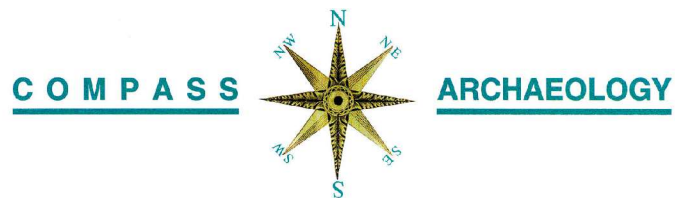


CENTURY BUILDINGS

LAND TO THE REAR OF 22/26 VICTORIA STREET

ROCHESTER, KENT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION



December 2008

CENTURY BUILDINGS

LAND TO THE REAR OF 22/26 VICTORIA STREET

ROCHESTER, KENT

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION

PLANNING REFS: MC2004/2452/ MC2007/1529

SITE CODE: VSR07

NGR: 574440 168120

COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED

5-7 SOUTHWARK STREET

LONDON SE1 1RQ

Telephone: 020 7403 9660

Facsimile: 020 7403 9661

Email: mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk

December 2008

© Compass Archaeology Limited

Abstract

An archaeological evaluation was undertaken on part of the site of Century Buildings, land to the rear of 22/26 Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent. The site was once occupied by the Troy Town Brewery and is currently undergoing a programme of residential redevelopment involving refurbishment and conversion of the former brewery buildings and the construction of new residential units fronting onto Victoria Street and East Row. During the course of the redevelopment works it became apparent that a programme of archaeological evaluation was required in the western part of the site between the new building blocks denoted A and B. This area had previously been used as the car park for Century Buildings. The evaluation was undertaken between the 3rd and 10th July 2008 by Compass Archaeology.

The evaluation exposed significant remains for two important phases of archaeological activity. The earliest relates to a previously unrecorded brick manufacturing industry, which dates to the period circa 1630-70 and is potentially associated with a rebuild of Restoration House, the Grade I Listed Building that stands just to the northwest of the site. It is possible that these brickworks were set up specifically for this purpose and relate to the known rebuilding works under the Clarke family in the 17th century. The archaeological remains form an extensive area of burnt/fired ground cut into the hillside, over which a brick clamp once stood, the pattern of the stacked bricks and faggots being still evident in the scorched ground. The second, and stratigraphically later, phase of archaeological activity encountered in the evaluation formed the remains of an historic garden, which was located to the east of Vines House. The principal elements consist of the foundations of two ragstone and chalk flanking walls that supported a raised bank or mound to the east, and two further walls which terraced rising ground to the south, although numerous other features were evaluated and recorded. The upper terrace wall to the south of the garden survived to its full height for some 26m. A further, circa 12m, length of this wall having been removed during the redevelopment works. This wall appears to be largely constructed of chalk and brick, but towards the eastern end includes a pattern of diapered brickwork in its exposed north facing elevation. The wall lies within the historic curtilage of Vines House, and was spot Listed Grade II in its own right on 23rd January 2008.

The garden, as defined by the two ragstone and chalk foundations to the east, appears to be of later 17th century origin, and may have closely followed the brick manufacturing activity on this site. The date of the Listed wall has been a matter of much local consideration and an early to mid 16th century date has been proposed (prior to the evaluation works taking place on site). The results of the post-evaluation analysis (detailed in section 9 of this report) now suggest that the Listed wall should be more accurately assigned a date in the 18th century, based upon the current evidence available, though further fieldwork and/or post-excavation analysis may further refine the date of this structure.

Contents

	Page
1 Introduction	1
2 Site Location and Geology	2
3 Archaeological and Historical Background	4
4 Archaeological Research Questions	7
5 The Archaeological Programme	7
5.1 Standards	
5.2 Fieldwork	
6 Post-Excavation Work	9
6.1 Finds and Samples	
6.2 Report Procedure	
7 The Site Archive	9
8 The Archaeological Evaluation	9
8.1 Trench Locations	10
8.2 Recorded Contexts	11
8.3 Historic Development of the Site: Phases 1 and 2.	19
8.4 Historic Development of the Site: Phases 3 to 5.	28
8.5 Historic Development of the Site: Phase 6.	40
9 Summary and Conclusions	41
9.1 Archaeological Research Questions	42
10 Bibliography	46
Appendix I: Indicative Site Matrix	47
Appendix II: Finds Quantification Tables	48
Appendix III: Pottery Assessment	49
Appendix IV: Metal Finds Assessment	50
Appendix V: Clay Tobacco Pipe Assessment	56
Appendix VI Glass Assessment	58
Appendix VII: Brick Samples Assessment	59
Appendix VIII: OASIS Data Collection Form	61
Appendix IX: Kent County Council Historic Environment Record Form	64

List of Figures

		Page
	<i>Cover Illustration: Working shot of the archaeological evaluation with trench 3 in the foreground.</i>	
1	The site location in relation to the Ordnance Survey 1: 25 000 map	1
2	Map showing the approximate location of the archaeological evaluation within the overall development site, based on the Ordnance Survey 1: 2500 map.	2
3	The site prior to the archaeological evaluation, showing the level of redevelopment, ground reduction and demolition.	3
4	Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1864 showing the site boundary in red.	6
5	Plan showing the locations of trenches 1-5.	11
6	Pot sherds from Trench 1, Northwest Kent fine sandy ware (top) and Mill Green Ware (bottom).	20
7	Plan of Trench 1 after second machine spit.	21
8	View of Trench 1 looking north (1m scale) – showing quarry pits [564] and [566] in plan.	22
9	Plan and photograph of Trench 4 showing area of burnt ground.	23
10	Sample from brick clamp wall [539]	24
11	Sample of brick from rubble deposit [540].	25
12	East facing section of Trench 5 showing brick clamp deposits to base and overlying contexts relating to the later phases of formal garden.	26
13	Photograph of the east facing section of Trench 5 and close-up of the brick clamp deposits.	27
14	Chalk and ragstone faced wall [523] as exposed in Trenches 2 (left) and 3 (right) – 0.5m scale.	28

15	Fragment of blue transfer-ware pottery showing detail of oriental figures and buildings [509].	29
16	Wall [528] in Trench 2 looking south, with modern red brick wall truncating deposits to the west (0.5m scale) and ceramic tobacco pipe from [520].	30
17	Plan of Trench 2	32
18	Plan of Trench 3	33
19	Working shot of Trenches 1 and 5 showing the listed wall [547] extending west behind residential block B.	34
20	View south of Trench 1 showing rebuilt lower retaining wall [504] adjacent to modern car park wall [554] and later brick rubble path [501] (1m scale)	35
21	Photographs of brick wall [521] and surviving steps in the northwest corner of the site.	36
22	View west showing the rubble path [501] cutting deposit [502] adjacent to 18 th century rebuilt wall [504].	38
23	Plan showing the main structural features in relation to the OS 1864 plan (in orange).	39
24	Examples of china recovered from Victorian deposits in Trench 1.	40

1. Introduction

1.1 This report presents the results of an archaeological evaluation undertaken at the Century Buildings site, land to the rear of 22/26 Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent, between 3rd–10th July 2008 and during residential development of the site.

1.2 The work was commissioned by the developer, Future Homes (UK) Management Limited, on the advice of the Heritage Conservation Group at Kent County Council as part of a scheme to address the archaeological conditions attached to the grant of planning permission for development of the site. The planning references for the construction of new residential units and the conversion of former brewery buildings are Medway Council Planning Ref: MC2004/2452 and MC2007/1529 (current application). The work followed an earlier Desk Based Assessment, Archaeological Watching Brief and Historic Building Recording works undertaken by Archaeology South East during 2007 and early 2008 (*cf.* Section 10 Bibliography).

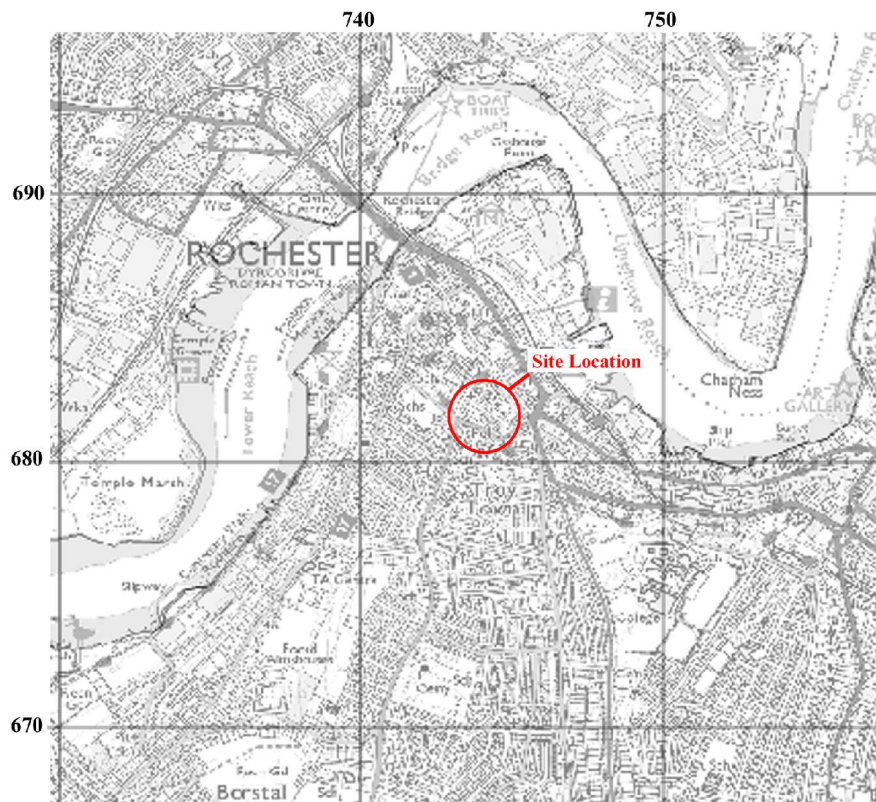


Figure 1: The site location in relation to the Ordnance Survey 1: 25 000 map.

Reproduced with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright (Compass Archaeology Ltd., licence no. AL 100031317)

1.3 The evaluation took the form of five evaluation trenches situated in the north-west part of the site, in advance of ground reduction and service trench excavation. Overall management of the project was undertaken by Geoff Potter of Compass Archaeology; the on-site work was carried out by Gill King and archaeological assistants from Compass Archaeology; post-excavation reporting was carried out by the above and Rosie Cummings of Compass Archaeology.

2. Site Location and Geology

2.1 The site is approximately located at NGR 574440 168120 (*cf.* Figure 1 above). The overall development site (including the buildings of the former Troy Town Brewery) constitutes an 'L-shaped' strip of land measuring approximately 150m in length (northwest to southeast) by 40m in width. However, this report is concerned with the archaeological evaluation undertaken in the northwest part of the site, an area of higher ground measuring some 30m by 20m (*cf.* Figure 2, below).

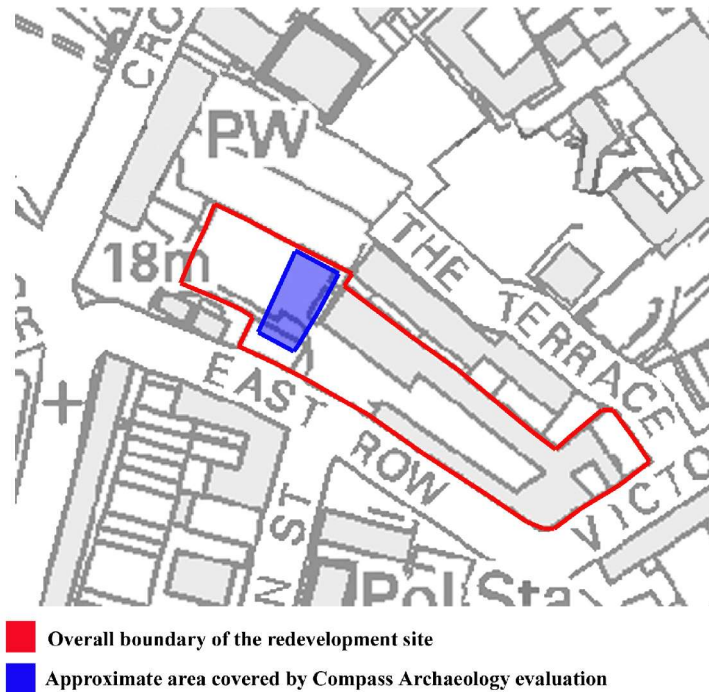


Figure 2: Map showing the approximate location of the archaeological evaluation within the overall development site, based on the Ordnance Survey 1: 2500 map.

Reproduced with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright (Compass Archaeology Ltd., licence no. AL 100031317)

2.2 Prior to the commencement of development works the evaluation area lay in an enclosed car park, bounded to the north by the gardens of Restoration House and to the east by buildings and a service road belonging to the former brewery buildings. Two brick retaining walls in the northeast corner maintained a raised paved area between the car park and the brewery buildings, running north to south

and turning west to mark the entrance to the car park area. To the south the existing car park wall retained a raised area in places approximately 1.5m above the car park level, but in other areas recently reduced but covered with spoil from the groundworks. Another retaining wall ran parallel supporting a bank a further 2.5m above this level – creating a stepped terraced boundary covering a drop in ground level between c. 15.92m and 11.61m OD. To the west the remaining car park area was separated by a further retaining wall from the higher properties of Grade II Listed Buildings, The Vines, and Vines Croft.

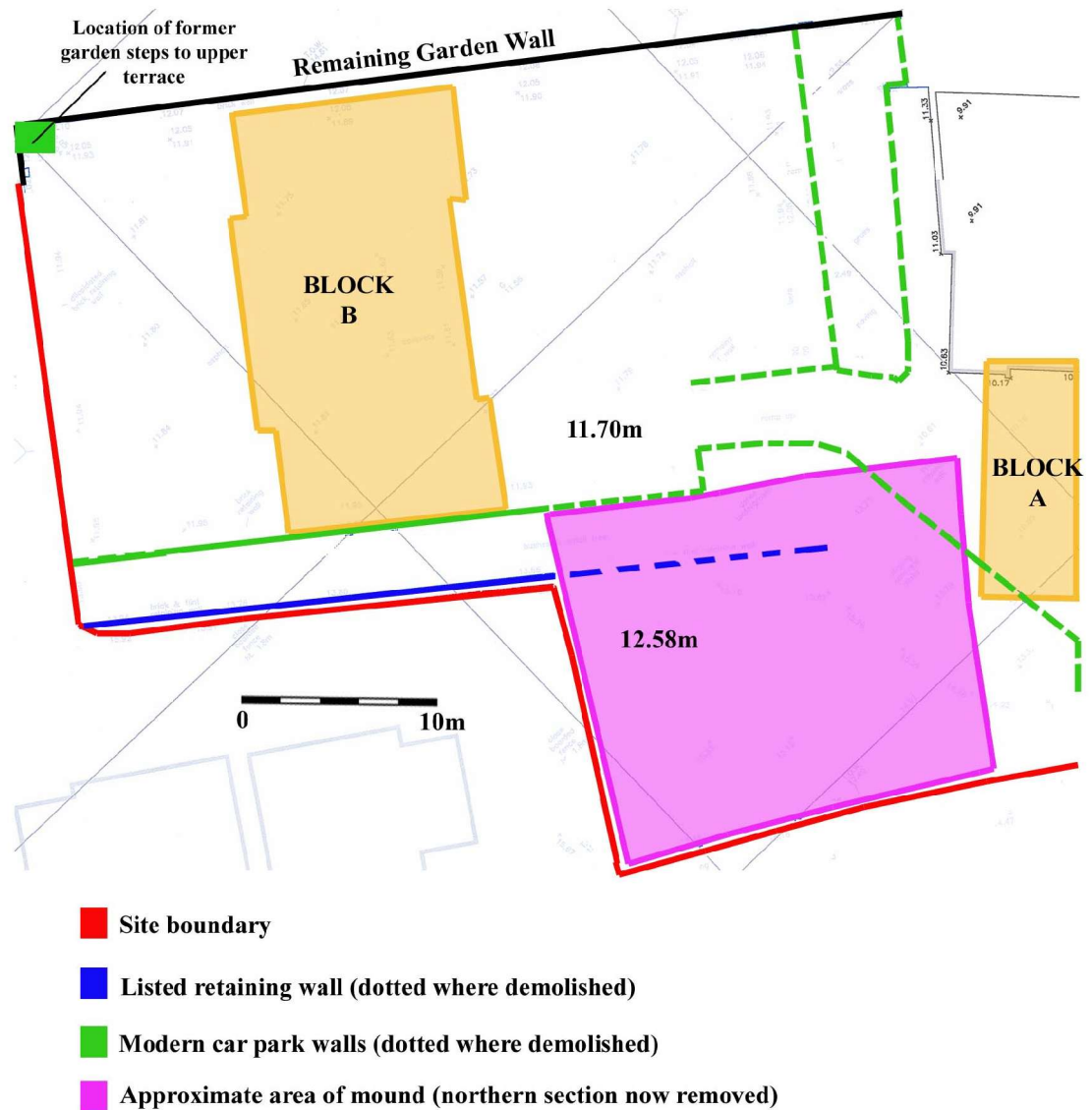


Figure 3: The site prior to the archaeological evaluation, showing the level of redevelopment, ground reduction and demolition.

- 2.3 At the commencement of the archaeological evaluation the study area had undergone partial development and ground reduction, to a heavy degree in places. The upper retaining wall to the south (subsequently spot listed by English Heritage) had been partially demolished, removing some 12m at its eastern end, along with the modern car park wall and two retaining walls in the northeast corner. To the south of the listed wall the rising ground had been cut away to level the development area to the height of the top of the modern car park retaining wall, reducing it by some 3m in height in places. This area was covered in building rubble and only partly cleared during the evaluation. To the east of the evaluation area Block A – Residential Unit had been largely constructed, along with Block B to the west (*cf.* Figure 3 below). The car park area in which the trenches were located had been reduced, removing the tarmac and shallow makeup layers.
- 2.4 The natural geology of the evaluation area consists of Head deposits (silty/sand brickearth) overlying Upper Chalk (British Geological Survey: Sheet 272). At the west end of the development site the ground lay between 11.95m and 12.05m OD in the car park, sloping down to the east to 9.91m towards the existing brewery buildings, while to the south the sharp rise in ground level with terraced land is discussed above, the surrounding areas being significantly higher.

3. Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1 The historical background regarding the buildings of the Troy Town Brewery and the archaeological sites and finds in the vicinity of the study area have been discussed in the Desk-Based Assessment produced by Archaeology South East (2007). This evaluation report is solely concerned with the evaluation works and should be read in conjunction with the earlier reports which detail the archaeological and historical background. However, in brief the brewery is thought to have been in use between 1750 and 1934 before the buildings were utilised for a variety of commercial and industrial enterprises.
- 3.2 Several phases of archaeological and historical analysis have taken place for this part of Rochester, including a study of the historic gardens at Restoration House by Elizabeth Hall (1994). The above-mentioned Archaeology South East Assessment details the pre-development knowledge of this site and Archaeology South East maintained a watching brief on the site throughout the redevelopment works. The results of the watching brief were subsequently published as an Interim Report (2008a) and a further Historic Building Survey was also produced by Archaeology South East dealing specifically with the Listed boundary wall, which was at this stage felt to be of Tudor date (2008b).
- 3.3 The northwest corner of the site in which the archaeological evaluation was undertaken is part of an historic formal garden, which was probably once associated with Restoration House (possibly dating to *circa* 1580-1600), but perhaps was always more closely associated with Vines House, now the Grade II listed properties of The Vines and Vines Croft. It is clearly evident from

cartographic sources used in Elizabeth Hall's research on Restoration House that no formal garden was shown behind Restoration House until about the time of Sir Francis Clarke's tenure after 1652, and prior to this date the historic walled garden associated with the house was clearly shown to the north of the house in the area now occupied by the chapel. The Clarke family were in residence from *circa* 1607 to 1693 and must have been responsible during this period for rebuilding the house and adding the '*fashionable, artisan mannerist style brickwork ornament of the present frontage*'. Gardens did appear to the east of the house after this date and by 1667 Samuel Pepys makes reference to Restoration House as '*a pretty site, and into the cherry garden*'. Hall also notes that the east-west running wall between the two gardens of Restoration House and Vines House is in places finely constructed of ragstone with a plinth and has a parapeted element '*in a manner characteristic of 17th century walls in Rochester and Chatham*'. It is apparent therefore that gardens are recorded to the east of Restoration House from the later 17th century and Hall records the front garden walls, parts of the southern boundary wall of Restoration House and elements of the east-west boundary wall between the two historic gardens to conform stylistically to local structures of 17th century date³.

3.4 Little is recorded of the gardens in the 18th and early 19th centuries, but in 1877 Stephen Averling purchased Restoration House and engaged in an extensive programme of restoration and remodelling. Elizabeth Hall suggests that much of the garden may have been remodelled at this time Averling appears to have undertaken work on several of the structural elements of the garden and in 1899 an article by Claude Averling in *Country Life* shows the front garden with its 'new' wrought iron gate and Hall suggests that many of the internal garden paths were relaid during this period⁴. Parallels can also be drawn here with the 19th century evidence from the evaluation. A formal garden is clearly established in the evaluation area by the Ordnance Survey map of 1864 (*cf.* Front cover and Figure 4). Although depicted as separate from Restoration House, the two gardens contain contemporary elements such as the formation of the steps up to the higher terrace walkways and the raised terrace to the east of the properties. The evaluation area was later acquired by owners of the brewery site and subsequently used as a car park.

3.5 As noted above, during development clearance monitored by the Archaeology South East's archaeological watching brief (prior to the archaeological evaluation), the upper retaining wall of brick and flint diaper pattern wall was exposed along the southern boundary and partially demolished (as discussed in Section 2 above, and shown on Figure 3). Preliminary observations and recordings by English Heritage, Archaeology South East and local historians suggested that the wall was potentially Tudor in part and in early 2008 it was spot listed by English Heritage as Grade II.

¹ Hall, E 1994 p.1

² Hall, E 1994 p.1,3 and Richard Smith's Map of Rochester 1633 now in the Guildhall Museum, Rochester.

³ *ibid*

⁴ *ibid*

3.6 The observation of this wall, along with apparent earlier deposits underlying it, subsequent observations during recording of a soakaway excavated in 2007 in the northeast corner and remains of a further brick-built 19th century wall, indicated that the remains of the historic garden were more substantial than previously thought. As a result of these observations a further phase of archaeological investigation was deemed necessary. Staff in Compass Archaeology have carried out several nationally important historic garden excavations, which led to an approach to undertake an archaeological evaluation on this site as proposed by Kent County Council. The purpose of this evaluation was to clarify the nature, date and extent of the historic garden and to answer site-specific research questions (*cf.* Sections 4 and 9).

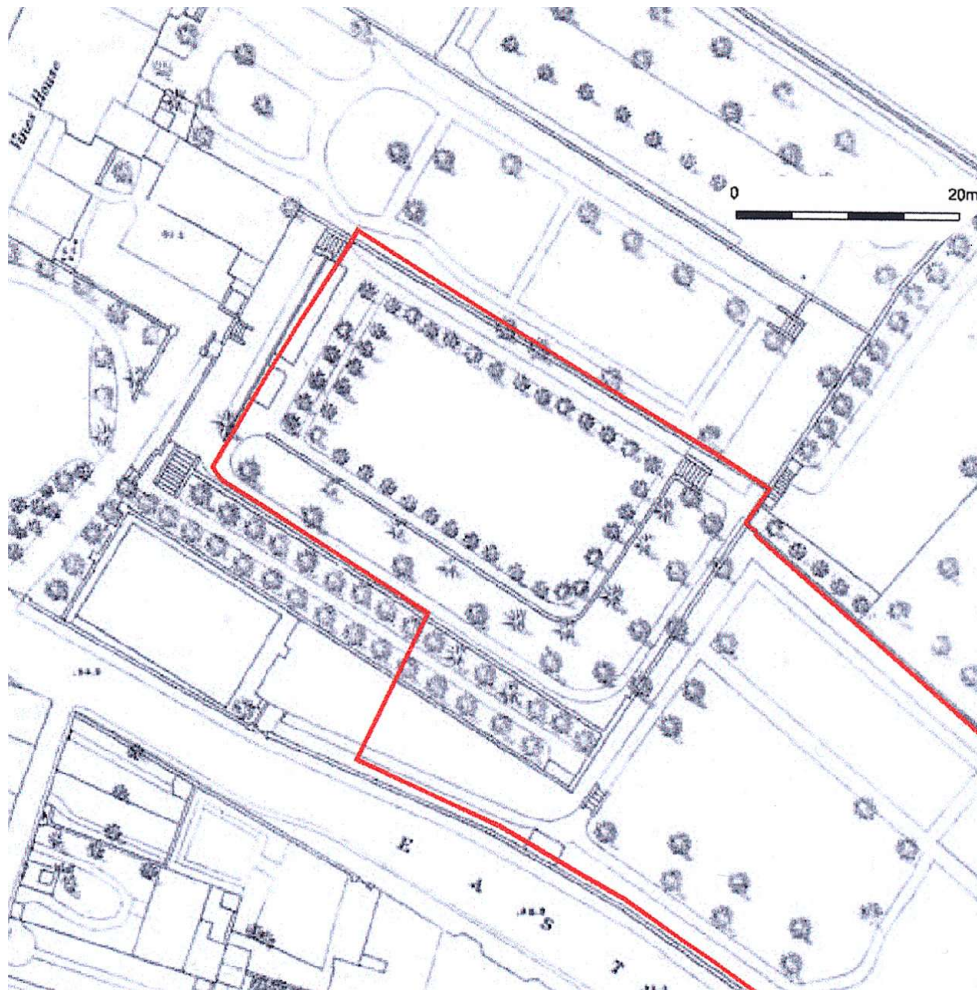


Figure 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1864 showing the site boundary in red. © Archaeology South East 2007.

4. Archaeological Research Questions

4.1 The archaeological evaluation presented an opportunity to address several site specific research questions, outlined in the site specification by Kent County Council (2008), *cf.* section 9 for discussion:

- What is the location and form of the historic terracing of the site, both that shown on the 1864 Ordnance Survey map and any earlier information?
- What is the chronology of the establishment and development of the gardens in this area?
- What is the level of survival and extent of archaeological remains associated with the historic garden – pre, post and contemporary with the standing wall?
- Are there any surviving remnants of the north/south return of the wall?
- Is there any further evidence of the layout and features of the historic gardens? – notably bedding patterns, planting and pathways.
- What is the significance, quality and condition of the historic garden remains?
- What is the impact of the development on the historic garden remains?

5. The Archaeological Programme

5.1 Standards

The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with current guidance (in particular, *English Heritage Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*, the Kent County Council Specification and the requirements of PPG15 and PPG16). Works also conformed to the appropriate standards and guidance of the Institute of Field Archaeologists. Overall management of the project was undertaken by a full Member of the Institute.

The recording system followed the procedures set out in the Museum of London recording manual. By agreement the recording and drawing sheets used were directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

5.2 Fieldwork

5.2.1 Methodology

The initial specification, as agreed with Kent County Council, required the machine excavation of two trenches and one test pit, designed to cross the

alignment of the terraces in two directions, and to investigate the deposits in the northeast corner of the site. The exact trench locations were to be determined following assessment of the ground conditions. The two trenches were excavated and recorded, along with the test pit and clearance of two further areas as also advised by KCC: the section and exposed ground featuring the Listed wall and an area at the eastern edge of the footprint of Block D. The recorded areas were recorded as Trenches 1 to 5 (*cf.* below for discussion and trench locations).

Machine excavation took place under archaeological supervision in July 2008. Recent overburden was removed by machine down to the surface of 19th century garden deposits, archaeological features or natural where appropriate. Surfaces and features were cleaned and recorded, metal detected and then excavated by hand or by shallow machine spit to determine the nature of underlying deposits.

Significant archaeological features, including walls and paths, were left *in-situ* except where agreed with KCC Heritage Conservation. Archaeological structures and features were recorded as appropriate according to the requirements of Kent County Council as set out below.

Finds were retrieved where appropriate and bagged under individual context numbers according to their provenance. Where appropriate and possible samples of building materials (brick and mortar) were taken for subsequent specialist analysis.

5.2.2 Kent County Council Recording on Archaeological Evaluations

- All archaeological work and recording was carried out in accordance with the Kent County Council's standard requirements for evaluation through trial trenching (Manual of Specification Part B).
- All structures, deposits and finds were recorded according to accepted professional standards.
- All recording points used were accurately tied into the National Grid and located on the Ordnance Survey 1: 1250 map of the area.
- Plans indicating the location of all archaeological features encountered were drawn at an appropriate scale, located on the site plan and levelled with respect to OD.
- All archaeological contexts were recording individually on context record sheets.
- A full digital photographic record of the work was kept, supplemented where appropriate by black and white and colour (35mm transparency) film.

6. Post-excavation Work

The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of this report, along with processing of finds and brick samples and consultation with specialists.

6.1 Finds and Samples

All finds were suitably bagged, boxed and marked in accordance with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation guidance. On completion of the post-excavation work these will be deposited in a museum or similar repository following conservation with the landowner, County Archaeological Office and Local Planning Authority.

Assessment of the finds was undertaken by suitably qualified staff, with specialist consultation where necessary. The following external specialists were consulted in respect of specific assemblages:

- Pottery: Paul Blinkhorn.
- Brick Samples: John Brown, Gifford.

6.2 Report Procedure

Copies of this report will be supplied to Kent County Council Heritage Department and the local planning authority. The report is supplemented with an OASIS Data Collection Form, and Kent County Council Heritage Environment Record form (*cf.* Appendices).

7. The Site Archive

The records from the archaeological evaluation will be ordered in line with Kent County Council specifications and deposited within an appropriate repository on agreement with the landowner, Local Planning Authority and County Archaeologist.

8. The Archaeological Evaluation (*cf.* Figure 5)

The archaeological evaluation consisted of the evaluation of five distinct areas, recorded on-site as Trenches 1 to 5. However, owing to the nature of the site some of the recorded archaeological deposits and features can be linked and so are discussed as such and are represented in this manner in the site matrix (*cf.* Appendix I). Consequently, the following details are divided broadly into two sections – an initial introduction to the location of the trenches and recorded contexts, followed by a detailed discussion of the development of the overall site as deduced from these remains. The report is supplemented by illustrations and photographs where appropriate, along with detail derived from previous

investigations on the site, notably the watching brief undertaken by Archaeology South East and their subsequent reports.

8.1 Trench Locations

Trench	Dimensions	Location
1	16.2m (NS) by 1.8m (EW)	Running north from the base of the step at the bottom of the part-demolished modern car-park wall, adjacent to Block B. Machine stripped and investigated by hand.
2	9.5m (EW) by 1.8m (NS)	Northeast corner, running east from edge of Soakaway (2007) across demolished car park walls and presumed terrace.
3	2m by 2m (at max).	'Test Pit' as defined by KCC Specification, north of Trench 2, northeast corner of evaluation area.
4	1.8m by 1m (irregular in plan)	Southeast corner, cleaned area already reduced and exposed by site clearance works and adjacent development.
5	8.8m (NS) by 1.5m (EW)	Area adjacent to surviving section showing listed wall and associated deposits – cleaned and exposed.

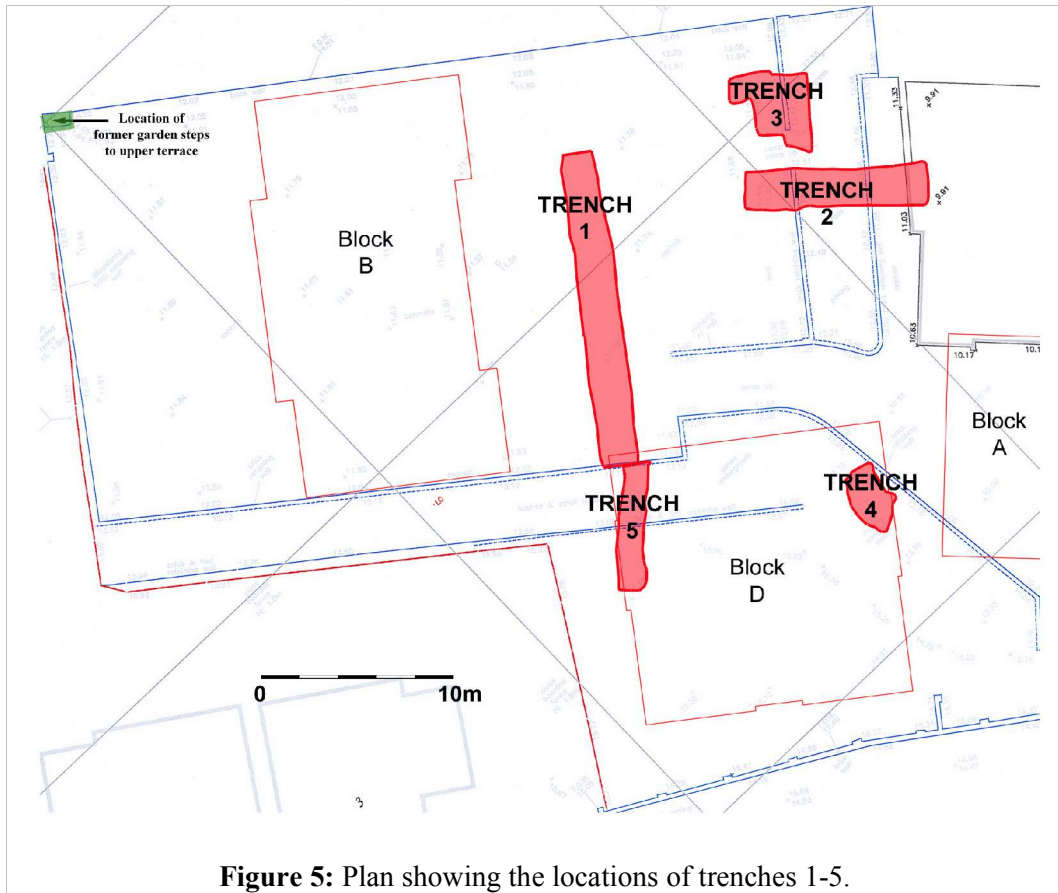


Figure 5: Plan showing the locations of trenches 1-5.

8.2 Recorded Contexts

The following tables list the contexts recording during the course of the archaeological evaluation. They are listed by trench with accompanying explanation but will be discussed in detail in the following sections within the overall appraisal of the sites historic development.

8.2.1 Trench 1

Trench 1 exposed a series of naturally accumulated fine silt deposits filling natural undulations in the brickearth, cut by probable brickearth quarry pits. These earlier deposits contained a very small assemblage of pottery dating between the 12th and 14th century and represent the earliest recorded activity on the site. Later activity included two later garden features, a lower terrace rebuilt brick wall (approximately mid 18th century) and a brick rubble path (late 18th to mid 19th century). Victorian intrusions were observed including pit-fills containing blue transfer-ware china and glass, along with modern intrusions of shallow made-ground.

Context	Description	Interpretation
501	Red brick compacted rubble deposit. Consists of re-used wall material including some mortared coursed fragments – see discussion and details of Brick Sample 1.	Foundation level or fabric of east-west orientated rubble path in cut [555]. Later interior path of sunken garden, <i>c.</i> late 18 th to mid 19 th century.
502	Firm, mid-brown silty clay with frequent rounded pebble and flint inclusions, dark ash, chalk flecking and occasional brick fragments. Reworked subsoil overlying natural brickearth.	Soil deposit, possible bedding garden soil of lower terrace sunken garden, probably contemporary with rebuilt lower terrace wall [504]. Cut by path [501/555].
503	Linear, sloped sided cut orientated east-west across width of trench.	Construction cut for brick wall [504] and filled by [505].
504	East-West orientated brick wall in English bond, alternating courses of headers over stretchers. Surviving to nine courses at a height of 0.62m, exposed across width of trench. <i>Cf.</i> Brick Sample 2.	Red brick wall of lower terrace sunken garden. In construction cut [503], below construction backfill [505]- probably <i>c.</i> mid 18 th century.
505	Firm, yellow-brown, silty sand and clay with frequent flint inclusions.	Fill of construction cut [503] for brick wall [504].
506	Firm grey/dark-brown/black, clay and silt with frequent flint, stone and brick inclusions.	Made-ground deposit underlying tarmac [+], possibly <i>in-situ</i> ground surface prior to tarmac, accumulating <i>c.</i> 19 th century over garden deposits.
511	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with tile, flint and CBM inclusions.	Naturally accumulated deposit filling undulation in natural brickearth. Early pottery inclusion (Mill Green Ware, 1250-1400) indicates it accumulated prior to brickearth quarrying or formal gardens.
512	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint and gravel inclusions.	Naturally accumulated deposit filling undulation in natural brickearth, contained pottery dating between 1175-1400.
513	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint and gravel inclusions.	Naturally accumulated deposit filling undulation in natural brickearth.

514	Loose, dark brown clay with occasional flint and gravel inclusions, charcoal flecking. Frequent CBM, china and glass.	Fill of shallow 19 th century pit. Contained 19 th century red earthenware pottery and bone china.
515	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint and gravel inclusions and patches of darker staining.	Naturally accumulated deposit filling undulation in natural brickearth.
516	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint and gravel inclusions.	Naturally accumulated deposit filling undulation in natural brickearth.
517	Dark, silty clay and sand with lenses of black and red burnt material. Industrial debris, brick, flint and gravel inclusions.	Large ovoid pit fill containing industrial debris – possibly backfilled quarry pit relating to nearby brick-making, fill of cut [564].
518	Mid brown silty clay and sand with pot, glass and CBM inclusions.	Fill of pit cut [563]. Contained brown-transfer ware china depicting a scene from Charles Dickens' 'Pickwick Papers' c. 1836-7 (<i>cf.</i> Fig 24).
519	Loose, mid-brown silty sand with occasional flint and gravel inclusion and weathered chalk fragments.	Redeposited natural filling undulation in natural brickearth, cut by features [511] and [517].
520	Mid brown/grey silty clay with occasional flint and gravel inclusions.	Soil horizon overlying deposits [511] to [519] and below garden features. Several metal finds were recovered from this deposit in the form of the thimble, two buttons, a decorative taloned foot and other items (<i>cf.</i> Appendix IV).
555	Linear cut, gently sloping bowl-shaped and orientated east-west. Measuring 2.1m (EW) by 0.9m (NS) by 0.15m (depth) truncated by [+].	Cut for later red brick garden rubble path [501] for lower, sunken garden level.
563	Rectangular cut measuring 0.75m by 0.55m, depth unknown, not fully excavated.	Cut of post-medieval pit filled by [518], cutting deposit [512].
564	Large ovoid cut with near vertical sides, measuring 3m by 0.98m and excavated to a depth of 0.52m, full depth unknown.	Probable brick earth quarry pit filled by [517].
565	Not excavated.	Fill of quarry pit [566].

566	Cut of ovoid pit measuring 2.8m by 1m in plan, not excavated, depth and nature of fill unknown.	Cut of brickearth quarry pit, filled by [565] and overlain by [514].
567	Brickearth	Natural brickearth.

8.2.2 Trench 2

Trench 2 exposed two parallel chalk and ragstone faced wall foundations orientated north to south. These are the remains of the inner and outer retaining walls of the raised terraced walk, belonging to the original formal garden of probable later 17th century date. A spur of truncated natural was retained between these walls, with lower terraced ground and construction deposits on either side plus reworked garden soils to the west. A 19th century stock-brick path was exposed at the western end of the trench, considered to belong to the later formal garden layout as depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1864 (*cf.* Figure 4 above).

Context	Description	Interpretation
509	Dark brown-black humic soil, clay and silt with occasional bone, CBM and glass inclusions, mixed.	Buried garden soil deposit (same as 508 as observed in Trench 3), bedding trench adjacent to inner terrace wall [523] - contemporary with structure but subject to later reworking.
510	Yellow stock brick north-south orientated wall forming the western edge of bedding trench [509], truncated to west by soakaway dug in 2007, exposed for 2m across trench. <i>Cf.</i> Brick Sample 3.	Possible path running along the outer edge of bedding trench [508-509]. 19 th century machine made bricks.
523	Chalk and mortar wall with ragstone facing exposed orientated north-south running across Trenches 2 and 3, approx. 0.7m in width and surviving to height of four courses at <i>c.</i> 0.6m.	Surviving extent of original inner terrace wall of formal garden layout, provisionally dated to the later 17 th century.
524	Yellow/brown sandy clay with flint gravels, occasional chalk fragment inclusions.	Natural, forming part of raised terrace between walls [523] to east and [528] to west – spur of natural remaining from construction of parallel walls.

525	Firm white/yellow mortar and sand with occasional chalk fragments.	Mortar foundation layer of wall [523].
526	Loose mid-brown silty clay with moderate flint, chalk and CBM fragments.	Deposit built up against wall [523] below possible bedding soil [508-529], containing inclusions including a worn George II halfpenny (1727-1760). Deposit possibly originally contemporary with wall but reworked.
527	Firm yellow/brown sand and clay with frequent flint inclusions, occasional CBM and chalk, extent unknown.	Fill of pit [568].
528	Chalk and ragstone faced wall running north-south across trench, parallel with wall [523], exposed at foundation level only, although first level of facing visible.	Remains of outer terrace wall of original formal garden, parallel to inner wall [523], probably c late 17 th century.
529	Mid yellow-brown sand and clay deposit with flint, chalk and gravel inclusions.	Construction backfill of construction cut exposed to east of upper terrace wall [528] – primary deposit relating to construction of wall, truncated by modern walls to east. Containing <i>in situ</i> clay tobacco pipe dating to the period 1680-1710 (<i>cf.</i> Appendix V).
568	Only partly exposed in plan, shape and extent unknown.	Cut of pit filled by [527]. Partially truncated by 2007 soakaway - late 18 th -19 th century.

8.2.3 Trench 3

Trench 3 exposed the continuation of the lower terrace wall exposed in Trench 2, along with a later brick wall at the northern end considered to represent a flanking wall for a series of steps now lost. An earlier mortar deposit was also exposed below the wall, but further analysis was not possible during the evaluation as it would have involved the full excavation of the overlying stratigraphic sequence and therefore the nature and extent of this feature is currently unknown.

Context	Description	Interpretation
---------	-------------	----------------

508	Dark brown-black humic soil, clay and silt with occasional bone, CBM and glass inclusions, mixed. Not archaeologically distinct from [509].	Bedding trench garden soil adjacent to wall [523] – recorded as [509] in trench 2. Contemporary with structure but subject to later reworking.
521	Brick wall orientated east-west, surviving to a height of six courses of alternating stretchers and headers. Bonded to wall [523] at north end. See Brick Sample 4.	Remnants of brick wall flanking steps from raised terrace into sunken garden. Probably later rebuild of earlier steps now truncated to north.
522	Firm yellowish/brown sand and mortar.	Mortar foundation level at base of trench 3 – earlier than wall [523] but nature and extent unknown.
530	Natural yellow/brown clay and gravels exposed at 11.01m OD.	Natural.
NOTE: Trench 3 also exposed lower terrace wall [523] and deposit [524], see Trench 2.		

8.2.4 Trench 4

Trench 4 consisted of an area of reduced ground that was cleaned during the evaluation. Cleaning exposed an area of burnt ground that is thought to represent brick-stacks and faggots from firing during brick manufacture in the 17th century. Two deposits exposed at the north end of the trench are thought to represent the only surviving remnants of the continuation of the listed wall in this part of the site (*cf.* discussion section 9).

Context	Description	Interpretation
531	Dark brown/black clayey silt, burnt layer.	Layer of burnt clay relating to brick manufacture, cut by [532] to north. Possible remnants of flues between brick stacks during firing.
532	Dark brown fill with frequent flint fragments and pebbles.	Modern made-ground deposit truncating underlying burnt layer [531].
533	Dark brown clay and silt, burnt material with frequent burnt flint.	Possible continuation of [531] showing higher quantities of flint, remnant of flue between brick stacks.
534	Firm bright reddish brown clay with burnt flint inclusions.	Burnt ground, remnant of ground beneath brick stacks during firing – north of [533].
535	Firm bright reddish brown clay with burnt flint inclusions.	Burnt ground, remnant of ground beneath brick stacks during firing – south of [533].
536	Firm bright reddish brown clay with burnt flint inclusions.	Burnt ground, remnant of ground beneath brick stacks during firing – southern extent of trench.
537	Yellowish/white sandy mortar with some chalk and flint inclusions.	Remnants of continuation of wall [547] at junction with earlier wall phase [528], as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1864.
538	Light yellowish red with flint fragments and red-brown silty sand inclusions.	Masonry debris related to [537].

8.2.5 Trench 5

Trench 5 involved the cleaning and exposing of the area of reduced ground at the southeastern extent of the evaluation area, containing the large section exposing the profile of the listed wall and related deposits. A series of contexts relating to 17th century brick manufacture were exposed in section, and areas of burnt ground in plan. The listed wall was recorded in section along with an earlier phase of foundations at its base and related contexts. The trench also exposed modern intrusions including the part-demolished car park wall and accumulated deposits.

Context	Description	Interpretation
539	Brick structure or 'pile' 70mm in width, eleven bricks in height. <i>cf.</i> Brick Sample 5.	Wall of brick clamp, post-1630 based on brick analysis.
540	Brick fragments and rubble exposed in section north of wall [539]. Brick Sample 6.	Rubble relating to brick clamp, bricks suggest deposited in the mid-later 17 th century.
541	Brick rubble in silty-clay matrix, exposed in section south of clamp wall [539].	Rubble deposit relating to brick clamp.
542	Loose yellowish/brown sand and silty clay, exposed in section below brick rubble [514]	Area of burnt and truncated natural, cut by overlying brick manufacture features and deposits.
543	Firm mid-brown clayey silt with frequent flint inclusions, exposed in section only.	Remnants of former mound of upper terrace behind original wall [556]– surviving base.
544	Firm mid-yellowish/brown clayey silt with chalk and gravel inclusions.	Remnants of former mound of upper terrace behind original wall, overlying [543].
545	Mid-reddish/brown silty clay containing frequent flint and broken brick fragments.	Fill of construction cut [557] for wall [547].
546	Firm brown/grey/red clayey silt with flint and brick.	Trample layer at base of cut [557].
547	Listed Grade II chalk, brick and flint wall, standing to a height of 3m.	Rebuilt upper terrace wall (probable 18 th century), in cut [557] – rebuild of earlier chalk wall [556].
548	Firm dark-brown/black burnt clay and silt	Burnt layer relating to brick manufacture.
549	Firm red/brown clay with moderate flint inclusions.	Burnt natural exposed in base of trench.
550	Firm dark-brown clay with burnt flint inclusions.	Fill of posthole cut [562].
551	Firm, light-brown/red sandy clay with frequent small burnt flint inclusions and black burnt-clay flecking.	Burnt layer relating to brick manufacture.
552	Firm light-brown red silt with clay, red brick fragments and frequent flint and chalk inclusions.	Possible path alongside upper terrace wall, probably contemporary with rebuild of wall <i>c</i> 18 th century.
553	Moderate light grey-brown clayey silt with frequent flint fragments.	Fill of small pit [561].

554	Modern E-W wall.	Modern car park wall.
556	Chalk wall foundations below standing wall [547].	Original wall base of listed wall [547].
557	Large, vertical sided cut for wall [547].	Construction cut for listed wall [547].
558	Mixed mid-grey brown silty clay with flint and pebble inclusions.	Subsoil built up adjacent to listed wall [547] and cut by path [552].
560	Mid reddish brown sand and clay with frequent brick fragments.	Brick clamp deposit cut by concrete and bricks of modern wall [554]
561	Shallow bowl cut exposed in section <i>c.</i> 1m in width.	Cut of pit, filled by [553].
562	Small vertical sided cut into burnt natural.	Cut of posthole, filled by [552].

8.3 Historic Development of the Site: Phases 1 and 2.

An overall indicative matrix of the site stratigraphic sequence recorded during the evaluation is produced in Appendix I, the following discussion should be read in conjunction with this and the above context descriptions. Individual trench matrices showing solely stratigraphic relationships form part of the site archive and are not included here.

8.3.1 Phase 1: Pre-17th Century Activity

Overall, little evidence of activity earlier than the 17th century was observed during the course of the archaeological evaluation. Owing to the nature of the site prior to the evaluation and the historic activity recorded, the level of natural deposits varied dramatically across the site, from 12.58m OD at the base of Trench 5 to 11.01m at the base of Trench 3, representing heavy truncation, especially in the area of the sunken garden (*cf.* Phases 3 – 5 below).

The only significant archaeological remains pre-dating the 17th century activity discussed below occurred in Trench 1 (*cf.* Fig 7). A series of naturally accumulated deposits were observed [511] [512] [513] [515] [519] filling undulations in the natural brickearth, none of which appeared to represent deliberate cut-features. These deposits were stratigraphically earlier than the later 17th century evidence of brick-quarrying (*cf.* 8.3.2 below), and in two cases contained pottery of the 12th and 14th centuries. Deposit [511] produced a single sherd of Mill Green Ware, dating between 1250-1400, and deposit [512] produced a sherd of Northwest Kent fine sandy ware dating between 1175-1400 (*cf.* Figure 6 below).

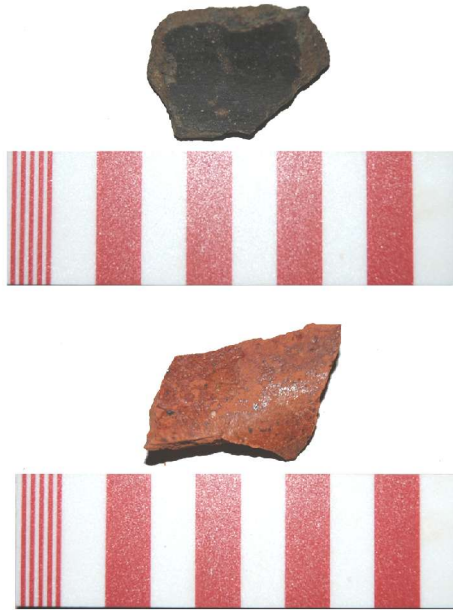


Figure 6: Pot sherds from Trench 1, Northwest Kent fine sandy ware (top) and Mill Green Ware (bottom).

The lack of further datable material makes close dating of these deposits and this phase of activity impossible – it can consequently only be concluded that they accumulated earlier than the 17th century, possibly as early as the 12th century, although the abraded nature of the sherds suggests redeposition in later contexts. Figure 7 (below) shows a plan of Trench 1 after the second machine spit, exposing these deposits and later intrusions.

The only other pre-17th century find was the thimble <1>, which was recovered from the much later overlying deposit [520].

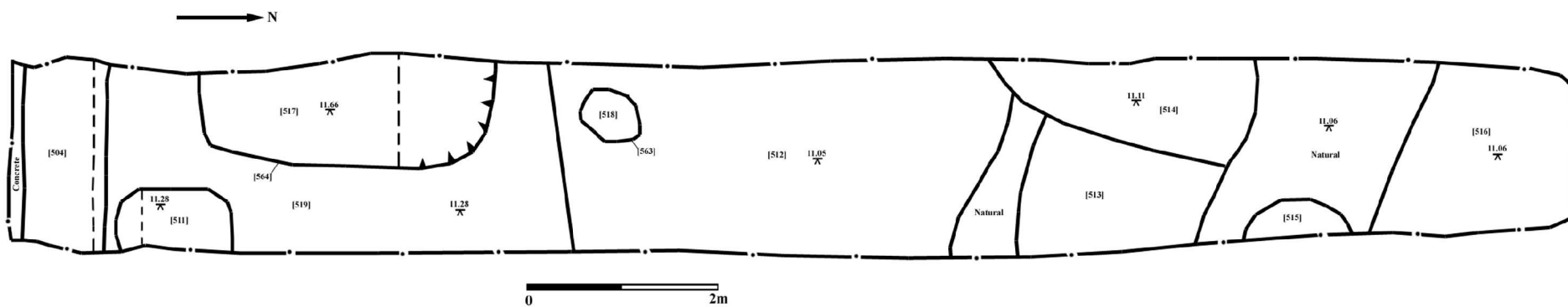


Figure 7: Plan of Trench 1 after the second machine strip – showing deposits and features over natural brickearth.

8.3.2 Phase 2: 17th Century Brick Manufacture

The first major phase of activity recorded across the site consisted of various features and deposits reflecting brick manufacture in the 17th century. Contexts relating to this phase of activity were recorded in Trenches 1, 4 and 5, and although these were not physically related on site they are certainly the remains of the same period of occupation. The contexts reflect three specific aspects of this industry – quarrying for raw materials in the natural brickearth, firing of bricks in clamps, and disposal of wasters, burrs and other debris.

Trench 1 exposed two steep-sided pits, roughly ovoid in plan of unknown depth [564]-[517] and [566]-[565]. Pit [564] was investigated by hand through slot-section to a depth of some 0.52m below the machined level. The base of the pit was not reached but the exposed fill produced general industrial waste material including brick fragments and burnt materials. The profile of these pits has been identified as typical of those dug during quarrying for brickearth (*pers. com.* John Brown, Gifford: 2008). The locations of these pits are shown on the plan of Trench 1 following the second machine strip (*cf.* Figure 7 above).



Figure 8: View of Trench 1 looking north (1m scale) – showing quarry pits [564] and [566] in plan.

Trenches 5 and 4 exposed an extensive area of burnt or fired ground cut into the natural hillside, a brick clamp/s (literally large stacks of bricks with combustible materials) would have been constructed over this area. In Trench 4 this activity was represented by a patch of exposed burnt ground which showed the ‘scarring’ of individual stacks and adjacent flues in which combustible material would have been placed while allowing air to circulate. Contexts [531] and [533] consisted of dark black/brown burnt clay and are interpreted as the remnants of the fuel used to fire the adjacent stacks. Contexts [534] [535] and [536] consisted of red burnt clay, considered to be the remnants of the bricks stacks themselves. The resulting effects on the burnt ground produces an almost ‘grid’ like pattern of red and black burnt clay (*cf.* Figure 9 below).

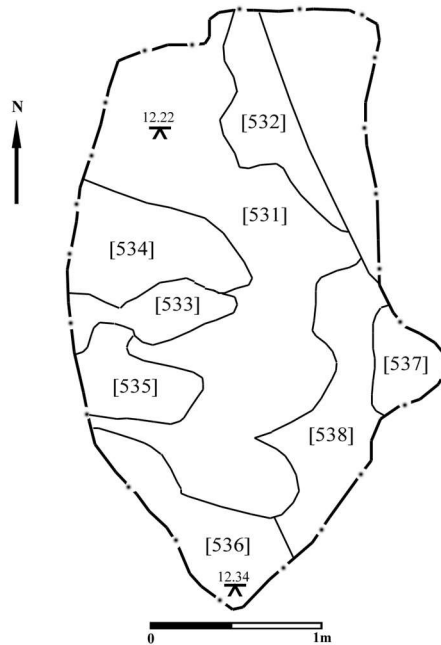


Figure 9: Plan and photograph of Trench 4 showing area of burnt ground. Please note the alignment of north on each image (indicated by the arrows).

The large exposed section of Trench 5 (*cf.* Figures 12 and 13 below) exposed a sequence of deposits and features allowing for an approximation of the date range for this phase of activity. At the base of the trench (12.58m OD) two distinct areas of burnt ground were observed [542] [549], representing fired natural clay. Cutting these deposits a small posthole [562] was recorded, filled with a firm dark brown clay deposit [550] – no finds were recovered from this context but based on its stratigraphic position it must be contemporary with the brick clamp and related contexts. The posthole was in turn overlain by layers [551] and [548], fired deposits containing burnt flint inclusions. Deposit [560] consisted of burnt debris similar to the underlying layers but exposed at the northern end of the section and cut by the modern car park wall and concrete foundation [554]. At the southern end of the section a surviving wall possibly of the brick clamp [539] stood to a level of eleven individual bricks, 0.7m in height, basically consisting of a single stack of bricks. The bricks were fragmentary but a sample was taken for specialist analysis (Sample 5). They were identified as under-fired sand and brickearth containing numerous voids, typical of household brick production up to the 17th century, and certainly no earlier than 1630 (John Brown, *pers comm.* *cf.* Figure 10 below).



Figure 10: Sample from brick clamp wall [539]

Either side of the brick clamp wall [539] two deposits of dumped brick rubble were recorded [541] to the south and a much larger deposit [540] to the north. Both deposits consisted of presumably waste material, unused or unwanted bricks in a matrix of crushed brick and sand. A sample of the brick rubble from context [540] was examined and the fabric found to consist of a mixture of estuarine silty clays and chalk and lime dating from the late 17th century or later (*cf.* Figure 11 below). It is likely that both these deposits represent the dumping of material when the industry of brick manufacture came to a close and the ground was subsequently built up to form a raised mound behind a retaining wall (*cf.* 8.4 below).



Figure 11: Sample of brick from rubble deposit [540].

No datable material other than the brick samples were recovered from the brick-clamp contexts in trenches 1, 4 and 5, but in themselves the bricks are a useful tool in establishing a chronological sequence. Based on specialist examination of the recovered samples from the brick clamp wall [539] and rubble deposit [540], it can be stated with confidence that the brick manufacturing industry did not operate on the site before 1630. The bricks recovered from the dumping contexts appear to be later in origin, late 17th or 18th century. As these contexts seem to represent the final deposition during this phase of occupation it can be safely assumed the industry came to an end within this time period. Combined with evidence for the following phases of activity on the site, specifically the laying out of the first formal garden, it is likely that the brick manufacturing lasted at least until the second half of the 17th century.

Bricks clamps were a major industry in this part of Rochester during the specified time period, although there are relatively few surviving sites featuring archaeological remains. It is quite possible, given the time span for this particular site, that the brick clamp in question was operated to supply building materials in the immediate locality. Given the proximity of the clamp to nearby Restoration House, it seems likely that the bricks were used in a programme of rebuilding of the property during this period. There is some documentary evidence that indicates that Sir Francis Clarke was undertaking building works at Restoration house in the 1650-60s, which fits well with the date of usage of the brick clamp.

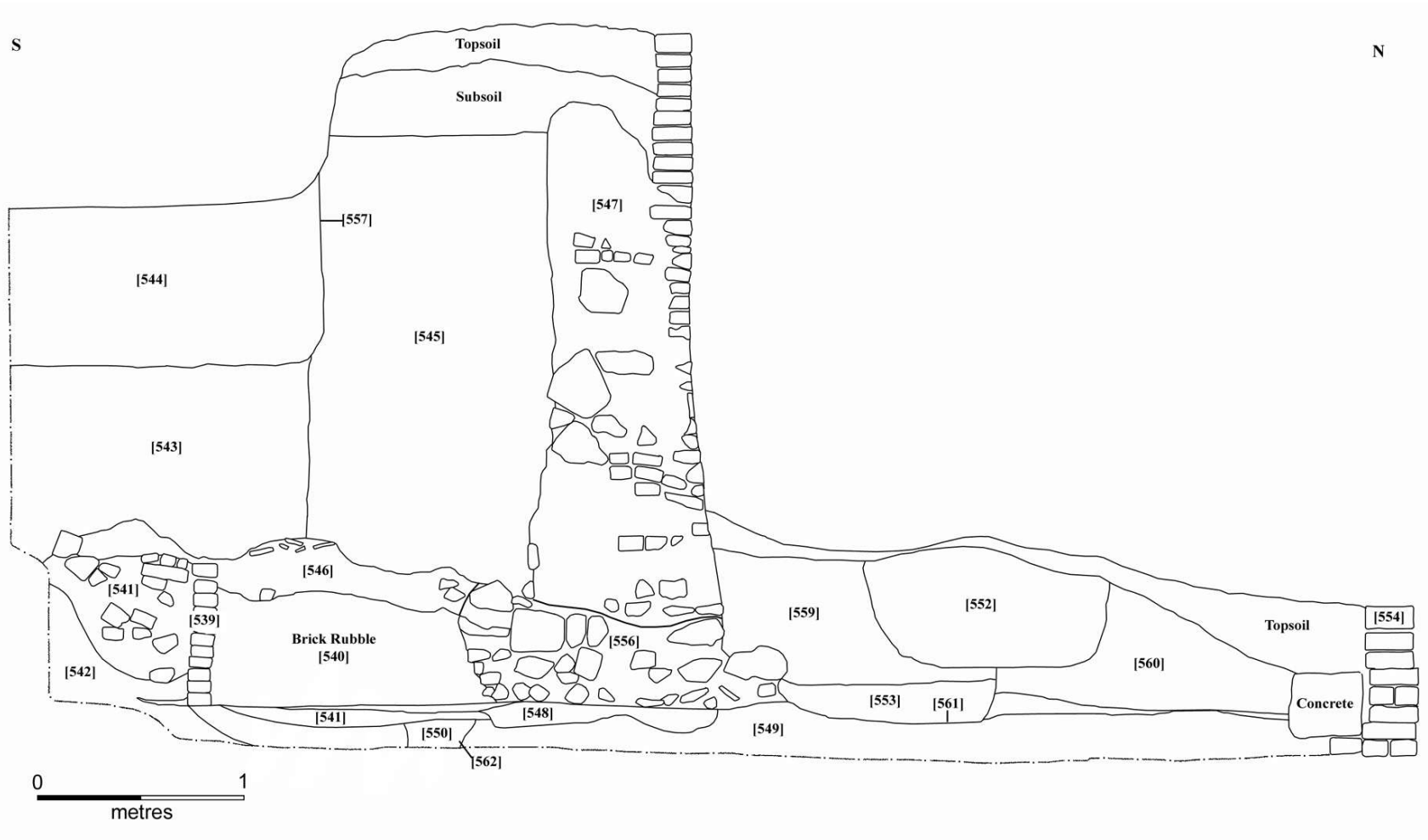


Figure 12: East facing section of Trench 5 showing brick clamp deposits to base and overlying contexts relating to the later phases of the formal garden, including the listed wall [547] with its earlier foundations [556] – *cf.* Figure 13.

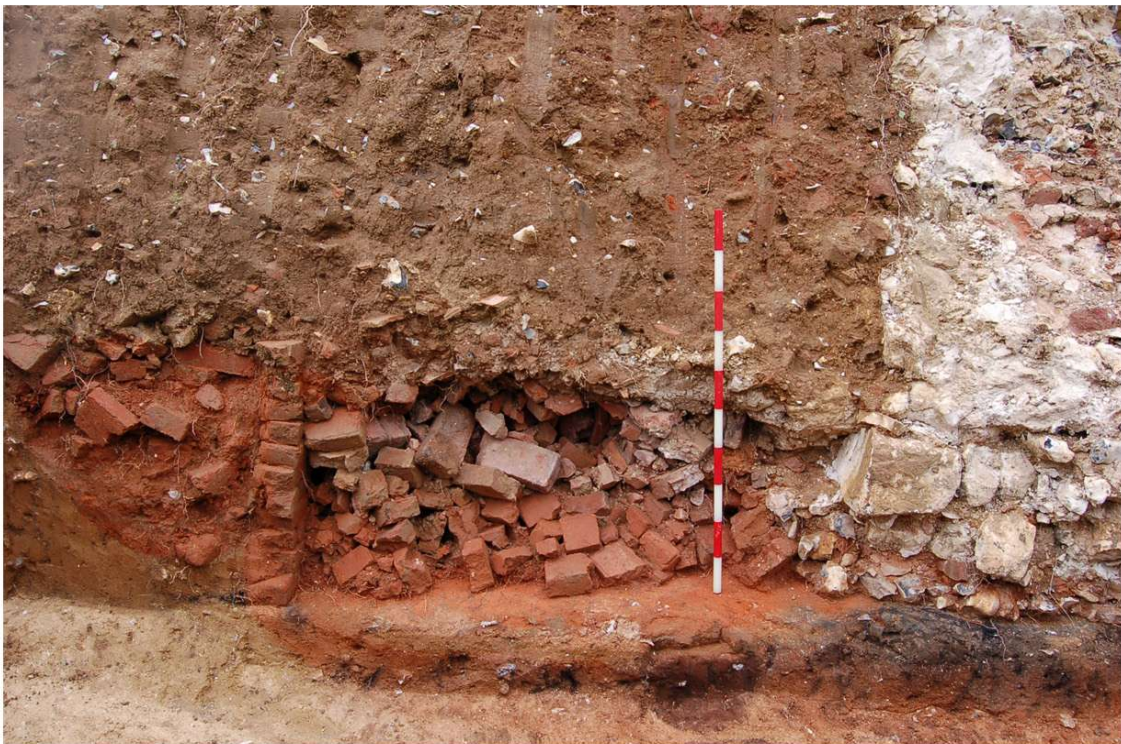


Figure 13: Photograph of the east facing section of Trench 5 and close-up of the brick clamp deposits.

8.4 Historic Development of the Site: Phases 3 to 5

This section deals with the development of the site from the latter part of the 17th century to the later 19th century, following the initial construction of a formal garden and the subsequent changes in layout and features as deduced from the archaeological remains. Three main phases of development were recorded during the archaeological evaluation:

Phase 3: Sunken garden originating over quarried site with raised walkway along the eastern and southern sides – probably late 17th century. To the south this was cut into rising ground and embanked by a lower wall, whilst to the east the walkway was supported by freestanding walls on either side.

Phase 4: Rebuilding of the southern upper and lower retaining walls in brick – probably 18th century.

Phase 5: Demolition of inner retaining walls and remodelling of terraced walkway into a sloping bank with a path at its base – late 18th to mid 19th century.

8.4.1 Phase 3: Late 17th Century Garden

The brick manufacturing industry that had operated on the site gave way, in the later 17th century, to the first phase of garden, probably associated with Restoration House to the northwest. The initial layout of the garden appears to have exploited the already reduced ground levels through brickearth quarrying and the brick clamp, creating a two-tier garden with sunken central area and a raised terraced walkway along the eastern and southern sides. A lower retaining wall supported the terrace at the base while to the south an upper wall embanked a further mound or raise in ground level outside of the development site boundaries. There is no cartographic evidence for this layout, but the picture is borne out by the archaeological remains recorded in Trenches 1, 2, 3 and 5.



Figure 14: Chalk and ragstone faced wall [523] as exposed in Trenches 2 (left) and 3 (right) – 0.5m scale (looking east).

Trenches 2 and 3, in the northeast corner of the evaluation area, exposed the remains of a chalk and ragstone faced wall [523], orientated north to south and surviving to a height of *c.*0.6m (*cf.* Figure 14 above). The wall had a foundation layer of mortar [525] where observed in Trench 2 but in neither case was there an observable trench cut. It seems, therefore, that the wall was built up against a pre-existing step in ground level or cut into the bank and formed the inner retaining wall for the raised walkway. Built up against this wall was a series of deposits thought to represent garden soils. Deposit [526] was exposed at the limit of excavations in Trench 2, consisting of a loose clay with chalk and flint fragments. This was overlain by a probable ‘bedding’ trench [509], also exposed in Trench 3 and recorded as context [508]. Both these deposits, while likely to be contemporary with the wall in their original deposition, show evidence of reworking and disturbance, with finds dating to a later period including clay pipe, blue transfer-ware pottery (19th century) and a single very worn George II halfpenny 1727-1760 (*cf.* Figure 15 below and Appendix IV).



Figure 15: A fragment of blue transfer-ware pottery showing detail of oriental figures and buildings from reworked garden soil [509].

It is worth noting that a mortar deposit [522] was exposed in Trench 3 below the lower retaining wall [523], but again this feature could not be further evaluated as it would have meant the full excavation of the overlying deposits and structures. It clearly pre-dates wall [523] but no further dating evidence could be recovered at this stage to suggest how much earlier it was constructed.

Trench 2 exposed a second chalk and ragstone wall [528] some 4m east of wall [523], running parallel and surviving to foundation level only, but with the first course of the faced stone just visible (*cf.* Figure 16 below). [528] represents the surviving fabric of the original outer retaining wall, which would originally have continued south, turning west and enclosing the garden whilst also retaining the raised ground to the south. The original construction cut and fill [529] for the wall was revealed to the east of this wall. On excavation this fill contained a clay tobacco pipe bowl, which provides a *terminus post quem* for the construction of the wall of *c.* 1680-1710 (*cf.* Fig 16).



Figure 16: below: wall [528] in Trench 2 looking south, with modern red brick wall truncating deposits to the west (0.5m scale) and above: the ceramic tobacco pipe from the construction backfill for the wall [529].

In both trenches 2 and 3 a ridge of surviving natural brickearth [524] was exposed in the area between walls [523] and [528], which would originally have formed the base for the raised terrace walkway. In Trench 5, to the south, the only potential evidence for this phase of walling was exposed in section at the base of the Listed brick wall [556]. Context [556] is considered to represent the chalk

foundation of an earlier wall which is likely to be the continuation of wall [528] on the east-west stretch along the south side of the garden. Behind the standing Listed wall, truncated by the cut and fill deposits of this feature, two contexts [543] and [544] are thought to represent the original made ground that would have formed the second tier of raised ground embanked by wall [556] (*cf.* Figures 12 and 13 above).

As some secure dating material was retrieved from contexts relating to this phase of formal garden, it is apparent that the discussed features and deposits post-date the 17th century brick clamp and pre-date the known late 18th-19th century garden features belonging to subsequent phases. Therefore, while a close date for the layout of this garden cannot be absolutely ascertained, it is likely that it was created in the later 17th century. Figures 17 and 18 below show the drawn plans of Trenches 2 and 3 with walls [523] and [528] along with associated deposits and features.

The original 17th century garden layout does appear therefore to be characterised by the later 17th century stone wall foundations on the eastern side of the evaluation area, which conform stylistically to 17th century local examples as noted by Elizabeth Hall. It also has good artefactual dating evidence in the form of the single tobacco pipe bowl evidence from the construction backfill to the east of wall [528]. This appears to be the original garden design. There is no direct relationship between these walls and the listed wall to south, but both this latter structure and the lower brick foundation appear to be rebuilds of the terrace walls. The obvious inference is that the original southern walls of the garden were of the same form and date as those evaluated to the east, and were rebuilt at sometime after *circa* 1700.

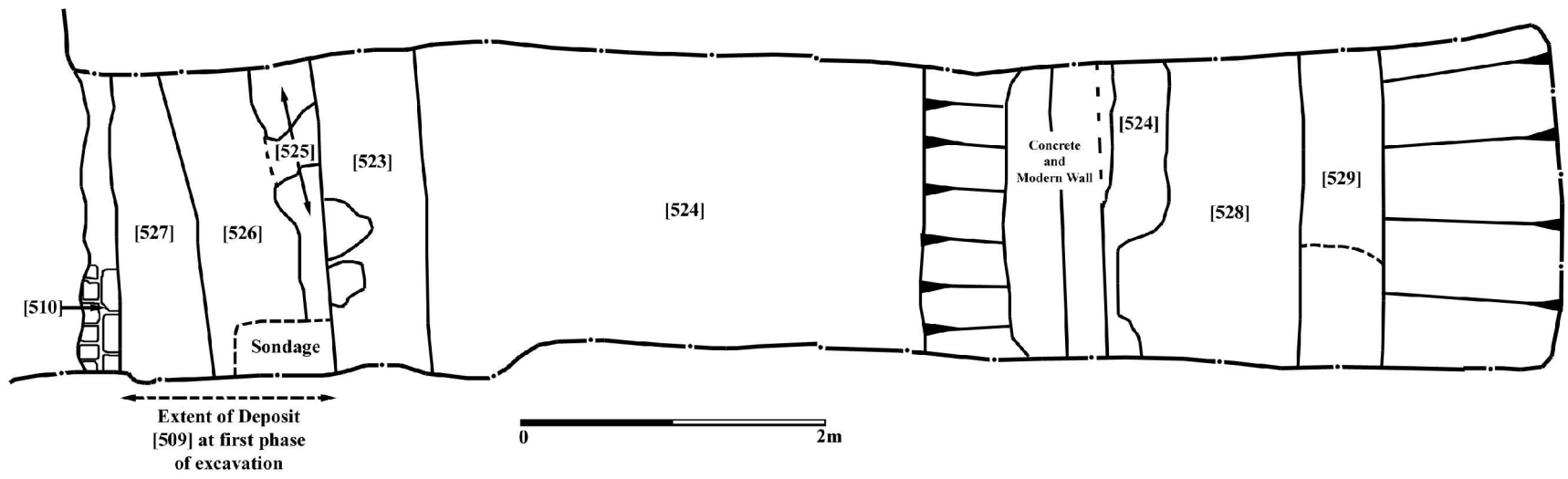


Figure 17: Plan of Trench 2 showing walls [523] and [528].

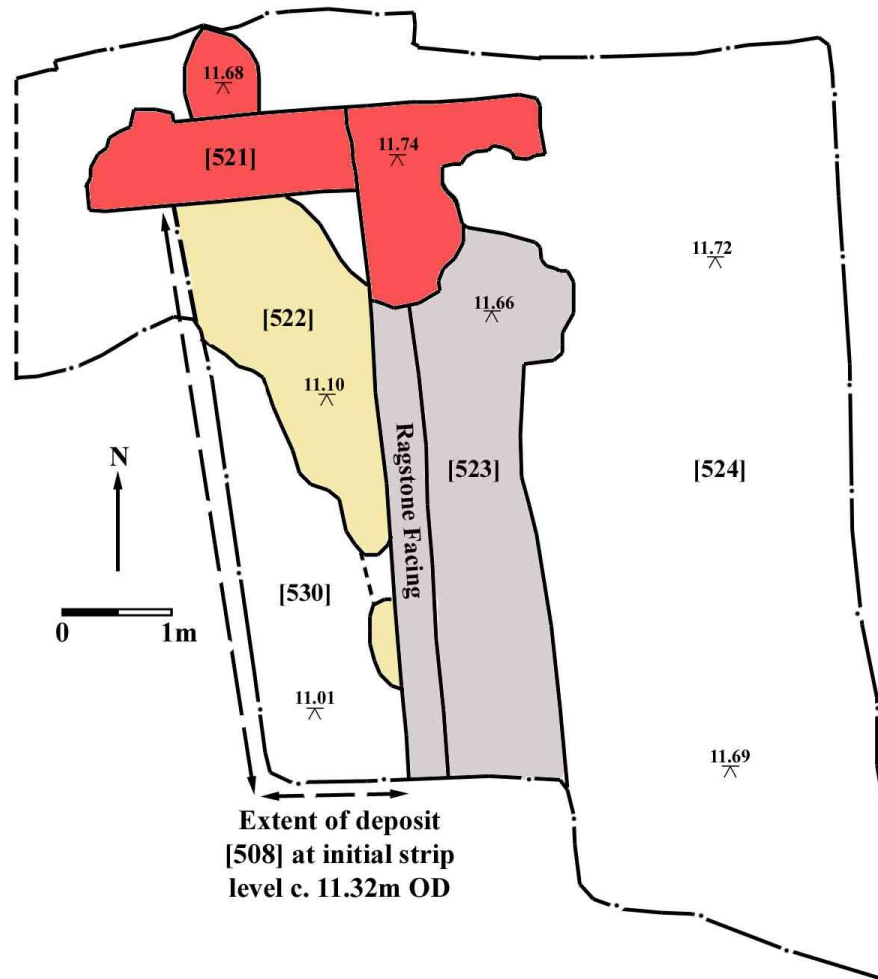


Figure 18: Plan of Trench 3 showing walls [523] and [521] with unidentified mortar foundation [522]

8.4.2 Phase 4: 18th Century Rebuilding of Southern Walls

The overall layout of the garden appears to have remained largely the same into the 18th century, with the next notable phase(s) of activity being represented by the rebuilding of the upper and lower retaining walls to the south, whether these walls were rebuilt at the same time is unknown. The large section exposed in Trench 5 showed the surviving profile of wall [547], the now listed structure that continues to its full height west to the corner of the site. During previous clearance this wall was provisionally dated to the Tudor period, but subsequent examination and off-site study suggests it is significantly later. The wall consists of brick and flint courses, with an in-laid diaper pattern (bricks set in a geometric pattern in the flint face) that is of broadly Tudor style, but there is a range of evidence that indicates that the existing wall represents a rebuild in the 18th century or even later (see below and discussion Section 9).

Wall [547] was recorded in a large construction cut [557], filled with sandy clay [545]. Deposit [546] at the base of this cut seems to represent a trample layer accumulated prior to or during the construction of the wall. The wall is clearly stratigraphically later than the underlying brick clamp deposits and earlier wall foundation. As discussed above these features do appear to date to the period *circa* 1650 to 1700 on the basis of specialist examination of brick bulk samples and other stratigraphic data.



Figure 19: Working shot of Trenches 1 and 5 showing the listed wall [547] extending west behind residential block B.

To the north of wall [547] a series of deposits were recorded which are thought to be contemporary with or later than this phase of the garden. A small pit [561] filled with a light grey clayey silt [553] cut into underlying burnt natural. A

subsoil deposit [558] overlay the pit which was in turn cut by deposit [552] containing brick, flint and chalk fragments which may represent a path running alongside wall [547] on the raised terrace just to the north of the wall.

Further to the north of wall [547], below the drop in surviving ground level in the area excavated as Trench 1, the rebuilt lower retaining wall [504] was exposed at a level of *c.*11.53m OD. The wall was built in construction cut [503] and backfilled with redeposited natural [505]. Wall [504] survived to a height of nine courses, 0.62m from the base and consisted of alternating courses of stretchers and headers in English bond. The brickwork is likely to be of 18th century date (though with some earlier reused material) and perhaps contemporary with the rebuild of the listed upper retaining wall [547]. An adjacent deposit [502] may well represent a bedding trench running parallel with the lower wall although no datable finds were recovered from this context.



Figure 20: View south of Trench 1 showing rebuilt lower retaining wall [504] adjacent to modern car park wall [554] and later brick rubble path [501] (1m scale)

To the east of the listed wall, Trench 4 exposed two deposits [537] [538] consisting of a sandy mortar with chalk and flint inclusions. Unfortunately, owing to the ground reduction in this area and adjacent excavation for the footings of Residential Block A, little survived of these contexts and thus their nature is difficult to determine with certainty. However, based on the location of these

contexts it is probable that they represent the only surviving evidence of the continuation of the wall [547] to the east or its earlier foundation [566].

A further alteration to the structural elements of the gardens was identified in Trench 3, at the north east corner of the site, where a brick wall [521] was exposed abutting the inner terrace wall [523]. The wall survived to a height of six courses at approximately 11.70m OD and appears to be a flanking wall for a set of steps leading to the raised terrace above. It is likely that the wall represents a rebuild of earlier steps for which no physical evidence now survives, apart from a projection visible in the internal face of the original wall. However, in the northwest corner of the development area a similar set of steps remains almost intact, although in relatively poor condition. Nonetheless, these steps are good indication as to the original structure, of which wall [521] is all that remains in the eastern part of the site (*cf.* Figure 21 below). Very similar steps exist in the restored gardens of Restoration House.



Figure 21: Photographs of brick wall [521] and surviving steps in the northwest corner of the site (*cf.* Fig 3 for location).

8.4.3 Phase 5: Late 18th – 19th Century Remodelling

Following the rebuilding of the southern upper and lower terrace walls the garden appears to have undergone no significant structural alteration until the late 18th-19th century. At this point the impression provided by the archaeological remains can be supported with cartographic sources – notably the Ordnance Survey Map of 1864 (*cf.* Figure 4). Broadly, it appears that the lower/inner terrace walls to the south and east were demolished, their foundations buried with the remodelling of the terraced walkway into a sloping bank with a brick path at its base.

At the western end of Trench 2 a large pit [568] appears to have been dug shortly before this phase, filled with a sand and clay deposit [527] – the extent of the pit is unknown, having been cut by the soakaway dug in 2007 but it clearly truncates the probable later 17th/18th century bedding soils [508-509]. The pit may well reflect a feature observed during the Watching Brief carried out by Archaeology South East during the excavation of this soakaway (Archaeology South East 2008). Pit [568] was in turn cut by a course of yellow stock bricks orientated north south [510] in Trench 2. A sample of the bricks was taken (Sample 3) and identified as a typical Kent version of the 19th century London stock brick. Feature [510] probably represents a brick garden path running at the base of the remodelled slope, and may well be a later addition or relaying.

At the southern end of Trench 1, a brick rubble path [501] was exposed orientated east to west in cut [555]. A sample of the bricks was taken (Sample 1) and examined, concluding that they are predominantly late 17th century in date, originally from a wall later demolished and reused here in the context of a pathway at the base of the sloping mound. [501 – 555] cut through deposit [502], the garden soil contemporary with the earlier rebuilt wall [504] and underlying natural deposits.



Figure 22: View west showing the rubble path [501] cutting deposit [502] adjacent to 18th century rebuilt wall [504].

Figure 23 below shows the location of paths [501] and [510] in relation to the layout of the garden as depicted on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1864. It is clear that both features closely align with pathways shown at the base of the sloped mound. Furthermore, the alignment of the upper retaining wall is an accurate location for the existing listed wall [547] that is shown to continue east, meeting the possible remnants exposed in Trench 4 [537] [538] and return north to enclose the garden.

The occupation or use of the garden following the change from the more formal layout was characterised on site by deposits exposed in Trench 1 – a small pit cut [563] and accumulated 19th debris [514]. The finds recovered from the fill of pit [563] – [518] and those from the shallow pit [514] are typical of Victorian era 19th century domestic waste. A substantial assemblage of 19th century blue and brown transfer-wares, bone china and glass were recovered. Interesting examples include a foot-ring base of a transfer printed bowl from deposit [514] on which the mark of Goodwin and Ellis of Lane End, Staffordshire is visible (*cf.* Figure 24 below). The company is known to have operated between 1839 to 1840. A fragment of a tea-cup from [518], fill of pit [563], in brown transfer print depicts a scene from Charles Dickens’ ‘Pickwick Papers’, Chapter 35, in which Mr Pickwick, while visiting Bath, plays cards with Miss Bolo, The Dowager Lady Snuphanuph and Mrs Colonel Wugsby. This work was published in instalments between 1836-7. This small sherd of transfer printed pottery forms another fascinating Dickensian link to this general area of Rochester and especially compliments Rochester House, the model for Satis House the residence of Miss Havesham in Great Expectations.



Figure 24: Examples of china recovered from Victorian deposits in Trench 1.

8.5 Historic Development of the Site: Phase 6

The final phase of site activity constitutes the transition from the 19th century garden into the car park observed prior to the new development. Contemporary maps of this period show the 19th century garden area after 1868, when the site appears to lie open until well into the 20th century. The remodelled terrace slope appears to remain until 1932, with the land levelled out at a later date. Modern intrusions recorded during the evaluation were fairly minimal, although it should be noted that the site had been subject to ground reduction prior to the commencement of the project. Made-ground deposits [554] [506] and [532] were recorded as shallow layers at various locations across the site.

9. Summary and Conclusions

The evaluation exposed the remains of two distinct phases of archaeological activity. The earliest phase relates to a previously unrecorded brick clamp which was operating on the site in the mid-later 17th century, with associated quarrying towards the centre of the evaluation area. It is possible that the ground reduction and excavation associated with the brick manufacturing industry effectively destroyed earlier traces of occupation. The 17th century industry is a significant example of such activity, known to be widespread in this part of Rochester but with relatively few surviving examples. The brick works are also potentially associated with a rebuild or extension of the present day Restoration House, which may have included an extension of the garden to the south east, undertaken by the Clarke family in the mid 17th century.

The second phase of archaeological activity revealed the remains of an historic garden to the east of Vines House. The principal elements consist of the foundations of two ragstone and chalk flanking walls that supported a raised bank or mound to the east, and two further walls which terraced rising ground to the south, although numerous other features were evaluated and recorded. The enclosed area, therefore, formed a sunken garden overlying the area of brickearth quarrying, with a retaining wall supporting a raised walkway to the east and south and another wall supporting a further rise in ground level to the south, and effectively enclosing the garden. The evaluation also recorded part of the extant upper terrace southern wall of this garden, which survives to its full height for some 26m. A further, *circa* 12m, length of this wall was removed during the redevelopment works. This wall appears to be largely constructed of chalk and brick, but towards the eastern end includes a pattern of diapered brickwork in its exposed north facing elevation. The wall lies within the historic curtilage of Vines House, and was in January 2008 spot Listed Grade II in its own right.

To summarise: the garden, as defined by the two ragstone and chalk foundations to the east, appears to be of later 17th century origin, and may have closely followed the brick making activity on this site. This conclusion is based upon analysis of stratigraphic, cartographic, documentary and artefactual evidence. The date of the Listed wall has been a matter of much local consideration and an early to mid Tudor date had originally been proposed after the wall was first revealed in 2007.

The listed wall in terms of appearance, style and fabric does not necessarily indicate a Tudor date. The diaper work design towards the eastern end, although noted on a number of major buildings of that period (although more commonly as different coloured/glazed brick in an all-brick wall), is in no sense unique to the Tudor period, and certainly occurs in numerous 18th and 19th century buildings. Some of the bricks within the diaper pattern do appear to be of Tudor date, however, there seems to be a considerable amount of later brickwork, perhaps replacing bricks that have weathered and decayed. Consequently there is no clear evidence for an early original construction date: with regard solely to fabric and

stylistic design the wall could be Tudor, if it were not for the stratigraphic evidence that the brick clamp stood here in the 17th century. For this reason it is most logical that the wall dates to a later period and reuse some Tudor brick. Certainly there is evidence elsewhere on this site for reuse of Tudor and/or 17th century brick in later structures (eg. Fig 20, the brick rubble path [501]).

The brick clamp has been dated to the 17th century and this activity is clearly overlain by the terracing of the hillside and first garden development and subsequently by the Listed wall, which is certainly a reconstruction of an earlier terrace wall. This is evident by the three phases of construction visible in section and the obvious construction cut through the mound deposit to the rear (*cf.* Fig 12).

The results of the post-evaluation analysis now indicate that the date of the rebuilt Listed wall is unlikely to be earlier than 1700, and in fact may be considerably later than this. The obvious inference is that the original southern walls of the garden were of the same form and date as those revealed in the evaluation to the east (*ie.* ragstone and chalk) and were rebuilt at sometime after 1700.

Between probably the late 18th and the mid 19th centuries the garden underwent a significant remodelling, with the demolition of the inner terrace walls to create a wider slope in place of the raised walkway. At some point during this period the garden appears to have become associated with Vines House, and presumably remained as such until it was purchased by the owners of the adjacent Brewery buildings and used as a car park.

9.1. Archaeological Research Questions

The archaeological evaluation presented an opportunity to address several site-specific research questions outlined in the site specification by Kent County Council (2008), see section 4. The answers to these questions based upon the current evidence available are as follows:

- *What is the location and form of the historic terracing of the site, both that shown on the 1864 Ordnance Survey map and any earlier information?*

The historic terracing shown on the 1864 OS map and visible in the grounds of Restoration House has been located and its form recorded in this evaluation. The structures revealed in the evaluation broadly conform to the configuration of garden features shown on the 1864 map, although an earlier garden formation has also been recorded. Further fieldwork and post-excavation assessment and analysis would clarify the form of the historic terracing and determine the extent of survival of these features elsewhere on the site. To locate the junction of these features in the south east corner of the evaluation area would be particularly informative. It would also be helpful to determine where the fabric of the garden

walls changes from the brick in trenches 1 and 5 to the stone used in trenches 2 and 3 to the east.

- *What is the chronology of the establishment and development of the gardens in this area?*

The chronology of the establishment and development of the gardens in this area was first summarised by Elizabeth Hall in her 1994 report on Restoration House Gardens. On analysis of cartographic sources and Elizabeth Hall's research it appears that no formal garden was present behind Restoration House in 1633 and at this time the historic walled garden associated with the house was clearly shown to the north in the area now occupied by the chapel. As noted earlier in this report gardens did appear to the east of Restoration House at sometime shortly after this date, possibly during Sir Francis Clarke's tenure from 1652, as we know that they were commented upon by Pepys in 1667. Hall also notes that the east-west running wall between the two gardens of Restoration House and historically Vines House has in places a parapet element '*in a manner characteristic of 17th century walls in Rochester and Chatham*'. Hall records the front garden walls, parts of the southern boundary wall of Restoration House and elements of the east-west boundary wall between the two historic gardens to conform stylistically to local structures of 17th century date⁵.

This is also borne out by the evidence from the evaluation, as it can be seen that the site was principally occupied by the brickmaking industry in the mid to later part of the 17th century. The evidence for this activity is extensive and shows that a brick clamp(s) extended over 10m in length east to west in the area of the southern mound (trenches 4 and 5) and beneath the area now occupied by the listed wall. It is not possible that the wall was extant during the brick making process, and the earliest chalk foundations for the wall [556] cut into the existing brick clamp deposits, and therefore a date after the disuse of the brick clamp must be applicable for the listed wall. The foundation of the original terrace wall may survive as the chalk foundations recorded as context [556] in Trench 5, distinct from the main overlying body of the listed wall, but again these must post-date the brick making industry on the site (*cf.* Fig 12).

The dating of the listed wall has become an issue of particular interest and significance and in light of this considerable work and post-excavation analysis has taken place to insure that the structure is dated as accurately as is currently possible. Further fieldwork might supplement the evidence available at this stage, including archaeomagnetic dating of the fired deposits left from the brick clamp. Ultimately, a 18th century date is proposed for the listed wall and this is the best interpretation available considering the current evidence and is based upon stratigraphic, cartographic, artefactual and specialist brick analysis - as well as stylistic comparisons with walls of this type. At this stage there does not seem to

⁵ Hall, E 1994 p1,3 and Richard Smith's Map of Rochester 1633 now in the Rochester Guildhall Museum.

be any conclusive evidence to support a date in the Tudor period (1485-1603) and the weight of evidence suggests a date after *circa* 1700.

- *What is the level of survival and extent of archaeological remains associated with the historic garden – pre, post and contemporary with the standing wall?*

The level of survival and extent of archaeological remains associated with the historic garden and standing wall has been comprehensively discussed in this report and six phases of activity have been identified. The principal elements of the historic garden consist of the foundations of two ragstone and chalk flanking walls that terraced a raised walk to the east, and two further walls, which retained a rising ground to the south, although numerous other features were evaluated and recorded. In summary the evaluation has confirmed that the level of survival and extent of remains is extensive and further archaeological mitigation will be required with regard to the standing structures and buried archaeological deposits on this site. This could include further archaeological fieldwork or preservation *in situ* by design modification.

- *Are there any surviving remnants of the north/south return of the wall?*

A small surviving fragment of the chalk foundation of the wall was revealed in Trench 4 context [537] (*cf.* Fig 9) at or close to the area of its original eastern end. A substantial north/south running wall was recorded near the eastern end of trench 2 [528], but was constructed in ragstone and chalk and probably represents an earlier phase of the listed wall.

- *Is there any further evidence of the layout and features of the historic gardens? – notably bedding patterns, planting and pathways.*

There is definite evidence for the internal layout and features of the historic garden including internal brick paths and bedding trenches adjacent to the inner walls of the sunken garden. All these features are described in section 8 of this report. There is also evidence for the phases of construction of the Listed wall. There is no evidence for a more formally laid garden, such as a parterre or other features. The majority of the garden features were of as relatively late date, probably later 18th to mid 19th century date.

- *What is the significance, quality and condition of the historic garden remains?*

The surviving historic gardens remains are of high quality and survive in good condition on the site. The historic gardens remains are of local significance and the previously unrecorded evidence for a post-medieval brick manufacturing industry is of particular archaeological significance and well may be closely related to the history of Restoration House.

- *What is the impact of the development on the historic garden remains?*

The principal impact of the development on the historic garden remains has obviously been the partial demolition of the standing upper terrace wall. Further archaeological mitigation will be required with regard to the other features identified in the archaeological evaluation.

10. Bibliography

Archaeology South East. 2007. *An Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment of the former Troy Town Brewery Site, Victoria St, Rochester, Kent.*

Archaeology South East. 2008a. *Interim Summary Statement of an Archaeological Watching Brief of the Block B Excavations at The Former Troy Town Brewery, Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent.*

Archaeology South East. 2008b. *An Interpretive Historic Building Survey of Boundary Wall Remains. 22/26 Victoria Street, Rochester, Kent.*

British Geological Survey. *Chatham, Sheet 270. 1:50 000.*

Hall, E. 1994. *Restoration House Gardens: Some Historical Notes.*

Kent County Council. *Manual of Specification Part B: Evaluation – Trial Trenching Requirements.*

Kent County Council. 2008. *Specification for an archaeological evaluation during residential development at Century Buildings, 22-26 Victoria St, Rochester, Medway.*

Lynch, G. 1993. *Brickwork: The Historic Development.* The Building Conservation Directory (1993).

Vince, A. 1984 (2nd Edition) *Pottery Archive: User's Handbook*, London: Museum of London, Department of Urban Archaeology Publications 1.

Recent Garden Archaeology reference works by Compass Archaeology:

Potter, G. 1993 *Chester House, Wimbledon: the excavation of a post-medieval garden.* *Lond. Archaeol.* 7 (5), 127-132.

Potter, G. 1997 *Eagle House, Wimbledon Village, London: the excavation of an early 17th century garden.* *Papers of the Medieval Europe Brugge 1997 Conference Volume 5*, 45-56.

Potter, G. 2000 *Painshill Park Walled Garden, Cobham, Surrey. An Archaeological Evaluation.* *Compass Archaeology.*

Potter, G. 2005 *Danson Park, Welling, Kent, London Borough of Bexley. Archaeological Observation and Recording.* *Compass Archaeology in house publication.*

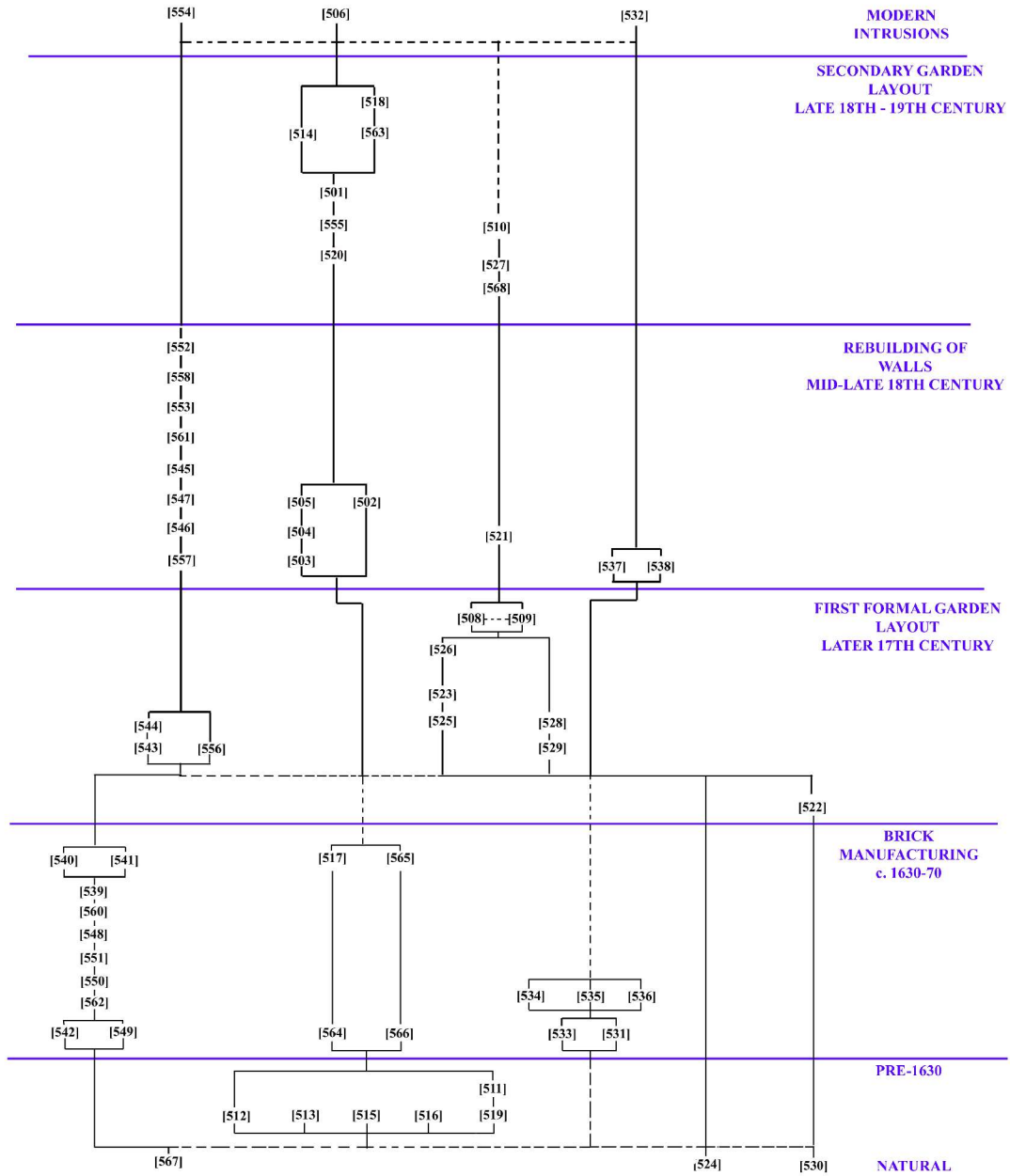
Potter, G. 2001 *Keats' House, Keats Grove, Hampstead.* *Compass Archaeology in house publication.*

King, G. 2008 *'Kew Guild Student Vegetable Plots, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Richmond, TW9 3AG'. A programme of archaeological recording and preservation in situ.* *Compass Archaeology in house publication.*

Cummings, R. 2008 *Strawberry Hill House, Twickenham, London Borough of Richmond. An Archaeological Investigation.* *Compass Archaeology in house publication.*

Appendix I: Indicative Phased Site Matrix

Individual trench matrices differ slightly, showing only absolute stratigraphic relationships.



Appendix II: Finds Quantification Table (*exclusive of brick and mortar bulk samples*)

Context	Pottery		Glass		Brick/CBM		Clay Pipe		Metal	
	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	Wt (g)	No	form
+									1	Nail
501	6	32					1	<1		
506	10	328								
508	2	16					2	8		
509	4	74					2	6		
511	2	16			2	98				
512					3	304				
514	16	1092	2	290						
518	38	1178								
520									8	Misc
526									1	Coin
529			4	124			2	14		

Additional information on the pottery, brick and metal finds is included in Appendices III to IX.

Appendix III: Assessment of Pottery Sample

By Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery sample comprised 9 sherds with a total weight of 295g. It comprised a mixture of medieval and early modern pottery which suggests that there was two phases of activity at the site, with no pottery deposited between the 15th and 19th centuries. It was recorded using the codes and chronologies of the Canterbury Archaeological Trust Fabric series for the county of Kent (Cotter forthcoming a) and b)), with the following types noted:

M38A: N or W Kent Sandy ware, Maidstone kiln? 1175-1400. 1 sherd, 5g.

M38B: NW Kent fine sandy ware (reduced) AD1175-1400. 1 sherd, 14g.

M6: Mill Green ware. 1250-1400. 1 sherd, 9g.

PM1: Red earthenwares, 1550-1800. 2 sherds, 109g.

LPM7B: Bone china, 1770-1925. 4 sherds, 158g.

The pottery occurrence by number and weight of sherds per context by fabric type is shown in Table X. Each date should be regarded as a *terminus post quem*.

The medieval pottery is typical of the region. The fragments of 19th-century transfer-printed pottery offer some evidence for close dating. The foot-ring base of a transfer-printed bowl from context 514 has the mark of Goodwin and Ellis of Lane End, Staffordshire. The company operated between 1839-40. A fragment of a tea-cup from context 518 shows a scene from chapter 35 of Charles Dickens' 'Pickwick Papers', where Mr Pickwick, while visiting Bath, plays cards with Miss Bolo, The Dowager Lady Snuphanuph and Mrs Colonel Wugsby. The work was published in monthly instalments between 1836 and 1837, and thus gives a *terminus post quem* of that date for the cup.

Table X: Pottery occurrence by number and weight (in g) of sherds per context by fabric type

Cntxt	M38A		M38B		M6		PM1		LPM7B		Date
	N o	W t	N o	W t	N o	W t	N o	Wt	N o	Wt	
11					1	9					14thC
506	1	5					1	35	1	54	19thC
512			1	14							L12thC
514							1	74	2	77	M19thC
518									1	27	M19thC
Total	1	5	1	14	1	9	2	109	4	158	

Bibliography

Cotter, J, forthcoming a) The Pottery in K Parfitt, B Corke and J Cotter *Excavations at Townall Street, Dover, 1996* Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

Cotter, J, forthcoming b) The Post-Roman Pottery in A Hicks and M Hicks (eds) *Excavations at St. Gregory's Priory, Canterbury* Canterbury Archaeological Trust.

Appendix IV: Metal Finds Assessment

A total of ten items were recovered during the evaluation, mostly from the general garden soil deposit [520] in Trench 1 and all but the coin <2> by scanning of the exposed deposits and spoil by metal detector. The individual items are as follows:

THE THIMBLE (<1>; context [520])

1. Description (see illustration overleaf)

The earliest and intrinsically most interesting of the metal finds. The thimble is of quite regular form and probably of brass, and would have been cast in a single piece and then smoothed and decorated. The profile is domed, the diameter at base 19mm (± 0.5), and height 19.5mm; thickness at rim *c* 1.0-1.5mm. The metal used may in fact be *latten*, a predecessor of modern brass and an alloy of copper and calamine (an unrefined ore of zinc).

The indentations on the body form a spiral pattern rising in a clockwise direction from near the base, and were probably created by drilling, although from the 16th century this seems to have been replaced by a simpler hammer and punch technique. At the base of the thimble there is a smooth area 3.0 to 4.5mm deep, ringed by an incised band.

There is no obvious maker's mark but at the base of the indentations and very close to the base there is a small hole (*c* 3-4mm diam.) in the body. The hole has been infilled with a greyish coloured metal – possibly pewter, with the decorative band also incised onto the metal surface. This may represent the making good of a flaw in the casting, or perhaps later infilling of an attachment hole?

2. Date

From comparison with extant examples the date is likely to be later 15th to mid 16th century. The body is taller (and perhaps thinner) than in medieval examples, but retains the 'domed' profile without the distinctive angle between side and top that appeared in Nuremberg thimbles from the mid 16th century (*cf.* von Hoelle 1986, 32-37; McConnell 1995, 17-21).



References

von Hoelle, J J, 1986 *Thimble Collector's Encyclopedia* [sic]. New International Edition

McConnell, B, 1995 *The Collector's Guide to Thimbles*

THE COIN (<2>; context [526])

A single coin was recovered from the soil deposit immediately adjacent to the stone facing of the terrace wall [523]. The coin is in very poor condition but has been identified as a George II halfpenny.

1. Description

Copper?, 27mm to 27.5mm diam.

Obverse: Monarch's bust facing left; legend just decipherable ..e...ius II.

Reverse: Britannia seated facing left; date below illegible.

2. Date

George II's reign spanned the period 1727-60, but the coin is very worn so the date of deposition is likely to be at least at the end of this period, and may be considerably later.

BUTTONS

Two examples were represented, the first of considerably more interest than the latter:

1. (<3>; context [520])

1.1 Description - see illustration overleaf

Cu alloy, 26mm diam.

The button has a convex face with traces of gilding, and depicts in raised relief a lion's head facing left, above which is the motto *Spero meliora* ("I hope for better things" or – perhaps more accurately – "I aspire to greater things").

On the reverse and in a circle is the manufacturer's backmark: *Firmin & Sons · 153 Strand London.*

1.2 Date and Interpretation

This item has been identified as a Livery button, of 19th century date. Based on existing records of the backmark it is probably of the period 1822-75 (*cf.* UK Detector Finds Database: *Button Makers and their Backmarks*). Firmings were a major button supplier, originally established in London in 1677.

The button would have formed part of the uniform of a manservant or retainer, the crest and motto probably based on that of the associated family. This latter has not been identified but may well be local to Rochester.



2. (<4>; context [520])

2.1 Description and date (not illustrated)

Either pewter or steel, 20mm diam. The face is flat, and entirely plain with no markings either here or on the reverse. This item is probably of 19th century date.

DECORATIVE FOOT [<5>; context 520]

1. Description

A small moulded copper alloy/brass item in the form of a grasping taloned foot, modelled on that of an eagle or similar bird of prey. Three talons face forward, one to the rear, and between these is a central fixing pin some 5mm in length with a rudimentary screw thread.

The maximum dimensions are 25mm front-to-back by 18.5mm high. At the top there is a flat plate some 1.75mm thick with two broken projections, and at the point of each break there is evidence for a fixing hole.

2. Interpretation

This item appears to form part of the base for a relatively small decorative item, possibly an inkstand or item of tableware such as a cruet stand. The date is probably later 18th/19th century.



MICELLANEOUS METALWORK

1. LEAD ITEMS

1.1 Window kames (<6>; [520])

Two badly distorted fragments of window kame; respectively 77mm and 44mm long, and each *c* 8 to 12mm wide.

1.2 Strip (<7>; [520])

A plain strip of lead, *c* 117mm long by 10-11mm wide and 1.5mm thick. Probably a waste offcut.

2. IRON NAIL (<8>; [+])

Heavily corroded; maximum dimensions 66mm by 18mm.

3. BRASS TACK (<9>; [520])

Small brass tack or stud, overall length 27.5mm with domed head.

Appendix V: Clay Tobacco Pipe

Only occasional fragments of clay pipe were found during the evaluation, as follows:

1. Two pieces from the probable construction backfill [529], adjacent to the external foundation face of the stone wall [528] at the eastern end of Trench 2:
 - A small section of stem (46 mm long, hole up to 2mm diam).
 - A single broken bowl, weight *c* 11gms. This is most closely represented in a form dated by Atkinson and Oswald in their London typology to *c* 1680–1710 (type 21; Atkinson & Oswald 1969). The form is also similar to one illustrated in Oswald's subsequent Simplified General Typology and dated to *c* 1700-40 (type 10; Oswald 1975, 37).

The bowl was fairly high (*c* 42mm) and thick-walled (2-2.5mm), with only a slight swelling in the centre – the rim diameter being 20mm. The line of the mouth is at a slight angle forward to the foot ($\leq 10^\circ$), and the foot itself forms a broad, flat-based pedestal. The bowl was quite plain and undecorated, with an unmilled rim, and did not have any maker's mark.



Clay pipe stem and bowl from probable construction backfill [529], Trench 2

2. Five further stem fragments – one from context [501] in Trench 1 (24mm in length), and two each from contexts [508] in Trench 3 (40 & 59mm long) and [509] in

Trench 2 (30 & 41mm long). All three contexts are independently dated to the later 18th to 19th century, the latter two representing reworked soil deposits.

3. The clay pipe stem is of little value to the overall dating of associated contexts. However, the bowl is a significant find because of its location in a deposit that appears to be directly associated with the stone boundary wall [528]. It provides a potential *terminus post quem* for the construction of this wall, at a date no earlier than the late 17th century.

This date also broadly matches proposals made by Elizabeth Hall for the date of the standing walls (including the eastern boundary) in her paper on Restoration House (Hall 1994, p. 2).

References

Atkinson D, & Oswald A, 1969 London Clay Tobacco Pipe. Reproduced from the *Jnl of the Archaeol Assoc.* Third Series, Vol. XXXII

Oswald A, 1975 *Clay Pipes for the Archaeologist.* BAR 14

Appendix VI: Glass

Only a few pieces of glass were recovered from two contexts, as described below:

1. Four fragments from the probable construction backfill [529], adjacent to the base/eastern face of the wall [528] in Trench 2. These fragments appear to derive from two vessels:
 - Two rounded body fragments of light green glass, thickness 3-4mm, possibly parts of a bottle shoulder.
 - Two pieces of dark green/brown glass, one *c* 4mm thick, the other part of a base with fairly shallow kick, 6-9mm thick.

These items are probably of later 17th to 18th century date, although not sufficiently complete for close identification. In any case this context is better dated by the clay pipe bowl (see above).

2. Two wine glass bases from the pit fill [514] in Trench 1. These are of similar style although one is significantly larger and heavier than the other – the respective base diameters are approximately 80mm and 61mm. Little survives of the main body of either glass, but enough to show that the larger glass had nine panels and the smaller glass twelve. Both glasses are likely to be of earlier to mid 19th century date, as also indicated by the associated pottery.
3. This small assemblage of bulk glass is broadly datable, but it has no particular value other than to support the dating of the associated deposits.

Appendix VII: Brick Assessment

Based on the analysis of the brick samples by John Brown of Gifford.

Context	Sample No.	Sample Size (Bricks)	Weight (g)	Dimensions (mm)			Description
				L	W	D	
501	1	3 mortared	+ 2000	See Figure 1			Generally Fabric 3032 showing reused mortar on breaks. Originally late 17 th century although possibly as early as 1630's. Original context was likely to be a wall of 17 th – early 18 th century date, later demolished and recovered here in the context of a rubble path.
		2 mortared	1490	See Figure 2			
		6 - broken	1130	130	110	50	
			1220	130	110	50	
			1170	150	110	60	
			1365	150	110	70	
			610	110	80	60	
504	2	3 - broken	2530	235	105	55	Fabric 3033, near fabric 3032 but underfired. Bricks have tudor dimensions but show numerous voids in the fabric. One brick showed a trimmed off, chamfer edge (see Figure 3). Typically mid-late 18 th century in date.
			2317	335	105	55	
			1845	240	110	55	
510	3	2- complete	1895	235	100	70	Fabric 3035 – Kent version of London Stock bricks, frogged. Typical Victorian machine made bricks of 19 th century.
			1995	220	105	70	
		3 - fragments	1020	115	105	50	
			1170	130	95	65	
			1105	120	105	70	

Context	Sample No.	Sample Size (Bricks)	Weight (g)	Dimensions (mm)			Description
				L	W	D	
521	4	3 – complete	+2000	235	100	55	Fabric 3032 or 3035 – Early Kent Stock Bricks. 18 th – 19 th century.
			+2000	235	100	55	
			+2000	235	100	55	
539	5	1 – complete	1810	235	90	60	Fabric 3033, near 3032 – underfired sand brickearth containing voids – represents mixed household bricks not manufactured until the 17 th C – no earlier than 1630.
		11 – fragments	1170	-	-	-	
540	6	2 – complete	2325	235	105	60	Similar to London 3034 fabric, mixture of estuarine silty clays with more chalk and lime. Late 17 th to early 18 th century date – similar characteristics to Tudor bricks but with sharper edges and voids.
			2242	230	105	55	
		4 – fragments	3110	-	-	-	

Appendix VIII: OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: compassa1-52369

Project details

Project name	22/26 Victoria St, Rochester, Kent: An Archaeological Evaluation
Short description of the project	An archaeological evaluation was undertaken between 3rd to 10th July 2008 during development works of new residential units. Five trenches were excavated exposing significant remains of 17th Century brick manufacturing. A later sequence of historic gardens was exposed featuring changing layouts and rebuilding between 17th - 19th centuries, associated with Grade I Listed Restoration House and Vines House Grade II.
Project dates	Start: 03-07-2008 End: 10-07-2008
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	VSR07 - Sitecode
Type of project	Field evaluation
Site status	None
Current Land use	Other 15 - Other
Monument type	WALL Post Medieval
Monument type	BRICKEARTH PIT Post Medieval
Monument type	BRICK KILN Post Medieval
Monument type	GARDEN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	COIN Post Medieval
Significant Finds	THIMBLE Post Medieval

Methods & techniques	'Targeted Trenches'
Development type	Urban residential (e.g. flats, houses, etc.)
Prompt	Planning condition
Position in the planning process	Not known / Not recorded

Project location

Country	England
Site location	KENT MEDWAY ROCHESTER 22/26 Victoria St, Rochester, Kent
Postcode	ME1
Study area	600.00 Square metres
Site coordinates	TQ 74440 68120 51.3847352832 0.507185778836 51 23 05 N 000 30 25 E Point
Height OD / Depth	Min: 11.01m Max: 12.58m

Project creators

Name of Organisation	Compass Archaeology
Project brief originator	Local Authority Archaeologist and/or Planning Authority/advisory body
Project design originator	Kent County Council
Project director/manager	Geoff Potter
Project supervisor	Gill King

Type of sponsor/funding body	Developer
Name of sponsor/funding body	Future Homes Ltd

Project archives

Physical Contents	'Ceramics','Glass'
-------------------	--------------------

Project bibliography 1

Publication type	Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)
Title	22/26 Victoria St, Rochester, Kent
Author(s)/Editor(s)	Cummings, R
Date	2008
Issuer or publisher	Compass Archaeology
Place of issue or publication	5-7 Southwark St, London, SE1 1RQ
Description	Bound report detailing the results of the archaeological evaluation

Entered by	Rosie Cummings (mail@comassarchaeology.co.uk)
Entered on	5 December 2008

Appendix IX: Kent County Council SMR Summary Form

Site Name: Century Buildings 22/26 Victoria St	
Site Address: Century Buildings Site, 22/26 Victoria St, Rochester, Kent.	
Summary of discoveries: Evidence of 17 th century brick manufacturing and late 17 th to 19 th century gardens relating initially to Restoration House, and later Vines House. Structural remains of sunken terraced garden and raised terraces c. late 17 th century with later renovations and subsequent remodelling c. 18 th century.	
District/Unitary: Medway	Parish: Rochester
Period(s): Pre-17 th century (undefined) 17 th Century – Brick industry Late 17 th – Early 19 th century – gardens Victorian – garden remodelling	
NGR (centre of site to nearest 1m): 57440 168120 (NB if large or linear site give multiple NGRs)	
Type of archaeological work (delete) Evaluation	
Date of fieldwork (dd/mm/yy) From: 3/07/08 To: 10/07/08	
Unit/contractor undertaking recording: Compass Archaeology	
Geology: Head deposits/Brickearth	
Title and author of accompanying report: Cummings, R. Century Buildings, 22/26 Victoria St, Rochester, Kent: An Archaeological Evaluation	
Summary of fieldwork results (begin with earliest period first, add NGRs where appropriate) Limited evidence for pre-17 th activity, naturally accumulating deposits with pottery from 12 th -14 th century. Brick clamp and brickearth quarrying remains dated approximately to 1630–70. Historic garden of the late 17 th century represented by walls and associated deposits. Evidence for the rebuilding of walls c.18 th and subsequent demolition and changing layout c. 18 th –19 th century.	
Location of archive/finds:	
Contact at Unit: Geoff Potter	Date: 05/12/08