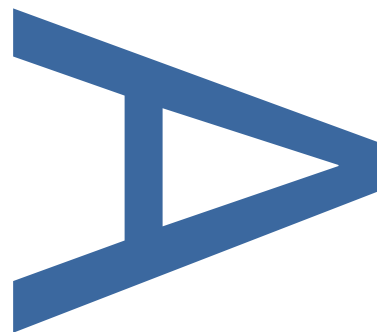
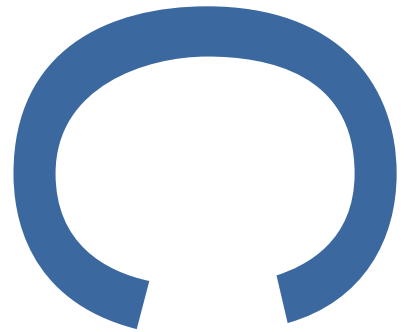


**HAM HOUSE, HAM STREET,
RICHMOND UPON THAMES, TW10
7RS
AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING
BRIEF**

SITE CODE: PIG19

**LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITY:
ROYAL BOROUGH OF RICHMOND UPON
THAMES**

JULY 2019



HAM HOUSE, HAM STREET, RICHMOND UPON THAMES, TW10 7RS

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF OVER AN I.T. CABLE
TRENCH ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE WESTERN FORECOURT**

Site Code: **PIG19**

Central National Grid Reference: **TQ 17099 72976**

Written by: **RICHARD KRASON**

JULY 2019

Project Manager: **HELEN HAWKINS, MCIFA**

Commissioning Client: **NATIONAL TRUST**

Rev 2: further Client Comments

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July 2019

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DOCUMENT VERIFICATION**Site Name****HAM HOUSE, HAM STREET, RICHMOND UPON THAMES, TW10 7RS****Type of project****An Archaeological Watching Brief****Quality Control**

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Rev 1 NT comments	1.8.19	HH	CM
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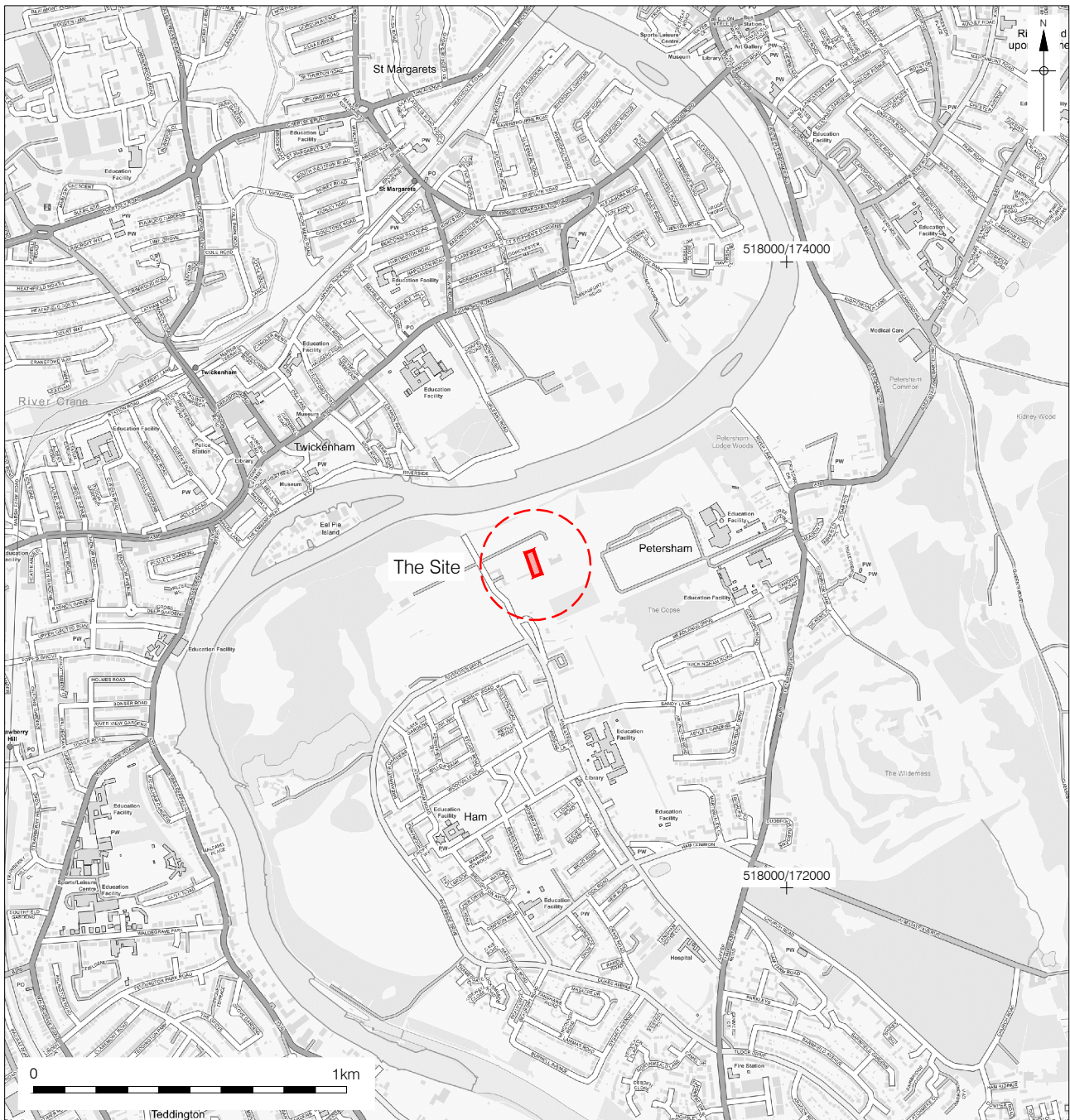
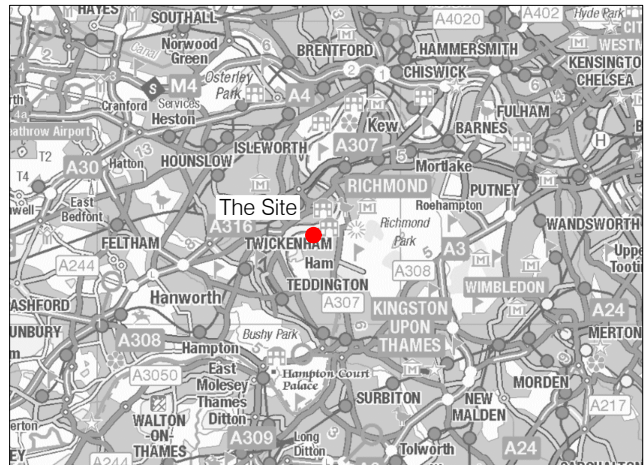
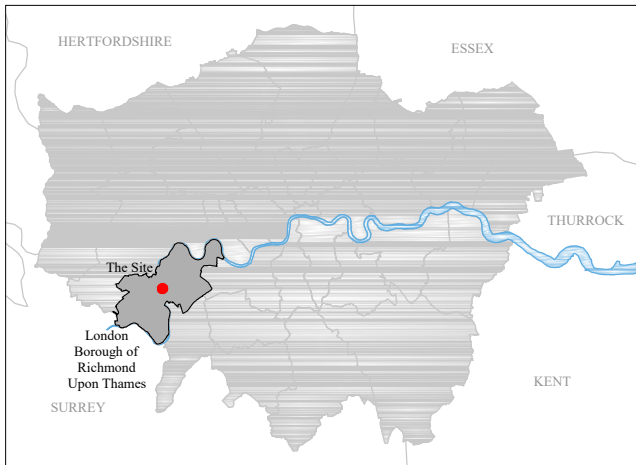
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1 ABSTRACT

- 1.1 This report details the working methods and results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at Ham House, Ham Street, Richmond upon Thames TW10 7RS.
- 1.2 The work was commissioned by the WAN Enhancement Programme on behalf of the National Trust and was designed to monitor the installation of ducting for a fibre-optic phone line going into Ham House along the western side of the house.
- 1.3 The archaeological watching brief was designed to determine the presence or absence of surviving deposits and features at the site and, if present, to investigate and record them.
- 1.4 The works were carried out over two days (10th and 11th June 2019) and comprised the excavation of two pits at a maximum depth of 800mm below ground level (BGL) and a connecting L shaped shallow trench with a depth of 400mm (BGL) which ran for 40 metres north-south.
- 1.5 The watching brief identified two possible post-medieval walls overlain by topsoil.

2 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited was appointed to undertake a below-ground archaeological watching brief during the excavation of duct works at Ham House, Ham Street, Richmond upon Thames TW10 7RS.
- 2.2 Ham House is a Grade I listed building dating to the 17th century. The site is located in an Archaeological Priority Area as defined in the Royal Borough of Richmond upon Thames' Local Plan.
- 2.3 Ham House and its grounds are roughly 12ha in size.
- 2.4 The works took place to the west of Ham House. The project is covered by National Trust archaeology database number ENA.
- 2.5 The watching brief works were undertaken by a full-time archaeologist (Richard Krason,) working for Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited (PCA), under the supervision of Gary Marshall, National Trust Archaeologist, using a methodology set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation (Hawkins 2019).
- 2.6 All works were undertaken in line with the following documents:
- Written Scheme of Investigation; (Hawkins 2019)
 - Historic England GLAAS Archaeological Guidance Papers (GLAAS 2015);
 - ClfA (December 2014) 'Standard and guidance: Archaeological watching brief'
- 2.7 The Site was centered at National Grid Reference TQ 17099 72976 and was given the MLAA site code PIG19.
- 2.8 The excavation of the two pits and narrow trench were conducted using a small mechanical excavator with a flat narrow bucket. The depth seen within the pits was 850mm BGL and 450mm within the narrow trench.



3 GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 3.1 The British Geological Survey 1:50,000 series (<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/>) indicates that the site is underlain by London Clay which is a Sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 48 to 56 million years ago in the Palaeogene Period. Overlying this is a clay and silt deposit which is a member of the Langley Silts which date up to 2 million years ago from the Quaternary period.
- 3.2 Ham House lies on the south bank of the River Thames, upstream from Richmond which lies to the north-east. Ham Street largely provides the current boundary to the west and Ham Common to the south.
- 3.3 The excavation works were conducted to the west of Ham House within a flat garden area between the Orangery and the main house. The work area was a mix of lawns, tarmac pavements and wild grasses which topographically were roughly level across site.
- 3.4 No specific topographic level data was available, so all heights are BGL or below ground level heights.

4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The archaeological and historical background is taken from the National Trust and Historic England websites for Ham House and Gardens (Maynard & Reynolds, 2017).
- 4.2 Ham House was originally built in 1610 by Sir Thomas Vavasour, Knight Marshal to James I. The original structure is said to have comprised a H-plan Layout consisting of nine bays and formal gardens.
- 4.3 In 1626 the lands and estates of Ham House were leased by William Murray, a friend and courtier to King Charles I.
- 4.4 From 1637 to 1639, William modified and altered the house into the building that currently stands today.
- 4.5 During the English Civil War William Murray fought on the side of Charles I and after the King's defeat and beheading in 1649 the house stayed within the hands of Murray's family throughout Cromwell's Britain.
- 4.6 By 1660 and the restoration of Charles II as King, William's daughter Elizabeth Murray was in control of Ham House and its estate, where it became a place for entertaining and extravagance.
- 4.7 In 1672, aged 46, Elizabeth married her second husband John Maitland the Duke of Lauderdale. The Duke was a key member of King Charles II's inner cabinet and an extremely wealthy man. It was during this marriage that the now Duchess of Lauderdale and the Duke traveled extensively collecting exotic furniture from all over the world. It is said that they transformed Ham House into one of the grandest Stuart houses in England.
- 4.8 The works under the Duke and Duchess saw the construction of a new south wing to the house as well as the gardens extended to the south. This included the construction of high brick walls and gateways within the pleasure grounds to the south of the house.
- 4.9 In 1672-4 the main structure was extended and remodeled, into a new three-story, brick-built structure. The original H-plan was modified when the space between the wings on the south front was built over in the 1670s.
- 4.10 After the death of Elizabeth the house remained within the hands of her descendants from her first marriage, the Tollemache family, for nearly 300 years.
- 4.11 In 1727 work was done on the neglected house and gardens to refurbish these and further works in the 1770s were conducted to naturalise the design of the gardens.
- 4.12 By the early twenty century railings and a ha-ha had been constructed to the north of the house.
- 4.13 Only a few alterations were made during the 1740s and 1890s with most of the structure remaining the same. In 1948 Ham House and its grounds were passed onto the National Trust.

5 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

General Aims

5.1 The WSI contained two general aims and objectives:

- To determine the presence or absence of surviving deposits and features at the site and, if present, to investigate and record them.
- Seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival

6 METHODOLOGY

6.1 The inspection chamber and trench excavation and works were undertaken by Kelly Group on behalf of the National Trust and BT using a combination of mechanical and hand-held tools, with continuous monitoring throughout by the attending archaeologist.

6.2 Recording was undertaken using a variety of methods such as plans at 1:100, sections drawn at 1:10 and photos of all interesting sections and works. Masonry was investigated as far as was reasonably practical to determine its extent and impact on the trench. Where possible and safe dating material was recovered from significant deposits and structures with the aim of leaving as much masonry as possible in situ and undamaged.

6.3 All deposits were recorded on proforma context sheets. A digital photographic record was maintained of all of the site works and sections drawn.

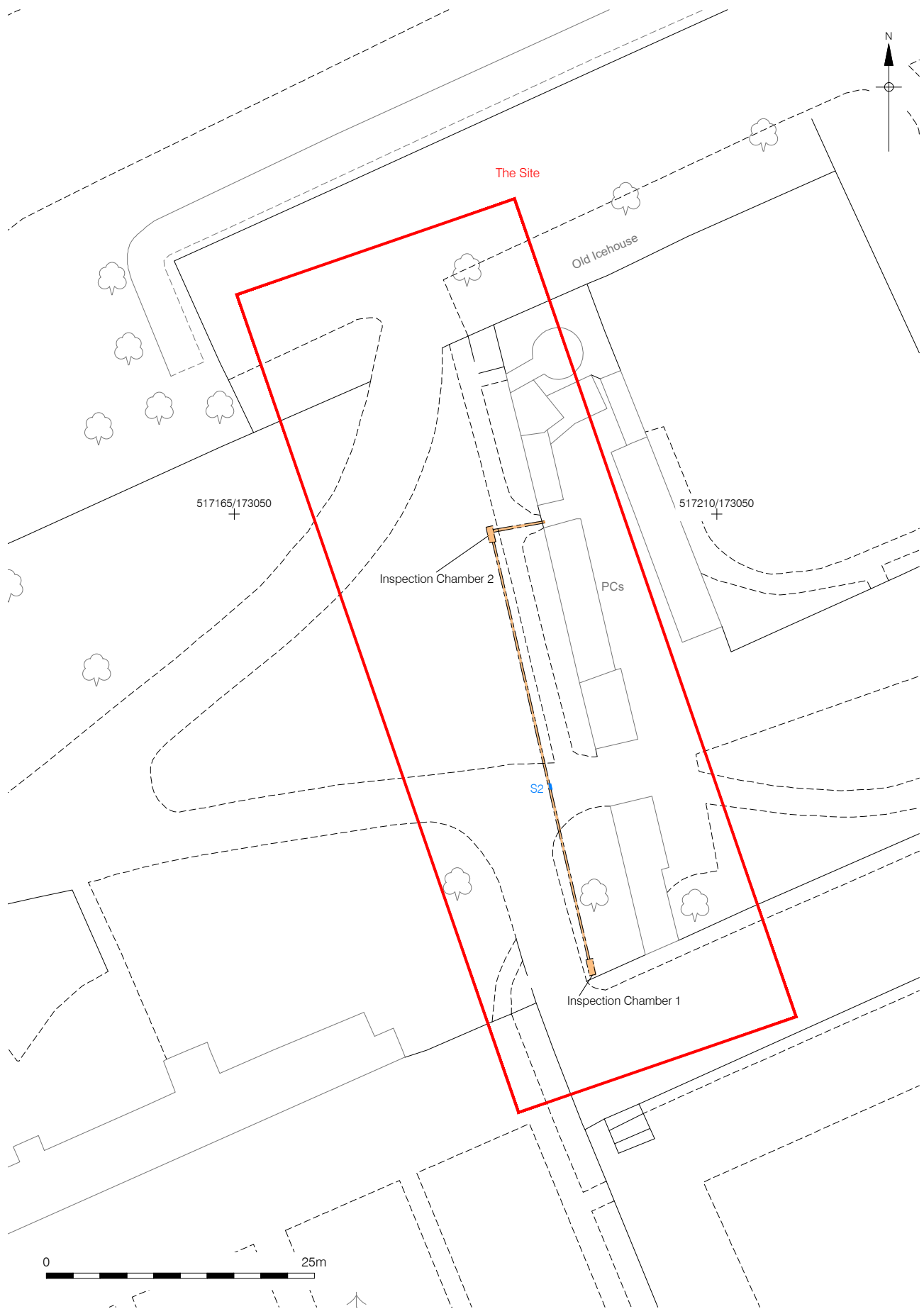
6.4 Site records were compiled in accordance with the approved WSI and the guidance set out in PCA's Operations Manual 1 (Taylor 2009).

6.5 All site records and finds were identified with the unique site code PIG19.

6.6 The work was split into four distinct phases;

- Phase 1 saw the excavation of the first inspection chamber (Inspection Chamber 1) to the south of site. This measured c. 1.50m x 0.60m and was 0.80m deep.
- Phase 2 saw the excavation of a narrow 200mm wide trench from the southernmost wall past Inspection Chamber 1, along the grass, and north to the location of Inspection Chamber 2. The trench ran for roughly 40 metres along the rough grass in the south, crossed the main western entrance to Ham House and then along the lawn north. Where the east-west running wall was encountered the masonry was cleaned and photographed then covered over to enable the laying of the ducting.
- Phase 3 saw the excavation of Inspection Chamber 2, this also measured c 1.50. x 0.60m x 0.80m deep.

- Phase 4 saw the narrow trench change direction to an easterly orientation. It went through a doorway where it terminated just beyond, this part was roughly 4 metres in length. Where the trench impacted archaeological masonry, two courses of bricks were removed by hand to enable the laying of the ducting.
- 6.6.1 Whilst each phase was being excavated plastic pipe was being installed and backfilled in the excavated area. The plastic and concrete Inspection Chambers were also backfilled once they were installed.



7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS AND SEQUENCE

7.1 Phase 1 Natural

7.1.1 The earliest deposits encountered were layers [4] and [8] seen within Inspection Chambers 1 and 2 (Sections 1 and 3) at 0.75m and 0.50m BGL respectively. These consisted of either a light orange brown or a light grey brown soil made up of a slightly silty fine sand. Within both the only inclusions seen were small red and black flecking likely placed there through an action of bioturbation such as worm action.

7.1.2 Layers [4] and [8] were most likely the underlying surviving natural but, due to the high level of visible landscaping within the grounds of Ham House, it was difficult to confirm.



Plate 1. West facing section (Section 1 Figure 3) within inspection chamber 1 (0.50m scale)



Plate 2. West facing section (Section 3 Figure 5) within Inspection Chamber 2 (0.50m scale)

7.2 Phase 2: Post Medieval Walls

- 7.2.1 An east-west running wall [5] was encountered just below the dig depth for the ducting located just north of Inspection Chamber 1 (Figure 3). What was visible in plan comprised three red unfrogged red bricks (Plate 3) laid in 9 inch bond measuring 250mm long by 120mm wide with an unknown thickness. The bricks were located at 0.40m BGL and ran east-west. The mortar used was a hard yellow lime based mortar with small charcoal inclusions.
- 7.2.2 It was possible that wall [5] was related to the currently standing north-south wall to the east of the works trench, however, no scar was visible within the currently standing wall to suggest wall [5] ran east to join the current wall. No samples were taken from wall [5] as it was fully preserved in situ. The wall was located in the Back Courts area as shown on the 1620 Robert Smythson plan. A number of buildings are shown in the vicinity of Wall [5] on the Slezer and Wyck plan of 1671 and on the Helmingham plan pre-dating the 1730s (Howes 1992/93).



Plate 3. East-west running wall [5] seen near Inspection Chamber 1 (0.50m scale)

- 7.2.3 Possibly contemporary to wall [5] was wall [9], located to the very north of the ducting trench. Wall [9] ran along the same alignment as the current standing north-south running wall, underneath a doorway leading to the public toilets and shops. It is likely that this was the foundation to the current wall, before the doorway was formed in c. 1948 (Cooper 2009). The

wall was laid in stretcher bond where it was exposed, although it could also have been garden wall bond as only three courses were excavated.

- 7.2.4 Wall [9] measured 0.25m long, 0.25m wide and 0.30m down to the limit of excavation. Two red handmade bricks were recovered measuring 250mm by 110mm and 55mm thick. As with wall [5] the mortar used comprised a hard yellow lime mortar with small charcoal inclusions.
- 7.2.5 The bricks recovered from wall [9] had a possible date range of 1600-1800 AD and they showed evidence of vitrification due to possible proximity to a fire or fireplace. No evidence was seen within the soil around wall [5] that suggested either a fire or a fireplace.
- 7.2.6 The upper two courses of wall [9] were removed to enable the passage of the plastic ducting works. In places wall [9] had been previously truncated and damaged by the modern concrete bedding layer for the stone slabs above it.



Plate 4. East facing photo showing wall [9] within the current doorway leading to the public toilets



Plate 5. East facing closeup shot of wall [9] (0.20m scale)



Plate 6. Wall [9] post-removal of two brick courses (0.20m scale)

7.3 Phase 3: Post Medieval Construction Horizon

- 7.3.1 Overlying wall [5] and abutting wall [9] were possible build layers [3] and [7] seen in Sections 1 and 3. These formed what appeared to be either a demolition deposit or reclamation deposit. The layers consisted of a light grey brown silty rubble with frequent broken red brick and peg tiles as well as some animal bone. The deposit seemed to slope down to the south and had a general thickness of 0.10m – 0.15m.

7.3.2 The spot date on the peg tiles dated to around 1600-1800 AD, the same peg tiles can be seen on top of the structures to the east.

7.4 Phase 4: Modern

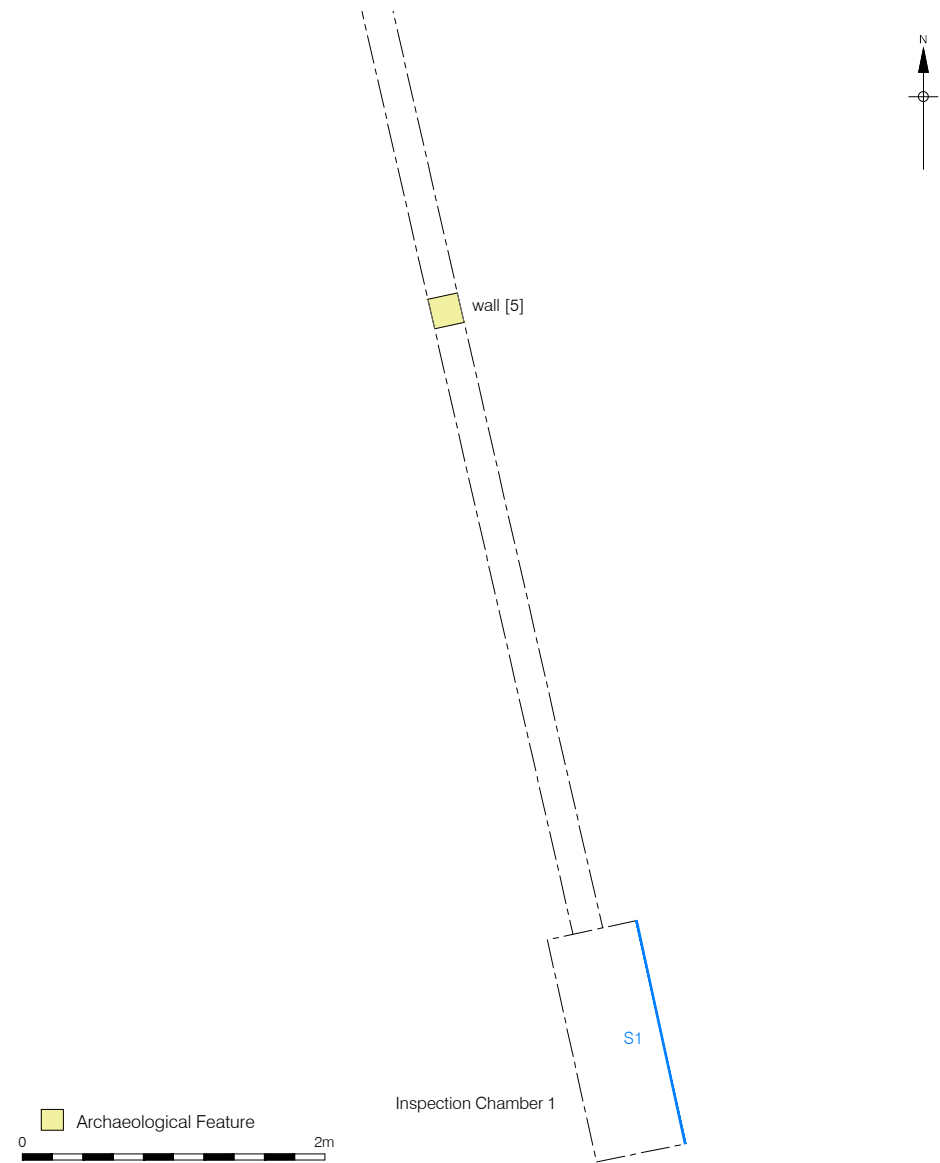
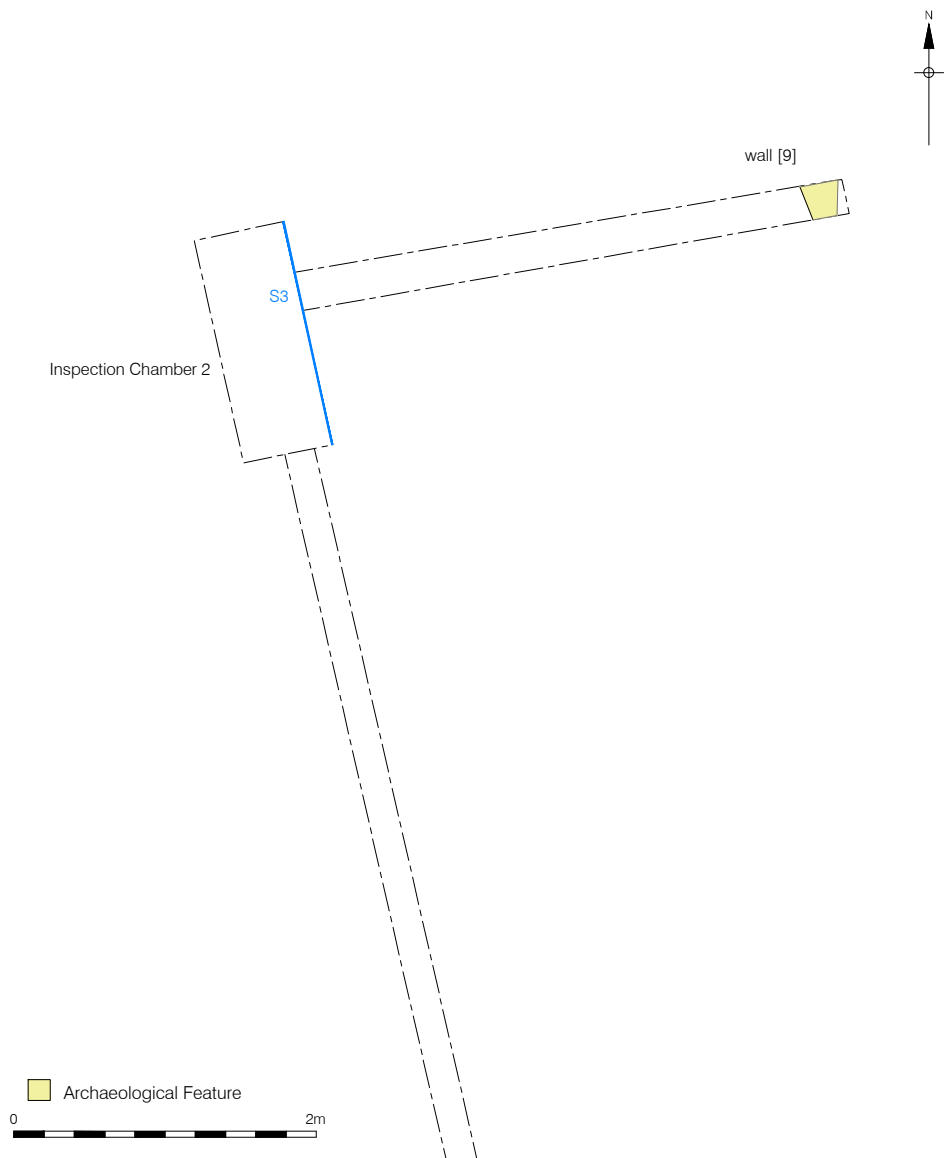
7.4.1 In the middle of the site, in Section 2 (Figures 2 and 4), was deposit [6]. This ran underneath the eastern garden entrance into Ham House directly beneath the current tarmac road. Layer [6] consisted of a silty rubble made up of crushed red and yellow frogged brick, some crushed peg tile, plastic and modern cable.

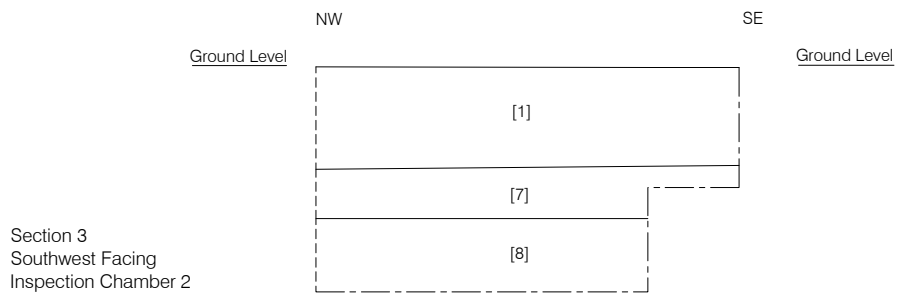
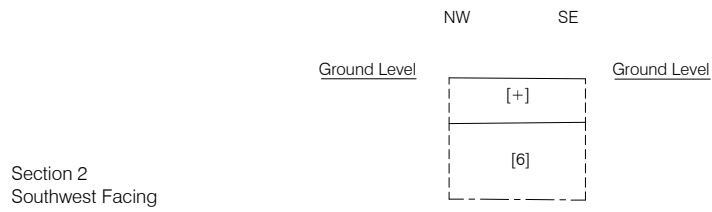
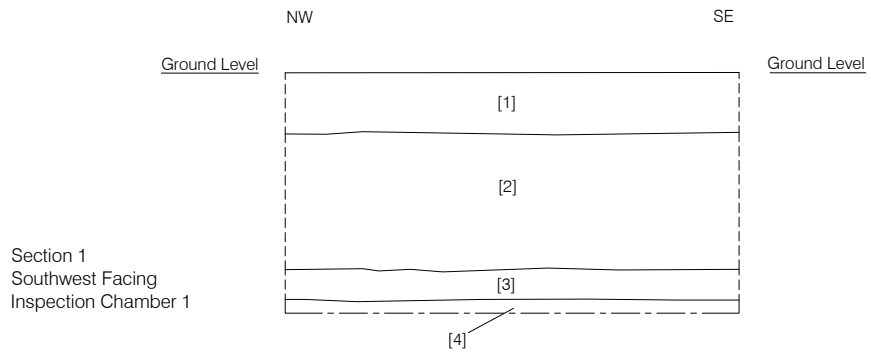


Plate 7. West facing section (Section 2, Figure 4) showing layer (6) under the tarmac road leading into Ham House (0.50m scale)

7.4.2 Layer [6] was interpreted as a bedding layer for the current road which reused material similar to layers [3] and [7] seen within the post-medieval construction horizon. A sample of the peg tiles were recovered for dating and these were identical to those recovered from layer [7].

7.4.3 Overlying the rest of site was a mix of modern topsoil [1] and mixed subsoil [2] which had varying thicknesses of 0.20m – 0.35m and 0.45m with regards to layer [2] in section 2.





8 CONCLUSIONS

8.1 Four archaeological phases were observed at the site:

- Phase 1 Natural
- Phase 2 Post-Medieval Walls
- Phase 3 Post-Medieval construction horizon
- Phase 4 Modern

8.2 Natural ground might have been seen during the watching brief within Inspection chamber pits 1 and 2. Due to the limited nature of the work it was difficult to confirm whether the deposits were in fact natural.

8.3 The majority of the surviving evidence on the site dated to the post-medieval and modern period, probably relating to the current buildings and their construction or upkeep.

8.4 Site Specific Aims and Objectives

- *Determine the presence or absence of surviving deposits and features at the site and, if present, to investigate and record them.*

8.4.1 Two masonry walls dating between 1600-1800 AD were discovered whilst conducting the works. Both structures appeared to be contemporary with each other and the current standing walls around them.

8.4.2 Wall [9] was most likely part of the foundation to the currently standing north-south wall to the east of site. the gateway above the wall was only formed in c.1948, so presumably the wall continued straight through before this date.

8.4.3 Wall [5] was most likely an east-west running wall which might have abutted the currently standing north-south wall to the east of site.

8.4.4 Wall [5] was located in the Back Courts area as shown on the 1620 Robert Smythson plan. A number of buildings are shown in the vicinity of Wall [5] on the Slezer and Wyck plan of 1671 and on the Helmingham plan pre-dating the 1730s (Howes 1992/93). Therefore Wall [5] may date to these 17th century buildings, although it was quite flimsy in nature.

- *Seek to clarify the nature and extent of existing disturbance and intrusions and hence assess the degree of archaeological survival.*

8.4.5 Across the works area there seemed to be a phase of demolition and/or construction deposits which sealed walls [9] and [5]. Below this demolition layer at roughly 0.50m to 0.75m BGL preservation and survival of archaeological deposits appeared high.

- 8.4.6 In places, such as under the pedestrian entrance, the demolition deposit mentioned above seemed to have been reused as a hardcore base for the current foot path.

9 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 9.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Dan Romani IT Programme Manager for the WAN Enhancement Programme for commissioning the work on behalf of the National Trust, and Gary Marshall, NT Archaeologist, for his advice and for providing the previous reports for the site. We also thank the staff from Kelly Group for their assistance and hard work on site.
- 9.2 The author would also like to thank Tim Riley from Ham House for his assistance onsite.
- 9.3 The author would like to thank Diana Valk for the CAD work and Helen Hawkins for project management and editing.

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APPENDIX 1: CONTEXT DESCRIPTIONS

Site_Code	Context	CTX_Type	Trench	CTX_Interpretation	CTX_Length (M)	CTX_Width	CTX_Depth	Depth BGL
PIG19	1	Layer	Telecomms trench	Modern topsoil			0.2	0
PIG19	2	Layer	Telecomms trench	Modern mixed subsoil			0.45	0.2
PIG19	3	Layer	Telecomms trench	Possible Build layer			0.1	0.65
PIG19	4	Layer	Telecoms trench	Made Ground			0.05	0.75
PIG19	5	Layer	Telecoms trench	East-West running masonry wall	0.2	0.3	0.05	0.4
PIG19	6	Masonry	Telecoms trench	Modern bedding layer for tarmac road			0.25	0.15
PIG19	7	Layer	Telecoms trench	Possible build layer			0.15	0.35
PIG19	8	Layer	Telecoms trench	Possible natural			0.25	0.5
PIG19	9	Masonry	Telecoms trench	North-South running wall	0.25	0.25	0.3	0.1

APPENDIX 2: SPECIALIST REPORTS

Review of Ceramic Building Material, Ham House, Ham Street, London Borough of Richmond-Upon-Thames TW10 7RS (PIG19)

Amparo Valcarcel, June 2019

Context	Fabric	Form	Size	Date range of material		Latest dated material		Spot date	Spot date with mortar
6	2276	Post-medieval red peg tile	1	1480	1900	1480	1900	1600-1800	No mortar
7	2276; 2279; 3033type	Post-medieval peg and pan tiles; local post-medieval sandy red brick	5	1450	1900	1480	1900	1600-1800	1600-1800
9	3033type	Fragments of local post-medieval sandy red brick	2	1450	1900	1450	1900	1600-1800	1600-1800

Review

The assemblage (8 fragments, 4.03 kg) consists mainly of small pieces of fragmentary post-medieval ceramic building material. Almost all the material is roofing, with some examples of bricks.

Overlapping, flat rectangular peg tiles attached to roofing by two nails (as represented by two nail holes) form numerically the most common post-medieval roofing form made of sandy fabric 2276. The introduction of pan tiles is also noted by the presence of fabric 2279 [7].

Only two brick examples were collected from [7] [9] and are made of a local sandy red fabric similar to 3033. The bricks are hand-made and uneven, and the surfaces are slightly vitrified, maybe due to the proximity of a fire such as a fireplace. The dimensions and form of these bricks indicates a 1600-1800 AD date. Both bricks preserved similar mortar, a yellow hard lime base with small charcoal inclusions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The quantity of roofing recovered from PIG19 possibly reflects different phases associated with remodelling Ham House. Both bricks, although from different contexts, showed vitrified surfaces, indicating their proximity to a fire. The building material assemblage reflects the post-medieval activity of this site. No further work is recommended.

APPENDIX 3: ANIMAL BONE

Kevin Rielly, June 2019

Introduction

A maintenance trench alongside the western wall of the house revealed evidence for late post-medieval activity.

Description of faunal assemblage

The excavations related to the watching brief provided a minor quantity of bones (four fragments), all well preserved, taken from a demolition or reclamation deposit [7], this dated to sometime within the 17th/18th centuries. It is probable that this deposit dates to the later part of this sequence (or perhaps into the 19th century) based on the presence of bones from rather large cattle (a radius, scapula and 2 ribs). Notably the radius has a proximal breadth of 94.3mm. It is known that larger cattle were present in 18th century Britain following improvements in husbandry practices including breeding during this century and culminating with the precursors of the modern 'breeds' at the turn of the 18th and 19th centuries (after Rixson 2000, 215). Comparisons can be made with the mid 18th century cattle, representing many burials (all probably cows), found at the British Museum (Rielly 2017, 165-8). Proximal radius measurements were available from 25 of these individuals, comprising a range from 76.5 to 89.8mm with an average of 83.2mm (taken from PCA archives). The specimen from this site is somewhat larger which may then represent an ox or a bull or possibly one of the later varieties. It should also be mentioned that this large radius has been chopped through at the midshaft, while none of the other bones showed butchery marks. The absence of saw marks may be significant, the use of this tool for butchery purposes generally dating, in London, from the later 18th century (ibid 170 and Albarella 2003, 74).

Conclusion and recommendations for further work

The assemblage is well preserved and seemingly well dated. It reveals some information concerning the animals consumed in this locality as well as data relevant to the size and perhaps 'type' of cattle exploited.

No further information can be gleaned from these bones.

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Rixson, D, 2000 *The History of Meat Trading*, Nottingham University Press

APPENDIX 4: OASIS FORM

Printable version

OASIS ID: preconst1-357137

Project details

Project name HAM HOUSE, HAM STREET, RICHMOND UPON THAMES, TW10
7RS AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Short description of the project An archaeological watching brief undertaken by Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited at Ham House, Ham Street, Richmond upon Thames TW10 7RS. The work was commissioned by National Trust and was designed to monitor the installation of ducting for a fiber-optic phone line going into Ham House along the western side of the house. The works comprised the excavation of two pits at a maximum depth of 800mm below ground level (BGL) and a connecting L shaped shallow trench with a depth of 400mm (BGL) which ran for 40 metres north-south. The watching brief identified two possible post-medieval walls overlain by topsoil.

Project dates Start: 10-06-2019 End: 11-06-2019

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project codes reference PIG19 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status National Trust land

Current Land use Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings

Monument type WALL FOUNDATION Post Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type "Watching Brief"

Prompt National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND
UPON THAMES Ham House

Postcode TW10 7RS

Study area 60 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 17099 72976 51.443155094898 -0.314883015782 51 26 35 N
000 18 53 W Point

Height OD / Depth Min: 0m Max: 0m

Project creators

Name of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited
Organisation

Project brief National Trust
originator

Project design Helen Hawkins
originator

Project director/manager Helen Hawkins

Project supervisor Richard Krason

Type of National Trust sponsor/funding body

Name of National Trust sponsor/funding body

Project archives

Physical Archive No
Exists?

Digital Archive National Trust
recipient

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