

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT OF ENGINEERING IMPACT

(for Bristol Water)
SNEYD PARK
BRISTOL
WATER MAINS RENEWAL SCHEME

NGR: ST 56298 75292

JOB N^o: BA 1317BWSPB



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Report specification

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Executive Summary

This Archaeological Assessment of the route of a proposed mains renewal scheme in the area of Sneyd Park, Bristol, has reached the following conclusions regarding the extent and significance of the archaeological resource within the area in question:

- There is archaeological evidence for activity in the vicinity of the study area dating back to the Bronze Age, with potential for encountering evidence of the Roman road running from Bath to Sea Mills, the course of which directly crosses the study area.
- The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the Prehistoric period in the vicinity of the route has been assessed as **Moderate**. **Previous investigations indicate a possible focus of prehistoric activity in the vicinity of Stoke Park based on the discovery of Bronze Age ditches at Stoke Park Road South, and an Iron Age pit or hearth feature at Stoke Road.**
- The existence of a Roman road travelling across Durdham Down (from Bath to Sea Mills) with a projected course straight across the central Sneyd Park area is highly significant. An extant section (designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument) survives on the Down itself between Downleaze and the reservoir on Durdham Downs. Although previous investigations in the Sneyd Park area have yielded little evidence of the course of the road, it is possible that further evidence of this feature may be encountered within the study area. **The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the Roman period has thus been assessed as Moderate to High, specifically in those locations crossed by the projected route of the Roman road, namely Stoke Road, Stoke Park Road South, Downleaze and Pitch & Pay Lane.**
- The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the medieval period has been assessed as **Low** due to the lack of evidence provided by previous fieldwork, although documentary sources indicate the presence of a medieval deer park to the NW of the study area (including the area of Sanctuary Gardens).
- The potential for encountering evidence of post-medieval settlement activity has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. The pipeline route runs in the immediate vicinity of Stoke House, a mansion of 17th century date and its associated landscaped grounds. Evidence for post-medieval landscape features and structural remains has also been identified during archaeological work at Sanctuary Gardens. **In particular, evidence relating to landscape features including gardens and associated structures is possible at Sanctuary Gardens, Stoke Park and The Holmes.**

Conclusion and Recommendations:

It should be emphasized that the pipeline route runs, for almost its entire length, along existing carriageways, consequently there is likely to be significant disturbance to archaeological deposits and features across the study area as a result of previous road construction works and service trenching. Nevertheless, specific areas of **Moderate to High** archaeological potential have been identified, namely at **Stoke Park**, where there is evidence of prehistoric activity and post-medieval settlement, at **Sanctuary Gardens**, where artefacts of Roman date have been found, and along those streets which are crossed by the projected line of the Roman road, namely **Stoke Road, Stoke Park Road South, Downleaze and Pitch & Pay Lane.**

1. Introduction

Border Archaeology undertook this detailed archaeological assessment on behalf of Bristol Water to determine the nature of the archaeological resource within the vicinity of a proposed water mains renewal scheme. The route extends through the Sneyd Park area of Bristol (centred on ST 56298 75292), either fully or partially along the following streets: Church Road, Sanctuary Gardens, Knoll Hill, Hazelwood Road, Goodeve Road, Avon Grove, Seawalls Road, The Avenue, Ivywell Road, Cook's Folly Road, Rockleaze Avenue, Rockleaze Road, Downleaze, Julian Road, Julian Close, Pitch and Pay Lane (and several sections in the developed area between the Pitch and Pay Lane and Julian Road), Stoke Park Road South, Stoke Hill, Stoke Park Road, Stoke Road, Hollybush Lane, Saville Road, Saville Gate Close, and Bishops Close (Fig. 1). At the time of writing, the proposed engineering methodology has not been finalised, but is likely to be either directional drilling (requiring the excavation of access pits) or open-cut trenching, or a mixture of both.

The AA is an evaluation of all readily available sources of archaeological, documentary and cartographic information, where applicable and appropriate, namely, those held by the relevant HER/SMR, record office, museum or other local authority funded repository together with archaeological or local history society publications and material held in national collections, where it can be readily established that obtaining such material is of key importance to the assessment process. A rapid survey of the available cartographic evidence, including copies of the relevant tithe map and apportionment together with successive edition of the OS, is undertaken as part of the assessment procedure to identify patterns of change and continuity in the historic landscape.

The following sources were consulted:

Evaluation and study of archaeological databases

A search was made of the Bristol Historic Environment Record for any sites of archaeological or historic interest within the specified pipeline corridor (50m on either side of the route). The National Heritage List for England and the English Heritage Pastscape database were also consulted.

Evaluation and study of secondary sources

A number of secondary sources relating to the study area were consulted, including articles from the Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, *Proceedings of the University of Bristol Spelaeological Society*, Bristol and Avon Archaeology, and Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society. Several published and unpublished reports relating to the archaeology of the area were also consulted.

Evaluation and study of cartographic and other pictorial evidence

Several historic map sources were consulted in order to collect information regarding the existence and location of sites of archaeological interest within the study area. These include the Ordnance Survey 1st-4th edition maps. Digital copies of these maps were accessed using Bristol City Council's website <http://maps.bristol.gov.uk/knowyourplace/> or were consulted using collections held at the Bristol Record Office. Aerial photographs dating from 1946 and 2012 were also examined.

Soils and Geology

The study area is classed as 'unsurveyed' in the Soil Survey of England and Wales (SSEW, 1983). However the area of Durdham Down lies on an extensive carboniferous limestone ridge running from Clevedon to N Bristol, called the Tickenham Ridge. The overlying calcareous soils which cover much of the Downs plateau have formed due to the weathering processes on the underlying limestone (Goldthorpe, 2006, 1).

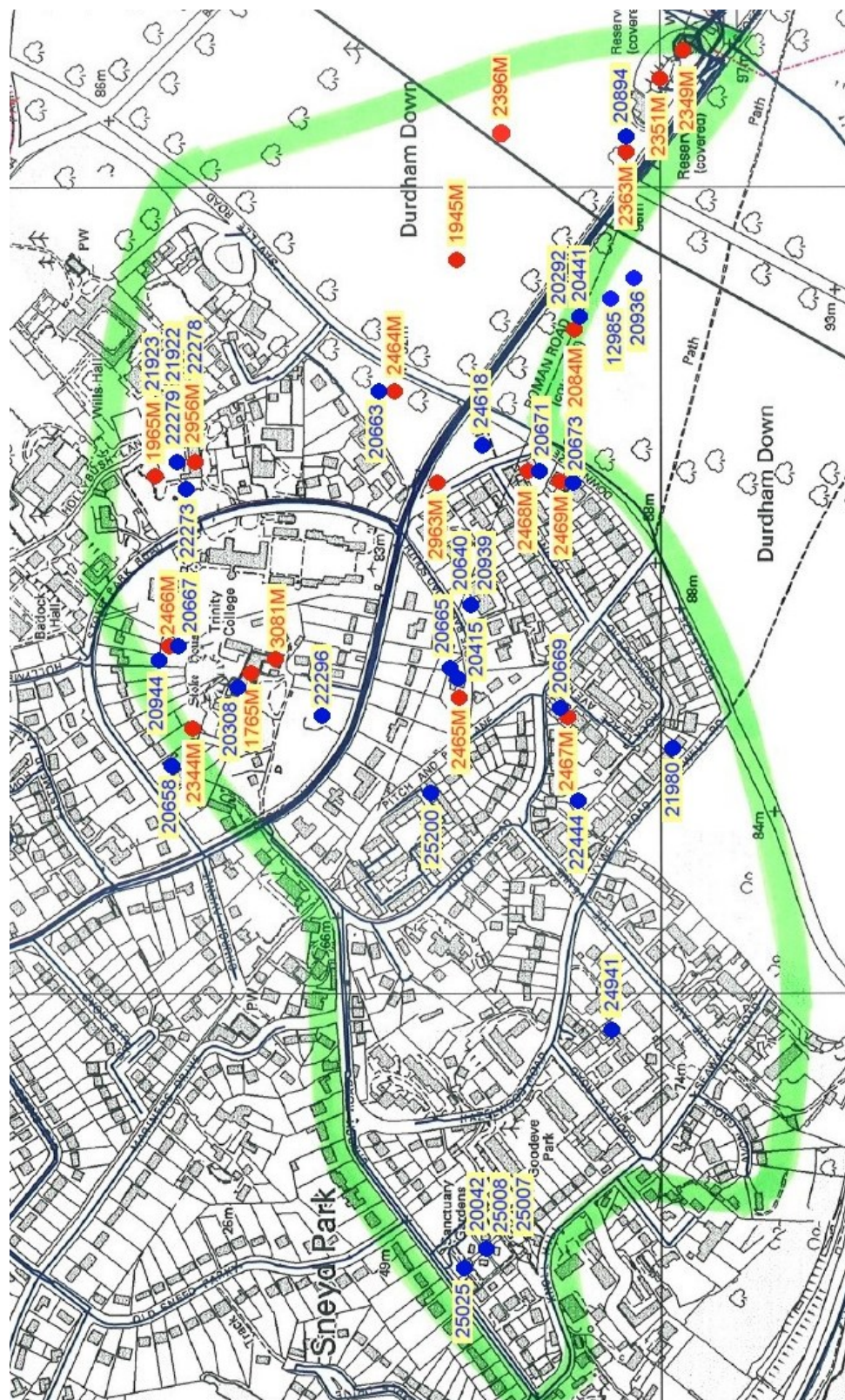


Fig. 1: Plan showing route of proposed water mains scheme at Sneyd Park, Bristol, with the extent of the study area marked in green. The locations of the monuments (red) and events (blue) as listed by the Bristol City Historic Environment Record are also plotted.
(Reproduced by courtesy of Bristol Water)

<u>PRN</u>	<u>NGR</u>	<u>Description</u>
1765M	ST 56377 75507	Stoke House (now Trinity Theological College) on N side of Stoke Hill. Grade II* listed building (No. 901-1/31/2012).
1945M	ST 56910 75210	Durdham Down – large area of open land, used as common land for centuries. Elements of 18 th , 19 th and 20 th century landscaping. Historically important as traditional area for open-air recreation. Managed by Bristol City Council.
1965M	ST 56627 75589	Garden of The Holmes, Stoke Park Road. Collector's garden (19 th century) in suburban location, maintained Bristol University.
2084M	ST 56771 75128	Extant section of Roman Road between Bath (Aquae Sulis) and Sea Mills (Abona) on Durdham Down, south of Stoke Road between Ladies Mile and Rockleaze. Surviving road is approximately 140m long and 25m wide with a SSE – NNW orientation. Scheduled Ancient Monument AV88.
2344M	ST 56318 75576	Formal garden of Stoke House, immediately to W of main house. The S part was the formal garden, N was the kitchen garden.
2349M	ST 57174 74968	Water tower at Stoke Road, Durdham Down.
2351M	ST 57139 74994	Reservoir at Durdham Down, created by Bristol Water Works company before 1884.
2363M	ST 57041 75032	Group of 3 parish boundary marker stones on N side of Stoke Road, 100m NW of reservoir. Pennant sandstone, approximately 0.4m high and 0.2m wide, very weathered. 'WB 1818' inscription still visible on the largest stone.
2396M	ST 57230 75150	Possible field system on Durdham Down visible as a cropmark on 1982 vertical aerial photograph. Covers roughly 23500 square metres. Undated but form suggests likely prehistoric or Romano-British date.
2464M	ST 56753 75330	Quarry on Durdham Down, W of modern Saville Road. Marked as 'Old Quarry' on 1 st Ed. OS plan (1880).
2465M	ST 56383 75263	Pond to W of Stoke Park Road South, recorded on 1 st Ed. OS 1:500 plan (1880).
2466M	ST 56428 75605	Circular icehouse located roughly 100m to the NW of Stoke Park House. On N side was a rectangular projection, presumed to be the entrance. 1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) marks structure as 'disused'. Site now within garden of No.18 Stoke Park Road.
2467M	ST 56360 75120	Christ Church congregational chapel at junction of modern Julian Road and Rockleaze Avenue, built in 1877. Demolished for housing

		redevelopment in 1961.
2468M	ST 56653 75160	Durdham Lodge (now known as The Old Halt) on W side of Downleaze. Mid 18 th century date but with 19 th and 20 th century alterations. Grade II Listed Building (no. 901-1/31/1799).
2469M	ST 56645 75115	Probable dewpond to E of Durdham Lodge (now called The Old Halt). Undated feature but recorded by 1 st Ed. OS in 1880. Feature measures 8m long, 4m wide with a NW – SE alignment. NW end revetted in stone.
2963M	ST 56610 75298	War memorial on S side of Stoke Hill. Stone cross supported on a pillar with a square base, set on a stepped octagonal plinth. Sword carved in relief on NW face of column. NW face of base and upper step of plinth bear inscriptions for the Great War and WWII, with names of the fallen inscribed into the other faces of the plinth. Public Monument and Sculpture Association no. BR274.
12985	ST 56832 75049	Fissure exposed in limestone quarry at Durdham Down (1842). Exact location unknown, but likely to have been in a quarry to the S of Stoke Road. Animal bone (presumed Pleistocene date) recovered, including bear, hyaena, elephant, rhinoceros, deer, bos (wild bull) and horse. Interpreted as having been a hyaena den.
20042	ST 55731 75265	Desk-based assessment of Sanctuary Gardens by Rod Burchill (<i>Desktop study of Sanctuary Gardens, Church Road, Sneyd Park, Bristol</i> , Unpublished report: Bristol and Region Archaeological Services).
20292	ST 56770 75128	1998 survey of Roman road on Durdham Down.
20308	ST 56377 75504	1998 survey of Stoke House by Dr Roger Leech for RCHME.
20415	ST 56370 75250	1999 watching brief during development at W end of Stoke Park Road South (Burchill, R. <i>Archaeological watching brief of land at Stoke Park Road South, Sneyd Park, Bristol</i> . Unpublished report: Bristol and Region Archaeological Services 595/1999).
20441	ST 56845 75096	1899 excavation of a section (20m long) across SE end of Roman road on Durdham Down, confirming that the earthwork was a Roman road. Ditches either side of the agger very eroded.
20658	ST 56288 75590	Archaeological watching brief at No.6 Sneyd Park in 2000 (Etheridge, <i>Land adjacent to 6, Stoke Park Road, Stoke Bishop</i> . <i>Archaeological watching brief</i> , Unpublished report: Avon Archaeological Unit). Archive (Bristol Museum and Art Gallery) accession No. BRSMG CMAG 2000.0007.
20663	ST 56753 75331	1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) records disused quarry to W of modern Saville Road on Durdham Down.
20665	ST 56383 75263	1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) records pond to W of Stoke Park Road South.
20667	ST 56428 75604	1 st Ed. OS (1880) records circular icehouse (marked 'disused') to N of Stoke House, with rectangular projection on N side which may

		have been the entrance.
20669	ST 56360 75121	1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) records the Christ Church congregational chapel at junction of Rockleaze Avenue and Julian Road.
20671	ST 56653 75159	1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) records Durdham Lodge (now known as The Old Halt) on W side of Downleaze.
20673	ST 56646 75115	1 st Ed. OS plan (1880) shows probable dewpond at SE corner of field on E side of Durdham Lodge (The Old Halt) on W side of Downleaze.
20936	ST 56900 75000	2001 archaeological desk-based assessment (MA coursework) of Durdham Down (Bollendorf, <i>The Downs, Bristol: a desk-based assessment of Durdham Down with recommendations for its future archaeological evaluation</i> (unpublished report)).
20939	ST 56489 75233	Archaeological watching brief for housing development in 2001 (Etheridge (2002), <i>Avonleigh Nursing Home, Stoke Park Road South, Stoke Bishop, Bristol</i> . Archaeological watching brief, Unpublished report: Avon Archaeological Unit). Archive deposited with Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, accession number BRSMG CMAG 2002.0023.
20944	ST 56410 75610	1987 observation by David Lambert of a structure at No.18 Stoke Park Road (description published in a letter to Country Life: <i>Country Life 5 March</i> p134).
21922	ST 56680 75573	2003 desk-based assessment (Hicks, <i>Archaeological surveys of The Holmes and Goldney House and gardens, Bristol</i> , Unpublished report: Department of Archaeology, University of Bristol).
21923	ST 56680 75574	2003 Historic landscape survey of the Homes Garden (SMR 4277) by Michael Lear (<i>Historic landscape survey, The Holmes, Stoke Park Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol</i> . Unpublished report: Lear Associates Ltd.).
21980	ST 56305 74982	2004 survey of No.4 Ivywell Road by Dr Roger Leech (<i>No.4 Ivywell Road, Stoke Bishop, Bristol: an architectural and historical survey and analysis</i> , Unpublished report: Cultural Heritage Services 2004/2005/175).
22444	ST 56234 75115	Archaeological watching brief during development behind No.25 Julian Close in 2006 (Ducker, <i>25 Julian Road, Sneyd Park, Bristol</i> , Unpublished report: Avon Archaeological Unit. No archaeologically significant finds or deposits.
22273	ST 56610 75568	Archaeological evaluation carried out in 2005 in the grounds of The Holmes, Stoke Park Road.
22278	ST 56648 75558	Archaeological watching brief at The Holmes, Stoke Park Road (2005).
22279	ST 56649 75558	Building survey at The Holmes, Stoke Park Road (2005).
22296	ST 56348 75422	2005 archaeological desk-based assessment of land at Trinity College, Stoke Hill (Lequesne. <i>Stoke House, Stoke Bishop (NGR ST 5630 7542), City of Bristol: desk-based assessment of</i>

		<i>archaeological potential</i> . Unpublished report: RPS Planning, Transport and Environment).
24618	ST 56672 75230	2008 watching brief during groundworks for new pipeline between No.21 Downleaze Road and Stoke Park Road. No archaeologically significant features or finds recorded.
24941	ST 55951 75062	2010 archaeological building survey of The Cottage, Goodeve Road.
25007	ST 55687 75218	Archaeological watching brief at Sanctuary Gardens (2011).
25008	ST 55688 75214	Archaeological excavation at Sanctuary Gardens (2011).
25025	ST 55656 75246	Archaeological building recording (2011) at Sanctuary Gardens.

Table 1: List of Monuments and Events recorded in the Bristol City Historic Environment Record in the vicinity of the pipeline route

2. Summary Assessment

The route of the proposed water mains scheme extends along a number of streets, as previously listed, through the Sneyd Park area of Bristol.

Prehistoric

There is archaeological evidence of prehistoric activity in this area of Bristol. In 1842 a fissure was discovered in a limestone quarry on Durdham Down containing bones belonging to various Pleistocene animals including both carnivorous and herbivorous mammals (it is thought likely, judging from the remains, that the fissure served as a den for a group of hyaenas) (Wilson, 1888, 32-37). Although the exact site of this find is unknown, it is thought that it was located to the south of Stoke Road in an old quarry (HER Event No. 12985).

With regard to human activity, evidence from Sneyd Park and Deanery Road (city centre) indicates that an initial clearance of woodland in the north Bristol area took place during the Neolithic period (c.4000 - c.2000 BC), with larger scale tree felling occurring in the Bronze Age (c.2000 - c.800 BC). The discovery in 2001 of a short section of a Bronze Age ditch adjacent to Stoke Park Road South suggests that agricultural activity (probably due to the ideally shallow, light soil) was taking place on Durdham Downs by this time (Goldthorpe, 2006, 2). There is also a possible field system on Durdham Downs visible as a cropmark from a 1982 aerial photograph (which suggests that it once covered an area of approximately 23500 square metres) the appearance of which, although it has not been dated, suggests that it was either prehistoric or Romano-British (HER No. 2396M).

An evaluation of land at Stoke Park in 1999-2000, which included geophysical surveys and trial trenching before development of the site, discovered the remains of a pit or hearth dating to the middle or late Iron Age, in addition to a linear ditch (undated) (EH Pastscape Ref. 1329381). A desk-based assessment in 2005 noted the discovery of a ditch containing material dating to the Bronze Age, with Iron Age pottery on the surrounding ground surface, at Stoke Park Road South (HER Event No. 22296; Lesquene, 2005). A desk-based assessment undertaken at The Holmes in 2003 also

detailed evidence for a Bronze Age ditch to the S of the gardens containing Bronze Age ceramics (HER Event No. 21922).

The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the Prehistoric period in the vicinity of the pipeline routes has been assessed as **Moderate**. **Previous discoveries indicate that the area around Stoke Park has the highest potential for prehistoric discoveries, in view of the Bronze Age ditches discovered at Stoke Park Road South and The Holmes, and the Iron Age pit or hearth at Stoke Road.**

Roman

There is significant evidence for Roman activity in the locality of the study area. The small Roman population (following on from the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age communities) will have impacted greatly upon the landscape character of the Downs by clearing increasing amounts of land for agricultural purposes including both pasture (for which the thin, calcareous soils of the Downs plateau were particularly suited) and arable practices (Goldthorpe, 2006, 3). A desk based assessment in 2004 recommended that all further work in the area of Sanctuary Gardens should be archaeologically monitored due to the presence of Roman finds to the N and (along with some prehistoric evidence) to the S of this area (HER Event No. 20042).

The most emphatic evidence for Roman activity is the presence of an extant section of Roman road (SAM no. AV88) on Durdham Downs, situated between the Downleaze area and the reservoir. The construction of the reservoir (HER No. 2351M) and quarrying activity seem to have been responsible for the destruction of much of the course of the road across the Downs (Martin, 1890, 309). The OS 1st edition map of 1885 marks both the existing remains and the presumed course of the road across Durdham Downs, labelling it as '*Via Julia*'. The road is thought to have connected Bath (*Aquae Sulis*) and Sea Mills (*Abona*), although there has thus far been no definitive archaeological proof of this due to lack of investigation elsewhere along the route. It is thought that the route will have passed through the study area here via the path of Pitch and Pay Lane, continuing N via Mariners' Path. However there is an alternative route put forward that does not follow the bend in Pitch and Pay Lane, continuing instead on a straight course along what became the boundary of Old Sneyd Park (Tratman, 1962, 162).

The road was first mentioned by William Barrett in his *History and antiquities of the City of Bristol* (Barrett, 1789, 10). The local antiquary and clergyman Samuel Seyer, writing in the early 1820s, gives a description of the feature as 'a stony track on the open down' and 'having much the appearance of an old causeway, ten or twelve yards wide' (Seyer, 1821, 150). Seyer also notes that there is uncertainty as to the exact route of this road, and comments on an additional stone causeway from Pitch and Pay House to Sea Mills, giving the opinion that this was likely to be a diverging road from Sea Mills to Clifton Camp rather than part of the road that is extant on Durdham Downs.

The section on Durdham Downs was confirmed as a Roman road by an excavation in 1899 (HER Event No. 20441), where several trenches located along the course of the road on the Downs (all yielding the same results) were investigated. The initial trench was situated near to an old quarry (marked on the 1st Edition OS plan), and uncovered a continuous layer of stone of varying sizes but firmly bedded into the ground just 3 inches below the turf. This overlay a reddish coloured soil, which in turn overlaid a layer of sandy soil measuring roughly a foot and containing fragments of limestone. This sandy layer was not present in the ditches on either side of the road, implying that it resulted from the preparation of the road surface which seems to have involved the crushing and leveling of the rock in order to provide a flat surface for the road bed (Martin, 1900, 309-10).

Further archaeological work linked to the Roman road includes a 1998 earthwork survey (adjacent to the old quarry site) to the N side of the agger, which recorded evidence (albeit slight) of a short continuation of the ditch (HER Event No. 20292; HER No. 2084M). A 2001 field evaluation prior to a planned route across Durdham Downs, during which a single trench was excavated to the N of Stoke Road, found evidence for the flanking ditch and probable agger, although it seems that the latter was largely removed in antiquity (EH Pastscape Ref. 1347279; HER Event No. 20894; Burnham *et al*, 2002, 345; Parry 2001; Williams 2001, 114; Wills 2002, 241).

However, an observation prior to the widening of Stoke Road in 1903, close to the assumed route of the buried road, did not note any evidence for the feature (EH Pastscape Ref. 1340558). A more recent archaeological watching brief undertaken on water pipeline works in 2008 between Downleaze Road and Stoke Park Road produced negative results for the existence of the Roman road, although it was suggested that the shallow depth of the natural bedrock in this area would have afforded 'an ideal ancient road surface, negating the need for any imported or manufactured road building deposits' (Robson, 2008, 6).

The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the Roman period has been assessed as **Moderate to High**, particularly at the following locations which are crossed by the projected route of the Roman road, namely **Stoke Road, Stoke Park Road South, Downleaze and Pitch and Pay Lane**.

Medieval

There is currently limited recorded evidence for archaeological remains of medieval date within the area of Sneyd Park. However, documentary sources indicate that the area was a sparsely settled pastoral landscape throughout the medieval and early post-medieval periods. An Anglo-Saxon charter relating to land at Stoke Bishop dated 883 defines a large tract of grazing land between Stoke Bishop and Clifton which appears to have included part of Durdham Down and probably also encompassed a substantial portion of the study area at Sneyd Park (Finberg, 1972, no. 83), Goldthorpe, 2006, 3).

In the medieval period, the area to the NE of the study area comprised Old Sneed Park, a wooded deer park consisting of 90 acres. Domesday Book (1086) records Stoke Bishop as being owned by Edred prior to 1066, followed by the Bishop of Coutances, and the land was later enclosed as a deer park in 1274 (HER Event No. 22296). The park lands belonged to the Bishops of Worcester until the reformation (HER No. 2200M). Sanctuary Gardens (an area within the parameters of this study) lies within the southern corner of the medieval park. There is therefore a possibility that evidence relating to the park boundary may remain in this area around Sanctuary Gardens, Goodeve Park, Church Road and Hazelwood Road.

The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the medieval period has been assessed as **Low** owing to the limited evidence provided by previous investigations, although documentary sources indicate the presence of the **medieval deer park to the NW of the study area (including Sanctuary Gardens) and farming activity on Durdham Down**.

Post-Medieval

A 2004 assessment at Sanctuary Gardens concluded that the site lay within the aforementioned medieval deer park, Old Sneed Park, which became agricultural land in the 18th century (the 1844 Westbury-upon-Trym tithe map shows the area still being used for agriculture at this time)

(Longman, 2011, 3). The gardens also lay within the landscaped grounds of Sneyd Park House (built in 1880), and it is thought that the walled kitchen garden was constructed at the same time as the house. However, a substantial portion of the grounds of Sneyd Park House was subsequently used for the construction of post-WWII prefabricated houses and has therefore since been largely destroyed (EH Pastscape Ref. 1539532). Despite the impact of post-WWII housing development, recent aerial photographs still show the square layout of the kitchen garden, first visible on the OS 1st edition map of 1885. The formal gardens included a gazebo structure, a portico, several fountains and small buildings, and a decorative lake. Surviving elements include the gazebo (Grade II Listed), a brick pergola, several of the flanking walls and a fountain (HER Event No. 22105; Longman, 2011, 3).

Sanctuary Gardens was the subject of several archaeological investigations by Bristol and Region Archaeological Services in 2011, including a watching brief, excavation and a buildings survey (HER Event Nos. 25007; 25008; 25025) prior to the construction of 11 detached dwellings. The investigation included the demolition of a stone retaining wall dating to the late 19th century, which was formerly associated with a large Victorian greenhouse/palmhouse located to the S of the kitchen garden. Excavation on the site of the greenhouse uncovered a contemporary subterranean water cistern constructed from brick and stone and structural remains of the feature (BaRAS website).

Stoke Park is an important early post-medieval site within the N section of this study area. Constructed by the merchant Sir Robert Cann in 1669, it however appears that there was probably a house on the site prior to the building of Stoke House, as it is thought that Cann lived on the grounds that he had purchased here in 1650s before his main residence was constructed. It also appears that he realigned the lane running past Stoke House and The Bishop's Cottage (suggested to be Cann's residence prior to the construction of Stoke House) in order to create more parkland, and had The Lodge (now a Grade II listed building, No. 901-1/31/2013; HER No. 3081M) constructed roughly 30m SE of Stoke House. Also to the east of the house is a surviving, though greatly altered, stable block dating to the 17th century (EH Pastscape Ref. 198201). Further changes, including the construction of an orangery (which was converted into a chapel in the 1960s), were made to the property between 1774 and 1781, and the road called Stoke Hill was moved (and a bank built along the inside) to form the boundary of the park prior to 1817. In the early 1900s the house was used as a girls' school, becoming Clifton Theological College in 1932 (marked as such on the 1949 1:2500 map), then Trinity Theological College in 1970 (HER Event No. 22296; Lesquene, 2005).

Cartographic evidence from the OS 1st edition map onwards shows the development of aspects of Stoke Park. The formal gardens were situated to the W of the house itself, just to the S of the kitchen garden (HER No. 2344M). A cricket ground is marked on the OS 1st edition map of 1885, between Stoke House and Stoke Park Road to the S, although this appears no longer to have been in existence by early 20th century, based on the evidence of the OS 2nd edition map of 1903. Approximately 100m NW of the house was a circular icehouse (HER No. 2466M) with a rectangular projection (assumed to be the entrance) on its N side, marked on the OS 1st and 2nd edition maps as 'disused'. The area of the kitchen garden and icehouse is marked as having construction plans on the 1949 1:2500 map, and by the late 20th century the whole area fronting the S of Stoke Park Road had been developed. The 1949 OS map also notes development plans for the land to the east of the house, including halls of residence for the University of Bristol.

The Holmes, to the E of Stoke Park, was constructed in 1879. Hiatt C. Baker, the noted late 19th century plant collector, is credited with the design of the formal gardens of the house (HER No. 1965M). In 1943 the building was purchased by the University of Bristol who extended the house by constructing new east and west wings (HER No. 2956M). Archaeological work at The Holmes

includes a historic landscape survey of the gardens in 2003 (HER Event No. 21923) in addition to a building survey (HER Event No. 22279), a watching brief (HER Event No. 22278) and an archaeological evaluation (HER Event No. 22273) undertaken in 2005.

The study area also comprises a section of Durdham Down (transected by Stoke Road and the old Roman road). This area played an important role as an assembly ground for troops on several occasions during the English Civil War; the Royalist army used the expanse of open ground as a base for their capture of the city in 1643, and two years later it was once again used as an assembly point for the recapture by Parliamentary forces (Goldthorpe, 2006, 4).

Cartographic sources show that the extent of Durdham Downs has remained largely intact since the late 18th-early 19th century, in spite of encroachment by Georgian and later Victorian residential development. Early maps of the study area, including Wilstar's map of Clifton (1745) and the Westbury tithe map (1844) show the location of former several former quarry sites within the study area, adjacent to modern Saville Road (HER No. 2464M), which appear mostly to have originated in the 18th-early 19th centuries but had largely been closed down and filled in by the mid-1870s. Concern over the extent of quarrying activity on Durdham Downs in the mid-19th century prompted action by the Bristol Corporation in order to preserve the area as open ground for the enjoyment of the public; the land was purchased by the Corporation for the sum of £15,000 in 1861 and the quarries were gradually closed down, although evidence of ground disturbance associated with quarrying activity is still visible across much of the Downs (Goldthorpe, 2006, 22-24).

Using the evidence provided by cartographic sources since the 1880s, it is clear that there has been fairly substantial residential development in some areas of Sneyd Park from the mid to late 19th century onwards. This is particularly the case with the area around Rockleaze and Downleaze, which became increasingly built up as a residential district between c.1880 and 1900. The central area around Pitch and Pay Lane and Julian Road has also clearly experienced substantial development since 1949.

The area of the former grounds of Stoke Park witnessed extensive development during the post-WWII period with the construction of university halls of residence in the grounds of what is now Trinity College (as depicted on a 1:2500 map dated 1949). However, the area still retains its character of a fashionable mid to late Victorian residential suburb. Due to the protection of Durdham Down as an area for public recreation, there has been no development extending onto the land to the S and W of Sneyd Park.

The potential for archaeological evidence relating to the post medieval period has been assessed as **Moderate-High** based on previous investigations and cartographic sources demonstrating the former locations of features. **In particular, evidence of post-medieval landscape features including gardens and associated structural remains may be encountered in the vicinity of Sanctuary Gardens, Stoke Park and The Holmes.**

3. References

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Aerial Photography

Vertical aerial photographs from 1946 and 2012 were also consulted.