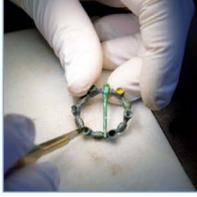
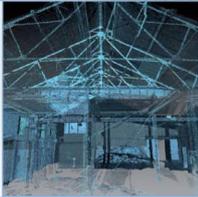
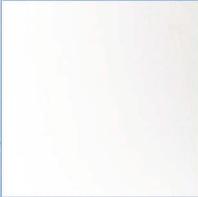
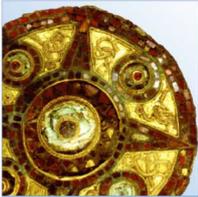


The Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames

An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

Planning Application Number: 08/2073/FUL
National Grid Reference Number: TQ 1790 7390
AOC Project no: 30208
Site Code: OGC 09
Date: September 2009



The Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames

An Archaeological Watching Brief Report

On Behalf of: N3 Ltd,
c/o RBA Project Solutions Ltd
23 Rosebery Road,
Muswell Hill,
London,
N10 2LE

National Grid Reference (NGR): TQ 1790 7390

AOC Project No: 30208

Prepared by: Ian Hogg

Illustration by: Jonathan Moller

Date of Fieldwork: August/ September 2009

Date of Report: September 2009

This document has been prepared in accordance with AOC standard operating procedures.

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Non-Technical Summary

An archaeological watching brief was conducted during the enabling works at the Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham between August and September 2009. Ground reduction works were monitored within the footprint of the new building, in the west of the garden. The site was centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 58650 69720. All archaeological work was carried out by AOC Archaeology Group on behalf of N3 Ltd.

The excavation extended up to 4 metres below ground level. The natural geology was reached across the area. A modern pit and modern building foundations were recorded.

New trees are planned for the site. These are expected to be planted in spring of 2010.

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document is a report detailing the results of an Archaeological Watching Brief undertaken during at enabling works at The Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham, London Borough of Richmond-Upon-Thames (Figure 1).
- 1.2 The site was roughly rectangular, covering an area of approximately 0.35 hectares (Figure 2). The site was centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 1756 7387, bounded by the grounds of Meadow Bank Exiles Club to the south, the River Thames to the east, Cambridge Park and Haversham Grange to the north and Cambridge Park Court to the west.
- 1.3 The site previously contained a house with an adjacent terraced garden. The proposed development comprised the construction of a new building with attached garage that lay mostly within the footprint of the existing structure, the construction of a self-contained flat and limited landscaping of the existing garden.

2. PLANNING BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The local planning authority was the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. Archaeological advice to the Council was provided by Diane Abrahams of the Greater London Archaeological Advice Service (GLAAS), part of English Heritage.
- 2.2 Planning permission to undertake the development was granted under the Town & Country Planning Act (1990) in 2007 (Application number: 06/1013/F). A new application in 2008 was made for a new two-storey property replacing the current dwelling with associated flat, and was approved, subject to conditions (Planning Application 08/2073/FUL). The condition stated: "No development shall take place on the application site until the applicant or their agent or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority".
- 2.3 The Archaeological condition has been required in accordance with *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (PPG 16) issued by the Department of the Environment in 1990 (DoE, 1990), and was recommended by the LPA archaeological advisor.
- 2.4 The site does not contain any Listed Buildings or Scheduled Monuments, and does not lie within an Area of Archaeological Importance.
- 2.5 The development proposals incorporated the complete demolition of current buildings and the construction of a new building with attached garage.
- 2.6 This Report conforms to the requirements of *Planning Policy Guidance: Archaeology and Planning* (DoE, 1990) (PPG 16). It has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:
 - English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
 - Institute of Field Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IFA 1997).

3. GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey map of South London (sheet 270) shows that the site lies over deposits of Brickearth with terrace gravel below. The site is on an inside curve of the river as it flows downstream towards Richmond. Richmond Hill is on the opposite bank.
- 3.2 No geotechnical work had been undertaken on the site.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Prehistoric (before c.AD 43)

- 4.1.1 The site is located on the lower river terrace gravels of the Thames, where prehistoric rural settlement might be anticipated. Early prehistoric activity is represented by worked flint artefacts found in the river terraces, or in the brickearth which overlies the terrace gravels.
- 4.1.2 Prehistoric finds within the Twickenham area date from the Mesolithic period through to the Iron Age. An excavation undertaken at St John's hospital, Amyand Park, Stafford Road in 1994, uncovered prehistoric - possibly Iron Age - pits, postholes and ditches containing pottery, flint tools and burnt flint fragments. Excavations on Church Street, 1.5km to the west of the site, undertaken in 1966 revealed a sequence of alluvial deposits containing large quantities of prehistoric artefacts spanning the Mesolithic to Bronze Age periods

4.2 Roman (c. AD 43 - 450)

- 4.2.1 The site is located at a significant distance from the bounds of the Roman settlement of *Londinium*. Little is known of Roman activity within Twickenham. The most significant remains within the area are of a small farmstead recorded during an evaluation at Heathcote Road Nursery, c.1km to the west of the site. A series of inter-cutting pits, postholes and a possible enclosure ditch were recorded, dating to the late Roman period AD 350 – 400. The results of that evaluation indicate a possible occupation site under what is now Strafford Road (www.molas.org.uk).
- 4.2.2 Roman pottery was recovered during an evaluation at the West Middlesex Hospital c.2km to the north of the site. Medieval and post medieval deposits were also recorded during the archaeological investigation.

4.3 Anglo-Saxon (c.451-1065)

- 4.3.1 The settlement of Twickenham was first recorded in AD 704 (VCH A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 3, p.139-147), referred to as '*Twicanhom*'. The origins of the name are believed to have Saxon origins as 'Ham' refers to a Saxon name ending and 'Wic' is a Saxon word, derived from the Roman word '*vicus*' meaning settlement. However, 'ham' in the old English refers to 'land in a river bend or promontory', which may refer to the location of the settlement between the river Thames and Crane (Simpson, D. p.11).
- 4.3.2 Prior to the Norman Invasion Twickenham formed part of the Manor of Isleworth, which was held by Earl Algar from Mercia (Jackson, H. p.21). Twickenham is not directly mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, however it is noted that Saxon and Viking boats did come up the River Thames as far as Staines, which meant they would have passed the settlement of Twickenham (Simpson, D. p.43).

4.3.3 The only recorded site within the vicinity of Cambridge Park was a burial site on the other side of the Thames from which several grave goods were retrieved, now stored in the British Museum.

4.4 Medieval (c.1066 - 1485)

4.4.1 Following the Norman invasion of 1066 Twickenham, as part of the manor of Isleworth, was passed to control of Walter of St Valery (VCH, A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 3, p.139-147).

4.4.2 It is likely that the Twickenham Church was in its current location by the 11th century and that the medieval settlement clustered between it and the riverside. In 1988, an excavation at Church Street to the west of the site identified a ten metre long drainage ditch dating from the 14th century to the mid 16th century. Originally, the settlement of Twickenham would have taken in the land up to, but not north of the River Crane. It is likely that the area north of the Crane, during the early medieval period, fell within the area considered as Whitton (VCH A History of the County of Middlesex: Volume 3, p.139-147).

4.4.3 At an excavation in King Street 1.5km to the southwest of the site, the natural brickearth was cut by a late medieval rubbish pit containing 15th century pottery. Two parallel ditches containing 13th -14th century pot sherds were also recovered during an evaluation at West Middlesex Hospital, c.2km to the north of the site. The site itself appears to have been peripheral to any of the main settlements in the area.

4.4.4 A track led from Church Street, then the centre of Twickenham village, up to the north bank of the Thames, where there was a ferry to Richmond first recorded in 1443 and capable of carrying animals as well as passengers and vehicles.

4.5 Post-Medieval (c.1485 - modern)

4.5.1 In the 17th century, there was little or no housing in this part of Twickenham save the Countess of Totnes' house, later the site of Cambridge Park. Cambridge Park was a three-storey Jacobean mansion built around 1610 and demolished in 1937. Frescoes and a fireplace surround uncovered during the demolition may date from the middle of the 16th century, suggesting that an earlier building was incorporated into the mansion. The estate was the second largest in Twickenham. The estate must have gradually lost its fortune, since development was gradual, and largely affected land bordering on the Thames with the establishment of a few large houses set in extensive grounds. The rate of development increased in the latter half of the 19th century, leading eventually to the creation of the modern Cambridge Park. The property is depicted in the OS maps since 1915 as being an individual parcel of land, but the 1934 OS Map of Middlesex defines the site as 'The Old Garden'. The house that stood until recently is not depicted on maps until 1938, and it was gradually enlarged northwards.

4.5.2 Evidence of post medieval activity in the immediate area is now dominated by Marble Hill House to the southwest. This is an 18th century Palladian villa set in parkland, and the house was finished in 1729. Roger Morris, the builder, working with Charles Bridgman, the landscape gardener, designed the park that included avenues of trees creating vistas to the Thames. The house and grounds became dilapidated through the 20th century, but are now largely restored.

5. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

5.1 The aims of the Watching Brief were defined as being:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
- To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
- To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
- To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
- To enable the Archaeological Advisor to the London Borough of Richmond-Upon-Thames to make an informed decision on the status of the condition on the planning permission, and any possible requirement for further work in order to satisfy that condition.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.

5.2 The specific objectives of the investigation were to:

- Determine the presence of any remains of prehistoric date on the site.
- Determine the presence of medieval or post medieval remains on the site.
- Assess the degree and extent of any truncation of earlier deposits by any phases of modern building on the site.

5.3 The final aim is to make public the results of the investigation, subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

6. STRATEGY

6.1 A unique site code (**OGC 09**) was obtained from the Museum of London prior to the commencement of fieldwork.

6.2 The Watching Brief was monitored by Diane Abrahams of GLAAS on the behalf of the London Borough of Richmond, and Andy Leonard for AOC Archaeology.

6.3 The Watching Brief was undertaken by a Project Supervisor under the overall direction of Andy Leonard, Regional head of Fieldwork.

7. METHODOLOGY

7.1 An experienced Project Supervisor was present to observe all ground works, positioned outside the working area of the mechanical excavator, in the normal working arrangement. When access to an area was required the machine would cease operations and if necessary relocate to ensure safe access while the Supervisor entered the excavation area to carry out close inspection or record limited sections. The focus of the excavation was initially the removal of the footings of the most recent building on site, then the footprint of the main new building was monitored, where the ground level was reduced by over 4 metres.

- 7.2 Archaeological recording, where not precluded by Health & Safety considerations, consisted of:
- Limited hand cleaning of archaeological sections and surfaces sufficient to establish the stratigraphic sequence exposed.
 - The collection of dating evidence from *in-situ* deposits and spoil scans.
 - A scaled photographic recording of representative exposed sections and surfaces, along with sufficient photographs to establish the setting and scale of the groundworks.
- 7.3 Records were produced using Watching Brief record sheets and by the single context planning method and were compatible with those published by the Museum of London (MoL 1994)
- 7.4 A record of the full sequence of all archaeological deposits as revealed in the watching brief was made. Plans and sections of features were drawn at an appropriate scale 1:10 or 1:20, with sections drawn at 1:20.
- 7.5 Staff present on site wore the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE).

8. RESULTS

- 8.1 Natural loose, greyish yellow river terrace gravels and sands (103) were observed at a depth of 0.75m below ground level. They were seen to extend a minimum of a further 3 metres in depth. The gravels were overlain by a pale greyish yellow natural sand layer (102) 0.50m thick.
- 8.2 The natural sands were cut by a small circular pit [104], 0.40m in diameter and 0.17m deep, situated in the south of the site (Figure 3). The pit contained a fill of black sandy charcoal with occasional burnt flints (105). A larger intrusion into the gravel and sand was a rectangular cut around 6m north-south, 4m east-west and 2.5m deep [109]. This was the location of a basement for the recent property, and was removed with the other foundations.
- 8.3 The foundations were typically 0.60m wide (108), formed of concrete that had been poured into trenches [107]. In the west of the site, the trenches were 0.40m deep, and were up to 1.40m deep in the east, at the slope overlooking the Thames. The building they represent stood for 28m north-south and up to 16m east-west at its widest. There was no evidence for buried topsoil between the foundations, rather the site appeared to have been stripped of topsoil prior to these foundations being established. Between the foundations was a layer of made ground (101) 0.25m thick, which consisted of mixed mid brown clay and grey silt with occasional pebble and CBM inclusions
- 8.4 Made ground was also seen at the southern extent of the site, a small deposit of brownish red clay (106) which was 1.25m wide and 0.40m thick, and continued beyond the limit of the new build. It was probably associated with levelling the ground for the demolished building.
- 8.5 The yard surface associated with the former property was formed of granite setts. These will be retained as part of the new build.

9. FINDS

- 9.1 Finds observed during the watching brief included modern brick material and modern tile from layer (101). The finds assemblage was recorded but not retained. No environmental samples were taken.

10. CONCLUSIONS

- 10.1 No significant archaeological remains or artefacts were observed during the watching brief. The natural geology of river terrace gravels and sands was exposed across the footprint of the new building. Only a single modern pit and foundations of the recent building were cut into these deposits. The brickearth expected to overly the sands and gravels was not encountered; this was probably due to previous truncation on the site. The entire area was overlain by modern made ground.
- 10.2 No further work is recommended due to the lack of archaeological remains. However, the final decision rests with Diane Abrahams of GLAAS.
- 10.3 The results of the Watching Brief will be made public via the ADS OASIS project (Appendix B). A copy of this report will be made available to the local studies library. No further analysis or reporting is considered necessary.

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- Twickenham Museum Website (accessed 21-04-09), <http://www.twickenham-museum.org.uk>

Figure 1 Site Location

Fig 2, detailed site location

Figure 3 Sections

Appendices

Appendix A: Context Register

Context	Context Description	Length	Width	Depth
101	Made ground	28.00m	16.00m	0.25m
102	Natural Sands	28.00m	16.00m	0.50m
103	Natural Gravels	28.00m	16.00m	3.00m
104	Pit Cut	0.40m	0.40m	0.17m
105	Pit Fill	0.40m	0.40m	0.17m
106	Clay Deposit	>1.5m	1.25m	0.40m
107	Cut for foundations	28.00m	16.00m	1.40m
108	Foundations	28.00m	16.00m	1.40m
109	Cut for basement	6.00m	4.00m	2.50m

Appendix B: Oasis Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: aocarcha1-64189

Project details

Project name	The Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham
Short description of the project	An archaeological watching brief was conducted during the enabling works at the Old Garden, Cambridge Park, Twickenham between August and September 2009. Ground reduction works were monitored within the footprint of the new building, in the west of the garden. The excavation extended up to 4 metres below ground level. The natural geology was reached across the area. A modern pit and modern building foundations were recorded .
Project dates	Start: 19-08-2009 End: 09-09-2009
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any project codes associated with reference	OGC09 - Sitecode
Any project codes associated with reference	30208 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	None
Current Land use	Residential 1 - General Residential
Monument type	PIT Modern
Monument type	CONCRETE Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Investigation type	'Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES TWICKENHAM The Old Gardens, Cambridge Park, Twickenham

Postcode TW1 2JP

Study area 0.35 Hectares

Site coordinates TQ 1756 7387 51.4510952821 -0.307955015017 51 27 03 N 000 18 28 W Point

Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology
Organisation

Project originator brief Local Planning Authority (with/without advice from County/District Archaeologist)

Project design originator AOC Archaeology

Project director/manager Andy Leonard

Project supervisor Catherine Edwards

Project supervisor Paul Harris

Project supervisor Ian Hogg

Project supervisor Les Capon

Type of Developer
sponsor/funding
body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Physical Archive Museum of London
recipient

Digital Archive Museum of London
recipient

Digital Archive ID OGC 09

Digital Media 'Images raster / digital photography'
available

Digital Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

Paper Archive Museum of London
recipient

Paper Archive ID OGC 09

Paper Contents 'Stratigraphic'

Paper Media 'Context sheet', 'Drawing', 'Plan', 'Report', 'Section'
available

Paper Archive notes held at AOC until transfer

Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF REPORT

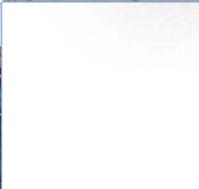
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