

**114 JACOB STREET  
OLD MARKET  
BRISTOL**

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

*For*

**DELLOW CONSTRUCTION**

CA PROJECT: 2508  
CA REPORT: 08058


OCTOBER 2008



114 JACOB STREET  
OLD MARKET  
BRISTOL

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2508  
CA REPORT: 08058

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date	8 October 2008
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date	13 October 2008
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signed	
date	14 October 2008
issue	01

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Fig. 1 Site location plan (1:25,000)

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks (1:500)

## SUMMARY

**Project Name:** 114 Jacob Street  
**Location:** Old Market, Bristol  
**NGR:** ST 5972 7311  
**Type:** Watching Brief  
**Date:** 16 January-07 July 2008  
**Planning Reference:** 05/02716/F  
**Location of Archive:** To be deposited with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives  
**Site Code:** JST08

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the redevelopment of 14 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol. The groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation trenches and test pits to determine pile locations.

The remains of a probable 19th-century well and cellar were exposed during the excavation of foundation trenches in the north-west of the site. The remains of a pennant slab floor, along with a number of sandstone wall footings were also identified. It is likely that these features relate to the former 19th-century malthouse/brewery that stood on the site. The natural substrate was identified close to the current ground level at the northern limits of the site. This was overlain by post-medieval cultivation soils and demolition debris. Across the remainder of the site these deposits were deeper and this activity may have truncated any medieval or earlier deposits.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Between January and July 2008 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Dellow Construction at 114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol (centred on NGR: ST 5972 7311; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent for the redevelopment of the site (planning ref: 05/02716/F). The objective of the watching brief was to record all archaeological remains exposed during the development.
- 1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a *Brief* (BCC 2007) issued by Mr R H Jones, Bristol City Council Archaeologist (BCCA), archaeological advisor to Bristol City Council (BCC), and with a subsequent written scheme of investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2008) and approved by Mr Jones. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (2001) and the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991).

### ***The site***

- 1.3 The development area lies on the north side of Jacob Street, bounded by other properties, particularly by the former Drill Hall to the west, currently also undergoing redevelopment and Kingsley Hall to the north (Fig. 2).
- 1.4 The site is flat and lies at approximately 17m AOD. The underlying geology of the area is mapped as Redcliffe Sandstone of the Triassic era (BGS 1974). A red silty sand, interpreted as weathered natural substrate, was encountered in the north-eastern corner of the site.
- 1.5 The site was until recently occupied by a printworks.

### ***Archaeological background***

- 1.6 The present building is made up of internal rubble and brick walls of eighteenth and nineteenth century date that relate to former maltings and breweries. The frontage of the premises consists of a later 19th century brick façade.

- 1.7 A Desk-Based Assessment (BaRAS 2004) was undertaken which identified that the Old Market area developed early in the 12th century with narrow burgage plots flanking the broad Old Market Street. The site occupies the rear of seven of these burgage plots. It appears that by the early 19th century these burgage plots had been developed probably for light industrial use. Breweries and malthouses are shown occupying the site on various 19th century plans. By the end of the nineteenth century the majority of the site was occupied by Vaughan & Sons Old Iron and Sack Warehouse for whom the current façade was constructed. The site was used for a variety of light industrial purposes until a printing works was established in the early 1970s (BCC 2007).
- 1.8 A watching brief was undertaken in August 2007 (CA 2007b) during the excavation of geotechnical trial pits. The results indicated that the natural substrate lay close to the current ground level in the eastern part of the site, and was generally overlain by possible cultivation soils, and post-medieval demolition/construction debris. The presence of a well indicated that some post-medieval activity had survived within the site. Former phases of the existing building, represented by the remnants of internal walls and former floor surfaces, were also identified.
- 1.9 An archaeological evaluation was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology in August 2007 (CA 2007c). A similar sequence to that identified during the preceding watching brief was identified in both excavated trenches. However, the presence of a heavily truncated red sandstone wall in one trench (ATP 1) suggested that earlier, potentially medieval structures may have stood on the Jacob Street frontage.

### ***Methodology***

- 1.10 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2008). An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks, comprising the excavation of four foundation trenches and twenty-three exploratory test pits (Fig. 2).
- 1.11 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).

- 1.12 Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the site archive will be deposited with Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix B, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

## 2. RESULTS

- 2.1 This section provides an overview of the Watching Brief results; detailed summaries of the recorded contexts can be found in Appendix A. The top of the natural geological substrate, consisting of red silty sand, was revealed in foundation trench 1, at a depth of 0.3m below the present ground level (bpgl). This was cut by the construction cut for wall 104, which probably formed part of an 19th century cellar. These deposits were overlain by make-up for the modern concrete floor slab.
- 2.2 A curved stone wall 203, almost certainly belonging to a well, was recorded in foundation trench 2. It had been backfilled with glass bottles marked with 19th century date stamps. The well cut the natural substrate and would appear to be a continuation of a well identified during a previous Watching Brief (CA 2007b).
- 2.3 The top of the geological substrate consisting of red silty sand was revealed in foundation trench 3 at a depth of 0.9m bpgl. This was truncated by the construction cut for sandstone wall 303. The exact function of this wall remains unclear, although it may relate to one of the nineteenth century buildings known to have occupied the site.
- 2.4 The substantial brick and limestone foundations (over 0.8m deep) of the northern wall of the existing building were recorded in test pit 1.
- 2.5 Possible cultivation soils, comprising highly mixed dark brown silty soils, were identified in test pits 2-21 and 23. These deposits were exposed at between 0.3m and 0.8m bpgl, and were sealed either by the modern concrete floor slab or by mixed demolition/levelling deposits.
- 2.6 The possible remains of a pennant slab floor, 22004, were identified in test pit 22 at approximately 0.45m bpgl. It is probable that this feature relates to the former 19th

malthouse/brewery that stood on the site. This was overlain by a dump of modern material which was in turn sealed by the modern concrete floor slab.

### 3. DISCUSSION

3.1 The remains of a probable 19th-century well and cellar were exposed during the excavation of foundation trenches in the north-west of the site. The remains of a pennant slab floor, along with a number of sandstone wall footings were also identified. It is likely that these features relate to the former 19th-century malthouse/brewery that stood on the site. However, examination of the historic mapping relating to the site; including maps by Roque 1742, Plumley and Ashmead 1828, and the Ordnance Survey First Edition does not allow this to be conclusively demonstrated as internal divisions are not shown.

3.2 The natural substrate was identified close to the current ground level at the northern limits of the site. This was overlain by post-medieval cultivation soils and demolition debris. Across the remainder of the site these deposits were deeper and this activity may have truncated any medieval or earlier deposits.

### 4. CA PROJECT TEAM

Fieldwork was undertaken by Steven Sheldon and Kelly Saunders. The report was written by Steven Sheldon. The illustrations were prepared by Lorna Gray. The archive has been compiled by Steven Sheldon, and prepared for deposition by Kathryn Price. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

### 5. REFERENCES

BaRAS (Bristol and Region Archaeological Services) 2004 *Archaeological desktop study of land at No. 114 Jacob Street, St Philips, Bristol*. Report no. **1326/2004**

BGS (British Geological Survey) 1974 *Geological Survey of England and Wales Sheet 264 Bristol Scale 1:50,000*



BCC (Bristol City Council) 2007 *No. 114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol: Brief for Archaeological Evaluation*

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007a *The Former Drill Hall, Old Market Street, Bristol: Archaeological Watching Brief*, CA Typescript Report **07093**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007b *114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol: Archaeological Watching Brief*, CA Typescript Report **07107**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2007c *114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol: Archaeological Evaluation*, CA Typescript Report **07108**

CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 *114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*

**APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS**

## Foundation Trench 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
101	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>0.8m	>5m	0.2m
102	Layer	Bedding deposit for 101	>0.8m	>5m	0.1m
103	Wall	Course of red brick, hard black mortar bond, later addition to wall 104	>0.8m	0.7m	0.12m
104	Wall	Rough hewn green sandstone cellar wall, hard black mortar bond	>0.8m	0.7m	>1.03m
105	Fill	Greyish brown mortar rich silty clay, backfill of cut 106	>0.8m	0.05m	>1.03
106	Cut	Construction cut for wall 105	>0.8m	0.05m	>1.03
107	Layer	Dark red sandy silt, probable natural substrate	>0.8m	>4.25m	>1.15m

## Foundation Trench 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
201	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>5m	0.2m
202	Layer	Bedding deposit for 201	>1.5m	>5m	0.1m
203	Wall	Curved grey sandstone wall, rough hewn and random coursed blocks mid bonded by grey ashy mortar, probable well	>2m	0.45m	>0.8m
204	Fill	Fill of 203, dump of glass bottles	1.55m	1.55m	>0.8m
205	Cut	Circular construction cut for 203	>2m	>2m	>0.8m
206	Layer	Dark red sandy silt, probable natural substrate	>0.8m	>5m	>0.8m

## Foundation Trench 3

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
301	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>28m	>0.6 m	0.2m
302	Layer	Bedding deposit for 301	>28m	>0.6 m	0.1m
303	Wall	Rough hewn red sandstone wall, friable grey ashy mortar, visible in north face of trench only	>8m	>0.2 m	0.6m
304	Cut	Construction cut for wall 303	>8m	>0.2 m	0.6m
305	Layer	Dark red sandy silt, probable natural substrate	>28m	>0.4 m	>0.1m

## Foundation Trench 4

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
401	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>5.5m	>0.6 m	0.2m
402	Layer	Mixed dark brown silt sand and rubble make up, frequent metal and plastic inclusions throughout	>5.5m	>0.6 m	>0.8m

## Test pit 1

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
1001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
1002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 1001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
1003	Wall	Red brick and limestone rubble wall foundation	>1.5m	0.4m	>0.68m
1004	Layer	Mixed dark brown silt sand and rubble deposit, butts 1003	>1.5m	>1.1m	>0.68m

## Test pit 2

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
2001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
2002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 2001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
2003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.6m

## Test pit 3

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
3001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
3002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 3001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
3003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.6m

## Test pit 4

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
4001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
4002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 4001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
4003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.57m

## Test pit 5

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
5001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
5002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 1001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
5003	Layer	Greyish brown sandy silt, frequent rubble and brick fragments, probable make-up deposit	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.47m
5004	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.19m

## Test pit 6

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
6001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
6002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 6001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
6003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.74m

## Test pit 7

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
7001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
7002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 1001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
7003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 8

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
8001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
8002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 8001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
8003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 9

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
9001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
9002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 9001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
9003	Layer	Greyish brown sandy silt, frequent rubble and brick fragments, probable make-up deposit	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.22m
9004	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.47m

## Test pit 10

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
10001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
10002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 10001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
10003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 11

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
11001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
11002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 11001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
11003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 12

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
12001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
12002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 12001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
12003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil, frequent charcoal inclusions	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 13

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
13001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
13002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 13001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
13003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 14

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
14001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
14002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 14001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
14003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 15

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
15001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
15002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 15001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
15003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 16

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
16001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
16002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 16001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
16003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 17

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
17001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
17002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 17001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
17003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 18

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
18001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
18002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 18001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
18003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 19

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
19001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
19002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 19001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
19003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 20

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
20001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
20002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 20001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
20003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

## Test pit 21

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
21001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
21002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 21001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
21003	Layer	Greyish brown sandy silt, frequent rubble and brick fragments, sparse charcoal inclusions, probable make-up deposit	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.5m
21004	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.2m

## Test pit 22

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
22001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
22002	Layer	Modern dump of red brick, metal, concrete fragments	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.25m
22003	Layer	Remains of probable pennant slab floor, greyish brown friable mortar bond	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.55m
22004	Layer	Greyish brown ashy deposit, probable levelling deposit for 22003	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.11m

## Test pit 23

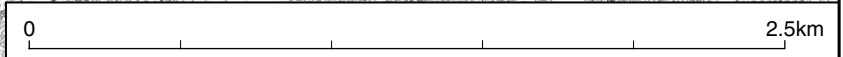
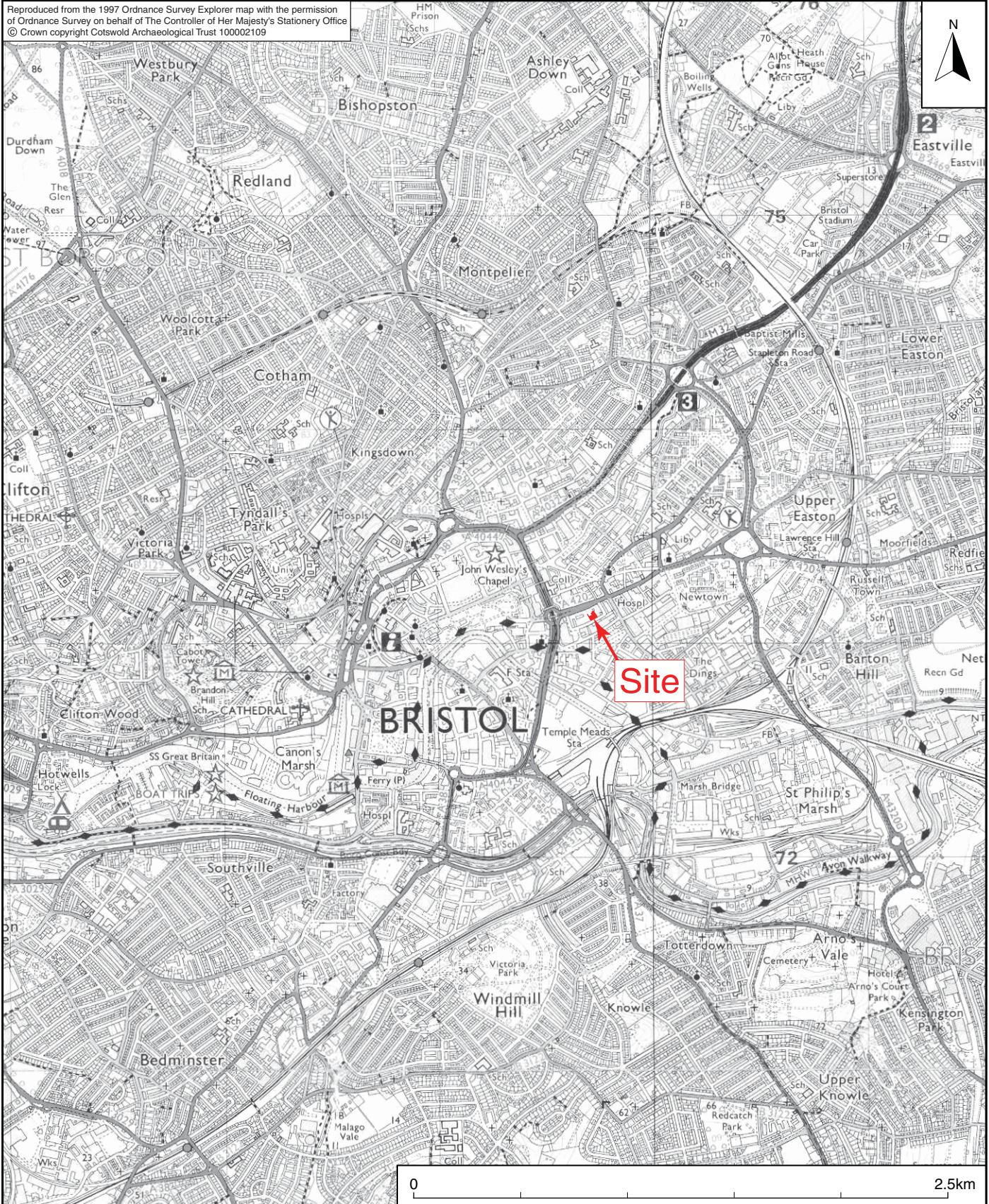
No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)
23001	Layer	Concrete floor slab	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.2m
23002	Layer	Bedding deposit for 23001	>1.5m	>1.5m	0.1m
23003	Layer	Highly mixed dark brown silty sand, probable cultivation soil	>1.5m	>1.5m	>0.7m

**APPENDIX B: OASIS REPORT FORM**

<b>PROJECT DETAILS</b>		
Project Name	114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol	
Short description (250 words maximum)	<p>An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the redevelopment of 14 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol. The groundworks comprised the excavation of foundation trenches and test pits to determine pile locations.</p> <p>The remains of a probable 19th-century well and cellar were exposed during the excavation of foundation trenches in the north-west of the site. The remains of a pennant slab floor, along with a number of sandstone wall footings were also identified. It is likely that these features relate to the former 19th-century malthouse/brewery that stood on the site. The natural substrate was identified close to the current ground level at the northern limits of the site. This was overlain by post-medieval cultivation soils and demolition debris. Across the remainder of the site these deposits were deeper and this activity may have truncated any medieval or earlier deposits.</p>	
Project dates	16 January-07 July 2008	
Project type (e.g. desk-based, field evaluation etc)	Watching Brief	
Previous work (reference to organisation or SMR numbers etc)	Watching Brief and Evaluation 2007 Desk-based Assessment 2004	
Future work	Unknown	
<b>PROJECT LOCATION</b>		
Site Location	114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol	
Study area (M <sup>2</sup> /ha)	721m <sup>2</sup>	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	ST 5972 7311	
<b>PROJECT CREATORS</b>		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Bristol City Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Steven Sheldon and Kelly Saunders	
<b>PROJECT ARCHIVES</b>		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Paper	Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives	Trench sheets, colour slides, black and white prints, photographic registers, location plans
Digital	Bristol's Museums, Galleries and Archives	Digital photos
<b>BIBLIOGRAPHY</b>		
CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2008 <i>114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol: Archaeological Watching Brief</i> , CA Typescript Report <b>08058</b>		



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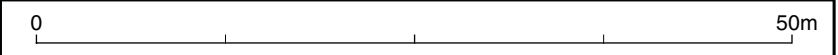
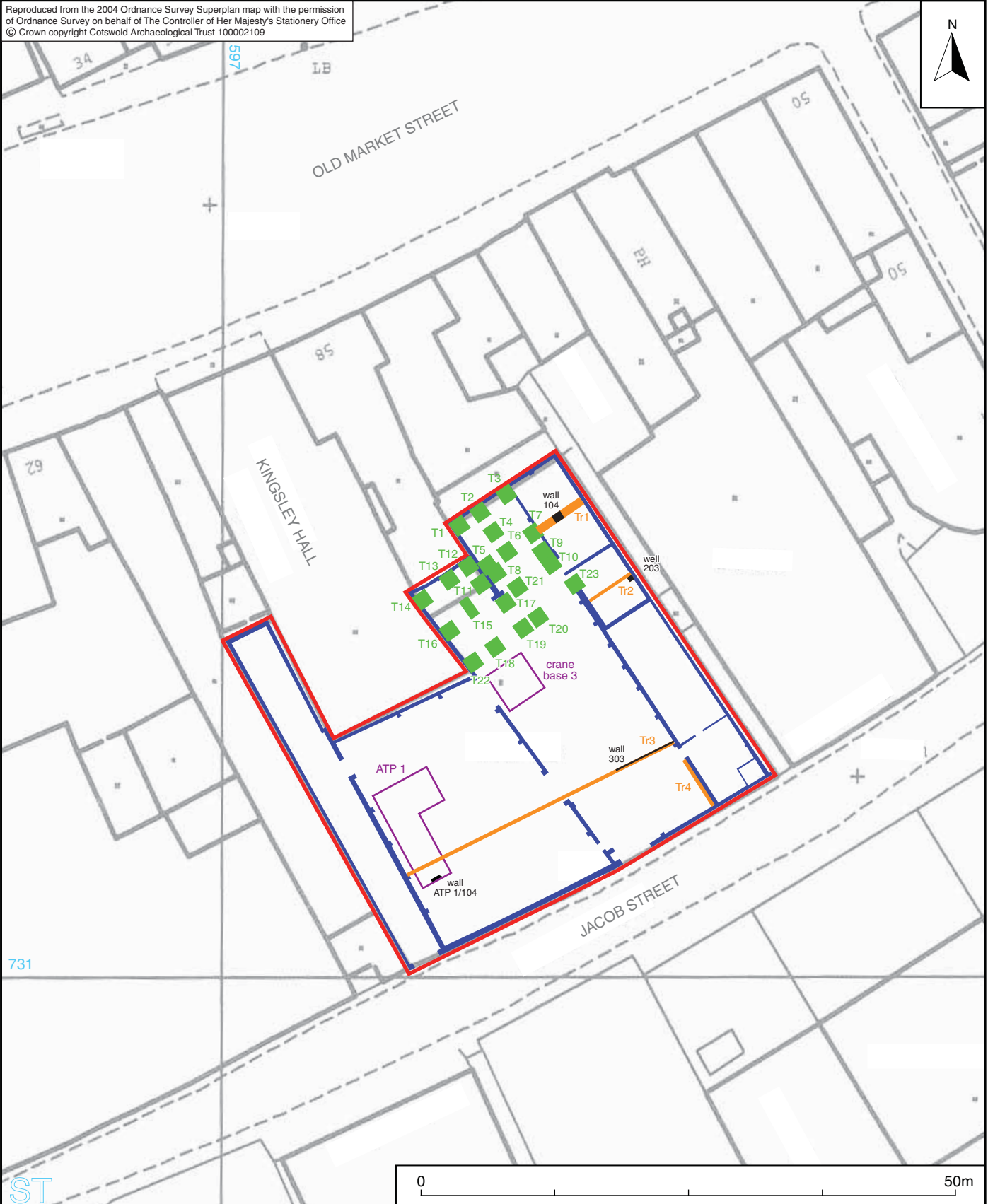
 **COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE  
**114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol**

FIGURE TITLE  
**Site location plan**

DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
LG	1:25,000@A4	2508	<b>1</b>





ST

- site
- extant interior walls
- test pit
- foundation trench
- archaeological feature
- evaluation trench (CA 2007)



**COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY**

PROJECT TITLE

114 Jacob Street, Old Market, Bristol

FIGURE TITLE

**The site, showing location of groundworks**

DRAWN BY

LG

SCALE

1:500@A4

PROJECT NO.

2508

FIGURE NO.

**2**