

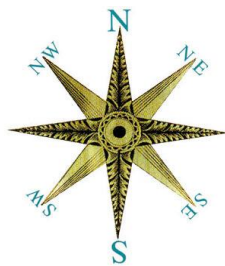
**A NEW PROPAGATION GLASSHOUSE  
AT THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW,  
TW9 3AB**

**London Borough of Richmond**

**An Archaeological Watching Brief**

**April 2014**

**COMPASS**



**ARCHAEOLOGY**

A NEW PROPAGATION GLASSHOUSE  
AT THE ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW,  
TW9 3AB

London Borough of Richmond

An Archaeological Watching Brief

Site code: RBK14  
Planning Application ref: 13/4168/FUL  
NGR: TQ 18346 77316

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April 2014

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## ***Abstract***

*In February 2014 Compass Archaeology was commissioned to conduct a watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new propagation glasshouse at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.*

*The watching brief confirmed the presence of a brick wall of probable mid 17<sup>th</sup> century date, observed in Trench 1 of an earlier (2010) investigation. The wall was within 300mm of the ground surface, and survived in a relatively good condition (probably for a considerable depth). It also illustrated that the majority of the site was devoid of archaeologically significant deposits. The presence of made ground is not exceptional given the level of modern development within the immediate vicinity.*

*The natural clayey silt geology was observed from as little as 300mm below ground level, with no obvious signs of previous soil horizons or profiles. This would suggest that the area had been 'scalped' prior to the creation of the present ground surface, removing any previous soil horizons.*

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The bases of figs. 2 & 6-8 supplied by the Client and adapted from originals by Unigro

# 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document forms a summary of the findings of an archaeological watching brief which took place during the excavation of footings and service trenches associated with the construction of a new propagation glasshouse at the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, London Borough of Richmond upon Thames, TW9 3AB, (fig.1).

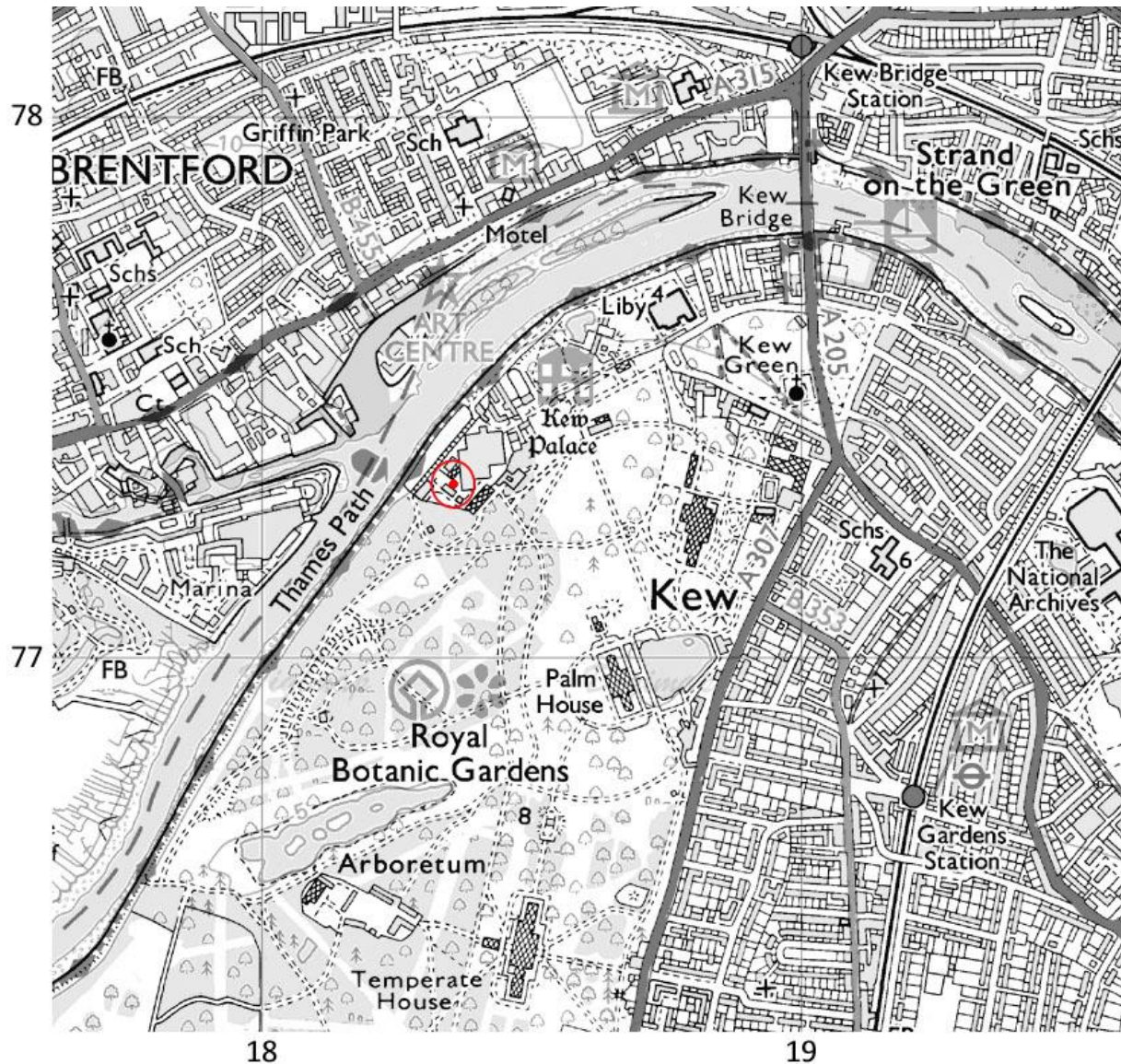


Fig.1: Site location

1.2 The watching brief was conducted during groundworks associated with the excavation of 38 pile pits onto which the lightweight metal frame of the glasshouse will ultimately rest. The new glasshouse will measure approximately 35m long by 10m wide and stand between 4m (eaves), and 8m (ridge), high (fig. 7).

1.3 The watching brief was commissioned by Warren Steiner of Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, in response to a planning condition attached to application 13/4168/FUL.

## **2 SITE LOCATION, GEOLOGY AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1** The watching brief site was located on the western side of Kew Gardens, within the Tropical Nursery, south of Kew Palace and the Lower Nursery, west of the Climbers and Creepers building, east of the visitor's car park, and north of the Quarantine House. The approximate site centre is at NGR: TQ 18346 77316.

The present site was occupied by a polytunnel which had outlived its purpose and was in a state of disrepair. This building was dismantled and the new propagation glasshouse erected on more or less the same footprint, though about 10m longer. A small mechanical plant box will be attached to the SE end of the glasshouse, and an area of hard-standing will be laid to the northwest, (fig.2).

- 2.2** According to the British Geological Survey, Sheet 270, the site overlies natural post-diversionary River Terrace Deposits, (Kempton Park Gravel; described as gravel, sandy and clayey in part).

The site is located on the south bank of the River Thames, where the geology is characterised by a complex fluvial sequence relating to the ancient courses and floodplains of the River Thames. The southern side of the tidal river forms the deposition, as opposed to erosion, bank of the river channel in this area of the floodplain.

- 2.3** The site lies on relatively level ground varying from 6.34m OD at the NW end and 6.39m OD at the SE end of the existing structure. The ground slopes down slightly to the NW, to approximately 6.08m OD in the area covered by the new, longer, propagation glasshouse. As such this end of the site was raised up by infilling the slope to the final formation level, and consequently excavations took place within a greater depth of made ground than at the SE end of the site.



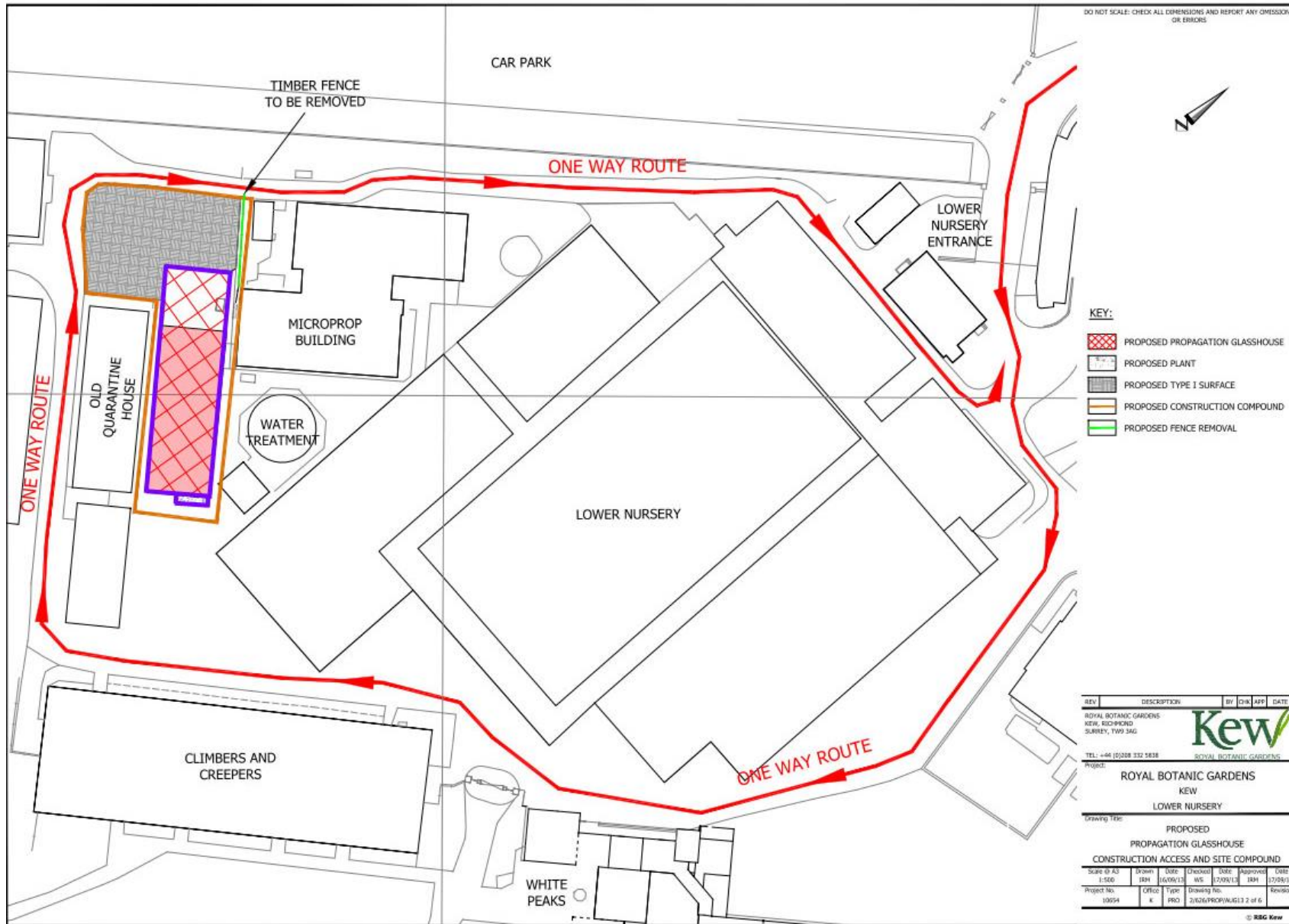


Fig.2: Detailed plan of the watching brief site, with the proposed glasshouse outlined in blue and the existing polytunnel shaded in red, and the hard standing area shaded in grey

Reproduced from an original provided by the Client



### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL & HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The archaeological and historical heritage of the Royal Botanic Gardens is well documented<sup>1</sup> and will not be repeated here other than:

Kew first became the site of a Royal garden when Princess Augusta, Princess of Wales and mother of King George III, installed a nine acre garden close to the Royal Palace, in 1759, on the site of the former Capel estate. From these humble beginnings the later Botanic Gardens expanded under the direction of the likes of Sir William Hooker and his son Joseph Hooker.

Several brick walls have been observed and recorded during previous evaluations and watching briefs in the immediate vicinity of the proposal area<sup>2</sup>.

A wall-line uncovered in a 2009 evaluation associated with the construction of the playground outside of the Climbers and Creepers building to the east of the watching brief site can be identified as the northern side of a rectangular feature that is shown on Rocque's *Plan of Richmond Gardens* (1734) and on Richardson's 1771 *Plan of the Royal Manor of Richmond*, (fig.3).

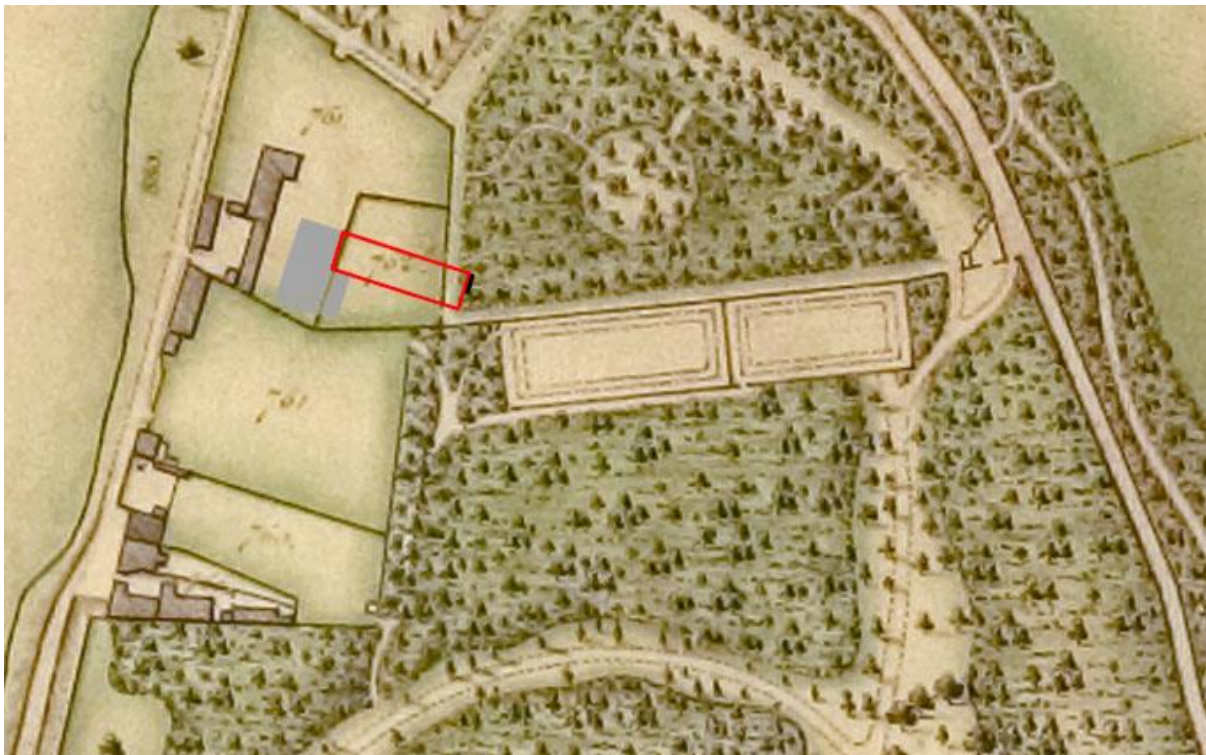


Fig.3: Extract from 1771 Plan showing the approximate location of the proposed glasshouse, (red outline), hard-standing, (grey), and plant box, (black)

<sup>1</sup> A comprehensive guide to the heritage of the gardens is found in Desmond, R. 2007 (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition) 'The History of the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew'. Information on previous archaeological work in the area can be found on English Heritage's Archaeology Data Service (ADS) available at <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk>, which includes all the archaeological data required by planning legislation to be submitted through the OASIS database (Online Access to the Index of archaeological investigations).

<sup>2</sup> Most of the following is taken from Section 2 of Compass Archaeology, (2010)

This may have formed the boundary of walled gardens and appears to have been embanked on slightly higher ground to the north. This wall line, according to the 1771 Plan, continues in a westerly direction, before meeting a further wall that heads off to the north. It has been suggested that a wall found in Trench 1 of a separate investigation beside the old Quarantine House in 2010 may be part of that wall, (fig.4). A walled-enclosure jutting out to the west of this wall is depicted on the earlier 18<sup>th</sup>-century Board of Ordnance Plan, on Rocque's 1734 Plan, and on Richardson's 1771 Plan. The suggestion is that the truncated wall discovered in Trench 2 of the same 2010 investigation is the western wall of this enclosure, (fig.5).



*Fig.4: Wall in Trench 1 of the 2010 watching brief, facing SE. This wall would potentially continue through Zone 1 of the proposed glasshouse*





*Fig.5: Truncated wall in Trench 2 of the 2010 watching brief, facing W (towards the NW end of the proposed glasshouse). It is possible the wall may survive at a greater depth elsewhere within the glasshouse footprint, but is not visible here.*

The dating of these walls suggests that their construction may be contemporary with a documented rebuilding in the 1630s of ‘Kew Farm’, the palatial house that stood once just to the west. In 1664 this building formed the largest residence in the manor of Richmond, although little is known about its exact nature. This hypothesis is supported by the dating of the bricks provided by a brick-specialist, (John Brown), as of probable 17<sup>th</sup>-century date.

The sections of wall in trenches 1 and 2 of the 2010 investigations, if surviving, were believed to have continued southwestwards and into the footprint of the proposed glasshouse. As such they would potentially be encountered during groundworks in these areas, (see figs.3 and 6). As will be shown, only the wall in Trench 1 was observed again in this way.

## **4 PLANNING AND OBJECTIVES**

- 4.1** The Government adopted the National Planning Policy Framework in March 2012, replacing PPS 5 ‘Planning for the Historic Environment’ and policies HE6 and HE7.

The NPPF integrates planning strategy on ‘heritage assets’ - bringing together all aspects of the historic environment, below and above ground, including historic buildings and structures, landscapes, archaeological sites, and wrecks. The significance of heritage assets needs to be considered in the planning process, whether designated or not, and the settings of assets taken into account. NPPF requires using an integrated approach to establishing the overall significance of the heritage asset using evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values, to ensure that planning decisions are based on the nature, extent and level of significance.

The watching brief conformed to the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) adopted in March 2012.

- 4.2** The London Borough of Richmond-upon-Thames has its own policies with regards to archaeology and heritage assets, especially the Core Strategy, (policy CP7), and the Development Management Plan, (policies DM HD4 and DM HD5).

A planning condition has been added to the application in regards to policy DM HD4, which advises that ‘necessary measures are required to safeguard archaeological remains’ as the site is located within an archaeological priority area, (Kew Gardens and Old Deer Park), with known remains present in the area<sup>3</sup>.

- 4.3** Alongside Local Government policies the Royal Botanic Gardens themselves have an overall ‘World Heritage Site Management Plan’, (Draft, 2011) and a Landscape Master Plan, (November 2010).

- 4.4** The watching brief presents the opportunity to address the following specific and more general archaeological research questions:

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

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<sup>3</sup> Officer’s Planning Report, 14-01-2014, application ref.13/4168/FUL

## **5 METHODOLOGY**

### **5.1 Standards**

- 5.1.1** The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines, (in particular, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*). Works conformed to the standards of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, (*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs*). Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full Member of the Institute.
- 5.1.2** Fieldwork was carried out in accordance with the Construction (Health, Safety & Welfare) Regulations. The on-site archaeologist held a valid CSCS Card, (Construction Skills Certificate Scheme), and wore a hi-visibility jacket, hard-hat, and steel-toe-capped boots as required during the watching brief. The contractors' health and safety guidelines were also followed.

### **5.2 Fieldwork**

- 5.2.1** The archaeological watching brief took place during the excavation of footings for the new propagation glasshouse, with especial attention being given to those areas known to follow the lines of earlier walls previously observed by Compass Archaeology in 2009, (see section 3).

The existing polytunnel structure was dismantled prior to the erection of the new glasshouse, and then the footprint of the new structure reduced by *c*200mm. Some of this material was used to raise the ground level at the NW end of the site to create a level surface. From this formation level pile pits for the new glasshouse footings were dug using a mechanical excavator fitted with a hydraulic auger, between 600-800mm in diameter and up to 800mm deep, (see fig.6). The main aluminium structure of the glasshouse was then built on top of these footings.

The English Heritage Advisor for Richmond was advised of the on-site start date, and of any significant remains that were exposed.

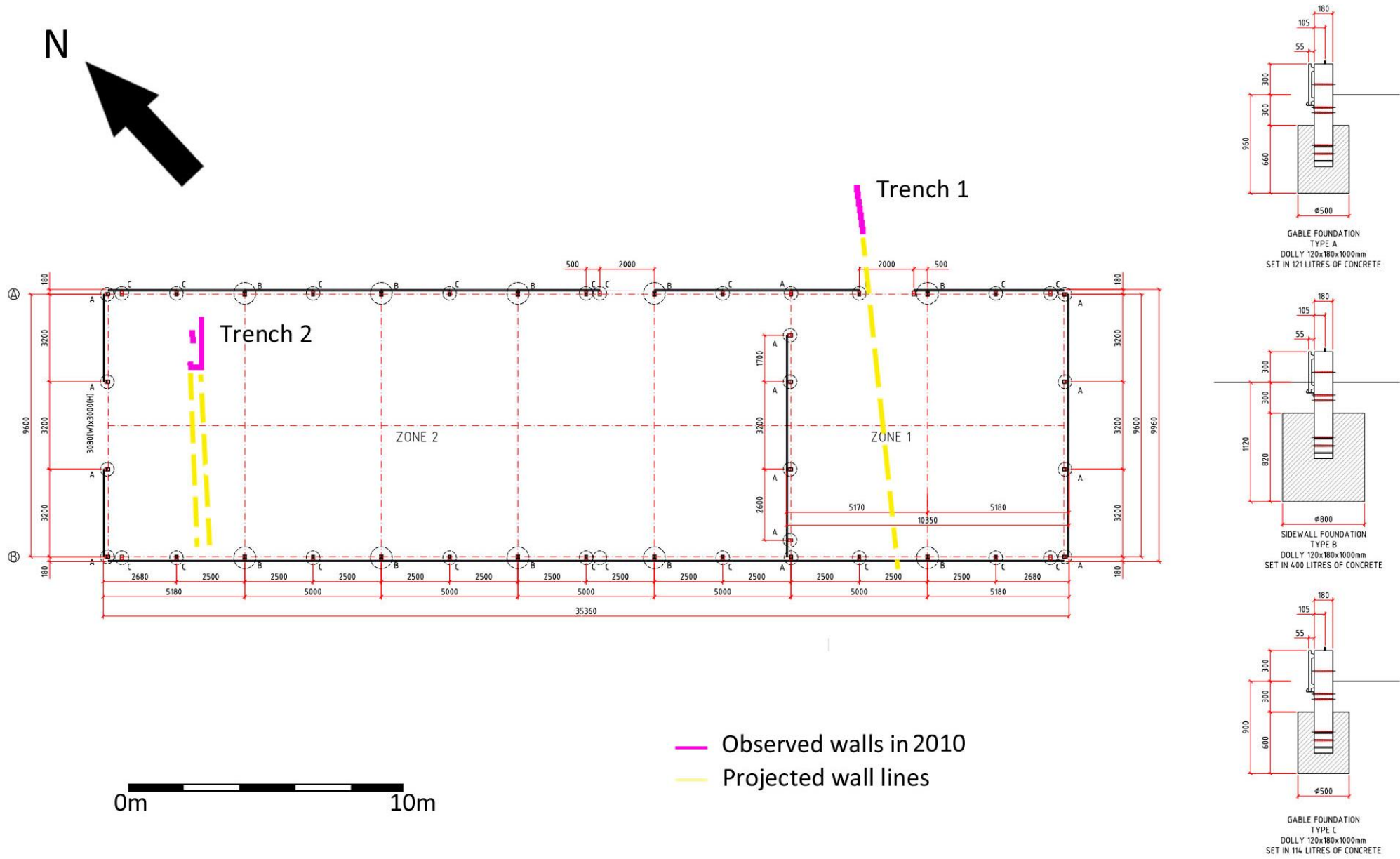
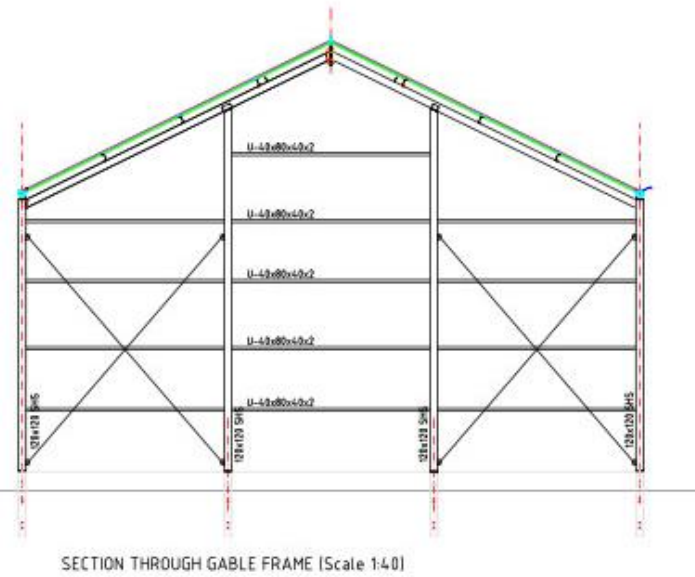
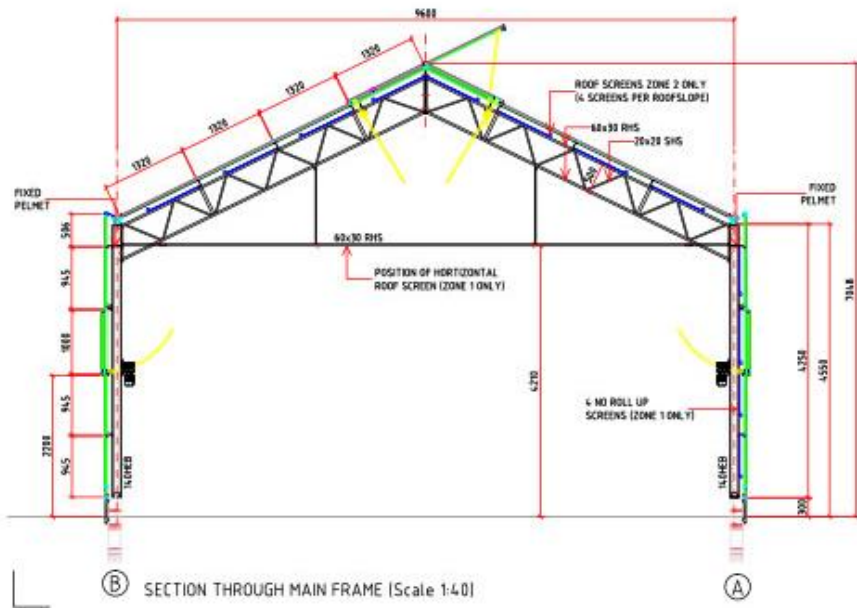


Fig.6: Plan of glasshouse showing the location of the pile pits and representative sections through them      Reproduced from originals provided by the Client





Rev D 21.03.2014	
Roller screens removed from girdline A.	
Foundation detail removed, refer to drawing No 13-032-03 for revised detail	
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PROJECT ROYAL BOTANICAL GARDENS, KEW PROPAGATION GLASSHOUSE	
DRAWING FLOOR PLAN AND SECTIONS	
SCALE	DATE
AS NOTED	25.02.2014
DRAWING NO 13-032-01	
REVISION D	

Fig.7: Sections through the new propagation glasshouse

Reproduced from originals provided by the Client



- 5.2.2 If archaeological remains were exposed adequate time was allowed for investigation and recording, although every effort was made not to disrupt the development programme. During excavation, spoil from archaeological levels was as requested deposited separately, next to the associated pit, in such a way as to facilitate examination.
- 5.2.3 Archaeological deposits and features were investigated and recorded in stratigraphic sequence, and finds dating evidence recovered.
- 5.2.4 Archaeological contexts were recorded as appropriate on pro-forma trench sheets by written and measured description. The investigations were recorded on a copy of the foundation plans as supplied by the client, and on a general site plan, (related to the Ordnance Survey grid).

The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by digital photography.

- 5.2.5 The Client and English Heritage were kept advised of the progress of the fieldwork, and in particular of any significant finds or remains.

### **5.3 Post-excavation**

- 5.3.1 Assessment of finds was undertaken by appropriately qualified staff, (see appendices I and II). Finds and samples were treated in accordance with the appropriate guidelines, including the Museum of London's 'Standards for the Preparation of Finds to be permanently retained by the Museum of London'.
- 5.3.2 All identified finds and artefacts were retained and bagged with unique numbers related to the context record, although building material was discarded after an appropriate record was made.

### **5.4 Report and Archive**

- 5.4.1 Copies of this report will be supplied to the client, English Heritage and the Local History Library & Archives.
- 5.4.2 The report contains a description of the fieldwork plus details of any archaeological remains or finds, and an interpretation of the associated deposits. Illustrations have been included as appropriate.

A short summary of the project has been appended using the OASIS Data Collection Form, and in paragraph form suitable for publication within the 'excavation round-up' of the London Archaeologist.

- 5.4.3 There is no provision for further analysis or publication of significant findings. Should these be made the requirements would need to be discussed and agreed with the Client and with English Heritage.
- 5.4.4 Assuming that no further work is required, an ordered indexed and internally consistent archive of the evaluation will be compiled in line with MoL Guidelines for the

Preparation of Archaeological Archives, and will be deposited in the Museum of London Archaeological Archive under site code RBK14. The integrity of the site archive should be maintained, and the landowner will be urged to donate any archaeological finds to the Museum.

## 6 RESULTS

6.1 Three site visits were made – a preliminary visit during site clearance on 28<sup>th</sup> February, and two further to monitor groundworks on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of April 2014. What follows is a brief description of observations made during these visits accompanied by a photographic record to accompany the main text. The following section should be read in conjunction with figure 8.

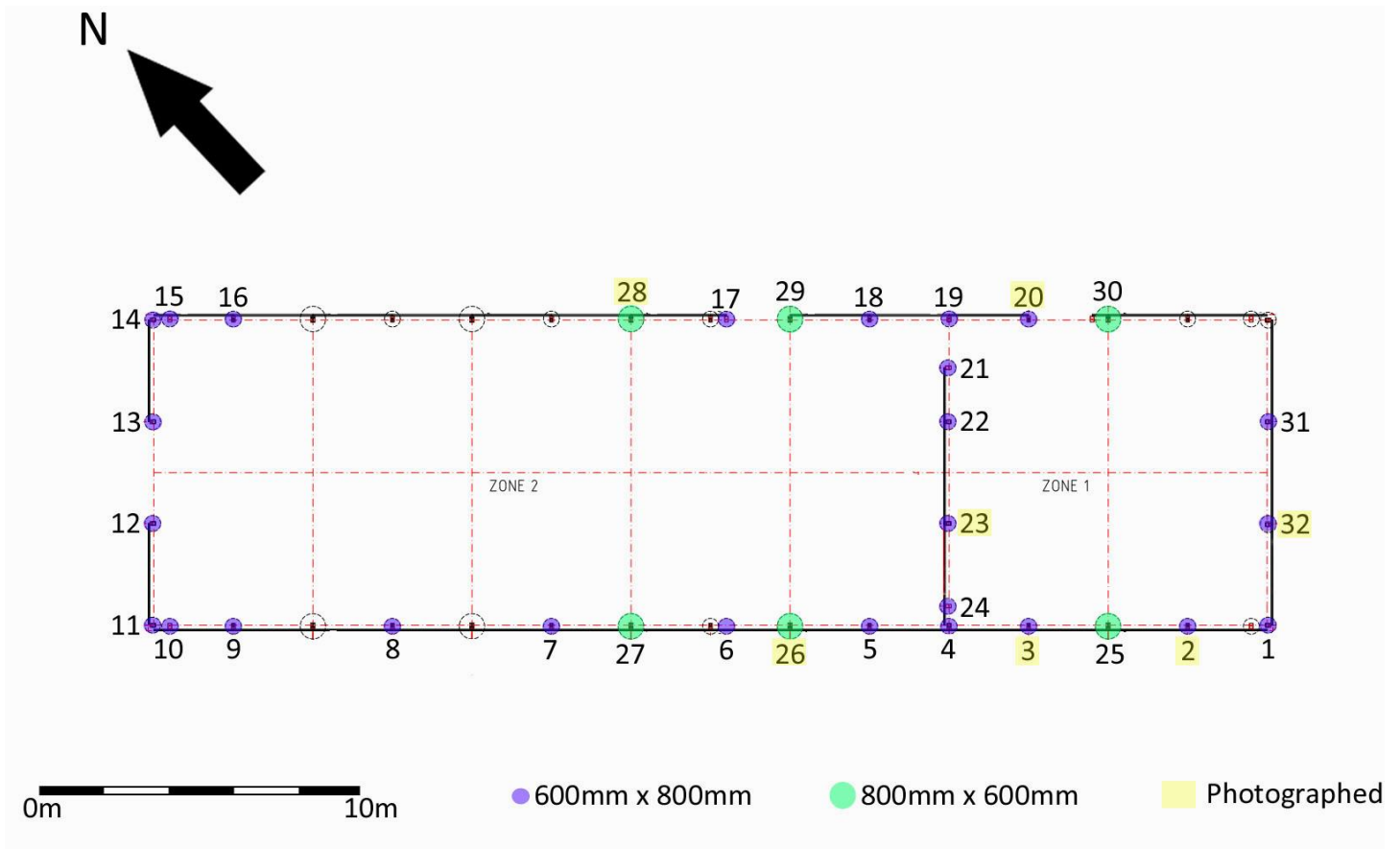


Fig.8: Plan showing the different sizes of the observed pits and those photographed. Those left blank were not observed

6.2 In total, 32 pile pits were observed over the two visits, (8 on the first and 24 on the second). Each pit was allocated a specific number and any relevant finds assigned according to this numbering system.

The majority of the pits, (26), measured approximately 600mm in diameter and were excavated to a depth of up to 800mm, the other 6 were slightly larger, 800mm, but shallower, 600mm. The pits were spaced at roughly 2.5m intervals around the perimeter of the new glasshouse's footprint, with 4 forming the line of an internal division towards the SE end of the structure.

**6.3** The site was initially cleared of the existing polytunnel and its concrete floor slab, with a further 200mm of ground reduction across the entire footprint of the new glasshouse. The removed stratigraphy consisted solely of made ground deposits, largely a mix of hardcore and sandy silts.

The ground was then raised by approximately 400mm at the NW end to compensate for the falling slope at this end, and to create a level formation level from which to excavate the pile pits.



Fig.9: *The site facing NW*

**6.4** Most of the pits observed followed one of two stratigraphic sequences; the first being a thin, (200-350mm), layer of dark grey clayey-silt containing infrequent crushed ceramic building material, (CBM), overlying natural orange-brown clayey-silt containing occasional flint nodules but essentially sterile in nature. The second sequence consisted of nothing but dark-grey clayey-silt for the full depth of the pit, representing areas of more heavily truncated ground.

Typical examples of the former are Pits 3, 5, and 32; of the latter Pits, 6, 23, and 23 are most representative.





Fig.10: *Pit 3 facing SW*, (1m scale)



Fig.11: *Pit 32 facing SSE*, (1m scale)





Fig.12: *Pit 23 facing WNW, (1m scale)*



Fig.13: *Pit 26 facing WSW, (1m scale)*

Pits, 10, 25, and 30 exposed 300mm of made ground sealing a layer of textile matting over fine, clean, builder's sand representing modern service runs inserted during groundworks in 2009.



6.5 The exceptions to the above rules were pits 2, 7, and 20.

Pit 2 contained a 200mm layer of crushed CBM and mortar over 600mm of clean natural. Brick samples recovered from this deposit dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> / 18<sup>th</sup> century representing both structural elements along with a possible floor cobble<sup>4</sup>. A single sherd of high quality 18<sup>th</sup> century Tin-glazed Ware pottery was also recovered from this rubble layer<sup>5</sup>.



Fig.14: Pit 2 facing SE, (0.5m scale)

Pit 7 was composed of 150mm of dark grey clay-silt sealing a crushed 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century brick, tile and mortar deposit 200mm thick, overlying 450mm of natural. This buried layer may represent a spread of demolition rubble, or may just be an episode of infilling associated with the creation of the modern hardstanding.

Pit 20 was the most archaeologically significant in that it exposed the 17<sup>th</sup> century wall previously observed in the 2010 watching brief, (see section 3). The wall was observed as a faced section of red brickwork extant in the SE section of the pit. The brickwork consisted of 6 courses, (amounting to 360mm in height), projecting 130mm from the section, and continuing below the limit of excavation. The brickwork was aligned on an N-S alignment and continued beyond the confines of the pile pit. The wall was surrounded by and buried below 150mm of brown-grey clayey-silt of backfilled material. The wall was left *in situ* and no samples were taken as it was not deemed necessary in the interpretation of the archaeology.

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<sup>4</sup> Personal observation by Sue Pringle, see Appendix II

<sup>5</sup> Personal observation by Paul Blinkhorn, see Appendix I





Fig.15: Pit 20 facing E, showing the 17<sup>th</sup>-century brick wall in the pit section, (1m scale)





Fig.16: *The brick wall in Pit 20 facing ESE*



Fig.17: *The site facing SW*

## 7 CONCLUSIONS

The watching brief confirmed the presence of a probable 17<sup>th</sup> century brick wall, previously observed in Trench 1 of the 2010 watching brief. The wall was within 300mm of the ground surface, and survived in a relatively good condition, (probably for a considerable depth). It also illustrated that the majority of the site was devoid of archaeologically significant deposits. The presence of made ground is not exceptional given the level of modern development in the vicinity.

The natural geology was observed from as little as 300mm below ground level, with no obvious signs of previous soil horizons or profiles. This would suggest that the area had been ‘scalped’ prior to the creation of the present ground surface, and previous soil horizons removed.

Nothing else of note was recorded or observed during the watching brief.

## 8 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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**Appendix I:** Post-medieval pottery analysis by *Paul Blinkhorn*

A single sherd of pottery weighing 8g was recovered. It was a fragment of a high-quality painted dish or plate in Tin-glazed Earthenware, Museum of London fabric TGW, (eg. Vince 1985). It occurred in pit 2, and is in very good condition, suggesting it is reliably stratified. It is possibly decorated in the Chinese style, and likely to be of 18<sup>th</sup> century date.

*Bibliography*

Vince, AG. (1985), '*The Saxon and Medieval Pottery of London: A review*' in *Medieval Archaeology* 29, pp25-93

**Appendix II:** Ceramic Building Material Analysis by *Sue Pringle*

**Key:** A = Abraded; M = Mortar; Rd = Reduced; Ru = Re-used; V = Vitrified

All measurements given in millimetres, (L = Length; B = Breadth; T = Thickness)

Context number	CBM date	Fabric	Form	Count	Weight (grams)	L	B	T	Condition	Comments
Pit 2	1700 - 1900	3047	Brick	1	366	85+	75+	45	A, M	Unfrogged; only surviving side face is smooth; side and base have fairly fine moulding sand
Pit 2	1450 - 1850	-	Brick	1	482	90+	90+	62	A, Rd	Unfrogged. Fabric may be reduced 3033 with flint pebbles and some calcium carbonate. One flat side with light creasing. One bedface appears worn – flooring or cobble?
Pit 5	1630 - 1900	2275	Pantile	1	162	85+	80+	15	-	Nib present but damaged
Pit 7	1450 - 1700	3033	Brick	1	1235	140+	112	57	M x2, Ru	Unfrogged; indented margin. Two different lime mortars on both bed faces, (possibly reused / repaired)
Pit 7	1450 - 1700	-	Brick	1	950	135+	90	67	M, Rd, V	Unfrogged; creased sides and base. Vitrified and distorted
Pit 7	1480 - 1800	2276	Peg tile	1	168	-	-	14.5	M	-

## Appendix III: OASIS online database collection form

OASIS ID: [compassa1-177571](#)

### Project details

Project name	New Propagation Glasshouse, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew: An Archaeological Watching Brief
Short description of the project	In February 2014 Compass Archaeology was commissioned to conduct a watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new propagation glasshouse at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew. The watching brief confirmed the presence of a 17 <sup>th</sup> century brick wall, observed in Trench 1 of an earlier (2010) investigation, (2010), within 300mm of the ground surface, and that it survived in a relatively good condition (probably for a considerable depth). It also illustrated that the majority of the site was devoid of archaeologically significant deposits. The presence of made ground is not exceptional given the level of modern development within the immediate vicinity. The natural clayey silt was observed from as little as 300mm below ground level, with no obvious signs of previous soil horizons or profiles. This would suggest that the area had been 'scalped' prior to the creation of the present ground surface. Nothing else of note was recorded or observed during the watching brief.
Project dates	Start: 02-04-2014 End: 03-04-2014
Previous/future work	No / No
Any associated project reference codes	RBK14 - Sitecode
Any associated project reference codes	rich029 - Contracting Unit No.
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	World Heritage Site
Current Land use	Other 3 - Built over
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Significant Finds	POT SHERD Post Medieval
Investigation type	"Watching Brief"
Prompt	Planning condition

### Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND AND KEW Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew
Postcode	TW9 3AB
Study area	360.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 1834 7731 51.481853184 -0.295581827958 51 28 54 N 000 17 44 W Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 0.30m Max: 0.80m

### Project creators

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

### Project archives

Physical Archive recipient	Museum of London archaeological archive
Physical Contents	"Ceramics"
Digital Archive recipient	Museum of London Archaeological Archive
Digital Contents	"other"
Digital Media available	"Images raster / digital photography", "Spreadsheets", "Text"

Paper Archive recipient	Museum of London Archaeological Archive
Paper Contents	"other"
Paper Media available	"Context sheet", "Map", "Plan", "Unpublished Text"

### Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	A NEW PROPAGATION GLASSHOUSE AT ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW, TW9 3AB London Borough of Richmond An Archaeological Watching Brief
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Aaronson, J
Date	2014
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark Street, SE1 1RQ
Description	A brief report of the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken at Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. This includes a discussion of all of the areas excavated; photos; brick and pot analysis; a plan showing the location of the works; and any conclusions reached.



#### **Appendix IV: London Archaeologist summary**

Site address: New Propagation Glasshouse, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew,  
TW9 3AB

Project type: Watching brief

Dates of fieldwork: 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> April 2014

Site code: RBK14

Site Supervisor: James Aaronson

NGR: TQ 18346 77316

Funding Body: Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

In February 2014 Compass Archaeology was commissioned to conduct a watching brief during groundworks associated with the construction of a new propagation glasshouse at the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

The watching brief confirmed the presence of a 17<sup>th</sup> century brick wall, observed in an earlier (2010) investigation, within 300mm of the ground surface, and that it survived in a relatively good condition, (probably for a considerable depth). It also illustrated that the majority of the site was devoid of archaeologically significant deposits. The presence of made ground is not exceptional given the level of modern development within the immediate vicinity.

The natural clayey silt was observed from as little as 300mm below ground level, with no obvious signs of previous soil horizons or profiles. This would suggest that the area had been ‘scalped’ prior to the creation of the present ground surface.

Nothing else of note was recorded or observed during the watching brief.