

**4-5 ANGEL YARD
MARLBOROUGH
WILTSHIRE**

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

For

MR STEPHEN HURD

on behalf of

MR WILLIAM HURD


CA PROJECT: 2890
CA REPORT: 10136

AUGUST 2010

4-5 ANGEL YARD
MARLBOROUGH
WILTSHIRE

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

CA PROJECT: 2890
CA REPORT: 10136

prepared by	Jamie Wright, Project Officer and Stuart Joyce, Project Officer
date	19 August 2010
checked by	Richard Young, Project Manager
date	23 August 2010
approved by	Mark Collard, Head of Contracts
signed	
date	27 August 2010
issue	01

This report is confidential to the client. Cotswold Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability to any third party to whom this report, or any part of it, is made known. Any such party relies upon this report entirely at their own risk. No part of this report may be reproduced by any means without permission.

CONTENTS

SUMMARY	4
1. INTRODUCTION	5
2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)	7
3. DISCUSSION.....	8
4. CA PROJECT TEAM	9
5. REFERENCES	9
APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS	10
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS	11
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM.....	12

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

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

Fig. 2 The site, showing location of groundworks and archaeological features (1:200)

SUMMARY

Project Name: 4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire
Location: Marlborough, Wiltshire
NGR: SU 1887 6911
Type: Watching Brief
Date: 30 June to 12 July 2010
Planning Reference: K/59741/F
Location of Archive: To be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum
Site Code: AYM10

An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the demolition of a redundant workshop and erection of two dwellings at 4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire.

An undated ditch or pit was observed which, if a ditch, may possibly have formed a boundary within the burgage plot. In addition three undated pits were recorded. Two of the pits probably extended beyond the plot of 5 Angel Yard and as such are interpreted as being earlier than the present houses, which were erected in the late 19th or early 20th century. Both of these pits could have been associated with the plot's possible previous use as a tannery. The third pit appears to be modern in date. A possible well identified in the southern area of the site could also relate to the tannery. Various levelling/make up layers, dating to the post-medieval period were observed and it seems likely that the present ground level is at least 0.5m higher than in the medieval period. A brick lined pit, with modern cement and bricks, was probably constructed during the sites former use as a workshop.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 In June and July 2010 Cotswold Archaeology (CA) carried out an archaeological watching brief for Mr Stephen Hurd on behalf of Mr William Hurd at 4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough (centred on NGR: SU 18877 69117; Fig. 1). The watching brief was undertaken to fulfil a condition attached to a planning consent by Wiltshire Council (Planning ref: K/59741/F) for the demolition of a redundant workshop and erection of two dwellings, incorporating an extension and alterations to 4 Angel Yard.

1.2 The watching brief was carried out in accordance with a *Brief for archaeological detailed monitoring, recording and potential excavation* (WC 2009) issued by Vanessa Clarke, former Assistant County Archaeologist, Wiltshire Council (WC), and with a subsequent detailed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) produced by CA (2009) and approved by Ms Clarke. The fieldwork also followed the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* issued by the Institute for Archaeologists (2008), the *Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991) and the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE): Project Manager's Guide* (English Heritage 2006).

The site

1.3 The site is located within a row of terraced houses on the north-eastern side of Angel Yard, Marlborough. Angel Yard leads off of the High Street, which lies to the north-west. To the north-east are the commercial buildings of Ailesbury Court (Fig. 2).

1.4 The proposed development area is approximately 100m² and formerly comprised a workshop and 4 Angel Yard.

1.5 The underlying solid geology of the area is mapped as Middle Chalk of the Cretaceous era (BGS 1979). The drift is mapped as Valley Gravel (Quaternary) with Clay-with-flints (Tertiary) to the north and Alluvium (Holocene) to the south. A small patch, 0.5m long and 0.2m deep, of reddish-brown gravel was seen 1m below ground level in the base of a foundation trench, which probably corresponds to the River Gravel.

Archaeological background

- 1.6 Angel Yard lies in the heart of the historic centre of Marlborough. The Wiltshire Historic Monument Record (HER) notes that the site lies in an area of burgage plots established in the 11th to 12th century (WC 2009; Wiltshire County Council, Extended Urban Survey 2004). In 1995 three fragments of medieval pottery were found during an evaluation at the Old Tannery, Angel Yard (HER SU16NE476). In 1998 four fragments of roof tile, two of them glazed, and two brick fragments were found in the car park of the Waitrose Supermarket to the south-west of the site. A possible 15th or 16th-century cobble surface was also encountered (HER SU16NE482). The Victoria County History (VCH 1983, 199-229) records that there was a Tannery in Angel Yard by the 1850s. This is marked on the Ordnance Survey 1886 1:2,500 map. This was still a going concern in 1982 (ibid.).

Methodology

- 1.7 The fieldwork followed the methodology set out within the WSI (CA 2009). Although the original planning application was for 4 and 5 Angel Yard, Number 4 was retained and refurbished. Number 5 Angel Yard had been demolished before any site visits, and archaeological observations only were maintained on 5 Angel Yard. An archaeologist was present during intrusive groundworks comprising the removal of previous foundations, the excavation of a 0.6m wide foundation trench around the perimeter of the plot and the lowering of the ground surface by 0.25m over the rest of the plot (Fig. 2).
- 1.8 Where archaeological deposits were encountered written, graphic and photographic records were compiled in accordance with CA Technical Manual 1: *Fieldwork Recording Manual* (2007).
- 1.9 The archive and artefacts from the evaluation are currently held by CA at their offices in Kemble. Subject to the agreement of the legal landowner the artefacts will be deposited with Wiltshire Heritage Museum, along with the site archive. A summary of information from this project, set out within Appendix C, will be entered onto the OASIS online database of archaeological projects in Britain.

2. RESULTS (FIG. 2)

- 2.1 The natural geological substrate 1020 was exposed in a limited area, for a length of c. 0.5m near the north-eastern corner of the plot. This was cut by wide and shallow ditch or pit 1019, containing two fills, pale brown silt 1018 and grey clay 1017, both of which were truncated by pit 1016, which also cut the small area of probable natural.
- 2.2 To the south-east of ditch 1019 was substantial vertical sided pit 1021, which extended to the eastern corner of the plot. The fill 1022 contained wet, sticky clay. The foundation trench was deepened to c. 2m within this area to remove the majority of deposit 1022 but did not expose geological deposits.
- 2.3 Along the southern edge of the site was a c. 0.5m diameter cut for possible well shaft 1023. This extended beyond the base of the trench and was filled with loose stone rubble 1024. To the west of this, close to the street frontage was a relict topsoil 1025 at a depth of c. 1m. This was overlain by two make-up layers of wetter looser, topsoil, 1026 and 1027 respectively.
- 2.4 Within the centre of the plot, i.e. the area defined by the foundation trench for the new development, the ground surface was reduced by c. 0.25m. A number of roughly horizontal levelling layers were noted but were not excavated as they lay below the foundation level. The earliest of these, 1012, contained post-medieval pottery, clay pipe and glass and was overlain in the north of the site by layer 1013, which contained post-medieval pottery, clay pipe and glass. This layer had a greenish brown colour containing charcoal, mortar and cattle bones and was typical of cess material.
- 2.5 Layer 1012 was overlain by levelling layer 1003 in the southern half of the site. This was cut by robber trench, 1009, which was 0.6m in width and orientated roughly north-east/south-west and at right angles to the High Street. The backfill 1010 contained fragments of mortar and red brick rubble. To the north-west was a 2.9m long by 1.25m wide rectangular 'tank' built with modern bricks and cement, which possibly represents an inspection pit. The central space was back filled with rubble, brick dust and clinker 1007.

The Finds

- 2.6 Material comprising quantities of pottery, clay pipe, animal bone and glass, was recovered from two separate deposits (Appendix B).
- 2.7 A single sherd of unglazed earthenware of post-medieval type was recovered from layer 1012. A sherd in a similar fabric but with an internal clear glaze, was recovered from layer 1013. In neither instance could the vessel form be identified and broad dating from the 17th to 19th centuries is suggested.
- 2.8 Quantities of glass from deposits 1012 and 1013 comprise fragments of green-coloured bottle glass of post-medieval or later type. The fragments of two post-medieval clay pipe stems were also recovered from these deposits.
- 2.9 Quantities of animal bones were recorded from deposit 1013, the two retained pieces are identified as cattle metatarsals.

3. DISCUSSION

- 3.1 Due to the limited exposure of many of the deposits interpretation is necessarily tentative. The investigation revealed three pits, one of which was brick-lined, a possible well and a possible ditch or pit along with three make-up layers.
- 3.2 On stratigraphic grounds the earliest feature was possible ditch or pit 1020. This wide and relatively shallow feature appeared to be aligned at a right angle to Angel Yard. Its fills seemed to have accumulated over some time and were settled with few voids, and it is possible that this formed a boundary within the burgage plot at a time when the plot was being used less intensively.
- 3.3 Two of the pits (1016 and 1021) probably extended beyond the plot of 5 Angel Yard and as such are interpreted as being earlier than the present houses, which were erected in the late 19th or early 20th century. Either of these pits could have been associated with the plot's previous use as a tannery. The possible well, 1023, appears to have been stone lined, judging by its backfill, and this too could relate to the tannery, which would need water in which to soak hides.

- 3.4 Various levelling/make up layers were observed and it seems likely that the present ground level is at least 0.5m higher than in the medieval period.
- 3.5 The brick-lined pit, with its modern cement and bricks, was probably constructed during the former use of the site as a workshop.

4. CA PROJECT TEAM

- 4.1 Fieldwork was undertaken by Stuart Joyce and Jamie Wright. The report was written by Jamie Wright and Stuart Joyce. The illustrations were prepared by Jon Bennet. The archive has been compiled by Stuart Joyce, and prepared for deposition by James Johnson. The project was managed for CA by Richard Young.

5. REFERENCES

- BGS (British Geological Survey) 1979 *Geological Survey of Great Britain (England and Wales) Marlborough, Sheet 266*
- CA (Cotswold Archaeology) 2009 *4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief*
- VCH (Victoria County History) 1983 'The Borough of Marlborough' *A History of the County of Wiltshire: Volume 12: Ramsbury and Selkley hundreds: the borough of Marlborough*, 199-229
- WCC (Wiltshire County Council) 2009 *Archaeological Detailed Monitoring, Recording and Potential Excavation: 4 -5 Angel Yard, Marlborough*

APPENDIX A: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

No.	Type	Description	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Spot-date
1000	Layer	Modern paving slabs in Ailesbury Yard. Still <i>in situ</i> .			0.04	Modern
1001	Layer	Cement below 1002.			0.3	Modern
1002	Layer	Rubble hard core below 1001			0.2	Modern
1003	Layer	Dark greyish brown levelling layer with brick rubble, mortar, glass etc			0.5	?18/19 C
1004	Layer	Concrete floor			0.1	Modern
1005	Layer	Concrete floor			0.1	Modern
1006	Wall	Red brick rectangular structure. An inspection pit or tank?	2.9	1.25	Not known	Post c. 1950
1007	Fill	Silt, rubble, brick dust, clinker etc. Within 1006.	2.4	0.7	?	Modern
1008	Cut	Construction cut for 1006	2.9	1.25	Not known	Post c. 1950
1009	Cut	Linear, vertical sided robber cut		0.6		?Post med.
1010	Fill	Mortar and brick rubble back fill of 1009		0.6		?Post med.
1011	Layer	Concrete backfilled footings				Modern
1012	Layer	Greyish brown silty clay with stone, mortar rubble and charcoal flecks. A levelling layer.				?17/18 C
1013	Layer	Greenish brown silty clay with charcoal, mortar and many similar animal bones. Indeterminable whether a fill or a layer.	>2	>1.5		?17/18 C
1014	Layer	Chalk surface seen in section with north-eastern plot.	>2		0.05	
1015	Fill	Fill of 1016 containing large chalk fragments.	>0.9		>0.7	
1016	Cut	Pit in northern corner of site. Cut the fills of 1019.	>0.9		>0.7	
1017	Fill	Upper fill of possible ditch 1019.				
1018	Fill	Lower fill of possible ditch 1019				
1019	Cut	Possible ditch, only seen in 0.6m wide foundation trench.	0.6 seen	c. 2	>0.7	
1020	Deposit	Reddish brown natural. Only one small patch observed.	0.6	0.5	>0.2	
1021	Cut	Large apparently rectangular pit in eastern corner of site.	7	?	1.5	?18/early 19
1022	Fill	Fill of 1021, was very wet and sticky.	7	?	1.5	?18/early 19
1023	Cut	The cut for what appeared to be a robbed well. It extended under 6 Angel Yard.			>1	
1024	Fill	Loose, voidy stone rubble fill of 1023			>1	
1025	Layer	Former Topsoil				
1026	Layer	Topsoil derived layer				
1027	Layer	Topsoil derived layer				

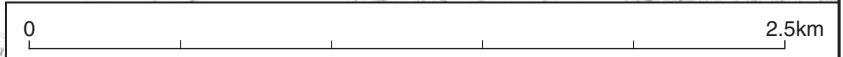
APPENDIX B: THE FINDS

Context	Description	Ct.	Wt.	Date
1012	Clay pipe	1	4	Post-med
	Glass	1	62	C17-C19
	Post-medieval pottery: unglazed earthenware	1	17	
1013	Animal bone: cattle	2	497	Post-med
	Clay pipe	1	5	C17-C19
	Post-medieval pottery: internally-glazed earthenware	1	24	

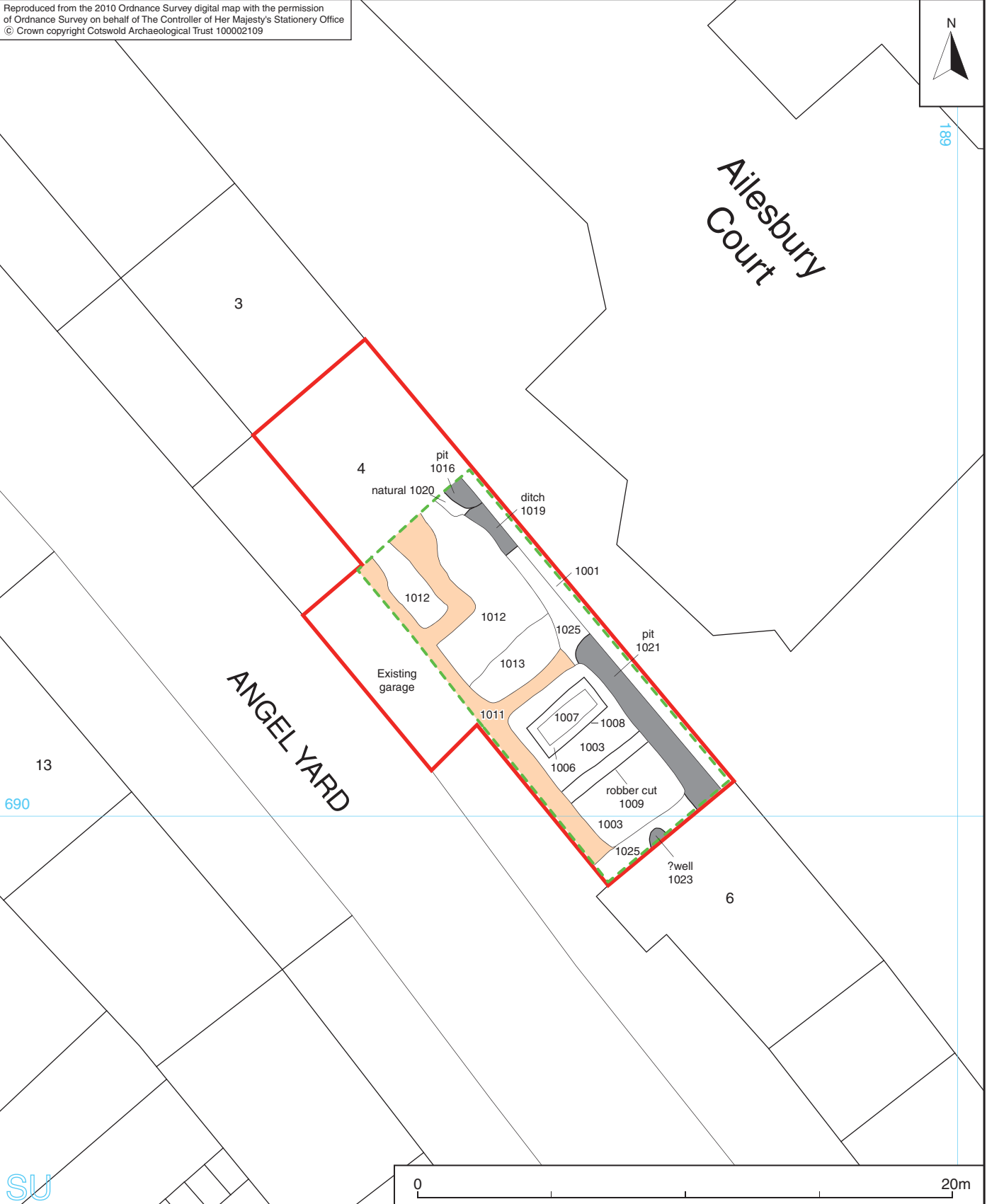
APPENDIX C: OASIS REPORT FORM

PROJECT DETAILS		
Project Name	4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire	
Short description	An archaeological watching brief was undertaken by Cotswold Archaeology during groundworks associated with the demolition of a redundant workshop and erection of two dwellings at 4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire. An undated ditch was observed which possibly formed a boundary within the burgage plot. In addition three undated pits were recorded. Two of the pits probably extended beyond the plot of 5 Angel Yard and as such are interpreted as being earlier than the present houses, which were erected in the late 19th or early 20th century. Both of these pits could have been associated with the plot's possible previous use as a tannery. The third pit appears to be modern in date. A possible well identified in the southern area of the site could also relate to the tannery. Various levelling/make up layers, dating to the post-medieval period were observed and it seems likely that the present ground level is at least 0.5m higher than in the medieval period. A brick lined pit, with modern cement and bricks, was probably constructed during the sites former use as a workshop.	
Project dates	June and July 2010	
Project type	Watching Brief	
Previous work	Unknown	
Future work	Unknown	
PROJECT LOCATION		
Site Location	4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire	
Study area (M ² /ha)	c. 100m ²	
Site co-ordinates (8 Fig Grid Reference)	SU 1887 6911	
PROJECT CREATORS		
Name of organisation	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Brief originator	Wiltshire County Council	
Project Design (WSI) originator	Cotswold Archaeology	
Project Manager	Richard Young	
Project Supervisor	Jamie Wright and Stuart Joyce	
PROJECT ARCHIVES		
	Intended final location of archive	Content
Physical	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Pottery, Glass, Clay Pipe
Paper	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	WSI, pro forma registers, recording forms and photographs
Digital	Wiltshire Heritage Museum	Digital photographs
BIBLIOGRAPHY		
CA 2010 4-5 Angel Yard, Marlborough, Wiltshire: Archaeological Watching Brief. CA report No. 10136		

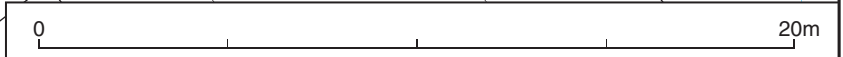
Reproduced from the 2004 Ordnance Survey Explorer map with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown copyright Cotswold Archaeological Trust 100002109



 COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
PROJECT TITLE 4 - 5 Angel Yard, Marlborough Wiltshire			
FIGURE TITLE Site location plan			
DRAWN BY	SCALE	PROJECT NO.	FIGURE NO.
JB	1:25,000@A4	2890	1



SU



- site
- area of observed groundworks
- archaeological feature
- modern concrete

COTSWOLD ARCHAEOLOGY			
<small>PROJECT TITLE</small> 4- 5 Angel Yard, Marlborough Wiltshire			
<small>FIGURE TITLE</small> The site, showing location of groundworks and archaeological features			
<small>DRAWN BY</small>	<small>SCALE</small>	<small>PROJECT NO.</small>	<small>FIGURE NO.</small>
JB	1:200@A4	2890	2