

Archaeological Watching Brief
at
**NO. 105 GLENFROME ROAD,
EASTVILLE, BRISTOL.**
for
Leadbitter



Report No. 2110/2009
BHER No. 24763

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at
**NO. 105 GLENFROME ROAD,
EASTVILLE, BRISTOL.**

Centred on
N.G.R. ST 60480 75090

Client: Leadbitter

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NOTE

Notwithstanding that Bristol and Region Archaeological Services have taken reasonable 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.

March, 2009.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) were commissioned by Leadbitter to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the excavation of the groundworks associated with the construction a development containing office units, 12 flats and 8 houses on land known as No. 105 Glenfrome Road, Eastville, Bristol.
- 1.2 Leadbitter commissioned the watching brief to comply with the condition of planning consent 08/02930/F and in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (Bryant 2009). The fieldwork followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (1999) with the aim of recording any archaeological features or deposits revealed during the course of intrusive groundworks.
- 1.3 The project archive will be deposited with Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery under the Accession Number BRSMG 2009/25 and a copy of the report will be made available to the National Monuments Record maintained by English Heritage. The project has been entered in the Bristol Historic Environment Record as: BHER 24763 and in the OASIS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations as: bristola1- 570005.
- 1.4 The fieldwork was undertaken between the 18th and the 23rd of March 2009 under the supervision of Heather Hirons who also wrote this report. Ann Linge (Design & Production Officer) compiled the report and prepared illustrations and John Bryant (BaRAS Assistant Manager) managed the project.

2. SITE

- 2.1 The site (**Fig. 2**), centred on NGR ST 60480 75090, occupies an area of approximately 0.25 hectares, which slopes from approximately 69m aOD in the north of the site down to approximately 62m aOD in the south corner. It is bounded by Narrowways Road to the north and north-east, by Glenfrome Road to the south-east and by a Jewson's builders merchants to the south-west. The geology of the study area comprises Mercia Mudstone (British Geological Survey 1962). The site lies in the historic parish of Stapleton. The First Edition Ordnance Survey large-scale plan (1:2500) shows the site to be fields, but by the second and third editions (**Fig. 3** and **Fig. 4**) the site is shown to be a clay pit.

3. RESULTS

- 3.1 The excavation of two trenches was monitored during the course of the watching brief. Both were excavated by 360° mechanical excavator with a toothless bucket.
- 3.2 Trench 1 (**Plate 1**) was 13m long by 9.30m wide and 1.10m deep. It revealed the cut and fill of the large clay pit shown on the second and third edition Ordnance Survey plans (**Figs. 3 & 4**) as well as a cut and fill of a smaller clay pit.
- 3.3 Trench 2 (**Plate 2**) was watched for approximately 10m of its length and was approximately 5m wide. The depth of this trench only just extended through the demolition rubble from the previous building on the site to reveal a very modern made up ground layer. It was decided that this trench would reveal no archaeological features, so the remainder was not monitored.
- 3.4 It was deemed unnecessary to monitor the remaining groundworks on the site, as they were either shallow in nature or situated within what would be the fill of the clay pit.
- 3.5 Full details of all the contexts are contained in Appendix 2.

4. CONCLUSION

- 4.1 No archaeological features or remains of interest were observed during the course of the intrusive groundworks. The presence of the clay pit shown on the second and third edition Ordnance Survey maps indicate that any possible archaeological remains predating it would have been destroyed when it was originally excavated.

5. BIBLIOGRAPHY AND SOURCES CONSULTED

Published Works

Institute of Field Archaeologists, 1999 *Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

Maps

Ordnance Survey, First Edition	1:500 plan, 1881
Ordnance Survey, Second Edition	1:2500 plan, 1902
Ordnance Survey, Third Edition	1:2500 plan, 1912

Unpublished Material

Bryant, J., 2009, *Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief at 105, Glenfrome Road, Eastville, Bristol*, (BaRAS; unpublished written scheme of investigation)

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

BaRAS would like to thank Leadbitter and Bradwells for their assistance and co-operation and Bob Jones (BCC, City Archaeologist) for their advice.

APPENDIX 1: Policy Statement

This report is the result of work carried out in the light of national and local authority policies.

NATIONAL POLICIES

Statutory protection for archaeology is enshrined in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), amended by the National Heritage Act, 1983. Nationally important sites are listed in the Schedule of Ancient Monuments (SAM). Scheduled Monument consent is required for any work which would affect a SAM.

ODPM PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE

The Planning Policy Guidance of Archaeology and Planning (PPG 16) consolidates advice to planning authorities. The Guidance stresses the non-renewable nature of the archaeological resource, details the role of the County Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), encourages early consultation with county and district archaeological officers and sets out the requirement for developers to provide sufficient information on the archaeological impact of development to enable a reasonable planning decision to be made.

PPG 16 also indicates the circumstances where further work would be necessary and outlines the use of agreements and conditions to protect the archaeological resource.

DISTRICT POLICY

Bristol City Council Supplementary Planning Document (2006) states (policy SPD No.7, p4):

- (i) There will be a presumption in favour of preserving any archaeological features or sites of national importance, whether scheduled or not.
- (ii) Development which could adversely affect sites, structures, landscapes or buildings of archaeological interest and their settings will require an assessment of the archaeological resource through a desktop study, and where appropriate a field evaluation. Where there is evidence of archaeological remains, development will not be permitted except where it can be demonstrated that the archaeological features of the site will be satisfactorily preserved in situ, or a suitable strategy has been put forward to mitigate the impact of development proposals upon important archaeological remains and their settings; or, if this is not possible and the sites are not scheduled or of national importance, provision for adequately recording the site prior to destruction is made, preferably by negotiating a planning agreement to ensure that access, time and financial resources are available to allow essential recording and publication to take place.

APPENDIX 2: Context Descriptions

Trench 1

Context No.	Description
100	Layer of mixed rubble from the demolition of the building previously occupying the site.
101	Layer of made ground; mixed, brown, silty clay with frequent brick and stone rubble, up to 0.70m thick.
102	Fill for clay pit 103; mixed, mid brown, silty clay with ash and mortar lenses and moderate stone and brick rubble inclusions, filled the extent of cut 103 to the full excavation depth.
103	Cut of clay pit; running south-east to north-west across Trench 1 with irregular edges.
104	Demolition layer; friable crushed red brick layer below layer 101, 0.60m deep situated on the northern edge of Trench 1.
105	Natural clay; clean, orangey brown clay starting at a depth of 0.70m below the surface level.
106	Fill of small clay pit 107; with the same constituents as fill 102.
107	Cut for a small clay pit slightly north-east of cut 103, semicircular in shape, 3.1m in diameter.

Trench 2

Context No.	Description
200	Layer of mixed rubble from the demolition of the building previously occupying the site – same as layer 100.
201	Layer of made ground; mixed, brown, silty clay with frequent brick and stone rubble – same as layer 101.

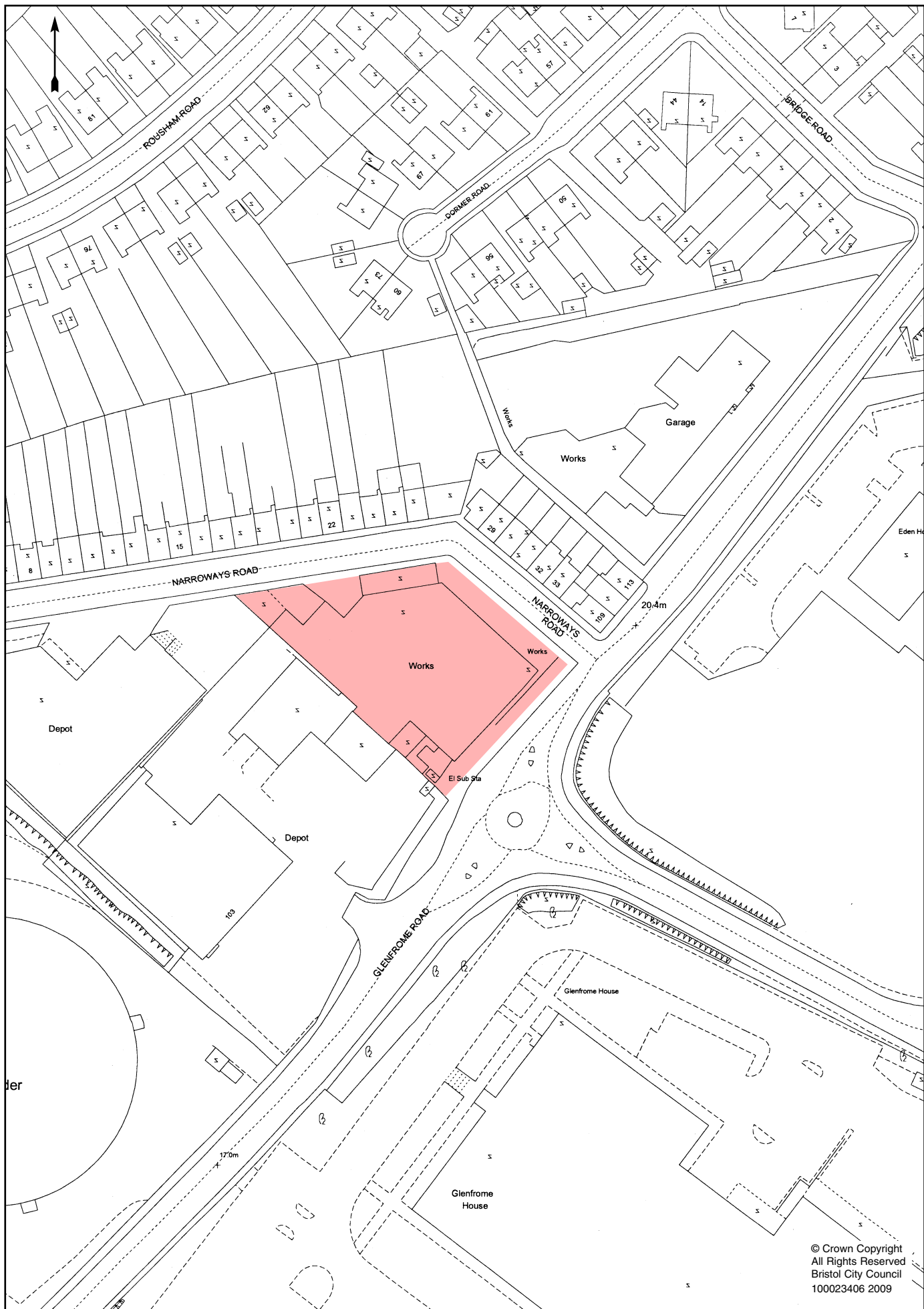


Fig.1 Site location plan, scale 1:1250

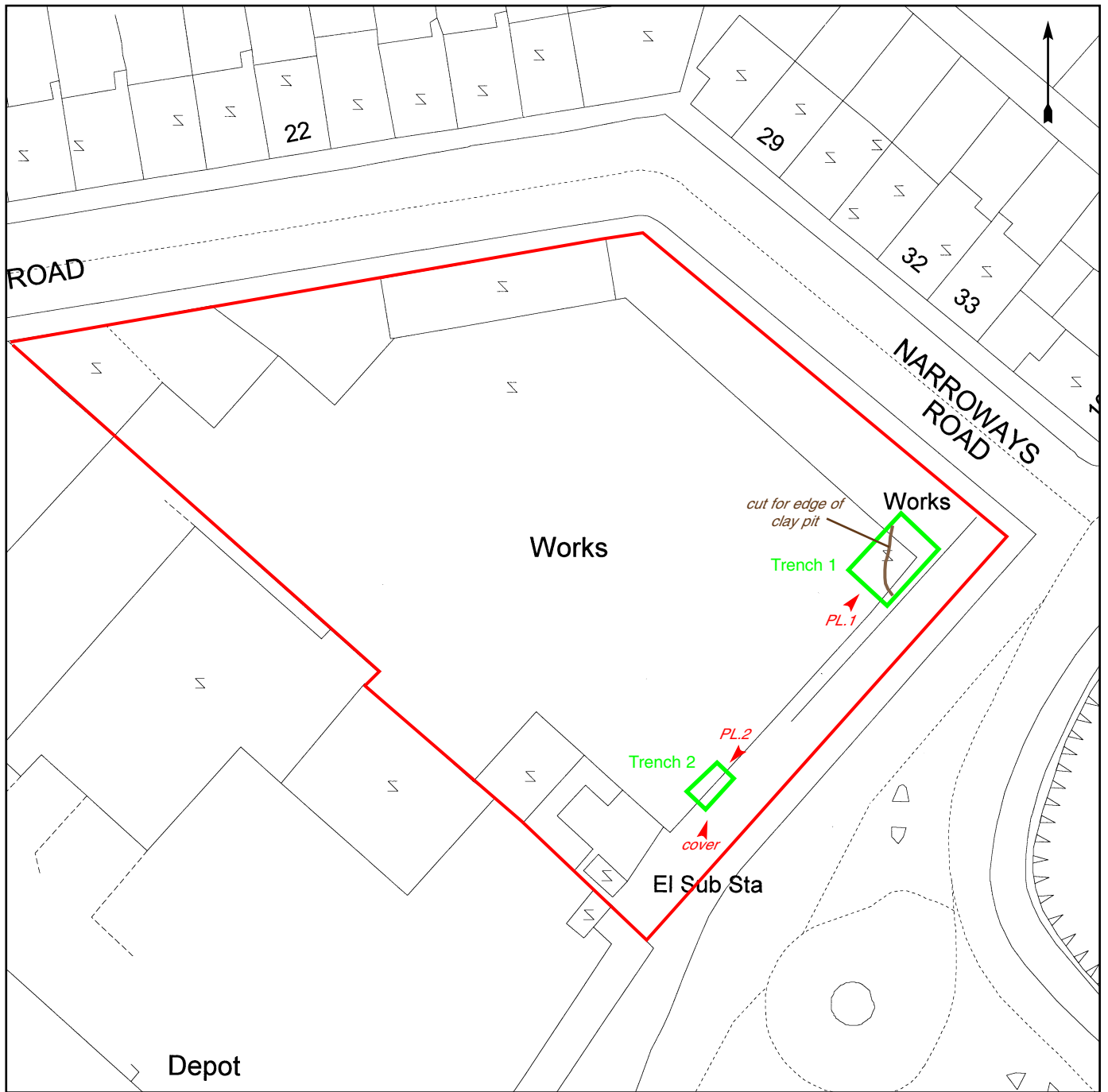


Fig.2 Plan showing study area in detail, scale 1:500

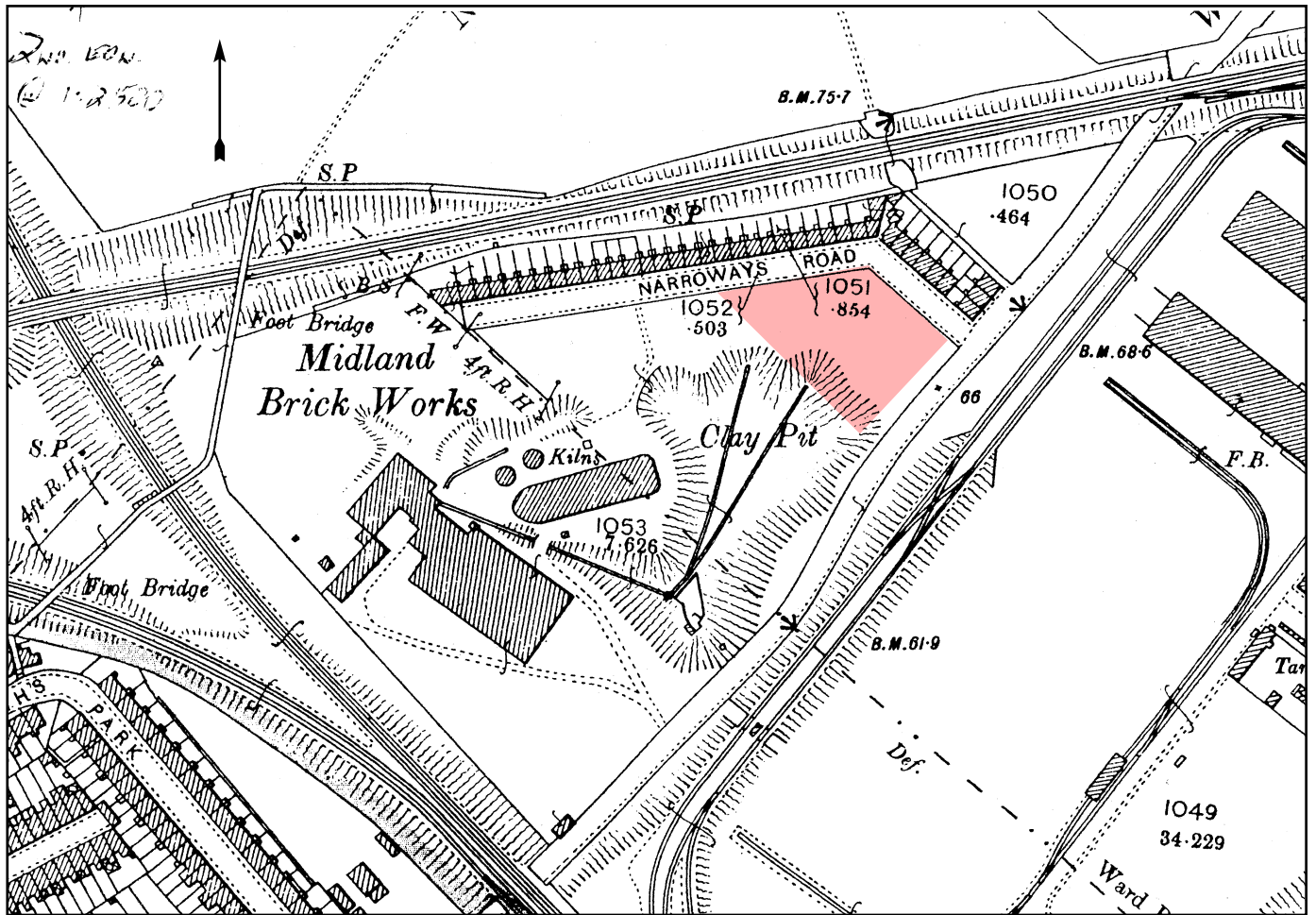


Fig.3 Second Edition Ordnance Survey plan, scale 1:2500

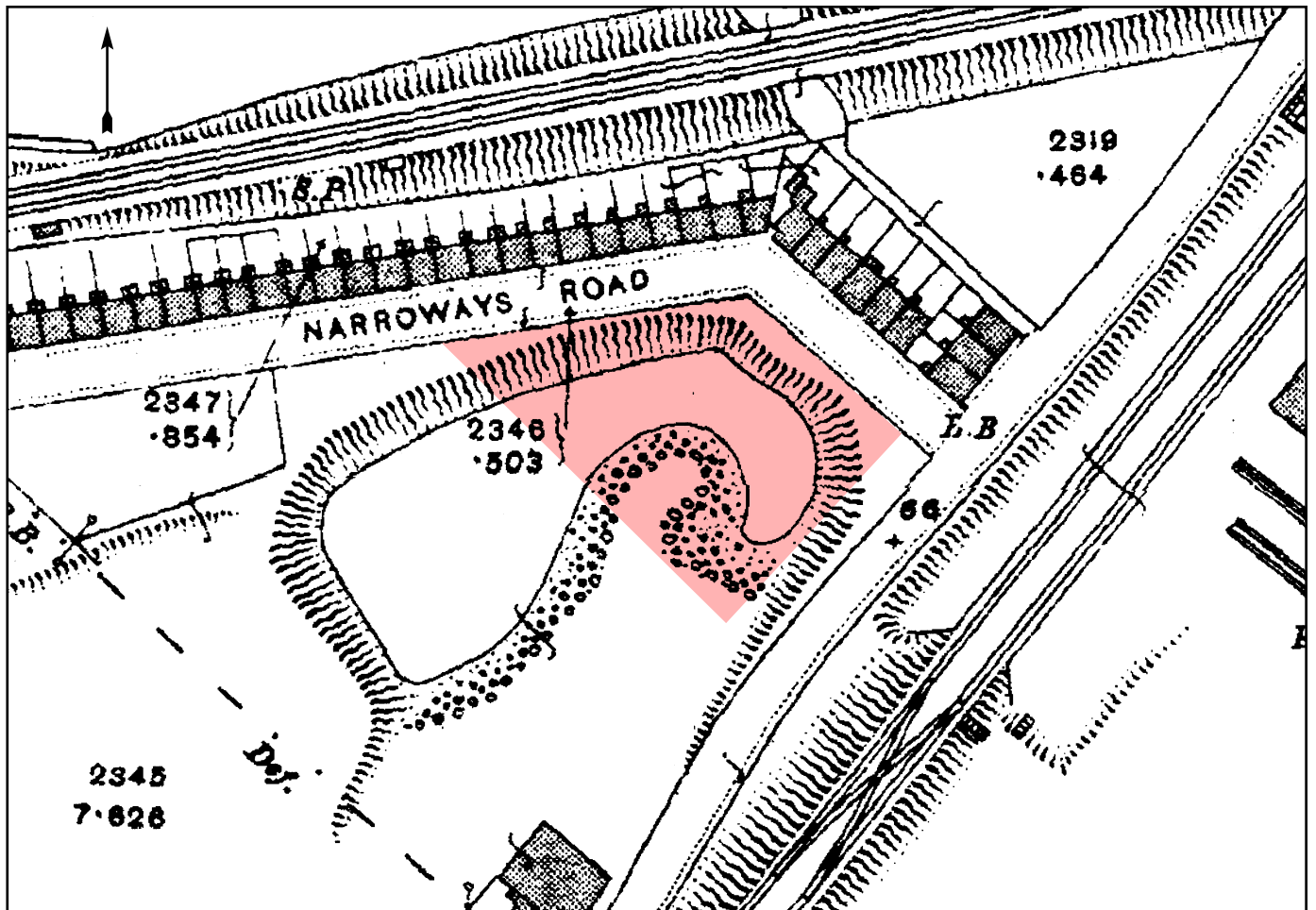


Fig.4 Third Edition Ordnance Survey plan, scale 1:2500 reproduced at 1:1250



Plate 1 Trench 1, looking north-east, showing the cut for the edge of the clay pit



Plate 2 Trench 2 during excavation, looking south-west