

Archaeological Excavation  
at  
**THE FORMER LORD RODNEY PUBLIC HOUSE,  
TWO MILE HILL, BRISTOL.**  
for  
LSP Developments Ltd.



Report No. 2627/2012  
BHER No. 25146

By Simon Roper



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Archaeological Excavation  
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**THE FORMER LORD RODNEY PUBLIC HOUSE,  
TWO MILE HILL, BRISTOL.**

Centred on  
N.G.R. ST 63495 73792

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Agent: CSJ Planning

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### Abbreviations

AD	Anno Domini	DCMS	Dept. for Culture, Media & Sport
aOD	Above Ordnance Datum	EH	English Heritage
BaRAS	Bristol & Region Archaeological Services	EHA	English Heritage Archive
BC	Before Christ	HER	Historic Environment Record
BCC	Bristol City Council	IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
BCL	Bristol Central Library	Km	Kilometre
BCMAG	Bristol City Museum & Art Gallery	m	Metre
BHER	Bristol Historic Environment Record	NGR	National Grid Reference
BRO	Bristol Record Office	OS	Ordnance Survey
<i>c</i>	Circa		
DCLG	Dept. for Communities & Local Government		

### NOTE

Notwithstanding that Bristol and Region Archaeological Services have taken reasonable care to produce a comprehensive summary of the known and recorded archaeological evidence, no responsibility can be accepted for any omissions of fact or opinion, however caused.

September, 2012.

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## **SUMMARY**

Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) was commissioned by LSP Developments to undertake a watching brief during the demolition of the Lord Rodney public house, Two Mile Hill Road, St George, carry out an archaeological excavation on the site and then a watching brief on the remaining undisturbed area during the construction phase. The site lies on the north side of Two Mile Hill Road on the corner with Brockhurst Road, (NGR ST 63495 73792), fronting onto the main road connecting central Bristol with Kingswood.

The excavation confirmed a late 17th/early 18th-century construction date for the earliest building on the site, with the watching brief confirming the sequence of the building's development. The building was progressively expanded from the 18th century to the late 20th century, with at least one phase of major rebuilding. No evidence was found for activity on the site prior to the 17th century.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Planning permission has been granted to redevelop land in St. George, Bristol, occupied by the Lord Rodney public house and associated car park. This would result in the demolition of the building and the erection of a food-store (planning application 11/03698/F). Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS) was commissioned by LSP Developments to undertake an archaeological watching brief during the demolition of the building, followed by an excavation of the site and a watching brief carried out during the construction of the new store on those areas not previously disturbed.
- 1.2 The premises of the Lord Rodney had previously been the subject of an archaeological desk-based assessment (King 2011) and building recording (Bryant 2011, Roper 2012).
- 1.3 The watching brief and excavation were commissioned to identify the full character and extent of occupation on the site, and in compliance with the Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation* (IfA, 2008a) and *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (IfA, 2008b). This was in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Bristol and Region Archaeological Services (BaRAS 2012a & b) and approved by Mr Bob Jones, Senior Archaeological Officer, Bristol City Council.
- 1.4 The demolition and construction watching briefs were undertaken between the 9th July and 3rd September 2012 under the supervision of Simon Roper. The excavation was carried out between the 17th and 26th July 2012 under the supervision of Andy King. Simon Roper compiled this report.
- 1.5 The project archive, which includes the previous building recording, will be deposited with Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery under the Accession Number BRSMG 2010/57. A copy of this report will be sent to the Bristol Historic Environment Record (BHER) as BHER 25146 and in the Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations (OASIS) as bristola1-129625. A digital copy will be made available to the English Heritage Archives.

## 2. THE SITE

- 2.1 The site lies on the north side of Two Mile Hill Road, St George, on the corner of Brockhurst Road, (NGR ST 63495 73792), fronting on to the main road connecting central Bristol with Kingswood (**Fig. 1**). On the south side of the building was a paved outdoor seating area, with car parking along the eastern edge of the site. A small private garden separated the building from No. 28 Brockhurst Road, while adjoining the site to the east is No. 51 Two Mile Hill Road.
- 2.2 According to the British Geological Survey, the site lies on Pennant Sandstone Measures of the Carboniferous period. The site drops away to the south-west and sits at about 88.36m aOD within the main bar area while the north-east corner of the site is over 89m aOD.
- 2.3 The site does not lie within a Designated Conservation Area. No buildings on the site are Listed, nor are its immediate neighbours. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the site or nearby.



### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Previous archaeological work on the site comprises a desk-based assessment of the building (King 2011) and archaeological building surveys (Bryant 2011, Roper 2012). The historic background below is summarised from these documents. Historically the site lay in the Royal estate of Kingswood, in SS. Philip & Jacob parish. In 1751 the parish of St. George was created by an Act of Parliament from the out-parish of SS. Philip & Jacob. The road between Bristol and Marshfield (for Chippenham and Oxford) passed by the site, which was located at the top of the 3 km-long climb up from Lawrence Hill, making this a good stopping place to rest and water horses.
- 3.2 The public house is named after Admiral George Bridges Rodney, 1st Baron Rodney (1719-1792), an 18th-century naval officer who became famous and was created a peer after his victory at the Battle of the Saints in 1782. From the start of the 19th century it would have been more usual to use the name Lord Nelson, which suggests the building was in use as a public house from at least the late 18th century.
- 3.3 The earliest map that depicts the study area in any detail is Benjamin Donn's 1769 map of the Bristol area, which appears to show a building on the site. The rather larger-scale map by William Maule (1803) certainly shows a building, but only as a narrow rectangle, possibly indicating that the building was only one room deep at this time. Almost four decades later the shape on the tithe map (1842) is recorded in some detail and indicates that much of the present footprint was already occupied, with only the western end then in residential use (**Fig. 9**). Further elements had been added on to the eastern end by the early 1880s (OS 1:2500 plan) (**Fig. 10**). A rear extension was added in 1891-2, together with a small privy and a front porch; the earlier rear range was doubled in height to two full storeys (**Fig. 11**). Twenty years later, a larger bar area was created by both integrating one of the former stables and by extending southwards into the forecourt area. Another doorway was added at the west end of the front elevation and the doorway in the middle of the front elevation moved to the west slightly.
- 3.4 Probably between the World Wars, a semi-subterranean cellar extension was added at the rear, possibly at the same time as new ladies toilets replaced the old outside privy in the north-west corner. In 1971-2 the easternmost outbuildings were removed, a large chimney breast between the south-western and southern rooms was taken out at ground floor level, and the bar counter was shortened (**Fig. 16**). The public house remained in active use until relatively recently.

#### **4. AIMS AND METHODOLOGY**

4.1 The fieldwork complied with the methodology contained within the Written Schemes of Investigation for both the watching brief and the excavation (BaRAS 2012a & b). The fieldwork complied with the IfA's Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Excavation (2008a) and Archaeological Watching Brief (2008b).

4.2 The fieldwork aimed to clarify the following:

- Evidence for early occupation of the site
- Firm dating of buildings of the Lord Rodney

The research agenda for the fieldwork will seek to add to the historical and archaeological knowledge in this part of Bristol. Information gained on the evolution and chronology of buildings on the site and comparison with similar structures at a local level, will aim to address Research Aim 14.5 of the South West Archaeological Resource Framework (Webster 2008).

4.3 The photographic record was created using a conventional SLR camera with monochrome film, supplemented by colour images produced with a digital camera with a resolution of 5 mega-pixels or above. All details of the photographs taken were recorded on a standard BaRAS photographic record sheet. The drawn record comprised a series of sections in the area that was formerly the cellar of the public house drawn at a scale of 1:10, and a plan of the well at 1:20. A site plan was produced in AutoCAD format as a single drawing on Ordnance Survey coordinates. Recording of archaeological features was carried out using the single context recording system as contained in the BaRAS site manual. A site diary was kept recording the progress of the work and other relevant information.

## 5. RESULTS

### Demolition Watching Brief

- 5.1 The first phase of fieldwork was monitoring the demolition of the building. This allowed the identification of different forms of construction within the building's fabric, which in turn has provided the information needed to accurately phase the building. Eight phases were identified in total, similar to those identified in the first building recording report (Bryant 2011), but with specific walls and sections of walls assigned to particular phases (**Figs. 4 & 5**).
- 5.2 As identified in the second building recording report (Roper 2012), the earliest masonry exposed was clay-bonded rubble stonework. Reddish-brown clay with few inclusions was used to bond irregular sized and shaped blocks of Pennant Sandstone. It is suggested that this form of construction is possibly late 17th or early 18th century. The watching brief confirmed it was the principle construction method of the truncated chimney stack of the first floor living area, the west half of the main central wall of the Lord Rodney (**Plates 1 & 2**), and that it was also present in the southern half of the west end elevation (**Plate 3**). It was not present in any other walls indicating that this earliest phase of the building comprised a house that was a single bay deep and wide.
- 5.3 The next phase of construction was represented by a light brown, lime-based mortar bonding blocks of Pennant Sandstone. This was observed forming parts of the front (south) elevation, the east half of the main central wall of the Lord Rodney, the east end elevation (**Plate 4**) and internal wall of the north half of the of the core building of the public house, and that it was also present in the northern half of the west end elevation (**Plate 5**). This would suggest the original building was extended to the east and north during the 18th century. It is possible that this extension occurred in two phases, first to the east and then to the north, however no physical evidence confirming this sequence was observed therefore they have been grouped in a single phase. All the corners of these extensions were constructed with large moulded slag blocks, produced as a waste product of the brass industry and used as quoins (**Plates 6 & 7**).
- 5.4 A grubby grey-ash mortar with inclusions of charcoal and lime bonded the Pennant Sandstone walls of an east extension to the south section of the Public House. This is depicted on the 1842 Tithe map for St. George (**Fig. 9**), and so this phase is assumed to be early 19th century. The same mortar was present in earlier areas of the building where it had been used in repairs or alterations. A much paler grey, ash mortar was used to bond the Pennant stonework of the extensions to the east and north. These are depicted on the 1880-1 Ordnance Survey plan (**Fig. 10**), therefore this mortar is believed to be representative of work carried out in the mid 19th century. As with the earlier 19th-century ash mortar, it occurs in earlier parts of the building associated with repairs or alterations.
- 5.5 Architects plans dated 1891 (**Fig. 11**) depict intended alterations to the Lord Rodney that included the addition of the scullery and toilet to the north of the main building. During demolition it was observed that these had been constructed from red brick bonded with hard mid grey mortar. The plans also indicate that the first floor north elevation of the main building was also going to be rebuilt at this time. This was confirmed by the stonework of this area being bonded with the same hard mid-grey mortar, however the restoration required was apparently more extensive than originally planned since the area constructed in this mortar included the whole north elevation of the main building, much of the west elevation and parts of the east and south elevations (**Plate 8**). In 1911 the ground floor south elevation was extended (**Fig. 13**) with an addition constructed in red brick bonded with a hard dark-grey mortar very similar to that used in the late 19th-century alterations.
- 5.6 Between 1918 and 1949 (Ordnance Survey plans 1:2500) (**Figs. 14 & 15**) the cellar at the back of the building was added. This was constructed from orange brick bonded with a

cement-based mortar. After 1971 (**Fig. 16**) a porch was added to the front of the public house and another to what had become a garage at the rear, both constructed from concrete blocks and cement.

## Excavation

- 5.7 Clearance of the site following demolition revealed that the early phases of the building had no foundations of any depth, being built directly on to the natural clay and outcropping bedrock (**Plates 9 & 10**) at approximately 30mm below the present ground surface. It was therefore clear that little evidence of activity pre-dating the public house was present on the site. The only features that may have represented an earlier phase were a small pit and a pond. The first of these was located beneath the floor surface of the earliest section of the Lord Rodney, a sub circular cut (1003) in the natural clay, measuring 250 mm across and 100 mm deep, and filled with loose black silt (1025) (**Plates 9 & 10**). This pit contained sherds of a Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slipware pot, which has a date range of production from 1650 to 1800 (**Appendix 3**). The early end of this date range could fit with a late 17th/early 18th-century date of construction for the first phase of the building that became the Lord Rodney. The second feature that may pre-date the building is a former pond, the cut (1023) of which runs against the natural plane of the bedrock (**Plate 11**), therefore it is likely to at least in part be the result of human agency. The depression formed by this cut was fed by a natural spring, which formed a pond, the basal deposit (1017) was dark brown silty clay. Finds recovered from 1017 included more sherds of Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slipware, a brick fragment, a piece of pale green window glass, an unidentified tubular iron object (**Appendix 3**), and the fragmentary remains of two leather shoes (**Appendix 4**). These shoes are of 18th century date, suggesting that the pond's use was contemporary with the earliest phase of the building.
- 5.8 Later in the 18th century, the building was extended to the north and a cellar created beneath this northern addition, with the excavated re-deposited clay (1016) used to fill in the pond. The west, south and north (1004, 1005, 1006) walls of this cellar were constructed from rough hewn, Pennant Sandstone blocks, randomly coursed and bonded with silty clay rather than the light brown lime mortar used in the above ground structures of this construction phase (**Plates 12, 13 & 14**). Of similar build and probably of similar date, was a stone sub-rectangular footing (1007) (**Plate 15**) that abutted the north cellar wall 1006, however it is unclear what this footing supported. Probably at the same time, or shortly after, a well (1021) (**Fig. 8**) was dug to continue to make use of the spring (**Plates 16 & 17**). Well 1021 constructed from Pennant Sandstone and brick, bonded with dark-brown clay, and the up-cast from the well-cut(1024) also partly filled-in pond 1023. Above this redeposited material, a mixed deposit (1033) that was probably a buried garden soil, would have been the ground level when the well went out of use. Both this buried garden soil deposit 1033 and a buried topsoil (1015) identified in the west section (**Plate 18**) were subsequently sealed by made ground (1037) in the 20th century. Also located in the west section of the excavation, a pair of concave moulded slag blocks (1029) (**Plate 19**) were the remnants of a drain associated with well 1021. These blocks were arranged so the concave face of each met the other, creating a circular channel. These would have acted as an overflow for the spring-fed well. The blocks were located at the base of a cut (1028) through re-deposited clay (1016). This cut was subsequently backfilled with similar material (1031). The first and second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 plans (1888 and 1904) (**Figs 10 & 14**) both show a pump located at the front of the building, which may have been fed by the well via the slag block drain.
- 5.9 During the 19th and 20th centuries a number of alterations were made to the cellar including the insertion along the west wall of a flight of steps constructed from moulded slag blocks (**Plate 12**). These measured 406 x 220 x 230 mm and were bonded with pale, grey ash and lime mortar. The same type of mortar formed the earliest remnant of a floor found in the west end of the cellar; this was probably a bedding layer for Pennant slabs. This floor was then replaced by brickwork bonded with black mortar (1010) similar to that used in the alterations of 1891 and 1911, with the remnant of the floor found as edging following the line of the west

and north cellar walls 1004 & 1006. A spread of similar dark mortar (1019) (**Plate 20**) was located in the middle of the original cellar area, and contemporary with these remnants of the floor surface was a ceramic brick drain (1011) located at the west end of the cellar. Also at the west end of the cellar were two steps (1009) inserted into the west wall 1004 and associated with a blocked doorway/opening that was present in the west elevation of the public house. This provided external access to the cellar and 1009 may have been the top of a barrel ramp. Brockhurst Road was added some time between 1918 and 1938, and 1009 is likely to have been added at some point afterwards, and to have gone out of use with the construction of the new cellar extension to the north before 1949. The mid 20th-century cellar extension truncated the slag block drain (1029) which acted as an overflow for well 1021, resulting in damp problems which were mitigated by the insertion of the concrete sump (1012) in the original cellar. Contemporary with the cellar extension was the insertion of a concrete floor (1020) and a brick wall (1014) lining the original west wall of the cellar 1004. The insertion of the new cellar extension is the last significant activity recorded by the excavation.

### **Construction Watching Brief**

- 5.10 The construction watching brief monitored those areas not previously disturbed by either the demolition or the excavation. In the north-west section of the site (**Plate 23**), which had previously been the beer garden, a relatively thin layer of mixed topsoil (1037) sat above the orange clay and bedrock (1018). No features were identified cut into these deposits.
- 5.11 On the eastern side of the site beneath the tarmac of the former car-park was a made ground bedding layer of silt and rubble sitting above the undisturbed natural clay. Again no features were observed cut into these deposits, however a 4m long brick foundation (1038) was exposed in the southern half of this area (**Plate 24**). This was bonded with a grey ash mortar and was probably the remnant of the east wall of the 19th-century outbuildings that were demolished in 1971 (**Fig. 16**). This sat upon a mixed bedding layer of clay, silt and rubble approximately 260mm thick, which in turn sat above the undisturbed natural clay.

## 6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 The demolition watching brief, excavation and construction watching brief carried out on the site of Lord Rodney public house have clarified the sequence of occupation on this site. The earliest phase of construction was represented by clay-bonded rubble walls, which were found in the western end of the building, possibly dating from the late 17th century, with subsequent phases extending eastwards and northwards. Earlier activity on the site appears limited to a single small pit 1003 located beneath the first phase of the building, and a possibly man-made pond 1022. Based upon the finds recovered from the basal deposit of the pond 1017, its use was contemporary with the early building. The material recovered from the pit suggests that it was probably filled just prior to the construction of the building.
- 6.2 The building was then extended to the north and east during the 18th century, quadrupling in size. This expansion resulted in the filling in of the pond, the excavation of the original cellar and the construction of a well, which may have fed a pump located at the front of the public house, via a slag block drain. The expansion may be associated with the successful use of the building as a public house, which based on the name 'The Lord Rodney' had certainly occurred by the late 18th century.
- 6.3 Further outbuildings were added during the 19th century to the east end of the building. Then in the late 19th century a scullery and toilet block were added to the north side of the building, and a substantial part of the historic core was rebuilt. Additions were made in 1911, and in the mid 20th century the cellar was extended to the north, truncating the well and the slag block drain. In the late 20th century, porches on the north and south side of the building were added in concrete block-work.
- 6.4 The excavation confirmed that a late 17th/early 18th-century construction date for the first building on the site is most likely, with the watching brief confirming the sequence of structural development. The building was progressively expanded from the 18th century to the late 20th century, with at least one phase of major rebuilding. No evidence was found for activity on the site prior to the 17th century.

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### **Maps & Plans**

- 1842 Tithe map for parish of St George, (BRO); with apportionment, (BRO EP/A/32/32)
- 1888 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 edition, Gloucestershire sheet LXX.14, surveyed 1880-81
- 1904 Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Gloucestershire sheet LXX.14
- 1918 Ordnance Survey 1:2500, Gloucestershire sheet LXX.14
- 1949 Ordnance Survey 1:1250 ST6373 NW & 6373 NE

### **Architectural Drawings**

Building Plan Book – St George I folio 22, Lord Rodney public house alterations, dated Nov. 28th 1891 (BRO)

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<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

## **8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 8.1 Bristol and Region Archaeological Services wishes to thank the following for their help and advice: LSP Developments for commissioning the project, Geoff Turner of Markey Construction and Bob Jones of Bristol City Council. The fieldwork was undertaken by Simon Roper, Andy King, Roy Krakowicz and Tim Longman, with Simon Roper also producing this report. The illustrations were prepared and the report compiled by Ann Linge. The archive was compiled and prepared for deposition by Simon Roper. The project was managed by John Bryant.

## **APPENDIX 1: Policy Statement**

This report is the result of work carried out in the light of national and local authority policies.

### **NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY (ENGLAND)**

The *National Planning Policy Framework* (NPPF) for England published by the UK Government in March 2012 states that the historic environment, which includes designated and non-designated heritage assets, is an irreplaceable resource and, as such, should be taken into account by Local Planning Authorities when considering and determining planning applications. This is taken to form part of a positive strategy set out in the respective Local Plan to ensure the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment. The assigned significance of heritage assets will be key factor in terms of their conservation.

Given their irreplaceable nature, any harm to, or loss of, a heritage asset, or heritage assets, should be clearly and convincingly justified as part of a planning application. As part of this, applicants are required to describe the significance of any heritage assets affected by a proposal, including any contribution made by their setting. Where a heritage asset, or assets, are to be harmed or lost as the result of a proposal, the applicant will be required to record and advance the understanding of the significance of that asset or assets, to include making the evidence arising publicly accessible, but this will be in proportion to the significance of the asset/assets in question.

While the NPPF takes into account the historic environment as a whole, additional protection is afforded to designated heritage assets under current English Law. Any proposal that would result in harm or loss of a designated heritage asset is also required to be justified by the applicant in meeting strict criteria set out in the NPPF.

### **LOCAL POLICY**

Bristol City Council Supplementary Planning Document (2006) states (policy SPD No.7, p4):

- (i) There will be a presumption in favour of preserving any archaeological features or sites of national importance, whether scheduled or not.
- (ii) Development which could adversely affect sites, structures, landscapes or buildings of archaeological interest and their settings will require an assessment of the archaeological resource through a desktop study, and where appropriate a field evaluation. Where there is evidence of archaeological remains, development will not be permitted except where it can be demonstrated that the archaeological features of the site will be satisfactorily preserved in situ, or a suitable strategy has been put forward to mitigate the impact of development proposals upon important archaeological remains and their settings; or, if this is not possible and the sites are not scheduled or of national importance, provision for adequately recording the site prior to destruction is made, preferably by negotiating a planning agreement to ensure that access, time and financial resources are available to allow essential recording and publication to take place.

## APPENDIX 2: Context Descriptions

Context No.	Description
1000	Tarmac pavement at western edge of site
1001	Orange sandy clay- natural
1002	Clay and stone footings of the earliest phase of the building
1003	Circular small pit, cut into 1001 and filled with 1025
1004	West end wall of original cellar, Pennant Sandstone, randomly coursed
1005	South wall of original cellar, Pennant Sandstone, randomly coursed
1006	North wall of original cellar, Pennant Sandstone, randomly coursed
1007	Sub-rectangular Pennant Sandstone footing abutting the north face of 1006
1008	Slag block stairs into the cellar, abutting east face of 1004
1009	Pennant Sandstone and brick steps inserted into 1004
1010	Brick bedded in black mortar, edging to early cellar floor surface.
1011	Square brick drain contemporary with 1010
1012	Concrete sump in base of cellar
1013	Pale grey-lime flecked mortar, remains of bedding for a slab floor
1014	20th century brick revetment wall abuts 1004
1015	Buried 'topsoil' mixed black silt
1016	Mixed redeposited clay
1017	Brown silty clay, forming the basal deposit of a pond
1018	Sandstone and clay - natural
1019	Spread of black mortar
1020	20th-century concrete floor of cellar
1021	Pennant Sandstone and brick clay bonded well
1022	Cut for well 1021
1023	Cut in bedrock forming pond
1024	Redeposited brown silty clay from well excavation
1025	Grey silty fill of 1003
1026	Construction cut for wall 1005
1027	Backfill of clay and Pennant Sandstone between 1007 and 1006
1028	Cut for drain through deposit 1016
1029	Concave moulded slag block drain within cut 1028
1030	Construction cut for footing 1007
1031	Back fill of cut 1028 for drain 1029
1032	Lens of redeposited stiff clay
1033	Mixed silty deposit, possibly a buried garden soil
1034	Clay and stone footings of the earliest phase of the building
1035	Lens of redeposited stiff clay
1036	Rubble and clay backfill of well 1021
1037	Made ground forming modern topsoil on site
1038	Brick foundations of easternmost 19th-century outhouses
1039	Made ground bedding layer for 19th-century building

## **APPENDIX 3: FINDS ASSESSMENT**

By Cai Mason

A total of 61 finds were recovered during the excavation at the Lord Rodney Public House. These comprise; 30 sherds of pottery, 14 clay tobacco pipe fragments, 7 pieces of clinker, 5 fragments of ceramic building material (CBM), 3 shards of glass, 1 animal bone, and 1 child's clay marble. The finds were cleaned and marked with the Bristol City Museum Accession Number BRSMG 2010/57 and a context number. The finds were identified and catalogued according to material type.

None of the finds are of more than site importance and no further work is recommended.

The finds are discussed separately by type (below) and quantified in **Tables 1 - 3**.

### **Pottery**

A total of 30 sherds of pottery were recovered, all which is post-medieval. The pottery is quantified in **Table 1**.

The pottery assemblage is dominated by Bristol/Staffordshire slipwares dating from the late 17th or 18th century; identifiable forms include cups and bowls. All of the sherds from context (1025) are derived from a single cup. Other ware types include North Devon gravel-tempered earthenware, Creamware and transfer-printed whiteware.

### **Clay tobacco pipe**

A total of 14 clay tobacco pipe fragments were collected. These comprise 11 stem and 3 pipe bowl fragments, none of which pre-date the late-18th century. The clay tobacco pipes are quantified in **Table 2**. None of the pipe bowl fragments had maker's marks.

### **Ceramic building material (CBM)**

The CBM comprised a brick fragment from (1017), two pantile fragments from (1024), and two plain floor tiles from (1021); all of which are post-medieval.

### **Other finds**

The other finds comprise 3 shards of pale green window glass from (1017), an unidentified animal bone from (1024), a child's clay marble from (1019), and 7 pieces of clinker from context (1023), which was probably derived from a domestic fire.

### **Discussion and conclusions**

All of the finds from the Lord Rodney post-date the mid-17th century, and much of the material dates from 18th or 19th century, and appears to be derived from domestic refuse.

The finds suggest that contexts 1017 and 1025 were probably deposited by the mid 18th century. Context 1024 was probably deposited in the late 18th or early 19th century, and context 1019 is likely to have been deposited in the second half of the 19th century.

**Table 1:** Pottery quantified by context

<b>Context</b>	<b>No. of sherds</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Range</b>
1017	15	BPT 100 - Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slipware	1650 - 1800
1019	1	BPT 100 - Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slipware	1650 - 1800
	1	BPT 278 – Transfer-printed ware	1770 +
1024	1	BPT 112 - North Devon gravel-tempered ware	1600 - 1900
	1	BPT 326 - Creamware	1765 - 1830
1025	11	BPT 100 - Bristol/Staffordshire yellow slipware	1650 - 1800

**Table 2:** Clay tobacco pipe quantified by context

<b>Context</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Range</b>
1019	11	Stems	Post-medieval
	1	Unmarked pipe bowl	1840 - 1930
	1	Unmarked pipe bowl fragment	1730 - 1830
1024	1	Unmarked pipe bowl fragment	1750 - 1900

**Table 3:** Other finds quantified by context

<b>Context</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Range</b>
1017	1	Brick fragment	Post-medieval
	3	Pale green window glass	Post-medieval
	1	Unidentified tubular iron object	Post-medieval
1019	1	Child's clay marble	Post-medieval
1021	2	Floor tile fragments	Post-medieval
1023	7	Clinker (burnt coal)	
1024	2	Pan tile fragment	Post-medieval
	1	Unidentified mammal bone	

## **APPENDIX 4: LEATHER REPORT**

### **By Quita Mould**

#### **Summary**

The leather was wet and washed when examined and recorded. No further work is necessary by the specialist.

A vamp from a shoe of welted construction (SF1.1) and the toe area torn from another (SF1.2) were recovered from the base of a pond in context 1017 during the Lord Rodney Excavation; both are likely to be of 18th-century date. The complete vamp (SF1.1) comes from a buckle fastening shoe. It has a large tongue extending up the instep and low 'dog-leg' side seams. It was originally fastened across the instep with a detachable buckle on a latchet extending from the front of the quarters. Both vamps have oval/short pointed toes and are made of bovine leathers flesh side outward (suede). As only the vamps remain the exact style or styles of shoe are unknown and so more precise dating is not possible. Though both are of welted construction they are of differing constructions; the vamp toe (SF1.2) having two rows of stitching along the lasting margin may be of a construction illustrated by Goubitz (2001 et al: 97 figure 28b) but as their bottom units are not present the exact welted constructions cannot be verified.

#### **SF1.1 Welted shoe vamp for buckled shoe, right foot, adult size**

Vamp complete but torn into two parts. Oval/short pointed toe, slightly pleated. The lasting margin, stitch length 8mm, cut away but still attached around the toe and part of the left side. High, wide tongue and low dog-leg, butted edge/grain stitched side seams, stitch length 3mm, 34mm high, curved rather than sharply angled. Grain/flesh stitching at the end of the side seams to strengthen the join with the quarters seam. Stitching present on the interior to attach linings. Leather flesh side outward (suede) bovine 2.14mm thick. Length toe to end of tongue 196mm.

#### **SF1.2 Welted shoe vamp, right foot, adult size**

Oval/short pointed toe area torn from shoe vamp, heavily worn. The lasting margin, stitch length 5mm, has a second row of smaller grain/flesh horizontal stitching running directly below. The throat area and both side seams now missing. A sloping line of four decorative 'tunnel' stitches runs up obliquely from the lasting margin on the left side. Leather flesh side outward (suede) bovine 1.94mm thick. Surviving length 103+mm.

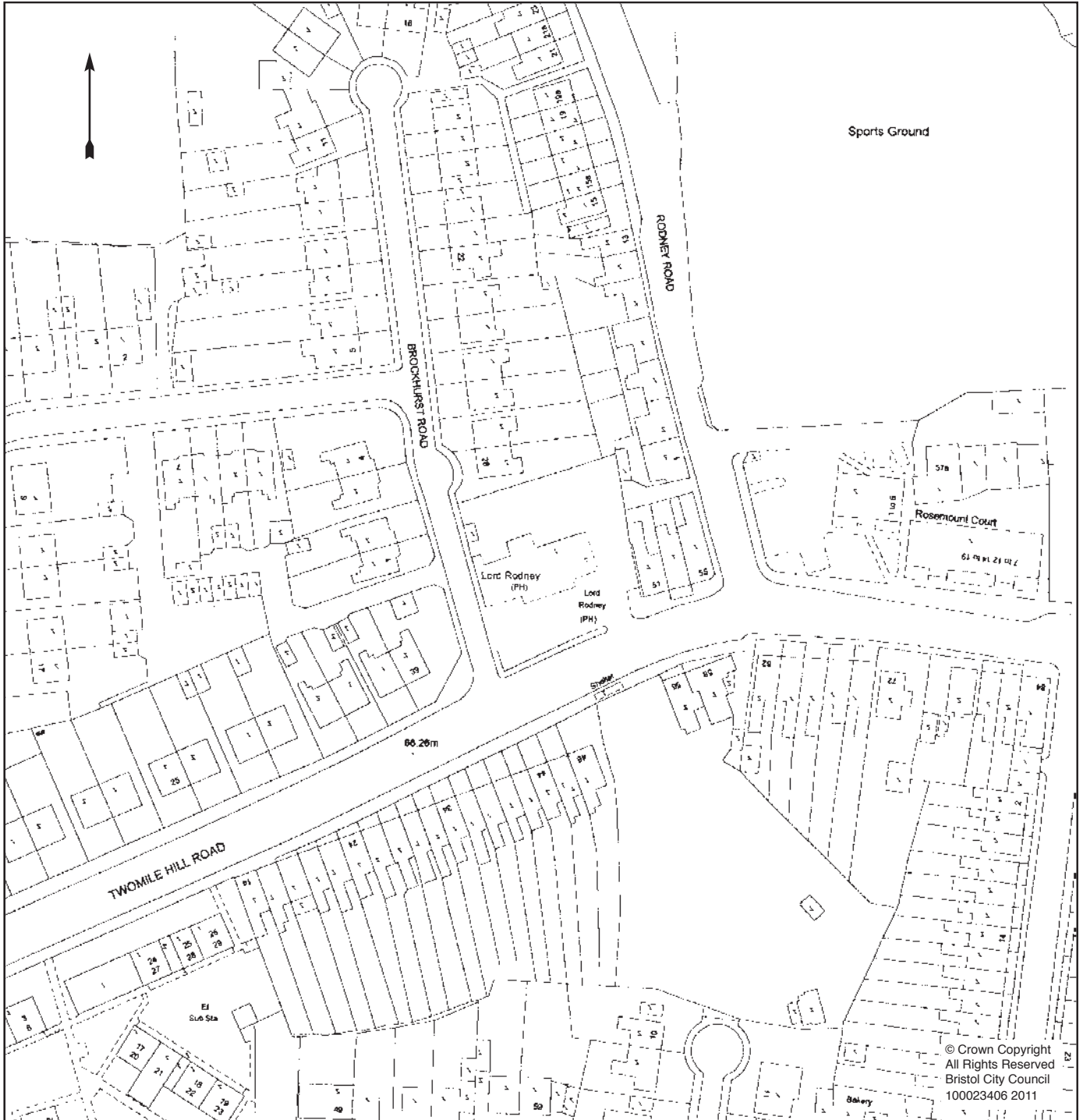


Fig.1 Site location plan, scale 1:1500

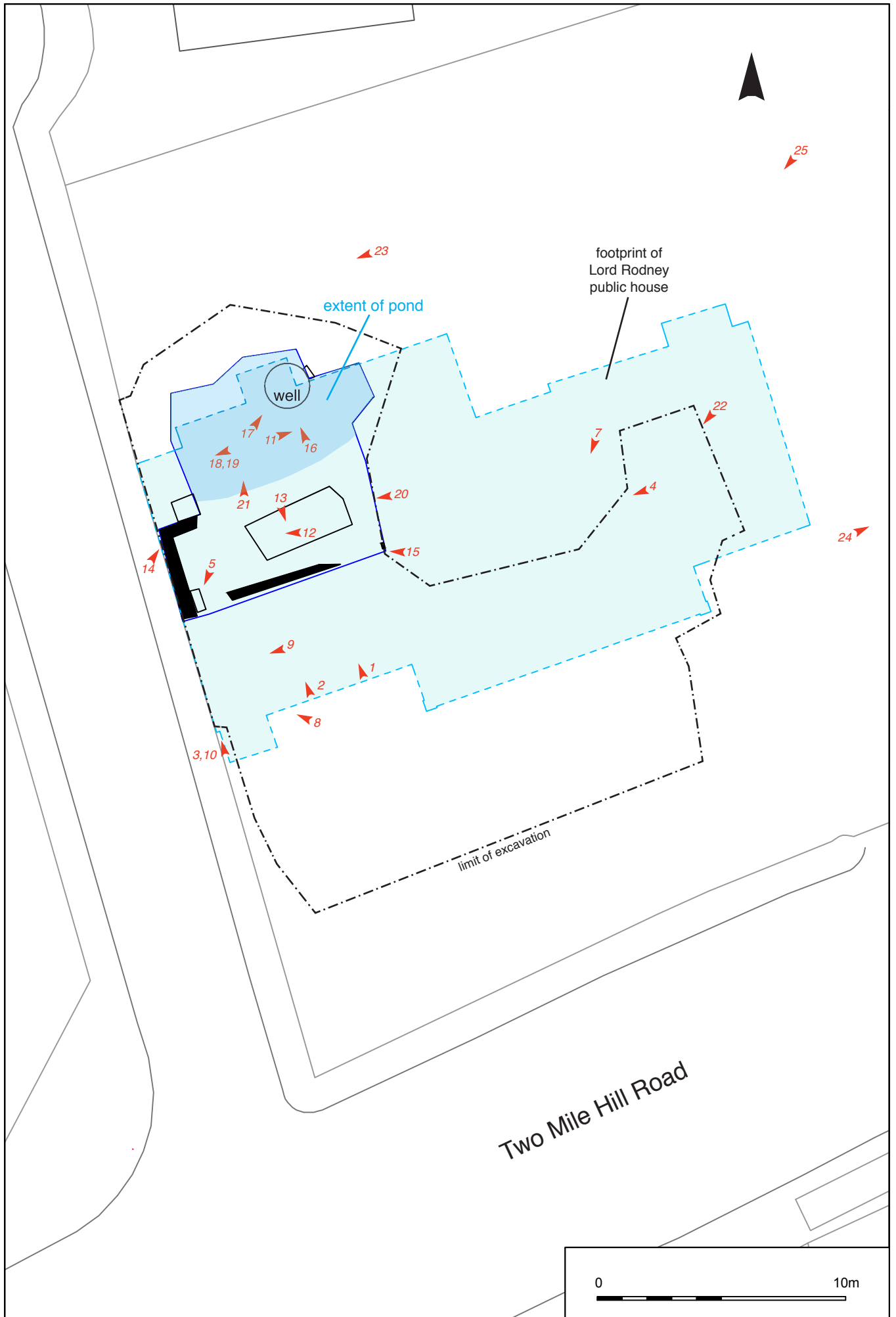


Fig.2 Site plan with plate locations, scale 1:200





Fig.3 Plan of the Lord Rodney showing phases of construction, scale 1:100

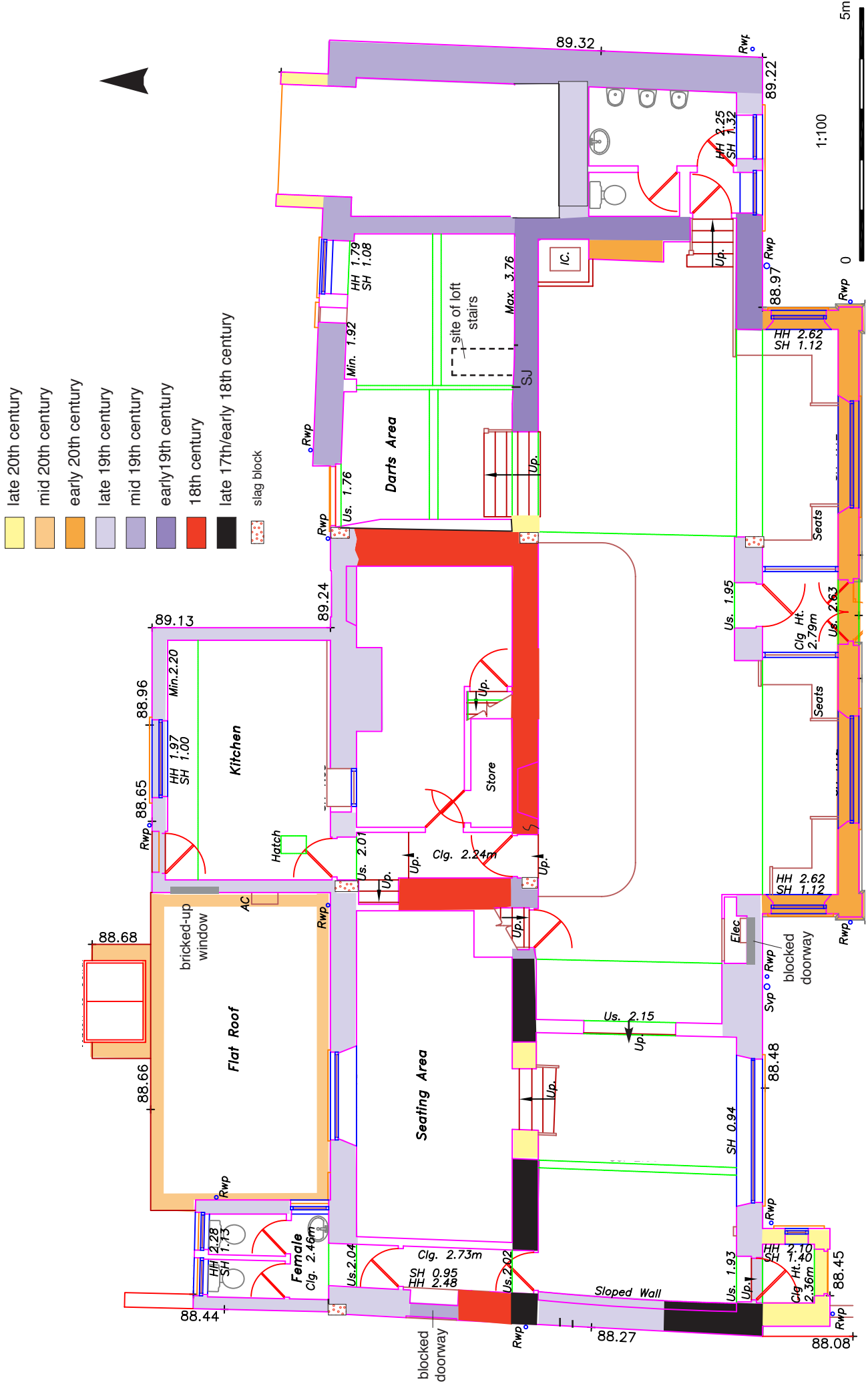


Fig.4 Phase plan of the Lord Rodney ground floor, scale 1:100

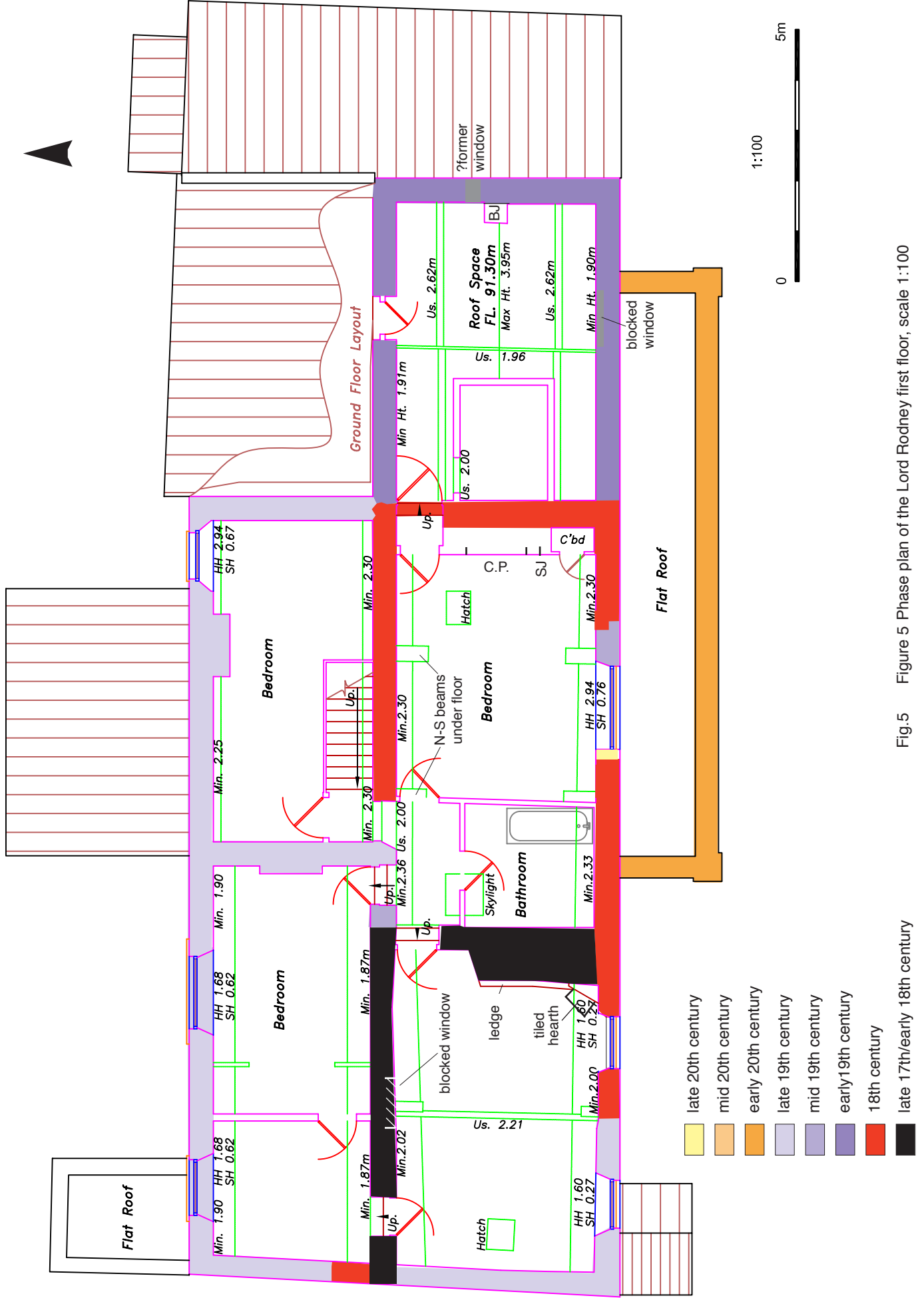


Figure 5 Phase plan of the Lord Rodney first floor, scale 1:100

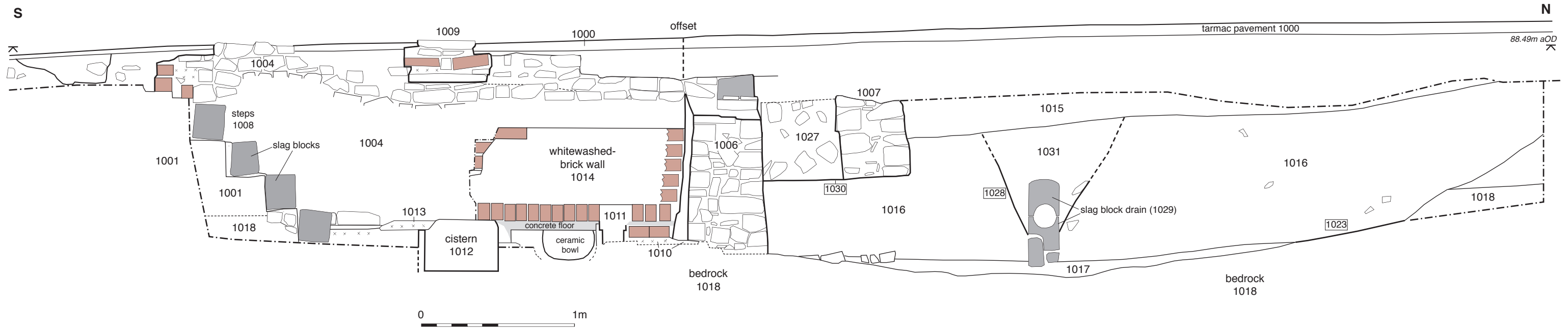


Fig. 6 West section of cellar

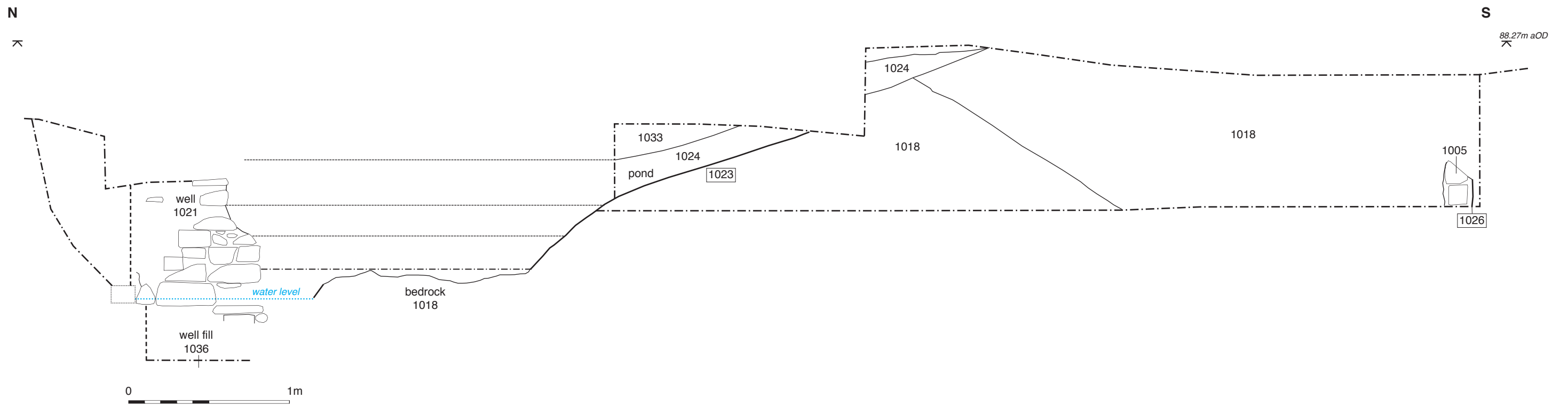


Fig. 7 East section of cellar

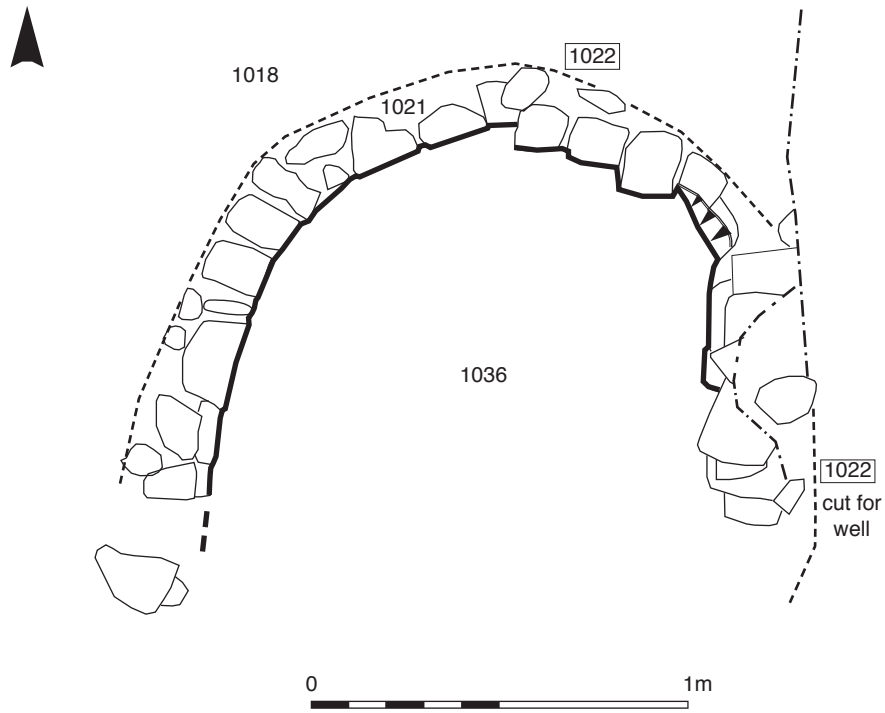


Fig.8 Plan of well (1021), scale 1:20

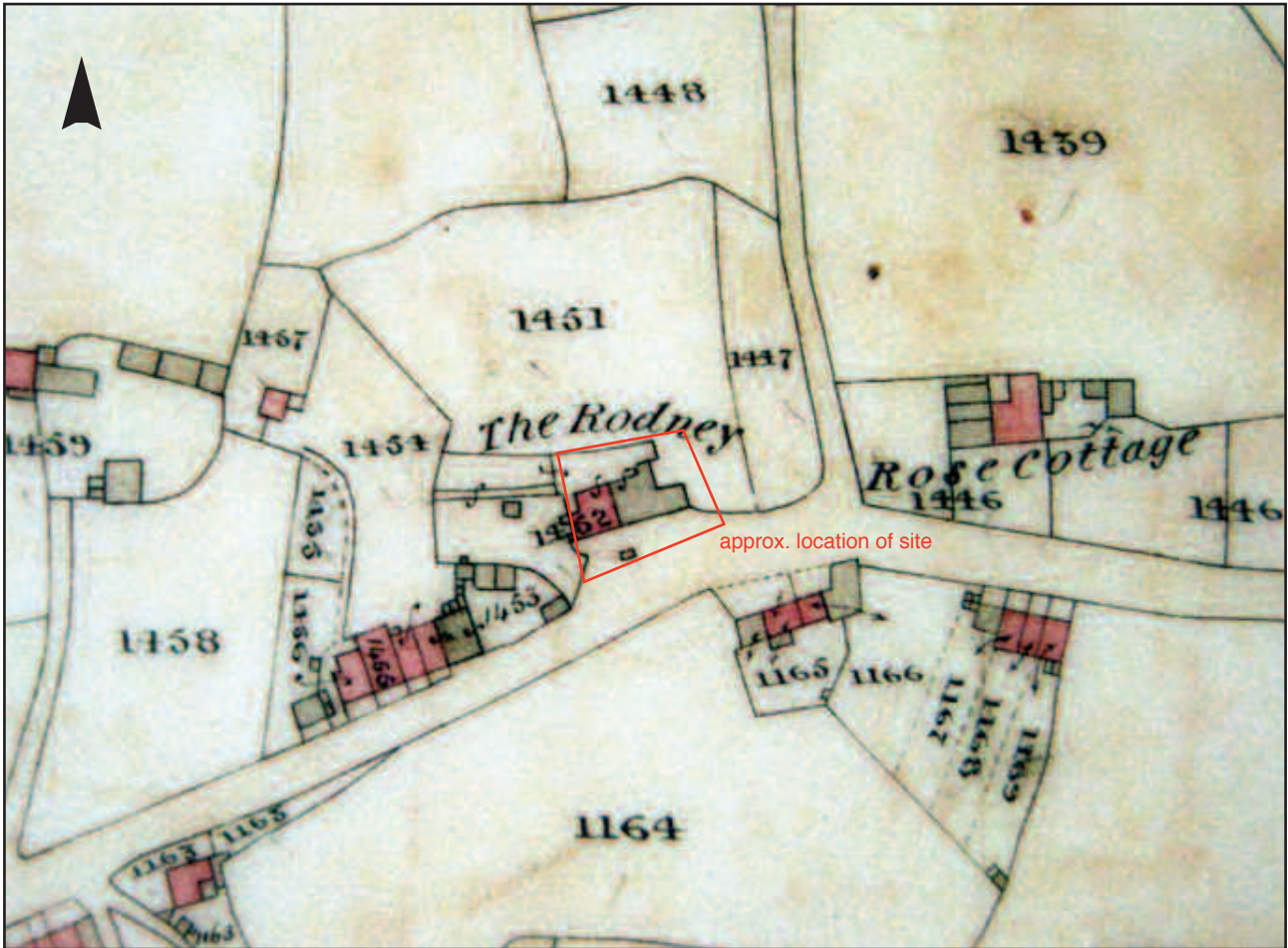


Fig.9 Extract from 1842 St George Tithe map

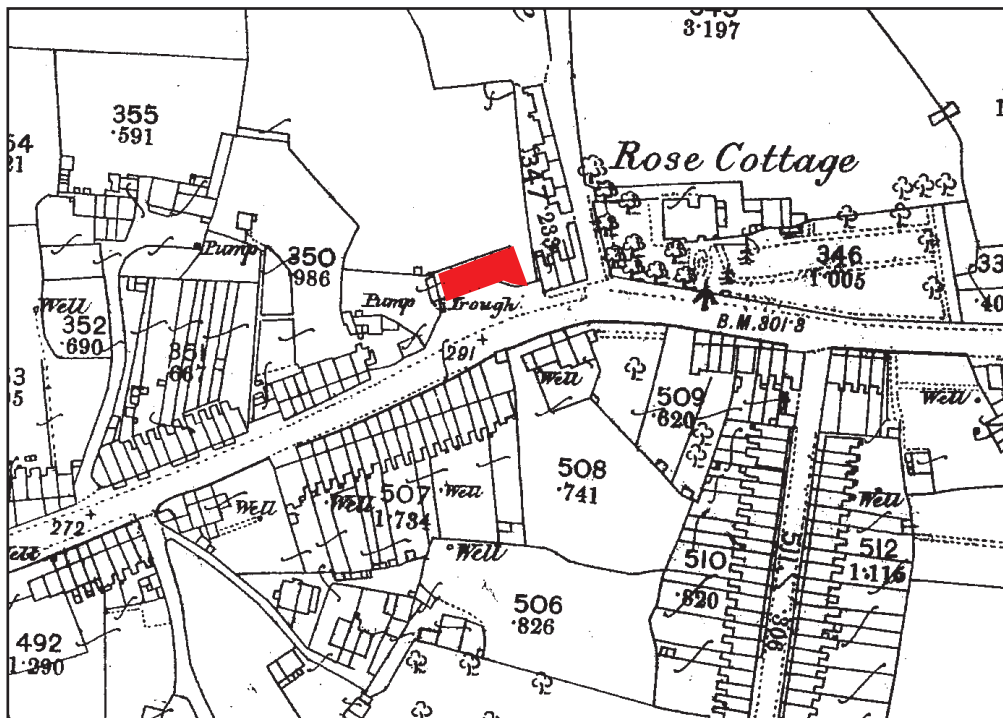


Fig.10 Extract from 1888 Ordnance Survey plan, 1:2500 (surveyed 1880-1)



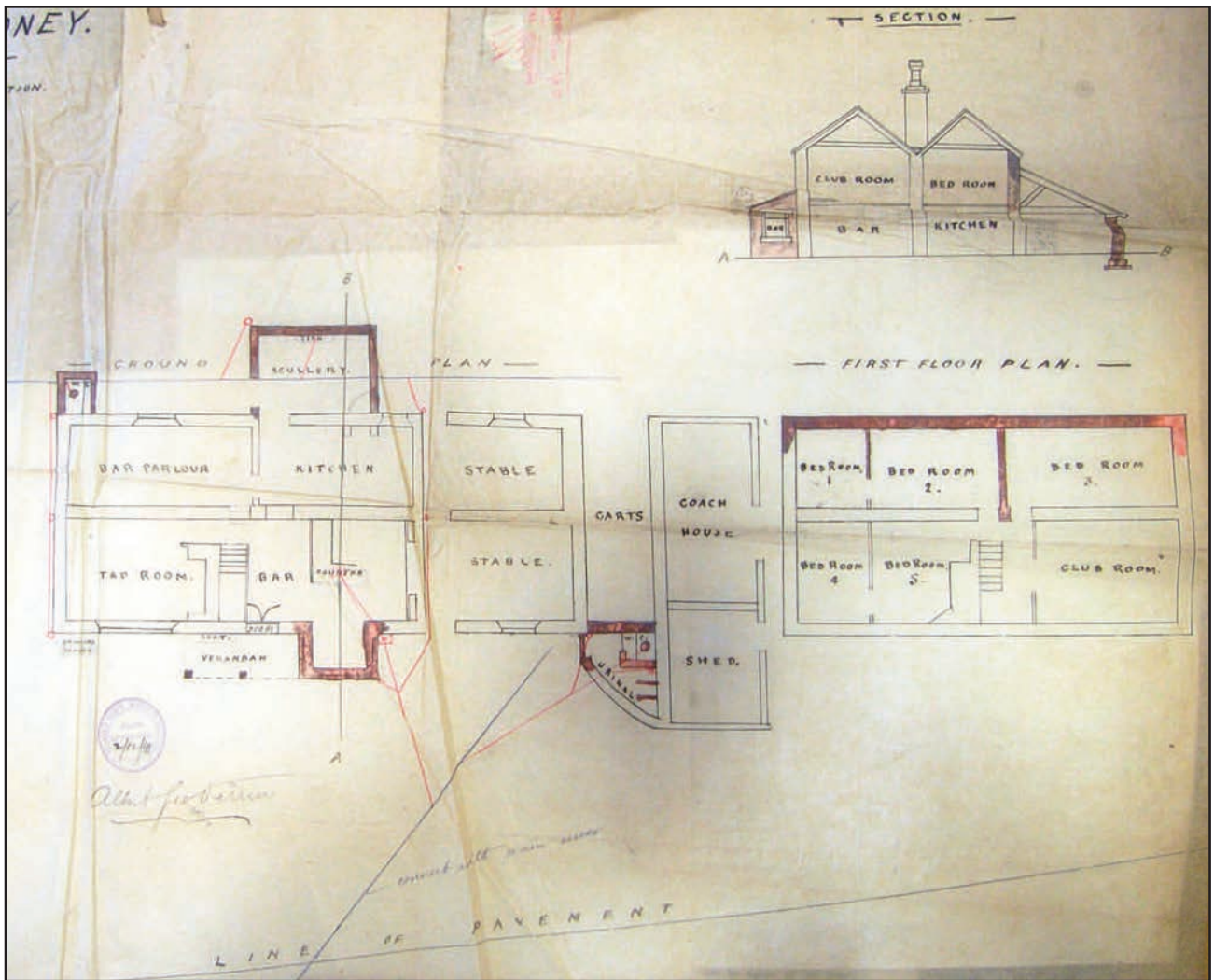


Fig.11 Architects plan of The Lord Rodney dated 1891 with alterations to existing buildings

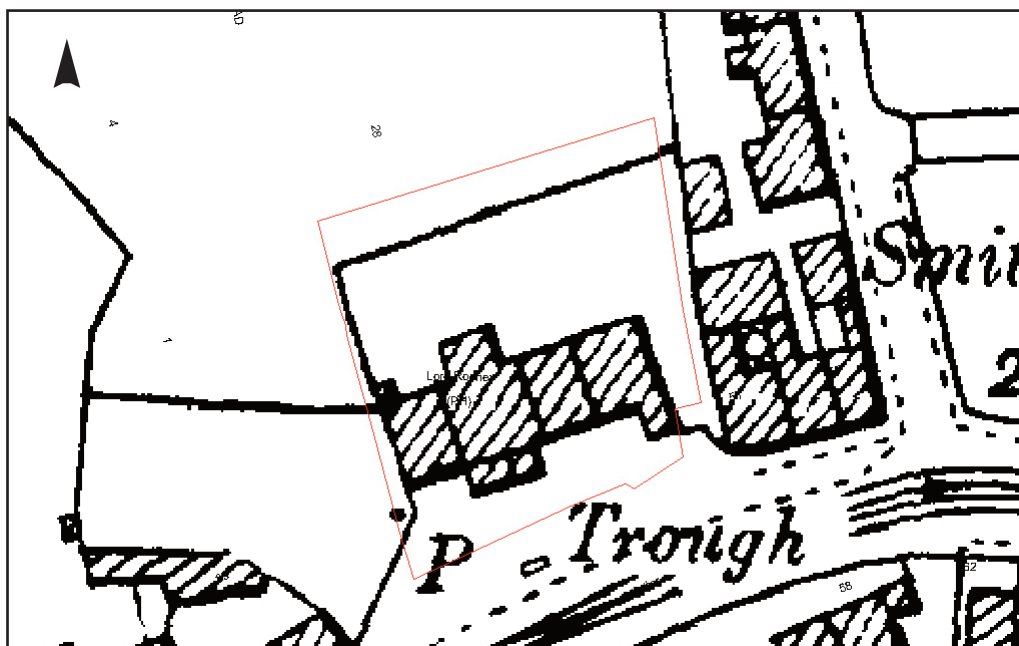


Fig.12 Extract from 1904 Ordnance Survey plan, 1:2500

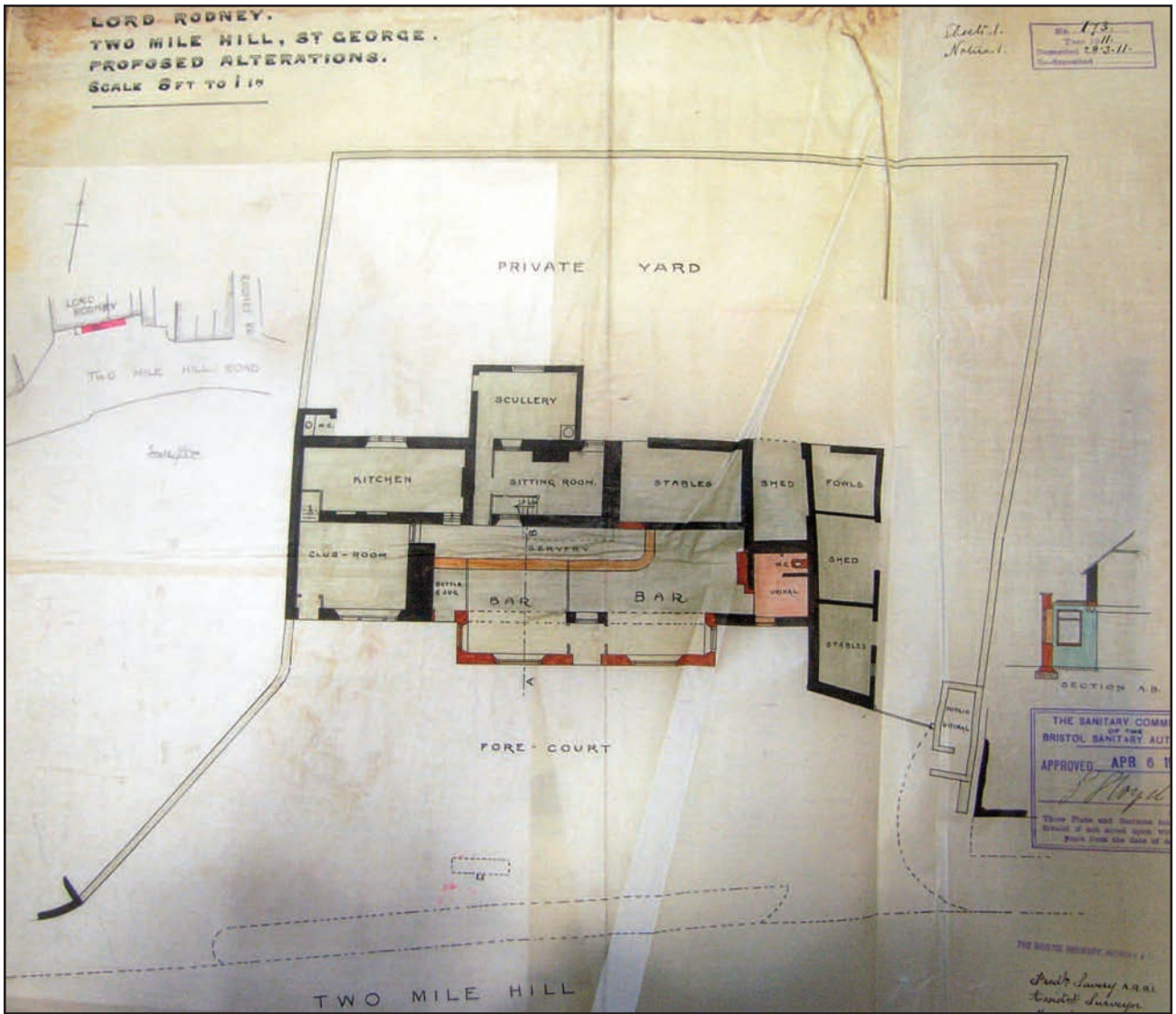


Fig.13 Architect's plan of The Lord Rodney dated 1911 with alterations to existing buildings





Fig.14 Extract from 1918 Ordnance Survey plan 1:2500

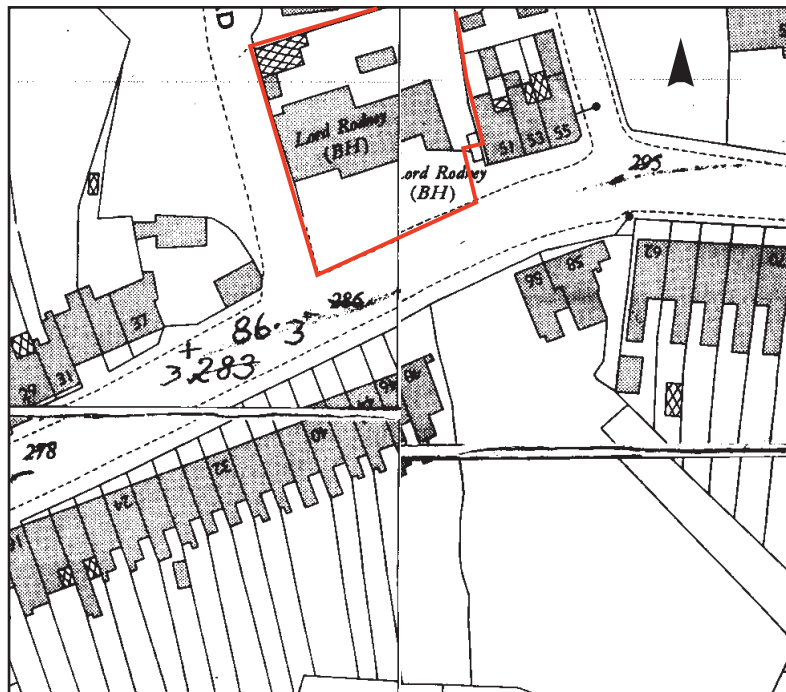


Fig.15 Extract from 1949 Ordnance Survey plan 1:1250

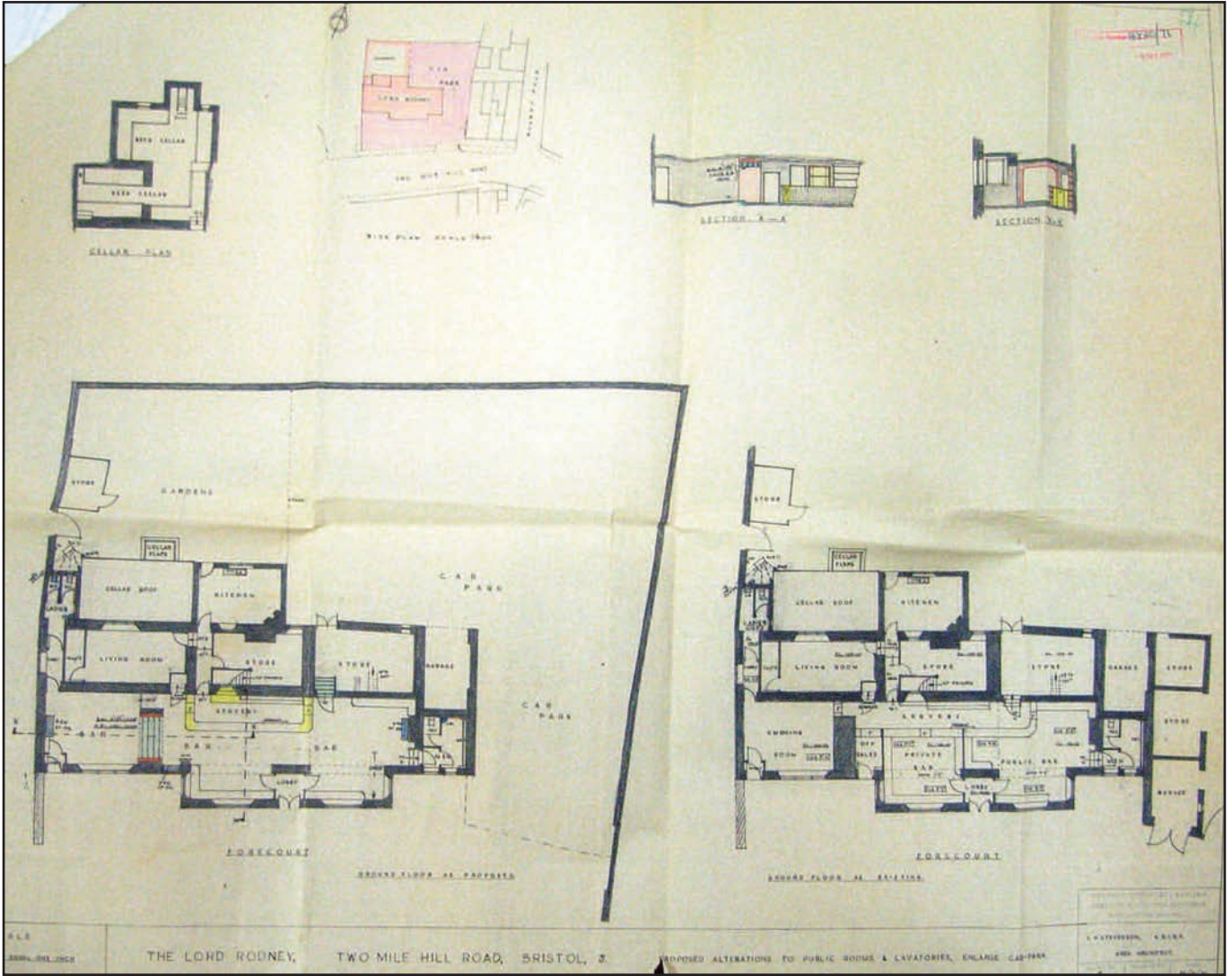


Fig.16 Architects plan of The Lord Rodney dated 1971 with alterations to existing buildings





Plate 1  
Western half of the central  
wall, clay-bonded stonework  
visible with later additions,  
looking north-east



Plate 3  
Demolished west end elevation with  
sections of original clay-bonded  
stonework visible,  
looking north



Plate 2  
Western half of the central wall,  
clay-bonded stonework visible,  
looking north



Plate 4  
East end elevation of the historic  
core of the public house, looking  
west





Plate 5 West end elevation during demolition, looking south-west



Plate 6 Slag block quoins in north elevation, looking south-west



Plate 7 Slag block quoins in east end elevation of the historic core of the public house, looking south-west



Plate 8 West end elevation during demolition, looking north-west





Plate 9 Remnant of west elevation footings, with truncated pit (1003), looking west



Plate 10 Remnant of west elevation footings, with truncated pit (1003), looking north



Plate 11 Cut (1023) of pond and subsequent fills, looking east



Plate 12  
West elevation of the original  
cellar, looking west





Plate 13  
South section of the original  
cellar with remnant of wall  
(1005), looking south



Plate 14  
North wall (1006) of original  
cellar, looking north-east



Plate 15  
West section of the cellar area,  
looking north-west

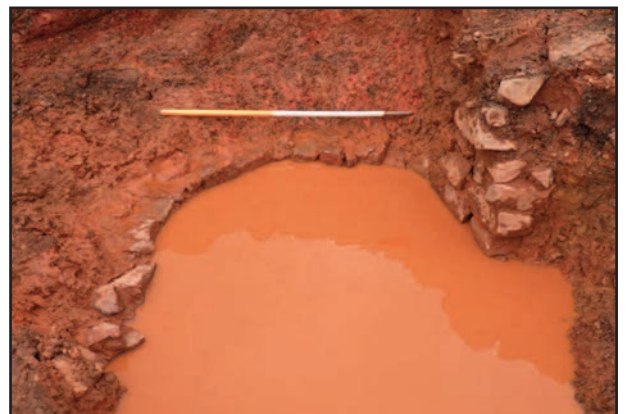


Plate 16  
Stone-built well (1021),  
looking north



Plate 17  
Stone-built well (1021),  
looking north-east



Plate 18 West section of cellar extension with slag block drain (1029), looking west

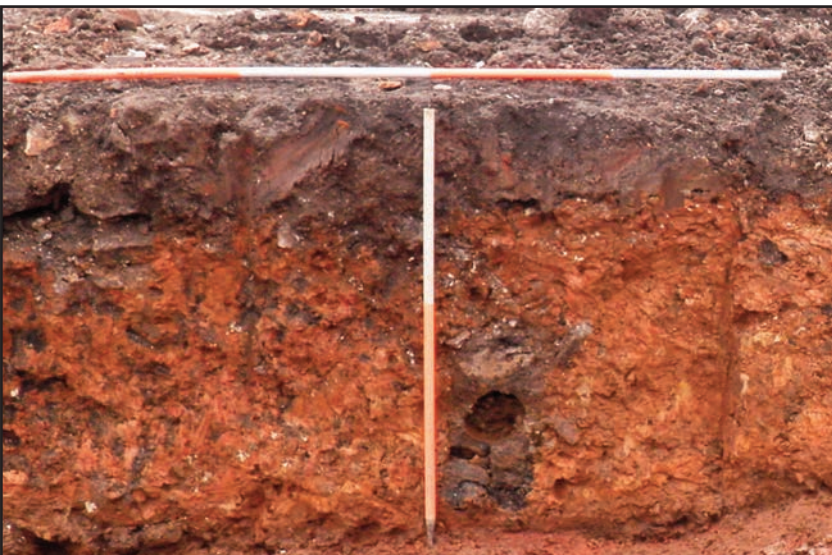


Plate 19 Slag block drain (1029), looking west





Plate 20  
Black mortar spread  
(1019) in the centre of  
the cellar area, looking  
west



Plate 21 North section of cellar extension, looking north



Plate 22 General view of the site from the north-east corner, foundations of the porch added in 1911 visible, looking south-west





Plate 23 West section in north-west corner of the site during the construction watching brief, looking west



Plate 24 Section of brick foundations of the 19th-century out-houses demolished in 1971, looking east



Plate 25 General view of the site during construction, looking south-west