

Archaeological Photographic Recording
of PRC houses at
LAWRENCE WESTON, HENBURY AND LOCKLEAZE,
BRISTOL.

for
Bristol City Council, Neighbourhoods



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LAWRENCE WESTON, HENBURY AND LOCKLEAZE,
BRISTOL.

Centred on
N.G.R. ST
Lawrence Weston 54510 78225
Henbury 57000 78750
Lockleaze 60850 77050

Client: Bristol City Council, Neighbourhoods

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Abbreviations

AD	Anno Domini	Km	Kilometre
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum	m	Metre
BaRAS	Bristol & Region Archaeological Services	NGR	National Grid Reference
BC	Before Christ	NMR	National Monuments Record
c.	Circa	OS	Ordnance Survey
HER	Historic Environment 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.

January, 2011.

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SUMMARY

A photographic recording exercise was undertaken in three separate areas of Bristol. In Lawrence Weston, 64 houses on 8 separate streets were photographed, in Henbury 22 houses on 2 streets were photographed and 73 houses on 5 separate streets in Lockleaze were also covered by the survey. All of the types photographed during the survey appear to have been built by Woolaway between 1947 and 1951 and are described as "Woolaway Type". Those recorded were either terraced or semi-detached with minor variations of porches, doors and windows.

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) were commissioned by Neighbourhoods, Bristol City Council to undertake photographic recording of 159 houses in three areas of Bristol on 15 separate streets in Lawrence Weston, Henbury and Lockleaze. In Lawrence Weston, 64 houses on 8 separate streets were photographed, in Henbury 22 houses on 2 streets were photographed and 73 houses on 5 separate streets in Lockleaze were also covered by the survey. This work was commissioned as a condition of planning consent prior to the demolition of the houses and their replacement with new residential properties. The work was carried out in accordance with the methodology outlined in a Written Scheme of Investigation produced by BaRAS 2010.
- 1.2 The photographic survey was undertaken by Raymond Ducker on 13th December 2010. This report was written by R. K. Ducker
- 1.3 The project archive will be deposited with Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery under the Accession Numbers BRSMG 2010/77-9 and a digital copy of the report will be sent to the National Monuments Record maintained by English Heritage. The project has been entered in the Bristol Historic Environment Record and in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) as follows:-

Lawrence Weston - BHER 24971, bristola1-90064,

Henbury - BHER 24972, bristola1-90067,

Lockleaze - BHER 24973, bristola1-90082.

2. THE SITES

2.1 The houses are located as follows, in Lawrence Weston:

Nos 4 – 15 Knowill Close
Nos 23 – 33, 35, 37, 43, 45, 47 and 49 Capel Road
Evens, Nos 2 – 12 Commonfield Road
Nos 1 & 3 Awdlett Close
Nos 1 – 6 Little Mead
Nos 18 & 20 Oakhanger Drive
Nos 3 – 8 Deans Mead
Nos 3 – 16 Astry Close

2.2 The houses in Henbury were located as follows:

Nos 1 – 14 Richeson Close
Nos 1 – 8 Monsdale Close

2.3 The houses in Lockleaze were located as follows:

Nos 14, 16, Odds 17 to 27, 28 to 33 and odds 35 to 43 Constable Road
Evens 6 – 20 and 30 – 48 Crome Road
Nos 25 – 30 Thorneycroft Close
Nos 1 – 11 and Evens 12 – 20 Herkomer Close
Evens 2 – 20 Brainwhite Close
Nos 93 & 95 Bonnington Walk

2.4 Broadly speaking the three distinct areas, the Lawrence Weston sites (on 8 streets) lie over the whole of that area from Deans Mead in the south-west (ST 54275 77875) to Knowill Close in the north-west (ST 54750 78575). In Henbury the two sites (on two streets) are situated at Richeson Close (ST 56800 78750) and Monsdale Close (ST 57150 79000). Finally the Lockleaze sites (5 streets) are spread over a roughly triangular area from Constable Road (ST 60825 76900) in the south-west to Crome Road (ST 60800 77300) in the north and Brainwhite Close (ST 61050 77100) in the north-east.

2.5 The sites being at such disparate locations are situated over a variety of solid geology. The Lawrence Weston sites, according to the 1:50,000 geological map are mainly situated on Triassic Keuper Marl as are the Henbury sites. The Lockleaze sites however are situated over a variety of geology mostly comprising Salford shale – mudstone and Rugby Limestone – Limestone & Mudstone interbedded.

3. OBJECTIVES AND METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 The principle objectives of the building survey were to make a simple photographic record of the houses prior to their redevelopment and to record major structural changes and developments made to the buildings since their construction.
- 3.2 This survey was conducted to English Heritage level 1 (RCHME Level 1) which comprised of photographic recording of the building with written notes of simple differences in the constructions and later modifications recorded in note form.

4. HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Lawrence Weston mainly comprises a post-war housing estate between Henbury and Shirehampton. Originally a small hamlet, the area was transformed by housing post-war development, some of which is the subject of this study. The area is known locally for its Roman Villa and Kings Weston House at the west end of the estate.
- 4.2 Henbury is a suburb of Bristol located approximately 5 miles north-west of the city centre. Henbury has a history dating back as far as AD692 when it was known as Heanburg whilst the Parish church is said to date from AD1200. Modern development in the vicinity began after World War Two when the area was one of those chosen for redevelopment as a housing estate with a number of PRC houses being constructed.
- 4.3 Lockleaze is situated in the northern suburbs of Bristol approximately 3 miles north of the City Centre. The area was developed for housing immediately after World War Two with most of the housing built being owned by the Bristol Corporation.
- 4.4 The houses were constructed as part of a plan envisaged by the then Prime Minister Winston Churchill to address the UK post-war housing shortage. Between 1947 and 1951 (when the project was officially ended) approximately 156,000 of a projected total of 500,000 were completed.
- 4.5 A large number of variants of house design were submitted and different types were designed by different constructors, some sources quoting at least 1400 house types nationally, built by 19 recognised contracting companies.
- 4.6 All of the types photographed during this survey appear to have been built by Woolaway and are described as “Woolaway Type”. The main difference between sub-types is between the semi-detached and terraced examples further, minor external differences, exist in the form of different porches (or the absence of these) and differing window and door layout. A number of the houses have been rebuilt in brick, mainly those that are now owner occupied.

5. THE STANDING BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING (Figures 2 - 4; Cover and Plates 1 – 20)

5.1 All of the houses in the photographic Recording exercise appear to have been described as “Woolaway type” although 2 main types of house with 6 slightly different variations (lettered a to h) were recorded in the three different areas of Bristol.

The commonest type I have described as Woolaway (A) type PRC houses and these comprised approximately 70% of all those photographed.

5.2 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway (a) Type house follows

. Semi-detached

. Space between any two blocks spanned by a wall separating the front and back gardens – sometimes butted by a PRC built garden shed

. Front elevation has three upper and two lower windows with a door on the left of the left-hand house, right on the right hand house. All have a simple open porch comprising four supports and a flat roof

. Side elevation has two small upper windows, offset to the rear and one small window at lower level adjacent a further doorway

. Rear elevations have two windows up and down and no door

Type Woolaway (B) - the same as (A) but with a different style of porch

Type Woolaway (C) - the same as (A) but with only 1 window in the upper side-wall, positioned centrally

5.3 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway type (D) house follows:

. Terraced

. Space between end of terrace and any adjoining blocks spanned by a wall separating the front and back gardens

. Front elevation has four upper and three lower windows with a door on the left on the left side house, right on the right.

. Side elevations (end properties only) have one small, central upper window

5.4 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway type (E) house follows

. Terraced

. Space between end of terrace and any adjoining blocks spanned by a wall separating the front and back gardens

. Where unchanged, front elevation has three upper and one lower window with a door on the right on the left-hand house and vice-versa.

. Side elevations (end properties only) have no windows

- . All have a porch, but these vary in style – in Commonfield Road it seems the original pattern may have been eight columns supporting a simple flat roof.
- 5.5 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway type (F) type house follows
- . Terraced
 - . Where unchanged front elevation has classic house appearance of two upper and one lower window with a door, doors are placed on left (left house) and right (right house).
 - . Side elevations (end properties only) have a single small window at the upper level
 - . All, except No 14, have a porch but these vary in style
- 5.6 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway type (G) house follows
- . Semi-detached
 - . Where unchanged front elevation has classic house appearance of two upper and one lower window with a door. Doors are placed on the right side for the left side house and visa-versa near the adjoining line of the properties.
 - . Side elevations (end properties only) have a single small window at the upper level
 - . All have a simple porch built against the wall around the front door
- 5.7 A brief outline of the distinguishing features of the Woolaway type (H) house follows
- . Semi-detached
 - . Where unchanged front elevation has classic house appearance of two upper and one lower window with a door. Doors are placed on the right side for the left side house and vice-versa near the adjoining line of the properties at opposite corners of the properties
 - . Side elevations (end properties only) have a single small window at the upper level
 - . All have a simple porch built against the wall around the front door
- 5.8 The following is a list of houses photographed that have been listed by type with obvious alterations/changes recorded.

Lawrence Weston

Knovill Close All Woolaway (A) Type, No 11 rebuilt in brick, No 14 missing porch

Capel Road Nos 30 & 32, All Woolaway A type
 Nos 35 - 49, All Woolaway A type
 Nos 31 - 33, All Woolaway B type
 Nos 23 - 29, All Woolaway D type
 Nos 22 – 28, All Woolaway E type

Commonfield Road Nos 2 – 4, Woolaway B, No 2 rebuilt in brick
 Nos 6 – 12, Woolaway E type

Awdlett Close All Woolaway B type
 Littlemead Nos 1 – 4, Woolaway D type

Nos 5 & 6, Woolaway b type

Oakhanger Drive Nos 18 & 20, Woolaway c type

Deans Mead All Woolaway a type, new porches on Nos 4 & 7, No 8 missing porch

Astry Close All Woolaway a type, Nos 3 & 10 rebuilt in brick

Henbury

Richeson Close Nos 2 – 6, Woolaway G type
Nos 7 – 8, rebuilt in brick, to new pattern
Nos 8 – 14, Woolaway F type

Monsdale Close Nos 1 & 2 Woolaway H type, No 1 has new garage and porch
Nos 3 – 8, Woolaway F type, No 4 rebuilt in brick

Constable Road All Woolaway A type, No 41 rebuilt in brick

Crome Road All Woolaway A type

Thornycroft Close All Woolaway A type, No 29 rebuilt in brick

Herkomer Close All Woolaway A type, No 18 rebuilt in brick

Brainwhite Close All Woolaway A type, No 16 rebuilt in brick

6. CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The standing building survey was completed according to the methodology outlined in a written scheme of investigation prepared by Bristol and Region Archaeological Services.
- 6.2 The survey made a photographic record of the exterior of the buildings as far as possible in photographing occupied residential properties.
- 6.3 All of the houses recorded during the survey appear to have been “Woolaway” type houses, built between 1947 and 1951 (when construction was halted). The main difference between sub-types is between the semi-detached and terraced examples, whilst minor external differences exist in the form of different porches (or the absence of these) and differing window and door layout.

7. BIBLIOGRAPHY

Published material

Department for Communities and Local Government 2010 *Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment*.

Maps and Plans

Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Bristol District, *Geological Survey of England and Wales, Solid and Drift* 1967.

Unpublished material

BaRAS 2010, Written Scheme of Investigation for a Photographic Recording Programme at Three PRC Housing Sites in Bristol. Unpublished client report by Ducker, R.

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 that would affect a SAM.

GOVERNMENT POLICY GUIDANCE

Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (1994) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning (1990) have been replaced (23 March 2010) by Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (2010) which sets out the Government's national policies on conservation of the historic environment. Those parts of the historic environment that have significance because of their historic, archaeological, architectural or artistic interest are called heritage assets.

Of particular relevance within the Planning Policy Statement are:

Policy HE6: Information Requirements for Applications for Consent Affecting Heritage Assets

HE6.1 Local planning authorities should require an applicant to provide a description of the significance of the heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance. The level of detail should be proportionate to the importance of the heritage asset and no more than is sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on the significance of the heritage asset. As a minimum the relevant historic environment record should have been consulted and the heritage assets themselves should have been assessed using appropriate expertise where necessary given the application's impact. Where an application site includes, or is considered to have the potential to include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, local planning authorities should require developers to submit an appropriate desk-based assessment and, where desk-based research is insufficient to properly assess the interest, a field evaluation.

Policy HE9: Additional Policy Principles Guiding the Consideration of Applications for Consent Relating to Designated Heritage Assets

HE9.1 There should be a presumption in favour of the conservation of designated heritage assets and the more significant the designated heritage asset, the greater the presumption in favour of its conservation should be. Once lost, heritage assets cannot be replaced and their loss has a cultural, environmental, economic and social impact. Significance can be harmed or lost through alteration or destruction of the heritage asset or development within its setting. Loss affecting any designated heritage asset should require clear and convincing justification. Substantial harm to or loss of a grade II listed building, park or garden should be exceptional. Substantial harm to or loss of designated heritage assets of the highest significance, including scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, battlefields, grade I or II* listed buildings and grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, World Heritage Sites, should be wholly exceptional.

Policy HE12: Policy Principles Guiding the Recording of Information Related to Heritage Assets

HE12.3 Where the loss of the whole or a material part of a heritage asset's significance is justified, local planning authorities should require the developer to record and advance understanding of the significance of the heritage asset before it is lost, using planning conditions or obligations as appropriate. The extent of the requirement should be proportionate to the nature and level of the asset's significance. Developers should publish this evidence and deposit copies of the reports with the relevant historic environment record. Local planning authorities should require any archive generated to be deposited with a local museum or other public depository willing to receive it. Local planning authorities should impose planning conditions or obligations to ensure such work is carried out in a timely manner and that the completion of the exercise is properly secured.

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.

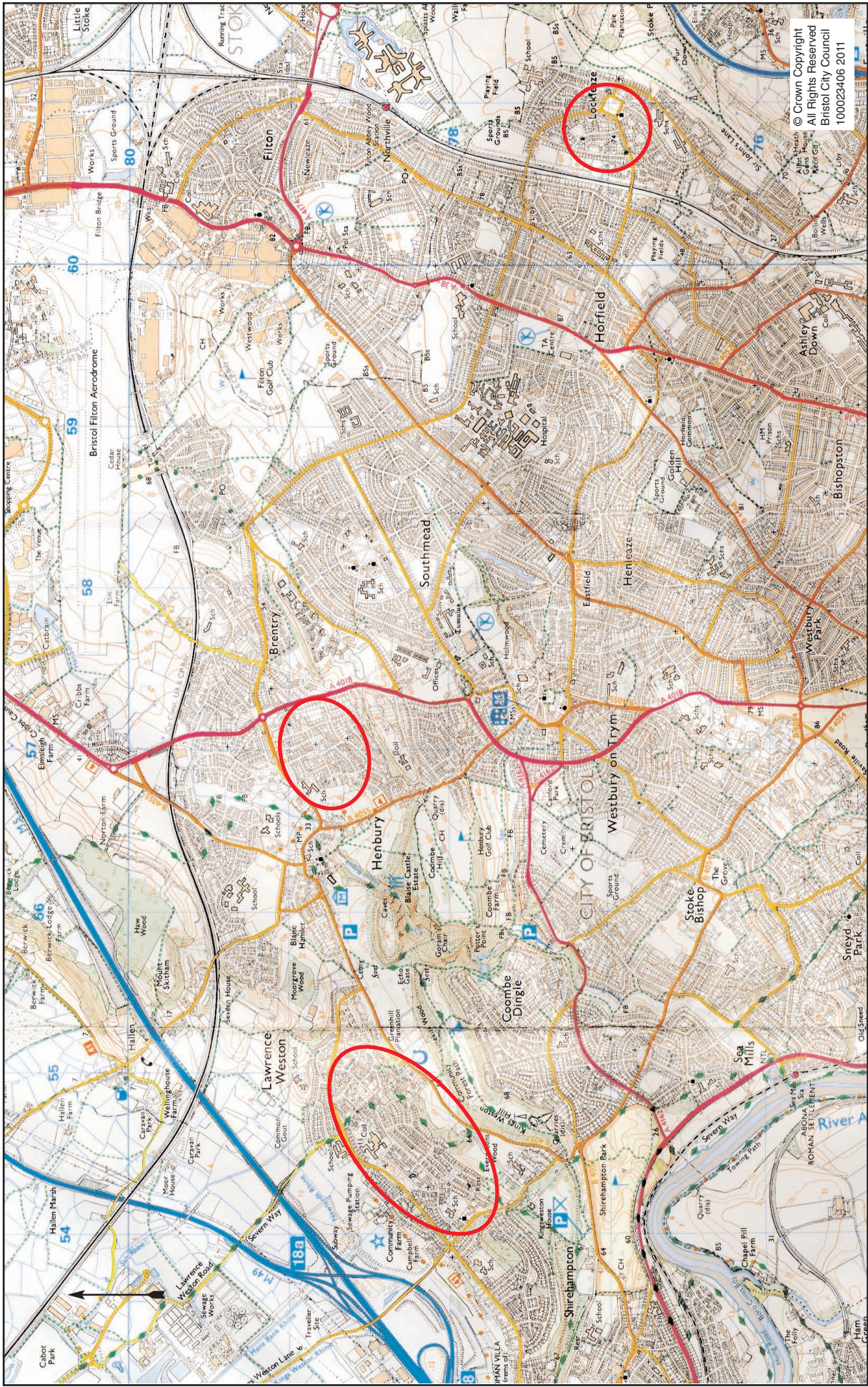
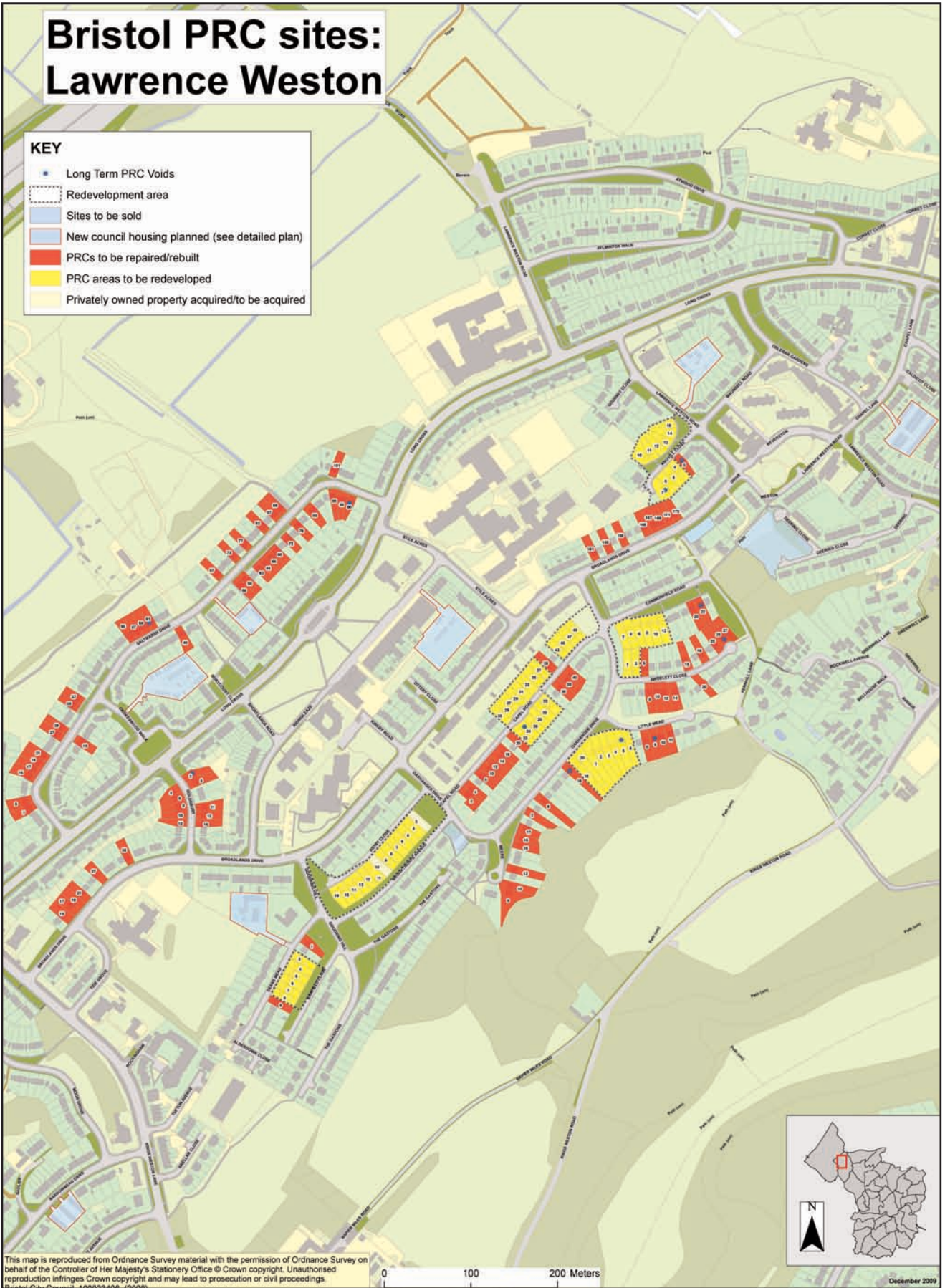


Fig.1 Site location plan showing the three study areas, scale 1:25000 (reduced)

Bristol PRC sites: Lawrence Weston

- KEY**
- Long Term PRC Voids
 - ⬜ Redevelopment area
 - Sites to be sold
 - New council housing planned (see detailed plan)
 - PRCs to be repaired/rebuilt
 - PRC areas to be redeveloped
 - Privately owned property acquired/to be acquired



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Bristol City Council, 2009/09/09, 2009/09

December 2009

Fig.2 Site Plan of the Lawrence Weston sites

Bristol PRC sites: Henbruy

- KEY**
- Long Term PRC Voids
 - ⬜ Redevelopment area
 - Sites to be sold
 - New council housing planned (see detailed plan)
 - PRCs to be repaired/rebuilt
 - PRC areas to be redeveloped
 - Privately owned property acquired/to be acquired

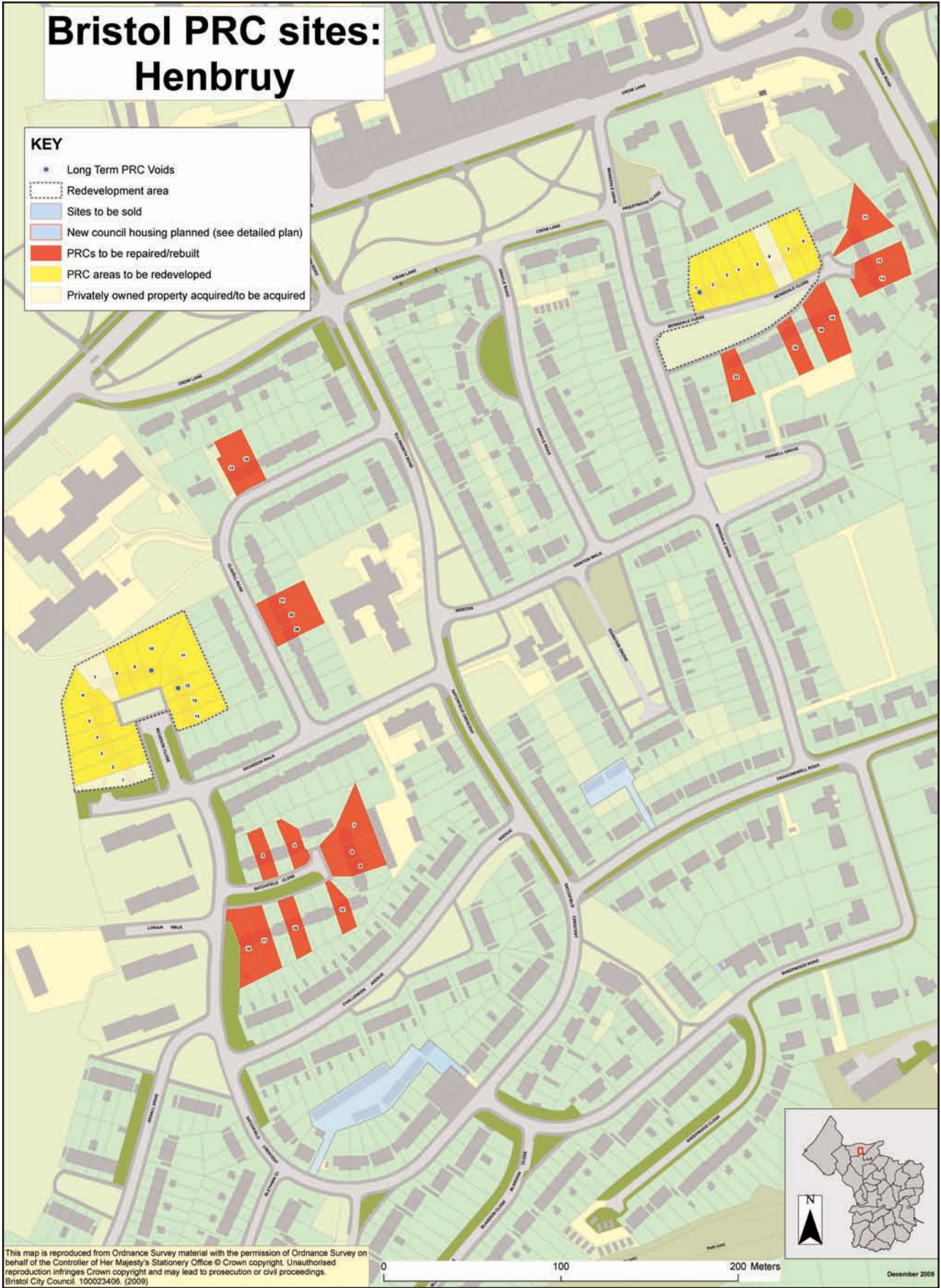


Fig.3 Site Plan of the Henbruy sites

Bristol PRC sites: Lockleaze

- KEY**
- Long Term PRC Voids
 - ⬡ Redevelopment area
 - ⬢ Sites to be sold
 - ⬢ New council housing planned (see detailed plan)
 - ⬢ PRCs to be repaired/rebuilt
 - ⬢ PRC areas to be redeveloped
 - ⬢ Privately owned property acquired/to be acquired

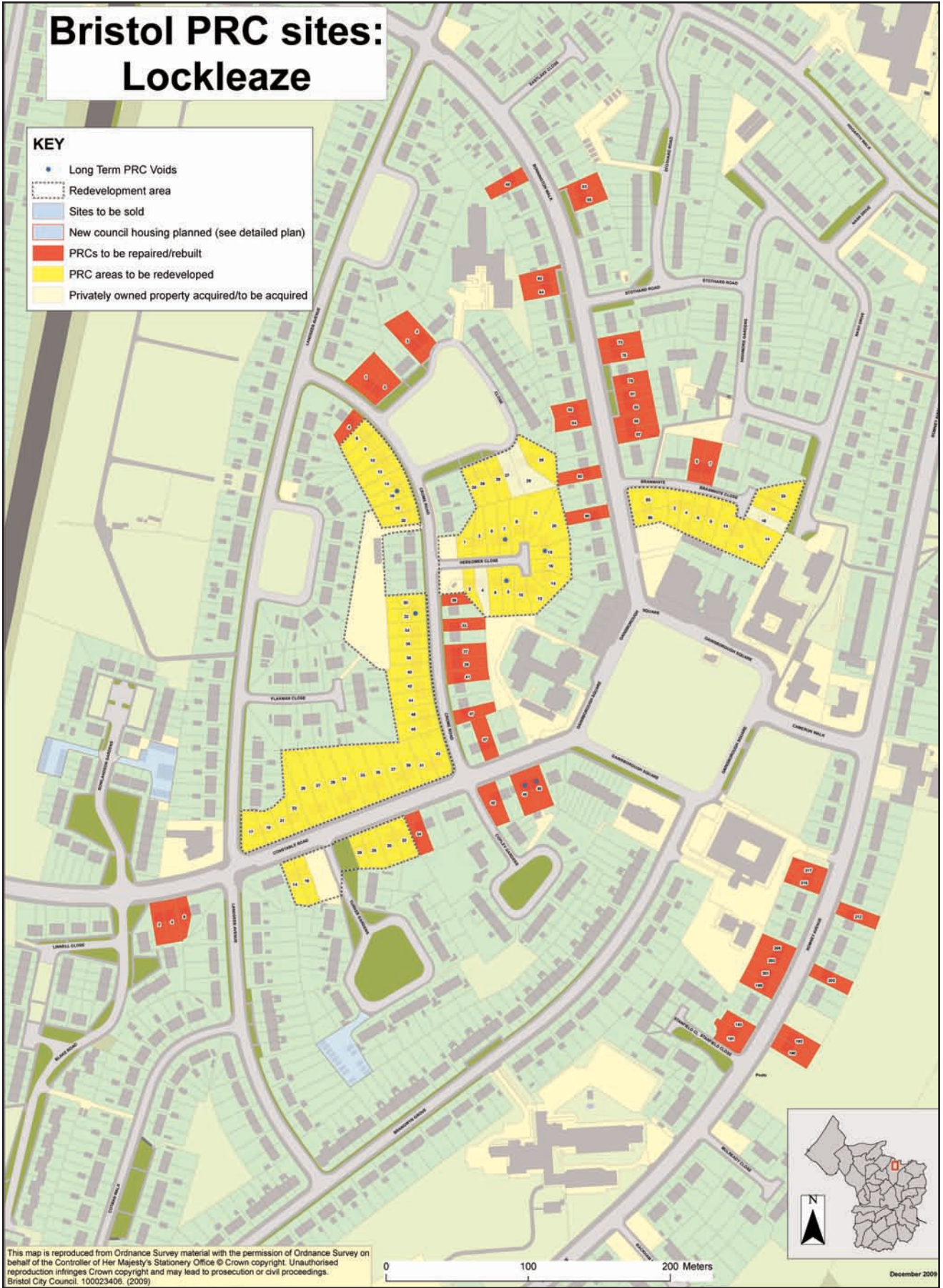


Fig.4 Site Plan of the Lockleaze sites



Plate 1
Detail of Nos 14 & 15
Knovill Close frontages,
looking NW (Woolaway
Type A)



Plate 2
Frontage of Nos 1 & 2
Awdlett Close, looking N
(Woolaway Type B)



Plate 3
Frontage and north-east
elevation of Nos 18 & 20
Oakhanger Drive, looking
south (Woolaway Type
C)



Plate 4
Oblique view of frontage
of Nos 23, 25, 27 & 29
Capel Road, looking N
(Woolaway Type D)



Plate 5
Frontages of Nos 6, 8, 10
& 12 Commonfield Road,
looking ESE (Woolaway
Type E)



Plate 6
Frontage of Nos 1 - 4
Littlemead, looking E
(Woolaway Type D)



Plate 7
Frontages of Nos 3 – 6
Deans Mead, looking S
(Woolaway Type A)



Plate 8
Frontages of Nos 11 – 16
Astry Close, looking SSW
(Woolaway Type A)



Plate 9
Detail of the frontage of
Nos 5 & 6 Richeson
Close, looking WNW
(Woolaway Type G)



Plate 10
Detail of the frontage
and south-west facing
elevation of No 1
Monsdale Close, looking
NE (Woolaway Type H)



Plate 11
Frontages of Nos 11 – 14
Richeson Close, looking
NE (Woolaway Type F)



Plate 12
The frontage of Nos 7 &
8 Monsdale Close, look-
ing NNW (Woolaway
Type H)



Plate 13
Detail of the frontage of
Nos 17 & 19 Constable
Road and the south-
west facing elevation of
No 17, looking N
(Woolaway Type A)



Plate 14
Frontage of 42 & 44
Crome Road with Nos
34, 36 38 & 40 in the
background, looking
NW (Woolaway Type A)



Plate 15
Frontage of Nos 14 &
16 Herkomer Close,
looking ESE (Woolaway
Type A)



Plate 16
Frontage of Nos 12 &
10 Brainwhite Close,
looking S (Woolaway
Type A)