

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF AT
MOLINEUX HOTEL,
MOLINEUX STREET,
WOLVERHAMPTON

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With contributions by Dennis Williams

Illustrations by Carolyn Hunt

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Project 3057
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Archaeological watching brief at Molineux Hotel, Molineux Street, Wolverhampton

Tom Vaughan

With contributions by Dennis Williams

Part 1 Project summary

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Molineux Hotel, Molineux Street, Wolverhampton (NGR: SO 9126 9898). It was undertaken on behalf of Donald Insall Associates. They intend to demolish the existing North and North-West Ranges, construct a new west range for Archival Storage, undertake landscaping and garden works as part of the relocation of the Wolverhampton Archives and Local Studies Centre.

The project aimed to record surviving traces of the layout of the former gardens, their development and any associated buildings, as previously identified on cartographic sources.

The brick foundation for a flight of steps was observed at the north corner of West Range. This appears to be that depicted on a map of 1852, which had been removed by 1886. A brick wall adjacent appears on the OS map of 1919, built during alterations to the bank and terracing to the immediate north of the Hotel.

The cellars below the North-West Range appear to date from the original construction of the range in the mid 18th century. However the internal cellar walls and cellar steps were modified when the wing was enlarged in the early/mid 19th century.

Exposure of the foundations below the west wall of the West Range indicates that it was altered or rebuilt during the late 19th century.

Trenching through the cellar floor, within the South, West and Garden Ranges revealed 20th century engineering bricks overlying the natural sand matrix. Similar late 19th/early 20th century engineering bricks were used to replace the steps down to the cellar below the North-West Range, and to surface Molineux Fold yard to the south of the Hotel.

A substantial brick buttress lay to the southwest side of the excavations for the new Archive Storage building, which appears to be part of the range of buildings alongside Molineux Alley. Although first recorded on a map of 1788 it is unclear if the structure related to this period or to a later rebuilding.

Unfortunately no areas beyond the extant building, the immediate north of the West Range and the footprint for the new Archival Storage building were made available for archaeological monitoring. Therefore no further elements of the gardens, ancillary buildings or the landscape around the Hotel were identified or recorded.

Part 2 Detailed report

1. Background

1.1 Reasons for the project

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken at Molineux Hotel, Molineux Street, Wolverhampton, West Midlands (NGR SO 9126 9898; Fig 1), on behalf of Donald Insall Associates. They intend to demolish the existing North and North-West Ranges, construct a larger range in its place (an Archival Storage building), and undertake landscaping works to create a new garden area around the existing and proposed building. This is considered by the Curator, Mike Shaw (Black Country Archaeologist, Wolverhampton City Council) to have the potential to affect a site of archaeological interest (BCSMR 483).

1.2 Project parameters

The project conforms to the *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (IFA 2001).

The project also conforms to a brief prepared by the Curator (WCC 2007) and for which a project proposal (including detailed specification) was produced (HEAS 2007).

1.3 Aims

The aims of the project were to monitor the groundworks associated with the removal of the North and North-West Range, excavation of the basement of the Archival Storage building, internal and external drainage, external landscaping and service trenches.

More specifically, the monitoring was anticipated to provide an opportunity to observe and record evidence relating to the former layout of the gardens, their development and the associated buildings, as previously identified on cartographic sources (Vaughan 2007, Figs 2-10, 12-14, Plates 1-8).

2. Methods

2.1 Documentary search

Prior to fieldwork commencing a desk-based assessment was prepared by the Service (Vaughan 2007), the findings of which are summarised in Section 3 below.

2.2 Fieldwork methodology

2.2.1 Fieldwork strategy

A detailed specification has been prepared by the Service (HEAS 2007).

Fieldwork was undertaken intermittently between 17 April 2007 and 23 May 2008. The Black Country Sites and Monuments Record (BCSMR) site reference number and site code is EBL 812.

The groundworks made available for monitoring were:

- the demolition and removal of the basement of the North-West Range;

- underpinning of the west corner of the West Range (one of six pits);
- ground reduction for the new Archival Storage building;
- service trenches within the basement of the South, West and Garden Ranges;
- ground reduction and foundation trenching immediately north of the West Range.

The location of these areas and trenches is indicated in Figure 2.

None of the external groundworks, landscaping or service trenches were made available for archaeological monitoring.

Clean surfaces were inspected and selected deposits were examined and recorded to retrieve artefactual material and environmental samples, as well as to determine their nature. Deposits were recorded according to standard Service practice (CAS 1995).

2.2.2 Structural analysis

All fieldwork records were checked and cross-referenced. Analysis was effected through a combination of structural, artefactual and ecofactual evidence, allied to the information derived from other sources.

2.3 Artefact methodology, by Dennis Williams

2.3.1 Artefact recovery policy

The artefact recovery policy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 2). This in principle determines that all finds, of whatever date, must be collected. However, in this case only a sample of later material was collected from the spoil during machining. These comprised the majority of the finds recovered from the site.

2.3.2 Method of analysis

All hand retrieved finds were examined. They were identified, quantified and dated to period. A *terminus post quem* date was produced for each stratified context. The date was used for determining the broad date of phases defined for the site. All information was recorded on *pro forma* sheets.

Pottery fabrics are referenced to the fabric reference series maintained by the Service (Hurst 1994; www.worcestershireceramics.org).

2.4 Environmental archaeology methodology

2.4.1 Sampling policy

The environmental sampling strategy conformed to standard Service practice (CAS 1995; appendix 4). In the event, no deposits, layers or horizons were identified which were considered suitable for environmental analysis.

2.5 The methods in retrospect

Unfortunately, as only a small proportion of the excavations and landscaping works were made available for monitoring (Section 2.2.1 above), it cannot be considered with any degree of confidence that the aims of the project have been achieved.

3. **Topographical and archaeological context**

The historic and archaeological background to the site has previously been presented in a desk-based assessment prepared by the Service (Vaughan 2007). The following is a summary:

The original Molineux Hotel building dates from *c* 1720, when the South Range was built as a private residence on the then north-western outskirts of the town. It was enlarged from the mid 18th century with the West, Garden and North-West Ranges, along with formal ornamental gardens laid out to the immediate north and east of the house, overlooking open parkland. Access was via *Molineux Fold* to the south. Yards with associated outbuildings and stables lay to the south-west. By the mid 19th century the formal gardens had been levelled to make way for open areas of grassed lawns and woodland. The house and grounds were converted into a hotel and public house, with public pleasure and sports grounds in the 1860s. Formal walks were reinstated, which were superseded by an ice skating rink in the 1880s, and bowling greens *c* 1900. The football club took over much of the grounds in 1889, building massive stands in the 1930s, which took in the northern two-thirds of the former gardens. The ring road further squeezed the property in 1969, cutting it off from the city centre to the south. Molineux Hotel finally closed to the public in 1979, after which time the building was boarded up and the remaining grounds tarmaced over for use as car parking.

The low retaining wall and associated steps to the north of the Garden Range represent the only visible surviving element of the gardens surrounding the house. They are however comparatively late and appear to date from the early/mid 20th century.

To the west, the groundworks associated with the development may reveal remains related to the foundations of the mid/late 18th century North-West Range, the late 19th century North Range (a possible fragmentary survival of the Billiard Hall), associated surfaces, 19th century outbuildings and the 20th century garage alongside Molineux Alley. To the south there is the potential for exposure of features related to *Molineux Fold* yard and access, with associated surfaces, walls, gateways and later 19th century outbuildings. Finally, to the east and north there potentially lie remains of the mid 18th and mid 19th century ornamental gardens, a later 19th century skating rink and turn of the 19th/20th century bowling greens.

It is unclear exactly what impact each successive phase of redevelopment and alteration has had on previous elements of the layout of the property. Clearly the impact of the development of the football ground to the north and the ring road to the south will have removed the greater part of any earlier deposits; however within the bounds of the present site, there does not appear to have been much alteration to the ground levels or topography generally, indicating that survival of archaeological deposits may be good.

4. **Results**

4.1 **Structural analysis**

The trenches and features recorded are shown in Figs 2-4. The results of the structural analysis are presented in Appendix 1.

4.1.1 **Phase 1 Natural deposits**

The natural matrix, 105 and 117, comprised red sand and degraded sandstone with occasional bands of yellowish white sand or greenish-grey sand. It was generally without inclusions.

It was observed directly below brick floor 113 within the drainage trenches dug through the basement floor within the South, West and Garden Ranges (Fig 2); within the underpinning pit directly below brickwork 112 to the west corner of the West Range (Fig 4, Plates 11 and

12); directly below brick foundation 114 and rubble deposit 116, north of the West Range (Fig 3, Plates 13 and 14); below the foundations and stairs, 106-110, for the North-West Range (Fig 4; Plates 3, 4, 6, 9 and 10).

4.1.2 **Phase 2 Post-medieval and modern deposits**

No structures, layers, deposits, horizons or finds predating the post-medieval period were identified.

North-West Range

The foundations of the southwest wall comprised handmade red bricks, 109, bedded on a single course of sandstone blocks, 110, with buttresses protruding toward the cellar wall, 108, which lay approximately 1m to the northeast (Plates 2 and 3). The double-skin cellar wall comprised thinner handmade bricks of similar fabric bedded in a lime mortar, cut into the natural, 105, at a lower level than the outer foundation wall (Plate 4).

The staircase down into the cellar was recorded on the northeast side of the range. It comprised machine made blue engineering brick steps bedded over frogged red bricks, 106. The lower half of the flight was cut into the natural sand, 105, while the upper half lay over a sequence of make up layers, comprising mixed clay with building debris, 100, 102, 103 and 104, and a redeposited band of red sand, 101. These layers butted an adjacent cellar wall, 107. This was double-skin and heavily rendered, of hand made red bricks, bedded in lime mortar (Plate 6).

South of the North-West Range

The excavation of the footprint of the new Archival Storage building exposed a sequence of layers to the south of the North-West Range (Plate 9). A surface comprised of machine made blue engineering bricks bedded on sand, 119, lay directly below the modern tarmac surface, 118. This sealed a mixed deposit of sandy clay with variable building rubble, to 0.85m depth, which had been disturbed by frequent services and lay over the natural matrix 117.

A substantial brick buttress or foundation, 121, was recorded to the southwest of the North-West Range. Unfortunately, it was not possible to record it fully, although it comprised bright red bricks bedded in lime mortar (Plate 10).

West Range

The foundation wall, 112, at the west corner of the West Range was observed (Plates 11 and 12). It comprised approximately 21 courses of late 19th century bricks, laid in English Garden Wall Bond, flush with the main wall above and bedded directly onto the natural matrix, 105.

A red brick foundation base, 114, with adjoining walls, one of which had traces of a thick dark orangey brown render, was recorded butting the north corner of the West Range. The bricks were of 19th century date (Plates 13 and 14). It lay directly over the natural matrix, 117 and was sealed by dump deposit, 116. This latter comprised 19th century bricks, brick rubble, soil and modern gravel hardcore.

An adjacent wall, 115, aligned northwest to southeast, extended toward the north corner of the West Range (Plate 15 and 16). The relationship with the house and the base, 114, was unclear. The bricks were of later 19th or early 20th century origin, bedded in English Garden Wall Bond. The wall was double-skin. It was also sealed by deposit 116.

The South, West and Garden Ranges Cellar

The cellar floor, 113, comprised a thin layer of concrete, over blue engineering bricks bedded in a lime mortar, laid directly onto the natural sand, 117. The bricks are of probable later 19th century date; the concrete is of 20th century origin.

4.2 **Artefact analysis, by Dennis Williams**

A total of 8 glass and pottery finds, weighing 156g, were recovered (Table 1). Two complete bricks were also retrieved as samples of building materials.

| Material | Type | Total | Weight (g) |
|----------|----------------------|-------|------------|
| Glass | Post-medieval/modern | 3 | 32 |
| Pottery | Post-medieval/modern | 5 | 124 |
| Brick | Post-medieval | 1 | 3488 |
| Brick | Modern | 1 | 3938 |
| Totals: | | 21 | 7582 |

Table 1: *Quantification of the assemblage.*

Preservation conditions were fair; some pottery sherds exhibited low levels of abrasion, but much of the glass had suffered significant surface degradation. The brick samples had substantial amounts of mortar adhering to them when recovered, but were otherwise intact, enabling their overall dimensions to be measured accurately. The pottery finds were all china, as quantified in Table 2.

| Period | Fabric no. | Fabric name | Total | Weight (g) |
|----------------------|------------|-------------|-------|------------|
| Post-medieval/modern | 85 | China | 5 | 124 |

Table 2: *Quantification of the pottery assemblage by period and fabric-type*

The pottery was typical of mass-produced items of late 19th-20th century date. Sherds from a dish and a plate (bearing blue transfer printed decorations), and a small jar, were recovered from layer 103 below the cellar stairs in the North-West Range. The only other finds worthy of note from this context were fragments from a small wine glass, of a similar date to the pottery. A single rim sherd, from a china plate with a brown printed decoration, came from lower layer 104.

A brick with an orange-brown fabric, from the west corner of the foundation wall, 112, of the West Range, had no frog, and measured 66x117x243mm. Its thickness was similar to that of the current standard brick, but its length and width were greater than the current dimensions (215mm and 102.5mm respectively). Furthermore, the non-uniform (slightly sheared) cross-section, crude cut-marks of the present example indicated that it was produced during the latter half of the 19th century. In contrast to this, a shallow, blue-grey engineering brick from 113, had a non-standard size (50x125x250mm), but smooth surfaces and a very uniform shape, and was therefore of 20th century date.

The dates for this very limited assemblage from this site were confined to the 19th-20th century range. The assemblage was therefore consistent with late-post medieval and modern occupation and use that would be expected in this part of the West Midlands.

Table 3 summarises all the finds in terms of their contexts and *terminus post quem* dates:

| Context | Material | Fabric no. | Period | Count | Wt(g) | <i>Terminus post quem</i> date |
|---------|----------|------------|---------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------|
| 103 | Pottery | 85 | Post-med/ modern | 4 | 110 | 20 th century |
| 103 | Glass | - | Post-med/ modern | 3 | 32 | 20 th century |
| 104 | Pottery | 85 | Post-med/ modern | 1 | 14 | 20 th century |
| 112 | Brick | - | Post-med | 1 | 3488 | Late 19 th century |
| 113 | Brick | - | Modern | 1 | 3938 | 20 th century |

Table 3: Summary of context dating based on artefacts

5. Synthesis and conclusions

A number of alterations and additions to the building were noted during the project:

The red brick structure, 114, butting the north wall of the West Range appears to be the foundation for steps depicted on the 1852 Board of Health map (Vaughan 2007, Fig 5). It is not indicated on any earlier maps, although the only one to show the grounds in great detail is Isaac Taylor's map of 1750-1 (*ibid*, Fig 2). This foundation must then date from the first half of the 19th century and was thus not an original feature of the house. It does not appear to relate to the long narrow staircase shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1886, which appears to be an alteration (*ibid*, Fig 7). This narrow flight is indicated on the edition of 1889 (*ibid*, Fig 8), but not on the map of 1902 (*ibid*, Fig 9), or any subsequent plans, which suggests that it had been removed around the turn of the 19th/20th century. It is distinct from the later 20th century concrete flight in the same location (*ibid*, Plate 28; Fig 4).

Wall 115 also observed off the north corner of the West Range, is that which is first indicated on the OS map of 1919 (*ibid*, Fig 10), when in the first decades of the 20th century the grounds were undergoing alterations associated with the development of the public and sporting facilities. The wall appears to form part of a phase of realignment of the bank and terracing to the immediate north of the Hotel.

The foundations for the west wall of the West Range, 112, date to the late 19th century. This indicates that the wing was altered later after the North-West Range (see below).

The cellar floor, 113, within the South, West and Garden Ranges comprised a thin concrete layer over 20th century engineering bricks. These surfaces cannot be ascribed with any certainty to any specifically documented period of alterations.

The southwest cellar wall, 108, below the North-West Range, comprised bricks of probable 18th century date and therefore appears to relate to the original construction of this wing. It lay approximately 1m to the northeast (and inside) the southwest foundation wall, 109/110 for the North-West Range, which comprised bricks of probable 19th century date set on a single course of sandstone blocks. This indicates that the range was indeed rebuilt and enlarged in the 19th century. The cartographic sources reveal that this took place before 1841-2 (*ibid*, Figs 3 and 4).

It is unclear if the dump deposits, 100-104, below the cellar stairs, 106, in the North-West Range were deliberately deposited during construction to raise this area, or were already there and hence were truncated during excavation for the cellar in the mid/late 19th century. They contained generic blue and white china of late 19th/20th century date. The cellar wall, 107 appears to date from the early/mid 19th century rebuilding. The lower steps date to the mid/late 19th century. The engineering brick steps appear to be replacements, of late 19th/early 20th century date.

The substantial brick buttress, 121, on the southwest side of the excavations for the new Archive Storage building, appears to be part of the range of buildings alongside Molineux Alley. They are first recorded on the Godson map of 1788 (*ibid*, Fig 3), which were utilised as garages in the mid 20th century and had been demolished by 1971 (*ibid*, Fig 14). It is unclear if the structure relates to the late 18th century building or to a later rebuilding or alteration.

The surface of engineering bricks, 119, observed directly below the modern tarmac surface, immediately to the south of the North-West Range is considered to date from the later 19th or early 20th century. It formed part of the wider hardstanding on this side of the Hotel which covered the entirety of Molineux Fold yard until the area was tarmaced over in the last decades of the 20th century.

Unfortunately as no other areas of groundworks were made available for monitoring during the projects no further elements of the gardens, ancillary buildings or landscape (such as the mid 18th to mid 19th century ornamental gardens, the later 19th century skating rink or the 19th/20th century bowling greens) around the Hotel could be identified, nor their state of preservation determined. Similarly it was not possible for the results to be tied in with those of the previous watching briefs undertaken in 2006 of service trenching to the south of the Hotel (Hewson 2006) or of geotechnical works (Cherrington 2006).

6. **Publication summary**

The Service has a professional obligation to publish the results of archaeological projects within a reasonable period of time. To this end, the Service 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.

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken on behalf of Donald Insall Associates client at Molineux Hotel, Molineux Street, Wolverhampton, West Midlands (NGR: SO 9126 9898; BCSMR ref. EBL 812).

The brick foundation for a flight of steps was observed at the north corner of West Range. This appears to be that depicted on a map of 1852, which had been removed by 1886. A brick wall adjacent appears on the OS map of 1919, built during alterations to the bank and terracing to the immediate north of the Hotel.

The cellars below the North-West Range appear to date from the original construction of the range in the mid 18th century. However the internal cellar walls and cellar steps were modified when the wing was enlarged in the early/mid 19th century.

Exposure of the foundations below the west wall of the West Range indicates that it was altered or rebuilt during the late 19th century.

Trenching through the cellar floor, within the South, West and Garden Ranges revealed 20th century engineering bricks overlying the natural sand matrix. Similar late 19th/early 20th century engineering bricks were used to replace the steps down to the cellar below the North-West Range, and to surface Molineux Fold yard to the south of the Hotel.

A substantial brick buttress lay to the southwest side of the excavations for the new Archive Storage building, which appears to be part of the range of buildings alongside Molineux Alley. Although first recorded on a map of 1788 it is unclear if the structure related to this period or to a later rebuilding.

Unfortunately no areas beyond the extant building, the immediate north of the West Range and the footprint for the new Archival Storage building were made available for

archaeological monitoring. Therefore no further elements of the gardens, ancillary buildings or the landscape around the Hotel were identified or recorded.

7. **Acknowledgements**

The Service would like to thank the following for their assistance on this project: Sarah Butler (Donald Insall Associates), Mike Shaw (Black Country Archaeologist, Wolverhampton City Council), Nikki Hills (Senior Landscape Architect, Wolverhampton City Council), Adrian Boyle and Tony Saunders (Wolverhampton City Council), Nick Barker and Des Kelly (DSM Ltd), Roger Talbot and Dave Utting (Linford).

8. **Personnel**

The project was managed by Tom Vaughan. Fieldwork was also undertaken by Sarah Phear and Adam Lee, finds analysis by Dennis Williams and illustration by Carolyn Hunt.

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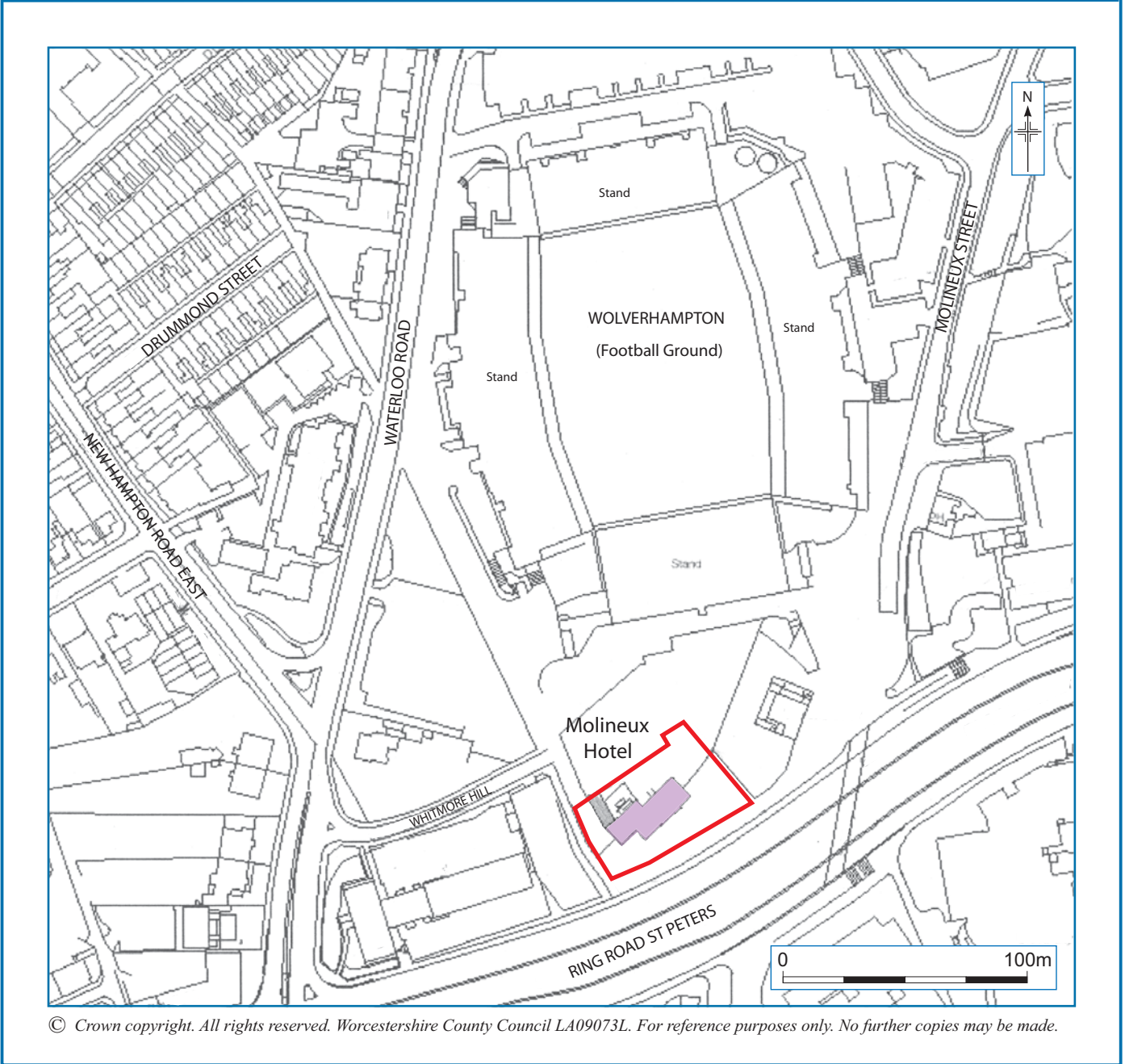
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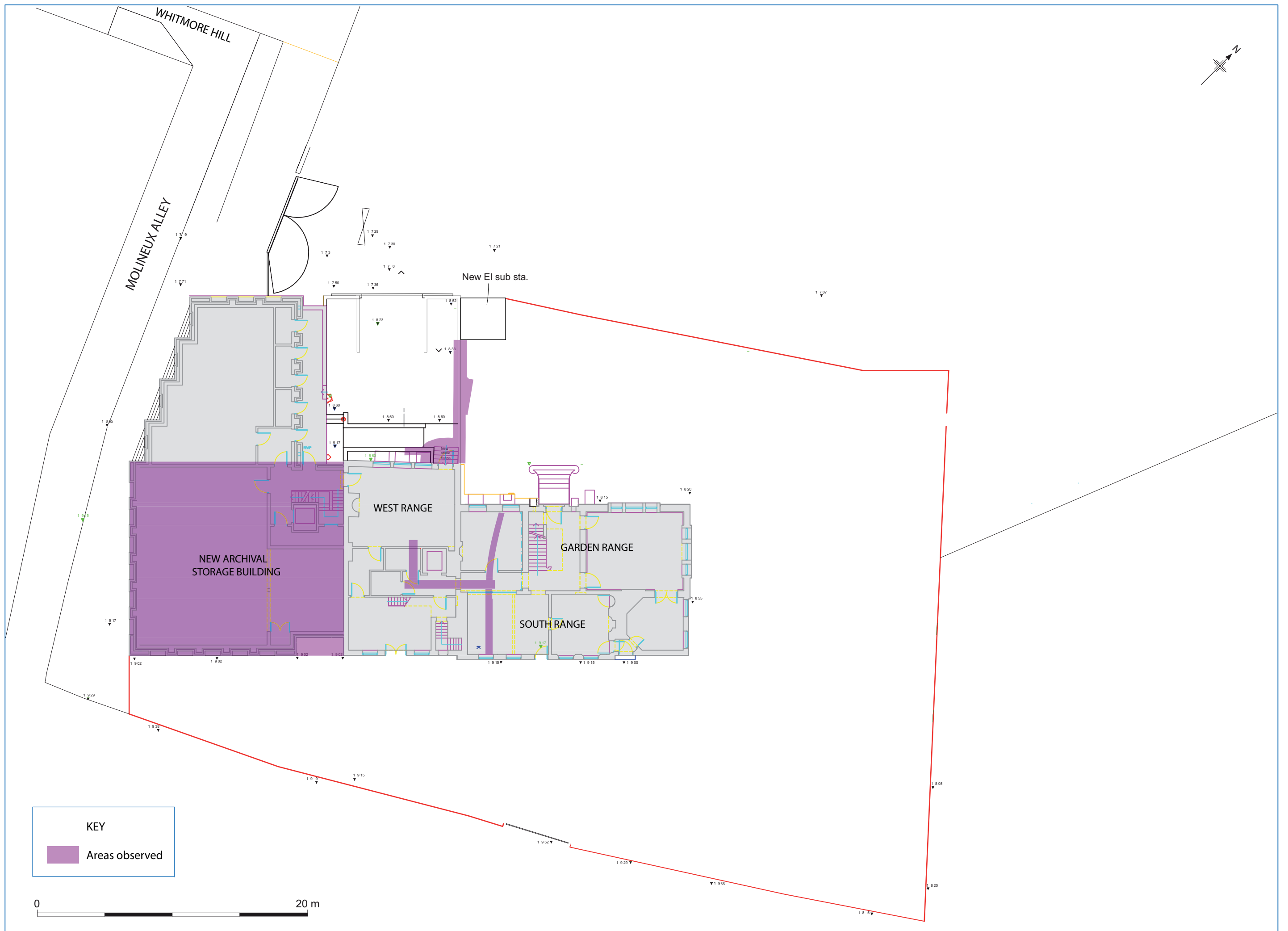
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Figures



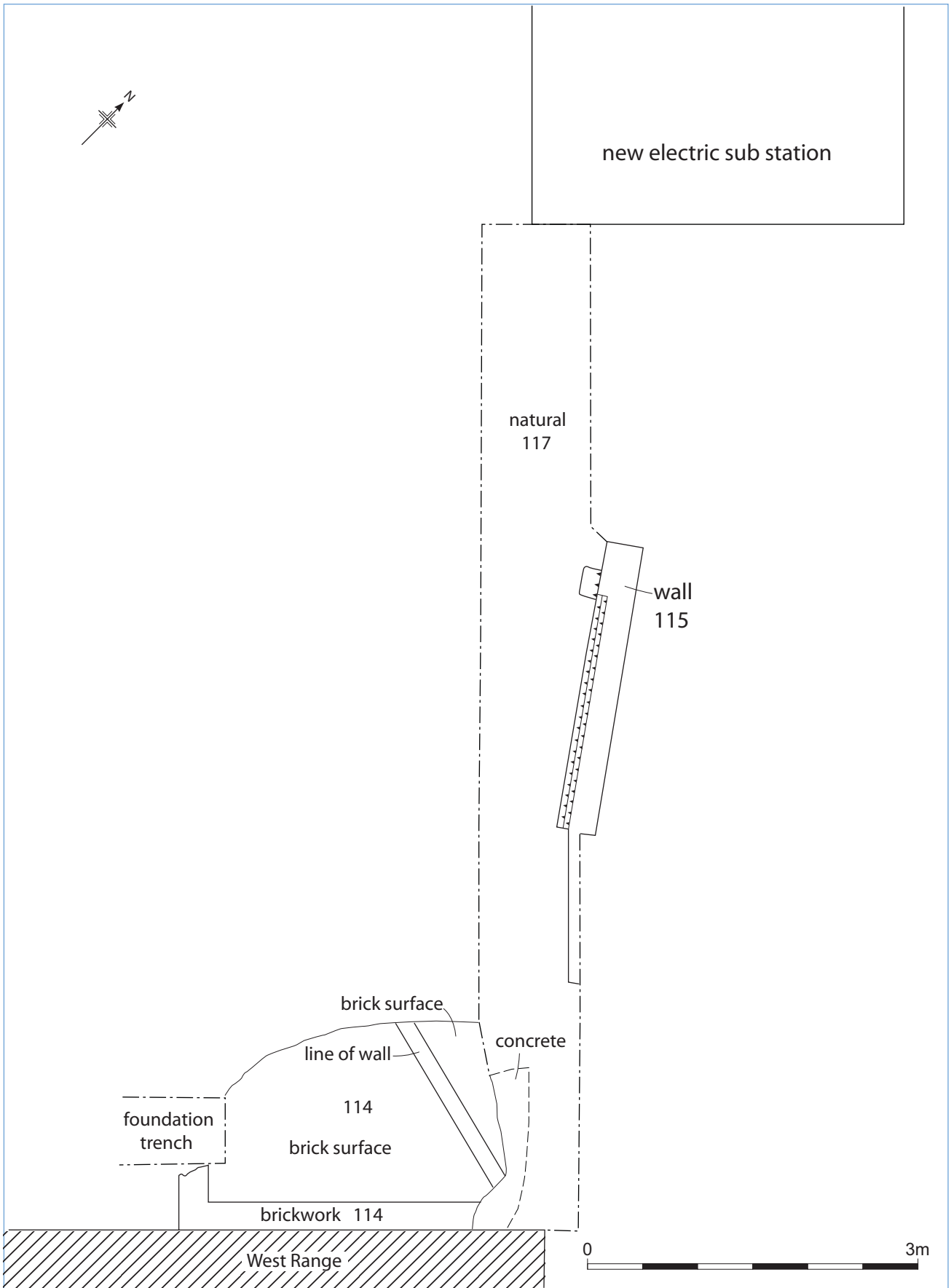
Location of the site.

Figure 1



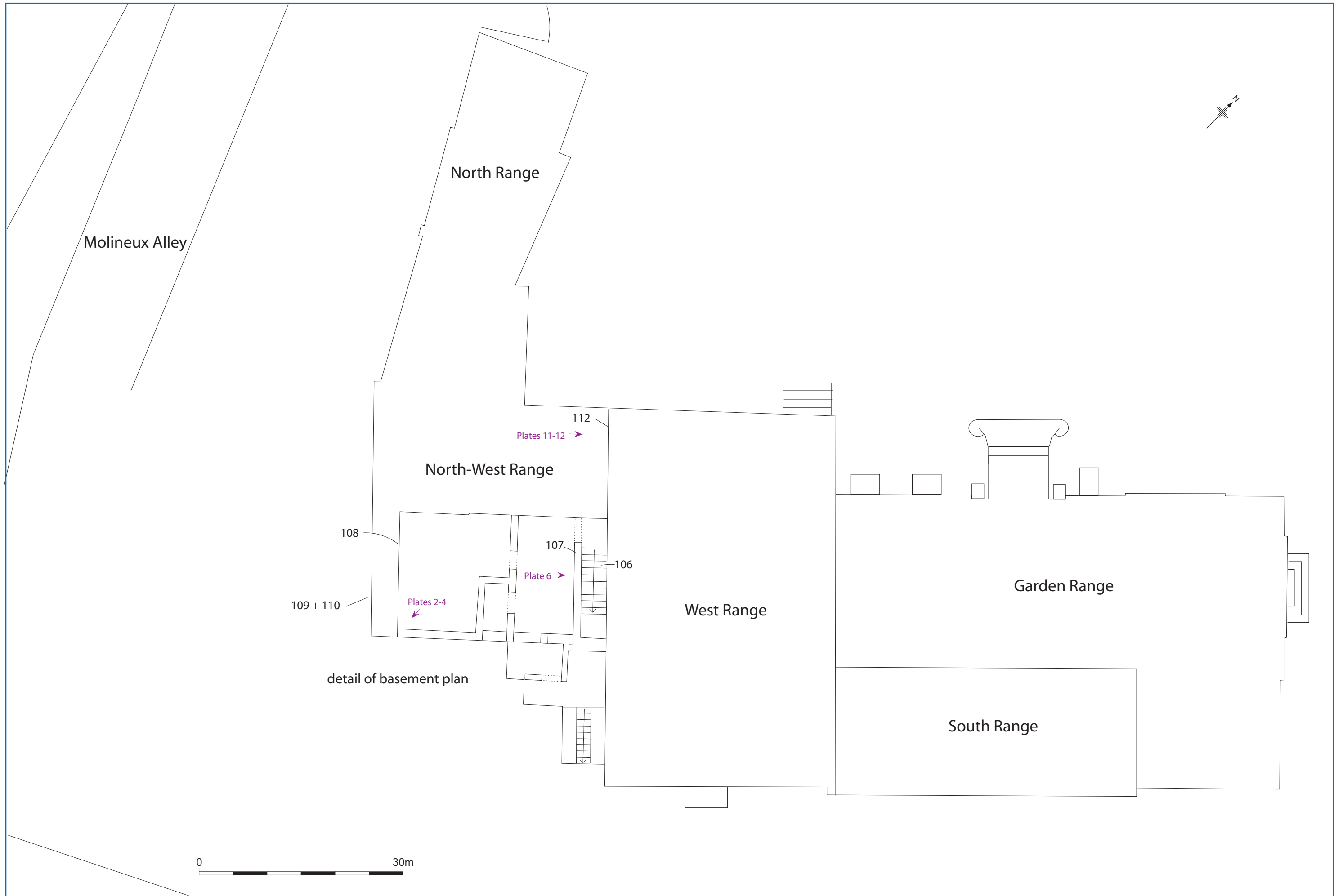
Areas observed (based upon Wolverhampton City Council Dwg No L1048d02A)

Figure 2



Detail plan of groundworks to north of West Range

Figure 3



North-West Range with detail of basement

Figure 4

Plates



Plate 1, West elevation of West Range after demolition of North-West Range, view north northeast



Plate 2, Wall and buttress 109 in south corner of North-West Range cellar, view southeast



Plate 3, Southwest foundation wall and buttress, 109 and 110, below North-West Range, view southwest



Plate 4, Southwest cellar wall, 108, below North-West Range, view north northwest



Plate 5, North-West Range, demolition in progress, view east



Plate 6, Cellar stairs, 106, and wall, 107, below North-West Range, view northeast



Plate 7, North-West Range, demolition in progress, view north



Plate 8, North-West Range, demolition in progress, view south



Plate 9, Brick surface, 119, to southeast of North-West Range, view southeast



Plate 10, Brick buttress, 121, and excavation of footing for new Archive Store, view west



Plate 11, Foundation wall, 112, below southwest wall of West Range, view northeast



Plate 12, Foundation wall, 112, below southwest wall of West Range, view northeast



Plate 13, Brick foundation, 114, for staircase, north corner of West Range, view southeast



Plate 14, Brick foundation, 114, for staircase, north corner of West Range, view east



Plate 15, Wall, 115, north of West Range, view north



Plate 16, Wall, 115, north of West Range, view east

Appendix 1 Context descriptions

| Context | Classification | Site location | Description | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom |
|---------|-------------------------|--|--|---|
| 100 | Make up layer | North West Range | Mid brown clay with small brick frags, charcoal flecks and misc. building debris. Loose. Overlying 101. Cut by 111. | 0.14-0.25m |
| 101 | Make up layer | North West Range | Redeposited red sand. Below 100. Overlying 102. Cut by 111. | 0.24-0.37m |
| 102 | Make up layer | North West Range | Mottled greyish brown mid brown clay with frequent small brick frags and charcoal flecks. Below 101. Overlying 103. Cut by 111. | 0.36-0.58m |
| 103 | Make up layer | North West Range | Light brown clay with frequent brick frags, occasional glass, ceramic and charcoal. Below 102. Overlying 104. Cut by 111. | 0.57-0.71m |
| 104 | Make up layer | North West Range | Reddish brown clay with brick frags, occasional glass, ceramic and charcoal. Below 103. Overlying 105. Cut by 111. | 0.66-0.1.15m |
| 105 | Natural | All areas | Red sand and sandstone with occasional bands of yellowish white sand. Below 104. As 117. | Variable depths |
| 106 | Brick staircase | North West Range | Brick staircase, 10 steps extant. Mix of late 19 th /early 20 th century blue machine made engineering bricks, over late 19 th century bright orange bricks frogged with 'standard' stamp, 80x110x230mm. Within cut 111. Butts 107. | 0.00-1.02m |
| 107 | Brick wall | North West Range | Internal wall within cellar, 10 courses extant; English Bond?, handmade bricks, bright reddish orange fabric, 70x120x230mm, bedded in pinkish white mortar. Butted by staircase 106. Erected against 105 and layers 100, 101, 102 and 104. Cut not observed. | 1.04-1.98m |
| 108 | Brick wall | North West Range | Southwest wall inside cellar, double-skin, 5 courses extant, handmade bricks, 18 th century? 60x100x240mm, bright reddish orange fabric. White lime mortar. Bedded in Raking Stretcher Bond. Relationship with 107 unclear. Erected against 105. Butted by 110. Cut not observed. | 1.78-2.18m |
| 109 | Brick wall | North West Range | External southwest cellar wall on south side, 9 courses extant, bricks handmade, 80x110x230mm, bright reddish orange fabric with frequent small stone inclusions. 19 th century? Hard pinkish brown mortar. Bedded in English Bond, on 110, but relationship unclear; 0.50m gap to 108. | 0.00- <i>c</i> 1.00m |
| 110 | Sandstone course | North West Range | Single course of fawn sandstone blocks. 4 extant. Unclear if is foundation for 109 or is earlier wall. Bedded on 105. Cut not observed. | <i>c</i> 0.98-1.15m |
| 111 | Cut | North West Range | Cut for staircase 106. Truncates 105. | 0.00-1.02m |
| 112 | Brick wall & foundation | Underpinning Pit – west corner of West Range | Brick foundation; flush with wall above, <i>c</i> 21 courses deep, bedded directly onto and against 105 (no gap) in very hard cream/yellow lime mortar; bricks dark red with occasional white quartz inclusions, very heavy, handmade; dimensions 66x117x243mm; in English Garden Wall Bond. Late 19 th century. | 0.00-1.60m |
| 113 | Brick floor | Garden, West and South Range cellars | Blue engineering bricks forming cellar floor, 50x125x250mm, bedded on lime mortar over 105. Sealed by 0.08m thick concrete. 20 th century. | 0.00-0.13m |
| 114 | Foundation for steps | North of West Range | Brick foundation base, <i>c</i> 2.90m by >1.90m; 3 courses deep; bright orange bricks 70mm thick, bonded with lime mortar; with two adjoining walls: a diagonal single-skin aligned <i>c</i> WNW-ESE and a double-skin wall with thick dark orangy brown render, butting north wall of West Range; overlying 117. Sealed by 116. Early 19 th century. | <i>c</i> 0.05-0.0.75m |

| Context | Classification | Site location | Description | Depth below ground surface – top and bottom |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---|---|
| 115 | Structure | North of West Range | Brick wall, aligned NW-SE, 11 courses extant and double-skin, over at least two stepped foundation courses, bright orange machine made bricks, bedded in grey cement, in English Garden Wall Bond. Continues toward north corner of West Range. Pierced by contemporary salt glazed ceramic drainage pipe. Relationship with 114 unclear. Early 20 th century. | c 0.05-1.00m |
| 116 | Layer | North of West Range | Demolition debris comprised of 19 th century bricks, soil and gravel hardcore. Overlying 114, 115 and 117. | 0.00-0.50m |
| 117 | Natural | North of West Range | Red sand with occasional greenish grey patches. As 105. | c 0.50m + |
| 118 | Floor surface | South of North-West Range | Modern tarmac surface and grey gravel hardcore. Modern car park surface. Overlying 119. | 0.00-0.30m |
| 119 | Floor surface | South of North-West Range | Blue machine made engineering bricks bedded in fine fawn brown sand. Late 19 th – early 20 th century hotel car park surface? Overlying 120. Sealed by 118. | 0.30-0.45m |
| 120 | Make up layer | South of North-West Range | Mixed mid brown sandy clay with variable charcoal, red brick rubble and mortar flecks. Compact. Cut by modern services. Overlying 105. | 0.40-0.85m |
| 121 | Brick structure | Southwest of North-West Range | Buttress, aligned c northwest-southeast. Bricks bright reddish orange, bedded in off-white lime mortar. >6 courses. Sealed by 118. Not fully exposed. | 0.25m+ |

Appendix 2 Technical information

The archive

The archive consists of:

| | |
|-----|--------------------------------------|
| 8 | Context record sheets AS1 |
| 6 | Fieldwork progress record sheets AS2 |
| 4 | Photographic record sheets AS3 |
| 114 | Digital photographs |
| 1 | Drawing number catalogue sheets AS4 |
| 5 | Context number catalogue sheets AS5 |
| 2 | Trench record sheets AS41 |
| 2 | Permatrace sheets of scale drawings |

The project archive is intended to be placed at:

Wolverhampton Arts and Museum Service
Wolverhampton City Council
Wolverhampton Art Gallery
Lichfield Street
Wolverhampton
WV1 1DU

Tel. Wolverhampton (01902) 552055
