

109-115 Every Street
Nelson, Lancashire:
Photographic Record



February 2009

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Photographs

SUMMARY

Nos 109-115 Every Street is a former printworks dating from the 1880s and later, in the Whitefield Conservation Area of Nelson (NGR: SD 85733781). The oldest part was established as Coulton's "Caxton Works", which was extended at various times and in the early 20th century became the home of the local newspaper the *Nelson Leader*. The present buildings also incorporate a pair of terraced houses and a large, mid 20th century brick structure. Photographic recording was carried out in February 2009 for Pendle Borough Council before the demolition of the building and is summarised in this report.

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109-115 EVERY STREET, NELSON, LANCASHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

LIST OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo	Subject
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- | | |
|----|---|
| 1 | View of the building from the north-east (Stanley Street and Every Street elevations) |
| 2 | View of the building from the north-east (Every Street elevation) |
| 3 | Distant view of the building from the south-west, along Every Street |
| 4 | View of the building from the north (Every Street elevation) |
| 5 | Lower part of Every Street elevation, of no. 109 |
| 6 | View of the building from the south-east, along Stanley Street |
| 7 | View of the building from the east (Stanley Street elevation) |
| 8 | View of the building from the north-east (elevation to back alley off Stanley Street) |
| 9 | Every Street elevation, of nos 113-115 |
| 10 | Every Street elevation of nos 109-113, from the west |
| 11 | Lower part of Every Street elevation, of nos 111-113 (former pair of terraced houses) |
| 12 | View of the building from the west (Every Street and Albert Street elevations) |
| 13 | View of the building from the south-west (elevations to Albert Street and back alley) |

109-115 EVERY STREET, NELSON, LANCASHIRE: PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This report presents the results of photographic recording at a former printworks building on Every Street in the Whitefield district of Nelson, Lancashire. The work was commissioned by Pendle Borough Council and carried out in February 2009, to fulfil a condition of conservation area consent for the demolition of the building.
- 1.2 The present building at 109-115 Every Street was constructed in a number of phases between the 1880s and the mid 20th century and is essentially industrial in character, although it appears to incorporate a pair of terraced houses (possibly of earlier date). It is of local historic interest as the site where the newspaper the *Nelson Leader* was produced, and contributes to the street scene, but is of very little architectural merit.
- 1.3 The work was carried out to a method statement agreed with the Lancashire County Archaeology Service (Appendix 1), and included an external photographic record and a brief study of historical sources. This report will be submitted to the client, the local planning authority (also Pendle Borough Council), the Lancashire County Archaeology Service and the English Heritage National Monuments Record, and published on the internet via the Oasis Project. The project archive will be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office.

2 Location and current use

- 2.1 The site lies in the Whitefield district to the west of Nelson town centre, through which Every Street historically formed a main thoroughfare. Nos 109-115 stand on the south-east side of the street, occupying the frontage between Stanley and Albert Streets (Figure 1; NGR: SD 85733781).
- 2.2 The building has been vacant for at least five years and is in a semi-derelict condition. Its last use was industrial but it is not clear when it ceased to be used as printworks.

3 Planning background

- 3.1 The site lies within the Whitefield Conservation Area but is not listed as having special architectural or historic interest. Pendle Borough Council were granted conservation area consent for its demolition, by the Government Office for the West Midlands, on 2 February 2009, with a condition requiring a detailed record of the building to be made before demolition (Pendle Borough Council planning

application no 13/08/0631P). The Lancashire County Archaeology Service, as the council's archaeological advisor, has undertaken to oversee the recording and is to be the principal recipient of the report.

4 Historical background

- 4.1 Nelson grew rapidly during the second half of the 19th century, from a minor rural settlement near a public house (known at the Lord Nelson Inn), to a large industrial town, thanks to the success of the cotton weaving industry. The first edition Ordnance Survey 6" to the mile map (surveyed in 1844; Figure 2) shows the town in embryonic form, the site to be occupied by the present building then being only fields.
- 4.2 The Nelson Local Board was established in 1864 at an early stage in the growth of the town and one of its primary roles was to regulate planning and development, a function which it undertook conscientiously and thoroughly, and which was largely responsible for the form of the town, much of which is laid out in a grid pattern. Most of the buildings forming the Whitefield district appear to have been built in the 1870s and 1880s; terraced housing predominates, but this is interspersed with public buildings such as churches and schools, as well as industrial premises, particularly along the Leeds – Liverpool canal which runs through the area.
- 4.3 The date of construction for 109-115 Every Street has not been established precisely but the north-east end of the block appears to have been the earliest part of the printworks which now occupy the entire site. From its outset until around 1970 this was the premises of Coulton & Co Ltd, a print business founded by Mr Middleton Coulton who had moved to Nelson from Cononley, near Skipton, in 1881. His business was initially based on Mosley Street, but moved to Albert Street and then to Manchester Road, before he built a new printworks of two storeys at the corner of Stanley Street and Every Street, known as the "Caxton Works". At the time this was a modern printing facility with a gas engine which also powered an electricity generator, an early example of this technology in the town. He founded a local newspaper, the *Nelson Leader*, in 1900¹.
- 4.4 The earliest identified entry in a local directory referring to the site is from 1883, when John Hall, an overlooker, is shown as living at 111 Every Street²; Coulton's printing firm does not appear to be listed in this edition, but the 1887 edition shows him as a printer and bookbinder on Stanley Street³. The 1890 edition

¹ *Nelson Leader* 11 April 1947, p3

² P Barrett & Co: *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* 1883

³ P Barrett & Co: *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District* 1887

records the firm as on Every Street, and carries an advertisement (reproduced below).

M. COULTON,
 Commercial, General and Music
PRINTER, BOOKBINDER,
 STEREOTYPER, &C.,
 CAXTON WORKS,
STANLEY STREET (off Manchester Road),
NELSON.

Commercial Printing.—Account Books, in any style of ruling and binding; Piece Books and Order Books; Receipt, Consignment, and Delivery Books; Manifold Books of every description; Tapers', Twisters', and Dressers' Books; Memorandums and Statements; Loom Cards; Time Sheets, &c., &c.

General Printing.—Pamphlets, Catalogues, Posters (all sizes and colors), Hymn Papers, Circulars, Programmes, Dance Programmes, Window Bills, Handbills, Funeral Cards (over 40 designs to select from), Show Cards, Contribution Cards, Tea Checks, Puzzle Cards, &c., &c.

Music Printing.—In both Old Notation and Tonic Sol-Fa.

Bookbinding.—Magazines, Periodicals, Music, &c., in all kinds of bindings.

Paper Tickets, on Rolls, for Cricket and Football Clubs, Billiards, Galas, &c.

ALL KINDS OF LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING EXECUTED.

- 4.5 The Ordnance Survey's first edition 1:2500 map was surveyed in 1890, and shows the L-shaped building at the corner of Stanley and Every Street which was no doubt Coulton's premises; to the south-west are what appear to be three houses (Figure 3). A directory of 1893 shows that no. 111 was occupied by M Jackson, a manager; no. 113 by H Edmondson, a taper; and no. 115 by J Littlewood, a coachman⁴. All four continued to occupy their properties in 1905 but between then and 1908, W B Ayers, a printer, moved into no. 111 (which presumably remained a dwelling), while no. 113 became the home of Mr R Robinson⁵. Three years later Coulton had expanded his premises by taking over no. 111⁶. The 1910 revised edition of the 1:2500 map (Figure 4), shows no significant changes by this time, but the revision of 1930 shows only no. 115 remaining as a house, the rest of the site being then occupied by the enlarged printworks (Figure 5). Since then a major redevelopment of the south-west end of the site has taken place, on which a large brick and reinforced concrete

⁴ P Barrett & Co: *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District 1893*

⁵ P Barrett & Co: *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District 1905, 1908*

⁶ P Barrett & Co: *General and Commercial Directory of Burnley and District 1911*

structure of mid 20th century date now stands, but the date at which this replaced the house at no. 115 has not been ascertained.

5 Recording methodology

- 5.1 The photographic recording took place on 19 February 2009 and was restricted to the outside of the building, with views being taken from a variety of angles to cover all four elevations. A medium format camera with perspective control and other lenses was used, and black and white film for its archival qualities, and a 2m ranging pole marked with 0.5m graduations was included as a scale. All the photographs have been printed to a size of 7" x 5" or 10 x 8", and form part of the project archive; they are also reproduced in this report, where they are referred to by numbers in **bold**. The locations of the photographs are shown on a site plan (Figure 6).
- 5.2 The interior of the building was not inspected or recorded.

6 Description of the building

- 6.1 The building occupying the north-west corner of the site is faced with coursed sandstone, and appears to have been Coulton's "Caxton Works" of the 1880s, of two storeys originally but heightened to its present four storeys probably at an early stage. The evidence for this enlargement is both documentary (as noted above in paragraph 4.3), and architectural, in the presence of a moulded kneeler or console just above a first floor window at the south-west end of the Every Street elevation, as well as the irregular heights of the upper storeys. However there is no obvious break in the stone courses, implying that similar building materials were still available when the change took place.
- 6.2 The Every Street elevation is four bays long, the right-hand bay being narrower than the others, and for the most part the window openings have plain ashlar surrounds with stooped sills, although the canted ground floor window and that next to it have moulded cornices. There is no entrance in this side of the building, but it is possible that the right-hand window was once a doorway. The Stanley Street return is of five bays, and one of the ground floor windows here has been cut down into a doorway. This side of building has simple window openings on all four storeys, with those to the top, attic storey being offset towards Every Street, perhaps because of a widening of the roof span when the building was heightened. The rear of this wing, which faces onto a back alley, has a number of openings, for the most part blocked, and it is possible that this contained the original entrance into the building, and although it would not have been a prestigious means of access, it is worth noting that the Caxton Works were described in 1890 as being located on Stanley Street, rather than Every Street. The roof of this L-shaped block which forms no. 109 is covered with blue

slate, incorporating roof lights to the attic storey, and there is a chimney stack at the south-west gable.

- 6.3 The adjoining part of the building appears to have been adapted from a pair of houses (nos. 111-113). These are rendered and have a later porch added in crude art deco form, with a pair of engaged columns flanking the entrance. The ground floor windows have what are probably contemporary cement arches, but the symmetry which survives in the first floor windows is not matched on the ground floor, thanks to the addition of the entrance. This arrangement probably dates to the 1920s and is implied by the depiction on the 1930 map (Figure 5).
- 6.4 To the south-west of here is a three storey brick and reinforced concrete structure which also surmounts nos. 111-113; it probably dates from the 1950s or 1960s and is of no architectural interest. It extends the full width of the plot, running as far as the back alley, and to the north-east runs up to the rear wing of no. 109.

Appendix 1: Method statement

109 – 115 EVERY STREET, NELSON, LANCASHIRE:

METHOD STATEMENT FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL BUILDING RECORDING

- 1** Conservation area consent for the demolition of a former printworks building at 109-115 Every Street has been granted by the Government Office for the West Midlands to Pendle Borough Council (planning application no 13/08/0631/P). A condition attached requires a detailed record of the building to be made before demolition. This method statement sets out the work which is proposed to allow this condition to be discharged, to the satisfaction of Pendle BC and the Lancashire County Archaeology Service.

- 2** The former printworks is built of brick and stone and appears to date from the second half of the 19th century and later phases. It has been disused for over five years and is derelict, in poor structural condition, and is infested by pigeons. Its individual architectural significance is low although it is an important element of the local street scene and therefore merits a low level of architectural recording to preserve it for archival purposes.

- 3** The recording will comprise an external photographic record made using a medium format camera with shift lens and black and white film. This will be accompanied by a written description of the building, and any readily available cartographic and historical evidence. These will be combined in a bound and illustrated report.

- 4** Photographic, report, and archive standards will be to the usual requirements of the Lancashire Archaeology Service.

- 5** Stephen Haigh is an established specialist in recording historic buildings in the region and has produced a number of reports in Nelson (eg the Salvation Army Citadel on Russell Street) and elsewhere in Pendle district.

Appendix 2: Contents of the project archive

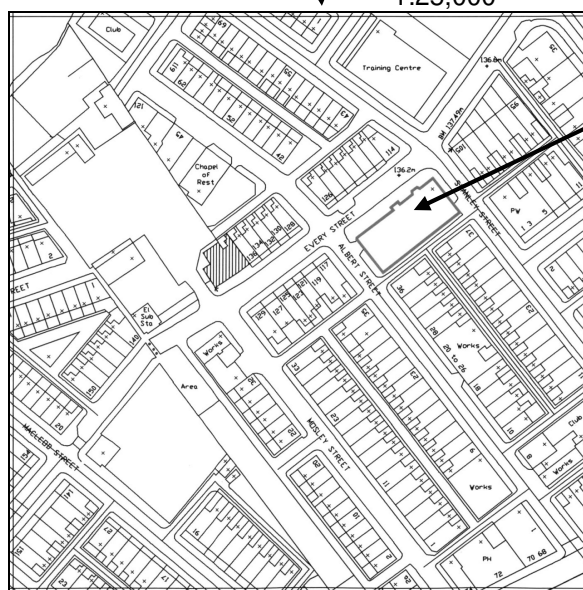
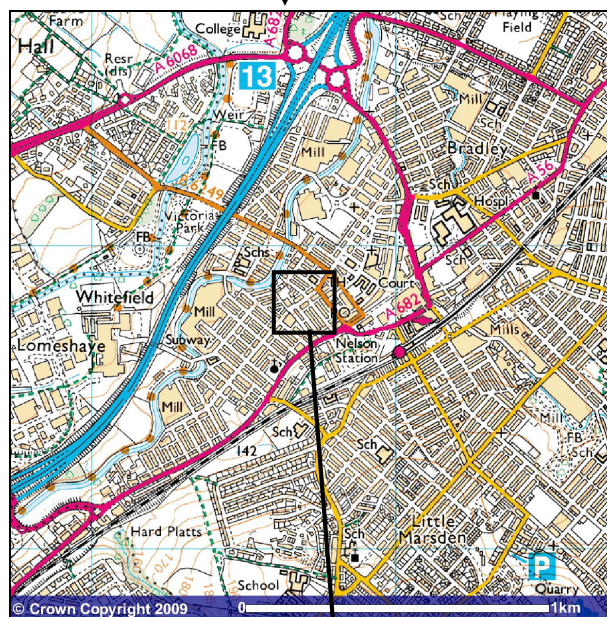
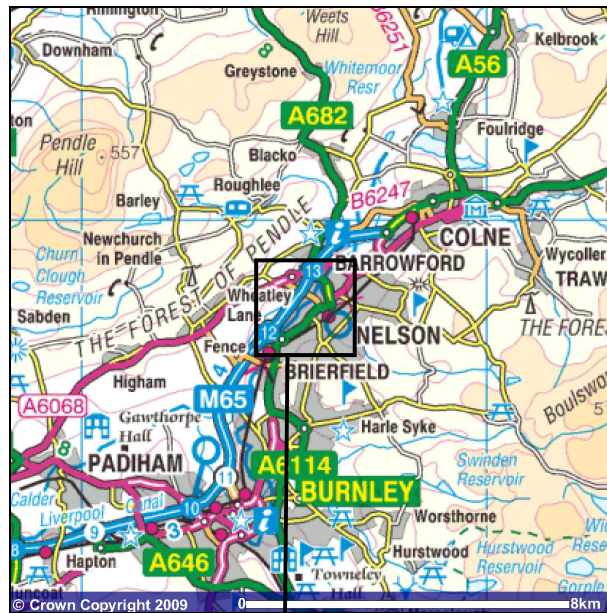
To be deposited with the Lancashire Record Office

1 file, containing:

- a copy of the report
- full set of black and white photographs and negatives

Complete list of photographs taken, in film order

Photo	Film	Frame	Subject
1	1	2	View of the building from the north-east (Stanley Street and Every Street elevations)
2	1	4	View of the building from the north-east (Every Street elevation)
7	1	5	View of the building from the east (Stanley Street elevation)
8	1	6	View of the building from the north-east (elevation to back alley off Stanley Street)
6	1	7	View of the building from the south-east, along Stanley Street
4	1	8	View of the building from the north (Every Street elevation)
5	1	10	Lower part of Every Street elevation, of no. 109
9	1	11	Every Street elevation, of nos 113-115
11	1	13	Lower part of Every Street elevation, of nos 111-113 (former pair of terraced houses)
10	1	14	Every Street elevation of nos 109-113, from the west
12	1	16	View of the building from the west (Every Street and Albert Street elevations)
13	1	17	View of the building from the south-west (elevations to Albert Street and back alley)
3	1	18	Distant view of the building from the south-west, along Every Street



109-115
Every Street

200m
1:2500 approx

Figure 1: Location maps

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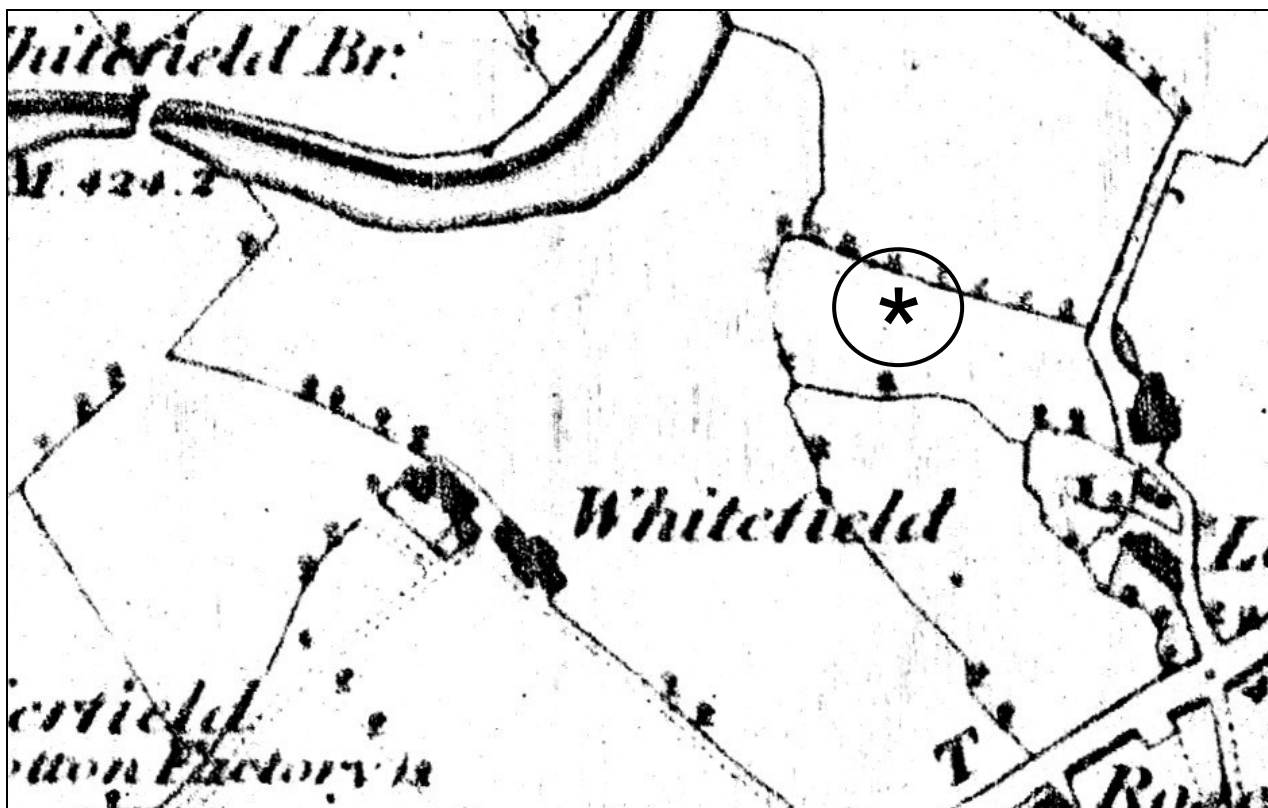


Figure 2

Extract from the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:10560 (6" to the mile) map of 1848, showing the Whitefield area before urban development. The asterisk marks the approximate location of the present site. (Sheet no: Lancashire 56, surveyed 1844; here enlarged to 1:2500)

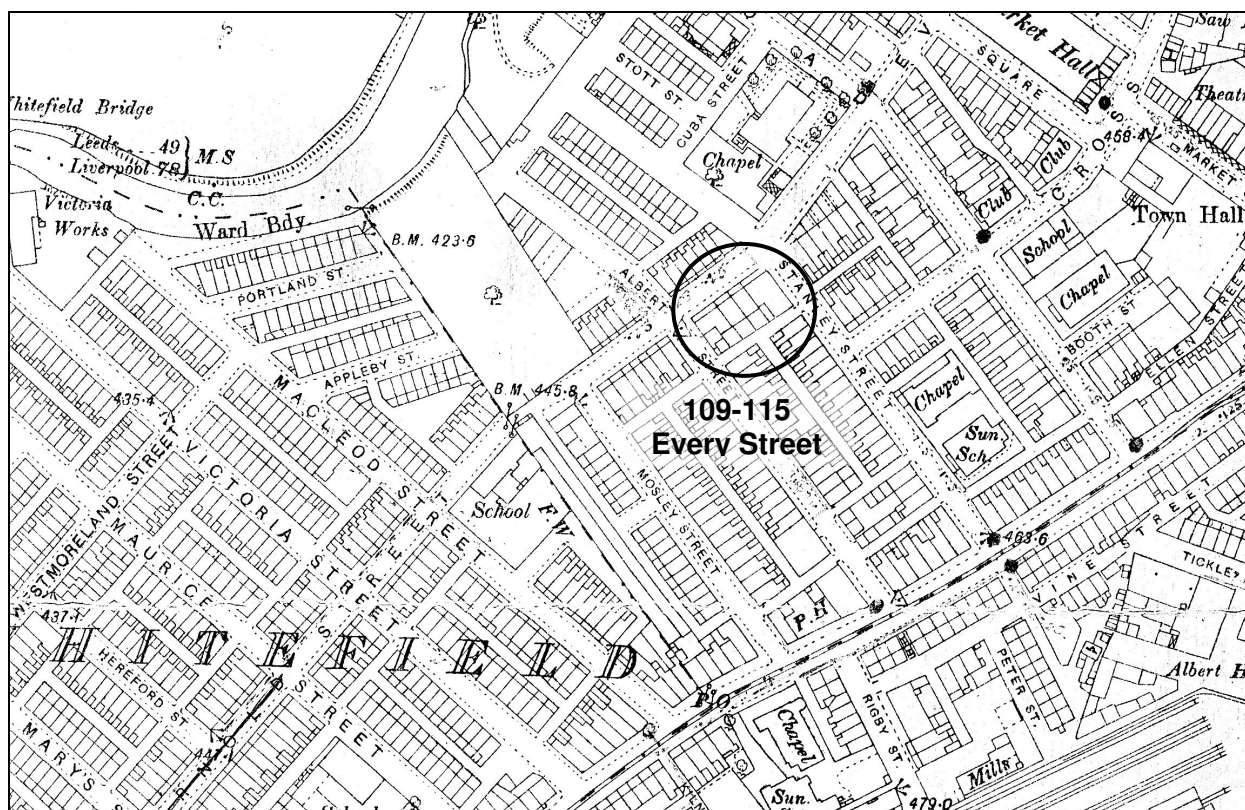


Figure 3

Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1893, showing the densely settled area of Whitefield. The site comprised the printworks and three adjacent houses at this date. (Sheet no: Lancashire 56.7, surveyed 1890)

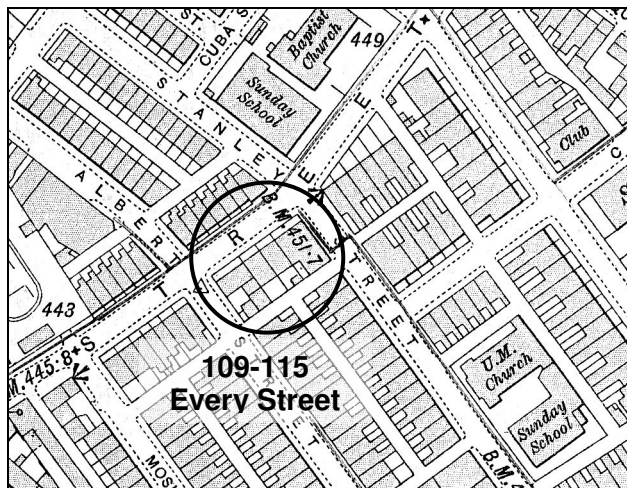


Figure 4

Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map of 1912, showing the site unchanged.
(Sheet no: Lancashire 56.7, revised 1910)

109-115
Every Street

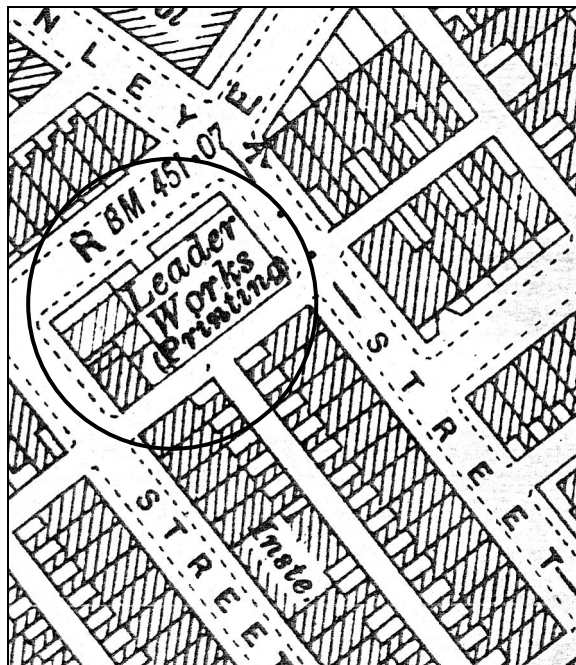
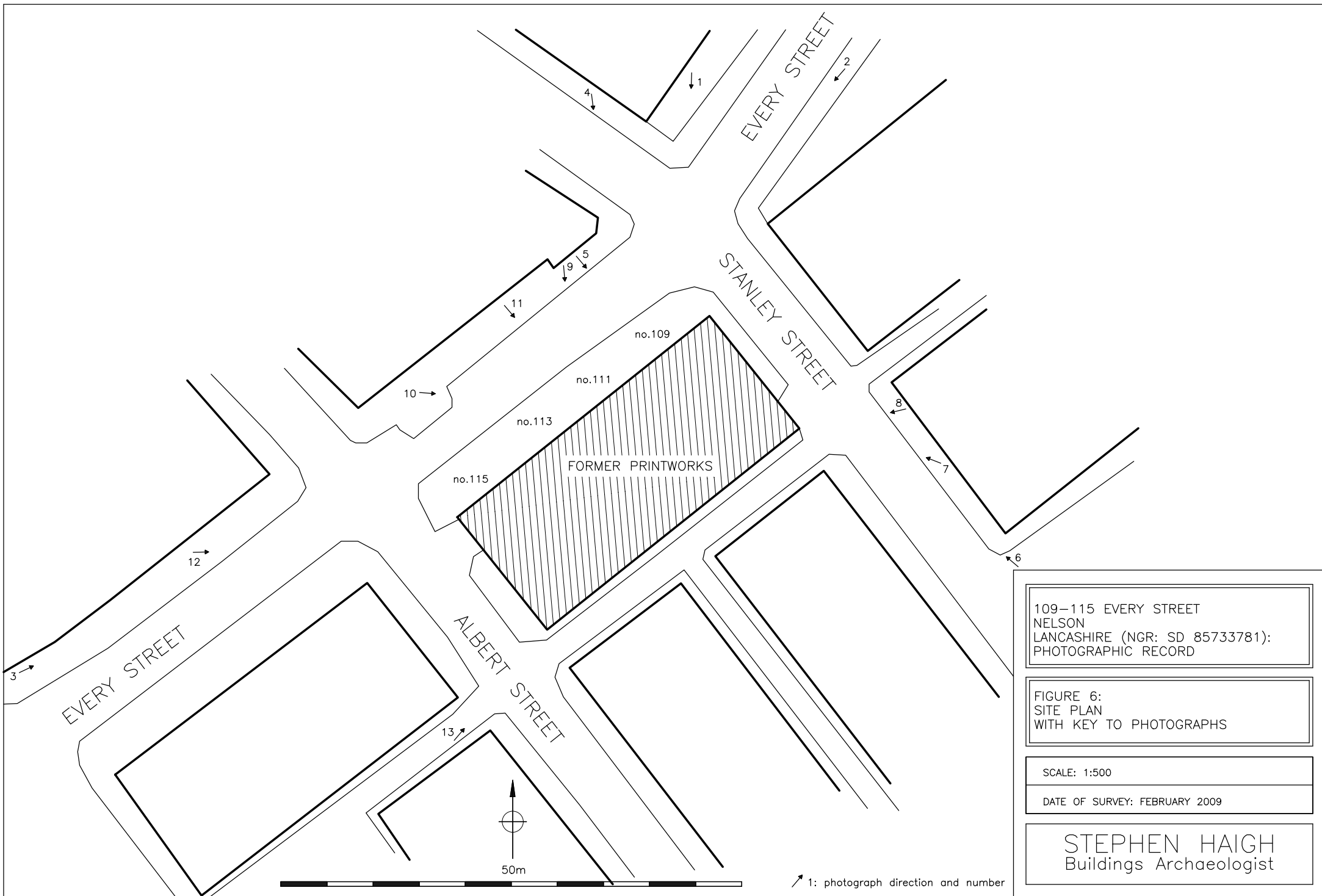


Figure 5

Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1:1250 map of 1932, showing the printworks having expanded into no. 113
Every Street.
(Sheet no: Lancashire 56.7NW, revised 1930)



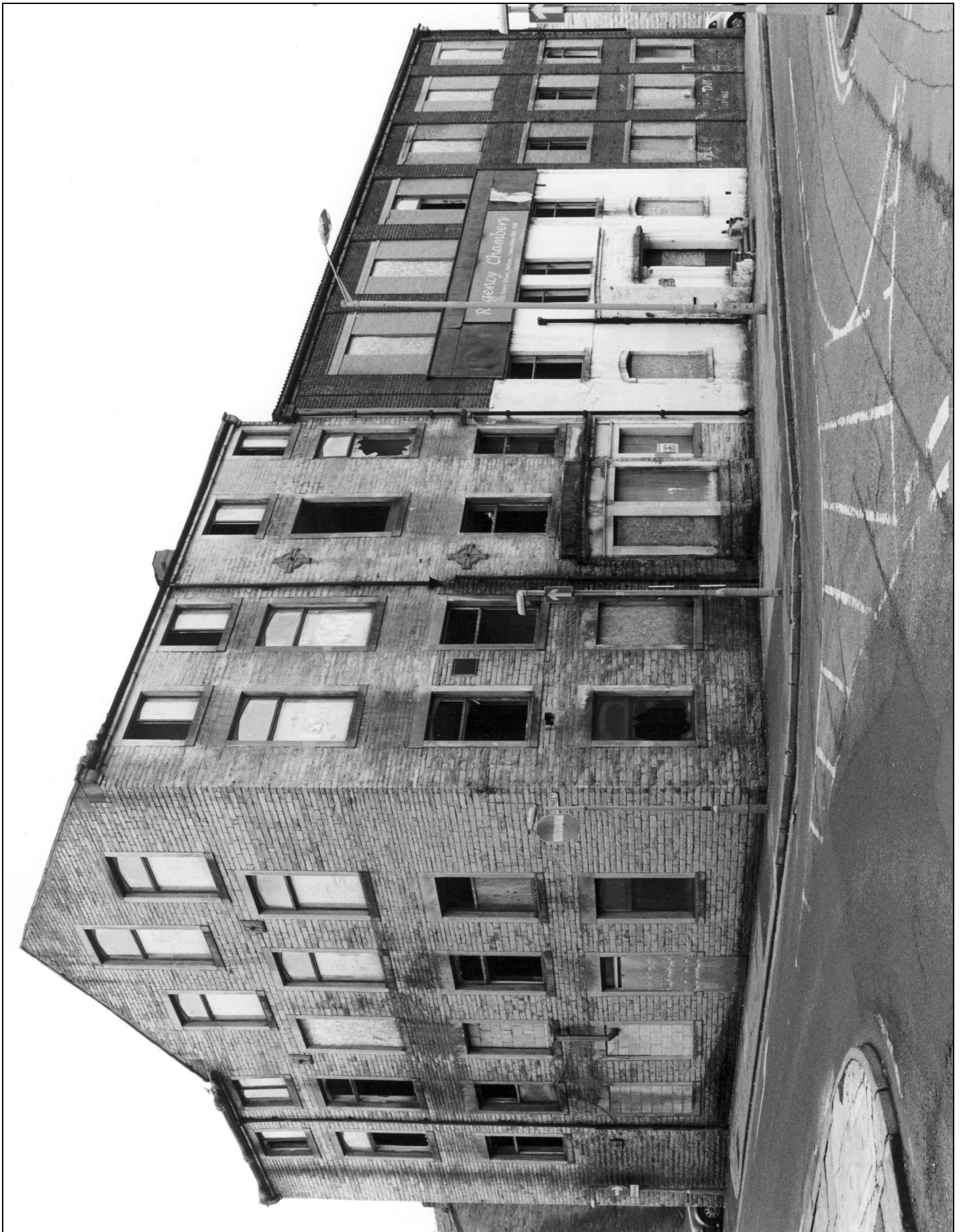


Photo 1: View of the building from the north-east (Stanley Street and Every Street elevations)



Photo 2: View of the building from the north-east (Every Street elevation)



Photo 3: Distant view of the building from the south-west, along Every Street



Photo 4: View of the building from the north (Every Street elevation)



Photo 5: Lower part of Every Street elevation, of no. 109



Photo 6: View of the building from the south-east, along Stanley Street



Photo 7: View of the building from the east (Stanley Street elevation)



Photo 8: View of the building from the north-east (elevation to back alley off Stanley Street)



Photo 9: Every Street elevation, of nos 113-115



Photo 10: Every Street elevation of nos 109-113, from the west



Photo 11: Lower part of Every Street elevation, of nos 111-113 (former pair of terraced houses)



Photo 12: View of the building from the west (Every Street and Albert Street elevations)



Photo 13: View of the building from the south-west (elevations to Albert Street and back alley)