


ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
	<p>1810</p> <p>Entering by the great North Gate, the first object that presents itself is a small oratory, or recess, enclosed with iron rails: in front an altar, on which stands a saint in bronze, open niches and stone basins for holy water. On the right-hand is a small garden, called the Abbot's Garden, parted off by an open screen, taken from the tomb of Roger Niger, Bishop of London, in old St. Paul's. Passing on the left by a small cloister is the entrance to the house, the narrow front of which was designed by Richard Bentley, only son of Dr. Bentley, the learned Master of Trinity college, Cambridge. In this cloister is a bas-relief head in marble, inscribed <i>Dia Hellonora</i>, being the portrait of the Princess Eleanora D'Este with whom Tasso was in love, and who was the cause of his misfortunes. This was sent to Mr. Walpole from Italy, by Sir William Hamilton, minister at Naples. And on a pedestal stands the large blue and white china tub in which Mr. Walpole's CAT was drowned, with a label containing the first stanza of Mr. Gray's beautiful ODE on the occasion:-</p> <p>'Twas on this lofty vase's side, Where CHINA's gayest art had dy'd The azure flow'rs that blow; Demuest of the tabby kind, The pensive Selima reclin'd- Gaz'd on the lake below!</p> <p>Evans 160</p>	
	<p>1861 Sept</p> <p>A month later her youngest brother-in-law letter to her at Vienna reported: 'Mr. Chapman says, the foundations of the screen are in at the principal entrance and the masonry is being fixed'. The work of the masonry is fixed in the Drawing Room front and looks 'magnificent' - that is magnificent, beautiful. The lead gutters are fixed on the drawing room and the stables are pulling on the stables. The Walls of the new rooms in the lower are built and the masons are fixing the new windows-the carpenters are forming the new staircase to round tower, the roof of the dining room is at boarded in and wood gutters are laid and the masons are fixing the parapet cornice over dining room windows. The new coal vaults also, and that's all.</p> <p>Your aff. Brother Ward Braham</p> <p>[Letter from Ward Braham to Lady Waldegrave Sept 18 1861] CWH 156</p>	
	<p>1883</p> <p>The Marston Kings Cross Shawbury Hill</p> <p>It is approached from broad Carriage Drive, and is entered by a Vestibule and Inner Hall divided by a carved oak tracery screen. The ceilings are partly groined, the floor is paved with Encaustic Tiles of rich designs. A cur of Hot Water Pipes is enclosed in an ornamental case with Italian marble top.</p> <p>On the left hand, approached by a small passage, is</p> <p>THE GREAT PARLOUR</p> <p>VENOM 4</p>	

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	<p>1958 May [restoration drawings by AER mark area CLOISTER; indicates extend of 1861 - 3 entrance hall and wall marked for demolition]</p> <p>AER drawing #43 / BEDS record office ref BLAS RGH 4/200 indicates reinstatement of columns and pavement; joists above are marked as 'EXISTING JOISTS'.</p>	
	<p>1958 Dec [plan made in anticipation of restoration of the North Elevation - Little Cloister shown as reconstructed]</p> <p>BEDS ROLL RGH2/335</p>	
	<p>1959</p> <p>In Walpole's day the first object to present itself to the visitor entering through the "Great North Gate" was an Oratory enclosed in iron bars. Inside was a great altar, on which stood a figure of a saint in bronze; there was also some basin for holy water, designed by Chute. To the right was a small garden, which Walpole liked to refer to as the "Rural Garden," divided by an iron screen (taken from the tomb of Roger Niger, Bishop of London in old St. Paul's). From the Oratory to the Entrance Door ran a "Small Cloister." It was here, among many other treasures and curiosities, that there once stood the large blue and white china tube in which Walpole's cat was drowned. The domestic tragedy which called forth Gray's famous poem took place, however, not at Strawberry Hill but at Arlington Street. The original Entrance Door then was inset between the Small Cloister on the right and a blank wall on the left, with a flanked courtyard in front. The Front Entrance, with Gothic Door flanked by two narrow Gothic windows, surmounted by the shields of Walpole, Storer and Robson, was designed by Bentley. Lady Frances Waldegrave made considerable changes to this original entrance. The courtyard was completely bridged over with a glass verandah and the entrance placed at the old Great North Gate. This change obliterated in Little Cloister and Sanctuary. It also necessitated an alteration in the course of the road from Twickenham to Teddington. The road was at this point pushed back considerably. In 1958, dry rot, caused by the ever-leaking verandah, broke out all over the front of the House, and the College authorities took the opportunity to restore Walpole's original design. The reconstruction was only completed in May 1959. The original Gothic door (but with small windows cut into the upper part) was found in the Waldegrave body and is now in position as the front door.</p> <p>Dunning 21</p> <p>Dunning 22</p>	

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
	<p>1963</p> <p>If you have ever come through the Old House entrance you may remember the rather massive front door opening from the little carriage-way and inside the door a tiled hall leading to the main stairway. Actually this hallway was a Waldegrave addition to Walpole's house and was not part of the original.</p> <p>Above five years ago all of it was discovered to be suffering from dry rot, and Sir Albert decided that the solution was not to patch it up but to take it right out and restore the original. This revealed Walpole's Little Cloister (where the goldfish bowl stood in which the "Favoured Cat" was drowned). Walpole's front door, which had disappeared during the Waldegrave regime, was found in an outhouse near the Handicraft Department and was restored to its original place.</p> <p>The interior of the hall and the stairway now needed to be redecorated, Mr. Rose was in charge of this particular item of the work. He found the original design of the Gothic wallpaper which Walpole had used and had this reproduced on to the interior walls. The result was most spectacular.</p> <p><small>The Simmarian Newsletter - no. 33 March 1963 15</small></p>	
	<p>1984</p> <p>John Warren repairs the dry rot of the Holbein Chamber, the Little Cloister rebuilt for the second time. A small cess pit is discovered beneath the pavement in the course of the work. Additional pictures held within SMUC Archives</p>	 <p>Detail of the C18 cess pit as discovered by John Warren in 1984</p>

Winding Cloister G/1/2.1- .3
1774 Winding Cloister

The lower part of the castle was hollowed into several intricate cloisters; and it was not easy for one under so much anxiety to find the door that opened into the cavern. An awful silence reigned throughout those subterraneous regions, except now and then some blasts of wind that shook the doors [Isabella] had passed, and which, grating on the rusty hinges, were re-echoed through that long labyrinth of darkness. Every murmur struck her with new terror; -yet more she dreaded to hear the wrathful voice of Manfred urging his domestics to pursue her.
Castle of Otranto

The circulation space of the Winding Passage remained intact until 1962. The irregular plan of the passage and its many doors was integral to Walpole building a modern Gothic castle, with romantic interiors sited on the edge of the Thames. The layout of this space and the adjacent Great and Little Cloister created an setting not so far removed from Walpole's literary Castle of Otranto.

Like so many of the other areas of HW's early house, the winding cloister was created by a series of additions. About 1748 Walpole began his first construction in this area of the site which was later incorporated into the central portion of the Winding Cloister. The passage at that time was brick-paved and probably unroofed, functioning as a service yard. The area linked Walpole's first kitchen and printing house of 1748, demolished to make way for the Great Cloister of 1760, with the formal Great Parlour on the north front of the house. The sequence of works from 1757 - 62 which created this planned irregular passage included the building of the Steward's Parlour below the Holbein Chamber (1757), Cellars and Servants Hall (1759) and the Great Cloister (1761-62).

The formal, enclosed, meandering passageway was the means by which Walpole created a link between the Prior's Garden and Little Cloister to the north with the Great Cloister and Pleasure Ground to the south and was part of a formal sequence of space leading from the fine rooms at the west end first-floor level, with the landscape. The final version of the plan was lit by a window (now lost) that was part of the west wall which overlooked a service yard (now G/1/5). The walls are set with a group of medieval (alabaster) and classical (marble) bas-relief sculptures and the now lost Müntz neo-medieval engraved brass tomb front (sold 1842). The overall effect was of an irregular, dark monastic corridor which gave a sense of passing through an ancient building to reach the small formal garden on the north elevation.

From the early 1820s the archways of the Great Cloister were in-filled and the function of the passage was altered as the two significant areas of garden were no longer directly linked. Lady Waldegrave built, from 1861, her new Vestibule immediately to the north of HW's Hall G/1/9. The Vestibule extended to the edge of the carriage drive and fully enclosed the Little Cloister and Oratory. In the reworking of the north front in 1861 the small service yard to the west (now G/1/5) was enclosed, thus blocking the west window in the present position of D 6. For the first time, the Winding Cloister was directly linked to the Hall with the addition of a new door (D 3). The purpose of the 1861 reworking of the passage was to form a link from the Hall to the newly-formed Dressing and Bedroom in the former Great Cloister and link, at ground level, the service rooms in the new pavilion to the domestic and service rooms in the villa.

The works by Richardson May to December 1958 compromised the relationship of the Winding Cloister with the adjoining circulation spaces. A new partition was added at the east end of G/1/4 to formally separate the domestic staff from the living quarters of the Vincentian fathers. The false ceiling was probably added at this time and the flooring was overlaid with encaustic tiles salvaged from Lady Waldegrave's demolished Vestibule.

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
CEILING .1 Groin vaulted ceiling, lath on plaster. Painted white .2 plasterboard ceiling. Lath and plaster ceiling to passageway visible in cupboard above board partition.	1758/9 1958 - 62 1758	Remove existing modern dropped ceiling to restore original, subject to opening up, recording and analysis
CORNICE Following arch of groin vault. survives as part of vaulted ceiling in section .1	1758/9	
WALLS Lobby: brick core and plain plaster. Engaged Gothic (octagonal section) columns, timber. North: Masonry set with two mediaeval alabasters. Ghost of rectangular plaque. South: East end board partition, west end masonry. Various fittings (modern) and run of trunking; see FIXTURES. East: brick stubs and plaster	1758/9 1758/9 1752/3; opening 1861	
SKIRTING Three different patterns of skirting: very deep in the lobby .1. Two patterns in . 2 much smaller in scale, mid-way through passage skirting is broken with a plinth.	≥1861 1758/9	
FLOOR Lobby (.1) paved with encaustic tiles as relaid by AER In main passageway fitted synthetic-fibre carpet. Glued to encaustic tiles, relaid by AER, and screed (west end). Build up of screed raising floor level. Cupboard (.3) brick paving	1861 to 1958 space served as closet ~1990; 1861 1 /2 C18	Carefully take up the 1958 relaid encaustic tile floor and relay in Servants' Hall G/1/7. Restoration of floor subject to opening up investigations. Remove modern floor linings to restore original stone floor below.
WINDOWS LOST Window at west end of passage, indicated on 1781 published plan. Opening enlarged to form now door (1958 - 62), space built-over in [1861-3].	LOST	

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
DOORS	All openings represent 1758 layout except G/1/2 D 3 (1861) and D 6	
<p>D 1 Door to Lt Cloister; locked at present.</p> <p>architrave type 1; the outer leading edge bevelled</p> <p>frame lancet shape</p> <p>leaf Lancet-arch shaped; flush panels with two stiles and three rails with panels fixed within; 3 light window cut into door frame with shield-shaped window and two glazing bars</p> <p>ironmongery hinge butts visible only</p> <p>furniture plain large brass nob; rectangular push plate</p> <p>other no escutcheon to key hole; presume never had.</p>	<p>D 1</p> <p>architrave C18 type</p> <p>frame —</p> <p>leaf requires further analysis</p> <p>ironmongery not observed</p> <p>furniture modern, 1958 and later</p> <p>other</p> <p>1958 marked on AER's drawing # 43 as retained.</p>	Restore solid panels in lieu of glass to G/1/2 D1 to be confirmed with paint analysis.
<p>D 2 Doorway from lobby</p> <p>architrave as D 1, 3, 4 + 7</p> <p>frame plain timber;</p> <p>leaf none, never with leaf</p> <p>ironmongery none</p> <p>furniture none</p> <p>other</p>	<p>D 2 1758</p> <p>architrave</p> <p>frame</p> <p>leaf</p> <p>ironmongery</p> <p>furniture</p> <p>other</p>	
<p>D 3 Doorway east wall linking to Hall</p> <p>architrave type 1</p> <p>frame plain timber</p> <p>leaf none</p> <p>ironmongery</p> <p>furniture</p> <p>other</p>	<p>D 3 opening introduced 1861</p> <p>architrave reuse of C18</p> <p>frame</p> <p>leaf</p> <p>ironmongery</p> <p>furniture</p> <p>other</p>	New timber lancet door to fill 1861 doorway D 3, to match G/1/8 D 4. Take off moulded timber architraves in G/1/9 as jib door within G9 for painted wall decoration.
<p>D 4 Cupboard.</p> <p>architrave type 1</p> <p>frame Lancet arched shaped with fillet fitted as stop.</p> <p>leaf Vertical boards with three rails on internal face, nailed. At the top a circle cut (similar to the over doors in the Gt N BdC); covered with a shield;</p> <p>ironmongery Rim lock with grey enamelled steel casing.</p> <p>furniture Bakelite spherical knobs.</p> <p>other Frame with two nailed fillets to hold boards to lower half of door.</p>	<p>D 4 1758 Used as log store</p> <p>architrave 1758</p> <p>frame 1758</p> <p>leaf shield shape plaque C19, tbc with analysis</p> <p>ironmongery 1/2 C20</p> <p>furniture 1/2 C20</p> <p>other adaptation of frame 2/2 C18</p>	
<p>D 5 Tudor-arch shaped doorway to G 1 4,</p> <p>frame moved in part to D 3</p>	<p>D 5 1758 position but lost all architectural elements C20</p> <p>architrave</p>	Reinstate Gothic door panelling and architraves to G/1/2 D 5 matching construction detail of existing door G/1/8 D 4.

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
<p>D 6 (west) leading to site of HW's service yard</p> <p>architrave Tudor arched shaped. Plain flat applied fillet to outer edge.</p> <p>frame Inner edge with engaged bead.</p> <p>leaf Double doors, upper portion glazed with plain glass, lower with solid panel;</p> <p>ironmongery Rise and fall hinge. Foot operated door stop to each door leaf;</p> <p>furniture Plain push plate in brass.</p> <p>other</p>	<p>D 6 1958 - 62; position of 1758 lost window</p>	<p>Remove existing 1958 doorset D6 and reinstate brick and plaster wall.</p>
<p>D 7 To Pantry [Steward's Pantry]</p> <p>architrave Type 1. Inside G/1/3 marked w/position of 1758/9 hinges to west edge, expressed as two notches in architrave where pinions projected.</p> <p>frame plain timber</p> <p>leaf LOST;</p> <p>ironmongery ghosts of hinges present in G/1/3.</p> <p>furniture —</p> <p>other</p>	<p>D 7 1758</p> <p>architrave</p> <p>frame</p> <p>leaf lost after 1958</p> <p>ironmongery</p> <p>furniture</p> <p>other</p>	<p>New Gothic lancet door to match construction detail of G/1/8 D 4 (without bolts)</p>
<p>DECORATION</p> <p>Room painted with a modern eggshell paint in a soft red, the trim in white.</p>	<p>~1960 repeated 1972 and 1984</p>	
<p>LIGHTING</p> <p>.1 Single spotlight fixed to centre of ceiling;</p> <p>.2 two circular modern fittings to the ceiling;</p> <p>.3 single bulb fitted.</p>	<p>1984</p>	
<p>FIXTURES</p> <p>South Wall</p> <p>Trunking set into plasterwork - board with beaded edge; surface with later remnants of electrical mountings.</p> <p>Telephone junction box</p> <p>Surface mounted pyro wiring.</p>	<p>2 /2 C18</p> <p>≥ 1958</p> <p>≥ 1984</p>	

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL		WORKS
<p>SCULPTURE Bas-reliefs panels of carved alabaster (medieval) and marble (classical) set in the wall.</p> <p>Four within lobby area and a further two in the passageway (north wall).</p>	<p>LOST</p> <p>Müntz engraved memorial brass for St Hugh Walpole</p> <p>Description 1774 says it was in the winding cloister. Size 774 x 298 mm. mentioned in corr vol 1, p 127 (letter to Cole). Also a ref in corr. vol 2, p.106. Sale 1842, 24th day, lot 95: by then in chapel in the woods</p> <p>1774</p> <p>In the winding cloysters on the right hand are some ancient bas-relief; and a brass plate with the effigies of Simon Walpole, bishop of Norwich and Ely, engraved by Muntz.</p> <p>Description 74 3</p>		
	<p>1958 Dec</p> <p>Sir Albert Richardson Plan [plan recording and with proposal of the restoration of the north entrance. Area not labelled but indicated, partition door leading on to Kitchen Lobby in place]</p> <p>BEDS ROLL RGH/2/335</p>		
<p>Cupboard G/1/2.3</p>	<p>Amongst the less well-known interior spaces at Strawberry Hill, is the cleaners' cupboard on the ground floor. This is the L-plan area immediately north-east of the Great Cloister (Fig 3). Its south and east walls are significant as evidence for the early development of the house. They are of red brick and were apparently once external; the mortar on both walls have struck joints. They are not, however, of one build. The brick courses do not line through at the south-east corner, to which only the south wall is closed-up, indicating that the east wall is earlier. The east wall has a plat hand at first-floor level, the south wall does not. The south-wall brick is better quality and more regularly laid to Flemish bond, suggesting a higher class of building for the later work.</p> <p>GUILLEY 103</p> <p>The later south wall appears to be pre-Walpolean. It encloses the north-west corner of a room that is known to have been the south-west part of the house when Walpole moved in, from sketches drawn by him c. 1783 showing the garden from as it was in 1747 (Fig 5). The earlier east wall may well, therefore, be part of the first build. There is nothing in it to give reason to quibble with Walpole's date of 1698. Its crude brickwork is a reminder that the house was originally relatively low in status. The cleaners' cupboard walls thus suggest a 1698 house the west end of which was the area that is now the Hall, extended to the south before 1747, a phase that can be provisionally labelled as early 18th-century.</p> <p>GUILLEY 105</p>	<p>Refit as service riser.</p>	
<p>WALL North wall lined with sawn boards nailed with wrought iron nails, the softwood of the grain eaten by insects. Other walls brick of three different periods of construction.</p>			
<p>FLOOR Early brick paving survives in place.</p>	<p>Either early HW or Pre HW</p>		

PANTRY **G/1/3**

- 1759 pantry
- 1781 Pantry
- 1861 [remains pantry]
- 1924 The Pugin and Pugin era plan marks a double cupboard in the Pantry, also marked 'China Room'.
- 1959 Restored by AER + Woolner

The early construction history for this component is unclear. One possibility is that the room was built as a component of HW's first new service rooms, from 1748. In this form the structure would have been a single-story structure possibly semi-free-standing and functioned as either a Steward's Parlour or Pantry. The accepted history is that it was purpose-built contemporary to the Holbein Chamber directly above. For the architectural development of the space, the west wall is more substantial than the other three walls, the scale of the chimney is substantial and more akin in size to a cooking range. The west wall and chimney probably represent the incorporation of earlier building fabric, possibly that referred to in HW's as the Steward's parlour [Toynbee *Accounts* 5]. That the west wall is not significantly out of alignment with the rooms to the east and south supports the idea of it being earlier building fabric. Equally it could be a fragment of the Servant's Hall which existed prior to 1754 and predates that newly built in 1759-61.

During the C20 the pantry function was removed, possibly as late as 1958-59 when the present wood-block floor was laid and a new door was opened to the toilet in G/1/5. John Warren's 1984 repair programme required the stripping of much of the historic fabric: the ceiling, much of the plasterwork to the walls and the rebuilding of the east wall. The door to the winding cloister was removed at this time.

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL	WORKS
CEILING Plasterboard ceiling, cracked following joints, painted white. LOST Lath and plaster	1984 Renewed during John Warren's works	
WALLS The walls painted with white paint, discoloured with dust. North brick West: brick. Of a substantially different scale than other structural elements representing the inclusion of earlier building material. Possibly Mr Lloyd's house. East: brick and plaster. Large crack on line where wall was cut away in 1984.	1757 1/ 2 C 18 Requires scientific analysis 1984; south end beyond crack 1757/8 1983/4 Walls partly reconstructed in 1983/4 during repair 1958/9 Demolition of Lady W's entrance hall, addition of panel by Thomas Woolner. 1925-7 Cupboards fitted on east wall, relocated to cloister after [1958] , sink in north west corner, removed in 1958-60.	Refit room as cinema.
SKIRTING Plain, square section of timber around perimeter of the room	1984 confirm with paint analysis	
FLOOR Timber block set in a herringbone pattern. Polished, scratched and the surface finish worn.	1958	
WINDOWS G/1/3 W 1 West architrave none frame shutter casement fixed glazing leaded lights, rectangular shaped plane glass ironmongery furniture --- Historic opening, may have been re-opened by AER; glazing of obscured leaded glass. W 2 LOST	W 1 1757/8 architrave frame shutter casement glazing ironmongery furniture W 2 Window south of chimney breast, probably removed during 1861 - 3 building campaign.	

ITEM	HISTORICAL DETAIL		WORKS
DOORS D 1 leading to G/1/5.3 leaf veneer, solid core.	1962	D 1 1962 all elements note on Dove Brothers plan; all elements modern RIBA archive	
CHIMNEYPIECE LOST Chimneypiece lost, fire place blocked, hearthstone removed.			Open up blocked fireplace
DECORATION The room plain painted with white emulsion and oil paint, overall in poor condition.		Historic schemes not known.	
FURNITURE Two standard lamps, A four-pedal harpsichord (made about 1970) with its soft cover two broken chairs a desk drawer and key	1925 -7	Presses mounted in south east corner, removed early 1959 to allow installation of Woolner panel, relocated from the dismantled Entrance Hall. The presses were probably relocated west end of Great Cloister (G/1/8)	
SCULPTURE Bas-relief panel by Thomas Woolner, of white marble set on a plain plinth. Moved to this location when vestibule was demolished.	1958/9	With the demolition of Lady W's Entrance Hall, Thomas Woolner's bas-relief panel was moved from the east side of the entrance hall to the east internal wall of the Pantry.	
LIGHTING Two spot lights fixed to the ceiling	1984		
FIXTURES Radiator mounded to west wall			Renew all services