

Marble Hill House and Park,
London
Conservation Management
Plan
Volume 2: Gazetteer

January 2017



Built Heritage
Consultancy

Marble Hill House and Park, London

Conservation Management Plan Volume 2: Gazetteer

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The Gazetteer is the second volume of the Conservation Management Plan by the Built Heritage Consultancy, which was commissioned by English Heritage to inform discussions over future works to Marble Hill House and Park. It forms a companion to Volume 1 of the Plan, and is intended to give more detail on the history, appearance and issues relating to each building and the spaces within them. The Gazetteer is intended to act as a reference tool which gives ready access to information on every part of the asset, dealing with its physical and heritage attributes, and highlighting relevant issues and policies. It has been designed to be capable of expansion in the future, to take account of further developments.

This document contains detailed entries for all the rooms within Marble Hill House, the Stable Block and White Lodge. The remaining buildings and structures are covered by outline descriptions. Where possible, roof spaces and exterior elevations have also been assessed. The entries contain photographs and a physical description of all elements of interest, together with notes on the history of the fabric, significance, policies and opportunities for enhancement. There is also a section considering the various views to and from the House and other buildings on the site.

Much of the information presented in this document has been gathered from a number of professional reports carried out in the past for English Heritage, as acknowledged below in the bibliography. The taking of photographs, visual assessment, and the writing of descriptions were carried between December 2015 and May 2016.

GUIDE TO USING THE GAZETTEER

The Gazetteer has several main sections covering the components which make up the asset under consideration. Each one of these is briefly described at the beginning of each section; for more detailed information on the history and significance see the main Conservation Management Plan (Volume 1).

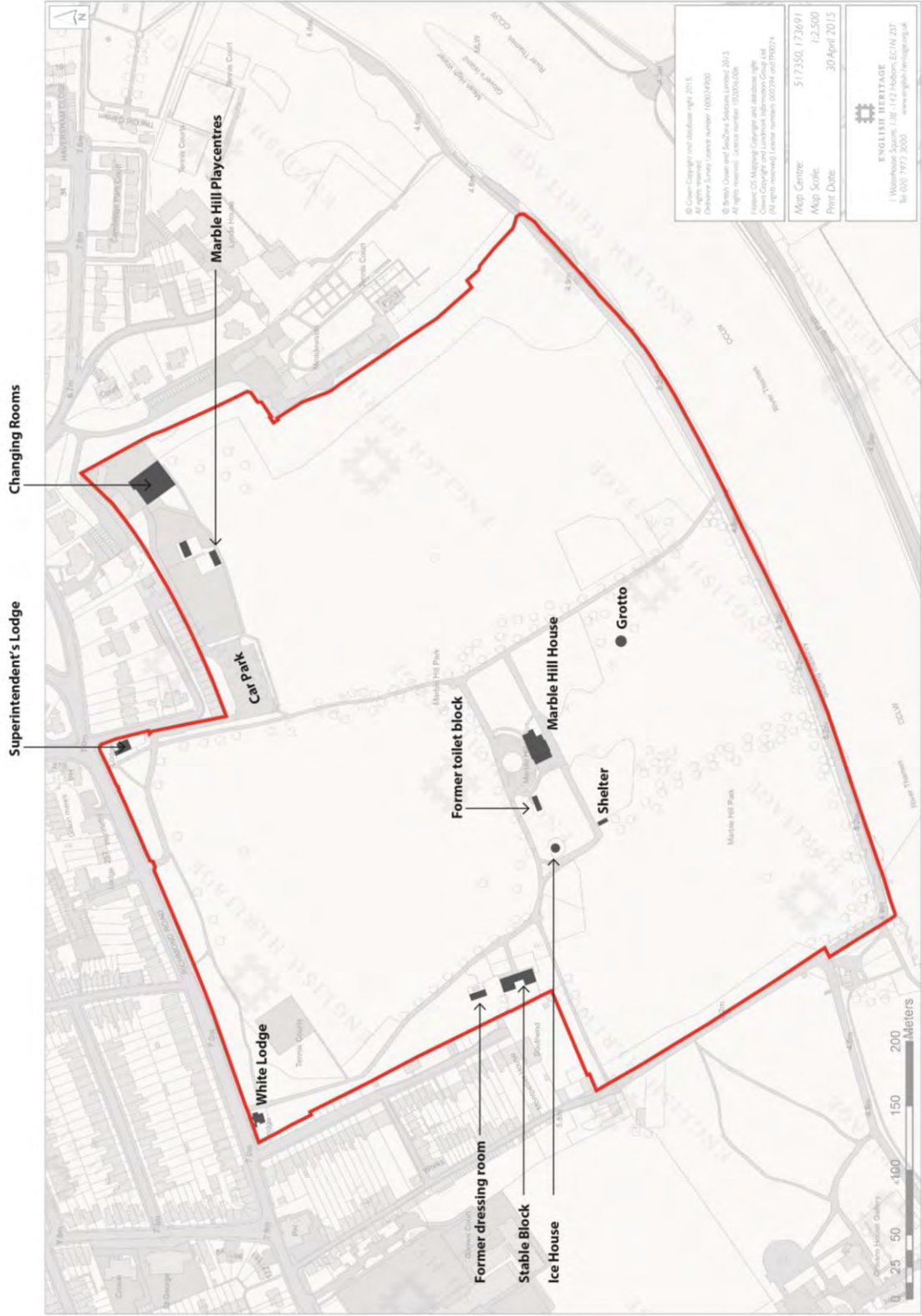
Within each section, the elevations, rooms or spaces are described individually, with notes on their significance. The Gazetteer summarises the main points of interest and acts as a reference guide for those involved with managing and conserving the asset. Policy recommendations, including guidance on management and conservation, and suggested opportunities for enhancement, are set out in Chapter 4.0 of Vol. 1. Additional information on the rooms in Marble Hill House is available from the room data files held by English Heritage - they contain much information on their history, fabric and conservation, and are a valuable source that should be consulted in addition to this gazetteer. Smaller buildings in the grounds and structures such as boundary walls are dealt with more briefly.

The final chapter deals with the main views of the House and buildings from their surrounding landscape. These have been assessed in line with English Heritage's guidance *Seeing the History in the View* (1998), so as to identify and record the nature of the main views in 2015, prior to any subsequent changes.

The Research Archive provided separately on disc contains images of archive materials consulted during the preparation of the Conservation Management Plan and Gazetteer.

The disc also includes an appendix containing all the photographs of the buildings and interiors taken during the compilation of the Gazetteer, whether or not they are included within the entries in the published document. They are arranged in separate folders by component, and then by elevation or floor and then room number.

Marble Hill Site Orientation



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 Map Scale: 1:25,000
 Print Date: 30 April 2015

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Designations

- Listed at Grade I as Marble Hill House, list entry number 1285673
- Feature within a Grade II* listed park and garden

Summary history

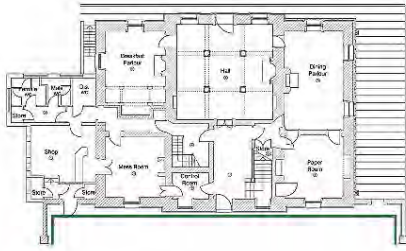
Marble Hill House was commissioned by Henrietta Howard (1688-1767), Countess of Suffolk and onetime mistress of the Prince of Wales (later George II), on an estate which was created late in 1723. That year the Prince had made Howard a large settlement, including £11,500 of stock, jewels, plate and furniture, and Archibald, Earl of Ilay (1682–1761) purchased several parcels of land on her behalf. The eleven and a half acre-site of the house itself was purchased in 1724. Construction commenced that year and was completed in 1729, with a hiatus around the accession of George II in 1727 that separated the completion of the shell and the fitting out of the interiors. The builder was Roger Morris but the architect has not been conclusively identified. A design very close but not identical to Marble Hill for ‘a house in Twittenham’ appears in Vol. III of Colen Campbell’s *Vitruvius Britannicus* of 1725 and a sketch elevation and plan of a house from his office – again, similar in many features but by no means identical - survives at Wilton House. But on the basis of a drawing by him showing the alcove in the Breakfast Parlour, Henry Herbert, ninth earl of Pembroke and sixth earl of Montgomery (c.1689–1750), gentleman-architect and collaborator with Roger Morris, has also been suggested as the designer. In 1750 architect Matthew Brettingham and joiner Charles Ross carried out alterations, including the removal of a vaulted compartment to create a Dining Parlour on the ground floor, the replacement of balconied doors on the south elevation with windows and repairs and modifications to the (now lost) service wing. Following Howard’s death, Marble Hill was occupied by her nephew, the second Earl of Buckingham, between 1769 and 1793. He carried out alterations including the division of the second-floor Gallery into two and the creation of an extra bedroom on the north side. After the Earl’s death Marble Hill passed to Henrietta Hotham, who let it to a series of tenants. During this period a number of alterations were made, such as the downward extension of the windows on the first floor of the south front to the platband, probably also the addition of cast iron balconies. Following Hotham’s death the property was sold to various owners before being purchased in 1825 by Lieutenant General Jonathan Peel (1799-1879). After his widow died in 1887 her effects were sold and the house remained empty for several years. In 1903 the Marble Hill Estate was purchased from the Cunard family, who had owned it from 1898, by a consortium including the London County Council, local authorities and private individuals, in order to save it from residential redevelopment. In 1909 the service wing was removed: the above-ground section was demolished and the lower storey buried when the adjacent basement-level courtyard was filled in. It was replaced with a much smaller single-storey extension that now houses the shop and visitor toilets. In 1951 restoration work was carried out on the exterior, and in 1955 some of the floors that had been damaged by dry rot were replaced. In 1965-1966 a comprehensive internal and external restoration was carried out by the Greater London Council to return the house to its condition of 1750, as a result of which most of the additions and alterations made after that date were removed or reversed. Following transfer to English Heritage in 1988 representations of original interiors have been created in some of the rooms.

Brief description

The house is a three-storey Palladian villa based on an oblong plan. This is orientated southwest-northeast along its longer axis - for the sake of simplicity in this gazetteer it will be deemed to run due east-west. It is a single, compact, tautly articulated mass. The north front – the entrance front - faces the Great Lawn while the south front faces the gardens and the River Thames. Two walls running north-south divide the interior into thirds of unequal width: the central portion is the widest and contains the entrance vestibule, main stair (which rises only to the first floor), the service stair (which rises all the way to the attic), the Hall and cube-shaped Great Room. The lost service wing was L-shaped in plan and extended out from the east elevation. There is a basement storey under the eastern third and 1909 extension. There are garret rooms in the roofspace, which accommodated a Housemaid’s quarters and storage space.

Significance: Exceptional

MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Exterior



Location: North front

Date(s): 1724-9, 1909, 1965-6

Significance: High

Brief description: This is the entrance front of the mansion and the most ornately treated of any of its elevations. It is five bays wide and three storeys high. The ground floor is treated as a basement in architectural terms – the windows have no architraves - with the *piano nobile* occupying the first floor above. A thick platband marks the division between the ground and first floors, and a thinner one runs above it at the level of the first-floor window sills. The windows have moulded architraves; those of the central bay have lugs (the central window at first-floor level has a pediment as well) to give them greater emphasis. The wall surface is, in fact, almost uniform: the rusticated base of the attached, tetrastyle giant order ionic portico is created by thickening the middle three bays of the wall. The portico has an entablature with a pulvinated frieze and a cartouche in the middle of the pediment. There is a lead-clad blocking course. To either side of the front are screen walls, whose cornices are extensions of the lower plat band, with returns terminating in rusticated piers carrying stone spheres. Both screen walls have doorways with rusticated surrounds. The north door now opens into the shop and serves as the visitors' entrance, while that to the west opens into the terrace by the west elevation. Lower, curved extensions run out from the end piers of both screen walls to create a cour d'honneur. These have rusticated intermediate piers and rusticated end piers crowned by stone spheres. A low, unmoulded stone plinth runs continuously the whole length of the screen walls and the whole width of the north front.

Notes: The modillions are made of fibreglass and were introduced during the 1965-6 restoration, replacing concrete predecessors which had been introduced in a restoration of 1951 and were incorrectly spaced. At the same time the pediment cartouche was renewed in fibreglass. The design of the fanlight is crude, lacking any mouldings, and it looks as though it may be a C20 replacement.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick, finished in painted stucco, with stone dressings
Windows	Hornless 6-, 9-, and 12-pane sash windows
Doors	A six-panel door with raised and fielded panels and fanlight; six-panel doors with sunk beading to doorways in screen walls
Features	Glass clerestory roof of the 1909 extension visible above the east screen wall

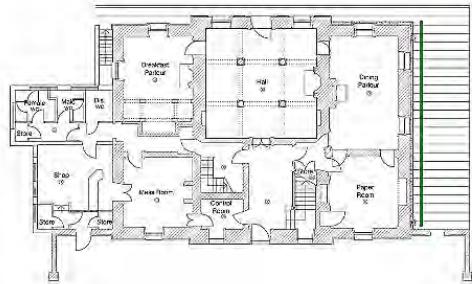


MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Exterior

Location: West elevation

Date(s): 1724-9, 1750

Significance: High



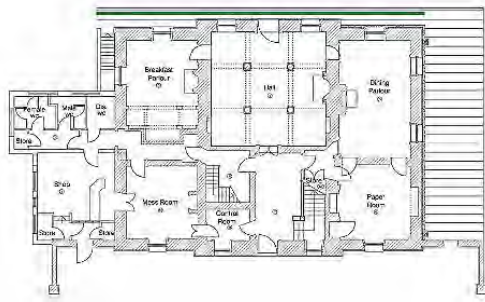
Brief description: The three-bay side elevation of the mansion forms the shorter side of the oblong. The plinth, platbands and cornice are carried round from the north front and at the southern end a short section of the modillion cornice from the south front is also carried round, but otherwise this elevation is very plainly treated. It is adjoined by a paved area.

Notes: The completely plain rear side of the west screen wall can be seen here. As built, there was a Palladian window at ground floor level, removed by Matthew Brettingham in 1750 when the Dining Parlour was created. Traces of it were discovered during the 1965-6 restoration.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick, finished in painted stucco, with stone dressings
Windows	6-, 9- and 12-pane hornless sash windows
Doors	None
Features	Two cast-iron downpipes serving gutters running behind the cornice



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Exterior



Location: South front

Date(s): 1724-9, 1909, 1965-6

Significance: High for C18 fabric; south elevation of 1909 extension has some significance

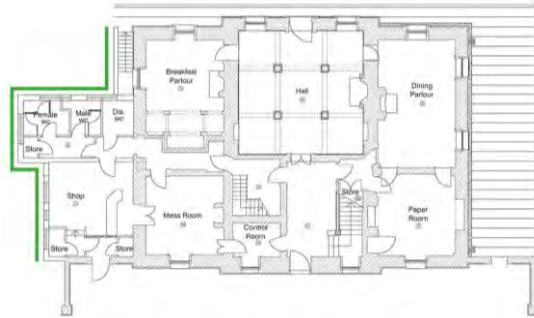
Brief description: This is the 'mirror image' of the north front and, like it, is three storeys high and five bays wide. As built, it overlooked the formally planned Pleasure Ground and, seen from the river terrace, was framed by groves of trees running down either side. The plinth, platbands, cornice and blocking course are carried round from the other elevations. Rustication is confined to the surround of the central doorway, giving access from the Hall, and so the ground floor windows have architraves with proper sills and prominent keystones. The south elevation lacks the portico of the north front but here the central three bays actually break forward. The pattern of the first- and second-floor windows is identical to the north front, but here the middle second-floor window has two pairs of lugs, not one. The central three bays are crowned by a pediment identical in design to that on the north side although here its modillions extend to the flanking sections of cornice. The brick south wall of the 1909 extension is mostly hidden by a hedge.

Notes: The middle three second-floor windows are glazed but effectively dummies since the coving of the Great Room runs continuously behind them and they are not visible from the interior. This front was much altered, probably in the 1810s, when the first floor windows were all extended downwards to the lower platband. The end first-floor windows – i.e. those lighting Lady Suffolk's bedchamber and the Dressing Room – were also widened. Thick mullions and margin lights were inserted and pediments added above. All these changes were reversed in the restoration of 1965-1966 when the pediment cartouche was also renewed in fibreglass. During this restoration traces of cut-back corbels for galleries at second-floor level were discovered.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick, finished in painted stucco, with stone dressings
Windows	Hornless 6-, 9-, and 12-pane sash windows; the 1909 extension has metal casement windows arranged in a continuous strip.
Doors	A six-panel door with raised and fielded panels and fanlight; the 1909 extension has a central doorway with a simple planked door.
Features	Delicate, presumably metal glazing bars to the fanlight



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Exterior



Location: East elevation

Date(s): 1724-9, 1909

Significance: High for C18 fabric; east elevation of 1909 extension has some significance; external stairs to basement neutral

Brief description: The three-bay side elevation of the mansion forms the shorter side of the oblong. The plinth, platbands and cornice are carried round from the north and south fronts and at the southern end a short section of the modillion cornice from the south front is also carried round, but otherwise this elevation is very plainly treated. It is adjoined by the 1909 extension, which likely includes fabric from the historic service wing.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick, finished in painted stucco, with stone dressings
Windows	Sash windows
Doors	One, in the doorway to the basement
Features	Stairwell providing external access to the basement; two cast-iron downpipes serving gutters running behind the cornice

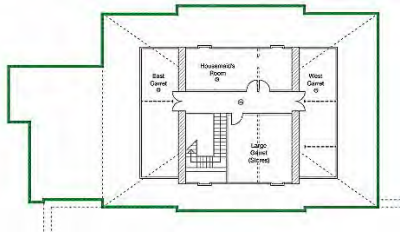
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MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Exterior

Location: Roof

Date(s): 1724-9, 1909, 1965-6

Significance: High



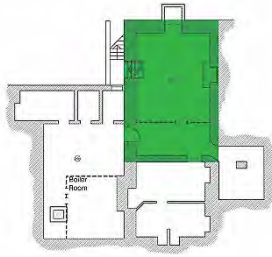
Brief description: The roof is pyramidal in form and covered in black-glazed pantiles, which were introduced in the 1965-1966 restoration. At its summit is a lead-covered finial, consisting of a cuboid with a sphere on top surmounted by a gilt wind vane. Short sections of roof run out north and south to meet the two pediments, which are slated up to the point where they meet the lead-covered blocking course. Pairs of dormers, which light the garret rooms, emerge from the north and south slopes. These have pitched roofs terminating in pediments echoing those to each of those elevations. The roof of the 1909 extension is finished in rolled and battened lead and hidden from view by a parapet from ground level. Over the shop there is a metal-framed glass clerestory: the sides have louvered openings, the roof is glass and hipped at both ends. There is a modern stainless steel vent adjacent to it.

Notes: Old photographs show that the chimney stacks once had tall pots, removed when they were rebuilt in the restoration of 1965-1966.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Chimney stacks are finished in stucco and have stone platband cornices
Windows	Six-pane casements to the dormers
Doors	None
Features	Four chimney stacks emerge from the east and west slopes of the roof. They are aligned with the north-south walls and serve flues running up through them.



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Basement



Room: 1

Name: None

Date(s): 1724-9, C20

Significance: Some significance; area with stone flags to floor moderately significant; possible former fireplace neutral

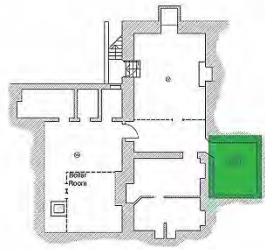
Brief description: This room is directly beneath the Breakfast Parlour and contains the entrance to the basement, accessed by five steps down from a stairwell adjoining the east elevation. It provides access to all the other basement rooms. The original function is unknown.

Notes: This room was formerly divided in two by a partition wall. This has been removed although the difference in flooring materials between the two spaces – stone flags to the north, concrete to the south- is still evident.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plaster, large sections of which have fallen off
Floor	Stone flags and concrete
Ceiling	Segmental barrel vault running north-south
Joinery	Door to exterior: six panels, four glazed and the two lower ones louvered
Features	Chute from outside at south end, blocked with later brickwork; pipework with lagging, suspended from ceiling; area of recent brickwork in west wall, perhaps repairs to a former fireplace



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Basement



Room: 2

Name: Plant room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance

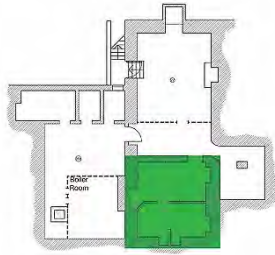
Brief description: A small room reached from Room 2 by a curious oblique opening in the northwest corner of the latter. It is directly beneath the ground-floor landings of the service stair, which is approached by a similar opening. The original function is unknown.

Notes: This room now houses the intakes and control boards for the various utilities and plant equipment

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Painted brick
Floor	Brick paving
Ceiling	Brick barrel vaults, two running longitudinally and one running laterally, supported on a square pillar
Joinery	None



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Basement



Room: 3

Name: Wine cellar

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance; section to north of partition wall moderately significant

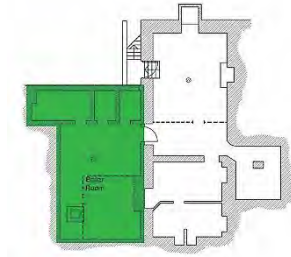
Brief description: This is a northward continuation of Room 1, divided from it by a thick brick wall. It has been divided in two by a partition wall only one brick thick with diamond-shaped groups of vents running through it. This must be secondary as it bisects an arched opening piercing the vault on the east side and then runs into it at an angle. Bins at the north end formed of stone slabs laid on brick walls suggest that this area was once used for storing wine and beer barrels.

Notes: Part of this room is used for storing doors and various items of historic joinery. There is a pile of flint nodules in the split recess on the east side, perhaps from the Grotto.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick, painted and also plastered in some places
Floor	Brick paving
Ceiling	Segmental barrel vault running north-south
Joinery	None
Features	Segmental arched recesses in the west wall; segmental arched opening in north wall with stepped sill, now split by a secondary brick partition but perhaps originally a window opening into a lightwell; pipework with lagging, suspended from ceiling;



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Basement



Room: 4

Name: Boiler room

Date(s): (?)1724-9, 1909

Significance: Some significance

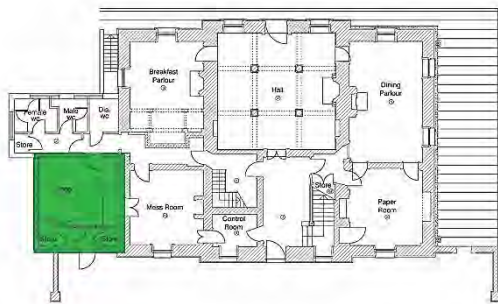
Brief description: This is the largest space in the basement and is directly beneath what is now the shop and toilets. In its present form it must date from 1909 although there are clearly several phases of brickwork and it may incorporate one of the subterranean spaces of the lost Service Wing. There are three compartments at the south end, one of which extends east beyond the line of the east wall of the main space. The openings have concrete lintels. The original function of this room is unknown.

Notes: This room now houses the boiler and associated pipework and controls.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick
Floor	Brick paving and stone flags
Ceiling	Concrete slabs reinforced by steel girders
Joinery	None
Features	



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 1

Name: Shop

Date(s): 1909, late C20

Significance: Neutral

Brief description: This is the largest room in the 1909 extension and is entered through the door in the north screen wall (see entry on North Front). It is now the English Heritage ticket office and shop, and therefore the first part of the interior seen by visitors.

During the second half of the 20th century the room functioned as a male toilet and stores. There was a door through to the house (present Mess room). The threshold from this doorway became rotten and was replaced c.1984. At the same time nos.2 reinforced concrete lintels were inserted. From the mid-80s the space was divided by partition walls to create a shop. Since 1994 the room has remained in its present use combining shop, lobby and store with a door through to the Mess Room behind the counter.

Notes: There are two steps up from the draught lobby, through which the shop is entered from outside.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted. The north wall of this room, which forms part of the exterior east curved screen is possibly a remnant of the service wing – it is thicker than the walls of the 1909 extension.
Floor	Carpet
Ceiling	Plaster
Joinery	Skirting, doorways, doors, windows, glazed draught lobby to door to exterior
Features	Flat skylight slightly recessed into ceiling beneath clerestory roof, which is glazed with frosted and wired glass; modern counter and display stands for shop, some of which run across the windows in the east wall; modern lighting, some of it suspended, radiators



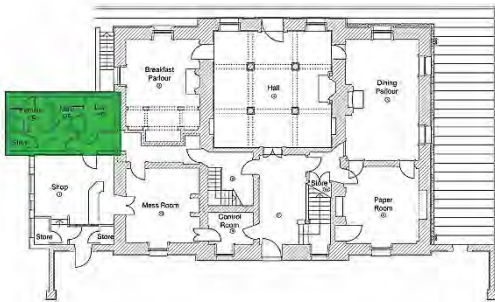
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor

Room: 2

Name: Visitor toilets and corridor

Date(s): 1909, late C20

Significance: Neutral



Brief description: This is the rear section of the 1909 extension, which houses the gentlemen's and ladies' toilets and a wheelchair-accessible toilet. It forms part of the visitor entrance route.

Notes: The partition walls are recent - they do not line up with the windows in the south wall and the door in this elevation had been blocked and covered over internally in the gents' toilets.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted, tiling to sill height in toilets
Floor	Carpet in corridor, tiling in toilets
Ceiling	Plaster
Joinery	Skirtings, modern architraves and six-panel doors (based on historic examples but clearly recent)
Features	Modern cubicles and sanitary ware in toilets



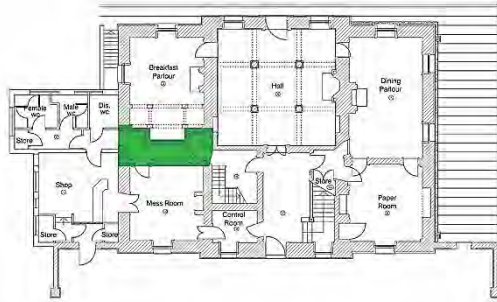
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor

Room: 2a

Name: Service corridor

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Neutral



Brief description: This former service passage connects the corridor in Room 2 to the Service Stair (Room 8) and Entrance Hall (Room 7), meaning that it is now the visitor entrance route. It follows the line of the outer wall of the alcove of the Breakfast Parlour (Room 6) so doglegs and has an alcove in the south wall

Notes: Originally this passage opened onto an external staircase which descended past the kitchen into the sunken courtyard of the service wing.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Carpet
Ceiling	Plaster, no cornice
Joinery	Skirtings, architraves to doorways and doors
Features	Arched doorway in east wall marking the division between the 1720s fabric and 1909 extension; modern fire door in doorway to Room 8; obtrusive modern light fittings



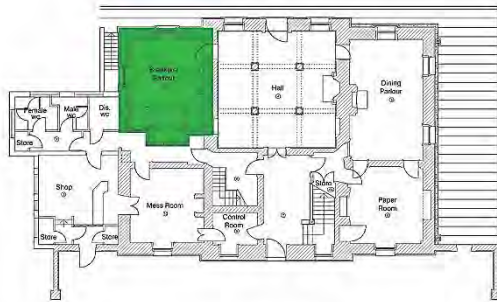
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor

Room: 3

Name: Breakfast parlour

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High



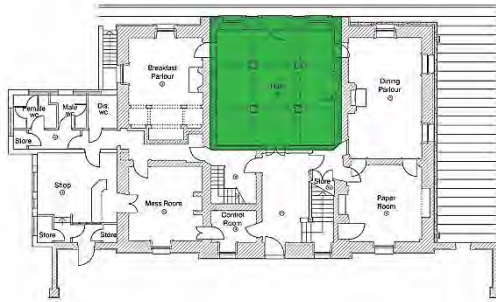
Brief description: Probably originally built as a Dining Parlour – it was formerly adjacent to the Service Wing - this room changed its function when that role was assumed by the new Dining Parlour on the opposite side of the building after that portion of the ground floor was remodelled in 1750. It is dual aspect, looking south towards the river and east towards the site of the service wing. At the north end is a large, tripartite alcove with two doors flanking a central buffet niche. All but one opening is arched and the soffits of the arches and the central flying cornice are moulded in plaster with Greek frets or rosettes in recessed square panels. The central opening to the main room also has pairs of consoles in the upper corners, set at right angles to each other.

Notes: The doors in the alcove are now purely cosmetic as there is no longer any access from the Service Corridor (Room 2a) on the other side of the wall; indeed, one of them may always have been so. The shutters have metal sheeting on the inner face and swinging bars so that they can be locked shut. The fireplace appears to be a vent for a hot air central heating system. In 1950, the room was used described as a “tea room”.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted. Wallpaper in the alcove is a replica of the C19 wallpaper, its remnants found during the 1960s restoration. There are exhibition boards fixed to the east and west walls. Drawings from the 1940s show the niche adjacent to the corridor blocked with a partition wall (with no access).
Floor	Boards with vents at the alcove end. Plans from 1905 show a new floor on the south side of the room.
Ceiling	Plaster with elaborate frieze in the main part and the central bay of the alcove; plain plaster in the buffet niche; groined plaster vaults in the side bays of the alcove
Joinery	Skirtings, architrave and lining to door, six-panel door in opening to Room 4 and in the alcove, shutters and window linings, nine-pane sashes. In the mid-C20 there was a counter inserted between the columns of the screen. In 1964, both windows received new timber sashes.
Features	Elaborate chimneypiece fitted to a box-like construction with mouldings and panels against the east wall with a shelf on top. There is a lugged marble surround to the opening with a moulded edge and a prominent mantelpiece with sections breaking forward to the sides which are carried on brackets. Chandelier. Plans from 1905 indicate that there was a sink in this room which was then relocated to the Dining Parlour.



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 4

Name: Hall

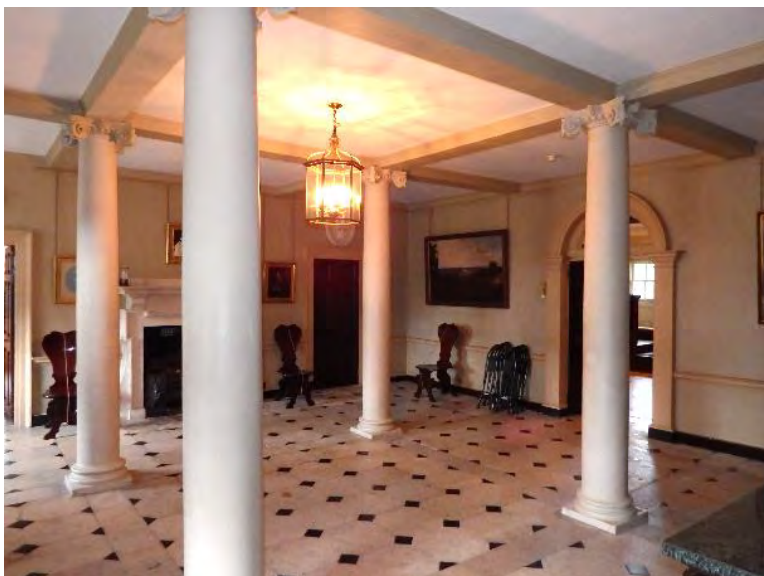
Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High

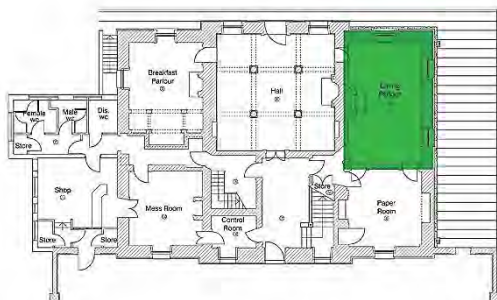
Brief description: This is the largest room on the ground floor and faces south with a central door leading out to the Pleasure Grounds. The layout of the room with the four central columns mapping out a square alludes to the *impluvium* at the centre of a Roman villa and Palladio's interpretations of it. Guests arriving by water would originally have been received here although at the time of Henrietta Howard's death it was used for dining and games. For an unknown period in the pre-war years after the commencement of public ownership it was used and fitted out as a visitors' café, as shown in photographs dated 1926 and 1938.

Notes: The doors in the northernmost bays of the east and west walls are dummies and are there purely for the sake of symmetry. The shutters have metal sheeting on the inner face and swinging bars so that they can be locked shut. The cast iron grate decorated with depictions in relief of griffons, dated 1811, was purchased in 1981 and is therefore a later insertion.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Paved in square stone flags with diamond-shaped (?)slate inserts at interstices
Ceiling	Plaster, with simple stepped cornice and no frieze, unmoulded ceiling beams
Joinery	Dado rail, nine-pane sashes, architraves and linings to windows and doors; arched surround to door from Room 7 with three-panel double doors and two-light overlight, perhaps a later alteration
Features	Four Ionic columns of stone supporting the junctions of the ceiling beams; stone skirting; stone chimneypiece against west wall with consoles, a lugged surround to the opening and sections of the cornice breaking forward and carried on brackets; hexagonal lantern with brass frame; oval medallions with relief portraits in profile over the doors in the east and west walls.



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 5

Name: Dining parlour

Date(s): 1724-9, 1750-1, 1955, 2006

Significance: Moderate

Brief description: This room was created in 1750-1751 by throwing into one a small, square room – perhaps the original breakfast parlour – and an adjacent pantry. In 1755 Henrietta Howard had the room hung with sixty two sheets of Chinese wallpaper by workmen under William Hallet the Younger (c. 1730-1767), who had made furniture for Horace Walpole’s Strawberry Hill in 1754/1755. For some of the twentieth century this room was in use as a visitors’ café with a counter running across the northern end. The paved floor was introduced in 1955 to check an outbreak of dry rot. The existing hand-painted Chinese wallpaper is a modern reproduction that was introduced during a restoration of 2006.

During the C20 the use of the room has evolved: in 1926 the room was referred to as the Refreshments Room with a server across the north end of the room in use as a snack bar. By 1950, the room is referred to as the Tea Room (drawings at this time show a single, centrally positioned, door to the Paper Room. By 1964, during restoration all remaining café service equipment was removed.

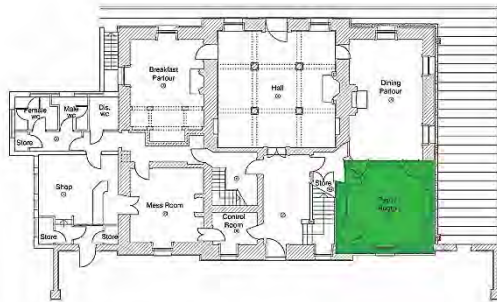
The windows have changed during the C20: in 1905 the south-west door was a French door; during restoration in 1964, a new sash was fitted to the south-east window; the openings in the west wall have since been converted to French Doors; in 1994, the south-west French door was converted to a window.

Notes: The architraves to the two doors to the Paper Room have are an ovolo profile with large, slightly coarse egg and dart mouldings; those of the other two doors show greater finesse in design and execution. The chimneypiece is supposedly a catalogue item, sold ready-made by London tradesmen.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted to dado height, wallpaper (see above) mounted on battens above. In 1926 an opening was created to the north of the fireplace on the east wall. In 1926, room records indicate that there were no doors between the Paper Room and Dining Parlour.
Floor	Portland stone paving, marble hearth
Ceiling	Plaster with simple moulded cornice – the latter dates from 1955 and is based on that in the staircase hall
Joinery	Dado rail; four six-panel doors with their architraves and linings; three windows with linings, shutters and nine-pane sashes
Features	Chimneypiece with lugged marble surround to opening and split pediment mounted on a projection from the chimney breast on the east wall; bust in centre of pediment; cast-iron grate; modern audio-visual equipment



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 6

Name: Paper Room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High

Brief description: This room is named the Paper Room in the inventory carried out in 1767, the year of her death, and one suggestion is that the room owes its name to the business papers held there - it is thought the Estate Steward used it as his office. Its position near the north entrance would have suited it to this role.

Notes: The Paper Room is not open to the public, it is currently used for storage. In 1926, records indicate that it was used as a kitchen and store. By 1962, drawings indicate that all kitchen furniture and partitions have been removed. The 1964 restoration included the removal of all remaining kitchen equipment, storage racks and M&E services. In 1987, it is recorded as being the “custodians room”. In 1994, it is recorded as being used as an office / control room.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted. At the start of the C20, there were no door linking the Paper Room to the Dining Parlour, with these being created in c.1953. IN 1964, a new door formed to the cupboard to the north of the fireplace.
Floor	Carpet
Ceiling	Segmental groin vault, plastered and painted; it springs from pillars partly buried in the corners with thick platbands to the top and bottom, like much simplified paraphrases of classical orders
Joinery	Nine-pane sash window; six-panel doors with architraves, those leading to the Dining Parlour larger and more elaborate than the others
Features	Stone skirtings; fireplace with segmental arch flanked by pillars with broad platbands to top and bottom carrying a cornice that follows the line of the arch; cupboard to north of fireplace lined with modern tiling; arches recess in thickness of north wall; modern security shutters



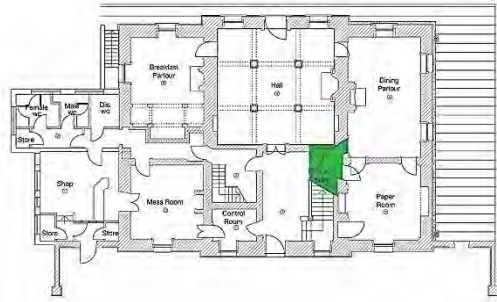
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor

Room: 6a

Name: Storeroom and passage under stairs

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High



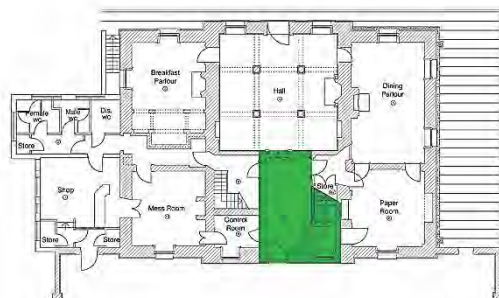
Brief description: This is a curiously-shaped space beneath the second half landing of the main stair. Doorways running through the wall at an angle open into it from the Dining Parlour and the Paper Room, another doorway provides access from the Entrance Hall. The cramped proportions and simple finish suggest that this was a service passage.

Notes: The space beneath the lower flight of the main stairs is now used to house a server and electrical services. The door to the Dining Parlour is currently out of use. This space is not open to the public.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Stone flags
Ceiling	Plaster, no cornice
Joinery	Doorframes, doors – that to the Paper Room is modern and that to the Main Hall has been split and the front appears to have been renewed.
Features	Modern lighting unit mounted on ceiling



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 7

Name: Staircase Hall

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High

Brief description: This is a double-height space that contains the entrance hall for visitors arriving through the north entrance. It provided a grand entrance to the Hall beyond (Room 4) and houses the main staircase, providing access to the piano nobile. The staircase dominates the space - although the doors from the exterior and to the Hall are aligned with the central north-south axis of the building, they are offset within the room itself. The staircase rises through three flights to a first-floor landing running along the east and north walls. That space is dealt with below (see entry for Room 15).

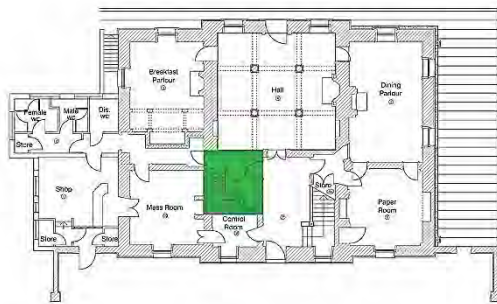
Notes: Staircase probably carved by James Richards, Master Sculptor and Carver in Wood to the King (successor in that post to Grinling Gibbons) and his assistant Ralph Kite. There are records of payments to Richards for work at Marble Hill and he and Kite produced a similar staircase at Houghton Hall in Norfolk for Sir Robert Walpole in 1729-1730. Both are the earliest examples of the use of structural mahogany.

In 1957, records indicate that a new ceiling was installed to the area under the landing and 3 new newels added to the start of second flight of stairs. Works during the 1964 restoration included removing cupboards under the stairs. During the early 1990s, a shop was located in the hall.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Painted flat plaster to the north, east and south walls at ground floor level
Floor	Paved in square stone flags with diamond-shaped (?)slate inserts at interstices, centre replaced; mahogany boards to treads of stair. Records indicate that the hall was repaved during the 1964 restoration.
Ceiling	Flat plaster with moulded cornice beneath landing; the bottoms of the newel posts protrude below the line of the plaster surface and carry carved ornament
Joinery	Doors (that to the Service Stair is a fire door), architraves, door linings, overlight to door to Hall, fanlight to north door, nine-pane sash in north wall with shutters, raised and fielded panelling enclosing space below stairs
Features	Picture rail on east wall; frames with moulded plaster borders on the west wall, the lower part of a larger scheme extending to first floor level; fixings for stair rods; modern grills in east wall



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 8

Name: The Stone Staircase

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High

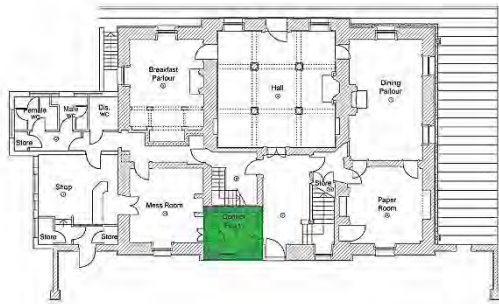
Brief description: This is the bottom landing of a cantilevered stone staircase that rises the full height of the building. The banister is supported on square-section iron stick balusters. Historically it was a service stair since it starts from the passage that formerly led to the service wing and rises to the garret, which was also formerly service accommodation, but the middle section would also have been used by family and close friends as it is the only means of access to the second floor with its 'polite' rooms.

Notes: The swell in the iron banisters may have been intended to accommodate wide dresses. In 1964, works were undertaken to increase the fire resistance to the door through to the south Hall and a door created to the corridor to the east (removing 4.5" wall, provide new door and frame without lock). In 1975, the banister railing was overhauled and stone treads made good where necessary, and corner ducts were added on all levels.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted with stone skirting
Floor	Stone flags and stone treads to stair, the latter incorporating new fabric inserted to replace worn sections
Ceiling	None
Joinery	Handrail to banisters
Features	Heating unit against west wall added in 1964



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 9

Name: Control Room

Previous name: Housekeeper's Bedchamber

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance

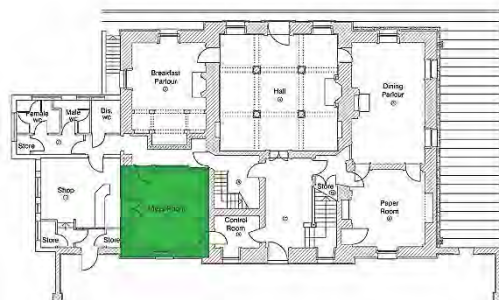
Brief description: A small room immediately to the north of the Stone Staircase this was originally service accommodation, this space now accommodates the control and observation point for the CCTV, heating, lighting etc. As such is it not accessible to the public.

Notes: Some of the equipment is mounted on a board fixed to the south wall. The historic panelling continues behind it. Between 1905 and 1994, records indicate that the room was used as a toilet and cloakroom with no door through to the Mess Room to the east. In 1994, the current Control Room was created and an access provided through to the Mess Room.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Panelled throughout – the panels are sunk and the mouldings to the arrises have a simple profile
Floor	Carpet
Ceiling	Plaster
Joinery	Panelling, skirting, doors, nine-pane sash window, door and window linings, shutters (historic security shutters with a metal lining)
Features	Large historic strap hinges to door to Mess Room



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Ground floor



Room: 10

Name: Mess Room

Previous name: Servants' Hall

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate

Brief description: A large room with a northern aspect that on plan is the western counterpart of the Paper Room.

Notes: For the majority of the C20 there was not doorway linking the Mess Room with adjacent Control Room. By 1950, records indicate that access had been created linking the Mess Room through the fireplace to what was a toilet block (but is now a shop). In 1952/3, the Mess Room was used as a dressing room and the door currently linking the Mess Room with the corridor was blocked. In 1960s, the room is referred to as the Housekeepers Bedchamber. At the time of the 1964 restoration, the room was referred to as the Dressing Room and instructed works included: "take out borrowed light and build up" in S-W corner; take off lock and catch; add two tower bolts"; corridor outside: block all openings to the toilet block and cupboard- like niche in the N-E corner; strip plaster to partition wall with Bkfst Parl and build 4.5" brick wall."

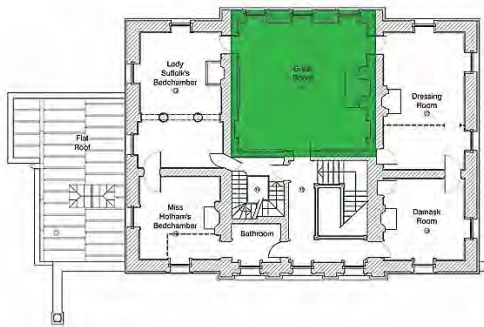
By 1987, the room was referred to as a men's changing room with a door through to the present shop. The door to the stone staircase is blocked and the area in the corridor outside the Mess Room is divided by a partition, with western section used as a store.

By 1994, the room is referred to as the Mess Room but with no door through to the Control Room, as found now. The blocked corridor outside had been returned to its historic passageway function.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Carpet
Ceiling	Plaster
Joinery	Skirting; architraves; panelled double doors in doorway leading to Control Room, with overdoor cupboard having panelled doors and narrow margin panels – all this is mirrored by the cupboard on the opposite side of the fireplace, which forms a symmetrical composition with it; lining to window, historic security shutters and nine-pane sash window; doors to Shop; historic six-panel door to Room 2a, the former Service Passage.
Features	Fireplace in west wall with veined marble surround; cupboard in recess to south of fireplace; double doors in east wall communicating with Shop; the shutters retain historic 'H'-hinges



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor



Room: 11

Name: The Great Room

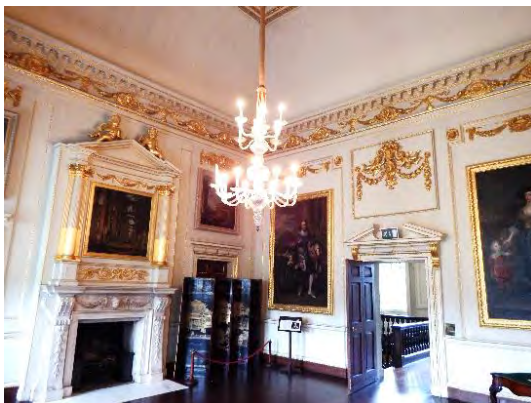
Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High

Brief description: This is the grandest and most lavishly decorated room in the house. Approached by the main staircase, it is calculated to impress. It looks out over the Pleasure Grounds and the Thames. Henrietta Howard is thought to have used it for receiving and entertaining her guests. It is a cube – a device introduced by Inigo Jones – of twenty four feet and rises into the second floor. It now houses a number of items from Henrietta Howard’s original collection, such as the Chinese lacquered screen of c.1735, all them recovered as the original contents of the house have long been dispersed.

Notes: This room is the most intact in the whole house – it was not affected by dry rot. However, the windows are modern – a product of the 1964 restoration.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted with frames, sunk panels and elaborate gilt decoration (cherubs, festoons, rosettes, marks, urns, etc) in high relief, especially in the frieze
Floor	Mahogany boards, marble hearth
Ceiling	Plaster, with very deep coving and a deep gilded modillion cornice; central recessed panel surrounded by Greek fret
Joinery	Skirtings, dado rail, doorcases (elaborately carved and gilded), doors, 12-pane sashes
Features	Five capriccio paintings by Giovanni Paolo Panini (c.1692-1765), signed and dated ‘Roma 1738’, removed by the last private owners of Marble Hill in 1900 but rediscovered, purchased and reinstated in 1984-9; three full-length portraits in spaces formerly occupied by copies of works by Van Dyck and Rubens; pier glasses to south wall; marble-topped peacock side table, one of four originally made for the house; glass chandelier; marble fireplace on north wall carved with festoons, drops and a mask, and with a Corinthian aedicule framing the overmantel and two cherubs, carved in the round, sitting on the pediment; cast-iron grate; dummy doorway to north of fireplace and in corresponding position on opposite side to preserve symmetry; modern condensation window blinds



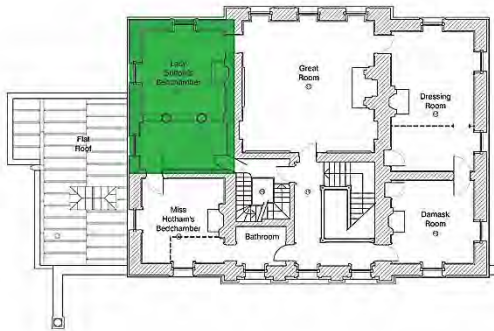
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor

Room: 12

Name: Lady Suffolk's Bedchamber

Date(s): 1724-9, 1954-5, 1998

Significance: Moderate



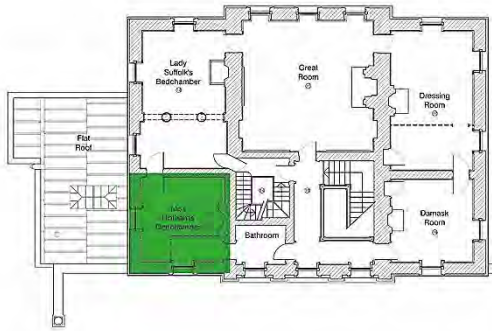
Brief description: Dual-aspect room immediately to the east of the Great Room: the bed alcove is divided off from the remainder by a screen of Ionic columns and pilasters.

Notes: The mahogany four-poster bed of c.1740 is on loan from the Victoria & Albert Museum. In 1953, the room was referred to as the Blue Room. The 1964 restoration included removal of the external balconies and drawings included the following notes: "take out window frames; replaced reveals and form new windows with width to match those of Room 1.02 (Grt Room) and cill level at upper stringcourse provide new window framing complete; new fir floor boarding tarred internally".

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted light stone – the original colour scheme - in lead-based paint in 1998. The green, hand-woven silk damask hangings in the bed alcove were introduced at the same time. In 1964, a fire seal was established at the foot of the walls panel framing cavity to isolate cavity from floor framing space.
Floor	Mahogany boards, repaired following dry rot damage in 1955
Ceiling	Deeply coved above bed chamber with dentilled cornice; plaster, divided into oblong and octagonal panels, with bead and reel and egg and dart frames, and a Greek fret border to the central panel, dentilled modillion cornice continuing the entablature of the screen
Joinery	Skirting; dado rail; Ionic columns and pilasters; twelve-pane sashes, window linings and shutters; doorway to Great Room with moulded architrave and six-panel door. In 1905, records indicate new floor and timbers to the north of the alcove / columns. In 1964, new sashes were fitted, floor boarding renewed in Mahogany and doors fire lined.
Features	Chimneypiece of 1720s salvaged from 29 Clapton Common at demolition in 1954 – marble surround and plinth, split pediment and central section breaking forward; cast-iron grate; jib doors to Miss Hotham's Bedchamber and the landing of the Stone Staircase; picture rails



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor



Room: 13

Name: Miss Hotham's Bedchamber

Date(s): 1724-9, 1965-6

Significance: High

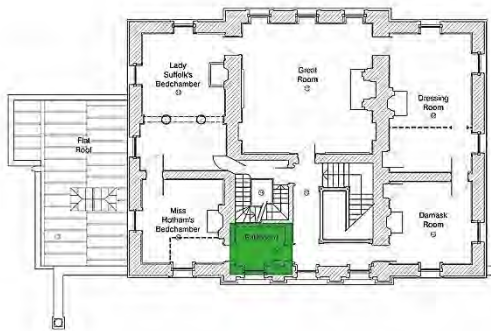
Brief description: Dual aspect room in the north-east corner, which communicates directly with Lady Suffolk's bedchamber. It may originally have been a dressing room. Whereas the access from that room is via a jib door, on this side the same doorway is elaborately finished with an architrave and six-panelled door. It is named after Henrietta Hotham (1752-1816), the granddaughter of Henrietta Howard's brother, John Hobart, 1st Earl of Buckinghamshire, who acted as a companion to her great-aunt in her later years. It was subdivided subsequently but its original dimensions were reinstated during the major restoration by the GLC of 1965-1966.

Notes: The 1767 inventory says that the room was panelled at that point, perhaps as insulation since it is north-facing. IN 1905, records indicate that the room was partitioned as a toilet. Drawings from the 1964 restoration included the following caption: "Dry rot – in the intermediate beam in north-east corner; infection from above with external W.P and leadwork; no immediate insecurity; ceiling joists and other members infected along front wall; joists shown which may indicate repairs; on the E wall to the R of the window – caption: "end of main beam rotted. Part cut away? Cause – faulty leadwork at upstairs outside? No immediate insecurity."

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted – white below dado rail, pale green above
Floor	Mahogany boards
Ceiling	Plaster, divided into oblong panels, with bead and reel and egg and dart frames, and a Greek fret border to the central panel; elaborate dentilled modillion cornice with a frieze and stepped and moulded cornice below
Joinery	Skirting, dado rail, architraves and panelled linings to the two windows and two doorways, twelve-pane sashes, six-panel doors
Features	Chimneypiece against west wall of grey, veined marble red marble inlay and projecting mantelpiece, not supported on brackets; picture rails



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor



Room: 13a

Name: Closet

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate

Brief description: This room is a small lobby to Lady Hotham's bedchamber, to which it provides access from the first-floor landing of the main stair. It was probably originally a closet and has no fireplace.

Notes: An east-west partition was removed and the door to Lady Hotham's bedchamber blocked in 1905. In 1926, the room was converted into a toilet with sink with a partition orientated north-south. By 1950, the room is shown as a kitchen with access to a bathroom created in the south-west corner. Later in 1905, a cupboard was created access from Lady Hotham's bedchamber. There is a long history of blocking and unblocking this doorway from 1905 onwards. The 1964 restoration included the removal of the door linking it and the bedchamber and its surround.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Mahogany boards. Records indicate that the floor was replaced in 1905.
Ceiling	Plastered: moulded cornice with shallow frieze, deeply coved with recessed central panel having a moulded border and arabesque frame
Joinery	Skirting, dado rail, architraves and panelled linings to the window and two doorways, twelve-pane sash, six-panel doors
Features	Large hexagonal lantern hung from middle of ceiling



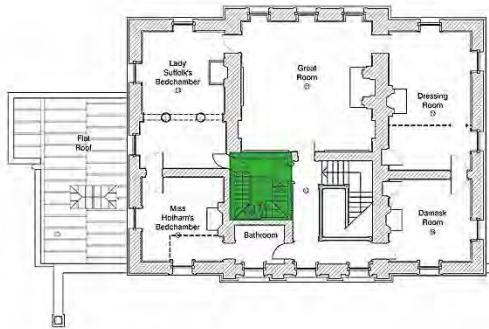
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor

Room: 14

Name: First-floor landing of Stone Stair

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High



Brief description: The first-floor landing of the stone stair has doors to Lady Suffolk's Bedchamber (via one of the jib doors) and the first-floor landing of the main stair.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Stone flags to floor of landing, stone blocks forming treads of stairs
Ceiling	None
Joinery	Handrail to banister, doorways with simple door frames and six-panel doors
Features	Curved iron bracket emerging from one of the treads for suspending lantern in central well



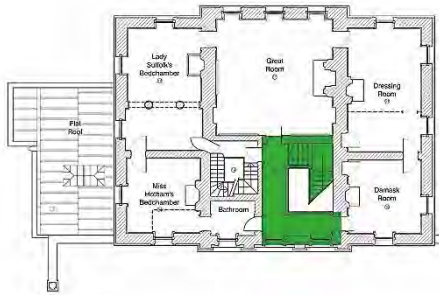
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor

Room: 15

Name: First-floor landing of Staircase Hall

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: High



Brief description: The upper landing is part of the approach from the north entrance of the House to the Great Room, whose door is nearest to the top of the stairs. There are also doorways to the Stone Staircase, the Closet and the Damask Room.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted, the walls are adorned by panels and pedimented frames – the latter are just architectural features and seem never to have held paintings
Floor	Mahogany boards
Ceiling	Plaster, deeply coved with recessed central panel surrounded by a frame
Joinery	Skirting; newels and baluster of upper landing of main stair; architraves and panelled linings to the two windows and three doorways, twelve-pane sashes, six-panel doors
Features	Hexagonal brass-framed lantern suspended from ceiling



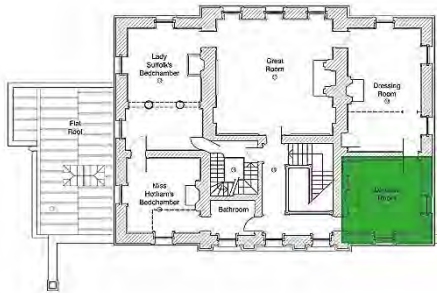
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor

Room: 16

Name: Damask Room

Date(s): 1724-9, (?)1965-6, 1988

Significance: Moderate



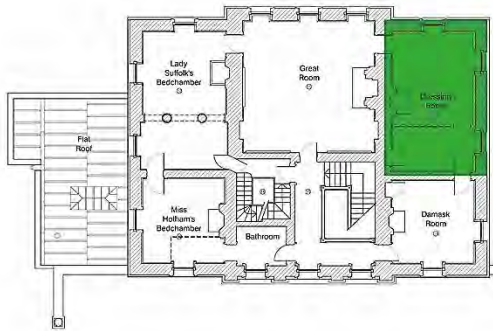
Brief description: This dual-aspect room in the northwest corner may originally have been conceived as a dressing room serving the adjacent bedchamber (now Room 17). Whereas the access from that room is via a jib door, on this side the doorway is elaborately finished with an architrave and six-panelled door (c.f. Room 13). Its current name is taken from the 1767 inventory and derives from the damask curtains to a four-poster bed (sold in 1824) and one of the windows, rather than wall hangings. The wallpaper was reinstated in 1988 on the basis of a fragment of deep crimson flock paper discovered above the chimneypiece.

Notes: The four-poster bed was purchased during the guardianship and installed here by English Heritage. In 1926, and until 1950 when plans were prepared, the room functioned as a kitchen. The 1964 restoration plans noted that “6”x2.5” (average) floor joists at 15” centres. No apparent main or intermediate beams. Setting out may be irregular. Propped up from brick deck at centre of room. Brick deck 9” down from floor level. New marble slab for the hearth to the chimney piece on the east wall”. By 1973 the room was referred to as the Damask Room.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted up to dado rail, papered above
Floor	Mahogany boards, white marble hearth. A new floor and timbers in the south-east corner installed in 1905.
Ceiling	Plastered: dentilled modillion cornice with frieze, divided into oblong panels with bead and reel frames, that to the central panel being an egg and dart ovolo moulding with a Greek fret inner border
Joinery	Skirting, dado rail, architraves to windows and doors, twelve-pane sashes, panelled lining and folding shutters to windows. In 1964, new sash in west wall and works to make the door to the staircase hall self-closing.
Features	Chimneypiece (a C20 recreation of a lost original) against east wall with lugged marble surround to the opening, mantelpiece with sections breaking forward on either side and supported on consoles, overmantel with split pediment flanked by consoles; cupboard on the south side of the chimneypiece with a door treated like the entrance from the landing to maintain symmetry



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – First floor



Room: 17

Name: Dressing Room

Date(s): 1724-9, 1965-6

Significance: High

Brief description: This room is the counterpart on the western side of Lady Suffolk's bedchamber (Room 12). It probably originally contained a bed, although more for the sake of symmetry, display and guests promenading around the piano nobile; it would have been used by Henrietta Howard for her levée. According to the 1767 inventory the room had red damask curtains and hangings (thought to refer to a curtain fringe made of the same material rather than separate wall hangings). It was subdivided at a later date but its original dimensions were reinstated by the GLC in the restoration of 1950. During the 1964 restoration works, the window dimensions were altered and external balconies removed.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted up to dado rail, papered above with green flock wallpaper
Floor	Mahogany boards, white marble hearth
Ceiling	Plaster, with dentilled modillion cornice and deep frieze; large octagonal central panel with triangular panels in spandrels and ceiling rose, all framed by elaborate mouldings to a variety of designs
Joinery	Skirting, dado rail, architraves to windows and doors, twelve-pane sashes, panelled lining and folding shutters to windows
Features	Jib door in doorway to neighbouring Damask Room, six-panel on its outer face; chimneypiece (a C20 recreation of a lost original) against west wall with lugged white marble surround to opening, deep mantelshelf and split pediment to overmantel but lacking a grate; cupboard on the north side of the chimneypiece with a door treated like the entrance to the Great Room in order to maintain symmetry



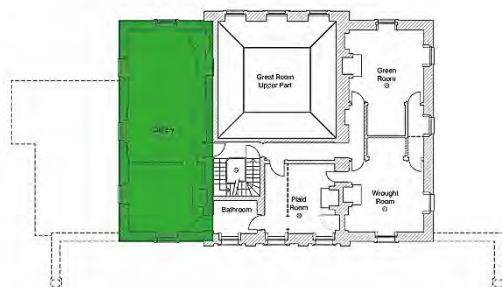
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor

Room: 18

Name: Gallery

Date(s): 1724-9, 1970s

Significance: Moderate



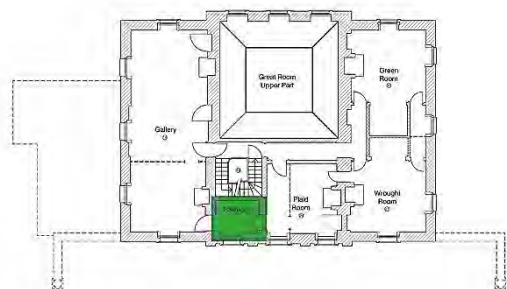
Brief description: The Gallery is a long, narrow space extending the full depth of the building. Though it has counterparts in other English Palladian houses it owes nothing to Palladio himself and originates from the Long Galleries of Tudor and Elizabethan houses. Nine paintings were originally hung here, including portraits attributed to Charles Philips of Henrietta Howard and George Berkeley, her second husband. These were removed before 1840 when the portrait of Henrietta was in a gallery in New Bond Street and are now at Audley End. The Gallery would have been used for taking a stroll during inclement weather. The southern window originally opened onto a balcony which provided views of the Thames and Richmond Hill. This was reduced in size and the balcony removed in 1750. The original interior of this room, like that of all the others on the second floor, was removed after an outbreak of dry rot in 1951 caused severe damage. During the 1960s repairs were made to the floor structure and windows. During the 1970s, electrical works and repairs to brickwork, doors, chimney flues and hearths were undertaken. The current historic interior is the result of a restoration undertaken in the 1980s.

Notes: The suite of furniture here was originally made in 1722 for Glemham Hall in Suffolk and is on long-term loan from the Victorian and Albert Museum.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted up to dado height; above, panelled, although framing sections of green flock wallpapers in alternate bays
Floor	Wide boards, a modern replacement, marble hearths to fireplaces
Ceiling	Dating from 1975 - deeply coved, with moulded cornice border to central flat, which is divided into thirds
Joinery	Skirting, dado rail, architraves to windows and doors, six-pane sashes, wall panelling, panelled lining and sash shutters to windows, six-pane sashes
Features	Two identical fireplaces against west wall with lugged marble surrounds and prominent cornice breaking forward to each side and overmantels incorporating mirrors with flanking consoles and prominent cornices; two cupboards (positioned to maintain symmetry with doors), now with glass fronts and used for display; free-standing heaters



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor



Room: 18a

Name: Closet

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate

Brief description: A small room only one bay wide communicating with the Plaid Room and Gallery

Notes: According to the inventory of 1767 this closet was hung with watercolours and pastels. This room is used for displaying part of the Rosemary and Monty Lazenby bequest.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Flock wallpaper – green decorative motif on gold background
Floor	Modern boards
Ceiling	Plaster, deeply coved – plain moulded cornice, Greek fret frame to central flat with moulded edges
Joinery	Skirting, architraves to windows and doors (simple, unadorned mouldings), six-pane sashes, sash shutters to windows, six-pane sashes
Features	Hexagonal brass-framed lantern hanging from centre of ceiling



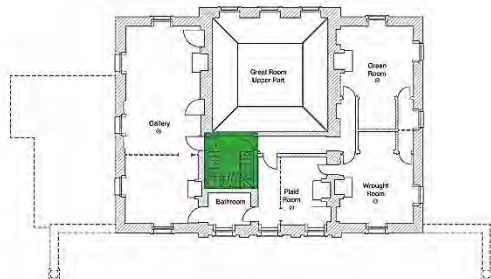
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor

Room: 19

Name: Second-floor landing of Stone Staircase

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate



Brief description: This landing of the Stone Staircase opens out onto a corridor (Room 21a) that runs east-west

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Stone slabs of landing and stone treads of stair
Ceiling	None
Joinery	Handrail to banister, doorways with simple door frames and six-panel doors



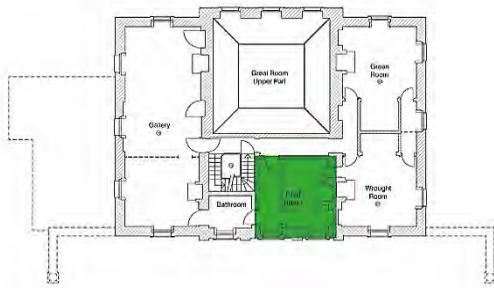
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor

Room: 20

Name: Plaid Room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate



Brief description: Located directly above the Stair Hall this room may derive its name from the plain woven case covers once used on the furniture. As well as having a doorway from the Corridor (21a) it also provides through access from the Wrought Room via the Closet to the Gallery. The original interior of this room, like that of all the others on the second floor, was removed after an outbreak of dry rot in 1951 caused severe damage and restored in the 1980s.

Notes: This room is used for displaying part of the Rosemary and Monty Lazenby bequest.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Finished to full height in yellow wallpaper, a modern reproduction based on fragments of c.1770 found in the room
Floor	Modern boards
Ceiling	Plaster, deeply coved – plain moulded cornice, Greek fret frame to central flat with moulded edges
Joinery	Skirting; architraves to windows and doorways (simple, unadorned mouldings), six-panel doors, panels above doors flanking alcove; six-pane sashes, sash shutters to windows
Features	Chimneypiece against west wall with lugged grey marble surround and cornice above with central section breaking forward and carrying a split pediment with an inverted console in the centre; cupboard in thickness of wall on north side of chimneypiece; Dutch-style chandelier hung from centre of ceiling



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor

Room: 21

Name: Wrought Room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate



Brief description: This is a dual-aspect former bedroom in the northwest corner. The name of this room derives from the ‘wrought’ or embroidered hangings of the four-poster bed. There is a prominent alcove on the south side flanked by doorways opening into corridors formed by the lateral partition walls enclosing this alcove and an even deeper one in the Green Room immediately to the south. The original interior of this room, like that of all the others on the second floor, was removed after an outbreak of dry rot in 1951 caused severe damage and restored in the 1980s.

Notes: This room is used for displaying part of the Rosemary and Monty Lazenby bequest.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Finished to full height in green wallpaper, a modern reproduction based on fragments of c.1770 found in the room
Floor	Boards – those in the corridor on the east side of the alcove leading to the Green Room are of deal and the only original ones on this floor
Ceiling	Plaster, deeply coved – plain moulded cornice, Greek fret frame to central flat with moulded edges; segmental groin vault over bed alcove - the soffit of the arch to the room has square panels filled with rosettes
Joinery	Skirting; architraves to windows and doorways (simple, unadorned mouldings), and six-panel doors; panels above doors flanking alcove; six-pane sashes, sash shutters to windows
Features	Chimneypiece against east wall with lugged marble surround, mantelshelf breaking forward at both end and overmantel flanked by consoles with a split pediment, cast-iron grate; Dutch-style chandelier hung from centre of ceiling



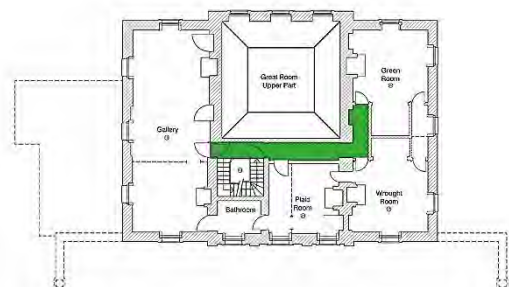
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor

Room: 21a

Name: Corridor

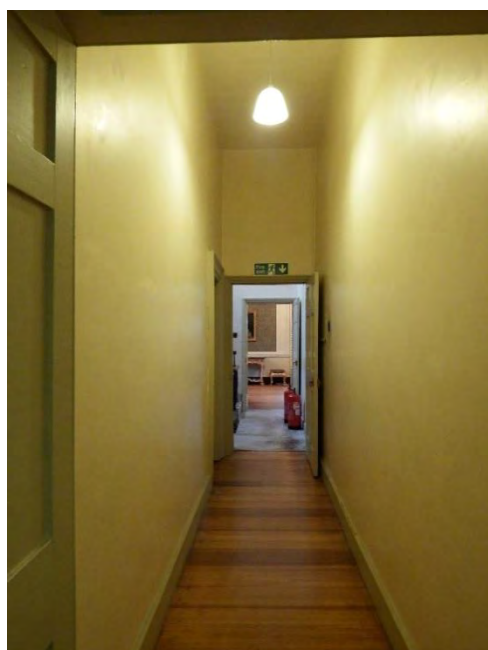
Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate

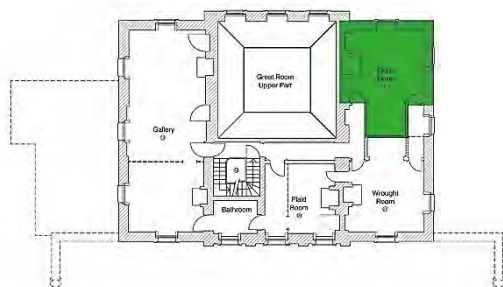


Brief description: This corridor opens off the landing of the Stone Staircase and provides access to all the rooms on the second floor, turning through a right angle at its west end to provide independent access to the Green Room (i.e. to avoid having to pass through the Wrought Room). It has no source of natural light of its own and the south wall is completely blind because the space on the other side is filled by the upper half of the Great Room.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted
Floor	Boards, c. nos.5 of which are thought to be the only original ones surviving on this floor.
Ceiling	Flat plaster, no cornice
Joinery	Skirting, doorframes, doors – all lacking mouldings
Features	Segmental-arched recess in the thickness of the east wall in the section running between the Wrought Room and Green Room.



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Second floor



Room: 22

Name: Green Room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Moderate

Brief description: The best bedroom on the second floor, this room is located in the southwest corner and has views over the Pleasure Ground and Thames. It seems likely that it was used by Henrietta Howard in the 1730s. There is a large bed alcove, which, like its counterpart in the Wrought Room immediately to the north, is flanked by doors leading to passages communicating between the two. The passage to the east is lit by a window in the east elevation. The doorcases have oblong panels above the doorways flanked by consoles and prominent cornices. Alterations to the floor plan, doors, fireplace and windows were made in 1950s. In 1975, extensive repairs were made to the brick structure and plaster repairs were undertaken, including to the ceiling.

Notes: This room is used for displaying part of the Rosemary and Monty Lazenby bequest. The passage to the east of the bed alcove is now used for storage.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted up to dado; above it finished in green wallpaper. In the east passage there is no dado and the wallpaper is of the same pattern as that in the Wrought Room. The alcove was restored in 1953 as were all of the plaster walls.
Floor	Modern boards, marble hearth and some joists and beams were replaced in 1964/5
Ceiling	Plaster with elaborately moulded cornice and decorative frieze, which extends across the opening to the bed alcove where there are pairs of consoles set at a right angle to each other in each of the upper corners. The cornice is simpler in the bed alcove and the frieze there lacks any decoration. The ceiling in the east passage is much lower and lacks any cornice.
Joinery	Skirting; architraves to windows, doorcases and six-panel doors; panels above doors flanking alcove; six-pane sashes, sash shutters to windows. New door added from Wrought Room added 1953. All the sashes replaced in 1965.
Features	Chimneypiece against east wall (restored 1953), mantleshef with sections to both ends breaking forwards and supported on consoles, overmantel with plinth, cornice and shelf above



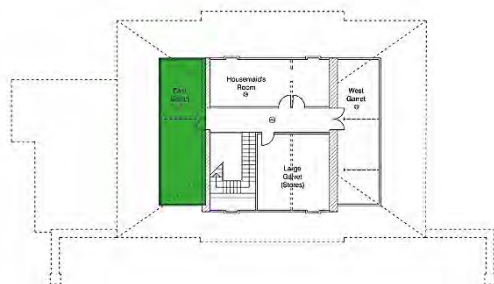
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Garret

Room: 23

Name: East Garret

Date(s): 1724-9, 1965-6

Significance: Some significance



Brief description: This occupies part of the roofspace on the east side. Some of the rafters have been replaced and steel reinforcements running from the principals to the tie beam have been added.

Notes: No source of natural light. No public access.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick
Floor	Narrow modern boards
Ceiling	Underside of roof
Joinery	Double doors in the doorway from the Corridor
Features	Water tank; sink and tap on west wall



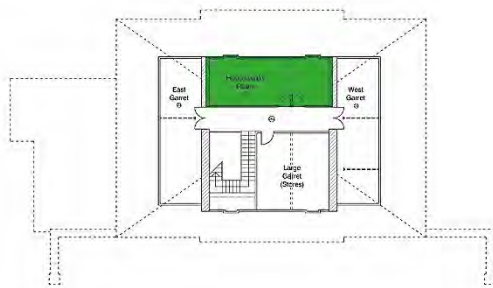
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Garret

Room: 24

Name: Housemaid's Room

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance



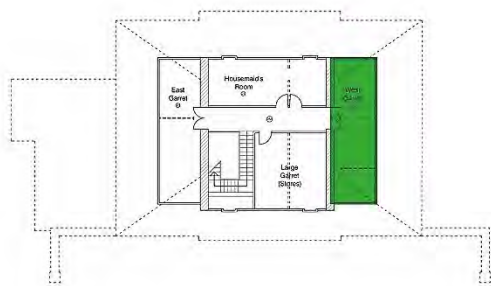
Brief description: This south-facing room now runs the full width of the section of the garret enclosed by the gable sections of the north-south lateral walls, which carry the flues. It appears, however, formerly to have been two separate rooms, each with its own access to the corridor and landing.

Notes: No public access.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Bare brick to east and west, plaster to north and south
Floor	Narrow modern boards
Ceiling	Plaster – partly sloped on the south side because of the pitch of the roof; the principals and purlin protrude through the surface
Joinery	Modern skirtings, original two-panel doors with no mouldings, six-pane casements with modern frames in the two dormers, whose wooden construction is left exposed
Features	Remains of framework of timber stud wall running north-south in the centre; hatch in south wall for access to roofspace beyond, through which one of the middle three second-floor windows in the South Front can be seen; blocked fireplace in east wall



MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Garret



Room: 25

Name: West Garret

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance

Brief description: This occupies part of the roofspace on the west side. Some of the rafters have been replaced.

Notes: No source of natural light. No public access.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Brick
Floor	Narrow modern boards
Ceiling	Underside of roof
Joinery	Double doors in the doorway from the Corridor



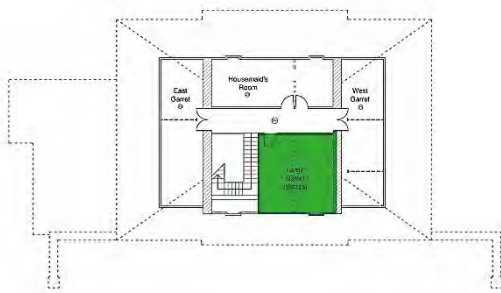
MARBLE HILL HOUSE – Garret

Room: 26

Name: Large Garret

Date(s): 1724-9

Significance: Some significance



Brief description: Large, north-facing space with no fireplace, so perhaps always used for storage

Notes: No public access.

Element	Description (including history)
Walls	Plastered and painted except for brick west wall
Floor	Modern boards
Ceiling	Plaster – partly sloped on the north side because of the pitch of the roof and a principal, the purlin and part of a diagonal brace protrude through the surface
Joinery	Modern skirtings and hatch in north wall for access to roofspace beyond; six-pane casement in the dormer, whose wooden construction is left exposed
Features	Iron hatch in the west wall, perhaps some sort of vent or inspection hatch for a flue

