

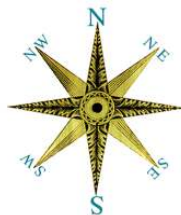
**QUARANTINE HOUSE SERVICE RUNS
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW
LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND TW9 3AB**

**AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND
RECORDING PROJECT**



December 2010

COMPASS



ARCHAEOLOGY

QUARANTINE HOUSE SERVICE RUNS
ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS KEW
LONDON BOROUGH OF RICHMOND TW9 3AB

AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVESTIGATION AND RECORDING
PROJECT

NGR: TQ 1834 7733

SITE CODE: LYK 08

COMPASS ARCHAEOLOGY LIMITED
5-7 SOUTHWARK STREET
LONDON SE1 1RQ

Telephone: 020 7403 9660

Email: mail@compassarchaeology.co.uk

December 2010

©Compass Archaeology Limited

Abstract

An archaeological investigation and recording project was undertaken in July 2010, during the installation of services for the new Quarantine House at Kew Gardens.

This uncovered the remains of two brick walls, possibly related to that found in the 2009 evaluation for the development of the children's play-area next to the Climbers and Creepers building, and depicted on the 1771 Plan of the Royal Manor of Richmond as some form of enclosed area.

It is possible that these walls may have been part of the 1630s rebuilding of Kew Farm.

A subsequent visit recorded a number of cattle bones just to the south of the walls, possibly in a backfilled feature.

Contents

	Page	
1	Introduction	1
2	Archaeological and Historical Background	2
3	The Archaeological Programme	4
4	The Archaeological Investigation	4
	4.1 Trench 1	4
	4.2 Trench 2	7
	4.3 Cattle bones	11
5	Summary & Conclusions	11
	Appendix I: OASIS Data Collection Form	12
	Appendix II: London Archaeologist Summary	15
	Appendix III: Pottery Report	16
	Appendix IV: Brick Report	17

List of Figures

Front cover: general view of the wall discovered in trench 1

		page
1	Site location in relation to the Royal Botanic Gardens Kew	1
2	Detailed plan of the location of trenches	2
3	Location of trenches and previous evaluations on the 1771 Plan of Richmond	3
4	Plan of trench 1	5
5	Section drawing of trench 1	6
6	Photo of west face of wall in trench 1	6
7	Photo of southern end of wall in trench 1	7
8	Photo along wall in trench 1 towards northern limit of excavation	7
9	Plan of trench 2	8
10	Photo of top edge of wall in trench 2 from the south	9
11	Photo of top edge of wall in trench 2 from the east	9
12	Photo of western end of wall in trench 2	9
13	Photo of southern and top edges of wall in trench 2	10
14	Photo of the top edge of the wall in trench 2	10
15	Photo of a single brick from the wall in trench 2	10
16	Photo of pit where cow bones were discovered	11

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report summarises the results of an archaeological investigation and recording project, undertaken in Kew Gardens during the installation of services for the new Quarantine House site. The site was located in the north-western part of the Gardens. (fig. 1) This represents a continuation of the archaeological work undertaken at the proposed Quarantine House site in August and December 2009 (Compass Archaeology, Site Code LYK 08).
- 1.2 Principal on-site work took place on the 20th and 21st July 2010, following the discovery of a brick wall during the digging of small trenches for the installation of the services for the new Quarantine House. Two trenches, both of which contained parts of a brick wall, were then investigated and recorded.
- 1.3 The archaeological work was commissioned by Derek Carley on behalf of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. On-site assistance in surveying the trenches was given by Steve Ruddy, Head of Garden Development.

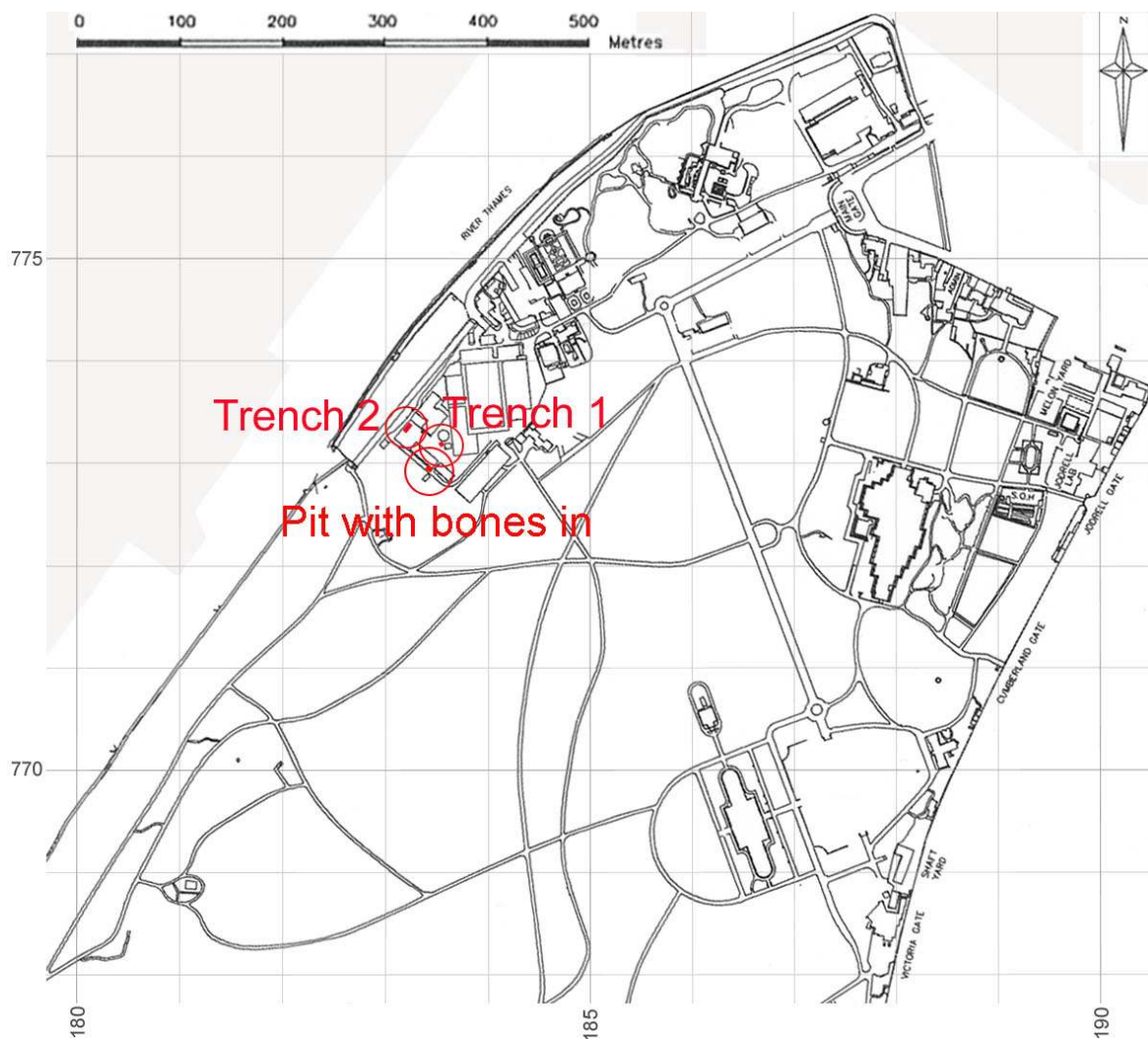


Fig. 1 Location of trenches in relation to a plan of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

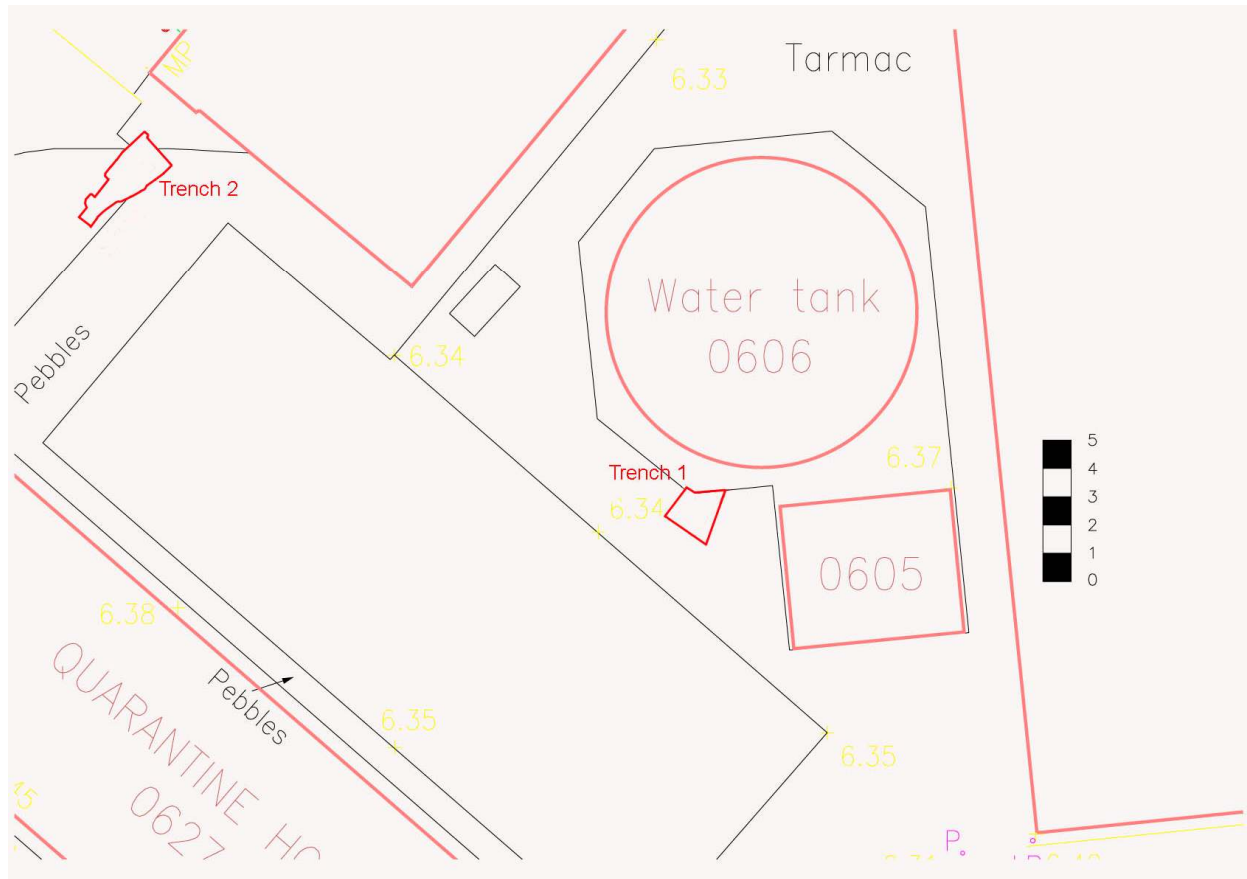


Fig. 2 Detailed plan of the location of trenches

2. Archaeological and Historical Background

2.1 The walls found during this investigation may relate to those discovered during the 2009 evaluation for the replacement of the Children’s Play-Area, next to the Climbers and Creepers Building (Compass Archaeology, Site Code CLJ09, September 2009). This evaluation uncovered a series of sections across a continuous east-west brick wall foundation, over a distance of 24m. This wall was constructed of Tudor-type brick, although specialist assessment suggests a slightly later date, between *c.*1620 to 1700.

2.2 The wall-line uncovered in the 2009 evaluation of the Climbers and Creepers building can be identified as the northern side of a rectangular feature that is shown on Rocque’s *Plan of Richmond Gardens* (1734) and on Richardson’s 1771 *Plan of the Royal Manor of Richmond*. It may have formed the boundary of walled gardens and appears to have been embanked on slightly higher ground to the north. This wall line, according to the 1771 Plan, continues in a Westerly direction, before meeting a further wall that heads off to the north. The suggestion is that the wall found in Trench 1 of this investigation may be part of that wall. A walled-enclosure juts out to the west of this wall, which is depicted on the earlier 18th Century Board of Ordnance Plan, Rocque’s 1734 Plan, and Richardson’s 1771 Plan. The suggestion is that the wall discovered in Trench 2 is the Western wall of this enclosure. (fig. 2)

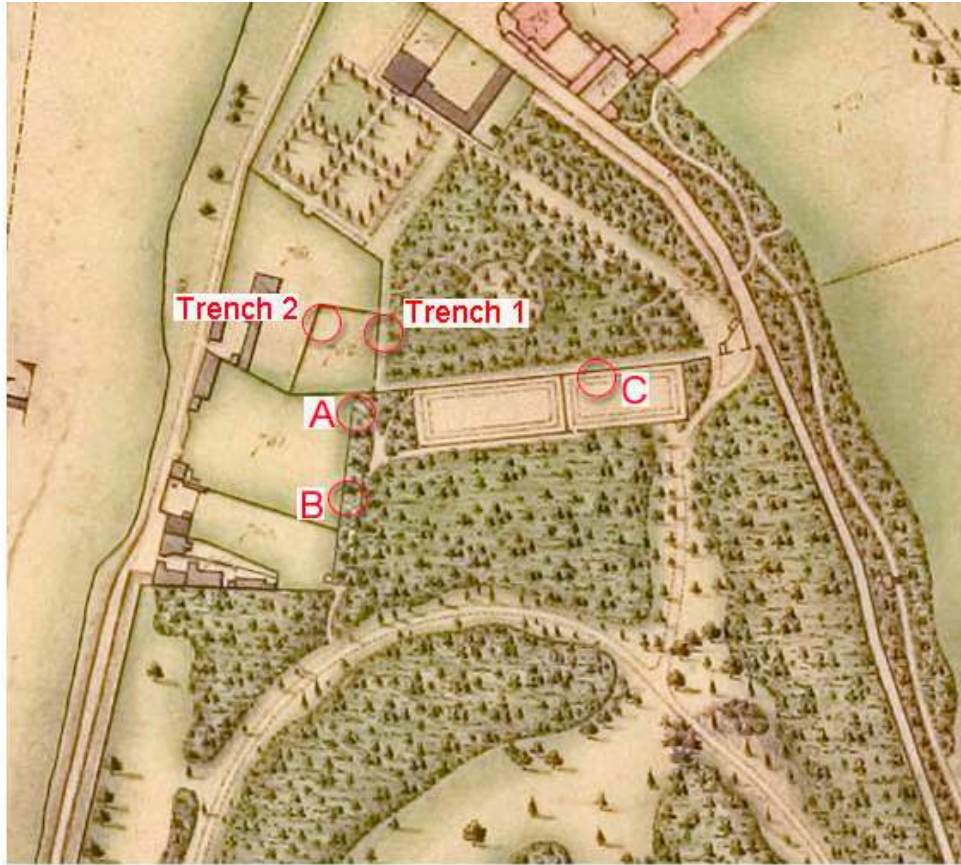


Fig. 3 Approximate location of trenches and previous evaluations on an extract from the 1771 Plan of the Royal Manor of Richmond...in the County of Surrey, by Thomas Richardson. Based on a digital copy provided by the RBG Kew Archives.

A = linear feature found during second evaluation for Quarantine House site (LYK08)

B = brickwork found during first evaluation for Quarantine House site (LYK08)

C = wall found during evaluation for children's play-area near Climbers and Creepers building (CLJ09)

2.3 The dating of the wall discovered in the 2009 evaluation of the Climbers and Creepers building suggests that its construction may be contemporary with a documented rebuilding in the 1630s of 'Kew Farm', the palatial house that stood once just to the west. In 1664 this building formed the largest residence in the manor of Richmond, although little is known about its exact nature. It is possible that the two walls uncovered in this investigation may have related to the same construction, and therefore be dated *c.*1630. This hypothesis is supported by the dating of the bricks provided by a brick-specialist (John Brown) as of probable 17th Century date. (see appendix IV)

3. The Archaeological Programme

The field and post-excavation work was carried out in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (in particular, *Standards and Practices in Archaeological Fieldwork, Guidance Paper 3*).

Works also conformed to the standards of the Institute of 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 are directly compatible with those developed by the Museum.

3.1 Fieldwork

3.1.1 Methodology

Exposed deposits were recorded and cleaned in stratigraphic sequence. The principal groundworks were described on *pro-forma* sheets by written and measured description, and related to the general site plan and to the OS grid. The fieldwork record was supplemented as appropriate by digital photography.

3.2 Post-Excavation

3.2.1 The fieldwork was followed by off-site assessment and compilation of this report. Brick samples of both walls were taken and analysed.

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

4. The Archaeological Investigation

The results of the investigation and recording project are described below in relation to the two trenches investigated.

4.1 Trench 1

4.1.1 The remains of a brick-wall (context no. 53) was discovered, running on an approximately NE –SW alignment along the eastern edge of the trench, such that only the west side of the wall was visible. It measured 2.1m in length (although it continued at both ends beyond the limit of excavation), and 0.75m in depth. The approximate width of the wall was 0.48m.

4.1.2 The bricks were identified by a brick-specialist (John Brown) as part of the fabric-type 3033. They were red-orange in colouring, and set within a light creamy-yellow lime and sand mortar with charcoal inclusions, with much of this mortar spilling over the faces of the bricks. The size of the bricks varied from 220-229mm in length, 92-110mm in width, and 50-65mm in depth, with some striations on brick faces, sunken margins and uneven bases. A date of

1450-1700 is postulated for these bricks, although it seems more likely that they date from c.1600-1700.

- 4.1.3 The bricks were set in an irregular bond, with irregular use of headers and $\frac{3}{4}$ bricks. The wall was coursed, with twelve courses visible in the trench, with four courses measuring approximately 0.26m in depth. There was a step-out in the wall, of 2.5cm, four courses down from the top of the wall.
- 4.1.4 No mortar foundation for the wall was uncovered, with the wall being set directly onto sand at the base of the trench.
- 4.1.5 The wall is situated within a construction cut 0.23m east of the wall (context no. 54).
- 4.1.6 One sherd of pottery weighing 33g was recovered from this trench (context no. 50). It was identified as post-medieval redware, 1580 – 1900 (see Appendix III).

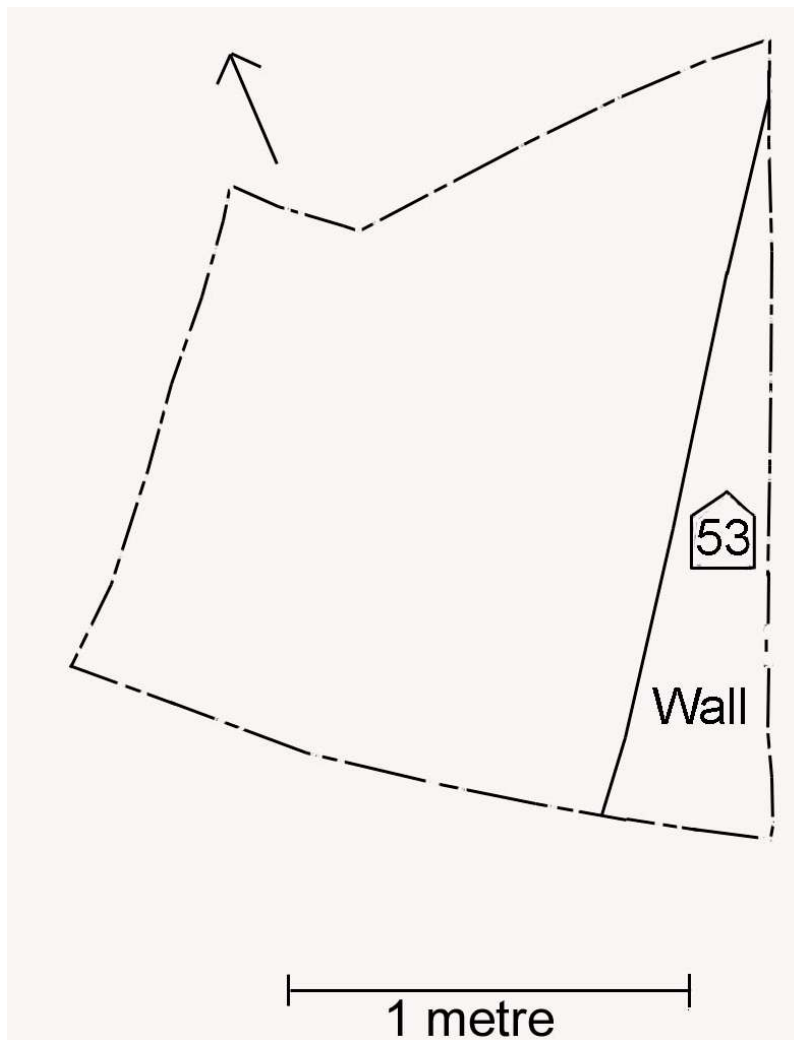


Fig. 4 Plan of trench 1

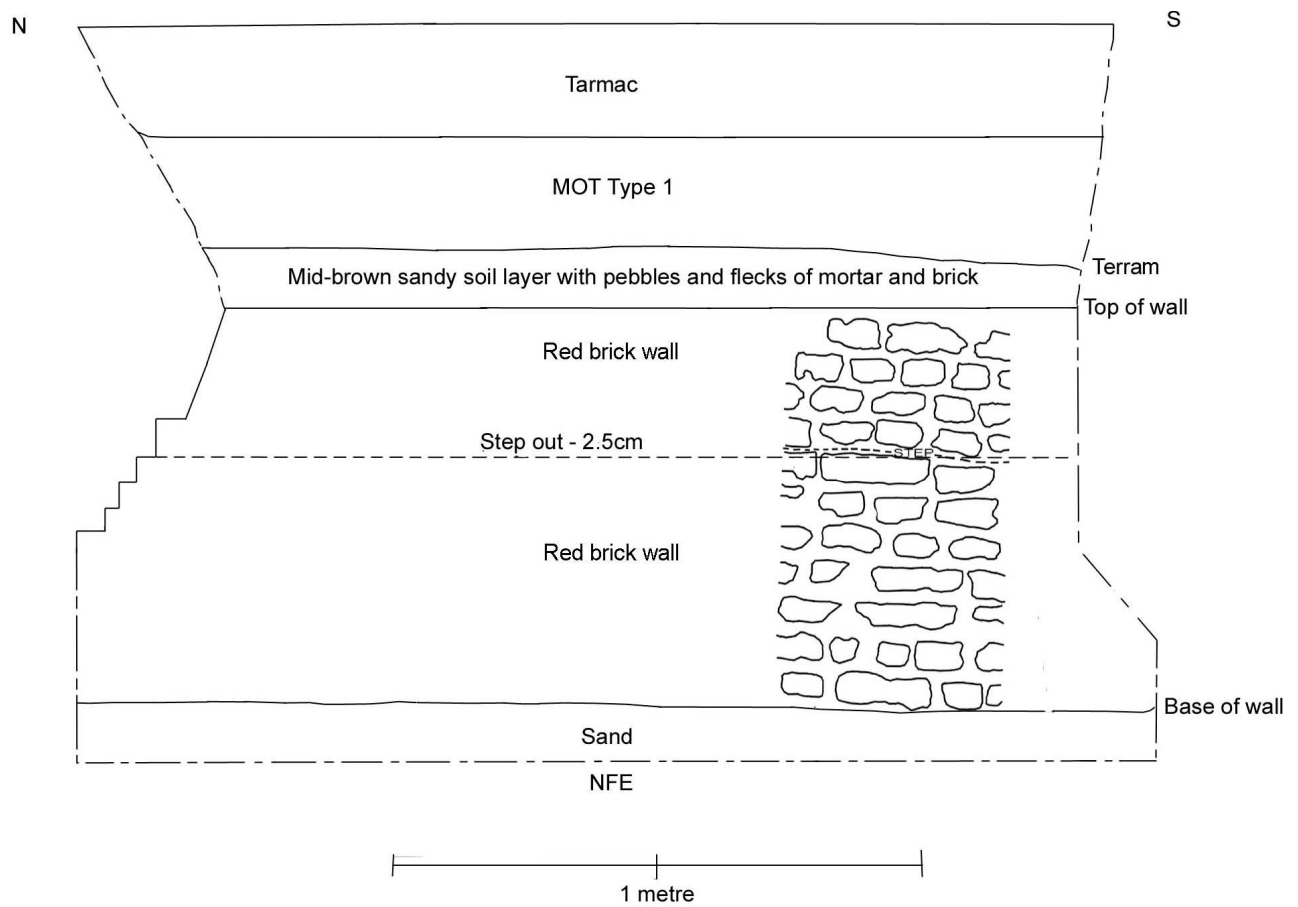


Fig. 5 Section drawing of trench 1, showing representative tracing of bricks.



Fig. 6 View of the west face of the wall. Scale 1m.



Fig. 7 View of the Southern end of the wall



Fig. 8 View along the wall, from the south looking towards the northern limit of excavation (cut, context no. 54) is visible)

4.2 Trench 2

4.2.1 The remains of a brick wall (context no. 55) were discovered, running on a NE-SW alignment along the western edge of the trench, so that only the east side of the wall was visible. It measured 1.86m in length, 0.48m in width, and 0.39m in height. To the north-east the wall continued beyond the limit of excavation, but to the south-west it was cut away, possibly robbed out.

4.2.2 The bricks were identified by a brick-specialist (John Brown) as part of the fabric-type 3033. They were sandy and red-orange in colouring, set within a grey-white lime and sand mortar with small charcoal inclusions. The size of the bricks varied from 220-234mm in length, 103-111mm in width, and 51-58mm in depth, with reasonably sharp arrises but uneven tops, and occasional sunken margins. There was the occasional darker purple-red brick (five of these were visible and one sample – ID 6 – was taken), which were under-fired. Furthermore, one sample (ID 8) had a glassy surface and was therefore probably over-fired. A date of 1450-1700 is postulated for these bricks, although it seems more likely that many of the bricks date from c.1600-1700, with some possibly being earlier (16th Century) in date.

- 4.2.3 The bricks were set in an English bond. The wall was coursed, with four courses visible, with four courses measuring approximately 0.26m in height.
- 4.2.4 The wall itself was set on a shallow mortar rubble base, some of which splayed over the base of the wall.
- 4.2.5 A possible trench was cut through the natural sands in which the wall was inserted (context no. 56).
- 4.2.6 A harder white lime mortar was discovered on the top course of bricks. This was presumably a mortar scar from the wall above.
- 4.2.7 One sherd of pottery weighing 4g was recovered from this trench, in the disintegrated wall material at the end of the wall (context no. 51). It was identified as English stoneware, 1700 – 1900.

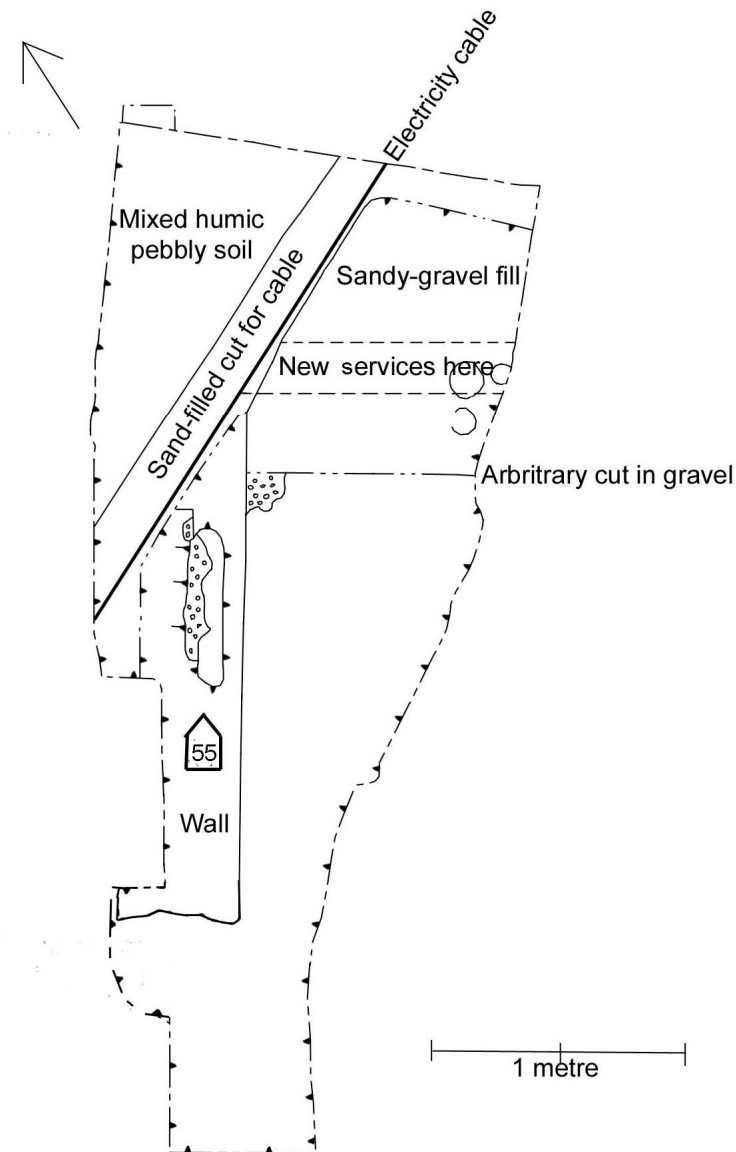


Fig. 9 Plan of trench 2



Fig. 10 View of the top edge of wall from the south

Fig. 11 View of the top edge of the wall from the east



Fig. 12 View of the south-western end of the wall





Fig. 13 View of the southern and top edges of the wall



Fig. 14 View of the top edge of the wall



Fig. 15 View of a single brick

4.3 The Cattle Bones

Three cow bones (part of a rib, a femur and a tibia) were also discovered in a pit some 25m south of trench 1. This area was disturbed by modern services, but the bone came from a mixed deposit with frequent brick rubble, possibly the backfill of a cut feature or robbed-out wall.



Fig. 16 View of pit where cow bones were discovered, south-west section

5. Summary and Conclusions

- 5.1 The investigation uncovered further evidence of brick walls possibly constructed during the 1630s rebuilding of Kew Farm. These walls were possibly part of the walls enclosing an area to the west of, but linked to, that discovered in the 2009 evaluation of the children's play-area near the Climbers and Creepers building. These walls are depicted on a series of 18th Century plans, and may have been part of the garden areas associated with the re-construction of Kew Farm.

Appendix I: OASIS Data Collection Form

OASIS ID: *compassal-81012*

Project details

Project name	Quarantine House Service Runs, Kew Gardens
Short description of the project	An investigation and recording project of the installation of services for the new Quarantine House at Kew Gardens took place in July 2010. This revealed the remains of two brick-walls. These may have been related to that uncovered in the 2009 evaluation of the children's play-area at Kew, and may have been part of the 1630s rebuilding of Kew Farm. They are depicted on the earlier 18th Century Board of Ordnance Plan, Rocque's 1734 Plan, and Richardson's 1771 Plan.
Project dates	Start: 20-07-2010 End: 30-07-2010
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	LYK 08 - Sitecode
Type of project	Recording project
Site status	World Heritage Site
Current Land use	Other 14 - Recreational usage
Monument type	BRICK WALL STRUCTURE Post Medieval
Significant Finds	BRICK WALL Post Medieval
Investigation type	'Field observation',' Part Excavation',' Recorded Observation'

Project location

Country	England
Site location	GREATER LONDON RICHMOND UPON THAMES RICHMOND AND KEW Quarantine House Site, Kew, Richmond
Postcode	TW9 3AG

Study area 5.00 Square metres

Site coordinates TQ 1834 7733 51.4820329548 -0.295575124680 51 28 55 N 000 17 44 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation Compass Archaeology

Project design originator Compass Archaeology

Project director/manager Geoff Potter

Project supervisor Gill King

Type of sponsor/funding body Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Name of sponsor/funding body Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

Project archives

Physical Archive recipient Museum of London Archive

Physical Contents 'Animal Bones','Ceramics'

Digital Archive recipient Museum of London archive

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

Paper Archive recipient Museum of London Archive

Paper Media available 'Contextsheet','Correspondence','Drawing','Map','Photograph','Plan','Report','Section','Survey','Unpublished Text'

**Project
bibliography 1**

Publication type Grey literature (unpublished document/manuscript)

Title Quarantine House Service Runs, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Archaeological Investigation and Recording Project

Author(s)/Editor(s) Jeffery E

Date 2010

Issuer or publisher Compass Archaeology

Place of issue or publication 5-7 Southwark Street, London, SE1 1RQ

Description In-house spiral-bound report

Entered by Emma Jeffery (emma.jeffery@ukonline.co.uk)

Entered on 6 December 2010

Appendix II: London Archaeologist Summary

Site Address: New Quarantine House, Royal Botanic Gardens Kew TW9
3AB

Project type: Archaeological Investigation and Recording Project

Dates of Fieldwork: 20th–30th July 2010

Site Code: LYK08

Supervisor: Gill King

NGR: TQ 1834 7733

Funding Body: Royal Botanic Gardens Kew

An investigation and recording project undertaken in July 2010, related to the installation of services for the new Quarantine House at Kew. This uncovered the remains of two brick walls, which may have been related to the 1630s construction phase of Kew Farm.

Appendix III: Pottery Report

Pottery from the New Quarantine House, Kew Gardens Site LYK08)

Paul Blinkhorn

The pottery assemblage comprised 2 sherds with a total weight of 37g. The fabric codes utilized are those of the Museum of London post-Roman type-series (Vince 1985). The pottery occurrence was as follows:

Context 50: PMR: Post-medieval redware, 1580 – 1900. 1 sherd, 33g.

Context 51: ENGS: English stoneware, 1700-1900. 1 sherd, 4g.

Both fabric types are common finds in London and its environs.

Bibliography

Vince, AG, 1985 The Saxon and Medieval Pottery of London: A review *Medieval Archaeology* **29**, 25-93

Appendix IV: Brick Report (John Brown)

ID	Context	Fabric	Period	Form	Weight (in grams)	Dimensions (in mm)	Date	Any other comments
1	53	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with sunken margins and an uneven base	1514	102 (width) X 60 (depth)	1450-1700	
2	53	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with sunken margins and an uneven base	2360	229 (length) X 109 (width) X 65 (depth)	1450-1700	
3	53	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with sunken margins and an uneven base	1486	108 (width) X 58 (depth)	1450-1700	
4	53	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with sunken margins and an uneven base	1484	103 (width) X 50 (depth)	1450-1700	
5	55	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with sunken margins and an uneven base	2280	220 (length) X 108 (width) X 51 (depth)	1450-1700	
6	55	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with an uneven base	1798	221 (length) X 105 (width) X 54 (depth)	1450-1700	Underfired
7	55	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with an uneven base	2240	225 (length) X 108 (width) X 55 (depth)	1450-1700	
8	55	3033	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with an uneven base	2030	234 (length) X 103 (width) X 54 (depth)	1450-1700	Overfired
9	55	3046	Post-Medieval	Unfrogged brick, with an uneven base	928	51 (depth)	1450-1700	