

**AVON EXTENSIVE URBAN SURVEY  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT REPORT**

**KINGSWOOD AND MANGOTSFIELD**

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## KINGSWOOD AND MANGOTSFIELD

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 The aims of the report

The Extensive Urban Areas Survey was commissioned by English Heritage in October 1995. The 19th century area of Kingswood and Mangotsfield was identified as one of the urban areas for consideration: this extensive modern landscape includes three principal post-medieval urban centres: Downend, Staple Hill and Kingswood Hill. Kingswood and Mangotsfield form one urban area out of a total of six within South Gloucestershire.

This document is a desk-based study of the archaeological resource surviving in the urban areas and their immediate environs. It includes an assessment of below ground archaeological remains, standing buildings and the historic plan form of the urban areas. It considers the development of the town within a standard chronological framework and where possible, the site areas mentioned in the text are identified on a modern map base of the town. The maps are contained at the end of this report.

The archaeological assessment report provides the basis for new planning guidance for the historic environment of Kingswood and Mangotsfield, as set out in the strategy document for South Gloucestershire.

#### 1.2 The study area

The study area has been roughly defined on the basis of the built up 19th century area in the modern parishes of Kingswood and Mangotsfield Urban. It includes the area between Kingswood Hill and Stapleton Hill which, in the 19th century, was an industrial landscape rapidly acquiring urban characteristics. The Bristol City administrative boundary forms the western limits of the study area and the Warmley Brook its eastern. In academic terms this is relatively arbitrary since there is continuous dense settlement to the west of the area in the administrative bounds of Bristol and to the south of Kingswood Hill.

#### 1.3 Major sources of evidence

Archaeological information on the Kingswood and Mangotsfield area is patchy. Survey work in the area has included a parish survey (Lay 1978) and work by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust (Parish file, South Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record). Not all the information in these surveys has, to date, been included in the computerised Sites and Monuments Record: as a result, a substantial number of additional sites have been included in this report.

Most of the survey work has concentrated on industrial development in the last 200 years and is largely unpublished; the survey notes (often illegible) are accessible only in the parish file in the South Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record. Some of the same information appears in the Kingswood History Series: five pamphlets were published by Kingswood Borough Council in the late 1980s. They included studies of

pin making (Street 1986), colliers (Malcolmson 1986), trade unions (King 1988), the boot and shoe trade (Fryer 1988) and a bibliography of relevant books (Roberts 1988).

There has not been any major excavation work in the study area itself, and only one or two published watching briefs have been carried out as a result of work on the Avon Ring Road. In the absence of below ground archaeological work, the history of the area is based on documentary sources. The antiquarian accounts of Atkyns (1712) and Rudder (1779) form the starting point for many subsequent studies. In spite of the area's growing prosperity and increased population, its marginal status is obvious from Atkyns and Rudder, who make little mention of non-conformity and still focus their accounts on the medieval parish churches in Bitton and Mangotsfield.

By the late 19th century attention shifted more firmly towards the study area - the area of the medieval Kingswood Chase. Ellacombe wrote a history of Bitton parish in 1881, Braine wrote a detailed history of Kingswood Forest in 1891, and Jones a history of Mangotsfield and Downend in 1899; they are based on the study of county histories, parochial and other records, property deeds and living memories in the 19th century. These works remain a useful source of information, particularly regarding the contemporary accounts of industrial development in the area. They also form the basis for subsequent work (Russell 1982) and many assumptions made in their work have yet to be seriously challenged.

The potential for documentary research in the area is good. In Mangotsfield many 16th, 17th and 18th century deeds survive; medieval deeds for various properties are held in the Fletcher Collection, Birmingham Reference Library. A survey of the manor of Barton Regis was conducted in 1553 and included part of Mangotsfield (Bristol Record Office E139/M84). Many 18th century deeds for Kingswood and documents relating to collieries are held at Bristol Record Office. Further research into the foundation of chapels is possible through the inspection of trust deeds. About 600 references have been listed by the Archivist of the Bristol District of the Methodist church relating to Methodist chapels in Avon (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 2). Other documentary sources include registers of chapel members and Methodist class lists (*ibid.*).

There is one small Conservation Area in the study area (Whitefield Tabernacle precinct) and the list of buildings of special architectural and historical importance is limited to 32 entries. A list of buildings of local importance was compiled in 1983, but no information about the date of buildings or architectural detail was given and it is therefore of very little historical use. The urban area is not covered by the Victoria County History Series.

The earliest map of Kingswood Forest dates to 1610 and although diagrammatic it still gives a series of good visual clues for the bounds of the chase; a more detailed map was published in 1672. In 1750 a plan of 'Mr. Player's manors' and 'Sir John Newton's manors' was drawn up to show the ownership of valuable coal deposits; it was published in 1779. The area is covered by the Tithe maps of Mangotsfield and Oldland (in the parish of Bitton), both dated 1843 - the poor quality of the depiction of Mangotsfield and the area between it and Downend is notable. The Ordnance Survey map of 1882 covers the entire area. A list of all the maps consulted can be found at the end of the report in section 10.0.

#### **1.4 A brief history of Kingswood and Mangotsfield**

The Kingswood district lies on the east side of Bristol, and forms part of the greater Bristol conurbation. The study area covers 14 hectares of hilly ground. The highest point on Kingswood Hill lies at 195 metres above sea level, a steep climb from Bristol, as the road-name Two mile Hill suggests. Further east, the road drops down again towards Warmley Hill, which is only 45 metres above sea level. Stapleton Hill is about 85 metres above sea level, and Downend about 65 metres above sea level. The land between Kingswood Hill and Stapleton Hill is also steeply contoured: the main road linking the two, Soundwell Road, runs along high ground over Hopewell Hill. Cockshot Hill lies further east.

The industrial development of the region is closely linked to the underlying geology: outcrops of both coal and pennant sandstone were exploited from at least the medieval period onwards. Sandstone was used to build many of the houses in the area. By the 18th century mining activity exploited the coal seams that ran deep below the surface and the area formed a substantial part of the 'Bristol Coalfield' (Aston & Iles 1988: 7).

The study area has a complex administrative history. Under the Normans it was part of the Royal Forest of Kingswood (Moore 1982: 6). The forest covered an enormous area of approximately 500 square kilometres, from the Little Avon in the north to the Bristol Avon to the south, and from the Severn eastwards as far as the modern A465 road (*ibid.*). On this side the forest edge ran from Little Sodbury Camp to Oldfield Gate and then onto to the north-western edge of Lansdown.

Kingswood Forest was governed by forest law, it did not belong to a county or diocese and acknowledged only sovereign power (Jones 1899: 15). It was reserved for royal hunting and administered by special officials. Although there were large wooded areas, the 'forest' would have also included large open glades with no trees, and vast areas of scrubland, wasteland, moors and downland (Jones 1899: 15).

The status of the area before the Normans is less certain. As Moore points out the documentary sources for forests present special difficulties because they were outside the normal county administrative system; many records are almost silent on royal forests, in particular about Kingswood (*ibid.*). However, the Pipe Rolls had a great deal of information about Kingswood Forest and they form the basis of Moore's work. Archaeological evidence and place-name evidence is also a crucial source of information for this period. Russell draws on these sources in his study of the forest, concluding that the basic use of the area for hunting may go back to the pre-Saxon period (Moore 1982: 13).

At Domesday the area comprised part of two ancient parishes: Bitton and Mangotsfield. Bitton included the hamlets of Hanham and Oldland (Young 1979: 164), though both the hamlets and Bitton itself lay outside the study area. The forest does not appear by name in the Domesday survey of 1086, though its manors do. Only the manor at Mangotsfield fell within the study area. Its place-name indicates that it was sited on open ground in and around the forest (Aston & Iles 1988: 92): the element '*feld*' was often used to emphasize the contrast between cleared and wooded land on the edge of forests:

[In SWINEHEAD Hundred] In MANGODESFELD a member of this manor, 6 oxen in lordship. Bristol Church holds 3 hides of the same land; 1 plough is recorded there. 1 riding man holds 1 hide and has 1 plough; 4 smallholders with 1 plough. This manor and BRISTOL pay 110 marks of silver to the King; the burgesses state that Bishop

(Geoffrey) has 33 marks of silver and 1 mark of gold besides the King's revenue.'  
(Morris 1982)

In 1228 Kingswood Forest was disafforested, a term that referred to its changed status rather than wholesale destruction of trees. A much smaller area of land of between 3000 and 5000 acres was carved out of the forest and made into Kingswood Chase (Moore 1982: 6). It was probably smaller in extent than the modern district of Kingswood (Aston & Iles 1988: 117) and a large part of the chase is included in the study area.

Kingswood Chase was owned by the king and used by him as a private hunting preserve. It formed part of the royal castle at Bristol, and its management lay in the hands of a constable who was also responsible for the castle (Aston & Iles 1988: 124). Records exist for this post from 1272 to 1625, but in 1631 the forest was separated from Bristol Castle and as Jones states:

'it was prey for all comers in regard of cutting down wood, coal digging and pasturage for horses and other cattle' (Jones 1899: 20).

Extensive clearance of Kingswood Forest had occurred throughout the medieval period. Remnants of settlement patterns which characterised this process can be observed on the fringes of the modern district of Kingswood: scattered farms and cottages existed around large unenclosed areas of commons, notably at Siston and Mangotsfield. The common rights in the manor and parish of Mangotsfield were not ended until 1787-8 (Jones 1899: 77). The commons were formerly adjacent to areas of woodland and were part of a wood-pasture economy (Aston & Iles 1988: 117).

This process continued in the post-medieval period, as domestic and industrial demand for wood increased. By at least 1600 Kingswood Chase had also come under increasing pressure for common use: landowners fought over the right to exploit woodland, stone and more particularly coal reserves. By 1691 one of the lords of the manor, Sir John Newton, was granting leases of 7-21 years to miners to work the coal (Southway 1971: 15).

The Chase contained some of the best coal veins which had previously only been worked under licence from the Crown (Southway 1971: 15). The first coal workings were made into exposed edges or outcrops of coal seams where natural drainage was available. Then came the 'bell-pits' which were sunk into shallow seams and worked by a miner who descended into the pit by ladder. Malcolmson has estimated that about 70 coal pits were being worked in the later 17th century (Malcolmson 1986). The figure of 2000 pits in 1681, provided by Jones is more likely to refer to the total forest area rather than just the chase. Only a tiny proportion of these sites have been identified on the ground. Most evidence of these coal mines has gone, due to later industrial activity and expansion of the suburb (Buchanan & Cossons 1969).

Smith's list 'Men and Armour', compiled in 1608 for Bitton and Mangotsfield (the two ancient parishes into which the study area falls), makes interesting reading: almost a quarter of the men in Bitton were colliers. The number of colliers in Mangotsfield was smaller, but in both parishes a significant number of the men were engaged in the building trade - almost a third of all those listed in Mangotsfield. Although the parish areas do not coincide exactly with the study area, they still suggest an established coalfield and rapid settlement growth by the early 17th century.

The population of Kingswood grew because migrants were attracted by the easy availability of land and the prospects of industrial employment (Malcolmson 1986).

Documentary evidence in 1667 points to large numbers of cottagers settling in the area 'without leave.. and generally.. without government or conformity' (ibid.). The plot areas and road network shown on Mangotsfield and Oldland Tithe maps of 1843 and still largely preserved in the modern urban plan, clearly reflect this process of enroachment; their irregular shape and size indicative of the piece-meal and unplanned settlement pattern.

The nature and speed of enroachment into the chase is, however, only partially understood: Rollinson concludes that the strongest burst of growth occurred in the second half of the 17th century (Rollinson 1992: 39), but Russell has attributed settlement in the district to 18th and 19th century development. Archaeological evidence has the potential to help understand the nature and speed of this change; this process may be elucidated by looking at the pre-19th century buildings which still survive. Below ground remains, such as post-medieval pottery sherds and buildings foundations, also have the potential to reveal the pattern of early industrialisation in the area.

The fragmented land ownership pattern and an early tradition of land enroachment resulted in an organic pattern of settlement growth. The most dense occupation occurred alongside the major roads from Bristol to Staple Hill and Kingswood Hill. More houses were also built along Soundwell Road, between these two centres, and to the north of Staple Hill at Downend. In addition to this distinctive 'ribbon' development along major routes, piecemeal development occurred in the surrounding land.

The relationship between this industrial suburb and Bristol is of particular interest. Bristol was heavily dependent on Kingswood for fuel for both domestic and industrial use, and during the 18th century demand for coal increased dramatically as the use of steam power became more widespread. In the 18th century the local lords of the manors - Player, Chester, Newton, Lord Stafford, the Berkeleys, Langley and Weston - carved up the area between themselves and set up their own boundary stones (Southway 1971: 15). Player's plan of 1750 shows the area in great detail, with large numbers of coal pits, houses and cottages.

The everyday lives of colliers and other industrial workers was not controlled by a paternalistic structure and their independence became more pronounced in the 18th century. During the reign of George II (1727-1760), the colliers were involved in numerous incidents of protest. They were especially active in resisting the imposition of turnpike tolls and as a result turnpike roads made little headway in the Kingswood region for over two decades. (Malcolmson 1986)

Much has been made of the independent - read unruly, uncivilised and ungovernable - spirit of Kingswood folk and the success of the non-conformist movement in 'taming' it. Like Bristol, there was a very strong non-conformist tradition in Kingswood. Aside from the medieval church at Mangotsfield on the fringe of the study area, the Church of England was not represented until the 19th century. The non-conformists included the Society of Friends (Quakers), Baptists, Unitarians, Moravians, Methodists and Congregationalists (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 1). The Kingswood area played an important part in the development of many of these movements and has an unusually high proportion of surviving chapels (ibid.). They survived largely because the chapels were dispersed and have not succumbed to wholesale city-centre development schemes and their accompanying movements of population (ibid.).

An impression of the area in the second half of the 18th century is provided by Rudder, who summarised the industrial character of Bitton parish in 1779:

‘Great quantities of coal are dug in this parish .. here is also plenty of iron-ore, and rich cinders of the same metal, for smelting of which a furnace hath lately been erected... Several manufactures are carried out here, which deserve particular notice. The brass-mills are large works for making utensils and thin plates of that metal. There are also machines for rolling and splitting iron, for grinding of logwood, & c. and a pin-manufacture, though yet in its infancy, furnishes employment for a considerable number of hands.’

Pin making flourished in the Kingswood area from the 18th century and early 19th century, surviving into the present century (Buchanan 1979: 50). It was a by-product of the brass industry which, at the close of the 18th century was described as the largest in Europe. 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). One of the industries most important sites, Champion’s brassworks in Warmley, was located a short distance to the east of Kingswood. In the 19th century, however, both the brass industry and calamine mining activity suffered from Welsh competition and entered a long decline (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 20); this had a similar effect on the pin making industry.

The boot and shoe trade was an important cottage industry by the late 17th century, no doubt developing as a response to the demand for heavy footwear from the coal mining industry and agriculture (Fryer 1988). Like pin making, much of the work was carried out at home by women, retired and disabled miners and children (Amos 1985). The introduction of a new mechanised riveting system for sole attachments in 1840 stimulated the growth of factory production, though many of the finishing processes were still carried out in the home (ibid.). The industry flourished during the second half of the 19th century and trade was in its heyday at around the turn of the century (Fryer 1988).

By the 20th century competition from national and international markets proved too much for an outmoded means of production. By the start of the First World War other boot manufacturing centres in the country were predominantly factory based and Kingswood maintained its position largely because of war demand. Many firms were put out of business in the 1920s when trade with Ireland was devastated as a result of new trade barriers set up by the newly independent Irish Free State. Only the larger and diversified firms survived. (Amos 1985)

The success of the boot and shoe industry during the second half of the 19th century was largely due to its reliance on outworkers who were cheaper than mechanisation. Wages were kept low because the coal mines were less profitable and employed fewer men. The Bristol coalfield was increasingly outdated: the construction of a horse-drawn tramway system in the early 1830s provided only a very short-lived advantage. By the late 19th century the Bristol mines suffered severely from competition with South Wales and the Midlands, who benefited from improved transport links with the railways (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 19).

Part of the horse-drawn tramway was subsequently converted to take steam driven locomotives. The old Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway, which ran through Staple Hill to Mangotsfield and on to Coalpit Heath, was taken over by the new Bristol and

Gloucestershire Railway. By 1844 it formed part of the first direct line from Bristol to the Midlands (Oakley 1986: 9). The old tramway route which skirted the eastern edge of the settlement area, the Avon and Gloucestershire Railway, was never converted for use by steam locomotives.

The process of urbanisation was formerly recognised in the late 19th century when the parishes of Downend, Hanham, Oldland and Kingswood were carved out of the large ancient parishes of Bitton and Mangotsfield. Oldland was recognised as a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1861 and was made a separate civil parish in 1866 (*ibid.*: 182). Downend became a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1874 (Young 1979: 180). In 1927 Mangotsfield was split in two to create Mangotsfield Urban Civil Parish and Mangotsfield Rural civil parish.

The transport infrastructure for the area was greatly improved in the late 19th century when the first electric tram service in Bristol was laid between Old Market and Kingswood. One of the principal tram depots was located on Kingswood Hill (Bishop 1995: 3). The tramway network enabled many more people to live outside Bristol and commute to work; as a result, the population in Kingswood continued to grow and the area was more densely settled, eventually absorbing Mangotsfield. Today the study area is almost entirely covered with houses and small factories.

## 2.0 PREHISTORIC ARCHAEOLOGY

### 2.1 Sources of evidence

- **Field survey work:** Parish survey (Lay 1978).
- **Archaeological/historical research:** Study of archaeology in the Kingswood Area (Russell 1982).

### 2.2 Local settlement pattern

Very little prehistoric evidence has been recovered in the study area, and there is equally sparse evidence in the wider local context. However, this may be due to the absence of any sustained fieldwork in the area. Future research needs to be directed towards establishing the vegetation sequence in the area, since the area may have been wooded since the prehistoric period. Environmental samples must be a priority, particularly where the deposits have some potential for waterlogged preservation.

#### **Iron Age settlement 550 BC - AD 47**

Three gold coins have been discovered separately in the gardens of residents on the eastern edge of the town of Kingswood (Russell 1982: 18). The earliest is a stater of 'Chute' type dating c.50-20 BC (ibid.). The others are respectively of British Remic type (SMR 1452; Grinsell 1964: 143-44) and Dobunnic ruler Corio (SMR 1422; Grinsell 1971: 220).

### 2.3 Regional context

Several thousand Mesolithic flint implements and waste flakes were found spread over a wide area on the brow of the Cotswold escarpment in Doynton. Finds from the Neolithic and Bronze Age are restricted to thinly scattered flint implements (SMR 4777), a socketed late Bronze Age axehead found on California Road (SMR 1436) and two funerary structures - a Neolithic long barrow at Wick and a large Early Bronze Age round barrow on Barrow Hill to the west of Bitton village. (Russell 1982: 18)

*No map has been produced for the Prehistoric period*

### 3.0 ROMANO-BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGY

#### 3.1 Sources of evidence

- **Field survey work:** Excavation at Stonehill (Russett 1993; Yorkston 1994).
- **Aerial photographs:** South Gloucestershire SMR reference 20473-80
- **Archaeological/historical research:** Study of archaeology in the Kingswood Area (Russell 1982).

#### 3.2 Local settlement pattern

No evidence for the Romano-British period was found within the study area.

#### 3.3 Regional context

##### Roads and routeways

The evidence for Romano-British archaeology in the wider Kingswood area is restricted to the survival of two Roman roads: the line of the Roman road from Bath (*Aquae Sulis*) to Seamills (*Abonae*) and a road from Bitton to Berkeley postulated by the Ordnance Survey division (SMR 1353). Although Russell shed some doubt on the latter route (Russell 1982: 19), further survey work and analysis of aerial photographs has confirmed its presence (South Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments Record: Aerial Photograph 20473-80).

The road runs west of Bitton through Greentree Farm, following the byroad between Lyde Green and Pucklechurch for about 274 metres. At Shortwood the line of the road is visible as a 20 metres wide lynchet with a flat terraced area to its east and slightly further north a clear double-lynchet trackway survives for about 120 metres. A section of what is probably this road was discovered during archaeological works concerned with the Shortwood Northern Link (SMR 11048).

##### Settlement pattern

Aside from isolated finds, excavation at three sites in Stonehill has revealed the most substantial evidence for Romano-British occupation in the vicinity. An amateur group excavated a bowl furnace, which was associated with a Romano-British pottery scatter and ditch gullies (SMR 8215); however, the lack of stratigraphic recording on the site meant that the relationship of the furnace and pottery was unclear, and the furnace could not be firmly identified as Romano-British (Cornwell 1992).

Two subsequent excavations were recorded to professional standards: a second excavation was carried out by Russett in 1990, revealing evidence of iron-working during the Romano-British period, building foundations of the same date and a 10th century building (SMR 6416).

In the third excavation an area of 150 square metres was fully excavated revealing a prolonged period of Romano-British occupation which reflected industrial and agricultural activity dating between the late 2nd to 4th centuries (SMR 9671). The occupation was evident from a series of enclosures and field boundaries, which formed part of a farmstead. Evidence for the earlier Romano-British occupation of the site included substantial quantities of ironworking residues associated with rural ironsmelting. This industry had probably been abandoned by the 4th century, at which time a change in the organisation and landuse of the farmstead was recorded. Evidence of post-Roman and Medieval activity was also recorded on the site, although insufficient remains were preserved to determine the precise nature of that activity (Yorkston 1994).

In addition to the settlement at Stonehill, a Romano-British site was recently discovered in an area to the north-east of Mangotsfield Lower School (SMR 11098). Following a geophysical survey an excavation here has revealed traces of Romano-British occupation, including gullies, pits and a stone sarcophagus (SMR 11017). Further excavation is expected to be carried out in the near future.

A series of Roman sites have also been identified on the eastern side of the Boyd Valley, spread out along the Cotswold escarpment at intervals of about 3 km (Russell 1982: 20). They include Bitton which straddled the road from Bath to Seamills at the point where it crossed the Boyd; it has been identified with *Trajectus*, a site mentioned in the 3rd century Antonine Itinerary (ibid.), though Keynsham now looks a more likely candidate (Russett personal communication).

*No map has been produced for the Romano-British period*

## 4.0 POST ROMAN AND SAXON ARCHAEOLOGY

### 4.1 Sources of evidence

- **Place name evidence:** Study of place names in Gloucestershire (Smith 1964).
- **Documentary evidence:** Domesday Book 1086.

### 4.2 Local settlement pattern

Very little is known about the area before the Norman Conquest. It is not known if the medieval manor at Mangotsfield was Saxon in date, though this probable given its Saxon place-name. The status of the forest area which later became Kingswood Chase is unknown.

### 4.3 Regional context

A better understanding of the study area in this period is likely only through adopting a regional perspective. By the end of the 600s the kingdom of the Hwicce had been formed and its Anglo-Saxon aristocracy established. The Hwicce were Christian (Heighway 1987: 97) and there is evidence for their royal sites close to the study area.

Bitton was probably the minster church for the Upper Langley and Swinehead Hundred (Heighway 1987: 98). It was much larger than a normal parish church and at Domesday it had an endowment of one hide, a normal feature of minsters (ibid.: 136). Fragments of the Saxon church still survive; an archway in the north wall once opened into a Saxon north chapel and high up on the east end of the chancel are the feet of a great Anglo-Saxon Rood (crucifixion sculpture), cut off by a later lowering of the roof (Heighway 1987: 136).

A second royal site was probably located at Pucklechurch (SMR 1590), where King Edmund was murdered in 946 (Rudder 1779: 609). It was probably used as a hunting lodge for the forest which lay all around, and is likely to have included a large complex of buildings capable of sheltering many people. The aristocracy moved between their estates accompanied by great retinues within which they habitually travelled (ibid.: 83).

According to Aston & Iles the importance of these focal points in the late Anglo-Saxon landscape cannot be exaggerated (ibid.). In view of this, further research is required into the relationship between them, the effect they had on their locality and the development of the road network in the study area.

The parish structure of Mangotsfield also deserves further study. Three 'end' settlements survive in the parish as satellites to Mangotsfield itself - Hallend, Moorend and Downend. This structure hints at some sort of deliberate planning of which there is no evidence in the adjacent parishes (Russett personal communication). Russett has suggested that the 'end' settlements may have defined the furthest extent of assarting in the parish: they were literally the end of open unforested land (personal communication).

*No map has been produced for the post Roman and early Saxon period*

## 5.0 MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY

### 5.1 Sources of evidence

- **Field survey work:** Survey of industrial archaeology (Buchanan & Cossons 1969; Buchanan & Buchanan 1980); survey of fishponds (Dennison & Iles 1985).
- **Standings buildings:** Buildings study (Robinson 1916); study of church and principal buildings (Verey 1970); DoE List of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1984)
- **Documentary evidence:** Domesday Book 1086; study of place-names (Smith 1964).
- **Archaeological/historical research:** Study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); study of Kingswood Forest (Braine 1891); antiquarian accounts (Atkyns 1712; Rudder 1779; Jones 1899).

### 5.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

#### Watercourses [Map A]

The earliest mapped depiction of the Kingswood district dates to 1610. It serves as the best approximation for the area in the medieval period, particularly the watercourses, which are unlikely to have changed dramatically. Although diagrammatic, the route of the Warmley Brook is clearly discernible. It appears to delineate the eastern boundary of the chase and is similar to the Oldland Tithe map of 1843. The depiction of the Brook on *Map A* is based on the Tithe map.

#### Roads [Map A]

Three principal roads through Kingswood are marked on the 1610 map of Kingswood, and again they are the best approximation of the road network in the medieval period. The road from Bristol to London - *London waye* - is portrayed on the map running through woodland (SMR 6473). This road has probably been straightened and realigned in some areas, but occupies more or less its original route. It is depicted on *Map A* on the basis of the modern road, Regent Street and High Street.

The road out of Bristol to the north-east splits into two shortly before entering the Kingswood district: the *Mangotsfilde waye* and the *Westerley and Sodbury waye*. The *Mangotsfilde waye*, as its name suggests, runs from Bristol to Mangotsfield. This road does not compare so easily with the modern road from Bristol to Mangotsfield through Staple Hill, although this could be a product of the map making as much as modern straightening or realignment; part of the modern road is still called Mangotsfield Road. In the absence of more detailed information *Mangotsfilde waye* has been depicted on *Map A*, following the modern road through Staple Hill, along the High Street, Broad Street and Mangotsfield Road.

The *Westerley and Sodbury waye* lies to the north of *Mangotsfilde waye* and as the name suggests it runs to Westerleigh and Sodbury. The route appears to follow a similar alignment to the modern road, which now cuts through Downend and it roughly delineates the northern boundary of the Chase. The depiction of the road on *Map A* is based on Downend Road and Westerleigh Road, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

### 5.3 Settlement pattern

#### Kingswood Chase [Map A]

A very rough approximation of the bounds of Kingswood Chase has been depicted on *Map A*, based on the 1610 map of Kingswood. The eastern side of the Chase is

bounded by Warmley Brook. Its northern boundary is less easily discerned. More densely set trees appear on the map below *Mangotsfild waye*, but the line of the chase is drawn slightly to the north of the *Westerley and Sodbury waye* and some trees are shown between the two roads. The western and southern boundaries of the chase lie outside the study area; more detailed work is required to accurately map their boundaries.

The Chase was surveyed in 1653 and a written description has survived, reproduced in Ellacombe (1881: 189-194). Many of the same landmarks mentioned in the survey appear on the 1610 map of Kingswood. Further work is urgently required to identify the natural sites and buildings so that the limits of the Chase can be more accurately defined. An accurate map of the Chase would allow ground survey work to check for the survival of any features associated with the Chase, such as raised ground, banks and ditches.

#### **Downend [Map A: 1]**

The ancient parish of Mangotsfield included a hamlet and chapel at Downend (Young 1979: 180). No archaeological material relating to the medieval period has, however, been found in Downend and as a result the settlement area identified can only be speculative. The approximate bounds of the medieval hamlet of Downend have been depicted on *Map A* centred on the village area shown on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 (SMR 10565). The settlement lies at the fringe of the medieval chase and several of the fields shown on the Tithe map of 1843 have an irregular shape, indicative of their reclamation from woodland.

#### **Mangotsfield [Map A: 2]**

The extent of the medieval settlement at Mangotsfield is not known (SMR 10591). Archaeological evidence for the settlement is restricted to the church, described in detail below. No additional material has been found which might throw light on the bounds of the settlement. Like Downend it lies at the margins of the medieval chase area. The approximate bounds of the settlement are depicted on *Map A*, centred on the Church of St. James.

### **5.4 Religious sites and cemeteries**

#### **Church of St. James [Map A: 3]**

The Church of St. James dates to the 13th century (SMR 8118: Verey 1970: 297). It is built of pennant stone rubble and consists of a nave, chancel, north aisle, north chapel, vestry, south porch and tower. It is a grade II\* listed building (DoE 1984: 2/199). Alterations were made to the church in the 14th and 15th centuries: the tower dates to the 14th century and the font dates to the 15th century. The church appears on the 1610 map of Kingswood Forest with a steeple.

It probably incorporates William de Putot's memorial chapel of 1221-28 (Verey 1970: 297). Putot built a chapel close to his manor house; a flight of stairs connected the manor to the north-west corner of the chapel (Jones 1899: 30). Patent rolls of 1362 mention the chapel at Mangotsfield as a Chapel of Ease, belonging to the Church of St. Peter's, near Bristol (ibid.: 30). It is interesting to note that according to Jones Putot agreed to pay money to the Abbey of Tewkesbury when he founded a chantry at Mangotsfield (ibid.: 84); the Abbey of Tewkesbury was not connected to St. Peter's Church in Bristol but did own St. James' in Bristol, which was the burial place for the dead of Mangotsfield.

In the absence of more detailed information, the depiction of the graveyard at St. James Church in Mangotsfield is based on the area shown on the Tithe map of 1843: this area is smaller than the present graveyard which was enlarged in the second half of the 19th century. The burial ground was probably only in use after 1438, when Tewkesbury Abbey gave permission for burial here (Jones 1899: 60). Before this date all the dead of the parish had been buried at St. James' in Bristol.

### **Nunnery**

According to Leland a nunnery once existed in Mangotsfield, but no archaeological evidence has been found to corroborate this assertion (SMR 4525). Leland wrote:

*'Magatesfelde, alias Magnusfelde, a smaull Lordeship. It was ons withowte fayle a nunnery. Parte of the cloyster standithe yet. It is now the Lord Berkeleys' (Latimer 1890: 256).*

No trace of the nunnery (if it ever existed) survived in 1779 when Rudder wrote that he could not find any traces of a ruin. It may be that Leland had been referring to Mangotsfield manor house, which had fallen into disrepair: certainly the flight of steps from the house to the chapel may have been misinterpreted by Leland as cloisters.

## **5.5 Private estates**

### **Mangotsfield Manor [Map A: 4]**

William Putot built his manor house in Mangotsfield in the 13th century (SMR 5706; Jones 1899: 30). It stood to the north of the church until 1846, when it was demolished to extend the burial ground. In 1851 the churchyard was levelled, by lowering it on the east, south and west sides and redepositing this soil on the lower level of the new land to the north (Jones 1899: 45). This process is very likely to have preserved the foundations of the early manor house.

Very little is known about the history of the manor house. It may have been abandoned in the 16th century, when Rodway Manor house was built only a short distance to the south. Jones refers to the property as 'old Squire Watts land' (Jones 1899: 45), indicating its continued occupation until demolition. However, there is no mention of the state of repair of the building. The depiction of Mangotsfield Manor on *Map A* is based on the Tithe map of 1843.

## **5.6 Local context**

No specific study has been made of the medieval landscape in this area, but a brief glance at the medieval sites in the vicinity indicate that they are predominantly surviving medieval manors and estates. They include Rodway manor, only a few hundred metres to the south of Mangotsfield, but outside the study area (SMR 1349). This manor house was built by the Blounts as the manor house for Mangotsfield in the 16th century, and is grade II\* listed building (DoE 1981: 2/88). It has a series of features associated with the manor house, including a fishpond (SMR 3317; Dennison & Iles 1985: 32) and dovecote (SMR 3994).

To the south of the study area lie the sites of two medieval manor houses, Barr's Court (SMR 1424; SAM 166) with its fishpond (SMR 3399) and Oldland Manor (SMR 5548). Barr's Court Farmhouse, although early 18th century in date, was recorded in 1248 (Smith 1964) and may have 16th century components (SMR 9634).

## 6.0 POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY (16th-18th century)

### 6.1 Sources of evidence

- **Field survey work:** Survey of industrial archaeology (Buchanan & Cossons 1969; Buchanan & Buchanan 1980); survey of fishponds (Dennison & Iles 1985).
- **Standings buildings:** Buildings study (Robinson 1916); study of church and principal buildings (Verey 1970); DoE List of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1984).
- **Maps:** Plan analysis of Mangotsfield and Oldland Tithe maps of 1843.
- **Documentary evidence:** Antiquarian accounts (Atkyns 1712; Rudder 1779).
- **Archaeological/historical research:** Study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988); study of Kingswood Forest (Braine 1891).

### 6.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

#### Watercourses [Map B]

The earliest mapped depiction of the Kingswood district dates to 1610 and a watercourse is clearly discernible following a similar route to the river now known as the Warmley Brook. It is similar to the first detailed depiction of the watercourses on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843. The depiction of Warmley Brook on *Map B* is based on the Tithe map.

#### Roads [Map B]

The road network is likely to have grown dramatically during the post-medieval period, as the Chase was progressively settled. The three principal medieval roads through Kingswood, as shown on the 1610 map of Kingswood, remained the main roads east out of Bristol: *London way* (SMR 6473), *Mangotsfild way* and the *Westerley and Sodbury way*. Their approximate alignment is shown on *Map B*, based on the modern roads as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

Most of the roads shown on the Mangotsfield and Oldland Tithe maps of 1843 predated the 19th century; they are shown on *Map B*. Further research is required to establish the pattern of growth: the dates of surviving post-medieval buildings may offer valuable clues.

### 6.3 Settlement pattern [Map B]

Documentary sources all point to progressive encroachment of Kingswood Chase in the post-medieval period, but a detailed picture has yet to emerge. In the absence of a detailed 17th or 18th century map, the settlement area shown on *Map B* is based on the plot areas associated with dwellings shown on the Mangotsfield and Oldland Tithe maps of 1843. This static picture of the area in 1843 hides what must have been a rapidly changing area undergoing unplanned urbanisation.

Archaeological evidence has the potential to help understand the nature and speed of this change. As with the road network, described above, this process may be elucidated by looking at the pre-19th century buildings which still survive. All the plots identified on *Map B* have the potential for below ground remains such as post-medieval pottery sherds and buildings foundations: taken as a whole they will allow a better understanding of early industrialisation in the area.

## 6.4 Civic sites and buildings

### **Mangotsfield Almshouse**

Although diagrammatic, Mr. Player's map of 1750 clearly labels a building as an almshouse at the junction of Rodway Hill Road and Mangotsfield Road. This is probably the poor house referred to in documentary references; Jones identified a pin factory 'just behind the original old poor house' (Jones 1899: 213). This is evidently the same site identified by Doreen Street as a pin factory on 'Cossham Street, Mangotsfield, at the poor house' (Street 1986); unfortunately she does not give any references for the assertion that it was on Cossham Street. Pauper children often worked in this trade and Street has found several documentary references to pin making by children in the area (Street 1986). The poor house has not been shown on *Map B*, since its exact location is not known. Further research is required to accurately locate it.

### **Mangotsfield Common [Map B: 1]**

Part of Mangotsfield Common is still open land today; the green between Winsor Place and St. James's Place has remained largely unchanged from that shown on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843. However, there is evidence that it had been larger before the 19th century. Jones notes that the new workhouse in Mangotsfield was built on Mangotsfield Common (Jones 1899: 213); it seems probable that the distinctive triangular plot of land on which the workhouse was built had been part of the original common. The depiction of the common on *Map B* is based on the area bounded by Winsor Place, Northcote Road, St. James' Street and Richmond Road.

### **Mangotsfield animal pound [Map B: 2]**

The 19th century animal pound which appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 is likely to pre-date 1800 (SMR 3996). The depiction of the animal pound on *Map B* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. Although the pound does not survive today it is interesting to note that the building at 2 Richmond Road is set back from the road. The pound does not appear on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 but this may be due to the poor mapping quality.

### **Downend animal pound [Map B: 3]**

The 19th century animal pound which appears on the Tithe map of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 is likely to pre-date 1800 (SMR 5708). The depiction of the pound on *Map B* is based on the tiny plot area which appears on the Tithe map of 1843. The pound does not survive today due to road widening of Westerleigh Road.

### **Downend stocks and whipping post [Map B: 4]**

Although there is a conspicuous lack of traditional market places in the study area, there are likely to have been public spaces used for markets and other public gatherings. One of these has been identified immediately outside the Green Dragon Pub in Downend. Stocks and whipping post were set up outside the inn in 1784 by order of the Mangotsfield Parish Vestry (SMR 5710). The depiction of the public space on *Map B* is based on the surviving open area, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

### **Kingswood Poorhouse [Map B: 5]**

It is not known if the workhouse on Church Road was used as a poorhouse in the 18th century. The workhouse no longer survives. It appears on Oldland Tithe map of 1843 and its depiction on *Map B* is based on its associated plot area (plot 394). The workhouse building was centred on 5 Church Road, though it was a much larger

building than the modern house. It is possible that the foundations of the building still survive. The workhouse was the site of a pin factory (Street 1986) and archaeological evidence for this industry may survive.

#### **Kingswood animal pound [Map B: 6]**

The 19th century animal pound which appears on the Tithe map of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 is likely to pre-date 1800. The plot boundaries for the animal pound on Grimsbury Road still appear on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 and this area has been depicted on *Map B*. Field survey work is required to see if the walls were originally part of the pound.

#### **Lunatic asylum**

Further documentary research is required to corroborate Jones' assertion that a building called Cleve Hall was used to house a private lunatic asylum between c.1780-1800. He states that it was run by Quakers and demolished when Cleve Hill was sold (Jones 1899: 134). The 'Cleve' place-name for the building suggests that it was part of the Clevehill estate in Downend (see section 6.7) but its location is not known.

### **6.5 Religious sites and cemeteries**

#### **Church of St. James [Map B: 7]**

The Church of St. James did not undergo any major rebuilding in the post-medieval period (SMR 8118; DoE 1984: 2/199). One marble tablet dating to 1758 survives in the church, and a chalice and paten date to 1716. The church appears on the 1610 map of Kingswood Forest with a steeple. In the absence of more detailed information the depiction of the graveyard on *Map C* is based on the Tithe map of 1838: this area is smaller than the present churchyard.

The archaeological importance of the church is enhanced by the survival of parochial registers, which begin in 1580 (Jones 1899: 34). The church was visited by Bigland in 1791 and he made a detailed description of monuments and descriptions in the church at this time (*ibid.*: 39); however, by 1899 Jones noted that most of these had disappeared. Bigland also made a list of those buried in the churchyard, running into hundreds; he recorded their names, ages and date of death (*ibid.*).

#### **Whitefield Tabernacle, Park Road [Map B: 8]**

Whitefield Tabernacle was built in 1739 by George Whitefield and John Cennick as a school-chapel (SMR 10480: RCHME 1986: 85). John Cennick was appointed as one of the two masters but soon afterwards he embraced Calvinistic sentiments. In February 1741 he left with about 50 supporters and organized a separate society, the Moravian Church (*ibid.*). The building was enlarged in 1802 and 1830 (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). The original chapel building is on the northern side of the present building; the two main doors are on either side of the large windows in the north wall facing the original burial ground. A two-storey house and rooms have been added on the west side (*ibid.*). The Royal Commission have carried out a detailed survey of the chapel, including a full description of its interior and fittings (RCHME 1986: 85-87).

It is a grade I listed building because, despite its relatively modest character, it is an important survival of the 18th century evangelical movement. A bronze plaque reads 'This building was erected by - George Whitefield BA and John Cennick AD 1741 - it is - Whitefield's first tabernacle, the oldest existing memorial to his great share in the 18th century revival' (Salvatore 1994; DoE 1984: 9/173). The archaeological

importance of the tabernacle is enhanced by the survival of documents relating to its use (Bristol Record Office 30540).

The depiction of the tabernacle on *Map B* is based on the plot area associated with the building on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843 (plot 378). The archaeological importance of the burial ground is enhanced by the survival of extracts from the register of baptisms and burials 1795-1830 (Bristol Record Office D3567/2/11).

#### **Moravian Church [Map B: 9]**

The present Moravian Church was built in 1856-7 (SMR 10659; RCHME 1986: 88; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). The history of its predecessor is less well understood. When John Cennick and his adherents were dispossessed of the Tabernacle in about 1748 they removed to temporary premises, building a new chapel in 1756-7 (RCHME 1986: 88). The Royal Commission describes the 18th century chapel building, but does not state the source of this information or its location: it was a plain building with two round-arched windows and a gabled porch at one side and a two-storied minister's house attached to one end (*ibid.*).

Braine states that the 'new chapel is built on the site of the old, and on the spot where stood Mr. Tippet's house, wherein the first meetings were held' (Braine 1891: 279). He also states that the first sermon was preached in this house by John Cennick in 1737 (*ibid.*). The most obvious candidate for this building is plot 732 on Oldland Tithe map; this forms the basis for its depiction on *Map B*.

What is known to survive from the post-medieval period are several memorial slabs, some of which were from the Moravian Churchyard formerly in Upper Maudlin Street, Bristol (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). The archaeological importance of the burial ground is enhanced by the survival of extracts from registers of baptisms and burials at Moravian United Brethren chapel 1757-1840 (Bristol Record Office D3567/2/11).

#### **Downend Baptist Church [Map B: 10]**

According to Spittal & Dawson Downend Baptist Church on Salisbury Road was built in 1786 (SMR 10665; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 22). They state that the present building may incorporate part of the original building; there are, however, reasons to dispute these facts. Comparison between the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 indicates that there was no building on the site in 1843 - perhaps the date 1786 has been incorrectly recorded and should read 1876. Further study is required to elucidate the history of the church. The depiction of the church on *Map B* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

## **6.6 Extractive industrial areas and sites**

### **6.6.1 Coal works**

Most of the pits which are known to pre-date the 19th century have been identified through analysis of the 1750 plan of Mr. Player's and Sir John Newton's land; this remarkable plan shows over 16 km of 'levels' (underground culverts) which had been tunnelled to drain the Kingswood pits into Warmley and Strae Brooks (Ellacombe 1881: 232). This system of drains took water from the pits without raising it to the surface by pumping machines. Southway has identified a number of these 'first generation' pits by tracing pits marked on the 1750 map and marrying them up with known sites (Southway 1971).

#### **Staple Hill Pits [Map B: 11-13]**

Three pitshafts have been identified on Gladstone Road in Soundwell, known

collectively as the Staple Hill Pits. They all worked the deeper part of the Lower series of Sheppards veins. The workings at the three pits eventually interconnected, and flooded in 1852/3 (Southway 1972: 29, 30). The depiction of the sites on *Map B* is based on the Tithe maps of 1843.

Soundwell Upper Pit was also known as Upper Whimsey or High Pit (ST649752). When workings at three pits eventually interconnected this pit became known as the Downcast Pit. No above ground remains have been noted although Buchanan and Buchanan state that fragments of the old colliery have survived (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 57). The area is covered with houses and gardens; ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

Soundwell Middle Pit was also known as Soundwell Middle or Centre Pit (ST652752). When workings at three pits eventually interconnected this pit became known as the Upcast Pit. St. Stephens Close has been built on the old pit area and ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

Soundwell Lower Pit or Old Pit on Chiphouse Road (ST659751) was subsequently known as the winding shaft, with a private branch of the tramway to the Avon & Gloucestershire Tramroad. The workings were drained by a separate pumping shaft near the Lower pit, which was originally equipped with a Newcomen engine and later Boulton & Watt engine (Southway 1972: 29). The colliery area is covered with houses and gardens; ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

#### **Sheppards pits** [*Map B: 14-16*]

Three pits have been identified on Mangotsfield Road, all pre-dating 1750 (Southway 1972: 29). They worked the Cock, Chick and Hen seams in the Middle Pennant series. Only one of the pits is recognisable on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 (ST651758); it had a Newcomen engine by 1769 and a Boulton & Watt engine by 1779. It is depicted on *Map B* on the basis of the Tithe map. The other two have been depicted on *Map B* with a 10 metres radius centred on their grid reference (ST653759, ST654759). The latter pit (ST654759) is incorrectly recorded in the Sites and Monuments Record as Staple Hill Pit (SMR 6193). All the old colliery areas are covered with houses and gardens; ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

#### **Colliery, Windsor Place** [*Map B: 17*]

A disused colliery is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1936 at ST66297647 (SMR 4185); an unidentified site appears at this grid reference on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843. It lay in part of Mangotsfield Common. In 1986 a site visit was carried out by Avon Industrial Buildings Trust. They found mining cottages close to site, dating back to before 1670 and a converted garage which may possibly be a colliery building. In the absence of an accurate earlier map the colliery is marked on *Map B* with a 10 metres radius centred on its grid reference. However, more extensive ground survey work is required to check for the associated features.

Collieries which have not been identified include Isaac Smith's Colliery on New Brook Road and Flash Away Colliery on the west side of Tennis Court Road.

## **6.7 Non-extractive industrial areas and sites**

### **6.7.1 Copper works, Southfield Avenue** [*Map B: 18*]

In 1761 William Champion constructed an industrial copper works site which he described as his 'Upper Works' (SMR 2305; Day 1973: 212). It was more commonly

known as 'The Cupola works', the traditional name for copper furnaces. William Champion was the first man to evolve a large scale process for the commercial production of zinc (Day 1973: 75), patenting the process in 1758 (Ellacombe 1881: 228). Zinc (called spelter) was extracted from calamine dug in the Mendip Hills, and made in cupola towers (ibid.).

Braine describes a large shot tower and cupola towers over the spelter furnaces at the works (Braine 1891: 231). He also states that the original works, for the Bristol Brass and Copper Company, were begun in 1704 (Braine 1891: 231).

The depiction of the copper works on *Map B* is based on plot area 309 on Oldland Tithe map; this plot is between two fields that appear in the Tithe apportionments as 'below the cupola' and 'above the cupola'. Ellacombe states that buildings were in ruin by the 1820s (Ellacombe 1881: 228). No obvious remains were discovered by Day to link the area with the copper industry (Day 1973: 212). In May 1993 the site was stripped and houses on the plot of land demolished; a watching brief was carried out and no archaeology was observed.

### 6.7.2 Pin Works

The success of pin making in the Kingswood area was closely connected to the growth of the brass industry in the Bristol area, since the brass works supplied the brass wire from which the pins were made. Machinery was not introduced to the industry until the 1830s; up until then the process was long and involved. In the 18th century the largest production of pins was at William Champion's works at Warmley which produced zinc, copper and brass. (Street 1986)

Many of the tasks involved in pin making were suited to working at home : heading pins under a large weight was largely female employment and window seats in many cottages were used as pin blocks since good light was essential for the job. According to Jones many window seats were filled with tiny holes where pin 'shanks' once stood to have their heads put on (Jones 1899: 214). No examples of these seats has been recorded; detailed interior survey work of standing post-medieval buildings is required to check for surviving evidence.

It was common for the very poor, especially children to do this task; in the 18th century there several documentary references to pin-making by children in the poorhouses of the parish (Street 1986). A pin factory stood behind the old poorhouse at Mangotsfield and just below the Green Dragon in Downend (Jones 1899: 213). The precise location of these sites is not known.

## 6.8 Private estates

### Mangotsfield Manor [*Map B: 19*]

Very little is known about the post-medieval history of the manor house at Mangotsfield Manor (SMR 5706). It stood to the north of the church until 1846, when it was demolished to extend the burial ground (Jones 1899: 45). The manor house and its outbuildings appeared on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843, and this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map B*.

The manor house may have ceased to be used by the Blount family in the 16th century, when they built Rodway manor house only a short distance to the south. Jones refers to the old Mangotsfield manor house as 'old Squire Watts land' (Jones 1899: 45), indicating its continued occupation until demolition. However, there is no mention of the state of repair of the building. It is possible the nunnery mentioned by

Leland in the 16th century occupied the manor house, as described above (section 5.4). Further study is required to elucidate the history of the house.

#### **Clevehill estate** [Map B: 20]

The Blounts also owned Clevehill estate in Downend (Jones 1899: 114). It is not known if the estate pre-dated the 16th century. It was sold to William Player in 1603 and remained the Player family home in the 17th and 18th centuries. According to Jones the estate was broken up in 1790 by Mr. Chas Bragge and sold to John Gordon; in 1804 it was sold to the Cave family (Jones 1899: 127, 130).

The estate was overhauled and the house aggrandised by the Cave family in the 19th century. The oldest part of the estate, the main house, was demolished in c.1930. As a result of 19th century changes and 20th century demolition, there is limited evidence relating to the earlier estate. It is mentioned in the perambulation of the Chase boundary in 1653 (Ellacombe 1881) and according to Jones, at this date it was a well defined estate with a fine house, grounds and garden, splendidly laid out walks and plantations (Jones 1899: 114). A print of the house appears in Atkyns (1712).

The post-medieval estate at Clevehill is of particular interest because it was occupied by the Players, who owned many of the collieries in the Kingswood area. The Player family were early industrialists whose estate helped shape their status. Its location is of particular interest: it was adjacent to the early and rapidly expanding industrial landscape - the source of their wealth; it lay on the boundary of Kingswood Chase, at a time when the chase was subject to major encroachment, and it did not have a large rural estate attached to it.

Further work is required to build a more detailed picture of the estate and to determine surviving features which date to the 17th and 18th centuries. It is not known if the substantial changes made to the estate in the 19th century altered the earlier estate boundaries. In the absence of an earlier detailed map, it has been depicted on *Map B* on the basis of the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843.

#### **Players Pond** [Map B: 21]

Downend Local History Society have identified three ponds known to have been part of the original Player estate: they are mentioned in the will of Thomas Player in 1736. They still survive today and one falls within the study area at the rear of 67 Cleeve Hill. It is depicted on *Map B* on the basis of the modern pond, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

#### **Cleevehill Farm** [Map B: 22, 23, 24]

Cleevehill Farm lay adjacent to the estate and it is not known if this was originally part of the estate. The farm includes a group of grade II listed features: the farmhouse itself (DoE 1984: 2/195), a barn (DoE 1984: 2/195), two walls (DoE 1984: 2/196, 2/197) and an orangery (DoE 1984: 1/205).

Unlisted features include a further portion of garden walling and a summerhouse. The additional section of old garden walling has been identified by Downend Local History Society to the rear of 22 and 24 Cleeve Lawns (site visit undated). The section to the rear of 24 Cleeve Lawns has chimneys and fireplaces, used to heat the wall so that exotic fruit could be grown on the other side. The depiction of the wall on *Map B* is based on the surviving wall shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

The society also identified an 18th century Thomas Wright summerhouse with a William Kent seat in the garden of 24 Cleeve Lawns. Ground survey work is required to check its survival and exact location. In the absence of more detailed information the site of the summerhouse has been identified on *Map B* on the basis of the modern property bounds of 24 Cleeve Lawns.

#### **Hill House estate** [*Map B*: 25]

The location of Hill House estate, in part of Kingswood Chase, suggests that it was formed in the post-medieval period, although further research is required to confirm its exact date. Kingswood Heritage Trail states that it was one of the largest in the parish of Mangotsfield. Unlike Clevehill estate, the main house survives today and is a grade II\* listed building, described as a fine three-storey, five-bayed ashlar house (DoE 1984: 8/187). It was built around 1720 replacing an earlier property. The date of the earlier house is not known, but would be of particular interest, indicating the date and nature of encroachments into the Chase.

In 1809 it was owned by John Haythorne, four times Mayor of Bristol. Some of the original features do not survive: the original wrought iron railings were sacrificed to the war effort in 1941 but the memorial gates at the imposing entrance from Staple Hill still remain (Kingswood Heritage Trail). In the absence of a detailed estate map, the depiction of Hill House estate on *Map B* is based on the plot area associated with the house shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

### **6.9 Standing buildings**

There are 13 listing descriptions for buildings and walls which fall within the study area and date to the post-medieval period. In addition to these 17th and 18th century buildings, a list of buildings of local importance was published by Kingswood District Borough in 1983; however, no details are given about the properties. The properties need to be surveyed and a description compiled for each, including their approximate date.

### **6.10 Local context**

Several important manorial sites fall outside the study area, but lie adjacent to it or close by. Rodway manor house lay to the south of Mangotsfield (SMR 4781), and features associated with it include a fine group of pillow mounds belonging to a 17th and 18th century rabbit warren and the remains of a fishpond. A park (SMR 3390) around the medieval moated site at Barr's Court (SMR 1424; SAM 166) is a post-medieval feature.

Many post-medieval industrial features survive in the vicinity. Evidence of quarry workings survives (SMR 7122; SMR 7120) and collieries in the immediate vicinity of the study area included California Colliery (SMR 1437), Brook Coal Pit (SMR 4200), Brook Pit or Cadbury Heath (SMR 1434) and Goldney Pit (SMR 5143). One of the most important surviving industrial sites in the area was William Champions Brassworks, established by him in 1746 for production of copper, zinc and brass and their various products (SMR 1433; SAM 28518). His Palladian mansion and pleasure grounds lie adjacent to the brassworks and fragmentary but extensive remains survive (SMR 4252).

## 7.0 EARLY MODERN (19th century) ARCHAEOLOGY

### 7.1 Sources of evidence

- **Field survey work:** Survey of chapels in Kingswood (Spittal & Dawson 1983)
- **Standings buildings:** Buildings study (Robinson 1916); study of church and principal buildings (Verey 1970); DoE List of buildings of special architectural or historic interest (1984).
- **Maps:** Tithe map of 1843, Ordnance Survey maps of 1882 and 1903.
- **Documentary evidence:** Bristol, Wright and Clifton Directory 1830; Kelly's Directory 1860, 1897.
- **Archaeological/historical research:** Industrial archaeology (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 63); research on railways (Oakley 1986); local history journal; study of the archaeology of Avon (Aston & Iles 1988).

### 7.2 Watercourses, roads and routeways

#### 7.2.1 Watercourses and water supply [Map C]

The Warmley Brook runs south on the eastern edge of the study area towards the River Avon, roughly defining the parish boundary between Oldland and Siston. Comparisons between the Tithe map of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 show that during the 19th century the route of the brook remained relatively unchanged. Today the brook has been straightened in parts but roughly covers the same course.

#### 7.2.2 Roads [Map C]

The road network depicted on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882; comparison with the Tithe maps of 1843 shows that only a relatively small number of roads were created in the second half of the 19th century. The distinctive irregular pattern which had formed by the first half of the 19th century can still be discerned in the street layout today, although many roads have been widened and straightened in parts.

#### 7.2.3 Railways

##### **Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway**

The railway line through Staple Hill towards Mangotsfield was originally laid as part of the horse-drawn tramway in Kingswood locally called *The Dramway* (SMR 5901). This early tramway was designed to provide cheap and easy transport of coal from the mines of Coalpit Heath to the wharves on the Avon, at Keysham and at Bristol (Barber 1986: 6). Permission to build two lines was given in 1828, and the first section, called the Avon and Gloucestershire Railway was opened in 1831. This section is not included in the study area, just skirting its eastern edge. It was owned by the Kennet and Avon Canal Company until 1851 when it was taken over by Great Western Railway. Much of it was never converted to locomotive railways and contains some of the most interesting tramway remains. (Barber 1986: 9)

The second section, the Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway, was opened in 1835 and involved the construction of Staple Hill Tunnel. It was about 14.5 km and ran from Coalpit Heath to St. Phillips in Bristol. Soon after the horse-drawn tramway was in operation pressure built up to convert the line to steam driven locomotives. In 1839 the new Bristol and Gloucester Railway, supported by the new Great Western Railway, obtained an Act to absorb the Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway. The Act permitted the company to take over the section of the track through Staple Hill Tunnel to Mangotsfield, and the section from Mangotsfield to Coalpit Heath. It also permitted the extension of the line northwards to Standish, 11 km to the south-west of

Gloucester. Here the line met up with the new Cheltenham and Great Western Union Railway, thus opening up a route from Bristol to the Midlands. (Oakley 1986: 9)

The new Midland Railway took over the Bristol to Birmingham line from 7 May 1845, to the annoyance of the Great Western Railway. In the late 19th century it was known as the Midland Railway line (SMR 4769), appearing on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 as the Birmingham and Bristol line. The Midland Railway continued to run it until amalgamation in 1923, when it formed the London Midland Scotland Railway. It continued in use after nationalisation in 1948; the section in the study area through Staple Hill Tunnel closed in 1970 (Oakley 1986: 3). Today the tracks have been removed and it is used as a cycle track.

#### **Staple Hill Tunnel** [*Map C: 1*]

The tunnel through Staple Hill was built in 1832-1835, as part of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway, as described above. The tunnel designed by W.H. Townsend and was opened on 6th August 1835 (SMR 3407; Maggs 1969). The tunnel was originally 3.7 metres wide (12 feet), but was enlarged to 7.9 metres (26 feet) during 1843 and 1844 to accommodate two 7 feet gauge tracks. The airshafts which are square in section are located on the south side of the tunnel and date from the original construction. The length of the tunnel is 471 metres (515 yards) and was last used by trains in 1969.

The last site visit was made in 1960 by Pollard; he noted it was an unusual example of an early main line railway tunnel which retained the unmodified airshafts of the original horse operated railway tunnel. It is still in use today as part of the Bristol-Bath cycle route and urgently requires survey work to assess its importance.

#### **Staple Hill Railway Station** [*Map C: 2*]

The railway station at Staple Hill in Mangotsfield was opened in 1888, and was been described as an attractive station with unusual curved platforms (SMR 5089; Oakley 1983). It was closed in 1966 and demolished shortly afterwards, when both the Bristol-Gloucestershire line and Midland branch line to Bath were closed during reforms of the railways by Beeching (Buchanan & Buchanan 1980: 57). The depiction of the railway station on *Map C* is based on the approximate platform area shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The area is still used as part of a cycle route and ground survey work is required to check for the survival of features.

#### **Railway Bridge, Bridge Road** [*Map C: 3*]

The railway bridge on Bridge Road was constructed by the Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway (The Coalpit Heath Railroad) between 1832 and 1835 to the design of W.H. Townsend (SMR 3406). It is constructed of pennant sandstone with curved and battered walls and a culvert passes the wing walls on the north side (Maggs 1969). When the Bristol and Gloucestershire Railway line was converted from horse traction to locomotive power, the bridge was widened on the east side to accommodate the new 7 feet gauge railway.

This bridge is the only surviving bridge of the original Coalpit Heath Railroad: there were originally four. It is one of what must be a very small number of railway underline bridges adapted from horse railway to locomotive railway use. The railway was removed in 1969 and it is now used as a cycletrack.

### 7.3 Settlement pattern [Map C]

The settlement area grew considerably during the 19th century. The most dense occupation occurred alongside the major roads from Bristol to Staple Hill and Kingswood Hill. More houses were also built along Soundwell Road, between these two centres, and to the north of Staple Hill at Downend. In addition to this distinctive 'ribbon' development along major routes, the piecemeal development in the surrounding land continued apace.

The fragmented land ownership pattern and an early tradition of land encroachment resulted in an organic pattern of settlement growth. This lack of an overall planning is acknowledged by Braine in his account of the area in 1891, when he states:

'Of the style of houses I shall have but little to say. They are miscellaneous in variety, and built upon all sorts of plans. In the last few years greater attempts have been made at uniformity, and some handsome villas, elegant streets, and neat rows of cottages and shops of a more pleasing style have been erected' (Braine 1891: 284).

The depiction of the settlement area on *Map C* has been based on the Mangotsfield and Oldland Tithe maps of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. Comparison of the two maps indicates the growth of the urban area between these two dates. The plot area associated with houses has been shown on *Map C*.

### 7.4 Civic sites and buildings: Mangotsfield

#### **Mangotsfield Workhouse** [Map C: 4, 5]

The workhouse at Mangotsfield was built in 1833-34 (Jones 1899: 213). It no longer stands but the distinctive plot area it occupied is still preserved in the plan form today (SMR 3995). It was situated on a piece of land bounded by three roads: Winsor Place to the north-west, Richmond road to the south-east and St. James's Street to the south-west. It appears on both the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The plot area shown on *Map C* is based on the modern plot area as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995, which is similar to the historic maps. The quality of the Tithe map in this area is poor and the triangular area may have been inaccurately surveyed.

The area has been used for housing in the 20th century and it is possible that archaeological material relating to the workhouse survives. The depiction of the workhouse building on the Tithe map and Ordnance Survey map suggests that it was a substantial structure: its approximate location has been marked on *Map C*. The foundations of the building are likely to survive, particularly in the back gardens of houses on Richmond Road and Balmoral Court.

#### **Mangotsfield School** [Map C: 6]

A school building was built adjacent to the workhouse around the mid 19th century: it is not marked on the Tithe map of 1843 and first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. Comparison between the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 suggests that the original school building still stands and has been incorporated into the existing school, Mangotsfield Church of England School. The building is not listed. The plot area associated with the modern school has remained unchanged since the 19th century, and has been depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**School, Cossham Street [Map C: 7]**

A school is shown on Ordnance Survey map of 1882 adjacent to the Congregational Chapel: its depiction on *Map C* is based on the 1882 map. The school was built in 1840 and enlarged in 1861; both the chapel and school were renovated in 1885 (Jones 1940). The school was subsequently incorporated into the church, and is now part of the UREF Church.

An interior survey is required to check for the survival of this building, as described by Jones:

'The earliest church school house of Mangotsfield is a quaint tiny structure ... which stands in the old burial ground opposite the Red Lion Inn and is now the Mission Room of the parish. Miss Cooper was mistress of the school for more than 40 years, and it still goes but the name 'Miss Cooper's School'. It only has 2 windows on the west side, with a door between them' (Jones 1899: 70).

**Mangotsfield Common [Map C: 8]**

Mangotsfield Common is still open land today, and its area has remained largely unchanged from that shown on the Tithe map of 1843 and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The depiction of the common on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: this original area has been slightly reduced to the north and east by the road widening of Winsor Place and St. James's Place.

**Mangotsfield animal pound [Map C: 9]**

An animal pound is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: this map forms the basis of its depiction on *Map C*. Although the pound does not survive today it is interesting to note that the building at 2 Richmond Road is set back from the road. The pound does not appear on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 but this may be due to the poor mapping quality.

**7.5 Civic sites and buildings: Downend****Christ Church School [Map C: 10]**

A school is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 on Christchurch Lane. Comparison between the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 suggests that the original school building still stands and has been incorporated into the existing school, Christ Church Infants School. The building is not listed. The plot area associated with the modern school has remained unchanged since the 19th century, and has been depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Cave's School**

Jones describes a school formerly held in a large building below the Dragon public house, which had at one time been a pin factory (Jones 1899: 70). This building has not been identified. It could be one of three existing properties to the south of the Dragon public house; ground survey work is required to check the dates of these houses and further documentary research may be required to identify a possible candidate.

**Downend animal pound [Map C: 11]**

An animal pound is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 on Westerleigh Road (SMR 5708): this map forms the basis of its depiction on *Map C*. Its distinctive tiny plot area also appears on the Tithe map of 1843. The pound does not survive today due to road widening of Westerleigh Road.

## 7.6 Civic sites and buildings: Kingswood Hill

### **Kingswood Workhouse** [Map C: 12, 13]

The workhouse on Church Road no longer survives. It appears on Oldland Tithe map of 1843 and its depiction on *Map C* is based on its associated plot area (plot 394). The workhouse building was centred on 5 Church Road, though it was a much larger building than the modern house. It is possible that the foundations of the building still survive. The workhouse was the site of a pin factory (Street 1986) and archaeological evidence for this industry may survive.

The workhouse does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and further study is required into its history, early demise and relationship to the pin making industry.

### **Moravian Infant School** [Map C: 14]

An infant school is shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 adjacent to the Moravian Chapel on Hanham Lane. The chapel was rebuilt in 1856-7 (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21) and presumably the school was built at the same time. Today the school is used as a hall. The depiction of the school on *Map C* is based on the plot boundary associated with the building shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

### **Wesleyan Methodist Boys and Girls School** [Map C: 15]

The Wesleyan Methodist school on Blackhorse Lane first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The depiction of the school on *Map C* is based on the plot boundary associated with the building shown on the 1882 map. The school building is a grade II listed building dating to 1850 (DoE 1984: 9/159A).

### **Wesleyan Methodist Infant School** [Map C: 16]

The infant school on Blackhorse Lane lies to the south of the boys and girls school. Its depiction on *Map C* is based on the plot boundary associated with the building shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. It is a grade II listed building dating to the mid 19th century (DoE 1984: 9/159B).

### **National School** [Map C: 17]

A school was built in 1822 as part of the group of buildings attached to the Holy Trinity Church: Ellacombe describes it as the National School (Ellacombe 1881: 48), though it later appears as a Sunday School. It is now used as a Club Room and is not listed. The plot area shown on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

### **Kingswood animal pound** [Map C: 18]

The plot boundaries for the animal pound on Grimsbury Road still appear on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 and this area has been depicted on *Map C*. Field survey work is required to see if the walls were originally part of the pound.

## 7.7 Religious sites and cemeteries: Mangotsfield

### **Church of St. James** [Map C: 19]

The enlargement of the churchyard in 1851 was the only major alteration to the Church of St. James in the 19th century (SMR 8118). In 1843 the manor house to the north of the church was acquired and the houses and walls taken down. In 1851 the churchyard was lowered on the east, south and west sides, and the soil deposited on the lower level of the new land to the north. This made the land all round the church about the same height (Jones 1899: 45). According to Jones the original height is marked by a circular mound round an old yew tree in the south-west corner.

The depiction of the Church of St. James on *Map C* is based on the enlarged graveyard area as it appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The landscaping of the churchyard may have disturbed some burials in the old churchyard area, although the stratigraphically lower graves are more likely to have escaped unscathed. Ground survey work is required to check for the survival of monuments in the parish church, particularly in relation to the list compiled by Jones in 1899 (Jones 1899: 59).

#### **Congregational Chapel** [*Map C: 20*]

The chapel in Cossham Street was built in 1827 for the Independents (SMR 10667; Jones 1940). It was enlarged in 1858 and is a classic single-storey chapel building. There is a block of rooms at the rear. (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 22)

The chapel was subsequently used by the Congregationalists and is now known as the Mangotsfield United Reformed Church. Today the church is larger, having amalgamated the 19th century school built adjacent to the church. Further study is required into the relationship between the school and chapel.

The depiction of the church on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The chapel appears on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843, but it is difficult to trace the exact curtilage of the property. It is not known if any burials have been made in the ground adjacent to the church.

#### **Wesleyan Methodist Chapel**, Northcote Road [*Map C: 21*]

The original chapel building was built for the Wesleyan Methodists (SMR 10669). It is now used as a scout hall. According to Spittal & Dawson it dates to 1857 (1983), however, it does not appear on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. Ground survey work and documentary research is required to check that the correct building has been identified and if so, to check the date of its construction. It is not known if any burials have been made in the associated plot area. The depiction of the chapel on *Map C* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

#### **Primitive Methodist Chapel** [*Map C: 22*]

The Primitive Methodist Chapel on Cossham Street dates from c.1870 (SMR 10668; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23). It is not known if any burials have been made in the associated plot area. At the time of Spittal & Dawson's survey in the early 1980s it was used for industrial purposes. The use of the building today is not known.

The depiction of the chapel on *Map C* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995; the chapel appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, but it is difficult to identify the plot boundaries.

#### **Graveyard** [*Map C: 23*]

A graveyard on St. James's Street was marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 as 'disused'. The plot area appeared on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 but it is not known if it was in use as a burial ground at this time. The plot area survives today as open ground but is not labelled on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 as a graveyard. A building on the north side of the graveyard also appears to survive and ground survey work is required to check the date of its construction. The depiction of the graveyard on *Map C* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995: it has been slightly reduced in size by the widening of St. James's Street.

The concentration of chapels in Mangotsfield raises interesting questions about the role of the graveyard and the denomination of those buried there. Further study of the graveyard and its period of use is urgently required.

## 7.8 Religious sites and cemeteries: Downend

### **Downend Baptist Church** [*Map C: 24*]

According to Spittal & Dawson Downend Baptist Church was built in 1786 (SMR 10665; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 22). They state that the present building may incorporate part of the original building; there are, however, reasons to dispute this assertion. Comparison between the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843 indicates that there was no building on the site in 1843 - perhaps the date 1786 has been incorrectly recorded and should read 1876. Further study is required to elucidate the history of the church.

The present two-storey building is masked by a square topped screen wall pierced by two semicircular-headed windows above the modern porch. There are 19th century rooms on the south side and a tiny burial ground with memorials to the north. The burial ground is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. Two buildings have subsequently been built in part of the burial ground. The depiction of the church on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

### **Christchurch Parish Church**, Downend Road [*Map C: 25*]

The parish church of Christchurch was built by a local architect, Oliver Greenway, in 1831. It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 1/185). The church appears on the Tithe map of 1843 in a large burial ground, which forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. Ground survey work is required to check for the survival of monuments in the parish church, particularly in relation to the list compiled by Jones in 1899 (Jones 1899: 65).

### **Wesleyan Methodist Chapel**, North Street [*Map C: 26*]

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. It is not known if there was a burial ground associated with the chapel. The building has been converted into two dwellings, now called John Wesley Court. The plot area has remained unchanged since 1882, and the depiction of the chapel on *Map C* is therefore based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

### **Cemetery**, Westerleigh Road [*Map C: 27*]

The cemetery in Westerleigh Road first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and is, unusually, labelled 'Church of England and nonconformist': this area forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. The cemetery has expanded considerably in the 20th century.

## 7.9 Religious sites and cemeteries: Staple Hill

### **Bethlehem United Methodist Free Chapel** [*Map C: 28*]

The Bethlehem Chapel is included in Spittal & Dawson's Kingswood chapel survey and they identified its location as 64-66 High Street; it was built in c.1858 (SMR 10674; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23). By 1882, however, the building appears on the Ordnance Survey map as a school for boys and girls, implying a short active life for the chapel. The history of the building and the change of use need further study.

In the 20th century the original building was converted into two private dwellings (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23). The rendering obscures the fabric of the church but the open pediment is visible. It is not known if there was a graveyard associated with the chapel. The depiction of the chapel on *Map C* is based on the modern property boundaries for 64-66 High Street, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Staple Hill Methodist Chapel (Independent) [Map C: 29]**

The Staple Hill Methodist Chapel was built in 1874 as Hebron United Methodist Free Church (SMR 10678; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 24): the architect was S. Mitchell. It is a fine large two-storey Italianate building with rooms accommodated in a spacious basement running beneath the church. It is not known if there is a burial ground; ground survey work is required to check the plot of land in front of the church building. The depiction of the church is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

**Primitive Methodist Chapel [Map C: 30]**

The Primitive Methodist Chapel was built c.1870-80 (SMR 10677; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 24). It is no longer used as a chapel and has been gutted for use as a garage. Spittal & Dawson have located the chapel at 60 Broad Street, but on the basis of the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 the adjacent property, 58a Broad Street, seems a more probable candidate. It is not known if there was a burial ground associated with the chapel. The depiction of the chapel on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

**Bethesda Independent Methodist Free Gospel Church [Map C: 31]**

The Bethesda Church was built in 1892 on Soundwell Road (SMR 10673). It was built for the Independent Methodist Free Gospel Church. The front entrance to the building was originally on the south side of the church: the facade survives intact though the doorway is now blocked. Spittal & Dawson describe it as an unusual facade with a heavy cornice below the gable and a row of four square-headed windows above the door and side windows (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23). The entrance to the church is now on the west side, with an open area of ground between it and Soundwell Road which is very probably a burial ground.

The depiction of the church is based on the modern curtilage for the building, as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Staple Hill United Reformed Church (Congregationalists) [Map C: 32, 33]**

In 1893 the Congregationalists Church was built on Soundwell Road (SMR 10679; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 24). The architect was Frank W. Wills. The gothic building is set back from the road and today the plot area it occupies is relatively small. There may have been a burial ground to the rear of the church, in the open plots shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1938.

The depiction of the church and possible burial ground on *Map C* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995, which is similar to the Ordnance Survey map of 1938.

## 7.10 Religious sites and cemeteries: Soundwell

**Methodist Chapel (Wesleyan) [Map C: 34]**

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Soundwell Road was built in 1843 (SMR 10672; Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23). The chapel is a classic single-storey building with a modern porch. It subsequently became a Roman Catholic Church and is now the Spiritualist Church (*ibid.*). It is not known if there is a burial ground associated with the church. The depiction of the church is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

**Salem Chapel (United Free Methodists) [Map C: 35]**

Salem Chapel on Soundwell Road was built in 1862 (SMR 10670). The original single-storey building survives with a later porch. The original plans for the chapel were evidently not fulfilled, as indicated by the stub end of a much larger unfinished

building that stands to the south (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 23) and the large plot area shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: this area appears on *Map C*. It is not known if the whole plot was used as a burial ground, but 20th century housing has been built on a large part of the southern section.

The stub of a building may be a planned schoolroom. In 1892 land was purchased at the side of the chapel for this purpose (Willmott & Willmott 1989: 47). The chapel was closed in 1989 due to dwindling congregations (*ibid.*: 51). The present use of the chapel is not known.

**Wesleyan Methodist Made-For-Ever Church** [*Map C*: 36]

The Wesleyan Methodist Church on Anchor Road was built in 1896 (SMR 10661). The original single-storey brick and pennant building was designed by J.H. LaTrobe (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 22). It is still used as a church today. It is not known if there is a burial ground associated with the church. The depiction of the church on *Map C* is based on the on the modern boundaries of the chapel as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

## 7.11 Religious sites and cemeteries: Kingswood Hill

**Whitefield Tabernacle**, Park Road [*Map C*: 37]

Whitefield Tabernacle was built in 1741 by George Whitefield and John Cennick (SMR 10480). The original building was enlarged in 1802 and 1830. The original chapel building is on the northern side of the present building; the two main doors are on either side of the large windows in the north wall facing the original burial ground. A two-storey house and rooms have been added on the west side. (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21)

It is a grade I listed building because, despite its relatively modest character, it is an important survival of the 18th century evangelical movement. A bronze plaque reads 'This building was erected by - George Whitefield BA and John Cennick AD 1741 - it is - Whitefield's first tabernacle, the oldest existing memorial to his great share in the 18th century revival' (Salvatore 1994; DoE 1984: 9/173).

The depiction of the tabernacle on *Map C* is based on the plot area associated with the building on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: the plot area had shrunk due to the construction of the new tabernacle and extension of the burial ground. The archaeological importance of the burial ground is enhanced by the survival of extracts from the register of baptisms and burials 1795-1830 (Bristol Record Office D3567/2/11).

**Chapel House** [*Map C*: 38]

A Chapel House was built to the north of the Old Tabernacle in 1830 to provide further accommodation for the Sunday School (SMR 10481; RCHME 1986: 85). The two storey building is a grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 9/174).

**New Tabernacle** [*Map C*: 39]

A new tabernacle was built in 1853 for the Congregationalists on land adjoining the original tabernacle (SMR 10482: Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). The original large aisled gothic building survives, though it is not listed. It is set in an extensive burial ground which incorporates that of the Old Tabernacle (SMR 10483). Survey work carried out by the Royal Commission for Historic Monuments in England revealed monuments of the 19th century and later (RCHME 1986: 87).

**Moravian Church [Map C: 40]**

The Moravian Church was founded in c.1741, though the present building dates to the mid-19th century (SMR 10659). It was built in 1856-7 by Foster and Wood, and is set in grounds well back from the street frontage. Behind the main church building is a two-storey block of rooms and a burial ground which contains the standard size rectangular memorial slabs from here and from the Moravian Churchyard formerly in Upper Maudlin Street, Bristol (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21).

The depiction of the church on *Map C* is based on the plot area associated with the building on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The archaeological importance of the burial ground is enhanced by the survival of extracts from registers of baptisms and burials at Moravian United Brethren chapel 1757-1840 (Bristol Record Office D3567/2/11).

**Parish Church of Holy Trinity [Map C: 41]**

The parish church of Holy Trinity dates to 1821: it was built of Bath stone quarried locally at Beach. It is a grade II\* listed building and is described in the listing description as 'a good example of Commissioners Gothic' (DoE 1984: 10/169).

The listing includes the original churchyard walls fronting the street and to the west; they are about 1.5 metres high and made of pennant rubble with ironstone and ocea pennant buttresses. The churchyard area has remained unchanged from the Tithe map of 1843 and it is depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995. The graveyard was used for the burial of cholera victims in the two great epidemics of 1832 and 1849 (Kingswood Heritage Trail).

Although the church dates to the early 19th century it has incorporated some pre-19th century features. The stone used to build the church came from the disused copper works at New Cheltenham (Ellacombe 1881: 228). The font in the church also pre-dates the church, and is probably 18th century in date (Fryer 1926: 109). It was originally placed on the grave of a building contractor in 1895 but in 1917 the vicar of Kingswood had it repaired. He had the date on the pedestal re-cut and it was brought inside the church; however, the re-cut date (1547) is likely to be incorrect given the small basin and Renaissance ornamentation, and probably read 1747 (*ibid.*). The font's original church is not known.

**Vicarage [Map C: 42]**

The vicarage was built in 1824 on land adjoining the parish church (Ellacombe 1881: 47). It is a grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 10/170). The plot area has remained unchanged from the Tithe map of 1843 and it is depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Wesleyan Methodist Chapel [Map C: 43]**

The chapel on Blackhorse Road was built in 1843 for the Wesleyan Methodists (SMR 10660). The chapel is a large but simple two-storey Italianate building with huge angle pilasters supporting the open pediment which forms the gable at the front. It is grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 9/159).

At the time of Spittal & Dawson's survey in 1983 the chapel was boarded up and they identified both the graveyard and chapel as at risk (1983: 6, 21). The survey by the Royal Commission in 1986 does not mention that the chapel was closed; the survival of mid-19th century box-pews throughout most of the chapel and some open-backed benches in the gallery implies the survival of interior features (RCHME 1986: 88).

The two schools described above (section 7.6) lie to the south of the chapel. These buildings stand in an extensive burial ground which preserves an impressive array of

memorials in situ (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). The chapel first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, and this forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*.

#### **Kingswood Congregational Church [Map C: 44]**

The Church on Hill Street was built in 1868 for the Congregationalists (SMR 10657). It has a stepped gable front and central porch: the interior was remodelled in the early years of this century (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). A graveyard lies on the south side of the chapel, though a modern extension to the church has partly overlain its original extent. The depiction of the church on *Map C* is based on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

#### **High Street Primitive Methodist Church [Map C: 45]**

The church in at 135 High Street was built as Primitive Methodist Chapel (SMR 10658). It is a classic single-storey building and is not listed; the date of its construction is not known. At the time of Spittal & Dawson's survey in 1983 it was boarded up (Spittal & Dawson 1983: 21). Rooms were added at the rear in 1888 (*ibid.*). The chapel first appears on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, and although there is no specific reference to a burial ground, it is possible that the piece of ground to the north of the church building was used as a graveyard: the 1882 map forms the basis for the depiction of the church on *Map C*.

## **7.12 Extractive industrial areas and sites**

### **7.12.1 Coal Works**

#### **Staple Hill Pits [Map C: 46, 47, 48]**

The three pre-19th century pitshafts on Gladstone Road in Soundwell (described above) continued in use during the 19th century, but were eventually flooded in 1852/3 (Southway 1972: 29, 30). The depiction of the sites on *Map C* is based on the Tithe maps of 1843. Seven separate buildings were depicted on the Oldland Tithe map for Soundwell Lower Pit on Chiphouse Road. The collieries are covered with houses and gardens; ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

#### **Sheppards pits [Map C: 49]**

Of the three pits identified on Mangotsfield Road by Southway (1972: 29), only one is marked on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843 (ST651758); this forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. The area is covered with houses and gardens; ground survey work is required to check for surviving remains.

#### **Colliery, Windsor Place [Map C: 50]**

The pre-19th century colliery on Mangotsfield Common continued in use throughout the 19th century, appearing on the Ordnance Survey map of 1936 as a disused colliery (SMR 4185). In the absence of an accurate earlier map the colliery is marked on *Map C* with a 10 m radius centred on its grid reference.

#### **Tennis Court Road Colliery [Map C: 51]**

The colliery on Tennis Court road is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 (SMR 4195). One pitshaft is shown on the map produced by Southway (1971: 18). In the absence of a tightly defined plot area on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, the plot area (608) on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843 has formed the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. A large part of the colliery area has remained open ground today and the ground survey work is required to check for the survival of archaeological evidence.

**New Cheltenham Colliery [Map C: 52]**

The colliery in New Cheltenham is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 as 'Old Coal Pit' (SMR 4196). One pitshaft is shown on the map produced by Southway (1971: 18). The depiction of the colliery on *Map C* is based on the plot area associated with the works. Part of the colliery area has remained open ground today and the ground survey work is required to check for the survival of archaeological evidence.

**7.12.2 Brick works****Brick yard and kiln [Map C: 53]**

A brick yard and kiln were marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, on what is now Clarence Avenue; this area forms the basis for their depiction on *Map C*. More than 20 houses have subsequently been built up on this area and the potential for the survival of the kiln is low.

**7.12.3 Quarries****Soundwell quarry, Church Road [Map C: 54]**

A quarry was shown on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843 in Soundwell; by the late 19th century its size had increased considerably. The area depicted on *Map C* is based on Tithe map and the Ordnance Survey map of 1882. The older part of the quarry is now covered with a terrace of houses. The larger more recent quarry area has been incorporated into the cricket ground.

**Staple Hill quarry [Map C: 55]**

The quarry in Staple Hill was shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. It was adjacent to the Midland Railway and a railway track is shown on the Ordnance Survey map connecting the quarry to the main Midland line. A large factory site now partially covers the old quarry area and it is not known if any structures associated with the quarry still survive.

**Downend Quarry, Stanbridge Road [Map C: 56]**

The quarry on Stanbridge Road was shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882: this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. Three houses have been built on the old quarry area, 17, 19 and 21 Stanbridge Road, and it is not known if any features relating to the quarry survive.

**7.13 Non-extractive industrial areas and sites****7.13.1 Zinc and brass works****Soundwell Zinc and Brass Works [Map C: 57]**

The Soundwell Works were built in the mid 1820s by Christopher Pope (SMR 2275; Day 1973: 218). Pope subsequently went bankrupt and premises were auctioned in February 1832. The sale notice appeared in the Bristol Gazette, describing the property as a spelter (zinc) and brass works built at enormous expense within the previous ten years. Day did not find any information about the later use of the works and today the site is occupied by modern factories. No remains have been found to link the site with the brass and spelter industry. (Day 1973: 218)

The depiction of the works on *Map C* based on plot area 136 identified in the Tithe apportionments and shown on the Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843.

**7.13.2 Pin works**

The success of the 18th century pin making industry in the Kingswood area continued into the 19th century. Working practices were changed with the introduction of

mechanization in the 1830s. The industry was increasingly concentrated in several factories in the area. By the end of the 19th century, however, Braine states that all the pin works had closed (Braine 1891: 231).

#### **Staple Hill Pin Factory** [*Map C: 58*]

A pin factory owned by Thomas Rawbone (he later changed his name to Rathbone) was located on Lower Station Road (SMR 2258). He is first mentioned as a pin manufacturer of Staple Hill in 1870 and died in 1896. The factory lay untouched for over 40 years just as the workers had left it, with the wire spools in position, wire threaded through the machines and half filled boxes of pins beside them, until 1937. (Street 1986)

As recently as 1986 the pin works were still standing, but a modern office block and housing is shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995. The works included the main factory building, a smaller attached building which housed the steam engine, and adjacent to these another small building which housed the vats for plating the pins. Boilers in which the pins were boiled in sour beer before plating also survived. The works were a remarkable survival of this industry and some of the pin making machines from the factory are now in the possession of Bristol Industrial Museum. (Street 1986)

One of the reasons the pin works may not have survived is that their exact location was never accurately recorded, and some confusion has surrounded their site identification. Buchanan and Buchanan identified the pin works on the site of a ladder factory (Buchanan & Buchanan 1969). However, doubt was cast on this assertion by Myna Trustram who was told by a worker at Bishopston Engineering that the pin factory was not located at the ladder factory but had been sited at Bishopston Engineering. The six figure grid reference given by Street does not categorically confirm the old ladder factory as the original pin works, but strongly suggests that it was the correct location. A photograph of the factory appears in Mangotsfield Picture Past, with a caption stating its use as a tannery, roller skating rink, boot and shoe factory and cinema (Downend Local History Society 1985: 29). CHECK

A factory is clearly marked on Lower Station Road on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882; this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. The Eclipse Office Park and houses cover the area today, and it is not known if any remains were recorded during redevelopment.

#### **James Dobson's Pin Factory**, Colston Street [*Map C: 59*]

Jones refers to a large pin and comb factory in Soundwell, in what is now Colston Street (Jones 1899: 213). The factory belonged to James Dobson and appears in the apportionments for Mangotsfield as such (Street 1986). The lane was called Dobson's Lane and, according to Jones, is marked on a survey map of 1857 (Jones 1899: 213). The factory building was later used by shoe manufacturers (*ibid.*). The pin factory is depicted on *Map C* on the basis of Mangotsfield Tithe map of 1843.

The site of the pin factory includes several buildings which may have been associated with the pin works: buildings survive at 1-3 Colston Street, 5, 7 and 162 Soundwell Road (as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995). Further ground survey work is required to check for the survival of buildings and features associated with the pin factory.

#### **Pin Factory**, Badminton Road, Downend

The pin factory on Badminton Road in Downend has not been identified on the

ground but is known to have stood close to the Green Dragon Inn (Street 1986). The building was later used as a school. A ground survey is required to check for the survival of the building; it is unlikely to be a classic single-storey structure with a north facing roof, having escaped detection to date.

### 7.13.3 Hat factories

#### **Mangotsfield Hat Factory** [*Map C: 60-62*]

One of the hat factories in the Kingswood District still stands in Buckingham Place, Mangotsfield (SMR 5709). It made beaver skin hats and hat pins and dates to 1821 (Jones 1899: 213). In 1986 a site visit stated that the three storey building was in fair condition and had been split into four dwelling places, two of which had been significantly altered. The condition of the building today is not known.

Unfortunately only a six figure grid reference has been given for the building and therefore its exact location is not known. Several buildings in this area were marked on Tithe map of 1843, but none actually on Buckingham Place road. There are several candidates for the factory building, all of which need surveying: numbers 118, 120, 122 and 124 on North Street [*Map C: 60*]; numbers 16, 18 and 20 Salisbury Road [*Map C: 61*] and 22 Salisbury Road [*Map C: 62*].

### 7.13.4 Smithies

Several smithies are recorded on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, although their exact location can be difficult to trace because the labels are not precise. Three are shown in Downend but they are almost impossible to map accurately. One may be located on the site of an old pin factory at 118, 120, 122 and 124 North Street. Smithies also appear on Peache Road and on Cleeve Road. The site of the old smithy on Deanery Road is now occupied by a garage (SMR 6479); it could not be accurately identified on the basis of map evidence. It is not known if any features relating to the smithy survive today.

### 7.13.5 Iron Works

#### **Kingswood Iron Works** [*Map C: 63*]

The ironworks at Kingswood are marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, and do not appear on the Oldland Tithe map of 1843. The depiction of the Iron Works on *Map C* is based surviving plot boundaries shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995, which are similar to the 1882 map. A photo-survey of the building was carried out in 1994, before the building was demolished for redevelopment (SMR 9915). Some archaeological evidence may survive below ground, including evidence for foundations and waste products of the iron-making process, such as slag.

#### **Downend Iron Works**

Buchanan & Cossons describe three iron mines operated by the Ashton Vale Iron Company in Downend until nearly 1900 (Buchanan & Cossons 1969: 64). Their location, however, is not known. Further research is required to locate their premises.

### 7.13.6 Malthouse [*Map C: 64*]

A malthouse was located on the north side of the High Street on Kingswood Hill; it appeared on both the Oldland Tithe map of 1843 (plot 453 and 454) and on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882; the depiction of the malthouse on *Map C* is based on the plot area that appears on these maps. The digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 shows an open area of ground at this location, indicating the demolition of the malthouse in the 20th century. However, the absence of new buildings on the site

increases the potential for substantial archaeological evidence surviving below ground.

#### **7.13.7 Candle and soap works [Map C: 65]**

A candle and soap works is marked on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882, and this map forms the basis for its depiction on *Map C*. The works were burnt down after this date, but subsequently re-built (Braine 1891: 254). Braine states that the works were established in the 1820s and carried on for many years by T. Howes and Son (*ibid.*). Their principal article was pit candles, which were supplied to the coal mine owners in large quantities; they also made domestic candles and soap (*ibid.*). It is not known if the original building survives or if any features associated with the manufacture of candles and soap survive.

#### **7.13.8 Boot and shoe factories**

The boot and shoe industry grew substantially in the 19th century, replacing the pin industry as the major source of employment in the area. In several cases the old pin making factories were re-used as boot and shoe factories. Although the boot and shoe trade was the subject of a detailed survey published in the 4th pamphlet in the Kingswood History Series (Fryer 1988), not all known sites were included. Additional sites have been taken from an unpublished document listing the sites, held in the South Gloucestershire Sites and Monuments parish file (item 46).

##### **Lennard's Boot and Shoe Factory, Staple Hill [Map C: 66]**

Lennard's was established in 1887 and became a major distributor of shoes (Parish file: item 46). According to the parish survey one of their factories survives on North View Road, to the rear of the Staple Hill Congregationalists. A factory is depicted in this area on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 and ground survey work is required to check if this building is a typical single-storey factory with a north lit roof. The depiction of the factory on *Map C* is based on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

##### **Gordon Boot Works, Soundwell [Map C: 67]**

Gordon boot factory was a small factory located at 53 Downend Road, run by the Lewis family. It ceased production in the 1950s but has continued in use as a workshop and is still standing today (Fryer 1988: 10). Ground survey work is required to check for the survival of features associated with its use as a boot factory. It is depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the modern plot boundaries, as shown on the Tithe map of 1843.

##### **Dinkie Heels Boot and Shoe Factory, Soundwell [Map C: 68]**

A large red brick building on Downend Road was located as Dinkie Heels Boot and Shoe Factory in the parish survey (item 46). The building is clearly marked on digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995 on the corner of Dorset Road and Downend Road and needs surveying on the ground to check that it has been correctly identified. The factory is depicted on *Map C* on the basis of the modern plot boundaries as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

##### **Saunders Brothers' Boot and Shoe Factory, Kingswood Hill [Map C: 69]**

Saunders Brothers was founded in 1887 by Edwin Pearch Saunders. He originally started trading from a small building in Cross Street but soon moved into Alsop Road. He bought several cottages here, which he demolished to erect his factory. At the time of the parish survey only the original warehouse was standing since the main factory was destroyed by fire in 1947. After the fire, production moved to the warehouse which still stands on the site and is a garage. The factory ceased

production in 1957. The description of the site corresponds with a depot site still marked on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995; this modern area forms the basis for the depiction of the factory on *Map C*. Ground survey work is required to check for surviving features.

**Boulton Road boot and shoe factories**, Kingswood Hill [*Map C: 70-74*]

The parish survey states that Boulton Road contained several small boot and shoe factories, some of which are still standing but have been put to different uses - the road later became known as Alsop Road. The manufacturers in this lane included E.J. Brittons and E. Wilhire. The two best candidates are a warehouse at the rear of 1 Downend Road, on corner of Alsop Road and works on the north side of Alsop Road [*Map C: 70, 71*]. The foundations of workshops and tools associated with trade may be preserved below ground in a plot on north side of Alsop Road [*Map C: 72*]. Long narrow plots survive on the south side of Alsop Road, including many long buildings and outbuildings. The areas depicted on *Map C* are based on the modern plots areas. Ground survey work in this area is urgently required.

**Whittocks Boot and Shoe Factory**, Kingswood Hill [*Map C: 75*]

Whittocks boot and shoe factory was located at 31 High Street on Kingswood Hill. Although the building is single-storey and narrow fronted it stretches a long way back from the street frontage, appearing smaller than its true size. Many of the smaller factories were built like this, and this is a good surviving example. Ground survey work is required to check for the survival of associated features. The factory is not a listed building. It is depicted on the basis of the modern plot boundaries as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Pratts Holdfast Boot and Shoe Factory** [*Map C: 76*]

Pratts Holdfast factory was started by Edward Pratt in the 1880s; it was eventually sold out to Derhams and the factory building demolished in the 1960s (Fryer 1988: 11). A drawing of the factory was made by Loxton (Willmott & Willmott 1989: 22). It was a large single-storey building with a large imposing front and typical north-lit 'saw-toothed' factory roof. The exact location of the factory is not known: the unpublished survey states that it was opposite Prospect House, and Fryer describes its location as the 'site of what is now Chubb Fire at the bottom of Park Road' (Fryer 1988: 9). Further study is required to accurately locate the site of the factory.

In addition, survey work is required to check for surviving features associated with the factory. Prospect House on Park Road was once occupied by Edward Pratt, and the relationship between it and factory needs further exploration. The principal elevation of this 'L'-shaped building faced east, away from Park Road. Prospect House is a grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 3/175). Its depiction on *Map C* is based on the modern plot boundaries for the property as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995. Other features associated with the factory might include boot making rooms. In the 1980s this building was used as a Food Factory.

**Wetton's Boot and Shoe Factory** [*Map C: 77*]

Wetton's Boot and Shoe Factory was located at 27 Hanham Road and belonged to J.W. Wetton. It is now part of a large factory site called the Centrapak group of buildings; it is not known if any original 19th century buildings still survive. The factory is depicted on the basis of the modern plot boundaries as shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

**Boot making rooms**, Soundwell Road

After the advent of the factory system in the 19th century, outworking playing a

prominent role in boot manufacture. The processes involved meant that some stages were so well suited to a bench in the home, that they continued to be carried out there rather than in the factory (Fryer 1988: 1). Outworking was carried out in tiny premises, often just a small room attached to the house or a small shed in the garden. Soundwell Road in Kingswood has many of these outhouse type of buildings, now used as garden sheds (Fryer 1988: 4). The survival of these boot making rooms is important and further ground survey work is urgently required to check for surviving examples, and where appropriate recommendations for listing should be made.

#### 7.14 Private estates

##### **Clevehill estate** [*Map C: 78-83*]

In 1804 Clevehill estate was sold to the Cave family (Jones 1899: 130). Under the Cave family it was substantially altered and the house aggrandised. Three separate entrances were built, with lodges at each. The grounds of the house were extended and large areas of the estate planted with trees and shrubs (Jones 1899: 132). A long winding 'serpentine' drive led from the south lodge through the plantation to the main house at Cleeve Hill. The new layout of the estate is clearly shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882 and this forms the basis for the depiction of the lodges, plantation and main house on *Map C*.

Clevehill estate was sold off in the 1920s and only small parts survive today. The main house was used as a hospital in the First World War and demolished around 1930. Some of the outbuildings still survive including two listed buildings: a riding school occupies the old stable block (SMR 5711; DoE 1984: 1/204) and a barn has been converted for residential use (SMR 5429; DoE 1984: ). The south lodge survives and is a grade II listed building (DoE 1984: 1/186)

##### **Clevehill Farm** [*Map C: 84, 85*]

Clevehill Farm lay adjacent to the estate and it is not known if this was originally part of the estate. The farm includes a group of listed features: the farmhouse itself (DoE 1984: 2/195), a barn (DoE 1984: 2/195), two walls (DoE 1984: 2/196, 2/197) and an orangery (DoE 1984: 1/205).

Unlisted features include a further portion of garden walling and an 18th century summerhouse. The additional section of old garden walling has been identified by Downend Local History Society to the rear of 22 and 24 Cleeve Lawns (site visit undated). The section to the rear of 24 Cleeve Lawns has chimneys and fireplaces, used to heat the wall so that exotic fruit could be grown on the other side. The depiction of the wall on *Map C* is based on the surviving wall shown on the digital Ordnance Survey map of 1995.

##### **Hill House estate** [*Map C: 86*]

The location of Hill House estate, in part of Kingswood Chase, suggests that it was formed in the post-medieval period, although further research is required to confirm its exact date. Kingswood Heritage Trail states that it was one of the largest in the parish of Mangotsfield. Unlike Clevehill estate, the main house survives today and is a grade II\* listed building, described as a fine three-storey, five-bayed ashlar house (DoE 1984: 8/187). It was built around 1720 replacing an earlier property. The date of the earlier house is not known, but would be of particular interest, indicating the date and nature of encroachments into the Chase.

In 1809 it was owned by John Haythorne, four times Mayor of Bristol. Some of the original features do not survive: the original wrought iron railings were sacrificed to the war effort in 1941 but the memorial gates at the imposing entrance from Staple Hill still remain (Kingswood Heritage Trail). The depiction of Hill House estate on *Map C* is based on the plot area associated with the house shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1882.

### **7.15 Standing buildings**

There are 16 listing descriptions in the study area which refer to 19th century buildings in the study area.

### **7.16 Local context**

A tramway and railway were built in the first half of the 19th century only a short distance to the east of the study area; they are the most important group of industrial features in the immediate hinterland. The tramway, locally known as *The Dramway*, was built to provide cheaper and easier horse drawn carriage of coal from the mines in the area and is an important monument to the South Gloucestershire and East Bristol coalfield (SMR 5932; SMR 5901). An impressive set of tunnels and bridges associated with the tramway are preserved today (SMR 3422; SMR 3416; SMR 3418; SMR 3419; SMR 3417; SMR 3415).

Other features associated with the collieries also survive, including engine houses and earthworks associated with engine houses. Many colliery sites have been identified in the area (SMR 9585; SMR 1437; SMR 4200; SMR 1440; SMR 4199; SMR 1423; SMR 4797; SMR 1427). An industrial pipe works was established on the site of William Champions Brassworks (SMR 1433); an area of clay pits associated with the works (SMR 10542) has since been backfilled and covered with housing.

## **8.0 20TH CENTURY DEVELOPMENT**

### **8.1 Sources of evidence**

- **Maps:** Ordnance Survey maps of 1938, 1995.

### **8.2 Settlement growth and redevelopment**

Rapid settlement growth has occurred throughout the Bristol region during the 20th century; Kingswood is now part of a huge eastern suburb of the city. Housing now covers former open tracts of land in Soundwell and Downend and very few open spaces have been retained. The main roads out of Bristol, through Kingswood Hill, Staple Hill and Downend, struggle to service the large population that now lives in the area. Despite the growth in population, the underlying road network and settlement pattern still reflects the original post-medieval urban form. Redevelopment has been piece-meal and much archaeological evidence is likely to survive unrecorded.

Archaeological work is unlikely to reveal many sites of national importance, but evaluation work at individual properties has the potential to tell us a great deal more about the development of one of Britain's (and by implication the world's) earliest industrial urban areas. Archaeological work needs to be directed towards this wider research agenda.

## 9.0 RESEARCH INTERESTS

### 9.1 Research interests

1. Very little is known about the pre-medieval period in the Kingswood District, the presumption being that the area was heavily forested. This claim remains unsubstantiated and environmental work is required to establish a vegetation sequence for the area. The changing patterns of woodland exploitation and management is of particular interest and a sampling strategy needs to be devised for the whole area.
2. The bounds of Kingswood Chase need to be defined more accurately on the ground. The Chase was surveyed in 1653 and a copy of the written description is readily available in Ellacombe (1881: 189-194). Many of the same landmarks mentioned in the survey appear on the 1610 map of Kingswood. These two documentary sources provide an excellent starting point for more detailed archaeological investigation. A more accurate map of the Chase would allow ground survey work to check for the survival of any features associated with the Chase, such as raised ground, banks and ditches.
3. Further study of the medieval hamlets of Downend and Mangotsfield is required. Ground survey work in the central area of Downend and in Mangotsfield is needed to check for the survival of medieval pottery. This would allow a distribution pattern to be established which would help determine the bounds of medieval settlement on the fringe of the Chase. Pottery sherds will be most easily recognised where soil is exposed, in gardens and during building work.
4. Archaeological survey work has the potential to reveal a more detailed understanding of post-medieval encroachment into Kingswood Chase, as outlined in section 6.3. Any post-medieval finds, particularly pottery, need to be recorded. This type of material is most easily recognised where soil is exposed, in gardens and during building work. Survey work should be focused on the plots identified on *Map B* and *Map C*. The aim of this work should be to build up a detailed distribution map of dated post-medieval pottery.
5. The relationship of industrial development, migration patterns, settlement and land ownership patterns is of particular interest and requires more detailed study. The density of estates in this area is unusual, but ill understood. One of the chapters in Jones concentrates on 'semi-manorial matters' and this needs to be checked in detail for references (Jones 1899: chapter 4).
6. The importance of outworking during the 18th and 19th centuries for both the pin making industry and the boot and shoe industry increases the importance of interior building surveys and of outbuildings in the area. Surviving features are likely to include pin making seats and boot making rooms, for which few specific examples have been identified. All buildings pre-dating the 20th century need interior surveys. Special attention should be paid to the outbuildings along Soundwell Road; further ground survey work is urgently required to check for examples of boot making rooms and where appropriate recommendations for listing should be made.
7. This study urgently needs to be set within a larger context, and ideally the approach adopted in this report should be extended to cover a larger area. The best option in management terms and on academic grounds would be to conduct

a survey of the city to the east of the intensive urban survey of Bristol; the eastern bounds of the 'urban' area would be most meaningfully drawn at the proposed line of the new Avon Ring Road. This area is vast and includes the Bristol parishes of Stapleton, St. George, Hanham, Brislington and St. Philip & St. Jacob.

## **9.2 Recommendations for further research work**

1. Map all standing buildings of local interest, as listed in pamphlet issued by Kingswood District Council in 1983. These buildings have not been dated: the minimum standard required is a similar listing to the Department of the Environment's statutory list.
2. Map all mine shafts, pump shafts and adits associated with the coal industry in Kingswood, as detailed in Cornwell's study for the Department of the Environment (1989).
3. Map the principal features associated with the tramway system developed in the late 19th and early 20th century.
4. Compile a summary of all documentary sources for the urban area.
5. Conduct a detailed buildings survey.
6. Conduct a cellar survey.
7. Prepare a detailed contour survey of the urban area.
8. Build up a detailed deposit model for the urban area.
9. 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

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