

**AVON EXTENSIVE URBAN SURVEY
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

KEYNSHAM

DECEMBER 1999

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This report was prepared by Emily La Trobe-Bateman.

I would like to thank the following people for their help and support: Vince Russett, project manager (Avon County Archaeologist subsequently North Somerset Archaeologist) and Dave Evans (Avon Sites and Monuments Officer, subsequently South Gloucestershire Archaeologist) for their comments on the draft report; Pete Rooney and Tim Twiggs for their IT support, help with printing and advice setting up the Geographical Information System (GIS) database; Bob Sydes (Bath and North East Somerset Archaeologist), who managed the final stages of the project; Nick Corcos for making the preliminary results of his research available and for his comments on the draft report; Lee Prosser for kindly lending me a copy of his Ph.D.; David Bromwich for his help locating references; John Brett for his help locating evaluations carried out in Keynsham.. Special thanks go to Roger Thomas, Graham Fairclough and John Scofield of English Heritage who have been very supportive throughout the life of the project. Final thanks go to English Heritage whose substantive financial contribution made the project possible.

CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction	1
1.1	The aims of the report	1
1.2	Major sources of evidence	1
1.3	A brief history of Keynsham	3
2.0	Prehistoric archaeology (pre-AD 47)	8
2.1	Sources of evidence	8
2.2	Local settlement pattern	8
2.3	Regional context	9
3.0	Romano-British archaeology (AD 47-c.450)	10
3.1	Sources of evidence	10
3.2	Local settlement pattern	10
3.3	Regional context	13
4.0	Post-Roman and early medieval archaeology (c.450-1066)	14
4.1	Sources of evidence	14
4.2	Settlement pattern	14
5.0	Medieval archaeology (1066-1540)	16
5.1	Sources of evidence	16
5.2	Watercourses, roads and routeways	16
5.3	Commercial core	18
5.4	Civic sites and buildings	21
5.5	Religious sites and cemeteries	22
5.6	Industrial areas and sites	26
5.7	Private estates	27
5.8	Standing buildings	27
5.9	Local context	27
6.0	Early modern archaeology (1540-1800)	28
6.1	Sources of evidence	28
6.2	Watercourses, roads and routeways	28
6.3	Commercial core	29
6.4	Civic sites and buildings	30
6.5	Religious sites and cemeteries	31
6.6	Industrial areas and sites	32
6.7	Private estates	36
6.8	Standing buildings	36
7.0	19th century archaeology	37
7.1	Sources of evidence	37
7.2	Watercourses, roads and railways	37
7.3	Commercial core	38
7.4	Civic sites and buildings	39
7.5	Religious sites and cemeteries	40
7.6	Extractive industrial areas and sites	42
7.7	Non-extractive industrial areas and sites	42
7.8	Standing buildings	44
8.0	20th century redevelopment	45
9.0	Further research	46
9.1	Research interests	46
9.2	Recommendations for further research work	46

10.0	References	47
10.1	Bibliography	47
10.2	Map sources	51
10.3	Archaeological evaluations	52

Maps

Study area

Statutory designations

Map A: Prehistoric period

Map B: Roman-British period

Map C: Post Roman and Early Medieval period

Map D: Medieval period

Map E: Early modern period

Map F: 19th century

Map G: Archaeological intervention: geophysical survey, trial trenches and excavation

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The aims of the report

The Extensive Urban Areas Survey in Avon was commissioned by English Heritage in October 1995; the survey was completed three years later in September 1998. It is one survey in a national project designed to assess the archaeological resource in smaller and less-well understood urban areas. It is the sister project of the Intensive Urban Areas Survey which, as its name suggests, has been focused on the *intensive* study of large urban areas where complex stratigraphy is known to survive and archaeological interventions are comparatively high. The settlements chosen for inclusion in the *extensive* survey, though not necessarily small, have been subject to fewer archaeological interventions and limited historical enquiry.

The aim of the Avon survey has been twofold:

- To provide an assessment of the archaeological resource surviving in the following urban and former urban areas in Avon: Banwell, Bedminster, Camerton, Chew Magna, Clevedon, Chipping Sodbury, Hawkesbury Upton, Keynsham, Kingswood and Mangotsfield, Marshfield, Norton-Radstock, Pill, Portishead, Thornbury, Weston-super-Mare and Wickwar.
- To provide a strategy to improve the management of the archaeological resource and the historic environment in these urban and former urban areas.

Following local government reorganisation, Avon County Council ceased to exist on 31 March 1996 and four new unitary authorities were created: Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol, South Gloucestershire, and North Somerset. As a result four areas now fall within the jurisdiction of Bath and North East Somerset Unitary Council: Camerton, Chew Magna, Keynsham and Norton-Radstock.

The assessment report is a strictly desk-top study of below-ground archaeological remains, standing buildings and historic plan form of the urban area. The development of the town is considered within a standard chronological framework, drawing on information in the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) held by Bath and North East Unitary Council and historic maps held in the county record offices. The quality of many records in the Avon SMR is poor and where necessary clarification and/or corroboration was sought through research conducted in Bristol Central Library and local libraries. Original research and site visits were outside the remit of the project but it is hoped that the assessment reports will encourage others to take forward our understanding of these historic settlement centres: recommendations for further research are made at the end of each report. All sites and finds of archaeological interest identified in the text were mapped onto the modern map base using a geographical information system (MapInfo). A paper copy of these maps is included in the reports.

Copies of the assessment reports for all the urban and former urban areas in Bath and North East Somerset are held in the Sites and Monuments Record (Trimbridge House, Trim Street, Bath), Bath Library and Bristol Central Reference Library.

1.2 Major sources of evidence

Keynsham was one of the six small medieval towns in Avon originally studied by Leech. He synthesized map, documentary and archaeological information, and identified key areas where further research was needed (Leech 1975). A detailed parish survey was subsequently published (Belsey 1980) and a large number of sites identified, some of which were added to the Avon County Sites and Monuments Record. More recently Prosser has completed a doctorate thesis on the Keynsham Hundred (Prosser 1995). He examined many original medieval documents and has brought much unpublished archaeological information to light. This report has relied heavily on his invaluable research for the medieval period. The assessment of post-medieval archaeology and history of the town is based largely on the invaluable work by the Keynsham Civic Society (McGrath 1983; Lowe et al 1983; Lowe & Brown 1988; White 1990; Lowe &

Whitehead 1994) and articles published in *North Wansdyke Past and Present* and by Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society.

Documentary evidence

There are a large number of medieval documents that refer to Keynsham. It was an important place and a source of revenue for the king, and as a result it featured regularly in the records of Patent and Close Rolls. It possessed valuable resources such as woodland and fishing rights, which were a source of litigation between competing neighbours and frequently appeared in the national records. An abstract of the 1334 lay subsidy has been published (Glasscock 1975), and Prosser has assessed a roll of named tax-payers for Somerset. (Prosser 1995: 16)

The greatest number of documentary references concern the medieval Augustinian Abbey at Keynsham. The papers of the court of Augmentations were first examined by Weaver for references to the abbey and partially published in an abstract form (Weaver 1907). Prosser has looked at the papers in detail and revealed 96 additional references to Keynsham Abbey (Prosser 1995: 176). A monastic cartulary for Keynsham may have existed until the 18th century, but its extent and contents are unknown (*ibid.*: 176). Surviving documentary records include: an *inspeximus* and confirmation charter issued in 1318, foundation charters, registers of the Bishops of Bath and Wells and the Statute of Mortmain of 1270 (*ibid.*: 177).

By the end of the medieval period many more references to the abbey survive including the Suppression Ministers' and Receivers' accounts, transcribed by Prosser (*ibid.*: Appendix 8b). Associated documents include the *Valor Ecclesiasticus* of 1535 (*ibid.*: Appendix 8a) and a series of documents discovered by Prosser during the course of research from the Augmentations' Office, preserved in the Rawlinson Manuscripts in the Bodleian Library (*ibid.*: 177).

Less work has been carried out on documentary references from the post-medieval period. The bulk of Keynsham's manorial records for the 16th to 19th centuries are in California, where they were taken by the industrialist and collector Henry Huntington (*ibid.*: 16). According to Prosser they remain largely inaccessible and microfilm copies of the records are incomplete (*ibid.*). One of the more colourful documentary records that does survive was Sir Henry Bridges Memorandum Book, which gave many details of life in Keynsham in the 1730s and 1740s (White 1990: 5; Bristol Record Office 35989/32). This book has been examined by members of the Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society and is referred to in several of their accounts of the post-medieval town (White 1990).

Day examined some of the church registers in the hope of shedding light on the early industrial development in Keynsham (Day 1973: 65). She found references to wire workers in the 1740s and also mentions 'records in the same period of men who worked at the cupolas (houses for smelting copper)' (*ibid.*); it is not clear whether these records were found in the church registers or elsewhere. Keynsham was also one of the small towns included in a historical survey of national population between 1550 and 1851 (Clark & Hosking 1993). A Diocesan Survey of 1563 and Hearth Tax of 1664 were examined as part of this project.

Below ground intervention

Unlike many of the towns included in the Extensive Urban Areas Survey, Keynsham has been the subject of extensive below ground intervention as a result of substantial redevelopment of the town in the 1960s and 1970s. Unfortunately the majority of these sites were never subject to archaeological investigations. Even where archaeological excavation did occur, the extent and standard of publication was low. Professional archaeological assessment and evaluation in advance of proposed development has only occurred within the last seven years, primarily as a direct result of the publication of government guidance on archaeology and planning, PPG16 (1990).

The largest area of excavation has occurred on the site of Keynsham Abbey. Its foundations had remained largely intact until 1835, when the construction of the Great Western Railway involved the excavation of a cutting through the north-east corner of the main abbey precinct area (SMR 1222; Brock 1875: 198-205). The construction of the Keynsham by-pass between 1964 and 1965 caused the second major destruction phase on the site. The road cut right through the centre of the abbey precinct, destroying the west end of the abbey and part of a probable cloister. No substantive record of the remains was made during this time.

In 1961 members of the Bristol Folk House Archaeological Society began to locate and record the position of the abbey at the request of the Urban District Council, initiating a period of excavation which continued for almost 30 years. There has only been limited publication of the abbey excavations, in the form of bulletins and specialist studies. The final excavation report was published in 1987, though it had many shortcomings (Prosser 1995: 187). Many of the finds from the site still remain in the hands of members of the Folk House Archaeological Society (Russett personal communication). Excavations at the abbey were halted in 1992 at the request of English Heritage, but by then the opportunity to fully excavate part of an important Augustinian Abbey had been missed.

The second major archaeological excavation occurred to the north and north-west of the town, when the sites of Durley Hill Romano-British villa and Somerdale Romano-British villa were discovered in the 1920s (Bulleid & Horne 1921: 210-11; Bulleid 1922a: 265; Bulleid 1922b: 232-234; Gray 1922a; Gray 1922b; Bulleid & Horne 1926: 136-138). Durley Hill Romano-British villa was the better-excavated site of the two; Somerdale Romano-British villa was hastily investigated and publication of the site was largely confined to footnotes within the Durley Hill excavation report. The quality of excavation was poor and the publication unsatisfactory, even by the standards of the day.

Huge redevelopment occurred in Keynsham during the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s, yet in spite of this, only two small below-ground interventions have been referred to in print (Illes 1985; Bristol Folk House Archaeology Society 1988). This appalling situation has only been mitigated in recent years as a result of Planning Policy Guidance 16, which was published in 1990. There have been five Watching Briefs in the town (Russett 1989; Russett 1991; Parry 1993b; Evans 1995; Curtis 1996), eleven site specific archaeological evaluations (Erskine 1990; Parry 1992; Newns 1992; Broomhead 1993; Hume 1993; Mumford 1993; Parry 1993a; Parry 1994a; Young 1994; Yorkston 1995; Yorkston & Hume 1995), a photographic and measured crop-mark survey (Prosser & Russett forthcoming) and two major excavations (Parry 1994b; Yorkston forthcoming). These reports indicate that the depth of made-ground surviving in the town is variable, ranging from 0.75 metres to about 2 metres. An impulse radar survey and a geophysical survey of part of the abbey precinct was commissioned by Wansdyke District Council in 1995 (Site-scan 1995; Stratascan 1995).

Map evidence

No pre-19th century maps of the town survive. The earliest map of the town is the Tithe map of 1840. The first Ordnance Survey map was published in 1880. A list of all the maps consulted can be found at the end of the report in section 10.0.

1.3 A brief history of Keynsham

The town of Keynsham lies almost equidistant between the cities of Bristol and Bath. It occupies a slight ridge in a valley, near the confluence of the rivers Avon and Chew. The river Avon flows to the north of the town and is navigable today; the River Chew drains a wide area at the foot of the Mendips and flows northwards through the town; it was accessible to small, flat-bottomed barges until recent times. To the south, the fertile and attractive valley of the Chew extends for more than ten kilometres to the foot of the Mendip hills. (Prosser 1995: 12)

The town was built on an area of Lias clays. To the north of the town lie a small area of river gravels; large alluvial deposits also lie around the major river courses in the area, especially on the Keynsham Hams to the north-west of the town. The soils of the area

do not necessarily reflect historical soil properties or land-use. Thus clayey soils, while supporting modern arable land, were too heavy for lighter medieval and Roman ploughs and were used in different ways. The Lias limestone around Keynsham is characterised by shallow, stony Somerton (Sherborne series) soils, more suited to intensive ploughing in these periods. (Prosser 1995: 13)

The name of the town was first recorded in Æthelweard's addenda to the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle in about AD 1000, as *Cægineshamme*, which is Old English for 'Cæga's Hamm' (Ekwall 1966: 274). The personal name Cæga (or Cægwine) is uncommon, though it is West Saxon. The 'hamm' form of the name has been the subject of disagreement (Gelling 1984: 41): the most likely candidates are related to the topographical form, meaning land in a river bend, a promontory or spur jutting into lower land, with marsh or water, or a river meadow (Prosser 1995: 92). The water meadows next to the town have been known since medieval times as 'The Hams' (*ibid.*).

There is evidence for prehistoric land-use to the north of the town, on land adjacent to the River Avon. Excavation and survey work in this area has shown that this was the site of a Romano-British settlement, possibly the unprovenanced Roman 'town' of *Traiectus* recorded in the *Antonine Itinerary* (Browne 1987; 1991: 6). One of the largest Romano-British villas discovered in Britain lies to the north-west of this settlement (Prosser 1995: 34). The poor quality of the excavations at these two sites means that settlement continuity cannot be ruled out following the collapse of the Roman Empire in the 5th century. It may be that timber buildings replaced the deliberately demolished stone buildings, as at Wroxeter (Barker 1973). The economic and agricultural system is likely to have continued (Prosser 1995: 61).

The period 430 to 630 is not well understood in the region. The presence of rulers identified with the three Romano-British centres of Bath, Cirencester and Gloucester as late as the 570s suggests the development of a territorial identity in these places in the 5th century, with a continuing importance of those cities as symbols if not as urban entities. The evidence for the survival of estates like Keynsham is more elusive, but it remains a possibility. Bath's position, influence and survival are pivotal in any view of the Keynsham estate. (*ibid.*: 85)

The mid-7th century marked a watershed for the Keynsham region. After a struggle for political control in the area between Mercia and Wessex, the battle at Cirencester in AD 628 finally decided the fate of Bath in favour of the Mercians. The city, together with Keynsham formed a peripheral part of the West Saxon kingdom, in a zone of political stress (*ibid.*). However, Prosser concludes that although the Mercian royal court held councils in Bath as late as the 860s, Keynsham is unlikely to have remained part of Mercia (*ibid.*: 86, 106).

North Somerset seems to have been caught in a hiatus, where the post-Roman church was not strong enough to survive the transition to Anglo-Saxon political control. Nor was it of sufficient strength in the 7th and 8th centuries to lay out a pattern of minsters as comprehensively as the heartland of Wessex. In spite of this there is evidence for a minster church at Keynsham. Although the Domesday account of 1086 makes no explicit mention of a church, the total number of hides for the manor was 49 - one hide short of the assessment of the entire royal manor of 50 hides. This 'missing' hide probably belonged to the church at Keynsham (Eyton 1880). The Geld Inquest of 1084 confirms this, and states that 'the priest of Cainesham' holds one hide of the demesne. (Prosser 1995: 106, 108).

Other clues include the treble dedication of the medieval abbey of Keynsham. It has been suggested that the dedication to the Blessed Mary was superimposed upon an older dedication to Saints Peter and Paul; the apostolic dedication was particularly popular with minster churches. In addition, Keynsham Abbey possessed a number of rights over other churches: it retained the right of baptism and burial for the settlements of Brislington, Filton (Whitchurch), Charlton and Publow. The presence of daughter chapels within the hundred reinforces the evidence for the status of Keynsham as a mother church and its position in the local settlement hierarchy. A possible 12th century

confirmation charter of the founder of Keynsham Abbey also suggests the existence of cemeteries within the later abbey precinct. (Prosser 1995: 109-110, 142)

The archaeological evidence for a minster church is strong. Decorated Anglo-Saxon stonework was found re-used in the walls of the later abbey (Lowe 1987) and as a number of fragments pieces probably derive from grave slabs, their number attest an important cemetery nearby, although the fragments attributed to crosses are unlikely to be such (Russett personal communication). These, together with a 9th century book clasp found at the site (Lowe 1987), suggest the existence of a substantial pre-Conquest church in Keynsham. The quality of worked stone suggests that this was an important structure, of minster or hundredal church status. The position of the church on higher ground above a marshy floodplain also follows a pattern recognised by Blair for other early churches in Wales, Ireland and Scotland (Blair 1992: 227; Prosser 1995: 110).

The first historical reference to Keynsham comes from the 'Chronicle of *Æthelweard*', a document dating from around the last quarter of the 10th century. It records the death of Bishop Heahmund in a battle between King *Æthelred* and the Danes, and his subsequent burial at Keynsham. The Anglo-Saxon Chronicle largely agrees with *Æthelweard's* account and the battle can be safely dated to March AD 871. A church must have stood at Keynsham for the Bishop to be buried here and Prosser suggests that Heahmund may have been connected with the foundation of the church. If a church existed by the mid 8th century or early 9th century, it would have served a vast area. (Prosser 1995: 112-113)

Despite being at the periphery of the West Saxon kingdom, there is little evidence to suggest that the area remained neglected from the 7th to 10th century. Prosser has shown that like the Romano-British centres of Bath and Cirencester, Keynsham was surrounded by a major estate. It is possible that the remnants of the Roman villa estates were taken over as the royal demesne of the conquering Mercian and West Saxon kings. It is not known whether they subsequently organised their conquests as units later recognisable as multiple estates, or inherited a system already fully developed from their post-Roman forebears. (Prosser 1995: 86, 116)

Domesday shows that by 1086 Keynsham stood at the head of its own administrative district: the hundred. The coincidence of manor and hundredal names is very marked in north Somerset (Prosser 1995: 120).

'KEYNSHAM. Before 1066 it paid tax for 50 hides. Land for 100 ploughs, of which
 15½ hides are in lordship; 10 ploughs there; 20 slaves; 5 freedmen;
 70 villagers and 40 smallholders with 63 ploughs & 17 hides.
 6 mills which pay 60s; meadow, 100 acres; pasture, 100 acres;
 woodland 1 league long and as wide. 4 cobs; 10 cattle; 44 pigs;
 700 sheep; 70 goats.

It pays £108 at face value; it paid £80, when William Hussey acquired it is revenue.
 To this manor belong 8 burgesses in Bath who pay 5s a year.

Of these 50 hides Court Eustace holds 4 hides in BELLUTON, and Alfred from him. Tovi held them as 1 manor before 1066. In lordship 1½ ploughs & 2½ hides & ½ virgate, with 1 slave;

5 villagers and 2 smallholders with 2 ploughs & 1 hide & 1½ virgates.

A mill which pays 15s; meadow, 22 acres; pasture, 20 acres; woodland 3 furlongs long and 2 furlongs wide.
 10 cattle; 13 pigs; 47 sheep; 10 goats.

The value £3; now £4.

Also of this manor's land Roger holds 10 hides in STANTON (Drew); he has 1 plough in lordship & 5½ hides.

15 villagers and 13 smallholders have 7 ploughs & 4½ .

A mill which pays 10s; meadow, 15 acres; pasture 4 furlongs long and 1½ furlongs wide; woodland, as much. 87 sheep.

Value 100s; when Roger acquired them £4.

The Bishop of Coutances holds ½ hide of this land; he has ½ plough. Value 5s. Wulfward held it and could not be separated from the manor.

The wife of the same Wulfward holds 1 hide of the said 50 hides; she had 4 ploughs, with 3 slaves and 3 villagers and 4 smallholders.
 Meadow, 12 acres; underwood, 4 acres. 6 pigs; 100 sheep.
 The value was and is £4.
 Of this land Aelfric holds 1 hide with Wulfmer held before 1066; he could not be separated from the manor. 1 plough there. Meadow, 17 acres; pasture, 2 acres. 100 sheep.
 Value 20s.' (Thorn & Thorn 1980: 1, 28)

Prosser has noted that the Domesday account contains suspiciously rounded figures, but if nothing else the detail conveys a sense of considerable wealth of the ancient royal manor (Prosser 1995: 136). It seems probable that there was a settlement centred on the minster church by this date, confirmed by the finding of significant quantities of late Saxon pottery and other evidence in excavations at the adjacent Nursery site (Yorkston forthcoming). The growth of an urban centre on this site followed the foundation of Keynsham Abbey in the late 12th century. From this date until the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 1539, the fortunes of the town and abbey were inextricably linked (Leech 1975: 35).

The foundation charter of Keynsham Abbey provided the setting for the establishment of the monastery. The manor belonged to the Earls of Gloucester. Robert, the young son of William, Earl of Gloucester requested on his deathbed in 1166 that his father found an abbey at Keynsham. The abbey seems to have been in existence very soon afterwards, colonized by monks from St. Augustine's Abbey at Bristol. Earl William was buried in his newly founded institution on his own death in 1183. The abbey was dedicated to the Blessed Mary with Saints Peter and Paul. Like its 'mother' house, it followed a modified version of the Rule of St. Augustine originating in the mother house of St. Victor, at Paris. (Prosser 1995: 140-1)

The whole of the manor and hundred of Keynsham was conferred on the abbey (Scott Holmes 1911: 130), which quickly became prosperous owning much land throughout the surrounding counties including the town of Marshfield (Prosser 1995: 185). Documents refer to Brislington, Charlton, Felton (or Whitchurch), Publow and Pensford as dependent chapels (Scott Holmes 1911: 130); burial was a right denied to them all until the very end of the abbey's existence (Prosser 1995: 185).

Although some detail is known about the abbey itself, less is known of the town. Trading activities had probably been in operation at this site for several centuries before a market grant was made in 1307 (Prosser 1995: 194); King Edward granted an annual fair in the town in 1303 (Hulbert 1936: 102). The Lay Subsidies of 1327 and 1334 provide impressive evidence for the scale and range of trades in Keynsham, including inn keepers, carpenters, weavers, tailors, clerks, bakers, tilers and shepherds (Prosser 1995: 194). The extent to which the town was sponsored by the abbey in the late 12th and early 13th century is more difficult to assess. Material recovered from pre-town layers in the excavations at the Nursery site indicates something of the economy of the settlement, with extensive deposits of animal bone indicating an agricultural base (Yorkston forthcoming).

Prosser has described Keynsham as a modest attempt at planting a town. Certainly, by the 19th century the plan form of the town did not retain the same degree of regularity that could be observed at Marshfield, which was also sponsored by the abbey at about the same time. The plan of the town strongly suggests that development was piecemeal. Compared to places in the region that became boroughs in the medieval period, Keynsham was relatively small. There is no evidence that the town aspired to borough status, but the abbey may have been reluctant to encourage the independence of the townspeople. (Prosser 1995: 147)

Following the dissolution of the abbey in 1539 the fortunes of the town appear to have suffered. Leland implies a state of decline in mid-16th century, describing Keynsham as 'sumtyme a good, now a poore market town and ruinus'. He describes two bridges (one

in ruins), a walled royal park and local stone quarries. In the 16th century Keynsham was an important wool town, though this industry had virtually disappeared by the 18th century (Leech 1975: 35). Collinson writes that 'many of the poor ... are still employed spinning for the Bradford, Trowbridge and Shepton clothiers' and that 'great quantities of the herb called Woad ... (are) raised here for the purposes of dying' (Collinson 1791: 400). Very little evidence for this industry has been recorded, although the woad plant (*Isatis tinctoria*) has been noted in the fields around the town. This species was grown extensively for its use by dyers and even when it has not been cultivated for some time it can spring up when the ground is newly turned (Wright 1912: 165).

White has attributed this relative stagnation to the lack of large-scale investment in either industry or agriculture. Keynsham was dominated by two families after the Dissolution: the Bridges who bought the abbey land and built a large house on the site of the abbey, and the Whitmores who bought Keynsham Manor and Hundred in 1613. The Whitmores never lived in Keynsham and left the town to organise its own affairs, finally selling their Keynsham lands in 1775. The Bridges continued to own property in Keynsham until 1854 when the family went bankrupt. White concluded that the effect of these absentee landlords on the town was to create a homogeneous society without the extremes of wealth and managed by small farmers, craftspeople and workers. (White 1990: 1, 7)

The growth of the brass industry in the town revived its fortunes in the 18th century. A complex of brass making sites was set up in the Avon and Chew Valleys, and at the close of the century the industry was described as the largest in Europe (Day 1973). The region possessed several advantages for the manufacture of brass. The port of Bristol was essential for the importation of Cornish copper ores and the export of finished goods, both overseas and through the Severn to inland waters, there were nearby sources of calamine and the Bristol coalfield provided a suitable source of fuel (Day 1973). Avon Mill and Chew Mill were both important sites during the 18th and 19th centuries.

In the 19th century both the brass industry and calamine mining activity suffered from Welsh competition and entered a long decline (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 20). Comparison between the Tithe map of 1840 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 indicates that the growth of the town during the 19th century was relatively low and like Marshfield, the other medieval town founded by Keynsham Abbey, the industrial revolution passed the town by.

Although the medieval town survived intact in the 19th century, it did not survive the rapid expansion that occurred in the 20th century. The location of the town between Bristol and Bath has made it a desirable dormitory suburb for commuters working in the two cities. Development has occurred both inside the original town area and outside it. To the east, development now covers much of the countryside of Saltford, while to the west, the encroachment of Bristol has meant that large parts of Brislington, northern Whitchurch and Stockwood have been built over (Prosser 1995: 13).

The town has been comprehensively savaged by modern redevelopment. With the exception of central Bristol, few other towns in the immediate area have suffered such wholesale destruction. In 1975 Leech estimated that over 42 percent of the frontages in High Street and Temple Street had been redeveloped since 1945 without any excavation taking place (Leech 1975: 36). Since then Russett has estimated that this figure has risen to over 50 percent (personal communication). Development on the east side of Temple Street (for the construction of a new centre including the local authority offices) resulted in the destruction of 91 listed buildings. As recently as the late 1970s, the largely medieval Court House on Bath Hill was allowed to fall into ruin and eventually demolished (Russett personal communication; Newns 1992). The listing exercise currently under consideration by the Department of the Environment is likely to result in the removal of 20 percent of buildings which, as a result of alterations, are no longer judged to be of sufficient historic interest to warrant listing.

2.0 PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY (pre-AD 47)

2.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** archaeological evaluation at Somerdale chocolate factory (Parry 1992; Yorkston & Hume 1995)
- **Field survey work:** miscellaneous finds (SMR 3296; SMR 1207)
- **Archaeological/historical research:** study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988)

2.2 Local settlement pattern [Map A: 1-4]

Until recent years prehistoric material in the Keynsham area was confined to the discovery of Mesolithic flints (SMR 3296) and a Palaeolithic hand axe (SMR 1207), found in 1965 by a resident at 2 Avon Road, Durley Hill. The hand axe was made of Picrite from the Corndon area on the Shropshire/Powys border and was presumably traded down the Severn (Aston & Iles 1988: 30). In the last five years, buried archaeological features of probable prehistoric date have been identified to the north of the town as a result of two archaeological assessments, one at Durley Hill (SMR 8000; Parry 1992) and the other at Somerdale chocolate factory (SMR 10539; Yorkston & Hume 1995).

The first archaeological assessment was made in a field on Durley Hill (OS field number 2156), to the north-east of the town, where six trial trenches were opened in 1992 (SMR 8000). A ditch segment was identified in trench 4 as prehistoric in date, and its proximity to the flints described above prompted Parry to suggest that the ditch was associated with a prehistoric site to the east (Parry 1992: 10).

The second archaeological evaluation was made at Somerdale chocolate factory, in advance of proposed commercial, residential and industrial development (SMR 10539). The evaluation exercise was undertaken by means of geophysical survey, trial excavation and mechanical test pitting. Fourteen archaeological trial trenches and five test-pits were opened in three zones within the assessment area. The earliest archaeological features identified were located within areas to the front of the factory complex and included a large number of negative soil features - post-holes, stake-holes, pits and ditches. (Parry 1992)

The most significant feature identified was a ditch in trench 1; evidence from aerial photographic survey and geophysical survey indicated that the ditch represented a rectilinear enclosure boundary. The eastern and southern sides were identified and it appeared to extend into the area of the Fry Club and its car parking. (Yorkston & Hume 1995: 8)

A large number of post-holes and stake-holes were identified in several trenches: trench 1 (*ibid.*: 8); trench 3 (*ibid.*: 10); trench 5 (*ibid.*: 12); trench 6 (*ibid.*: 13); trench 8 (*ibid.*: 15) and trench 9 (*ibid.*: 17). They varied in depth, some were paired and others were single post or stake-holes. A cobble path or trackway was identified in trench 10 (*ibid.*: 18). Unfortunately, it was not possible to determine the form or function of the individual timber structures that were represented by the post-holes and stake-holes because of the limited area of exposure. Yorkston and Hume concluded that the features were probably prehistoric in origin, but this must remain provisional. Positive dating of the features was difficult, and dating relied on trench stratigraphy and the absence of Romano-British finds in an area of known Romano-British settlement. Open area excavation would be required for a fuller understanding of the site. (Yorkston & Hume 1995: 20)

To the rear of the factory, an undisturbed buried land surface was recorded which appears to have been open and in use as undeveloped pasturage until the 1920s. The buried land surface indicated the possibility that archaeological remains may be preserved beneath that surface in a zone adjacent to the rear of the modern factory. Beyond this zone, the buried land surface appears to be sealed by very considerable deposits of made-ground (up to 3m deep), related to the construction of the chocolate factory in the 1920s (Yorkston & Hume 1995).

2.3 Regional context

The River Avon formed a natural communication corridor throughout prehistory, most notably as part of the likely route for the transportation of the Stonehenge bluestones from Preseli. The gravels of the Severn and Avon valleys contain internationally important suites of Lower Palaeolithic flint handaxes, such as those found lower down the river at Shirehampton and Pill, and the potential for such in the gravels at Keynsham must be high. Casual finds of later prehistoric flint tools have been made in the immediate vicinity of the town. These include the discovery of early to late Mesolithic flint associated with occupation found in alluvium on the Avon flood plain at Bath. The valley is overlooked by two possible Iron Age hillforts at the Humpy Dumps (SMR 1206) and North Stoke (SMR 1645) (Prosser 1995: 18).

3.0 ROMANO-BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY (AD 47-c.450)

3.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** archaeological excavation of Durley Romano-British villa and Somerdale Romano-British villa (Bulleid & Horne 1921: 210-11; Bulleid 1922a: 265; Bulleid 1922b: 232-234; Gray 1922a; Gray 1922b; Ellis 1922; Bulleid & Horne 1926: 136-138; Collingwood 1926; Collingwood 1930; Fry & Sons 1957; Ryan 1979; Borgelin 1983); archaeological evaluation at Somerdale chocolate factory (Parry 1992; Hume 1993; Young 1994; Yorkston & Hume 1995)
- **Field survey work:** topographic study (Leech 1975)
- **Archaeological/historical research:** study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); report on Romano-British settlement at Somerdale (Browne 1991); doctorate research of Keynsham Hundred (Prosser 1995); comments on planning application (Sydes 1997)

3.2 Local settlement pattern [Map B]

Durley Hill Romano-British villa (SMR 1208)[Map B: 1, 2]

Evidence for Romano-British settlement in Keynsham was first uncovered in 1922 when the remains of Durley Hill Romano-British villa were discovered to the north-east of the later medieval town, on the site of a 19th century cemetery. The site was excavated in three seasons between 1922 and 1924. Details from the excavation were variously published (Bulleid & Horne 1921: 210-11; Bulleid 1922a: 265; Bulleid 1922b: 232-234; Gray 1922a; Gray 1922b; Bulleid & Horne 1926: 136-138; Collingwood 1926; Collingwood 1930), but no stratigraphy was recorded and the potential for material still surviving in the vicinity is high (Prosser 1995: 32). A gravedigger has reported the survival of mosaic fragments between existing graves on several occasions in the last five years (Russett personal communication). It is not known where the original site archive is held, although in 1986, White stated that photographs of the finds and copies of Bulleid's drawings were held in Taunton Museum (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record cards).

Prosser described this villa as a palatial, late 3rd century villa 'much neglected in studies of the region, but ... one of the most opulent examples of Romano-British rural domestic architecture yet discovered in Britain' (Prosser 1995: 32). He goes on to compare its status with that of other palatial villas, such as Fishbourne (Sussex) and Woodchester (Gloucestershire) (*ibid.*: 34).

The villa consisted of three wings constructed around a courtyard, facing the river Avon to the south-east. It was built on a gentle slope and the principal rooms lay at the highest point to the north-west. They had mosaic floors and faced a colonnaded portico, giving fine views over the valley. Sluices and drains constructed at the extreme south-east of the villa suggest the presence of a bath complex, which has not been discovered, but which may lie to the east of the main villa range. (Prosser 1995: 34)

Finds from the villa included tessellated pavements, stonework, pillars, column pieces, coins, pottery and a small amount of bronze work. These were originally displayed in Fry's Museum on the site of the Somerdale chocolate factory, but the museum has closed and the finds are now stored in the basement of Keynsham Town Hall (Lowe & Brown 1994: 14). It is not known if the mosaic in the factory canteen has been moved; in 1986 White visited the site and described it as being in reasonable condition (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record cards). In 1985 a small extension was added to the cemetery; evaluation work at this time revealed a large number of Roman artefacts, including pottery, coins and other objects (SMR 10374; Iles 1985). The Romano-British layers were identified approximately one metre below the ground level (*ibid.*). Although outside the known area of the villa, this material was presumably associated with it.

The depiction of the villa area on *Map B* is roughly based on an unpublished sketch of the villa made on an Ordnance Survey map of 1973, held in Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record (SMR 1208).

Somerdale Romano-British villa (SMR 1214)[Map B: 3-5]

A second villa was excavated at the same time as the Durley Hill villa, less than one kilometre to the east. It was first recorded in 1922 when two stone coffins, pottery and other artefacts of Romano-British date were discovered during the construction of Fry's chocolate factory at Somerdale (Anon 1922: 120; Gray 1922a: 371-2; Gray 1922b). A stone building, Somerdale Romano-British villa, was subsequently discovered along with scatters of building material, a road (SMR 1217), a well, an altar and other artefacts including pottery and coins. The villa was hastily dug and publication of the site was largely confined to footnotes within the reports on the Durley Hill villa excavation (Bulleid & Horne 1921: 210-11; Bulleid 1922a: 265; Bulleid 1922b: 232-234; Gray 1922a; Gray 1922b; Bulleid & Horne 1926: 136-138).

The quality of excavation and publication was poor, even by the standards of the day. Consequently, there are differing accounts of the extent of the building and its status. Collingwood described it as comprising a principal 'hexagonal room, with variously-shaped apartments opening off it' and he believed that the baths were too large for a house which was only 60 feet square and containing only three or four rooms (Collingwood 1930: 135). Rivet concluded that it could have been a detached bath building possibly for Durley Hill villa (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record card, 1951). More recently Prosser has interpreted the site as a six room villa arranged around a small central courtyard, containing a bath suite 'but with few other concessions to luxury' (Prosser 1995: 36). The villa site now lies beneath part of Somerdale chocolate factory and it is not known what (if anything) survives today. The well adjacent to the villa survives intact and has been dated to the 3rd century; it is a grade II listed building (Fitter 1988, 1991, 1993; DoE 1991: no numbered reference attached to description).

Prosser has suggested several possible roles for Somerdale Romano-British villa: it could have been a tenant farm or a bailiff's residence for the estate centred at Durley Hill villa (*ibid.*: 37); it could have been a religious focus, with the Somerdale house acting as an inn or building for the reception of pilgrims or visitors to the shrine or temple; alternatively Somerdale may have fulfilled a much more official link with Durley Hill villa, as a *mansio* - a stopping point for the reception and use of official messengers and servants of the state - at the Romano-British town of *Traiectus*. (Prosser 1995: 38)

The depiction of the villa area on *Map B* is roughly based on an unpublished sketch of the villa made on an Ordnance Survey map of 1973, held in Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record (SMR 1208).

Romano-British settlement at Somerdale - the site of *Traiectus?* [Map B: 6-12]

The site-based emphasis of the 1920s excavation at Somerdale villa inevitably confined the scope for its interpretation. It is only recently that the site has been considered in a wider context. It is clear that the range of material originally deposited in Fry's Museum represented an extensive Romano-British settlement, extending over much of the area between the Somerdale chocolate factory and the A4 bypass. An inventory of these finds made by Borgelin included coins, bronze work, pottery and tiles. Column fragments and high quality imported materials retrieved indicate that the settlement contained some buildings of higher status. Four small crucibles survived, at least two of which were used for bronze working. Of particular interest were finds associated with temple sites: an altar to Silvanus, a pillar with entwined snakes - what may be a Romano-Celtic altar, and two small 'egg-cup' type vases made of orange-ware (Borgelin 1983).

Additional material was also found as a result of pipe trenches dug during the 1960s and 1970s. Pottery, a bronze fibula and a cremation in a gray ware pot were found parallel to the railway line (SMR 1218). A possible Romano-British burial was found to the north of the railway line under the pavement at the corner of Station Road and Avon Mill Road (SMR 1219; Ponsford 1971: 32). The approximate area of these finds is depicted on *Map B* roughly based on an unpublished sketch of the find spots made on an Ordnance Survey map of 1973 and held in Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record (SMR 1208).

Unsupervised intervention in this area continued as recently as April 1991, when the playing fields to the west of the main factory building were levelled (SMR 7615). This landscaping revealed and destroyed several Romano-British buildings, and but for the efforts of a local amateur group, would not have been recorded at all. At least one high status building was completely destroyed (Russett 1991). The report by the group on their salvage recording indicates that the building remains, which survived the initial levelling, are to be found under the rugby pitch (Browne 1991).

Examination of the finds from this site indicates occupation throughout the Romano-British period. The small finds from all of these sites, and the excavation archives (where they exist) are scattered, making it very difficult to synthesise the information about the site into a coherent picture.

Russett was shown the finds from the site in 1991. He noted 40-50 bronze objects including brooches, a belt fitting and possibly book plates, styli, and a wire bracelet with a surviving cubic knot decorated with enamels. Bone artefacts included dice, pins and a nail cleaner. Fragments of at least four glass beads were found along with a number of coins. A large quantity of pottery was recovered, including some very large storage vessel fragments, at least 100 large sherds of Samian vessels, of at least 20 makers, and a number of sherds of roofing tiles (mainly tegulae). A large number of small iron finds, chiefly nails; iron-smelting was attested on the site by the presence of tapslag, cinder and crucible fragments. Stone finds including a number of complete hexagonal PS roof-tiles, with nails in situ, at least two querns and a number of polishing stones. Finally, human skeletal material was recorded on the site but not recovered. (Russett 1991)

As a result of these finds Browne suggested that the settlement fulfilled many of the qualifications for the unprovenanced Romano-British 'town' of *Traiectus* recorded in the *Antonine Itinerary*, a contemporary 3rd century 'travel guide' to the Roman Empire. It was a minor undefended settlement, with a long history, a respectable size and some features of high quality (Browne 1987; 1991: 6). This interpretation has been lent greater weight by several archaeological evaluations in this area (Hume 1993; Young 1994; Yorkston & Hume 1995).

A total of 18 trenches and five test-pits were dug in the immediate vicinity of Somerdale chocolate factory and the pottery sequences recovered confirm a long span of Romano-British occupation in the area, from the first century through to the fourth century (Hume 1993; Yorkston & Hume 1995). Structural evidence was recorded including the remains of a dry-stone wall, soil features, soil layers containing larger quantities of occupation debris, and the remains of a well consolidated metalled trackway (Hume 1993: 15).

Aerial photographs taken during a dry summer in 1994 provided the most important clues to the extent of the town (Young 1994). A large settlement area of approximately ten hectares was identified, characterised by buildings along a metalled north-south street (SMR 1217; ibid.). Other roads radiated out from it, including a sinuous metalled road identified by Browne heading in the direction of Durley Hill Romano-British villa (Brown 1991: 5). Sill footings of more than 20 buildings and other features were identified on the ground and from the aerial photographs (Young 1994).

Crossing point [Map B: 13]

The route of the Roman road through the Romano-British town has been shown on Map B: it curved round to the east and probably extended eastwards in a straight line, crossing the River Avon at the point shown on Map B. This conjectural crossing point coincides with a stony area of the river, which is the shallowest part of this river stretch today (Russett personal communication). Field survey work is required to assess this area for the suitability of a ford crossing and the survival of Romano-British material. Projection of this line indicates the current village of Bitton, where extensive Romano-British occupation is also suspected.

Traiectus and Durley Hill Romano-British villa

There was undoubtedly a relationship between *Traiectus* and the immense and opulent Romano-British villa at Durley Hill. Further work is required to establish the nature of this relationship; as a result the area of land between them is of particular significance and of high archaeological potential.

The relationship between *Traiectus* and the later Saxon estate

The settlements at Somerdale and Durley Hill Romano-British villa are significant because of the possibility that the Romano-British estate of which they formed a part, may have survived as a land unit into the late Saxon period when Keynsham became established as the site of a minster church.

Relocated Romano-British building

One of the small Romano-British buildings excavated in 1922 was rebuilt in 1927 (SMR 9733). The foundations were re-laid just inside the gates of Somerdale chocolate factory as a gesture to their importance. Today the site is in very poor condition and is almost unrecognisable, having been also used as a repository for medieval carved stones from the Abbey excavation and elsewhere in the town. As Leech commented in 1975, the remains 'have little resemblance to their former appearance 'in situ'', though perhaps they serve to illustrate the futility of moving ancient monuments' (Leech 1975: 36).

3.3 Regional context

Without further investigation, the regional importance of the settlement at Keynsham Hams is difficult to assess. From its name, it presumably reflected the former existence of a boat crossing, although the likelihood of a bridge having been constructed on a route of the importance of that through Keynsham is high. The implication of the high class buildings, the palatial villa, the potential temple site and the size and opulence of the settlement may imply a regionally significant political role for the settlement. If nothing else, its position on the route from *Aquae Sulis* (Bath) and *Corinium* (Cirencester) to *Abonae* (Sea Mills) and the crossing to Wales may have given the site a market or trade function.

According to Barbara Lowe, Romano-British finds are common in the medieval town area (Prosser 1995). Several are recorded on the SMR, including a coin in Abbey Park (SMR 1215), Romano-British pottery and a wall in the garden of 49a Bristol Road (SMR 1220) and a Roman bronze brooch found at 21 Keynsham Road in 1940 (SMR 1223). It is not unlikely that these reflect some settlement in the medieval town area.

There can be no doubt that given the well-preserved nature, extent, status and currently threatened state of the settlement on Keynsham Hams, that it should be given full statutory protection by Scheduling under the 1979 Act.

4.0 POST ROMAN AND EARLY MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY (c.450-1066)

4.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** excavations at Keynsham abbey 1961-1985 (Lowe 1987); archaeological watching brief at Avon Mill (Parry 1993b); archaeological evaluation at Avon Mill (Parry 1994a)
- **Field survey work:** survey of Albert Mill (Day 1974); topographic survey (Leech 1975); site visit to Somerdale Chocolate Factory in 1986 by White (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division); archaeological watching brief and photographic survey (Curtis 1996)
- **Archaeological/historical research:** study of supposed Saxon cross (Pooley 1868; Mason 1971); study of Bristol brass industry (Day 1973); gazetteer of Anglo-Saxon sculpture (Foster 1984); study of old photographs (Lowe & Brown 1988); doctorate research of Keynsham Hundred (Prosser 1995)

4.2 Settlement pattern

Keynsham Minster Church (SMR 3595)[*Map C: 1*]

Keynsham Abbey was almost certainly preceded by a minster church, as described above (Leech 1975; Prosser 1995: 142). Although its location is unknown it is likely that it occupied a position within the later abbey precinct. In the absence of detailed information on the location of the minster church, the bounds of the abbey precinct have been depicted on *Map C* as the most likely area for the early Saxon church.

Excavation on the site of the abbey church has revealed many pieces of Anglo-Saxon carved stone. These included grave markers, and a finely decorated door jamb, originally built into the foundations of the west wall of the south transept (SMR 1216; Mason 1971; Lowe 1987). In addition to the Anglo-Saxon sculpture recovered from the site of the medieval abbey, stonework of this date has also been identified in the archway in Park House, on Station Road and above the archway of an ornamental wall at 44 Bristol Road. A total of 10 separate pieces of Anglo-Saxon sculpture are listed in Keynsham. It is possible that many more went unrecorded during the excavation of the abbey. During a site visit to Somerdale in 1986, White identified a possible Saxon cross shaft amongst stone material dumped beside the reconstructed Romano-British building at the gates to Somerdale chocolate factory (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record cards).

The failure to identify the location of the church may be attributed to the quality of the excavations or to the thinness and poor survival of stratigraphy on the site (Prosser 1995 142). In spite of this, a recent geophysical survey in the area of Keynsham Municipal Park has revealed possible new evidence for the minster church. A bank and ditch feature were identified on the eastern edge of the site and interpreted as the monastic precinct wall (Stratascan 1995: figure 13). However, it is possible that the bank and ditch may be older than the abbey and related to the earlier minster site. Russett has compared this feature with the bank and ditch discovered beneath later medieval buildings at Glastonbury, where they formed an enclosure dating to the 7th century (Russett 1995). Other, as yet undated features relating to the abbey precinct were revealed as cropmarks in 1996 in the park, and some of these may relate to the earlier phases of the abbey (Prosser & Russett forthcoming).

Saxon village [Map C: 2]

If, as argued above, the medieval abbey was preceded by an earlier minster church, it seems certain that the medieval town was also preceded by a Saxon settlement. The earlier village was probably centred on the minster church (Leech 1975; Prosser 1995: 150). The depiction of the possible early medieval settlement area on *Map C* is largely conjectural, although the existence of pottery of late Saxon date on the Nursery site excavation, immediately south west of the parish church, gives some credence to this conjecture (Yorkston forthcoming). It is centred on the junction of three roads into the town: Bristol Road, High Street and Station Road. These roads are shown on *Map C*. Aside from the High Street, their alignment is assumed to have stayed relatively unchanged. Both Leech and Prosser have both noted that Back Lane may have represented the original line of the road between Bath and Bristol, later defining the limits of the medieval abbey precinct (Leech 1975; Prosser 1995). The place-name evidence, as detailed above, emphasises the importance in the late Saxon period of the riverside meadows (Russett personal communication). In addition, the absence of any '-chester' or similar element in the name of the town, and its shift from the Romano-British focus to the medieval one, indicates a new settlement focus in the post-Roman period (*ibid.*).

5.0 MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY (1066-1540)

5.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** excavation at Keynsham abbey (Greenfield 1960; Mason 1966; Mason 1971; Lowe 1978; Aston & Murless 1978; Minnitt & Murless 1979; Mason 1984; Lowe 1987; Lowe 1988; Lowe 1992a; Lowe 1992b); archaeological evaluation at 34-42 Temple Street (Erskine 1990); archaeological evaluation at Back Lane (Newns 1992; Mumford 1993); archaeological evaluation 20-32 Temple Street (Parry 1993a); archaeological evaluation at 11, High Street (Broomhead 1993); watching brief at St. John the Baptist Church (Evans 1995); impulse radar survey at Keynsham Abbey (Site-scan 1995); geophysical survey at Keynsham Abbey (Stratascan 1995); archaeological evaluation at former Nursery site (Yorkston 1995)
- **Field survey work:** work by the Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division in the 1960s; topographic survey (Leech 1975); draft report for Monuments Protection Programme (Bond c.1987)
- **Standing buildings:** study of church (Robinson 1914); study of church and principal buildings (Pevsner 1958); study of the parish church of St. John the Baptist (Allen 1969); Department of the Environment list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1975)
- **Maps:** plan analysis of 1840 Tithe map and Ordnance Survey map of 1880
- **Documentary evidence:** Domesday Book 1086 (Thorn & Thorn 1980)
- **Archaeological/historical research:** study of Keynsham Abbey (Scarth 1870-71; Brock 1875; Hardman 1890; Weaver 1904; Scott Holmes 1911); analysis of Domesday account (Eyton 1880); survey of Somerset fairs (Hulbert 1936); study of medieval religious houses (Knowles & Hadcock 1953); study of English medieval boroughs (Beresford & Finberg 1973); study of Albert mill (Day 1973); study of religious buildings of Keynsham (McGrath 1983); study of Keynsham hospital (Woodham 1983); study of Domesday Keynsham (Whittock 1987); study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); study of old photographs (Lowe 1983; Lowe & Brown 1988); study of Keynsham Abbey 1993); doctorate research of Keynsham Hundred (Prosser 1995); study of common meadows of Keynsham (Lowe 1996a); study of Keynsham Park (Lowe 1996b)

5.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

5.2.1 Watercourses [Map D]

In the absence of more detailed information the River Chew has been depicted on *Map D* on the basis of the Tithe map of 1840. It formed an important central feature of the town and the main high street was laid out parallel to it. The route of the river has remained remarkably stable during the last 150 years. The greatest variation to its course occurred to the north of Bath Hill where the river flowed through Chew Mill; it is likely that these changes were a result of upgrades in the water management system for the mill in the 19th century. The part of the river which lay parallel to Temple Street and stretched between Dapp's Hill and Bath Hill was probably straightened during the medieval period, defining the back of town plots on the east side of Temple Street. This stretch has probably remained unaltered since at least the 13th century, when the town appears to have been planted on the site of the earlier Saxon village.

Although the river provided the main source of water for the town, there is evidence for a more extensive water management system in the medieval period that included wells in the town. A medieval well was discovered at the rear of 70 Temple Street in the 1970s (SMR 2410; ST65516827); the well was backfilled with medieval pottery dating to the 13th and 14th centuries. A similar well, with well-cut stone and containing an arch in its lower part, was found during construction after the evaluation work at Temple Street (Parry 1993a). An archaeological evaluation carried out in 1990 to the rear of 34-42 Temple Street found evidence for stone built rectangular gullies (SMR 7410). They were identified as evidence for a water disposal or other water management system, of medieval or post-medieval date (Erskine 1990: 10).

5.2.2 Roads [*Map D*]

The medieval street layout probably overlaid part of the earlier Saxon road network. As Leech first noted, the back lane east of the High Street may have represented the original line of the road between Bath and Bristol (Leech 1975: 38). The most obvious planned elements in the town are the High Street and Temple Street, laid out in a straight line north - south, along a ridge on the west bank of the River Chew (*ibid.*). Clay Lane which ran along the back of the town closes, also appears to have been planned. It was roughly parallel to the main high street, though it respected the contours of the land more closely. A more detailed discussion of the town plan is made below (section 5.3.1). In the absence of more detailed information the road network shown on *Map D* is based on the Tithe map of 1840. In view of the irregular layout of the town the date of the roads is of particular interest. Further study of the street place-names is required to help build up a more detailed picture of the town's development.

5.2.3 Bridges

Crossing point at Keynsham Bridge (SMR 9392)[*Map D: 1*]

A medieval bridge crossed the River Chew to the north of Keynsham Abbey on the same site as Keynsham Bridge (Lowe & Brown 1988: 53). Keynsham Bridge is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 where Station Road crossed the River Chew. Although this bridge dated to the 18th or 19th century it had a medieval predecessor (*ibid.*). A carved stone, reputedly from Keynsham Abbey, was formerly built into the top of the central arch as a county boundary stone; this may have been retained from an earlier bridge (*ibid.*). Unfortunately, further examination of the post-medieval bridge is not possible because it was destroyed by floods in 1968. In the absence of more detailed information the crossing point is depicted on *Map D* on the basis of the Tithe map of 1840.

Following the flood of 1968 the road was rebuilt on a different alignment, crossing the river at a less vulnerable point. As a result, part of the site of Keynsham Bridge has escaped substantial below-ground disturbance and it is possible that the foundations for an earlier medieval bridge may have survived the flood and subsequent demolition. The site is of particular importance since the potential for waterlogged preservation is high, opening up the possibility that a sequence of wooden structures could survive.

Crossing point at Downe Bridge, Bath Hill (SMR 9330)[*Map D: 2*]

The site of Downe Bridge (later Town Bridge) was a major crossing point in the town during the medieval period. This stretch of the river was probably straightened from at least the 13th century and is likely to have remained unchanged since then. The 19th-century bridge survived the 1968 flood and may incorporate features from an earlier bridge (Lowe & Brown 1988: 122-23). A detailed record of the present bridge is urgently required to assess, amongst other things, the survival of medieval features or stone work. The site is of particular importance since the potential for waterlogged preservation is high, opening up the possibility that a sequence of wooden bridge footings or other structures could survive. The bridge is depicted on *Map D* on the basis of the Tithe map of 1840.

Crossing point at Dapps Hill Bridge (SMR 2604)[*Map D: 3*]

The site of Dapps Hill Bridge was a major crossing point in the town during the medieval period. The present-day bridge dates to the 17th century and is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/9). Brown and Lowe have claimed that it had a medieval predecessor dating to the 13th century, although no archaeological or historical evidence is cited to support this claim (1988: 103). A detailed archaeological survey of the site is urgently required, with particular attention paid to possible sites for the foundations for an earlier bridge on the banks of the river close to Dapps Hill Bridge. The bridge is depicted on *Map D* on the basis of the Tithe map of 1840.

5.3 Commercial core

5.3.1 Town plots [*Map D: 4-29*]

Tracing the development of Keynsham is severely hampered by the mid - 20th century destruction of large parts of the town. The Tithe map of 1840 provides the best guide to the topography of the medieval town, allowing the principal plan elements of the town to be identified. The template for the town is similar to other planted medieval towns, with many long narrow burgage-style plots fronting the main street through the town. However, the particular articulation of this 'ideal mental template' appears to reflect the local topography and the pre-existing settlement.

Unlike other planned medieval towns, the tenement plots on either side of the main street through the town had a distinct character. The greatest uniformity of plan form occurred along the west side of the High Street and Temple Street, where the tenement plots were long and narrow. The plots on the east side of the main street were irregular in shape and length, constrained by both the River Chew, access roads and the abbey precinct. In addition, there were changes in the late medieval period resulting in the loss of at least two plots in Back Lane (possibly more), and their incorporation into what became first a town tip, and later, an industrial area (Parry 1994b).

Area around St. John the Baptist Church [*Map D: 4-6*]

The tenements centred around the church were some of the largest plots in the town, and as Leech pointed out, it is likely that many of these were formerly strips in the open field (Leech 1975: 38)[*Map D: 4, 5, 6*]. Some of their plan forms on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 still retain a slight s-shape, indicative of medieval strip fields (furlongs). In addition the plots which fronted Bristol Road abutted those to the south at right angles, a pattern common in open fields [*Map D: 5*]. The longest plots were located opposite the parish church [*Map D: 4*].

Although the medieval plot boundaries are not easy to discern in the modern layout of the town, the survival of 11 listed buildings on the street frontage is significant given the extensive redevelopment elsewhere in the town. The survival of medieval deposits beneath these buildings is likely to be good and the building at 12 High Street has a 16th century core (SMR 9359; DoE 1975: 1/30). Many pre-20th century buildings do not survive, however, and there has been no archaeological evaluation in advance of redevelopment.

An area of shorter town plots on the south side of Bristol Road, abutted *area 4*. This area has been comprehensively redeveloped and virtually no trace of the original plot boundaries survives; no archaeological evaluation was made in advance of this development. There are no listed buildings. It is extremely difficult to assess the extent of below-ground disturbance in this area but the potential for the survival of archaeological remains is low. It is possible that ground outside the immediate footprint of the new buildings will still preserve medieval deposits.

The tenement plots to the north of the church varied in length and shape but the property boundaries which survive on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 suggest that they were similar in width to those in *area 4*. Unfortunately, it may be difficult to trace the development of property division as most of this area was cleared in 1971 (SMR 9443). At least twelve buildings on the street front were destroyed and the plot boundaries removed (Leech 1975): it is possible that some of the remaining plots were also truncated. No archaeological evaluation was made at this time and the potential for the survival of archaeological remains is low. It is possible that ground outside the immediate footprint of the new buildings will still preserve medieval deposits.

Tenements on the west side of Temple Street and High Street [*Map D: 7-14*]

The most regular block of tenements occurred to the south of Dane's Lane, where at least 18 narrow plots fronted the west side of the High Street [*Map D: 7*]. Two rectangular fields cut along the back of the most northerly plots, though these may have been the result of post-medieval alteration [*Map B: 8, 9*]. No archaeological evaluations have taken place despite extensive redevelopment.

A second block of tenements can be identified on the west side of Temple Street [Map D: 10]. These plots had a regular plot width and length, but were narrower than the plots described above. Archaeological evidence has been recovered in this area which indicates medieval occupation here from at least the second half of the 13th century. Two archaeological evaluations were carried out in this area, one in 1990 (SMR 7410; Erskine 1990) and the other in 1993 (SMR 9500; Parry 1993a); seven trenches were excavated. No pre-medieval material was recovered, strongly suggesting that this part of the town was laid out on open fields. The depth of surviving stratigraphy was variable, ranging from 0.75 metres to 2 metres and the earliest pottery found dated to the second half of the 13th century (Erskine 1990: 12).

Like the plots to the west of the High Street, these plots were also cut short by a rectangular field [Map D: 11]. This area is now occupied by two car parks and Ashton Way road. The ground beneath it likely to preserve archaeological deposits, though no archaeological evaluation has been carried out. This area is of particular archaeological significance because it has the potential to reveal the original tenement plot length through the identification of features such as cess pits which characterise the back of plots and boundaries between them.

To the south of Carpenters Lane a group of at least 14 plots can be identified on the Tithe map of 1840 [Map D: 12]. These plots share a similar narrow plot width to those in *area 10*, but their length is variable. They form part of a large distinctive area that appears on the Tithe map of 1840, bounded on their western side by town closes (discussed in detail below) [Map D: 13]. Any archaeological evaluation in this area should be directed at establishing the layout and sequence of occupation in this irregular area during the medieval period.

To the south of *area 13* lies a triangular piece of land which appears on the Tithe map of 1840 bounded by the town closes on its western side, Workhouse Lane on its south-east side and Albert Road to the north [Map D: 14]. No tenement plots could be recognised on the Ordnance Survey map and it seems unlikely that this area was part of the commercial core of the town; archaeological evaluation is required to confirm or refute this assertion. The place-name 'Workhouse Lane' suggests that this road was built or at least consolidated in the early 19th century. It is possible that it was originally used as quarry path from Dapps Hill to the quarry on Workhouse Lane since its route is organic (it is the shortest route across these fields) rather than planned.

Tenements on the east side of Temple Street and High Street [Map D: 15-19]

On the east side of Temple Street the survival of tenement plots on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 is patchy. The best preservation occurred in the southern block [Map D: 15] where approximately 18 small tenements could be identified; the property boundaries for some of these plots ran down to the banks of the river, but others stopped short of this natural boundary. Only a small number of long thin plot boundaries survived in the area to the south of Bath Hill [Map D: 16]. In the absence of more detailed information, the two areas depicted on Map D are based on the two land parcels shown on the Tithe map of 1840 [Map D: 15, 16].

No archaeological evidence for the medieval settlement to the east of Temple Street has been found because a large part of this area was destroyed between 1960 and 1974 (SMR 9438; Leech 1975: map 11). No archaeological evaluation was carried out at this time and given the wholesale redevelopment of almost the entire Temple Street frontage, and the construction of at least some of the new buildings in areas quarried from the bedrock, the potential for archaeological survival is low. The clearance of this area is particularly unfortunate because the potential for waterlogged preservation was high.

The plot of land to the west of Back Lane is one of the more problematic parts of the medieval town of Keynsham. It appears on the Tithe map of 1840 as a narrow triangular block of land bounded by the High Street, Back Lane and Bath Hill [Map D: 17]. The precinct wall is thought to have run along the alignment of Back Lane and this area therefore fell outside the original abbey precinct. Two archaeological evaluations

were carried out in *area 17*: the widening of Back Lane in 1988 was proceeded by a small-scale trial excavation programme carried out by the Folk House Archaeological Society and a site evaluation was made at 9 Bath Hill, in 1992 (SMR 9705; Newns 1992).

Although the work by the Folk House Archaeological Society remains unpublished, Parry has noted the more substantial remains recorded on the western side of the lane (i.e. inside *area 17*). These included the foundations of a stone building which was believed to date from the late 17th century or early 18th century (Parry 1994b: 5). Former tenement divisions were also identified and judged contemporaneous with the eastern boundary wall of Back Lane; the boundary wall was demolished in 1988 (*ibid.*). It is likely that the current line of Back Lane (or at least that before its widening in the early 1980s) continued in use after the a number of plots were laid out across its line. Certainly, it does not appear that any more buildings were constructed along the eastern end of the plots to the east side of High Street / Back Lane. In the early part of the 20th century, a number of properties on the High Street possessed plots of land the other side of Back Lane, implying a possible link of *areas 17 and 18*, which was crossed by the earlier line of Back Lane.

The second evaluation at 9 Bath Hill was excavated to professional standards by Avon Archaeological Unit and is therefore a more reliable indicator of the settlement sequence in this area of the town. The site is reputed to be the location of the abbey courthouse (discussed in more detail below). The earliest features identified dated to the late medieval period and included the structural remains of a building, a series of walls and a pit. It seems probable that, as Prosser suggests, this area may reflect the infilling of the old market place in the 16th century (Prosser 1995: 147). The below-ground disturbance on the site is extensive and although the three trenches excavated on the site were of a reasonable size, full open area excavation is likely to be the only means of determining the sequence of medieval land use on this site.

An archaeological evaluation and an excavation in the area to the east of Back Lane suggest a similar date for tenements in this part of the town [*Map D: 18*]. Eight evaluation trenches were opened on the site in 1993 (SMR 9452; Mumford 1993) and an open area excavation conducted in 1994 (SMR 10325; Parry 1994b). The trenches revealed evidence for a stratified and well-preserved sequence of walls and a cobbled trackway at the northern end of the site (Mumford 1993: 1). These appeared to incorporate evidence of late medieval or early post-medieval activity on the site (*ibid.*: 17). The larger area excavated a year later confirmed the presence of late medieval boundaries and trackway (Parry 1994b: 1). It revealed evidence for a probable medieval wall, which may at one time have represented the boundary between the town and the abbey (*ibid.*: 17); if correct, it may be a candidate for the precinct boundary wall. In addition, a small but significant pottery assemblage was recovered dating from the 12th to 14th centuries, though it is impossible to attribute the pottery to tenements rather than the abbey itself.

A third group of tenements, which lay to the south of the parish church, was probably carved out of the abbey precinct area [*Map D: 19*]. Their foundation date is not known. Leech suggested that this area was given over to tenement plots when the town was laid out in the 13th century (Leech 1975: 37). However, Prosser has noted that this group of properties have no architectural evidence earlier than the 18th century, a date reflected in the earliest deeds (Prosser 1995: 147). Two trenches dug to the rear of 11 High Street demonstrated occupation in this area since at least the 14th century, including structural material such as ceramic roof tile (SMR 9262; Broomhead 1993: 3). They did not conclusively prove that it was an area of town plots rather than the abbey precinct. The only feature identified was a stone-lined post-medieval drain.

Evidence for the presence of town plots in this area is based on several strands of evidence. The listing description for 23 High Street states that this building is 'reputed to have 16th century internal features' (SMR 9339; DoE 1975: 1/35). Russett identified the wall along the back of the tenements as 'presumably 13th or 14th century in origin' on the grounds of architecture and mortar (SMR 9484; site visit by Russett in 1993).

The rear wall runs exactly parallel to the line of the two ditches containing late Saxon pottery found on the Nursery site in 1995 (Yorkston forthcoming). Ground survey work at 23 High Street and the boundary wall is urgently required to assess the survival of medieval features. This area of the town is of particular importance because archaeological remains may shed light on the way that the town was laid out. It is possible that permanent structures were built here in the late medieval period at the same time as the market place was infilled.

Area to the east of the River Chew [Map D: 20, 21]

The Tithe map of 1840 does not show any classic town plots in the area to the east of the River Chew, however, this does not rule out the possibility that the area was settled in the medieval period. Parts of this area were identified by Leech as medieval in date, though these were defined on the basis of the 19th century town plots shown on the Tithe map of 1840 (Leech 1975; map 10). Evidence for medieval occupation is confined to a small 18th century house set back from the street with a range said to be 16th century in date (SMR 9314; DoE 1975: 1/84).

Settlement on the periphery of the town [Map D: 22-29]

Establishing the bounds of the medieval town is not easy, but the areas on its periphery in the 19th century provide a good starting point. None of these areas have been the subject of archaeological investigation and no there are no records for medieval material in the Sites and Monuments Record. The opportunity for archaeological evaluation in the future should not be lost, since a confirmation of the absence of medieval material in this area would be significant. The best survival of archaeological material is likely to lie below the few pre-20th century listed buildings in this area.

5.3.2 Market places [Map D: 30-32]

There are three areas in the town that may have been used as market places, all of which can be identified on the Tithe map of 1840. The oldest candidate was probably the triangular space adjacent to the parish church, where Station Road, the High Street and Bristol Road met [Map D: 30]. The area is still preserved by the modern property boundaries in the town. Although a market was only granted officially to the town in 1307, as a royal centre informal commerce is likely to have been conducted here from Anglo-Saxon times (Prosser 1995: 150).

The largest market area may have been located at the junction of High Street and Temple Street [Map D: 31], including the infilled block described above [Map D: 17]. The construction of stone buildings and boundary walls in the late medieval period suggests that earlier timber market buildings may have been replaced with permanent structures. Prosser suggests that this larger market place may have been laid out in the 13th century, at the same time as the High Street was laid out along the wall of the precinct (Prosser 1995: 150).

A third triangular open space lay on the eastern side of the River Chew, at the junction of Wellsway, Bath Hill and Bath Road [Map D: 32]. The area is still preserved by the modern property boundaries in the town. A circular animal pound is marked in the centre of the area on both the Tithe map of 1840 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 and it is possible that it originated in the medieval period (SMR 9308). It seems very unlikely that any structure will have survived alterations to the road junction in the 20th century.

5.4 Civil sites and buildings

Courthouse (SMR 9703)[Map D: 33]

The building on the corner of the High Street and Bath Hill was first identified as the courthouse for Keynsham Abbey in the listing description for the building in 1975 (SMR DoE 1975). The 18th century building was thought to have a 15th or early 16th century core. Unfortunately the building no longer stands and this assessment cannot be verified as the house was demolished in 1978. Parts of the earlier phases of the building were incorporated into a library building on the site, but this was subsequently demolished in the mid-1980s (Newns 1992: 7). According to Lowe & Brown this was

the site of a building where the Court Leet of Keynsham Manor was held during the 17th century (Lowe & Brown 1988: 133).

The site was evaluated archaeologically in advance of proposed re-development in 1992 (SMR 8895; Newns 1992). The material found on this site confirmed the existence of a stone building on this site in the late medieval period, but no evidence was found to confirm its identity as the courthouse. Although there has already been some archaeological evaluation of the site, its strategic position in the town makes it a strong candidate for more extensive open area excavation, as at present the site remains backfilled and sealed under a layer of gravel at the entrance to Back Lane.

Medieval hospital (SMR 9359)[Map D: 34]

West End House at 12 High Street is reputed to be the site of the former hospice of St. John (Lowe 1983: 16-17). A 19th century drawing of this house shows late medieval windows on the street frontage and a projecting window with carved supports, supposedly of symbolic nature. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/30). The association of this 16th century building with a medieval hospital is probably due its date, though there is a reference to a 15th century seal for a hospital in Keynsham (Knowles & Hadcock 1953: 283). West End House seems as good a candidate for the hospital as any, particularly as it was close to the parish church: according to Leech the dedication indicates a possible link with the parish church (Leech 1975: 38). However, Prosser has suggested that the reference may have been mixed up with Eynsham in Oxfordshire - a confusion made in the medieval period as well (Prosser, personal communication).

5.5 Religious sites and cemeteries

5.5.1 Keynsham Abbey

Keynsham Abbey was founded in 1166 and surrendered in 1539 (Scott Holmes 1911: 32). Within two years of the surrender, the lead from the church, the cloister and steeple was melted down (Scott Holmes 1911: 131). In the post-medieval period a house owned by the Bridges was erected somewhere within the precinct, though its exact location is not known (Prosser 1995: 187). Stone was extensively quarried from the site in the 1630s during the repair of the parish church, after a storm caused the collapse of the tower. In the 18th century the house fell into disuse, and in 1776 the whole site, including the surviving monastic buildings was demolished and levelled (*ibid.*).

The first major below-ground disturbance of the abbey complex occurred in about 1835, when the railway cutting was made through the north-east corner of the main precinct area; burials, probably a cemetery, were recorded at this time. The site of the abbey itself was investigated in the late 19th century by Irvine and Brock (SMR 1222; Brock 1875: 198-205). Brock's account was based on excavations in the chancel and nave of the abbey and on documentary and topographical evidence. The principal elements of the complex were recognised at this time, including the chancel and nave of the church, conventional buildings on the south of the church and a fishpond. Irvine's plans and notes relating to the Bath district, including those of Keynsham Abbey, were given to Bath Reference Library in 1947 (Taylor 1972). (Leech 1975: 35)

The construction of the Keynsham by-pass in 1964-5 prompted the second major destruction phase on the site. The road cut right through the centre of the abbey precinct, destroying the west end of the abbey and part of a probable cloister. In 1961 members of the Bristol Folk House Archaeological Society began to locate and record the position of the abbey at the request of the Urban District Council, initiating a period of excavation which continued for 30 years. In 1976 the site was scheduled as an Ancient Monument (SAM Avon 2; Monuments Protection Programme 20279), the society receiving the consent of the Department of the Environment to carry on excavating.

There has only been limited publication of the abbey excavations, in the form of bulletins and specialist studies. The final excavation report was published in 1987, though it had many shortcomings (Prosser 1995: 187). What can be gleaned from the reports indicates that the abbey represented a wealthy and substantial range of buildings (*ibid.*). According to Prosser, who has made a detailed assessment of the site, much remains unpublished (*ibid.*: 18). Many of the finds from the site still remain in the hands of members of the Folk House Archaeological Society (Russett personal communication). Excavation at the abbey was officially ended in 1992 at the request of English Heritage and a detailed management plan put forward (though it does not appear to have been fully implemented). Works to restore the site have included the replacement of the waste heaps in the excavation trenches that had remained open for 30 years, and the surrounding of the Scheduled area by a fence. Trees that had been planted on areas of the abbey outside the Scheduled area were removed after negotiation in 1996.

5.5.2 The abbey church and monastery buildings [Map D: 35-36]

The chancel and nave of the main abbey church was first recognised by Brock in the late 19th century, when he partly planned these features (Brock 1875)[*Map D: 36*]. Detailed drawings were published of encaustic tiles and of Norman to Perpendicular stonework including piers and capitals. Various sepulchral slabs were also described. Excavation by the Bristol Folk House Archaeological Society subsequently revealed a complex of building adjoining the church on its south side, including a chapter house, cloister and refectory [*Map D: 35*].

The west end of the abbey and probable cloister were destroyed during the construction of the Keynsham by-pass. The most thorough excavation has taken place around the cloisters and chapter house (Prosser 1995: 190). Two graves were found beneath a fragmentary altar slab in a chapel on the south side of the church (Mason 1966). Other finds included coins, grave slabs, a late 13th century bone flute and medieval bronze clasps. Some of the finds were deposited at Cadbury's Museum, which subsequently closed; they are now located in the basement of Keynsham Town Hall.

The standing remains of the abbey are grade I listed (DoE 1975: 1/112). They include finely dressed ashlar with surviving architectural detail and late 12th century bases. Prosser has also noted the superb quality of surviving stonework and sculpture, though the luxury stone pieces do not survive and may have been stolen (Prosser 1995: 189). The main clues to building sequences depend on the analysis of decorative motifs on the stonework because the majority of the stone was quarried locally (*ibid.*) and, as Lowe admitted, the poor quality of excavation and recording made it impossible to determine later building sequences (Lowe 1987: 100).

Prosser has noted stylistic variations in the stonework which suggest that the abbey was continuously rebuilt and subject to improvements. The number of Norman stylistic motifs reflect the major reconstruction of the abbey and cloister ranges around the second half of the 12th century. Some alterations can be accurately determined, such as the extension of the south aisle by an extra bay in the 13th century, the addition of a Lady Chapel and a chantry chapel in the 14th century. The construction of a beautiful and elaborate screen in the nave can be dated to around 1350. Extensive areas of late 13th century tiling in the chapter house and conventional church attest conspicuous wealth and expenditure (Lowe 1978). (Prosser 1995: 189)

5.5.3 Ancillary buildings [Map D: 37-39]

In addition to the abbey buildings already recorded, documents relating to the abbey, including leases and visitations, show that within the precinct were a tannery, smithy, home farm, almonry and vineyard, gatehouse, abbots lodging, guest house and gardens. Knowledge of the ancillary buildings has been augmented by recent archaeological work in the precinct area (Stratascan 1995; Yorkston 1995). A geophysical exploration to the east of the chapter house was conducted in 1995 (Stratascan 1995). A series of small rooms with fireplaces were revealed to the south of the abbey and have been interpreted as service buildings and kitchen ranges (*ibid.*: figure 13)[*Map D: 38*].

Four trenches were dug on the Nursery site, an area adjacent to the western boundary of the abbey area (SMR 10502; Yorkston 1995). The remains of a very large pre-14th century building was recorded in trench 3. Yorkston has proposed several interpretations for the structure: a Romano-British building; the remains of a pre-conquest building, perhaps the Saxon minster; a medieval secular building, or a building associated with the medieval Augustinian Abbey (Yorkston 1995: 13). Prosser refers to this structure as a 'very large domestic building ... dating from the 13th century' (Prosser 1995: 189). Negative soil features in trench 2 were interpreted as probable medieval timber structures (Yorkston 1995: 13). The area where these features were identified is shown on *Map D* on the basis of the site area identified in the evaluation [*Map D*: 39]. The archaeological features themselves are certain to extend beyond this area. A subsequent full excavation of the area confirmed the medieval date of the large building, and indicated a number of other structures, including evidence for metal and bone-working in the medieval period, and the construction of a large culvert across the site in the early post-medieval period (Yorkston forthcoming).

A further area of ancillary buildings was identified during a site visit in 1996, when crop marks were observed in the park (Russett personal communication). An enclosure wall and a small attached building was identified, an indeterminate number of stone buildings were observed within the wall and at the southern end of the park two large adjacent sub-square parch marks, close to the site of the children's play area, was identified as the possible site of the abbey gate-house. The sub-square parch marks were at right angles to the abbey church. Further survey work is required to accurately locate the crop marks.

5.5.4 Cemeteries [*Map D*: 40, 41]

Two cemeteries were identified close to the abbey complex. A small cemetery was located on the eastern side of the church where burials were first noted during the construction of the railway cutting in c.1835 and have also been recorded by the Folk House Archaeological Club (Leech 1975: 37). A second cemetery was identified to the south-west of the church; an area of burials was recorded here when the tennis courts were constructed in the 1960s (SMR 9180; Greenfield 1960; Grinsell 1956). The full extent of these burials is not known. The depiction of the cemeteries on *Map D* is based on the plan of the area produced by Leech (1975: map 9).

5.5.5 The precinct wall (SMR 9179)[*Map D*: 42-45]

Attention on the abbey site had focused on the principal buildings, rather than defining the limits of the abbey site. In the absence of more detailed information Leech proposed the plot area shown on the Tithe map of 1840 as the most likely bounds of the abbey; he suggested that the original precinct was laid out when the abbey was founded in 1166 (Leech 1975: 37). The precinct extended as far as the northern end of High Street, and then ran south along the line of the narrow back lane which still runs behind the southern end of High Street (*ibid.*). The depiction of the main abbey site on *Map D* is based on this area [*Map D*: 42]. It is still largely defined by the surviving street pattern, and is delimited by the river Chew, Bath Hill, Back Lane, High Street and Station Road.

More recent archaeological research has started to reveal that the development of the precinct boundaries may have been more complex. Prosser discovered documentary evidence pointing to its enlargement at some point in the medieval period: the Abbot of Keynsham applied in 1347 for a licence to enclose a road for the enlargement of the precinct (Prosser 1995: 146). An impulse radar survey and a geophysical survey was carried out in 1995 in a rectangular area to the south of the main abbey ruins (Site-scan 1995; Stratascan 1995). The best results were obtained from the geophysical survey, which indicated the presence of a straight bank, ditch and wall on the eastern side of the abbey. These features may be the eastern precinct wall of the abbey (Stratascan 1995: figure 13) [*Map D*: 43].

Although Leech assumed that the main abbey precinct ran down to the river, the wall may be evidence that it was smaller or that there was some division of the precinct into sections (Russett 1995). As Russett has noted, this would not be too surprising since the abbeys at Glastonbury and Bruton (to take two relatively local examples) both had inner and outer precincts; the inner with the claustral buildings and the outer with the agricultural and industrial parts of the complex (*ibid.*). It seems likely that such arrangements would depend greatly on the rule and liturgical procedures of the canons (*ibid.*). The topography of the site adds weight to the location of an inner precinct wall, since the steep western slope down to the River Chew would have been the only part of the site unsuitable for building.

A second stretch of the precinct wall was tentatively identified on the western side of the site in 1994, as a result of an archaeological evaluation in the area (SMR 10325; Parry 1994: 17)[*Map D: 44*]. A small open area excavation was conducted in 1994 and it revealed evidence for a wall, which may at one time have represented the boundary between the town and the abbey (*ibid.*: 17). Early 14th century pottery was recovered from a stratified layer directly underlying the wall, suggesting that its earliest date of construction was the late medieval period (Parry 1994: 11).

To the north of this wall and aligned with it, lies a standing wall at the rear of the town plots in *area 7* (SMR 9484)[*Map D: 45*]. Russett made a site visit in 1993, and described the wall as about three metres high and about 0.80-1 metre thick; much of the wall had been altered or rebuilt but the original structure was built of large blocks of white lias coursed and set in pale white buff mortar. The dimensions and fabric description matches almost exactly the wall described above (*area 44*), suggesting the construction of a continuous stone wall along the western boundary of the abbey sometime in the 14th century. The survival of part of this original wall is significant and further survey work is required to assess its survival today.

5.5.6 Outer Precinct [*Map D: 46*]

In addition to the principal abbey buildings located in what may have been the inner precinct, the land beyond the eastern boundary was almost certainly part of the abbey estate, possibly an outer precinct area. The area of the park down to the river may have been a Home Farm or infield to the abbey: as it owned the mills, it seems quite likely that it also owned the land in between (Russett 1995). There is considerable archaeological potential within the park area on both sides of the River Chew, though limited by extensive landscaping. In the absence of more detailed information a possible outer precinct area has been depicted on *Map D* on the basis of a rectangular area preserved in the field boundaries shown on the Tithe map of 1840; this area neatly includes the mill sites.

5.5.7 Fishponds [*Map D: 47*]

Fishponds have been identified to the east of the abbey, on land adjacent to the River Chew (Leech 1975: 35). The survival of these features today is not known. Further research is required to elucidate their relationship to the eastern precinct wall described above. The depiction of the fishponds on *Map D* is based on the plan drawn up by Leech (1975: map 9).

5.5.8 Finds from abbey incorporated into town buildings

A great deal of stonework from the abbey was reused in the town and fragments of moulded stone are built into many of the house and garden walls in the area. Notable inclusions include the base and stump of a pier from Keynsham Abbey in the garden of 3 Abbey Park (Pevsner 1958); this feature dates to the 15th or early 16th century and may still be *in situ*. It is a grade 1 listed building (DoE 1975: 1/113). Several incised grave slabs excavated by the Folk House Archaeological Society from the abbey were re-laid in the south porch of Keynsham parish church (SMR 4883).

The jambs and inner side of an archway between two buildings on the east side of Temple Street incorporated late 12th and 13th century masonry from Keynsham Abbey; however, this grade II* listed building has been demolished (DoE 1975: 1/110). Two

stone gothic windows were formerly built in a garden wall at Durley Park House and despite being listed these were demolished in 1986. A folly to rear of 44 Bristol Road does still survive; this grade II* listed building is largely composed of stone fragments from the site of Keynsham Abbey, mostly of late 12th century date (DoE 1975: 1/148).

5.5.9 St. John the Baptist parish church (SMR 1221)[*Map D*: 48]

The earliest feature in medieval parish church of St. John the Baptist is the 13th century chancel. The church is mainly perpendicular, with a tower of 1634; the east window and interiors are restorations of 1861-3. It is a grade B listed building. (Pevsner 1958; DoE 1975: 1/1)

It seems likely that the parish church was built by the abbey soon after its foundation, as a town church; it may have been a means of excluding the parishioners from their traditional place of worship in the minster church, which had been transformed into the abbey (Prosser 1995: 147). The church was aligned with the abbey church, a feature of several important early medieval monastic sites (Leech 1975: 37). Evidence for an earlier church on this site is restricted to earlier foundations noted below the south pier during a small-scale excavation in the nave of the church (Ellis 1980).

The burial ground associated with the church is unlikely to have any burials before the mid-16th century because it was never granted its own burial ground during the lifetime of the abbey (Prosser 1995: 147). There is, however, a reference to a cross in the churchyard in the early post-medieval period (White 1990). This is unlikely to have been constructed after the Dissolution, and is unusual in that most churchyard crosses have a strong element of commemoration in their role, which this cannot have done if there were no burials in the churchyard. Several alterations have been made to the burial ground. Allen writes that it was levelled in 1959, after it had lain unused for over 30 years (Allen 1969). In 1995, two holes were excavated on the south side of the church in order to reline a sewer; approximately 1.5-1.8 metres of made ground was noted (SMR 10511; Evans 1995). There is no trace of the cross above ground. In the absence of more detailed information the depiction of the graveyard on *Map D* is based on the area shown on the Tithe map of 1840.

5.6 Industrial areas and sites

The Domesday account for Keynsham mentions 6 mills, no doubt reflecting the importance of the River Avon and River Chew in the hundred. It is likely that the Keynsham mills were sited in places, which later gave rise to mills in the post-medieval period. Research by Prosser has revealed evidence for three medieval mill sites in the town. A series of indentures from 1497 onwards mention grist or fulling mills called 'Avynmyll', 'Sowthemyll' and 'Downmyll' (Prosser 1995: 193).

5.6.1 Avynmyll, known later as Avon Mill (SMR 2243)[*Map D*: 49]

The site of Avon Mill is likely to have occupied a similar site to the post-medieval brass works on the River Avon. Most of the post-medieval buildings were demolished in the 1930s and the site has been redeveloped in the last couple of years. An evaluation of the site was carried out in 1994 revealing a small assemblage of medieval pottery recovered from a redeposited post-medieval layer (SMR 9625: Parry 1994: 15). The absence of structures was attributed to the fact that complete stratigraphic sequences were recorded in only two of the eight evaluation trenches (*ibid.*). It seems likely that there was large-scale disturbance on the site when the site was deeply terraced during the construction of the 18th century brasswork complex (*ibid.*). No additional medieval material came to light as a result of a watching brief carried out at the site in June 1996 (SMR 30002; Curtis 1996).

In the absence of more detailed information, the depiction of the medieval mill on *Map D* is based on the plot area associated with copper works shown on the Tithe map of 1840. Although the site has now been redeveloped, it is possible that medieval deposits still survive since below-ground disturbance in the development footprint was not total. The archaeological work carried out on the site was limited to small trenches

and test pits; the development of the mill is unlikely to be properly understood without more extensive open-area excavation.

5.6.2 Downmyll, known later as Downe Mill or Chew Mill (SMR 2242)[Map D: 50]

Lowe and White have identified Chew Mill as the probable site for this mill (Lowe & White 1994: 106); this seems likely given the siting of the mill within the abbey precinct and the survival of the place-name 'Downe Bridge', as noted above. Although the post-medieval mill is understood quite well, very little is known about its medieval predecessor. The post-medieval mill was demolished in about 1948 when Keynsham Urban District council bought the former abbey precinct to make it into a public park (*ibid.*). The weir and mill-wheel survive today.

In the absence of more information the depiction of the mill on *Map D* is based on the plot area associated with Chew Mill, as shown on the Tithe map of 1840. Parch marks in this area indicate the survival of the post-medieval mill foundations (Russett personal communication) and it is possible that foundations or features from an earlier mill also survive on this site.

5.6.3 Sowthemyll or South Mill (later Albert Mill) (SMR 5826)[Map D: 51]

Day first identified the post-medieval Albert Mill as the probable site of the medieval mill which appeared in documents as South Mill (Day 1974: 12). Although a detailed description and plan of the mill was made in 1974 no evidence for the medieval mill was noted (Day 1974). In the absence of more detailed information the depiction of the mill on *Map D* is based on the plot area associated with Albert Mill, as shown on the Tithe map of 1840. Although extensive redevelopment of the site has occurred in recent years (Lowe & White 1994: 105), the retention of the main building guarantees the survival of archaeological deposits below it. The potential for earlier foundations surviving beneath the mill is good.

5.7 Private estates

Keynsham Abbey

Keynsham monastery owned most of the land in the immediate vicinity of the town (Prosser 1995); two areas are of particular significance - the Abbots deer park and Coneygre rabbit warren - because they defined the limits of the town on the western side. Documentary references to them appear in the 13th century, strongly suggesting that the plan of the town had been established by this date.

The deer park abutted the western edge of properties running back to road on western edge of town: a map of the area was drawn up by Prosser (*ibid.*: 168). In 1285 the abbots applied for the enclosure of a large area of land for their deer park. The wording of the grant makes it clear that the land had been an unofficial deer park for some time before official permission was given to enclose it with a fence. It encompassed over 50 hectares. (Prosser 1995: 169)

The rabbit warren called Coneygre was enclosed just to the south of Keynsham in 1280. This was established in a pasture called Winterleye, indicating that part of the marginal outfield was brought into use and enclosed as a new rabbit warren. (Prosser 1995: 169)

5.8 Standing buildings

Photographic records indicate the survival of several late medieval houses in the town as recently as 1960 (Bond c.1987: 3). Only two possible buildings still survive, at 12 and 23 High Street (DoE 1975: 1/30, 1/35).

5.9 Local context

The medieval town of Keynsham was inextricably linked to its rural hinterland in the Keynsham Hundred. A detailed landscape study of the Hundred and its relationship to the abbey and town has been made by Prosser (Prosser 1995). He has identified the major landscape features on a map of Keynsham Hundred and this work provides a valuable perspective on the archaeology of the town (Prosser 1995: 168).

6.0 EARLY MODERN ARCHAEOLOGY (1540-1800)

6.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** archaeological evaluations (Newns 1992; Parry 1993b; Parry 1994; Curtis 1996)
- **Field survey work:** topographic survey of the town (Leech 1975); parish survey (Belsey 1980); survey of furnace (Tylecote 1981); draft report for Monuments Protection Programme (Bond c.1987); site visit by Russett in 1993
- **Standing buildings:** study of church (Robinson 1914); study of church and principal buildings (Pevsner 1958); study of the parish church of St. John the Baptist (Allen 1969); Department of the Environment list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1975)
- **Maps:** plan analysis of Tithe map of 1840 and Ordnance Survey map of 1880.
- **Documentary evidence:** antiquarian accounts (Collinson 1791)
- **Archaeological/historical research:** survey of Somerset fairs (Hulbert 1936); study of Albert mill (Day 1973); study of religious buildings of Keynsham (McGrath 1983); study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); study of old photographs (Lowe 1983; Lowe & Brown 1988); edited volume papers on the post-medieval town (White 1990); doctorate research of Keynsham Hundred (Prosser 1995)

6.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

6.2.1 Watercourses [*Map E*]

In the absence of more detailed information the River Chew has been depicted on *Map E* on the basis of the Tithe map of 1840. The route of the river has remained remarkably stable during the last 150 years. The greatest variation to its course occurred to the north of Bath Hill where the river flowed through Chew Mill; many of these changes were a result of changes in the water management system during the construction of the by-pass.

6.2.2 Roads [*Map E*]

In the absence of more detailed information the road network shown on *Map D* is based on the Tithe map of 1840. The road through the town was the main Bristol-Bath road in the post-medieval period and was turnpiked in the 18th century (Bond c.1987). No evidence of toll houses on the roads into the town have been identified, but an 18th century milestone lies on Durley Hill, four miles from Bath and eight miles from Bristol (SMR 9399). The place name Hicks Gate may indicate a turnpike structure to the west of the town.

6.2.3 Bridges

Keynsham Bridge (SMR 9382)[*Map E: 1*]

There is evidence for bridge at this location from at least the late 16th century: according to Collinson, Thomas Bridges, who had built a house in the grounds of the abbey, made a bequest on his death in 1559 to repair Keynsham Bridge (Collinson 1791: 404). The bridge is mentioned by Collinson in the 1791 as 'the county bridge, which is of stone, and consists of fifteen arches' (*ibid.*: 400) and appears on the 1880 Ordnance Survey map as Keynsham Bridge.

It survived until 1968, when it was destroyed during floods. The bridge had three symmetric round-headed arches possibly of freestone with coursed rubble walls and parapet and was identified by Lowe and Brown as 18th or 19th century in date (1988: 53). A carved stone, reputedly from Keynsham Abbey was formerly built into the top of the central arch as a boundary stone. Following the flood, the road was realigned and as a result no major new disturbance of the site occurred when the new bridge was constructed. It is possible that some elements of the bridge still survive. Keynsham Bridge is depicted on *Map E* based on the Tithe map of 1840.

Chew Bridge (SMR 9330)[Map E: 2]

The bridge over the River Chew in the centre of the town is thought to date to the 18th or 19th century (Lowe & Brown 1988: 122-23). A bridge is certain to have crossed the river at this point from at least 1791 (Collinson 1791: 400). No detailed survey of the bridge has been made and therefore its significance cannot be assessed. Following the dissolution, bridges were often the focus for patronage: Dapps Hill Bridge may be an example of this trend and it is likely that new bridges were also built over the other crossing points in the town. The depiction of Chew Bridge on *Map E* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

Dapps Hill Bridge (SMR 2604)[Map E: 3]

Dapps Hill Bridge has two segmented arches with a central buttress and dates to the 17th century. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/9). The parapets were rebuilt after flood damage in 1968 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 103). The depiction of the bridge on *Map E* is based on the surviving structure, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

6.3 Commercial core

6.3.1 Town plots [Map E: 4, 5]

The survival of medieval plan form elements into the 19th century suggests that the layout of the town, certainly along the principle street, remained largely unchanged in the post-medieval period. The pattern of land-use on the eastern side of the River Chew is less uniform, though the survival of several pre-19th century buildings in this area indicates occupation along Wellsway, Bath Hill and Bath Road.

The list of buildings of special architectural or historical importance drawn up in 1975 included 42 entries for buildings pre-dating the 19th century. Some of these buildings have been demolished since then and the list is in the process of being revised. Other unlisted post-medieval buildings have also been destroyed (SMR 9425; SMR 9444; SMR 9445). Notable survivals include Church Cottage on Station Road, originally built in the first half of the 17th century (SMR 6664; Hall 1983). Milward Lodge and outbuildings at 53 Bristol Road still survive and appear to be 18th century, though a plaque on the building gives a date of 1600; a stream runs under the site and it may have been used for power generation (SMR 9442; site visit by Russett in 1993).

The depiction of the post-medieval town plots on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840. Further research is required to accurately define the limits of the post-medieval town, because the changing pattern of land ownership and its contraction or expansion has the potential to reveal much about the fortunes of the town.

6.3.2 Market places [Map E: 6-8]

There are three areas in the town that may have been used as market places, all of which are clearly identified on both the Tithe map of 1840 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. Two of the market places probably remained unchanged from the medieval period: the triangular space adjacent to the parish church and the triangular open space at the junction of Wellsway, Bath Hill and Bath Road [*Map E: 6, 8*]. The market place at the junction of High Street and Temple Street was smaller than in medieval period, encompassing a similar area to that surviving today [*Map D: 7*].

In addition to markets there is also evidence for an annual fair. In 1785 documents record a fair held for cattle and cheese (Hulbert 1936: 103). This may have been held in or close to the larger market place on the east side of the town, where the animal pound was located. Further research is required to locate its original site(s).

6.3.3 Town closes [Map E: 9]

A distinctive area of long narrow fields on the west side of the town can be identified on the Tithe map of 1840. They lay adjacent to the town plots and are similar to plots that appear on the Tithe map for Thornbury, where early post-medieval documentary references refer to the fields as 'town closes' (Wildgoose unpublished). These areas of land were used as paddocks, meadows, orchards and market gardens (Wildgoose

1996). In the case of Thornbury they enabled the borough to operate independently of the manor and were thus an integral part of the town plan.

Although the precise role of these closes in Keynsham is not known, they are likely to have been equally important for the economy of the town. The date of their enclosure is not known, though Day has implied that these areas of enclosed land were indicative of changes to agricultural organisation that followed the Dissolution (Day 1990: 19). She notes that documents refer to 'closes', 'tynings' (enclosed from open fields), 'gastons' (enclosed paddocks) and 'breeches' (cleared woodland), but unfortunately does not give the date for these references (*ibid.*).

Unlike the Thornbury closes, which still survive today and have high amenity value in the town, the plots in Keynsham have been entirely covered with 20th century buildings, roads and service areas. The archaeological potential for the land is probably low. There is a slim possibility that evidence for stone boundary walls may survive, either buried as collapsed stone or incorporated into existing walls. Archaeological evidence which sheds light on the date of their enclosure, for example dateable wall sections, would be of great importance. Although documentary records give some clues to their official enclosure, it is possible that their physical enclosure occurred at an earlier date.

6.4 Civic buildings

6.4.1 Courthouse (SMR 9703)[*Map E: 10*]

According to Lowe and Brown, 9 Bath Hill was the site of a building where the Court Leet of Keynsham Manor was held during the 17th century (Lowe & Brown 1988: 133). This suggests continuity of use with the late-medieval courthouse described above. The building was substantially re-built in the 18th century, though it is thought to have incorporated the earlier 15th century core (DoE 1975: Newns 1992: 1). The depiction of the courthouse site on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840. The area remained open in late 1996. Although there has already been some archaeological evaluation of the site, its strategic position in the town makes it a strong candidate for more extensive open area excavation.

6.4.2 Almshouses

Bridges Almshouses (SMR 5748)[*Map E: 11*]

The almshouses founded by Sir Thomas Bridges in 1685 survive today on Bristol Road (Belsey 1980: 44). The two-storey row of cottages is now grade II listed (DoE 1975: 1/22). They are built of coursed stone with a continuous pantile roof with end parapets. The doorways are plain and set low down. The arms of Sir Thomas Bridges and his wife are carved onto stone cartouches on the first floor windows (*ibid.*). The depiction of the almshouses on *Map E* is based on the plot area associated with the houses as shown on the Tithe map of 1840. Two 20th century houses have been built to the rear of this plot of land.

Milward Homes Almshouses (SMR 5749)[*Map E: 12*]

In 1980 when the parish survey for Keynsham was carried out, Milward Homes Almshouses were described as standing at the grid reference ST65066834 (Belsey 1980: 44). The absence of buildings in this position on either the Tithe map of 1840 or the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 sheds some doubt on this assertion. Modern houses now stand on the site (62-68 Charlton Road). The site corresponds with the plot area 4052 on the Tithe map of 1840. In the absence of more detailed information this area has formed the basis for the depiction of the almshouses on *Map E*. Further research is required to confirm that this was the location of the almshouses.

6.4.3 Poorhouses

In 1601 an Act of passed instructing parishes to build a poor house on the outskirts of the parish, where all poor people on parish relief were supposed to live and where the able-bodied poor could be set to work (White 1990: 12). Keynsham did not build a poor house, but relied on a succession of cheap rented properties, as detailed below.

Drapers Poorhouse (SMR 5754)[Map E: 13]

One of the properties used as a poor house in the mid-18th century was a tenement between St. Ladoc Road and St. Francis Road called Drapers (White 1990: 12). In 1759 this was described in the Vestry minutes and 'a nursery of vice and debauchery' (*ibid.*). The Drapers Poorhouse cannot be confidently located because even at the time of the parish survey in 1980 it was no longer standing and the 6-figure grid reference encompassed 100 square metres of land on the west side of High Street (ST 652687; Belsey 1980: 46). No buildings appear in this area on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880, casting serious doubt on accuracy of this site identification. In the absence of more detailed information this area has been depicted on *Map E*.

The Batch Poorhouse (SMR 5756)[Map E: 14]

The Batch was another cheap property rented by the parish in the Dragons Hill area (White 1990: 13). It cannot be confidently located because even at the time of the parish survey in 1980 it was no longer standing and the 6-figure grid reference encompassed 100 square metres of land on the east side of High Street (ST 655686; Belsey 1980: 46). This area lay within the medieval limits of the abbey precinct and today it is partly covered by club buildings and partly by the park. No buildings appear in this area on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880, casting serious doubt on accuracy of this site identification. In the absence of more detailed information this area has been depicted on *Map E*.

The Kings Arms Poorhouse (SMR 5755)[Map E: 15]

The poorhouse at the old Kings Arms Public House was perhaps the most badly maintained property (White 1990: 13). References in the early 19th century refer to retiling, whitewashing and window repair of the building (*ibid.*). The poorhouse cannot be confidently located because at the time of the parish survey in 1980 it was no longer standing and the six-figure grid reference encompassed 100 square metres of land adjacent to the River Chew (ST 656685; Belsey 1980: 46). It is possible that the poorhouse was one of four buildings that appear in this area on the Tithe map of 1840, though they all seem to be associated with the mill. The buildings do not appear to survive on the Ordnance Survey map of 1995 but some of the fences on the map correspond to parts of the buildings and it may be that some walls are still standing. In the absence of more detailed information the 100 square metre area has been depicted on *Map E*.

Animal pound (SMR 9308)[Map E: 16]

A circular pound for the town was clearly labelled on both the Tithe map of 1840 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 at the junction of Bath Hill, Bath Road and Wellsway. It had been replaced by 1918 and 20th century alterations to the road make the survival of any associated features unlikely. The depiction of the pound on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840.

6.5 Religious sites and cemeteries

St. John the Baptist parish church (SMR 1221)[Map E: 17]

Alterations to the parish church were modest in the early modern period. The tower collapsed after a storm and was rebuilt in Gothic style in 1632 (Ellacombe 1847: 445; DoE 1975: 1/1). The pulpit is 17th century and other surviving interior features dating to this period include a monument to Sir Henry Bridges (1587) and Sir Thomas Bridges (1661) (*ibid.*). A wooden screen with the Royal Coat of Arms dates from about 1665 and the font dates to 1725 (*ibid.*).

Following the dissolution of Keynsham Abbey in 1539, burials were allowed in the graveyard. It would have been the main burial place for the inhabitants of the town in the post-medieval period. The archaeological value of burials made here during this period is probably enhanced by the absence of earlier graves. The churchyard cross (see above) was presumably demolished in this period. The depiction of the graveyard on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840.

St. Dunstan's Presbytery [Map E: 18]

The listing description for 20 Bristol Road states that it was previously St. Dunstan's Presbytery, but there are no other details about its use as a religious centre (DoE 1975: 1/114). The building itself is large and dates to the 18th century, with twin pebble-dash gables towards road. The most notable feature is a semi-circular rubble turret (of an earlier date) at the rear (*ibid.*). A small plot area to the rear of the building appears of the Tithe map of 1840 (plot 651) and it may have been used as a cemetery. The depiction of the presbytery church on *Map E* is based on this plot area and that in which the building stood. Today this area has been subsumed into a larger area occupied by St. Dunstan's Roman Catholic Church, a hall and ancillary building.

6.6 Industrial areas and sites

6.6.1 The Brass Industry

After the dissolution of the monasteries, the mills owned by the abbey came under the ownership of the King and by 1608 Avon Mill and South Mill were described in a list of properties held in Somerset by James I, as fulling mills (Day 1974: 2). Less than a century later, however, Avon Mill and the third mill in the town, Downe Mill, were part of a new brass industry in the town (Day 1990). South Mill may have been used for steel production, outlined in more detail below. Water power in Keynsham was utilised for the manufacture of brass from the early years of the 18th century, with production continuing until the early years of the 20th century. The history of this industry and surviving archaeology is outlined below with reference to the two major sites in the town: Avon Mill and Downe Mill.

Avon Mill [Map E: 19, 20]

Avon Mill lay at the confluence of the Rivers Avon and Chew, on the north-east side of Avon Mill Lane. In the 16th century, it appears in documentary references as a grist mill (Day 1973). It was later used as a corn and fulling mill (Parry 1994: 4). The site's importance, however, rests on its development as a major brass working site in the 18th century. The complex is of national and European importance because it lay at the heart of the Bristol brass industry; the region was gradually recognised as Britain's main centre of brass production and manufacture, eventually surpassing former continental industries in output and technical expertise (Day 1990: 26).

Avon Mill was bought by the Bristol Brass Company in the early years of the 18th century; the brass company had been started in 1702 by a group of Quakers in Bristol. It was the most powerful mill on the river and was eventually operated by eight waterwheels powering rolling mills and much ancillary equipment. The site manufactured brass plate and brass vessels during the 18th century, and was the only company site to produce brass wire. Towards the end of the 18th century the Company started to lose its domination of British brass production, with competition from a growing industry in Birmingham. By 1830 it had sold most of its sites between Bath and Bristol, and Avon Mill became the company headquarters. (Day 1990: 25-27)

The mill was in continuous operation until 1927 (Buchanan 1979: 50), when the site was acquired by a paper mill (Curtis 1996: 2.5). A photograph of the mill taken in 1928 indicates a large complex, including a cone tower that housed annealing ovens (Lowe & White 1994: 106). A large part of the brassworks was demolished in the 1930s and 1940s leaving only three standing buildings on the site (Parry 1994: 4): the mill owners' house, which has been converted into offices (SMR 6081); a row of buildings lining the north-east side of Avon Mill Lane (SMR 9728) and an L-shaped building which fronted the original course of the River Avon and housed the tail water culverts for the waterwheels (SMR 9729; Parry 1994: 14). These were protected as grade II listed buildings. The main mill building stood at the centre of the site and housed the undershot waterwheels; only the external walls remained standing (Parry 1994: 14).

In the last three years, the site has been redeveloped as a public house. Many standing structures, such as the external walls of the main mill building were demolished. As a result, Avon House is the only remaining standing building from the 18th century mill complex, though it was substantially re-built in the 19th century as the mill managers

house (SMR 6081; Day 1974). The function of the building in the 18th century is not known. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/5).

Three evaluations were made prior to the redevelopment on the site (SMR 9507; SMR 9625; SMR 30002). The small trench areas excavated during the evaluations severely limited the ability of archaeologists to interpret the site. Whilst several new structures were discovered, in particular a wharf and leat management system, the evaluations failed to elucidate the 18th century development of the site.

An archaeological watching brief was carried out during the excavation of eight geotechnical pits in 1993 (SMR 9507; Parry 1993b). Comparison with the Tithe map of 1840 showed that six of them were dug in the former channel of the River Avon and unsurprisingly they did not reveal any significant archaeological structures, deposits or artefacts (Parry 1993b: 9). The only stratified archaeological feature recorded during the watching brief was a slabbbed sandstone surface, exposed during the excavation of test pit 7 (*ibid.*). This surface, which was well consolidated and supported by a metal framework, may have formed part of the brass mill's river frontage (*ibid.*). Redeposited material of industrial origin was also recorded within this test pit (*ibid.*). On the basis of photographs taken by Day in the early 1970s (Day 1973: 121) Parry concluded that it formed part of a wharf (Parry 1994: 4).

A year later, seven trenches were excavated as part of an archaeological evaluation of the site (SMR 9625; Parry 1994: 14). The archaeological evaluation was carried out within the area of proposed development. Substantial structural evidence of the brassworks that formerly occupied the site was recovered. The upper stages of external walls and internal divisions within the main mill building were excavated, along with wall footings, cobbled surfaces and floors belonging to the northernmost building within the complex. The fieldwork carried out within these two areas highlighted the significant variation in ground levels over the site. It demonstrated that the main mill building was probably constructed on the same level as the L-shaped structure immediately to the north-west. The building to the north of the L-shaped structure occupied higher ground along with the other buildings lining Avon Mill Lane. A brick lined channel was identified in this building, and interpreted as a possible furnace trolleyway. (Parry 1994: 14)

On the lower lying parts of the site, most of the identified features were associated with the management of the river. A well preserved section of the stepped riverside wall, which was shown on a 1927 photograph of the brassworks complex, was recorded during the evaluation. The wall, only the upper part of which could be seen above ground level, was preserved intact to a depth of at least 2 metres. (Parry 1994: 15)

The final archaeological evaluation took place in 1996 (SMR 30002; Curtis 1996: 4.2). Although the foundation piling for the new public house left much of the archaeology within the development footprint unaffected (Curtis 1996: 7.2), it should be noted that several below-ground interventions occurred without archaeological supervision. These included both the full length of trench 1 and the first spit of excavation for the ornamental lake abutting an L-shaped warehouse dating to 1820 (Curtis 1996: 4.2).

A number of important features from the brassworks were identified. A series of tunnels and arches were identified beneath the main building complex. These were probably the tail leats from the mill wheels and may have represented a sequence of building phases, as one main arch cut across the span of two lesser arches (Curtis 1996: 5.1). A stone wharf was uncovered during initial excavations for the ornamental lake, abutting the east of the L-shaped building and contemporary with it (*ibid.*: 5.2, 5.4). The wharf was lined with sandstone blocks, linked together with iron pins (*ibid.*: 5.3).

The depiction of the mill on *Map E* is based on the Tithe Map of 1840 [*Map E: 20*]. In spite of the substantial redevelopment of the site, below-ground intervention in this area is likely to reveal further evidence of the mill buildings and riverside walls. The depiction of Avon House on *Map E* is based on the modern property boundaries for the property, since the plot area associated with the house were those of the mill itself [*Map E: 21*].

Downe Mill, later Chew Mill (SMR 2242)[*Map E: 21*]

Downe Mill was the lowest site of the River Chew, quite close to Avon Mill (Day 1973: 66). The earliest evidence for a mill at this site dates to the late 17th century: a photograph of the mill taken in 1907 shows a very large gabled building which was judged to be late 17th century in date (Brown & Lowe 1988: 127). In 1705, the mill was being leased by partners of the Bristol Brass Company (Day 1990: 25). Downe Mill was adapted as a 'battery mill', using water-powered hammers to beat out sheets of metal from flat ingots or plates cast in Bristol (*ibid.*). It continued in use until the 1870s, by which time the brass company had started to lose its domination of brass production (*ibid.*).

At the close of 19th century the mill was used for grinding ochre, used in local paint manufacturing and it is still remembered as the colour mill (Lowe & Brown 1988: 127). It was subsequently used to produce emery cloth and glass papers (*ibid.*). The derelict remains of a waterwheel are preserved as a feature in Keynsham's Memorial Park, though its size indicates that it was smaller than that used in the days of the brass mill.

The depiction of the mill on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840. A large rectangular parch mark of a building parallel to the River Chew has been noted by Russett, in an area which corresponds to a building on the Tithe map of 1840 (personal communication). This indicates the survival of below ground features that relate to the mill.

6.6.2 The Steel Industry

By at least the 1720s steel was being produced in Keynsham. Swedish traveller Henric Kahlmeter, investigating British metal industries in 1725, referred to a steel furnace at 'Kensham', near Bristol. His countryman, Reinhold Angerstein, making further reports in 1753 also noted the steel works, with its furnaces and one hammer for forging. Aside from Bristol, which may have also manufactured steel, Keynsham was the only industrial centre producing steel in the south-west. Unfortunately very little evidence for the industry survives in the town. (Day 1990: 25)

Furnace (SMR 3971)[*Map E: 22*]

It is possible that a furnace discovered in Keynsham Abbey Park was one of those mentioned by the Swedish travellers. In 1981 the furnace was partially excavated and described as a post-medieval reverberatory furnace located in the area formerly occupied by the chapterhouse of the abbey (Tylecote 1981). Its exact date is not known and it could be as late as the mid-18th century (*ibid.*), a date which fits in with the period of steel manufacture in the town. Tylecote stated that the round character of the furnace hearth, which measured 1.2 metres by 1.5 metres, was similar to Birinuccio's furnace (1558) except that the fire box was more square (*ibid.*). At the west end there was a neat tap hole cut into the pennant hearth and it was used to heat wood and possibly coal (*ibid.*). Samples taken from the furnace were high in bell metal. (Tylecote 1981)

White made a site visit in 1986 and assessed it as nationally important (Ordnance Survey Archaeology Division record cards). According to her, staff from the Science Museum had offered to excavate and remove the furnace but the offer had been refused. At this time the site was badly deteriorating, having been partially excavated and covered in plastic. The site of the excavation has now been infilled, and it is unlikely that any of the structure survives. The depiction of the furnace on *Map E* is based on the chapterhouse area of the abbey, as identified on a plan of the abbey excavations made by Leech (1975).

South Mill, later Albert Mill (SMR 5826)[*Map E: 23, 24*]

As its medieval name suggests, Albert Mill lay on higher ground to the south of the town. An early 17th century document refers to it as a fulling mill and it was subsequently used to scour and finish woollen cloth, in common with many other mills on the Chew (Day 1974: 12). During the 18th century it was the only mill in Keynsham still involved in the production of woollen cloth (Day 1990: 22). However, references in the 18th century suggest it was probably also used for the manufacture of steel.

Place-name evidence provides some clues to steel manufacture at South Mill; Steel Mills Lane lies close to the mill, and on the opposite bank of the Chew lie converted steel mill buildings (SMR 9374; Day 1990: 25). The lower house was the mill masters house and in 1734 a lease for the property mentions a steel maker (Lowe & Brown 1988: 101-2). It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975). The depiction of the steel mill buildings on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840.

Later documentary evidence indicates the presence of steel workers in the town during the 1780s (Day 1990: 25). Less reliably, Day writes that 'deeds of the premises are said to have been held in modern times by a local inhabitant who thought that the works had ceased to function by about 1822' (*ibid.*). It is certain, however, that the works would have been outdated by this date, since much-improved 'crucible steel' was being produced in the Bristol area (*ibid.*).

Day has also identified this mill as being used briefly for cotton manufacture in the second half of the 18th century (Day 1990: 23). In 1788 the owner of a cotton mill in Bristol advertised the sale of his premises and announced that his business was being moved to the village of Keynsham; however, within ten years the new business was for sale (*ibid.*). This may have been the site referred to by Collinson, who stated that there were 'considerable large brass and wire mills ... also a steel mill and a cotton mill' on the River Chew (Collinson 1791: 400). The cotton mill and its equipment were eventually sold by auction in 1811 (Day 1974: 13).

The original post-medieval mill was re-built several times in the 19th century due to successive fires and therefore the present mill building is largely 19th century in date. Despite extensive survey of the surviving 19th century mill building (Day 1974), no archaeological evidence for steel manufacture has been found. The depiction of the mill on *Map E* is based on the plot area associated with Albert Mill, as shown on the Tithe map of 1840. Although extensive redevelopment of the site has occurred in recent years (Lowe & White 1994: 105), the retention of the main building guarantees the survival of archaeological deposits below it. The potential for earlier foundations surviving beneath the mill is good. The mill is an excellent example of this monument type, and is a grade II* listed building (DoE 1975: 2/143).

6.6.3 Malting (SMR 8895)[*Map E*: 10, *Map G*]

Documentary evidence for The Old Court House suggested that malting was carried out on the site in the 18th century (Newns 1992: 6). The presence of a malting kiln was confirmed during an archaeological evaluation in 1992, when post-medieval malting kiln tile fragments were recovered from the site (*ibid.*). Despite its importance on both architectural and historical ground the grade II* listed building was largely demolished in the 1970s and it is unlikely that any significant remains from the malting industry survives. The depiction of the building on *Map E* is based on the Tithe map of 1840.

6.6.3 Quarries [*Map E*: 25, 26]

Two 19th century quarries in the town very probably pre-dated 1800: Dragonshill Quarry and the quarry adjacent to South Mill (later Albert mill). No research has been carried out into their earlier history, but the presence of limekilns increases the likelihood of documentary record. In the absence of more detailed information, the 19th century quarry areas are shown on *Map E*, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

6.7 Private estates

The Bridges House (SMR 1222)[*Map E: 27*]

Following the dissolution in 1549, the bells from the abbey church were removed and the lead stripped from the roof almost immediately. Very little in the way of flooring or walls survived from this part of the range, with robber trenches often the only trace of walling. In the claustral range, by contrast, areas of tiling and substantial flooring survived intact, indicating that this part of the monastery continued to be used after the 1540s. The Bridges built a house on the grounds of the abbey but its exact location is not known: in the absence of more detailed information the area shown on *Map E* is based on the abbey precinct area. Stone was extensively quarried in the 1630s during the repair of the parish church, after a storm caused the collapse of the tower. The Bridges house fell into disuse and in 1776 the whole site, including the surviving monastic buildings, were demolished and levelled. (Prosser 1995: 187)

6.8 Standing buildings

The total number of listings made in 1975, which covered buildings dating to the early modern period, totalled 44. The Department of the Environment is currently revising the listed buildings in Keynsham since many of the original 1970s listed buildings have been demolished.

7.0 19TH CENTURY ARCHAEOLOGY

7.1 Sources of evidence

- **Below ground intervention:** archaeological evaluations (Newns 1992; Parry 1993b; Parry 1994; Curtis 1996)
- **Field survey work:** topographic survey of the town (Leech 1975); parish survey (Belsey 1980); draft report for Monuments Protection Programme (Bond c.1987); site visit by Russett in 1993
- **Standing buildings:** study of church (Robinson 1914); study of church and principal buildings (Pevsner 1958); study of the parish church of St. John the Baptist (Allen 1969); Department of the Environment list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1975)
- **Maps:** Tithe map of 1840 and Ordnance Survey map of 1880.
- **Documentary evidence:** Kelly's Directory 1842, 1879, 1885, 1897
- **Archaeological/historical research:** study of Albert mill (Day 1973); study of industrial archaeology (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980); study of religious buildings of Keynsham (McGrath 1983); study of railways (Oakley 1986); study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); study of old photographs (Lowe 1983; Lowe & Brown 1988); edited volume papers on the post-medieval town (White 1990)

7.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

7.2.1 Watercourses and water supply [*Map F*]

The River Chew has been shown on *Map F* on the basis of the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. Comparison between the Tithe map of 1840 and the 1880 map show that its course remained essentially unchanged during the 19th century.

7.2.2 Roads [*Map F*]

The road network did not change dramatically during the 19th century. Comparison between the Tithe map of 1840 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 shows that there were no major alterations in the intervening period.

7.2.3 Bridges

Station Road Railway Bridge [*Map F: 1*]

The Station Road Railway Bridge was presumably built at the same time as the railway, which opened in 1840. The bridge was built by Measom and described as the 'most handsome on the line' (Leitch 1997: 65). According to Leitch the original bridge does not survive (Leitch 1997: 74). The depiction of the bridge on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Keynsham Bridge (SMR 9382)[*Map F: 2*]

The bridge on Station Road survived until 1968, when it was destroyed during floods. It had three symmetric round-headed arches, possibly of freestone, with coursed rubble walls and a parapet. It was identified by Brown and Lowe as 18th or 19th century in date (1988: 53). A carved stone, reputedly from Keynsham Abbey, was formerly built into the top of the central arch as a boundary stone. Following the flood the road was realigned; as a result no major new disturbance of the site occurred for the foundations of a new bridge and it is possible that some elements of the older bridge still survive. Keynsham Bridge is depicted on *Map F* based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Railway Bridge over River Chew [*Map F: 3*]

The railway crossed the River Chew a short distance from the Keynsham Station. It is not known if the river was culverted at this point or crossed by a railway bridge. Further survey work is required to determine the original structure built here and its survival. The depiction of the bridge on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Chew Bridge (SMR 9330) [*Map F: 4*]

The bridge over the River Chew in the centre of the town is thought to date to the 18th or 19th century (Brown & Lowe 1988: 122-23). No detailed survey of the bridge has been made and therefore its significance cannot be assessed. Following the

dissolution, bridges were often the focus for patronage: Dapps Hill Bridge may be an example of this trend and it is likely that new bridges were also built over the other crossing points in the town. The depiction of Chew Bridge on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Dapps Hill Bridge (SMR 2604)[*Map F*: 5]

Dapps Hill Bridge has two segmented arches with a central buttress and dates to the 17th century. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/9). The parapets were rebuilt after flood damage in 1968 (Brown & Lowe 1988: 103). The depiction of the bridge on *Map F* is based on the surviving structure, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1996.

Railway crossing to west of town [*Map F*: 6]

The railway crossed a stream on the west side of the town. It is not known if the stream was culverted at this point or crossed by a railway bridge. Further survey work is required to determine the original structure built here and its survival. The depiction of the bridge on *Map F* is roughly based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Crossing point on Durley Hill [*Map F*: 7]

Further south the stream was also crossed by Durley Hill Road. It is not known the watercourse was culverted at this point, crossed by a ford or bridge. The site needs to be visited to determine the original structure built here and its survival. The depiction of the crossing point is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.2.4 Railways (SMR 5087)[*Map F*: 8]

The location of Keynsham half-way between Bristol and Bath resulted in its early incorporation in the railway network, when the Bristol to Bath section of the Great Western Railway line to London was completed in August 1839 (Oakley 1986: 5). The railway opened a year later on the 31 August 1840; the final year was largely taken up with the construction of the bridge over the Floating Harbour to the east of Bristol Temple Meads. On the opening day of the Bristol-Bath line, Keynsham was the only intermediate station; further stations opened later in the year at Saltford and at Twerton.

The original railway station included a station master's house, a signal-box and a footbridge designed by Brunel (Lowe & Whitehead 1994: 10). In the 1920s the station platforms were lengthened to deal with increased passenger traffic created by the influx of Somerdale Chocolate Factory employees (Fitch 1997: 75). However, by the 1960s increasing road haulage and increased private car ownership resulted in the decision to close the station. In 1970 the original station buildings were demolished and the footbridge removed to Buckfastleigh private line in Totnes, Devon (Lowe & Whitehead 1994: 10). However, the station did not close completely. Since then increased public demand has resulted in an improved train service, another footbridge and an early morning ticket office (*ibid.*: 13). The depiction of the station on *Map F* is based on digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

7.3 Commercial core

7.3.1 Town plots (SMR 9323) [*Map F*]

The settlement area shown on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. Many of the original 19th century buildings have since been demolished. These include Woodbine Cottages, which were demolished in 1967 (SMR 9322; Lowe & Brown 1988: 108). A group of 17 or 18 cottages, Fairfield Terrace, were knocked down in the same year (Lowe & Brown 1988: 104).

7.3.2 Market places [*Map F*: 9-11]

The three market areas identified for the post-medieval period are likely to have continued in use during the 19th century, although the success of the town as a market centre needs to be assessed in more detail to determine changing patterns of use. It is interesting to note the congregation of 19th century public buildings around the market areas. A school, public hall and hotel were grouped around the market place at the bottom of the High Street and the police station and animal pound were located at the

market place on the east side of the town. The three areas are still preserved by the modern property boundaries in the town; these areas, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1995, are the basis for their depiction on *Map F*.

7.3.3 Town closes [Map E: 12]

A distinctive area of long narrow fields on the west side of the town identified in the post-medieval period, appeared to continue in use during the 19th century. It is likely that their use as paddocks, meadow, orchards and market gardens remained unchanged, though further study is required to assess their relationship to the town and how it might have altered in the 19th century. The depiction of the town closes on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.4 Civic sites and buildings

7.4.1 Public Hall [Map F: 13]

Comparison between the Tithe map of 1840 and Ordnance Survey map of 1880 shows that the public hall on Bath Hill was built in the intervening period. The building is not listed and further survey work is required to assess its architectural interest and changing use. The depiction of the hall on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Police Station (SMR 9391)[Map F: 14]

The police station on Dragon Hill was a large two-storied building located on the eastern side of the town. It was built in 1858 and extended in 1883 for use as a Magistrates' Court (Lowe & Whitehead 1994: 69). The building was demolished in 1972 to provide a car park for the new police station and courts. These were closed in 1990, ending Keynsham's 800-year old right to hold courts. A photograph of the building survives (Lowe & Brown 1988: 129). The only record of the original Victorian building that survives today is a photograph of the front elevation (Lowe & Whitehead 1994: 69). The depiction of the Police Station on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.4.2 Schools

Temple Primary School (SMR 9343)[Map F: 15, 16]

Temple Primary School was sited on the east side of the public hall. It was built in 1856 and 1857 and enlarged in 1873 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 12); the two ranges lie at right angles to one. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/78). The school was built on the edge of the former abbey precinct, but it is not known if any archaeological material was discovered during its construction. The depiction of the school on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

School, High Street (SMR 9106)[Map F: 17]

The Baptist Chapel built on the east side of the High Street was built in 1834 and can easily be discerned on the Tithe map of 1840 as a large rectangular building set back from the road. Comparison between this map and the Ordnance Survey map of 1880 shows that the building had been enlarged in the intervening period. The chapel and a school are marked on the 1880 map and it seems likely that the extension was built to house the school. The schoolroom was subsequently amalgamated with the chapel and today the building is grade II listed (DoE 1975: 1/ 2). No mention of the school was made in the listing description and it is not known if features associated with its use as a school survive; further survey work is required. The depiction of the school on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.4.3 Poorhouse and workhouse

Swan River Poorhouse (SMR 5753)[Map F: 18]

In 1831, the parish raised money to buy a rank of cottages called Swan River Tenements adjacent to the River Chew on Dapps Hill. They were built in 1824 by a basket maker and lime burner, John Clarke. The parish had made its decision to purchase very late, after the establishment of a Royal Commission to look at the old system of poor relief. As a result of its work, The Poor Law Amendment Act was passed in 1834, forcing parishes to build work houses for the indoor relief of the poor

and ending 'outdoor relief', which had given help to the poor outside the poor house. In 1844 the cottages were bought back by the charitable body which had originally lent the money for their purchase (the Feoffees); they included an older range of cottages at right angles to the 19th century dwellings. The cottages were repaired in 1859, split into 18 tenements and renamed Chew Cottages. (White 1990: 13)

Chew Cottages (1-5 and 6-8 Dapp's Hill) still stand today on the south side of Dapp's Hill, though they bear no resemblance to the multiple occupancy of the poor houses in the early 19th century. They are grade II listed buildings (DoE 1975: 1/28A). They are depicted on *Map F* on the basis of the modern plot area associated with the buildings, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1995. No plot boundaries were clearly associated with the building on the Tithe map of 1840.

Keynsham Union Workhouse (SMR 4163)[*Map F*: 19]

The workhouse in Keynsham was built by a large union of parishes which included Keynsham, Brislington, Burnett, Compton Dando, Corston, Kelston, Marksbury, Newton St. Lowe, Priston, Queen Charlton, Saltford, Stanton Prior, Bitton, Hanham, Kingswood, Mangotsfield, Oldland and Syston. Three acres of land were purchased and the building was opened in 1838. Its inhabitants were not the able-bodied poor whom the government believed were exploiting the old system, but were the sick, orphaned children, the handicapped and unmarried or abandoned mothers. By 1841 it had 183 inhabitants and 50 called at the door daily for relief. (White 1990: 13)

It was a large and regularly laid out building, characteristic of new provision made for the poor in the 19th century. The account books, minutes books and punishment books of the workhouse still survive today and are kept in the Somerset Record Office; they reveal the lives of inmates in great detail (White 1990: 13). The survival of these records enhances the importance of the building, which survives intact today. It is no coincidence that it now houses Keynsham Hospital. The building is a listed building. It is depicted on *Map F* on the basis of the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.5 Religious sites and cemeteries

St. John the Baptist parish church [*Map F*: 20]

The medieval church was substantially restored during the 19th century; the east window and interior were restorations of 1861-3 (DoE 1975: 1/1). The depiction of the graveyard on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. Concern over public hygiene and overcrowding in the burial ground was first voiced by the vicar in 1875, when he refused to bury a parishioner (Whitehead 1993: 15). A new cemetery was eventually built outside the town on Durley Hill. In 1959 the church graveyard was levelled after lying 'unused as a burial ground for over 30 years (Allen 1969).

Baptist Church (SMR 9106)[*Map F*: 17]

The earliest known reference to Baptists in Keynsham appears in documents of the Old King Street Baptist Church in Bristol, where a place of worship at Keynsham was recorded in 1715 (Leitch 1983: 6). References in the later 18th century indicate that their place of worship was a Barn Chapel in the orchard of Reverend Mr. Woolmer; unfortunately, this building has not been located. In 1802 this chapel was sold and the Baptists moved into their first building on their present site in the High Street. This building was demolished in 1834 to make way for a new building, completed on 21 April 1835 (*ibid.*).

The new chapel was set back from the road. The area between the chapel and the road was used as a burial ground until 1876, when it was closed by an Act of Parliament (Whitehead 1993: 21). However, Leitch states that the last recorded burial was in 1910 (Leitch 1997: 6). The chapel was later known as Ebenezer Chapel. The building was extensively renovated and modernised between 1969 and 1976 (*ibid.*) and is a grade II listed building (DoE 1975: 1/2). It is depicted on *Map F* on the basis of the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Methodist Wesleyan Chapel (SMR 9178)[Map F: 21]

John Wesley first preached in Keynsham in 1771 (Taylor 1983: 8), but no record for a Wesleyan chapel in the town exists before the 19th century. A Wesleyan Methodist Chapel was built in the High Street in 1807, allegedly on the site of the house where Wesley had preached (Lowe & Brown 1988: 141). The congregation subsequently built a new church on land at the bottom of Charlton Road; this church, known as the Victoria Methodist Church was completed in 1887 (Taylor 1983: 8). The old Methodist Chapel was sold and converted to industrial use in 1886 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 141). It was used as a workshop for the boot and shoe industry for many years: James first manufactured boots here around 1890 and in the 1920s it was occupied by an eyelet factory, Throsper Industries.

Although the building still survives it has been greatly altered. In 1993 the building was occupied by the Halifax building society. Apart from the shell of the building, it is not known if interior features survive which were associated with the chapel or its subsequent use as a boot and shoe factory. The building is not listed and it is not known if there was a burial ground. The depiction of the chapel on *Map F* is based on the 53 High Street, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Methodist Chapel (United Free); later Bethesda Methodist Chapel

(SMR 9390, SMR 9431)[Map F: 22]

In the 1850s, the congregation that worshipped at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Keynsham split into two. Some of the congregation moved across the road and started worshipping in a cottage belonging to Mr. William Cantle. This group eventually raised enough money to purchase land and built a chapel on Temple Street - the United Free Methodist Chapel, later Bethesda Methodist Chapel. (Taylor 1983: 8)

The Bethesda Methodist Chapel was a simple chapel built in 1860 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 113). The last service was held there in 1966 and it in 1983 it was being used a Cashman's DIY store (Taylor 1983: 8). The chapel fittings were still extant in 1988 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 113), but their survival today is not known. The depiction of the chapel on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. The site included a burial ground at the front of the church which was used from about 1860 until its closure in 1876 by an Act of Parliament (Whitehead 1993: 20).

Primitive Methodist Chapel, later Zion Chapel [Map F: 23]

A third Methodist group was held in Keynsham by the mid-19th century; they are referred to in the 1851 census and met in a private house (Taylor 1983: 8). In 1854 they obtained a cottage for worship and subsequently raised money for the purchase of land in Temple Street and construction of a chapel there (*ibid.*). The Primitive Methodist Chapel was opened in 1861 (Lowe & Brown 1988: 109). It was a rectangular building set back from the street, with a gabled roof and slate roof (*ibid.*).

In 1958, the congregation moved to a new building on Queens Road. The old chapel was used by the Elim Pentecostal Church for a time but in 1966 it was demolished, despite its status as a listed building (Brown & Lowe 1988: 109-10). The depiction of the chapel on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Victoria Methodist Chapel (SMR 9103)[Map F: 24]

Victoria Methodist Chapel was the new church built by the congregation that had previously worshipped at the chapel in High Street. The new church was built on land at the bottom of Charlton Road and was completed in 1887 (Taylor 1983: 8). The building is large and made of squared course pennant sandstone blocks with freestone door surrounds and a slate roof (Lowe & Brown 1988). It is not listed. The depiction of the chapel on *Map F* is based on the modern plot boundaries for the church, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995. A burial ground survives on the east side of the church.

Durley Hill Cemetery (SMR 10373)[Map F: 25]

The cemetery on Durley Hill was established in 1877 following overcrowding in the parish church burial ground. A pair of cemetery chapels, linked by a central arch, were built in the cemetery at around the same time (SMR 10318). The chapels are still standing today, though they were threatened with demolition in 1994. Further survey work of the chapels is urgently required. The depiction of the cemetery on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.6 Extractive industrial areas and sites**7.6.1 Quarries****Dragonshill Quarry (SMR 9433)[Map F: 26-28]**

A large quarry was recorded on the east side of the town on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880; two limekilns were also shown on the map (SMR 5757; SMR 5758). This map formed the basis for their depiction on *Map F*. By 1931, part of the quarry had been landscaped into a playing field and one of the limekilns removed (SMR 5758). The second limekiln, Keelings Limekiln, was connected by tramways to the quarry (SMR 5757; Lowe & Brown 1988). Photographs of this site taken in 1965 show the former kiln and limeworks (*ibid.*). In 1981 this site was demolished and warehousing erected (*ibid.*). Some foundation structures may survive below ground.

Quarry [Map F: 29]

The Ordnance Survey map of 1880 shows a second quarry to the south of the town; this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map F*.

7.7 Non-extractive industrial areas and sites**7.7.1 Mills****Avon Mill [Map F: 30-32]**

In contrast to the 18th century mill complex, the 19th century site has been well documented, surveyed and photographed (Parry 1994: 4). The 19th century history of the mill is well understood as a result of extensive research by Day in the early 1970s (Day 1973). By the early 19th century the Bristol Brass company had started to lose its domination of the brass production; by the 1830s it had sold most of its sites between Bristol and Bath and had moved its headquarters to Avon Mill (Day 1990: 27). The manufacture of brass continued throughout the 19th century and into the early 20th century. Only limited modernisation occurred at the site during this period and traditional manufacturing techniques were in use until its closure 1927 (Buchanan 1979: 50).

New premises known as the 'Upper Works' were erected after 1833 on land above the normal flood levels; they were positioned away from available water power and were powered by steam. A cone tower which housed new annealing ovens was installed at the works in 1834 and a new managers house, completed with clock and bell-tower, built in 1852. Despite these improvements the value of the site dropped rapidly as watermill sites became more outdated and the site was eventually sold in 1859. In 1874 attempts were made to increase the efficiency of the waterwheels by raising the height of Keynsham weir: metal plates were added to the rear of the structure. The mill supplied pin wire to the boot and shoe industry in Kingswood; this trade peaked at the turn of the industry but orders began to decline in the 20th century. Work picked up again during the First World War, when it produced brass plates for shells, but its failure to modernise ensured the eventual closure of the site in the 1920s. Avon Mill was sold to paper manufacturers in 1927, after just over 200 years in the Bristol brass industry. (Day 1973)

A large part of the brassworks was demolished in the 1930s and 1940s leaving only three standing buildings on the site (Parry 1994: 4): the mill owners house, which has been converted into offices (SMR 6081); a row of buildings lining the north-east side of Avon Mill Lane which may have originally been a smithy, two warehouses, a stable and tenements for the brass mill (SMR 9728); and an L-shaped building which fronted the original course of the River Avon and housed the tail water culverts for the waterwheels (SMR 9729; Parry 1994: 14). These were protected as grade II listed buildings. The

main mill building stood at the centre of the site and housed the undershot waterwheels (Parry 1994: 14); only the external walls remained standing. The large millpond was filled in, and the rivers Avon and Chew realigned as part of a flood-prevention scheme introduced following severe flooding in July 1968.

The depiction of the mill site on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. In the last three years the site has been redeveloped as a public house. Many of the earlier standing structures, such as the external walls of the main mill building were demolished. Surviving 19th century features on the site include the managers' house (SMR 6081) and a row of early 19th century brass mill cottages (SMR 9728). Three evaluations were made prior to the redevelopment on the site, as described above (SMR 9507; SMR 9625; SMR 30002).

Downe Mill, later Chew Mill (SMR 2242)[*Map F*: 33]

Downe Mill continued to provide power for battery hammers used in the brass industry until the 1870s (Day 1987). The Ordnance Survey map of 1880 labels the mill as 'Chew Mill, (Emery Cloth)'. Glass papers were produced here later, and towards the close of the century it was grinding ochre for local paint manufacturers (Day 1987). It is now remembered as 'the colour mill' (Lowe & Brown 1988: 127). The derelict remains of a waterwheel are preserved as a feature in Keynsham's Memorial Park, though its size indicates that it was smaller than that used in the days of the brass mill.

The depiction of the mill on *Map E* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880. A large rectangular parch mark of a building parallel to the River Chew has been noted by Russett, in an area which corresponds to a building on the Tithe map of 1840. This indicates the survival of below ground features that relate to the mill.

South Mill, later Albert Mill (SMR 5286)[*Map F*: 34]

In the early years of the 19th century, the 18th century cotton mill and its machinery were still up for sale, eventually being sold by auction in 1811. The results of this sale are not known but by 1830 the Bristol Brass Company included the mill in its list of property. It is described as 'the cotton mills on the River Chew, comprising a large stack of building with five floors, now used as a flax mill, with one water wheel and a fall of twelve feet'. There is no evidence that the site was ever converted for the manufacture of brass. A year later the company offered the mill for sale and it was later deleted from the list of the company premises. (Day 1974: 12-13)

Newspaper accounts refer to a serious fire at around this time and in 1836 an advertisement describes it as a 'newly-built grist mill'. Documentary references to the mill continue to refer to it as a corn mill or grist mill until the early 1850s. Reference to a second fire in 1873 mention the previous use of the site by 'The Blue Lias Lime Company'. The company manufactured 'hydraulic cement' by burning limestone; a local newspaper referred to 21 limekilns at the bottom of Dapps Hill where South Mill was situated. After burning, the stone was finely crushed by edge runners powered by the mill. The mill was subsequently taken over by a new firm, the Keynsham Lime, Paint and Colour Company, who manufactured ochre in addition to the previous business of limeburning. This firm was ruined by the fire of 1873. (Day 1974: 13)

The site was extensively rebuilt in 1874 by the Thomas family, who brought their dyewood processing to Keynsham. The mill was used to process logwood which produced black dye. However, a third fire occurred in 1875, gutting part of main building. The works were insured and subsequently rebuilt. Additional premises were taken as a temporary measure at Albert Road in Bristol and in consequence the Keynsham site was renamed the Albert Works. The company also bought chemicals in bulk and bottled or packed them in smaller quantities. The slow decline in the use of dyewoods was absorbed by the Thomas's through the success of the chemical business. They continued to produce dyewoods in ever-smaller quantities after the First World War, and as other manufacturers ceased, the Keynsham supply became almost unique throughout the country. The commercial processing of dyewood continued, in occasional batches, until the early 1960s. The final load of logwood, the main

commercial dyewood, was processed in 1964. From that date, the mill relied on the chemical business, becoming a chemical warehouse. (Day 1974: 14)

Following the survey work by Day in 1974 the site was listed as a grade II* listed building (DoE 1975: 2/143). As a result of this protection, the mill survives today with some of the original machinery still in situ, including the dyewood equipment and two breast-shot waterwheels which powered it. The mill has been extensively redeveloped in recent years but the character of the main building has been retained. Further survey work is required to assess the survival of other standing features associated with the mill. The depiction of the mill on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

7.7.2 Brick kiln (SMR 9387)[*Map F*: 35]

A brick kiln appeared on the Ordnance Survey map of 1891 and this area has been depicted on *Map F*. The lane adjacent to the works, now called West View Road, was called Clay Lane and was built over the site in about 1900. The site appears to have lain under the road or at about 51 Rock Road.

7.7.3 Public utilities

Gasworks [*Map F*: 36]

The Keynsham Gas Company was founded in 1857 on a site at the bottom of Dapp's Hill. The works were built by specialist engineers T. Atkins and Son and included two small gas holders and a retort house (Day 1990: 30). A photograph taken in 1910 shows the site in production, but in 1928 the company went into voluntary liquidation (Lowe & Brown 1988: 105). Only the retort house still survives today, and has been converted into office accommodation (Day 1990: 30). It is not known if any interior features relating to its use as a gas works still survive. The depiction of the gasworks on *Map F* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1880.

Power Station (SMR 9393)[*Map F*: 37]

Although Keynsham was not the first town in England to install public street lighting, it did have a very early supply, before Bath or Bristol achieved lighting on a regular basis. In 1892 George Parfitt, who later became a Fellow of the Royal Society, was appointed engineer to Keynsham Electrical Engineering and Power Company, Ltd. Its steam generating station and headquarters were situated at the site of the later SWEB premises, and present hall adjacent to the church, with the boiler chimney at the rear showing up in some early photographs of the High Street. (Day 1990: 30)

The site continued in use until the 1920s, when it was replaced by the Bristol Corporation Electricity Department (Lowe & Brown 1988: 153). It is not known if the original power station survives. Field survey work is urgently required to check for the survival of original features. In the absence of more detailed information the power station has been depicted on *Map F* on the basis of the modern plot boundaries for the hall and associated buildings, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

7.8 Standing buildings

There are 22 listing descriptions dating to the 19th century, covering 35 properties, two arches between buildings and a gateway and railways on Bath Road.

8.0 20TH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT

The size of Keynsham size has increased dramatically during the 20th century. Initially, this expansion took the form of new estate housing constructed as suburbs to the medieval town on its western and southern sides, along the roads to Chew Magna, Burnett and Bath. It eventually expanded to the south-east of the old town, over the Dragonhill Quarry and beyond. This expansion has continued up to the present day, with the greatest expansion being the 1950s and 1960s estate housing to the north of Chandos Road.

The chocolate factory at Somerdale was built in the 1920's on fields to the north-east of the town. It was intended to be a model factory village, although it never progressed beyond the construction of the factory and its approaches, and the building of Chandos Road. These approaches included a branch line from Keynsham railway station that crossed Station Road and led to the factory through a cutting. This was used during the Second World War, when Somerdale apparently functioned as a munition factory. This activity destroyed a considerable area of Romano-British settlement (see above) with inadequate archaeological record.

Structures of World War II date, part of the Defence of Britain in Keynsham included pill-boxes guarding either side of the Town Bridge, which were cleared away after the war. A small structure built in a space between the two wings of Temple School, apparently a machine gun post before conversion into an air raid shelter, survived until the mid-1990s. Some bomb damage occurred in the town, but it was relatively minor compared to that suffered by the larger towns of Bristol and Bath.

By far the most challenging re-development to affect the central area of Keynsham was the creation of the shopping mall between 1964 and 1966, and the construction of the District Council Offices in 1978-79. Both of these developments resulted in the wholesale destruction of a substantial part of medieval and post medieval Keynsham, including the demolition of 91 listed buildings. The Keynsham by-pass of 1964-65 and other road improvements including the realignment of Keynsham to Bitton road have caused further destruction and damage.

Despite this unfortunate recent past, this report testifies to the survival of significant elements of the medieval and later town together with earlier Roman settlement and future archaeological research has much to offer a full understanding of Keynsham and its past. The balance between conservation of what remains and any future development will be key to the next stage of Keynsham's continuing development.

9.0 RESEARCH INTERESTS

9.1 Research interests

1. Further work is required on place-name evidence for parish. In particular, the survey of Avon place and field names carried out in 1980 and coordinated by Mike Costen at Bristol University, needs to be published.
2. The geophysical work carried out in part of the municipal park in Keynsham should be extended to cover the entire park area, in an attempt to locate the rest of the claustral and other buildings of the abbey as part of an overall conservation/management plan.
3. A wall survey is urgently required in the town; in particular the section of wall on at the back of the plots on the east side of High Street needs to be surveyed and published.
4. Further work necessary on the Keynsham Hams to identify extent of Romano-British settlement and prepare a management/conservation plan.
5. A plan should be developed to catalogue, research and display the finds from excavations in the town.

9.2 Recommendations for further research work

1. Compile an index and summary of all documentary sources for the town.
2. Compile and publish a full report on the archaeological material salvaged over many years by the local group and now stored in the Council Offices, at the Abbey site, and at the site of the 'relocated' Romano-British villa.
3. Conduct a detailed building survey.
4. Conduct a cellar survey.
5. Prepare a detailed contour survey of the town.
6. Build up a detailed deposit model for the town.
7. Complete a comprehensive trawl of Bristol City Museum archives to check for finds and sites which have not been published and are not included in the Sites and Monuments Record.

10.0 REFERENCES

10.1 Bibliography

- Allen, F.A. 1969 *History of the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, Keynsham*. Keynsham Parish Church Council
- Anon 1922 Keynsham coffins: important Roman remains discovered. *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* 28: 120
- Aston, M. & Iles, R. (eds.) 1988 *The Archaeology of Avon: A Review from the Neolithic to the Middle Ages*. Avon County Council
- Aston, M. & Murless, B. 1978 Somerset Archaeology 1977. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 122: 117-152
- Belsey, P. 1980 Keynsham parish checklist. *Bristol Archaeology Research Group Bulletin* 1: 42-55
- Blair, J. 1992 Anglo-Saxon minsters: a topographical review. In Blair, J. & Sharpe, R. (eds.) *Pastoral Care Before the parish*: 226-266
- Bond, J. c.1987 Draft report of Keynsham: assessment for Monuments Protection Programme. Bath and North-East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record
- Borgelin, A. 1983 *Recodification and Location List*. Somerdale Museum. Unpublished
- Brock, E.P.L. 1875 Keynsham Abbey, Somersetshire. *Journal of the British Archaeological Association* 31 (2): 195-205
- Broomhead, R.A. 1993 Evaluation at 11 High Street, Keynsham. Bristol and Region Archaeological Services. Bristol City Museums & Art Gallery, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RL BA/B029
- Browne, C. 1987 Was Keynsham *Trajectus?* *North Wansdyke Past and Present*, Keynsham & Saltford Local History Society 1: 11-14
- Browne, C. 1991 Roman settlement, Somerdale: preliminary report. *Roman Research News* 3 : 5-6
- Browne, C. 1994a Woad and woadmen in Keynsham. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 6: 25-29
- Browne, C. 1994b Keynsham cemetery: an unwelcome resurrection. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 6: 25-29
- Buchanan, R.A. 1979 Industry. In J.S. Moore (ed.) *Avon Local History Handbook*: 46-55. Phillimore, Sussex
- Buchanan, C.A. & Buchanan R.A. 1980 *Batsford Guide to the Industrial Archaeology of Central Southern England*. Batsford, London
- Bulleid, A. 1922a Roman remains in north Somerset. *Antiquaries Journal* 2: 380-1
- Bulleid, A. 1922b Somersetshire. *Journal of Roman Studies* 12: 263-5
- Bulleid, A. & Horne, E. 1921 ??: 210-11
- Bulleid, A. & Horne, E. 1926 The Roman house at Keynsham, Somerset. *Archaeologia* 75: 109-138
- Clark, P. & Hosking, J. 1993 *Population Estimates of English Small Towns 1550-1851*. Revised edition. Centre for Urban History, University of Leicester
- Collingwood, R.G. 1930 *The Archaeology of Roman Britain*. Methuen's Handbooks of Archaeology, London
- Collinson, J. 1791 *The History and Antiquities of the County of Somerset*. Reprint 1983. Alan Sutton, Gloucester

- Curtis, R. 1996 Avon Mill, Keynsham. Archaeological watching brief and photographic survey. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Day, J. 1973 *Bristol Brass: the History of the Industry*. David & Charles, Newton Abbot
- Day, J. 1974 Albert Mill survey. *Journal of the Bristol Industrial Archaeological Society* 7: 10-19
- Day, J. 1987 *A Guide to the Industrial Heritage of Avon*. PPC Stationary Ltd., Bristol
- Day, J. 1988 The Bristol brass industry: furnace structures. *Journal of the Historic Metallurgy Society* 22: 24-41
- Day, J. 1990 Work and play. In E. White (ed.) *Keynsham and Saltford, Life and Work in Times Past 1539-1945*. Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society, Keynsham
- Department of Environment 1975 List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest
- Donovan, D.T. 1959 Gravels below the flood plain of the Bristol Avon at Keynsham. *Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalist Society* 30 (1): 55-66
- Ekwall, E. 1966 *The Oxford Dictionary of English Place-names* (4th edition). Clarendon Press, London
- Ellacombe, H.H. 1847 Tower of Keynsham Church, Somerset. *Archaeologia* 32: 445-446
- Ellis, F. 1922 Discovery of Roman remains at Keynsham. *Journal of British Archaeological Association N.S.* 27: 213-215
- Ellis, P. 1980 Watching brief St. John the Baptist Church, Keynsham. Avon County Council Planning Department
- Erskine, J.G.P. 1990 Archaeological evaluation: land at the rear of 34-42 Temple Street, Keynsham. Avon County Council Planning Department
- Evans, D.R. 1995 Watching brief St. John the Baptist Church, Keynsham. Avon County Council
- Eyton, R.W. 1880 *Domesday Studies; an analysis and digest of the Somerset survey according to the Exon Codex*. 4 vols. Reeves & Turner, London
- Fitter, M.C. 1988 The wells of Keynsham. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 2: 17-23
- Fitter, M.C. 1991 A Roman well at Keynsham. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 135: 166-167
- Fitter, M.C. 1993 *The Roman well at Keynsham*. Published by author
- Folk House Archaeological Society 1988 Small-scale trial excavation programme carried out prior to widening of Back Lane. Not published. Mentioned by Parry (1994b: 5)
- Foster, S. 1984 A Gazetteer of Anglo-Saxon Sculpture in Historic Somerset. Unpublished University of London thesis
- Fry, J.S. & Sons Ltd. 1957 *The Roman Remains at Somerdale*. Private publication
- Gelling, M. 1984 *Place-names in the Landscape*. Dent, London
- Glasscock, R.E. 1975 *The Lay Subsidy of 1334. Record of Social and Economic History* 2. Oxford University Press, Oxford
- Gray, H.St G. 1922a Roman coffins discovered at Keynsham. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and*

- Gray, H. St G. 1922b *Natural History Society* 68 (2): 87-92
Roman coffins discovered at Keynsham.
- Greenfield, E. 1960 *Antiquities Journal* 2 (4): 371-375
Keynsham Abbey, Somerset. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 104: 130-1
- Grinsell, L.V. 1956 Human remains from Keynsham abbey cemetery. *Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset* 27 (264): 118-119
- Grinsell, L.V. 1968 *South-western British Prehistoric Collections*.
Hulbert, N.F. 1936 A survey of Somerset fairs. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 82: 83-159
- Hume, L. 1993 *Site Specific Archaeological Evaluation at Somerdale, Cadbury Limited, Keynsham*. Avon Archaeological Trust. Bristol City Museum accession number 30/1993
- Iles, R. 1985 Notes on the excavation in the proposed extension area to Keynsham Cemetery.
Unpublished. Sites and Monuments Record file 10374
- Knowles, D. & Hadcock, R.N. 1953 *Medieval Religious Houses: England and Wales*.
(second edition 1971)
Leech, R. 1975 Longman, London
Small Medieval Towns in Avon: Archaeology and Planning. Committee for Rescue Archaeology in Avon, Gloucestershire and Somerset: 35-44
- Leitch, R. 1983 Keynsham Baptist Church. In P. McGrath (ed.) *Religious Buildings in Keynsham*: 6-7 Keynsham Civic Society, Keynsham
- Leitch, R. 1997 *The Railways of Keynsham, Featuring Fry's Chocolate Passenger and Freight Operation*. Railway Correspondence and Travel Society, Lincoln
- Lowe, B.J. 1978 *Medieval Floor Tiles of Keynsham Abbey*. Published by author
- Lowe, B. et al 1983 *Keynsham in Old Postcards*. Zaltbommel, Netherlands
- Lowe, B.J. 1987 Keynsham Abbey: excavations 1961-1985. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 131: 81-156
- Lowe, B.J. 1988 Japer Tudor's tomb in Keynsham Abbey. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 2: 11-13
- Lowe, B.J. 1992a Demolition discoveries. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 4: 25-26
- Lowe, B.J. 1992b Unpublished report on Keynsham excavation.
- Lowe, B.J. 1995 The demise of Keynsham's Great House. *North Wansdyke Past and Present* 7: 3-11
- Lowe, B.J. 1996a The common meadows of Keynsham. *Keynsham Saltford Local History Society* 8: 23-32
- Lowe, B.J. 1996b Keynsham Great Park. *Keynsham Saltford Local History Society* 8: 23-32
- Lowe, B.J. & Brown, T. 1988 *Around Keynsham and Saltford in Old Photographs*. Alan Sutton, Gloucester
- Lowe, B. & Whitehead, M. 1994 *The Changing Face of Keynsham in Old Photographs*. Alan Sutton, Stroud
- Mason, E.J. 1966 Keynsham Abbey. *A North Somerset Miscellany*. Bath and Camerton Archaeological Society: 27-28
- Mason, E.J. 1971 Saxon cross, Keynsham. *Archaeological Review*

- Mason, E.J. 1984 10
An early reverberatory furnace ... in the ruins of Keynsham Abbey. *Ringing World* 80: 145
- McGrath, P. 1983 *The Religious Buildings of Keynsham*.
Keynsham Civic Society, Keynsham
- Minnitt, S. & Murless, B. 1979 Somerset Archaeology 1978. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 1978-1979 123: 103-104
- Mumford, J.D. 1993 Site specific archaeological evaluation of land off Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Newns, S.C. 1992 Archaeological evaluation: Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit. Avon County Council
- Oakley, M. 1986 *Railways in Avon*. Avon-Anglia Publications
- Parry, A.H.H. 1992 Hicks Gate, Keynsham: Avon Ring Road Stage IVA - Tip site one. Site Specific Archaeological Evaluation. Avon County Council Planning Department
- Parry, A. 1993a Site specific archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development at 20-32 Temple Street, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Parry, A. 1993b Archaeological watching brief during excavation of geotechnical test pits at Avon Mill, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Parry, A. 1994a Site specific archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development at Avon Mill, Avon Mill Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Parry, A. 1994b Archaeological excavation off Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Pevsner, N. 1958 *North Somerset and Bristol: buildings of England*. Penguin Books Ltd., Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England
- Pooley, C. 1868 *Old Crosses of Somerset*. Longmans, Green & Company, London
- Ponsford, M. 1971 *Archaeological Review* 6: 32
- Prosser, L. 1995 *The Keynsham Hundred: a study of the evolution of a north Somerset estate*. Department of Continuing Education, Bristol. Unpublished Thesis A4739a
- Prosser, L. and Russett, V. forthcoming Crop-marks of buildings related to the Augustinian Abbey of Keynsham in Keynsham Park, 1996
- Robinson, W.J. 1914 *West Country Churches* 2: 195-197 Bristol Times and Mirror Ltd., Bristol
- Russett, V. 1989 Site observation at Somerdale, Keynsham. Observation of geotechnical trial pits on a proposed development site. Avon Planning Department
- Russett, V. 1991 Watching brief at 60, Chandos Road, Keynsham. Avon County Council
- Russett, V.R. 1993b Site visit to east side of High Street. Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record 9484
- Russett, V.R. 1993c Site visit to 53 Bristol Road. Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record 9442
- Russett, V.R. 1995 Notes on geophysical survey dated 24 July 1995. Bath and North East Somerset Sites and Monuments Record 1222

- Scarth, H.M. 1870-71 Ancient remains ... on the site of the Abbey of Keynsham ... *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquarians London* 2 series 5: 81-84
- Scott Holmes, T.S. 1911 The abbey of Keynsham. In William Page (ed.) *Victoria History of the County of Somerset* 2: 68-172. Reprint 1969. University of London, London: 1-67
- Site-scan 1995 Impulse radar survey at Keynsham Abbey for Wansdyke District Council
- Stratascan 1995 Geophysical survey carried out at Keynsham Abbey; report for Wansdyke Council
- Taylor, H.M. 1972 J.T. Irvine's works at Bradford-on-Avon. *Archaeological Journal* 129: 89-118
- Taylor, R. 1983 The Methodists in Keynsham. In P. McGrath (ed.) *Religious Building in Keynsham*: 8-11
- Thorn, C. & Thorn, F. 1980 Keynsham Civic Society, Keynsham *Domesday Book: Somerset* 8. Phillimore, Chichester
- Tylecote, R. 1981 *Historic Metallurgy Society*
- Weaver, F.W. 1904 Keynsham Abbey. *Notes and Queries for Somerset and Dorset* 9 (66): 72
- Weaver, F.W. 1907 Keynsham abbey. *Proceedings of the Somerset Archaeology and Natural History Society* 53 (2): 15-63
- White, E. 1990 Rich and poor. In E. White (ed.) *Keynsham and Saltford, Life and Work in Times Past 1539-1945*. Keynsham and Saltford Local History Society, Keynsham
- Whitehead, M. 1993 *Hic Jacet. North Wansdyke Past and Present* 5: 5-23
- Whittock, M. 1987 Domesday Keynsham - a retrospective examination of an old English Royal estate. *Bristol and Avon Archaeology* 6: 5-10
- Wildgoose, P. 1996 *Thornbury Town Centre: conservation considerations relevant to changes affecting the historic town centre of Thornbury*. Research paper submitted to South Gloucestershire Council March 1996
- Wildgoose, P. (in progress, to be published)
- Woodham, B. 1983 *A Study of the Topography of the Manor, Borough and Town of Medieval Thornbury*.
- Transformation: Keynsham hospital. *Somerset and West* 7 (1): 24-25
- Yorkston, D. 1995 Archaeological evaluation: former Nursery site, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Yorkston, D. forthcoming Archaeological excavation at the former Nursery site, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Yorkston, D.E. & Hume, L. 1995 Archaeological evaluation at Cadbury Limited, Somerdale, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
- Young, A. 1994 *The Settlement on the Hams*. Archaeological evaluation for Cadbury's Chocolate Factory. Avon Archaeological Unit, Bristol

10.2 Map sources

- 1840 Tithe map. Somerset Record Office D/D/Rt 363
- 1880 Ordnance Survey map 25 inch Gloucestershire 64.10
- 1905 Ordnance Survey map 1:2500
- 1912 Ordnance Survey map 1:2500
- 1931 Somerset sheet 5.13 Ordnance Survey map

1995	1:2500 Digital Ordnance Survey map 1:2500
10.3 Archaeological evaluations	
SMR 1221	Ellis, P. 1980 Watching brief St. John the Baptist Church, Keynsham. Avon County Council Planning Department
SMR 1222	Site-scan 1995 Impulse radar survey at Keynsham Abbey for Wansdyke District Council Stratascan 1995 Geophysical survey carried out at Keynsham Abbey; report for Wansdyke Council
SMR 7200	Russett, V. 1989 Site observation at Somerdale, Keynsham. Observation of geotechnical trial pits on a proposed development site. Avon County Council Planning Department
SMR 7410	Erskine, J.G.P. 1990 Archaeological evaluation: land at the rear of 34-42 Temple Street, Keynsham. Avon County Council Planning Department
SMR 8000	Parry, A.H.H. 1992 Hicks Gate, Keynsham: Avon Ring Road Stage IVA - Tip site one. Site Specific Archaeological Evaluation. Avon County Council Planning Department
SMR 8895	Newns, S.C. 1992 Archaeological evaluation: Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit. Avon County Council
SMR 9272	Broomhead, R.A. 1993 Evaluation at 11 High Street, Keynsham. Bristol and Region Archaeological Services. Bristol City Museums & Art Gallery, Queens Road, Bristol BS8 1RL BA/B029
SMR 9452	Mumford, J.D. 1993 Site specific archaeological evaluation of land off Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 9471	Hume, L. 1993 Site specific archaeological evaluation at Somerdale, Cadbury Ltd., Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Trust. Bristol City Museum accession number 30/1993
SMR 9500	Parry, A. 1993a Site specific archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development at 20-32 Temple Street, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 9507	Parry, A. 1993b Archaeological watching brief during excavation of geotechnical test pits at Avon Mill, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 9625	Parry, A. 1994a Site specific archaeological evaluation in advance of proposed development at Avon Mill, Avon Mill Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 10325	Parry, A.H.H. 1994b Archaeological excavation off Back Lane, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 10374	Iles, R. 1985 Excavation in the proposed extension area to Keynsham Cemetery. Unpublished. Sites and Monuments Record file 10374
SMR 10502	Yorkston, D. April 1995 Archaeological Evaluation: Former Nursery Site, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit

SMR 10511	Evans, D.R. 1995 Watching brief St. John the Baptist Church, Keynsham
SMR 10539	Yorkston, D. E. & Hume, L. 1995 Archaeological Evaluation at Cadbury Limited, Somerdale, Keynsham. Avon Archaeological Unit
SMR 30002	Curtis, R. 1996 Avon Mill, Keynsham. Archaeological watching brief and photographic survey. Avon Archaeological Unit
No SMR number	Folk House Archaeological Society 1988 Small-scale trial excavation programme carried out prior to widening of Back Lane. Not published. Mentioned by Parry (1994b: 5)
No SMR number	Russett, V. 1991 Watching brief at 60, Chandos Road, Keynsham. Avon County Council
No SMR number	Young, A. 1994 <i>The settlement on the Hams.</i> Archaeological evaluation for Cadbury's Chocolate Factory. Avon Archaeological Unit, Bristol
No SMR number	GeoQuest Associates 1995 Geophysical surveys at Cadbury Ltd. Plant, Keynsham, Avon. A programme of research carried out on behalf of Avon Archaeological Unit and Cadbury Ltd.