
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOLUTIONS LTD

**LAND AT 51-61 WHYTECLIFFE RD, PURLEY,
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL
MONITORING & RECORDING**

Authors: Matthew Adams BA (Report) Gareth Barlow MA (Fieldwork)	
NGR: TQ 3150 1617	Report No. 3494
Borough: Croydon	Site Code: WRU 09
Approved: Claire Halpin MIFA	Project No. 3494
Signed:	Date: Nov 2009

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OASIS SUMMARY SHEET

Project details			
Project name	Land at 51-61 Whytecliffe Rd, Purley, London Borough of Croydon. Archaeological Monitoring & Recording		
<p>Summary:</p> <p>In October 2009, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with the construction of a mixed use development at 51-61 Whytecliffe Rd, Purley, London Borough of Croydon (NGR: TQ 3150 1617).</p> <p>The site lies in an area of moderate archaeological interest with the main potential being for post-medieval building remains associated with earlier phases of building. There was moderate potential for the recovery of isolated prehistoric finds, a low potential for Roman, Saxon and medieval remains. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was located to the north-west.</p> <p>In the event the ground works revealed the remains of two late 19th to early 20th century cellar walls. The site had been much disturbed</p>			
Project dates (fieldwork)	13 October 2009		
Previous work (Y/N/?)	N	Future work (Y/N/?)	N
P. number	3494	Site code	WRU 09
Type of project	Monitoring and Recording		
Site status	-		
Current land use	Mixed residential and industrial buildings		
Planned development	Mixed use development		
Main features (+dates)	Two 19 th / 20 th C cellars		
Significant finds (+dates)	19 th / 20 th C CBM		
Project location			
County/ District/ Parish	Surrey	LB of Croydon	Purley
HER/ SMR for area	GLAAS		
Post code (if known)	-		
Area of site	300 sq m		
NGR	TQ 3150 1617		
Height AOD(max/ min)	c.72m AOD		
Project creators			
Brief issued by	EH GLAAS		
Project supervisor	Gareth Barlow		
Funded by	Mullalley & Company Ltd		
Full title	Land at 51-61 Whytecliffe Rd, Purley, London Borough of Croydon. Archaeological Monitoring and Recording		
Authors	Adams, M., Barlow, G.		
Report no.	3417		
Date (of report)	Nov 2009		

**LAND AT 51-61 WHYTECLIFFE RD, PURLEY,
LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING AND RECORDING

SUMMARY

In October 2009, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) carried out a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks associated with the construction of a mixed use development at 51-61 Whytecliffe Rd, Purley, London Borough of Croydon (NGR: TQ 3150 1617).

The site lies in an area of moderate archaeological interest with the main potential being for post-medieval building remains associated with earlier phases of building. There was moderate potential for the recovery of isolated prehistoric finds, a low potential for Roman, Saxon and medieval remains. An Anglo-Saxon cemetery was located to the north-west.

In the event the ground works revealed the remains of two late 19th to early 20th century cellar walls. The site had been much disturbed.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 In October 2009, Archaeological Solutions Ltd (AS) conducted a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks at 51-61 Whytecliffe Rd, Purley, London Borough of Croydon (NGR TQ 3150 1617; Figs.1-2). The monitoring was commissioned by Mullaley & Company Ltd in compliance with a planning condition attached to planning permission for the construction of a mixed use development. It was conducted in association with ground reduction and the commencement of construction (Planning Ref. 07/00095/P and previously 06/01113/P, 04/02563/P, 03/03277/P).

1.2 The monitoring and recording was conducted in accordance with advice from English Heritage Greater London Archaeological Advisory Service (EH GLAAS) (Archaeological Advisors to the LB of Redbridge), and a specification prepared by AS. The project adhered to the EH GLAAS *Archaeological Guidance Papers* (AGPs, revised 1998), in particular *Archaeological Guidance Paper No 3; Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London*. The project was also conducted in accordance with the Institute of Archaeologists' *Code of Conduct and Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (revised 2001).

1.3 The objectives of the project were:

- To ensure the archaeological monitoring of all aspects of the development programme likely to affect archaeological remains;
- To secure the adequate recording of any archaeological remains revealed by the development programme;

- To secure the full analysis and interpretation of the site archive and the publication of the project results, if appropriate;
- To secure the conservation and long-term storage of any artefactual/ecofactual material recovered from the site.

Planning policy context

1.4 The relevant planning policies which apply to the effect of development with regard to cultural heritage are Planning Policy Guidance Note 15 'Planning and the Historic Environment' (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16 'Archaeology and Planning' (PPG16) (Department of the Environment).

1.5 PPG16 (1990) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to archaeology. It states that there should always be a presumption in favour of preserving nationally important archaeological remains *in situ*. However, when there is no overriding case for preservation, developers are required to fund opportunities for the recording and, where necessary, the excavation of the site. This condition is widely applied by local authorities.

1.6 PPG15 (1994) is the national Planning Policy Guidance Note which applies to conservation of the historic environment by protecting the character and appearance of Conservation Areas and protecting listed buildings (of architectural or historical interest) from demolition and unsympathetic change and safeguarding their settings as far as is possible. This condition is also widely applied by local authorities.

2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The archaeological background of the site was investigated in a desk based assessment (King 2007) and is summarized here:

2.1 Prehistoric activity in the vicinity of the site is represented by four entries in the GLSMR. A Palaeolithic flint axe head (SMR 020009) was discovered at 1A Wilmot Road some 550m to the south, along with three fragments of chipped Neolithic flint axes (SMR 020143). A fragment of burnt flint (SMR 76249), dated to the Bronze Age, was recovered from colluvium in More Close some 150m to the north-west of the study area. The closest known prehistoric finds, however, were recovered in 1990 during an excavation by the DGLA at 112- 114 High Street. No details are recorded of the date or nature of these finds (SMR 021298). There is some discrepancy in the SMR for this record; the quoted NGR places the finds immediately to the southwest of the site area on the southern side of Whytecliffe Road South. The map extract provided by the SMR locates the finds 100m north of the quoted NGR in Whytecliffe Road North. No's 112-114 High Street, however, comprised the former Astoria Cinema (now Purley Parade).

2.2 There is no evidence for Roman activity within the vicinity of the study area.

2.3 Saxon or Early Medieval finds or features are known from the vicinity of the study area in the form of a cemetery located in the Russell Hill area to the

northwest. The full extent of the cemetery is unknown, but it appears to extend to within 200m of the north-western boundary of the study area.

2.4 The manor was owned by Hyde Abbey in Winchester from c.AD964 and the earliest reference to Purley occurs in the 12th century in a number of deeds recording land transfer when it appears to have formed part of the Manor of Sanderstead. Later Medieval activity in the vicinity is restricted to the identification of plough-soils during the 1990 DGLA excavations at 112-114 High Street (SMR 021299). The manor was appropriated by Henry VIII in 1538.

2.5 Post-medieval activity is limited to a single entry on the GLSMR which comprises plough-soils recorded during the 1990 DGLA excavations at 112-114 High Street (SMR 021299). This archaeological evidence supports the earliest map of the area: Rocque's map of 1762/4, as well as the succeeding 1868 Tithe map and 1871 Ordnance Survey map which depict the site as undeveloped, agricultural land.

2.6 By 1897 this had begun to change with increasing urbanization of the vicinity. The area between Godstone Road and Whytecliffe Road had been in-filled with terraced and semi-detached housing. The study area contained two houses in its southwestern corner as well as two outbuildings and a range of buildings along the northwestern boundary. The Ordnance Survey plan of 1912-13 shows continued urbanization of the vicinity but change within the study area is limited to the disappearance of one outbuilding and the construction of another. By the time of the 1935 Ordnance Survey plan there had been some further changes within the study area. The range of outbuildings along the northwestern boundary had disappeared and been replaced by two ranges of small structures akin to sheds or garages, with a substantial greenhouse-type structure immediately to the north.

2.7 The 1956 Ordnance Survey plan shows significant redevelopment within the study area. The ranges of small buildings have disappeared and been replaced by a number of buildings all labeled as 'garages'. To the south west of the site a number of the former houses have also disappeared, possibly as a result of bomb damage and been replaced by a car park. Ordnance Survey plans of 1965 and 1975 indicate that there had been little change in the study area or its vicinity, although the northern garage building may have been rebuilt on a slightly larger scale. The usage of the structures is not mentioned on either of these plans.

2.8 The Ordnance Survey plan of 1991 shows that the structures within the site had been completely rebuilt between 1975 and 1991 and that the site had attained the character it retains to the present day.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 The archaeological monitoring comprised the observation of all ground works, inspection of subsoil and natural deposits for archaeological features, the examination of spoil heaps and the recording of soil profiles. Deposits were excavated by machine and recorded by means of *pro forma* recording sheets, drawn to scale and photographed as appropriate. Excavated spoil was searched for archaeological finds.

3.2 The monitoring and recording focussed on all intrusive activity associated with the groundworks including ground reduction, the digging of footings and service trenches. The site was visited in October 2009.

4 RESULTS

Site visit 13/10/09

The site visit monitored and recorded the reduction of the ground level of a large part of the site to a depth of c.1.6m below existing by a tracked 360° excavator in preparation for the laying of foundations (DP 1). Three sample sections were recorded, and are tabulated below

Sample Section 1

Sample Section 1 was located on the south-western baulk (Fig.2).

Sample Section 1 (DP2) 0.00 = 72.63m AOD	
0.00 – 0.14m	L1004. Made Ground. Mixed lenses of firm mid orange brown sandy silt and firm pale grey brown sandy silt.
0.14 – 0.40m	L1003. Subsoil. Firm mid orange brown sandy silt.
0.40 – 0.58m	L1002. Natural Deposit. Firm pale grey brown chalky silt
0.58 – 0.84m	L1001. Natural Deposit. Firm pale yellow brown silty sand
0.84m+	L1000. Natural Ballast. Friable pale grey brown chalky sand

Sample Section 2

Sample Section 2 was located on the south-western baulk (Fig.2)

Sample Section 2 0.00 = 72.04m AOD	
0.00 – 0.10m	L1004. Made Ground. As above, Sample Section 1.
0.10 – 0.31m	L1005. Made Ground. Firm dark grey brown sandy silt
0.30 – 0.91m	L1003. Subsoil. As above, Sample Section 1
0.91m+	L1002. Natural Deposit. As above, Sample Section 1.

Sample Section 3

Sample Section 3 was located on the north-western baulk (Fig.2)

Sample Section 3 (DP 3) 0.00 = 72.39m AOD	
0.00 – 0.20m	L1010. Made Ground. Friable mid grey brown sandy silt with moderate building rubble
0.20 – 0.31m	L1009. Made Ground. Firm mid red brown sandy silt
0.31 – 0.37m	L1008. Made Ground. Pale grey brown silty sand
0.37 – 1.20m	L1007. Subsoil. Firm mid red brown silty sand
1.20m+	L1002. Natural Deposit. As above, Sample Section 1

Several features were observed and recorded.

Cellar Construction Cut F1011 was rectangular in plan (unknown length x 1.20m wide x 1.60m deep) (Figs.1-2, Sample Section 3). It had vertical sides and a flattish base. It contained a single backfill, L1012, a friable pale brown grey silty sand and concrete dust.

Cellar Wall S1015 was constructed from mid grey frogged bricks and mortared with cement (Figs.1-2, Sample Section 3). It had 11 courses of regular finished stretcher bonding, and it contained a metal shelf forming an alcove.

Cellar Construction Cut F1013 was rectangular in plan (unknown length x 1.20m wide x 1.60m deep) (Figs.1-2, Sample Section 3). It had vertical sides and a flattish base. It contained a single backfill, L1014, a friable pale brown grey silty sand and concrete dust.

Cellar Wall S1016 was constructed from mid grey frogged bricks and mortared with cement (Figs.1-2, Sample Section 3). It comprised 11 courses of regular finished stretcher bonding. It formed the back wall of the cellar and was associated with Cellar Construction Cut F1011 and Cellar Wall S1015.

5 CONFIDENCE RATING

5.1 It is not felt that any factors inhibited the recognition of archaeological features or finds during the monitoring and recording.

6 DEPOSIT MODEL

6.1 The upper most layer, L1004 (= L1010) was a made ground deposit and comprised mixed lenses of mid orange sandy silt and pale grey brown sandy silt. It occurred across the site and overlay all other layers.

6.2 In the south-western sector of the site L1004 overlay an additional made ground layer, L1005, a firm dark brown grey sandy silt with modern building rubble. L1005 was absent in the northern area of the site, however two different layers of made ground were encountered. L1009 was a firm mid red brown sandy silt encountered below L1004, and L1008 was a friable pale grey brown chalky silty sand, below L1009.

6.3 Subsoil L1003 (= L1007) was a firm mid red brown sandy silt and occurred below L1004 and L1008. It varied considerable in depth (0.08 - 1.00m) becoming deeper in the northern area. In the western area of the site it overlay the natural, L1002. In the area of the cellars it overlay Subsoil, L1006, a firm dark red brown sandy silt with moderate rounded flint.

6.4 Three natural layers were recorded. The uppermost horizon, L1002, was a pale grey brown chalky silt with moderate small rounded chalk. In the south-western sector of the site, two additional deposits were observed below L1002. L1001 was

firm pale yellow brown silty sand with occasional angular flint stone, and L1000 was a pale grey brown chalky sand ballast with frequent small rounded flint and moderate large angular flint.

7 DISCUSSION

7.1 Two modern cellar walls, S1015 and S1016, were recorded during the monitoring. Both the cellar walls recorded in section, and were part of the same structure.

7.2 The Made Ground layers L1004 (Sections 1 & 2), L1005 (Section 2), and L1008 - L1010 (Section 3) are indicative of previous widespread ground disturbance.

7.3 The cartographic sources indicate that the site was not developed until 1871. By 1897 two dwellings and associated structures to the rear existed. By 1935 additional buildings were added to the rear of the site, and more substantial structures were built by 1956. The cellars likely relate to the two dwellings that existed from the late 1890's.

7.4 The site had a high potential for post-medieval and modern remains, and a low to moderate potential for earlier periods. The monitoring has shown that only modern remains were present. The site was much disturbed and archaeological remains, if present, may have been removed.

DEPOSITION OF THE ARCHIVE

Archive records, with an inventory, will be deposited with the Museum of London. The archive will be quantified, ordered, indexed, cross-referenced and checked for internal consistency.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

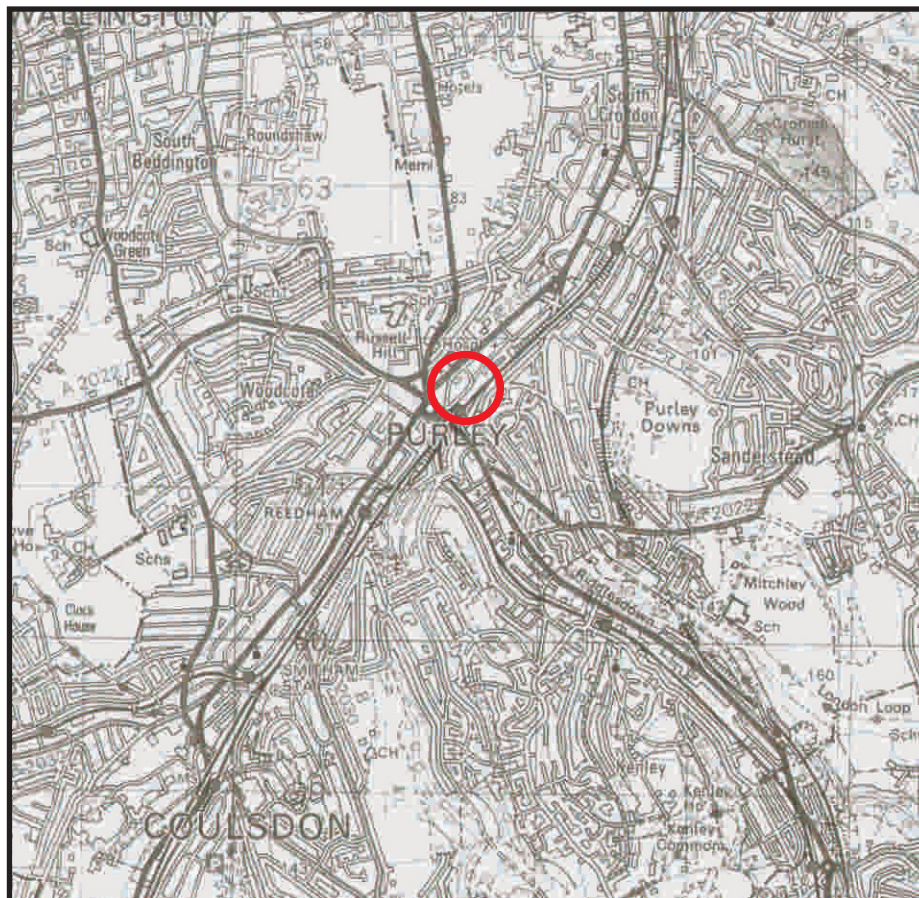
Archaeological Solutions would like to thank Mullaley & Company Ltd for their co-operation and funding of the archaeological monitoring and recording (in particular Messrs Stephen Crane and Brian Martin for their assistance).

Archaeological Solutions is pleased to acknowledge the advice and input of Mark Stevenson of EH GLAAS

REFERENCE

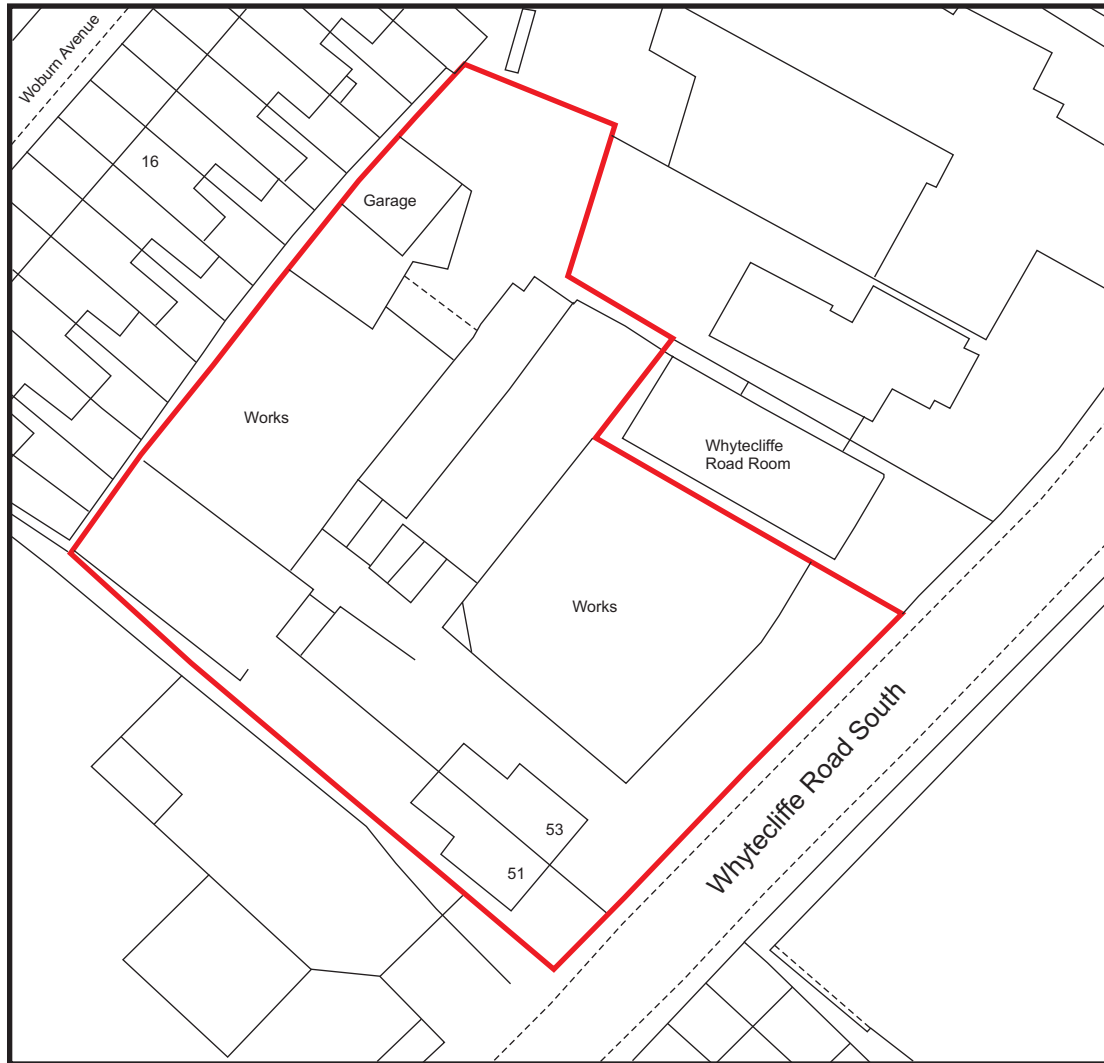
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King, R. 2007 Land at Whytecliffe Road South, Purley, London Borough of Croydon: An Archaeological Assessment. Foundations Archaeology Report No. 554



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FIGURE 1: Site Location



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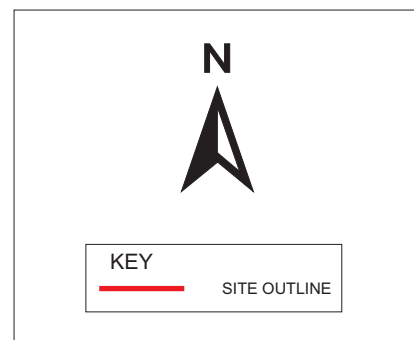


FIGURE 2: Study Area



FIGURE 3: S.M.R. Map

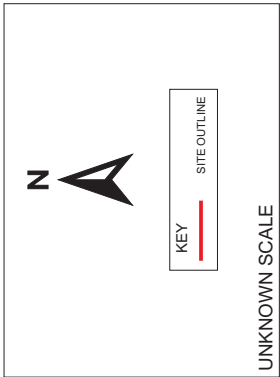
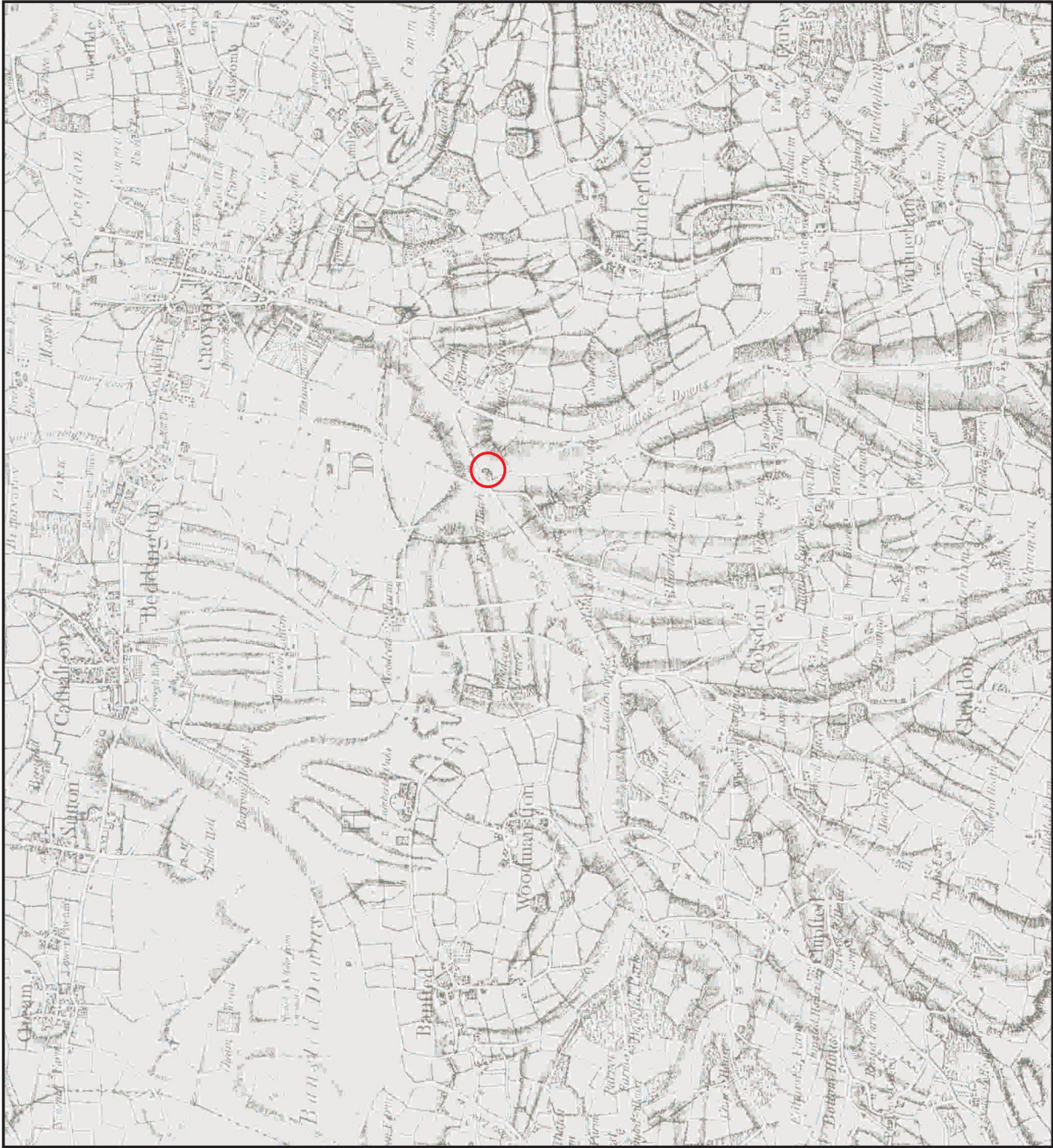


FIGURE 4: Rocque's Map, 1762/1764

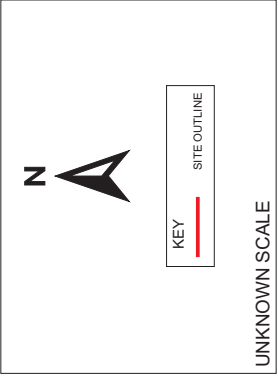


FIGURE 5: Callander's Copy of Masseder's Map, 1762

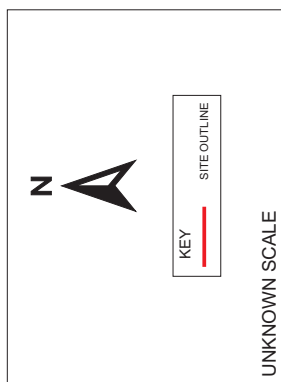


FIGURE 6: Tithe Map, 1868

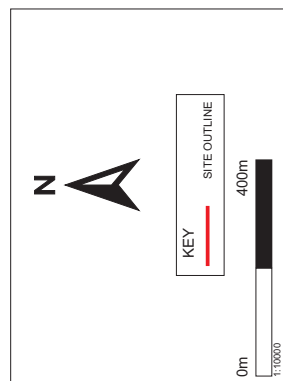
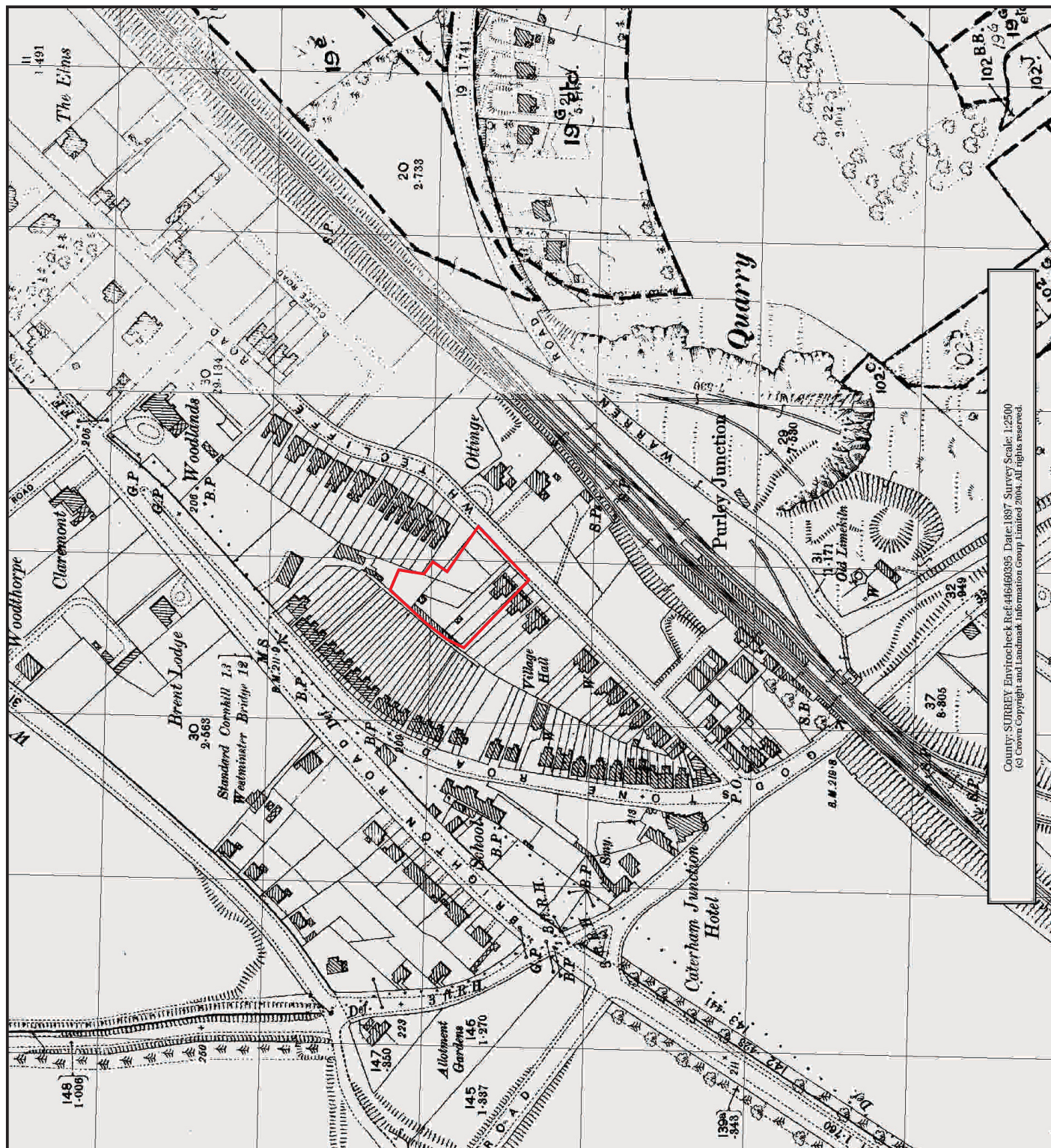
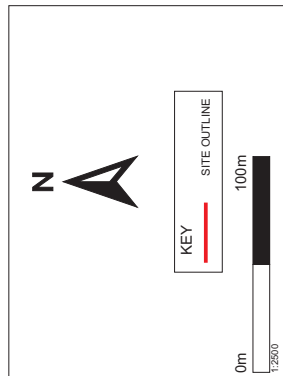


FIGURE 7: Ordnance Survey Map, 1871-2



County: SURREY Envelopecheck Ref: 46560395 Date: 1897 Survey Scale: 1:2500
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FIGURE 8: Ordnance Survey Map, 1897

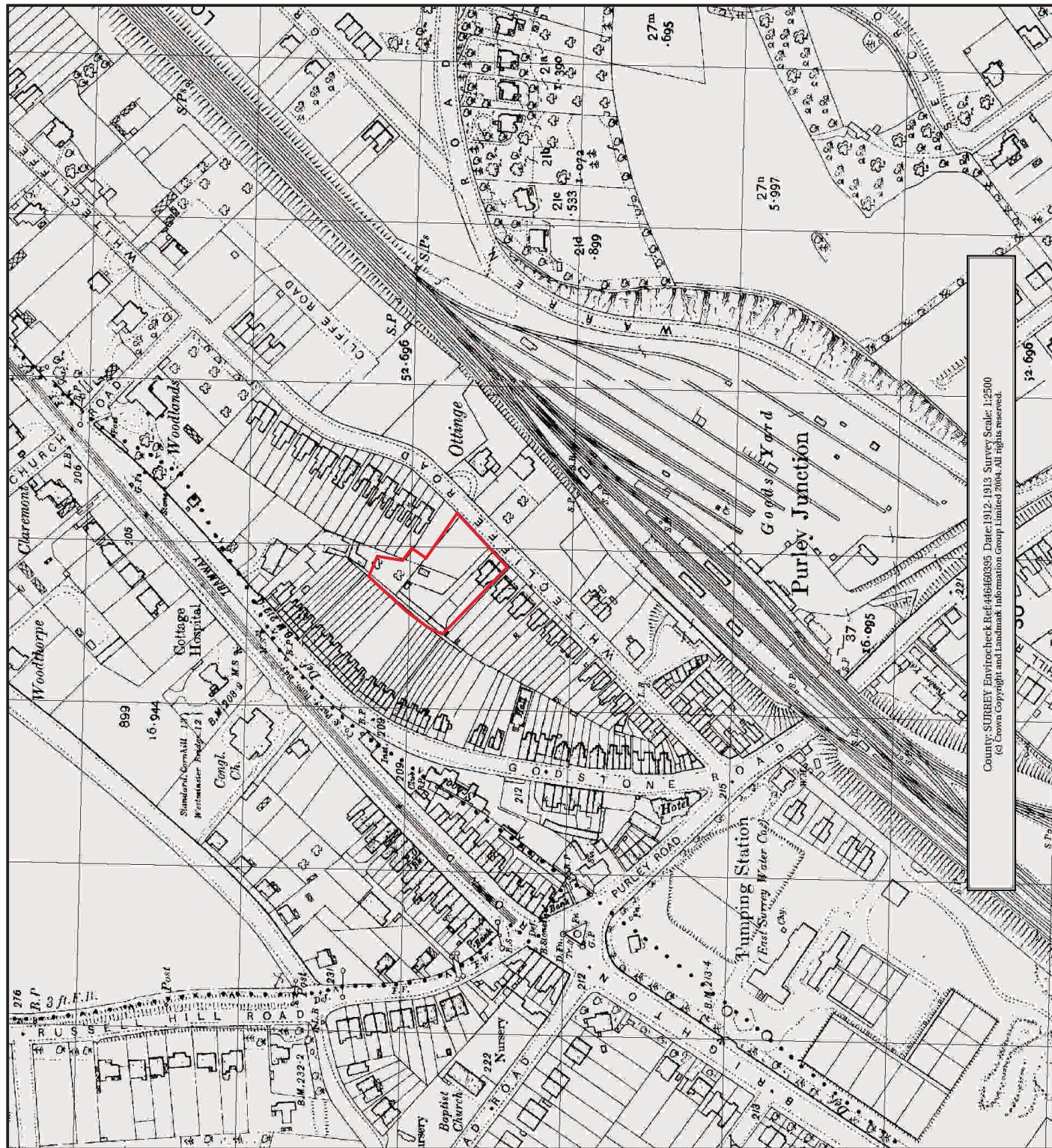
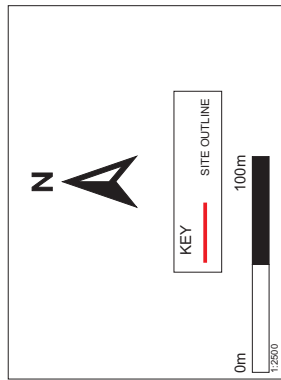


FIGURE 9: Ordnance Survey Map, 1912-13

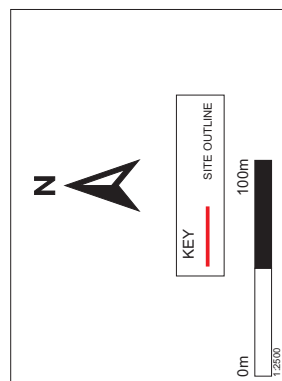


FIGURE 10: Ordnance Survey Map, 1935

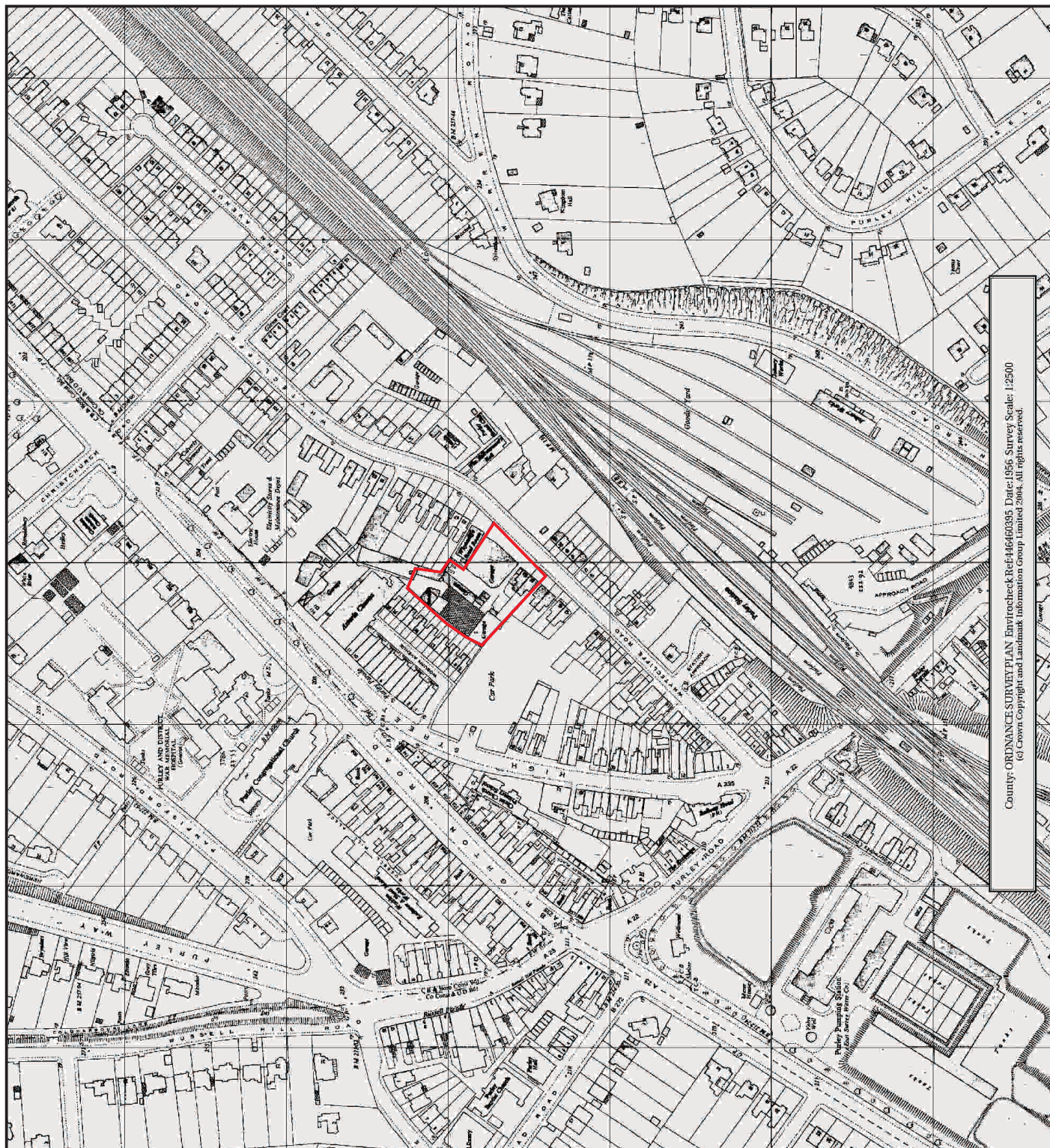
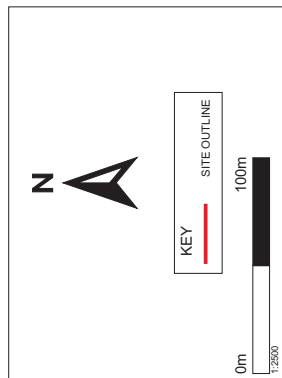


FIGURE 11: Ordnance Survey Map, 1956