

**THE OLD BINGO
HALL,
WARWICK ROAD,
CARLISLE,
CUMBRIA**

**Archaeological Desk-
Based Assessment**



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SUMMARY

Following a request by PCP Architects Ltd on behalf of Empera Estates Ltd, Oxford Archaeology North undertook a pre-planning desk-based assessment of a proposed development area at the Old Bingo Hall, Warwick Road, Carlisle (NGR NY 4037 5570) in September and October 2005. The site lies in close proximity to the southern entrance into the city via English Gate and Citadel, within an area of potential Roman activity and on the edge of the medieval heart of Carlisle. It also lies on one of the main arterial routes into and out of the city, and has the potential to incorporate significant sub-surface archaeological remains.

The desk-based assessment comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Historic Environment Record (HER) in Kendal; the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle; and the local reference collection at Carlisle Library, as well as various institutions with online facilities including the National Monuments Record (NMR), English Heritage, the National Trust and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). The assessment highlighted the wealth of archaeological evidence, retrieved by excavation, for areas immediately adjacent to the site, and this would indicate that the site is likely to preserve archaeological evidence within its boundaries.

The site of the Old Bingo Hall was first built on in the mid-nineteenth century. The site was occupied initially by smaller brick-built buildings, probably identical to those which remain within the same block of land, to the east. The formal occupation of Warwick Road (known as Henry Street until the early twentieth century) was fairly late in comparison to Botchergate, in the immediate vicinity. This probably reflects the importance of the route out of the city to the south along Botchergate and also the contentious nature of the open area around the Citadel and English Gate throughout Carlisle's turbulent history. In 1931 the land pertaining to the development area was acquired, the earlier buildings on the site were demolished, and the Lonsdale cinema was constructed on the western end of the row of street front properties and also took up all of the back plots within the block. The cinema, which could hold over 3000 people, was designed by Percy L Browne and Sons, architects based in Newcastle. They designed it, in the typical art deco style of the period, for Sidney Bacon, who owned and built a number of cinemas, including several in Carlisle and as far away as Kingston-upon-Hull and Bexley Heath, London. Throughout its existence as a single screen cinema the Lonsdale (and when it was the ABC) was a venue not only for films but also for live acts. The cinema was eventually sold on to ABC (Associated British Cinemas) and, under their ownership, nationally acclaimed bands such as the Rolling Stones and the Beatles played at the site. In 1972 the ground floor of the cinema, was altered to house a bingo hall, which seated 1225 people, with the single screen cinema split into three smaller screens on the upper balcony floor; the bingo hall has only recently closed.

With the identification of surviving archaeological deposits in the adjacent areas along Botchergate, there is the potential for archaeological deposits within the study area, although it does not prove that such deposits survive. In particular, there is some possibility that cellaring will have removed any archaeological deposits. Despite access restrictions leading to a lack of physical examination for cellaring, it has been possible to suggest areas that may have been open and not originally cellared by

1876. These areas may have been subsequently impacted upon by the later building but, on present evidence, it was not clear to what depth.

Dependant on the overall redevelopment scheme, it is recommended that initially a further investigation of the standing structures be undertaken. The Lonsdale cinema is the last of Carlisle's pre-War cinemas and, consequently, it is suggested that the Old Bingo Hall building should also be recorded to at least RCHME Level 1 standard. Subsequently, a programme of evaluation trenching may be advisable to investigate the below ground survival of archaeological remains.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) would like to thank John McNicholas of PCP Architects Ltd and Empera Estates Ltd for instigating the project. We would like to extend our thanks to Jo MacIntosh, the HER Officer for Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service, and to all the staff at the Cumbria Record Office in Carlisle for their kind assistance. We are also indebted to John Zant and Jo Cook for giving so much of their time and knowledge on the archaeology of Carlisle.

The desk-top assessment, site visit and report compilation were undertaken by Vix Hughes and the drawings were produced by Mark Tidmarsh. The project was managed by Stephen Rowland, who also edited the report, along with Alan Lupton.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 CIRCUMSTANCES OF PROJECT

- 1.1.1 John McNicholas of PCP Architects Ltd requested, on behalf of Empera Estates Ltd, that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals, in compliance with a brief issued by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Service (CCCHES), for a pre-planning archaeological desk-based assessment of an area of land currently occupied by the Old Bingo Hall, Warwick Road, Carlisle, Cumbria (centred NY 4037 5570, Figs 1 and 2).
- 1.1.2 The desk-based assessment, undertaken in September and October 2005, comprised a search of both published and unpublished records held by the Historic Environment Record (HER, the present equivalent of the SMR) in Kendal; the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle; and the Carlisle local reference collection at Carlisle Library, as well as various institutions with online facilities including the National Monuments Record (NMR), English Heritage, the National Trust and the Archaeology Data Service (ADS). In addition to this, a visual inspection was carried out on the site, in order to relate the landscape and surroundings to the results of the desk-based assessment. This report sets out the results of the desk-based assessment in the form of a short document, outlining the findings, followed by a statement of the archaeological potential and significance, and an assessment of the impact of the proposed development. The significance criteria detailed in PPG 16 (DoE 1990) were employed during the assessment.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 PROJECT DESIGN

- 2.1.1 Following receipt of the CCCHES brief (*Appendix 1*), the corresponding project design (*Appendix 2*) submitted by OA North was adhered to in full, and the work was consistent with the relevant standards and procedures of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, and generally accepted best practice.

2.2 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

- 2.2.1 **Introduction:** a desk-based assessment was undertaken as the first stage in the programme of archaeological assessment prior to the application for planning permission to develop the site. The work aimed to provide an appraisal of the archaeological resource and to act as a guide to any requirement for further archaeological work. The results were analysed using the general set of criteria used to assess a monument's national importance.
- 2.2.2 **Cumbria County Historic Environment Record, (HER) Kendal:** the HER is held at the County Hall in Kendal and comprises a database of known archaeological sites within the county. It also holds an extensive library of unpublished materials for consultation, as well as information relevant to the planning process.
- 2.2.3 **County Record Office (CRO):** the Cumbria County Record Office in Carlisle holds the main source of primary documentation for the proposed development area; both maps and documents for the Carlisle area. In addition, it holds numerous published sources such as the various Commercial Directories for the county, the English Place-names Society and unpublished sources and reports.
- 2.2.4 **Carlisle Central Library:** the central library holds a good reference collection on local history, copies of maps, various local newspapers and some archive material, as well as general books on the history of Carlisle and Cumbria.
- 2.2.5 **Oxford Archaeology North:** OA North has an extensive archive of secondary sources relevant to the study area, including a complete run of the Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian Society journal, as well as numerous unpublished client reports on work carried out both as OA North and in its former guise of Lancaster University Archaeological Unit (LUAU). These were consulted where necessary.

2.3 SITE INSPECTION

- 2.3.1 A predominantly visual site inspection was undertaken of the exterior of the site to relate the findings of the desk-based assessment to the current urban landscape. Enquiries were also made in order to provide additional information

concerning any potential archaeology not readily identifiable through the documentary sources.

2.4 ARCHIVE

- 2.4.1 A full professional archive has been compiled in accordance with the project design (*Appendix 2*), and in accordance with current IFA and English Heritage guidelines (English Heritage 1991). The paper and digital archive will be deposited in the Carlisle branch of the County Record Office archives on completion of the project.

3. BACKGROUND

3.1 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1.1 Carlisle is located on the valley floor of the River Eden and the city developed between the river and its tributaries, the Caldew and the Petteril. The study area lies within the modern heart of the city. The Old Bingo Hall is located immediately to the south-east of the southern gates of Carlisle's medieval city walls (the Citadel and English Gate), and encompasses an 1800m² polygonal area of land bounded, to the north by Warwick Road and three properties fronting that street (numbers 42-50), to the west by Barton's Place, to the south by Mary Street, and to the east by Cecil Street (Fig 2).
- 3.1.2 The underlying solid geology of the area consists mainly of mudstones and sandstones of Permo-Triassic age. They were deposited under the marine conditions of the period, between 280 and 195 million years ago. The most important sandstone formation, the St Bees Sandstone, has been much quarried for use as building stone, and has imparted a distinctive character to much of the area's architecture (Countryside Commission 1998, 20). The overlying drift geology is composed of essentially glacial deposits with some fluvial sediments along the Caldew and the Petteril valleys. The soils of the development area are not well-mapped since the area is urban in nature; however, where seen they have been determined to be of the Salwick soil association, which are stagnogley argilic brown earths (Lawes Agricultural Trust 1983). A series of boreholes were undertaken in the town centre in the 1960s, in preparation for the new road system and redevelopment of the area. The boreholes revealed made ground overlying boulder clay overlying bedrock (LUAU 2001). Carlisle is part of the Solway Basin area as defined by the Countryside Commission (1998). The study area lies at about 22.5m OD (above Ordnance Datum).

3.2 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

Period	Date Range
Palaeolithic	30, 000 – 10, 000 BC
Mesolithic	10, 000 – 3, 500 BC
Neolithic	3, 500 – 2, 200 BC
Bronze Age	2, 200 – 700 BC
Iron Age	700 BC – AD 43
Romano-British	AD 43 – AD 410
Early Medieval	AD 410 – AD 1066
Late Medieval	AD 1066 – AD 1540
Post-Medieval and Modern	AD 1540 – present

Table 1: Summary of British archaeological periods and date ranges

- 3.2.1 **Prehistoric Period:** Carlisle is 'seated upon an eminence, surrounded by a fertile plain of rich meadows' (Whellan 1860, 83). The town lies on the Solway Plain, an area that is characterised by a relatively large number of

prehistoric settlement sites, many apparently dating to the Iron Age, which took advantage of the fertile soils (Bewley 1994). There is also some evidence of Bronze Age activity, as Bronze Age collared urns were found at the Garlands Hospital Site in 1861, several kilometres to the east of the development area (Perriam 1992, 3) and, more recently, a Bronze Age burnt mound has been identified at the same site (LUAU 1996). To the south of the site a late Neolithic - Early Bronze Age flint blade was recovered from a Roman context during the excavation of Botchergate BGT Trench 13 (CAL 2001). Possible prehistoric (but not securely dated) ard-marks, which suggest early cultivation, are known from the city, including the Lanes, Scotch Street and Blackfriars Street, but have not as yet been identified near the development site (LUAU 2001; McCarthy 1984; Zant pers comm).

3.2.2 **Roman:** in AD 72-3 a fort, known as *Lugovallium*, was established by the Romans on the site later to become the medieval castle and, by the end of the first century formed the command centre for part of the Tyne-Solway isthmus frontier known as the Stanegate (Shotter 1997, 49). Although the local focus of the second century Hadrianic frontier moved to the nearby fort of Stanwix, the recent millennium project excavations (Zant forthcoming b) have shown that the fort at Carlisle continued to be occupied into the post-Roman period. A large civilian settlement grew up around the fort and, by the early third century, the town may have formed the *civitas* capital of the *Carvetii*, the indigenous tribal unit in the area. The full extent of this extramural settlement is not known but, though considered to be large in comparison to other Roman settlements in the North West, it was thought largely to be confined to the approximate area of the later medieval walled city (McCarthy 1991, 53); this view may be refined in the light of archaeological evidence from the Botchergate excavations, which lie close to the proposed development area (*Section 3.7*) (Fig 3).

3.2.3 **Early Medieval:** as is the case throughout Cumbria, evidence for early medieval activity is extremely sparse. The limited indications of mainly artefactual evidence from Carlisle (including coins dating to between the eighth and eleventh centuries) concentrate on the line of the former north-west/south-east Roman road, although no finds have been made particularly close to the development area itself (McCarthy *et al* 1990). Possible Anglian features were identified at Blackfriars Street (McCarthy 1990) and documentary evidence suggests continuity of some elements of urban life in the seventh century when, according to Bede (Colgrave 1940), St Cuthbert in AD 685 saw water systems in use, along with a nunnery and possibly a monastery perhaps associated with St Cuthbert's church, itself seemingly aligned on the Roman road system. Nothing concrete is known of settlement in Carlisle from the ninth to the eleventh centuries, although metalwork of this period has been found to the west of the present cathedral (Gaimster *et al* 1989). The Danes, however, are recorded as having overrun the region in AD 876 (Earle and Plummer 1892).

3.2.4 **Late Medieval:** by the eleventh century, Carlisle was in an area of dispute between the expanding kingdoms of England and Scotland and, accordingly, suffered numerous sieges and sackings; ownership was not resolved until a

mid-thirteenth century papal decree was issued, favouring English claims (McCarthy *et al* 1990). William Rufus is said to have ‘set up the walls’ and erected the castle in 1092 (Earle and Plummer 1892) and, in 1122, Henry I ordered the city to be fortified with ‘castles and towers’ (Arnold 1885, 267).

- 3.2.5 In the fourteenth century, Carlisle was subject to numerous raids and skirmishes during the Wars of Independence, and in 1391 was sacked and burnt by the Scots. The impact of these attacks had a lasting effect: a late seventeenth century writer recounted that the city ‘*was never able to recover itselfe from soe many desolations and even at this day the scars of those dreadful wounds are yet apparent for ye town is so thin and empty of inhabitants that it looks like a country village well walld [sic] about rather than a citty [sic]*’ (Todd 1890, np).
- 3.2.6 During the medieval period, the adjacent Botchergate appears to have formed an extramural suburb to Carlisle (Giecco and Zant 2001, 4). Cartographic evidence shows that certainly during the early post-medieval period settlement fronted Botchergate outside of the town defences, rather than along Warwick Road (Fig 4). By the early part of the nineteenth century much of the land to the rear of the buildings fronting Botchergate was still open but, by the time of the First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1876 (Fig 9), Carlisle's suburbs had expanded rapidly, infilling the backplots of earlier buildings on the Botchergate street frontage; Warwick Road remained apparently unoccupied (*op cit*, 5).
- 3.2.7 Warwick Road takes its name from the fact that the road leads to the settlement and crossing point at Warwick Bridge. The reference to ‘*pontem de Warthwyc*’ in AD 1170 and 1259-60 indicates the presence of a bridge from early in the post-Conquest period. The itineraries of King John and Edward I, however, seem to show that for travel between Newcastle or Hexham and Carlisle the Roman Stanegate was used (Hindle 1984); this route is approximated by the present A689, taking in Irthington and Linstock, to the north of Warwick. Therefore, an historic route probably crossed the Eden at this place but it may not have been the primary trans-pennine route, which seems more likely to have led down the eastern bank of the river towards Appleby.
- 3.2.8 **Post Medieval:** Carlisle’s position on the Scottish border meant that it was well-placed to control the adjacent marches (Todd 1890, np), an often anarchic region plagued by the Border Reivers (Fraser 1971). The Askis rebellion of 1538 saw Carlisle besieged by 8000 men (Hutchinson 1794-7, 655). Such a large force would have almost certainly have occupied the ground outside the English Gate and this could have included the area later to become Warwick Road. Carlisle’s troubles did not end with the unification of the crowns in 1603: during the Civil Wars the city was again besieged and captured in 1645, this time by the Parliamentarians (McCarthy *et al* 1990) and was again affected by the Jacobite rebellions of 1715 and 1745. During the rebellion of 1745, Major General Bland and 300 men from the St George’s Dragoons were posted on the Scottish side of the town while Major Adams, with 200 infantrymen, was stationed in the suburbs near the English Gate (Gentleman’s Magazine 1745). It is, therefore, not unreasonable to suppose that the

relatively open area of Warwick Road would have ‘housed’ some of these men, perhaps in temporary structures such as tents, the whole protected by military earthworks. Contemporary references to wood being cut suggest that areas around Carlisle had tree cover to some extent. Other accounts note that the town of Carlisle raised fairly large sums of money, which were paid to these defenders, to prevent the houses from being plundered (Hutchinson 1794-7, 656), and this would have presumably minimised any damage.

- 3.2.9 The more peaceful later eighteenth and first half of the nineteenth centuries saw the development of industry in Carlisle. Particularly important were textiles, mainly woollen manufacture, but a number of biscuit manufacturers also operated in the town (Whellan 1860, 97). Industrial growth was steady rather than meteoric – Carlisle has been rightly cited as ‘*a good instance of what may be called the normal growth of an English town. It owes nothing to mineral wealth and has made no sudden stride, but merely responded to the industrial impulse in proportion to its position as a chief town of a large district and a place which was accessible as a centre of distribution*’ (Creighton 1889, 192). The latter role was helped by the arrival of the railway, which was laid in the 1840s (Asquith 1853-5).
- 3.2.10 The development of Carlisle as an urban centre took place in stages with different geographical areas being subject to expansion at different times. The main part of the city remained concentrated within the medieval city walls bordered by the three gates, Irish, Scottish and English Gate. The north end of Botchergate entered the city through English Gate and an early portrayal of the city at about 1560 (Fig 4) shows the gate to the south and several smaller postern gates along the south-east side, each of which probably had a footpath associated with it. One of these probably lead out of the city towards the east. This direction, south-east towards the river crossing at Warwick Bridge, was the long-established route out of the city towards Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It was only later, in about 1750, that the new turnpike route, about four miles to the north, was laid out. The poor state of the earlier road was a hindrance to the conveyance of merchant goods. If there was a general shift in traffic to the new road it may explain why the area of Warwick Road, near English Gate, did not see any ribbon development along its route; most was concentrated along Botchergate, going south to Penrith.
- 3.2.11 An eighteenth century antiquarian’s account records that approaching Carlisle from the south there was an extensive plain of rich cultivated land and that the view south, from the castle towards Penrith revealed this cultivated swathe (Hutchinson 1794-7, 585-6). The urban centre itself was described as consisting of several streets, the chief ones being spacious, noble and well-built (Hutchinson 1794-7, 643). In 1794-7 a resident of Carlisle, Mr R Longrigg, described the area near the English Gate as being occupied by charity houses, built by the corporation. The general appearance of buildings in Carlisle was stated as constructions of wood and clay with gable ends fronted onto the streets (*ibid*). Doors were positioned in the centre and many houses had projecting porches and arched front doors with diminutive windows. The streets were cambered and deep gutters were evident, although not in a regular pattern, and there were stone crossings over the gutters. In

contrast to the city, it seems unlikely that Warwick Road had formal dwellings on either side of it at this time. Despite being on the immediate fringe of the city, no buildings are shown on contemporary maps (Fig 7).

- 3.2.12 By about 1850, when the railway was being constructed in the city, there is a description which mentions the Citadel station ‘rearing its beautiful form amid the surrounding waste’ (Whellan 1860, 83). This would suggest that some of the area around English Gate and the top end of Botchergate were perhaps not as elegant as they are at present. Further comments do indicate that by this time some of the finest streets of houses had risen into shape (*op cit*). The eastern part of the road was formally laid out as a turnpike road to Brampton at about 1829-30 (Whellan 1860) and, in Council Minutes from 1883, recommendations were made that the whole street, including the western section known as Henry Street, be renamed Warwick Road (Carlisle City Council 1883).

3.3 CINEMA HISTORY

- 3.3.1 The technical principals of cinematography were understood by the mid-nineteenth century, but it was not until 1894 that moving pictures were introduced to the public by Thomas Edison with the opening of the first coin-operated Kinetoscope parlour in New York (NMFPT 2005). In February 1895, Louis and Auguste Lumière patented the Cinématographe, a combined camera and projector and, the same year, showed their first one minute film to the public (Rankin 2001). These presentations quickly spread to Britain and the popularity of cinema grew through the early twentieth century, forming the main aspect of cultural entertainment. Sound was introduced in 1925 and, as cinema-going reached its heights in the 1930s and in the immediate post-World War II period, a new generation of ‘super-cinemas’ (Ackroyd 2002) were constructed in the 1930s, generally accommodating in excess of 1500 seats. Subsequently, audience figures fell, first with the advent of cheaper televisions and the increased range of broadcasting channels and extended times in the 1960s and 1970s and later, with the development of the video-recorder in the 1980s. More recently, audiences have been returning to the cinema and larger multiplex cinemas with large numbers of screens have become established at sites located on the outskirts of towns and cities.
- 3.3.2 The first moving films in Carlisle were publicly shown at Her Majesty’s Theatre in 1897 (Perriam 1992, 78). The first, of seven, picture houses to open was the Public Hall in Chapel Street (Perriam 1992, 78) but by the 1980s, only one, the Lonsdale, remained (Perriam 1992).

3.4 HISTORY OF THE SITE

- 3.4.1 There is no clear occupation on the site until 1876, when the 1:2500 First Edition Ordnance Survey shows six street front premises between Barton’s Place and Cecil Street (Fig 9). The extreme western end of Warwick Road was referred to as Henry Street at this stage and was only known as Warwick Road after 1925. The proposed development site occupies numbers 36-40 Warwick

Road, with 42-50 being the remaining street front properties in the block to the west.

- 3.4.2 There are references to properties along Henry Street as early as 1847 (Mannex and Whellan 1847), however, it is not known exactly where they were located, since both the street name and the numbering of the properties was changed. The re-numbering was first proposed in 1902-3 (Council Minutes, p 495). The commercial directory of 1847 (*ibid*) records Isaac Middleton, a grocer and tea dealer, at 6 Henry Street; a Tom Carr as a proprietor of the Lord Brougham at 8 Henry Street and, presumably on the opposite side, David Baxter, proprietor of the Crown, at 11 Henry Street. An earlier directory (Pigot 1828-9) makes no mention of properties along Henry Street at this time and it is possible that the premises were either not constructed or not occupied by businesses and therefore not recorded. The commercial directories are equivalent to today's yellow pages and list properties either under the type of trade or by street name.
- 3.4.3 The later, twentieth century, commercial directories show that for the most part, the site was occupied by Joseph Dent and sons, furniture dealer. His firm is recorded as occupying numbers 36-40 Warwick Road (Kelly 1910, 1914, 1925, Table 2). Interestingly, it would seem that the area to the rear, Barton's Yard (later Place) was probably occupied by, first, John Hall, an agricultural implement agent and then, later, James Dias, a motor engineer.
- 3.4.4 By 1930 much of the block of land between Barton's Place and Cecil Street had been acquired by Sidney Bacon and plans were drawn up for a cinema on the site which was opened on 21st September 1931. The Carlisle Record Office holds what appears to be a complete set of Percy L Browne and Sons proposed 1930 architect's plans and later 1931 final alterations (Plates 1-4 and 8). The building's steel frame was drawn up in plan (e.g. Plate 5) and, in all probability produced, by Lambhill Ironworks, Glasgow.
- 3.4.5 The records show that the cinema's steel frame and stanchions were infilled with brick cavity walls constructed of an outer lining of 4.5inch-thick brickwork and an inner lining of 3inch-thick Aerocrete blocks, with a skim of plaster on the face forming the interior part of the cinema. The two linings were tied together using metal ties (Plate 6). The brick-infilled panels measured about ten feet in height. The balcony was to be made of pre-cast, reinforced concrete with concrete risers (steps). The roof was to be covered with asbestos plates or concrete and plastered on the underside. Essentially, the aim was to ensure that the premises were as fireproof as possible. The building was provided with a low pressure hot water system and radiators throughout, with external air ducts and an extractor in the roof for air circulation. Lighting was obviously electric, based on both a direct supply and with auxiliary power from storage batteries (this would have been later upgraded to a simple mains supply). The records also detail the drainage of the site and there are notes concerning alterations to depths for the sewage system in order to avoid any problems. One letter from the City Surveyor grants permission for cellars to be constructed for the cinema (Plate 18).

- 3.4.6 The Lonsdale cinema was first built and owned by Sidney Bacon whose career had started in the North East of England but expanded to as far as London (Mellon 1971). He monopolised the early cinema scene in Carlisle, holding shows at the Public Hall in 1907, leasing the nearby Her Majesty's Theatre and building the City Cinema in 1912 (Murfin 1990, 215). The start of every performance had a side profile of Sidney himself with the words 'Sidney Bacon brings the world to you' (Mellon 1971, 23-4).
- 3.4.7 The Lonsdale was typical of many cinemas at the time which had the facility for live music, initially from an organ (Plate 10, Sutton 1999, 105) but, throughout the 1950s and 1960s, live acts became increasingly common, varying from regional acts to those which were to become national household names. A brochure from 1950 (Carlisle Reference Library, Plate 9) notes that the cinema had recently been extensively refitted and lists the less than luminary acts in the week's birthday celebrations.
- 3.4.8 In 1962 Sidney Bacon sold the Lonsdale cinema to ABC (Associated British Cinemas) and after this the type of acts changed slightly. ABC properties became regular venues for the national tour packages of live bands which included the Beatles and the Rolling Stones, both of which played the Lonsdale.
- 3.4.9 By 1971 ABC were part of EMI and they controlled around 230 cinemas (Mellon 1971, 79). In the same year, plans (which still exist in full) were drawn-up by Moore Bird Contractors Ltd to convert the lower part of the ABC cinema into a bingo hall (Plate 7), perhaps to attract greater patronage in response to previously mentioned trends (*Section 3.3.1*). The largely internal conversion allowed for the seating of 1225 people in the bingo hall and social club and included elements such as timber-framed formica counters with aluminium surrounds, all very in keeping with the 1970s. The partition walls were to be plastered and then have a layer of textured sandtex applied.
- 3.4.10 Originally, the Lonsdale cinema had four floors; the basement, the stalls on the ground floor; the mezzanine floor; and the balcony (Plates 1-4). The stalls could seat 1263 people, while the balcony could hold 1900, producing a total of over 3163, large, even by 'super cinema' standards, with additional seating along the Mezzanine floor. The original cinema had only one main screen and stage but, with the conversion to the bingo hall below and falling audience figures, the cinema was altered to have three screens with a total of 648 seats. This is a much reduced figure from the 1900 people that the balcony could hold when the cinema was originally built, the disparity partly accounted for by the requirement for three projection rooms.

Property Number	1910	1914	1925	1934	1938	1950
Barton's Yard	John Hall Agricultural implement agent	John Hall Agricultural implement agent	James Dias Motor engineer (possibly)	Lonsdale Cinema	Lonsdale Cinema	Lonsdale Cinema
36	Joseph Dent Furniture dealer	JJ Dent and Sons	JJ Dent and Sons House furnishers	Lonsdale Cinema Ernestt Whittell manager	Lonsdale Cinema Peter Mooney manager	Lonsdale Cinema EVS Forgham manager
38	Joseph Dent Furniture dealer	JJ Dent and Sons	JJ Dent and Sons House furnishers	Lonsdale cinema	Lonsdale cinema	Lonsdale Cinema
40	Joseph Dent Furniture dealer	JJ Dent and Sons Furniture dealers	JJ Dent and Sons House furnishers	Lonsdale cinema	Lonsdale cinema	Lonsdale Cinema
42	Joseph William Hewson Vet	Joseph William Hewson Vet	Hewson and Armour Vetinars			

Table 2: Summary of twentieth century property owners

3.5 MAP REGRESSION ANALYSIS

- 3.5.1 *Anon c1560 - Bird's eye view map of the City of Carlisle (British Museum BLCotton Ms AugI,i,13)* (Fig 4): this map is one of the clearest of the area in the sixteenth century, and is the earliest known map of Carlisle. The main streets are clearly shown, all lying within the walls of the city. Each street frontage is shown as having stylised buildings along the length with open plots behind. The castle is at the top of the map and at the base is English Gate. A small opening in the wall is seen slightly north-east of English Gate and a larger portal further along the wall. There is no depiction of what lay to the south of the city but within the walls the southern part is the least built-up area and it hints that perhaps there was little in the way of occupation in this area. Therefore, Warwick Road may not have existed as anything more than a footpath out from a gate at this time.
- 3.5.2 *Smith 1746 - Plan of the City of Carlisle (CRO(C))* (Fig 5): Smith's plan of 1746 is also exceptionally clear; drawn during the Jacobite rebellion, it shows the positions of the gun batteries used by the government forces against the rebels. Little further detail is shown of the city than that seen on the c1560 map, with houses still ranged along the street frontage. The most notable difference is the depiction of the area outside the city, particularly to the south around English Gate, although there is development focused around each of the Gates. The immediate area is blank and probably would have been an open area for defensive purposes. The alignment of Botchergate is shown and has small individual buildings depicted along both sides. There is no indication of Warwick Road being in existence, even despite the fact that there is an information panel displayed where the road would be. If there was any

significant development then it is unlikely the panel would have been put there.

- 3.5.3 **Hodgkinson and Donald 1774 - Inset Plan of Carlisle City (CRO(C) D/LONS/L)** (Fig 6): this map forms an inset to a larger map of Cumberland, and shows a very similar layout to that of Smith's map of 30 years earlier, but with some further developments within the city walls. No development is shown where Warwick Road should be.
- 3.5.4 **Anon 1794 - Plan of the City of Carlisle and Places Adjacent (CRO(C) D/LONS/L/CARLISLE/13)** (Fig 7): this map provides the highest level of detail for the city by this point. Houses are shown extending back in irregular blocks from the street frontages, with buildings also ranged around courtyards and land to the rear of the houses was still in use as gardens, though several are shown as formal gardens rather than as small plots. This map is the first to depict Warwick Road. It is shown as a linear route through an area of gardens. The map is somewhat stylised but, in comparison to the dwellings shown alongside Botchergate, then it must be taken that there were still no dwellings along Warwick Road. In fact the edges are shown as vegetated and the route was probably little more than a lane. The gardens shown are again highly stylised and their accuracy is questionable. The area was probably used for horticultural purposes, i.e. the small-scale production of food similar to allotments.
- 3.5.5 **Wood 1821 - Plan of the City of Carlisle** (Fig 8): this map provides further detail of the area. Large blocks of houses and other premises are seen to occupy most of the gardens to the rear of the street frontages. The city walls and English Gate have been entirely demolished, and the Citadel bisected to allow a continuation of Botchergate into English Street, enabling it to become the main route through the city. Intriguingly, there is no route shown where Warwick Road should be, which contradicts the earlier 1794 map. There is a property boundary shown in roughly the same location but no actual access route is portrayed. It again demonstrates that there was no formal occupation along Warwick Road at this time and that much of the area would have still been open. Apart from the Crescent to the south of the Citadel, the only property shown is Mr Hewitt's timber yard, which lay to the north of the present site.
- 3.5.6 **Ordnance Survey 1876 – First Edition 1:2500** (Fig 9): the area is covered by two 'quarter' sheets. These maps, surveyed in 1861-5, show an excellent level of detail including the names of some properties. Considering that the maps were surveyed as early as 1861, then in the intervening 40 years since Wood's map, Warwick Road had become an acknowledged route. This is consistent with the establishment of Warwick Road as a turnpike at about 1829-30. The OS map shows a small amount of development concentrated along the street frontage but only really as far as Brunswick Street on the south side, but further, as far as Howard Place on the north side of Warwick Road, still called Henry Street at this date. An indication of the scale of impending development may be the large number of bench marks located along Warwick Road, at least seven from Earl Street to Howard Place. The block of land on which the present site is based had six buildings fronting onto Warwick Road and a

number aligned with Mary Street to the south and several within the block itself, effectively surrounding a small open area. The buildings fronting onto Warwick Road all appear to have out buildings at the rear, and access via a small lane. The adjacent western plot, where the current crown post office is located, does not appear to be significantly built up and there is no evidence of Barton's Place being a thoroughfare as it is today.

- 3.5.7 **Ordnance Survey 1901 – Second Edition 1:2500** (Fig 10): there are no significant changes to the block of land incorporating the current site in the 25 years between the two map editions. There are three small buildings constructed within the rear yard area and adjoining previous properties. This in general reflects the infilling of open areas in towns and cities at this time, as the population increased. The surrounding area along Warwick Road (still called Henry Street) has been totally transformed with new streets added, along with a large number of houses, ornamental squares laid-out and a new church.
- 3.5.8 **Ordnance Survey 1925-6 – Third Edition 1:2500** (Fig 11): there is only one change within the development area in the 25 year gap between the Second and Third Edition OS maps: the addition of a single-width building at the western end of the row. Other significant changes in the surrounding area include the construction of the large post office building and alterations and partial demolition to some of the buildings just to the south to allow Barton's Place to become a thoroughfare.
- 3.5.9 **Ordnance Survey since 1930**: these maps show the most remarkable change to the site with the demolition of the westernmost two properties and all those to the south of the rear access lane. These all became part of the Lonsdale Cinema constructed and opened by September 1931.
- 3.5.10 **Census Basemap – 1968** (Fig 12): this map is based on the then current OS mapping but is essentially an annotated, larger scale extract used for census purposes. In addition to the individual properties, all numbered, the plan also notes the function of the buildings and shows the bus routes. The cinema is clearly shown and was under the ownership of the ABC by this time. There are no internal details, just the outline of the property, which is denoted as 36 to 40 Warwick Road. To the west is the post office at numbers 20 to 34 and to the east are three properties; Empire Fruit and Veg at number 42; General Assurance Offices at number 44 and IL Robson's the chemist at 46 to 50 Warwick Road.
- 3.5.11 The sequence shows a distinct lack of development along Warwick Road up to about 1861 – 1876, although there may have been a lane along the same alignment by 1794. The expansion of urban occupation from the mid-nineteenth century appears to accelerate and culminate in the configuration of buildings as they are today. There have been relatively few wholesale changes, the main one being the demolition of properties on Warwick Road in order to build the Lonsdale Cinema in 1930. This has resulted in the complete removal of all upstanding remains of the nineteenth century buildings that stood there. However, those fronting Warwick Road to the east have survived and serve as an example of how the previous buildings would have appeared.

3.6 ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS

- 3.6.1 Numerous chance discoveries of burials on both sides of Botchergate in the nineteenth century suggested that the area had been used as a cemetery for much of the Roman period (Charlesworth 1978): this was to be expected given that Roman cemeteries are conventionally situated alongside the main roads leading out of settlements.
- 3.6.2 Two watching brief tasks were undertaken during 1987 (Fig 3), the first, undertaken by CAU (Carlisle Archaeology Unit), was in the roadway at the extreme west end of Warwick Road, at its junction with Lowther Street. The CAU archive was incomplete and the reason for the work was unknown, but it was probably for the repair/renewal to a sewer or gas main. No evidence for Roman occupation was found immediately east of the line of the medieval city wall. A second watching brief, also by CAU, in the roadway of The Crescent, towards the north end, close to the junction with Citadel Row presumably yielded no significant results since no details of any archaeological observations appear to have been recorded.
- 3.6.3 More recent investigations seemed to confirm that the Botchergate area lay outside the focus of Carlisle's extramural settlement. In 1994 CAU undertook an evaluation in the Cecil Street car park, south of Tait Street on the eastern side of Botchergate (Fig 3), which identified remains of cremation burials, together with boundary ditches, probably Roman in date (McCarthy and Flynn 1994). The depth of archaeological deposits was seen to vary from 0.6m to 1.45m below the ground surface.
- 3.6.4 In 1997 CAU undertook an excavation to the rear of the former Co-op building at 40-78 Botchergate, (Fig 3) which revealed a complex sequence of Roman activity. This included part of a large-scale linear earthwork of unknown function; evidence of a prolonged period of landfilling and refuse disposal; and two truncated late second century cremations (Zant 2000). In 1999 an evaluation was conducted by CAU to the rear of 114-132 Botchergate, again on the western side of the street, revealed evidence for Roman buildings, yards and roads, with at least one phase aligned at an angle of $c60^{\circ}$ to Botchergate, and another phase on a parallel to Botchergate (Reeves 2000).
- 3.6.5 The full extent of Roman settlement in the area was not known until the evaluation and excavation work undertaken by CAU between Mary Street and Tait Street (Giecco and Zant 2001), on the eastern side of Botchergate between September 1998 and March 1999. This revealed the survival of deeply stratified archaeological deposits in parts of the development area, particularly those closest to the Botchergate Street frontage. Between 63 and 85 Botchergate, in Trenches BGT C-D, a sequence of Roman and post-Roman stratigraphy was recognised, that included evidence for different phases of Roman timber buildings, and subsequent use of the site for cremation and inhumation burial (*ibid*).
- 3.6.6 Significant new information of Roman Botchergate was provided by the excavation work undertaken by Oxford Archaeology North at 53-63

Botchergate in 2001 (OA North 2002; Miller forthcoming), adjacent to the previous Carlisle Archaeology Ltd site (Fig 3). The later excavation confirmed the survival of deeply stratified archaeological deposits in areas along the eastern side of Botchergate, particularly those closest to the street frontage.

- 3.6.7 The excavations provided clear evidence for the late first century use of the site as a cemetery being supplanted by industrial activity. The two Roman cremations, dating to the late first century AD, were encountered at the base of the stratigraphic sequence, representing the earliest use of the site. One of the cremations was similar to those discovered elsewhere in the Roman North West, comprising a ceramic urn that contained fragments of cremated human bone, whilst the second was considerably more elaborate and may perhaps have resulted from bustum-type cremation. The later remains of a lead smelting furnace, dated to the AD 120s (OA North 2002; Miller forthcoming), was associated with workshops and several distinct phases of timber buildings. The production of lead in Roman Britain is attested by various, largely chance, finds of lead ingots, whilst actual smelting sites, particularly in the North West, are virtually unknown. Roman activity seemingly declined during the third century, and there was slight evidence for the area being used for horticulture and pit-digging during the medieval period.
- 3.6.8 The excavations demonstrated that the early medieval period was represented by an accumulation of thick soil horizons. These were overlain by later medieval deposits, which included rare evidence for structures adjacent to the street frontage within this part of Carlisle. This indicates the site was effectively re-occupied during the twelfth/thirteenth century, presumably as part of a suburb. However, occupation of the site appears to have been abandoned around the fourteenth century, and it was not completely redeveloped until the twentieth century. As the area had been built on densely since the second half of the eighteenth century, some post-medieval disturbance to any underlying archaeological deposits was anticipated. However, excavations throughout Botchergate have revealed considerable *in situ* remains.

3.7 VISUAL INSPECTION

- 3.7.1 A site visit was made on 30th September 2005 and the standing buildings and the ground conditions over the site were visually inspected. No access could be gained to the Old Bingo Hall at the base of the property to examine the present ground surface and the extent and depth of any cellaring, but access was possible to the Lonsdale cinema above. Discussion with the present tenants of the adjacent buildings has enabled an estimate of the extent of cellaring to be established. The information was used, in conjunction with the desk-based study of site conditions, to provide an indication of areas of anticipated below ground disturbance and thus to allow for recommendations of where any evaluation trenching should be located (*see Section 5*). An assessment was undertaken of the above ground structures, and an examination was made of the date and of the architectural significance of the buildings, in order to establish the requirements for any further recording.

- 3.7.2 The site visit showed that the buildings presently occupying the site relate to the development of the cinema complex in 1930/1 and to the lower floor conversion to a bingo hall in 1972; at present, only the upper cinema part is occupied, with the lower bingo hall being empty. The Lonsdale cinema façade has a 1930s art deco appearance and retains elements of the architectural detailing from the period. There are evident later alterations, most notably the blue fascia which displayed the Gala trademark until very recently and also the doors and their surrounding panelling, which appears to have been applied comparatively recently (Plate 14). The cinema has a rendered front over a brick build with simple linear embellishments. The rendered area continues for a short distance along the northern return wall, before ceasing and the underlying red brickwork becomes apparent. At the front of the building there are two evident recessed windows with grills. These window surrounds are rectangular with a decorative panel at the top, possibly portraying stylised circular vegetation. The grills are of metal and continue the same decorative theme (Plate 15). The southern window is at present hidden behind the cinema display board.
- 3.7.3 The adjacent buildings, with ground floor shop premises and upper offices are two-storey, brick-built structures, probably of mid-nineteenth century date (Plate 16). They are representative of the properties that originally stood where the cinema now stands. The upper storeys retain the most original elements, including the decorative chequerboard red and cream brickwork, in a Flemish bond. The headers are all executed in cream and the stretchers in red. There are also paired sash windows with pale yellow sandstone surrounds. The roofs are gabled with chimney stacks positioned at right angles to the street frontage. The style can be seen in various locations throughout Carlisle, including nearby Spencer Street.

4. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE REMAINS

4.1 INTRODUCTION

4.1.1 The Old Bingo Hall and Lonsdale cinema site and the extant structures present can be summarised as having:-

- No National Monument Record status
- No Scheduled Monument status
- No Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) / Historic Environment Record (HER) entry
- No Listed Building status
- Not highlighted as an unlisted building in a Conservation Area
- Not a registered park or garden
- Not a registered battlefield
- Not a National Trust property

4.1.2 The project design stated that data from the HER and the record office would be examined for an area with a radius of 0.5km centred on the site (NY 4037 5570). The result of this examination revealed that there were 47 sites within the 0.5km radius, four of which were Scheduled Monuments. The Listed Buildings register demonstrated 153 entries for the same area. There were relatively few HER sites in the vicinity of the Old Bingo Hall. The nearest two were both findspots of Roman items (SMR / HER numbers 5075 and 6174, Fig 3).

4.1.3 Within the Listed Buildings register the 153 entries for the same area included nine Grade I Listed Buildings; nine Grade II* and 135 Grade II Listed Buildings. Again, there were no listed buildings in the immediate vicinity of the Old Bingo Hall. The nearest were The Crescent Inn on the south side of Warwick Road, to the west of the post office (LB SMR number 25733) and the row of buildings on the opposite, north, side of Warwick Road, numbers 11 to 29 (LB SMR number 25717), (Fig 3).

4.2 CRITERIA

4.2.1 There are a number of different methodologies used to assess the archaeological significance of sites; that to be used here is the 'Secretary of State's criteria for scheduling ancient monuments' which is included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990). The site of the Old Bingo Hall has been considered using the criteria, with the results presented below.

Period	No of sites	Findspots	Site of	Upstanding Structure	Below Ground Features
Prehistoric	2	2	-	-	-
Roman	15	12	-	-	3
Roman and Medieval occupation	6	3	-	-	3
Early Medieval	1	1	-	-	-
Medieval	6	-	2	3	1
Post-medieval	14	-	7	7	-
All Periods	2	-	2	-	-
Unknown	1	1	-	-	-
Totals	47	19	11	10	7

Table 3: Number of sites by period and type within 0.5km radius of the development area

4.2.2 **Period:** the site of the Old Bingo Hall was first built on in the mid-nineteenth century. The site was occupied initially by smaller brick-built structures, probably identical to those which remain in the same block of land to the east. The formal occupation of Warwick Road (known as Henry Street until the early twentieth century) was fairly late in comparison to Botchergate in the immediate vicinity. This probably reflects the importance of the route out of the city to the south along Botchergate and also the contentious nature of the open area around the Citadel and English Gate throughout Carlisle's turbulent history, which did little to stimulate the growth of the suburbs beyond the city walls. In 1931 the Lonsdale cinema was constructed on the western end of the row of street front properties and also took up all of the back plots within the block. In 1972 the ground floor of the cinema, then owned by ABC, was altered to house a bingo hall, with the cinema on the upper floor.

4.2.3 **Rarity:** it is difficult to gauge the rarity of the Old Bingo Hall. During the 1930s there was a huge proliferation of cinemas built throughout Britain. These must have numbered in their thousands, although how many survive today and in what state is unknown. The English Heritage Pastscape website lists 291 cinemas (all counties, cinemas after 1901 - www.pastscape.org.uk) and the ADS lists 598 entries pertaining to cinemas (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/>) although none are recorded in Cumbria. There are numerous examples of cinemas later converted partly or wholly into bingo halls (see below for examples). It is currently unknown whether the Lonsdale is the only remaining building attributable to Percy L Browne and Sons or if other examples of their work survive.

- 4.2.4 **Documentation:** the site of Old Bingo Hall has a wealth of comprehensive documentary information in excellent condition, including the original 1930s cinema plans and proposed plans (Plates 1-4 and 8). They are highly detailed and show the cinema as it was originally proposed, before construction and before the alterations of 1972. As such, they provide a record of a cinema-type not often seen today, with one large screen which may have been watched by over 3000 people at one time. It also shows the fact that both film and live entertainment were combined in the same auditorium, depicting the position of the orchestra and the various dressing rooms. Again, there is very little left of these features today, but surviving original features of the exterior can be related to relevant documents. However, a number of discrepancies between the proposed plans and the construction plans, reflected in the basic fabric of the building façade, would appear to relate to the fact that changes were made prior to, or during, the construction of the cinema, with the result that the final building was somewhat less grandiose than the proposed plans would suggest. The history of the site can then be followed into the more recent period with the plans of the 1972 alterations into the bingo hall. Again, this allows details of the site to be understood, including the interior building materials that were originally used, such as formica surfaces and aluminium trims.
- 4.2.5 **Group Value:** there is only a limited group value for the site. The building and site does not form part of a wider complex and the only element of group value is in the fact that the cinema was converted into a bingo hall in 1972 which reflects a general national trend in this matter. Other known examples include the Regal Picture House in Jarrow, The ABC cinema in Newcastle-upon-Tyne and the Gala Bingo Hall, Wigan (OA North 2005). There is also an element of group value from the visual aspect of the city's built heritage. There are fewer public buildings of the earlier twentieth century than of the nineteenth century and the street façade of this block of land reflects the change in building styles. The smaller buildings with their characteristic checkerboard brickwork, are adjacent to the smooth lines of the art deco cinema façade, albeit with modern signboards, which is then adjacent to the grander sandstone crown post office. Together, these form a comprehensive visual history of modern building within the city.
- 4.2.6 **Survival/Condition:** the building itself survives in a modified state and is currently in good condition, with the upper part still in use as a cinema. While there has been extensive alteration to the internal and external aspects of the building, it is probable that elements of the original façade survive but are currently masked by applied panels. The survival of many of the original internal features is less apparent. Below ground the survival of any as-yet unknown archaeology is somewhat difficult to determine. The earlier, nineteenth century, buildings along the street front all have cellars, which would suggest that there were cellars beneath the similar buildings demolished to make way for the cinema. The Lonsdale cinema also had a basement area but, in both cases, it has not been possible to determine the depth of the below ground intrusion. Archaeological investigations in the nearby area have shown that even where cellars are known, there may be surviving pockets of complex stratigraphical deposits, dating as far back as the first century AD.

- 4.2.7 **Fragility/Vulnerability:** the cinema and bingo hall are presently stable in a good condition and would not be described as being in a fragile state. The potential below ground deposits, however, would be more fragile since they are likely to be discontinuous in nature and vulnerable to damage during demolition and construction processes.
- 4.2.8 **Diversity:** the Old Bingo Hall has little in the way to reflect any diversity but the change in use of the plot of land from smaller commercial premises to a large film and live entertainment venue to a cinema and bingo hall does show some variety of attributes. As a whole, it does also represent the leisure aspect in the social history of Carlisle.
- 4.2.9 **Potential:** the potential for the Old Bingo Hall site lies in what may survive below ground, in areas not completely cellared. The location of the site, near to the north end of Botchergate, just outside the Citadel and in the vicinity of English Gate, means that the site may yield important archaeological remains. These remains could include Roman and medieval material. Excavations along Botchergate (Fig 3) have shown that the area to the rear of the street was occupied by a cremation cemetery and that there were significant plot boundary ditches.
- 4.2.10 There is also the possibility of remains from later periods, because, although the site was not formally occupied until the mid-nineteenth century, early maps show the area was in use for horticultural and agricultural purposes, of which traces may survive. The various sieges of the city of Carlisle, throughout the medieval period and the later seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, would mean temporary occupation outside the city gates and the site may have been part of these temporary camps. Features associated with the majority of these activities are likely to be rather ephemeral, being easily removed by later activity and particularly hard to contextualise in the case of random disassociated artefacts. There is also the potential for the survival of earthworks associated with sieges, which are likely to be more readily identifiable.

4.3 SIGNIFICANCE

- 4.3.1 The site has two main areas of significance. The first is that very little excavation work has been undertaken in this part of the city and it is, therefore, unknown as to the nature of early occupation along Warwick Road and what may survive, with the potential for deposits dating from the Roman period onwards. The exact significance of any such remains, whether national, regional or local, is impossible to determine at this point. For example, many of the Roman remains previously recorded and recovered from Carlisle are of clear national significance and, considering the growing body of knowledge relating to the city, most others are of regional significance. Given the political history of the area, medieval remains might also be considered to be of regional significance. The second area of significance derives from the surviving elements of the 1930s cinema, which, although not considered of sufficient importance to appear on the listed buildings register or to be listed within the SMR/HER, on a local level, represents the last of Carlisle's pre-war

cinemas. The only example of a cinema registered in the SMR/HER as a site within 0.5km of the development area, is that of the Palace cinema, now demolished. It was built in 1904 and was, therefore, architecturally distinct to the later Lonsdale cinema. Nationally, databases maintained by bodies such as English Heritage and the ADS indicate the presence of around 600 twentieth century cinemas in Britain, indicating that the former Lonsdale cinema is not of national significance. The lack of entries from Cumbria within the database (despite their known presence), would suggest that many extant cinemas have not yet been databased, making it very difficult to assess whether the Lonsdale cinema has any regional significance.

5. IMPACT AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5.1 IMPACT

- 5.1.1 There is moderate potential for below ground archaeological remains across the site. The street frontage occupied by the cinema is likely to have been cellared during the later nineteenth century, although the depth and extent of this activity is unknown. If the cellars were restricted to buildings along the street front, then a considerable area at the rear could have been uncellared; the OS maps would suggest several small open areas that may not have had cellars. The cinema itself had a basement level (Plate 5), but the actual depth is again unknown, although the area is clearly shown on one of the plans (Plate 1). In any surviving uncellared areas there is the potential for deposits dating from the Roman period onwards. The site is in a zone east from Botchergate that would include elements of the cremation cemetery or ditches. Later material would probably derive from the area being an open part of the city in use for agricultural purposes or features relating to the various sieges. Any below ground disturbance that may be involved with the redevelopment of the site could have a detrimental impact on any surviving remains. The areas highlighted (Fig 13) show where cellars and below ground activity may have already destroyed the remains. Further information concerning the depths of previous construction would be required to determine whether the entire site had been cellared and to what depth, when the cinema was constructed.
- 5.1.2 Although modified internally and externally, with many of the original features of the façade (which are less impressive than originally planned) masked by modern additions, the extant building façade is one of relatively few examples of art deco-style architecture in Carlisle and provides some diversity to the visual heritage of Warwick Road. The same, however, cannot be said of those parts of the building on Cecil Street, Mary Street and Barton's Place, which are considerably more utilitarian in appearance.

5.2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.2.1 It is recommended that access to the lower levels of the building be sought and accurate levels recorded and compared with known levels of archaeological survival, for example from the 1999 excavations at Botchergate BGT_B (CAL 2001). This would provide a more secure assessment of the degree of potential for as-yet unknown below ground survival of archaeological deposits. Dependent on this information and the nature of the redevelopment, it may be advisable to then evaluate the site.
- 5.2.2 The Old Bingo Hall building itself should be subject to a visual inspection and photographic survey of a RCHME level I-type. The investigation would be focused upon both the exterior and interior of the structure, providing safe access is practicable within the timescale of the project.

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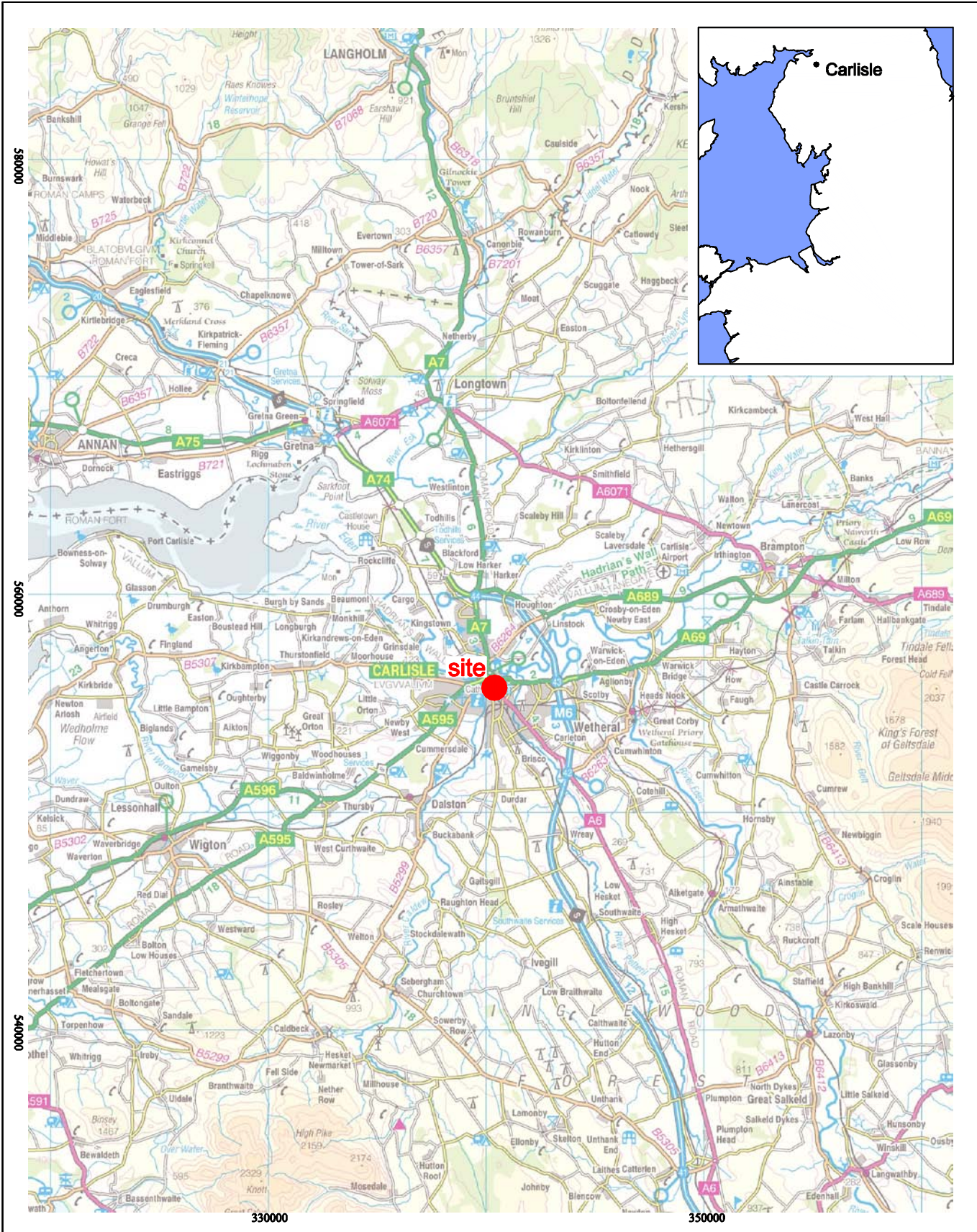
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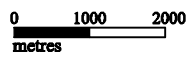


Figure 1: Location Map

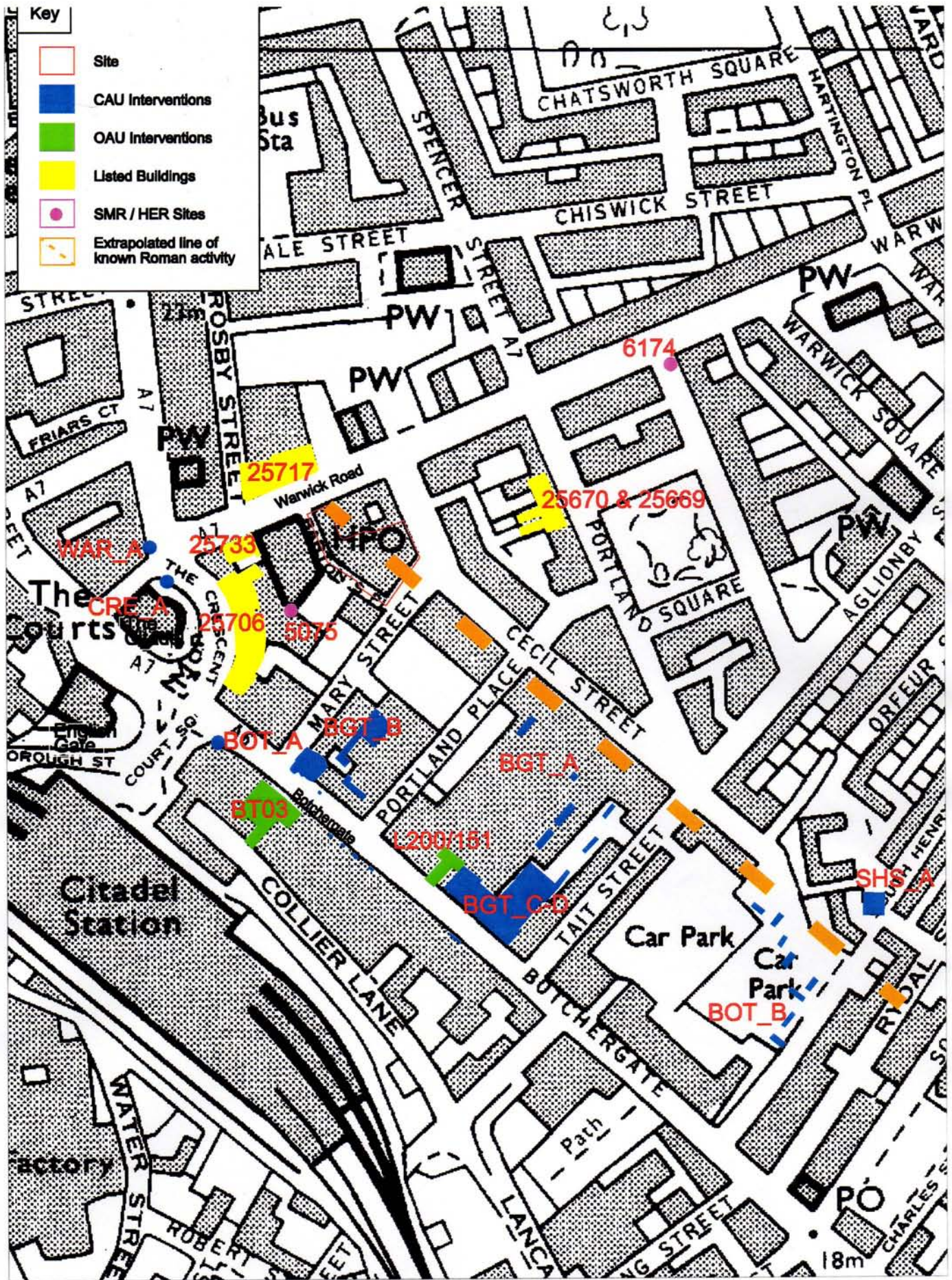


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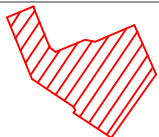
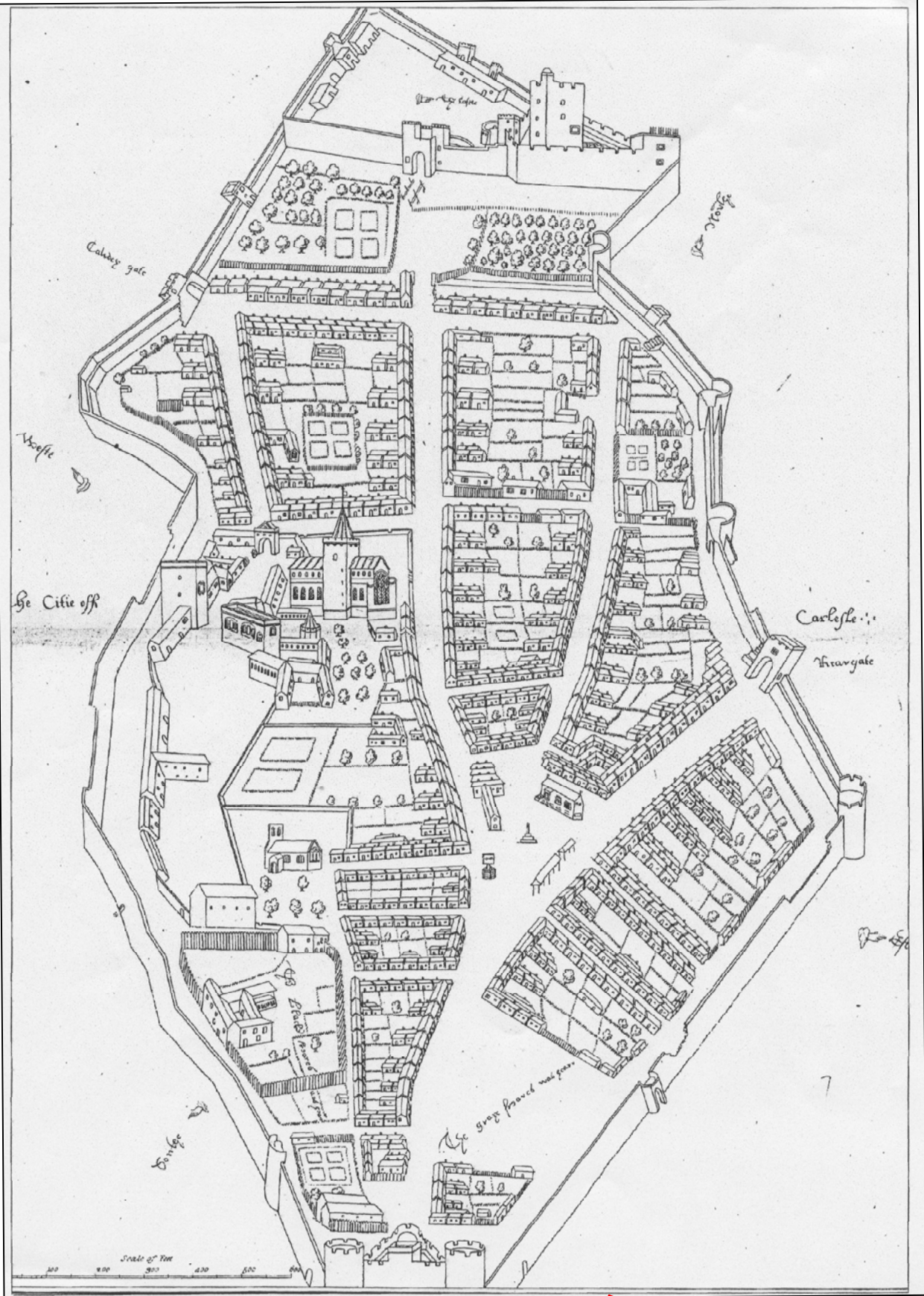
Figure 2: Plan of the Old Bingo Hall site



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Figure 3: Plan showing HER sites, Listed Buildings, and Archaeological interventions, in the vicinity of the Old Bingo Hall

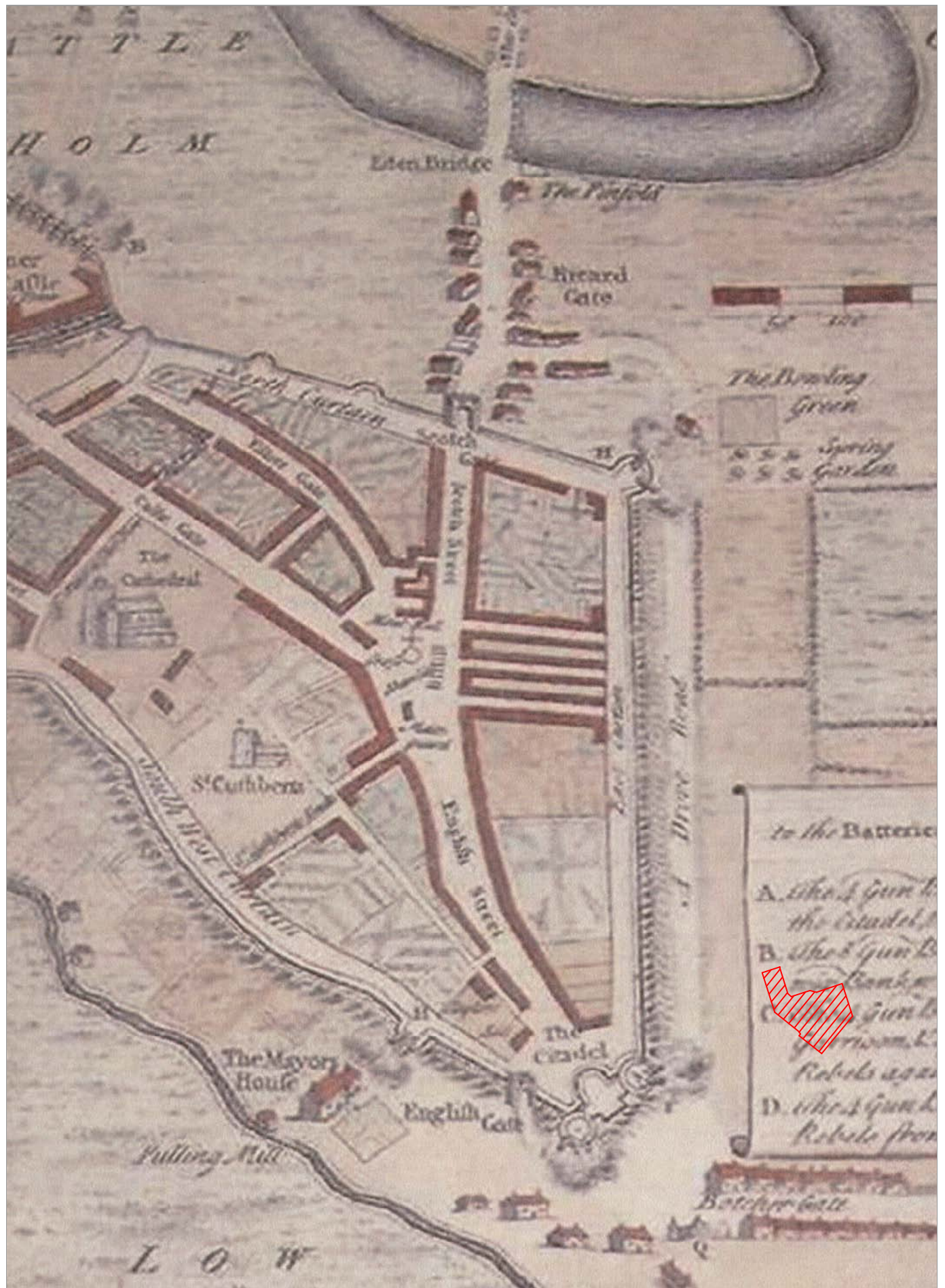


approximate location of site

not to scale



Figure 4: Bird's eye view of Carlisle, 1560



approximate location of site

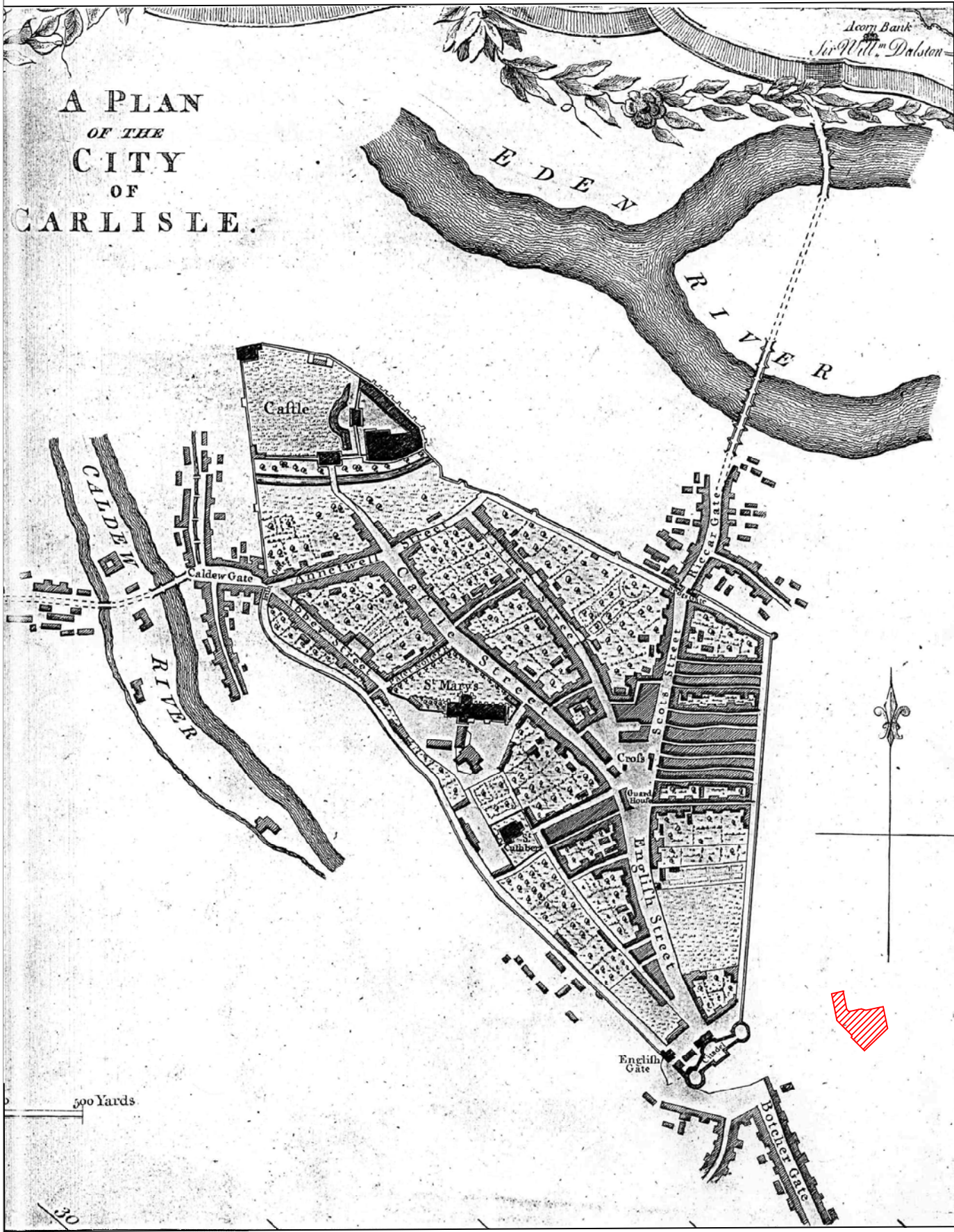
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Figure 5: Smith's plan of the City of Carlisle, 1746

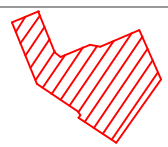
A PLAN
OF THE
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OF
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Acorn Bank
Sir Wm. Dalston



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approximate
location of site

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Figure 6: Hodgkinson and Donald plan of the City of Carlisle, 1774

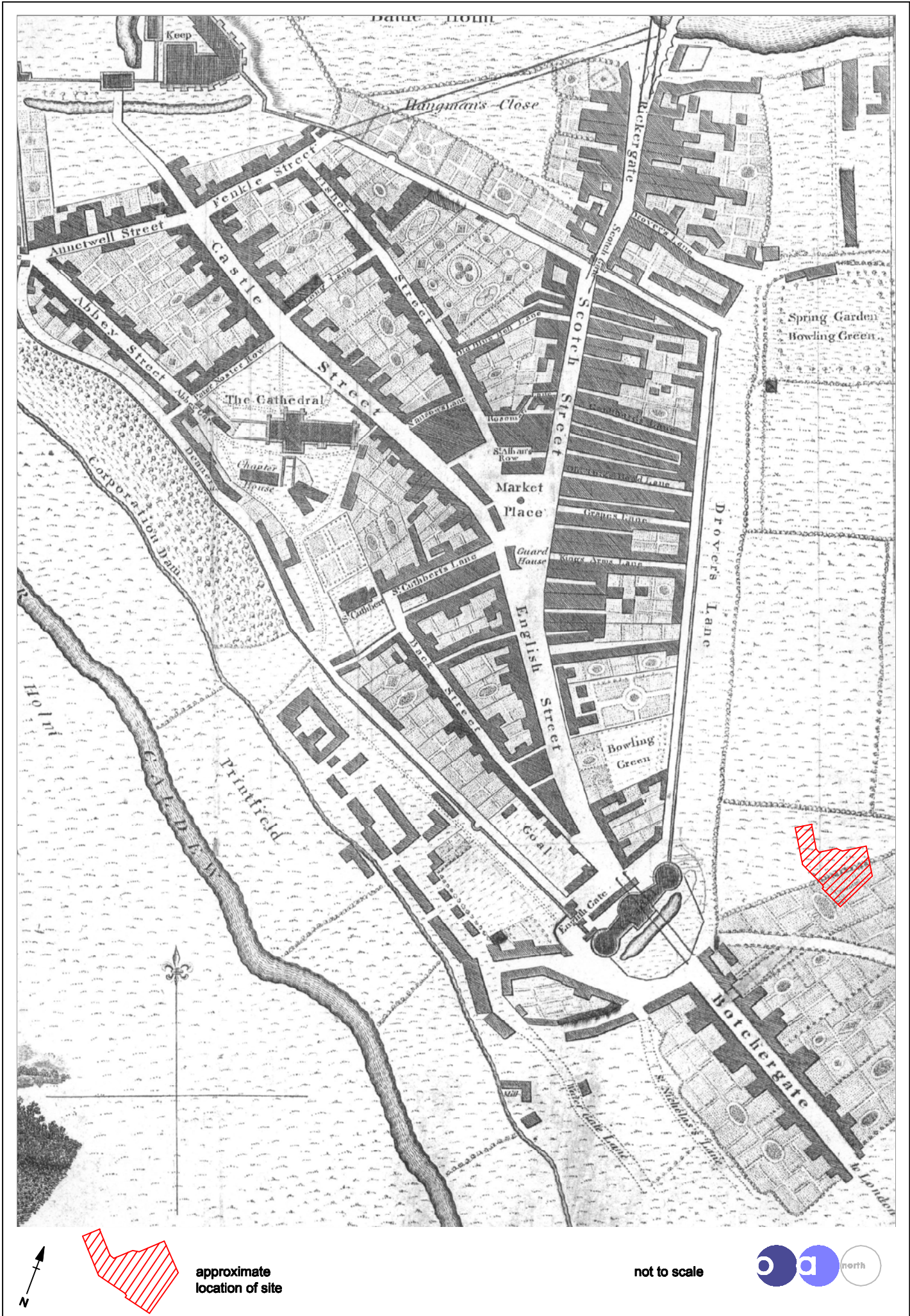


Figure 7: Plan of the City of Carlisle, 1794

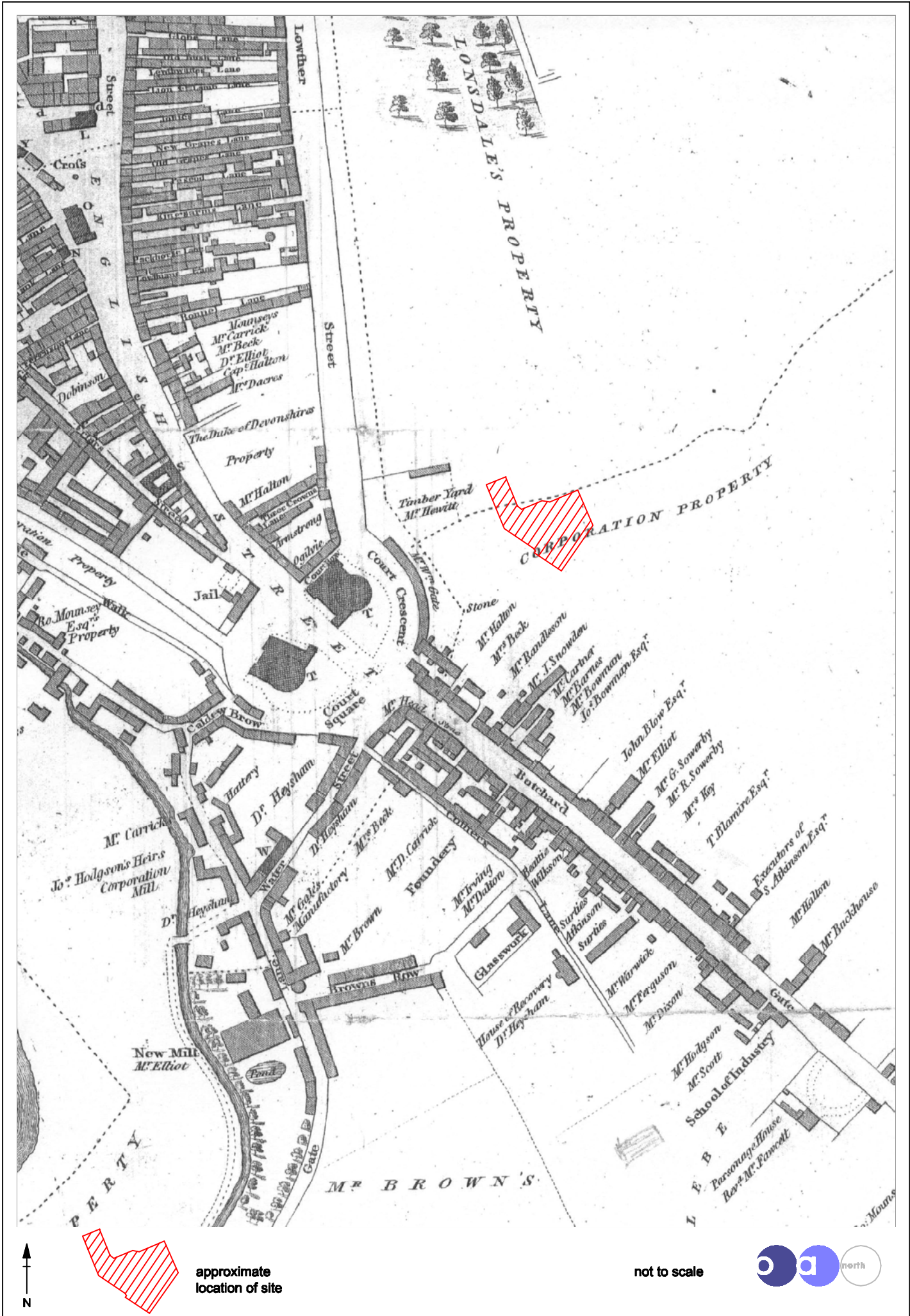
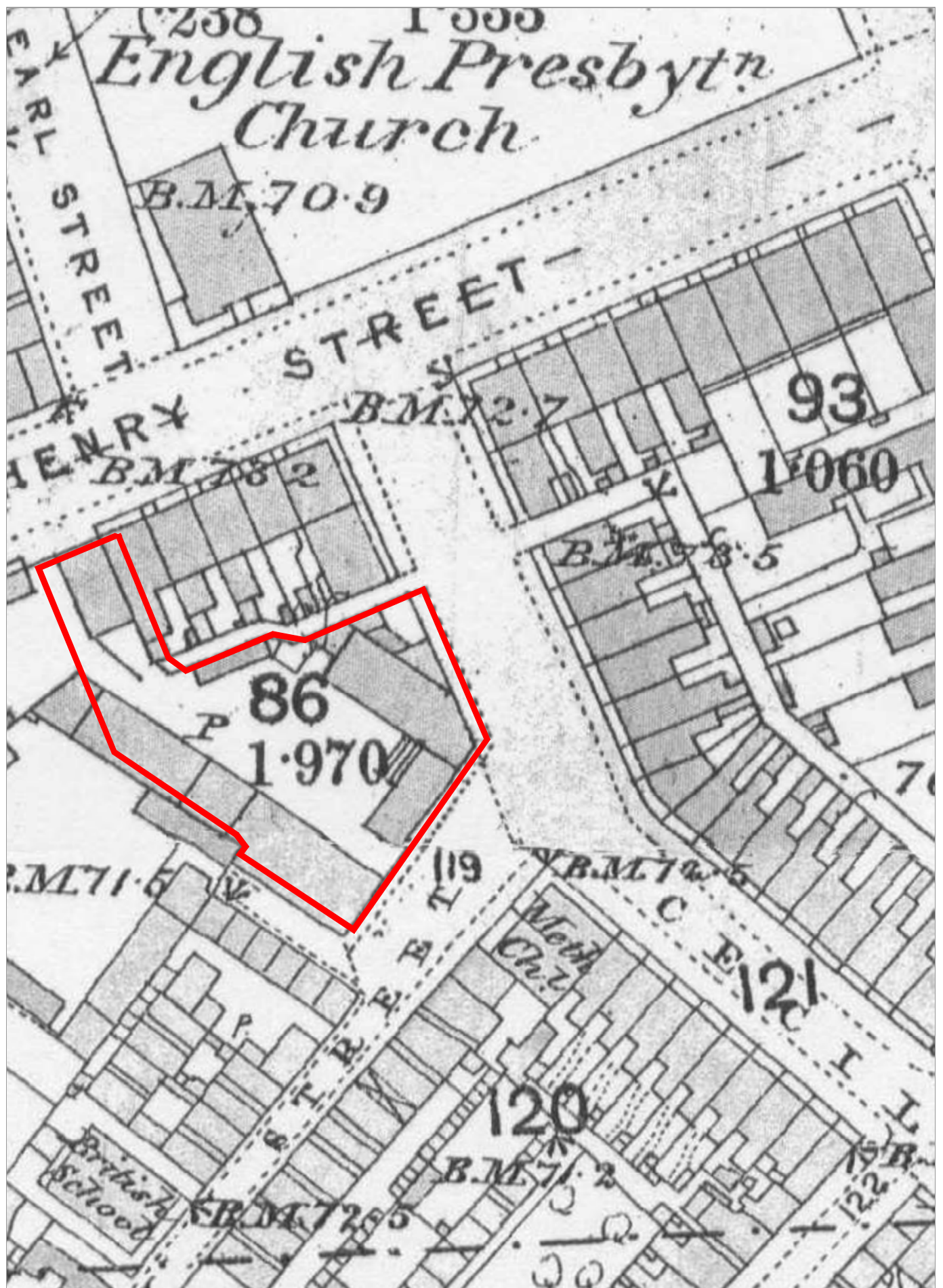


Figure 8: Wood's plan of Carlisle, 1821



location of site



Figure 9: Extract from First Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1876, 1:2500



location of site



Figure 10: Extract from Second Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1901, 1:2500



Figure 11: Extract from Third Edition Ordnance Survey map, 1925, 1:2500

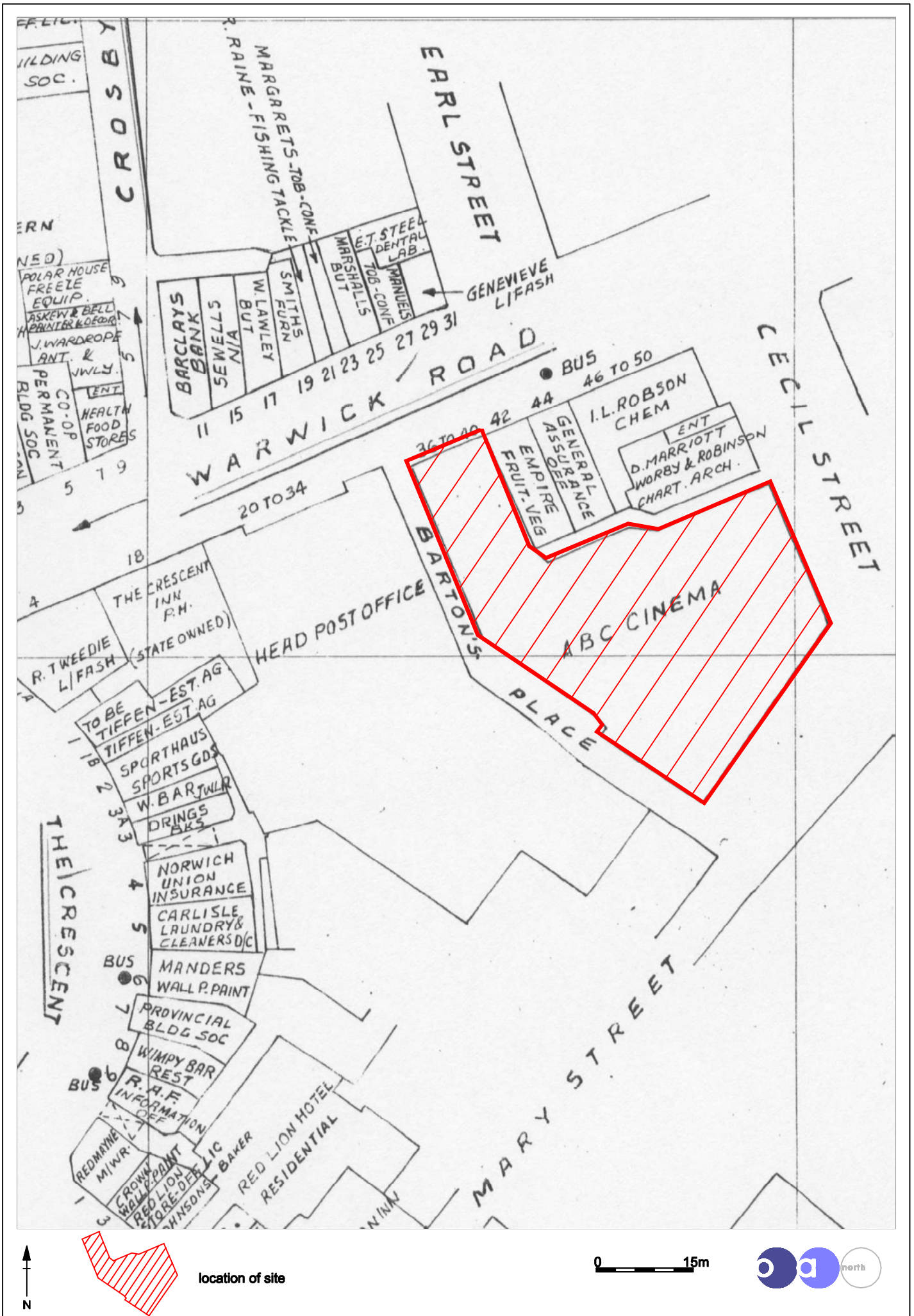


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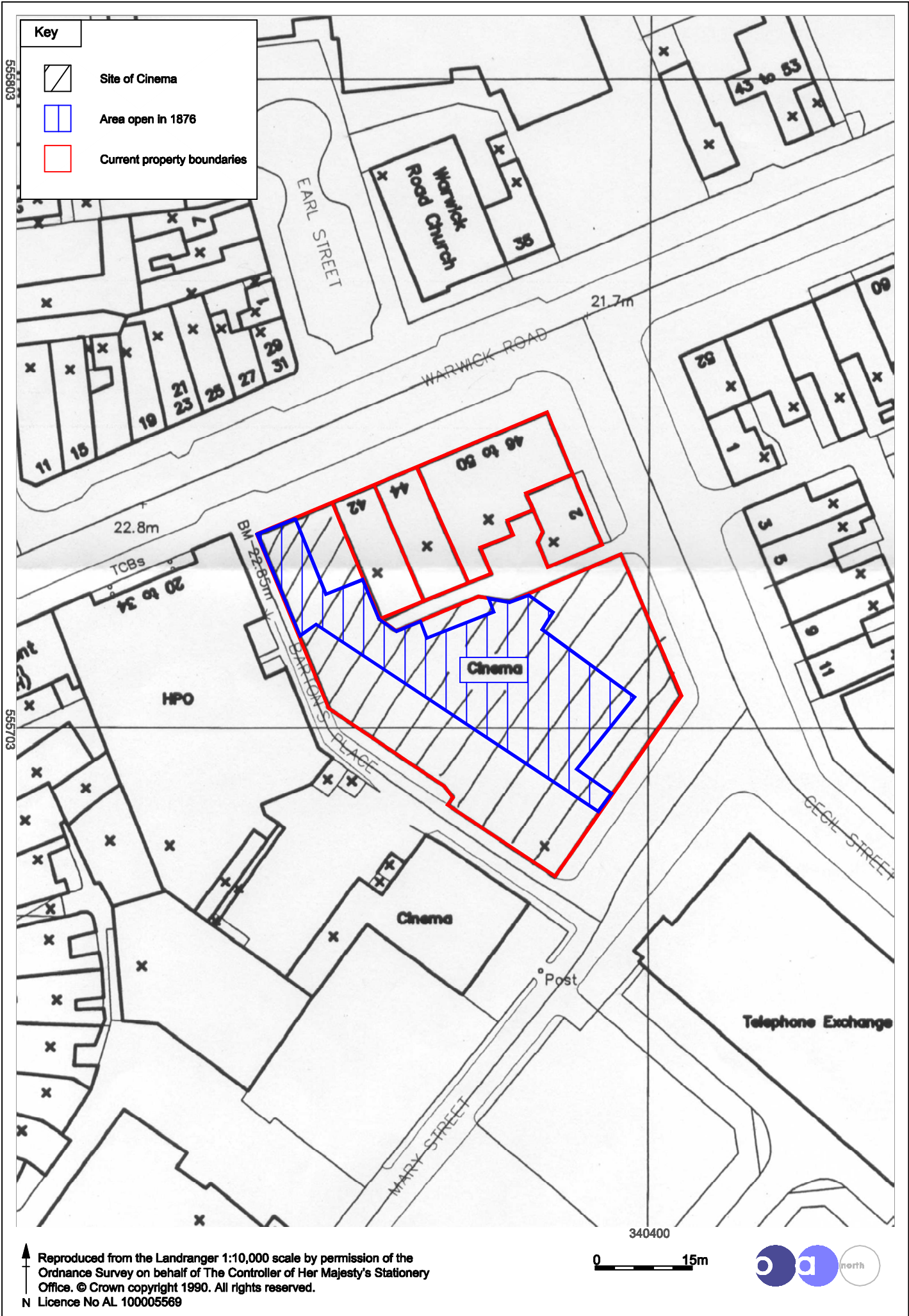


Figure 13: Plan showing the areas not built upon in 1876, and potentially uncellared

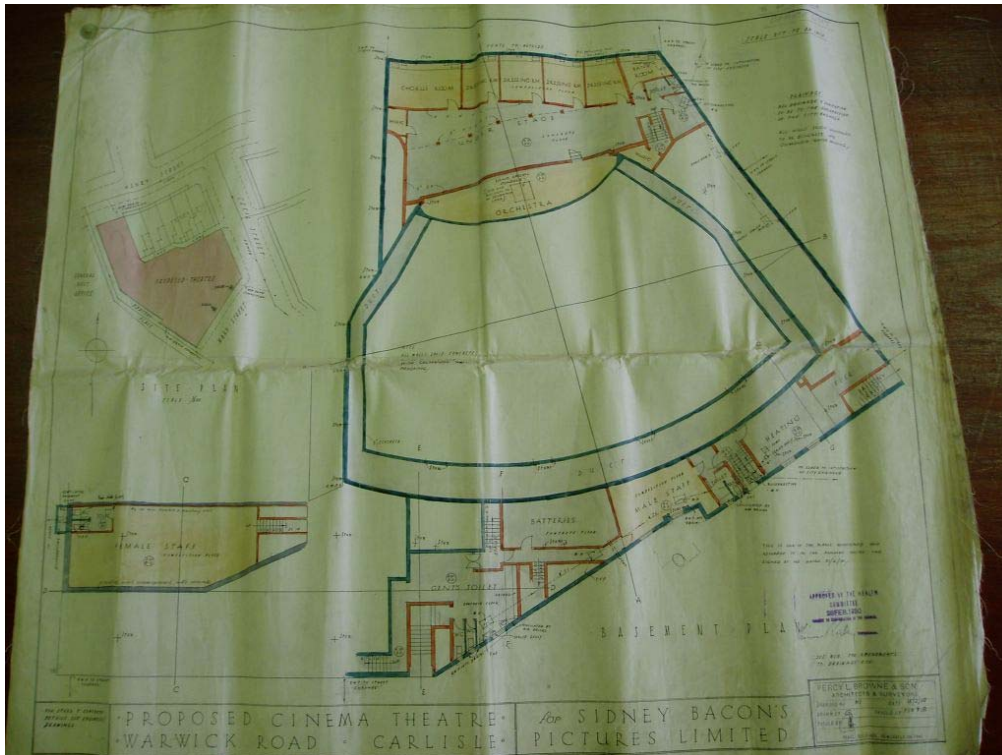


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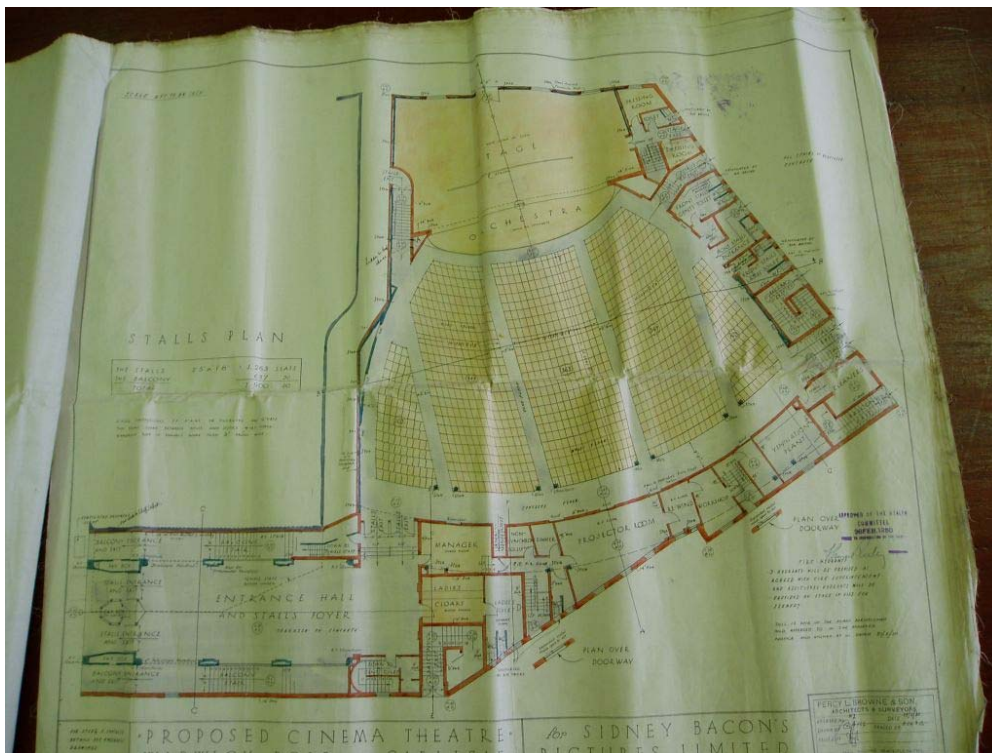


Plate 2: Architects plan of the ground floor, 1931 (Percy L Browne and Sons)

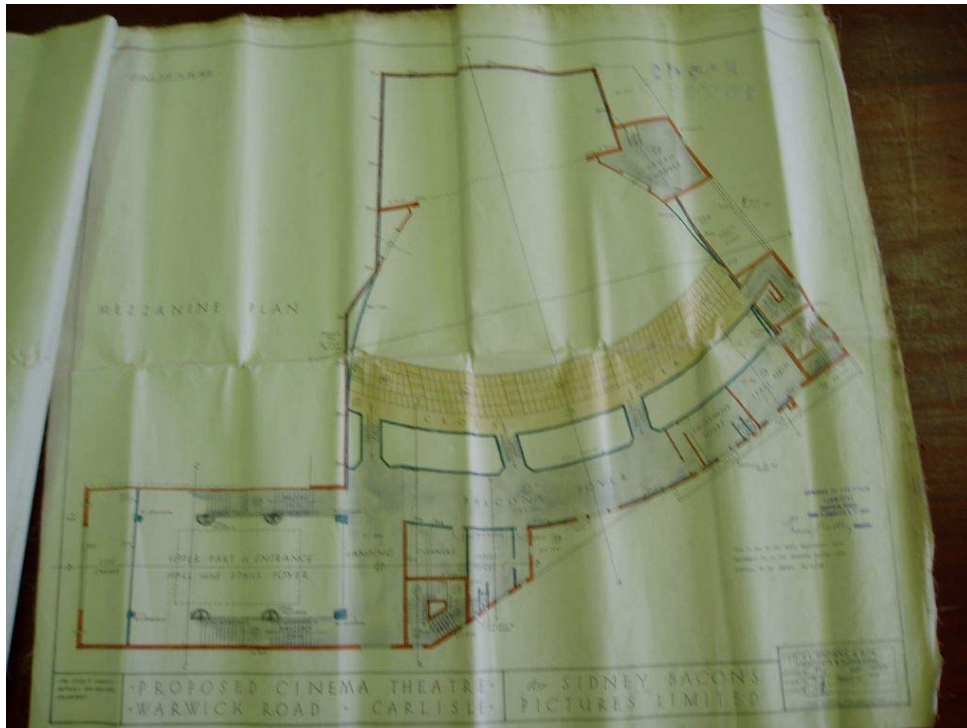


Plate 3: Architects plan of the mezzanine floor, 1931 (Percy L Browne and Sons)

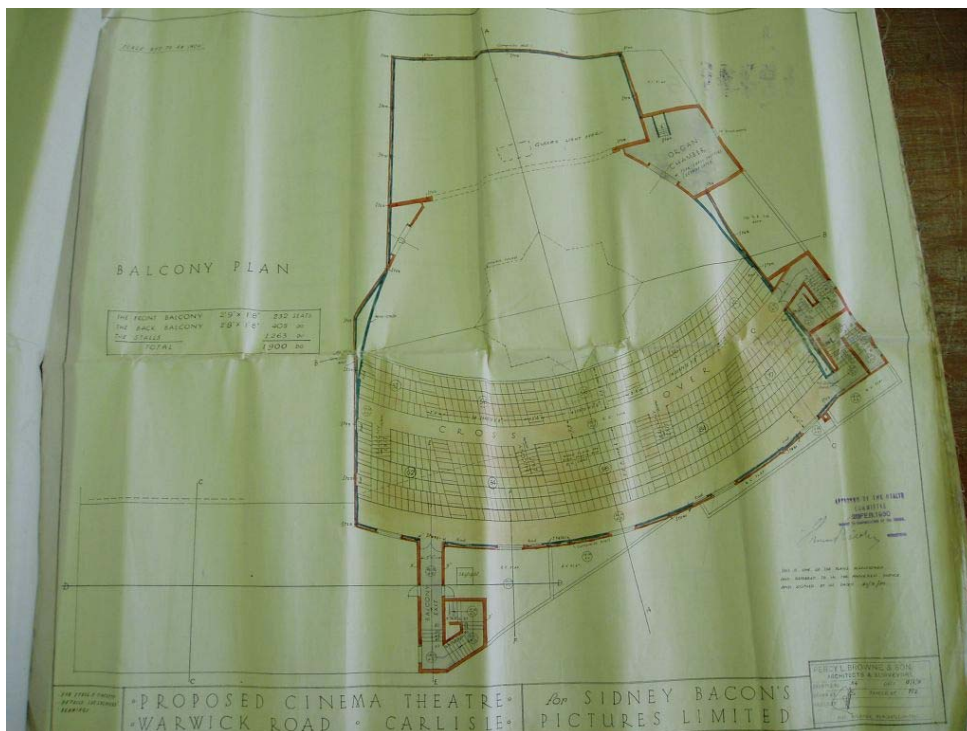


Plate 4: Architects plan of the balcony, 1931 (Percy Browne and Sons)

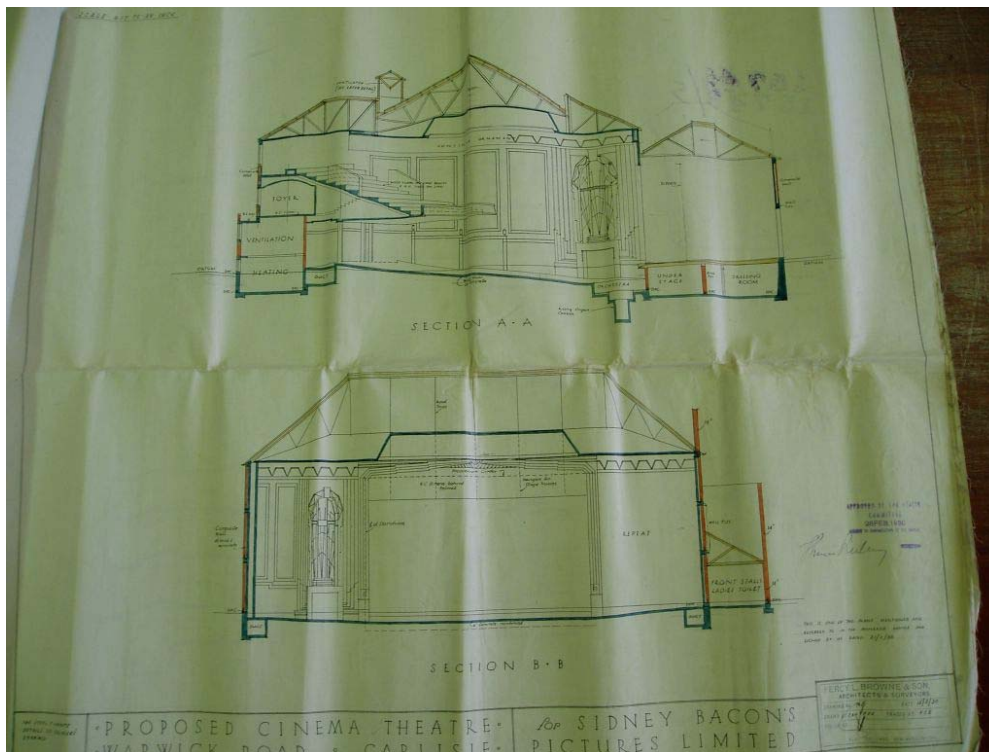


Plate 5: Longitudinal section of the cinema, 1931 (Percy L Browne and Sons)

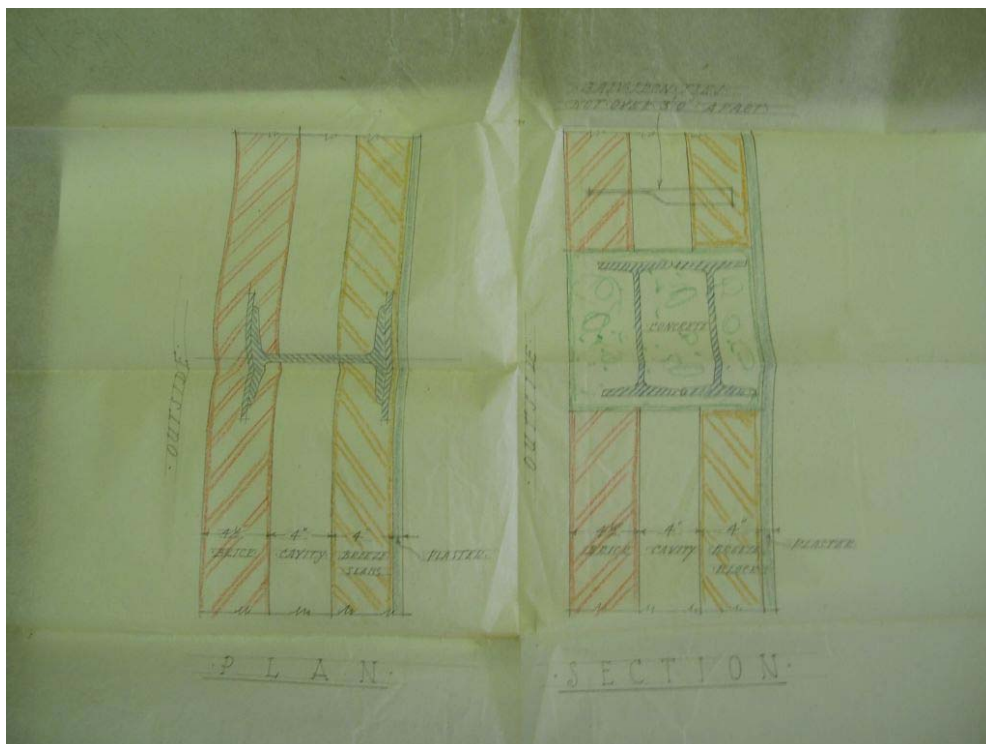


Plate 6: Illustrations of the cavity walls, 1931 (Percy L Browne and Sons)

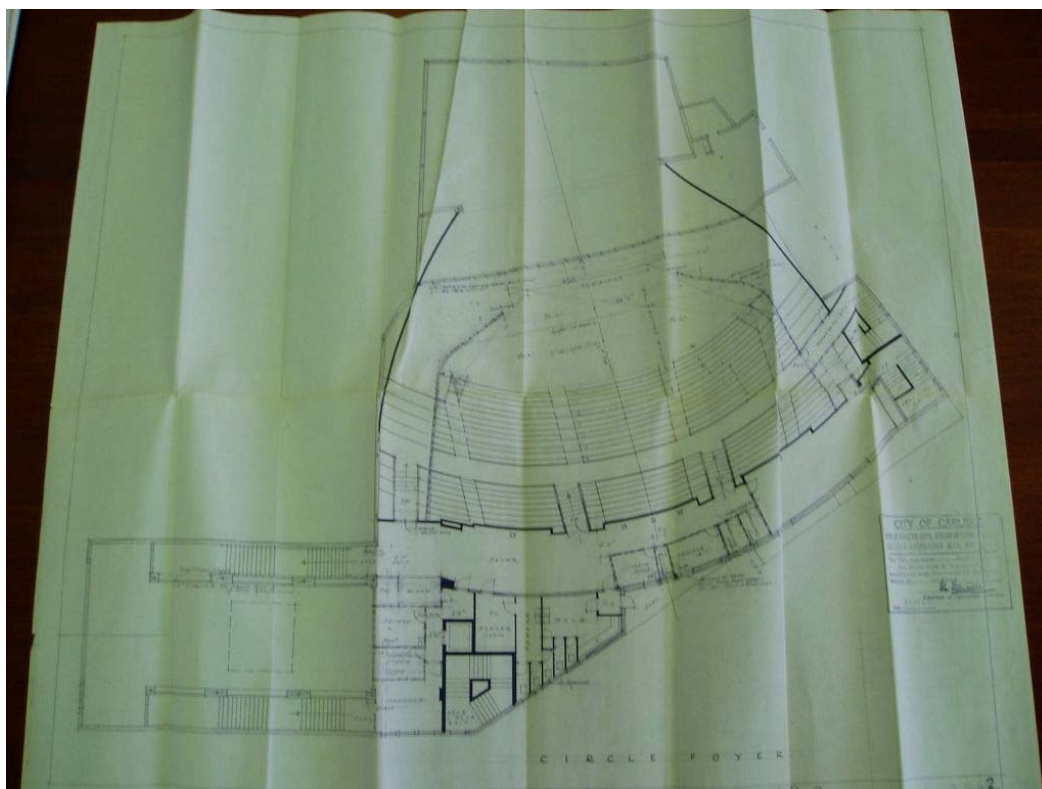


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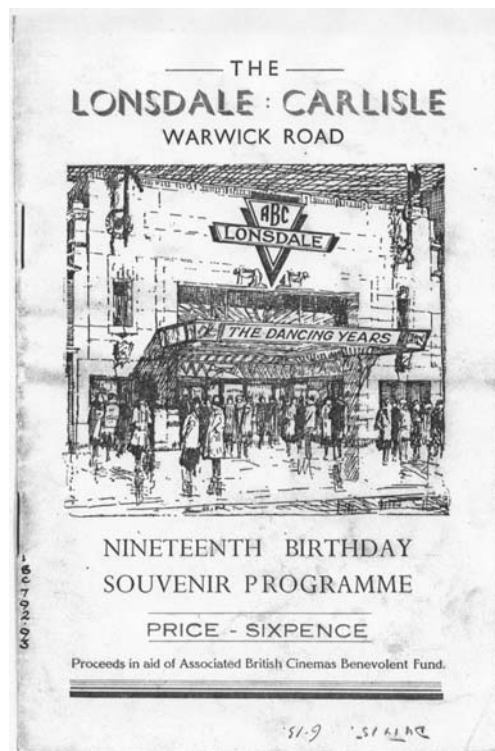


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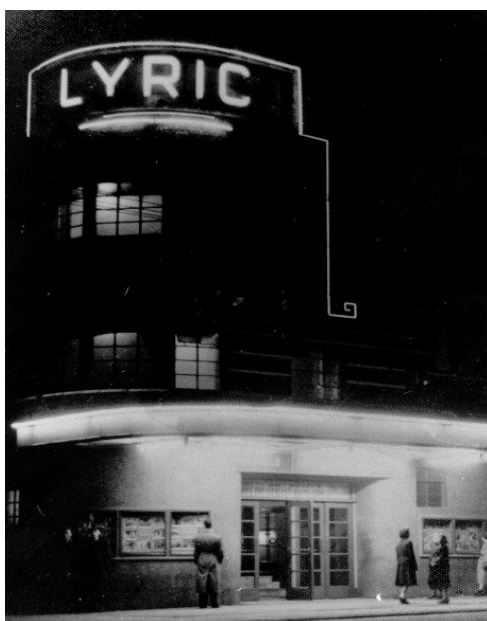


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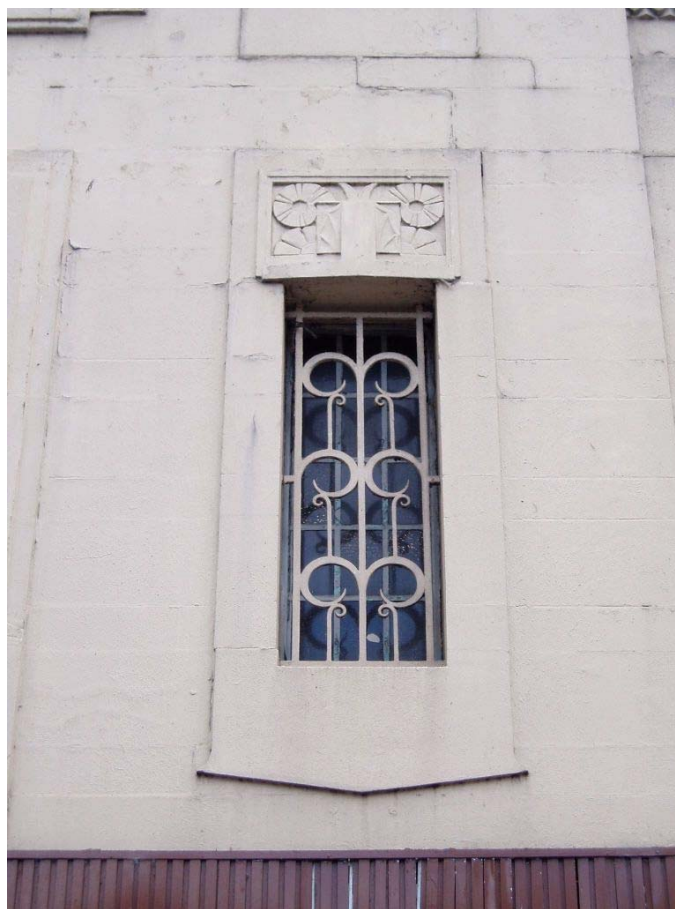


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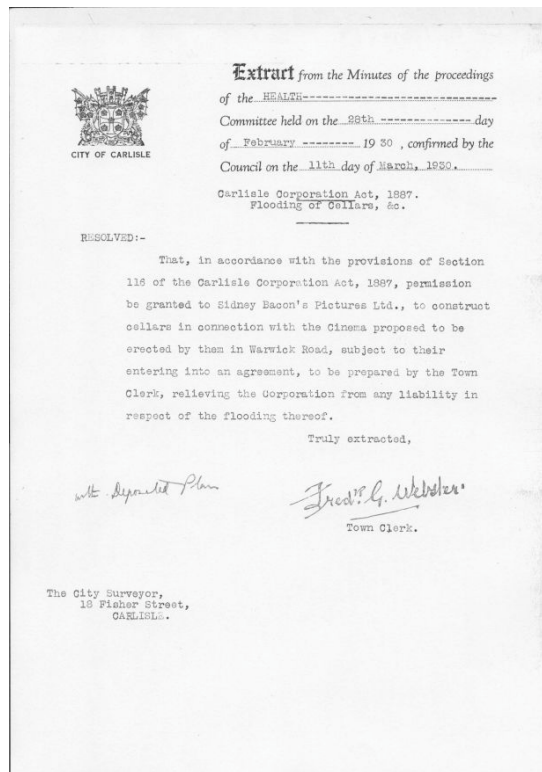


Plate 18: Copy of a letter from Carlisle City Council concerning basements

APPENDIX 1: PROJECT BRIEF

APPENDIX 2: PROJECT DESIGN

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

1.1.1 PCP Architects Ltd (hereafter the 'client') has requested, on behalf of Mr Moshe Varley, that Oxford Archaeology North (OA North) submit proposals, in compliance with a brief issued by Cumbria County Council Historic Environment Section (CCCHES), for an archaeological desk-based assessment of an area of land currently occupied by the Old Bingo Hall, Warwick Road, Carlisle, Cumbria (centred NY 4037 5570). Little is known of the specific archaeological resource within the exact area of the development site but, lying so close to the Roman and medieval core of the city, there is high potential for archaeological remains and it is hoped that the results of the desk-based survey will inform the requirement for any further archaeological work on the site.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

1.2.1 The site lies immediately to the south-west of the southern gates of Carlisle's medieval city walls, and encompasses an 1800m² pentangular area of land bounded to the north by Warwick Road (the A59) and three properties fronting that street; to the west by Barton's Place; to the south by Mary Street and to the east by Cecil Street. Evidence would suggest that there was widespread prehistoric activity in and around Carlisle. These remains from the city centre include a few Mesolithic flints and greater numbers of later flints, that are largely residual. The majority of these flints are of Late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, and could relate to plough marks, field boundaries and a metalled trackway belonging to an as-yet unlocated settlement. Excavations at Durranhill, to the east of the city, revealed evidence for an unenclosed settlement of Neolithic/Early Bronze Age date, while at Botcherby, less than 1km eastwards along the A59, a probable Bronze Age roundhouse and associated features were discovered. Further Bronze Age activity to the east of the city is evidenced by a flat cremation cemetery and burnt mound at Garlands. Possible Iron Age activity within the area has been located at Old Grapes Lane, in the southern Lanes, beneath Stanwix Roman fort, to the north of the city; a palisaded enclosure at Durranhill and, to the west, a group of five roundhouses at the site of the Cumberland Infirmary.

1.2.2 Roman, Medieval and post-Medieval suburban settlement is known to have lined Botchergate, historically one of the city's principal approach roads (now the A9), which runs in a south-easterly direction from the south gate, just to the south-west of the development site. It is known that the main cemeteries of Roman Carlisle (*Lugovalium*, *Civitas Carvetiorum*), lay to the south of the city, running adjacent to Botchergate. During the second century AD, parts of the former cemetery developed into industrial and domestic buildings, a situation which continued on the west side of Botchergate into the fourth century, but, by which date the suburbs on the east side had reverted back to a burial ground. It is thought that a linear earthwork, located

at nearby Collier Lane, represents an aqueduct, and there is evidence to suggest that the area to the east of Botchergate may also have been used as a regulated municipal dumping ground (OA North 2005).

1.2.3 The current archaeological evidence would suggest that any post-Roman and early medieval occupation was likely to have been concentrated around the site of a probable precursor to the medieval cathedral, and it was not until the high middle ages that there would appear to have been reoccupation of the Botchergate suburb. The turbulent political situation of the era may have meant that from the later thirteenth century onwards, this occupation may have been rather intermittent. Even following the union of England and Scotland in 1603, Carlisle was at times a troubled city, and it is possible that Parliamentary earthworks were thrown-up in the Botchergate area for batteries deployed to besiege the fifteenth century citadel, built on the site of the medieval south gate, and it is also known that the city was briefly besieged by the Jacobites in 1745 (OA North 2005).

1.3 OXFORD ARCHAEOLOGY NORTH

1.3.1 Oxford Archaeology North has considerable experience of sites of all periods, having undertaken a great number of small and large scale projects throughout Northern England during the past 24 years. Evaluations, assessments, watching briefs and excavations have taken place within the planning process, to fulfil the requirements of clients and planning authorities, to very rigorous timetables.

1.3.2 OA North has the professional expertise and resources to undertake the project detailed below to a high level of quality and efficiency. OA North is an Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA) registered organisation, registration number 17, and all its members of staff operate subject to the IFA Code of Conduct.

2 OBJECTIVES

2.1 The following programme has been designed to identify any surviving archaeological deposits that may be disturbed by groundworks for the proposed redevelopment.

2.2 *Desk-based assessment:* to provide a desk-based assessment of the site to identify the archaeological potential prior to any development (in accordance with the IFA standards (1999)) and to establish the necessity for, and nature of, any further investigative or mitigative archaeological measures.

2.3 *Report and Archive:* a report will be produced for the client within eight weeks, unless a report submission deadline is agreed with the client at the time of commission. An archive will be produced to English Heritage guidelines (MAP 2 (1991)).

3 METHOD STATEMENT

3.1 DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

3.1.2 **Introduction:** a desk-based assessment is usually undertaken as the first stage of a programme of archaeological recording. Prior to development of the site, further intrusive investigation may be required. It is not intended to reduce the requirement for evaluation, excavation or preservation of known or presumed archaeological deposits, but it will provide an appraisal of

archaeological constraints and a guide to any requirement for further archaeological work.

3.1.3 The following will be undertaken as appropriate, depending on the availability of source material. The level of such work will be dictated by the time scale of the project.

3.1.4 **Documentary and Cartographic Material:** this work will include consultation of the Cumbria Historic Environment Record (CHER, formerly the Sites and Monuments Record (SMR)), as well as the County Records Office in Carlisle. Data from these sources will inform a review of all known and available resources of information relating to a study area comprising a 0.5km radius centred on the site of the proposed development. The aim of this is to give consideration not only to the application site, but also its setting in terms of historical and archaeological contexts. These include:

- published and unpublished documentary sources
- data held in local and national archaeological databases
- printed and manuscript maps
- place and field-name evidence
- evidence for township, ecclesiastical and other ancient boundaries
- aerial photographs in both national and local collections
- other photographic/illustrative evidence
- local museum catalogues and artefactual evidence
- engineering/borehole data where applicable
- geological/soil surveys

3.1.5 **Cumbria HER, Kendal:** the CHER is a database of known archaeological sites within the County. It also holds an extensive library of published materials for consultation.

3.1.6 **Cumbria County Record Office, Carlisle:** the office in Carlisle holds the main source of primary documentation; both maps and documents for Carlisle and its immediate surroundings.

3.1.7 **Map regression analysis:** a cartographic analysis will be undertaken as it has the potential to inform the post-medieval occupation and land-use of the area and its development through to its modern-day or most recent use. This provides one method of highlighting areas of potential archaeological interest. Particular emphasis will be on the early cartographic evidence and will include estate maps, tithe maps, and Ordnance Survey maps, through to present mapping where possible.

3.1.8 **Geological/Soil Surveys:** a rapid desk-based compilation of geological (both solid and drift), pedological, topographical and palaeoenvironmental information will be undertaken. It will be based on published geological mapping and any local geological surveys in the possession of the County Council or the client.

3.1.9 **Other Sources:** where time permits, and where appropriate, secondary sources from public libraries, the OA North library and from personal collections will be consulted.

3.2 SITE VISIT

3.2.1 Following the desk-based assessment the site will be visited in order to relate the existing topography and land use to research findings, and assess evidence not available through documentary sources. It will also provide an understanding for areas of impact by the proposed redevelopment.

3.2.2 The survey will note present land use, the condition and visibility of features identified in the documentary research and any features of potential archaeological interest, any areas of potentially significant disturbance, and hazards and constraints to undertaking further archaeological work on site.

3.3 REPORT

3.3.1 One bound and one unbound copy of a written synthetic report will be submitted to the client. Three hard copy and a digital copy will be automatically supplied in pdf format on CD to the Cumbria HER within eight weeks of completion of the final report. A further copy will also be offered to the National Monuments Record. The report will include;

- a site location plan related to the national grid
- a front cover to include the planning application number and the NGR
- a concise, non-technical summary of the results
- the circumstances of the project and the dates on which the fieldwork was undertaken
- description of the methodology, including the sources consulted
- a summary of the historical background of the study area
- an interpretation of the results and their significance, using the ‘Secretary of State’s criteria for scheduling ancient monuments’ included as Annex 4 of PPG 16 (DoE 1990)
- appropriate plans showing the location and position of features or sites located

- a statement, where appropriate, of the archaeological implications of the proposed development
- monochrome and colour photographs as appropriate
- a copy of this project design, and indications of any agreed departure from that design
- the report will also include a complete bibliography of sources from which data has been derived, and a list of any further sources identified but not consulted
- an index to the project archive

3.3.2 **Confidentiality:** all internal reports to the client are designed as documents for the specific use of the client, for the particular purpose as defined in the project brief and project design, and should be treated as such. They are not suitable for publication as academic documents or otherwise without amendment or revision.

3.4 ARCHIVE

3.4.1 The results of all archaeological work carried out will form the basis for a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with Appendix 3 of the current English Heritage guidelines (*Management of Archaeological Projects*, 2nd edition, 1991). This archive will be provided in the English Heritage Centre for Archaeology format and a synthesis will be submitted to the HER (the index to the archive and a copy of the report). OA North practice is to deposit the original record archive of projects (paper, magnetic and plastic media) with the County Record Office.

4 WORK TIMETABLE

4.1 **Assessment:** approximately 6 days will be required for this element.

4.2 **Report:** the client report will be completed within eight weeks unless otherwise agreed prior to work commencing.

5 STAFFING

5.1 The project will be under the direct management of **Stephen Rowland** (OA North Project Manager) to whom all correspondence should be addressed.

5.2 The desk-based assessment will be undertaken by an OA North supervisor experienced in such work and capable of carrying out projects of all sizes.

6 INSURANCE

7.1 OA North has a professional indemnity cover to a value of £2,000,000; proof of which can be supplied as required.

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