

JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

ON

GREYFRIARS CHURCH, FRIAR STREET

READING, BERKSHIRE

NGR SU 7123 7359

On behalf of

Greyfriars Church and Centre

MARCH 2012

REPORT FOR Greyfriars Church and Centre
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SUMMARY

This document represents an investigation of the potential for archaeological remains to survive on land at Greyfriars Church, Reading, Berkshire (NGR SU 7123 7359), for which there is a proposal to re-develop. The area has seen activity from the prehistoric period to the modern day. It would seem that Palaeolithic finds and later prehistoric and Roman activity has been reported from along the northern edge of the river terrace at this point. Early medieval activity has been recognised to the southeast along the site, in the vicinity of Saint Mary's church. The site lay on the edge of the 12th century expansion of the town and in the later part of the 13th century became the location of a Friary. This was dissolved in the 16th century, when the buildings were re-assigned as structures for civil government and then penal reform. In the Victorian period the site was reworked with the re-establishment of a church and school. The school was constructed on the location of the current development site. The development of the hall saw the terracing of the hillside, hence the area under the car-park has seen truncation, while that at the north end of the hall may have been raised.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Origins of the Report

Jeremy Bell of JBKS Architects, on behalf of Greyfriars parochial authorities, has commissioned this archaeological desk-based assessment on land at Greyfriars Church. The report has been prepared and is intended to inform any proposal under consideration within the defined area.

1.2 Planning Guidelines and Policies

This report has been prepared in accordance with *Planning Policy Statement 5. Planning for the Historic Environment (PPS 5 2010)* provides guidance related to archaeology within the planning process. The following Policy points are key to this development:

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

HE6.2 This information together with an assessment of the impact of the proposal should be set out in the application (within the design and access statement when this is required) as part of the explanation of the design concept. It should detail the sources that have been considered and the expertise that has been consulted.

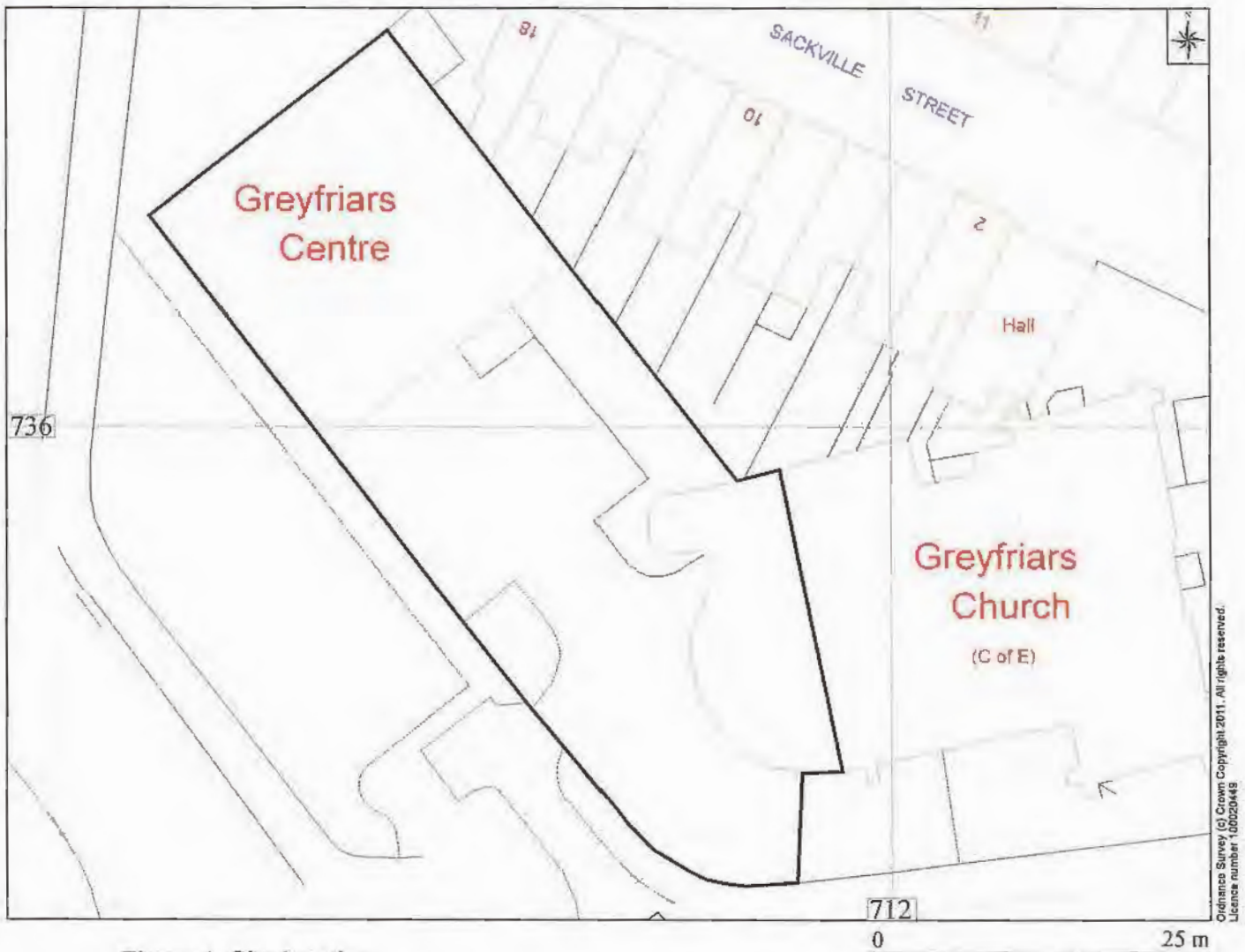
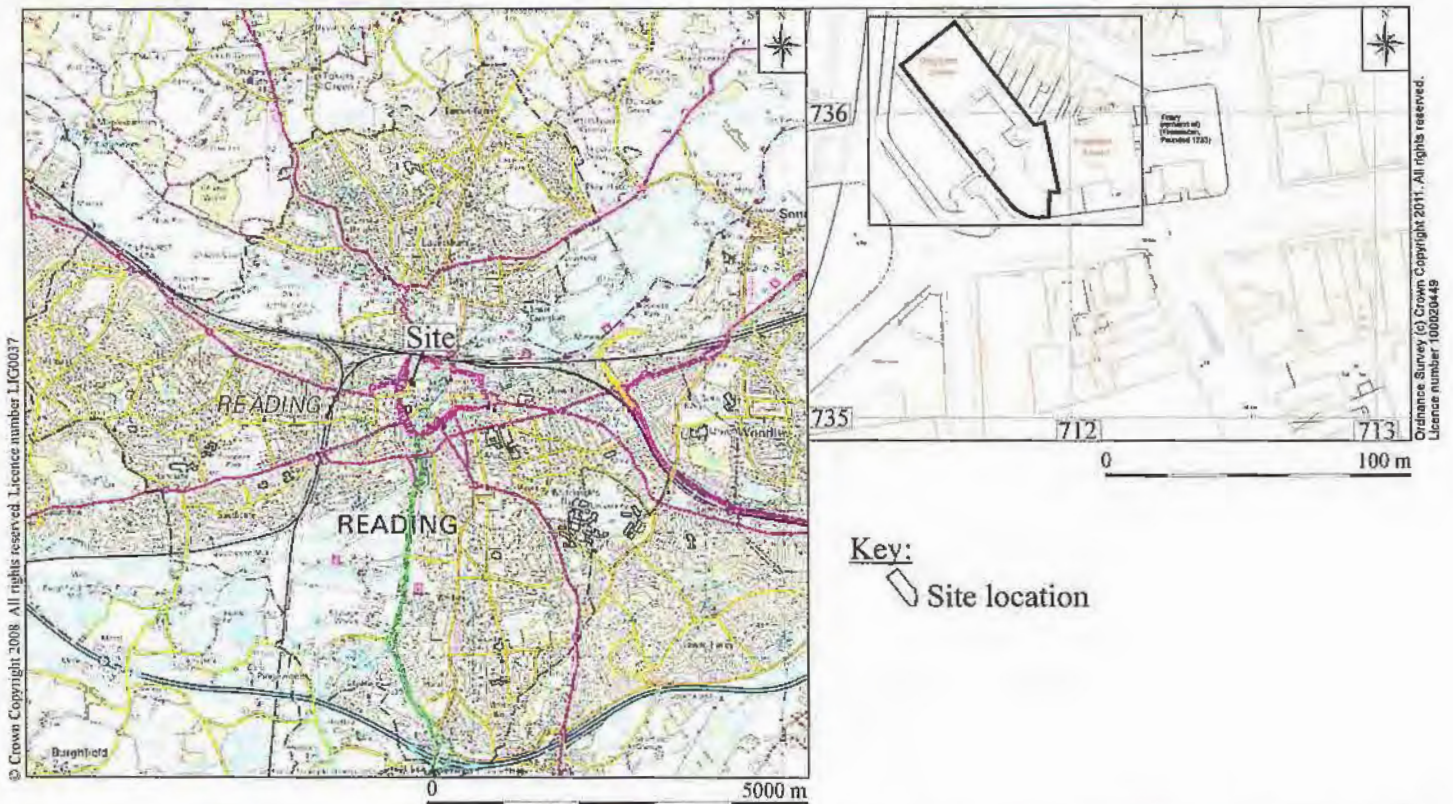


Figure 1. Site location

HE6. 3 Local planning authorities should not validate applications where the extent of the impact of the proposal on the significance of any heritage assets affected cannot adequately be understood from the application and supporting documents.

In format and contents this report conforms to the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' guidance paper for desk-based assessments (IFA 2008).

1.3 Desk-Based Assessment Aims and Objectives

The primary aim of the desk-based assessment is to provide a professional appraisal of the archaeological potential of the site. This follows the Government guidance in *PPS 5* by presenting a synthetic account of the available archaeological and historical data and its significance at an early stage in the planning process.

In accordance with *PPS 5*, the report presents a desk-based evaluation of existing information. It additionally follows the Institute for Archaeologists (IFA) *Standard* definition of a desk-based assessment (IFA 2008). In brief, it seeks to identify and assess the known and potential archaeological resource within a specified area ('the site'), collating existing written and graphic information and taking full account of the likely character, extent, quantity and worth of that resource in a local, regional and national context. It also aims to define and comment on the likely impact of the proposed development scheme on the surviving archaeological resource.

The Institute for Archaeologists *Standard* states that the purpose of a desk-based assessment is to inform appropriate responses, which may consist of one or more of the following:

- The formulation of a strategy for further investigation, whether or not intrusive, where the character and value of the resource is not sufficiently defined to permit a mitigation strategy or other response to be devised.
- The formulation of a strategy to ensure the recording, preservation or management of the resource
- The formulation of a project design for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research

In accordance with *PPS 5*, the desk-based assessment forms the first stage in the planning process as regards archaeology as a material consideration and also an assessment of the impact on the historical character of the area. It is intended to contribute to the formulation of an informed and appropriate mitigation strategy.

1.4 Desk-Based Assessment Methodology

The format and contents of this section of the report are an adaptation of the standards outlined in the Institute for Archaeologists' guidance paper for desk-based assessments (IFA 2008). The work has involved the consultation of the

available documentary evidence, including records of previous discoveries and historical maps, and has been supplemented with a site walkover. The format of the report is adapted from an Institute for Archaeologists *Standard Guidance* paper (IFA 2008).

In summary, the work has involved:

- Identifying the client's objectives
- Identifying the cartographic and documentary sources available for consultation
- Assembling, consulting and examining those sources
- Identifying and collating the results of recent fieldwork
- Site walkover

The principal sources consulted in assessing this site were:

- The Berkshire Historic Environment Record
- The Berkshire Record Office

The Berkshire Historic Environment Record, hold details of known archaeological and historical sites in the vicinity of the proposal site.

There has been no archaeological work carried out at the proposal site, although work has been carried out on adjacent areas. The assessment of its potential has, therefore, relied on predictive modelling based on the known distribution of remains within 450 metres of the centre of the site (from a central grid reference of SU 7123 7359, shown on figure 1). The information about standing historical and listed buildings within the same radius of the proposal area has also been collated.

The available evidence is derived from casual finds, archaeological investigations, standing buildings and historical records. It should be stressed that the distribution represents the extent of current knowledge and is the product of chance and investigation. For this reason, apparently blank zones should not be automatically regarded as being devoid of remains.

The assessment of the likely condition of any potential archaeological remains has relied upon a study of the available historical maps and observations made during the site walkover, which provide evidence for the impact of previous land-use on the site.

There have been no restrictions on reporting or access to the relevant records. The copyright to the Berkshire Historic Environment Record belongs to Berkshire County Council.

2 THE SITE

2.1 Location (Figure 1)

The site is located on the north side of Friars Street, Reading, Berkshire (NGR SU 7123 7359). Reading being a town and borough in the historic county of Berkshire, but now formed into a unitary authority.

2.2 Description (Figure 1)

The site is rectangular in shape extending north from the church of Greyfriars, and extending north towards Backville Road. On the west and north the site fronts onto open grass covered areas that form the verges of the Reading inner relief road. On the east the land backs onto the backs of the tenements that line Backville Road.

The site is now covered with both buildings and car park. There is a small area located below temporary structures.

2.3 Geology and Topography

Topographically the site lies on the northern edge of a terrace fronting onto the River Thames.

The underlying geology is the Taplow Gravel Terrace of the Thames (BGS 2000 Sheet 268).

3 PROPOSED SCHEME (Figure 1)

The proposal is for the development of the site with the construction of a new dwelling along with landscaping.

4 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND (Figures 2-15)

4.1 The Historical Development of Reading

The following account is only a brief discussion of the development of Reading, a fuller account is to be found in the Victoria County History Series (1923, 336-78). However, this historical study due to its early publication has been rewritten in many areas and new dates proposed subsequently, of which the most noted in archaeological circles is by Astill (1978, 75-87).

The VCH (1923, 336-78) suggested that the settlement at Reading originated as a Roman settlement. This settlement has, however, failed to materialise under the present centre of the town and better locations for a Roman settlement are to be found to the south and east of the river Kennet (Astill 1978, 77).

The earliest reference to reading is in the Anglo-Saxon chronicles and dated 871 (VCH 1923, 342-64; Garmonsway 1972, 70-71). At this time a Danish army established a camp, believed to have been located between the rivers Kennet and Thames. The camp is believed to be located in the later vicinity of Reading Abbey, where there is a defensive gravel ridge on which a vastern or stronghold could have been built. A great force stopped at Reading in 1005 (Garmonsway 1972, 136-7). The final account in the chronicle concerns the death and burial of Henry I in Reading Abbey in 1135 (Garmonsway 1972, 263).

It is in the 9th century that the name of the settlement is first recorded as Readingum (c. 900 for 871), which has been attributed the subsequent etymology *Rēad(a)-ingas*, 'the people of *Rēad(a)*-' (Gelling 1973, 170). It has been suggested that the personal name means 'the red one'.

In the late 11th century the manor of Reading is recognised as being divided into two distinct components; the one was held by the king and the other was held by Battle abbey. In 1066 the largest manor of Reading was held by King Edward and in 1086 by King William (Morgan 1979, 1.41-2). The estate answered for 43 hides and had the following attached to the manor: 55 villagers, 30 smallholders, 4 mills, 3 fisheries, 150 acres of meadow and woodland for 100 pigs, besides an unspecified area of pasture.

It is widely suspected that Reading origins are bound up with that of Saint Mary's church, an early medieval monastic site (Astill 1978, 75). The suggestion is that the minster was founded in the reign of Edgar and that the site had gone out of use by 1071. Such claims are probably based on misconceptions and understandings of how Christianity spread and developed and the notion that once a community starts attending a church they probably continued to do so. The earliest indication of the foundation of a diocese amongst the West Saxons is the establishment of a bishopric at Dorchester for Birinus in 634 (Garmonsway 1972, 26-7). This date would indicate that Dorchester became a missionary centre with a chief church at that time and that all the other minsters across the territory were founded in the mid to late 7th century or the early 8th century at the latest (even though in most cases we lack the evidence to confirm this). Reading was probably one of these churches, any subsequent foundation is simply a revamping of an already existing Christian tradition into a new one, this usually occurs through new orders that have been accepted as a new political force, for example the Benedictine order.

In 1086 the church of Reading was held by Battle Abbey along with 8 hides, 2 mills and 2 ½ fisheries (Morgan 1979, 14.2; VCH 1923, 342-64), along with 9 villagers and 8 smallholders. The account mentions 29 dwellings, 12 acres of meadow, and woodland for 5 pigs. Tradition has it that the Magdalen chapel was once a parish church; though this may be the case and is essentially unproven it was the church of Saint Mary the Virgin that was believed to be held by Leofeva in 1066, who was Abbess of that abbey of Battle (Morgan 1979, 14.2; VCH 1923, 342-64). The church of Saint Mary is probably located on the site of the monastery that was destroyed by the Danes.

A road in the centre of Reading leading to the church of Saint Mary and not the abbey is called Minster Street (Gelling 1973, 173). The street has been known by this name from at least the 13th century, and is considered to take its name from the early medieval nunnery. The area around the top of Minster street was called Totehull' in 1310 (Gelling 1973, 173). Such names are often associated with significant earthworks normally significant Iron Age enclosures, and it may be such a feature in which the early minster was located. It is known from investigations at other minster sites that such structures were located inside monastic vallum, a large earth wall around the religious community, and at other sites this is recognised as being of a Roman or prehistoric origin (Yeates 2008, 147-56). As insufficient material has been located of Roman date to indicate an earlier town it is likely that there is a prehistoric enclosure under Reading that has not been located yet, or if located not appreciated what it actually is. The curving route of Broad Street may be a relic feature of this earlier feature.

The abbey of Reading was established in 1121 and was presented with the settlements of Reading and Cholsey (VCH 1923, 342-64). There have long been suggestions that the earlier settlement was destroyed for the construction of the abbey, but such statements have never been substantiated materially. In 1129 the church of Reading was granted to the abbey of Reading (VCH 1923, 367-78). The church of All Saints was a chapel annexed to Saint Mary's in the 12th century and Colley or Colney chapel was established in the reign of Edward III. The church of Saint Giles was also held by Reading abbey, and it is apparent that these churches must have been constructed in the larger parochial system once held by Saint Mary's.

There is considered to have been an 11th century castle established at Reading to the west of the town (Astill 1978, 80). This early castle is considered to be hinted at by the surviving name of Castle Street. By 1150 the only known castle at Reading was located in the abbey precinct, and this was destroyed in 1152.

The friary at Greyfriars was established in 1233, however, the site was continually flooded by the Thames in the winter and subsequently the friars asked if they could move the friary to prevent this occurring (Astill 1978, 78-79). The discussion on this is perhaps significant as it has generally been assumed that the friary was located on the northern part of the block of land on which the later friary was established. This topographically seems unlikely as the friary enclosure lies on the higher part of the gravel terrace and if this was continually flooding so would the abbey at Reading and Saint Mary's church and the whole of the borough (we have no documentary evidence for this). It is more likely that the earliest friary was established by Reading or Caversham Bridges or perhaps on Fry's Island. The location of this building is significant for any archaeological investigation of the site. The new site of the friary was established 1282-5 (Astill 1978, 78-9). The religious site at Greyfriars was constructed at some time after this date in the late 13th century or early 14th century (VCH 1923, 367-78). This has been ascertained by the remains of a surviving will of Alan de Baunebury dated 1311. The friary was still established until 1538 when the religious site was surrendered to the king.

A chapel dedicated to Saint Edmund was located to the west of the friary site (Astill 1978, 79).

The borough was in existence prior to the establishment of the abbey as in 1086 the settlement is referred to as such (Morgan 1979, 1.42). The location has a number of houses associated with a number of dignitaries. The earliest borough is believed to have been located in the vicinity of Saint Mary's church and extended out around this site with Broad Street marking the north east boundary (Astill 1978, 75-87). The town may have existed in 1086, but its growth and development accelerated after the establishment of the abbey (VCH 1923, 342-64). The whole street plan is considered to have changed after the establishment of the abbey, as the gate of the abbey became the new focus for trade, which saw the establishment of a new crossing of the river Kennet.

Following the dissolution of the abbeys, Henry VIII in 1542 granted the site of Greyfriars to Reading mayor and burgesses to be used as a town hall and almshouses (VCH 1923, 367-78). In 1613 the church became a house of correction (the prison). In 1863 the church was restored and a north transept added. The nave is of the early 14th century and during the restoration the foundations of the south transept were detected. In 1963 foundations of chalk were found to the south of the building, which are considered to be other buildings associated with the friary.

The friary was located on a street that lay along the northern edge of Reading's medieval settlement. The street has been known as Friar Street from 1714 in the form of *Fryers Street* (Gelling 1973, 172). This name is clearly a development from the friary site. The street was in 1224-5 given the name *Nouus Vicus*, new town, and subsequently from 1490 *Newstrete*. The name is indicative of the area being laid out from the earlier part of the 13th century or possibly slightly earlier in the 12th century. It may even refer to the expansion of the town after the estate and borough of Reading were awarded to the newly established abbey. The side street Greyfriars Road is only noted from 1851.

4.2 Known Archaeological Sites (Figures 2-15)

Berkshire Archaeology determined that the search area around Greyfriars Church (SU 7123 7359). The search covers archaeological activity and listed buildings have only been included from the monuments and finds list of the Historic Environment record. Those that are simply on the listed building database have been omitted from this report. There were some 190 sites recorded in that search area (discussed below).

The earliest evidence for human activity in Reading dates to the Palaeolithic period (Figure 2). The finds include a hand axe from Vachel Road (JMHS 1; HER 00981.00.000-MRD9047), Levalloisian flake from the Caversham Road (JMHS 2; HER 00981.00.001-MRD9048) and a hand axe from Station Road (JMHS 3; HER 00982.00.000-MRD9049). These finds along the north side of

the Thames terraces are indicative of surviving evidence of Palaeolithic occupation being located in the terrace deposits, perhaps a kill site or a temporary camp.

There are two other indications of prehistoric activity (Figure 2), the first stone and flint net sinkers or loom weights and a bone needle from Cross Street (**JMHS 4**; HER 02025.00.000-MRD11197) and from Saint Mary's Vicarage some badly struck waste flakes (**JMHS 5**; HER 02131.00.000-MRD11400). These artefacts are simply labelled as prehistoric, but it is possible that they represent later prehistoric activity. Loom weights are not required before the secondary products revolution of the Bronze Age, though fish weights would be. Flint working techniques are known to have decreased in skill after the introduction of metal. These objects are located to the south east of the site, and may indicate some later prehistoric activity on the terrace. The remains of an early Iron Age brooch were discovered in Friar Street (**JMHS 6**; HER 02060.00.000-MRD11254). This can definitely be dated to the later prehistoric period (Figure 3).

A number of Roman finds have been recovered from the search area (Figure 3). Though the centre of Reading is not now considered to contain the remains of a Roman river port (**JMHS 7**; HER 02061.00.000-MRD3883) under the medieval centre of the town a number of Roman finds have been found. Roman pot sherds were recovered from the site of Littlewoods Store (**JMHS 8**; HER 02061.03.000-MRD11257), Roman coins from the Vaudeville Theatre (**JMHS 9**; HER 02061.04.000-MRD11258), three coins from Greyfriars Road (**JMHS 10**; HER 02061.06.000-MRD11362), a copin from Hosier Street (**JMHS 11**; HER 02080.00.000-MRD11305), and residual Roman pottery from medieval layers in Gun Street (**JMHS 12**; HER MRM15805). Further residual deposits of Roman date were found just outside the search area at 1 Friar Street (Pine 2005a, 45-59) along with earlier Bronze Age and later early medieval material. Residual Roman material is scattered across a wide area of central Reading, however, the concentrations are not great and rather than a town it is likely that there is either a farmstead, villa or perhaps a temple located near the confluence of the Kennet with the Thames. The building has not been located, but if the later of these suggestions it may be underneath the church of Saint Mary's. The friary was built relatively late, but there are descriptions of chalk foundations to the south of the friary assumed to be part of that building period.

There is much material listed for the early medieval period (410-1066) for central Reading (Figure 4). Many of the sites are implied from documentary evidence if not fully confirmed and located archaeologically. Those defined by documentation include the Danish camp of 870-1 and the Royal Vill (**JMHS 14**; HER 02112.00.000-MRD3906), the Vastern or defensive bank (**JMHS 24**; HER MRM16015, **JMHS 20**; RD15633-MRD15633), the 10th century (**JMHS 15**; HER 02112.01.000-MRD3909) and 11th century town (**JMHS 21**; HER RD15634-MRD15634). As a town is believed to exist there was undoubtedly a road system of that date (**JMHS 18**; HER 02113.02.000-MRD3921). A minster church is also implied (**JMHS 16**; HER 02112.01.001-

MRD3910), and an early castle of the pre or post Conquest period (JMHS 25; HER 02113.04.000-MRD3924).

More precisely identified features of the early medieval period (Figure 4) include a burial of a man and a horse uncovered in 1831 at the Engine Shed of Reading Station (JMHS 13; HER 02092.00.000-MRD3891), dated by the style of the sword to c.800. There are apprehensions on this date as this burial is not readily understandable in a Reading with an established Christian landscape that had probably been established in the late 7th or early 8th century. It is not with other burials and not in an area that could be assumed to be a Christian cemetery of a church. Perhaps this is a king or jarl killed in the battles of 870-1. In Saint Mary's Butts the remains of an unspecified number of burials were located (JMHS 17; HER 02113.01.010-MRD3920). This indicates that the church cemetery prior to 1066 was far larger than it is now. In Saint Mary's churchyard the remains of a coffin with an early medieval coin hoard of the 9th century has been identified (JMHS 19; HER 03113.30.000-MRD11341), a piece of archaeological information that would imply a Christian cemetery at Reading at this date. In excavations at 90-93 Broad Street (Norton and Poore 2002, 1-33) a buried soil horizon and a shallow ditch were found that had to be stratigraphically early along with residual 9th century pottery (JMHS 22; HER RD15659-MRM16017), while from Shoemith Court a single residual early medieval sherd was recovered (JMHS 23; HER MRM16017).

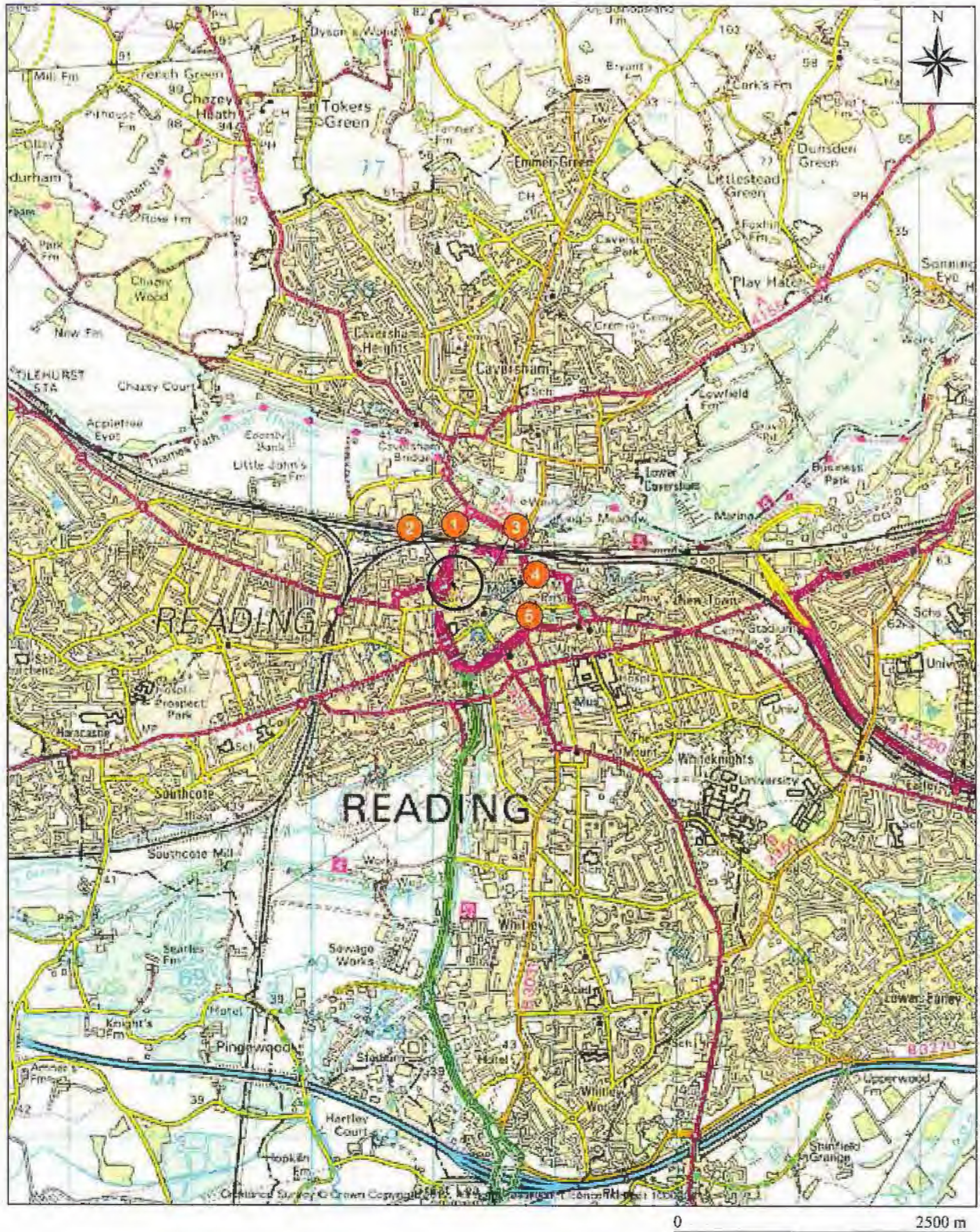
There are also some undated archaeological finds which probably are of an early medieval date but not categorically demonstrated (Figure 4). This includes two burials from the site of the Reading Civic Headquarters (JMHS 26; HER MRM16224). These are most likely to be burials from the early cemetery of Saint Mary's church. The remains of a human cranium were recovered from Minster Street (JMHS 27; HER 02114.02.000-MRD3967). Excavations at 55-56 Saint Mary's Butts identified the remains of a large undated ditch that contained 11th to 14th century material from the upper fills (JMHS 28; HER MRM16505). The ditch was considered to be in excess of 2m wide. It is the only substantial ditch so far identified in the centre of Reading that could be associated with the monastic vallum of the early church site. The pottery of the high medieval period may be a product of deliberate backfilling during the reorganisation of the town after the establishment of the abbey.

The Saxo-Norman period (Figure 5) around the Conquest of 1086 saw Reading as a town with 55 tenements (JMHS 29; HER 02112.02.000-MRD3911) and mills (JMHS 32; HER 02112.02.050-MRD3916), besides a church, two manors (JMHS 33; HER 02113.00.000-MRD3917), it is considered to have a pre-Conquest market (JMHS 30; HER 02112.02.020-MRD3913). A mint is known from numismatic evidence to have been located at Reading (JMHS 31; HER 02112.02.030-MRD3914, JMHS 34; HER 02113.00.000-MRD3918). The early focus for this evidence is around Old Market and Saint Mary's Butts (JMHS 35; HER 02113.01.000-MRD3919). More precisely there are two sites that have produced specifically identifiable features or artefacts, for example at Wellsteads a piece of C11 pottery was recovered from above the chalk (JMHS 36; HER 02113.28.000-MRD11381)

and at the Reading Civic Headquarters two pits were found with residual pottery and a knife of a Saxo- Norman date (**JMHS 37**; HER MRM16211). These following features are predominantly 12th century or slightly post that date when the landscape of Reading is transformed with the establishment of the abbey (Figures 6-7). A number of archaeological features in Reading are dated to the High Medieval period (1066-1300). Buildings considered to form part of this landscape include a castle (**JMHS 39**; HER 02113.04.000-MRD3925) although trial trenching at Yeomanry House on Castle Hill has failed to find any evidence. Saint Mary's church was rebuilt at this time as the earliest remaining details are of the 12th century (**JMHS 42**; HER 02113.09.000-MRD3935). Caversham Bridge is now known to have been the earliest location of the Friary established in 1233 (**JMHS 43**; HER 02113.12.000-MRD3938). The chapel of Saint Edmund, adjacent to the present Friary site, was established in 1204 (**JMHS 44**; HER 02113.16.000-MRD3944). At Bridge Street East (**JMHS 72**; HER 02025.00.000-MRD15600) and West (**JMHS 73**; HER 09028.00.000-MRD15603) evidence of medieval revetments and make-up layers have been identified. There was a new network of streets established, which included Broad and King Street (**JMHS 40**; HER 02113.06.000-MRD3928), New Street or Friar Street (**JMHS 41**; HER 02113.07.000-MRD3931). These include rubbish pits at 52-53 Minster Street (**JMHS 38**; HER 02113.02.010-MRD3922), while a medieval jug was recovered from Belgrave Street (**JMHS 45**; HER 02113.30.000-MRD11367). Excavations at 99-105 Friar Street (Ford and Ford 2005, 11-43) uncovered the remains of a multi-period site of which the earliest phases were dated to the 12th and 13th centuries (**JMHS 46**; HER 02113.40.000-MRD15512). The following features were identified on this site: occupation layers (**JMHS 47**; HER 02113.40.100-MRD15513), postholes and pads (**JMHS 48**; HER 02113.40.101-MRD15514, **JMHS 51**; HER 02113.40.104-MRD1557, **JMHS 61**; HER 02113.40.115-MRD15527), pits (**JMHS 49**; HER 02113.40.102-MRD15515, **JMHS 52**; HER 02113.40.105-MRD15518, **JMHS 58**; 02113.40.112-MRD15524, **JMHS 59**; HER 02113.40.113-MRD15525, **JMHS 60**; HER 02113.40.114-MRD15526, **JMHS 62**; 02113.40.116-MRD15528), floors (**JMHS 50**; HER 02113.40.103-MRD15516), a hearth (**JMHS 53**; HER 02113.40.107-MRD15519), floor layers of chalk and brickearth (**JMHS 54**; HER 02113.40.108-MRD15520), walls of chalk and flint (**JMHS 55**; HER 02113.40.109-MRD15521), a boundary ditch (**JMHS 56**; HER 02113.40.110-MRD15522), and pottery (**JMHS 57**; HER 02113.40.111-MRD15523). This material indicates that the laying out of the new street plan was accompanied by buildings of the same date. From 4 Broad Street the sculptured head of a knight was recovered dated to the 12th to 13th century (**JMHS 63**; HER 02113.41.000-MRD15568). At 7-8 Markey Way pits containing material of the 11th to 13th century were uncovered (**JMHS 64**; HER RD15737-MRD15737). Excavations at 90-93 Broad Street identified the remains of chalk walls and pits, one of the pits was large and considered to be the remains of a bell pit for the casting of the abbey bells (**JMHS 65**; HER RD15659-MRD15746, **JMHS 70**; RD15659-MRD15659). In Gun Street there was a hearth made of discarded tiles (**JMHS 66**; HER MRM15788), and at 7-9 Gun Street there was a hearth made of discarded roof tiles (**JMHS 67**; HER MRM15804). At 25-26 Friar Street and Shoemith Court pits and

postholes were uncovered (**JMHS 68**; HER MRM16013). Excavations at 31-37 Castle Street (Pine 2005b, 61-79) identified medieval features of the 11th to 13th century (**JMHS 69**; HER RD15699-MRD15699). At the Oracle Site there were the remains of two well-preserved medieval buildings (**JMHS 71**; HER RD15644-MRD15644). Excavations at 7-8 Broad Street (Scott and Hardy 2002, 1-20) uncovered the remains of a medieval wall (**JMHS 74**; HER RD15623-MRD15623).

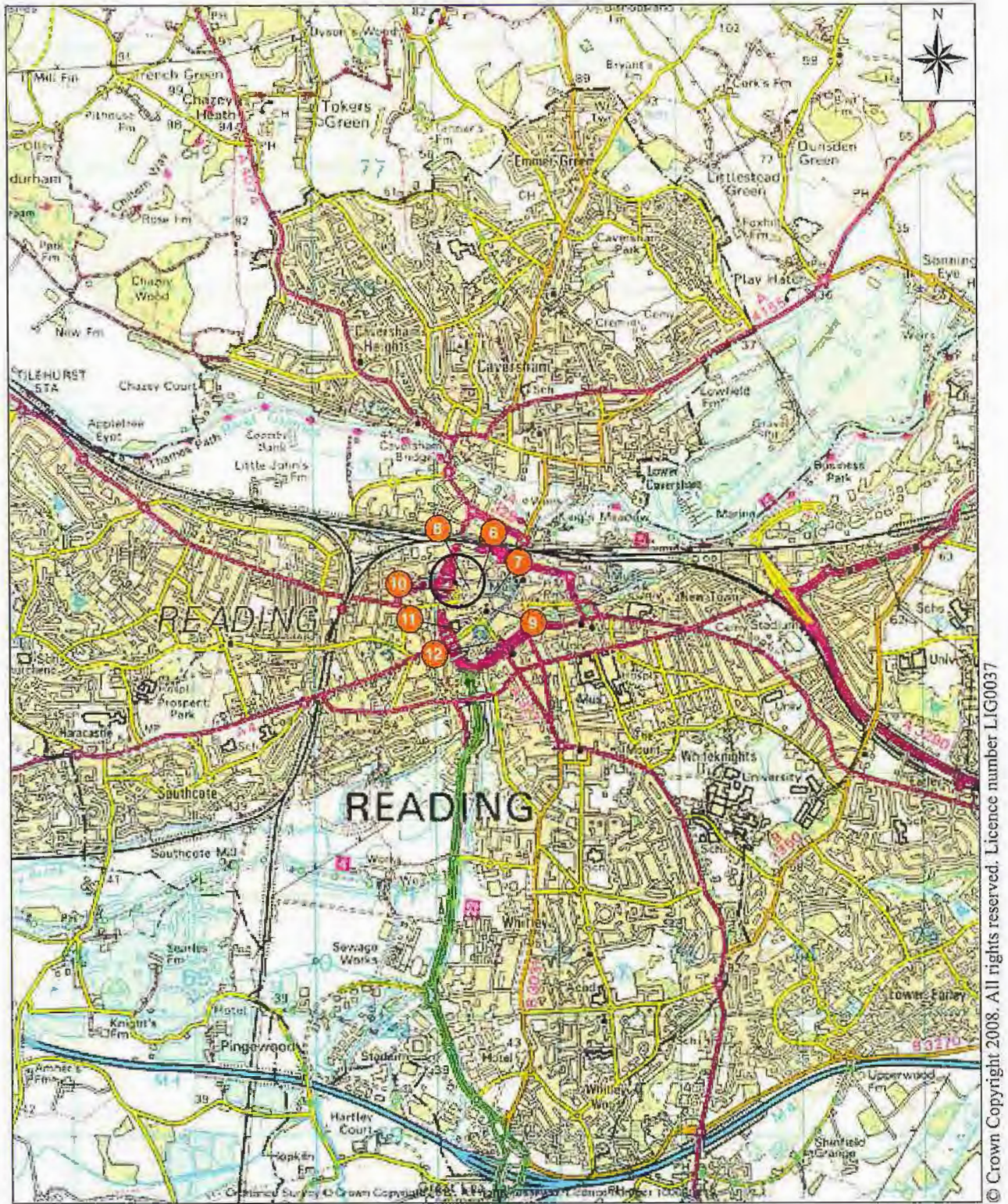
In the High to Late medieval period (1201-1400) Reading shows signs of continuous development, with new buildings being added to the major reworking of the 12th century (Figure 8). Greyfriars (**JMHS 99**; HER RD15688-MRD15688), is the major building constructed at this time in the town. At 7 Greyfriars Street (Post Office) further buildings have been identified that are probably part of the friary (**JMHS 76**; HER 02113.07.020-MRD3933). Pottery and tile have been recovered from the friary site (**JMHS 92**; HER MRM16549). The Minster Mill is also considered to date to the 13th century (**JMHS 77**; HER 02113.13.000-MRD3941). Excavations at the mill in 1985 found evidence of medieval revetment and planking (**JMHS 78**; HER 02113.20.000-MRD3959). At West Bridge Street bank and bank braces to the mill stream have been identified (**JMHS 79**; HER 02113.20.001-MRD3960). Excavations along Friar Street have shown that the medieval tenements were still developed along the street frontage. At 99-105 Friar Street there is evidence of continued activity into the 13th and 14th centuries: floor deposits (**JMHS 85**; HER 02113.40.200-MRD15529, **JMHS 86**; 02113.40.201-MRD15530), pits (**JMHS 87**; HER 02113.40.201-MRD15531, **JMHS 88**; HER 02113.40.204-MRD15533), and pottery (**JMHS 89**; HER 02113.40.203-MRD15532). Excavations were also carried out at 172 Friar Street (**JMHS 94**; HER 06506.00.000-MRD15496), a further multi-period site. The features listed here include occupation layers and hearths (**JMHS 95**; HER 06506.01.000-MRD15495), deposits (**JMHS 96**; HER 06506.01.002-MRD15497), robbed out medieval brick features (**JMHS 98**; HER 06506.01.003-MRD15498), a probable hearth (**JMHS 84**; HER 06506.01.001-MRD15493), and courses of medieval tile (**JMHS 98**; HER 06506.01.004-MRD15499). In Broad Street medieval flint and tile walling has been identified (**JMHS 75**; HER 02113.26.000-MRD3929). Further sites investigated in Broad Street include the Oatsheaf where part of a child skeleton was uncovered which was associated with medieval finds (**JMHS 83**; HER 02113.27.000-MRD11378), and at 90-93 Broad Street the remains of pits were identified that contained skinned cat skulls (**JMHS 93**; HER RD15659-MRD15746). At the Oracle site the medieval deposits included the remains of two buildings (**JMHS 100**; HER RD15643-MRD15643). Medieval deposits and a flint wall were identified at 10-11 Gun Street (**JMHS 90**; HER MRM16503), and a pit was identified at 55-56 Saint Mary's Butts (**JMHS 91**; HER MRM16505). Pottery generally attributed a 13th to 14th century date has been recovered from Wiston Terrace (**JMHS 80**; HER 02113.35.000-MRD11370), 10 Queen Victoria Street (**JMHS 81**; HER 02113.34.000-MRD11369) and New Garage (**JMHS 82**; HER 02113.36.000-MRD11371).



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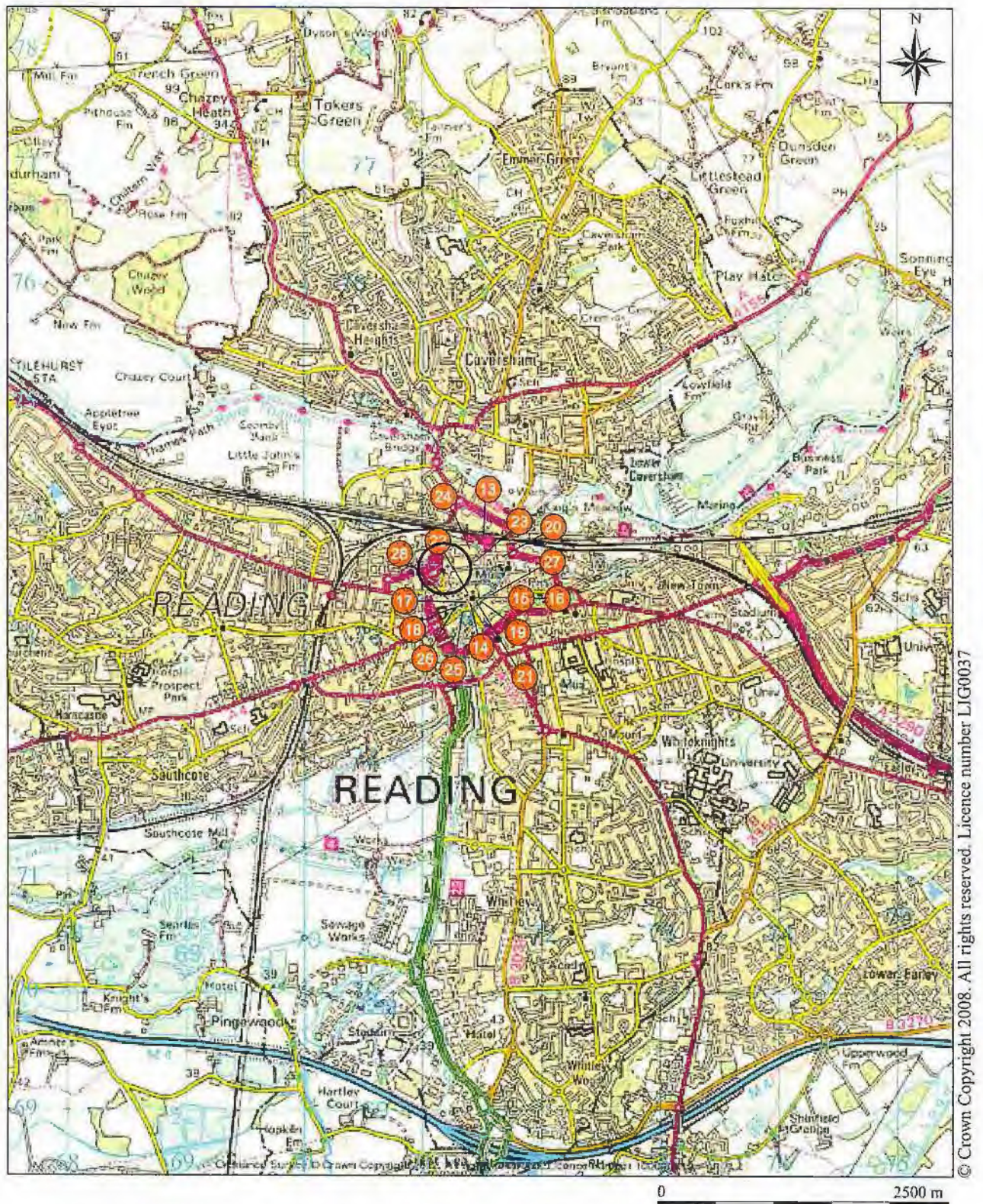
Figure 2. Prehistoric HER data



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Figure 3. Iron Age & Roman HER data 14

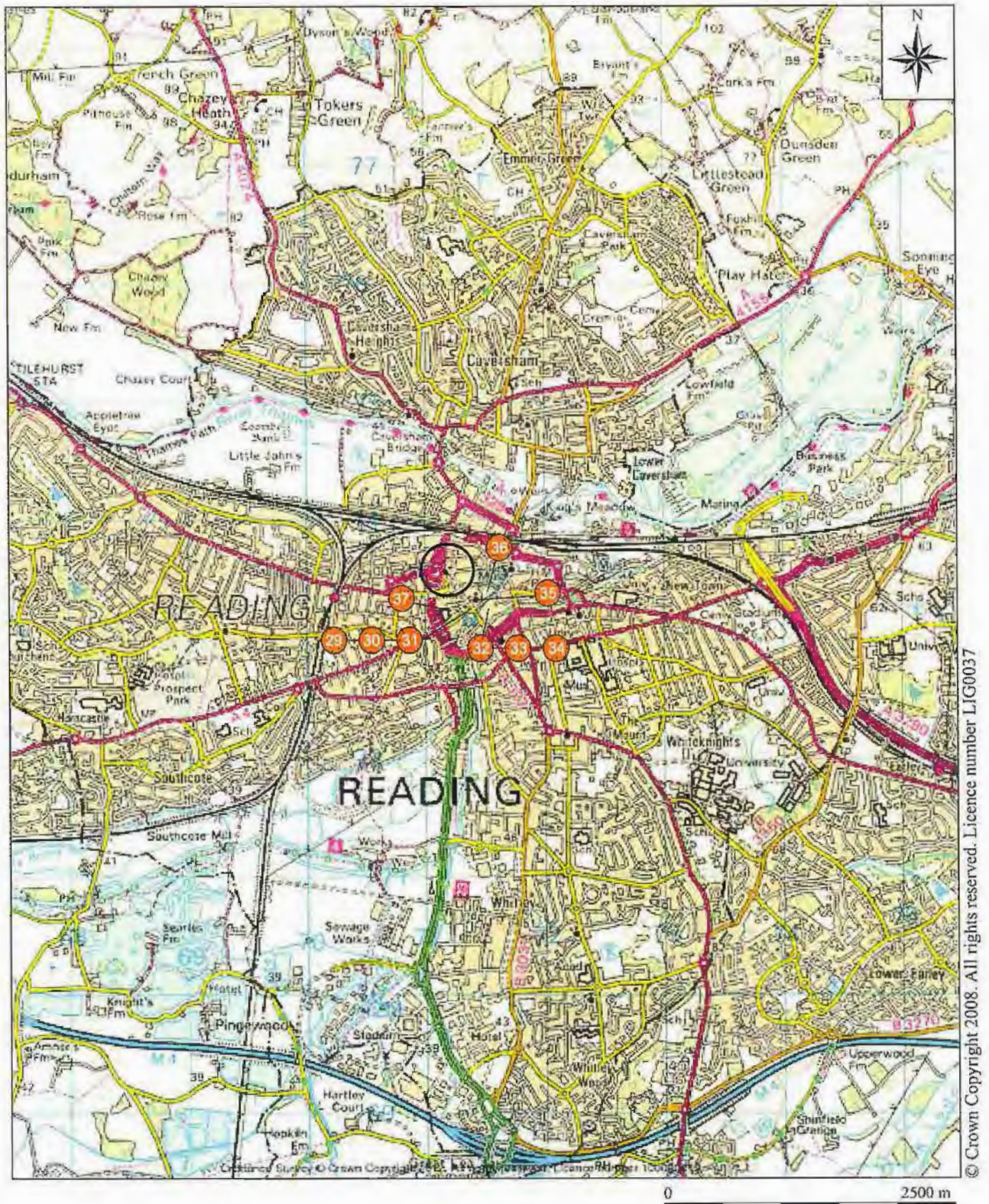
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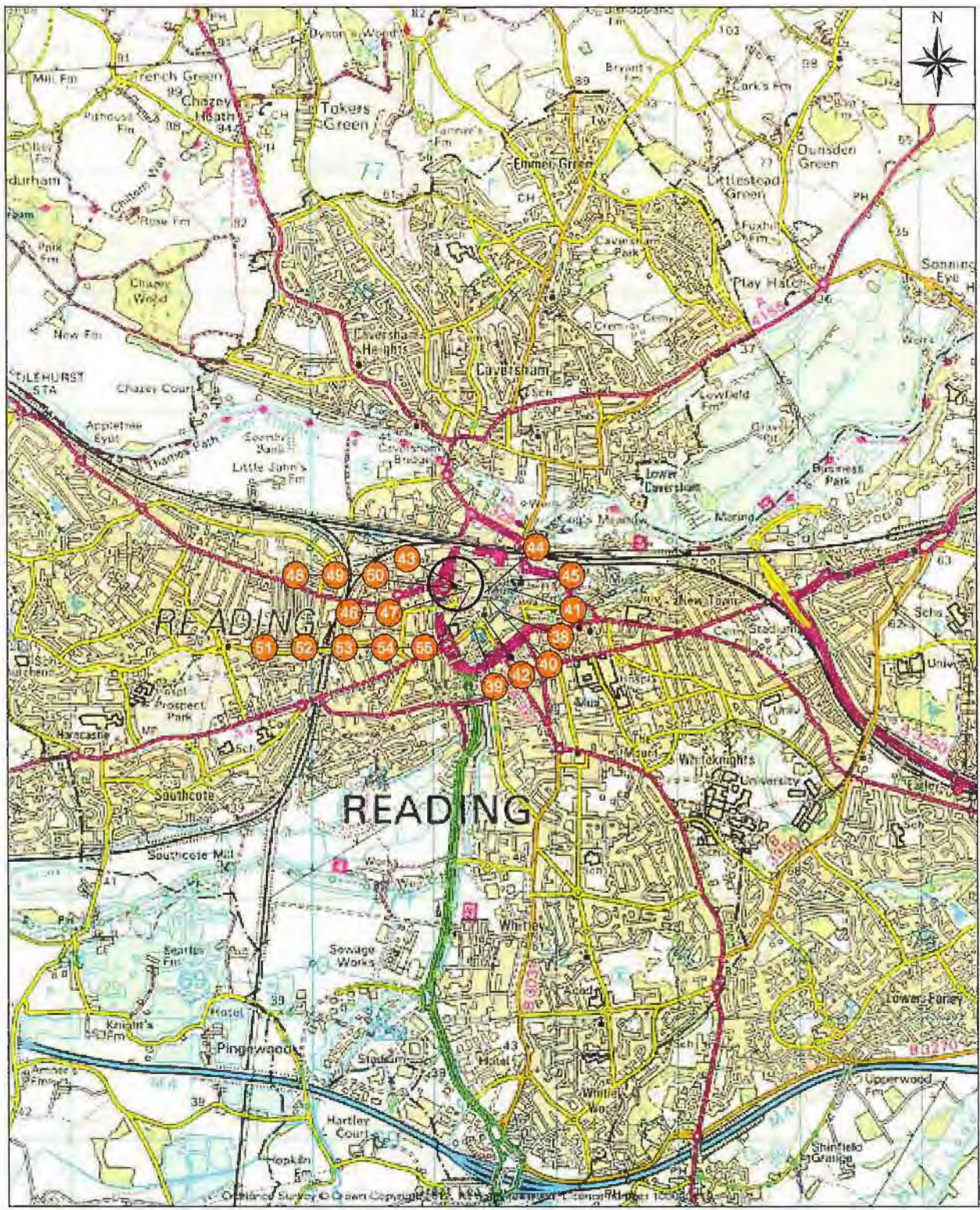
Figure 4. Early Medieval (5th to 9th Century). HER data



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Figure 5. Early/High Medieval (11th Century). HER data

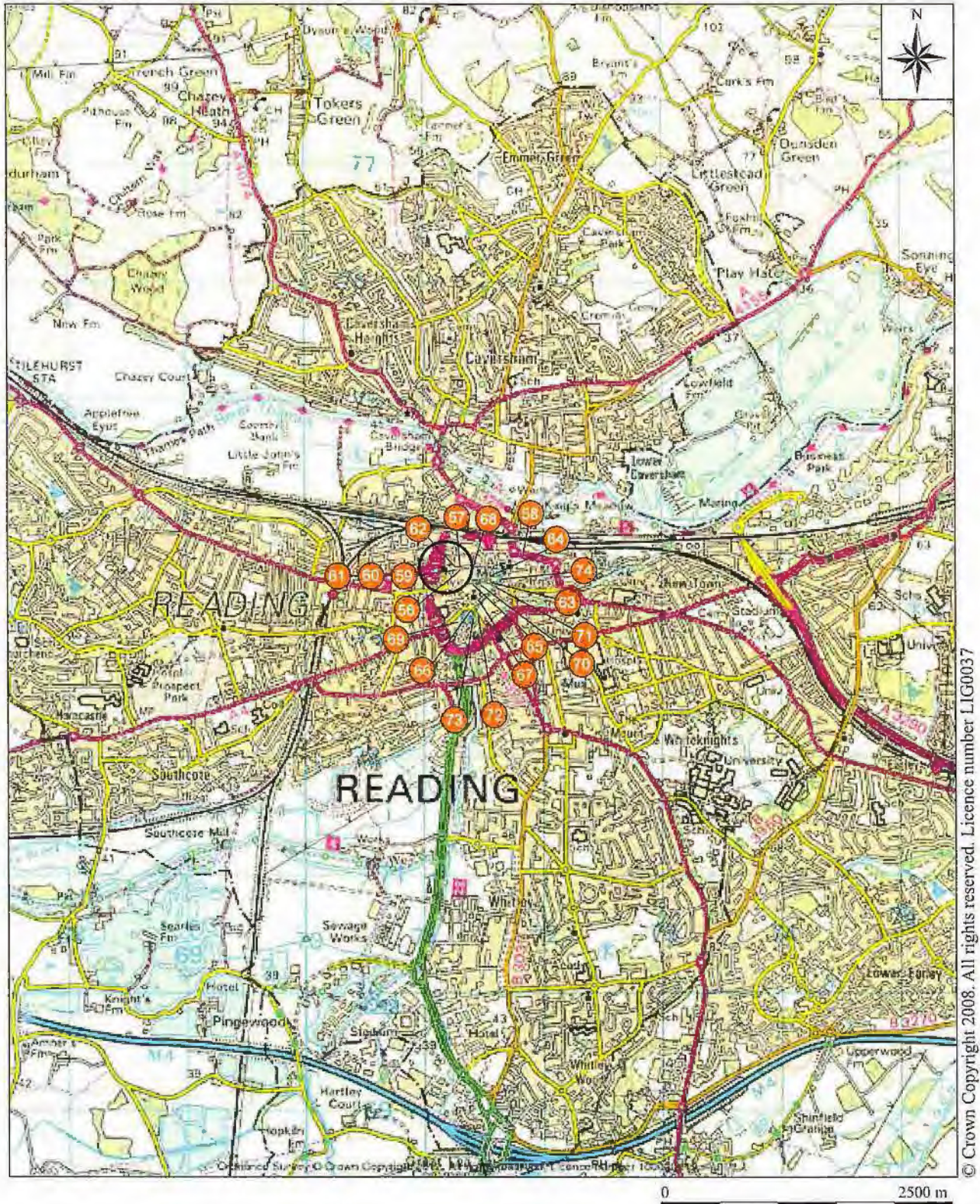


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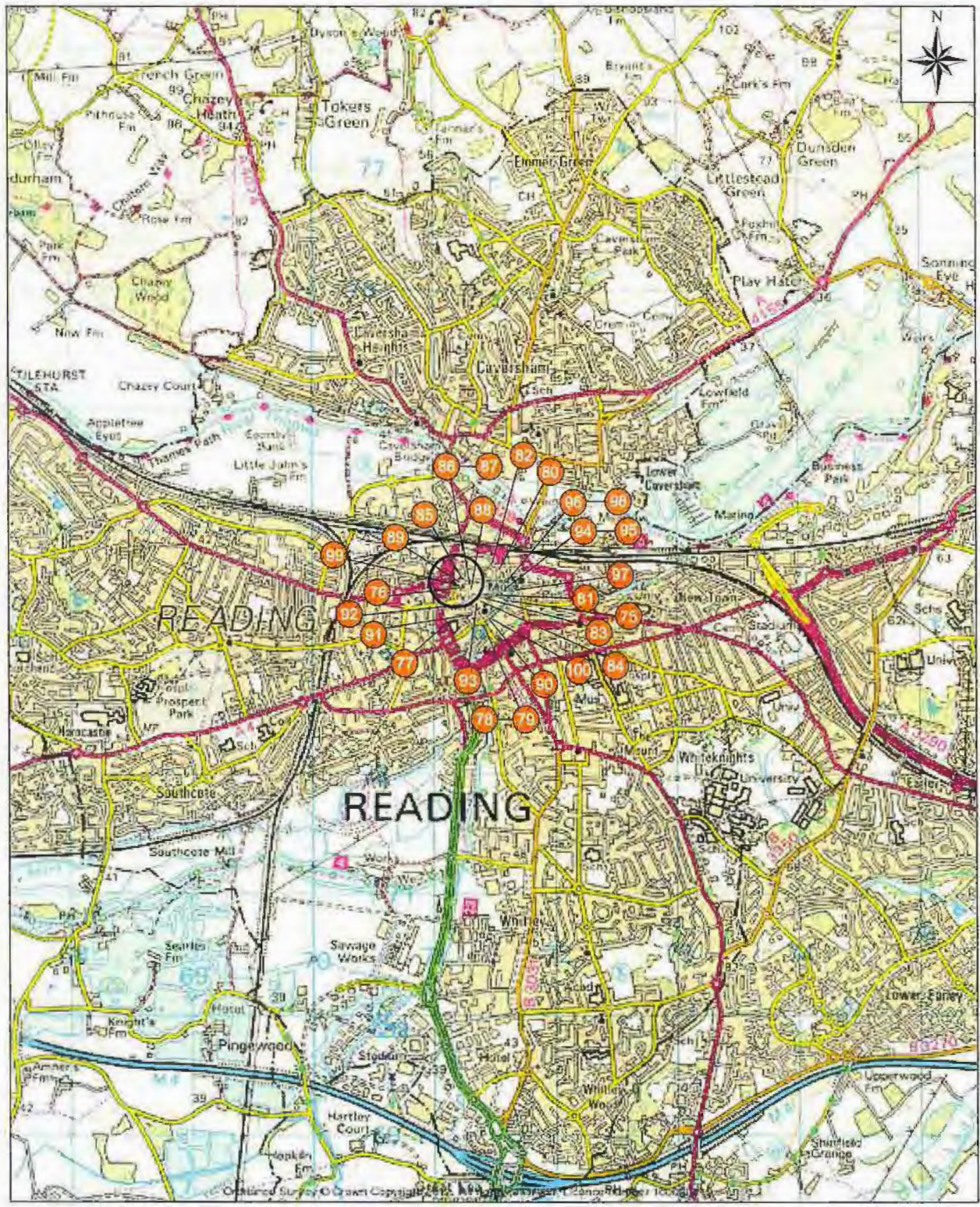
Figure 6. High Medieval (12th - 13th Centuries). HER data



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Figure 7. High Medieval (12th - 13th Centuries). HER data



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Figure 8. High/Late Medieval (13-14th Centuries). HER data

The Late medieval period (1301-1500) is a period in which further development and alterations can be recognised in Reading (Figure 9). The Greyfriars site continued to see development in the 14th century (JMHS 102; HER 02114.25.000-MRD3939). A series of piles have been identified at West Bridge Street interpreted as being of a medieval to post-medieval date (JMHS 101; HER 02113.20.100-MRD3961). Friar Street continued to see alterations to its tenements. The Boar's Head was previously located at 99-105 Friar Street (JMHS 112; HER 06454.00.000-MRD15462), a building that contained some 15th century components. At 99-105 Friar Street a series of features have been dated to the 14th to 15th century: floor deposits and walls (JMHS 105; HER 02113.40.300-MRD15534, JMHS 117; HER02113.40.307-MRD15541), the street frontage (JMHS 106; HER 02113.40.301-MRD15535), postholes (JMHS 113; HER 02113.40.303-MRD15537, JMHS 116; HER 02113.40.306-MRD15540, JMHS 120; 02113.40.309-MRD15544), walls (JMHS 114; HER 02113.04.304-MRD15538), hearths (JMHS 115; HER 02113.04.505-MRD15539), a ditch (JMHS 118; HER 02113.40.308-MRD15542), and pits (JMHS 119; HER 02113.40.309-MRD15543). At 25-26 Friar Street and Shoemith Court domestic rubbish pits have been identified (JMHS 109; HER MRM160014). In Cross Street the remains of a well of the 14th century was located (JMHS 103; HER 02113.29.000-MRD3930). The finds of this period included a silver penny from the reign of Edward III (JMHS 104; HER 02113.32.000-MRD11367). Further finds of a 14th century date have been made at 60 Broad Street (JMHS 108; HER 02113.25.000-MRD11377), and Saint Mary's Vicarage (JMHS 107; HER 02113.38.000-MRD11375, JMHS 110; MRM16392), and the Corn Exchange (JMHS 112; HER 02113.39.000-MRD11398).

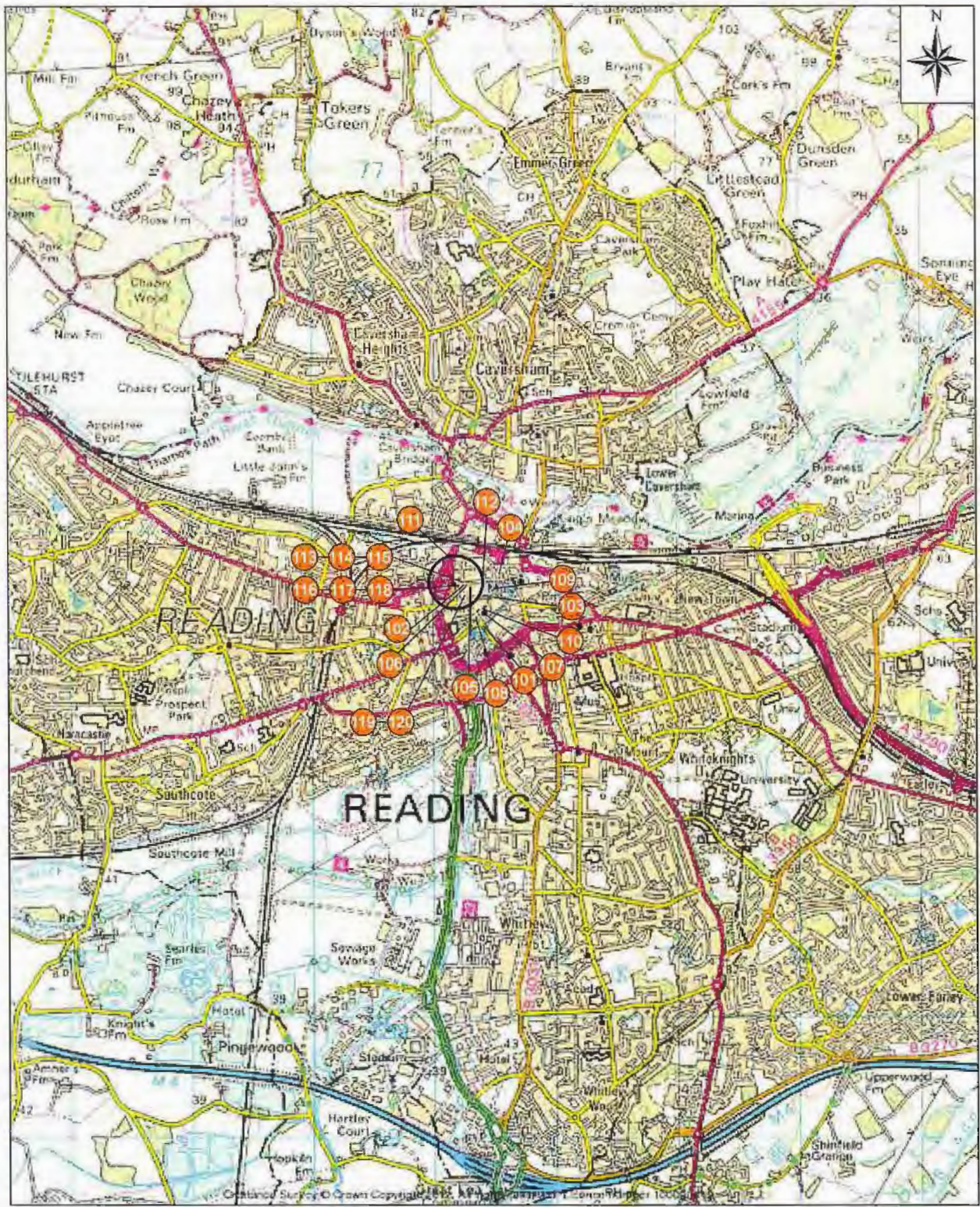
A number of features have been placed on the late to post-medieval transition (1401-1600), (Figure 10). The earliest parts of the Holy Brook Culvert are considered to date to the 16th century (JMHS 121; HER 02114.27.000-MRD4244, JMHS 122; 02114.27.200-MRD4246, JMHS 123; 02114.27.300-MRD4247, JMHS 124; 02114.27.400-MRD4248). In Saint Mary's churchyard the remains of burials of a medieval to post-medieval date (JMHS 125; HER 02113.09.101-MRD6696, JMHS 127; HER MRM16314), the tower was constructed 1550-5 which truncates one of these burials. At Greyfriars there are undated disarticulated human burials of a probable medieval to post-medieval date (JMHS 128; HER MRM16548). Further activity has been located along Friar Street. At 99-105 Friar Street two pits of the 15th to 16th century have been noted (JMHS 130; HER 02113.40.311-MRD15545), and also pits at 172 Friar Street (JMHS 129; HER 06506.02.000-MRD15500). Post-medieval pits have also been located at 41 Castle Street (JMHS 126; HER MRM15953).

The post-medieval period (1501-1700) produced further activity and development (Figure 11). Roads were further developed or reworked including Broad Street and King Street (JMHS 133; HER 02114.06.000-MRD3972), this must signify a reworking or laying of this road. Blaggrave Street (JMHS 137; HER 02114.11.000-MRD3987) was established at this time; the A4 was established as a coach route (JMHS 140; HER

05052.00.000-MRD5909), and the A329 was established as a Toll Road (JMHS 141; HER 05066.00.000-MRD6180). A number of buildings have been noted as having structural components of this date including a building in Castle Street (JMHS 132; HER 02114.04.000-MRD3969), the Cross Keys (JMHS 139; HER 05020.00.000-MRD5504), 15 Gun Street (JMHS 142; HER 02114.34.000-MRD6970, JMHS 143; 02114.34.001-MRD7021), and Lyndford House (JMHS 144; HER 06503.00.000-MRD15490). Post-medieval activity has been noted in excavations in Friar Street, for example at 99-105 Friar Street: occupation layers and a boundary ditch (JMHS 145; HER 02113.40.400-MRD15546), a tiled area and chalk and brickearth floor (JMHS 146; HER 02113.40.401-MRD15547), pits and postholes (JMHS 147; HER 02113.40.402-MRD15548, JMHS 148; HER 02113.40.403-MRD15549, JMHS 149; 02113.40.404-MRD15550, JMHS 150; 02113.40.405-MRD15551). At 25-26 Friar Street the remains of postholes and pits of this date have been excavated (JMHS 155; HER MRM16016). Later alterations were made to the Holy Brook Culvert (JMHS 138; HER 02114.27.100-MRD4245). The Old Market and Saint Mary's Butts continued to operate as a market site in the 16th century (JMHS 131; HER 02114.01.000-MRD3965). Brick footings have been identified in Broad Street associated with this date (JMHS 134; HER 02114.06.001-MRD3973). The remains of a 17th century building have been identified on the Oracle site (JMHS 151; HER RD15643-MRD15643). A cellar and cess pit have been identified at 7-8 Market Way (JMHS 153; HER RD15738-MRD15738), while at 90-93 Broad Street flint foundations of this date have been identified (JMHS 154; HER RD15659-MRD15748). Excavations at the Reading Civil Headquarters have identified pits and ditches of the 16th and 17th centuries (JMHS 156; HER MRM16212, JMHS 157; HER 16213).

There are a number of sites that can be directly associated with the Civil War in the 17th century (Figure 11). In 1888 skeletal fragments were recovered from Friar Street along with a farthing of Charles I (JMHS 135; HER 02114.07.000-MRD3978), and Saint Edmund's chapel was used as part of the fortifications at this time (JMHS 136; HER 02114.31.000-MRD3979). This information is significant because it indicates that Civil war activity were at one time apparent in the area of Greyfriars. The Civil war defences formed a circuit of Reading (JMHS 152; HER RD15703-MRD15703).

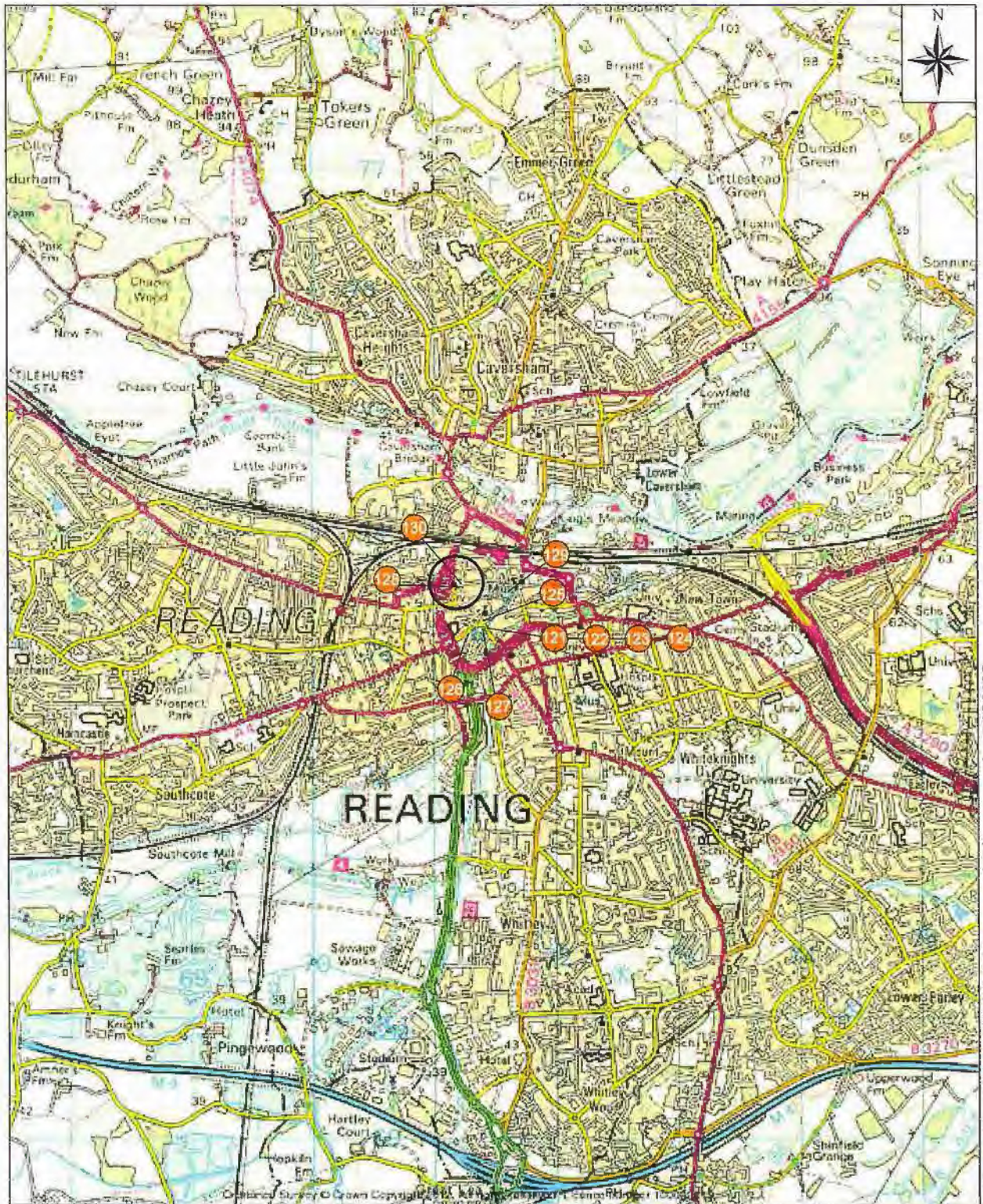
Surprisingly there are only a few features that are considered to be of an 18th century or Georgian date (Figure 12). This includes burials and tombstones in Saint Mary's graveyard (JMHS 158; HER 02113.09.100-MRD6695). At 172 Friar Street there are the remains of a large robbing pit, wall and fireplace of this date (JMHS 159; HER 06506.03.000-MRD15501), activity of this date has also been noted at Greyfriars (JMHS 162; HER MRM16550). The excavations at the Reading Civil Headquarters identified a cellar associated with 18th century pottery (JMHS 160; HER MRM16214), while at 9 Castle Street a boundary wall of brick and stone has been attributed an 18th century date (JMHS 161; HER MRM16437).



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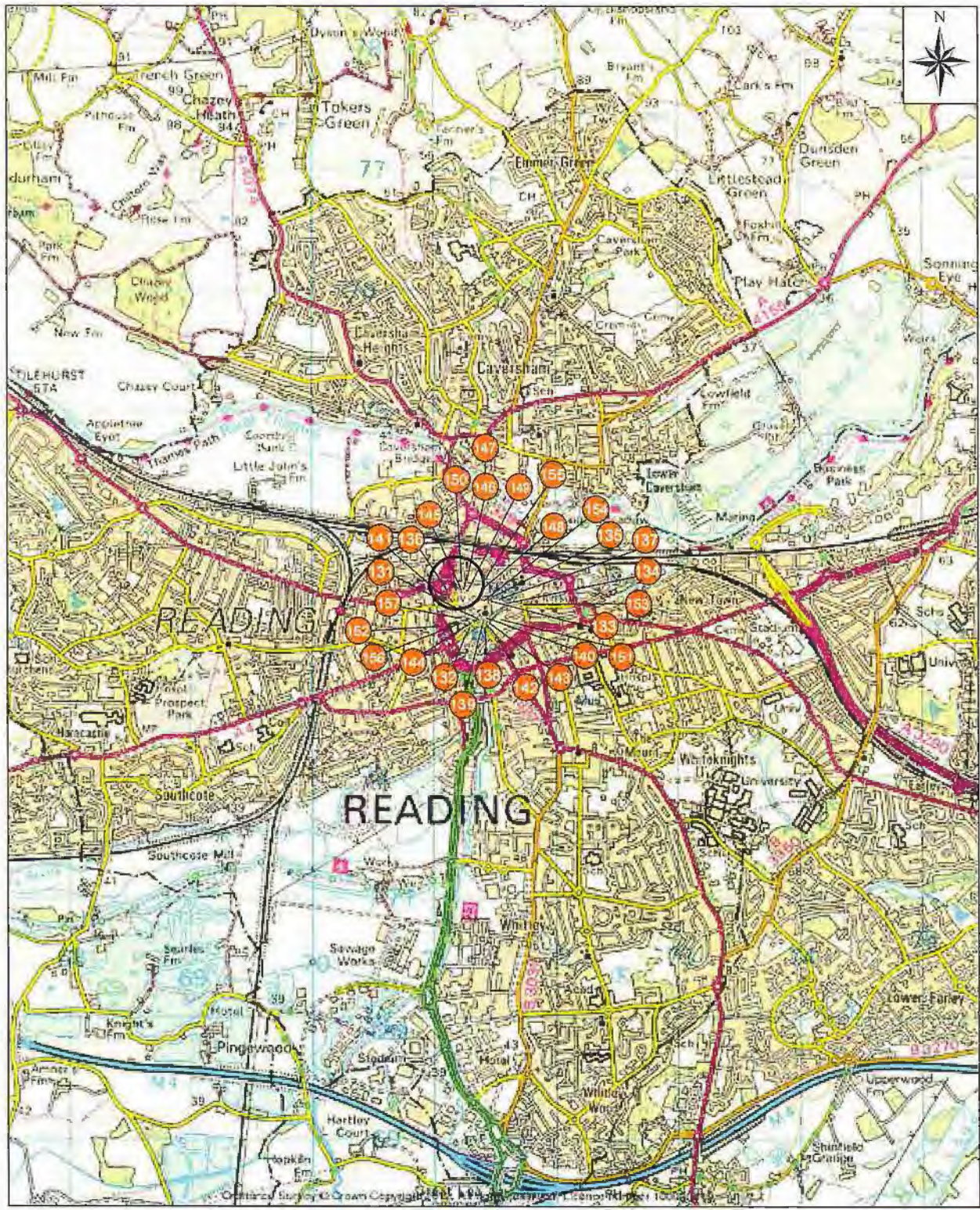
Figure 9. Late Medieval (14th - 15th Centuries). HER data



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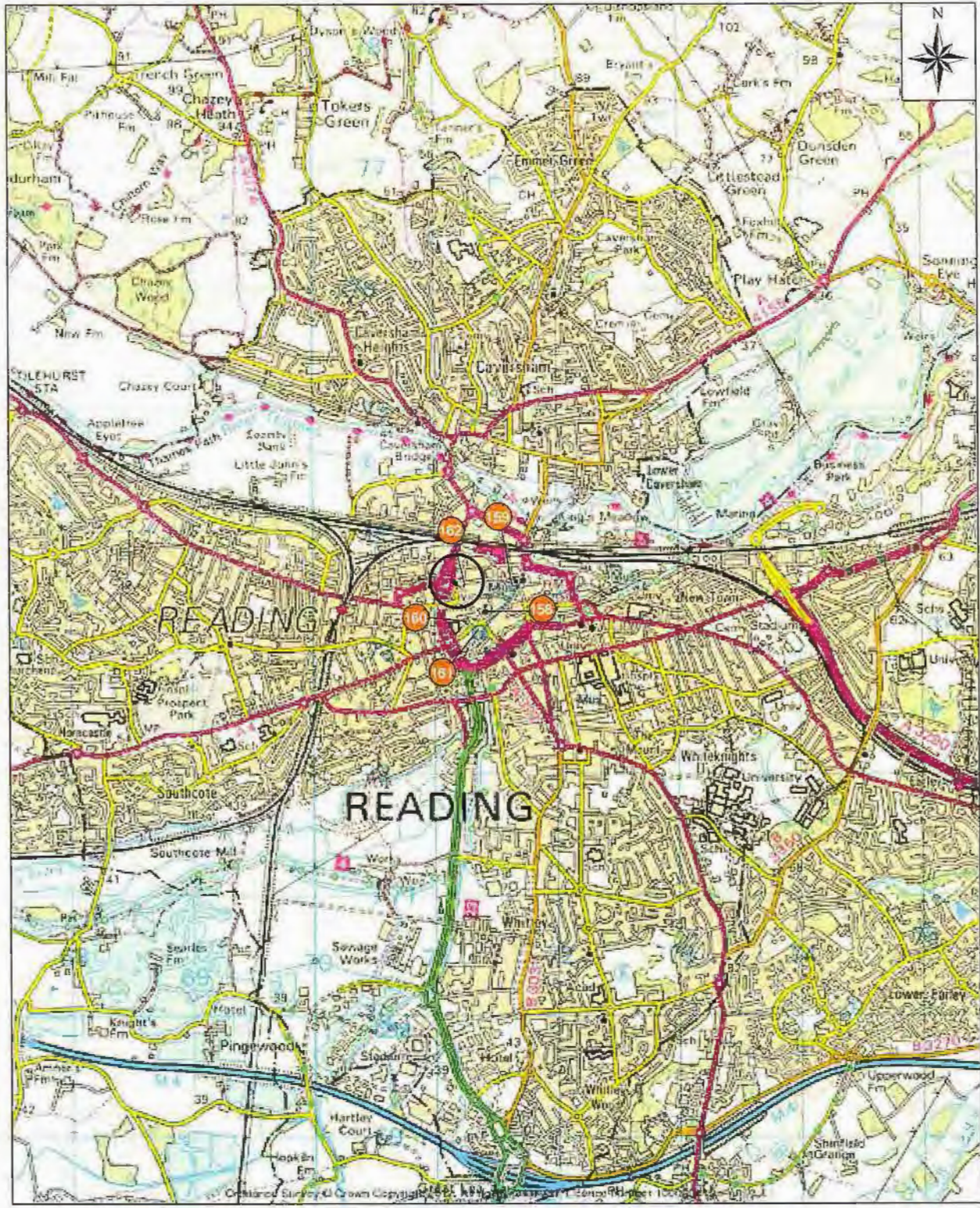
Figure 10. Late/Post - Medieval (15th - 16th Centuries). HER data
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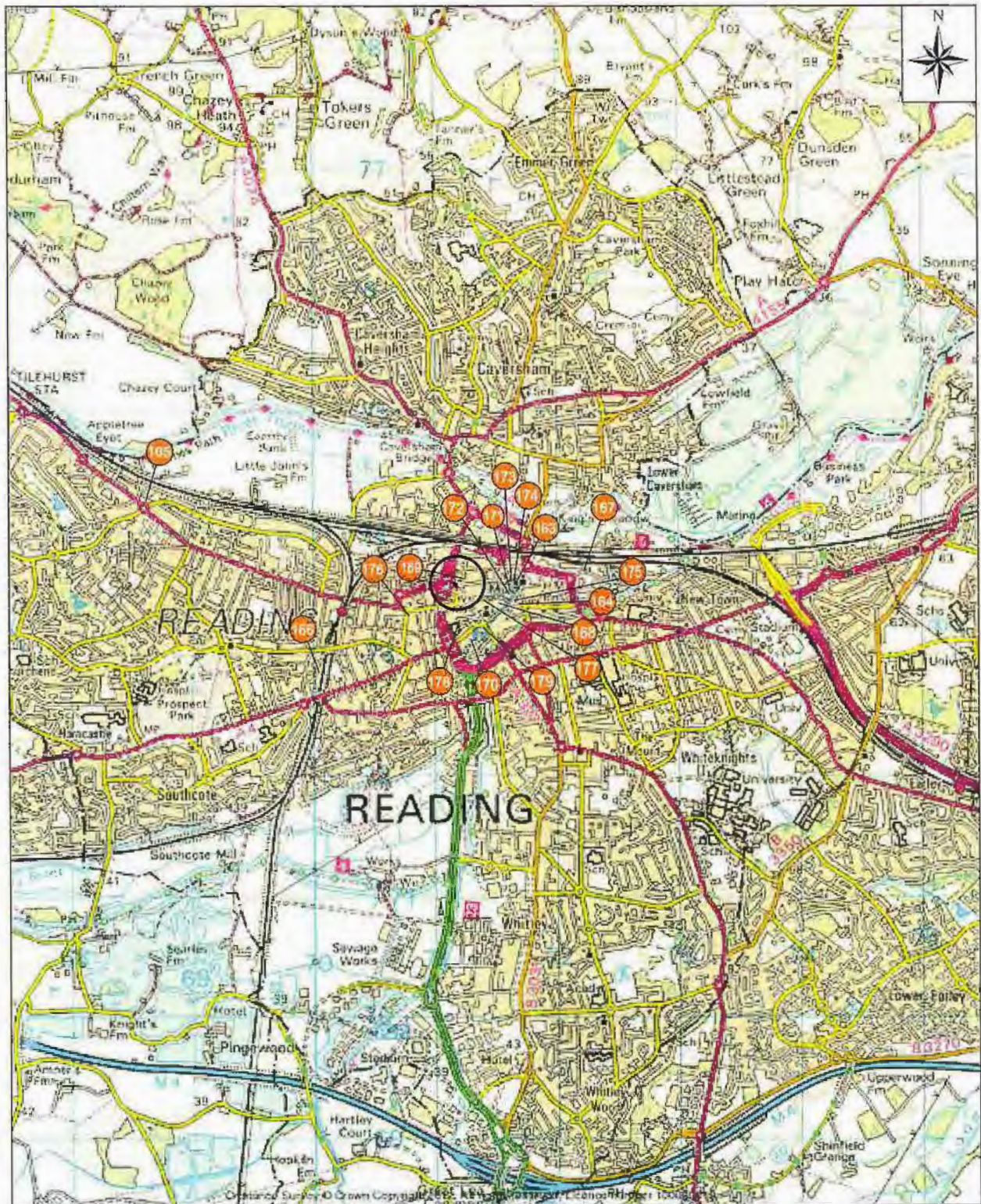
Figure 11. Post-Medieval (16th - 17th Centuries). HER data
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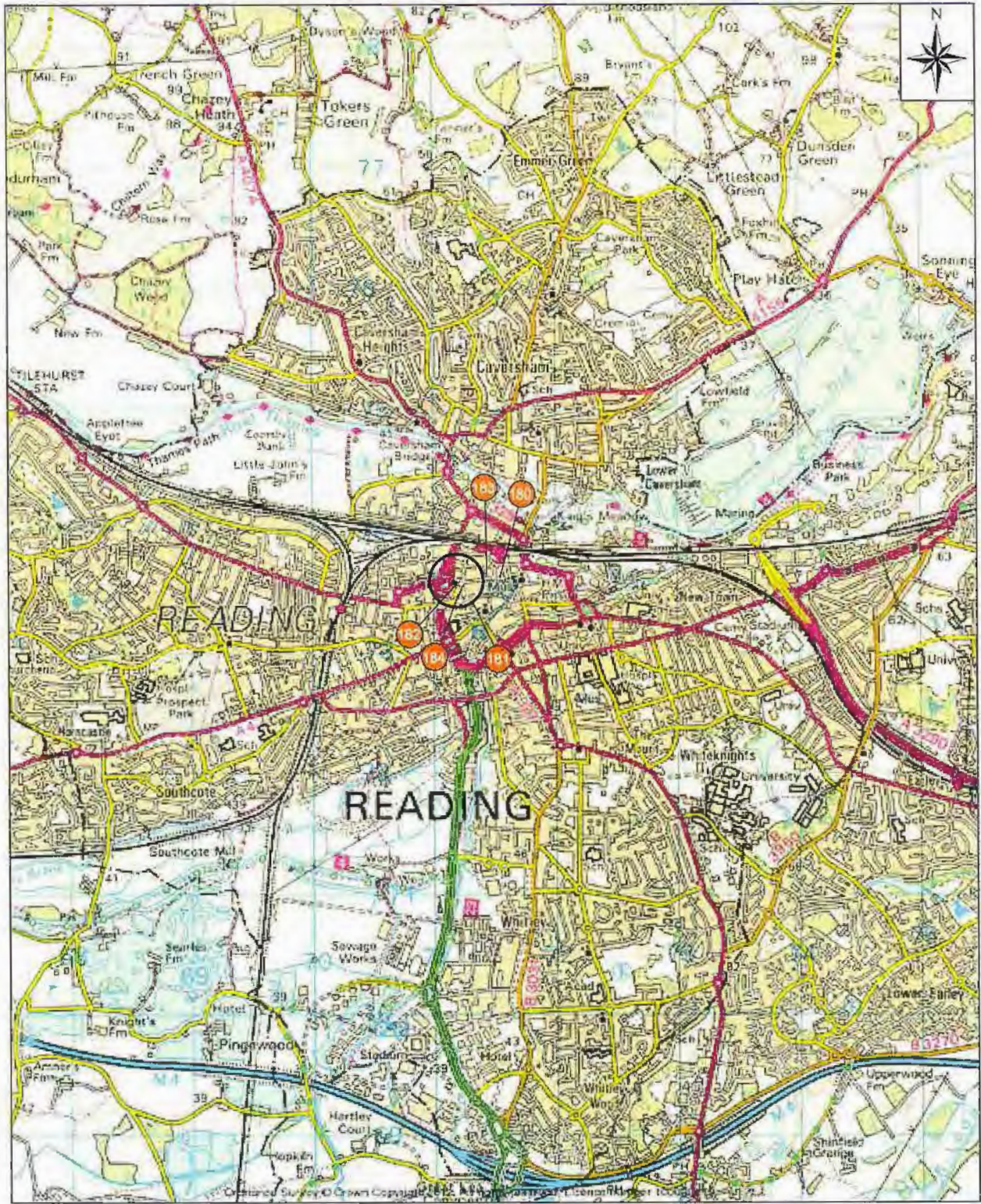
Figure 12. Georgian (18th Century). HER data
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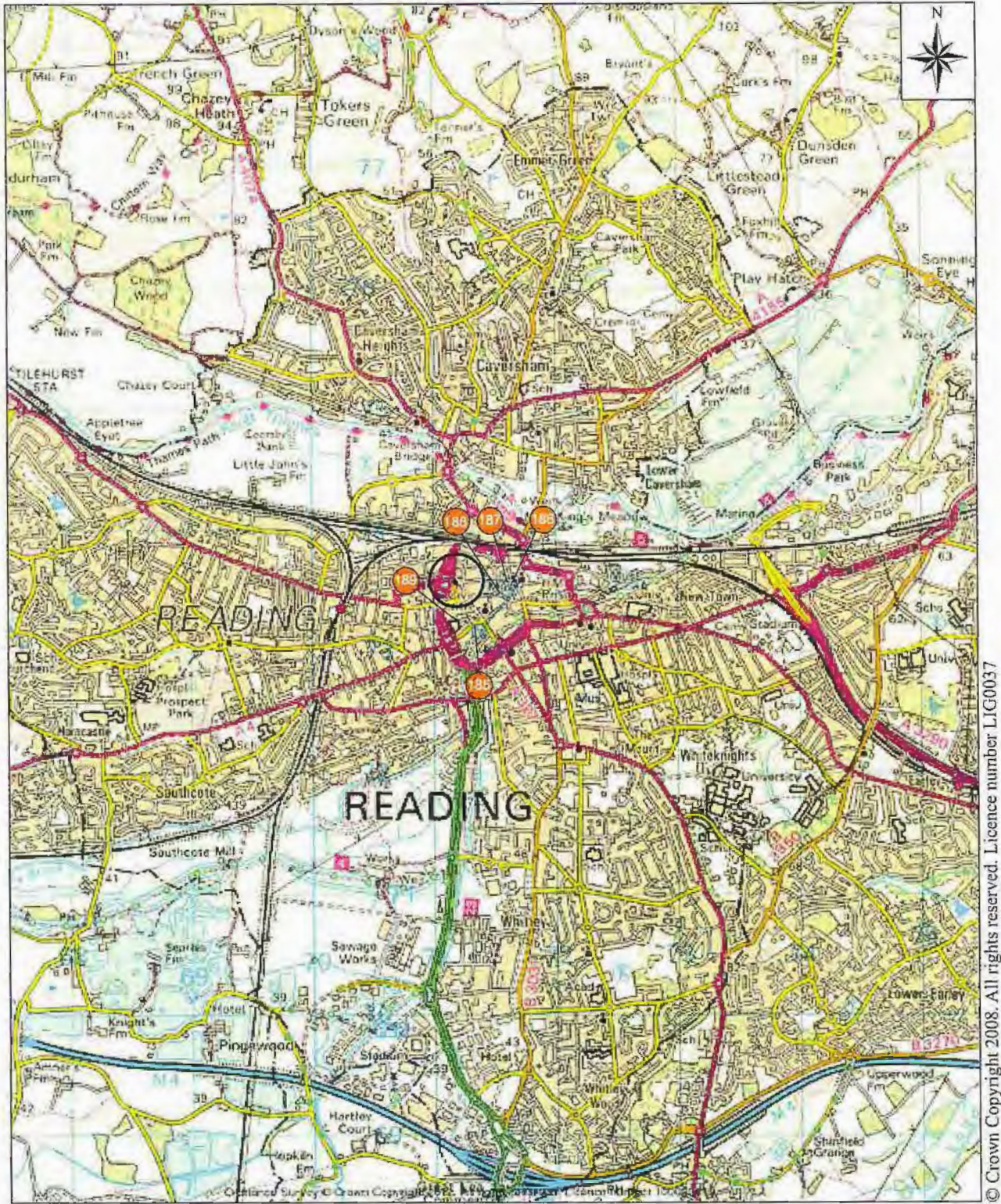
Figure 13. Regency/ Victorian (19th Century). HER data
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Figure 14. Undated HER data



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Figure 15. Modern-Industrial HER data 28

The 19th century saw the industrial period develop and this in recent years was the major period that has defined Reading (Figure 14). Buildings of this date include a demolished building in Blagrove Street (JMHS 163; HER 02114.11.010-MRD3987), the Corn Exchange (JMHS 164; HER 05031.01.000-MRD5534), a Methodist chapel on the Oxford Road (JMHS 176; HER RD15721-MRD15721), and the former Boots building (JMHS 177; HER RD15659-MRD15744). Excavations in Friar Street, at 172, have identified a large pit (JMHS 171; HER 06506.03.001-MRD15502), a wall of a cellar (JMHS 172; HER 06506.03.002-MRD15503), a wall (JMHS 173; HER 06506.03.003-MRD15504) and a probable fireplace base (JMHS 174; HER 06506.03.004-MRD15505). Further 19th century features include a well at 5 Greyfriars Road (JMHS 169; HER 02113.12.200-MRD7368), a brewery at 17 Castle Street (JMHS 170; HER 06504.00.000-MRD15491), two basements at 7-8 Broad Street (JMHS 175; HER RD15624-MRD15624), pits and walls at the site of Reading Civic Headquarters (JMHS 178; HER MRM16215), and at 10-11 Gun Street a brick wall and surfaces (JMHS 179; HER MRM16504). The burial ground around the United reform church has been exhumed (JMHS 168; HER 06033.00.000-MRD6624).

The railway arrived at this time (Figure 13) with the construction of the Great Western Railway in 1840 (JMHS 165; HER 05053.00.000-MRD6024), the Basingstoke branch line (JMHS 166; HER 05056.00.000-MRD6122), and the southeastern Chatham railway (JMHS 167; HER 05056.00.000-MRD6125).

There are a number of undated features (Figure 14) which include undated flint walls at West Bridge Street (JMHS 180; HER 02114.29.000-MRD3961), and at Saint Mary's Butts (JMHS 181; HER 02114.01.001-MRD3966). The remains of an undated ditch was recognised at 25-26 Friar Street (JMHS 183; HER MRM16042), undated scoops and pits at 99-105 Friar Street (JMHS 184; HER 02113.40.302-MRD15536), and undated burials at Greyfriars Vicarage (JMHS 182; HER 02113.12.100-MRD4467).

There are also a few entries that correspond to features of a 20th century date (Figure 15). These include a market place stall in Hosier Street (JMHS 185; HER 05019.00.000-MRD5503) and a sculpture called Requiem at the Reading Civic Centre (JMHS 189; HER MRM16206). The other three entries concern features recorded in excavations at 172 Friar Street; the features cover brick walls (JMHS 187; HER 06506.04.001-MRD15507, JMHS 188; HER 06506.04.002-MRD15508), and walls and floors (JMHS 186; HER 06506.04.004-MRD15506).

4.3 Cartographic Research (Figures 16-28)

Research has identified the remains of 19 historic maps that are discussed here, some of which are more useful in their depiction than others.

The oldest surviving map of any detail is that drawn by Speed and dated to 1611 (Figure 16). This shows the Greyfriars site as an enclosed wall area that lies between what are Friar Street, Greyfriar Street and Vachel Road. A large building is drawn in the northeast corner with a number of smaller structures

set around it. There is also a building on the west side and a building on the south side. The map is schematically drawn and it is not possible to be precise about the exact locations of these buildings. There are two possibilities, one that the large building is a conversion of the main church building. The other is that the surviving church building is that structure which is located in the south of the area (where the structure physically stands). The building in the west may occur in later maps, and could lie in the area of the proposed new hall or slightly to the north of this. One interesting feature is the line of Saint Mary's Butts road, as it runs up to the Friary and then turns at a right angle. The layout of this road could date to the 12th century although it may have formalised with the construction of the friary in the early 14th century.

A map by Ogilby of 1675 (BRO PM63-2) is one that shows the route of the London to Bristol road, it shows no real indication of buildings on the site although the dog leg of the old road running from Saint Mary's to the bridge on the Thames is apparent (Figure 17).

Rocque's map of 1761 of Berkshire shows buildings fronting on to Friar Street, and there is also a building on the west side of the structure (Figure 18). There are buildings on the location of the priory site. These buildings may be the alms houses, which were constructed on part of the site, while the prison may be located to the rear of these properties.

Jeffreys map of 1768 (Bod (E) C17-49) of Oxfordshire, has a small representation of Reading located on it (Figure 19). The size of the map means that most of the image is probably stylised. This map also shows tenements or buildings along the Frontage of Friar Street.

A map of 1790 (BRO PM65) shows discrepancies in the map as the site lies on a join (Figure 20). The area on the southern part of the site is shaded as if to indicate that most of the area is covered in buildings.

The detail on the 17th and 18th century maps is not great or detailed enough for us to adequately place the buildings in the location of Greyfriars, although they are indicative of structures being built on the former Greyfriars precinct. Tenements, probably Alms-houses probably lay along the southern side of the area. It is presumably these structures that were noted as foundations to the south of the church. The map of 1802 (BRO T/M/131/1) would appear to explain why on earlier maps and later maps it is not possible to identify the shape of the nave and transepts of the old friary (Figure 21). Here it would seem that a series of columns are drawn in the nave, which is roofless. The buildings that are marked around the edge of the church must use some of the outer walls of the church, but in essence appear to be lean-to structures using one surviving wall of the building. This gives some indication of the extent of rebuild to the church in 1863. On the west side of the site, probably under the north end of Greyfriars Hall there are three buildings located around a yard. It is highly likely that at least one of these buildings may have been constructed 1542-1611, and that although more of them could have they are probably later additions being constructed in the broad period 1611-1802. The area around this is marked out as agricultural plots.

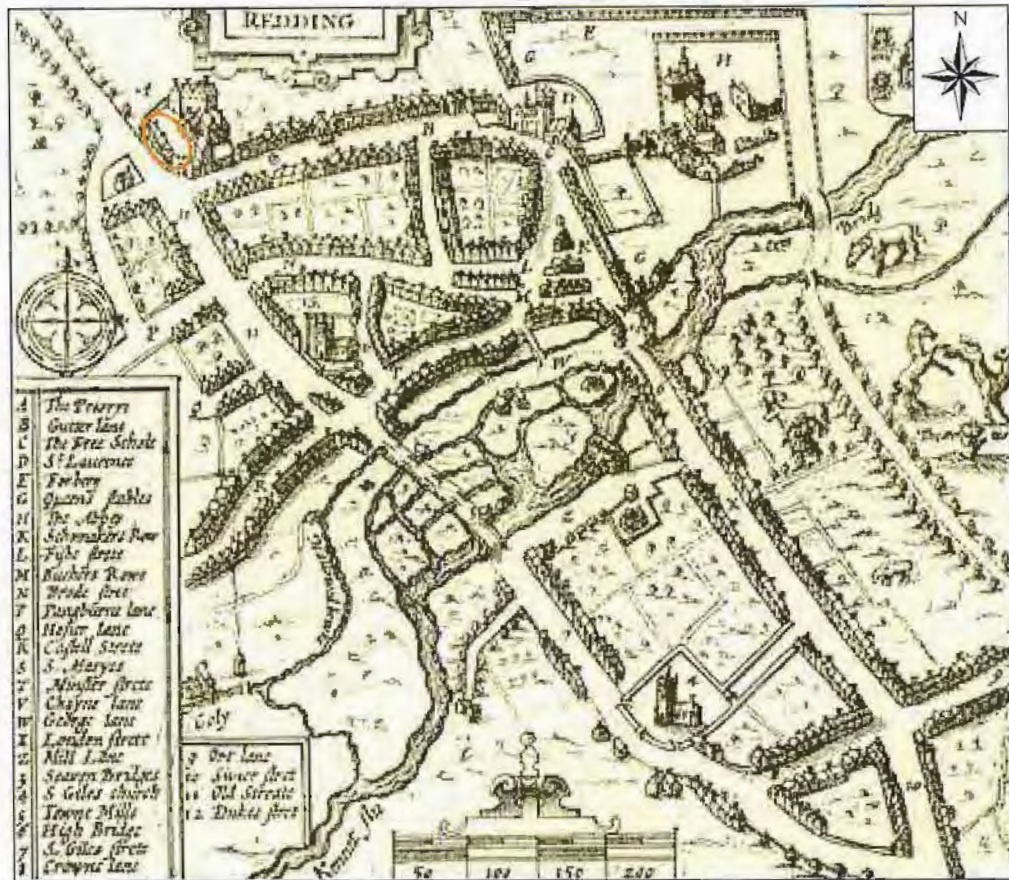


Figure 16. Map of 1611 Speed


Not to Scale



Figure 17. Map of 1675 Ogilby. BRO PM 63-2

Not to Scale

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Figure 18. Map of Rocque 1761



Not to Scale

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Figure 19. Map of 1768. Bod(E)C17-49(209) Reading



Not to Scale

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Figure 21. Map of 1802 Tomkins. BRO T-M 131-1



Key:


 Approximate Site Outline

Figure 22. Map of c1833 Dawson. BRO D-EX 1445-10



Not to Scale

Key:


 Approximate Site Outline

Figure 23. Map of 1835 Creighton. BRO PM73



Not to Scale

Key:


 Approximate Site Outline

Figure 24. Map of 1838 TM. BRO D-D1 98-1



Not to Scale

Key:


 Approximate Site Outline

Figure 25. Map of 1840 Weller. BRO T-M 131-2



Key: Not to Scale
Approximate Site Outline

Figure 26. Map of 1853 Clacy. BRO R-AS 2-4-3



Not to Scale
Key:
◇ Approximate Site Outline

Figure 27. Map of 1861. BRO T-M 131-3



Key:



Approximate Site Outline

Not to Scale

Figure 28. Map of 1899 OS 2nd series. BRO OS 37-3

The map of 1833 (BRO D/EX 1445/10) shows the cluster of buildings that would have underlain Greyfriars Hall with the buildings around the church shown to the south (Figure 22).

The map of 1835 (BRO PM73) is not particularly detailed but like earlier maps shows tenements or alms-houses running along the frontage of Friar Street (Figure 23).

No tithe map was produced for the parish of Saint Lawrence although one was produced for the parish of Saint Mary in 1838 (BRO D/D 1981). This map shows the road layout as essentially unaltered but does not show the building locations (Figure 24).

A map of 1840 (BRO T/M/131/2) shows tenements or structures along the frontage of Friar Street and also to the west of the property (Figure 25).

The next significantly detailed map is that by the board of health and dated 1853 (BRO R/AS 2/4/3). This map shows the church rebuilt and roofed, there is a dwelling to the east and the school has been constructed to the northwest in the area where the church hall of Greyfriars still stands (Figure 26). The north and the west of the block of land on which Greyfriars stands has tenements facing north on to Vachel Street and west. That the church and school are marked on this map means that the date of the map should be questioned as the church is not re-instated as such until 1863, however, there must have been earlier planning concerning this development and it is not apparent when this commenced.

The map of 1861 (BRO T/M/131/3) shows some five buildings on the site, one of them is indicated with a letter and label to be a prison (Figure 27). This structure would seem to be represented by a building that once adjoined the north side of the priory church nave.

The Ordnance Survey 1st series of 1879 (OS Berks sheet 37:3) shows the church and school at Greyfriars, with tenement or terraced houses to the north. The 2nd series map of 1899 shows the same arrangement of church, school and probable vicarage (Figure 28), but it also shows the insertion of a group of terraced houses to the north and the construction of Backville Road. This means the buildings to the north were constructed 1879-1899. The 3rd series Ordnance Survey map of 1912, replicates the plan of the 2nd series. The maps of 1973-6 show the present road layout with the dual carriage way and a building on the location of the school. The map of 1879-83 shows a smaller building on the location of the school, while that of 1993-5 shows the large building that must represent the hall.

4.4 Air Photographs and a Site Visit

No aerial photographs were looked at due to the urban nature of the site. A site visit was made to ascertain if there were any features which would have truncated the surviving earlier deposits.

The visit determined that the area of the car park has probably been truncated as this looks as though part of the site has been terraced below ground level. The depth of this truncation is not known, as is the depth of any earlier archaeology. The south end of the hall would appear to be roughly at the height of the original ground level, while the north end has been built up above ground level, where there are steps descending to the ground level outside. Though the nature of truncation is not known at the southern end and in the car park it is likely that at the northern end the truncation is caused by the footings of the hall, and that the floor layer may lie above any archaeology.

5 DISCUSSION

5.1 The Archaeological Potential of the Site

Reading as a town contains significant archaeology. Most notably in the area of Greyfriars and on the terraces facing north along the Thames is the recovery of Palaeolithic material, which may indicate the remains of a kill site or temporary camp in the area. This material would be buried in what would be termed natural, the gravel deposits of the Ice Age.

Later prehistoric and Roman material does occur but has as yet a relatively low density. It is likely that there are focusses for these periods in Reading, however, these focusses have not been defined. It is likely that when one is identified that a high quantities of that archaeological resource will occur, but with our present knowledge it is probably better to expect a low recovery level of Roman material across central Reading and on this area.

There is early medieval activity recognised to the south in the area of Saint Mary's church. The site is almost certainly that of an early church although fabric remains of the early church have not been found, although burials associated with this site have. A number of features should be evident associated with this church site, a monastic vallum, which most probably uses an enclosure of an earlier date. The larger cemetery, which would lie within this monastic vallum, has only partially been recognised but not fully defined. The other is the identification of structural remains of the church or churches, quite often minster sites developed as location of multiple churches. At present we have recognised what scant archaeological evidence there is for these phases to the south and east and not on the Greyfriars site.

There are further activities documented in the early medieval period including the establishment of two manors, a Danish fortification, and also the establishment of a town. It is again highly likely that these features from our present understanding of Reading lie to the southeast.

Greyfriars does, however, lie on the edge or within the area established as the new borough that accompanied the establishment of the abbey at Reading. New Street (later Friar Street) was the northern road on this grid and excavations along this street have shown that occupation was established in the 12th century along this thoroughfare. What we don't understand about the

development of the street plan is why Saint Mary's Butts, which is considered to be older terminates at New Street, which is considered to be younger. There is also the western termination of the 12th century tenements along New Street, which were they constructed on the site of Greyfriars before its construction. The accurate maps show this old road leading towards Greyfriars and then detouring around it as though it is avoiding an earlier enclosure. If the suggested 10th century date of this road is correct then this means that if there is an enclosure that this has to be older. The 1802 map shows the apparent relic boundary of the oval enclosure at its best. The chapel of Saint Edmund lay to the west of Greyfriars and it would seem logical that its foundation in 1204 was associated with the very edge of the medieval town. If this is so one would expect the possibility of tenement construction in the 12th or early 13th century.

The site of Greyfriars moved in 1285. The outline and some walls of the church survived which was restored to the status of a church by the Victorians. It was suggested that the foundations to the south of the friary represent part of the friary buildings. This suggestion is problematic as the church of Greyfriars is almost constructed upon the street frontage of New Street. The map of 1611 shows the main cluster of buildings to the north of the friary and it is presumably here that the original lesser buildings of the friary extended. There are other factors about the friary site that are essentially unknown. These include the location of the cemetery.

The map of 1611 shows a building located to the west in the vicinity of the present church hall, by 1802 this had become a group of buildings located around a yard. The exact origins of these buildings are not known. They could have been reworked medieval structures or buildings of the 16th century, with further additions of the 17th and 18th century. The arrangement of the structures may suggest something that was agricultural or industrial or it may even represent a yard of a coaching inn.

The post-reformation activity on the site around the church is again open to conjecture and interpretation. The church must have become ruinous with its roof either collapsing or being removed. It is perhaps this event that led to the abandonment of Greyfriars as the civic centre of the borough. The maps that do show detail are indicative of tenement style or type buildings on the front of the property. These are the most likely examples for the location of the alms-houses and are probably the structural foundations observed to the south of the church. The prison or correction establishment is marked as a group of buildings to the north of the church. These buildings presumably continued in use until the site was abandoned and reverted back to an ecclesiastical purpose.

The western group of buildings that lay under the hall were demolished or transformed into a Victorian school building, probably the former. If the building was levelled at this time there are no indications of what the ground level was formerly.

5.2 The Impact of Previous Development on Potential Archaeological Remains

The impact of the Victorian construction phase on the site cannot be fully appreciated, but I am working from the premise that the previous archaeology was cut by wall foundations only. The depth of the earlier archaeology is also not known, but the potential is there for a series of buildings and burials. The school was followed by a smaller building on the site according to the maps from the early 1970s, and then later the hall was constructed.

The construction of the present building, addition to the church and church hall, has seen different alterations in soil horizons. At the west end of the church there has been little alteration in ground levels. The hall was built on a terrace; the south end of the hall and adjacent car park has seen truncation of ground levels (although the depth of any archaeology is not known and deposits may still exist). The raising of the ground layer on the north of the site may indicate preservation of earlier archaeological horizons in some form. The boilers are located in the north part of the hall, but these are built on the ground floor and not in a basement.

5.3 The Impact of the Proposal Area on Potential Archaeological Remains

The proposal is to rebuild the hall and expand its area. Under the hall there is to be a car parking area, which will be partially under ground level. It is, therefore, the case that the activity is likely to impact on earlier archaeological activity on the site, if this has not been removed in previous construction activity.

6 CONCLUSIONS

Reading is a medieval borough with considerable importance and activity. The earliest archaeological activity noted in the immediate area, however, is far older and of a Palaeolithic date. If deposits of this date do exist locally they are almost certainly to be located in the natural of river terraces.

Though sporadic later prehistoric and Roman material has been found in Reading the true nature of the settlement has not been defined. There is probably settlement of this date under central Reading, but one may not know about it until one directly comes down on the top of what settlement there is.

In the early medieval period Reading had an early medieval focus, and although we consider that we know more about this site, a number of the key features of this settlement dwell in the land of interpretive theory rather than of demonstrated substance. The road system is part of this early theoretical development, yet there is no explanation of how the road system developed around Greyfriars. If the straight road that forms part of Saint Mary's Butts is of a 10th or 11th century date as suggested then it is possible that there is at least a 10th century enclosure underneath Greyfriars. This is suggested as the road runs up to Greyfriars and then goes around it. The construction of Greyfriars post-dates the road system. There are a number of possibilities for the late 11th century castle site, the Royal Saxon manor. Indeed a defended

manor on the road from across the Thames and Mercia, with the minster in its lee would make more sense topographically. The chapel of Saint Edmund dates to 1204, yet the dedication is to an East Anglian saint of the 9th century who died c.870, the date at which the Danes encamped at Reading.

There are indications from the foundation of Greyfriars in 1285 that the site must have had continual use. The friary church was established and a series of subsidiary buildings must have existed. The map of 1611 shows three areas of building in the friary enclosure. Settlement can subsequently be noticed in the western part of the friary in the vicinity of the proposed site on maps of the 18th and 19th centuries. These buildings were probably replaced with the construction of the church school, which was removed to make way for the church hall. The site has the potential for a number of buildings archaeologically. How much of this remained is not known, truncation may have occurred on the south side of the site, but on the north side the terrace of the building may indicate that this was built up and that archaeology may only have been disturbed where the foundations were placed.

Post 1542 around the priory there is evidence of tenements being constructed along the south side of the church, and forming a new frontage. These are probably alms-houses. A new building was constructed on the north side of the church that represented the prison. Foundations for these structures may still exist and some of them are described in the HER.

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7.2 Historic Maps

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- BRO D/D1 981 1838 The tithe map of Saint Mary's parish, Reading
- BRO D/EX 1445/10 1833 Dawson's map of Reading
- BRO PM63/2 1675 Ogilby's map of Reading
- BRO PM65 1790 Pride's topographical map of Reading and surrounding area
- BRO PM73 1835 Creighton's map of Reading
- BRO R/AS 2/4/3 1853 The Health Boards map of Reading by Clacy
- BRO T/M 131/1 1802 Tomkins' map of Reading for Coates
- BRO T/M 131/2 1840 Weller's map of Reading for Snare
- BRO T/M 131/3 1861 Simmons' map of Reading for Macauley
- Ordnance Survey maps 1879 1st series (1:25,000), 1899 2nd series (1:25,000), 1912 3rd series (1:25,000), 1960-2 (1:10,560), 1973-6 (1:10,000), 1979-83 (1:10,000), 1992-5 (1:10,000)
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7.3 GAZETTEER: ON HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
Palaeolithic				
	1	00981.00.000-MRD9047	SU 712 737	Vachel Road: A Palaeolithic hand axe recovered in 1903.
	2	00981.00.001-MRD9048	SU 711 737	Caversham Road: The recovery of finely struck Levalloisian flake.
	3	00982.00.000-MRD9049	SU 71500 73650	Station Road: Hand axe found in 1904.
Prehistoric				
	4	02025.00.000-MRD11197	SU 71540 73480	Cross Street: Stone and flint net sinkers or loom weights, a bone needle.
	5	02131.00.000-MRD11400	SU 71402 73388	Saint Mary's Vicarage: Badly struck waste flakes
Iron Age				
	6	02060.00.000-MRD11254	SU 71350 73550	Friar Street: During the cutting of foundation the remains of an Early Iron Age brooch was recovered.
Roman				
	7	02061.00.000-MRD3883	SU 71500 73500	Reading: Unsubstantiated claims in the VCH that there was a R settlement at Reading that acted as a port for Calleva (Silchester).
	8	02061.03.000-MRD11257	SU 71350 73550	Littlewoods Store: Roman pottery sherds.
	9	02061.04.000-MRD11258	SU 7142 7350	Vaudeville Theatre: Probably from this site 4 Roman coins of Valens and Constantine II.
	10	02061.06.000-MRD11262	SU 71260 73690	Greyfriars Road: 3 brass coins of Magnentius.
	11	02080.00.000-MRD11305	SU 71160 73230	Hosier Street: Roman coin of Honorius.
	12	MRM15805	SU 71461 73260	7-9 Gun Street: Residual Roman pottery in medieval layers.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
Early Medieval	C5-C10			
	13	02092.00.000-MRD3891	SU 71520 73900	Engine Shed Reading Station: In 1831 the remains of a burial of a man and horse associated with a sword were recovered, dated to the C8 by the sword. The sword was worn so a date of c. 800 was suggested.
	14	02112.00.000-MRD3906	SU 71400 73300	Reading: Anglo-Saxon Chronicle 870-1 refers to the Danes wintering at Reading. They built a rampart from the Thames to the Kennet on the right hand side of the Royal Vill.
	15	02112.01.000-MRD3909	SU 71400 73250	Reading considered as the location of a C10 town or borough, the focus of which was considered to be that of the Old Market.
	16	02112.01.001-MRD3910	SU 71400 73250	Reading: A nunnery founded 959-78, which had ceased to function 1071.
	17	02113.01.010-MRD3920	SU 71350 73290	Saint Mary's Butts: In 1973 the remains of an unspecified number of burials were uncovered. These burials were considered to be part of a larger cemetery that once existed around the church of Saint Mary the Virgin.
	18	02113.02.000-MRD3921	SU 71550 73360	Saint Mary's Street: Considered to be part of a roadway that originated in the C10-C11.
	19	03113.30.000-MRD11341	SU 71450 73350	Saint Mary's Churchyard: A coffin and early medieval coin hoard of the C9.
	20	RD15633-MRD15633	SU 71646 73701	Reading: Possible line of Danish C9 defences, as illustrated by Astill.
	21	RD15634-MRD15634	SU 71428 73366	Reading: Proposed or possible extent of the early medieval, C10-C11, town after Asthill.
	22	RD15659-MRD15745	SU 71432 73400	90-93 Broad Street: A buried soil horizon and a shallow ditch, residual C9 sherds were recovered from a later C12 pit.
	23	MRM16017	SU 71435 73659	Shoemith Court: A single sherd of residual early medieval pottery.
	24	MRM16015	SU 71379 73785	Vastern Meadow: The name is recorded in medieval textual sources and the site is described as being a meadow in medieval and post-medieval sources. The name however is considered to be a reference to that of a defensive feature, usually associated with the C9 ditch claimed to have been dug by Viking forces.
	25	02113.04.000-MRD3924	SU 71300 73200	Castle Street: C13 mention of Castle Street deposits to the west of the town. It has been suggested that a castle was built to dominate the borough in the C11 (post-Conquest), but there is no evidence.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
Undated prob. Early Medieval				
	26	MRM16224	SU 71246 73278	Reading Civic Headquarters: Two individual burials were uncovered of which 25% of the skeleton remained, which was considered to be part of the earlier cemetery of Saint Mary's church. (If the cemetery was far larger at Saint Mary's it would invariably have to be of an early medieval date, before outlying chapels obtained their own burial rights.)
	27	02114.02.000-MRD3967	SU 71550 73360	Minster Street: Human cranium found in the back of Minster Street. (This could be part of the larger cemetery of the early medieval church, but is essentially undated).
	28	MRM16505	SU 71380 73358	55-56 Saint Mary's Butts: Excavations uncovered the remains of a north to south orientated ditch 109 of which the sides were steep and, which measured over 0.88m wide and 0.6m deep. The linear contained three fills which contained pottery of the C11-C14. The ditch was considered to have a width in excess of 2m. (This is the most significant ditch identified in central reading and is possibly the feature referred to in Totehill and Castle Street.) There was a second linear feature cut 113 that was 0.065m wide and 0.24m deep, which was ill defined and tapered out (thus possibly truncated). It was considered that ditch 109 may have been a recut on a similar alignment.
Early/High Medieval C11				
	29	02112.02.000-MRD3911	SU 71400 73250	Reading believed to be the location of an C11 town, as indicated in the Domesday Book for 1066. There were 55 teneiments and small holdings and 3 mills, besides this there was a church with 2 further mills and fisheries.
	30	02112.02.020-MRD3913	SU 71400 73250	Reading: Considered to be the location of a pre-Conquest market, dated C11.
	31	02112.02.030-MRD3914	SU 71400 73250	Reading: The location of an early medieval mint with coins struck c. 1044-46.
	32	02112.02.050-MRD3916	SU 71500 73250	Reading: There are 6 mills recorded at Reading in 1086. Further information on the mills is obtained in the C13. There were two locations at Minster Mill and Abbey Mill.
	33	02113.00.000-MRD3917	SU 71500 73500	Reading: The location of 2 manors in the C11 as recorded in the Domesday survey. One of these belonged to the king and the other one to Battle abbey.
	34	02113.00.000-MRD3918	SU 71500 73500	Reading: The location of an early medieval mint of the 11 th century, coins dated c. 1044-46.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	35	02113.01.000-MRD3919	SU 71350 73300	Old Market/Saint Mary's Butts: Early medieval, C11, focus believed to be around Old Market and Saint Mary's Butts. This area continued to operate as a centre of trade, but by the C14 the centre had moved to the new market area.
	36	02113.28.000-MRD11381	SU 71570 73420	Wellsteads: Norman/early medieval pot above chalk, C11.
	37	MRM16211	SU 71261 73280	Reading Civic Headquarters: Two pits containing probable high medieval sherds, but also containing residual medieval sherds and a knife of Saxo-Norman date, C11.
High Medieval	C12-13			
	38	02113.02.010-MRD3922	SU 71590 73350	52-53 Minster Street: Rubbish pits with pottery of the C12-C13, chicken bones and a bone handled knife.
	39	02113.04.000-MRD3925	SU 713 732	Castle Street: C13 reference to Castle Street. Trenching at the Yeomanry House on Castle Hill failed to find the castle.
	40	02113.06.000-MRD3928	SU 71480 73470	Broad Street /King Street: The streets form part of a grid of roads that were laid out from the abbey gate. Their purpose was to focus trade towards the abbey.
	41	02113.07.000-MRD3931	SU 71600 73520	New Street (now Friar Street): First documented 1186. The road is part of the grid of streets focusing trade on the abbey gate.
	42	02113.09.000-MRD3935	SU 71411 73334	Saint Mary's Church: Grade I medieval church of Saint Mary showing earliest material of the C12 but considerably altered and reworked.
	43	02113.12.000-MRD3938	SU 71216 73588	Caversham Bridge: Original location of the friary founded 1233, but due to flooding the site was later moved.
	44	02113.16.000-MRD3944	SU 71400 73570	Saint Edmund's chapel, established in 1204 on land near the present Greyfriars. Burials are documented at this site from the 15 th century.
	45	02113.30.000-MRD11365	SU 71620 73650	Belgrave Street: A medieval jug was recovered dated C12-C13.
	46	02113.40.000-MRD15512	SU 71287 73540	99-105 Friar Street: A complicated urban site with multiple phases. Many of the components of this multiple phased site have been given their own HER numbers, and national grid location. This catch all number relating from the High Medieval period (C12-C13) to the modern era (C20-C21) has been included on the gazetteer but not given a number and thus does not occur on the maps. Look at the individual numbers.
	47	02113.40.100-MRD15513	SU 71287 73540	99-105 Friar Street: C12-C13 occupation including post pads, dwarf wall, floor deposits, and pits.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	48	02113.40.101-MRD15514	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: 7 post holes and pads of the of the C12-C13.
	49	02113.40.102-MRD15515	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Series of pits of the C12-C13.
	50	02113.40.103-MRD15516	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Floor layers of the C12-C13.
	51	02113.40.104-MRD1557	SU 71290 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Post pads and post-holes of the C12-C13.
	52	02113.40.105-MRD15518	SU 71290 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Six pits of the C12-C13.
	53	02113.40.107-MRD15519	SU 71290 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Hearth of the C12-C13.
	54	02113.40.108-MRD15520	SU 71290 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Occupation deposits including floor layers brickearth and chalk of the C12-C13.
	55	02113.40.109-MRD15521	SU 71290 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Wall of chalk blocks and flint of the C12-C13.
	56	02113.40.110-MRD15522	SU 71291 73532	99-105 Friar Street: Pits, post-holes and a boundary ditch of the C12-C13.
	57	02113.40.111-MRD15523	SU 71293 73544	99-105 Friar Street: Pottery of the C12-C13.
	58	02113.40.112-MRD15524	SU 71293 73544	99-105 Friar Street: Pits of the C12-C13.
	59	02113.40.113-MRD15525	SU 71289 73543	99-105 Friar Street: Three large pits of the C12-C13.
	60	02113.40.114-MRD15526	SU 71289 73543	99-105 Friar Street: A small pit of the C12-C13.
	61	02113.40.115-MRD15527	SU 71289 73543	99-105 Friar Street: A post-hole of the C12-C13.
	62	02113.40.116-MRD15528	SU 71290 73546	99-105 Friar Street: Medieval pits of the C12-C13.
	63	02113.41.000-MRD15568	SU 71637 73433	4 Broad Street: Sculpture of a knight from Reading abbey dated to the C12-C13.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	64	RD15737-MRD15737	SU 71649 73465	7-8 Market Way: Pits of the C11-C13, but more likely C12-C13 due to the foundation of Reading abbey.
	65	RD15659-MRD15746	SU 71429 73415	90-93 Broad Street: Phase 2 contained the remains of chalk foundations, medieval soils, and pits. The pits are large and probably bell pits associated with the abbey. The features are dated C12-C13.
	66	MRM15788	SU 71437 73243	Gun Street: A hearth made of discarded roof tiles classed as medieval.
	67	MRM15804	SU 71472 73248	7-9 Gun Street: Clay and sand layers, a medieval hearth associated with pottery of C11-C13.
	68	MRM16013	SU 71457 73636	25-26 Friar Street and Shoemith Court: Pits and postholes of a C12-C14 date.
	69	RD15699-MRD15699	SU 71308 73151	31-37 Castle Street: Medieval features of the C11-C12, and post medieval features.
	70	RD15659-MRD15659	SU 71437 73406	90-93 Broad Street: Medieval pits and ditches and a flint wall and chalk floor that are undated, cut by a C19 feature.
	71	RD15644-MRD15644	SU 71515 73294	The Oracle Site: Medieval deposits containing 2 well preserved buildings.
	72	02025.00.000-MRD15600	SU 71487 73165	Reading Waterfront, Bridge Street East: Medieval revetments behind which is post-medieval land reclamation.
	73	09028.00.000-MRD15603	SU 71404 73182	Reading Waterfront, Bridge Street West: Medieval make-up layers and land reclamation.
	74	RD15623-MRD15623	SU 71639 73470	7-8 Broad Street: Excavations in 2001 identified a medieval to post-medieval flint wall.
High/Late Medieval	C13-14			
	75	02113.26.000-MRD3929	SU 71600 73450	Broad Street: Medieval flint and tile walling, fragments of 5 C13-C14 pottery vessels and glass.
	76	02113.07.020-MRD3933	SU 71242 73644	7 Greyfriars Street: Medieval walls of the friary dated 1285. Finds from the Post Office include 2 gilt and enamelled heraldic pendants.
	77	02113.13.000-MRD3941	SU 7150 7325	Minster Mill site dates to the C13 at least.
	78	02113.20.000-MRD3959	SU 71420 73210	Minster Mill: Planked revetment and banking identified in 1985, classed as medieval and post-medieval and associated with the C13 mill.
	79	02113.20.001-MRD3960	SU 71420 73210	West Bridge Street: Bank and bank braces revetment to minster mill stream.
	80	02113.35.000-MRD11370	SU 71540 73660	Wiston Terrace: Medieval pottery (C12-C15), glass, copper alloy objects and later clay pipe.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	81	02113.34.000-MRD11369	SU 71530 73550	10 Queen Victoria Street: C13 pottery.
	82	02113.36.000-MRD11371	SU 71480 73750	New Garage: Medieval sherds (C12-C15) recovered in 1927.
	83	02113.27.000-MRD11378	SU 71400 73470	Oatsheaf, Broad Street: Part of a child skeleton with medieval finds.
	84	06506.01.001-MRD15493	SU 71643 73533	172 Friar Street: A ring of scorched earth interpreted as a hearth, interpreted C13-C14.
	85	02113.40.200-MRD15529	SU 71287 73540	99-105 Friar Street: Floor deposits and pits along the street frontage, dated C13-C14.
	86	02113.40.201-MRD15530	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Floor deposits of the C13-C14.
	87	02113.40.201-MRD15531	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Two pits of the C13-C14.
	88	02113.40.203-MRD15532	SU 71293 73544	99-105 Friar Street: Pottery of the C13-C14.
	89	02113.40.204-MRD15533	SU 71290 73546	99-105 Friar Street: Five pits of the C13-C14.
	90	MRM16503	SU 71474 73274	10-11 Gun Street: Medieval deposits and a flint wall dated from C12-C16.
	91	MRM16505	SU 71380 73358	55-56 Saint Mary's Butts: A pit of the C13-C14.
	92	MRM16549	SU 71250 73582	Greyfriars: Pottery and tile of the C11-C15.
	93	RD15659-MRD15746	SU 71416 73431	90-93 Broad Street: Phase 3 included pits containing skinned cat skulls.
	94	06506.00.000-MRD15496	SU 71643 73533	172 Friar Street: An overall number for this site that has 4 phases: C13-C14, C15-C16, C18-C19, pre 1920.
	95	06506.01.000-MRD15495	SU 71643 73533	172 Friar Street: Medieval occupation layers and 2 hearths.
	96	06506.01.002-MRD15497	SU 71645 73532	172 Friar Street: Medieval deposits dated 1200-1399.
	97	06506.01.003-MRD15498	SU 71645 73530	172 Friar Street: Robbed out brick features of a medieval date.
	98	06506.01.004-MRD15499	SU 71644 73532	172 Friar Street: Course of 4 medieval tiles.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	99	RD15688-MRD15688	SU 71223 73580	Greyfriars: A grade I listed friary of the C13-C14.
	100	RD15643-MRD15643	SU 71509 73286	The Oracle Site: The medieval deposits include 2 preserved medieval buildings.
Late Medieval	C14-15			
	101	02113.20.100-MRD3961	SU 7142 7321	West Bridge Street: A series of piles of a medieval to post-medieval date.
	102	02114.25.000-MRD3939	SU 71204 73588	Greyfriars church: C14 church which was largely rebuilt in 1863.
	103	02113.29.000-MRD3930	SU 71540 73490	Cross Street: Medieval well of the C14.
	104	02113.32.000-MRD11367	SU 71520 73680	Old Great Western Hotel: A silver half penny of Edward III (1327-77).
	105	02113.40.300-MRD15534	SU 71287 73540	99-105 Friar Street: Occupation layers including floor deposits and walls of the C14-C15.
	106	02113.40.301-MRD15535	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Floor deposits of the street frontage of C14-C15.
	107	02113.38.000-MRD11375	SU 71402 73388	Saint Mary's Vicarage: C14 pottery.
	108	02113.25.000-MRD11377	SU 71340 73480	60 Broad Street: Finds included C14 sherds, broken pipkin, and bone handle.
	109	MRM16014	SU 71457 73637	25-26 Friar Street and Shoemith Court: Domestic rubbish pits of the C14-C16.
	110	MRM16392	SU 7140 7338	Saint Mary's Vicarage: Pottery of the C14.
	111	02113.39.000-MRD11398	SU 71120 73830	Corn Exchange: A pilgrimage bottle of the C14-C15.
	112	06454.00.000-MRD15462	SU 71448 73612	Boar's Head, Friar Street: A C15 structure with an attached brewer of the C18 that has been demolished.
	113	02113.40.303-MRD15537	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Postholes of the C14-C15.
	114	02113.04.304-MRD15538	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Two wall cuts of the C14-C15.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	115	02113.40.505-MRD15539	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friar Street: Two hearths of the C14-C15.
	116	02113.40.306-MRD15540	SU 71291 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Five medieval postholes of the C14-C15.
	117	02113.40.307-MRD15541	SU 71291 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Floor deposits of the C15.
	118	02113.40.308-MRD15542	SU 71291 73555	99-105 Friar Street: A small ditch of the C14-C15.
	119	02113.40.309-MRD15543	SU 71289 73543	99-105 Friar Street: Four pits of which one was truncated, dated C14-C15.
	120	02113.40.310-MRD15544	SU 71289 73543	99-105 Friar Street: Postholes of the C14-C15.
Late/Post-Medieval	C15-C16			
	121	02114.27.000-MRD4244	SU 7142 7321	Holy Brook: Culvert of a C16-C18 date, containing reused medieval stones.
	122	02114.27.200-MRD4246	SU 7142 7321	Holy Brook Culvert: The remains of a medieval to post-medieval wall.
	123	02114.27.300-MRD4247	SU 7142 7321	Holy Brook Culvert: A C16 section of the limestone culvert.
	124	02114.27.400-MRD4248	SU 7142 7321	Holy Brook Culvert: A ribbed section of the culvert.
	125	02113.09.101-MRD6696	SU 7140 7330	Saint Mary's church: 2 semi-articulate skeletons associated with a medieval to post-medieval burial ground.
	126	MRM15953	SU 71280 73143	41 Castle Street: Medieval and post-medieval layers and 2 post-medieval pits.
	127	MRM16314	SU 71394 73323	Saint Mary's Church: A burial truncated by the foundation cut of the tower and so must date before c.1550.
	128	MRM16548	SU 71244 73583	Greyfriars: Undated disarticulated human bone probably of a medieval to post-medieval date.
	129	06506.02.000-MRD15500	SU 71645 73529	172 Friar Street: Pit of the late medieval to early post-medieval.
	130	02113.40.311-MRD15545	SU 71285 73542	99-105 Friar Street: Two pits of the C15-C16.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
Post-Medieval	C16-17			
	131	02114.01.000-MRD3965	SU 71350 73300	Old Market and Saint Mary's Butts: Location of market from C16.
	132	02114.04.000-MRD3969	SU 713 732	Castle Street: A listed building dating from the C16-C19.
	133	02114.06.000-MRD3972	SU 71480 73470	Broad Street and King Street: Roads
	134	02114.06.001-MRD3973	SU 71600 73440	Broad Street: Brick footings.
	135	02114.07.000-MRD3978	SU 715 735	Friar Street: In 1888 skeletal fragments were recovered, later in the same year 6 skeletons were uncovered with animal bones and a Charles I farthing. Not all of these burials are dated.
	136	02114.31.000-MRD3979	SU 71130 73590	Saint Edmund's Chapel: This church was used as a fortification in the Civil War, C17.
	137	02114.11.000-MRD3987	SU 71640 73634	Blagrove Street: A street established in the post-medieval period.
	138	02114.27.100-MRD4245	SU 7142 7321	Holy Brook: Brick arches on Culvert of a C16-C18 date.
	139	05020.00.000-MRD5504	SU 71424 73254	Cross Keys, Gun and Bridge Street: A building with a medieval timber-framed rear and a post-medieval brick front (C16).
	140	05052.00.000-MRD5909	SU 71400 73300	A4: The course of a post-medieval coach route along the A4.
	141	05066.00.000-MRD6180	SU 71112 73411	A329: Toll Road (A329) to Wallingford.
	142	02114.34.000-MRD6970	SU 71500 73286	15 Gun Street: A post-medieval wall (C16-C18) associated with medieval artefacts.
	143	02114.34.001-MRD7021	SU 71492 73298	15 Gun Street: A C17 timber framed listed building.
	144	06503.00.000-MRD15490	SU 71331 73210	Lyndford House, 17 Castle Street: A C16 timber framed building.
	145	02113.40.400-MRD15546	SU 71287 73540	99-105 Friar Street: Occupation layers, boundary ditch, street frontage dated to the C16-C17, disturbed C18-C19.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	146	02113.40.401-MRD15547	SU 71291 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Tiled area and a chalk and brickearth floor dated to the C16-C17.
	147	02113.40.402-MRD15548	SU 71291 73555	99-105 Friar Street: Pits and postholes of a post-medieval date.
	148	02113.40.403-MRD15549	SU 71391 73532	99-105 Friar Street: Four pits and pottery of the C16-C17.
	149	02113.40.404-MRD15550	SU 71293 73544	99-105 Friar Street: Pits and postholes of a post-medieval date.
	150	02113.40.405-MRD15551	SU 71289 73543	99-105: Five pits with a post-medieval date, C16-C19.
	151	RD15643-MRD15643	SU 71509 73286	Oracle Site: C17 Oracle building and C17 courtyard.
	152	RD15703-MRD15703	SU 71058 73227	Civil War defences as marked on the 1643 map of Reading.
	153	RD15738-MRD15738	SU 71646 73465	7-8 Market Way: Cellar and cess pit of a post-medieval date, C17.
	154	RD15659-MRD15748	SU 71436 73403	90-93 Broad Street: Phase 4 contains buildings with flint foundations of C16-C17.
	155	MRM16016	SU 71456 73630	25/26 Friar Street: Postholes and pits of a C16-C18 date.
	156	MRM16212	SU 71238 73276	Reading Civil Headquarters: Pits and ditches of the C16.
	157	MRM16213	SU 71242 73278	Reading Civil Headquarters: Pits of the C17.
Georgian	C18			
	158	02113.09.100-MRD6695	SU 7140 7330	Saint Mary's church: Burial (medieval to post-medieval) and gravestones (C18-C19).
	159	06506.03.000-MRD15501	SU 71643 73533	172 Friar Street: The remains of a large robbing pit, a wall and fireplace.
	160	MRM16214	SU 71238 73276	Reading Civil Headquarters: Cellar and pottery of the C18.
	161	MRM16437	SU 7139 7319	9 Castle Street: Boundary wall of stone and brick dated to the C18.
	162	MRM16550	SU 71247 73583	Greyfriars: Well of brick of a post-medieval date.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
Regency/ Victorian	C19			
	163	02114.11.010-MRD3987	SU 71650 73650	Blagrove Street: Victorian buildings demolished in 1975.
	164	05031.01.000-MRD5534	SU 71662 73478	Corn Exchange: A demolished building constructed in 1854.
	165	05053.00.000-MRD6024	SU 68174 74676	Great Western Railway constructed in 1840.
	166	05055.01.000-MRD6122	SU 69932 72232	Basingstoke branch line.
	167	05056.00.000-MRD6125	SU 72290 73719	Southeast Chatham Railway line.
	168	06033.00.000-MRD6624	SU 71400 73420	United Reform Church, Broad Street: 148 burials exhumed.
	169	02113.12.200-MRD7368	SU 71240 73650	5 Greyfriars Road: C19 well.
	170	06504.00.000-MRD15491	SU 71347 73195	17 Castle Street: Location of a brewery.
	171	06506.03.001-MRD15502	SU 71643 73532	172 Friar Street: Large post-medieval pit, C19.
	172	06506.03.002-MRD15503	SU 71643 73529	172 Friar Street: A wall, possibly part of a cellar that has been robbed out C19.
	173	06506.03.003-MRD15504	SU 71642 73530	172 Friar Street: Base of a wall C19.
	174	06506.03.004-MRD15505	SU 71644 73529	172 Friar Street: Fireplace or robbed out pillar support C19.
	175	RD15624-MRD15624	SU 71642 73468	7/8 Broad Street: Two basements of the C19.
	176	RD15721-MRD15721	SU 70886 73357	Methodist chapel Oxford Road: Methodist church dated 1892.
	177	RD15659-MRD15744	SU 71416 73436	Former Boots Building, Broad Street: The remains of C19 street frontages.

PERIOD	JMHS ID	HER ID	NGR (SU)	DESCRIPTION
	178	MRM16215	SU 71255 73278	Reading Civic Headquarters: Pits and walls of the C19.
	179	MRM16504	SU 71475 73272	10-11 Gun Street: The remains of a brick wall and surfaces of post-medieval date, C19-C20.
Undated				
	180	02114.29.000-MRD3961	SU71580 73700	West Bridge Street: Undated flint wall.
	181	02114.01.001-MRD3966	SU 7134 7341	Saint Mary's Butts: Undated flint wall found in 1931, C17 pottery.
	182	02113.12.100-MRD4467	SU 71230 73580	Greyfriars Vicarage: In 1963-4 the remains of 2 undated skeletons were uncovered.
	183	MRM16042	SU 71455 73664	25-26 Friar Street: Undated ditch with sloping sides and a flat base measuring 2.8m wide and 0.73m deep. The ditch is undated but it is suggested that it was C17 and part of the Civil War.
	184	02113.40.302-MRD15536	SU 71284 73554	99-105 Friars Street: Four pits and 2 scoops that are undated.
Modern-Industrial C20-21				
	185	05019.00.000-MRD5503	SU 713 732	Market Place in Hosier Street: The remains of a market stall C20.
	186	06506.04.004-MRD15506	SU 71644 73530	172 Friar Street: Brick wall and floor of pre-1920.
	187	06506.04.001-MRD15507	SU 71645 73532	172 Friar Street: C20 brick floor.
	188	06506.04.002-MRD15508	SU 71643 73528	172 Friar Street: C20 brick wall.
	189	MRM16206	SU 71221 73267	Civic Centre, Reading: C20 sculpture called the Requiem.