HISTORIC BUILDING
RECORDING OF THE ROYAL
KITCHENS,
KEW PALACE,
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS
KEW
RICHMOND, RICHMOND
UPON THAMES, GREATER
LONDON, TW9 3AB

SITE CODE: KEW 5

PRE-CONSTRUCT ARCHAEOLOGY

DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Site Name

Royal Kitchens, Kew Palace, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Richmond Upon Thames, Greater London, TW9 3AB

Type of project

Building Recording

Quality Control

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Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd Unit 54 Brockley Cross Business Centre 96 Endwell Road London SE4 2PD Historic Building Recording of Royal Kitchens, Kew Palace, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Richmond Upon Thames, Greater London, TW9 3AB

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1 NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

- 1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) to undertake recording of the internal wall surfaces of the building, which formed the former Royal Kitchens to Kew Palace, within the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (RBGK), Richmond, Richmond Upon Thames, Greater London. Kew Palace and Queen Charlotte's Cottage lie within the Royal Botanic Gardens but remain in the care of HRP. Recently, management of the former kitchen block has been transferred from RBGK to HRP in order to open the building to the public. The recording of the internal wall surfaces work was required by Dr Lee Prosser, the Curator (Historic Buildings) at Historic Royal Palaces, in order to inform the project. The work was undertaken in accordance with his Brief in August and September 2010.
- 1.2 The former Royal Kitchens are Grade II Listed and are described in their listing citation as 'The most substantial survival of William Kent's Kew Palace of 1731-5.' The former Royal Kitchens lie within the northern part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, to the south of the River Thames and to the west of Kew Palace. The building is roughly centred on Ordnance Survey NGR 518460 1774190.
- 1.3 Kew Palace was constructed in 1631 by a wealthy London merchant, and was leased by the Royal Family from the late 1720s. In 1728, Frederick, Prince of Wales took a lease on an existing house opposite the palace. This was expanded and remodelled by the architect William Kent, who created a Palladian mansion known as the White House and constructed a flanking stable-block and kitchen. For the last quarter of the 18th century, the White House was the principal royal residence at Kew for summer breaks, and during this time the kitchen served King George III and the Royal Household. After a period of neglect, the White House was demolished around 1802. The kitchens and stables survived however, continuing in use until the death of Queen Charlotte in 1818. Thereafter they were used as grace-and favour accommodation for retired royal servants and officials of the Office of Works. Until the establishment of the Board of Trustees in 1984, the kitchens remained the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and were latterly divided into three flats for gardens' staff, while the semi-basement rooms were used for storage. The building was vacated in April 2010.
- 1.4 Many fixtures and fittings of 18th century date relating to the function of the building as a kitchen survive, particularly in the semi-basement preparation areas. Many others have undoubtedly been lost, but cursory examination reveals extensive tell-tale signs of former fixtures and impressions in the plasterwork and paintwork for shelves, fitted items of furniture, iron clamps for boarding and panelling, pipe-runs and so on. The objective of the recording of the internal wall surfaces as set out in the Brief was to carry out a careful and detailed examination of the internal wall surfaces in order to establish the extent of these features so that they could be plotted and drawn.
- 1.8 The work comprised a detailed physical examination of all wall surfaces in the building. Strong artificial light was raked across the surfaces to aid identification. Existing internal elevation drawings were provided as base-drawings on which the findings were plotted.
- 1.9 The recording of the internal wall surfaces showed that the positions of many former features are still visible. These included the positions of former charcoal ovens, doorways, shelves, fireplaces, mantel pieces and pieces of furniture, such as dressers. Inspection of the Great Kitchen showed at least four phases of alteration with a first phase with two large ranges on the south wall and charcoal ovens against the west and east wall, the lower windows in the north wall were then blocked and two large dressers appear to have been installed on each side of the central doorway. In the 19th century a doorway was inserted in the position of the eastern lower window in the north wall and the charcoal ovens along the east wall and east dresser were removed. In the 1950s, the eastern part of the Great Kitchen was partitioned off to create bathroom facilities.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

- 2.1.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces (HRP) to undertake recording of the internal wall surfaces of the building, which formed the former Royal Kitchens to Kew Palace, within the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew (RBGK), Richmond, Richmond Upon Thames, Greater London, TW9 3AB (Figure 1). Kew Palace and Queen Charlotte's Cottage lie within the Royal Botanic Gardens but remain in the care of HRP. Recently, management of the former kitchen block has been transferred from RBGK to HRP in order to open the building to the public. The recording of the internal wall surfaces work was required by Dr Lee Prosser, the Curator (Historic Buildings) at Historic Royal Palaces, in order to inform the project. The work was undertaken in accordance with a 'Brief for Archaeological Recording' (Prosser, 2010) in August and September 2010.
- 2.1.2 The former Royal Kitchens are Grade II Listed and are described in their listing citation as follows:

'ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS Kew Palace. Nos 1 to 3. The most substantial survival of William Kent's Kew Palace of 1731-5, is the kitchen block. Three storey brown brick building, 5 windows wide, the central 3 being within a slightly advanced section having a crowning pediment. Pitched green slate roof with timber eaves cornice. Square headed casement windows.'

2.2 Site Location

2.2.1 The former Royal Kitchens lie within the northern part of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, to the south and east of the River Thames and to the west of Kew Palace (**Figure 1**). The building is roughly centred on Ordnance Survey National Grid Reference 518460 1774190 (**Figure 2**).

2.3 Historical Background

- 2.3.1 Kew Palace was constructed in 1631 by a wealthy London merchant, but was leased by the Royal Family from the late 1720s and subsequently developed into a large complex of associated buildings, comprising at least three royal residences and various service ranges.
- 2.3.2 In 1728, Frederick, Prince of Wales took a lease on an existing house opposite the palace. This was expanded and remodelled by the architect William Kent, who created a Palladian mansion known as the White House and constructed a flanking stable-block and kitchen. For the last quarter of the 18th century, the White House was the principal royal residence at Kew for summer breaks and occasional visits, and during this time the kitchen served King George III and the Royal Household.
- 2.3.3 After a period of neglect, the White House was demolished around 1802. The kitchens and stables survived however, continuing in use until the death of Queen Charlotte in 1818. Thereafter they were used as grace-and favour accommodation for retired royal servants and officials of the Office of Works, who continued to maintain a portion of the gardens known as Palace Grounds.
- 2.3.4 Further demolitions in the late 19th century removed the stables and other associated structures, but the kitchens, an adjoining brew-house and former housekeeper's residence survive to the present day. Until the establishment of the Board of Trustees in 1984, these buildings, with their associated grounds remained the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF). The kitchen was latterly divided into three flats for gardens' staff, while the semi-basement rooms were used for storage. The building was finally vacated in April 2010.

3 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Aims and Objectives

3.1.1 Many fixtures and fittings of 18th century date relating to the function of the building as a kitchen survive, particularly in the semi-basement preparation areas. Many others have undoubtedly been lost, but cursory examination reveals extensive tell-tale signs of former fixtures and impressions in the plasterwork and paintwork for shelves, fitted items of furniture, iron clamps for boarding and panelling, pipe-runs and so on. The objective of the recording of the internal wall surfaces as set out in the Brief (Prosser, 2010) was to carry out a careful and detailed examination of the internal wall surfaces in order to establish the extent these features so that they could be plotted and drawn.

3.2 On-Site Recording

- 3.2.1 The work comprised a detailed physical examination of all wall surfaces in the building, concentrating particularly on the semi-basement and upper ground floor rooms. Strong artificial light was raked across the surfaces to aid identification. Existing internal elevation drawings by The Downland Partnership Limited, dated May 2005 and Glanville, dated November 2009 were provided as base-drawings on which the findings were plotted. The on-site recording was carried out on the 23rd and 31st August, 2nd, 3rd and 6th September 2010.
- 3.2.2 Existing room numbers were used; these were found on architects plans which were provided to Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd and start KK followed by either B (denoting basement), G (denoting ground floor) or P (denoting first floor), (e.g. KKBF01 identifies the Great Kitchen in basement). These room numbers are used in this report and are shown on the all floor plans (**Figures 3** to **5**).

3.3 Project Archive

3.3.1 The project archive is currently held at the offices of Pre-Construct Archaeology Limited in Brockley, London. It is anticipated that the archive (copies of the report and drawings) will be lodged with the Historic Royal Palaces in due course.

3.4 Guidance

- 3.4.1 All works were undertaken in accordance with standards set out in:
 - Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers: Analysis and Recording for the Conservation and Control of Works to Historic Buildings (1997)
 - British Archaeologists and Developers Liaison Group: Code of Practice (1986)
 - British Standards Institution: Guide to the Principles of the Conservation of Historic Buildings (BS 7913) (1998)
 - English Heritage: Guidance Paper 98: GLAAS: Guidance Paper 3-Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork in London
 - English Heritage (Clark K): Informed Conservation (2001)
 - English Heritage: The Presentation of Historic Building Survey in CAD (2000)
 - IFA: Standards and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (1999)
 - English Heritage Understanding Historic Buildings; a guide to good recording practice (2006)

4 RESULTS

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 The internal brick walls of the building (the former Royal Kitchens) are mainly covered in plaster/render and paint, although large areas of brickwork are exposed in the Great Kitchen (Room KKBF01). The location of former fixtures and fittings, such as shelves and pieces of furniture, which had since been removed, were marked on the elevation drawings.
- 4.1.3 More detail was found in the basement (**Figure 3**), in the spice cupboard (Room KKGF02A) and Room KKGF04 on the ground floor (**Figure 4**) than in the rest of the rooms. Rooms KKGF07 to KKGF09 on the ground floor were not recorded because they had modern partition walls (**Figure 4**). The dividing wall between Rooms KKPF08 (Corridor) and KKPF02 on the first floor was also of modern construction and these rooms are not mentioned due to lack of scarring.

4.2 Basement (Figures 3, 6 to 15)

Great Kitchen KKBF01 & KKBF01A

North wall (Figures 6 and 7a)

- 4.2.1 The north wall is constructed of exposed 18th century handmade red brick. There are four windows at the top of the wall and a further three blocked windows beneath (**Figure 6**). There are two doors, the one to the east (**Figure 7A**) is a 19th century insertion in the position of a former (fourth) window. Also in the east a 1950s brick partition wall runs north to south dividing Rooms KKBF01 and KKBF01A (**Figure 3**). This wall encloses a series of rooms on the ground floor installed in the 1950s as bathroom facilities (Rooms KKGF07, KKGF08 and KKGF09, **Figure 4**).
- 4.2.2 It appears that two large dressers stood against the north wall and six notches cut into the flagstones suggest the position of the dresser legs. The dressers were separated by a central door in the north wall (**Figure 6**).
- 4.2.3 Three horizontal lines of 19th century brick in-fill are visible to the west of the central door. These lines represent the position of the former timbers used to secure the dresser to the wall. The brick in-filled lines show that they post-date the original windows (now blocked).
- 4.2.4 Two rows of holes at the base of the wall, which run between the charcoal oven to the west and the central door to the east, relate to either the base of the dresser attaching to the wall or a skirting board. Similar holes are visible in the west wall (**Figure 9**). One of the holes still contains remnants of timber and a nail.
- 4.2.5 At approximately the height of one metre above the floor and above various flat rectangular nails and nail holes are located across the north wall and small pieces of protruding metal are found in places. If these nails were not used in the securing of the dresser to the wall then it is probable that they were used in later shelving, as at least two sets of nails and holes are positioned in a horizontal line.

East Wall (Figure 7B, Room KKBF01A)

- 4.2.6 The east wall is constructed of exposed 18th century handmade red brick. There are two blocked windows above what was the location of a set of charcoal ovens similar to the ones found on the west wall (**Figure 7B**). Evidence of the ovens was found and a horizontal mark running the entire length of the wall at 80cm above the floor marks the top of the ovens. Two semi-circular charcoal stains were recorded at the base of the wall.
- 4.2.7 Above the ovens rectangular holes in-filled with cement suggest the position of shelf brackets. The shelf would have run across the majority of the wall. The position of the brackets shows that they post-date the original (now blocked) windows. Several flat rectangular nails are embedded into the wall.

South Wall (Figures 7D and 8, Room KKBF01 & KKBF01A)

- 4.2.8 The south wall is constructed of 18th century handmade red brick, with 18th century plaster starting approximately two metres above the floor. A former arched doorway, known as the servery hatch, led through to the rest of the basement via Room KKBF02, but has been blocked by modern brickwork (**Figure 8**). On each side of the doorway is a range, the larger of the two in the west is the spit range complete with its original 18th century iron mongery. There is an 18th century pastry oven in the east wall of the west range chimney breast (**Figure 9B**). Also in the east a 1950s brick partition wall runs north to south dividing Rooms KKBF01 and KKBF01A (**Figure 3**). This wall encloses a series of rooms on the ground floor installed in the 1950s as a bathroom (**Figure 4**).
- 4.2.9 A large timber lintel above the spit (west) range is exposed in places by missing plaster, beneath this an arch encases a horizontal flat metal support bar. Located near the timber lintel is part of the iron spit mechanism, beneath which is an area of damaged plaster. The damage consists of a series of vertical grooves in the brick and plaster probably from pulleys (now removed) from the spit mechanism.
- 4.2.10 The position of a probable copper fish kettle (now removed) lies to the east of the blocked arched doorway (**Figure 8**). Starting at a height of approximately 1.8m above floor level there is a scar of a probable hood relating to the copper, which rises to the east forming a triangular scar.

West Wall (Figure 9A)

- 4.2.11 The west wall is constructed of exposed 18th century handmade red brick. There are two windows at the top of the wall beneath which are two blocked windows above a set of charcoal ovens.
- 4.2.12 Areas of 19th century brick in-fill suggested that a probable shelf ran across the wall above the charcoal ovens. One of the brick in-fills is positioned within a blocked window showing that the shelf post-dated the blocking of the window.
- 4.2.13 Several rectangular holes and slots and further areas of 19th century brick in-fill also indicate the possibility of shelves or hooks.

Corridor KKBF02 (Figures 3 and 10)

4.2.14 This room formed the corridor for the basement (**Figure 3**) and the area appeared to be relatively unchanged since construction, with the exception of modern pipe work. Only a small number of nail holes were discovered; one set of four in the east wall indicating the former position of a probable modern sign to the north of the door leading to Room KKBF03 (**Figure 10**).

Toilet KKBF02A (Figures 3 and 11)

4.2.15 This small room is located under the stairs and is believed to have been a former toilet (**Figure 3**). The floor is earth and the walls are exposed brickwork, whilst the north end of the east wall is constructed of vertical timber planks. Very few scars were discovered with the exception of several metal hooks found near the door at the north end of the west wall (**Figure 11**).

Silver Scullery KKBF03 (Figures 3 and 12)

- 4.2.16 The room was originally the silver scullery and the walls are plastered and painted white, (patches of a later 1960s plaster are visible). A later brick partition wall, running north to south had been inserted in the north-east corner presumably to shield the room from a later coal chute inserted in the east wall (**Figure 3**). The partition had divided a window in the east wall in half (**Figure 12**). Remnants of a stone shelf or corbel protrude from the north wall into the partition on its west side (**Figure 12**).
- 4.2.17 Scars suggest a higher skirting board prior to the current skirting board on the south and west walls (**Figure 12**). Scars also show that there had been a mantel shelf on

the chimney breast above the fireplace in the south wall and a further shelf at the top of the same chimney breast.

Larder KKBF04 (Figures 3 and 13)

- 4.2.18 This room was originally used as the larder (**Figure 3**). The walls are plastered and painted white. A timber bracket is attached to the ceiling with hooks protruding from it and there is a timber shelf on the east wall (**Figure 13**). As in Room KKBF03 there are patches of 1960s plaster around the room.
- 4.2.19 Although there are several open and in-filled nail holes in the north wall, there is only one obvious large shelf scar, which is located above the fireplace. The timber brackets for this shelf still remain. Beneath this shelf is damaged plaster exposing parts of the horizontal flat metal bar used as a lintel support. A vertical crack in the plaster on each side of the fireplace shows that the fireplace had been reduced in size with brick in-fill.
- 4.2.20 A deep horizontal scar at the west end of the north wall indicates where a former door had opened into the room and worn away the render.
- 4.2.21 There are a large number of randomly placed small holes in the west wall and a metal loop was found in the wall.

Bakery KKBF05 (Figures 3 and 14)

- 4.2.22 This room (**Figure 3**), the former bakery, has white plastered walls with small areas of later 1960s plaster. The north wall has a series of ovens relating to baking and there are two windows in the south and west walls (**Figure 14**).
- 4.2.23 Numerous small holes in the north wall indicate that there had been a shelf over the oven at the east end of the wall. A gouge out of the plaster in the north-east corner shows where a former door, opening into the room, had constantly caught against the wall and worn away the render.
- 4.2.24 A series of holes high up in the east wall relate to the insertion of small metal hooks. Several in-filled holes in the south wall suggest that there was a shelf beneath the window.
- 4.2.25 Remnants of former shelving could be seen on the west wall, with metal shelf brackets and raised scars beneath the paint. The shelves pre-date the more modern pipe work currently in-situ.

Preparation Room KKBF06 (Figures 3 and 15)

- 4.2.26 This room (**Figure 3**), the former preparation room still has an 18th century timber preparation table with timber shelf above, on the north wall (**Figures 3** and **15A**). A range and copper are situated on the south wall (**Figures 3** and **15D**) and the plastered white painted walls have large areas of later 1960s re-plastering.
- 4.2.27 The south wall has the most scarring, with scars of shelving to the east of the range, which comprise horizontal lines with in-filled holes. The shape and size of the scars suggest the shelves were similar in design to the timber shelf located on the north wall (Figure 15A). It is probable that a matching set of shelves was positioned to the west of the range above the copper since scars are visible on the west wall of the chimney breast (Figure 15E), but only a small horizontal scar could be seen on the south wall due to modern re-plastering.
- 4.2.28 The copper located on the south wall appears to have had a 15cm high splash-back behind the copper (**Figures 3, 15D** and **15E**). The splash-back (now removed) was held in position by four plain ivy shaped metal clips, of which three remain.

4.3 Ground Floor (Figures 4, 16 to 22)

Spice Cupboard KKGF02A (Figures 4 and 16)

4.3.1 The spice cupboard (**Figure 4**) with shelves and hooks was used to house spices and dried goods. The south wall is constructed entirely of timber with a central door

- flanked by panelling and vertical timber slats above the door provided ventilation (Figures 16 and 19).
- 4.3.2 Horizontal scars of former shelving are visible on the north, east and west walls (**Figure 16**). The most prominent scarring is that of the top shelf which runs round all walls including the south wall. On the south wall the scar shows that the shelf had been 70cm wide and ended at the door frame. It was difficult to identify the extent of the lower shelving because scarring is limited mainly to the timber boxing in the northeast and north-west corners (**Figures 3** and **16**). It was possible to record that there had been a total of four shelves.
- 4.3.3 There are two scars formed of horizontal gouges in the plaster on the east and west walls abutting the south wall. The scars are at the same height and lie just above the position of the former top shelf.

Room KKGF04 (Figures 4 and 17)

- 4.3.4 With the removal of more recent wall coverings, a selection of previous paint had been revealed which are thought to date to the 18th century. Evidence for a large dresser, which stood against the south wall at its west end, is visible (**Figures 17D** and **17F**); the paint behind the dresser is a bottle green. To the east of the dresser there is evidence for a series of shelves (**Figure 17F**). Another large piece of furniture appears to have stood in the south-east corner of the room; the light creamy brown paint in this area (**Figure 17C** and **17F**) suggests that this item of furniture was there at a different time to the dresser.
- 4.3.5 The door in the west wall is a later insertion and the position of the former doorway is visible to the south (**Figure 17D**), and exists as a recess on the other side of the wall (**Figure 4**).
- 4.3.6 A scar is visible to the south of the original door in the west wall (**Figure 17D**). The scar appears to outline a possible piece of furniture, although it is very close to the original door. Unlike the dresser scar on the south wall this scar is narrow suggesting a frame rather than a solid piece of furniture. It is possible that as the scar is by the door that it may have provided a porch type construction around the door, but the full extent of the scar has been lost due to the infilling of the original door.
- 4.3.7 The main paintwork still surviving within the room is that of a black band of horizontal paint with beige above and nut brown below, this paint scheme is thought to be Edwardian in date (**Figure 17**).

Rooms KKGF01 to KKGF03, KKGF05 and KKGF06 (Figures 4, 18 to 23)

- 4.3.8 In general, very little scarring was found within these rooms. In KKGF01, the positions of the original doors in the east and west walls leading into Rooms KKGF04 and KKGF05 are visible as recesses (**Figures 4**, **18** and **23**). The scar of the former door is visible in the east wall of Room KKGF05 (**Figure 21**).
- 4.3.9 Lintels are visible over several doors (Figures 19, 20A, 20C, 22 and 23). In Room KKGF03, the scar of a larger former door frame around the door is visible in the west wall (Figure 20E) and scarring of a former, higher skirting board is evident (Figures 20A, 20C and 20E). Also in this room scarring of a former mantelpiece above the fireplace was recorded on the south wall (Figure 20C).

4.4 First Floor (Figures 5, 23 to 34)

Rooms KKPF01 to KKPF10

- 4.4.1 Scars on the first floor show former doors in the east and west walls of Room KKPF01 leading to Rooms KKPF06 and KKPF07 (**Figures 5** and **23**). The doors are also visible within these rooms (**Figures 28** and **29C**).
- 4.4.2 Fireplaces had been replaced or removed in all rooms with chimney breasts and scarring showed that the original mantelpieces had been taller and wider (**Figures 27** to **30**, **32** and **34**).

4.4.3 In Room KKPF04B, probable furniture scars are visible on the east wall and the east wall of the chimney breast, and scars of former shelves are visible above the fireplace on the south wall (**Figure 34**). A further furniture scar is visible in the south-east corner of Room KKPF09 (**Figures 32B** and **32E**).

5 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 The inspection and recording of the internal wall surfaces of the building which housed the former Royal Kitchens showed that the position of many former features are still visible. These included the position of former charcoal ovens, doorways, shelves, fireplaces, mantel pieces and pieces of furniture, such as dressers.
- 5.2 Inspection of the Great Kitchen showed at least four phases of alteration with a first phase with the two large ranges on the south wall and charcoal ovens against the west and east wall, the lower windows in the north wall were then blocked and two large dressers appear to have been installed on each side of the central doorway. In the 19th century a doorway was inserted in the position of the eastern lower window in the north wall and the charcoal ovens along the east wall and east dresser were removed. In the 1950s, the eastern part of the Great Kitchen was partitioned off to create bathroom facilities.

6 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 6.1 Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd would like to thank Historic Royal Palaces for commissioning this report. In particular, the assistance of Dr Lee Prosser is gratefully acknowledged.
- 6.2 The project was managed for Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd by Charlotte Matthews. Amanda Hayhurst carried out the on-site recording and wrote this report. Amanda Hayhurst and Jennifer Simonson prepared the illustrations.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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Prosser, L. 2010 Royal Kitchens, Kew Palace: Brief for Archaeological Recording (unpublished)

8 APPENDIX 1: OASIS FORM

OASIS ID: preconst1-85453

Project details

Project name Royal Kitchens Kew Palace

Short description of the

project

Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Historic Royal Palaces to undertake recording of the internal wall surfaces of the building, which formed the former Royal Kitchens to Kew Palace, within the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, Greater London. The recording of the internal wall surfaces work was required by the Curator (Historic Buildings) at Historic Royal Palaces, in order to inform a project to open the building to the public. The former Royal Kitchens are Grade II Listed and are described in their listing citation as 'The most substantial survival of William Kent's Kew Palace of 1731-5.' The building is roughly centred on OS NGR 518460 1774190. Kew Palace was constructed in 1631 and was leased by the Royal Family from the late 1720s. In 1728, Frederick, Prince of Wales took a lease on an existing house opposite the palace. This was remodelled by the architect William Kent, who constructed the flanking kitchen. For the last quarter of the 18th century, the White House was the principal royal residence at Kew for summer breaks, although the White House was demolished c.1802, the kitchens survived. The work was undertaken in 2010 and comprised a detailed physical examination of all wall surfaces. The findings were plotted on existing internal elevation drawings. The recording showed that the positions of many former features, such as charcoal ovens, doorways, shelves, fireplaces, mantel pieces and pieces of furniture, such as dressers are still visible. Inspection of the Great Kitchen showed at least four phases of alteration.

Project dates Start: 23-08-2010 End: 06-09-2010

Previous/future work Yes / Yes

Any associated project reference codes

K2345 - Contracting Unit No.

Any associated project reference codes

KEW 5 - Sitecode

Type of project Building Recording

Site status Listed Building

Current Land use Community Service 2 - Leisure and recreational buildings

Monument type DOMESTIC Post Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Project location

Country England

Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND AND

KEW Royal Kitchens, Kew Palace, Royal Botanic Gardens

Postcode TW9 3AB

Study area 289.48 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 518459 177403 50.9385126307 0.1614433521 50 56 18 N 000 09

41 E Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Pre-Construct Archaeology Ltd

Project brief originator Historic Royal Palaces

Project design originator Charlotte Matthews

Project director/manager Charlotte Matthews

Project supervisor Amanda Hayhurst

Type of sponsor/funding

body

Historic Royal Palaces

Project archives

Physical Archive Exists? No

Digital Archive recipient Historic Royal Palaces

Digital Archive ID KEW 5

Digital Contents 'Survey'

Paper Archive recipient Historic Royal palaces

Paper Archive ID KEW 5

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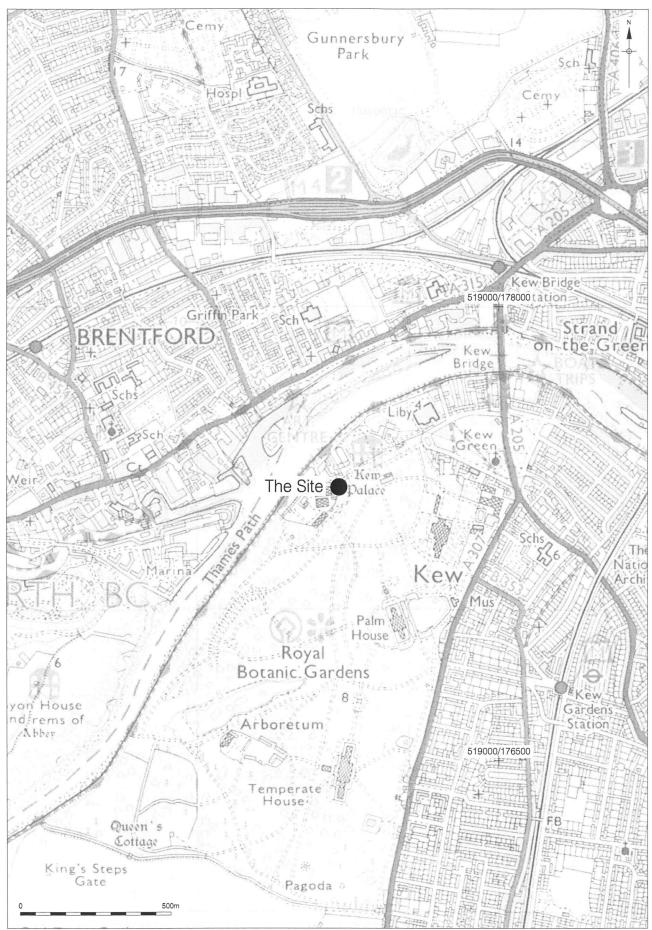
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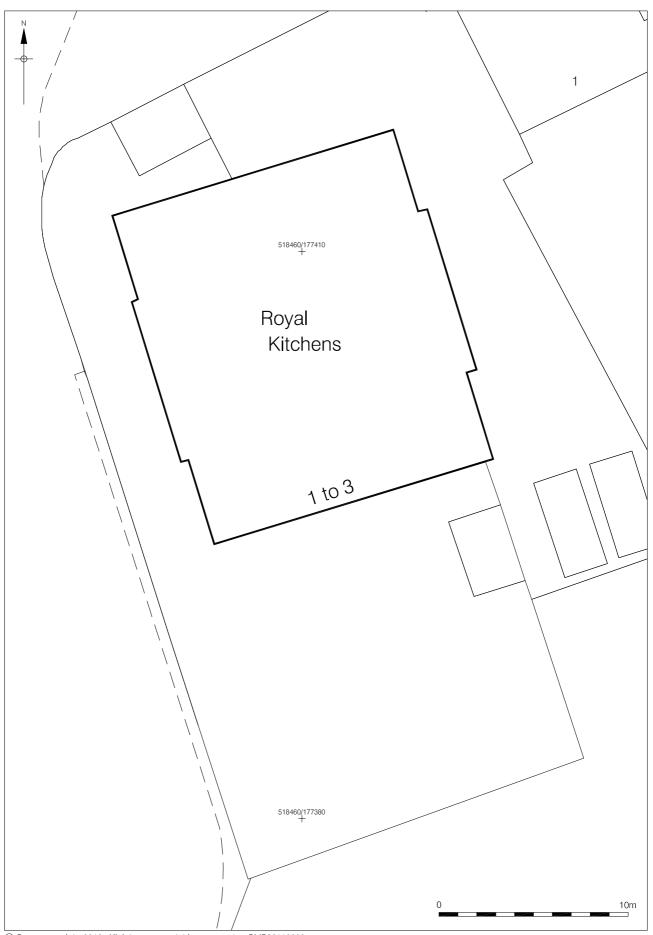
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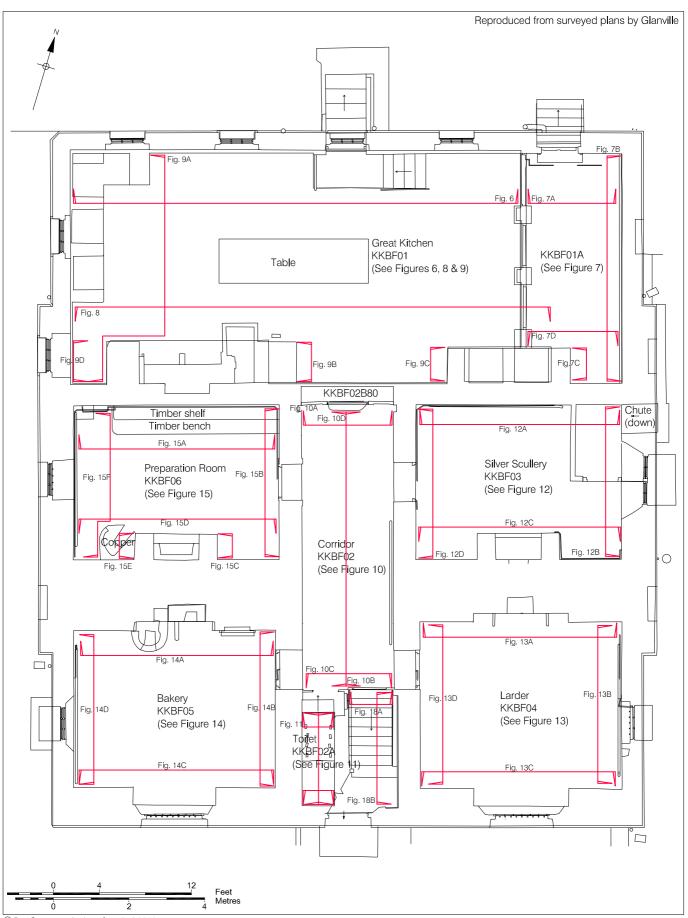


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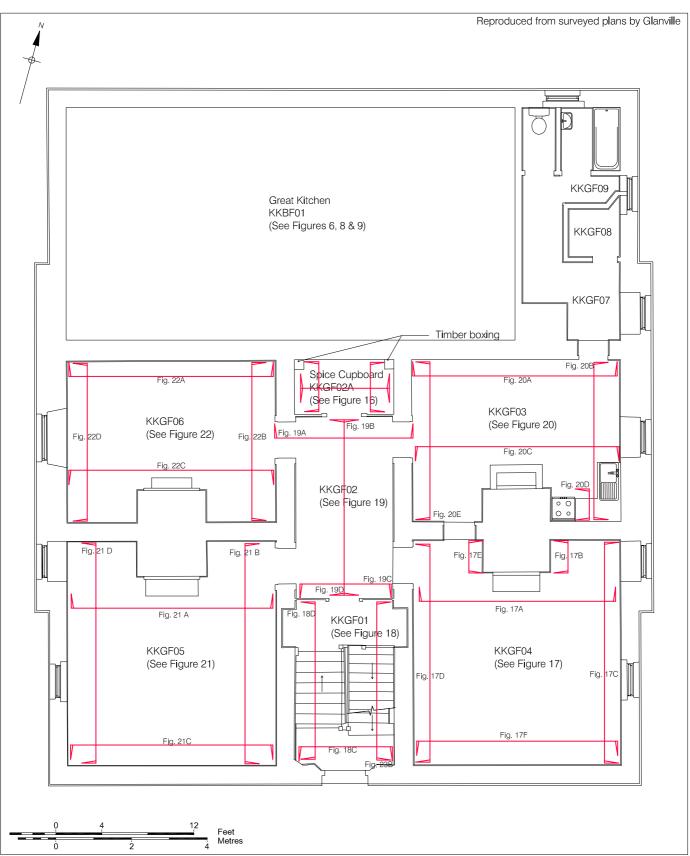


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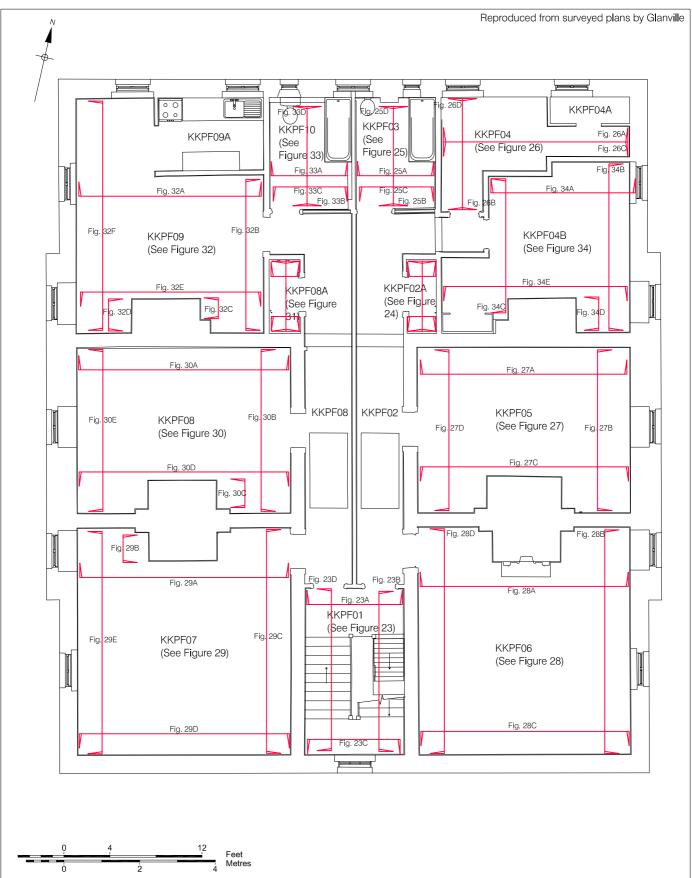
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Figure 3 Basement Plan Royal Kitchens Kew Palace 1:100 at A4



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Figure 4 Ground Floor Plan Royal Kitchens Kew Palace 1:100 at A4



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Figure 5 First Floor Plan Royal Kitchens Kew Palace 1:100 at A4



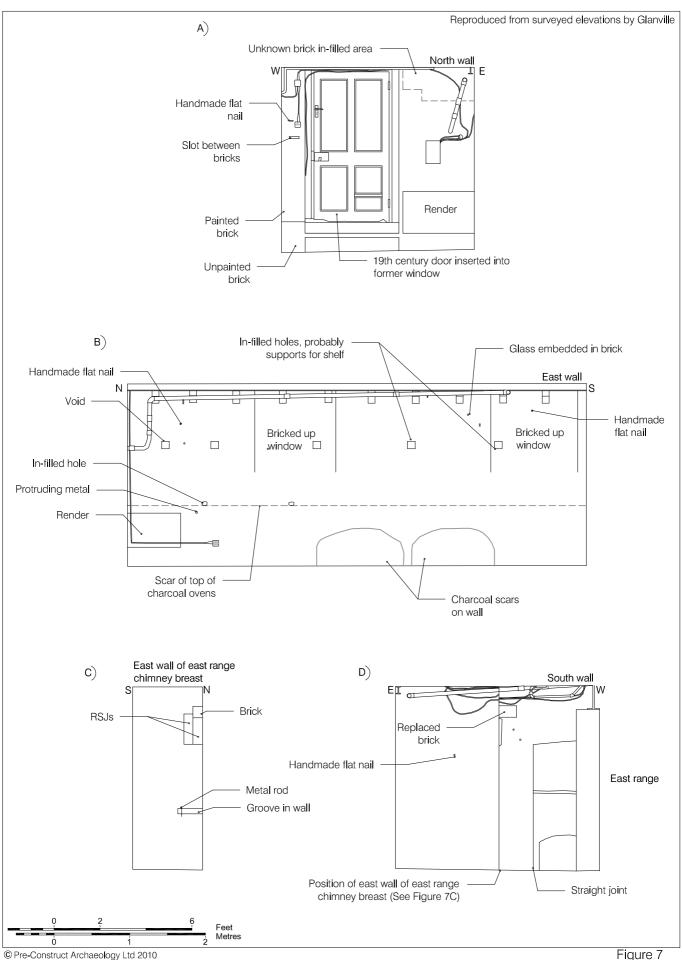


Figure 7 Great Kitchen, KKBF01A, Basement (See Figure 3 for Location) Royal Kitchens Kew Palace 1:50 at A4

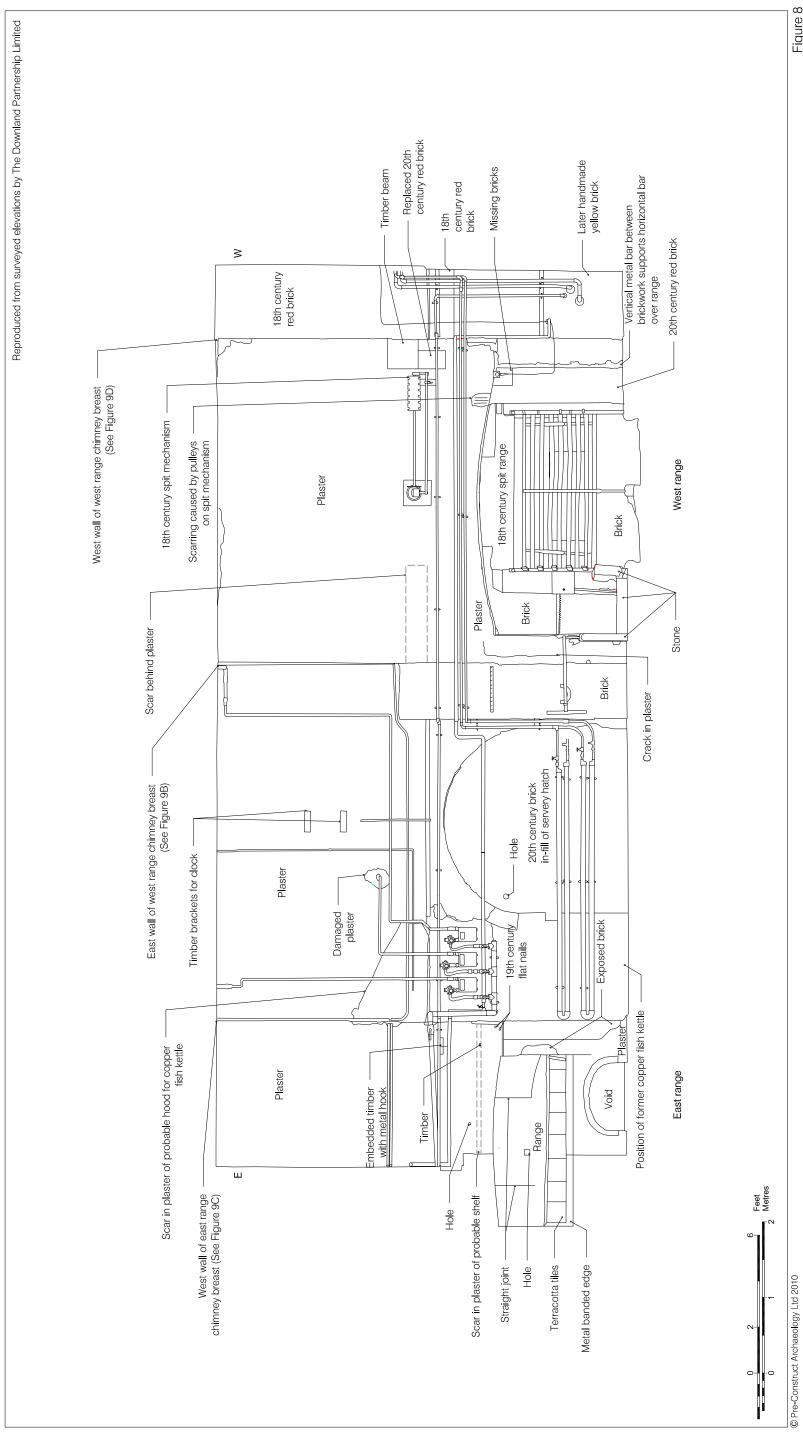


Figure 8
Great Kitchen, KKBF01, Basement
South Wall
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3

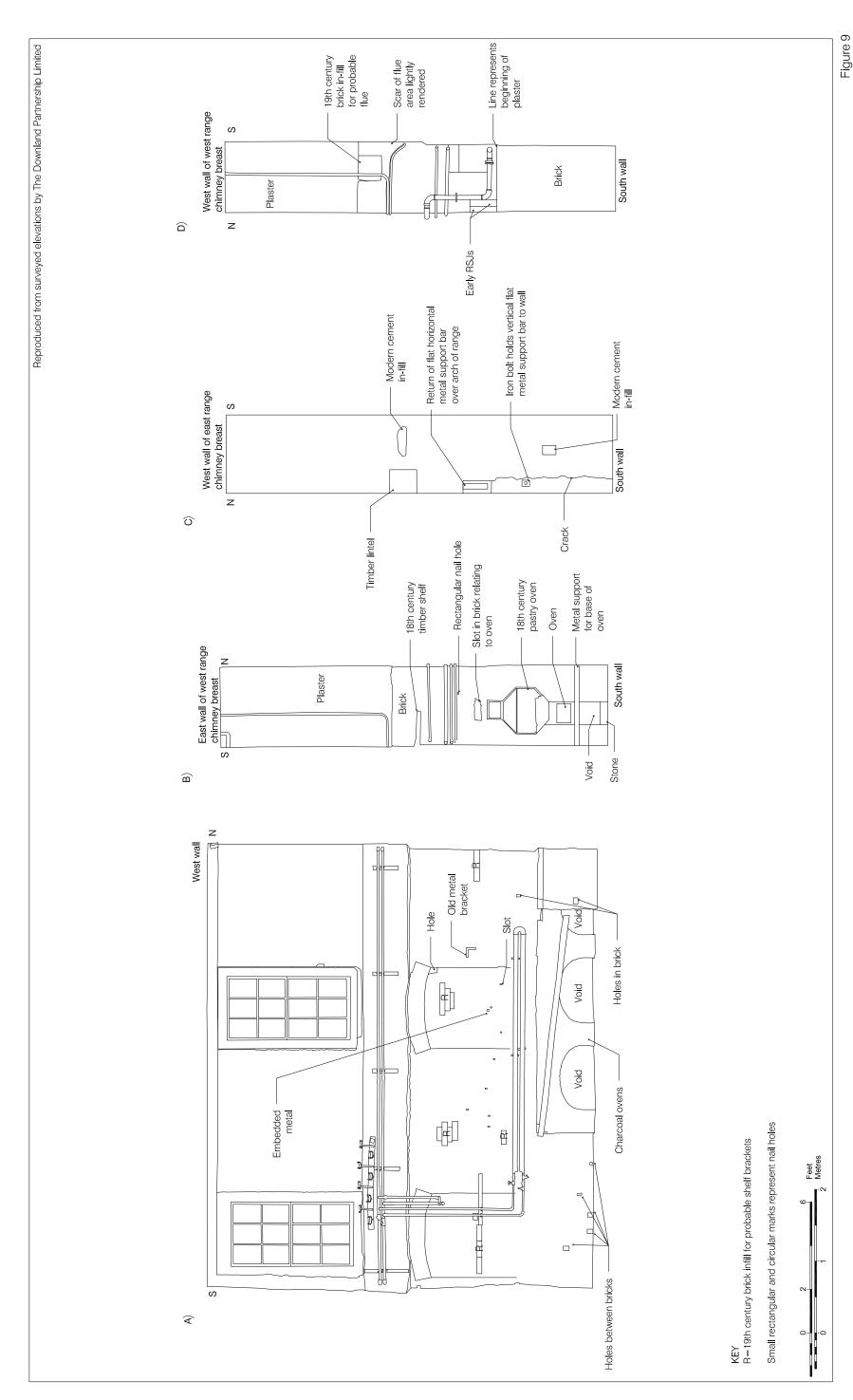


Figure 9
Great Kitchen, KKBF01, Basement
West Wall and West and East Walls of
Chimney Breasts in the South Wall
(See Figure 3 and 8 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3

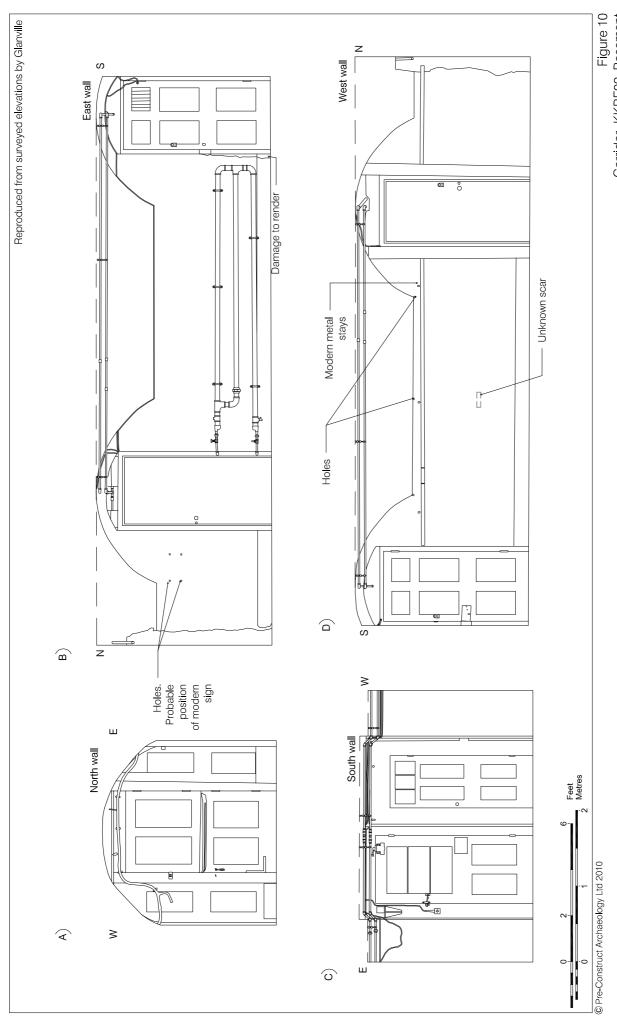


Figure 10
Corridor, KKBF02, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

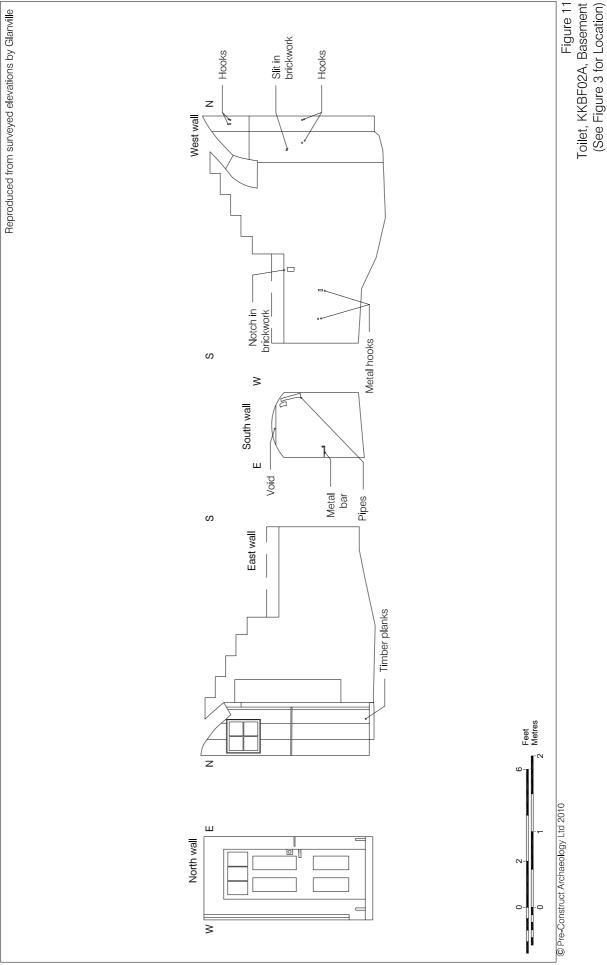


Figure 11
Toilet, KKBF02A, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

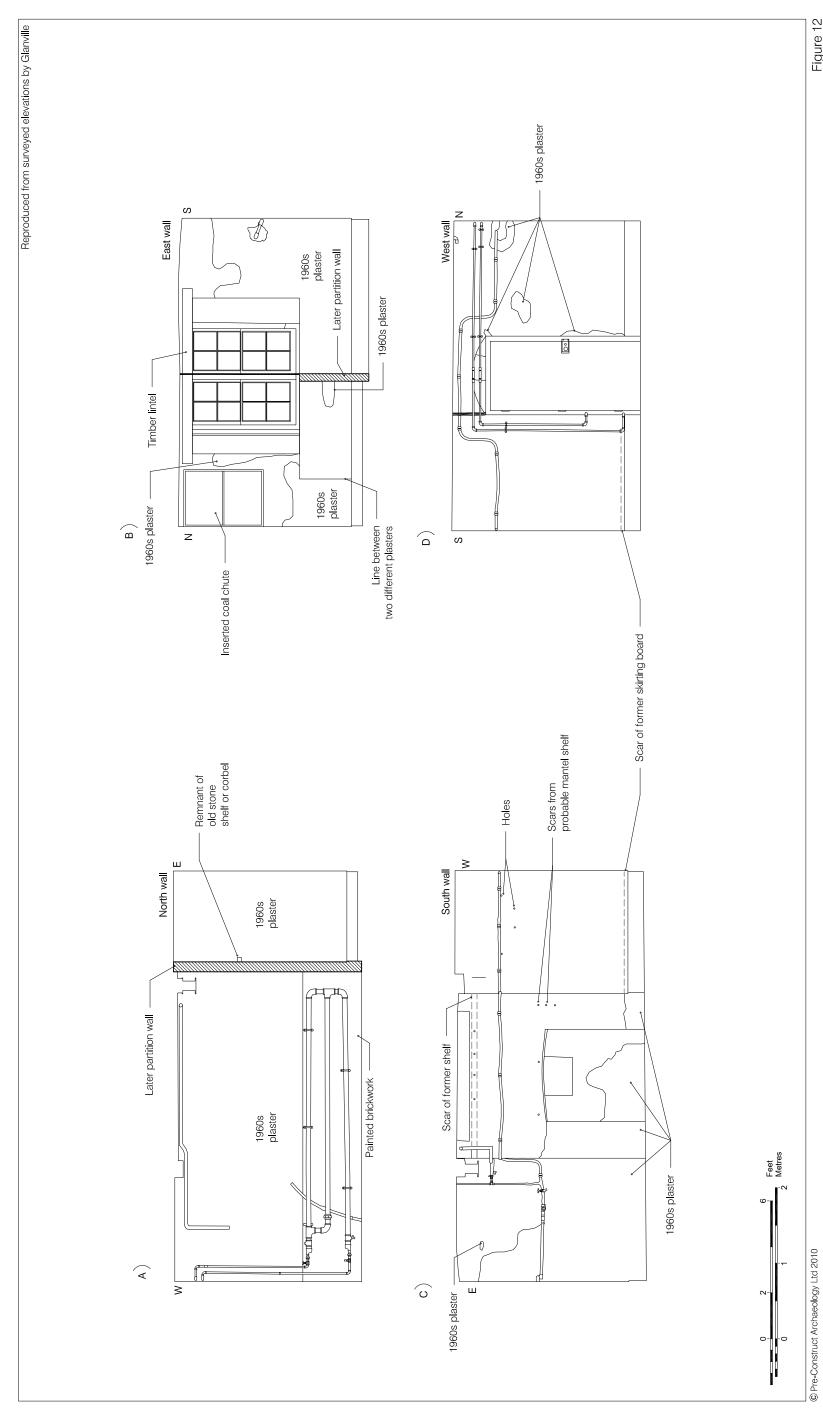
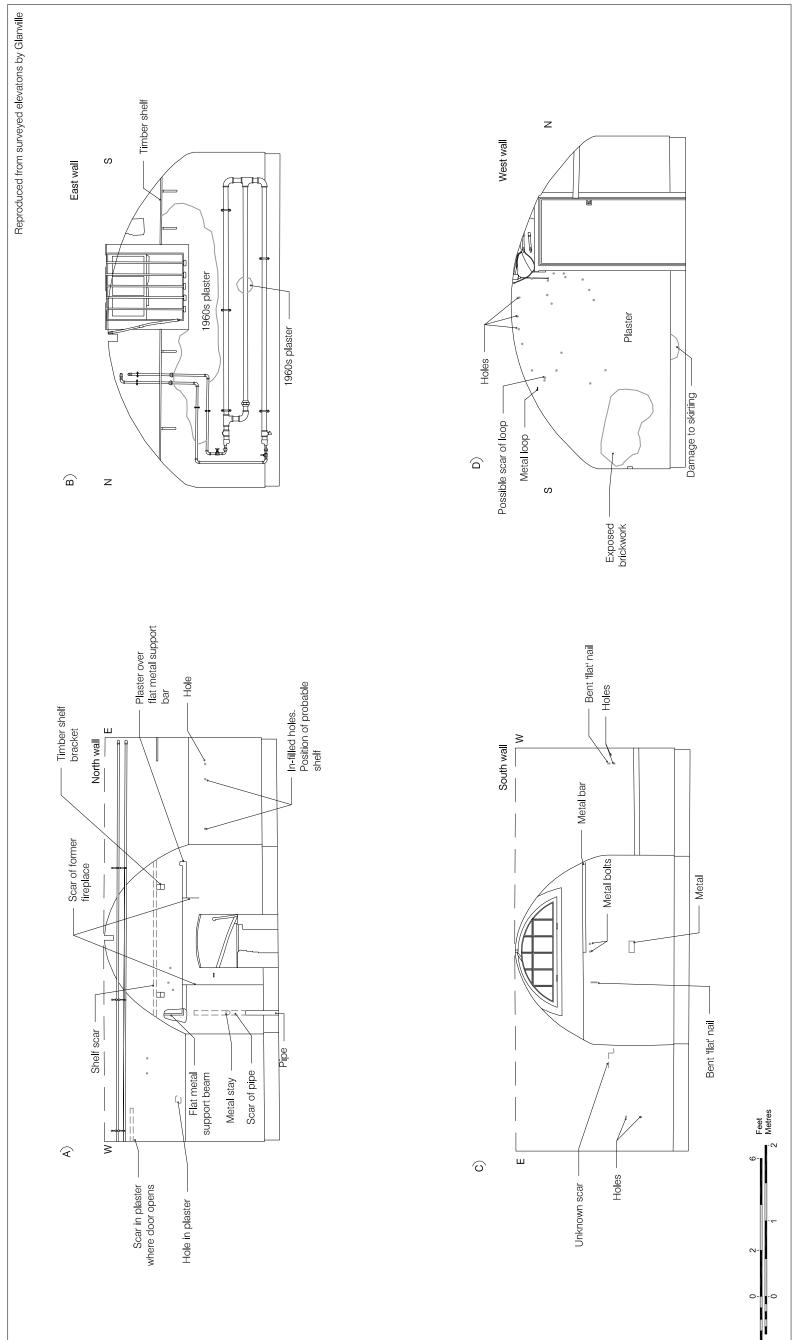
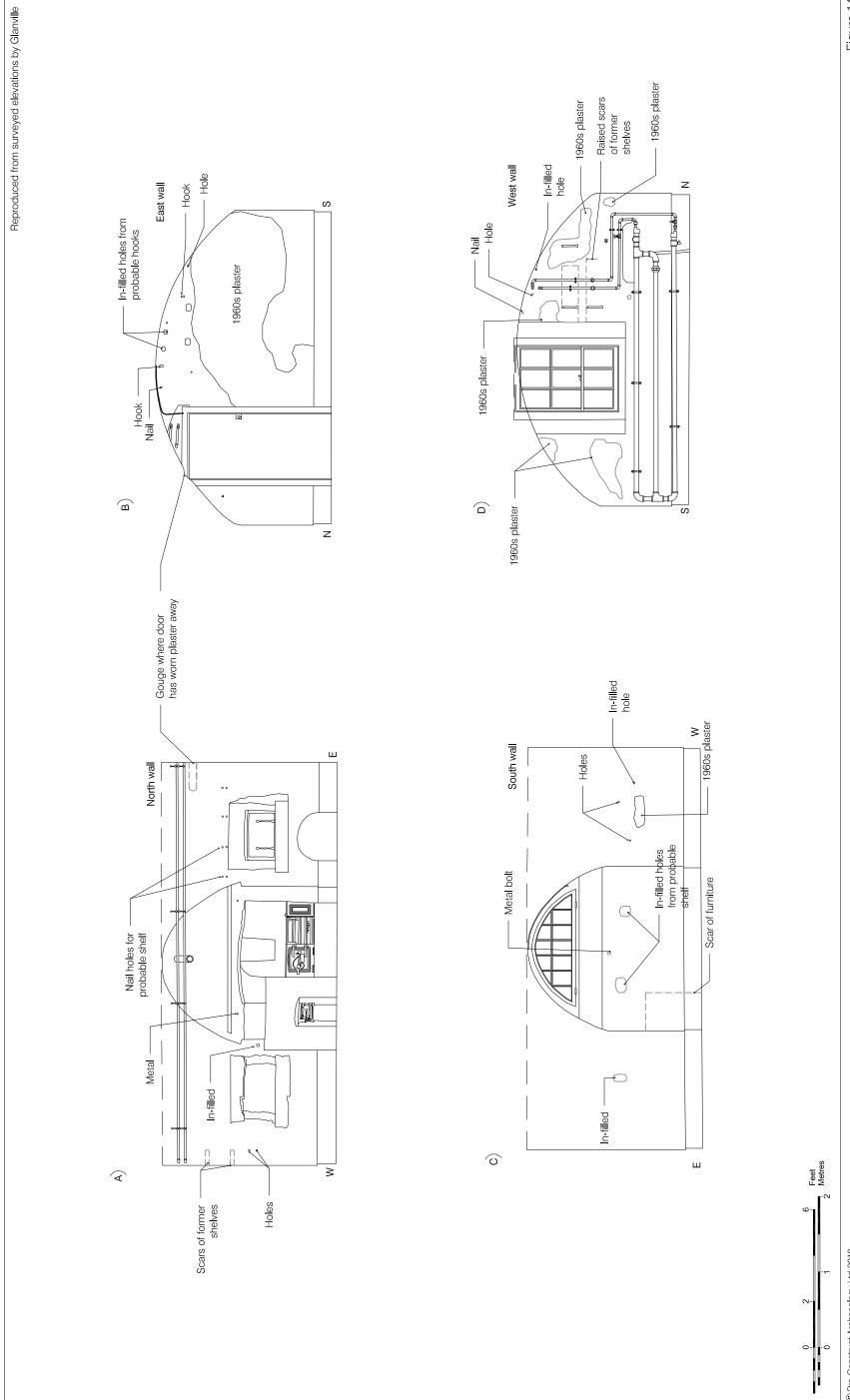


Figure 12
Silver Scullery, KKBF03, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3



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Figure 13
Larder, KKBF04, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3



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Figure 14
Bakery, KKBF05, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3

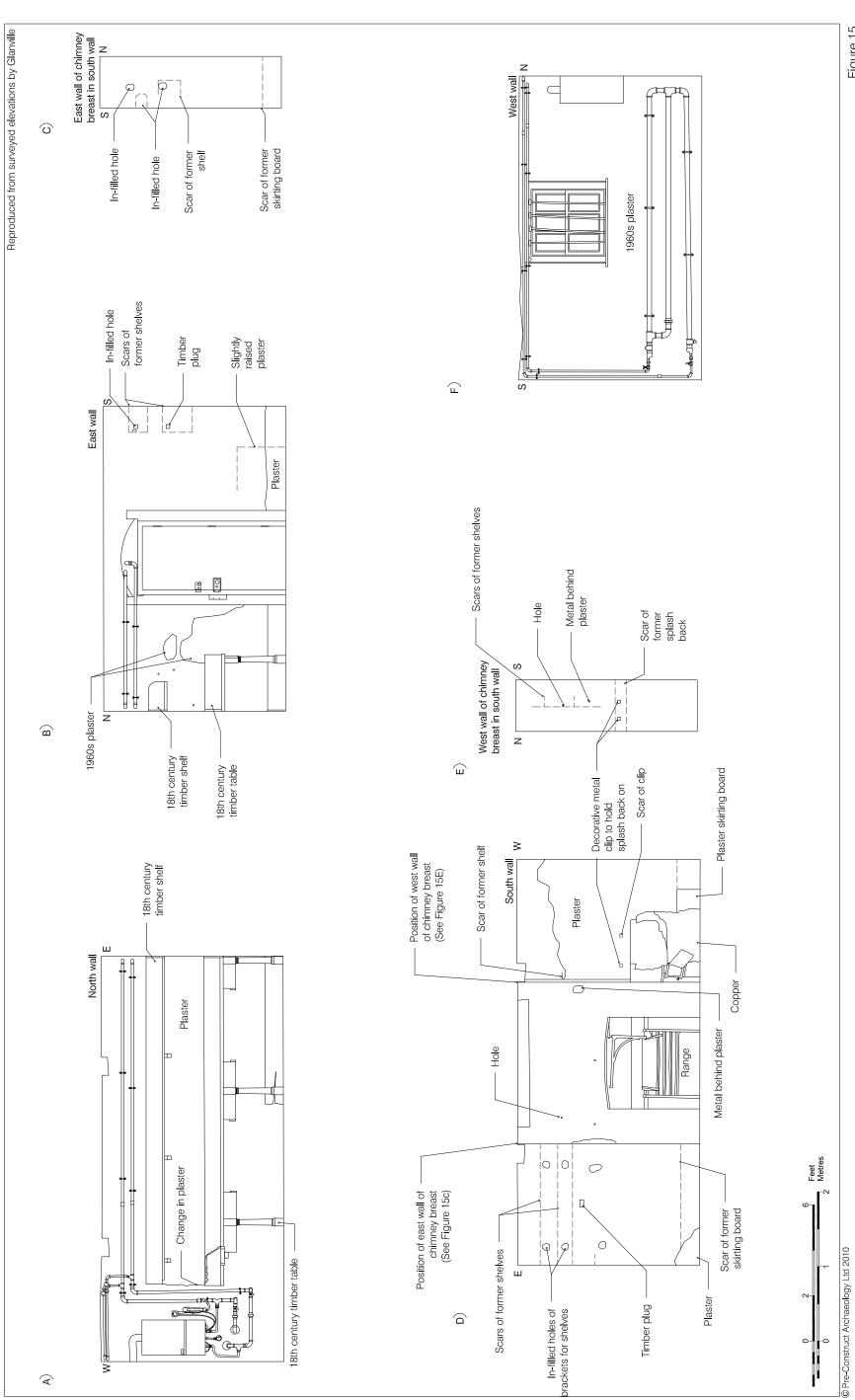
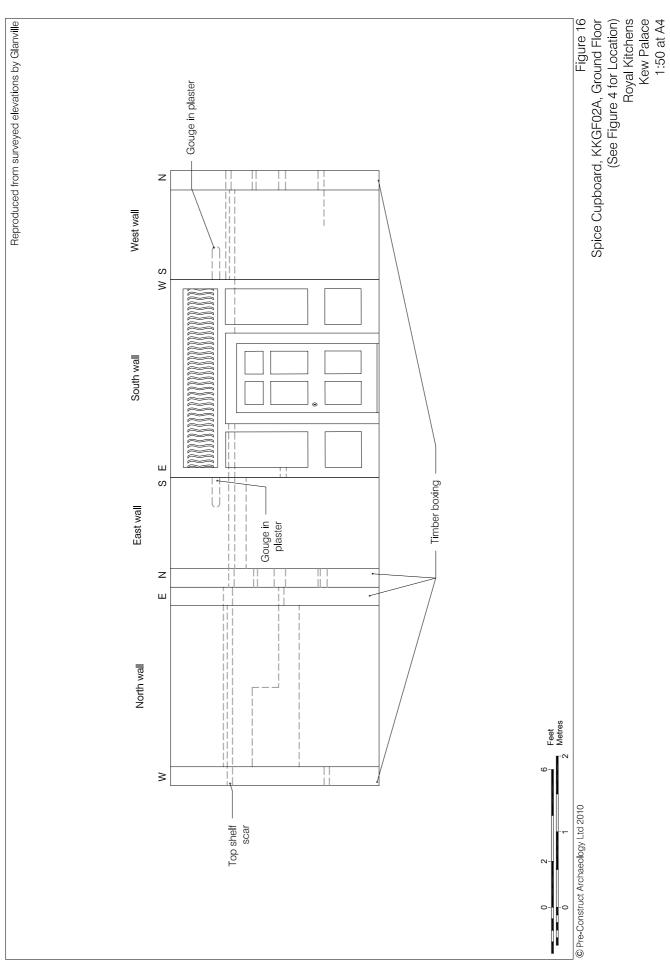
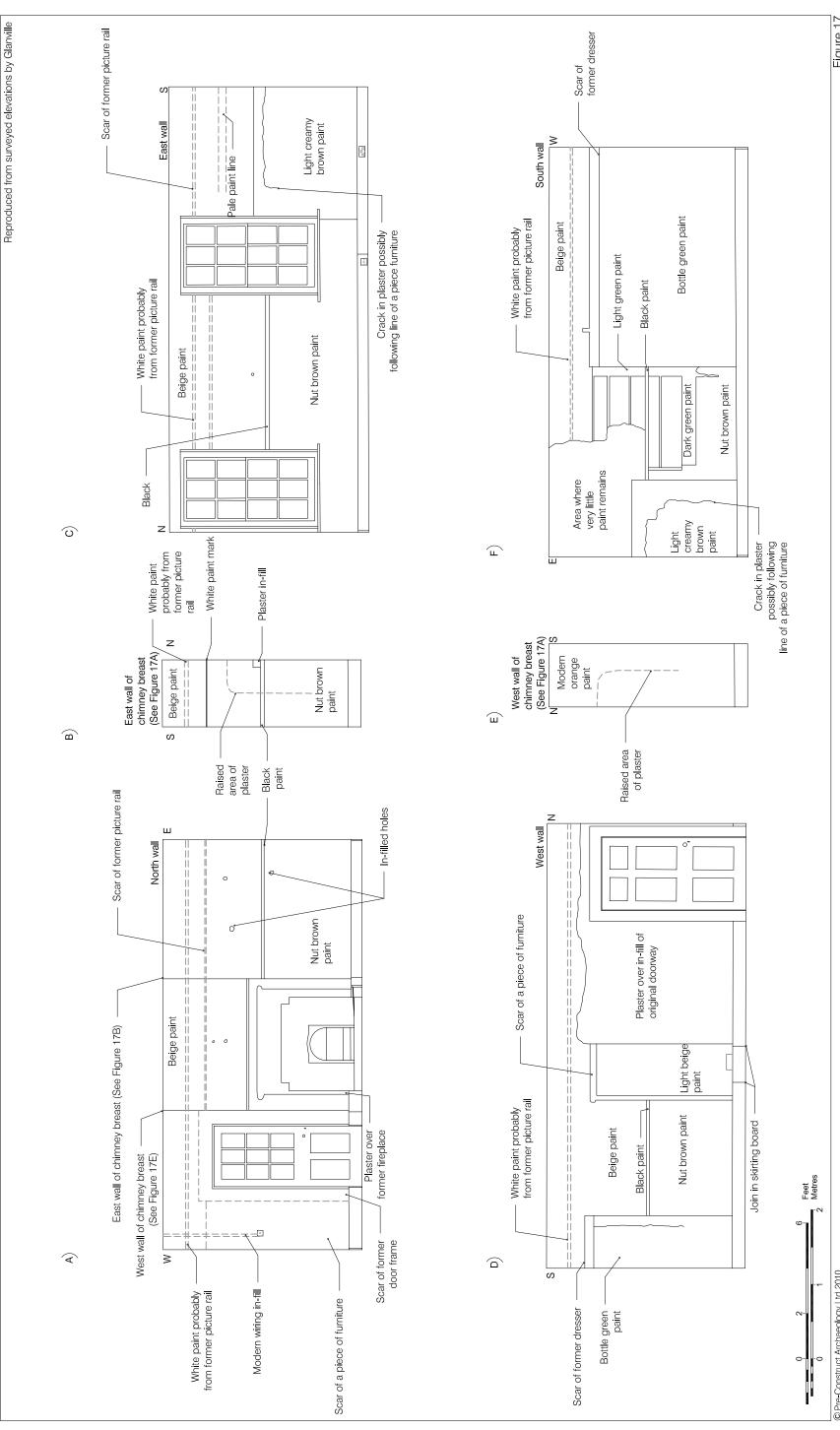


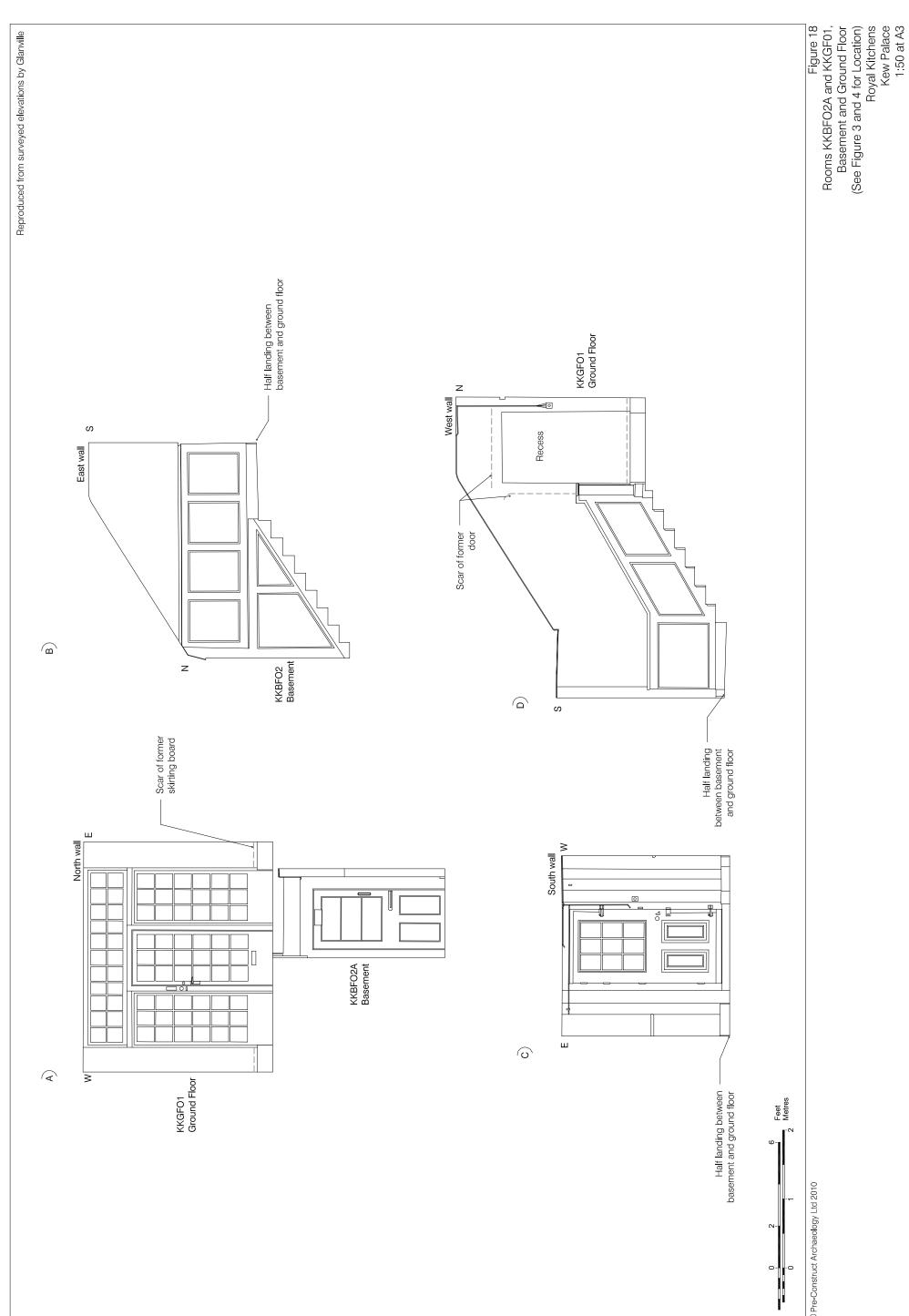
Figure 15
Preparation Room, KKBF06, Basement
(See Figure 3 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3





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Figure 17
Room KKGF04, Ground Floor
(See Figure 4 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A3



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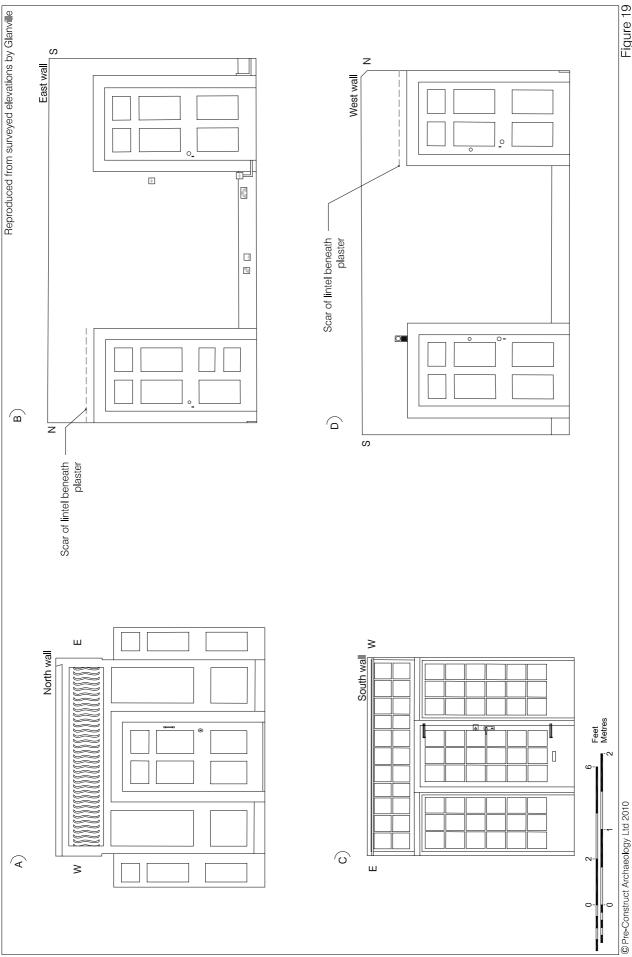


Figure 19
Room KKGF02, Ground Floor
(See Figure 4 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

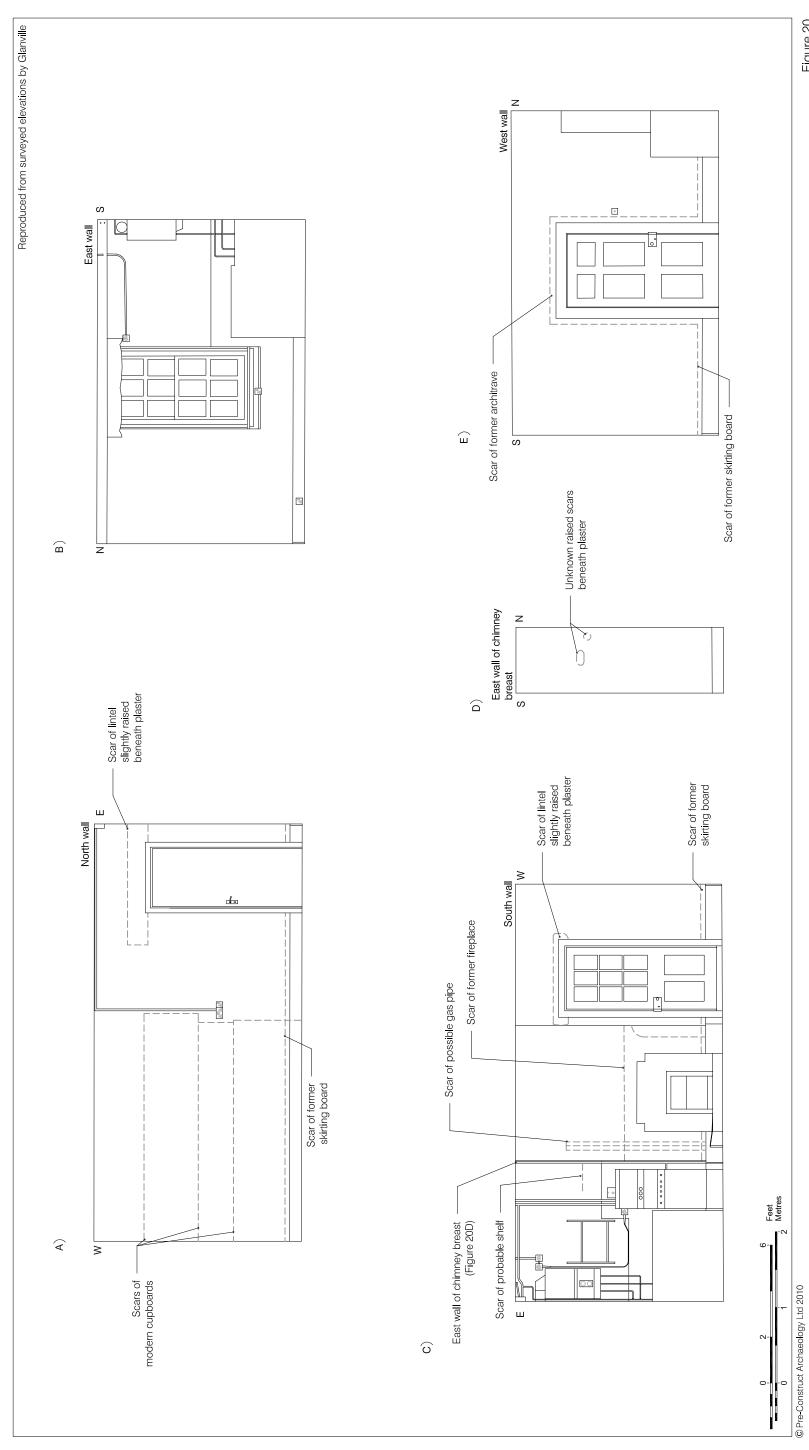
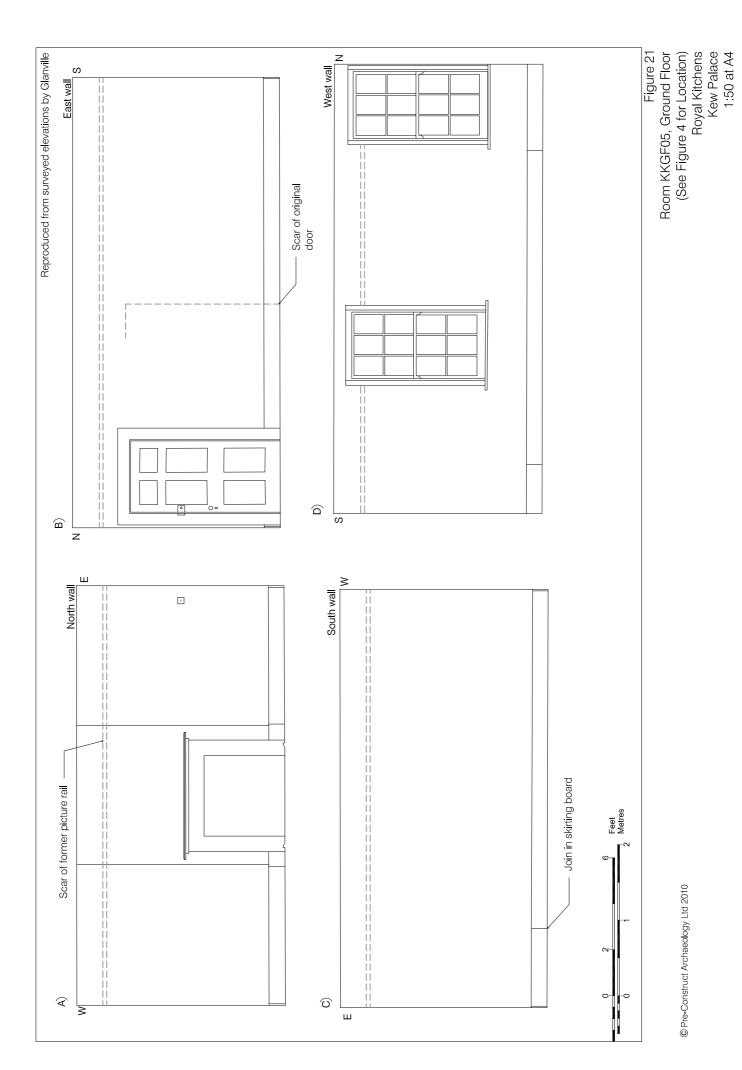


Figure 20 Room KKGF03, Ground Floor (See Figure 4 for Location) Royal Kitchens Kew Palace



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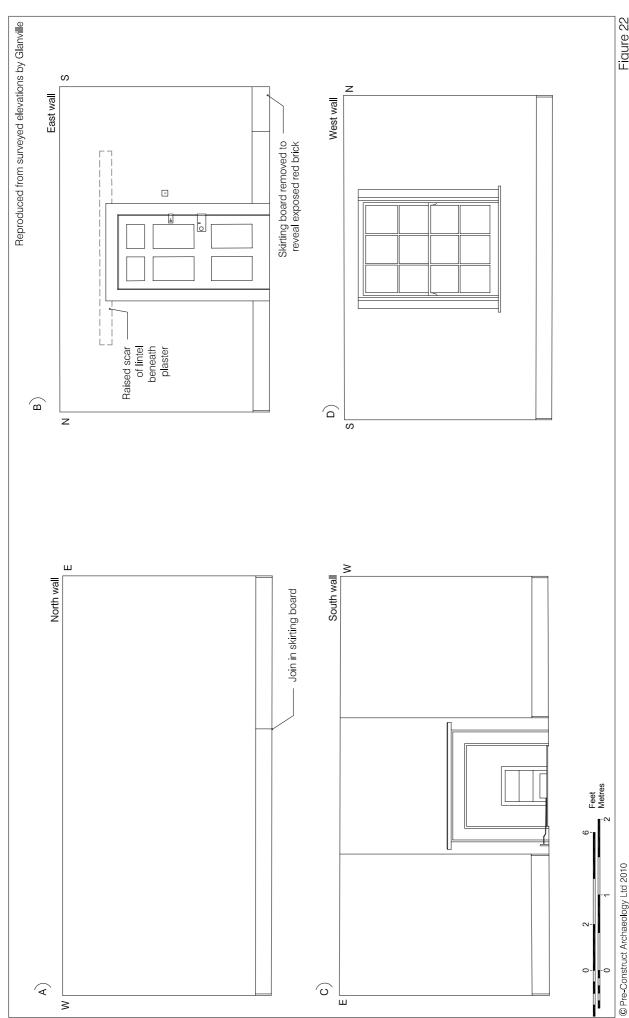


Figure 22
Room KKGF06, Ground Floor
(See Figure 4 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

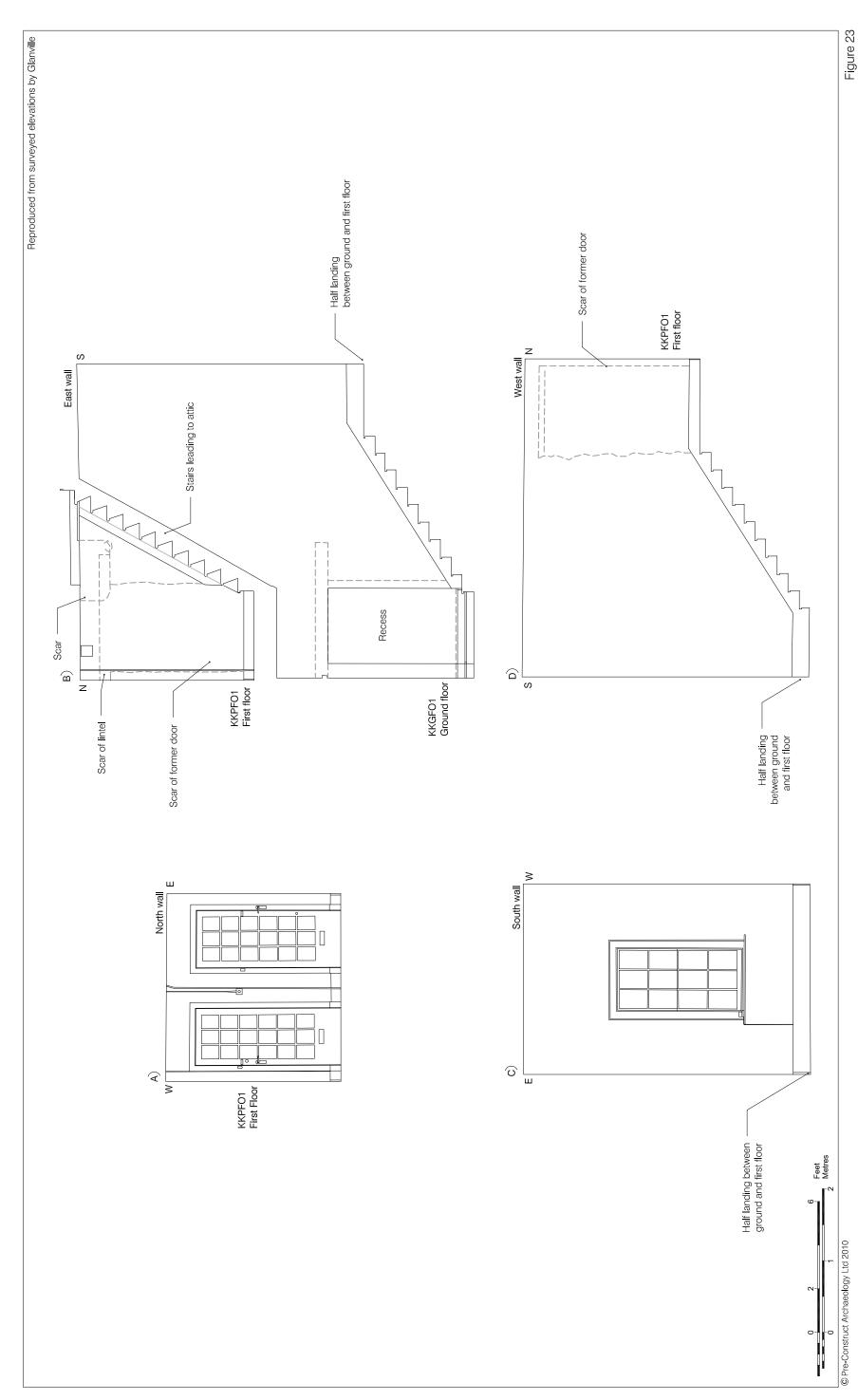
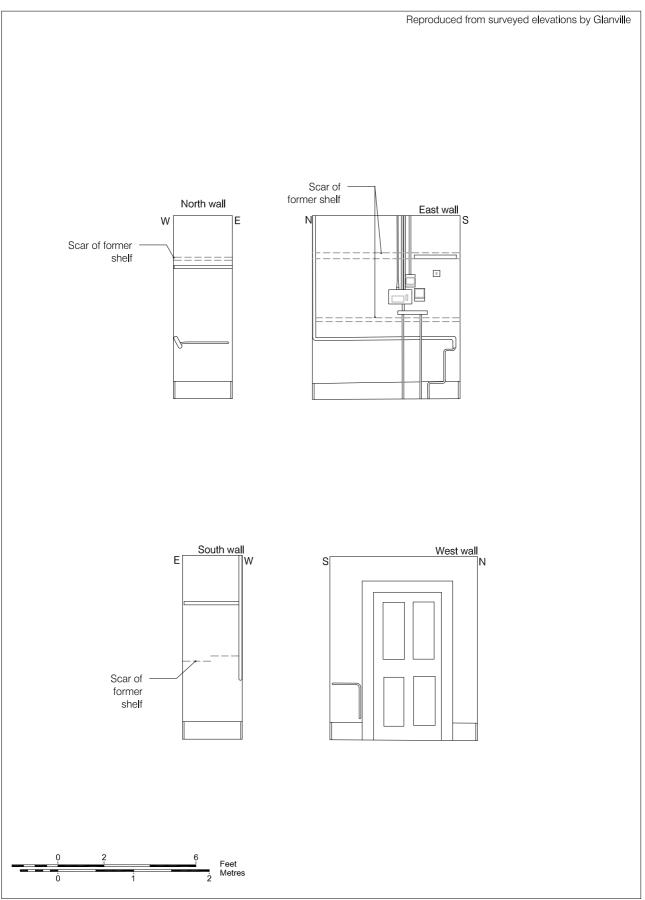


Figure 23
Rooms KKGFO1 and KKPF01,
Ground and First Floors
(See Figures 4 and 5 for Locations)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace



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Figure 24
Room KKPF02A, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

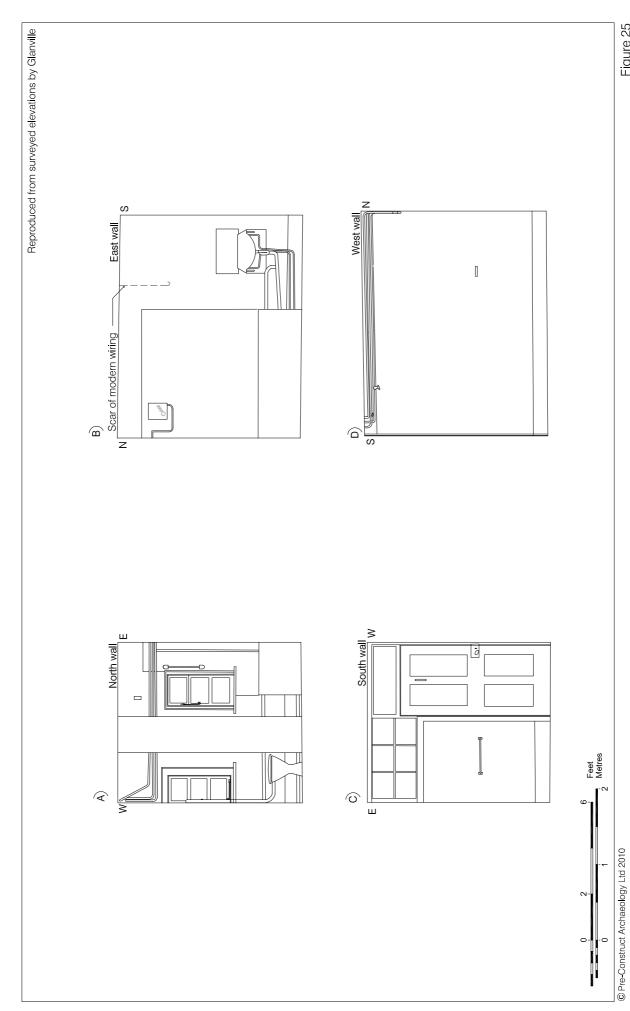


Figure 25
Room KKPF03, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

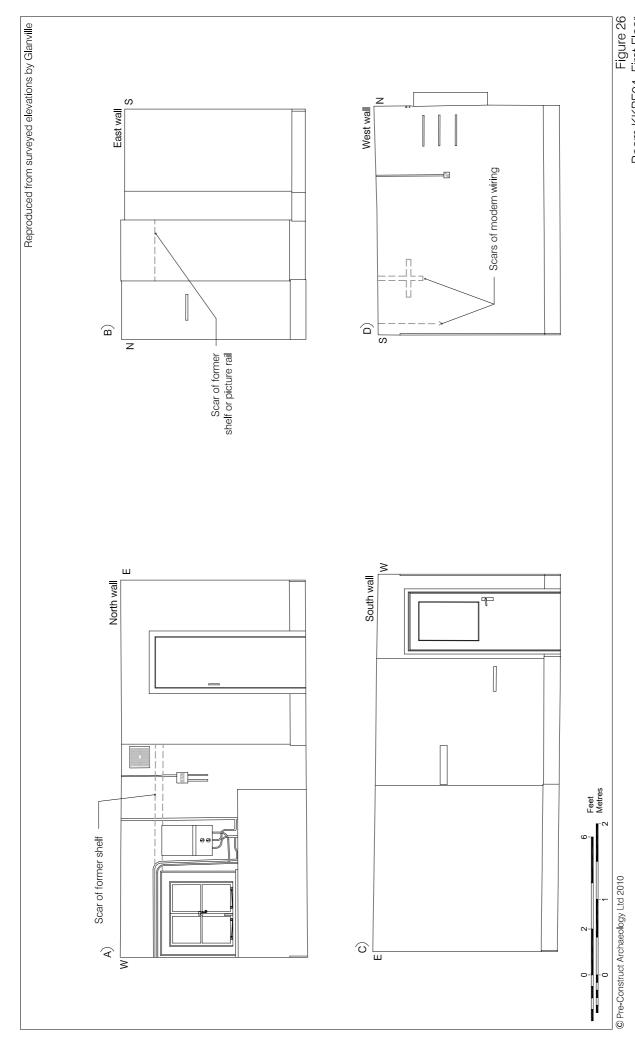


Figure 26
Room KKPF04, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

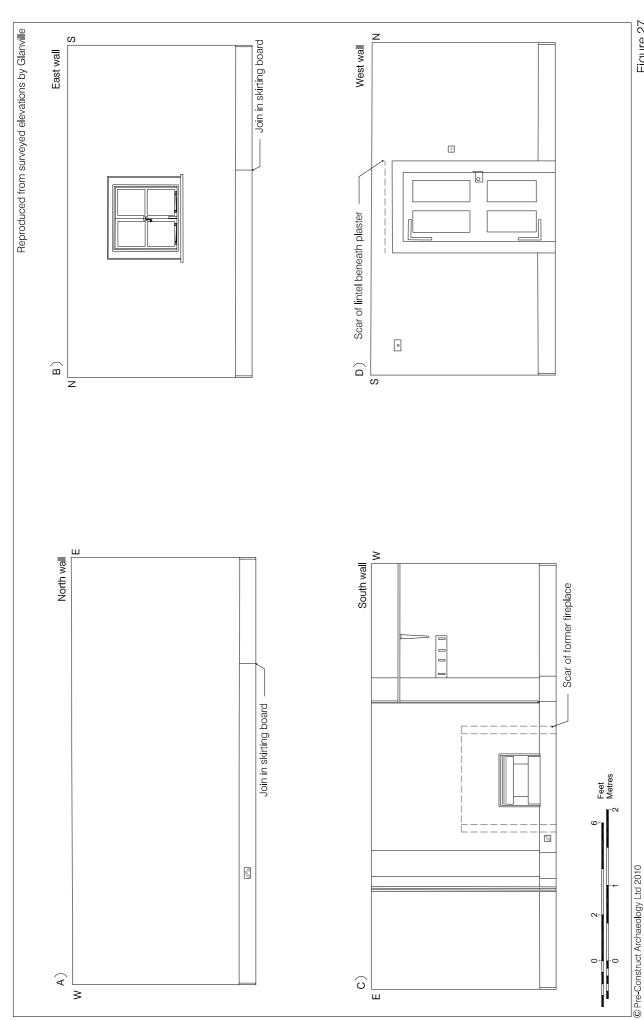


Figure 27
Room KKPF05, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

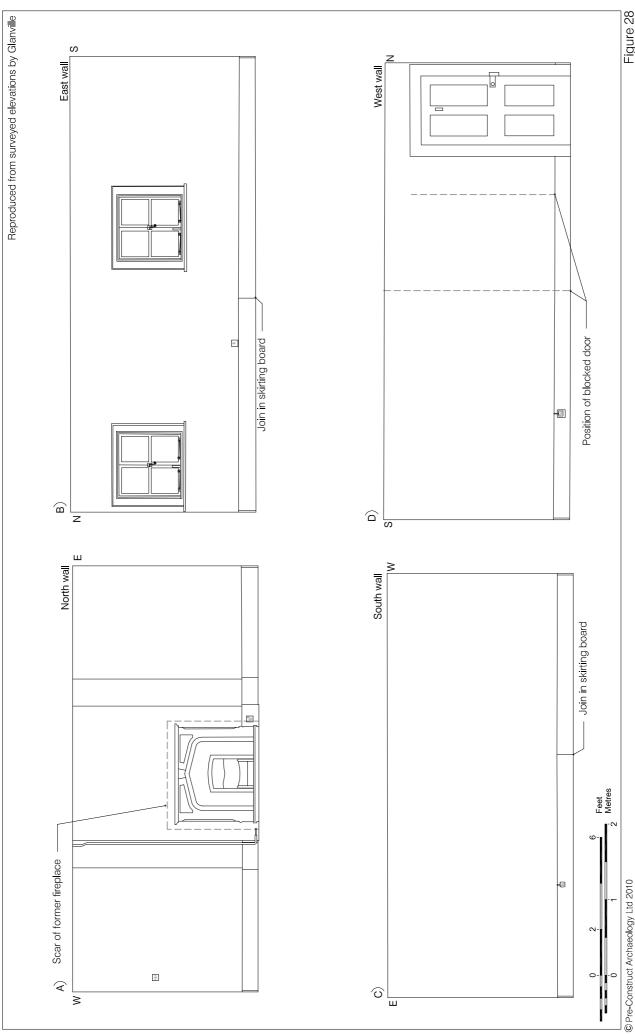


Figure 28
Room KKPF06, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

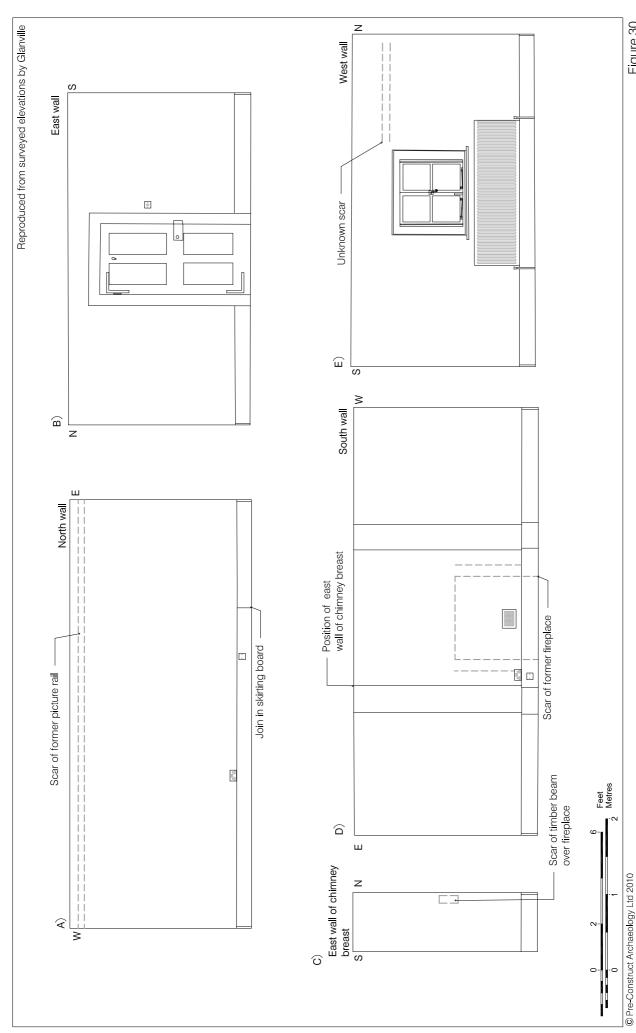


Figure 30
Room KKPF08, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

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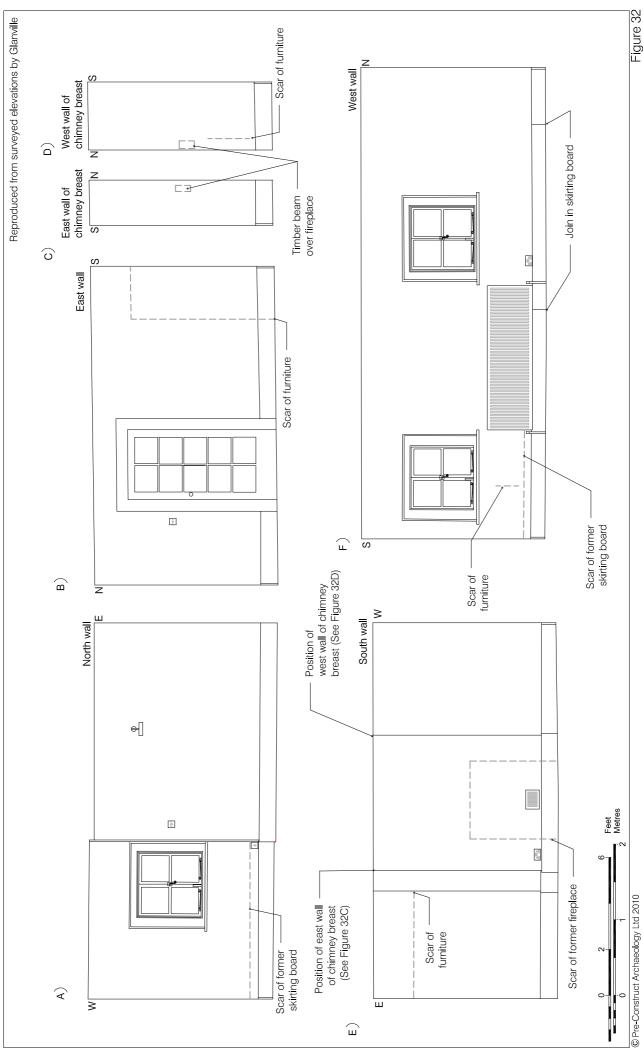
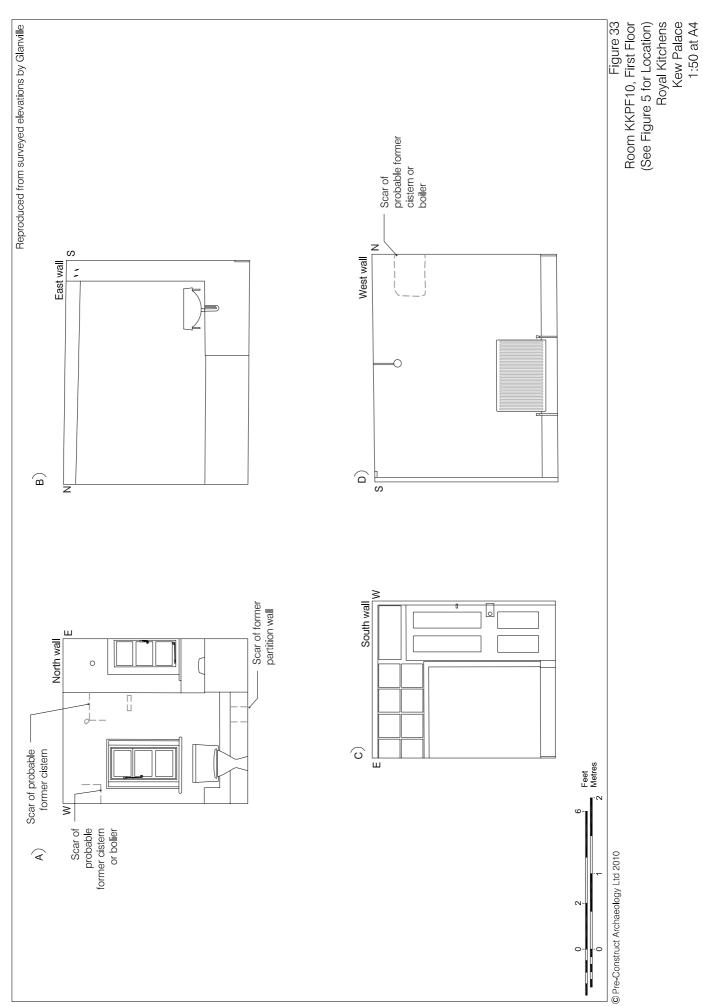
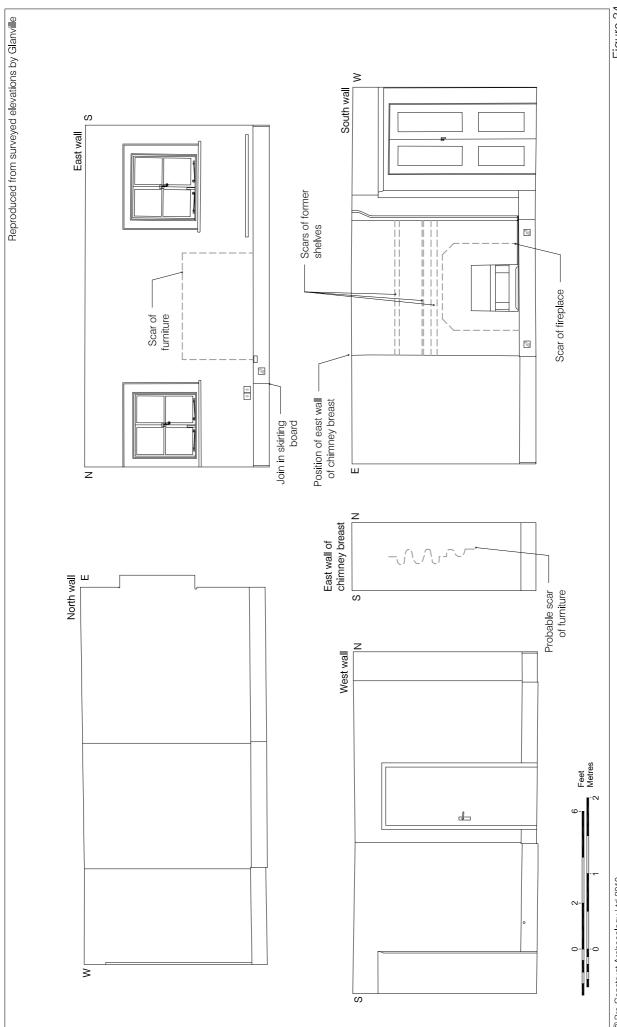


Figure 32
Room KKPF09, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Royal Kitchens
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4





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Figure 34
Room KKPF04B, First Floor
(See Figure 5 for Location)
Kitchen Block
Kew Palace
1:50 at A4

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