

REPORT ON
SAVILE HOUSE, SAVILE ST.
SHEFFIELD

DESK TOP STUDY

by Jane McComish

**SAVILE HOUSE, SAVILE STREET,
SHEFFIELD, SOUTH YORKSHIRE**

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK TOP STUDY**

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List of Abbreviations

YAT	York Archaeological Trust
OS	Ordnance Survey
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
RCHME	Royal Commission for Historic Monuments (England)
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monument Record
SMR	Sites and Monument Record

ABSTRACT

A desk-top study of the area of Savile House, Savile Street, Sheffield, has identified the probable survival of 19th century building remains beneath the current ground surface. The remains consist of a brewery and medium-sized steel works. The remains are most likely to be best preserved over the north-eastern two-thirds of the site. The south-western portion will almost certainly have been severely damaged by the construction of Savile House, though some pockets of undisturbed ground may have survived.

1. INTRODUCTION

In October 2004 an archaeological desk-top study was undertaken by York Archaeological Trust on a site at Savile House, Savile Street, Sheffield, South Yorkshire (NGR SK 4361 3881; Fig. 1). The desk-top study was commissioned by Urban Property Services Ltd. to accompany a planning application. The historical and archaeological significance of the study area was assessed using a variety of sources including the Sheffield Archive, the Sheffield Local Studies Library, York City Library, the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR), the National Monuments Record (NMR), cartographic evidence and published works.

2. METHODOLOGY

The archive of information held at the SMR at the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, Sheffield City Council was visited and its contents assessed. The SMR record cards and project files for the study area were checked for any references to the land in question, or for sites in the immediate vicinity. The results are summarised in Appendix 1. In addition archaeological publications and desk-top studies held by the SMR were searched for information. No photographs of the street frontage under study were present in the collection.

Searches were also commissioned from the NMR for all sites and archaeological interventions within a 1km radius of the site. The results are summarised in Appendix 2.

No geotechnical investigations of the site have been carried out in conjunction with this desk-top study; there are therefore no results available to incorporate into the report. Neither are there any surveys available of the modern buildings on the site.

The Sheffield Archive was consulted and searches were made of the street index, picture index and in the Fairbank Field Books index (which consists of plans and business papers of the Fairbank family, who practised as surveyors in the Sheffield area from 1743 to 1848). In all cases a search of references to Savile Street, Wicker Brewery, Union Forge, Don Steel Mill and Walk Mill was made.

The Sheffield Local Studies Library was examined. A search was made of the OS maps which yielded the 1853 and the 1890 5 feet to one mile maps, the 1892, 1905, 1923 and 1935 25 inches to 1 mile maps, and the 1954, 1961, 1976 and 1993 1:1250 maps. Extracts from some of these maps are reproduced in this report.

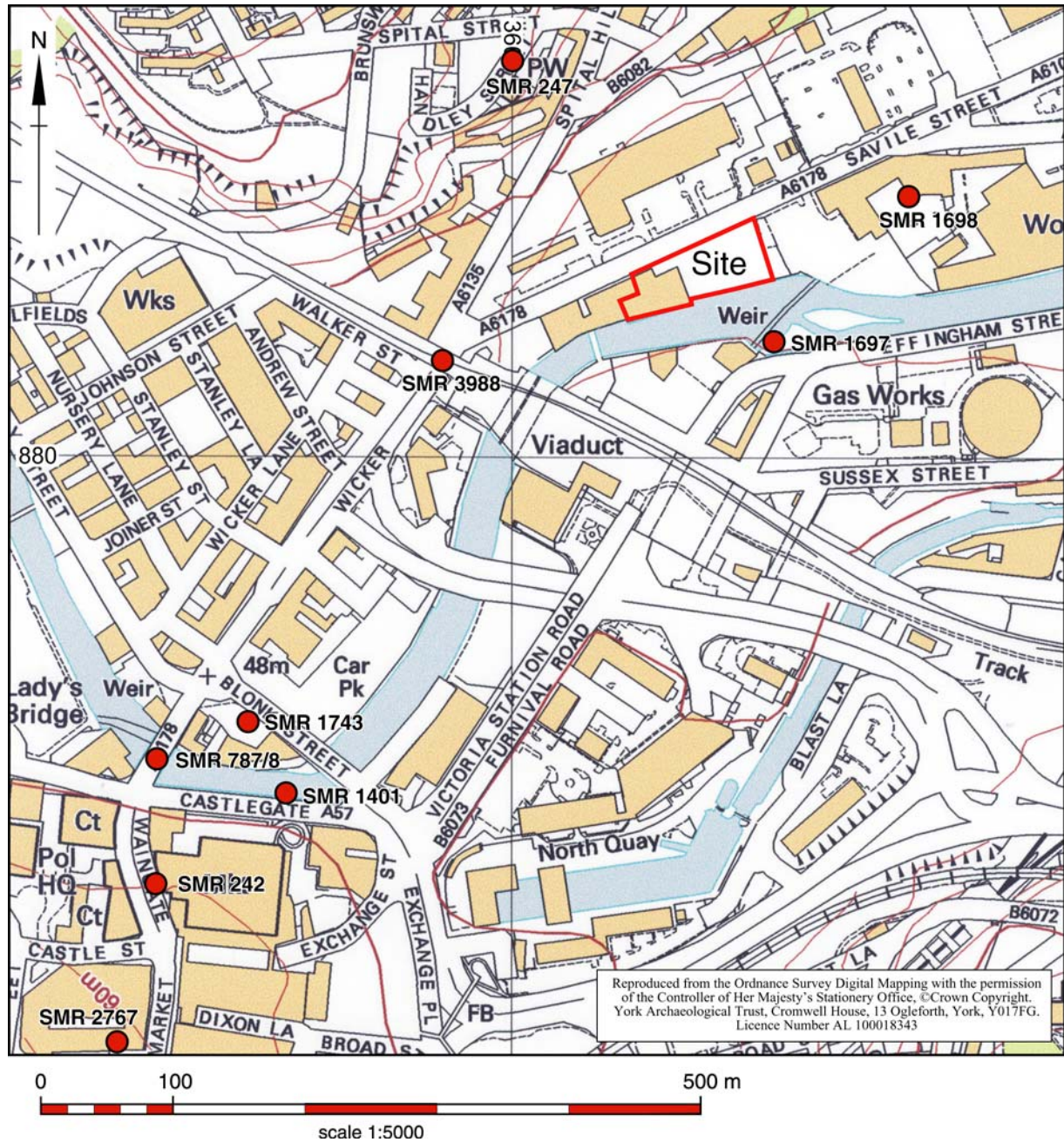


Fig. 1 Site Location with SMR entries in the vicinity

In addition the Sheffield Trade Directories held at the library were consulted. The Sheffield Trade Directories held in this library span a period from 1774 to 1794, but were not produced every year. To search for Savile Street in every single Trade Directory would have been impossible within the time constraints for this desk-top study. Instead the Trade Directories most closely relating to each of the OS Maps reproduced in this report were examined to compile lists of the various businesses and firms working in the Savile Street area.

Searches of the Local Studies Library Index were made for some of the more prominent firms that had been in business in Savile Street, and any references were retrieved. (Firms

searched for were George Turton, Platts and Co., John Holding and Co., Hobson, Houghton and Co., The Wicker Brewery and the Victoria Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.) Searches were also made in the index for any factories shown on the OS maps or listed in the Sheffield Trade Directories (The Don Steel Works, The Don Saw Mills, The Union Forge, The Saville Works and the Wicker Brewery). Very few direct references to any of these firms or factories were present. The Sheffield Photographs collection at the Local Studies Library was also searched.

It must be noted that on some of the earlier maps and documents Savile Street was spelt Saville Street. Both spellings of the street name were searched for in all of the sources consulted. Site research notes are currently stored with the York Archaeological Trust under project number 1232.

3. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

Savile Street is situated close to the centre of Sheffield on an almost flat site at c. 44.8m AOD. The site measures approximately 125m east-west and approximately 35m north-south. The site is bordered along the north-eastern side by Savile Street, to the north-west by vacant land (used as a display area for a car show rooms), to the south-west by the derelict remains of a timber merchants and to the south-east by the River Don. The buildings on the opposite side of Savile Street consist of modern retailing.

The underlying geology of the area consists of Upper Carboniferous coal measures and sandstones with Pleistocene and recent alluvium in the river valley bases (Geological Survey of England and Wales, Sheet 100).

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The city of Sheffield lies at the junction of the rivers Sheaf and Don and has been settled continuously since at least the Anglo-Saxon period. The city as seen today is largely the result of Victorian and later development, with few traces of the earlier settlement surviving above ground level. The background information given in this section is taken from an earlier report prepared for a similar desk-top study within Sheffield (McComish 2003, 6-14)

4.1. The Prehistoric period (to the 1st century AD)

Relatively few remains of Bronze Age date have been found in the area, but these include a socketed axe found in 1753 (SMR 2739) and cinerary urns (NMR SK38 NE31).

During the Iron Age Sheffield lay in the southernmost territory of the Brigantes tribe, with the Coritani controlling the area to the south. There are a number of Iron Age forts in the general area including Wincobank in the north of Sheffield, Carl Wark to the south-west of Sheffield, and Scholes Wood near Rotherham (<http://www.thenortheast.fsnet.co.uk/SouthYorkshire.htm>, 30.10.04).

4.2. The Roman Period (1st to the 5th centuries AD)

A major Roman road in the area ran from Doncaster, via Sheffield to Brough-on-Noe (Manby et al., 2003, 126). In addition to the road a few stray Roman remains have been found in Sheffield, including a jet figurine of a bear (NMR SK38 NE41) and a number of Roman coins (SMR 889-90).

4.3. The Anglo-Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian periods (5th to 11th centuries AD)

It is unclear to what extent the initial arrival of the Anglo-Saxons affected the indigenous Celtic speaking Romano-British population. A major Celtic survival in the area was the kingdom of Elmet, in the Leeds area, the presence of which is seen in place names such as Sherburn-in-Elmet. The whole of Yorkshire was eventually absorbed into the Anglo-Saxon kingdom of Northumbria, the southern boundaries of which were largely marked by the rivers Mersey and Humber (hence the name Northumbria, meaning north of the Humber). The kingdom of Mercia lay to the south of Northumbria. Sheffield means 'open countryside by the River Sheaf' (Smith 1961, 204). The river name Sheaf means 'boundary-river', but it is unclear if the boundary to which it refers was that between Northumbria and Elmet, or Northumbria and Mercia (<http://www.thenortheast.fsnet.co.uk/SouthYorkshire.htm>, 30.10.04). Clearly there was settlement in Sheffield during the Anglo-Saxon period. An 8th century Anglo-Saxon cross fragment (SMR 253) has been found, which may have originally been located at the site of the parish church (the present cathedral).

4.4. The Medieval Period (11th to the mid 16th centuries AD)

Sheffield is recorded in the Domesday Book as Escafeld (VCHYII 1974, 148-9). At that time the manor was owned by Countess Judith, a niece of William the Conqueror, and the principal tenant was Roger de Busli (Zasada 1996, 2). During the 12th century many of the great monastic houses of Yorkshire set up mining industries and iron-smelting forges. Although none are recorded within Sheffield itself, in 1161 Richard de Busli gave the monks of Kirkstead two forges for smelting iron and two 'forgias faciendas' for fabricating iron at Kimberworth close to Sheffield (VCHYII 1974, 387-8; Scurfield 1986, 168). Iron smithing became an active trade in the south Yorkshire area from the reign of Henry II onwards (ibid., 342, 345).

The manor of Sheffield subsequently passed to the Lovetots. William de Lovetot founded a castle (probably of motte and bailey design) possibly as early as c. 1100, though the earliest reference to it is in 1184 (Zasada 1996, 3). Street names such as Castle Street are now the sole visible reminder of the castle's existence. William de Lovetot also founded a hospital dedicated to St Leonard, and although nothing now remains of this, the area is still known as Spital Hill (VCHYIII 1974, 330-1). Sheffield parish church of St Peter and St Paul (now the cathedral) was also of Norman origin, and the Premonstratensian abbey at Beauchief near Dore was founded in 1175, though only the tower of this abbey currently survives (<http://www.thenortheast.fsnet.co.uk/SouthYorkshire.htm>, 30.10.04). In 1187 the manor passed by marriage to the Furnival family.

Sheffield castle was burnt down by supporters of Simon de Montfort during 1266, and a layer of charcoal and ash up to 8 inches thick relating to this event was observed at the castle site during works from 1927-1930 (Zasada 1996, 2 and 4). The Furnivals had remained loyal to the crown throughout de Montfort's rebellion, and they sought permission from the King to rebuild their castle. A licence to rebuild in stone and to crenellate was granted in 1270, and the resultant structure had inner and outer courts court which between them contained a kitchen, bake house, tower, hall, chapel, stables barns and a granary (Saich 2002, 1). The iron-working industry remained of importance in the area and during the 13th century payments from iron-workers in Hallamshire formed an important source of revenue for the Lords of Sheffield (VCHYII 1974, 342, 345). The third Lord Furnival worked hard to develop the town, obtaining a royal charter in 1296 and adding a charter of his own in 1297 making the town a free borough (Zasada 1996, 4). The earliest reference to a cutler in Sheffield also occurred in 1297; Robertus le Cotelas was listed in the lay subsidy (Symonds 2002, 14).

Metalworking clearly remained of importance to the Hallamshire area during the early 14th century, but that from the mid 14th century the industry began to decline. There were several factors causing the decline including the ravages of plague in 1348/9 and incursions by the Scots. Further decline was caused by competition from superior quality imported Swedish and Spanish iron. A decline in iron production was seen not just in Yorkshire, but also in the Forest of Dean, and the Durham area, and lasted from the mid 14th century until the reign of Henry VIII (VCHYII 1974, 342). In contrast to the declining fortunes of the iron-smelting industry, the cutlery industry in Sheffield seems to have been increasingly important. The earliest reference to cutlery from Sheffield is during the reign of Edward III (1327-1377) when 'cutellum de Shefeld' appear on a list of items in the kings wardrobe. Slightly later Chaucer referred to a 'Shefeld thwitel' (whittle or knife) in the Canterbury Tales, which were written between 1386 and 1400 (Addy 1884, 59). The specific reference to knives from the town implies a flourishing trade, but despite the apparent fame of the knives produced in Sheffield it is clear that during the medieval period metal-fabricating industries in Yorkshire were centred on York (VCHYII 1974, 389). It is also of interest that despite the fame of Sheffield's knives and the presence of iron-workers in the town there was no attempt to form guilds during the medieval period. This is in contrast to London where the Cutlers Company existed by 1374, Chesterfield had a guild of smiths by 1389 (Addy 1884, 61) and York had a guild of cutlers sometime before 1477 (VCHYII 1974, 389).

The Poll Tax returns of 1379 list 9 smiths, 6 butchers, 5 tailors, 3 shoemakers, 2 wrights, 2 walkers, and 327 males with no specified trade as living in Sheffield. The only possible cutler is a man called Johannes Coteler (*ibid.*, 389). While smiths form the largest group they are hardly present in overwhelming numbers. It is also clear that Sheffield was not the only town in the area involved in iron-smelting and the fabrication of iron objects. Rotherham is recorded as having 6 smiths, while Ecclesfield had 6 smiths, 1 cutler and 2 arrow makers (Addy 1884, 61), Handsworth had four cutlers, several smiths lived in Wortley, and Sir Frances Wortley owned an iron works at Midgley Bank (VCHYII 1974, 398). Sheffield seems to have been a relatively poor town at the time of the poll tax; Rotherham with 116 less people yielded 15 shillings and six pence more in revenue, while Ecclesfield with 112 people less than Sheffield yielded four pence more (*ibid.*, 389).

It is known that open-cast mining of coal occurred in the Sheffield area during the medieval period, but this seems to have been on a fairly small scale. Methods of extraction were simple, resulting in pits up to 60 feet deep (VCHYII 1974, 356). At the start of the 16th century wood was still the dominant fuel used for domestic fires, but increasing deforestation became a national problem and led to strong legislation to protect the remaining forests. These laws had the side effect of killing off the charcoal industry, and had a detrimental effect upon iron-working since this required charcoal. Sheffield was affected less than many other towns, as there were still relatively large forests nearby (ibid., 393). The laws led to a rise in fuel prices which was especially acute during the reign of Henry VI from 1422-1461 (ibid., 346). Lack of wood stimulated the demand for coal as an alternative fuel and from the early 16th century output from coal-mines in the area increased.

4.5. The Post-Medieval Period (mid 16th to 19th centuries)

Leland recorded there were ‘many smiths and cutlers in Hallamshire’ and ‘very good smiths for all cutting tools’ at Rotherham when he travelled around England from 1536-42 (Derry 1971, 124). This seems to confirm the picture of the earlier 1379 Poll Tax where both smithing and cutlery manufacture were present in a number of towns in the region.

It has often been stated that the iron industry in the town benefited from an influx of Huguenot refugees in the late 16th century. This seems to be largely based upon the fact that the lord of the manor, George the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury, was also a commissioner for the settlement of Huguenot refugees in Yorkshire c. 1570 (Awty 1981, 57). In addition the Earl was involved in developing the iron industry elsewhere in England and had furnaces at Shifnal in Shropshire by 1564 and Whitchurch near Goodrich by 1575 (ibid., 61). Iron smelting clearly took place in the area during the late 16th century and forges with furnaces are mentioned at Wadsley and Kimberworth in 1590. An investigation of the family names of those involved in the trade has failed however to find any significant evidence for Huguenot surnames (ibid., 58). One worker Jordan Russell came from a family involved in running furnaces in north Lancashire and Cumbria from the 1630s onwards (ibid., 58).

Sheffield was well suited to the development of a cutlery industry; there were abundant streams for water powered grinding wheels and sources of both iron ore and coal for in the vicinity. There were also local sandstone quarries producing good quality grinding stones in the surrounding hills. For these reasons the cutlery industry continued to grow during the 16th century. Between 1554 and 1570 there were 28 water wheels for powering grinding wheels on the manorial estate of Sheffield (Derry 1971, 125). By the mid 16th century the cutlers were a well known group who wanted protection against inferior works being passed off as Sheffield products (VCHYII 1974, 393). In 1564 they petitioned the Lord of the Manor for leave to adopt trade-marks for which they were willing to pay. In response to this request in 1565 the Lord’s manorial court drew up rules for ‘the maintenance of the commonwealth of the cutlers craft and cutlers occupation according to ancient custom’, which were largely aimed at keeping out strangers and ensuring proper apprenticeships (Derry 1971, 126). Makers were allowed a trade mark

and from 1554-70 a total of 61 trade marks of master cutlers were added to the Sheffield manorial court lists (*ibid.*, 124). It is of interest that the cutlers placed regulation in the hands of the manorial Lord, presumably because there were no civic authorities within the town capable of fulfilling the role (VCHYII 1974, 394). The ordinances were reaffirmed and extended in 1590 and those who agreed to the rules were called 'The fellowship of the Company of Cutlers'. Production was not allowed for four weeks in August (possibly because the streams supplying the water power were low on water) and again for four weeks at Christmas (possibly because the streams were frozen). Each cutler could train only one apprentice at a time, and any knives produced had to be made entirely in Sheffield from the haft to the blade (Derry 1971, 126). In 1604 there were still 28 cutters wheels recorded on the manorial rent rolls, but interestingly there was no standard rent paid for a wheel (VCHYII 1974, 394).

In 1617 Frances, the last Lord Shrewsbury died and the manor passed to non-resident lords. The cutlers effectively got the freedom to manage themselves and they petitioned Parliament for an Act of Incorporation, which was granted in 1624. This act states that the workers had 'the reputation of great skill and dexterity... and made knives of the best edge'. The Company of Cutlers formed as a result of the act was run by a master with 2 wardens, 6 searchers and 24 assistants (Derry 1971, 130). The new book of cutlers' marks made in 1624 recorded 182 registered trade marks (*ibid.*, 126). At the time of the act in 1624 there were 32 cutters wheels in the manor (*ibid.*, 138), but thereafter expansion was rapid, and by the mid 17th century three out of every five men working in Sheffield was employed in the cutlery industry (Wray 2001, 6).

Sheffield continued to grow; in 1615 a survey of the town had recorded 2207 residents, but by 1637 this had increased to 3500, of which 400-500 of the men were working in the cutlery industry (Scurfield 1986, 169). John Harrison carried out a survey of the manorial estates of Sheffield in 1637. The town had a church, town hall, an almshouse for four poor women, 20 houses referred to as dwelling houses and about 100 cottages. No details of the houses or cottages are given, but their rents varied from 6 pence to 40 shillings a year implying a range of quality and sizes (*ibid.*, 167, 169). A chapel had been founded at Attercliffe in 1629, and by 1637 there was a twice weekly market in the town (*ibid.*, 168, 170). The manor had watermills to power 29 cutlers' wheels; water power was used to raise hammers in two iron-making forges (*ibid.*, 167, 169). By 1637 charcoal blast furnaces were starting to take over from iron smelting bloomeries, and Harrison mentions a furnace at Whitefield near Chapletown (*ibid.*, 167). It is of interest that some of the halls and manor house sites within the area seem to have been semi-derelict. For example Ecclesfield Hall is described as having outhouses 'some in decay and some fallin down', while Shirtcliffe Hall is only recorded as an ancient chapel, barn, outhouse, orchard and some yards and the site of the manor house of Couley had only a two-roomed house (*ibid.*, 170). Slightly earlier in 1583 the medieval hospital in the town was described as being 'a decayed chapel called St Leonard's' (VCHYIII 1974, 330-1). These descriptions imply a less than well-maintained manorial estate.

The town suffered during the English civil war. Sheffield castle was initially held for the Royalists; it was captured by Parliament in 1642, retaken by the Royalists in 1643, and retaken by Parliament yet again in 1644. In 1646 the House of Commons passed a resolution to slight the castle (render it indefensible), and this order was carried out

between 1648-9 (Zasada 2002, 1). The castle area was gradually built over and eventually survived only in the form of street names such as Castle Street and Castle Green.

Despite the civil war the town continued to grow during the 17th century largely as a result of increased metal and cutlery production. By 1646 there were 979 registered cutlers' trade-marks, and by 1679 there were 1,982 of which 1,562 were knife makers, 136 shear smiths and 284 were scissor makers (Derry 1971, 132). Saw makers are recorded in 1640 and file smiths in 1681 (*ibid.*, 139). The Hearth Tax returns of 1672 record 224 smithies within Sheffield and a further 600 within a 10 mile radius (Wray 2001, 10). By the end of the 17th century awl blade smiths, file smiths and scythe makers had been added to the Company of Cutlers (Symonds 2002, 15). Coal was being used in increasing quantities and was mined at Sheffield Park from the mid 17th century onwards (Scurfield 1986, 168). The production of coke for iron manufacture is recorded as early as 1686 further stimulating the metal working trades (VCHYII 1974, 365).

Up to the mid 18th century cutlery was clearly the dominant trade in the town, but most of the steel used for the cutlery trade was still being imported from Sweden (*ibid.*, 396). Despite this the Sheffield iron-working industry was sufficiently well known for Peter the Great of Russia (1682-1725) to send men to Sheffield to learn the art of iron-working (*ibid.*, 395). During the 18th century workers began to specialise, so grinding, forging, hardening and hafting each became a full-time occupation (Wray 2001, 10-11). A major problem for Sheffield was its relative inaccessibility, with few good road links to the town. In 1751 the Don was made navigable to Tinsley, within three miles of Sheffield, which greatly improved transport links and helped the town to grow further (*ibid.*, 5).

In the later 18th century industry diversified, though cutlery remained dominant. By 1770 there were 133 wheels for cutlery production and 28 rolling mills and forges using water power. From 1785 onwards steam powered grinding wheels were introduced and in 1794 there were 123 water driven works and 5 steam powered ones (Derry 1971, 138, 144). The use of steam meant works no longer had to be sited next to rivers for water power and could be closer to the transport links in the centre of the town. This led to the development of new larger factories that integrated all branches of production from smelting ore through to finished items (Wray 2001, 13). Some of the Sheffield companies became large enough to open showrooms in London, further increasing the standing of the trade (*ibid.*, 12). Despite the presence of larger factories many smaller manufacturers remained and much of the cutlery was produced in small workshops often grouped around a central yard, or even cutlers' own homes (*ibid.*, 12). The small scale of the buildings means that few physical traces of this type of production remain today (*ibid.*, 10). During the 1770s fork makers and razor makers were added to the Company of Cutlers (Symonds 2002, 13, 15). The dictatorial style of the Company of Cutlers was far from popular with those working in the trade and led to a major dispute taken as far as Parliament in 1791 (Derry 1971, 132). From the late 18th century to the early 19th century the best customer for Sheffield's knives was the USA (*ibid.*, 146).

Coal mining continued to develop. The introduction of pumping engines from the 1750s onwards enabled the excavation of shaft mines rather than simple medieval style open cast pits (VCHYII 1974, 356). By the mid 18th century colliers could earn two shillings and six pence for an eight hour day (*ibid.*, 356). In 1774 wooden railway tracks were laid

from Sheffield Park to take coal down the hill into the town, which further boosted production (Derry 1971, 144).

Iron working also benefited from new inventions. In 1783-4 Mr. Cort patented ways to use coal rather than wood for smelting iron which helped to lead to a rapid increase in iron working. By 1778 there were large workshops in Sheffield for smelting iron (VCHYII 1974, 395). In the early 18th century steel (an alloy of iron and carbon) began to be produced in Sheffield but on a small scale. The earliest type was blister steel, which was produced by converting iron bars into steel in cementation furnaces (Barnes 1992, 19). A view of Sheffield drawn in 1737 shows two cementation furnaces (Wray 2001, 6). In 1750 Benjamin Huntsman, a Quaker of German extraction, invented a process to cast steel in crucibles which produced a harder, superior steel (VCHYII 1974, 396; Derry 1971, 142-3). Crucible steel could only be produced in modest quantities as it was limited by the size of the crucible. Although Huntsman invented and produced his steel in Sheffield the cutlery industry did not like the new metal as it was more difficult to work and refused to use it. Huntsman responded by exporting the steel to France where cutlers used it to produce superior items. The competition was clearly fierce and the Sheffield cutlers tried to get Parliament to ban the export of Huntsman steel, which Parliament refused to do. The cutlers were faced with a choice between using the new steel or losing their markets. They chose the former and the use of crucible steel steadily increased (Derry 1971, 142-3). In 1774 a trade directory named three firms making cast steel and a further two making steel. By 1787 there were 5 refineries and 15 converters, and by 1797 there were 15 steel works recorded (VCHYII 1974, 397).

In 1742 Thomas Bolsover invented the silver plating process. A sheet of silver was placed to either side of a sheet of copper, heated until the metals fused and then rolled. Bolsover used the technique mainly for buttons, buckles and snuff boxes, but it was rapidly used for all manner of goods (*ibid.*, 140). This industry flourished in Sheffield for the next hundred years (Derry 1971, 139). So much silver plate was produced in the town that in 1773 an assay office was established there for the stamping of silver. In 1773 there were 16 firms of silversmiths in the town including Tudor and Leader, Cadman and Roberts, Dixon's, Walker and Hall, and Mappin and Webb (*ibid.*, 141). Britannia metal or 'white metal', a mixture of tin, copper and antimony developed as an offshoot of the silver plating industry from the 1760s. It catered for the cheapest end of the market (Wray 2001, 7).

In addition to the metal related industries described above there were other industries established in the town. By 1794 there were water wheels in the manor of Sheffield powering the manufacture of cotton, paper, and glass in addition to lead, rolling mills and forges (Scurfield 1986, 167). There were even attempts to establish a silk industry in the city during the 18th century. A map of Sheffield drawn in 1772 depicts the Sheffield Silk Mill which employed 152 people (VCHYII 1974, 332). The use of water power was notable; in the late 18th century the River Don had roughly three water-powered sites per mile while the Loxley and Sheaf rivers had four per mile and the Porter and Rivelin Rivers had five to six per mile (Wray 2001, 10).

4.6. The Modern Period (19th and 20th centuries)

Sheffield grew rapidly during the 19th century. The Tinsley canal was extended into Sheffield in 1819 aiding transport links, but it was rapidly overtaken by the linking of Sheffield into the railway network in the 1830s making the export of finished goods far easier (Wray 2001, 5). This was a great boost to the town causing a massive increase in production and population. The 1861 census recorded 185,172 people in the town, this had grown to but by 1871 this had grown to 239,947 (Baines 1870, 470).

During the 19th century the cutlery industry continued to be important. In the early 19th century Sheffield was the pre-eminent producer of cutlery in Britain if not the world (VCHYII 1974, 396-7). A dispute between the Company of Cutlers and those working in the trade occurred between 1809 and 1811. This was taken to Parliament in 1814 and resulted in the Company losing all control over the trade with the exception of registering trade marks (Derry 1971, 132-3, 135). In 1833 the Royal Commission for Trade stated there were 83,689 men employed in the cutlery industry in the town. This included 2,680 men making pen and pocket knives, 754 razor makers, 600 scissor makers, 1768 file manufacturers, 563 saw makers, 703 edge tool makers, 1530 stove and fender manufacturers, 643 white metal makers and 500 silver plate manufacturers. It must be noted that the trades were not clearly divided, with firms making a variety of products; some also produced their own steel (VCHYII 1974, 396-7). Steam power continued to take over from water power and by 1865 there were 32 water driven wheels and 132 steam driven ones for the cutlery industry. In 1891 the industry reached its peak. Of the 43,632 people in England and Wales making saws, cutlery, files and tools 25,743 of them lived in Sheffield, and of the 19,992 cutlers in England and Wales 16,355 were in Sheffield (ibid., 138).

The cutlery industry was still to a large extent carried out on a domestic scale rather than in large factories. Large manufacturers sub-let work to small workshops run by individual 'little masters' who largely worked for themselves (Derry 1971, 136). The presence of smaller firms makes for complex patterns of movement within the industry, many firms moved repeatedly to gain larger premises, others changed name several times and there was also a complex pattern of takeovers.

At the start of the 19th century the largest overseas customer for the cutlery of Sheffield was the United States of America. In order to stimulate home production the Americans introduced stiff protective tariffs on cutlery from Sheffield. This had a long-term effect upon the cutlers of Sheffield, and by the end of the 19th century they had lost the American market which caused the cutlery industry to decline (VCHYII 1974, 329).

A related trade to that of cutlery manufacture was the production of handles for cutlery. During the Victorian period these were generally made from bone, horn, antler and ivory, most of which was supplied to merchants in London, but porcelain and mother of pearl were also used. In the case of horn the material was heated and pressed into dies, which meant the material could be moulded and used much as plastic is used today. By 1850 there were 145 firms and individual craftsmen working in this trade, possibly employing

up to a thousand people. Button making and comb manufacture were related trades. The invention of plastics in the 1920s caused the rapid decline of the bone and horn working industry and the last firm of horn workers were Scarlett and Whiting of Rockingham Street, who ceased business in 1977 (Taylor 2003).

The decline in the cutlery industry throughout the later 19th century was more than compensated for by the rapid development of the steel industry within the city (VCHYII 1974, 329). The number of converting furnaces reflects the growth of steel production in the city. There were 56 converting furnaces in the town in 1836, this grew to 97 by 1842, 105 by 1856 and by 1894 there were 1000 tons of best quality crucible steel being produced a week in Sheffield (ibid., 396). Indeed by the 1840s Sheffield was producing 90% of all Britain's steel and 50% of the world's steel (Bayliss 1995, 27). The steel industry was given a large boost by the expansion of the railways; steel tyres (wheels) and tracks were far more durable than iron ones so demand was high (Pawson and Beresford 1862, 119). The growing importance of steel manufacture is reflected in the fact that steelworkers were admitted into the Company of Cutlers from 1860 (Derry 1971, 133). Sir Henry Bessemer (1813-1898), of a French Huguenot family, invented a new processes to improve the manufacture of steel, further advancing the industry (ibid., 159). The Bessemer process enabled the production of large quantities of steel in converters, but the steel itself was of no better quality than Huntsman's crucible steel (Barnes 1992, 19; Wray 2001, 7).

A number of large-scale steel works were set up during the 19th century. One of the largest was the Atlas Steel Work which opened in 1854 and was the first place to roll steel rails using the Bessemer method, in 1861 (VCHYII 1974, 397). Other major producers included William Jessop and Sons (founded in 1774) which made everything from battleship steel to saws, cutlery, pens, needles and watch springs (ibid., 398). They made a staggering 1800 tons of steel a year just to manufacture pens.

The iron working industry was never as important as the steel industry. Blast furnaces were an aid to production and began to be introduced from the late 17th century onwards. The iron-works at Wortley were extended in 1825 mainly to deal with the demands of the rail industry. In addition the firm of Newton, Chambers and Co., founded in 1792, produced a great number of cast iron lamp posts for cities as far apart as London, Brighton, Riga and Hamburg (ibid. 399). The use of coal for large scale smelting came in during the 19th century (ibid., 394).

The invention of electro-plating caused the demise of the silver plating industry (Derry 1971, 140). The first electro-plating manufacturer in Sheffield was John Harrison in 1843 (Wray 2001, 7). The largest electro-plate factory was the Cornish Works which employed 900 people in 1906 (ibid., 13).

The importance of all aspects of the metal-working trades is best summarised by a list of Sheffield's products dating to 1862. This states that the town produced 'iron, steel, railway and carriage springs, buffers, tyres (iron ones for trains), heavy ordnance, steel bells, crinoline, steel wire, files, saws, edge tools, scythes, sickles, all kinds of table and pocket knives, scissors, shears, razors, skates, spades and shovels, axes, hatchets, surgical instruments, machine fittings, steel collars for shirts, paper collars, silver, silver plated

and Britannia metal wares, brass chandeliers, stove grates and fenders, optical instruments, combs, powder flasks, railway carriage and wagon building &c, &c' (Pawson and Brailsford 1862, 111).

During the 20th century steel production was by far the most important industry in the city. Stainless steel, an alloy of steel with 12% chromium was invented in 1914 by Harry Brearley (Barnes 1992, 19). The onset of the World War I delayed its widespread introduction, but following the end of the war it came into general use for cutlery (<http://www.the-ekd.co.uk/1024/uk.htm>, 29.7.03). Sheffield's steel and knife making abilities were, of course, vital to the war effort of both world wars. Vickers' River Don works alone employed 11,000 workers in 1916 at the height of war production (Wray 2001, 14). In the latter half of the 20th century industrial decline set in, the cutlery industry was hit harder than the steel industry, but even in steel there were massive job losses due to changing production methods. The steel industry today produces almost as much steel as it did in the 19th century but with a drastically reduced workforce (Wray 2001, 49).

5. CARTOGRAPHIC AND ARCHIVAL EVIDENCE

5.1. The medieval and post-medieval periods (12-early 19th centuries)

The earliest buildings recorded in the general vicinity of the study area are those of the medieval hospital of St Leonard's, founded in the late 12th century. The hospital went out of use in the later medieval period (by 1522). Nothing remains above ground, and the precise site of the hospital is unclear, although its presence is reflected in the street name Spital Hill.

It is unclear how much other development took place in the general area during the earlier medieval period, but certainly from the late 16th century onwards there was increasing ribbon style development along the banks of the Don in order to utilise water power for mills and grinding wheels. The earliest building in the Savile Row area was the Walk Mill (SMR entry 1698), which was located at the north-eastern end of the street on the lands of the Dukes of Norfolk (NGR SK 3630 8821). The earliest reference to the mill in 1581 states it was for fulling cloth. Leases to a succession of tenants for the Walk Mill wheel are known from the 16th to 17th centuries, and by 1696 payments were recorded for a new factory and cutler's wheel. In 1756 a lease for Walk Mill and an adjoining cutlers wheel is recorded, and in 1780 '2 cutlers wheels and another cutlers wheel a little distance up' were recorded. The wheel a little distance away may be a reference to the Upper Walk Mill Wheel referred to in later sources. By 1794 there were definitely two mills on the site; the Upper Walk Mill wheel was employing 43 men at 49 troughs and the Nether Walk Mill wheel had 23 men at 22 troughs. Various sketches of these mills dating from 1782-1785 exist in the Fairbanks Collection at the Sheffield Archive (SheS 1962S, SheS 1963S, FB56, FB56 FB68 Supp). It must be noted that none of these sketches extends far enough to the south-west to include the area of the desk-top study.

One of the earliest maps depicting South Yorkshire is that of Thomas Jeffries dating to 1775 (Fig. 2). The map clearly shows that Sheffield was the largest settlement in the

southern part of Yorkshire, and confirms that much of the development was occurring as ribbon-development along Sheffield's rivers. This almost certainly reflects the use of water power for the various industrial activities in the town during the 18th century.

Despite the presence of water-powered mills adjacent to the Don the Savile Street area was largely open ground as late as the 1830s. A survey by the Fairbanks family of 1808 (Fig. 3) shows fields to both sides of the road along the street frontage. There are no buildings at all to the north of the street, but some buildings were present adjacent to the River Don, including the Walk Mill and Grinding Wheels described above. By 1832 a survey by J. Tayler (Fig. 4) depicts a few additional buildings fronting onto the Don, and a single building along the street frontage on the southern side of Savile Street.



Fig. 2 Jeffrey's Map of Yorkshire 1775

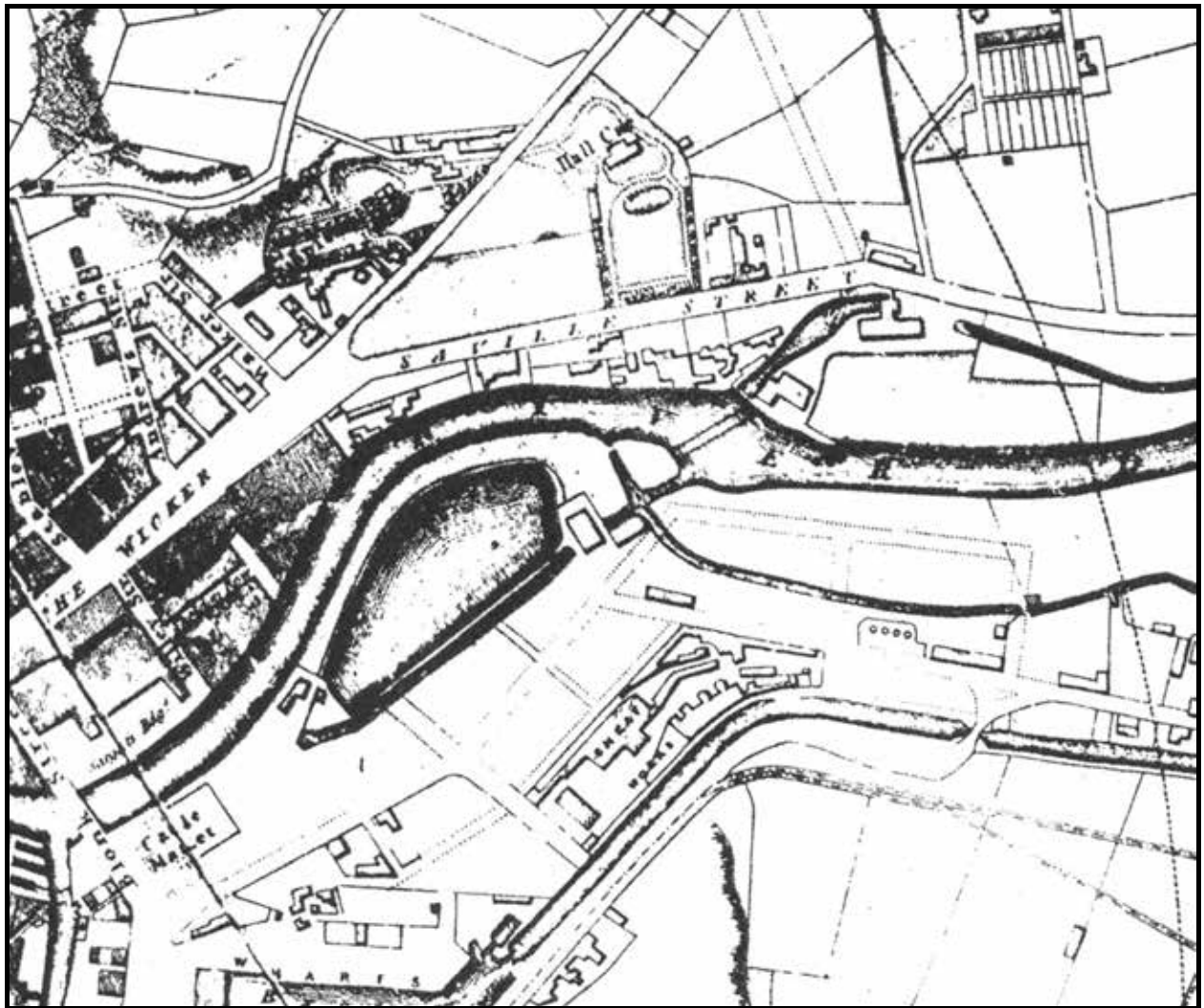


Fig. 3 Fairbank's Map of the Town and Environs of Sheffield 1808

5.2. The mid 19th century onwards

Development of Savile Street was clearly very rapid during the latter half of the 19th century, with the whole area becoming heavily built up, primarily for industrial purposes. It is clear from a succession of OS maps that for the most part the buildings constructed from the mid-late 19th century remained in use for approximately 100 years with only minor alterations.

On the northern side of the street was the Wicker Station and associated goods sheds. Although originally built as the station to serve as the main station for Sheffield it became a goods station after 1870 when the present station at Sheaf Street was built (Bayliss 1995, M29). The 1905 OS map shows that the station belonged to the Midland Railways but by 1923 had become the London, Midland and Scottish Railways. The various offices and warehouses on the site were recorded in the 1852, 1903, 1923, 1936 and 1959 Trade Directories as being leased to numerous tenants at any given time. Most

of the tenants were coal merchants, but other tenants included Inland Revenue officers, excise officers, lime merchants, a brewer, a colliery owners' office and a cement maker.

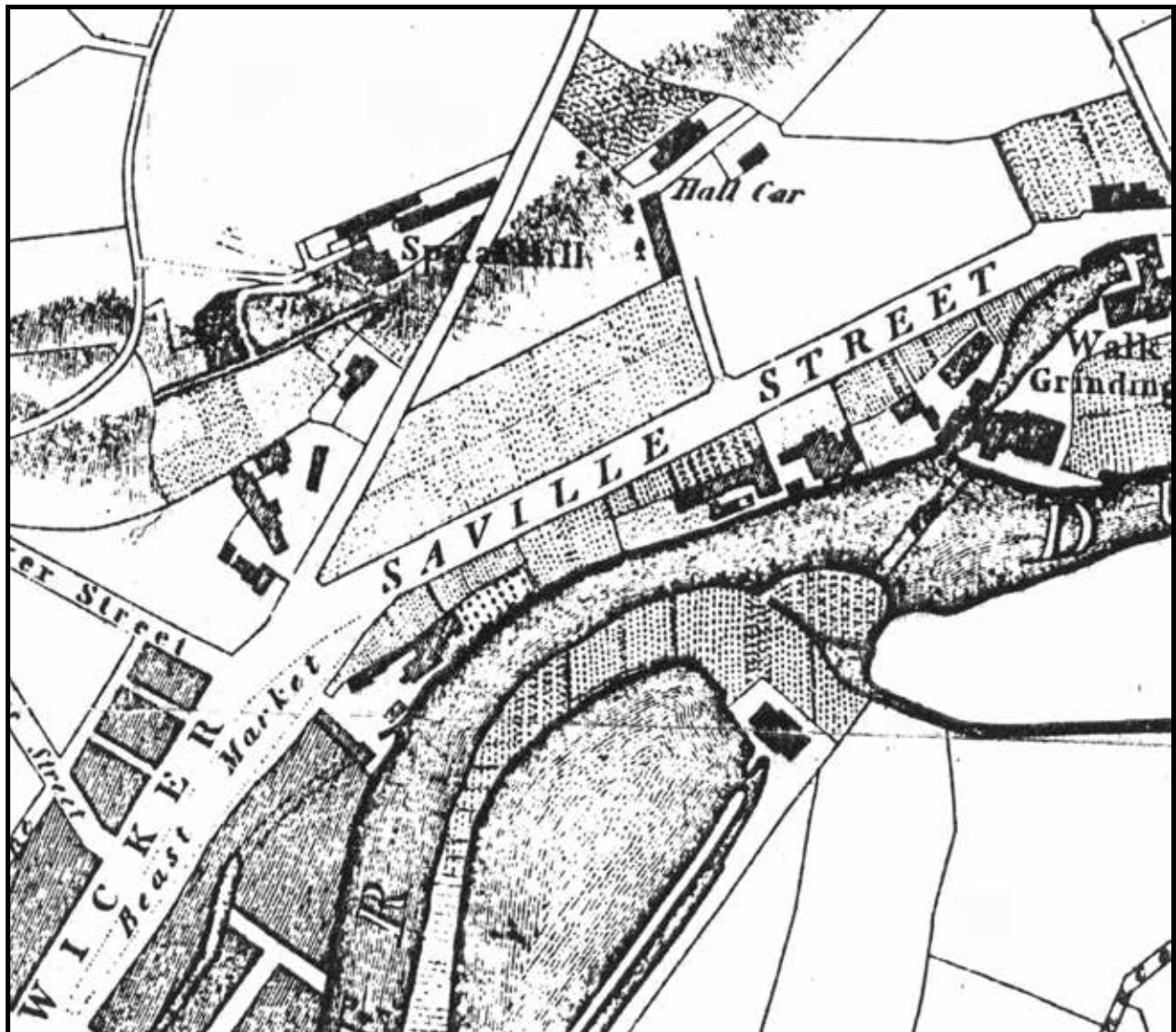


Fig. 4 Tayler's Map of the Town and Environs of Sheffield 1832

Along the southern side of the street there were a series of properties all of which extended from the street frontage to the River Don. These can be subdivided into a number of groups, which from west to east are as follows; three properties at the westernmost end of the street (5.2.1 below), numbers 44-68 (5.2.2 below), numbers 70-92 (5.2.3 below), the Union Forge (5.2.4 below) the Don Steel Works (5.2.5 below) and the Albion Works (5.2.6 below). Of these groups it is 5.2.3 and 5.2.4 that relate directly to the area of proposed redevelopment covered by this desk top study. Unfortunately it is often difficult to relate the businesses listed in the Trade Directories to specific buildings shown on the OS maps as only the 1954 and later maps depict property numbers, and even then they form a discontinuous sequence.

5.2.1. Three properties at the westernmost end of Savile Street

At the westernmost end of the street there were three plots, the first being roughly triangular in shape, while the remaining two were roughly square. These plots are shown as having buildings close to the River Don in both the 1808 and 1832 (Figs. 3-4). These plots were vacant on the 1853 OS map, but by 1905 the westernmost triangular plot had a small building fronting onto the street, while the other two plots each had a series of buildings ranged around a central courtyard (Fig. 5). These buildings all remained in use, largely unaltered, until at least 1935.

As stated above it is almost impossible to relate these buildings to the specific businesses listed in the Trade Directories due to the lack of property numbers on the maps. However, these plots were clearly occupied by large numbers of small businesses between 1851 and 1935 including beer sellers, a tobacconists, a hauliers, two weighting machine manufacturers, an engineers office, a builder, a news agents, a hay and straw dealer, a fireproof floor manufacturer, an iron and steel merchant, a leather factory, a scrap iron merchant, machinery manufacturers, a tea machine makers, a boiler maker and a tool maker. The most durable of these businesses was Henry Pooley and Son Ltd weighing machine manufactures, listed at number 4 Savile Street in the 1903, 1923 and 1936 directories. Most of the businesses in these three properties were clearly short lived, but it is impossible to say if this is because the businesses closed, went bankrupt or moved to other larger or better premises elsewhere in the city. In some cases it must be noted that a single building had multiple tenants (for example three tenants are listed at number 4 Savile Street in the 1923 directory).

Bentley Bros. (Sheffield) Ltd. car dealers and servicing are first listed at number 4 in the 1936 directory. Bentley's clearly set about accumulating all three plots of land. By 1944 there was only one other tenant listed, and by 1959 Bentleys were the sole tenants for all three plots of land. The 1954 OS map (Fig. 8) shows that all the 19th century buildings on these plots had been demolished and replaced by Bentley's large garage. The firm is listed in the 1959, 1970 and 1974 Trade Directories as having a dealership and showroom at the site.

5.2.2. Numbers 44-68 Savile Street

Numbers 44-46 consisted of a small plot with a narrow street frontage. This is shown as gardens on the 1853 OS map but on all the OS maps from 1903-1976 (Figs. 5-9) as being entirely covered by buildings consisting of a smaller square building fronting the street, and a larger rectangular building behind. The 1903 Trade Directory lists a confectioners shop at 44 and Marsland's clog makers at 46. By 1923 this had changed to a Marsland's clog makers at 44 and news agents at 46. It is unclear if Marsland's business moved from one part of the building to another, or whether the street numbers were altered between these two dates. By 1936 this property seems to have been taken over by the timber merchant Henry Matthew who owned the adjacent property to the north-east and remained in his hands from then on.

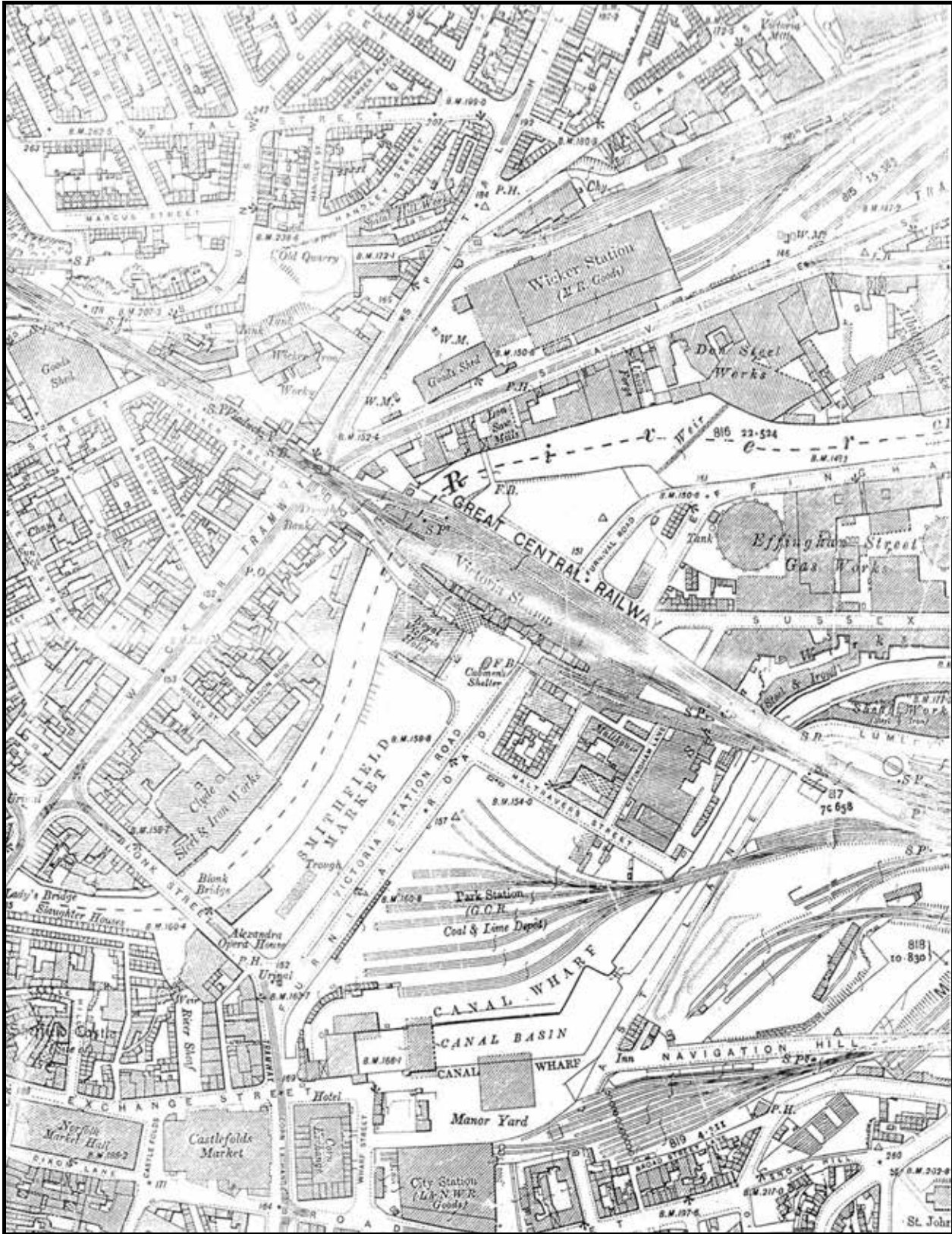


Fig. 5 Ordnance Survey Map 1905 25 inches to 1 mile

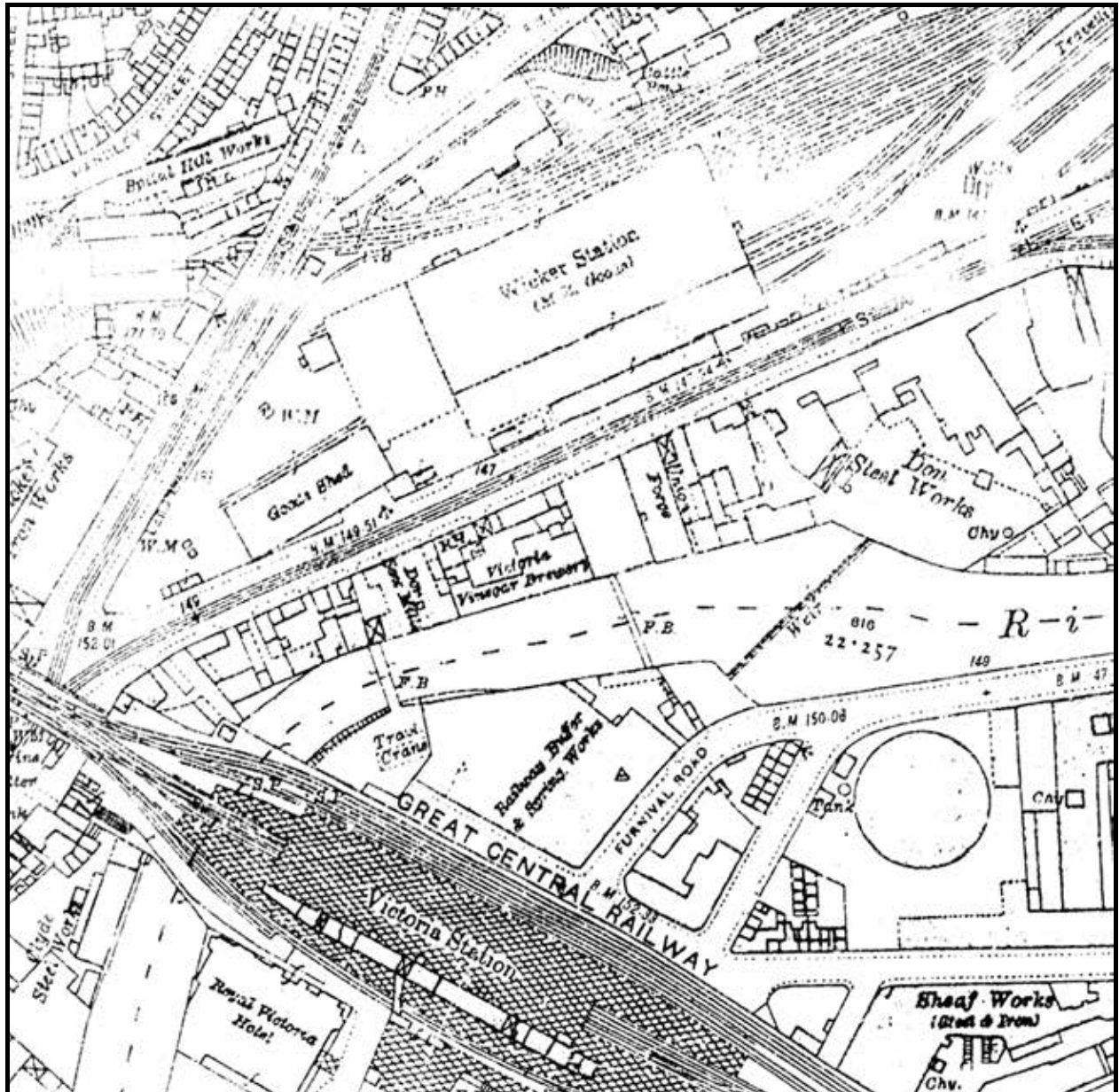


Fig. 6 Ordnance Survey Map 1923 25 inches to 1 mile

Numbers 48-68 comprised the Don Saw Mills which were constructed in the latter half of the 19th century. The buildings have access from Savile Street into an enclosed yard with gabled workshops to the north-east and north-west and a three storey wood drying shed, with slatted openings on the upper floor, adjacent to the river Don. This property was owned by the firm of Henry Matthews from at least the 1870s. The buildings are now derelict but were classified by the RCHME as being of local importance (RCHME 1989).

5.2.3. Numbers 70-94 Savile Street

Numbers 70-94 Savile Street form a rectangular plot of land with the long axis parallel to the street. Buildings were constructed on this plot from 1850 onwards, and these properties were primarily used as a brewery.

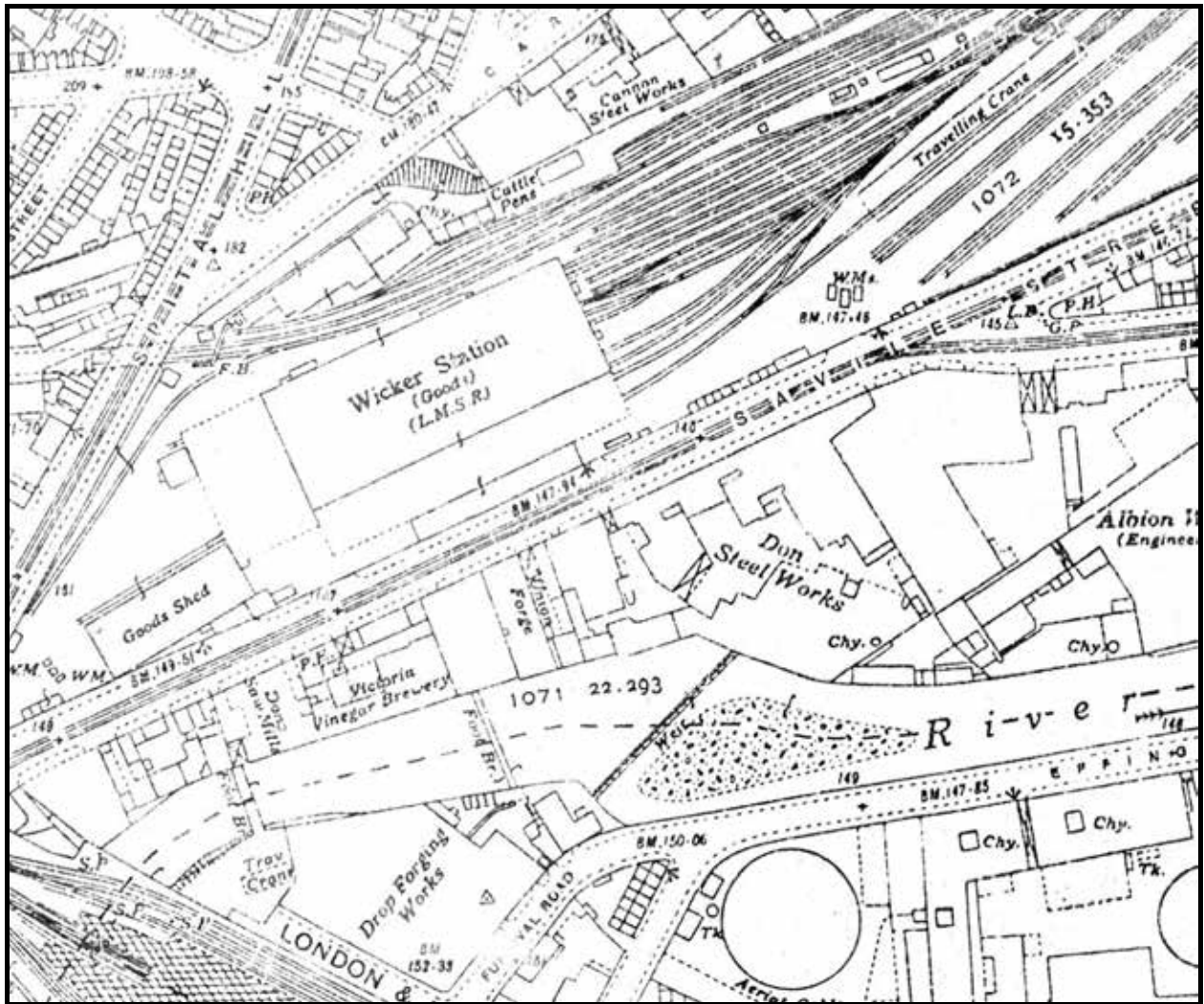


Fig. 7 Ordnance Survey Map 1935 25 inches to 1 mile

The brewery was started in 1850 by Charles John Stewart, who is listed the 1852 Trade Directory as Stewart and Co Brewers. He sold the business in 1855 to Thomas James Parker (Parry 1997, 99-100). A very detailed plan and description of the buildings for sale in 1855 exists ('Plan and Particulars of valuable freehold Brewery and other property situated in Savile Street. To be sold by Auction' Sheffield Archive document number Bush April 10 1855). Unfortunately as this plan is classed as a work of art copyright prevents its' reproduction here. The plan shows a range of buildings on the street frontage consisting of (from west to east) a dram shop, two offices, a covered passageway leading to a central yard, a coopers shop and stables. A second range of buildings were located behind the dram shop along the south-western side of the plot. This range consisted of (from north to south) a sitting room, a boiler house, an engine house and a barrel room, which was adjacent to the River Don. A third range of buildings extended from the barrel room along half of the south-eastern side of the property. This range comprised a wash house and cellar. The remainder of the property is shown as a yard, within which is a rectangular building described as a house with its long-axis parallel to the street frontage. There is also a privy located in the extreme south-easternmost corner of the property.

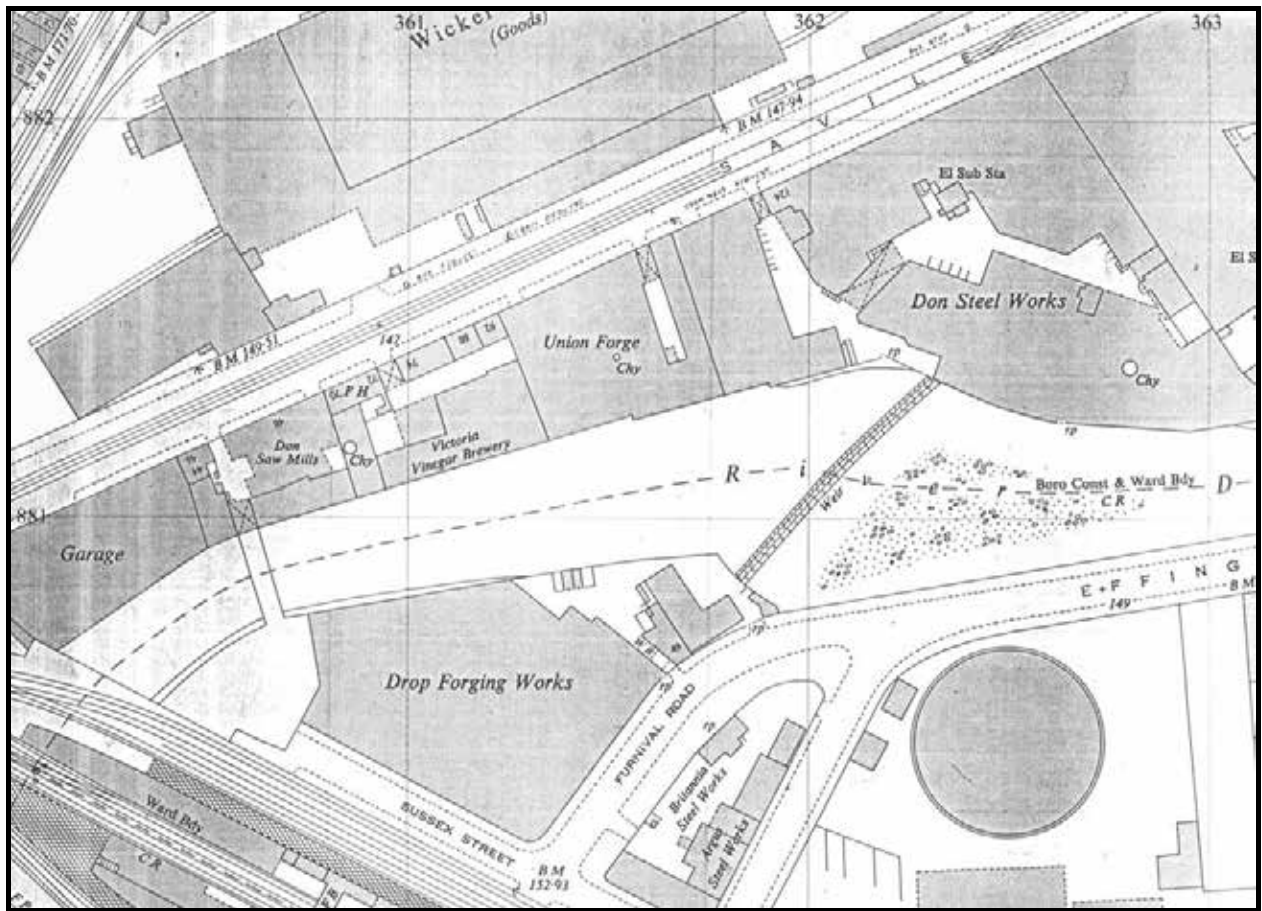


Fig. 8 Ordnance Survey Map 1954 1:1250

The text to accompany the plan describes the buildings as follows, 'Messuage and dwelling house. Adjoining thereto and numerous convenient and well arranged out offices occupied therewith comprising a stone square room, large cellar, wash house, barrel room, engine room, public and private offices, dram shop, coppers shop, stabling for 6 horses and loose box. Premises contain in the whole and area of 1503 Sq. yards. The buildings are all new and in first rate condition. There is an excellent spring of water on the property which is adapted for brewing purposes. The brewery is doing a most extensive and lucrative business and may be justly classed amongst the first breweries in the north of England. The plant comprises iron water pan to hold 46 barrels: cast iron rollers for grinding malt with hopper: mash tub capable of making 16 quarters and apparatus all complete: liquor pan for 33 barrels, 3 horse power steam engine with boiler equal to 11 horse power: six stone squares prepared for 21 barrels each: water pump complete. The fixtures like the brewery are new and of the best and most modern improved description'.

Thomas Parker improved the business until it had 18 tied houses, most on short term leases. He sold out to William Willmott in 1874, but the properties were sold off again in 1883 when Willmott went bankrupt. By this stage the brewery was known as the Wicker Brewery. In 1885 the Wicker Brewery vaults were taken over by Wilson Parkside Brewery (Parry 1997, 99-100).

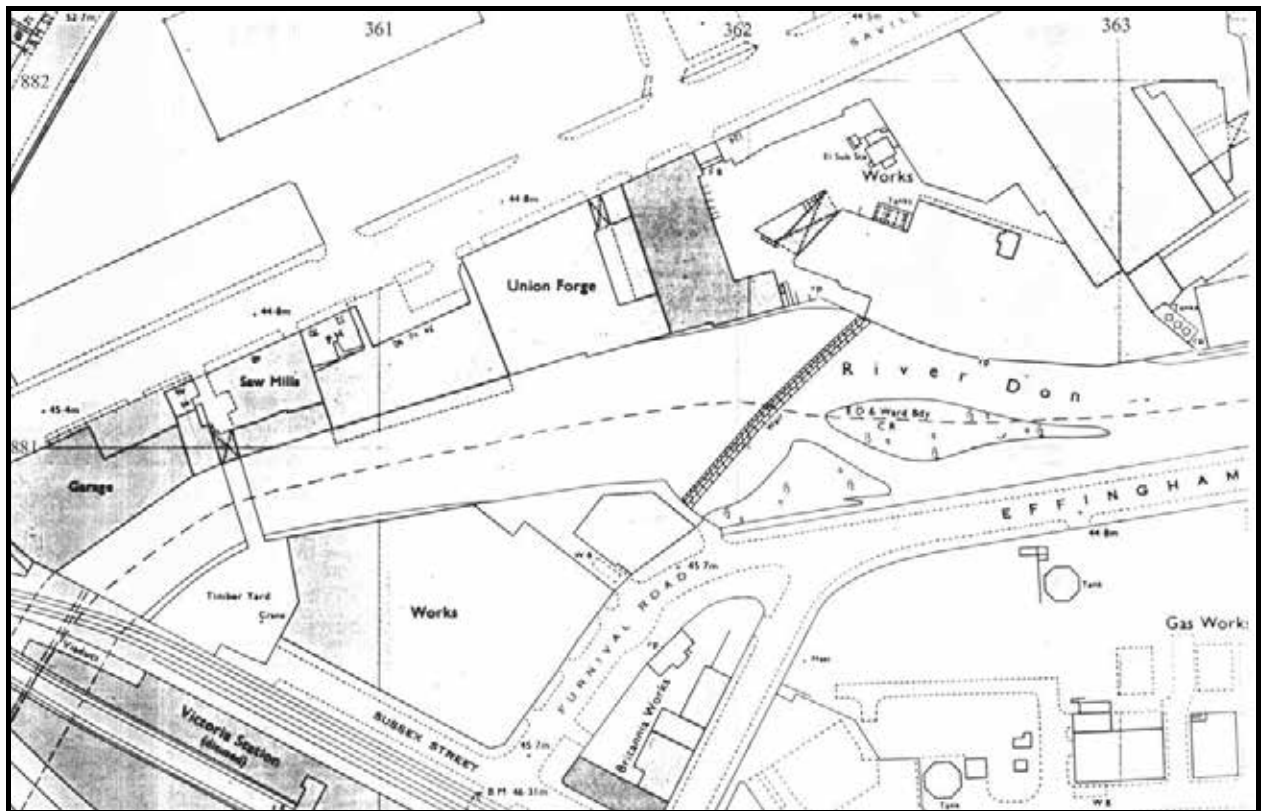


Fig. 9 Ordnance Survey Map 1961 1:1250

Between 1855 and 1905 the layout of the buildings changed slightly. The house within the courtyard was demolished and the range adjacent to the River Don was expanded to the full width of the site. This effectively gave three ranges around a central courtyard which are shown on all the OS maps from 1905-1954. The buildings along the street frontage remained unaltered in layout, but their functions changed. The dram shop and offices depicted in 1855 became a public house, the covered walkway remained intact, and the coopers shop and stables were converted into shops and offices.

A sale plan and description of the property dating to 1907 (Sheffield Archive document Bush June 4 1907 'Important Sale of Surplus Properties by Order of Messers. Duncan Gilmour and Co Limited') describes the property as, 'Lot 9 Savile Street, Wicker Brewery Premises, Upset price £5000. the compact and well organised freehold property situated in Savile Street, formerly known as the Wicker Brewery, and now let to the Victoria Vinegar Brewery Co Ltd for 10 years from 29th September 1905, at the yearly rent of £332 15s. 0d. the Site contains 1,687 sq. yards or thereabouts. The situation and large area of this lot make is a very valuable property. Notes – the ground floor of Lot 9 which is striped with pink lines on the sale plan is used as a billiard room in connection with the Wicker Brewery vaults retained by the vendors, and is excluded from the sale and the purchaser will be required in the conveyance to him to enter into a covenant with the vendors not to use the portion of Lot (above the said billiard room so as to damage the structure thereof. The vendors reserve the right to enlarge the yard of their adjoining property so as to accord with the sale plan and will at their own expense erect in the

portion marked A on such plan a new WC which will form part of Plot 9'. The portion striped in pink was the former sitting room and boiler house directly to the rear of the public house at number 70-2.

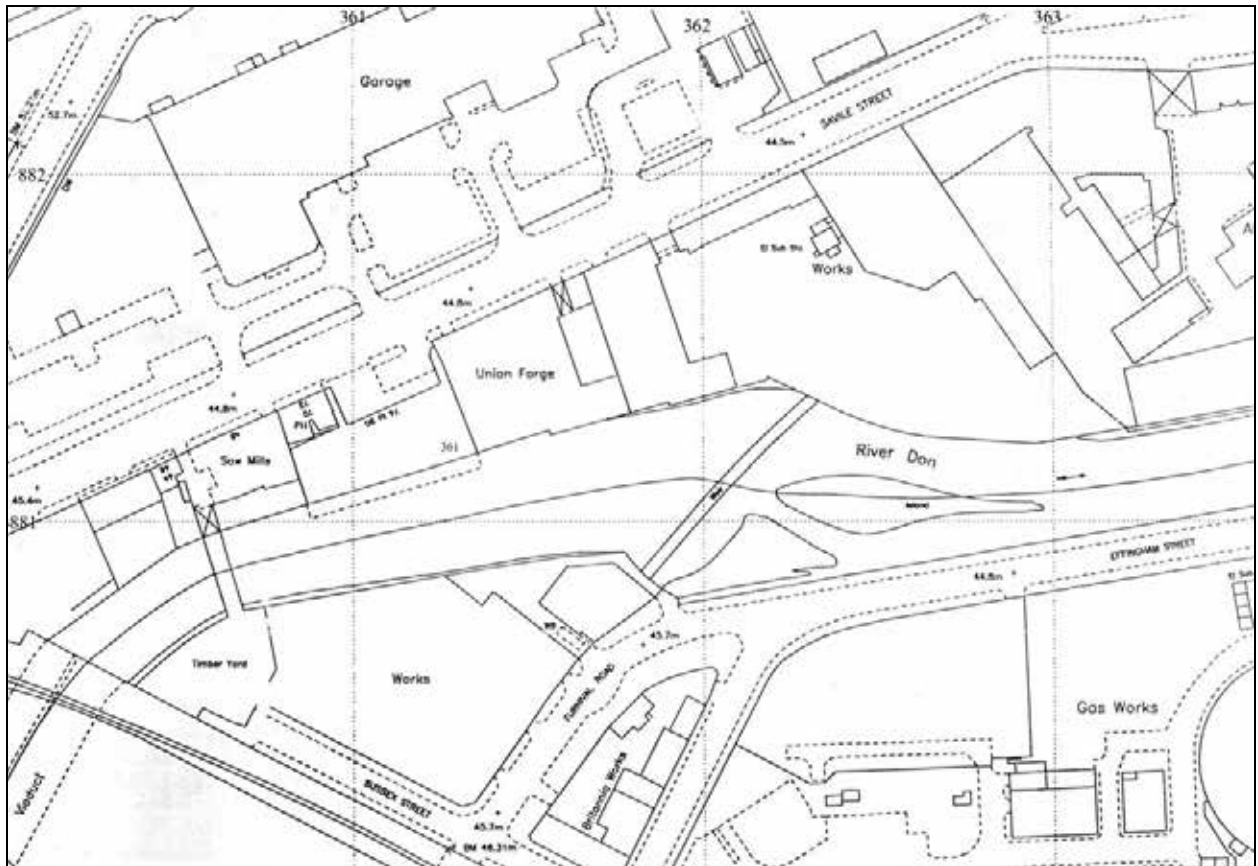


Fig. 10 Ordnance Survey Map 1993 1:1250

Despite the fact that the buildings were constructed to form a single brewery, following the sale in 1855 it is clear that the buildings fronting the street were let to a number of different businesses. The south-westernmost building on the street frontage (numbers 70-72) was clearly the brewery pub, which was listed as the Wicker Brewery Hotel in the Trade Directories from 1939-1974. The pub name was changed to Ye Olde Hole in the Wall in the late 1970s. Number 74 was part of the Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery from 1905-1959, but in the 1923 trade directory it is listed as also housing two other pickle/vinegar related businesses (Jay Malt Vinegar Brewery Co Ltd and Jay Sauce Pickle and Vinegar Co Ltd). It is possible that these were simply alternative trading names for the Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery trading from a single office. From 1944-59 number 74 was again listed as the Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. The property at number 88 was occupied by a tobacconists shop and the offices or workshop of a buffer manufacturer in 1903. By 1923 a confectioners had replaced the tobacconist, but the buffer manufacturer remained. From 1944-59 this property housed a lime merchant. Number 92 Savile Street is listed in the 1944 Trade Directory as housing a road transport company and a pickle manufacturer, while in 1959 it housed a footwear distributors.

The buildings to the rear of the street frontage were always used as a brewery, initially for beer, but from 1905 onwards for vinegar made by the Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery. This company built an additional building within the courtyard sometime between 1935 and 1954.

All of the 19th century buildings on the site with the exception of the public house at 70-72 were cleared sometime between 1954 and 1961 and replaced by modern buildings. The 1974 Trade Directory still lists the public house at 70-72 Savile Street, but has Isherwoods Garage Ltd petrol service station at number 74-96. The buildings of the public house were classified by the RCHME as being of local importance (RCHME 1989). This public house does not form part of the desk-top study area.

5.2.4. The Union Forge

This group of properties comprised three plots, the south-westernmost property was the largest, with the remaining two consisting of narrow linear plots with the long axis at right angles to the street. Unfortunately no property numbers are listed for any of these buildings on the OS maps. The southernmost one must have been number 94, and it is possible that the central property was number 98 which is the address listed for the Union Forge in various Trade Directories, however, the precise property numbers are unclear.

The westernmost two plots were sold off in 1855 along with the adjacent brewery and are described and illustrated in the 'Plan and Particulars of valuable freehold Brewery and other property situated in Savile Street. To be sold by Auction' (Sheffield Archive document number Bush April 10 1855) mentioned in 5.2.3 above. The buildings illustrated on the sale plan in 1855 on the westernmost plot of land (Lot 3 of the sale) consisted of three ranges of buildings parallel to the street frontage, which extended across the south-western most two thirds of the property, giving an almost E shaped yard between the various buildings. The riverside portion of the plot formed part of the yard. The range along the street frontage comprised a stable and file cutters shop. The central range consisted of file shops, and the range furthest from the street was file house. The text to accompany the sale describes lot 3 as 'used as a file manufactory with file hearths, file cutters shop, dwelling house, stable and other convenient and well arranged buildings'. The central plot of land is shown on the plan as having an irregularly shaped building listed as a 'saw mills and lumber' but described in the text as 'Lot 4 grinding wheel, engine house, sawmills and timber room. Converting furnace. Steel warehouse and sheds'. The easternmost plot did not form part of the 1855 sale so is not illustrated.

None of these buildings seems to have remained in use for long, most seem to have been demolished and replaced by new buildings by 1905. In the case of the westernmost property there were three small buildings on the street frontage with a large building to the rear which covered the entire plot by 1905. By 1923 this had changed into a single large building covering the entire plot which remained in use until at least 1935. The saw mills shown on the central plot in 1855 were replaced by a single building covering the entire plot by 1905. This is listed on the shown 1905-1935 OS maps as forming part of the Union Forge. The easternmost plot, also shown on the 1905-1935 OS maps as part of the Union Forge, consisted of a covered entrance way and small building fronting onto the street behind which was a yard. There was a rectangular building along the north-

eastern side of the yard in 1905, to which a second building extending as far as the River Don was added by 1923.

All of these buildings remained intact until at least the early 1950s, but the 1954 OS map shows all three properties as being unified into a single larger building, though the covered entry way and small yard of the easternmost plot clearly remained. It is however possible that this map simply shows the overall outline of the properties held by the Union Forge, but fails to show internal details of the buildings. If this is the case all of the earlier buildings would have been intact at this stage. The buildings were still present on the OS maps up to 1993. Since the Union Forge was possibly the last Sheffield forge to use steam powered hammers (Bayliss, E44) the buildings were classified by the RCHME as being of regional importance (RCHME 1989). Despite this they have since been demolished leaving open ground.

In terms of ownership the westernmost property (assuming it is number 94) it is never separately listed in the Trade Directories and it is unclear at what stage this became part of the Union Forge (which it clearly was in 1954). The central property (assuming it is number 98) was held from 1893-1974 by John Holding and Co. steel forgers. This company was a medium sized steel producer. The fact the company remained in one place for so long, and was not taken over by a larger firm is quite unusual for Sheffield. Elsewhere in the city there is an extremely complex pattern of takeovers and mergers of small to medium sized companies resulting in frequently changed trading names. In addition there is often frequent migration of businesses into ever larger premises.

Only three other businesses are listed for these plots of land between 1893 and 1974. A cooper called Charles Stuart listed in the 1893 Trade Directory may well have occupied the easternmost of the three properties. The 1936 trade Directory lists Freemans Ltd steel manufacturers at 98 Savile Street. Quite how this business related to Holding and Co is unclear. A crane and Hoist manufacturers is listed in the 1974 trade directory, but without a specific street number, so again, its precise relationship to Holding and Co is unclear.

5.2.5. The Don Steel Works

The westernmost property number for this plot of land is 124 Savile Street, and though the easternmost property number is unclear, but the 1903 trade directory implies it was number 180, with the Albion Works factory to the immediate east.

Buildings were clearly present on the site on both the 1808 and 1832 maps (Figs. 3-4). In both cases the buildings are adjacent to the River Don and do not extend to the street frontage. They were clearly making use of water power for industrial purposes. The site is shown on the 1853 OS map as the Saville Works which made steel and iron. The RCHME also states that this plot was the site of the Don Mill for grinding corn but the precise dates of this mill are unclear (RCHME 1989, Fig. 32). By 1905 the name of the factory had changed to the Don Steel Works, a name which was retained from then onwards. By 1905 (Fig. 5) buildings covered virtually all of the plot of land with the exception of two small courtyards, one roughly triangular and one roughly square in shape. There was a roughly rectangular building along the western edge of the property with an adjacent access route from the street frontage into the triangular yard. The

smaller square courtyard was almost entirely filled with a small building. The buildings along the easternmost side of the plot and at the rear were large steel factory buildings. Some changes occurred to the buildings by 1923, for example the small square yard was expanded, and there is a complex pattern of sheds and outbuildings within this yard. Overall the layout of the buildings remained fairly constant from then until 1954, with minor changes to the shape of the yards. By 1961 part of the factory had been demolished, effectively unifying the two yards. By 1993 all of the buildings at the rear of the property had been demolished leaving only those buildings fronting onto the street. Further demolition since 1993 has cleared even more of the site.

In terms of ownership this property was occupied by Francis Hobson by 1850 (Bayliss E44). By 1893 this company had changed name to Hobson Houghton and Co. Although this trading name was retained the firm is listed as a steel manufacturer from 1893-1944 and as a file and rasp manufacturer from 1959 onwards. Hobson's was clearly the dominant factory on this site, but a number of other businesses also rented space there including file and rasp manufacturers, a haulier, the Great Western Railway goods office and a stainless steel manufacturer.

It must be noted that part of this site, up to and including the covered access way from Savile Street forms part of the area covered by the desk-top study.

5.2.6. The Albion Works

The largest of the Savile Street factories was the Albion Works at the north-eastern end of the street and continuing onto Savile Street East. This business was established between 1853 and 1864 by Thomas W Ward on the site of the earlier Upper Walk Mill and Nether Walk Mill. For this reason the site was classified by the RCHME as being of regional importance (RCHME 1989). Ward initially worked as a coal merchant but then expanded into the scrap trade, industrial demolition, quarrying, railway engineering and machinery sales. From 1886 there were new head offices on part of the site built from polished granite from Wards De Lank quarry in Cornwall. By the 20th century the firm had become a large industrial group concerned with iron, steel, engineering, quarrying, cement hire, scrap metals and plant hire. The firm closed in 1983 (Bayliss, F6).

6. WALK OVER SURVEY

A walk over of the site was made on 28.10.2004. The oldest building on the site is the Public House on the corner of the property. This is clearly the same building depicted on plans and maps from 1855 onwards.

Surrounding the public house on the south-east and north-eastern sides is a nine storey office block. This building is shown on the 1961 O.S. map. The ground floor is largely open along the street frontage, with a number of concrete pillars to support the building above. The remaining storeys are all offices, some of which are semi-derelict. The building can only be described unattractive and of no architectural merit (Plates 1-2).

The remainder of the property to be developed consisted of open ground with concrete flooring slabs overgrown by weeds and shrubs.

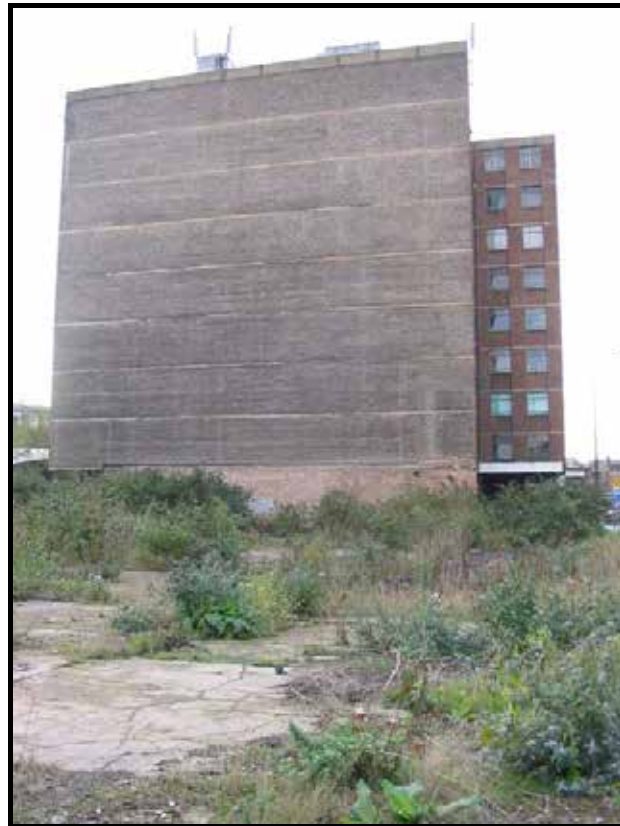


Plate 1 Savile House and adjacent derelict land



Plate 2 The street frontage of Savile House



Plate 3 The former Wicker Brewery public house

7.0 DISCUSSION AND IMPLICATIONS

During the medieval and post-medieval periods the area of the desk top study lay slightly to the north-east (c.1250m) of the town centre of Sheffield. The banks of the River Don in this area were clearly the site of a number of 16th-18th century water-powered mills used for a variety of purposes including fulling, corn grinding, and for powering grinding wheels for the cutlery industry. These mills seem to have been concentrated slightly to the north-east of the desk-top study area, but there is a possibility that other buildings pre-dating the industrial revolution may exist elsewhere along the river frontage in the area.

The plot of land covered by the desk-top study had clearly been heavily built up since the mid 19th century, and comprises the sites of a former brewery with associated public house (the Wicker Brewery), a medium-sized steel works (the Union Forge), and a small portion of the property belonging to a second medium-sized steel producer (the Don Steel Works); though it must be noted other smaller businesses rented portions of these properties at various stages. For the most part the buildings constructed for these businesses between c. 1850-1900 remained in use with relatively minor alterations until their widespread demolition in the latter half of the 20th century. The only one of the 19th century buildings to survive is the public house at numbers 70-72 Savile Street (Plate 3).

In 1898 the RCHME surveyed many of the industrial buildings of Sheffield and classified them as being of either local, regional or national importance. In the case of the desk-top study area the site of the public house of the former Wicker brewery was classified as being of local importance, while the sites of both the Union Forge and the Don Steel Works were both classed as being of regional importance. The Union Forge was felt to be

of particular interest internally as it was possibly the last Sheffield forge to use steam powered hammers. Despite this classification the buildings of both steel works within the study area have been totally demolished.

8. ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS

There are clearly three differing levels of preservation within the area. In the case of the public house of the former Wicker Brewery, the buildings seem to survive intact in their original mid 19th century state. These buildings are not part of the proposed redevelopment of the site (i.e. lie outside the area covered by the desk top study). This building is the only survival of the 19th century buildings and provides a link with the past history of the site.

With the exception of the public house the land formerly occupied by the Wicker Brewery is now beneath the present day Savile House. Given the height of Savile House it seems more than likely there would have been extensive piling of the site prior to construction of this building. Such a method of construction would have caused severe damage to any underlying foundations of the brewery, though it is possible that pockets of undisturbed archaeological deposits may survive. Survival of remains of any interest in this area is likely to be patchy at best.

The remainder of the study area seems to have been open derelict ground since the late 20th century demolition of both the Union Forge and Don Steel Works. Since no new buildings have been constructed in this area there is a very high probability that the foundations of the buildings relating to both steel works will have survived well. It must however be noted that the principal interest of these buildings was their internal fixtures and machinery, all of which has now gone. The foundations of these buildings could however be tied in to early OS maps for the area, which would be of some interest for the history of steel making within the city.

9. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Illustrations	Lesley Collett
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10. LIST OF SOURCES

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APPENDIX 1 Sites and Monuments Records

Identifying number	Grid reference	Description
242-246 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE1)	SK358877	Sheffield Castle. Anglo-Saxon timber structure in area, then a timber castle which was burnt down in 1100. Rebuilt in stone in 1266. Damaged in English Civil War.
247 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE11)	SK360883	St Leonard's hospital, founded by 1189 discontinued in 1522
249 (Also in NMR)	SK354875	Cathedral (formerly parish church) Tower and chancel 15 th century and late 16 th century with additions from 1880 onwards (extant building)
252 (Also in NMR)	SK3547887457	Hoard of 103 coins of Henry VIII to James I (find) Found in 1913 during demolition works. 64 of the coins are in Sheffield Museum the remainder in the national museums.
253	SK354875	Saxon cross shaft (find) Late 8 th century Anglian cross shaft found in use as a trough in a cutlers' workshop in the Park. May have originated from the site of the parish church (later cathedral). Now at the British Museum
787 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE42)	SK35738776	Lady's Bridge, medieval
788	SK35738776	Chapel of Our Blessed Lady medieval chapel on a bridge. Demolished in the 18 th century
883 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE3)	SK364875	Polished stone axe found in 1880
889 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE9)	SK367889	48 silver coins of Vespasian Marcus Aurelius found in 1854
890	SK359888	Coins of Decius AD 249-251 found in 1881
895 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE22)	SK355876	Bronze Age cinerary urns found in 1819
1401 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE35)	SK358877	Site of a cruck building ?medieval
1692	SK35478802	Soho Wheel
1694	SK35668784	The Town Corn Mill and wheel, with 1 wheel for corn and 1 grinding wheel
1695	SK35807870	Wicker tilts pre 1786
1696	SK35878786	Wicker wheels pre 1637
1697	SK36248814	Upper Walk Mill for treating woollen cloth

1698	SK36308821	Nether Walk Mill
1699	SK36888825	The needle works
1700	SK36938827	By 1581 wheat and rye were being ground at Attercliffe Mill. From 1604-70 there are rentals recorded fro a corn mill an 2 cutters wheels. By 1737 leases were fro on corn mill and 12 cutler's wheels. IN 1782 the mill and wheel were in poor condition and the tenants were required to rebuild and improve the water supply. In 1821 the corn mill was auctioned off, but there is no reference to a cutler's wheel. Became the Royds Works, rolling mill. In 1814 had a water wheel 10 feet 9inches in diameter and 10 feet 10inches wide. Rebuilt in 1836.
1741	SK35908735	2 dams joined together, Sheaf Mill may have stood between. Pre 1575
1742	SK35888741	Pond Mill
1743	SK35978784	Simon Wheel pre 1783, demolished 1787. There was a cutters wheel here in 1736 fed by a goit from the River Sheaf. In 1753 there was a lease for 1 end and 6 troughs on the site. By 1767 the dam had been extended and a complex system of goits had been developed. By 1787 the Old Wheel house had been converted into a dwelling and a new wheel house had been built 250 yards downstream with a long narrow dam 250x20 yards in size fed by an earlier dam, and a new reservoir between the new dam and the River Don to compensate for the low level and fall. By 1794 there were 50 troughs on the site. In 1850 Victoria Station was built over the site.
1745	SK36898805	Furnace and grinding wheel pre 1794, probably an iron works.
2758	SK35608760	Human remains found
2763	SK35628763	'Irish Cross' site of
2767	SK35708755	Market place, medieval and post-medieval
3197	SK35558755	Bones of fallow deer
3777	SK294834	Barber fields. Industrial manufacturing 1748-1796, by 1748 a lead cupola on this site
3988 (Also in NMR as entry SK38NE32)	SK35958808	Bridge of 1838
4183	SK36928796	Mid 19 th century warehouse, extant building
4535	SK3568878	Steel works, Riverside exchange

Table 3 SMR entries within a 1km radius of Savile Street

APPENDIX 2 National Monuments Records

A search was made by the National Monuments Record Office of all entries within a 1km radius of NGR SK 4361 3881. The search produced c.100 entries and c. 25 activity records, some of which had already been located by the SMR search. A major problem with the NMR lists is that the grid references and descriptions given are usually inadequate to locate precisely the entry item within the 1km search area. In addition there is no code to say if the buildings concerned are extant or not. Copyright also prevents the listings from being reproduced here. Despite these problems the NMR entries clearly show that Sheffield as seen today is largely the result of 19-20th century development.

Only a few entries related to sites of finds of pre 19th-century date, but these included an iron age or early medieval bank, and three stray finds of Roman date including coins and a jet figurine of a bear. None of these were in the desk-top study area.

The overwhelming majority of the NMR records related to buildings of 19th and early 20th century date, principally for industrial purposes. Clearly the dominant industry in the area was steel production with 29 entries for steel works and related structures. There were however many other industrial premises in the area including a bone factory/warehouse, a brewery, a grain elevator, a malt house, a factory 2 warehouses, a saw mill, 5 works or factories without products specified, 3 engineering works, a gas works, a plating works and an iron works. Most of the remaining entries related to transport links, including a road bridge at Leveson Street, a number of railway related structures including tracks, viaducts, bridges, stations and goods yards (16 entries) and canalised rivers together with associated weirs, bridges and warehousing (9 entries). Non industrial structures of 19th to early 20th century date included a pump house, a refuse disposal plant, a hotel, a bank, 5 houses, 3 offices, a Methodist church, a cemetery and 6 public houses.

Late 20th century structures listed included the castle market hall, an underpass, a sports centre, and a block of flats.

APPENDIX 3 SHEFFIELD TRADE DIRECTORY LISTINGS

Sheffield General Directory 1817

This directory was arranged alphabetically by surname. It was not therefore possible to search for Savile street within this directory.

Holden's London Annual Directory 1816-7

Nothing was listed for Savile Street within this directory.

Pigot and Co National Commercial Directory 1834

This directory was arranged alphabetically by surname. It was not therefore possible to search for Savile street within this directory.

W White's General Directory of Sheffield 1852

No property numbers were listed for these businesses though a number are shown as being within the Walk Mill.

Coal depots
Theaker Son and Levick
Roberts J. Shopkeeper
Tindal Henry beerhouse
Shepherd J. timber yard
Stewart and Co Brewers
Jowitt & Battie manufacturers
Scorah G. turner
Hobson Francis manufacturer
Mills G *Walk Mill*
Hodgson and Son *Walk Mill*
Gibbons T. Bone cutter *Walk Mill*
Lant I. turner *Walk Mill*
Smith S. miller *Walk Mill*

White's Directory of Sheffield and Rotherham 1893

On the northern side of the street was the Midland Goods Station, offices and warehouses which were occupied by a variety of tenants, including inland revenue officers, a brewer, abundant coal merchants and a lime merchant. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

2 Baggle William beer retailer
4 Pooley Henry and Son Ltd weighting machine manufacturers
6 Parkin Joseph iron and steel merchant
8 Fisher William scrap iron merchant
 Fiddler James builder
 Allsopp Samuel and Son Ltd Ale store
40 Maddockss Frank hay and straw dealer
42 Shaw Miss M tobacconist
44 Marsland Squire clog maker
46 Jarvis Robert shop keeper
48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
70-72 Wicker Brewery Hotel Mrs Ann Lathom
74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
88 Foster John tobacconist
 Turton Geroge, Platts and Co buffer manufacturers
98 Holding John and Co steel forgers (Union Forge)
 Stuart Charles cooper
 Hobson Houghton and Co steel manufacturers
 Pickfords and Co general carriers
 Great Western Railway goods office
 Robinson J.D. traction engine propr.

White's Directory of Sheffield and Rotherham 1903

On the northern side of the street was the Midland Goods Station, offices and warehouses which were occupied by a variety of tenants, including inland revenue officers, a brewer, abundant coal merchants and a lime merchant. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- 2 Shepherd William victualler
- 4 Pooley Henry and Son Ltd weighting machine manufacturers
- 6 Durey Charles iron and steel merchant
- 8 Parker and Marney engineering &c
- 40 Fiddler James builder
- 42 Peacock George news agents
- 44 Marsland Squire clog maker
- 46 Williams Mrs S.A. confectioner
- 48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 70-72 Stanton Thomas victualler
- 74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
- 88 Fell Thomas Coulson tobacconist
Turton George, Platts and Co buffer manufacturers
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
Hobson Houghton and Co steel manufacturers
Gregory and Bramall steel and file manufacturers
Fisher George and Co steel and file manufacturers
- 178 Pickfords Ltd carriers
- 180 Great Western Railway Co Carriers
Robinson J.D. Carting agent
Ward Thomas William iron steel and machinery merchant (*Albion Works*)

Kelly's Sheffield Directory 1923

On the northern side of the street was the London Midland and Scottish Railways goods and coal depot, which were occupied by a variety of tenants, including excise officers, abundant coal merchants, a colliery agent and a lime merchant. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- 2 Parker and Marney iron merchants
- 4 Pooley Henry and Son Ltd weighting machine manufacturers
- 4 Hodgson and Stead Ltd weighing machine manufacturer
- 4 Bartlett and Son Ltd tea machine manufacturers
- 6-8 Parker and Marney machinery merchants
- 20 Sheffield Builders Supply Co. builder's merchants
- 20 Keyworth Orland and Co engineers
- 20 Hawksley Wild and Co boiler makers
- 40 General Tool Co Ltd tool makers
- 42 Pickford Ltd carriers
- 44 Peacock Albert news agents

- 46 Marsland Fred. Clog maker
- 48 General Tool Supply Stores engineering tool merchants
- 70-72 Stanton Thomas victualler
- 74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
- 88 Barton William Henry confectioner
Turton George, Platts and Co buffer and forging manufacturers
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co steel manufacturers
Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
Esgairwyn Mining Co.

Kelly's Directory of Sheffield and Rotherham 1936

The property on the northern side of the street was listed as Bonding Warehouses 1 & 2. These had a number of tenants including excise officers, abundant coal merchants, a colliery owner, a cement maker and a lime merchant. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- 2 Pearson L. leather fctr
- 4 Pooley Henry and Son Ltd weighting machine manufacturers
- 4 Hodgson and Stead Ltd weighing machine manufacturer
Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd service and stores
- 20 Frazzi Ltd fireproof flooring
- 44 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
Jay Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd
Jay Sauce, Pickle and Vinegar Co. Ltd
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
- 98 Freemans Ltd steel manufacturers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co steel manufacturers
Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
Silent Machine and Engineering Co. butchers outfitters
Ketton Portland Cement Co.

Kelly's Directory of Sheffield 1944

The property on the northern side of the street was listed as Bonding Warehouses 1 & 2 and the London, Scottish and Midland Railways goods and coal depot. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd service and stores
- 20 Frazzi Ltd fireproof flooring
Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd showrooms
- 42-4 Peacock and Mulholland newsagents
- 48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 70-2 The Wicker Brewery Hotel Mrs L Smith
- 74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
- 88 Morten and Storer lime merchant

- 92 Sutcliffe Bros road transport
- 92 Beck Lewis Ltd pickle manufacturers
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
- 98 Freemans Ltd steel manufacturers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co steel manufacturers
- 124 Resisto Stainless Steel Co Ltd
- 124 Apex Steel Co Ltd
- 124 Files Sheffield Ltd file manufacturers
- 124 Spencer William and Son file manufacturers
- Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
- Albion Mansfield Sand Co.
- Silent Machine and Engineering Co. butchers outfitters
- Ketton Portland Cement Co.

Kelly's Directory of Sheffield 1959

The property on the northern side of the street was listed as Bonding Warehouses 1 & 2. These had a number of tenants including the British Railways Eastern Region goods and coal yards and several coal merchants. The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers
- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers showrooms
- 48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 70-2 The Wicker Brewery Hotel
- 74 The Victoria Malt Vinegar Brewery Co. Ltd.
- 88 Morten and Storer lime merchant
- 92 N T Suppliers Co industrial footwear distributors
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co file and rasp manufacturers
- 124 Resisto Stainless Steel Co Ltd stainless steel merchants
- 124 Files (Sheffield) Ltd file manufacturers
- 124 Spencer W and Son Ltd file manufacturers
- 124 Sheffield Rasp Co rasp manufacturers
- Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
- Albion Mansfield Sand Co (*Albion works*)
- Silent Machine and Engineering Co. butchers outfitters
- Ketton Portland Cement Co.
- North Lonsdale Tarmacadam Ltd road surfacing

Kelly's Directory of Sheffield 1970

The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers
- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers showrooms
- 48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 70-2 The Wicker Brewery Hotel

- 74-96 Isherwoods Garages Ltd petrol service station
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
Crane and Hoist Ltd crane manufacturers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co file and rasp manufacturers
- 124 Spencer W and Son Ltd file manufacturers
Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
Ketton Portland Cement Co.

Kelly's Directory of Sheffield 1974

The properties on the southern side of the street are listed as

- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers
- Bentley Bros (Sheffield) Ltd motor car agents and dealers showrooms
- 48 Matthew Henry timber merchants
- 70-2 The Wicker Brewery Hotel
- 74-96 Isherwoods Garage Ltd petrol service station
- 98 Holding John and Co steel forgers
Crane and Hoist Ltd crane manufacturers
- 124 Hobson Houghton and Co file and rasp manufacturers
Ward Thomas W. Ltd iron steel and machine merchants (*Albion works*)
Ketton Portland Cement Co.



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