



ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

**114-119 ST ALDATES & 4-5
QUEEN STREET
OXFORD**

**Local Planning Authority:
OXFORD CITY COUNCIL**

**Site centred at:
451320, 206130**

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CONTENTS

	Executive Summary
1.0	Introduction and Scope of Study
2.0	Planning Background and Development Plan Framework
3.0	Geology and Topography
4.0	Archaeological and Historical Background and Assessment of Significance
5.0	Site Conditions, the Proposed Development and impact on Heritage Assets
6.0	Summary and Conclusions

Sources Consulted

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1	Site location
Fig. 2	Site detail
Fig. 3	Past impacts; previous archaeological work and basemented areas
Fig. 4	Late 14 th century land use (after Salter, in Halpin 1983)
Fig. 5	Agas' map of 1578
Fig. 6	Loggan's 1675 birds eye view of Oxford
Fig. 7	Davis Map of 1797
Fig. 8	1876, Ordnance Survey
Fig. 9	1900, Ordnance Survey
Fig. 10	1921, Ordnance Survey
Fig. 11	1939, Ordnance Survey
Fig. 12	1969-70, Ordnance Survey

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Oxford Urban Archaeological Database plots

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Executive Summary

This archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched and prepared on behalf of Reef Estates and assesses the archaeological potential of land at 114-119 St Aldates and 4-5 Queen Street Oxford. This report forms the desk-based assessment required by paragraph 128 of the NPPF and Oxford Local Plan Policy HE.2, to identify the presence of heritage (archaeological) assets and, where present, to assess impact on their significance.

The assessment has established that no designated heritage assets are present within the study site. It has also demonstrated that, despite disturbance from previous construction activity and archaeological investigation, the study site has a high potential for the survival of non-designated buried archaeological assets relating to the Saxon, Medieval and Post-Medieval periods. These are likely to be of local/regional significance, although this should not preclude development of the site.

The local planning authority's archaeological advisor may request a programme of archaeological evaluation work to confirm the presence or absence of archaeological assets and their condition and location. If remains are present further appropriate investigation and recording may be required prior to construction. Any works could be secured by a planning condition and the scope agreed in advance with the local planning authority's archaeological advisor.

1.0 INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF STUDY

- 1.1 This archaeological desk-based assessment has been researched and prepared by Nick Shepherd MIfA of CgMs Consulting on behalf of Reef Estates.
- 1.2 The report assesses the archaeological potential of a block of urban land on the corner of St Aldates and Queen Street in the centre of the City of Oxford (also referred to as the study site), which is being considered for re-development. The study site comprises the properties 114-119 St Aldates Street and 4-5 Queen Street.
- 2.0 In accordance with government policy on archaeology within the planning process (Section 12 of the National Planning Policy Framework) and 'saved' policies within the Oxford Local Plan, this assessment draws together the available archaeological, topographic and land-use information in order to clarify the archaeological potential of the study site.
- 2.1 Additionally, in accordance with the 'Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessments' (Institute for Archaeologists (IfA 2012), it incorporates an examination of evidence in the Oxford Urban Archaeological Database, and incorporates published and unpublished material and charts historic land-use through a map regression exercise.
- 2.2 As a result, the assessment enables relevant parties to assess the significance of any designated and non-designated heritage assets within the study site, assess the potential for as yet to be discovered archaeological assets and enables potential impacts on assets to be identified, along with the need for design, civil engineering or archaeological solutions.

2.3 PLANNING BACKGROUND AND DEVELOPMENT PLAN FRAMEWORK

- 2.4 In March 2012, the government published the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which provides national policy relating to heritage and archaeology.
- 2.5 Section 12 of the NPPF, entitled 'Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment' provides policy for planning authorities, property owners, developers and others on the conservation and investigation of heritage assets. Overall, the objectives of Section 12 of the NPPF can be summarised as seeking the:
- Delivery of sustainable development
 - Understanding the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits brought by the conservation of the historic environment
 - Conservation of England's heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance, and
 - Recognition that heritage contributes to our knowledge and understanding of the past.
- 2.6 Section 12 of the NPPF recognises that intelligently managed change may sometimes be necessary if heritage assets are to be maintained for the long term. Paragraph 128 states that planning decisions should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and that level of detail supplied by an applicant should be proportionate to the importance of the asset and should be no more than sufficient to review the potential impact of the proposal upon the significance of that asset.
- 2.7 Heritage Assets are defined in Annex 2 of the NPPF as: a building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in the NPPF) and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).
- 2.8 Annex 2 also defines Archaeological Interest as a heritage asset which holds or potentially could hold, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point. Heritage assets with archaeological interest are the primary source of evidence about the substance and evolution of places, and of the people and cultures that made them.

- 2.9 A Designated Heritage Asset comprises a: World Heritage Site, Scheduled Monument, Listed Building, Protected Wreck Site, Registered Park and Garden, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area.
- 2.10 Significance is defined as: The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. This interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.
- 2.11 In short, government policy provides a framework which:
- Protects nationally important designated Heritage Assets (which include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields or Conservation Areas).
 - Protects the settings of such designations.
 - In appropriate circumstances seeks adequate information (from desk based assessment and field evaluation where necessary) to enable informed decisions.
 - Provides for the excavation and investigation of sites not significant enough to merit in-situ preservation.
- 2.12 In considering any planning application for development, the planning authority will be mindful of the framework set by government policy, in this instance the NPPF, by current Development Plan Policy and by other material considerations.
- 2.13 The Oxford Local Plan (adopted November 2005), contains the following saved policies relating to archaeology:

POLICY HE.1 NATIONALLY IMPORTANT MONUMENTS

Planning permission will not be granted for any development that would have an unacceptable effect on a nationally important monument (whether or not it is scheduled) or its setting.

The scheduled monuments are shown on the proposals map.

POLICY HE.2 ARCHAEOLOGY

Where archaeological deposits that are potentially significant to the historic environment of Oxford are known or suspected to exist anywhere in Oxford but in particular the city centre archaeological area, planning applications should incorporate sufficient information to define the character and extent of such deposits as far as reasonably practicable, including, where appropriate:

A. The results of an evaluation by fieldwork; and

B. An assessment of the effect of the proposals on the deposits or their setting. If the existence and significance of deposits is confirmed, planning permission will only be granted where the proposal includes:

C. Provision to preserve the archaeological remains in situ, so far as reasonably practicable, by sensitive layout and design (particularly foundations, drainage and hard landscaping); and

D. Provision for the investigation and recording of any archaeological remains that cannot be preserved, including the publication of results, in accordance with a detailed scheme approved before the start of the development.

- 2.14 The study site lies within the City Centre Archaeological Area.
- 2.15 This assessment therefore seeks to establish whether archaeological evidence from the site or its vicinity indicates that the study site contains or may contain heritage assets as defined by the NPPF and falls within the scope of policies contained within the Oxford Local Plan.

3.0 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

3.1 Geology

- 3.1.1 The study site lies on the second gravel terrace of the River Thames, though the first terrace starts just to the south (Brewer Street). The underlying solid geology is Oxford Clay and Kellaways Beds (British Geological Survey, Sheet 236).

3.2 Topography

- 3.2.1 The study site comprises an area of approximately 0.135 hectares. The north end of the site lies at about 64.7m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD) with a gentle slope to the south. In light of this slope, terraces have been created in order to accommodate the construction of the buildings that occupy the study site. The natural fall of the slope is visible on St Aldates. The first river terrace lies approximately 250m to the south at around 58.5m AOD. The River Thames lies 450m to the south of the study site.

4.0 **ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

The timescales used in this report are as follows

Prehistoric

Palaeolithic	450,000	-	12,000	BC
Mesolithic	12,000	-	4,000	BC
Neolithic	4,000	-	1,800	BC
Bronze Age	1,800	-	600	BC
Iron Age	600	-	AD 43	

Historic

Roman	AD	43	-	410
Saxon/Early Medieval	AD	410	-	1066
Medieval	AD	1066	-	1485
Post Medieval	AD	1486	-	1800
Modern	AD	1800	-	Present

4.2 **Introduction**

4.3 The Oxford Urban Archaeological Database (UAD) contains information relating to all known archaeological and historical sites in the area. However, it is evident from this data that no Scheduled Ancient Monuments occur on or in the vicinity of the study site. There are a number of UAD records for the site itself and within its immediate vicinity. A Registered Historic Park and Garden (Christ Church) lies to the south east of the study site. There are no Registered Battlefields within or close to the study site. The study site also lies within the Oxford Conservation Area and a number of listed buildings lie close to the study area.

4.3.1 It is the aim of this assessment to review the available data and to use this to construct a predictive model of the archaeological potential of the study site. It will also seek to identify whether any part of the study site may contain remains of archaeological importance that require evaluation or further investigation.

- 4.3.2 A number of archaeological investigations have been undertaken close to the study site. The results of these investigations are considered below and Figure 3 indicates the location of the investigations.

4.4 Palaeolithic and Mesolithic

- 4.4.1 The UAD holds no records from the early prehistoric period for the study site. Two Lower Palaeolithic hand axes (UAD 243) have been found at St Ebbe's Church, some 50m to the south of the study site. While it is likely that the Thames flood plain would have been drier during this period than it has been over the last 4,000 years (Dodd 2003), artefactual evidence is likely to be very limited and if present isolated. Therefore a low potential is identified for the study site.

4.5 Neolithic and Bronze Age

- 4.5.1 Evidence for Neolithic or Bronze Age activity within the study site is not recorded on the UAD. However, excavations undertaken in 1972 to the immediate west of the study site (UAD 260) recorded postholes of possible prehistoric date. No finds were recovered from the features, so the interpretation is based upon the nature of the fills and the recovery of struck flint flakes in adjacent late Saxon features (Haplin 1983). Prehistoric finds have also been recorded to the southeast of the site at Christchurch (Sturdy 1961). Other evidence has been recovered elsewhere in the city such as at the University Science Area and North Oxford.
- 4.5.2 Given the absence of artefactual evidence within the site, the uncertain date and provenance of the finds and features recovered from near by, a low potential is identified for the Neolithic and Bronze Age periods.

4.6 Iron Age/Roman

- 4.6.1 The SMR holds no records for the Iron Age or Roman periods within the study site. Three Roman coins have been found in the surrounding area. The earliest dates to the reign of Augustus (UAD 692) and was found near Carfax. A coin of Tetricus (AD 270-273) was found amongst late Saxon and Medieval finds during excavations at the Town Hall (UAD 148). The third, a coin of Valentinian II (AD 375-92) (UAD 720), was found on St Aldates Road, to the immediate east of the study site.

4.6.2 There is no major Roman settlement known at Oxford, with the focus for settlement being at Alchester to the north and Dorchester to the south. Rural settlement is known at the University Science Area. The Oxford area was a major pottery-producing centre during the Roman period, but the evidence indicates this was in the east of the modern City, some distance from the study site.

4.6.3 Given the isolated nature of the finds found near the study site, the fact that none were found in situ and that the archaeological record demonstrates that the study site lies away from the main focuses of activity during the Roman period, a low to nil potential is identified.

4.7 Saxon - Early Medieval

4.7.1 The study site falls within the Saxon town of Oxford. While early Saxon settlement seems to have been focused further south along the Thames Valley at Abingdon and Dorchester-on-Thames, the earliest activity in Oxford dates to around the early 8th century, with the founding of St Frideswide's minster. The minster is thought to be located at Christ Church Cathedral, some 200m to the southeast of the study site.

4.7.2 A burh had been founded on the second gravel terrace at Oxford by the start of the 10th century. This is documented in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle and is listed in the Burghal Hidage. The study site lies towards the centre of the planned Saxon town. The south gate of the town was located at the southern end of St Aldates, with the north gate at the north end of Cornmarket Street. Queen Street was also laid out in the Saxon period.

4.7.3 Unsurprisingly Late Saxon activity is recorded within the study site. Archaeological excavations at no 4 Queen Street (within the north end of the study site) revealed metallated surfaces from roads and markets about 2m below the ground surface (UAD 487), indicating that the street frontage lay to the south of the market (Collard 1986), but within the study site.

4.7.4 Immediately adjacent to the north east, beneath 121 St Aldates, a late Saxon bun-shaped loom weight (the former Glyn and Mills Bank, UAD 682) was found during building work in 1931. Outside the study site evidence for Late Saxon street frontage was recorded in excavations at 7-8 Queen Street (UAD 344), where it was recorded as being no more than 3m behind (south of) the modern frontage (Durham 1986). Similar evidence was recorded during investigations at 11-12 Queen Street

(UAD 288), and the neighbouring Marks and Spencer site (UAD 482, Halpin 1983). Late Saxon/early Medieval activity is recorded along elsewhere on Queen Street (UAD 69 and 697), to the east (UAD 148), to the south (UAD 516) and west (UAD 287 and 493) of the study site. The evidence to the south comprised 8, charcoal lined burials and a small area of occupation surface in the nave at St Aldates Church.

- 4.7.5 In light of the study site being located within the Saxon town and that surviving Saxon deposits have been recorded at depth (potentially below modern basement level) within the study site, a high potential for the Saxon and Early Medieval period is identified.

4.8 **Medieval**

- 4.8.1 The development of Oxford as a thriving City continued throughout the Medieval period. The study site was located in St Martin's Parish. Street frontages at St Aldates (or Fish Street as it was known) and Queen Street (Butcher Row/Great Bailey) continued to be occupied (Fig. 4).
- 4.8.2 The area around St Aldates, including the study site, was the Jewish quarter or Jewry of Oxford during the 12th and 13th centuries and probably in the later part of the 11th century after William the Conqueror invited them to England to establish a network of credit and trading links between his English and French lands. The first written record of the Jewry dates to 1141 when Matilda was under siege at Oxford Castle by Stephen of Blois (Manix 2004). Documentary evidence has survived detailing which properties belonged to which Jews and this information has been recently been compiled (ibid). The Jewry continued to be part of the City of Oxford until the expulsion of the Jews from England by Edward I in 1290.
- 4.8.3 During this period the site was occupied by four properties. Manix (ibid) identifies the two more substantial land holdings fronting on to Aldgate Street as being in Jewish hands. The northernmost is the site of Jacobs Hall, possibly one of the most substantial private houses in Oxford at this time, with the southernmost owned by Elias or Elekin. Together these two land holding approximately correspond to the modern 114 to 119 Aldgate Street. During the late nineteenth century construction works revealed thirteenth century cellars running out across the whole width of the street at this point, linking properties on either side (UAD 1327).

4.8.4 Two much smaller properties, held by the Bishop of Lichfield, fronted on to Queen Street. These are in the north western part of the study site, corresponding with the modern 4 and 5 Queen Street.

4.8.5 By the fourteenth century all properties were in Christian ownership, with the two St Aldates holdings now marked as being the site of Battes Inn and the Red Lion (Fig. 4). The recently produced Oxford Historic Area Character Assessment provides a useful summary of the later medieval development of the area around Carfax.

‘The tenement pattern evolved in this period with subdivision of Late Saxon and Norman plots, especially along the desirable street frontages associated with the market, which extended along the streets leading off the central crossroads at Carfax including Queen. These tenements can be plotted with some confidence from 13th century records (notably the 1279 Hundred Rolls). In the late medieval period the frontages of the main streets centred on Carfax would have been occupied by narrow shop frontages within halls often at right angles to the street or set back parallel to the street behind a range of shops or courtyard. The eastern end of Queen Street housed stalls for dairy produce.’

4.8.6 Only a small amount of Medieval material has been recovered from the study site comprising pottery of the 11th century and later from building works in the late 19th and early 20th centuries (UAD 121 and 1131).

4.8.7 Beyond the boundaries of the study site, to the south west were two buildings, Gloucester Hall and Hinxey Hall, accessed from St Aldates via Kepeharm’s Lane. The New Inn Court archaeological investigations (UAD 288) revealed structural remains of Hinxey Hall (originally known as domus Kepeharm) dating from the mid 13th century, when it was a domestic dwelling to the 16th century (Halpin 1983).

4.8.8 To the south east of the study site investigations at the Post Office revealed a 13th-century crypt and late Medieval finds (UAD 1167). Further 13th century material was recovered from Nos 117-118 St Aldates. Excavations to the west along Queen Street recorded further evidence of the Medieval street frontage (UAD 344, 482 and 487). A rubbish pit dated to the 13th/14th centuries (6m below the ground surface) was revealed during excavations on the southwest corner of Carfax (UAD 131), and elsewhere road surfaces of probable Medieval date, have been recorded in excess of 4m below the present Queen Street.

- 4.8.9 The study site was clearly occupied during the Medieval period and the structural remains of former buildings and other associated finds and deposits have been shown to survive at considerable depth immediately adjacent to the site. A high potential for medieval remains is therefore identified.

4.9 **Post-Medieval and Modern**

- 4.9.1 In this period, understanding of settlement, land-use and the utilisation of the landscape is enhanced by cartographic sources. These can give additional detail to data contained within the SMR and relevant maps are included as illustrations (Figs. 6-13).
- 4.9.2 Agas's 16th century Map of Oxford depicts buildings on the frontages of Fish Street, and Great Bayley Street (Fig. 5). The number of land holdings appear to correspond with those shown on the Slater plan (Fig.4). Behind this are gardens or open plots. This corresponds with the archaeological evidence recovered during the New Inn Court excavations, which indicated that Hinkey Hall, which had been located here, was demolished during the 16th century and the land laid to garden (Halpin 1983).
- 4.9.3 Loggan's 17th century bird's eye view shows that the medieval plots have been subdivided, particularly those fronting Fish Street, with ranges of buildings around yards constructed over the earlier gardens (Fig.6).
- 4.9.4 The Davis Map, published in 1797 (Fig. 7), confirms the built up character of the site, although here the blocks of development can still be seen to conform in overall layout to the main Medieval plots. Queen Street is called Butcher Row Street.
- 4.9.5 The 1876 Ordnance Survey (OS) shows the site divided up into up to six buildings fronting St Aldates (including one marked as a Bank), with two onto Queen Street. The modern street names have been adopted (Fig. 8). A similar layout is shown in 1900 and 1921 (Figs. 9 and 10). The 1939 and 1969/70 OS maps show redevelopment having taken place along St Aldates, with the earlier smaller buildings amalgamated into two main blocks as today (Figs. 11 and 12).
- 4.9.6 There are no listed building within the study site although several lie in the immediate vicinity. There are three UAD records for the study site in the Post-Medieval period, all relating to 17th century (or earlier) pottery recovered from development sites in the late 19th and early 20th century (UAD 908, 121, 1131).

- 4.9.7 There have been a number of phases of development on the site from the late medieval period through to the early 20th century. Each phase will have involved the removal or part removal of earlier phases. This process will have left a complex sequence of partly preserved features such as wall footings and fragments of redundant cellars and the later works have disturbed earlier deposits as noted above (s. 4.9.6).
- 4.9.8 Despite this process of renewal and disturbance there remains a high potential for the localised survival of fragmentary remains of Post-Medieval date, particularly along the street frontages.

Historic Urban and Landscape Character

- 4.10 Oxford and its environs have been mapped as part of an Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) survey. This is primarily focussed on the development of the landscape from the 19th century and simply defines the study site as 'Settlement pre 1880'.
- 4.11 The study site lies within the Central Oxford Conservation Area and the area covered by the Central Oxford Historic Urban Character Assessment (COHUCA), within the Zones 15 and 16, defined as the City Centre Commercial Core. The area is characterised as comprising 19th/20th century shops and offices, with the existing urban blocks, despite significant modification, reflecting the underlying medieval tenement pattern.

Assessment of Significance

- 4.9 No Scheduled Ancient Monuments lie within or in the immediate vicinity of the study site. Nor does it lie within or close to a Registered Battlefield. The study site does lie within a Conservation Area and within the City Centre Archaeological Area. There are several Listed Buildings in the vicinity of the study site.
- 4.9.1 The UAD holds no records for the Prehistoric and Roman periods on the study site, though isolated finds have been made in its vicinity. A low potential is therefore identified.

- 4.9.2 The whole of the study site lies within the Saxon and Medieval City. A number of archaeological investigations adjacent to the study site have revealed substantial evidence for structures on both the street frontages of St Aldates, and Queen Street. A high potential for non-designated archaeological remains of the Saxon and Medieval periods is identified, including the Medieval Jewry. A high potential is also identified for the Post-Medieval period, particularly along the street frontages
- 4.9.3 Deposits of these dates would be of local/regional importance, based on their evidential value (EH 2008).

5.0 SITE CONDITIONS, THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND IMPACT ON HERITAGE ASSETS

5.1 Site Conditions

5.1.1 The study site was visited in February 2014 and comprises shops and offices fronting Queen Street and St Aldates, access roads, rear of property yards and car parking. The Queen Street properties are both mid-late 20th century buildings, currently occupied by shop and restaurant. The St Aldates properties are of early 20th century date and are occupied by a bank and shop. To the rear are narrow areas for access and storage.

5.1.2 The site visit included inspecting existing basements within all the properties. This was to check for any remains of possible medieval built fabric from the cellars of pre-existing buildings on the site. No remains were identified, all visible structures being contemporary with the existing buildings.

5.2 The Proposed Development

5.2.1 Development proposals for mixed use student and retail accommodation at 114 to 119 St Aldate's and 4 & 5 Queen Street.

114 to 119 St Aldate's

5.2.2 Proposals retain the existing buildings which are converted and refurbished to provide retail units at ground and basement levels with three storeys of student accommodation above to which is added a new attic storey. Student accommodation is accessed from St Aldate's. A central bicycle store is located at the rear and some non residential student rooms and services are at basement level. The mansard roof extension is in the style of the adjacent Edwardian building at no 121 St Aldate's at the corner of the Carfax crossroads.

4 & 5 Queen Street

5.2.3 This comprises the demolition of the existing three storey retail buildings and the construction of a single retail unit at ground and basement level with four storeys of student accommodation above and with four rooms to each floor across the façade.

- 5.2.4 Student accommodation has a dedicated entrance through an existing archway between the site and no 121 St Aldate's with access to the central bicycle store located at the rear. The retail units to both St Aldate's and Queen Street are serviced from here.

5.3 Impact on Heritage Assets

Past impacts

- 5.3.1 The majority of the properties fronting St Aldates and Queen Street have basements (Fig. 3). Basements may be more extensive when the footprint of former, now demolished buildings are taken into account. These are indicated on historic mapping and were summarised by CgMs in a previous desk-based assessment (CgMs 2008, and Fig.3). As noted above the multiple phases of rebuilding on the site will have wholly or partly removed earlier phases of activity.
- 5.3.2 Where previous archaeological investigations have taken place they will have already removed archaeological remains. However excavation at No 4 Queen Street were undertaken within a small trench (UAD 487), and along St Aldates investigations were confined to the collection of pottery during extensive redevelopment in the late 19th and early 20th century (UAD 901, 121, and 1131). The areas of investigation shown on Figure 3, therefore, are only indicative, and archaeological remains may still survive in places, even where previous investigations are marked.
- 5.3.3 Previous investigations indicate that archaeological remains from the Saxon to Post-Medieval period might survive in the general area to depths between 4m and 6m below the existing ground surface. Within the study area this means there is potential for survival beneath existing/former basements and between basements, and in localised areas where previous impacts may be more shallow. In some parts of the site archaeological deposits may have been completely removed.

Potential development impacts

- 5.3.4 Where new basements are planned these have the potential to wholly or partly remove any surviving archaeological remains. Preliminary drawings indicate that the proposed building fronting St Aldates will include a basement at around the same level as existing (61.96m AOD). The proposed building fronting Queen Street will

include a basement at a depth slightly deeper than existing (the new level will be at 60.60m AOD). Street level on Queens Street is approximately 64.7m AOD giving finished basement depths between 2.74m and 4.1m below existing ground surface. Construction depths to form foundations would be below these levels.

- 5.3.5 In practice the existing and former basements are likely to have removed much of at least the upper part of medieval and post-medieval deposits across the site. In general, across most of the study area, only earlier deposits (e.g. Saxon) will survive, or deeper features associated with later phases (e.g. wells).
- 5.3.6 Where deposits do survive they may be wholly or partly removed by the proposed development. The potential for adverse impact can be partly mitigated by further refinement of the basement/ foundation design and/or further appropriate investigation and recording carried out before or during the early stages of construction.

6.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 A site, 0.135 hectares in extent, located on the corner of St Aldates and Queen Street in the centre of the City of Oxford is being considered for development.
- 6.2 The assessment has established that there are no non-designated heritage assets on the study site. There are a number listed close by, within the city centre conservation area and these are considered in a separate report.
- 6.3 The assessment has established that the study site has high potential for non-designated, buried Saxon, Medieval and Post-Medieval archaeological remains of local/regional significance. The study concludes that, based on current evidence, the archaeological potential of the study site is not of sufficient importance to preclude development.
- 6.4 Furthermore, there are a number of existing and former basements on the study site which are likely to have wholly or partly removed archaeological remains. However, in previous investigations in the study area and close by, remains have been recorded in excess of 4m below present ground surface. Therefore, even in areas where basements are present, archaeological deposits may still survive.
- 6.5 Although there has been previous archaeological investigation across much of the site, this has been of limited scope, comprising isolated trenching on Queen Street and collection of pottery on St Aldates. Archaeological remains may, therefore, still survive in areas marked as having been previously investigated.
- 6.6 Archaeological remains may also survive in localised areas between existing/former basements.
- 6.7 Where archaeological remains do survive the proposed development has the potential to wholly or partly remove them, resulting in harm to their significance. The precise level of impact will become clearer when detailed basement and foundation designs are available.
- 6.8 Given the archaeological potential of the site it is likely that a programme of trial excavation will be required, in line with guidance in the NPPF and under Policy HE.2 of the Oxford Local Plan, to further understand the condition and location of archaeological remains on the site. Subsequently, and dependent upon the results of this work, a further programme of design iteration and/or pre-construction

archaeological investigation and recording may be required to mitigate any development impact. This work could be secured by a condition, with the scope agreed by the local authority archaeological advisor.

6.9 **SOURCES CONSULTED**

General

The Oxford Local Plan, November 2005
Oxfordshire Record Office
Oxfordshire Local Studies Library
Oxford Urban Archaeological Data Base
English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens
English Heritage Register of Battlefield Sites

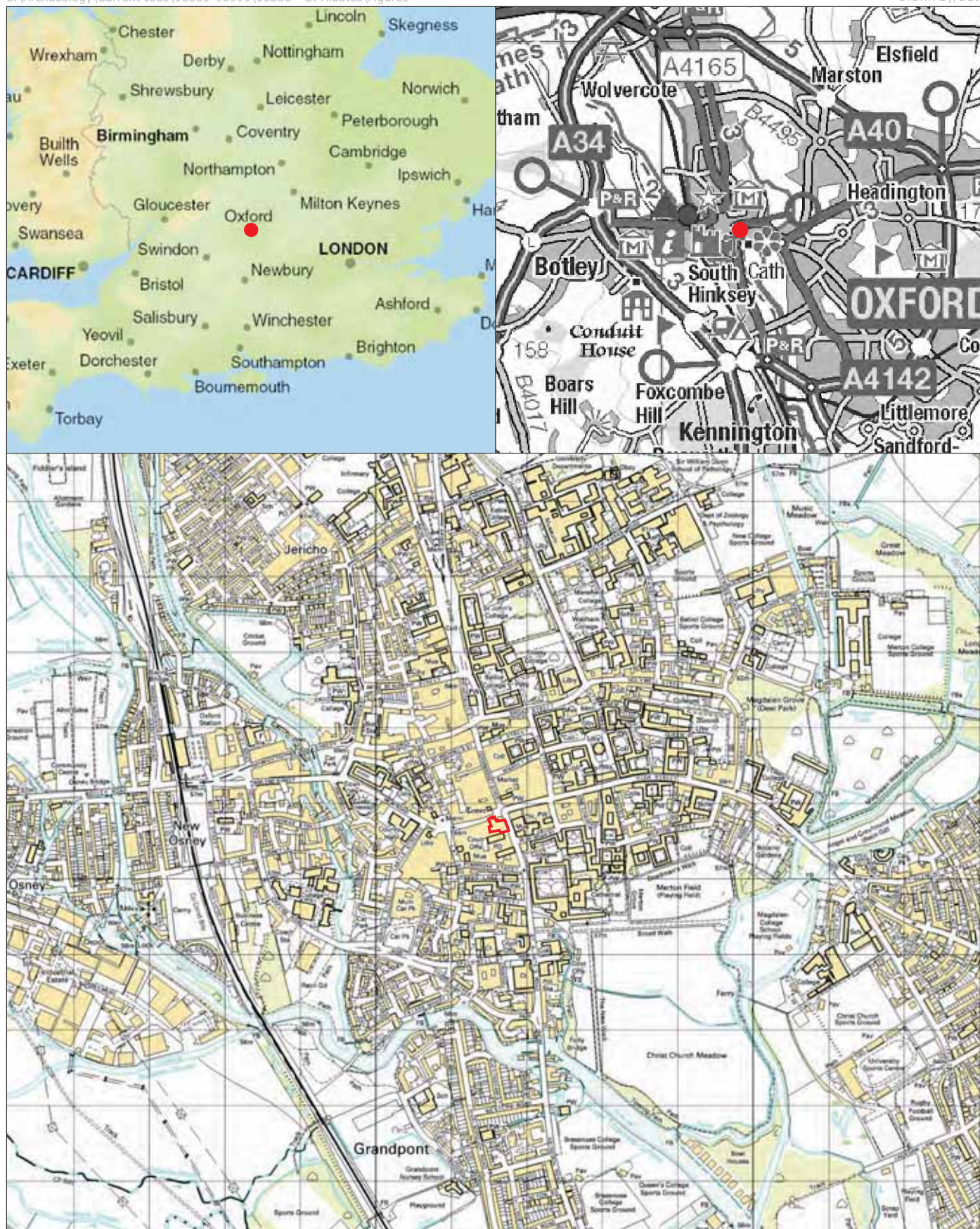
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Salter, H E, 1956 Survey of Oxford Vol 1, VCH. Oxon iv

Cartographic Sources

Agas' map of 1578
Loggan's 1675 birds eye view of Oxford
Davis Map of 1797
1876-78 Ordnance Survey 1:2,500

1887, Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1900, Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1900, Ordnance Survey 1:2,500
1914, Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1921, Ordnance Survey 1:2,500
1922, Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1938, 1944, Ordnance Survey 1:10,560
1939, Ordnance Survey 1:2,500
1961, Ordnance Survey 1:10, 560
1969-70 Ordnance Survey 1:1,250
1977, Ordnance Survey 1:10,000
1994, Ordnance Survey 1:10,000
1999, Ordnance Survey 1:10,000



Legend

- Site Location





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Legend
— Site Boundary



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 2:
Site detail



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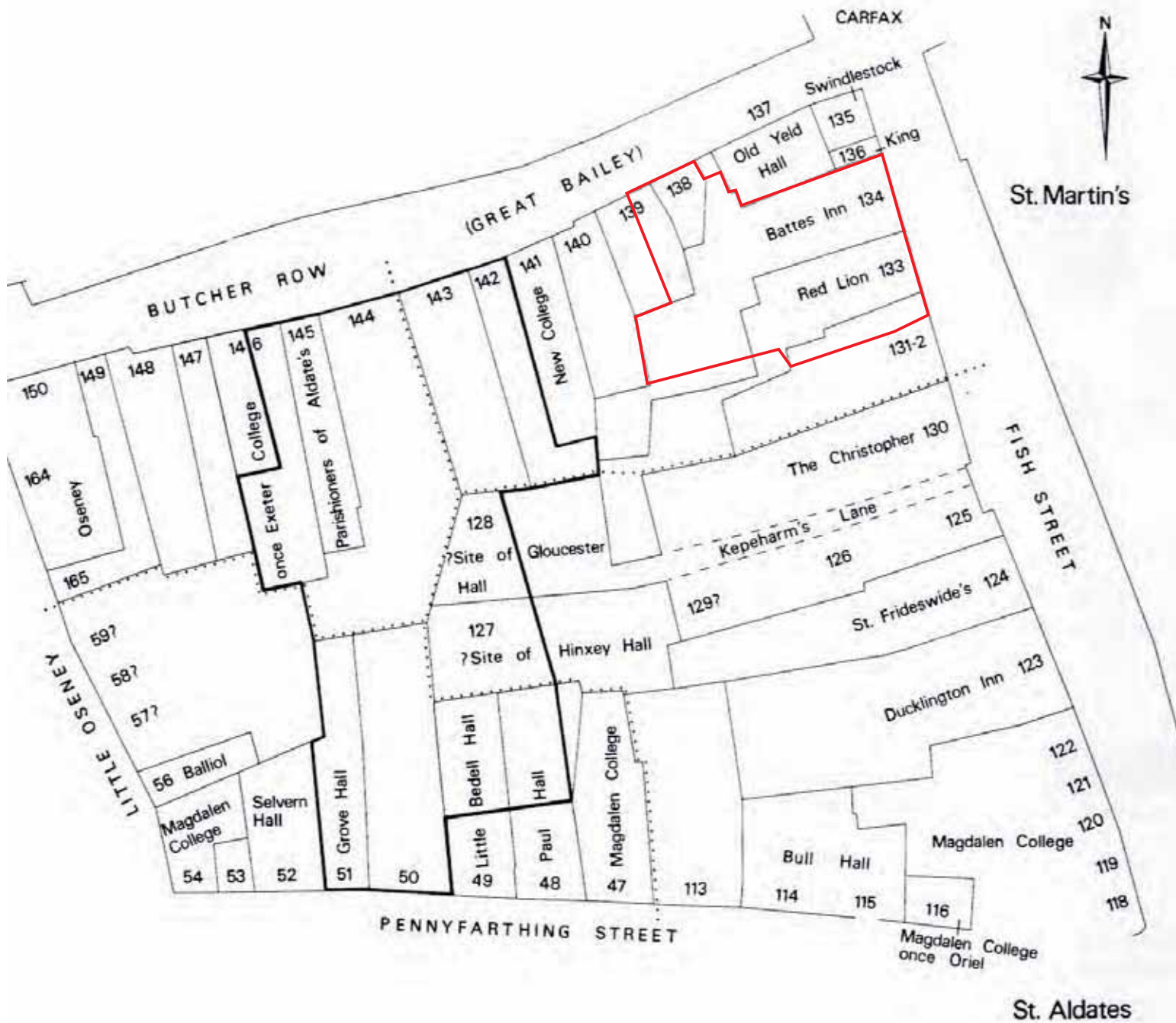
Legend

- Site Boundary
- Area of previous archaeological investigation
- Existing Basemented buildings
- Former Basemented buildings



Not to Scale:
Illustrative Only

Figure 3:
Past impacts: Previous
archaeological work and
basemented areas



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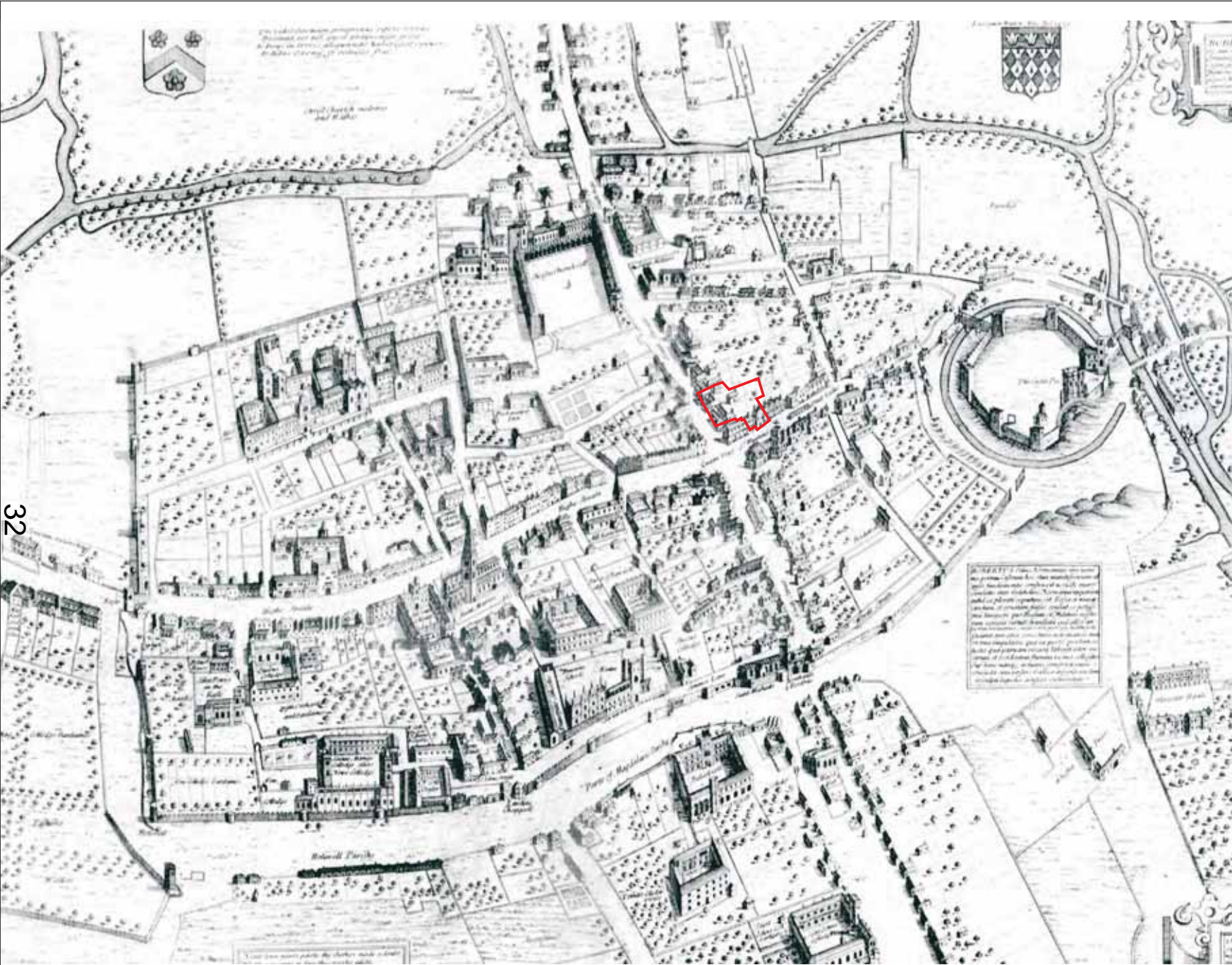
Legend

— Site Boundary



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Figure 4:
Late 14th century land
use (after Slater in
Halpin 1983)



32



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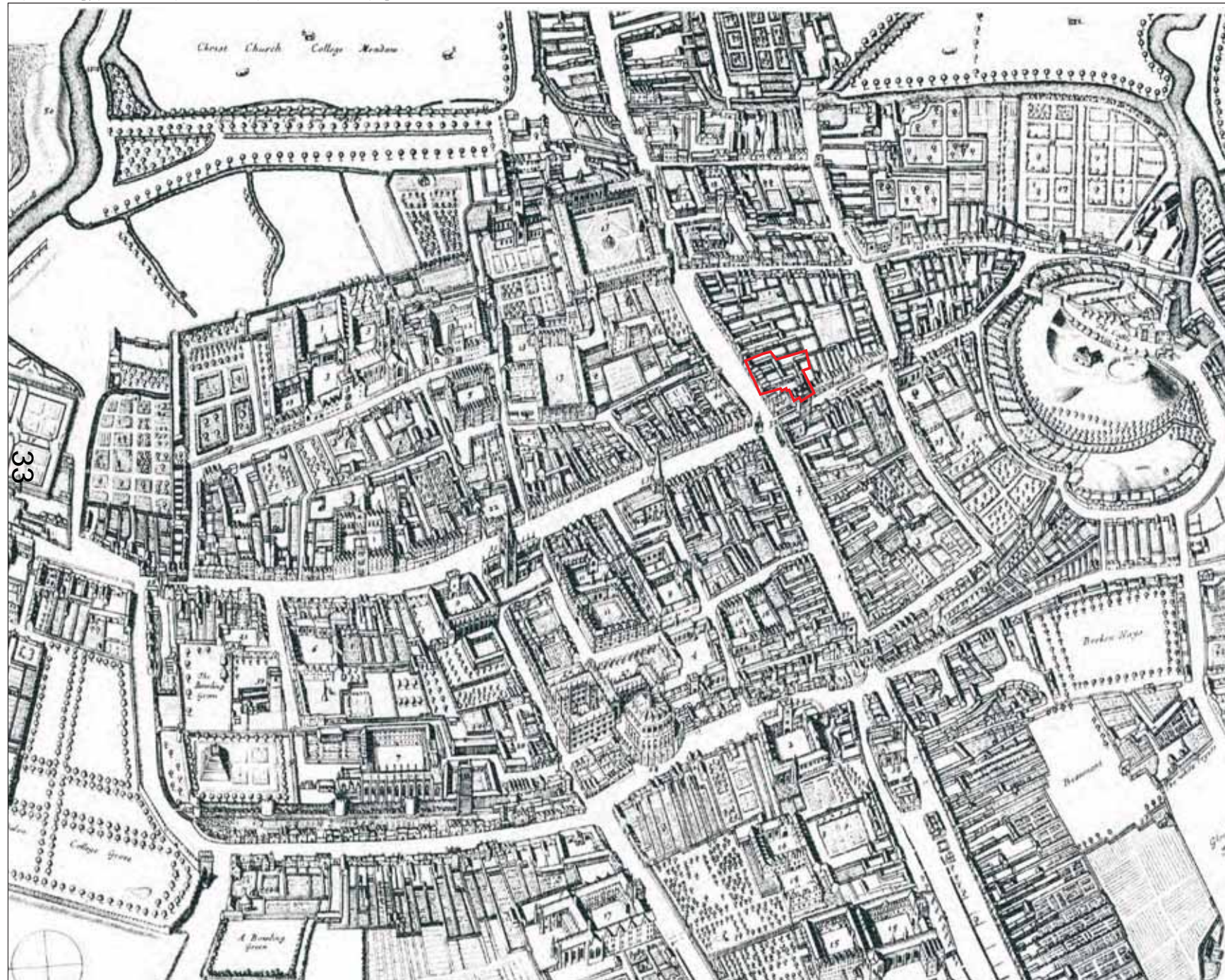
Legend

- Approximate Site Boundary



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Figure 5:
Agas' map of 1578



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Legend

- Approximate Site Boundary



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Figure 6:
Loggan's 1675 birds eye
view of Oxford



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Legend
— Site Boundary



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Figure 7:
Davis Map pf 1797



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Legend

— Site Boundary



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Figure 8:
1876, Ordnance Survey



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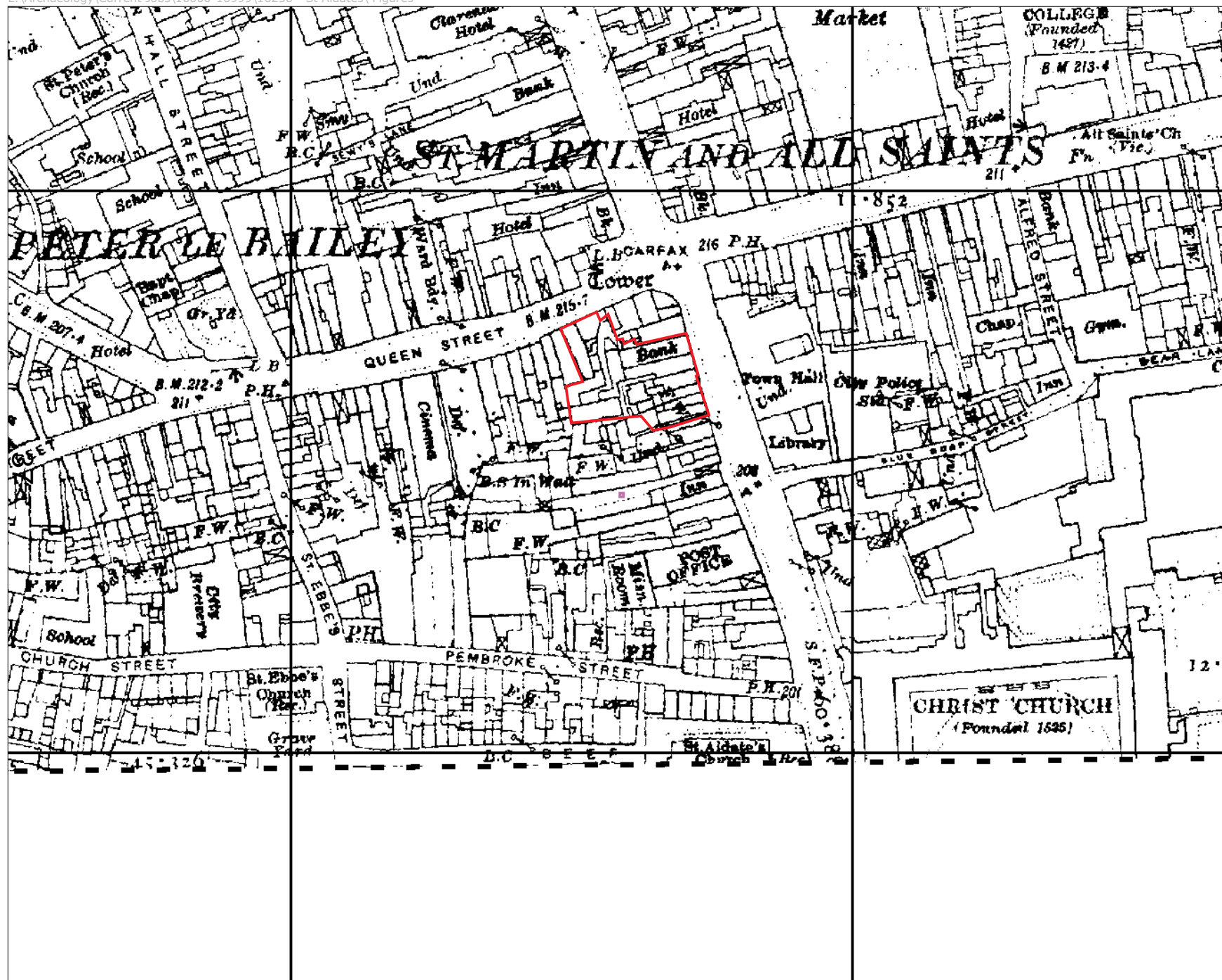
Legend

— Site Boundary



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Figure 9:
1900, Ordnance Survey



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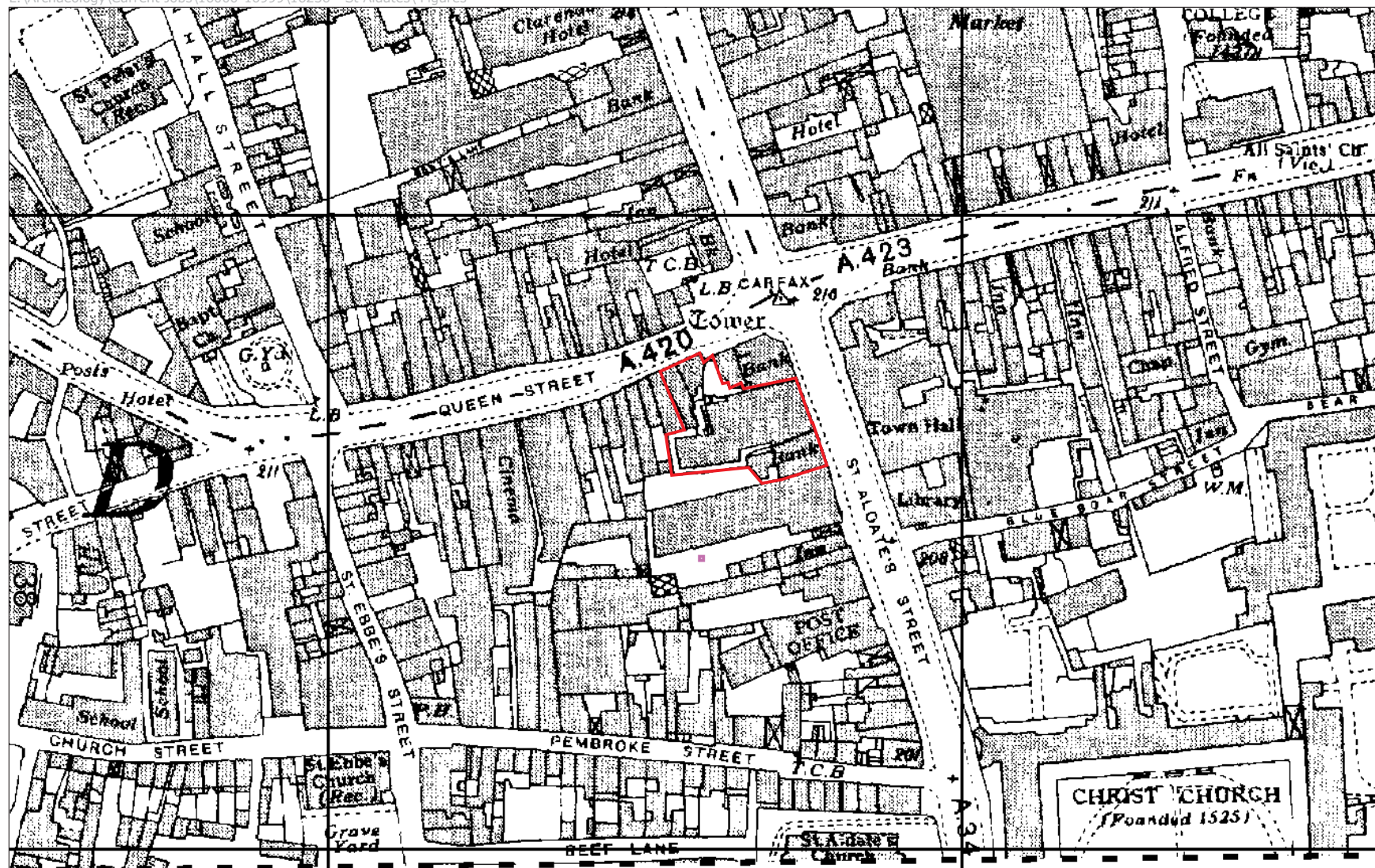
Legend

— Site Boundary



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Figure 10:
1921, Ordnance Survey



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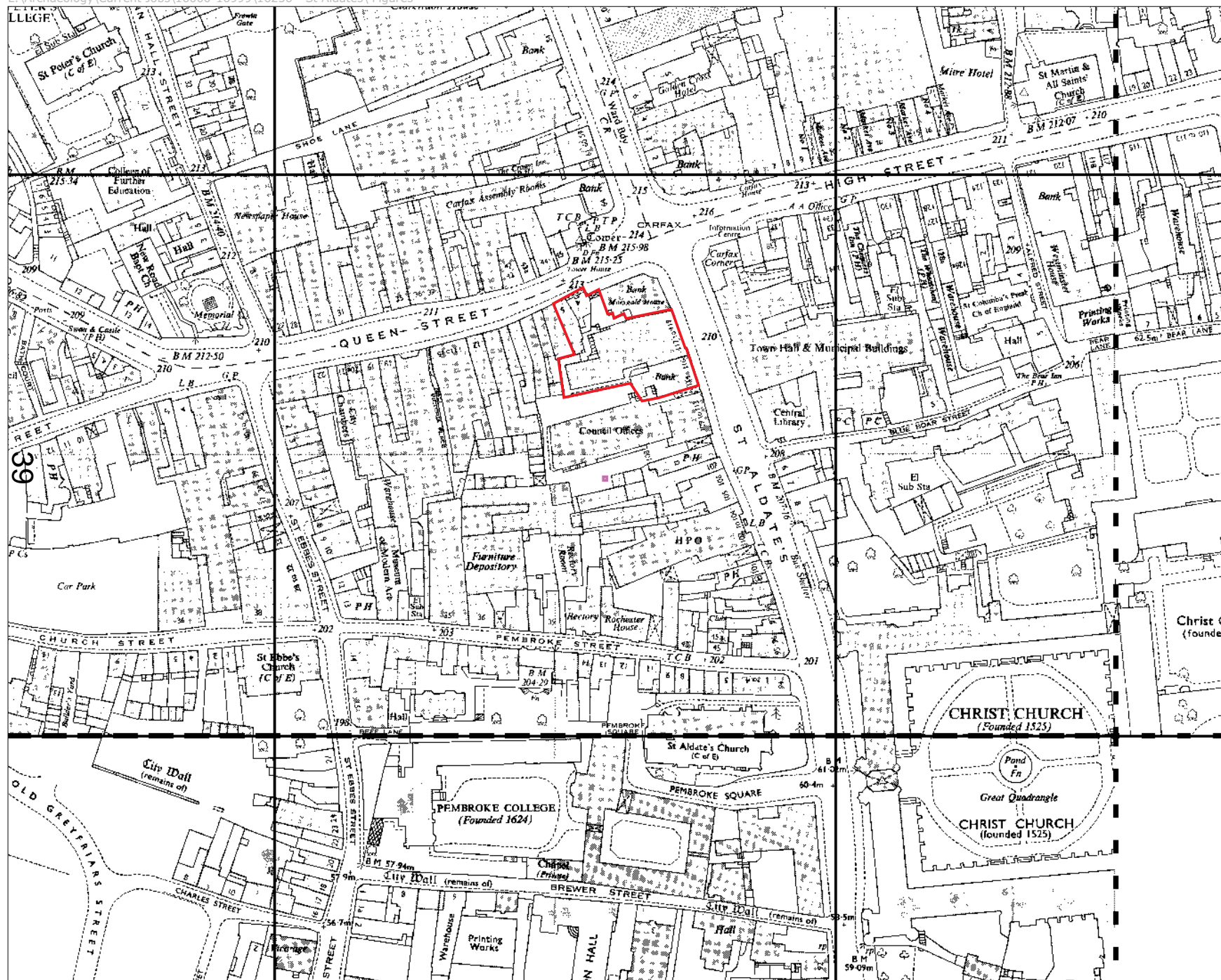
Legend

— Site Boundary



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Figure 11:
1939, Ordnance Survey



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Legend

— Site Boundary

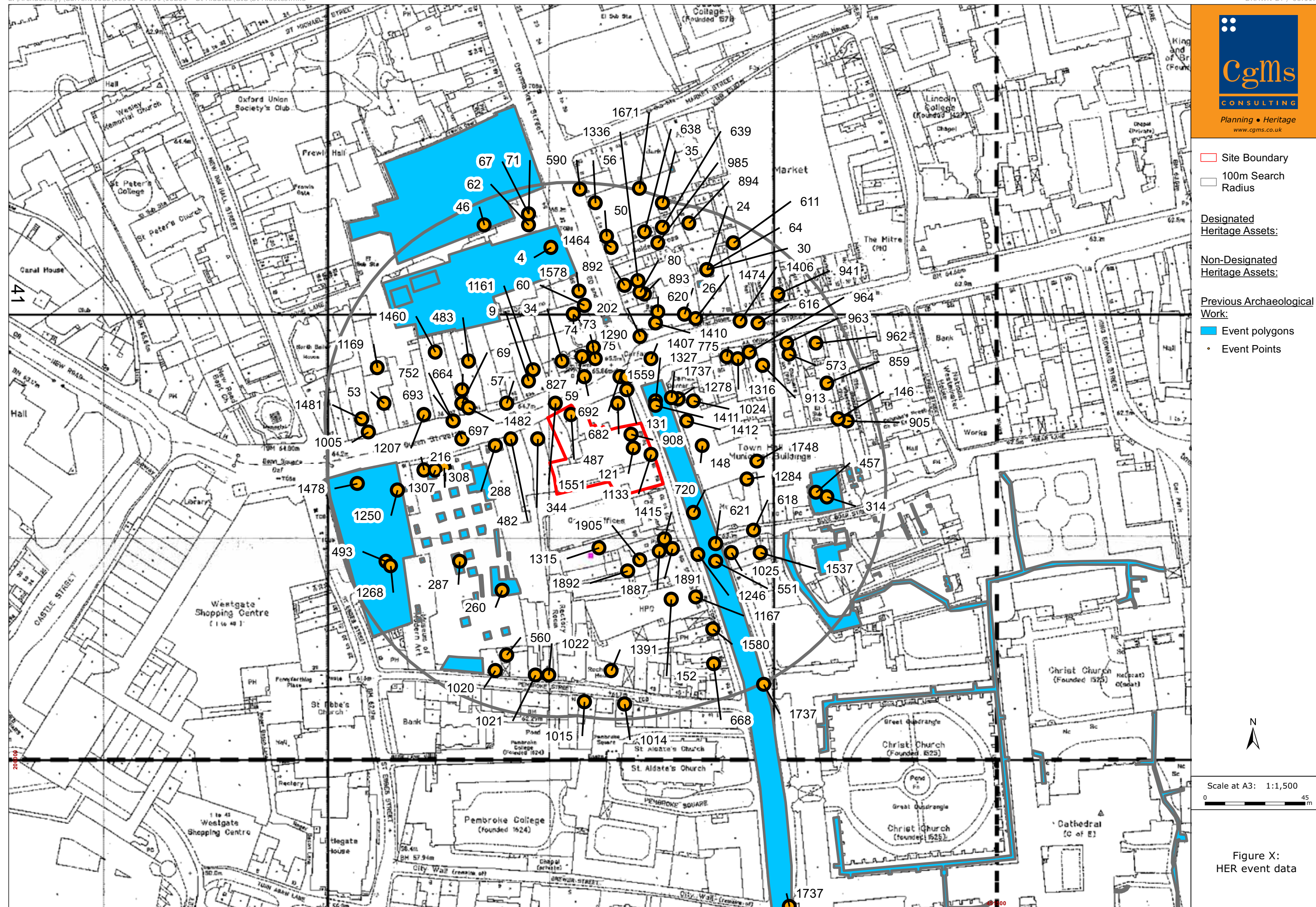


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Illustrative Only

Figure 12:
1969-70, Ordnance Survey

APPENDIX 1

Oxford Urban Archaeological Database References



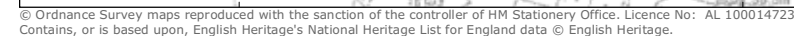


Figure X:
HER event data

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