

Desk-based assessment of
land adjacent to
86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury,
Sandwell, West Midlands



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Elizabeth Connolly

Summary

A desk-based assessment for the historic environment was undertaken at 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands (NGR 39904 29509). It was undertaken on behalf of Bartrams Sales and Lettings Ltd, in response to requirements of Sandwell Metropolitan District Council, to whom a planning application has been submitted (reference number DC/12/54546). This proposes residential development, which is considered to have the potential to affect heritage assets of archaeological interest.

This report describes and assesses the significance of the heritage assets (and potential heritage assets) that are potentially affected by the application. The setting of heritage assets is considered. The potential impact of the application, and the need for further on-site evaluation, is assessed.

The site is located c 200m to the north-east of Wednesbury town centre. Cartographic evidence from 1799 shows linear development along arterial roads leading to Wednesbury, and buildings are shown at this site's location. The Tithe map of 1846 shows indicates a barn, a stable and yard at this location, with a rectangular building depicted immediately south of a terrace facing onto Walsall Street. These buildings may have been light industrial as well as agricultural in nature.

The development of Wednesbury as an industrial hub throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries provided opportunities for cottage industries such as nail making, before technological advances allowed large scale exploitation of the natural coal and ironstone resources of the town and surrounding area. By 1890 the proposed development site is shown immediately adjacent to a Coach Axle Works, one of several in the town. The rectangular building on the site has been retained, as has one abutting it, and some further building has occurred.

The end of the Victorian era saw the demolition of the terraces facing onto Walsall Road and the replacement with slightly larger and more regular properties, mainly residential, along with some industrial as well. The agricultural/industrial building at the site has recently been demolished.

It is recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks for the development to record footings and floor surfaces of the former buildings.

Report

1 Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

A desk-based assessment was undertaken of land adjacent to 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands (NGR 39904 29509). It was undertaken on behalf of Bartrams Sales and Lettings Ltd, in response to requirements of Sandwell Metropolitan District Council, to whom a planning application has been submitted (reference number DC/12/54546), and for which outline planning permission has been granted. The application proposes residential development, which is considered to have the potential to affect heritage assets of archaeological interest.

The proposed development site is considered to include heritage assets and potential heritage assets the significance of which may be affected by the application (AHA001, Appendix 2).

The project conforms to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by Worcestershire Archaeology (WA 2014). The project also conforms to the *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (IfA 2012).

1.2 Planning background

Present government planning policy is contained within the *National Planning Policy Framework* (DCLG 2012). This is supplemented by detailed guidance which had related to earlier government policy but which is at least partially still relevant to the present policy (DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010).

Outline planning permission has been granted by Sandwell MBC for construction of a two bed duplex apartment, subject to conditions including Condition 18 which states that 'No development or preliminary groundworks of any kind until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority'.

According to the Black Country Core Strategy, historic buildings and other structures made from locally produced bricks, tiles and stone make a significant contribution to the character of many of our town and district centres.

Towns and villages with medieval origins survive throughout the area and remain distinct in character from the later 19th century industrial settlements which typify the coalfield and gave rise to the description of the area as 'an endless village' of communities each boasting a particular manufacturing skill.

In addition to statutorily designated and protected historic assets particular attention should be paid to the preservation and enhancement of:

- Locally listed historic buildings and archaeological sites
- Historic Parks and Gardens including their settings
- Locally designated special landscape areas and other heritage-based site allocations

2 Aims

The aims of this assessment are to:

- establish the nature and extent of the heritage assets;
- assesses the significance of the heritage assets within the application site and affected by the proposed development;
- assess the impact of the application on the heritage assets.

3 Methods

3.1 Personnel

The assessment was undertaken by Elizabeth Connolly MA; who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2013 and has been practicing archaeology since 1999. The project manager responsible for the quality of the project was Tom Vaughan MA AlfA who joined Worcestershire Archaeology in 2001 and has been practising archaeology since 1991. Illustrations were prepared by Carolyn Hunt BSc PG Cert MIFA.

3.2 Documentary research

All relevant information on the history of the site and past land-use was collected and assessed. Records of known archaeological sites and monuments were obtained from Sandwell Historic Environment Record (HER). Historic maps and published sources were consulted at Sandwell Archives.

The results are mapped on Figure 2 and the details of individual features of the historic environment are given in Appendix 1. Event records have been omitted where this would repeat information in other record types, and would not materially affect the assessment. HER references have been used throughout this assessment but during its preparation additional heritage assets have been identified and their details are given in Appendix 2 (reference numbers have the prefix AHA).

3.3 List of sources consulted

Cartographic sources

- 1799 Parish map of Wednesbury
- 1846 Tithe map of the Parish of Wednesbury
- OS 1st edition of Staffordshire, 1890, scale 1:2,500
- OS map of Staffordshire, 1903, scale 1:2,500
- OS map of Staffordshire, 1919, scale 1:2,500
- OS map of Staffordshire, 1937, scale 1:2,500
- OS map of Staffordshire, 1966, scale 1:2,500

Documentary sources

- Borough Council of Sandwell *Wednesbury Conservation Area; Guidelines for Conservation*
- *Black Country Core Strategy* Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council; Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council; Walsall Council; Wolverhampton City Council, adopted 3rd February 2011
- DCLG 2012 *National Planning Policy Framework*, Department for Communities and Local Government
- DCLG/DCMS/EH 2010 *PPS5 Planning for the historic environment: historic environment planning practice guide*, Department for Communities and Local Government/Department for Culture, Media and Sport/English Heritage
- English Heritage 2011 *The setting of heritage assets*, English Heritage
- Ede, J F, 1962 *History of Wednesbury*, Wednesbury Corporation
- Geology of Britain Viewer, accessed online at <http://www.bgs.ac.uk/home.html>, 16 May 2014.

- Hackwood, F W, 1902 *Wednesbury, Ancient and Modern* Brown Books Ltd.
- Hackwood, F W, 1919-1920 *Odd Chapters in the History of Wednesbury*, reprints from the Wednesbury Borough News
- IfA 2012 *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*, Institute for Archaeologists, updated 16 November 2012
- Ragg, J M, Beard, G R, George, H, Heaven, F W, Hollis, J M, Jones, R J A, Palmer, R C, Reeve, M J, Robson, J D, and Whitfield, W A D, 1984 *Soils and their use in midland and western England*, Soil Survey of England and Wales, **12**
- Parker, B *A History of Wednesbury*, accessed online in May 2014 at <http://www.historywebsite.co.uk/articles/Wednesbury/Contents.htm#contents>
- WA 2014 *Written Scheme of Investigation for a desk-based assessment of 86 Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands*, Worcestershire Archaeology, Worcestershire County Council, unpublished document dated 10 March 2014, **P4313**

3.4 Other methods

A site visit was undertaken on 2 May 2014.

This assessment is limited to consideration of heritage assets and potential assets that are relevant to the application site.

3.5 Impact assessment criteria

The criteria cited in Table 1 have been used.

<p>Major Beneficial: Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset of the highest order (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. Designated assets will include scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks or World Heritage Sites. Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or documentation (for instance enhancing its research value). It may also be in better revealing a World Heritage Site or Conservation Area's significance.</p>
<p>Beneficial: Demonstrable improvement to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of improvement will demonstrably have a minor affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level. Improvement may be in the asset's management, its amenity value, setting, or documentation (for instance enhancing its research value).</p>
<p>Not Significant: Impacts that have no long-term effect on any heritage asset.</p>
<p>Minor Adverse: Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably have a minor affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.</p>

<p>Moderate Adverse: Minor harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks or World Heritage Sites.</p> <p>Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm will demonstrably affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.</p>
<p>Major Adverse: Harm to a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks, World Heritage Sites or harm to a building or other element that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole.</p> <p>Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting), or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest such that the level of harm or loss will demonstrably affect the area and its heritage resource, either at a local or regional level. For instance grade II listed buildings, Conservation Areas and undesignated heritage assets important at a sub-national level.</p>
<p>Severe Adverse: Substantial harm to, or loss of, a designated heritage asset (or its setting) of the highest significance, or non-designated asset (or its setting) of archaeological interest of demonstrable significance equal to that of a scheduled monument. For instance scheduled monuments, grade I/II* listed buildings, grade I/II* registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields, protected wrecks, World Heritage Sites or the loss of a building or other element that makes a positive contribution to the significance of a Conservation Area as a whole.</p>
<p>Unknown: Where there is insufficient information to determine either significance or impact for any heritage asset, or where a heritage asset is likely to exist but this has not been established, or where there is insufficient evidence for the absence of a heritage asset. For instance where further information will enable the planning authority to make an informed decision.</p>

Table 1: Impact assessment criteria for heritage asset

4 The application site

4.1 Location and size

The study area included the application site (Fig 1), though heritage assets were considered within 500m of the site in order to provide a broader understanding of the local context. The site is c 300m² in area.

4.2 Topography, geology and soils

The site is located in the Pennine Middle Coal Measures Formation with bedrock of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. The sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 309 to 312 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. The local environment was previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas. Superficial deposits comprise till, Devensian – Diamicton, formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period (Geology of Britain Viewer).

4.3 Current land-use

The site is located immediately south of Walsall Street (Plate 1). The proposed development site includes an access from Walsall Street to the west of an existing house; The Old Coach House, a late Victorian/early Edwardian building (pers comm Robson-Glyde). The ground of this access is currently cobbled and it has a boundary with the adjacent property of ivy covered wooden garden fencing and garden shrubs (Plate 2). The site was accessed from Walsall Street through a plywood fence east of The Old Coach House (Plate 3).

Two buildings, marked on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map and which are still shown on current online Google maps, have been demolished. Some bricks and slates, probably from these buildings, are evident in piles at the site. A brick wall from the west end of these buildings has been partially retained as it forms part of the garden wall to The Old Coach House (Plate 4). The bricks in this wall are in poor condition and covered with limewash.

The site is overlooked to the east by high red brick walls; the gable of a house and a garden wall. There is also an interior red brick wall facing west to the rear of the site, immediately south of the demolished rectangular building and which may have tied in with it (Plate 5). Part of a stone wall foundation and a brick interior wall was recorded at the location of this demolished building (Plate 6).

The ground level is higher to the north of the area of the demolished rectangular building. This area is covered with a heavy growth of nettles and revetted with a small wall of bricks, c 30cm high.

The south of the site borders a residential development with a wooden fence. The ground surface in the south of the site is mainly tarmac.

4.4 Historic land-use and archaeological character

The following history is largely derived from 'A History of Wednesbury', by Parker, B, as well as from Sandwell HER and sources consulted at Sandwell Archives.

The historian F W Hackwood referred to a plan of earthworks on Church Hill in Wednesbury, which may have been the ramparts of an Iron Age hillfort (HER 2614-MBL2636), c 400m north-west of the site. These earthworks had been attributed to princess Ethelfleda, daughter of King Alfred. According to the HER, by 1958 these earthworks no longer existed.

The name Wednesbury is suggestive of a Saxon origin to the settlement; Woden's *burh* or *burg*. Hackwood (1902) suggested that the name might mean Woden's *burh*, indicating a fortified settlement or *beorh*, which would simply mean Woden's Hill. But Ede (1962) insists that the name means Woden's *burh* alone. The cult of Woden was strongly associated with hills and it is possible that a shrine to the god may have existed on Church Hill. Ede also refers to a superstition recorded by Plot in his own history, that Wednesbury colliers habitually heard the noise of a pack of hounds in the air as they went to the mines. This superstition is all the more interesting as hounds had traditionally been associated with Woden so the stories the miners told may have had an ancient origin in the parish. There is also a suggestion that the street Ridding Lane, which runs south-east from the market place in Wednesbury, may have received its name from a Saxon clearance ('ridding') of woodland to obtain land for settlement. The Christianising of the area had taken place by the 7th century AD so the settlement would most probably date from before then.

The earliest recorded reference to Wednesbury is from the Domesday Book (1086) when *Wadnesberie* was held by the King. There were 3 hides and land for 9 ploughs. The settlement included a small mill. A rough calculation of Wednesbury's population based on the evidence provided in Domesday is that it had about 140 inhabitants. Wednesbury was thus one of the largest towns in the area, the largest being Halesowen. In 1286 the mill is recorded as standing by Finchpath Bridge which crossed the river Tame where Hyde's road now crosses. The mill remained as a corn mill until 1423 when it became a fulling mill.

In 1164 King Henry II exchanged Wednesbury Manor (HER 1014-MBL2483 c 500m north-west of the site) for the Manor of Stonesfield. After the exchange Wednesbury came under the control of d'Oyley's tenant Ralph Boterel, who became lord of the manor. Under the terms of the exchange, an agreement was reached in which Boterel would still owe service as a Knight to the barony and also pay an annual rent of one pound to the crown. Boterel died in 1181 and the records show that he had never paid his rent. William de Heronville became lord of the manor in 1182 after marrying Boterel's daughter and heiress. He was charged with 18 years arrears, which he immediately agreed to pay. The manor stayed with the de Heronville family for several generations.

John de Heronville died in 1315. His widow Juliana, received a third of the estate as her dower for life or until she remarried. Juliana's share of the manor house included a hall, pantry, a solar (a private room on the sunny side of the house), a cellar beneath the solar, a brewhouse, a bakery, stables, a cow house, and a long sheep house. The buildings were arranged around a courtyard with the hall and kitchen on opposite sides, and the solar and bakery on the other sides. There was a well in the centre, a gate house, an outer court, a garden and 2 yards. She also had her share of the dovecote, and 145 strips of arable land, part of John's 120 acres.

The dower document records several coal pits, being the earliest record of coal mining in the town. The document also provides the earliest example of ironstone mining in the town. By 1337 the Plea Rolls offer evidence to suggest that by this time coal was extensively mined. The early pits were shallow, the depth being limited by flooding. This would remain so until the appearance of steam powered pumping engines in the early 18th century. The demand for coal rapidly grew at that time, when coal replaced charcoal in the iron smelters. By the end of the 17th century nearly one third of the local working population worked in the coal pits and coal was in such demand that pits were sunk in all parts of the town. Demand increased yet again in the late 18th century thanks to the local canal network which was built to transport coal from the Black Country coalfields into Birmingham. Coal mining in the town began to decline in the second half of the 19th century, at a time when coal could easily be transported from other areas.

In the early 16th century nail making by hand became established as a cottage industry in Wednesbury, until about 1830 when machine production was introduced. Around the time of the Napoleonic Wars, Wednesbury businesses supplied large numbers of gunlocks and gun barrels, but trade began to fall off and by the 1870s the industry was in severe decline. Another industry for which Wednesbury was renowned was in producing fine enamelled boxes.

The second most important residence in Wednesbury was Oakeswell Hall (HER 2827-MBL2714) located within 50m, to the south-west of the proposed development site. A house was built on the site, close to Oakes Well (HER 6350-MBL3071; Fig 8) by William Byng by around 1421. By 1662 the house became known as Oakeswell or Hopkins New Hall Place. By 1774 it had become a farmhouse and remained as such until the 1820s. In 1825 the house was owned by John Beaumont, a lawyer and in 1846 was occupied by Walter Horton, and owned by John Crowther. After this it was known as The Rookery and was restored by Wednesbury's first town Clerk, Joseph Smith. The house was demolished in 1962.

Lord Dudley's coal maps of 1812 show several pits to the south of Wednesbury and a smaller number to the west of the town. In the first half of the 19th century there were frequent periods of depression in the coal and iron trades. Riots took place in Wednesbury in 1801, 1826 and 1831 and about 20,000 miners from the Black Country took part in a riot in 1846 which focused upon a Wednesbury public house.

By 1597 a water powered iron mill at Wednesbury is mentioned in the records of the quarter sessions. By 1785 there were 4 forges in the town: Wednesbury Forge at Wood Green, Adam's Forge on Camp Hill Lane, Sparrow's Forge at Fallings Heath, and The Iron Mill at Wednesbury Bridge.

In 1811 John Russell, gun barrel maker, and landlord of Wednesbury's Turk's Head Inn began to make wrought iron tubes, establishing a tube works on the corner of Wellcroft Street, Church Hill, in partnership with his brother James, in 1816. In 1823 James left and founded Crown Tube Works (HER MSD5568) at the High Bullen, a subsequently world famous foundry, a vestige of which remained at this site until 1989 in the form of George Croft's Bright Drawn Steels.

In the 17th century Wednesbury was renowned for its pottery; 'Wedgbury ware', while white clay from Monway Field was used to make clay pipes.

Several archaeological investigations have been carried out in recent years in Wednesbury. A probable medieval yard surface a posthole, a gully and some pits (HER 1729-MBL2613) were

recorded during an archaeological excavation in the Market Place in 1989, c 200m to the south-west. The pits contained a mixture of medieval and post-medieval pottery. These features may indicate a medieval building fronting onto Market Place. Other excavations in the Market Place in 1989 revealed the remains of a 17th century pottery kiln (HER 1730-MBL2614). It comprised an oval or circular hollow in the subsoil, lined with stones, around 2m across and covered by a clay dome. Products of the kiln included glazed coarseware pancheons, jars and cisterns, Cistercian/Blackware and Midlands yellow ware.

An archaeological excavation on Ridding Lane south-east of the Market Place in 1988 revealed a group of intercut pits (HER 1731-MBL2615), from which pottery of 17th century date was recovered. These included sherds of wasters and saggars suggesting pottery manufacture close by. Other features included a probable clay extraction pit and coal mine shafts. Excavation in advance of development recorded cultivated soil of late medieval to 17th century date (HER 6449-MBL3113), cut by brick walls of at least two phases, associated with a brick chamber, probably used for water storage. Evidence was found of pottery wasters.

HER 5424-MBL3006 is a findspot for 2 two-handled jugs of Cistercian/Blackware type found in 19th century. HER 5425-MBL3007 is a findspot for 3 poorly made Cistercian/Blackware vessels found in a gas mains trench before 1913. HER 5426-MBL3008 is a findspot for large quantities of Cistercian/Blackware and glazed coarseware, together with c 17 clay pipe bowls, found in upcast from service trenches in 1991. Possible pit fills (HER 6439-MBL3103) were observed during road construction works north of Union Street.

At 3-4 Walsall Street a well, pits and kiln waste have been uncovered (HER 13495-MBL5390). Three features were revealed during an archaeological watching brief; a brick and sandstone-lined well (possibly Tacker's Well; HER 6447); a timber-lined pit of unknown function and a pit containing pottery kiln waste. The pottery kiln waste dates to the 17th century. It seems likely that pottery manufacture was taking place in the immediate vicinity which would mean that the pottery industry was not confined, as previously thought, to the south and south-east of the Market Place.

A bank at Ethelfleda Terrace and terracing at the west side of Church Hill were investigated by archaeological trial trenching in 1990 and found to be modern (HER 8022-MBL5020)

Ede considered a location on Walsall Street and Pritchard Street. to the north of the present site, to be the location of the Manor. An evaluation in 1996 (HER 8008-MBL3172) revealed residual post-medieval material, including pottery wasters dating possibly to the 16th century, and ironworking slag was used as walling. The property boundaries appeared to be based on earlier agricultural boundaries and were built using ironwork slag, which may point to the existence of small scale iron industry in the area.

Map regression

The 1799 parish map of Wednesbury (Fig 3) shows the site as part of a small outlying development to the north-east of the main centre of the town. Oakeswell Hall is visible immediately west of the site, which is shown occupied by a complex of buildings which lines the south side of what is now Walsall Road. Buildings are depicted as concentrated along the roadsides in the town on this map, with the agricultural nature of the surrounding landscape still very much in evidence. There are several large fields, particularly to the south and west of the site, while there are also many fields divided into strips, particularly to the north and east of the site, a vestige of the common field system. The town of Wednesbury is seen as roughly triangular in plan, defined by roads and the junctions at High Bullen, the market place and an open area to the south-east of the site.

The Tithe map of 1846 (Fig 4) shows the buildings in greater detail, with the site being located at the western end of a line of buildings adjacent to the buildings which form the complex of Oakeswell Hall to the south-west. A terrace of buildings faces the road to the north, while behind it, a rectangular building orientated east to west (AHA 001; Fig 5) is shown perpendicular to another rectangular building orientated north to south. The site is part of a complex indicated on the Tithe

apportionment to be a barn, stable and yard occupied by Joseph Smith and Nicholas Lucy and owned by John Crowther, also the owner of Wednesbury Old Hall.

By 1890, significant development has taken place in Wednesbury, both residential and industrial. On the 1st edition Ordnance Survey (Fig 5) the South Staffordshire Railway line is evident to the south of the town, and there has been much construction on of the previously agricultural land in the area. The Crown Tube Works take a prominent place in the town and a reservoir is evident to the south of the Church of St Bartholomew. The site is on the south-eastern edge of this development, although the railway runs to the south of the site and further development has occurred to the south and east of this. Walsall Street is shown as having a tramway. The buildings depicted immediately to the east of the site are marked as 'Coach Axle Works', while Oakeswell Hall is to the south-west. There are several individual buildings of varying sizes and shapes in a terrace south of Walsall Street. South of this terrace two buildings are depicted (AHA 001), adjacent and to the west of the largest building in the Coach Axle Works complex, and possibly associated with it. These comprise a narrow rectangular building orientated east to west, itself abutting a smaller rectangular building orientated north to south. There is a garden depicted at the street corner to the north-east of the site.

On the 1903 OS map (Fig 6) a building (AHA 002) has been built on the corner where a garden had previously been depicted.

Between 1903 and 1919 (Fig 7) several buildings immediately south of Walsall Street have been demolished, including the buildings along the south and west boundaries of the Coach Axle Works, and much of the terrace along the street frontage. The western half of the former Coach Axle Works has been subdivided into three long north to south aligned plots and terraced houses built on the frontage, with a similar layout to new terraced properties along the west side of Oakeswell Street. The large building on the corner of Walsall Street and Oakeswell Street (AHA 002) has been extended along the Walsall Street frontage.

There are few changes in the immediate area by 1937 (Fig 8): the small square standalone building off Oakeswell Street has been demolished; infilling has taken place behind AHA 002; whilst on the site itself there appears to have been some infilling along the eastern boundary, south of AHA 001. This layout of buildings remained into the latter half of the 20th century.

5 Heritage assets

5.1 Designated heritage assets

There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments, battlefields or wrecks within the study area.

There are seven Listed Buildings (Grade II) within the study area.

Wednesbury Public Library (HER 1636-MBL2596, Plate 7) is located c 80m west of the proposed development site. Funded by philanthropist Andrew Carnegie, it was built in 1907 by Crouch, Butler and Savage, in free Renaissance style. It is faced with red Ruabon bricks, and Monks Park stone, and has a domed cupola.

Two war memorials (HER 1637-2597 and HER 1638-2597, Plate 8) in the Memorial Gardens (1926 by Bateman of Birmingham) are located c 60 to 70m from the site of the proposed development. One is attached to the north wall of the Memorial Gardens (HER 1637-2597). It is of limestone and comprises a central tablet with moulded border, now blank but presumably intended for Roll of Honour, set within a frame with a round head containing a shell motif. Set in front of this is a pedestal inscribed: 'TO OUR GLORIOUS DEAD 1914-1918. 1939-1945.' The whole is flanked by Roman Doric columns supporting an entablature and dentilled pediment. The other (HER 1638-2597) is the central memorial in the Memorial Garden. Limestone, square plan, with diagonal volutes at corners terminating with lions' heads below cornice. On each side, a cornice rises to form an open segmental pediment containing shell motif, above panel with moulded borders. The upper part is treated as an obelisk, with a cross carved on each side.

The Church of St Bartholomew (HER 1401-MBL2496) is located on Church Hill c 420m to the north-west of the proposed development site. According to the HER, the first reference to a church in Wednesbury is in the Plea Rolls of 1210. The church was extensively rebuilt towards the end of the 15th century, partially restored in 1765 and further repaired and enlarged by the erection of a north transept in 1827. In 1878 it was further restored and the spire raised 12 feet. In 1885 the interior was totally restored and reseated, the galleries taken down and the floor lowered to its original level.

No's 31 and 33, Market Place (HER 1405-MBL2500) are located c 270m to the west-south-west of the proposed development site. The buildings were built in the late 18th century, and are of brick with stucco dressings, slate roofs. They are three storeys high and four bays wide.

The Clock Tower (HER 586-MBL3042), is located c 260m south-west of the site. It was built in 1911 by local architect C W D Johnson to celebrate the coronation of King George the V. It is of sandstone on a base of narrow red bricks. The base, of square plan, has a doorway in the south-west side with sandstone dressings. The upper part has a dome with a finial and the clock faces on four sides are surrounded by carved swags. Across each corner are paired ionic columns, with lamps on iron bases in front of each pair.

The Church of St Mary (HER 586-MBL3057) is a Roman Catholic church, located c 490m north-west of the proposed development site. The existing church was built in 1872 to the designs of Mr Gilbert S Blount of London. It is in early English style and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, chapels, and towers.

Registered Park and Gardens

There is one Registered Park and Garden within the study area: Brunswick Park (6409-MBL3080), c 350m east north-east of the site of the proposed development. It is a public park laid out in the late 1880s, to the designs of William Barron and Son. The former pit mound which occupied the south end of the site was retained as a feature and landscaped with a network of paths.

Conservation areas

The site is located c 180m to the east of the Wednesbury Market Place Conservation area. Wednesbury Market Place and the area around it has historic importance as the centre of the town's activities and as a major road crossing.

5.2 Undesignated heritage assets

The site of Oakeswell Hall (HER 2827-MBL2714) is located within 50m of the site. At one time the second most important residence in Wednesbury, the building was demolished in 1962 and is now occupied by a residential complex.

The site of Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan) (HER 13087-MBL4958) is c 100m west of the site. Marked on 1st edition OS map as 'Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan)' and marked on later editions as 'Methodist Church'; the chapel no longer survives.

A late Victorian industrial building (AHA 002, Plate 9) is located c 30m west of the site. The bottom storey of this building is now occupied by a modern furniture store while the windows to the top storey have been replaced (pers comm Shona Robson-Glyde). It is possible that while this building is not depicted on the 1st edition OS, it is shown on the 1903 map and may have been associated with the nearby Coach Axle Works, and also the recently demolished building (AHA 001) on the site.

Oakes Well (HER 6350-MBL3071, Plate 10) is c 40m west of the site of the proposed development. An uncredited source dated to 1978 in the HER suggests that the well is medieval and could have influenced the building and siting of houses.

A possible site of Wednesbury Manor House (HER 1014-MBL2483) is on Manor House Road, c 500m from the site of the proposed development. This location is marked as 'Old Hall' on the 1st edition OS, and as 'Manor House' on subsequent editions. Another potential location for the Manor

House is at (HER 6450-MBL3114), just north of St Mary's Road, also c 500m from the site of the proposed development.

Earthworks thought to relate to the theoretical Wednesbury Hillfort (HER 2614-MBL2636) and scarping on Church Hill (HER 5847-MBL3039) are located c 390m north-west of the site of the proposed development.

Several historic buildings are located within the Market Place Conservation area c 200m south-west of the site; 38 and 39, Lower High Street (HER 1402-MBL2497); 40, Lower High St (HER 1404-MBL249); and Tacker's Well, Church Street (HER 6447-MBL3111).

A possible moated site (HER 2814-MBL2702) is located c 190m north of the site, thought to have been part of extensive Saxon defences (Hackwood 1902, 7-8).

HER MSD5568; John Russell's Crown Tube Works, c 500m west of the site, was established on the site of the former Monway Fields in 1823. The works became the seat of the gas tube trade. Two bricked-up archways in a rear garden wall at 58, Wellcroft Street (HER 8023-MBL5019) seem to have been associated with ventilation tunnels from Crown Tube Works.

The sites of Boniface Well, Little Hill (HER 6443-MBL3107) and (HER 6442-MBL3106) public well at 'The Little Hill' are c 300m west of the site. The site of a public well, Camp Street/Camphill Lane (HER 6444-MBL3108) is c 430m south-west of the site of the proposed development.

A Masonic Hall (HER MSD5501) is located c 450m south-west of the site of the proposed development.

The Lamp Inn on Upper High Street (13516-MBL5411) is located c 450m west of the site of the proposed development. The earliest form of the Lamp Inn originates from the mid 19th century, although earlier, medieval, remains may survive below ground. The Inn was heavily altered and refurbished in the 1920s-30s.

A Methodist Chapel at Ridding Lane (HER 13088-MBL4959) is located c 240m south of the site. This is an early example of a Methodist Chapel. It is marked on the 1st edition OS map as 'Methodist Chapel (United Free)'.

The site of Burrs Colliery (Blue Fly Pit) (HER 9619-MBL3224) is located c 500m south-east of the site.

The site of a pound (HER 9618-MBL3223) is located c 400m east of the site. There is a square structure marked 'pound' on the 1st edition OS map, at the junction of Foley Lane and Crankhall Lane.

St John's Churchyard (HER 8019-MBL3182) is located c 490 m south-west of the site. St John's Parish was created in 1844, the foundation stone was laid in 1845 and the church consecrated in 1846. The churchyard was in use at the same time as the church, the latter being declared redundant in 1980. The church was demolished in 1986. The gravestones and memorials were moved from their original locations at an unknown date and in 1997 stood around the perimeter of the churchyard.

A Midlands Electric Board former Power Station (6476-MBL3122) is located c 400m south-east of the site of the proposed development. By 1977 it was part substation part derelict.

The Gaumont Cinema (HER MSD5538) is located c 260m west of the site. It was built in 1938 to replace a previous Picture House. It has a façade of cream faience slabs with a thin blue tile insert to form regular squares.

5.3 Potential heritage assets

Cartographic evidence suggests that there were buildings on the site and in the immediate area at least by the late 18th century. Buildings which potentially dated from the 18th century (AHA 001)

have recently been demolished. There is a potential for footings and floor surfaces of these buildings to have survived within the site.

While a focus of Saxon Wednesbury may have been a shrine on Church Hill, the Market Place is also likely to have been settled and place name evidence suggests that Ridding Lane was part of a Saxon settlement. It is not unlikely therefore that there may be a potential for Saxon and medieval archaeological deposits at the site of the proposed development. Successive building episodes at the site since the 18th century however may have compromised the potential for the survival of earlier archaeological deposits.

6 Assessment of the significance of heritage assets

6.1 Designated assets

6.1.1 Listed buildings

Wednesbury Public Library (HER 1636-MBL2596) is located c80m west of the site, and is visible from the site (Plate 11).

Two war memorials (HER 1637-2597 and HER 1638-2597) in the memorial gardens are located approximately 60 to 70m from the site and are visible from the site (Plate 12).

The following Listed Buildings (Grade II) are not visible from the site:

The Church of St Bartholomew (HER 1401-MBL2496) is located on Church Hill c 420m to the north-west of the site.

No's 31 and 33, Market Place (HER 1405-MBL2500) are located c 270m to the west-south-west of the site.

The Clock Tower (HER 586-MBL3042), located c260m south-west of the site.

The Roman Catholic Church of St Mary (HER 586-MBL3057), located c 490m north-west of the site.

6.1.2 Conservation Area

The site is located c 180m to the east of the Wednesbury Market Place Conservation Area.

Wednesbury Market Place and the area around it is historically important as the centre of the town's activities and as a major road crossing.

6.1.3 Registered parks and gardens

Brunswick Park (HER 6409-MBL3080) c 350m east north-east of the site of the proposed development, is not visible from the site.

6.2 Undesignated assets

6.2.1 Historic buildings

Late Victorian industrial building (AHA 002, Plate 9) is located c 30m west of the site of the proposed development.

6.2.2 Sites of archaeological interest

Nature of the archaeological interest in the site

The footings, former floor surfaces and related artefacts associated with the demolished 18th century buildings (AHA 001) are likely to exist on the site. There is a potential for the survival of evidence of earlier activity on the north side of the site; the ground level rises slightly and cartographic evidence suggests several phases of occupation at the site throughout the post-medieval and modern periods.

Relative importance of the archaeological interest in the site

Archaeological remains at the proposed development site are likely to relate to phases of building marked on successive maps from 1799 to the present. Buildings are shown on the 1799 Parish Map of Wednesbury, the Tithe Map of 1846, the Ordnance Survey 1st edition and subsequent editions. It is considered likely that the nature of these buildings was mixed, ranging from residential to agricultural to light industrial, given the nature of industrial developments in Wednesbury throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. These buried remains of these buildings have the potential to reveal valuable information about the industrial development of the town.

Physical extent of the archaeological interest in the site

It is considered that archaeological deposits at the site are most likely to relate to buildings known to have existed at the site and therefore are likely to be found in the east and north. Deposits predating the 18th century activity are likely to have been disturbed during the construction of the buildings, although may survive in pockets.

7 The impact of the development

The impact of the proposed development on the Church of St Bartholomew (1401-MBL2496), 31 and 33, Market Place (HER 1405-MBL2500), The Clock Tower (HER 586-MBL3042), the Church of St Mary (HER 586-MBL3057) is considered to be **Not Significant** as they are not visible from the development site.

The more immediate listed buildings to the site are Wednesbury Public Library (HER 1636-MBL2596) and two war memorials (HER 1637-2597 and HER 1638-2597) in the memorial garden. The impact of the proposed development on these is considered to be **Not Significant** as the proposed small-scale residential development is in keeping with the current urban landscape.

The impact of the proposed development on Brunswick Park (HER 6409-MBL3080) is considered to be **Not Significant** as the site is not visible from the park.

The impact of the proposed development on Wednesbury Market Place Conservation area is considered to be **Not Significant** as the site is not visible from the area.

The impact of the proposed development on undesignated assets within the study area is considered to be **Not Significant**.

The proposed development has the potential to disturb or destroy buried archaeological features related to the former agri/industrial buildings (AHA 001) which stood within the site until recently and this would be considered a **Minor Adverse** impact on the historic environment.

7.1 Impacts during construction

No specific impacts on the historic environment during the construction phase are envisaged.

7.2 Impacts on sustainability

The historic environment is a non-renewable resource and therefore cannot be directly replaced. However mitigation through recording and investigation also produces an important research dividend that can be used for the better understanding of the area's history and contribute to local and regional research agendas (cf NPPF, DCLG 2012, section 141).

7.3 Residual impacts

The site of the proposed development is located in an interesting urban area with a great industrial history. The proposed development is residential and as such will have a **Not Significant** effect on the designated assets in the study area.

The site's location in the 19th century would have had an agricultural feel, albeit with the presence of cottage industries such as nail making likely in the small terraces fronting onto Walsall Road. The proximity of Oakeswell Hall would have been very keenly observed also. No visible remains of Oakeswell Hall, or an associated farm are evident at the site today. The setting of the site of

Oakeswell Hall as well as the site of the demolished building (AHA 001) could potentially be enhanced by the carrying out of an archaeological watching brief and consequent reporting to **Beneficial**.

The industrial past of the site, however, still has reference points in the immediate streetscape, not least in the survival of the building (AHA 002), possibly the last link to the Coach Axle Works nearby, which typified the industrial nature of Wednesbury. The mixed residential and industrial setting which now typifies the area could be enhanced by the retention of the remaining facets of the demolished buildings and an element of industrial heritage in the design of the residential development, from **Not Significant** to **Beneficial**.

8 Recommendations

The assessment has identified the potential for the survival of buried archaeological remains of former agri/industrial buildings on the site.

In order to mitigate the impacts identified above it is recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks for the development to record footings and floor surfaces of the former buildings.

The watching brief would be concluded by production of an archaeological report (and appropriate publication) to be deposited for public consultation with the Sandwell HER and a project archive to be deposited at a local museum.

9 Publication summary

Worcestershire Archaeology has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, Worcestershire Archaeology intends to use this summary as the basis for publication through local or regional journals. The client is requested to consider the content of this section as being acceptable for such publication.

A desk-based assessment for the historic environment was undertaken of land adjacent to 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands (NGR 39904 29509). It was undertaken on behalf of Bartrams Sales and Lettings Ltd, in response to requirements of Sandwell Metropolitan District Council.

This report describes and assesses the significance of the heritage assets (and potential heritage assets) that are potentially affected by the application. The setting of heritage assets is considered. The potential impact of the application, and the need for further on-site evaluation, is assessed.

The site is located c 200m to the north east of Wednesbury town centre. Cartographic evidence from 1799 shows linear development along arterial roads leading to Wednesbury, and buildings are shown at this site's location. The Tithe map of 1846 shows indicates a barn, a stable and yard at this location, with a rectangular building depicted immediately south of a terrace facing onto Walsall Street. These buildings may have been light industrial as well as agricultural in nature.

The development of Wednesbury as an industrial hub throughout the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries provided opportunities for cottage industries such as nail making, before technological advances allowed large scale exploitation of the natural coal and ironstone resources of the town and surrounding area. By 1890 the proposed development site is shown immediately adjacent to a Coach Axle Works, one of several in the town. The rectangular building on the site has been retained, as has one abutting it, and some further building has occurred.

The end of the Victorian era saw the demolition of the terraces facing onto Walsall Road and the replacement with slightly larger and more regular properties, mainly residential, but some industrial as well. The agricultural/industrial building at the site has recently been demolished.

It is recommended that an archaeological watching brief be undertaken during groundworks for the development to record footings and floor surfaces of the former buildings.

10 Acknowledgements

Worcestershire Archaeology would like to thank the following for their kind assistance in the successful conclusion of this project; Richard Bartram (Bartram's Sales and Lettings) and Mark Watkins (Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council).

Plates



Plate 1 The site of the proposed development from the north-west



Plate 2 Cobbled access from the south



Plate 3 The site from the south



Plate 4 East facing wall of demolished buildings from the north-east



Plate 5 Relict outline of demolished building from the south-west showing brick west-facing inner wall.



Plate 6 Wall footings from the east



Plate 7 Wednesbury Public Library from the east



Plate 8 War Memorial Garden from south east



Plate 9 Industrial building, AHA 002, from the north-east



Plate 10 Oakes Well from the south-east



Plate 11 Wednesbury Public Library from the site of the proposed development



Plate 12 The site of the proposed development from the War Memorial garden

Appendix 1 Heritage assets registered with the Historic Environment Record (those within the application site are indicated in bold)

HER number (and legal status)	Site name	NGR	Record type	Date	Description
1014-MBL2483	Site of Manor House, Manor House Road, Beaumont Road, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9556	Monument	Undated	Possible site of Wednesbury Manor House. Marked as 'Old Hall' on 1 st Edition and as 'Manor House' on 2 nd and 3 rd editions
1401-MBL2496	Church of St Bartholomew, Church Hill, Wednesbury	SO 9872 9534	Building	Medieval	Listed building, Grade II. 1 st reference to a church at Wednesbury occurs in the Plea Rolls of 1210. No evidence to support theory that the church was pre-Norman conquest. Church was extensively rebuilt towards the end of the 15 th century, partially restored in 1765 and further repaired and enlarged by the erection of a north transept in 1827. In 1878 it was further restored and the spire raised 12 feet and in 1885 the interior was totally restored and reseated, the galleries taken down and the floor lowered to its original level.
1402-MBL2497	38 and 39 Lower High Street, Wednesbury	SO 9881 9491	Monument	Undated	Commercial building. Located in the Market Place, Wednesbury Conservation Area
1404-MBL2499	40 Lower High St, Wednesbury	SO 9886 9489	Monument	Post Medieval	Inn; Located in the Market Place, Wednesbury Conservation Area.
1405-MBL2500	31 and 33 Market Place, Wednesbury	SO 9884 9490	Building	Post Medieval	Listed Building, Grade II; Built late 18 th century. Brick, stucco dressings, slate roof. Three storeys, four bays. Late 20 th century shop front on ground floor.
1636-MBL2596	Public Library, Walsall Street, Hollies Drive, Wednesbury	SO 9895 9511	Building	Post-Medieval to Modern	Listed Building, Grade II. 1907 by Crouch, Butler and Savage (foundation stone). Red brick and limestone with slate roof. 2 storeys. South façade, of four bays, flanked by broad stone pilaster strips with round-headed niches to the upper storey, and with modillion cornice.
1637-MBL2597	War memorial, Walsall Street/Hollies Drive, Wednesbury.	SO 9898 9513	Monument	Post Medieval to Modern	Listed Building, Grade II. Attached to north wall of Memorial Gardens. 1926 by Bateman of Birmingham. Limestone. Central tablet with moulded border, now blank but presumably intended for Roll of Honour, set within frame with round head containing shell motif. Set in front of this is a pedestal inscribed: 'TO OUR GLORIOUS DEAD 1914-1918. 1939-1945' The whole is flanked by Roman Doric columns supporting an entablature and dentilled pediment.

Land adjacent to 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands

1638- MBL2598	War Memorial, Memorial Gardens, Walsall road/Hollies Drive, Wednesbury	SO 9899 9512	Monument	Post Medieval to Modern	Listed Building, Grade II. Central memorial in Memorial Gardens, 1926, by Bateman of Birmingham. Limestone, square plan, with diagonal volutes at corners terminating with lions' heads below cornice. On each side, cornice rises to form open segmental pediment containing shell motif, above panel with moulded borders. Upper part treated as obelisk, with cross carved on each side.
1729- MBL2613	Market Place, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9420	Monument	Medieval	Archaeological excavation in 1989 revealed a probable medieval yard surface and a posthole and gully which may indicate a medieval building fronting onto Market Place. Pits contained a mixture of medieval and post-medieval pottery. Located in the Market Place, Wednesbury Conservation Area.
1730- MBL2614	Pottery kiln, Market Place, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9493	Monument	Post Medieval	Excavations in 1989 revealed the remains of a 17 th century pottery kiln. It comprised an oval or circular hollow in the subsoil, lined with stones, around 2m across and covered by a clay dome. Products of the kiln, represented by wasters, were glazed coarseware pancheons, jars and cisterns, Cistercian/Blackware and Midlands yellow ware. Saggars were also recovered. Located in the Market Place, Wednesbury Conservation Area.
1731- MBL2615	Ridding Lane, Wednesbury	SO 9891 9487	Monument	Medieval to Post Medieval	An archaeological excavation in 1988 revealed a group of intercut pits, from which pottery of 17 th century date was recovered. These included sherds of wasters and saggars suggesting pottery manufacture close by. Other features included a probable clay extraction pit and coal mine shafts. Located in the Market Place, Wednesbury Conservation Area.
2614- MBL2636	Wednesbury Hillfort, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9530	Monument	Prehistoric; Iron Age; Early Medieval/Dark age	Scarping on Churchyard Hill at Wednesbury, traditionally ascribed to Ethelfleda. No evidence for this attribution. They may represent an Iron Age hillfort. No trace of earthworks were seen around Church Hill in 1958. No trace of ramparts noted in a 1989 excavation west of Ethelfleda Terrace. A plan is referred to 'showing traces of supposed ancient earthworks at Wednesbury' which are lines of ramparts on Church Hill. (Hackwood FW 1902, Wednesbury Ancient and Modern (map))
2814- MBL2702	Moat? Terrace Street/Windmill	SO 9910	Monument	Undated	Suspected moated site near Market Place.No traces of moat in area nor

	Street, Wednesbury	9530				museum siting; both areas fully developed with 19 th /20 th century shops and housing. Moat location is to north of Market Place; probably refers to Moatfield Terrace, this is a terrace which may be part of WM 2614 (Wed. Hillfort). Larkhams Gazeteer lists this site in appendix as 'formerly considered to be moated'. Hackwood (1902, 7-8) shows that this was part of an extensive works in Wednesbury attributed to Saxon defences of the hamlet.
2827- MBL2714	Oakeswell Hall, Oakeswell End, Wednesbury	SO 9902 9503	Monument	Medieval to Modern		Oakeswell Hall stood on the south side of Walsall Street. There was a building on the site by 1421 and adjoining land was known as New Hall Fields in 1423. The building was known as 'Oakeswell or Hopkins New Hall Palace'
5424- MBL3006	Location of jugs found in Church Hill, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9540	Find spot	Medieval-Post Medieval		Findspot for 2 two-handled jugs found in 19 th Century. Cistercian/Blackware type. Observation of garden surfaces revealed post-medieval pottery and other post-medieval material.
5425- MBL3007	Location of pottery vessels, Walsall Street, Wednesbury	SO 9900 9510	Find spot	Medieval to Post Medieval		3 poorly made Cistercian/Blackware vessels found in gas mains trench before 1913.
5426- MBL3008	Pottery from Trowse Lane and High Bullen, Wednesbury	SO 9862 9514	Find spot (recorded as monument in HER)	Medieval to Post Medieval		Large quantities of Cistercian/Blackware and glazed coarseware, together with c17 clay pipe bowls, found in upcast from service trenches in 1991.
5847- MBL3039	Settlement, Wednesbury	SO 9873 9535	Landscape	Iron Age, Early Medieval to Post medieval		The earliest settlement at Wednesbury may have been an Iron Age hillfort on Church hill. The place name also suggests the existence of a pagan Anglo-Saxon temple dedicated to the God Woden, possibly again on Church Hill on the site now occupied by the church of St Bartholmew.
586- MBL3042	Clock Tower, Market Place, Wednesbury	SO 9883 9495	Monument	Post Medieval to Modern		Listed Building, Grade II. Built in 1911 by CWD Johnson. Sandstone on base of narrow red bricks. Base, of square plan, has doorway in south west side with sandstone dressings. Upper part has a dome with finial and clock faces on four sides surrounded by carved swags. Across each corner are paired ionic columns, with lamps on iron bases in front of each pair.
597- MBL3057	Church of St Mary, St Mary's Road, Wednesbury					Listed Building, Grade II Roman Catholic Church.
6350- MBL3071	Oakes Well, Walsall Street,	SO 9899	Monument	Medieval		'At present time there exists under that end of wall which is nearer to Market

Land adjacent to 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands

	Wednesbury	9509			<p>place, old well which runs from grounds in oblique direction, under Walsall Road, towards opposite footpath, where some 20 or 30 years ago there was a public well close to entrance of 'The Hollies'." (from Hackwood FW 1884.</p> <p>Well is very old and known to have served a large part of Wednesbury. Situated within the site of the former Oakeswell Hall. Actual well appears to be in good order, even though filled with bricks by children. Probably medieval and could well have influenced building and siting of houses that have occupied site as well as naming of houses (1978, untitled source)</p>
6409-MBL3080	Brunswick Park, Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury	SO 9950 9539	Monument	Post Medieval	<p>Added to Register of Parks and Gardens 1994.</p> <p>20's public park laid out late 1880s on site of former pit mound to designs of William Barron and Son. Pit mound which occupied south end of site retained as feature and landscaped with network of paths.</p>
6439-MBL3103	Land at Union Street Wednesbury	SO 9866 9503	Monument	Undated	Grey areas, possibly pit fills, observed during road construction works north of Union Street.
6442-MBL3106	Public well (site) 'The Little Hill' Wednesbury	SO 9876 9517	Monument	Well, undated, Site, Post Medieval	1 of 2 public wells near site of Duce's brewery, that supplied town prior to establishment of South Staffs Waterworks Co. Stood near the front door of 'The Cottage' on the Little Hill.
6443-MBL3107	Boniface Well (site) Little Hill Wednesbury	SO 9876 9517	Monument	Well: Early Bronze Age to Post Medieval	1 of 2 public wells near site of Duce's brewery, that supplied town prior to establishment of South Staffs Waterworks Co. Situated a few yards south of HER 6442-MBL3106 (above). Water was of famous quality and sold up to 1840 (Hackwood FW)
6444-MBL3108	Public well (site), Camp Street/Camphill Lane, Wednesbury	SO 9861 9490	Monument	Well, undated, site, Post Medieval	Public well used for drinking water until c 1840 when supply began to decline.
6447-MBL3111	Tacker's Well, Church Street, Wednesbury	SO 9878 9502	Monument	Post Medieval	<p>Site of well. Called Tacker's Well due to tack or nail maker's shop which stood nearby. Situated at foot of Church Street where the nailers were located.</p> <p>In Wednesbury Conservation Area.</p>
6449-MBL3113	Excavated feature, Upper Russell St., Wednesbury	SO 9879 9487	Monument	Occupation site: Medieval; Site: Post Medieval	Excavation in advance of development found cultivated soil of late Medieval to 17 th Century date, cut by brick walls of at least two phases, associated with a brick chamber, probably used for water

					storage. Evidence found of pottery wasters. Wednesbury Conservation Area
6450-MBL3114	Wednesbury Manor, Wednesbury	SO 9873 9545	Monument	Dovecote, doc. evidence; Medieval; Manor House, doc. evidence Medieval (called Modern in HER)	Heronville family in 14 th Century. Inquisitions post mortem on John (1315) and Henry (1316) and elaborate Assignment of Dower of Juliana (1315). Mentions 'chief message (manor house) with gardens and curtilages worth yearly 2/-'. Manor house included hall, pantry, solar with cellar under nr kitchen, brewhouse, 'knedhouse' (bakery?). Outhouses incl stables, cowhouse and long sheephouse. Domestic buildings arranged round courtyard with well or fountain in centre. Approach through outer court with gatehouse. Dovecote mentioned. No indication given of manor house's location, which must not necessarily be assumed to be that of manor in later times.
MSD5568	Soho	SO 9846 9504	Building	19 th Century	John Russell's Crown Tube Works was established on the site of the former Monway Fields in 1823. The works became the seat of the gas tube trade.
MSD5538	Gaumont Cinema (now Walkers Bingo Hall), Walsall Street	SO 98846 95032	Building: Bingo Hall and Cinema	20 th Century	Associated Provincial Picture Houses (APPH) chose Wednesbury for one of their 'Wholesome Amusement' venues. The Picture House was opened in March 1915. It closed in 1938 and another cinema was built in its place; the Gaumont; with a façade of cream faience slabs with a thin blue tile insert to form regular squares. Closed as a cinema in 1976, now a Bingo Hall
MSD5501	Masonic Hall (St Bartholomew), Russell Street, Wednesbury	SO 98760 94751	Building; Freemason's Hall	(Undated)	Masonic Hall. First seen on 1 st Edition OS map as Congregational Chapel.
MSD5492	68-78 Corporation Street, Wednesbury	SO 99260 94978	Landscape		Highlighted as a response to a planning application, as being adjacent to the early settlement site of Dymock's Green which later became known as Oakeswell End and close to the historic core of the medieval town and possible Iron Age fort.
13516-MBL5411	The Lamp Inn, Upper High Street, Wednesbury	SO 9864 9508	Building (Inn)	Post Medieval	Earliest form of the Lamp Inn originates from the mid-19 th century, although earlier, Medieval, remains may survive below ground. The Inn was heavily altered and refurbished in the 1920s-30s. A watching brief carried out in 2003 recovered no structural or artefactual evidence of pre-post-medieval date. On esherd of unstratified Early Midlands Purple Coarseware was recovered which

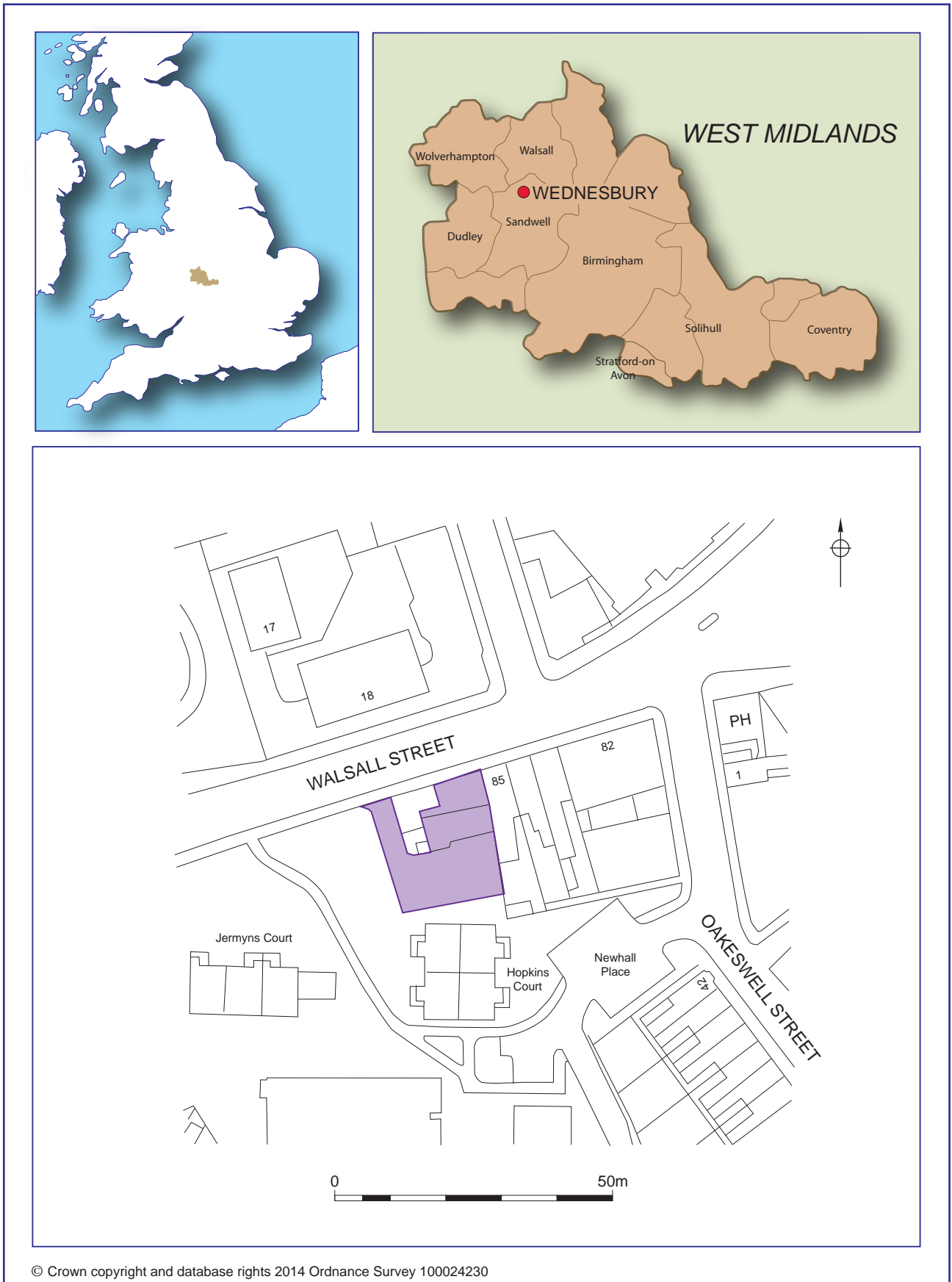
Land adjacent to 86, Walsall Street, Wednesbury, Sandwell, West Midlands

					suggests medieval activity in the vicinity.
13495- MBL5390	Location of well/pits/kiln waste, 3-4 Walsall Street, Wednesbury	SO 9880 9505	Monument	Post Medieval	Located within Conservation Area DSD187. Three features revealed by an archaeological watching brief; a brick and sandstone-lined well (possibly Tacker's Well; HER 6447); a timber-lined pit of unknown function and a pit containing pottery kiln waste. The pottery kiln waste dates to the 17 th century. It seems likely that pottery manufacture was taking place in the immediate vicinity which would mean that the pottery industry was not confined as previously thought to the south and south east of the Market Place.
8022- MBL5020	Church Hill, Wednesbury	SO 9876 9535	Monument	Modern	Modern bank at Ethelfleda Terrace and recent terracing at the west side of Church Hill. Both features were investigated by archaeological trial trenching in 1990 and found to be modern.
8023- MBL5019	Archways in wall at bottom of garden, 58 Wellcroft Street, Wednesbury	SO 9865 9534	Monument	Post medieval to modern	Two bricked-up archways in a rear garden wall. Seem to have been associated with ventilation tunnels from Crown Tube Works.
13088- MBL4959	Methodist Chapel (United Free), Ridding Lane	SO 9895 9486	Monument	Post Medieval to modern	Early example of Methodist Chapel. Marked on First Edition OS map as 'Methodist Chapel (United Free)'. Still marked on 2 nd to 4 th Edition maps as a Methodist Church.
13087- MBL4958	Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan), Spring Head, Wednesbury	SO 9894 9503	Monument	Post Medieval to Modern	Marked on First Edition OS map as 'Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan)'. Also marked on 3 rd -4 th editions as 'Methodist Church'. No longer survives.
9619- MBL3224	Burrs Colliery (Blue Fly Pit), Wednesbury	SO 9947 9483	Monument	Post Medieval	Colliery, site of.
9618- MBL3223	Pound, Crankhall Lane, Wednesbury	SO 9938 9514	Monument	Post Medieval	Pound, site of. Square structure marked 'pound' on OS 1 st Edition, at junction of Foley Lane and Crankhall Lane.
8019- MBL3182	St John's Churchyard, Lower High Street, Wednesbury	SO 9878 9470	Monument	Post Medieval	St John's Parish was created in 1844, the foundation stone was laid in 1845 and the church consecrated in 1846. The churchyard was in use at the same time as the church, the latter being declared redundant in 1980. The church was demolished in 1986. The gravestones and memorials were moved from their original locations at an unknown date and now stand

					around the perimeter of the churchyard (1997).
8008- MBL3172	Location of evaluation, Walsall Street and Pritchard Street; Wednesbury	SO 9901 9512	Excavated feature	Post medieval	The historian Ede considers this to be the site of Manor Court. Evaluation at this location in 1996 revealed residual Post Medieval material, including pottery wasters dating possibly to the 16 th century. Ironworking slag was used as walling. Property boundaries appear to be based on earlier agricultural boundaries and were built using ironwork slag, which may point to the existence of small scale iron industry in the area.
6476- MBL3122	Midlands Electric Board, Camp Street/The Shambles, Wednesbury	SO 9873 9490	Monument	Post Medieval to Modern	Former Power Station, by 1977 it was part substation part derelict.

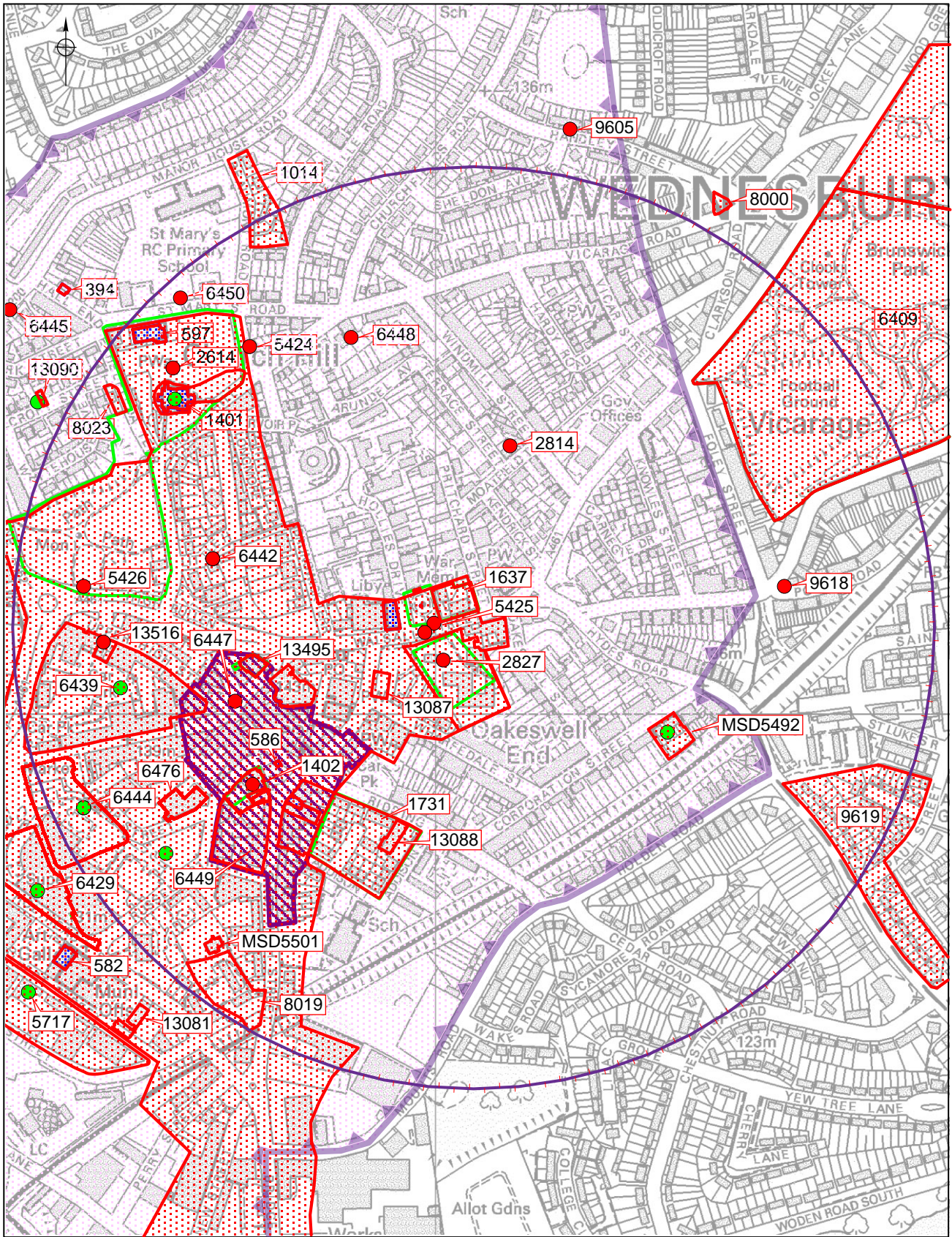
Appendix 2 Additional heritage assets identified by the desk-based assessment (those within the application site are indicated in bold)

Additional heritage asset	Site name	NGR	Source	Date	Description
AHA 001	Industrial buildings	SO 9904 9509	Map evidence, Google earth, site visit.	18 th century	Former industrial buildings. Bands of brickwork on elevation of east west-orientated building show it had a number of openings that are now blocked. Narrow, dark colour bricks of 18 th century date, most likely later part. Brick coursing is possibly English Bond which is also 18 th century. It has been re-roofed with slate and decorative ridge tiles although the large slates show that has been roofed in Welsh slate which was most commonly available in the Victorian period. Robson-Glyde, pers comm. (Image from Google maps, building has been demolished) Buildings were marked on the OS First Edition, 1890.
AHA 002	Industrial building	SO 9907 9510	Map evidence, Google earth, site visit.	Late Victorian	Late Victorian, possibly industrial building. On the OS 1903 map possibly associated with a coach axle works already marked on the First Edition.



Location of the site

Figure 1



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HER Search (scale 1:5996)

Figure 2



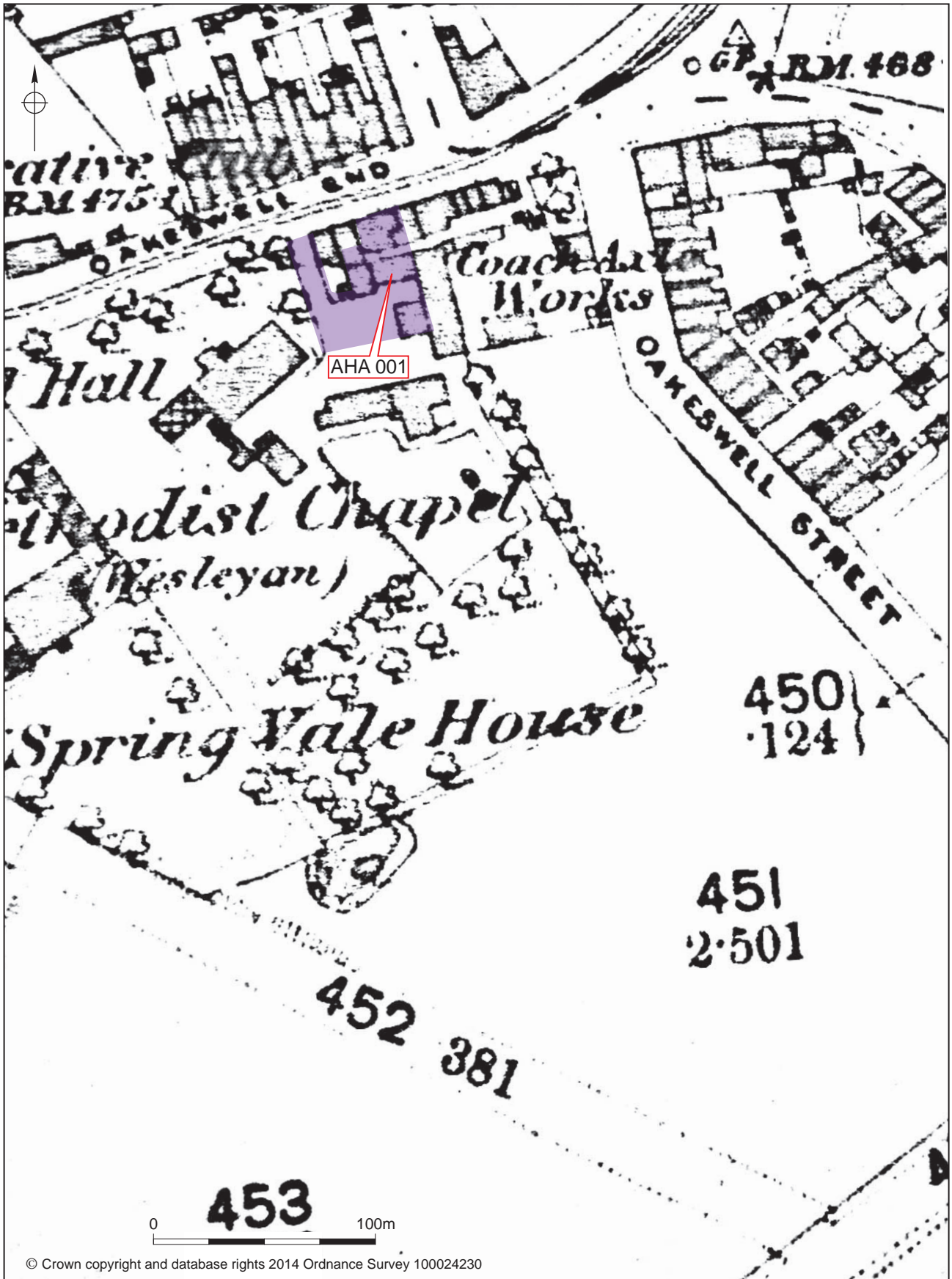
Extract of 1799 Parish Map of Wednesbury

Figure 3



Extract of 1846 Tithe map of Wednesbury

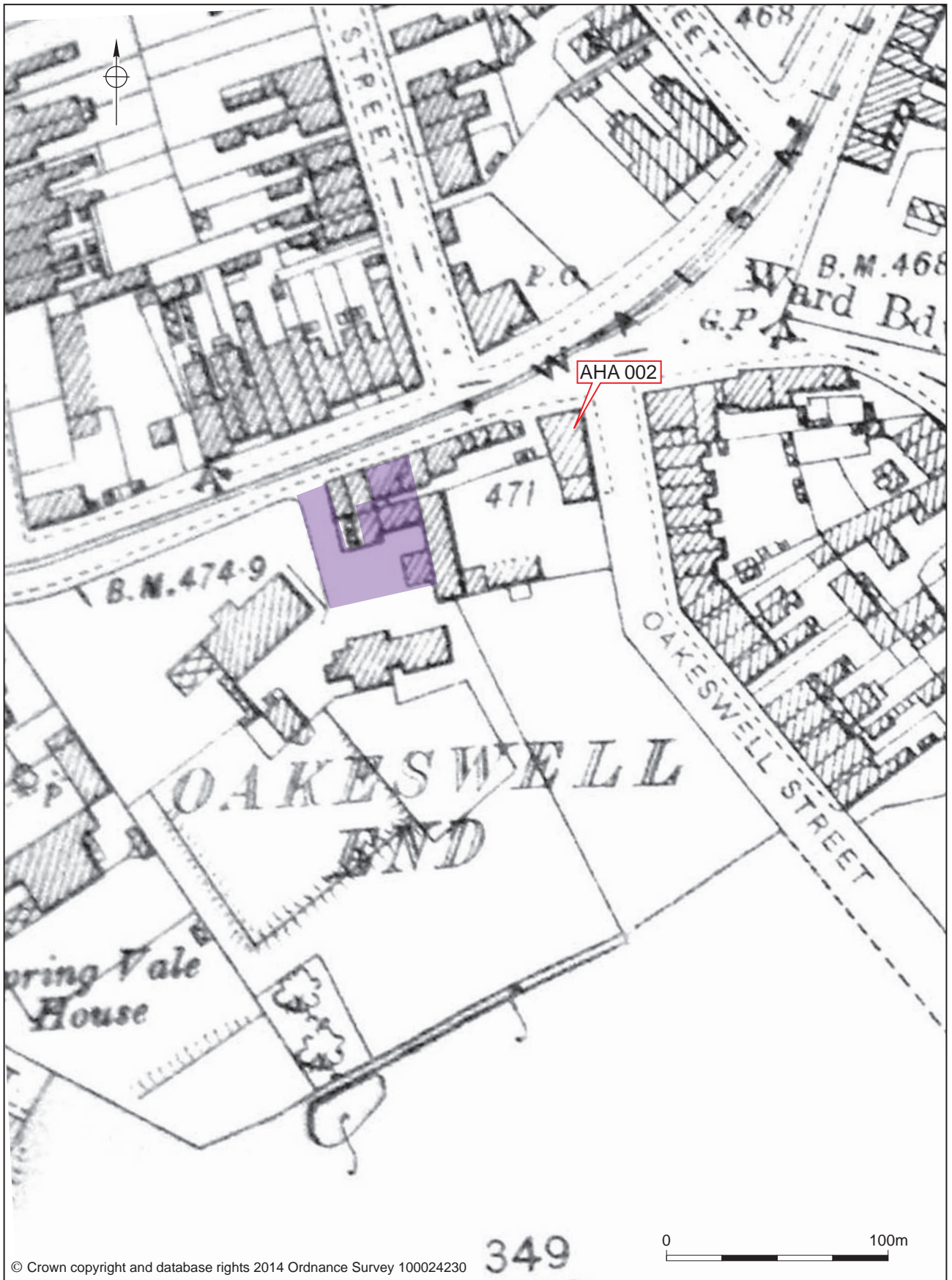
Figure 4



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Extract of OS 1st Edition map of Staffordshire, 1890

Figure 5



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Extract of OS map of Staffordshire, 1903

Figure 6



Extract of OS map of Staffordshire, 1919

Figure 7



Extract of OS map of Staffordshire, 1937

Figure 8