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Client: Glasgow City Council



M74 Completion, Phase 1 Archaeological Mitigation Work Package 3

Level 2 Historic Building Recording
Site 126; Glenford Works, Quay Road, Rutherglen

Vol 3 of 5

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PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

Client	Glasgow City Council
National Grid Reference	NS 6129 6201
Address	Glenford Works, Quay Road, Rutherglen, Glasgow, G73 1RN
Parish	Rutherglen
Council	South Lanarkshire
NMRS Number	Not applicable
SMR Number	Not applicable
HB number	Not applicable
Listing	Not applicable
Project Manager	Dr Tim Holden
Text	George Geddes
Illustrations	Tom Small
Fieldwork	George Geddes Alison McCondichie
Schedule	
Fieldwork	14 th December 2006
Report	March 2007 (draft) 17 th April 2007 (draft) 5 th July 2007 (final)

SUMMARY

Headland Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Glasgow City Council to undertake a programme of Historic Building Recording in connection with the M74 Completion Project. The scope of works was set out in a Memorandum of Agreement in November 2006. This report discusses the results of fieldwork at the Glenford Works, a light engineering works, which formed Work Package 3 in the overall programme.

The Glenford Works buildings included a 2-bay garage and a large single storey l-plan shed with a symmetrical façade facing Quay Road and flanking 2-storey office and stair towers. The building dates from the mid 20th century, probably around 1950, and was used by J and H Rosenheim, a manufacturer of industrial packaging products. The building has now been demolished.

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INTRODUCTION

Glasgow City Council commissioned Headland Archaeology Ltd to undertake historic building recording at the Glenford Works in order to record the building before it was demolished as part of the M74 Completion project. The project involved metric survey, photographic survey and written description to a Level 2 standard (English Heritage 2006). This report describes the methodology and results of the fieldwork, and presents the results of the survey as a written report, illustrated with figures and plates.

The Glenford Works is a large mid-20th century single storey L-plan shed located within the current Rutherglen Industrial Estate, just north of Rutherglen High Street, across the former Caledonian railway line, now the West Coast Main Line (see Figure 1). When built, Glenford Works was probably visible from the Clyde itself and from buildings on the north banks. It was one of few industrial buildings in the area, other than the Shawfield Chemical Works established in the 19th century. It would not have been visible from the passing railway.

It is a uniform industrial unit with little of interest other than a geometric and symmetrical main façade to Quay Road (Figures 2 and 3). This façade is not strictly speaking Art Deco, though the original coloured building may have been quite flamboyant, given its location and function. The building appears to have been an electrically powered light engineering works throughout its lifetime.

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Glenford Works is not recorded in the National Monuments Record of Scotland, the local Sites and Monuments Record or as a listed building. It appears from its architectural style and cartographic evidence that the building is mid 20th century in date, perhaps 1940s or early 1950s. There is little evidence that it has been subsequently altered since then. The last company to occupy the building was J and H Rosenheim and Company (founded in 1896) who are now based in Crewe, Cheshire. The company produces industrial packaging products.

On the 1850s Ordnance Survey Town Plan, there are two chemical works NW of the Glenford site, both accessed from Glasgow Road (Sheet X.3.10). The larger is the Shawfield Works and east of this is the Clydeford Works. A lane between the two works – later Quay Road – accessed Rutherglen Quay where there was a small boat building yard. The area to the SE where the Glenford Works is situated is shown virtually blank (Sheet X.3.15); there was a small road and some drainage features, just north of the Caledonian Railway. On the 1890s Plan, the chemical works had expanded under the Shawfield name. Quay Road had been built, though the route and alignment has been subsequently changed. The area where the Glenford Works stands are shown completely blank, the nearest feature is a railway siding just to the SW.

The building is not present on the Ordnance Survey Lanarkshire Sheet 10.3 in either 1913 or 1936, though they both show increased industrialization in the area. It first appears on the National Grid plans of 1954 (Figure 5) shown unaltered in 1965 and 1986, annotated as a Light Engineering Works. This map evidence dates the building to the period between circa 1935 and circa 1953 (the date of the surveys). The plans at 1/1250 show that the rooms at the re-entrant angle of the building held an electrical sub-station.

A search of the archive card and computer index at the Mitchell Library, Glasgow found no entry relating to Glenford, Quay Road, or Rosenheim. A search of the Suburb section of the Glasgow

Post Office Directories, 1900-1930 at 10 year intervals found no entry relating to either Glenford, Quay Road or Rosenheim. The archive catalogue of historical records of the Royal Burgh of Rutherglen has no entry relating to the building. Searches in the Rutherglen Dean of Guild Court records and the Lanarkshire Dean of Guild Court records (1930-1946) also found no records. A search of the Scottish Archive network and National Register of Archive websites (<http://www.scan.org.uk> and <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/nra>) produced no results. An attempt was also made to contact the current offices of J and H Rosenheim but we received no reply.

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

Methods

The building survey utilised the general standards set out by the RCHME (1996) and English Heritage (2006) and the techniques and practice promoted by the AAIS (Andrews *et al.* 1995), Historic Scotland (Dallas 2003), English Heritage (2003) and the RCAHMS (2004). Specialised terminology is referenced to Curl's *Dictionary of Architecture* (1999) and Pride's *Dictionary of Scottish Building* (1996).

The scope of the survey, as set out in the Memorandum of Agreement, was a Level 2 Descriptive Record (English Heritage 2006). This involved a combination of written description, drawings and photographs referred to in the MoA.

The metric survey of the building was undertaken using a Laser Disto and hand tapes. The plan and section drawings use the drawing conventions published by English Heritage (2006). The first floor plan, limited to the two 'towers' at each corner of the main façade, was not surveyed due to health and safety concerns about the upper floors which were badly fire damaged. Photographs were taken using a digital camera and a 35mm camera loaded with colour slide film.

The weather throughout the period of survey was rain and low cloud.

Results

The L-plan building is aligned E-W with a symmetrical façade facing North onto Quay Road (Plate 2). The long façade is flanked by 2-storey towers at each end, holding an upper office and a slightly projecting stair tower in each (Plate 1). The building is approximately 62m E-W by 47.5m N-S and is 11-bays N-S (7 in the eastern half) by 12 E-W. The exterior walls have regular fenestration with a mixture of 8, 16 and 20 pane metal framed windows (Plate 4). The upper south elevation of the two flanking office towers has squat 4-pane windows which may be later and there are other variations elsewhere, such as tall 2-pane windows in the upper stair tower.

The external walls are harled and the upstanding wall heads have a plain projecting cope (Plates 3, 5, 6); at the NE of the building, one bay gable (over Bay 2/3 from the N) has been reduced in height and the coping has been removed, probably as a controlled partial demolition.

The building is built of block work throughout with brick used for internal walls. The exterior is harled with plain stringcourse details throughout. The roof has a saw-tooth profile with a plain metal framework supporting asbestos sheets with large, possibly original, ridge vents throughout.

The north bay houses a suite of offices and ancillary rooms, the main work space is divided into two parts of which the western is four bays deeper. The main room was probably occupied by a variety of machinery for undertaking different processes. It does not seem to have been originally subdivided, but the processes may have been undertaken in succession with raw materials coming to one part of the site and finished products leaving the other. The main work area has a number of large openings for vehicles, some with projecting rounded jambs. There is a single entrance to the west, south and east entrances to the SW quarter, and two south entrances to the east block; the western entrance here is probably later and is now partially collapsed.

Rooms associated with powering the factory are located in the south re-entrant between the east and west parts of the main block – these included an electrical sub-station. A contemporary 2-bay garage block (13 by 9.25m) is located east of the main building (Plate 7). There were two entrances from the street, entering through the stair towers. Flanking the building, two vehicle gates accessed the yards on either side of the building

The interior retained very little detail (Plates 8-10). The main rooms have concrete floors and tiles and scars suggest the NW part was partitioned off, perhaps as further offices. The office block along the north façade had been fire-damaged but it included at least two toilet blocks, with tiles. These office rooms would have been well-lit with large windows to the street. Large amounts of paperwork relating to the J and H Rosenheim company were found in the upstairs east room. The paperwork included marketing leaflets for ROCO, faxes, invoices and quotations (Figure 4).

The set of rooms at the rear of the building seem to have held a large boiler (*in situ*) (Room 6) and oil tank (Room 5) and possibly separate equipment connected with powering the factory's machinery. Another room here may have housed an industrial scale (Room 4), and another held electrical circuit boards (Room 1). It is very likely that any machinery in the sheds was driven by mains electric power since the city's electricity was municipalized in the 1890s (Williamson *et al* 1990, 99), and the boiler was almost certainly used only for heating. The attached electric sub-station shown on the Ordnance Survey provides further evidence for the use of electric power.

DISCUSSION

This building is an interesting example of industrial architecture from the mid 20th century. The Rutherglen Industrial Estate is well developed now but at the beginning of the 19th century the only industry was a chemical works and the Quay Road did indeed lead to a quay. The Glenford Works represents the expansion of the area's association with industry and, when first built, the building would have been quite an imposing and impressive structure. Although the build throughout is economical, using block work, metal framed windows, brick and corrugated sheeting, the building is made to impress through the use of simple detailing, symmetry and proportion. The outer walls are white harled throughout and the fenestration is very regular, simple string courses at cill and lintel height add to the effect and the façade is framed with two 'towers', each holding a stair and office. Although a poor cousin of the great industrial buildings of Glasgow, it is at the tail end of attempts by businesses to use architectural style and form as a mode of display and advertising.

SOURCES

Print references

Andrews, D, Blake, B, Clowes, M and Wilson, K 1995 *The Survey and Recording of Historic Buildings*, Association of Archaeological Illustrators and Surveyors, Technical Paper No. 12, Oxford.

Curl, JS 1999 *Dictionary of Architecture*, Oxford University Press, Oxford.

Dallas, R 2003 *Measured Survey and Building Recording*, Historic Scotland, Guide for Practitioners 4, Edinburgh

English Heritage 2003 *Measured and Drawn. Techniques and practice for the metric survey of historic buildings*, English Heritage, Swindon.

English Heritage 2006 *Understanding Historic Buildings. A guide to good recording practice*, English Heritage, Swindon.

Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001 *Standards and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings and structures* (revised edition)

Pride, G L 1996 *Dictionary of Scottish Building*, The Rutland Press and Historic Scotland, Edinburgh.

RCHME 1996 *Recording Historic Buildings – A Descriptive Specification* (3rd Edition), Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England, Swindon.

RCAHMS 2004 *Survey and Recording Policy*, Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Williamson, E, Riches, A and Higgs, M 1990 *The Buildings of Scotland – Glasgow*. Yale University Press (2005), London.

Maps

Bartholomew, JG 1912 Plan of Glasgow

Ordnance Survey 1857-8 Town Plan of Rutherglen (Sheet x.3.10 and X.3.15)

Ordnance Survey 1892-4 Town Plan of Glasgow at 1/500 (Sheets X.3.10 and X.3.15)

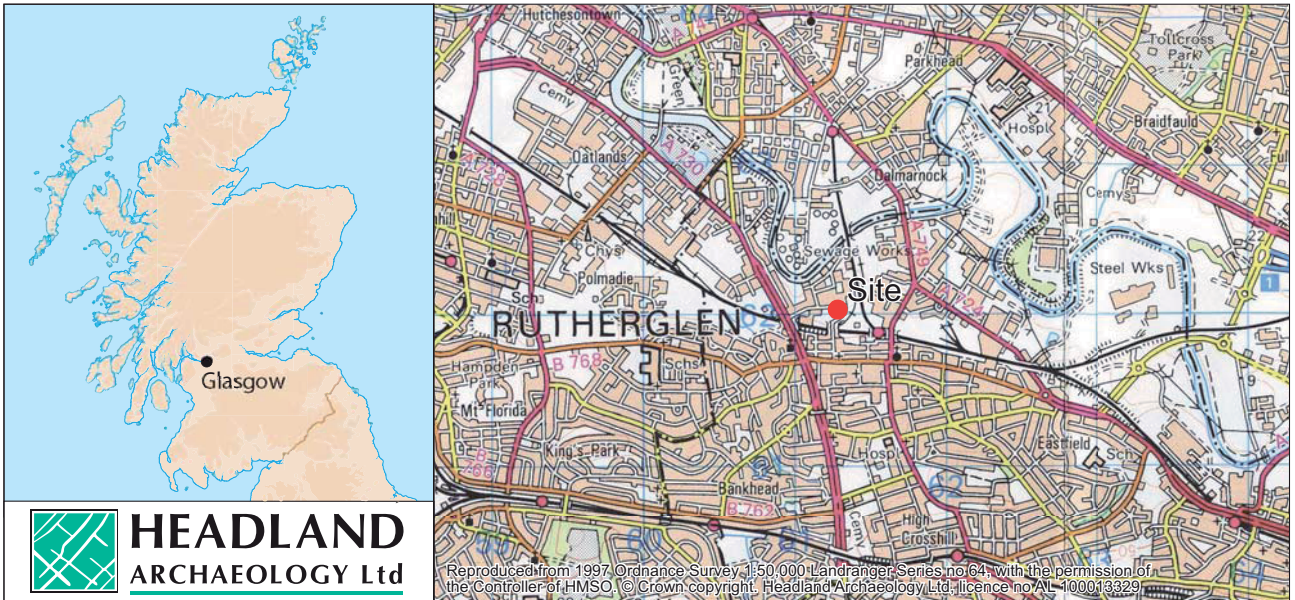
Ordnance Survey 1913 Lanarkshire Sheet 10.3 at 1/2500

Ordnance Survey 1936 Lanarkshire Sheet 10.3 at 1/2500

Ordnance Survey 1954 Plan NS6162SW and NS6161NW at 1/1250

Ordnance Survey 1965 Plan NS6162SW and NS6161NW at 1/1250

Ordnance Survey 1986 Plan NS6162SW and NS6161NW at 1/1250



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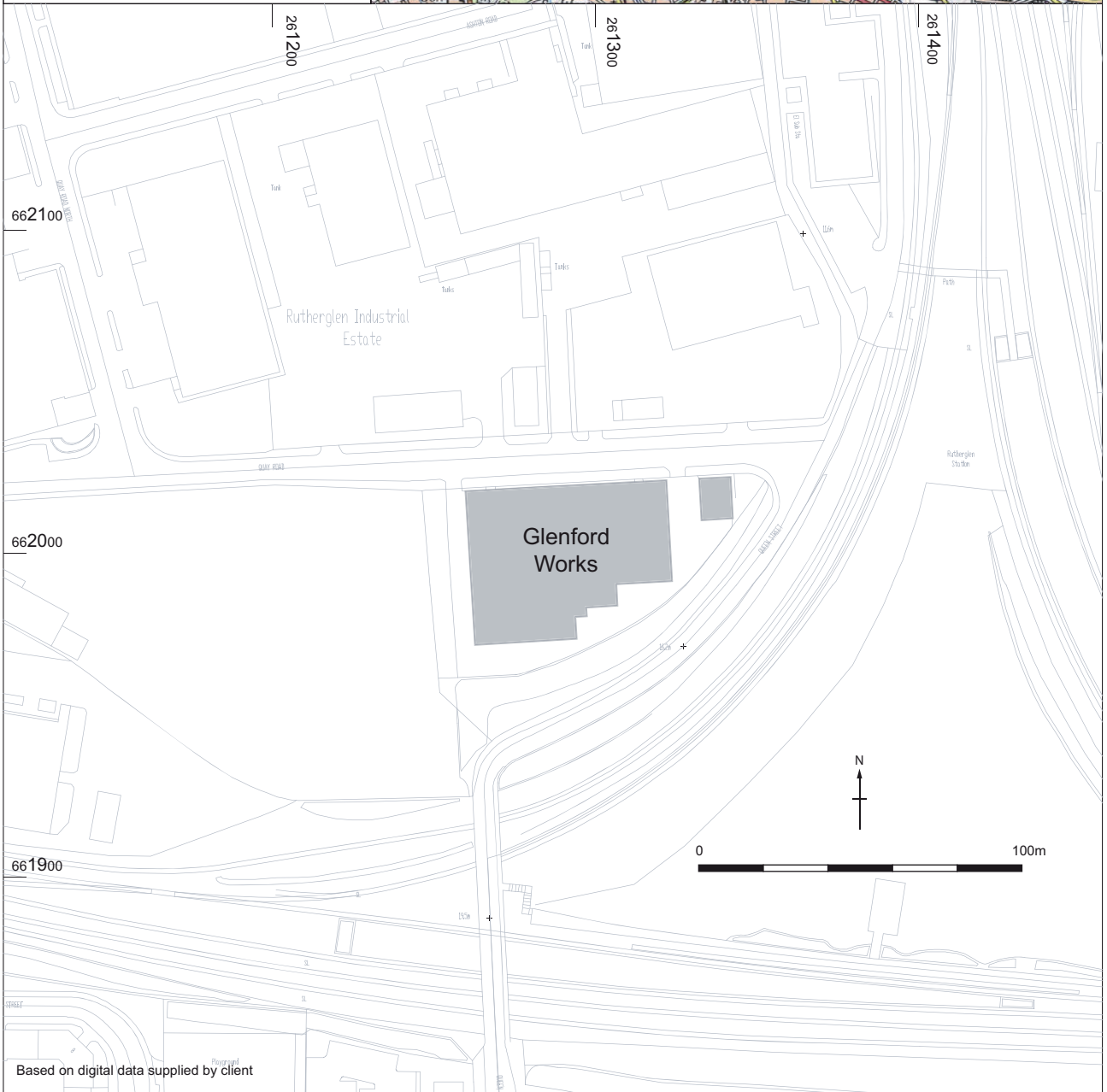
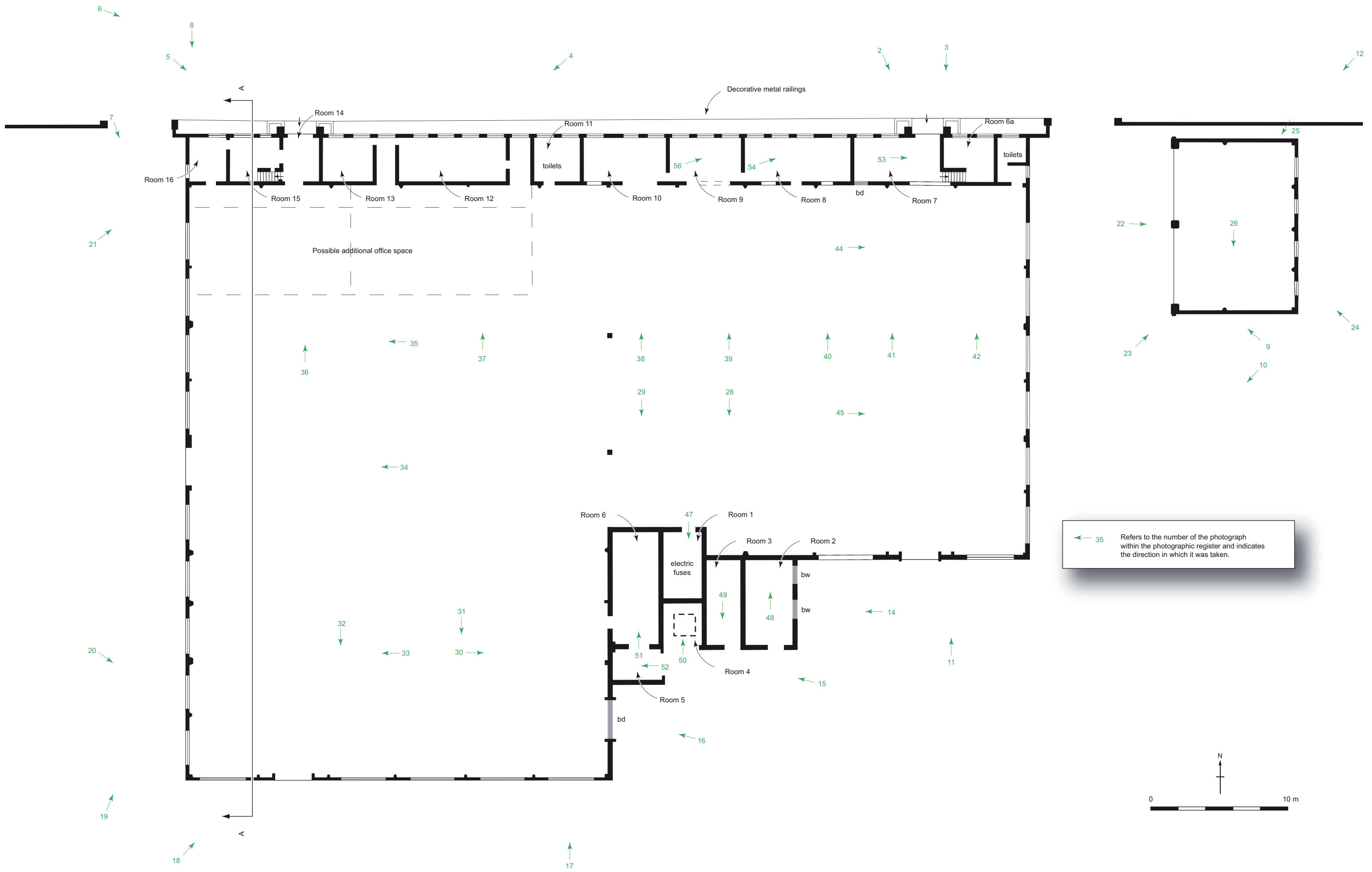


Figure 1: KBF06 - Site 126, Glenford Works, Site Location



← 35 Refers to the number of the photograph within the photographic register and indicates the direction in which it was taken.

Figure 2: KBF06 - Site 126, Glenford Works, Ground Floor Plan.

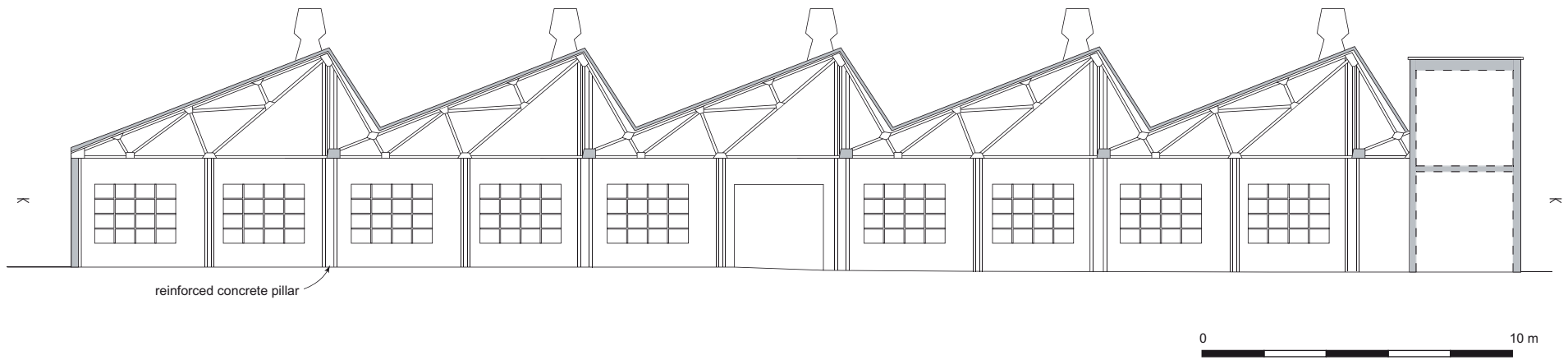


Plate 1: N facade, E entrance.



Plate 2: N facade.

Figure 3: KBF06 - Site 126, Glenford Works, Section A-A and Plates 1-2 .

