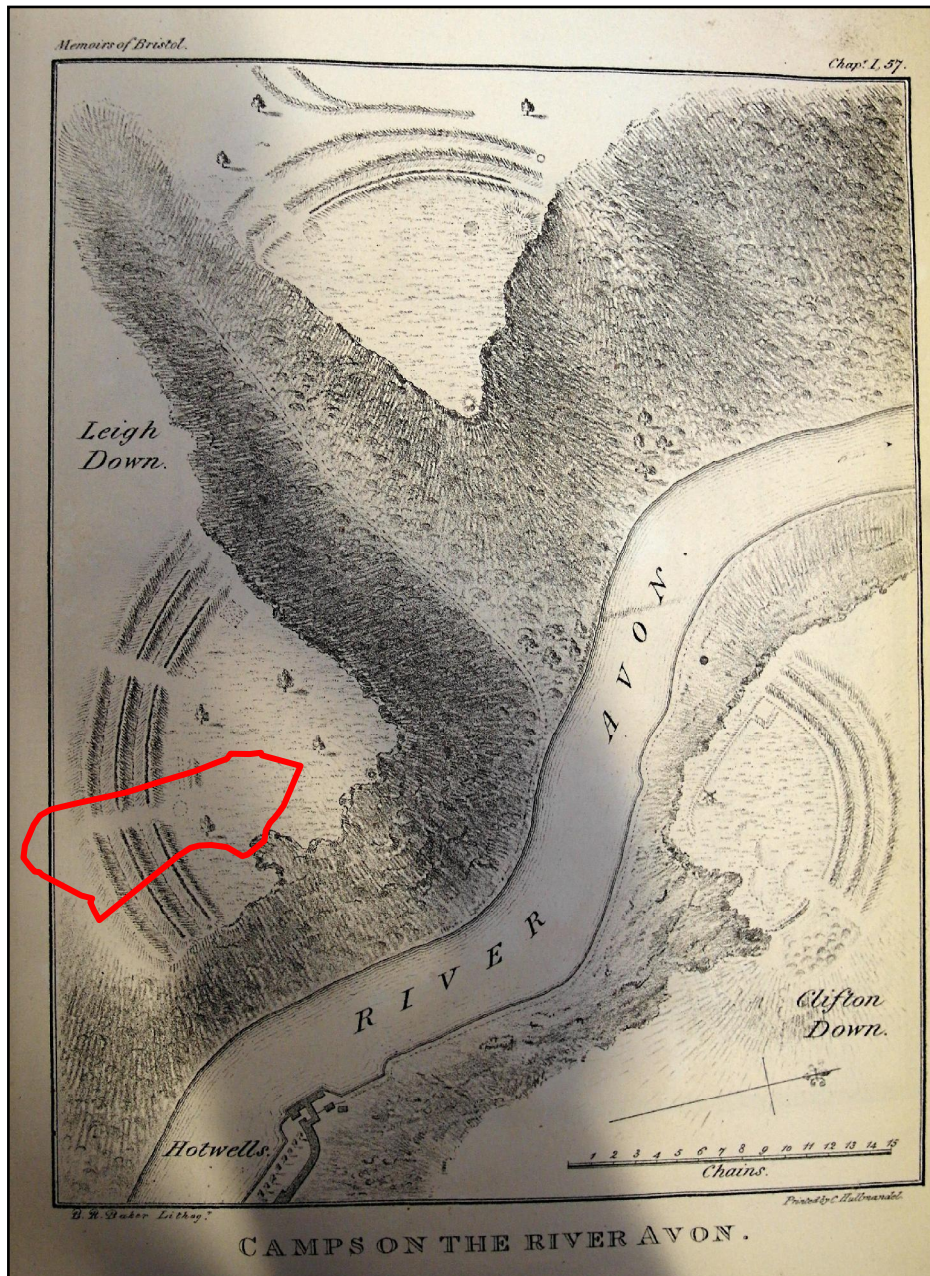


Figure 5

Extract from map of Long Ashton, 1826, BRO AC/PL/105. Not to scale, outline of study site in red shown for indicative purposes *only* and *not* to be taken as a reliable representation of its position in relation to this survey.

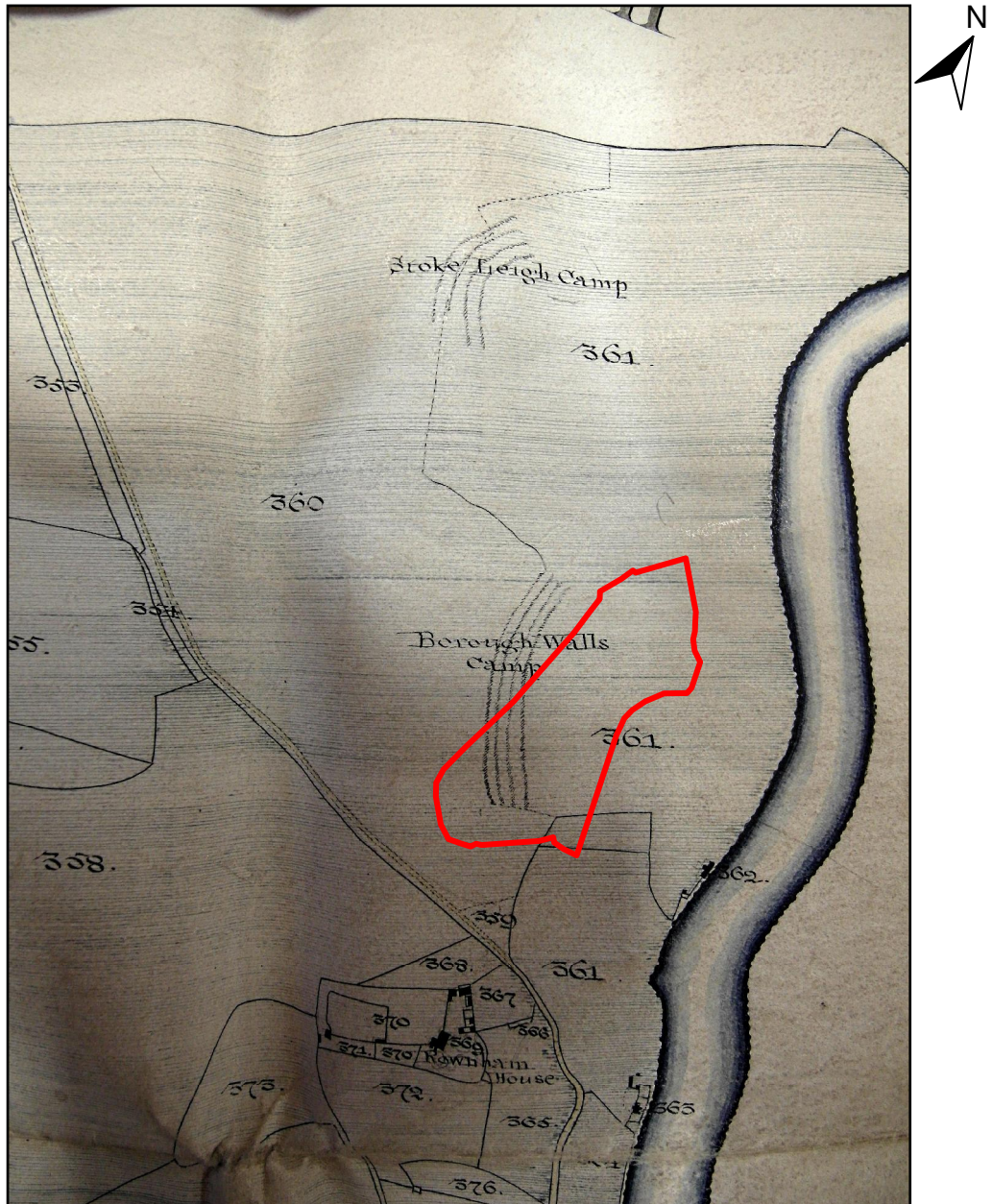


Figure 6

Extract from map showing intended line of new access road to the proposed Clifton Suspension Bridge, 1829, SRO Q/RUP/103. Not to scale, outline of study site in red shown, best fit to this survey.

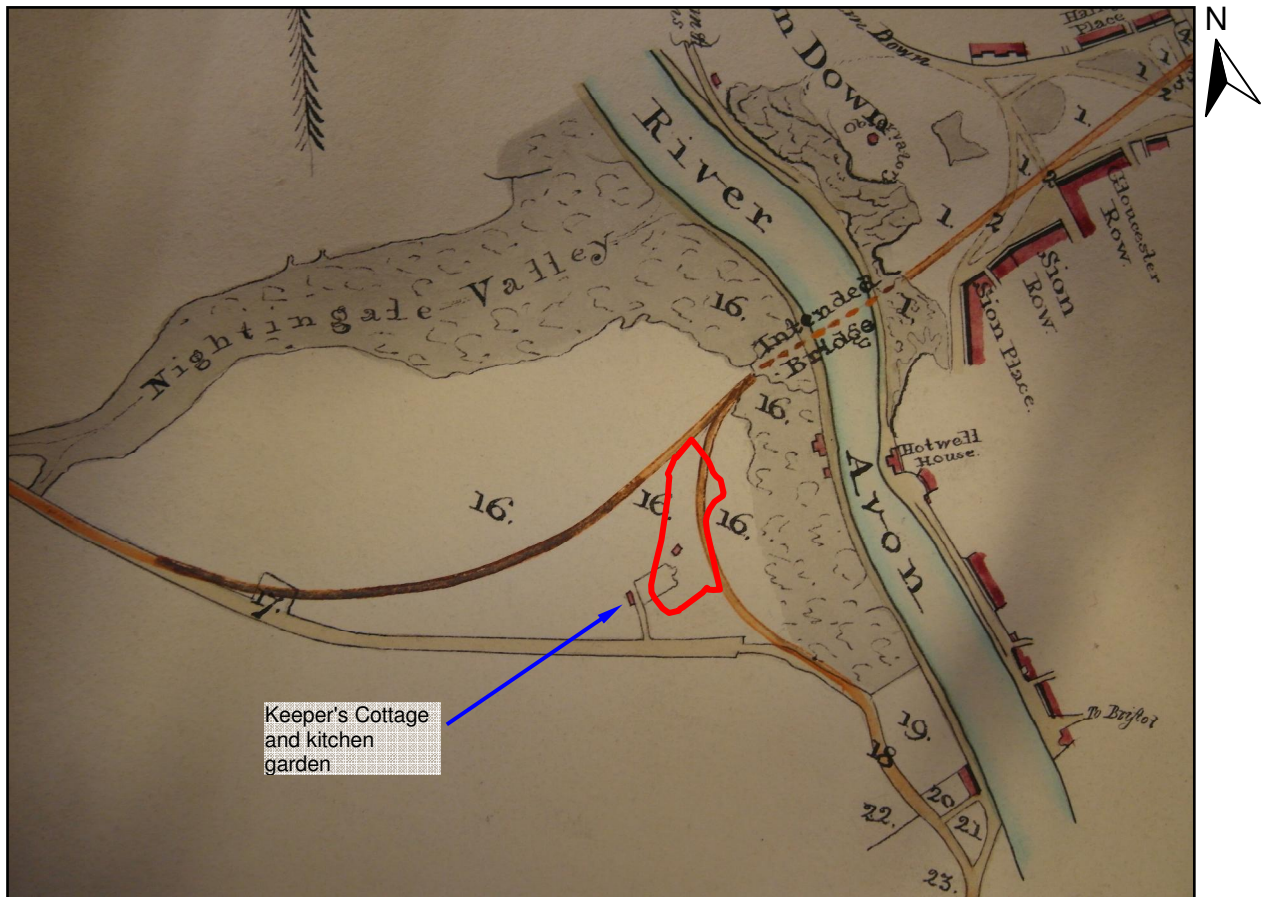


Figure 7

Extract from Long Ashton Tithe Map, BRO AC/PL/119, 1841. Not to scale, outline of study site in red, best fit to this survey.

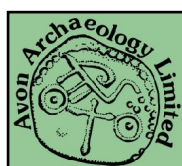
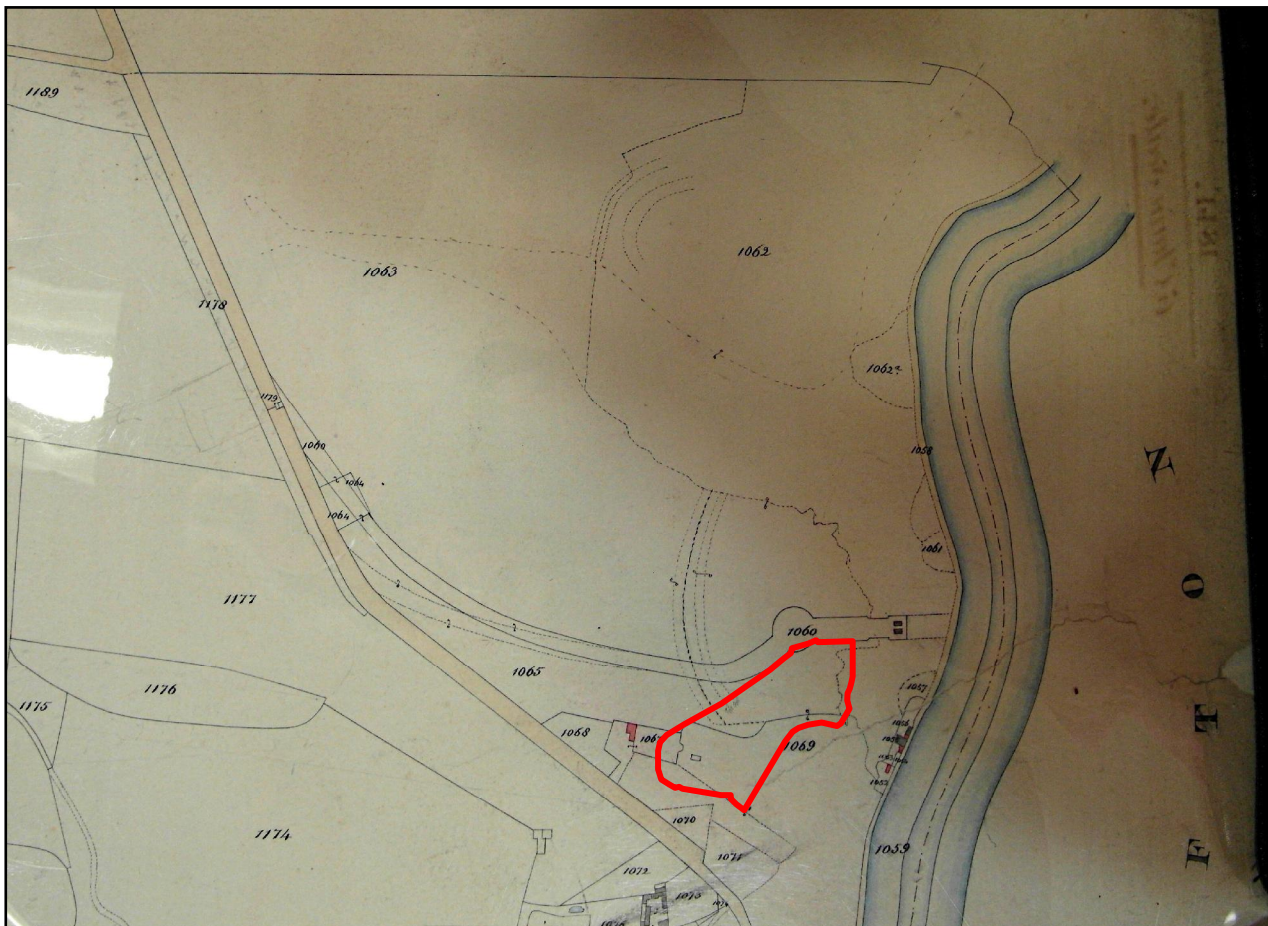


Figure 8

Extract from map of part of Long Ashton parish, 1862, BRO AC/PL/125/1-2. Not to scale, outline of study site in red, best fit to this survey.

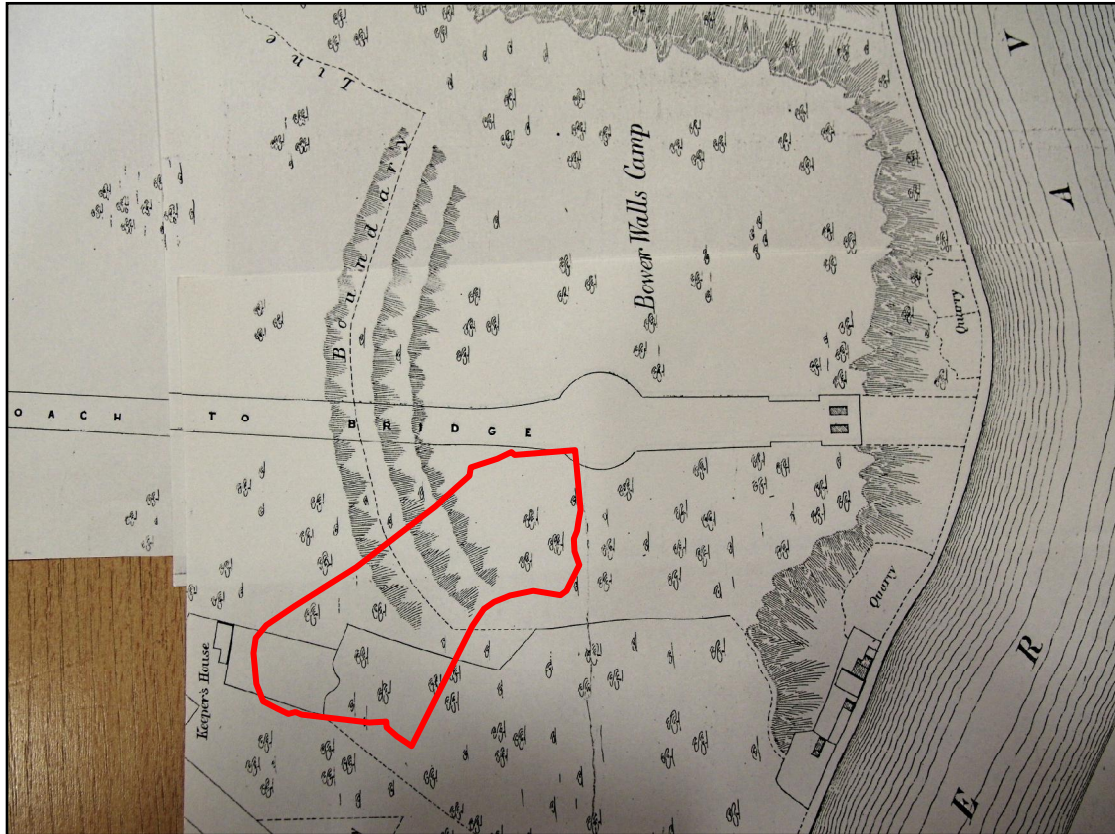


Figure 9

Extract from map of the Leigh Woods area, BRO 31965[STG]/55, probably 1872-1875. Note the line of the then new Burwalls Road cutting through former kitchen garden belonging to Keeper's Cottage, thereafter left isolated on the western side of Burwalls Road. Not to scale, best fit to this survey, study site outlined in red. See also **Plates 5** and **6**.

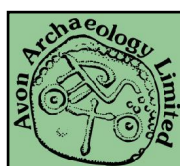
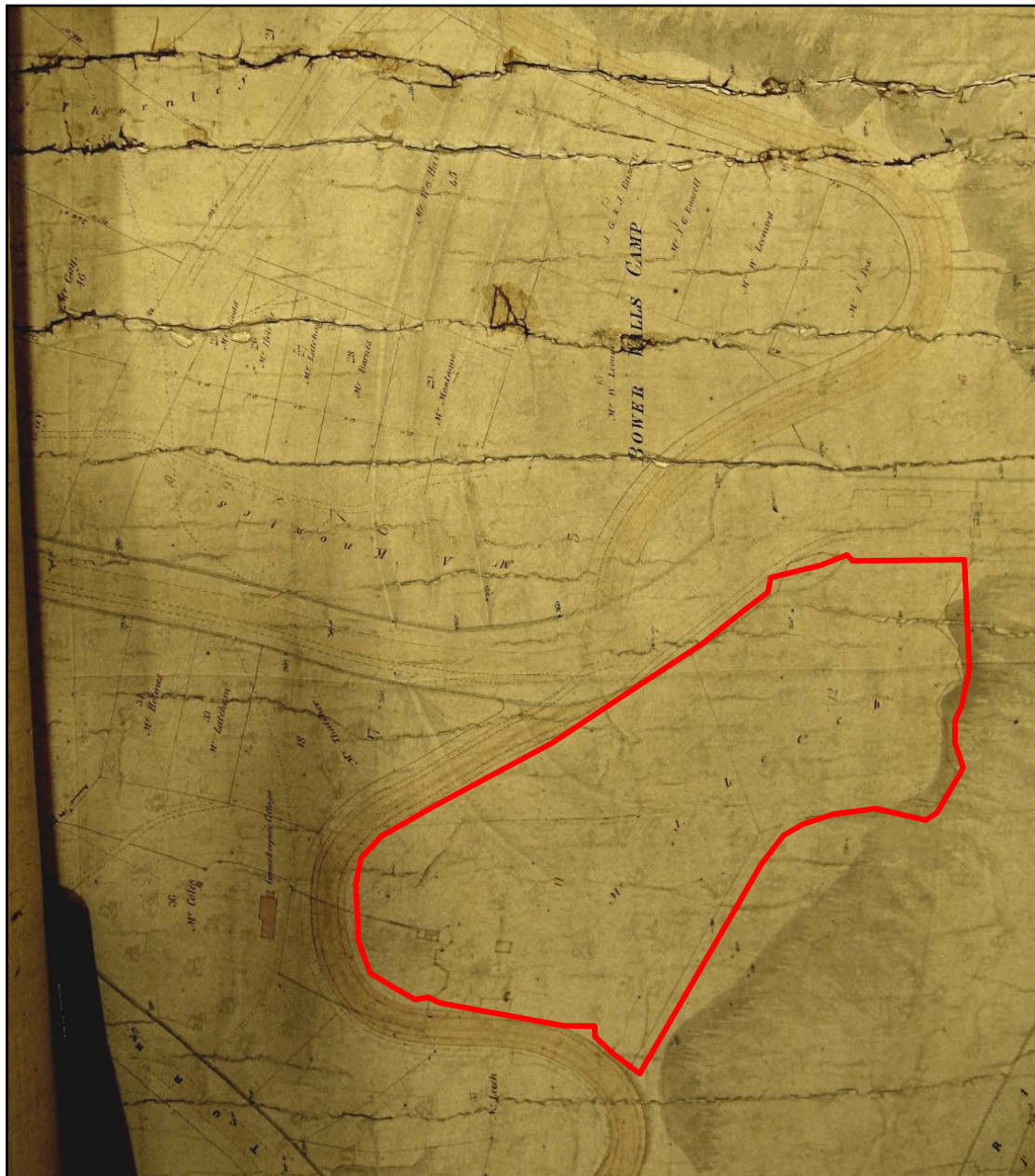


Figure 10

Extract from Second Edition OS 25" map, 1903-04, indicating remnant wall formerly surrounding Keeper's Cottage kitchen garden, later incorporated into Burwalls House kitchen garden. Not to scale, study site outlined in red.

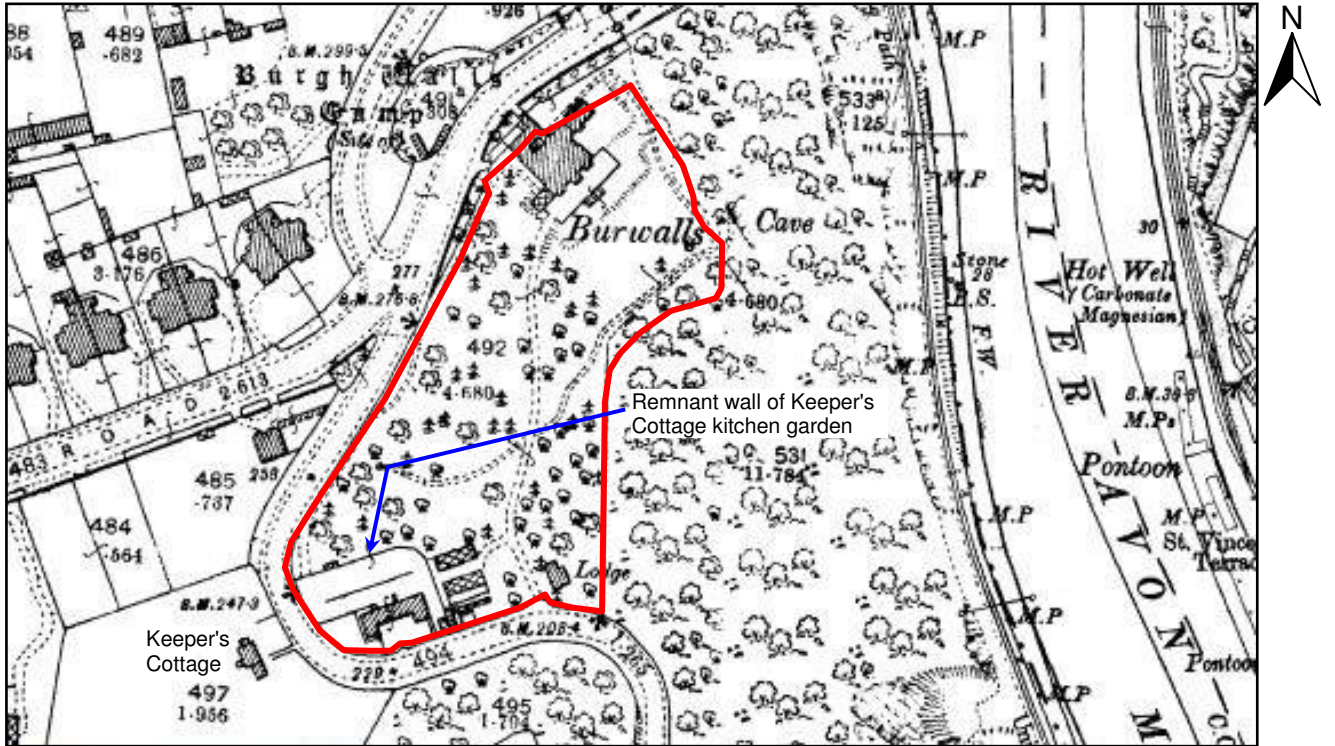
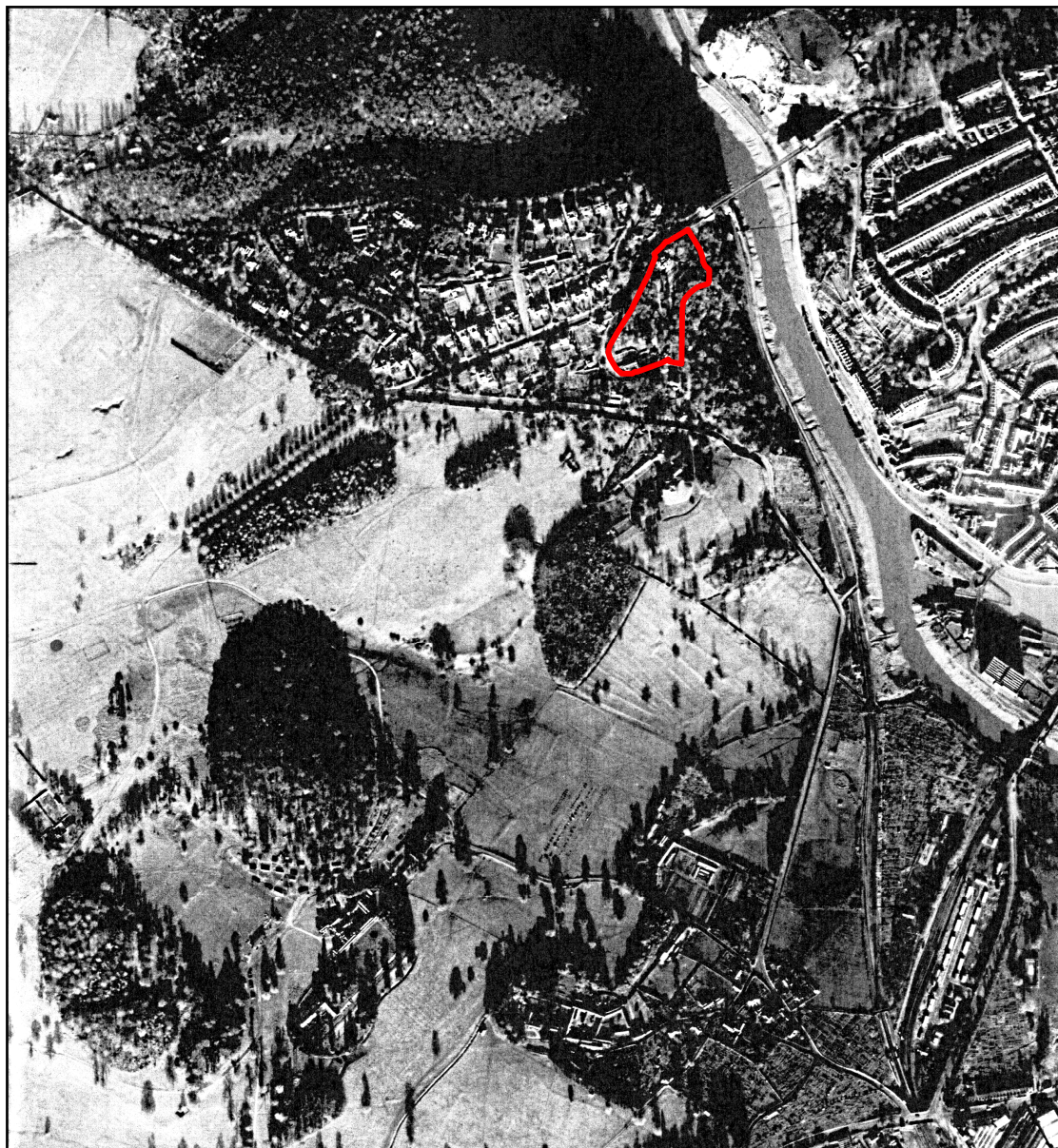


Figure 11

Historic aerial photograph, taken December 1946. NMR
RAF/CPE/UK/1869, Frame 4066. Study site indicated in red.



Plates



1. Composite panoramic view taken from the eastern part of the site, in the car park. The view pans round from south-west on the left-hand side of the frame, to north-west on the right hand side. The ornamental cupola on top of the original stable block can be seen in the background, towards the left-hand side of the frame.



2. Composite panoramic view taken in the central part of the site, from the main north-south drive leading up to the south-eastern elevation of Burwalls House. The view pans round from north-east on the left-hand side of the frame, to east on the right hand side. The very prominent terraces seen in front of the house result from late 19th century landscaping associated with its construction of the house, but the line of the Burwalls enclosure may well have come through this area.



3. Composite panoramic view taken at the western part of the site. The view pans round from the north-east on the left-hand side, to south-east on the right-hand side of the frame. The boundary wall with Burwalls Road appears on the left hand side, and the northern side of the modern stable block annex, painted white, can be seen through the trees towards the right. The surviving remains of the Burwalls enclosure lie in the wooded area in the top centre of the frame, but are virtually impossible to photograph in any meaningful way.



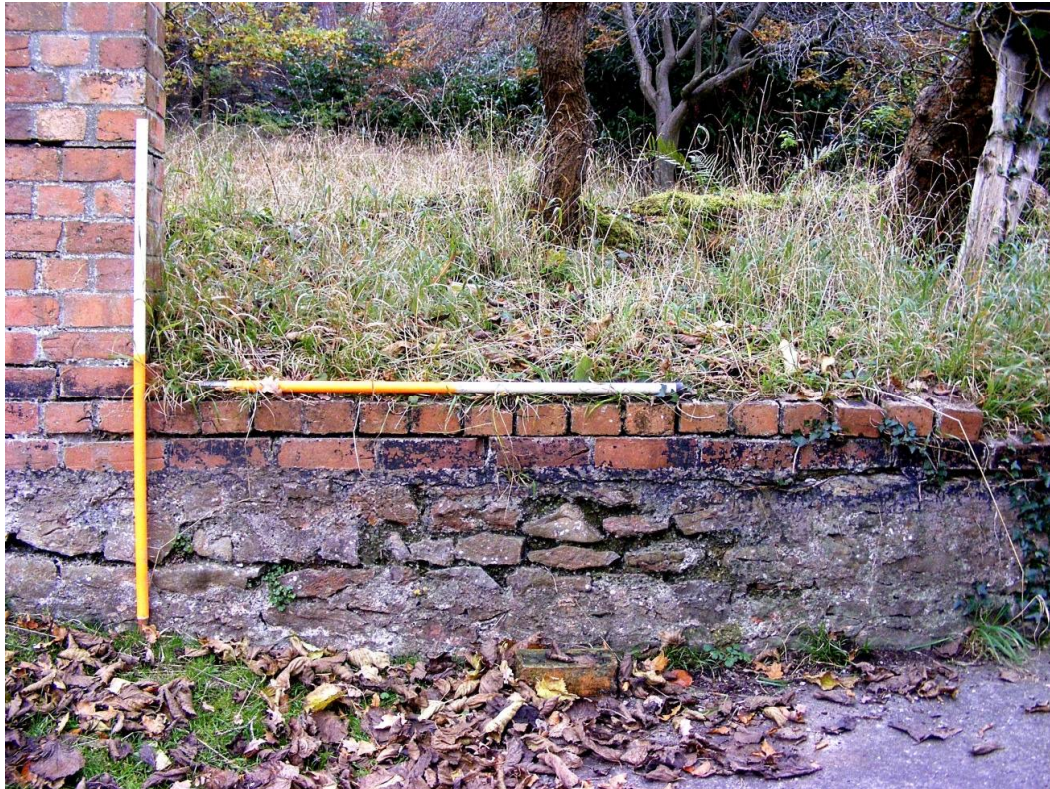


4. Composite panoramic image taken at the south-western corner of the site. The view pans round from east on the left hand side of the frame, to south-east on the right hand side. The south-western elevation of the original stable block building is seen towards the right of the frame, and the modern, white-painted annex, extending northwards from the northern elevation of the stable block, towards the centre and left.

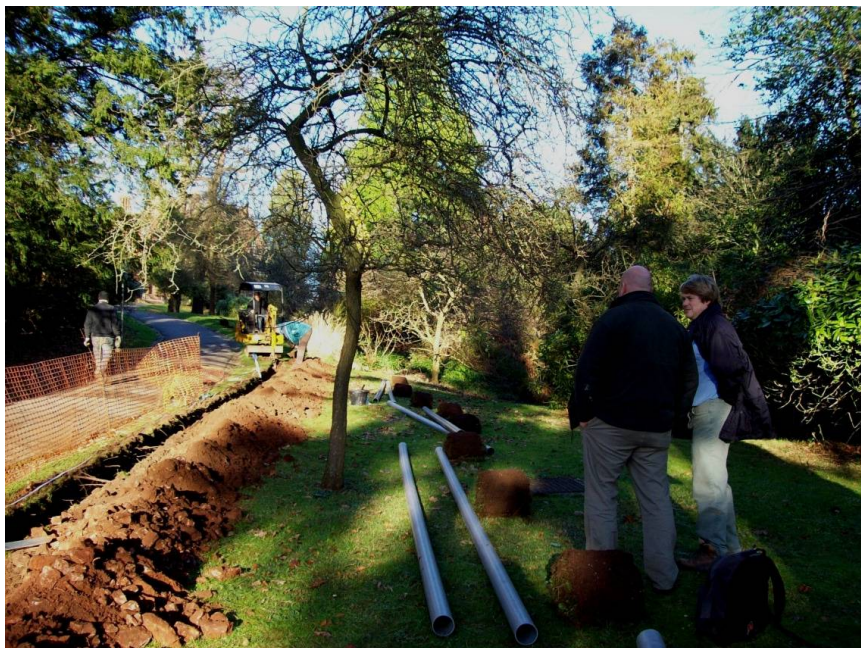


5. The main garden wall marking the north-western boundary of the stable annex site at Burwalls running north-east/south-west, it's south-western end joining with the boundary wall onto Burwalls road. Although for the most part now constructed of brick, it rests on a stone-built base, just visible in this image, which almost certainly represents a remnant of the original early 19th century kitchen garden wall belonging to Keeper's Cottage, now gone but originally occupying a site on the western side of Burwalls Road. This may well represent, therefore, the earliest built structure on the entire site. View to north-west from an elevated position in one of the modern annex buildings.





6. Detail of the lower, stone-built courses of the garden wall shown in Plate 5.



7. Image of an informal and otherwise completely unrecorded 'watching brief' carried out by members of the University of Bristol Dept. of Archaeology, on a new service trench being excavated on the eastern side of the main north-south drive leading up to the south-eastern side of Burwalls House. November or December 2007. By courtesy of Katharine Walker.

