

Archaeological Building Recording
of an outbuilding at
**NO. 2, PEMBROKE ROAD,
SHIREHAMPTON, BRISTOL.**
for
Dignity Funeral Services



Report No. 2190/2009
BHER No. 24817



Bristol and Region Archaeological Services

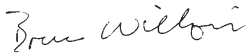

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Archaeological Building Recording
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**NO. 2, PEMBROKE ROAD,
SHIREHAMPTON, BRISTOL.**

Centred on
N.G.R. ST 53257 76795

Client: Dignity Funeral Services
Agent: LF Architecture Limited

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<i>Signature:</i>	
<i>Date Issued:</i>	7th October 2009 

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Abbreviations

AD	Anno Domini	c.	Circa
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum	Km	Kilometre
BaRAS	Bristol & Region Archaeological Services	m	Metre
BC	Before Christ	MoB	Museum of Bristol
BCC	Bristol City Council	NGR	National Grid Reference
BCL	Bristol Central Library	NMR	National Monuments Record
BCMAG	Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery	OS	Ordnance Survey
BHER	Bristol Historic Environment Record		
BRO	Bristol Record Office		
BSMR	Bristol Sites & Monuments Record		

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.

October, 2009.

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SUMMARY

Prior to demolition, a single-storey outbuilding was recorded to the rear of No. 2, Pembroke Road, Shirehampton, Bristol. Built of local stone rubble with red brick dressings, bonded in a creamy/light grey lime mortar, and with a clay pantile-covered pitched roof, it was probably erected in the 1880s for the local blacksmith. The gabled dwelling fronting the street was built simultaneously, with, in 1891, no less than four smiths resident. Early 20th-century OS plans recorded the outbuilding as the smithy, but it was later used by a wheelwright and undertaker, also for carpentry, and latterly was in use as a garage for a funeral director based at No. 2.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) were commissioned by Louise Flower, of LF Architecture Limited, on behalf of Dignity Funeral Services, to undertake a Level 2 building survey of an outbuilding (latterly used as a garage) at No. 2, Pembroke Road, Shirehampton, Bristol. The survey was commissioned as a condition of planning consent for demolition of the building, which would involve demolition of the building (planning ref 09/02646/LCF).
- 1.2 The project was conducted in accordance with the methodology outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by BaRAS in 2009.
- 1.3 Recording of the building was undertaken on 2nd October 2009 by John Bryant, who also wrote this report.
- 1.4 The project archive will be deposited with Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery under the Accession Number BRSMG 2009/72 and a digital 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 24817 and in the OASIS Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations as: bristola1- 64980.

2. THE SITE (Fig. 1; Plates 1 & 2)

- 2.1 The site lies close to the eastern end of Pembroke Road, Shirehampton, on its northern side, NGR ST 53257 76795. This particular structure occupies the north-east corner of the yard. The principal building is occupied by Stenner and Hill, Funeral Directors.
- 2.2 According to the British Geological Survey, the site lies on the Second Terrace (Gravel) of the Pleistocene, above Mercia Mudstone of the Triassic period. The site lies at about 32.60m aOD.
- 2.3 The site is inside the Shirehampton Conservation Area. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on or near the site. No buildings on the site are listed, although there are several Grade II structures, mostly dwellings, nearby, especially around Shirehampton Green. St Mary's, the parish church, 150m to the west, is also Grade II.

3. SURVEY OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The principle objectives of the survey were to make a complete photographic record of the building prior to its demolition and to record any structural changes and developments made to the building since its construction.
- 3.2 This survey was conducted to English Heritage level 2 which comprised of photographic recording of the building with written notes and amendments to existing floor plans and elevations where needed.

4. GENERAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 No previous archaeological study of this site has been produced, although there has been previous recording of buildings within the Shirehampton Conservation Area.
- 4.2 This site lies within the historic core of Shirehampton, which was part of the ancient parish of Westbury-on-Trym. Until 1904 this was part of the County of Gloucestershire, but was then absorbed into the City and County of Bristol.
- 4.3 Taylor's 1771 survey of the village showed that this was part of parcel 121, owned by Edward Southwell of Kings Weston House and described as "House etc" (BRO 26570). Although two buildings were shown, the area occupied by the present structure was vacant. Sturge's 1817 parish map also showed nothing here (NRO Map 616). A building may have been shown to the west by the 1826 OS 2-inch map: there was certainly a rectangular block at right angles to the street on the 1840 tithe map (BRO EP/A/32/34; **Fig. 2**). The tithe map building was at one end of an unidentified parcel behind parcels 98-100 and is probably the same range that still stands along the west side of Stenner and Hill's yard. The larger-scale OS 1:2500 plan, surveyed in 1879, showed the remainder of the plot as still undeveloped, but by the next edition, revised in 1902, the present building had appeared (**Figs. 3 & 4**). It was marked as a smithy on both that map and the following edition (rev. 1912), but was not identified on the 1952-surveyed 1:1250 OS sheet.
- 4.4 Eliel Warry was working as a blacksmith in the village at the time of both the 1871 and 1881 Censuses, latterly at Park Place. The 1891 Census recorded him as resident at Pembroke House (i.e. the present site), together with his family and a journeyman lodger. Eliel, his son Arthur and the lodger (Ernest Carey) were all described as "Shoeing & General Smith", whereas son Harry was a "Blacksmith". Contemporary street directories listed Warry as a farrier. He was also listed in the 1910 directory, by which time he would have been in his mid-70s. Only a few years later, the 1914 directory had Thomas Gould, wheelwright, at the premises, as was the case also in 1923. By the mid-1930s, Gould was being described as "wheelwright, undertaker & blacksmith". He remained at Pembroke House for some years, still being listed there in the 1958 directory, when he was a "carpenter & funeral director". However, by the time of the 1968-69 edition, Stenner & Hill, funeral directors, were in occupation, with John S. Hill also recorded at the address.

5. THE BUILDING SURVEY (Figs. 5 & 6; Cover & Plates 1-17)

- 5.1 Number 2, Pembroke Road comprises an L-shaped block occupying the south and west sides of a rectangular site, with a detached single-storey block (latterly a garage) close to the north-east corner of the enclosed yard (**Cover and Plates 2-3**). All structures are of a similar construction, that is, built of local stone rubble with red brick dressings, and including the very occasional slag block. A creamy to light grey lime mortar with various inclusions has been used. Cartographic evidence suggests that the west range was erected some time before the remainder, although the present street frontage, with its two gables, appears as of a single build. The full set of buildings was completed between the 1879 and 1902 surveys, at about the time that Eliel Warry moved to the premises, and it may well be that he was largely responsible for the site as we see it today.
- 5.2 The building proposed for removal is the detached block on the east side of the yard, which is constructed from slightly smaller stone than the main building (**Plate 3**). Red brick dressings have been used, as elsewhere, but utilising several thicknesses of brick in more than one shade, although this does not appear to be significant. In dimensions, the block is 11.25m in length and 6.20m wide (5.67m excluding the east wall), with the north, west and south walls each 410mm thick. Height is 2.60m to the bottom of the wall plate and about 5.20m to the apex of the front gable. The east wall incorporates the longer east boundary wall, which continues in both directions (**Plate 4**); the north gable wall is plain rubble (**Plate 5**). A small, narrow area immediately north of the building is said to have been used for storage of coals during the time of the smithy.
- 5.3 From north to south, the west wall includes a doorway, a window with its frame totally missing, and a second window with a wooden frame. Two brickwork courses have been used for the entire length above the openings, the upper course being bricks laid as headers on edge (**Plate 3**). There is a wide doorway in the south end wall, with RSJs spanning the opening, and a metal-framed window in the gable above (**Cover**). In the west wall, the doorway and second window have timber lintels, but there is a modern concrete lintel above the first window. No door has survived in the side wall, while the front entrance has a modern up-and-over door with sizeable counterweights (**Plate 6**). The wooden window frame is pegged, divided by two small mullions into three lights, each of 8 panes (**Plate 7**).
- 5.4 Flooring inside the building, which is now used as a garage, is entirely brick with the exception of one area towards the rear, where a T-shaped panel has been laid with concrete, and this may have been the site of the forge (**Plates 8-10**). Due to the slight rise in yard level outside, there is a half-step up through the side door. Inside the southernmost window, the cill is lower than for outside (**Plate 11**). West of the garage door survive some examples of old electrical switches (**Plate 12**). The northern jamb of the open window continues down to floor level as a straight joint, visible both inside and out (**Plate 9**). Between the straight joint and the doorway, the interior face of the west wall is entirely of brick, the only length of any wall so constructed. About 70% of the east wall sets back slightly at wall plate level, with the northern remainder built up to roof height with additional brickwork (**Plate 13**).
- 5.5 No ceiling exists or ever appears to have done. The roof is supported on two wooden trusses, 100mm thick, which each have raking struts and a central wrought-iron king bolt in lieu of a king post (**Plate 14**). Truss timbers are fully jointed – no nails or bolts are visible. Joints in the northern truss only are marked (with a chiselled ‘I’, *sans serif*), all on the north-facing side (**Plate 15**). The arrangement of timbers in the middle bay is possible evidence for a former central roof vent (**Plate 16**). One purlin carries the common rafters on each pitch of the roof, the whole underside of which is felted. Roofing is in the form of clay pantiles, which are also used for the single-storey part of the west range, although Double Romans cover the 2-storey buildings.

- 5.6 Although strictly outside the parameters of the survey, it was noted that the well (first recorded on the 1879 OS 1:2500) survives at the northern end of the yard, protected by a single Pennant slab (**Plate 17**).

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The survey made a photographic record of the building, inside and outside. It comprises a single-storey block with pitched roof, similar in construction to other buildings on the site in that local stone rubble has been used with red brick dressings. This appears to have been erected in the 1880s as a purpose-built smithy and constructed simultaneously with the two-storey range fronting the street, probably for Eliel Warry, who was then the village blacksmith and had been for some years. At the time of the 1891 Census there were no less than four smiths resident at the address. Thomas Gould, who took over the business prior to the First World War, was a wheelwright and blacksmith, later taking on the role of village undertaker in addition. His successors, Stenner and Hill, who still occupy the premises, have been funeral directors only, and they have used the building for garaging.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Maps and Drawings

Taylor, I	1771-2	<i>Maps of several estates, belonging to Edward Southwell esq... also Shirehampton...</i> BRO 26570
Sturge, Y and JP	1817	Map of Westbury-on-Trym and Shirehampton (Northampton Record Office, map 616)
Ordnance Survey	1826	1:31680 map
Sturge, Y and JP	1840	<i>Tything of Shirehampton in the parish of Westbury-upon-Trym</i> (BRO EP/A/32/34)
Ordnance Survey	1879	1:2500 plan
Ordnance Survey	1902	1:2500 plan
Ordnance Survey	1912	1:2500 plan
Ordnance Survey	1952	1:1250 plan
Ordnance Survey	2007	1:1250 plan

Electronic Sources

Census returns for 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

BaRAS would like to thank Messrs. Stenner and Hill for arranging access to the building.

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.

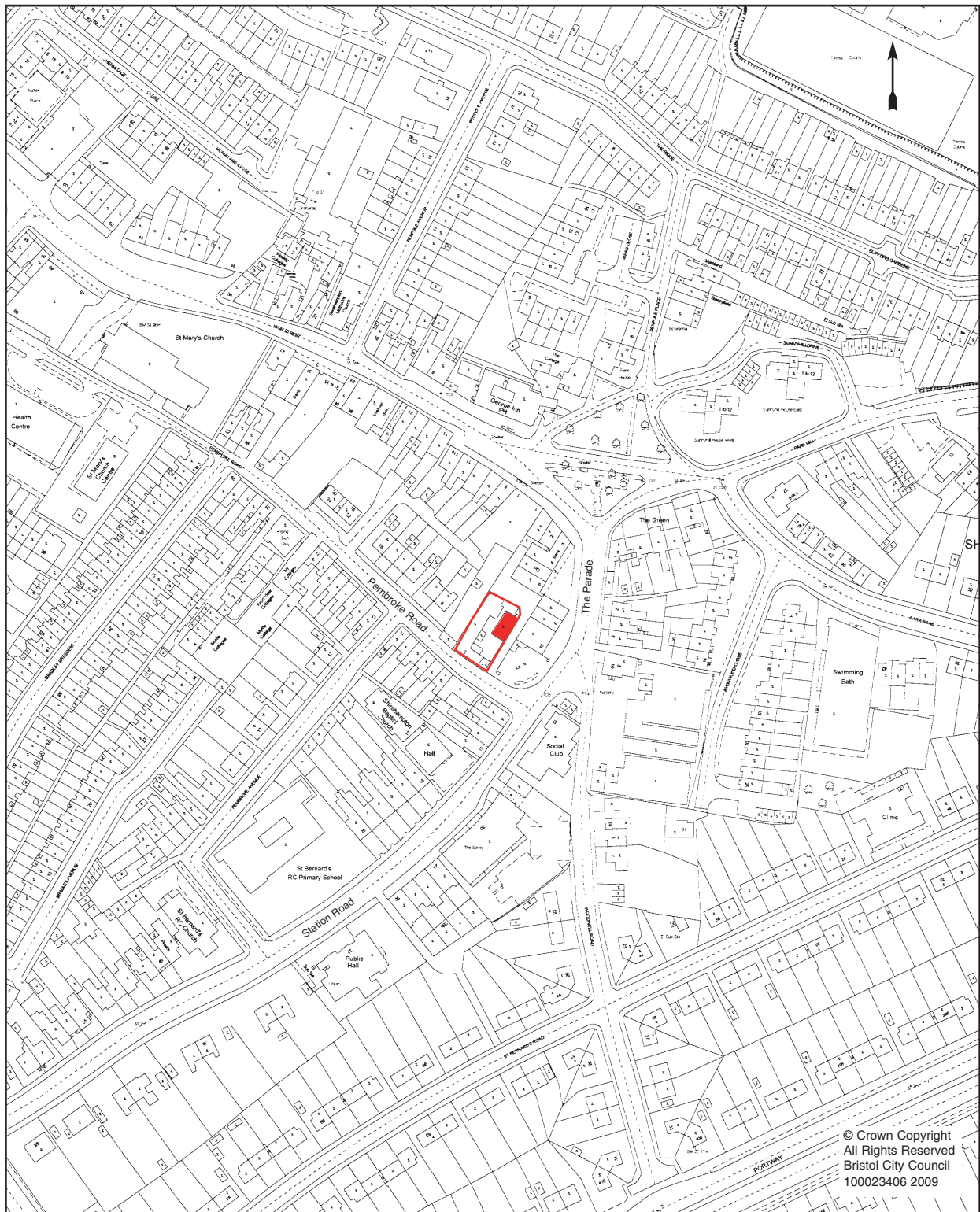


Fig.1 Site location plan, scale 1:2500



Fig.2 Extract from 1840 tithe map

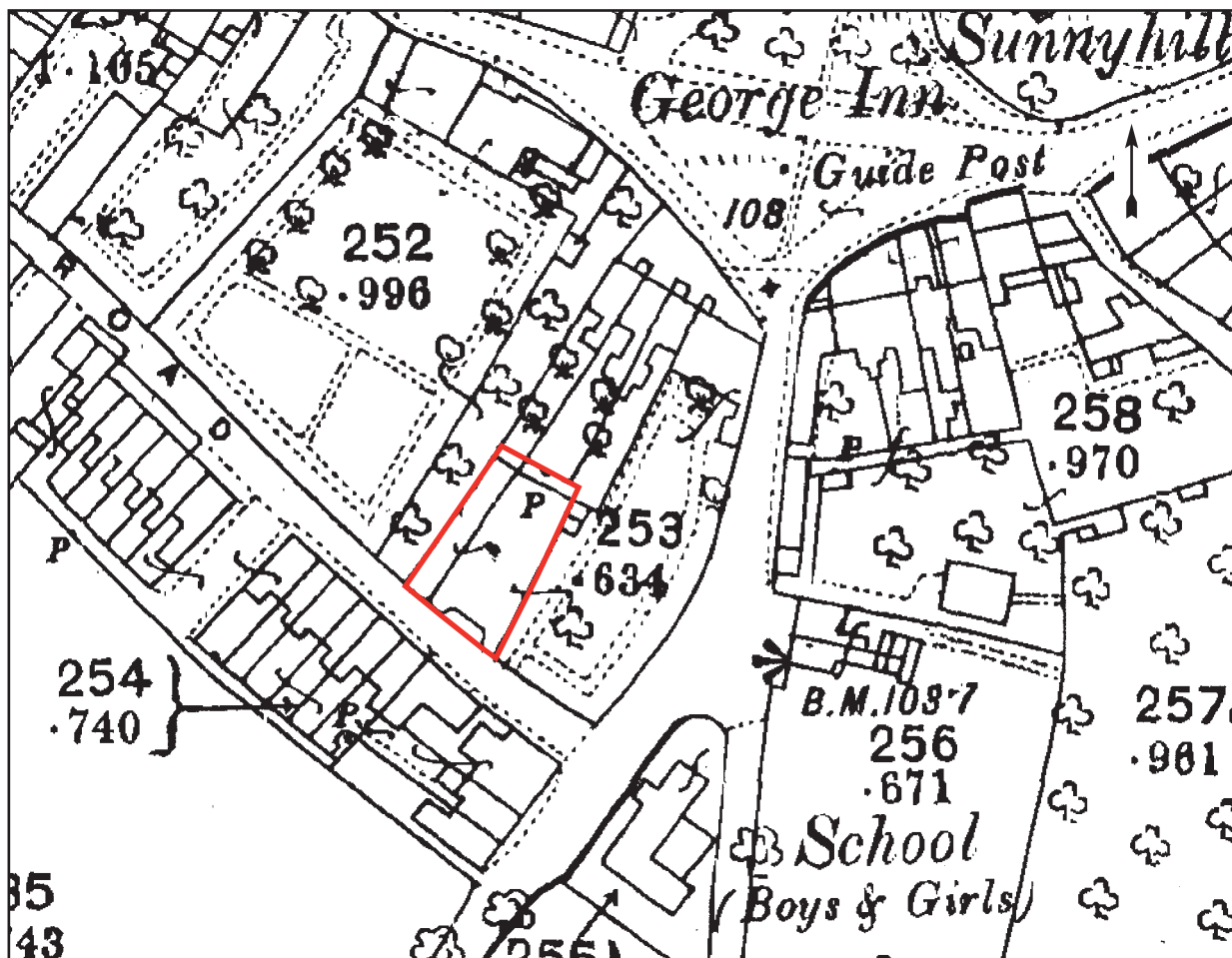


Fig.3 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan, 1879

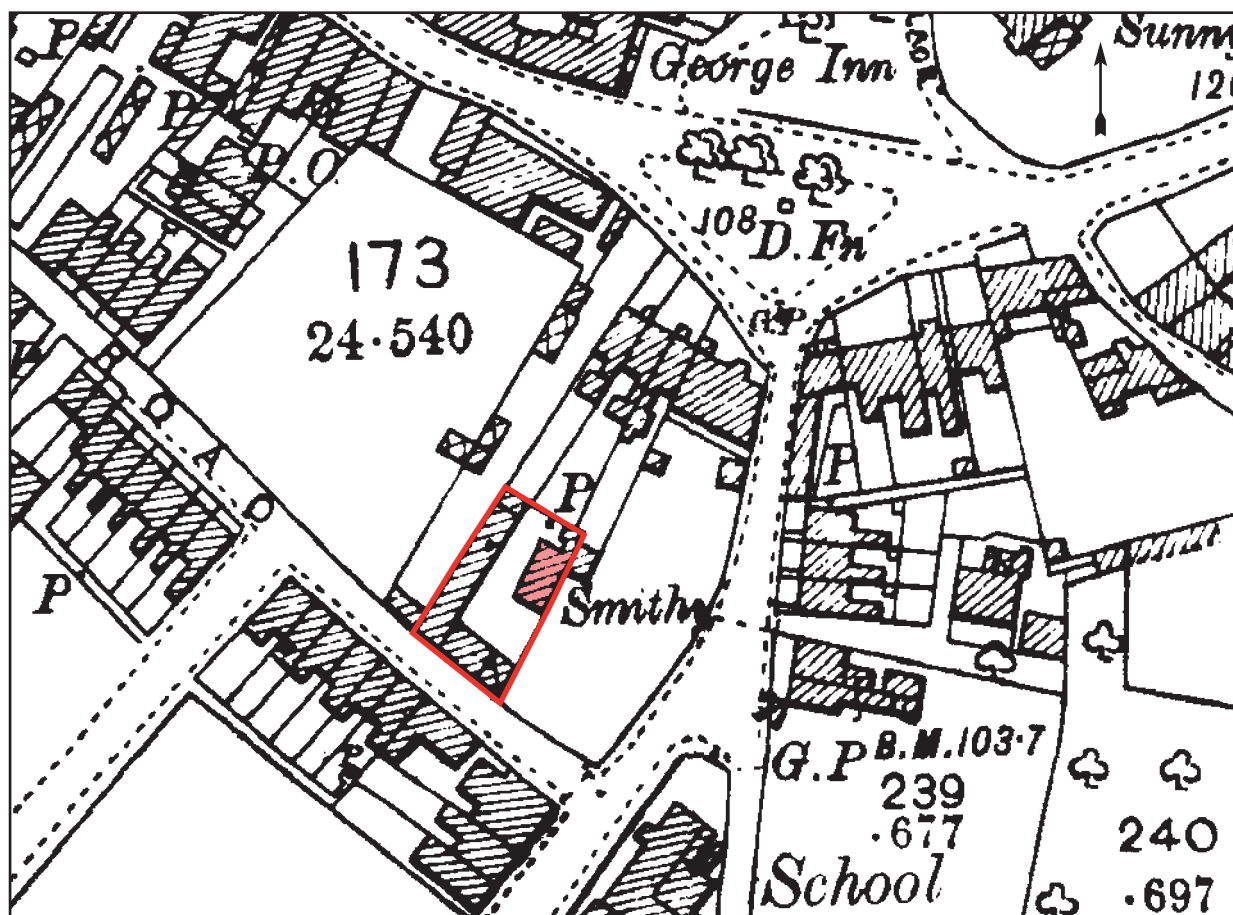


Fig.4 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plan, 1902

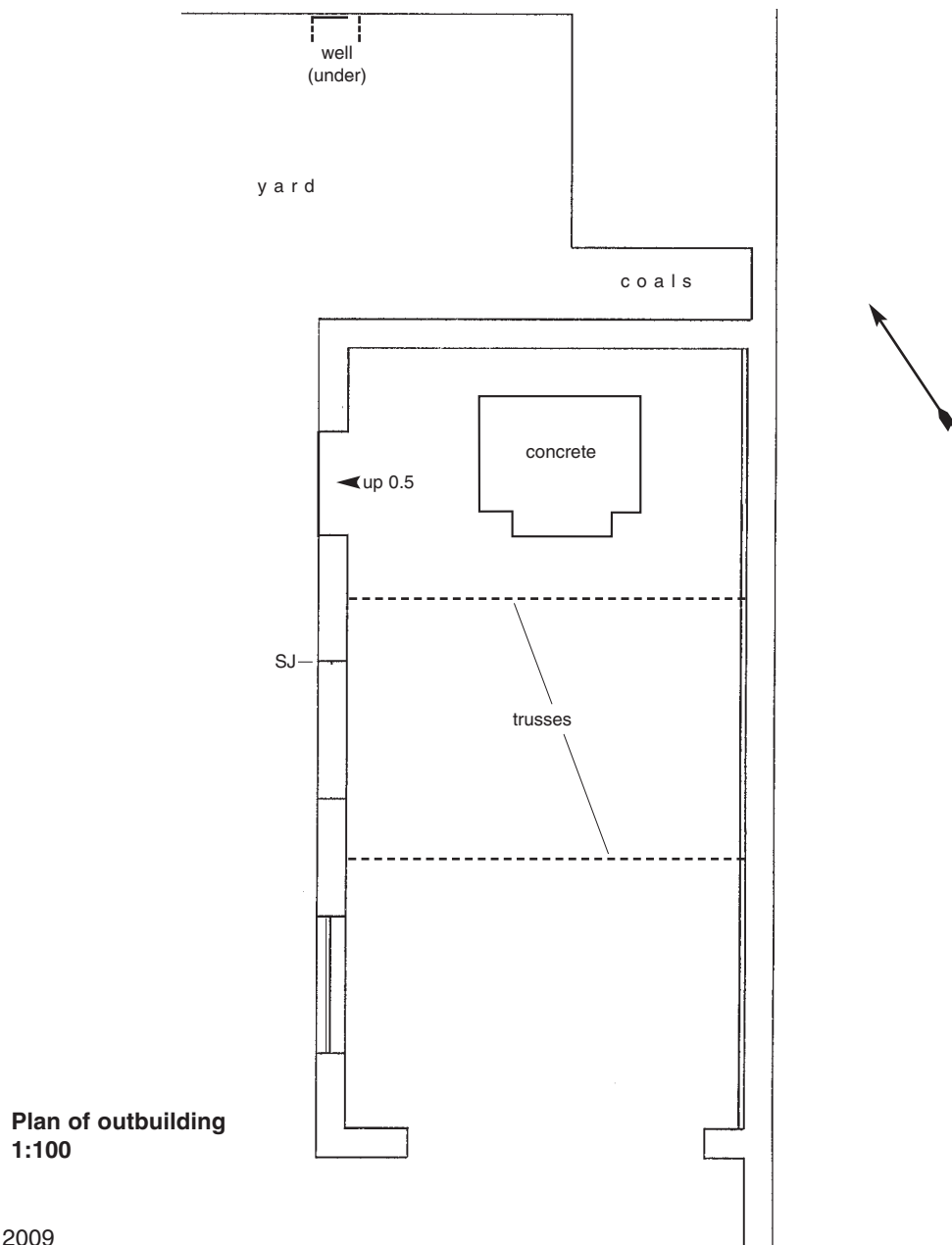


Fig.6 Plan, 2009

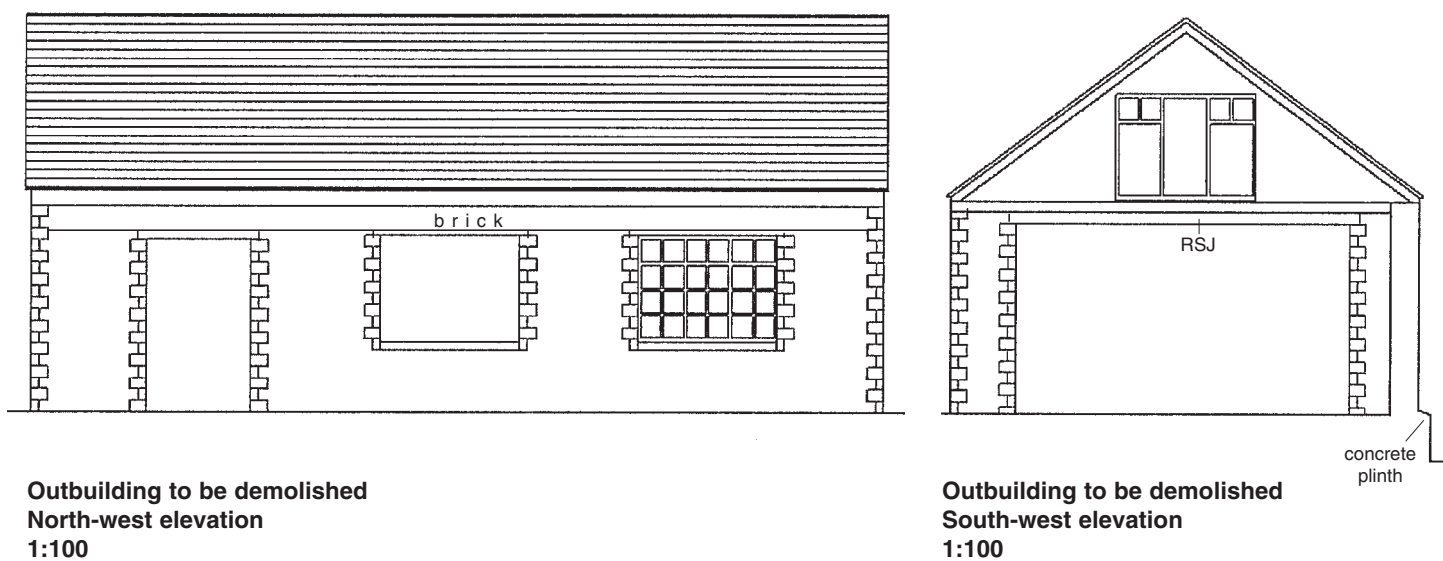


Fig.6 Elevations, 2009



Plate 1 Street frontage of No. 2, with garage visible through haulingway arch



Plate 2 Looking north-west in yard, with garage outbuilding on right



Plate 3 Building seen from north-west



Plate 4 East boundary wall and view of building from south-east



Plate 5 North elevation, from north-west



Plate 7 Southern window in west elevation

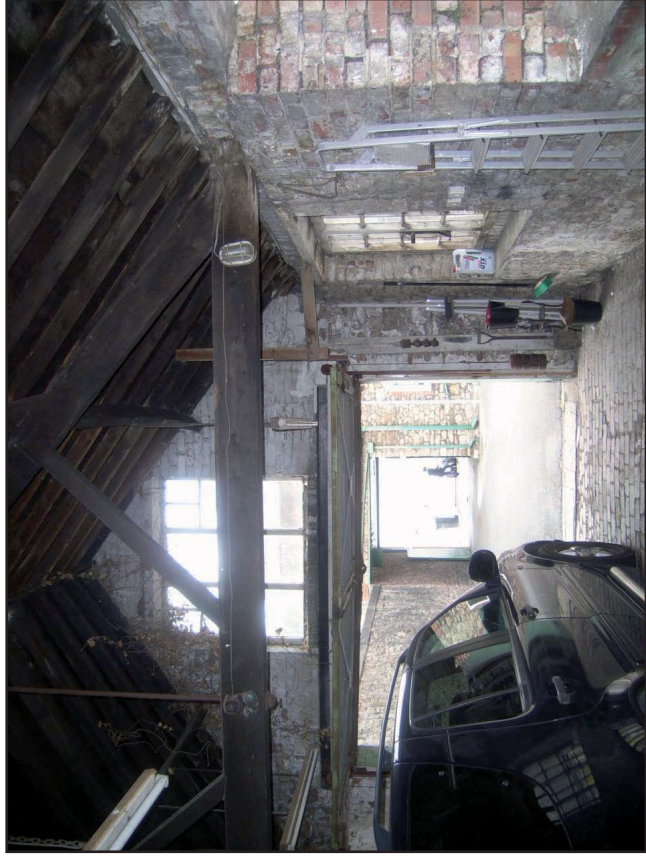


Plate 6 Interior, looking south: note counterweights to garage door



Plate 8 Interior, looking north and north-east



Plate 9 Interior of west wall, from north-east: note straight joint and area of brick walling



Plate 10 Concrete panel (possible forge base), from south-west: with 2m scale



Plate 11 Inside of southern window



Plate 12 Old electrical switches beside garage door



Plate 13 Raised brickwork at north end of east wall



Plate 14 Northern roof truss, seen from south-west



Plate 15
Northern roof
truss: detail of
carpenter's mark



Plate 16
Underside of
roof, showing
site of possible
former ventilator



Plate 17
Covered well at
north end of yard