

BRISTOL OLD VIC



COLOUR IN KING STREET: MARSHLAND

By Tudor times the marshland was used for pasturing cattle and for public events such as wrestling matches and bear-baiting. There were also targets for arrows, as the law at the time required all able-bodied men to practice their archery. In the early 1600s, the marsh was tidied up and tree-lined walks were planted for people to enjoy walking along. The local militia's 'trained bands' also used the Marsh to parade on and practice musket firing.