REPLACEMENT CHILDREN'S PLAY AREA

LAND ADJACENT TO THE CLIMBERS AND CREEPERS BUILDING

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW

RICHMOND, TW9 3AG

LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

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COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY

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SITE CODE: CLJ09

SITE CENTRE NGR: TQ 18425 77280

PLANNING APPLICATION NO.: 09/1483/FUL

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Abstract

Archaeological field evaluation of land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, in the north western part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond TW9 3AG took place from 5th to 14th August 2009. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to proposed installation of new outdoor play equipment (planning application number: 09/1483/FUL).

The site lies within an area of the Royal Botanic Gardens that has potential for a range of archaeological features and finds from prehistoric to post-medieval date. Historic map data in the Kew Conservation Management Plan shows a series of boundaries and landscape features in the vicinity of the present site from at least the 18th century, and also some buildings to the north and west. In particular, a 1771 plan shows two rectangular features, possibly walled gardens, crossing the southern part of the site.

A total of ten evaluation trenches (1 to 10) were excavated across the site in two phases, nos. 1-5 with 6-10 following the initial positive results. Trench 1, 2, 3 and 5 revealed simple stratigraphic sequences of topsoil or clearance debris over subsoil with natural sand and gravels being exposed in all these trenches, overlain with silt and sand alluvial sequences. Trench 1 and, 2 and 3 also revealed post-medieval or modern features, including a services trench and pit in Trench 2 and a failed tree pit in trench 3. Trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 revealed sections of a wall constructed of Tudor-type brick – though perhaps of slightly later date – and also identified as part of the rectangular feature on the 1771 plan.

Trench 4 was the first to reveal part of a red brick wall, which has been provisionally dated to between 1620 to 1700 on assessment of the bricks. These were mostly of Museum of London fabric type 3033, although there were some examples of type 3039 and later 3032 bricks comprising the wall fabric. This structure was also uncovered in Trenches 5 to 10. This wall is therefore potentially contemporary with a recorded major rebuilding phase of 'Kew Farm', the large palatial house that stood on the riverbank and predated the royal palaces of Kew Palace and the White House, and which was certainly established here by the end of the 16th century. The wall is still apparently visible on later plans, some of which may date to over a hundred years later than the brickwork, Rocque's plan of 1748 shows a rectangular feature but also has an associated legend, naming the area as 'Gardens belong [ing] to [Lady Clinton]', suggesting the structure has become incorporated into what may by this time be a walled garden. A plan of 1771 also suggests that the wall may have by this time been incorporated into a large rectangular garden feature.

The evaluation recovered a relatively small finds assemblage. This included several residual prehistoric struck flints recovered from the clearance layer across part of the site. Otherwise all finds were of later post-medieval date and comprised clay tobacco pipe fragments, some pottery sherds and several bones.

Given the designation of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew as a World Heritage Site, the presence of any archaeological remains is significant. If the new play equipment will have an impact on these areas of the site further archaeological mitigation will be required in the area of the red brick structure in Trench 4 and 6 to 10. This should also provide the opportunity to further investigate the date, nature, function and extent of this feature and to contribute to our understanding of the history of the Gardens and especially of the enigmatic palatial house 'Kew Farm', for which few records survive.

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1. Introduction

1.1 This report presents a summary of an archaeological field evaluation on land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, in the London Borough of Richmond. Compass Archaeology carried out the excavation in two phases. The first phase (as defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation) took place on the 5th and 6th August 2009; five test pits were excavated (these are labelled trenches 1 to 5 in the text). Trench 4 revealed a section of a brick wall running in a north-west south-east direction in the southern part of the site. After consultation with English Heritage, a second phase of investigation was undertaken on the 10th, 11th and 14th August. The fieldwork forms a condition of the planning proposal to build a replacement children's play area on the site.

1.2 The proposed redevelopment site lies in the northwest of the gardens and is close to the River Thames. It was considered that the site had potential for a range of archaeological remains, from the prehistoric to post-medieval periods. Historic maps showed that a rectangular walled or terraced structure stood on the south-east portion of the site.

1.3 English Heritage advised that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken as part of the planning process. Five trial trenches were initially proposed and excavated across the site, to determine the extent of specific archaeological remains, as potentially identified on cartographic sources. These trenches covered some 30 square metres of the proposed redevelopment site at the level of potential archaeology or natural subsoil. Trenches 1 and 2 measured 3.2m x 2.0m; Trench 3 measured 2.8m x 1.85m; Trench 4 measured 3.1 x 1.85m and Trench 5 measured 3.25m x 1.85m.

1.4 After advice from English Heritage, a second phase of evaluation was initiated. An additional five trenches were excavated, with the intention of further investigating the nature and extent of the wall found in Trench 4. These trenches covered a total of 15 square metres of the proposed redevelopment site at a total length of 24m. Trench 6 measured 1.9m x 1.1m; Trench 7 measured 2.6m x 0.95m; Trench 8 measured 2.0m x 0.9m; Trench 9 measured 1.9m x 0.95m and Trench 10 measured 1.9m x 0.85m.

2. Acknowledgements

Compass Archaeology is grateful to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew for commissioning the evaluation, and in particular to the following individuals:

Nigel Taylor, Annie Waddington, David Barnes and Jerry Plunkett, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, and Diane Abrams and Sheila Stones, English Heritage GLAAS.

The trench locations were surveyed by Stephen Ruddy of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

3. Site background

3.1 Location

The site is located in the north western part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, in the London Borough of Richmond, approximately centred at National Grid Reference TQ 18425 77280. It is located *c*.150m from the bank of the River Thames, to the south-west of Kew Palace. The site occupies a trapezium shaped piece of land bordering the Climbers and Creepers Building to the north-west. To the north-east is the Cafe and to the south-east and south-west is an open area of grass and trees. The site location is shown in Figure 1, in relation to the 1:25000 Ordnance Survey map and to a plan of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew in Figure 2.

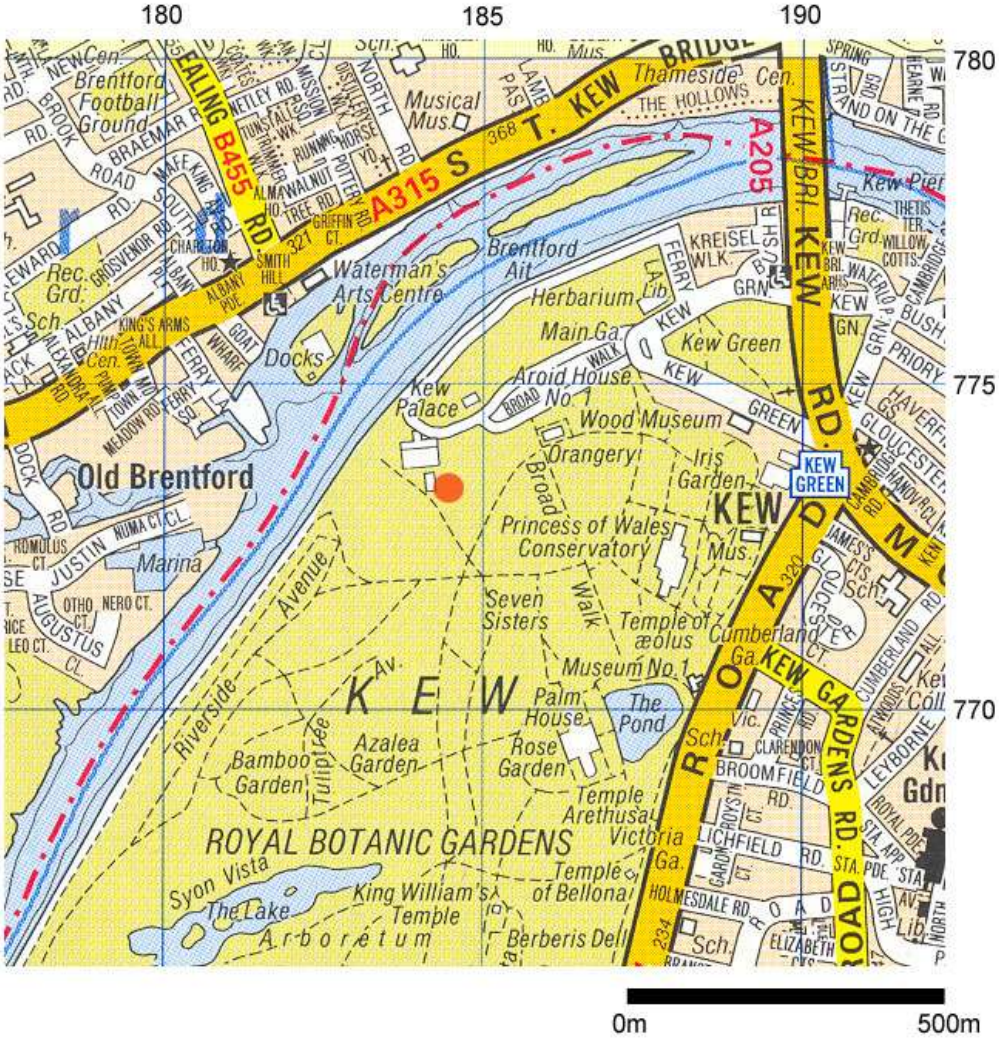

Fig. 1 Site location in context of Kew and surrounding area. The site is marked in red

Fig. 2 Site location in relation to a plan of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

3.2 Geology and topography

The site is located approximately 150m to 180m to the southeast of the present bank of the River Thames, and within the historic floodplain, at a local surface level of approximately 6.5m OD.

According the British Geological Survey (*Sheet 270*, 1998) the site overlies natural River Terrace Deposits (Kempton Park Gravel; described as gravel, sandy and clayey in part). The Survey does not show alluvium on this side of the River or in the site area, although later alluvial deposits were encountered just to the northwest of this site during the recent evaluation works for the proposed new Quarantine House.

3.3 Archaeology and history

The history of the Botanic Gardens at Kew is well documented. Kew has been the location of a Royal residence since 1728. Kew first became a the site of a Royal garden when Princess Augusta, Princess of Wales and mother of King George III, installed a nine acre garden close to the Royal Palace in 1759. The earlier history of Kew is perhaps less well recorded. The area around the site has produced a range of archaeological finds and remains from prehistoric times to the modern day. 'Kew' is actually a Saxon name, meaning quay, an allusion to Kew's position at the lowest point at which the Thames could be regularly crossed on foot[1]. The original ford at Kew was located some 100m south of the present day bridge, close to where the study site is located today. The ford was probably in use from prehistoric times; Bronze Age and Iron Age artefacts have been found along the Surrey bank of the Thames, which borders the Gardens, although evidence for earlier prehistoric occupation has also been found in the Kew area. Historically, Kew is possibly first documented in Julius Caesar's *Gallic Wars*, in which reference is made to a ford crossing the Thames. The only locations where this was possible are Kew or Conway, near Walton. Blomfield (2004) argues that Caesar was most likely referring to Kew due to its closer proximity to St Albans, where the main British camp was located. Reference is also made to the ford in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle; in 1016 a number of battles were allegedly fought on both sides of river at Kew, between the Danes and the Saxons, although no evidence of the battles remain.

More reliable references to Kew appear from 1314. It is mentioned several times in the Survey of the Manor of Shene. In 1358 Edward III converted the Manor at Shene into a palace, the first Royal residence in the area. By the fifteenth century a ferry service was installed at the ford and the hamlet at Kew flourished. Henry VII favoured Shene as a residence and had the palace rebuilt and renamed it Richmond after his Yorkshire earldom. Barons realised that if they wanted to have influence they needed to court the king, so many bought estates in the surrounding area, most notably at Kew. The Earl of Devon, a relation of Henry, was one of the first to settle here and he purchased land along the riverside, which included land adjacent to the study site location as it is today. Thomas Byrkis occupied a farm by the ferry, which became known as Kew Farm. John Cloake's illustration of Kew at the end of the 16th century shows Kew Farm occupying the area just to the west of the study site, with the Earl of Devon's lands immediately to the south. A field known as 'Brick Kiln Furlong' is also directly to the east, the most likely source of the raw material from which locally used bricks were made.

Kew Farm was a significant property; during the reign of Henry VIII it was occupied by Henry Norris. Kew Farm was then granted to the new Queen's (Jane Seymour) brother Edward, who later sold it to John Dudley, Duke of Northumberland. Kew Farm was later given to Northumberland's son Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester. Later, he fell out of favour with the by then Queen Elizabeth and sold his Kew estate to Thomas Gardiner, a London Goldsmith and a teller of the Exchequer. At this time it was leased to Richard Putto and the entire estate of Kew Farm was summarised as 'six closes of pasture, three

[1] Blomfield, D. 2004. *Kew Past*. Phillimore.

lying together near the highway from Kewe to Richmond and the rest near certain closes called Richmond Fields; and of certain acres of arable in the common fields of Kewe and Richmond'. The owner of the property, Gardiner was in serious debt and was forced to surrender the house in September 1575. Shortly after, Kew Farm was acquired by Thomas Sackville, Lord Buckhurst, who built Knole in Kent. He sold the property to Anthony Mason in 1592 and in the deeds it was described as '3 messuages, 3 cottages, 3 tofts, 1 dovecote, 2 gardens, 2 orchards, 6 acres of land and 6 closes of pasture'[2]. In 1594 Kew Farm was sold to Hugh Portman, who was knighted by Queen Elizabeth on a visit to the house in 1595 and was made Keeper of the Great Seal. Portman entertained Queen Elizabeth again at Kew Farm, on 14th August 1594 and 13th September 1595. Later, at the same time that Samuel Fortrey decided to rebuild the house that is now known as Kew Palace (1631), Kew Farm was acquired by Sir Robert Ker (or Carr) Earl of Ancram [Ancrum] who rebuilt the old house on a much grander scale. Post-Restoration documents from the reign of Charles II show the scale of Kew Farm; Hearth Tax returns of 1664 record the house as having 35 hearths, more than any other house in Richmond (by comparison, the Dutch House had 26).

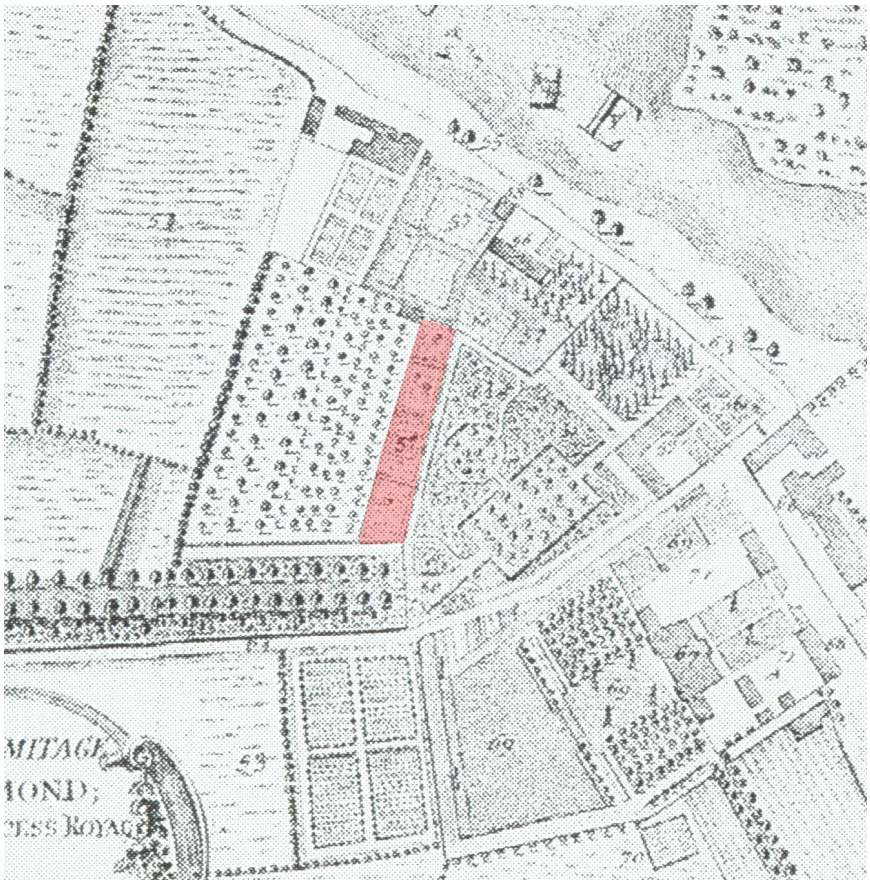

Fig. 2a Extract from Rocque's plan of 1734 (also reproduced in 1748). The area highlighted is the rectangular feature referred to as the Gardens of Lady Clinton in the legend that accompanies the plan. The plan is orientated west upwards.

[2] BL Add Charter 25512, 2 May 34 Elizabeth cited in Cloake, J. 1995.

Kew farm was probably demolished in the late 17th century. Cartographic evidence elucidates the nature of occupation of the site in the early 18th century. Rocque's *Plan of Richmond Gardens* (surveyed in 1734 but published in 1748) shows in detail a rectangular structure crossing the study site and a legend to the plan cites the feature as 'Gardens belong[ing] to [Lady Clinton]'. This is shown in figure 2a, above.

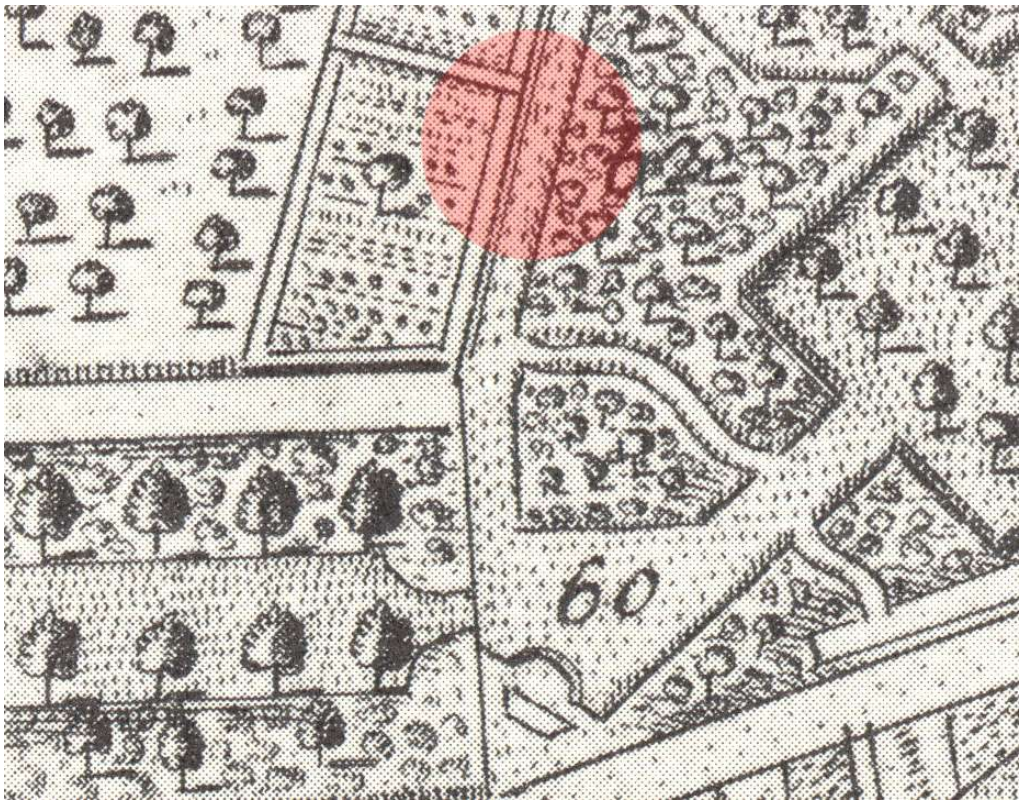

Fig. 2b High resolution excerpt from Rocque's plan of 1734 (also reproduced in 1748). The area highlighted is the rectangular feature referred to as the Gardens of Lady Clinton in the legend that accompanies the plan. The plan is orientated with west at the top.

Figure 2b shows a higher resolution view of Rocque's plan. The red circle shows the approximate location of the site. The boundaries of the walled garden are clearly shown, and Lady Clinton occupied a royal house to the west of the gardens (shown only on Fig 2a). Richardson's plan of 1771 shows the rectangular feature crossing the site (*cf.* Fig 3 marked in red). The house occupied by Lady Clinton is the building shown to the left (west) of the site. In the Written Scheme of Investigation it was suggested that the rectangular feature was possibly a rectangular mound – an artificial landscape feature – however, Rocque's plan shows it in more detail and gives the impression that it is a walled garden. The internal rectangles are potentially pathways.

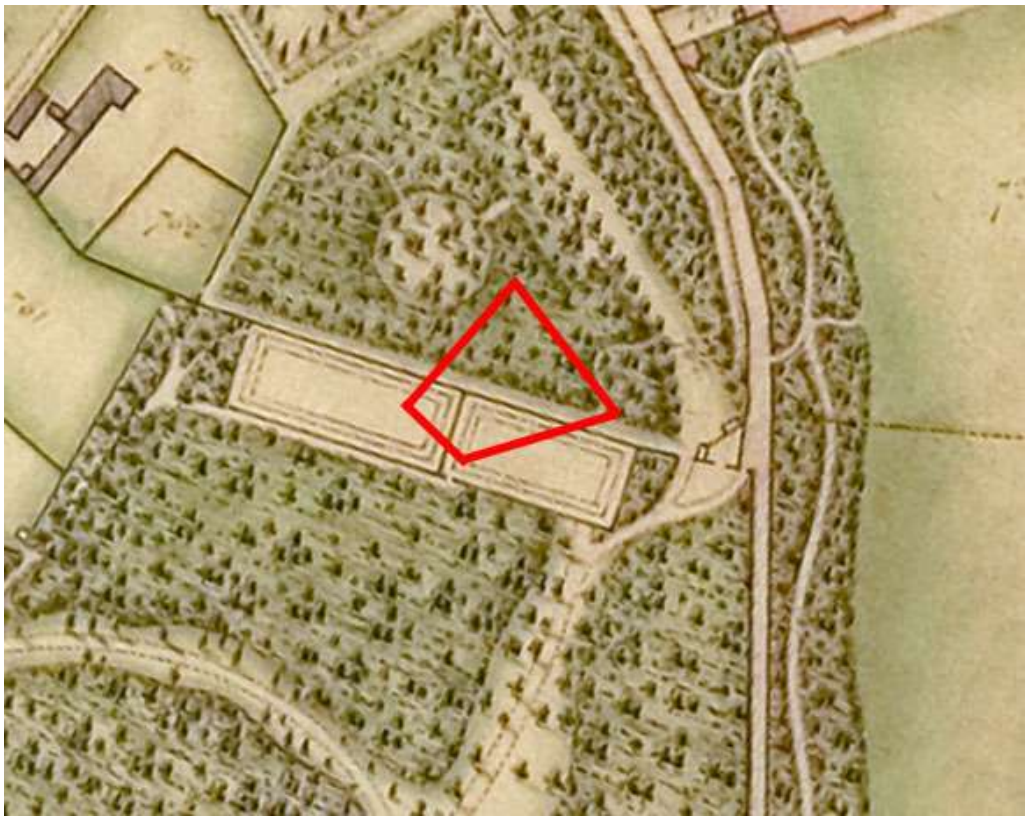

Fig. 3 The approximate site location in relation to an extract from the 1771 Plan of the Royal Manor of Richmond…in the County of Surrey, by Thomas Richardson. *Based on a digital copy provided by the RBG Kew Archives*

In 1727 Richmond Lodge was bestowed on Queen Caroline and her lands extended to 400 acres from Richmond Green to Kew Green in the north. Her landscaping of the gardens at Richmond in the 18th century followed the fashion of the day and she employed renowned professionals such as Charles Bridgeman to take responsibility for the Royal Gardens. Her son Frederick continued to tend to the gardens after her death, although he was more interested in what grew rather than landscaping. His wife, Augusta, was also an enthusiastic gardener and it was she who fulfilled Frederick's plans for a botanic garden at Kew. Later 19th century maps show a number of changes to the layout of the gardens around the site. Thomas Chawner's 1837 survey (not shown) indicates the site has been cleared and paths that led from the Dutch House in a southwards direction appear to cross the site. No further development appears to have taken place on the site, except for tree planting, until the construction of the first outdoor play area in about 2000.

4. Aims and objectives of the evaluation

4.1 Archaeology and planning legislation

Following the proposal to build replacement outdoor children's play area within the site in the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, English Heritage advised that an archaeological evaluation should be carried out as part of the planning process.

The Written Scheme for Investigation for the evaluation of the southern part of the site was prepared by Compass Archaeology in July 2009 and was approved by Diane Abrams of English Heritage on 30th July 2009.

4.2 Archaeology and World Heritage Sites

The guidance for dealing with archaeology on World Heritage Sites is set out in Planning Policy Guidance 15 (PPG15), which is issued jointly by the Secretary of State for the Environment and the Secretary of State for National Heritage, and updates the advice in Department of the Environment *Circular 8/87*.

PPG 15 states that World Heritage Sites:

i. Are a key material consideration in the determination of planning applications;
ii. That local authorities should have robust policies in place to protect them and, finally;
iii. That World Heritage Sites should have and adhere to specific management plans.

The UK government meets its obligations to protect World Heritage Sites through existing legislation, and primarily through the planning system and PPG 15. World Heritage Sites are places recognised under the UNESCO World Heritage Convention as having outstanding universal value for the whole world. By joining the Convention in 1984, the United Kingdom has recognised its obligation to care for such places, of which there are now 16 in England out of 26 altogether in the UK and its dependent territories. Such care covers the identification, protection, conservation, presentation and transmission to future generations of such places.

Advice is available from the local authority conservation team, English Heritage at policy@english-heritage.org.uk, ICOMOS UK and the Local Authorities World Heritage Forum.

4.3 The archaeological brief

The accepted brief for archaeological evaluation is to determine, as far as is reasonably possible, the location, extent, date, character, condition, significance, and quality of any surviving archaeological remains liable to be threatened by the proposed redevelopment (English Heritage, *Model Brief for an Archaeological Evaluation*).

Thus the objective of the evaluation was to establish information on as many of the research questions as possible, whilst primarily answering the terms of the brief which is to provide information on which decisions can be taken as to the need for any further archaeological action (*e.g.* preservation *in situ* or archaeological rescue excavation) or for no further action.

4.4 Archaeological research questions

The evaluation presented an opportunity to address the following research questions, as defined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (*Compass Archaeology, July 2009*):

- Is there any evidence for prehistoric to early post-medieval activity, and what is the stratigraphic context and date range?
- What evidence is there for 17th and/or 18th century activity, and can any remains or features be related to the cartographic record – in particular that provided by Richardson's 1771 plan? Also, can the date of any such remains be refined by artefactual evidence?
- Is there any evidence for the destruction of the 18th century features (including dating)? Also, is there any evidence for any significant later activity on the site not recorded by the 19th century plans?

5. Evaluation methodology

5.1 As this evaluation was carried out in two phases; phase one comprising the excavation of five test trenches, according the Written Scheme of Investigation, which was approved by English Heritage on 30th July 2009. The second phase was initiated on advice from English Heritage and a further five trenches were excavated in order to ascertain the nature of the wall originally uncovered in Trench 4. The evaluation was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (including *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork,* 1998) and those of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (*Standard and Guidance for Field Evaluations*).

5.2 Phase one of the evaluation comprised five trial trenches and five further small trenches as part of phase two. The proposed layout of the five trial trenches, as agreed with English Heritage, is illustrated in Figure 4. The location of trial trench 1 was altered from the original brief due to a large tree root, which was encountered at the southern end of the trench during initial machining of the topsoil. The trench was moved 1.5m to the north. The trenches covered some 40 square metres of the proposed redevelopment site at the level of potential archaeology or natural subsoil. Trenches 1 and 2 measured 3.2m x 2.0m; Trench 3 measures 2.8m x 1.85m; Trench 4 measured 3.1 x 1.85m and Trench 5 measured 3.25m x 1.85m. . Trench 6 measured 1.9m x 1.1m; Trench 7 measured 2.6m x 0.95m; Trench 8 measured 2.0m x 0.9m; Trench 9 measured 1.9m x 0.95m and Trench 10 measured 1.9m x 0.85m.

5.3 Initial clearance of the trial trenches was undertaken by a JCB mechanical excavator working under archaeological supervision[3]. Deposits were removed in this way to the latest significant archaeological horizon, or, in the case of absence of archaeological remains, to a clean natural/subsoil layer. Thereafter exposed deposits and features were selectively excavated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence.

5.4 Archaeological contexts were recorded on *pro forma* sheets by written and measured description, and drawn in plan and section. The trench positions were recorded on a general site plan by taped measurement and also (in the case of all but trenches 3 and 5) surveyed by EDM to the Ordnance Survey grid.

The recording system used followed the Museum of London Site Manual for on-site work. By agreement the recording and drawing sheets used were directly compatible with those developed by the Museum. The fieldwork record was supplemented by photography as appropriate (35mm/digital).

5.5 Levels taken during the evaluation were derived from an Ordnance Survey Bench Mark (OSBM) stone east of the northern limit of the site and near the southwest-northeast path leading to the Orangery. This OSBM has a value of 7.6m Ordnance Datum (OD).

5.6 Finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's *'Standards for the Preparation of Finds…'*. All identified finds and artefacts were retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although certain classes of building material were discarded once an appropriate record had been made. Assessment of finds and samples was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff.

5.7 The records from the evaluation have been allocated the site code: CLJ09 by the Museum of London Archaeological Archive. An ordered and indexed site archive will be compiled in line with the Museum of London's *Guidelines for the Preparation of Archaeological Archives* and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archive.

[3] The machine and operator were provided by RBG Kew.

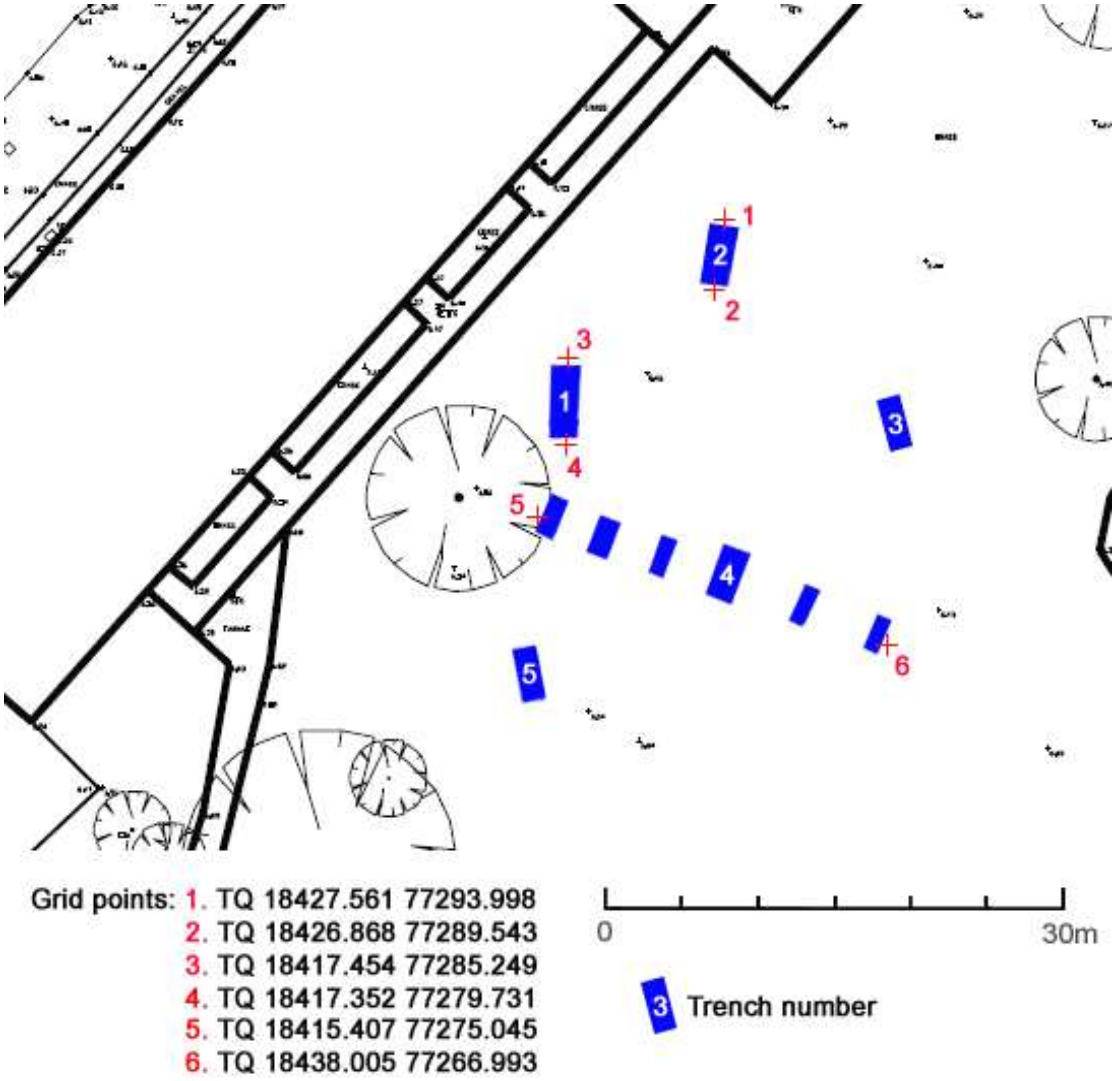

Fig. 4 Plan showing location of the trenches and associated grid pegs. Trenches 1-5 (first phase trenches) are labelled.

6. The archaeological evaluation

In the following section describes the findings of the archaeological evaluation. The location of each trench is illustrated in figure 4, above. Each trench is described and an interpretation offered before the overall evaluation results are summarised. Archaeologically significant deposits were only encountered in trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, although post-medieval features were found in trenches 1, 2 and 3. These features were not deemed to be archaeologically significant, although they are described. No features were found in trench 5 although it is illustrated in the following section.

6.1 First phase of evaluation

The first phase of evaluation took place on the 5th and 6th August 2009. Five test trenches were excavated and the deposits found are summarised below.

6.1.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 was the trench located in the north western corner of the site. The trench was orientated north to south and was adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building to the north-west, as shown in figure 5 below. The trench was situated on ground levelled between 6.41m OD and 6.43m OD. The trench measured 3.0m northeast-southwest by 2.0m northwest-southeast and was excavated to an average depth of 0.6-0.7m below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +5.76m OD).

Fig. 5 View of Trench 1, looking north (scale: 0.5m)

The Trench 1 deposits followed a simple stratigraphic sequence on the west side of the trench; clearance debris overlaid a mixed subsoil layer of mid brown silty sand with frequent fine pebbles and CBM fragments. A firm fine sand and gravel natural was exposed at the base of the trench, as shown in figure 6 below.

Two shallow (<200mm) features were distinguishable in the eastern side of the trench; one a linear north-south cut [7] containing a dark brown clayey sand deposit [6], which contained finds including a clay pipe bowl and iron nails. The second feature was a circular pit [5], the fill of which [4] was largely indistinguishable from [6]. A pipe bowl and clay pipe fragments were recovered

in this fill. Both features are interpreted as being relatively recent in date and not of especial archaeological significance – they may in fact derive from tree disturbance rather than deliberate excavation.

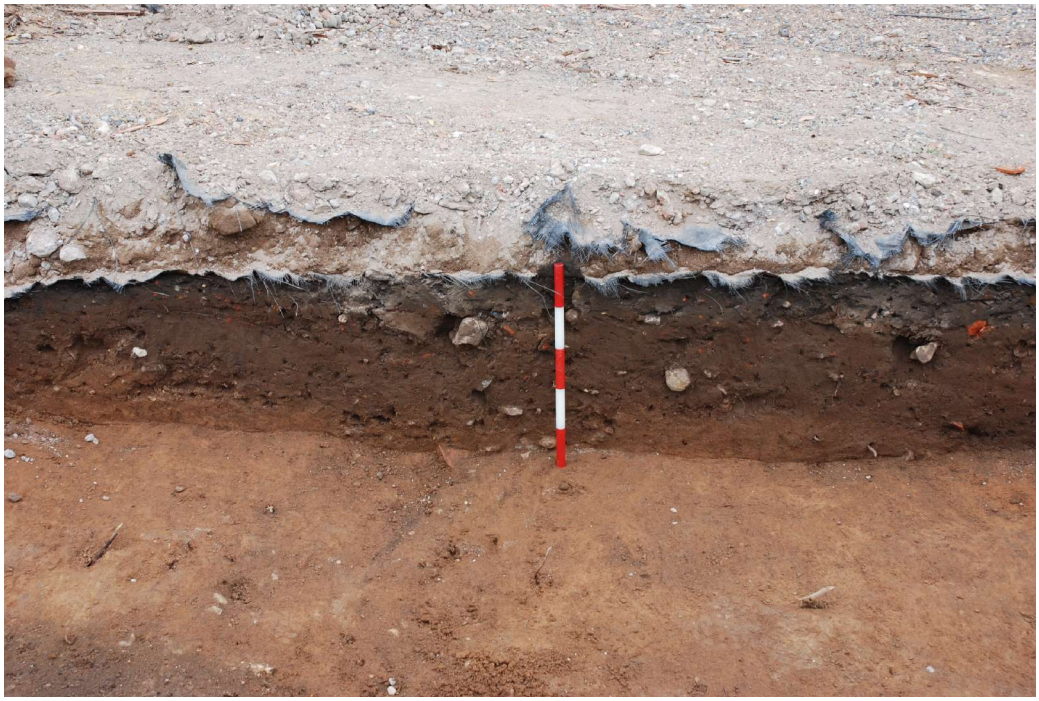

Fig. 6 View of the east facing section of Trench 1 (scale: 0.5m)

Within the clearance level at the top of Trench 1 three struck flints were recovered. Such lithic finds are abundant in the riverine area and are washed out of the Thames gravels by natural processes. These artefacts should therefore be considered as part of the large assemblage of redeposited material from the general prehistoric landscape, a form of 'background noise', rather than as evidence for prehistoric activity within the present site area.

6.1.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 was located at the mid point of the northern boundary of the site, to the north east of Trench 1, and was orientated approximately north to south. The trench measured 3.0m by 2.0m and was situated on ground levelled between 6.39m OD and 6.47m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.6-0.7m below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +5.51m OD).

Deposits comprised a sequence of clearance debris overlying mixed subsoil and the natural at the base of the trench was a medium to fine gravel in a light brown silty sand matrix. Two features were observed (as shown in figure 7 below): a recent pit [11] containing a dark brown deposit [10] (and also plastic material) and a subsequent service trench, backfilled with greenish coloured sand, orientated north-south along the length of Trench 2 and leading to a modern drain housing to the south. There were no finds in Trench 2.

Fig.7 View of Trench 2, looking north (scale: 0.5m)

6.1.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 was located at the north easternmost point of the site, to the east of Trench 1, and was orientated approximately north to south. The trench measured 2.8m by 1.85m and was situated on ground levelled between 6.44m OD and 6.47m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.57 to 0.66 below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +5.87m OD).

The sequence of deposits in Trench 3 consisted of turf and topsoil overlying a subsoil deposit of compact grey silty sand with occasional fine pebbles and very occasional fragments of ceramic building material (CBM) and flecks of charcoal. Natural deposits were encountered at the base of the trench: weathered/reworked firm light brown to yellow silty sand natural, with occasional fragments of fine pebbles, scattered fragments of CBM and very occasional charcoal overlying clean natural deposit of medium fine gravel in light brown silty sand matrix.

In the north west corner of the trench the subsoil and natural deposits were cut by a recent (failed) tree pit [44], which continued to the base of the trench, as shown in figure 8, below. The fill of the pit [12] was mainly similar to the subsoil layer elsewhere in the trench, overlain just below ground surface by a layer of *terram* and a 'plug' of more humic fill descending downwards. This latter area is where the sapling would have been planted. There were no features of archaeological significance in Trench 3.

Fig.8 View of Trench 3, looking south-west (scale: 0.5m)

6.1.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 was located towards the southern border of the site, with Trench 8 to the west and Trench 9 to the east; it was orientated north-south. The trench measured 3.1m north-south by 1.85m east-west and was situated on ground levelled between 6.56m OD and 6.67m OD. Initially Trench 4 was excavated to an average depth of 0.32 to 0.55 below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +5.92m OD).

Initial excavation of Trench 4 revealed archaeologically significant features in the southern half of the trench, most notably a brick wall dating by fabric type to *c*.1620. In the north-west corner debris from the former play area overlay a mixed subsoil layer of compact silty sand with frequent small pebble and stone fragments and CBM and charcoal fleck inclusions. At an average depth of 0.14m below the topsoil and clearance debris in the south side of the trench was a brick wall [15], shown in figure 9, below. The bricks were identified as Tudor group type 3033, which date from between 1450 to 1760 and were arranged in header bond on the north side, but in stretcher bond on the south side of the wall. The foundations were more irregular, the lower section being made of unmortared brick fragments packed into a shallow trench built foundation, which was apparently cut from a previously truncated surface. The bricks were not reused, as there was no trace of mortar on them, indicating that they could be reliably dated to the period 1450+. However, mortar on the upper courses dated to between 1620 and 1720[4] and a provisional date of the earlier-mid 17th century was established for the wall. This would potentially place the wall contemporary with the documented major rebuilding phase of the palatial house known as Kew Farm (*c* 1630).

[4] John Brown *pers. comm.*

On the north face of the wall was a later addition, as shown in figure 9. These bricks were identified as Type 3032 and are longer and thinner than the Type 3033 bricks, which make up the rest of the wall. There are laid in stretcher bond, contrasting with the rougher coursing of the rest of the original wall. Type 3032 is an intermediate brick between the Tudor 3033 and the later purple/grey stock brick. The black flecks in the brick show the addition of combustible material; these bricks were fired at a higher temperature, making them harder and more brittle.

On the basis of the archaeological evidence recovered in Trench 4, a second phase of evaluation was initiated.

Fig. 9 View of Trench 4, looking south and showing the wall [15]. The section highlighted in red on the black and white image indicates the later insertion of two courses, probably a rebuild of the original wall.

6.1.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 was located at the south western edge of the site, to the south west of Trench 4, and was orientated approximately south south-west to north north-east. The trench measured 3.25m by 1.85m and was situated on ground levelled between 6.60m OD and 6.67m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.55 to 0.66 below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.01m OD).

The sequence of deposits in Trench 5 (shown in figure 10, below) consisted of turf and topsoil of fairly loose grey-brown silty sand with occasional mainly fine pebbles and very occasional CBM fragments. Underlying this was a subsoil layer of firm mid grey-brown silty sand with occasional CBM and charcoal flecks. In the central part of the west section, lenses of lighter orange-brown silty sand were observed. The natural deposit encountered was weathered/reworked firm light brown silty sand with occasional fine (and very occasionally larger) pebbles and very occasionally charcoal and CBM flecks at the upper level. Below this was a fine-medium gravel natural, visible in plan at the north end of the trench.

A recent intrusion was observed in north-west corner of the trench and probably across the northern end, which contained a deposit similar to the subsoil deposit already described. In this deposit was part of a polystyrene cup, indicating modern disturbance. No archaeologically significant features were recovered from Trench 5.

Fig.10 Trench 5 with the extended area of excavation in the background, looking north west (scale: 0.5m). The four circular dark patches are due to rainwater creating sodden patches and are not archaeologically significant.

6.2 Second phase of evaluation

Based on the significance of the archaeological remains recovered in Trench 4 a second phase of excavation was initiated, taking place on the 10th, 11th and 14th August 2009. A further five small trenches were excavated and Trench 4 was also subject to further excavation. The aim of this was to further investigate the brick wall feature in Trench 4, to potentially ascertain more evidence relating to its date and construction.

6.2.1 Trench 4

Further investigation of the nature of the foundation of the wall in Trench 4 was carried out, with the excavation of the deposits to the north [14] and south [13] of the wall. Figure 11 below shows the excavation in section.

Fig. 11 East facing section of Trench 4, showing the wall [14] and foundations in section.

Three sherds of glazed redware were recovered from context [13] on the south side of the wall. This fabric is a commonly found example of post-medieval pottery and was produced from *c*.1575 until the 19th century and therefore does not provide particularly reliable dating evidence, although the sherds are potentially contemporary with the wall.

The excavated section of the wall in Trench 4 (as shown in figure 12) showed the potential nature of its construction. The foundations (4 rough courses of brick laid dry in header bond) were revealed (also shown in figure 13). On the south and north sides of the wall, the bricks were placed into a natural of light brown sandy silt with medium/fine pebbles. At the upper level the natural was somewhat disturbed, particularly on the north side where defined as [46]. On the

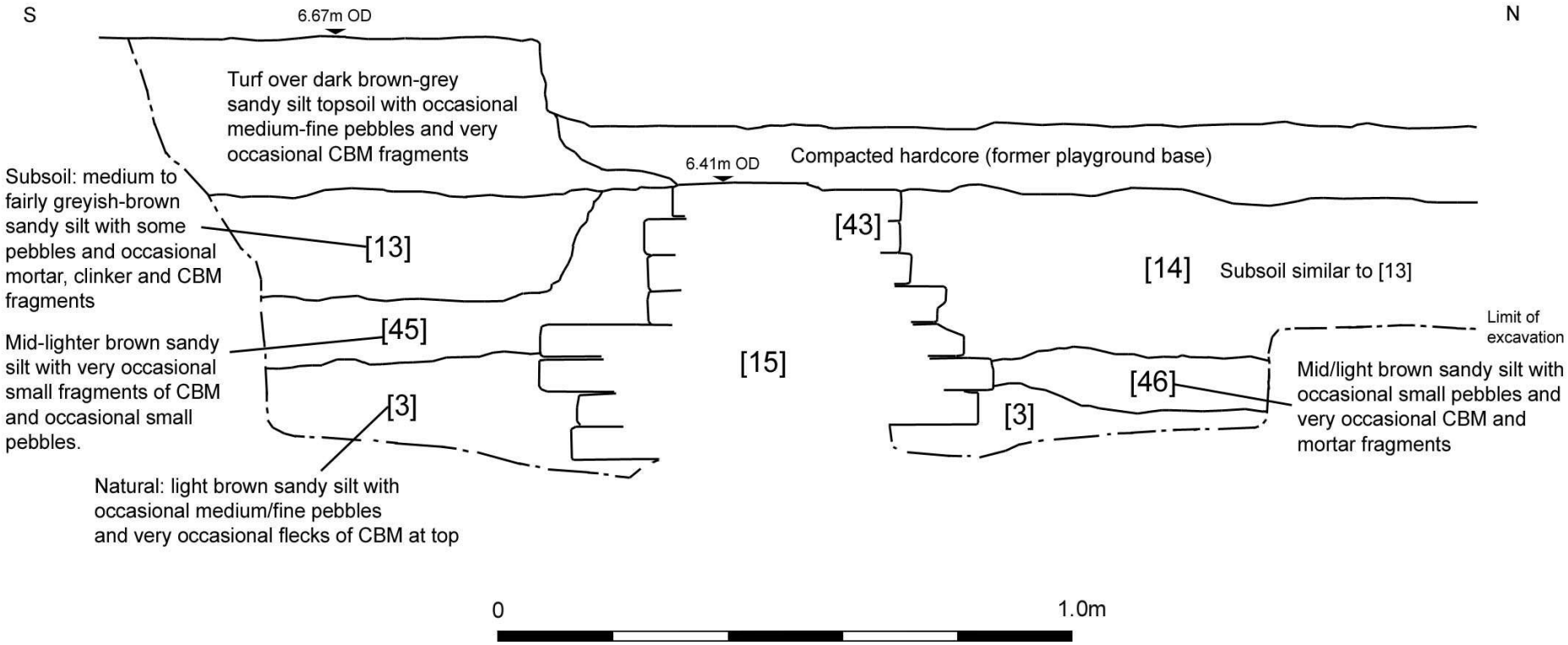

Fig. 12 East-facing section in Trench 4, with summaries of the deposits.

south side a subsequent deposit [45] of sandy silt with CBM and pebble inclusions overlay the natural and was heaped against the wall. This in turn was overlain and apparently cut by a darker more disturbed deposit [13], possibly a layer of soil within a planting bed. The layer [14] to the north of the wall was similar to [13], but appears to be part of a deeper made ground deposit. Given the consistently rougher wall construction to the north it may be that the land surface here was built up to a higher level than to the south, and embanked by the wall. However, the exact nature of the deposits on both sides of the wall is uncertain. If later fieldwork is carried out, determining the nature of construction and role of the wall will be a fundamental research question.

Fig. 13 View of Trench 4, looking north and showing the excavated foundations.

6.2.2 Trench 6

Trench 6 was located at western end of the line of trenches (numbered 6, 7, 8, 4, 9, 10), which all revealed part of the Tudor or slightly later wall. Trench 6 was orientated approximately north-south to the west of Trench 7. The trench measured 1.9m north-south by 1.1m at its widest point and was situated on ground levelled between 6.41m OD and 6.49m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.30cm below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.17m OD).

The uppermost deposit was clearance debris, underneath which was a layer of *terram*. Immediately beneath this was the top of wall [19], the upper course of which was at a level of 6.27m OD. 3 courses of brick were excavated, although there had been disturbance of the upper course on the west side of the trench. The deposit on the north side of the wall [17] was mid-brown sandy silt, with frequent fragments of CBM and occasional stone fragment inclusions; south of the wall the deposit [18] was a firm mid-brown sandy silt with occasional CBM fragments. The brick was identified as mostly type 3033 with some type 3039. Possible robbing of the brick has occurred at some point, although the *terram* and clearance layers were directly above the wall and therefore no disturbed layers were visible in section.

Fig. 14 View of Trench 6, looking north (scale: 0.2m)

6.2.3 Trench 7

Trench 7 was located in the line of trenches (numbered 6, 7, 8, 4, 9, 10), which all revealed part of the probable 17th century wall, positioned to the west of Trench 8 and east of Trench 6. Trench 7 was orientated approximately north-south and was an irregular shape, measuring 2.6m north-south and 0.95m east-

west at its northern end and 1.4m east-west at the southern end. It was situated on ground levelled between 6.41m OD and 6.49m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.30cm below the existing ground surface (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.17m OD). Trench 7 is shown in figure 15, below.

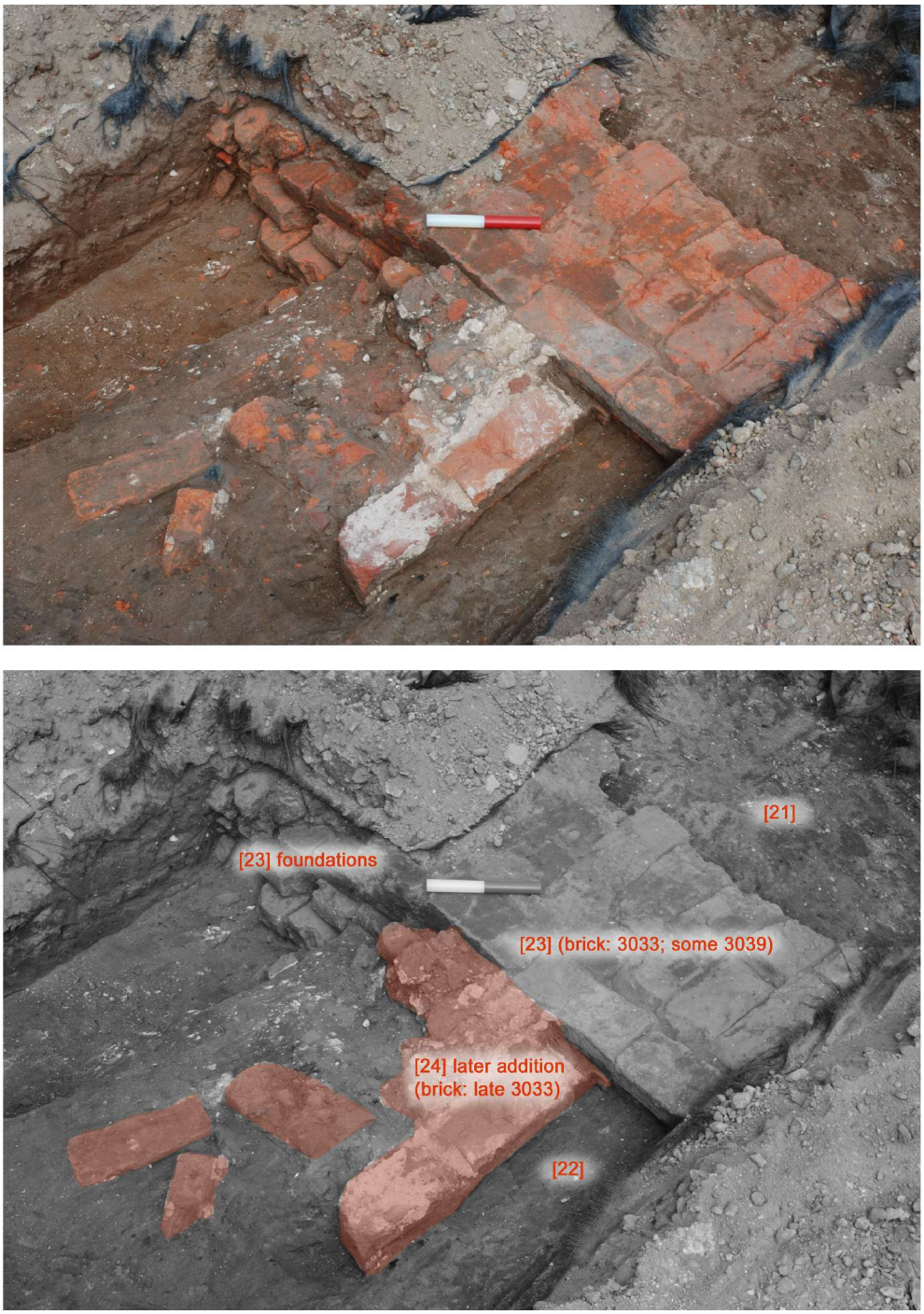

Fig. 15 View of Trench 7, looking north (scale: 0.2m)

The uppermost deposit was clearance debris, underneath which was a layer of *terram*. Immediately beneath this was the top of wall [23], the upper course of which was at a level of 6.33m OD. Most of the brick was type 3033, although there were some examples of type 3039, a lighter pale yellow brick. These

bricks were made from a clay rich in silt, making them more crumbly and of poorer quality. Abutting [23] at a right angle on its southern side was another section of brickwork [24], the height of which was 6.28 OD. The brick of [24] was identified as later examples of 3033 (as they are not exactly the same as the 3033 in [23]) and are certainly stratigraphically later. Only the upper course of the south face of [23] was excavated and was arranged in stretcher bond. A sondage dug by the south face of [23] (shown in the left hand side of figure 15) revealed four courses of wall, arranged in header bond, although this section of the wall appears to have slumped to the west. This suggests that the abutting feature [24] may have been built as a buttress to support [23]. An alternative suggestion by John Brown is that the abutting wall was a *herm*, a small stand for an urn or statue, which was commonly attached to 18th century walls and examples of which are in the garden of Kew Palace.

The deposit [22] south of the wall was a firm mid-brown subsoil of sandy silt with frequent CBM inclusion, flecks of charcoal and occasional small stone inclusions. Finds recovered in this deposit to the west of the wall stub [24] were two pieces of glass and a fragment of clay pipe stem. The deposit [21] north of [23] was similar to the deposits north of the wall in trenches 5 and 6; it was a firm mid-brown sandy silt subsoil with frequent CBM fragments. Figure 16 shows the north face of the wall, possibly packed into a shallow trench built foundation, but not designed to be viewed due to its irregular construction.

Fig. 16 Trench 7 looking south, showing the north face of [23], in an irregular header bond, which was probably packed into a small foundation trench from the south side.

Fig.17 View looking north showing Trench 7, showing the four excavated courses in the west section of the trench.

6.2.4 Trench 8

Trench 8 was located in the line of trenches (numbered 6, 7, 8, 4, 9, 10), which all revealed part of the Tudor or slightly later wall, positioned to the west of Trench 4 and east of Trench 7. Trench 8 was orientated approximately north south and measured 2.0m north-south by 0.9m wide and was situated on ground levelled between 6.50m OD and 6.56m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.31m below the existing ground surface in the area [27] north of the wall and 0.23m below the existing ground surface in the area [28] south of the wall (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.15m OD). Trench 8 is shown in figure 18.

The uppermost deposit was clearance debris, underneath which was a layer of *terram*. Immediately beneath this was the top of wall [30], the upper course of which was at a level of 6.20m OD. Wall section [30] was dry mortared, with only light sand between the bricks. The brick was identified as mostly type 3033, with some of type 3039 (paler with yellow flecks due to silt inclusions). The deposit [27] north of [30] was a firm mid-brown/yellow sandy sit subsoil with frequent CBM fragments, similar to contexts north of the wall in trenches 5, 6 and 7. One found was recovered from this deposit; a clay pipe bowl bearing the initials ‘W’ ‘P’, which dates to *c*.1680. South of the wall, deposit [28] was a firm brown compacted sandy silt subsoil with occasional CBM fragments. Figure 19 shows the east facing section of Trench 8, revealing the section of [30] that has been robbed out. Overlying the wall in the robbed section was a firm dark brown silty deposit [29], the compact nature of which suggests it was robbed out in the past rather than recently, although the date is not known.

Fig. 18 View looking north, showing the wall [30] in Trench 8 (scale: 0.2m)

Fig 19. View of the east facing section of Trench 8, showing the section where part of the wall has been robbed out (scale: 0.2m)

6.2.5 Trench 9

Trench 9 was located in the line of trenches (numbered 6, 7, 8, 4, 9, 10), which all revealed part of the historic wall, positioned to the west of Trench 10 and east of Trench 4. Trench 8 was orientated approximately north-south and measured 1.9m north-south by 0.95m wide and was situated on ground levelled between 6.56m OD and 6.58m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.47m below the existing ground surface in the area [33] north of the wall and 0.41m below the existing ground surface in the area [32] south of the wall (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.11m OD).

Fig. 20 View of Trench 9, looking south (scale: 0.2m)

Trench 9 revealed a section of wall (shown in figure 20) similar to that in trenches 4, 6, 7 and 8. The uppermost deposit was a turf and topsoil layer. Immediately beneath this in the central area of the trench was a deposit [36], a firm silty rubble infill. Underneath this was the wall [34], the upper level of which stood at 6.22m OD. The wall underneath was very irregular, with disturbance to the south and north face of the wall. Deposit [36] was a layer of rubble deposited after the robbing of brick from the wall [34]. This is shown most clearing in section (figure 21 below). As in trenches 6, 7 and 8, the majority of the wall is type 3033 brick, with some examples of type 3039. Two courses of wall were excavated. To the north of the wall was a deposit [32], a firm sandy silt with frequent CBM and moderate stone inclusions. To the south of [34] was a [33], a firm dark-brown deposit also with moderate CBM and stone fragment inclusions. The wall in trench 9 can be interpreted as a continuation of the wall found in trenches 4, 6, 7 and 8, with evidence for the robbing of bricks in this section.

Fig. 21 View of east facing section in Trench 9, showing probable robbing backfill of mortar and brick fragments above the *in situ* brickwork (scale: 0.2m)

6.2.6 Trench 10

Trench 10 was at the eastern end of the line of trenches (numbered 6, 7, 8, 4, 9, 10), which all revealed part of the historic wall, positioned to the east of Trench 9. Trench 10 was orientated approximately north-south and measured 1.9m north-south by 0.85m wide and was situated on ground levelled between 6.48m OD and 6.56m OD. It was excavated to an average depth of 0.18m below the existing ground surface in the area [37] north of the wall and 0.23m below the existing ground surface in the area [38] south of the wall (the lowest recorded depth was at +6.30m OD).

Trench 10 revealed the continuation of the wall to the east of Trench 9. The uppermost deposit was turf and topsoil, immediately overlying wall [39], the upper level of which was 6.47m OD. As in the other trenches where the wall was exposed, the majority of bricks were of type 3033, with some examples of type 3039. The wall in this trench was also more markedly mortared on the upper two courses and survives to a higher level, certainly than in Trench 9 (where the wall uppermost course stood at 6.22 OD). It can be concluded that the mortared courses are evidence of a mortared wall on top of the foundation layers, which were not in evidence in Trench 9 due to the robbing of the wall. On the north side of the wall the deposit [37] was a compacted brown sandy silt deposit with frequent CBM fragment and stone inclusions and occasional charcoal flecks. South of the wall, there was a compact brown/grey sandy silt deposit with frequent CBM fragments and small stone inclusions, a context that was archaeologically indistinct from the deposits south of the wall in trenches 6, 7, 8 and 9.

Fig. 22 View of Trench 10, looking north (scale:0.2m)

7. Summary of the findings

Prehistoric

The archaeological evaluation produced very little evidence of prehistoric activity in the area. A few residual struck flints were recovered from the clearance layers of the site, although no *in situ* remains were found. These waste flakes represent a typical assemblage for the general area and are typical of distribution patterns for lithic artefacts in this area. The flints are generally washed out of the Thames gravels and redeposited in secondary alluvial contexts across the floodplain. These few redeposited prehistoric worked and burnt flints suggest activity in the wider landscape, but tell us little about the immediate study area.

Roman to Medieval

There is no evidence for activity in the subsequent periods until the mid post-medieval period.

Post-medieval

The wall was excavated in six trenches, covering a total distance (approximately east-west) of 24 metres. A plan of trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 is shown in figure 23. The wall is highlighted in orange. All five trenches revealed sections of the wall built using bricks of a similar date (Type 3033 or 3039, with the exception of Trench 4, which had a section of later bricks of Type 3032). Two of the sections of wall were discernibly robbed at some point post construction (as shown in the summaries of Trenches 8 and 9). Regarding its construction, the trenches only revealed a definitive cut for a trench in which the wall was built at the lower level, and from an apparently truncated natural surface (*cf*. Trench 4, Fig 12, *etc.*). It has also been suggested that the foundation bricks were packed into a shallow cut from the south side[5].

The discovery of this wall is very significant, as it appears to be of an early date and may originally relate to the enigmatic palatial house known as 'Kew Farm'. Kew Farm was extended or rebuilt *c* 1630, about the same date stylistically as the brick wall, and was recorded in 1664 as being the largest house in the manor of Richmond; although very little is known about its exact nature.

The evaluation may also have revealed that the wall was reused as part of the large rectangular feature shown on Richardson's plan of 1771 (as shown in figure 2), although the structure is considerably earlier in date. This reuse may explain the repair or refacing noted on the north side of the wall in trench 4. Rocque's plan of 1743 also suggests that the feature was incorporated as part of the gardens belonging to Lady Clinton, and maybe as part of the walled garden identified on Richardson's plan. However, the exact construction of the wall how far it continues to the east and west is remains uncertain.

[5] John Brown, *Pers. Comm.*

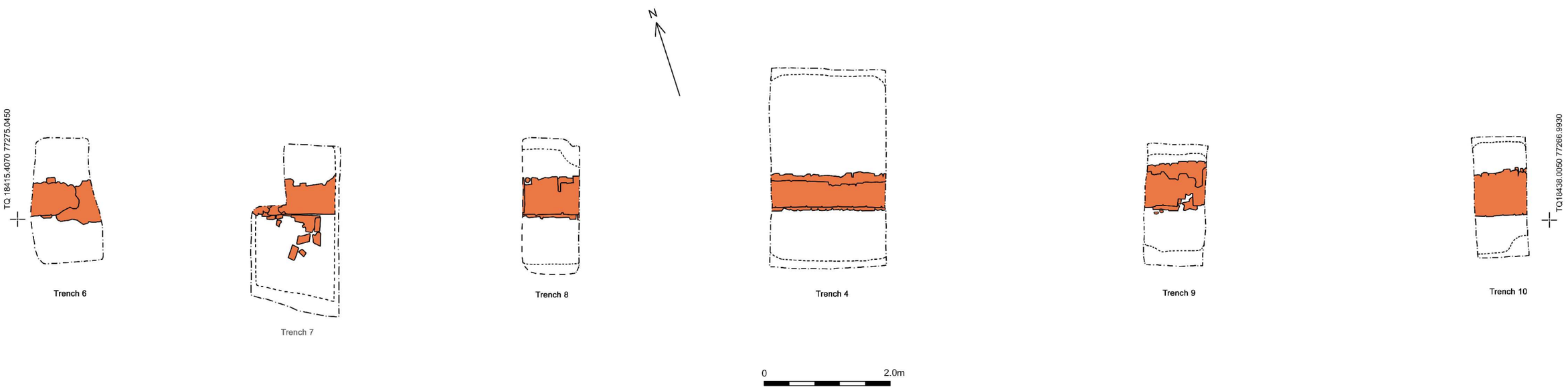

Fig 23 Plan of trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10, showing the excavated sections of wall.

7. 1 Assessment of the evaluation results

The archaeological evaluation has provided an opportunity to address the site-specific objectives that were defined within the preliminary *Written Scheme* (see above). The responses to these are outlined below:

- *Is there any evidence for prehistoric to early post-medieval activity, and what is the stratigraphic context and date range?*

There was slight evidence recovered for prehistoric activity in the area in the form of residual waste struck flints found in the clearance layers on part of the site. However, these are unreliable evidence of occupation in the area due to their close proximity to the Thames (they could be transported via alluvium from other sites). No Roman, Saxon or medieval evidence was recovered from the site. The most compelling archaeological evidence recovered was the remains of a wall of probable earlier 17th century date, which crossed the southern section of the site.

- *What evidence is there for 17th and/or 18th century activity, and can any remains or features be related to the cartographic record – in particular that provided by Richardson's 1771 plan? Also, can the date of any such remains be refined by artefactual evidence?*

A brick wall of broadly Tudor type was excavated in trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10. In fact the best estimate suggests a slightly later date, perhaps early to mid 17th century. Thus the wall could be contemporary with a major rebuilding phase of the early house and gardens known as 'Kew Farm', which seems to have taken place around 1630, and any evidence contributing to our knowledge of Kew Farm is extremely valuable.

The wall may also have been reused, perhaps over a hundred years later, as part of the probable walled garden feature shown on Rocque's plan of 1746 and Richardson's plan of 1771. On the former the area is referred to in the legend as being the gardens of Lady Clinton. Very little other evidence (either archaeological or documentary) has been recovered to say anything more about the structure or its origins. A reliable date has been proposed for the bricks and mortar of between 1620 and 1700, most probably in the earlier part of this time period. Some artefacts were recovered, including clay pipe and potsherds of earlier post-medieval date, but these have not contributed to a more reliable date for the site due to their scarcity and the often disturbed nature of the contexts in which they were recovered.

- *Is there any evidence for the destruction of the 18th century features (including dating)? Also, is there any evidence for any significant later activity on the site not recorded by the 19th century plans?*

There is some evidence for robbing of the brickwork (for example in Trench 9), and although there is no direct dating evidence the map record would suggest that it took place between the 1780s and 1830s.

8. Conclusions and recommendations

The archaeological evaluation revealed one significant area of archaeological deposits: a probable early to mid 17th century wall, which may also have embanked a terrace and raised path to the north. The extent of the wall is currently unknown, though it presumably extends further into the site area, which may result in deleterious impact by the proposed development of the new playground. It seems probable from the cartographic evidence that there is also an adjoining wall which extends at some point to the south, away from the proposed development area.

However, if the area is to be affected by the redevelopment proposal then it is recommended that further archaeological mitigation should take place, which could also help to determine the date, extent, form and function of the brickwork structure and to plot the extent of the walled garden feature.

9. Select Bibliography

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Appendix 1: the Finds

The evaluation produced a relatively small finds assemblage, of which the clay pipe has provided reliable dating evidence for post-wall deposits. The *in situ* wall in trenches 4 and 6 to 10 also contained datable brick, which was assessed by John Brown of Giffords.

1. Brick (Trenches 4 & 6 to 10)

Trench 4 [15] The brick and mortar samples from the red-brick wall structure [15] comprised 8 courses of bricks across the width of the trench. The bricks were of London fabric type 3033 and was a fairly dense orange sandy brick with a large amount of quartzite. Some bricks showed evidence of their production, most notably in sunken margins visible on the edge of a number of the bricks. The brick had dimensions of 222-231mm long x 109mm wide x 55-58mm deep. Brick of this fabric and dimension have a broad possible date range, from 1450 to 1760. However, the mortar is assessed to date between 1630 and 1730, narrowing down the potential date of the brick. Also, it is not possible that the wall is later in date due to re-use of the bricks because there is no trace of mortar on the foundation bricks and lowest courses of the wall, indicating that they were new when used for its construction.

There is an insert of later bricks [43] into the north face of [15] where, due to local collapse, alteration or a built in feature, two courses of later bricks run along the upper two courses of the wall, in the west side of the north face. The brick had dimensions of 225mm long x 98mm wide x 58-63mm thick and were longer and thinner than type 3033. This also indicates that they were made at a point after legislative changes governing the size of bricks in the 18th century. They were purple/red in colour, with black flecks, indicating the additional of combustible material. The brick is also more brittle and were fired at a higher temperature. This brick is type 3032, an intermediate brick between 3033 and later purple/grey London stock brick.

In conclusion the date of context [15] most probably falls within the date range of *circa* 1630-1700, whilst [43] dates to the 18th century. The other trenches containing brickwork were similarly examined and are entirely consistent with the overall dating for the structure – trenches 6 to 10 also contained brick Type 3033 and 3039 and are viewed as contemporary with the wall in Trench 4.

2. Clay tobacco pipe

Three complete bowls, two incomplete bowls and 15 fragments of stem were recovered from 6 contexts. In the descriptions below bowls have been classified and dated according to the Chronology of London Bowl Types (Atkinson Oswald 1969) and the Simplified General Typology (Oswald 1975, 37-40), the prefixes AO and OS being used to denote each typology. One bowl had a maker's mark, the initials 'W' and 'P' on each side of the foot:

Trench 1 [+] – Stem fragment, 58mm x 9.5mm (length x diam)
– **Bowl**: fragment of foot portion of stem; no rim.

Trench 1 [4] – Stem fragment, 63mm x 8.5mm
– " " 42.5mm x 7.5mm
– " " 48mm x 9.5mm
– " " 25mm x 8.5mm
– " " 23mm x 8.5mm
– " " 20mm x 6.5mm
– **Bowl**: 22mm fragment of bowl to rim.

Trench 1 [6] – Stem fragment, 39mm x 7mm
– **Bowl**: Type 25 (Atkinson and Oswald) dating from 1700 to 1770

Trench 4 [13] – Stem fragment, 61.5mm x 8mm
– " " 43mm x 7.5mm
– " " 35mm x 6mm
– " " 29mm x 8mm
– " " 23mm x 8.5mm
– " " 26mm x 5.5mm
– . " " 27.5mm x 5mm
– **Bowl**: Type 8 or 9 (Oswald) dating from 1680 to 1710

Trench 7 [22] – Stem fragment, 27.5mm x 8.5mm

Trench 8 [27] – **Bowl**: Type 8 or 9; stamped with 'W' 'P' dates from 1680 to 1710

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3. Pottery

Trench 1 [+] – 4 assorted sherds of post-medieval pottery, including tin-glazed ware (TGW) with a light blue glaze (*c* 1630-1800) and Staffordshire slipware (STSL), *c* 1650-1800

– Sherd of post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900. 22mm x 12mm

Trench 1 [4] – Sherd of post-medieval redware (PMR), 1580-1900. 41mm x 26mm

Trench 4 [13] – Base sherd of post-medieval redware, 29mm x 25mm

– Sherd of brown-glazed post-medieval redware (?PMFRB), *c* 1580-1700. 11mm x 12mm

– Sherd of early post-medieval redware (PMRE) 1480-1600. 22mm x 17mm

4. Conclusion

The datable clay pipe fragments indicate a date ranging from the late 17th to the early 18th century. Three of these were found in Trench 1, which was unrelated to the wall feature. However, the clay pipe bowls found in the post-wall deposits in Trench 4 and 8 are possibly indicative of the later disturbance of the wall that can be observed Trenches 8 and 9. The pottery does not provide particularly good dating evidence due to the small quantity obtained and also wide range of production dates, *eg*., of post-medieval redwares.

Appendix II OASIS Data Collection form

OASIS ID: compassa1-63778

Project details

Project name	Land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, Kew Gardens
Short description of the project	Archaeological field evaluation of land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building in the northwestern part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond TW9 3AG took place from 5th to 14th August 2009. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to proposed installation of new outdoor play equipment. Ten evaluation trenches (1 to 10) were excavated across the site. Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 revealed simple stratigraphic sequences of topsoil or clearance debris over subsoil, with natural sand and gravels being exposed in all trenches overlain with silt and sand alluvial sequences. Trenches 1 and, 2 and 3 also revealed post-medieval or modern features, including a services trench and pit in Trench 2 and a failed tree pit in trench 3. Trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 revealed sections of a brick wall of probable Tudor or slightly later date. The wall most probably dates to between 1620 to 1700 based on assessment of the bricks, which were mostly of type 3033, although there were some examples of 3039 and later 3032 bricks. This wall is deemed to be contemporary with the palatial Kew Farm, which was extended or rebuilt c 1630. It may also have been reused as part of a rectangular garden structure, visible on Richardson's 1771 plan. Rocque's plan of 1748 shows the rectangular feature and has an associated legend naming the area as 'Gardens belong[ing] to [Lady Clinton]', suggesting the structure is a walled garden.
Project dates	Start: 05-09-2009 End: 14-09-2009
Previous/future work	No / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	CLJ09 – Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	09/1483/FUL - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	World Heritage Site
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	BRICK WALL STRUCTURE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK WALL Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Outdoor play area
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	After full determination (eg. As a condition)
Status	Complete

Project location

Site location	GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND AND KEW Land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, Kew Gardens
Postcode	TW9 3AG
Study area	1500.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	NGR - TQ 18425 77280 LL - 51.4815657046 -0.294368241115 (decimal) LL - 51 28 53 N 000 17 39 W (degrees) Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 5.51m Max: 5.76m
Status	Complete

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Royal Botanic Gardens Kew
Project design originator	Compass Archaeology
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Eleanor Coen
Type of sponsor/funding body	Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.
Status	Complete

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London archaeological archive
Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Glass','Metal','Worked stone/lithics'
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London archive
Digital Contents	'none'
Digital Media available	'Text'
Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archive
Paper Contents	'none'
Paper Media available	'Context sheet','Drawing','Photograph','Plan','Section'
Status	Complete

Project bibliography 1

Title	Replacement Children's Play Area: Land Adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Coen, E.
Date	2009
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	45 page comb-bound report with plastic cover.

Appendix III *London Archaeologist* Summary

Site Address:	Land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, LB of Richmond, TW9 3AG
Project type:	Archaeological Evaluation
Dates of Fieldwork:	5th to 14th August 2009 (two phases)
Site Code:	CLJ09
Supervisor:	Geoff Potter
NGR:	TQ 18425 77280
Funding Body:	Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

Archaeological field evaluation of land adjacent to the Climbers and Creepers Building in the northwestern part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew took place in August 2009. The evaluation was carried out as part of the planning process prior to proposed installation of new outdoor play equipment. Ten small trenches (1 to 10) were excavated across the site. Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5 revealed simple stratigraphic sequences of topsoil or clearance debris over subsoil, with natural sand and gravels overlain with silt and sand alluvial sequences. Trenches 1, 2 and 3 also revealed post-medieval or modern features, including a services trench and pit and a failed tree pit. Trenches 4, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10 revealed sections of a brick wall of Tudor or slightly later date, possibly contemporary with a major rebuilding of Kew Farm *c* 1631. The wall most likely dates to between 1620 to 1700 based on the assessment of the bricks, which were mostly of MoL fabric type 3033 – although there were some examples of 3039 and later 3032 bricks. This wall may have been later incorporated into a large rectangular feature, possibly a walled garden, which is visible on Richardson's 1771 plan. Rocque's plan of 1748 also shows this feature and has an associated legend naming the area as 'Gardens belong[ing] to [Lady Clinton]'.

Natural deposits consisted of alluvium overlying river terrace gravels, recorded at *c*.5.76 and 5.51m OD.