

**THE ORANGERY YARD,
KENSINGTON PALACE**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL
INVESTIGATION**

PCA REPORT NO: 11662

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PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY


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THE ORANGERY YARD, KENSINGTON PALACE
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION

Site Code: KEN22

Central National Grid Reference: TQ 2586 8019

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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the results of an archaeological investigation at Kensington Palace by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The work was conducted in two phases: the first between the 12th and the 15th of November 2013 and the second between the 20th and the 28th of January 2014.
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces and comprised the excavation of trenches to determine the nature of archaeological deposit survival in the area to the rear of The Orangery at Kensington Palace.
- 1.3 Historic Royal Palaces commissioned the project in order to ascertain the presence or absence of archaeological remains. The first phase of the evaluation excavated and recorded three trenches by archaeologists from Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. In the second phase two more trenches were excavated and recorded by archaeologists from Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd.
- 1.4 The earliest deposits identified were made ground layers pre-dating the early 18th century development at the site. A brick-built wall foundation, relating to the construction of the Orangery in 1704-5 AD, was identified suggesting the existence of a wall enclosing a yard at the rear of the Orangery, but one which did not abut the Orangery as suggested on John Smith's Drainage Plan of 1754.
- 1.5 A large pit truncated the western face of the wall which, with further made ground deposits, relate to 19th century landscaping of the gardens and yard. Various service runs and a concrete-based stone slab, considered to be a manhole or structural feature, also dated from the 19th century.
- 1.6 A brick wall foundation discovered in the east of the area investigated was attributed to the construction of public lavatories in the late 19th century. All archaeological deposits were sealed by topsoil horizons relating to landscaping in the 20th century.
- 1.7 In Trenches 1, 2 and 5 previous landscaping episodes and services up to a depth of 1.20m impacted extensively on earlier archaeological deposits; however it is possible that archaeological deposits do remain beneath these works.
- 1.8 All masonry remains were recorded and left *in situ*.
- 1.9 Natural strata were not observed in any trench.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 An archaeological investigation was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd at Kensington Palace, London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea (Figure 1) during investigations associated with the Orangery Yard Project. A first phase evaluation saw archaeologists from PCA excavate three trial trenches in order to establish the nature and degree of survival of any archaeological deposits, in particular a former yard wall that is believed to have once existed on site. The second phase saw archaeologists from PCA excavate two more trial trenches; one placed connecting two former trenches (Figure 2). All trenches were placed in locations that maximised the opportunity to recover the former yard wall.
- 2.2 The first phase of work was undertaken on the 12th to the 15th November 2013 and the second phase was on the 20th to the 28th January 2014. The work followed a 'Brief' prepared by the Assistant Curator of Kensington Palace, Fiona Keith-Lucas of Historic Royal Palaces (2013). The principle objectives of the work, as defined in that document, were to:
- Establish the nature and degree of survival of any archaeological deposits, which might include traces of the brick wall, cobbled or paved yard surfaces with their associated levelling surfaces, and possible structures related to the storage of fuel and furnace.
 - Recover the remains of pottery and other finds deposited in the trenches.
- 2.3 The site comprises an area immediately to the rear of the Orangery at Kensington Palace, situated in a plant bed covered in thick shrub, on fairly uneven ground, lying at a height between 28.13m AOD and 27.27m AOD. The central National Grid Reference of the site is TQ 2586 8019.
- 2.4 The first phase evaluation was supervised by Richard Humphrey, the second phase evaluation was supervised by Joe Brooks, and both were managed by Chris Mayo, of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited. The archaeological works were inspected and monitored by Fiona Keith-Lucas.
- 2.5 The Orangery is a Grade I listed building and lies within the Kensington Palace Scheduled Ancient Monument. Scheduled Monument Consent for the investigative work was obtained by Historic Royal Palaces.
- 2.6 The site was given the unique site code KEN22 by the Assistant Curator of Kensington Palace, and all site archive material was labelled with that code. The artefactual from the investigation will be deposited at the Historic Royal Palaces store at Hampton Court Palace, whilst the written archive, also comprising photographic records, will be stored at the Tower of London.

3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The following archaeological and historical background has been reproduced using the synopsis used in preparation for a watching brief at Kensington Palace in 2013 (Mayo 2013) with additions from the brief for the evaluation at the Orangery yard (Prosser and Keith-Lucas 2013). This summary covers only the development of Kensington Palace in the post-medieval period.

3.1 16th Century

- 3.1.1 Hyde Park was acquired by King Henry VIII in 1536 and 600 acres were converted into a deer park. Bayswater Road, named Acton Road in the 16th century, marked the northern boundary of the park, whilst the forerunner of High Street Kensington delineated the southern boundary. In 1599, it was sold to Sir Walter Cope, joint Keeper of Hyde Park and Chamberlain of the Exchequer.

3.2 17th Century

- 3.2.1 At some point before his death in 1614, Sir Walter Cope sold off a strip of land that would later become the grounds of Kensington Palace. It was bounded by Hyde Park to the east, Kensington Church Street to the west, Acton Road to the north and the forerunner of Kensington High Street to the south. George Coppin, Clerk of the Crown and friend of Cope's, purchased the land between 1605 and 1614.
- 3.2.2 Coppin was responsible for the first phase of Kensington Palace's construction, between 1605 and 1620. He commissioned a villa-style Jacobean mansion, probably designed by land surveyor and antiquary John Thorpe. The villa was rectangular in plan, its long axis being orientated east-west. This would later become the Palace's core, around which later additions would be added.
- 3.2.3 The estate was sold to the Finch family sometime around 1630. Deeds from the sale suggest the grounds consisted of ornamental gardens combined with orchards, woodland, pastoral and arable land. A series of outbuildings are also listed, including barns and stables. The writings of Samuel Pepys, who visited the house in 1664, mention the presence of a fountain. A "marble conduit" and a grotto, situated in a plot next to the southwest corner of the main building, were documented in 1662. The estate remained in the possession of the Finch family for three generations. It became known as Nottingham House after Sir Heneage Finch II was made 1st Earl of Nottingham in 1681.
- 3.2.4 In 1689, the Monarchs William and Mary purchased Nottingham House from Daniel Finch, 2nd Earl of Nottingham. The building became known as Kensington House when the Royal Court took up residence, sometime after 1689.
- 3.2.5 There have been stages of modification, repair and improvements made to Kensington House throughout the 17th and 18th centuries which continue to modern day.

3.3 18th Century

- 3.3.1 During the reign of Queen Anne (1702-1714) as part of an extensive rejuvenation of the gardens, to a cost of £26,000, several outbuildings to the Palace were constructed. The most prominent of these was The Orangery, which was constructed under the direction, and probably to the designs of Nicholas Hawksmoor and Sir John Vanbrugh in the style known as 'Queen Anne' or English baroque. The building has been used for several purposes through its history, including receptions, a greenhouse for the wintering of exotic plants and for ceremonies such as the distribution of the Maundy money and 'touching the King's (or Queen's) Evil'.

3.4 19th Century

- 3.4.1 After Victoria became Queen (1837-1901), Kensington Palace ceased to be occupied as a residence. The State Apartments were neglected and as a result, the structural fabric of the building deteriorated. In 1897, Parliament was persuaded to pay for restorative building work, the aim of which was to recreate the Palace of George II. After the work was completed, the State Apartments were opened to the public and used as an exhibition space. This took place on the Queen's 80th birthday, on 24th May 1899.
- 3.4.2 During the period of neglect at Kensington Palace, the gardens and outbuildings also suffered, including The Orangery. The building experienced some decline, and by the 1880s was used as a potting shed. It was eventually restored in 1898 as an indoor shelter from the weather, and was occasionally used as a studio to restore paintings.

3.5 20th Century

- 3.5.1 The last major refurbishment of The Orangery took place in 1976 when the Portland Stone internal paving was re-laid. Since the 1980s the building has been used as a restaurant and venue for private functions.

3.6 Site Specific

- 3.6.1 The Brief prepared by the Assistant Curator to Kensington Palace for the archaeological work (Prosser and Keith-Lucas 2013) included the following statement regarding The Orangery, which was constructed in 1704-5 under the direction, and probably to the designs of, Nicholas Hawksmoor and Sir John Vanbrugh.

No original plans for the building survive, and the earliest detailed drawing is represented by the so-called Drainage Plan of 1754, where the building appears on the periphery, with little surrounding context. Renewal of the stone paving in the 1970s revealed a system of underground culverts and vaults which channelled hot air through the building, as would be expected of a structure of this type, which was essentially used as a greenhouse in its early days. We must presume, in the absence of other evidence, that this was fuelled by a furnace nearby; the rear of the building seems the most likely location. The map evidence shows a yard to the rear of the building, which appears surrounded by a curtilage wall. Besides external entrances, a single door gave access

from the rear apse – this survives today. A nineteenth century photograph of the Orangery suggests that this wall was fairly high, and survived until modern times.

Public lavatories were built on the east side of this rear plot in the early 20th century – these were reconstructed in the 1960s.

4 METHODOLOGY

- 4.1 During the initial phase of the Evaluation three trenches were excavated to the rear of the Orangery (Figure 2). These measured 2m x 1.5m, extended to a depth of 1.20m and were labelled Trench 1, Trench 2 and Trench 3. However, in Trench 1 and Trench 3 the depth was not reached due to services and other constraints; Trench 3 reached a depth of 1m and Trench 1 c.0.90m. Trenches one and two were opened by machine and subsequently hand excavated by archaeologists from PCA, whilst trench three was excavated by hand by archaeologists from PCA.
- 4.2 The second phase consisted of the excavation of a slot trench Trench 4 which linked Trench 1 and Trench 2. Another trench was excavated to the east of Trench 4 and was labelled Trench 5. These trenches were undertaken by hand by archaeologists from PCA, measured 3m x 1m and dug to a depth of 1.20m.
- 4.3 Following all excavations relevant faces of each trench were cleaned using appropriate hand tools, and were recorded both in plan (at 1:20) and in section (at 1:10). Descriptions of all deposits were recorded on pro-forma sheets. Photographs were taken as appropriate. The trenches were located by measuring to nearby fixed points which could be correlated to OS map detail.
- 4.4 Heights above Ordnance Datum used in this report were calculated from an OS benchmark (value 27.66m OD) on the northeast corner of The Orangery. Temporary benchmarks were established near the relevant test pits with values; 27.10m OD (Trench 1 and Trench 2), 27.19m OD (Trench 4), and 27.45m OD (Trench 5).

5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL PHASE DISCUSSION

5.1 Phase 1: Pre-c1704

- 5.1.1 The earliest deposit encountered during the excavations was layer [26] in Trench 4. The layer consisted of mid-yellowish brown silty clay with occasional inclusions of CBM (unfortunately too fragmentary to confidently date), encountered at 26.54m AOD with a thickness in excess of 0.53m.
- 5.1.2 Layer [26] was considered to be equivalent to layer [14] which was discovered in Trench 5; it had an identical soil composition and was recorded at 26.89m AOD. Layer [14] measured at least 0.73m north-south by 0.92m east-west and was at least 0.14m thick to the limit of excavation.
- 5.1.3 Also in Trench 5, layer [18] consisted of mid-brown clayey silt with frequent inclusions of CBM flecks; it was encountered at 27.96m AOD and was at least 0.15m thick.
- 5.1.4 Layer [21], at the north of Trench 5, comprised compact orangey-brown sandy clayey gravel (the ratio was recorded as 10:20:70); the gravel was medium rounded flint nodules, which were well sorted throughout the deposit. The surface of the layer was encountered at a height of 26.93m AOD, and it has a thickness of at least 0.68m. Based upon the substantial thickness of this deposit it is considered that it is attributable to ground-raising and/or leveling.
- 5.1.5 Layer [26] was overlain by layer [34] in Trench 4, a mid-brown sandy silt with occasional lenses of sandy gravel and occasional inclusions of CBM, with a thickness of 0.58m. Layer [34] was considered to be equivalent to layer [36] although no physical relationship was observed due to the constraints of the trench. Layer [36] was a moderately compact mid-brown silty-sand which was 0.48m thick and recorded at an upper height of 27.03m AOD.
- 5.1.6 The layers [26], [18], [21], [14], [34] and [36] are considered to represent garden landscaping before the building of The Orangery and the associated yard wall in 1704-05, pre-dating John Smith's 1754 Drainage Plan (Figures 4 and 6; Plate 9). Unfortunately none of the layers yielded any datable material.

5.2 Phase 2: 18th Century

- 5.2.1 Layer [34] in Trench 4 was truncated by construction cut [33] containing the foundation of wall [27] and a yellowy brown silty clay construction cut backfill [32].
- 5.2.2 The brickwork [27] measured at least 1.0m north south at base and was 0.90m thick (east west) to a height of 0.64m with an upper elevation of 26.62m AOD. The foundation was constructed from a combination of reused post-Great Fire red brick and other post-medieval red brick dating from AD 1450 to the 18th Century. The wall was bonded with hard brown lime concrectionary cement in an irregular bond, which dated the wall to the 18th Century (pers comm. Kevin Hayward).
- 5.2.3 The brickwork [27] is considered to be the remains of an external wall illustrated in John Smith's Drainage Plan of 1754 and built in 1704-05. The brickwork [27] aligns with that of the western wall of the Orangery and its location at the rear of the Orangery also matches

John Smith's plan (Figures 4 and 6, Plates 7-12). It had suffered truncation to its western face by a later pit cut (context [25], see Phase 4).

- 5.2.4 Due to the presence of a cable (marked by yellow tape) against the face of the footing to the Orangery wall, it was not possible to fully investigate the footing of the wall (Plates 1 and 2). However, the exposed section of footing contained newly made post-Great Fire brick, fabric 3033 and 3032R, laid in a header bond. The footing stepped out from the line of the above-ground wall by 100mm, and this stepped footing supported a chamfer course. On the face of the northern wall of the Orangery no scar could be seen to suggest that the yard wall once abutted or joined to it (Plate 2).
- 5.2.5 The southern end of yard wall [27] implied (from the parallel east-west return of construction cut [33], the relatively straight line of the wall and also the absence of an obvious southern truncation) that this was the original southern end of the wall as built. Some truncation had occurred to the western face and southwestern corner of the wall, but despite this the evidence suggests that the wall began from this position. The absence of scarring to the northern face of the Orangery wall reinforces this.
- 5.2.6 John Smith's Drainage Plan of 1754 shows in this location a doorway or similar by which the yard was accessed; the door is shown as offset from the northern wall of the Orangery by 2.28m. The southern edge of wall [27] coincides precisely with the southern jamb of the suggested doorway (Figure 7). The available evidence suggests that the doorway within the yard wall may actually have been further south than shown on the 1754 plan, or else that the yard wall stopped at 2.28m to the north of the Orangery wall and the resultant gap provided access to the yard. The discrepancy between the archaeological remains and the plan of 1754 is perhaps simplest explained by inaccuracies in the mapping at the time.
- 5.2.7 Layer [14] in Trench 5 was truncated by cut [22] which contained compact yellowish brown sandy clayey gravel [11] with very occasional CBM and mortar, which was dated between 1600 and 1800. The feature as observed was square in shape, measured at least 0.45m x 0.45m to a depth of at least 0.42m and was located in the south-west corner of Trench 5 at a height of 27.37m AOD. This feature may be a pit although this interpretation is extremely speculative based upon the available evidence.

5.3 Phase 3: Late 18th Century – Early 19th Century

- 5.3.1 In Trench 5 a construction cut [20] extended into the south west side of the trench and truncated feature [22]. This cut [20] contained a drain [19] constructed from re-used pinkish purple brick dated between 1750 and 1850, with a slate base and a mid-greyish brown silty clay backfill [24]. This feature was encountered at 27.37m AOD. The backfill [24] surrounding the drain [19] was truncated to the north by construction cut [16], which contained an iron service pipe.
- 5.3.2 The feature is considered to represent further evidence of the management of the ground to the north of the Orangery in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.

5.4 Phase 4: 19th Century

- 5.4.1 Two linear features in Trench 5 ran approximately east-west and were cut into layer [18]. Cut [16] was at least 0.94m long (east-west) by 0.56m wide, was recorded at an upper height of 27.39m AOD and was in excess of 0.50m deep. It contained an iron pipe and backfill [15], a mid brown silty clay which contained flecks of CBM and charcoal.
- 5.4.2 Cut [17] was at least 0.84m long (east-west) by 0.58m wide, was recorded at an upper height of 27.39m AOD and was in excess of 0.46m deep. It contained a concrete base [13] beneath an iron pipe, and then backfill material [35], a mid brown silty clay which contained flecks of CBM and charcoal.
- 5.4.3 These pipes were truncated by cut [23], which contained a large cement and stone slab supported by a concrete and brick foundation [12] and a very compact mid grey silty gravel and cement crush [10]. The slab and foundation [12] measured 0.83m north/south and 0.62m east/west with a depth of 0.37m. The top of the slab was encountered at 27.33m AOD and extended into the west side of the trench (Figures 5 and 6, plate 13). This feature was considered to be a man-hole structure dating from the 19th century. The fill [10] contained CBM fragments dating from 1700 to 1850+.
- 5.4.4 In Trench 4 a large pit cut [25], which measured 1.54m north south and 1.0m east west, has been made into layers [32] and [36], and had also truncated the western face of wall [27]. The pit contained two fills, [7] and [8] which consist of mid greyish brown clayey silt with frequent sub rounded stones and light greyish brown silty clay respectively. Both fills contained pottery, CBM, CTP and glass which dated them to the late 19th century (Figures 4 and 6, plate 8).
- 5.4.5 The man-hole [12] in Trench 5 was sealed by a layer [9] of made ground consisting of light to mid brown clayey silt with frequent flint inclusions and very occasional lenses of clay and fragments of chalk. Pottery, CBM, CTP and glass recovered from the layer were dated to the late 19th century, or perhaps even the early 20th century. The deposit was recorded at a height of 27.79m AOD with a thickness of 0.50m.
- 5.4.6 Layer [3] in Trench 1 was a light yellowish brown clay containing occasional flecks of brick, chalk and mortar inclusions. The layer was at least 0.42m thick from 26.60m AOD (Figure 6, plate 2). No dateable finds were recovered from the layer, however the deposit is similar to other made ground deposits dating from the 19th century (such as [9]) so a similar date has been attributed to it.
- 5.4.7 Deposits [3] and [9] are considered to represent levelling and debris clearance attributable to the continued reworking of the site.
- 5.4.8 In Trench 3 a made ground layer consisting of light brown silty clay [6] with very occasional flecks of CBM and charcoal with small round pebbles was discovered. The deposit was recorded at a height of 27.00m AOD and it had a thickness in excess of 0.48m. The layer was truncated to the west by the construction cut [5] of a wall [1]. The wall was constructed from yellow Estuarine brick with an English bond and measured 1.38m north south and 0.34m east west, with a depth of 0.54m, including the concrete foundations. The brickwork

[1] is dated between 1880 and 1920. Construction cut [5] also contained a dark brown silt backfill with occasional round pebbles [4] (Figures 3 and 6, plates 4-6).

- 5.4.9 Wall [1] is part of a toilet block built in the late 19th century and illustrated in a 1903 Office of Works plan (Figure 8). Underlying layer [6] may either be ground consolidation associated with the toilets or an earlier landscaping deposit.

5.5 Phase 5: 20th Century

- 5.5.1 A construction cut [31] for either a path or service running along the eastern edge of Trench 5 truncated layer [9] to the east. Cut [31] contained three fills, [28], [29] and [30], with [28] being the upper fill. Fill [28] consisted of dark greyish brown silty clay with occasional small stones. The secondary fill [29] consisted of light greyish brown silty clay, whilst the primary fill [30] consisted of light grey silty clay gravels with frequent sub-angular flint nodules. The construction cut [31] was encountered at 27.76m AOD with a depth of 0.67m; it measured 0.75m east west and ran the whole length of the 3m trench (Figures 5 and 6). Cut [31] represents garden landscaping that occurred in this location during the 20th century.
- 5.5.2 Sealing layer [3], found in Trench 1, was a deposit of red and creamy white crushed brick and mortar [2], encountered at 26.54m AOD. No dateable finds were recovered, however it underlay a range of 20th century services thus dating the context to before this period (Plates 1 and 2).

6 INTERPRETATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS

6.1 General

6.1.1 The principle objectives of the archaeological Evaluation as stipulated in the brief (Prosser and Keith-Lucas 2013) were to consider:

- The nature and degree of survival of any archaeological deposits, which might include traces of the brick wall, cobbled or paved yard surfaces with their associated levelling surfaces, and possible structures related to the storage of fuel and furnace.
- The remains of pottery and other finds deposited in the trenches.

6.1.2 In no intervention was natural geological strata encountered. In all trenches investigation proceeded to the maximum achievable depth permitted by the presence of services or health and safety constraints. The archaeological deposits and remains encountered during the work have been grouped into five phases.

6.2 Interpretations

PHASE 1: Pre c1704

6.2.1 The earliest archaeological remains recorded were interpreted as made ground layers (Phase 1) pre-dating the c1704 Orangery yard wall, depicted on the 1754 Drainage Plan. These deposits were located in the Trenches 4 and 5.

6.2.2 One of these layers, [21] in 5, was postulated during fieldwork as a possible surface due to its compact nature and the gravel content. However this theory is now discounted on the basis of the substantial thickness (>0.68m) of the layer and because the gravel was well-sorted throughout, rather than being at the upper horizon.

PHASE 2: 18th Century

6.2.3 A brick-built wall foundation was found in Trench 4 (Phase 2). This feature, which is considered to represent the external wall of a yard at the rear of the Orangery as seen on the Drainage Plan of 1754 (Figure 7) and dating from the construction of the Orangery in 1704-05, was left *in situ*. The construction of the foundation was from reused red bricks, which are considered to perhaps be from an earlier building on the site, possibly Nottingham House.

6.2.4 The southern end of yard wall [27] implied that this was the original terminus of the wall as built. The absence of scarring to the northern face of the Orangery wall reinforces this. John Smith's Drainage Plan of 1754 shows in this location a doorway or similar by which the yard was accessed. The southern edge of wall [27] coincides precisely with the southern jamb of the suggested doorway (Figure 7). The available evidence suggests that the doorway within the yard wall may actually have been further south than shown on the 1754 plan, or else

that the yard wall stopped to the north of the Orangery wall and the resultant gap provided access to the yard. The discrepancy between the archaeological remains and the plan of 1754 is perhaps simplest explained by inaccuracies in the mapping at the time.

- 6.2.5 This wall foundation was not located in any other intervention, presumably due to truncation by later activity including service trenches and garden landscaping. Nevertheless, the datum height on top of the wall foundation in Trench 4 was at a lower level (26.62m AOD) than the base of services in Trench 5 (26.89m AOD) which prevented deeper investigation; therefore it is possible that remains of this wall could still be recovered beneath these services in Trench 5.

PHASE 3: Late 18th – Early 19th Century

- 6.2.6 A pipe with associated cut found in Trench 5 may date from the late 18th to early 19th century, and is evidence for the management of the site in this period.

PHASE 4: 19th Century

- 6.2.7 Made ground, which was observed above the 18th Century brick foundation in Trench 4, is considered to represent the development and restoration of the Orangery and surrounding gardens during the 19th Century.
- 6.2.8 A brick-built wall and foundation was seen and left in situ in Trench 3. It is proposed that this feature is the remains of a toilet block built in the late 19th century, which is shown on the 1903 Office of Works plan (Figure 8).
- 6.2.9 Numerous services dating probably from the 19th century were encountered in all of the interventions, extensively truncating the earlier deposits.

PHASE 5: 20th Century

- 6.2.10 A possible path was found in Trench 5 which is dated to the 20th century. A deposit of brick rubble also sits within this phase.

6.3 Conclusions

- 6.3.1 The earliest deposits identified were made ground layers pre-dating the early 18th century development at the site. A brick-built wall foundation, relating to the construction of the Orangery in 1704-5 AD, was identified suggesting the existence of a wall enclosing a yard at the rear of the Orangery. Compacted gravel deposits indicated the potential existence of a yard surface within the projected confines of the yard wall.
- 6.3.2 A large pit truncated the west face of the wall. This and further made ground relate to 19th century landscaping. Various service runs and a concrete-based stone slab, considered to be a manhole or structural feature, also dated from the 19th century.
- 6.3.3 A brick wall foundation discovered in the east of the area investigated was attributed to the construction of public lavatories in the late 19th century. All archaeological deposits were

sealed by topsoil horizons relating to landscaping in the 20th century.

- 6.3.4 In Trenches 1, 2 and 5 previous landscaping episodes and services up to a depth of 1.20m impacted extensively on earlier archaeological deposits; however it is possible that archaeological deposits do remain beneath these works.
- 6.3.5 All masonry remains were recorded and left *in situ*. Natural strata were not observed in any trench.
- 6.3.6 The archive from the site work, comprising written, drawn, photographic and artefactual evidence all identified with unique site code KEN22, will eventually be transferred to Historic Royal Palaces for long-term curation and storage.
- 6.3.7 The results of the archaeological investigation will be published as an entry in the *London Archaeologist* 'Round Up'.

7 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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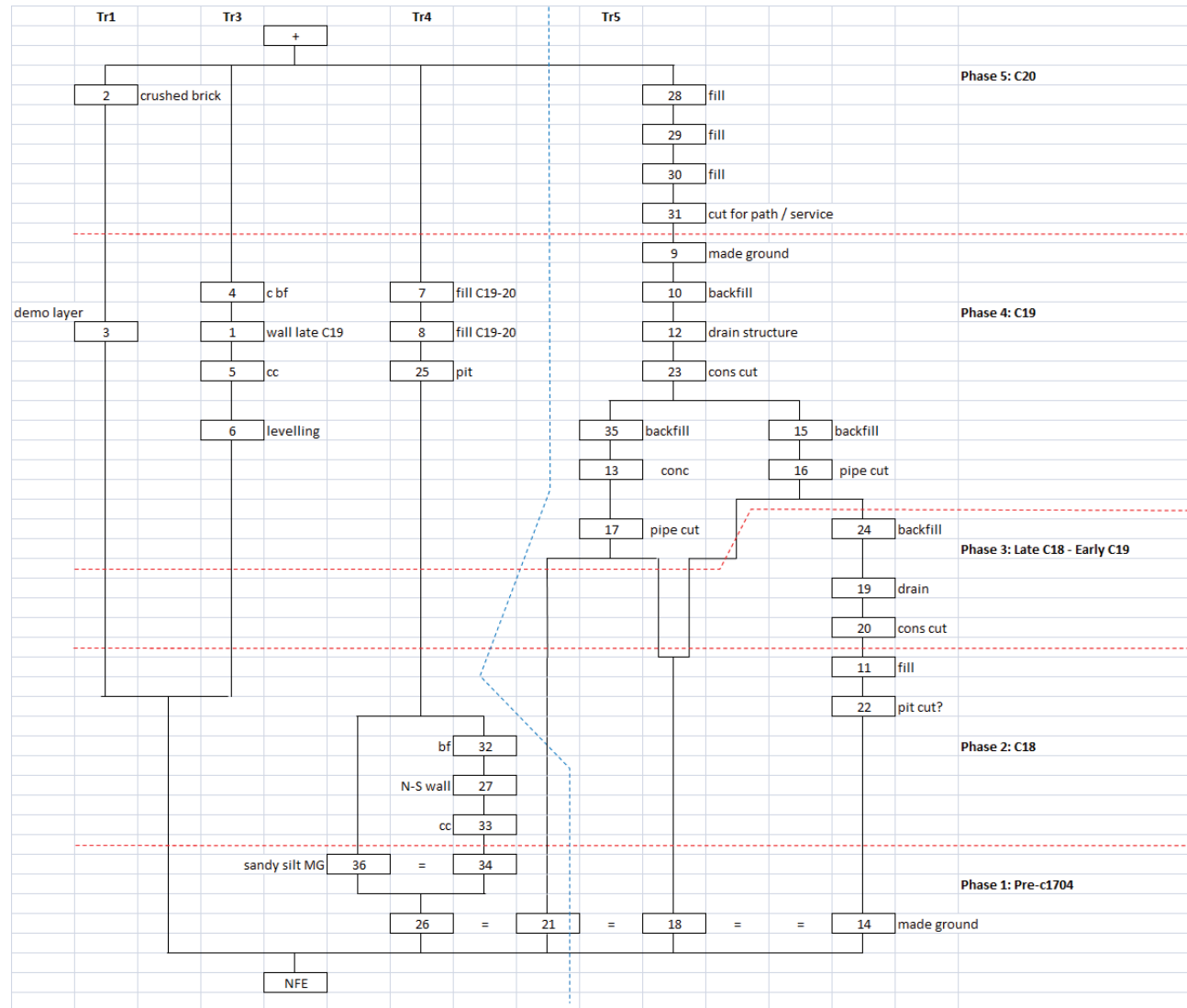
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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT INDEX INCLUDING DATING OF FINDS

Context	Type	Trench	Section	Description	Date	Phase	High OD Height	Pottery Spot dates		CBM Spot dates		CTP Spot dates		Glass Spot dates	
								from	to	from	to	from	to	from	to
1	Masonry	3	S1	Toilet block wall	Late 19th Century - 1903	4	27.05m			1880	1920				
2	Layer	1	n/a	Crushed demolition rubble deposit	20th Century	5	26.54m								
3	Layer	1	S7	Made ground layer	19th Century	4	26.60m								
4	Fill	3	S1	Backfill of construction cut [5]	Late 19th Century - 1903	4	26.98m								
5	Cut	3	S1	Construction cut for wall [1]	Late 19th Century - 1903	4	26.98m								
6	Layer	3	S1	Levelling layer	Late 19th Century - 1903	4	27.00m								
7	Fill	4	S3	Fill of [25]	Late 19th Century	4	27.04m	1650	1900	1880	1950				
8	Fill	4	S3	Fill of [25]	Late 19th Century	4	26.54m	1650	1900	1700	1900	1580	1910	1850	1950
9	Layer	5	S2	Made ground	Late 19th Century	4	27.79m	1850	1950	1700	1850+	1580	1910	1800	1950
10	Fill	5	S2	Fill of [23]	19th Century	4	27.39m			1700	1850+				
11	Fill	5	S2 & S6	Fill of [22]	18th Century	2	27.34m			1600	1800				
12	Masonry	5	S2	Stone slab and concrete forming drain	19th Century	4	27.33m								
13	Layer	5	n/a	Pipe in concrete, within [17]	19th Century	4	26.93m								
14	Layer	5	n/a	Made ground	pre-c1704	1	26.89m								
15	Fill	5	S2 & S5	Fill of [16]	19th Century	4	27.39m								
16	Cut	5	S2 & S5	Construction cut for pipe	19th Century	4	27.39m								
17	Cut	5	S2 & S5	Construction cut for pipe [13]	19th Century	4	27.39m								
18	Layer	5	n/a	Made ground	pre-c1704	1	27.96m								
19	Masonry	5	n/a	Drain	Late 18th-Early 19th century	3	27.36m			1750	1850				
20	Cut	5	S2	Construction cut for drain [19]	Late 18th-Early 19th century	3	27.37m								
21	Layer	5	S2	Made ground with gravel content	pre-c1704	1	26.93m								
22	Cut	5	S2 & S6	Cut of square pit	18th Century	2	27.37m								
23	Cut	5	S2	Construction cut for slab [12]	19th Century	4	27.39m								
24	Fill	5	S2	Backfill of construction cut [20]	Late 18th-Early 19th century	3	27.36m								

Context	Type	Trench	Section	Description	Date	Phase	High OD Height	Pottery Spot dates		CBM Spot dates		CTP Spot dates		Glass Spot dates	
								from	to	from	to	from	to	from	to
25	Cut	4	S3	Cut of pit	Late 19th Century	4	27.13m								
26	Layer	4	S3, S4, S8 & S9	Redeposited clay deposit	pre-c1704	1	27.54m								
27	Masonry	4	S4, S8 & S9	Boundary wall foundation	18th Century	2	26.62m			1664	1800				
28	Fill	5	S5 & S6	Backfill of construction cut [31]	20th Century	5	28.13m								
29	Fill	5	S5 & S6	Backfill of construction cut [31]	20th Century	5	27.75m								
30	Fill	5	S5 & S6	Backfill of construction cut [31]	20th Century	5	27.74m								
31	Cut	4	S5 & S6	Construction cut for path/service	20th Century	5	27.76m								
32	Fill	4	S9	Backfill of construction cut [33]	18th Century	2	26.62m								
33	Cut	4	S2 & S4	Construction cut for wall [27]	18th Century	2	26.62m								
34	Layer	4	S8	Made ground	pre-c1704	1	26.62m								
35	Fill	5	S2 & S5	Backfill of construction cut for pipe [13]	19th Century	4	27.39m								
36	Layer	4	S3 & S4	Made ground	pre-c1704	1	27.03m								

APPENDIX 2: PHASED SITE MATRIX



APPENDIX 3: CERAMIC BUILDING MATERIAL SPOT DATES AND REVIEW

By Kevin Hayward, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Introduction

All of the ceramic building material and stone (74 examples 17.6kg) recovered from the Orangery excavations Kensington Palace consisted of post medieval brick, mortar and roofing tile (peg and pan and stone tile). With the exception of a single Tudor Brick reused in Trench 3, all of the assemblage is of a later (18th and 19th century date) post medieval.

Distribution

Context	Fabric	Material	Sherd count	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date Mortar
1	3034; 3101	Frogged 19 th to early 20 th century brick and concrete mortar	2	1780	1940	1780	1940	1850-1940	1880-1920
7	2276; 2279; 3101; 3032nr3065; 3032; 3046; 3120; 3032nr3035	Modern roofing and peg tile; concrete mortar; Westmoreland slate; pan tile; post great fire and early post medieval brick; early yellow Medway brick	32	1480	1950	1850	1950	1880-1950	1880-1950
8	3032; 3046; 2276; 3039	Post great fire brick and early post medieval brick and peg tile	18	1480	1900	1664	1900	1750-1900	1700-1800
9	3032; 3032R; 3034; 3034nr3033; 3046; 2271; 2586; 2279; 3101	Narrow Post Great Fire Brick and post medieval brick, peg tile and pan tile used in brown sandy mortar	12	1450	1900	1664	1900	1750-1850+	1700-1800
10	3032R; 3046	Narrow Post Great Fire brick and early post medieval brick	1	1450	1900	1664	1900	1750-1850+	1700-1800
11	3039	Early post medieval brick reused brown sandy mortar	1	1450	1800	1450	1800	1600-1800	1700-1800
19	3032R; 3032	Narrow post great fire brick brown mortar	3	1664	1900	1664	1900	1750-1850	No mortar
27	3033; 3032; 3101	Reused Tudor	2	1450	1900	1664	1900	1664-1800	1664-1800

		brick and post great fire brick							
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Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The ceramic building material assemblage from [7] [8] [9] [10] [11] [19] is dominated by later post great fire brick whose dimensions conform to the brick tax regulations brought in by the government in 1775. These probably relate to late 18th century to 19th century rebuilds and extensions in and around Orangery including the drain [19]. No further work is needed on these items and only passing comment is needed at publication stage.

Brick size regulation Act: took effect July 1777, first blanket national legislation. Min. size of bricks at 8 ½ x 4 x 2 ½ ". Last legislation on sizes until the 20 th century, remained in force until the 19 th century	216 x 101.5 x 63.5	Parliament (Act)
--	--------------------	------------------

Of greater significance is the wall [27] identified from Trench 4. This brick wall on the basis of mortar, brick form and fabric dates to 1664-1800 is comparable with the known construction date of the 1704-1705 Orangery and may well have formed the boundary wall. Moreover, the identification of post-great fire and red bricks in the superstructure of the Orangery fits in with the fabrics identified in its foundation. The wall also aligns with the Orangery and mention of the fabric and form of the building material needs to be mentioned in publication text including the reuse of earlier Tudor Bricks which may relate to recycled material from Nottingham House.

The other wall [1] this time from Trench 3 investigated in December 2013 consisted of modern frogged yellow Estuarine bricks bonded in a hard concrete mortar. This wall is part of a late 19th century to early 20th century structure, possibly a toilet block.

APPENDIX 4: POST-ROMAN POTTERY SPOT DATING INDEX

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Introduction

The post-Roman pottery assemblage consists of 39 sherds, representing 31 estimated number of vessels (ENV) and weighing 1.785g. The pottery dates to the post-medieval period and particularly the 19th century and possibly later. The condition of the pottery is good and comprises sherd material and a good proportion of the material could be assigned to a form type. Only one abraded fragment was recorded, while the small sized fragments of pottery and residual material recovered from context [9] indicates some secondary or tertiary redeposition in that deposit. The pottery was recovered from three contexts.

Spot dating index

Context [7], spot date: 1650-1900

- Miscellaneous unsourced post-medieval pottery (red earthenware), (MISC), 1480-1900, 11 sherds, 6 ENV, 1.443kg, forms: flower pot, plant container
- London-area post-medieval redware, (PMR), 1580-1900, 3 sherds, 3 ENV, 91g, forms: flower pot

Context [8], spot date: 1650-1900

- London-area post-medieval redware, (PMR), 1580-1900, 4 sherds, 3 ENV, 56g, forms: flower pot

Context [9], spot date: late 19th- early 20th century

- Bone china, (BONE), 1794-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 8g, form: tea cup
- Miscellaneous unsourced medieval pottery/post-medieval pottery, (MISC), 1480-1900, 4 sherds, 3 ENV, 69g, forms: flower pot
- Pearlware with under-glaze transfer-printed decoration, (PEAR TR), 1770-1840, 4 sherds, 3 ENV, 14g, forms: plate
- London-area post-medieval redware, (PMR), 1580-1900, 3 sherds, 3 ENV, 55g, forms: flower pot, jar; rounded
- Plain refined white earthenware, (REFW), 1805-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 5g, form: jug
- Refined white earthenware with under-glaze painted decoration (chrome colours), (REFW CHROM), 1830-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 11g, form: saucer
- Tin-glazed ware with external lead glaze/polychrome painted (Orton style D), (TGW D), 1630-1680, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 8g, form: charger
- Transfer-printed refined whiteware, (TPW), 1780-1900, 5 sherds, 5 ENV, 18g, forms: bowl, plate
- Westerwald stoneware, (WEST), 1590-1900, 1 sherd, 1 ENV, 7g, forms: chamber pot

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The pottery has little significance at a local level as the pottery are of types and forms frequently found in the London region and the material occurs in small groups without much meaning. Of interest are the horticultural forms found in the three deposits and these were derived from at least two sources, which include the local London area post-medieval redware (PMR) and an unknown production centre(s) providing a finer 'terracotta' ware. Amongst the horticultural forms are recorded small and medium sized flower pots, while the bases of two large flower pots or plant containers occurred in the miscellaneous fabric. The latter might be expected in a high socio-economic status garden, although they show no evidence for moulded decoration. The flower pots can only be broadly dated from c. 1650 onwards and no early forms (with additional drainage holes in the vessel wall) could be identified. However, sherds of PMR flower pots with reduced surfaces were noted in contexts [7] and [8] and these may predate the very early 19th century as after that date the form in that ware tends to be uniformly oxidised.

The main potential of the pottery is to date the contexts it was recovered from. The horticultural forms are of some potential for demonstrating the gardening activities occurring at Kensington Palace Gardens, such as a range of flower pots used for different stages of raising plants and possibly for the display of large plants formally in the garden or the greenhouse. At least one of the ceramics from context [9] is usually found on low socio-economic sites and this comprises a saucer in REFW CHROM, decorated with a maroon coloured red band and this dates to the end of the 19th century/early 20th century. This may represent an item used by a gardener or staff at the palace. None of the other domestic pottery recovered from the excavation shows any evidence of a particular socio-economic status. There are no recommendations for further work and should a publication report be required then it is suggested that the information is taken from this report.

APPENDIX 5: GLASS SPOT-DATING INDEX

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Introduction

The glass recovered from the archaeological investigation consists of seven fragments dated broadly to the post-medieval period with a small number of shards more easily identified as 19th century or later material. The condition of the glass is fairly good and includes naturally weathered items and although it does not show any evidence of abrasion, its fragmentary nature may indicate secondary or tertiary depositional circumstances. The glass was recovered from two contexts.

Spot dating index

Context [8], spot date: mid 19th-20th century

- One fragment of very pale green soda glass bottle embossed '...RTIS', dated 1830 onwards
- One fragment of naturally weathered clear window glass, post-medieval

Context [9], spot date: 19th-20th century

- One fragment of an olive green wine bottle, consisting of a kicked base, 18th-19th century
- One fragment of pale olive green, free-blown wine bottle, consisting of a kicked base, mid 17th-19th century
- One fragment of opaque white vessel glass, 19th-20th century
- One fragment of clear window glass, late post-medieval.
- One fragment of thick, clear window glass, 19th-20th century

Significance, potential and recommendations for further work

The glass has no significance at a local level as it is in a fragmentary condition. None of the items demonstrate a high-socio economic status, which might be expected to be recovered from a royal residence such as Kensington Palace. Additionally, the material occurs in small groups that does not add much meaning to the different activities on the site. The main potential of the glass is to date the contexts it was recovered from. There are no recommendations for further work.

APPENDIX 6: CLAY TOBACCO PIPE SPOT-DATING INDEX

By Chris Jarrett, Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited

Three fragments of clay tobacco pipe stems were recovered from the excavation and found in contexts [8] and [9]. All of the stems can only be broadly dated c. 1580-1910. The material has no significance, its only potential is to date the context it was recovered from and there are no recommendations for further work.

APPENDIX 7: OASIS REPORT FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-171067

Project details

Project name	The Orangery Yard, Kensington Palace: An Archaeological Investigation
Short description of the project	An archaeological investigation at Kensington Palace was conducted by Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd. The work was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces and comprised the excavation of trenches to determine the nature of archaeological deposit survival in the area to the rear of The Orangery at Kensington Palace. The earliest deposits identified were made ground layers pre-dating the early 18th century development at the site. A brick-built wall foundation, relating to the construction of the Orangery in 1704-5 AD, was identified suggesting the existence of a wall enclosing a yard at the rear of the Orangery, but one which did not abut the Orangery as suggested on John Smith's Drainage Plan of 1754. A large pit truncated the western face of the wall which, with further made ground deposits, relate to 19th century landscaping of the gardens and yard. Various service runs and a concrete-based stone slab, considered to be a manhole or structural feature, also dated from the 19th century. A brick wall foundation discovered in the east of the area investigated was attributed to the construction of public lavatories in the late 19th century. All archaeological deposits were sealed by topsoil horizons relating to landscaping in the 20th century. In Trenches 1, 2 and 5 previous landscaping episodes and services up to a depth of 1.20m impacted extensively on earlier archaeological deposits; however it is possible that archaeological deposits do remain beneath these works. All masonry remains were recorded and left in situ. Natural strata were not observed in any trench.
Project dates	Start: 12-11-2013 End: 28-01-2014
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	KEN22 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	Scheduled Monument (SM)
Current Land use	Other 8 - Land dedicated to the display of a monument
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	SURFACE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POTTERY Post Medieval
Significant Finds	GLASS Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CTP Post Medieval
Significant Finds	CBM Post Medieval
Methods & techniques	""Targeted Trenches""
Development type	Not recorded
Prompt	Scheduled Monument Consent
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON KENSINGTON AND CHELSEA KENSINGTON Orangery Yard, Kensington Palace
Postcode	W8 4PX
Study area	775.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 2586 8019 51.5061121566 -0.186302587667 51 30 22 N 000 11 10 W Point

Lat/Long Datum	Unknown
Project creators	
Name of Organisation	Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Project brief originator	Historic Royal Palaces
Project design originator	Fiona Keith-Lucas
Project director/manager	Chris Mayo
Project supervisor	Joe Brooks
Project supervisor	Richard Humphrey
Type of sponsor/funding body	Charity
Name of sponsor/funding body	Historic Royal Palaces
Project archives	
Physical Archive recipient	Historic Royal Palaces
Physical Archive ID	KEN22
Physical Contents	"Ceramics","Glass"
Digital Archive recipient	Historic Royal Palaces
Digital Archive ID	KEN22
Digital Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Digital Media available	"Database","Images raster / digital photography","Images vector","Spreadsheets","Text"
Paper Archive recipient	Historic Royal palaces
Paper Archive ID	KEN22
Paper Contents	"Stratigraphic","Survey"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet","Drawing","Map","Matrices","Plan","Report","Section","Unpublished Text"
Project bibliography 1	
Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	The Orangery Yard, Kensington Palace: An Archaeological Investigation
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Brookes, J. and Jackson, C.
Other bibliographic details	PCA R11662
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Pre Construct Archeaology Limited
Place of issue or publication	London
Description	A4 client document with blue covers
Entered by	Chris Mayo (cmayo@pre-construct.com)
Entered on	16 April 2014

APPENDIX 8: PHOTOGRAPHS



Plate 1: Trench 1, view east, showing services and crushed brick deposit [2]. Scale = 0.5m



Plate 2: Trench 1, view south, showing made ground [3] and crushed brick deposit [2]. Scale = 0.5m.



Plate 3: Trench 2, view south showing extensive services Scale = 0.5m



Plate 4: Trench 3, view north, showing yellow brick wall [1]. Scale = 0.5m



Plate 5: Trench 3, view north, showing brick wall and foundation [1] and leveling deposit [6]. Scale = 0.5m.



Plate 6: Trench 3, View west of brick wall and concrete foundation elevation [1]. Scale = 0.5m



Plate 7: Trench 4, View of wall [27] and construction cut [33] view east. Scale = 0.5m



Plate 8: Trench 4, View of wall [27] and pit cut [25], facing east.



Plate 9: Trench 4 facing south showing levelling deposit [26] and base of cut [25]. Scale = 1.0m



Plate 10; Trench 4: West facing elevation of brick wall foundation [27]. Scales = 1.0m and 0.5m



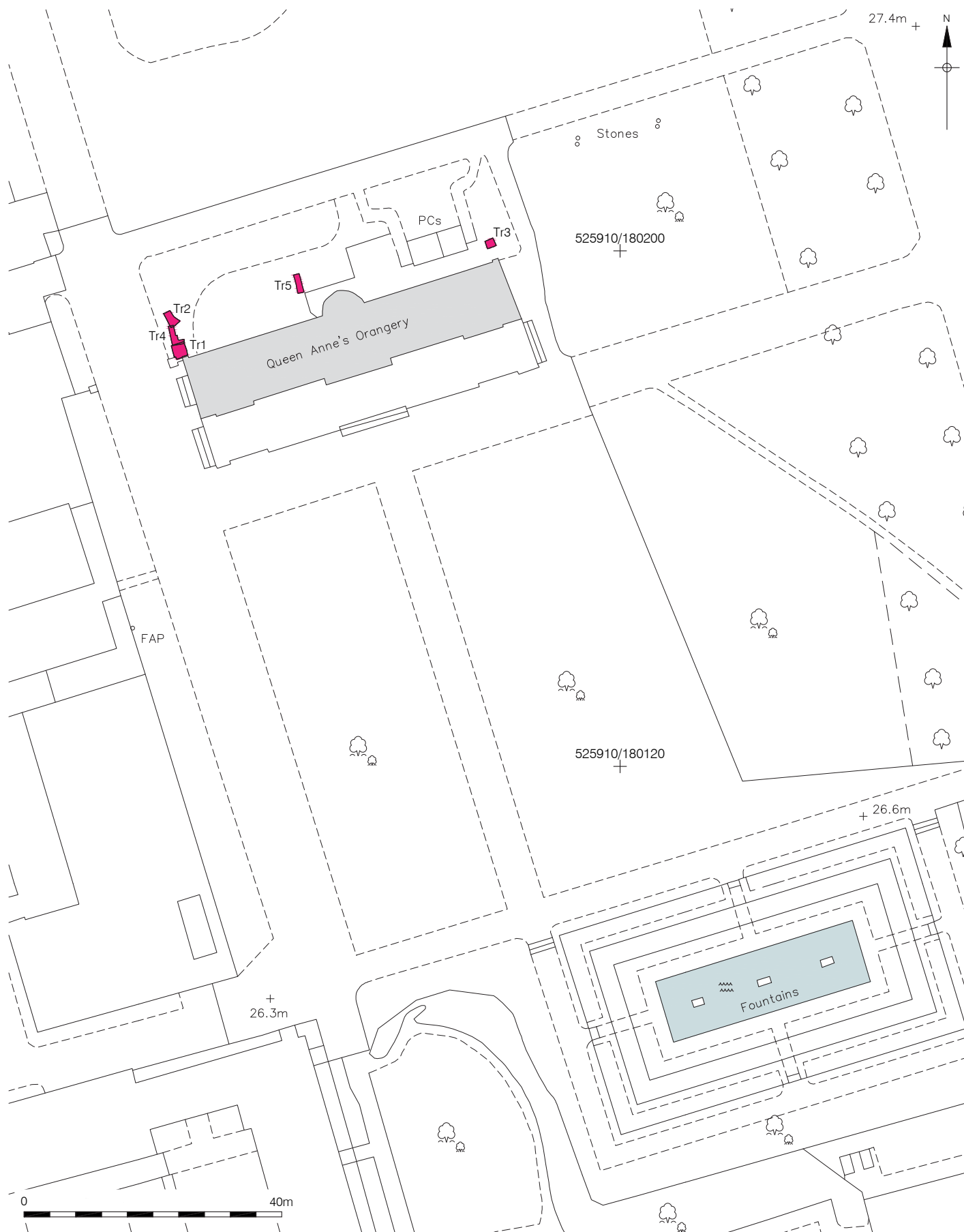
Plate 11: Trench 4, brick wall foundation [27], viewed north, Scale = 0.5m.



Plate 12: Trench 4, brick foundation [27] viewed north east.



Plate 13: Trench 5 facing south, showing stone slab manhole [12], pipe [16], leveling deposit [14] and gravel filled pit [22]. Scale = 1m.

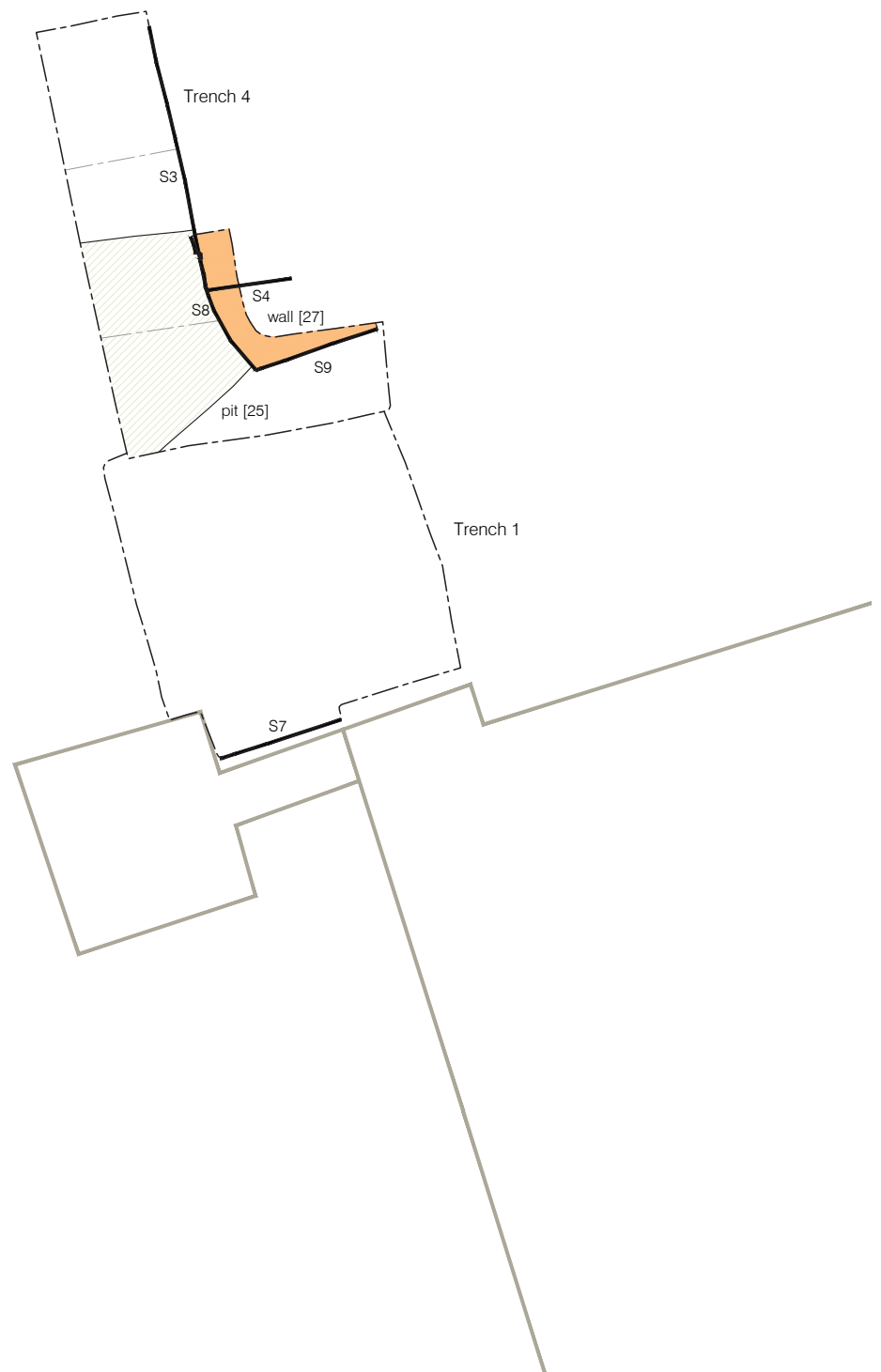




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Figure 2
 Trench Location
 1:800 at A4



Figure 3
Plan of Trench 3
1:50 at A4



-  Masonry
-  Cut feature

— Footprint of The Orangery

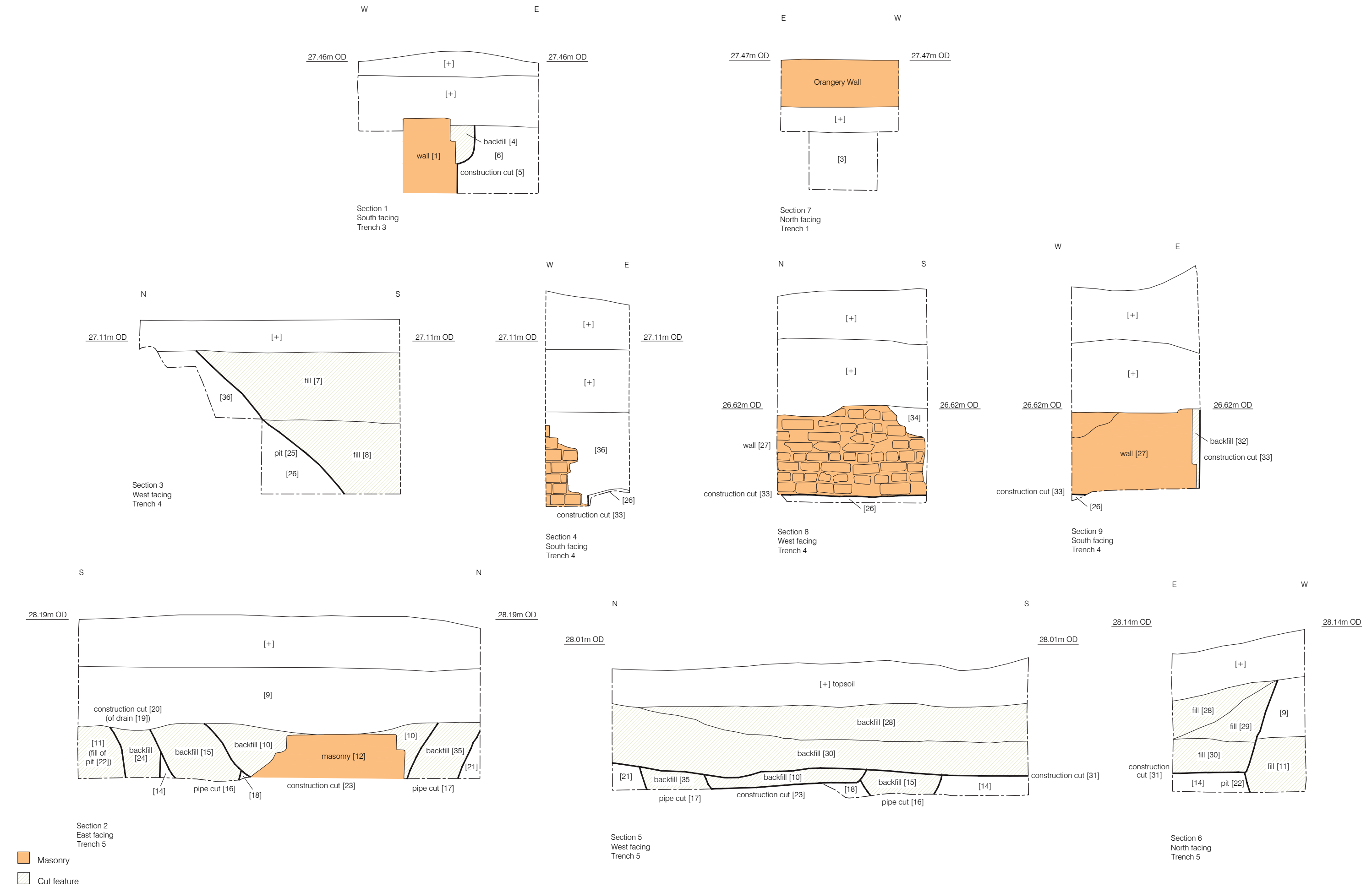
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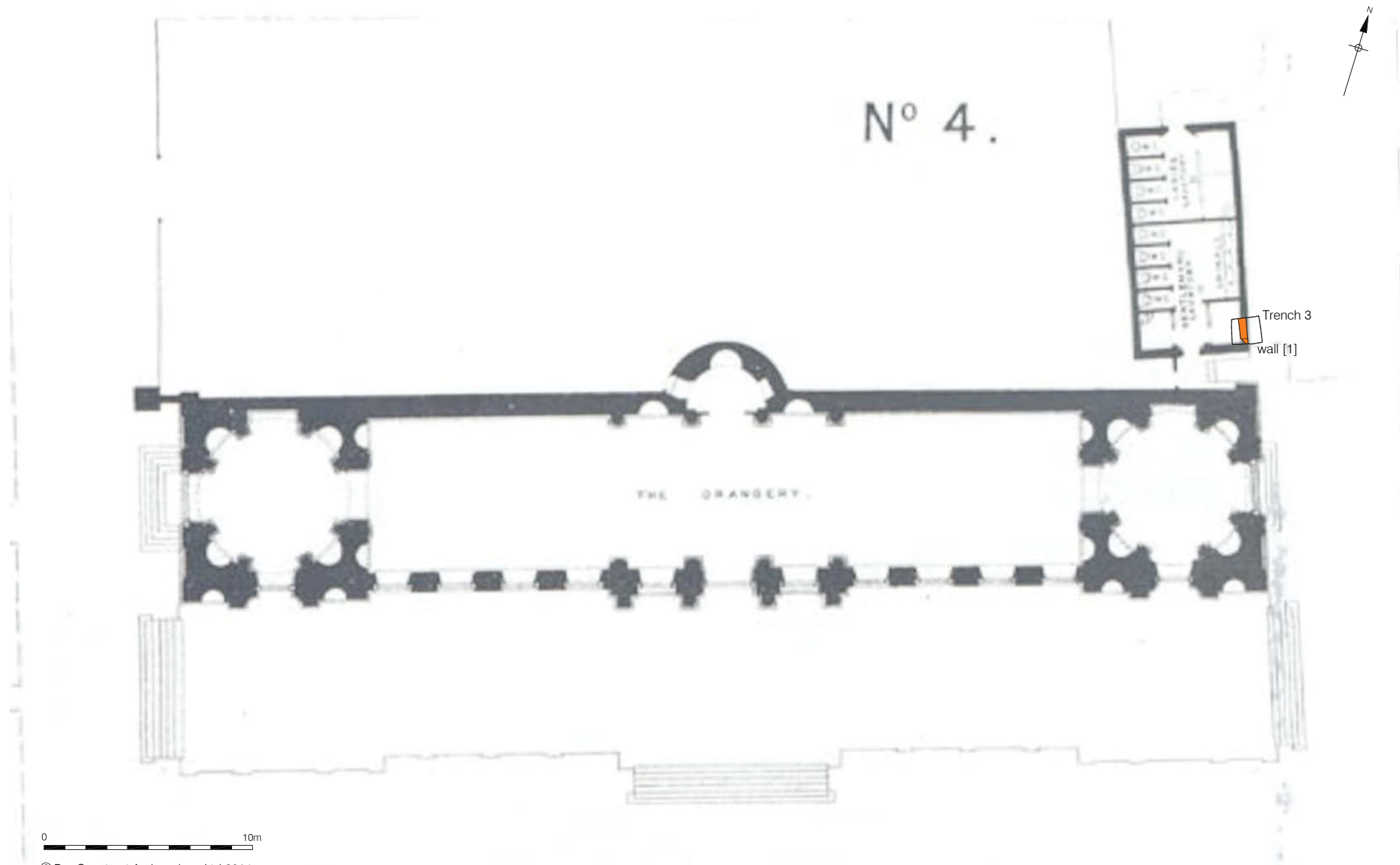
Figure 4
Plan of Trenches 1 & 4
1:50 at A4



Figure 5
Plan of Trench 5
1:50 at A4







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Figure 8
Trench 3 overlain onto
Office of Works Plan, 1903
1:250 at A4

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