

# 4, Maids of Honour Row, The Green, Richmond, London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames

## A Report following an Archaeological Watching Brief and Historic Building Record

Planning Application Numbers: 07/2182/HOT and 07/2184/LBC

National Grid Reference: TQ 1761 7492

AOC Project no: 7868

Site Code: MUW 07

November 2008



ARCHAEOLOGY

HERITAGE

CONSERVATION

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**4, Maids of Honour Row, The Green, Richmond,  
London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames**

**A Report following an Archaeological Watching Brief  
and Historic Building Record**

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**National Grid Reference (NGR):** TQ 1761 7492

**AOC Project No:** 7868

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

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## **Non-Technical Summary**

*The fabric of the basement of the early 18<sup>th</sup> century property, 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond was examined during stripping for refurbishment of the basement. The building appears to be of a single phase, with no evidence of earlier buildings on the site being incorporated into its structure.*

*Additional to the internal works were limited landscaping and excavations associated with creating and improving access to the basement in the front and rear gardens. An archaeological watching brief was carried out during these works.*

*One aim of the investigation was to determine whether any parts of Richmond Palace survived beneath, or were incorporated into, Maids of Honour Row. At no point were any structures or deposits of proven Tudor /Medieval date encountered. Post-medieval features were present: one drain predating Maids of Honour Row was revealed and structural elements of the basement were examined, indicating layout and function.*

*The aims of the archaeological work have been met: to record evidence for earlier phases of the building, and any below-ground archaeological features revealed during excavations.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This document is a report following archaeological monitoring and recording during refurbishment and partial remodelling of the basement of 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond. The work was carried out between December 2007 and July 2008. Most walls of the basement were examined for evidence of earlier structures or phasing. Six areas excavated for refurbishment to the layout were monitored, revealing archaeological evidence of limited significance. The work was carried out on behalf of Acanthus LW Architects.
- 1.2 The refurbishment involved stripping of wall finishes in advance of damp-proofing and subsequent refurbishment, the creation of a new step access into the rear garden, and additions to the step access from the front garden.
- 1.3 The site work was allocated the site code **MUW 07**. The research aims outlined prior to fieldwork are discussed with reference to the results.

## 2. BACKGROUND

### 2.1 Site Location

- 2.1.1 The property is the northwestern of four terraced red-brick houses facing northeast onto the Green at Richmond. It was built in, or shortly after, 1724 for Maids of Honour attending the wife of the Prince of Wales, the future George II. They are located partly over the suspected outer range of buildings circumscribing the Privy Garden of the 14<sup>th</sup> century Richmond Palace. The house is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) TQ 1761 7492 (Figures 1 & 2). The site is roughly rectangular, measuring 40m long and up to 10m wide. To the northeast of the site is Richmond Green, while to the southwest, the ground slopes eventually down to the Thames, although much is terraced and built up.

### 2.2 Planning Background

- 2.2.1 The local planning authority is the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames. Archaeological advice is provided to the borough by Diane Walls of the Greater London Archaeology Advisory Service (GLAAS).
- 2.2.2 Planning applications were submitted to complete extensive repairs to the basement, and limited alterations (Planning Application Nos 07/2182/HOT and 07/2184/LBC). The GLAAS advisor accordingly recommended that an archaeological condition be placed upon the planning permission to secure a programme of work. This was largely due to the location of the property and its historical importance: it is Grade 1 listed.
- 2.2.3 The Grade I listing is given here:

*Nos 1 to 4 (consecutive) Maids of Honour Row gates and railings Circa 1720. A terrace of 3-storey houses each 3 windows wide and built in brick and stone having a panelled parapet above a stone cornice. Stone quoins and band courses. Windows square headed with keystones over, flush framed sashes with glazing bars. Doorcases with Doric pilasters and ornamental fanlights. Fine wrought-iron gates and railings. The hall is said to have been painted by Antonio Jolli, and the panels show views of Switzerland, Italy, China, and emblems of the arts and seasons.*
- 2.2.4 This Report conforms to the requirements of Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment and Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (DoE 1990). It has been designed in accordance with current best archaeological practice and local and national standards and guidelines:

- English Heritage – Management of Archaeological Projects (EH 1991).
- Institute of Field Archaeologists – Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluations (IFA 1994).
- Institute of Field Archaeologists – Code of Conduct (IFA 1997).

2.2.6 The programme of archaeological recording at 4, Maids of Honour Row was undertaken between December 2007 and July 2008, attendance dependent upon the developer's programme.

## **2.3 Geology and Topography**

2.3.1 The British Geological Survey map (BGS Sheet 270) indicates that the site is situated upon the sands and gravels of the First River Terrace of the Thames.

2.3.2 Richmond lies on the southern bank of the Thames as it flows downstream from its tidal limit at Teddington. The site stands at around 8mOD, and the slope down to the Thames is obscured by buildings. The Green to the northeast of the row is generally flat.

## **3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND**

### **3.1 Previous Archaeological Investigation**

3.1.1 The following background information is partly drawn from Desk Based Assessments carried out in the immediate vicinity (*AOC 2002a and 2002b*). A more complete background is contained in these documents. No previous archaeological investigations have occurred on the site but various small archaeological investigations have occurred in the vicinity.

### **3.2 Prehistoric (c. 500,000 BP – AD 43)**

3.2.1 Only limited evidence for prehistoric activity is present in the vicinity of the site. The Greater London Sites and Monuments Record (GLSMR) notes stray finds of flint tools and pottery dating from the Bronze Age and Iron Age in the immediate area. The potential for prehistoric remains is always high close to gravel terraces adjacent to flood-plains and watercourses

### **3.3 Roman (AD 43-410)**

3.3.1 The focus for Roman settlement in the London area was Londinium, where the City of London is now situated. Little evidence exists for such Roman settlement in the vicinity of the site

### **3.4 Anglo-Saxon (c.AD410-1065)**

3.4.1 Richmond's original name of Shene is thought to be Anglo-Saxon. It most likely derives from the word *sceo*, meaning shelter (Cloake 1991). In AD 950 Bishop Theodred of London referred in his will to a number of properties that he owned one of which was at Sceon; hence it is possible that some form of manor house existed in the area at this date.

### **3.5 Medieval (c.AD1066-1540)**

3.5.1 There is no mention of Shene in the Domesday Book of 1086, though this is probably because the manor was included within the realms of the Manor of Kingston, which was held by the King during this period (VCH 1902). The first record of the manor house of Shene was in the 12<sup>th</sup> century when it belonged to Henry I.



- 3.5.2 By the 1360's the manor was converted into a royal palace by Edward III, being a moated manor with associated hunting ground. It was demolished in 1395 and then rebuilt in 1414 by Henry V. The settlement of Shene at this time essentially evolved and revolved around the palace. It is likely to have been a small settlement serving the needs of the palace. The river was crossed at this date by a horse ferry, linking Richmond to Twickenham, and first referred to in state papers of 1443. Medieval activity beyond the suspected limits of the Palace has been discovered in the form of boundary ditches and postholes.
- 3.5.3 Continual development of the palace was carried out during the reigns of Henry V and VI, the final stage of which in 1444-5 saw the construction of a new outer court and gateway. It was at this point that the palace assumed its largest shape and size (Cowie & Cloake 2001). Shene Palace was partially destroyed by fire in 1497, but was rebuilt by Henry VII almost immediately. It is thought likely that the palace was built in much the same layout as the earlier palace upon the site. However, Henry VII renamed it Richmond or *Rychemonde* in 1501 after his earldom of Richmond in Yorkshire. Henry VII died at the palace in 1509, his son Henry (later Henry VIII) was born there (Wienreb & Hibbert 1983).
- 3.5.4 Records dating from the 16<sup>th</sup> century suggest that the Palace was moated. The moat is supposed to have been filled in on the extension of the palace by Henry VII. Evidence for a moat was discovered during an excavation conducted in 1972, the evidence from which suggested that the moat had not been an original feature of the Tudor palace. The palace is thought to have consisted of a block of state apartments overlooking the river, arranged around a small courtyard. To the north east stood the fountain courtyard, containing a large fountain flanked by a great hall, chapel, and kitchen.
- 3.5.5 The archaeological and historical evidence has been collated in an article by Cowie and Cloake (2001) that suggests that the northeastern extent of the palace complex lies under the site of Maids of Honour Row. This consisted of a range of buildings that separated the palace privy garden from Richmond Green. This would place the southwestern wall of the range beneath the rear wall of Maids of Honour Row.
- 3.5.6 A small excavation in 'Old Palace' has revealed the foundations and cellar walls of Tudor buildings and a robber pit dating to the 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> century that was probably related to one or other of the phases of demolition of the palace (Cowie & Cloake 2001). The remnants of the Tudor gatehouse are extant just to the north-west of Maids of Honour Row.

### **3.6 Post-Medieval (c.AD1540-present)**

- 3.6.1 There is little recorded regarding the Palace from the death of Henry VIII to the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century. Queen Elizabeth spent some summers there, but it was largely neglected during the reign of James I. Charles II used the site as a hunting ground, the grounds extending to Kew.
- 3.6.2 Following the execution of Charles I in 1649, parliament sold off most of the royal estates including Richmond. Parts of the palace survived and were lived in by the new lord of the manor or rented out, whereas parts were demolished and effectively used as stone 'quarries' by their new owners. There are a few remaining parts of the palace still standing. The most publicly visible part is the Gatehouse on the Green. A more hidden part is a polygonal stair turret at the rear of No.1, Maids of Honour Row, which would have provided access to the galleries around the privy Garden. The only remaining visible part of the palace is the Gatehouse on the Green.



- 3.6.3 From the 1690's Richmond began to develop from a small village into a small town. The Green had been used for pasture, but 18<sup>th</sup> century development may have discouraged such a rural activity. Maids of Honour Row was constructed in 1726 as lodgings for the maids of honour attending the Princess of Wales (Princess Caroline of Anspach) who with her husband Frederick George, Prince of Wales, the future George II, lived in a house in the Old Deer Park, Richmond. The terrace has four houses of three storeys and a basement set-off by forecourts with wrought-iron gateways.
- 3.6.4 From 1744, No. 4 was lived in by John James Heidegger, the Swiss Theatre manager (Weinreb and Hibbert 1995). Amongst later occupants was Mrs Judith Levy who lived there from 1753 until her death in 1803. She was a widow who had inherited wealth but was also a successful business woman in her own right and moved in the highest social circles. She entertained lavishly and acquired the nickname of the 'Queen of Richmond Green.'
- 3.6.5 The rear of the property differs from the other houses of the Row, with a projecting rear wing and bay window. These are not shown on the Survey of the Manor of Richmond (1771), but are depicted on the 1868 Ordnance Survey Map. Its date may be indicated by rate rises; there are increases present in the rate books for 1800 and 1870. Since Judith Levy was quite elderly by the time of her death, the rate rise may indicate that the extensions were not built until the 1860s.

## 4. AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

- 4.1 The aims of the excavation were to mitigate the impact of the repair, refurbishment and alteration and preserve by record any archaeological remains. This applied to remains of all periods, and included evidence of past environments.
- 4.2 The specific aims were defined as follows:
- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains within the site.
  - To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered.
  - To record and sample excavate any archaeological remains encountered.
  - To assess the ecofactual and environmental potential of any archaeological features and deposits.
  - To determine the extent of previous truncations of the archaeological deposits.
  - To enable the archaeology advisor to the London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames to make an informed decision on the status of the planning application.
  - To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation in order to inform the mitigation strategy as part of the planning process.
- 4.3 The specific objectives of the Watching Brief were as follows:
- To determine the presence of any remains of prehistoric date.
  - To determine the presence of any remains of medieval or Tudor date on the site, specifically the range of the Tudor Richmond Palace that is thought to have previously occupied this area and any features and structures related to their use of these or adjacent buildings.
  - To identify and record features relating to the post-palace use of the site including earlier features of the current house and any features related to its use.

- To assess the potential of the site to inform on the development of Richmond Palace and the subsequent post-medieval development and chronology of the Richmond Green area.

4.4 The specific objectives of the Historic Building record were as follows:

- Examine the basement wall to determine if the greater thickness at its base is a result of an earlier wall (potentially a Tudor palace wall) being re-used in the 18<sup>th</sup> century construction.
- Record the make-up of the basement wall and carry out an analysis of the mortar if appropriate to determine the likely date of the components.

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

## 5. STRATEGY

5.1 A unique site code for the project was obtained from the Museum of London before commencing work (**MUW07**).

5.2 The archaeological recording was carried out during renovations and alterations to the site.

5.3 The work was carried out by a team of experienced archaeologists.

5.4 The work was overseen by a Project Supervisor under the overall direction of Andy Leonard, Fieldwork Divisional Manager.

5.5 Monitoring of the watching brief was undertaken by Mark Stevenson of GLAAS.

## 6. METHODOLOGY

6.1 The archaeological excavation was conducted according to the requirements stated by Mark Stevenson in discussions with the architect and the Method Statement or Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by AOC Archaeology Group (2007).

6.2 The recording took place in three areas. The back garden contained two small shallow trenches (1 and 2) which revealed garden soil, and a larger trench (Trench 6) excavated for the base of a new stairwell at the rear of the basement. Trench 7 was in the front garden associated with new walls around the front stair entrance to the basement (Trench 7). There were three internal pits (Trenches 3, 4 and 5), and the character of the basement walls that were stripped was also recorded.

6.3 The monitoring was conducted over a period of six months under the overall management of Andy Leonard.

6.4 The results are presented by area and by trench.

## 7. RESULTS

### 7.1 Introduction

7.1.1 Archaeological features were largely absent. The results below describe the sequence in each trench.

### 7.2 Back Garden,

#### Trench 1

7.2.1 Trench 1 measured 1.6m by 0.70m. The lowest layer was soft brown silty sand with occasional small stones (1/004) at 8.1mOD. This was cut by a shallow feature [1/003] that may be a planting trench. It was filled with dark yellowish brown sandy gravel (1/002), and the pottery assemblage included china and flowerpot fragments of 20<sup>th</sup> century date. The feature was sealed by 0.3m depth of dark greyish brown silty sand (1/001), garden soil, its surface at 8.4mOD.

#### Trench 2

7.2.2 Trench 2 was also a small trench, measuring 2.3m by 0.8m. The lowest deposit was soft brown silty sand (2/004), at the same level as in Trench 1. This was sealed by a spread of dark brown silty sand with high building material content (2/003). The fragments were small but were of clear post-medieval date. A small quantity of butchered animal bone, of low archaeological significance, was collected. A trench for a drainpipe cut through this, the pipe being ceramic and of 19<sup>th</sup> century date. Top soil across the trench (2/001) formed the current garden layer.

#### Trench 6

7.2.3 Trench 6 was monitored during excavations for the new step entrance to the rear of the basement. This measured 5m by 3m at surface and shorter at base, accounting for the gradient of the steps.

7.2.4 The lowest deposit was mid brown silty sand with small rounded gravel (608) at 6.2mOD. This is likely to be gravel of the first River Terrace. This was sealed by a layer of yellowish brown sandy silt (607) 0.15m thick that was stone free and had no cultural inclusions. It is likely to be naturally developed subsoil or alluvial silt.

7.2.5 This was sealed by a thick layer of dark brown sandy silt (606) that contained occasional fragments of brick, small pieces of degraded mortar, occasional fragments of charcoal and rounded gravel. This was up to 1.1m thick. This was only seen in a limited area, being truncated by two later activities. The layer had been reworked, possibly during the construction phase of the Maids of Honour terrace, or when additions were made in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

7.2.6 To the rear of the property is a narrow brick structure oriented southeast-northwest that is a store room (Room B9) beyond the principal footprint of the house. This is little more than a series of small alcoves with arched entrances 1.35m high and vaulted ceilings. The original doorway to the storerooms was revealed in the rear wall of Room B1. The low height of the doorway may indicate that the original floor surface of the rooms was lower, but no earlier level was seen during the archaeological watching brief.

7.2.7 The sequence of soils in the back garden and part of the southwest edge of the storeroom was truncated by the construction cut [603] for a brick wall that formed a light well serving the basement (602) and also provided access to the storeroom. The cut had a flat base and cut into the gravels to 6.0mOD. The light well wall was built of red bricks each measuring 220mm by 110mm by 60mm, and bonded with hard grey mortar that contained large lumps of chalk or lime. The wall was built in

English Bond, 0.22m thick and standing to 8.2mOD. The constituents of the mortar suggest a mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date.

- 7.2.8 The storerooms are They are oriented and are four in number, each 0.6m wide. The northwestern end of the vaulted structure required foreshortening, since it lay in the area of the new stairway. The storerooms are proven contemporary with the light well wall by the continuation of the brick coursing without any breaks into the rooms. The walls of the store are built in English Bond, of bricks with the same dimensions and identical mortar.
- 7.2.9 The cut for the wall and store rooms was backfilled with dark brown sandy silt (610) containing brick fragments, sub angular gravel and occasional fragments of pottery, and this fill was indistinguishable from a layer spreading southwestwards, and therefore part of the same event. The larger pieces of pottery were retained. These are two pieces of flowerpot dating to around 1800 and three pieces of a lead-glaze redware dish which was produced from AD 1600-1800. The date of the flowerpot indicates that the construction of the light well and storeroom wall is of probable mid 19<sup>th</sup> century date, and was therefore an addition to the building rather than an original feature.
- 7.2.10 The sequence of deposits (606 and 610) was also cut by a service trench [605] containing a drainpipe running parallel to the house, at 7.4mOD. This was cut from quite high in the sequence, and only sealed by garden soil. The drainpipe indicates a 19<sup>th</sup> century date, and the cut was backfilled with dark brown silty sand (604). The sequence was finished with topsoil (601), its surface at 8.2mOD, and clearly reworked in the recent past, containing pieces of concrete and plastic.

### **7.3 Basement Investigations**

#### **Trench 3**

- 7.3.1 Trench 3 was located in the southwest corner of Room B1 of the basement, and was excavated to determine the depth of the walls of the basement. Within the trench was a short length of drain running north-south with an internal width of 0.24m. This had a base of ceramic peg-tiles (3/001) and sides of red brick (3/002), standing up to two courses high and bonded with pale brown lime mortar. The bricks were 60mm thick, and clearly of post-medieval date. The drain was considerably disturbed and incomplete. The remaining structure was filled with compact mid-brown sandy silt containing small brick fragments, and this was sealed by the lowest course of the basement wall. This lowest course was stepped out by 0.05m from the wall. The rest of the face of the wall was vertical, the basement 2.05m high. The extant floor of the basement at this location was concrete, although the rest of the room is tiled. There was no evidence in the trench for former floor materials.



Plate 1: Drain, Trench 3

#### Trench 4

- 7.3.2 An area of concrete floor slab was raised in the eastern room, Room B7, and revealed a length of drain running east-west. This lay within a cut [4/003] into underlying yellowish brown silty sand with occasional gravel content (4/004). The drain (4/002) had a brick base and brick sides, the sides standing two courses high and truncated above. Most of the bricks were partial bricks, with few whole ones present. However, the dimensions of the complete bricks, of 220mm by 110mm by 60mm suggested a post-medieval date. The internal width of the drain was 0.24m and was filled with dark brown silty sand (4/001) that contained coal, charcoal, pebbles, and some fragments of animal bone, and owes more to deliberate infilling than the silty fill of an active drain. There was no hint of heat damage to the bricks, so the burnt material has no direct relationship to the function of the drain.
- 7.3.3 A 3.6m length of the drain was observed, continuing beyond the limit of the raised slab. The drain begins 0.9m from the eastern corner of the room. It had a beginning with a heavily mortared surface, which seems likely to be evidence for lost structural elements above. The archaeological record does not provide direct evidence to prove that this drain was fed by an internal feature.



Plate 2: Drain, Trench 4



- 7.3.4 On either side of the drain was a thin scatter of crushed brick rubble. This may have been a bedding or hardcore layer for a previous, now lost floor surface. The most recent surface was concrete: it lay upon the brick rubble and underlying yellowish brown silty sand (4/004).

#### **Trench 5**

- 7.3.5 A small area was excavated at the rear part of Room B4, to determine the character of the foundations of the basement wall, beneath a blocked window. As with the other outside walls of the basement, the wall was seen to have a single brick stepping out by 0.05m. Part of the latest basement slab was raised. No evidence for earlier floors was forthcoming, simply a thin layer of brown sandy silt with fragments of brick (5/001), probably debris remaining from construction.

#### **Internal Structures**

- 7.3.6 Much of the basement was stripped back to brickwork in order to add a damp course, in order to prevent deterioration of this Historic Building. Observations of the structure of the basement were carried out in Rooms B1, in the south, B5 in the west, and B7 in the east.
- 7.3.7 The basement appears to be of a single build, constructed of red bricks measuring 220mm by 100mm by 60mm. The bricks are laid in English bond set in firm, light greyish brown, sandy lime mortar with moderate to frequent white inclusions. The chimneystacks and fireplaces showed some evidence of modification and repair. The basement is divided into four rooms, with a stairwell from the ground floor and store rooms to the rear. Two rooms on each side of the basement share a chimneystack and the fireplaces are set at 45°, in the corners of the rooms.
- 7.3.8 Room B1 to the rear has a fireplace with an arched lintel originally formed of a shallow brick arch 1.24m wide and 1.31m high. This has been repaired by the insertion of a horizontal iron bar between the springing points of the fireplace, and bricks wedged between the bar and the arch. This has been insufficient to stop collapse: the bar itself is bending under the weight of the chimney stack above. The southern side of the fireplace has also been altered, narrowing the opening to 0.94m. A minor crack in the chimneystack has been repaired with mortar.



Plate 3: Fireplace, Room B1

- 7.3.9 Room B5, to the west (rear) has a tiled floor, the tiles are red and 0.25m (10 inches) square and laid square with the principal walls. A fireplace that had been boarded over was revealed in this room during removal of plaster: this was a small fireplace. No hearth was extant: the tiling continued into the fireplace. This was 1.31m wide and only 1.05m high, and has an arched lintel made from a double row of headers on edge. The fireplace may be a later rebuild or insertion. The bricks are

greyish red and measure 230mm x 100mm x 65mm, larger than those in the rest of the basement. The bonding material is firm, light greyish brown, fine sandy mortar



Plate 4: Fireplace, Room B5

- 7.3.10 The fireplace in the eastern (front) room (Room B7) was not altered during these works. It has a plain stone surround and narrow mantelpiece. It is 1.18m wide and 1.58m high. This may have been altered from its initial form, but the changes remain hidden beneath the retained mantelpiece.
- 7.3.11 Two sections of an internal spine wall running the width of the basement, but variously cut and altered during earlier works in the basement were assessed by the archaeological advisor for their potential early date and duly examined. These are a wall separating Rooms B5 and B6 and a brick pier between Rooms B1 and B7. Part of the southwestern side of the wall between B5 and B7 was stripped of plaster, and it was constructed of bricks 220mm by 100mm by 60mm, a size identical to the principal build of the terrace, using bricks of the same texture and colour, and therefore contemporary. It seems likely that this wall helps give stability to the entire terrace. The wall is 0.65m wide. This is considerably thicker than the party wall with Number 3, maids of Honour Row, which is a single bricks length, of 0.25m.
- 7.3.12 The brick pier between Rooms B1 and B7 measures 0.65m by 0.80m for most of its height. The edge of the brickwork on the northwestern side, facing Rooms B5 and B6, is smooth and well-finished, indicating that the wall was constructed with a deliberate access between the front and rear of the basement. However, it has been cut on its southeastern side, providing direct access between the Rooms B1 and B7 and leaving a ragged edge. There is also damage to the exposed brick face between the two fireplaces of the two rooms, proving that this has also been cut. The brick pier is therefore a partial survival of a spine wall as that between rooms B5 and B6. It does not bear a great weight above, most of the weight of the structure being borne by the chimneystacks. When the opening between the rooms was created, it is clear that a replacement support for the floor above was required: a cast iron I-beam of mid-20<sup>th</sup> century date spans the rear side of the opening. The brickwork of the pier is contemporary with the rest of the principal build.
- 7.3.13 It is notable that the brick pier is wider at the base than for most of its height: it extends in rather ragged form northeastwards by 0.25m. This section is formed red bricks set in grey cementitious sandy mortar. The bricks measure 230mm x 109mm x 65mm, typical of late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century bricks. The mortar also suggests that this repair or modification post-dates 1850. Two samples of the mortar from the basement walls were taken.



## 7.4 Front Garden

### Trench 7

- 7.4.1 Works to the stairwell to the left of the front entrance to 4, Maids of Honour Row were monitored; the works were limited to refacing the stair. As a result, made ground relating to the stair construction was seen. Two layers were present. The lower was brown sandy silt with gravel and building materials within the soil matrix (7/002). The upper layer was dark brown sandy silt, more of a garden soil (7/002). No finds or features of significance were present. This deposit was sealed by stone slabs, which were retained for re-use.

## 8 Finds

### Pottery

- 8.1 The small assemblage of pottery was composed of post-medieval fabrics, including redware, china, porcelain and flowerpot. There is little tightly datable, since the redware is likely residual in the backfill of a 19<sup>th</sup> century construction episode (610) and garden soils (1/002 and 2/001), and the flowerpot provides little evidence for a firm date (610 and 1/002). The china and porcelain also derive from a garden soil (2/001).

### Animal Bone

- 8.2 Two layers contained animal bone, an area of brick rubble (2/003) and the backfill of a drain (4/001). Both contexts may represent discards of food items, but are small and of limited value.

### Ceramic Building Material

- 8.3 Most of the building materials have little significance or potential, largely deriving from garden contexts. A sample of the brick and tile from the drains beneath the basement floor were taken. The dimensions of the brick indicate a post-medieval date, and the peg-tiles are of a very fine fabric, smooth, and well fired.

## 9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 The stratigraphic and archaeological sequence of the site has been shown during the archaeological recording during visits to the site. Naturally lain terrace gravel and alluvial silt have been identified at the site, the alluvial silt seen at 6.35mOD, over 2m below the current ground surface. However, the construction of Maids of Honour Row, a terrace with a basement level, would have necessitated excavation and possibly landscaping thereafter. The subsoil/ alluvium was only seen in a limited area, and may have been subject to truncation during construction of the current row. It may also have been, truncated during earlier building events associated with Richmond Palace. No prehistoric deposits were identified, but the same post-medieval truncation would have removed these, if present, within the areas monitored.
- 9.2 No deposits or structures that were part of Richmond Palace were seen during the Watching Brief. The northeast range of the palace facing the Green was not immediately pulled down in the mid 17<sup>th</sup> century, but converted into a house for Sir Edward Villiers. The remnants of the northeast range may have been pulled down shortly before the erection of Maids of Honour Row, since as drawing of 1695 by Gasselin shows the range still standing.

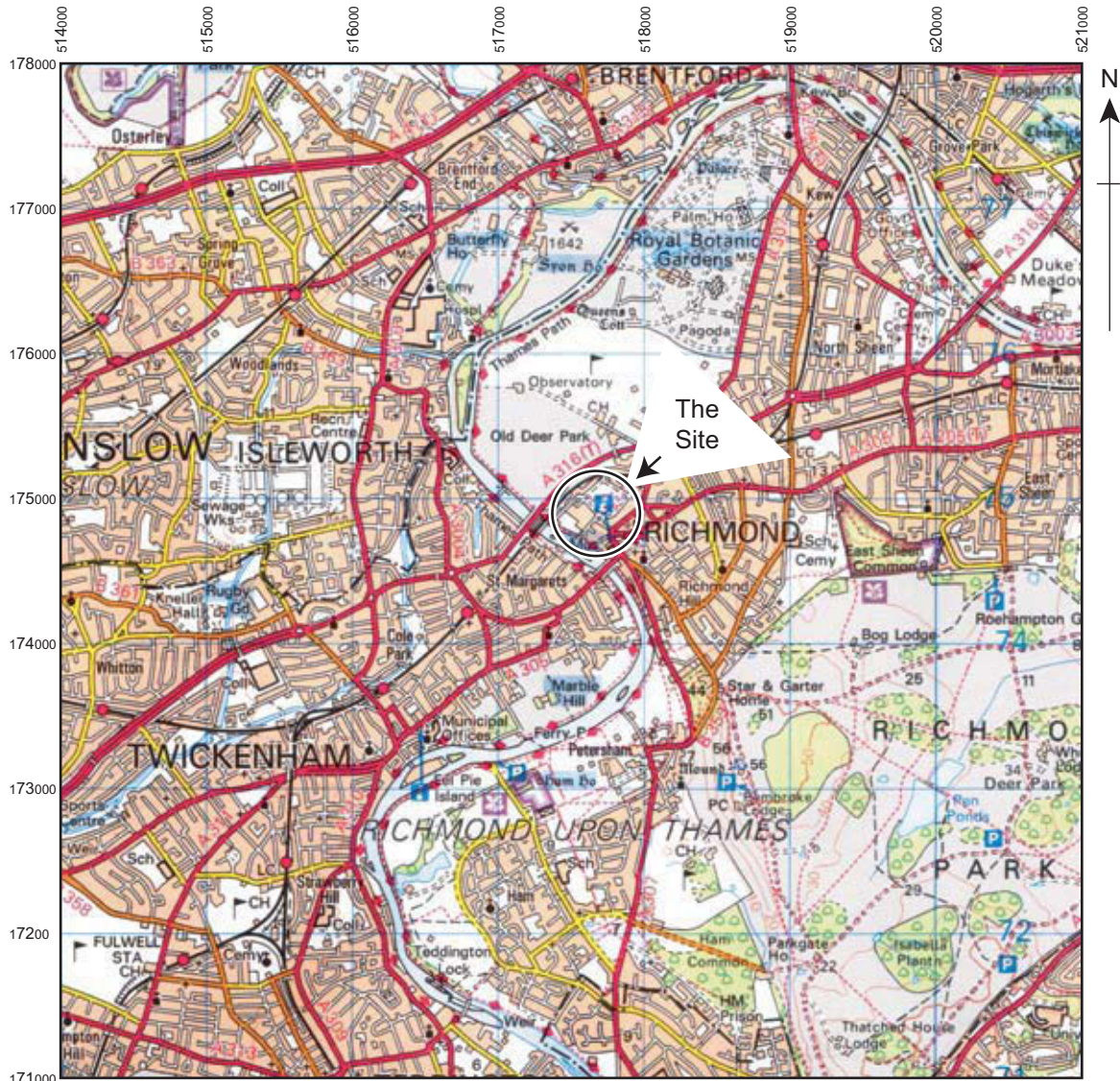
- 9.3 The drain revealed in Trench 3 predates Maids of Honour Row, proved by it being backfilled prior to the construction of the Terrace. The bricks prove a post-medieval date, so the drain may represent an event after the demolition of Richmond Palace and prior to construction of Maids of Honour Row. The drain could simply be a land drain from the Green, or from a distant property well beyond Maids of Honour row.
- 9.4 The lack of any archaeological material of medieval or Tudor date in the areas examined outside of the basement is most likely the result of the impact of the basement. The basement, at 2m below the level of the Green, is cut into the underlying naturally lain silts and gravels of the river terrace. The upcast material from its excavation may have been used to level the ground in the front and rear gardens. The construction cut for the basement was not seen: in the rear garden, the cut for the later lightwell intruded upon this.
- 9.5 Although there is the potential for Maids of Honour Row being constructed straddling a remnant wall of the Palace, all the internal brickwork appears to be of early 18<sup>th</sup> century date or later. The spine wall which had potential for being part of the palace is a puzzling feature, given its thick at base, an increase also present in No.3 Maids of Honour Row. However, the principal construction appears to be a primary build. Evidence for this spine wall being of 18<sup>th</sup> century date is threefold:
- The access between the front and rear basement in the centre of the property is formed of properly finished, pointed bricks, rather than the ragged appearance which typifies new openings.
  - The bricks and mortar of the spine wall are of a size and type consistent with the rest of the principal basement.
  - The spine wall is bonded with the chimney stacks of the of the property, and therefore contemporary
- 9.5 The thickness of the spine wall may be explained by comparison with the narrowness of the party walls. Although the chimneystacks bear much of the weight of the building, an additional spine wall may have provided extra structural support to guard against subsidence.
- 9.6 The basement proved to be largely of a single build, dating to the 1720s. The earliest surface seen in the basement was floor tiles, each 10" square, and most likely of 18<sup>th</sup> century date. The most significant alteration to the basement is the conversion from a series of single rooms to a more open-plan format, leaving remains of load-bearing walls standing, but requiring replacement supports, as shown by the presence of an I-beam between Rooms B1 and B7, and additional buttressing to a brick pier. Additionally, a wall between rooms B6 and B7 must have been removed.
- 9.7 The four principal rooms of the basement have fireplaces, and may be indicative of servants' quarters, although the large fireplace in Room B7 may be more suited to a kitchen. This may also explain the presence of a drain running westwards. The drain in Trench 4 had one end within the building, as if serving a pipe or similar that fed from above. The drain was only sealed by a modern concrete surface, so may have fallen from use when the floor of the room was resurfaced, perhaps during the phase of remodelling evidenced by the addition of the I beam and the removal of supporting walls.
- 9.8 The fireplace in Room B5 appears to be a later insertion. The impracticalities of boring a new flue through a standing chimneystack indicate that this was more likely a rebuild.
- 9.9 The creation of the light well and storerooms at the rear of the property appears to be a mid 19<sup>th</sup> century alteration, to judge from the finds within the construction cut and the size of the bricks, together with the cemented quality of the mortar. The mortar is also of different character to the principal build. Historical research has indicated that the projecting rear wing and bay window, are of probable mid-19<sup>th</sup> century date, and this may be part of the same phase of modification.

- 9.10 No further work is required on the finds or samples of building materials: no further specialist input is required. However, the final decision lies with Diane Walls, the archaeological advisor to the Borough.
- 9.11 Publication of the results will be through the ADS OASIS form (Appendix C) with a short summary submitted to the London Archaeologist fieldwork round-up

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**Figure 1:** Site location



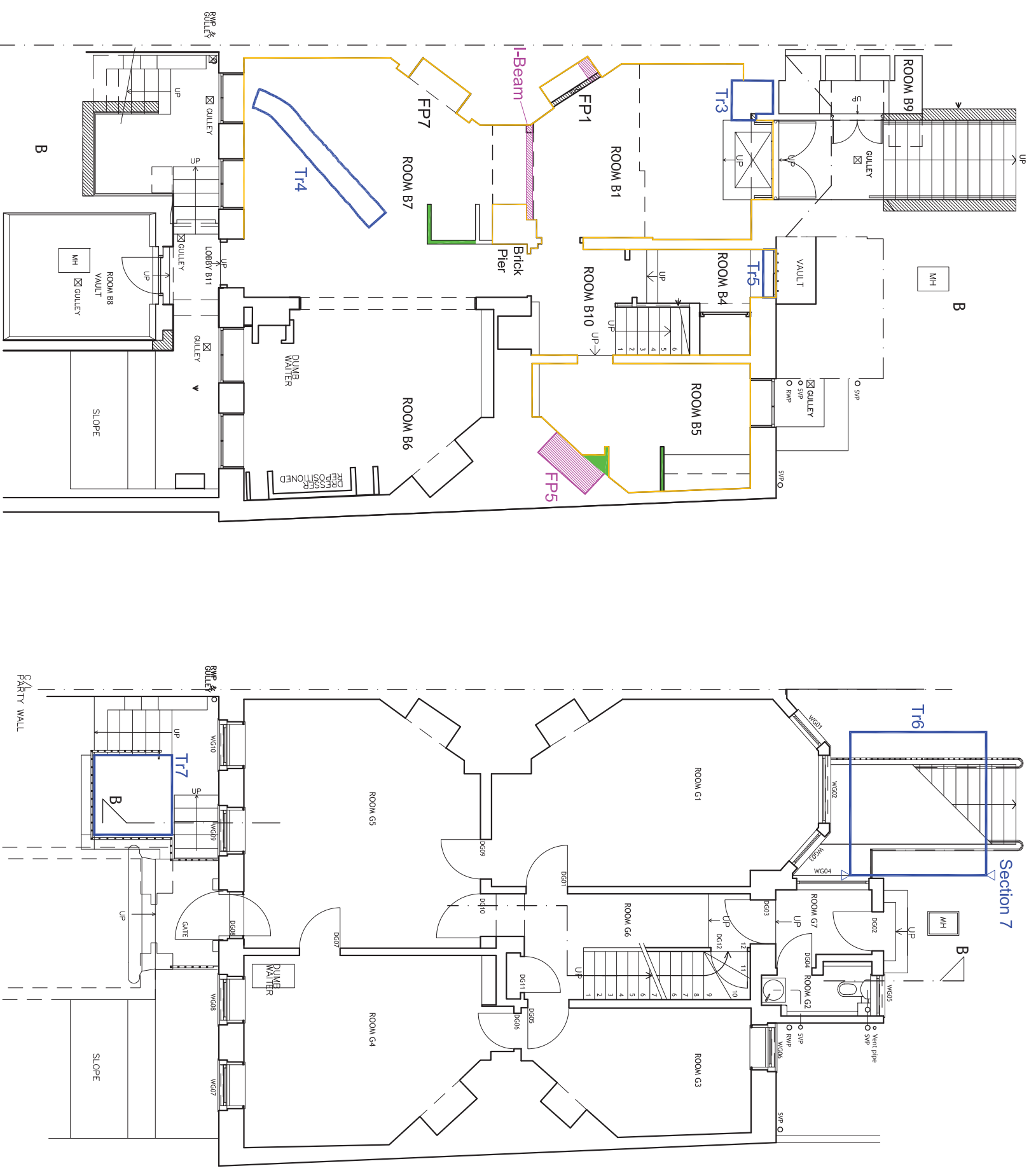
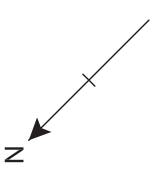




**Figure 2:** Detailed Site Location Showing Probable Location of Parts of the Former Richmond Palace (After Cowie and Cloake 2001)

TR2

TR1



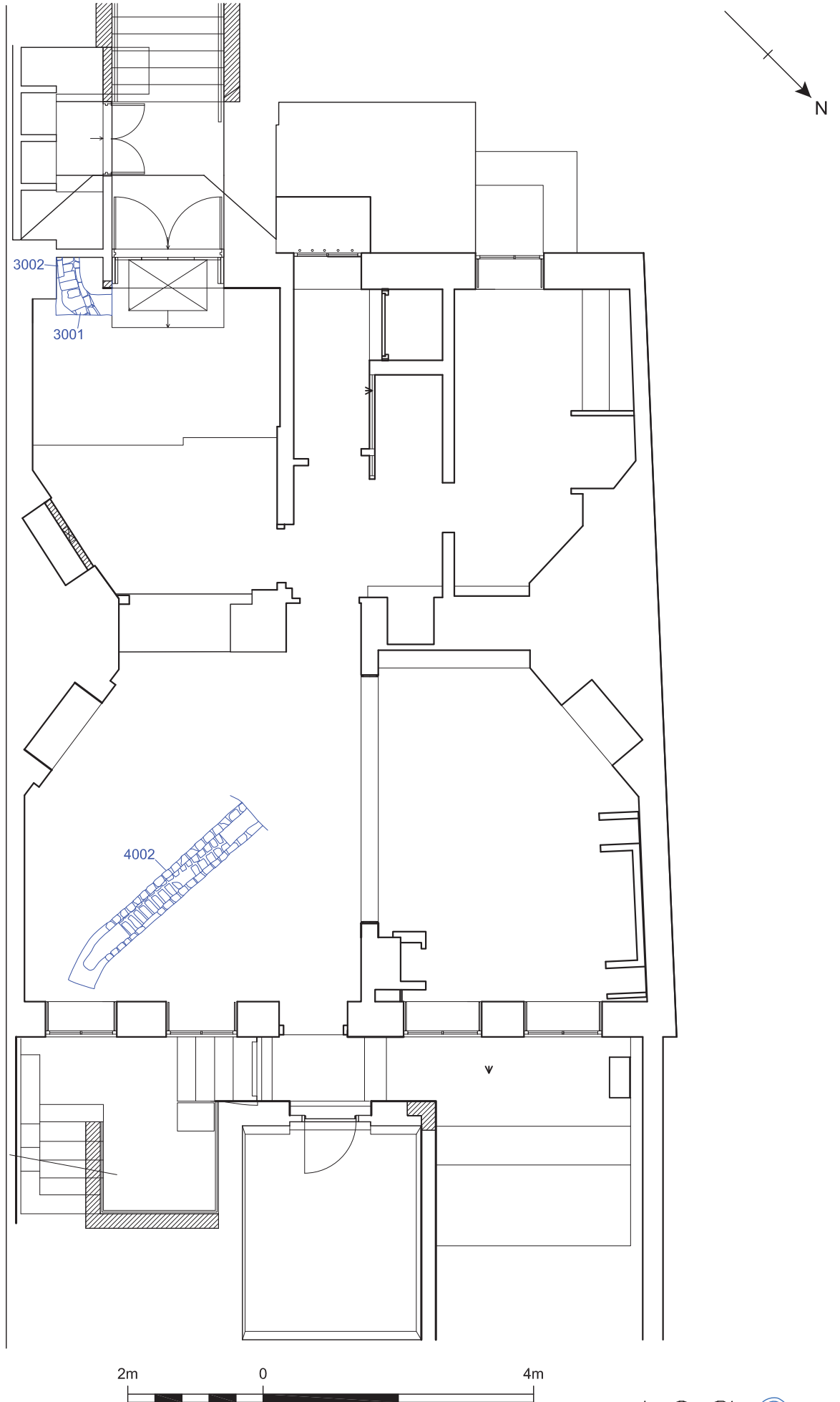
Based on the Drawings Produced by Acanthus LV Architects

**Figure 3:** Trenches Monitored and Areas of Archaeological Watching Brief

- Trenches
- Structures Removed
- Features Uncovered
- Areas Stripped/Partially Stripped to Brickwork

2.5m 0 5m

1:100

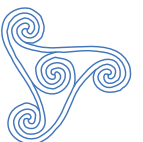


Based on the Drawings Produced by Acanthus LW Architects

**Figure 4:** Trenches 3 & 4: Drains

1:80

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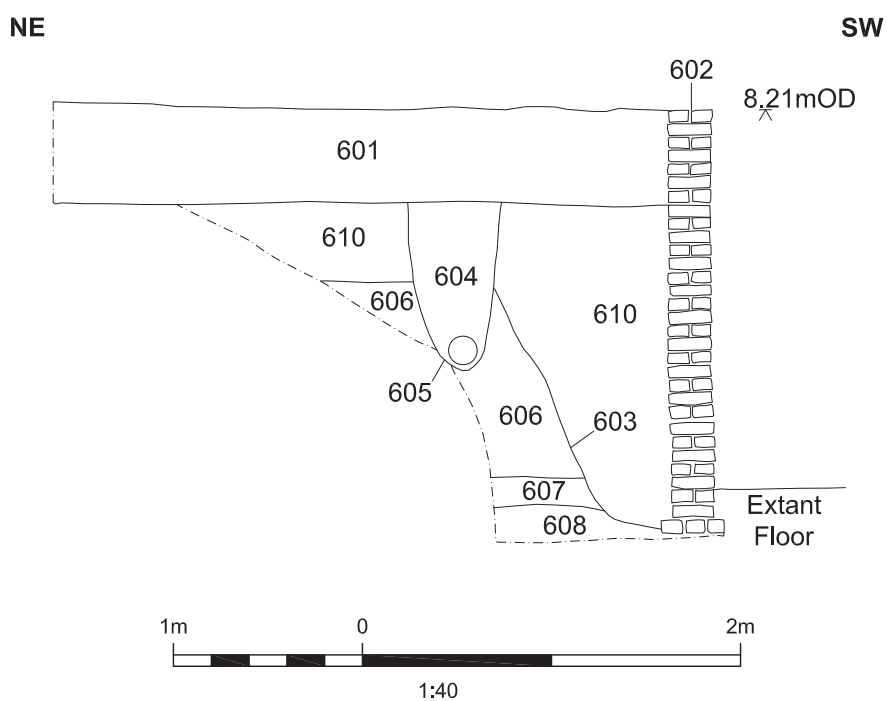


Figure 5: Trench 6: Section

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## Appendices

## Appendix A: Context Register

Context	Description	Length	Width	Depth
1/001	Garden soil	1.6m	0.8m	0.30m
1/002	Fill of 1/003	0.8m	0.4m	>0.30m
1/003	Garden feature	0.8m	0.4m	>0.30m
1/004	Brown silty sand	1.20m	0.80m	>0.30m
2/001	Garden soil	2.30m	0.80m	0.45m
2/002	Service trench	0.80m	0.50m	>0.15m
2/003	Construction deposit	1.50m	0.80m	>0.15m
2/004	Brown silty sand	1.00m	0.80m	>0.15m
3/001	Drain base	0.85m	0.50m	0.02m
3/002	Drain sides	0.85m	0.11m	0.13m
3/003	Construction deposit	0.85m	0.70m	0.25m
3/004	Cellar wall	0.85m	0.70m	2.10m
4/001	Drain fill	3.60m	0.24m	0.13m
4/002	Drain	3.60m	0.45m	0.15m
4/003	Cut for drain	3.60m	0.48m	0.15m
4/004	Yellowish brown silty clay	3.6m	3.20m	Unexcavated
5/001	Construction deposit	1.00m	0.40m	0.11m
601	Garden soil	3.50m	3.00m	0.50m
602	Brick wall of light well	3.00m	0.23m	2.25m
603	Cut for light well	3.00m	0.9m	2.25m
604	Fill of 605	3.00m	0.40m	1.20m
605	Cut for drain	3.00m	0.40m	1.20m
606	Mixed topsoil deposit	3.00m	1.25m	1.10m
607	Subsoil	3.00m	1.25m	0.20m
608	Sand and gravel	3.00m	1.25m	>0.30m
609	Vaulted Brick structure	1.23m	1.00m	2.00m
610	Fill of 603	3.00m	0.90m	2.25m
7/001	Made ground by stairwell	2.00m	0.40m	0.60m
7/002	Made ground by stairwell	4.00m	0.40m	1.30m

## Appendix B: Table of Finds

Context	Material	Description	Comments/Recommendations
1/001	CBM	Roof tile x 2, 1600-1900	Discard
	BM	Cement render, C20th	Discard
	Iron	Strap, C20th	Discard
1/002	Pottery	Flowerpot x 1, 1750-1900	Undiagnostic
		ENPO 1745-1900	Undiagnostic
		PMFR x 3, 1600-1800	Residual?
	CBM	Roof tile x 1 1600-1900	Discard
2/001	Pottery	Flowerpot x 1, 1750-1900	Undiagnostic
		CHPO x 1 1580-1900	Undiagnostic
		ENPO 1745-1900	Undiagnostic
	CBM	Roof tile x 2 1600-1900	Discard
		Brick fragment x 2 1700-1900	Discard
	BM	Cement render x 1 C20th	Discard
	CTP	Stem fragments x 2	Undiagnostic
2/003	An Bone	4 limb fragments, sheep sized	Discard
3/001	CBM	Tile x 2, 10mm thick, 1600-1900	Sample
3/002	CBM	Brick 250mm x 60mm x 120mm , 1600-1800	Sample
4/001	An Bone	Fragments x 27	Discard
4/002	CBM	Tile x 2, 13mm thick	Sample
		Brick 210mm x 110mm by 60mm	Sample
610	Pottery	PMFR x 3, 1600-1800	Residual?
	Pottery	Flowerpot x 2, 1750-1900	Undiagnostic
Room B5	Mortar		Sample
Room B7	Mortar		Sample

### Recommendations

Further work on the pottery assemblage is not recommended, given the small assemblage size and absence of diagnostic pieces. Similar conclusions are drawn regarding the animal bone and clay tobacco pipe.

The ceramic building materials have little significance or potential, coming as they do from post-medieval contexts, and not shedding light upon the medieval or early post-medieval development of the site. Of course, they show that brick was in use in post-medieval Richmond, though this scarcely requires further proof.

The mortar samples were collected in case evidence for parts of the basement being of Tudor date or earlier was revealed. The evidence suggests that the basement is of 18<sup>th</sup> century date with later modifications. It is recommended that the mortar samples be discarded.

### Further work

No further work is required on the finds or samples of building materials: no further specialist input is required.

## Appendix C: OASIS Form

**OASIS ID: aocarcha1-51888**

### Project details

Project name 4, Maids of Honour Row

Short description of the project The fabric of the basement of 4, Maids of Honour Row, Richmond was examined during stripping for refurbishment of the basement. One aim of the investigation was to determine whether any parts of Richmond Palace survived beneath, or were incorporated into, Maids of Honour Row. At no point were any structures or deposits of proven Tudor /Medieval date encountered. The basement is of a single build from 1725 with late 18th century and later modifications.

Project dates Start: 17-12-2007 End: 18-07-2008

Previous/future work No / Not known

Any associated project reference codes MUW 07 - Sitecode

Type of project Recording project

Site status Listed Building

Current Land use Other 2 - In use as a building

Monument type TOWN HOUSE Post Medieval

Significant Finds NONE None

Investigation type 'Field observation','Part Survey','Watching Brief'

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG15

Prompt Direction from Local Planning Authority - PPG16

### Project location

Country England  
Site location GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND UPON THAMES  
4, Maids of Honour Row  
  
Postcode TW9  
  
Study area 400.00 Square metres  
  
Site coordinates TQ 1761 7492 51.4605229483 -0.306886475308 51 27 37 N 000 18 24 W Point  
  
Height OD / Depth Min: 6.20m Max: 6.20m

### Project creators

Name of AOC Archaeology  
Organisation

Project brief EH GLAAS  
originator

Project design AOC Archaeology  
originator

Project Andy Leonard  
director/manager

Project supervisor Les Capon

Type of Developer  
sponsor/funding  
body

### Project archives

Physical Archive Museum of London  
recipient

Physical Archive ID MUW 07

Physical Contents 'Ceramics'

Physical Archive held at AOC until transfer notes

Digital Archive Museum of London recipient

Digital Archive ID MUW 07

Digital Contents 'Ceramics','Survey'

Digital available Media 'Images raster / digital photography','Images vector','Text'

Digital Archive held at AOC until transfer notes

Paper Archive Museum of London recipient

Paper Archive ID MUW 07

Paper Contents 'Ceramics'

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

Paper Archive held at AOC until transfer notes

## Project bibliography 1

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

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